

## Business Analytics - MBA8150-Fall20-Online



### WK01 (Ch02) Thoughts on Graphing Data with Excel

#### Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.

[Settings](#) ▾

The cut-off date for posting to this forum is reached so you can no longer post to it.



#### Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 10:46 AM

After you finish this Excel graphing task for Chapter 2, let us know how it went for you.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#)

#### Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.

by [Alice Hemaïdan](#) - Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 11:02 AM

Good exercise - the frequency formula was helpful to learn.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

#### Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.

by [Derek Kucharz](#) - Friday, August 21, 2020, 8:30 PM

I have used Excel quite a bit, but some of the shortcuts discussed were very helpful. The thing that surprised me the most is that the Category width, the buckets, and the midpoints had to all be calculated and not done by Excel. This is a fairly small dataset and if it was a large dataset, it would potentially be prone to a higher error rate. Otherwise, it went well, my biggest challenge is that I am used to Excel on my work computer and that is Excel 2010 and on my personal computer at home, I have Excel 365 and it is quite a bit different locating different functions and features. They have mostly the same functionality, just in different locations.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

#### Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Saturday, August 22, 2020, 6:02 PM

Yep, Bou, we have all these different versions of Excel to contend with, so sometimes things are in different places. I have designed my Excel models to work across a pretty broad spectrum of Excels, but let me know if you ever notice anything a bit strange.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Gabriela Lawrence](#) - Saturday, August 22, 2020, 10:04 AM

Hello Everyone! The frequency formula was the hardest thing for me... I was off by a count of 1 and fixing the formula was tricky... During my undergraduate statistics experiences, we were taught to never use pie charts as they don't accurately visually inference the differences in data like a bar chart would look. What're other people's thoughts on using pie charts?

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Wendy Jackson](#) - Saturday, August 22, 2020, 10:57 PM

This exercise was very helpful for me to learn how to graphically present data. I've used basic functions in Excel quite a bit, but have never really had to graphically present them. It was also a good exercise just to remind myself of the shortcut commands for the Mac in Excel (since I usually use a PC at work). The video was very helpful and was easy to follow along while I was creating my own charts. The most challenging part was the combination chart, as I've never had to create anything like that before!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Sunday, August 23, 2020, 7:34 AM

Madison, your post reminds me to mention that I designed the first week's assignments to accommodate the wide variety of knowledge that students have coming into this course. Some students will appreciate the change to be reminded of what they might previously learned, review what they had learned, and some might be learning completely new things. So the first week attempts to bring everyone up to a good common base of knowledge.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Traci Hannenberg](#) - Monday, August 24, 2020, 3:25 PM

I have used Excel for a long, long time and I was never aware of these tips and tricks. This will help me in my work on a daily basis. Great stuff.  
Thank you and my team at work thanks you.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Monday, August 24, 2020, 6:12 PM

Bill, continue to share what you are learning with your team. This is a good way to reinforce what you are learning.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Virag Rohrsen](#) - Monday, August 24, 2020, 8:46 PM

Enjoyed the exercise and really like the frequency formula. I agree with Bou, I use Excel a fair amount during the course and scope of work and I am always looking for short cuts to make things a little quicker or simpler.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Jared Walker](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 11:19 AM

After going through the graphing data with excel, it was a really good refresher to serve as a good foundation for the rest of the course. I enjoyed the keyboard/command shortcuts for efficiency. I learned about being able to select non-contiguous data as well as the "clipboard" feature in the upper left ribbon. I have already applied some of these reporting features for my sales role last and this week!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 11:20 AM

Great, Mark! Keep trying to apply what you have learned.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Matt Syedahamed](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 6:18 PM

It was a great warm-up exercise to get started with Excel. I learned about absolute referencing. The most difficult task was combination chart, and easiest was bar and pie charts. Overall the videos were very informative. I enjoyed the step-by-step walk-through, as that is how I learn.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Conner Carlson](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 8:35 PM

I really appreciated this exercise and the easy to follow steps to create each of the charts. I especially liked how you pointed out the differences between the Mac and PC versions, as this can be frustrating when the versions are not identical. I have quite a bit of experience with Excel but found your tips and tricks to be very useful. I look forward to being able to share these new tricks with my colleagues. Thank you!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 10:17 AM

I try my best to point out differences between PC and Mac versions of Excel, and even differences between 365 and 2016, Brittany. I am a Mac user, but I do have a Windows virtual PC on my Mac running Excel 365 so that I can go back and forth. When a technique is troubling to you, just make a post (if you can't find the answer on the Internet.)

