Unit 6, Lesson 9

Looking for Associations

Let's look for associations in data.

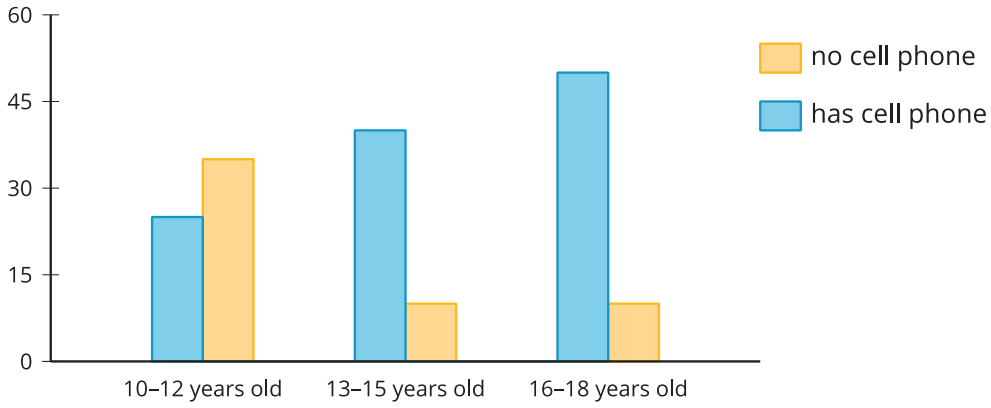
9.1 Notice and Wonder: Bar Association

What do you notice? What do you wonder?

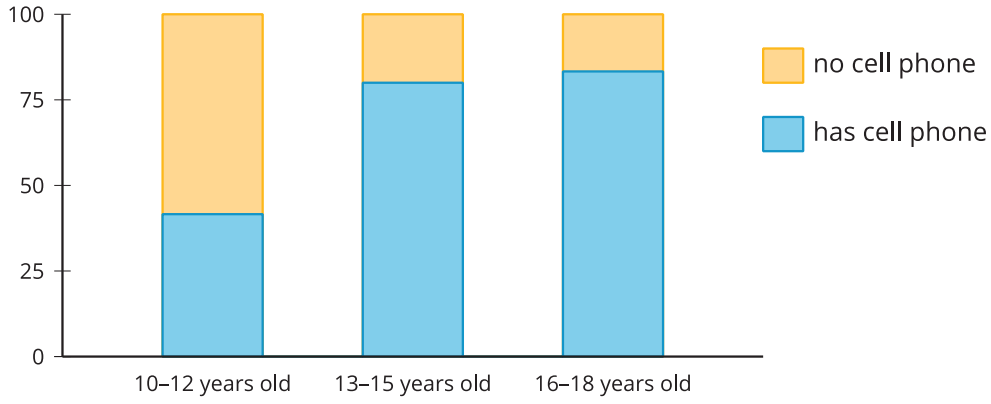
Two-way table

	has cell phone	does not have cell phone	total
10 to 12 years old	25	35	60
13 to 15 years old	40	10	50
16 to 18 years old	50	10	60
total	115	55	170

Bar graph



Segmented bar graph



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9.2 Card Sort: Matching Representations

Your teacher will give you a set of cards. Each card contains a representation of some data.

1. Sort the systems into groups that represent the same situation. Be prepared to explain how you know where each representation belongs.
2. One of the groups does not have a **two-way table**. Make a two-way table for the situation described by the graphs in the group.

3. Label the bar graphs and **segmented bar graphs** so that the categories represented by each bar are indicated.
4. Describe in your own words the kind of information shown by a segmented bar graph.

Are you ready for more?

One of the segmented bar graphs is missing. Construct a segmented bar graph that matches the other representations.

9.3 Building Another Type of Two-Way Table

Here is a two-way table that shows data about cell phone usage among children aged 10 to 18.

	has cell phone	does not have cell phone	total
10 to 12 years old	25	35	60
13 to 15 years old	40	10	50
16 to 18 years old	50	10	60
total	115	55	170

1. Complete the table. In each row, the entries for "has cell phone" and "does not have cell phone" should have the total 100%. Round entries to the nearest percentage point.

	has cell phone	does not have cell phone	total
10 to 12 years old	42%		
13 to 15 years old			100%
16 to 18 years old		17%	

This is still a two-way table. Instead of showing *frequency*, this table shows **relative frequency**.

2. Two-way tables that show relative frequencies often don't include a "total" row at the bottom. Why?

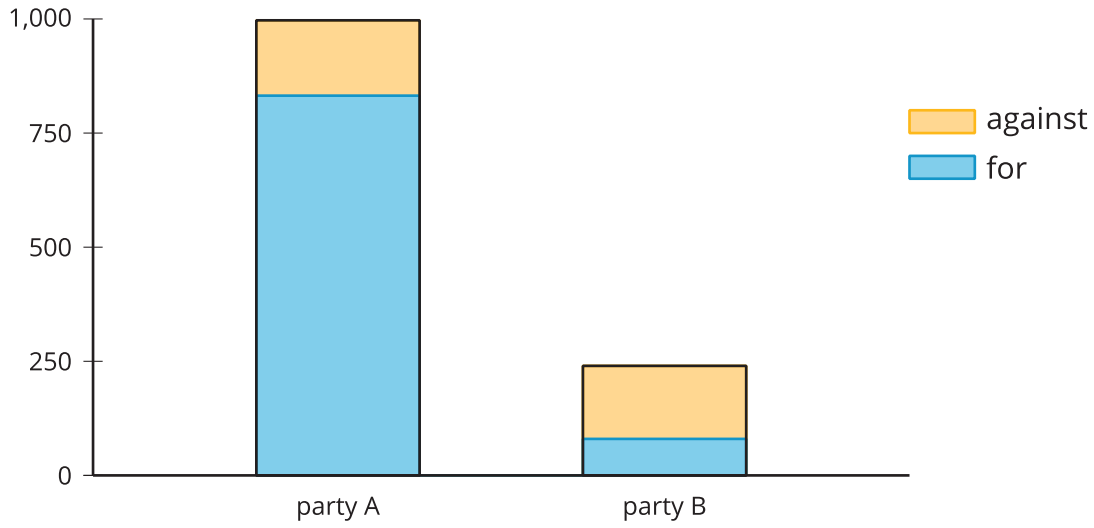
3. Is there an association between age and cell phone use? How does the two-way table of relative frequencies help to illustrate this?

Are you ready for more?

A pollster attends a rally and surveys many of the participants about whether they associate with political Party A or political Party B and whether they are for or against Proposition 3.14 going up for vote soon. The results are sorted into the table shown.

	for	against
party A	832	165
party B	80	160

- A news station reports these results by saying, "A poll shows that about the same number of people from both parties are voting against Proposition 3.14."
- A second news station shows this graphic.



1. Are any of the news reports misleading? Explain your reasoning.

2. Create a headline, graphic, and short description that more accurately represents the data in the table.

Lesson 9 Summary

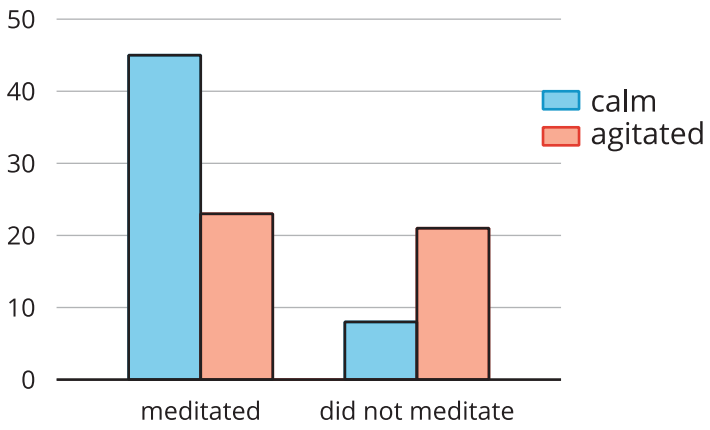
When we collect data by counting things in various categories, like red, blue, or yellow, we call the data "categorical data," and we say that color is a "categorical variable."

We can use **two-way tables** to investigate possible connections between two categorical variables.

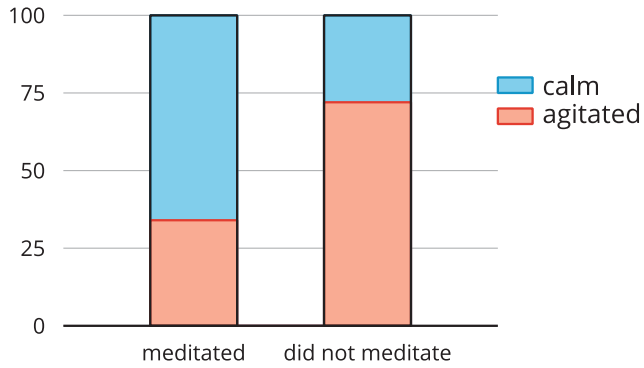
For example, this two-way table of frequencies shows the results of a study of meditation and state of mind of athletes before a track meet.

	meditated	did not meditate	total
calm	45	8	53
agitated	23	21	44
total	68	29	97

If we are interested in the question of whether there is an association between meditating and being calm, we might present the frequencies in a bar graph, grouping data about those who meditated and those who did not meditate, so we can compare the numbers of calm and agitated athletes in each group.



Notice that the number of athletes who did not meditate is small compared to the number who meditated (29 as compared to 68, as shown in the table).

If we want to know the proportions of calm meditators and calm non-meditators, we can make a two-way table of **relative frequencies** and present the relative frequencies in a **segmented bar graph**.

	meditated	did not meditate
calm	66%	28%
agitated	34%	72%
total	100%	100%