

API Usage Documentation

Introduction to Knoema API

The following documentation describes how to use the Knoema API to retrieve information on datasets, their structures (including dimensions and their elements), and of course the data itself.

Knoema tests all API requests in the Postman (https://www.getpostman.com/) and examples from it can be provided by request.

Knoema provides a separate pack of libraries on GitHub for Python, R, Java, and C#. These libraries have documentation available on GitHub and are not repeated here.

- Python: https://github.com/Knoema/knoema-python-driver (documentation)
- R: https://qithub.com/Knoema/knoema-r-driver (documentation)
- Java: https://github.com/Knoema/knoema-java-driver (documentation)
- C#: https://github.com/Knoema/knoema-csharp-driver

Knoema also supports SDMX (without the delta updates), more information in this can be found by the following link: https://knoema.com/dev/opendata/sdmx

There is no preferred method to retrieve data. Whether you retrieve data through Python or rest API (described in this document), the result will be the same. It all depends on the environment you wish to work in, i.e. if you're using Python, it will be easier for you to use the Python package then using rest API.

We welcome your feedback and questions. Please contact your Knoema representative for support.



The Knoema REST API

The following provides details on using Knoema's REST API to retrieve information about the datasets within your catalog as well as the data itself. As you work, append the URL extensions **highlighted in green** to your system's URL. For example, in *Authentication*, you would construct the link myportal.company.com/user/apps.

Authentication

The first step of using API is always understanding how to authenticate requests because requests are limited by count, by default.

For the Knoema API, you need to know the following parameters to get a Bearer Token:

- Client ID (or App ID)
- Client secret (or App Secret)

To get these parameters, log in to your Knoema system, open the link /user/apps and click *Create New*. Once your application is created you will see the Application ID and Secret, which you can use to generate Authorization header or you can pass them into the supported libraries (Python, R, Java, and C#) where the Authorization header will be generated automatically based on your personal parameters.

The example below shows how to generate it with Javascript:

```
var appId = "";
var appSecret = "";

var kapi = {
    appid: appId,
    appsecret: appSecret,
    getAuthHeader: function() {
      var currentTime = new Date();

    var n = ("0" + currentTime.getUTCDate()).slice(-2)
      + "-" + ("0" + (currentTime.getUTCMonth()+1)).slice(-2)
      + "-" + currentTime.getUTCFullYear().toString().substr(-2)
      + "-" + ("0" + currentTime.getUTCHours()).slice(-2);
```



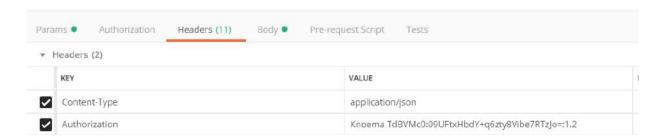
```
var t = CryptoJS.HmacSHA1(appSecret, n).toString(CryptoJS.enc.Base64);
    return "Knoema " + appId + ":" + t + ":1.2"
}
```

Note: The CryptoJS library is used to generate the token. You can use *jsrsassign*, which has an implementation for CryptoJS.HmacSHA1 and CryptoJS.enc.Base64 https://kjur.github.io/jsrsasign/.

• Example on JS Fiddle: https://jsfiddle.net/AlexKulikov/0bqdLhxq

Once set up, you can use it as **kapi.getAuthHeader()** to get the authorization header to use in subsequent requests. Note that the authorization header changes from time to time for security reasons so we recommend regenerating it for each request.

Following is an example of the authorization header with the value from the Postman:



Note that there is a 50 requests per day limit on how many requests we may send across for anonymous usage (without Authorization header). With an app, the limit is 500 requests per day. It is also possible to upgrade your application to allow unlimited use (by request to your Knoema representative).

Authorization tag is also needed to not only increase the number of requests permitted but also to access data that is not publicly available to all users within the platform. The application created under your account shares the same access rights through API as you enjoy through registered access to the web portal from Knoema.

While it is possible to share one application across several users by sharing AppID/AppSecret, we do not encourage this practice for security reasons.



Metadata

Available Datasets List

To retrieve the list datasets available to you, send a GET request with the authorization header:

Request: /api/1.0/meta/dataset

Method: GET

Headers: Authorization

Result: JSON (an archive of JSON objects)

```
"dimensions": null,
        "ref": "https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2019/01/weodata/index.aspx",
        "hasGeoDimension": false,
        "hasGeoMapColumn": false,
        "hasLatLngColumn": false,
        "updatePriority": ∅,
        "replacementDataset": null,
        "type": "Regular",
        "regionDimensionId": null,
        "geoPositionDimensionId": null,
        "status": 2,
        "customMetadataFieldValues": null,
        "hasShortCut": false,
        "url": null,
        "settings":
"{\"defaultSelection_fiyjfkd\":{\"Dataset\":\"fiyjfkd\",\"Header\":[{\"FilterText\":null,\"D
imensionId\":\"Time\",\"Members\":[],\"DatasetId\":\"fiyjfkd\",\"UiMode\":\"allData\"}],\"St
ub\":[{\"FilterText\":null,\"DimensionId\":\"country\",\"Members\":[\"1001500\",\"1001850\"]
,\"DatasetId\":\"fiyjfkd\"}],\"Filter\":[{\"FilterText\":null,\"DimensionId\":\"subject\",\"
Members\":[\"1000060\"],\"DatasetId\":\"fiyjfkd\"}],\"Frequencies\":[\"A\"],\"RegionIdsRequi
red\":false,\"RegionDimensionId\":null,\"TimeseriesAttributes\":[]},\"defaultGadgetType_fiyj
fkd\":\"line\"}",
        "isShortcut": true,
        "shareToCommunitiesAllowed": true,
        "publicationDate": "2019-04-09T00:00:00",
        "title": "imf-world-economic-outlook-weo-database-april-2019",
```



```
"accessedOn": "2019-04-11T00:00:00",
"nextReleaseDate": "2019-10-09T00:00:00",
"lastUpdatedOn": "2019-04-12T16:23:27.103",
"source": {
   "id": "IMF",
   "url": null,
   "name": "International Monetary Fund",
   "localizedName": "International Monetary Fund",
   "isVerified": true
"key": 4604400,
"id": "qhblznb",
"name": "IMF: World Economic Outlook (WEO) Database, April 2019",
"description": "Dataset's description with all HTML tags used.",
"owner": "Knoema",
"isPublic": true,
"rawDescription": "Dataset's description as raw text."
```

This request is usually used to retrieve the full list of available datasets. If you already know the dataset IDs (field "id" in the result above) you do not need to send this request.



Dataset Details

To retrieve the details of the dataset by its unique ID, send a GET request with the authorization header.

Request: /api/1.0/meta/dataset/<DatasetID>
Request example: /api/1.0/meta/dataset/qhblznb