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Jiaja Richter](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 8:37 PM

I thought the video was very helpful, I appreciate that you laid out specific details and commonly made mistakes. The frequency function was helpful to learn, and I also believe the combination graphs can be very useful when presenting data. It was also helpful to have your Excel workbook to refer to for other minor details as far as formatting goes.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Nathan Carter](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 9:19 PM

This was a helpful refresher for creating simple graphs, which I have not done in a few years. It was also great to learn some new tips and tricks that will allow me to work more efficiently.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Adrian Ammirati](#) - Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 11:53 PM

I am not an expert excel user, but this video was very easy to follow. I use excel daily at work, but the very basic fundamentals, so I am excited to try some of these new shortcuts out.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 10:19 AM

Carlan, I hope that you continue to find all my videos easy to follow. I am always open to suggestions from students. Also, when I see several students struggling, I think about improving a video. Since I produce my own videos, I can edit them whenever I desire (and have time, of course.)

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Shivaji Daecher](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 9:16 AM

I'm not an excel pro by any means and enjoyed the first part of the assignment where I was in familiar territory. My head is spinning from the calculations we performed with all of the M&M weights and while I was able to follow along, I'm nervous to attempt on my own. Excited to learn a whole new world.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 10:20 AM

Don't worry, Hannah. You are off to a great start! 🏃

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Jacob Jones](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 11:52 AM

Overall the exercise went pretty well. I had to adjust as I am using a newer version of excel to find some of the formatting items. Also, typing in the data I fat-fingered a couple of them so I did have to go through them a couple of times to make sure it was correct as my counts were not lining up. Overall, this was good practice!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Glen Larson](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 2:02 PM

I consider myself pretty decent at Excel, but had no idea that the frequency function existed or how to use it. Also learned how to graph multiple sets of data together, and how to copy paste multiple sets of data at the same time.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Brynne Liu](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 3:59 PM

This was a good exercise to review and learn some excel intricacies. I'm sure there will be plenty more to learn from here on out. I did get caught up on the ctrl + shift + enter portion and the #spill error but quickly figured it out.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 4:42 PM

Landon (and others,) [see this post in Moodle](#) about this "spill" error.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Carol Vandervelde](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 8:27 PM

I consider myself good at Excel but this was a decent challenge. The spill error took me awhile to get past but eventually got through it. I liked the simple trick of holding down ctrl when you want a numbered list. I usually create a 1, then a 2 and highlight both of those and pull down to make a list. Overall I got a lot better at making graphs.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 9:18 PM

Adam, I had also made a helper post, [Excel's "Spill" error. What is this?](#)

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Tim Kral](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 8:33 PM

I had trouble with frequency, just because I have a Mac. The f4 was tricky, so I just had to watch some YouTube videos and got it figured out.

Thanks for all the detail in the videos your produce, great job! Thanks!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 9:16 PM

Jimmy, I had also made a helper post, [FREQUENCY\(\) function slow.](#)

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [David Goedken](#) - Thursday, August 27, 2020, 1:25 AM

I enjoyed this exercise, especially the frequency function. I wish I had known about it sooner.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Katie Ganapathy](#) - Thursday, August 27, 2020, 8:23 AM

It was a good lesson. There were a lot of shortcuts that I learned along with the use of the frequency formula.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Dani Yang](#) - Thursday, August 27, 2020, 9:05 PM

I thought the exercise was very helpful. I use excel everyday at work, but rarely do I ever make frequency tables or graphs like these. Also, I never knew about the copy and paste secret, I will definitely be using that at work from now on.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Maddie Lima](#) - Friday, August 28, 2020, 6:27 AM

This exercise was extremely helpful to me! I use Excel for work, but I have never had to create graphs or input equations. I reviewed both videos and found your lectures to be easy to follow.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Tyler Tully](#) - Friday, August 28, 2020, 7:47 AM

The first portion of the assignment was familiar to me, as I've made general graphs before. It was still a great refresher, as I haven't used the graph functions in quite some time. However, once we got to the weight portion of the assignment, it brought many new challenges for me. I really appreciated your step by step instructions, as I'm no pro with Excel/formulas. I definitely learned some new tips and tricks!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Tyler Blackhurst](#) - Friday, August 28, 2020, 3:07 PM

Hi everyone! Overall this was great practice and great for me to get back to some Excel basics. I am very familiar with Excel such as functionality, equations, charting, and quite a few shortcuts. However, similar to what other classmates have mentioned here, I liked learning new tricks such as using clipboard to put values into one column versus multiple/manual copy + paste for each column. And the biggest help was learning the frequency formula.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**  
by [Josh Herchuk](#) - Friday, August 28, 2020, 4:22 PM

The FREQ formula and method for using it were great. I use a Mac and found the user interface differences between my version of Excel and that in the videos to be pretty significant. I have used Excel a lot, but learned more in this exercise than I had in the past several years combined. Thank you!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Ge Vandegrift](#) - Friday, August 28, 2020, 10:57 PM

This was an interesting exercise. I use excel daily and am very familiar, but I do not regularly use the shortcuts taught in this video. I will definitely be using the CTRL + SHIFT + ENTER shortcut when entering formulas in a range of cells. I also enjoyed the refresher on frequency charts, especially the excel frequency function and the detail around how it functions. The video was easy to follow and a nice overview of excel.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Karmin Campbell](#) - Friday, August 28, 2020, 11:27 PM

Good assignment to test Excel skills and learn a few new tricks. I liked the frequency formula and the combo chart. I do not use charts that much in Excel, so this was a great refresher.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Sydney Constantinides](#) - Saturday, August 29, 2020, 12:26 PM

I like using Excel for graphing because it makes the graphs clean, easy to read, and easy to edit! The new technique that I'm excited to use is clearing the clipboard and being able to copy multiple columns and then paste them all somewhere else at once; that makes it a lot easier for data collection/movement. The most difficult task for me was the Frequency equation. When I entered it everything looked okay, but when I tried to make a chart from the data, it kept including the frequency for 0.825 (which was zero) and gave my table an extra bar. Eventually, I was able to remove the extra bar, but it took me about ten minutes to figure out. The easiest task for me was knowing when to lock the cells in the formulas when I needed to copy them. I learned how to do that in a project that I led at work, so it made it easier to foresee when it would/wouldn't be an issue. I don't have any suggestions for improving the video!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 7:19 AM

I don't use, or describe, protecting cells (locking them) in this course. I like to keep my Excel models completely open, for educational purposes (i.e., your education.) But in the business world, locking cells could be a good practice when you don't want a user of an Excel file to (accidentally) make changes. Your comment was good, Delaney.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Jason Pawlowski](#) - Saturday, August 29, 2020, 12:59 PM

The frequency function will be really handy in the future! I thought that the exercises were a great refresher on visualizing data. The web version of 365 is harder to use than the desktop version of 365. After I downloaded the desktop version everything went much better. I use graphs often when I am giving reports to the physicians I work with as they appreciate the graphic representations.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 7:22 AM

Good point, Shayla. Yes, there are some differences with the "web" version of Excel. I always work behind my laptop, so I have never had the need to use the web version of Excel. I consider it to be my last-resort backup.

There is also a tablet (iPad and I believe Samsung) versions of Excel, and even smartphone versions. I believe that my Excel models work on these mobile devices, but let me know if you come across any strange behaviors.

As you can see, it is sometimes challenging for me to make a video that covers all versions of Excel, and to keep my videos updated. Even I rely upon an Internet search when a feature doesn't work correctly or is missing.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Anna Herrig](#) - Saturday, August 29, 2020, 2:01 PM

I've been using Excel at work for over ten years in a very basic manner, not knowing any of the intricacies. I intend on using some of what I just learned to try to do some graphs of my own at work this upcoming week to see how well I retained the information and to get some more practice, while trying something new in the office. I have a feeling I'll be referring back to your video many, many times, but I can see a world of practical uses for these things.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 7:25 AM

The URLs to my videos should remain stable over time (as long as I keep paying my Vimeo bill.) You are always welcome to download my videos and archive them, Shyam.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Cara Lukka](#) - Saturday, August 29, 2020, 3:39 PM

Definitely a great refresher on how to graph and I learned some techniques that I've never used before. After using a PC for most of my work assignments I did have a little difficulty finding certain things using my home computer which is a MAC, but I know it will get better as time goes on. Thank you Prof. Rick for giving us some tricks and I enjoyed the humor in your videos when it was time to pay attention to key aspects.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 7:27 AM

Quite honestly, the PC version of Excel 365 is a little more powerful and has some features that the Mac version of Excel 365 doesn't have, but I still almost always run Excel on my Mac. However, I do have a virtual Windows 10 PC on my Mac (I am using VMWare) so whenever needed, I can run Excel from my virtual PC. With products like VMWare, one can share folders so that the same file can be easily opened from either my Mac or my virtual PC within VMWare.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)





**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Nicole Canada](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 2:58 PM

This was a good exercise. I use Excel every day at work, but we typically use R and R studio for data analysis and creating graphs. Excel is much easier to use and much more user friendly. Thank you for adding the extra keys to push for the frequency formula to work. It would have taken forever to find that on my own. It's also incredibly helpful that you include the differences between PC and Mac versions. I use the PC version at work and the Mac version at home, so knowing both is great.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Andrew Horvath](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 5:49 PM

I enjoyed the exercise, I found it to have some things that I already had extensive experience with and other things, such as the frequency formula, as something new I learned. But I have 2 observations/thoughts that I want others opinions on. In my current role I create PowerPoints/Decks and report them to our President/CEO, CFO and other ELT members, and they have strong opinions on how data is shared via charts. Below are my two thoughts/questions - i would love your feedback/thoughts.

> When it comes to labeling axis (specifically the weight of M&Ms) I noticed that in the example from Professor Jerz we did not specify the weight measurement (in this case was grams). In my submission I added an additional label of "(g)" to call out the unit of measure for the axis label. Just a thought, it is something I have been called out on before. Let me know what you think?

> Also, from an visualization standpoint, for polygons/line charts, I smoothed the lines in my submission. This is strictly for ease of visualization. I also submitted my assignment with them multi-colored line charts smoothed and with markers. This is another item that has been called out in my office as a way our leadership prefers seeing the data. Want to know if anyone else has had this experience?

