Evaluating Fitness for Use

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Fitness for Use Policies

There’s a longstanding framework for ensuring fitness for purpose in federal information dissemination:

Administrative Procedures Act
Executive Order 12866
Information Quality Act
Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act
Paperwork Reduction Act
Fitness Framework

Fitness for Intended Use
- Comparability
- Coherence
- Relevance
- Accuracy
- Timeliness
- Accessibility
- Interpretability

Total Survey Error
- Construct Validity
- Measurement Error
- Processing Error
- Coverage Error
- Sampling Error
- Nonresponse Error
- Adjustment Error

Fitness Framework

Fitness for Intended Use
- Cost
- Burden
- Professionalism
- Design Constraints
- Comparability
- Coherence
- Relevance
- Accuracy
- Timeliness
- Accessibility
- Interpretability

Total Survey Error
- Construct Validity
- Measurement Error
- Processing Error
- Coverage Error
- Sampling Error
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Evaluating Fitness: Tools

FCSM – Data Quality Assessment Tool for Admin Data
1. Discovery
2. Initial Acquisition
3. Repeated Acquisition
Use Framework

- Highly Influential
- Official Statistic (Disseminated)
- Internal Use
Paperwork Reduction Act

“ensure the greatest possible public benefit from and maximize the utility of information created, collected, maintained, used, shared and disseminated by or for the Federal Government”
Communication

External review of plans and methods

Documentation: methodology/data/metadata

Post-dissemination review, errata, quality improvement
Communication Examples

UK Statistics Authority – Types of Official Statistics
- National Statistics
- Experimental Statistics
- Not assessed or de-designated

US Census Bureau – Experimental Data Products
- Provide value in absence of official products
- Allow feedback on quality and usefulness
- Path towards new official products
- Always identify them and include methodology with their release
The Fitness Feedback Loop

Use

Fitness