

Pie charts

Pie charts are used for comparing relationships between parts of a whole. The area of a circle is split into slices, each corresponding to a dataset category.

Component

[Design System Image]

[BLCIconButton Component - Interactive React component]

When to use

Pie charts work well for satisfying the following user needs, among others:

- Displaying different parts within a data category, such as energy sources (e.g. 60% Wind, 20% Solar, 20% Natural Gas);
- Demonstrating how a budget is split;
- Showing how partial values add up to a total.

Layout options

Pie charts are commonly presented in the following layouts:

[VariantIllustration Component - Interactive React component]

[VariantIllustration Component - Interactive React component]

[VariantIllustration Component - Interactive React component]

Best practices

How to use the Donut layout

Donut charts are very similar to Pie charts but their central section is removed. That effect enhances the user's perception of proportion, helping the audience better judge the size of each slice. For tips on using the extra space available, see Gauges below.

[Design System Image]

How to use the Gauge layout

Gauges are a variation of Donut charts, in which a qualitative value is displayed in the empty center of the chart. Adding a gauge to a scorecard is a known visual pattern, commonly used in dashboards to help users quickly assess quality or deadlines.

[Design System Image]

Keep categories at a minimum

Research has shown that users find it hard to derive meaning from pie charts containing more than four categories. If you have more than four categories within your dataset, consider using [Bar charts](#).

[Design System Image]

Display your data in descending order

Ranking the categories in descending order, starting at the 12 o'clock point can help your users to better visualise the relationship between the data.

[Design System Image]

Additional resources

For more in-depth information on how to design bar charts for Eaton, please refer to:

[BLCIconButton Component - Interactive React component]

[BLCIconButton Component - Interactive React component]

Related Components

[VariantIllustration Component - Interactive React component]

[VariantIllustration Component - Interactive React component]