<u>User Level Analysis Report Based on</u> <u>Yelp Data in Arizona</u>

Approach to Analysis:

This analysis aims to uncover the behavioural patterns and influence of Yelp users in Arizona, focusing on their contributions to the platform and their impact on community dynamics. By understanding user engagement, preferences, and consistency, the goal is to identify what drives impactful participation and how users shape the platform's ecosystem. The study examines activity levels to differentiate between casual users and power contributors, with a special focus on elite users who significantly influence reviews and ratings. Trends in user longevity, engagement, and review quality highlight how long-term contributions and high-quality content enrich the community. Seasonal patterns and geographic differences provide further insights into how external factors and local preferences drive user activity. Through this analysis, the intent is to create a comprehensive understanding of the key drivers behind user behaviour, offering a roadmap for fostering deeper engagement and stronger community connections.

Analytical Steps and Insights:

Activity Distribution and Engagement Trends:

Users were categorised based on review count into activity levels: Low, Moderate, Active, and Very Active. The analysis highlighted that the majority of users were either Low or Moderate activity contributors. However, more active users consistently had higher average engagement scores and fan counts, indicating that active participation correlates with higher community influence.

Elite Status and Ratings Patterns:

Users with elite status were compared to regular users, revealing that elite users had higher average review counts and ratings. Highly elite users (those with extensive elite history) were more prolific reviewers and contributed significantly to the community, often posting detailed and high-quality reviews.

User Experience and Longevity:

The "yelping_since" field was utilised to track user growth trends over time. New users increased significantly in recent years, suggesting the platform's growing popularity. Early adopters had higher average ratings and reviews, indicating a strong, consistent engagement from long-term users.

Engagement Metrics and Levels:

An engagement index was created based on factors like reviews, fans, and overall contributions (useful, funny, and cool votes). Users with high engagement levels tended to write more reviews and have higher average ratings, emphasising the community's preference for active and influential contributors.

Review and Writing Patterns:

Analysis of review characteristics demonstrated that prolific reviewers (e.g., Top and Active Reviewers) gave higher ratings and wrote longer reviews. These users also garnered more useful votes, underscoring the relationship between detailed content and perceived value.

Seasonal Activity Patterns:

Trends in monthly review submissions highlighted peak activity during colder months (fall and winter). These periods also showed higher average ratings, suggesting a seasonal effect on both user engagement and restaurant performance.

Consistency in Ratings:

Rating patterns were analysed for variability. Users with stable ratings (Very Consistent and Consistent groups) were more prevalent, suggesting that most users rate businesses within a narrow range. Those with highly varied ratings contributed fewer reviews but displayed broader experiences.

Restaurant Preferences:

Users displayed distinct preferences for restaurant tiers (Low, Medium, and High-rated). Medium-rated restaurants had the highest user engagement and review volumes, aligning with findings that suggest moderate quality and value appeal most to users.

Quality of Reviews:

Review quality was classified into High, Medium, and Basic based on review length and votes. High-quality reviews, often detailed and engaging, were predominantly written by Active and Top Reviewers, solidifying the role of these contributors in enriching the community.

Geographic Influence:

User reviews were analysed by city, showing Tucson as the leading contributor to reviews. However, smaller cities had higher average ratings, indicating regional differences in user expectations or business performance. Detailed reviews were more common in larger cities, likely driven by competition.

Conclusion:

The analysis reveals key behavioural and engagement patterns among Yelp users in Arizona. Active and elite users play a pivotal role in community enrichment through detailed reviews and higher engagement. Seasonality influences user activity and ratings, with colder months driving increased participation. Medium-rated businesses attract the most consistent engagement, indicating user preference for balanced value and quality.

By leveraging these insights, Yelp and associated businesses can optimise strategies to foster active user participation, encourage high-quality contributions, and tailor experiences to regional and seasonal dynamics. The data underscores the importance of nurturing influential users and aligning business strategies with user preferences to maximise community trust and satisfaction.