SAS® Visual Analytics 8.3: What’s New

What’s New in SAS Visual Analytics 8.3: General Enhancements

- The user interface has many new enhancements, including many updated panes. For example, the Actions pane has been redesigned to make it easier to add or modify actions.
- Existing objects have been improved. For example, the pop-up menus now enable you to move objects; sort, replace, or remove data items; and print or share an object.
- New features are available for geo maps and network analysis objects that display a map background. For example, you can identify points on the map and draw routes between two points.
- The Data pane has new features. For example, you can join data sources, create aggregated data sources, and create data views.
- There are new and enhanced calculations with new periodic intervals and a new AggregateTable operator.
- Accessibility has been enhanced. SAS Visual Analytics is now accessible via the keyboard and some graphs have integration with SAS Graphics Accelerator. (September 2018 Update)

See Also
- What’s New in SAS 9.4 and SAS Viya

What’s New in SAS Visual Analytics 8.3: Details

The following lists include the new features and enhancements since SAS Visual Analytics 8.2 was released.

Enhanced User Interface

- There are new report-level options for object padding, graph data colors, and graph data element style rotation available in the Options pane.
You can temporarily hide object overlays (such as the object toolbar, search feature, and warning or information badges) while a report is open.

The user interface provides layout guides that help you precisely align content in your reports.

The Options pane has been updated to enable you to specify whether you want a report, a page, or an object to refresh automatically.

The Roles pane enables you to drag and drop an assigned data item onto another assigned data item to swap the data roles. Press the Alt key while you drag and drop an assigned data item to replace the one already assigned to the role.

The Actions pane has been redesigned to make it easier to create object links, page links, report links, and URL links.

The Rules pane has been enhanced to let you create a new display rule by dragging and dropping a data item onto the pane.

The Filters pane has been updated to make it easier for you to see and update filters more efficiently. For example, if you have a filter based on a category data item with six or more values, then a scroll bar is added to make it easier to see the list of data items.

The state of a heading within a pane is maintained across SAS Visual Analytics sessions. For example, suppose the Style heading in the Options pane is expanded when you exit SAS Visual Analytics. The Style heading is expanded when you start another session.

The report distribution feature now lets you specify whether you want to include a PDF, a summary, or both with the email. (September 2018 Update)

A new option is available for reports. Using the Summary field in the Options pane, you can enter text that describes the report. The summary text can contain dynamic data element values that are based on the objects in your report. A report summary can easily be read by screen readers. (September 2018 Update)

Enhanced Objects

An object now has an automatic name, which is based on the object type and the first data item assigned to a data role.

You can sort, remove, or replace data items when you right-click an object.

Text objects have an improved user interface. For example, you can edit the source HTML of the text within the object.

You can now share or print an individual report object or a page.

You can right-click an object that is on the canvas to move it to an existing page or to a new page.

In the Objects pane, you can right-click a control to create a report control or page control.

You can now sort columns in a list table in ascending or descending order using the pop-up menu.

Crosstabs and list tables have a new option for displaying abbreviated numerical values (for example, 1,100,000 is displayed as 1.1M). By default, all donut charts automatically use abbreviated numerical values.

Crosstabs and list tables have a new option that enables you to remove extra white space in all of the rows. (September 2018 Update)

Crosstabs enable you to specify an alternating row background color.

List tables have a new option that enables you to choose which numeric columns display totals. (September 2018 Update)
Bar charts have a new option that enables you to control the spacing between the bars. (September 2018 Update)

You can now select each type of container directly from the **Objects** pane.

The stacking container has been improved with new button styles and behavior.

Layout guides have been added to all container types. By default, they are displayed when you move or size an object. You can disable layout guides using the menu bar.

The text topics object now supports Hungarian and Romanian languages. Stop lists are now available for Hindi and Indonesian languages.

Object templates are now available. An object template enables you to create other tables, graphs, or controls that you want to have a similar appearance in multiple reports. For example, you can use an object template to ensure that the same visual customizations to a bar chart are used each time the bar chart is created. (September 2018 Update)

A new automated analysis object determines the most important underlying factors for a specific response variable. (September 2018 Update)

Bar charts, bubble plots, line charts, pie charts, scatter plots, and time series plots provide access to SAS Graphics Accelerator, which enables users with visual impairments or blindness to explore data visualizations. (September 2018 Update)

**Enhanced Geo Maps**

- The new **Contour** map type displays the density of data or the values of a measure using shaded areas or lines on the map.
- You can right-click any point on the map, and select **Identify geographic point** to display the best street address or business match for that point.
- Location pins enable you to mark locations on the map, create multiple geographic selections at the same time, and draw routes between two points.
- The **Coordinates** map type now supports clustering for geographies that use predefined geographic roles.
- You can assign a **Size** role using measure values for the **Coordinates** map type.

**Enhanced Data Pane**

- You can create an aggregated data source, which has fewer columns and fewer rows than the original data source depending on the filters and data items that you assign. Depending on your data, using an aggregated data source might improve the performance of your report.
- Report data views enable you to save and apply all of the settings for a data source in a report so that you can use them in other reports or share them with your colleagues. Data views include your hierarchies, filters, calculated items, parameters, and more.
- Data source joins enable you to combine two data sources.
- You can drag and drop a local data file onto the canvas to import data.
- You can create a common filter that can be shared between multiple objects in your report.
- When you create a hierarchy by clicking **New data item** in the **Data** pane and selecting **Hierarchy**, the hierarchy now has an automatic name.
- You can right-click a data item in the **Data** pane to change its aggregation or format. You can select multiple data items in the **Data** pane, and change the aggregation or format of all of the items to be the same value.
- You can right-click a data item in the **Data** pane to add it as either a report control or a page control.
- Many new date formats are available, including week and quarter formats. The new DATETIME 19.3 format supports datetime values that include milliseconds.

**New and Enhanced Calculations**

- Periodic calculations now support week and day intervals.
- The new AggregateTable operator enables you to perform aggregations on data crossings that are independent of (or changed from) the data in your objects.

**Enhanced Accessibility**

- Keyboard navigation is supported. (September 2018 Update)
- Some graphs have integration with SAS Graphics Accelerator, a Google Chrome extension that enables users with visual impairments or blindness to explore data visualizations. (September 2018 Update)