

Using Data to Tell Your Best Story

PARK COUNTY NONPROFIT NETWORK December 2020

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Our Love-Hate Relationship with Data

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Data often gets a bad name.

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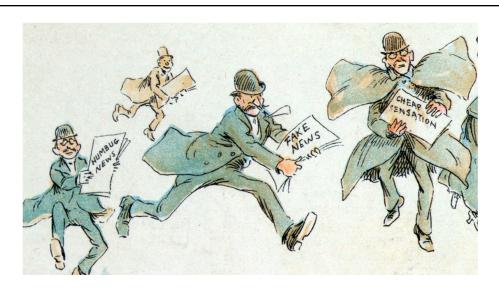
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"An old jest runs to the effect that there are three degrees of comparison among liars. There are liars, there are outrageous liars, and there are scientific experts. This has lately been adapted to throw dirt upon statistics. There are three degrees of comparison, it is said, in lying. There are lies, there are outrageous lies, and there are statistics."

~Sir Robert Giffen, Scottish statistician and economist, 1892

Source: Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lies,_damned_lies,_and_statistics

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1894 illustration by Frederick Burr Opper

Source: Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fake_news

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Data can be misinterpreted.

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Source: https://www.datasciencecentral.com/profiles/blogs/10-most-controversial-data-science-articles

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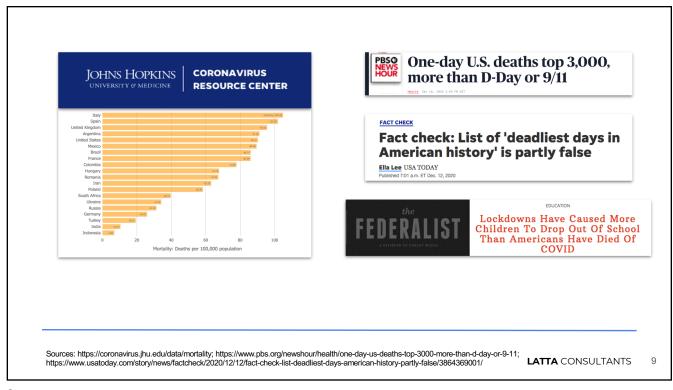
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Data can be controversial.

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Data doesn't always change behaviors.

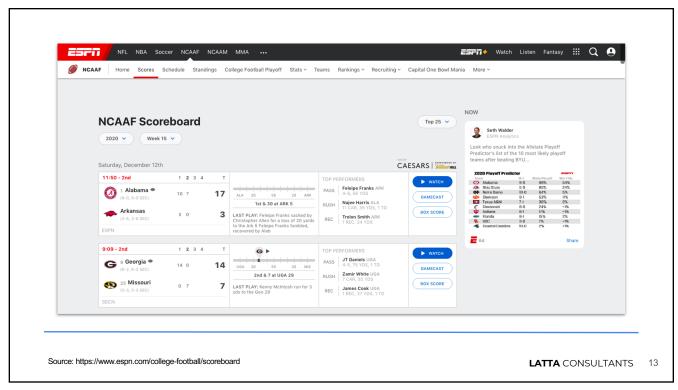


 $Sources: https://www.health.harvard.edu/newsletter_article/why-its-hard-to-change-unhealthy-behavior-and-why-you-should-keep-trying$

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But data can be entertaining.



Data can be fun to share.

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"Strawberry Pop-Tarts increase in sales, like seven times their normal sales rate, ahead of a hurricane."

~Linda M. Dillman, former chief information officer for Walmart, 2004

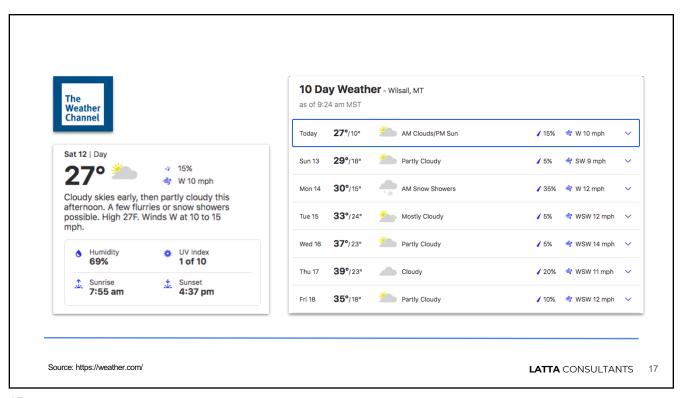


Source: https://www.nytimes.com/2004/11/14/business/yourmoney/what-walmart-knows-about-customers-habits.html

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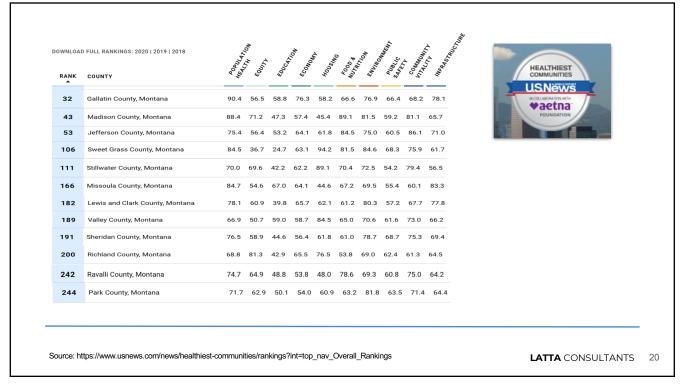
Data can be a helpful tool.

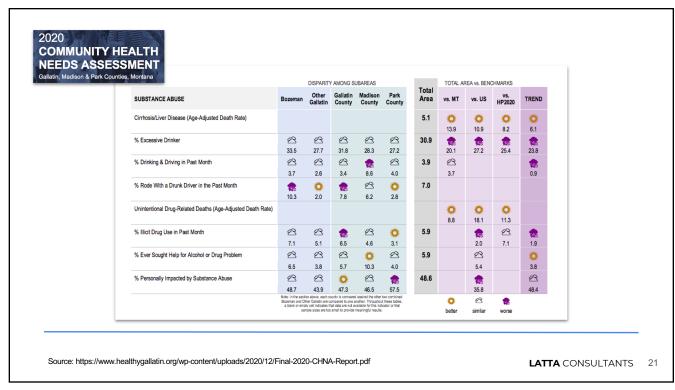


Data can help us tell powerful stories.

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Data can help us focus.

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Data Sources and Reports for Park County

A Short List of Smart/Local Data Sources - Part 1

WeWillParkCounty.org: https://wewillparkcounty.org

Headwaters Economics: Economic Profile System https://headwaterseconomics.org/apps/economicprofile-system/30067

Headwaters Economics: Neighborhoods at Risk

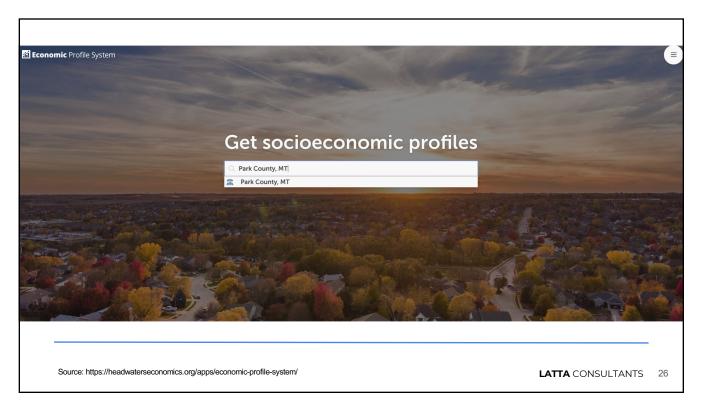
https://headwaterseconomics.org/apps/neighborhoods-at-risk/30067/explore/map

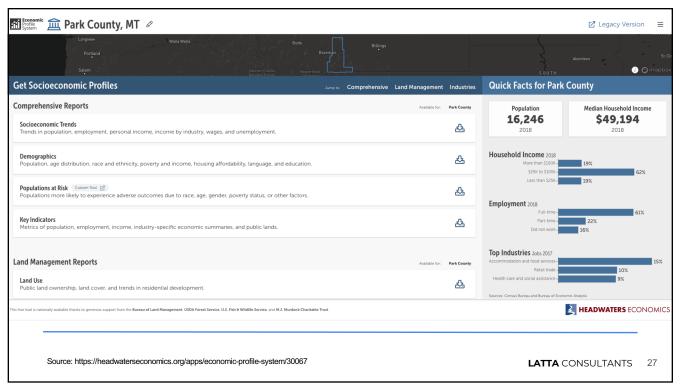
Prospera: 2020 Economic Profile of Gallatin and Park Counties

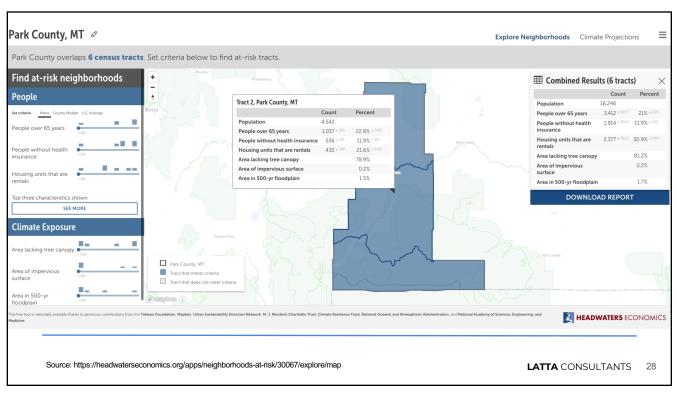
https://dashboards.mysidewalk.com/201-economic-profile-gallatin-and-park-counties-montanadaf6e45ee26f/economic-development-vision

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2020 Economic Profile for Gallatin and Park Counties

VIEW HERE



2020 Economic Profile of Gallatin and Park Counties

The Economic Profile of Gallatin and Park Counties is a comprehensive description of the regional economy. It emphasizes economic, population and demographic trends; area cost of living and employment dynamics; and major industry sector data.

Thank You Profile Sponsors:

City of Bozeman City of Belgrade Bozeman Chamber of Commerce Belgrade Chamber of Commerce Bozeman Tourism Business Improvement District Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport Park County Community Foundation First Interstate Bank NorthWestern Energy ERA Landmark Real Estate



Source: https://www.prosperamt.org/how-we-help/prospera-economic-profile

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A Short List of Smart/Local Data Sources - Part 2

2020 Community Health Needs Assessment: Gallatin, Madison & Park Counties: https://www.healthygallatin.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Final-2020-CHNA-Report.pdf

LiveWell49: https://www.livewell49.org/youth-resilience-resource-map

Kids Count: https://montanakidscount.org

OPI Free and Reduced Lunch - https://gems.opi.mt.gov/StudentServices/Pages/ERateReport.aspx

ChildTrends: https://www.childtrends.org CDC Wonder: https://wonder.cdc.gov

Youth Risk Behavior Survey: https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/index.htm

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings: http://www.countyhealthrankings.org

A Short List of Smart/Local Data Sources - Part 3 Your Favorites?

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The What and Why Behind the Data Used for We Will

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Project Goals

- Create a tool to intentionally plan, measure, predict and achieve increases in community, social, and economic well being.
- Develop a Community Vision based on community input, assessment and needs identified through quantitative data and qualitative perspectives.
- Create a Community Profile to capture, monitor and share quantitative data that will be ultimately used to benchmark and measure success in achieving the Community Vision.
- Launch an interactive database as a community tool

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Desired Outcomes

- Help prioritize initiatives and coordinate towards common goals
- Establish base level data and trends to enable fact-based conversations about the state and future of Park County
- Serve as a guide to how community resources are invested
- Galvanize broad community support for any legislative or regulatory changes that may be needed to achieve the community vision

Input Gathered to Develop the Community Vision

- More than 700 community members
 - 50+ nonprofit community members
 - 20+ community leaders
 - 640+ community respondents to the countywide survey
 - 8 members of the Advisory Team
 - 6 focus groups, one in each community

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Criteria Considered for the Community Profile

Used the following criteria when considering data points:

- Use existing data sources
- Accessible and reliable
- Consistent and readily available
- Regularly updated
- Potential for forecasting (TBD)
- Most salient for the topic
- Not every data point available want to avoid "analysis paralysis"
- Explainable and relatable
- Ability to show trends over time
- Comparable to other counties, Montana (as applicable)

An Interactive Database

- A website that features the community vision and the community profile
 - Five vision statements
 - o Five areas of focus
 - Supporting data points for each vision statement & area of focus
- An interactive database that includes charts and graphs
- A resource for every nonprofit, for-profit, governmental, educational and citizen-driven entity in Park County

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Using WeWillParkCounty.org



How to Use Data to Tell Your Best Story

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Tip #1 - Know Your Audience

- Who are they?
- What are their goals and motivations?
- What matters most to them?
- What type of data will be most interesting to them?
- Is there data that they are already collecting?

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Tip #2 - Identify Your Data Needs

- What do you and your audiences want to understand?
- What do you want to measure?
- What do you want to prove/disprove?

Tip #3 - Determine Your Sources

- What data is easily available and accessible to you?
- How reliable are your sources?
- Do you need to put anything in place to gather and collect data?

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Tip #4 - Be Transparent

- It's a seller beware world
- Everyone has access to the same information
- Always cite your sources



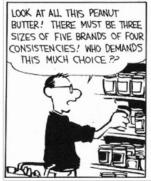




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Tip #5 - Be Selective and Relevant

- You don't need every data point
- You only need the most relevant data points



I KNOW! I'LL QUIT MY JOB AND DEVOTE MY LIFE TO CHOOSING PEANUT BUTTER! IS "CHUNKY" CHUNKY ENOUGH, OR DO I NEED "EXTRA CHUNKY"?



I'LL COMPARE INGREDIENTS!
I'LL COMPARE BRANDS! I'LL
COMPARE SIZES AND PRICES!
MAYBE I'LL DRIVE AROUND AND
SEE WHAT OTHER STORES HAVE!
SO MUCH SELECTION AND
SO LITTLE TIME!



Source: https://www.sambrinson.com/freedom-of-choice/

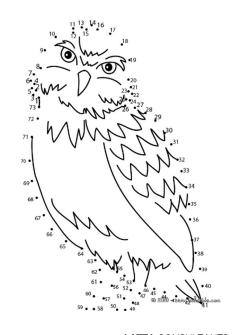
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Tip #6 - Make the Connection

- Tie your audience's interests to your cause, your story, your ask
- Use a combination of quantitative and qualitative data
- Connect the dots



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Tip #7 - Infuse Real-Life Stories into the Data

- Don't let data dilute the emotion
- Intermix numbers with personal stories

"I cannot do this alone, and I refuse to go back to purging 15 times a day. I was convinced to my core I never would survive bulimia... I'm coming up on one year of no bingeing or purging, and it's been nothing short of a miracle. I look forward to my time with my therapist every week. I look forward to the safe place I have with them and the space they give me to heal."

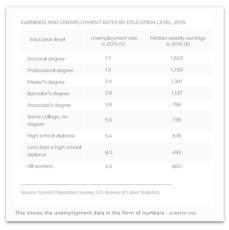
~Patient at the Eating Disorder Center of Montana

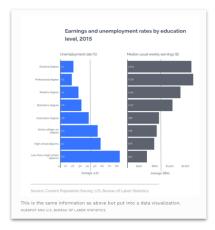
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Tip #7 - Use the Power of Visuals

Visual data-storytelling is far more compelling than words or numbers





Source: https://www.forbes.com/sites/nicolemartin1/2018/11/01/data-visualization-how-to-tell-a-story-with-data/?sh=168237074368

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Tip #9 - Use Data to Inspire New Directions



Source: https://www.forbes.com/sites/nicolemartin1/2018/11/01/data-visualization-how-to-tell-a-story-with-data/?sh=168237074368

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Tip #10 - Use Insights to Attract New Audiences



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Other Helpful Resources

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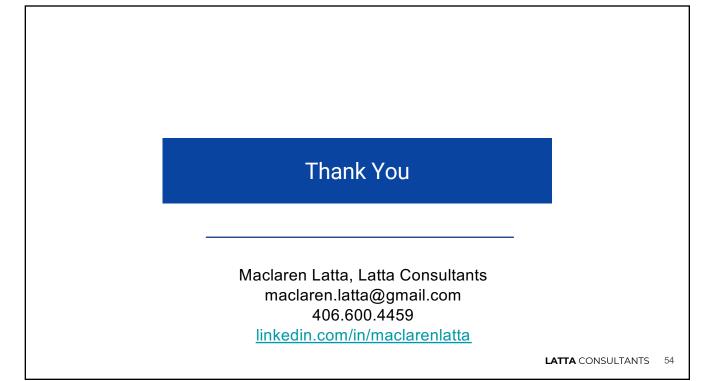
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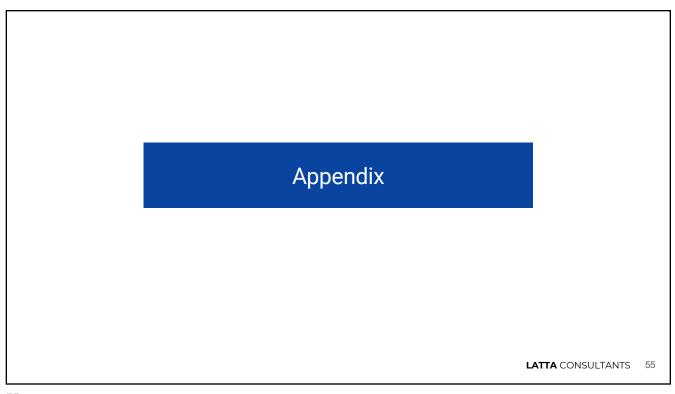
Other Resources for Making Data Your BFF

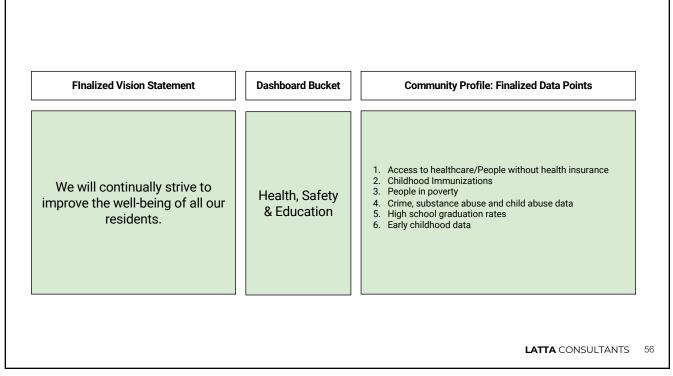
- https://towardsdatascience.com/how-to-properly-tell-a-story-with-data-and-common-pitfalls-toavoid-317d8817e0c9
- https://hbr.org/2013/04/how-to-tell-a-story-with-data
- https://www.maptive.com/101-guide-telling-compelling-story-data/
- https://www.nten.org/NTEN images/reports/Data Workbook FINAL.pdf

Q&A

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Finalized Vision Statement

Dashboard Bucket

Community Profile: Finalized Data Points

We will support development of diverse and viable economic opportunities consistent with the character of our community.

Economic Performance

- 1. Earnings Per Job vs. Per Capita Income
- 2. Sources of Income by Industry includes Non-Labor Income, Employment by Industry, Unemployment Rate
- 3. Personal Income, Average Compensation Per Job
- 4. Market value of ag products sold, plus average per farm and average per farm receiving government payments
- 5. Jobs by Industry; Change in Jobs

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Finalized Vision Statement

Dashboard Bucket

Community Profile: Finalized Data Points

We will support good solutions that address affordability for all who choose to live and work here.

Housing and Affordability

- 1. Number of short-term rentals
- Housing units & characteristics
- 3. Median sales prices & real estate inventory
- Ratio of home price & median household income
 Regional Price Parities

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Finalized Vision Statement	Dashboard Bucket	Community Profile: Finalized Data Points
We will embrace and nurture our sense of community.	Small Town & Rural Lifestyle	Population growth & net migration & median age Enrollments in K-12 schools Number of farms & number of acres in agricultural land Commuting patterns, Inflow & Outflow Analysis
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Finalized Vision Statement	Dashboard Bucket	Community Profile: Proposed Data Points
We will remain one of the most beautiful places to live on earth.	Landscapes & Natural Beauty	Visitation: Traffic counts, lodging tax revenue Residential Addresses, Septic Permits Taxes Paid by County & Property Tax Collections by Type