

E2**Forecasting and Writeback**

30 min

Build a blank 2026 forecast measure, populate it using Statistical Forecasting from 24 months of historical actuals, bring in January 2026 actuals as they land, close the period and extend the horizon, reforecast the newly opened January 2027 period, then commit the forecast to the Fabric SQL database.

Part 1**Create the Rolling Forecast**

Set up a Rolling Forecast sheet anchored on 2024 and 2025 actuals, then create a blank Forecast 2026 measure ready to be populated.

1. Set up the Forecast sheet

- i. In the Acme_Beverages_Plan app created in E1, create a new Planning sheet named Forecast. Configure rows as Category → Brand, columns as the date hierarchy (Year → Quarter Name → Month Short Name), and Values as Gross Revenue.

Fields

Rows

Category

:

×

Brand

:

×

+ Add Rows

Columns

Date Hierarchy

▼

:

×

Year

:

×

Quarter Name

:

×

Month Short Name

:

×

+ Add Columns

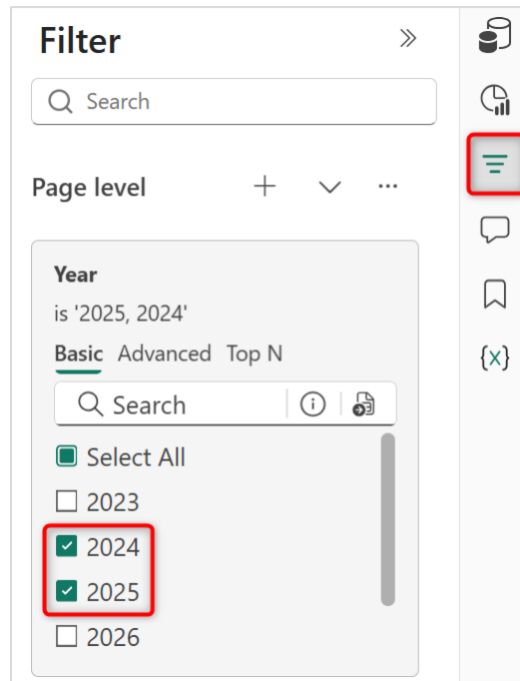
Values

Gross Revenue

:

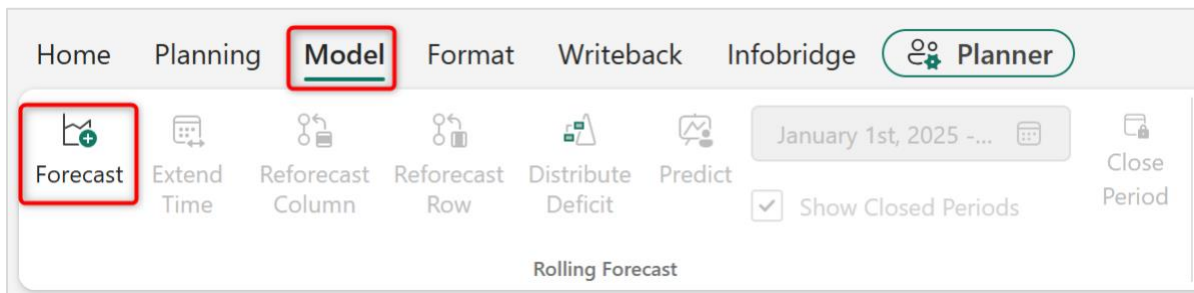
×

- ii. Apply a 2024 and 2025 year filter in the side bar. Enable Column Sub Total on the left.



2. Create the Forecast measure

- i. Navigate to the Model ribbon and select Forecast.



- ii. The Insert Forecast Measure dialog box opens. Enter Measure Name as Forecast and select Forecast Period as Jan 2026 to Dec 2026. Click Next.

»

Forecast

Measures

Basic

Closed Periods

Open Periods

Set the measure name and forecast period

Measure Name

Forecast

Forecast Period

Jan 2026 - Dec 2026

Multi Dimension Allocation

Off

Cancel

Next

- iii. In the Closed Periods screen, select Link to Measure and Source Measure as Gross Revenue. Click Next.

»

Forecast

Measures

Basic

Closed Periods

Open Periods

Configure values for locked periods

Closed periods are locked historical periods. Users can't edit these cells.

Configure as

Link to Measure (Mirrors values from another measure)

Formula (Define a formula to calculate values)

Source Measure

Gross Revenue

Cancel

Back

Next

Fabric Planning — Training Guide v0726

Page 3 of 29

- iv. In the Open Periods screen, select Data Input and Default Value as None. Click Save.

Insert Forecast Measures

Measures

»

Forecast

✓ Basic

✓ Closed Periods

○ Open Periods

Configure default values for editable periods

Open Periods

Configure default values for editable periods.

i

Open periods are editable forecast periods. Defaults fill automatically when the date range changes.

Configure as

☒ Data Input (Set default value)
 ☐ Link to Measure (Mirrors values from another measure)
 ☐ Formula (Define a formula to calculate values)

Default Value

None

▼

> Pre-fill Open periods (Optional)

Cancel

Back

Save

v. Observe that the forecasts for 2024 and 2025 are greyed out, indicating that the years are closed. Expand the 2026-year header to see the open forecast periods, which are empty and ready for forecasting.

Year	> 2024		> 2025		▼ 2026				
Quarter Name					Total	> Q1	> Q2	> Q3	> Q4
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
☐ All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87					
☐ Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15					
Artisan Ale	1,482.98	1,482.98	1,480.96	1,480.96					
Cosmic Craft ...	2.37	2.37	12.93	12.93					
Eclipse Light	975.37	975.37	990.26	990.26					
Old Mill Stout	1,957.34	1,957.34	1,958.70	1,958.70					
Riverbend IPA	2,595.00	2,595.00	2,618.68	2,618.68					
Summit Lager	8,557.31	8,557.31	8,554.62	8,554.62					

Fabric Planning — Training Guide v0726

Page 4 of 29

- vi. Collapse the row headers to the Category level so it is easy to examine the category level values.

Year	2024		2025		2026				
Quarter Name					Total	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87					
Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15					
Select >	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04					
Expand >	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12					
Collapse >	322.20	316.56	316.56						
Insert >									
Actions >									
Audit									

Part 2 Generate Statistical Forecast

With 24 months of historical actuals in place, run Statistical Forecast across the full Jan–Dec 2026 horizon. The model uses Trend Decomposition with MSTL to detect seasonal patterns across annual and quarterly cycles and generates a complete year of forecasted values in one pass.

