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SIRM Networking

A process of developing mutually beneficial contacts through the exchange of information.

Networks may consist of internal or external contacts:

- Internal contacts can be people with whom you interact regularly in the course of work, or they can be internal stakeholders.
- External contacts may be people outside the organization with whom you work regularly, or they can be colleagues at other companies or professional associations.

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SIRM Creating Professional Networks

How to Create a Professional Network

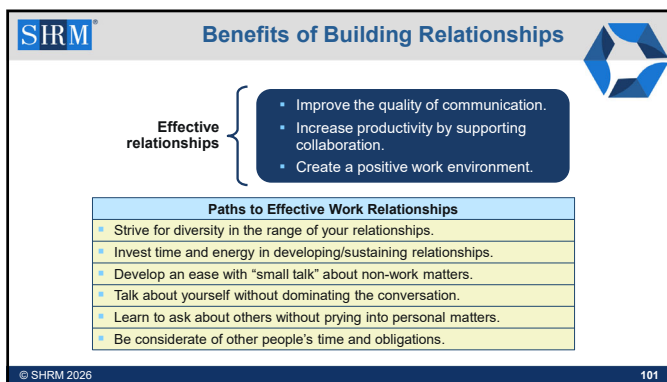
- Decide who you should include in your network.
- In all social situations, introduce yourself, and then **ask, listen, and remember**.
- Make yourself more visible. **Attend, present, and participate** professionally.
- Develop your own value. Work on becoming an expert.
- Do favors. Networking is bidirectional; value flows to both ends of the connection.

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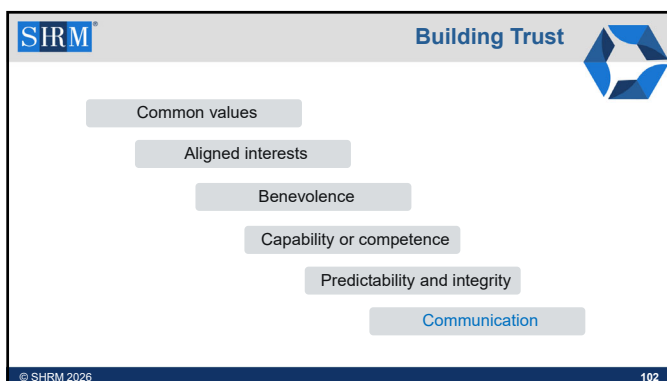
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SIRM

Types of Conflict



- May arise from disagreements over how to perform a task, personal differences, or a need for control.
- Interpersonal conflicts may sometimes be disguised as task conflicts.
- Conflicts can occur inside a team or between a team and an outside group.

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Conflict Resolution Tactics



Mode	Description
Accommodate (or smooth)	Emphasize agreement and downplay disagreement.
Assert (or force)	Impose a solution.
Avoid	Withdraw and allow conflict to be resolved (or not) by others.
Collaborate (or confront)	Search for a "third way" that both sides can own.
Compromise	Ask both sides to concede some issues to reach agreement.

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Conflict Resolution Tactics



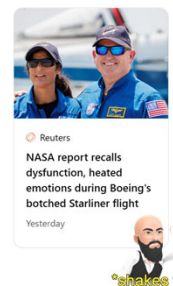
Mode	Description
Accommodate (or smooth)	
Assert (or force)	
Avoid	
Collaborate (or confront)	
Compromise	

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SIRM OOOps



On Earth, according to the report, Boeing and NASA officials sparred in tense meetings on how best to bring the crew home, with "unprofessional behavior" and yelling matches that countered the agency's norms of healthy technical debate and crisis management.

The report, completed in November and citing interviews with unnamed NASA officials, said "numerous interviewees mentioned defensive, unhealthy, contentious meetings during technical disagreements early in the mission."

"There was yelling in meetings. It was emotionally charged and unproductive," one official reported. "It was probably the ugliest environment that I've been in," another said.

"There wasn't a clear path for conflict resolution between the teams. That led to a lot of frayed relationships and emotions," said another.

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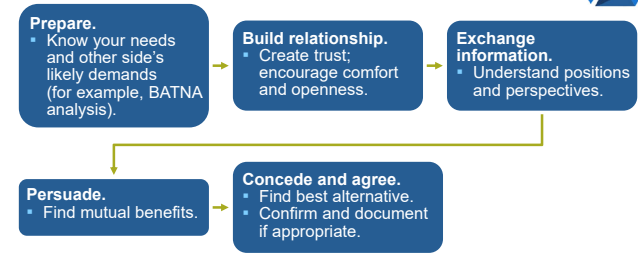
SIRM Approaches to Negotiation

- **Soft:** The relationship is worth more than the issue at hand.
- **Hard:** Winning is more important than the relationship.
- **Principled (interest-based or integrative bargaining):** Focus is on issues, finding common interests, and achieving mutual gain.

