Bars, Lines, & Pies

Graphs are diagrams that visually show the relationship between numbers or amounts.

Pie Chart

What's in Your School Trash?

- Paper: 47%
- Metal, Glass, and Other: 9%
- Plastic: 12%
- Food: 32%

Pie charts represent data as portions (or segments) of a whole circle. Each piece of the pie represents a different percentage. All of the pieces add up to 100%.

Bar Graph

Recycling Rates in the U.S.

- Paper: 36.8%
- Metal: 23%
- Glass: 6.7%

Bar graphs are used to display and compare information.

Line Graph

Good-bye, Garbage*

- 1990: 142.3
- 2000: 134.8
- 2010: 131.7
- 2020: 128.5

Line graphs use lines drawn between points in order to show changes in data over time.

*Amount of Waste Put in U.S. Landfills, and Future Projections

More Real-World Math: An actuary is an expert in statistics who works with businesses, governments, and organizations to help them plan for the future. An actuary uses various graphs in his or her work.

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