OE Databank API

This document provides information and links to full technical instructions for using the Oxford Economics Databank (REST) API.

Introduction

Our Technical Blog provides all the background information you will need to get started, including a description of all the API endpoints and other details such as how to use paging for large requests. Examples and re-usable libraries written in .NET C#, Python, R and JavaScript, a Tableau Connector and Power BI Power Queries are available to download from our GitHub repository. Please note that our documentation refers to our Global Economics databank, but the process is identical for all databanks.

Any data you have access to in the Databank can be retrieved programmatically via the API using the API Key. You can try your API Key here: https://services.oxfordeconomics.com/swagger or use the Postman collection here.

Please note: you can use the Username/Password credentials for the *technical API account* to access the data in your subscribed databanks and manage saved selections. Please note, for API purposes, do all your work in our Version 1 Databank: http://services.oxfordeconomics.com/data/.

How to start

You can create your selection for the request body by following the instructions in the documentation mentioned above. However, if you are not familiar with our databanks, we would suggest starting by following the strategy described below.

a) Create a saved selection in the Databank v1 (https://services.oxfordeconomics.com/data/)
b) Make a GET request to "api/users/me" endpoint (i.e. use "me" as "id") and copy the saved selection id that you created at step (a)
c) Make a GET request to "/api/savedselections/{id}" endpoint (where "id" is the id you copied at step (b)). Copy the JSON response since it will contain the actual selection (request body).
d) Make a POST request to "/api/download/" and use as request body the response you copied on step (c).

Steps a-c allow you to view the selection (with all product types codes, databank codes, indicator codes, location codes, measurement codes etc.). Once you get familiar with the databanks, you will be able to make your own selection directly, and these steps a-c may be omitted.

How to request data from saved selections

If you prefer to make a saved selection from the Databank and use API to request the data for that saved selection (and not to create a new custom selection), you may follow this process:

a) Create a saved selection in the Databank v1 (https://services.oxfordeconomics.com/data/)
b) Make a GET request to "api/users/me" endpoint (i.e. use "me" as "id") and copy the saved selection id that you created at step (a)
c) Make a GET request to "/api/download/{id}" (where "id" is the id you copied at step (b)). The response of this endpoint will contain *the data* of that saved selection (not the request).

Additional notes for the scenario databanks

If you have subscribed to any of our scenario Databanks (e.g. Global Scenario Databank, Global Industry Scenarios in Global Industry Databank etc) you will need to take note of your API requests as the available scenarios change as the available scenarios now change every quarter.

More specifically, in the scenario databanks, the indicator codes (that encapsulate the scenario codes) change when the corresponding Databank is updated (e.g. every quarter) where new scenarios are made available.

The generic format of Indicator codes in scenario databanks is:

"<DatabankRelatedCode>#<ScenarioCode>#<IndicatorCode>"

For example, while in every other Databank the indicator code of "Consumer Price Index" is "CPI", in Global Scenario Databank, for the "Baseline forecast", the Indicator code is "GESS#BASE#CPI" while for the "Financial crisis" scenario is "GESS#FINANCIALCRISIS#CPI".

Although "Baseline Forecast" is a scenario that will *always be available* (and thus any HTTP request relying on that will always return data) the rest of the scenarios may change each quarter and thus you need to update your API requests to reflect that change and ask data for the available scenarios.

For your convenience, you can view the indicator codes either in the "Tree" endpoint of the API (to retrieve them programmatically) or you can see the values either in data files downloaded from the databank v1 (an Indicator column is always included). You can also see the codes in the OE Excel Add-in Indicator tree (the codes are always displayed next to each indicator value) as shown below: