Australian Bureau of Statistics

National Statistical Service

ESA – 891 HOUSEHOLD INCOME, WEALTH AND EXPENDITURE STATISTICS

Summary of Quality Assessment Results

Overall ESA Assessment	Institutional Environment	Relevance	Timeliness	Accuracy	Coherence	Interpretability	Accessibility
Amber	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green

List of Contributing Datasets and Custodians

- Census of Population and Housing (ABS)
- Household Expenditure Survey (ABS)
- Pensions Data (DSS)
- Personal Income Tax Data (ATO)
- Survey of Income and Housing (ABS)

ESA Elements

Pillar	Dimension	Description	Critical Frequency	Critical Spatial	Critical Disaggregation
Society	Household Economic Wellbeing; Housing; Inflation	Includes comprehensive information on the levels, distribution and sources of income and wealth for households as well as levels, distribution and patters of expenditure for households.	Annually	National, State/Territory, Remoteness, Local Government Area, SA2	Age, Sex, Indigenous Status, Labour Force Status, Household Expenditure Category, Household Composition, Tenure Type, Income Source, Wealth Distribution, Income Distribution, Assets/ Liabilities, Lifecycle Group

Overall ESA Assessment

The quality of ESA – 891 Household Income, Wealth and Expenditure Statistics was assessed as an amber traffic light for the purpose of ESA. The overall quality of this statistic was reasonable, but lacked in some areas for the quality indicators selected and there was a need identified for some investment to improve the quality. This statistic quality assessment was based on quality information about the contributing datasets. Data custodians can be contacted for further information about the quality of the datasets which contributed to the statistic.

For more detailed quality information about each dimension, see over page

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Institutional Environment

The statistic scored a green traffic light for institutional environment. There were sufficient quality and risk management processes in place, protections for confidentiality and archiving processes. Staff were trained in data collation and the statistical purpose of the administrative records.

Relevance

The statistic scored a green traffic light for relevance. All key information identified in the description of the statistic was available. The critical spatial levels, Local Government Area and Statistical Area 2 (SA2), were not always available. Most critical disaggregations identified for the statistic were present; however Indigenous Status and Household Expenditure Category were not always available.

Timeliness

The statistic scored a red traffic light for timeliness. Although users were generally able to access the release of new data when expected, there were some delays. The duration between collection and release of data was not always timely and the critical frequency for the statistic was not met in most cases.

Accuracy

The statistic scored a green traffic light for accuracy. There were either no known under or overcounts or under or overrepresentation in the statistic, or they were managed. Sampling error was represented for survey data, for individual figures and the accuracy was consistent for information collected within administrative datasets. There were sufficient measures in place to adjust for missing values and non-response. Some of the target population was not sufficiently represented for the statistic, such as very remote areas.

Coherence

The statistic scored a green traffic light for coherence. Information for the statistic was able to be compared over time with population and characteristic definitions remaining mostly consistent and minimal changes to collection procedures. External sources were available for data confrontation.

Interpretability

The statistic scored a green traffic light for interpretability. Data quality statements, information to help users to understand the data and descriptions of conceptual limitations of the data were available. Users were able to access additional support if needed.

Accessibility

The statistic scored a green traffic light for accessibility. The key information, including visualisations such as graphs or maps, was publicly available. Users could access all data in Excel and most data in a machine readable format or other formats such as html. The key information was accessible for free with customised data and microdata available at a cost.

Areas for Improvement

- The critical spatial levels identified for the statistic, Local Government Area and Statistical Area 2 (SA2), were not always available.
- The critical disaggregation, Indigenous Status and Household Expenditure Category were not always available.
- The duration between collection and release of data was not timely.
- The critical frequency for the statistic was not met in most cases.