

SENATE BILL 25

Sponsored by: Sen. Wielechowski



February 17, 2022
House State Affairs Committee

SB 25: The Alaska Online Checkbook Act

- ❖ Codifies and modernizes Alaska's Online Checkbook website
- ❖ Requires the state to provide monthly and annual financial information to the public on a user-friendly website.
- ❖ Creates a one-stop-shop for information on revenue and expenses.
- ❖ Provides detailed information on state expenditures and revenue including date, vendor, agency, and expense type

Alaskans Deserve Better Transparency

Table ES-1: Top 10 and Bottom 10 States in Providing Online Access to Government Spending Data

Top 10 States

State	Grade	Score	Rank
Ohio	A+	98	1 (tie)
West Virginia	A+	98	1 (tie)
Minnesota	A	94	3 (tie)
Wisconsin	A	94	3 (tie)
Arizona	A-	93	5 (tie)
Connecticut	A-	93	5 (tie)
Iowa	A-	91	7
Louisiana	A-	90	8
South Carolina	B+	87	9
Kentucky	B	85	10 (tie)
Nevada	B	85	10 (tie)

Bottom 10 States

State	Grade	Score	Rank
Wyoming	F	35	50
Alaska	F	46	49
California	F	47	48
Hawaii	F	48	47
Tennessee	D-	54	46
Rhode Island	D	55	45
Alabama	D	56	44
Georgia	D	57	43
Idaho	D	58	42
Oklahoma	D+	60	41

Source: *Following The Money 2019*, U.S. PIRG Education Fund

- In 2018 Alaska received a failing grade from the U.S PIRG Education Fund for providing online access to government spending data.
- Alaska has no statutory requirements to maintain an online checkbook.

SB 25: A Win-Win-Win for Alaskans

- Will provide policy makers with user-friendly access to actual unaudited revenue and expenditure data
- Makes state government more accountable by making information readily available to the public.
- Allows vendors to submit more competitive bids by reviewing previous payments.



SB 25 Improves Transparency and Usability

Current Checkbook Online

- Can be taken down at any time.
- Not searchable online, data must be downloaded as a PDF or Excel file.
- Does not include revenue reports.
- Does not allow year to year spending comparison.
- Does not include spending for the University of Alaska or public corporations.

Alaska Online Checkbook Act

- Monthly & annual reporting requirements codified in Alaska Statutes.
- Data is searchable online by agency, vendor, year, purpose, amount, and accounting code.
- Includes both revenue & expenditures.
- Allows year to year spending comparisons.
- Includes revenue & expenses of University of Alaska & public corporations.

SB 25: Reporting Requirements

Revenues

- Receipts or deposits.
- Proceeds from taxes.
- Agency earnings (sales, services, licenses, permits, etc.).
- Other revenues (Interest, Lease, Gifts, Donations, etc.).

SB 25: Reporting Requirements

Expenditures

- The names and locations of any persons to whom payment was made.
- The amounts of the expenditures disbursed.
- The type of transaction, by account code, including the purpose of the expenditure.

SB 25: Reporting Requirements

Employees and Contractors

- The number of full-time, part-time, and temporary employees by agency.
- The number of independent contractors by agency.
- Total general fund payroll by agency.

SB 25: Reporting Requirements

Account Balances and Debt

- Statutory Budget Reserve (SBR).
- Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR).
- Permanent Fund Earnings Reserve Account (ERA).
- Total long-term debt by agency.

The Current Checkbook Website is Outdated

Current Checkbook Online

- Download Information By Fiscal Year Only.
- Must Download **ALL** Information.
- Difficult to search.

Administration / Finance / Financial Reports / Checkbook Online / Reports

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Checkbook Online

Summary and Detail Reports of Expenditures

NOTE: The State of Alaska implemented a new financial and procurement system, IRIS, on July 1, 2015. Starting with Fiscal Year 2016, Checkbook Online reports will look different from previous fiscal years due to this change.

Click on a heading from the list below to view reports for that year.

- Fiscal Year 2020 (07/01/2019 - 02/29/2020)
- Fiscal Year 2019 (07/01/2018 - 06/30/2019)
- Fiscal Year 2018 (07/01/2017 - 06/30/2018)
- Fiscal Year 2017 (07/01/2016 - 06/30/2017)
- Fiscal Year 2016 (07/01/2015 - 08/31/2016)
- Fiscal Year 2015 (07/01/2014 - 08/31/2015)
- Fiscal Year 2014 (07/01/2013 - 08/31/2014)
- Fiscal Year 2013 (07/01/2012 - 08/31/2013)
- Fiscal Year 2012 (07/01/2011 - 08/31/2012)
- Fiscal Year 2011 (07/01/2010 - 08/31/2011)
- Fiscal Year 2010 (07/01/2009 - 08/31/2010)
- Fiscal Year 2009 (07/01/2008 - 08/31/2009)
- Fiscal Year 2008 (07/01/2007 - 08/31/2008)

DOF REPORTS & LINKS

- AVAILABLE BALANCE IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL BUDGET RESERVE FUND
- CHECKBOOK ONLINE
- COMPENSATION & TRAVEL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE POSITIONS
- COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR)
- PAYMENT DETAIL REPORTS
- STATEWIDE COST ALLOCATION PLAN
- STATE TRANSPARENCY REPORTS OVERVIEW

HELPFUL LINKS

- COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS
- AGENCY CONTACTS

Fiscal Year 2020 (07/01/2019 - 02/29/2020)

- Full Report - PDF / MS Excel

Detail Reports

- Detail by Accounting Object - PDF / MS Excel / CSV
- Detail by Organization - PDF / MS Excel / CSV
- Detail by Vendor - PDF / MS Excel / CSV

Summary Reports

- Summary by Accounting Object - PDF / MS Excel / CSV
- Summary by Organization - PDF / MS Excel / CSV
- Summary by Vendor - PDF / MS Excel / CSV

Fiscal Year 2019 (07/01/2018 - 06/30/2019)

Current Website Requires Downloading Spreadsheet

Office of the Governor										
ACCT										
DEPT	DEPT NAME	ACCT	CATEGORY	ACCT CODE	ACCT CODE DESCRIPTION	VENDOR NAME	VENDOR STATE	ISSUE DATE	AMOUNT	
280	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ABBY LAFORCE	AK	05/27/16	2,867.99
281	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ABBY LAFORCE	AK	06/03/16	1,368.45
282	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS	AK	09/29/15	1,460.00
283	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS	AK	12/31/15	1,073.92
284	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS	AK	01/22/16	695.00
285	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS	AK	04/27/16	1,378.38
286	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS	AK	06/07/16	353.64
287	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	ARCTIC PROMOTIONS INC	AK	05/04/16	3,700.00
288	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	FAIRBANKS DAILY NEWS MINER	AK	10/28/15	1,111.50
289	01	Office of the Governor	3000	Services	3046	Advertising	JUNEAU HOSPITALITY	AK	05/27/16	3,600.00
470	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	AAA MOVING & STORAGE INC	AK	05/24/16	196.82
471	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	AAA MOVING & STORAGE INC	AK	06/20/16	182.50
472	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	08/18/15	154.53
473	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	08/27/15	38.58
474	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	09/08/15	655.43
475	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	09/29/15	788.90
476	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	10/20/15	96.66
477	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	10/28/15	406.64
478	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	11/17/15	34.77
479	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	11/23/15	620.83
480	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	12/17/15	585.08
481	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	01/13/16	282.11
482	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	01/22/16	151.23
483	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	02/03/16	960.96
484	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	02/12/16	74.91
485	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	02/23/16	345.82
486	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	03/03/16	601.70
487	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	03/10/16	177.65
488	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	03/25/16	1,074.72
489	01	Office of the Governor	4000	Commodities	4002	Business Supplies	ARCTIC OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	AK	04/13/16	99.98

- In FY 2016 There Were 78,156 Individual Reports In The “Online Checkbook”.
- You Must Use Search Functions Within Excel To Find Vendors.
- Cannot Easily Track Spending By Year.

Snapshot of Checkbook Online- <http://doa.alaska.gov/>

Example: Ohio

Search By
Year



OHIOCHECKBOOK.com

Need Help Getting Started? [Advanced Search](#)

Fiscal Year: **2020** (7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020) Agency (140) Expense Type (624) [Advanced Filters](#)

2020 State Spending

\$44,004,174,775.75 total

Expense Categories

Year to Year State Spending

Fiscal Year

What is this?

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[FAQ](#)

[Download All Data](#)

View By:

Largest Expense Types of 2020

Expense Type	Amount
Medical & Rehab State Assistance	\$14,416,421,416.47
Grant - Paid to Government or Non-profi...	\$11,155,560,501.00
Other Distributions	\$2,450,851,509.98
Grant (Dependent On Service)	\$1,684,847,197.01
Base Salaries & Wages	\$1,620,674,512.59
Construction - Roads & Highways	\$1,377,240,490.42

Highest Paid Companies of 2020

Paid To	State	Amount
DEPT OF HEALTH & HUM SVCS	DC	\$645,436,839.06
MEDICAL MUTUAL OF OHIO	OH	\$193,241,764.14
SHELLY & SANDS INC	OH	\$185,395,408.72
US BANK NA	MO	\$179,433,948.32
KOKOSING CONSTRUCTION CO INC	OH	\$168,331,707.12
COMMUNITY INSURANCE COMPANY-...	OH	\$118,019,127.53

Example: Ohio

Search By Agency



OHIOCHECKBOOK.com

Need Help Getting Started? [Advanced Search](#)

Fiscal Year: (7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020) **Agency (140)** Select **Expense Type (624)** Select [Advanced Filters](#)

2020 State Spending

\$44,004,174,775.75 total

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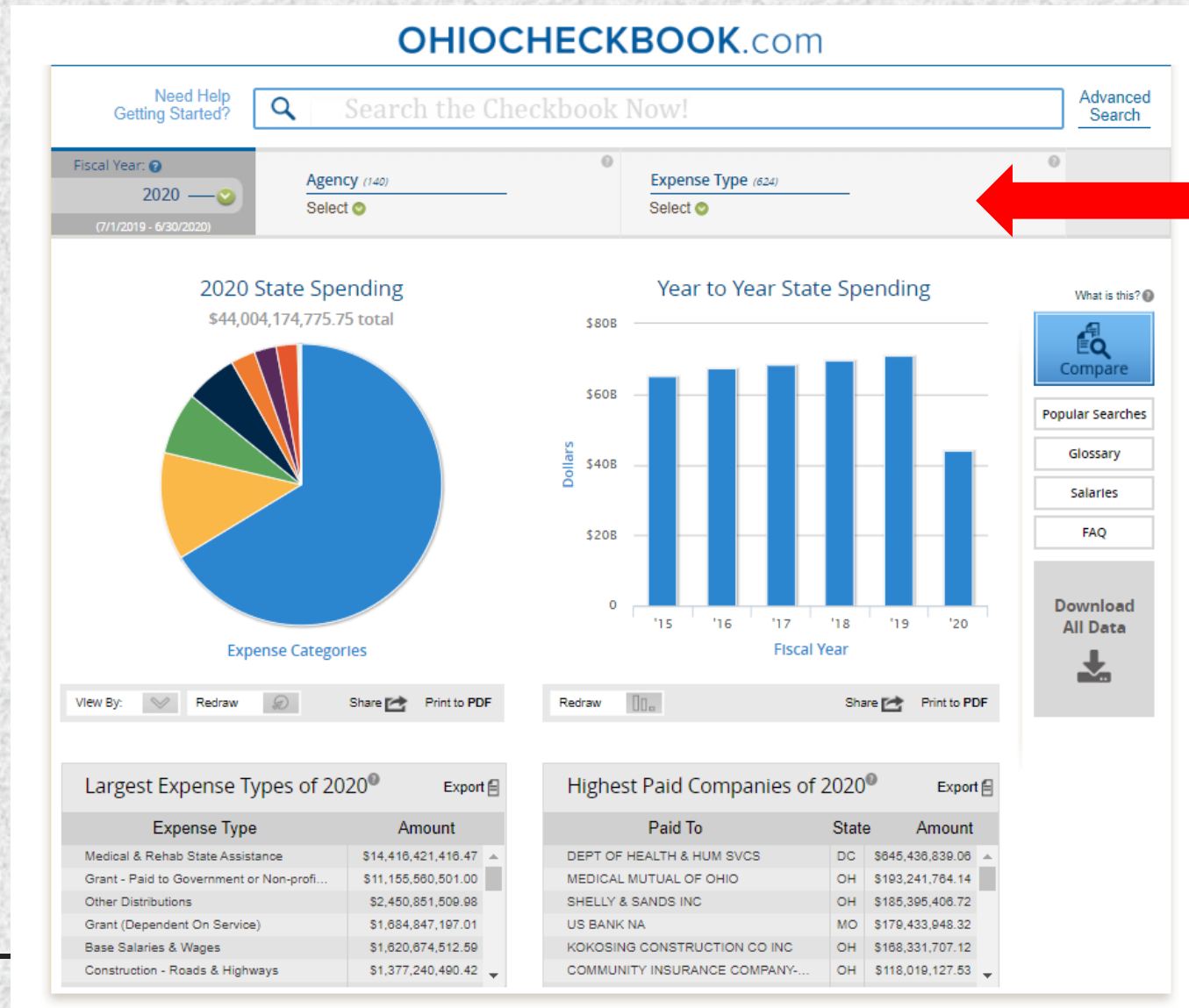
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What is this?

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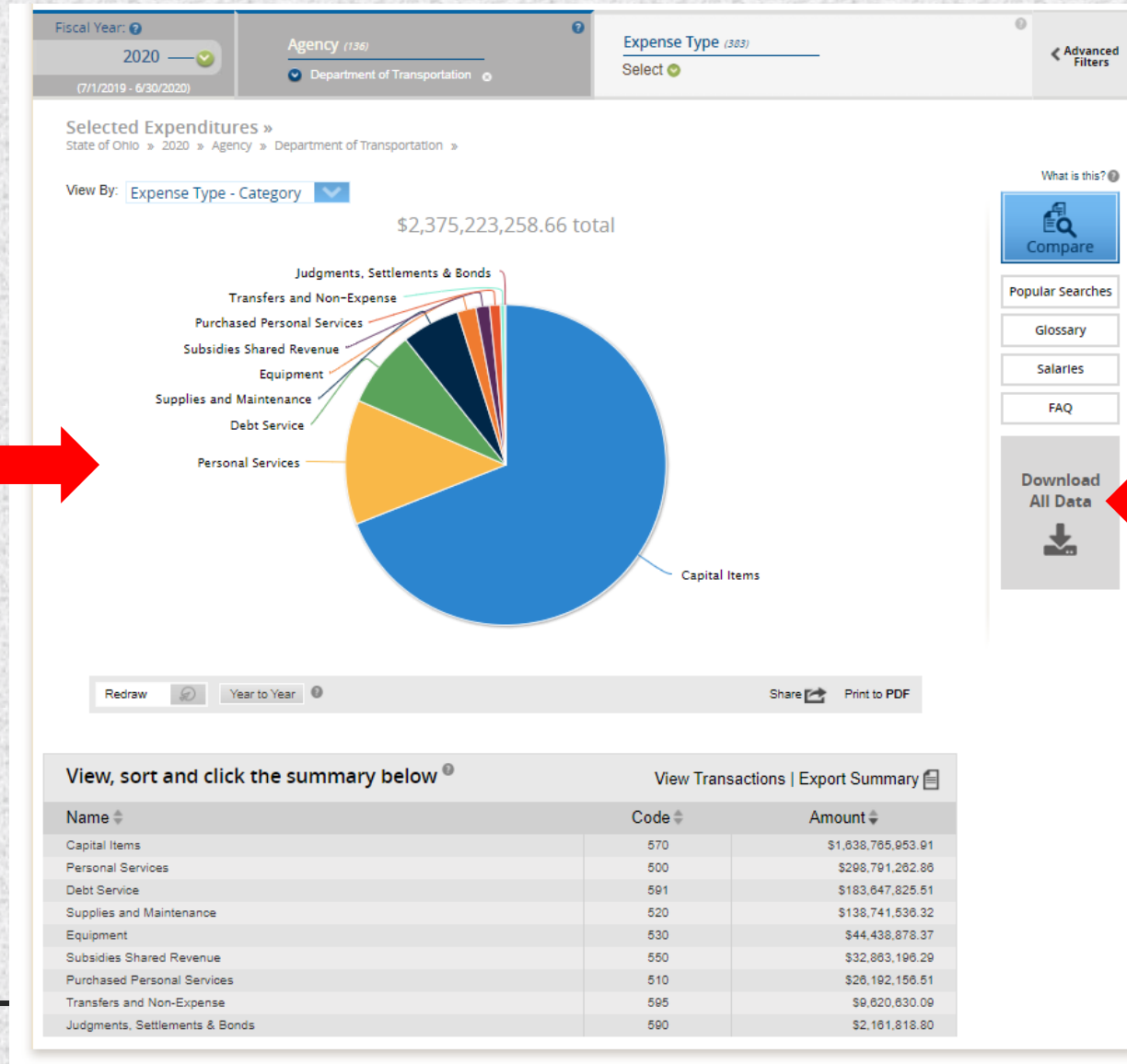
Example: Ohio



