Sample Charts or Graphs

Your Name

HCS 438

April 1, 2013

Your Instructor's Name
Sample Charts or Graphs

The graph above is a bar graph. A bar graph is typically the easiest to visualize data quickly. A bar graph is characteristically used for qualitative information. The longer the bar is the higher the frequency of information for that bar. It is imperative to label clearly so that readers know what they are precisely looking at and do not have to make assumptions (Bennett, Briggs, & Triola, 2009). This graph depicts the strategies to prevent readmissions into the hospital.

I do believe that this graph is an appropriate choice to depict the data used from the study. This is the best graph to use because it is easy to glance at the graph and retrieve the information. The spacing in the graph is portrayed evenly, the scale on the vertical axis is evenly spread out, and the graph is titled, which is extremely important. Another option to display this information could be a line graph.

Although I believe this graph is the best type of graph to use, I do not believe that the graph was assembled as well as it could have been. The graph is confusing on that the axes are not labeled as well as they could be.

For example, the vertical axis should be labeled “Percent of readmissions into the hospital” or “Percent of individuals who were not readmitted into the hospital”. I found that in the article the information was not very clear to depict what the graph was showing. A caption should be underneath the graph to explain the details of the graph. The content of the paper should refer to the graph more and have the graph labeled for better use. For example, “Figure 1”, so that readers know where to turn to when the graph is referred in the context of the paper.

I believe that the graph does not support the findings in the article. The article is not stating these findings on the graph as much as other factors that contribute to readmissions into
the hospital. The article briefly discusses this material but does not fully explain the graph. The graph was taken from a different source and used in this article; thus the information is from a different study or survey.

In conclusion, the graph represents the data fairly, even though there are some mistakes in the graph that could better explain the contents of the graph. I believe that the article should have described the graph in a better sense so that readers could better understand it.
References


Sample Charts or Graphs

Your Name

HCS 438

April 1, 2013

Your Instructor's Name
Sample Charts or Graphs

The type of graph used in this article is a pie chart. Pie charts are used to show a portion of the whole. According to Merriam Webster, a pie chart is a circular chart cut by radii into segments illustrating relative magnitudes or frequencies —called also circle graph ("pie chart," 2011).

The pie chart was a good choice for presenting this data, although I do believe there should have been a slice for other. For this article I believe that this was the best way to display this data. The information could also have been displayed using a bar chart. I believe that visually it would have been as easy to read as the pie chart.

The scale of the chart was appropriate for the article and how it was presented. This article was part of a journal article and the chart had to be inserted into the article so the scale was appropriate.

The chart does support the findings in the article however as I mentioned above there should have been a slice for other.

According to Nursing (2005), six conditions cause 73% of childhood death each year (pg. 35). There is no information on the chart about the other 27% of deaths. I believe that this information should have been mentioned so that the findings equal 100%.
References


Sample Charts or Graphs

Your Name

HCS 438

April 1, 2013

Your Instructor's Name
Sample Charts or Graphs

Identify the type of chart or graph and what this type of chart or graph usually depicts. Pie charts, for example, show portion of the whole and line charts show trends over time.

The particular chart chosen was figure 2: Percentage of persons with depression by age and poverty status (Pratt & Brody, 2008). This chart depicts a multiple bar graph. A bar graph is a graph in which there are a minimum of two or more pairs of graphs that permit comparability among the two or more bars of information models. The bars need to have all of the same category sets in order to be shown on the same graph (Bennett, Briggs, & Triola, 2009). Figure 2 can be described as multiple bar graph indicating persons with depression. The categories are age ranges of depressed individuals. The two sets of bars represent the percent of depressed people from two different poverty levels: below poverty level and at or above poverty level. Note that within the two age groups of 12-17 and 60 and older, levels of depression did not fluctuate drastically by poverty status (Pratt & Brody, 2008).

Was this the best way to display the data? What other types of graphs could have been used?

Displaying the data as a multiple bar graph was one way to display the data to make it visually appealing. This bar graph gets the point across to the audience. A pie chart could have been just as appealing in order to compare the data.

Is the scope and scale of the graph appropriate? Why or why not?

The scope and scale was appropriate for this graph. According to Bennett, Briggs, & Triola, (2009) “an important disadvantage of pie charts is that they lack appropriate scale” (p. 110).

Does the chart or graph support the findings in the article? Why or why not?
The multiple bar graph does support the findings in the article due to the data sources and methods used to conduct the survey. The survey was based on people that were not institutionalized where the rates of depression may have been elevated.
References