



#### INTRODUCTION

Data Divers is a specialist data analytics agency hired by the US grocery conglomerate Walmart to provide some insights based on historical data to help their sales and marketing team.

We were given the a dataset that covers the period 4 February 2010 to 1 November 2012, including monthly sales figures, national holidays, and inflation rate.







Data Divers is a new data analytics agency that is providing bespoke solutions for a range of clients.



Adnan Hussain

Data Analysis

& Exploration



Sanduni
Kaushalya
Data Cleaning
& Analysis



Charlie
Macnaughton
Visualisation &
Communication



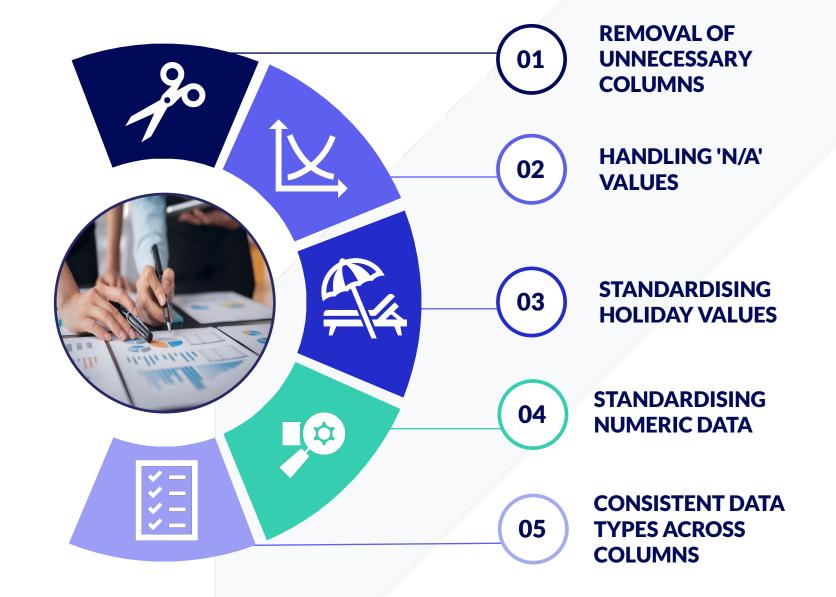
# DATA SELECTION



- This dataset contains valuable information regarding weekly sales of different Walmart stores in multiple areas across the USA
- Contains aspect of human behaviour and potential marketing ideas.
- Notable columns include Weekly\_Sales, Date, Type and Temperature.



### DATA CLEANING



# DATA QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

DO CERTAIN TYPES OF STORES
PERFORM BETTER THAN
OTHERS?

ARE ANY MONTHS SEASONS CONSISTENTLY OUTPERFORMING OR UNDERPERFORMING COMPARED TO THE AVERAGE MONTH/ SEASON?

DOES THE SIZE OF THE STORE IMPACT SALES?

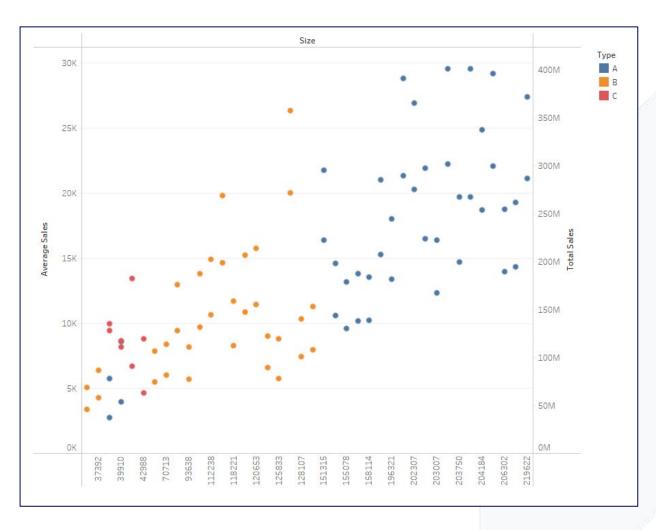
IS THERE A CORRELATION BETWEEN TEMPERATURE AND SALES?

WHICH HOLIDAYS PERFORM THE BEST FOR A GIVEN WEEK AND WHY?

IS THERE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/DATA THAT IS NEEDED TO MAKE FURTHER DECISIONS?

