

Quality assessment criteria for survey research reports

Category	Item	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Title and abstract			
	Is the design of the study stated in the title and/or abstract?	Page3/Line75-76	Abstract/Paragraph2
Introduction			
	a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields?	Page4/Line 109-131	Introduction/Paragraph1
	b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?	Page4-5/Line131-134	Introduction/Paragraph2
Methods			
Research tool	a) Is the questionnaire described?	Page6/Line 167-184	Instrument/Paragraph1
	b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented?	Page6/Line168-175	Instrument/Paragraph1
	c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided?	Page6/Line168-169	Instrument/Paragraph1
	d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided?	Page6/Line174-181	Instrument/Paragraph1
	e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported?	Page6/Line175-178	Instrument/Paragraph1
	f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?	Page6/Line186-202	Procedure/Paragraph1
Sample selection	a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population?	Page5/Line149-161	Population/Paragraph1
	b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population?	Page5/Line138-146	Setting/Paragraph1
	c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented?	Page5/Line163-166	Sample size/Paragraph1
Survey administration	a) Mode of administration?	Page6/Line186-188	Procedure/Paragraph1
	b) Do the authors provide information on the type of contact and how many attempts were made to contact subjects (i.e., prenotification by letter or telephone, reminder postcard, duplicate questionnaire with reminder)?	Page6/Line189-191	Procedure/Paragraph1
	c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)?	Page6/Line189-190	Procedure/Paragraph1
	d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)?	Page6/Line192-197	Procedure/Paragraph1

Analysis	a) Is the method of data analysis described?	Page7/Line205–221	Statistical analysis/Paragraph1
	b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?	NA	NA
	c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?	NA	NA
	d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?	NA	NA
	e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?	Page7/Line209–219	Statistical analysis/Paragraph1
Results			
	a) Is the response rate reported?	NA	NA
	b) Are all respondents accounted for?	Page7/Line224–230	Result/Paragraph1
	c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?	NA	NA
	d) Are the results clearly presented?	Page7–9/Line231–280	Result/Paragraph2–4
	e) Do the results address the objective(s)?	Page7–9/Line224–280	Result/Paragraph1–4
Discussion			
	a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?	Page9–13/Line282–405	Discussion/paragraph1–10
	b) Are the strengths of the study stated?	Page13/Line407–412	Study strengths and limitations/Paragraph1
	c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated?	Page13/Line413–415	Study strengths and limitations/Paragraph2
	d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results?	Page13/Line417–424	Conclusion/Paragraph1
Ethical quality indicators			
	a) Study funding reported?	Page14/Line433–434	Acknowledge/Paragraph1
	b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?	Page14/Line441–444	Footnote/Paragraph 3
	c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?	Page7/Line190–192	Produce/Paragraph1

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*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.