

General information

Term:

Quality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality is the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils requirements.

Source

Source:

ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality is a multi-faceted concept. The dimensions of quality that are considered most important depend on user perspectives, needs and priorities, which vary across groups of users. Several statistical organisations have developed lists of quality dimensions, which, for international organisations, are being harmonised under the leadership of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA).

The European Statistics Code of Practice defines quality in terms of the institutional environment, statistical processes and statistical output.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Prerequisites of quality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Prerequisites of quality are institutional conditions for the pursuit of data quality.

Source

Source:

International Monetary Fund (IMF), "Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) Glossary" - unpublished
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://www.imf.org>

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

The Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) groups the indicators of this kind into four elements: legal and institutional environment, resources, relevance and other quality management. These elements and indicators are identified to reinforce the idea that data users, who often cannot replicate or otherwise verify data, must place their trust in the institutions that produce statistics and the people who staff them. Typically, these pointers refer to the larger institution (called the "umbrella institution" in the DQAF) of which the compiling unit, such as a national accounts division or a balance of payments department, is a part. Further, these prerequisites typically influence more than one of the five dimensions in the DQAF.

In the framework of the European Statistics Code of Practice, the prerequisites of the quality are the institutional environments.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality management

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality management is the set of systems and frameworks which are in place within an organisation to manage the quality of statistical products and processes.

Source

Source:

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) initiative, sponsored by BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD and World Bank, 2009

Hyperlink:

<http://sdmx.org/>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

According to the ISO, quality management is the set of coordinated activities to direct and control an organisation with regard to quality.

"Quality management" refers to the application of a formalised system that documents the structure, responsibilities and procedures put in place for satisfying users, while continuing to improve the data production and dissemination process. It also includes how well the resources meet the requirement.

This concept can be broken down into: "Quality management - quality assurance"; "Quality management - assessment"; "Quality management - documentation".

"Quality assurance" refers to all the planned and systematic activities implemented that can be demonstrated to provide confidence that the processes will fulfil the requirements for the statistical output. This includes the design of programmes for quality management, the description of planning process, scheduling of work, frequency of plan updates, and other organisational arrangements to support and maintain planning function.

"Quality assessment" contains the overall assessment of data quality, based on standard quality criteria. This may include the result of a scoring or grading process for quality. Scoring may be quantitative or qualitative.

"Quality documentation" contains documentation on methods and standards for assessing data quality, based on standard quality criteria such as relevance, accuracy and reliability, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability, and coherence.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality management system

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality management system is a management system to direct and control an organisation with regard to quality.

Source

Source:

ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality Framework

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality Framework is a management system to direct and control an organisation with regard to quality – ranging from generally applicable, basic quality management systems and advanced forms referred to as excellence models, to systems or models developed for the concrete areas (e.g. for statistical production and dissemination).

Source

Source:

Based on ISO definitions: ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality Assurance (Framework)

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality Assurance is an organisation's guarantee that the product or service it offers meets the accepted quality standards. It is achieved by identifying what "quality" means in context; specifying methods by which its presence can be ensured; and specifying ways in which it can be measured to ensure conformance.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2004), "Handbook on improving quality by analysis of process variables" produced by ONS-UK, INE Portugal, NSS of Greece and Statistics Sweden
ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting
http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

According to the ISO, quality assurance is a part of quality management, providing confidence that quality requirements (need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory) will be fulfilled.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality Assessment

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality assessment is a part of quality assurance that focuses on assessment of fulfilling quality requirements (need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory).

Source

Source:

Based on ISO definitions: ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools

Remark:

General information

Term:

European Statistics Code of Practice

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The European Statistics Code of Practice (CoP, Code) is the European Statistical System (ESS) quality framework, providing a structure for supporting improvements of quality for the ESS.

Source

Source:

European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

The Code provides an encompassing conceptual ground for quality management and is based on 15 principles. Governance authorities and statistical authorities in the European Union commit themselves to adhering to the principles fixed in the Code covering the institutional environment, statistical processes and statistical outputs for the ESS. A set of indicators of good practice for each of the 15 principles provides a reference for reviewing the implementation of the Code.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Output (product) quality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Output (product) quality is the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils output requirements.

Source

Source:

ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/search.htm?qt=iso+9000&sort=rel&type=simple&published=on>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

According to the European Statistics Code of Practice ("Code"), quality is determined by three major factors: the institutional environment, the statistical processes and the statistical output.

