

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
2.3	Data from the primary source have been quality assessed: Coverage, timeliness, coherence)	Quality declaration is attached and shows that data comply with acceptable standards.	Quality declaration is attached and shows that the deficiencies in the data do not invalidate use of the data.	Quality declaration is attached and shows that data deviate significantly from acceptable standards.	Quality declaration is not attached.
2.4	Does an agreement for relevant deadlines for transfer of data from the primary source exist and are they adhered to?	Measures (agreements, documented procedures) exist to ensure that agreed deadlines are adhered to.	Measures exist to ensure adherence to agreed deadlines but there are minor discrepancies regarding adherence.	Deadlines for reporting exist with no follow-up procedures to ensure the timely receipt of data.	No deadlines for reporting and no procedures to ensure timely receipt of data exist.
2.5	Register / frame maintenance procedures are adequate.	Maintenance and update procedures of register/frame are adequate, thoroughly documented and performed on a regular basis.	Maintenance and update procedures are adequate and performed on a regular basis, but are not thoroughly documented.	Maintenance and update procedures are inadequate and are performed on an ad hoc basis. Some documentation exists.	No maintenance and update procedures exist.
	Updates	Updates are typically live and are registered on the occurrence of the event.	Updates are typically after the event, but occur at regular intervals.	Updates are typically after the event, but occur on an ad hoc basis.	No maintenance and update procedures exist.
	Quality assurance	A regular follow up survey is conducted based on a sample drawn from the administrative records and matches the frequency of the release.	A follow up survey is conducted but is inadequate given the frequency of the release.	The follow up survey is conducted on an ad hoc basis	No follow up survey is conducted.
	Data audit	An analysis of alternate data source/s is conducted to determine the cause, extent and type of errors in the administrative record system / frame and matches the frequency of the release	An analysis of alternate data sources is done on a regular basis but is inadequate given the frequency of the release.	An analysis of alternate data sources is done on an ad hoc basis	No analysis of alternate data sources is done.

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2.6	Are data collection systems sufficiently open and flexible to cater for new developments (e.g., changes in definitions, classifications, etc)?	Data collection programmes are sufficiently robust, with changes causing minimal impact on systems.	Data collection programmes are sufficiently robust, with changes causing significant impact on systems.	Although the data collection programmes are weak, the changes would result in significant system changes (not a major overhaul).	Data collection programmes are weak, with changes requiring an overhaul of the entire system.
2.7	Description of record-matching methods and techniques used on the administrative data sources. Match rate as a percentage of total records. Measure of false negative matches (same unit but match was missed) Measure of false positive matches (record matched but relate to separate entities)	Manual and electronic techniques used for matching records are thoroughly documented.	Although incomplete, a high degree of documentation exists on manual and electronic record-matching techniques used.	Some documentation exists on manual and electronic record-matching techniques used.	Manual and electronic techniques used for matching records are not documented at all.

Table 5 Timeliness (SASQAF dimension 3)

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
3.1	Average time between the end of reference period and the date of the first results.	Preliminary results are released within the recommended timeframes as specified in the relevant standards and good practices.	Preliminary results released approach the relevant standards and good practices.	Preliminary results released lag behind relevant standards and good practices.	Preliminary results released lag far behind the relevant standards and good practices.
3.2	Average time between the end of reference period and the date of the final results.	Final results are released within the recommended timeframes as specified in the relevant standards and good practices.	Final results released approach the relevant standards and good practices.	Final results released lag behind relevant standards and good practices.	Final results released lag far behind the relevant standards and good practices.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
3.3	Production activities within the statistical value chain are within the planned timelines, viz.: data collection, data processing, data analysis, dissemination	All elements within the statistical value chain are within the planned timelines.	Some elements within the statistical value chain are within the planned timelines.	Few elements within the statistical value chain are within the planned timelines.	All elements within the statistical value chain are not within the planned timelines.
3.4	Report on the frequency of release.	The standards and guidelines for the frequency of release exist and are adhered to.	The standards and guidelines for the frequency of release exist, but only some are adhered to.	The standards and guidelines for the frequency of release exist, but are not adhered to.	No standards and guidelines exist for the frequency of release.
3.5	Punctuality of time schedule for publication.	Statistical outputs are released are always within the relevant standards and good practices, e.g. see GDDS and SDDS as a standard.	Statistical outputs released are most of the time within the relevant standards and good practices.	Statistical outputs lag behind the relevant standards and good practices.	Statistical outputs lag far behind the relevant standards and good practices.

Table 6 Accessibility (SASQAF dimension 4)

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
4.1	Are data and information available to the public?	All statistics disseminated are available from a publicly accessible medium.	Most of the statistics disseminated are available from a publicly accessible medium.	Few statistics disseminated are available from a publicly accessible medium.	Statistics disseminated are not available from a publicly accessible medium.
4.2	Rules governing the restricted availability of administrative records are well described and documented.	All rules governing the restricted availability of administrative are well described and documented.	Some of the rules are defined and documented	Some of the rules are defined and documented	No rules are defined or documented
4.3	Legal arrangements are in place to access administrative records via	Only those with whom legal arrangements are in place are able to access administrative	Administrative records are made accessible to those with whom legal arrangements	Administrative records are made accessible to those without any legal arrangements in	Administrative records are made accessible without any legal arrangements in place.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	manual/automated/electronic systems	data via manual/automated/electronic systems	are not officially in place, but are pending via manual/automated/electronic systems	place, but discussions have been entered into.	
4.4	Types of media/channels used for sharing data amongst stakeholders are adequate and preserve confidentiality.	Data are accessible through a variety of channels with mechanisms that ensure confidentiality.	Data are accessible through a variety of channels though loopholes exist that may compromise confidentiality.	Limited channels exist for stakeholders to access data and no mechanisms exist to ensure confidentiality.	No channels exist for stakeholders to access data.
4.5	Data is accessible in a format beyond the producing agency.	Data is accessible in a variety of formats that satisfies the requirements of all users.	Data is accessible in a variety of formats that satisfies the requirements most users.	Data is accessible in a variety of formats that satisfies the requirements of some users.	Data is accessible in a format that only meets the needs of the producing agency.
4.6	Statistics are released on a pre-announced schedule.	Statistics are always released according to an advance release calendar.	Statistics are most of the time released according to an advance release calendar.	Statistics are sometimes released according to an advance release calendar.	There are no advance release calendars.
4.7	Statistics are made available to all users at the same time.	Statistics are always made available to all users at the same time.	Statistics are often made available to all users at the same time.	Statistics are seldom available to all users at the same time.	Statistics are never released simultaneously to all interested parties.
4.8	Statistics/administrative records not routinely disseminated are made available upon request.	Statistics not routinely disseminated are always available on request; or Administrative records not routinely shared are always available on request (where a legal framework is in place)	Statistics not routinely disseminated are usually available on request; or Administrative records not routinely shared are usually available on request (where a legal framework is in place).	Statistics not routinely disseminated are occasionally available on request; or Administrative records not routinely shared are occasionally available on request (where a legal framework is in place).	Statistics/administrative records not routinely disseminated are not available on request.
4.9	User support services are widely publicised.	User support services are well known and widely utilized.	User support services are well known and utilized by some users.	User support services are known but they are not used.	User support services do not exist.
4.10	Does a data dissemination policy exist, and is it maintained and accessible?	A data dissemination policy exists, and is available and up to date.	A data dissemination policy exists but is outdated.	A data dissemination policy is under development.	No data dissemination policy exists.
4.11	Does the pricing policy governing	Pricing policy exists, and is	Pricing policy exists but is	Pricing policy is under	Pricing policy does not exist.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	dissemination exist, and is it available to users?	available and up to date.	outdated.	development.	
4.12	Catalogue systems (for survey, administrative records and other services) to identify information are available to users and are updated regularly.	Catalogue systems to identify information are available and updated regularly.	Catalogue systems to identify information are partially available and updated regularly.	Catalogue systems are not readily available and are not updated regularly.	Information is not catalogued.
4.13	Metadata (a full range of information on underlying concepts, definitions, classifications, methodology, data sources, accuracy, etc.) are documented, available and readily accessible to users	Metadata are always documented, available, and readily accessible.	Metadata are available and accessible to some users	Metadata are available but not readily accessible.	Metadata is not documented

Table 7 Interpretability (SASQAF dimension 5)

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
5.1	Availability of concepts and definitions, classifications underlying the data (survey and administrative records). Differences from accepted standards, guidelines or good practices are annotated.	Concepts, definitions and classifications underlying the data are available, and any deviations from acceptable standards are annotated.	Some deviations from acceptable standards are annotated.	Few deviations from acceptable standards are annotated.	Deviations from acceptable standards are not annotated.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
		All concepts used in administrative records are well defined and documented.	The vast majority of the concepts, definitions and classifications used in administrative records are well defined and documented.	Some of the concepts, definitions and classifications used in administrative records are well defined and documented.	None of the concepts, definitions and classifications used in administrative records are defined or documented.
5.2	Documents on scope, basis of recording, data sources and statistical techniques (methodology) used are available. Differences from accepted standards, guidelines or good practices are annotated.	Adequate documentation on scope, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques used is available and deviations from accepted standards, guidelines or good practices are annotated. The accepted standard is the metadata template.	Partial documentation on scope, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques used is available and deviations from accepted standards, guidelines or good practices are annotated.	Inadequate documentation on scope, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques used is available, and deviations from accepted standards, guidelines or good practices are annotated.	Scope, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques used are not documented.
5.3	All the statistical releases produced are accompanied by primary messages clarifying the key findings.	Primary messages clarifying all key findings on each statistical release are available in detail.	Primary messages clarifying some key findings on each statistical release are available in detail.	Primary messages clarifying a few key findings on each statistical release are available but not in detail.	No primary messages clarifying key findings on each statistical release.

Table 8 Coherence (SASQAF dimension 6)

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
6.1	Data within series and administrative systems are based on common frameworks, such as concepts, definitions, classifications, and methodologies, and departures	All data within series are based on common frameworks, concepts, definitions, classifications, and methodologies and departures from this are identified in the metadata.	Most of the data within series are based on common frameworks, concepts, definitions, classifications, and methodologies and departures from this are identified in the metadata.	Limited data within series are based on common frameworks, concepts, definitions, classifications, and methodologies and departures from this are identified in the metadata.	Data within series are not based on common frameworks, concepts, definitions, classifications, and methodologies.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
	from these are identified in the metadata.				
6.2	Statistics are consistent and reconcilable over time.	Statistics are always consistent and reconcilable over time.	Statistics are sometimes consistent and reconcilable over time.	Statistics are seldom consistent and reconcilable over time.	Statistics are neither consistent nor reconcilable over time.
6.3	Data across comparable series, or source data are based on common frames, common identifiers, concepts, definitions, and departures from these are identified in the metadata.	All data across comparable series, or primary source data are based on common frames, common identifiers, concepts, definitions, and classifications, and any differences are identified and can be allowed for in the interpretation.	Most data across comparable series, or primary source data are based on common frames, common identifiers, concepts, definitions, and classifications, and any differences are identified and can be allowed for in the interpretation.	Limited data across comparable series, or primary source data are based on common frames, common identifiers, concepts, definitions, and classifications, and any differences are identified and can be allowed for in the interpretation.	No data across comparable series or primary source data are based on common frames, common identifiers, concepts, definitions, and classifications.
6.4	Statistics are checked for consistency with those obtained through other data sources (identify comparable datasets and incomparable ones).	Statistics are always checked for consistency with those obtained through other data sources.	Statistics are sometimes checked for consistency with those obtained through other data sources.	Statistics are rarely checked for consistency with those obtained through other data sources.	Statistics are not checked for consistency with those obtained through other data sources.
6.5	A common set of identifiers (for the purpose of record matching) exist and have been agreed upon by the data producers.	A common set of identifiers (for the purpose of record matching) exist and have been agreed upon by the data producers.	Some identifiers exist, facilitating record matching, but have not been agreed upon.	Some identifiers exist, but is insufficient for accurate record matching	No common identifiers exist

Table 9 Methodological soundness (SASQAF dimension 7)

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
7.1	Concepts, definitions, and classifications used follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices (national, international, peer-agreed).	All concepts, definitions, and classifications follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices (national, international, peer-agreed).	Most concepts, definitions, and classifications follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices (national, international, peer-agreed).	Few concepts, definitions, and classifications follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices (national, international, peer-agreed).	Concepts, definitions, and classifications do not follow any standards, guidelines or good practices (national, international, peer-agreed).
7.2	The scope of the study is consistent with accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	The scope of the study is completely consistent with accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	The scope of the study is partially consistent with accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	The scope of the study is inadequately consistent with accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	The scope of the study is inconsistent with accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.
7.3	Methodologies used follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices (national, international, peer-agreed), viz.: questionnaire design, sampling methods, sample frame design, frame maintenance, piloting, standard collection methods, standard editing and imputation methods, standard analytical methods	Methodologies used in all processes always follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	Methodologies used in all processes sometimes follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	Methodologies used in all processes seldom follow accepted standards, guidelines or good practices.	Non-standard methods used.
7.4	Revisions schedule followed (explain the extent to which it is regular and transparent).	Revisions schedule is always followed.	Revisions schedule is sometimes followed.	Revisions schedule is seldom followed.	No revisions schedule.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment Levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
7.5	Preliminary and revised data are identified in the metadata.	Preliminary and revised data are always identified and explained in metadata.	Preliminary and revised data are sometimes identified and explained in metadata.	Preliminary and revised data are seldom identified and explained in metadata.	Preliminary and revised data are not identified and explained in metadata.
7.6	Studies of revisions and their findings are made public.	Studies of revisions and findings are always made public.	Studies of revisions and findings are sometimes made public.	Studies of revisions and findings are seldom made public.	Studies of revisions and findings are never made public.

Table 10 Integrity (SASQAF dimension 8)

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
8.1	The terms and conditions, including confidentiality, under which statistics are collected, processed and disseminated are available to the public and follow the UN principles of official statistics.	The terms and conditions, including confidentiality, under which statistics are collected, processed and disseminated, are available to the public and completely follow the UN principles of official statistics.	The terms and conditions, including confidentiality, under which statistics are collected, processed and disseminated, are available to the public and by and large follow the UN principles of official statistics.	The terms and conditions, including confidentiality, under which statistics are collected, processed and disseminated are available to the public and to some extent follow the UN principles of official statistics.	The terms and conditions, including confidentiality, under which statistics are collected, processed and disseminated are not available to the public and/or do not follow the UN principles of official statistics.
8.2	Describe the conditions under which policy-makers, specifically government, may have access to data before release. Are the conditions published?	Policy-makers always get the statistics at the same time as everyone else and this is publicly stated.	Policy-makers in exceptional cases get the statistics before everyone else and this is publicly stated.	Policy-makers often get the statistics before everyone else and this is not publicly stated.	Policy-makers routinely get the statistics before everyone else and this is not publicly stated.
8.3	Advance notice is given of major changes in methodology, source data and statistical techniques.	Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data and statistical techniques is always given.	Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data and statistical techniques is sometimes given.	Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data and statistical techniques is seldom given.	Advance notice of major changes in methodology, source data and statistical techniques is never given.

Indicator number	Indicator description	Assessment levels			
		Quality Statistics	Acceptable Statistics	Questionable Statistics	Poor Statistics
		Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
8.4	Ministerial commentary, when data are released, should be identified as such, and not be seen as part of the official statistics.	Ministerial commentary, when data are released, is always identified as such, and is not seen as part of the official statistics.	Ministerial commentary, when data are released, is sometimes confused to some extent with the official statistics.	Ministerial commentary, when data are released, is often confused with the official statistics.	There is no clear distinction between Ministerial commentary, when data are released, and official statistics.
8.5	Choice of source data, techniques and dissemination decisions are informed solely by statistical considerations (without political interference).	Source data, techniques and dissemination decisions are informed solely by statistical considerations without any political interference.	Source data, techniques and dissemination decisions are informed by statistical considerations as well as limited political interference.	Source data, techniques and dissemination decisions are informed by statistical considerations with political interference.	Source data, techniques and dissemination decisions are informed solely by political interference.
8.6	Ethical guidelines for staff behaviour are in place and are well known to the staff (professional code of conduct).	Ethical guidelines for staff behaviour are in place, are well known to the staff and are adhered to.	Ethical guidelines for staff behaviour are in place, are known to the staff and are adhered to.	Ethical guidelines for staff behaviour are in place, are not well known to the staff and to some extent are adhered to.	Staff does not know ethical guidelines for staff behaviour.