Looker Studio: Qwik Start | Google Cloud Skills Boost

Qwiklabs : 8-10 minutes

GSP136

Google Cloud Self-Paced Labs

Overview

Looker Studio is a free, modern business intelligence product that lets you create dynamic, visually compelling reports and dashboards. With Looker Studio, you can:

- Easily connect to a variety of data sources.
- Visualize your data through attractive, dynamic, and interactive reports and dashboards.
- Share and collaborate with others, just as you can in Google Drive.

Looker Studio automatically saves every change you make, so there's no need to click Save when editing a report.

In this lab you will create a report by pulling in a public dataset from BigQuery. You will then add a chart and style to your report, which will make your data elegant and easy to understand.

Setup and requirements

Before you click the Start Lab button

Read these instructions. Labs are timed and you cannot pause them. The timer, which starts when you click **Start Lab**, shows how long Google Cloud resources will be made available to you.

This hands-on lab lets you do the lab activities yourself in a real cloud environment, not in a simulation or demo environment. It does so by giving you new, temporary credentials that you use to sign in and access Google Cloud for the duration of the lab.

To complete this lab, you need:

- Access to a standard internet browser (Chrome browser recommended).

Note: Use an Incognito or private browser window to run this lab. This prevents any conflicts between your personal account and the Student account, which may cause extra charges incurred to your personal account.

- Time to complete the lab---remember, once you start, you cannot pause a lab.

Note: If you already have your own personal Google Cloud account or project, do not use it for this lab to avoid extra charges to your account.

How to start your lab and sign in to the Google Cloud Console

1. Click the **Start Lab** button. If you need to pay for the lab, a pop-up opens for you to select your payment method. On the left is the **Lab Details** panel with the following:

   - The **Open Google Console** button
   - Time remaining
   - The temporary credentials that you must use for this lab
   - Other information, if needed, to step through this lab

2. Click **Open Google Console**. The lab spins up resources, and then opens another tab that shows the **Sign in** page.

   Tip: Arrange the tabs in separate windows, side-by-side.

   Note: If you see the **Choose an account** dialog, click **Use Another Account**.

3. If necessary, copy the **Username** from the **Lab Details** panel and paste it into the **Sign in** dialog. Click **Next**.

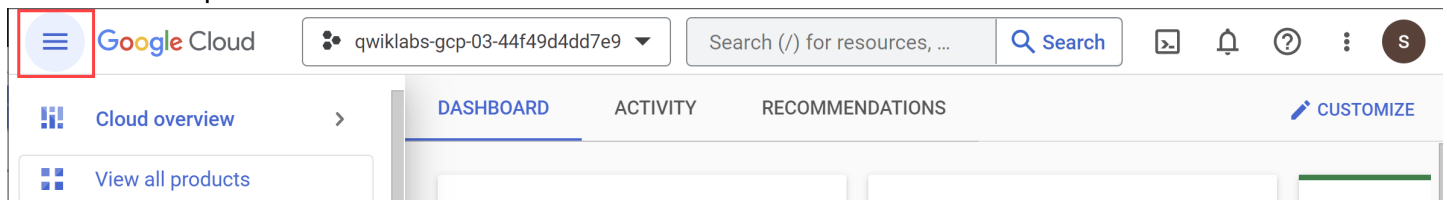4. Copy the **Password** from the **Lab Details** panel and paste it into the **Welcome** dialog. Click **Next**.

   Important: You must use the credentials from the left panel. Do not use your Google Cloud Skills Boost credentials. **Note:** Using your own Google Cloud account for this lab may incur extra charges.

5. Click through the subsequent pages:

   - Accept the terms and conditions.
   - Do not add recovery options or two-factor authentication (because this is a temporary account).
   - Do not sign up for free trials.

After a few moments, the Cloud Console opens in this tab.

Note: You can view the menu with a list of Google Cloud Products and Services by clicking the **Navigation menu** at the top-left.

Looker Studio setup

- Once you've logged in to the Google Cloud console, open lookerstudio.google.com in a new tab.

You should be automatically logged in with your lab's username, but if not, log out and sign in with the lab credentials you were given.

Task 1. Create a new blank report

You are already on the reports home page.

