

About this Guide

The EHDS Guide supports you in implementing the European Health Data Space. It helps you understand the necessary steps, manage your data transparently and securely, and assess your digital maturity in handling health data.

— Who is this for?

Whether you want to provide data, use it, or meet regulatory requirements, this guide offers concrete guidance and the right tools for your needs. The maturity assessment is designed mainly for organizations holding or providing data and preparing to participate in the European Health Data Space (EHDS).

— What you get

After downloading the 10 questionnaires and overall maturity assessment document, you answer questions across ten well-defined dimensions of data maturity and immediately receive a personalized assessment regarding your maturity toward EHDS readiness.

— How it works — at a glance

1

Answer

Work through 10 short questionnaires, one per dimension of data maturity.

2

Score

Each dimension yields a maturity level from 1 to 5 based on your answers.

3

Reflect

Combine all dimension levels to get your overall maturity rating.

Tip

Answer honestly based on your current situation, not where you aim to be. The assessment is most useful when it accurately reflects where you are today — it then points to where you can grow.

— The framework

The maturity assessment is built on the QUANTUM framework (Deliverable 1.2 by Jones & Bernal-Delgado, 2025), which structures data holder maturity into ten complementary dimensions. Each dimension is assessed independently with a short questionnaire of 4 to 5 questions.

1	Data Collection Process How well defined are your processes for capturing data from multiple sources for secondary purposes.	2	Data Management Governance Maturity of your data management plans, their implementation, and compliance.
3	Data Management Infrastructure Implementation and development of your data management infrastructure.	4	Data Provenance Clarity and documentation of the lineage of your dataset and data pipeline.
5	Data Access How well defined are data access processes legally, ethically, and technically.	6	Data Analytics Environment Analytical services, tooling, and access to secure data environments.
7	Data Enhancement — Augmentation Application of techniques to make data more usable for specific purposes.	8	Data Enhancement — Enrichment Enrichment of data with annotations, image labels, derivations, and NLP-derived labels.
9	Data Model Availability of a clear, documented data model providing structure and standardisation.	10	Data Dictionary Provision of a documented data dictionary and terminologies.

— How scoring works

The assessment uses a three-tier scoring system: each answer earns points, those points combine into a level per dimension, and the dimension levels combine into an overall maturity level. All scores are on a 1-to-5 scale, where 1 means "no maturity" and 5 means "comprehensive maturity".

Step 1 — Question level

Each answer is worth between 1 and 5 points, depending on how mature the described situation is. Some questions offer the full 1–5 range; others offer fewer options (e.g., 1, 3, 5) where intermediate levels do not apply.

Step 2 — Dimension level

For each dimension, sum the points of all your answers and divide by the number of questions in that dimension. This gives you a decimal score between 1 and 5. Round this number down to the nearest whole number to determine your dimension maturity level.

Example

A dimension with 4 questions and answers worth 3, 4, 5, and 3 points gives a sum of 15. Divided by 4 questions = 3.75. Rounded down: Dimension Level 3.

Step 3 — Overall maturity level

In the Overall Score Calculation document, select the maturity level you reached for each of the ten dimensions. Sum all ten dimension levels and divide by 10. Round this number down to the nearest whole number to get your overall maturity level (1–5).

— The maturity levels

Level 1 Initial No or ad-hoc processes	Level 2 Emerging Basic processes exist	Level 3 Defined Documented and consistent	Level 4 Managed Measured and verified	Level 5 Optimized Continuously improved
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A note on interpretation

Rounding down is intentional: you only reach a level when you fully meet its criteria. A score of 3.8 means you are close to Level 4 but have not fully achieved it yet — your current level is 3, with clear room to grow.