How I used Amazon QuickSight to visualise data

ABDIGANI AWIL MOHAMED

	Movie	My Little Pony	Robert Cullen	Vanessa Hudgens, Kimiko G	September 2	2021	PG	91 min
s8	Movie	Sankofa	Haile Gerima	Kofi Ghanaba	United States,	September 2	1993	TV-MA	125 min
s9	TV Show	The Great Brit	Andy Devonsl	Mel Giedroyc	United Kingd	September 2	2021	TV-14	9 Seasons
s10	Movie	The Starling	Theodore Me	Melissa McCa	United States	September 2	2021	PG-13	104 min
s11	TV Show	Vendetta: Truth, Lies and The Mafia				September 2	2021	TV-MA	1 Season
s12	TV Show	Bangkok Brea	Kongkiat Kon	Sukollawat Kanarot, Sushar		September 2	2021	TV-MA	1 Season
s13	Movie	Je Suis Karl	Christian Sch	Luna Wedler,	Germany, Cz	September 2	2021	TV-MA	127 min
s14	Movie	Confessions	Bruno Garot	Klara Castanho, Lucca Picor		September 2	2021	TV-PG	91 min
s15	TV Show	Crime Stories: India Detectives				September 2	2021	TV-MA	1 Season
s16	TV Show	Dear White People		Logan Brown	United States	September 2	2021	TV-MA	4 Seasons
s17	Movie	Europe's Mo	Pedro de Echave Garc√ía, Pablo Azor√			September 2	2020	TV-MA	67 min
s18	TV Show	Falsa identidad		Luis Ernesto	Mexico	September 2	2020	TV-MA	2 Seasons
s19	Movie	Intrusion	Adam Salky	Freida Pinto, Logan Marsha		September 2	2021	TV-14	94 min
s20	TV Show	Jaguar		Blanca Su√°rez, Iv√°n Mar		September 2	2021	TV-MA	1 Season
s21	TV Show	Monsters Ins	Olivier Megaton			September 2	2021	TV-14	1 Season
s22	TV Show	Resurrection:	Ertugrul	Engin Altan D	Turkey	September 2	2018	TV-14	5 Seasons
s23	Movie	Awai Sharm	K.S. Ravikum	Kamal Hassan, Meena, Gemi		September 2	1996	TV-PG	161 min
s24	Movie	Go! Go! Cor	Alex Woo, Sti	Maisie Benson, Paul Killam,		September 2	2021	TV-Y	61 min
s25	Movie	Jeans	S. Shankar	Prashanth, A	India	September 2	1998	TV-14	166 min
s26	TV Show	Love on the Spectrum		Brooke Satch	Australia	September 2	2021	TV-14	2 Seasons
s27	Movie	Minsara Kan	Rajiv Menon	Arvind Swamy, Kajol, Prabl		September 2	1997	TV-PG	147 min
s28	Movie	Grown Ups	Dennis Dugar	Adam Sandl	United States	September 2	2010	PG-13	103 min
s29	Movie	Dark Skies	Scott Stewart	Keri Russell,	United States	September 1	2013	PG-13	97 min
s30	Movie	Paranoia	Robert Luket	Liam Hemsw	United States,	September 1	2013	PG-13	106 min
s31	Movie	Ankahi Kaha	Ashwiny Iyer	Abhishek Banerjee, Rinku F		September 1	2021	TV-14	111 min
s32	TV Show	Chicago Party Aunt		Lauren Ash, Rory O'Malley,		September 1	2021	TV-MA	1 Season
s33	TV Show	Sex Education		Asa Butterfie	United Kingd	September 1	2020	TV-MA	3 Seasons
s34	TV Show	Squid Game		Lee Jung-jae, Park Hae-soo,		September 1	2021	TV-MA	1 Season
s35	TV Show	Tayo and Little Wizards		Dami Lee, Jason Lee, Bomm		September 1	2020	TV-Y7	1 Season
s36	Movie	The Father Wi	Daniel Sandu	Adrian Titieni, Elena Purea,		September 1	2021	TV-MA	110 min
s37	Movie	The Stronghe	Cv√©dric Jimi	Gilles Lellouche, Karim Lekk		September 1	2021	TV-MA	105 min
s38	TV Show	Angry Birds		Antti P√§√§kk	Finland	September 1	2018	TV-Y7	1 Season
s39	Movie	Birth of the D	George Nolfi	Billy Magnus	China, Canad	September 1	2017	PG-13	96 min
s40	TV Show	Chhota Bheem		Vatsal Dubey,	India	September 1	2021	TV-Y7	3 Seasons
s41	TV Show	He-Man and the Masters of		Yuri Lowenth	United States	September 1	2021	TV-Y7	1 Season
s42	Movie	Jaws	Steven Spielb	Roy Scheide	United States	September 1	1975	PG	124 min
s43	Movie	Jaws 2	Jeannot Szw	Roy Scheide	United States	September 1	1978	PG	116 min
s44	Movie	Jaws 3	Joe Alves	Dennis Quaid	United States	September 1	1983	PG	98 min
s45	Movie	Jaws: The Rev	Joseph Sarge	Lorraine Gary	United States	September 1	1987	PG-13	91 min
	Movie	My Heroes W	Tyler Greco			September 1	2021	PG	23 min

