Target Business Case Study





Project Overview

Analyzed 100,000+ e-commerce orders from Target Brazil (2016–2018) to uncover operational insights across order processing, pricing, payments, freight, customer behavior, and delivery performance.

6 Objectivess

As a data analyst at Target, the goal was to extract actionable insights from a multi-table dataset and recommend improvements in logistics, pricing, and customer experience.

Dataset Summary

Source: Google Drive Folder

Format: 8 CSV files

Tables: orders, order_items, customers, sellers, payments, reviews, products, geolocation

Q Key Explorations & Insights

☐ Exploratory Analysis

- Identified data types and structure across all tables
- Mapped customer distribution by city and state
- Extracted order time range and seasonal patterns

Order Trends

- Analyzed yearly and monthly growth in order volume
- Segmented order times into Dawn, Morning, Afternoon, Night
- Tracked monthly order counts per state

(§) Economic Impact

- Calculated % increase in payment value from Jan–Aug (2017 vs 2018)
- Aggregated total & average order price and freight by state

Delivery Performance

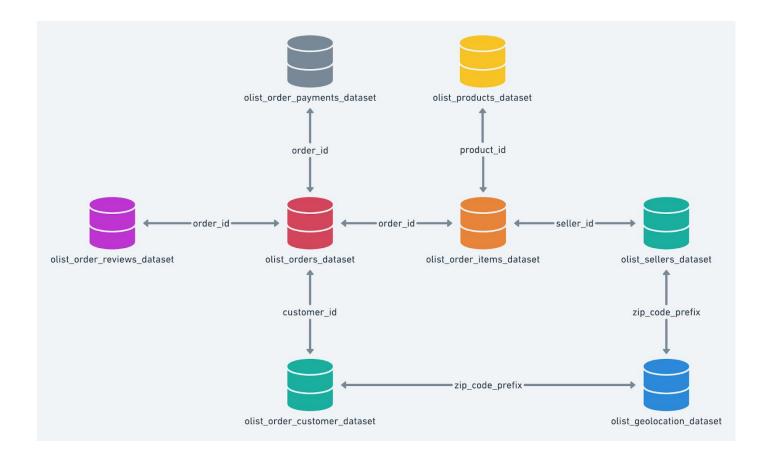
- Computed delivery time and deviation from estimated delivery
- Ranked states by:
- Highest/lowest average freight cost
- Fastest/slowest delivery time
- Most efficient delivery vs estimated date

Payment Analysis

- Monthly breakdown of payment types used
- Distribution of orders by installment count

X Tools & Skills Used

- SQL and BigQuery
- Data cleaning & transformation
- Time-series analysis
- Geo-mapping & state-level aggregation
- Business storytelling with data



Details:

Name: Nishanth Gowda

Email ID: nishanthgowdahsn27@gmail.com

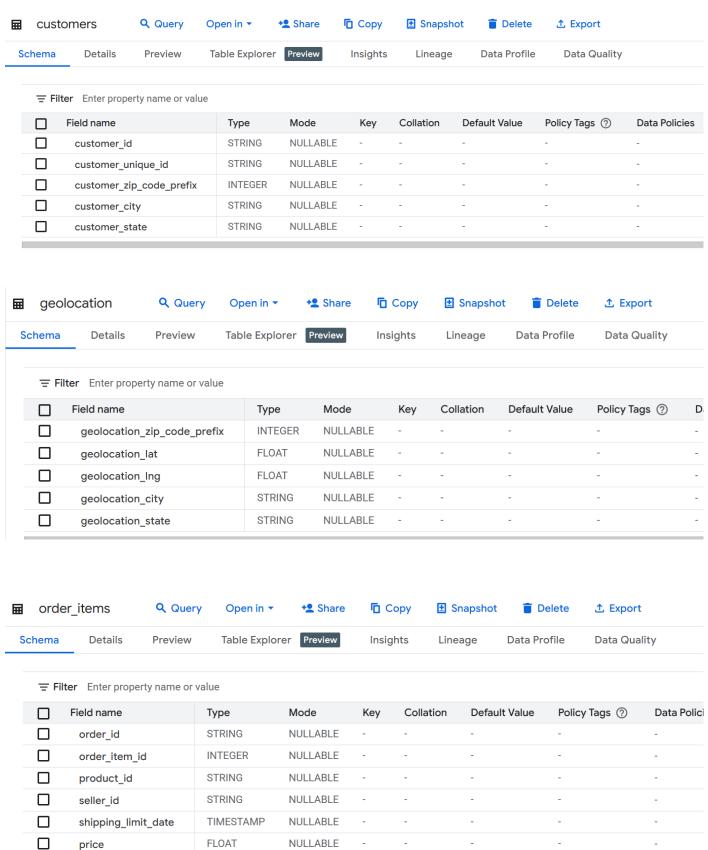
1. Import the dataset and do the usual exploratory analysis steps like checking the structure & characteristics of the dataset:

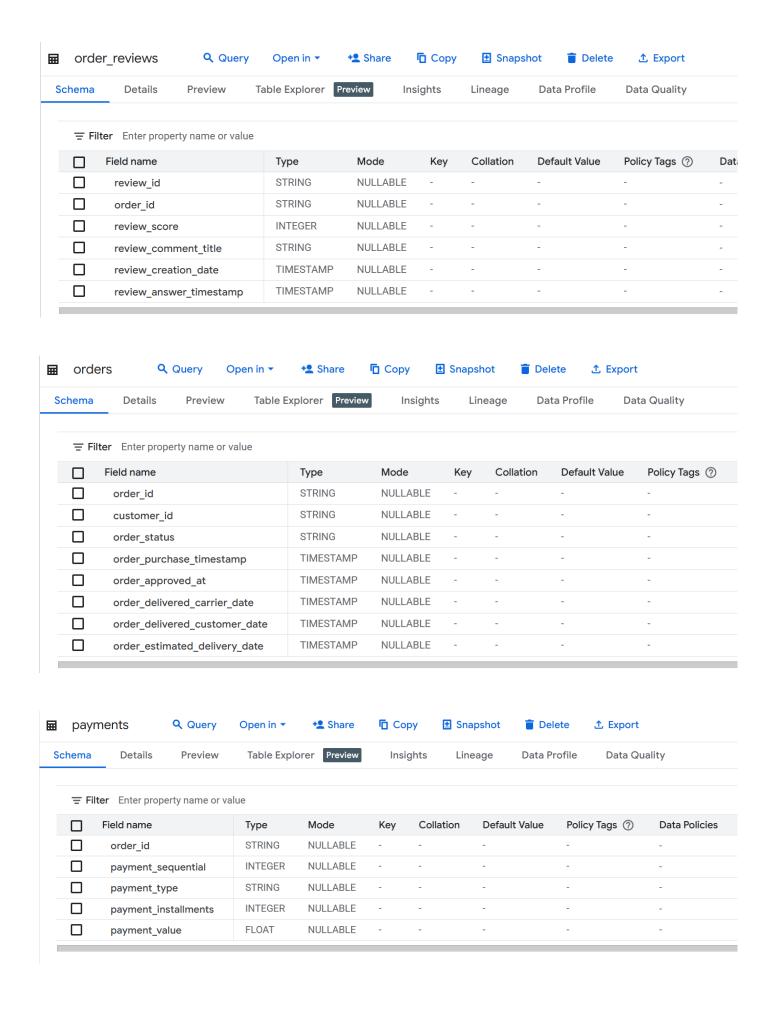
1.1 Data type of all columns in all the table.

