

COMPONENTS OF EXEMPLARY LINE GRAPHS AND SCATTER PLOTS

Guidelines for Creating Data Displays

References: Maryland Mathematics Content Standards (May 19, 2000), Indicators 4.5.2 and 4.8.2

Components of the y-axis:

- 1 Descriptive label that includes the variable or quantity that changes
- 2 Units appropriately represent data (may be part of the y-axis descriptive label)
- 3 Scale is appropriate for data
- 4 Scale or number interval on the grid is consistent (may include a break [])
- 5 Spacing of scale is consistent along grid

Components of the x-axis:

- 6 Descriptive label that includes the variable or quantity that changes
- 7 Units appropriately represent data (may be part of the x-axis descriptive label)
- 8 Scale is appropriate for data
- 9 Scale or number interval on the grid is consistent
- 10 Spacing of scale is consistent along grid

Other graph components:

- 11 Main title for graph
- 12 Origin is indicated by either a zero or an empty space for the zero