Method: GET

Headers: Authorization Result: JSON object

```
"dimensions": [
        "key": 4267050,
        "id": "country",
        "name": "Country",
        "isGeo": true,
        "geoType": "region"
        "key": 4267060,
        "id": "subject",
        "name": "Subject",
        "isGeo": false,
        "geoType": null
"ref": "https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2019/01/weodata/index.aspx",
"hasGeoDimension": true,
"hasGeoMapColumn": false,
"hasLatLngColumn": false,
"updatePriority": 0,
"replacementDataset": null,
"columns": [
        "key": 12154510,
        "name": "Country",
        "order": 1,
        "type": "Text"
   }, {
```



```
"key": 12154520,
        "name": "RegionId",
        "order": 2,
        "type": "Text"
        "key": 12154530,
        "name": "ISO",
        "order": 3,
        "type": "Text"
        "key": 12154540,
        "name": "Id",
        "order": 4,
        "type": "Text"
   }, {
        "key": 12154550,
        "name": "Subject",
        "order": 5,
        "type": "Text"
        "key": 12154560,
        "name": "SubjectNotes",
        "order": 6,
        "type": "Text"
        "key": 12154570,
        "name": "Subject Name as per IMF",
        "order": 7,
        "type": "Text"
        "key": 12154580,
        "name": "Id",
        "order": 8,
        "type": "Text"
        "key": 12154590,
        "name": "Value",
        "order": 9,
        "type": "Number"
        "key": 12154600,
        "name": "Date",
        "order": 10,
        "type": "Date"
],
```



```
"type": "Regular",
    "regionDimensionId": "country",
    "geoPositionDimensionId": null,
    "status": 2,
    "customMetadataFieldValues": [],
    "hasShortCut": false,
    "url": null,
    "settings":
"{\"defaultSelection_fiyjfkd\":{\"Dataset\":\"fiyjfkd\",\"Header\":[{\"FilterText\":null,\"D
imensionId\":\"Time\",\"Members\":[],\"DatasetId\":\"fiyjfkd\",\"UiMode\":\"allData\"}],\"St
ub\":[{\"FilterText\":null,\"DimensionId\":\"country\",\"Members\":[\"1001500\",\"1001850\"]
,\"DatasetId\":\"fiyjfkd\"}],\"Filter\":[{\"FilterText\":null,\"DimensionId\":\"subject\",\"
Members\":[\"1000060\"],\"DatasetId\":\"fiyjfkd\"}],\"Frequencies\":[\"A\"],\"RegionIdsRequi
red\":false,\"RegionDimensionId\":null,\"TimeseriesAttributes\":[]},\"defaultGadgetType_fiyj
fkd\":\"line\"}",
    "isShortcut": true,
    "shareToCommunitiesAllowed": true,
    "publicationDate": "2019-04-09T00:00:00",
    "title": "imf-world-economic-outlook-weo-database-april-2019",
    "accessedOn": "2019-04-11T00:00:00",
    "nextReleaseDate": "2019-10-09T00:00:00",
    "lastUpdatedOn": "2019-04-12T16:23:27.103",
    "source": {
        "id": "IMF",
        "url": null,
        "name": "International Monetary Fund",
        "localizedName": "International Monetary Fund",
        "isVerified": true
    "key": 4604400,
    "id": "qhblznb",
    "name": "IMF: World Economic Outlook (WEO) Database, April 2019",
    "description": "Dataset's description with all HTML tags used.",
    "owner": "Knoema",
    "isPublic": true,
    "rawDescription": "Dataset's description as raw text."
```

This request is usually used to retrieve and understand the structure of the dataset (see property "dimensions," which tells you how many dimensions the dataset has and the IDs of each) and details such as data source, name, and description.

Once you understand the dataset structure, you're ready to retrieve its dimensions and elements.



Dataset Dimension Details

To retrieve the details of the dimension by dataset ID and dimension ID, send a GET request with the authorization header

Request: /api/1.0/meta/dataset/<DatasetID>/dimension/<DimensionID>
Request example: /api/1.0/meta/dataset/qhblznb/dimension/subject

Method: GET

Headers: Authorization

Result: JSON object

```
"key": 4267060,
"id": "subject",
"name": "Subject",
"isGeo": false,
"datasetId": "qhblznb",
"datasetType": 0,
"fields": [
        "key": 5856590,
        "name": "id",
        "displayName": "Id",
        "type": 6,
        "locale": null,
        "baseKey": null,
        "isSystemField": false
    }, {
        "key": 5856600,
        "name": "subjectnotes",
        "displayName": "SubjectNotes",
        "type": 6,
        "locale": null,
        "baseKey": null,
        "isSystemField": false
        "key": 5856610,
        "name": "subject-name-as-per-imf",
```



```
"displayName": "Subject Name as per IMF",
            "type": 6,
            "locale": null,
            "baseKey": null,
            "isSystemField": false
    ],
    "items": [
            "key": 1000000,
            "name": "National Accounts",
            "level": 0,
            "hasData": false,
            "fields": {
                "id": "KN.NA",
                "subjectnotes": "",
                "subject-name-as-per-imf": "National Accounts"
        }, {
            "key": 1000010,
            "name": "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
            "level": 1,
            "hasData": true,
            "fields": {
                "id": "NGDP RPCH",
                "subjectnotes": "Annual percentages of constant price GDP are year-on-year
changes; the base year is country-specific . Expenditure-based GDP is total final
expenditures at purchasers? prices (including the f.o.b. value of exports of goods and
services), less the f.o.b. value of imports of goods and services. [SNA 1993]",
                "subject-name-as-per-imf": "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent
change)"
        }, {
            "kev": 1000020.
            "name": "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change (market
exchange rates))",
            "level": 1,
            "hasData": true,
            "fields": {
                "id": "NGDP RPCHMK",
                "subjectnotes": "",
                "subject-name-as-per-imf": "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent
change (market exchange rates))"
        }, {
            "key": 1000030,
```



```
"name": "Gross domestic product, current prices (U.S. dollars)",
            "level": 1,
            "hasData": true,
            "fields": {
                "id": "NGDPD",
                "subjectnotes": "Values are based upon GDP in national currency converted to
U.S. dollars using market exchange rates (yearly average). Exchange rate projections are
provided by country economists for the group of other emerging market and developing
countries. Exchanges rates for advanced economies are established in the WEO assumptions for
each WEO exercise. Expenditure-based GDP is total final expenditures at purchasers? prices
(including the f.o.b. value of exports of goods and services), less the f.o.b. value of
imports of goods and services. [SNA 1993]",
                "subject-name-as-per-imf": "Gross domestic product, current prices (U.S.
dollars)"
       }],
groups": []
```