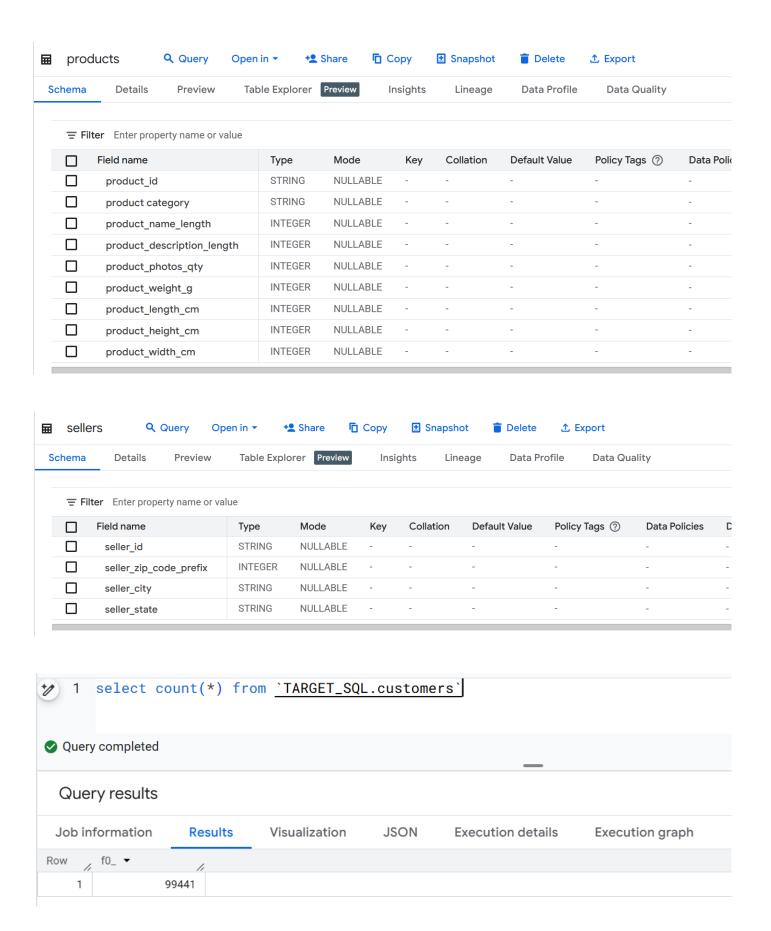
freight_value

FLOAT

NULLABLE







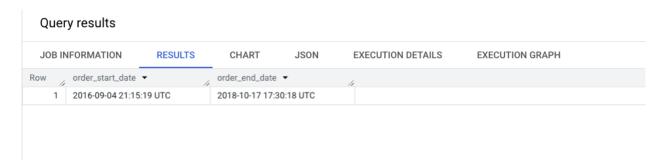
Here 1Lakh customer records used for analysis

1.2. Time range between which the orders were placed.

```
SELECT MIN(order_purchase_timestamp) AS order_start_date,

MAX(order_purchase_timestamp) AS order_end_date,

FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders`
```



Insights:

Start date = 04-09-2016

End date = 17-10-2018

Time Period = 2 years, 7months, 14days

1.3. Count the number of Cities & States of customers who ordered during the given period.

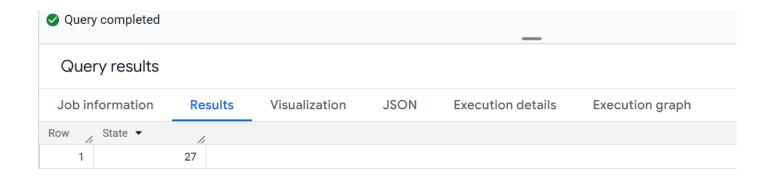
```
WITH min_max_dates AS (
    SELECT
        MIN(order_purchase_timestamp) AS min_date,
        MAX(order_purchase_timestamp) AS max_date
        FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders`
)

SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT cust.customer_id) AS cities_state_count
FROM `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord
ON cust.customer_id = ord.customer_id
JOIN min_max_dates AS dates
ON ord.order_purchase_timestamp BETWEEN dates.min_date AND dates.max_date;
```

Query results



select count(*) as State
from (select distinct customer_state, count(customer_state) from `TARGET_SQL.customers`
group by customer_state)



select count(*) as City
from (select distinct customer_city, count(customer_city) from `TARGET_SQL.customers`
group by customer_city)

Query results					
Job information	Results	Visualization	JSON	Execution details	Execution graph
Row City ▼	4119				

Insights:

There were total 99441 customers from which order is placed

Total unique state: 27
Total unique city: 4119

2. In-depth Exploration:

2.1. Is there a growing trend in the no. of orders placed over the past years?

```
WITH order_data AS (

SELECT

order_id,

order_purchase_timestamp,

FORMAT_DATETIME('%Y-%m', order_purchase_timestamp) AS past_years

FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders`
)

SELECT

past_years,

COUNT(*) AS order_month_count,

COUNT(*)-LAG(COUNT(*)) OVER(ORDER BY past_years) AS growth_trend

FROM order_data

GROUP BY past_years

ORDER BY past_years

LIMIT 10
```

JOB II	NFORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON	EXECUTION D	ETAILS	EXECUTION GRAPH
ow	past_years ▼	//	order_month_coun	t 💌 growth	_trend ▼		
1	2016-09			1	null		
2	2016-10		32	4	320		
3	2016-12			1	-323		
4	2017-01		80	0	799		
5	2017-02		178)	980		
6	2017-03		268	2	902		
7	2017-04		240	4	-278		
8	2017-05		370)	1296		
9	2017-06		324	5	-455		
10	2017-07		402	5	781		

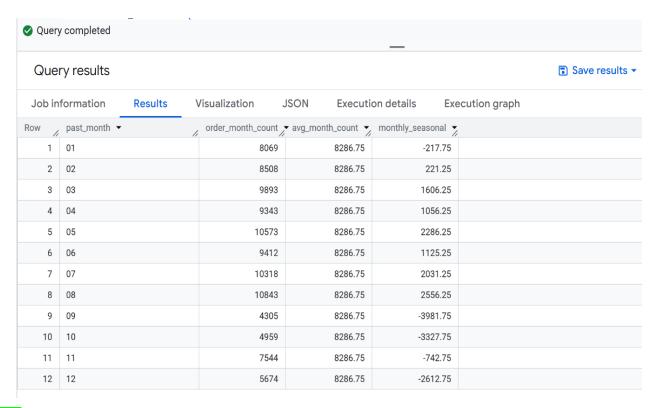
We can clearly see that there is a growing trend in the growth_tred column

Highest order month = May-2017

2.2. Can we see some kind of monthly seasonality in terms of the no. of orders being placed?

```
WITH order_data AS (
    SELECT
    FORMAT_DATETIME('%m', order_purchase_timestamp) AS past_month,
    COUNT(order_id) AS order_month_count
    FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders`
    GROUP BY past_month
)

SELECT
    past_month,
    AVG(order_month_count) OVER() AS avg_month_count,
    order_month_count - ROUND(AVG(order_month_count) OVER(), 2) AS monthly_seasonal
FROM order_data
ORDER BY past_month
```



Here we can cleary see the number of orders are more in March which is in summer till July. Company needs to enguage customer on other months by providing offers on winter cloths and other products.

2.3. During what time of the day, do the Brazilian customers mostly place their orders? (Dawn, Morning, Afternoon or Night)

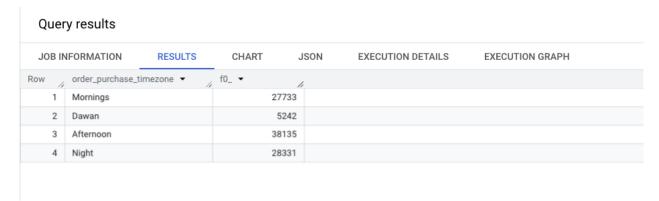
0-6 hrs : Dawn

7-12 hrs : Mornings

13-18 hrs : Afternoon

19-23 hrs : Night

```
SELECT order_purchase_timezone, count(order_purchase_timezone) FROM (
SELECT order_purchase_timestamp,
CASE
WHEN extract(hour FROM order_purchase_timestamp) between 0 and 6 THEN 'Dawan'
WHEN extract(hour FROM order_purchase_timestamp) between 7 and 12 THEN 'Mornings'
WHEN extract(hour FROM order_purchase_timestamp) between 13 and 18 THEN 'Afternoon'
ELSE 'Night'
END AS order_purchase_timezone
FROM 'TARGET_SQL.orders')
GROUP BY order_purchase_timezone
```



Here the time slots are:

Dawan: 12am-6am, Morning: 7am-12pm, Afternoon: 1pm-6pm, Night:7pm-11pm

During afternoon most people are awake and we can recommend more advertisements during this period to enguage the customers.

3. Evolution of E-commerce orders in the Brazil region:

3.1. Get the month on month no. of orders placed in each state.

```
SELECT geo.geolocation_state,
    extract(month FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) AS order_month,
    count(ord.order_id) AS month_on_month
FROM `TARGET_SQL.geolocation` AS geo
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
    ON geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix = cust.customer_zip_code_prefix
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord
    ON cust.customer_id = ord.customer_id
GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state, order_month
    order by geo.geolocation_state, order_month
limit 15
```

JOB II	FORMATION	RESULTS	CHART J	SON EXECU	TION DETAILS EXECUTION GRAPH	-1
Row	geolocation_state	~	order_month ▼	month_on_month		
1	AC		1	694		
2	AC		2	515		
3	AC		3	516		
4	AC		4	789		
5	AC		5	1161		
6	AC		6	563		
7	AC		7	937		
8	AC		8	1060		
9	AC		9	161		
10	AC		10	535		
11	AC		11	368		
12	AC		12	389		
13	AL		1	3645		
14	AL		2	2902		
15	AL		3	5279		

Most of the orders are from AL state, company needs to find the reasons for why number of orders more in AL state and implement same stratagy on other state.

3.2. How are the customers distributed across all the states?

```
SELECT geo.geolocation_state,count(distinct cust.customer_id) AS no_customers FROM `TARGET_SQL.geolocation` AS geo
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
ON geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix = cust.customer_zip_code_prefix
GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state
limit 10
```

Quer	y results					
JOB IN	FORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON	EXECUTION DETAILS	EXECUTION GRAPH
Row	geolocation_state	~	no_customers ▼	//		
1	SE		34	19		
2	AL		41	2		
3	PI		49)2		
4	AP		6	58		
5	AM		14	18		
6	RR		4	16		
7	AC		12	20		
8	RO		25	i6		
9	то		27	79		
10	BA		337	71		

Insights:

Maximum customer count: BA(~3371), AL(~412)

Company need to concentrate more on other state customer logins

- 4. Impact on Economy: Analyze the money movement by e-commerce by looking at order prices, freight and others.
- 4.1.Get the % increase in the cost of orders from year 2017 to 2018 (include months between Jan to Aug only).

```
WITH monthly_avg_payment AS (

SELECT

EXTRACT(YEAR FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) AS year_x,

EXTRACT(MONTH FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) AS month_x,

AVG(pmt.payment_value) AS avg_payment

FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord

JOIN `TARGET_SQL.payments` AS pmt

ON ord.order_id = pmt.order_id
```

```
WHERE EXTRACT(YEAR FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) IN (2017, 2018)

AND EXTRACT(MONTH FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) BETWEEN 1 AND 8

GROUP BY year_x, month_x
)

SELECT

year_x,
month_x,
avg_payment,
ROUND(
(avg_payment - LAG(avg_payment) OVER (ORDER BY year_x, month_x)) * 100

/ LAG(avg_payment) OVER (ORDER BY year_x, month_x), 2) AS percentage_increase
FROM monthly_avg_payment
ORDER BY year_x, month_x;
```

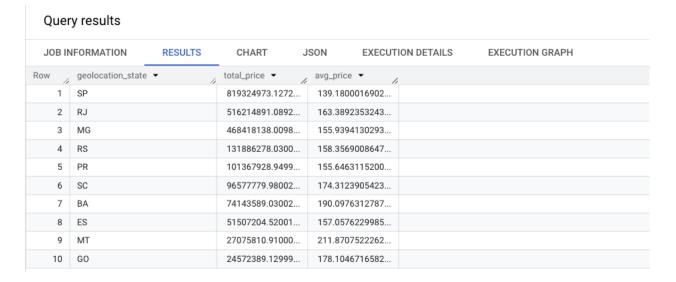
JOB IN	IFORMATION	RESULTS	CH	ART JSON	EXECUTION DETAILS	EXECUTION GRAPH
Row	year_x ▼	month_x ▼	//	avg_payment ▼	percentage_incre	
1	2017		1	162.9271058823	null	
2	2017		2	154.7762513255	-5.0	
3	2017		3	158.57017976736	2.45	
4	2017		4	162.5002061454	2.48	
5	2017		5	150.3343864097	-7.49	
6	2017		6	148.7998777648	-1.02	
7	2017		7	137.2209682649	-7.78	
8	2017		8	148.2189714285	8.01	
9	2018		1	147.4288218960	-0.53	
10	2018		2	142.7593987341	-3.17	
11	2018		3	154.3732854100	8.14	
12	2018		4	161.0189318906	4.3	
13	2018		5	161.7354099509	0.44	
14	2018		6	159.5077893752	-1.38	
15	2018		7	163.9066774243	2.76	
16	2018		8	152.6463601074	-6.87	

We can see that % increase in the cost of orders increased from 2017 to 2018

4.2. Calculate the Total & Average value of order price for each state.

SELECT

```
geo.geolocation_state,
SUM(pmt.payment_value) AS total_price,
AVG(pmt.payment_value) AS avg_price
FROM `TARGET_SQL.geolocation` AS geo
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
ON geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix = cust.customer_zip_code_prefix
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord
ON ord.customer_id = cust.customer_id
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.payments` AS pmt
ON ord.order_id = pmt.order_id
GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state
ORDER BY total_price DESC
LIMIT 10;
```



We observe the total price and average order price for each state

4.3. Calculate the Total & Average value of order freight for each state.

```
SELECT
geo.geolocation_state,
SUM(orditm.freight_value) as total_freight_value,
AVG(orditm.freight_value) as avg_freight_value
FROM `TARGET_SQL.order_items` AS orditm
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord
ON orditm.order_id = ord.order_id
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
```

ON ord.customer_id = cust.customer_id

JOIN `TARGET_SQL.geolocation` AS geo

ON cust.customer_zip_code_prefix = geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix

GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state

LIMIT 10

Query results JOB INFORMATION RESULTS CHART **JSON EXECUTION DETAILS EXECUTION GRAPH** geolocation_state ▼ total_freight_value > avg_freight_value > 28.72475728422... 1 MT 4177068.029999... 2 MA 2275191.8599997 38.07533863275... AL 1237356.220000... 33.83250540015... 4 SP 98574572.42980... 15.40996507007... 67058347.09041... 20.45899544954... 6 PE 4195977.719998... 32.86555067321... 7 RJ 71966793.75011... 20.89842360439... 8 DF 2214955.550000... 21.01097098246... 9 RS 19910834 35000 21.52222484648... 10 SE 943582.8300000... 34.67269897846..

Insights:

We observe the total value and average value of order freight for each state

Note:

Freight: goods transported in bulk by truck, train, ship, or aircraft.

5. Analysis based on sales, freight and delivery time.

5.1. Find the no. of days taken to deliver each order from the order's purchase date as delivery time. Also, calculate the difference (in days) between the estimated & actual delivery date of an order.

Do this in a single query. (Delivery time)

You can calculate the delivery time and the difference between the estimated & actual delivery date using the given formula:

- o time_to_deliver = order_delivered_customer_date order_purchase_timestamp
- diff_estimated_delivery = order_delivered_customer_date order_estimated_delivery_date

SELECT

```
order_id,
customer_id,
date_diff(order_delivered_customer_date, order_purchase_timestamp, day) as time_to_deliver,
date_diff(order_delivered_customer_date, order_estimated_delivery_date, day) as diff_estimated_delivery
FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders`
WHERE order_delivered_customer_date IS NOT NULL
LIMIT 10;
```

Query results

JOB II	NFORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON	EXECUTION DETAILS	EXECUTION GRAPH
Row /	order_id ▼	/4	customer_id ▼		time_to_deliver 🔻 //	diff_estimated_d
1	770d331c84e5b2	14bd9dc70a1	6c57e61193691	85e575b36712	7	-45
2	1950d777989f6a	877539f53795	1bccb206de9f0	f25adc6871a1b	30	12
3	2c45c33d2f9cb8f	ff8b1c86cc28	de4caa97afa80	c8eeac2ff4c8da	30	-28
4	dabf2b0e35b423	f94618bf965fc	5cdec0bb8cbdf	53ffc8fdc212cd	7	-44
5	8beb59392e21af	5eb9547ae1a9	bf609b5741f71	697f65ce3852c	10	-41
6	65d1e226dfaeb8	cdc42f665422	70fc57eeae292	675927697fe03	35	-16
7	c158e9806f85a3	3877bdfd4f60	25456ee3b0cf8	4658015e4668	23	-9
8	b60b53ad0bb7da	cacf2989fe27	2f9902d85fcd93	30227f711cf47	12	5
9	c830f223aae084	93ebecb52f29	af626bcc9c27c	08077b02e6d3a	12	-12
10	a8aa2cd070eeac	7e4368cae3d	2c5519c36277c	3f69df911c68c	7	-1

Insights:

We can see the difference between orderd estimated date and delivered date Company need to concentrate to decrease this difference.

5.2. Find out the top 5 states with the highest & lowest average freight value. (Freight value)

```
WITH freight_value AS(
SELECT
 geo.geolocation_state as state,
 AVG(orditm.freight_value) as avg_freight_value
FROM `TARGET_SQL.order_items` AS orditm
JOIN 'TARGET_SQL.orders' AS ord
ON orditm.order_id = ord.order_id
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
ON ord.customer_id = cust.customer_id
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.geolocation` AS geo
ON cust.customer_zip_code_prefix = geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix
GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state
-- HIGHEST
(SELECT *
FROM freight_value
ORDER BY avg_freight_value
LIMIT 5)
UNION ALL
-- Lowest
(SELECT *
FROM freight_value
ORDER BY avg_freight_value DESC
LIMIT 5)
```

Query results

JOB IN	FORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON
Row	state ▼	//	avg_freight_value	· •//
1	РВ		42.7726931238	7
2	RR		42.4696018249	5
3	PI		39.4773250283	1
4	AC		39.0983725396	D
5	MA		38.0753386327	5
6	SP		15.4099650700	7
7	PR		20.1479807150	0
8	MG		20.4589954495	4
9	RJ		20.8984236043	9
10	DF		21.0109709824	5

Insights:

We observe that:

Maximum avg freight value = PB and RR (~42 units)

Minimum avg freight value = RJ and DF (~21 units)

5.3. Find out the top 5 states with the highest & lowest average delivery time. (Delivery time)

```
WITH high_low as (
SELECT
  geo.geolocation_state as state,
  AVG(DATE_DIFF(ord.order_estimated_delivery_date, ord.order_delivered_customer_date, day)) as diff_estimated_delivery
FROM `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord
JOIN `TARGET_SQL.customers` AS cust
ON ord.customer_id = cust.customer_id
JOIN 'TARGET_SQL.geolocation' AS geo
ON cust.customer_zip_code_prefix = geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix
GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state
)
(SELECT state, diff_estimated_delivery
FROM high_low
ORDER BY diff_estimated_delivery DESC
LIMIT 5)
UNION ALL
(SELECT state, diff_estimated_delivery
FROM high_low
ORDER BY diff_estimated_delivery ASC
LIMIT 5)
```

Query results

JOB IN	NFORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON
Row	state ▼	//	diff_estimated_d	i //
1	AL		8.20063385861	4
2	SE		8.48572389722	28
3	MA		8.84281466411	0
4	CE		9.72013087934	5
5	ES		9.85501162656	2
6	RR		20.4203786191	5
7	AM		20.1326511967	'8
8	RO		18.6520972167	7
9	AC		18.4614566719	8
10	AP		18.1825778149	1

Insights:

We observed that:

Minimum delivery time = AL and SQ(~8.2days)

