Data Quality Report Administrative Source Tourism Statistics

Administrative Source Quality Report last updated on:

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Within this document is information on the administrative data sources used by NISRA Tourism Statistics Branch (TSB) along with the quality assessments on them.

Tourism Statistics published by TSB are based on data gathered from statistical censuses and surveys. TSB uses data which is already available within administrative or management systems to provide overall totals on rooms and beds available in NI and passenger flow through NI airports. This data is also used for grossing survey responses. Further information is provided within the document.

The quality reports for all the administrative sources used by TSB are pulled into this one document. It provides links to the source provider, information on the quality assurance and audit arrangements for all the administrative data sources used in the production of tourism statistics. It also assesses the risk of data quality concerns and the public interest profile of the statistics.

In 2015 the UK Statistics Authority published a regulatory standard for the quality assurance of administrative data. The standard was developed in response to concerns about the quality of administrative data and in recognition of the increasing role that such data is plating in the production of official statistics. The standard encourages risk based judgements and supports a proportionate approach.

The standard is supported with an Administrative Data Quality Assurance Toolkit which provides useful guidance to statistical producers about the practices they can adopt to assure the quality of the data they utilise.

The UK Statistics Authority's Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires all producers of official statistics to publish, in consultation with the National Statistician, a 'Statement of Administrative Sources' which lists any administrative data source used for the production of Official Statistics.

In compliance with this requirement, the Department of Finance (DoF) Statement of Administrative Sources on the NISRA website contains information on the data sources utilised by Tourism Statistics Branch in the production of its statistics.

Quality reports on the full tourism statistics range for Northern Ireland are accessible at this link.

This document will be updated in line with the publication of quarterly tourism statistics reports.

Hotels

Data Supplier	Tourism Northern Ireland
Supplier Info	Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) is responsible for the development of tourism and marketing of Northern Ireland as a tourist destination to domestic tourists, from within Northern Ireland, and to visitors from the Republic of Ireland. TNI are a non-departmental public body of the Department for the Economy (DfE) and work closely with other tourism bodies to help develop the visitor economy here and to market NI to incoming visitors.
Data Type	Unit records
Data Content	TNI provide TSB with a list of all certified hotels in NI. Each record includes the name, address, contact information, number of registered bedrooms, beds and star grading.
Supply Schedule	TNI provide this on a monthly basis.

Use of Data	• TSB publishes a stock count of the number of rooms and beds available by LGD in NI on an annual basis. • TSB use the full stock (record of all hotels) for grossing monthly returns to the hotel occupancy survey.
Data Source Information	• In order to provide tourist accommodation in Northern Ireland, accommodation providers are required by the Tourism (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 to receive certification by TNI in order to operate. • It is a legal requirement and any person who provides or offers to provide tourist accommodation that does not have a valid certificate issued by TNI is guilty of an offence and may be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of up to £2,500 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both. • All accommodation providers are kept in a registration system with TNI. Given the legal status of this process, TNI's list of accommodation are therefore deemed the most suitable and appropriate for use by TSB in the establishment of a census of hotels and a frame to gross up any responses to on a monthly basis for occupancy estimates. • On a monthly basis, TNI also forward a list of all new and closing establishments to TSB.
Data Supply and Communication	• On a monthly basis, TNI send a list of all accommodation providers in NI to TSB. These are provided in excel, with a row dedicated to each establishment. The file includes information on the name, address, contact details, star grading (where available), number of beds and rooms available. • TNI also send a list of all new establishments and any closing establishments. • TNI and TSB meet a couple of times a year and discuss if there are any issues - but can also communicate any concerns or issues on telephone or via email at any stage. • This list of providers and the details are published on the Discover Northern Ireland website, and there are no data protection issues with providing the data via email as there are no sensitive data. • The data when it is received is saved in a secure drive by TSB before any sensitive or commercial data is added to it. (e.g. Occupancy rates or how an establishment is performing).
Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier	• Given the legal status of the certification process, TNI's list of accommodation is complete list of all accommodation providers in NI. • TNI under the Tourism (NI) Order 1992 has defined eight categories of tourist accommodation. A hotel is an establishment with a minimum of 15 double bedrooms all of which must be ensuite. A hotel operator is capable of providing breakfast, lunch and an evening meal for guests, as well as refreshments and a maid service for regular cleaning of bedrooms. • TNI carries out statutory inspections of tourist accommodation premises in NI every 4 years. The purpose is to ensure that the establishments comply with the minimum standards set out above.

Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier contd.	• In each of the three years between the statutory inspections tourist accommodation providers are required to provide TNI with a brief self-review statement. This self-review process is designed to ensure that certified establishments continue to comply with minimum legislative standards. • TNI also carries out ad hoc inspections of certified tourist accommodation as part of the monitoring remit and on the occasion of a complaint from visitors. • TNI keep their records up to date based on these reviews.
TSB Quality Assurance	• On a monthly basis, TSB compare the stock files to the previous month to see if there are any changes. As TSB have regular receives information from TNI on new and closing establishments they are able to compare these. • TSB also use feedback from the establishments to the survey to ensure all records are up to date. For example, when carrying out the survey if a hotel is to provide a different number of beds or rooms are available, TSB can find out if this a temporary change due to work being carried out rather than a permanent change that requires updating TNI. • Occasionally an establishment will tell TSB they are closed or closing and they haven't updated TNI yet, TSB are able to share this information with TNI to ensure that the register is updated accordingly. TSB will then remove the establishment from the list for grossing up and ensure it has been removed by TNI the following month. • If there are any differences or queries with the monthly files, TSB are able to query these with TNI and agree which is the correct data. • TSB carried out an exercise in 2014 when it compared the list of hotels from TNI to the list of hotels on the Inter Departmental Business Register (part of Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch in NISRA). • The IDBR lists the number of VAT or PAYE registered businesses in NI and what they classify their business as. While TSB found some differences - these were due to differences in definitions (i.e. An establishment registered as a hotel on IDBR was not classified as a hotel in the TNI definition.) However, TSB found very few differences between the two sources which back up the quality of the stock file.
Strengths of Data Source	• Due to legal requirements, all establishments are required to register with TNI so the source is seen as the best available for the purposes. • The complete data for all establishments providing accommodation is available to TSB on a monthly basis and is shared in a usable format for no costs. • The data is available by postcode allowing TSB to put together data on small geographical breakdowns. • TSB are confident that the data is of good quality by having compared it to other sources.
Weaknesses of Data Source	Occasionally hotels can close part of the hotel or offer additional accommodation - the register is not updated on a monthly basis but on an annual basis. However, it should be noted that these temporary changes are usually reported to TNI in monthly returns and staff can query any discrepancies directly with the hotel.

Assessment of Level of Assurance Requirements	• TSB assess that the level of risk of quality in this source is low and that the public interest is medium. This suggest that the appropriate level of assurance required for these statistics is **A1-Basic Assurance** • This means that TSB have used the QA toolkit and have reviewed the administrative source and published a summary in this document. Due to the fact that there are no quality concerns as the data is from a reliable source (due to legal requirements to have this information). TSB also have good communication with TNI if there were any concerns.
NISRA assessment of User Needs	This administrative source as a list of all Hotels in NI is of high quality and NISRA recommends it can be used with no concerns to see how many hotels there are, their location and the numbers of beds and rooms available within these. Due to the checks carried out by TNI and NISRA, this source is also of high quality for NISRA to use as a census for the occupancy survey and to gross the returned figures to on a monthly basis.

Risk/Profile Matrix

Level of risk of quality concerns	Public interest profile		
	Lower	Medium	Higher
Low	Statistics of lower quality concern and lower public interest [A1]	Statistics of low quality concern and medium public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of low quality concern and higher public interest [A1/A2]
Medium	Statistics of medium quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and medium public interest [A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and higher public interest [A2/A3]
High	Statistics of higher quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2/A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and medium public interest [A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and higher public interest [A3]

A1 to A3 = Levels of assurance in the QA Matrix

Bed & Breakfasts, Guesthouses and Guest Accommodation

Data Supplier	Tourism Northern Ireland
Supplier Info	Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) is responsible for the development of tourism and marketing of Northern Ireland as a tourist destination to domestic tourists, from within Northern Ireland, and to visitors from the Republic of Ireland. TNI are a non-departmental public body of the Department for the Economy (DfE) and work closely with other tourism bodies to help develop the visitor economy here and to market NI to incoming visitors.
Data Type	Unit records
Data Content	TNI provide TSB with a list of all certified bed &b reakfasts, guesthouses and guest accommodation in NI. Each record includes the name, address, contact information, number of registered bedrooms, beds and star grading.
Supply Schedule	TNI provide this on a monthly basis.

