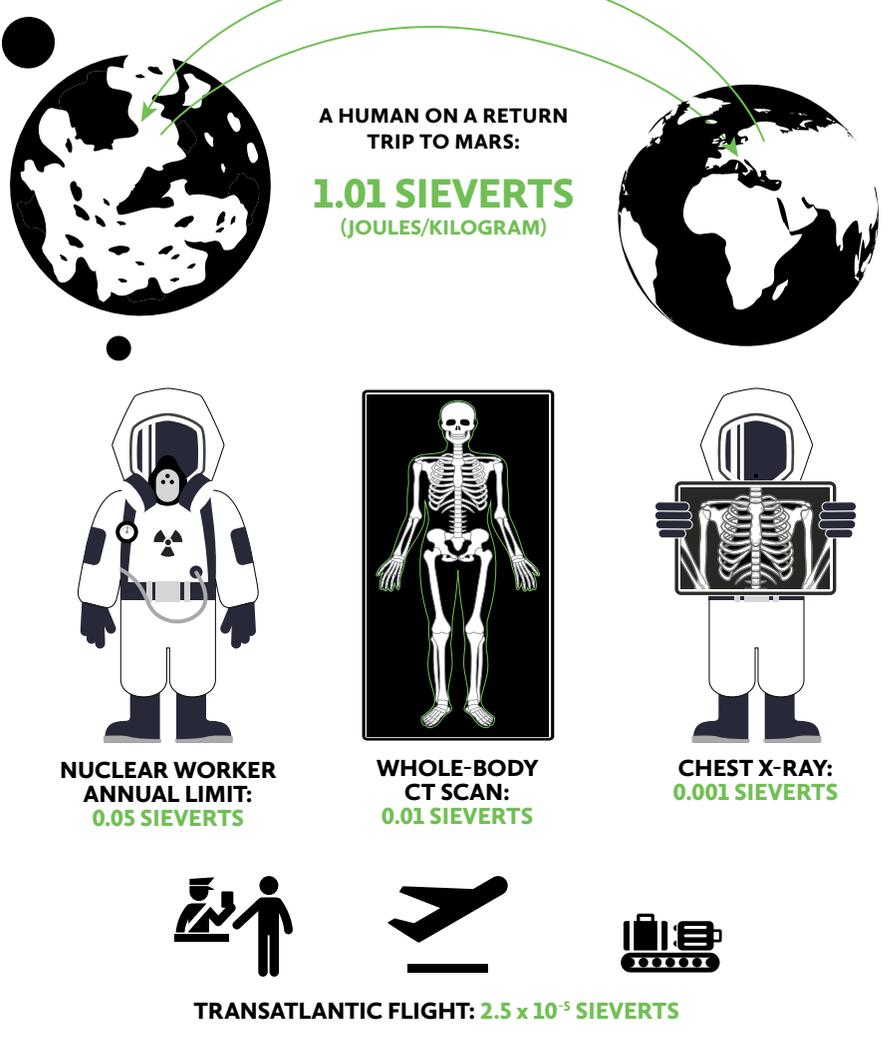


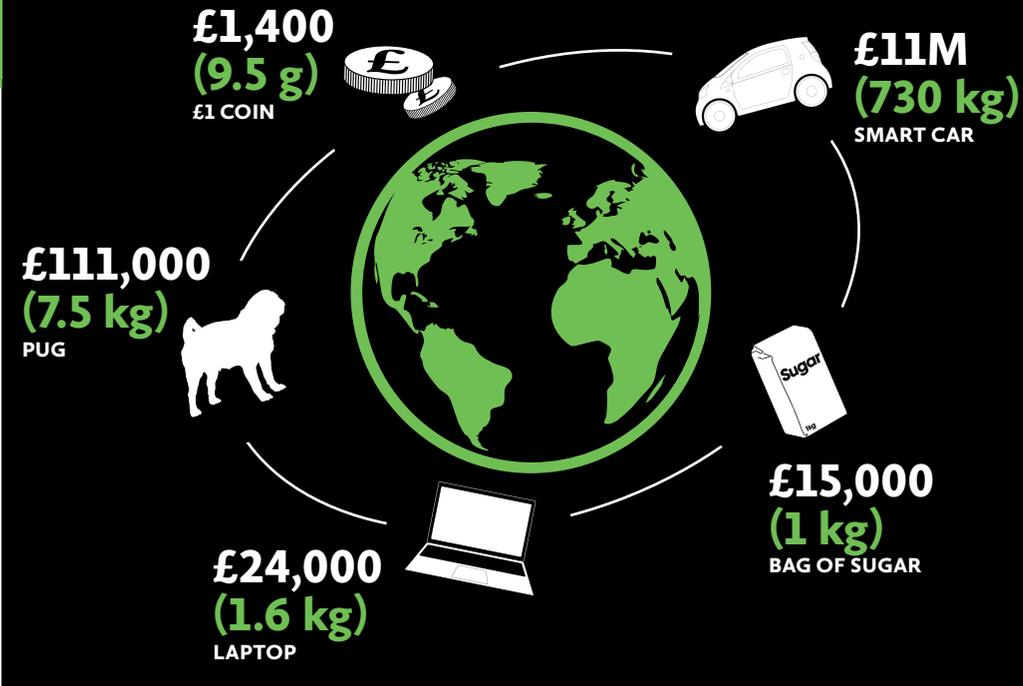
OUR UNIVERSE IN A NUTSHELL

Big Picture gets to grips with some astronomical numbers.

