



LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Quality Assurance Team Overview

**PRESENTED TO HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON ARTICLE II
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD STAFF**

FEBRUARY 2019

Quality Assurance Team

Purpose

- The Quality Assurance Team (QAT) functions pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 2054, and the Eighty-fifth Legislature, General Appropriations Act, 2018–19 Biennium, Article IX, Section 9.01 and 9.02. The goal of QAT is to help agencies successfully complete projects on time and within budget as presented to the legislature.

Membership

- QAT includes representatives from the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA), the Department of Information Resources (DIR), the Legislative Budget Board (LBB), and the State Auditor's Office (SAO) (advisory member).

Focus

- QAT monitors major information resources projects (MIRP) whose development costs exceed \$1 million, whose development timeline exceeds 1 year, or as designated by the Legislature.
- QAT is also required to review and approve certain contracts related to major information resources projects.

QAT PROJECTS BY ARTICLE

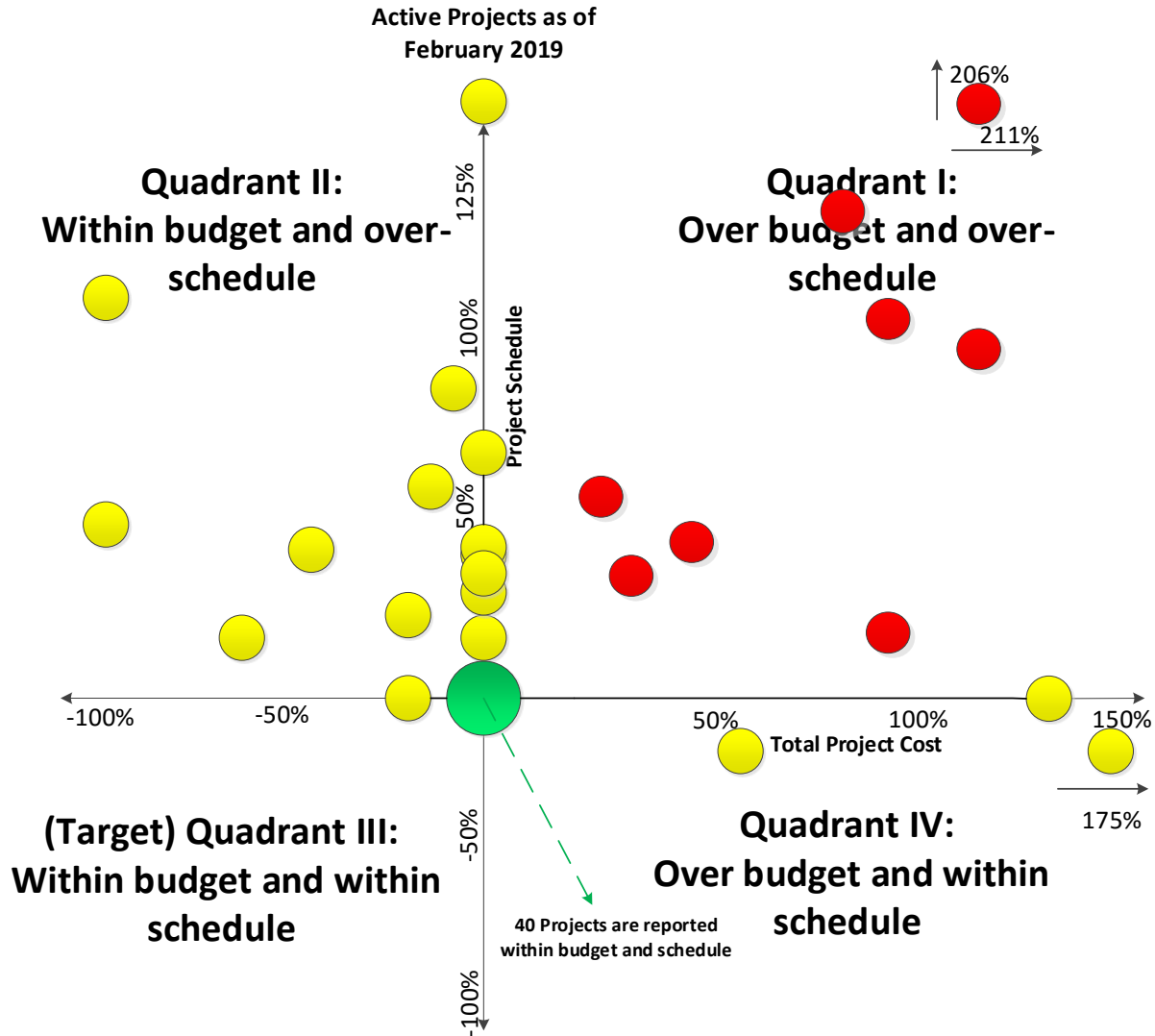
ARTICLE	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	TOTAL VALUE (in millions)	AVERAGE VALUE (in millions)	AVERAGE DURATION (in years)	LONGEST DURATION (in years)
I	13	\$520.6	\$47.3	2.4	10.5
II	27	\$335.4	\$11.9	2.9	12.0
III	2	\$131.9	\$65.9	4.9	8.1
V	2	\$11.1	\$5.6	2.2	4.4
VI	2	\$8.0	\$4.0	2.0	2.0
VII	17	\$362.9	\$21.3	2.5	6.6
VIII	1	\$2.4	\$2.4	2.8	2.8

As of February 2019 QAT currently monitors 64 major information resources projects totaling \$1.30 billion.