Use of Data	• TSB publish a stock count of the number of rooms and beds available by LGD in NI on an annual basis. • TSB use the full stock (record of all bed & breakfasts, guesthouses and guest accommodation) for grossing monthly returns to the bed & breakfasts, guesthouses and guest accommodation occupancy survey.
Data Source Information	• In order to provide tourist accommodation in Northern Ireland, accommodation providers are required by the Tourism (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 to receive certification by TNI in order to operate. • It is a legal requirement and any person who provides or offers to provide tourist accommodation that does not have a valid certificate issued by TNI is guilty of an offence and may be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of up to £2,500 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both. • All accommodation providers are kept in a registration system with TNI. Given the legal status of this process, TNI's list of accommodation are therefore deemed the most suitable and appropriate for use by TSB in the establishment of a census of hotels and a frame to gross up any responses to on a monthly basis for occupancy estimates. • On a monthly basis, TNI also forward a list of all new and closing establishments to TSB.
Data Supply and Communication	• On a monthly basis, TNI send a list of all accommodation providers in NI to TSB. These are provided in excel, with a row dedicated to each establishment. The file includes information on the name, address, contact details, star grading (where available), number of beds and rooms available. • TNI also send a list of all new establishments and any closing establishments. • TNI and TSB meet a couple of times a year and discuss if there are any issues - but can also communicate any concerns or issues on telephone or via email at any stage. • This list of providers and the details are published on the Discover Northern Ireland website, and there are no data protection issues with providing the data via email as there are no sensitive data. • The data when it is received is saved in a secure drive by TSB before any sensitive or commercial data is added to it. (e.g. Occupancy rates or how an establishment is performing).

Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier	• Given the legal status of the certification process, TNI's list of accommodation is complete list of all accommodation providers in NI. • TNI under the Tourism (NI) Order 1992 have defined eight categories of tourist accommodation. A bed & breakfast offers overnight accommodation whilst also providing guests with a cooked breakfast. There is no requirement to provide an evening meal and only one guest bedroom is required. • A guesthouse is an establishment with a minimum of three double en-suite bedrooms, and is capable of providing both breakfast and an evening meal and a maid service for regular cleaning of bedrooms. • Guest accommodation is accommodation whose primary focus is the provision of ensuite bedrooms, for example restaurants and pubs who wish to provide accommodation for visitors. • TNI carries out statutory inspections of tourist accommodation premises in NI every 4 years. The purpose is to ensure that the establishments comply with the minimum standards set out above. • In each of the three years between the statutory inspections tourist accommodation providers are required to provide TNI with a brief self-review statement. This self-review process is designed to ensure that certified establishments continue to comply with minimum legislative standards. • TNI also carries out ad hoc inspections of certified tourist accommodation as part of the monitoring remit and on the occasion of a complaint from visitors. • TNI keep their records up to date based on these reviews.
TSB Quality Assurance	• On a monthly basis, TSB compare the stock files to the previous month to see if there are any changes. As TSB have regular receives information from TNI on new and closing establishments they are able to compare these. • TSB also use feedback from the establishments to the survey to ensure all records are up to date. For example, when carrying out the survey if an establishment is to provide a different number of beds or rooms are available, TSB can find out if this a temporary change due to work being carried out rather than a permanent change that requires updating TNI. • Occasionally an establishment will tell TSB they are closed or closing and they haven't updated TNI yet, TSB are able to share this information with TNI to ensure that the register is updated accordingly. TSB will then remove the establishment from the list for grossing up and ensure it has been removed by TNI the following month. • If there are any differences or queries with the monthly files, TSB are able to query these with TNI and agree which is the correct data. • TSB attempted an exercise in 2014 to compare the list of establishments from TNI to the list on the Inter Departmental Business Register (part of Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch in NISRA). The IDBR lists the number of VAT or PAYE registered businesses in NI and what they classify their business as. However, the differences were too vast to compare the overall total as some pubs and restaurants supplied accommodation but the definition of their industrial classification was different to expected. However, it did not appear that there were any establishments offering accommodation who were not registered.
Strengths of Data Source	• Due to legal requirements, all establishments are required to register with TNI so the source is seen as the best available for the purposes. • The complete data for all establishments providing accommodation is available to TSB on a monthly basis and is shared in a usable format for no costs. • The data is available by postcode allowing TSB to put together data on small geographical breakdowns. • TSB are confident that the data is of good quality by having compared it to other sources.

