

Artificial intelligence - Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) - Part 4: Data quality process framework (ISO/IEC 5259-4:2024)

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>See Eesti standard EVS-EN ISO/IEC 5259-4:2025 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN ISO/IEC 5259-4:2025 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas.</p> <p>Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 21.05.2025.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusest.</p> | <p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN ISO/IEC 5259-4:2025 consists of the English text of the European standard EN ISO/IEC 5259-4:2025.</p> <p>This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.</p> <p>Date of Availability of the European standard is 21.05.2025.</p> <p>The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.</p> |
|--|---|

Tagasisidet standardi sisu kohta on võimalik edastada, kasutades EVS-i veebilehel asuvat tagasiside vormi või saates e-kirja meiliaadressile [standardiosakond@evs.ee](mailto:standardiosakond@evs.ee).

ICS 35.020

Standardite reprodutseerimise ja levitamise õigus kuulub Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusele. Andmete paljundamine, taastekitamine, kopeerimine, salvestamine elektroonsesse süsteemi või edastamine ükskõik millises vormis või millisel teel ilma Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskuse kirjaliku loata on keelatud.

Kui Teil on küsimusi standardite autorikaitse kohta, võtke palun ühendust Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusega: Koduleht [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); telefon 605 5050; e-post [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

The right to reproduce and distribute standards belongs to the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation. No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without a written permission from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.

If you have any questions about copyright, please contact Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation: Homepage [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); phone +372 605 5050; e-mail [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

English version

## Artificial intelligence - Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) - Part 4: Data quality process framework (ISO/IEC 5259-4:2024)

Intelligence artificielle - Qualité des données pour les analyses de données et l'apprentissage automatique -  
Partie 4: Cadre pour le processus de qualité des données (ISO/IEC 5259-4:2024)

Künstliche Intelligenz - Datenqualität für Analytik und maschinelles Lernen (ML) - Teil 4: Rahmen für Datenqualitätsprozesse (ISO/IEC 5259-4:2024)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 18 May 2025.

CEN and CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN and CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN and CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN and CENELEC members are the national standards bodies and national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.



**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre:  
Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

## European foreword

The text of ISO/IEC 5259-4:2024 has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1 "Information technology" of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and has been taken over as EN ISO/IEC 5259-4:2025 by Technical Committee CEN-CENELEC/ JTC 21 "Artificial Intelligence" the secretariat of which is held by DS.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by November 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by November 2025.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN-CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN and CENELEC websites.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

## Endorsement notice

The text of ISO/IEC 5259-4:2024 has been approved by CEN-CENELEC as EN ISO/IEC 5259-4:2025 without any modification.

# Contents

|   | Page      |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Foreword</b> .....                             | <b>v</b>  |
| <b>Introduction</b> .....                         | <b>vi</b> |
| <b>1 Scope</b> .....                              | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>2 Normative references</b> .....               | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....              | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>4 Symbols and abbreviated terms</b> .....      | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>5 Data quality process principles</b> .....    | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>6 Data quality process framework</b> .....     | <b>3</b>  |
| 6.1 General.....                                  | 3         |
| 6.2 Data quality planning.....                    | 5         |
| 6.3 Data quality evaluation.....                  | 6         |
| 6.4 Data quality improvement.....                 | 6         |
| 6.5 Data quality process validation.....          | 6         |
| 6.6 Using the DQPF.....                           | 7         |
| <b>7 Data quality process for ML</b> .....        | <b>7</b>  |
| 7.1 General.....                                  | 7         |
| 7.2 Data requirements.....                        | 8         |
| 7.3 Data planning.....                            | 9         |
| 7.4 Data acquisition.....                         | 9         |
| 7.5 Data preparation.....                         | 10        |
| 7.5.1 General.....                                | 10        |
| 7.5.2 Supervised ML.....                          | 10        |
| 7.5.3 Unsupervised ML.....                        | 10        |
| 7.5.4 Semi-supervised ML.....                     | 10        |
| 7.5.5 Dataset composition.....                    | 11        |
| 7.5.6 Data labelling.....                         | 11        |
| 7.5.7 Data annotation.....                        | 11        |
| 7.5.8 Data quality assessment.....                | 12        |
| 7.5.9 Data quality improvement.....               | 13        |
| 7.5.10 Data de-identification.....                | 15        |
| 7.5.11 Data encoding.....                         | 16        |
| 7.6 Data provisioning.....                        | 16        |
| 7.6.1 General.....                                | 16        |
| 7.6.2 Supervised ML.....                          | 16        |
| 7.6.3 Unsupervised ML.....                        | 16        |
| 7.6.4 Semi-supervised ML.....                     | 16        |
| 7.7 Data decommissioning.....                     | 16        |
| <b>8 Data labelling methods and process</b> ..... | <b>17</b> |
| 8.1 General.....                                  | 17        |
| 8.2 Data labelling principles.....                | 17        |
| 8.3 Data labelling methods.....                   | 17        |
| 8.4 Data labelling process.....                   | 18        |
| 8.4.1 General.....                                | 18        |
| 8.4.2 Labelling specifications.....               | 18        |
| 8.4.3 Labelling participant roles.....            | 18        |
| 8.4.4 Labelling tools or platforms.....           | 19        |
| 8.4.5 Labelling task establishment.....           | 19        |
| 8.4.6 Labelling task assignment.....              | 19        |
| 8.4.7 Labelling process control.....              | 20        |
| 8.4.8 Labelling result quality checking.....      | 20        |
| 8.4.9 Labelling result revision.....              | 20        |

|           |  |           |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| <b>9</b>  | <b>Roles of participants</b> .....                           | <b>21</b> |
| 9.1       | General.....   | 21        |
| 9.2       | Data planner.....  | 21        |
| 9.3       | Data originator.....   | 21        |
| 9.4       | Data collector.....  | 21        |
| 9.5       | Data engineer.....   | 21        |
| 9.6       | Data holder.....   | 21        |
| 9.7       | Data user.....   | 21        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>Data quality process for semi-supervised ML</b> .....     | <b>22</b> |
| 10.1      | General.....   | 22        |
| 10.2      | Data requirements.....                                       | 22        |
| 10.3      | Data planning.....   | 22        |
| 10.4      | Data acquisition.....  | 22        |
| 10.5      | Data preparation.....  | 22        |
| 10.6      | Data provisioning.....                                       | 22        |
| 10.7      | Data decommissioning.....                                    | 23        |
| <b>11</b> | <b>Data quality process for reinforcement learning</b> ..... | <b>23</b> |
| 11.1      | General.....   | 23        |
| 11.2      | Data requirements.....                                       | 23        |
| 11.3      | Data planning.....   | 23        |
| 11.4      | Data acquisition.....  | 23        |
| 11.5      | Data preparation.....  | 23        |
|           | 11.5.1 General process.....                                  | 23        |
|           | 11.5.2 Data recording.....                                   | 24        |
| 11.6      | Data provisioning.....                                       | 24        |
| 11.7      | Data decommissioning.....                                    | 24        |
| <b>12</b> | <b>Data quality process for analytics</b> .....              | <b>24</b> |
| 12.1      | General.....   | 24        |
| 12.2      | Data requirements.....                                       | 24        |
| 12.3      | Data planning.....   | 24        |
| 12.4      | Data acquisition.....  | 25        |
|           | 12.4.1 General.....  | 25        |
|           | 12.4.2 Data loading.....                                     | 25        |
|           | 12.4.3 Data storage.....                                     | 25        |
| 12.5      | Data preparation.....  | 25        |
|           | 12.5.1 General.....  | 25        |
|           | 12.5.2 Data cleaning.....                                    | 25        |
|           | 12.5.3 Data transformation.....                              | 25        |
|           | 12.5.4 Data aggregation.....                                 | 26        |
|           | 12.5.5 Data quality assessment.....                          | 26        |
|           | 12.5.6 Data quality improvement.....                         | 26        |
| 12.6      | Data provisioning.....                                       | 27        |
| 12.7      | Data decommissioning.....                                    | 27        |
|           | <b>Bibliography</b> .....                                    | <b>28</b> |

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives) or [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs)).

ISO and IEC draw attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). ISO and IEC take no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, ISO and IEC had not received notice of (a) patent(s) which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents) and <https://patents.iec.ch>. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html). In the IEC, see [www.iec.ch/understanding-standards](http://www.iec.ch/understanding-standards).

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 42, *Artificial intelligence*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 5259 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html) and [www.iec.ch/national-committees](http://www.iec.ch/national-committees).

## Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI)-related products, systems or solutions have developed quickly in recent years. One of the common characteristics of an AI system, especially for systems using supervised machine learning (ML), is whether the AI system can be trained on a dataset before deployment or trained dynamically as the system is used.

Data have been recognized as one of the most important aspects of ML-based AI systems. For all supervised, semi-supervised, unsupervised and reinforcement learning approaches, data quality can be a primary concern in creating and using data for training and evaluating ML systems. It has been shown that with more accurate and richer data, the results of analytics and ML can be more useful and reliable. In addition, for the development of supervised learning-based AI systems, a large number of task-specific labelled training data is needed. This makes accurately labelled data one of the most important resources in the AI industry. Nowadays, there is a verified market of industrial services and tools for training data labelling. This market is now reaching a level of maturity that justifies the development of International Standards for the benefit of providers and users of these services and tools to ensure high-quality labelled data.

This document describes the implementation of a standardized common procedure of data processing with regard to data quality for analytics and ML. [Clause 5](#) describes principles about data quality process and [Clause 6](#) describes a data quality process framework. [Clause 7](#) describes the data quality process for ML approaches, [Clause 8](#) describes data labelling methods and process, [Clause 9](#) provides roles of participants in data quality processes, [Clauses 10](#) and [11](#) then describe the additional considerations that apply to semi-supervised learning and reinforcement learning. [Clause 12](#) describes how the data quality process framework applies to analytics.

This document provides the process framework on a detailed level which can be used to fulfil the requirements specified in ISO/IEC 5259-3. It also links processes that are mapped on the data life cycle model in ISO/IEC 5259-1.

# Artificial intelligence — Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) —

## Part 4: Data quality process framework

### 1 Scope

This document establishes general common organizational approaches, regardless of the type, size or nature of the applying organization, to ensure data quality for training and evaluation in analytics and machine learning (ML). It includes guidance on the data quality process for:

- supervised ML with regard to the labelling of data used for training ML systems, including common organizational approaches for training data labelling;
- unsupervised ML;
- semi-supervised ML;
- reinforcement learning;
- analytics.

This document is applicable to training and evaluation data that come from different sources, including data acquisition and data composition, data preparation, data labelling, evaluation and data use. This document does not define specific services, platforms or tools.

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 5259-1, *Artificial intelligence — Data quality for analytics and machine learning (ML) — Part 1: Overview, terminology and examples*

ISO/IEC 22989:2022, *Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology*

ISO/IEC 23053:2022, *Framework for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Systems Using Machine Learning (ML)*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 5259-1, ISO/IEC 22989 and ISO/IEC 23053 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>