## Earned Value - One Page Summary

Earned Value measures performance against a plan at a given point in time. Its accuracy is dependant upon the quality of the input variables and the quality of the plan being measured against. (For projects with major requirements uncertainty or technical uncertainty the quality of early plans will likely be poor.)

Term	Full Name	Meaning	
PV	Planned Value	Estimated value of the work planned to be done	
EV	Earned Value	Estimated value of the work actually accomplished	
AC	Actual Costs	Actual Costs Incurred	
BAC	Budget At Completion	Amount budgeted for total project	
EAC	Estimate At Completion	Currently expected total for project	
ETC	Estimate To Complete	How much More to finish	
VAC	Variance At Completion	How much over/under we expect to be	

Name	Formulae	Meaning	
Cost Variance	CV=EV-AC	-ve=over budget, +ve=under budget	
Schedule Variance	SV=EV-PV	-ve=behind schedule, +ve=ahead schedule	
Cost Performance Index	CPI=EV/AC	We are getting _ cents out of every \$ spent	
Schedule Performance Index	SPI=EV/PV	We are progressing at _% of the rate originally planned	
Estimate At Completion	EAC=BAC/CPI	As of now, how much do we expect the total project to cost	
Estimate To Complete	ETC=EAC-AC	How much more to finish	
Variance At Completion	BAC-EAC	How much over/under we expect to be	

**Worked Example -** Let's imagine our project is to build a wall around a garden. Assuming 4 equal sides, a budget of \$200 per side and a schedule of 1 side per day. We should be finished in 4 days for a total of \$800. If, after Day 3, our progress is as follows:



Day 1 Progress = Front wall completed, budget spent \$200 Day 2 Progress = Side 1 started, did not finish, budget spent \$220 Day 3 Progress = Side 1 finished, half of back done, left early, spent \$140

Term	Meaning and Formulae	Day 3 Values
PV - Planned Value	Estimated value of the work planned to be done	Should have done 3 x \$200
		= \$600
EV - Earned Value	Estimated value of the work actually	Actually done 2.5 sides
	accomplished	\$200+\$200+\$100 = \$500
AC - Actual Costs	Actual Costs Incurred	\$200+\$220+\$140=\$560
Cost Performance Index	Over / Under Budget factor CPI = EV / AC	\$500 / \$560 = 0.89
Schedule Performance Index	Ahead / Behind Schedule factor SPI = EV / PV	\$500 / \$600 = 0.83
BAC - Budget At Completion	Amount budgeted for total project	\$800
EAC - Estimate At Completion	Currently expected total for project EAC=BAC /	\$800 / 0.89 = \$899
	CPI	
ETC - Estimate To Complete	How much more to finish? ETC = EAC - AC	\$899 - \$560 = \$339
VAC - Variance At	How much over/under we expect to be VAC =	\$800 - \$899 = -\$99
Completion	BAC – EAC	

© Mike Griffiths, 2009 – For more one-page summaries visit www.LeadingAnswers.com