Thanks for anyone's feedback - sorry for the long post

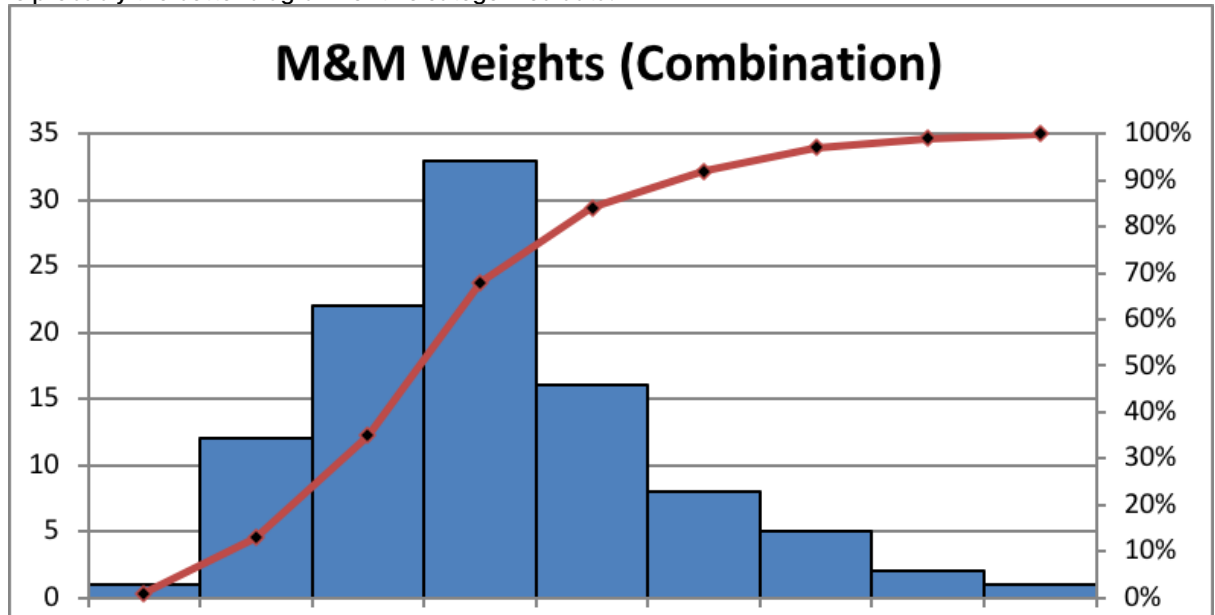
[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

