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✦ **The Retail Superstore dataset** represents 4 years of data from a US-based retail organisation focussing in office furniture and supplies.

The organisation need a high-level financial summary for their Quarterly and Annual review process.

This should cater to different end users: those who are focussed purely on overall financial performance, and those who are accountable for regional sales performance. As a result, it should facilitate year-on-year comparison and enable deep-dive into areas which may be influencing sales and profit performance across the business.



Source

Identify opensource datasets

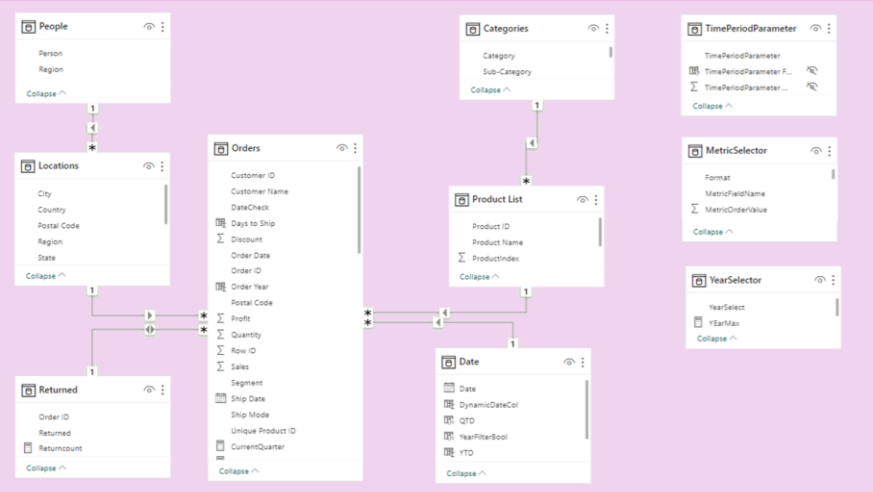
Summary

1 file	
.csv	1
21 columns	
String	12
Decimal	3
DateTime	2
Other	4

Raw dataset attributes at source

Build Data Model

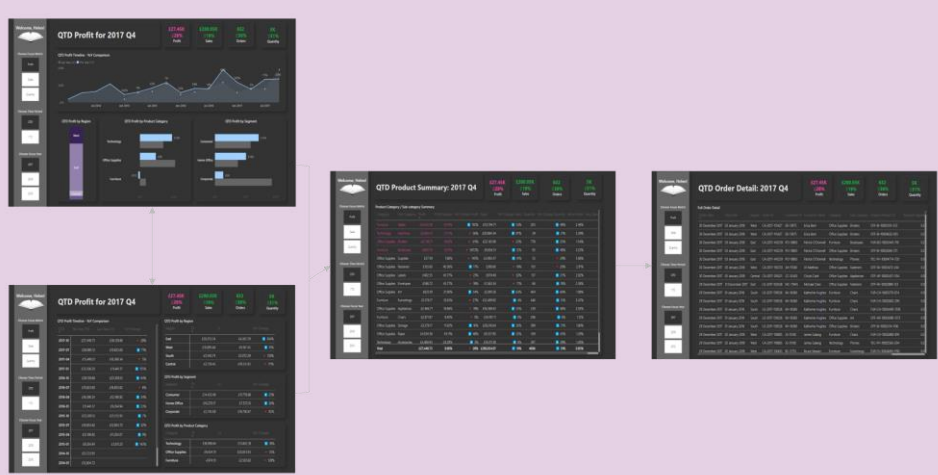
Explore data quality, design target tables, perform transformations



Data model showing STAR schema which is extracted from original 3-table dataset

Visualise

Build Power BI charts & interactive narrative



User Journey showing movement through different levels of analysis, each based on user parameters



