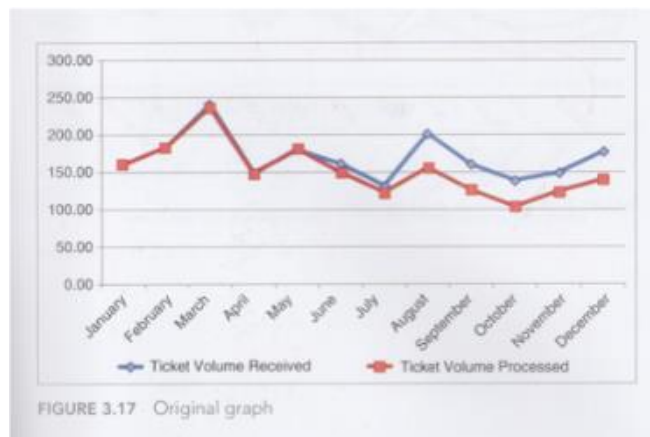# Assignment 1 – Excel Graphs

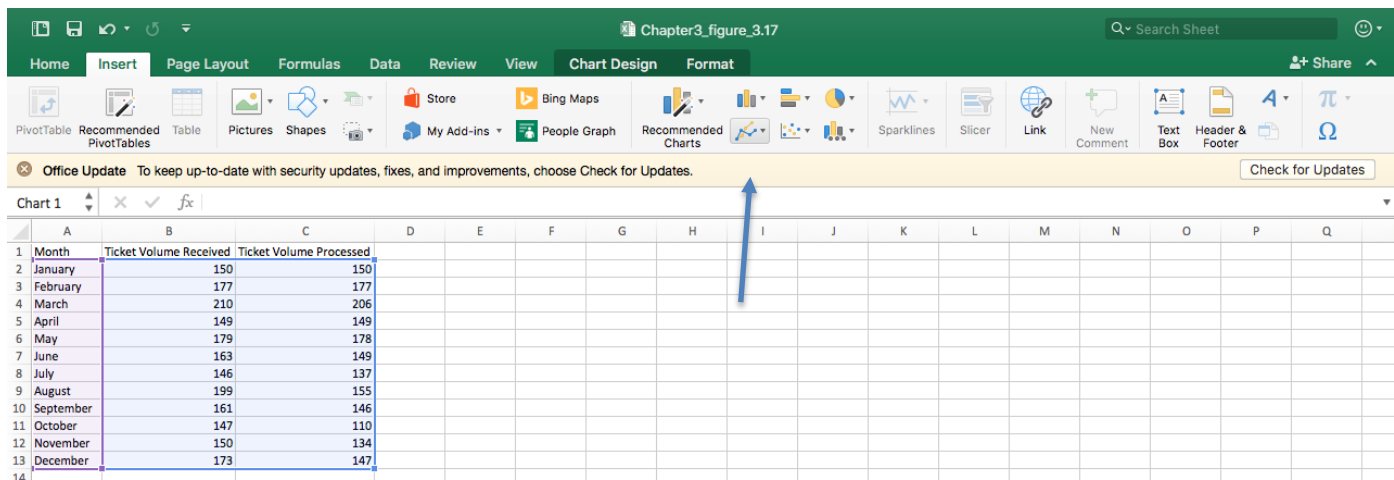Professor John Sokol | Due 9/24

Background Information:

Although the assigned reading is chapter 2 this week, for the first assignment please flip to page 91 of the Knaflic textbook. You will see the following visual:

FIGURE 3.17   Original graph

As mentioned in the textbook, there are several enhancements that can be made to improve readability and insightfulness of this line graph.

Now go to the 'week 1 – 9.10' folder in Blackboard, download and open the Excel file IT Ticket Sales. I am assuming everyone is running Microsoft Office 2016 since everyone can download this version from the GoPortal.

Highlight the month and the two ticket volume columns (don't include the column names at the top!), click on the 'insert' tab, then create a default Excel line graph of the data by clicking on the line graph button as depicted with the arrow below:

You should now see a line graph similar to the one below:

The assignment objective is to enhance this default Excel line graph by employing the clutter removing and enhancement suggestions that Knaflic mentions from page 91 – 98.

Deliverables:

1. Excel spreadsheet consisting of the improved line graph.
2. Half page write-up explaining the decluttering and data visualization enhancing strategies employed to improve the line graph.

Enhancement considerations:

1. Axis labels? Consider if they are necessary. For instance, if the x-axis is categorical by month, do you think the x-axis needs a label "month" or do you think this is self-explanatory?
2. Descriptive title?
3. Commentary that facilitates the narrative/storytelling properties of the data?
4. Any graph ink that may be deemed unnecessary?