Data Items

In the Data pane, an icon next to each data item indicates the type of data item. The following types of data items are available:

Category		A data item whose distinct values are used to group and aggregate measures. There are five types of categories: alphanumeric, date, datetime, time, and numeric.
Date and Time		A category data item whose distinct values are used to group and aggregate measures. There are three types of date categories: date, datetime, and time.
Custom Category		A data item that can be created based on either a category or numeric data item. A custom category is always a category data item with alphanumeric values.
Calculated (category)		A data item that is calculated from existing data items using an expression and returns an alphanumeric value.
Calculated (date/ datetime)		A data item that is calculated from existing data items using an expression and returns a datetime value. Calculated dates and times are treated as categories with distinct values being governed by the chosen date or time format.
Geography		A category data item whose values are mapped to geographical locations or regions. These data items can be used to show data on a geographic map.
Hierarchy		A data item with a predefined arrangement of category data items, typically whose values are arranged with more general information at the top and more specific information at the bottom. The first level of the hierarchy is known as the root level.
Geographic Hierarchy		A hierarchy whose members are all geographic data items.
Interaction Effect		A user-created data role that can be used when there is a non-additive relationship between two variables, the effect of a one variable on a model changes as another variable changes. SAS Visual Statistics must be licensed to create and use an interaction effect.
Measure		A data item whose values can be used in computations. These values are numeric. By default, almost all measures have a default aggregation of Sum, but the aggregation can be modified.
Calculated (measure)		A data item that is calculated from existing data items using an expression and returns a numeric value. Numeric data items are treated as measures (with an aggregation type of Sum), or can be changed to category data items.
Frequency		A measure data item whose value represents the number of observations in the selected data source. This data item is automatically added to the Data pane under the Measure group. You cannot change the classification for this data item. This data item is automatically assigned to report objects when no measure is assigned.
Frequency Percent		A measure data item whose value represents the percentage of observations in the selected data source. This data item is automatically added to the Data pane under the Aggregated Measure group. You cannot change the classification for this data item.
Aggregated Measure or Time Period Calculation		A data item that represents special predefined operations, like distinct count, percentage of totals, percentage of subtotals, or frequency percent. Users can also create their own aggregated measure calculations. Aggregated measures cannot be used in all report objects, filters, controls, spark lines, or time series graphs. Some aggregated measures cannot be used in a detail rank. Percentage of subtotal items can only be used in a crosstab.