

Timeline Chart

Spreadsheet Format

Each row represents a data point on the timeline. The chart below shows what data you should include in each column. Learn more about using spreadsheets with Visualizations at [Use Spreadsheet Data](#).

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Data Type	date or datetime	number	text	number
Contents	<p>The date of your data point in a MM/DD/YEAR format. This sets the x-axis value for your data point.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">If your data only contains years, assign an arbitrary month and day.	<p>The value for your date on the y-axis. This creates your first timeline.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">If you do not want to assign a numeric value to a date, type in "null"	<p>The annotations for your data points.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The annotations will only appear on the timeline if you choose true in the "Display Annotations" customization optionLearn more about the display annotations option below	<p>A second value for your date on the y-axis. This creates a second timeline.</p>
Required	x	x	x	

Template

Use [this spreadsheet template](#) to guide your data entry. To use it, just copy and paste the cells into your own Google sheet. You can click on a cell to get more information about a specific column, or reference the table above.

Customization Options

- [Alpha fill 0-100](#)
- [Date format](#)
- [Display annotations?](#)
- [Display exact values?](#)
- [Display legend dots?](#)
- [Display legend values?](#)
- [Display separator bar?](#)
- [Display zoom range links](#)
- [Dot highlight](#)
- [Legend position](#)

These options are exclusive to the annotated timeline. Learn about other options at [Common Customization Options](#).

Alpha fill 0-100

sets the transparency of the fill color under the graph's curve

- Type in a number from 0 to 100 to set the transparency
- "0" makes the area completely transparent; "100" makes the area opaque

Date format

formats the date that appears in the top right corner of the timeline

- To enter the date only, type in "MM DD YYYY"
- To enter a date and time, use the "HH:mm MONTH dd, yyyy" format

Display annotations?

controls whether or not annotations appear on the chart

- "True" shows annotations on top of selected values
- "False" hides annotations

Display exact values?

controls whether numeric values on the legend are exact or rounded

- "True" makes values exact
- "False" rounds values

Display legend dots?

adds ornamental dots to the legend

- "True" adds the legend dot
- "False" removes the legend dot

Display legend values?

shows a point's value on the legend when your cursor rolls over a point

- "True" shows a point's value in the legend
- "False" disables this action

Display separator bar?

adds a separator bar (|) between the legend and the date at the top right of the chart

- "True" shows the separator
- "False" hides the separator

Display zoom range links

adds shortcuts to different zoom levels within your timeline

- "True" shows shortcuts
- "False" hides shortcuts

Dot highlight

determines which point will highlight based on the position of your cursor

- "Nearest" highlights the point closest to your cursor
- "Last" highlights the point to the left of your cursor

Legend position

controls the legends' placement

- "newRow" puts legend text and legend dates on separate rows
- "sameRow" puts both items on the same row