Good Quality Data and Reliable Sources Checklist

This checklist can help you determine whether the website that you are using to gather data contains good quality data and is from a reliable source.

Quality of Information	Use	Do Not Use
Credibility/Objectivity		
Authorship - Is the author/organization clearly identified?		
Does the URL/domain name provide insight about the affiliation?		
What is the primary purpose and scope of the site?		
Is it a well regarded author or organization?		
Are there signs of bias or data interpretation provided?		
Accuracy/Verifiability		
Are the data gathering methodologies explained?		
Is the data time stamped?		
Is the site current? When was the site last modified?		
Metadata		
How was the data collected?		
When was the data collected?		
What organization or researcher collected the data?		
Quality of Website		
Is the site accessible? Will it load quickly with many students accessing the site at once? It is viewable in different browsers? Will it meet the needs of students with disabilities?		

Is the site easy to navigate and read?		
Usability – can you find the information you need quickly?		
Grade-level appropriate graphics, data display, language (too much jargon?)		

References

TRIO Training, University of Washington

http://depts.washington.edu/trio/trioquest/resources/web/assess.php