Research data analysis with Power BI

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ABSTRACT

Power BI has captured the world of business intelligence, data visualization and analytics rapidly. Power BI is an online service that helps in searching data, transforming, visualizing, and sharing the developed reports and dashboards with other users in the same or different department/organizations or even with the general public.

As per survey In February 2017, 200,000 plus organizations across various countries are utilizing Power BI for their day to day analyses. Power BI provides free features for the people which provide sufficient facilities to their startup users. It is most widely used tool in the small and medium organization for their data analysis.

It helps in reducing human intervention and error in calculation leading to crossed verified result.

Keywords: Power BI, Research Data Analysis.

1. FLOW OF POWER BI

Power BI is an analytics tool from Microsoft which is used to analyze data and share insights in the form of reports and dashboards. Data could be captured or used as an input in various forms like spreadsheets, text files, databases etc. Datasets are developed by transforming data provided by the users. Data transformation are decided by the users by selecting various fields of its own choice and requirement. This feature helps in removing in redundant data, improving its formatting and preparing it for further analysis by organizing them into suitable normalized form.

2. GETTING STARTED WITH POWER BI

Power BI Desktop for windows can be downloaded free of cost from the website https://powerbi.microsoft.com/enus/get-started/. The Power BI Desktop for Windows can be used to create datasets and reports on user’s personal desktops. This assist user who want to work offline and, save their report files and get them publish online later. It helps in modeling data. Users can also Sign Up for the Power BI service by creating their login account. Online service is available for Quick Insight feature and also where reports and dashboards can be shared.

Frequently asked questions on software requirements, academic pricing etc. is answered at https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/powerbi-frequently-asked-questions/

Currently, users can create their account for using power BI, only through their organization email address. It doesn’t allow the use of personal and commercial email addresses like Gmail, Yahoo, and Hotmail etc. Email from Registered domains of colleges, universities and research institution can be used to create an account with the Power Bi.

For users that do not have an organization email, and who are okay with not sharing reports or dashboards with other users in their organization, https://powerbi.microsoft.com/en-us/documentation/powerbi-admin-signing-upfor-power-bi-with-a-new-office-365-trial/ is an option.
Figure 4– Enter Server Name and Database Name

Figure 5– Selecting field to analyze

Figure 6– Dashboard
3. CONCLUSION

Our experience with Power BI has depicted that it is the best approach to simplify the business intelligence and data analytics space, whereby individuals and organizations can easily provide data, build reports or have them automatically created, aggregate them in dashboards, and share it with minimal investment of time and effort. When this service is delivered by an organization of the repute of Microsoft, with independent verification by Gartner which has compared the competition, it is evident that Power BI is a unique opportunity for research institutions and professionals to fulfill their data analysis needs.

4. REFERENCES

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