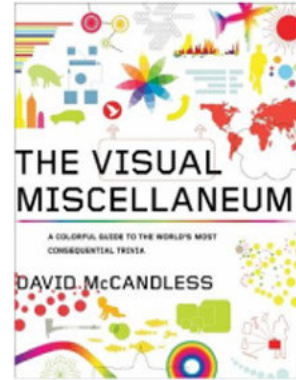


How to make complex things much simpler

I like big numbers. I like colourful graphs. I like maps. I like complex data sets.

Most of all, I *really* like beautiful visual representations of information.

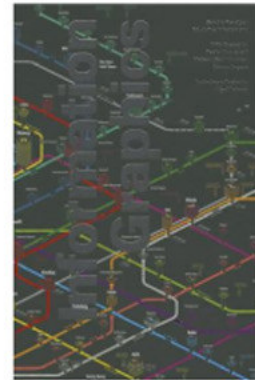
So imagine my absolute delight to find a new book full of visual representations of data sets that *almost* knocks [David McCandless'](#) books off my number one spot of "awesome books to spend hours poring over".



Managing increasingly large & complex data sets is a challenge facing today's society, and how to make sense of, and then communicate the meaning of, that information is becoming increasingly important. Government spending data, local health data, global traffic patterns - all big data sets that need to be analyzed and interpreted.

One solution is to take those big numbers, interpret the information and create a visual layout of that data so that it can be understood more clearly by the non-statisticians amongst us (aka most of the adult population).

Albert Einstein is credited with saying "*If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough.*" So why not take all those numbers and turn them into pictures? Simple. After all, a picture is worth a thousand words, so maybe a picture is also worth a thousand (or more) numbers.



The book that I am currently spending far too many waking hours engrossed in is [Information Graphics](#), published by Taschen. This book shows that people can, and will, understand information if it is visually well-interpreted. It is beautiful. It is big. It is fascinating. I promise to return it by its due date so that you can share in the fun! In the meantime, take a sneak peak into the book [here](#).