### datediff()

Returns the difference between the start date and end date in the specified time unit.

#### Syntax

datediff(START\_DATE, END\_DATE, "{year|mon|day|hour|min|sec|msec}")

Required Parameter

**START\_DATE**

Expression that returns the start date. The function returns null if a value of any other type is received.

**END\_DATE**

Expression that returns the last date. The function returns null if a value of any other type is received.

**"{year|mon|day|hour|min|sec|msec}"**

Time unit to use when calculating the difference between START\_DATE and END\_DATE, enclosed in a pair of double quotes. For the meaning of each unit of time, refer to the table below.

**Unit of Time**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unit of Time | Description |
| year | Year |
| mon | Month |
| day | Day |
| hour | Hour |
| min | Minute |
| sec | Second |
| msec | Millisecond |

#### Usage

Calculate the difference between September 29, 2014, and September 29, 2013.

json "{}" | set start=date("2013-09-29", "yyyy-MM-dd") | set end=date("2014-09-29", "yyyy-MM-dd") | eval year = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "year"), mon = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "mon"), day = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "day"), hour = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "hour"), min = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "min"), sec = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "sec"), msec = datediff($("start"), $("end"), "msec")

In the case of an incorrect input

json "{}" | eval error0 = datediff(null, date("2014-09-29", "yyyy-MM-dd"), "sec"), error1 = datediff(date("2013-09-29", "yyyy-MM-dd"), null, "min"), error2 = datediff("invalid", date("2014-09-29", "yyyy-MM-dd"), "min")