A Picture (Of Data) Is Worth a Thousand Words

This illustrates how libraries can begin leveraging their data to create meaningful narratives and gain new insights about themselves. Through an examination of Thomas J. Watson Library’s use of Power BI – a powerful data visualization tool provided by Microsoft – we demonstrate how a library’s data can be used to create visualizations that stakeholders can engage with, providing the context necessary for a compelling story. These visualizations allow one to see the evolution of a library over time, transforming numbers into narratives and giving stakeholders deeper insight into the impact of the library.

https://www.metmuseum.org/watson-dashboard

Abstract

This illustrates how libraries can begin leveraging their data to create meaningful narratives and gain new insights about themselves. Through an examination of Thomas J. Watson Library’s use of Power BI – a powerful data visualization tool provided by Microsoft – we demonstrate how a library’s data can be used to create visualizations that stakeholders can engage with, providing the context necessary for a compelling story. These visualizations allow one to see the evolution of a library over time, transforming numbers into narratives and giving stakeholders deeper insight into the impact of the library.