

# LO5

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## Data Visualization

# Objective

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After attending this session, you should know

- Three types of data visualization
- Selecting optimal graphics
- Communicating with color and context
- Creating standard data graphics
- Defining elements of plot
- Plot formatting
- Creating label and annotations
- Visualizing time series
- Creating statistical data graphics

# Data visualization types

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- Data Storytelling - for presentation to organisational decision maker
- Data showcasing – for presentation to analysts, scientist, mathematicians, and engineers
- Data art – for presentations to activities or to general public

# Diving into Data Storytelling

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- Make it easy for the audience to get the point  
(understand that point within the first 10 to 15 seconds of looking at your graphic, otherwise they lose their attention. )
- For these reasons, your data visualization needs to be
  - clutter-free
  - highly organized

- Intended audience
  - Non analysts
  - Nontechnical business managers
- Product types:
  - Static images
  - Simple interactive dashboards

# Demonstrating data storytelling



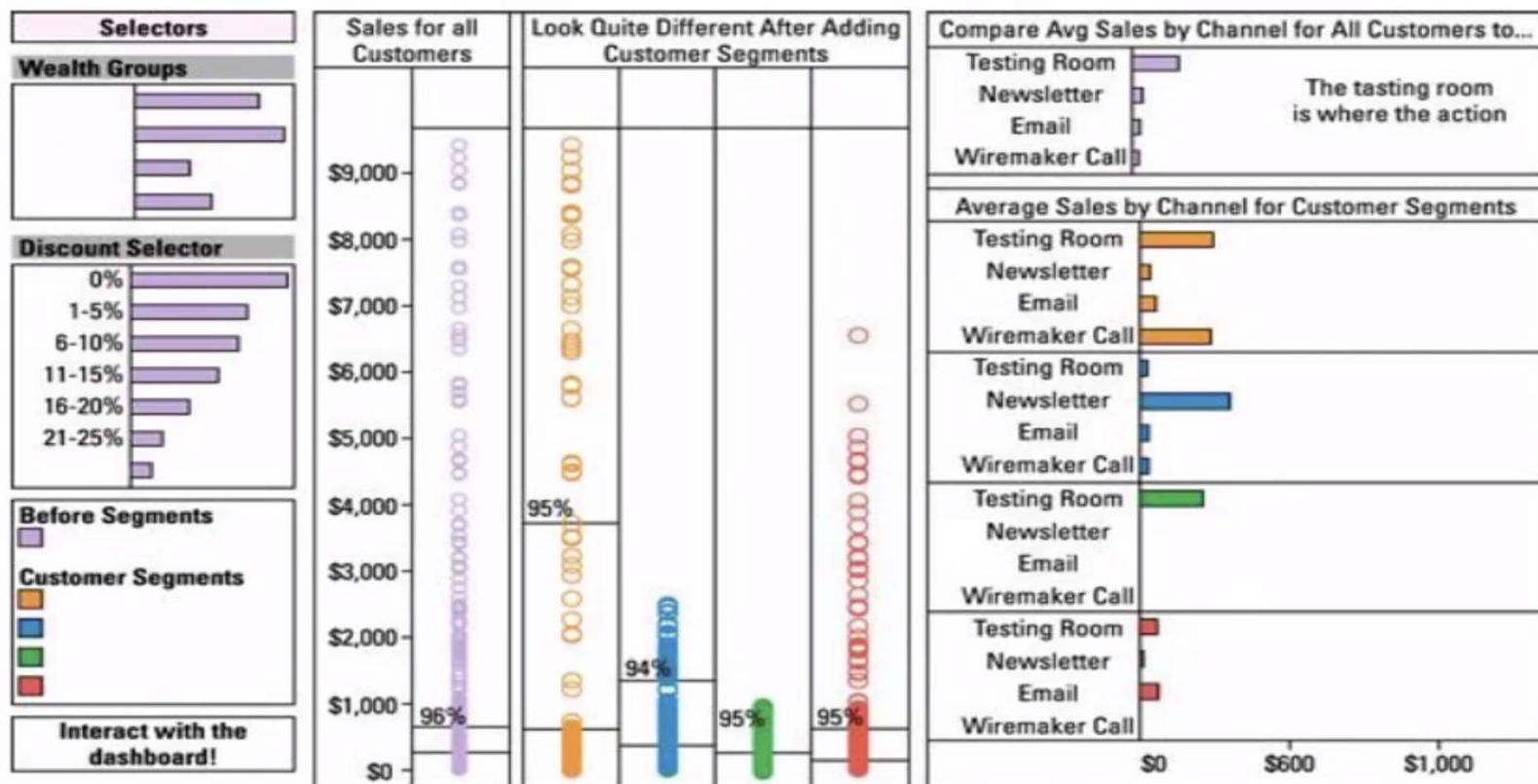
# Diving into Data Showcasing

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- Showcase lots of data so your audience members can think for themselves
- Opposite to Data storytelling, the audience is actually looking to draw their own conclusions in data showcasing
- Your data visualization should be:
  - High contextual
  - Open ended

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- Intended audience:
  - Analysts, quants
  - Engineers, mathematicians, scientist
