How to Calculate Percent Change in Power BI: A Step-by-Step Guide

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To calculate percent change in Power BI, you can use the DAX formula for percent change, which is (new value - old value) / old value. This formula calculates the difference between the new and old values and divides it by the old value to get the percentage change. You can then use this formula in a measure or calculated column to display the percent change in your visualizations. Additionally, you can also use the Quick Calculations feature in Power BI to automatically calculate percent change for selected data points in your visualizations.

The **percent change** in values between one period and another period is calculated as:

Percent change = (Value2 - Value1) / Value1 * 100

For example, suppose a company makes 85 sales one month, then makes 94 sales the next month.

We can use the following formula to calculate the percent change in sales from one month to the next:

Percent change = (Value2 - Value1) / Value1 * 100
Percent change = (94 - 85) / 85 * 100
Percent change = 10.59%

This tells us that sales grew by 10.59% from the first month to the second month.

To calculate percent change in Power BI, you can use the following syntax in DAX:

```
Percent Change =
VAR _max =
MAXX ( FILTER ( 'my_data', < EARLIER ( ) ), )
VAR _value =
MAXX ( FILTER ( 'my_data', = _max ), )
RETURN
DIVIDE ( - _value, _value )
```

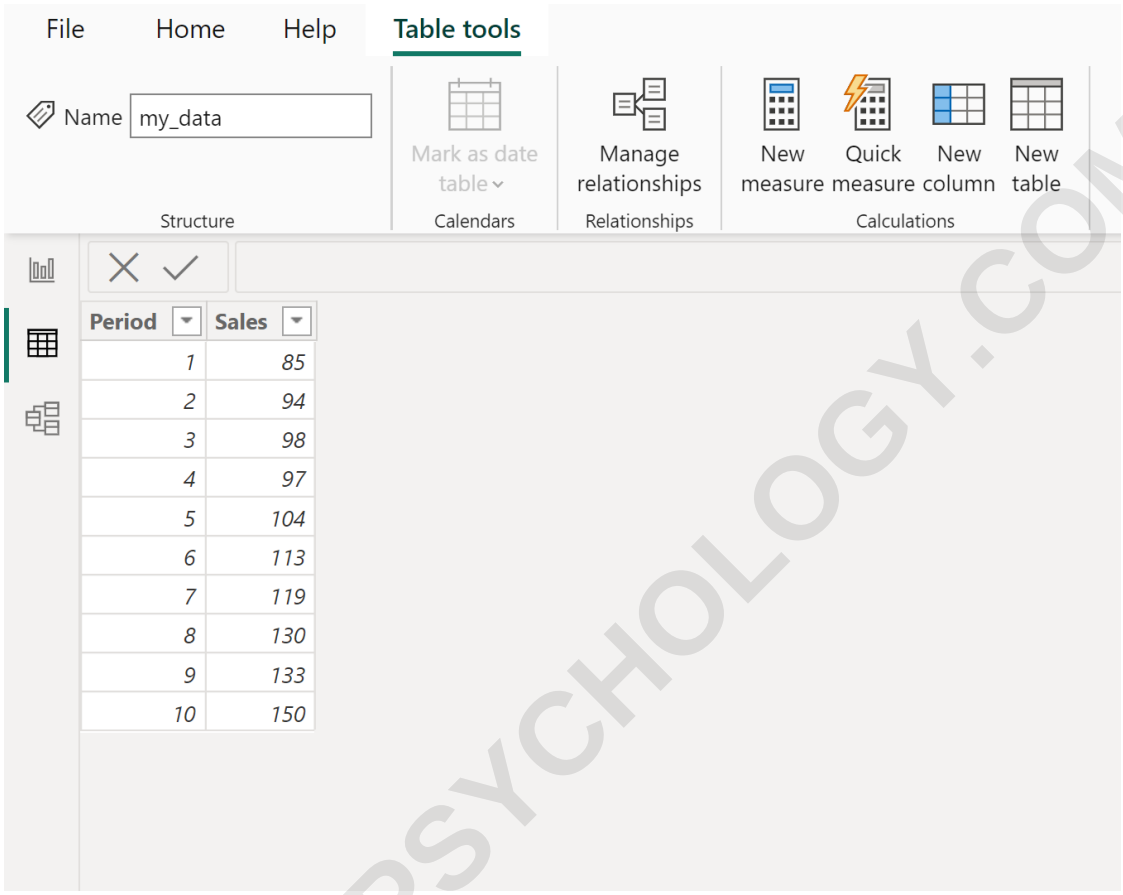
This particular formula calculates the percentage change between rows in the **Sales** column of the table named **my_data**.

This formula assumes that you have created an **Index** column that ranges from 1 to N.

The following example shows how to use this formula in practice.

Example: How to Calculate Percent Change in Power BI

Suppose we have the following table in Power BI named **my_data** that shows the sales made by a certain company during 10 consecutive sales periods:

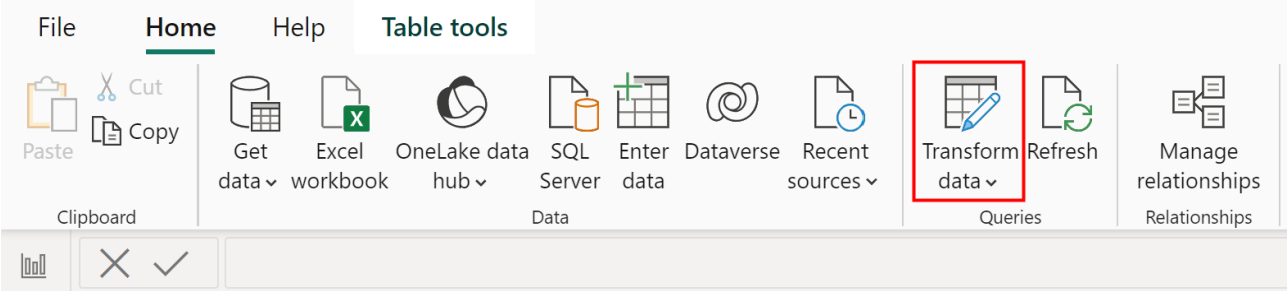


Period	Sales
1	85
2	94
3	98
4	97
5	104
6	113
7	119
8	130
9	133
10	150

Suppose we would like to calculate the percentage change in sales between each consecutive period.

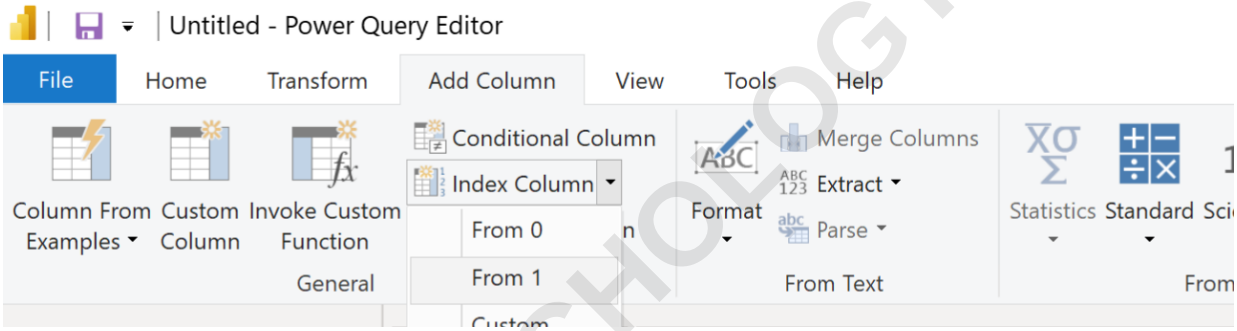
Before we do so, we need to first add an index column to the table.

To do so, click the **Home** tab along the top ribbon, then click the **Transform data** icon:

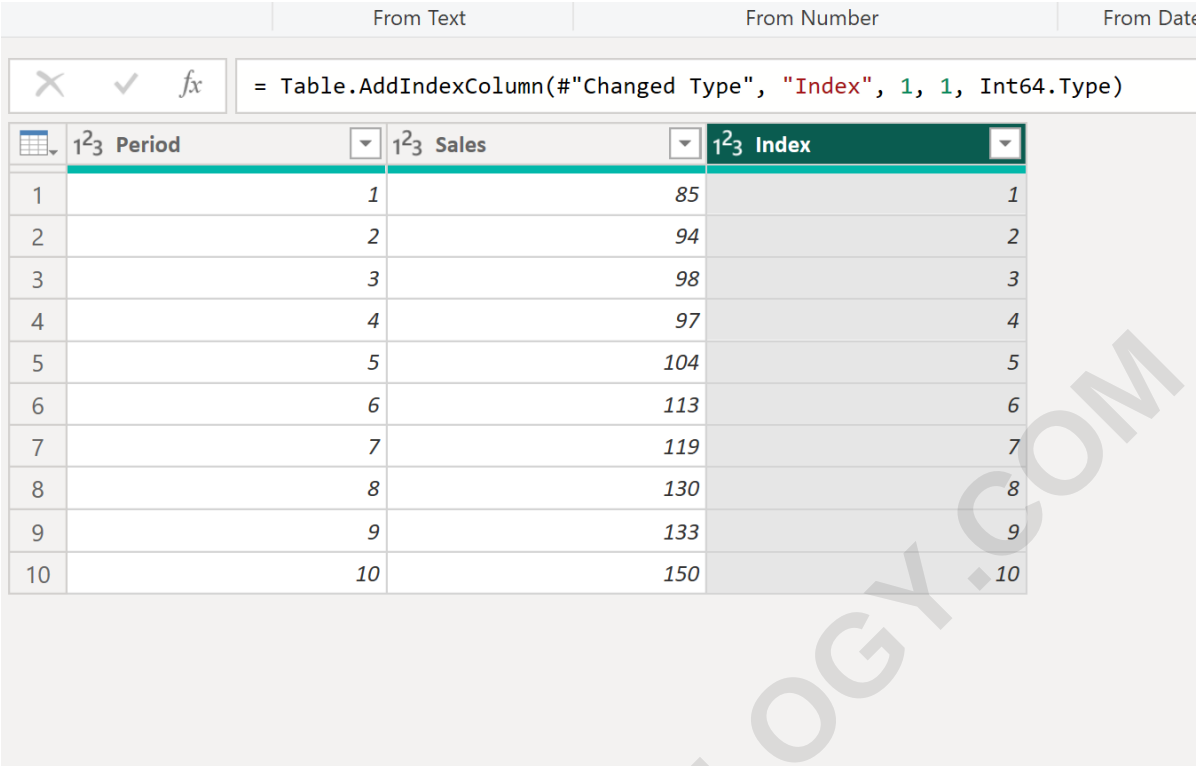


This will bring up the **Power Query Editor**.

Next, click the **Add Column** tab, then click the dropdown arrow next to **Index Column** and choose whether or not you'd like the index values to start at 0 or 1:



We'll click **From 1** so that the following index column is added:

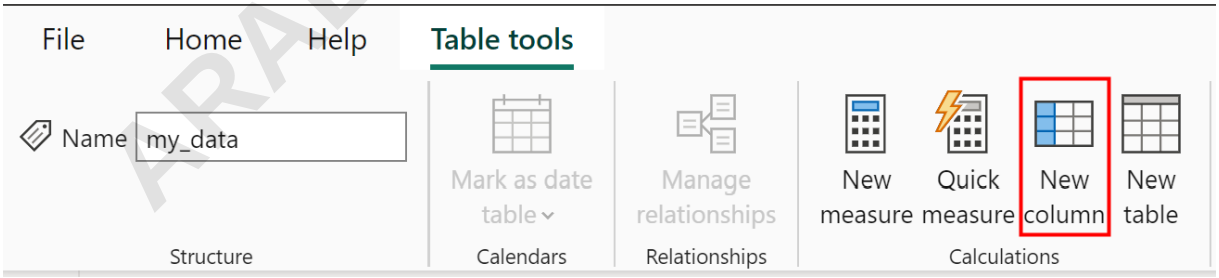


	Period	Sales	Index
1	1	85	1
2	2	94	2
3	3	98	3
4	4	97	4
5	5	104	5
6	6	113	6
7	7	119	7
8	8	130	8
9	9	133	9
10	10	150	10

Once you exit out of the **Power Query Editor**, a message box will appear that asks if you'd like to apply your changes.

Once you click **Yes**, the index column will be added to the table.

Lastly, to add a new column that shows the percentage change in sales between each consecutive period, click the **Table tools** tab, then click the **New column** icon:

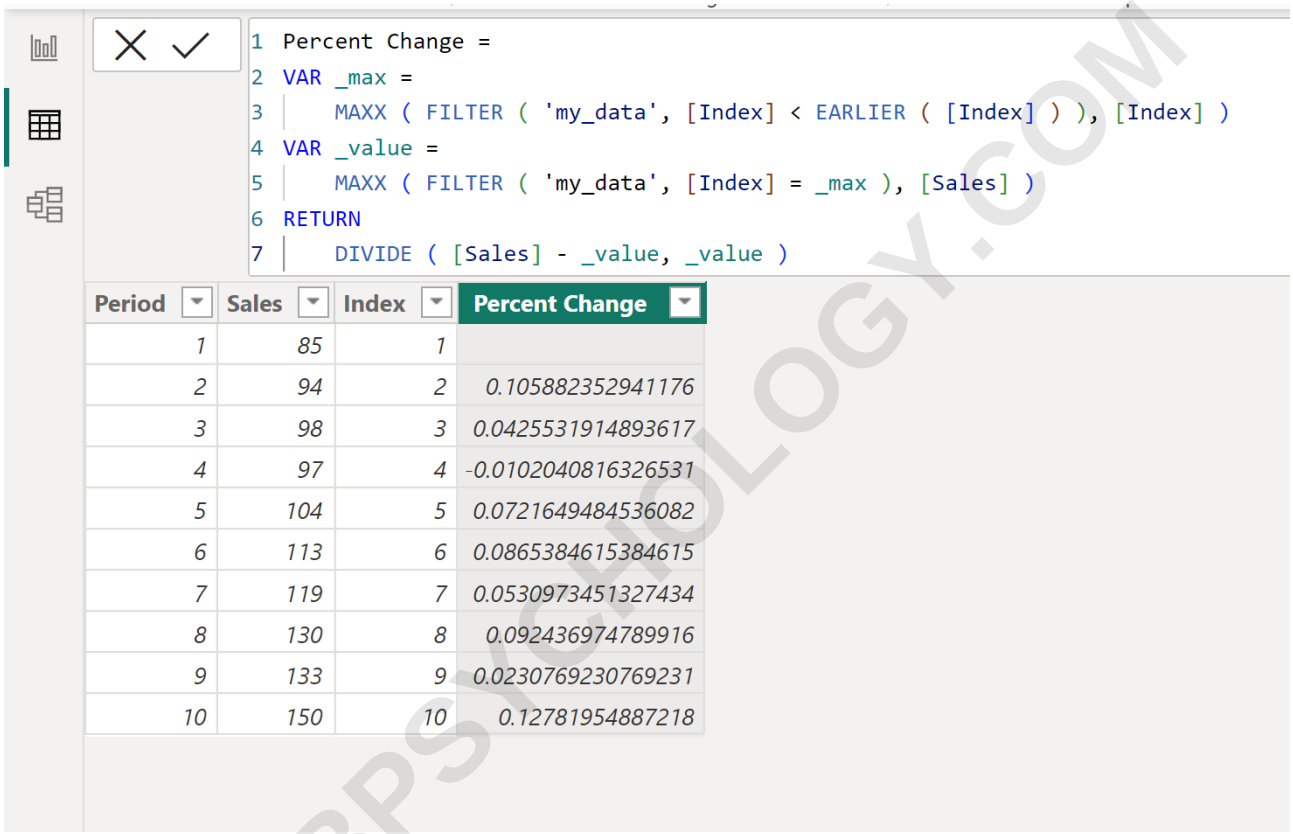


Then type the following formula into the formula bar:

Percent Change =
VAR _max =
MAXX (FILTER ('my_data', < EARLIER ( )),)
VAR _value =

MAXX (FILTER ('my_data', = _max),)
RETURN
DIVIDE (- _value, _value)

A new column named **Percent Change** will be created that shows the percentage change in sales between each consecutive period:



```
Percent Change =
VAR _max =
    MAXX ( FILTER ( 'my_data', [Index] < EARLIER ( [Index] ) ), [Index] )
VAR _value =
    MAXX ( FILTER ( 'my_data', [Index] = _max ), [Sales] )
RETURN
    DIVIDE ( [Sales] - _value, _value )
```

Period	Sales	Index	Percent Change
1	85	1	
2	94	2	0.105882352941176
3	98	3	0.0425531914893617
4	97	4	-0.0102040816326531
5	104	5	0.0721649484536082
6	113	6	0.0865384615384615
7	119	7	0.0530973451327434
8	130	8	0.092436974789916
9	133	9	0.0230769230769231
10	150	10	0.12781954887218

From the output we can see:

Sales increased by **10.59%** from period 1 to period 2.
Sales increased by **4.25%** from period 2 to period 3.
Sales decreased by **1.02%** from period 3 to period 4.

And so on.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in Power BI: