# Summary of Chart Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chart Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| **Pie Chart**  | - Compares a small number of categories  
- Values should be markedly different or differences may not be easy to decipher  
- If data points are similar, a bar chart might be a better choice  
- Use with nominal, ordinal or interval (in categories) data                                                                 |
| **Vertical Bar Chart** | - Compares values of one or more categorical variables  
- Displays data better than horizontal bar charts  
- Values along x-axis can be nominal, ordinal, or interval (in categories)  
- Values along y-axis must be ratio                                                                 |
| **Horizontal Bar Chart** | - Compares values of one or more categorical variables  
- Useful when category names are too long to fit on x-axis  
- Values along y-axis can be nominal, ordinal, or interval (in categories)  
- Values along x-axis must be ratio                                                                 |
| **Dot Graph**  | - Variant of a bar chart  
- Displays a comparatively larger number of categories  
- Best when portraying category values in descending order  
- Values along y-axis can be nominal, ordinal, or interval (in categories)  
- Values along x-axis must be ratio                                                                 |
| **Pictograph** | - Favored by professional graphic artists  
- Values should be markedly different or differences may not be easy to decipher  
- Comparisons must be accurately depicted; respect scale  
- Values along y-axis can be nominal, ordinal, or interval (in categories)  
- Values along x-axis must be ratio                                                                 |
| **Histogram**  | - A bar chart without the gaps between the bars  
- Compares discrete or continuous variables  
- Values along x-axis must be interval  
- Values along y-axis must be ratio                                                                 |
| **Line Graph** | - Often used to depict data over time  
- Beware of scaling effects  
- Values along x-axis can be ordinal or interval  
- Values along y-axis must be ratio                                                                 |
| **Scatterplot** | - Measures two or more variables thought to be related  
- Helpful for identifying outliers  
- Values along x- and y-axes can be ordinal, interval, or ratio                                                                 |