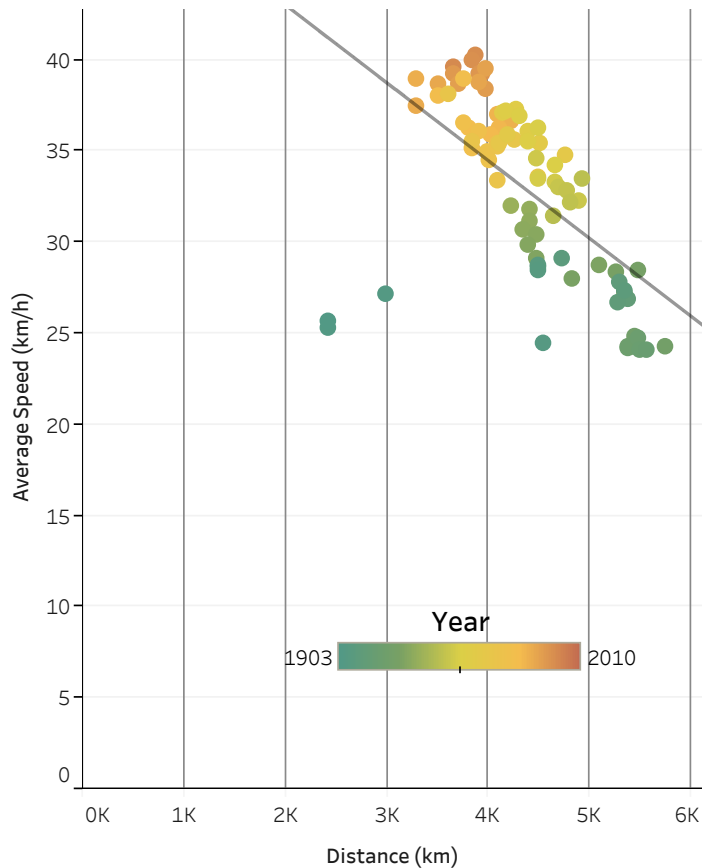


# Tour de France in the 20th Century

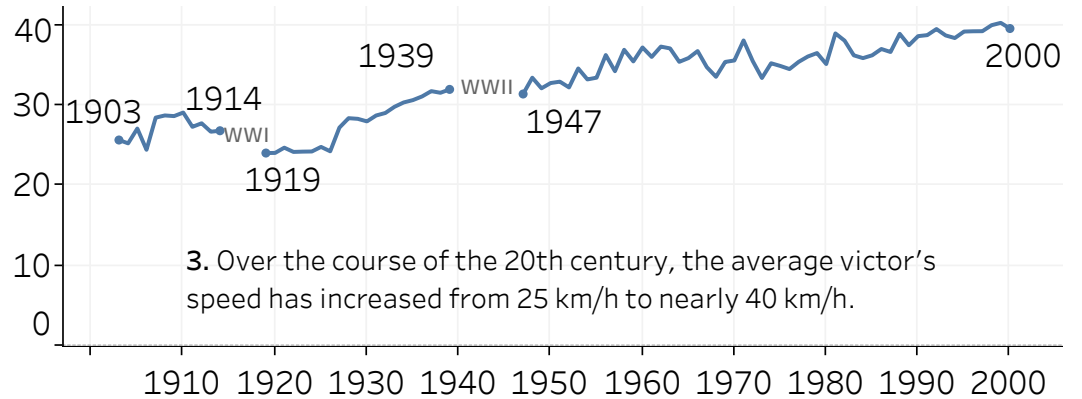
1. Over the past century the Tour de France has gotten longer and longer.

How the Length of the Tour de France Impacts the Average Speed of the Victors



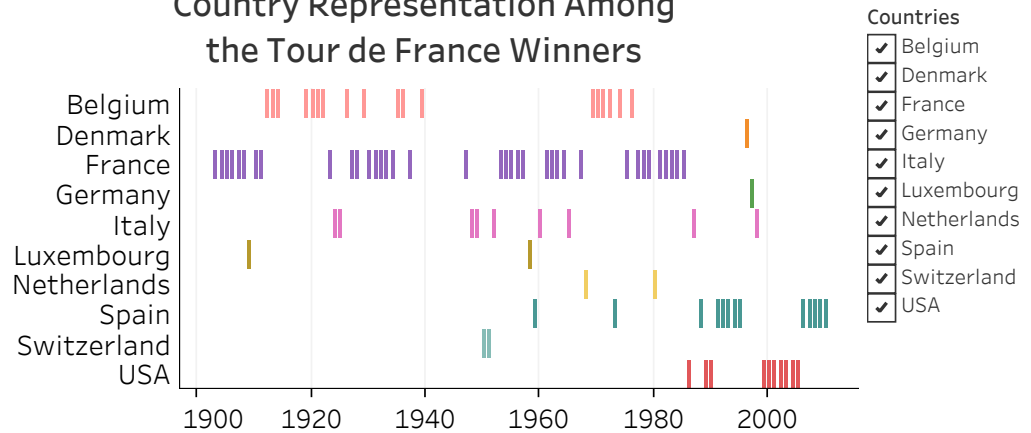
2. But the distance has not deterred cyclists from advancing their sport. Innovation in bicycle design, improvement of road conditions, and their devotion to increasing their mental and physical fitness have driven cyclists in their quest to reach ever higher speeds.

Average Speed of the Tour de France Victors



3. Over the course of the 20th century, the average victor's speed has increased from 25 km/h to nearly 40 km/h.

Country Representation Among the Tour de France Winners



4. The Tour de France has grown into the cycling world's most prestigious race and has broadened from a race mainly dominated by Belgians and the French to one where athletes from around the globe come to compete, with Spain and the United States dominating the last 20 years.