Retail Superstore – YTD/QTD Dashboard

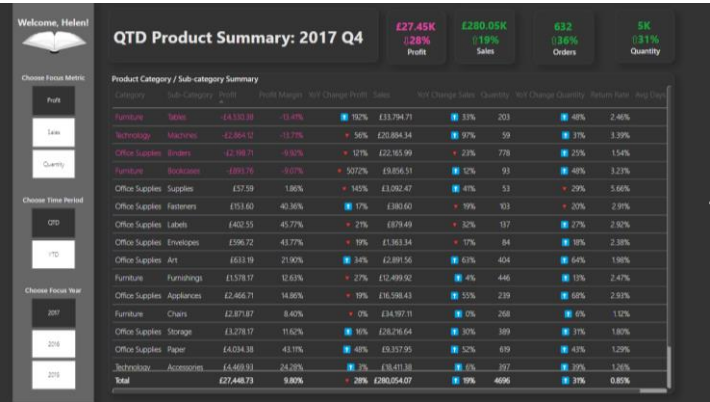
High level of detail

Low level of detail

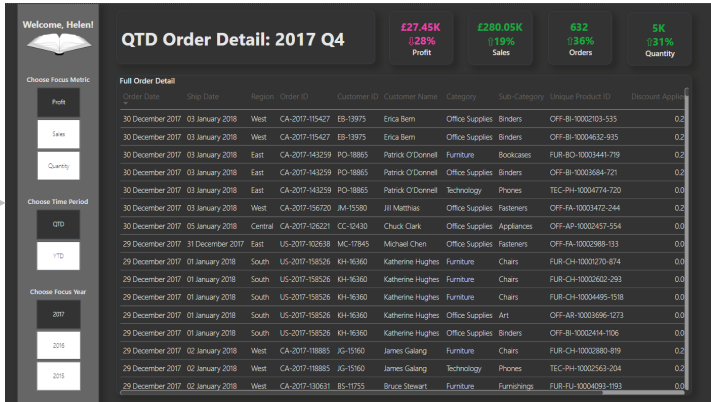
KPI Summary - Graphical



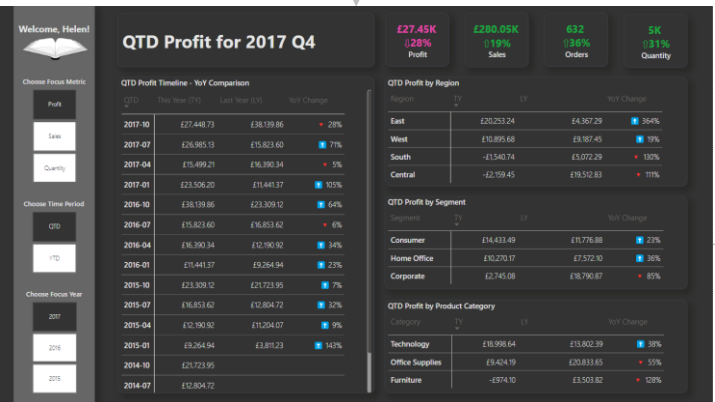
Mid-level Deep-Dive : Product



Backend Detail : Orders



KPI Summary - Tabular



Example user journey indicating transition through level of detail – useful either to an audience aiming to create a full narrative and perform end-to-end driver analysis, or as a hub to serve end users who will be focussed on one level of detail only.

Demonstrating ability to drill-through to different levels of detail, e.g. filtering lower-level pages based on one Region selected in Summary page.

In practice, a production dashboard will often have more pages than this, to enable modular deep dive across additional components (e.g. a mid-level focus on Customer segmentation as well as Product category, seen above).

The Power BI service allows packaging of contextually separate analysis into separate dashboards (e.g. of interest to users operating in different departments), whilst higher-level summary reports then pull individual charts from across these dashboards, allowing click-through to detail. This is tailored to the customer use case.

