

TIRED OF SPREADSHEET ERRORS?

A popular tool needs help.

With the help of IBM solutions, you can minimize common spreadsheet errors while potentially maximizing the value of your Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.

88%

A 2008 analysis of several studies found that, based on those surveyed, 88% of spreadsheets suffer from some type of error—and even experienced "power users" aren't immune.²

3 types of error

typically occur in spreadsheet models¹.

MECHANICAL ERROR

Arises from mistakes in typing, cutting and pasting, or other simple manual operations.

LOGIC ERROR

An inappropriate algorithm is chosen or inappropriate formulas are used.

ERROR OF OMISSION

Critical components are left out of a model entirely.

5 HAZARDS

Aside from outright errors, spreadsheets can present other limitations and drawbacks when organizations try to use them for large-scale performance management¹.

- 1 Little standardization in the planning process → **Wasted time**
- 2 Lack of data integrity and transparency → **Conflicting versions of the truth**
- 3 Lack of collaboration → **Missing insights from the front lines of the business**
- 4 Slow process to collect and verify data → **Inability to react quickly to changes**
- 5 Aggregation and application maintenance → **Spreadsheets painful to maintain**

IBM PLANNING ANALYTICS

can help you overcome these limitations¹. This solution is designed to bring the benefits of modern enterprise performance management to your spreadsheets. With IBM Planning Analytics, we can help you:

Streamline and automate your planning process

Ensure a "single version of the truth"

Harness the power of collaboration

Review and analyze data in real time

Eliminate mistakes and confusion

Learn more about mitigating the hazards of spreadsheets by reading our white paper, "Spreadsheets for planning? A popular tool needs help."

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Sources:

1. "Spreadsheets for planning? A popular tool needs help. Mitigating the hazards while maximizing the value of your Microsoft Excel spreadsheets," IBM, June 2015 <https://www-01.ibm.com/common/ssi/cgi-bin/ssialias?subtype=WH&infotype=SA&htmlfid=YTWO3421USEN&attachment=YTWO3421USEN.PDF>

2. Professor Raymond R. Panko, University of Hawaii Shidler College of Business, "What We Know About Spreadsheet Errors," Journal of End User Computing Volume 10, No 2, Spring 1998, Revised May 2008

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