

1.5

Column Aliases

Column Aliases

- A column alias provides a way to create a clean or more descriptive header for a results set.
- A column alias **cannot** be used in a SELECT, WHERE, GROUP BY or HAVING clause due to the order of execution. You must refer to the original column name.

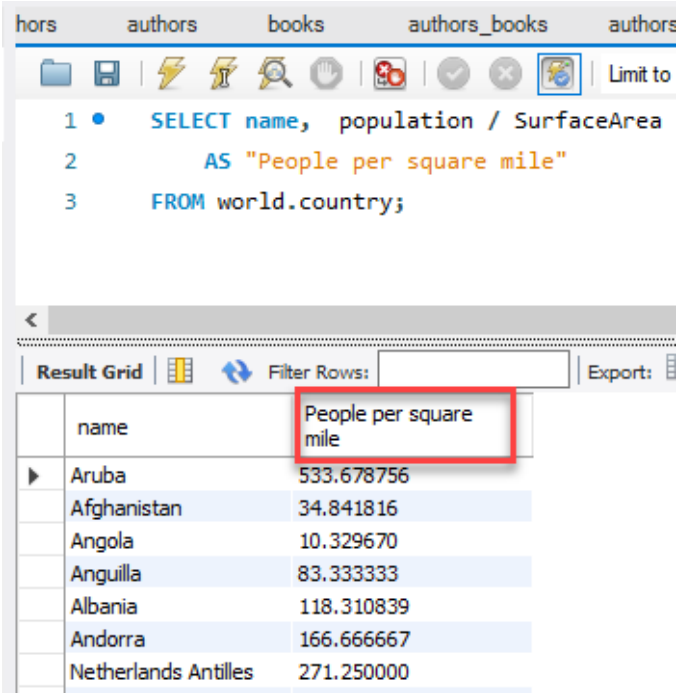
In the previous example, we created a new column that was a *calculated value*. The problem is that the column header is now population / SurfaceArea. However, we can rename the column header to something cleaner by creating a *column alias*. Look at the code snippet below.

Example:

```
SELECT name, population / SurfaceArea
       AS "People per square mile"
FROM country;
```

We used the AS keyword then in quotes we put the new column alias of "People per square mile." Which changes the column header as seen show below.

Results:

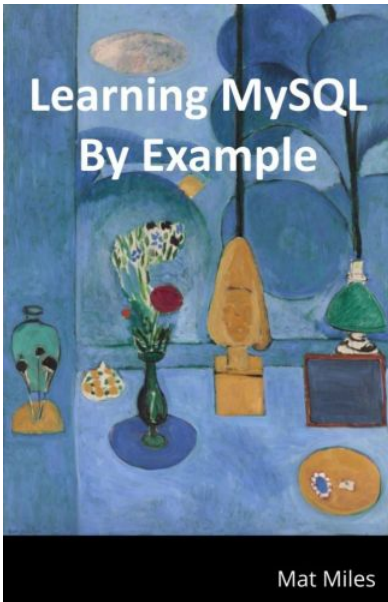


The screenshot shows a MySQL IDE window with a query editor and a results grid. The query editor contains the following SQL code:

```
1 • SELECT name, population / SurfaceArea
2     AS "People per square mile"
3     FROM world.country;
```

Below the query editor is a toolbar with icons for file operations, execution, and navigation. The results grid is displayed below the toolbar and contains the following data:

name	People per square mile
Aruba	533.678756
Afghanistan	34.841816
Angola	10.329670
Anguilla	83.333333
Albania	118.310839
Andorra	166.666667
Netherlands Antilles	271.250000



Miles, M. (2021). *Learning MySQL By Example*. EdTech Books. https://edtechbooks.org/learning_mysql