



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT

Directorate D: Government finance statistics (GFS) and quality  
Unit D-4: Quality management; GFS

**eurostat**

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**SINGLE INTEGRATED METADATA STRUCTURE V 2.0 (SIMS v2.0)**  
**AND ITS UNDERLYING REPORTING STRUCTURES**  
**THE ESS QUALITY AND REFERENCE METADATA REPORTING STANDARDS**  
**ESMS 2.0 AND ESQRS 2.0**

The revised 2.0 version of the Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS 2.0) and its underlying reporting structures, the ESS quality and reference metadata reporting standards ESMS 2.0 and ESQRS 2.0 were endorsed by the ESSC in November 2015. SIMS will be the standard for quality reporting according to Article 12 of Regulation 223/2009 on European statistics.



EUROPEAN  
STATISTICAL  
SYSTEM

# The revised versions of SIMS V2.0, ESMS V2.0 and ESQRS V2.0<sup>1</sup>

## 1. The SIMS from the ESMS and ESQRS V.2.0

### EURO-SDMX Metadata Structure

1	Contact
1.1	Contact organisation
1.2	Contact organisation unit
1.3	Contact name
1.4	Contact person function
1.5	Contact mail address
1.6	Contact email address
1.7	Contact phone number
1.8	Contact fax number

### Single Integrated Metadata Structure

S.1	Contact
S.1.1	Contact organisation
S.1.2	Contact organisation unit
S.1.3	Contact name
S.1.4	Contact person function
S.1.5	Contact mail address
S.1.6	Contact email address
S.1.7	Contact phone number
S.1.8	Contact fax number

### ESS Standard for Quality Reports Structure

1	Contact
1.1	Contact organisation
1.2	Contact organisation unit
1.3	Contact name
1.4	Contact person function
1.5	Contact mail address
1.6	Contact email address
1.7	Contact phone number
1.8	Contact fax number

### 2 Metadata update

2.1	Metadata last certified
2.2	Metadata last posted
2.3	Metadata last update

### S.2 Metadata update

S.2.1	Metadata last certified
S.2.2	Metadata last posted
S.2.3	Metadata last update

### 3 Statistical presentation

3.1	Data description
3.2	Classification system
3.3	Sector coverage
3.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
3.5	Statistical unit
3.6	Statistical population
3.7	Reference area
3.8	Time coverage
3.9	Base period

### S.3 Statistical presentation

S.3.1	Data description
S.3.2	Classification system
S.3.3	Sector coverage
S.3.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
S.3.5	Statistical unit
S.3.6	Statistical population
S.3.7	Reference area
S.3.8	Time coverage
S.3.9	Base period

### 2 Statistical presentation

2.1	Data description
2.2	Classification system
2.3	Sector coverage
2.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
2.5	Statistical unit
2.6	Statistical population
2.7	Reference area
2.8	Time coverage
2.9	Base period

### 4 Unit of measure

### S.4 Unit of measure

<sup>1</sup> Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS), Euro SDMX Metadata Standards (ESMS) and ESS Standard for Quality Report Structure (ESQRS)

EURO-SDMX Metadata Structure	
5	Reference period

6	Institutional mandate
6.1	Legal acts and other agreements
6.2	Data sharing

7	Confidentiality
7.1	Confidentiality - policy
7.2	Confidentiality - data treatment

8	Release policy
8.1	Release calendar
8.2	Release calendar access
8.3	User access

9	Frequency of dissemination
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10	Accessibility and clarity
10.1	News release
10.2	Publications
10.3	On-line database

10.4	Micro-data access
10.5	Other

10.6	Documentation on methodology
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10.7	Quality documentation
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11	Quality management
11.1	Quality assurance
11.2	Quality assessment

12	Relevance
12.1	User needs
12.2	User satisfaction
12.3	Completeness

Single Integrated Metadata Structure	
S.5	Reference period

S.6	Institutional mandate
S.6.1	Legal acts and other agreements
S.6.2	Data sharing

S.7	Confidentiality
S.7.1	Confidentiality - policy
S.7.2	Confidentiality - data treatment

S.8	Release policy
S.8.1	Release calendar
S.8.2	Release calendar access
S.8.3	User access

S.9	Frequency of dissemination
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S.10	Accessibility and clarity
S.10.1	News release
S.10.2	Publications
S.10.3	On-line database
S.10.3.1	AC1. Data tables - consultations
S.10.4	Micro-data access
S.10.5	Other
S.10.5.1	AC 2. Metadata - consultations
S.10.6	Documentation on methodology
S.10.6.1	AC 3. Metadata completeness - rate
S.10.7	Quality documentation