Maximum delivery time = AC and $AP(^20.4)$

5.4. Find out the top 5 states where the order delivery is really fast as compared to the estimated date of delivery.

You can use the difference between the averages of actual & estimated delivery date to figure out how fast the delivery was for each state.

```
with top_five as (
SELECT
 geo.geolocation_state as state,
 AVG(DATE_DIFF(ord.order_estimated_delivery_date, ord.order_purchase_timestamp, day)) as est_date,
  AVG(DATE_DIFF(ord.order_delivered_customer_date, ord.order_purchase_timestamp, day)) as delivered_date
FROM 'TARGET_SQL.orders' AS ord
JOIN 'TARGET SQL.customers' AS cust
ON ord.customer id = cust.customer id
JOIN 'TARGET_SQL.geolocation' AS geo
ON cust.customer_zip_code_prefix = geo.geolocation_zip_code_prefix
GROUP BY geo.geolocation_state
)
select top_five.state, top_five.delivered_date
from top_five
where top five.delivered date < top five.est date
ORDER BY top five.delivered date DESC
limit 5
```

Query results

JOB INFORMATION RESULTS CHART JSON E Row state ✓ delivered_date ✓ 1 AP 27.99122623772 2 AM 24.65119678421 3 RR 24.52060133630 4 AL 23.14352789271 5 PA 22.55023982441						
1 AP 27.99122623772 2 AM 24.65119678421 3 RR 24.52060133630 4 AL 23.14352789271	JOB IN	FORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON	Е
2 AM 24.65119678421 3 RR 24.52060133630 4 AL 23.14352789271	Row /	state ▼	4	delivered_date ▼	11.	
3 RR 24.52060133630 4 AL 23.14352789271	1	AP		27.99122623772		
4 AL 23.14352789271	2	AM		24.65119678421		
	3	RR		24.52060133630		
5 PA 22.55023982441	4	AL		23.14352789271		
	5	PA		22.55023982441		

Insights:

Top 5 States(AP, AM, RR, AL, PA)

where order delivery time is faster than the estimated delivery time(~24 days)

6. Analysis based on the payments

6.1. Find the month on month no. of orders placed using different payment types.

```
SELECT pmt.payment_type,

EXTRACT(YEAR FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) AS year_x,

EXTRACT(MONTH FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp) AS month_x,

COUNT(pmt.order_id) AS order_count

FROM `TARGET_SQL.payments` AS pmt

JOIN `TARGET_SQL.orders` AS ord

ON pmt.order_id = ord.order_id

GROUP BY pmt.payment_type ,EXTRACT(YEAR FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp), EXTRACT(MONTH FROM ord.order_purchase_timestamp)

ORDER BY pmt.payment_type, year_x, month_x
```

Que	ry results					
JOB II	NFORMATION	RESULTS	CHART .	JSON EXECUT	TON DETAILS	EXECUTION GRAPH
Row	payment_type 🔻	//	year_x ▼	, month_x ▼	order_count ▼	,
1	UPI		2016	10	63	
2	UPI		2017	1	197	
3	UPI		2017	2	398	
4	UPI		2017	3	590	
5	UPI		2017	4	496	
6	UPI		2017	5	772	
7	UPI		2017	6	707	
8	UPI		2017	7	845	
9	UPI		2017	8	938	
10	UPI		2017	9	903	
11	UPI		2017	10	993	
12	UPI		2017	11	1509	
13	UPI		2017	12	1160	
14	UPI		2018	1	1518	
15	UPI		2018	2	1325	
16	UPI		2018	3	1352	
17	UPI		2018	4	1287	
18	UPI		2018	5	1263	
19	UPI		2018	6	1100	
20	UPI		2018	7	1229	

Insights:

We observed that:

Order count has been increased on 2018 and most of the orders are of UPI type

6.2. Find the no. of orders placed on the basis of the payment installments that have been paid.

SELECT payment_type, COUNT(DISTINCT order_id) AS order_count FROM `TARGET_SQL.payments` WHERE payment_installments > 0 GROUP BY payment_type

Query results

JOB IN	IFORMATION	RESULTS	CHART	JSON
Row /	payment_type ▼	14	order_count ▼	//
1	voucher		38	366
2	not_defined			3
3	credit_card		765	503
4	debit_card		15	528
5	UPI		197	784

Insights:

We observed that:

Maximum orders are from UPI payment.

Minimum order are from debit card type of payment