

Lab 7: Setup a Burndown Chart for Your Plan

Estimated time needed: 10 minutes

In this lab, you will set up a burndown chart for your plan. In most cases, the burndown chart is created automatically by ZenHub if you have set the start and end dates of your sprint correctly. There is still some setup to do to customize it to show stories that are done, but not closed. These changes are not permanent and will need to be made whenever you view your burndown charts.

Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

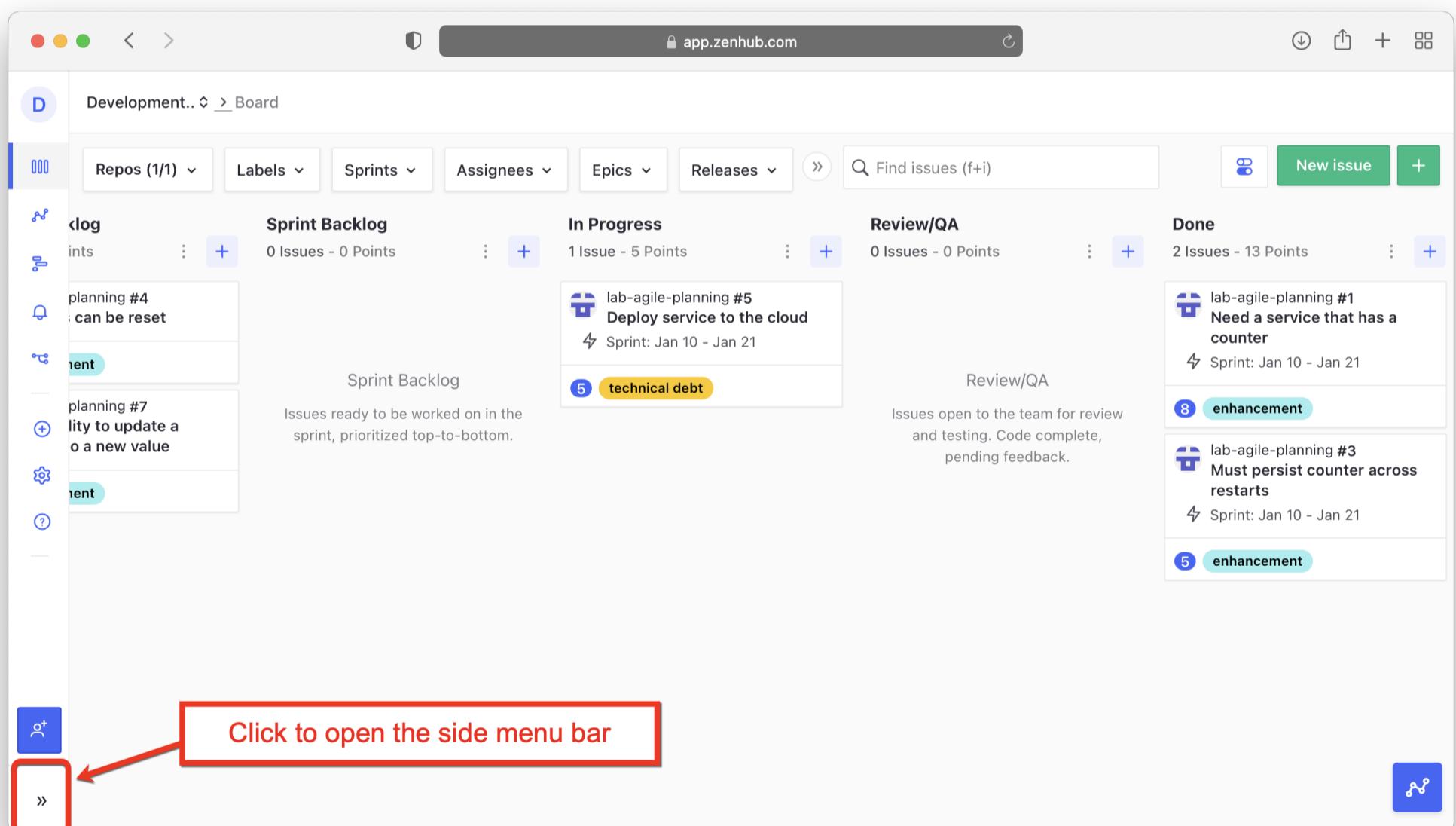
1. Understand how to set up your burndown chart.
2. See the data that is contained in a burndown chart.
3. Judge your progress in the sprint.