BEFORE WE START...

What is Amazon QuickSight?

What it does:

- **QuickSight helps you visualise and analyse data, providing easy-to-use tools to create visualisations and display insights from your dataset.**

Why it's useful:

- **QuickSight is very useful for decision making as the data turns into insights that can be interpreted in an interactive way with charts, graphs and visuals as well as detecting patterns and anomalies.**

How I'm using it in today's project:

- **In today's project I'm creating visualisation on QuickSight through a Netflix dataset.**

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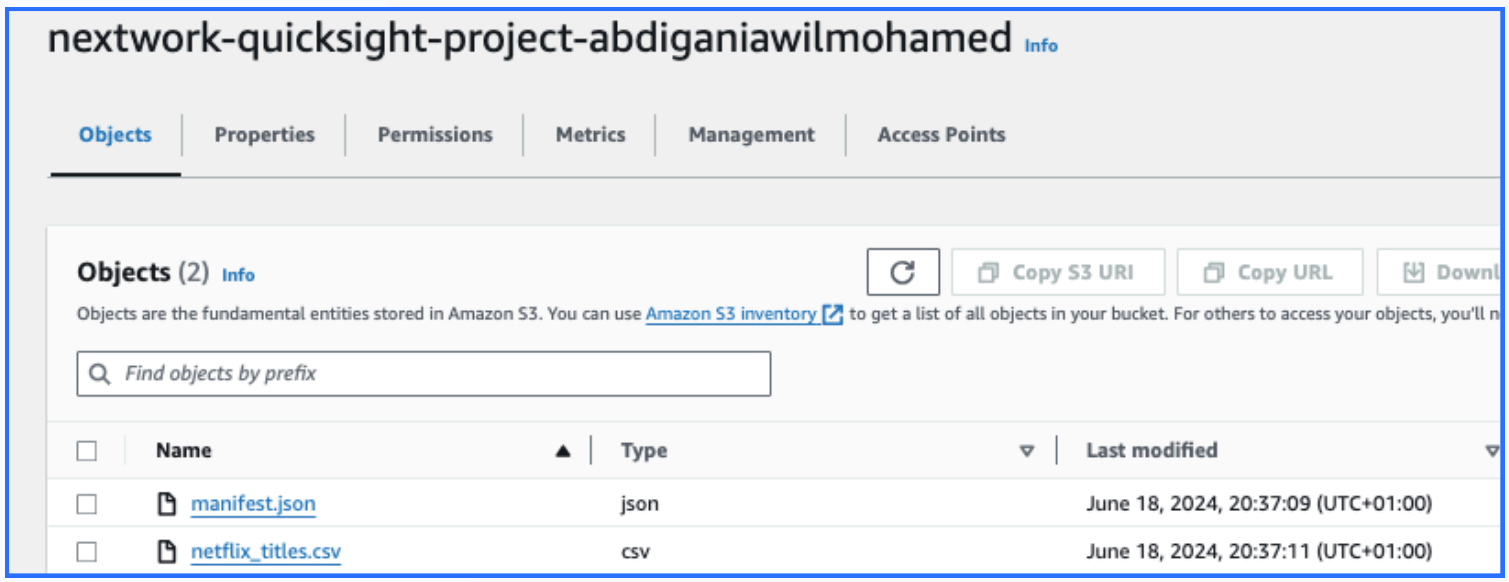
STEP ONE

Upload your dataset and a manifest.json file into S3

- **S3 is used in this project** to store my dataset and manifest.json file.
- **I edited the manifest.json file** by updating the S3 URI of my dataset. It's important to edit this file because keeping an outdated S3 URI means that manifest.json would be directing to the wrong address which will not allow us to access the correct data in QuickSight for this project.

