

What is the CloudQI PSI ^{Beta} software tool?

The v2023 CloudQI PSI ^{Beta} software tool represents the future of the AHRQ QI software tools, set to replace WinQI in the coming years. Currently in the testing phase, the beta software focuses exclusively on the PSI module. It has been developed to overcome the limitations of the WinQI tool. The inclusion of "Cloud" in its name indicates that the software can be installed within your internal or public secured cloud, enabling remote access and distributed usage through a web browser. Additionally, like WinQI, the new beta software can also be installed on a desktop for single-user access.

The new CloudQI PSI ^{Beta} software architecture allows the software to update itself for future versions without requiring a complete reinstallation. This stands in contrast to WinQI, where users had to uninstall and install new or prior versions based on their needs. Such flexibility is significantly enhanced in the new tool, allowing users to switch between versions seamlessly from within the software. Overall, the CloudQI PSI Beta software offers superior versatility compared to WinQI.

Note: v2023 CloudQI PSI ^{Beta} can be installed on the same machine even if the v2023 version of WinQI is already installed there. This allows for the simultaneous usage of CloudQI PSI and WinQI, which includes all four modules: IQI, PQI, PSI, and PDI.

Current Limitations of WinQI

1. WinQI relies on installing the Microsoft SQL Server database, which is essential for conducting calculations, lookups, and data storage. This makes WinQI installation cumbersome.
2. WinQI presents constraints when working with input data from various years or versions (e.g., FY 2021, FY 2022, etc.). Currently, users who wish to utilize datasets from different years (e.g., FY 2020, FY 2021, etc.) must uninstall their existing WinQI version (e.g., v2022) and install the specific version of the software corresponding to the desired year.
3. WinQI installation is limited to desktop usage and restricted to a single user.
4. Whenever a new version of WinQI is installed, it erases any previously imported data, requiring the re-importation of input data.
5. WinQI is exclusively accessible on a desktop operating on the MS Windows operating system.
6. WinQI demands additional resources (disk space and memory) to process SQL operations.
7. The release schedule of WinQI software versions aligns with FY updates, requiring that users uninstall the previous version prior to installing a new one. Consequently, users can only access a single version of the software at any given point.

Benefits of CloudQI PSI ^{Beta}

1. In CloudQI PSI ^{Beta}, updating fiscal year versions is a seamless process achieved through a simple download function that imports the latest or prior versions from AHRQ's repository. Once downloaded, users can effortlessly switch to the desired version from within the software. This powerful real-time update feature ensures that your software remains up-to-date and grants you the flexibility to switch between versions with ease.
2. The installation process for CloudQI is quite simple, and unlike WinQI, it doesn't require installing Microsoft SQL Server, thereby utilizing less resources (disk space and memory).
3. The CloudQI PSI software proactively notifies users of new AHRQ QI version updates. Upon receiving a notification, users can conveniently download and switch to the new version.
4. Users have the flexibility to switch back to older versions at any time without the need to uninstall and reinstall the current software version.
5. CloudQI can be installed on an internal or public secured cloud, which in turn allows users to access it remotely through a web browser. To illustrate, once CloudQI is successfully installed on an internal cloud, a group of users can effortlessly access the system from various locations using their desktop browsers. This enables them to generate reports after the rates have been generated, facilitating seamless collaboration and access regardless of physical distance.
6. CloudQI can be accessed on a desktop running any operating system, such as MS Windows or MacOS.
7. CloudQI PSI offers some multi-user support, which allows multiple users to access the system and process data without affecting other users' data. However, simultaneous access for multiple users is not yet supported (the software provides an appropriate user warning on this issue). Development of a more robust, multi-user feature is currently under consideration.

Refer to the [WinQI and CloudQI Software Instructions Document](#) for a comparison between WinQI and CloudQI.