This request is needed to understand the structure of each dimension (the above example is for the Subject dimension of the IMF World Economic Outlook (WEO) dataset). The *Fields* property contains a list of fields, which is useful to understand what metadata might be available for elements of the dataset. The *Items* property contains the full list of elements available within a dimension, metadata for each element is available under *fields* property of an appropriate item (see the example above). It also contains information on the Key (or ID) of each element, as well as its Name, Level (for building a hierarchy), and whether it contains data.

Once you know the Dataset ID and its dimensions, you can retrieve the data through Data Pivot or Data Raw requests or even a Data Simple Get Endpoint.



Dataset Time-series List

To get the list of time-series from the dataset, there are two requests available: GET and POST.

GET Request (Full List)

Request: /api/1.0/data/dataset/<DatasetID>
Request example: /api/1.0/data/dataset/qhblznb

Method: GET

Headers: Authorization

Result: JSON (array of JSON objects)

```
"datasetId": "qhblznb",
        "timeseriesKey": 1000070,
        "frequency": "Annual",
        "metadata": [
                "dim": "country",
                "key": "1000000",
                "name": "Afghanistan"
            }, {
                "dim": "subject",
                "key": "1000150",
                "name": "Gross domestic product based on purchasing-power-parity (PPP)
valuation of country GDP (Current international dollar)"
        "startDate": "01/01/2002 00:00:00",
        "endDate": "01/01/2024 00:00:00"
        "datasetId": "qhblznb",
        "timeseriesKey": 1000080,
        "frequency": "Annual",
        "metadata": [
                "dim": "country",
```



The result is a full list of available time-series, which can be used to receive the data via the time-series key.

POST Request (Filtered)

Request: /api/1.0/data/dataset/<DatasetID>
Request example: /api/1.0/data/dataset/qhblznb

Method: POST

Headers: Authorization, Content-Type=application/json

Body example: The body should contain a list of dimensions with element keys for which you want a list of the available time-series.



Result: JSON (array of JSON objects)

Response example:

The result provides a full list of the available time-series for your selection, which can be used to receive the data via the time-series key.



Data Requests

In this section we provide directions to guide you through retrieving data. Included are the following:

- Time series data
- Raw data
- Pivot data
- Simple dataset

Get Data by Time-series

Request: /api/1.0/data/get

Method: POST

Headers: Authorization, Content-Type=application/json

Body example: The body should contain information about the data you want to retrieve. You may omit the StartDate, Frequency, and CustomFields and use only Timeseries and EndDate.