3. Run the forecast

- i. Click the cell at the intersection of the All row and the Forecast sub total column for 2026. In the Model ribbon, click Predict.

Home

Planning

Model

Format

Writeback

Infobridge

Planner

Forecast

Extend Time

Rereforecast Column

Distribute Deficit

Predict

January 1st, 2024 - ...

Close Period

Scenario

Compare

Row Model

Measure Model

Cube

Approval

Locking rule

Rolling Forecast

Show Closed Periods

Scenario

Driver-based

Measure-based

Cube

Workflows

»

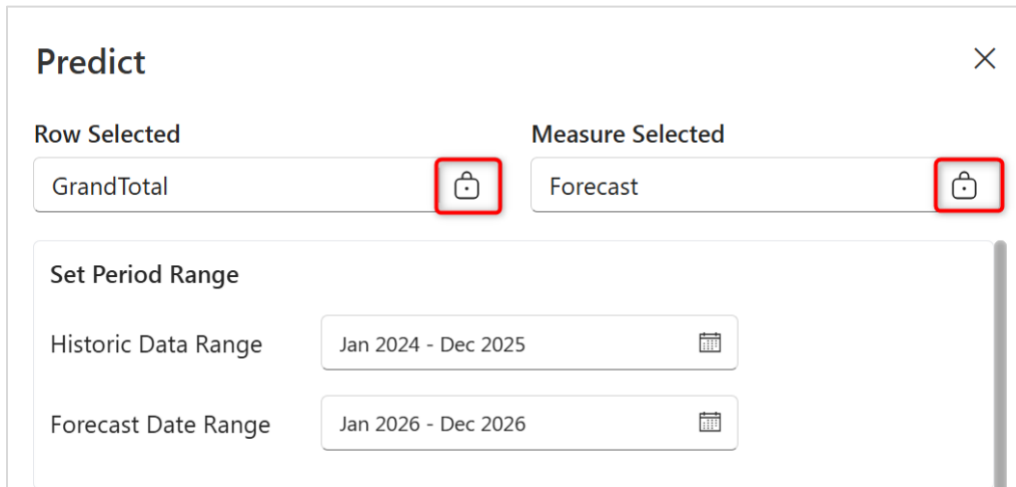
Gross Revenue, Forecast by Category, Brand, Year, Quarter Name, Month Short Name

Explorer

Year	> 2024		> 2025		v 2026				
Quarter Name					Total	> Q1	> Q2	> Q3	> Q4
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87					
Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15					

ii. The Predict dialog opens. Use the lock icon to freeze the row and measure selection after confirming - Select Row = Grand Total and Select Measure = Forecast. Confirm the following default selections:

- Historic Data Range: Jan 2024 – Dec 2025
- Forecast Date Range: Jan 2026 – Dec 2026

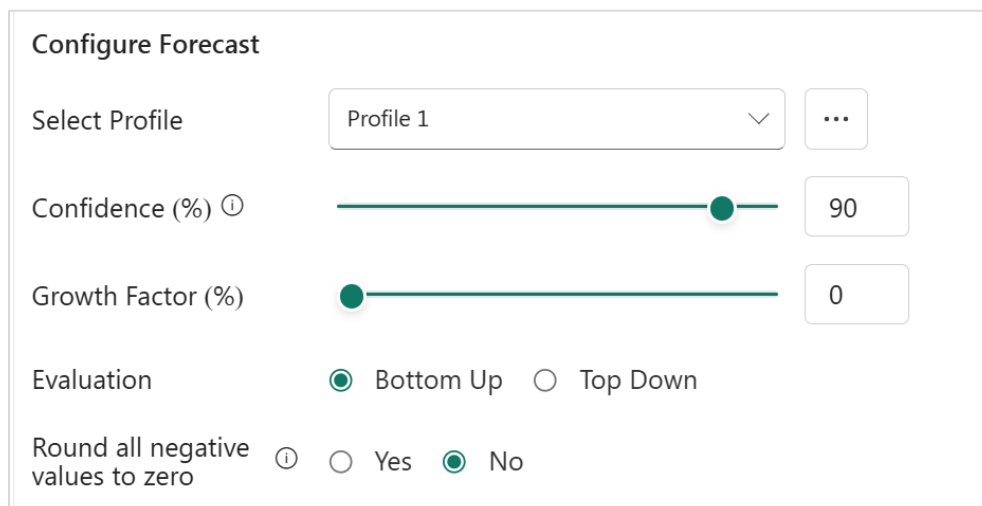


The Predict dialog box is shown with the following settings:

- Row Selected:** GrandTotal (with a lock icon highlighted by a red box)
- Measure Selected:** Forecast (with a lock icon highlighted by a red box)
- Set Period Range:**
 - Historic Data Range:** Jan 2024 - Dec 2025
 - Forecast Date Range:** Jan 2026 - Dec 2026

iii. Configure the forecast as follows:

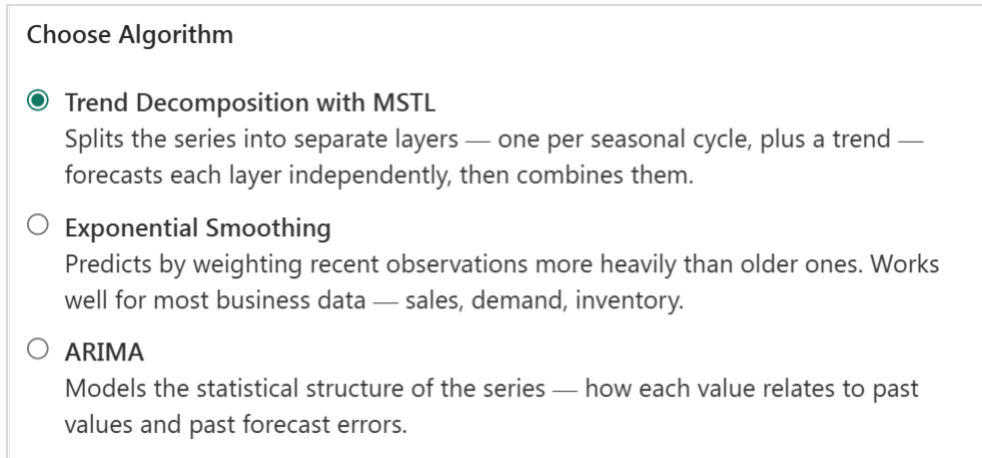
- Confidence: 90% (Indicates the level of certainty that the actual value will fall within the predicted range)
- Growth Factor: 4%
- Evaluation: Bottom Up
- Round all negative values to zero: No



The Configure Forecast dialog box is shown with the following settings:

- Select Profile:** Profile 1
- Confidence (%):** 90
- Growth Factor (%):** 0
- Evaluation:** ☒ Bottom Up ☐ Top Down
- Round all negative values to zero:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

- iv. Under Choose Algorithm, confirm Trend Decomposition with MSTL is selected. It is the best fit for beverage sales data where patterns repeat at both the annual and quarterly levels.



