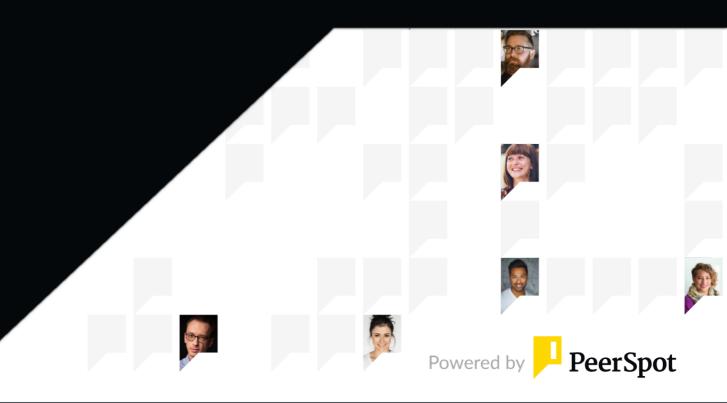
aws marketplace

SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform Recap

SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform is a versatile and flexible solution for reporting and dashboards, focusing on analytics and ad hoc reporting. It can be deployed on-premise or in the cloud. The solution includes tools such as Web Intelligence, Crystal Reports, SAP Lumira, and Analytical Cloud and is primarily used for comprehensive business intelligence reporting.

The most valuable features include excellent reporting features, good technical support, scalability, and the ability to translate database data into business language. The solution has helped organizations by providing analytics, monitoring KPIs, and making important decisions as a financial business.

SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Key Features

- Central management: Access all your BI from a single, central launchpad that can be customized to meet user-specific needs. The launchpad provides business users with access to all their BI tools, reports, notifications, and applications in a single place. This includes the ability to launch SAP Analytics Cloud.
- Data visualization and analytics: Create powerful visualizations, dashboards, and applications to assess risk, improve efficiency, identify opportunities, and enable users to analyze developments and data. Business insights can be shared with colleagues across enterprises.
- Integration with Microsoft Office: Integrate with SAP Business Warehouse and SAP HANA to power real-time analytics. For large-scale data analysis, you can integrate with Microsoft Excel to discover in-depth business insights and forecasts. Data analytics information can also be embedded into Microsoft PowerPoint presentations.
- Cloud support: Extend and expand your BI on the cloud. SAP Analytics Cloud connects your BI to the cloud and offers enterprise planning and advanced analytics from a single online solution.

Reviews from Real Users

SAP BusinessObjects BI stands out among its competitors for a number of reasons. Several major ones are its user-friendly dashboard, its impressive reporting and analytic features, and its ability to integrate with multiple solutions.

A managing partner at a tech services company writes, "One of the most valuable features of SAP BusinessObjects is that it's not a dashboarding solution. It's a real product. You can create

operational reports and publish it to anyone. You can create schedules. You can create a Universe, semantic layers. There's also a security configuration. It's a huge product, so if there is a business need, SAP BusinessObjects can cover it."

An associate manager at a consultancy notes, "It provides flexibility for creating reports. It is very good for creating highly complex reports. I like this solution because when I buy BusinessObjects, it comes with many components, such as reporting, dashboard, and data visualization tools. Its performance is good. It is running on top of SAP BW and SAP HANA."

A manager of data analytics and interfaces at a healthcare company says, "It has got great<u>flexibility</u>. As a reporting tool, it has a great deal of flexibility for numerous data resources that you can bring into it. It allows you to write your SQL query directly within the product. It has great visualization.

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

"The best feature about it for me, and for them, is the fact that you have a universe that is well made."



Declan Dempsey

Senior Consultant at Keyrus

"I rate SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform an eight out of ten."



EmmanuelOladinrin

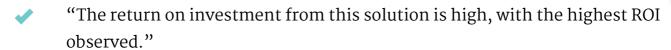
Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited

"SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform outperforms all other tools such as Power BI and Tableau, showing more accuracy, reliability, and flexibility compared to all other BI tools worldwide."



Vignesh Kannan

SAP Consultant at Sierra Digital Inc





Mo Sayed

SAP enterpise cloud architect at ECC Experienced Certified Consulting

"The most valuable function of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform is the universe, so customers can build their own reports without programming skills."



Verified user

Global Product Manager at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees

"It integrates well with BW and HANA, which demonstrates strong data integration capabilities."



Verified user

IT at a marketing services firm with 10,001+ employees

"First of all, visualization tools, productivity, and predictive forecasting are mature."



MukeshMathur

Business Analytics Manager at a manufacturing company with 10,001+ employees

What users had to say about valuable features:

"It integrates well with BW and HANA, which demonstrates strong data integration capabilities.

The solution is reliable, which is the main feature for creating insightful reports.

It helps in decision-making, which impacts ROI, especially in terms of efficiency.."

Verified user Read full review

Read full review

✓

IT at a marketing services firm with 10,001+ employees

"Users tend to put everything into Excel, though I try to discourage this. The best feature about it for me, and for them, is the fact that you have a universe that is well made. This means you don't have those months that get assigned. You can just get to the point and get a report very quickly. Unfortunately, in some ways, it's a double-edged sword because it becomes more of a self-service ETL, even for the reporting team.

"If you have a decent universe and you just want to quickly get something together, it's very usable. Compared to Click, you can drop those reports very quickly.."

Declan Dempsey	Read full revi	iew D

Senior Consultant at Keyrus

"The semantic layer or BusinessObjects universe behind the Web Intelligence report provides the ability to create contexts and calculations that can be easily shared across multiple reports.

The ability to merge dimensions in a report is great.

The new features in BI 4.3 that allow you to use a Web Intelligence report as a data source have helped to create "master" reports that can be delivered to casual users, who can then create their own derived reports from this "master" report.

Shared Elements allow commonly used charts, tables, and graphs to be saved and re-used in other reports.."

Paul Grill	Read full review	7

President & CEO at Infosol Inc

"The most valuable function of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform is the universe, so customers can build their own reports without programming skills.

"The main benefits that SAP solutions provide include saving time and visualizing data more easily.

"Functional wise, I'm satisfied with interactive dashboards and visualizations from SAP. It's okay. It's also helpful with interactive dashboards.."

Verified user	Read full review 🛂
Global Product Manager at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees	

Empowering business users means they should be able to work independently without depending on the developer. One advantage of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform is self-service capabilities, allowing users to do drag and drop to build their own reports and perform analyses without needing technical know-how.

The platform has many drivers that I can use to connect to virtually all available databases, making it easy to integrate with Microsoft SQL Server, Oracle, and many others. With the cloud version, I can fetch data on–premises and to the cloud for analysis easily. It is so flexible that I can make choices for fetching data. For authentication in an SAP environment, I can choose to integrate with SAP logon for SSO or use AD authentication for convenience, along with the flexible integration options. ."

Emmanuel Oladinrin	Read full review 🔼
Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited	

"The most valuable features of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform that I have found are the table widget, SQL functions, calculations, scheduling part, and the server management, which I frequently use.

"SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform supports my decision making with its reporting tools greatly, especially from the Business Intelligence point of view, particularly in the financial module. The Business Intelligence tools lack any planning options, which is why the SAP SCC tool and SAP Analytics Cloud tool are essential for planning, but for calculations, SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform outperforms all other tools such as Power BI and Tableau, showing more accuracy, reliability, and flexibility compared to all other BI tools worldwide.."

Vignesh Kannan

SAP Consultant at Sierra Digital Inc

Read full review [2]

Other Solutions Considered

"We used various SAP products in my previous company, including SAP SuccessFactors, SAP BusinessObjects, and others. Currently, we use SuccessFactor and are moving towards the SAP HANA Cloud Platform.."

MukeshMathur	Read full review 🔼
Business Analytics Manager at a manufacturing company with 10,001+ employees	
"I've worked with Microsoft Power BI, which is visualization-wise metrics layer is equivalent to the universe, nowhere near it.	e very strong. Th
"I have been doing the equivalent in Power BI using Copilot, which deal"	h isn't a big
Declan Dempsey Senior Consultant at Keyrus	Read full review 🔼

"All of the systems were running on-premise. However, when the SAP Cloud Platform was introduced, we began using SAP's native solutions and native applications. You can use the SAP cloud connector to connect backend systems that are running on-premise. This is the type of usage we began with when we first used the SAP Cloud Platform, and we have been very pleased.."

Snylaraj AK		Read full review
Senior Architect at a co	onstruction company with 10,001+ employee	S
Intelligence Plat reliable enough f Power BI and hav	lifferent solution before SAP Bus form for these use cases because for calculations based on busines we some experience with Tableau Business Intelligence Platform is	SAP Analytics Cloud tool is not s requirements. I have also used , but in comparison, SAP
Vignesh Kannan SAP Consultant at Sier	ra Digital Inc	Read full review 🖪

Using Power BI as an example, most customers choose it instead of SAP, primarily due to the cost, acquisition cost, and maintenance. People choose other products because of the flexibility, though I am not sure whether any other reporting tool is as flexible as SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform. Users often complain about the interface of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, saying it is not as aesthetic as Power BI, but SAC is addressing that issue. In terms of performance, other BI tools cannot compare with SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, as those reports are not as fast as those built on SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, and other tools are not as robust for financial reporting.

EmmanuelOladinrin Read full review 🛂

Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited

"Comparing just for the price segment, it is very high, so that is why not each and every company uses SAP.

As a competitor for Power BI, it's easy to use. Power BI click or Tableau are use it more mature than SAP BI. Because SAP BI is basically properly guided, if fields are required. So, not each and every person can use this.

As per my suggestion, SAP should be easy to use, maybe easier than Power BI. An old user can pick up and adopt. ."

MukeshMathur Read full review

✓

Business Analytics Manager at a manufacturing company with 10,001+ employees

ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

For most of my clients using the on-premises version of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, the return on investment is positive due to its affordability and ability to handle diverse reporting needs while automating information distribution.

EmmanuelOladinrin	Read full review 🔼
Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited	

"Based on my ability to understand the information related to the solution, it does help in providing me with a higher profit. I cannot be exactly sure about the ROI since I don't know the price of the solution.."

Miguel Vargas Read full review

✓

Software Engineer at a mining and metals company with 1,001-5,000 employees

"I'm not sure, as I've been part of projects as a part of the larger organization. In general, it could be very high or very low. I know that BOBJ is costly - so you would need projects to justify the cost.."

Verified user	Read full review 🔼
Developer at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees	
"I don't know the exact cost but one of the reasons the business o	chose to use
Business Objects was that they could reduce licensing costs since SAP R/3 and BW customer"	it was already an
Verified user Senior BI Consultant at a tech consulting company with 51-200 employees	Read full review 🔼
"It is very widely used across different departments and it definit purpose to give insights on the data. It is surely giving the returnation aposition to give the exact figures or how much it will be in corpurchase demand or purchase cost. But it is definitely a tool that day-to-day tracking"	s, but I may not be nnection with the
Verified user Technical Lead at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees	Read full review 🔼

ROI for the reporting product alone, as a component in a whole stack of things contributing to ROI, is in my view a minor contributor. How reports are developed and cast, the underlying data structures, data quality efforts, etc... these are the major contributors to ROI, not to mention the comprehension of the report viewer.

Verified user Read full review

Architect at a insurance company with 10,001+ employees

Use Case

"The usual use cases for my customers involve developing reports based upon the financial model from the SRM system as well as the finance and transactions system.."

Vignesh Kannan SAP Consultant at Sierra Digital Inc	Read full review [4]
This platform is very important to us because it offers a dashboard SAP Analytics Cloud for reporting. The analytics is a reporting plat separate license from the planning platform. We use this primaril dashboarding.	form with a
Mo Sayed SAP enterpise cloud architect at ECC Experienced Certified Consulting	Read full review 🔼
"We use the solution for reporting, including ad hoc reporting. Th own IDT Universal, an alarm product. We are a PR gate responsible accounting for different addresses. Customers mainly receive repo	e for revenue
Verified user Solution Architect at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees	Read full review 🔼

As a BusinessObjects Administrator, I work to deploy the solution, handle new installations, security setup, user management, and all of those tasks. Later, I started report development and became a BI developer, and then I did some data warehousing.

With the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, we build financial reports such as P&L and income statements for financial reporting, and we also build dashboards for top management.

"Through interacting with top management in our business, I have been able to meet their needs through ad-hoc reporting capabilities. ."

EmmanuelOladinrin	Read full review
Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited	

"The primary use case for BusinessObjects today is for comprehensive Business Intelligence reporting. Most organizations using BusinessObjects today primarily use Web Intelligence or Crystal Reports or both for critical enterprise reporting and ad-hoc query and analysis.

We managed multiple BO deployments for multiple organizations, from the local and federal government to healthcare providers and from insurance to manufacturing.

In all these organizations, timely and accurate reporting is essential, and BusinessObjects is solid, reliable, and versatile. You can produce professional drillable formatted reports quickly and either interact with them or publish and distribute them in commodity formats like PDF and Excel.."

Paul Grill	Read full review 🔀
President & CEO at Infosol Inc	

"The situation is I'm working with a client who has a Citrix installation, which can be a bit unstable. I am a user as a developer for universes and reports, so I don't have any insight into the technical deployment of it. I'm not a systems engineer.

"This is generally used for financial reporting.

"Users tend to put everything into Excel, though I try to discourage this. The best feature about it for me, and for them, is the fact that you have a universe that is well made. This means you don't have those months that get assigned. You can just get to the point and get a report very quickly. Unfortunately, in some ways, it's a double-edged sword because it becomes more of a self-service ETL, even for the reporting team.

"I have only ever used it because I've always been at the end user line, handling what I needed based on my sources, which was satisfactory.."

Declan Dempsey

Senior Consultant at Keyrus

Read full review [4]

Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

Setting up SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform is one of the easiest things I've done. Having started my career as an SAP BusinessObjects administrator, I find it still easy due to my foundational knowledge.

EmmanuelOladinrin Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited	Read full review 🗷
"The initial setup of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence P since the solution is user-friendly. The solution is deployed on-premises"	latform was easy
Miguel Vargas Software Engineer at a mining and metals company with 1,001-5,000 employees	Read full review 🔼

"The initial setup is straightforward. I have been using it since 2005. I have migrated from Duo 6.5 to XAR2, then to 3.1, and finally to 4.5 and 4.2. The deployment has never been that difficult. The migration is still easier in 4.2 and 4.3 than in previous versions. In earlier versions, you have the same folders and structures. However, this limitation is no longer there when migrating from 4.2 to 4.3.

Verified user	Read full review 🔼
Solution Architect at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees	

"The installation can take anywhere from three to five days. The solution has installers that are directly available for download from the SAP download center. There are certain prerequisites that have to be carried out on the server. The host has to be prepared, there's a runtime environment and a database that needs to be pre-installed. We use two to three admin people per deployment. ."

Joyee Sen	Read full review 🔼
SAP Service Delivery Manager at SoftwareONE	

"Setting up SAP BusinessObjects BI Platform can vary in complexity depending on the customer's specific use case. For us, the process was generally straightforward. We identified the tables the customer wanted data from and extracted and injected the data accordingly. Visualization and analytics were then tailored to their specific needs. The deployment process, from development completion to implementation, involved collaboration with staff and followed a systematic approach.."

Voravit Jongrugsakul

Read full review [7]

Business Development at Bicone

"The initial setup was not straightforward. Since it is a complete enterprise tool, it needs a certain level of expertise to set up the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform. There are a lot of steps involved. You need to get the user accepted and you need to validate the data. So you need to understand the architecture of the application. I would rate the initial setup as moderate since it's not very easy or much difficult.

For a small enterprise, the installation would take one day. You must ensure you are on a supported platform like Windows or Linux and if your database is not on the server but in a different zone of the network, you need to ensure connectivity. You must also ensure the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform supports your organization's browser. These are the major things that must be taken care of before the installation.

Around 500 users are using the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform in my company. We are a team of around eight technical people involved in the deployment and maintenance of the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform. If you run a SAP shop with ECC, the best solution is the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform because it's tightly integrated.

You'll get lots of offers from SAP when it comes to licensing. So there's an advantage. But if you are not a SAP shop, the licensing becomes a hindrance. So if you have SAP as a source, then I recommend people to go with SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform as it's a tool that works wonders.

I have been working on POCs where we use SAP data for BI, which was a nightmare. So if you have ECC and SAP in the back end, go with the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform. If you have any other tools in the back end, then try to negotiate and see the use case.."

Sumeet Zalpuri Read full review [7]

Data engineer at ASR Nederland N.V.

Customer Service and Support

I have experience with SAP technical support and have supported customers, including those in financial services. I continue to assist old clients while supporting my colleagues as well.

EmmanuelOladinrin Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited	Read full review [2]
——————————————————————————————————————	
"I don't use the technical support provided for the sol web or the internet to search for information related t	-
Miguel Vargas Software Engineer at a mining and metals company with 1,001-5,000 employees	Read full review
"From SAP, I honestly have never used technical supp knowledge to figure out any adjustment that's needed over ten years. It's been a long time. I can't provide go	l. I have not used support in
Declan Dempsey Senior Consultant at Keyrus	Read full review 🔼

"I have experience with SAP technical support and have contacted them.

"That's one thing I've complained quite a lot about, and recently I saw some improvement, but I would rate them a number five.."

Verified user Global Product Manager at a tech services company with 10,001+ employees	Read full review 🔼
"I have communicated with the technical support of SAP Business Intelligence Platform. My impression of the support is good so far they forward my ticket to the technical team, especially when my technical aspects that basis people may not be familiar with. Ther some hierarchy confusions, but other than that, it is good, and I rates	T. Sometimes, issue involves te have been
Vignesh Kannan SAP Consultant at Sierra Digital Inc	Read full review 🔼

"The free version has a time limitation, even for version 4.2. After a certain period, the first level of technical support is no longer available. The full version of the platform does not have this limitation. When you ask them any questions, they do reply, of course. However, they often come up with additional suggestions, such as "Why don't you buy this?" or "Why don't you do that?". Every time they have a marketing pitch, it makes it more detachable.

Verified user Read full review [₹

Solution Architect at a tech services company with 1,001-5,000 employees

Other Advice

While I recommend the SAP Analytics Cloud version, I do not recommend the onpremises version. If you are considering overall ratings, I would rate <u>SAP</u> <u>BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform</u> as a nine.

Mo Sayed SAP enterpise cloud ar	chitect at ECC Experienced Certified Consulting	R	ead full review 🔼

"The SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform serves as a BI tool. I am not working with predictive analytics capabilities from SAP. I am an SAP real user, not a partner. I would rate this solution a 7 out of 10.."

Verified user

Global Product Manager at a tech services company with 10,001+

Read full review

€

employees

"Based on my experience, I would recommend SAP BusinessObjects <u>Business</u> <u>Intelligence</u> Platform to others.

The solution currently lacks AI capabilities.

I would rate SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform eight out of ten.."

Read full review 🛂

"I have very little vision at my current client. I work in a business area where I fix reports when they aren't working. SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform seems to be slowly losing clients to competition, though people who use it appreciate its stability. I suspect it's related to the relationship between SAP and organizations.

"I have heard anecdotal evidence that the relationship with SAP is not easy. However, as a tool for reporting and getting a stable data platform, I still think it's very good.

"On a scale of one to ten, I rate SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform a seven.."

Declan Dempsey	Read full review 🖪
Senior Consultant at Keyrus	

"I have installation experience with these solutions. I use SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, and I am a consultant for this tool.

"The data analysis capability that I experience with SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform is that we are using the table format widget frequently while rarely using other widgets such as charts and timeline charts. The most impressive aspect of the tool is the ability to perform all levels of complex calculations, datelevel calculations, and operator-level calculations. This ability to handle calculations is a significant highlight when compared to other Business Intelligence tools from SAP.

"SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform integrates with AI for data analytics, which is promising. After the latest patch update, they've mentioned enhancements in the data analytics part, which has become more involved with AI, similar to what is found in SAP Analytics Cloud.

"I have an average of about 150 users day to day for SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform. I might have plans to increase the usage of this tool in the future in my company.

"I rate this solution nine out of ten.."

Vignesh Kannan	Read full review [2
SAP Consultant at Sierra Digital Inc	

Based on my years of experience with the SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform, I have worked with all the products, starting from Analysis for Microsoft Excel, then SAP Web Intelligence, and then the BusinessObjects dashboards, which graduated to Lumira. From Lumira, I moved to SAC, which is now the current product that SAP is positioning for reporting, and that is the cloud solution.

Currently, the organization I work for, Dangote, has close to 9,000 users in an SAP environment. We utilize SAP for our <u>ERP</u>, <u>CRM</u>, and <u>SuccessFactors</u>, and we also implement Power BI to enhance reporting aesthetics for specific users.

"I am currently using Microsoft products for analysis and Power BI fabrics while

fetching data from <u>SAP ERP</u>, <u>SAP HANA</u>, and BW, but I have not necessarily had any AI-driven projects within BusinessObjects.

"I work on both the cloud and on-premises versions of SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform. While the cloud version isn't popular yet in this part of the world due to costs, some users still prefer the perpetual license of the on-premises version.

"I rate SAP BusinessObjects Business Intelligence Platform an eight out of ten.."

EmmanuelOladinrin Read full review

Data Analytics Manager at Dangote Industries Limited

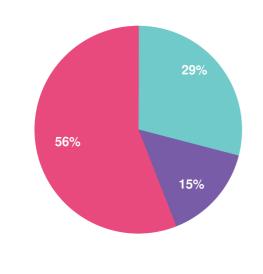
Top Industries

by visitors reading reviews



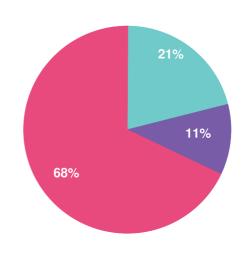
Company Size

by reviewers



Large Enterprise

by visitors reading reviews



Midsize Enterprise

Small Business

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