

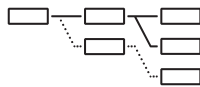
Report Reader Checklist

Evaluate the quality and rigor of study reports in the field of online and distance education



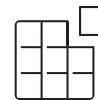
CONTEXT

- The report describes the larger purpose or need for the study
- It explains the history and/or theoretical frameworks in detail
- It includes the research aims or goals
- It offers suggestions for further research



METHODOLOGY

- The report includes a methodology section
- It is clear how data were collected
- It is clear how data were analyzed
- If statistical analyses were used, specific tests are named
- If coding was performed, the coding procedure is described



SAMPLE

- Participants and/or data sources (e.g., existing data from IPEDS) are described in detail
- It is clear how the participants were recruited
- The sample represents an appropriate level of diversity for the study aims
- If subgroups are included in analyses, they are appropriately defined and labeled



REPORTING RESULTS

- All numbers used in the report are easy to comprehend
- An “N” is offered whenever data is being described or shown
- Missing data are identified
- It is clear how study findings fit in with the study’s purpose, research question(s) and methodology
- The data visualizations (graphs, charts and tables) enhance your understanding of the results



TRANSPARENCY

- Raw quantitative data (i.e., tables of frequency counts) are included in the report or in an appendix
- The instrument and/or study protocol are provided
- Authors are clear about any conflicts of interest or other motivations for their role in the study
- Any commentary or discussion is rooted in data results or study findings shared within the report



READER EXPERIENCE

- The report uses language that is easy to understand
- It meets Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards
- It includes an executive summary and/or abstract for ease of digesting study findings
- It is an appropriate length for the study scope and reporting of results