

Tables, columns, and measures

How tables, columns, and measures are referenced in a function

Table references	Column references	Measure references
Refers to the entire table within the data model. Used in functions that need to consider the entire dataset .	Refers to specific columns within a table. Used when we need to perform operations on particular fields, such as creating calculated columns or defining criteria in filters.	Refers to measures that have been defined in the model. Allows the reuse of measures within other DAX formulas, maintaining consistency and reducing redundancy in calculations.
Syntax:	Syntax:	Syntax:
'Table_name'	'Table_name'[Column_name]	'Table_name'[Measure_name]

Commonly used table, column, and measure functions

Table and column manipulation functions		Filtering functions	
ADDCOLUMNS()	Returns a table with new columns specified by the DAX expressions.	FILTER()	Returns a table that is a subset of another table or expression .
SUMMARIZE()	Returns a summary table for the requested totals over a set of groups.	LOOKUPVALUE()	Returns a row based on criteria specified in a search condition. There can be multiple search conditions.
SELECTCOLUMNS()	Returns a table with selected columns from an existing table specified by the DAX expressions.	CALCULATETABLE()	Evaluates a table expression in a modified filter context.
UNION()	Combines rows vertically , creating a new table with all unique rows from the combined tables.	RELATED()	Returns a related value from another table.
MERGE()	Combines columns horizontally , creating a new table by merging columns based on a related column.	USERELATIONSHIP()	Specifies a relationship to be used in a specific calculation .
COLUMN()	Stores the result of an expression as a column in a table.	CALCULATE()	Evaluates an expression in a modified filter context.
		ALL()	Returns all rows in a table, ignoring any filters that may have been applied.
		GENERATE()	Generates tables based on specific conditions .
		DISTINCT()	Returns a column table that contains the distinct or unique values in a column.

Creating tables, columns, and measures using DAX

FileHomeHelpTable tools

NameGender_Parity_indi...

Structure

Mark as date table
Calendars

Manage relationships
Relationships

New measure

Quick measure

New column

New table

Formula bar

New measure

Quick measure

New column

New table

Formula bar

New measure	New column
A calculation or aggregation of data in a table or across multiple tables to provide meaningful insights and summarise information .	A calculated column that we add to a table that is computed from other columns .
Simple measure: Basic calculations involving a single expression or aggregation .	New table
Compound measure: Measures that are created by combining multiple measures or queries . Useful for defining more advanced calculations.	Creates a new table using DAX to organise data in new ways or summarise it for specific views.
Quick measure	Formula bar
Predefined measures in Power BI that allow us to quickly create common calculations without having to manually write the DAX query.	A formula bar where we enter the DAX code to create tables, measures, and columns.

Row and filter context

	Filter context	Row context
	Filter context is the set of values allowed in each column , based on filter constraints that were applied to the row or that are defined by filter expressions within the formula.	Row context is "the current row" , and all the values in all the columns for that row. It tells DAX which row to use when determining the values for the calculated column.
Calculated columns	Calculated columns do not have access to the filter context because they are computed when they are defined or when the dataset is refreshed. Calculated columns are calculated outside of the filter context and do not rely on report user involvement.	In the computation of calculated columns DAX determines which row to work on in a table by default . This context is essential for performing calculations with the columns of a table providing a simple way to author math over columns and rows .
Measures	Measures are evaluated within the context of the visual filter to which they are applied. The filters used in the report, such as row selection, column selection, report filters, and slicers, define the filter context.	Row context is not created automatically with measures ; we must establish it ourselves in order to access the values of a column and execute calculations. As a result, when it comes to measures, we rely on aggregator methods to manually apply row context .