

Sales Data Analysis

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Objective:

The objective of the project is to extract meaningful insights and actionable information from the sales data in order to improve decision-making, identify trends, and optimize sales performance. The project aims to present the data in easy-to-analyse interactive dashboards that will allow users to quickly grasp key insights and make appropriate decisions.

Tools:

Microsoft Excel

Dataset:

The dataset was found on Kaggle and shows sales data of a shoe store. It presents information about 1,522 transactions, for each transaction including information such as:

- products (name and category)
- customers (name and gender)
- transaction details (sales date, if order was returned, quantity sold, price, and cost)
- stores
- sales representatives,

The dataset looks as follows:

Sales ID	Sales Date	Customer Name	Gender	Stores	Sales Reps	Product	Category	Qty	Trans.Types	Price	Cost
ID1	01.01.2023	Lavonna Y Gebr	Male	Holbrook	Peter Pan	Military Boots Women	Women Shoe	1	Sales	2250	2200
ID2	01.01.2023	Malcom L Meirter	Female	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Leather Hand Bag White	Female Bag	2	Sales	7700	7000
ID3	01.01.2023	-	Male	Holbrook	Peter Pan	Brogues	Women Shoe	2	Sales	9950	9000
ID4	01.01.2023	Toi F Starlard	Male	Holbrook	Peter Pan	Wellington Boots	Women Shoe	2	Sales	22000	20000
ID5	01.01.2023	Evon Q Lawron	Male	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Heels	Women Shoe	1	Sales	22000	20000
ID6	01.01.2023	William B Mcnrrney	Male	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Wellington Boots	Women Shoe	2	Sales	6700	5001
ID7	01.01.2023	Letha L Aper	Male	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Brogues	Female Bag	100	Sales	6700	5000
ID8	01.01.2023	Lindy M Reer	Male	Garden City	Felex Ada	Court Shoes	Women Shoe	2	Sales	19800	18000
ID9	01.01.2023	Chun M Dilrock	Male	Harrison	Winnor Sands	Brogues	Female Bag	2	Sales	12200	12000

It doesn't need cleaning, however certain columns need to be added for more detailed analysis:

- Total Sales = Quantity * Price (for a given transaction)
- COGS = Quantity * Cost (for a given transaction)
- Gross Profit = Total Sales – COGS (for a given transaction)
- Month – showing month of a given transaction in numeric form
- Month Name – showing name of the month of a given transaction

Transformed dataset looks as follows:

Sales ID	Sales Date	Customer Name	Gender	Stores	Sales Reps	Product	Category	Qty	Trans.Types	Price	Cost	Total Sales	COGS	Gross Profit	Month	Month Name
ID1	01.01.2023	Lavonna Y Gebr	Male	Holbrook	Peter Pan	Military Boots Women	Women Shoes	1	Sales	2250	2200	2250	2200	50	1	Jan
ID2	01.01.2023	Malcom L Meirter	Female	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Leather Hand Bag White	Female Bag	2	Sales	7700	7000	15400	14000	1400	1	Jan
ID3	01.01.2023	-	Male	Holbrook	Peter Pan	Brogues	Women Shoes	2	Sales	9950	9000	19900	18000	1900	1	Jan
ID4	01.01.2023	Toi F Starlard	Male	Holbrook	Peter Pan	Wellington Boots	Women Shoes	2	Sales	22000	20000	44000	40000	4000	1	Jan
ID5	01.01.2023	Evon Q Lawron	Male	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Heels	Women Shoes	1	Sales	22000	20000	22000	20000	2000	1	Jan
ID6	01.01.2023	William B Mcnrney	Male	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Wellington Boots	Women Shoes	2	Sales	6700	5001	13400	10002	3398	1	Jan
ID7	01.01.2023	Letha L Aper	Male	Freeport	Farida Ibrahim	Brogues	Female Bag	100	Sales	6700	5000	670000	500000	170000	1	Jan
ID8	01.01.2023	Lindy M Reer	Male	Garden City	Felex Ada	Court Shoes	Women Shoes	2	Sales	19800	18000	39600	36000	3600	1	Jan
ID9	01.01.2023	Chune N Dilreck	Male	Harrison	Winner Sandra	Brogues	Female Bag	3	Sales	13200	12000	39600	36000	3600	1	Jan

Key analysis questions:

Before diving into the analysis phase of the project, it is essential to define specific questions we aim to answer.

With the given dataset, the analysis can be divided into two aspects. The first is the financial aspect, where the main focus of the analysis is financial data. The second aspect focuses more on analysis of products.

Key Questions the project addresses:

Financial aspect:

1. What is the overall gross profit?
2. How does the gross profit compare across different products and categories?
3. Which sales representatives contribute the most to the gross profit?
4. Is there a correlation between the quantity sold and the gross profit?

Products aspect:

1. Which products have the highest sales quantity?
2. Which product categories contribute the most to overall sales?
3. Are there any seasonal trends in product sales?
4. How does the quantity of products sold vary across different stores?

Methodology:

Methodology for this project involves utilizing Microsoft Excel, specifically leveraging pivot tables, slicers, and graphs, to analyse the sales data. As the dataset is already processed, it is possible to create pivot tables answering Key Questions. Use of slicers allows for easy and dynamic data exploration, as it enables users to see specific output based on selected criteria or filters. Graphs and other visual interpretations are used to present the analysed data.

Analysis:

The following steps were undertaken to conduct the analysis:

1. Pivot Table Creation:

Pivot tables were generated in “Support sheet” to summarize and aggregate the sales data. One pivot table was also created in “Products Dashboard”. The data was organized into relevant dimensions, allowing for proper analysis.

2. Graphical Representation:

Graphs and charts were created from the pivot tables to visually showcase trends, comparisons, and distributions of important sales metrics..

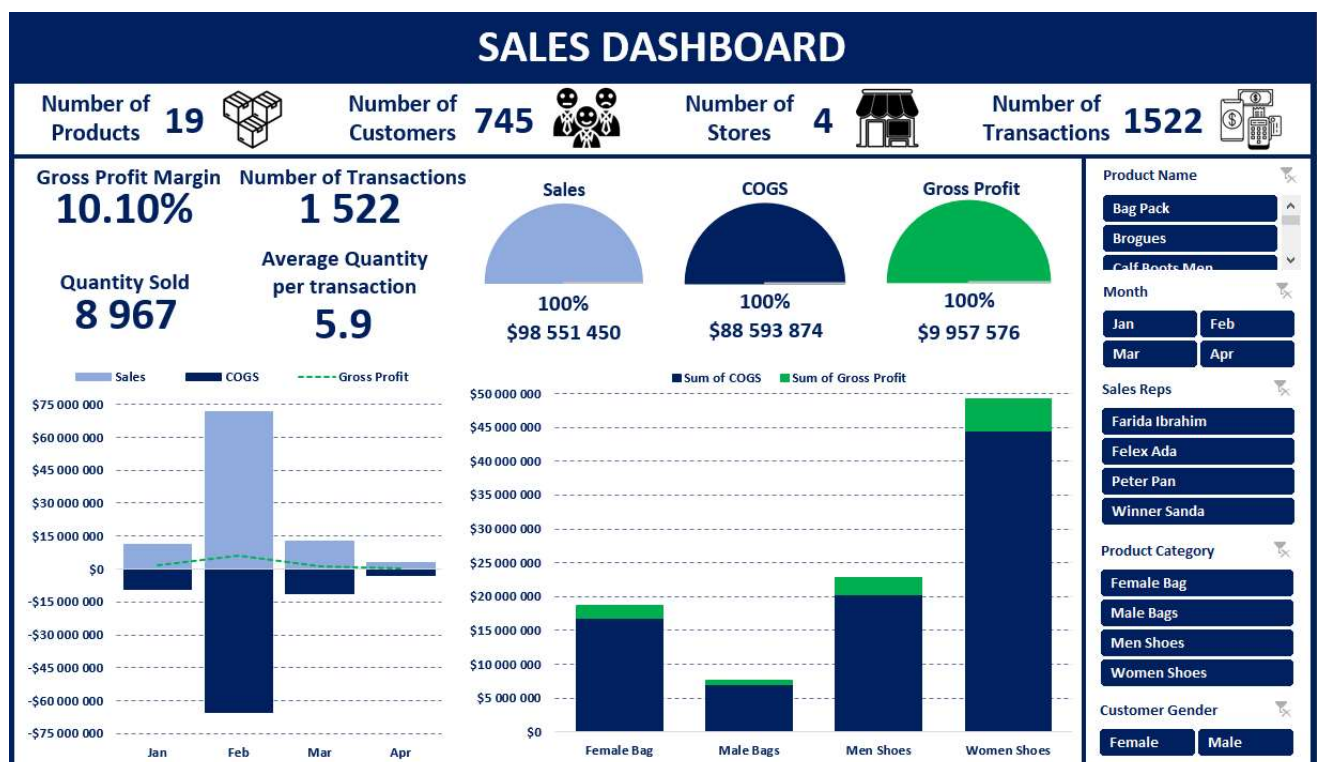
3. Slicer Implementation:

Slicers were implemented to provide interactive filtering options for the pivot tables. By selecting specific criteria, data can be dynamically filtered to explore different dimensions and segments.

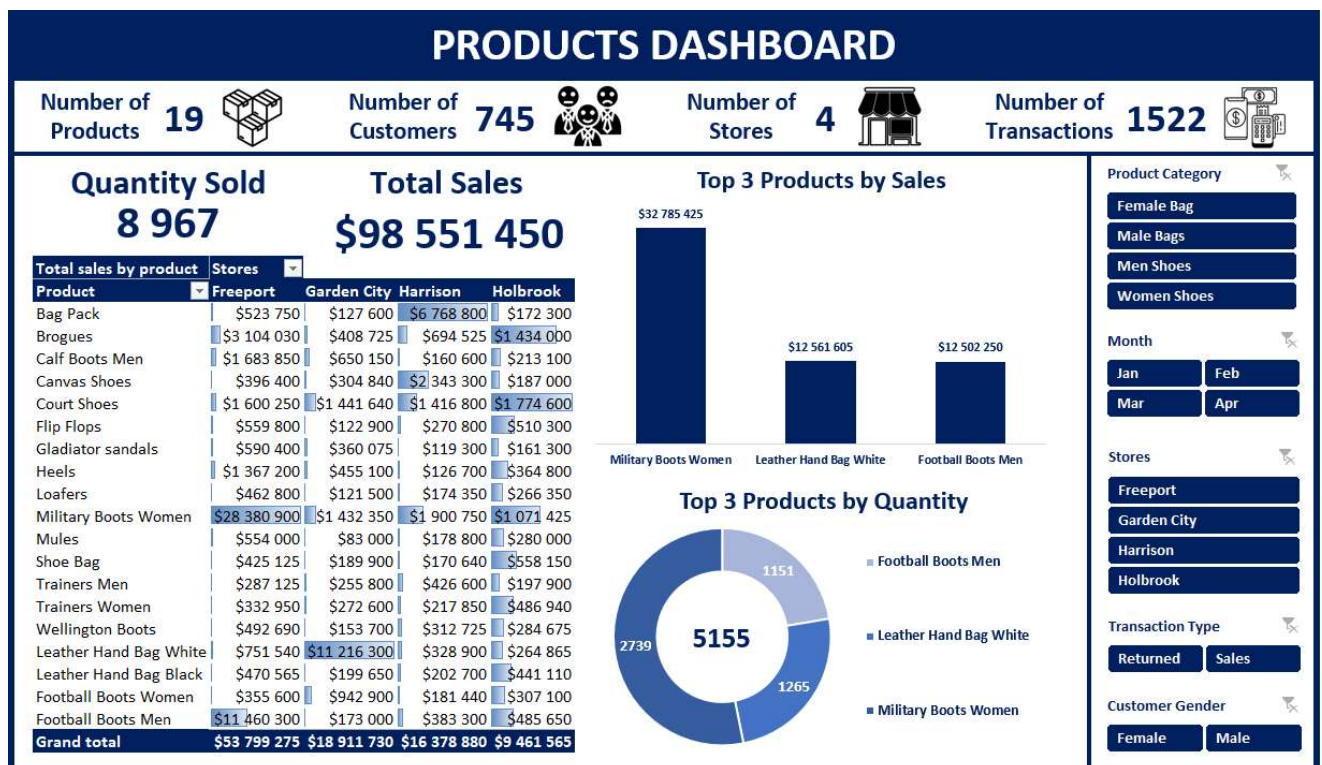
4. Formatting and Presentation:

To enhance the visual appeal and readability of the analysis, formatting techniques were applied to graphs and slicers. A consistent colour scheme, appropriate fonts, and clear labelling were employed to ensure a professional and visually engaging presentation of the findings. As Key Questions include two aspects, two dashboards were created:

1. Sales Dashboard



2. Products Dashboard



Based on created dashboards, these are answers to Key Questions:

Financial aspect:

1. An overall gross profit of the company amounts to \$9,957,576, with a gross profit margin of 10.10%.
2. The "Women Shoes" category generates the highest gross profit (48% of total) while "Military Boots Women" is the most profitable individual product (29% of total).
3. Farida Ibrahim is the top contributor to gross profit, accounting for 51% of the total gross profit.
4. In general, there is a positive correlation between the quantity sold and gross profit. However, it is essential to consider the gross profit margin of each product. Some products, like "Brogues," have a higher gross profit margin and can contribute more to overall profitability despite lower sales quantity.

Products aspect:

1. The top three products with the highest sales quantity are "Military Boots Women", "Leather Hand Bag White", and "Football Boots Men".
2. The "Women Shoes" category contributes the most to overall sales.
3. Sales data from the available months indicate that February had significantly higher sales, accounting for 73% of total sales.
4. The quantity of products sold varies across different stores, with "Freeport" leading with 4998 units sold.

Conclusion:

After analysing the data, several key insights can be made. The first is that “Women Shoes” category generates the highest gross profit and contributes the most to overall sales. The best-selling individual product is “Military Boots Women”, both in terms of quantity and revenue. Knowing this, the manager may allocate more resources and attention to “Women Shoes” category. This could include expanding the product range, improving the in-store display, and implementing targeted marketing strategies to attract more customers specifically interested in women's shoes.

Farida Ibrahim is a sales representative responsible for generating 51% of total gross profit. The manager should not only reward him to keep him motivated, but also identify factors contributing to his success. It may be the case that other employees need a training to catch up with his performance.

“Freeport” has the highest number of products sold out of all four stores. It’s important to investigate what could be the cause of it. It can be a matter of location of the stores - the “Freeport” may be in the city center while the others may be on the outskirts of the city.

Revenue in February accounts for 73% of total sales and 63% of total gross profit. Interesting thing is that number of transactions (470) was very close to those of January (451) and March (443). It means that the higher revenue in February results from higher quantity of products sold, which amounted to 5,751, giving an average quantity of products per transaction of 12.2, while in January, March and April this average was, respectively, 3.5, 2.8, and 2.5. This anomaly can be an effect of some special offer or a one-off event (for example someone buying a huge quantity of products in one transaction). This definitely needs to be further investigated.

These insights and recommendations can guide data-driven decision-making processes to enhance sales strategies, improve financial performance, and drive overall business growth.