

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?	Page 4/line 57-58	Abstract/Para 2
Introduction			
	a) Is there an explanation of why the research is necessary, placing the study in context of previous work in relevant fields?	Page 6-7/line 89-107	Introduction/Para 2-3
	b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?	Page 7/line 106-107	Introduction/Para 3
Methods			
Research tool	a) Is the questionnaire described?	Page 8/line 143-147	Methods/Para 4
	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?	Page 8/line 135-136	Method/Para 3
	e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported?	N/A	N/A
	f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?	N/A	N/A
Sample selection	a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population?	Page 7/line 113-125	Methods/Para 1
	b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population?	Page 7/line 113-125	Methods/Para 1
	c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented?	N/A	N/A
Survey administration	a) Mode of administration?	Page 7/line 113-116	Methods/Para 1
	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)?	Page 7/line 116-117	Methods/Para 1
	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 9/line 158-166	Methods/Para5
	b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?	Page 9/line 158-161	Methods/Para5
	c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?	Page 9/line 162-163	Methods/Para5
	d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?	Page 9/line 161-164	Methods/Para5
	e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?	N/A	N/A
Results			
	a) Is the response rate reported?	Page 10/line 172-173	Result/Para 1
	b) Are all respondents accounted for?	Page 10/line 172-173	Result/Para 1
	c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?	N/A	N/A
	d) Are the results clearly presented?	Page 10-11/line 174-203	Result/Para 2-5
	e) Do the results address the objective(s)?	Page 10-11/line 174-203	Result/Para 2-5
Discussion			
	a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?	Page 11/line 206-217	Discussion/Para 1
	b) Are the strengths of the study stated?	Page 12-13/line 218-254	Discussion/Para 2-4
	c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated?	Page 13/line 255-269	Discussion/Para 5
	d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results?	Para 13/Line 262-263	Discussion/Para 5
Ethical quality indicators			
	a) Study funding reported?	Page 2/line 35-38 Page 15/line 285-290	Cover letter/Source of support Funding section in the main text
	b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?	Page 8/line 130-133 Page 15/line 297-302	Methods/Para 2 Ethics Statement of Footnotes
	c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?	N/A	N/A

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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.