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SIRM Negotiating Process



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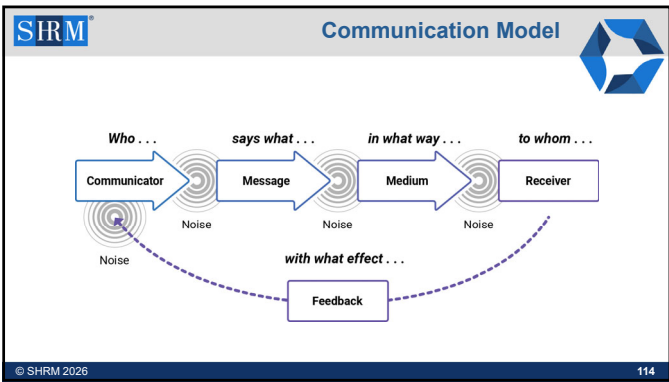
graph LR
    A[Prepare.  
▪ Know your needs and other side's likely demands (for example, BATNA analysis).] --> B[Build relationship.  
▪ Create trust; encourage comfort and openness.]
    B --> C[Exchange information.  
▪ Understand positions and perspectives.]
    C --> D[Persuade.  
▪ Find mutual benefits.]
    D --> E[Concede and agree.  
▪ Find best alternative.  
▪ Confirm and document if appropriate.]
    E --> A
  
```

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SIRM **Effective Listening Techniques**



Invite the other person into the conversation.

Focus on what the other person is saying.

Process unspoken or nonverbal messages.

Be aware of the nonverbal message you are sending.

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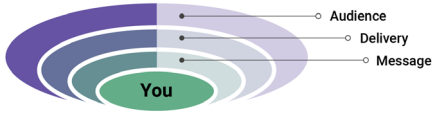
SIRM **Impactful Communication**



Impactful communication integrates:

- An understanding of the audience's needs and perspectives.
- A clear message.
- Effective delivery.

At the center is the communicator and the perception communicators create of themselves.



Source: "Influence Business Decisions Through Effective Communication," SHRM

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SIRM **Understanding the Audience**



Key audience analysis questions

- Who should receive information?
- What do they know, and what do they need to know?
- How will the audience react?
- How can I best persuade them?



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SRM Constructing the Message

Key “framing” questions

- What is my objective? What do I want the audience to feel? To do?
- What benefits can be created as a result of this communication?
- What are the key points, and what order makes logical sense?
- What evidence will convince the audience?

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SRM OOps

Finance
After receiving backlash, the CEO of Standard Chartered apologizes for hurt over saying ‘lower value human capital’ will be automated by AI
Bill Winters, the CEO of Standard Chartered, says about 15% of ‘back office’ corporate jobs may be automated by AI in the next four years...
May 26, 2025

Business
Watch StanChart CEO Winters Says AI to Replace “Lower-Value Human Capital”
It’s not cost cutting. It’s replacing in some cases lower value human capital with AI...
May 19, 2025

For Business
Standard Chartered CEO walks back comments about replacing ‘lower-value human capital’ with AI
Standard Chartered CEO Bill Winters walked back remarks about cutting thousands of jobs by replacing ‘lower value human capital’ with AI...
May 26, 2025

Feeling the
StanChart CEO apologizes over ‘lower-value human capital’ comment
CEO from JPMorgan Chase, HSBC and Barclays added their takes to polarizing remarks by StanChart chief Bill Winters in explaining his...
May 27, 2025

Football
Bournemouth release statement on ‘disgusting’ sacking after club chief ordered investigation
Jack Johnson, Sports Writer
Published: 16/09, 15 Aug 2026 | Updated: 16/09, 15 Aug 2026

I have made a mistake

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SRM Planning Communications

Key planning questions

- How will the communication occur?
- When will the communication occur?
- Where will the communication occur?
- Who will communicate?
- What support will be required?
- What media will be used?
- How will audience feedback be managed?
- What organizational rules will shape the communication?
- What is the appropriate tone of the communication?

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SIRM **Being an Impactful Communicator**

Key questions to create impact:

- How can I create credibility?
 - Reputation for expertise
 - Reliability
 - Integrity
- How do I create presence?
 - Posture and movement
 - Gesture
 - Eye contact
 - Vocal qualities

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SIRM **Evaluating Communication**

- Was the audience analysis complete and on target?
- Did the audience react as anticipated?
- What points seemed most or least interesting?
- Where did they get confused?
- Where were they most engaged?
- What engagement tactics worked and which didn't?
- How could feedback mechanisms be improved?

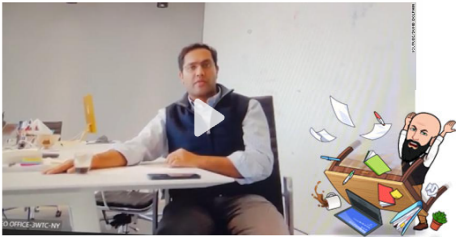
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SIRM **Understanding the Audience**

Better.com CEO fires 900 employees over Zoom

