

South Africa - General Household Survey 2022

Statistics South Africa

Report generated on: May 25, 2025

Visit our data catalog at: <https://www.datafirst.uct.ac.za/dataportal/index.php>

Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER
zaf-statssa-ghs-2022-v1

TITLE
General Household Survey 2022

ABBREVIATION OR ACRONYM
GHS 2022

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
South Africa	zaf

STUDY TYPE
Household Survey

ABSTRACT
The GHS is an annual household survey which measures the living circumstances of South African households. The GHS collects data on education, health, and social development, housing, access to services and facilities, food security, and agriculture.

KIND OF DATA
Sample survey data

UNIT OF ANALYSIS
Households and individuals

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION
v1: Edited, anonymised dataset for public distribution

VERSION DATE
2022

VERSION NOTES
Version 1 was originally downloaded from Stats SA in August 2023

Scope

NOTES
The scope of the General Household Survey includes:

Household characteristics: Dwelling type, home ownership, access to water and sanitation, access to services, transport, household assets, land ownership, agricultural production
Individuals' characteristics: demographic characteristics, relationship to household head, marital status, language, education, employment, income, health, fertility, mortality, disability, access to social services

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE
The General Household Survey has national coverage.

GEOGRAPHIC UNIT

The lowest level of geographic aggregation for the data is Province (and metropolitan municipality, where this applies)

UNIVERSE

The survey covers all de jure household members (usual residents) of households in the nine provinces of South Africa, and residents in workers' hostels. The survey does not cover collective living quarters such as student hostels, old age homes, hospitals, prisons, and military barracks.

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Statistics South Africa	Government of South Africa

Sampling

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

From 2015 the General Household Survey (GHS) uses a Master Sample (MS) frame developed in 2013 as a general-purpose sampling frame to be used for all Stats SA household-based surveys. This MS has design requirements that are reasonably compatible with the GHS. The 2013 Master Sample is based on information collected during the 2011 Census conducted by Stats SA. In preparation for Census 2011, the country was divided into 103 576 enumeration areas (EAs). The census EAs, together with the auxiliary information for the EAs, were used as the frame units or building blocks for the formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the Master Sample, since they covered the entire country, and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs. There are 3 324 primary sampling units (PSUs) in the Master Sample, with an expected sample of approximately 33 000 dwelling units (DUs). The number of PSUs in the current Master Sample (3 324) reflect an 8,0% increase in the size of the Master Sample compared to the previous (2008) Master Sample (which had 3 080 PSUs). The larger Master Sample of PSUs was selected to improve the precision (smaller coefficients of variation, known as CVs) of the GHS estimates. The Master Sample is designed to be representative at provincial level and within provinces at metro/non-metro levels. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geographical type. The three geography types are Urban, Tribal and Farms. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area, the sample is representative of the different geography types that may exist within that metro.

The sample for the GHS is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of PSUs in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage. After allocating the sample to the provinces, the sample was further stratified by geography (primary stratification), and by population attributes using Census 2011 data (secondary stratification).

WEIGHTING

The sample weights were constructed in order to account for the following: the original selection probabilities (design weights), adjustments for PSUs that were sub-sampled or segmented, excluded population from the sampling frame, non-response, weight trimming, and benchmarking to known population estimates from the Demographic Analysis Division within Stats SA. The sampling weights for the data collected from the sampled households were constructed so that the responses could be properly expanded to represent the entire civilian population of South Africa. The design weights, which are the inverse sampling rate (ISR) for the province, are assigned to each of the households in a province.

Mid-year population estimates produced by the Demographic Analysis Division were used for benchmarking. The final survey weights were constructed using regression estimation to calibrate to national level population estimates cross-classified by 5-year age groups, gender and race, and provincial population estimates by broad age groups. The 5-year age groups are: 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 55-59, 60-64; and 65 and over. The provincial level age groups are 0-14, 15-34, 35-64; and 65 years and over. The calibrated weights were constructed such that all persons in a household would have the same final weight.

Note on Independently Calibrated Weights for the Person and Household Data Files

Until 2010 Statistics SA used an integrating weighting methodology. 'Integrated' weights allocated the same weight to all household members. The household head's weight was carried over the house file. This model allowed the replication of the population size if household sizes were multiplied with the household weight. However, this method provided variable household totals from year to year. Therefore from 2010 the Person and House files across the whole GHS series are calibrated independently from each other. The person data is calibrated using the mid-year population estimates from the

2017 series, while the house data is weighted using household estimates that are also based on the 2017 mid-year population series. However, this method means that the totals will not be aligned. For weights that are better aligned users can transfer the weight allocated to the household head to the household file. Statistics SA ensures that all households in the house file are also represented in the person file.

Data Collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2022-05-01	2022-12-01

DATA COLLECTION MODE

Computer Assisted Personal Interview

DATA COLLECTION NOTES

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, StatsSA changed the mode of collecting GHS 2020 data from Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) to Computer-assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI). After the pandemic, in 2022, the GHS reintroduced the CAPI interviews.

Questionnaires

QUESTIONNAIRES

Data was collected with a household questionnaire and a questionnaire administered to a household member to elicit information on household members.

Data Appraisal

DATA APPRAISAL

Since 2019, the questionnaire for the GHS series changed and the variables were also renamed. For correspondence between old names (GHS pre-2019) and new name (GHS post-2019), see the document [ghs-2019-variables-renamed](#).

Access policy

CONTACTS

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
DataFirst Support	University of Cape Town	support@data1st.org	www.support.data1st.org

ACCESS CONDITIONS

Public access data for use under a Creative Commons CC-BY (Attribution-only) License

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Statistics South Africa. General Household Survey 2022 [dataset]. Version 1. Pretoria: Statistics SA [producer], 2022. Cape Town: DataFirst [distributor], 2023. DOI:

ACCESS AUTHORITY

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
DataFirst	University of Cape Town	support@data1st.org	support.data1st.org

Metadata production

PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
DataFirst	University of Cape Town	Metadata producer

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2023-08-25

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1

Data Description

Data file	Cases	Variables
ghs-2022-hhold-v1	1000	193
ghs-2022-person-v1	1000	112

Data file: ghs-2022-hhold-v1

Cases: 1000

Variables: 193

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V1	uqnr	Unique number	
V2	personnr	Person number	
V3	psu	Primary sampling unit	
V4	prov	Province	
V5	head_popgrp	Population group of household head	
V6	head_sex	Sex of household head	
V7	head_age	Age of household head	
V8	hsg_maind	Type of main dwelling	
V9	hsg_walls	Type of material used for the wall	
V10	hsg_roof	Type of material used for the roof	
V11	hsg_floor	Type of material used for the floor	
V12	hsg_cond_wall	Walls condition	
V13	hsg_cond_roof	Roof condition	
V14	hsg_cond_floor	Floor condition	
V15	hsg_rm_open	Lounge/dining room/sitting rooms/TV room (open)	
V16	hsg_rm_close	Lounge/dining room/sitting rooms/TV room (closed)	
V17	hsg_rm_bedr	Bedrooms	
V18	hsg_rm_multi	One room with multiple use	
V19	hsg_rm_kitch	Kitchen	
V20	hsg_rm_toil	Toilets	
V21	hsg_rm_bath	Bathrooms	
V22	hsg_rm_othr	Other rooms	
V23	hsg_rm_tot	Total rooms	
V24	hsg_tenure	Ownership of dwelling	
V25	hsg_rent	Monthly rent or mortgage	
V26	hsg_value	Market value of the property	
V27	hsg_built	Dwelling originally built	
V28	hsg_rdp	RDP or state subsidised dwelling	
V29	hsg_subsidy	House subsidy received	
V30	wat_drinkwat	Main source of water	
V31	wat_dist	Distance of water source from the dwelling	
V32	wat_pipe	Usage of piped or tap water	
V33	wat_treat	Treatment of drinking water	
V34	wat_mun_source	Water supply	
V35	wat_meter	Water meter	
V36	wat_pay	Payment for water	
V37	wat_inte_12mth	Water supply interruption	
V38	wat_inte_2days	Duration of water interruption	

