The city of Nashville provides a dataset of known burials in city cemeteries from 1846 through 1979. This dataset holds factual information, but it also offers a fascinating glimpse into historical trends in medicine, literacy, racial equality, and more.

The Nashville City Cemetery Association has asked you to explore the dataset to create charts that can be used in marketing materials. The following exercises are a starting point for exploring the data and creating visualizations. Once you have completed the exercises below, create additional visualizations to accompany storytelling points. The visualizations I created are shown below.

Logo

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1. Use a pivot table to find the 10 most common (known) recorded causes of death, and evaluate the counts of each type. Once you have your metrics, plot these in a bar chart. In the analysis of the top 10 causes of death, you may see spelling mistakes that are affecting your counts. For example, you can assume Cholera and Cholrea are the same cause of death. Create a new column in the original dataset to update spelling errors to make your count of the top 10 causes more accurate. You will need to refresh your pivot table to see changes applied.

Chart, bar chart

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2. Create a line chart showing number of burials per year. In what years were there the most burials? Any idea as to why?

Graphical user interface, text, application

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3. Examine deaths for each decade beginning with the 1850s. Look at the total number of deaths and the proportion of male deaths to female deaths. Use a pivot table with a slicer to do this, and create a clustered bar chart to show how male and female deaths have changed over time.

Chart, bar chart

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4. Next look at how age at time of death has changed over time. Add a column to the original dataset to classify each row to one of the following categories (0-18, 19-25, 26-40, 41-64, and 65+). Be sure to think about a strategy to deal with missing values. Make a series of pie charts or donut charts to show the breakdown of each age group for these four periods: before 1880, 1881-1900, 1900-1920, after 1920.

Chart, sunburst chart

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5. Examine burials by month. Are there months with higher burials? What are the top five causes of death for each month? Choose a visualisation that conveys the differences well.

Chart

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