**Data Documentation Initiative - DDI**

**Name and version:** Data Documentation Initiative (DDI), version 3.1

**Alternative name:** [none]

**Valid:** From October 2009 (version 3.1)

**Description:** The Data Documentation Initiative is a standard for technical documentation describing social science data. The current version supports description of the full life cycle of a dataset or data collection (see also Generic Statistical Business Process Model).

**Intended use:** DDI is commonly used as a standard for documenting and describing data for archiving and reuse. It is also suitable for:

- Documenting on-going research projects
- Documenting secondary uses of data
- Creating concept/question/variable libraries
- Generating multiple delivery formats for data dissemination or discovery

**Maintenance organization:** DDI Alliance

**ISO Standard Number:** not applicable

**References:**

DDI FAQ: [FAQ](#)


**Relationships to other standards:** [Concept Map](#)

DDI is expressed as an XML schema

**Language:** English

**Description last updated / validated:** 27 July 2011 (Updated links)