

# Graphs

Graphs display data as an easy-to-understand visual reference. Sometimes the translation of data into text becomes confusing. Graphs make it easier to understand complex information or view the results of an experiment.

## SETTING UP A GRAPH

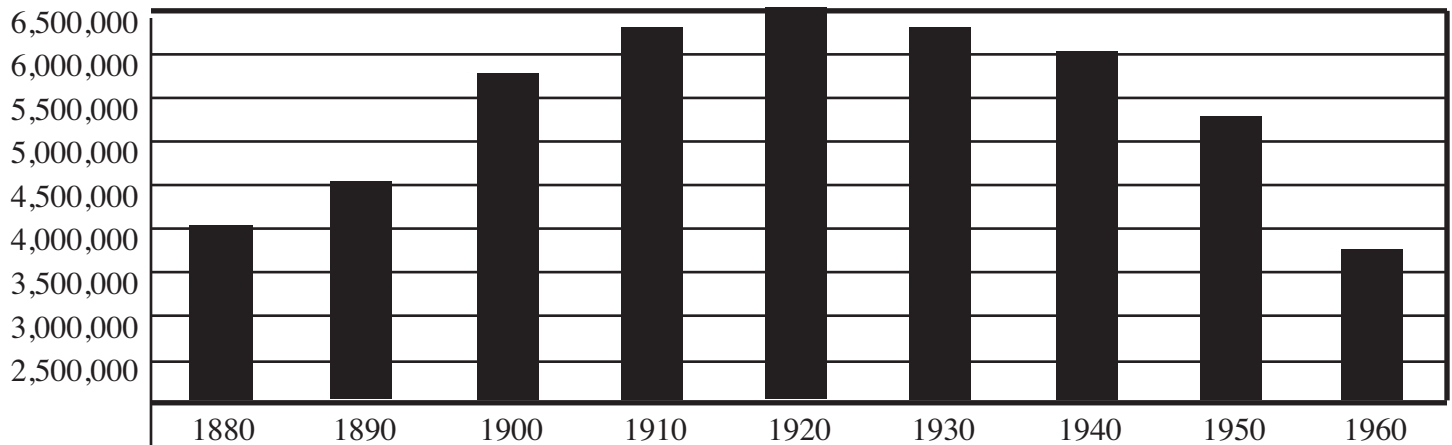
A bar or line graph requires a set of crossed lines or a grid. It becomes a “graph” when labels or details are given to the lines.

- **Label the Axes:** The reference lines on a graph are called axes. They are the horizontal (x) and vertical (y) lines that cross. If they have numbers, the lowest number is usually at the place where the axes cross. The data collected will determine how the axes are labeled.
- **Choose the Scale:** The numbers running along a side of the graph are the scale. The difference between numbers from one grid line to another is the interval. The interval will depend on the range of the data and the number of lines on the graph paper.
  - An interval of 1 will make the graph tall and skinny.
  - An interval of 100 will make the graph shorter and wider.
- **Range:** The range (difference between the highest and lowest numbers in the sample) will determine the interval. It is generally best to set the intervals at 1, 10, 20, 100, etc.—base 10 numbers.

## COMPARING GRAPHS

Graphs that illustrate how data compare are: single-bar graphs, double-bar graphs, pictographs, and circle graphs. These graphs can illustrate the same kind of data at different times or places, different sets of data at the same time or place, or different kinds of data that make up 100 percent of one group of data.

Single Bar Graph: Number of Farms in the US, 1880-1960

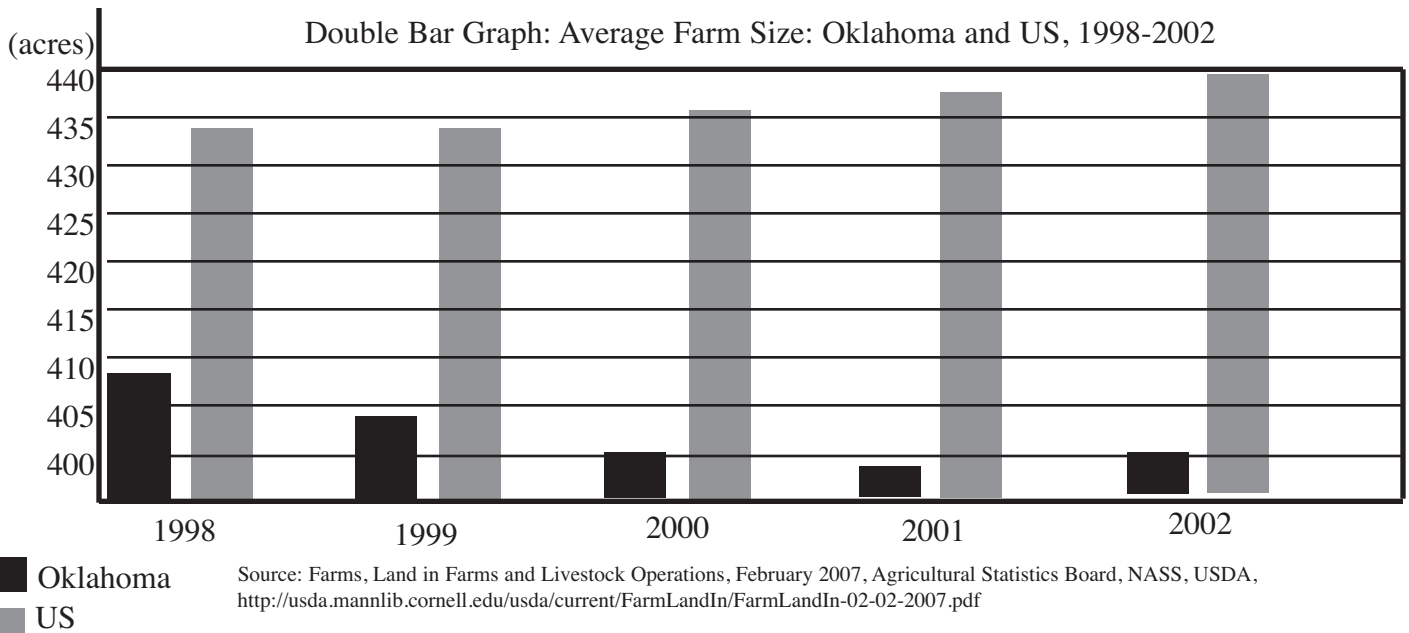


**SINGLE-BAR GRAPH:** In a bar graph, the length of bars represent numbers from the collected data.

- Title the graph.
- Draw and label the axes.
- Choose increments for the scale.
- Label the “y” axes with the range of numbers.
- Label the “x” axes with the titles or category of data.
- Draw a bar to the height of each category.

**DOUBLE-BAR GRAPH:** A double-bar graph compares sets of data. This graph saves space and time by combining the information on one graph.

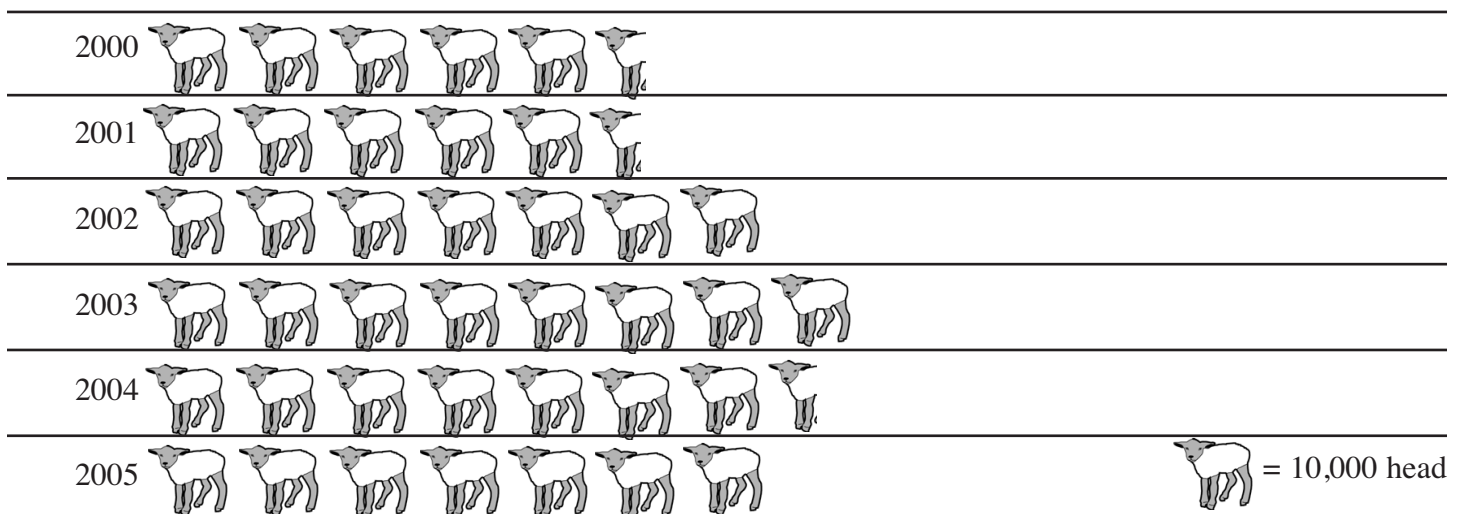
- Follow the same instructions as for the single-bar graph.
- Include both sets of data for each category.
- Include a “key” next to the graph to explain the two or more sets of data displayed.



**PICTOGRAPH:** A pictograph is a visual tool which appeals to the eye while organizing data to be compared.

- Title the graph.
- Draw and label the axes.
- Choose a symbol for the data.
- Draw a key.
- Draw the appropriate number of symbols next to each item.

**Pictograph: Sheep in Oklahoma, 2000-2005**

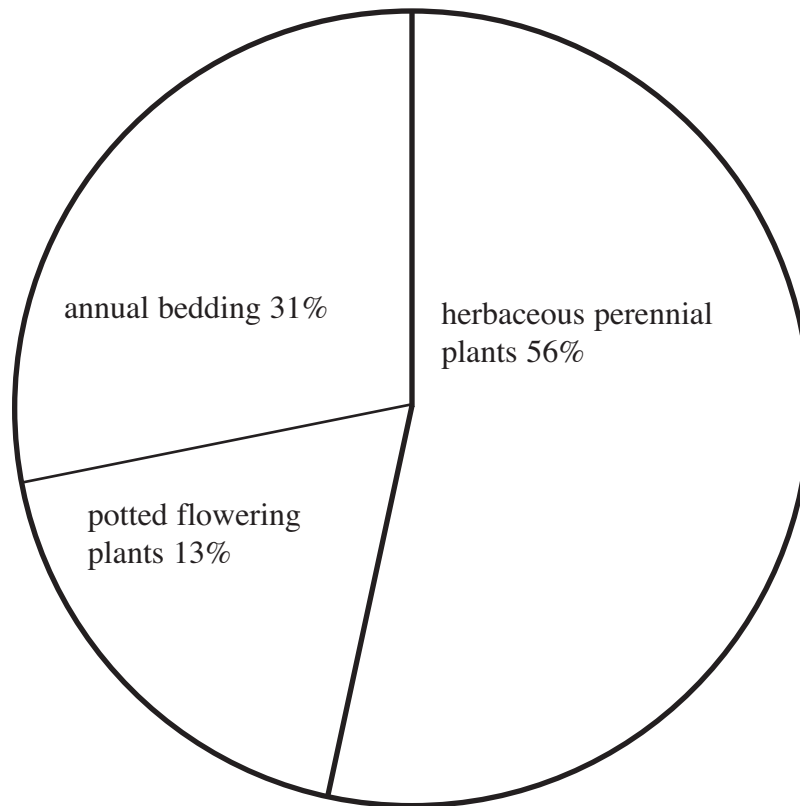


Source: Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics, 2006, USDA, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok/bulletin06/ok\\_annual\\_bulletin\\_2006.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok/bulletin06/ok_annual_bulletin_2006.pdf)

**CIRCLE GRAPH:** Circle graphs or pie charts represent 100 percent of a group of data. Circle graphs can use symbols, drawings, colors or labels to denote sections.

