

SQL Sentry Portal Custom Charts

Last Modified on 02 November 2021

✔ **Applies to the following products and features:** The on-premises SQL Sentry Portal feature for SQL Sentry. See the [Getting Started with SQL Sentry Portal](#) article for more details.

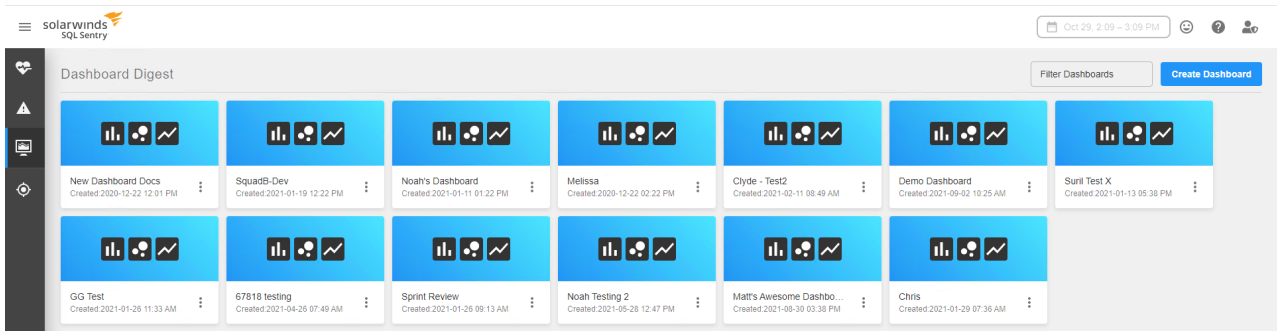
Introduction

Custom charts in SQL Sentry Portal allow you to create personalized dashboards with the performance counters, labels, colors, and chart types you select.

🔗 **Additional Information:** See the [Your Performance Data, Your Way with Custom Charts in Portal](#) blog post for more examples.

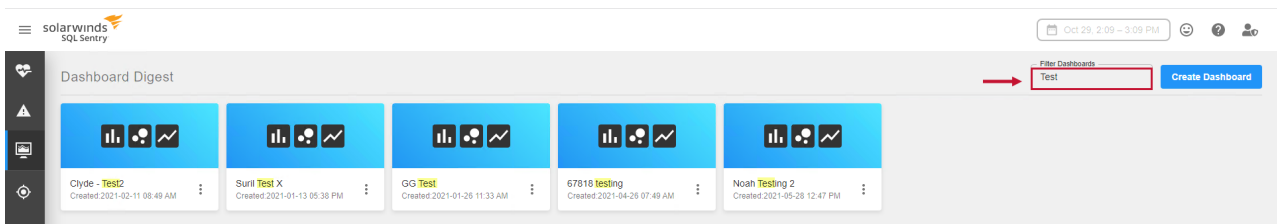
Viewing Dashboards

Select **Dashboards** from the sidebar. If dashboards with custom charts already exist, they will be listed here under the **Dashboard Digest**. Select a **Dashboard** to view its contents.



Filter Dashboards

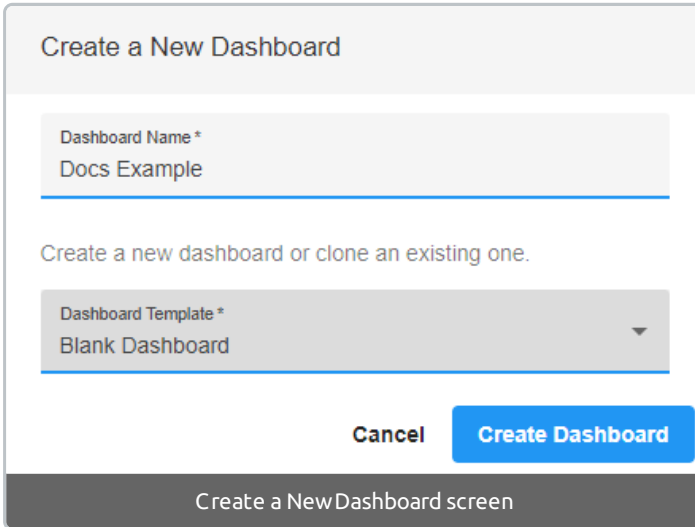
If you have a large number of dashboards, you may want to filter what is displayed in the **Dashboard Digest**. Start typing in the **Filter Dashboards** box to filter the dashboard options displayed.



