Task Instructions

In this task, you will play the role of a newspaper editor, who must choose headlines based on the monthly job numbers for the previous year. You will be shown a set of jobs numbers like these:

As editor, you must choose between two possible headlines:

- Latest Jobs Data Show Trend of No Growth
- Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

To help you decide which headline to choose, here are some charts showing what the monthly jobs numbers might look like if there was No Growth in jobs from month to month (left), or if there was a Growth Trend (right). The top row of charts below depict the No Growth and Growth Trend scenarios without uncertainty. However, the jobs numbers you must judge as editor will be impacted by uncertainty due to sampling error. The bottom row of charts below depict the No Growth and Growth Trend scenarios with uncertainty. These uncertainty visualizations will be available for you to reference as you make informed judgments about which headline to assign to the jobs numbers for a given year.

On the next page, you will see an example of the study interface along with annotations to specify what each part of the interface means and how to submit your responses.
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Task Instructions, Section 2

Below is a screenshot of the task interface (the red text will NOT appear in the actual task). Your job is to examine the monthly job numbers in the chart on the left side of the interface, and assign either one of the No Growth or Growth Trend headlines. The No Growth and the Growth trends are visualized with uncertainty on the right side of the interface to help you make this choice.

You will make two judgments per trial:

- Say which of the two trends (No Growth or Growth Trend) is more likely to have produced the monthly job numbers of the left.
- Say how confident you are in your judgment for the first question, from 50% (I made a random guess) to 100% (I am completely certain).

Example jobs report numbers for one year. You will judge the trend underlying these numbers.

No growth and growth trend scenarios
Choose which one is more likely to produce the example numbers

Answers closer to 50% if you are making a random guess about the trend in the job market
Answers closer to 100% if you are more confident in your answer about the trend in the job market

Ready for the task? Please answer the question below for the set of job numbers in the above example task to make sure you understand the task before proceeding.

Q: Which headline would you assign to the set of job numbers in the chart on the left side of the above task?
   - Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
   - Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Submit
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Example jobs report numbers for one year. You will judge the trend underlying these numbers.

No growth and growth trend scenarios (actual visualizations will be animated)
Choose which one is more likely to produce the example numbers

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Task: Interpret Monthly Job Reports To Choose Newspaper Headlines

Your job is to examine the monthly job numbers in the chart on the left side of the interface, and assign either one of the No Growth or Growth Trend headlines. The No Growth and the Growth trends are visualized with uncertainty on the right side of the interface to help you make this choice.

- Say which of the two trends (No Growth or Growth Trend) is more likely to have produced the monthly job numbers of the left.
- Say how confident you are in your judgment for the first question, from 50% (I made a random guess) to 100% (I am completely certain).

Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

☐ Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth

☐ Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50% [ ] 100% [ ]

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

- Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
- Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?
50% 100%
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...
If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?
50% 100%

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50%  100%

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

- Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
- Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50% 100%
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth  Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50%  100%

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

○ Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth

If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

○ Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50% 100%

[Slider]
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth

Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50%  100%

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

- If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...
- If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

- 50%
- 75%
- 100%

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

- If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...
- If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

- [ ] Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
- [ ] Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50% [ ] 100% [ ]

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

- If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...
- If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Options:
- Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
- Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

Confidence Level: [ ] 50% [ ] 100%

Continue
Q: Given the data on the chart, which headline would you assign?

If job growth were actually steady over the last 12 months...

If job growth had been accelerating over the last 12 months...

Latest Jobs Data Show No Growth
Latest Jobs Data Show Growth Trend

Q: How confident are you in your accuracy of your answer?

50%  100%

Continue
Final Feedback

Q0: Please describe any issues you came across while running the HIT. Please try to include details about interactions with the interface, what web browser you are using, and (if any) errors that appeared during testing.

The following demographics questions will help us understand more about you. Your responses will not be linked with your worker ID.

Q1: What is your age?
○ 18–24 years old
○ 25–34 years old
○ 35–44 years old
○ 45–54 years old
○ 55+ years old

Q2: How do you identify your gender?
○ Female
○ Male
○ Other

Q3: What is your highest education obtained?
○ Middle school
○ High school
○ Bachelor's degree or equivalent
○ Graduate school
○ Other

Q4: How often do you use charts and graphs?
○ Very often (about everyday)
○ Often (1–5 times per week)
○ Sometimes (1–5 times per month)
○ Rarely (less than once a month)
○ Never

Q5: How much experience do you have with statistics, including distribution types and measures of variance?
○ Very little; I have never taken a course and rarely use statistics.
○ I took it in college but rarely use statistics.
○ I took it in college and sometimes use statistics.
○ I have taken at least one college-level statistics course and I use statistics often.
○ I consider myself an expert in statistics.

Q6: Please view this visualization on the jobs report in the U.S. (Clicking will open in a new tab). Before doing this task, do you recall looking at this visualization?
○ Yes, I have seen it before.
○ No, I have never seen it before.
○ I am not sure if I've seen it before.

Q7: Did you use any outside resources (e.g., web searches) to complete this HIT? (This will not affect your payment or approval of this HIT)
○ Yes
○ No

Q8: Ethnicity or Race: Please specify your ethnicity.
○ White
○ Hispanic or Latino
○ Black or African American
○ Native American or American Indian
○ Asian / Pacific Islander
○ Other

Q9: How would you rate your overall enjoyment of the HIT?
○ Extremely enjoyable
○ Moderately enjoyable
○ Somewhat enjoyable
○ Slightly enjoyable
○ Not at all enjoyable

Q10: (Please tell us if there is any reason to exclude your data (for example, you are an expert in this dataset or if you used outside resources or had someone helping you etc.))

Q11: How can we improve this HIT?