S.11	Quality management
S.11.1	Quality assurance
S.11.2	Quality assessment

S.12	Relevance
S.12.1	User needs
S.12.2	User satisfaction
S.12.3	Completeness and RI. Data completeness - rate for U
S.12.3.1	RI. Data completeness - rate for P

ESS Standard for Quality Reports Structure	
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11	Confidentiality
11.1	Confidentiality – policy
11.2	Confidentiality – data treatment

9	Accessibility and clarity
9.1	News release
9.2	Publication
9.3	On-line database
9.3.1	Data tables - consultations
9.4	Micro-data access
9.5	Other
9.7.2	Metadata - consultations
9.6	Documentation on methodology
9.7.1	Metadata completeness – rate
9.7	Quality documentation

4	Quality management
4.1	Quality assurance
4.2	Quality assessment

5	Relevance
5.1	User needs
5.2	User satisfaction
5.3	Completeness
5.3.1	Data completeness - rate

### EURO-SDMX Metadata Structure

<b>13</b>	<b>Accuracy and reliability</b>
13.1	Overall accuracy
13.2	Sampling error

13.3	Non-sampling error
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<b>14</b>	<b>Timeliness and punctuality</b>
14.1	Timeliness

14.2	Punctuality
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<b>15</b>	<b>Coherence and comparability</b>
15.1	Comparability - geographical

15.2	Comparability - over time
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15.3	Coherence - cross domain
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### Single Integrated Metadata Structure

<b>S.13</b>	<b>Accuracy and reliability</b>
S.13.1	Overall accuracy
S.13.2	Sampling error and <i>A1. Sampling errors - indicators for U</i>

<i>S.13.2.1</i>	<i>A1. Sampling errors - indicators for P</i>
S.13.3	Non-sampling error and <i>A4. Unit non-response - rate for U</i> and <i>A5. Item non-response - rate for U</i>
S.13.3.1	Coverage error
<i>S.13.3.1.1</i>	<i>A2. Over-coverage - rate</i>
<i>S.13.3.1.2</i>	<i>A3. Common units - proportion</i>
S.13.3.2	Measurement error
S.13.3.3	Non response error
<i>S.13.3.3.1</i>	<i>A4. Unit non-response - rate for P</i>
<i>S.13.3.3.2</i>	<i>A5. Item non-response - rate for P</i>
S.13.3.4	Processing error

S.13.3.5	Model assumption error
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<b>S.14</b>	<b>Timeliness and punctuality</b>
S.14.1	Timeliness and <i>TP2. Time lag - final results for U</i>
<i>S.14.1.1</i>	<i>TP1. Time lag - first results for P</i>
<i>S.14.1.2</i>	<i>TP2. Time lag - final results for P</i>
S.14.2	Punctuality and <i>TP3. Punctuality - delivery and publication for U</i>
<i>S.14.2.1</i>	<i>TP3. Punctuality - delivery and publication for P</i>

<b>S.15</b>	<b>Coherence and comparability</b>
S.15.1	Comparability - geographical
<i>S.15.1.1</i>	<i>CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics - coefficient</i>
S.15.2	Comparability - over time and <i>CC2. Length of comparable time series for U</i>
<i>S.15.2.1</i>	<i>CC2. Length of comparable time series for P</i>
S.15.3	Coherence- cross domain
S.15.3.1	Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics

### ESS Standard for Quality Reports Structure

<b>6</b>	<b>Accuracy and reliability</b>
6.1	Overall accuracy
6.2	Sampling error

6.2.1	Sampling errors - indicators
6.3	Non-sampling error
6.3.1	Coverage error
6.3.1.1	Over-coverage - rate
6.3.1.2	Common units - proportion
6.3.2	Measurement error
6.3.3	Non response error
6.3.3.1	Unit non-response - rate
6.3.3.2	Item non-response - rate
6.3.4	Processing error
6.3.4.1	Imputation - rate
6.3.5	Model assumption error
6.4	Seasonal adjustment

<b>7</b>	<b>Timeliness and punctuality</b>
7.1	Timeliness
7.1.1	Time lag - first results
7.1.2	Time lag - final results
7.2	Punctuality
7.2.1	Punctuality - delivery and publication

<b>8</b>	<b>Coherence and comparability</b>
8.1	Comparability - geographical
8.1.1	Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics - coefficient
8.2	Comparability - over time
8.2.1	Length of comparable time series
8.3	Coherence- cross domain
8.4	Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics

EURO-SDMX Metadata Structure	
15.4	Coherence - internal
<b>16</b>	<b>Cost and burden</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Data revision</b>
17.1	Data revision - policy
17.2	Data revision - practice

<b>18</b>	<b>Statistical processing</b>
18.1	Source data
18.2	Frequency of data collection
18.3	Data collection
18.4	Data validation
18.5	Data compilation

18.6	Adjustment
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<b>19</b>	<b>Comment</b>
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*Legend*

	<i>Common concepts in SIMS, ESMS and ESQRS</i>
	<i>Common concepts in SIMS and ESMS</i>
	<i>Common concepts in SIMS and ESQRS</i>

Single Integrated Metadata Structure	
S.15.3.2	Coherence- National Accounts
S.15.4	Coherence - internal
<b>S.16</b>	<b>Cost and burden</b>
<b>S.17</b>	<b>Data revision</b>
S.17.1	Data revision - policy
S.17.2	Data revision - practice and A6. Data revision - average size for U

<i>S.17.2.1</i>	<i>A6. Data revision - average size for P</i>
<b>S.18</b>	<b>Statistical processing</b>
S.18.1	Source data
S.18.2	Frequency of data collection
S.18.3	Data collection
S.18.4	Data validation
S.18.5	Data compilation
<i>S.18.5.1</i>	<i>A7. Imputation - rate</i>
S.18.6	Adjustment
<b>S.18.6.1</b>	<b>Seasonal adjustment</b>
<b>S.19</b>	<b>Comment</b>

ESS Standard for Quality Reports Structure	
8.5	Coherence- National Accounts
8.6	Coherence - internal
<b>10</b>	<b>Cost and Burden</b>
6.5	Data revision - policy
6.6	Data revision- practice

<b>6.6.1</b>	<b>Data revision - average size</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Statistical Processing</b>
3.1	Source data
3.2	Frequency of data collection
3.3	Data collection
3.4	Data validation
3.5	Data compilation

3.6	Adjustment
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<b>12</b>	<b>Comment</b>
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## 2. SIMS V2.0

Item No	Concept name
<b>S.1</b>	<b>Contact</b>
S.1.1	Contact organisation
S.1.2	Contact organisation unit
S.1.3	Contact name
S.1.4	Contact person function
S.1.5	Contact mail address
S.1.6	Contact email address
S.1.7	Contact phone number
S.1.8	Contact fax number
<b>S.2</b>	<b>Metadata update</b>
S.2.1	Metadata last certified
S.2.2	Metadata last posted
S.2.3	Metadata last update
<b>S.3</b>	<b>Statistical presentation</b>
S.3.1	Data description
S.3.2	Classification system
S.3.3	Sector coverage
S.3.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
S.3.5	Statistical unit
S.3.6	Statistical population
S.3.7	Reference area
S.3.8	Time coverage
S.3.9	Base period
<b>S.4</b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>
<b>S.5</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
<b>S.6</b>	<b>Institutional mandate</b>
S.6.1	Legal acts and other agreements
S.6.2	Data sharing
<b>S.7</b>	<b>Confidentiality</b>
S.7.1	Confidentiality - policy
S.7.2	Confidentiality - data treatment
<b>S.8</b>	<b>Release policy</b>
S.8.1	Release calendar
S.8.2	Release calendar access
S.8.3	User access
<b>S.9</b>	<b>Frequency of dissemination</b>
<b>S.10</b>	<b>Accessibility and clarity</b>
S.10.1	News release
S.10.2	Publications
S.10.3	On-line database

Item No	Concept name
S.10.3.1	AC1. Data tables - consultations
S.10.4	Micro-data access
S.10.5	Other
S.10.5.1	AC 2. Metadata - consultations
S.10.6	Documentation on methodology
S.10.6.1	AC 3. Metadata completeness - rate
S.10.7	Quality documentation
<b>S.11</b>	<b>Quality management</b>
S.11.1	Quality assurance
S.11.2	Quality assessment
<b>S.12</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
S.12.1	User needs
S.12.2	User satisfaction
S.12.3	Completeness and R1. Data completeness - rate for U
S.12.3.1	R1. Data completeness - rate for P
<b>S.13</b>	<b>Accuracy and reliability</b>
S.13.1	Overall accuracy
S.13.2	Sampling error and A1. Sampling errors - indicators for U
S.13.2.1	A1. Sampling errors - indicators for P
S.13.3	Non-sampling error and A4. Unit non-response - rate for U and A5. Item non-response - rate for U
S.13.3.1	Coverage error
S.13.3.1.1	A2. Over-coverage - rate
S.13.3.1.2	A3. Common units - proportion
S.13.3.2	Measurement error
S.13.3.3	Non response error
S.13.3.3.1	A4. Unit non-response - rate for P
S.13.3.3.2	A5. Item non-response - rate for P
S.13.3.4	Processing error
S.13.3.5	Model assumption error
<b>S.14</b>	<b>Timeliness and punctuality</b>
S.14.1	Timeliness and TP2. Time lag - final results for U
S.14.1.1	TP1. Time lag - first results for P
S.14.1.2	TP2. Time lag - final results for P
S.14.2	Punctuality and TP3. Punctuality - delivery and publication for U
S.14.2.1	TP3. Punctuality - delivery and publication for P
<b>S.15</b>	<b>Coherence and comparability</b>
S.15.1	Comparability - geographical
S.15.1.1	CC1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics - coefficient
S.15.2	Comparability - over time and CC2. Length of comparable time series for U
S.15.2.1	CC2. Length of comparable time series for P

