



Methodological News

A Quarterly Information Bulletin

ABS Methodology and Data Management Division

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Methodology Development Plans

The purpose of a Methodology Development Plan (MDP) is to help Methodology and Data Management Division deliver standardisation and improvements under the recently funded Statistical Business Transformation Program (SBTP). These plans are intended to give methodologists working on individual SBTP projects further guidance on methodological issues in need of consideration during the project analysis, design and implementation phases. To this end twenty-five MDPs have been developed linked to SBTP sub-projects and covering the following areas:

Data Acquisition:

1. Instrument Creation
2. Interviewer Workload Allocation
3. Follow-up

Register and Frame Management:

4. Frame and Register Design, Creation, Maintenance and Management
5. Sample Management

Statistical Data Linking:

6. Data Linking

Data Compilation – Coding:

7. Classifying and Coding

Data Compilation – Output Estimation:

8. Weight Estimation
9. Accuracy Estimation
10. Domain Estimation
11. Time Series Estimation
12. Index estimation
13. Distributional Statistics Estimation
14. Microsimulation

Data Compilation – Output Adjustment:

15. Output Adjustment

Data Analysis:

16. Data Analysis

Data Validation:

17. Anomaly Detection, Resolution and Treatment
18. Imputation

Confidentialisation:

19. Disclosure Detection, Resolution and Treatment

Dissemination:

20. Statistical Content

Statistical Quality Management:

21. Statistical Quality Assurance

Statistical Metadata Management:

22. Statistical Metadata Management

Stakeholder Management:

23. Provider Relationship Management

Cross-Cutting:

24. Big Data – Satellite Data and Mobile Device Data
25. Statistical Risk Management during CSIP Transition

It is expected that these initial plans will be adapted in the light of SBTP project priorities, budgets and timeframes as SBTP progresses.

Further Information

For more information, please contact Greg Griffiths (02 6252 6970, greg.griffiths@abs.gov.au)

A New Approach to Data Quality Capability Building

The Quality Management team in Methodology and Data Management Division is revamping the approach to training ABS staff to achieve, maintain and report on data quality. We are redesigning the Making Quality Visible program into a series of online, on-demand learning modules, to enable self-directed learning on a range of data quality topics. After the launch, staff will be able to access training as they need it rather than having to wait for a course to be scheduled that meets their learning needs.

The program's content has been reviewed and modernised. Students will be able to complete a range of modules on a learning path that covers everything from introductory quality concepts to more advanced quality management tools, such as quality gates and processes. There is renewed emphasis on achieving quality by meeting our users' information needs, enabling staff to make sure the quality of our statistical solutions is fit-for-purpose as well as having no critical errors. Portions of the program will also be used to form a blended learning pathway for internal quality gate mapping workshops.

The new program has four courses:

- Introduction to Statistical Quality
- Designing and Preparing Quality Declarations
- Understanding Statistical Process Risk Mitigation Using Quality Gates
- Recognise and Manage Statistical Quality Issues

We expect to roll out the program internally over the next few months.

Further Information

For more information, please contact Carrollyn Wall (02 6252 7388, carrollyn.wall@abs.gov.au)

How to Contact Us and Email Subscriber List

Methodological News features articles and developments in relation to methodology work done within the ABS Methodology and Data Management Division. By its nature, the work of the Division brings it into contact with virtually every other area of the ABS. Because of this, the newsletter is a way of letting all areas of the ABS know of some of the issues we are working on and help information flow. We hope the Methodological Newsletter is useful and we welcome comments.

If you would like to be added to or removed from our electronic mailing list, please contact:

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