    - ( Basically, people with an analytical mindset, background, and bent, because this is the kind of thing that's going to be of value to them)
  - Product types:
    - Static images
    - Interactive dashboards

# Demonstrating data showcasing



# Displaying Data Art

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- Data art to make a statement
- Most data art is used in something like data journalism, or if you're trying to get your community, or a community of activists, to be engaged and taking action
- Your data visualization should be:
  - Attention getting
  - Creative, controversial (Basically, the more controversial is the more action you're going to get)

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- Intended audience
    - Idealists, dreamers, artists
    - Social activists
  - Product types:
    - Static images (Sometimes it is also produced as an interactive piece on the web)



An example from Periscopic: <http://www.periscopic.com>

- on the left, you've got an account for the number of people killed (9595 people, highlighted in orange)
- on the right side, counted the number of years that were lost from those lives, from the people that were killed

# Choosing graphics for data storytelling



Area Charts



Bar Charts



Line Charts



Pie Charts



Choropleths



Point Maps

# Choropleth map



# Point map



# Choosing Graphics for data showcasing



Area Charts



Bar Charts



Line Charts



Choropleths



Point Maps



Histograms



Scatter Plots



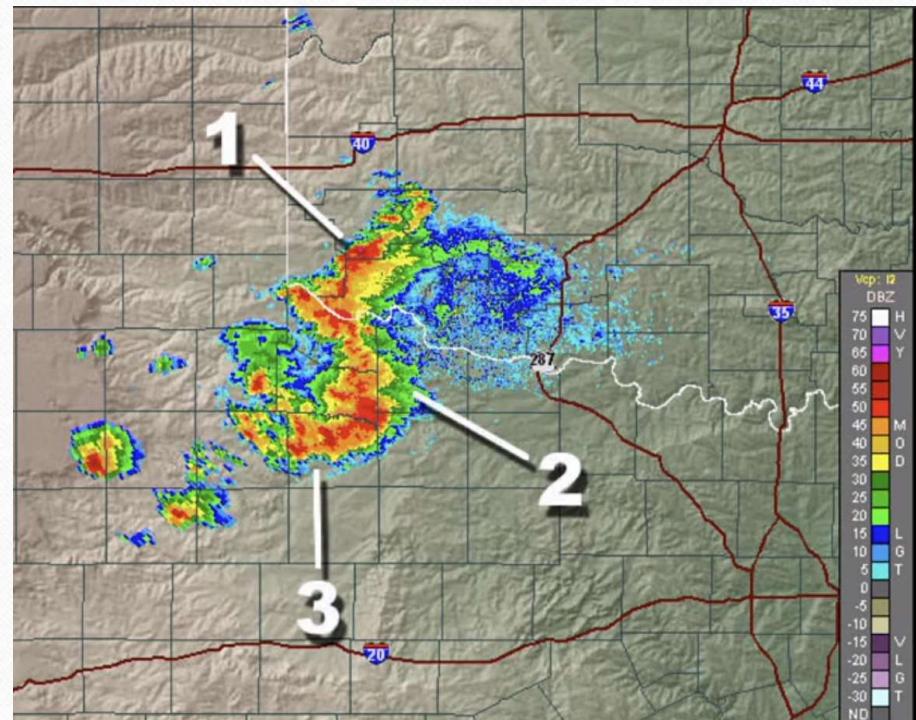
Scatter Plot  
Matrices



Raster Maps

# Raster map

- a picture of a Doppler weather radar on top of a geographic map
- it's a raster file that's actually made up of an X and Y grid, which is filled in with a variety of values. The XY grid is then filled in with values that are colored according to count



