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# Resources: Scatterplots and Simple Linear Regression



## Introduction

The resources in this module will introduce you to simple linear regression and its many uses. You will also learn how the line of best fit goes through a scatterplot and what the line tells you about the data set.



## Required Resources

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**Reading:** *MAT 240: Applied Statistics, Module 2*

In Module 2 of your course textbook, you will explore scatterplots and simple linear regression. Linear regression is a process in which a linear equation is found that predicts a value. In the equation, the variable that is used as input into the equation is called the independent variable, and often any value can be used. The variable that is calculated by the equation is called the dependent variable, as it depends on which value of the independent variable you use. It's important to have a basic understanding of the types of variables, as this will affect how the regression is interpreted. If the relationship is positive, the independent variable will increase with the dependent variable. Consider the following questions as you read:

- How can you use scatterplots to observe relationships or associations between two variables?
- How can simple linear regression assist in creating models to find cost estimates or

- How can simple linear regression assist in creating models to find cost estimates or predict property values?

**Video:** [MAT 240 - Module 2 Challenge Activities](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBvjW6PDHiE) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBvjW6PDHiE) (26:28)

This video will support your work on the module challenge activity.

A video transcript is available: [Transcript for Module 2 Challenge Activities](#).  
(course\_documents/MAT%20240%20Transcript%20for%20Module%202%20Challenge%20Activities.docx?isCourseFile=true&ou=1804485)

A closed-caption version of this video is available: [Module 2 Challenge Activities \(CC\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWqN308YVrc)



## Additional Support (Optional)

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**Reading:** [Present Your Data in a Scatter Chart or a Line Chart](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/present-your-data-in-a-scatter-chart-or-a-line-chart-4570a80f-599a-4d6b-a155-104a9018b86e) (https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/present-your-data-in-a-scatter-chart-or-a-line-chart-4570a80f-599a-4d6b-a155-104a9018b86e)

This article presents how to generate scatter charts and line chart types in Excel. It also discusses differences between charts and when it's more appropriate to use a scatter chart instead of a line chart, or vice versa.

**Reading:** [Real Statistics Using Excel: Descriptive Statistics Tools](https://www.real-statistics.com/descriptive-statistics/descriptive-statistics-tools/) (https://www.real-statistics.com/descriptive-statistics/descriptive-statistics-tools/)

This article provides an overview of the Descriptive Statistics tool in the Analysis ToolPak, which produces a summary of the key statistics for a data set.

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### Activity Details

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Explore these resources, which will help you learn how to develop and analyze scatter plots with quantitative and qualitative variables and how to create a line of best fit.

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