

Scenario patterns for faster decision making

Business management is frequently about comparing different types of data such as actual and last year figures or actual vs budget figures. We call them *scenarios*.

Scenario patterns are consistent visual representations of different business scenarios (e.g., actuals, forecasts, budgets) in reports and dashboards.

By standardizing the way we display these scenarios, we *eliminate* confusion, enhance comparability, and make it easier for stakeholders to interpret data.

Show your figures with the right pattern.
Not different colors, but different patterns.

Solid | # Outline | # Hatched patterns

POWER BI DESIGN

Scenario patterns for faster decision making

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Use the appropriate fill pattern instead of colors. Use fill patterns. These are the patterns recommended by IBCS:

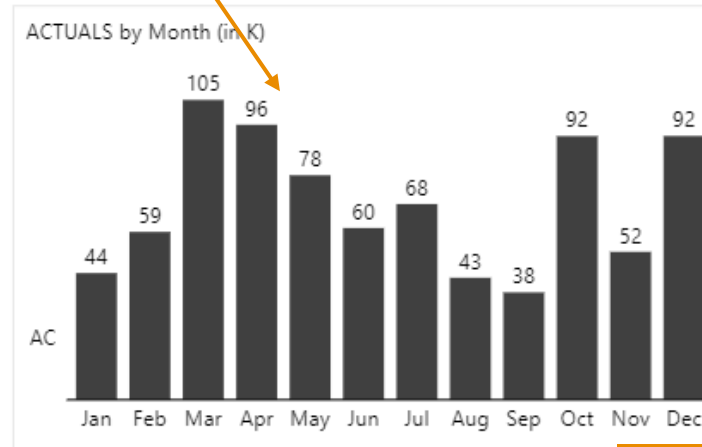
Solid dark for actuals

Outline for the plan

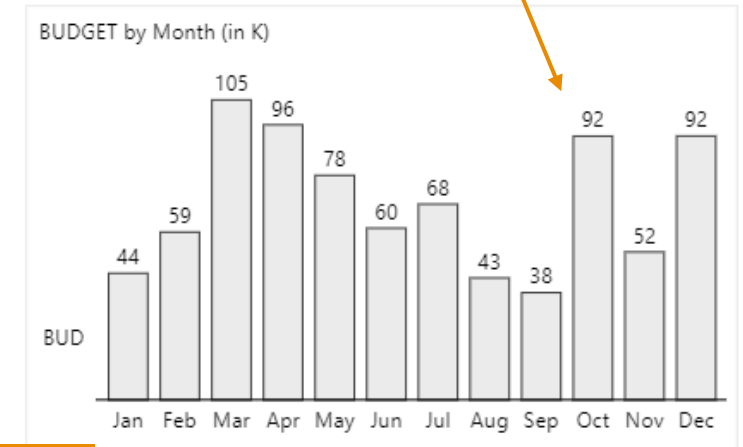