# Choosing graphics for data art

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Line Charts



Graph Networks



Choropleths



Something Weird  
and Artistic...

# Four steps to choosing data graphics

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1. Make a list of the questions that your data visualization is meant to answer.
2. Is your data visualization type data storytelling, data showcasing or data art?
3. What data graphics types are preferable for that type of data visualization?
4. Test out different types of data graphics with your data. Which graphic type displays the most clear and obvious answers to your questions?

# Testing out the graphics

- The two data graphics below represent the same statistic. Notice how the data graphic on the right does a much better job of visually emphasizing the difference in values?
- You should always test different data graphics to see its effectiveness to present your data



# Creating context with color

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- Color should be used:
  - Strategically
  - Sparingly
  - Consistently
- You want to use color to draw attention to the parts of the visualization that matter, and away from the parts that don't

# Choose consistent colors

- The first rule is the color shades you choose are all from the same color formula.
- The options include monochromatic, analogous, complimentary, split complimentary, triadic, tetradic-based on color theory



AI-driven color match tool - colormind, <http://colormind.io>

# Annotation as context

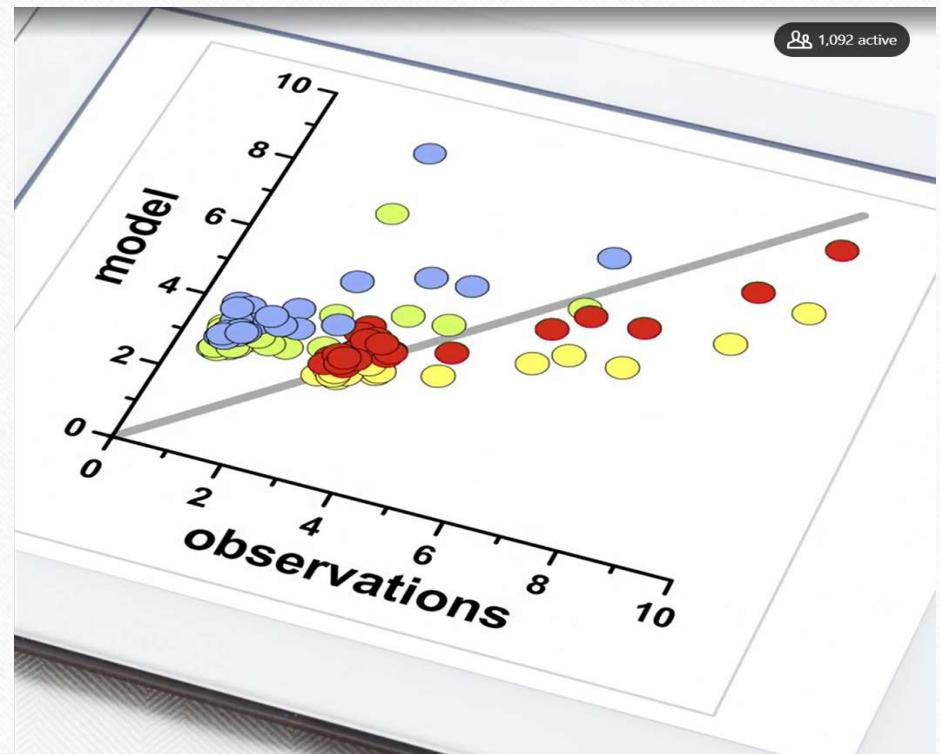
- Provide your audience some information about why data is as it is
- Useful in data storytelling and data showcasing