Here's my bucket with the CSV file and manifest.json



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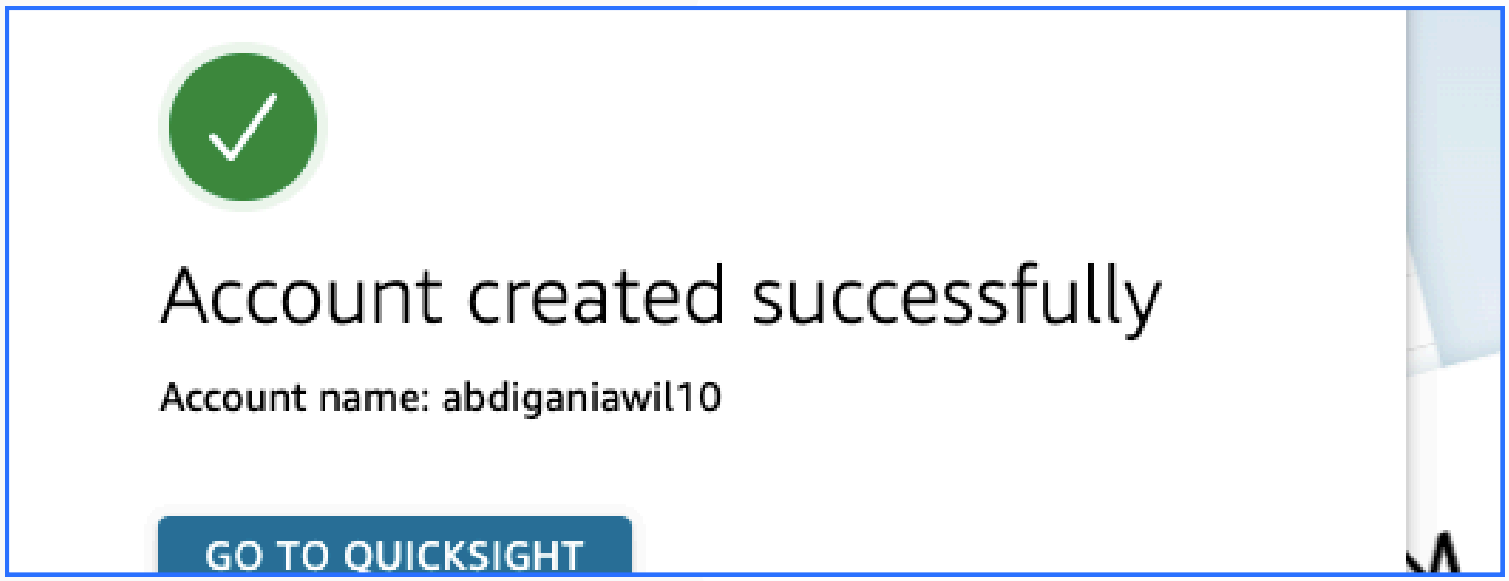
STEP TWO

Create your Amazon QuickSight account

- Amazon QuickSight doesn't cost unless you can create a QuickSight account for free (the free trial lasts for 30 days) which is what I had done for this project and it took only three minutes to set up which is pretty fast.
- I also had to enable QuickSight's access to S3 when setting up my account, as my dataset is stored in an S3 bucket . Otherwise, QuickSight would not be able to find the data that we're analysing.

Voila! I created my QuickSight account successfully



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STEP THREE

Connect your S3 bucket to Amazon QuickSight

- I connected the S3 bucket to QuickSight by using the S3 URI of my bucket to upload the manifest file
- The manifest.json file was important in this step because the file is like a map which tells QuickSight where your data files are and how they're organised allowing QuickSight to easily understand the data and visualise through charts and graphs as without this map it can cause confusion and data not be reflected correctly.

