

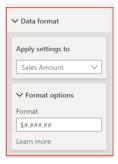
Custom Format Strings

IN POWER BI



Introduction

Custom format strings in Power BI Desktop allow users to adjust and customize how data is displayed in reports. These strings enable the application of specific formats to numbers, dates, and other data types, ensuring that the presentation of information is consistent with the needs of the user and the business

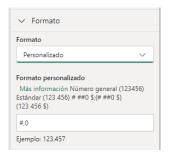




Let's go to work!

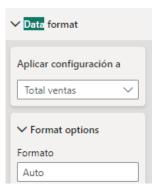
There are three hierarchical levels where these format strings can be applied: the Model level, which affects all visuals that use that field in the report; the Visual level, which is applied to a specific visual; and the Element level, which allows you to define formats for data labels and other elements within a visual. Each of these levels has its own particularities, and the configuration at a higher level takes precedence over configurations made at lower levels.

Model Level



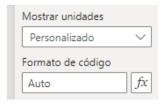
Model Level: This is the broadest and most fundamental level in the formatting hierarchy. When you apply a format string to a field at the model level, that format is applied to all visuals that use that field in any report based on that data model.

Visual Level



Visual Level: The visual level allows you to apply specific formats to a field or calculation within a particular visual, even if that field already has a format set at the model level. This means that the format at the visual level overrides the format defined at the model level, but only within that specific visual.

Element Level



Element Level: The element level is the most specific and applies to individual components within a visual, such as data labels or specific elements of a visual card. This format takes precedence over the formats set at the visual and model levels.

Benefits and Advantages

Custom format strings in Power BI Desktop offer detailed control over data presentation, allowing you to customize report appearances at a global (model), specific (visual), or individual (element) level. This ensures consistency and uniformity in presentation, saving time in design and facilitating data interpretation. Additionally, their flexibility and compatibility with other Microsoft products make them an efficient tool for adapting reports to various needs and business rules, enhancing the clarity and relevance of the displayed data.

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