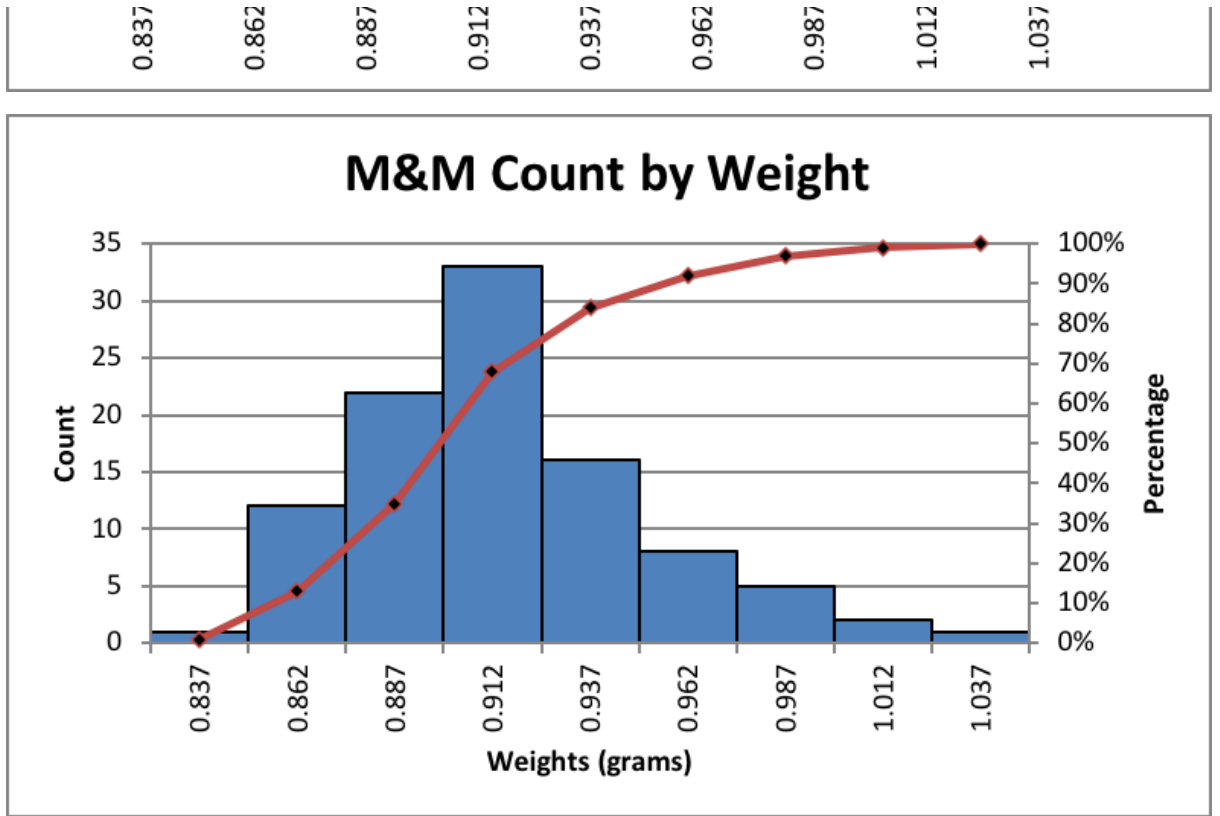


**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 6:56 PM

Yes, Collin, for your first suggestion about "weight" for axis, you are correct. Below you will see my chart as presented, then corrects. For the polygon chart, I accept either. However, if you smooth the lines, this might suggest that there is some kind of polynomial equation in effect, which there is not for this data. The histogram is probably the better diagram for this categorized data.





Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#)

[Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Andrew Horvath](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 7:42 PM

Thanks for the quick response. I will not smooth lines going forward, unless instructed to in this course. I appreciate the clarification.

I really just wanted to know if the smoothing of lines was just a visual preference that leaders have at my firm or actually had a statistical/data reason to smooth lines.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 7:09 AM

Remember that graphing is a bit creative. If you think that smooth lines will tell your story a little better, then use them.

Having said all of this, we will see in the future that when the histogram takes on a shape of a "bell curve," that there is indeed a mathematical "function" that can be used to describe the shape. It will be the normal probability function. I won't show it to you right now, but you will see it in about three weeks.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Bailey Benskin](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 9:03 PM

I found this exercise extremely helpful! Like many of the other students in this course, I use Excel regularly but still learned quite a few new tips and tricks. There are several that I can now apply to my data analysis in my current position that will definitely save me time. Thanks for the great tips!

Nicole

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Laura Seede](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 10:26 PM

I thought this exercise overall was very helpful. I was already pretty familiar with the frequency formula but something that I learned was the F4 hotkey for an absolute reference. I have always just keyed in the necessary characters. Will definitely use in the future to save time.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Brock Mascardo](#) - Sunday, August 30, 2020, 10:43 PM

I have used Excel for mostly basic things for a while, so I attempted to create the graphs for the interval data set on weight without watching the video first or in parallel (foolish?). I had the example document open and could see what the data was supposed to look like, so I followed that but couldn't quite get the charts right. After watching the video and learning the frequency function it made it easier. It was a good exercise where I learned more about excel.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 7:52 AM

Sam, trying to do something on your own first is a good "learning" technique. No problem at all. Then, you see how I do something.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Brock Mascardo](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 2:36 PM

Un-related to anything academic, I should have read the instructions more clearly in the beginning and used a 1.75oz bag... I used a 5.5oz bag and that is way too many M&Ms for one person. It might be interesting to see if the color distribution is different in different sized bags; I also used regular milk chocolate M&Ms instead of peanut butter ones.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Rick Jerz](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 7:42 PM

This assignment is a bit open-ended. So not using 1.75oz bag of peanut M&Ms will not affect your grade. Eventually, you will need to figure out what you are going to do with all those M&Ms. If we were in a physical classroom, I am sure that you could share. But we are virtual.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Brandie Clark](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 10:54 AM

The Excel graphing task for Chapter 2 went very well. I really appreciate all of the supporting lectures etc.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Adam Diep](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 1:04 PM

Overall, I found the video and examples to be very helpful. I learned a lot of new techniques and shortcuts to use through the video. The biggest challenge for me was using a Mac while watching the presentation that used the Windows version of Excel. Definitely took some time work through, but I believe I was able make the adjustments. I will need to review the videos and make notes of the excel functions so that I do not forget them and can use them further along in the course.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)



**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**

by [Fabiola Bortscheller](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 6:20 PM

