

South Africa

SOURCE

Name of source: *General household survey: 2011*

Institution responsible for the statistics: Statistics South Africa, 170 Thabo Sehume street Pretoria 0002, e-mail: rikadp@statssa.gov.za, Tel: 012 3108035

Type of source: Household survey

Periodicity: Annual

Objectives: The GHS is a household survey that has been performed annually by Stats SA since 2002. The survey was introduced to address a need identified by the Government of South Africa to determine the level of development in the country and to measure, on a regular basis, the performance of programmes and projects that were implemented to address these needs. The survey is specifically designed to measure multiple facets of the living conditions of South African households, as well as the quality of service delivery in a number of key service sectors. The GHS covers six broad areas, namely education, health and social development, housing, household access to services and facilities, food security, and agriculture.

COVERAGE

Disabilities: Seeing, hearing, remembering and concentrating, walking or climbing stairs, communicating in his/her most commonly used language (including sign language), and self-care

Population groups: Persons age 5 years and older

Total population covered: The target population of the survey consists of all private households and residents in workers' hostels. The survey does not cover other collective living quarters such as students' hostels, old-age homes, hospitals, prisons and military barracks, and is therefore only representative of non-institutionalised and non-military persons or households in South Africa.

Economic activities: All economic activities

Sectors covered: All sectors

Labour force status: Employed, unemployed persons, not economically active

Status in Employment: Employees, employers, own-account workers, contributing family workers

Geographic areas: All nine provinces of South Africa

Establishments: NR

Other limitations: No

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Term used to denote 'disability': 'Disability'

Definition of this term: Disability was defined as a physical or mental handicap that has lasted for six months or more, or is expected to last at least six months, which prevents the person from carrying out daily activities independently, or from participating fully in educational, economic or social activities. Disability is a lack of ability relative to a personal or group standard. It includes mental disability, physical disability or impairment of the senses (hearing, seeing, walking, smelling, touching). The disability can be the result of a defect at birth, a chronic illness or an accident.

'Disability' is considered here as an impediment or impairment that limits a person from performing regular daily activities, and that has lasted for at least six months or more.

Source of this definition: Washington Group set of disability. The questions used on disability, developed by the Washington Group, was first introduced in the 2009 questionnaire. These questions require each person in the household to rate their ability level for a range of activities such as seeing, hearing, walking a kilometre or climbing a flight of steps, remembering and concentrating, self-care, and communicating in his/her most commonly used language, including sign language. During the analysis, individuals who said that they had some difficulty with two or more of the activities or had a lot of difficulty/were unable to perform any one activity, are then ranked as disabled.

Questions used to identify persons with disabilities:

'Is.... limited in his/her daily activities, at home, at work or at school, because of a long-term physical, sensory, hearing, intellectual, or psychological condition, lasting six months or more?' (Yes/No)

'What difficulty or difficulties does.... have? Is it.... sight (blind/severe visual limitation), hearing (deaf, profoundly hard of hearing), communicating (speech impaired), physical (e.g. needs wheel chair, crutches or prosthesis; limb or hand usage limitation), intellectual (serious difficulties in learning, mental retardation), emotional (behavioural, psychological problems), other, specify in the box at the bottom?'

Possible answers: Yes/No.

'Does... have difficulty in doing any of the following: seeing (even with the glasses if he/she wears them); hearing (even with a hearing aid, if he/she wears one); walking a kilometre or climbing a flight of steps; remembering and concentrating; daily self-care, such as washing or dressing; communicating in his/her usual language, including sign language (understanding others and being understood by others)?' Possible answers: No difficulty; Unable to do; Some difficulty; Do not know; A lot of difficulty; Cannot yet be determined.

If an individual has 'Some difficulty' with two or more of the 6 categories then they are disabled. If an individual has 'A lot of difficulty' or is 'Unable to do' for one or more category they are classified as disabled. Severe disability If an individual has 'A lot of difficulty' or is 'Unable to do' for one or more category they are classified as severely disabled

Minimum duration to be considered as a person with disability: 6 months

CLASSIFICATION

Classifications: Level of education, sex, age, type of disability, level of disability, province, population group

Cross-classifications: Na

REFERENCE PERIOD: 2011

DISSEMINATION

National publications: The General Household Survey 2011 Release, Statistics South Africa.

Website: <http://catalog.ihnsn.org/index.php/catalog/2852/download/43416>