

Your Journey Starts Here.

Understand Your PM Strengths & Weaknesses

Evaluate Performance and Required Next Steps by PM Area

Build a PM Improvement Roadmap

The following report is a sample of what you will receive after completing the Project Management Assessment. Each report is customized to the individual organization highlighting the PMO's most pressing project management needs.

Complete the diagnostic program to get the data you need to start your Project management journey.





Project Management Assessment Copy: Inside the Report

1	Understand Your PM Strengths & Weaknesses	Once a year, take a step back from day-to-day PM operations and look at the big picture.	Measure your PM practices against industry standard best practices	Build your framework for managing & improving PM practices over the long term.
2	Evaluate Performance and Required Next Steps by PM Area	Communicate current strengths, and use year over year comparisons to measure long term progress.	Identify areas for improvement, and justify allocation of resources toward these goals.	Measure success in terms of meeting industry standard best practices.
3	Build a PM Improvement Roadmap	Cut through the noise: uncover the processes that really matter in building your world-class PM function.	Align your team behind achieving your vision, communicating the rationale behind your decisions.	Prioritize quick wins to show your stakeholders that rapid improvement is a priority.

Project Portfolio Management

Project Management Assessment



PREPARED FOR:

Barry Cousins, Senior Director, PMO Practice Info-Tech Research Group





Data is comprised of feedback from 4 respondents, including: Barry Cousins, Matt Burton, Trevor Bieber, Travis Duncan

Project Portfolio Management





INSIGHT OVERVIEW



Project Planning

Planning activities vary between Project Management methodologies, but they have the same overall needs.

Key Insight: Inefficiency and poor project results can usually be tracked back to deficiencies in planning. Improve pre-project planning and ensure that a minimal level of clarity and currency is maintained throughout.



Project Resourcing

The quality and quantity of resourcing plays a key role in the project success.

Key Insight: Maintaining a highly effective resourcing strategy is difficult in an era of high turnover and multiple projects. Keep visibility on these issues to ensure that time and talent are sufficient for success.



Project Execution

A high quality project portfolio depends on repeatable processes.

Key Insight: Continue to look for ways to right-size the amount of process rigor in your projects.



Evaluate PM performance across 5 areas. Determine which areas require improvement and use this report to help you get there.

Time Tracking

Organizations tracking staff time need to ensure it's both accurate and valuable.

the amount of project work that will be realized (i.e. "Realized Project Capacity").

Key Insight: There are obvious cases where time needs to be tracked for the purpose of rebilling. Beyond that, it's becoming less common to have detailed time tracking for knowledge workers. At a minimum, it's worth distinguishing the actual time spent on projects vs. non-projects to ensure that the high level allocations are realistic for projects, support, operations, ad-hoc, administrative, etc. Organizations need to realistically approve

Reporting

Project reporting drives the ability to manage a portfolio over the long term.

Key Insight: Increase the focus on project portfolio reporting to drive more precise project management.



PM PERCEIVED SUCCESS

These scores express your perceptions of overall project management success. Your answers to these questions inform the recommendations throughout this report.

"To what extent do you agree with the following statements?"

Our projects are delivered on time, within budget, and within the intended scope.

71% Project Delivery

Our projects produce high quality results.

88% Quality

(3)

Our project management processes are highly efficient, allowing us to maximize throughput.

63% Throughput

Our project customers are satisfied by the process and results. 92% Customer Sat. The people on our project teams are engaged and satisfied with the process and results. 67% Staff Sat.

Insight: A successful project management practice needs a balance of successful project del **Overall Recommendations:** While your resourcing metrics do not generally raise urgent concerecommendations in this report to improve your results.

Assess PM performance across 5 metrics. Determine which metrics you'd like to focus on improving and follow the report to learn how.

**

TOOLS

The sophistication of project and portfolio management tools needs to line up with the intensity of the data being managed.

Tools in use:





Insight: A successful project management practice needs a balance of successful project delivery, project throughput, satisfied staff, satisfied customers, and quality.

Overall Recommendations: Since your task planning is reasonably high level, focus on adopting the simplest task management tool or paradigm possible. It may not even be necessary to expect that every project team uses the same tool.

REPORT OVERVIEW



<u>Dashboard</u>

02 Pro

Project Planning

03 Project

04

Project Execution

Reporting an Time Trackin

Details

Evaluate the effectiveness of individual PM areas and sub-areas. For low scoring areas, follow recommended actions to start improvement efforts





PROJECT PLANNING - Planning activities vary between Project Management methodologies, but they have the same overall needs. **PLANNING SUFFICIENCY** - WEIGHTING: 10/10 Projects (or sprints, in the case of Agile) are planned sufficiently to get reasonable and realistic expectations of budget, **Recommended Action:** Projects need plans for what is being resources, and timelines." accomplished, who is doing it, when they are doing it, and how much it will Sponsors and stakeholders need to know cost. Implement a planning process that ensures decision makers have a Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree stronger sense of what they are funding. what they're committing to. For Agile, it's one sprint at a time. Traditionally, planning is harder and more costly. **REQUIREMENTS CURRENCY** - WEIGHTING: 10/10 *Project requirements are clearly identified up-front, and are maintained on an ongoing basis over the course of the project. " **Recommended Action:** Continually ensure requirements clarity at both the project and portfolio level Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree Requirements can change, but the need for clarity never gets old. CHARTER - WEIGHTING: 10/10 **Recommended Action:** The Project Charter encourages a minimum level of rigor for ? "There a reasonable Project Charter (or other control document) that is maintained throughout the project." projects of all sizes and risk levels. Improve the consistency of your Charter to ensure The Charter is essential to getting stakeholder buy-in and avoiding mission creep. Strongly Disagree that projects can be understood and compared by others. Strongly Agree STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS - WEIGHTING: 8/10 **Recommended Action:** Determine roles up front, along with the frequency and style 👔 "Project stakeholders are identified and an optimal communications plan is in place to address each individual or 🛭 group." of project-related communications for each role. Proactive and deliberate management of stakeholders is critical to smooth change management. Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree **RE-PLANNING** - WEIGHTING: 8/10 **Recommended Action:** Ensure that projects are planned at a depth that you're Projects are re-planned as needed to maintain the validity of the plan throughout the project." guaranteed to maintain. Plans that don't get maintained add very little value to the Out of date plans cause irreparable damage to the organization's credibility. Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree **AGILITY** - WEIGHTING: 6/10 **Recommended Action:** Allow timelines and budgets to be re-estimated when scope $m{?}$ "Projects and project teams are flexible and agile (i.e., they react to changes as $\,$ needed)." changes. Then, project teams have no reason to be inflexible. Regardless of methodology, projects must be responsive to change. Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree



Project Planning

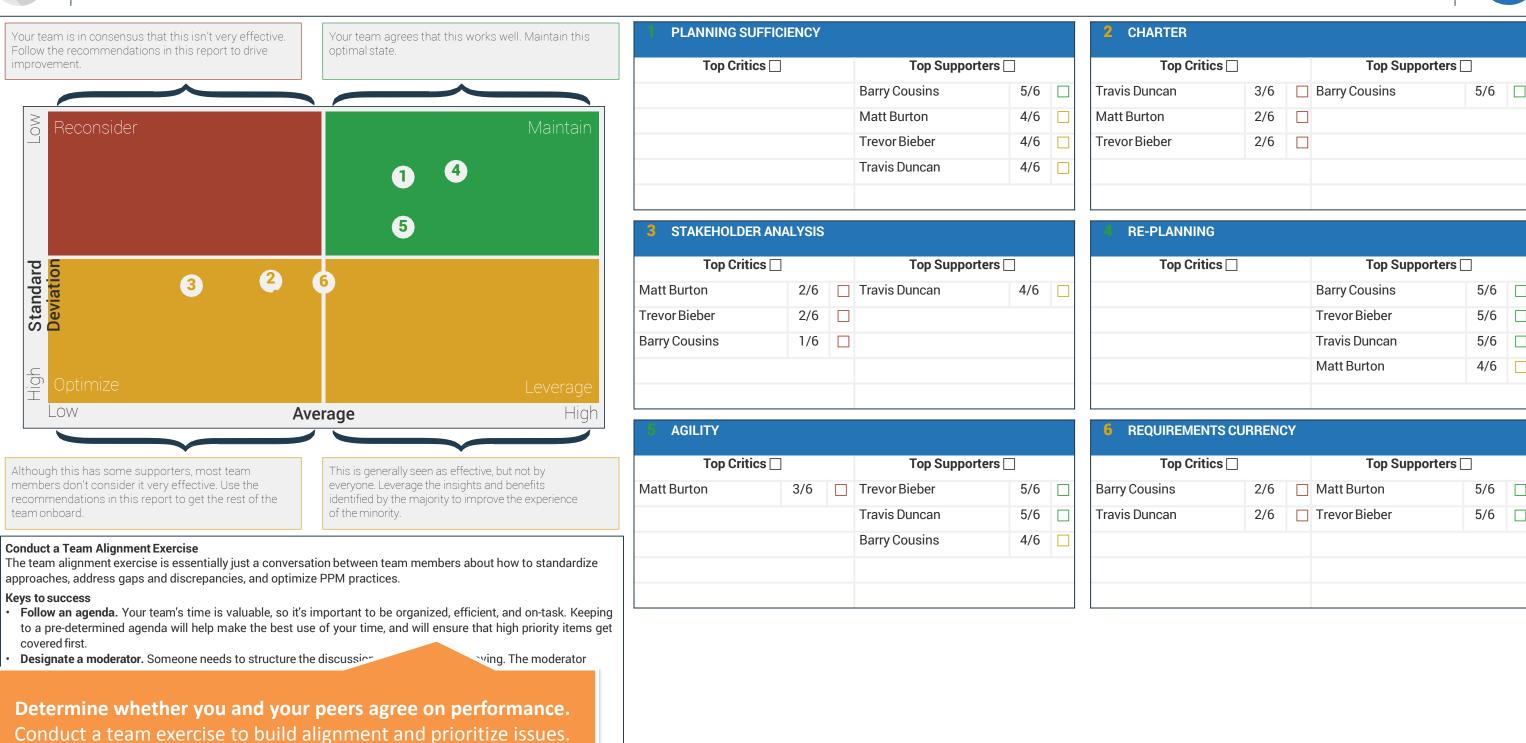
Team Alignment





Overview: functions best when all team members are on the same page. This page shows your team's alignment – their relative opinions and degree of consensus – on the various capabilities, procedures, and practices that determine your effectiveness. Use this information to facilitate knowledge transfer, leverage team member insights, address gaps and discrepancies, and optimize your PPM practices.





REPORT OVERVIEW

01

Dashboard

Project Planni

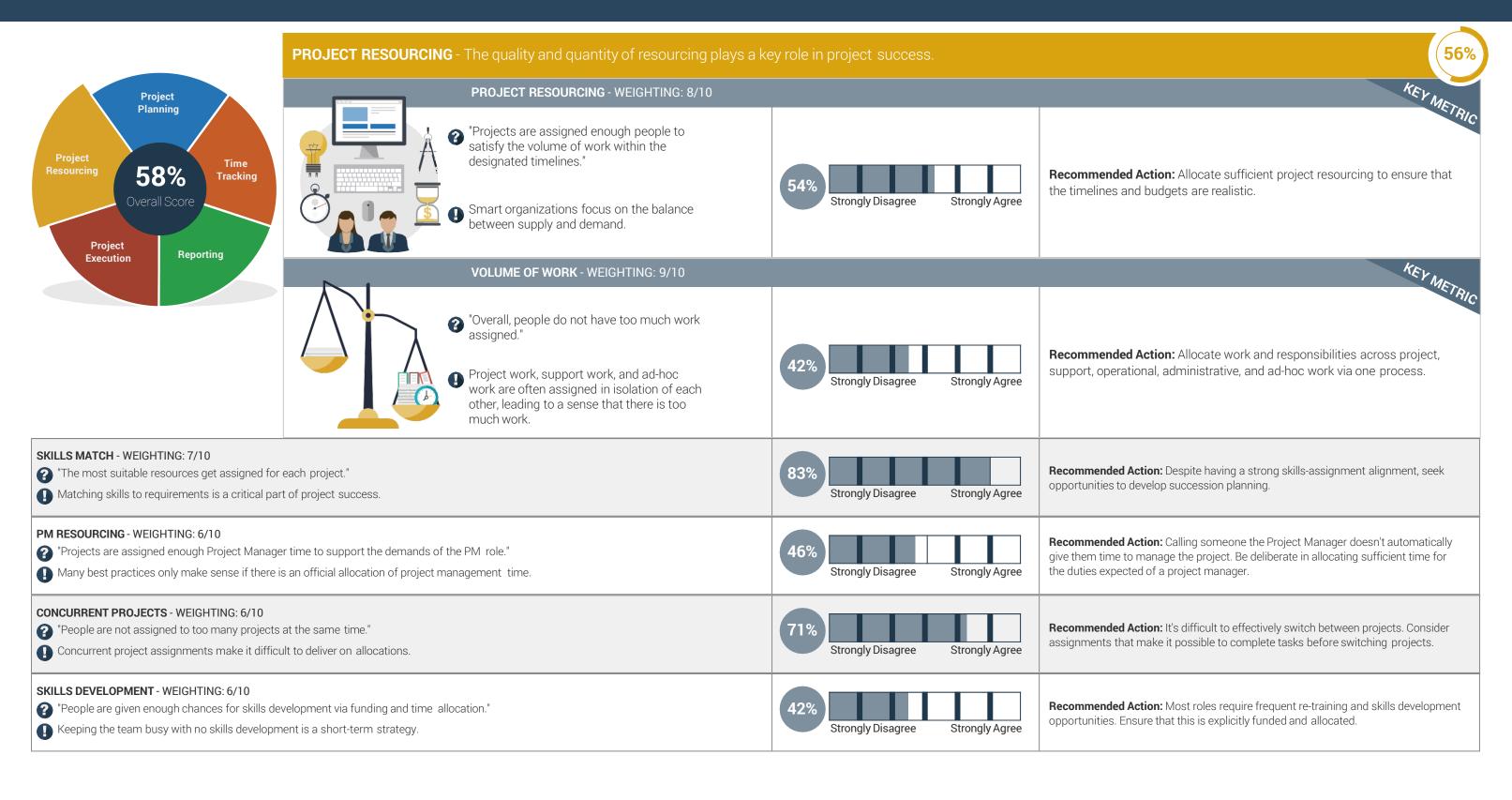
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Project Resourcing



Neporting and Time Tracking





REPORT OVERVIEW

01

Dashboard

Project Plann

03 Project Resourcing

Project Execution

Name Tracking

Project Resourcing

Team Alignment





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Your team is in consensus that this isn't very effective. Follow the recommendations in this report to drive	Your team agrees that this works well. Maintain this	1 SKILLS MATCH	1			2 PROJECT RESOURCING				
improvement.	optimal state.	Top Critics		Top Supporters 🗌		Top Critics 🗌		Top Supp	Top Supporters	
				Trevor Bieber	6/6	Barry Cousins	3/6	☐ Matt Burton	4/6	
Reconsider	Maintain			Matt Burton	5/6	Trevor Bieber	3/6			
Ticconstact	iviairitairi			Travis Duncan	5/6	Travis Duncan	3/6			
				Barry Cousins	4/6					
2	0									
5,6	4	PM RESOURCI	NG			4 CONCURRENT	PROJECTS			
ion 3		Top Critic	es 🗌	Top Suppo	rters 🗌	Top Criti	cs 🗌	Top Supp	orters 🗌	
Standard Deviation		Trevor Bieber	3/6	Matt Burton	4/6	Travis Duncan	3/6	☐ Barry Cousins	5/6	T
Star		Barry Cousins	2/6					Matt Burton	5/6	T
o, <u>L</u>		Travis Duncan	2/6					Trevor Bieber	4/6	T
Optimize										
	Leverage									
Low	verage High	5 VOLUME OF W	ORK			6 SKILLS DEVE	OPMENT			
				Ton Cumpo	nt and 🗔			Ton Comm	autana 🗆	
Although this has some supporters, most team members don't consider it very effective. Use the	This is generally seen as effective, but not by everyone. Leverage the insights and benefits	Top Critic		Top Suppo	rters 🔝	Top Criti		Top Supp	orters	
recommendations in this report to get the rest of the	identified by the majority to improve the experience	Matt Burton	3/6			Matt Burton	3/6			
team onboard.	of the minority.	Trevor Bieber				Travis Duncan	3/6			
Conduct a Team Alignment Exercise The team alignment exercise is essentially just a converse	etion between toom manbare about bout to standardize	Barry Cousins				Barry Cousins	2/6			
approaches, address gaps and discrepancies, and optim		Travis Duncan	2/6			Trevor Bieber	2/6			
Keys to success	s important to be organized, efficient, and on-task. Keeping									
to a pre-determined agenda will help make the best u	se of your time, and will ensure that high priority items get									
covered first.Designate a moderator. Someone needs to structure t	he discussion and keep things moving. The moderator									
should also ensure that everyone is involved and has a	a chance to contribute; use the individual team member									
scores and comments as a basis for discussion or as • Document the discussion. Be sure to record the key the	a way of inviting a contribution. Temes and insights of your discussion. Generate a list of									

REPORT OVERVIEW

01

Dashboard

next steps and follow up items, and assign timelines and accountability for these immediately.

and enforcing the outcomes of your alignment exercise are critical to realizing actual improvement.

Conduct follow up. Without follow up, the team alignment exercise is probably a waste of time. Implementing

Project Plannin

Project Resourcing









PROJECT EXECUTION - A high quality project portfolio depends on repeatable processes.



COMMUNICATION FREQUENCY

- "On average, how often do teams have communication meetings?"
- When project plans are more fluid and agile, more frequent communication is needed.



Recommended Action: With infrequent project communications meetings, ensure that you have ample escalation procedures in place for those important issues that arise between meetings.

PLAN-ACTUALS DEPTH

- (2) "What is typically the smallest unit of task or work assignment?"
- Planning is great, as long as you have time to maintain the plans.



One day task

Recommended Action: Keep a backlog of smaller, unassigned tasks that can be used to fill gaps between assignments to avoid the waste caused by unassigned resources.

CLOSURE

- ? "Who audits the closure of projects?"
- Overall project success is improved by oversight of the closure process.



Portfolio Owner/Portfolio Steering Committee

Recommended Action: Engaging the steering committee or portfolio owner in project closure is uncommon but extremely beneficial.

RISK MANAGEMENT - WEIGHTING: 8/10 • • • • • • •

We routinely identify project risk and share proposed mitigation strategies with management

A risk management strategy becomes more essential as the pace of change quickens and more of IT is external to the company's network and premises

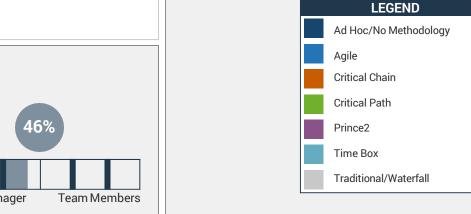
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

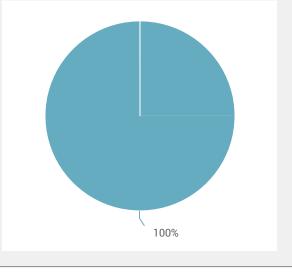
Recommended Action: Once the portfolio throughput is documented and tracked, establish a systemic process for analyzing and mitigating risk.

METHODOLOGY - WEIGHTING: 3/10

- *What percentage of your project portfolio budget is consumed within each of these Project Management methodologies?
- Best practices can vary by methodology

Recommended Action: A universal methodology is only warranted when all of your projects are extremely similar in their size, scope, tools, skills, and deliverables. Make sure that your standards are not getting in the way of throughput and quality.





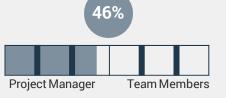
STATUS UPDATES - WEIGHTING: 7/10

(2) "Are project and task status updates proactively provided by team members, or do the Project Managers have to solicit them?"

and/or the PMO."

Both Tactics are valid, but the team needs clarity on how updates are processed.

Recommended Action: It's worth getting clarity with a consistent update methodology to ensure status updates are never sacrificed during busy periods.



REPORT OVERVIE

Dashboard

Project Execution







REPORTING - Project reporting drives the ability to manage a portfolio over the long term.



CONSISTENCY - WEIGHTING: 5/10

*All projects produce a consistent level of reporting at the project and portfolio levels."

> The portfolio can't be managed properly unless all of the projects yield the minimum amount of current information.

Recommended Action: Most of the value in reporting comes from the ability to contrast different projects against one another. Keep pushing to make reporting consistent, even if it's not terribly detailed.

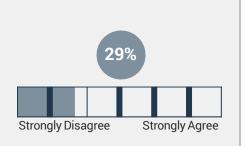
Reporting is calculated completely from task estimates, actuals and time sheets.

ROLL-UPS - WEIGHTING: 3/10

To what extent is the project-level reporting a rolled up calculation based on the underlying task details?"

The data behind task and date roll-ups is extremely complex and costly to maintain.

Recommended Action: What's truly important is the currency of progress and status information. Add as much detail and rigor as you can, but only as much as you can guarantee will always be maintained through any crisis or organizational change.

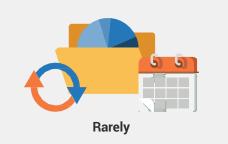


PORTFOLIO CONTENT - WEIGHTING: 10/10

**How often do you publish accurate portfolio reporting?"

Current and accurate report content is needed for sound decision making.

Recommended Action: Currency is key to portfolio information being useful. When executives are given reports with invalid data, they will stop relying on the PMO publications. Keep pushing to make this information as current as possible.



TIME TRACKING - Organizations tracking staff time need to ensure it's both accurate and valuable.

Reporting is entirely

based on observation



NON-PROJECT TIME WEIGHTING: 4/10

(2) "We have a tracking system for time spent on other work such as support, administration, service requests, and unofficial

• If you're trying to assess the overall capacity of the organization for project work, then it's essential to understand the nonproject time.





Yes, but the data is incomplete or useless



Yes, and it yields useful data

Recommended Action: Tracking non-project time is mostly valuable as a distinction from project time. Ensure that you're getting value from any time data that gets tracked in the future.

PROJECT TIME WEIGHTING: 4/10

"We have a tracking system for time spent on official projects."

If you're reconciling the estimates against actuals, a good time accounting system is essential.





Yes, but the data is incomplete or useless



Yes, and it yields useful data

Recommended Action: Without timesheet data, project and portfolio reporting is estimated and abstracted. This inherently less precise approach can reduce cost and complexity of running the portfolio and reduce the need for commercial project and portfolio management software.

REPORT OVERVIE

Dashboard



Project Execution



Project Execution, Reporting and Time Tracking

Team Alignment









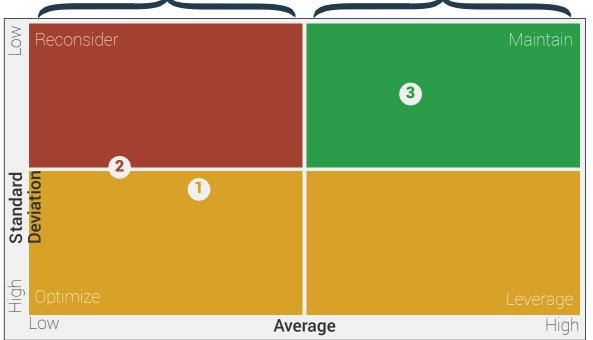
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Your team is in consensus that this isn't very effective. Follow the recommendations in this report to drive improvement.

Your team agrees that this works well. Maintain this optimal state.



Although this has some supporters, most team members don't consider it very effective. Use the recommendations in this report to get the rest of the team onboard.

This is generally seen as effective, but not by everyone. Leverage the insights and benefits identified by the majority to improve the experience of the minority.

Conduct a Team Alignment Exercise

The team alignment exercise is essentially just a conversation between team members about how to standardize approaches, address gaps and discrepancies, and optimize PPM practices.

Keys to success

- Follow an agenda. Your team's time is valuable, so it's important to be organized, efficient, and on-task. Keeping
 to a pre-determined agenda will help make the best use of your time, and will ensure that high priority items get
 covered first.
- **Designate a moderator.** Someone needs to structure the discussion and keep things moving. The moderator should also ensure that everyone is involved and has a chance to contribute; use the individual team member scores and comments as a basis for discussion or as a way of inviting a contribution.
- Document the discussion. Be sure to record the key themes and insights of your discussion. Generate a list of next steps and follow up items, and assign timelines and accountability for these immediately.
- Conduct follow up. Without follow up, the team alignment exercise is probably a waste of time. Implementing and enforcing the outcomes of your alignment exercise are critical to realizing actual improvement.

STATUS UPDATES		
Team	Unclear	Project
Respondents: Barry Cousins	Respondents: Matt Burton, Trevor Bieber, Travis	Respondents:
	Duncan	
Insight: Your team agrees that responsibility for ta	sk status updates is unclear. Decide whether these	should be proactively provided by the team or
solicited by the Project Manager, and make sure ev	veryone knows their role going forward.	

Top Critics			Top Supporters				
Barry Cousins	2/6		Matt Burton	4/6			
Trevor Bieber	2/6						
Travis Duncan	2/6						

		Top Supporters
2/6		
2/6		
2/6		
1/6		
	2/6 2/6	2/6

CONSISTENCY			
Top Critics	Top Supporters [
	Barry Cousins	5/6	
	Travis Duncan	5/6	
	Matt Burton	4/6	
	Trevor Bieber	4/6	

For questions in this area whose answers use text options rather than a numerical six point evaluation scale, the preceding details pages display only the response of the person the report was prepared for. If this person didn't complete the survey, the response of the person with the highest-ranking role is displayed instead. Because these questions are more factual than interpretive, they do not appear in the Team Alignment pages.

REPORT OVERVIEW

01

Dashboard

Project Plann

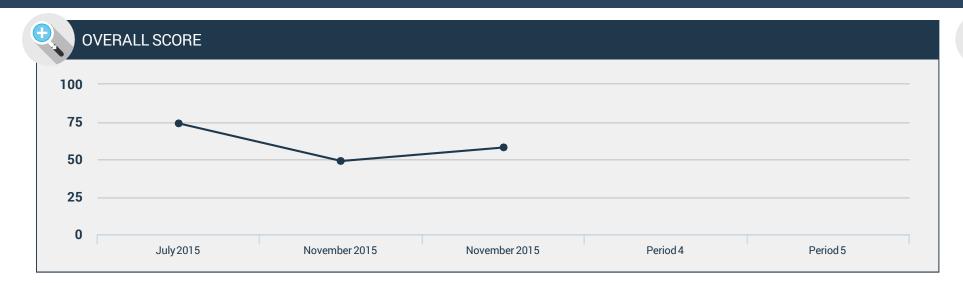
Project Resourcing

Project Execution

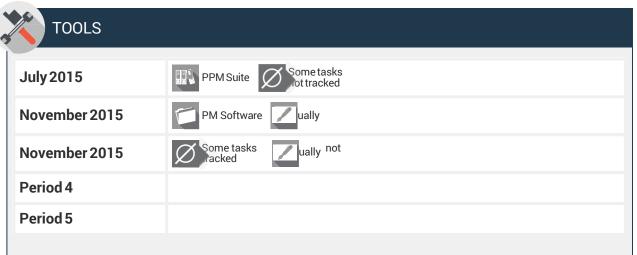
Reporting ar Time Tracking

Previous Scores



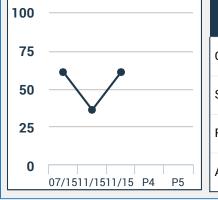


PROJECT DELIVERY



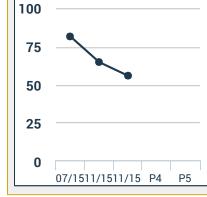
PPM PERCEIVED SUCCESS QUALITY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION STAFF SATISFACTION

PROJECT PLANNING



	07/15	11/15	11/15	P4	P5
Charter	3.5/6	1.0/6	3.0/6		
Stakeholder Analysis	4.0/6	1.0/6	2.3/6		
Re-planning	3.5/6	1.0/6	4.8/6		
Agility	3.5/6	6.0/6	4.2/6		





	07/15	11/15	11/15	P4	P5
Skills Match	5.5/6	5.0/6	5.0/6		
PM Resourcing	5.0/6	1.0/6	2.7/6		
Concurrent Projects	4.0/6	4.0/6	4.2/6		
Skills Development	5.5/6	5.0/6	2.5/6		

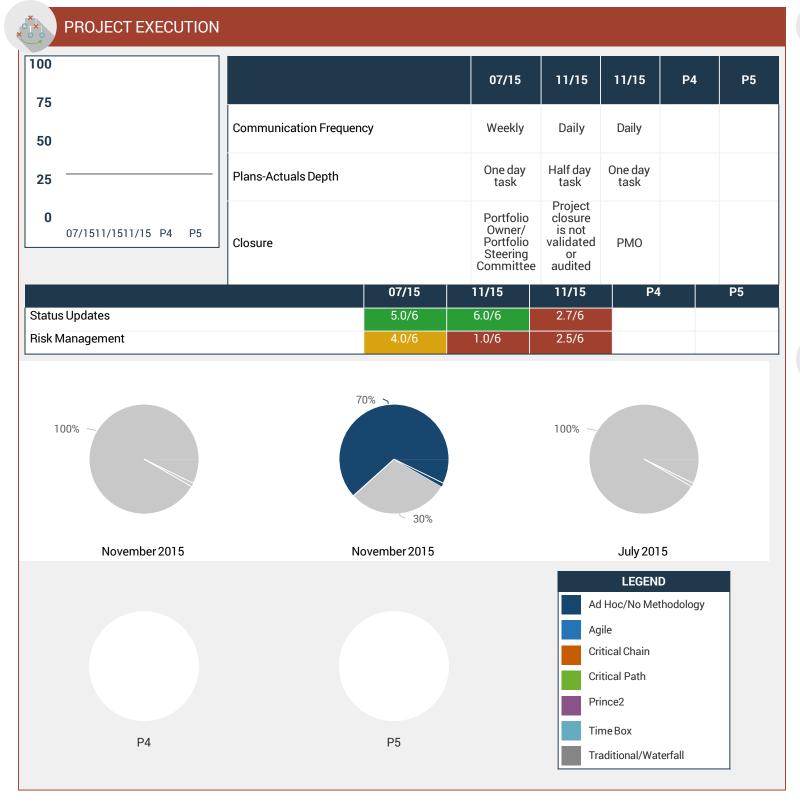
See how your performance is changing over time. Use this to communicate success to your team or stakeholders.

REPORT OVER VIEW

05 Time Tracking

06 Previous Scores









REPORT OVERVIEW

05 Time Tracking

06 Previous Scores