What Are Statistical Standards?

EQAO aligns with Statistics Canada in recognizing “statistical standards” as a set of rules that describe how data are collected and how statistics and results are produced and shared. At EQAO, “data standards” provide information about the data collected through assessments and questionnaires to help individuals understand and interpret those data.

Maintaining High Quality, Longitudinal Data on Educational Outcomes in Ontario

Components of EQAO Statistical Standards

- Ensure comparability over time
- Facilitate data sharing and linking
- Follow rigorous data quality practices
- Improve transparency for students, educators and data users
- Create meaningful data to support student learning
- Ensure fair, valid assessments and measures

EQAO Statistical Standards in Action

Statistical standards are used to provide data insights on specific topics and on the learning experiences of particular groups of students.

- EQAO is committed to a data collection and reporting framework that includes identity-based data for Indigenous students and equity-seeking groups.
- EQAO provides data insights to deepen the understanding of students' learning from multiple perspectives, including those of students with special education needs and those of English- and French-language learners.

How Are Statistical Standards Used?

- Internally at EQAO, to ensure consistent data quality over time and across assessments, and in research that uses the full potential of EQAO data
- In support of research and educational planning in Ontario’s publicly funded school boards and schools through the sharing of data, analytics and reports
- When collaborating with academic researchers and their institutions and supporting open data initiatives where appropriate