The Code distinguishes between nine output quality components:

- * relevance
- * accuracy and reliability
- * timeliness and punctuality
- * coherence and comparability
- * accessibility and clarity

Remark:

General information

Term:

Process quality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Process quality is the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils process requirements.

Source

Source:

ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/search.htm?qt=iso+9000&sort=rel&type=simple&published=on>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

According to the European Statistics Code of Practice ("Code"), quality is determined by three major factors: the institutional environment, the statistical processes and the statistical output.

The Code distinguishes between four process quality components:

- * sound methodology
- * appropriate statistical procedures
- * non-excessive burden on respondents
- * cost effectiveness

Remark:

General information

Term:

Institutional environment

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Institutional enviconment is the set of rules and the organisational structures that is used as the basis for producing statistics.

Source

Source:

ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/search.htm?qt=iso+9000&sort=rel&type=simple&published=on>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

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According to the European Statistics Code of Practice ("Code"), quality is determined by three major factors: the institutional environment, the statistical processes and the statistical output.

The Code distinguishes between six quality components for the institutional environment:

- * professional independence
- * mandate for data collection
- * adequacy of resources
- * quality commitment
- * statistical confidentiality
- * impartiality and objectivity

Remark:

General information

Term:

Total Quality Management

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Total Quality Management (TQM) is a management philosophy that is driven by customer needs and expectations. TQM aims to create a Quality Culture, and is based on a number of core values such as: customer orientation; leadership; participation of all staff; process orientation; teamwork; staff development; and continuous improvement.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2004), "Handbook on improving quality by analysis of process variables" produced by ONS-UK, INE Portugal, NSS of Greece and Statistics Sweden

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

Remark:

General information

Term:

ISO 9000

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

ISO 9000:2005 is a set of international standards describing fundamentals of quality management systems, which form the subject of the ISO 9000 family, and defines related terms.

Source

Source:

Website of ISO

Hyperlink:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/about.htm>

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is the world's **largest developer** and publisher of **International Standards**. ISO is a **network** of the national standards institutes of **161 countries**, one member per country, with a Central Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, that coordinates the system.

ISO is a **non-governmental organization** that forms a bridge between the public and private sectors. On the one hand, many of its member institutes are part of the governmental structure of their countries, or are mandated by their government. On the other hand, other members have their roots uniquely in the private sector, having been set up by national partnerships of industry associations.

Therefore, ISO enables a **consensus** to be reached on solutions that meet both the requirements of business and **the broader needs of society**.

ISO 9000 is a family of standards that addresses quality management; this means what the organisation does to fulfil:

- * the customer's quality requirements, and
- * applicable regulatory requirements, while aiming to
- * enhance customer satisfaction, and
- * achieve continual improvement of its performance in pursuit of these objectives.

(according to ISO definition the customer is: organisation or person that receives a product, it can be user, client, consumer, retailer, beneficiary, purchaser; a customer can be internal or external to the organisation.)

Remark:

General information

Term:

ISO 20252

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

ISO 20252:2006 is a set of international standards establishing the terms and definitions as well as the service requirements for organizations and professionals conducting market, opinion and social research.

Source

Source:

Website of ISO

Hyperlink:

<http://www.iso.org/iso/about.htm>

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

Quality framework

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Therefore, ISO enables a **consensus** to be reached on solutions that meet both the requirements of business and **the broader needs of society**.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Common Assessment Framework

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is a common European quality management instrument for the public sector developed by the public sector.

Source

Source:

Website of European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)

Hyperlink:

<http://www.eipa.eu/en/topic/show/&tid=191>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

The CAF is an easy-to-use, free tool to assist public-sector organisations across Europe in using quality management techniques to improve their performance. The CAF is a **total quality management** (TQM) tool which is inspired by the major Total Quality models in general, and by the Excellence Model of the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) in particular. It is especially designed for public-sector organisations, taking into account their characteristics.

The model is based on the premise that excellent results in organisational performance, citizens/customers, people and society are achieved through leadership driving strategy and planning, people, partnerships, resources and processes. It looks at the organisation from different angles at the same time; a holistic approach to organisation performance analysis.

Remark:

General information

Term:

European Foundation for Quality Management

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) is a not for profit membership foundation.

The EFQM Excellence Model is the most widely used organisational framework in Europe and it is the basis for the majority of national and regional Quality Awards. Used as a tool for assessment, it delivers a picture of how well the organisation compares to similar or very different kinds of organisation. Used as a management model it can be used to define aspirations for the organisation's capability and performance.

Source

Source:

Website of EFQM

Hyperlink:

<http://www.efqm.org/en/tabid/108/default.aspx>

<http://ww1.efqm.org/en/Home/aboutEFQM/Ourmodels/TheEFQME ExcellenceModel/tabid/170/Default.aspx>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

Through the network of over 600 members comprising private and public organisations of every size and sector, many active around the world, EFQM applies its know-how and extracts outstanding approaches by engaging with executives and front-line managers.

The EFQM Excellence Model:

- * Is a structure for the organisation's management system
- * Can be used as part of a self-assessment
- * Provides a framework for comparison with other organisations
- * Helps to identify areas for Improvement

The EFQM Excellence Model is a non-prescriptive framework based on 9 criteria. Five of these are 'Enablers' and four are 'Results'. The 'Enabler' criteria cover what an organisation does and how it does it.

The 'Results' criteria cover what an organisation achieves. 'Results' are caused by 'Enablers' and 'Enablers' are improved using feedback from 'Results'.

The Model, which recognises there are many approaches to achieving sustainability, is based on the premise that:

Excellent Key Results, Customer Results, People Results and Society Results are achieved through Leadership driving the Strategy, that is delivered through People, Partnerships and Resources, and Processes, Products and Services.

Remark:

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General information

Term:

Balanced Scorecard

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The balanced scorecard is a strategic planning and management system that is used extensively in business and industry, government, and nonprofit organizations worldwide to align business activities to the vision and strategy of the organization, improve internal and external communications, and monitor organization performance against strategic goals.

Source

Source:

Website of the Balanced Scorecard Institute

Hyperlink:

<http://www.balancedscorecard.org/BSCResources/AbouttheBalancedScorecard/tabid/55/default.aspx>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

The balanced scorecard has evolved from its early use as a simple performance measurement framework to a full strategic planning and management system. The “new” balanced scorecard transforms an organization’s strategic plan from an attractive but passive document into the "marching orders" for the organization on a daily basis. It provides a framework that not only provides performance measurements, but helps planners identify what should be done and measured. It enables executives to truly execute their strategies.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Six Sigma

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Six Sigma is a metric, methodology and a management system and has literal, conceptual and practical definitions.

Source

Source:

Motorola website
wikipedia

Hyperlink:

http://www.motorola.com/staticfiles/Business/_Moto_University/Documents/_Static_Files/What_is_Six_Sigma.pdf
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Six_Sigma

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

Six Sigma is a business management strategy originally developed by Motorola, USA in 1981. It seeks to improve the quality of process outputs by identifying and removing the causes of defects (errors) and minimizing variability in manufacturing and business processes. It uses a set of quality management methods, including statistical methods, and creates a special infrastructure of people within the organization who are experts in these methods. Each Six Sigma project carried out within an organization follows a defined sequence of steps and has quantified targets. These targets can be financial (cost reduction or profit increase) or whatever is critical to the customer of that process (cycle time, safety, delivery, etc.)

The term six sigma originated from terminology associated with manufacturing, specifically terms associated with statistical modelling of manufacturing processes. The maturity of a manufacturing process can be described by a sigma rating indicating its yield, or the percentage of defect-free products it creates. A six-sigma process is one in which 99.99966% of the products manufactured are free of defects. Motorola set a goal of "six sigmas" for all of its manufacturing operations and this goal became a byword for the management and engineering practices used to achieve it.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Object-oriented quality management model (OQM)

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

A model that is used to compare, integrate and develop quality frameworks and is used to assure the quality of objects the user of the model selects.

Source

Source:

Statistics Netherlands, Object oriented quality management (OQM), a management model for quality

Hyperlink:

<http://www.cbs.nl/en-GB/menu/methoden/onderzoek-methoden/onderzoeksrapporten/rapporten-kwaliteit/default.htm>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality framework

The Object-oriented quality management model has been developed and widely used by Statistics Netherlands. Important concept of the model is, that inside and outside the organization objects can be distinguished that are interrelated e.g. users, output, process, data, metadata, methodology, staff, information systems, suppliers.

Each object has an unique set of characteristics. A combination of an object and one associated characteristic is called a quality area e.g. accuracy of data, efficiency of processes, soundness of methodology, satisfaction of users.

A quality area defines the scope the user wants to manage or control. Quality areas are the building blocks of a quality framework or quality assurance program. Each principle and indicator of the ESCoP can be mapped on a quality area!

