

Graph of the Week

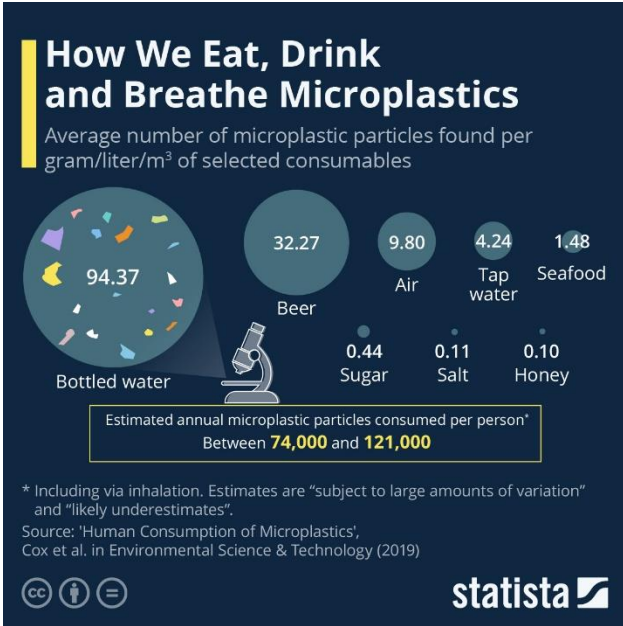
March

Analyze the graphs below and write a reflection on what you think the graphs are communicating to you. To guide you with your response, start with some observations.

- What is the topic of each graph?
- What does the x-axis represent? What does the y-axis represent?
- What are some observations that you can make based on the graph?
- What do you foresee happening in the next 10 years?

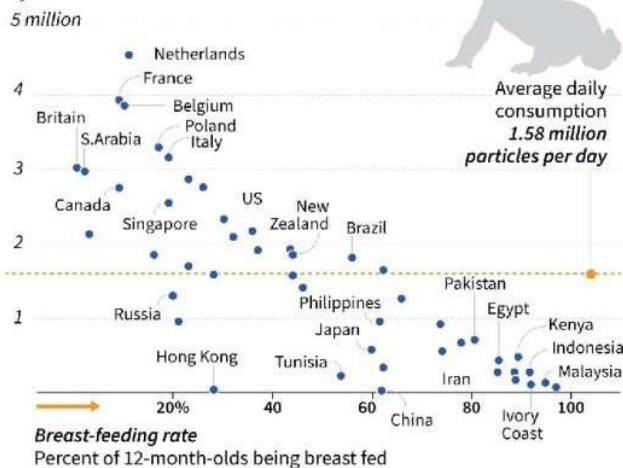
Questions to ask when reading graphs:

- Is there an upward or downward trend?
- Are there any sudden spikes in the graph?
- What is being compared in the graph?
- What prediction can I make for the future?
- What inferences can I make about the graph?



Eating plastic: infant exposure via feeding bottles

Daily intake of microplastic particles by 12-month-olds



Based on:

- Analysis of *polypropylene* bottle types for release of microplastics via washing, sterilisation and shaking
- Size of baby bottle market per country
- Estimated breast-feeding rates
- Estimated milk intake volumes

Microplastics

Particles smaller than 20 microns
More than 50% of the microplastic particles detected were smaller than 1.6 microns

The average diameter of human hair is about 70 microns
Threshold of visibility to the naked eye is about 40 microns

Source: Li et al, October 19, *Nature.com/industrialspec.com*