Dumbbell Chart shows changes over a duration or across categories. The visual is an excellent choice for illustrating the change between two data points and comparing the distances between them.

Dumbbell Chart gets its name thanks to its resemblance to a gym weight. The visual consists of a dual-axis combination chart, where one axis is marked by a circle and the other is marked by a line that spans data points provided by the user.

Let’s take an example of a change in sales figure for multiple Manufacturer over a span of one year. Here we have sales data for various Manufacturers for the year 2014 and 2015 and using ‘Dumbbell Chart by MAQ Software’ we will try to visualize the change in sales. On ‘Fields’ pane, we provide data we are interested in. In this case, we are going to provide Manufacturer in Category field and year data as Measure. Visual takes some time to load as it processes the data in the meantime. Here it comes. We can see that Victoria has seen highest spike in sales figures from the year 2014 to 2015. While Salvus has seen minimum growth. Also, Aliqui has witnessed shrink in sales figures where it’s sales are down from 7535 to 5748.

The visual can also be used to compare multiple measure data (up to 4). Here, it is showing the change in Department expenditure over four quarters.

Here we can change the label color, like for Quarter 1 we can show ‘Green’ while Quarter 2 can be shown in ‘Purple’. Also, connector color can be modified in a similar manner. Intercept label color including Title can also be modified.

Another thing to note is the availability of various options to visualize this chart, if I want to see the data for Marketing and Accounts department only, I can zoom in. Also, I can download the image of the chart. It also provides tooltips on hover and highlighting a portion of the plot.

The visual is dependent on R packages like plotly and ggplot2 which will be auto-installed at the time of loading.

Thanks for watching our video. If you have any questions about this visual or need a similar business solution, feel free to contact MAQ software at sales@maqsoftware.com.