Search By
Expense Type

Example: Ohio by Department

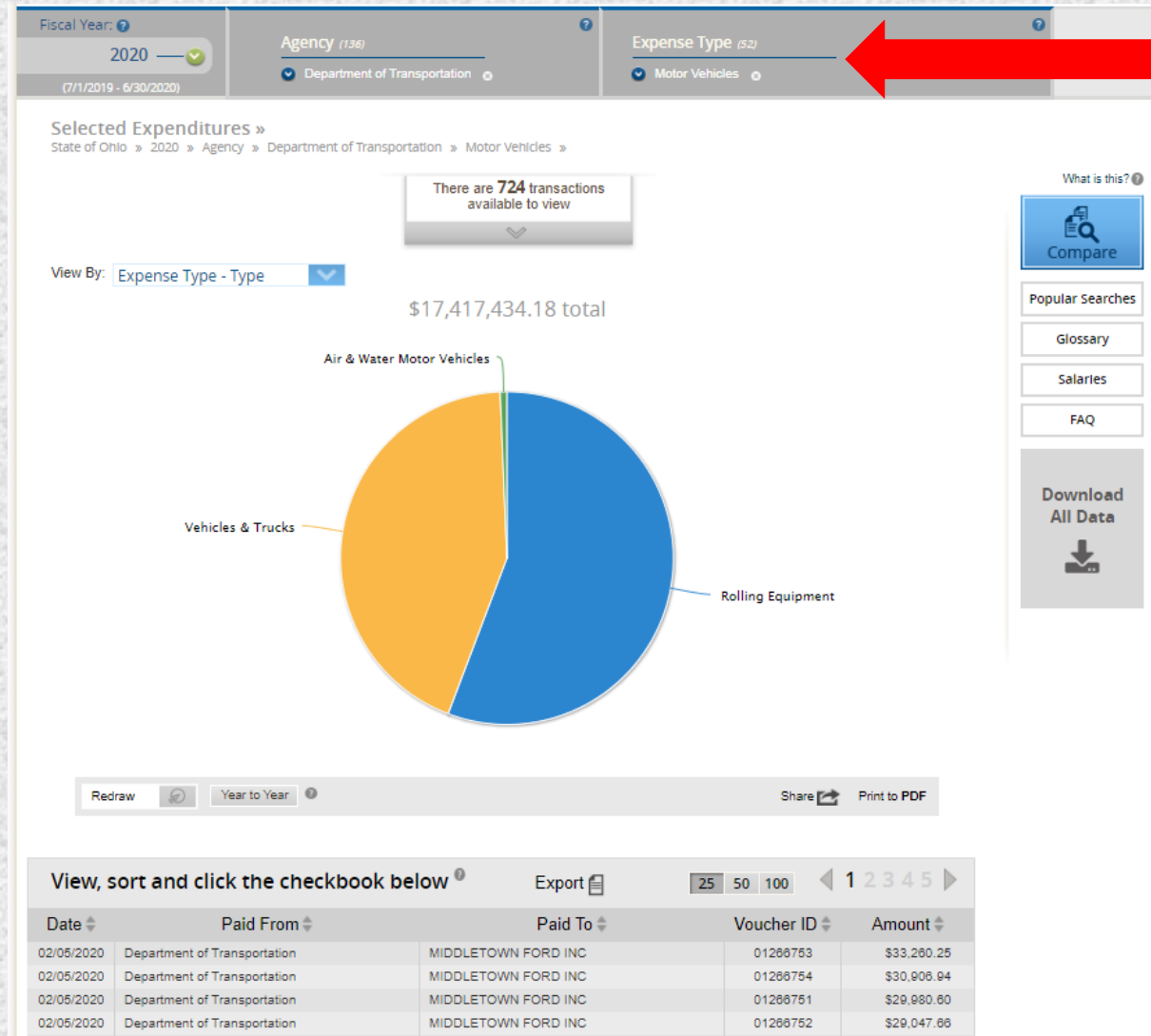
Total Agency Spending



Download Data



Example: Ohio by Expense Type



Expense Type

Listed Transactions

Example: Ohio by Expense Type

Department of Transportation	2/5/2020	Check# 0041368339
Pay to the order of MIDDLETOWN FORD INC		
<u>Thirty Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Dollars and Twenty Five Cents</u>		\$33,260.25
Memo Passenger Vehicles & Trucks		
Department of Transportation > 2020 > Equipment > Motor Vehicles > Vehicles & Trucks > Passenger Vehicles & Trucks > Highway Maintenance - State > Highway Operating > Highway Operating		

Who's getting paid?	Where's the money coming from?
<p>This \$33,260.25 payment for <u>Passenger Vehicles & Trucks</u> is part of a larger check total of \$34,003.25 from the <u>Department of Transportation</u>. If you would like to see a list of the other payments included in Voucher ID 01266753, click here.</p> <p>Paid By: <u>Department of Transportation</u> Payment Amount: <u>\$33,260.25</u> Voucher ID: <u>(DOT01) 01266753</u> Check Number: <u>0041368339</u> Payment Date: <u>2/5/2020</u> Expense Type: <u>Passenger Vehicles & Trucks</u></p> <p>Paid To: <u>MIDDLETOWN FORD INC</u> Vendor City: <u>MIDDLETOWN</u> Vendor State: <u>OH</u> Vendor Zip: <u>45042-0505</u></p>	<p>For questions regarding this payment, contact:</p> <p>Department of Transportation Email: richard.winning@dot.state.oh.us Phone: (614) 466-7170 Mail: 1980 West Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43223</p>

This is not an image of a real check. This check is an illustration of payments made using public funds.

Who's getting paid?	Where's the money coming from?
<p>This \$33,260.25 payment for <u>Passenger Vehicles & Trucks</u> is part of a larger check total of \$34,003.25 from the <u>Department of Transportation</u>. If you would like to see a list of the other payments included in Voucher ID 01266753, click here.</p> <p>BUDGET INFORMATION: Fund: <u>Highway Operating (7002)</u> (Revenue source for payment) Appropriation Line Item (ALI): <u>Highway Maintenance - State (773431)</u> (Spending authority from General Assembly for payment) Program: <u>Highway Operating (4920B)</u> (Agency-specific spending purpose for payment)</p>	<p>For questions regarding this payment, contact:</p> <p>Department of Transportation Email: richard.winning@dot.state.oh.us Phone: (614) 466-7170 Mail: 1980 West Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43223</p>

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SB 25: Additional Benefits

- Mississippi reported that every information request fulfilled by its transparency website rather than by a state employee **saves the state between \$750 and \$1,000 in staff time.**
- South Carolina **open records requests dropped by two-thirds** after the creation of its transparency website, reducing staff time and **saving an estimated tens of thousands of dollars.**
- The Texas Comptroller used its transparency website to evaluate spending. By monitoring contracts more closely and sourcing services from new vendors when the potential for cost-cutting was identified, **the state saved more than \$163 million.**

QUESTIONS?



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