- Title the graph.
- Draw a circle and mark the center.
- For each symbol, color, and/or category, write a fraction that shows what part it represents.
- Multiply each fraction by  $360^\circ$  to find out how many degrees of the circle you'll need for each category.
- Use a protractor to draw a central angle for the first category. Make sure it is the size calculated from the last step. Example  $7/15 \times 360^\circ = 168^\circ$ .
- Draw angles for the rest of the categories.
- Label each section and/or include a key.

Circle Graph: Oklahoma Floriculture— Wholesale Value of Sales by Category, 2005



Source: Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics, 2006, USDA, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok/bulletin06/ok\\_annual\\_bulletin\\_2006.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok/bulletin06/ok_annual_bulletin_2006.pdf)

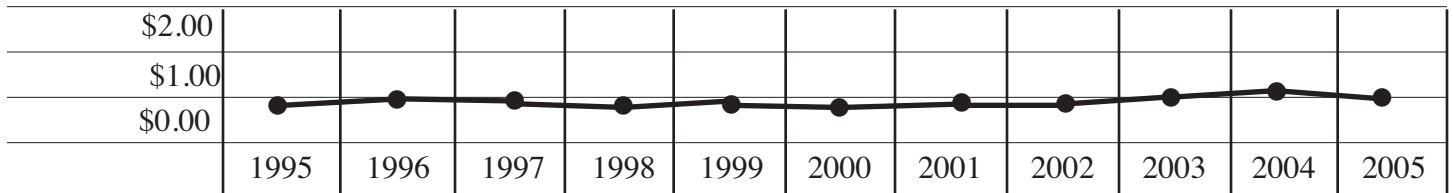
## PROGRESSION OF TIME GRAPHS

Graphs can show a progression of change over time. The most widely used graphs are line graphs, multiple-line graph, and time lines.

**SINGLE-LINE GRAPH:** Time measurement, like minutes, days, or years, are on the horizontal (x) axis. The vertical (y) axis will have some other measurement (people, cars, animals, etc.) Increases, decreases, or flat lines are easy to distinguish by looking at this type of graph.

- Title the graph.
- Draw and label the axes.
- Label the years on the horizontal axis.
- Choose increments for the scale on the vertical axis.
- Estimate where each amount would fall on the vertical axis and place a dot at that point.
- Connect the dots.

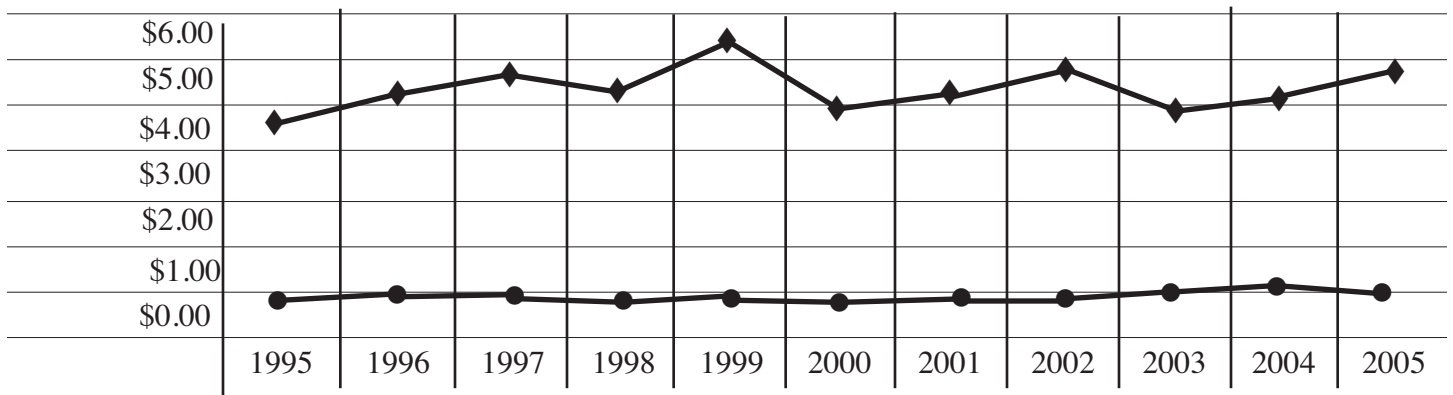
Single Line Graph: Price per Dozen Eggs, Oklahoma, 1995-2005



**MULTIPLE-LINE GRAPH:** A multiple-line graph compares two or more quantities that are increasing or decreasing over time. Each line shows one set of data.

- Follow all instructions for a single-line graph.
- After plotting and connecting the dots for the first set of data, continue with the next set/s, remembering to use a different color to connect the dots for each set.
- Include a “key” with the graph to explain the colors of the lines.

Multiple Line Graph: Price per Dozen Eggs vs. Value of Bird, Oklahoma, 1995-2005



- = price of a dozen eggs
- ◆ = value of bird

## History of Farm Machinery and Technology in America: 1790s-1870s

Invention of cotton gin (1793) Thomas Jefferson's plow with moldboard of least resistance (1794) Charles Newbold patents first cast-iron plow (1797)	1790s								
Jethro Wood patents iron plow with interchangeable parts (1819) US food canning industry established (1819-25)	1810s								
McCormick reaper patented (1834) John Deere and Leonard Andrus begin manufacturing steel plows Practical threshing machine patented. (1837)	1830s	1830s	Time Line						
First grain elevator (1842) Sir John Lawes founds the commercial fertilizer industry by developing a process for making superphosphate (1843)	1840s	1840s							
Self-governing windmill perfected (1854) Two-horse straddle-row cultivator patented (1856) Mason jars, used for home canning, were invented 1858	1850s	1850s							
Change from hand power to horses characterizes the first American agricultural revolution (1862-75) Steam tractors are tried out (1868) Spring-tooth harrow for seedbed preparation appears (1869)	1860s	1860s							
Silos and deep-well drilling come into use Glidden barbed wire patented; fencing of rangeland ends era of unrestricted, open-range grazing (1874)	1870s	1870s							

Source: A History of American Agriculture, 1607-2000, Economic Research Service, 2000, [http://www.agclassroom.org/gan/time\\_line/index.htm](http://www.agclassroom.org/gan/time_line/index.htm)

**TIME LINES:** A time line is a graph. It includes a number line with numbers that are years or dates or times of day. Past and future events can be charted on a time line. Examples of future events are: a schedule for a day, week, or month.

- Title the graph.
- Draw a horizontal number line.
- Mark the increments of times that are included in the data.
- Place items where they belong on the time line.

## GROUPED DATA GRAPHS

A Venn diagram shows which data belong together. The line plot shows whether the data is bunched or spread out. The graphs that show data groupings are often called plots. This is because there are no bars to draw or lines to connect. The information is plotted on the individual data points.

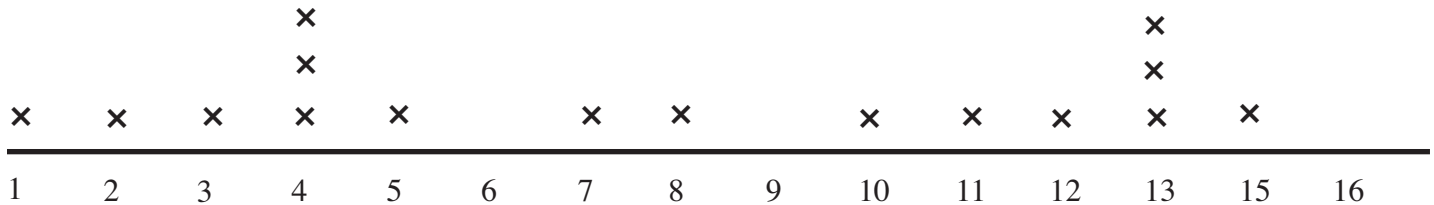
**LINE PLOTS:** Instead of comparing data or showing trends, the information shows the spread of the data. On a line plot, the range, mode, and any outliers can be quickly identified.

- Title the plot.
- Draw a number line on grid paper. The scale of numbers should include the greatest value and the least value in the set of data. (range)
- For each piece of data, draw an “x” above the corresponding number.

### Oklahoma’s Rank in the US by Commodity

CROP	RANK IN THE US	LIVESTOCK	RANK IN THE US
winter wheat	2	beef cows	3
grain sorghum	4	hogs	8
rye	1	broiler production	10
peanuts	7	calf crop	4
watermelon	11	all cows	4
cottonseed	12	all cattle and calves	5
all cotton	13	sheep operations	15
all hay	13	milk operations	13

Source: Oklahoma Agricultural Statistics, 2006, USDA, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, [http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok/bulletin06/ok\\_annual\\_bulletin\\_2006.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ok/bulletin06/ok_annual_bulletin_2006.pdf)



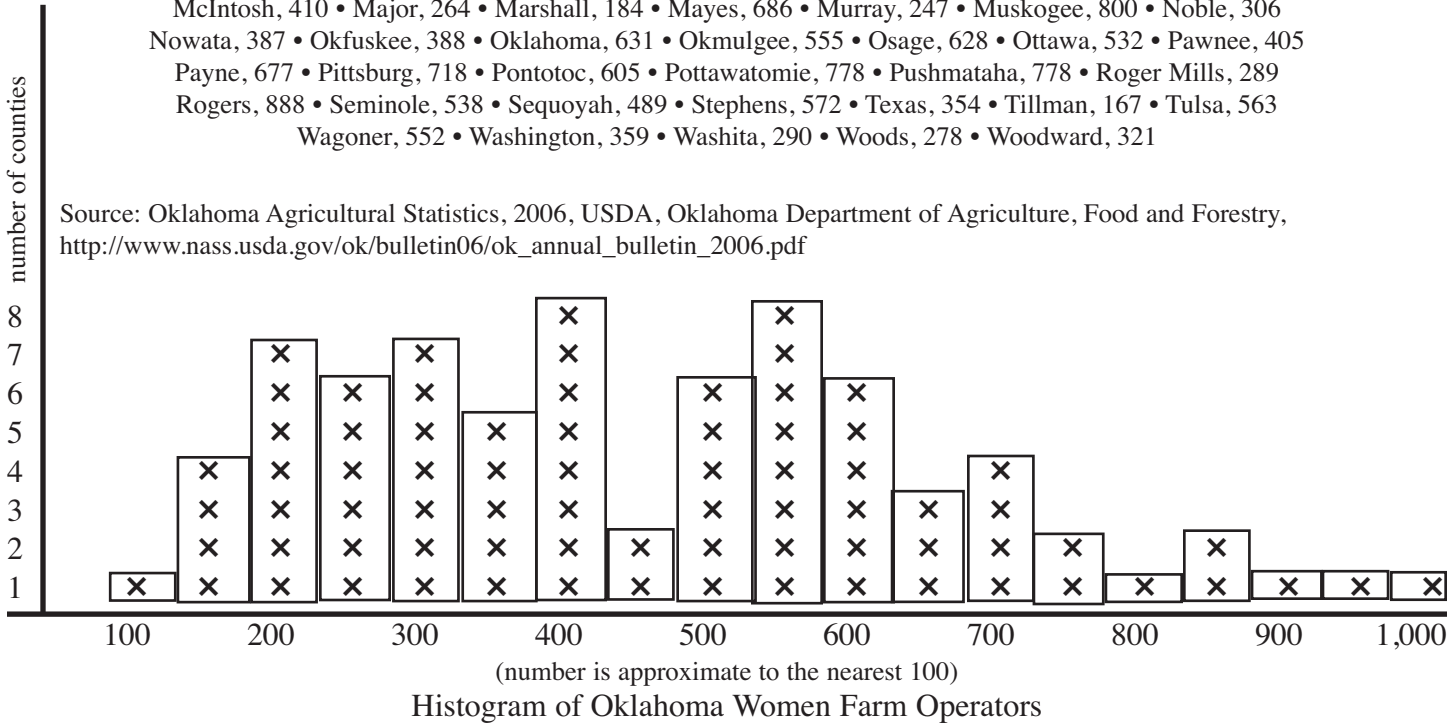
Line Plot: Oklahoma’s Rank in the US by Commodity

**HISTOGRAM:** A histogram is a graph used to show the frequencies of a value or range of values within a single field (variable) of data. An example would be the duration (in minutes) for eruptions of the Old Faithful geyser in Yellowstone National Park. The mean, median, mean, and range of the set of data can be calculated since the data is related to one field only.

- Title the plot.
- Draw a number line on grid paper. The scale of numbers should include the greatest value and the least value in the set of data.
- For each piece of data, draw an “x” above the corresponding number.
- Draw bars to correct height, and show connection of data. May include a “y” axis.
- Calculate the mean (average), mode (most used number in the list of data), median (center number when the data is arranged from least to greatest), and range (difference between the least and greatest number).

## Oklahoma Women Farm Operators, by County, 2002

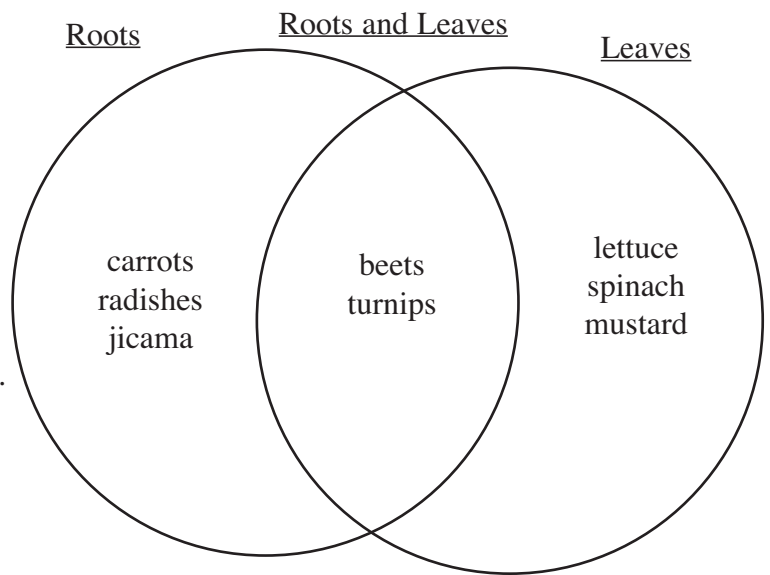
Adair, 471 • Alfalfa, 174 • Atoka, 552 • Beaver, 387 • Beckham, 378 • Blaine, 232 • Bryan, 674 • Caddo, 506  
 Canadian, 529 • Carter, 538 • Cherokee, 568 • Choctaw, 470 • Cimarron, 237 • Cleveland, 629 • Coal, 275  
 Comanche, 516 • Cotton, 160 • Craig, 611 • Creek, 859 • Custer, 201 • Delaware, 673 • Dewey, 281  
 Ellis, 281 • Garfield, 378 • Garvin, 653 • Grady, 745 • Grant, 224 • Greer, 194 • Harmon, 92 • Harper, 191  
 Haskell, 406 • Hughes, 400 • Jackson, 257 • Jefferson, 178 • Johnston, 290 • Kay, 390 • Kingfisher, 342  
 Kiowa, 206 • Latimer, 375 • LeFlore, 893 • Lincoln, 1,052 • Logan, 525 • Love, 297 • McClain, 474  
 McCurtain, 873 • McIntosh, 410 • Major, 264 • Marshall, 184 • Mayes, 686 • Murray, 247 • Muskogee, 800  
 McIntosh, 410 • Major, 264 • Marshall, 184 • Mayes, 686 • Murray, 247 • Muskogee, 800 • Noble, 306  
 Nowata, 387 • Okfuskee, 388 • Oklahoma, 631 • Okmulgee, 555 • Osage, 628 • Ottawa, 532 • Pawnee, 405  
 Payne, 677 • Pittsburg, 718 • Pontotoc, 605 • Pottawatomie, 778 • Pushmataha, 778 • Roger Mills, 289  
 Rogers, 888 • Seminole, 538 • Sequoyah, 489 • Stephens, 572 • Texas, 354 • Tillman, 167 • Tulsa, 563  
 Wagoner, 552 • Washington, 359 • Washita, 290 • Woods, 278 • Woodward, 321



**VENN DIAGRAM:** A Venn diagram is a group of intersecting circles. It can have a few as 2 circles. Each circle is named for the data in it. Data that belong in more than one circle are placed where the circles overlap. Some information may fall outside the circles.

- Choose a title for the diagram.
- Decide how many groups of data were collected.
- Draw a circle for each group.
- Place each piece of data in the proper circle.
- If a piece fits in more than one circle, place it where the circles overlap.

### Venn Diagram: Plant Parts We Eat



Region	Field Worker dollars per hour	Livestock Worker dollars per hour	All Workers dollars per hour
Northeast I	10.10	9.59	10.77
Northeast II	10.34	8.56	10.55
Appalachian I	8.46	9.22	9.32
Appalachian II	8.64	9.07	9.77
Southeast	8.00	9.04	8.83
Florida	9.20	9.00	10.01
Lake	10.11	9.99	11.08
Cornbelt I	9.86	9.16	10.17
Cornbelt II	9.60	10.46	10.63
Delta	8.54	8.00	8.80
Northern Plains	10.04	9.75	10.63
Southern Plains	8.35	9.41	9.22
Mountain I	8.79	9.01	9.35
Mountain II	9.16	9.75	9.97
Mountain III	8.25	8.88	9.28
Pacific	9.39	9.70	10.24
California	9.62	10.90	10.63

Source: "Farm Labor, May 2007, Agricultural Statistics Board, NASS, USDA, <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/FarmLabo/FarmLabo-05-18-2007.pdf>

**STEM-AND-LEAF PLOT:** Stem-and-leaf plots allow for the organization of numbers so that the numbers themselves make the display. The stem-and-leaf plot summarizes the shape of a set of data (the distribution) and provides extra detail regarding individual values. The data is arranged by place value. The digits in the largest place are referred to as the stem and the digits in the smallest place are referred to as the leaf (leaves). The leaves are always displayed to the right of the stem. Stem-and-leaf plots are great organizers for large amounts of information such as test scores, scores on sports teams, and series of temperatures or rainfall over a period of time. A stem-and-leaf plot is similar to a histogram but shows more information.

- Choose a title for the plot.
- Write the data in order from least to greatest.
- Find the least and greatest values.
- Choose the stems. Each digit in the tens place in the data list is a stem.

### Wages for Hired Farm Workers by Region

Dollars	Cents
8	80 83
9	22 28 32 35 77 97
10	01 17 24 55 63 63 77
11	08
12	85

Stem and Leaf

- Write the stems by a vertical number line, least to greatest.
- The leaves are all the ones digits in your list. Write them next to the stems that match their tens digits.
- Write a key that explains how to read the stems and leaves.
- If needed, calculate the range, mean, median, and mode for the set of data.

**DOUBLE STEM-AND-LEAF PLOT:** To compare two sets of data, use a back to back plot. A comparison is now possible for two sets of test scores, sport's teams or games, and possibly temperatures or rainfall.

- Follow the same procedure for the stem-and-leaf plot.
- Insert the second set of data to the left of the stem. The tens column is now in the middle and the ones column is to the right and left of the stem.
- Give each (leaf) column a title.

### Double Stem and Leaf: Wages for Hired Farm Workers by Region

Field Workers cents	dollars	Livestock Workers cents
79 64 54 45 35 25 00	8	00 56 88
86 62 60 39 20 16	9	00 04 07 16 22 59 70 75 99
34 11 10 04	10	46 90

Sources: *A Mathematics Handbook: Math at Hand*, Great Source Education Group, A Houghton Mifflin Company, 1999.

"About: Mathematics," <http://www.math.about.com>; "Math in Sight," [www.mathinsight.ctl.sri.com](http://www.mathinsight.ctl.sri.com); Landwehr, James M., and Ann E. Watkins, *Exploring Data*, Dale Seymour Publications, 1986; National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA