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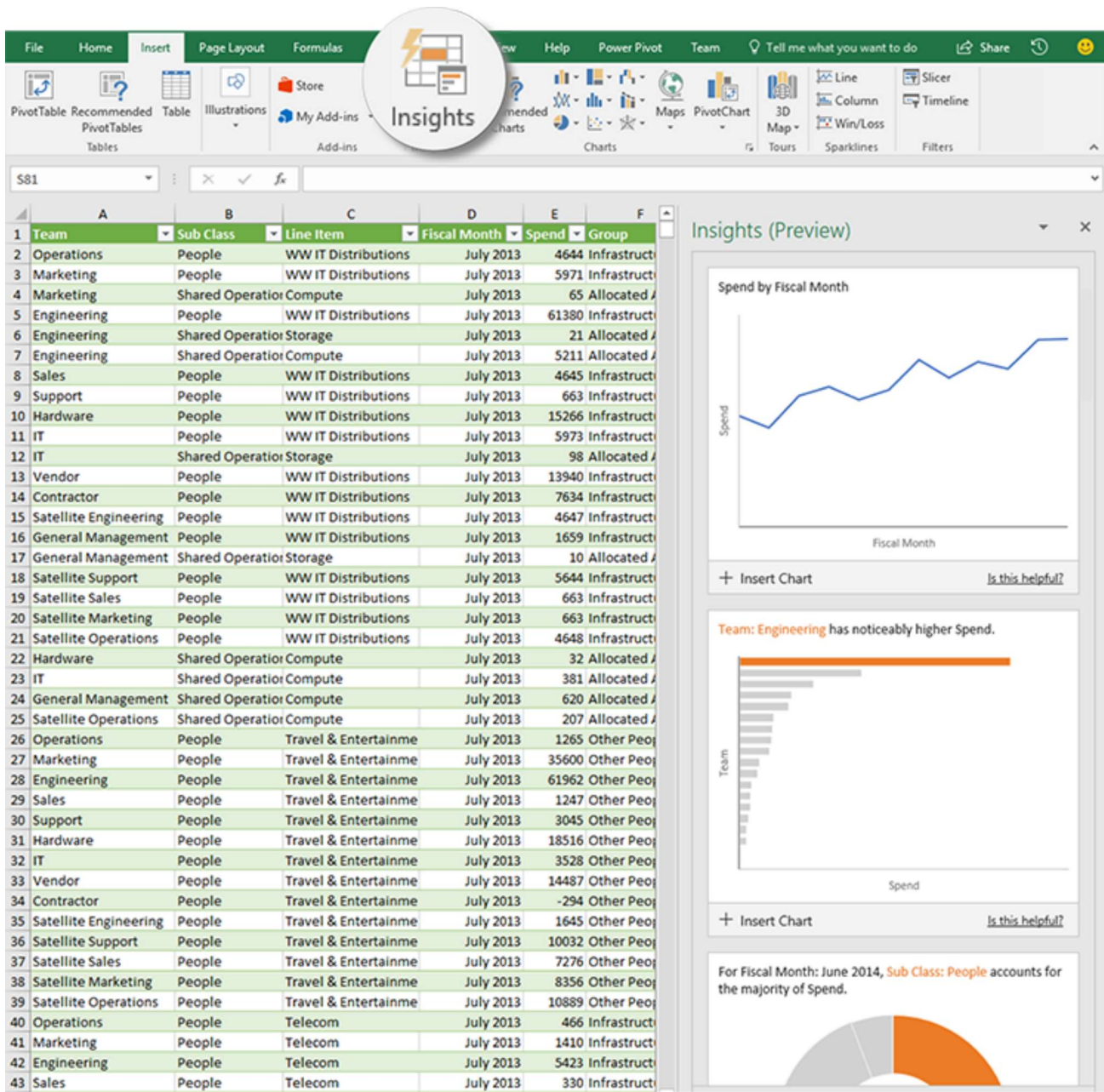
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# Insights in Excel

*Applies To: Excel 2016, Excel for Office 365*

With the help of Insights in Excel, you can get fast, automated, insightful analysis about your data. Simply click a cell in a data range, and then click the **Insights** button on the **Insert** tab. Insights in Excel will analyze your data and return interesting visuals about it in a task pane.



**Note:** This feature is being made available to customers on a gradual basis over several days or weeks. It will first be available in English to [Office Insider](#) participants, and later to [Office 365](#) subscribers. If you are an Office 365 subscriber, [make sure you have the latest version of Office](#).

## What data does Insights work on?

Insights works best with clean, well-organized data that is free of nesting and blank rows/columns. Here's an example of a smaller table for running Insights:

Age Group ▾	Married ▾	Separated ▾	Divorced ▾	Widowed ▾	Never married ▾
15-19 years	488	64	93	65	181,127
20-24 years	5,962	315	189	129	203,137
25-34 years	156,256	5,925	5,767	372	268,839
35-44 years	248,793	13,441	20,192	842	112,702
45-54 years	242,563	18,427	41,479	2,376	74,538
55-64 years	220,145	14,989	46,500	5,846	40,094
65-74 years	177,199	9,263	30,434	11,137	16,790
75-84 years	93,832	3,196	10,154	16,221	6,044
85 years and over	26,729	716	1,913	16,065	2,141

And here's an example of a larger table for running Insights:

Year ▾	State ▾	Producer Type ▾	Energy Source ▾	CO2 (kt) ▾	SO2 kt ▾	NOx kt ▾
1990	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	821.9	13.2	3.0
1991	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	848.7	8.4	3.1
1992	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	860.9	8.5	3.2
1993	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	858.2	8.4	3.2
1994	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	866.7	8.9	3.2
1995	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	883.6	7.8	1.9
1996	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	855.5	7.9	1.9
1997	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	900.7	8.1	1.9
1998	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	640.6	4.8	1.3
1999	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	658.9	4.7	1.4
2000	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	647.3	3.8	0.9
2001	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	596.0	0.7	0.9
2002	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	390.4	0.6	0.8
2003	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	703.1	1.3	1.4
2004	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	705.6	0.9	0.8
2005	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	699.5	1.4	1.5
2006	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	692.0	1.4	1.6
2007	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	704.9	1.5	1.6
2008	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	750.9	1.8	1.7
2009	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	720.9	1.7	1.6
2010	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	723.2	1.6	1.6
2011	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	827.0	1.7	1.8
2012	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	830.5	1.8	1.7
2013	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	349.2	0.8	0.8
2014	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	341.3	0.7	0.8
2015	AK	Commercial Cogen	Coal	345.4	0.7	0.6
1991	AK	Commercial Cogen	Natural Gas	0.0	0.0	0.8
1992	AK	Commercial Cogen	Natural Gas	0.0	0.0	0.8
2007	AK	Commercial Cogen	Natural Gas	0.6	0.0	0.0
2010	AK	Commercial Cogen	Natural Gas	0.8	0.0	0.0
2011	AK	Commercial Cogen	Natural Gas	3.4	0.0	0.0
2012	AK	Commercial Cogen	Natural Gas	3.1	0.0	0.0

Insights works best with clean, tabular data.

Here are some tips for getting the most out of Insights:

1. Pick data on a single sheet with repeating rows and no gaps.
2. Insights works best with data that's formatted as an [Excel Table](#). To create an Excel Table, click anywhere in your data and then press **CTRL+T**.
3. Make sure you have good headers for the columns. Headers should be a single row of unique, non-blank labels for each column. Avoid double rows of headers, merged cells, etc.
4. If you have complicated or nested data, you can use [Power Query](#) to convert tables with cross-tabs or multiple rows of headers.

