Database connections

DATA CONNECTIONS IN POWER BI



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Databases in Power Bl

- More than 35 different databases supported
- Power BI connects to local and cloud-based databases
- Databases are a type of data source
- Datasets are a collection of the data source and data itself











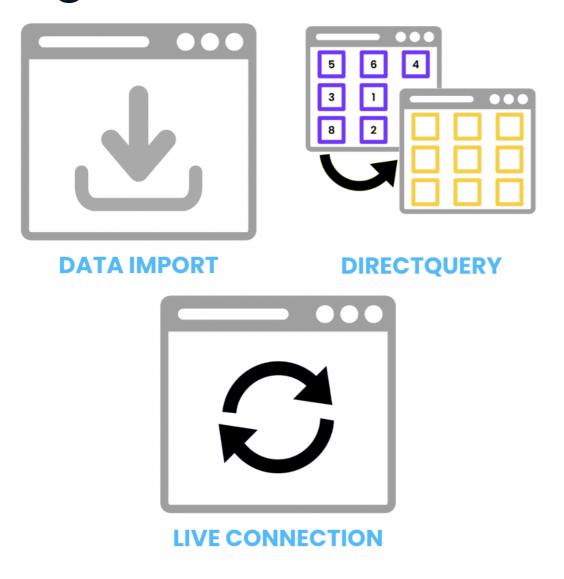








Storage modes



- Data sources, such as databases, can have multiple connection types - also referred to as storage modes
- There are 3 main connection types:
 - Import
 - DirectQuery
 - Live
- Import storage mode is the default option
- DirectQuery storage mode not as widely available as Import
- Live storage mode not as commonly used

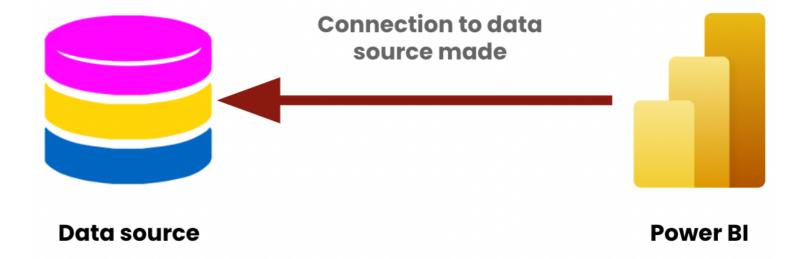
Storage modes: Pros and cons

Storage Mode	Pros	Cons
Import	 Fastest possible connection Full Power Query transformations Full set of DAX functions available 	 Power BI file size limitations Regular refreshes required Time consuming refreshes
DirectQuery	 Supports use of large scale datasets Reports and dashboard "near real-time" 	 Any Power BI features have to be in native queries understood by data source Quick Insights not supported
Live	 Supports use of large scale datasets Refresh frequency unlimited 	 No Power Query Slower connection type



