

Sisbén IV — Colombia's Algorithmic Poverty-Targeting Score, and What an Independent Study Found Wrong With It

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Colombia

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Colombia's Sisbén IV algorithm scores households on housing, health, education and labour data to decide eligibility for social programmes nationwide. A 2024 study found only slight agreement with the official poverty index: 37.69% of non-poor households misclassified as poor.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[Departamento Nacional de Planeación \(DNP\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[DNP Sisbén IV Operating Manual](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[Desarrollo y Sociedad \(Universidad de los Andes\) comparison study](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

[Guberney / AI Poniente analysis](#) — accessed 2026-09-04

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