COR 142 C: Section 2.3

Dr. Chris Kao

Visualizing Variations in Categorical Data

We can visualize categorical data by displaying the frequencies and/or the relative frequencies.

Barplot/Bar Graph

- Similar to histogram, except for categorical data.
- The bars do not touch.
- The order of the bars does not matter (most of the time).

Pareto Chart

A **Pareto chart** is a barplot in which the bars are ordered from tallest to shortest.

Histograms vs. Barplots

| | Historgram | Barplot |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Data Type | Numerical | Categorical |
| Bars | Touch | Do not touch |
| Bar Width | Same width | Not Necessarily the same width |
| Horizontal Labels | Numerical order | No inherent order |

Pie Charts

- A circle divided into wedges.
- The area of each wedge is proportional to the relative frequency, or percentage, of the categorical value in the data set.