Data Quality 101

SSDQ Reporting

FMCSA relies on quality data to support safety compliance and enforcement programs. Complete and accurate crash and inspection reporting, as well as a commitment to continuously improving the quality of data helps reduce crashes, prevent injuries, and save lives.

The State Safety Data Quality (SSDQ) Program assesses the completeness, timeliness, accuracy, and consistency of State-reported crash and inspection records in the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). Each month, States receive an Overall State Rating of "good," "fair," or "poor" based on eight performance measures and one indicator.

Why is it important to report complete and accurate data?

FMCSA relies on quality data to support the programs that prioritize carriers for interventions that pose the greatest risk to safety on our roads. State safety data includes FMCSA inspection and crash reports, compliance reviews, Safety Audits, and registration data. Complete and accurate State safety data is uploaded to MCMIS, which supports FMCSA's data-driven safety programs.
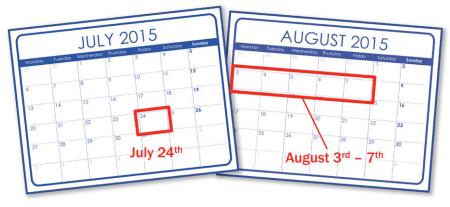
Incomplete or inaccurate data could impact information in a carrier's SMS profile, allow at-risk carriers to remain on our roads, and endanger safety. The following systems rely on quality MCMIS data to ensure safety and represent a range of FMCSA safety enforcement programs:

- Safety Measurement System (SMS)
- New Applicant Screening (NAS)
- Inspection Selection System (ISS)
- Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP)
- Driver Safety Measurement System (DSMS)
- Driver Information Resource (DIR)

What is a MCMIS data snapshot?

MCMIS data snapshots include crash and inspection data collected on the 3rd or 4th Friday of each month. To ensure that crash and inspection records are included in the upcoming data snapshot, records must be uploaded the day before.

MCMIS Snapshot Taken — JULY 2015 — July 24th

Results Available for you — AUGUST 2015 — August 3rd – 7th

What happens after the MCMIS data snapshot is taken?

After the MCMIS data snapshot is taken, the data is evaluated and validated. The results are then posted to the Data Quality Program Website approximately 10 days after the snapshot date.

The data snapshot generates 1 Overall State Rating, which is comprised of 8 measures (4 crash measures and 4 inspection measures), and 1 indicator. States receive an overall rating of "good" if they have at least one good crash measure rating, at least one good inspection measure rating, and no poor measure ratings.

Rating	Criteria
🟢 Good	Minimum of 1 Good Crash Measure, 1 Good Inspection Measure, AND 0 Poor
🟡 Fair	Maximum of 1 Poor
🔴 Poor	2+ Poor OR Red Flagged

Who are the Data Quality Specialists?

The Data Quality (DQ) Specialists are the primary contacts for each State's data quality-related topics. DQ Specialists monitor State data on a regular basis and work with State Partners to utilize the resources available on the Data Quality Program Website. The DQ Specialists can develop custom reports, as well as suggest strategies to help States improve and maintain the quality of their data.

By working collaboratively, DQ Specialists and States can ensure the continuous improvement of complete and accurate data reporting. The effectiveness of FMCSA's safety compliance and enforcement programs depend on the data you report.

For more detailed information about SSDQ ratings and measures, visit the SSDQ Methodology Website at http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/dataquality/methodology/default.aspx#showDetail.

To learn more about the importance of quality data and what you can do to improve the quality of the data you report, visit http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/DataQuality or contact your FMCSA Data Quality Specialist.

Data Quality Contact Information

WESTERN SERVICE CENTER, CONNECTICUT, ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, MISSOURI
Kevin Berry: 617-494-2857
Kevin.Berry@dot.gov

EASTERN SERVICE CENTER INDIANA, IOWA, KANSAS, MINNESOTA
Janet Bibinski: 617-494-2308
Janet.Bibinski.CTR@dot.gov

SOUTHERN SERVICE CENTER, NEBRASKA, OHIO, TEXAS, WISCONSIN
Deirdre Hering: 617-494-3535
Deirdre.Hering.CTR@dot.gov