

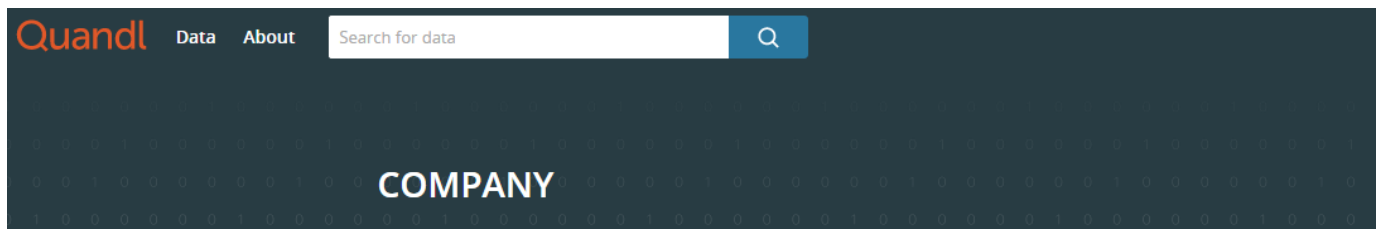
Using Data From Quandl in EViews

David Giles

September, 2014

1. What is Quandl?

www.quandl.com



COMPANY

Quandl is a Canadian technology company backed by one of Silicon Valley's most respected venture capital firms. Our team of 12 engineers is building the world's most comprehensive data platform.

Founded in 2012 by Tammer Kamel (LI, G+, Tw) and Abraham Thomas (LI, G+, Tw), Quandl operates from a spacious Victorian office in the Annex, Toronto. We're hiring software engineers and data industry experts. To learn more about opportunities at Quandl, please [email us](#).

Brand Assets

When using the Quandl logo, please use either the text or the icon but not both.

- JPG: [Icon + Text](#)
- PNG: [Icon + Text](#)
- EPS: [Icon + Text](#)

Contact Us

We welcome suggestions, comments and questions: connect@quandl.com.

Quandl is a data platform

We're collecting all the numerical data in the world.

①

We have one mission: to help users find the data they need, in the format they want. Fast.

②

We support open data; we believe that free public data should remain free and public.

③

We respect copyright; we believe that data creators should own their data creations.

④

We are an open platform. The same tools we use to add and update the data on this site are available for you to use right now.

You can use Quandl's data for **free**, on a limited basis, without signing up. However, signing up is also **free**, and it gives you far greater access to their data.

Sign up

Why sign up?

Registered users enjoy unlimited downloads, unlimited API usage and access to features like supersets, favorites and uploading.

Why should you use and trust Quandl data? Because every series is linked back to the original source.

About Quandl Data

Over 10 million datasets from 500 sources, structured and highly usable. Unlimited and unrestricted usage, completely free. And totally trustable.

Instant, unlimited downloads

Download any dataset on Quandl in any format: Excel, CSV, text, JSON or XML.

Trust

Quandl has quickly become trusted by thousands of professionals for one reason: it's transparent. Every data page on this site has link to the URL where the data comes from. This is the ultimate form of reliability: if we say the data is correct and sourced from a certain publisher, one click confirms it. This is true for every dataset on this web site. Transparency creates instant reliability.

Go to: www.quandl.com

Search for data

Find and Use Data. Easily.
Get the data you need in the form you want; instant download, API or direct to your app.

Wide Data Coverage
Over 10 million free datasets. Here's a small sample:

Finance **Economics** Society Countries

Employment
Average Wage

China Economic Data
GDP Unemployment Rate Inflation

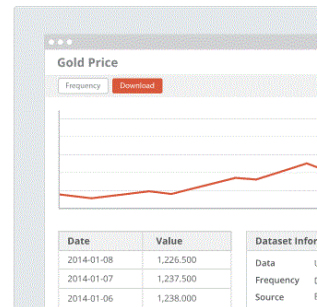
China Economic Growth
GNP Industry Contributions to GDP Per Capita Output

USA Real Estate Prices by State
Alabama Indiana Minnesota

This should be enough!

Data You Can Rely On

- ✓ Always up-to-date
- ✓ Always available at a permanent URL
- ✓ Transparent data sources
- ✓ Quickly view, graph, merge, share, export
- ✓ Instant unlimited downloads in any format



Name	Price	Units	As of
Gold	1,226.500	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014
Silver	20.20	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014
Platinum	1,446.00	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014
Palladium	784.00	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014
Iridium	550.00	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014
Rhodium	1,090.00	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014
Ruthenium	69.00	\$/toz	24-Mar-2014

Curated and Organized

- ✓ Explore data by subject, country or source
- ✓ Collections curated by experts and community
- ✓ Click through to individual datasets

See All Collections

Check it out

Collections Index
Last updated 12 days ago

This is a browsable hierarchical index of all data collections on Quandl.

You can search or browse – your choice

Data by Country

- ▶ Europe
- ▶ Asia
- ▶ South America
- ▶ North America
- ▶ Africa
- ▶ Oceania

Data by Subject

- ▶ Demography
- ▶ Economics
- ▶ Society
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Markets
- ▶ Futures
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Stocks

Data by Source

- ▶ International Organizations
- ▶ Central Banks
- ▶ US Bureaus and Agencies
- ▶ Non-US Statistical Agencies
- ▶ Financial Data
- ▶ Think Tanks and Academia
- ▶ Private Sector Sources

Expand this selection – or any other one that interests you

Let's find some trade data for China

Data by Country

- ▶ Europe
- ▼ Asia
- ▶ Afghanistan
- ▶ Armenia
- ▶ Azerbaijan
- ▶ Bahrain
- ▶ Bangladesh
- ▶ Bhutan
- ▶ Brunei
- ▶ Cambodia

▼ China

China Statistics Overview

Alcohol and Tobacco

Culture

Demography

Economic Growth

Economy

Education

Energy

Government Spending

Growth

Health

Inflation

Inflation and Prices

Infrastructure and Construction

Labour and Unemployment

Mortality

Population

Population

Society

Transport and Travel

Unemployment

Data by Subject

- ▶ Demography
- ▶ Economics
- ▶ Society
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Markets
- ▶ Futures
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Stocks

Data by Source

- ▶ International Organizations
- ▶ Central Banks
- ▶ US Bureaus and Agencies
- ▶ Non-US Statistical Agencies
- ▶ Financial Data
- ▶ Think Tanks and Academia
- ▶ Private Sector Sources

Expand this selection

Then, select this, for example

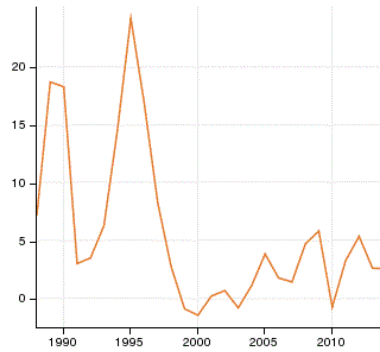
TABLE OF CONTENTS

- China Economy Data
- Economic Growth
- Unemployment and Labour
- Inflation
- Asset Markets
- Government Finances
- Industry and Business
- Productive Sectors
- International Trade**
- Balance of Payments
- Tax Structure
- About China Economy Indicators
- Related Datasets

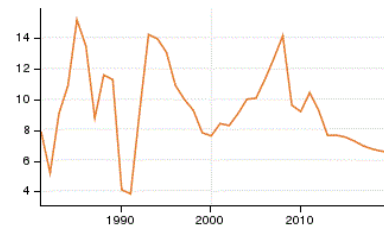
Collections > China - Statistical Data > China - Economy Data
Last updated 2 hours ago

China Economy Data

INFLATION RATE - CHINA



GDP CHANGE - CHINA



China is a upper-middle-income country located in East Asia.

China's GDP was USD 9,181.38 billion in 2013, making it the world's 2nd largest economy.

In 2013 China's GDP grew by 7.67%. The current GDP per capita is 6,682.21, in purchasing power adujsted USD.

Select

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- China Economy Data
- Economic Growth
- Unemployment and Labour
- Inflation
- Asset Markets
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- Industry and Business
- Productive Sectors
- International Trade
- Balance of Payments
- Tax Structure

International Trade

Trade data for China includes imports, exports and reserves.

Chart	Source	Indicator	Level	As Of	Chg	5 Yrs Ago	Api Call	vs World
	United Nations	Imports - China	1,818,199,227,571.00	2012	4.29%	956,115,447,556.00	JSON , CSV	vs World
	United Nations	Exports - China	2,048,782,233,084.00	2012	7.92%	1,220,059,668,452.00	JSON , CSV	vs World
	World Bank	Total Reserves - China	3,839,547.77	2013	15.26%	1,949,259.95	JSON , CSV	vs World
	World Bank	Imports as Share of GDP - China	23.84%	2013	-2.71%	27.27%	JSON , CSV	vs World
	World Bank	Exports as Share of GDP - China	26.40%	2013	-3.37%	34.98%	JSON , CSV	vs World


2. Plug-ins to Interface Quandl With Other Software:

It's really easy to get data from Quandl into most of the standard statistical/econometrics packages and programming languages, without having to resort to any tedious (accident-prone) copying and pasting. The following software is supported by Quandl, and this list is being extended regularly:

Quandl Libraries

Quandl libraries and plugins allow you to get Quandl data directly into the tool of your choice. You can use any of the following to access our data:

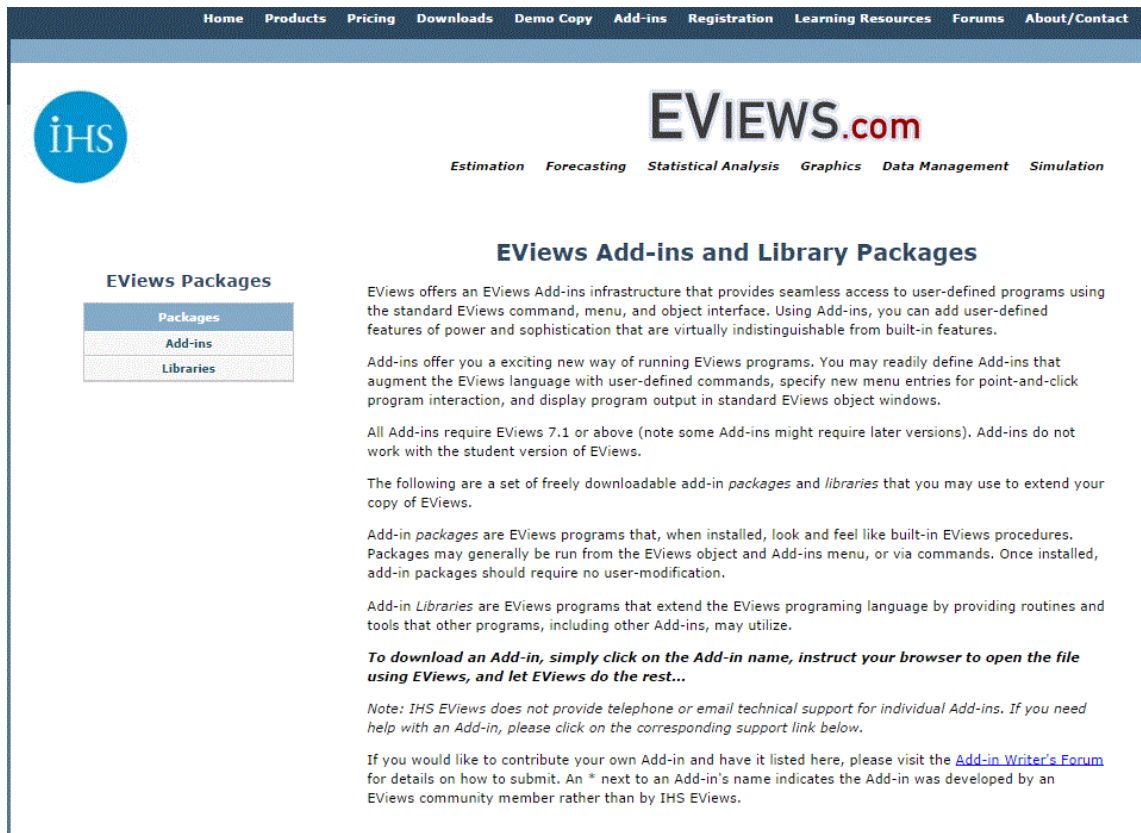
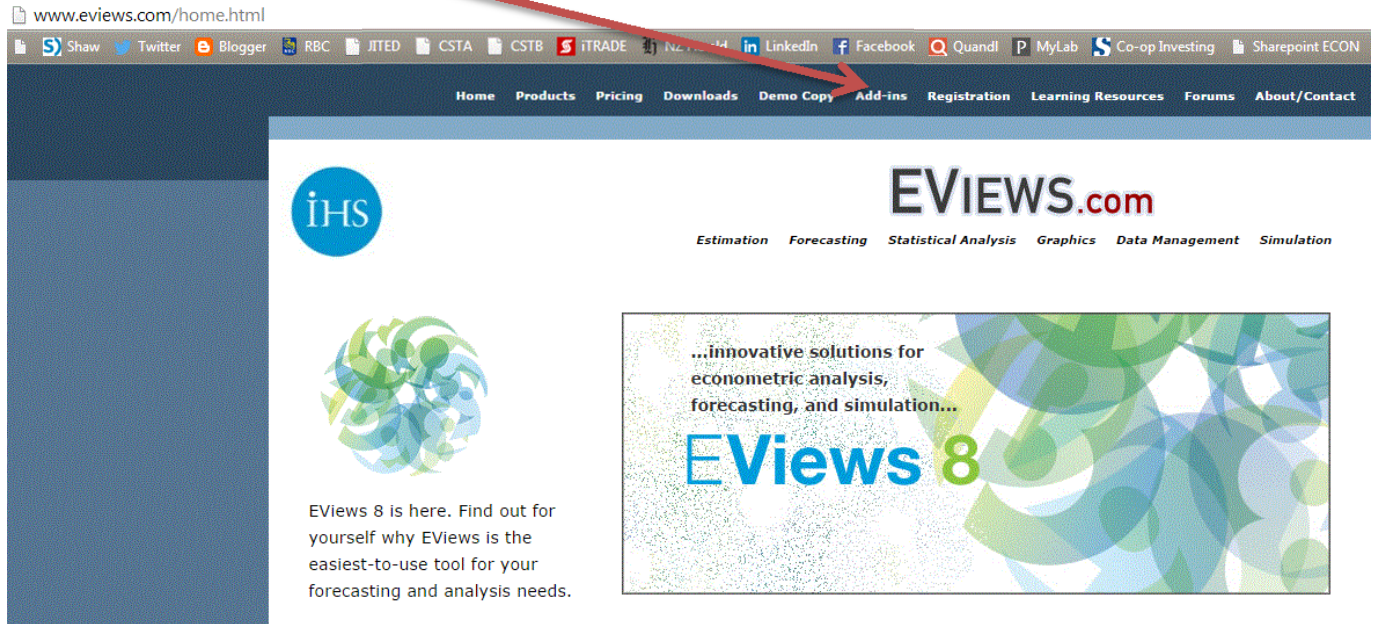
- R
- Python
- Matlab
- Stata
- Maple
- SAS
- EViews
- Ruby
- Java
- Node.JS
- C#
- C/C++
- .NET
- Julia
- Clojure
- Haskell
- Go
- Octave
- TradingView
- Mode
- Plotly
- Quantopian



Below, we'll see how to use an EViews "Add-in" to provide a seamless interface to Quandl data

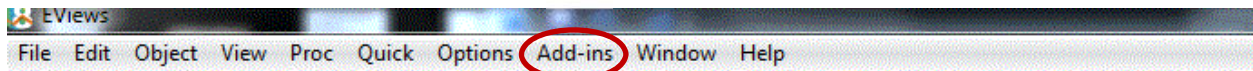
3. EViews Add-ins:

There are lots of “Add-ins” available for EViews, and you can find out more about them on the EViews website, www.eviews.com

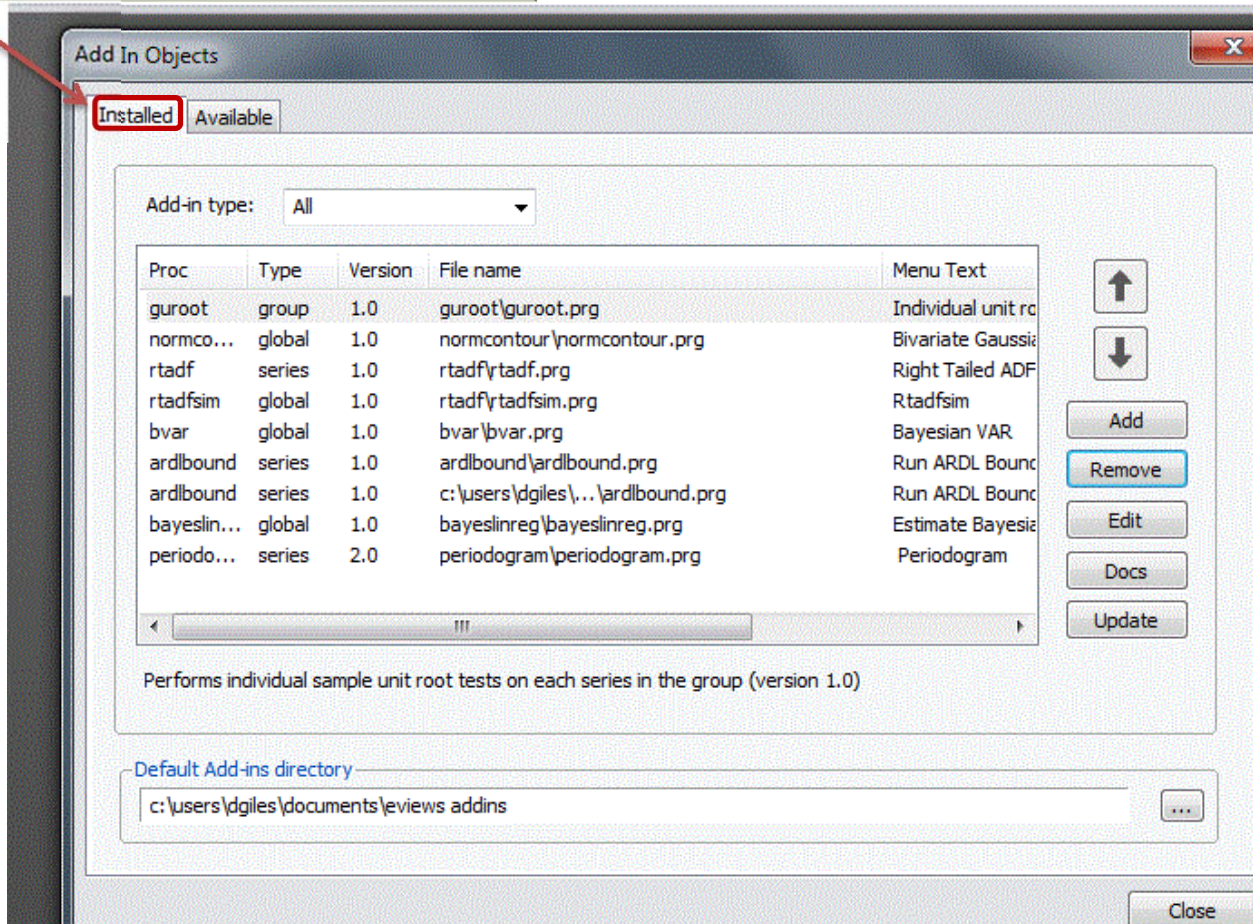


4. Installing the Quandl Add-in for EViews:

You will only have to do this *ONCE*. Launch EViews, and in the top menu bar select: “Add-ins” ; “Manage Add-ins”

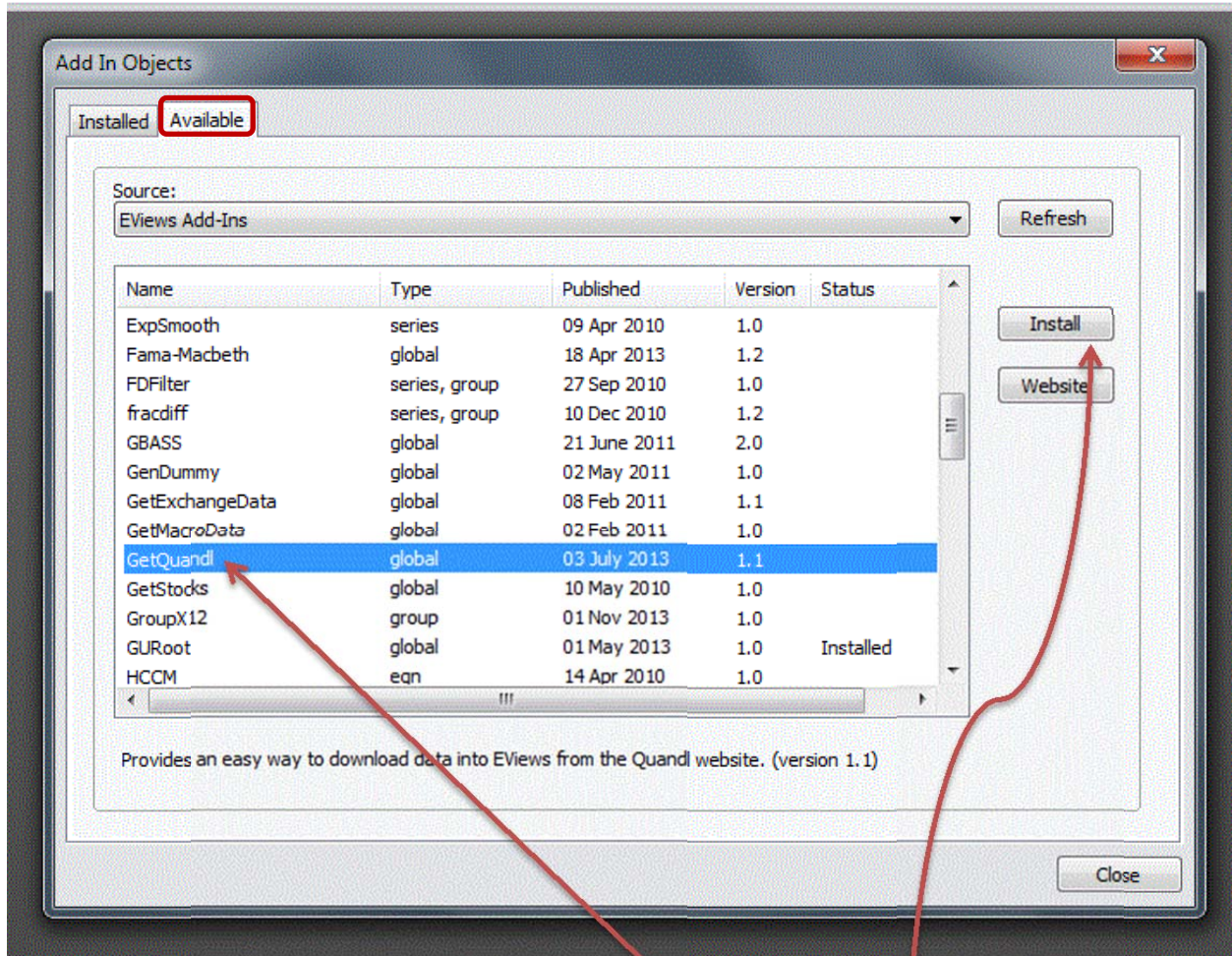
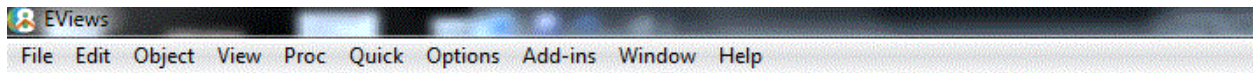


And you'll see which Add-ins have been installed already in the copy of EViews that you're using:



You can toggle between the “Installed” and “Available” Add-ins

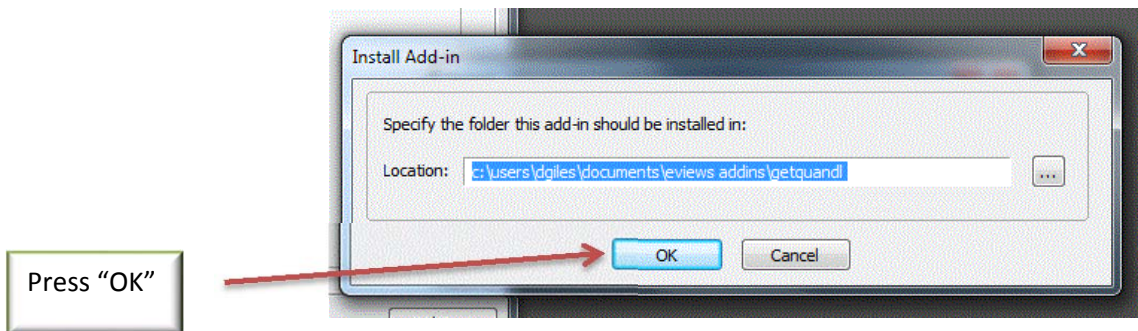
Keep in mind that once you've installed a particular Add-in for your installation of EViews, you don't have to do it again. You can go straight to section 5 below.



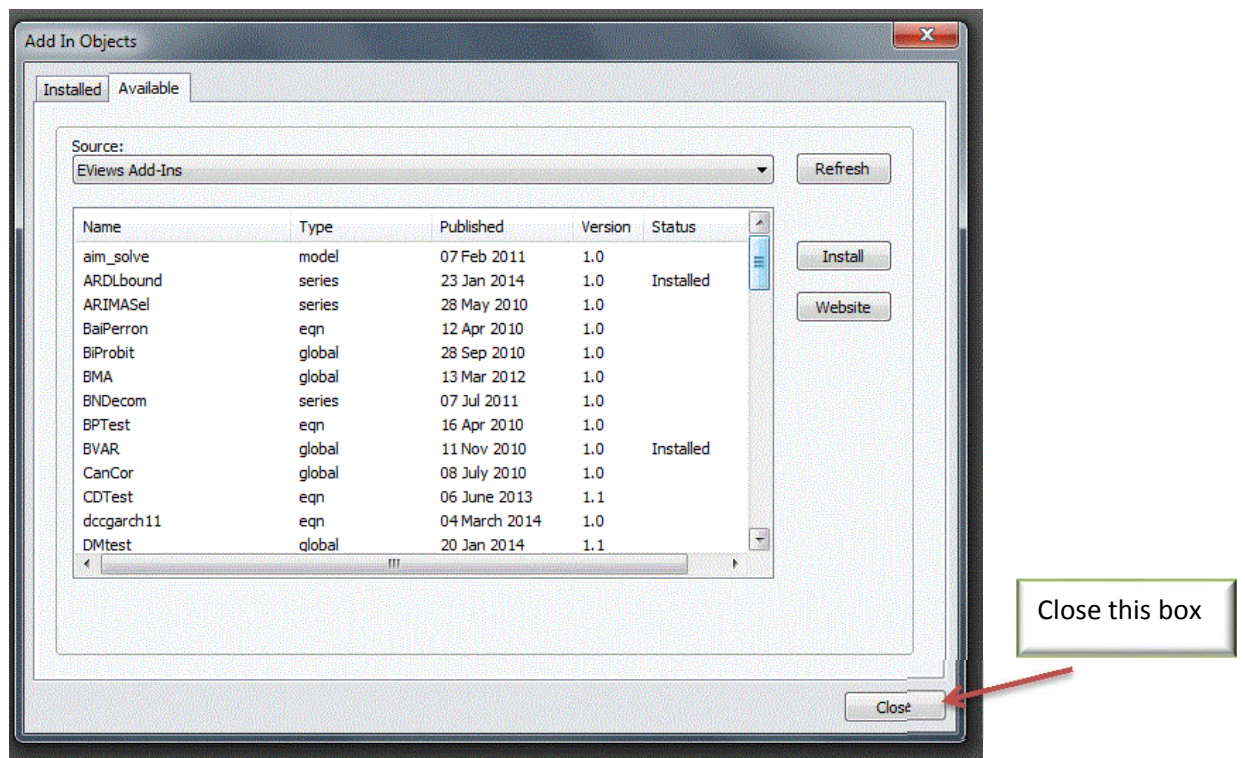
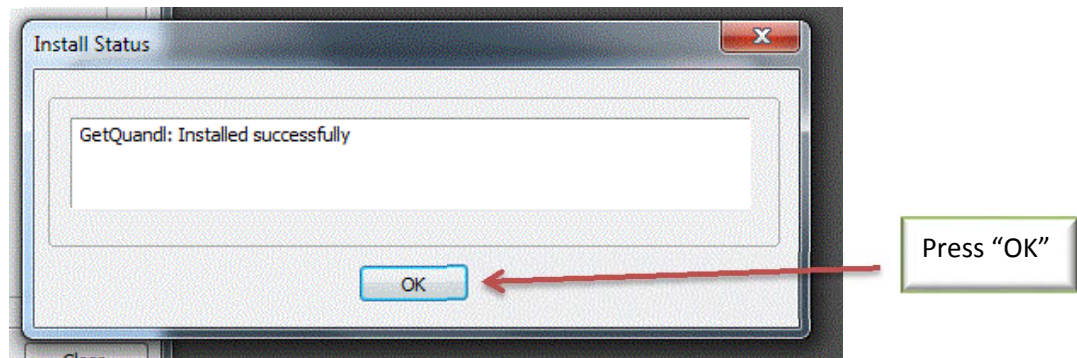
You can see that in this particular case the “GetQuandl” Add-in is available for installation.

It’s just a matter of highlighting it, as shown, and pressing the “Install” button.

Just go with the default folder (whatever that is) for storing the Add-in:



Once the Add-in is installed, you'll see:



You're now ready to use this Add-in to bring Quandl data into an EViews workfile.

5. Using Quandl Data – An Example:

Let's take a look at the Chinese trade data, shown on p.4 of this document:

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- China Economy Data
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	World Bank	Imports as Share of GDP - China	23.84%	2013	-2.71%	27.27%	JSON , CSV	
	World Bank	Exports as Share of GDP - China	26.40%	2013	-3.37%	34.98%	JSON , CSV	

You can see that the data for Imports and Exports are sourced from the United Nations. If we click on the highlighted “Imports-China” indicator, we will see the following:

The screenshot shows the Quandl interface for the dataset 'Commodity Imports - All Commodities / ALL COMMODITIES - China'. The main chart displays 'TRADE (USD)' from 1992 to 2012. The 'LATEST VALUES' section shows the most recent data point: YEAR 2012-12-31, TRADE (USD) 1818199227571. A 'Download' button is located at the top left of the chart area.

Notice that this particular series is annual, for the period 1992 to 2012.

You can download the data into a spreadsheet, if you need to, but that’s not what we’re really interested in doing here:

Quandl Data About Search for data

United Nations

DATASET NAME
Commodity Imports - All Commodities / ALL COMMODITIES - China

UPDATED
8 months ago, on 10 Jan 14

VALIDATE
<http://data.un.org/browse.aspx>

PERMALINK
http://www.quandl.com/UN/COMM_1_ALLCOMMODITIES_IMPORT_CHN

Download ↓

- DATA
- CSV
- Excel
- JSON
- XML

Be careful if you do this – see section 6 of this document!

Instead, take a look at the “Quandl Code” for the series we’re handling here, as this is the information we need to get the data straight into EViews:

Help Log in Sign Up

Data Source

☆ Favourite Report

Quandl Code
UN/COMM_1_ALLCOMMODITIES_IMPORT_CHN

EXPORT DATA

API [JSON](#) [CSV](#) [XML](#)

Libraries [Python](#) [R](#) [Matlab](#) +

Tools [Excel](#) [Plotly](#)

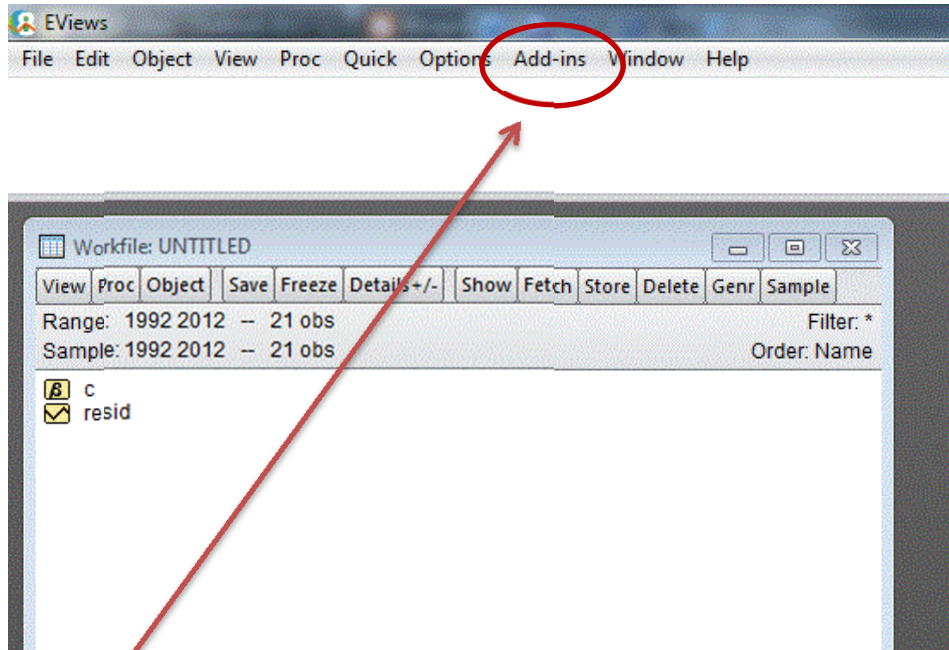
RELATED DATA COLLECTIONS

[China - Economy Data](#)

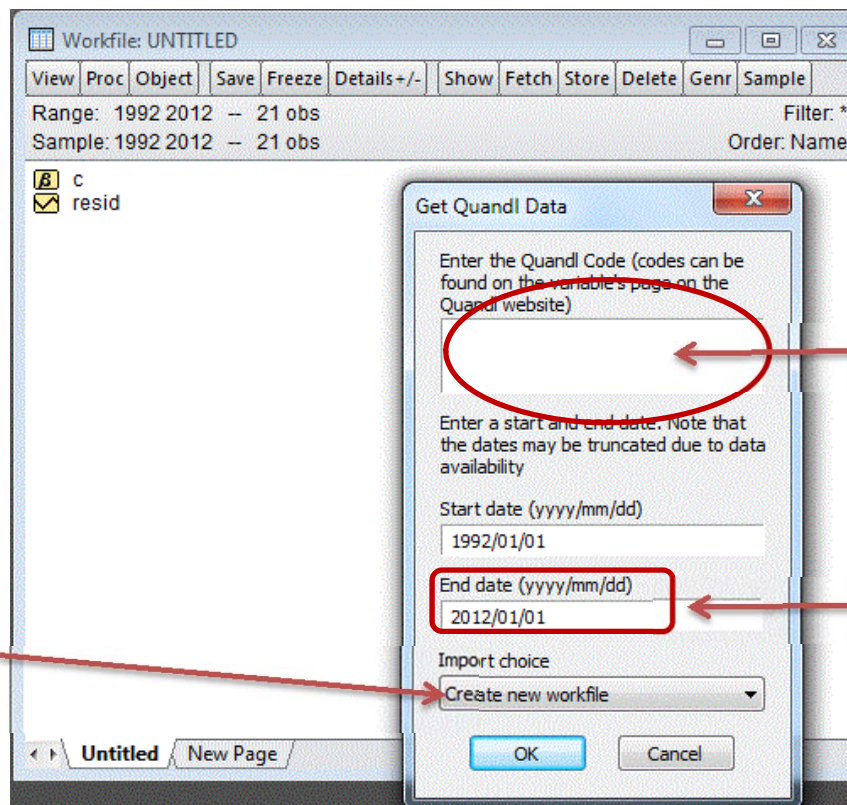
[Imports By Country](#)

