

TURNING TABLES INTO PLOTS

EPsy 8251

Assignment #2

Read the article [Let's Practice What We Preach: Turning Tables into Graphs](#) (full reference given below). In this article, Gelman, Pascarica, and Dodhia suggest that presentations of results using graphs are often more effective than results presented in tables.

Gelman, A., Pascarica, C., & Dodhia, R. (2002). Let's practice what we preach: Turning tables into graphs. *The American Statistician*, 56(2), 121–130.

Please submit your responses to each of the questions below in a printed document. All graphics should be resized so that they do not take up more room than necessary and all should have an appropriate caption. Any equations should be appropriately typeset within the document. There are 8 points possible for the assignment (each question is worth one point).

1. In the article, the authors present several principles for displaying statistical data. Cite one of these principles that would apply to data presented in a table.
2. Cite one of these principles that would apply to data presented in a graph.
3. Find an article in a journal that presents results (or data) in a table that you will turn into a graph. Include the original table (this can be a screenshot) in your word-processed document.
4. Give the full citation, in APA style, for the source of the table.
5. In 1–2 sentences describe the author(s) main purpose for displaying that table. (e.g., What are they trying to show? Are there comparisons the reader is supposed to focus on? Are there anomalies?, etc.)
6. Use the functions in **ggplot2** to produce a plot that conveys the same message as the original table. (Note: You will have to re-create the data in a tabular format in Excel (or R) and read the data into R first.)
7. Add an appropriate caption and figure numbering to your plot using APA style.
8. Based on your answer to #5, write 1–2 sentences describing why the plot you produced provides a better presentation of the results or data than the table did by referring to recommendations made in the article.