

Data Warehousing for Business Intelligence

Course 4: Business Intelligence Concepts, Tools, and Applications

Module 3 Bonus Materials

Lesson 2: Data Visualization Guidelines and Pitfalls

Excerpts from [Best Practices in Data Visualization](#), by Vihao Pham 2014 for more information.

Bar charts

- Think about bar width.
- Avoid using distracting fills.
- Avoid using unnecessary effects such as 3D.
- Think about the order of the bars.

Line Charts

- Avoid misinterpreting the trends.
- Think about line thickness.
- Avoid using too many different line styles.
- Avoid including too many lines altogether.
- Label each line directly.

See the Web resources below for detail discussions on guidelines for Visualizations:

- [Free E-Book: How to Create Compelling Business Dashboards](#): Everything you need to know to design best-practice dashboards and data visualizations. Matillion Business Intelligence.
- Brath R., and Peters M. Dashboard Design: Why Design is Important. <http://www.information-management.com/infodirect/20041015/1011285-1.html> DMReview October 15, 2004.
- [Data Visualization Style Guidelines- Sunlight Foundations](#)
- [Introduction to Data Visualizations: Charts Dos and Don'ts](#)
- [How to choose the right visualizations for your data](#)
- [Clear Visual Data](#)