

EXCERPT 2.7 • Bar Graph

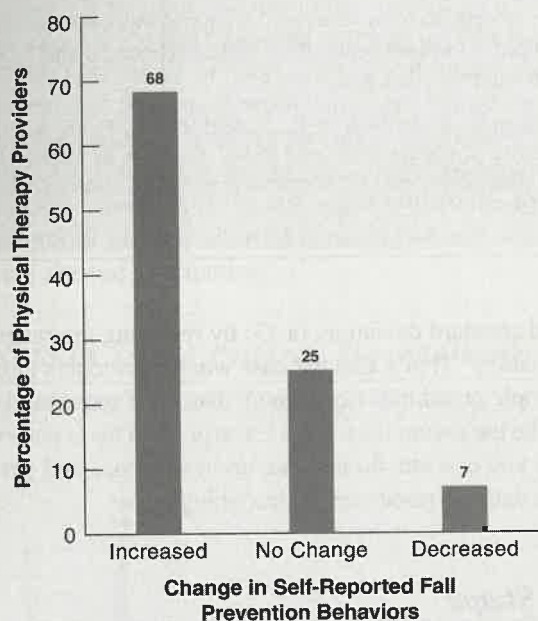


FIGURE 3 *Distribution of change in self-reported use of fall prevention strategies with patients before and after Connecticut Collaboration for Fall Prevention (CCFP) program (N = 94).*

Source: Brown, C. J., Gottschalk, M., Van Ness, P. H., Fortinsky, R. H., and Tinetti, M. E. (2005). Changes in physical therapy providers' use of fall prevention strategies following a multicomponent behavioral change intervention. *Physical Therapy*, 85(5), p. 401.

An example of a bar graph is presented in Excerpt 2.7. Here, the order of the bars is completely arbitrary. The short bars could have been positioned on the left with the taller bars positioned on the right. Or, the bars could have been arranged alphabetically based on the labels beneath the bars.

Frequency Distributions in Words

Researchers sometimes present the information of a frequency distribution in words rather than in a picture. Excerpt 2.8 illustrates how this can be done for a grouped frequency distribution.

In describing the age of their patients or research participants, many researchers summarize their data in one of three ways: (1) by reporting the range, (2) by reporting