Entering the manifest.json URL

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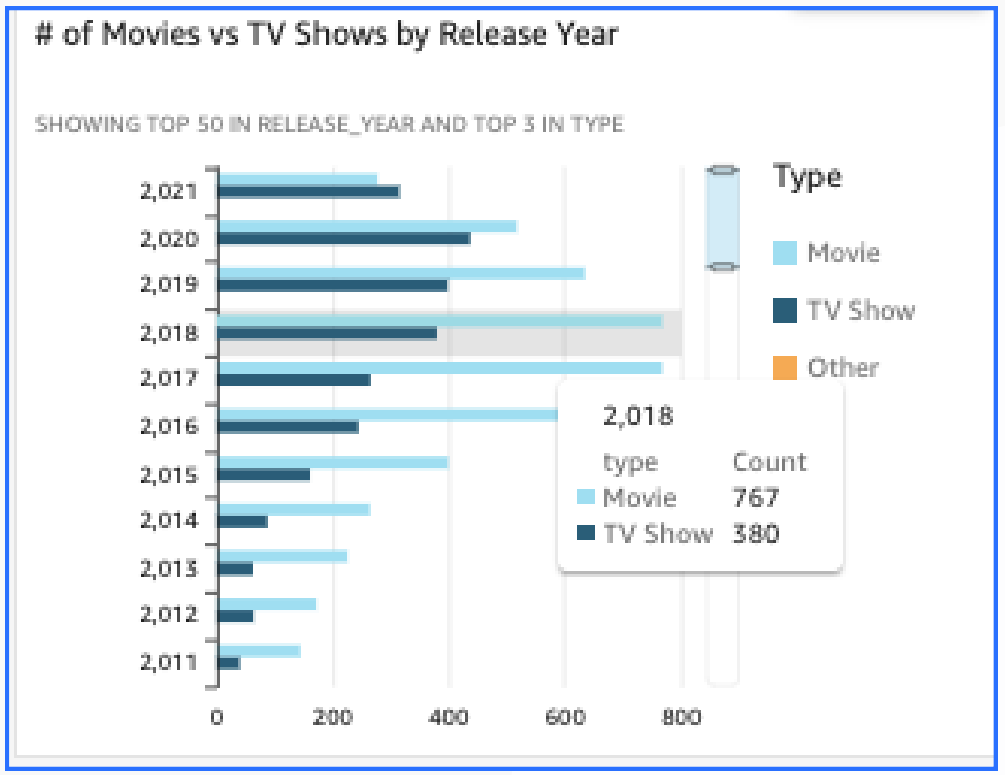
STEP FOUR

Let's make visualisations!

- To create visualisation on QuickSight, you'll have to drag relevant fields into the QuickSight dashboard's AutoGraph space.
- The chart/graph shown here is a breakdown of movies, TV shows for every release year. I created this graph by putting the release year on the y-axis and making the type (i.e. movie or TV shows) the grouping variable.

One of my first visualisations



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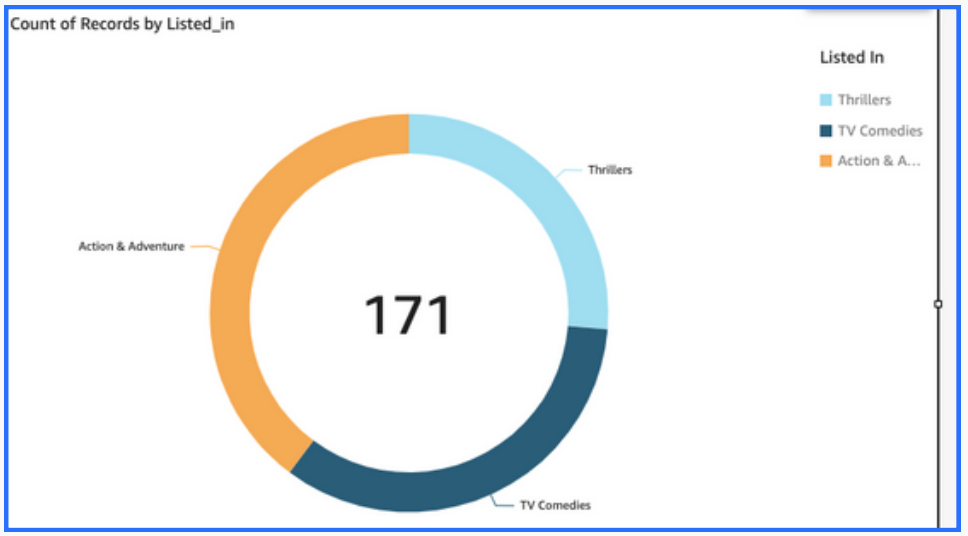
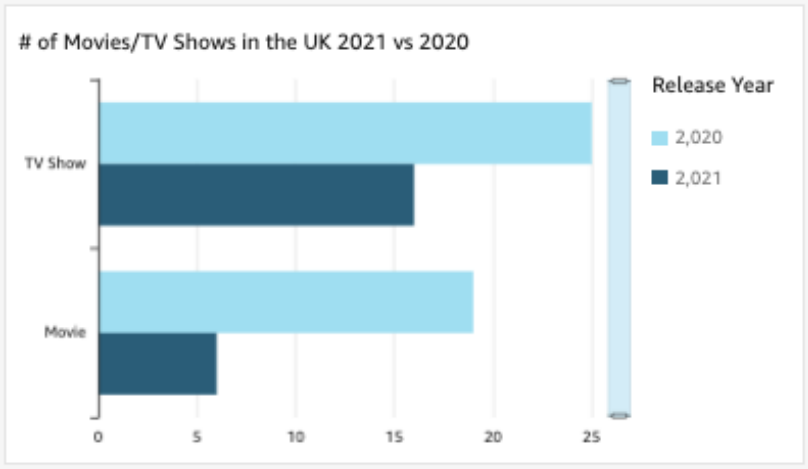
STEP FIVE

Using filters

- Filters are useful for specifying the exact subset of data that you are wanting to analyse- by excluding any irrelevant data with ease
- Here I added a filter by excluding movies and TV Shows that were released before 2015. This helped me create a visualisation on movies and TV shows of the three genres I specified which were Thrillers, TV Comedies and Action & Adventure that were released from 2015 onwards.

A visualisation set up after filtering for released date and listed categories.





I created the chart above to show a comparison of the numbers of Movies/TV shows that were released in the UK in 2021 and 2020. In order to create this I had to put the release year on the y-axis and making the type (i.e. movie or TV shows) the grouping variable. However, I used the filtering tool in this visual to allow me to specifically select the years 2021 and 2020. I also used the filtering tool to add countries and also excluding all countries apart from the UK as my visual is to specifically analyse data from the UK.

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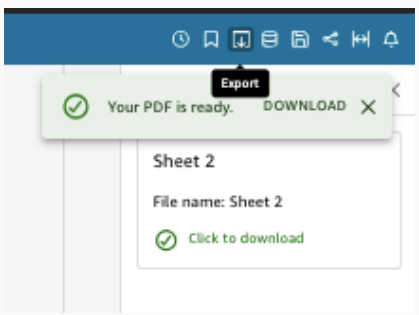
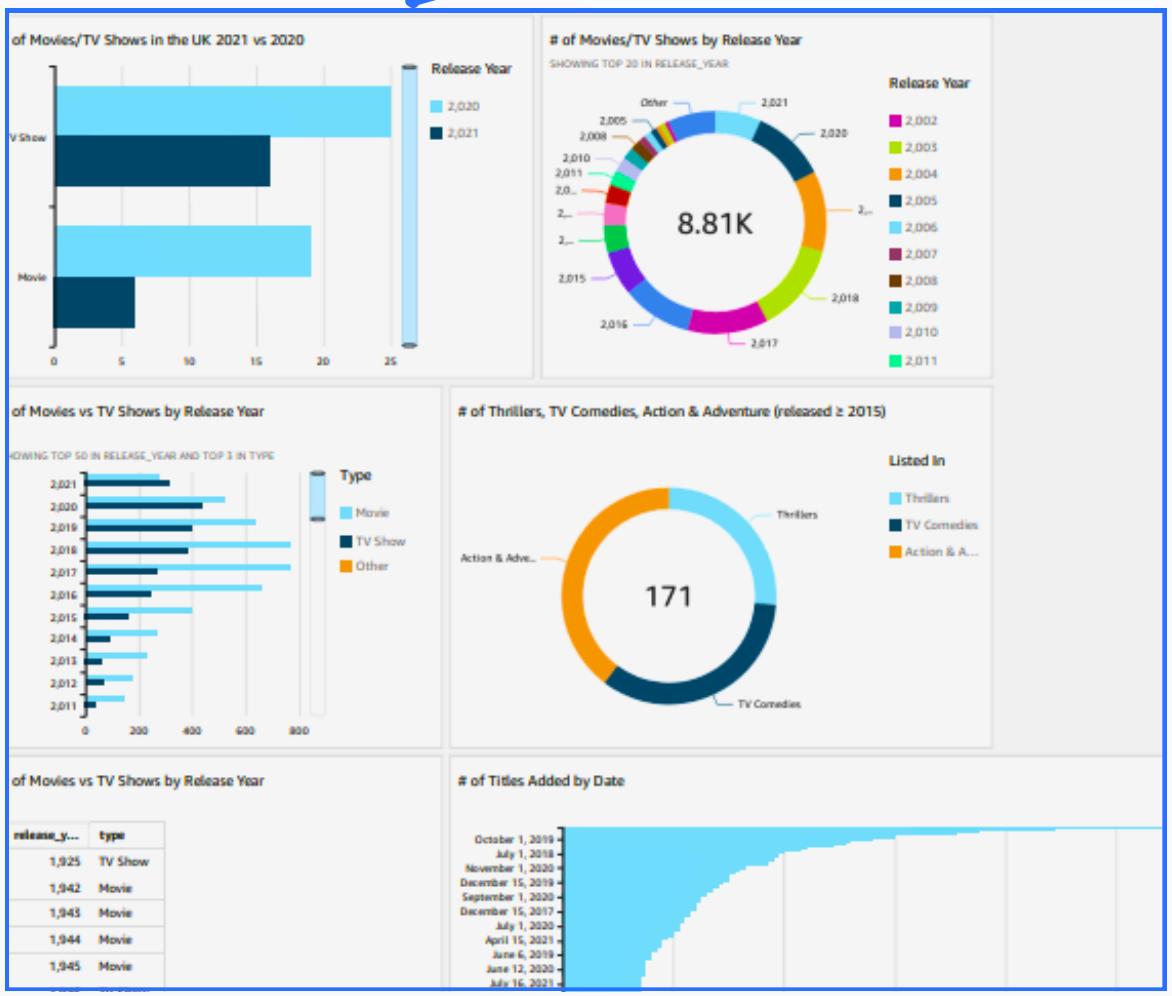
STEP SIX

Set up your dashboard!

- As a finishing touch, I included chart titles by double-clicking the title of my visuals.
- Did you know you could export your dashboard as PDFs too? To do this I first published my QuickSight sheet using the publish icon on the top right corner and located the export icon in the same place. Click on the icon and select Generate PDF.
- QuickSight will then prepare and process the PDF version of your dashboard, once ready, click download to save your PDF file.



Voila! Here's the finished dashboard!



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My Key Learnings

01 QuickSight essentially is an analytics service that allows you to connect a range of data in visuals allowing you to interpret data patterns for key decision making processes.

02 I learnt that connecting your S3 bucket is essential for QuickSight as the manifest file stored in the S3 includes the dataset needed to create accurate visualisations.

03 Creating visualisations on QuickSight can be really affective with the powerful tools being used to view insights. The filter tool being my favourite.

04 After creating my visualisations I am able to create a dashboard using QuickSight so easily and presentable .

05 Overall, in this project I learnt the usefulness of QuickSight in analysing datasets. It has allowed me to have a better understanding of ways to interpret data through many different types of visualisations and filters as well as creating interactive dashboards. QuickSight is easy to use and scalable which I look forward to using in future projects.

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Final thoughts...

- This project took me around 1hr and 30mins to complete and documentation took me 30 mins.
- Delete the S3 Bucket that was created in this project as well as your QuickSight Account to avoid any charges incurring. We want to keep this project free :)
- One thing I didn't expect was how easy it was to use QuickSight to analyse data.
- An area of data visualisation that I am interested in exploring is combining data visualisation with storytelling. In addition, improving the readability and interpretations of my dashboards and finally, real-time data visualisation and spatial data would be interesting too!

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Thanks NextWork for the free project guide!

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