Hatched pattern for forecasts

Solid light for previous periods

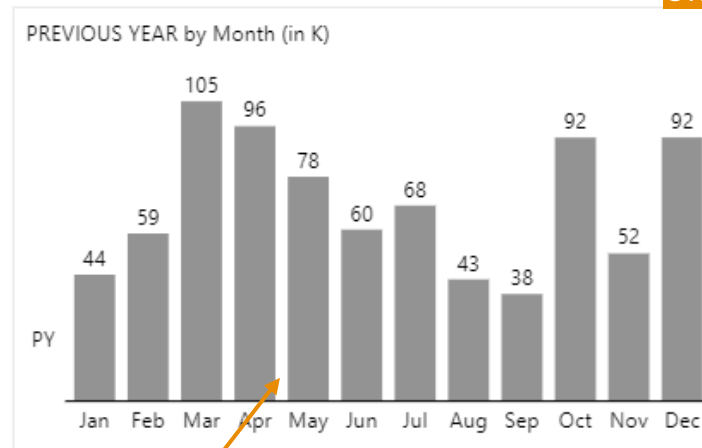
Actuals
solid pattern, dark



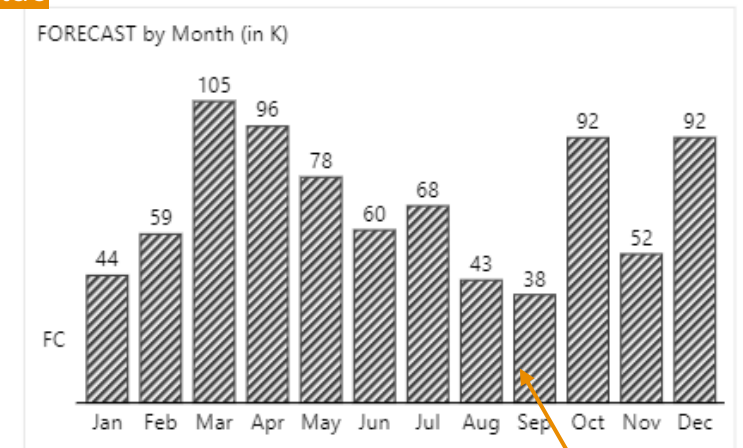
Budget
outlined pattern



Zebra BI visuals
One value



Previous year
solid pattern, light



Forecast
hatched pattern

POWER BI DESIGN

Scenario patterns also for line charts.

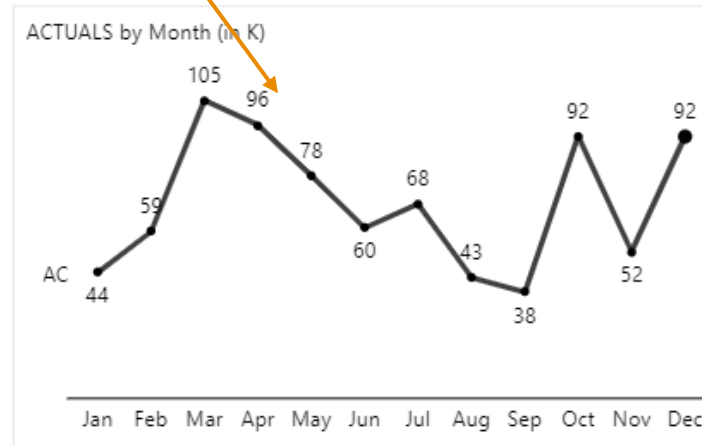
Scenario patterns aren't just for bar charts, they also play a crucial role in line charts.

Following **IBCS** standards, you can use consistent patterns to represent different scenarios (actuals, forecasts, budgets), enhancing clarity and comparability.

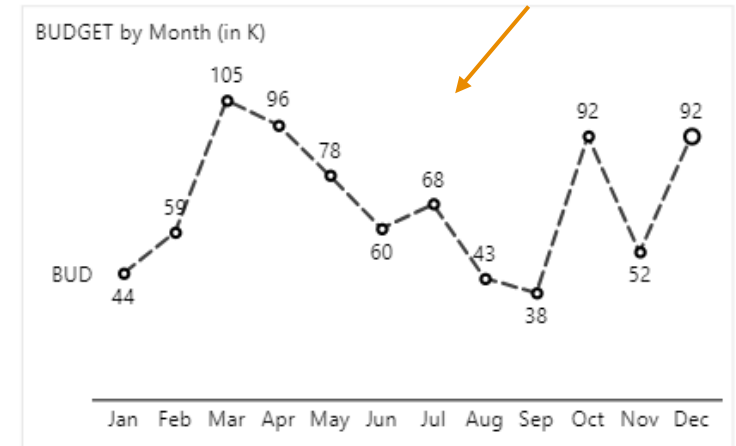
- Solid lines represent actuals
- Dashed lines for budgets
- Dotted lines for forecasts

By maintaining the same scenario patterns across different chart types, like line charts, you ensure *your audience easily understands* your data without confusion, **no matter the chart type.**

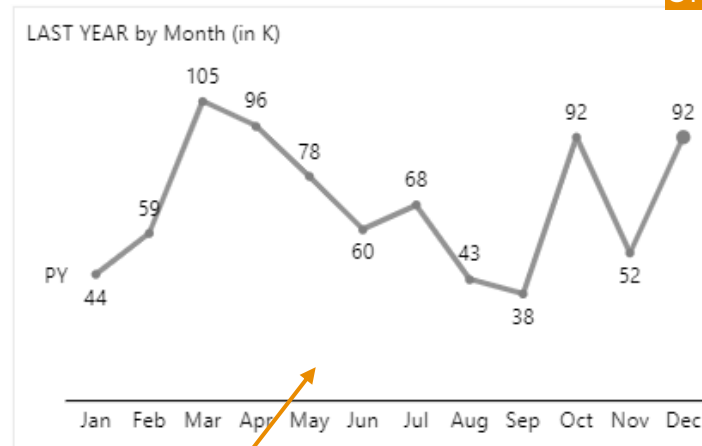
Actuals
solid pattern, dark



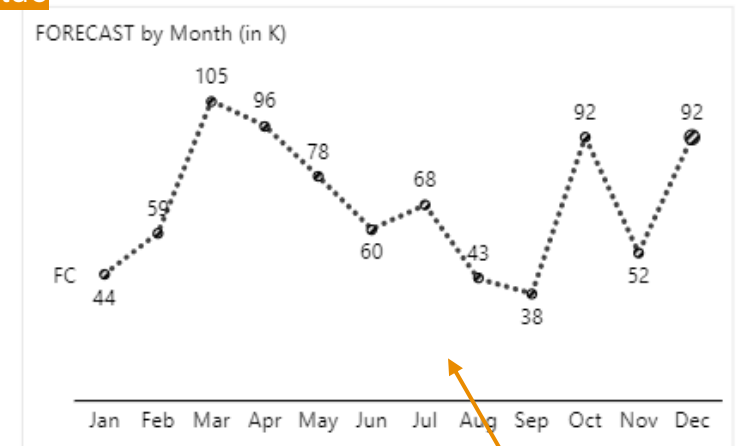
Budget
outlined pattern



Zebra BI visuals
One value



Previous year
solid pattern, light



Forecast
hatched pattern

POWER BI DESIGN

Same scenario patterns for different charts.

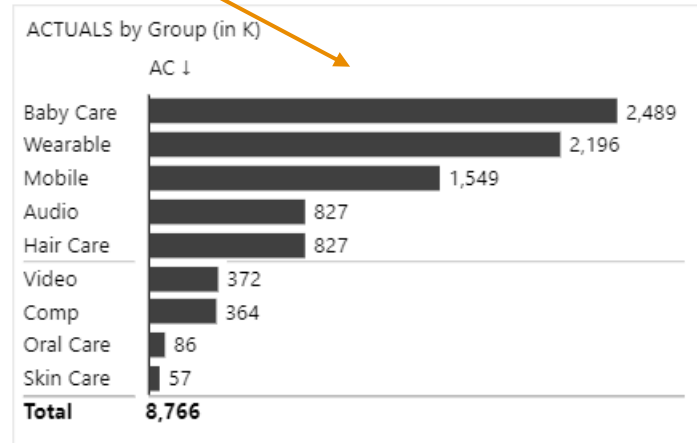
Scenario patterns aren't just for bar charts, they also play a crucial role in vertical bar charts to display categories.

Following **IBCS** standards, you can use consistent patterns to represent different scenarios (actuals, forecasts, budgets), enhancing clarity and comparability.

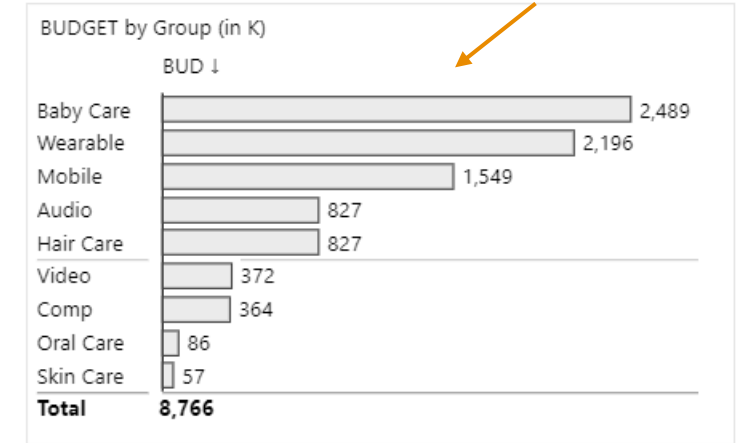
- Solid dark for actuals
- Outline for the plan
- Hatched pattern for forecasts
- Solid light for previous periods

