STUDY INFORMATION

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY, October 2007

HSRC Study ID:
SASAS2007_Q1
SASAS2007_Q2

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Background

The primary objective of SASAS is to design, develop and implement a conceptually and methodologically robust study of changing social attitudes and values in South Africa. In meeting this objective, the HSRC intends to position itself so as to be able to carefully and consistently monitor and explain changes in attitudes amongst various socio-demographic groupings.

It is intended that SASAS will explore a wide range of value changes, including the distribution and shape of racial attitudes and aspirations, attitudes towards democratic and constitutional issues, and the redistribution of resources and power.

Moreover, there is also an explicit interest in mapping changing attitudes towards some of the great moral issues that confront and are fiercely debated in South Africa, for instance abortion, gender issues, AIDS, crime and punishment, governance, service delivery, etc.

In sum, then, SASAS is intended to provide a unique long-term account of the social fabric of modern South Africa, and of how its changing political and institutional structures interact over time with changing social attitudes and values.

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South African Social Attitudes Survey, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>South African Social Attitudes Survey, 2007</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data set ID</td>
<td>SASAS 2007_Q1, SASAS 2007_Q2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>The questions contained in SASAS questionnaires one and two for 2007 were asked of a half sample of approximately 3500 respondents each.</td>
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<td>Topics included in the questionnaires are: democracy, intergroup relations, public services, moral issues, crime, voting, demographics and other classificatory variables.</td>
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<td>Rotating modules are: child poverty, poverty, household expenditure, climate change / global warming, soccer world cup, service delivery, Batho Pele principles, International Social Surveys Programme (ISSP) module: leisure time and sport and smoking and tobacco behaviour.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>The primary objective of SASAS is to design, develop and implement a conceptually and methodologically robust study of changing social attitudes and values in South Africa. In meeting this objective, the HSRC intends to position itself so as to be able to carefully and consistently monitor and explain changes in attitudes among various socio-demographic groupings. SASAS is intended to provide a unique long-term account of the social fabric of modern South Africa, and of how its changing political and institutional structures interact over time with changing social attitudes and values.</td>
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<td>To accommodate the wide variety of topics included in the 2007 survey, two questionnaires were administered simultaneously.</td>
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<td>The questions contained in SASAS questionnaires one and two for 2007 were asked of a half sample of approximately 3500 respondents each.</td>
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<td>The core module will remain constant for subsequent annual SASAS surveys with the aim of monitoring change and continuity in a variety of socio-economic and socio-political variables. In addition, a number of themes will be accommodated in rotation. The rotating element of the survey consists of two or more topic-specific modules in each round of interviewing and is directed at measuring a range of policy and academic concerns and issues that require more detailed examination at a specific point in time than the multi-topic core module would permit.</td>
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International Social Survey Programme (ISSP web page: www.issp.org)

The International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) is run by a group of research organisations, each of which undertakes to field annually an agreed module of questions on a chosen topic area. SASAS 2003 represents the formalisation of South Africa's inclusion in the ISSP, the intention being to include the module in one of the SASAS questionnaires in each round of interviewing. Each module is chosen for repetition at intervals to allow comparisons both between countries (membership currently stands at 40) and over time. In
2007, the chosen subject was leisure time and sports, and the module was carried in version 2 of the questionnaire (Qs.1-60).

**Time method:** TIME-SERIES AND CROSS SECTIONAL

**Production date:** 2007

**Version:** First edition

**Kind of data:** QUANTITATIVE

**Producer(s):** Human Sciences Research Council

**Funder(s):**
- Human Sciences Research Council
- University of Oxford
- Department Of Social Development

**Other identifications / acknowledgement(s):** Pillay, Udesh (Dr U.)

**Distributors(s):** Human Sciences Research Council

**Author / principal investigator(s):** Roberts, Benjamin (Mr B.J.), Kivilu, Joseph Mbithi Wa (Dr J.M.), Struwig, Jare (Ms J.)

**Countries:** South Africa

**Geographic coverage:** Nine provinces in South Africa: Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, North West, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo.

**Geographic unit:** Enumerator area (EA), province, from urban formal, urban informal, rural formal and rural informal settlements.

**Unit of analysis:** Individuals

**Universe - included:** National Population: Adults (aged 16 and older)

**Date of collection:**
- From: 01-OCT-07
- To: 30-NOV-07

**Date of collection comment:** The South African Social Attitudes Survey is conducted annually. This study was conducted during October - November 2007

**Mode of data collection:** Face-to face interview. Paper based instrument, completed by fieldworkers.

**Sampling:**
The South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) is a nationally representative survey series that has been conducted on an annual basis by the Human Sciences Research Council's (HSRC) since 2003. The survey has been designed to yield a representative sample of adults aged 16 years and older. The sampling frame for the survey is the HSRC's second Master Sample, which was designed in 2007 and consists of 1 000 primary sampling units (PSUs). The 2001 population census enumerator areas (EAs) were used as PSUs.

These PSUs (EAs) were drawn, with probability proportional to size, from a sampling frame created by Professor David Stoker containing all 80,787 of the 2001 EAs. This sampling frame uses the estimated number of dwelling units (DUs) in an EA (PSU) as a measure of size. The sampling frame was annually updated to coincide with StatsSA's mid-year population estimates in respect of the following variables: province, gender, population group, and age group. In updating the 2007 version of this sampling frame, additional use was made of (a) the GeoTerralmage (GTI) residential structure count in all metropolitan EAs in 2004/2006 and (b) the ESKOM counts of dwelling units in all cities, towns, townships and villages.

The HSRC's second master sample excludes special institutions (such as hospitals, military camps, old age homes, school and university hostels), recreational areas, industrial areas, vacant EAs as well as the 1000 EAs included in the first HSRC's master sample (2003-2006). It therefore focuses on dwelling units or visiting points as secondary sampling units (SSUs), which have been defined as 'separate (non-vacant) residential stands, addresses, structures, flats, homesteads, etc.'.

For the 2007 SASAS round of interviewing, a sub-sample of 500 PSUs was drawn from the HSRC's 2nd Master Sample. Three explicit stratification variables were used, namely province, geographic type and majority population group. Within each stratum, the allocated number of PSUs was drawn using proportional to size probability sampling with the estimated number of dwelling units in the PSU as measure of size. In each of these drawn PSUs, 14 dwelling units were selected and systematically grouped into two sub-samples of seven, each corresponding to the two SASAS questionnaire versions.

Selection of individuals
Interviewers called at each visiting point selected from the 2nd HSRC master sample and
listed all those eligible for inclusion in the sample, that is, all persons currently aged 16 or over and resident at the selected visiting point. The interviewer then selected one respondent using a random selection procedure based on a Kish grid.

Weighting:

The data were weighted to take account of the fact that not all the units covered in the survey had the same probability of selection. The weighting reflected the relative selection probabilities of the individual at the three main stages of selection: PSU, DU (or visiting point) and individual.

PSUs in the Northern Cape as well as in certain other provinces were over-sampled, because of the small population size in these provinces and a desire to ensure a large enough sample of the smaller population groups. This as well as the variation in the population size of the selected PSUs imply that the selection probabilities of the individuals in the sample vary from PSU to PSU, resulting into differences in the weights to be assigned to these individuals. These calculated individual weights were finally benchmarked to be equal to Statistics South Africa's most recent mid-year estimates using as benchmark variables: province, gender, population group and 5-year age group with the view to represent the South African population 16 years and older as closely as possible.

Keyword(s):

CHILD CAGE, CLIMATE CHANGES, CRIME, DEMOCRACY, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, EDUCATION, EDUCATIONAL LEVEL, ELECTIONS, EMPLOYMENT, GLOBAL WARMING, GOVERNANCE, HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS, IMMIGRANTS, INCOME, INTERGROUP RELATIONS, MARITAL STATUS, MORAL VALUES, OCCUPATIONS, POVERTY, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, RELIGION, SERVICE DELIVERY, SOCCER WORLD CUP, TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS, VOTING

Data Files

SASAS2007_Q1

SASAS2007_Q1.DAT
SASAS2007_Q1.DCT
SASAS2007_Q1.DO
SASAS2007_Q1.DTA
SASAS2007_Q1.SAS
SASAS2007_Q1.SAS7BCAT
SASAS2007_Q1.SAS7BDAT
SASAS2007_Q1.SAV
SASAS2007_Q1.SPS

SASAS2007_Q2

SASAS2007_Q2.DAT
SASAS2007_Q2.DCT
SASAS2007_Q2.DO
SASAS2007_Q2.DTA
SASAS2007_Q2.SAS
SASAS2007_Q2.SAS7BCAT
SASAS2007_Q2.SAS7BDAT
SASAS2007_Q2.SAV
SASAS2007_Q2.SPS

Related documents

Survey instruments in several languages, code books, consent forms, letters of introduction, show cards.