Weaknesses of data source	A number of bed & breakfasts, guesthouses and guest accommodation provide seasonal cover, while they are meant to provide their intentions for the year ahead; the register is not always up to date. As the sample is drawn on an annual basis, it does not take this into account - however, the monthly totals are used based on what the accommodation providers tell TNI. However, it should be noted that these temporary changes are usually reported to TNI in monthly returns and staff can query any discrepancies directly with the establishment.

Assessment of Level of Assurance Requirements	TSB assess that the level of risk of quality in this source is low and that the public interest is medium. This suggest that the appropriate level of assurance required for these statistics is **A1-Basic Assurance**
NISRA assessment of User Needs	This administrative source as a list of all Bed & Breakfasts, Guest houses and Guest Accommodation in NI is of high quality and NISRA recommends it can be used with no concerns to see how many establishments there are, their location and the numbers of beds and rooms available within these. Due to the checks carried out by TNI and NISRA, this source is also of high quality for NISRA to use as a to draw a sample for the occupancy survey and to gross the returned figures to on a monthly basis.

Risk Profile Matrix

Level of risk of quality concerns	Public interest profile		
	Lower	**Medium**	**Higher**
Low	Statistics of lower quality concern and lower public interest [A1]	Statistics of low quality concern and medium public interest [A1 A2]	Statistics of low quality concern and higher public interest [A1/A2]
Medium	Statistics of medium quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and medium public interest [A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and higher public interest [A2/A3]
High	Statistics of higher quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2/A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and medium public interest [A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and higher public interest [A3]

A1 to A3 = Levels of assurance in the QA Matrix

Self – Catering

Data Supplier	Tourism Northern Ireland
Supplier Info	Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) is responsible for the development of tourism and marketing of Northern Ireland as a tourist destination to domestic tourists, from within Northern Ireland, and to visitors from the Republic of Ireland. TNI are a non-departmental public body of the Department for the Economy (DfE) and work closely with other tourism bodies to help develop the visitor economy here and to market NI to incoming visitors.
Data Type	Unit records
Data Content	TNI provide TSB with a list of all self-catering accommodation in NI. Each record includes the name, address, contact information, number of registered units and beds available.
Supply Schedule	TNI provide this on a monthly basis however TSB only use this on an annual basis.

Use of Data	• TSB publishes a stock count of the number of units and beds available by LGD and all NI on an annual basis. • TSB uses the full stock (record of all self-catering accommodation) and carries out a census of all establishments for the self-catering accommodation occupancy survey. Results on the occupancy of these units are then grossed up to the stock file.
Data Source Information	• In order to provide tourist accommodation in Northern Ireland, accommodation providers are required by the Tourism (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 to receive certification by TNI in order to operate. • It is a legal requirement and any person who provides or offers to provide tourist accommodation that does not have a valid certificate issued by TNI is guilty of an offence and may be liable, upon conviction, to a fine of up to £2,500 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or both. • All accommodation providers are kept in a registration system with TNI. Given the legal status of this process, TNI's list of accommodation are therefore deemed the most suitable and appropriate for use by TSB in the establishment of a sample frame of self-catering accommodation and an appropriate frame to gross up any responses to for occupancy estimates.
Data Supply and Communication	• On a monthly basis, TNI send a list of all accommodation providers in NI to TSB. These are provided in excel, with a row dedicated to each establishment. The file includes information on the name, address, contact details, star grading (where available), number of units and beds available. •TNI also sends a list of all new establishments and any closing establishments. TNI and TSB meet a couple of times a year and discuss if there are any issues - but can also communicate any concerns or issues on telephone or via email at any stage. • This list of providers and the details are published on the Discover Northern Ireland website, and there are no data protection issues with providing the data via email as there are no sensitive data. • The data when it is received is saved in a secure drive by TSB before any sensitive or commercial data is added to it. (e.g. Occupancy rates or how an establishment is performing).

Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier	• Given the legal status of the certification process, TNI's list of accommodation are likely to be a complete list of all accommodation providers in NI. • TNI under the Tourism (NI) Order 1992 have defined eight categories of tourist accommodation. • A self-catering unit is a self contained apartment, house, cottage, etc. which provides furnished accommodation for visitors including sleeping accommodation and catering facilities. • TNI carries out statutory inspections of tourist accommodation premises in NI every 4 years. The purpose is to ensure that the establishments comply with the minimum standards set out above. In each of the three years between the statutory inspections tourist accommodation providers are required to provide TNI with a brief self-review statement. This self-review process is designed to ensure that certified establishments continue to comply with minimum legislative standards. • TNI also carries out ad hoc inspections of certified tourist accommodation as part of the monitoring remit and on the occasion of a complaint from visitors. • TNI keeps their records up to date based on these reviews.
TSB Quality Assurance	• On an annual basis, TSB compare the stock files to the previous month to see if there are any changes. As TSB have been receiving information from TNI on new and closing establishments throughout the year they are able to compare these. • TSB also uses feedback from the establishments to the survey to ensure all records are up to date. Using these returns, TSB also update TNI so all records are the same. • Occasionally an establishment will tell TSB they are closed or closing and they haven't updated TNI yet, TSB are able to share this information with TNI to ensure that the register is updated accordingly. TSB will then remove the establishment from the list for grossing up and ensure it has been removed by TNI. • If there are any differences or queries with the monthly files, TSB are able to query these with TNI and agree which is the correct data.
Strengths of Data Source	• Due to legal requirements, all establishments are required to register with TNI so the source is seen as the best available for the purposes. • The complete data for all establishments providing accommodation is available to TSB on a monthly basis and is shared in a usable format for no costs. • TNI also do checks of accommodation providers they find online if they believe they have not registered with them first.
Weaknesses of Data Source	As the register is updated officially every 4 years with establishments self-completing the 3 interim years the stock file may occasionally have some discrepancies. However, as TSB carry out the survey to all (census) of self-catering establishments TSB receive updated information from the source itself.

Assessment of Level of Assurance Requirements	TSB assess that the level of risk of quality in this source is low and that the public interest is medium. This suggest that the appropriate level of assurance required for these statistics is **A1-Basic Assurance**
NISRA assessment of User Needs	This administrative source as a list of all Self-catering establishments in NI is of high quality and NISRA recommends it can be used with no concerns to see how many establishments there are, their location and the numbers of beds and rooms available within these. Due to the checks carried out by TNI and NISRA, this source is also of high quality for NISRA to use as a census for the occupancy survey and for grossing returned figures on an annual basis.

Risk/Profile Matrix

Level of risk of quality concerns	Public interest profile		
	Lower	Medium	Higher
Low	Statistics of lower quality concern and lower public interest [A1]	Statistics of low quality concern and medium public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of low quality concern and higher public interest [A1/A2]
Medium	Statistics of medium quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and medium public interest [A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and higher public interest [A2/A3]
High	Statistics of higher quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2/A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and medium public interest [A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and higher public interest [A3]