I appreciated the new tips and tricks in excel, especially in how to calculate Frequency. I have utilized excel a lot and knew how to utilize basic functions and editing techniques, but had never utilized Frequency before. It was also just a helpful refresher on the the multitude of ways you can navigate Excel and make different graph options to share your data. I also liked the data correction at the end, as it shows that you can do all the steps correctly, but should still ensure you are double checking the work as Excel clearly didn't have the same categorical limits that we were utilizing.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Brandi Hobbs](#) - Monday, August 31, 2020, 8:09 PM

I never thought of myself as an Excel expert and now I KNOW I am not one. I've used Excel here and there for some minor tasks, but never to this degree. Pretty much everything was new to me so I definitely learned a lot. Following along with the lecture was very helpful and I really enjoyed the tips and shortcuts. I know I will be able to apply these skills to my current role which is exactly why I was excited to take this course! Looking forward to learning so much more 😊

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [David Geers](#) - Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 12:10 AM

I am quite happy that you take the time to formally go through and explain how to use Excel for persons that may be new to the tool instead of dumping the assignment on the class! I use Excel heavily and typically have gone down the Youtube tutorials for questions I run into, and never found one that explains the combo graphing this easily.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Maddie Lima](#) - Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 2:59 PM

Good exercise and the instructions were very easy to follow!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Jaclyn Mortenson](#) - Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 6:01 PM

Yes, I am guilty of procrastinating this week. But I got to finally have a vacation again, so that was nice!

Anyways, thought the exercise was great. I stick to a couple of go-to graphs for work, but this made me expand my toolkit and work with the combo chart. Also, in order to get the interval widths down, I used the count-ifs formula (which I haven't cracked out in quite some time). Excel is super helpful!

Thanks!

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 8:34 AM

Ah, on vacation, Brandon. Now you can jump ahead and complete everything through Week 3! 😊

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Nathan Rueger](#) - Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 7:30 PM

I found this exercise to be extremely helpful in learning the tools necessary to use Excel for graphing. The concepts themselves can seem overwhelming at first when either reading notes or watching a lecture. But as a tactile learner, taking the video and making the charts/graphs for yourself made a world of difference. Although I was slow moving at first, by the end the formulas and processes did not seem as bad since I was made to do them for myself. I had never used the excel graphing functions before and found them to be unique and an excellent way of presenting statistics. I personally loved learning about the formulas you could use to help make pasting the data easier. The most difficult task for me was certainly following the cumulative frequency polygon with its individual steps. The easiest was representing all of the nominal data once I got the hang of it. I thought the video did a superb job at laying out each step needed to take for that individual graph. My connection was a little blurry which made it difficult to see from time to time. But that was a technology malfunction on my end. Overall I found the assignment informative and helpful for moving forward in the course.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Patrick Ross](#) - Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 9:28 PM

I may be the last one to the party here! I consider myself to be a pretty well-versed Excel user, but I've been using Google Sheets almost exclusively for chart making for the past 5 years at work. It took some time just to get back in the groove of remembering where everything lives in Excel's ribbons. The frequency formula was also a new one for me, and it definitely took some time to figure out what I was doing wrong. I kept seeing a #Spill! error until I cleared out the entire column—still not totally clear what was causing it to block the formula for the area, but glad I got it fixed.

The video was super easy to follow along with as well. I tried to go solo for the first couple charts but had to revert back to the video for the step-by-step.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Patrick Ross](#) - Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 10:02 PM

And of course, now I see that there's a comment specifically about the Spill error in the Questions forum for this week! I thought I was just doing something wrong, so it's reassuring to see that Excel itself has made updates with recent versions to make the formula easier to apply.

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)**Re: Ch02 - How did it go? Click here and provide your comments.**by [Rick Jerz](#) - Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 8:54 AM

Yep, this Spill error is something new in Excel 365.

Sum of ratings: -

[Permalink](#) [Show parent](#)

◀ [WK01 \(Ch02\) Submit your Excel M&M data and graph \(file\).](#)

[WK01 \(Ch03\) Concepts Self-Assessment ▶](#)