

Description

A range plot has two y variables, such as high and low daily stock price or upper and lower 95% confidence limits.

`twoway rspike` plots a range, using spikes to connect the high and low values.

Also see [\[G-2\]](#) [graph twoway spike](#) for another style of spike chart.

Quick start

Range plot with spikes

```
twoway rspike y1 y2 x
```

Horizontal range plot with spikes

```
twoway rspike y1 y2 x, horizontal
```

Specify maroon spikes

```
twoway rspike y1 y2 x, lcolor(maroon)
```

With an overlaid line plot

```
twoway rspike y1 y2 x || line y3 x, sort
```

Specify labels for the y axis

```
twoway rspike y1 y2 x, ylabel(100 200 300 400)
```

Menu

Graphics > Two-way graph (scatter, line, etc.)

Syntax

```
twoway rspike y1var y2var xvar [if] [in] [, options]
```

<i>options</i>	Description
<code>vertical</code>	vertical spikes; the default
<code>horizontal</code>	horizontal spikes
<code>line_options</code>	change look of spike lines
<code>colorvar_options</code>	change color of spike lines based on values of a variable
<code>axis_choice_options</code>	associate plot with alternative axis
<code>twoway_options</code>	titles, legends, axes, added lines and text, by, regions, name, aspect ratio, etc.

All explicit options are *rightmost*, except `vertical` and `horizontal`, which are *unique*; see [G-4] **Concept: repeated options**.

Options

`vertical` and `horizontal` specify whether the high and low *y* values are to be presented vertically (the default) or horizontally.

In the default `vertical` case, *y1var* and *y2var* record the minimum and maximum (or maximum and minimum) *y* values to be graphed against each *xvar* value.

If `horizontal` is specified, the values recorded in *y1var* and *y2var* are plotted in the *x* direction and *xvar* is treated as the *y* value.

`line_options` specify the look of the lines used to draw the spikes, including pattern, width, and color; see [G-3] `line_options`.

`colorvar_options` specify that the color of the lines used to draw the spikes be determined by the levels of the numeric variable *colorvar*; see [G-3] `colorvar_options`.

`axis_choice_options` associate the plot with a particular *y* or *x* axis on the graph; see [G-3] `axis_choice_options`.

`twoway_options` are a set of common options supported by all twoway graphs. These options allow you to title graphs, name graphs, control axes and legends, add lines and text, set aspect ratios, create graphs over `by()` groups, and change some advanced settings. See [G-3] `twoway_options`.

Remarks and examples

Remarks are presented under the following headings:

Typical use

Advanced use

Advanced use 2

Typical use

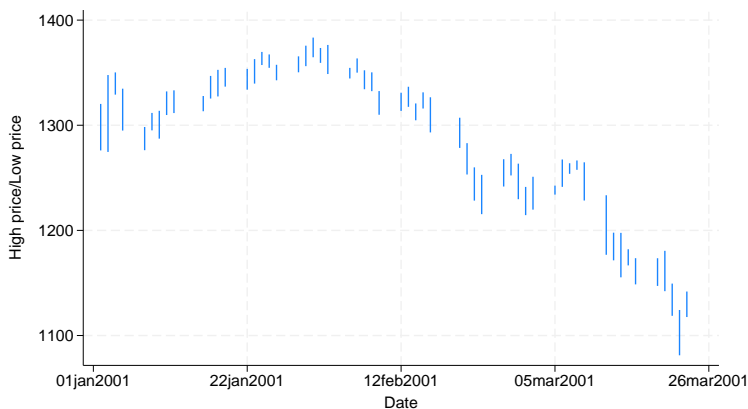
We have daily data recording the values for the S&P 500 in 2001:

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r19/sp500
(S&P 500)
. list date high low close in 1/5
```

	date	high	low	close
1.	02jan2001	1320.28	1276.05	1283.27
2.	03jan2001	1347.76	1274.62	1347.56
3.	04jan2001	1350.24	1329.14	1333.34
4.	05jan2001	1334.77	1294.95	1298.35
5.	08jan2001	1298.35	1276.29	1295.86

We will use the first 57 observations from these data:

```
. twoway rspike high low date in 1/57
```



Advanced use

twoway rspike can be usefully combined with other twoway plottypes (see [\[G-2\] graph twoway](#)):

```
. twoway rspike high low date, lcolor(gs11) ||  
  line close date || in 1/57
```



We specified `lcolor(gs11)` to tone down the spikes and give the line plot more prominence.

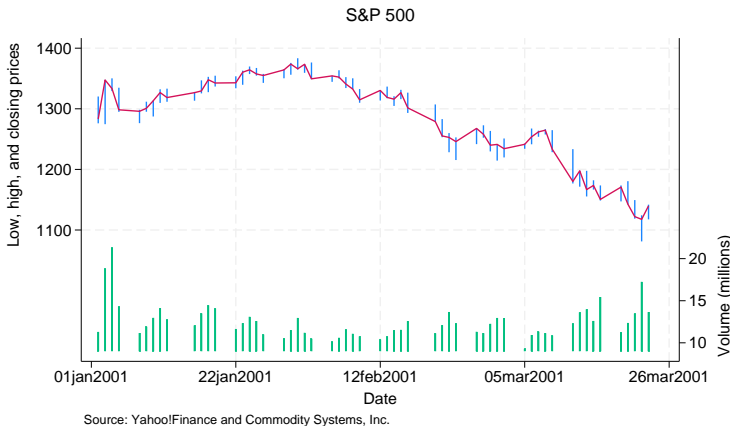
Advanced use 2

A popular financial graph is

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r19/sp500, clear
(S&P 500)

. replace volume = volume/1000
(248 real changes made)

. twoway
    rspike hi low date ||
    line   close date ||
    bar    volume date, barw(.25) yaxis(2) ||
in 1/57
, ysca(axis(1) r(900 1400))
  ysca(axis(2) r( 9 45))
  ylabel(, axis(2) grid)
  ytitle("Low, high, and closing prices", placement(neast))
  ytitle(" Volume (millions)", axis(2) bexpand just(left))
  legend(off)
  subtitle("S&P 500", margin(b+2.5))
  note("Source: Yahoo!Finance and Commodity Systems, Inc.")
```



Also see

- [G-2] [graph twoway rarea](#) — Range plot with area shading
- [G-2] [graph twoway rbar](#) — Range plot with bars
- [G-2] [graph twoway rcap](#) — Range plot with capped spikes
- [G-2] [graph twoway rcapsym](#) — Range plot with spikes capped with marker symbols
- [G-2] [graph twoway rconnected](#) — Range plot with connected lines
- [G-2] [graph twoway rline](#) — Range plot with lines
- [G-2] [graph twoway rscatter](#) — Range plot with markers
- [G-2] [graph twoway spike](#) — Two-way spike plots

Stata, Stata Press, Mata, NetCourse, and NetCourseNow are registered trademarks of StataCorp LLC. Stata and Stata Press are registered trademarks with the World Intellectual Property Organization of the United Nations. StataNow is a trademark of StataCorp LLC. Other brand and product names are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective companies. Copyright © 1985–2025 StataCorp LLC, College Station, TX, USA. All rights reserved.



For suggested citations, see the FAQ on [citing Stata documentation](#).