Creating Dashboards with Custom Charts

To create a Custom Dashboard in SQL Sentry Portal, complete the following steps:

1. Select **Dashboards** from the sidebar to open the **Dashboard Digest**.
2. Select the **Create Dashboard** button.



Create a New Dashboard

Dashboard Name *
Docs Example

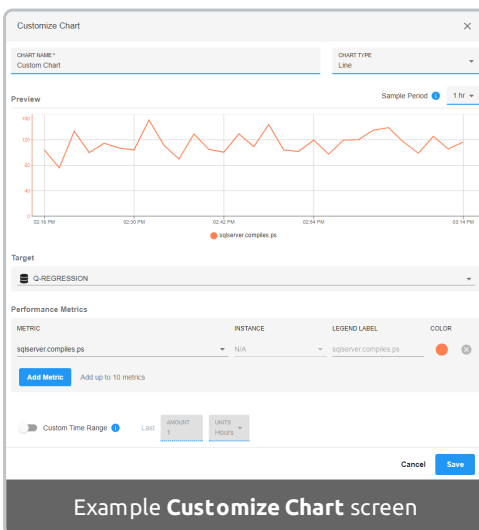
Create a new dashboard or clone an existing one.

Dashboard Template *
Blank Dashboard

Cancel Create Dashboard

Create a New Dashboard screen

3. Enter a **Dashboard Name** on the **Create a New Dashboard** screen. This is how the dashboard will appear on the **Dashboard Digest**.
4. Select a **Dashboard Template** from the drop-down menu. Use **Blank Dashboard** to start fresh or choose an existing dashboard name as a starting point for this dashboard.
5. Select the **Edit** button to launch the **Add Charts** options bar.
 - **Note:** Use **Custom Chart** to start fresh with the specific metrics you are looking for, or select an existing group from one of the options (e.g. *Host* > *CPU* or *SQL Server* > *Database I/O*). If you select an existing chart option, you can still customize it.
6. Add a chart and use the **Customize Chart** screen to make changes with the custom chart options (described below) to create a chart.



Customize Chart

CHART NAME *
Custom Chart

CHART TYPE
Line

Preview

Sample Period 1 hr

Target

Q-REGRESSION

Performance Metrics

METRIC	INSTANCE	LEGEND LABEL	COLOR
sqlserver.complex.ps	N/A	sqlserver.complex.ps	Red Circle

Add Metric Add up to 10 metrics

Custom Time Range List AMOUNT UNITS

Cancel Save

Example Customize Chart screen

7. Select **Save** to save your chart and return to the edit dashboard screen.
8. Add additional charts or select **Save & Exit** to complete your dashboard.

Custom Chart Options

Customize Chart
✕

Published charts utilize the dashboard time range unless a custom time range is specified

