

COGNOS Using Banner and the Metadata To Locate Query Items

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Adding Banner Data to a Cognos Report

In Cognos, information is gathered from many different Banner fields to create a report that accurately reflects the analysis and compilation of desired information. As the amount of information collected by Banner, as well as other applications at the university, is quite remarkable in scope, it may often be difficult to know precisely where a specific piece of data is stored.

In many cases, information can be easily found by drilling down through the data available in the Source window of the Insertable Objects pane. The source window displays the data fields available in the Data Package that is being used to create the report.



However, if the data item is not readily found, it may be easier to search for the location of the data in the Operational Data Store. For some Banner field data, it may be necessary to request that the Banner field be added to the ODS or to the Data Package that is being utilized. However, most data needed should be available.

Searching the ODS for the name of the data item will not retrieve the data but it will help to find the path to its location. Once the path is discovered it will be much easier to drill through the Packages, Views, and Query Subjects, to find the required item.

About the Operational Data Store (ODS)

COGNOS receives its data from the Operational Data Store (ODS). The ODS receives its data from sources such as Banner, Blackboard, Degreeworks, and others. This is important to know because the ODS does not contain 'live' data; the data is refreshed nightly. Therefore, if you run a report in COGNOS and see that some information is incorrect (in Banner) and you make the edit in Banner, you will not see that change reflected until the nightly refresh.

Locating a Banner Field in the Operational Data Store (ODS)

In order to find where a Banner field data is located in the ODS, the first step is to identify the name of the Banner field as it is stored in the ODS. Keep in mind that Banner forms are essentially Views, pulling data from different Tables to display information.

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For many Banner fields, if they are active fields, the source data can be found by the following:

- 1. Open a banner form that contains the desired Banner field.
- 2. Click inside the field to select it.
- 3. Select HELP from the Menu Bar

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	○ Form	SPAIDEN			
	Block	SPRADDR			
	Field	SPRADDR_ATYP_CODE			
897 E Vog Apt 2	○ Banner	Local	Help Exists?		
Kent		Display	Clear Canco		

- 4. Select **DYNAMIC HELP QUERY** from the drop down list.
- 5. The **Block** section notes the table that houses the Field.
- 6. The **Field** section displays the name used in the metadata.
- Go to Cognos or the Project Keys site to find the link to the metadata using the Block and Field information.

Accessing the Operational Metadata

The link for the ODS metadata is available on the Project Keys site at <u>http://keys-test.kent.edu</u> in the Documentation section. It will take the user to the ODS Metadata options in the Cognos Connection page at: <u>http://odsmetadata.kent.edu/</u>.





The link will forward the user to the **ODS links** for the ODS metadata available to report writers and the **Enterprise Data Warehouse** which is used by the Cognos team. Select the metadata link to access the metadata options.

NOTE: The EDW data should not be used.



The reports and tables for the ODS metadata are categorized by the Product/Purpose of the Banner Group and the type of information they hold. The links for the Banner Groups are listed.

Code	Product/Purpose		
А	Advancement		
F	Finance		
G	General		
N	Position Control		
Р	Payroll/Human Resources		
R	Financial Aid		
S	Student (Shared)		
Т	Accounts Receivable		

Similar to the naming convention for Banner forms, the metadata reports and tables are notated using the first letter of their names as a code to specify to what Banner Group the item belongs.

Example:

SPRADDR_ATYP_CODE = "S"-Student

Clicking the link for the associated Banner Group, as seen on the previous page, opens the site for the metadata reports and tables for that particular group. The top section of the page lists the **Target Reports**, or Query Subjects, including descriptions of the data contained within.



Scrolling toward the bottom, the **Source Reports**, or tables, are found which correspond to the **Block** information from the Banner form. Clicking the link for the table as found in the Banner form reveals the source data for the Banner item.

Go To View: Select a View - V Composite View Source: SPRADDR Travel And Expense SGHE Banner Operational Data Store Reporting View Source: SPRADDR - NULL					
Source Column	Form	Target Type	Target	Target Column	
SPRADDR_CNTY_CODE	APAIDEN	REPORTING VIEW	PLEDGE ASSOCIATED ENTITY	ASSOCIATED COUNTY	
SPRADDR_NATN_CODE	APAIDEN	REPORTING VIEW	PLEDGE ASSOCIATED ENTITY	ASSOCIATED NATION	
SPRADDR_ASRC_CODE	SPAIDEN	REPORTING VIEW	ADVANCEMENT ADDRESS SLOT KSU ADVANCEMENT ADDRESS SLOT KSU ADVANCEMENT ADDRESS SLOT KSU ADVANCEMENT ADDRESS SLOT KSU	ADDRESS SOURCE 1 ADDRESS SOURCE 2 ADDRESS SOURCE 4 ADDRESS SOURCE 5	
SPRADDR_ATYP_CODE	SPAIDEN	REPORTING VIEW REPORTING VIEW	E ESS_SLOT_KSU ADVANCEMENT ADDRESS SLOT KSU PERSON ADDRESS	e et.htm#ADDRESS_TYPE">ADDRESS_TYPE ADDRESS_TYPE_1 ADDRESS_TYPE_4 ADDRESS_TYPE_4 ADDRESS_TYPE	
SPRADDR_CARRIER_ROUNT	SPAIDEN	REPORTING VIEW	ORGANIZATION CONTACT	CARRER ROUTE	

The Table, or View Source, includes a grid with the **Source Column** identifying the **Banner Field**, and the **Target Column** listing the name of the **Cognos Query Subject**.



The *Person_Address* Target references the Cognos Query Subject and the *Address_Type* item in the column labeled Target Column represents the **Data Item** from the **Banner Form**. As stated previously, the ODS will deliver a reference of where to look for the data item in the Cognos Source window. Using this information from the ODS, it may be easier to find the intended field for the report.



Though most of the information is now available to find the desired field item, it may still take some effort and thought to locate it. It is housed in the **Student Package**, though some calculation will be needed to ascertain the exact location by determining inside the package which **View** holds the **Query Subject** and finally the **Item**. Searching through the ODS may, however, make the search for the data item a little easier.