For each quality area a set of standard questions can be answered like what is the definition of the quality area, what are the requirements for the quality area, what are causes and effects of problems with the quality area (risk analysis), what are possible or implemented indicators, what are possible or implemented measures. Key question in case of assurance is if the organization in control of the quality area. If not, what extra measured should be taken. Which questions are relevant is dependant of the application of the model.

The model can be used at any organization, at any level, at any domain and at any scale. It is an 'empty' model like balanced scorecard. It does not contain any domain knowledge (poor in content, but rich in structure). It is meant for custom made frameworks or quality assurance programs. Risk analysis is integrated in the model.

The description of the OQM model is available to the public and can be uses freely as long as the source is mentioned.

Remark:

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General information

Term:

Quality report

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality report is a report conveying information about the quality of a statistical product or process.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2007), "Handbook on Data Quality Assessment Methods and Tools (DatQAM)" Eurostat granted project led by FSO Germany with project members: Statistics Sweden, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, State Statistical Institute Berlin-Brandenburg, National Statistical Institute of Portugal, and Statistics Norway.

ESS Standard and Handbook for Quality Reports, Eurostat, 2009 edition

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality indicators

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Quality indicators are statistical measures that give an indication of output quality. However, some quality indicators can also give an indication of process quality, like e.g. response rates.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2004), "Handbook on improving quality by analysis of process variables" produced by ONS-UK, INE Portugal, NSS of Greece and Statistics Sweden

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Remark:

General information

Term:

Statistical (production/business) process

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Statistical (production/business) process is the complete set of sub-processes that are needed to support statistical production.

Source

Source:

SDMX Content-oriented Guidelines, Annex 4 (2009)
ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Statistical (production/business) process is a set of interrelated or interacting sub-processes (activities) which transforms inputs into outputs / statistical products in the regulated environment (characterised by external or internal regulative) using necessary resources (HR, financial, infrastructure, etc.).

Remark:

General information

Term:

Process approach

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The process approach is the systematic identification and management of the processes in the organisation and particularly of the interactions between such processes.

Source

Source:

ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Applying the principle of process approach leads to:

- * Systematically defining the activities (sub-processes) necessary to obtain a desired result.
- * Establishing clear responsibility and accountability for managing key activities (sub-processes).
- * Analysing and measuring of the capability of key activities (sub-processes).
- * Identifying the interfaces of key activities (sub-processes) within and between the functions of the organization.
- * Focusing on the factors such as resources, methods, and materials that will improve key activities (sub-processes) of the organization.
- * Evaluating risks, consequences and impacts of activities on interested parties.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Process description

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Process description is a document which describes:

- * the name and the aim of the process
- * who is the process owner and operators
- * inputs (and the process they come from); outputs (and the process they go to)
- * sub-processes (activities) that transform inputs into outputs
- * regulatives (internal, external) that characterise the regulated environment
- * resources that are used in the transformation
- * how the process is managed and improved (performance and quality indicators with target values; the way of monitoring, measurement, analysis; improvements; records stating results achieved or providing evidence of activities performed).

Source

Source:

Based on ISO process definition, ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Remark:

General information

Term:

Process variable

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Process variable gives an indication of the quality of the process.

Key process variables are those factors that can vary with each repetition of the process and have the largest effect on critical product characteristics, i.e. those characteristics that best indicate the quality of the product.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2004), "Handbook on improving quality by analysis of process variables" produced by ONS-UK, INE Portugal, NSS of Greece and Statistics Sweden

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Remark:

General information

Term:

User satisfaction survey

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

A user satisfaction survey is a survey which aims at assessing the satisfaction or the perception of the users, normally as a basis for improvement actions.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2007), "Handbook on Data Quality Assessment Methods and Tools (DatQAM)" Eurostat granted project led by FSO Germany with project members: Statistics Sweden, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, State Statistical Institute Berlin-Brandenburg, National Statistical Institute of Portugal, and Statistics Norway

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality profile

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The quality profile is a user-oriented summary of the main quality features of indicators.

Source

Source:

Eurostat website

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/structural_indicators/quality

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Quality profiles are developed and disseminated by Eurostat for structural (sustainable development) indicators, Euro indicators (PEEIs) and for the Europe 2020 indicators.

In line with the Eurostat quality concept, quality is defined along several dimensions. For the structural indicators, the quality profile aims at a quick overview on how far a structural indicator is deemed "fit for use" with regard to its key objectives. More information on quality of the indicators, including for some surveys, detailed quality reports and explanations of the applied concepts and methodologies are available under explanatory texts.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality index

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The quality index is a one-dimension synthetic information on quality, possibly calculated as a weighted mean of all available quality indicators.

Source

Source:

Previous "Quality Glossary": item 4.2C "Methodological documents, Glossary" of the Sixth meeting of the Working Group "Assessment of quality in statistics" on 2-3 October 2003

Hyperlink:

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Documentation and measurement

Remark:

General information

Term:

Self assessment

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The Self assessment is a comprehensive, systematic and regular review of an organisation's activities and results referenced against a model/framework, carried out by the organisation itself.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2007), "Handbook on Data Quality Assessment Methods and Tools (DatQAM)" Eurostat granted project led by FSO Germany with project members: Statistics Sweden, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, State Statistical Institute Berlin-Brandenburg, National Statistical Institute of Portugal, and Statistics Norway

Eurostat website

The leaflet called "The Eurostat Quality Assurance Framework"

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

http://cybernews.eurostat.cec/1-whoswho/dir_list/B/1/QualityAssessments.cfm

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/QAF%20leaflet.pdf>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

Quality implementation, quality tools

Evaluation, Quality assessments

Remark:

General information

Term:

Supported self assessment

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The Supported self assessment is a special type of Self assessment, conducted by the production unit, with the active participation of the Quality unit.

Source

Source:

Eurostat website
The leaflet called "The Eurostat Quality Assurance Framework"

Hyperlink:

http://cybernews.eurostat.cec/1-whoswho/dir_list/B/1/QualityAssessments.cfm
<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/QAF%20leaflet.pdf>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Evaluation, Quality assessments

Remark:

General information

Term:

Peer review

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The peer review is a special kind of external audit, carried out e.g. by a National Statistical Institute (NSI) for another NSI (=peers). In general, it is less formal than an audit. It aims rather at assessing the general quality than at controlling the conformity with an external quality standard.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2007), "Handbook on Data Quality Assessment Methods and Tools (DatQAM)" Eurostat granted project led by FSO Germany with project members: Statistics Sweden, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, State Statistical Institute Berlin-Brandenburg, National Statistical Institute of Portugal, and Statistics Norway

Eurostat website

The leaflet called "The Eurostat Quality Assurance Framework"

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

http://cybernews.eurostat.cec/1-whoswho/dir_list/B/1/QualityAssessments.cfm

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/QAF%20leaflet.pdf>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

Quality implementation, quality tools

Evaluation, Quality assessments

Remark:

General information

Term:

Rolling review

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The rolling review is an in-depth assessment done by an external expert, including a user survey and a partner survey.

Source

Source:

Eurostat website
The leaflet called "The Eurostat Quality Assurance Framework"

Hyperlink:

http://cybernews.eurostat.cec/1-whoswho/dir_list/B/1/QualityAssessments.cfm
<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/QAF%20leaflet.pdf>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Evaluation, Quality assessments

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality audit

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The quality audit is a systematic, independent and documented process for obtaining quality audit evidence (records, statements of fact or other information, which are relevant to the quality audit criteria and verifiable) and evaluating it objectively to determine the extent to which the quality audit criteria (set of policies, procedures or requirements) are fulfilled.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2007), "Handbook on Data Quality Assessment Methods and Tools (DatQAM)" Eurostat granted project led by FSO Germany with project members: Statistics Sweden, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, State Statistical Institute Berlin-Brandenburg, National Statistical Institute of Portugal, and Statistics Norway

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Evaluation, Quality assessments

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality control

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, UN Data editing terminology

Definiton:

Quality Control of the data collection process assures that the underlying statistical assumptions of a survey are not violated, i.e. the meaning of the principal statistical measures and the assumptions which condition their use is maintained.

Quality Control in data review process measures the impact of data adjustment on the data.

Source

Source:

Economic Commission for Europe of the United Nations (UNECE), The Knowledge Base on Statistical Data Editing, Online glossary developed by the UNECE Data Editing Group, 2000
ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

<http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/kbase/Glossary>
http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Evaluation, Quality assessments

According to the ISO, quality control is a part of quality management that focuses on fulfilling quality requirements (need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory).

Remark:

General information

Term:

Quality control survey

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The quality control survey is a replicated survey which is carried out on a small scale by very experienced staff in order to obtain some “zero-default” results with which the actual results of the survey can be compared.

Source

Source:

Previous "Quality Glossary": item 4.2C "Methodological documents, Glossary" of the Sixth meeting of the Working Group "Assessment of quality in statistics" on 2-3 October 2003

Hyperlink:

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Evaluation, Quality assessments

Remark:

General information

Term:

Labelling

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The labelling method means that a label is attached to some statistics. The label has a message about these statistics, a message that is related to quality and quality assessment.

Source

Source:

Eurostat (2007), "Handbook on Data Quality Assessment Methods and Tools (DatQAM)" Eurostat granted project led by FSO Germany with project members: Statistics Sweden, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, State Statistical Institute Berlin-Brandenburg, National Statistical Institute of Portugal, and Statistics Norway

Hyperlink:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/quality_reporting

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Conformity

Remark:

General information

Term:

Certification

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Certification is an activity which assesses whether a particular product, service or process or system (e.g. quality management system) complies with requirements defined by a standard or other document containing criteria. It is conducted by an external independent certification body. The result of the successful certification is the certificate awarded to the organisation by the certification body.

Source

Source:

Based on ISO definition, ISO 9000/2005: Quality Management and Quality Assurance Vocabulary

Hyperlink:

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=42180

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality implementation, quality tools
Conformity

Remark:

General information

Term:

Professional independence

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Professional independence is the characteristic of a statistical institute or authority to develop, produce and disseminate statistics in an independent manner, particularly as regards the selection of techniques, definitions, methodologies and sources to be used, and the timing and content of all forms of dissemination, free from any pressures from political or interest groups or from Community or national authorities, without prejudice to institutional settings, such as Community or national institutional or budgetary provisions or definitions of statistical needs.

Source

Source:

Quoted according to:
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Impartiality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Impartiality is an attribute confirming that statistics are developed, produced and disseminated in a neutral manner, and that all users must be given equal treatment.

Source

Source:

Quoted according to:
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on
European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Pre-release access

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The pre-release access is the practice of giving certain individuals or organisations access to data under embargo before those data are released to the public.

Source

Source:

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) initiative, sponsored by BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD and World Bank, 2009

Hyperlink:

<http://sdmx.org/>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

This entails the transparent recording of persons or officials holding designated positions within the government, but outside the statistical system producing the data, who have pre-release access to the data and the reporting of the schedule according to which they receive access. Also called "internal access" in the Data Quality Assessment Framework of the IMF.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Objectivity

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Objectivity is an attribute confirming that statistics are developed, produced and disseminated in a systematic, reliable and unbiased manner. It implies the use of professional and ethical standards, and that the policies and practices followed are transparent to users and survey respondents.

Source

Source:

Quoted according to:
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Professionalism

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Professionalism is the set of standard, skill and ability of a statistical authority that are suitable for producing statistics of good quality.

Source

Source:

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) initiative, sponsored by BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD and World Bank, 2009

Hyperlink:

<http://sdmx.org>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data (Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, principle 2).

"Professionalism" describes the elements providing assurances that: statistics are produced on an impartial basis; elements providing assurances that the choices of sources and statistical techniques as well as decisions about dissemination are informed solely by statistical considerations; elements providing assurances that the recruitment and promotion of staff are based on relevant aptitude; elements providing assurances that the statistical entity is entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics, guidelines for staff behaviour and procedures used to make these guidelines known to staff; other practices that provide assurances of the independence, integrity, and accountability of the statistical agency.

This concept can be further broken down into: Professionalism - code of conduct; Professionalism - impartiality; Professionalism - methodology; Professionalism - statistical commentary.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Credibility

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Credibility is the confidence that users place in statistical products based simply on their image of the data producer, the statistical authority i.e., the brand image.

Source

Source:

OECD, "Quality Framework for OECD Statistics" (2003)

Hyperlink:

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/coded_files/Quality_Frame_OECD_Stat_Act.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Confidence by users is built over time. One important aspect is trust in the objectivity of the data. This implies that the data are perceived to be produced professionally in accordance with appropriate statistical standards, and that policies and practices are transparent. For example, data are not manipulated, nor their release timed in response to political pressure.

Credibility is determined in part by the integrity of the production process. Principle 2 of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics states: to retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Reliability

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Accuracy

Definiton:

Reliability is an attribute of statistics that measure as faithfully, accurately and consistently as possible the reality that they are designed to represent and implying that scientific criteria are used for the selection of sources, methods and procedures.

Source

Source:

Quoted according to:
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on
European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Integrity

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Integrity is the set of values and related practices of a statistical authority that maintain confidence in the eyes of users in the agency producing statistics and ultimately in the statistical product.

Source

Source:

International Monetary Fund, "Data Quality Assessment Framework - DQAF - Glossary", unpublished

Hyperlink:

<http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Under the SDDS framework, "integrity" is the third of four dimensions of the standard (i.e., data, access, integrity, and quality) for which evidence of a subscribing member's observance of the standard can be obtained.