Retail Superstore – YTD/QTD Dashboard

KPI Summary



User-Selected Metric Overview

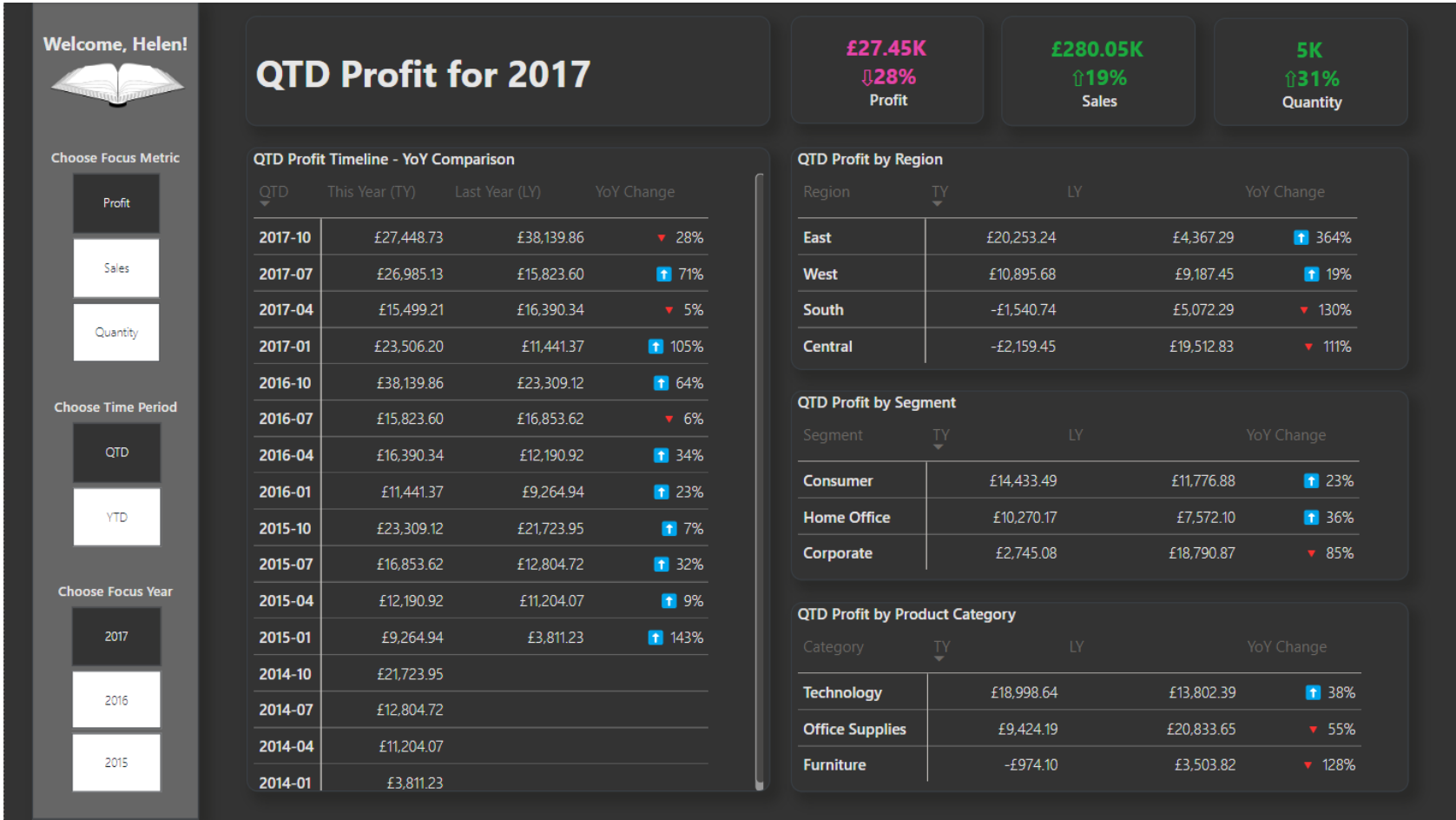
- Ability to choose a metric of interest (Sales / Profit / Quantity of Units), To-Date roll up (YTD/QTD) and focus year (defaults to current/latest year)
- Time Period selection changes date x-axis to match aggregation level
- Hover to see YoY indicators on each chart
- Click to cross-filter (e.g Region)
- App-like modular design, including username detection and welcome
- Custom KPI indicators based on YoY change – **increase** ($\geq 5\%$), no change (-5% to $+5\%$), **decrease** ($\leq -5\%$)
- **This Year** / Last Year comparison per chart
- Dynamic titles based on user selection
- Dynamic formatting based on active metric / time period selected
- Build includes dynamic nested calculations to prevent a build-up of static calculations (important data model management)

Note – 'YoY Change' when QTD is selected results in comparing the current quarter, in this case 2017 Q4, with the same Quarter last year (2016 Q4)



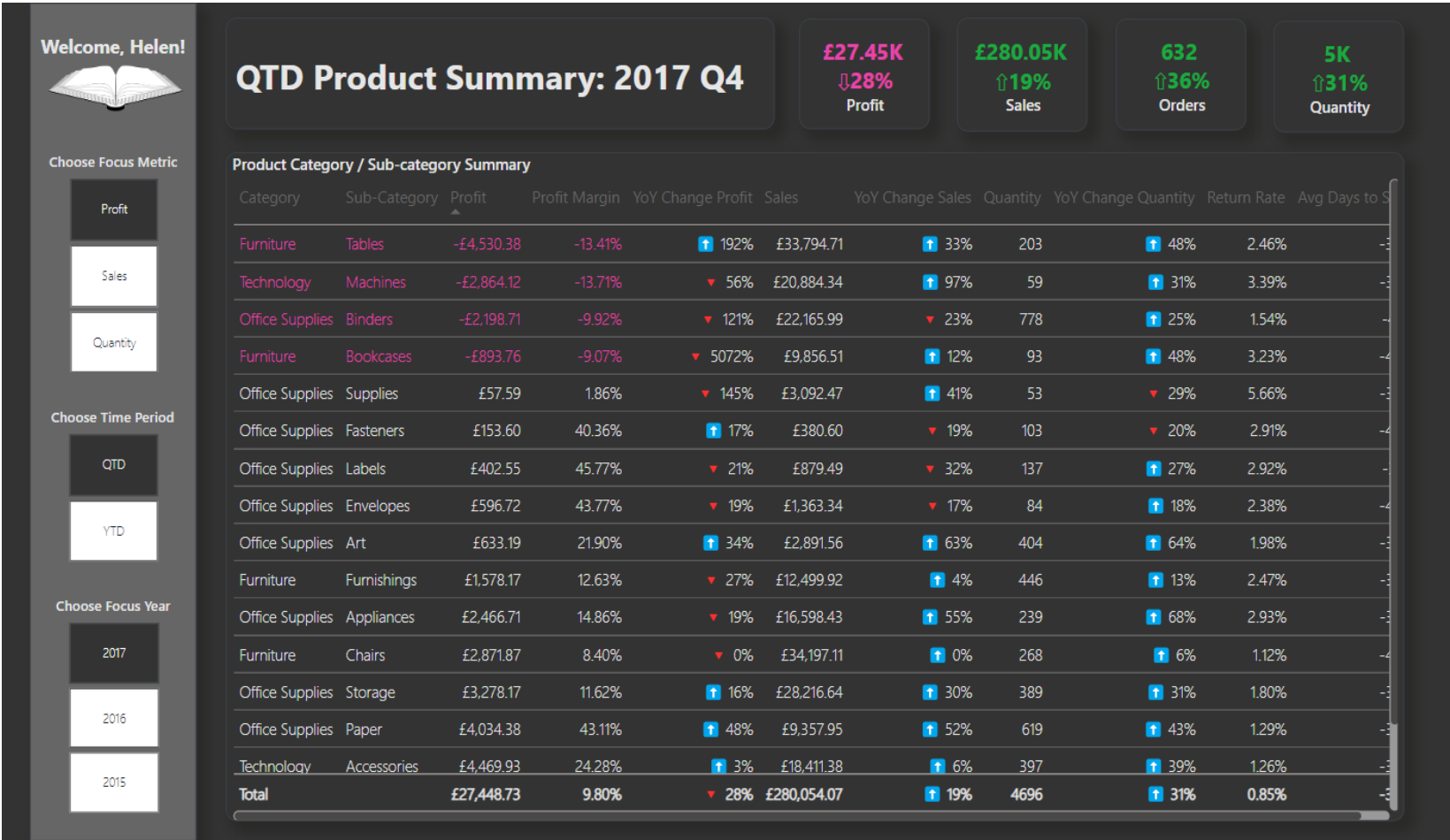
Retail Superstore – YTD/QTD Dashboard

KPI Summary - Tabular



Identical content to Graphical view, with modified tabular layout. Including:

- Ability to choose a metric of interest (Sales / Profit / Quantity of Units), To-Date roll up (YTD/QTD) and focus year (defaults to current/latest year)
- Click to cross-filter (e.g Region)
- App-like modular design, including username detection and welcome
- Custom KPI card indicators based on YoY change – increase ($\geq 5\%$), no change (-5% to $+5\%$), decrease ($\leq -5\%$). Likewise, dynamic icons used when in tabular form
- User can sort based on dimensions (e.g. alphabetical) or given measure.
- This Year / Last Year comparison for each dimension
- Dynamic titles based on user selection
- Dynamic number formatting based on active metric / time period selected

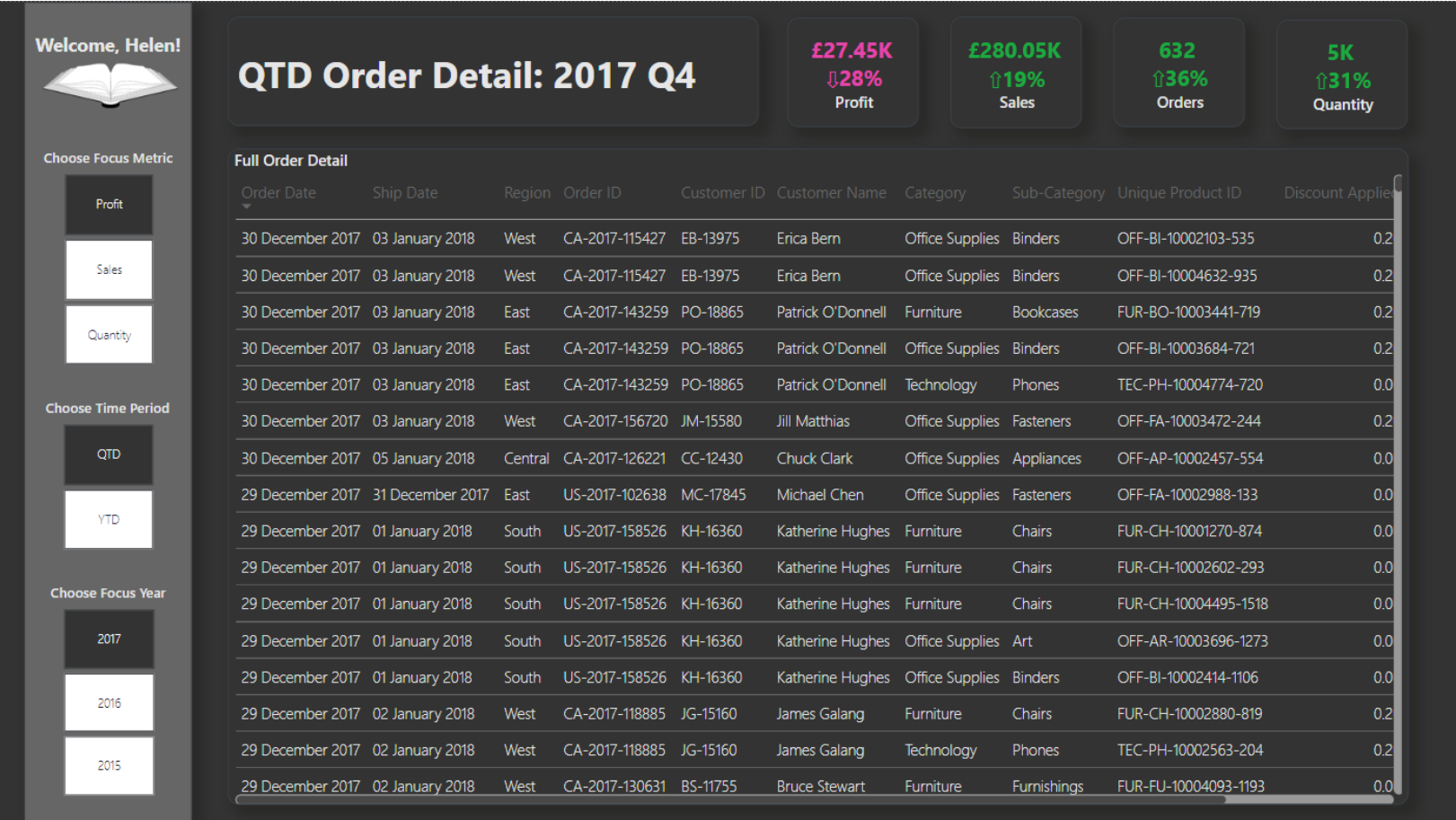


Product Category / Sub-category Overview Table

- Ability to choose time period of interest (YTD / QTD). This defaults to YTD of the latest year.
- Highlights **loss-incurring subcategories** – e.g. for which profit is negative in either YTD/QTD as selected
- Includes indication of YoY change
- Click to cross-filter (e.g Region)
- Custom KPI card indicators based on YoY change – **increase** ($\geq 5\%$), no change (-5% to $+5\%$), **decrease** ($\leq -5\%$). Likewise, dynamic icons used when in tabular form
- User can sort based on dimensions (e.g. alphabetical) or given measure.
- This Year / Last Year comparison for each dimension
- Dynamic titles based on user selection
- Dynamic number formatting based on active metric / time period selected

