

Glossary

Data Analytics

Terms and Definitions



**Areas in this glossary are intentionally empty, as we haven't covered key terms and definitions that fall under certain letters just yet. As the program progresses, the glossaries will populate with many more items.*

A

Analytical skills: Qualities and characteristics associated with using facts to solve problems

Analytical thinking: The process of identifying and defining a problem, then solving it by using data in an organized, step-by-step manner

Attribute: A characteristic or quality of data used to label a column in a table

B

Business task: The question or problem data analysis resolves for a business

C

Context: The condition in which something exists or happens

D

Data: A collection of facts

Data analysis: The collection, transformation, and organization of data in order to draw conclusions, make predictions, and drive informed decision-making

Data analyst: Someone who collects, transforms, and organizes data in order to draw conclusions, make predictions, and drive informed decision-making

Data analytics: The science of data

Data design: How information is organized

Data-driven decision-making: Using facts to guide business strategy

Data ecosystem: The various elements that interact with one another in order to produce, manage, store, organize, analyze, and share data

Data science: A field of study that uses raw data to create new ways of modeling and understanding the unknown

Data strategy: The management of the people, processes, and tools used in data analysis

Data visualization: The graphical representation of data

Database: A collection of data stored in a computer system

Dataset: A collection of data that can be manipulated or analyzed as one unit

E

F

Fairness: A quality of data analysis that does not create or reinforce bias

Formula: A set of instructions used to perform a calculation using the data in a spreadsheet

Function: A preset command that automatically performs a process or task using the data in a spreadsheet

G

Gap analysis: A method for examining and evaluating the current state of a process in order to identify opportunities for improvement in the future

H

I

J

K

L

M

N

O

Observation: The attributes that describe a piece of data contained in a row of a table

P

Q

Query: A request for data or information from a database

Query language: A computer programming language used to communicate with a database

R

Root cause: The reason why a problem occurs

S

Stakeholders: People who invest time and resources into a project and are interested in its outcome

T

Technical mindset: The ability to break things down into smaller steps or pieces and work with them in an orderly and logical way

U

V

Visualization: (Refer to data visualization)

W

X

Y

Z