Communication Essentials
Lesson 5 - Communicating with
Graphics



### Communicating with Graphics Overview

- Using Graphics for Business Communication
- · Communicating Static Information
- · Communicating Dynamic Information


# Creating Graphics for Business Communication


### Basics of Graphic Communication

- Know your audience
- Keep it simple
- Keep it clear
- Keep it readable
- Keep it consistent
- Balance imagery and text

### **Know Your Audience**

- Use references your audience will understand
- Avoid using jargon or specific symbols unless everyone understands them
- Define terms or images that may be new


### Keep it Clear

- Limit your use of color:
  - For charts and graphs, simple colors work best
- Limit the number of type styles:
  - Two should be enough
  - Use **bold** or *italic* for emphasis
- Consider using black and white graphics for documents that are printed without color
- Keep the page free of clutter so the audience can focus on your graphic message


### Keep it Simple

- One topic per graphic.
- A series of related points per graphic.
- One concept per graphic.
- Avoid putting too many items on one graphic.
- Use labels or title to clarify items in your graphic.


### Keep it Readable

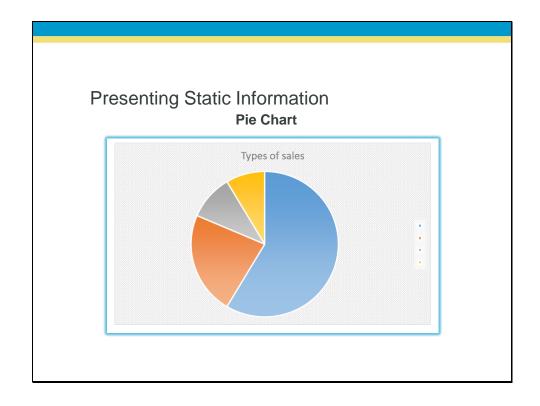
RED	Stop, hot, passionate
PURPLE	Royalty, Intelligence
BLUE	Corporate, cool, quality
GREEN	Go, health, cash
YELLOW	Caution, emphasis




# Communicating Static Information


### **Static Information**

- Static information presents facts and figures
- Pie charts and bar graphs
- Basic elements of design:
  - Include one topic or point per graphic
  - Create graphics that are clear and easy to understand
  - Do not clutter graphics with unnecessary items
  - Limit your use of color and type for clarity and readability
  - Label items as needed for clarity and emphasis



### **Gathering Information**

Total Weekly Emails Sent by Employees of Shawn and Associates

	Business	Personal	Undecided
Total Emails	2487	642	32

### Analyzing Information

Total Weekly Emails Sent by Employees of Shawn and Associates

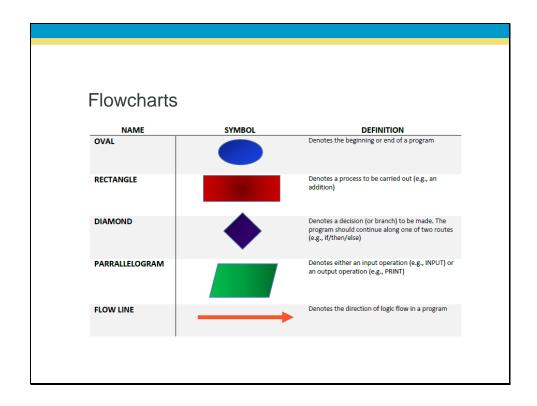
	Business	Personal	Undecided
Total Emails	2487	642	32

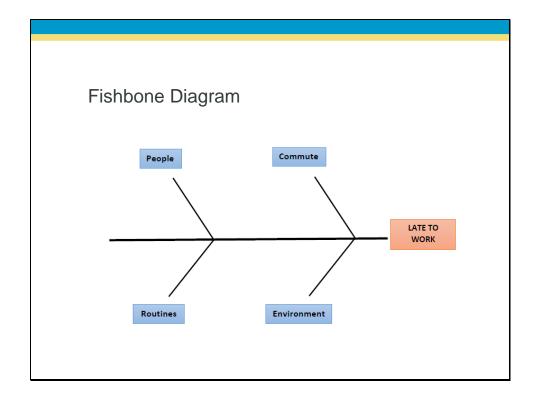
4,000 62% 16% 0.8%

## Communicating Dynamic Information


### Dynamic Information

- Dynamic information illustrates a process, procedure, or cause and effect relationship
- Flowcharts:
  - A graphic that illustrates how something moves through a series of steps, stages, or phases
- Fishbone diagrams:
  - A graphic that illustrates causes that contribute to a problem

### Communicating with Graphics Review

- Using Graphics for Business Communication
- · Communicating Static Information
- · Communicating Dynamic Information


### Questions and Answers

### **Review Questions:**

- 1. True or False: When using graphics in a presentation, you should always include additional verbiage and wording on the slide so that the audience can have information in addition to the graphics.
  - A. True
  - B. False
- 2. Which of the statements is true about how to use graphics and keep it simple?
  - A. One topic per graphic
  - B. A series of related points per graphic
  - C. One concept per graphic
  - D. All of the above
- 3. What graphic or text color is used to represent "Intelligence?"
  - A. Purple
  - B. Red
  - C. Blue
  - D. Green
- 4. What kind of information presents facts and figures?
  - A. Fluid
  - B. Complex
  - C. Static
  - D. Simple
- 5. Flowcharts and Fishbone Diagrams are examples of what kind of information?
  - A. Static
  - B. Dynamic
  - C. Fluid
  - D. Simple

### **Answer Key:**

### 1. B

False. When using graphics, keep the page free of clutter (such as additional or unnecessary words and verbiage) so the audience can focus on your graphic message.

### 2. D

The ways to keep it simple when using graphics include: one topic per graphic; a series of related points per graphic; one concept per graphic; avoid putting too many items on one graphic; use labels or a title to clarify items in your graphic.

### 3. A

Purple represents royalty and intelligence; Red represents stop, hot, and passionate; Blue represents corporate, cool, and quality; Green represents go, health, and cash; and Yellow represents caution and emphasis.

### 4. C

Static information presents facts and figures such as pie charts and bar graphs.

### 5. B

Dynamic information illustrates a process, procedure, or cause and effect relationship.