Exercise 1 : Set up your burndown chart

In this exercise, you will set up your burndown chart to show the status of the **Done** pipeline stories instead of the default **Closed** stories.

Since a burndown chart shows the story points completed vs. the time left in a sprint, it will be difficult to simulate in a one-day lab. Hopefully, you created a sprint that included the date that you performed the previous lab on the topic of daily execution. For best results, it is recommended that you wait a few days after that lab before performing this lab so that the passage of time will be reflected on the burndown chart.

1. Go to app.zenhub.com and sign in with your GitHub account. Bring up your kanban board and click the >> icon in the lower left-hand corner to open the side menu bar.



2. From the side menu bar, select **Reports**.

The screenshot shows the ZenHub application interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with various options: Board, Reports (which is highlighted with a red box), Roadmap, Notifications, Workflows, Create..., Edit workspace, View tutorials, Shortcuts, Support and training, and Changelog. Below these is a blue button labeled "Invite your team". At the bottom of the sidebar, it shows the user "devopstudent" and their profile picture. The main area is titled "Development.. Board". It features a search bar at the top with filters for Repos (1/1), Labels, Sprints, Assignees, Epics, and Releases. There are four columns: "print Backlog" (Issues - 0 Points), "In Progress" (1 Issue - 5 Points), "Review/QA" (0 Issues - 0 Points), and "Done" (2 Issues - 13 Points). A red box highlights the "Select Reports" button, which is located in the top right corner of the main board area.

3. From the reports menu, select **Burndown Report**.

This screenshot is similar to the previous one, showing the ZenHub interface. The sidebar now has a expanded "Reports" section with options: Overview, Cumulative flow, Control chart, Burndown report (which is highlighted with a red box), Velocity tracking, Release report, and a "Reports" dropdown arrow. The main board area remains the same with its columns and issue lists. A red box highlights the "Select Burndown Report" button, which is located in the top right corner of the main board area.

4. Make sure the current sprint is selected. You can change the sprint using the dropdown list. Since we only have one sprint, the current sprint should already be selected.

The screenshot shows the ZenHub web application interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with various project management options like Board, Reports, Burndown report, and Roadmap. The main area displays a "Sprint: Jan 10 - Jan 21" report. At the top of this report section, there's a dropdown menu labeled "Sprint: Jan 10 - Jan 21". A red box highlights this dropdown, and a red arrow points from the text "Select the Sprint here" to it. Below the dropdown, the title "Sprint: Jan 10 - Jan 21" is displayed in large bold letters, followed by the start date "Start Jan 10, 2022" and due date "Due by Jan 21, 2022". There are also buttons for "Labels", "Show pull requests", and "Burn pipelines". The central part of the screen is a "Burndown report" chart showing progress over time from Monday 10 to Friday 14, with a horizontal dashed line at the top representing the ideal burndown.

5. Notice that the burndown chart isn't burning down. We just have a straight line across the top. This is because, by default, the burndown measures closed stories. Since we want to keep our stories in the **Done** pipeline before the sprint review, select the **Burn Pipelines** dropdown to change this behavior.

This screenshot is similar to the previous one but focuses on the "Burn Pipelines" dropdown. A red box highlights the "Burn pipelines" dropdown menu in the top right corner of the report area. A red arrow points from the text "Select the Burn Pipelines dropdown" to this menu. The rest of the interface is identical to the first screenshot, showing the same sprint details and burndown chart.

6. From the **Burn Pipelines** drop down, select **Done** to show the status of the stories that are done.

Sprint: Jan 10 - Jan 21

Start Jan 10, 2022 Due by Jan 21, 2022

Burndown report

Weekends Ideal Completed

Today

18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0

Mon 10 Tue 11 Wed 12 Thu 13 Fri 14 Sat 15 Jan 16 Mon 17 Tue 18 Wed 19 Thu 20 Fri 21

Select the Done pipeline → Done

Filter pipelines

Issues in the selected burn pipelines will be shown as 'completed' in the burndown

New Issues

Icebox

Product Backlog

Sprint Backlog

In Progress

Review/QA

Done

7. You can now see the status of the sprint in the burndown chart. Since you completed your stories in a single lab, there is one big drop in the progress. Normally this would be more gradual. Notice that we are well below the dotted line, which is a projection of where we should be at this time.

