

Database of Screening Practices

2025 User Guide

Introduction: Background and Using Tableau

The Database of Screening Practices (DSP) – formerly referred to as the Database of State Efficiency Screening Practices (DSESP) – was created by the National Efficiency Standards Project in 2018 and previously hosted by E4theFuture, before being transferred to its new home at ACEEE. The database serves as a repository of electric and natural gas utility ratepayer-funded energy efficiency program cost-effectiveness test inputs and supporting policies across the US. This Tableau interface is supported by a underlying dataset that was updated prior to its relaunch in early 2025.

Tableau Features


Tableau offers data sorting and visualization that incorporates data from excel spreadsheets. Key features in Tableau include:

1. Selection Menus

All tabs have selection menus that allow users to view only data for the type of energy, state(s), primary test(s), impact(s), and/or discount rate(s) in which they are interested.



2. Undo

In order to reset tabs to their original filters and sorting, press the  button located at the top of each green tab.

3. Tooltips

Hover over a specific cell to view more information about the data. This pop-up will show you sources from which the cell was derived, definitions of relevant terms, and when the data was last updated.

Click on the cell to keep the tooltip in view. Upon clicking, you will see weblinks at the bottom of the box where you can access the relevant source documents.

Using the Tabs in the Tableau Database

1. Terms of Use and Navigation

This tab includes the terms of use and helpful tips for navigating the DSP. These tips will help you to make the most of the DSP and find the information you are looking for.

2. Definitions

This tab serves as the glossary for the database, where definitions are based largely on the [NSPM for DERs Glossary](#).

3. Summary of States Tab

This tab summarizes cost-effectiveness testing information for all jurisdictions in the DSP. Users can scroll down the page to view general cost test information, as well as which impacts are included in the test for each state. Users can scroll each table to the side to view additional states. There are drop-down menus at the top of this tab to filter the data by state and by field. You can select one state or compare multiple. Hovering over a cell will show policy and value source information, as well as notes.

4. Single State Tab

The view single state tab provides cost-effectiveness test information by state, including general test information and impact treatment in that state. Data includes whether each impact is included in the primary test, approach to calculating the impact, and the value of the impacts. Users can select the state they would like to view from the dropdown menu at the top of the tab. Hovering over a cell will show policy and value source information, as well as notes.

5. Test & Application Info Tab

This tab shows general cost-effectiveness test info for all states. Users can select the states they would like to view in the dropdown menu at the top of the tab. Users can select one state to view, or several states to compare. Hovering over a cell will show policy and value source information, as well as notes.

6. Utility System Impacts Tab

The Utility System Impacts Tab shows information on treatment of utility system costs and benefits in state CE tests. Users can select the information they would like to view by choosing to see whether each impact is included in the states' primary tests, how the states describe the impacts, and what approach the state uses to calculate the impact if applicable. Users can scroll right in the table to view additional impacts and scroll up/down to view the benefits or costs tables. Hovering over a cell will show policy and value source information, as well as notes.

7. Non-Utility System Impacts Tab

The Non-Utility System Impacts Tab shows information on treatment of non-utility system costs and benefits in state CE tests. Users can select the information they would like to view by choosing to see whether each impact is included in the states' primary tests, how the states describe the impacts, and what approach the state uses to calculate the impact if applicable. Use the drop-down menus above the table to choose which state(s) and impact(s) you would like to view. Users can scroll right in the table to view additional impacts. Hovering over a cell will show policy and value source information, as well as notes.

8. Impacts Summary Tab

This tab allows users to view impact treatment across jurisdictions. The chart shows how many jurisdictions out of the 52 (United States, Washington D.C., and Puerto Rico) include a selected impact in their primary CE test. Users can select whether they would like to see impacts which are definitely included (Yes) in the test or may be included potentially. Hovering over a bar will show the impact name and number of jurisdictions out of 52 including that impact in their test. Use the drop-down menus at the top of the tab to choose which Primary Test and which field(s) you would like to view.

9. Maps Tab

There are two maps of the U.S. and Puerto Rico on this tab. The first map depicts various tests and application info. Select which information you would like the maps to show at the top of the tab (Discount Rate, Primary Assessment Level, or Primary Test). To highlight only states with a particular value, select that value in the sidebar list.

The second map allows users to view which impacts are included in the tests depicted in the first map. Users can select which impacts they would like to view by using the drop-down "Field" menu located to the right of the map. Again, to highlight all states applying a particular treatment, select that value from the colored boxes in the sidebar list. Hovering over a state will show policy and value source information, as well as notes.

10. Comparison Tables

This table provides a way to compare non-energy impacts accounting methods and values between states.