

ONS's AI Push in Official Statistics — From SIC/SOC Autocoding Research to ScannerAI's Receipt-Reading Prototype

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United Kingdom

Quality score: 60/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

ONS's Data Science Campus benchmarked ML autocoding for SIC/SOC survey classification, reaching 73–85% match rates across five surveys versus 50–62% for the rule-based tool, and is prototyping ScannerAI to auto-extract data from ~60,000 household receipts submitted yearly.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability beyond pilot	1/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[Office for National Statistics \(ONS\) — Data Science Campus](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[ONS Data Science Campus — Automated coding of SIC/SOC](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[ONS Data Science Campus — ScannerAI](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

[ResultSense — ONS deploys AI across official statistics production \(Aug 2026\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-01

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