

How can I use the WHERE IN function in Google Sheets to filter data based on a list of values?

Authored by
stats writer

June 26, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How can I use the WHERE IN function in Google Sheets to filter data based on a list of values?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=154002>

The WHERE IN function in Google Sheets allows users to filter data based on a specific list of values. This function works by specifying a range of cells or a column containing the desired values, and then selecting the data that matches those values. By using the WHERE IN function, users can easily narrow down their data and focus on specific information that is relevant to their needs. This feature is particularly useful for organizing and analyzing large sets of data in a more efficient and organized manner.

Google Sheets Query: Use WHERE IN a List

You can use the following syntax in a Google Sheets query to return all rows where a column contains a value in a list:

```
=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE A MATCHES '(value1|value2|value3)'" )
```

This particular query will return all rows in the range A1:C11 where the value in column A is equal to value1, value2, or value3.

Note: The | operator stands for "OR" in Google Sheets.

The following example shows how to use this syntax in practice.

Example: Use WHERE IN List in Google Sheets Query

Suppose we have the following dataset that contains

information about various basketball players:

	A	B	C	D
1	Team	Position	Points	
2	Mavs	Guard	22	
3	Hawks	Guard	20	
4	Magic	Forward	19	
5	Thunder	Guard	15	
6	Kings	Forward	29	
7	Pacers	Forward	24	
8	Clippers	Forward	28	
9	Nuggets	Guard	20	
10	Lakers	Forward	14	
11	Celtics	Guard	12	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				

We can use the following query to return all rows where the value in the "Team" column is equal to Mavs, Magic, Kings, or Lakers:

```
=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE A MATCHES '(Mavs|Magic|Kings|Lakers)'" )
```

The following screenshot shows how to use this query

in practice:

A14 fx =QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE A MATCHES '(Mavs|Magic|Kings|Lakers)'")

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Team	Position	Points			
2	Mavs	Guard	22			
3	Hawks	Guard	20			
4	Magic	Forward	19			
5	Thunder	Guard	15			
6	Kings	Forward	29			
7	Pacers	Forward	24			
8	Clippers	Forward	28			
9	Nuggets	Guard	20			
10	Lakers	Forward	14			
11	Celtics	Guard	12			
12						
13						
14	Team	Position	Points			
15	Mavs	Guard	22			
16	Magic	Forward	19			
17	Kings	Forward	29			
18	Lakers	Forward	14			
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						

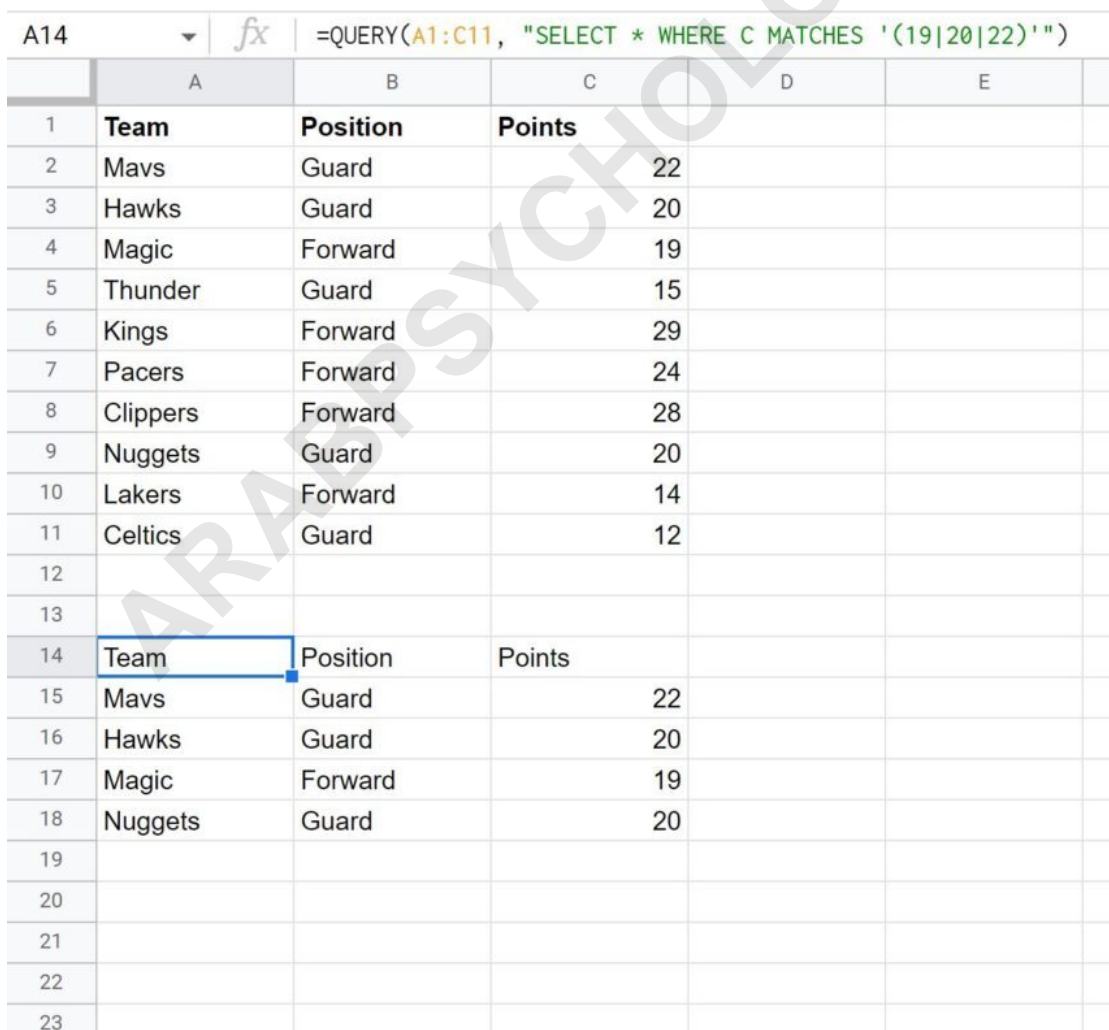
Notice that the only rows returned are the ones where the value in the "Team" column is equal to Mavs, Magic, Kings, or Lakers.

You can also use similar syntax to query for rows where a column contains one of several numeric values.

For example, we can use the following query to return all rows where the value in the "Points" column is equal to 19, 20, or 22:

```
=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE C MATCHES '(19|20|22)'")
```

The following screenshot shows how to use this query in practice:



The screenshot shows a Google Sheet with a formula bar at the top containing the query: `=QUERY(A1:C11, "SELECT * WHERE C MATCHES '(19|20|22)'")`. Below the formula bar, the original data is shown in rows 1-11, and the filtered results are shown in rows 14-18. The filtered results are:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Team	Position	Points		
2	Mavs	Guard	22		
3	Hawks	Guard	20		
4	Magic	Forward	19		
5	Thunder	Guard	15		
6	Kings	Forward	29		
7	Pacers	Forward	24		
8	Clippers	Forward	28		
9	Nuggets	Guard	20		
10	Lakers	Forward	14		
11	Celtics	Guard	12		
12					
13					
14	Team	Position	Points		
15	Mavs	Guard	22		
16	Hawks	Guard	20		
17	Magic	Forward	19		
18	Nuggets	Guard	20		
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					

Notice that the query only returns the rows where the value in the "Points" column is equal to 19, 20, or 22.

ARABPSYCHOLOGY.COM