Chart Chooser

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		diting, ELO info@wedredatawise.com		Demo-	Single	1	2	3+	Bench-	Over
	Chart type	Example	Use to show	graphics	number	group	groups	groups	mark	time
1	Pictograph	4 in 5 kids said they were healthier after joining CHC than they were before.	• # in # people	✓	✓					
2	Waffle chart	Only 24% of women feel like their employer cares about their overall wellbeing 11	 %s that total to 100% Counts of up to ~150 	√	√					
3	Big a\$\$ number (BAN)	Parents were more than 18 x as likely to say their child's health got better than worse since joining CHC.	Counts/N# of peopleNumbers that are hard to visualize	~	√					
4	Donut chart	Community member's relationship to MHA someone else 22% 73% family member new friend 15% 23% close friend casual friend	 Percentages For a single number/group: any % For multiple groups: %s that total to 100% 	√	~	√	√	√		
5	Treemap	Catholic S87 Christian Christian 124 Christian 1256 256 Christian 126 Christian 127 Christian 128 Ch	Counts/NParts of a whole	√				√		

	Chart type	Example	Use to show	Demo- graphics	Single number	1 group	2 groups	3+ groups	Bench- mark	Over time
6	Basic bar	listening 79% self-care & coping 58% sharing your story 48% connecting to resources 34% providing information 28% crisis assistance 16%	Check-all-that-applyPercentagesAverages	~		√				√
7	Stacked bar	47% 32% 9% 9% 34% 11% 12% 5% 23% 39% 17% 15% 6% 21% 37% 14% 19% 9%	Totals to 100%Likert scale survey Qs	√		✓				✓
8	Diverging bar	There was a clear mismatch between the amount of effort job seekers were spending on looking for work and the success they experienced. Effort a moderate a look deal amount a look deal amount	 Desired vs. undesired responses Yes/no Present/absent Likert scale survey Qs 			√	√	√	✓	√
9	Horizontal Iollipop	TOOLS & RESOURCES App or other virtual tool Collaboration with outside business/org/govt Quiz or questionnaire Games Student volunteer opportunity	 Check-all-that-apply Percentages Averages Like a bar chart with less "ink" Fits more text than vertical 	√		√				√
10	Vertical lollipop		 Check-all-that-apply Percentages Averages Like a column chart with less "ink" 	√		~				✓

	Chart type	Example	Use to show	Demo- graphics	1 group	2 groups	3+ groups	Bench- mark	Over time
11	Dot plot	Pilgrims say their Pantheon visit was more impactful than did non-pilgrim: The difference was greatest for spiritual/religious outcomes. Better understand history Better understand the world Strengthen connection with cosmos Better understand yourself Better understand other people Engage in spiritual exploration Deepen your faith Strengthen connection with God 13 14 15 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	Check-all-that-applyPercentagesAverages		√	√	✓	√	
12	Horizontal dumbbell	CAPACITY Staffing selection & transitions Time management & limitines Program & organizational management Insufficient capacity for program Sufficient capacity for program PROGRAM DESIGN PROGRAM DESIGN Prochamology Colecting & incorporating feedback Innovation, experimentation & learning	Check-all-that-applyPercentagesAveragesLonger item names			√		~	
13	Vertical dumbbell	CPI students earn higher GPAs than Knollcrest students in all but one course to the course of the co	 Check-all-that-apply Percentages Averages Shorter item names 			√		√	
14	Back-to- back	The most important experiences described by pilgrims and non-pilgrims were similar, except that pilgrims were nearly 3x as likely to mention spirituality or religio 44% Oculus 44% 41% Other architecture & art 41% 139% Emotions & feelings 36% 29% History & age 29% 10% Tombs 14% 8% Physical responses 4% 8% Spirituality & religion 21% Other people 6%	 Similarities/ differences between 2 groups Percentages Averages 	√		√			
15	Overlapping bar	Randy's Big Five Personality Scores Compared to Group Average Openness Conscientiousness Extraversion 32 Agreeableness 14 Neuroticism 23 25 50 75 Score **	 Comparison of actual to goal or benchmark Comparison of sample to population Comparison of person or org to others 	√		√		~	

	Chart type	Example	Use to show	Demo- graphics	Single number	1 group	2 groups	3+ groups	Bench- mark	Over time
16	Proportion plot	75% 37%	 Comparing 2 points in time or 2 "shares of" scenarios %s that total to 100% 	~		~	~	~		√
17	Slope chart	1.0 1.5 2.0 Mean: 2.46 Mean: 2.84 4.5 First Survey Last Survey	 2 points in time Percentages Averages	√		√	√	√		√
18	Line chart	Women leaders are more likely to leave their companies than they have been in the past, and they are more likely to leave than men ² 12% 10% 10% 8% 8% 4% 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	• 2+ points in time			√	✓	✓		✓
19	Area chart	2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016	• 2+ points in time			√				√
20	Stacked area chart	## 400 300 200 10	• 2+ points in time				√	√		✓

For a more comprehensive decision-tree and step-by-step instructions for creating each viz using several software programs, check out Evergreen Data at www.stephanieevergreen.com. The Evergreen Data Academy taught me about some of these vizzes and honed my data viz skills! -Laura Luchies

Data Viz Best Practices

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- 1. Identify the purpose of the viz: What's the point?
- 2. Choose the chart to communicate the point: Chart chooser
- 3. Use a title to tell the point
- 4. Use colors to highlight the point
- 5. Use a condensed font (fits more text)
- 6. Declutter and reduce cognitive burden
 - a. Remove [almost all] borders and lines
 - b. Remove unnecessary decimal places
 - c. Reduce scale points & remove tick marks
 - d. Use data labels OR an axis with numbers
 - e. Embed legends
- 7. Consider calling out the most important details