Sprint: Jan 10 - Jan 21

Start Jan 10, 2022 Due by Jan 21, 2022

Burndown report

Weekends Ideal Completed

Today

18 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0

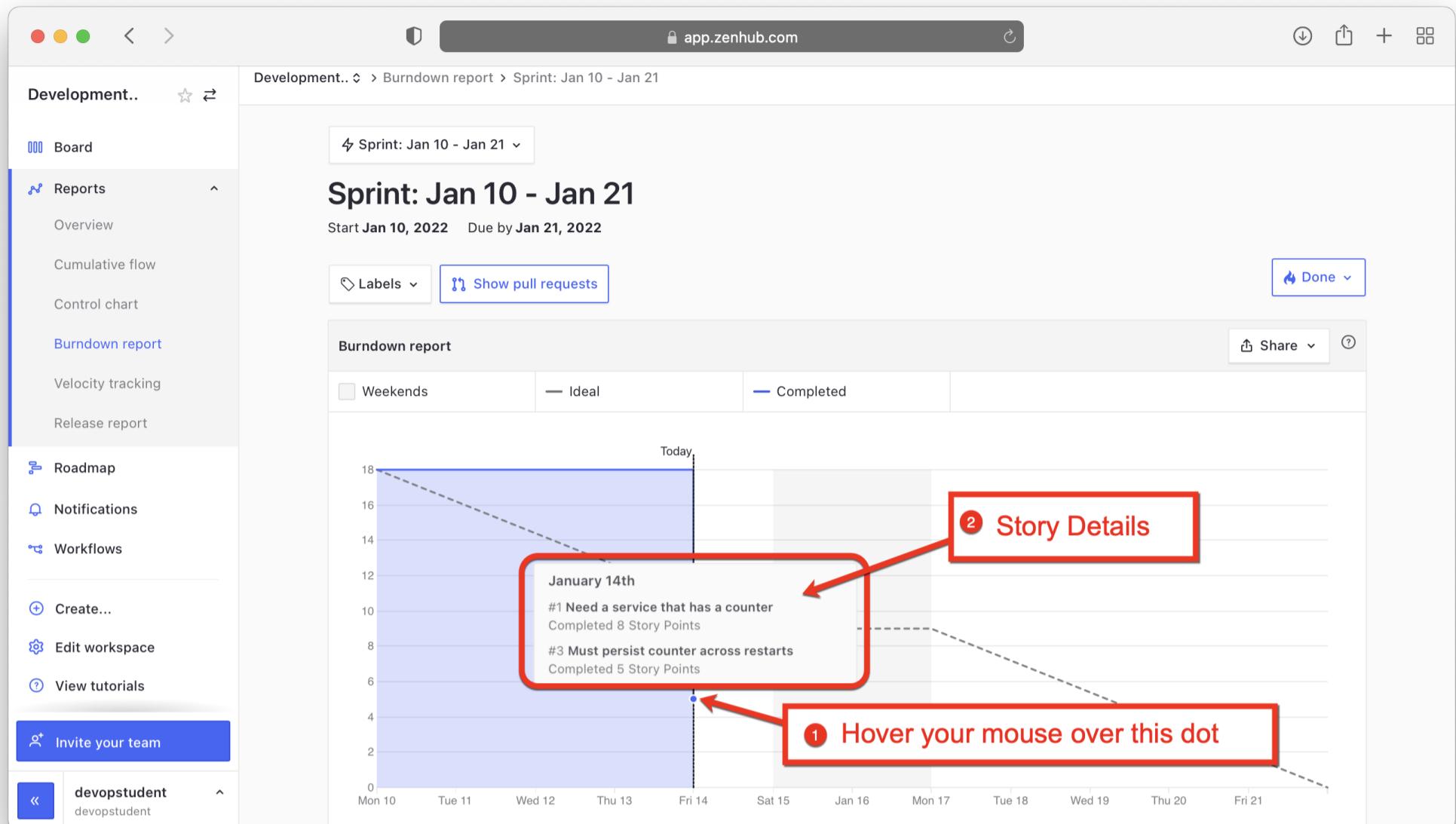
Mon 10 Tue 11 Wed 12 Thu 13 Fri 14 Sat 15 Jan 16 Mon 17 Tue 18 Wed 19 Thu 20 Fri 21