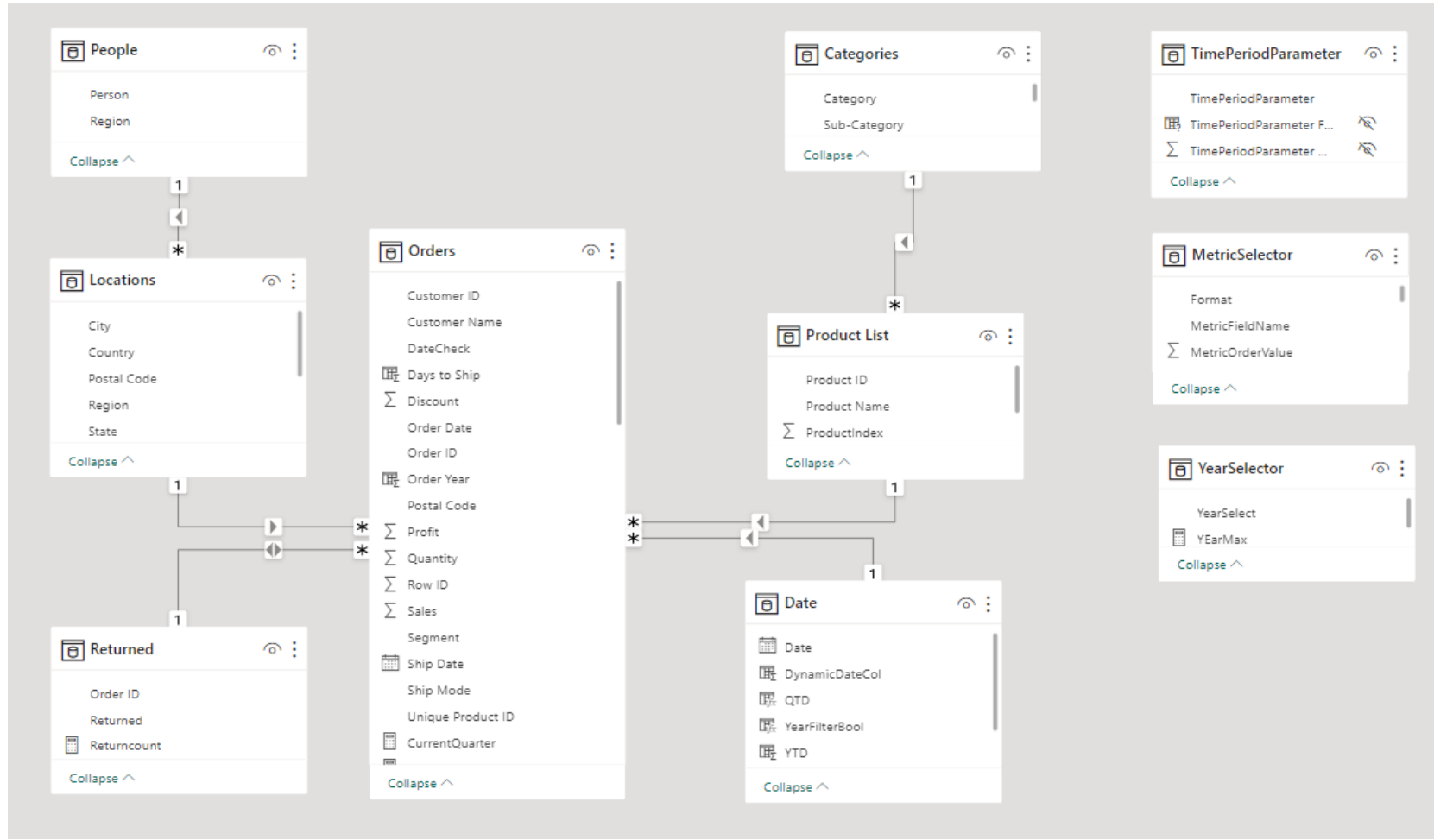
Other mid-level deep-dive pages may include:

Customer Segment analysis (graphical), Regional-State performance, Return rate vs Product Category analysis, Up-and-Coming Products with increasing demand, etc



Retail Superstore – YTD/QTD Dashboard

Power BI Data Model



STAR model with satellite parameter tables

- All data modelling performed within Power Query (e.g. Power BI native)
- Use of a standardised Date table (best practice for performance)
- Segmentation into semantic tables – e.g. Categories, Locations, People
- Use of unique reference keys to link tables
- Central Fact table represents base order details. Granularity of this table is one row per unique product ([Unique Product ID]) per order ([Order ID])
- Correction of some fields required to standardise values
- Satellite tables are vital to generate interactivity seen in the dashboard – e.g. time period selection and choice of different focus metrics