Result: JSON (array of JSON objects)

```
"dataset": "qhblznb",
        "id": 1000100,
        "metadata": [
                "dim": "country",
                "key": 1000000,
                "name": "Afghanistan",
                "id": "512",
                "regionid": "AF",
                "iso": "AFG"
            }, {
                "dim": "subject",
                "key": 1000180,
                "name": "Gross domestic product per capita, current prices (U.S. dollars)",
                "id": "512",
                "subjectnotes": "GDP is expressed in current U.S. dollars per person. Data
are derived by first converting GDP in national currency to U.S. dollars and then dividing
it by total population.",
                "subject-name-as-per-imf": "Gross domestic product per capita, current
prices (U.S. dollars)"
        ],
        "startDate": "Tue, 01 Jan 2002 00:00:00 GMT",
        "endDate": "Mon, 01 Jan 2018 00:00:00 GMT",
        "scaleValue": 1,
        "unit": "U.S. dollars",
        "frequency": "annual",
        "data": [196.683, 196.954, 214.23, 248.049, 270.189, 321.441, 377.256, 430.867,
532.072, 602.183, 661.087, 635.635, 629.332, 594.513, 560.601, 569.531, 543.724]
    },
        "dataset": "qhblznb",
        "id": 1000200,
        "metadata": [
                "dim": "country",
                "key": 1000000,
                "name": "Afghanistan",
                "id": "512",
                "regionid": "AF",
                "iso": "AFG"
                "dim": "subject",
```



To read the data, you will need to understand the Frequency and the StartDate and EndDate for each time-series. For Annual frequency, each line/step is equal to one year. So, in our example, 34.585 refers to 2003 and -1.924 refers to 2006.



Get Raw Data

Request: /api/1.0/data/details

Method: POST

Headers: Authorization, Content-Type=application/json

Body example: The body should specify the data you want to retrieve. You can list as many Members as you want to in the Stub & Header, and only one in the Filter (or you can omit it).

```
"Header": [
   "DimensionId": "Time",
   "UiMode": "range",
   "Members": [
     "2018-2019"
    ],
    "DatasetId": "qhblznb"
],
"Stub": [
   "DimensionId": "country",
   "Members": [1000000],
   "IsGeo": true
    "DimensionId": "subject",
    "Members": [1000010]
"Filter": [],
"Frequencies": [
  "A"
"Dataset": "qhblznb"
```



Result: JSON

```
"columns": [
        "name": "Country",
        "type": "Text",
        "status": "Dimension",
        "dimensionId": "country",
       "fieldId": null
        "name": "RegionId",
       "type": "Text",
        "status": "Dimension",
        "dimensionId": "country",
        "fieldId": "regionid"
   }, {
       "name": "ISO",
       "type": "Text",
        "status": "Dimension",
        "dimensionId": "country",
        "fieldId": "iso"
   }, {
       "name": "Id",
       "type": "Text",
        "status": "Dimension",
        "dimensionId": "country",
       "fieldId": "id"
   }, {
       "name": "Subject",
        "type": "Text",
        "status": "Dimension",
        "dimensionId": "subject",
        "fieldId": null
   }, {
       "name": "SubjectNotes",
       "type": "Text",
        "status": "Dimension",
       "dimensionId": "subject",
       "fieldId": "subjectnotes"
        "name": "Subject Name as per IMF",
        "type": "Text",
```



```
"status": "Dimension",
            "dimensionId": "subject",
            "fieldId": "subject-name-as-per-imf"
            "name": "Id",
            "type": "Text",
            "status": "Dimension",
            "dimensionId": "subject",
            "fieldId": "id"
       }, {
            "name": "Value",
            "type": "Number",
            "status": "Measure",
            "dimensionId": null,
            "fieldId": null
        }, {
            "name": "Date",
            "type": "Date",
            "status": "Date",
            "dimensionId": null,
            "fieldId": null
    ],
    "data": [
       "Afghanistan",
       "AF",
       "AFG",
        "512".
       "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
        "Annual percentages of constant price GDP are year-on-year changes; the base year is
country-specific . Expenditure-based GDP is total final expenditures at purchasers? prices
(including the f.o.b. value of exports of goods and services), less the f.o.b. value of
imports of goods and services. [SNA 1993]",
        "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
        "NGDP RPCH",
            "value": "01/01/2018",
           "frequency": "A"
        "Afghanistan",
        "AFG",
        "512",
        "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
        "Annual percentages of constant price GDP are year-on-year changes; the base year is
```



```
country-specific . Expenditure-based GDP is total final expenditures at purchasers? prices
(including the f.o.b. value of exports of goods and services), less the f.o.b. value of
imports of goods and services. [SNA 1993]",
        "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
        "NGDP_RPCH",
        3,
        {
            "value": "01/01/2019",
            "frequency": "A"
        }
      ],
      "filter": [],
      "datasetName": "IMF: World Economic Outlook (WEO) Database, April 2019"
}
```

The columns property shows the response structure and the Data property the data itself (based on the structure).



Get Pivot Data

Request: /api/1.0/data/pivot

Method: POST

Headers: Authorization, Content-Type=application/json

Body example: The body should specify the data you want to retrieve. You can list as many Members as you want to in the Stub & Header, and only one in the Filter (or you can omit it). It is similar to the body request for raw data.

```
"Header": [
    "DimensionId": "Time",
    "Members": [
      "2018-2019"
    "UiMode": "range"
],
"Stub": [
    "DimensionId": "country",
    "Members": [1000000],
    "IsGeo": true
    "DimensionId": "subject",
    "Members": [1000010]
"Filter": [],
"Frequencies": [
  "A"
"Dataset": "qhblznb"
```

Result: JSON



```
"header": [
        "dimensionId": "Time",
        "filterText": null,
        "members": [
            "2018", "2019"
        "metadataFields": []
],
"stub": [
        "dimensionId": "country",
        "filterText": null,
        "members": [
            "Afghanistan"
        "metadataFields": []
        "dimensionId": "subject",
        "filterText": null,
        "members": [
            "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)"
        "metadataFields": []
],
"datasetName": "IMF: World Economic Outlook (WEO) Database, April 2019",
"dataset": "qhblznb",
"keys": {
    "header": [
            "dimensionId": "Time",
            "filterText": null,
            "members": [
                "2018",
                "2019"
            "metadataFields": []
   ],
```



```
"stub": [
            "dimensionId": "country",
            "filterText": null,
            "members": [
                "1000000"
            "metadataFields": []
            "dimensionId": "subject",
           "filterText": null,
            "members": [
                "1000010"
            "metadataFields": []
   ],
   "filter": []
"data": [
        "Time": "2018-01-01T00:00:00Z",
       "subject": "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
        "country": "Afghanistan",
       "RegionId": "AF",
        "Frequency": "A",
        "Value": 2.3,
       "Unit": "Variation en pourcentage",
       "Scale": 1
       "Time": "2019-01-01T00:00:00Z",
       "subject": "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)",
        "country": "Afghanistan",
        "RegionId": "AF",
        "Frequency": "A",
        "Value": 3,
        "Unit": "Variation en pourcentage",
        "Scale": 1
```

The Data property has the data (Value) with information on your selection (Subject, Country, Frequency, Time).



Get Simple Dataset

Request:

/api/1.0/data/<DatasetID>?<DimensionID>=<DimensionElementKey>&<DimensionID>=<DimensionElementKey>...

Request example:

/api/1.0/data/qhblznb?country=1000000&subject=1000010&time=2018,2019

Several dimension elements keys can be provided, separated by commas.

Method: GET

Headers: Authorization

```
"header": [
        "dimensionId": "Time",
        "filterText": null,
        "members": [
            "2018",
            "2019"
        "metadataFields": []
],
"stub": [
        "dimensionId": "country",
        "filterText": null,
        "members": [
            "Afghanistan"
        "metadataFields": []
        "dimensionId": "subject",
        "filterText": null,
        "members": [
            "Gross domestic product, constant prices (Percent change)"
        ],
```



```
"metadataFields": []
],
"filter": [],
"datasetName": "IMF: World Economic Outlook (WEO) Database, April 2019",
"dataset": "qhblznb",
"keys": {
    "header": [
            "dimensionId": "Time",
            "filterText": null,
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This approach is the easiest way to get the data and can be executed right from your browser. However, if you have a complex request, it is better to use 'Get Pivot Data'. Also, the "Get Simple Dataset" request cannot be used with time-series.