+++ title = "Global variables" keywords = ["grafana", "templating", "documentation", "guide", "template", "variable", "global", "standard"] aliases = ["/docs/grafana/latest/variables/global-variables.md"] weight = 900 +++

# Global variables

Grafana has global built-in variables that can be used in expressions in the query editor. This topic lists them in alphabetical order and defines them. These variables are useful in queries, dashboard links, panel links, and data links

### \$ dashboard

Only available in Grafana v6.7+. In Grafana 7.1, the variable changed from showing the UID of the current dashboard to the name of the current dashboard.

This variable is the name of the current dashboard.

# \$\_from and \$\_to

Grafana has two built in time range variables: \$\_\_from and \$\_\_to . They are currently always interpolated as epoch milliseconds by default but you can control date formatting.

This special formatting syntax is only available in Grafana 7.1.2+

Syntax	Example result	Description
\${from}	1594671549254	Unix millisecond epoch
\${from:date}	2020-07- 13T20:19:09.254Z	No args, defaults to ISO 8601/RFC 3339
\${from:date:iso}	2020-07- 13T20:19:09.254Z	ISO 8601/RFC 3339
\${from:date:seconds}	1594671549	Unix seconds epoch
\${from:date:YYYY-MM}	2020-07	Any custom <u>date format</u> that does not include the : character

The above syntax works with \${\_\_to} as well.

You can use this variable in URLs as well. For example, send a user to a dashboard that shows a time range from six hours ago until now: <a href="https://play.grafana.org/d/000000012/grafana-play-home?viewPanel=2&orgId=1?from=now-6h&to=now">https://play.grafana.org/d/000000012/grafana-play-home?viewPanel=2&orgId=1?from=now-6h&to=now</a>

#### \$ interval

You can use the \$\_\_interval variable as a parameter to group by time (for InfluxDB, MySQL, Postgres, MSSQL), Date histogram interval (for Elasticsearch), or as a *summarize* function parameter (for Graphite).

Grafana automatically calculates an interval that can be used to group by time in queries. When there are more data points than can be shown on a graph then queries can be made more efficient by grouping by a larger interval. It is more efficient to group by 1 day than by 10s when looking at 3 months of data and the graph will look the same and

the query will be faster. The \$\_\_interval is calculated using the time range and the width of the graph (the number of pixels).

```
Approximate Calculation: (to - from) / resolution
```

For example, when the time range is 1 hour and the graph is full screen, then the interval might be calculated to 2m - points are grouped in 2 minute intervals. If the time range is 6 months and the graph is full screen, then the interval might be 1d (1 day) - points are grouped by day.

In the InfluxDB data source, the legacy variable \$interval is the same variable. \$\_\_interval should be used instead.

The InfluxDB and Elasticsearch data sources have Group by time interval fields that are used to hard code the interval or to set the minimum limit for the \$ interval variable (by using the > syntax -> >10m).

### \$ interval ms

This variable is the \$\_interval variable in milliseconds, not a time interval formatted string. For example, if the \$ interval is 20m then the \$ interval ms is 1200000.

### \$ name

This variable is only available in the Singlestat panel and can be used in the prefix or suffix fields on the Options tab. The variable will be replaced with the series name or alias.

# \$\_org

This variable is the ID of the current organization. \${ org.name} is the name of the current organization.

#### \$ user

```
Only available in Grafana v7.1+
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```
${__user.id} is the ID of the current user. ${__user.login} is the login handle of the current user.
${__user.email} is the email for the current user.
```

## \$\_\_range

Currently only supported for Prometheus and Loki data sources. This variable represents the range for the current dashboard. It is calculated by to - from . It has a millisecond and a second representation called \$\_\_range\_ms and \$\_\_range\_s .

## \$ rate interval

Currently only supported for Prometheus data sources. The \$\_\_rate\_interval variable is meant to be used in the rate function. Refer to [Prometheus query variables]({{< relref "../../datasources/prometheus.md">}}) for details.

## **\$timeFilter or \$\_\_timeFilter**

The \$timeFilter variable returns the currently selected time range as an expression. For example, the time range interval Last 7 days expression is time > now() - 7d.

#### This is used in several places, including:

- The WHERE clause for the InfluxDB data source. Grafana adds it automatically to InfluxDB queries when in Query Editor mode. You can add it manually in Text Editor mode: WHERE \$timeFilter.
- Log Analytics queries in the Azure Monitor data source.
- SQL queries in MySQL, Postgres, and MSSQL.
- The \$\_\_timeFilter variable is used in the MySQL data source.