

18. COMPARING TWO BAR GRAPHS

The skills needed to read two graphs side-by-side are not very different from those required for reading one graph, except that you are looking more information and making comparisons between both graphs.

HOW DO I READ TWO BAR GRAPHS?

Look at the title and the information above the chart. The chart is comparing men and women's five year survival rates for all cancers.

Look at what is being measured and in what units.

- The survival rates for men and women are measured in percentages on the horizontal, or *x-axes*.
- Different countries are listed on the vertical or *y-axes*.

Look at one graph and compare the bars for each country. By comparing, you can see that men in Iceland have a higher survival rate than men in Denmark.

Look at both graphs and compare the bars for one country. By comparing, you can see that women in Denmark have a higher survival rate than men.



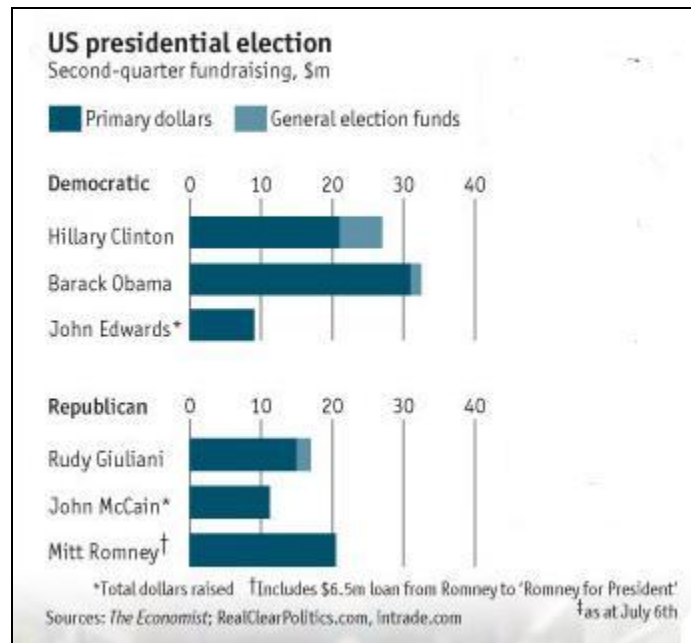
Source: Lancet Oncology

Graph adapted from: Economist.com, July 9, 2007.

EXERCISE (Have a tutor help you with this exercise.)

Follow the directions from the previous page about “How to Read Two Bar Graphs.”

Use the information from the graph below to answer the following questions.



Graph from Economist.com, July 9, 2007

1. What is the topic of these graphs? What does each graph show?
2. What is represented on the x - and y -axes of these graphs? What do the different colors on the bars mean?
3. Which Democrat has raised the largest total amount of money so far? Which Republican?
4. Which Democrat has raised the most general election funds? Which Republican?
5. Which party seems to be raising the largest total amount of money, the Democrats or the Republicans?
6. What type of money are the candidates raising more of, primary dollars or general election funds?