

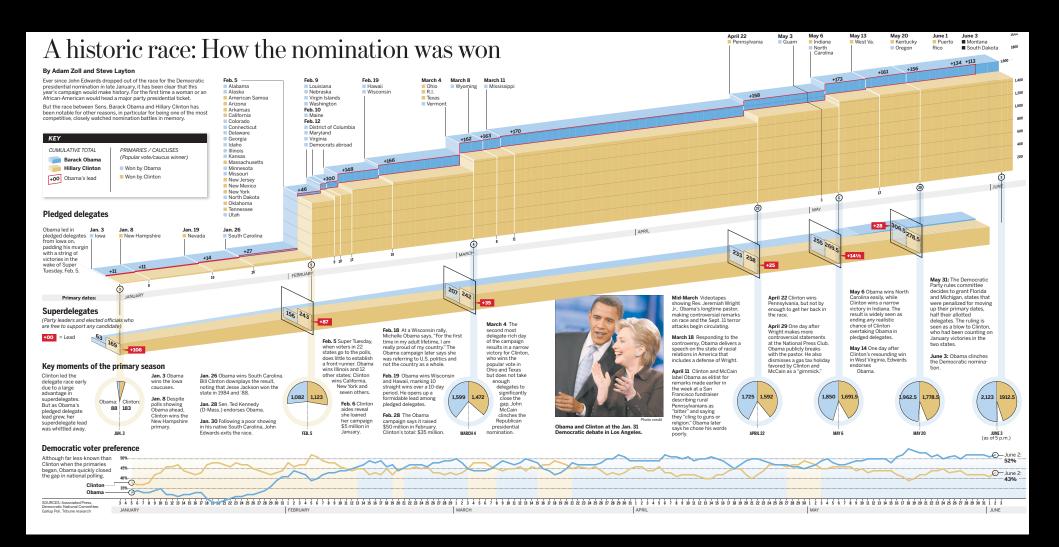
# INFOGRAPHICS 101

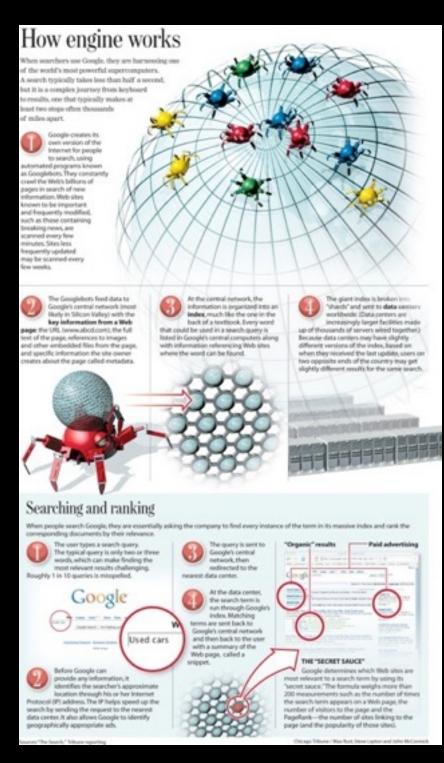
## Infographics

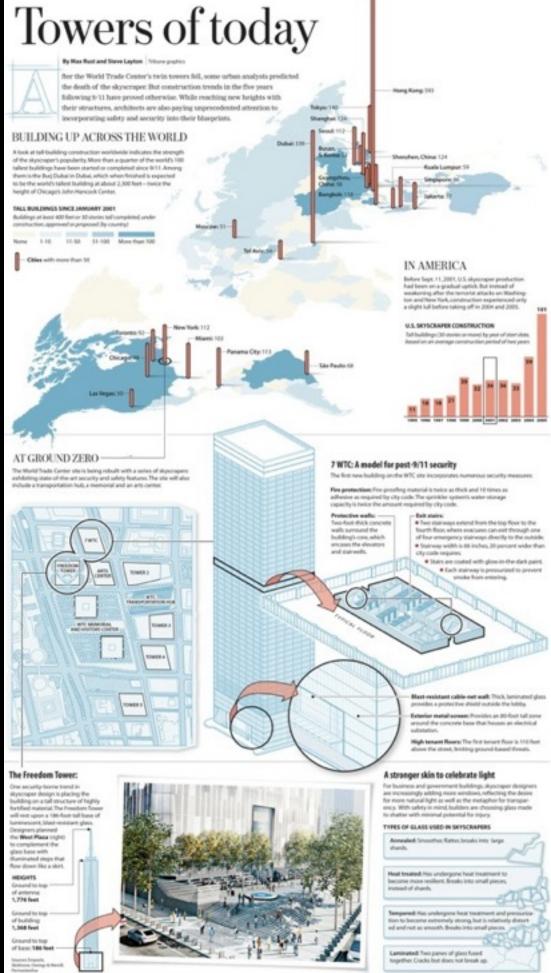
There are many ways to define infographics—it basically boils down to any visual repre-

sentation of information used to inform the viewer.

They can generally grouped into three large (and overlapping) categories: maps, charts and diagrams.







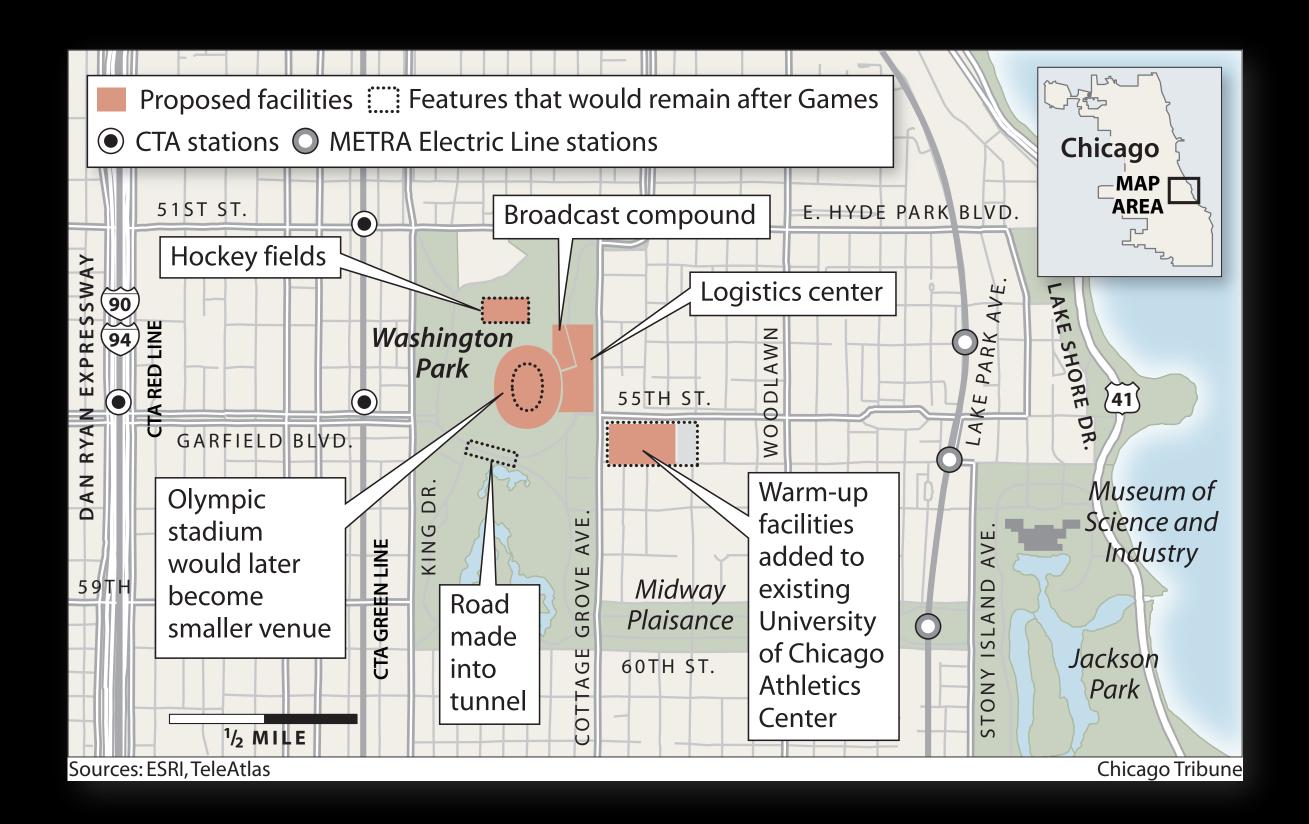
Locator maps are still important as infographics — after all, everything happens somewhere.



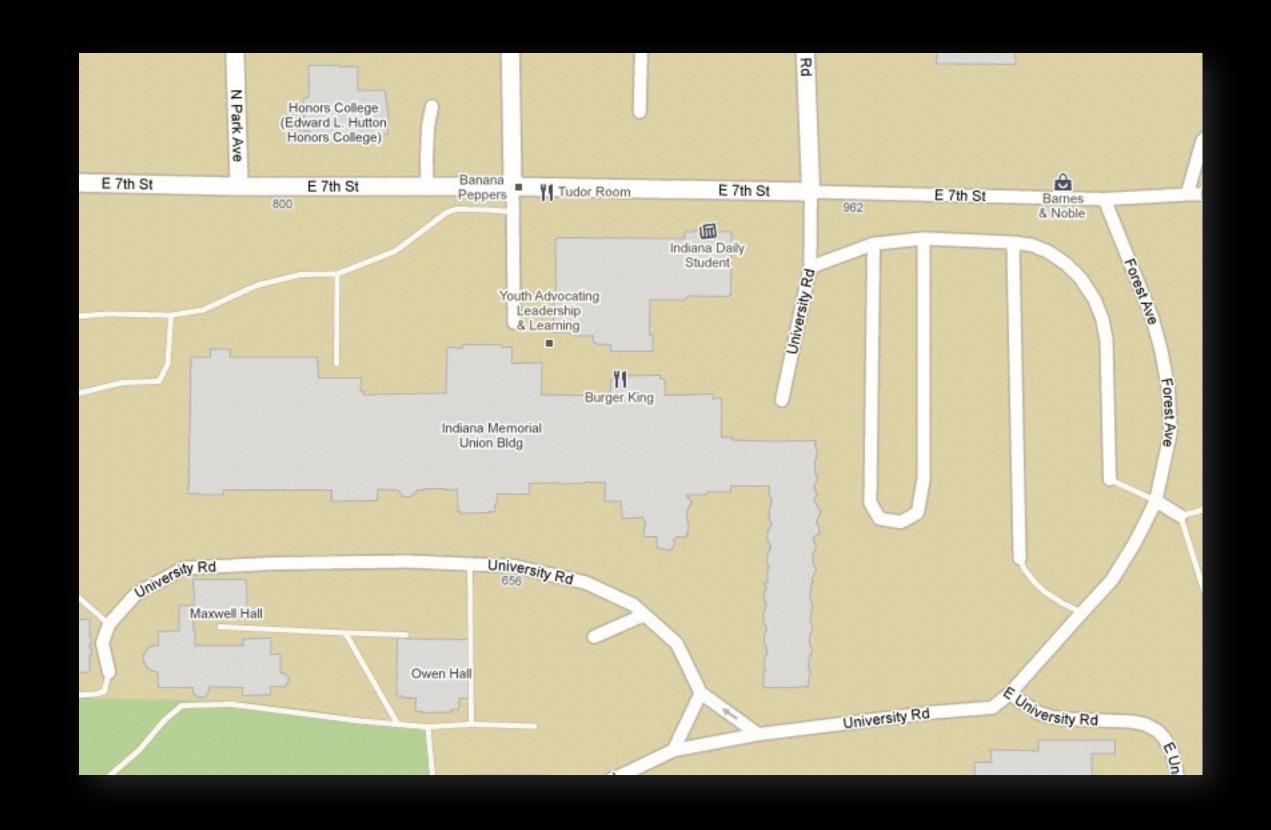
SOURCES: ESRI, news reports

TRIBUNE NEWPAPERS

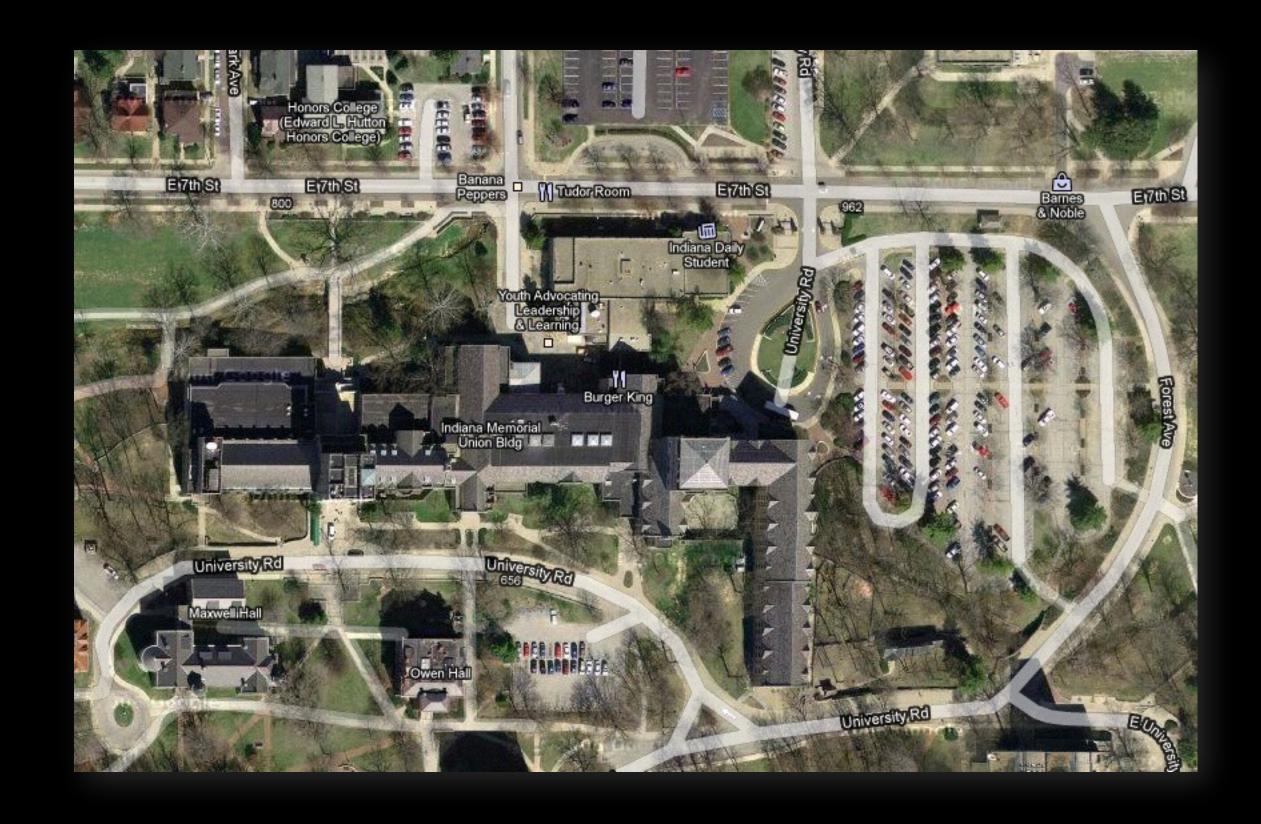
And maps can still provide important information about geographic specifics, such as proposed facilities for a hypothetical Olympic effort.



