What’s New in SAS Visual Analytics 8.4: General Enhancements

- The user interface has been enhanced. For example, the features in SAS Report Viewer are now fully integrated into the SAS Visual Analytics user interface. Users can now move between editing and viewing reports without switching applications.

- A new side pane called Suggestions provides you with suggested objects for your report after you have selected a data source.

- Existing objects have been improved. For example, the Automated analysis object has been redesigned and renamed Automated explanation, crosstabs have new options for disabling horizontal and vertical lines, and list tables have a new option that lets you freeze a column.

- You can now enable users who are viewing your reports to customize their view of the report. The Viewer Customization report option controls the level of customization that is permitted.

- Usability and performance have been improved. For example, reports and report prompt values are loaded more quickly.

- There are new settings. For example, you can specify that you want to override the report theme and use the SAS High Contrast report theme for all of your reports.

- Accessibility has been enhanced. For example, there is keyboard support for moving objects and there is a new Keyboard Shortcuts window.

Note: Some of the features that are new or enhanced in the 8.4 release were available in the 7.5 release.

See Also

- What’s New in SAS 9.4 and SAS Viya
What’s New in SAS Visual Analytics 8.4: Details

The following lists include the new features and enhancements since SAS Visual Analytics 8.3 was released.

Enhanced User Interface

- SAS Report Viewer features are now integrated into the SAS Visual Analytics user interface.
- There is a product tour available when you start editing a report for the first time. The tour is available from the report toolbar.
- There is a new way to copy a link to a report or an object. Many link options are available, including the ability to include parameters from the report in the URL.
- You can have multiple reports open at the same time. A new button on the report toolbar lets you move between the open reports and close one or more open reports.
- There are new report themes: Midnight and Opal.
- A new Localize Report Text window enables you to localize (or translate) the labels, tooltips, and other descriptive text that is part of your report. It lets you translate your report into a new language without removing the text from SAS Visual Analytics.
- You can print a report based on the current size of your browser window.
- The folder location is remembered when you import custom graphs from SAS Graph Builder.
- There are the following enhanced report sharing features:
  - You can share your reports in SAS Drive.
  - You can specify that recipients can either read or read and edit the report that you shared with them.
  - Users are notified via the application bar when someone shares a report with them.
- A new Keyboard Shortcuts window is available from the report toolbar or by pressing Ctrl+F9.

New Side Pane

- The new Suggestions pane provides you with suggested objects that work best with the data that you have selected. You can drag items from the Suggestions pane onto the canvas.

Enhanced Side Panes

- The Data pane has been enhanced.
- When a measure is selected, any measures that have at least a moderate degree of correlation with the selected measure are marked with a dot.

- You can select all measures that are related to a selected measure based on correlation, aggregation, or data format.

- The tooltip for each data item indicates which report elements (objects, calculated items, filters, and so on) use the data item.

- You can customize the **Objects** pane. You can hide the object groups, reorder the object groups, and reset the group order.

- The **Options** pane has been enhanced.

  - The **Options** pane now displays more general information about the report. The following information is displayed: **Location**, **Created by**, **Date created**, **Modified by**, and **Date modified**.

  - There is a new **Placement** option for report-level controls and page-level controls. Controls can be placed on the top, bottom, right, or left of either a report or a page.

    If you place controls on the right or left, you can use a list control in the report-level prompt area or in the page-level prompt area without having to place them in a prompt container.

  - There is a new **Viewer Customization** option for reports. You can permit the viewers of your reports to customize their view of the report. At the highest setting, viewers can modify data assignments, filters, ranks, and chart types.

---

### Enhanced Objects

- The **Automated analysis** object has been renamed to **Automated explanation**. The **Analyze** pop-up menu item has been renamed to **Explain**.

- Several enhancements have been made to the analysis and interpretability of the automated explanation object. See **Working with Automated Explanation** for more information.

  - The underlying algorithm that is used to determine the groups has been updated. The details tables explain each step of the analysis.

  - The titles and descriptions of the summary and each subplot have been updated for better interpretability.

  - The groups subplot has been reorganized into two tabs: the **High** tab and the **Low** tab. For measure responses, these tabs display the groups that have the highest and lowest average values of the response. For category responses, these tabs display the groups that have the highest and lowest percentage of the selected event level of the response.

  - You can derive a data item based on multiple selected groups.

  - You can create a new object based on multiple selected groups.

  - You can select a factor and create a new automated explanation with the selected factor as the response variable.

  - You can change or duplicate the automated explanation object to other objects. You can also change or duplicate other objects to an automated explanation object.

- Crosstabs have new options for disabling horizontal lines and vertical lines.

- When multiple data items are assigned to rows or columns in a crosstab, you can use the pop-up menu to create a hierarchy.
List tables have a new option that lets you freeze columns. You can hide or display columns in a list table by using the pop-up menu.

By default, all pie charts use abbreviated numerical values (for example, 1,100,000 is displayed as 1.1M).

You can save object templates with both data and data-related features such as display rules, filters, ranks, and sorting.

Custom graphs now have **Style**, **Graph Frame**, and **Legend** options.

New options are available for geo contour maps.

In the geo map object, your zoom state, location pins, and geographic selections are now saved as part of the report.

### Enhanced Report Viewing Experience

- Depending on the report settings, you can modify your view of the report by changing object types, data role assignments, object filters, and so on.

### Improved Performance and Usability

- The load time for reports has improved. Now SAS Visual Analytics runs queries in the background for report pages that are not currently being viewed. For objects in a stacking container, only the objects in the stack that are visible run queries initially. Queries for objects in the stack that are not visible are run later.
- The load time for report prompt values has improved.
- New settings bypass calculating measure correlations and cardinality values, which can improve the loading time for reports in the editing interface.
- When you create a link to a report, you can enable SAS Visual Analytics to display a static view of the report while the report is loading.
- Usability has improved by making it easy for users who are authorized to design reports to move between editing and viewing reports.
- The new home pane that is displayed when you start SAS Visual Analytics and when you select **Open** from the report toolbar menu provides a more consistent user experience.

### New Settings

- New settings bypass calculating measure correlations and cardinality values for the **Data** pane. These settings can improve the loading time for reports in the editing interface.
- A new **Themes** setting enables you to override the report theme and use the SAS High Contrast report theme for all of your reports.
Enhanced Accessibility

- Keyboard navigation is supported. There are new pop-up menu options for moving objects. For example, if you have multiple objects on a page, you can use the pop-up menu to move the current object to the beginning of the page.
- A new Keyboard Shortcuts window is available from the report toolbar.

Differences between SAS Visual Analytics 8.3 and 8.4

Here are some differences between SAS Visual Analytics 8.3 and 8.4:

- SAS Report Viewer features are now integrated into the SAS Visual Analytics user interface.
- The feature that enables users to email a report has been replaced by the copy link feature. This feature enables you to create a link with parameters, which you can then copy and paste into an email message.
- In the 8.3 release, report playback could be configured to show each object separately. In the 8.4 release, report playback always shows full pages.
- The new copy link feature for reports and objects has replaced the generate a link feature, which was available in the 8.2 and 8.3 releases. You can access the Copy Link window for reports from the application bar. Click on the object toolbar to access the copy link feature for objects.
  You cannot launch the native email client and send an email link directly to another user.
- In the 8.3 release, you could set multiple data items as unique row identifiers for each data source. In the 8.4 release, you can set only one data item as a unique row identifier for each data source.
- In the 8.3 release, data items were required to have unique names. In the 8.4 release, that restriction has been removed.
- The automated analysis object has been completely redesigned and uses new algorithms. It is now called Automated explanation object.