Purpose: This assignment should help the writer understand how a statistical graph is used within an article. The writer should be able to identify the type of graph and evaluate its characteristics.

Audience: The summary should be easily understood by students in Elementary Statistics, while also helping them to understand statistical graphs.

Assignment: Find an online example of a graph which is part of an article and represents valid data. Discuss the following topics in a posting that is at least 150 words:

- Summarize the article. Clearly note the main idea and information which supports the main idea. The reader should be able to understand the article and the graph without having to click on the link.
- Identify the type of graph(s) and describe the information represented by the graph(s). State how the graph does or does not clarify and support the content of the article.
- Describe the good and/or bad characteristics of the graph.
- Put the main topic of the article, your last name, and the word count in the subject line of the posting.
- Include a link to the article.

Use the documents posted in the Resources for Statistics box on the course website to complete the assignment. There is a document with links to articles. You may find your own article if you prefer, but refer to the requirements stated at the end of this assignment. Use the other posted documents to identify and analyze the graph(s) in the article.

Reply to at least 2 postings (about a different article) by your classmates. List at least 3 things you liked or learned from the posting. Provide feedback about whether the summary was thorough and clear. Restate the main idea in your own words. Compare the analysis of the graph to the information in the “Graphs for Elementary Statistics” handout and note whether the important characteristics are correctly described. Provide comments which could help the author to write a better summary and/or analysis.

Be sure to use your Statistics Journal to record your preparation for the discussion board. After the due date has passed, use your journal to record the feedback left for your posting. Write 2 or 3 sentences about the experience of evaluating your classmates’ work. This discussion board assignment will be the basis of a paper that will be submitted to the Dropbox at a later date.

Grading: 10 points for completing all requirements; no partial credit

- Complete all parts of the Assignment, listed above
- Reply to at least 2 other postings
- No late postings

Alternative Article: With the approval of the instructor, you may find your own article with a graph. Do not choose a graph from a website illustrating good or bad graphs or an example which has been analyzed within the website. The article must be at least the length of a standard page of typed material and have been published within the last 8 years.