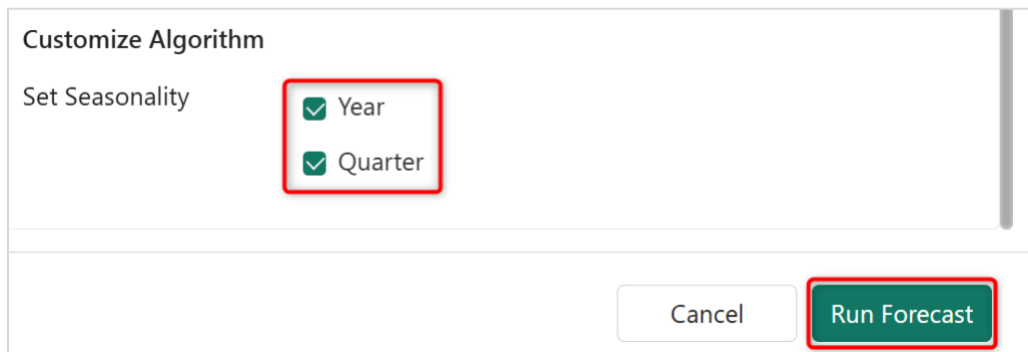
Choose Algorithm

☒ **Trend Decomposition with MSTL**
Splits the series into separate layers — one per seasonal cycle, plus a trend — forecasts each layer independently, then combines them.

☐ **Exponential Smoothing**
Predicts by weighting recent observations more heavily than older ones. Works well for most business data — sales, demand, inventory.

☐ **ARIMA**
Models the statistical structure of the series — how each value relates to past values and past forecast errors.

- v. Under Customize Algorithm, tick both Year and Quarter under Set Seasonality. This tells the model to detect and account for patterns at both cycle levels simultaneously. Click Run Forecast.



Customize Algorithm

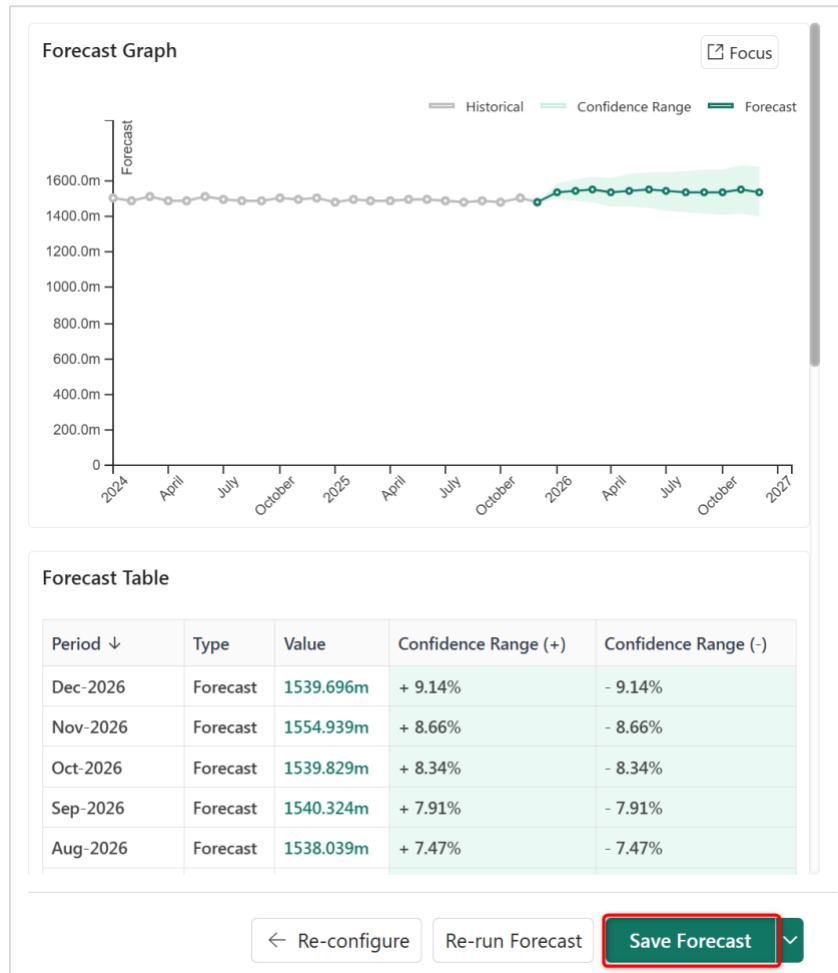
Set Seasonality

☒ Year

☒ Quarter

Cancel Run Forecast

- vi. The forecast preview appears. Historical data is shown in grey, while predicted values are shown in green, with the confidence range shown as green shading in the background. Below the graph, you can also see the values in a tabular format. Click Save Forecast.



- vii. In the Save to forecast measure dialog, ensure Select measure is Forecast and Date range is Jan 2026 – Dec 2026. Click Save.

Save to Forecast Measure ✕

① Existing values in this date range will be overwritten and open period will be extended as per the date range

Select Measure

Forecast

Date Range

Jan 2026 - Dec 2026

Buttons: Cancel, **Save**

- viii. The statistical forecast has been created with values calculated at the most granular level of the row and column hierarchies, then aggregated up to higher levels.

Year	> 2024		> 2025		v 2026				
Quarter Name					Total	> Q1	> Q2	> Q3	> Q4
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
☐ All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	18,527.47	39.62	4,633.69	4,619.71	4,634.46
☐ Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	16,169.20	4,060.01	4,050.90	4,024.61	4,033.68
☐ Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	1,273.59	311.52	317.96	323.21	320.90
☐ Non-Alcoholic Beverage...	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	732.13	182.06	179.30	182.06	188.71
☐ Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	352.56	86.03	85.52	89.83	91.18

Part 3 Close the Period, Extend, and Reforecast

As January 2026 actuals land, close the period to lock them in and automatically extend the forecast horizon by a month. With the newly opened January 2027 period now in view, reforecast it — seeding from January 2026 actuals and applying a growth assumption.

4. Reveal January 2026 Actuals

- i. In the sidebar, click Filter → edit the existing year filter → add 2026 alongside 2024 and 2025.

Filter

Q Search

Year

is '2024, 2025, 2026'

Basic Advanced Top N

Q Search

Select All

2023

2024

2025

2026

Fabric Planning — Training Guide v0726

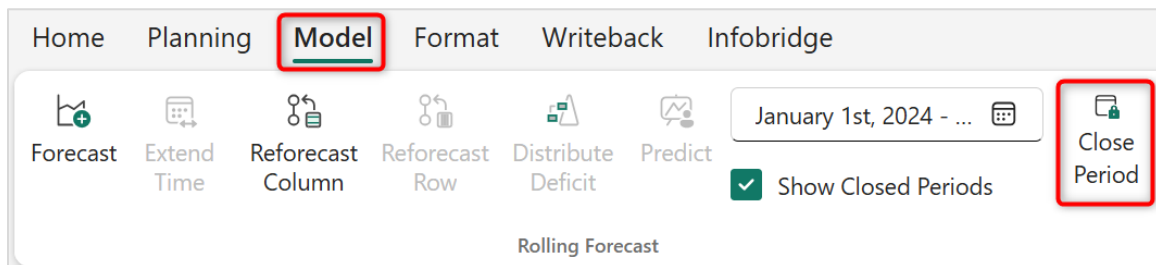
Page 9 of 29

- ii. Expand the column headers and compare the two January 2026 values side by side: Forecast: \$1,540M — the value generated in Part 2 — against Gross Revenue: \$1,552M — the actual January figure. Once step 5 is complete, January 2026's Forecast value will be replaced automatically with the Gross Revenue actuals.

Year	> 2024		> 2025		v 2026					
Quarter Name					Total		v Q1			
Month Short Name							Total		Jan	
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions
All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	1,552.99	18,527.47	1,552.99	4,639.62	1,552.99	1,540.71
Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	1,355.82	16,169.20	1,355.82	4,060.01	1,355.82	1,347.88
Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	103.62	1,273.59	103.62	311.52	103.62	103.04
Non-Alcoholic Beverage...	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	65.92	732.13	65.92	182.06	65.92	61.60
Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	27.63	352.56	27.63	86.03	27.63	28.19

5. Close January and Extend the Forecast

- i. Navigate to the Model ribbon and click on Close Period.



- ii. Close period dialog opens. Click on the Close period till dropdown. Scroll down and click on Custom. Ensure the selected period is Jan 2026. Tick Extend Forecast Range and ensure Duration = 1 Month — this maintains a continuous 12-month forward window as January closes, Jan 2027 is added to the horizon. Click Preview.

Close Period

Select Measure

Forecast

Close Period till

Custom

Selected Period

Jan 2026

☒ Extend Forecast Range

Duration

1 Month

Discard

Preview

- iii. Confirm Close Period dialog opens. Verify: Closed Period = Jan 2024 - Jan 2026, Open Period starts Feb 2026, Forecast horizon extends to Jan 2027. Click Save.

Confirm Close Period

Measure	Closed Period	Open Period
Forecast	Jan 2024 - Jan 2026	Feb 2026 - Jan 2027

Discard

Back

Save

- iv. Close period is updated. Observe that Jan 2026 is populated with Actual Gross Revenue and greyed out, indicating a closed period.

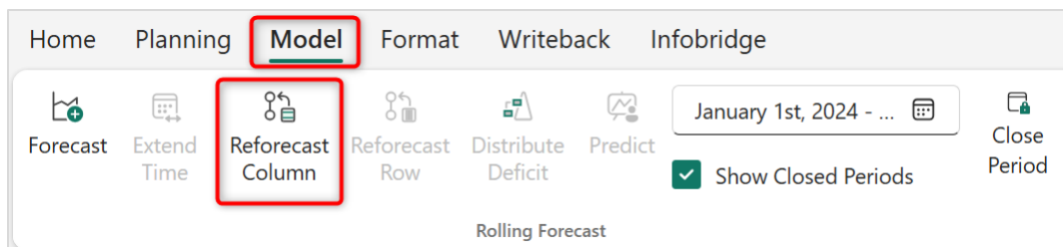
Year	> 2024		> 2025		v 2026		v Q1		Jan	
Quarter Name					Total					
Month Short Name							Total			
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions
All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	1,552.99	18,539.75	1,552.99	4,651.89	1,552.99	1,552.99
Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	1,355.82	16,177.14	1,355.82	4,067.95	1,355.82	1,355.82
Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	103.62	1,274.16	103.62	312.09	103.62	103.62
Non-Alcoholic Beverage...	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	65.92	736.45	65.92	186.39	65.92	65.92
Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	27.63	352.00	27.63	85.47	27.63	27.63

v. Also note that the forecast horizon automatically extends to Jan 2027.

Year	> 2024		> 2025		> 2026		v 2027	
Quarter Name							Total	v Q1
Month Short Name								Total Jan
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	1,552.99	18,539.75		
Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	1,355.82	16,177.14		
Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	103.62	1,274.16		
Non-Alcoholic Beverage...	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	65.92	736.45		
Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	27.63	352.00		

6. Seed Jan 2027 with Jan 2026 actuals

i. Navigate to the Model ribbon and click on Reforecast Column.



ii. Reforecast dialog opens. Configure as follows:

- Target period - Jan 2027 – Jan 2027
- Copy Source - Gross Revenue

- Apply Operation - Period Range
- Source Periods – Jan 2026 – Jan 2026
- Click Apply.

Reforecast

☒ Forecast

Jan 2027 - Jan 2027

+ Add Range

Set Period Range

Target Period

Jan 2027 - Jan 2027

Copy Source

Gross Revenue

Apply Operation

Period Range

Source Periods

Jan 2026 - Jan 2026

Cancel

Apply

- iii. January 2027 is now seeded from January 2026 actuals (\$1,552M), giving the team a realistic baseline for the extended forecast horizon.

Year	> 2024		> 2025		> 2026		v 2027		
Quarter Name							Total	v Q1	
Month Short Name								Total	Jan
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	1,552.99	18,539.75	1,552.99	1,552.99	1,552.99
Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	1,355.82	16,177.14	1,355.82	1,355.82	1,355.82
Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	103.62	1,274.16	103.62	103.62	103.62
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	65.92	736.45	65.92	65.92	65.92
Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	27.63	352.00	27.63	27.63	27.63

7. Apply a growth assumption to Jan 2027

- i. Double-click the Jan 2027 Grand total cell, enter +4%, and click the check mark.

