Super Store Sales Dashboard using Power BI

Objective:

To contribute to the success of a business by utilizing data analysis techniques, specifically focusing on time series analysis, to provide valuable insights and accurate sales forecasting.

Tools & Technologies Used:

- Power BI (Desktop)
- Microsoft Excel
- Power Query
- DAX (Data Analysis Expressions)

Procedure:

1. Dataset Overview:

- o Collected Super Store sales data for the years **2019 and 2020** in Excel format.
- Dataset included fields such as sales, profit, quantity, customer segment, category, sub-category, state, region, and order date.

2. Data Import & Cleaning:

- o Imported the dataset into Power BI using **Power Query**.
- o Cleaned nulls, standardized column names, and transformed data types.

3. Dashboard Creation:

 Designed an interactive and visually intuitive dashboard showing KPIs, category performance, regional sales, and customer segments.

4. KPI Visualization:

- Created visual cards for total sales, total profit, average delivery time, and quantity sold.
- o Designed pie charts, bar graphs, and line charts to enhance interpretability.

5. DAX and Analysis:

 Used DAX functions for calculated columns and measures (e.g., DATEDIFF, SUM, AVERAGE) for delivery time and aggregations.

6. Time Series Analysis & Sales Forecasting:

Built line charts to show monthly sales trends.

 Applied Power BI's forecasting features to predict future sales based on historical patterns.

Key Insights:

Overall KPIs (2019–2020):

• Total Sales: \$1.57M

• **Total Profit:** \$175.26K

• Average Delivery Time: 4 days

• Total Quantity Sold: 22K units

Sales by Payment Mode:

• Cash on Delivery: 42.74%

Online Payments: 34.82%

• Card Payments: 22.45%

Category-wise Sales:

• **Top Category:** Office Supplies (\$0.644M)

Followed by Technology, and Furniture being the least.

Segment-wise Sales:

• Consumer Segment: 48.43%

• Followed by Corporate, with Home Office being the least.

Sub-Category Insights:

• **Top Performing Sub-category:** Phones (Technology)

• Other high performers: Chairs (\$0.18M), Binders (\$0.17M)

Geographic Insights:

- Top States for Sales and Profit:
 - o California, New York, Texas
- Top Region: West

Time-Based Trends:

- Highest Sales Months:
 - o September (both years) and December
- Lowest Sales Month: February
- Most Profitable Month:

Learning Outcomes:

- Developed proficiency in **Power BI dashboard creation**.
- Gained hands-on experience in **Power Query** for data transformation.
- Learned how to use **DAX** for meaningful data calculations.
- Understood **time series analysis** and applied forecasting for sales prediction.
- Interpreted key business insights to support decision-making processes.
- Improved data storytelling and interactive visualization skills.

Importance of Time Series Analysis & Sales Forecasting:

Time series analysis allowed the identification of **seasonal trends**, **monthly peaks**, and **downturns** in sales, empowering the business to:

- Forecast demand and manage inventory.
- Plan promotional campaigns around high-performing months.
- Make data-driven decisions to maximize profit.

Sales forecasting provided a **predictive view of future performance**, ensuring that the business stays proactive rather than reactive.

Recommendations:

1. Promote Sales During Low-Performing Months:

Focus on marketing and promotional strategies during February, which consistently shows lower sales.

2. Leverage Peak Season Insights:

Increase stock levels and launch targeted campaigns ahead of September and December to capitalize on high sales trends.

3. Invest More in High-Performing Categories:

Prioritize inventory and marketing efforts toward **Office Supplies** and **Technology** (especially **Phones**).

4. Expand Consumer-Focused Offerings:

As the Consumer segment is the most profitable, tailor offers and services specifically for this audience.

5. Optimize Delivery Time:

Although the average delivery time is 4 days, further reducing it could improve customer satisfaction and repeat sales.

6. **Diversify Payment Options:**

Encourage digital and card payments by offering cashback or incentives to reduce dependency on COD and foster trust.

7. Focus on High-Yield States and Regions:

Strengthen operations, logistics, and outreach efforts in **California**, **New York**, and the **West region**, which bring the highest returns.