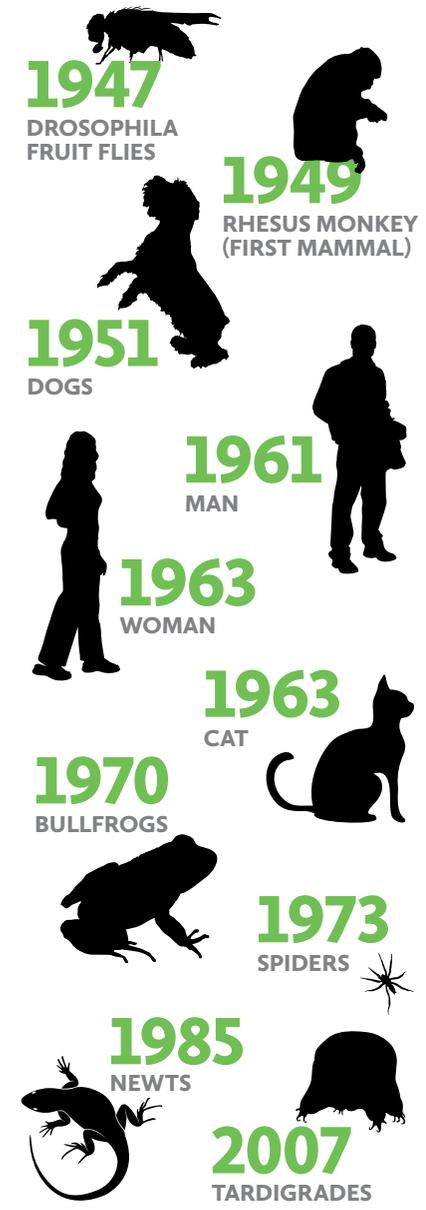
RADIATION DOSES



THE COST OF LAUNCHING INTO ORBIT



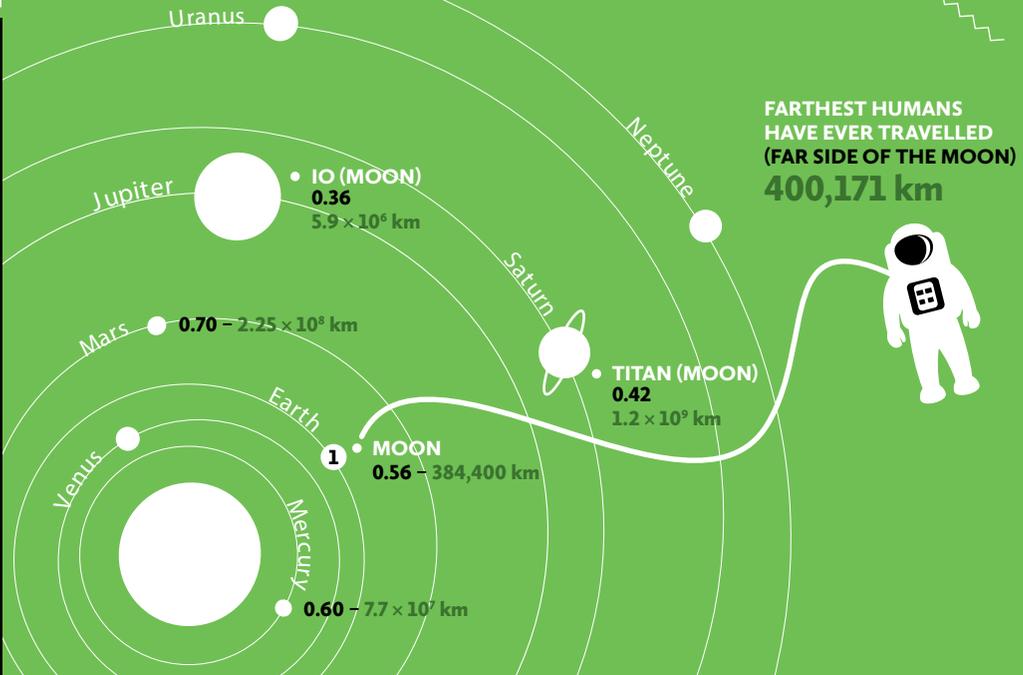
FIRSTS IN SPACE



SEARCHING FOR EARTH'S TWIN



HUMAN SPACE EXPLORERS



FINDING DATA

Putting this diagram together, we found that different sources gave different numbers for the same thing. Why don't they match?

Well, data can be interpreted in different ways, and estimates can be made using different methods and different baseline data. Definitions matter, too – different sources might define 'size' or 'orbit' differently.

Which should you choose? The source itself is important – is it from a primary or a secondary source? Is it reliable? Is it recent? Is it from an organisation with an agenda or from an impartial source?

* Based on radius, density, escape velocity and surface temperature. Anything over 0.8 is high, and likely to have a rocky composition.