

COURSE GLOSSARY

Analyzing Data in Tableau

Aggregation: A method of summarizing measure values (e.g., SUM, AVG, COUNT) to produce a single value for groups or the entire dataset

Bin: A bucket or interval used to group continuous numeric values into ranges (for example 3-year age bins) for distribution analysis

Calculated field: A user-defined field created from existing fields and functions to derive new values or logic for analysis

Continuous (time): A way of treating date/time values as an uninterrupted sequence (a time series) so data is plotted along a continuous axis in chronological order

Data preparation: The process of examining, cleaning, and reshaping a dataset before analysis to ensure fields are accurate, correctly typed, and organized for visualization and computation

DATEDIFF: A function that computes the difference between two dates in a specified date part (for example hours or minutes) and returns the elapsed amount

DATEPART: A function that extracts a specified part of a date (for example year, month, weekday, or hour) and returns it as a numeric value

Hallucination: When a model produces confident but incorrect or fabricated information, often due to gaps or biases in its training data or reasoning process

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Dual axis: A chart technique that layers two axes with separate measures on the same view (synchronized or independent) to compare different metrics or create composite marks

Filter: A mechanism for including or excluding data from a view so users can focus on relevant subsets, with options to show controls and restrict filter options to relevant values only

Group: A manual combination of related members within a field into a single aggregated category to standardize labels or create custom categories

Histogram: A chart that displays the distribution of a numeric variable by grouping values into bins and showing counts or frequencies per bin as bars

IF THEN ELSE (conditional expression): A logical structure that returns different values depending on whether specified conditions are true or false

KPI (Key Performance Indicator): A concise, high-level metric that tracks progress toward a business objective, typically displayed prominently in dashboards for quick decision-making

Marks card: The Tableau control that determines how marks are rendered and encoded (type, color, size, label, detail, tooltip) for visual encoding of data

Measure: A numeric field in Tableau that can be aggregated (sum, average, count) and is placed in the Measures area for quantitative analysis

Pages shelf: A Tableau shelf that animates a visualization across discrete values (for example months) so you can play, pause, and step through time or other dimensions

Parameter: A global, user-editable placeholder value (number, date, or string) that can be referenced in calculations, filters, or reference lines to make visualizations interactive

Quick table calculation: A built-in shortcut in Tableau that applies a common table calculation (like percent of total or running total) to the current visualization with typical scope/direction defaults

Set: A saved subset of members from a field that classifies items as IN or OUT and can be reused for comparisons, filtering, or combined logic

Table calculation (scope and direction): A calculation applied to the visible values in a view where scope defines the grouping over which it runs and direction defines the path (across, down, etc.) used to compute results

Tooltip: A hover-driven pop-up that surfaces additional details about a mark, and can include text, fields, formatted values, or even embedded worksheets