SAP Business Warehouse/Business Intelligence Reporting

BW/BI Concepts and Security

Washington State HRMS Business Warehouse/Business Intelligence (BW/BI) Self-Paced Learning Materials

General Topics - BW/BI End Users/Power Users
The Business Intelligence (BW/BI) Concepts section provides an introduction to the overall structure and components of the BW/BI.

Topics covered in this section include:

- What HRMS BW/BI is / is not…
- Benefits of the BW/BI application
- HRMS BW/BI Security
- Difference between BW/BI End Users and BW/BI Power Users
- Difference between the HRMS Portal and the SAP GUI
**BW/BI is...**

- SAP’s **Business Intelligence**
  (SAP = “Systems, Applications and Products in data processing“)

- a reporting tool to perform query and analysis

- an extraction of transactional and master data from HRMS

- a repository of aggregated, historical data across days/weeks/months/years

**BW/BI is NOT...**

- a source of real-time data. Real-time data is found in source systems

- a tool to download data to populate shadow systems
The ability to access BW/BI reports, specific functions and data within the BW/BI environment is controlled by HRMS BW/BI Security.

- **BW/BI User Role:** Agency HRMS BW/BI users will be mapped to either a “BW/BI End User” or “BW/BI Power User” role. All BW/BI users can access reports via the HRMS Portal but only Power Users can develop ad hoc queries against data available within the BW/BI structures.

- **BW/BI InfoProvider Role:** The ability to access BW/BI data structures (InfoProviders) is controlled by a BW/BI InfoProvider Role. Agency HRMS BW/BI users will be mapped to one or more InfoProvider Roles.

- **BW/BI Data Security:** The data accessed for report results will be dependent upon the organization structure within the security and role mapping setups. BW/BI data structures apply an additional level of data security for specific values such as SSN, Name, etc.
The ability to perform tasks such as execute reports or create ad hoc queries is based on the “User Roles”.

**BW/BI End User Role**
- Allows the End User to execute BW/BI reports through the HRMS Portal.

**BW/BI Power User Role**
- Has all the capabilities of the End User plus:
- Allows the Power User to create/modify/delete agency-specific ad hoc queries using the BW/BI BEx tools.
The ability to access BW/BI structures is based on “InfoProvider Roles”.

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The following diagram provides an overview of the process flow used for accessing BW/BI Custom Reports (BW/BI End and Power Users) and Ad hoc Queries (Power Users only):
BW/BI End User

- Can execute BW/BI reports through the HRMS Portal.

BW/BI Power User

- BW/BI Power Users have the same reporting capabilities as the BW/BI End User plus:
- Can access the BEx Query Designer to develop ad hoc queries for their agency.
- Will have the additional responsibility of managing and maintaining agency-specific BW/BI queries/reports.
- Will have the additional responsibility of being the agency’s “go to” person for BW/BI reporting questions.

**BW/BI Power User technical requirements:**

- *Must have the SAP Graphical User Interface (SAP GUI) installed.
- *Must have BEx tools installed.

* For additional technical information, reference the Technical Resources page from the Customer Support website: [http://www.hr.wa.gov/payroll/HRMS/HRMSSupport/Pages/HRMSTechnicalInformation.aspx](http://www.hr.wa.gov/payroll/HRMS/HRMSSupport/Pages/HRMSTechnicalInformation.aspx)
**HRMS Portal vs SAP GUI**

**HRMS Portal**
The HRMS Portal is used to access Business Warehouse/Business Intelligence custom reports. It provides access to BW/BI reporting through the web.

**SAP GUI**
The Business Explorer (BEx) Query Designer is accessed via SAP GUI. It is used to access tools for query building, reporting and analysis functions.

Using SAP GUI and BEx tools, BW/BI Power Users can develop ad hoc queries. Ad hoc queries may be displayed from a web browser or MS Excel.

**BEx will be supported for BW/BI Power Users only.**
HRMS Portal vs SAP GUI

BW/BI End Users and BW/BI Power Users have the ability to run BW/BI reports through the HRMS Portal. BW/BI Power Users have the ability to create ad hoc queries using BEx tools from the SAP GUI.

**HRMS Portal**

- *Uses a web browser for running reports (e.g., Internet Explorer)*
- *Does not require a connection to the State Government Network (SGN) or Virtual Private Network (VPN)*
- *Requires authentication logon and password*
- Does not support ad hoc reporting from the BW/BI BEx tool

**SAP GUI**

- *Requires a connection to the BW/BI through the State Government Network (SGN). If outside the SGN, user must be able to log into the SGN.*
- *Requires authentication logon and password*
- Supports ad hoc reporting from the BW/BI BEx tool (BEx will be supported for BW/BI Power Users only)

*Note:* Reports run from the HRMS Portal have a different appearance when run from SAP GUI using BEx tools. *For example:*

- Many graphics that are displayed in the SAP GUI are not displayed in the HRMS Portal
- Some menus are arranged differently
- Buttons may have a different appearance

*For additional technical information, reference the Technical Resources page from the HRMS Customer Support website: [http://www.hr.wa.gov/payroll/HRMS/HRMSSupport/Pages/HRMSTechnicalInformation.aspx](http://www.hr.wa.gov/payroll/HRMS/HRMSSupport/Pages/HRMSTechnicalInformation.aspx)