5.3 Review and validate

This sub-process examines data to identify potential problems, errors and discrepancies such as outliers, item non-response and miscoding. It can also be referred to as input data validation. It may be run iteratively, validating data against predefined edit rules, usually in a set order. It may flag data for automatic or manual inspection or editing. Reviewing and validating can apply to data from any type of source, before and after integration, as well as imputed data from sub-process 5.4 (Edit and Impute). Whilst validation is treated as part of the ‘Process’ phase, in practice, some elements of validation may occur alongside collection activities, particularly for modes such as computer assisted collection. Whilst this sub-process is concerned with detection and localisation of actual or potential errors, any correction activities that actually change the data is done in sub-process 5.4 (Edit and Impute).

Quality Indicators:
- Rate of actual errors
- Identification of incorrect data (actual errors) in the processing stage – missing, invalid or inconsistent entries or that point out data records that are actually in error

For details, see Quality indicators for OSBPIM (version 2.0)