

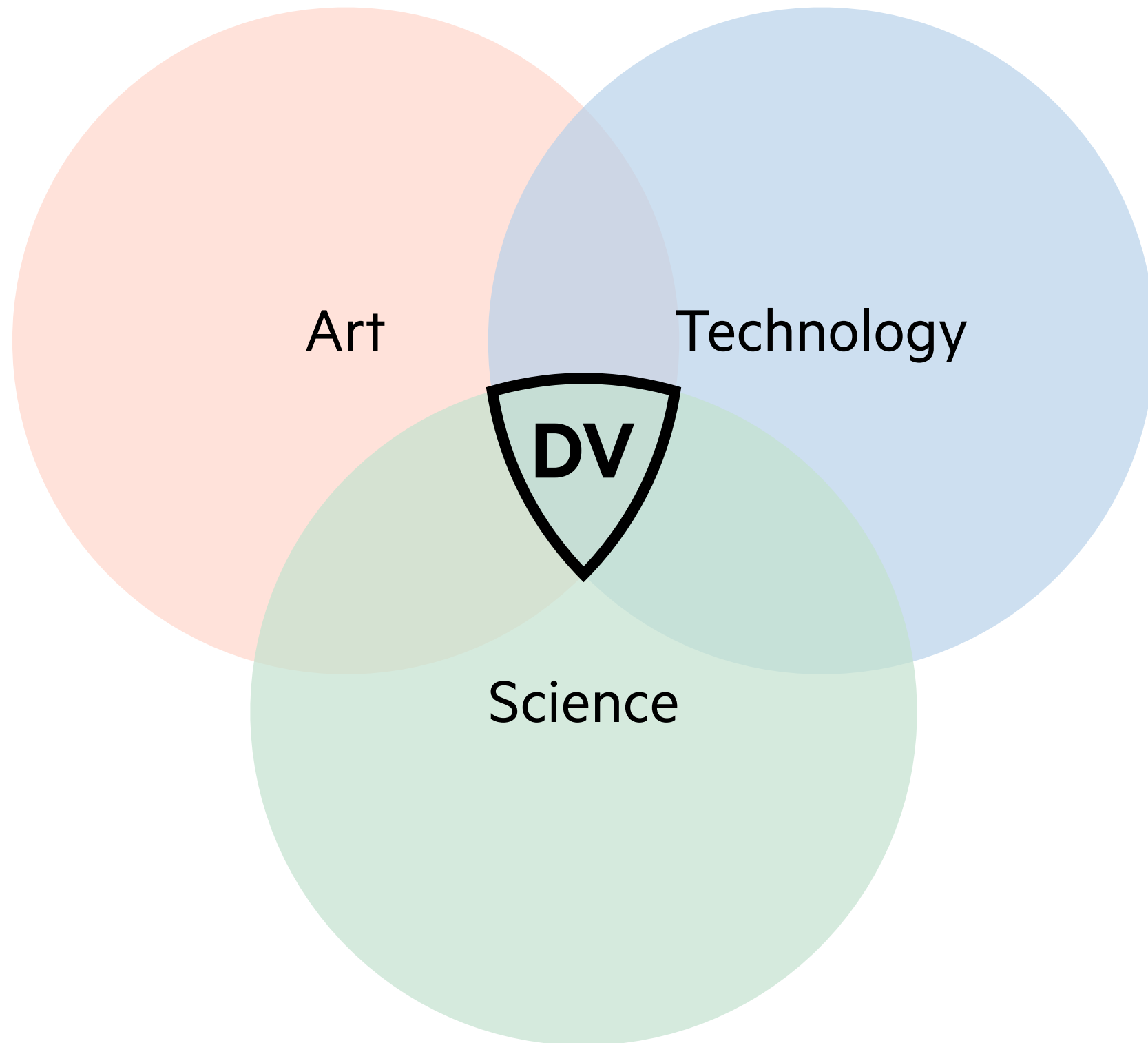
Data visualisation and the newsroom

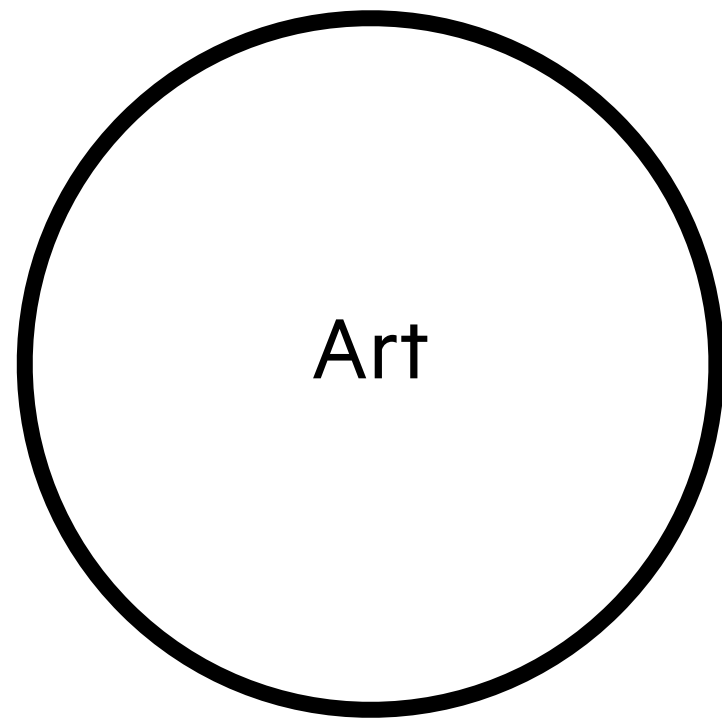
Alan Smith OBE @theboysmithy

Data Visualisation Editor

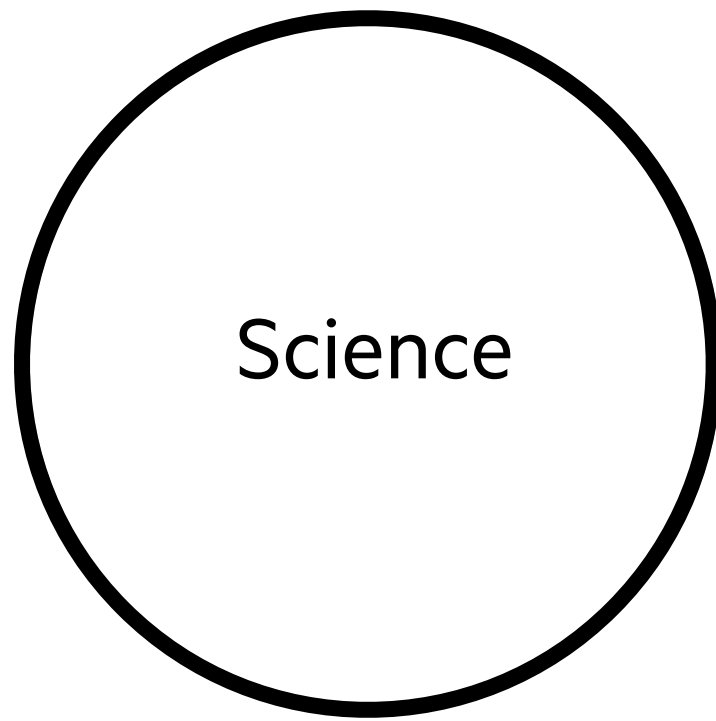
Financial Times



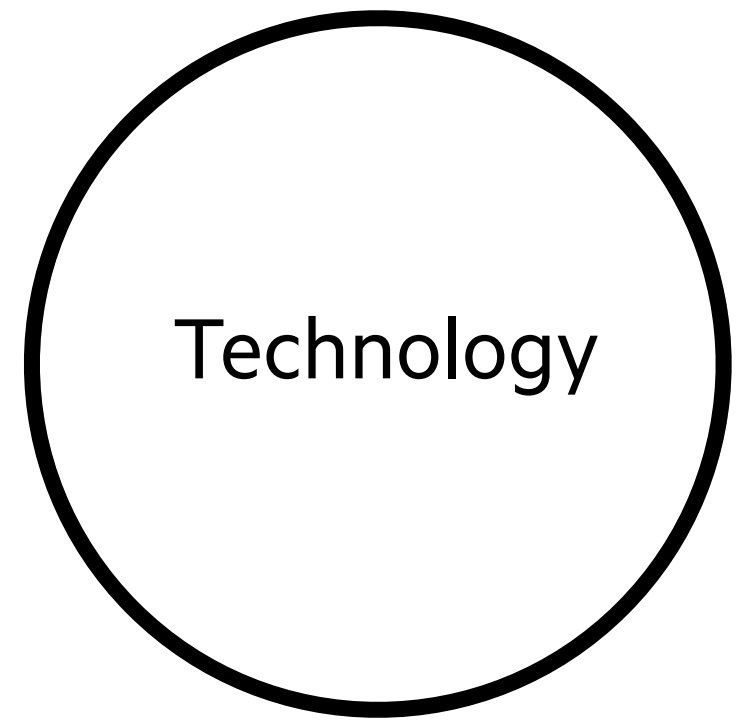




Art



Science



Technology

“Everything that we don’t need to do”

Brian Eno

“Things that don’t work properly yet”

Danny Hillis

“People are fed up of experts”

Michael Gove

Data visualisation
is not a 'sure thing'

Flatten Shrink Back 31

[illegible]

No further operations were reported at the bank.

Financial Items

Mr. J. B. Finckle, the manager at the St. Augustine National Bank, reports a total of 150 diamonds this week.

The strike of the Philadelphia and Reading Company's railway continues unheeded, and the general belief is that a long contest is in progress.

The new Province of Quebec Law was now there covered in London alone by 12 clubs on Wednesday. The price

The Y. manes, executives, and formation of the company have been organized. The general manager Mr. George Pearson, late assistant secretary of the Treasury, is now in charge. He is accompanied by 12 delegates, including 1,100,000 shares of New Spain Company, Limited, which have been drawn for payment at par on April 1 next.

The Spanish Copper Company (Limited) owns 35,000 of its Federal capital in the form of 10 shares in the public. The original capital of the company was 100,000 shares of Federal, half in United States of 100 each.

At the end of the Eastern Hemisphere, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company, a New York Corporation, has been formed. It will be paid at the United States, 100,000 shares of 100 each.

The report of the directors of the Oldham tram-truck Road, Limited, for the past year, ending 31.12.1935, is published in the Standard. The directors in July paid an interim dividend of 10 per cent, and now recommend a final dividend of 10 per cent. The total dividend for the year, every shareholder will receive 20 per cent. The company's income for the year was £1,000,000, and £600,000 to meet interest on the £2,000,000 loan.

Mr. T. G. Jones, of 5 and 6, Broadgate House, 10, Broadgate, London, E.C.4, is General Manager. Ernest Thomas, Limited, in Liphurton, Scotland, is the contractor.

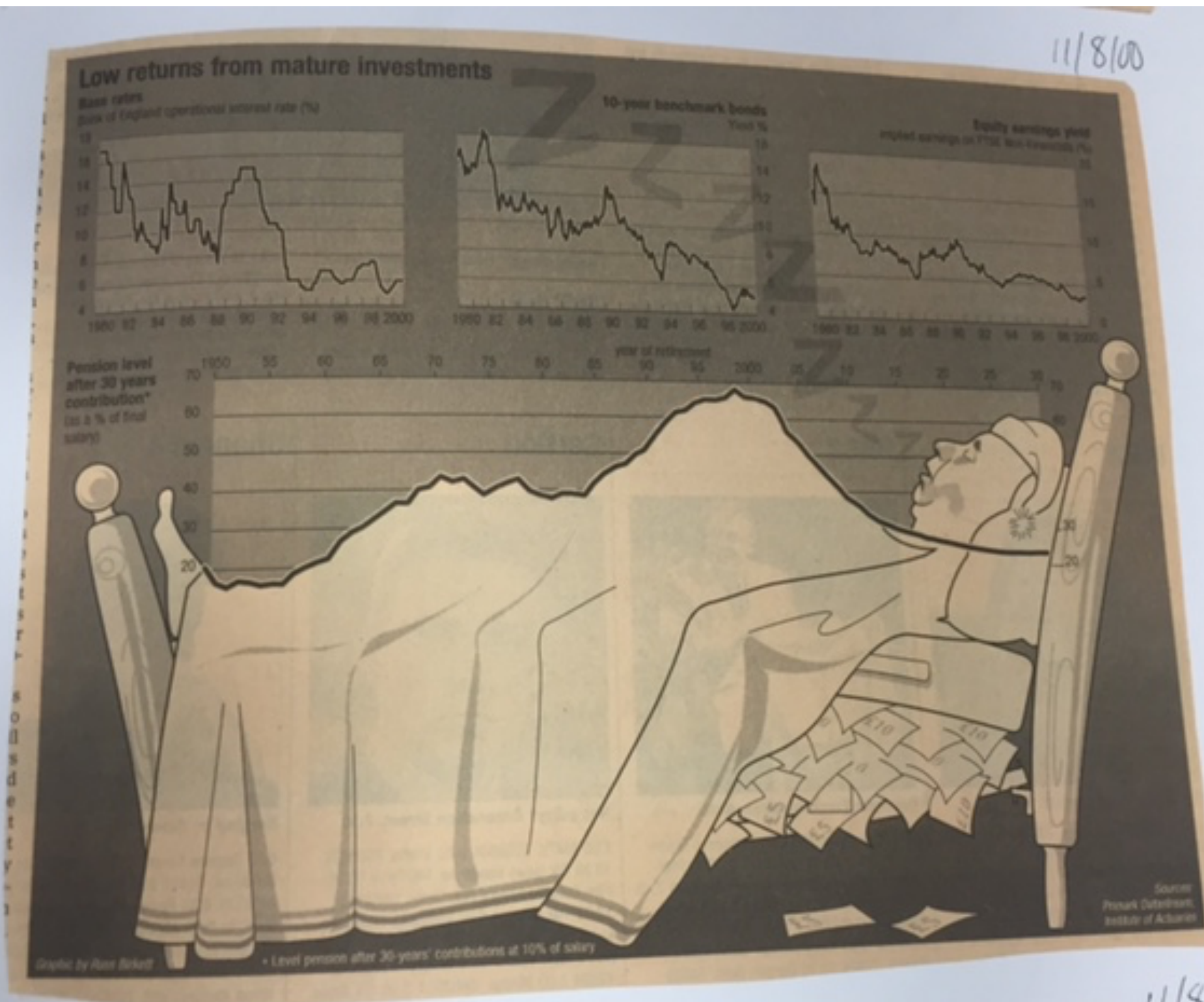
Mr. James Chubb has announced the payment of a final dividend of 10 per cent. The company's income for the year was £1,000,000, and £600,000 to meet interest on the £2,000,000 loan.

