Radar Chart

What is a Radar Chart?

Radar charts show the gaps between current performance areas, and ideal performance areas. Use a radar chart to:

- Display important categories of performance, and define full performance for each category
- Show gaps between current and full performance
- Capture a range of perceptions about performance
- Provide data to support priorities for improving performance

How to Create a Radar Chart

1. Assemble a Team

Ensure your team is cohesive, with varied points of view.

2. Select and Define Rating Categories

Brainstorm performance area headers (using an affinity diagram might be helpful), and define what full performance and non-performance look like (QI Toolbox: Affinity Diagram).

3. Rate Each Category

Each team member should rate current performance in each category in silence. After this, you can also find a team rating for each category through consensus.

4. Draft Chart and Connect Ratings

This step can occur in a program like Microsoft Excel: Enter your data in a spreadsheet, using either the consensus team rating, or an aggregate/median/mean of individual ratings.

You can also draw your radar chart by hand:

A. Draw a large wheel with as many spokes as there are rating categories, and write each category at the end of its spoke

B. Mark each spoke on a zero to “n” scale, with zero at the center (no performance) and the highest number at the outer ring (full performance)

C. Connect the team ratings (or aggregated individual ratings)

5. Interpret Chart

Use the chart to view the biggest gaps between current and ideal performance, and focus on improving the largest gap in the most critical category.