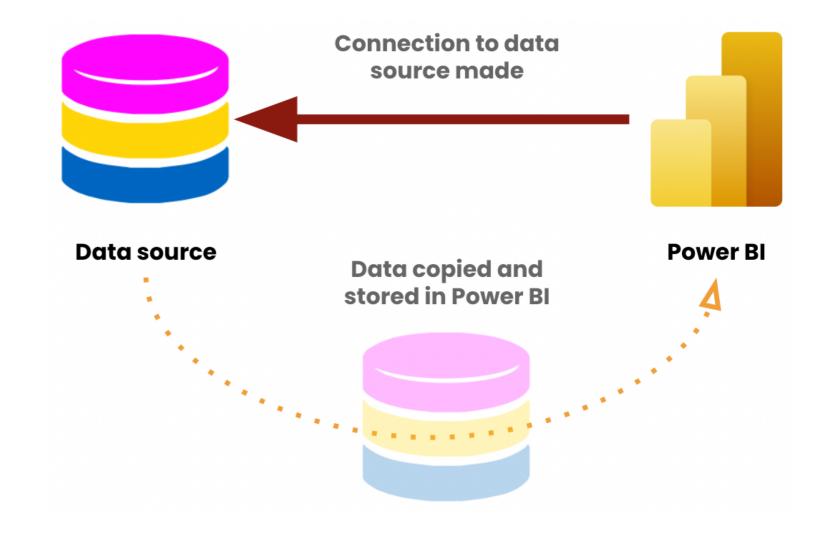
Import mode

 Default setting that brings in data from data source



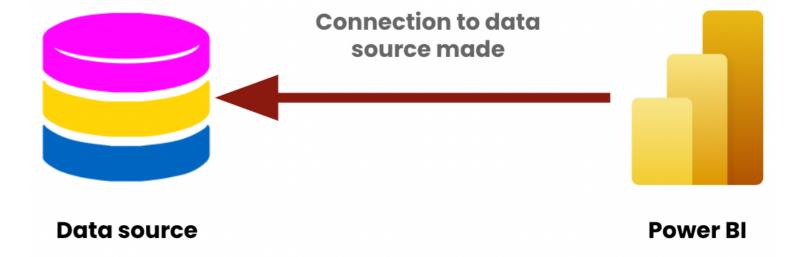
Import mode

- Default setting that brings in data from data source
- Can transform and manipulate data
- Access to full capabilities of Power BI



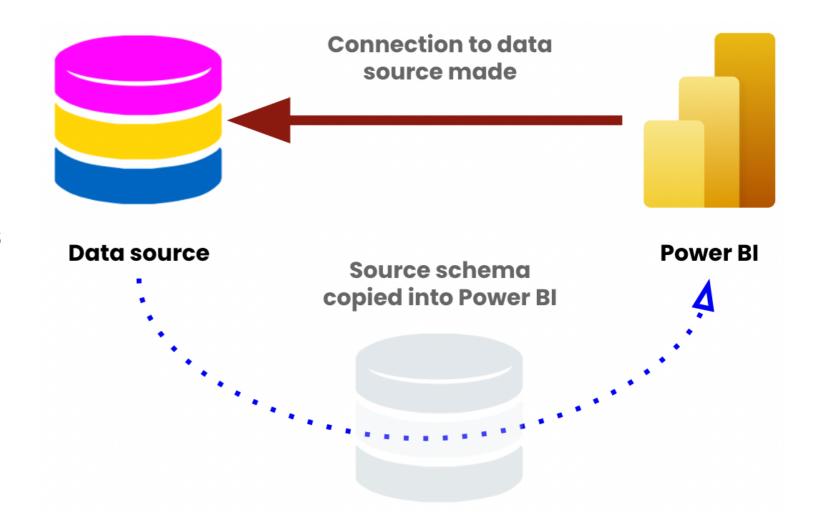
DirectQuery mode

Available for certain data sources



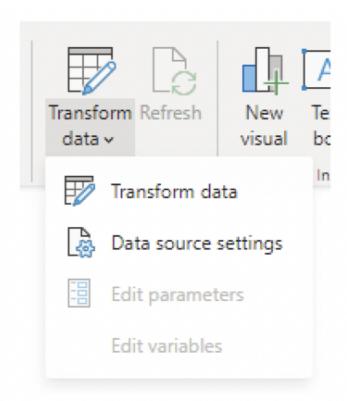
DirectQuery mode

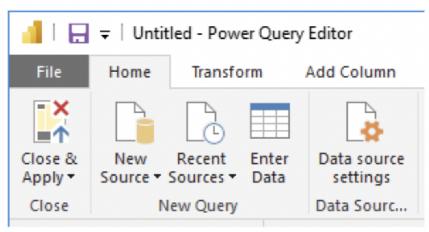
- Available for certain data sources
- Power BI queries data source when required
- Allows for reduced size of data connections



Changing data connections

- Data sources are fluid and can change regularly
- Data connections can be amended after being made
- Users can alter a data connection using a number of options in Power BI Desktop
- A refresh button is available for quick updates





Let's practice!

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Exploring connections

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