CHART NAME*
Custom Chart

TARGET*
 SQUADB-DEV.eng.local

Performance Metrics Add up to 10 metrics Sample Period i 1 hour Add Metric

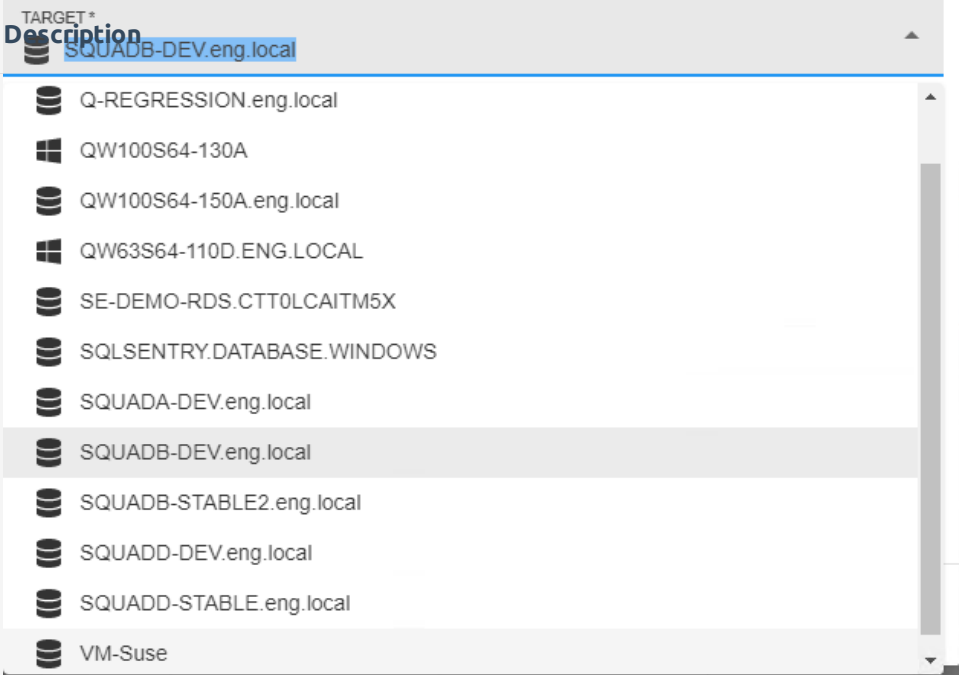
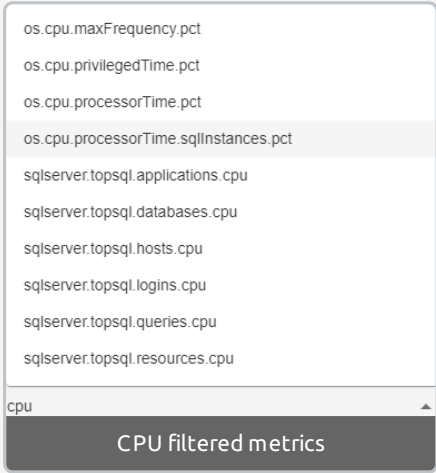
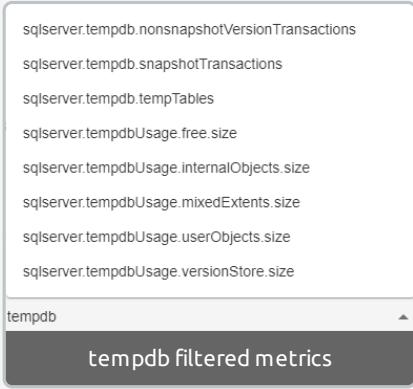
METRIC	INSTANCE	LEGEND LABEL	COLOR	TYPE
sqlserver.writes	SentryOne_Data (Senti	sqlserver.writes: SentryOne_	●	Line ✕

Custom Time Range i Last AMOUNT UNITS

1 v Hours v

Cancel Save

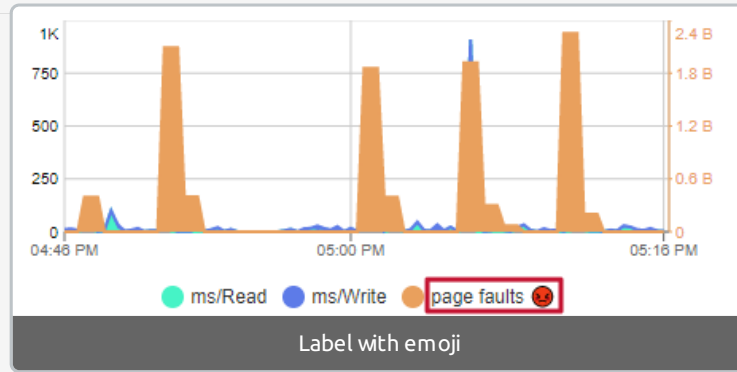
Option	Description
Preview	The preview area displays your chart with the selected options.
Chart Name	A descriptive name for the chart. This is how it will be identified on the Dashboards view and used for filtering.
	<p>The name of the monitored <u>target</u> to select metrics from for the custom chart. When building your dashboard, you can include charts for different targets and target types on the same dashboard.</p> <p>ⓘ Note: Targets types are identified with icons in the Target drop-down list. When you select the Target from the list you will only have access to applicable metrics in the Performance Metrics section below. For example, a Windows target has access the applicable <i>Windows</i> or <i>host</i> metrics and <i>SQL Server</i> or <i>Azure SQL Database</i> targets have access to the applicable SQL Server or Azure metrics. You must be collecting tempdb metrics to have tempdb metrics listed.</p>

<p>Option Target</p>	
<p>Sample Period</p>	<p>Option to include historical metrics for 1 hour, 1 day, or 1 week.</p>
<p>Add Metric</p>	<p>Select the Add Metric button to add another metric to the custom chart. You may add up to 10 metrics per chart.</p>
<p>Metric</p>	<p>A drop-down menu of performance counter metrics (e.g. <i>host.disk.reads</i>, <i>host.network.in.total</i>, <i>sqlserver.batches</i>, etc.) applicable to the selected Target type.</p> <p>Note: Start typing to filter the available metrics. For example, type <i>cpu</i> to see all CPU-related metrics or <i>tempdb</i> for tempdb-related metrics.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div data-bbox="461 1323 898 1794">  </div> <div data-bbox="956 1317 1370 1704">  </div> </div>
<p>Instance</p>	<p>The instance of the metric (if applicable) such as <i>Average</i> or a specific <i>Node / Core</i> for <i>host.cpu.cores</i> or a specific disk for <i>host.wmi.disk.size</i>.</p>
	<p>The text that appears on the chart legend to associate the metric and color.</p>

Option

Note: You can use emoji in the legend label. So if certain metrics make you happy, sad, or angry, you can add a little flair to your legend.

