



<p><b>Issue Summary</b></p>	<p>The Budget Progress Reports have several issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The reports exclude data for chartstrings where the balance is zero even if there are transactions for that string.</li> <li>2. Prior period report line does not include summed date if no data exists in the periods selected from the run control causing the remaining spending authority to be inaccurate.</li> <li>3. The cumbersome coding on these old reports makes it difficult to patch or modify them further without breaking something else.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Background</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Per users request, ITS made modifications the the budget progress reports to exclude unnecessary zero balance data. Chart strings that had zero dollar budgets and no transactions were being included on the report and causing the report to be lengthy and cluttered. Users wanted these rows excluded. A large amount of these zero chart strings were a result of zero dollar budgets imported from the Budget Prep module. Others were a result of budgets manually created for a specific chartstring and later zeroed out due to that chartstring not being needed.</li> </ol> <p>A side effect of these modifications is that when a ledger balance sums to zero, the logic in the budget progress report skips to the next chartfield combination instead of outputting the detail transactions that drove the balance to zero. Users do want this data to be included.</p> <p>Several attempts have been made to modify the report to include some zero balances and exclude others. However, we have not been able to exclude unneeded zero rows without also excluding needed zero rows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The prior period report line does not include summed data if no data exists in the specific accounting periods selected on run control, causing remaining spending authority to be inaccurate.</li> <li>3. These reports were originally built using 7.5 table structures and they have been modified and patched numerous times including modifications to make them work in 8.9. Attempts to make changes to these reports have been problematic in that making a desired change for one institution often caused and undesired result for another institution.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Risks</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Budget Progress Reports are critical to each institutions accounting operation. Making a change to the report could introduce a bug that will cause inaccurate reporting</li> <li>2. Outputting transactions that sum to zero will increase the output volume and potentially slow performance</li> <li>3. If the report was redesigned from the bottom up, significant development and testing resources would have to be allocated</li> </ol>



<p><b>Possible Solution(s)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Modify the report to include all ledger balances that sum to zero regardless of the reason for the zero.</li> <li>2. In addition to solution 1: Modify the run control page to give the user the option to include or exclude ledger balances that sum to zero.</li> <li>3. Rebuild the report from scratch to address short comings, performance and reconciliation differences – using the mapping and layout of the current reports.</li> <li>4. Redesign the report from scratch to address short comings, performance and reconciliation differences – obtaining input from users open it up to user input for new requirements – requirements would have to be clearly defined.</li> <li>5. Do Nothing</li> </ol>
<p><b>Escalating Sub-team and Lead</b></p>	<p>Fiscal Affairs – Vikki Williamson and Craig Golden</p>
<p><b>Recommended Action</b></p>	<p>Solution 3 or 4. ITS should rebuild or redesign the report from scratch to address short comings, performance and reconciliation differences. If a redesign is desired, a user committee could be formed to examine the budget progress report and determine what the requirements would be for a new report.</p>
<p><b>Accounting Issues Committee Comments</b></p>	<p>AIC agreed to move forward with redesigning the budget progress report. Vikki Williamson is going to solicit volunteers from the AIC / CAO list serve to participate in a redesign team that will itemize the requirements in the new budget progress report.</p>