

Interpreting Double-Bar Graphs

GOAL

Interpret and compare double-bar graphs.

double-bar graph

A graph with pairs of bars; each pair of bars represents two different sets of data

These graphs look different. I wonder if I should include both of them in my project.



legend

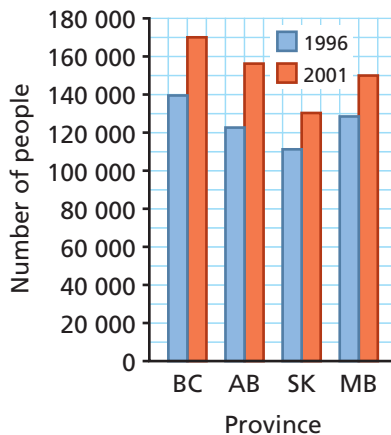
An explanation of the symbols or colours on a graph

For a social studies project, Desmond is comparing the Aboriginal populations in four provinces. He found the information in **double-bar graphs** like these.

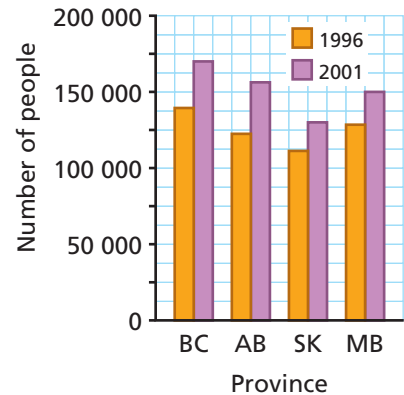


Do these double-bar graphs show the same data?

Aboriginal Populations in Western Provinces



Aboriginal Populations in Western Provinces



- Use each graph to estimate the Aboriginal population in each province in 2001.
- Compare the titles, labels, **legends**, and scales on the two graphs. How are they the same? How are they different?
- Did the people who made the graphs likely start with the same data? Explain how you know.

Communication Tip

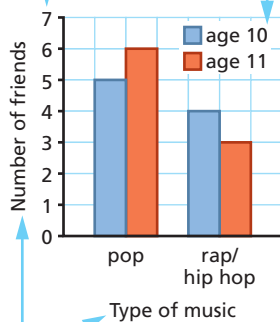
Here are the parts of a graph.

The title tells what the graph is about.

The scale determines the height of the bars.

The legend tells what the colours represent.

Music My Friends Like



The labels tell what the categories are.

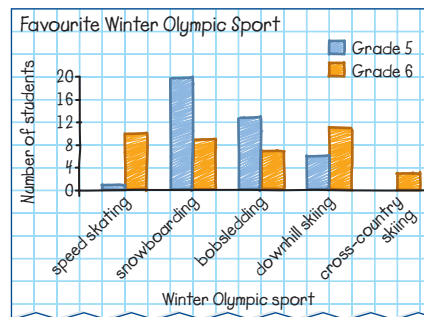
Reflecting

- D.** How are a bar graph and a double-bar graph the same? How are they different?

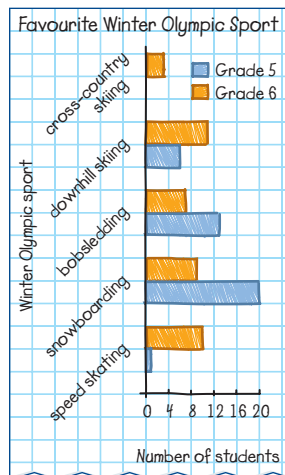
Checking

- 1.** Angus and Esther asked 40 students from Grade 5 and 40 students from Grade 6 a question. They graphed their results.

Angus's Graph



Esther's Graph

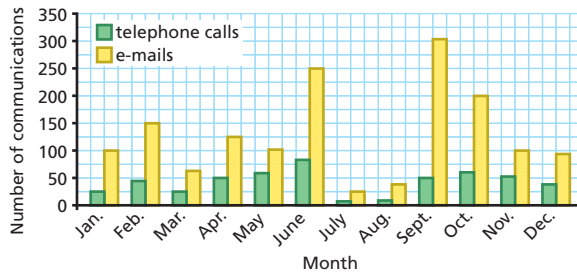


- a)** What question do you think they asked?
b) How are the two graphs the same?
 How are they different?
c) Which winter Olympic sport is the most popular?
 Do the students from both grades agree? Explain.
d) Why did Angus and Esther use double-bar graphs?