Legend Label



Color

The color that the metric will use on the chart.



Select the **dot** to open the color palette window. To choose a color, use the color slider and select a shade from the rectangle, enter a HEX value, or enter RGB values for your custom color. Select **Set** when you have chosen the appropriate color for the associated metric.

Chart Type

The following chart type options are available:

- *Line* (default)
- *Area*
- *Column*

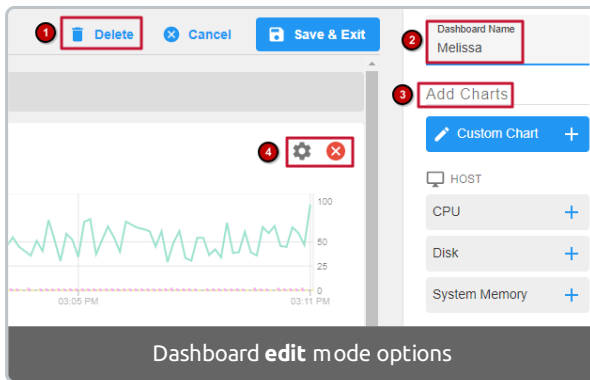
Note: There's much to debate when it comes to choosing the right type of chart to visualize your data. Keep in mind that:

- A *line* chart displays data points that are connected with a single line. Its simplicity makes it a versatile and common chart type.
- An *area* chart displays the data points with a connected line and fills in the area below. It may be difficult to see all metrics in an area chart (depending on the data being displayed).
- A *Column* chart displays data in vertical bars, grouped by metric. It can be particularly useful for comparing series of data.

Units Option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hours Days Description
Save	Select Save to save the changes to your custom chart, and add it to your Dashboard.
Cancel	Select Cancel to dismiss your custom chart and not save any changes.

Editing Dashboards

1. Select **Dashboards** from the sidebar.
2. On the **Dashboard Digest** screen you can either:
 1. Select the **options** button on the dashboard you want to edit.
 2. Select the dashboard you want to edit, then select the **edit** button from the **Dashboards** screen.



Edit mode allows you to do any of the following:

1. Delete the dashboard.
2. Rename the dashboard.
3. Add additional charts to the dashboard.
4. Configure or delete existing charts on the dashboard.

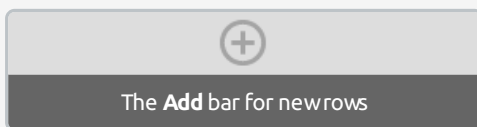
Remember to select **Save & Exit** after making your changes, or **Cancel** to dismiss them.

Organizing Charts

When you are in **Edit** mode, you can drag and drop the charts to change the order or position on the dashboard. If you want more than one chart per row, drag it into a row that contains another chart to create another chart column.




Note: To remove a chart from a multi-column row and place it in a new row, drag and drop it on the bar with the add symbol (plus sign in a circle).




Editing Custom Charts



Adding charts

Selecting  **edit** on the dashboard allows you to add new charts using the **Add Charts** option bar. See the [Custom Chart Options](#) above to complete adding a chart.

Editing charts

1. Select the  **configure** button on the chart you want to edit.
2. Edit the options as needed. See the [Custom Chart Options](#) above.
3. Select **Save**.

Removing charts

1. Select the  **edit** button on the dashboard that contains the chart you want to remove.
2. Select the  **delete** button on the chart you want to remove.

3. Select **Save & Exit** to complete the chart deletion.
 - **Note:** Select **Cancel** if you do not want to delete the chart.

Deleting Dashboards

An entire dashboard may be deleted from the **Dashboard Digest** or **Dashboard** screen.

From the **Dashboard Digest** screen:

1. Select the **options** button on the dashboard you want to remove.
2. Select **Delete**.
3. Select **Delete Dashboard** on the **Delete Dashboard Confirmation** screen to complete the dashboard deletion.
 - **Note:** Select **Cancel** if you do not want to delete the dashboard.

From the **Dashboard** screen:

1. Select the **Edit** button on the dashboard you want to remove.
2. Select the **Delete** button on the dashboard you want to remove.
3. Select **Delete Dashboard** on the **Delete Dashboard Confirmation** screen to complete the dashboard deletion.
 - **Note:** Select **Cancel** if you do not want to delete the dashboard.