Uganda Saving Mothers Giving Lives pilot and scale-up sites  
Percentage of live newborns receiving complete essential newborn care package



# Graphics as context

- Help your audience understand the relative significance of the data, you are showing them
- Trendlines, single-value alerts, and benchmarks

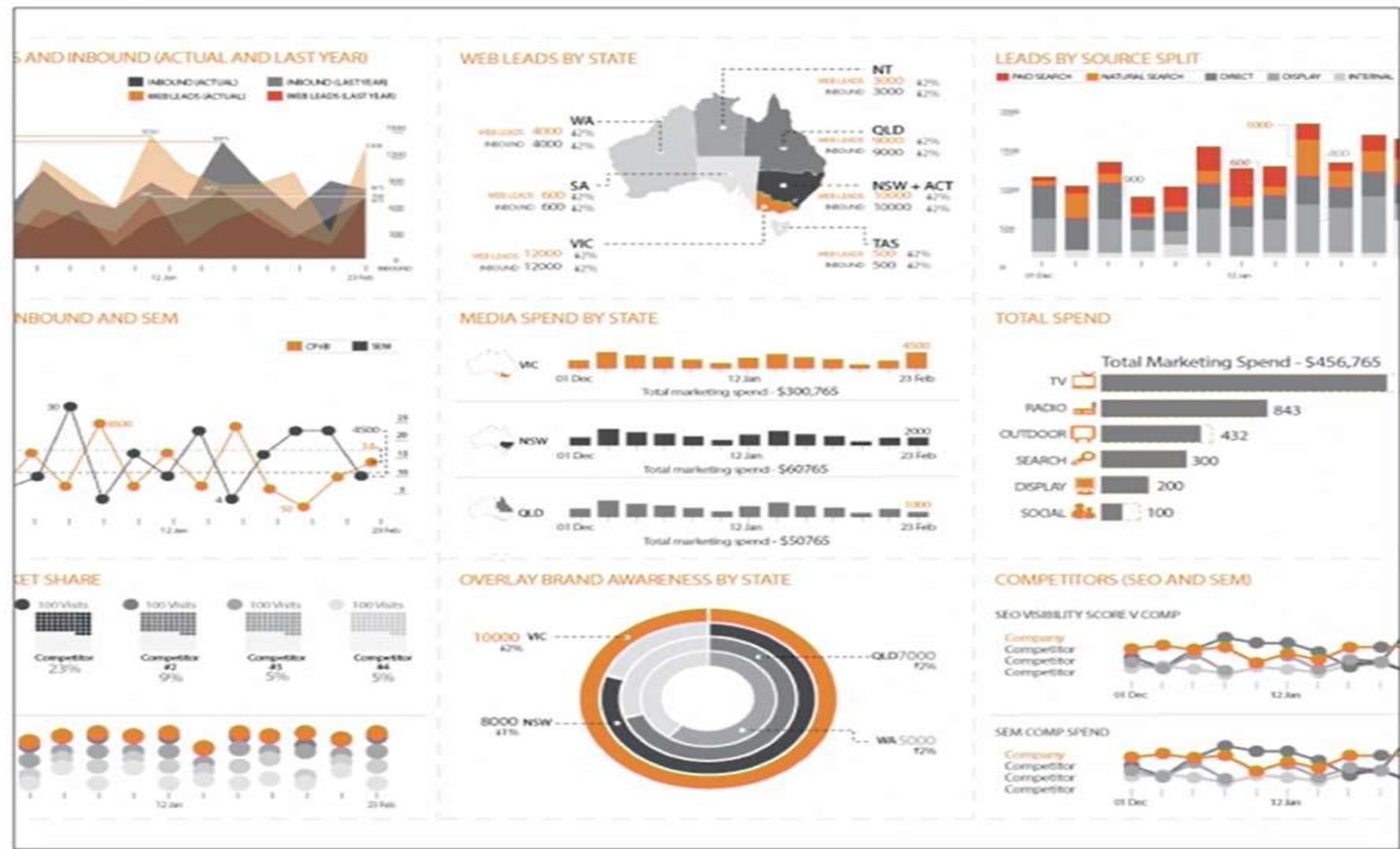


# Creating context

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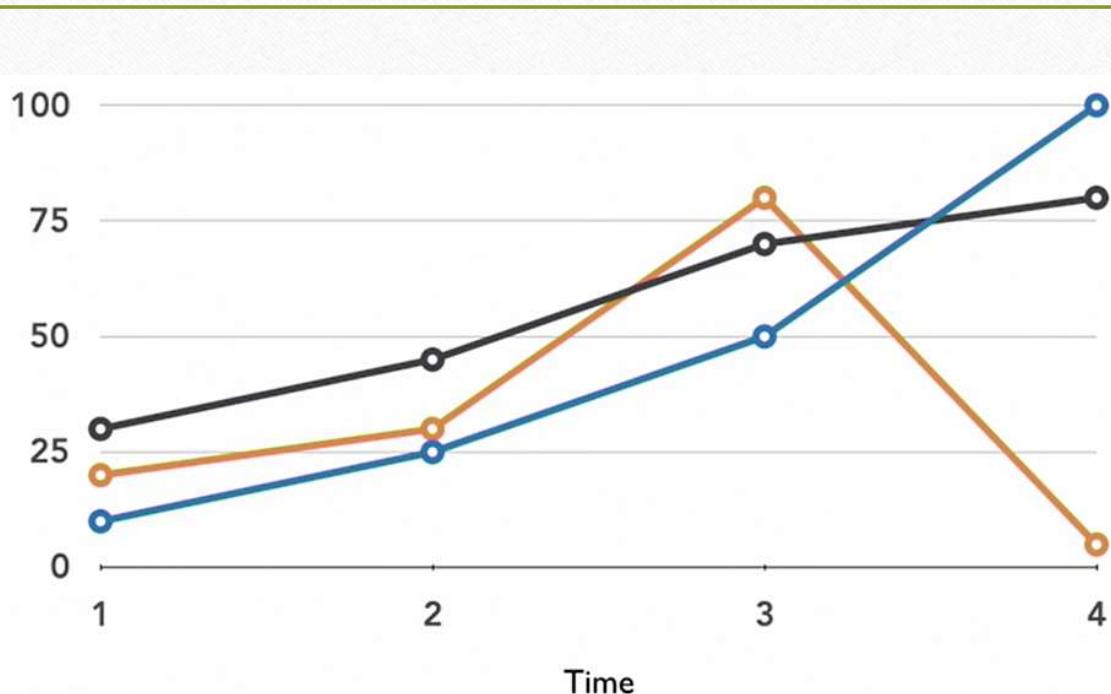
- How: add data on additional metrics that are relevant to the datasets you are showing, trendlines, colors, and annotations
- Why: meant to give audience some deeper perspective and insight into what's happening
- When: useful in data showcasing

Context is especially useful in data showcasing, because, again, data showcasing pieces are meant for analytical audiences that really want to put in a lot of thought into drawing conclusions from the data.