Item No	Concept name
S.15.3	Coherence- cross domain
S.15.3.1	Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics
S.15.3.2	Coherence- National Accounts
S.15.4	Coherence - internal
<b>S.16</b>	<b>Cost and burden</b>
<b>S.17</b>	<b>Data revision</b>
S.17.1	Data revision - policy
S.17.2	Data revision - practice and A6. Data revision - average size for U
S.17.2.1	A6. Data revision - average size for P
<b>S.18</b>	<b>Statistical processing</b>
S.18.1	Source data
S.18.2	Frequency of data collection
S.18.3	Data collection
S.18.4	Data validation
S.18.5	Data compilation
S.18.5.1	A7. Imputation - rate
S.18.6	Adjustment
S.18.6.1	Seasonal adjustment
<b>S.19</b>	<b>Comment</b>

### 3. ESMS V2.0

Item No	Concept Name
<b>1</b>	<b>Contact</b>
1.1	Contact organisation
1.2	Contact organisation unit
1.3	Contact name
1.4	Contact person function
1.5	Contact mail address
1.6	Contact email address
1.7	Contact phone number
1.8	Contact fax number
<b>2</b>	<b>Metadata update</b>
2.1	Metadata last certified
2.2	Metadata last posted
2.3	Metadata last update
<b>3</b>	<b>Statistical presentation</b>
3.1	Data description
3.2	Classification system
3.3	Sector coverage
3.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
3.5	Statistical unit
3.6	Statistical population
3.7	Reference area
3.8	Time coverage
3.9	Base period
<b>4</b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Institutional mandate</b>
6.1	Legal acts and other agreements
6.2	Data sharing

Item No	Concept Name
<b>7</b>	<b>Confidentiality</b>
7.1	Confidentiality - policy
7.2	Confidentiality - data treatment
<b>8</b>	<b>Release policy</b>
8.1	Release calendar
8.2	Release calendar access
8.3	User access
<b>9</b>	<b>Frequency of dissemination</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Accessibility and clarity</b>
10.1	News release
10.2	Publications
10.3	On-line database
10.4	Micro-data access
10.5	Other
10.6	Documentation on methodology
10.7	Quality documentation
<b>11</b>	<b>Quality management</b>
11.1	Quality assurance
11.2	Quality assessment
<b>12</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
12.1	User needs
12.2	User satisfaction
12.3	Completeness
<b>13</b>	<b>Accuracy and reliability</b>
13.1	Overall accuracy
13.2	Sampling error
13.3	Non-sampling error

Item No	Concept Name
<b>14</b>	<b>Timeliness and punctuality</b>
14.1	Timeliness
14.2	Punctuality
<b>15</b>	<b>Coherence and comparability</b>
15.1	Comparability - geographical
15.2	Comparability - over time
15.3	Coherence - cross domain
15.4	Coherence - internal
<b>16</b>	<b>Cost and burden</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Data revision</b>
17.1	Data revision - policy
17.2	Data revision - practice
<b>18</b>	<b>Statistical processing</b>
18.1	Source data
18.2	Frequency of data collection
18.3	Data collection
18.4	Data validation
18.5	Data compilation
18.6	Adjustment
<b>19</b>	<b>Comment</b>

