Creating Accessible Tables

Table markup

What to do
Tabular information should be presented in columns and rows so the relationships are recognizable. Column and row headers should be marked with the appropriate table elements, as opposed to just formatting them as bold or italic.

Why it matters
The use of table elements and column and row headings allows assistive technologies to present the two-dimensional relationships between data, even if it cannot be seen.

Examples

Table captions

What to do
Tables should have descriptive captions.

Why it matters
A descriptive caption is a table identifier, like a title or heading, and allows assistive technologies to navigate directly to the table.

Examples
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