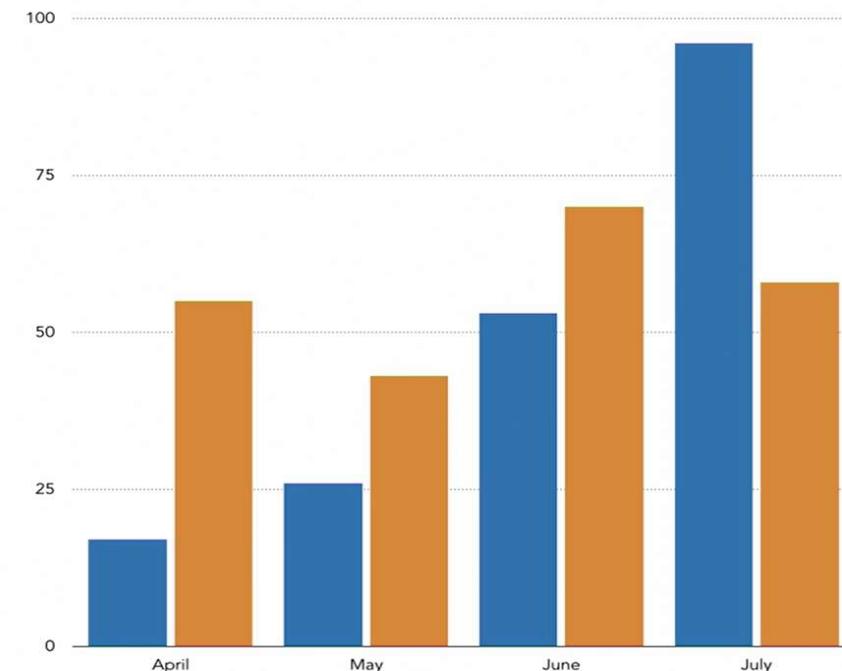
# Charts : Line charts

- Show the changes in value of an attribute with respect to a x-variable which is often time
- Can be used to visually compare the values of several related attributes



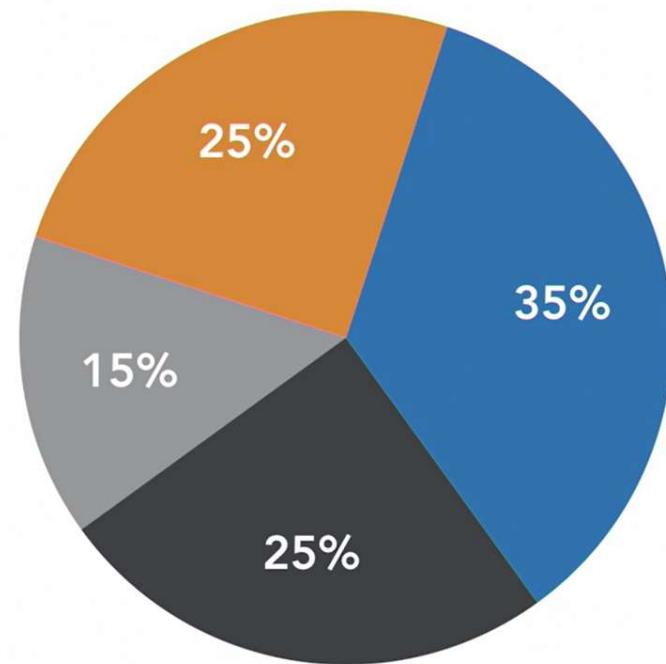
# Bar chart

- Represent data attribute values within a particular data category by using bars of differing heights
- Bar charts represent observation counts within categories



# Pie chart

- Represent data attribute values using a circle and slices that comprise it
- A whole and entire set of categorical data is represented by the complete circle
- the proportions of observations that fall into the different categories are represented by proportionate pie slices



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To summarize,

- you use a line chart to show changes overtime,
- you use a bar chart to show changes in categorical data,
- you use a pie chart to show categorical data as proportions of a whole

# Two methods for plot building

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- Functional method
  - build plots by calling the plotting function on a variable or a set of variables
- Object-oriented method
  - build a plot by first generating a blank figure object and then populating that object with plot and plot element
- Matplotlib and Seaborn are two most data visualization in python

# Defining elements of a plot

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- Plot elements add context to your plot, so the plot effectively convey meaning to its viewers
- You can use subplots to visually compare changes in data values under different conditions, like different seasons, different locations, or in different years.
- There are two methods for building plots.
  - functional method
  - object oriented method

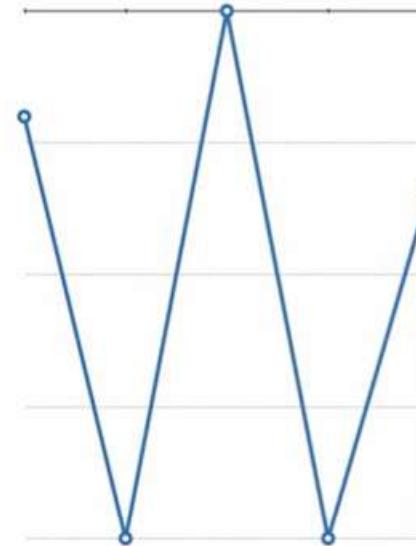
# Steps in object-oriented plotting

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1. Create a blank figure object
2. Add axes to the figure
3. Generate plot(s) within figure object
4. Specify plotting and layout parameters for the plots within your figure