Integrity refers to the description of the policy on the availability of the terms and conditions under which statistics are collected, processed, and disseminated. It also describes the policy of providing advanced notice of major changes in methodology, source data, and statistical techniques; the policy on internal governmental access to statistics prior to their release; the policy on statistical products? Identification. One important aspect, in integrity, is the trust in the objectivity of statistics. It implies that professionalism should guide policies and practices and it is supported by ethical standards and by transparency of policies and practices.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Transparency

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Transparency shall mean the right of respondents to have information on the legal basis, the purposes for which the data are required and the protective measures adopted. The authorities responsible for collecting Community statistics shall take every step to supply such information.

Source

Source:

European Union, Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 of 17 February 1997 on Community statistics (Official Journal of the European Union No L 52, 22.2.1997, p. 1 – 7)

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31997R0322:EN:HTML>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Serviceability

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Serviceability is the set of practical aspects describing how well the available data meet users' needs.

Serviceability is a term that captures the practical aspects of usability of data. The emphasis on "use" thus assumes that data are available. Thus, key aspects of usability are relevance, timeliness and frequency, consistency, and revision policy and practices.

Source

Source:

International Monetary Fund, "Data Quality Assessment Framework - DQAF - Glossary", unpublished

Hyperlink:

<http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Statistical confidentiality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

The statistical confidentiality is a principle according to which confidential data related to single statistical units, obtained directly for statistical purposes or indirectly from administrative or other sources, are protected and their use for non-statistical purposes and their unlawful disclosure prohibited.

Source

Source:

Definition quoted according to:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics

European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality

Quality description

Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Cost effectiveness

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Cost effectiveness is a characteristic of a process where the costs of producing the statistics are in proportion to the importance of the results and the benefits sought, the resources are optimally used and the response burden minimised. Where possible, the information requested is readily extractable from available records or sources.

Source

Source:

Quoted according to:
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality principles

Remark:

General information

Term:

Relevance

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary

Definiton:

Relevance is an attribute of statistics measuring the degree to which statistics meet current and potential needs of the users.

Source

Source:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

Remark:

General information

Term:

Accuracy

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Reliability

Definiton:

Accuracy is an attribute of statistics measuring the closeness of estimates to the unknown true values.

Source

Source:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

According to the European Statistics Code of Practice, European statistics must accurately and reliably portray reality.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Timeliness

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Punctuality

Definiton:

Timeliness is an attribute of statistics measuring the period between the availability of the information and the event or phenomenon it describes.

Source

Source:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

According to the European Statistics Code of Practice, European statistics must be disseminated in a timely and punctual manner.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Punctuality

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Timeliness

Definiton:

Punctuality is an attribute of statistics measuring the delay between the date of the release of the data and the target date (the date by which the data should have been delivered or released).

Source

Source:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

According to the European Statistics Code of Practice, European statistics must be disseminated in a timely and punctual manner.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Accessibility

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Clarity

Definiton:

Accessibility is an attribute of statistics describing the set of the conditions and modalities by which users can obtain data.

Source

Source:

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

According to the European Statistics Code of Practice, European statistics should be presented in a clear and understandable form, disseminated in a suitable and convenient manner, available and accessible on an impartial basis with supporting metadata and guidance.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Comparability

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Coherence

Definiton:

Comparability is an attribute of statistics measuring the extent to which differences between statistics can be attributed to differences between the true values of the statistical characteristics.

Source

Source:

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) initiative, sponsored by BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD and World Bank, 2009
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://sdmx.org/>
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

Comparability aims at measuring the impact of differences in applied statistical concepts and definitions on the comparison of statistics between geographical areas, non-geographical dimensions, or over time. Comparability of statistics, i.e. their usefulness in drawing comparisons and contrast among different populations, is a complex concept, difficult to assess in precise or absolute terms. In general terms, it

means that statistics for different populations can be legitimately aggregated, compared and interpreted in relation to each other or against some common standard. Metadata must convey such information that will help any interested party in evaluating comparability of the data, which is the result of a multitude of factors.

In some quality frameworks, for instance in the European Statistical Code of Practice, comparability is strictly associated with the coherence of statistics.

The concept can be further broken down into:

- (a) Comparability - geographical, referring to the degree of comparability between statistics measuring the same phenomenon for different geographical areas
- (b) Comparability over time, referring to the degree of comparability between two or more instances of data on the same phenomenon measured at different points in time.
- (c) Comparability between domains, referring to the comparability between different survey results which target similar characteristics in different statistical domains.