Done

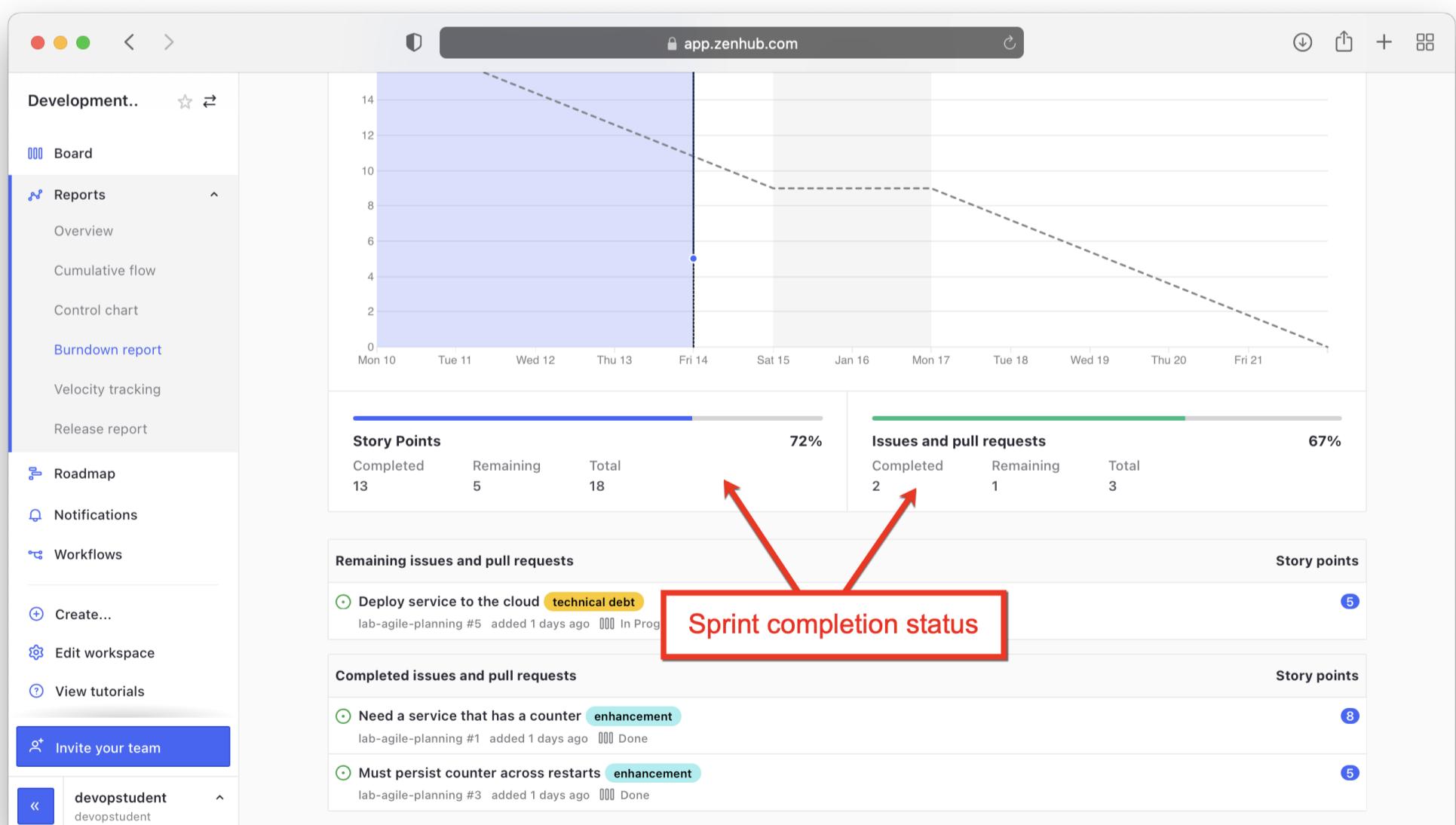
Share

This dot represents how many story points you have completed

8. If you hover, using your mouse, over any of the blue dots on the burndown line, you will see a pop-up with the stories that contributed to that event. These are the stories that you moved to **Done** in the previous lab.



9. If you scroll down, you will see one status bar for the number of story points completed and remaining in the sprint, and another status bar showing the number of issues and pull requests completed and remaining. This gives a nice visual indicator of how far along you are. Below the status bars you will see the detailed status of all of the stories in your sprint. The detailed status lets you quickly see which stories are completed and which still need work.



Summary

You learned how to set up a burndown chart to show the status of the done stories in your sprint. You also learned how to use the progress bars to get a visual status of where you are in the sprint, and see the status of individual stories. This information should help you get a good sense of how the work is progressing.

Author(s)

[John Rofrano](#)

Changelog

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2021-08-08	0.1	John Rofrano	Initial version created
2022-01-14	0.2	John Rofrano	Updated for Sprints

© IBM Corporation 2021. All rights reserved.