

# How can I use the COUNTIFS function in excel to count the number of cells that meet multiple criteria simultaneously?

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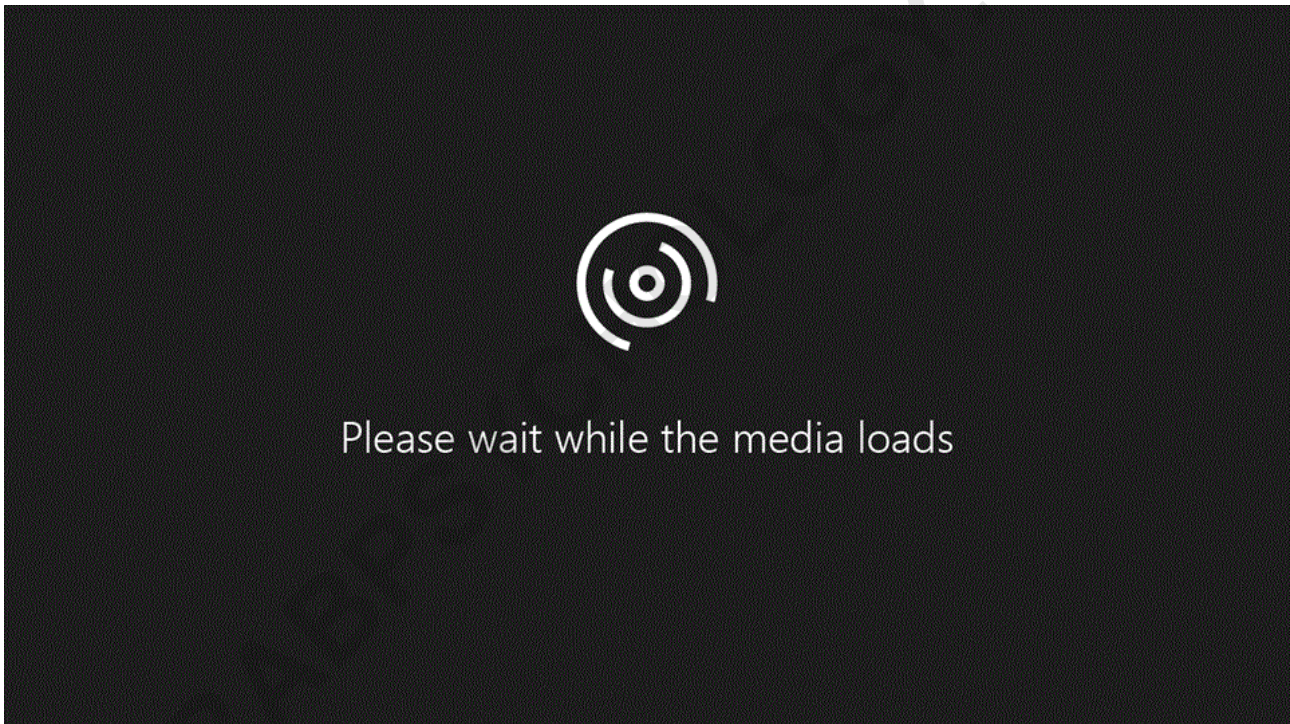
June 29, 2024

## RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use the COUNTIFS function in excel to count the number of cells that meet multiple criteria simultaneously?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=158293>

The COUNTIFS function in Excel allows users to count the number of cells that meet multiple criteria at the same time. This function is helpful in situations where there are multiple conditions that need to be met in order for a cell to be counted. By using the COUNTIFS function, users can efficiently and accurately calculate the number of cells that meet all of the specified criteria, providing a more precise and organized analysis of their data. This feature is particularly useful for analyzing large datasets and making data-driven decisions. To use the COUNTIFS function, users simply need to input the criteria they want to count and the range of cells to be evaluated, allowing for a quick and effective way to gather important information from their data.

The **COUNTIFS** function applies criteria to cells across multiple ranges and counts the number of times all criteria are met.



This video is part of a training course called [Advanced IF functions](#).

## Syntax

COUNTIFS(criteria\_range1, criteria1, ...)

The COUNTIFS function syntax has the following arguments:

**criteria\_range1** Required. The first range in which to evaluate the associated criteria.

**criteria1** Required. The criteria in the form of a number, expression, cell reference, or text that define which cells will be counted. For example, criteria can be expressed as 32, ">32", B4, "apples", or "32".

**criteria\_range2, criteria2, ...** Optional. Additional ranges and their associated criteria. Up to 127 range/criteria pairs are allowed.

**Important:** Each additional range must have the same number of rows and columns as the **criteria\_range1** argument. The ranges do not have to be adjacent to each other.

## Remarks

Each range's criteria is applied one cell at a time. If all of the first cells meet their associated criteria, the count increases by 1. If all of the second cells meet their associated criteria, the count increases by 1 again, and so on until all of the cells are evaluated.

If the criteria argument is a reference to an empty cell, the **COUNTIFS** function treats the empty cell as a 0 value.

You can use the wildcard characters-- the question mark (?) and asterisk (\*) -- in criteria. A question mark matches any single character, and an asterisk matches any sequence of characters. If you want to find an actual question mark or asterisk, type a tilde (~) before the character.

## Example 1

Copy the example data in the following tables, and paste it in cell A1 of a new Excel worksheet. For formulas to show results, select them, press F2, and then press Enter. If you need to, you can adjust the column widths to see all the data.

Salesperson	Exceeded Q1 quota	Exceeded Q2 quota	Exceeded Q3 quota
Davidoski	Yes	No	No
Burke	Yes	Yes	No
Sundaram	Yes	Yes	Yes
Levitan	No	Yes	Yes
Formula	Description	Result	
=COUNTIFS(B2:D2,"=Yes")	Counts how many times Davidoski exceeded a sales quota for periods Q1, Q2, and Q3 (only in Q1).	1	

Salesperson	Exceeded Q1 quota	Exceeded Q2 quota	Exceeded Q3 quota
=COUNTIFS(B2:B5,"=Yes",C2:C5,"=Yes")	Counts how many salespeople exceeded both their Q1 and Q2 quotas (Burke and Sundaram).	2	
=COUNTIFS(B5:D5,"=Yes",B3:D3,"=Yes")	Counts how many times Levitan and Burke exceeded the same quota for periods Q1, Q2, and Q3 (only in Q2).	1	

## Need more help?

You can always ask an expert in the [Excel Tech Community](#) or get support in [Communities](#).

## See Also

[To count cells that aren't blank, use the COUNTA function](#)

[To count cells using a single criteria, use the COUNTIF function](#)

[The SUMIF function adds only the values that meet a single criteria](#)

[The SUMIFS function adds only the values that meet multiple criteria](#)

[IFS function \(Microsoft 365, Excel 2016 and later\)](#)

[Overview of formulas in Excel](#)

[How to avoid broken formulas](#)

[Detect errors in formulas](#)

[Statistical functions](#)

[Excel functions \(alphabetical\)](#)

[Excel functions \(by Category\)](#)