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Compare scope in different contexts

In a previous video, you were introduced to the idea of scope as it relates to dashboard design. You may have also encountered the word “scope” in terms of project scope. In the business intelligence world, you might find the word scope being used in a variety of contexts. And, as you’ll recall from earlier discussions of context, understanding these contexts is key. In this reading, you’ll get a side-by-side comparison of project scope and dashboard scope and at what stage in a project you will likely encounter these terms. This will help as you encounter scope in different contexts as a BI professional so you know what the expectations are in every situation.

Project scope	Dashboard scope
Refers to the overall project goals, resources, deliverables, deadlines, collaborators, and stakeholders.	Refers to the breadth of what a dashboard is tracking, including the amount of time and how many metrics it includes.
Determined by team leadership including project sponsors and managers.	Determined by BI teams as they consider project and user requirements.
Outlined at the very beginning of a project to determine the overarching aspects of the project.	Outlined as part of the dashboard creation process based on the specific reporting needs.
Involves working with key sponsors and stakeholders to better understand and align on the entire project and its goals.	Involves choosing KPIs, how much time should be represented, and how to make important data available and understandable to decision makers through the dashboard.

Key takeaways

Often, as a BI professional, you will encounter language that means different things in different contexts. By paying close attention, asking questions, and thinking critically, you can ensure that you and your team stay on the same page. In this case, the difference between project scope and dashboard scope is useful to understand as you communicate with stakeholders about their expectations with the dashboard specifically, and not the entire project.