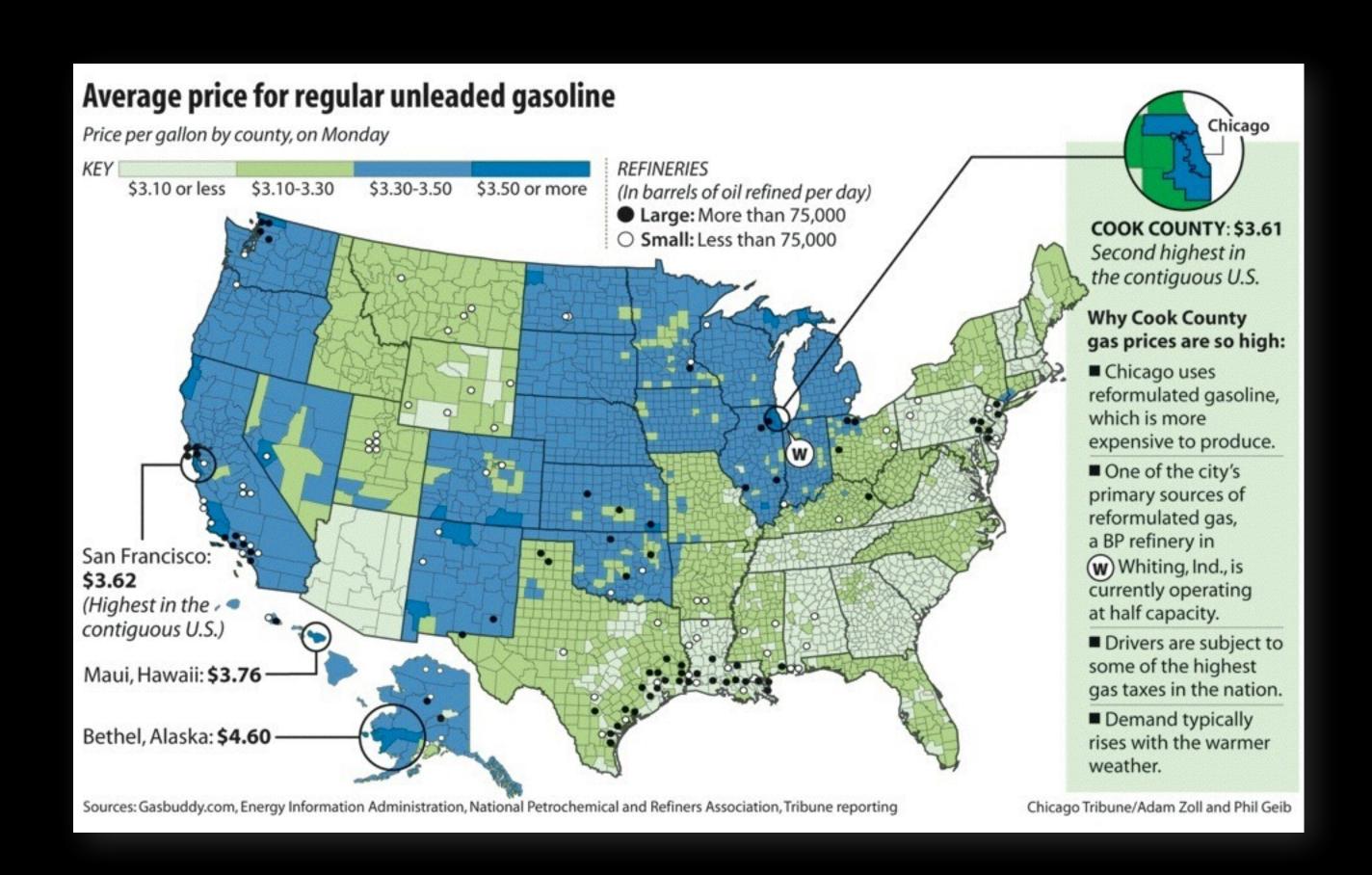
But the advent of online services like Google maps and mobile apps have rendered the average map a little less useful as an infographic staple.



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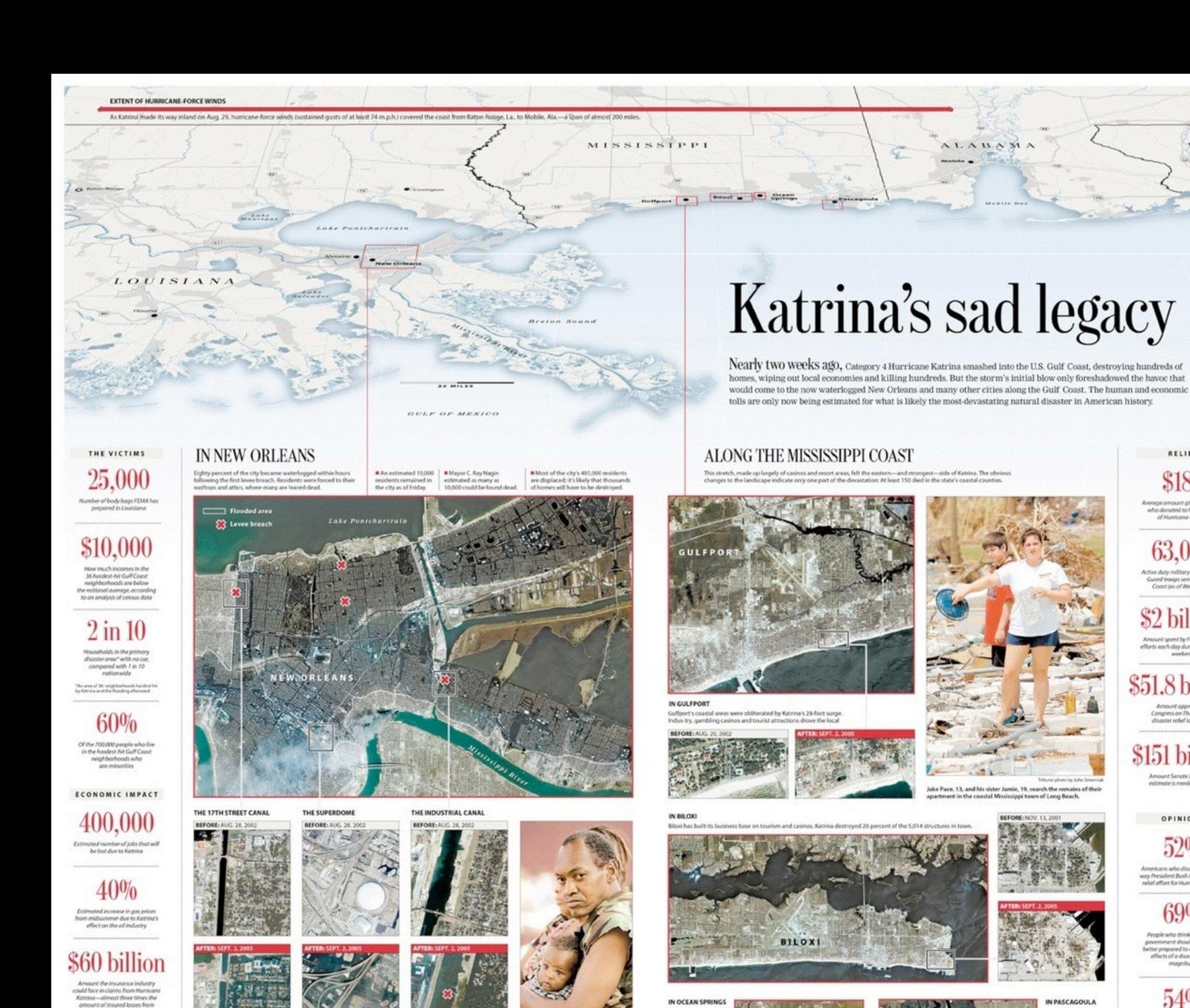
Fortunately, maps can still become effective graphics by doing more than merely showing where things are.



Some maps are still created using a modern version of the transparency-on-screen tracing (by tracing over a scan). But highend software can produce highly complex datamaps by "marrying" spreadsheet data to a shape file.

Loop, but poverty remained entrenched in many South and West Side neighborhoods with large minority populations. **CHANGE IN MEDIAN HOME VALUE, 1989-99** 0-3 point 0.1-3 3.1-6 More than 6 point **CHANGE IN PERCENT WITH B.A. DEGREE, 1990-2000** Leavit, Washington and **Near West Side thrives** The Near West Side felt the effects of gentrification during the 1990s, as the community's alue rose 25 percent. MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME ly census block groups 77% to \$9,000 (in North Lawdale ounded by Roosevelt, Pulaski, Fillm

And of course, maps can still make for powerful and compelling visuals.

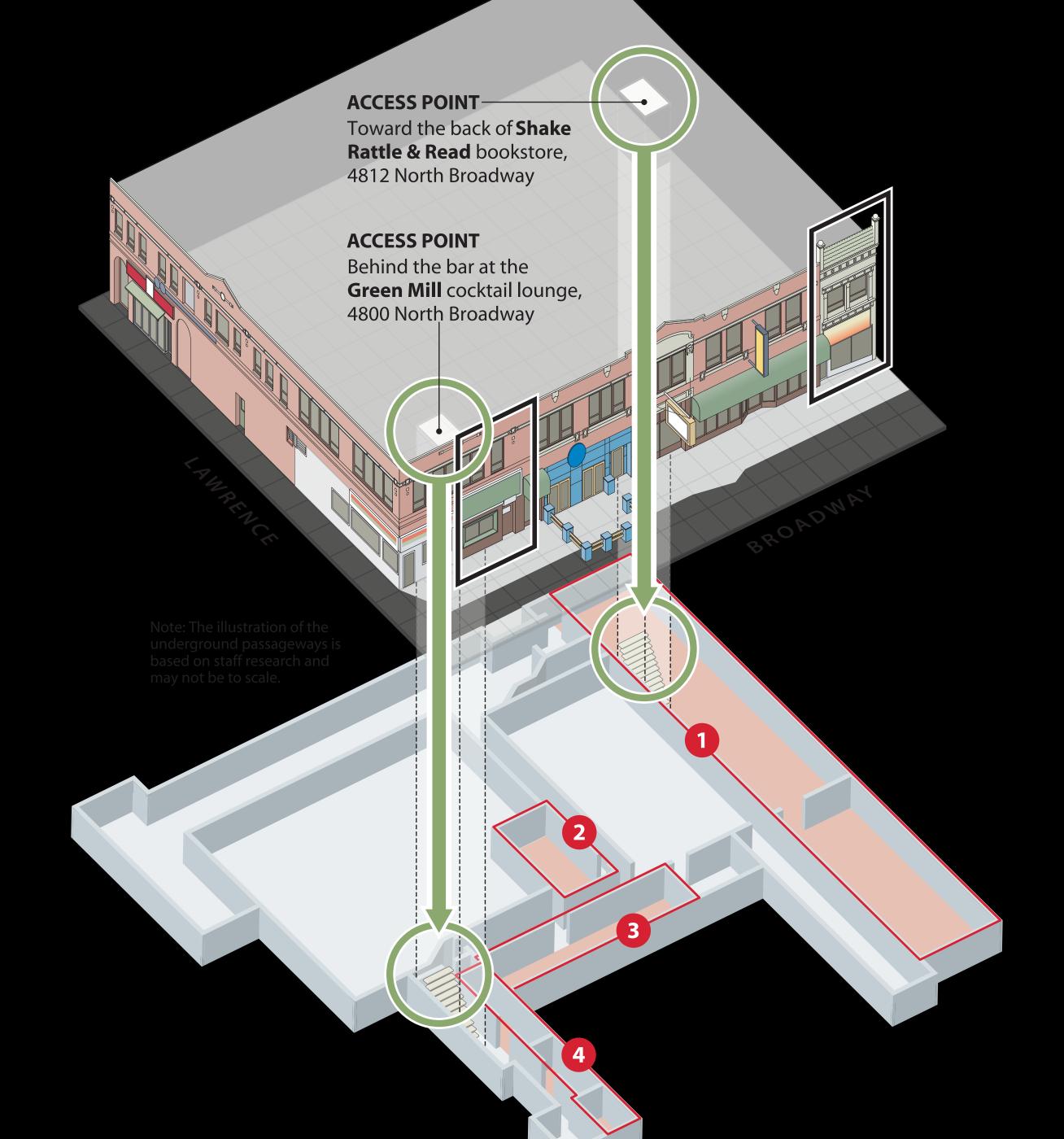


\$2 billi

\$51.8 bil

Maps can also be reimagined in inventive ways. In these examples, maps are distorted so their shapes represent data. These are called "cartograms."

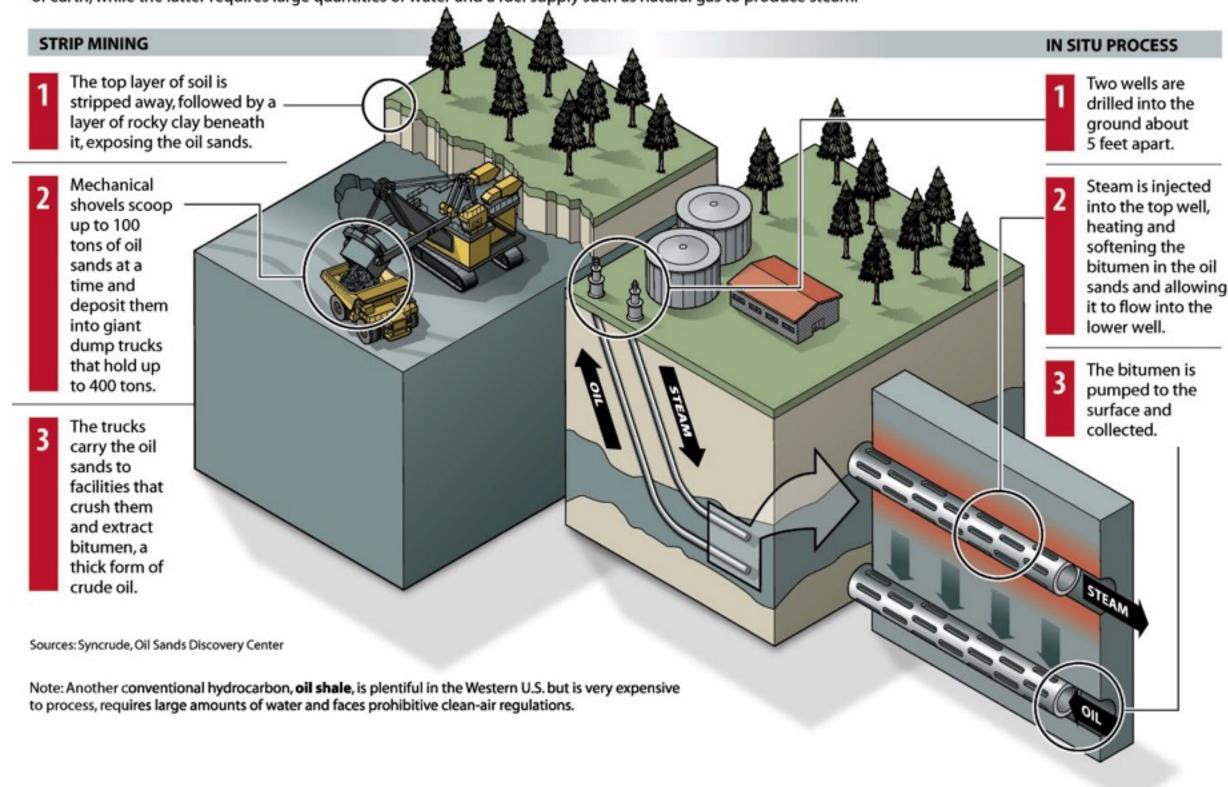




Diagrams can be vitally important to stories. They let the reader know where, when and how something happened, explain complex processes, and take readers into places they otherwise wouldn't be able to go.

### Oil sands processes exact environmental toll

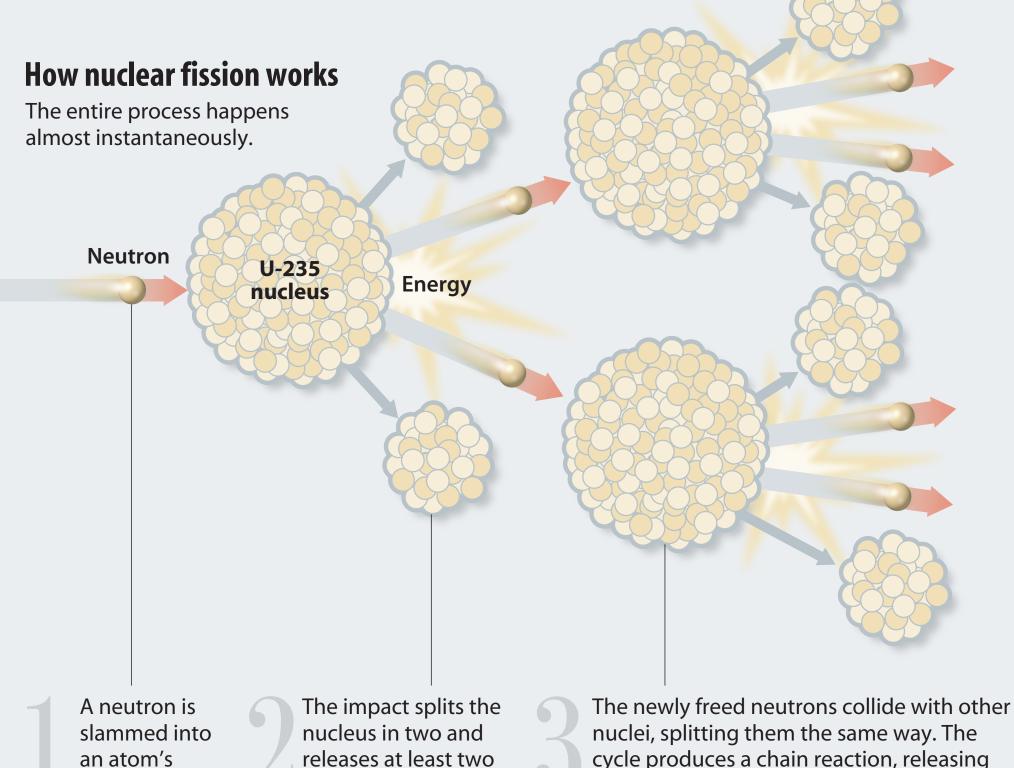
There are two primary methods of getting at oil sands: strip mining and in situ, or "in place," methods. The former requires laying bare large patches of earth, while the latter requires large quantities of water and a fuel supply such as natural gas to produce steam.



Diagrams can be vitally important to stories. They let the reader know where, when and how something happened, explain complex processes, and take readers into places they otherwise wouldn't be able to go.

### Unleashing the atom

When Albert Einstein unveiled his theory of relativity in 1905, he set in motion mankind's ability to understand and exploit the power of the atom. In the decades that followed, scientists developed impressive applications for this power, from the promise of nuclear energy to the terrifying devastation of nuclear weapons.



### Why uranium?

nucleus.



Uranium, a silvery-white radioactive metal, is used in nuclear fission because one of its isotopes, known as U-235, is conducive to splitting in order to release energy.

This rare, volatile form of the element is the energy source behind nuclear power reactors

neutrons and energy.

U-238 benign, and much more common, form is typically

Low-enriched uranium:
Contains less than 20 percent
U-235, with the rest U-238.

exponentially larger quantities of energy.

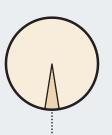
High-enriched uranium:

Diagrams can be vitally important to stories. They let the reader know where, when and how something happened, explain complex processes, and take readers into places they otherwise wouldn't be able to go.

### **Applications of nuclear fission**

#### NUCLEAR POWER

#### Fuel used: Low-enriched uranium



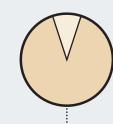
Up to 5% U-235

**How it works:** A controlled nuclear chain reaction provides heat that converts water into steam. The steam drives a generator, producing electricity. One key by-product of the uranium fission process is plutonium, which can be used in nuclear weapons.

#### NUCLEAR RESEARCH

#### Fuel used:

Some reactors use high-enriched uranium



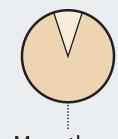
More than 90% U-235

(Others use lowenriched uranium) **How it works:** A controlled nuclear chain reaction produces neutrons used for research. Sample uses:

- **Medicine:** Production of isotopes for nuclear medicine
- Agriculture: Developing methods of food irradiation and soil analysis
- Manufacturing: Determining the chemical properties of various materials

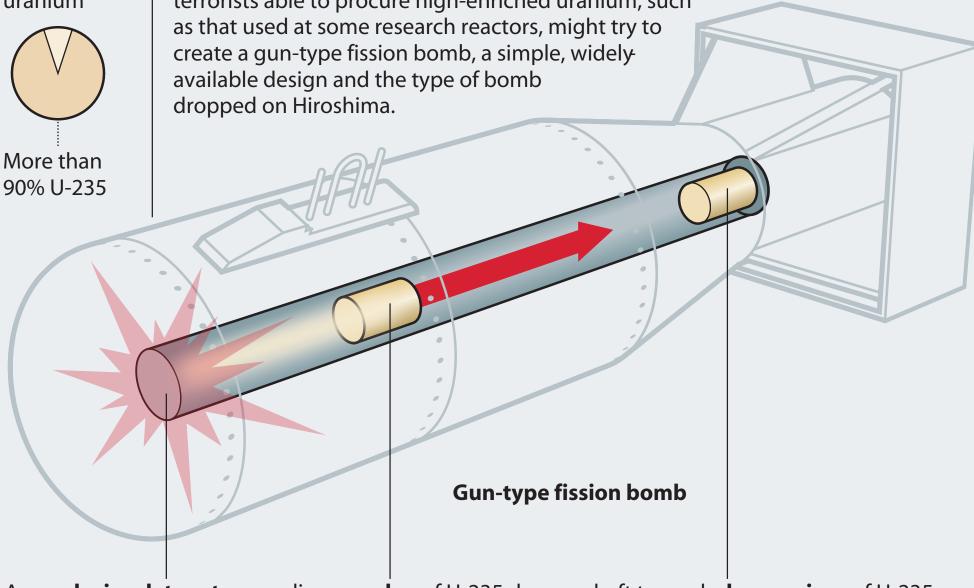
#### NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Fuel used: High-enriched uranium



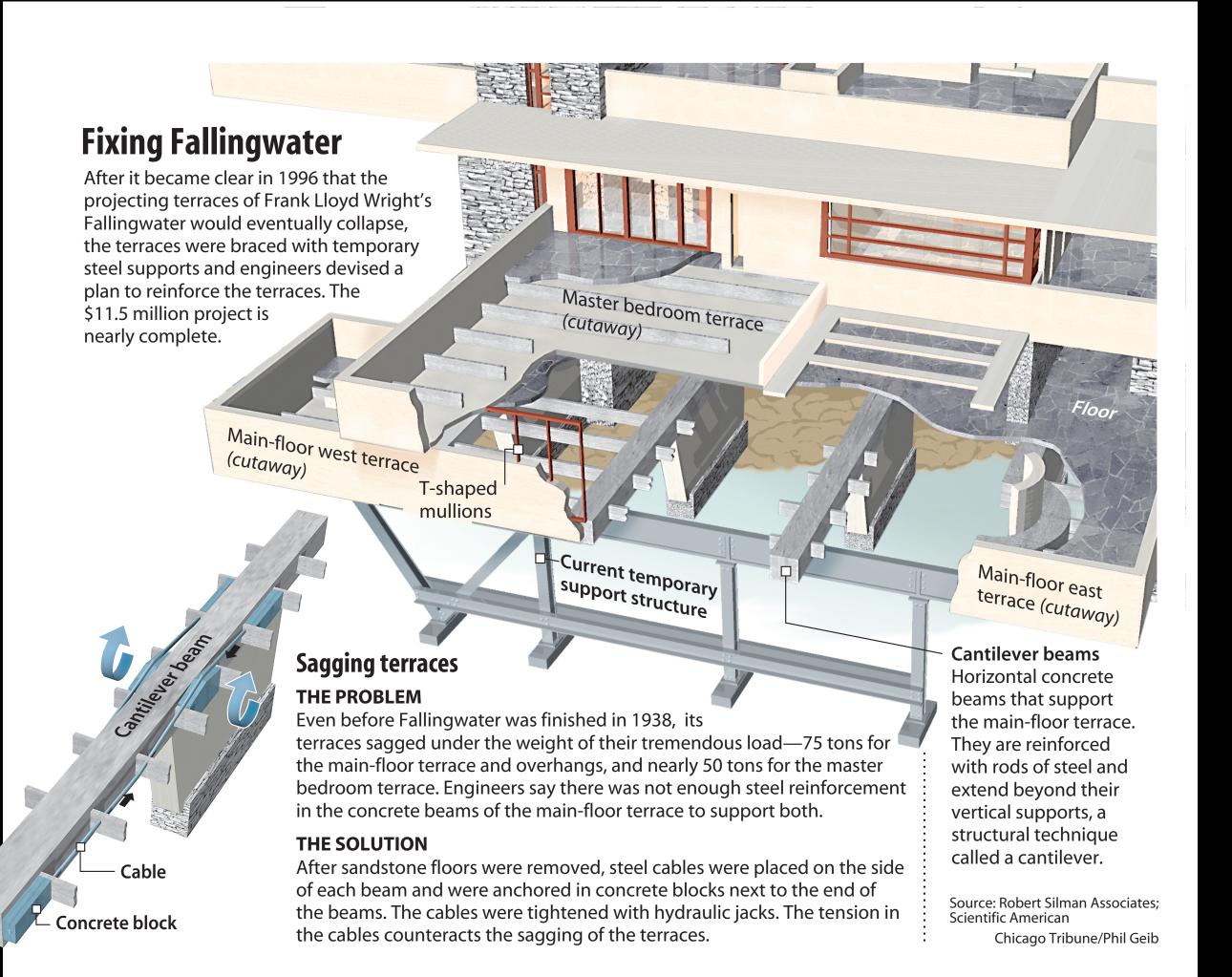
More than

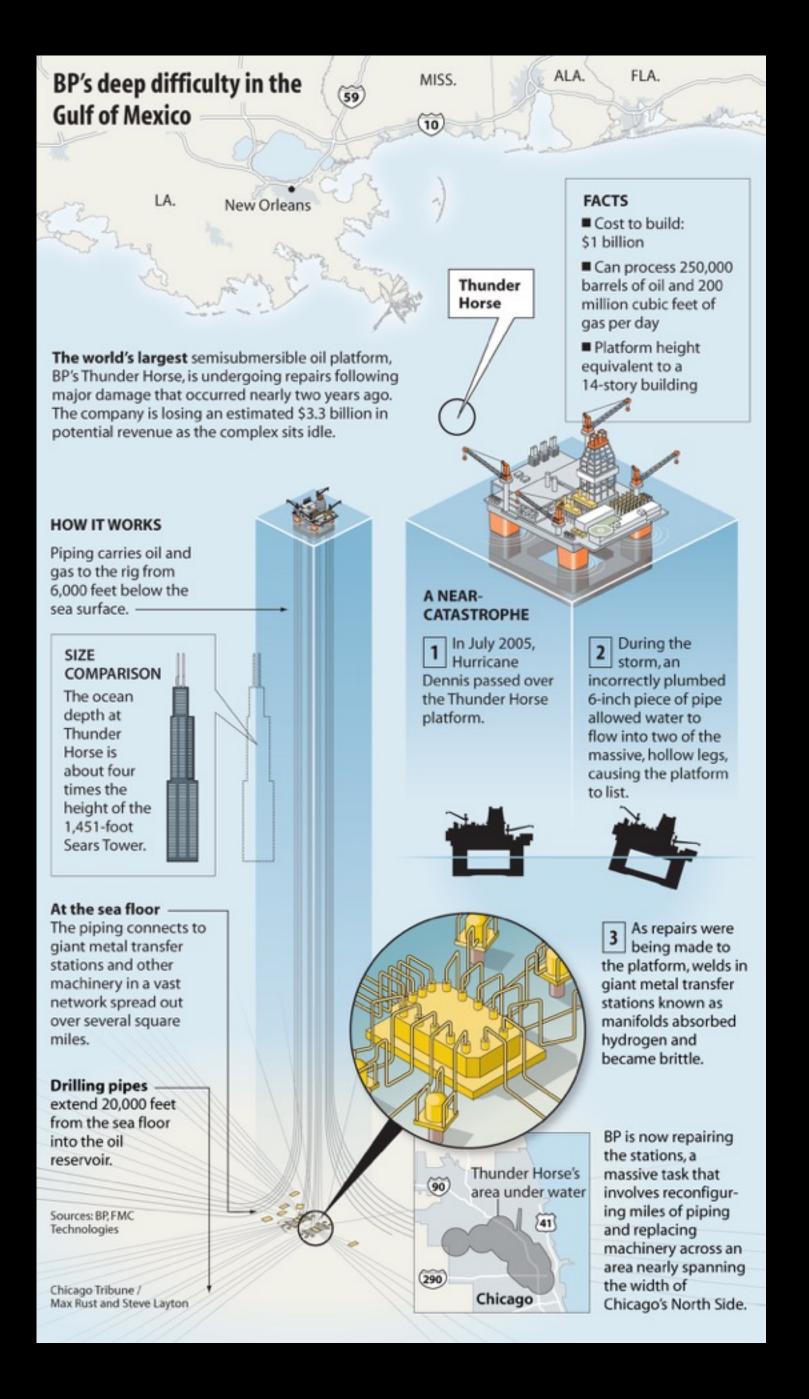
**How it works:** Modern nuclear weapons are complicated and use nuclear fusion, not fission. Experts worry that terrorists able to procure high-enriched uranium, such as that used at some research reactors, might try to create a gun-type fission bomb, a simple, widelyavailable design and the type of bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

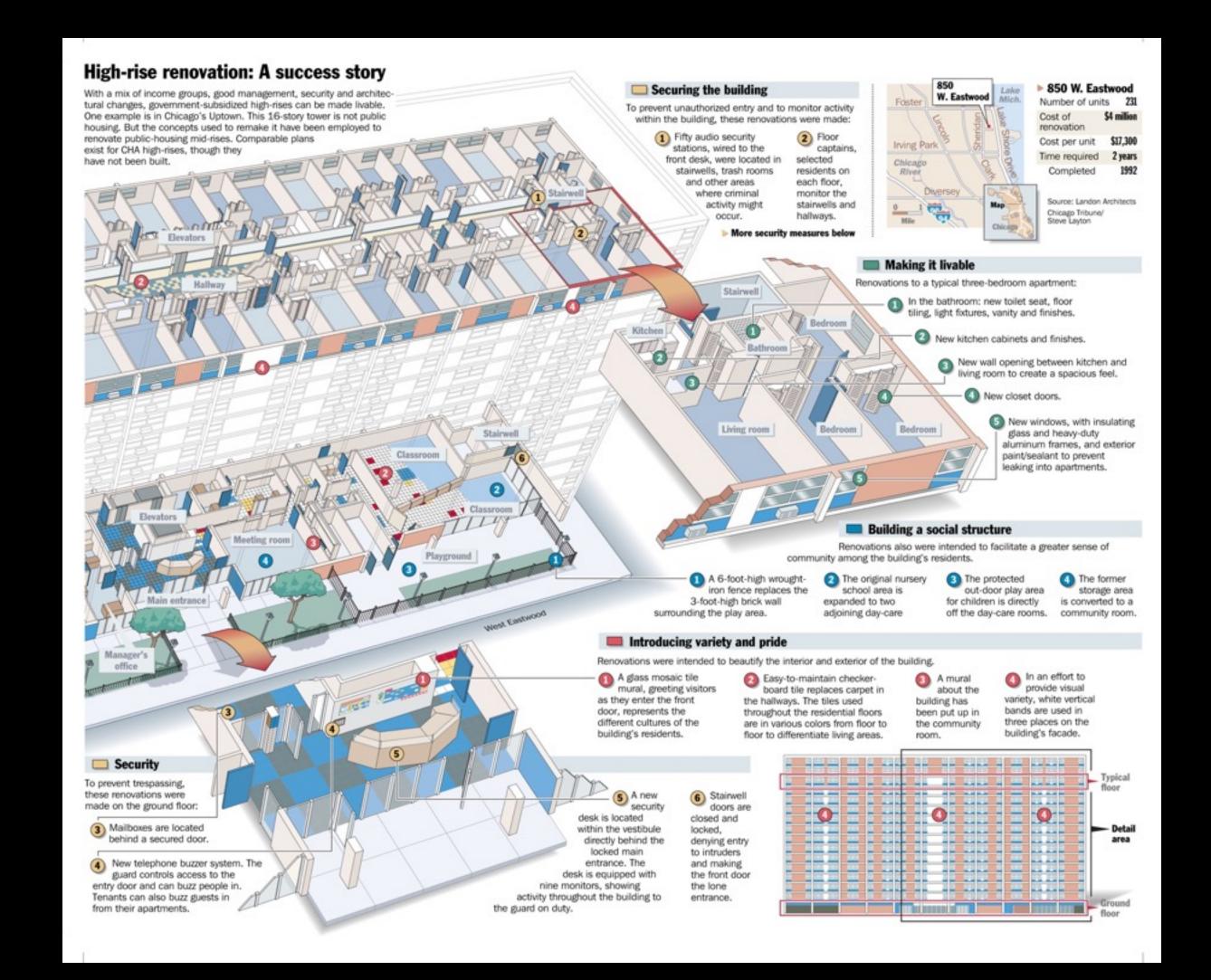


An explosive detonates, sending a wedge of U-235 down a shaft toward a larger piece of U-235. The impact causes a nuclear chain reaction and a large explosion.

Sources: Sources: World Book Encyclopedia, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Dr. James Matos of Argonne National Laboratory Chicago Tribune

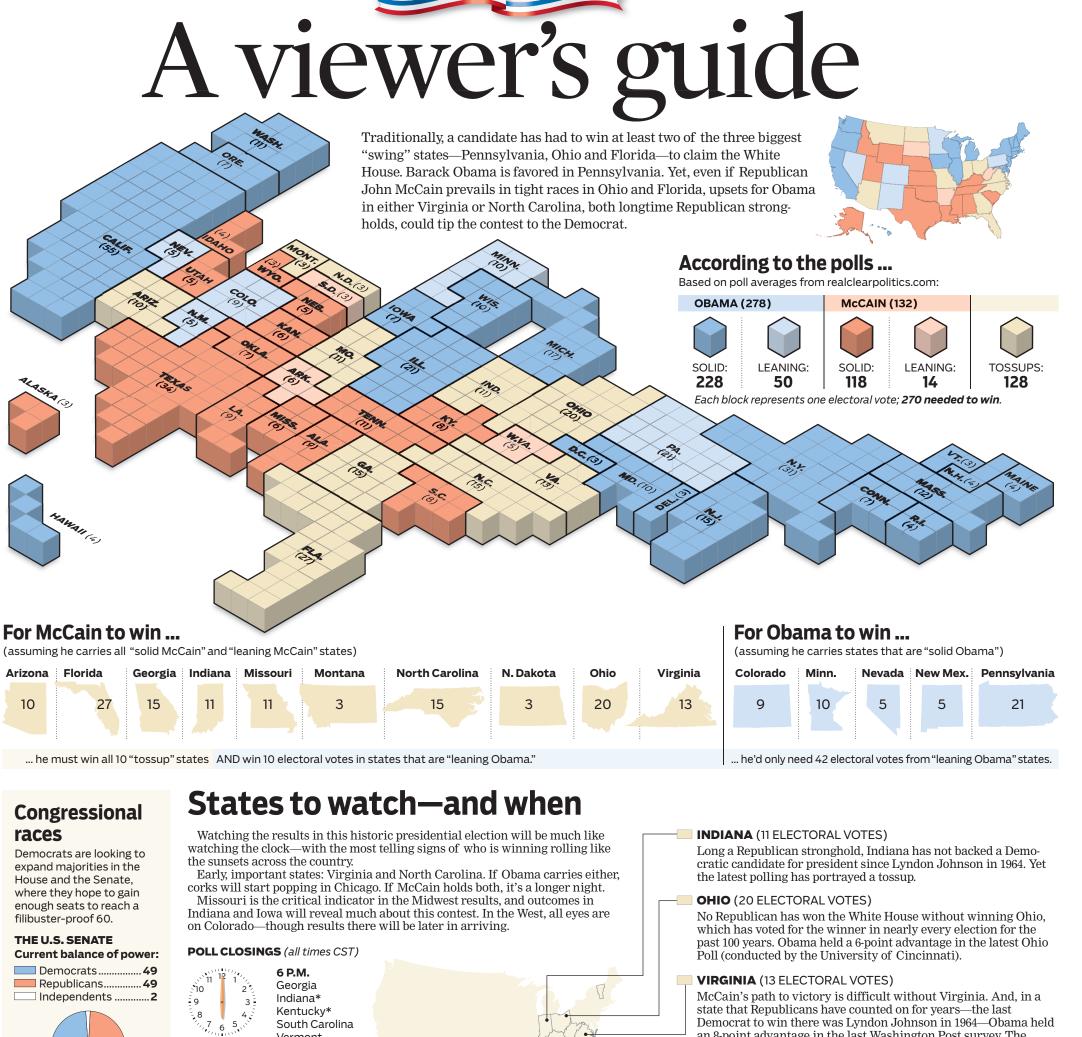


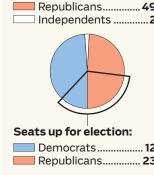




### Charts

The visual display of quantitative data remains the most significant aspect and role of the infographic. This can be done in a number of different ways depending on the data.





#### **KEY RACES**

■ Georgia: Incumbent Saxby Chambliss (R) faces a challenge from former state Rep. Jim Martin (D) in a state where Barack Obama's candidacy has helped expand Democratic voter registration, particularly among blacks.

■ Minnesota: Al Franker (D) is in a tight race with



Virginia 6:30 P.M.

North Carolina

New Hampshire

Oklahoma

Pennsylvania



7 P.M. Alabama Connecticut Dist. of Columbia Florida\* Illinois Maryland Massachusetts Mississippi Missouri



an 8-point advantage in the last Washington Post survey. The state's 5 million voters now stand as a potential key to Obama's victory, one of a few places where McCain must block him to win

#### NORTH CAROLINA (15 ELECTORAL VOTES)

Another Old South state that has trended Republican since Democrats became identified with the civil rights movement. North Carolina has not voted for a Democrat for president since 1976—Jimmy Carter, a Southerner. George W. Bush comfortably carried the state twice. Yet the latest polls show it as a tossup.

#### **PENNSYLVANIA** (21 ELECTORAL VOTES)

Pennsylvania has been a swing state for 70 years. Democrat John Kerry carried it with 51 percent of the vote in 2004, as did Democrat Al Gore in 2000. The latest polling there has shown Obama ahead by an average of 8 points. But McCain has fought hard for the state in the closing weeks of the campaign, counting on a base of conservative, working-class white voters.

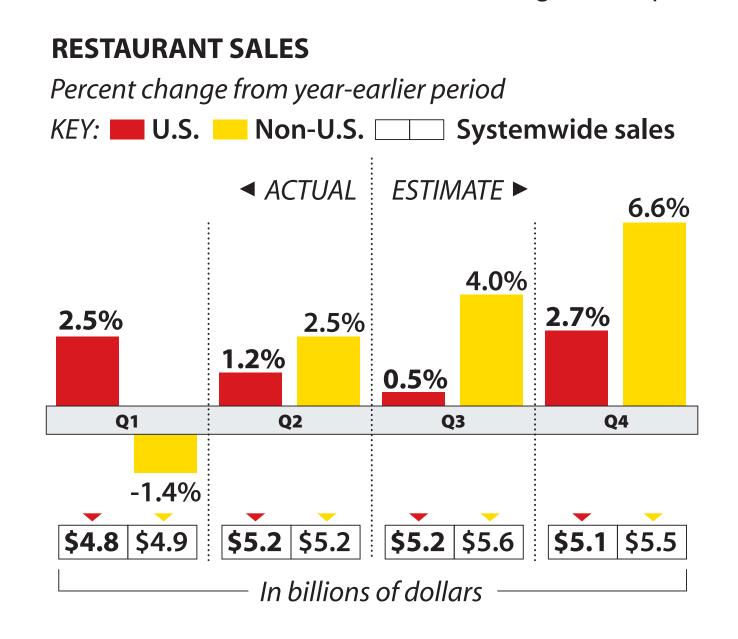
#### FLORIDA (27 ELECTORAL VOTES)

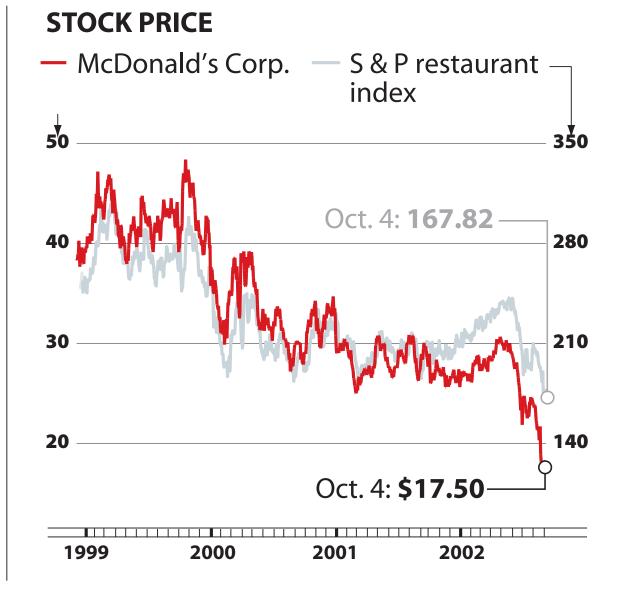
Since the 1960s, only Southern Democrats have taken Florida and not always. Johnson and Carter won there, but Carter also

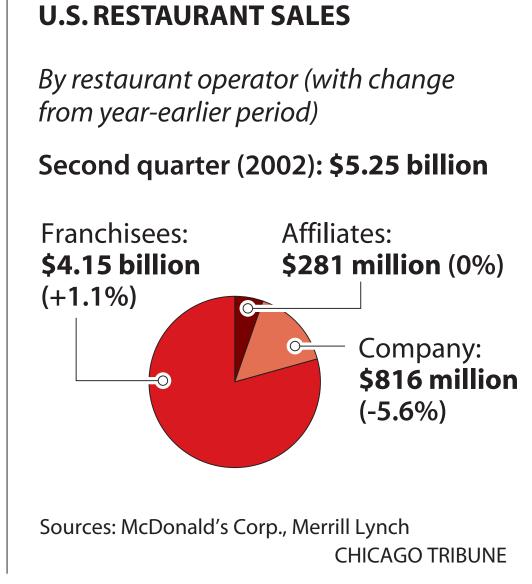
### Charts

### Golden Arches battles slide in U.S. sales and stock price

McDonald's stock has failed to keep pace with its peers, sinking nearly \$11 per share since the second quarter ended in June. The stock's downward trend comes as the fast-food giant has posted small gains in its key U.S. restaurant business during the first half of this year.







**Bar charts** 

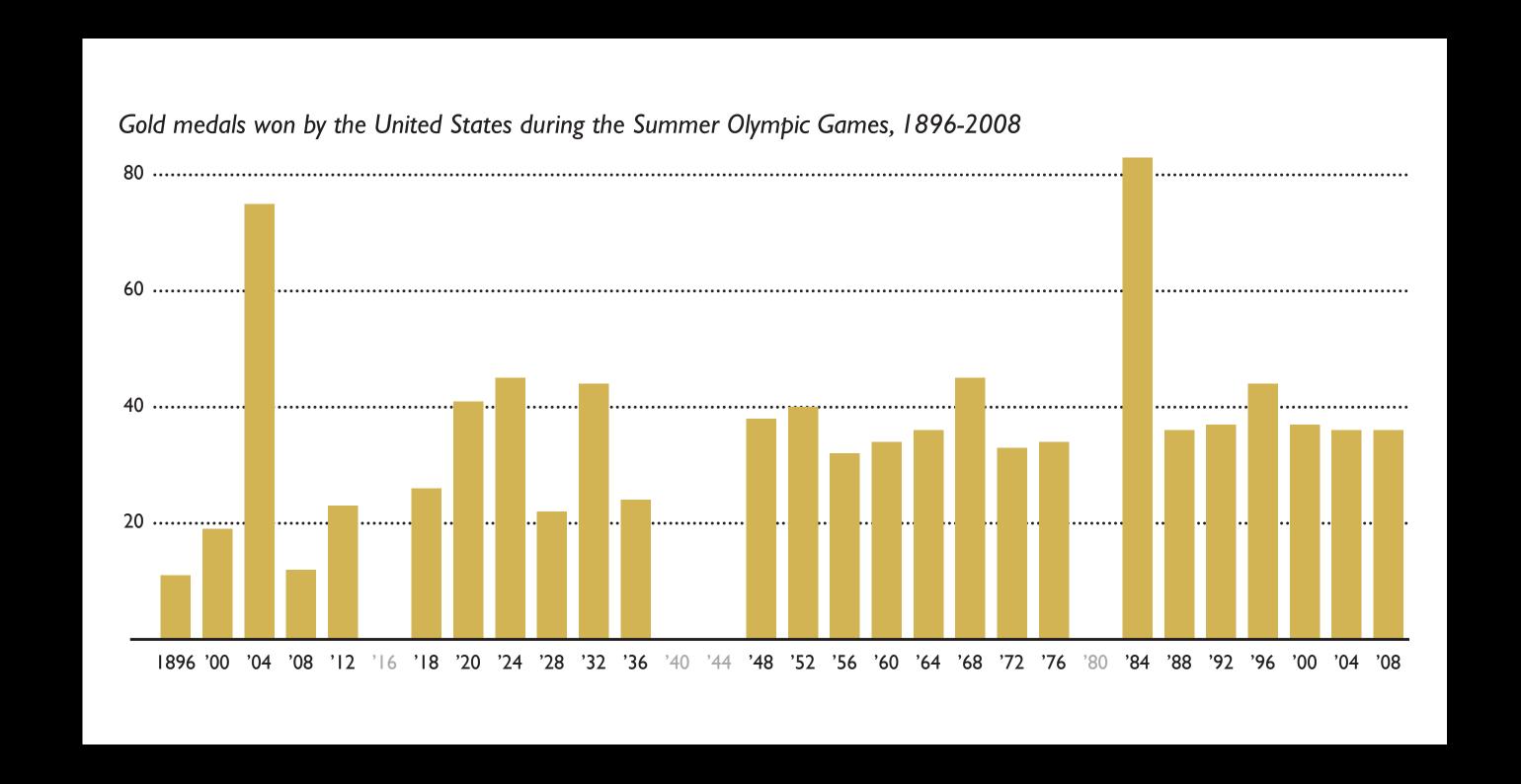
Line charts

Pie charts

### **Bar charts**

Generally, bars are best used when the items to be compared are:

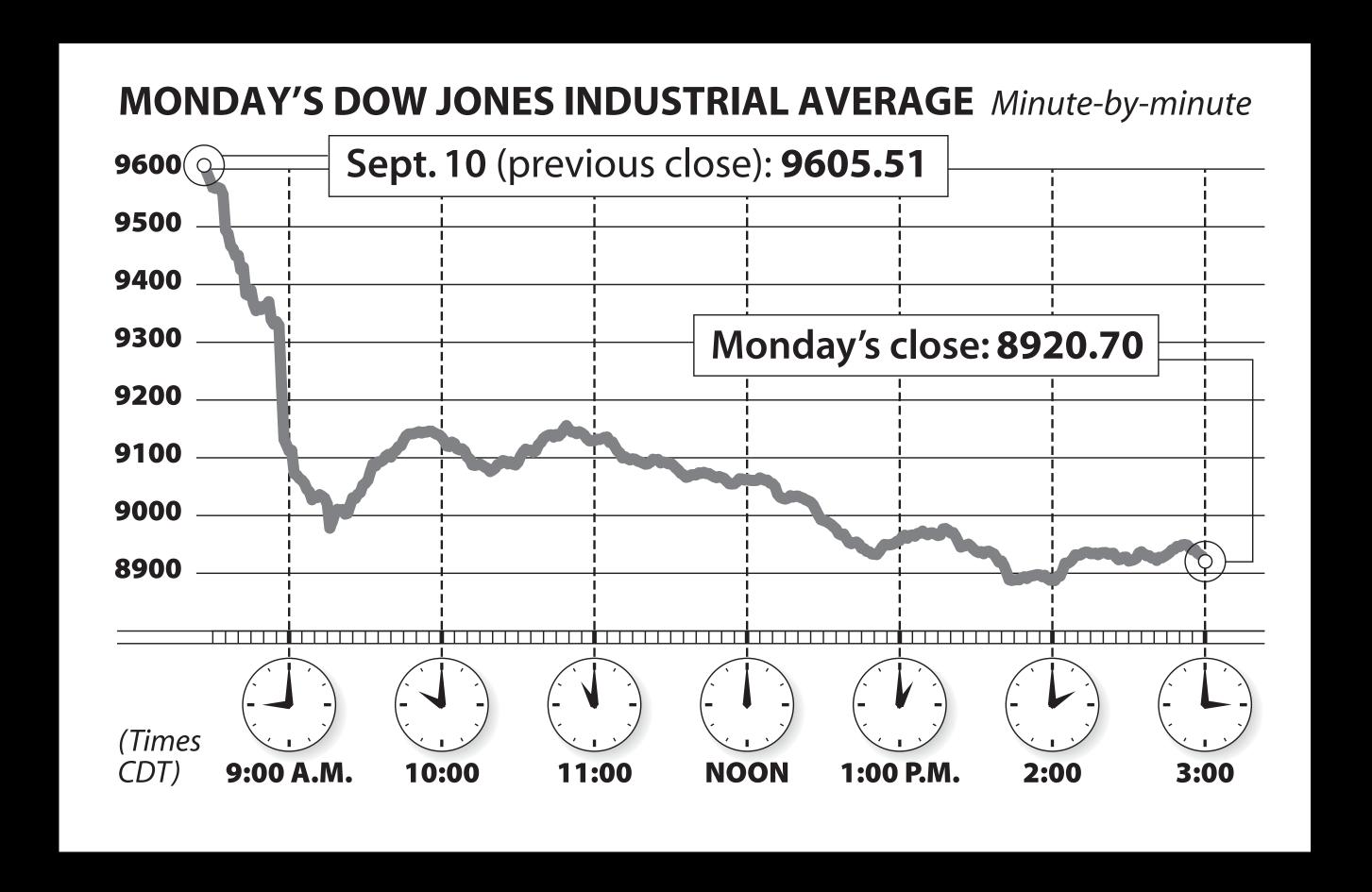
- Discreet, whole amounts
- Relatively few in number
- Relatively wide in range



### Line charts

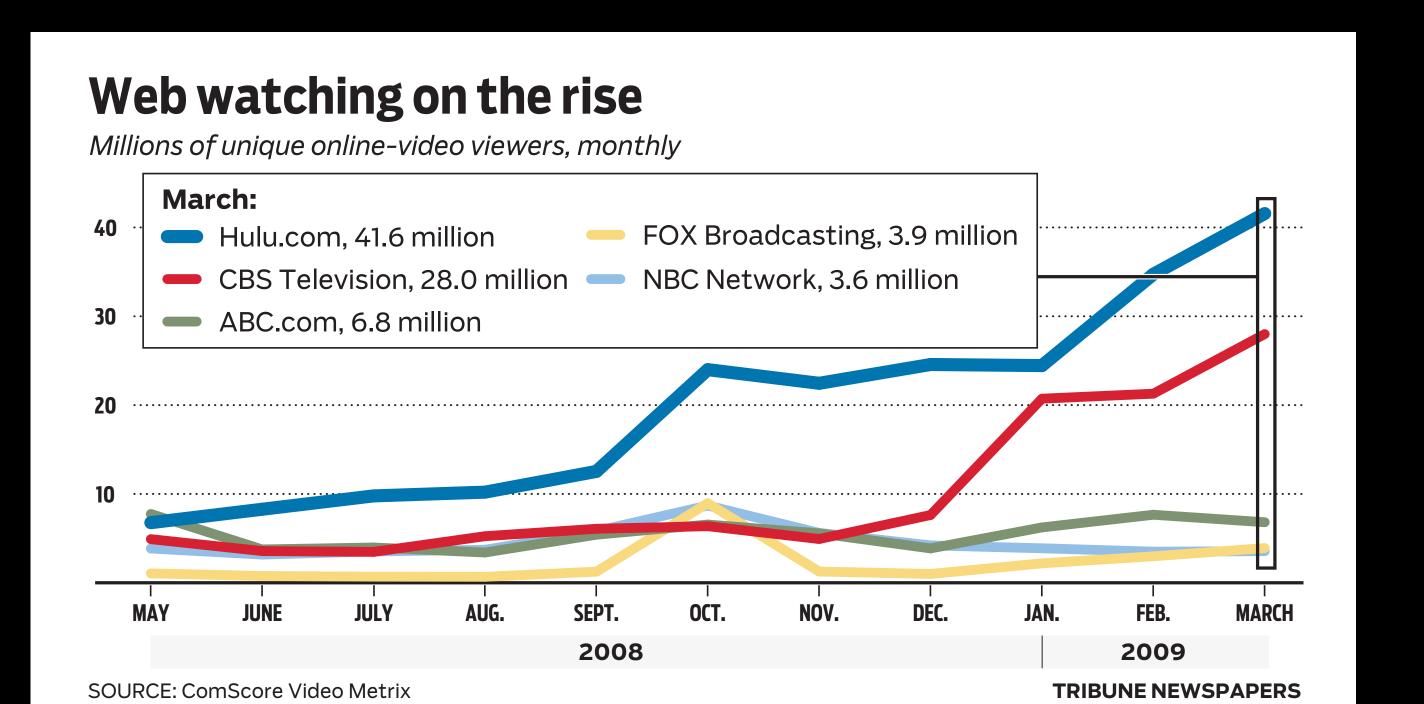
Generally, line charts are a better choice when charting:

- Continuous amounts
- Rates
- Numbers with relatively small deviation



### Line charts

Line charts are especially effective when comparing two or more data sets to each other on the same axis.



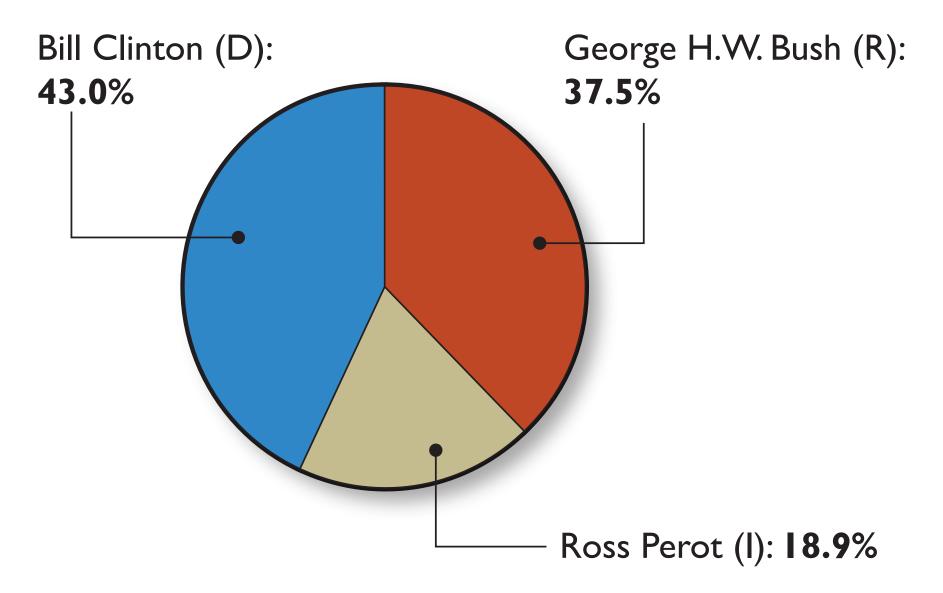
### Pie charts

Pie charts are named for their shape, and the fact that the data appear as "wedges" of a pie.

### THE PEROT EFFECT

The presence of a third-party candidate had a dramatic effect on the 1992 contest, won convincingly by Bill Clinton with significantly less than a majority of the vote.

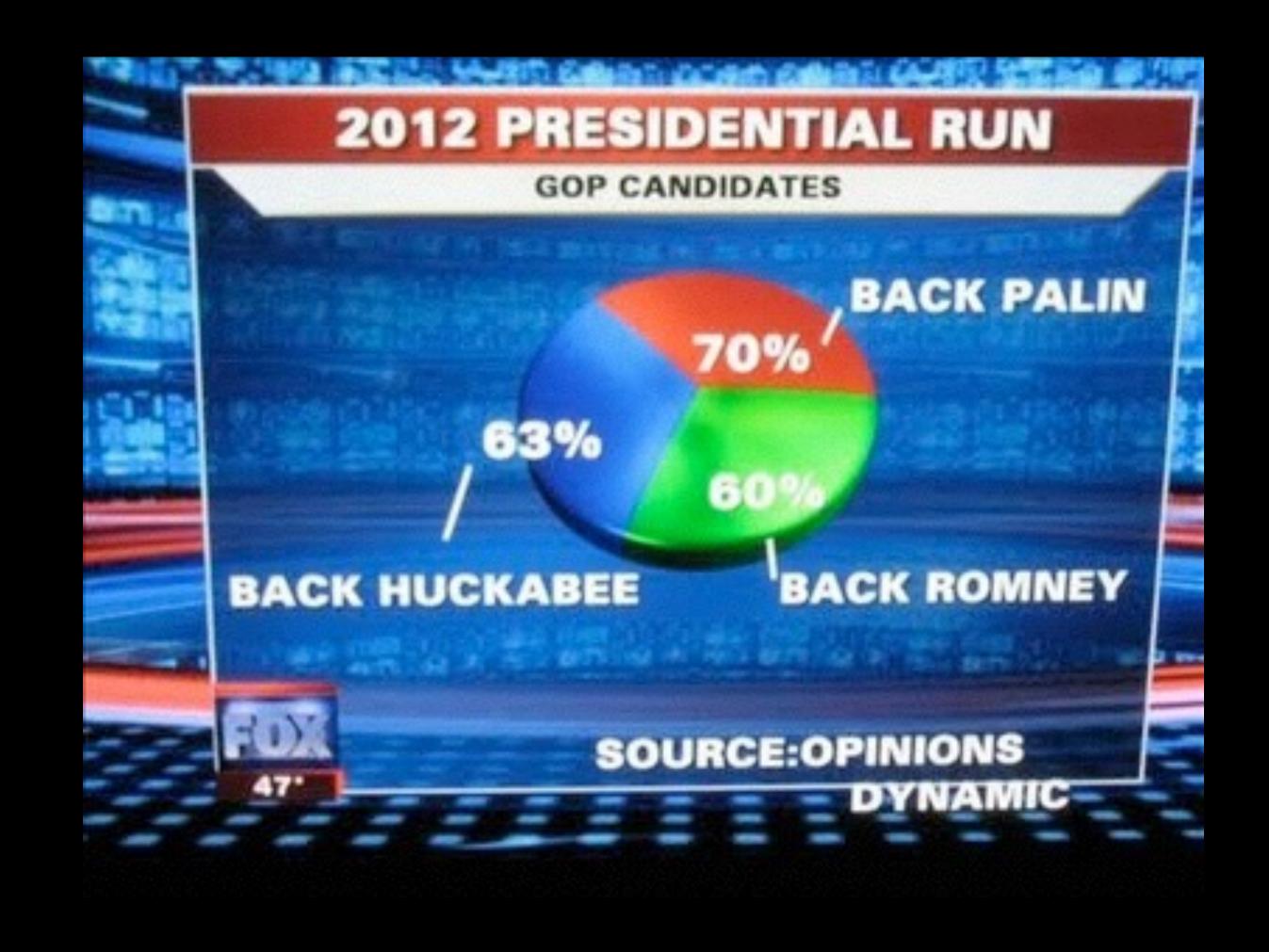
Percentage of the popular vote, 1992 Presidential election



**SOURCE:** Federal Election Commission

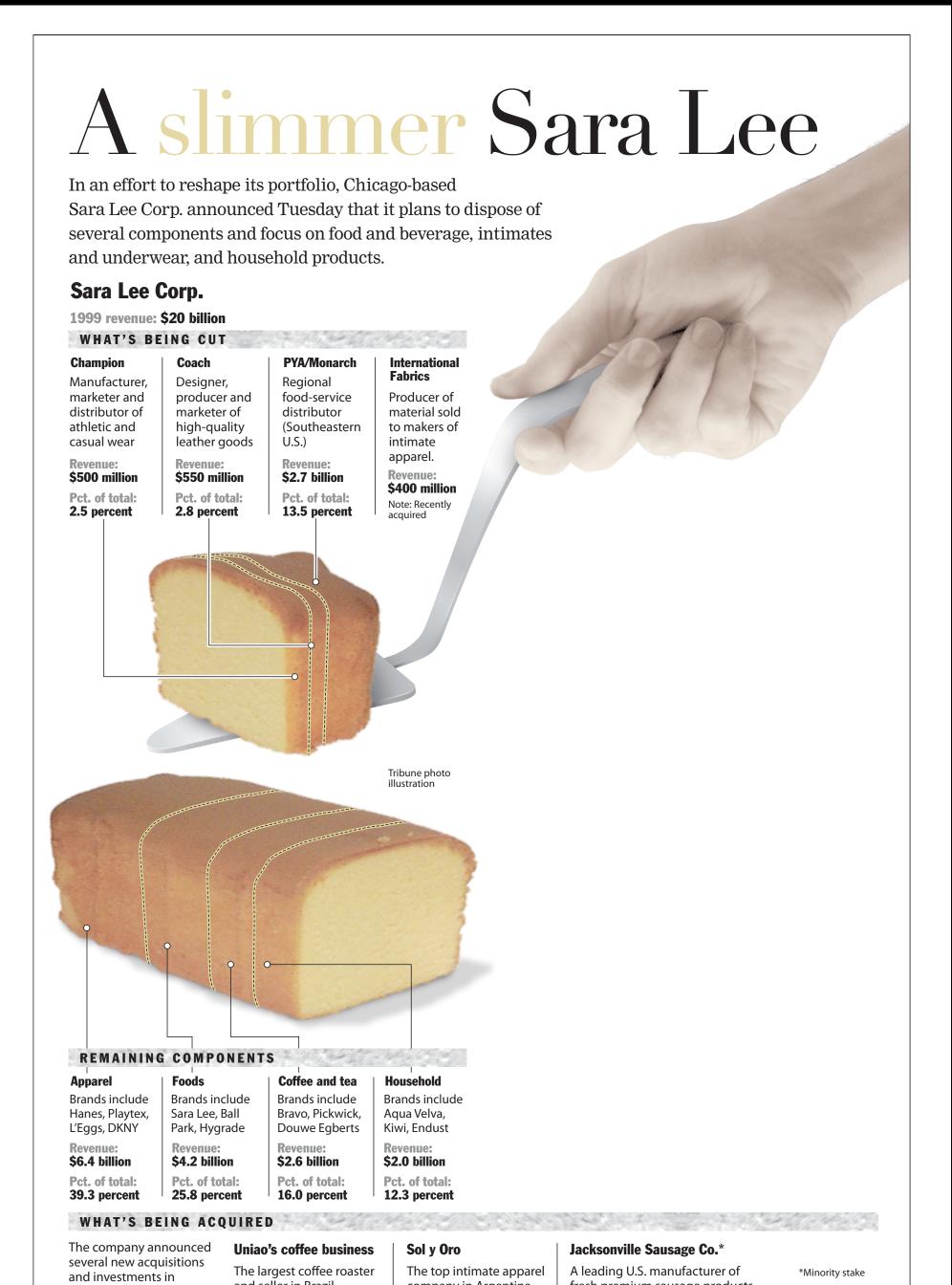
### Pie charts

The absolute rule of pie charts is that the numbers add up to a total, that percentages equal 100, that the "whole" amount is somehow a meaningful number.



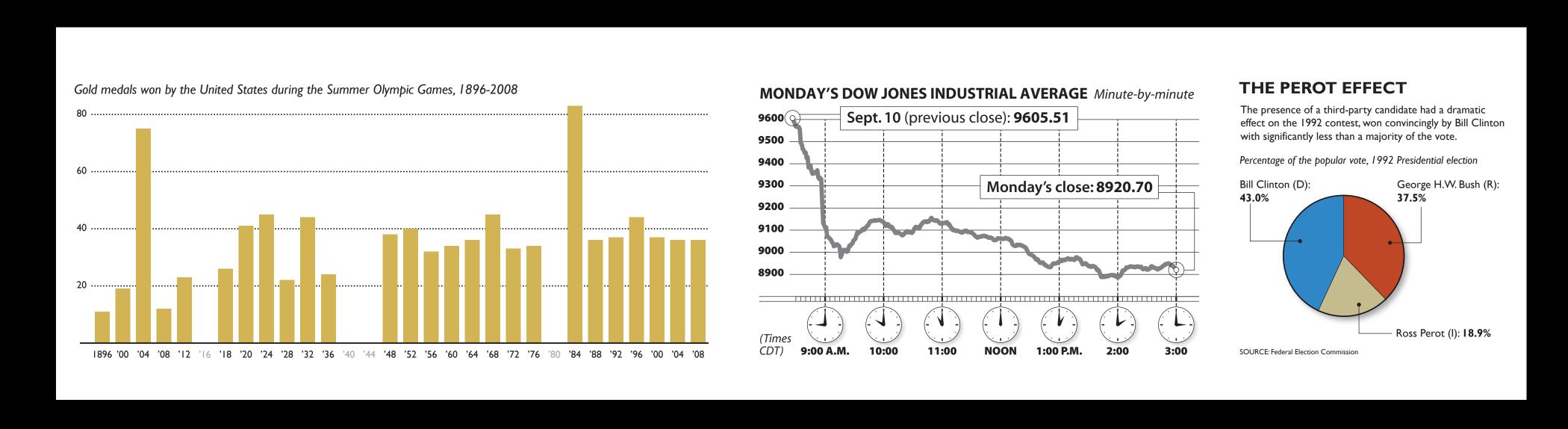
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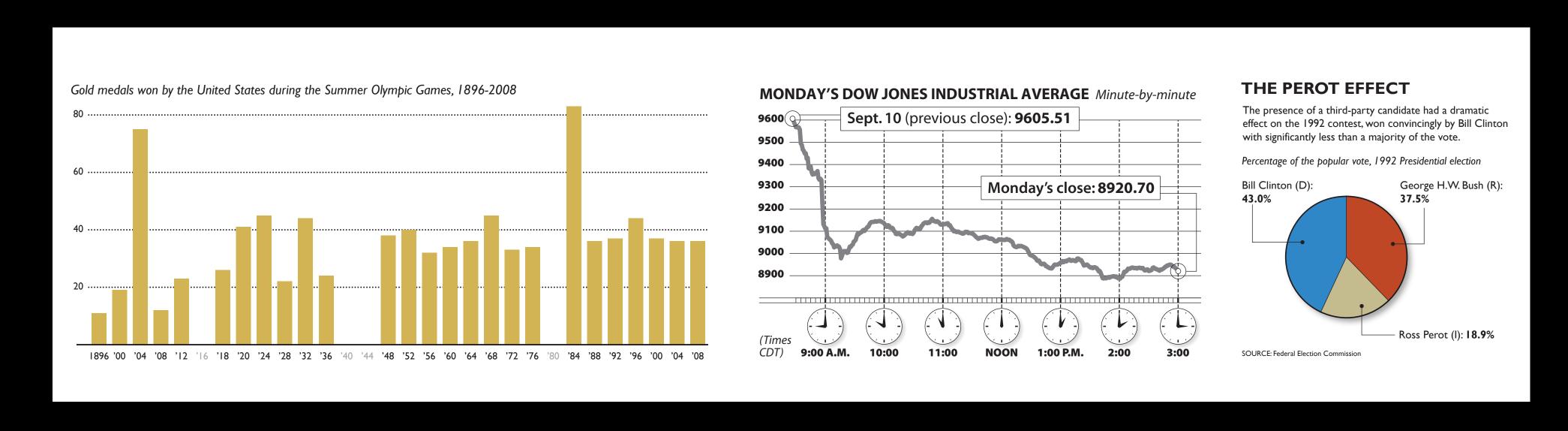
### Charts

Which of our three main charts — bar, line or pie — is the best choice for the following graphics?



### Charts

Which of our three main charts — bar, line or pie — is the best choice for the following graphics?



- Annual snowfall totals for Bloomington, Indiana
- IDV student breakdown: freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors
- U.S. minimum wage in real dollars (adjusted for inflation)

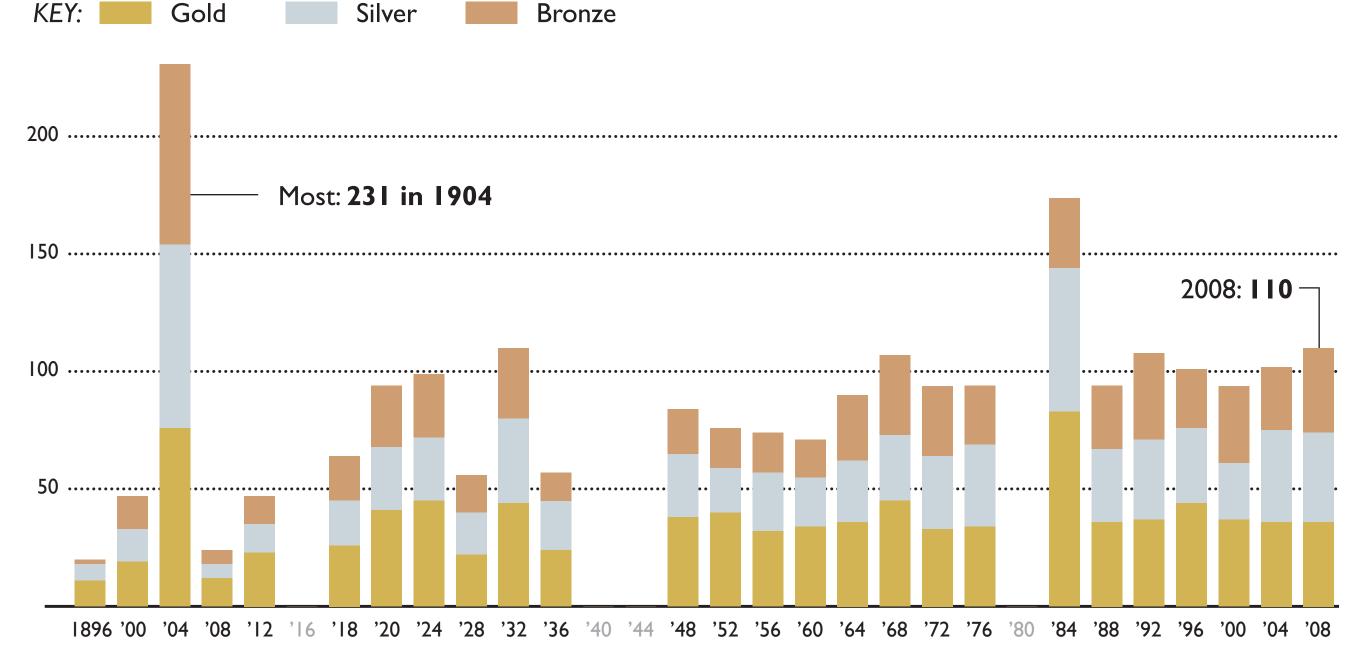
### Stacked

A variation — actually, a hybrid of the bar and pie charts — is the stacked column, where totals are brown down into subgroups, all of which can be compared.

### **GOING FOR GOLD**

The 36 gold medals won by the United States at the 2008 Summer Games matched their total from 2004 and was good for second in the overall standings, behind host China's fifty-one.

Total medals won by the United States during the Summer Olympic Games, 1896-2008



NOTE: The Summer Games were not held in 1916, 1940 or 1944 because of World Wars I and II. The U.S. led a boycott of the 1980 Moscow Games and did not participate.

SOURCE: International Olympic Committee

### Bubbles

Another variation is the proportional symbol chart — AKA the bubble chart (when they're circles), which uses a circle to compare discrete amounts.

### High mercury levels in skin lighteners

The Tribune bought skin lightening creams throughout Chicago, sending 50 samples to Columbia Analytical Services Inc. in Kelso, Wash., to be tested for mercury content. Six were found to contain the toxic metal. Federal law bans mercury in skin lightening cream, though the metal is allowed in trace amounts — below 1 part per million — in other cosmetics.



OURCE: Tribune reporting TRIBUI

### Bubbles

This type of representation is often used on maps, as the circles can help locate where certain information pertains.

rangsons at the military stronghold control of the subcontinent. The first anglo-atgran war in of Bamiyan led Khan to order that 1839 resulted in the destruction of a British army. The second, every person there be killed. Khan's in 1878, brought about stability and the establishment of the death in 1227 returned the country to country's borders. A third war, in 1919, resulted in the British its state of disunity. UZBEK

presence of 120,000 Soviet troops, the government was unable to control many areas outside Kabul due in part to the success of anti-government mujahedeen fighters, who received military aid from the U.S. and other nations. In 1989, after 14,500 Soviet and an estimated 1 million Afghan deaths, the Soviet Union withdrew.



#### THE INSURGENCY

Garani -

say 140

the U.S.

Taliban

The strength of the Taliban and loosely allied militant groups has grown dramatically over the past two years. 2008 was the most violent year since the U.S.-led invasion in 2001 in terms of deaths of Afghan civilians and Western troops.

President Hamid Karzai faces a re-election bid on Aug. 20. His popularity has plummeted, but the opposition is weak and divided. and he is expected to win. Western officials are concerned that Karzai has allied with ex-warlords with serious records of humanrights violations, including one who is on his ticket as a vice presidential contender.

Safety has deteriorated sharply in many areas of the country, with road travel between major cities becoming extremely dangerous. A few provincial capitals are virtually cut off from the outside world except by air.

The number of U.S. troops will increase to more than 55,000. But NATO allies have not made commensurate increases in their force strength. This has caused some tensions within the

Corruption, much of it fueled by drug money. extends into the highest reaches of Afghan government. The U.S. has been extremely critical of the Karzai administration over official malfeasance, though it has toned down complaints as the election draws closer so as not to be seen as interfering.

The pace of rebuilding has been slow, despite enormous expenditures, and is cited by many Afghans as a major source of disillusionment with the foreign presence. Although international aid agencies report some progress, many infrastructure projects are derailed or delayed

by inadequate security.

Oct. 7 invasion by the U.S. and its allies and the rapid deterioration of Taliban control

#### 2002-04

A new Afghan government is formed, highlighted by the 2004 ratification of a constitution and the nation's first democratic presidential election.

2005-present

Ethnic divisions

Foreign presence

40 - May 19: 49,300 -

### Balance of power

In class today, we will start work on a fairly simple infographic that would convey shifts in the balance of Congressional power over the previous three presidential administrations. What is the best approach to making this data visual?

			House: 435 Seats				Senate: 100 Seats			
No.	Year	President	Dem	Rep	Ind	Margin	Dem	Rep	Ind	Margin
103rd	1993–95	Clinton (D)	258	176	I	82	57	43	0	14
I 04th	1995–97	Clinton (D)	206	228	I	22	48	52	0	4
I 05th	1997–99	Clinton (D)	207	226	2	19	45	55	0	10
I 06th	1999–01	Clinton (D)	211	223	I	12	45	55	0	10
I07th	2001-03	Bush (R)	213	220	2	7	50	50	0	0
I 08th	2003–20	Bush (R)	205	229	I	24	48	51	I	3
I 09th	2005–07	Bush (R)	201	233	I	32	44	55	1	Ш
I I Oth	2007–09	Bush (R)	232	203	0	29	49	49	2	0
IIIth	2009-11	Obama (D)	257	178	0	79	57	41	2	16
II2th	2011-13	Obama (D)	193	242	0	49	51	47	2	4
II3th	2013–15	Obama (D)	201	234	0	33	53	45	2	8
II4th	2015–17	Obama (D)	188	247	0	59	44	54	2	10

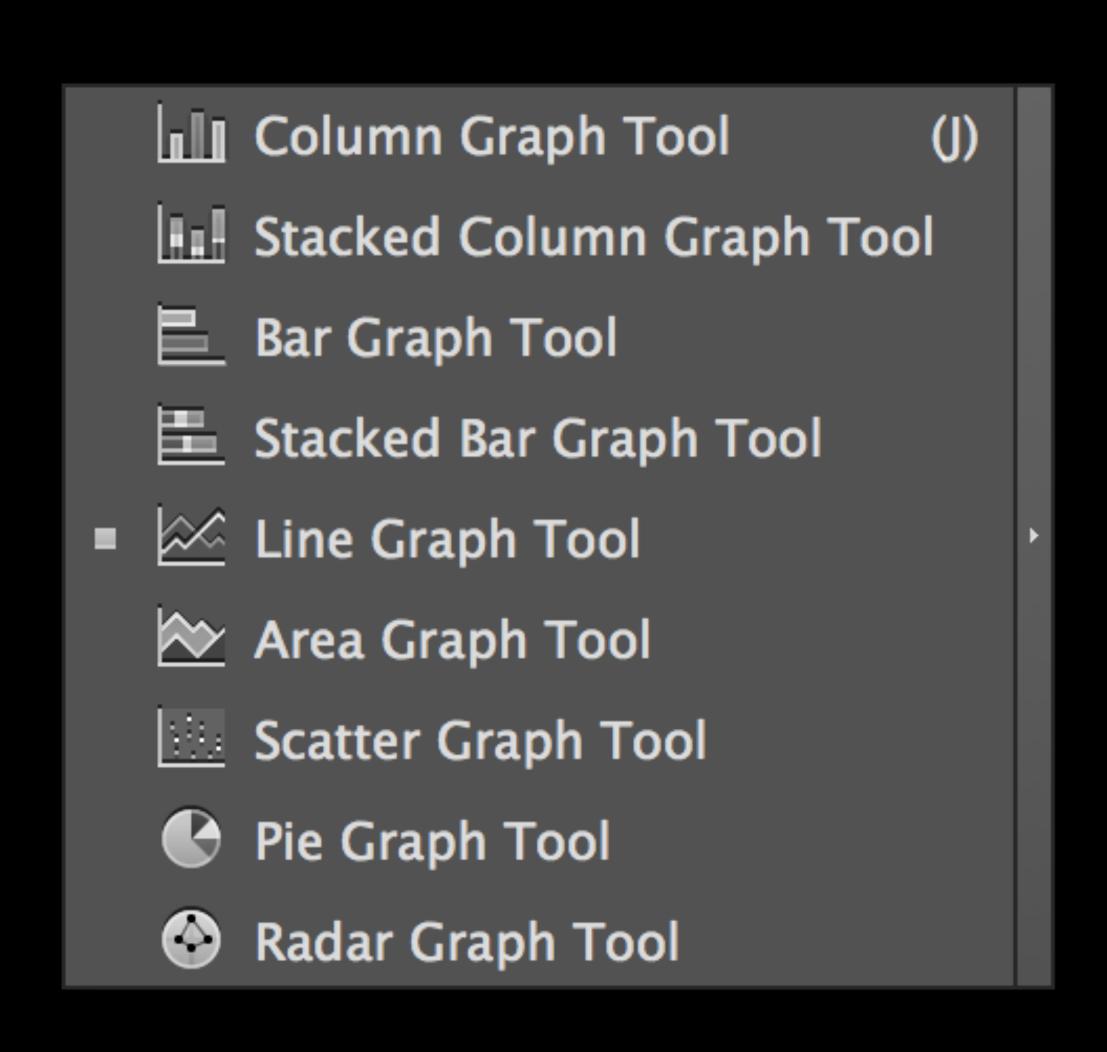
Sources: United States House of Representatives, United States Senate

# CHARTS IN ILLUSTRATOR

# CHARTS IN ILLUSTRATOR

### **Chart tool**

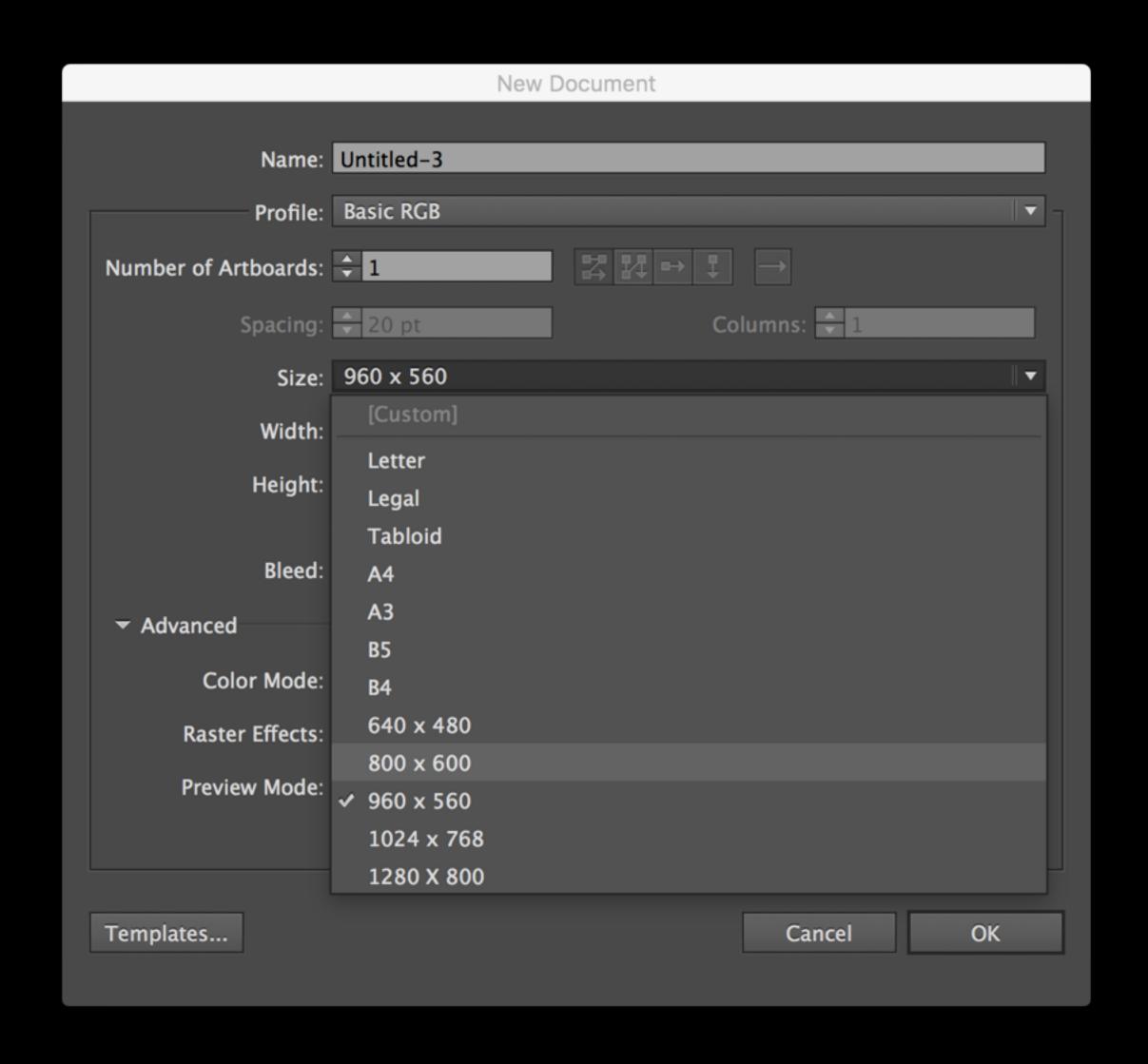
Adobe Illustrator features several chart tools. There are nine options for charts — you don't need to specify which your graphic will be before you create it, as you can always change the chart type once you have acquired the data.



# CHARTS IN ILLUSTRATOR

### New document

Open Illustrator and make a new page (Command-N). For graphics on the web, you need to use RGB color.
Remember, the width of our page-wrap div is 600 pixels, so that is how wide this graphic should be. You can make the page wider than this, though, and modify the size later.

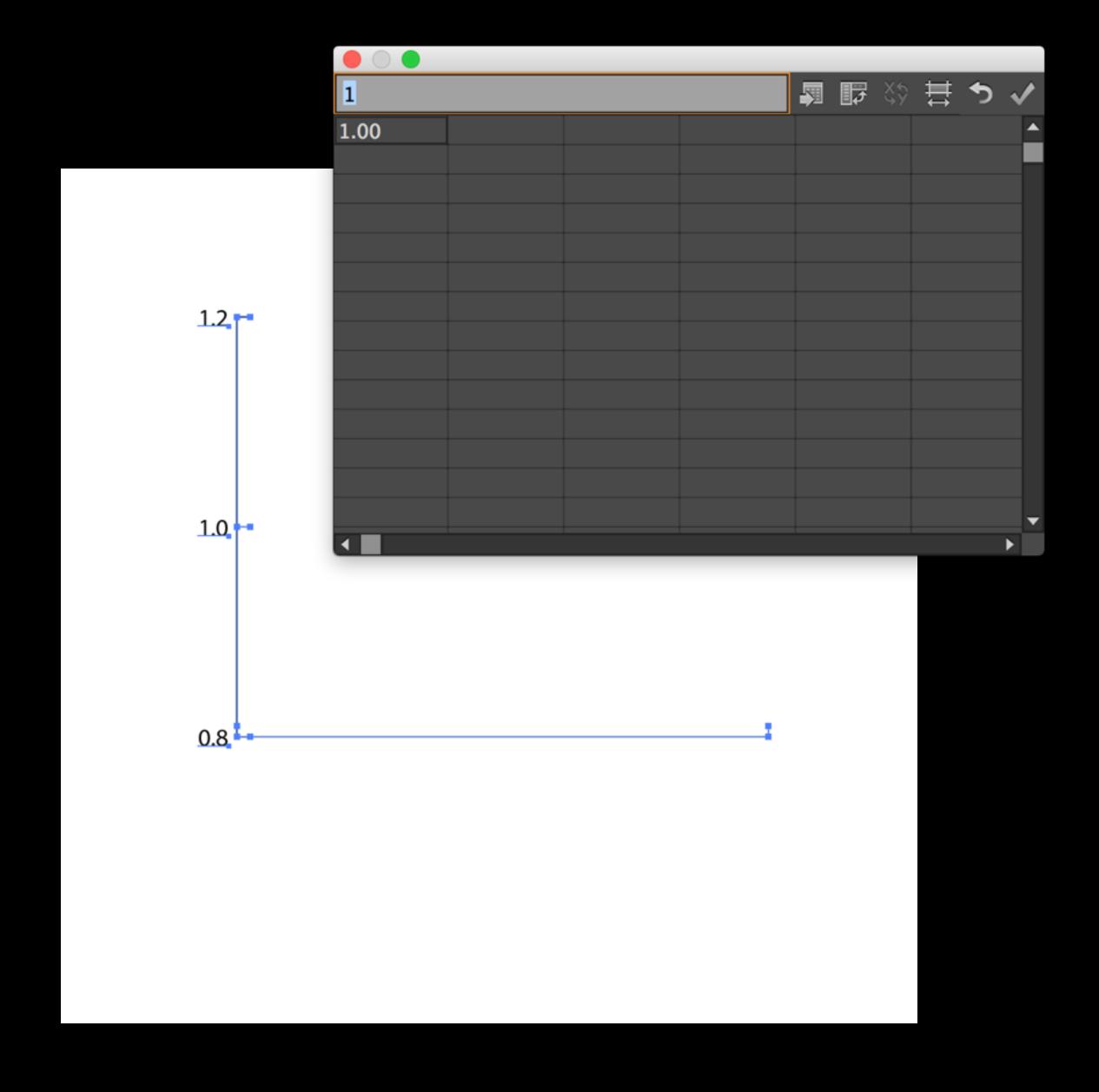


## Getting started

There are a variety of ways to add data to Illustrator so that you can use one of the chart tools. Select one of the tools — the one you think you want to use to visualize the data about the balance of power in Congress. Use this tool to draw a box on your (blank) page.

# **Getting started**

An empty spreadsheet — well, nearly empty — will open, awaiting some input of data. For this exercise, we will copy and paste the information we need from an Excel document.



# Getting data

The information for our graphic is in Excel format. You can find this in the Course Materials section (at the bottom) of the Links page on the syllabus website.



### **THE SYLLABUS**

#### Accounts you'll need

On the first day of class, you will create these two accounts (unless you have them already). The first will allow you to create your own website for our class, using the free web hosting available to you as an IU student. The second is a web-based code repository, where you can store and share your code. It is the largest host of source code in the world.

The Mercury server	access.iu.edu/Accounts
For Pages info	kb.iu.edu/d/alcr
For Pages problems	www.iu.edu/~accrec/mypage_agreement
Code repository	github.com

#### **Course material**

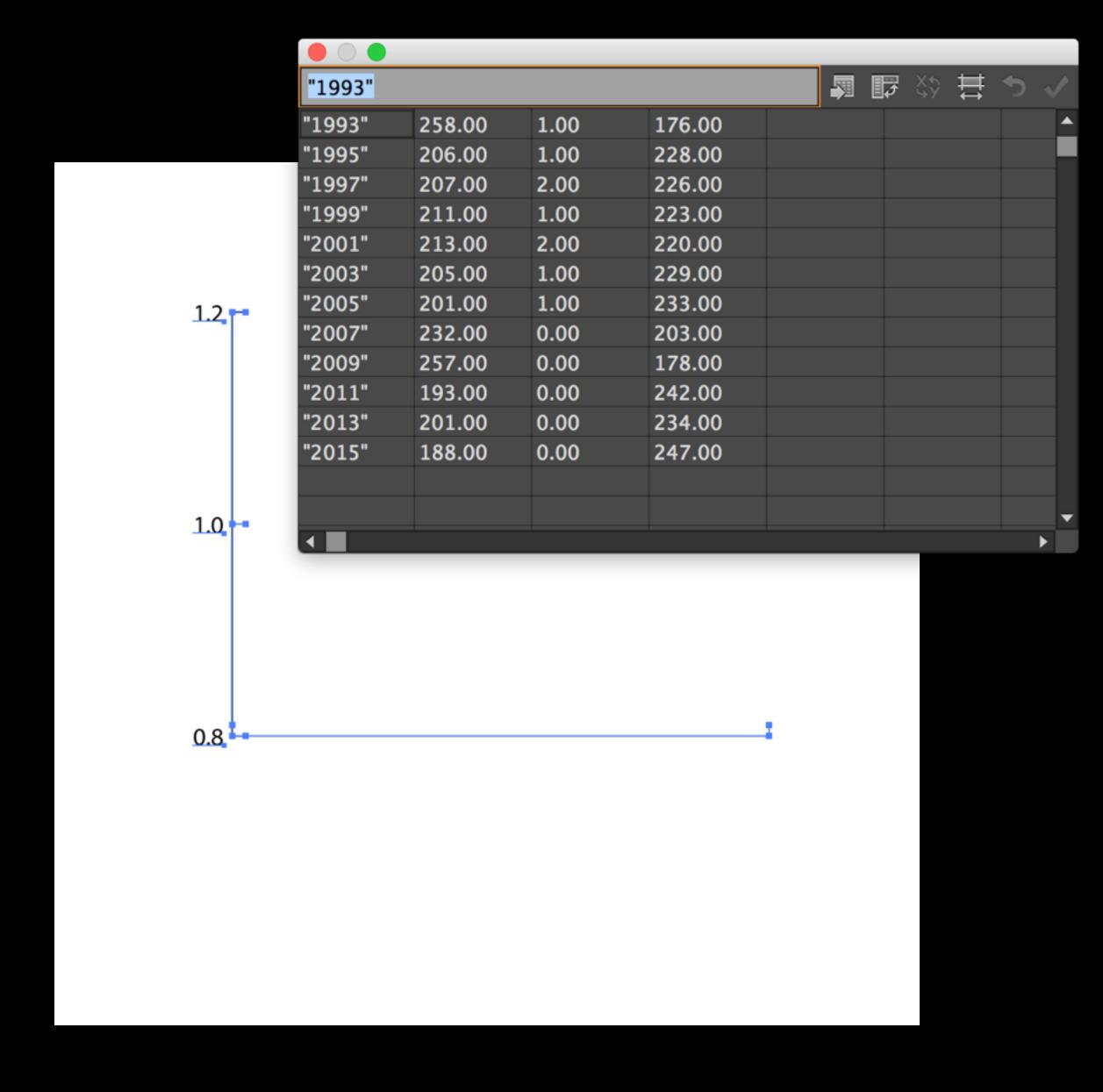
In this section, downloads of files we are using during in-class activities can be found. These files are in a variety of formats. Just click the link to download as needed!

Balance of power... Excel data

IDV460 stlayton@indiana.edu

# **Getting started**

Copy and past the data from Excel into your Illustrator chart spreadsheet. You can now see the visual representation of that data.



# GRAPHIC ANATOMY

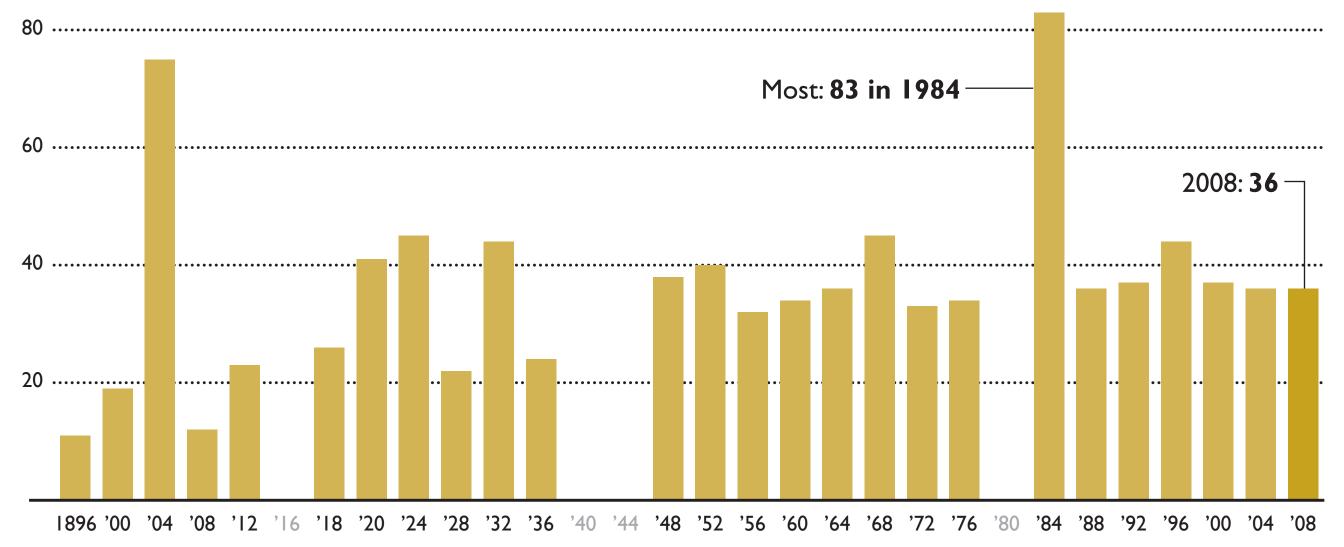
### Headline

A good headline is written, like a story headline, to grab the reader's attention. It should be relatively short — it needn't fill its horizontal space — and directly reflect the information imparted by the graphic.

### **GOING FOR GOLD**

The 36 gold medals won by the United States at the 2008 Summer Games matched their total from 2004 and was good for second in the overall standings, behind host China's fifty-one.

Gold medals won by the United States during the Summer Olympic Games, 1896-2008



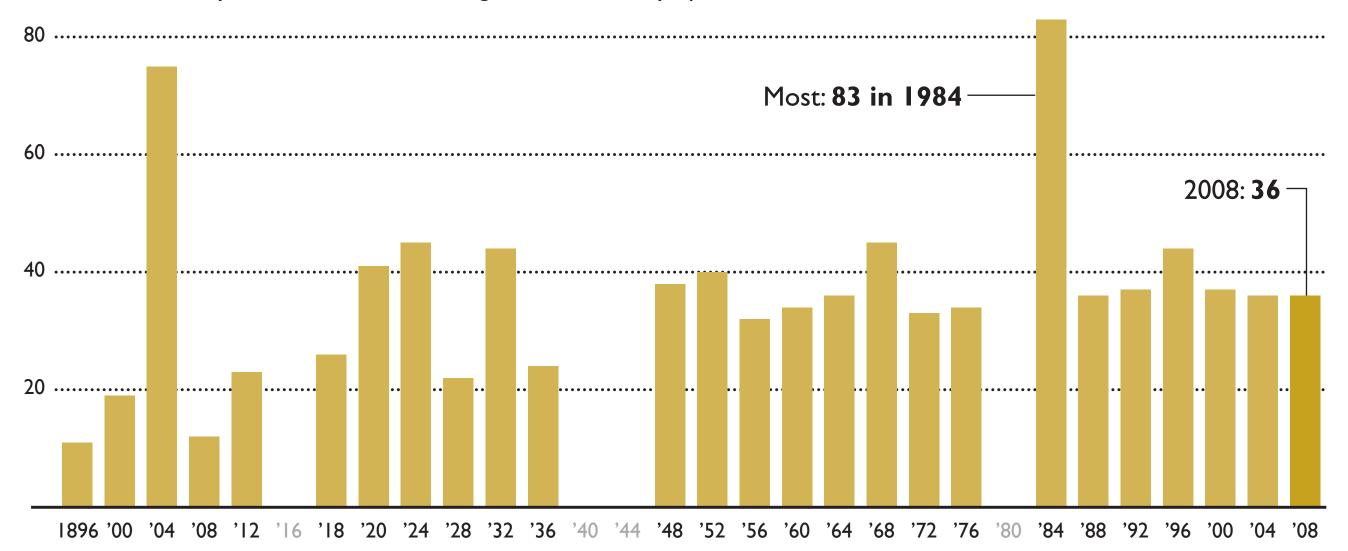
# Explainer

Sometimes called "chatter," this brief paragraph summarizes the main idea of the graphic and applies context. Often, an explainer will offer a level of detail not shown in the visual section (the chart in this case).

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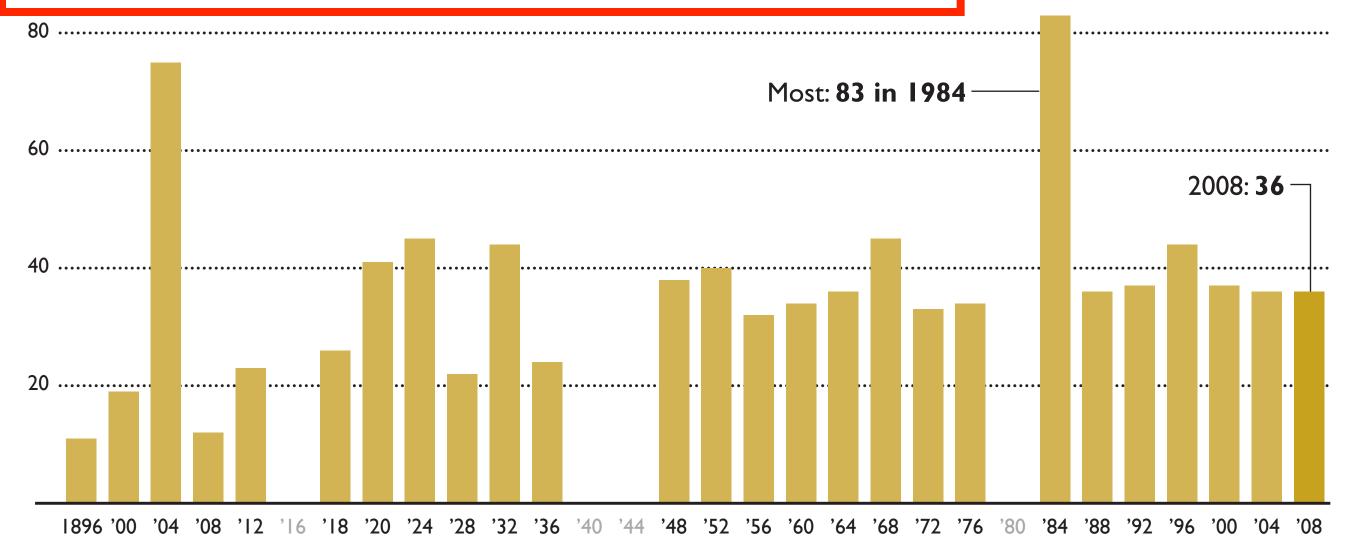
### Label

A label lists the pertinent information shown in a chart and is best placed directly adjacent to it. The label should not contain any extraneous information, but it should be thorough. Sometimes, the label includes a small headline (for example, "Gold medals") above the descriptive text.

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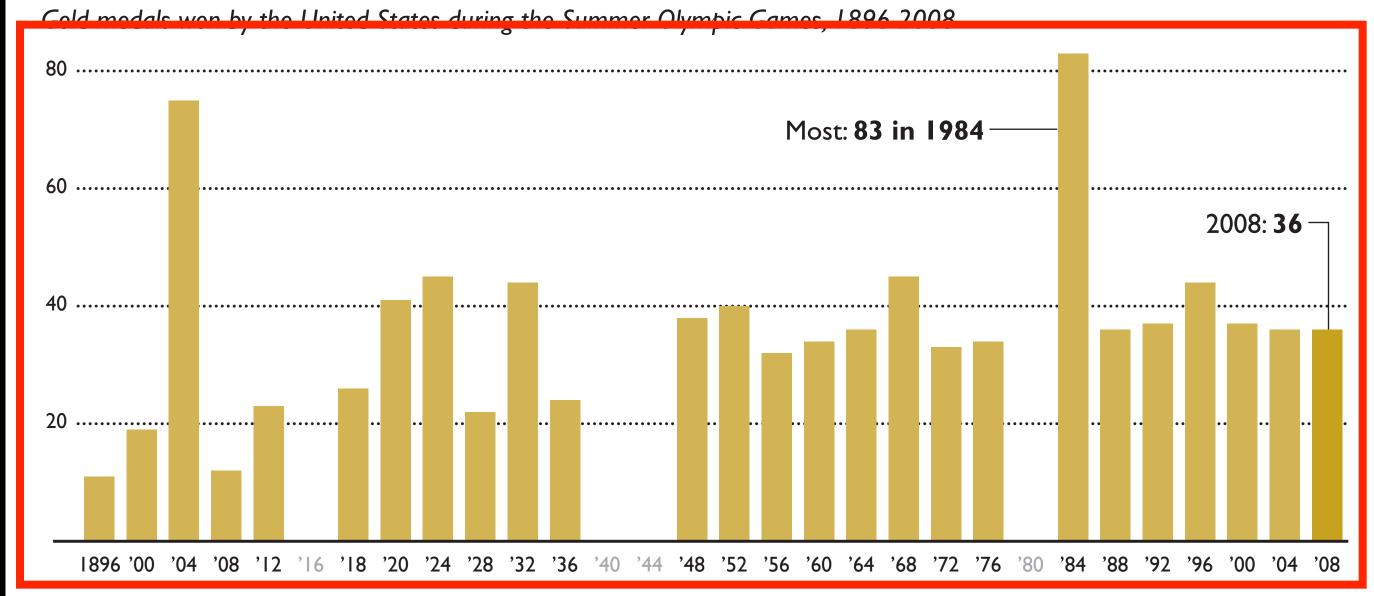


# **Figure**

The "figure" in any graphic needs to be the vital visual component. It must be the focus of the graphic as a whole, and the visual representation of the graphic's main point.

#### **GOING FOR GOLD**

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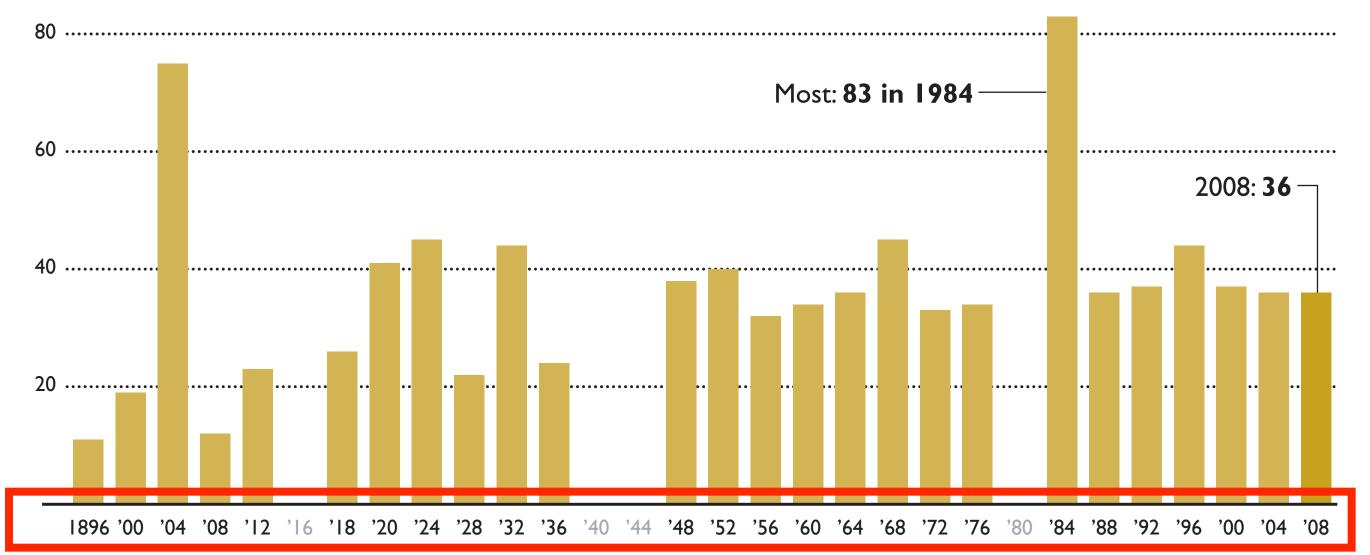
### X-axis

Bar charts are usually made up of two axes: the X and the Y. The X-axis runs along the bottom of the chart, and is the label for what each bar represents — in this case, Olympic years. The X-axis is often, but not always, a time measurement.

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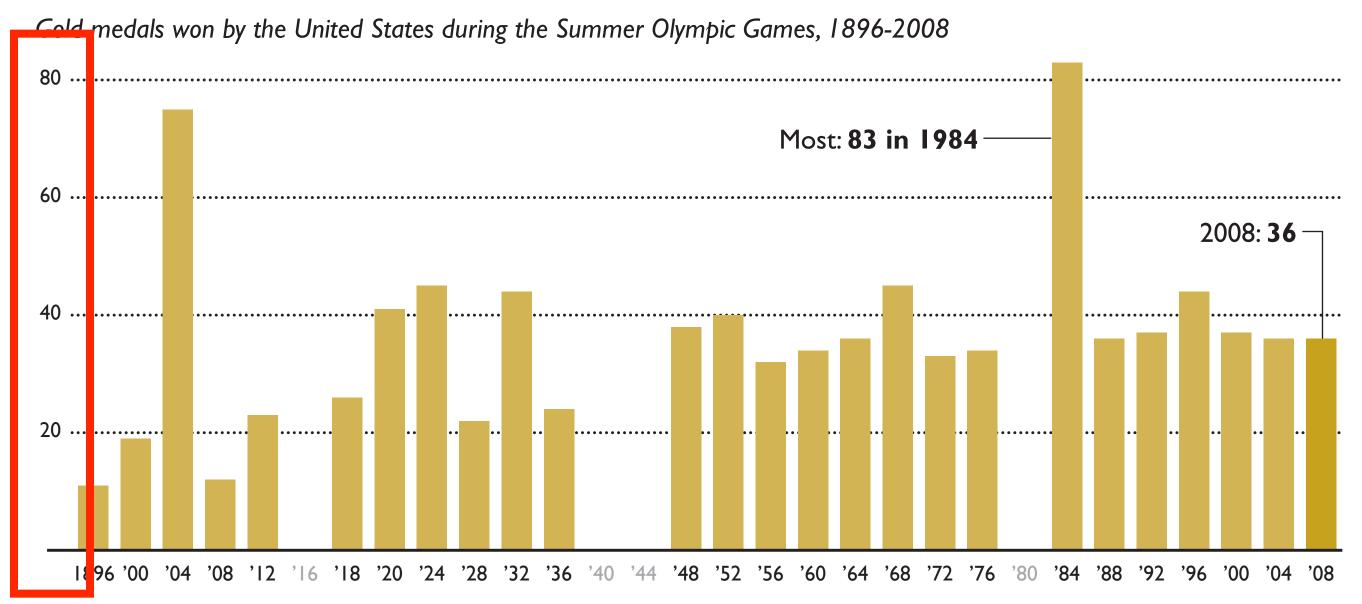


### Y axis

The Y axis tracks the incremental values between zero at the bottom and the maximum. The highest charted number can exceed the Y axis, though not by much. Y axis numbers should be regular, whole numbers. Lines connect the Y axis across the figure.

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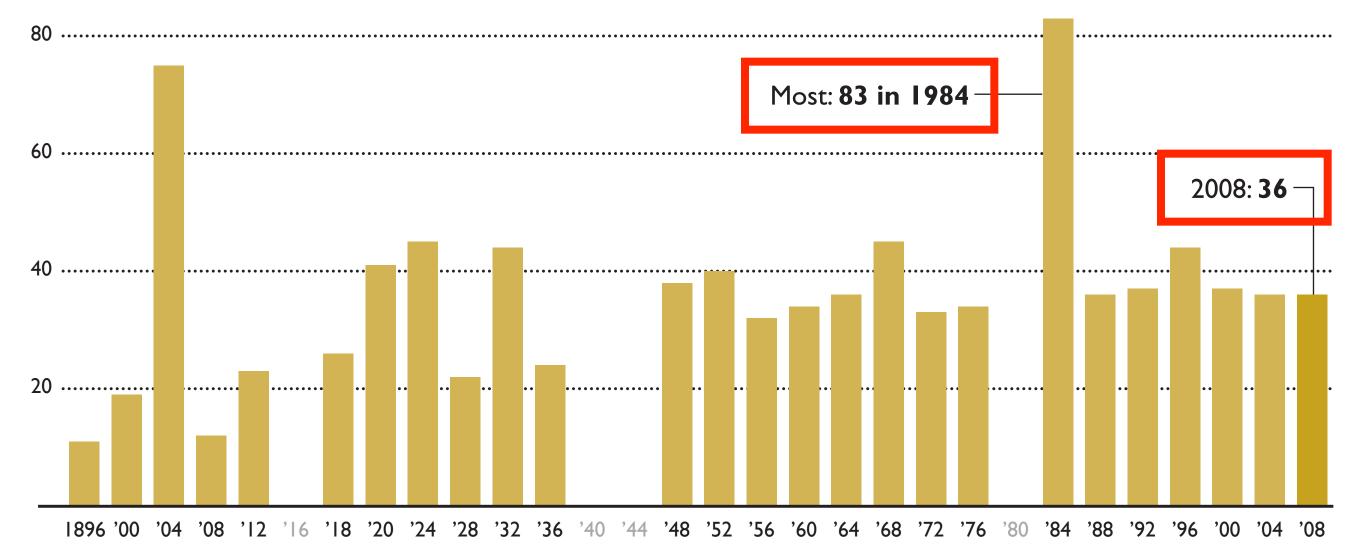
### **Call-outs**

Focal information needs to be brought forward in a graphic, highlighted in a pointer box or similar device so that it is seen and understood at a glance. Key data should be bold.

#### **GOING FOR GOLD**

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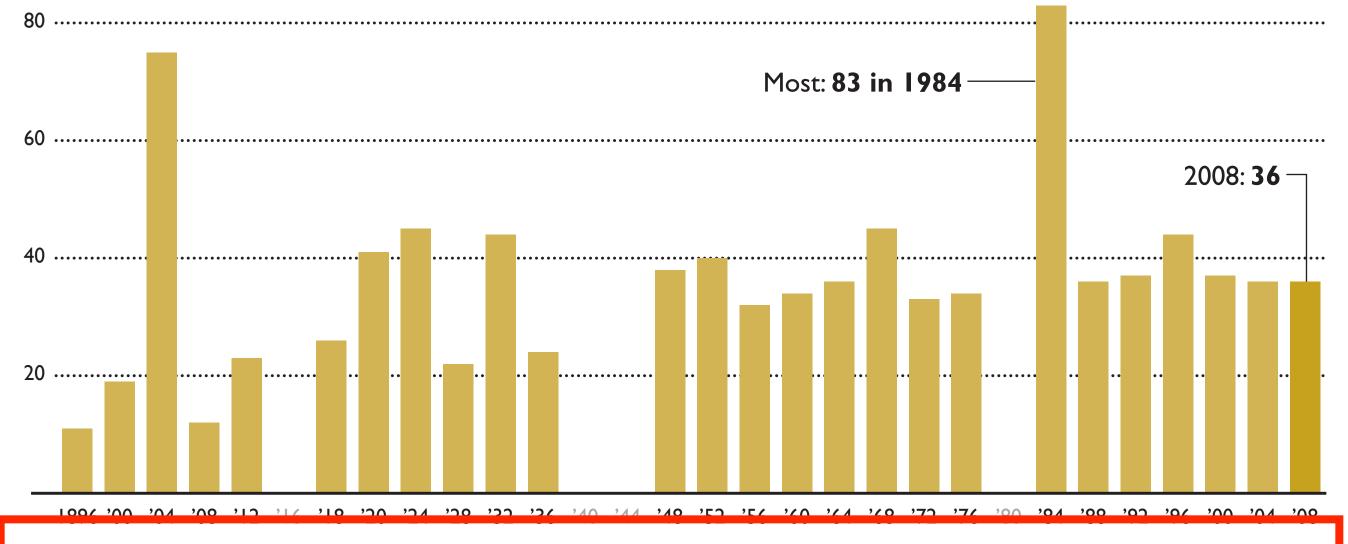
### Notes\*

Additional chart information that helps explain gaps in the data, for example, or the methodology of poll data, is added at the bottom of the chart in small type (try 12 pixels or so).

### **GOING FOR GOLD**

The 36 gold medals won by the United States at the 2008 Summer Games matched their total from 2004 and was good for second in the overall standings, behind host China's fifty-one.

Gold medals won by the United States during the Summer Olympic Games, 1896-2008



NOTE: The Summer Games were not held in 1916, 1940 or 1944 because of World Wars I and II. The U.S. led a boycott of the 1980 Moscow Games and did not participate.

SOUNCE. International Crympic Committee

TO I CIVAL I IIC

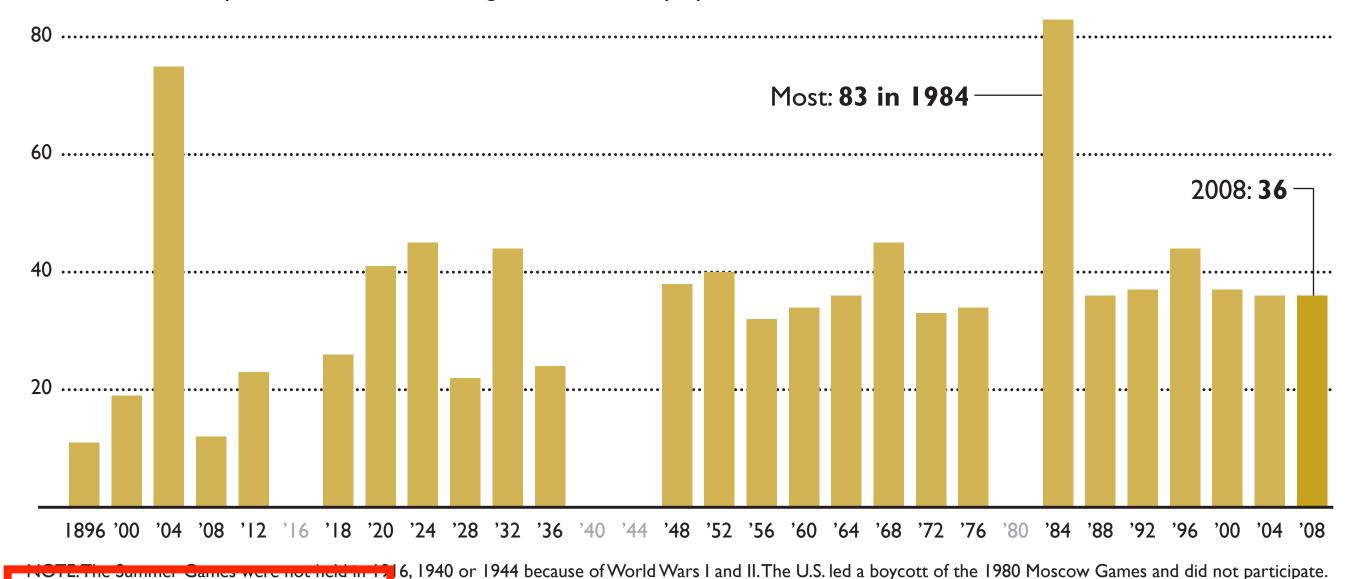
### Source

Every graphic needs a source — the origin for the information represented in the graphic. Sources should be authoritative — not Wikipedia, for example — and they can, and often do, include multiple sources.

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**J464 GRAPHIC** 

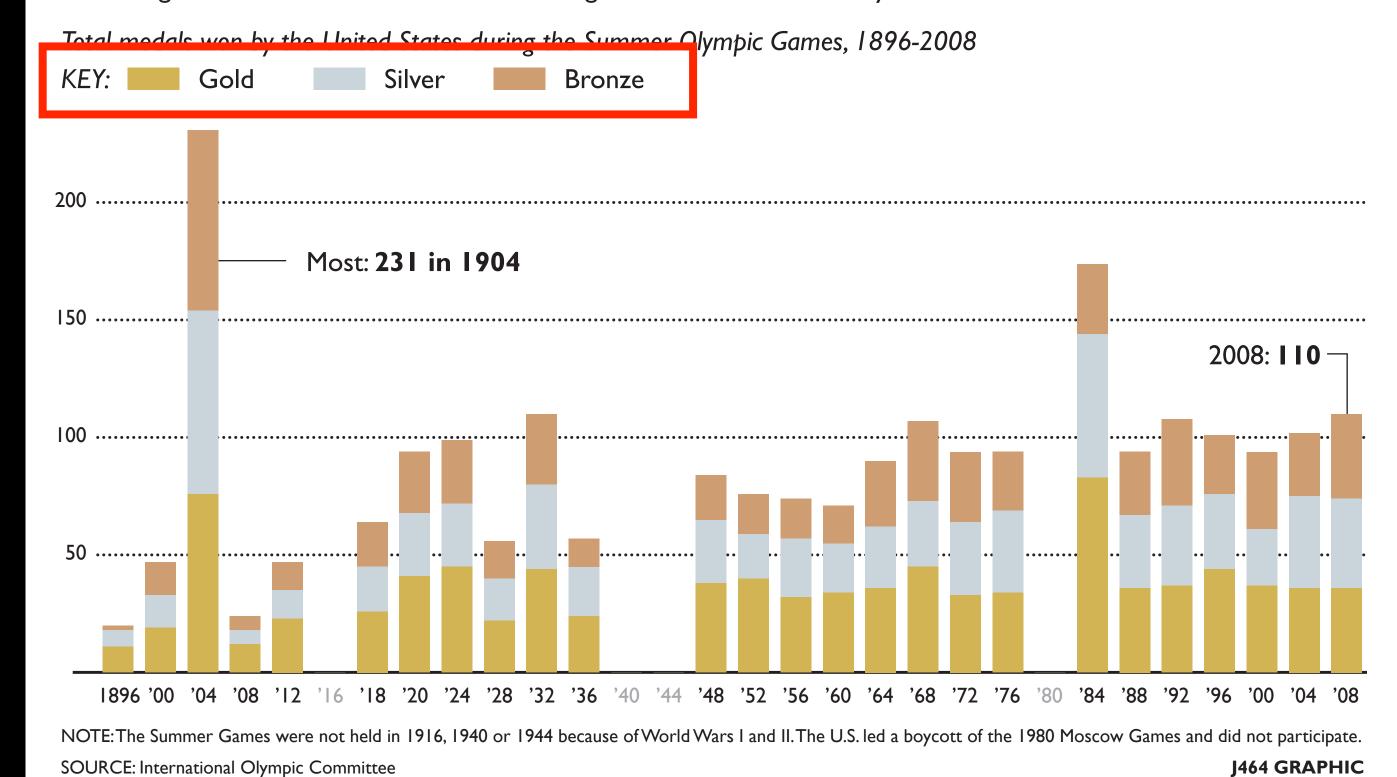
SOURCE: International Olympic Committee

# The key

Many graphics chart more than one variable. In such cases, you often need a key to provide readers with quick-scan knowledge of what the bars mean. A key should be prominent, easy to find, and usually directly above the chart.

#### **GOING FOR GOLD**

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# **Choosing charts**

For more on Illustrator's charting, go to

https://helpx.adobe.com/

illustrator/using/graphs.html

