

FAQ Confidentiality Designation Options for Data Points

Background

As part of S&P Global's ongoing activities to increase the transparency and reach of CSA results the ESG scores and (if authorized by the company) underlying data-points are available to global capital markets via the S&P Global Capital IQ Pro platform (CIQ Pro).

A key feature of the platform is that the data points are provided via this platform in the exact context of the CSA questionnaire. Users of CIQ Pro are able to review the data in the exact layout of the CSA questionnaire to fully understand the questions asked and to put the data in the wider context of the different sub-questions and answer options. In addition, the full set of supporting guidance, including key definitions and data requirements, that were available to companies when completing the questionnaire are also provided to the data users.

In the 2023 CSA, over 2,000 companies — two thirds of CSA participants — took advantage of this option to leverage S&P Global's platforms to communicate this information to the wider capital market.

These deeper levels of granularity have been especially important for investors who are seeking to integrate sustainability performance into their decision making. Since being launched in October 2021, the ESG module on Capital IQ Pro has attracted S&P clients across 49 countries, responsible for over \$38.4 trillion in Assets under Management. The S&P Global ESG Scores facilitate use cases including but not limited to fundamental analysis, thematic investments, stewardship & engagement, and index-based product development, among others.

We encourage all companies participating in the 2024 CSA to leverage S&P Global's platforms and get their additional ESG disclosure in front of key capital market decision makers.

This document explains the datapoint designation process and answers the most frequently asked questions.



Process

Companies participating in the 2024 CSA are again given three confidentiality designation options for Data Points on the Portal upon confirming their participation.

- (1) S&P Global is permitted to use all Data Points* we provide in accordance with the Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy
- (2) S&P Global is permitted to use all Data Points* we provide with the exception of those provided for or in response to the "List of Confidential Data Points"** but otherwise in accordance with the Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy
- (3) S&P Global is not permitted to use the Data Points*. Please note, S&P Global may use the Data Points or any other information available in the public domain.

Screenshot CSA Portal – Manage Participation tab

Select confidentiality designation option for datapoints
Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy ("Policy")
by responding to the Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) via the online CSA portal ("Portal"), you provide S&P Global Switzerland SA, including its and S&P Global Inc.'s related, affiliated and/or subsidiary companies (hereinafter referred to as "S&P Global") with certain data and information (hereinafter referred to as "Supporting Documents"), your supporting documents containing company incipates in the Confidential Additional Comment Field (hereinafter referred to as "Confidential Additional Comments and insights in the Confidential Additional Comment Synthesis in response to certain CSA questions.
Access the full Policy
Please see the Policy <u>Update Document</u> to learn about changes to the Policy in 2022. If you have any questions, you can contact our dedicated CSA Helpline via the chat function in the CSA portal or via e-mail to csa@spglobal.com
In the 2021 CSA, over 1,500 companies (Two-thirds of participating companies) chose to allow S&P Global the use of all data points or data points excluding the list of sensitive questions. Access to data point information is provided to S&P Global Clients via the <u>S&P Global Capital (O Pro platform</u> . As of March 2022, within just 4 months of being available, this new ESG module on Capital (O Pro attracted S&P Clients representing over US \$26 trillion in Assets under Management now integrates 88P Global ESG scores and if applicable underlying data into their investment decision—making rocesses.
Please see this FAO document for more details on the data point designations.
CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATION OPTIONS FOR DATAPOINTS
Please select one
S&P Global is permitted to use all Data Points* we provide in accordance with the Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy
S&P Global is permitted to use all Data Points* we provide with the exception of those provided for or in response to the "List of Confidential Data Points" ** but otherwise in accordance with the Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy
S&P Global is not permitted to use the Data Points*. Please note, S&P Global may use the Data Points or any other information available in the public domain.
as defined in the Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy
** List of Confidential Data Points applicable only if the related confidentiality designation option was selected.
By clicking the button "Save confidentiality option" you do herewith confirm, for and on behalf of the company, to have read, understood and fully agree to our Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy. Please note that this policy was last updated in March 2022.
Cancel Save confidentiality option



^{*}as defined in the Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy

^{** &}lt;u>List of Confidential Data Points</u> applicable only if the related confidentiality designation option was selected.

Frequently Asked Questions

Selected question from the CSA FAQ.

What is the Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy?

The Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy ("Policy") applies to information provided by companies participating in the Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) via the online CSA portal ("Portal"). This includes:

- Data and information concerning the company ("Data Points"),
- Supporting documents containing company information.
- additional comments and insights in response to certain CSA questions.

Please refer to the full Policy for details.

Why do I have to confirm the Use of Information and Confidentiality Policy before I can answer the questionnaire?

You can scroll through and review the CSA questionnaire in order to understand what will be required to complete it.

However, in order to enter any information as responses to the questionnaire, you will need to accept the <u>Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy</u> ("Policy"), which includes confidentiality designation option for certain data points. The acceptance of the policy is a requirement as you start to enter information on behalf of your company and that information will be saved on the CSA Portal. S&P Global will only use the provided information, as defined in the Policy, upon final submission of the CSA questionnaire.

What do the confidentiality designation option for data points mean?

Data Point level information becomes more important for capital market participants for:

- Integration of ESG information at the data point level in portfolio management models and decision making.
- Regulations that require the reporting of data point level information on invested companies.

As part of S&P Global's ongoing activities to increase the transparency and reach of CSA results the ESG scores and (if authorized by the company) underlying data-points are available to global capital markets via the S&P Global Capital IQ Pro platform (CIQ Pro).

Companies participating in the CSA have three confidentiality designation options for data point level responses. The options are:

S&P Global

- (1) is permitted to use all Data Points* we provide in accordance with the Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy
- (2) is permitted to use all Data Points* we provide with the exception of those provided for or in response to the "List of Confidential Data Points"** but otherwise in accordance with the Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy
- (3) is not permitted to use the Data Points*. Please note, in all instances, S&P Global may use the Data Points or any other information available in the public domain.

*as defined in the Use of Information & Confidentiality Policy

** <u>List of Confidential Data Points</u> applicable only if the related confidentiality designation option was selected.

Selection options (1) or (2) will allow CSA participants to leverage the S&P Global Market Intelligence Platforms to provide additional granularity on ESG topics, supplementing their public disclosures to capital market participants.

Selecting option (3) will limit S&P Global's use of the data points in the same way as in previous year's when no choice was provided to companies.

What were S&P Global's reasons for selecting certain data points for the "List of Confidential Data Points"?

S&P Global selected questions and underlying data points for this list based on company

feedback and our analysis of company responses. You can access the <u>List of Confidential Data Points</u> that apply to this datapoint designation options.

Where do I see which confidentiality designation option for data points was selected for my company?

You can always go back to the "Manage Participation" section under the "Assessments" tab to review and if necessary, change your company's datapoint designation option.

Once a selection is made and saved, an email will be sent to your company's administrator. This email will also be saved in your "inbox" folder directly in the CSA portal. You can access it under the inbox tab. The email subject is "Your selected datapoint designation option".

Can I change my selected designation option for data points?

You can change the selected designation options up <u>until</u> the CSA questionnaire is submitted in the "Manage Participation" tab by selecting and saving a different option. Once the questionnaire has been submitted, the confidentiality designation is final and cannot be changed.

Will the choice of confidentiality designation option impact how S&P Global scores my company?

No. We will apply the same scoring approach to all companies, independent of the chosen Confidentiality Designation Option for Data Points.

How will the data points be provided on the S&P Global Capital IQ Pro Platform?

A key feature of the platform is that the data points are provided via this platform in the exact context of the CSA questionnaire. Users of CIQ Pro are able to review the data in the exact layout of the CSA questionnaire to fully understand the questions asked and to put the data in the wider context of the different sub-questions and answer options. In addition, the full set of supporting guidance, including key definitions and data requirements, that were available to companies when completing the questionnaire are also provided to the data users (see screenshots on the following page).

Screenshots S&P Global Capital IQ Pro - ESG Scores Module

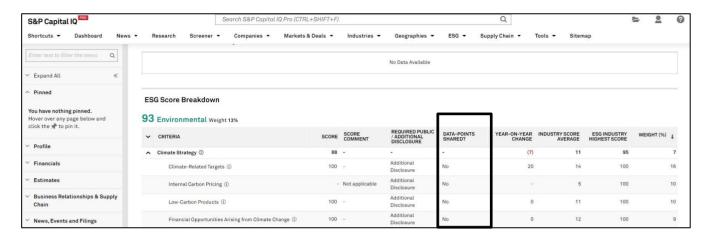


Figure 1 - No data point sharing for additional disclosures

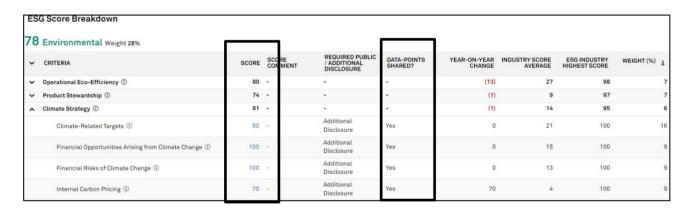


Figure 2 - Data point sharing for additional disclosure - question scores blue = clickable

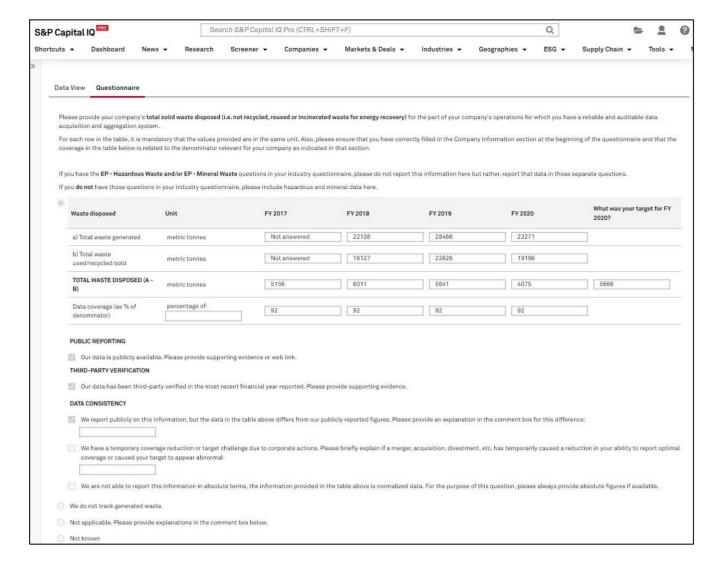


Figure 3 - Data points view: Information provided in the actual questionnaire layout including full question language



Figure 4 - Data points provided with full context of question rational, key definitions, and data requirements



Updated on 22 February 2024.

S&P Global Switzerland SA

Zurich Branch, Neumühlequai 6, 8001 Zurich, Switzerland csa@spglobal.com | www.spglobal.com/esg/csa