

5.5 Pictures for Data

In previous chapters we compared data using linear graphs. In this section we will compare two sets of data using graphs that are not linear.

Display 5.16 gives population figures for two states, Indiana and North Carolina, for the beginning of each decade up to the year 2000.

Year	Indiana	North Carolina
1900	2,516,462	1,893,810
1910	2,700,876	2,206,287
1920	2,930,390	2,559,123
1930	3,238,503	3,170,276
1940	3,427,796	3,571,623
1950	3,934,224	4,061,929
1960	4,662,498	4,556,155
1970	5,195,392	5,084,411
1980	5,490,214	5,880,095
1990	5,544,159	6,628,637
2000	6,080,485	8,049,313

Display 5.16

1. Why would an economist or a business person be interested in how the population of Indiana and North Carolina varied over the years?
2. Why would they be interested in comparing the population of Indiana with that of North Carolina? Explain.
3. Why do you think the table gives data for every 10 years?



Learning Outcomes

After studying this section you will be able to:

Use nonlinear graphs to compare two sets of data.