

Graphing & Analyzing Your Data on Google Sheets

Getting Started with the Google Sheets Data

1. Open up the MPA Exploration dataset in Google Sheets: [\[your class link goes here\]](#)
2. Make a copy to your own Google Drive by clicking on the **File menu** at the top and then selecting **Make a Copy**.

How to Create a Scatter Plot

3. Highlight two columns: **the date** and the **data you want to plot**. This could be the number of fish species present, number of plankton species present, pH, temperature, or salinity.

Note: If you are graphing Water Quality data, you will need to graph one factor at a time.

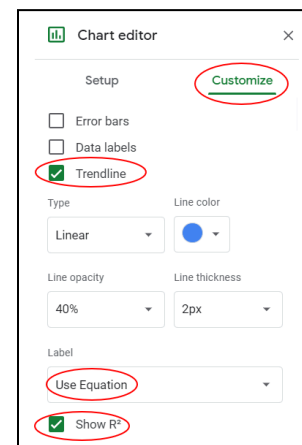
4. Click on the **Insert menu** at the top and then select **Chart**. Sheets will create a graph of your selected data.
5. To create a scatter plot, in the **Chart Editor** on the right of the screen, click on **Setup**. Under Chart type, select **Scatter** in the dropdown menu.



Step 5. Creating a Scatter plot.

How to Add a Trendline, Trendline Equation, and R² Value

6. To add a trendline, in the Chart Editor, click on the **Customize** menu in the Chart Editor. Select **Series**, and check the box at the bottom for **Trendline**.
7. To add the equation of the trendline, click on the **Label** dropdown menu and choose **Use Equation**.
8. Finally, to add the R² value to your graph, select the **Show R²** box near the bottom.



Steps 6-8. Adding detail to your Scatter plot.