

# Microsoft Governance Tools vs Datalogz for Power BI Governance

## Overview

This document provides a detailed comparison between Microsoft's native governance tools and Datalogz, focusing on their capabilities for Power BI governance. While Microsoft offers a strong foundation for overall data governance across its ecosystem, **Datalogz delivers a specialized layer designed specifically for Business Intelligence (BI) governance**, offering deeper insights and automation tailored to Power BI and other BI platforms.

Importantly, Microsoft's tools are not designed to help organizations reduce their BI footprint or cut unnecessary spend. In fact, their business model benefits from broader usage and adoption. In contrast, **Datalogz is built with cost optimization in mind, helping organizations eliminate waste and maximize the value of their BI investments.**

## Focus and Scope

- **Microsoft Governance Tools:** Broadly designed for Microsoft 365 and Azure environments. They extend governance to Power BI but are not BI-specific.
- **Datalogz:** Built exclusively for BI governance and operations (BI Ops), focusing on Power BI, Tableau, and Qlik. It addresses challenges in BI sprawl, data trust, cost optimization, and analytics security.

# Tool-by-Tool Comparison

## Microsoft Purview

### Strengths

- Data Cataloging: Discover and classify Power BI assets.
- Data Lineage: Track data flow within Microsoft ecosystems.
- Sensitivity Labeling: Apply and enforce data classifications.
- Audit Capabilities: Monitor user activity and asset changes.
- Data Loss Prevention (DLP): Protect exported data through M365 policies.

### Limitations

- Power BI lineage is limited and doesn't extend beyond Microsoft systems.
- All-or-nothing scanning approach for Power BI workspaces.
- Metadata access is dependent on Power BI scanner APIs.
- New features like Data Quality are still in early stages.

## Datalogz

### Strengths

- Deep Power BI integration beyond scanner API limits.
- Workspace-specific monitoring and policy application.
- Unified Metadata Layer across multiple BI tools.
- Automated Inventory: Identifies all reporting assets.
- Risk Detection: Surface governance, security, and reporting risks.
- Continuous BI Audit: Real-time cost, performance, and access audit.
- Cost Optimization: Analyze usage and infrastructure for savings.

### Limitations

- No current support for Purview-style sensitivity labeling (planned).

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## Identity and Access Management

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### Microsoft Entra (formerly Azure AD)

Capabilities

- Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)
- Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)
- Conditional Access based on risk and context

### Datalogz

Capabilities

- Maps user access and permissions within Power BI.
- Tracks actual usage patterns to flag access blind spots.

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## Device and Application Governance

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### Microsoft Intune

Capabilities

- Enforce device compliance for mobile Power BI access.
- Manage Power BI mobile apps.

### Datalogz

N/A

- Focuses on the analytics layer rather than device management.

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## Identity and Access Management

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### Power BI Admin Portal + PowerShell

Capabilities

- Tenant and capacity settings.
- Workspace management.
- Manual audit log access.
- PowerShell scripting for automation.

### Datalogz

Capabilities

- Automation-first approach for governance policies.
- Intelligent cleanup of unused assets.
- Proactive alerts and recommendations.
- Real-time monitoring and audit insights.

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## User Experience and Audience

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### Microsoft Tools

Cap.

- Targeted at IT, security, and compliance teams.
- Interfaces can be complex and generalized.

### Datalogz

Cap.

- Built for BI teams, data analysts, and platform owners.
- Offers intuitive, BI-centric UI for actionable insight

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## Multi-Platform BI Support

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### Microsoft Tools

Cap.

- Focused exclusively on the Microsoft ecosystem.

### Datalogz

Cap.

- Supports a multitude of BI - Power BI, Tableau, and Qlik out of the box and others upon request.
- Provides a centralized governance layer across platforms.

## Summary

Think of Microsoft's governance tools as a foundational framework for identity, access, and data governance across Microsoft products. For organizations with a mature BI stack and deep Power BI usage, **Datalogz delivers a critical additional layer: proactive, automated, and BI-aware governance.**

While Microsoft tools focus on enabling adoption and managing compliance at scale, they aren't incentivized to help you reduce Power BI usage or costs. Datalogz, on the other hand, is **purpose-built to uncover inefficiencies, reduce licensing and infrastructure waste, and maximize the ROI of your analytics investments.** It's not just about governance; it's about governance with a business impact.