

# The wonderful world of visualizations

As a data analyst, you will often be tasked with relaying information and data that your audience might not readily understand. Presenting your data visually is an effective way to communicate complex information and engage your stakeholders. One question to ask yourself is: “what is the best way to tell the story within my data?” This reading includes several options for you to choose from (although there are many more).

## Line chart

A **line chart** is used to track changes over short and long periods of time. When smaller changes exist, line charts are better to use than bar graphs. Line charts can also be used to compare changes over the same period of time for more than one group.

Let's say you want to present the graduation frequency for a particular high school between the years 2008-2012. You would input your data in a table like this:

Year	Graduation rate
2008	87
2009	89
2010	92
2011	92
2012	96

From this table, you are able to present your data in a line chart like this:

High School Graduation Rates