Highlight & copy ALL of this code

Now we're ready to work with EViews. First, create a new workfile with the appropriate sample, in this particular it's Annual, spanning the period from 1992 to 2012:



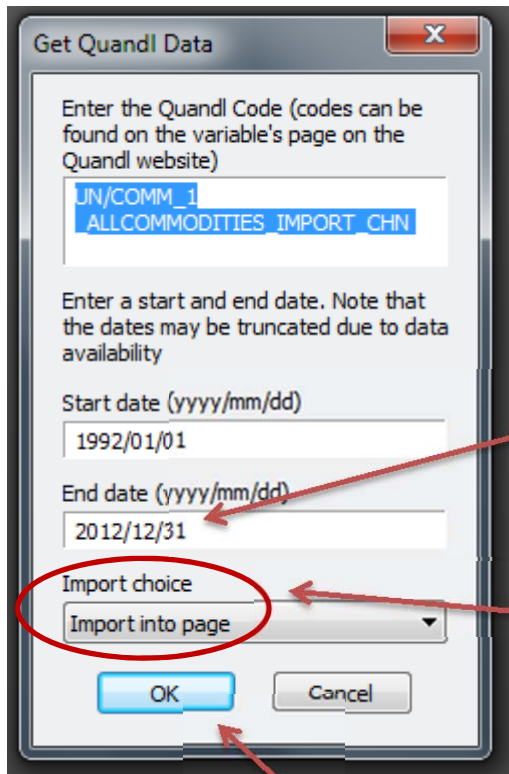
Then, select "Add-ins", and choose "Download Quandl Data":



Paste the Quandl Code for the series here

You may have to edit this box – see the next page

You can alter this to "Create new page" or "Import into page", as desired:

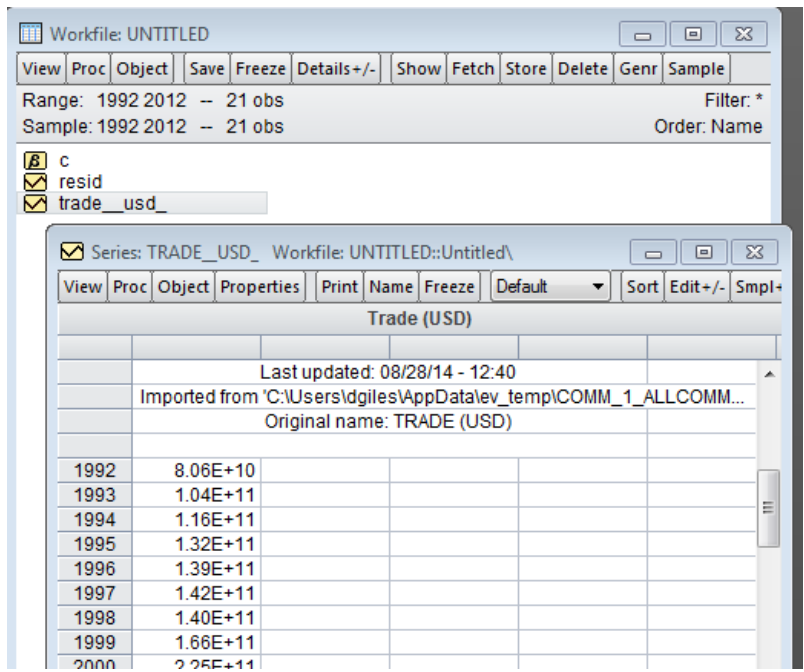


We have ANNUAL data for the period 1992 to 2012, so the last day of the sample must be **2012/12/31** (otherwise we'll "lose" the last year of data, in this example). *This issue doesn't arise with monthly or quarterly, data.*

I've chosen to import the data into the existing page of my workfile

Select "OK"

The Imports data are now in our EViews workfile, ready to use:



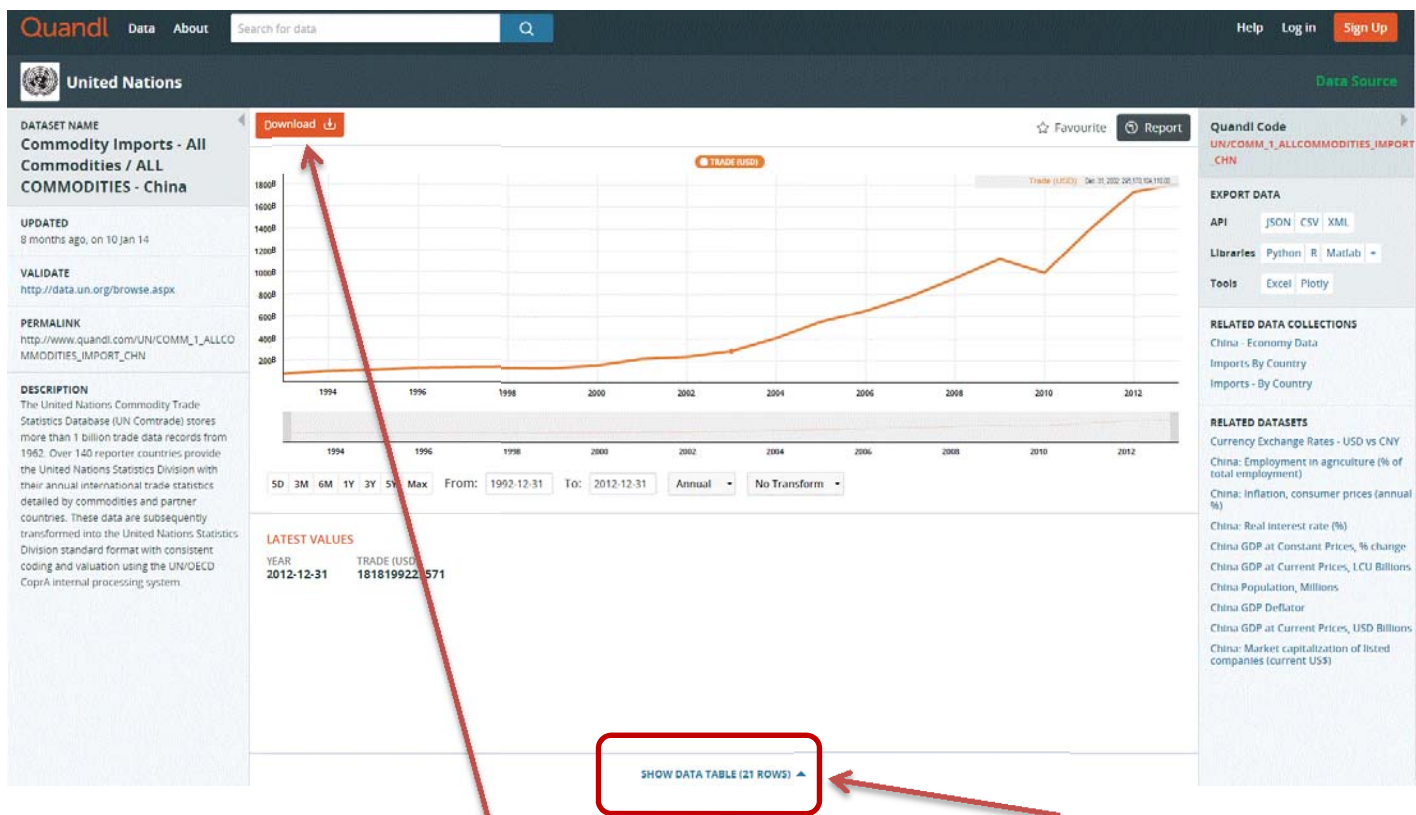
6. Warning!

