

## SIMD16 Progress Report – Data Quality Assurance

By the end of this month all the data for SIMD16 should have been received. We are moving onto the next phase of the SIMD which will be the Quality Assurance. This is done in three steps.

Step 1 is the SIMD Team looking for unexplained changes. This has begun on complete data sets for Access to Services and Housing domains. Most of the data for Education and Health domains has been received and preliminary work on quality assurance has begun. The quality assurance for Income, Employment and Crime Domains will start in April.

Step 2 is going back to data providers to ensure the quality is correct where issues have been identified. This is done jointly with local experts, usually data analysts from councils, who will explain for us any unusual patterns in each indicator, and where these problems cannot be explained. A request for further data may be required to ensure we haven't missed something in the original data query.

Step 3 will be examining each individual domain, which will allow us to assure the calculation steps that we take to construct the SIMD.

Quality assurance is an important part of our production as we are a 'National Statistics'. For further information on the publication of government statistics go to the UK Statistics Authority.

[UK Statistics Authority](#)

## SIMD Mapping and Statistics

The new [Statistics Scotland](#) site went live in February and regular users of SNS (Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics) will have noticed they are now redirected to this site. You can access the data behind official statistics in Scotland and view it as maps, tables and charts in various formats.

We have heard from SIMD users that the new mapping does not meet the needs for quick lookups of SIMD and we are looking at developing a solution in the near future.

If you require interactive mapping we can recommend another site <http://ukdataexplorer.com/simd>. This is not a government site but has some of the functionality from the mapping tool on SNS. It was developed by Dr Alasdair Rae at Sheffield University.

Please let us know what you found most useful in SNS and what would help you access the SIMD16.

[Email Here](#)

## August for SIMD16

SIMD16 will be released in August 2016.

We have been working closely with data providers, and last week I sat with Police Scotland as they finalised their data collection process. Verifying each data set is vital to knowing all the issues with the data for the next stage – quality assurance.

We have put back the publication date from May because of delays outside of our control, but our partner data providers have been doing their very best to help support us.

The next step, talking to local experts, will help us identify further issues needing resolved. This is made all the more complex with the new data zones for SIMD16.

But it's an exciting time as we carefully plan our release making sure we have dotted all our 'i's and crossed our 't's

*Alastair McAlpine  
Statistician*

@ScotStat



#simd16

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WEB LINK → [Click here for UK Statistics Authority Website](#)

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WEB LINK → STATISTICS SCOTLAND

WEB LINK → UK DATA EXPLORER WEBSITE

EMAIL LINK → CLICK HERE TO START AN EMAIL FOR  
SIMD MAPPING AND STATISTICS

## **Notes from the Team – August for SIMD16**

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