

## **[SAMPLE]**

# **DATA VISUALIZATION ASSIGNMENT**

This is a three-part assignment. Each of the following steps will be evaluated:

### **1) Finding data**

There are many sources of freely downloadable data. Your assignment is to locate a relevant data set online. Here are some places to start:

- LION: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/bytes/applbyte.shtml>
- Newman Library: [http://guides.newman.baruch.cuny.edu/nyc\\_data](http://guides.newman.baruch.cuny.edu/nyc_data)
- NYC Open Data: <http://data.cityofnewyork.us>
- Data.gov
- Gephi Wiki: <https://wiki.gephi.org/index.php/Datasets>

You will need to download this data in a readable and editable format (often something that can be opened in spreadsheet software).

### **2) Editing data:**

The file you downloaded may contain extra or useless fields of data. It is your job to curate what you want to represent. Just like the curator of a museum makes decision about what to show and how to display it, the data you choose to display directly impacts the viewer's experience of the information.

### **3) Visualizing data:**

Utilizing one of the open-source software platforms discussed in class input your data. Edit the visual parameters of the data to make the information you want to express clearly visible. Your final visualization should have variables clearly labeled and units equally proportioned. Ideas you'll have to consider:

- Does my data have a spatial or geographic component?
- Does my data have a temporal component, showing change over time?
- How many variables am I trying to represent?
- Who is the audience I am trying to reach?