Recovery Explorer User's Guide

RECOVERY.GOV

Contents

What is the Recovery Explorer?

The Recovery Explorer is a web-based application that allows you to select filters and measures to create customized charts and graphs to visualize specific Recovery data that interests you.

- Choose from one of 17 pre-formatted views provided in 4 main chart types:
  Bar Charts, Tree Graphs, Trending Graphs, and Top 10 Charts;
- Change values, chart formats, and sort data;
- Export data results to a CSV file or Excel document; and
- Export charts in a .png graphic format.

Accessing the Explorer

Access the Recovery Explorer through the "Where is the Money Going" drop-down menu from any page on Recovery.gov.
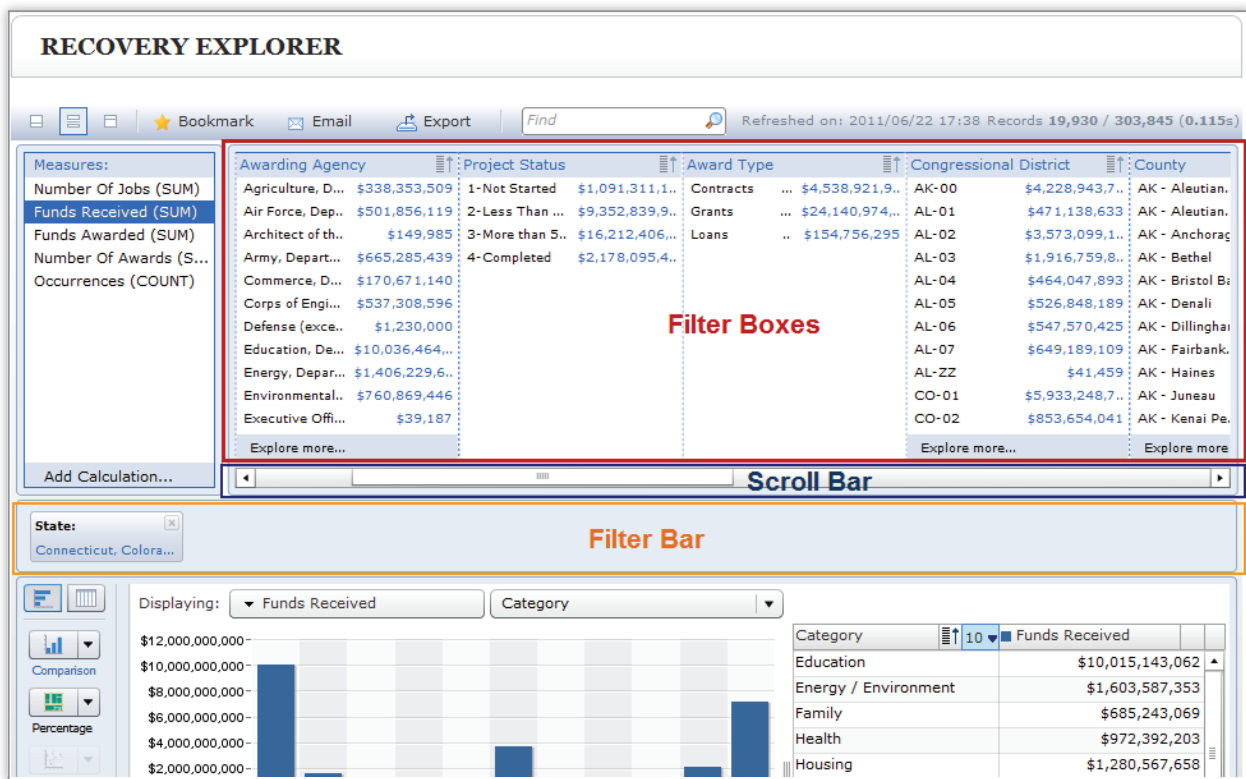
Filtering Data

To refine and focus your view of the data, select from10 data filters. The filter area is divided into two areas: Filter Boxes and the Filter Bar. Choose one or more values in a Filter Box; use the scroll bar at the bottom of the Filter Boxes to see all data elements. The filters you select will appear in the Filter Bar.

A NOTE ABOUT THE DATA:

All funds are cumulative from February 2009 so the quarters should not be added together and the Fiscal Quarter Filter should not be deleted.

Filter Boxes

To select a single value, click on that value in the Filter Box.
To select multiple values, hold down the Ctrl button and click additional values.
The filters will appear in the Filter Bar.

Filter Bar - Changing a Filter

To change a filter in the filter bar, first click the body of the filter, then hold down the Ctrl button and click on the values to select or deselect items from the list that appears.

Filter Bar - Deleting a Filter

To delete a filter, click the "x" in the Filter Box (do not delete the Fiscal Quarter filter). Hold down the shift key to delete more than one filter at a time.

Measures

Measures are larger data "buckets" used to measure against filtered data. You can select one measure from the Measures box in the upper lefthand corner of the Explorer. You can select up to two additional measures in the Chart Display area drop-down menu.

The Chart Display area and the Data View both show all Measures selected.

Chart Display Area & Chart Types

The Chart Display Area at the bottom of the Explorer presents the measures and filters you have selected in a graphical format. There are a number of ways you can see the data in even more detail. The Chart Types selectors allow you to change the visual presentation or to view the data in a table format.
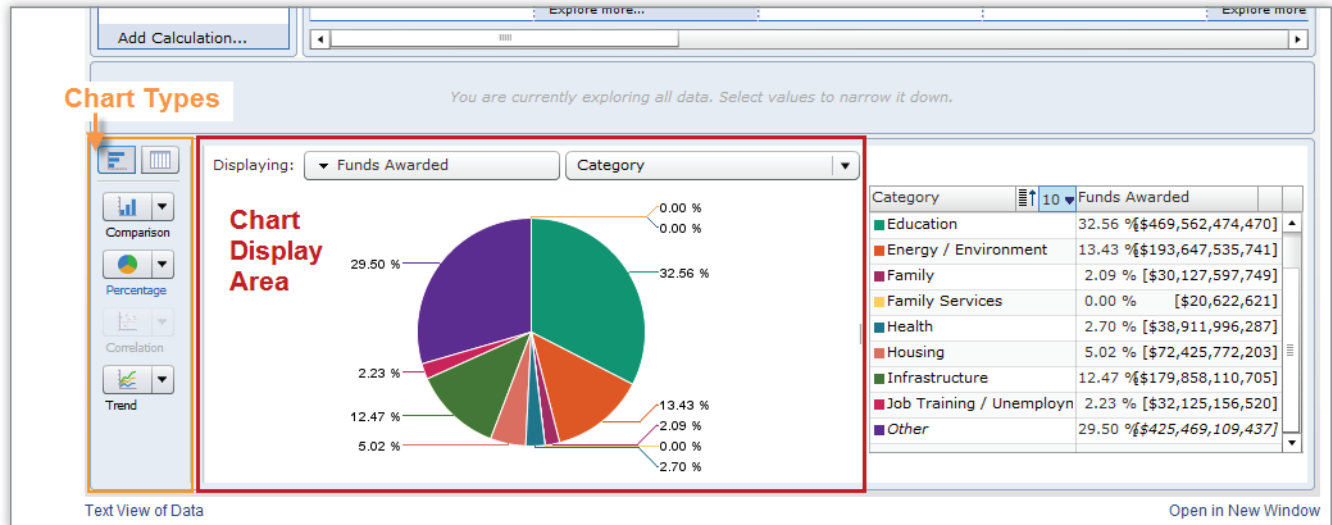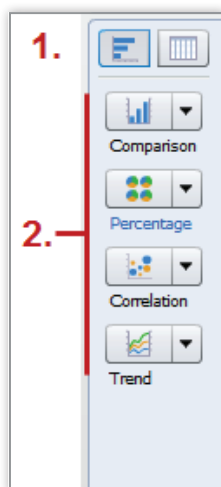

Chart Types - Selecting a Chart

All 17 pre-formatted views have a default Chart Type selected. To change the chart type, select from the available options in the Chart Types area. If the data cannot be presented in a particular chart type, the selection will be grayed out.

1. Select the Bar Chart icon to see the data in graphical format or select the Table icon for the datasheet view.
2. When the Bar Chart icon is selected, you can choose from the Comparison, Percentage, Correlation or Trend drop-down menus. If options are unavailable for your chosen dataset, those items will be grayed out.

