

## Advanced Search

In an advanced search, additional search criterion can be added in order to narrow the search results to a more specific focus.

In this tutorial you will:

- Learn how to conduct an advanced search in <odesi>
- Learn how to modify the search criteria in order to narrow or broaden the search.

This is the <odesi> home page. Notice the search field in the top left hand corner of the screen. To the right of this field is an >> icon. Clicking on this icon opens the advanced search window.

nesstar

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<odesi> a voyage in data discovery  
un voyage à la découverte des données

Enter your search here

DESCRIPTION TABULATION

Agriculture  
Business and Financial  
Census of Population  
Communications and Information  
Consumer Surveys  
Crime and Justice  
Demographics and Population  
Education  
Government Finances and Economic Indicators  
Elections and Politics  
Health  
Labour and Employment  
Natural Resources and Environment  
Public Opinion Polls  
Social Surveys  
Trade  
Travel

We're growing!

Data for Agriculture, Business and Financial, Communications and Information, Health and Public Opinion Polls are available now ... more on the way ...

Nous grandissons!

Les données sur les agriculture, affaires et financier, communications et l'information, et les sondages sur l'opinion du public et sur la santé sont maintenant disponibles. D'autres données suivront sous peu.

<odesi>

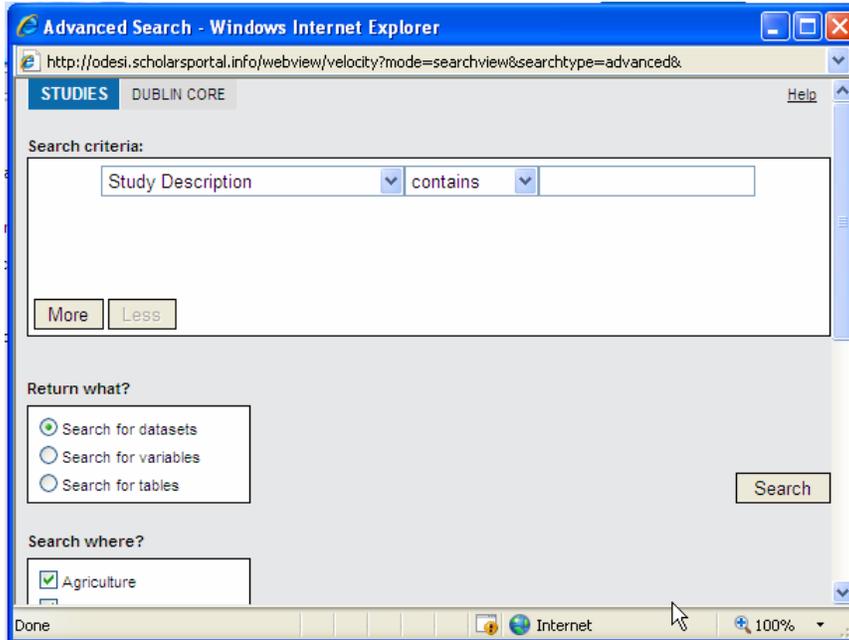
An intuitive data portal for researchers, teachers and students;  
inspiring, developing and supporting research excellence.

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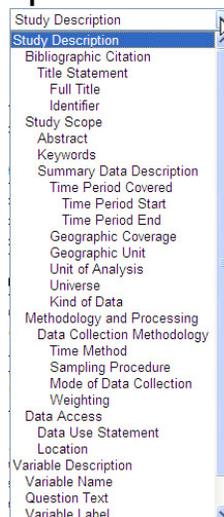
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## Conducting an advanced search

- 1) To conduct an advanced search:
  - Click on the >> icon beside the search field. This will open the advanced search in a new window.
- 2) Here is the advanced search window.



- Notice the drop down menus. The first menu allows us to specify an area within the surveys where we want our parameter to be present.



### TIP:

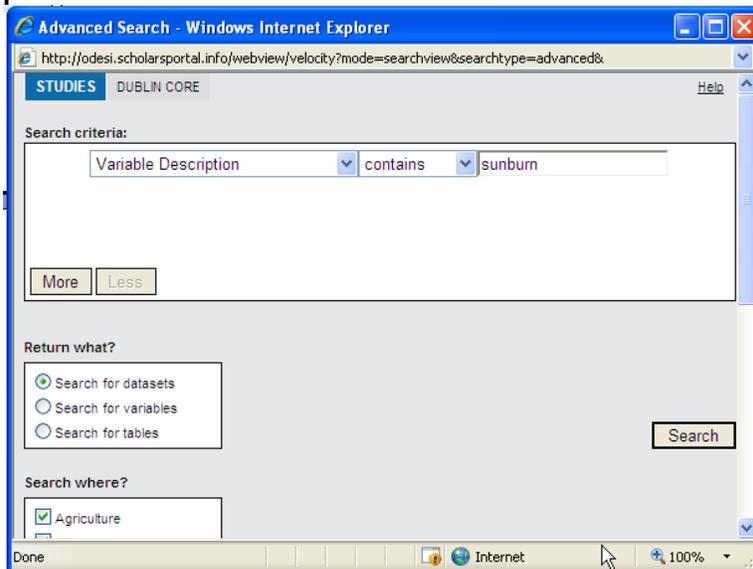
The instructions that follow provide a step by step look at conducting an advanced search in <odesi>.

Try to follow these instructions in your own browser as you progress through the tutorial.

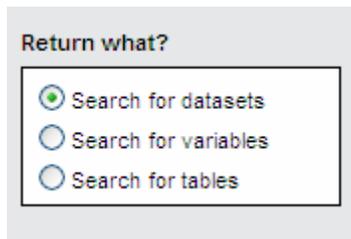
- We can choose to search the *Study Description* or the *Variable Description* or within a specific area of either.
  - For this demonstration we will search within the *Variable Description* section. Select *Variable Description* from the list.
- 3) Boolean searches:
- The second drop down menu allows us to conduct Boolean searches.



- For this demonstration we will select *contains*
- 4) Type the search parameter into the search field.
- For this demonstration we will search for *sunburn*
  - Type *sunburn* into the search field.



- 5) Return what?...
- In this window we can choose to search for datasets, variables or tables. This option lets us select the type of data that our search will return.
  - Let's start by searching for datasets.

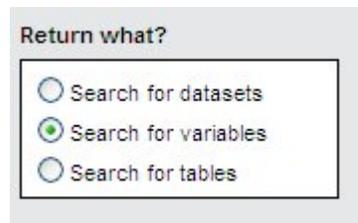


- 6) Hit enter or click on the *Search* icon to conduct the search.

This search returned 3 hits. We still do not know where in the survey our search parameter lies. Let's conduct another search and narrow the search field.

### Narrowing the search: Search for variables

- 1) Click on the >> icon to open the advanced search window.
- 2) Select *Variable Description* from the drop down menu and type *sunburn* in the search field.
- 3) From the Return what? menu, select *Search for variables*. Now our search will only return variables with our search parameter in the name.



- 4) Hit the enter key or click on the Search icon to conduct the search.

This search returned 3 surveys with our parameter in the variable description. Notice that it says *Variables Found*.

■ Variables found. Open folders to view.  
📁 Canadian Community Health Survey, 2005: Cycle 3.1, Main File  
📁 National Population Health Survey, 1996-97 [Canada]: Health  
📁 Sun Exposure Survey, 1996 [Canada]

- 5) Open the *Canadian Community Health Survey, 2005*.
- Notice that the search returned one variable from this survey that matched our search criteria.
  - Click on the variable name. This opens the variable's frequency data.

The screenshot shows a search results page in the Odesi system. On the left is a tree view of categories, with 'Canadian Community Health Survey, 2005: Cycle 3.1, Main File' expanded to show 'Sunburn involved blistering [Open in context]'. The main content area displays the variable details for 'Variable SSBE\_02 : Sunburn involved blistering'. It includes the literal question 'Did any of your sunburns involve blistering?' and a frequency table with a bar chart. The table shows that 89.3% of respondents answered 'NO'.

Values	Categories	N	NW	
1	YES	564	108259	10.7%
2	NO	4275	900801	89.3%
6	NOT APPLICABLE	127121	26059647	
7	DONT KNOW	4	909	
8	REFUSAL	0	0	
9	NOT STATED	257	56548	

N = Frequencies based on unweighted data; NW = Frequencies based on weighted data

**Summary Statistics**

Valid cases	4839
Missing cases	127382
Minimum	1.0
Maximum	2.0

This variable is numeric

**Universe**  
Respondents who answered SSBE\_01 = (1, 7 or 8)

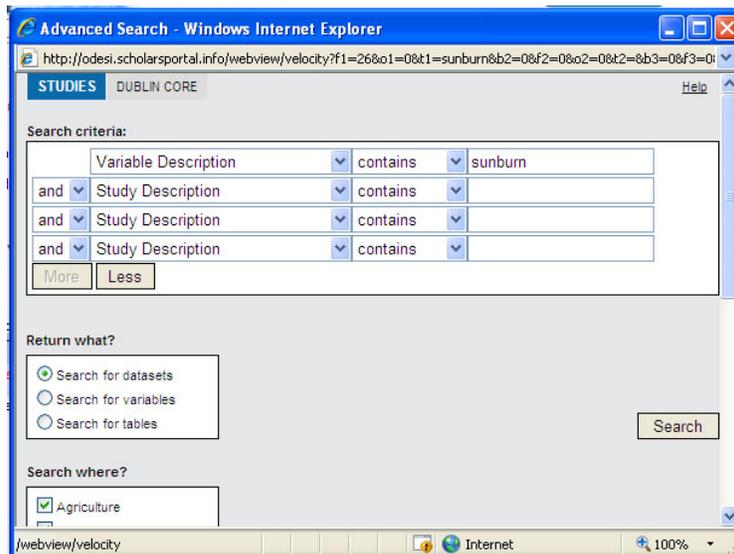
- 6) Beside the variable name there is the option to [Open in context].
- Click on this link. This opens the entire dataset in a new window.

The screenshot shows the Odesi interface with the variable 'Sunburn involved blistering' selected. The 'DESCRIPTION' tab is active, showing the dataset name 'Canadian Community Health Survey, 2005: Cycle 3.1, Main File'. The variable details and frequency table are identical to the previous screenshot. The left sidebar shows a detailed tree view of the dataset's structure, including 'Variable Description', 'Metadata', and various health-related categories. The top navigation bar includes 'nesstar', 'Odesi Home', 'Odesi Wiki', 'Help', 'Tutorial', and 'Contact Us'. The footer contains copyright information: 'Copyright © 2001-2006 NSD - All Rights Reserved - Contact Odesi Support POWERED BY nesstar'.

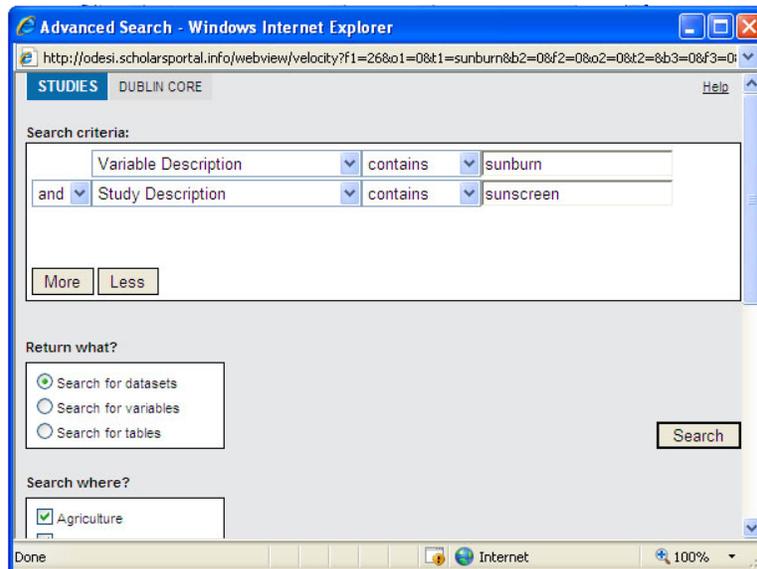
## Narrowing the search: Adding search criteria

Let's look at a few other ways that we can modify the search.  
Open the advanced search window.

- 1) Select *Variable Description* from the drop down menu and type *sunburn* into the search field.
- 2) The search field can be narrowed by adding more search criteria.
  - To do this, click on the *More* icon. You can have up to 4 search criterion.



- To broaden the search, remove additional search fields by clicking on the *Less* icon.
- 3) Let's search for *sunscreen* within the *Study Description*.
    - Type *sunscreen* into the second search field.



- 4) Select *Search for variables* from the *Return what?* menu.
- 5) Notice that there is another menu in this window. The *Search where?* menu allows us to select data categories within which we would like to conduct our search.
  - Click on the boxes beside the data categories to remove or include them from the search.
  - For this demonstration we will include all the data categories.



6) Hit the enter key or click on the *Search* icon to begin the search.

This search only returned 1 survey. Notice that it says *Variables found*.

7) Click on this survey to open it. Notice that there are 3 variables in this survey that matched our search criteria.

- Click on a variable name to view its frequency data, or click [Open in context] to view the entire dataset.

### Try it!

Practice conducting an advanced search in <odesi>. Open the advanced search field.

- Search for the parameter *music* in *Variable Description*. Search for datasets.
- Search for *music* in *Variable Description*. Search for variables.
- Open a variable in context.
- Search for *music* in *Variable Description* and *internet* in *Study Description*. Search for variables.