

Editorial

Shaping understanding: Information Design across media, health, and data

With excitement, we announce the publication of Volume 22, number 1 of the InfoDesign Journal for 2025. This volume features five articles that provide contributions to the field of information design. This first issue of 2025 continues the effort to expand global dialog and increase the journal's visibility and impact by focusing on English-only publications. In this regard, the editorial team would like to thank the authors, reviewers and editors for adapting to the new guidelines of the InfoDesign Journal and for their contributions to relevant information design research. The information design topics covered in this issue include: cartograms data visualization, graphical analysis of visual verbal elements, nutrition labeling information, health policies, and infographics in health risk communication. The articles reflect the ongoing relevance of information design in shaping public understanding and policy in various fields.

The first article in this volume combines theoretical and analytical references to explore various elements of graphic manifestations. The authors, Leonardo Coelho Siqueira and Marcos da Costa Braga, present a methodological framework for analyzing graphic representations of philosophical, literary, and artistic elements. In the article **“Method of Analyzing Graphic Representations Based on Verbal Elements”** the authors present the framework, provide examples of its application, and discuss its contributions to the field of information design.

The second article in this volume, **“Science popularization on Instagram: an initial study based on Information Design analysis,”** evaluates the comprehension of non-design participants regarding posts from scientific profiles on Instagram. The authors, Renata Kelly Luna Gomes Ramos, Eva Rolim Miranda and Mônica Soares, analyze the comprehension of non-designer participants and their main difficulties in understanding the content, highlighting the information design principles contained in each post. The findings reinforce the need for greater attention to typography, color, and composition in science communication.

The discussion then shifts to the intersection of design and public health. The article **“Information Design in Nutrition Public Policies: Contributions to Food and Beverage Labeling in Brazil”** showcases research conducted by the Information Systems Design Laboratory (LabDSI/UFPR). It highlights the contributions of information design to nutritional labeling. The authors Carla Galvão Spinillo, Carlos Felipe Urquizar Rojas, and Christopher Hammerschmidt share their expertise in regulatory discussions and proposals for nutrition labeling systems in Brazil and Mercosur. They highlight the importance of information design in shaping health policies.

Within the realm of health and information design, the article **“Infographics in Health Risk Communication: The Contribution of Design in Guiding Citizens During Pandemic Situations”** examines the role of infographics in facilitating effective and comprehensive health risk communication. Written by Ana Teresa Ferreira Barroso Pereira, Nuno Duarte Martins, Francisco Garcia, Rita Maria Espanha Pires Chaves Torrado da Silva, Daniel da Cruz Brandão, Ana Cristina Rocha Barros, and Branco Di Fátima, the article investigates the websites of health institutions. It identifies issues that may hinder the reader’s comprehension of the information presented. From the information design perspective, the authors conclude with guidelines for designing information in health risk communication.

Also part of this volume, the article **“Alternatives for automatic rendering of Brazil and other geographic regions’ territory thematic cartograms”** presents alternatives for automatic rendering of thematic cartograms using primitive shapes based on previous work. Using data from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, authors Luiz Nascimento, Ricardo Farias, Cláudio Esperança, Regina Reznik, and Tarsus Pinheiro demonstrated the use of the approach with the cartogram of Brazil and discussed future steps for this proposal.

The InfoDesign journal follows a continuous publication model, based on a rigorous peer-review process. This approach allows us to expedite the publication process while maintaining the quality and rigor of our reviews. This issue marks the first publication under the new editorial team, which includes Managing Editor Matheus Cezarotto and Editorial Secretary Renata Perim. We would like to express our gratitude to Doris Kosminsky (current Editor-in-Chief), Sara Goldschmidt (former Managing Editor), Jade Piaia (former Editorial Secretary), and Christopher Hammerschmidt (current Layout Editor) for their valuable support during this transition.

Enjoy the reading, and stay tuned for more research on information design.

Matheus Cezarotto and Renata Perim Lopes

Managing Editor and Editorial Secretary