

AUSSDA Factsheet – Searching in Dataverse

Simple search

- Enter a search term in the **central search bar** (top or left).
- By default, **all Dataverses and datasets** are searched.
- The search covers **all metadata** (title, abstract, keywords, description, etc.); **English search terms** are recommended.
- The "files" filter displays only files that contain the search term in the variable labels.
- The quality of the results depends on the **labelling quality**; cryptic variable names can reduce the hit rate.

Tip: Try both German and English search terms.

Note:

Use the placeholder * to expand your search results.

- Examples:
 - *employment finds employment and unemployment
 - parliament* finds parliament and parliamentary

Advanced Search

Access: **To the right of the search field** → "Advanced Search": Enables targeted searches in different metadata areas.

Possible search fields:

- **Dataverses:** e.g. dvName:gfk
- **Dataset-Metadaten** (Citation Metadata): e.g. keywords
- **File and variable metadata:** variable names, variable labels
- Examples:
 - keywordValue:election
→ finds data records with the keyword *election*
 - keywordValue:election NOT dvName:gfk
→ finds *election*, but excludes the Dataverse gfk
 - keywordValue:voting AND keywordValue:election
→ results must contain both terms
 - dateOfCollectionStart:[2021 TO 2025]
→ finds data sets with a survey start date between 2021 and 2025

- variableLabel:election
→ searches variable labels in data files imported into the AUSSDA Dataverse

Note:

- Logical operators must be entered in **capital letters**.
- The quality of the results depends heavily on the quality of the variable and file labels.

Combining different metadata fields

For complex search queries, several fields can be combined.

- Example:
 - Search for variable labels **and** specific keywords
 - Exclude or prioritise specific Dataverses
- You can find a list of fields in the "Advanced Search" interface.

Practical tips

- Consider: *Are you looking for variables, files, data sets or Dataverses?*
- Variable labels can only be searched for files that have been imported and processed in the AUSSDA Dataverse.
- If you are unsure: narrow or expand the search area (files, datasets, Dataverses).
- Combining free text search + "Advanced Search" delivers the most precise results.