Chart Display Area

The Chart Display Area contains the visualization of the data you have selected. It also contains the drop-down menus and selections within those menus that the chart is based on.
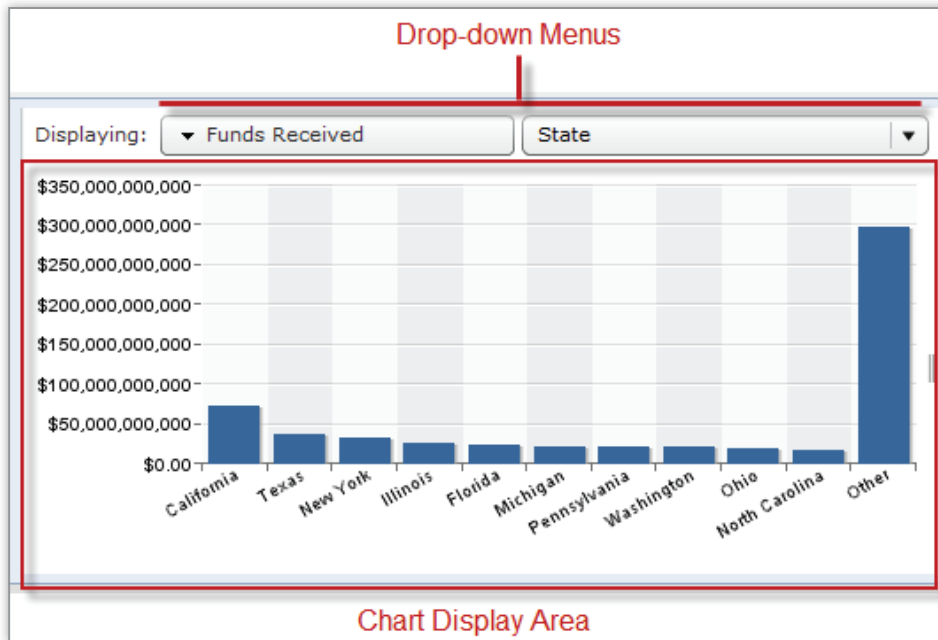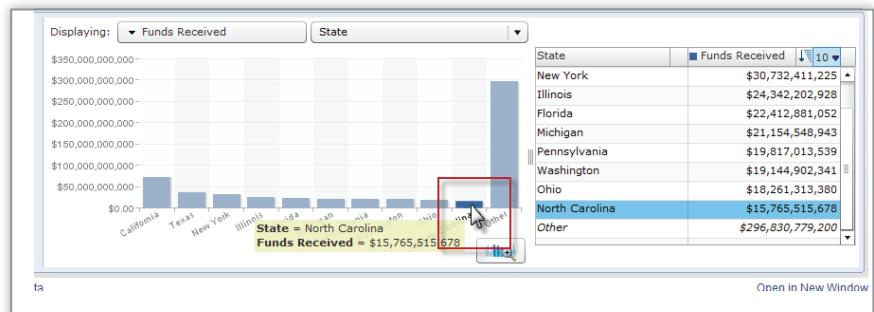

Chart Display Area - Data Details

Once you have created a chart, there are a number of ways to view more details about the data.

To focus on one element of a chart, click on the element. A tool tip appears with information about the element.   For example, click on one bar of a bar chart to see the data on that bar.


To focus on more than one element in a chart, hold down the "Ctrl" key and click on multiple elements.
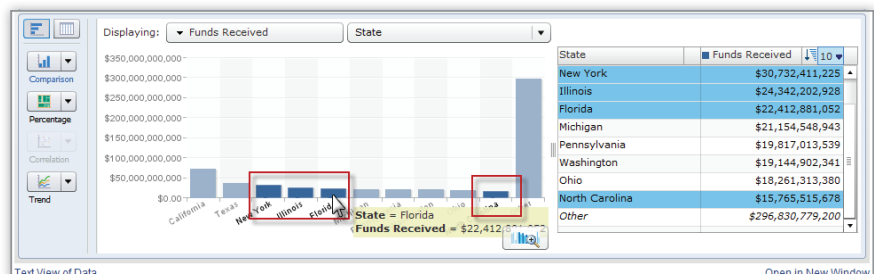
To change the chart to display only those items selected, click the Zoom Display button [icon] in the bottom right of the Chart Display Area.
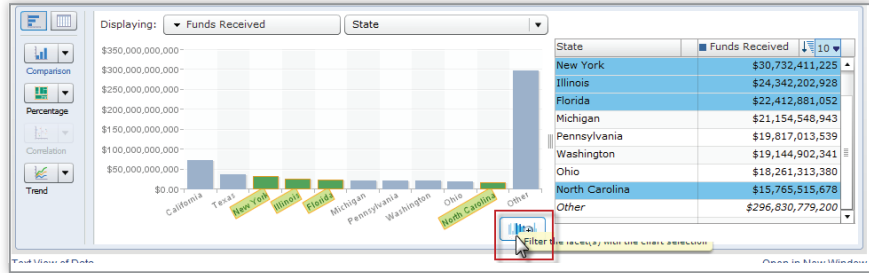
Once the Zoom button is clicked, a new chart and Data View are created, reflecting the selected data items. A new filter appears in the filter bar.
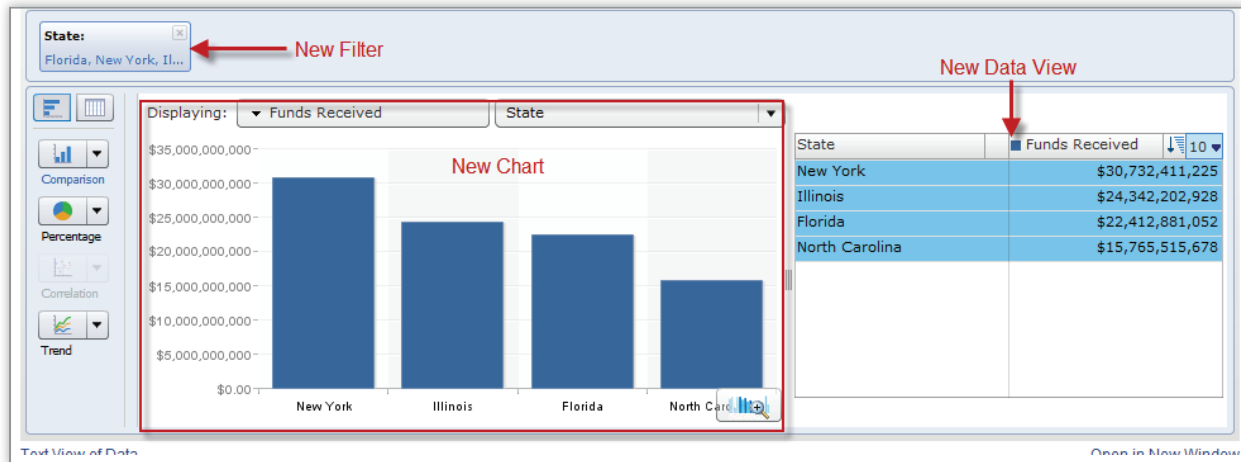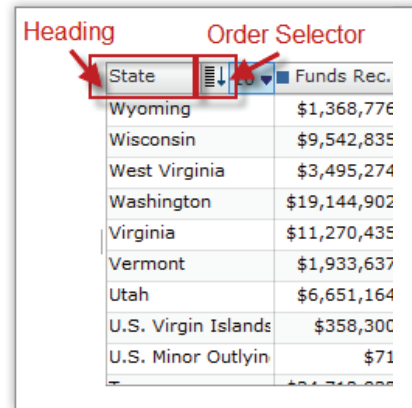

To return to the original chart, click the "x" in the filter box.

Data View

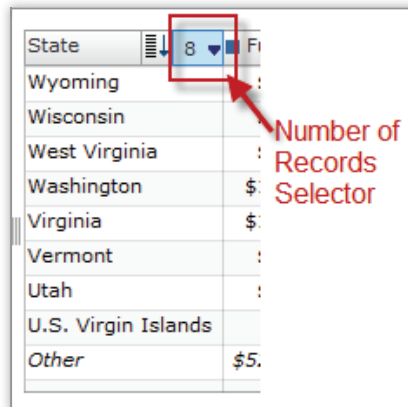Data in the Chart Display Area can be altered by making changes in the Data View.

Data View - Changing Parameters

Columns can be sorted alphabetically or numerically in ascending or descending order by clicking on the column heading, or by selecting from the Order Selector drop-down menu.
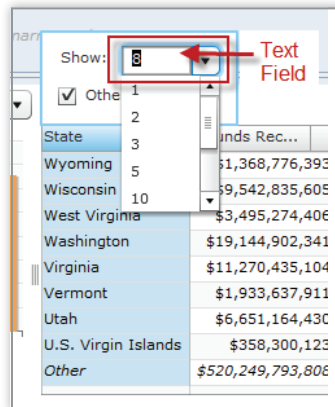

Change the number of items listed in a view using the Number of Records Selector drop-down menu, or enter a number in the text field provided.