

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?	P1,L1-3	Title
Introduction			
	a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields?	P3-4, L64-105	Introduction
	b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?	P4, L98-105	Introduction
Methods			
Research tool	a) Is the questionnaire described?	P5-8, L140-226	Research Methods
	b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented?	P6, L158-169, L170-182	Research Methods
	c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided?	P6, L158-169, L170-182	Research Methods
	d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided?	P6-7, L183-213	Research Methods
	e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported?	P6-7, L183-213	Research Methods
	f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?	P6-7, L158-213	Research Methods
Sample selection	a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population?	P4-5, L109-126	Research Objects
	b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population?	P4-5, L109-126	Research Objects
	c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented?	P5, L128-137	The Estimation of Sample Quantity
Survey administration	a) Mode of administration?	P8-9, L236-260	Quality control
	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)?	P8-9, L236-260	Quality control
	c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)?	P9, L251-254	Quality control
	d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)?	P8-9, L236-260	Quality control

Analysis	a) Is the method of data analysis described?	P8, L228-234	Statistical Analysis
	b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?	P9, L254-260	Quality control
	c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?	P8, L228-234	Statistical Analysis
	d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?	P9, L254-260	Quality control
	e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?	P8, L228-234	Statistical Analysis
Results			
	a) Is the response rate reported?	P9, L263-264	Results, Para 1
	b) Are all respondents accounted for?	P9, L263-269	Results, Para 1
	c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?	N/A	N/A
	d) Are the results clearly presented?	P9-16, L271-347	Results, Para 2-5
	e) Do the results address the objective(s)?	P9-16, L271-347	Results, Para 2-5
Discussion			
	a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?	P16-18, L350-404	Discussion, Para 1-2
	b) Are the strengths of the study stated?	P18-20, L405-459	Discussion, Para 3-4
	c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated?	P19-20, L451-459	Discussion, Para 4
	d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results?	P20, L460-468	Discussion, Para 5
Ethical quality indicators			
	a) Study funding reported?	N/A	N/A
	b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?	P20, L474-479	Ethical Statement
	c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?	P20, L474-479	Ethical Statement

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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.