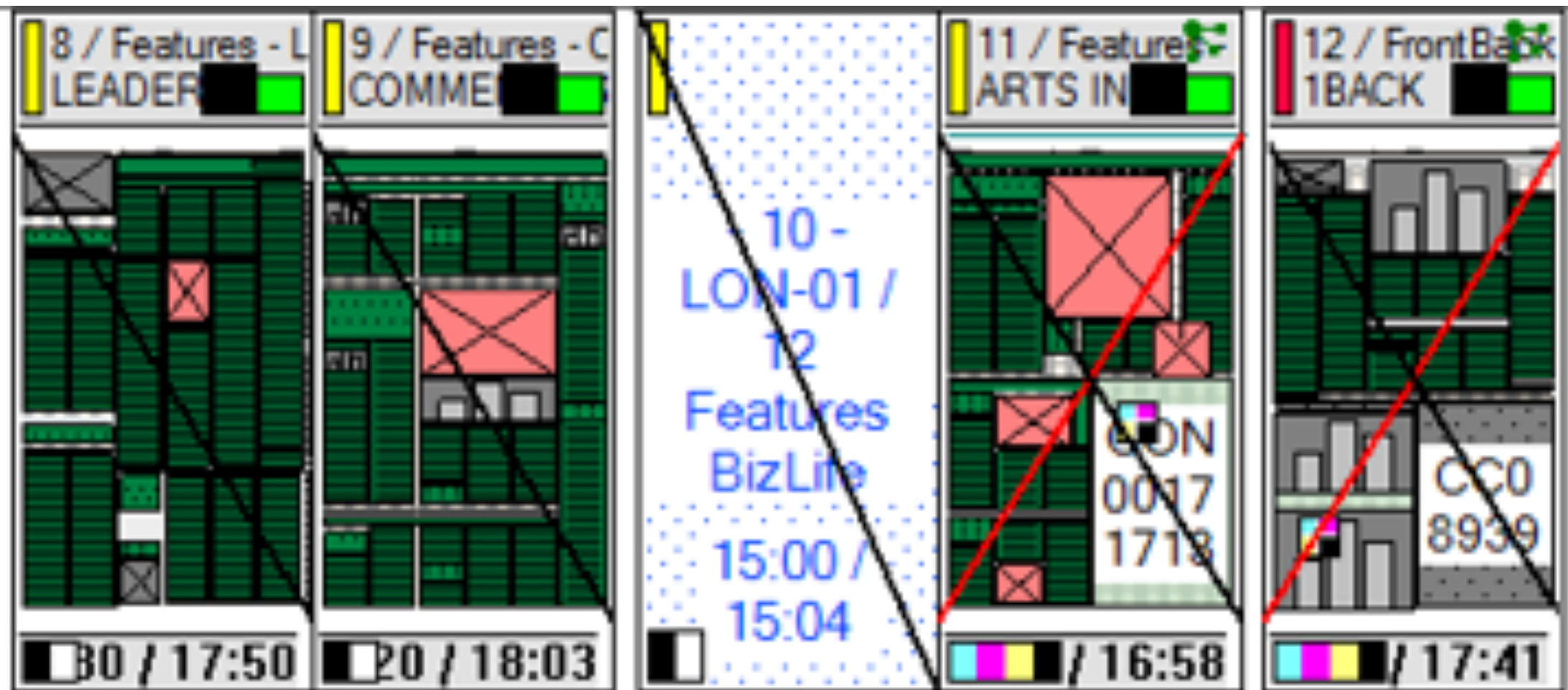
The report of the directors of the Leeds and Country Bus (Roads) for the half year ending the 30.6.1936 is published in the Standard. The directors in July paid an interim dividend of 10 per cent, and now recommend a final dividend of 10 per cent. The total dividend for the year, every shareholder will receive 20 per cent. The company's income for the year was £1,000,000, and £600,000 to meet interest on the £2,000,000 loan.

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[illegible]

Amalgamated Gold Mining Union of South Africa is beginning to command attention. From 1925 to 1928 these small shares have just risen to 21 £. We presume intelligently and entirely from a private source, as the owner, and we can see that these small shares will go very much higher. Let our readers take special note of what we say: we will recall their attention to this from time to time. In the meantime, if they wish to make an investment which will in the future give them surprising results, they should try some of these shares. In a year's time they will give us a good account of them.





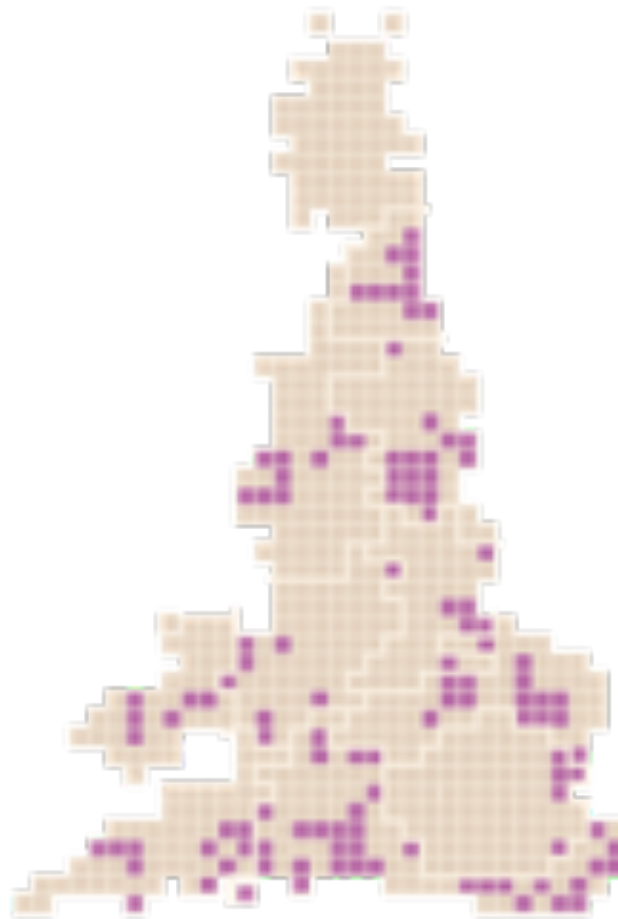
“An inherent cognitive bias
that these things are space-fillers”

–Robin Kwong

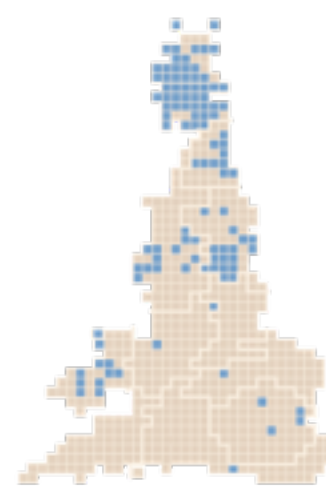
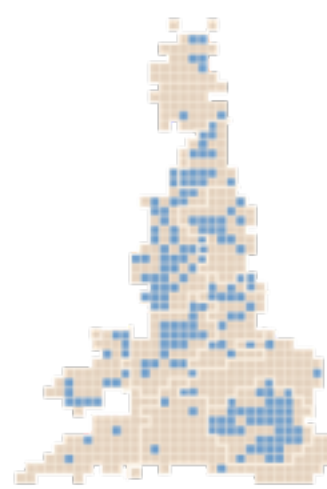
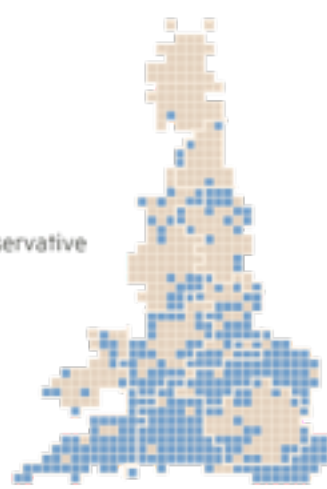
Where UKIP finished second

Chris Campbell @digitalcampbell

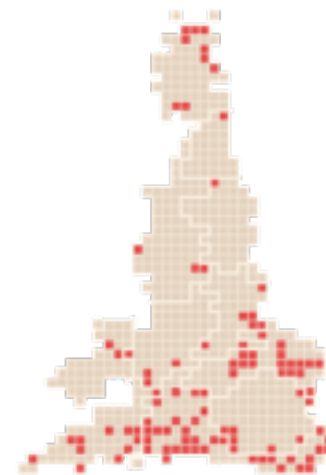
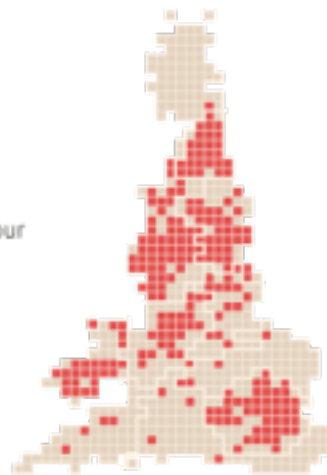
Second



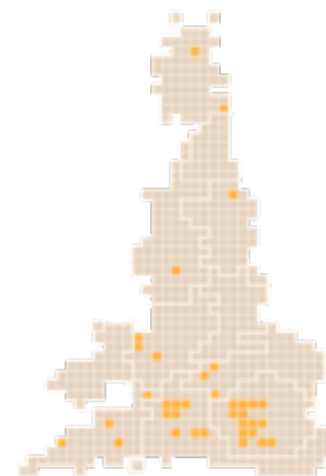
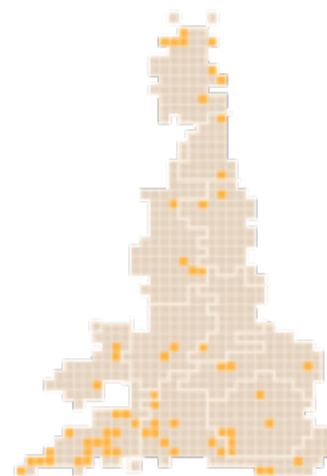
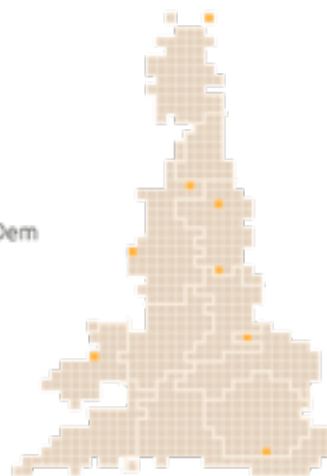
Conservative



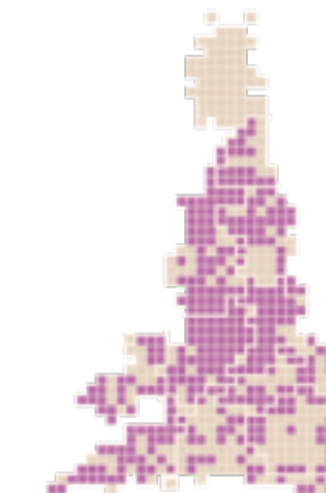
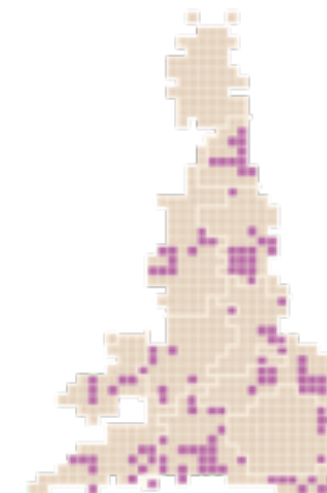
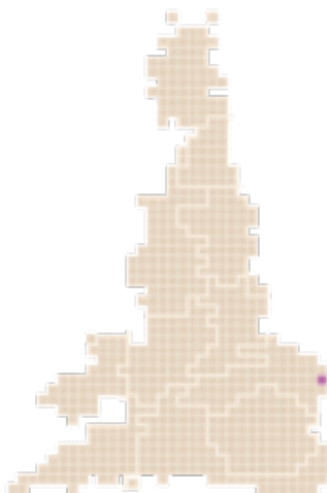
Labour



Lib Dem



Ukip



Ukip gears up for offensive against Labour in its northern heartland

Winning back support will be one of the most important challenges for the next party leader

JIM PICKARD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The UK Independence party is returning to Doncaster this autumn for its annual conference as it seeks to seize ground from Labour in northern England.

The election result on May 7 seemed an anticlimax for Ukip: it secured just one seat in Clacton and leader Nigel Farage failed to become an MP.

But the party finished second across the north of England and damaged Labour in countless seats. It took nearly a quarter of the votes in the Doncaster North constituency of Labour's then leader Ed Miliband.

Repelling the Ukip northern insurgency will be one of the biggest challenges for whoever wins the Labour leadership race, along with clawing back support in Scotland and southern England.

Ukip, like the Scottish National party, appeals to many in struggling white working class communities, whose children leave school with worse qualifications than their peers in any other ethnic group. In the mid-1980s one in five people worked in manufacturing. Now it is one in 11.

The political map of England and Wales shows how Labour strongholds almost perfectly match towns with steelworks, coal mines and factories: many of which are closed.

A lot of Ukip voters felt a sense of humiliation because their traditional jobs had gone, and their status with it.

Ian Austin, MP for Dudley North, says: "Britain today is massively different to Britain in the 1960s or even the 1980s. Labour has got to change with it."

"People see in us a party that is out of touch," says Andy Burnham, a leadership candidate. "We have lost our emotional connection to millions."

Dan Jarvis, a senior Labour MP – and supporter of Mr Burnham – warned at the weekend that Labour had been "in denial for too long" about the threat from Ukip.

When Dennis Skinner, a leftwing veteran MP, entered parliament in 1970 he was one of 44 former miners there. Now Labour MPs are more likely to have worked as special advisers in the "Westminster bubble".

Gavin Touret, Ukip's spokesman, says Labour has failed to "water its roots" in the heartlands for years.

"Even Kinnock was seen as a metropolitan figure. You have to go back as far as Foot or Callaghan to have someone who really chimed."

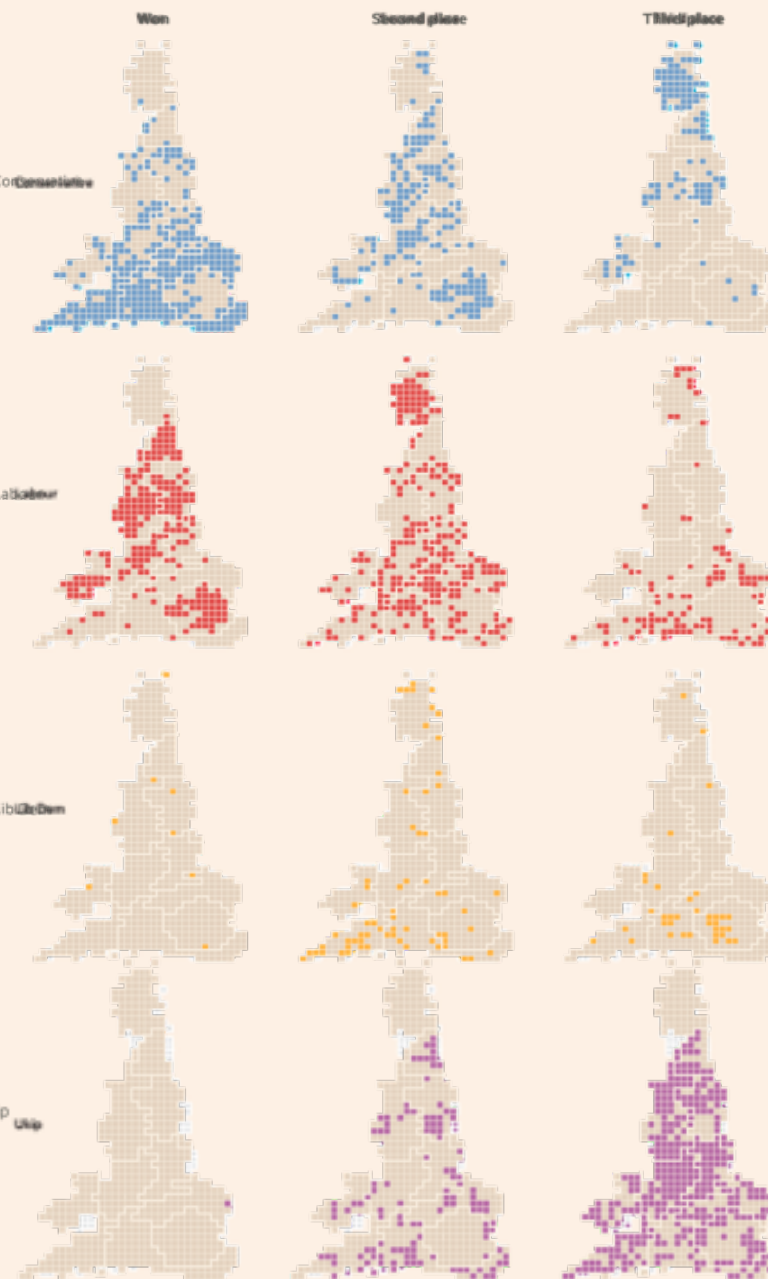
Labour's Roseanna Davis was defeated in Southampton Itchen by the Tories after a spike in support for Ukip.

"A lot of Ukip voters felt a sense of humiliation because their traditional jobs had gone, and their status with it," she says.

Meanwhile, Mr Miliband promised a crackdown on benefits for migrants but refused to soften his pro-European line,

The lay of the land

2015 election results
Seats won and runners up



FT graphics. Source: British Election Study

ruling out a referendum on EU membership right to the end.

"It was a mistake not communicating with people who care about immigration and Europe, in fact I think it cost us the election," says Graham Stringer, a Labour MP.

"They [Ukip] picked up support in northern Labour seats even where they didn't have much contact or knocking on doors," says Matthew Goodwin, an academic at Nottingham University. Labour's pessimists now look fearfully to Scotland as a prelude to what could happen in other former industrial heartlands.

Some party figures fear the EU referendum could crystallise hostility against the Westminster establishment, including their party, once again.

Senior Ukip figures are hoping for an "SNP effect" where even if they lose the vote, their party becomes the main rallying point for eurosceptic voters who dislike migration. "We may end up losing the referendum but winning the war, like what happened with the SNP," says Arron Banks, a millionaire Ukip donor.

Labour insiders are alive to the danger of the party appearing part of the Westminster establishment yet again.

Mr Stringer says he fears his party will shed support for "blindly" supporting a Yes vote come what may.

New Labour was slow to notice the rising sense of resentment in its heartlands over Europe and immigration.

As wages fell 10 per cent in real terms during the recession many British workers increasingly blamed incomers, who became a handy scapegoat. "It is our Achilles heel," says Len McCluskey, head of the Unite union.

FT Video debate
Nick Pearce, director of the IPPR think-tank, and FT political correspondent Eoin Sweeney discuss potential effects of a Corbyn victory with Friedrich Stedemann, comment and analysis editor
ft.com/video

Liz Kendall, the most Blairite of the leadership candidates, says her party was too "casual" about the consequences of globalisation on "alienated" former voters.

But she says there is no "magic rewind button" to return Britain to the past.

Jeremy Corbyn, the Labour leadership favourite, announced the creation of a new group called "Northern Futures" to promote the region. He told supporters at rallies in Sheffield and Manchester that he would be a champion for the north, ensuring its voice was heard in Westminster.

Mr Corbyn says the key to winning back lost voters from Ukip is more about "giving people hope" and less about individual issues. He says Labour can still get "traction" with Ukip voters by rejecting "austerity light".

"At our rallies, I'm meeting people who say Ukip provided a protest place for us to go. I want to offer a different, inclusive place."

Labour party is too big to fail page 9

“The Competent Critic”

ASIA-PACIFIC

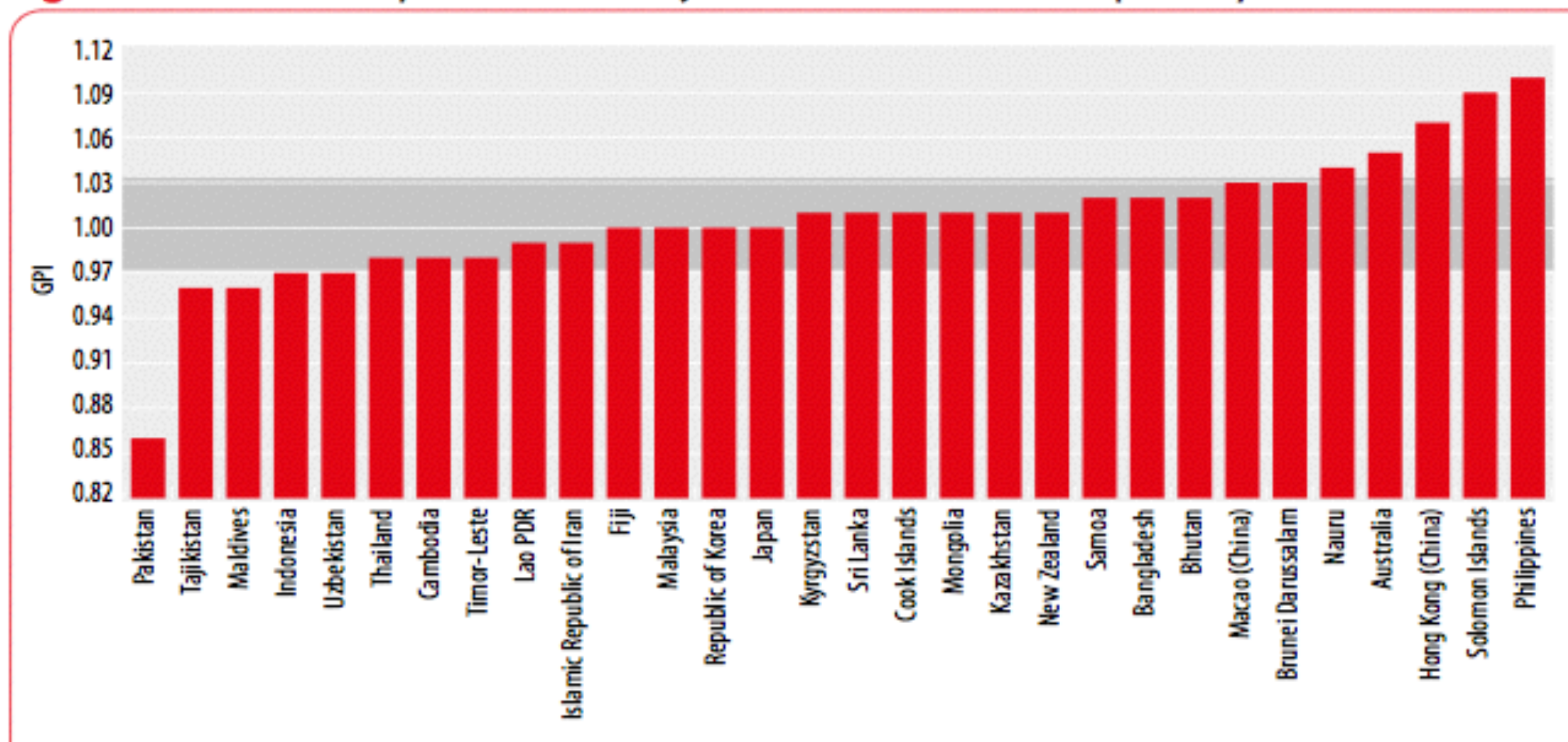
END OF DECADE NOTES ON EDUCATION FOR ALL



Universal Primary Education



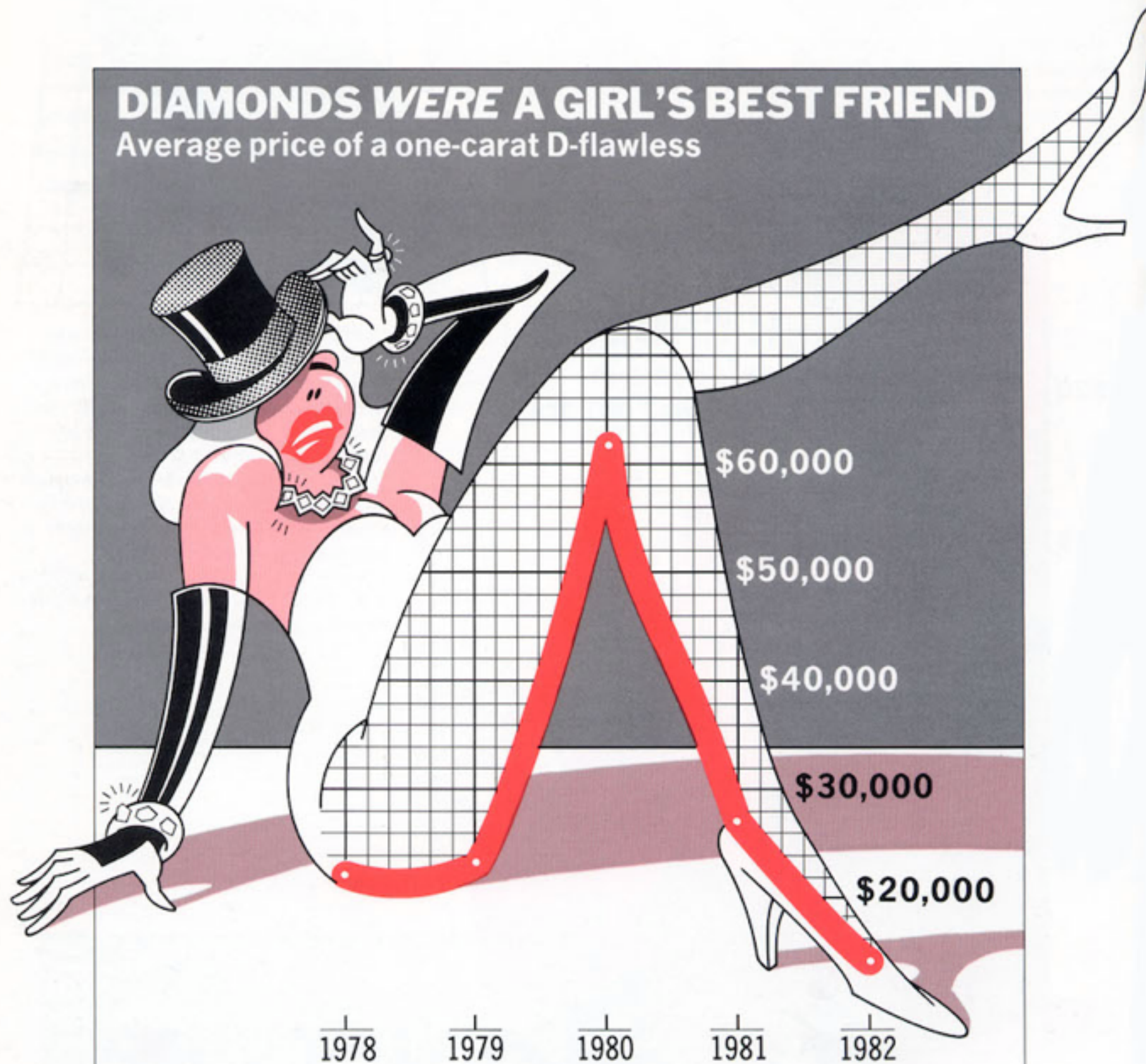
Figure 7: Gender Parity Index of the adjusted net intake rate in primary education, 2009



Source: UIS, 2011, Statistical Table 2.

DIAMONDS WERE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND

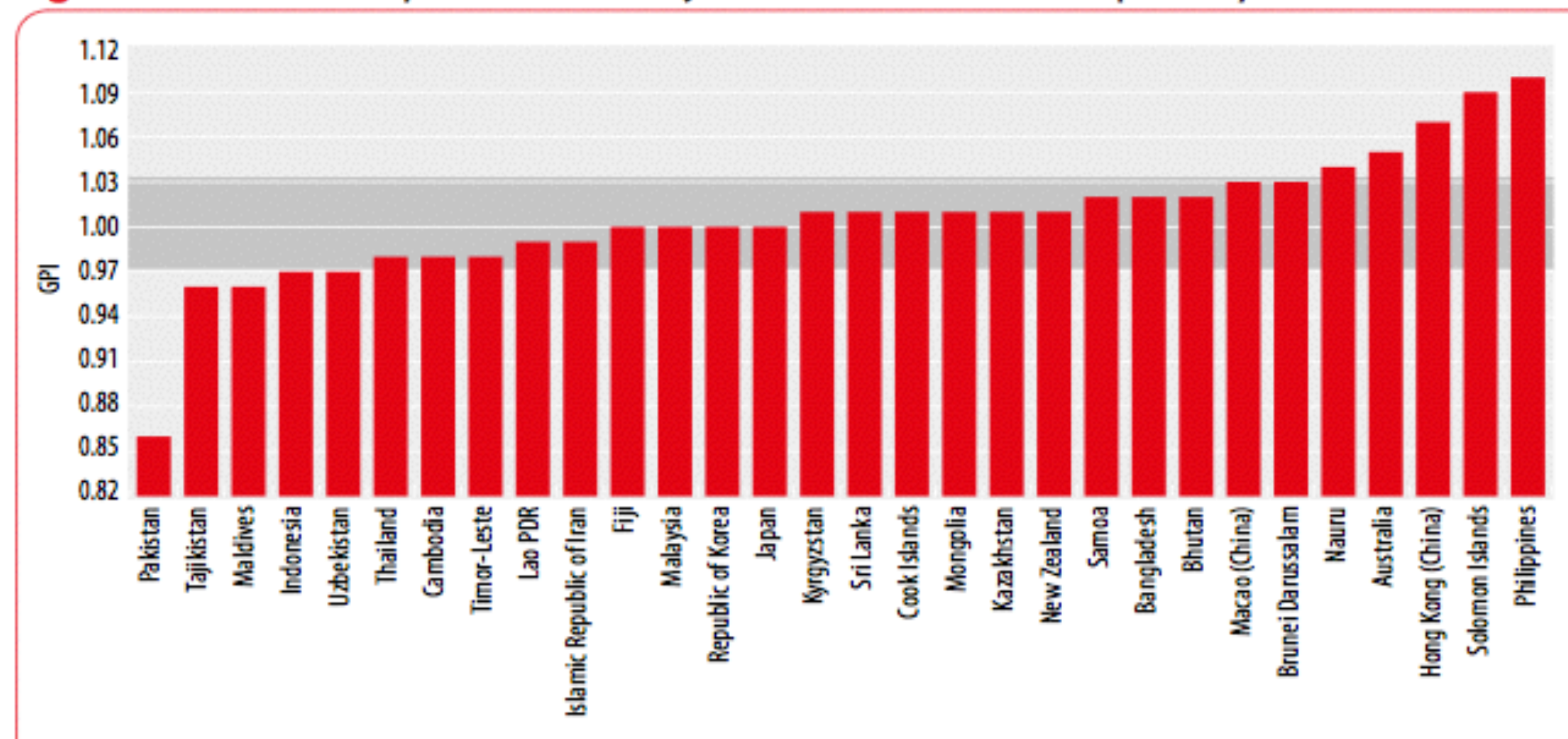
Average price of a one-carat D-flawless



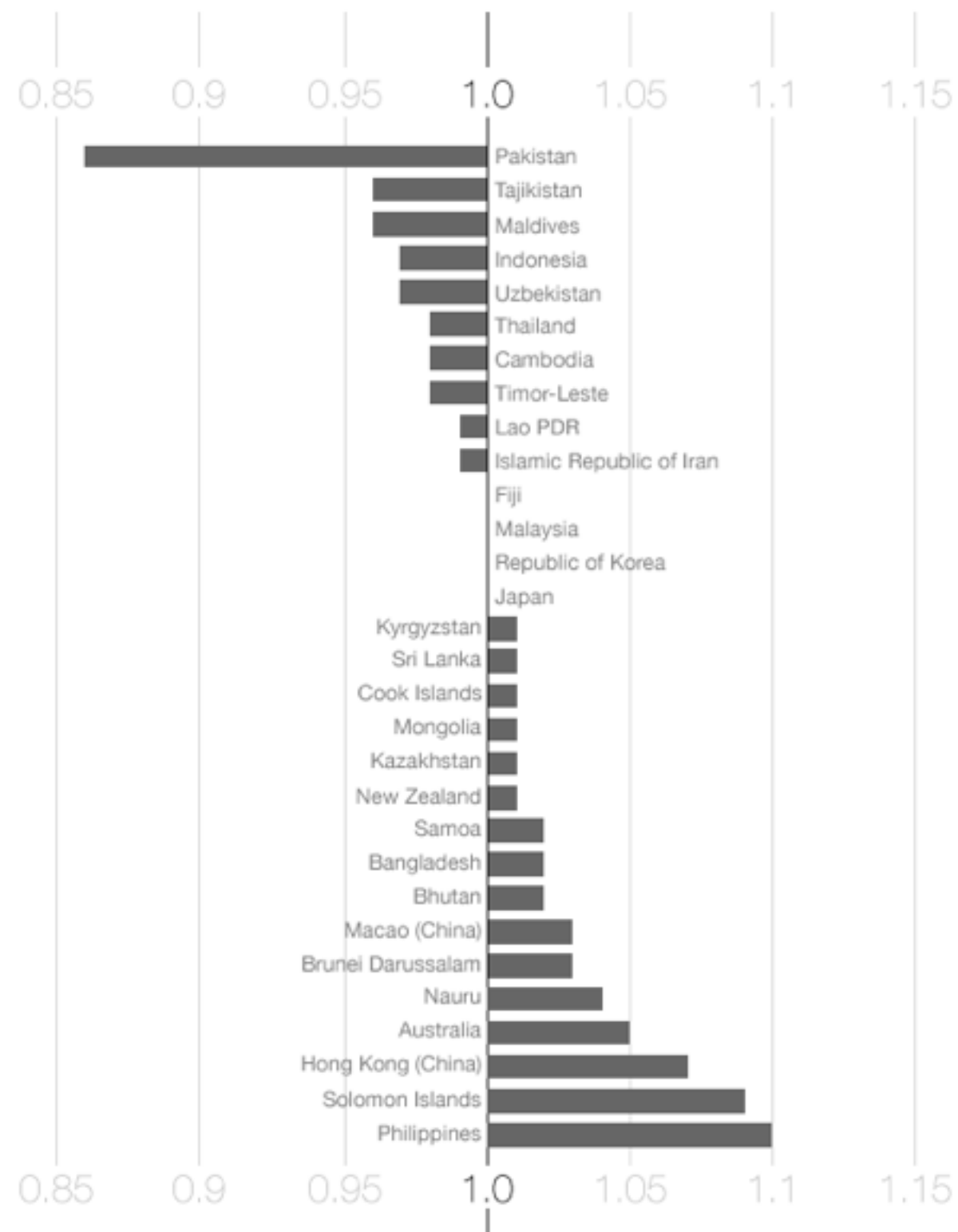
TIME Chart by Nigel Holmes

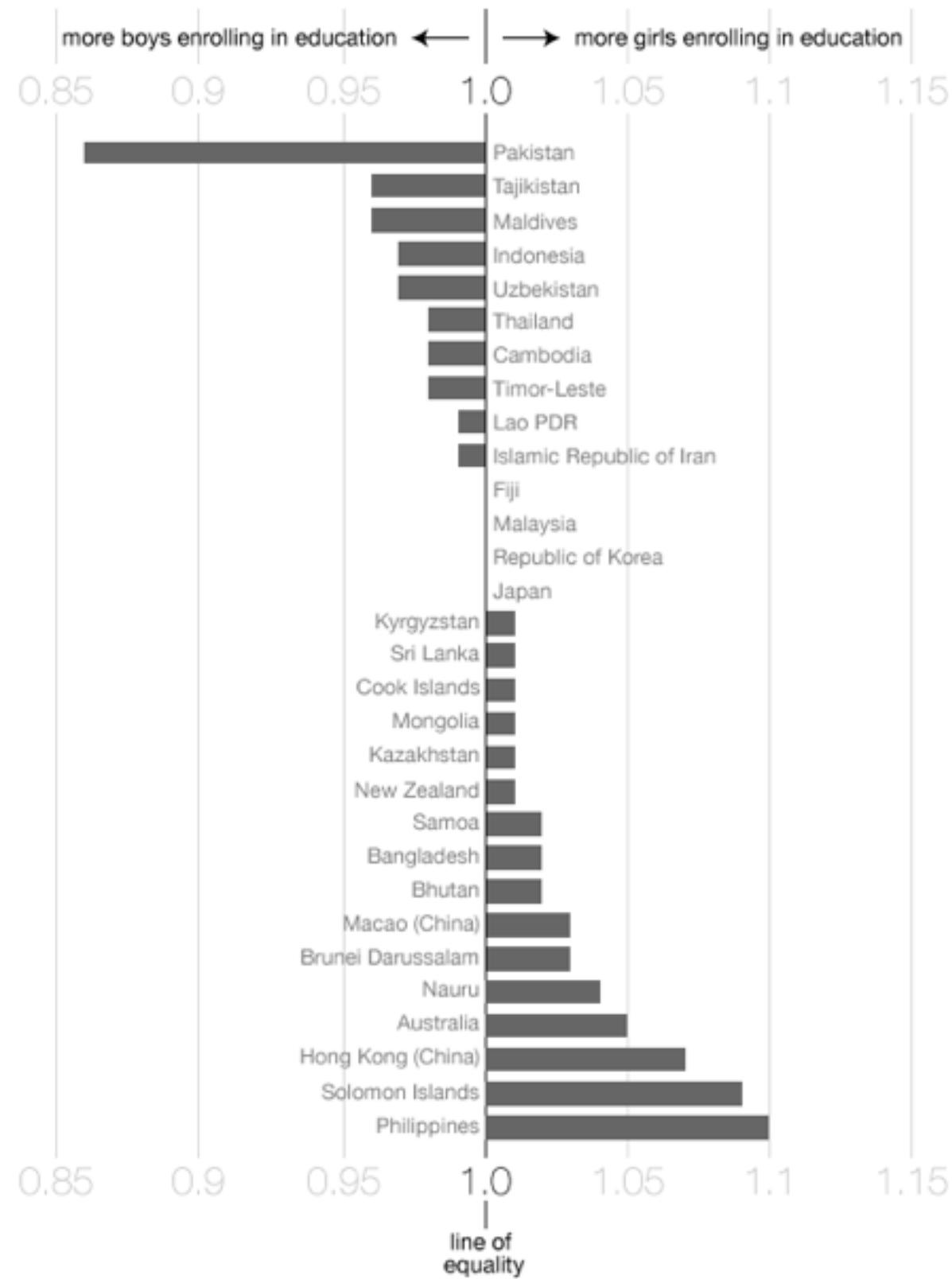
Source: The Diamond Registry

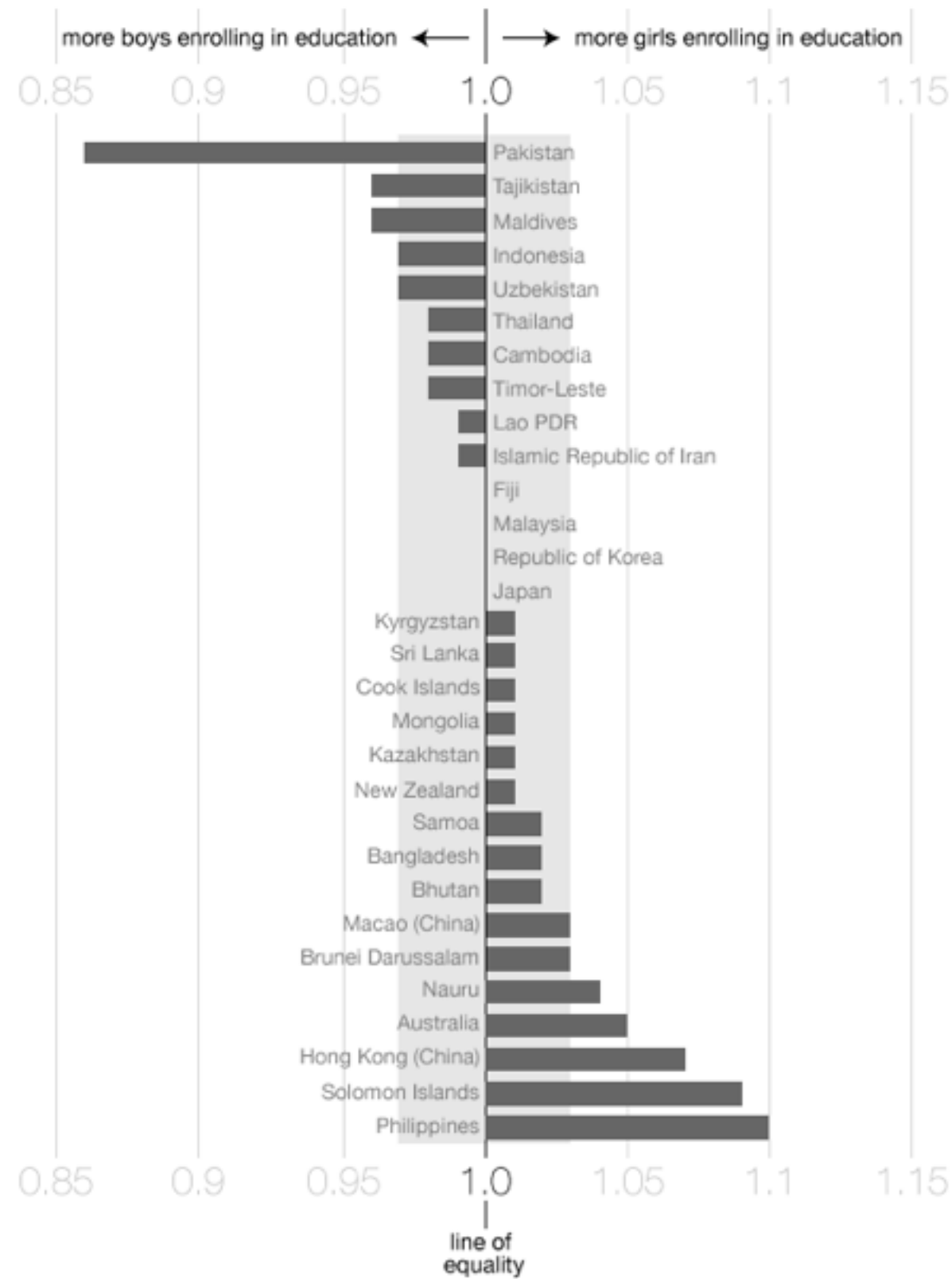
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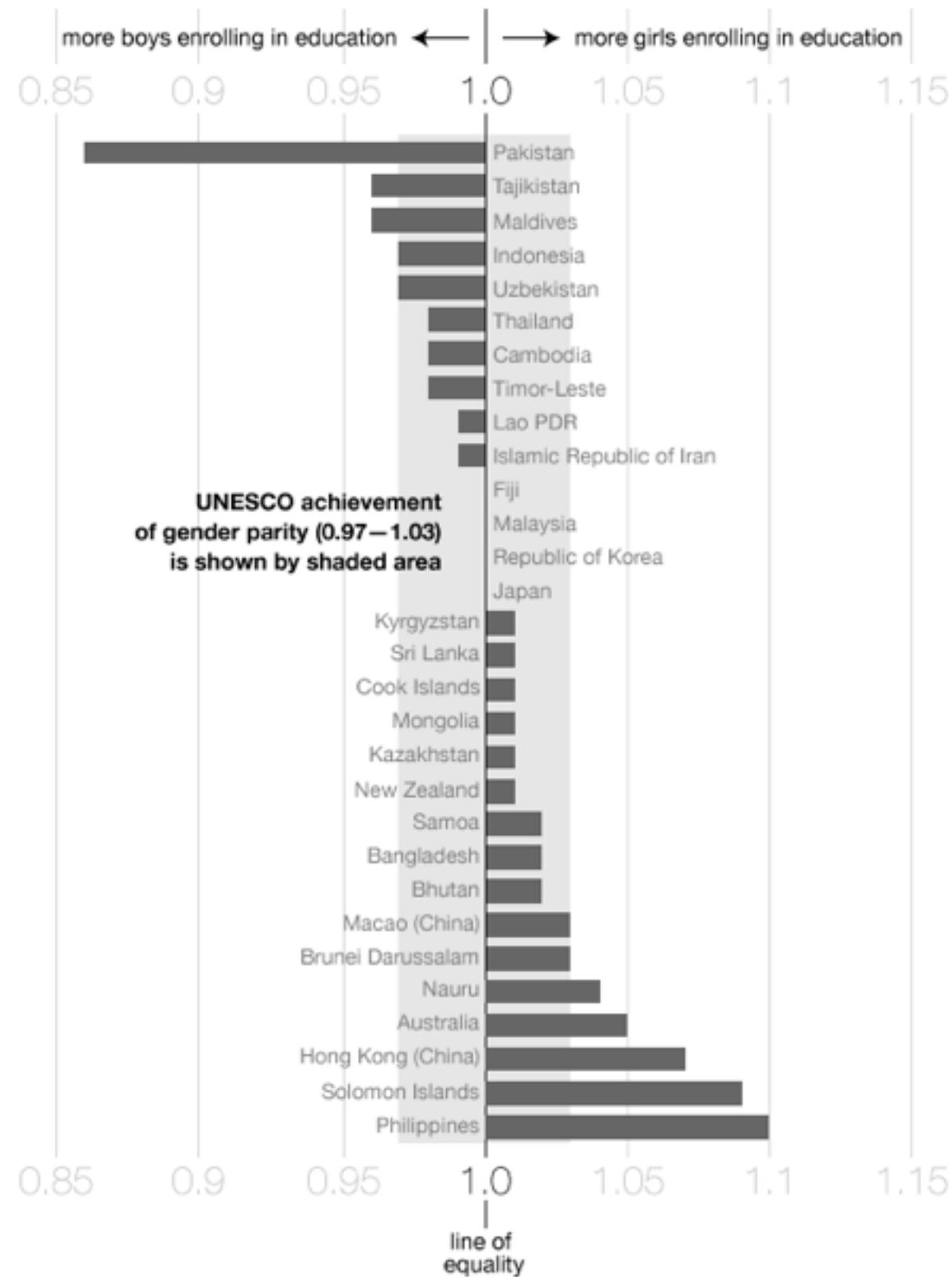


Source: UIS, 2011, Statistical Table 2.



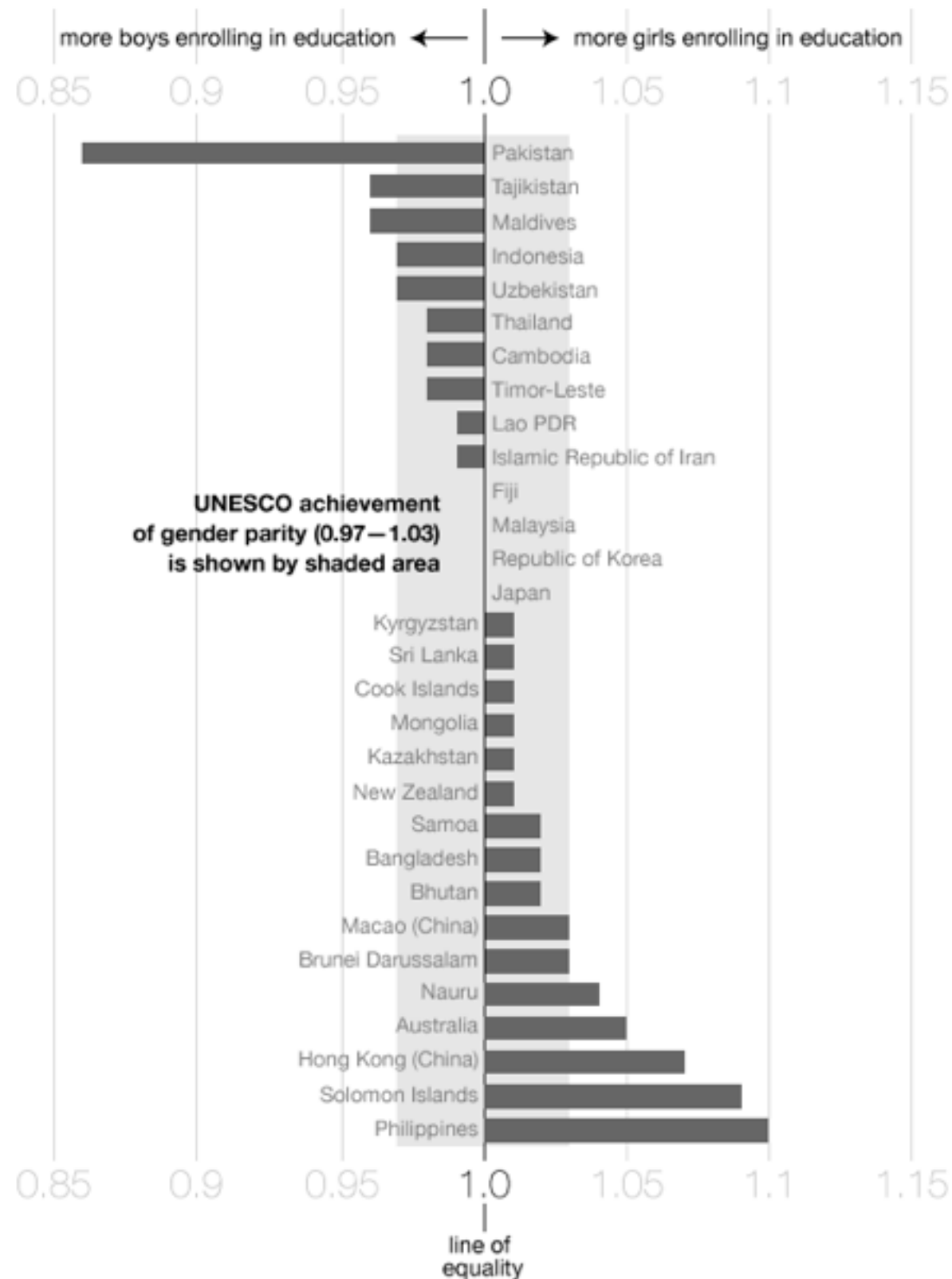






Gender Equality in Primary Education*

Selected Asia-Pacific Countries, 2009

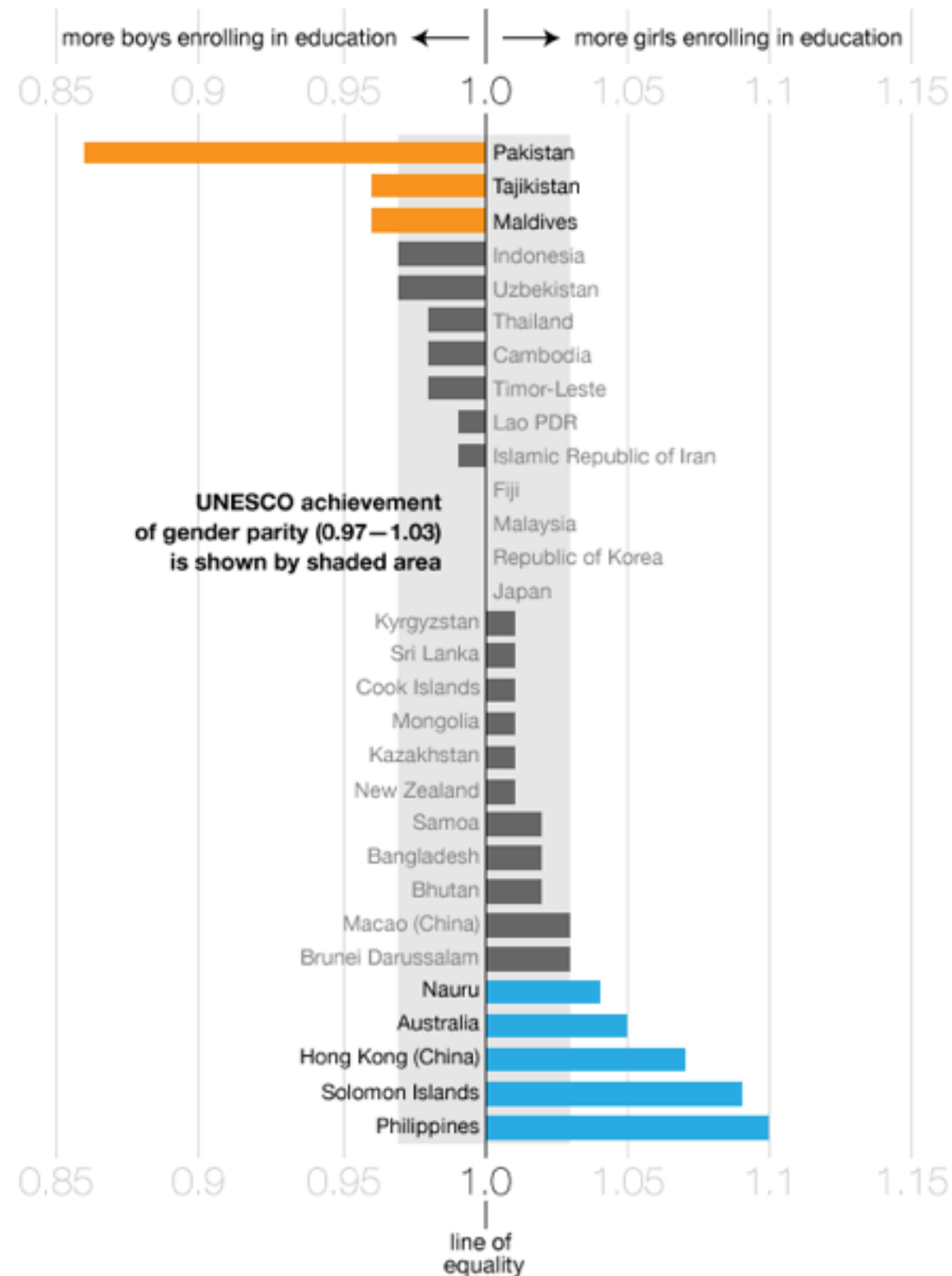


* Gender Parity Index (GPI) of adjusted net intake rate
 source: UIS, 2011, Statistical Table 2

graphic: Alan Smith

Gender Equality in Primary Education*

Selected Asia-Pacific Countries, 2009

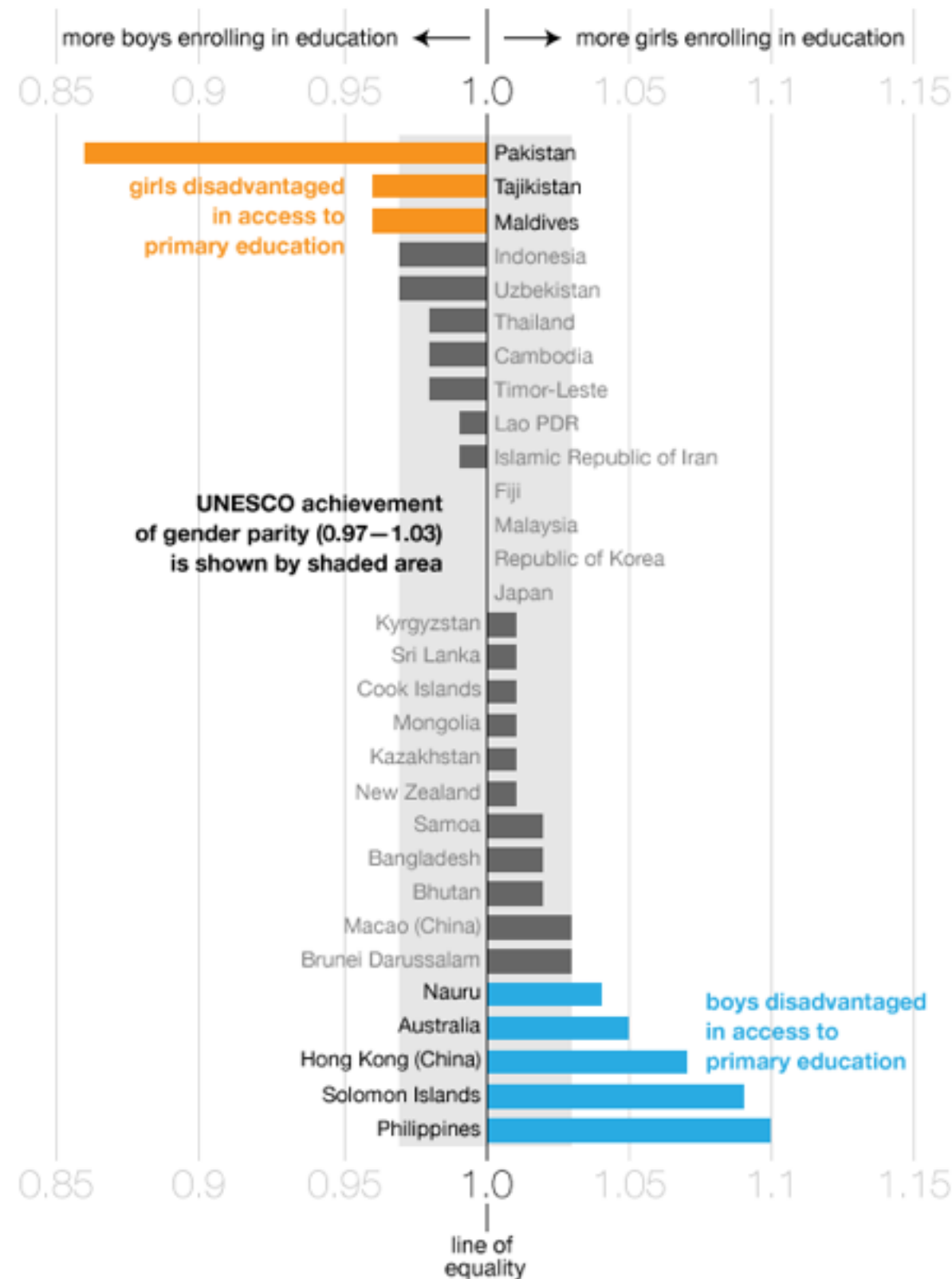


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Gender Equality in Primary Education*

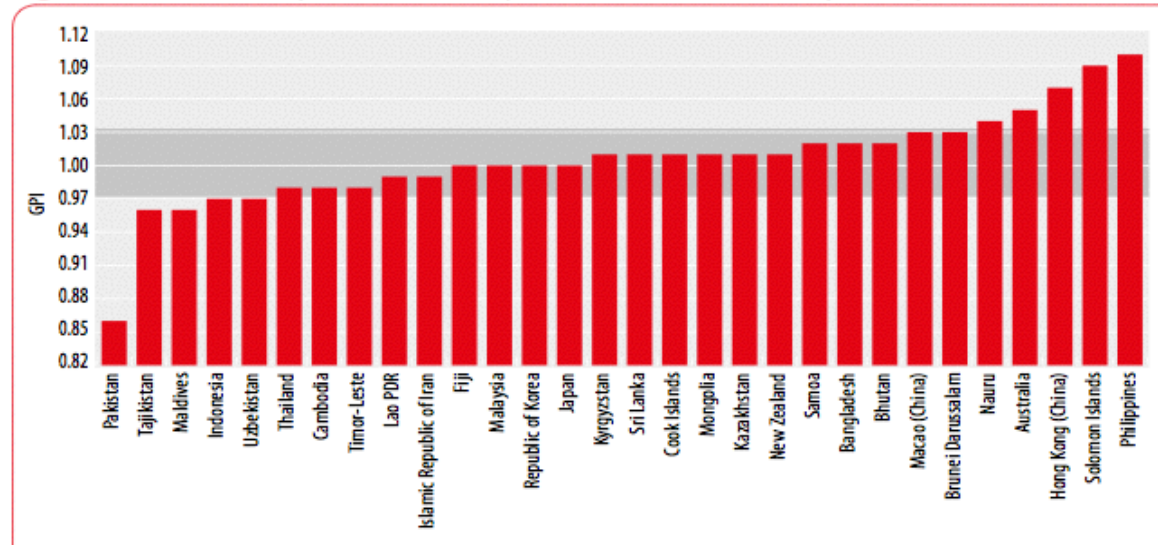
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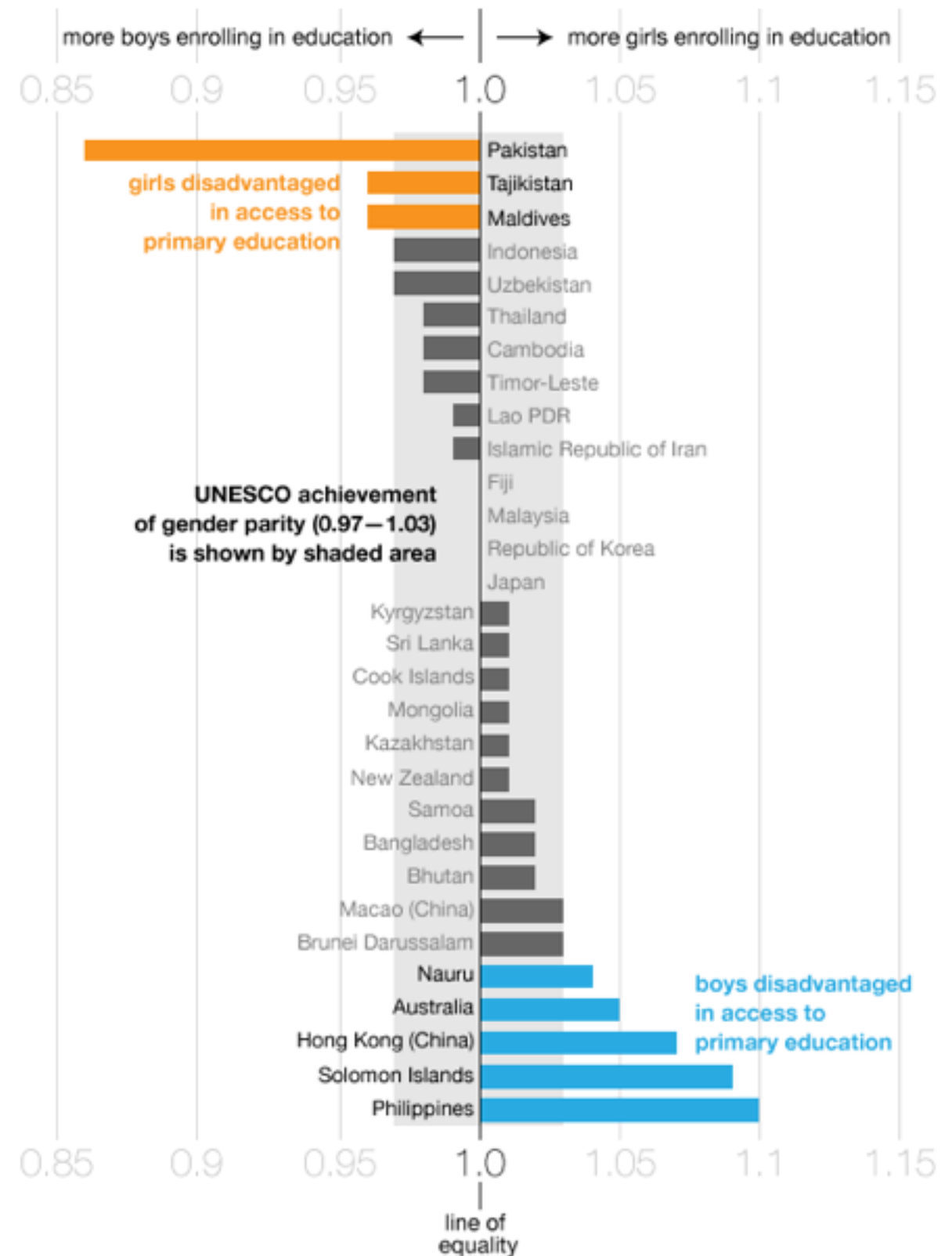
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Gender Equality in Primary Education*

Selected Asia-Pacific Countries, 2009



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source: UIS, 2011, Statistical Table 2

graphic: Alan Smith

Thinking “Text Plus”

- Impact on accompanying copy
- Opportunities to ‘*Start with the Chart*’ in design and presentation
- Self-contained = perfect for social media
- Fewer charts (but better...)

Articulate a
purpose

“I want to show how income *distribution*
has *changed over time*”

US Politics & Policy

- Home
- UK
- World
- Companies
- Markets
- Global Economy
- Lex
- Comment
- Africa
- Asia-Pacific
- Europe
- Latin America
- Middle East & North Africa
- UK
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December 9, 2015 9:00 pm

America's Middle-class Meltdown: Core shrinks to half of US homes

Sam Fleming and Shawn Donnan

Share Author alerts Print Clip Gift Article Comments

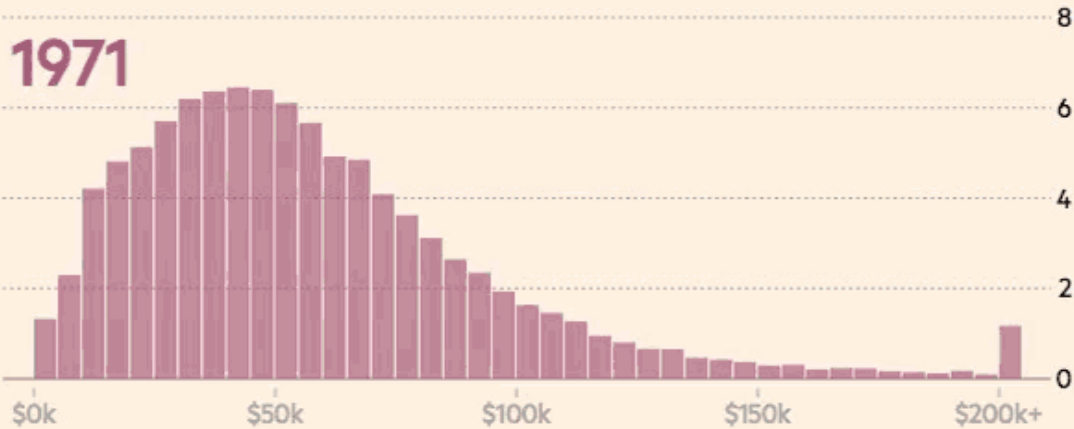
Society splinters as bedrock of postwar economy is 'hollowed out'

America's middle class has shrunk to just half the population for the first time in at least four decades as the forces of technological change and globalisation drive a wedge between the winners and losers in a splintering US society.

The ranks of the middle class are now narrowly outnumbered by those in lower and upper income strata combined for the first time since at least the early 1970s, according to the definitions by the Pew Research Center, a non-partisan think-tank in research shared with the Financial Times.

The findings come amid an intensifying debate leading up to next year's presidential election over how to revive the fortunes of the US middle class.

Household income in 2014 dollars (% of adults)



FT graphic Alan Smith, Source: Pew Research Center

The prevailing view that the middle class is being crushed is helping to feed some of the popular anger that has boosted the populist politics personified by Donald Trump's candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination. "The middle class is disappearing," says Alison Fuller, a 25-year-old university graduate working for a medical start-up in Smyrna, Georgia, who sees herself voting for Mr Trump.

FT BIG READ. AMERICA'S MIDDLE-CLASS MELTDOWN

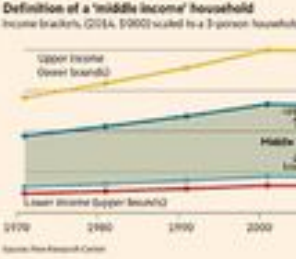
Middle income earners in the US are hurting amid rising job insecurity and stalled wages. In the first part of a series, Sam Fleming and Shawn Donnan speak to Americans about their work, aspirations and anxieties and ask whether society is fracturing.

Changing fortunes



The withering of the American middle class is shaping up to be one of the dominant themes in the presidential election campaign. On the political left, Bernie Sanders, a Democratic contender, is pledging to rebuild the middle class with universal healthcare, a higher minimum wage

and tuition-free public colleges. On the right, Donald Trump has pledged to cut taxes for the middle class, saying it is being "absolutely decimated", while also acknowledging that Americans. The American middle, according to a study by the Pew Research Center, has become a minority of the population for the first time in at least four decades, having shrunk to just 42 per cent of adults compared with 46 per cent at the end of the 1970s.



The ranks of those who earn more than a middle-class income, which for a three-person family is defined by Pew as \$41,000 to \$124,000 a year, have grown by millions in recent years, even as the size of the lowest tier of the population expands alongside them.

The distribution of adults by income is shifting in the middle and bottom up at the edges," says Pew. "A deeper polarisation is under way in the American economy."



Julie Rubin
Age: 34
Occupation: Teacher

Julie Rubin works in one of the wealthiest counties of the US, but she says the idea of living there is not her dream. Ms Rubin is a state school teacher at Harper Park Middle School in Loudoun County, Virginia, a leafy suburb dotted with multimillion-dollar mansions that surround the school grounds in the US. Like many public school teachers, however, she has to supplement her income with a part-time job - in her case, working at one of the state's universities - to maintain the lifestyle she wants.

Teachers have suffered the biggest slide down the income ladder as cash-strapped states have slashed budgets. Teachers have seen a 1.4 per cent decline since 2003-04, a state report this year said. The average Virginia classroom teacher earned \$49,828, below the national average for the profession of \$58,600. "I don't consider myself middle-class," says Tina Williams, a school counselor based in Fairfax, Virginia, who has a part-time job working in a department store. "I remember [when I was] growing up the teachers who educated me seemed to live a lot more comfortably than I do."

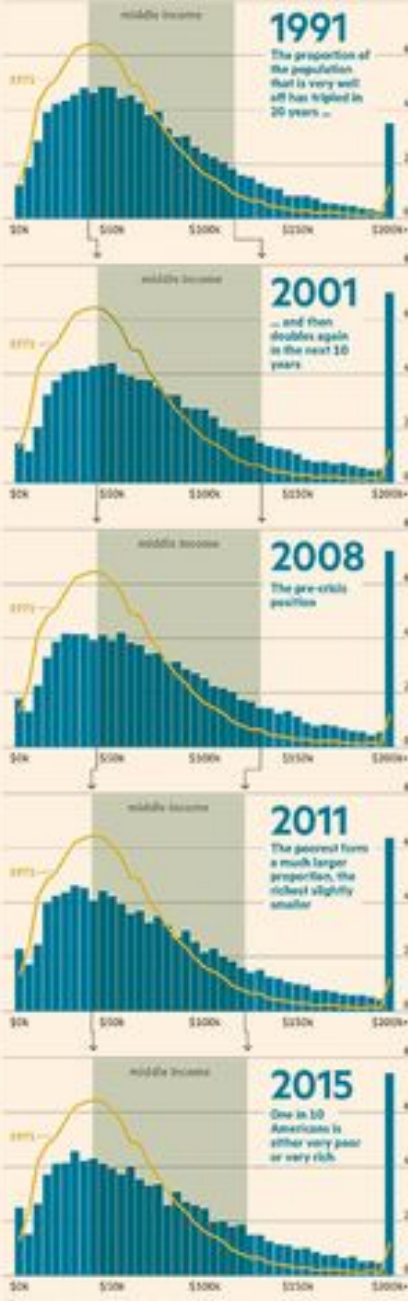
Will Hansmann
Age: 40
Occupation: Software developer

The son of computer scientists, Will Hansmann is now being taught the BASIC computer language by his mother while still in elementary school. By the time he was seven, he was downloading music from his father's laptop home from work. His techy childhood served him well in his current software development at Uptake, a start-up growing out of a part of Chicago's technology industry. The company's software analyses data to spot potential failures in machines and systems.

His position puts him among the unenvied winners in the US economy: software developers earned a median \$98,520 in 2012, compared with a national median of \$34,750, according to government figures. The number of these jobs rose 22 per cent last year and is set to grow by over 200,000 by 2022.

Changing places: Shifts in US income distribution

Household income in 2014 dollars (% of adults)



Liz Heath
Age: 32
Occupation: Architect

Liz Heath has been waiting for five years for work to finally pick up in the construction industry that will more than double the size of her 1987 bungalow in Atlanta's gentrifying Grant Park neighborhood. It helps that Ms Heath is an architect and drew the plans for the 3,500-square-foot renovation herself. But beyond fulfilling a long-held goal, her project is a sign of renewed confidence. After starting her career in the shadow of the 2008-09 recession, Ms Heath senses that she and her peers are living in a more hopeful economy.

professional services today, one third of it does. Almost one in three of the 60,000 jobs that the Atlanta area added in the year to August were in business and professional services.

Amber Barnard
Age: 37
Occupation: Factory worker

Amber Barnard has been waiting for five years for work to finally pick up in the manufacturing sector, it looked like blue-collar jobs such as Amber Barnard's would soon be a thing of the past. But things are looking up for the mother of three. After 11 years working on an assembly line in Kentucky, Illinois, she is leaving her wages and her skills behind.

800 engineers, and other groups are disappearing. "Everybody around me seems to be... making more money," says Ms Barnard. "Everybody is growing and businesses are doing well."

Eve Osterman
Age: 75
Occupation: Office manager

After spending a few years living "a nice retired lady life", Eve Osterman decided it was time to return to work. She is the full-time office manager at Hixson Inc, where she spends her days updating a book, clear water to potential clients and helping customers handle claims in their health plans.

an increase in its job participation rate over the start of the decade. Projections from the McKinsey Global Institute suggest that between 2011 and 2020, no less than half of consumer spending growth will be driven by people aged 65 and above. For a vision of future trends, policymakers could do worse than visiting Sarasota County, Florida, a seaside retirement community with a median age of more than 54, as opposed to the national level of 35.

Michael Hiltzik

Columnist



Column America's explosion of income inequality, in one amazing animated chart

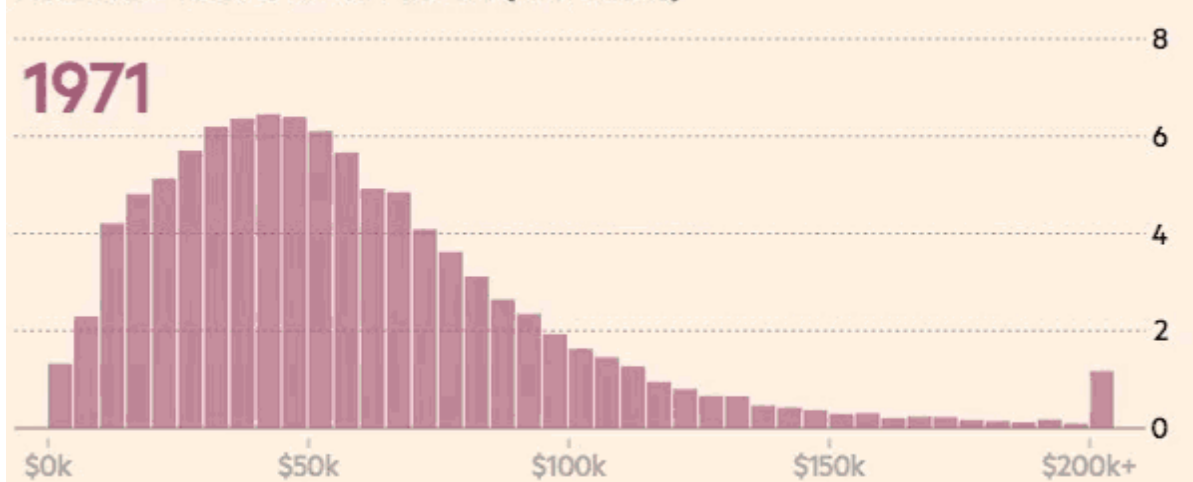
Los Angeles Times

BUSINESS / Michael Hiltzik

Defenders of the economic status quo in America continue to assert that economic inequality (1) doesn't exist, (2) isn't as bad as you think, or (3) is actually good for everybody.

That's despite empirical evidence that the gap between the rich and the middle class is wide and growing and that the trend is hollowing out the middle class, as well as sociological findings of its corrosive effect on society and politics. Among the "grave moral consequences of widening inequality in an environment of modest growth" [identified by political economist Benjamin M. Friedman in 2009](#), for instance, are "racial and religious discrimination, antipathy toward immigrants, [and] lack of generosity toward the poor"--all features of our current campaign landscape.

Household income in 2014 dollars (% of adults)



FT graphic Alan Smith, Source: Pew Research Center

FT

FT



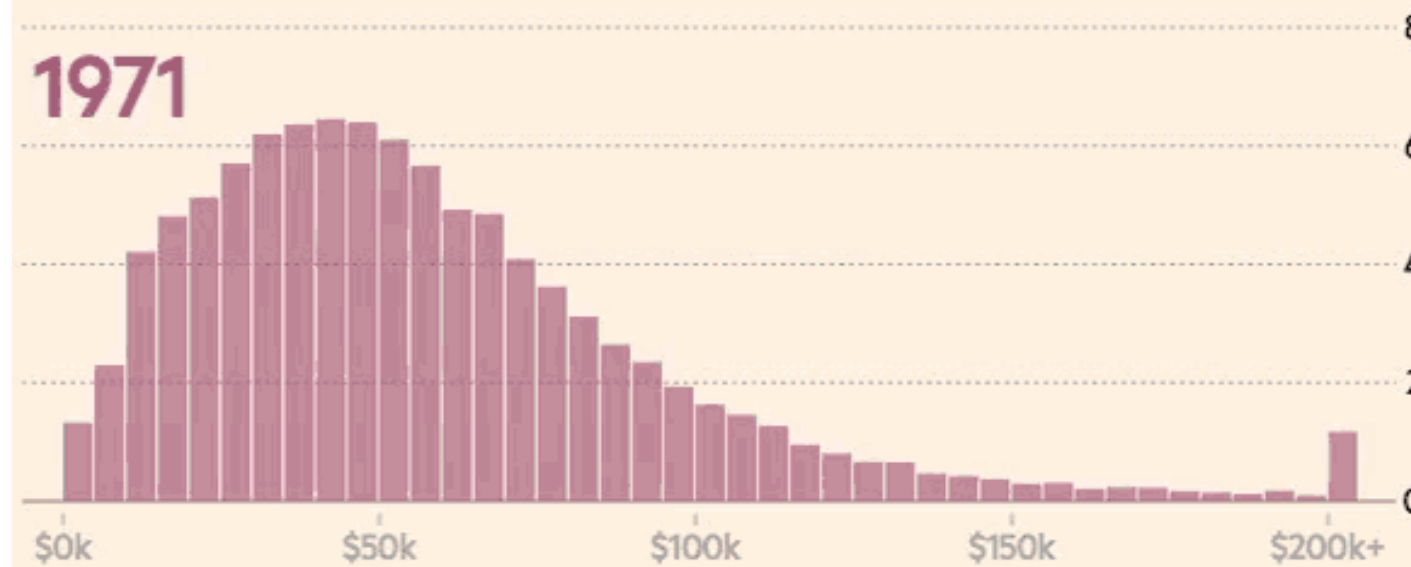
U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders

11 April at 17:49 · 🌐

The reality is that for the last 40 years there's been an enormous transfer of wealth from the middle class and poor to the wealthiest people in this country.

Household income in 2014 dollars (% of adults)

1971



FT graphic Alan Smith, Source: Pew Research Center

America's explosion of income inequality, in one amazing animated chart

Defenders of the economic status quo in America continue to assert that economic inequality (1) doesn't exist, (2) isn't as bad as you think, or (3) is actually good for...

SANDERS.SENATE.GOV

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➦ Share

👍😡😱 You and 22k others

Top comments ▾

FT

Deviation

Emphasise variations (+/-) from a fixed reference point. Typically the reference point is zero but it can also be a target or a long-term average. Can also be used to show sentiment (positive/neutral/negative).

Example FT uses
Trade surplus/deficit, climate change



Diverging bar



Diverging stacked bar



Surplus/deficit filled line

Correlation

Show the relationship between two or more variables. Be mindful that, unless you tell them otherwise, many readers will assume the relationship you show them to be causal (i.e. one causes the other).

Example FT uses
Inflation & unemployment, income & life expectancy



Line + Column



Scatterplot



Connected scatterplot



Bubble



XY heatmap

Ranking

Use where an item's position in an ordered list is more important than its absolute or relative value. Don't be afraid to highlight the points of interest.

Example FT uses
Wealth, deprivation, league tables, constituency election results



Ordered column



Ordered bar



Ordered proportional symbol



Dot strip plot



Slope



Lollipop chart

Distribution

Show values in a dataset and how often they occur. The shape (or 'skew') of a distribution can be a memorable way of highlighting the lack of uniformity or equality in the data.

Example FT uses
Income distribution, population (age/sex) distribution



Histogram



Boxplot



Violin plot



Population pyramid



Dot strip plot



Dot plot



Barcode plot



Cumulative curve

Change over Time

Give emphasis to changing trends. These can be short (intra-day) movements or extended series traversing decades or centuries. Choosing the correct time period is important to provide suitable context for the reader.

Example FT uses
Share price movements, economic time series



Column



Line + column



Line



Stock price



Slope



Area chart



Fan chart (projections)



Connected scatter



Calendar heatmap



Priestley timeline



Circle timeline

Part-to-whole

Show how a single entity can be broken down into its component elements. If the reader's interest is solely in the size of the components, consider a magnitude-type chart instead.

Example FT uses
Fiscal budgets, company structures, national election results



Stacked column



Pie



Donut



Treemap



Voronoi



Sunburst



Arc



Gridplot



Venn

Magnitude

Show size comparisons. These can be relative (just being able to see larger/smaller) or absolute (need to see fine differences). Usually these show a 'counted' number (for example, barrels, dollars or people) rather than a calculated rate or per cent.

Example FT uses
Commodity production, market capitalisation



Column



Bar



Paired column



Paired bar



Proportional symbol



Isotype (pictogram)



Lollipop chart



Radar chart

Spatial

Used only when precise locations or geographical patterns in data are more important to the reader than anything else.

Example FT uses
Locator maps, population density, natural resource locations, natural disaster risk/impact, catchment areas, variation in election results



Basic choropleth (categorical)



Proportional symbol (count/magnitude)



Flow map



Contour map



Equalised cartogram



Scaled cartogram (value)

Flow

Show the reader volumes or intensity of movement between two or more states or conditions. These might be logical sequences or geographical locations.

Example FT uses
Movement of funds, trade, migrants, lawsuits, information; relationship graphs



Waterfall



Sankey



Chord



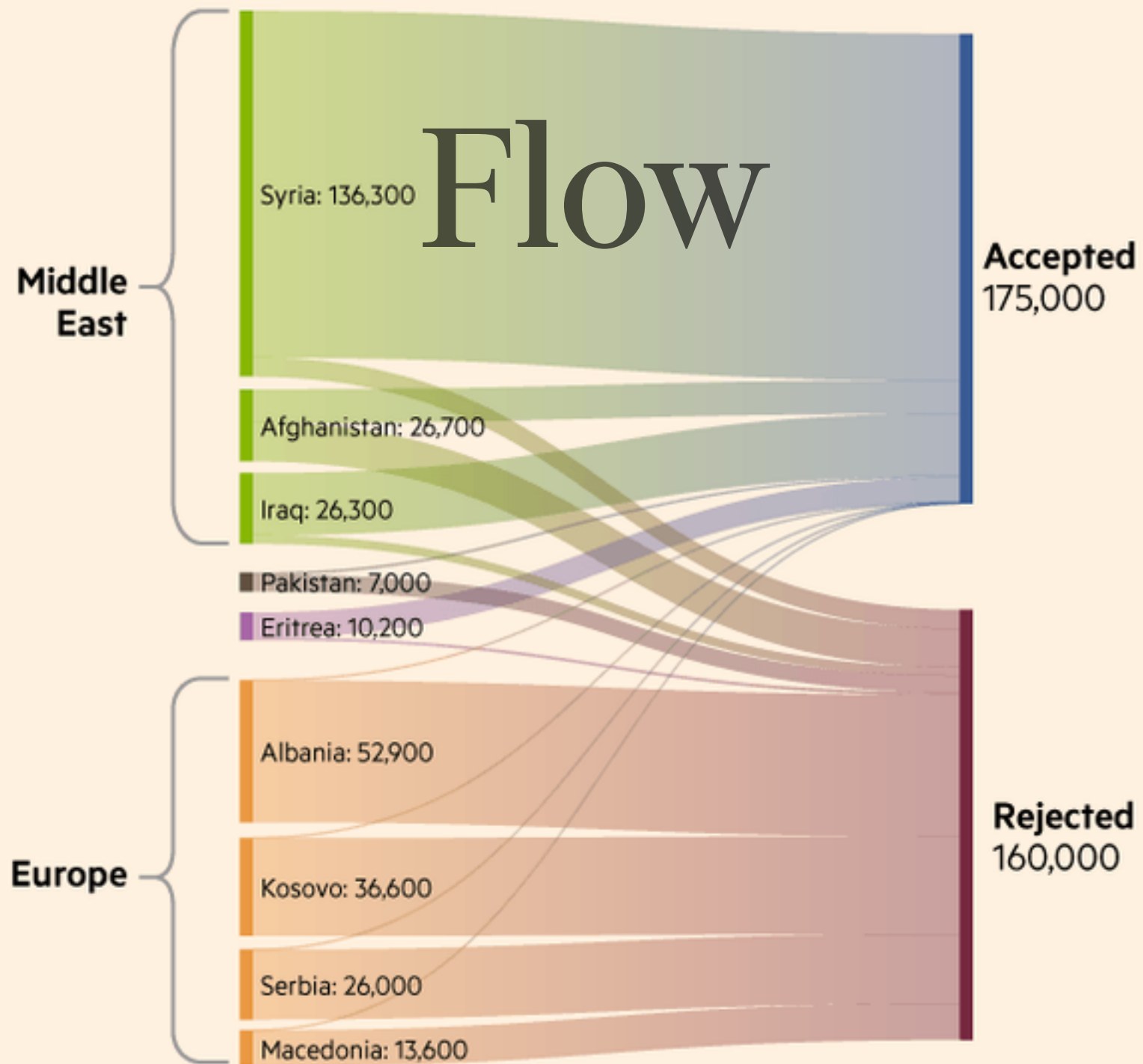
Network

Visual vocabulary

Designing with data

There are so many ways to visualise data - how do we know which one to pick? Use the categories across the top to decide which data relationship is most important in your story, then look at the different types of chart within the category to form some initial ideas about what might work best. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, nor a wizard, but is a useful starting point for making informative and meaningful data visualisations.

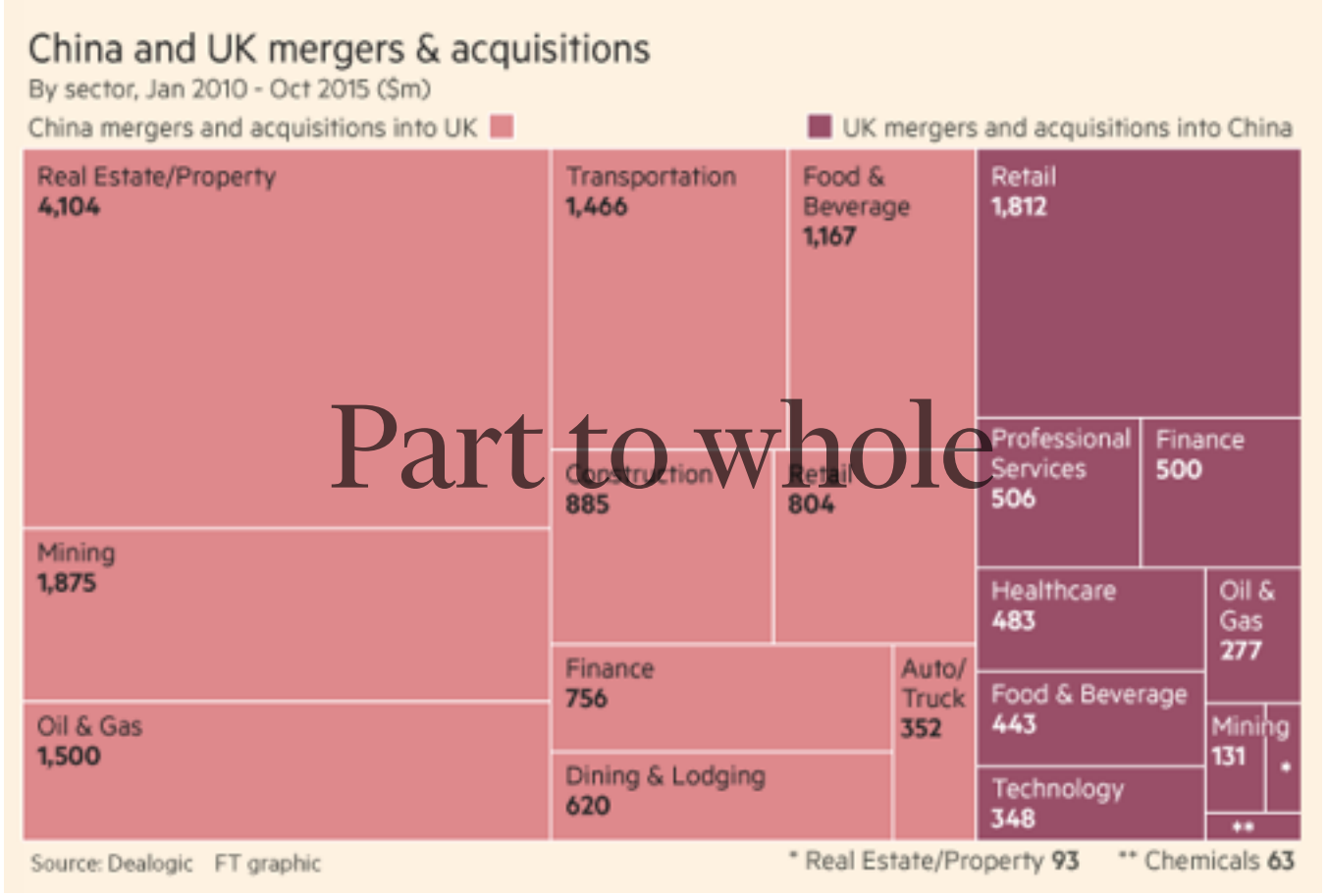
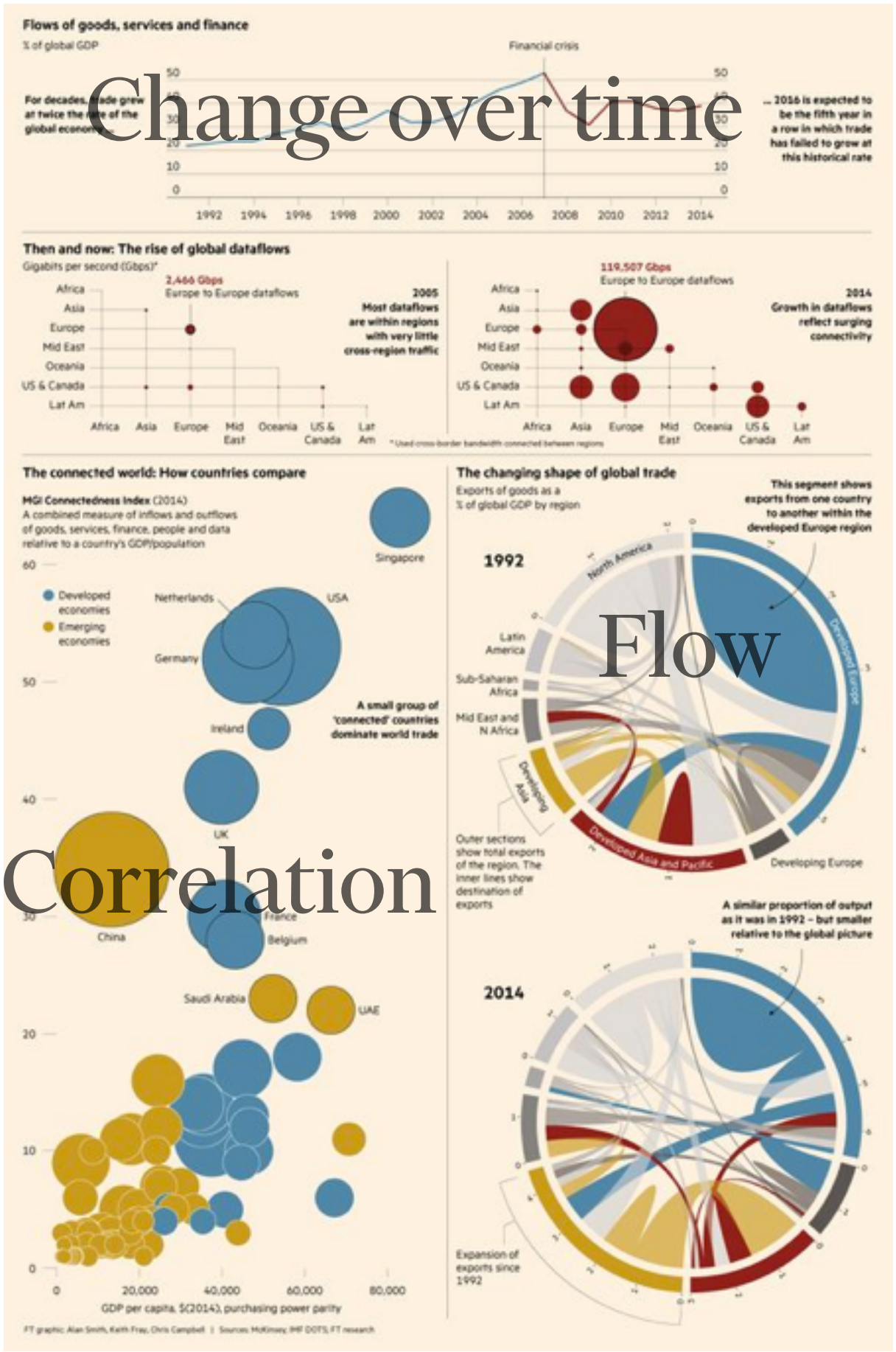
Asylum applications to Germany in November 2015



FT Graphic Alan Smith Source: Germany Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
Note: Numbers may not add exactly due to rounding.

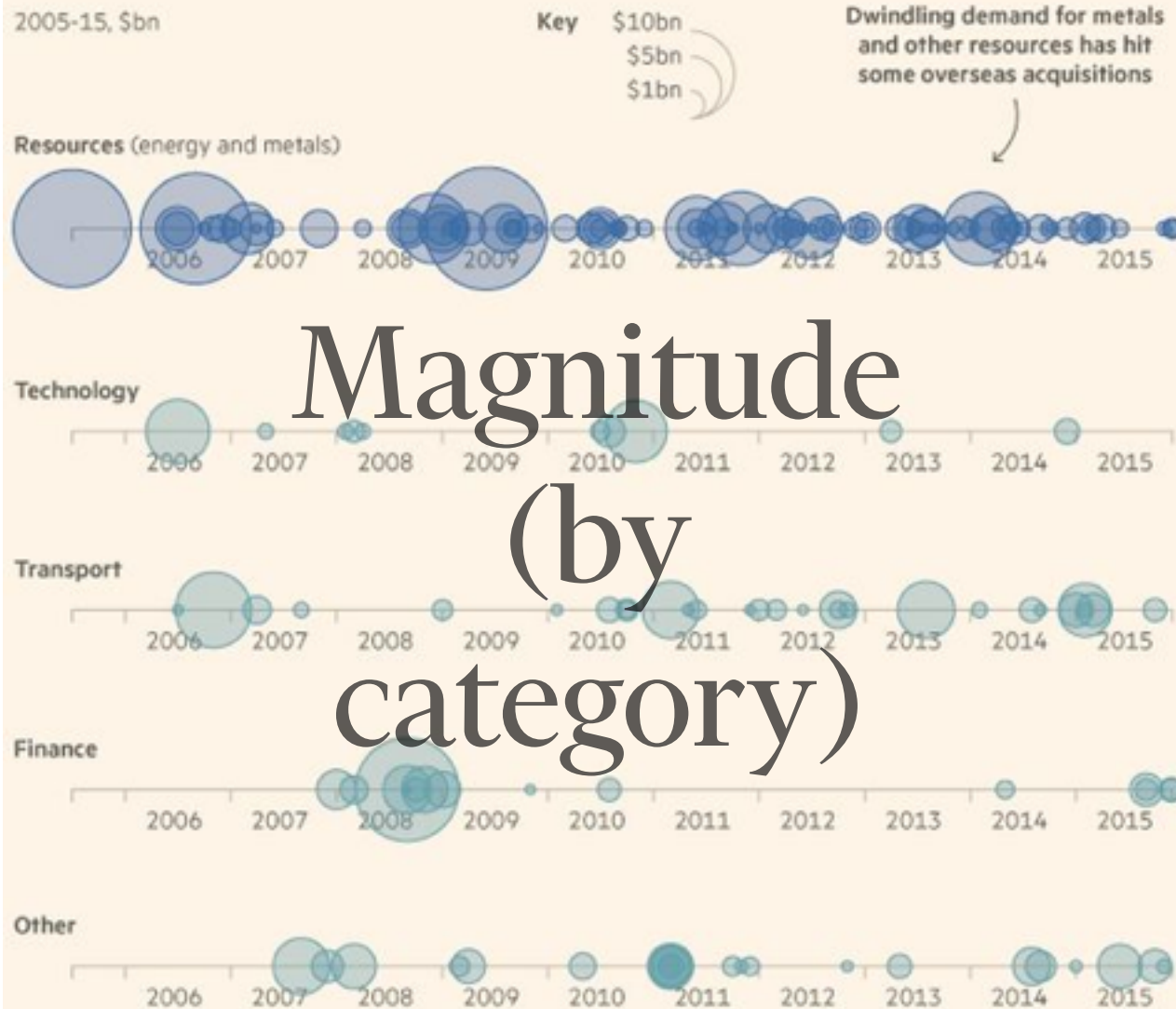
FT

FT



Energy and metals worry investors

Troubled Chinese investments by sector*



* Data from 170 'troubled' deals by Chinese companies.