Notice that, on the last page, the time-series of data is in the order that we'd expect in EViews – namely, from “oldest” to “newest” dates. You probably know that some databases actually store time-series data in the **reverse** order to this – that is, with the most recent values at the “top” of the series, and the oldest values at the “bottom”. This is always something to watch for when you're importing time-series data from an external source – e.g., financial data from Yahoo!

As it happens, this “reverse” convention is used in Quandl. So, if you chose to “grab” some Quandl data directly, you're going to have a problem, unless you take this into account when importing it into an EViews workfile. Alternatively, you can “flip” the series (e.g., using Excel) before putting it into EViews (or any other standard econometrics package).

Be careful! There's nothing worse than doing all of your econometric modelling and then finding out that your daets were actually in the reverse order!


To elaborate on this point, let's go back to the Quandl page for the Chinese Imports data that we saw on p.10 of this document:




It was noted earlier that you could download the data into a spreadsheet. You can also view the data that have been plotted.

First, suppose that you decide to view the data – this is what you will see:

Quandl Data About Search for data

 **United Nations**

DATASET NAME
Commodity Imports - All Commodities / ALL COMMODITIES - China

Download 

5D 3M 6M 1Y 3Y 5Y Max From: 1992-12-31 To: 2012-12-31

Year ▼	Trade (USD)
2012-12-31	1.82e+12
2011-12-31	1.74e+12
2010-12-31	1.40e+12
2009-12-31	1.01e+12
2008-12-31	1.13e+12
2007-12-31	9.56e+11
2006-12-31	7.91e+11
2005-12-31	6.60e+11
2004-12-31	5.61e+11
2003-12-31	4.13e+11
2002-12-31	2.95e+11
2001-12-31	2.44e+11
2000-12-31	2.25e+11
1999-12-31	1.66e+11
1998-12-31	1.40e+11
1997-12-31	1.42e+11
1996-12-31	1.39e+11
1995-12-31	1.32e+11
1994-12-31	1.16e+11
1993-12-31	1.04e+11
1992-12-31	8.06e+10

UPDATED
8 months ago, on 10 Jan 14

VALIDATE
<http://data.un.org/browse.aspx>

PERMALINK
http://www.quandl.com/UN/COMM_1_ALLCOMMODITIES_IMPORT_CHN

DESCRIPTION
The United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (UN Comtrade) stores more than 1 billion trade data records from 1962. Over 140 reporter countries provide the United Nations Statistics Division with their annual international trade statistics detailed by commodities and partner countries. These data are subsequently transformed into the United Nations Statistics Division standard format with consistent coding and valuation using the UN/OECD CoprA internal processing system.

As you can see, the series in the reverse order, compared with what we're used to! So, a simple "copy and paste" of (just) the Trade data from this page into an existing EViews series isn't going to work!

However, all is not lost. If you "copy and paste" **both** the dates (the "Year" series, in this case) **and** the data (The "Trade values, in this case) into an existing series in an EViews workfile, everything will be alright, because EViews is smart enough to sort things out for you. The series will end up being stored, correctly, from "oldest" date to "newest" date.

Thank you, EViews Team!

Similarly, if you download the data from Quandl to an Excel, .csv, or HTML file, the same problem arises – the series runs from “new” to “old”, rather than from “old” to “new”:

	A	B	C
1	Year	Trade (USD)	
2	31/12/2012	1.82E+12	
3	31/12/2011	1.74E+12	
4	31/12/2010	1.4E+12	
5	31/12/2009	1.01E+12	
6	31/12/2008	1.13E+12	
7	31/12/2007	9.56E+11	
8	31/12/2006	7.91E+11	
9	31/12/2005	6.6E+11	
10	31/12/2004	5.61E+11	
11	31/12/2003	4.13E+11	
12	31/12/2002	2.95E+11	
13	31/12/2001	2.44E+11	
14	31/12/2000	2.25E+11	
15	31/12/1999	1.66E+11	
16	31/12/1998	1.4E+11	
17	31/12/1997	1.42E+11	
18	31/12/1996	1.39E+11	
19	31/12/1995	1.32E+11	
20	31/12/1994	1.16E+11	
21	31/12/1993	1.04E+11	
22	31/12/1992	8.06E+10	
23			

Yes, you could now “flip” the data series in Excel – *as long as you remember to do so before copying and pasting the numbers into EViews!*

To play it safe, and minimize the extent to which you’re “handling” the data, using the EViews Add-in for Quandl might be a better choice.