

# Uniqueness

## Definition(s)

1. Uniqueness of data records is the degree to which [data records](#) occur only once in a [data file](#).
2. Uniqueness of the description of an object in a data file is the degree to which [objects](#) (in the real world) occur only once as a [data record](#) in a [data file](#).
3. Uniqueness of primary keys is the degree to which [primary keys](#) occur only once in a [data file](#).

## Note(s)

In general, duplicates should be deduplicated.

## Relation(s)

Uniqueness can be a [characteristic](#) of [data records](#), the appearance of [objects](#) in a [data file](#) or [primary keys](#).

## Example(s)

1. This article appears twice in a [data file](#) under the same article number. This is easy to detect.
2. This article appears twice in a [data file](#) under a different article number. This can only be discovered by comparison of other [data elements](#) than the article number.
3. Two different articles appear under the same article number in a [data file](#). This can only be discovered by checking double article numbers and then compare other [data elements](#) than article number.

## Reference(s)

DAMA NL (2020). Dimensions of Data Quality (DDQ). Research paper.

<https://www.dama-nl.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/DDQ-Dimensions-of-Data-Quality-Research-Paper-version-1.2-d.d.-3-Sept-2020.pdf>

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