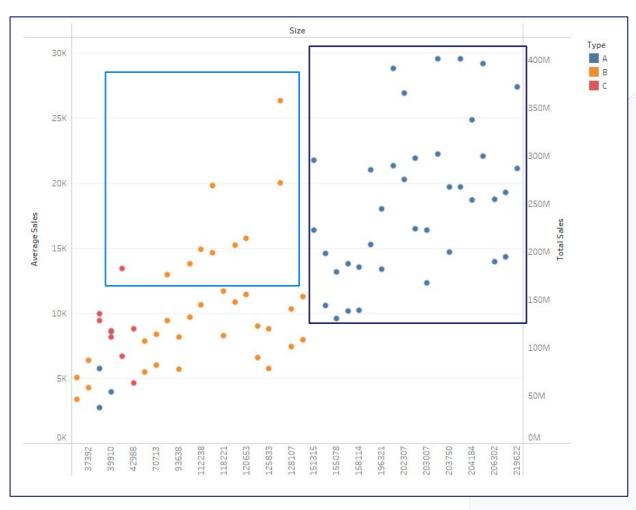


## **QD**PATA STORE TYPE & SALES



- Data included three types of store A,B,C.
- Y Axis = Average Sales
- X-Axis = Store Size (per sq ft)
- **Type A (blue)** experienced the most sales, with an average of 206m, and is usually the largest at 175K sq ft per store.
- **Type B (orange)** has a size of 101K sq ft with average sales of 117m per store.
- **C (red)** tended to be the smallest at 41K sq ft with average sales of 101m per store.

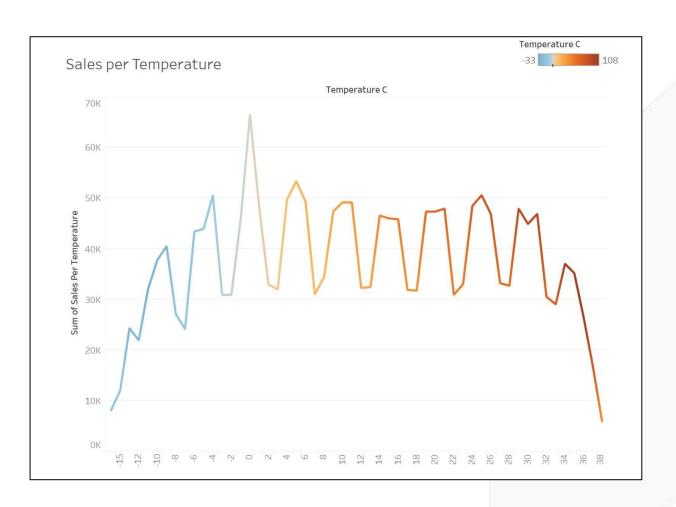
# DATA STORE TYPE & SALES [2]



#### Main hypothesis was that: **Greater Size = Greater Sales**

- We can see that some Type B stores (light blue) see higher sales despite smaller sizes compared to Type A.
- Type C also maintained average sales per store similar to Type B despite significant difference in store size. <u>Further investigation</u> <u>required</u>.

## DATA TEMPERATURE & SALES



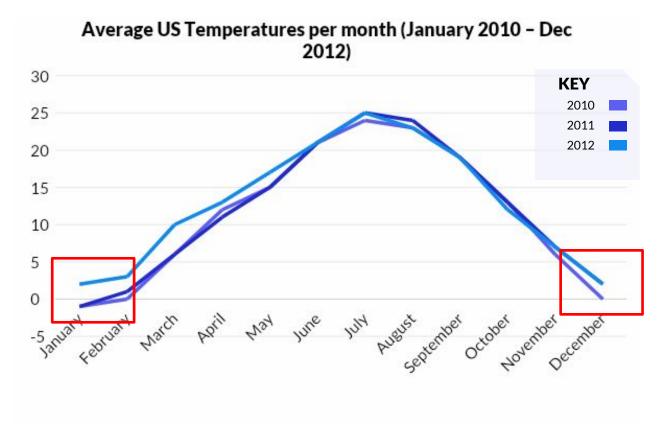
 Highest sales occur at 0 degrees Celsius (32 degrees Fahrenheit).

One could argue that customers **spend more at this temperature**. However, we feel that this correlation does not necessarily suggest causation.

- We decided that further analysis would be required to better understand purchasing patterns and consumer behaviour.
- Fundamentally, we want to understand whether temperature is a factor in determining higher overall sales.

