K-index Quality Control Flag (QCF)

QCF (numeric)	QCF (verbose)	Description	Output availability
10	**nominal**	**Top (highest) quality** complete and sound input dataset (*no gaps, no outliers, no problems of any sort encountered during data screening and processing*)	yes
9	very good	High quality 100% (latest 1h) & 95% (latest 3h) data (post-screening) availability	yes
8	very good	High quality 95% (latest 1h) & 95% (latest 3h) data (post-screening) availability (*lowest quality acceptable for operational alerts / warnings*)	yes
7	good	Good quality 95% (1h) & 75% (3h) input data (post-screening) availability	yes
6	good	Good quality 75% (1h) & 75% (3h) input data (post-screening) availability (*lowest quality acceptable for derivative products, e.g. hybrid models*)	yes
5	fair	Fair quality 75% (1h) & 66% (3h) input data (post-screening) availability	yes
4	fair	Fair quality 66% (1h) & 66% (3h) input data (post-screening) availability (*lowest quality acceptable for post-processing purposes, e.g. interpolation*)	yes
3	poor	Poor quality 66% (1h) & 33% (3h) input data (post-screening) availability	yes
2	poor	Poor quality 33% (1h) & 33% (3h) input data (post-screening) availability	yes
1	n/a (no assessment)	No quality assessment performed (*gross deficiencies encountered in data screening and/or processing, e.g. no data available from latest 1h or there is less than 33% data in latest 3h*) (*corresponding to* K = -1)	no
0	n/c (no calculations)	No calculations performed (*severe technicalities encountered during data acquisition*) (*corresponding to* K = -1)	no

Reference :
Stankov, S. M., Stegen, K., Warnant, R. (2011): K-type geomagnetic index nowcast with data quality control. Annals of Geophysics, 54(3), 285-295.