

Useful language for interpreting graphs, charts and statistics

Mentioning the type of visual aid and topic:

The pie chart	describes	the amount of	sales ...
The bar chart	shows	the number of	consumption ...
The line graph	illustrates	the reason for	...
The table	gives information on	the usage of	
The diagram	lists	the differences in	
	outlines	data on	
	depicts		
	deals with		
	compares		
	presents		

The statistics	present	data on	youth unemployment in ...
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Always state the source of your figures.

The ... is based on a survey among ...

The survey was conducted/carried out by ...

The period under review is from ... to ...

The source of this ... is

Presenting findings:

Don't write about the line or bar: "~~The line went up~~", "~~The bar went down~~". Instead, write about the idea. "The number of people going to work by train increased gradually." "Oil production shot up in ..."

Always begin with the extremes (the highest/the lowest figures). Mention any trends you find particularly interesting or surprising.

The statistics on suggest/ say that

According to the chart,

There are considerable differences/similarities between ...

Looking at it can be observed that ...

Comparing and ... it can be said that ...

In comparison, more than/less than ...

The majority	of the people questioned	thinks/believes that ...
The minority	of the people asked	says that
	of the respondents	is of the opinion that ...

25 percent	feel that
More than / Less than 40 percent	claim that ...
	believe that ...

A survey conducted by ... found that the vast majority (98%) agree that ...

The number of ... is rather high/low.

In the year ... there was a peak/a rise/a decrease of ... percent.

In ... the number of declined/rose/remained stable.

It is quite surprising that ...

It is remarkable that ...

The most significant fact is that ...

The data show/suggest that ...