

14.2.5

Determine the Number of Trips

After thinking through various questions, you settle on the first question you would like the data to answer: how many bike trips were recorded during the month of August? Since August is a beautiful time of the year to rent a bike, we want to use this data as a starting point to determine how many rides we could expect in the city of Des Moines.

We've established that one of our primary goals when using Tableau is to answer questions using data. We want to create a visualization that ultimately answers our question or leads us closer to answering the original question. Our first question is, "how many trips were recorded during the month of August?"

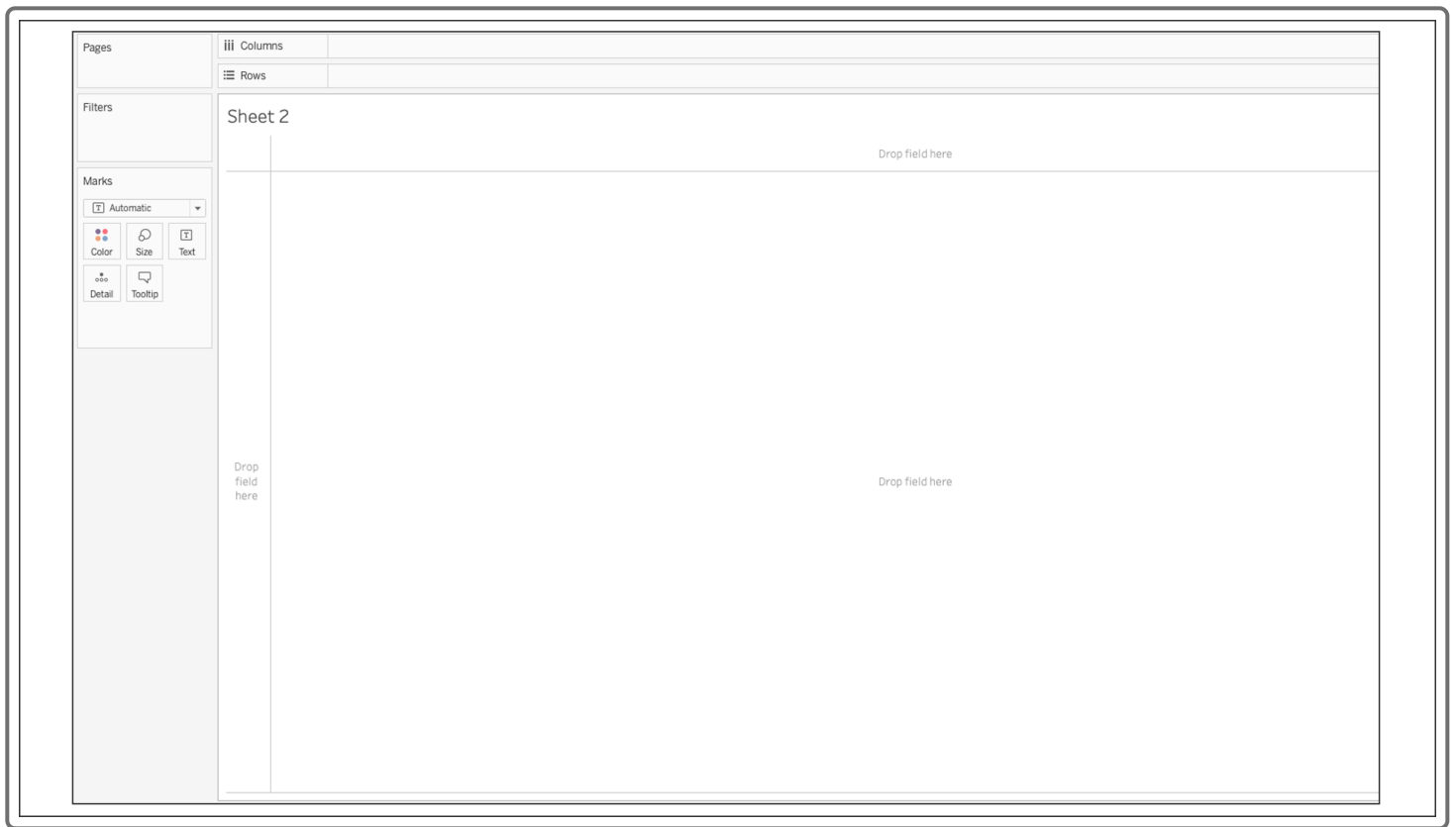
To answer this question, we need to create a Tableau worksheet that shows the number of trips recorded during our time period. We won't need a plot; we'll simply display the number of recorded rides.

How Many Trips Were Recorded During the Month of August?

Let's start by creating the worksheet. Click on the far-left tab of the three shown below. These three tabs can be found in the toolbar near the bottom of your workspace:



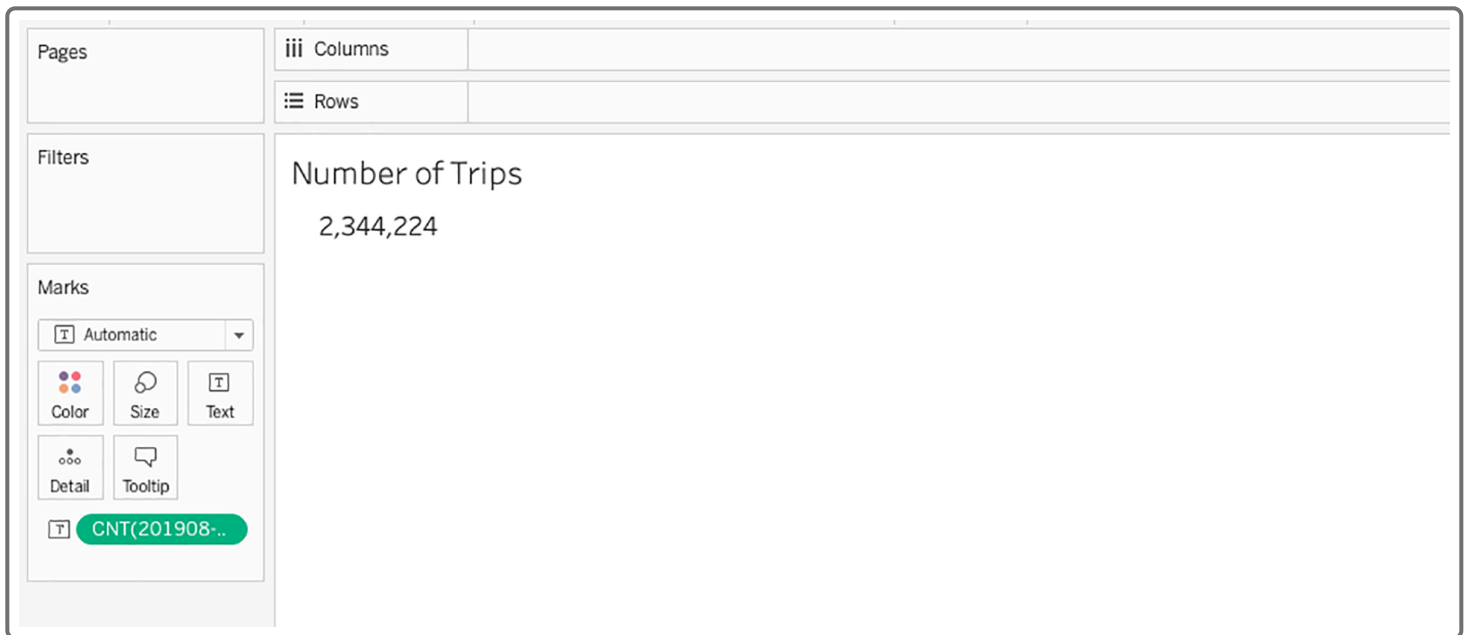
After clicking, your workspace will look like the following:



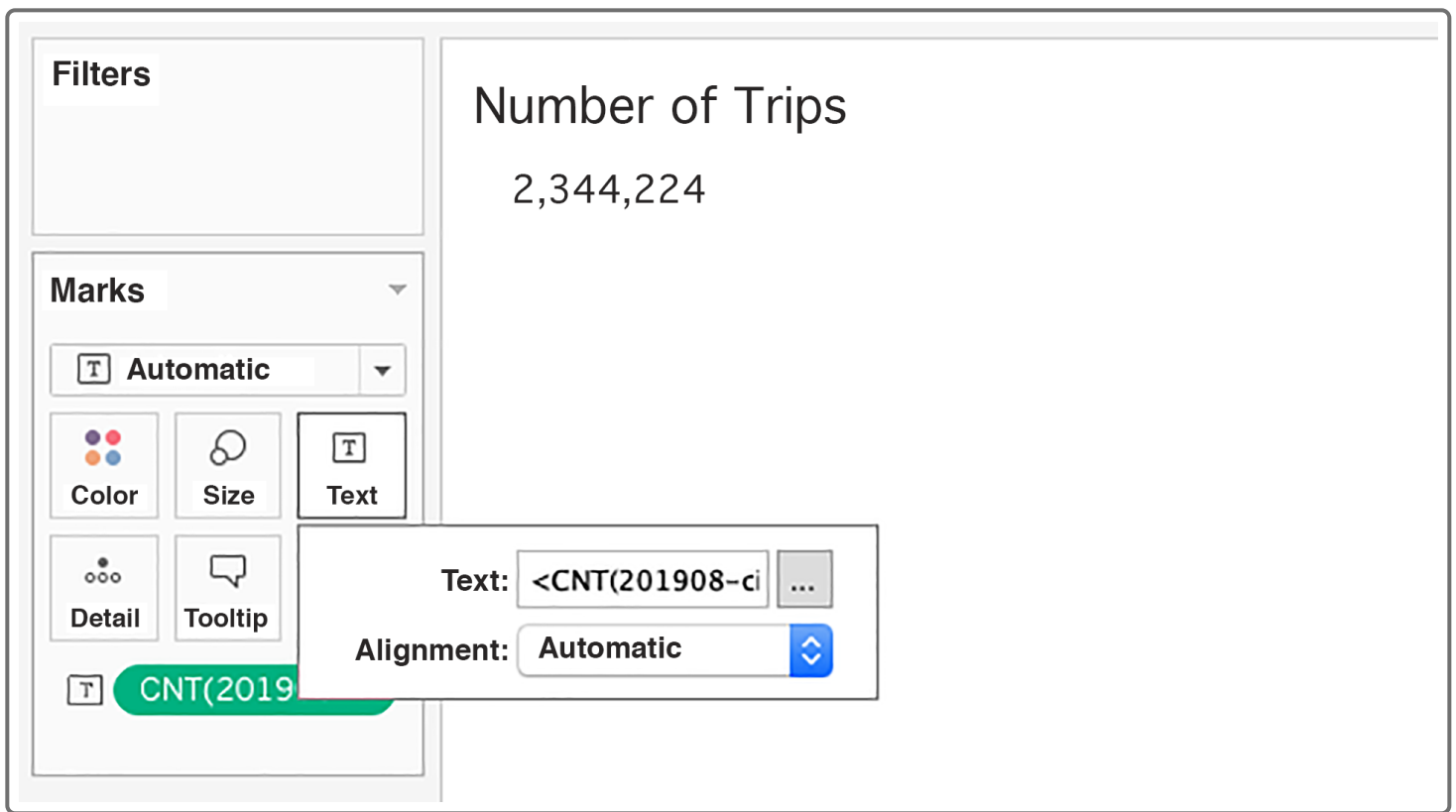
You'll notice that the worksheet is currently named "Sheet 2," so we'll need to change it to something both concise and applicable to the data we'll be analyzing. Let's rename the worksheet "Number of Rides."

To rename the worksheet, go to the bottom tab, double-click on "Sheet 2," and type "Number of Rides." This will change the title at the top of your worksheet.

Next, go to the left side of the workspace and look at the Measures section. You should see a measure called **201908-citibike-tripdata.csv (Count)**. Drag the **201908-citibike-tripdata.csv (Count)** measure into the Text box in the Marks section. You'll see that the worksheet is updated with the number of rides, so that it looks like this:



Now click the Text box again to edit the formatting of the number. By clicking on the icon with three dots, you can change the size, color, and style of the number. At this point, all we need to do is make the text larger so it's easier to read. Refer to the following image:



Great work! You've found the total number of trips in August: 2,344,224. Now it's time to focus on the next question: how does ridership grow over time?

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