

Topic 1: Purpose

I had a hard time pinning down the exact purpose of your project. I couldn't determine if the goal was to create a presentation to inform your students or to create a presentation to teach your students how to perform data analysis. In my opinion it is important to pick a simple purpose and then build off of that purpose. I think both of those goals are very good and either one will take the project in a good direction. I believe you could create a very informative presentation for you students and I think that teaching them how to analyze data in excel would be invaluable to them. I just think that you need to pick one of those and fully pursue it.

Topic 2: Alternative Design Choices

This is a very opinionated topic and should only be considered as a final touch. The primary visualization you are utilizing is scatterplots. Excel is capable at plotting acceptable scatterplots, but in my opinion there are better programs for scatterplots. I think it would be interesting to look into other options that produce better looking scatterplots. A possible idea you could look into is the Seaborn module in Python. This is a statistical modeling module, but it produces nice looking scatterplots with functionality. This module could help you to identify certain trends in data and be able to display that to your class.

Topic 3: Estimates Importance

When you were talking about the data set and what values you were looking at you mentioned that many of the numbers are estimates. I think this is something that is very important to acknowledge right away and a good teaching point for your students. Estimating a value is essentially a best guess and this is very important when analyzing data, it adds a certain uncertainty to your values. I think that this is an interesting topic that you could introduce to your students and something that is important for them to learn.

Topic 4: Multiple views

I think that your project could greatly benefit from multiple views. Many of the questions you posed and I assume you will try to answer are multi-faceted. For example, you asked a certain question about migration to Colorado concerning law changes. To fully answer this question it would be interesting to show not only migration into Colorado, but use other graphs to determine where people were migrating from. Having several different scatterplots for each question would help to fully answer each question.

Topic 5: Tableau

Multiple times you mentioned that you would utilize Tableau, but not exactly how you would use it. In particular, you never mentioned what graphing functions you were going to use in Tableau. Tableau has scatterplots and I was curious what other visualizations you were going to use. In my opinion I cannot think of another visualization that would depict this data set better than a scatterplot. Tableau might have a more novel appearance than excel that you might consider using.