Troubled, defined as firms that have hit lengthy delays, big cost overruns or outright failure

Sources: American Enterprise Institute; The Heritage Foundation

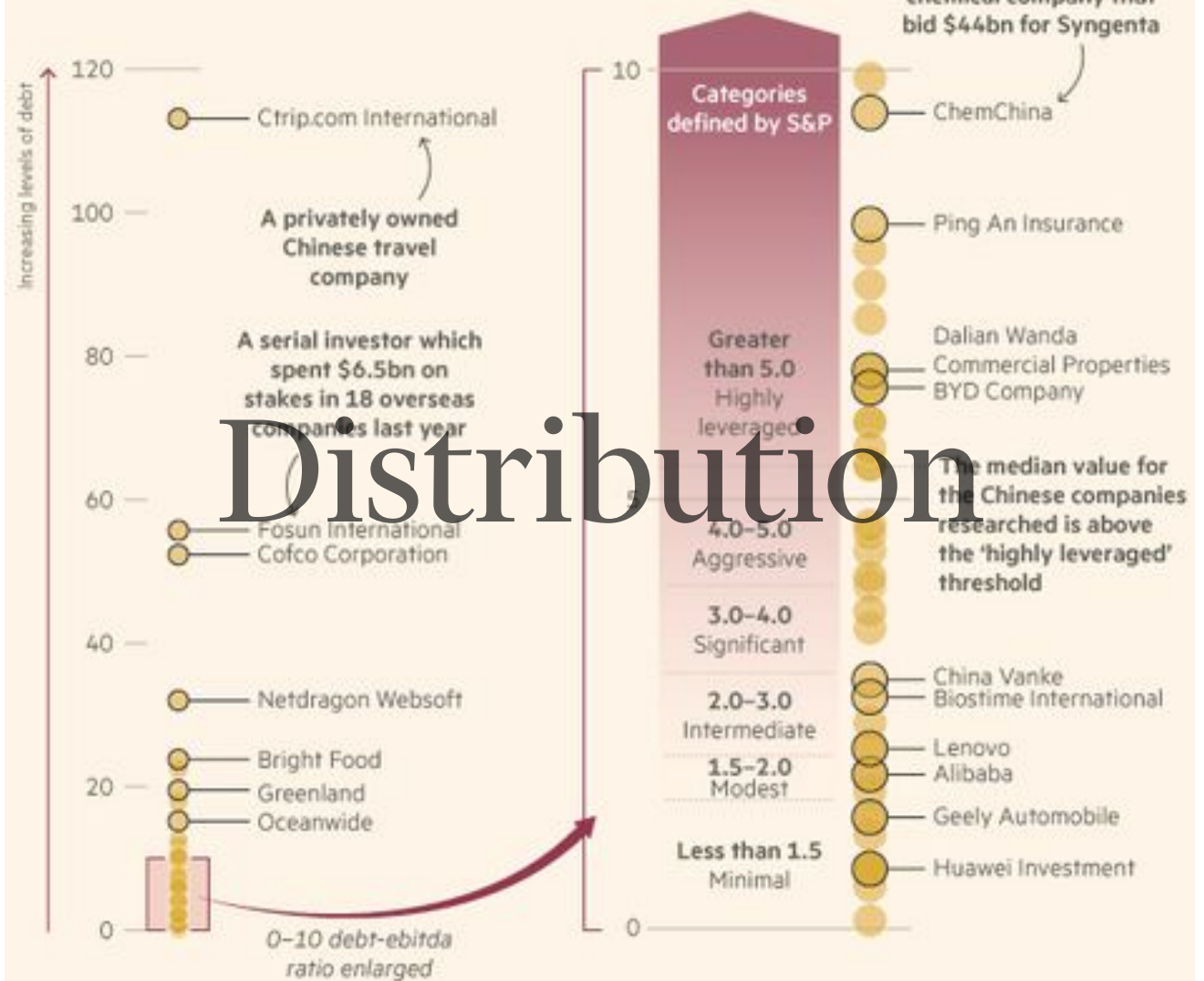
FT graphic: Alan Smith/Chris Campbell

FT

Debt levels of the big spenders

Chinese companies that invested abroad in 2015*

Ratio of total debt to ebitda



ebitda = earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation

* Data from 54 companies that publish financial figures and made deals overseas in 2015

Source: Capital IQ FT graphic: Alan Smith/Chris Campbell

FT

Magnitude
(by
category)

Distribution

FT

Handling platforms

FT BIG READ. WAGE SQUEEZE

For decades, the promise of plentiful jobs and a lower cost of living fuelled rapid growth in America's 'Sun Belt'. But now the problems of lower median incomes and inequality are starting to catch up.

By Shawn Donnan and Sam Fleming

Partial prosperity

FT

financialtimes
New York, New Y...

Following

15.6k views

16w

financialtimes This is the wide gap between the US cities with the highest — and lowest — household incomes

New data shows four-fifths of US cities have seen household incomes fall since 1999. Out of 229 US metro areas, only 39 have seen household incomes increase since then.

Read more at FT.com

#usa #us #income #money #poor #rich #wealth #house #home #cities #metro #america

nowhereman_ Nice graph

jaypolanc Love it

olaslett Strong.

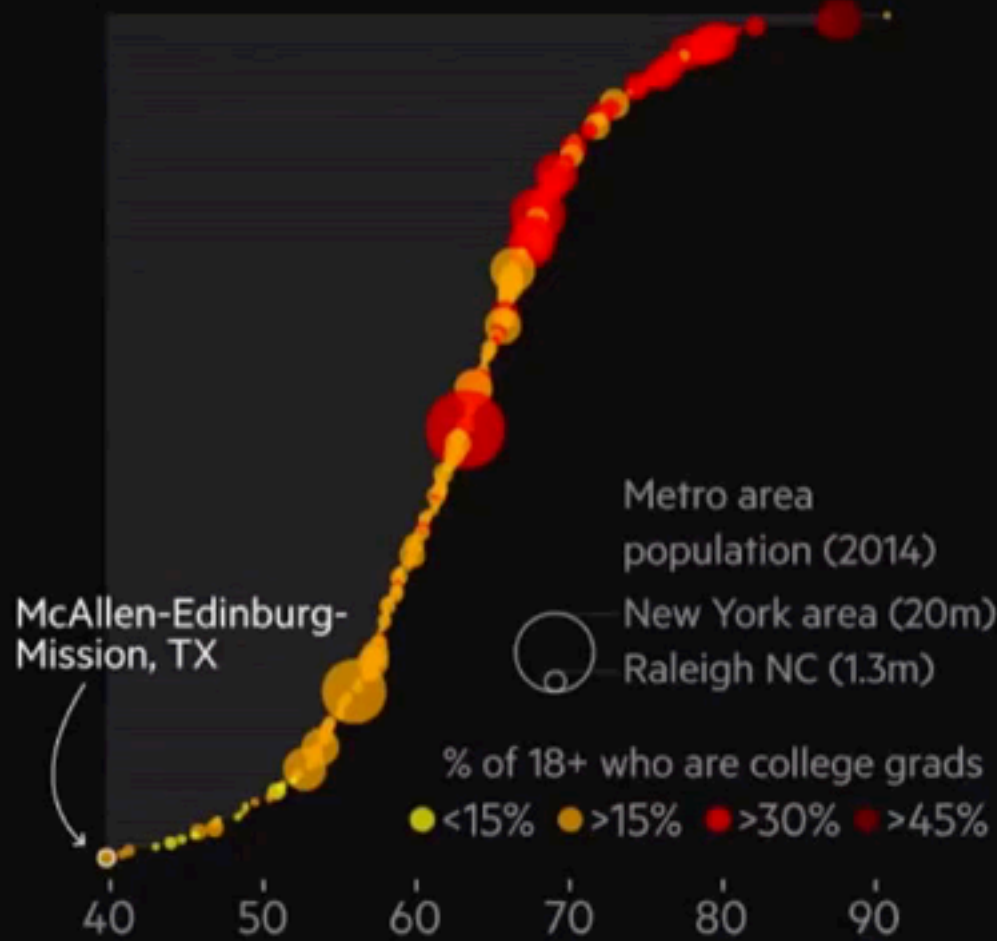
olaslett Alan Smith. That's a beautiful visualisation. 10/10.

♥ Add a comment...

The US income curve
Median adjusted household income

The US income curve

Median adjusted household income (\$'000)



Graphic Alan Smith Source: Pew Research Center

Graphic Alan Smith Source: Pew Research Center
* Scaled to 3-person household, adjusted for inflation

Fortunes: more losers than winners

Median household income (\$'000)

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ft.com/chart-doctor

“Many journalists believe that any visualisation should be understood in the blink of an eye. That’s a mistake.

Visualisation has a grammar and a vocabulary.

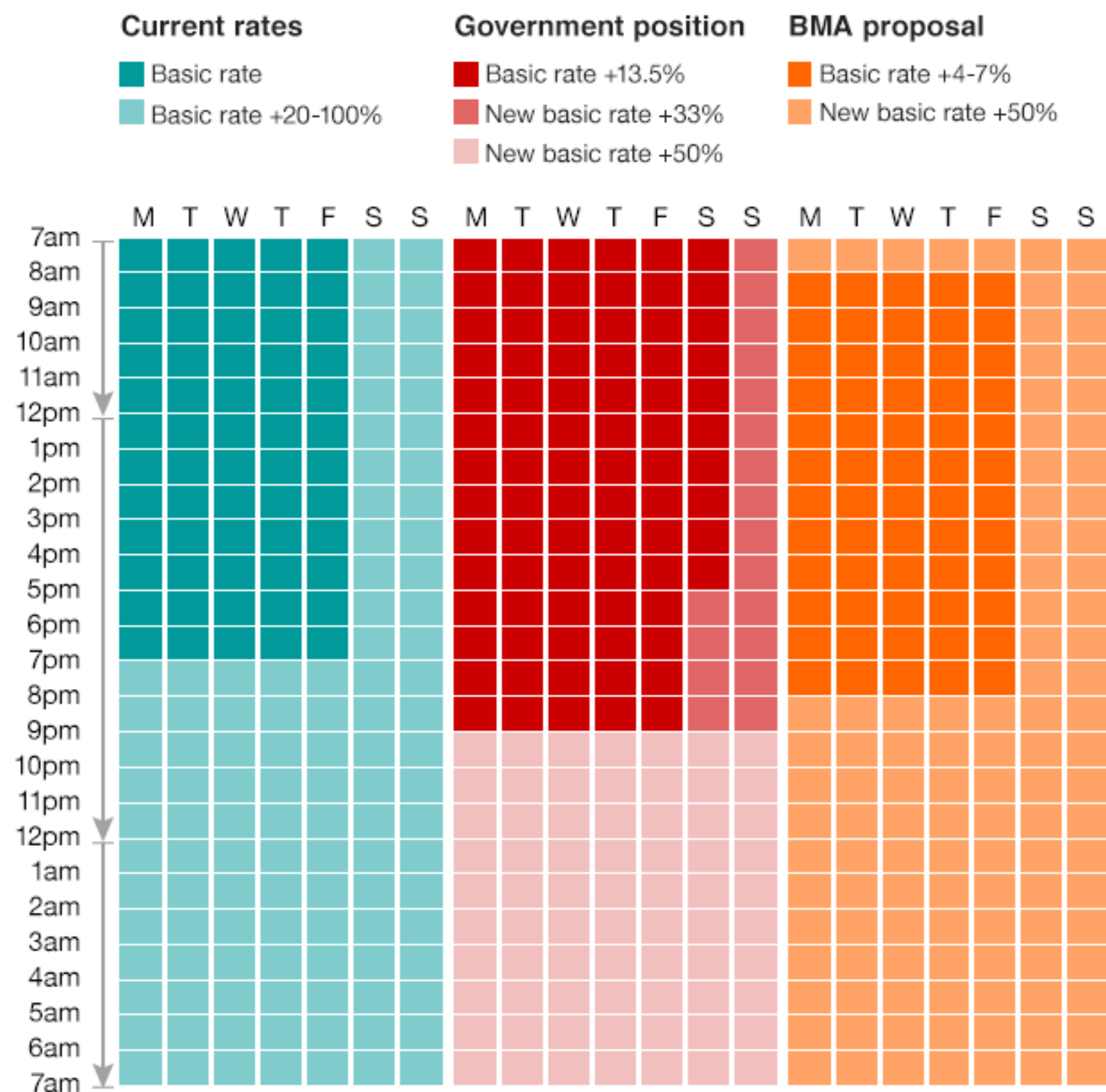
Visualization is not meant just to be *seen*, but to be *read*, like written text.

It is true you may confuse part of your audience the first time you show them an unusual chart. But if that chart is really needed, you should not refrain from using it just because of that”

–Alberto Cairo,

Knight Chair in Visual Journalism, University of Miami

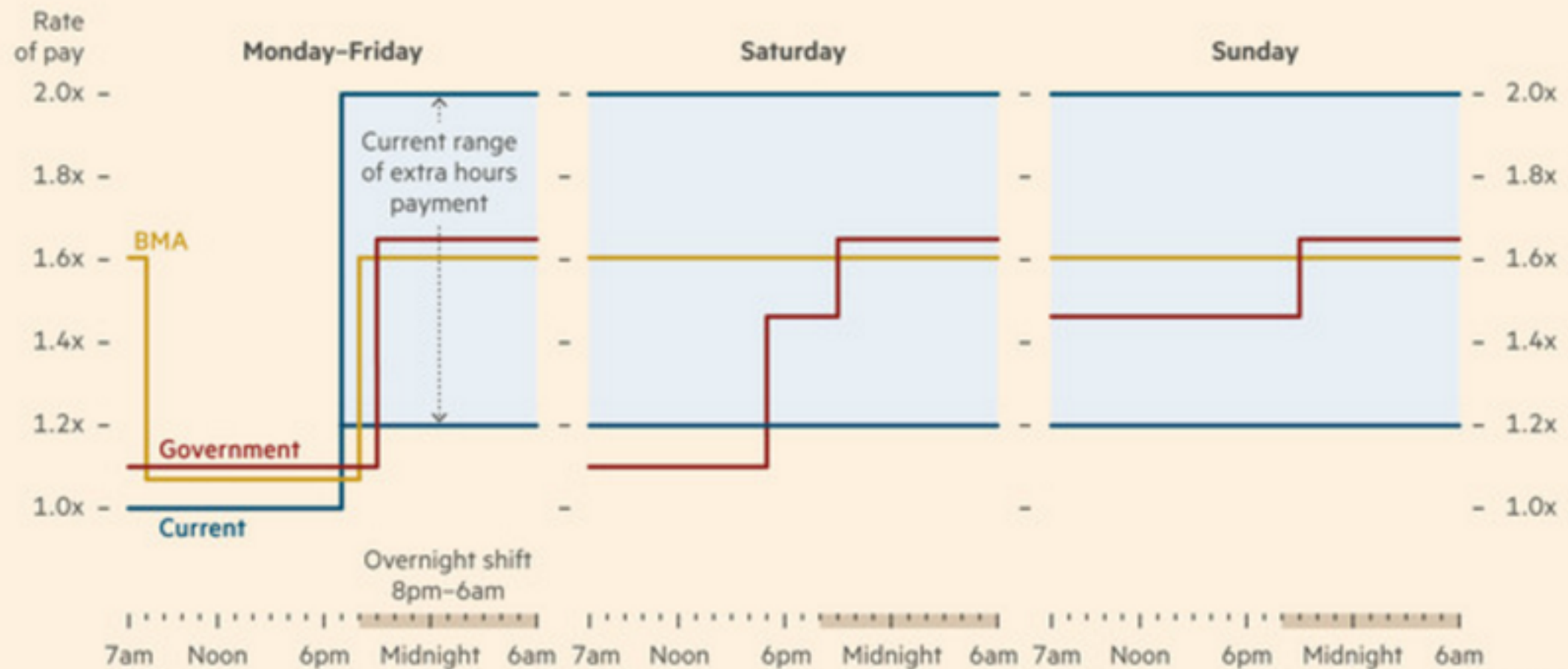
Junior doctors' rates for unsocial hours



Source: NHS Employers

Junior doctor contracts: current v government position v BMA proposal

This chart illustrates how the proposals of the government and BMA compare with existing pay



Sources: NHS employers; FT research

FT



Ian Katz @iankatz1000 · Apr 26

Takes bit of digesting but this FT graphic first time I've properly understood gap between BMA + govt on jnr doc pay

FT

Regions with the biggest votes for Leave are also the most economically dependent on the EU on.ft.com/28V7FO6

Leave vote was strongest in regions most economically dependent on EU

The regions with the highest share of votes for Leave also tend to be the most economically intertwined with the EU. A higher percentage of East Yorkshire & Northern Lincolnshire's economic output is sold to other EU countries than is the case for any other UK region, yet 65 per cent of its electorate voted to Leave



Referendum results: Press Association
EU trade research: John Springford, Philip McCann, Bart Los and Mark Thissen
Graphic by John Burn-Murdoch / @jburnmurdoch

FT

RETWEETS

9,642

LIKES

6,337



11:40 AM - 24 Jun 2016

This scatter plot by @jburnmurdoch is the FT's most shared tweet of all 24,000 published so far in 2016

FT

Data visualisation and the newsroom

Alan Smith OBE @theboysmithy

Data Visualisation Editor

Financial Times