## Didn't get Insights? It's probably us, not you.

Here are some reasons why Insights may not work on your data:

- Insights Services doesn't currently support analyzing datasets over 16MB (approximately 250k cells). There is currently no workaround for this. In the meantime, you can filter your data, then copy it to another location to run Insights on it.
- String dates like "2017-01-01" will be analyzed as if they are text strings. As a workaround, create a new column that uses the [DATE](#) or [DATEVALUE](#) functions, and format it as a date.
- Insights can't analyze data when Excel is in compatibility mode (i.e. when the file is in .xls format). In the meantime, save your file as an .xlsx, .xlsm, or xslb file.
- Blank or duplicate column headers can be difficult for Insights to understand. As a workaround, add unique names for each column.
- Merged cells can also be hard to understand. As a workaround, remove all merged cells, then format the cells using **Center Across Selection**. Here's how: Press **CTRL+1**, then go to **Alignment > Horizontal > Center Across Selection**.

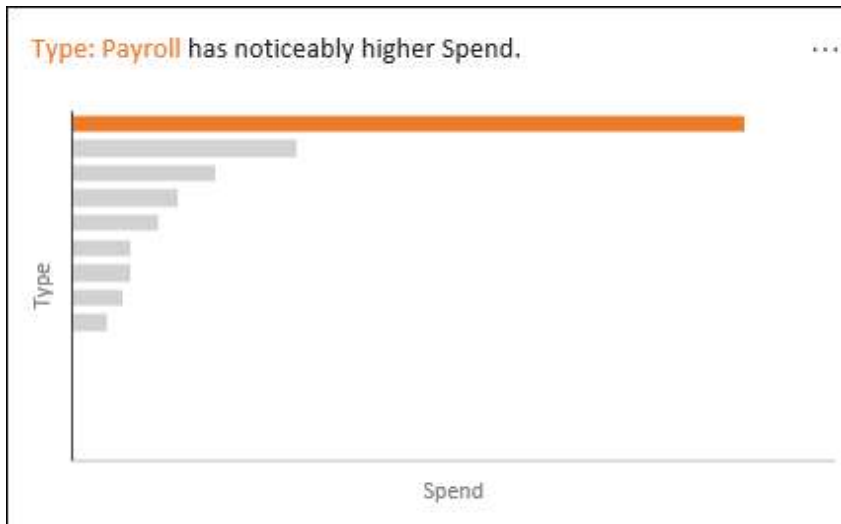
## We're always improving Insights

Even if you don't have any of the above conditions, we may not find a recommendation. That's because we are looking for a specific set of insight classes, and the service doesn't always find something. We are continually working to expand the analysis types that the service supports.

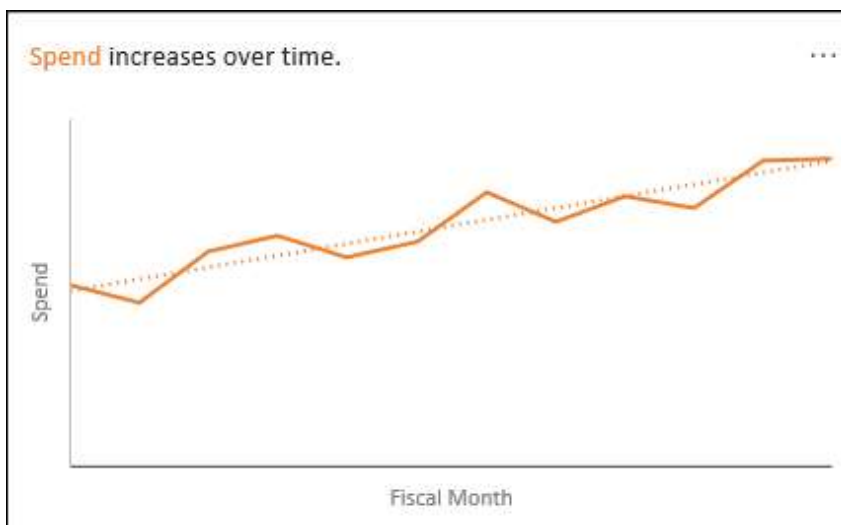
Here is the current list that is available:



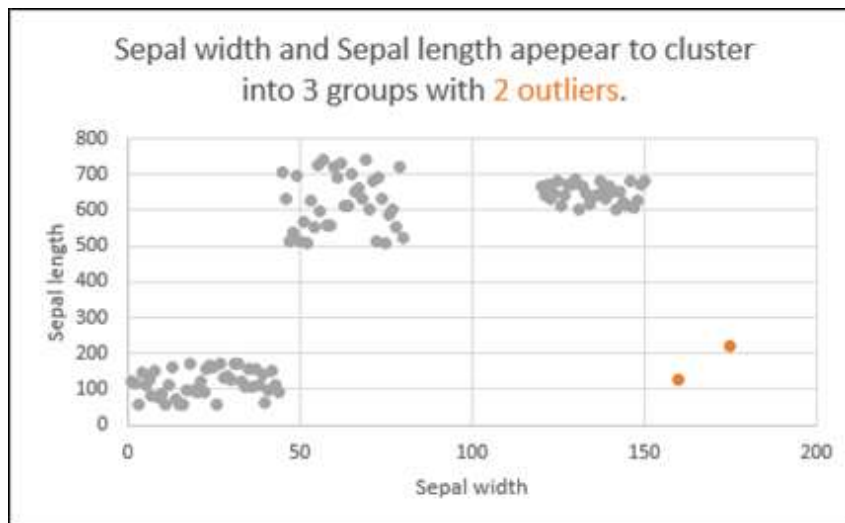
- **Rank:** Ranks and highlights the item that is significantly larger than the rest of the items.



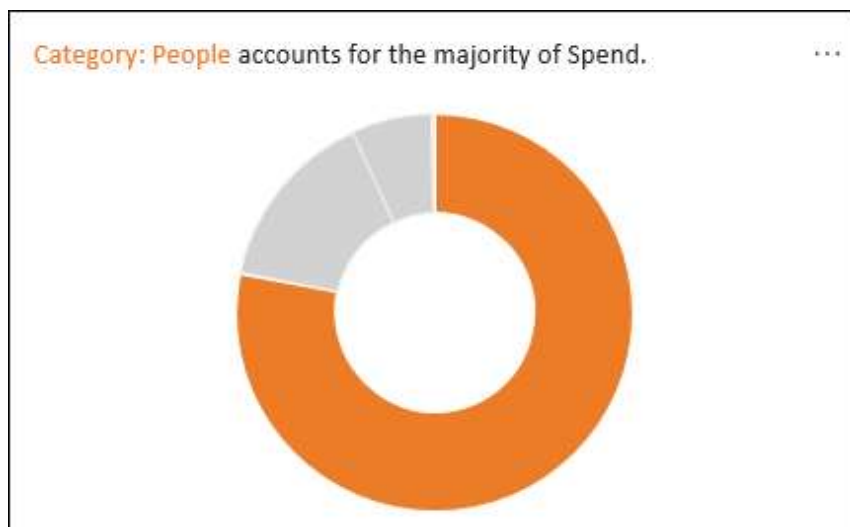
- **Trend:** Highlights when there is a steady trend pattern over a time series of data.



- **Outlier:** Highlights outliers in time series.



- **Majority:** Finds cases where a majority of a total value can be attributed to a single factor.



If you don't get any results, please send us feedback by going to **File > Feedback**.

## Licensing information for Insights

Insights uses material from third-parties. If you'd like to read the details, click the link below.

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[Third-Party and Open Source Licensing Information](#)

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## Need more help?

You can always ask an expert in the [Excel Tech Community](#), get support in the [Answers community](#), or suggest a new feature or improvement on [Excel User Voice](#).



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