

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?	Page2/Lines 34-38	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?	Page2-3/Lines 58-99	Introduction/Paragraph1-3
	b) Is the purpose or aim of the paper explained?	Page3/Lines 94-99	introduction/Paragraph3
Methods			
Research tool	a) Is the questionnaire described?	Page4/Lines 104-119	Method/Paragraph1
	b) If an existing tool was used, are its psychometric properties presented?	No	
	c) If an existing tool was used, are references to the original work provided?	No	
	d) If a new tool was used, are the procedures used to develop and pre-test provided?	Page4/Lines 104	Method/Paragraph1
	e) If a new tool was used, have its reliability and validity been reported?	Page4/Lines 117-119	Method/Paragraph1
	f) Is a description of the scoring procedures provided?	Page4/Lines 110-116	Method/Paragraph1
Sample selection	a) Is there a description of the survey population and the sample frame used to identify this population?	Page4/Lines 126-134	Method/Paragraph2
	b) Do the authors provide a description of how representative the sample is of the underlying population?	Page4/Lines 120-123	Method/Paragraph1
	c) Is a sample size calculation or rationale/justification for the sample size presented?	No	
Survey administration	a) Mode of administration?	No	
	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)?	Page4/Lines 126-134	Method/Paragraph2
	c) Do the authors report whether incentives were provided (financial or other)?	Page9/Lines 299	Acknowledgement/Paragraph1
	d) Is there a description of who approached potential participants (e.g., identification of who signed the covering letter)?	No	

Analysis	a) Is the method of data analysis described?	Page5/Lines 136-145	Method/Paragraph3
	b) Do the authors provide methods for analysis of nonresponse error?	No	
	c) Is the method for calculating response rate provided?	No	
	d) Are definitions provided for complete versus partial completions?	No	
	e) Are the methods for handling item missing data provided?	Page5/Lines 131-134	Method/Paragraph3
Results			
	a) Is the response rate reported?	Page5/Lines 133	Method/Paragraph2
	b) Are all respondents accounted for?	Page5/Lines 133	Method/Paragraph2
	c) Is information given on how nonrespondents differ from respondents?	No	
	d) Are the results clearly presented?	Page5/Lines 149-168	Result/Paragraph1-2
	e) Do the results address the objective(s)?	Page5/Lines 149-168	Result/Paragraph1-2
Discussion			
	a) Are the results summarized with reference to the study objectives?	Page6-8/Lines 172-245	Discussion/paragraph1-4
	b) Are the strengths of the study stated?	Page3/Lines 94-98	Introduction/paragraph3
	c) Are the limitations of the study (taking into account potential sources of bias or imprecision) stated?	No	
	d) Is there explicit discussion of the generalizability (external validity) of the results?	No	
Ethical quality indicators			
	a) Study funding reported?	Page9/Lines 299	Acknowledgement/Paragraph1
	b) Research Ethics Board (REB) review reported?	Page5/Lines 137-141	Method/Paragraph2
	c) Reporting of subject consent procedures?	Page5/Lines 136-137	Method/Paragraph2

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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.