Note: Additional QAT information is provided in the Article II summary of recommendations packets.

- Department of Family and Protective Services – Section 3
- Department of State Health Services – Section 3-c
- Health and Human Services Commission – Section 3c

QAT PROJECTS BY STATUS



Technology Project Observations

Observation 1:

- Most major information resource projects use the services of one or more contractors to provide necessary technical skills to develop and implement complex hardware and software systems.

Observation 2:

- When agencies understate project costs to align with funding levels, project planning, management, and communication is weakened.

Observation 3:

- Agencies appear reluctant to cancel contracts or projects when project deliverables are late or cannot be delivered within the initial scope of the project.

Observation 4:

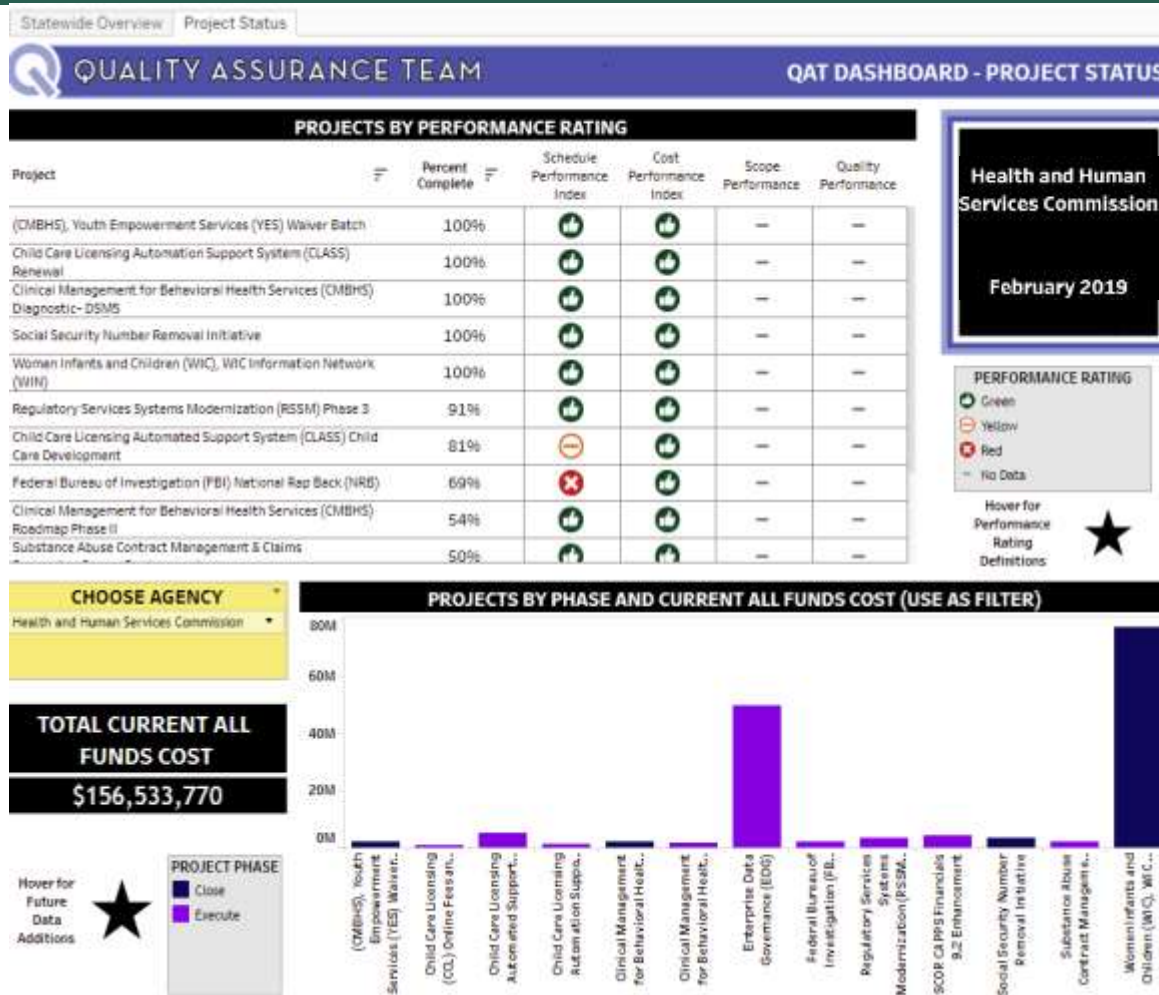
- Agencies' self-reported monitoring reports show project timelines were generally pushed in excess of one year due to funding and timing constraints.

QAT Oversight

QAT works with agencies from the initial project start up to completion, to assist, and help agencies succeed. If needed, QAT has additional oversight functions available. These include:

- Reviewing project risks and approving the project framework of appropriated funds
- Reporting to state leadership on the status of projects
- Conduct more intense monitoring of project information
- Reviewing and approving certain contracts over \$10.0 million if related to a major information resources project
- Reviewing and approving of contract amendments whose costs exceed 10 percent of the original contract amount
- Conducting a cost-benefit analysis to compare canceling or continuing any major information resource project and related contract(s) that is more than 50 percent over budget or over schedule
- Requesting a post-implementation audit by SAO

QAT PROJECT DASHBOARD



http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/Interactive_Graphics.aspx (Select Quality Assurance Team)



LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Contact the LBB

Legislative Budget Board

www.lbb.state.tx.us

512.463.1200