

STUDY DESCRIPTION

SADA STUDY NUMBER 0058

STUDY TITLE: October Household Survey [South Africa], 1993

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Statistics South Africa (SSA)

ABSTRACT: This study is the first October Household Survey (OHS), an annual sample survey investigated by the Statistics South Africa (SSA). The OHS represents an official attempt to provide certain insights into and perspectives on the most important elements on the unemployment profile. The OHS also provides certain perspectives on those who are not (only) accommodated in the formal labour market and are thus (also) active in the so-called informal sector. The purpose of the survey was primarily to fill the gap that resulted from the suspension of the Current Population Survey (CPS) amongst Blacks in 1990 and amongst Indians and Coloureds in 1991 as well as the suspension of the related survey on the informal sector. It is the first time that such a comprehensive household survey has been undertaken by the CSS for the total population of the Republic of South Africa (excluding the TBVC States, i.e. the former homelands). In addition to information on unemployment and the informal sector, the OHS furnishes information on dwellings, households, births, deaths and migration.

SAMPLING: The TBVC (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) still existed at the time the survey was conducted and they were therefore not included in the survey. Bophuthatswana and Venda did, however, undertake similar surveys. The results of the surveys in these two former states are not yet available. A stratified multi-stage cluster sample was used for the OHS. The size and geographical distribution of the population were taken into account in stratifying according to population group and development region (urban and non-urban). In the case of blacks, the self-governing territories were included in the sample as additional strata. Depending on the size of each stratum, between 20 and 50 enumerator areas (EAs) were drawn at random for inclusion in the sample. Within each EA a cluster of 30 households was drawn at random. Altogether 30300 households in 1010 EAs (Blacks 530 + Coloureds 140 + Asians 100 + Whites 240) were included in the sample.

DATE OF RESEARCH: September - November 1993

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 4 data files in SPSS and machine-readable documentation and questionnaire.

Part 1 Households

Number of cases:	30 233
Number of records:	30 233
Number of records per case:	1
Logical record length:	41
Number of variables:	14
Number of kilobytes:	652 KB

Part 2 Persons

Number of cases:	136 468
Number of records:	136 468
Number of records per case:	1
Logical record length:	102

Number of variables: 58
Number of kilobytes: 11, 104 KB

Part 3 Births

Number of cases: 59 939
Number of records: 59 939
Number of records per case: 1
Logical record length: 55
Number of variables: 22
Number of kilobytes: 3, 035 KB

Part 4 Deaths

Number of cases: 1 113
Number of records: 1 113
Number of records per case: 1
Logical record length: 41
Number of variables: 8
Number of kilobytes: 19 KB

NOTE: The survey is based on internationally accepted survey practice, included in the publications.

PUBLICATIONS:

Survey of economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment, International Labour Organization, 1990.

Statistics of employment in the informal sector, International Labour Organization, 1993.

Resolution concerning statistics of employment in the informal sector, Fifteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, International Labour Organization, Geneva, 28 January 1993.

Handbook on household surveys, United Nations, 1984.