

Hi students,  
a warm welcome to e- learning.

I am Janet, Professor, Department of Psychology, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa.  
Today we're going to learn how to construct a Bar graph.

let me first explain to you what is the meaning of Bar graph.

Bar graph is essentially a column graph, where data is represented by bars.

They can be two kinds of bar graphs: Vertical bar graph & horizontal bar graph.

Length of each bar will be proportionate to the amount of variable which is indicated in the data.  
So far as the width of the bar is concerned, there are no set rules. But it is always better to keep space of 1 and half to the width of the bar.

Now what kind of data can be represented on the bar graph?  
You can represent raw scores. You can represent frequencies. You can also represent computed statistics summarised figures like percentages, averages, and most of the datasets.

Let us proceed to learn how to draw a bar graph.  
The data table represents the strength of students of Saint Xavier's College.  
The question - represent the data using a bar graph.

Now if you look at the data table we have in the first column academic years.  
from 2015, 2016 to 2019-2020 and the second column gives the strength of students for that particular academic year.

You can plot a vertical bar graph, or a horizontal bar graph.  
When the bars are vertically arranged to represent data, the bar graph is called a vertical bar graph and when the bars are horizontal in orientation, the bar graph is called a horizontal bar graph.

To draw a bar graph, you will require a graph paper, a ruler & pencil.  
The Academic years are represented on the horizontal axis and the strength of students on the vertical axis of the graph. Column/bars are used to represent each data point connecting the academic years to their respective student strength. The bars do not touch each other but stand apart. Please Take care to write the student strength values for proper indication above each bar. You can always fill up the columns or the bars with various colors to make it more interesting and appealing.

The bar graph shows its communicative power.

gives you a trend of the strength of students over 05 years at Saint Xavier's College. It gives an increasing trend to say that the number of students are increasing year by year. But also, if you look closely, you also realize that in the year 2017- 18, there is a drop in the strength of students to 1200 from the previous year of 1450. If there is a drop in a particular data set which could be a reason or an eye opener for research purposes.