1. Click the **Plus Button** to create a new report.

2. In the Account Setup screen, accept the Looker Studio Terms of Service and click **Continue**.

3. Select **No** for receiving **Tips and recommendations**, **Product announcements** and **Market research**.

4. Click **Continue**.

5. Now click on the **Blank Report plus button** again.

6. Click **X** to close the **Add data to report** window.

Now you are in the Report Editor, which gives you the controls and tools needed to add charts, data, and style to your report.

7. Click **Untitled Report** in the top left corner of your screen and name your report "Analytics Test".

You are now ready to add data to your report.

Task 2. Create a new connection and data source

There is a list of Google connectors, which are the "pipes" that allow a Looker Studio data source to access the information stored in your data sets.

1. From the toolbar, select **Add data**.

2. From the list of **Google Connectors**, select the **BigQuery** tile.

3. Then click on the **Authorize** button to let Looker Studio view your data in BigQuery.

4. From the left menu, click **Public Datasets > Your Project ID > san_francisco > bikeshare_trips**.

5. Then click **Add** in the bottom right corner.

6. You will then be prompted with "You are about to add a data source to this report", click **Add to report**.

You have successfully connected Looker Studio to a public dataset hosted in BigQuery. Now you are ready to build a chart from the San Francisco bikeshare trip dataset.

Test Completed Task

Click **Check my progress** to verify your performed task. If you have successfully created a new connection and data source with BigQuery, you will see an assessment score.
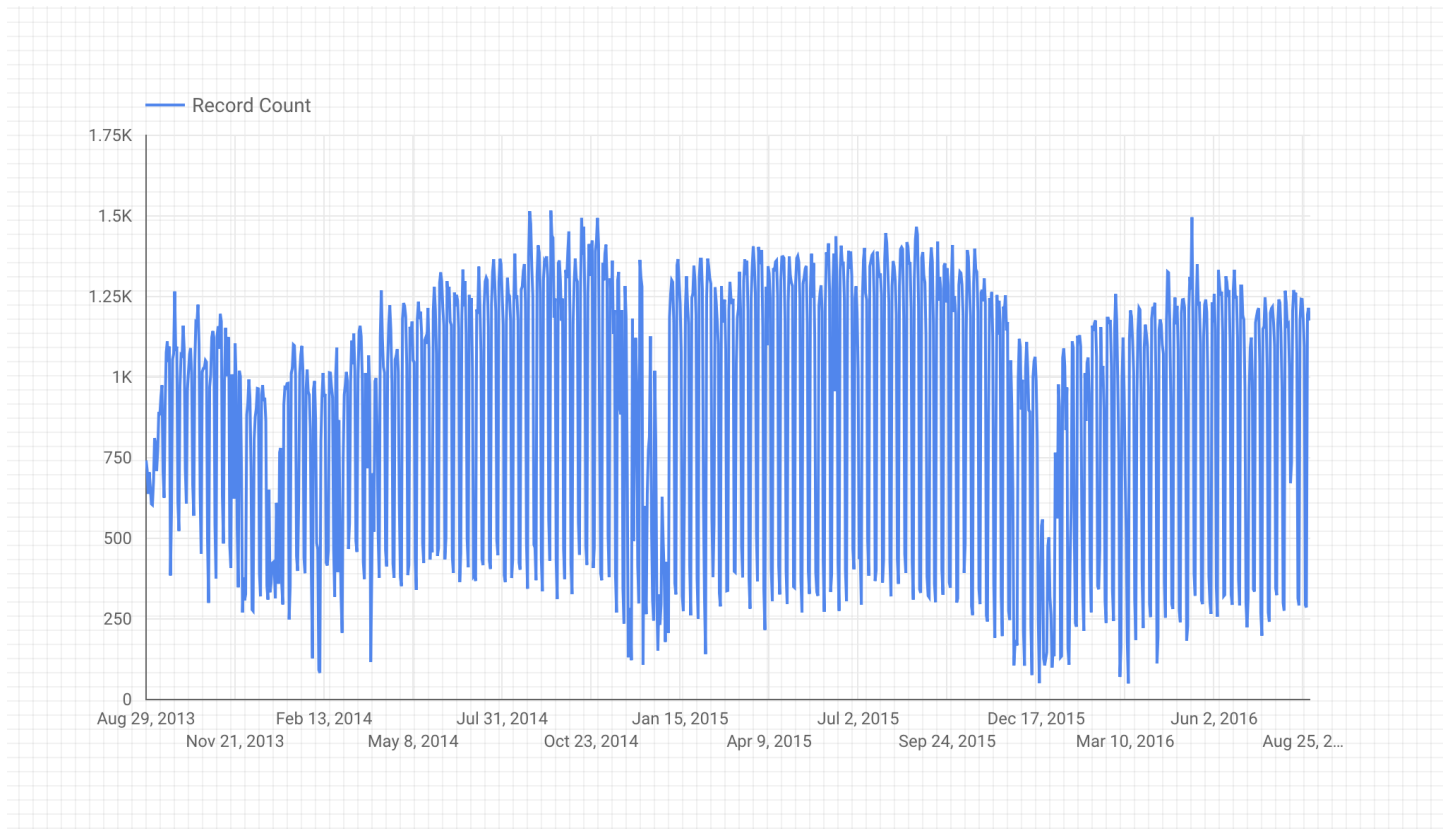
Create a new connection and data source

Task 3. Add a times series chart

Build a time series graph from your dataset.

1. From the toolbar, select **Add a chart**.

2. Then click **Time series chart** from the dropdown menu.

3. Adjust the positioning of the chart by selecting and dragging it; or by selecting the chart and using your keyboard arrow keys to move it. Drag the corner of the chart to expand it.
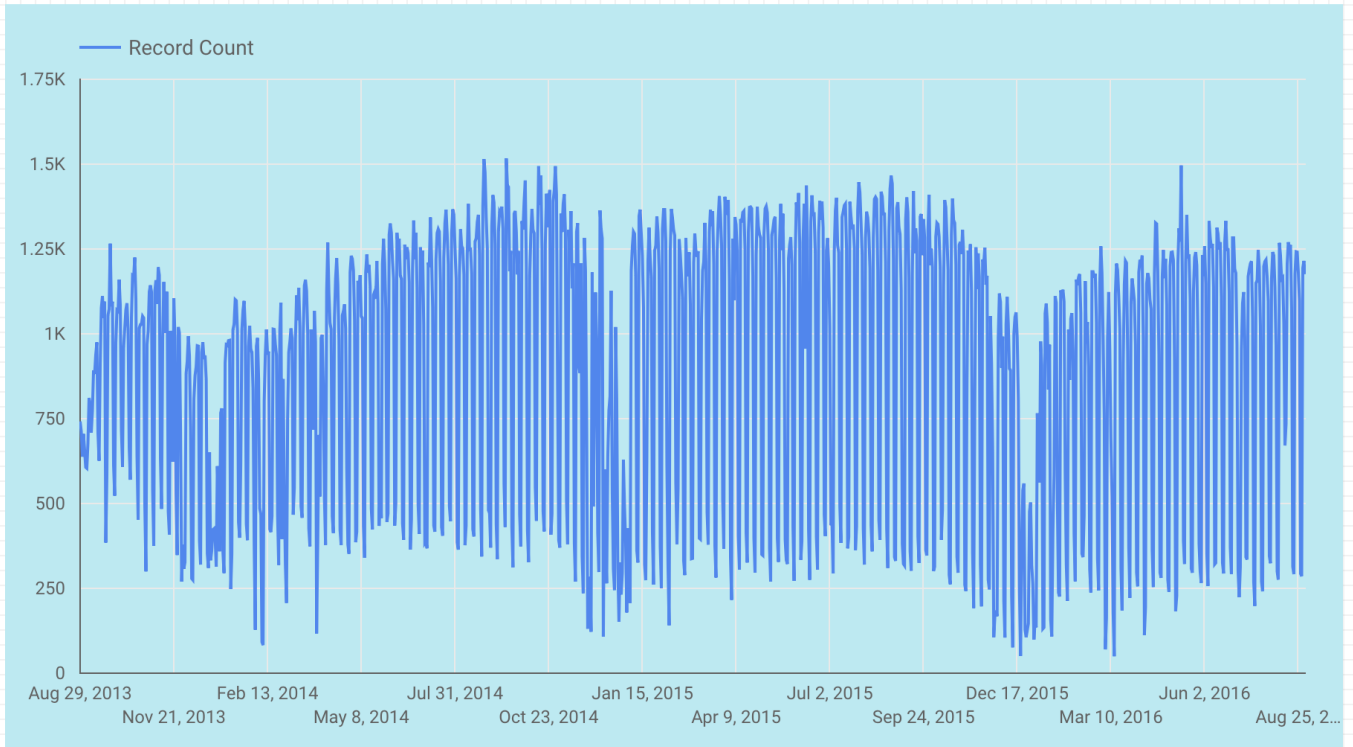
Your chart should resemble the following:

The time series chart shows the number of bikeshares used in San Francisco over time (it doesn't look like this transportation method is too popular in the winter time.)
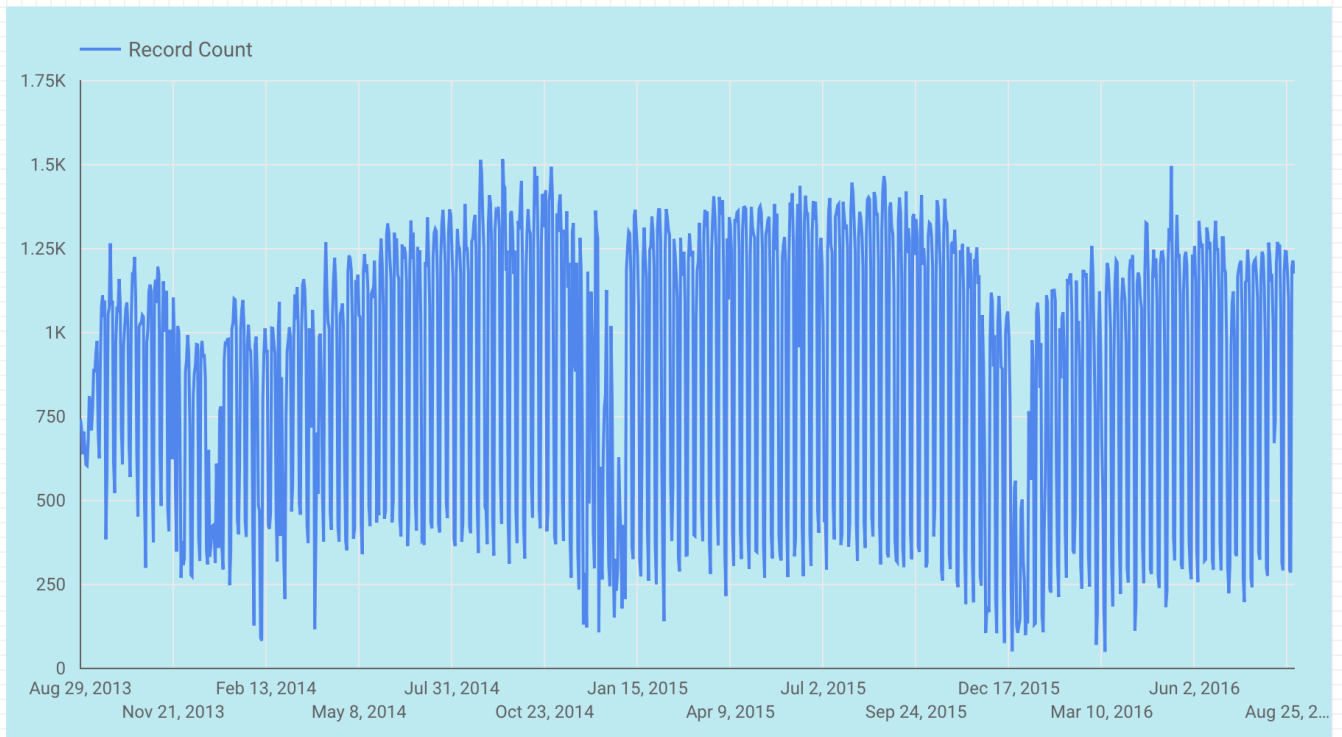
Task 4. Style the report

