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Querying Data From an RDBMS

Appian 7.7

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There are several different ways to retrieve data from an RDBMS in an expression. This page will detail their similarities and differences. All three of these methods can be used in SAIL Interface expressions, process models, and record type definitions.

Query Rules: A special sub-class of Rule dedicated to retrieving data from an RDBMS rather than evaluating an expression.

a!queryEntity(): An expression function that takes a Data Store Entity and a Query as parameters and executes the query against that Entity.

queryrecord(): An expression function that takes a process-backed or entity-backed Record Type and a Query as parameters and executes the query against that Record Type.

	Query Rules	**a!queryEntity()**	**queryrecord()**
Performance	Medium	Fastest	Slowest
Columns	Retrieves all columns	Retrieves only the specified columns	Retrieves only the specified columns
Aggregations	None	COUNT, SUM, AVG, MIN, MAX	COUNT, SUM, AVG, MIN, MAX
Can Retrieve Unique Values	No	Yes	Yes
"Between" Filter	No	Yes	Yes
"Not Includes" Filter	No	Yes	Yes
"Not Starts With" Filter	No	Yes	Yes
"Not Ends With" Filter	No	Yes	Yes
"Is Null" Filter	No	Yes	Yes
"Not Null" Filter	No	Yes	Yes
OR Filters	No	Yes	Yes
Nested Filters	No	Yes	Yes
Sorting on a list field	Yes	No	No
Sorting on multiple fields	Yes	No	No
Return Type	Returns either an Array of CDTs or a DataSubset of CDTs	Always returns a DataSubset of Dictionaries	Always returns a DataSubset of Dictionaries
Source Data	Data Store Entity	Data Store Entity	Process-backed and entity-backed records. Any default filters for the record type are applied.

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