☒

1,615,108,857.499

Gross Revenue, Forecast by Category, Brand, Year, Quarter Name, Month Short Name

Year	> 2024		> 2025		> 2026		v 2027		
Quarter Name							Total	v Q1	
Month Short Name								Total	Jan
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
☒ All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	1,552.99	18,539.75	1,552.99	1,552.99	1,552.99
☒ Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	1,355.82	16,177.14	1,355.82	1,355.82	1,355.82
☒ Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	103.62	1,274.16	103.62	103.62	103.62
☒ Non-Alcoholic Beverage...	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	65.92	736.45	65.92	65.92	65.92
☒ Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	27.63	352.00	27.63	27.63	27.63

- ii. Confirm January 2027 is now populated at \$1,615M.

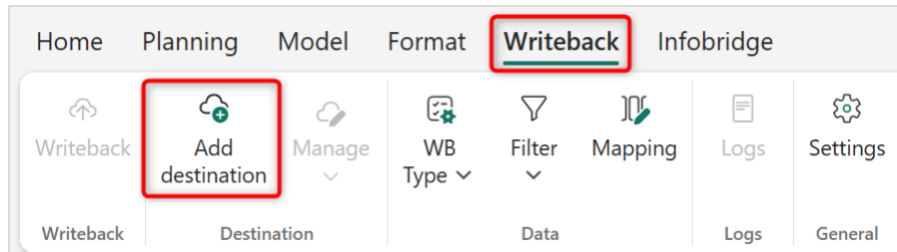
Year	2024		2025		2026		2027		
Quarter Name							Total	Q1	
Month Short Name								Total	Jan
Category	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Gross Revenue in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions	Forecast in Millions
☒ All	17,973.19	17,973.19	17,888.87	17,888.87	1,552.99	18,539.75	1,615.11	1,615.11	1,615.11
☒ Beer	15,570.37	15,570.37	15,616.15	15,616.15	1,355.82	16,177.14	1,410.05	1,410.05	1,410.05
☒ Hard Seltzer	1,229.96	1,229.96	1,197.04	1,197.04	103.62	1,274.16	107.76	107.76	107.76
☒ Non-Alcoholic Beverage...	850.67	850.67	759.12	759.12	65.92	736.45	68.56	68.56	68.56
☒ Ready to Drink Cocktails	322.20	322.20	316.56	316.56	27.63	352.00	28.74	28.74	28.74

Part 4 Writeback

With the forecast finalized, commit Forecast to the Fabric SQL database by adding a writeback destination, exploring the writeback settings, running writeback, then verifying the results directly in the database and reviewing the logs.

8. Add a writeback destination

- i. Go to the Writeback ribbon and click Add destination.



- ii. Create destination dialog box opens. Provide the writeback configuration as follows:

- Select connection – Select the DB connection (Created in Exercise 1 Part 1)
- Database name – Select Acme_Beverages (Created in Exercise 1 Part 1)
- Ensure schema is dbo
- Table name – Forecast

Create Destination

×

Select a Connection * + Create Connection

Acme_Beverages JohnS (2) ▼

Database Name *

Acme_Beverages 🔍

Schema *

dbo

Table Name *

Forecast

- Decimal Precision – 2

- Text Length – leave it as 512; though it can be customized.

After configuring the settings, click Add.

Create Destination

Decimal Precision

Enter the decimal precision (number of digits after the decimal point) for writeback columns. Please be aware that this is a one-time action and cannot be changed later.

2

Text Length

☐ Length of all string columns 512
 ☒ Custom

Columns

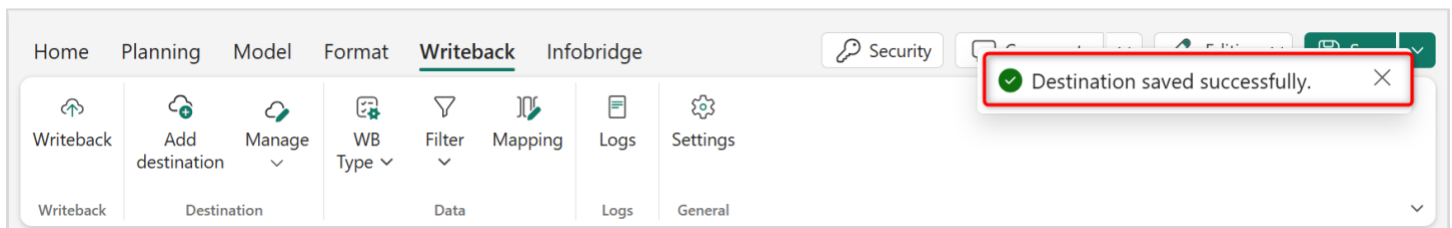
Length

Category 512

Close

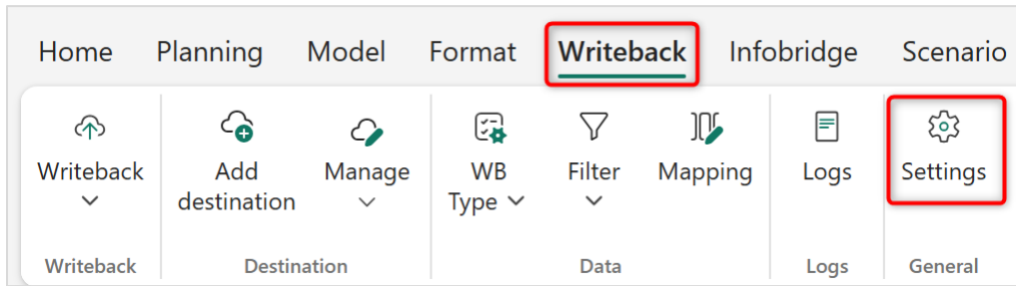
Add

- Once the destination has been added successfully, a message is shown.

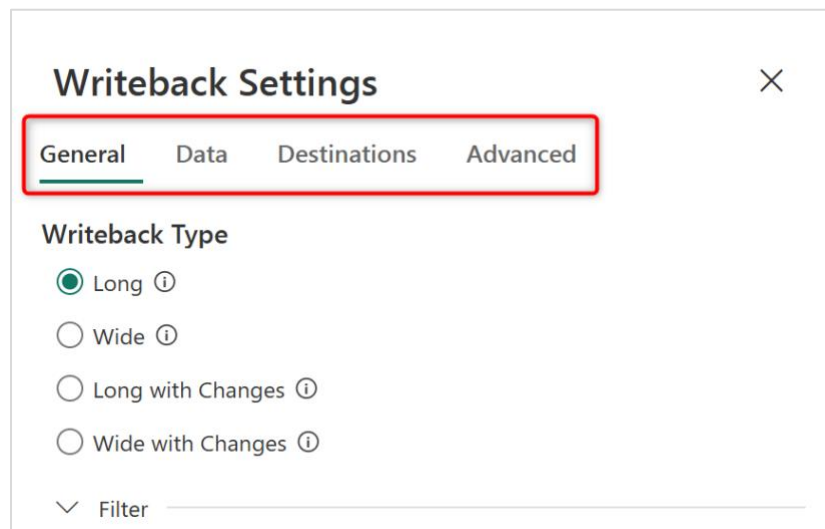


9. Configure writeback settings

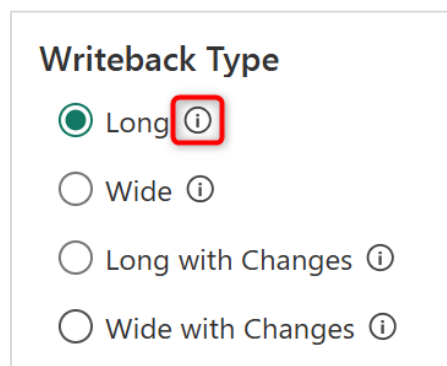
- In the Writeback ribbon, click Settings.



- ii. The Settings panel opens with four tabs — General, Data, Destinations, and Advanced.



- iii. In the General tab, review the four writeback types by clicking the information icon next to each:



- a. Long

Writeback Type



☒ Long
 ☐ Long with changes
 ☐ Wide
 ☐ Wide with changes

① Long - Each cell value in the Planning Sheet is stored as a separate row in the database.

Preview

IrScenario	Category	Brand	Year	Quarter Name	Month Short Name	Value Column Name	Value	ValueText	Last Updated At	Last
Base	All	All	All	All	All	Forecast	56016924834.23			
Base	All	All	2024	All	All	Forecast	17973192959.67			
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	All	Forecast	4506330119.35			
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	Jan	Forecast	1507551577.86			
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	Feb	Forecast	1486182769.80			
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	Mar	Forecast	1512595771.69			
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	All	Forecast	4487535056.69			
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	Apr	Forecast	1490104686.31			
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	May	Forecast	1488313668.40			
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	Jun	Forecast	1509116701.98			

Cancel

Select

b. Wide

Writeback Type



☐ Long
 ☐ Long with changes
 ☒ Wide
 ☐ Wide with changes

① Wide - Measures are stored as separate columns in the database.

Preview

IrScenario	Category	Brand	Year	Quarter Name	Month Short Name	Gross Revenue	Forecast	IrWritebackUser	IrWritebackTir
Base			2027	Q1	Jan	1615108857.50	1552989286.06		2026-07-16 12
Base	Beer		2027	Q1	Jan	1410051398.20	1355818652.11		2026-07-16 12
Base	Hard Seltzer		2026	Q1	Feb	105460284.11	103615969.36		2026-07-16 12

Cancel

Select

c. Long with Changes

Writeback Type

☐ Long
 ☒ Long with changes
 ☐ Wide
 ☐ Wide with changes

ⓘ Long with changes - Each cell value is stored with change history as separate rows.

Preview

IrScenario	Category	Brand	Year	Quarter Name	Month Short Name	Value Column Name	Value	Previous Value	ValueText	Prev
Base	All	All	All	All	All	Forecast	56016924834.23	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	All	All	Forecast	17973192959.67	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	All	Forecast	4506330119.35	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	Jan	Forecast	1507551577.86	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	Feb	Forecast	1486182769.80	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q1	Mar	Forecast	1512595771.69	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	All	Forecast	4487535056.69	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	Apr	Forecast	1490104686.31	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	May	Forecast	1488313668.40	null		null
Base	All	All	2024	Q2	Jun	Forecast	1509116701.98	null		null

Cancel

Select

d. Wide with Changes

Writeback Type

☐ Long
 ☐ Long with changes
 ☐ Wide
 ☒ Wide with changes

ⓘ Wide with changes - Measures are stored as columns with change history.

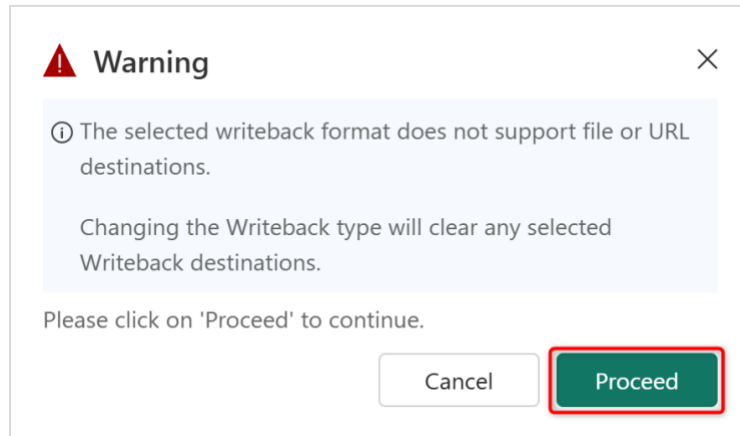
Preview

IrScenario	Category	Brand	Year	Quarter Name	Month Short Name	Gross Revenue	Forecast	Is Latest	IrWritebackUser	IrW
Base			2027	Q1	Jan	1615108857.50	1552989286.06			202
Base	Beer		2027	Q1	Jan	1410051398.20	1355818652.11			202
Base	Hard Seltzer		2026	Q1	Feb	105460284.11	103615969.36			202

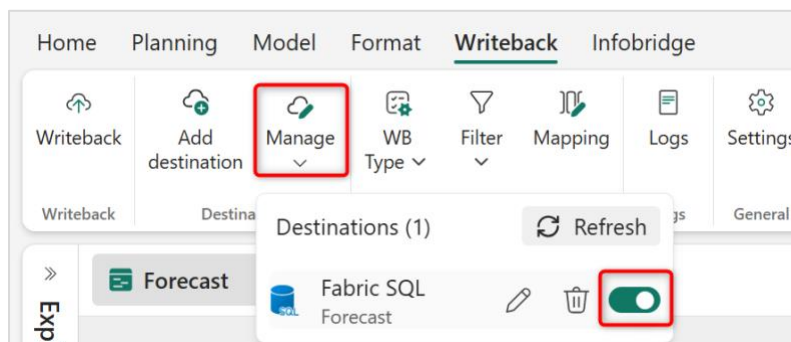
Cancel

Select

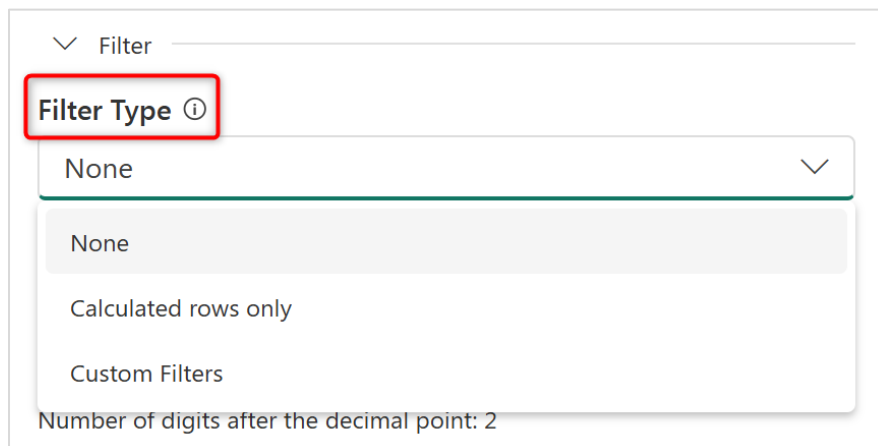
- iv. Select Long with Changes. When you change the writeback type, the configured writeback destination will be turned off. A warning message regarding this will pop up. Click Proceed.



- v. Use the toggle under Manage to switch on the destination again.



- vi. Go back to Settings. The Filter type option controls which data gets written back to the destination. We'll leave it as None.



- a. None — writes back the entire scenario without filtering
- b. Data with Comments only — writes back only cells that contain comments (Long type only)
- c. Calculated rows only — writes back only calculated rows and any notes added to them

vii. Let's quickly look at the other options available:

- a. Date Key configuration lets you add date keys to the writeback table during writeback.
- b. Decimal Precision defines the number of digits after the decimal point. This was decided in step 8.ii when adding the destination.
- c. Text field length is by default 512 characters for all string columns. This can be customized when adding the writeback destination in step 8.ii.

Date Key Configuration

+ Add Date Key

Decimal Precision

Number of digits after the decimal point: 2

Text Length

Custom

Columns	Length
Category	512
Brand	512
Year	512
Quarter Name	512
Month Short Nam...	512

Note: Confirm Writeback Type is set to Long with Changes.

10. Explore the remaining settings tabs

- i. Click the Data tab. This is where you choose which measures to write back if you have multiple measures in a sheet. Uncheck Gross Revenue. You can also enable automatic writeback and set the auto writeback event delay here.

General
Data
Destinations
Advanced

Series allowed for Writeback

☐ All

☒  Gross Revenue

☒  Forecast

Show Text Inputs with HTML Formatting ☒

Auto Writeback ☐

Enable Automatic Writeback ☒

This feature works only when editing data input values or adjusting simulations.

Advanced Auto Writeback ☐

Set Auto Writeback Event Delay

For non-numerical data, set a delay of upto 5 seconds for Auto Writeback to prevent rapid trigger

5

- ii. Click the Destinations tab — the destination configured in step 8 appears here. Multiple destinations can be added and managed from this tab.

General
Data
Destinations
Advanced

☒  Fabric SQL
Forecast

☐ ☐ ☐

Reset Destination

▲ Clicking this button will reset all scenario values in associated writeback destination tables, using the current visual data.

Reset

Refresh + Add New Destination

- iii. Click the Advanced tab - three options are available here:

General
Data
Destinations
Advanced

Writeback column validation

Gross Revenue

No Validation

Forecast

No Validation

Prevent writeback when validation fails

☐

If toggle is on, writeback is prevented if any validation fails , This feature does not apply to auto writeback.

Writeback column rename

Renaming Writeback column after Writeback would trigger drop table request

[Rename Writeback Column](#)

- a. Validate writeback columns — Cannot be empty can be used to exclude null cells, or Enter formula to define a condition that must evaluate to true for a cell to be written back.

Writeback column validation

Gross Revenue

No Validation

Forecast

No Validation

Prevent writeback when validation fails

☐

If toggle is on, writeback is prevented if any validation fails , This feature does not apply to auto writeback.

No Validation

Cannot be empty

Enter Formula

- b. Enable Prevent writeback toggle prevents writeback when validation fails. This is enabled only when a validation rule has been configured.

Prevent writeback when validation fails



If toggle is on, writeback is prevented if any validation fails , This feature does not apply to auto writeback.

- c. Rename writeback columns — Custom column names can be assigned to the writeback table instead of using the source dataset names. Click Rename Writeback Column to explore the column rename dialog box.

Writeback column rename

Renaming writeback column after writeback would trigger drop table request

Name in Visual	Writeback column name
Gross Revenue	Gross Revenue 
Forecast	Forecast 
Category	Category 
Brand	Brand 
Year	Year 
Quarter Name	Quarter Name 
Month Short Nam...	Month Short Name 

Prevent writeback when validation fails



If toggle is on, writeback is prevented if any validation fails , This feature does not apply to auto writeback.

Writeback column rename

Renaming Writeback column after Writeback would trigger drop table request

 **Rename Writeback Column**

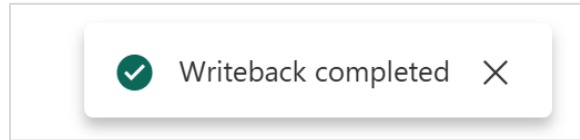
Close the dialog box and the Settings panel.

11. Perform writeback

- i. In the Writeback ribbon, click the Writeback option.

Home	Planning	Model	Format	Writeback	Infobridge
 Writeback	 Add destination	 Manage	 WB Type	 Filter	 Mapping
Writeback	Destination		Data	Logs	General

- ii. Within a few seconds, a confirmation pop-up displaying Writeback Completed appears, indicating that the forecast has been successfully written back to the Acme_Beverages SQL database.

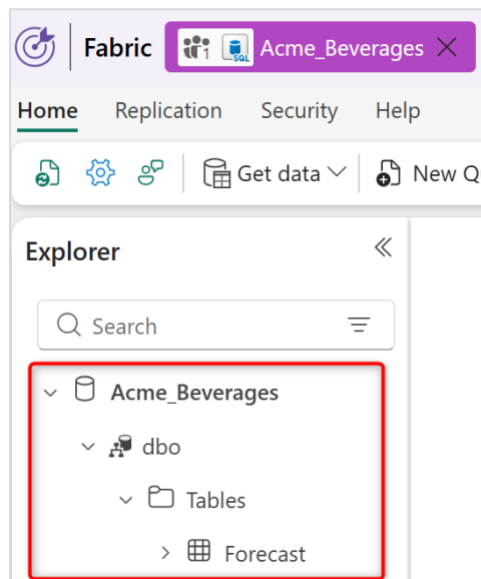


12. View the writeback tables in DB

- i. Navigate back to your folder in the training workspace and select the SQL Database.

FABRIC_PLAN_TRAINING_TEST > John				
	Name	Status	Git status	Type
	ACME Beverages		—	Report
	ACME Beverages		—	Semantic model
	Acme_Beverages		—	SQL database
	Acme_Beverages		—	SQL analytics end...
	Acme_Beverages_Plan		—	Plan

- ii. Expand Acme_Beverages → dbo → Tables and click the Forecast table.

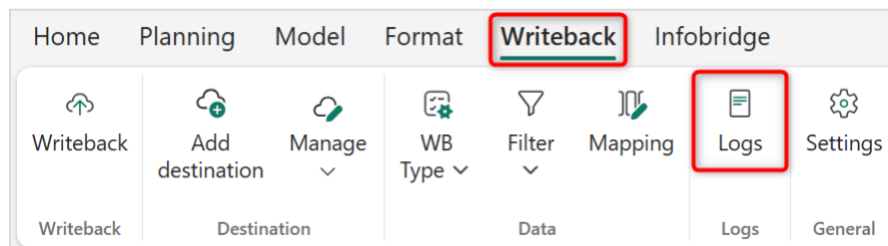


iii. You can see a preview of the table. The forecast has been successfully written back.

Data preview - Forecast																											
	123	Irid	ABC	IrScenario	ABC	Category	ABC	Brand	ABC	Year	ABC	QuarterN...	ABC	MonthSh...	ABC	ValueCol...	12F	Value	12F	Previous...	ABC	ValueText	ABC	Previous...	123	IsLatest	 LastUpda...
1	1		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2024	Q4	Oct	Forecast	39417885.92	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
2	2		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2024	Q1	Feb	Forecast	40138961.94	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
3	3		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2026	Q4	Dec	Forecast	39744333.48	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	2026-06-30 1...												
4	4		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2026	Q2	May	Forecast	38965619.27	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	2026-06-30 1...												
5	5		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q1	Mar	Forecast	37354266.12	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
6	6		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2024	Q2	All	Forecast	119692751.21	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
7	7		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q2	May	Forecast	37806972.42	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
8	8		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q1	Feb	Forecast	43708625.83	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
9	9		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2026	Q2	Apr	Forecast	40212154.38	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	2026-06-30 1...												
10	10		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q1	All	Forecast	120427939.08	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
11	11		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q1	Jan	Forecast	39365047.13	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
12	12		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q3	Sep	Forecast	41934747.67	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
13	13		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2026	Q1	Feb	Forecast	42555744.26	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	2026-06-30 1...												
14	14		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2024	Q1	Jan	Forecast	42579354.41	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												
15	15		Base	Hard Seltzer	FizzJoy	2025	Q3	Jul	Forecast	39350934.04	NULL	NULL	NULL	1	NULL												

13. Explore the logs

i. In the Writeback ribbon, click Logs.



ii. Writeback logs tab opens. You can view details such as status, duration, the person who performed the writeback, the measures that got saved, and the writeback type.

← Back to Report Writeback Logs (1)

Search Status Created At Reset Filter

ID	Duration	Status	Created At	Started By	Scenarios	Incoming Row Count	Event	Writeback Type
WB178285223412975	8 Secs	Success	6/30/2026 4:43:54 PM	JS John S	Base	1155	Writeback	Long with Changes

Part 5 Bringing the Forecast into Power BI

The forecast built in Fabric Planning doesn't have to stay in Planning. With the data written back to the Fabric SQL database, it becomes available as a standard data source for any Power BI report. This part shows how to connect to the writeback table and build a simple Forecast vs Prior Year comparison in Power BI Desktop.

14. Add the Forecast table to the semantic model

- i. Navigate to your training folder and open the Acme_Beverages semantic model.
- ii. In the semantic model editor, click Get Data → SQL Server.
- iii. The Connect to data source dialog opens. Enter the following values — the server and database strings can be found by navigating to the Acme_Beverages SQL database in your training folder → Settings → Connection strings → ADO.NET tab:
 - Server: the value shown after Server= in the connection string
 - Database: the value shown after Database= in the connection string
 - Connection name: rename to Acme_Beverages_SQL (the default name is the full server string and will be truncated)
 - Data gateway: select None
 - Authentication kind: Organizational account → click Sign in and authenticate with your credentials
 - Click Next.
- iv. In the Navigator, expand Acme_Beverages → dbo. Select the Forecast table and click Load.
- v. The Forecast table now appears in the Data pane alongside the existing semantic model tables.

15. Define the relationship

-
- i. Navigate to Model view. Draw a relationship between the Forecast table and the existing date table — connect on the date key column.
 - ii. Draw a relationship between the Forecast table and the Category dimension table — connect on Category.
 - iii. Confirm both relationships are active.

16. Build the comparison visual

- i. In the semantic model editor, click New Report to open a blank report canvas.
- ii. Add a Line and Clustered Column Chart to the canvas.
- iii. Configure as follows:
 - X Axis: Month Short Name
 - Column values: Gross Revenue (prior year actuals)
 - Line values: Forecast
 - Legend: Category
- iv. Observe that the Forecast values generated in Fabric Planning are now sitting directly alongside the actuals in a Power BI visual — no rebuild, no migration, no duplication of effort.

Outcomes

- ✓ Rolling Forecast sheet built with 2024–2025 actuals and a blank Forecast measure covering Jan–Dec 2026.
- ✓ Statistical Forecast run bottom-up across the full Jan–Dec 2026 horizon using 24 months of actuals — Trend Decomposition with MSTL algorithm, 4% growth factor.
- ✓ January 2026 actuals revealed and compared against the forecasted value (\$1,544M forecast vs \$1,552M actual).
- ✓ January 2026 closed — actuals locked in, forecast horizon extended to Jan 2027.
- ✓ January 2027 seeded from January 2026 actuals (\$1,552M) and reforecast at \$1,615M with a 4% growth assumption.
- ✓ Writeback destination configured — Forecast table in Acme_Beverages, Long with Changes format.
- ✓ Forecast written back to the SQL database and verified in the Forecast table.
- ✓ Writeback logs reviewed — status, duration, writeback type, measures, and user confirmed.