1. In Looker Studio, click anywhere on the graph paper, but not on the chart you just made.

2. Click **Theme and layout** from the toolbar and stay on the **Theme** tab.

3. Click **Customize**.

4. Scroll down to the **Component background and border** section and click on the paint bucket.

5. Choose a background color for your chart from the color pallet. Here's one example:

Task 5. Add a banner to your report

1. Select the **Shape icon > Rectangle** tool from the top toolbar.

2. Draw a rectangle across the top of the page.

3. Click inside the newly created banner. This will open the Rectangle Properties panel.

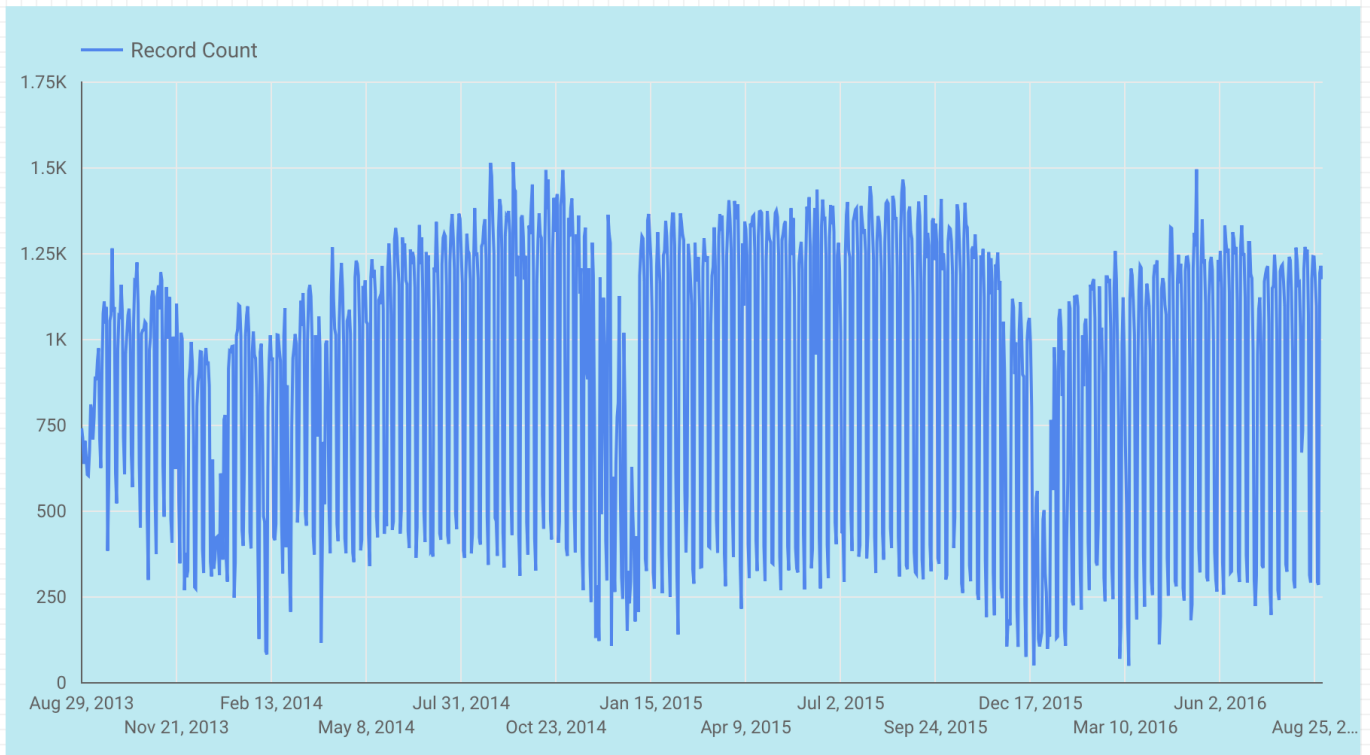4. Choose a background color for your banner. Your graph will now resemble the following:

Task 6. Add a title to your report

1. Select the **Text** tool from the top toolbar and draw a textbox inside the banner.

2. Make sure the background of the text is transparent.

3. Type "Google Analytics Demo Dashboard" in the textbox.

4. Resize your textbox to fit the rectangle, and change the font color and size to something that looks nice to you.

Nice looking report!

Congratulations!

This lab is part of a series of labs called Qwik Starts. These labs are designed to give you a little taste of the many features available with Google Cloud. Search for "Qwik Starts" in the lab catalog to find the next lab you'd like to take!

Next steps / Learn more

Learn how to prepare your data to work best with Looker Studio:

- Using Google Sheets as your data source
- Using Google Analytics as your data source
- Using BigQuery as your data source

Google Cloud training and certification

...helps you make the most of Google Cloud technologies. Our classes include technical skills and best practices to help you get up to speed quickly and continue your learning journey. We offer fundamental to advanced level training, with on-demand, live, and virtual options to suit your busy schedule. Certifications help you validate and prove your skill and expertise in Google Cloud technologies.

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