## 4. ESQRS V2.0

Item no	Concept Name
<b>1</b>	<b>Contact</b>
1.1	Contact organisation
1.2	Contact organisation unit
1.3	Contact name
1.4	Contact person function
1.5	Contact mail address
1.6	Contact email address
1.7	Contact phone number
1.8	Contact fax number
<b>2</b>	<b>Statistical presentation</b>
2.1	Data description
2.2	Classification system
2.3	Sector coverage
2.4	Statistical concepts and definitions
2.5	Statistical unit
2.6	Statistical population
2.7	Reference area
2.8	Time coverage
2.9	Base period
<b>3</b>	<b>Statistical processing</b>
3.1	Source data
3.2	Frequency of data collection
3.3	Data collection
3.4	Data validation
3.5	Data compilation
3.6	Adjustment
<b>4</b>	<b>Quality management</b>
<b>4.1</b>	Quality assurance
<b>4.2</b>	Quality assessment
<b>5</b>	<b>Relevance</b>
5.1	User Needs
5.2	User Satisfaction
5.3	Completeness
5.3.1	Data completeness - rate

Item no	Concept Name
<b>6</b>	<b>Accuracy and reliability</b>
6.1	Accuracy - overall
6.2	Sampling error
6.2.1	Sampling error - indicators
6.3	Non-sampling error
6.3.1	Coverage error
6.3.1.1	Over-coverage - rate
6.3.1.2	Common units - proportion
6.3.2	Measurement error
6.3.3	Non response error
6.3.3.1	Unit non-response - rate
6.3.3.2	Item non-response - rate
6.3.4	Processing error
6.3.4.1	Imputation - rate
6.3.5	Model assumption error
6.4	Seasonal adjustment
6.5	Data revision - policy
6.6	Data revision - practice
6.6.1	Data revision - average size
<b>7</b>	<b>Timeliness and punctuality</b>
7.1	Timeliness
7.1.1	Time lag - first result
7.1.2	Time lag - final result
7.2	Punctuality
7.2.1	Punctuality - delivery and publication
<b>8</b>	<b>Coherence and comparability</b>
8.1	Comparability - geographical
8.1.1	Asymmetry for mirror flow statistics - coefficient
8.2	Comparability - over time
8.2.1	Length of comparable time series
8.3	Coherence - cross domain
8.4	Coherence - sub annual and annual statistics
8.5	Coherence - National Accounts
8.6	Coherence - internal

Item no	Concept Name
<b>9</b>	<b>Accessibility and clarity</b>
9.1	News release
9.2	Publications
9.3	Online database
9.3.1	Data tables - consultations
9.4	Microdata access
9.5	Other
9.6	Documentation on methodology
9.7	Quality documentation
9.7.1	Metadata completeness - rate
9.7.2	Metadata - consultations
<b>10</b>	<b>Cost and Burden</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Confidentiality</b>
11.1	Confidentiality - policy
11.2	Confidentiality - data treatment
<b>12</b>	<b>Comment</b>



**Table 1: The revision process of the ESS reference metadata reporting standards (ESQRS and ESMS)**

<b>Revision process</b>	<b>ESQRS</b>	<b>ESMS</b>
<b>1. Relocation of concepts/sub-concepts</b>  (new numbering according to ESQRS 2.0)	<i>6.3.1.2 Common units proportion</i>	
	<i>6.4 Seasonal adjustment</i>	
	<i>9.5 Other</i>	
	<i>9.7.1 Metadata completeness-rate</i>	
	<i>9.7.2 Metadata – consultations</i>	
<b>2. Merging of concepts</b>		<i>10. Dissemination format and 11. Accessibility of documentation to 10. Accessibility and clarity</i>
	<i>8. Comparability and 9. Coherence to 8. Coherence and comparability</i>	<i>16. Comparability and 17. Coherence to 15. Coherence and comparability</i>
<b>3. “New” concepts added</b>	<i>2. Statistical presentation</i>	
	<i>2.1 Data description</i>	
	<i>2.2 Classification system</i>	
	<i>2.3 Sector coverage</i>	
	<i>2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions</i>	
	<i>2.5 Statistical unit</i>	
	<i>2.6 Statistical population</i>	
	<i>2.7 Reference area</i>	
	<i>2.8 Time coverage</i>	
	<i>2.9 Base period</i>	
	<i>4.1 Quality assurance</i>	
	<i>4.2 Quality assessment</i>	
<b>4. “Old” concepts deleted</b>  (old numbering according to ESQRS 1.0)	<i>2. Introduction</i>	<i>10. Dissemination format</i>
	<i>5.3.6 Data revision</i>	<i>11. Accessibility of documentation</i>
	<i>8. Comparability</i>	<i>16. Comparability</i>
	<i>8.3 Comparability – cross domain</i>	<i>17. Coherence</i>
	<i>9. Coherence</i>	