The measurement of the impact of differences in applied statistical concepts, measurement tools and procedures where statistics are compared between geographical areas, sectoral domains or over time. European statistics should be consistent internally, over time and comparable between regions and countries; it should be possible to combine and make joint use of related data from different sources.

Remark:

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General information

Term:

Coherence

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Comparability

Definiton:

Coherence is an attribute of statistics measuring the adequacy of the data to be reliably combined in different ways and for various uses.

Source

Source:

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) initiative, sponsored by BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD and World Bank, 2009
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://sdmx.org/>
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

European statistics should be consistent internally, over time and comparable between regions and countries; it should be possible to combine and make joint use of related data from different sources.

When originating from different sources, and in particular from statistical surveys using different methodology, statistics are often not completely identical, but show differences in results due to different approaches, classifications and methodological standards. There are several areas where the assessment of coherence is regularly conducted: between provisional and final statistics, between annual and short-term statistics, between statistics from the same socio-economic domain, and between survey statistics and national accounts.

The concept of coherence is closely related to the concept of comparability between statistical domains. Both coherence and comparability refer to a data set with respect to another. The difference between the two is that comparability refers to comparisons between statistics based on usually unrelated statistical populations and coherence refers to comparisons between statistics for the same or largely similar populations.

Coherence can be generally broken down into "Coherence - cross domain" and "Coherence - internal". Users should be aware that, in the Data Quality Assessment Framework of the International Monetary Fund, the term "consistency" is used for indicating "logical and numerical coherence". In that framework, "internal consistency" and "intersectoral and cross-domain consistency" can be mapped to "internal coherence" and "cross-domain coherence" respectively.

Remark:

General information

Term:

Consistency

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Coherence

Definiton:

Consistency is an attribute of statistics measuring the logical and numerical coherence, i.e. the adequacy of the data to be reliably combined in a logical and numerical way.

Source

Source:

International Monetary Fund, "Data Quality Assessment Framework - DQAF - Glossary", unpublished

Hyperlink:

<http://www.imf.org/external/index.htm>

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

An estimator is called consistent if it converges in probability to its estimand as sample increases (The International Statistical Institute, "The Oxford Dictionary of Statistical Terms", edited by Yadolah Dodge, Oxford University Press, 2003). Consistency over time, within datasets, and across datasets (often referred to as inter-sectoral consistency) are major aspects of consistency. In each, consistency in a looser sense carries the notion of "at least reconcilable".

There are other types of consistency: consistency between preliminary and final data (also called continuity), consistency between micro data and aggregated, consistency between annual, quarterly and monthly data, consistency between statistics and National Accounts, non deterministic consistency e.g. consistency between economic growth and employment (also called plausibility).

For example, if two series purporting to cover the same phenomena differ, the differences in time of recording, valuation, and coverage should be identified so that the series can be reconciled. Inconsistency over time refers to changes that lead to breaks in series stemming from, for example, changes in concepts, definitions, and methodology. Inconsistency within datasets may exist, for example, when two sides of an implied balancing statement-assets and liabilities or inflows and outflows-do not balance. Inconsistency across datasets may exist when, for example, exports and imports in the national accounts do not reconcile with exports and imports within the balance or payments.

Within the IMF definition of quality, "consistency" is one of the elements of "serviceability".

Remark:

General information

Term:

Clarity

Term extension:

Quality, Quality Glossary, Accessibility

Definiton:

Clarity is an attribute of statistics describing the extent to which easily comprehensible metadata are available, where these metadata are necessary to give a full understanding of statistical data.

Source

Source:

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) initiative, sponsored by BIS, ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD and World Bank, 2009
Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics
European Statistics Code of Practice

Hyperlink:

<http://sdmx.org/>
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:EN:PDF>
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/quality/documents/code_practice.pdf

Assigned themes

Related terms

Other

Context:

Quality
Quality description
Quality component

Clarity is sometimes referred to as "interpretability". It refers to the data information environment: whether data are accompanied by appropriate metadata, including information on their quality, and the extent to which additional assistance is provided to users by data providers.

In the European Statistics Code of Practice, clarity is strictly associated to accessibility to form one single quality criteria: "accessibility and clarity": the conditions and modalities by which users can use and interpret data. European statistics should be presented in a clear and understandable form, disseminated in a suitable and convenient manner, available and accessible on an impartial basis with supporting metadata and guidance.

Remark: