

Transcript

An introduction to visualising development data (2)

PROFESSOR HANS ROSLING:

Try not to feel nervous about using statistics. Most of us use statistics every day without realizing it. Every time you read the sport results in the newspaper, you use statistics. You compare the performance of teams and players by counting the number of goals. Basically, every time you compare one thing to another using numbers-- that's statistics.

If you don't use statistics, you will only base your ideas about the world on personal experiences and impressions, or you might rely on media. But media like to show you what's unusual, exciting, or shocking-- things that are rarely representative of the world as a whole. You might even base your worldview on facts you learned at school-- facts that are now out of date.

When I come across people who do not know how much the world has changed, most of them do use numbers, but the numbers they use are no longer correct.