

Lecture-02-CMSC320

Basic Charts:

- Distribution: Histogram
 - Composition and comparison: Bar chart
 - Change over time: Line graph
 - Correlation: Scatter plot
 - Categorical and binned: Heatmap
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Tables:

- Use tables when one or two cells stand out.
 - Color code or bold specific cells.
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Bubble Plot:

- Two variables, but want to communicate a third detail with bubble size
 - Don't use when bubbles overlap, or have little variance
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Pie Charts:

- Generally try to avoid, less intuitive than other options
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Stacked Area Chart:

- Use for change over time when comparing multiple variables
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Box Plot:

- Easier for comparing distributions
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Maps:

- Use when you have geographical data
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Network Maps:

- Obvious when needed
- Compresses large amounts of information

Word Clouds:

- Basically worthless, ineffective
- Impressive and easy to make

Using Color:

- People look for meaning in colors used
- Colors should have good contrast
- Use colorblind-friendly templates
- Can make other text hard to read

Labels:

- Should be clear and legible
- Provide a legend if needed