By Ramishah Marud, CNN Business
Updated 6:50 PM ET, Mon December 6, 2021



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SIRM **Feedback**



Giving Feedback	Providing Corrective Feedback	Seeking and Receiving Feedback
- Must be timely and specific. - Withholding feedback results in unmanaged negative risks.	- Bookending negative feedback with positive remarks does not improve acceptance. - Incorporate the opportunity for employees to express their own goals.	- Decide what kind of feedback is needed. Then find the person most equipped to give it. - Listen actively and don't be defensive. - Offer thanks.

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SIRM **Leading More Effective Staff Meetings**



- Have a purpose and ensure that everyone understands this purpose.
- Set a clear agenda.
- Limit meeting time to what is needed to address agenda items.
- Start on time. Plan social exchanges ahead of the start time.
- For regular meetings, consider ways to "change things up."
- Recognize the importance of storytelling.
- Take time to resolve conflicts, but postpone difficult conflicts until later.
- Review decisions and next steps at meeting's end.
- Send an e-mail summary if needed.
- Periodically, have a "meeting on meetings."

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SIRM **Translating Technical Jargon**



- Jargon and shorthand may be used throughout the organization, but not all employees will have familiarity with it.
- Communication must be planned so that it is appropriately translated for relevant audiences.

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SIRM **Anonymous Communications**

- May take many forms:
 - Anonymous complaints
 - Online and employee reviews
 - Employee and customer surveys
- Ability to provide anonymous feedback important to breaking down silos
- Not always negative
- May be worth examining why there is a need for anonymous feedback

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SIRM **Behavioral Competencies**

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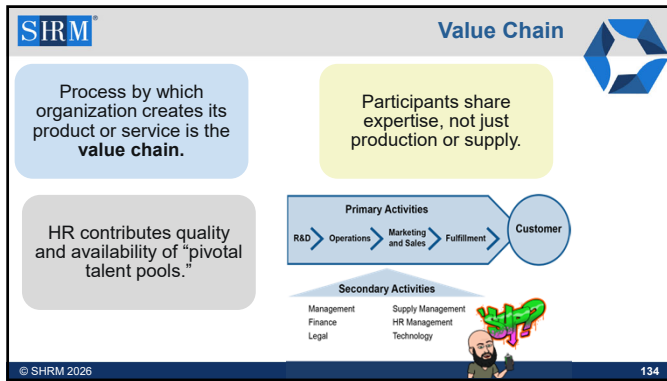
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SIRM **Value**

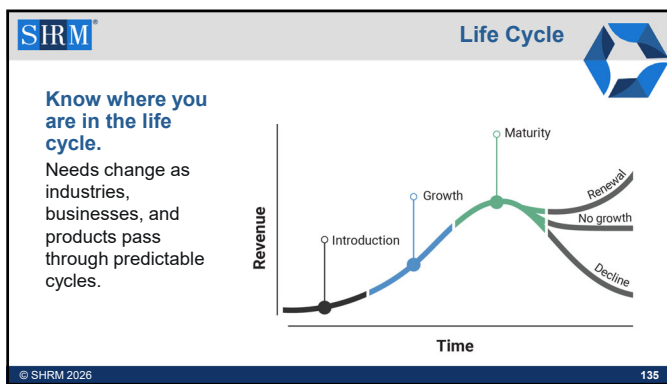
- Value** generally refers to organizations' success in meeting their strategic goals.
- Value can be influenced by organizations' mission or culture.
- HR must understand the varying perceptions of value because they will drive strategic goals throughout the organization and affect the ways in which HR can support the organization.

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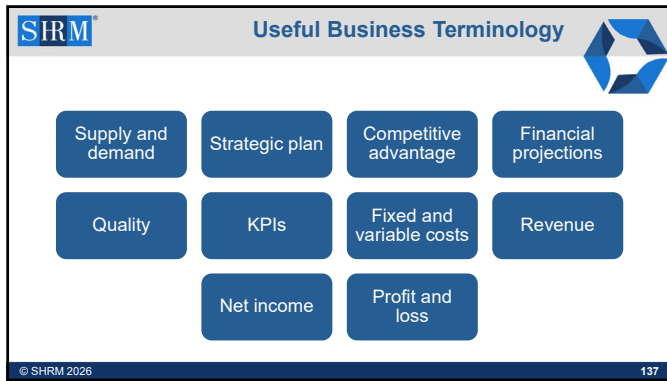
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SIRM Improving Environmental Awareness

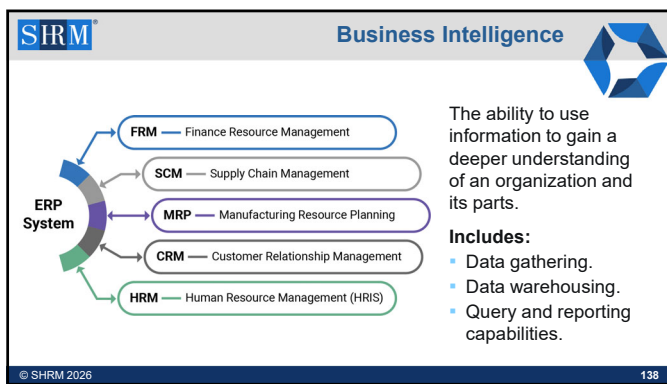
- Information gathering must be used regularly and expanded as new sources and information channels develop.
- HR professionals must focus on expanding and deepening channels of information.

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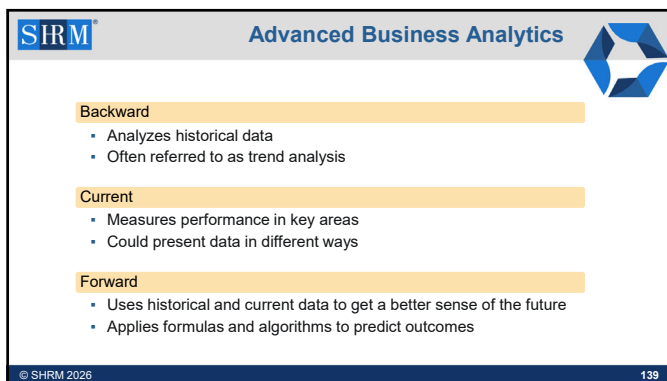
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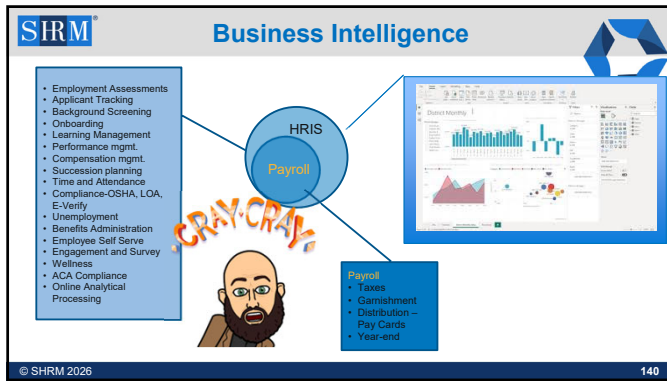
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SIRM Budgeting

Budget type	Characteristics
Incremental	Traditional approach; prior budget is basis for next budget.
Zero-based	Each unit or goal is ranked, and available funds are allocated, with budgets starting at zero.
Activity-based	Based on how much it costs to perform activities; funding based on strategic significance of activities.
Formula-based	Different units receive varying percentages of budget.

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SIRM Budgeting Considerations

The budgeting process requires understanding the organization's practices, strategy, and environment.

- How does the organization allocate costs?
- Which costs are variable and which are fixed for the budget year?
- When do costs occur?
- What organizational and functional strategic plans will affect HR?
- What risk factors affect the budget?

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SIRM **Business Case**

Presentation to management that establishes that a specific problem exists and argues that the proposed solution is the best way to solve the problem in terms of time, cost efficiency, and probability of success.

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graph LR
    A[Executive Summary] --> B[Recommended Solution]
    B --> C[Risks and Opportunities]
    C --> D[Estimated Costs and Time Frame]
  
