

Searching for statistics in tables and charts

This is a neat trick for finding numerical statistics, which often appear in tables and charts.

The main idea here is to picture what the ideal result would look like. If you are looking for a table of statistics, the ideal result would be an article that has a page which includes a table or chart.

A page with a table or chart would be likely to have the words “Figure” or “Table” on it, as in *“Figure 1: Comparison of growth rates.”*

Another word likely to appear in recent articles is “infographic,” which is a trendy word for visual content such as tables. An example would be: *“For this study we produced the following infographic...”*

So, add these search terms to your search to make it more likely you will get a result with a statistical table or chart:

- Figure
- Table
- infographic

For example, a CCOL advanced search for [autism AND table OR infographic] brought up several journal articles with tables. The results page even showed thumbnails photos of the tables!

A google search for “autism AND table OR infographic” brought up results, but apparently in Britain the term for “tablet computer” is “table computer” so many of the results were irrelevant. Ah, the joys of google searching!

For a more detailed explanation of this technique and some other cool searching tips, go to <http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/find/65039> which was the source of this tip.