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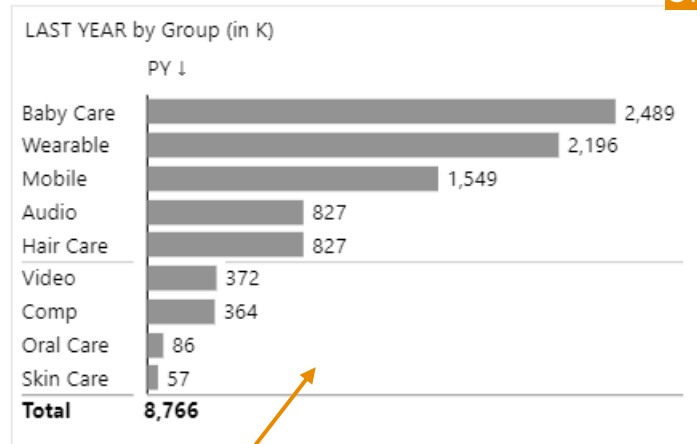
Actuals
solid pattern, dark



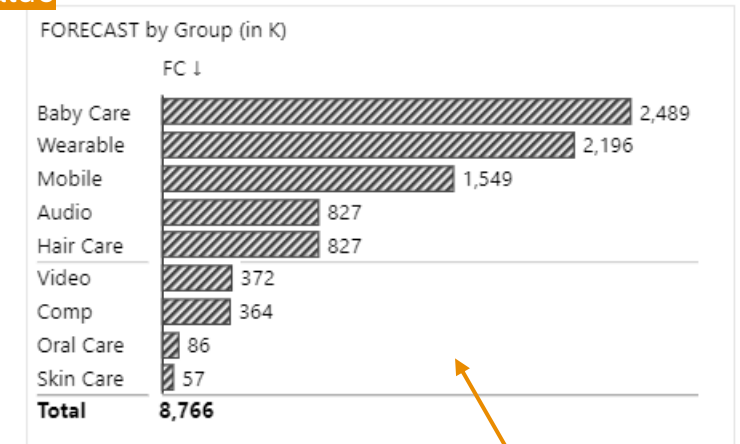
Budget
outlined pattern



Zebra BI visuals
One value



Previous year
solid pattern, light



Forecast
hatched pattern

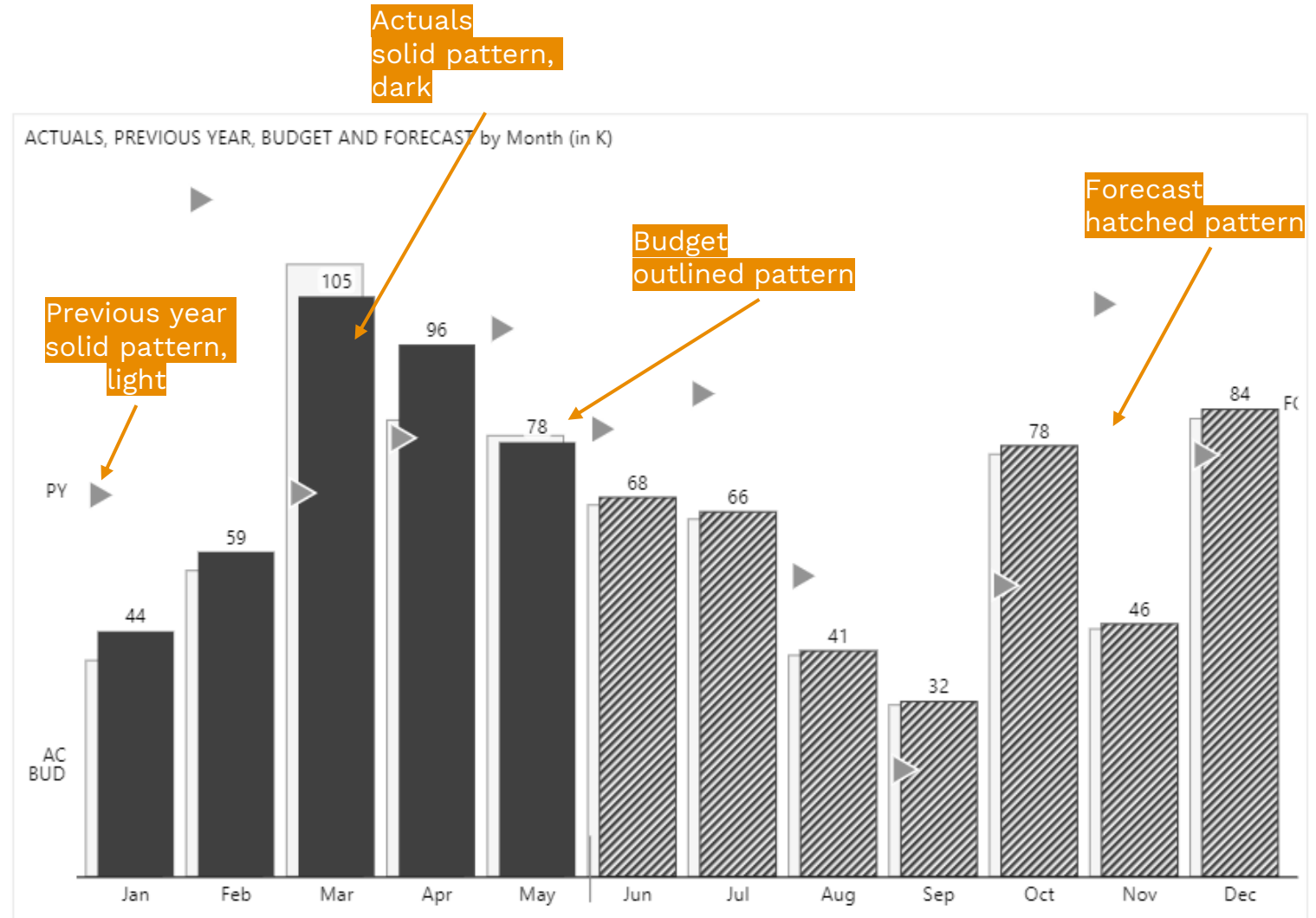
POWER BI DESIGN

One single chart, with all scenario patterns !

Imagine a single chart that shows actuals, last year, budget, and forecast, all at once !

Using (IBCS) scenario patterns, you can **visually distinguish** each scenario with ease.

By combining these patterns in a single chart, you give your audience a **clear** and **comprehensive** view of performance across time, making comparisons *easy and actionable*.



POWER BI DESIGN

Scenario patterns in your own branding ?

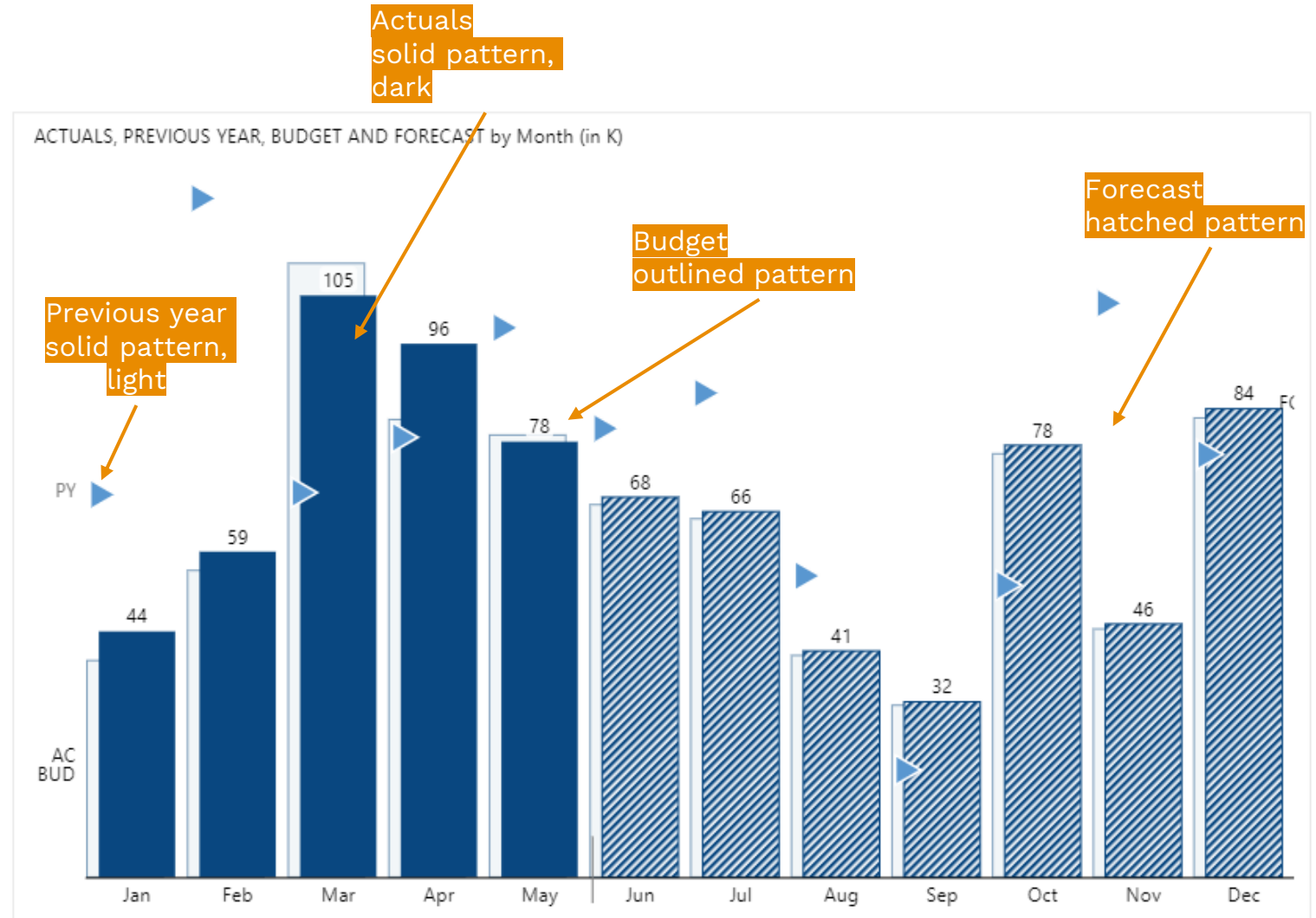
Show your figures with the right pattern.
Not different colors, but different patterns.

Did you know you can apply **IBCS** scenario patterns while still using your company's *branding colors*?

By combining **consistent scenario patterns** (solid, dashed, dotted lines or fills) with your unique color palette, you maintain clarity while reinforcing your brand identity.

Solid fills/lines for actuals, outlined for budgets and hatched for forecasts.

This approach keeps your reports on-brand while enhancing data comprehension through IBCS compliant patterns.



POWER BI DESIGN

One chart with two scenario patterns.

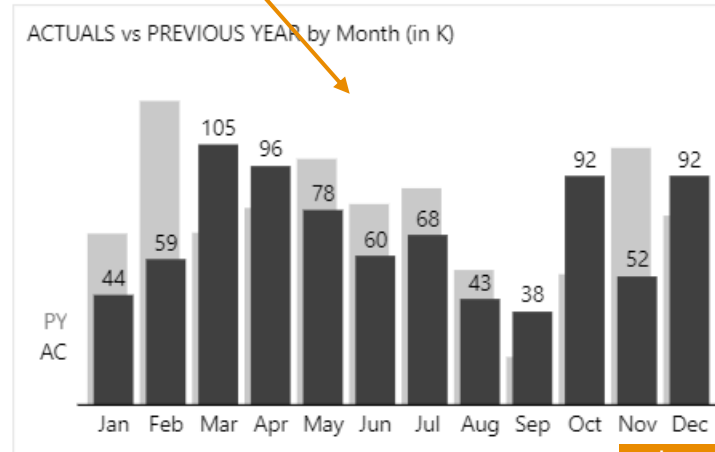
Scenario patterns aren't just for bar charts, they also play a crucial role in vertical bar charts to display categories.

Following **IBCS** standards, you can use consistent patterns to represent different scenarios (actuals, forecasts, budgets), enhancing clarity and comparability.

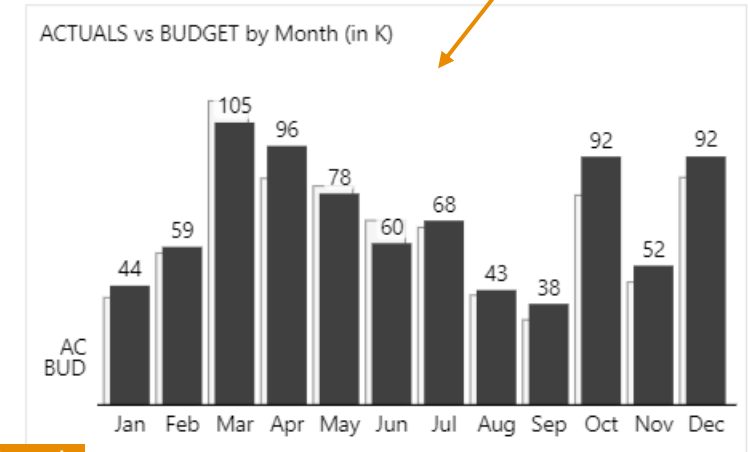
- Solid dark for actuals
- Outline for the plan
- Hatched pattern for forecasts
- Solid light for previous periods

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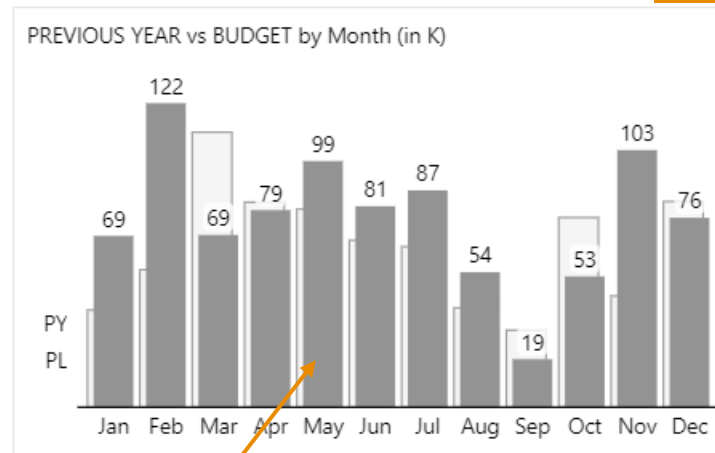
solid dark & light



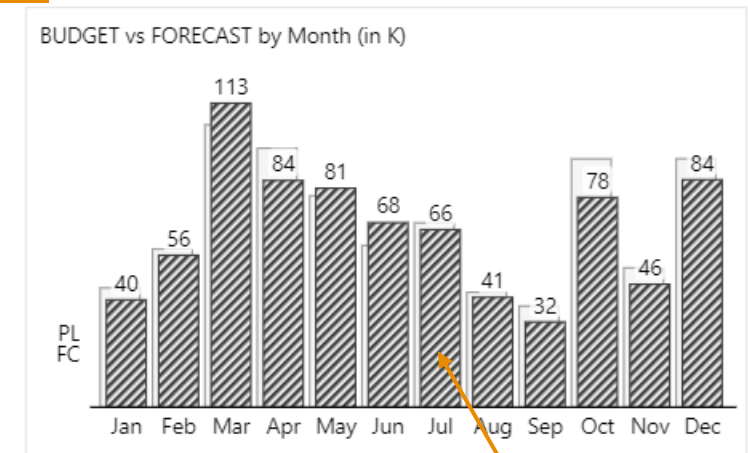
Outlined pattern



Zebra BI visuals
Two values



solid light & outlined



hatched & outlined pattern

Show your figures
with the **right pattern**.

Not different *colors*,
but a different
pattern.

Solid | # Outline | # Hatched

