



Excel

VS



Power BI

Easy to learn	Most of us already have a lot of the skills required to build Excel Dashboards, so getting up to speed is quick and easy.	Requires Power Query and Power Pivot knowledge, plus there is a whole new charting engine to learn as well as how to share reports etc.
Charts Selection	Excel has a huge range of charts but is light on mapping functionality. It has Power Map but this isn't fully integrated, so it can't form part of a dashboard.	Power BI has a huge selection of charts and it has excellent maps, plus you can even create your own custom charts, or use ones shared in the custom visuals gallery.
Chart Customization	You can customise almost everything in an Excel chart. This flexibility allows you to do things with charts that Microsoft never intended.	Power BI has limited chart formatting options. They are improving, but some Excel users may find this frustrating.
Interactivity	We can provide interactivity with Slicers to allow users to filter and focus in on items in our Dashboards.	Power BI has Slicers too, but it also has interactivity we can only dream about in Excel; drill down charts, cross filter and highlight from one chart to others and more.
Flexible Analytics	Nothing is more flexible than Excel! Add and edit data, analyse with PivotTables, formulas, etc. anywhere in the grid.	Power BI doesn't have proper PivotTables (yet), you can't write formulas anywhere, ad-hoc analysis is almost impossible.
Sharing	We can share Excel files via email or shared drives, and publish reports online using the Excel WebApp, these options leave our data exposed. There's no real way to lock down the underlying data.	Power BI dashboards can be viewed on any device. Views of data can be restricted to individual roles and downloading of data can be prevented.
Data Size	On its own Excel can't handle big data, and even struggles with medium size data. However, with Power Pivot it can, but there's a learning curve and Power Pivot isn't available in all versions of Excel.	Power BI can handle millions of rows of data. It uses the same Power Pivot modelling engine available in Excel but it isn't restricted to any version of Excel or Office 365.
Data Sources	Get data from almost anywhere with Power Query.	Power BI also uses Power Query so it too can get data from almost anywhere.
Automatic Refresh	Kind of, if you use VBA, but it's fraught with complications.	Yep, schedule your refresh frequency, or if your data source is online then refresh is automatic.
Accessible	Excel is for everyone and is a great place to start if you're new to Dashboards.	Unless you're building Dashboards for yourself, you'll find that Power BI requires the buy in from management, and most probably IT as well.
Cost	Most of us already have Excel so there's no additional cost for using it to build and share Dashboards	Free for personal use, otherwise US\$10/mth to share reports with others. For large companies there is a Premium licence available.