

Quality assessment criteria for survey research reports

Category	Item	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Title and abstract		page 3, line 10	Abstract, paragraph 2
Is the design of the study stated in the title and/or abstract?			
Introduction		page 5, line 10-20	Introduction/ 2&3
a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields?		page 5, line 21 -22	introduction/ 3
b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?			
Methods			
Research tool		page 19-22, Table 1	Table 1
a) Is the questionnaire described?		N/A	N/A
b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented?		N/A	N/A
c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided?		N/A	N/A
d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided?		N/A	N/A
e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported?		page 19-22, Table 1	Table 1
f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?		page 6, line 3-5	methods/1
Sample selection		page 6, line 3-5	methods/1
a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population?		page 6, line 3-5	methods/1
b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population?		N/A	N/A
c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented?		page 6, line 10-11	methods / 1&2
a) Mode of administration?		page 6, line 10-11	methods/ 2
Survey administration		N/A	N/A
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)?		N/A	N/A
c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)?		N/A	N/A
d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)?		N/A	N/A

Analysis	a) Is the method of data analysis described?	page 6, line 18-22	methods/ 3
	b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?	N/A	N/A
	c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?	page 6, line 18-22	methods/ 3
	d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?	N/A	N/A
	e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?	N/A	N/A
Results			
	a) Is the response rate reported?	page 7, line 4-5	results/ 1
	b) Are all respondents accounted for?	page 7- line 4-5	results/1
	c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?	N/A	N/A
	d) Are the results clearly presented?	page 7-9, all lines	results, paragraph 2-10
	e) Do the results address the objective(s)?	page 7-9, all lines	results, paragraph 2-10
Discussion			
	a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?	page 10, line 3-16	discussion/1
	b) Are the strengths of the study stated?	page 10-13	discussion, paragraph 2-8
	c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated?	page 13, line 18-24	discussion, paragraph 9
	d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results?	page 11-12	discussion, paragraph 5-6
Ethical quality indicators			
	a) Study funding reported?	N/A	N/A
	b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?	N/A	N/A
	c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?	methods, line 11-14	methods, paragraph 2

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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.