



## Power BI Basics

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Part 1

### **What is Power BI?**

People think Power BI is a simple analytics tool, but it is much more than that. It consists of various software services, apps, and connectors that can be used to gain insights on our raw data.

### **Parts of Power BI**

Power BI consists of three main parts, Windows desktop application called Power BI Desktop, an online SaaS (Software as a Service) service called the Power BI service, and mobile Power BI apps. These three platforms allow people to create, share and gain insights across the organization freely without any hindrances.

The process usually proceeds like this. In Power BI desktop, a report is created, the report is then published to Power BI service, and finally shared on Power BI mobile apps so that people can access data on the go.

### **Building Blocks of Power BI**

The main building blocks of Power BI are-

- Visualizations
- Datasets
- Reports
- Dashboards
- Tiles

## **Visualizations**

A visualization (sometimes also referred to as a visual) is a visual representation of data, like a chart, a color-coded map, or other interesting things you can create to represent your data visually. Power BI has large variety of visualizations, each with its own importance.

## **Datasets**

A dataset is a collection of data that Power BI uses to create its visualizations. Dataset can be anything, from a simple csv or excel file to Microsoft SQL Server database. Power BI has built-in data connectors that lets us easily connect to that data, filter it if necessary, and bring it into your dataset.

## **Reports**

In Power BI, a report is a collection of visualizations that appear together on one or more pages. Reports let us have many visualizations, on multiple pages if necessary, and let you arrange those visualizations in whatever way best tells your story. Basically, reports are the tale which a data analyst tells using the visualizations in Power BI.

## **Dashboards**

A Power BI dashboard is a collection of visuals from a single page that you can share with others. Dashboard is basically the workspace where we work with the visuals.

## **Tiles**

In Power BI, a tile is a single visualization on a report or a dashboard. It's the rectangular box that holds an individual visual.