```

Executive Summary Condition or change impelling action

Recommended Solution Objectives for an ideal solution

Risks and Opportunities Outcomes that could decrease success or present new opportunities; risk of doing nothing

Estimated Costs and Time Frame All foreseeable elements plus a reserve

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SIRM **Balance Sheet Concepts**

Assets = Liabilities + Equity or Equity = Assets – Liabilities

Assets

- What an organization owns
- Can be tangible or intangible
- Can include investments
- Can include what is owed to the organization (**accounts receivable**)

Liabilities

- What an organization owes
- Can include items such as rent, loans, tax debts, etc.
- Can include what vendors/suppliers are owed (**accounts payable**)

Equity

- Represents what a company owes to either its owner(s) or its shareholders
- Represents what is left of a company's assets after its liabilities have been discharged

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SIRM **Sample Balance Sheet**

ABC Manufacturing Company

Balance Sheets
December 31, Year

In thousands (\$00)

Year 1 Year 2

Point in time →
Goes to Cash Flow →

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 133,900	\$ 128,600
Raw materials inventory	10,800	13,000
Work-in-process inventory	5,400	16,600
Finished goods inventory	25,000	23,700
Total inventory	\$ 41,200	\$ 53,300
Accounts and notes receivable	48,200	50,300
Doubtful accounts	<500>	<400>
Total current assets	\$ 220,800	\$ 231,800
Gross plant, property, and equipment	60,000	70,000
Accumulated depreciation	<6,400>	<10,400>
Net plant, property, and equipment	\$ 53,600	\$ 59,600
Total assets	\$ 274,400	\$ 291,400
Accounts payable	58,700	65,200
Short-term notes payable	12,000	16,000
Total current liabilities	\$ 71,700	\$ 81,200
Long-term debt	80,000	<4,200>
Stockholders' equity (includes retained earnings)	122,700	<199,200>
Total long-term debt and stockholders' equity	\$ 202,700	\$ 210,200
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 274,400	\$ 291,400

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Income Statement Concepts

Basic form is:

Net income = Revenues – Expenses

- Provides the “bottom line” look at how the organization is performing.
- Also known as the **profit and loss statement (P&L)**.

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SIRM

Sample Income Statement

Gross profit ÷ Net sales

What it costs to sell \$1 makes \$0.39 on every \$1

Net income ÷ Net sales

What it costs to sell \$1 after G&A, Depreciation, Tax makes \$0.07 on every \$1

ABC Manufacturing Company

Income Statements	In thousands (000)	
	FY 1	FY 2
Sales, gross	285,500	312,000
Sales discounts, returns, and allowances	<14,300>	<15,600>
Revenue (net sales)	271,200	296,400
Cost of goods sold (COGS)	<167,400>	<182,200>
Gross profit	103,800	114,200
Selling expenses	<29,800>	<32,600>
Salaries	<19,000>	<20,700>
Lease expense	<10,800>	<11,900>
Total operating expenses	<59,600>	<65,200>
Depreciation	<3,400>	<4,000>
Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT)	40,800	45,000
Interest expense	<4,300>	<4,400>
Pretax income	36,500	40,600
Taxes	<12,000>	<21,100>
Net income	24,500	19,500

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Cash Flow Statement Concepts

- Shows incoming and outgoing cash in the areas of operations, investing, financing.
- The balance, trends, and relationships in areas of the statement are examined for signs of sound or weak management.
 - Negative cash flow in operations could indicate that sales are too low and/or the cost of production is too high.
 - Negative cash flow in financing could show that organization is relying too heavily on borrowing.

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SIRM Sample Cash Flow Statement

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Net income		24,500	19,500
Statements of Cash Flow			
Year	Period of time →	Year 1	Year 2
After-tax income		\$ 24,500	\$ 19,500
Depreciation add-back		3,400	4,000
(Increase)/decrease in inventory		(7,900)	(12,100)
(Increase)/decrease in accounts receivable		(7,700)	(4,200)
ABC Manufacturing Company			
In thousands (\$00)			
December 31, Year		Year 1	Year 2
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 133,900	\$ 128,800
Less dividends paid		—	(12,000)
Increase/(decrease) in long-term debt		—	—
Increase/(decrease) in short-term notes		—	4,000
Net cash flow from financing activities		—	(8,000)
Cash flow from operations, investments, and financing activities		4,400	(5,300)
Beginning cash balance		129,400	133,900
Ending cash balance		\$ 134,000	\$ 128,600

Combined cash flow is subtracted from the ending cash balance of the previous period, which is the beginning cash balance of the current period.

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SIRM Sample Cash Flow Statement

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ABC Manufacturing Company		In thousands (\$00)	
Year		Year 1	Year 2
After-tax income		\$ 25,500	\$ 19,500
Depreciation add-back		3,400	4,000
(Increase)/decrease in inventory		(7,900)	(12,100)
(Increase)/decrease in accounts receivable		(7,700)	(4,100)
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payable		10,100	5,500
Net cash flow from operating activities		22,400	12,800
Capital expenditures		(10,000)	(10,000)
Net cash flow from investments		(10,000)	(10,000)
Cash flow from operations and investment		13,400	2,800
Additional equity capital		—	—
Less dividends paid		(10,000)	(12,000)
Increase/(decrease) in long-term debt		—	—
Increase/(decrease) in short-term notes		2,000	4,000
Net cash flow from financing activities		(8,000)	(8,000)
Cash flow from operations, investments, and financing activities		5,400	(5,200)
Beginning cash balance		128,500	133,900
Ending cash balance		\$ 133,900	\$ 128,700

Combined cash flow is subtracted from the ending cash balance of the previous period, which is the beginning cash balance of the current period.

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SIRM Financial Ratios

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Financial ratios can be used to analyze an organization's performance.

Excessive use of financial measures can overemphasize the importance of short-term results.

Ratios are often industry-specific, so HR professionals should understand industry metrics and how organization compares with similar enterprises.

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SIRM Sample Financial Ratios



- Current ratio
- Debt to asset ratio
- Debt to equity ratio
- Accounts receivable turnover
- Gross margin
- Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization (EBITDA) margin
- Profit margin
- Return on investment (ROI)
- Earnings per share (EPS)
- Price to earnings (P/E)

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SIRM Sample Nonfinancial Metrics



- Market share
- Achievements in social responsibility
- Activity ratios
- Employee retention and job satisfaction
- Employee engagement
- Market position, including:**
 - Reputation
 - Level of brand awareness
 - Recognizable employer brand
 - Reputation for quality, customer relations, innovation

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SIRM Sales Pipeline



```

graph TD
    A[Identify leads] --> B[Gather information]
    B --> C[Create proposal]
    C --> D[Negotiate]
    D --> E[Close sale]
    E --> F[Monitor]
  
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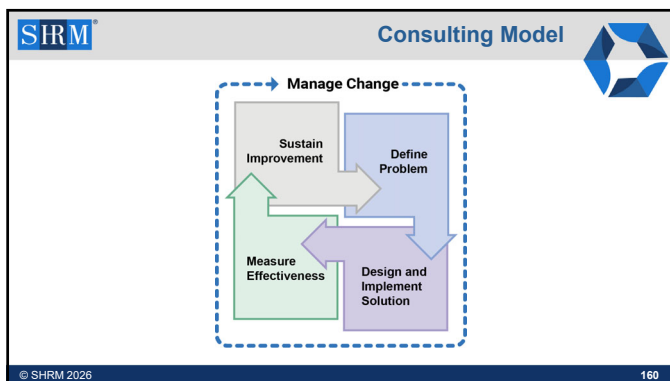
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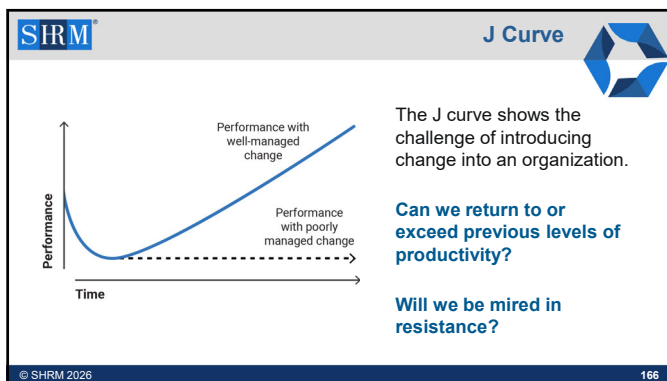
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HR's Role in Managing Change

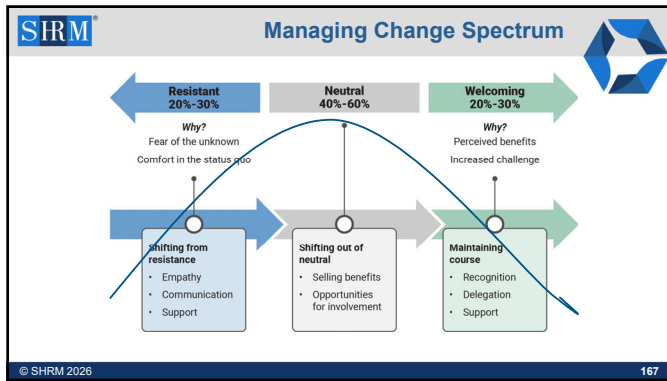
- Identify programs, practices, and policies that might benefit from change.
- Identify impact of change on people and departments.
- Assess impact of changes across organization.
- Consult with leadership about ways to support change initiative.
- Communicate quickly and often.
- Measure effectiveness of change initiative.
- Track issues and follow up to deliver superior service to HR's internal customers.

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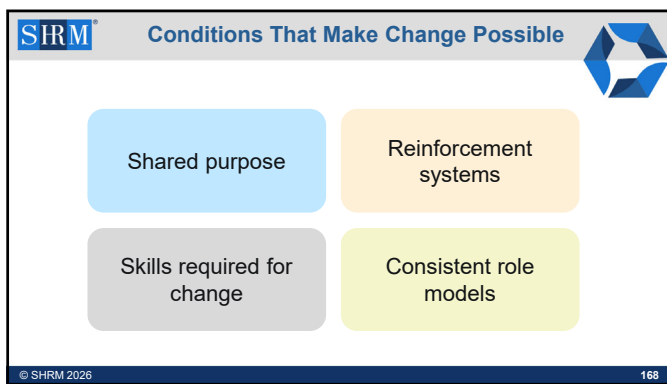
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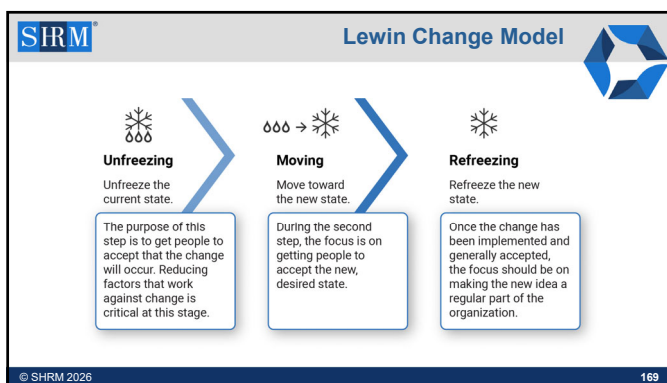
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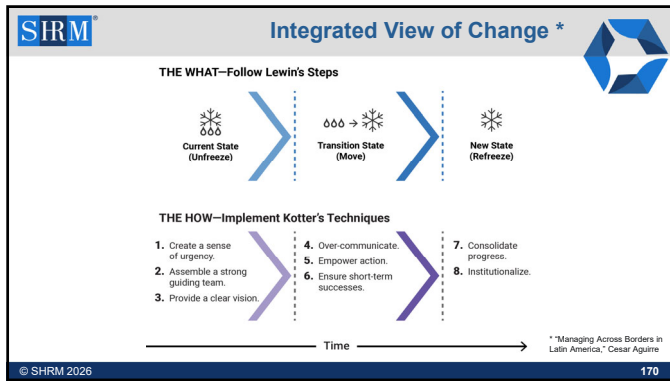
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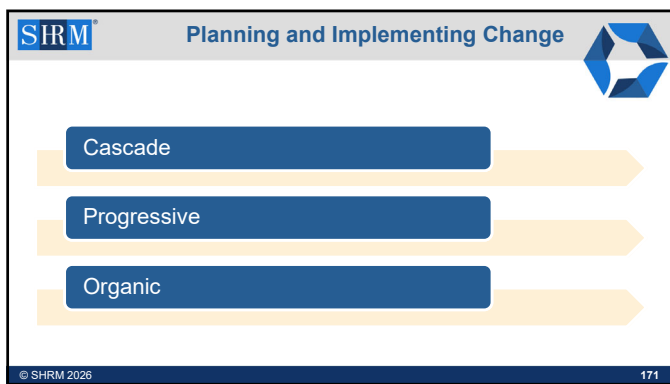
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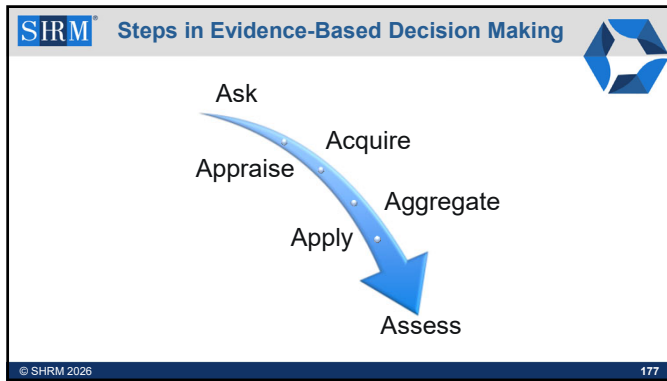
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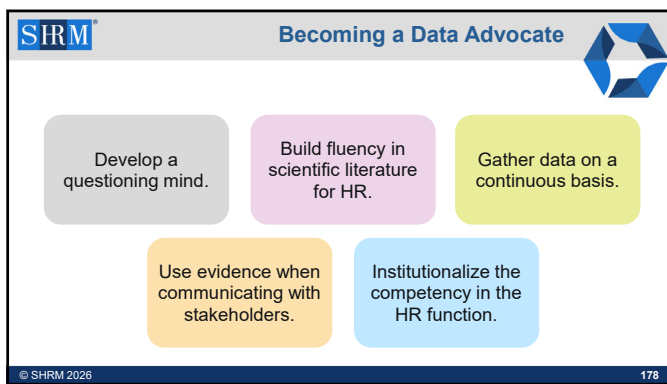
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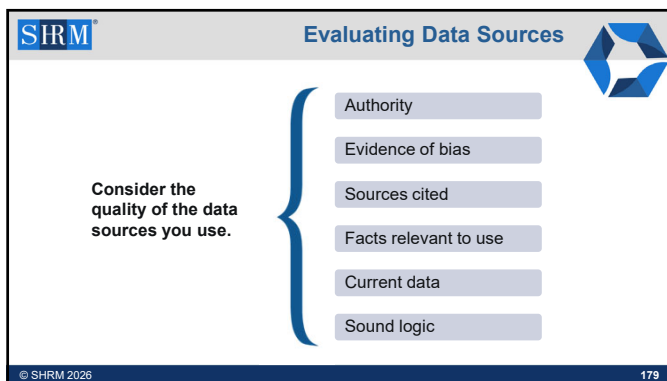
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SIRM Common HR Data Sources



- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Surveys/questionnaires
- Observation
- Existing data
- Artifacts
- Marketing data
- Other sources of data

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SIRM Interviews



Individual interviews:

- Offer the opportunity for follow-up questions that may not be possible in a survey or focus group.
- Are rarely the sole form of gathering data.
- Are more effective if areas of discussion and specific questions are planned (for example, with an interview guide).

Interviewer should establish a positive and trusting relationship with the interviewees.

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SIRM Interview Advantages and Challenges



Advantages	Challenges
▪ Safer, confidential environment may generate significant information. ▪ Comments can suggest direction for further group research (focus groups and surveys).	▪ Can be time-intensive. ▪ Requires strong relationship-building skills. ▪ Requires vigilance to avoid bias from influencing questions and interpretation of answers.

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Focus Groups



Small group (normally **six to twelve**) invited to participate in a structured discussion (**one to three hours**) with a facilitator

Advantages	Challenges
- Provides a flexible format that is relatively comfortable for discussion - Supports group brainstorming, decision making, prioritization, group consensus - Enables HR to learn about employee needs, attitudes, and opinions - Gives employees direct input	- Tends to foster "group think" - May be difficult to control if participants go off on tangents - Generally don't allow for deep discussions - Can provide skewed or biased results if participants are not representative

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Conducting More Effective Focus Groups



Important considerations:

- Planning
- Context
- Importance of facilitator and recorder
- Tools: mind mapping/affinity diagramming, nominal group technique, Delphi technique

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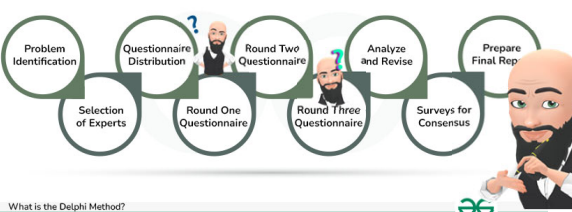
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Conducting More Effective Focus Groups



Delphi Method Process



What is the Delphi Method?

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SIRM Conducting More Effective Focus Groups

5 Steps to Nominal Group Technique

