Summary Quality Measures

Key Quality Measure	Quantitative / qualitative/	Description / Notes	Related ONS quality measures - statistical surveys	Related ONS quality measures - administrative sources
Relevance:				
The degree to which the statistical product meets user needs in both coverage and content.				
1. Describe how the data relate to the needs of users	Qualitative	This should show how far the statistics go towards meeting user needs, including their use in informing decisions. This can be gathered from user satisfaction surveys or other feedback.	B1.1 Describe and classify key users of output; B1.2 Describe needs of key users and uses of output B8.29 Identify known gaps between key user needs, in terms of coverage and detail, and current data.	B2.1 Describe the main uses of the administrative data; B2.2 Describe the primary purpose of data collection by the administrative source; B2.14 Describe the extent to which the data from the administrative source meet statistical requirements.
Accuracy:				
The proximity between an estimate and the unkown true value.				
2. What are the primary measures of statistical accuracy and what do they show?	Split	This will cover the headline accuracy measure for the statistical output. For statistical surveys this will usually be sampling errors, and may be conveyed as confidence intervals, standard errors or sample sizes, but for administrative sources the headline story on accuracy may be typical revisions between provisional and final estimates or coverage/ other data issues and in which case might cover similar ground to the other accuracy measures.	B5.2/B5.3 Estimated standard error for key estimates.	
3.Describe the non sampling / or other data issues affecting accuracy?	Split	This should cover any other relevant information on the non-sampling or coverage accept of accuracy - particularly measures of non-sampling error for statistical surveys and any other relevant information not already covered for administrative sources.	B3.4/3.5/3.7 Key Item/Unit response rate by sub-groups, weighted and unweighted (for household and business surveys)	B2.7 Describe the extent of coverage of the administrative data and any known coverage issues; B2.8 Describe the known sources of error in the administrative data;B2.9 Proportion of administrative records (units) with missing values;B2.18 Calculate match-rates, false positive match rates and false negative match rates for administrative sources; B2.10 Proportion of missing values by key data item.
4. Quantify the extent to which the data is cleaned before publicaiton?	Split	This should give users an indication of any data cleaning that takes place on the raw data, and any impact this might have on the statistical output. This might be editing or impuation rates or missing data correction.	B4.11 Editing rate (for key items);B4.7 Total contribution to key estimates from imputed values.	B2.16 Describe the data processing known to be required on the administrative data source.

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Timeliness and punctuality					
Timeliness referrs to the time gap between publication and the reference period. Punctuality referrs to the gap between planned and actual publication					
5. What is the time lag from the reference date/period to the release of the provisional and final outputs?	Quantitative	Provides information on how timely statistics are in relation to user needs - for provisional and final outputs.	B8.1. Time lag from the reference date/period to the release of the provisional and final outputs. B8.2 Time lag from the reference date/period to the release of the final output.	B2.19 Describe extent to which data are timely.	Is it worth adding a 'measure' on punctuality?
Accessibility and clarity					
Accessibility is the ease with which users are able to access the data, also reflecting the format in which the data are available and the availability of supporting information. Clarity referrs to the quality and sufficiency of the metadata, illustrations and accopyning advice.					
6. Describe any restrictions on access to/use of the dataset?	Qualitative	Describe any restrictions on the availability of data on the statistical output, as well as any restrictions on the use of the final data by users, including any restrictions on sharing with third parties or standard caveats/ footnotes that will need to accompany the data.	B7.14 Describe any restrictions on access to the dataset B7.15 Describe any restrictions on the use of the dataset	B2.15 Describe constraints on the availability of administrative data at the required level of details	
7. Describe the availability of metadata?	Qualitative	Metadata help users make appropriate use of statistics, and the availability helps improve accessibility.	B8.13 Are there links to metadata?	B2.4 Describe the metadata provided and not provided with the administrative source	
Coherence and comparability					
Coherence is the degree to which data that are derived from different sources or methods, but refer to the same topic, are similar. Comparability is the degree to which data can be compared over time and domain.					
8. Describe the extent to which nationally/internationally agreed definitions and standards are used?	Qualitative	Describe the use of any standard concepts or classifications, including the reasons for any departures from standard. If relevant, include any information on how the policy behind the statistics/ admin collection compare internationally (eg oecd made some attempt to compare welfare benefit statistics)?			
9. Describe the extent to which historical data are consistent?	Qualitative	This should summarise any issues which might affect time series comparability.	B1.11 For a continuous survey, have there been any changes over time in the sample design methodology?	B2.22 Describe changes over time in the administrative data and their effects on the statistical product.	
10. Compare estimates with other sources on the same theme	Quantitative	This should provide a summary of how the statistics compare with other statistics covering similar ground or on the same theme, including explanations for any known differences.		B2.23 Differences in concepts and definitions between the administrative sources and the statistical output.	

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Output quality trade-offs				
Trade-offs are the extent to which different aspects of quality are balanced against each other.				
12. A description of each important trade-off that has been analysed	Qualitative	Provide any information on important trade offs not provided elsewhere.		
Assessment of user needs & perceptions				
The processes for finding out about users and uses, and their views on the statistical products.				
13. Describe results of user satisfaction assessments	Both			
Performance, cost and respondent burden				
The effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the statistical output.				
14. Annual Operational Cost and Respondent Burden	Quantitative	Provide estimates of the annual cost of operating the statistical output - either in financial or staff resource levels. This should include all activity directly relevant to that output. Do not include activity that would have happened anyway (eg administrative systems), and make an estimate for any resource that is shared between separate outputs.		
Confidentiality, transparency and security				
The procedures and policy used to ensure sound confidentiality , security and transparent practices.				
15. What are/give links to the data security policies underpinning the release	Qualitative	Describe the data security processes applied to the in the statistical collection, processing and dissemination processes. This should include a summary of confidentiality processes and disclosure control.	Possible measures include B7.2/B7.3 Describe how data collection/processing security was ensured and B7.6 Describe in broad terms the statistical disclosure control methods applied.	