

BI Software Comparison Guide 2023

Make better-informed decisions
on your BI tools with YourShortlist

YourShortlist 





About this Guide

When you're searching for new Business Intelligence (BI) software for your business, it can be difficult to compare the many options on the market to find which best meets your requirements.

This BI comparison guide explores the different deployment models and options for businesses of all sizes. We've also included a helpful table comparing some of the top BI solutions on the market and their available features.

All of this is to help you, the buyer, understand the market and save time and money on finding and implementing the best possible BI tool for your business.

About YourShortlist

YourShortlist helps to make BI software procurement simpler and more cost-effective by matching buyers with their ideal software provider from our diverse database of over 2400 trusted technology Partners.

Whether you're actively searching for new BI tools, dissatisfied with your current solution, or simply looking for a way to gain greater insight into your business data, we can help guide you in the right direction.

Our advice, your decision.





The Benefits of Business Intelligence (BI)

Businesses worldwide are always looking to make decisions driven by data that can guarantee successful operations, which has become more achievable than ever following the advent of ‘Big Data’.

Business intelligence is therefore one of the most valuable resources at a company’s disposal and the introduction of cloud-based BI software has created a rapidly expanding market, predicted to reach a total value of \$33.1 billion by 2025.

Fundamentally, BI is about gathering and processing large volumes of information and insights from various business sources and using data visualisation tools to make it easily understandable for business leaders. This enables them to report on KPIs, drive effective change and decisions within their organisations, and identify valuable market opportunities.

BI Software Tools

BI tools are typically used to aggregate, visualise, and report on business data to make it easier for stakeholders and decision-makers to analyse.

Often integrating with other systems such as Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), BI tools play an important role in gathering data from across the organisation to uncover key insights, identify areas for improvement, and boost operational efficiency. Making data-driven infrastructure decisions can be vital for business growth, so any business looking to leverage this should consider adopting a BI as part of their overall operational analysis and reporting process.





Benefits for Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

The rise in cloud-based BI tools has enabled SMEs to leverage BI without the need to establish costly and resource-intensive software on-premises.

BI helps small business managers identify and solve the causes of bottlenecks within their operations by drawing out data that would not otherwise be discoverable. This is especially valuable for rapid-growth SMEs that require oversight and analysis of key operations as they grow in scale and enter new territories or markets.

Benefits for Large Enterprises

The need for BI is even clearer within large enterprises and corporations, where the scale of the organisation is far too great for any individual or team to maintain effective oversight or insight.

BI tools pull precise data from across the enterprise, displaying exactly what is happening and allowing management to assess how they will optimise their operations. One key benefit of BI is being able to identify and avoid operational conflicts or inefficiencies between teams, which is pertinent for any large enterprise with offices, departments, and teams spread across multiple regions.

When looking to deploy a BI solution, you will likely require software that integrates:

- Reporting and data visualisation
- Online analytical processing
- Digital dashboards
- Data mining
- Business activity monitoring
- Data warehousing
- Local information systems
- Data cleansing

Many solutions will provide all of these functions out of the box, however, some BI software will require additional modules or integrations to provide the desired functionality.



BI Software Deployment

Throughout BI procurement, you should consider the alternate deployment options, and which will be most suited to your business and IT infrastructure.


Cloud Deployment

Most BI tools now operate within the cloud, operating under a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) model or as an application within a larger business software platform. There aren't usually costs associated with setting up cloud-based tools, making them a cost-effective option for smaller businesses. Cloud hosting allows BI tools to be supported and updated off-site as part of the service, removing the need for an in-house IT team to provide maintenance.

-  No up-front hardware/server costs
-  Automatic backups
-  Scalable

On-Premise Deployment

To tackle speed problems with cloud BI, many larger businesses are using on-premises BI solutions. These tools gather and process data within in-house servers and data centres and can get straight to processing data and yield rapid insights without relying on an internet connection. However, these systems also come with hardware and infrastructure requirements that drive up costs and require in-house maintenance and manual updates from an internal IT support team.




























-  More control over servers and security
-  Lower network bandwidth usage



BI Tools Comparison Table

There are many BI software options to choose from on the market, but to help you narrow down your search, we have compared some widely used solutions.

This data has been selected to provide a quick overview of different BI software based on limited criteria. To find out more about each solution and which ones best fit your requirements, **get in touch with the software procurement experts at YourShortlist.**

Product	Deployment	Starting Price	Connector Tools/API	Drag and Drop	Predictive Analytics	Dashboard Templates	Mobile App
		€14,000	No (Third party)	X	✓	✓	X
	 	€160 per employee	1000+ premade	✓	✓	✓	✓
Infor 		Custom	No	✓	X	X (custom)	✓
		€40 per employee	Package Connector	✓	✓	X	✓
	 	€79 per employee	No	✓	✓ (Enterprise Only)	✓	✓
 Power BI		€9.99 per employee	No (Third party)	✓	X	X	✓
	 	€30 per employee	Qlik Web Connectors	✓	✓	X (custom)	✓
		€83 per employee	Yes	✓	✓	✓	✓
	 	€173 per employee	Splunk Web Connectors	X	✓	✓	✓
	 	€70 per employee	Connector SDK	✓	✓	✓	✓
		€39 per employee	Zoho Connect	X	✓	✓ (50+)	✓



Next Steps

When embarking on a BI software procurement project, you should determine how a new system will help you achieve your company's goals. Consider the following steps to make the most informed decision for your business:

- Review and map out your existing data warehousing, reporting, and analysis processes to gain a picture of how the software will support your company and integrate you're your existing databases.
- Individuals from different departments should identify key requirements for their areas of expertise and where BI would be most beneficial. Establish a project team to highlight requirements across the entire business.
- Allocate responsibility to key personnel for internal software support and maintenance post-implementation.
- Guaranteeing external software partner support in the early stages will negate the need for training or ad-hoc maintenance further down the line.
- Ensure buy-in from the team and that the tool will be utilised by all relevant members of staff (as well as ensuring they are trained in its use).
- Look for well-supported software that provides longevity and scalability to adapt to changes and growth within your business.

Once you've settled on your requirements and key criteria for what you want your new BI tool to achieve, you can begin to review and compare options.

01

Typically, a review process for selecting and onboarding a new solution can take a total of **between 6 and 12 months.**

02

This would involve comparing options on the market to narrow down a longlist of around **10 to 12 providers.**

03

This would be further narrowed to a shortlist of **2 to 8 providers** before you compare options to determine the **best overall solution.**

04

Implementing a new solution can take anywhere **from 2 weeks to 6 months,** depending on the type of technology.



Rather than waste time and money sorting through hundreds of potential options, why not speak to someone that can manage the procurement process so you don't have to?



BI Software Procurement Made Easy

At YourShortlist, our goal is to make technology procurement simple, transparent, and cost-effective by matching businesses with the right software providers.

We are recognised as a trusted, independent intermediary to IT buyers, with a rapidly expanding network of over 2400 technology Partners providing solutions in BI, ERP, CRM, cyber security, cloud migration, and more.

- ✂ We have a multilingual team able to provide a localised service for your area
- ✂ Get independent, impartial buying advice on the best solutions and providers on the market
- ✂ Receive a free, bespoke shortlist of specially selected Partners experienced in implementing Business Intelligence software solutions for your industry
- ✂ View Partner profiles and reviews through our exclusive Partner directory
- ✂ Receive free call-backs from Partners with no obligation to purchase

If you're looking for a new BI tool, discuss your requirements with a member of our team today to receive your free, bespoke shortlist of BI software Partners.

Call us on **+44 (0) 20 7550 6560** to book a meeting with our team and we can match you with the software Partner you need.



With the help of YourShortlist, buyers across the globe have made quicker and better-informed decisions on new software, infrastructure, and managed services to improve their business.

Glasgow Office (HQ)

Skypark 5,
45 Finnieston Street,
Glasgow, G3 8JU,
Scotland

Contact

getintouch@yourshortlist.com
+44 (0) 20 7550 6560



YourShortlist 

yourshortlist.com