A1 to A3 = Levels of assurance in the QA Matrix

Visitor Attractions

Data Supplier	Tourism Northern Ireland
Data Source	Discover Northern Ireland
Supplier Info	• Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) is responsible for the development of tourism and marketing of Northern Ireland as a tourist destination to domestic tourists, from within Northern Ireland, and to visitors from the Republic of Ireland. • TNI are a non-departmental public body of the Department for the Economy (DfE) and work closely with other tourism bodies to help develop the visitor economy here and to market NI to incoming visitors. • The data is from Discover Northern Ireland website. All attractions in NI can register to have their details placed on this-there is no 'definition' of a visitor attraction so this list includes anywhere that a visitor might like to visit, e.g. Museums, farms, play areas, parks
Data Type	Unit records
Data Content	TNI provide TSB with a list of all visitor attractions as found on the Discover Northern Ireland website. Each record includes the name, address and contact information.
Supply Schedule	TNI provide this on an annual basis.

Use of Data	TSB use the list of Visitor Attractions to send a form to on an annual basis to get information on the number of visitors to the establishment throughout the year.
Data Source Information	The list of Visitor Attractions is sent on an annual basis. This is a list of all 'attractions' throughout NI whose details are held on the Discover Northern Ireland website, so includes farms, indoor play areas among known attractions of Titanic Belfast, Giant's Causeway.
Data Supply and Communication	• On an annual basis, TNI share the list of visitor attractions from the Discover Northern Ireland website. • This list is then split into the LGDs they are in and shared with the tourism liaison officers within each of the councils to see if there are any that are not appropriate, or if there are new attractions not registered on the Discover Northern Ireland website. • This list of providers and the details are published on the Discover Northern Ireland website, and there are no data protection issues with providing the data via email as there are no sensitive data. • The data when it is received is saved in a secure drive by TSB before any sensitive or commercial data is added to it.
Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier	• TNI will share the full list as on the Discover NI website • TSB works to quality assure the appropriateness of Visitor Attractions.
TSB Quality Assurance	• On an annual basis, TSB compare the list of attractions year on year. It also looks at responses in the previous year to see if there were attractions which asked to be removed (some country parks do not have any method of counting visitors and feel the form not appropriate to them). • TSB then divide the list of visitor attractions it is going to contact by LGD and shares the lists with the tourism liaison officer in the relevant LGD to see if the list is complete or if there are any new attractions that need added or any to remove.

Strengths of Data Source	The list of Visitor Attractions is as complete a list that can be made using the definition. It is also easily accessible and each of the LGD tourism liaison officers is good at providing assistance in the completeness of the list.
Weaknesses of Data Source	• It is recognised that some attractions may fit into the definition that aren't listed due to the vagueness of the definition (e.g. Who is responsible for defining if a person could be reasonably expected to pay to view an attraction. • While the list of attractions is as complete as can be made - the source lacks in quality for the estimates of visits to the attractions depending on each attraction. Some record their visitor numbers through ticket sales, some through turnstyles and others are estimates. NISRA publishes figures on country parks and parks separate to attractions were the visitor numbers may be more robust due to ticket sales - but NISRA recognises that each of the attractions fill in the survey in different ways and there is no official measure of what defines a visitor (e.g. day visitor may be mixed up with someone taking a daily walk? Or someone in to use a cafe as opposed to viewing a gallery.) NISRA recognises that some statistics from the visitor attraction survey may be based on estimates which are unreliable.

Assessment of Level of Assurance Requirements	TSB assess that the level of risk of quality in this source is medium and that the public interest is medium. This suggest that the appropriate level of assurance required for these statistics is **A2-Enhanced Assurance**
NISRA Assessment for User Needs	• This administrative source as a list of all Visitor Attractions in NI is of high quality as it has been checked by NISRA and tourism representatives within each of the council areas. • However, when the number of visits to any of the visitor attractions is examined, NISRA recommends users note that each of the attractions has a different method of counting the number of visitors. NISRA is currently looking at the questionnaire and method for reporting visitors as an attempt to improve this assessment for the 2016 figures. Further information will be provided in the annual report.

Risk/Profile Matrix

Level of risk of quality concerns	Public interest profile		
	Lower	Medium	Higher
Low	Statistics of lower quality concern and lower public interest [A1]	Statistics of low quality concern and medium public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of low quality concern and higher public interest [A1/A2]
Medium	Statistics of medium quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and medium public interest [A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and higher public interest [A2/A3]
High	Statistics of higher quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2/A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and medium public interest [A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and higher public interest [A3]

A1 to A3 = Levels of assurance in the QA Matrix

Civil Aviation Authority – air passenger flow through NI airports

Data Supplier	Civil Aviation Authority
Supplier Info	• The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is the UK's specialist aviation regulator • The CAA are a public corporation, established by Parliament in 1972 as an independent specialist aviation regulator. It ensures that (1) the aviation industry meets the highest safety standards (2) consumers have choice, value for money, are protected and treated fairly when they fly (3) drive improvements in airlines and airports' environmental performance and (4) the aviation industry manages security risks effectively. • As part of its duties as the UK's independent specialist aviation regulator, the CAA is responsible for collecting, processing, validating and analysing an extensive range of statistics related to UK aviation. • As the CAA is independent of Government and is not a Crown Body, its statistics are not subject to the Statistics and Registration Services Act 2007. • However, given the publication, nature and the use of these data, Official Statistics Code of Practice has been used to provide guidance on best practice.
Data Type	Counts of passenger flow by departure and arrival airport by in/out flow.
Data Content	CAA provides TSB with a list of total passengers arriving and departing each airport in NI along with the destination or departure airport by each month. CAA also provide TSB with the arriving and departing passengers by airport and month broken out by 'weekend' (Saturday, Sunday and Monday) and 'weekday' (Tuesday-Friday).
Supply Schedule	CAA provides this on a monthly basis - NISRA are charged for this service.

Use of Data	TSB use the CAA data to gross the responses to the Northern Ireland Passenger Survey to (i.e. total number of passengers departing NI.) More information is available in the methodology section of 'External Overnight Trips' to NI. On a monthly basis, TSB also publish the total number of departing passenger flow through NI airports and seaports as an early indicator on the performance of the tourism sector in NI. On a quarterly basis, TSB publish data on Northern Ireland air passenger flow.
Data Source Information	On a monthly basis, a count of all departures and arrivals through each airport in NI by the airport of arrival/departure is shared with TSB. This data is all made available on the CAA website. CAA also provide TSB with the number of arriving and departing passengers broken out by airport and 'weekend' (Saturday to Monday) and 'weekday' (Tuesday to Friday) for weighting the NI Passenger Survey. Due to TSB requirements to publish tourism statistics on a quarterly basis, the monthly figures are made available to TSB to gross figures up to. TSB also share overall totals (no breakdown by arrival/departure airport) of air passenger flow on a monthly basis.
Data Supply and Communication	• The monthly data is shared with TSB via email from the CAA. When the data is received it is saved in a secure drive by TSB. • If TSB has any queries they can contact the person who shared the data. TSB purchase this data for the year ahead. • The data is also published on the CAA website.

Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier	• For all major datasets, the relevant methodologies and glossary are made available. Wherever possible, the CAA adopts standard industry definitions and methodologies in its data collection and processing. • Further information about the quality assurance can be accessed on the CAA website • All data is subject to internal review and validation. If, for operational reasons, there is uncertainty around published data, this is highlighted in the notes.
TSB Quality Assurance	• TSB look at the total passenger flow and compare these month on month. TSB also keep on top of new air routes or any discontinuation of air routes and see if the figures tie in with these reports. • Each of the airports also keeps a note of their own passenger numbers. In 2010-2012 TSB received these figures and compared them to the CAA figures but there was no difference. • TSB also compare the CAA figures with the IAA figures were possible (e.g. the London-Dublin route), which gives indication if there are any major discrepancies.
Strengths of Data Source	• The CAA follows the Code of Practice and are aware of requirements of official statistics so they are trustworthy and valuable statistics. • As the statistics are reported for both arrival and departure airports, the figures provided by both airports can be compared and any discrepancies can be examined.
Weaknesses of Data Source	Due to commercial sensitivity, TSB cannot access smaller level data which may be useful for analysis of air passenger flow, however the source is seen as a good source.

Assessment of Level of Assurance Requirements	TSB assess that the level of risk of quality in this source is low and that the public interest is medium. This suggest that the appropriate level of assurance required for these statistics is **A1-Basic Assurance**
NISRA Assessment for User Needs	This administrative source as a list of passenger flow through NI airport is of high quality and NISRA recommends that users can use this data with no concerns. NISRA is confident that it can use this source to gross quarterly figures to as the CAA carry out rigorous checks by having statistics reported at departing and arriving airports.

Risk/Profile Matrix

Level of risk of quality concerns	Public interest profile		
	Lower	Medium	Higher
Low	Statistics of lower quality concern and lower public interest [A1]	Statistics of low quality concern and medium public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of low quality concern and higher public interest [A1/A2]
Medium	Statistics of medium quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and medium public interest [A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and higher public interest [A2/A3]
High	Statistics of higher quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2/A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and medium public interest [A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and higher public interest [A3]

A1 to A3 = Levels of assurance in the QA Matrix

Seaports

Data Supplier	Stenaline P&O
Supplier Info	StenaLine and P&O are both privately owned companies and operate their ferry services to and from Northern Ireland ports. They keep a record of passenger numbers on board per sailing and route.
Data Type	Count
Data Content	Both Stenaline and P&O provide counts on the number of passengers onboard their routes from NI each month.
Supply Schedule	This is sent to Tourism Statistics Branch (TSB) on a monthly basis.

Use of Data	• TSB use the CAA data to gross the responses to the Northern Ireland Passenger Survey (i.e. total number of passengers departing NI.) More information is available in the methodology section of 'External Overnight Trips' to NI. • On a monthly basis, TSB also publish the total number of departing passenger flow through NI airports and seaports as an early indicator on the performance of the tourism sector in NI.
Data Source Information	On a monthly basis, a count of all passenger flow via each of the routes on Stenaline and P&O are shared with TSB.
Data Supply and Communication	• The monthly data is shared with TSB via email from each of the companies. When the data is received it is saved in a secure drive by TSB. • If TSB has any queries they can contact the person who shared the data.
Quality Assurance Carried out by Data Supplier	Quality assurance is carried out by Stenaline and P&O on the numbers of people onboard the ferry services by comparing ticket sales and records. Official numbers of passengers onboard any cruises or boats are kept for official records. Each of the ferry companies have official records which go through checks to ensure official notes of passengers onboard.
TSB Quality Assurance	TSB look at the total passenger flow and compare these month on month. TSB also keep on top of new routes or any discontinued routes and see if the figures tie in with these reports.
Strengths of Data Source	This gives a total number of departing passengers' onboard commercial boats from NI in a timely manner that can be used for the Northern Ireland Passenger Survey and also to give indication of the scale of passenger flow for an early indicator for tourism.
Weaknesses of Data Source	Due to commercial sensitivity, TSB can total up the number of passengers onboard any sea routes and use the statistics to gross results up to - but cannot share any more detail.

Assessment of Level of Assurance Requirements	• TSB assess that the level of risk of quality in this source is medium and that the public interest is medium. This suggest that the appropriate level of assurance required for these statistics is **A1-Basic Assurance** • TSB came to this decision as the counts of passengers onboard these routes are robust, but are of limited public interest due to the small numbers. • TSB will continue to assess the level of assurance and update if necessary. For example, if public interest in one of the routes rises the risk matrix may be updated.
NISRA Assessment for User Needs	This administrative source as a list of passenger flow through NI seaports is of high quality due to the official checks ferry companies need to carry out on how many are onboard the ferries. NISRA are confident that these are the correct figures to gross quarterly responses to the NIPS to.

Risk/Profile Matrix

Level of risk of quality concerns	Public interest profile		
	Lower	Medium	Higher
Low	Statistics of lower quality concern and lower public interest [A1]	Statistics of low quality concern and medium public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of low quality concern and higher public interest [A1/A2]
Medium	Statistics of medium quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and medium public interest [A2]	Statistics of medium quality concern and higher public interest [A2/A3]
High	Statistics of higher quality concern and lower public interest [A1/A2/A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and medium public interest [A3]	Statistics of higher quality concern and higher public interest [A3]

A1 to A3 = Levels of assurance in the QA Matrix