

graphing assignment (week 1 homework assignment)

Go to <https://fred.stlouisfed.org>

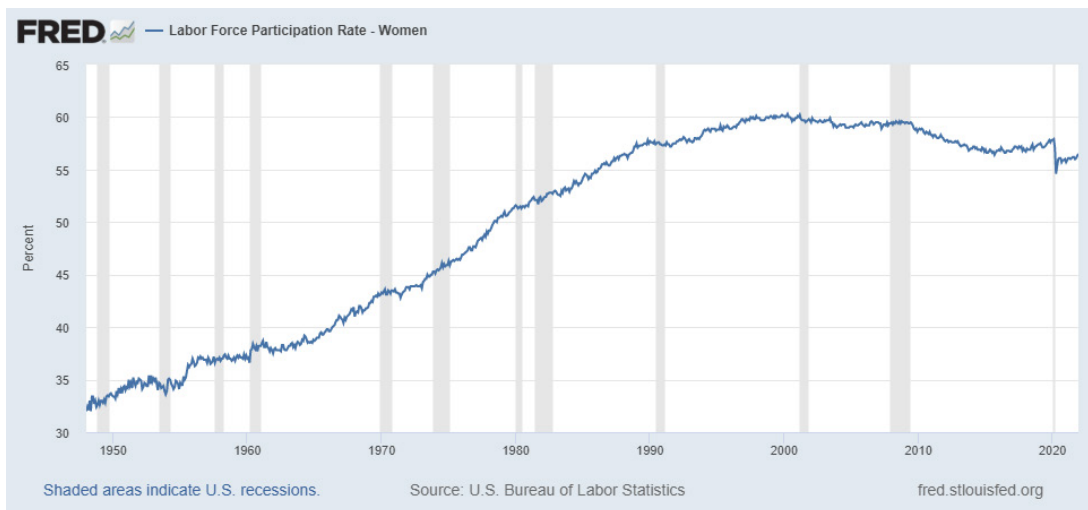
Put one of these terms in the search box: labor force participation, unemployment rate, gross domestic product (or real GDP), and then select one of the data sets. (Don't use the one that I showed you in class: labor force participation for women.)

You can download the graph as an image by selecting "DOWNLOAD" (a blue button above the graph on the right side), and then selecting "Image."

Download two images. One should be a graph that represents the data in a clear, accurate, unbiased way. The other should be a graph that does *not* represent the data in a clear, accurate, or unbiased way. You can change how the data is presented in the graph by selecting "EDIT GRAPH" (an orange button above the graph on the right side). Change the units (and maybe the frequency) as needed.

Try to understand what the changes that you are making mean. If you need to start over, you can just reload the page.

Once you have downloaded your two images, insert them in a Word document like this (more below):



In your answer, state what the data is. (You don't need explain it.) Explain what we see when we look at the "good" (clear, accurate, unbiased) graph (for example, the activity is rising, falling, remaining constant, rising and falling but remaining constant over the long term, etc.). Then explain what the second graph appears to show and why this is misleading.