11





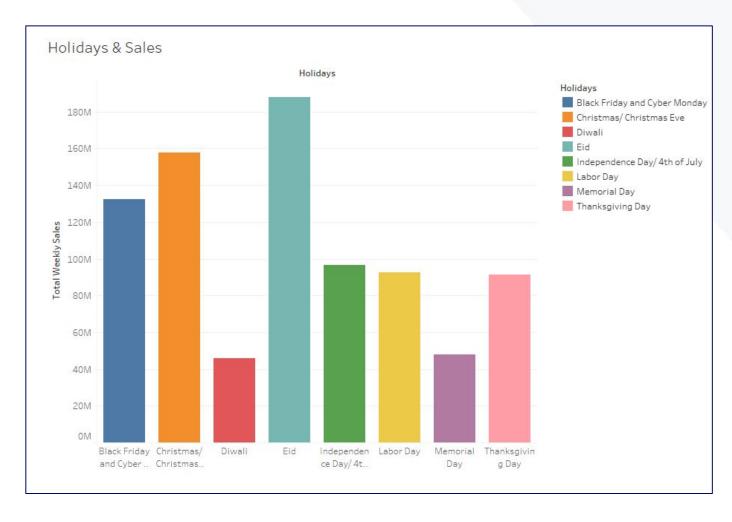
**Source**: US Average Temperatures by Month (2010-2012), National Centers for Environmental Information

Average temperatures across the US are around the O degrees Celsius mark (32 degrees Fahrenheit).

|           | 2010 | 2011            | 2012            |                |
|-----------|------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| January   |      | <mark>-1</mark> | <mark>-1</mark> | <mark>2</mark> |
| February  |      | <mark>O</mark>  | <mark>1</mark>  | <mark>3</mark> |
| March     | 16   | 6               | 10              |                |
| April     | 12   | 11              | 13              |                |
| May       | 15   | 15              | 17              |                |
| June      | 21   | 21              | 21              |                |
| July      | 24   | 25              | 25              |                |
| August    |      | 23              | 24              | 23             |
| September |      | 19              | 19              | 19             |
| October   |      | 13              | 13              | 12             |
| November  |      | 6               | 7               | 7              |
| December  |      | 0               | 2               | <mark>2</mark> |

12

# DATA HOLIDAYS & SALES

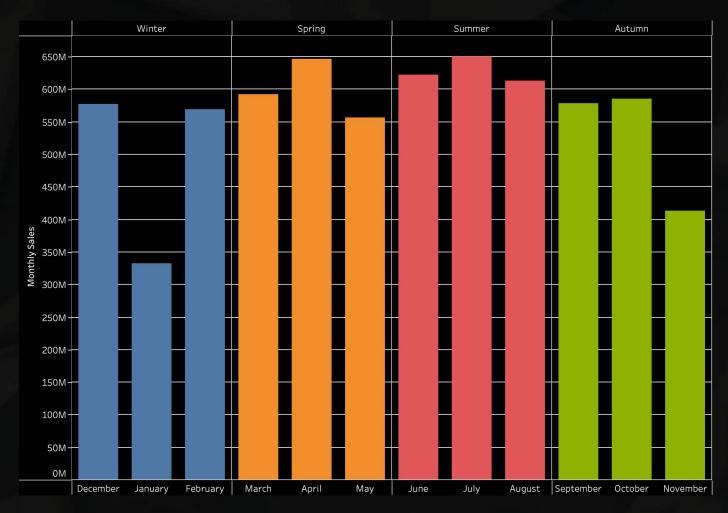


- With this graph, we can see that instead of temperature being the factor on the number of sales, it is that holidays that drive sales.
- In the winter months which typically are around 0 degrees Celsius across the United States, this when the major holidays of Christmas and Thanksgiving, which typically involve buying gifts, food, and drink etc.

13



#### MONTHLY & SEASONAL SALES INSIGHTS









### **KEY RESULTS**

Type A | 64% 5% | 0.3bn 6% | 0.4bn

Type A stores contribute the most to sales with averages of 20K.

January average sales

November average sales

19% | 1.3bn 29% | 1.9bn

0.6bn

Sales contribution of underperforming months

Sales contribution of overperforming months

Average Monthly Sales



#### **NEXT STEPS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on our assessment of the provided data, we would suggest the following to Walmart:

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **Early-Year Promotions:** Focus on strong promotional activities from January to April to capitalize on the natural sales increase.
- **Holiday Focus:** Enhance holiday marketing campaigns in December to boost sales further, leveraging the slight recovery seen after the November dip.
- **Promotional Strategies:** Targeted promotions during the January-April growth period and the mid-year stable period can maximize sales, while strategic discounts in November could help mitigate the sales dip.

#### **BUSINESS IMPLICATIONS**

- **Inventory Planning:** Walmart should focus on ramping up inventory before peak sales periods like April and maintain steady supply during the mid-year months to prevent stockouts.
- **Sustain Mid-Year Sales:** Maintain consistent inventory and targeted marketing during May to August to sustain the steady demand.
- Address November Decline: Investigate the reasons behind the November sales drop and consider strategies like early holiday promotions or special events to boost sales.

17

