

Evidence: Charts and Graphs

Charts and graphs are fundamental building blocks of historical analysis. As graphical representations of aggregated data, bar graphs, pie charts, and other charts and graphs provide easy ways to visualize sets of numerical data. Some chart formats work better than others, depending on the type of data you need to represent. Take a look, for example, the following data set on population in Europe between 1950 and 2005. Imagine how you might transform the data into a bar graph.

Evidence: Absolute Population — France, Germany, United Kingdom (1950-2005)

Year	France	Germany	United Kingdom
1950	41829	68376	49816
1955	43428	70326	50399
1960	45684	72815	51572
1965	48758	75964	53550
1970	50772	78169	54832
1975	52699	78674	55426
1980	53880	78289	55530
1985	55284	77685	56008
1990	56735	79433	56761
1995	58203	81661	57670
2000	59278	82344	58670
2005	60496	82689	59668

Absolute Population:
France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, 1950-2005