

3 ways IT leaders can measure automation performance

In a recent study by Harvard Business Review, 80% of business executives said that adopting IT automation is “extremely important” or “very important” to the future success of their organization.¹ Without the right metrics, however, how do you know if automation is delivering on expectations? Do you have reliable data that will help you build a business case for expanding your automation practice?

[Automation Analytics](#) is a flexible tool that aggregates data across your entire enterprise and helps you understand how your business benefits from IT automation. With customizable dashboards and filters and drawing on reliable metrics, you can quickly pinpoint issues, optimize your automation, measure your organization’s return on investment (ROI), and justify your investment.

This overview shows how Automation Analytics addresses the top questions IT leaders ask about their automation performance.

Key terminology:

- ▶ Host: an IT asset such as a server, router, or storage device
- ▶ Task: a unit of automation run against a host
- ▶ Template: (or playbook): a collection of tasks that run together to form an automation workflow
- ▶ Job: an instance of a playbook that is actually run against a set of hosts
- ▶ Cluster: an installation of Red Hat Ansible Automation Platform

1 What is the ROI of our automation efforts?

Automation Calculator

Adopting an enterprise-wide automation strategy requires both financial investment and a cultural mindset shift. You also need useful data to understand the impact of your automation and gain support and continued investment from stakeholders across your organization.

The Automation Calculator tool in Automation Analytics helps you track and report on both the cost and time savings of your automation compared against using manual processes. Automation Calculator helps you justify automation as a sound business practice, and can help you gain support for broader adoption of automation in your organization.

With Automation Calculator, you can:

- ▶ View the ROI in both dollars and resource hours saved.
- ▶ Analyze performance by cluster, organization, template, inventory, and time period.
- ▶ Capture the success rate of templates in use.
- ▶ Understand which teams are demonstrating the biggest impact from automation.

- ▶ Create custom scenarios using inputs based on estimated resource costs and hours spent on manual efforts.
- ▶ Share results and gain support from stakeholders throughout your organization.

2 Which automation projects should we prioritize next?

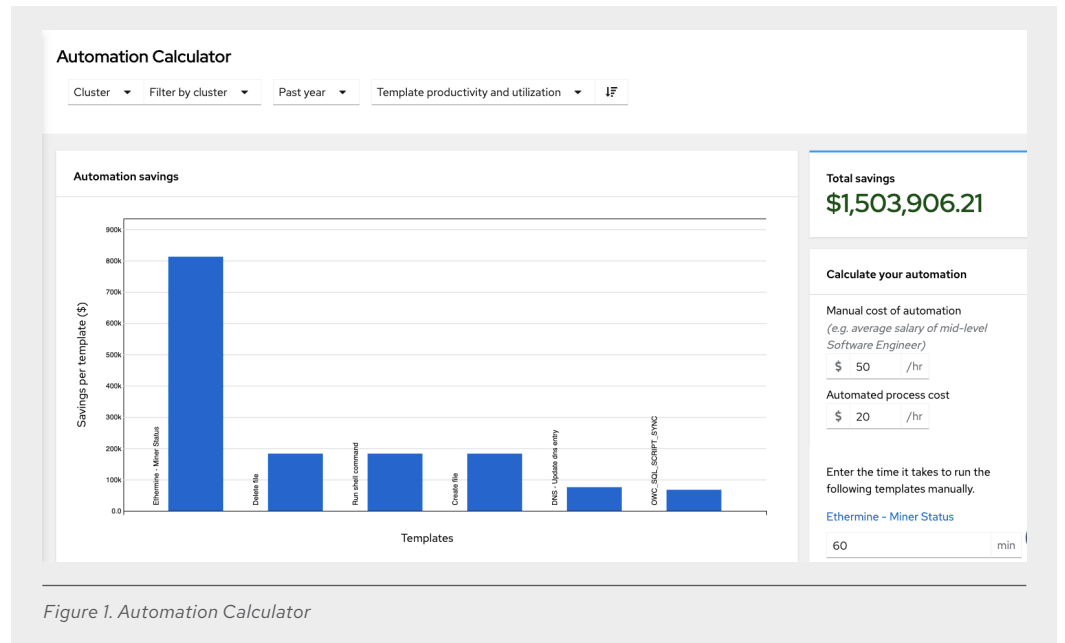


Figure 1. Automation Calculator

Savings Planner

A successful automation strategy begins with a solid plan fed by rich analytics and customizable visuals that foster better, faster business decisions.

The [Automation Savings Planner](#) feature helps you predict and analyze the potential efficiency improvements and cost savings of your automation initiatives. Create custom projections of both time and cost savings by automating a specific IT task or project. With Savings Calculator, you can compare automation projects against one another and fully understand the estimated 1- to 3-year savings for each automation task. Automation Savings Planner delivers:

- ▶ Analysis of templates used for provisioning, configuration, security, and more.
- ▶ Flexibility to create and fine-tune your projections using custom inputs and parameters.
- ▶ Understanding of the formulas and logic used to calculate Automation Analytics' savings projections.
- ▶ Data that helps explain the value of automation with organizational stakeholders.

3 Which teams are using automation and how?

Reports

Reports is a collection of the most requested dashboards that other Red Hat customers use to track their automation performance. Reports gives you a comprehensive view of your entire automation ecosystem and helps you understand the automation results of your teams and their automation efforts.

Reports offer intuitive snapshots of the hosts, modules, and tasks that fail most often, allowing you to identify potential bottlenecks and issues that need attention. You can also:

- ▶ Research usage of templates, modules, and more, to understand automation adoption patterns across teams.
- ▶ Visualize the success/fail rate of automation jobs to isolate and correct issues.
- ▶ Customize and export reports to guide teams and inform stakeholders.

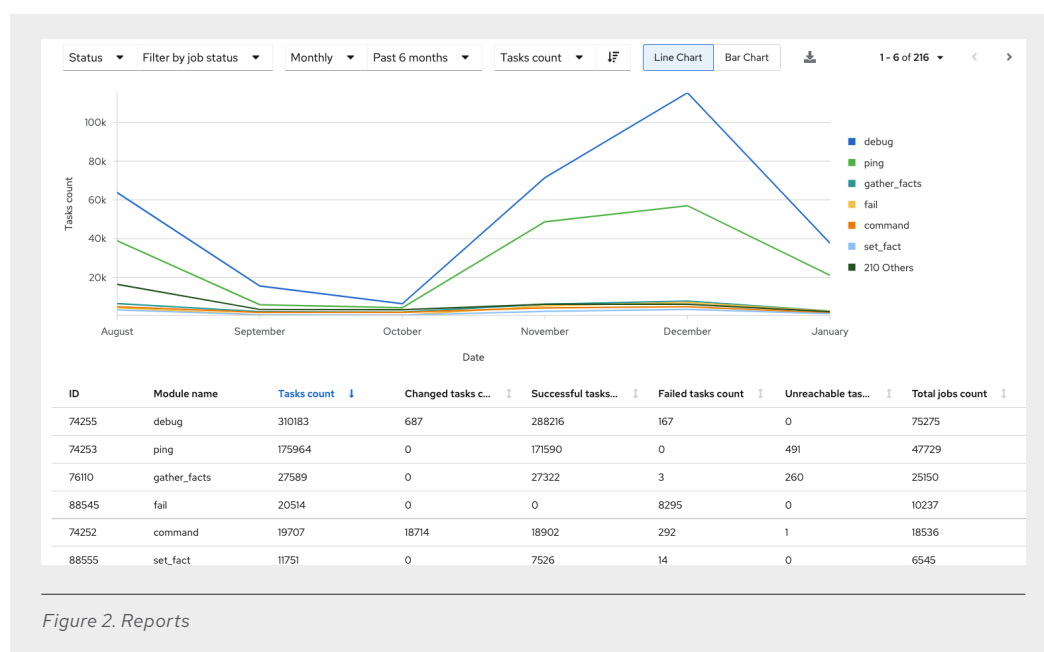


Figure 2. Reports

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