# subplot

- A subplot is plotting figure that contain more than one plot- or subplots
- Easy to generate a subplot in matplotlib with the subplots function



# Plot formatting overview

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- The reason these things are important is that enhancing chart colors and markers can help you convey a point in a way that is visually easier to understand
- If all the lines in a line chart were the same color and used the same markers, you wouldn't be able to decipher one from the other and the chart would have no meaning
- Matplotlib offers colors, line styles and marker style options

# Label and annotations overview

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- Labeling plot feature
  - Adding a legend to your plot
  - Annotating your plot
- 
- Two methods again
    - Functional method
    - object-oriented method

# Adding a legend

- Placing a legend on plot axes:

```
.legend(label,loc)
```

- Label= a string, list of strings, or anything printable with ‘%s’ conversion; to be used as variable or category labels
- Loc= int, string, or pair of floats, default: ‘upper right’ ; the location of the legend

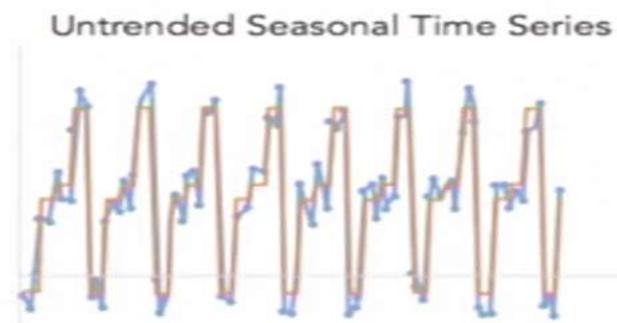
Location String	Location Code
‘best’	0
‘upper right’	1
‘upper left’	2
‘lower left’	3
‘lower right’	4
‘right’	5
‘center left’	6
‘center right’	7
‘lower center’	8
‘upper center’	9
‘center’	10

# Time series

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- A time series is a measure of unit change over time for any variable under observation
- The built-in python datetime module supplies classes for manipulating dates and times in both simple and complex ways.

# Spotting trend and seasonality



# Statistical plots

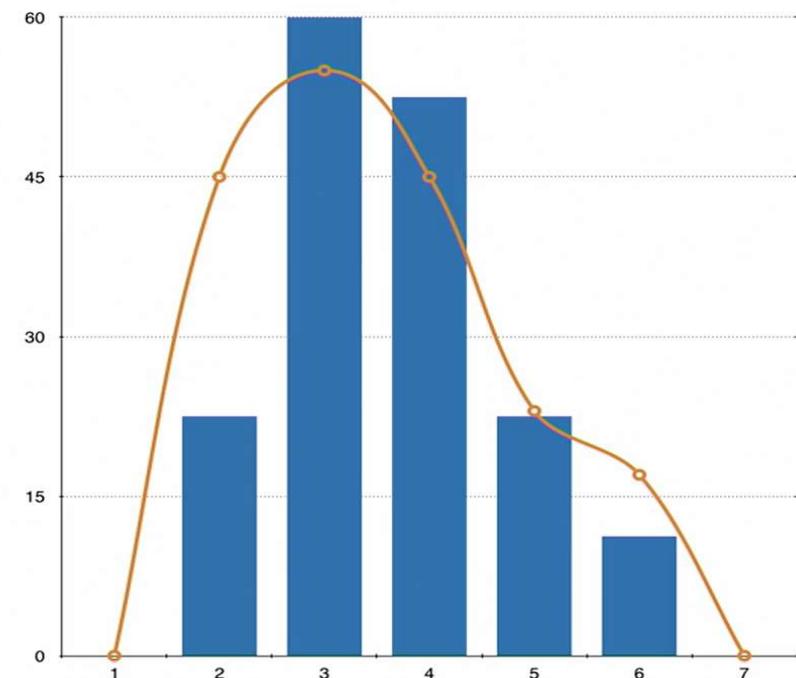
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It is allowed to user:

- Identify outliers
- Visualize distributions
- Deduce variable types
- Discover relationships and core relations between variables in a dataset

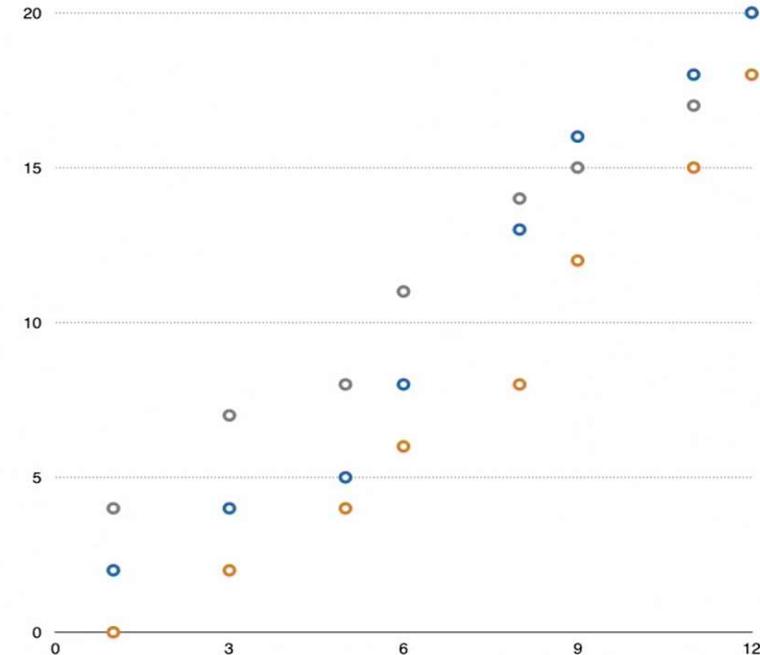
# Histograms

- It shows a variable's distribution as a set of adjacent rectangles on a data charts.
- It represent counts of data within a numerical range of values



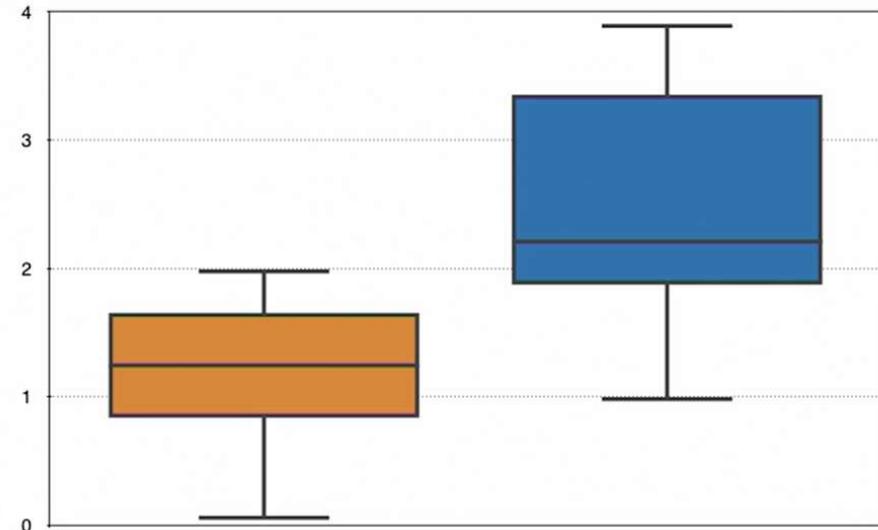
# Scatter plots

- Scatterplots are useful when you want to explore interrelations or dependencies between two different variables
- These data graphics are ideal for visually spotting outliers and trends in data
- Scatterplot matrices use a matrix of scatterplots to visually display correlations between two or more variables



# Box plots

- Boxplots are useful for seeing a variable's spread and for detecting outliers



# Summary

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- Three types of data visualization
- Selecting optimal graphics
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- Creating standard data graphics
- Defining elements of plot
- Plot formatting
- Creating label and annotations
- Visualizing time series
- Creating statistical data graphics



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