1. Introduction 2. Silent Idea Generation 3. Idea Sharing 4. Group Discussion 5. Voting

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SIRM Surveys and Questionnaires

- Relatively inexpensive ways to gather a large amount of data from a large and dispersed group of subjects
- Important considerations:
 - Obtaining a valid (representative) sample
 - Designing the survey with analysis in mind
 - Asking the right questions (for example, questions that reflect appropriate internal and external environmental factors and are mindful of language and cultural differences)
- GenAI can assist with analyzing open-ended responses

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SIRM Survey/Questionnaire Advantages and Challenges

Advantages	Challenges
▪ Efficient way to gather a lot of data from a large and dispersed group ▪ Easier to quantify data for analysis and reporting	▪ Can be difficult to obtain an acceptable response rate ▪ Difficult to follow up on data from anonymous sources ▪ Relies on self-reporting, which can be biased ▪ Requires time and statistical expertise to assess sample and compile and analyze data

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SIRM Observation 

Observing the workplace and work processes:

- Mitigates any self-reporting filters present in interviews, surveys, and focus groups
- Allows observers to note factors that participants are unaware of, have become accustomed to, or are reluctant to share
- Can strengthen the HR professional's understanding of the work at hand and the culture of the workplace

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SIRM Observation Advantages and Challenges 

Advantages	Challenges
▪ Provides firsthand and immediate data rather than self-reported data, which can be affected by memory and selectivity. ▪ Is time-efficient for subjects.	▪ Requires skill to be unseen. (When group is aware of observer, data becomes less reliable.) ▪ Requires vigilance to remove personal bias from observations. ▪ Requires experience to note significant behaviors. ▪ Observations may not be representative of entire body of data.

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SIRM Existing Data 

Many sources of existing data:

- Official documents about the business and culture
- Performance data from financial records, organizational databases, and HRIS
- Correspondence and reports
- Industry data and benchmarks

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SIRM Existing Data Advantages and Challenges

Advantages	Challenges
- Eliminates the effects of observation and involvement and possible biases - Rich, multi-perspective source of data	- Can be time-intensive - Requires experience to extract key data - May require ingenuity to find data

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SIRM Artifacts

- Objects created by members of a culture that convey a sense of that culture's values and priorities, beliefs, habits and rituals, or perspectives.
- May include physical workspaces, virtual environments.

Advantages	Disadvantages
- Provides additional insight into cultural issues - Can be observed without the help of those being observed	- Requires researcher to understand the principles of culture - Can create misunderstandings if the researcher is not familiar with the culture

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SIRM Marketing Data

- May aid in workforce planning or establishing a business case
- Can be gathered from both internal and external sources

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SIRM

Other Sources

Payroll data

Compensation and benefits data

Employee KPI performance

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SIRM

Reliability and Validity

Reliability

Ability of an instrument to provide consistent results

Example:
A checklist used to rate suppliers' proposals produces the same results when used by multiple scorers.

Validity

Ability of an instrument to measure what it is intended to measure

Example:
A checklist used to rate suppliers' proposals results in selection of suppliers who meet expectations.