Practising

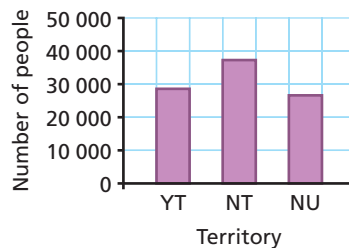
2. Meredith keeps track of the number of telephone calls she makes and e-mail messages she writes each month.

Meredith's Communications

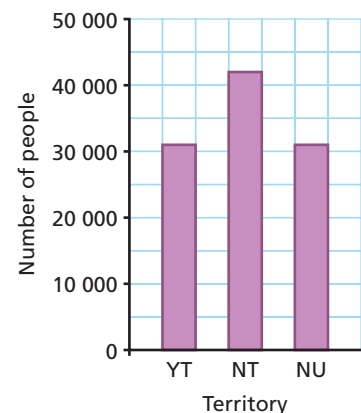


- a) Does Meredith make more telephone calls or send more e-mails? Explain how you know.
- b) Which month is busiest for telephone calls and e-mails together? Explain how you know.
3. These two graphs show the populations of the three territories in 2001 and 2007.

Populations of Territories, 2001



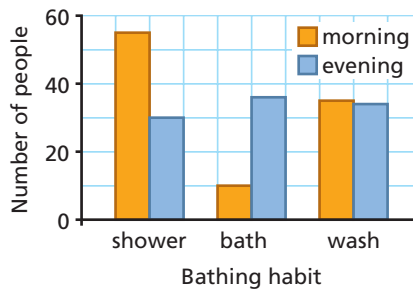
Populations of Territories, 2007



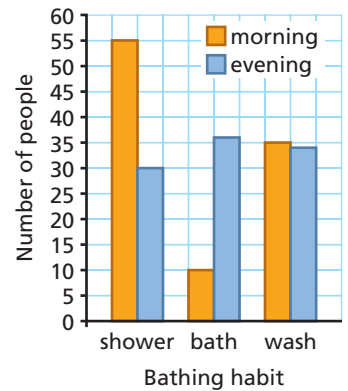
- a) Ernest says that a double-bar graph would be better than two bar graphs to compare the populations for each year. Do you agree? Explain.
- b) What is the scale on each graph? Explain.
- c) What scale would you use to create a double-bar graph for these data? Give a reason for your choice.
4. What types of first-hand data could you collect from your classmates to compare in a double-bar graph? Explain why you would use a double-bar graph.

5. Susan found these two graphs.

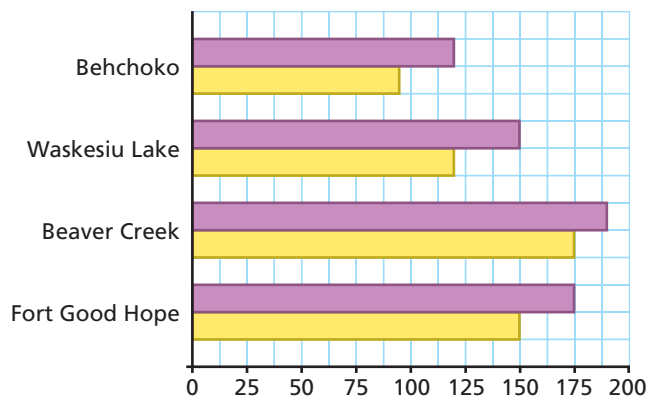
People's Bathing Habits



People's Bathing Habits



- a) Do the graphs show the same data? Explain.
 - b) Which graph would you use to display the data?
6. a) Find an example of a double-bar graph in a newspaper, magazine, or reference book, or on the Internet.
- b) Write two questions you could answer using the double-bar graph you found. Then write the answers.
7. Calum constructed this graph to show attendance at National Aboriginal Day celebrations.



- a) What information does Calum need to add to complete his graph?
 - b) Explain why this information is important.
8. When would you use a double-bar graph rather than a single-bar graph?