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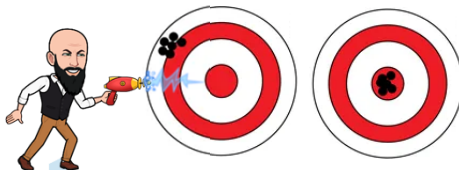
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SIRM

RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY

RELIABILITY

VALIDITY



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SIRM Sampling 

- Samples must represent the population being measured.
- Samples must be sufficiently large to include possible variations.

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SIRM Errors and Bias in Statistical Analysis 

Biases may include:

- Sampling.
- Selection.
- Response.
- Performance.
- Measurement.

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SIRM Data Cleansing 

- Consists of identifying and correcting incomplete sets, anomalies, errors, and gaps in data.
- Incorrect or inconsistent data can lead to incorrect conclusions, poor decision making, and misdirected efforts and resources.

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SIRM **Median and Mode**

Median is the middle value in a range. (Where there are an even number of data points, the median is determined by averaging the two middle numbers.)

Mode is the most frequently occurring value.

\$55,000
\$55,000
\$60,000
\$60,000
\$65,000
\$65,000
\$65,000
\$70,000
\$70,000
\$70,000
\$70,000
\$70,000
\$75,000

Median = \$67,500

Mode = \$70,000

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SIRM **Mean**

Unweighted mean (raw average):
Gives equal weight to all data values.

Organization	Number of incumbents	Annual salary	Total salary
A	2	\$55,000	\$110,000
B	1	\$60,000	\$60,000
C	2	\$65,000	\$130,000
D	5	\$70,000	\$350,000
E	1	\$75,000	\$75,000
5	11	\$325,000	\$725,000

Unweighted mean = \$65,000
(\$325,000 ÷ 5 organization salaries)

Weighted mean = \$65,250

Note that this value may change based on rounding/significant figures for the fractions to the right.

$$\left(\left[\$55,000 \times \frac{2}{11} \right] + \left[\$60,000 \times \frac{1}{11} \right] + \left[\$65,000 \times \frac{2}{11} \right] + \left[\$70,000 \times \frac{5}{11} \right] + \left[\$75,000 \times \frac{1}{11} \right] \right)$$

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SIRM **Frequency Distributions**

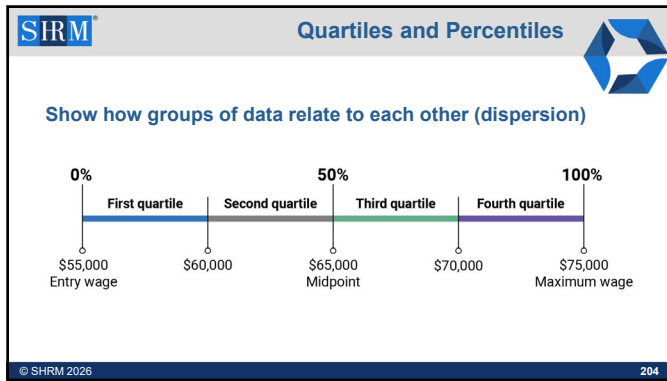
Used to sort numerical data to reveal patterns

- Frequency distribution
 - Lists the grouped data from lowest to highest
- Frequency table
 - Helps locate peaks within data range

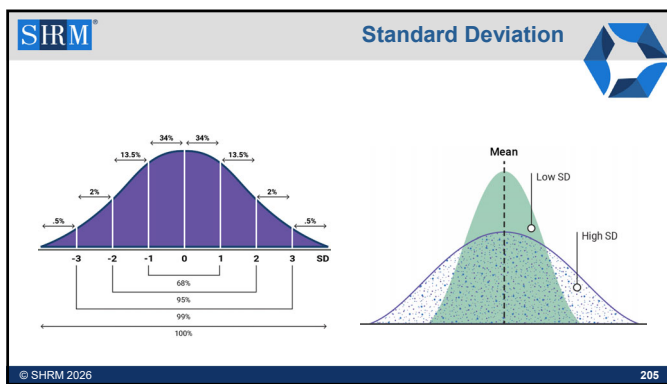
MEAN SALARY	NUMBER OF INCUMBENTS
\$55,000	2
\$60,000	1
\$65,000	2
\$70,000	5
\$75,000	1

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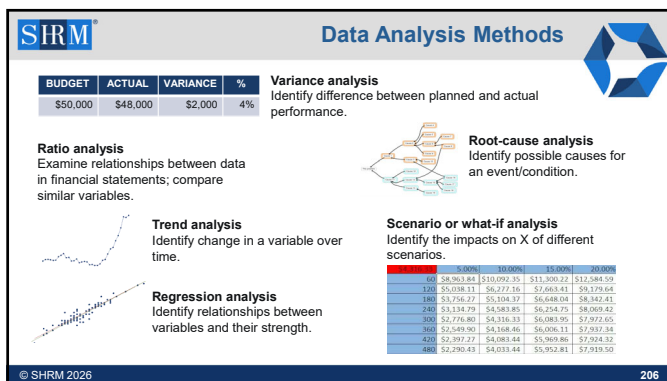
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SIRM Using Data to Support a Business Case

- Data must be used to successfully establish how a specific problem or issue will be addressed.
- Data's greatest contribution to a business case is a fact-based story.

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SIRM Graphic Analysis Tools

Pie chart

- Depicts as slices of a circle the constituents that comprise 100% of a data group.
- Communicates high-level information about data distribution.

Workforce Age

Age Group	Percentage
< 25	17%
25-35	22%
36-50	25%
> 50	36%

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SIRM Graphic Analysis Tools

Histogram

- Sorts data into groups and shows relative sizes as columns of varying heights or lengths.
- Supports rapid comparison.

Employee Performance Scores by Hiring Source

Trend Diagram

- Plots data points of a defined variable over time.
- Shows cycles or developing trends.

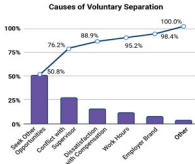
Underemployment Rate, Monthly Averages

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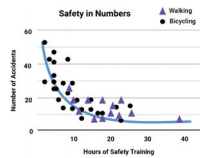
Pareto chart

- Ranks categories of data.
- Applies Pareto principle (80% of effects are caused by 20% of causes).



Scatter diagram

- Plots data points against variables.
 - Tightness of clustering indicates strength of relationship.
 - Direction of the line indicates a positive or negative **relationship** of the variables.
-



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