ID	Name	Label	Question
V39	wat_inte_altsource	Alternative drinking water sources	
V40	wat_inte_15days	Total duration of interruption	
V41	san_toil	Type of toilet facility	
V42	san_share	Toilet facility shared	
V43	san_location	Location of the toilet facility	
V44	san_distance	Distance to nearest toilet facility	
V45	san_washfac	Hand washing facilities	
V46	san_wash	Use of soap to wash hands after defecation	
V47	eng_access	Access to electricity	
V48	eng_mainelect	Main source of electricity	
V49	eng_mains	Mains electricity supply	
V50	eng_supply	Supplier of electricity	
V51	eng_cook	Energy for cooking	
V52	eng_light	Energy for lighting	
V53	eng_wheat	Energy for water heating	
V54	eng_sheat	Energy for space heating	
V55	eng_pay	paying for electricity	
V56	swr_rub	Refuse removal	
V57	swr_sepwaste	Recycling of waste	
V58	swr_env_rub	Irregular or no waste removal	
V59	swr_env_lit	Littering	
V60	swr_env_wat	Water pollution	
V61	swr_env_air	Outdoor/indoor air pollution	
V62	swr_env_lan	Land degradation	
V63	swr_env_noi	Excessive noise	
V64	com_phone	Telephone	
V65	com_cell	Cellular telephone	
V66	com_cell_total	Total number of cellular telephone in the household	
V67	com_int_fixed	Internet connection in the household	
V68	com_int_mobile	Any place via any other mobile access services	
V69	com_int_pubwifi	public wifi	
V70	com_int_stud	Internet for students at a school/university/college	
V71	com_int_work	At place of work	
V72	com_int_libr	Internet in a library or community hall/Thusong centre	
V73	com_int_cafe	Internet Café	
V74	com_mail_post	Mail carrier at home (postal delivery, mailman/woman)	
V75	com_mail_Pbag	PO Box/ Private bag	
V76	com_mail_Postnet	Postnet branch	
V77	com_mail_Other	Other (e.g. local delivery office, school, shop)	
V78	tra_taxi	Trips using taxis	
V79	tra_bus	Trips using Buses	
V80	tra_train	Trips Using Trains	
V81	tra_taxi_trips	total number of trips using taxis	
V82	tra_taxi_cost	Total cost of using taxis	
V83	tra_taxi_dist	distance to the nearest taxi stop	

ID	Name	Label	Question
V84	tra_bus_trips	total number of trips using buses	
V85	tra_bus_cost	Total cost of using buses	
V86	tra_bus_dist	distance to the nearest bus stop	
V87	tra_train_trips	total number of trips using trains	
V88	tra_train_cost	Total cost of using trains	
V89	tra_train_dist	distance to the nearest train station	
V90	hhw_hltfac	Medical help	
V91	hhw_transp	Means of transport to nearest health facility	
V92	hhw_time	Travel time to health facility	
V93	fsd_hung_adult	Insufficient food for adult	
V94	fsd_hung_child	Insufficient food for children	
V95	fsd_worried	Worried about food	
V96	fsd_healthy	Lack of nutritious food	
V97	fsd_fewfoods	lack of variety food kind	
V98	fsd_fewfoods_days	lacked variety food kind for 5 or more days in the past 30 days	
V99	fsd_skipped	Skipped meals	
V100	fsd_skipped_days	skipped meals for 5 or more days in the past 30 days	
V101	fsd_ateless	ate less food	
V102	fsd_ateless_days	ate less food for 5 or more days in the past 30 days	
V103	fsd_ranout	run out of food	
V104	fsd_ranout_days	run out of food for 5 or more days in the past 30 days	
V105	fsd_hungry	Hunger	
V106	fsd_whlday	Not eating the whole day	
V107	agr_agri	Agricultural activities	
V108	agr_agrino	Members involved in agricultural activities	
V109	agr_agrdecmaker	Main decision maker	
V110	agr_agri_type_live	Livestock production	
V111	agr_agri_type_poul	Poultry production	
V112	agr_agri_type_grai	Grains and food crops	
V113	agr_agri_type_indus	Industrial crops	
V114	agr_agri_type_fruit	Fruit and vegetable production	
V115	agr_agri_type_fod	Fodder grazing/pasture or grass for animals	
V116	agr_agri_type_fish	Fish farming/aquaculture	
V117	agr_agri_type_for	Forestry	
V118	agr_agri_type_game	Game farming	
V119	agr_mainuse	Use of agricultural products and stock keeping	
V120	agr_plant_farm	Farm land	
V121	agr_plant_back	Backyard garden	
V122	agr_plant_schl	School garden	
V123	agr_plant_comm	Communal garden	
V124	agr_plant_vrd	On verges of roads and unused public/municipal land	
V125	agr_plant_oth	Other plant	
V126	fin_inc_sal	Salaries/wages/commission	
V127	fin_inc_buss	Income from a business	
V128	fin_inc_rem	Remittances	

ID	Name	Label	Question
V129	fin_inc_pen	Pensions	
V130	fin_inc_grant	Grants	
V131	fin_inc_agric	Sales of farm products and services	
V132	fin_inc_none	No Income	
V133	fin_inc_oth	Other income sources, e.g. rental income, interest	
V134	fin_inc_main	Main income source	
V135	fin_rem	Approximately how much from remittances	
V136	fin_pen	Approximately how much from pensions	
V137	fin_reqinc	Net household income per month in rand	
V138	fin_compinc	Monthly income of your household higher	
V139	fin_exp	Household expenditure	
V140	hwl_vehicle	Ownership of a motor vehicle	
V141	hwl_totveh	Total number of vehicles	
V142	hwl_domw	Domestic or household worker's services used by the household	
V143	hwl_status	Wealth/poverty status of you and your household at present	
V144	hwl_happy	Happier, the same or less happy with life	
V145	hwl_assets_tv	TV Set	
V146	hwl_assets_pool	Swimming pool	
V147	hwl_assets_dvd	DVD player/Blu-Ray player	
V148	hwl_assets_paytv	Pay TV (M-Net/DSTV/Top TV) Subscription	
V149	hwl_assets_ac	Air conditioner (excluding fans)	
V150	hwl_assets_comp	Computer/Desktop/Laptop	
V151	hwl_assets_vac	Vacuum cleaner	
V152	hwl_assets_dishw	Dishwashing machine	
V153	hwl_assets_washm	Washing machine	
V154	HWL_Assets_tumd	Tumble dryer	
V155	hwl_assets_freezer	Deep freezer - free standing	
V156	hwl_assets_fridge	Refrigerator or Combined Fridge Freezer	
V157	hwl_assets_estove	Electric stove	
V158	hwl_assets_microw	Microwave oven	
V159	hwl_assets_sink	Built-in kitchen sink	
V160	hwl_assets_secure	Home Security Service	
V161	hwl_assets_hometh	Home theatre system	
V162	hwl_assets_geyser	Geyser providing hot running water	
V163	hwl_assets_solarg	Solar hot water geyser	
V164	hwl_assets_solarp	Solar electrical panel(s)	
V165	hwl_assets_rainwtnk	Rain water tank	
V166	hwl_assets_borehole	Borehole	
V167	hwl_assets_piano	Piano	
V168	hwl_assets_radio	Radio	
V169	hwl_assets_Gstove	Gas stove	
V170	hwl_res_name	Person who answered most of the questions in the house section	
V171	Q1ntLanguage	Interview language	
V172	Q2Dwelling	Type of living quarters	
V173	hholdsiz	Household size	

ID	Name	Label	Question
V174	mobphon_hh	Own a mobile telephone	
V175	smartphone_hh	Own a smart phone	
V176	onemed_hh	Medical aid scheme	
V177	chld5yr_hh	Children 5 and younger	
V178	chld17yr_hh	Children 17 and younger	
V179	ad60plusyr_hh	Adults	
V180	lab_salary_hh	Household Monthly salary	
V181	soc_grant_hh	Social grant	
V182	totalgrnt_hh	Total social grant	
V183	undisab_hh	UN Disability	
V184	disab_hh	Disability	
V185	sevdisab_hh	Severe disability	
V186	econact_hh	Economically active	
V187	totmhinc	Household income	
V188	stratum	Stratum	
V189	geotype	Geographical type	
V190	metro	Metro	
V191	metro_code	Metro Code	
V192	rotation	Rotation	
V193	house_wgt	House Weight	

Total: 193

Data file: ghs-2022-person-v1

Cases: 1000

Variables: 112

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V194	uqnr	Unique number	
V195	personnr	Person number	
V196	psu	Primary sampling unit	
V197	prov	Province	
V198	Four_by_Four	Stayed Nights (B_Nights)	
V199	Sex	Gender	
V200	age	Age	
V201	age_grp1	Age group	
V202	Population	Population group	
V203	Languages	Languages	
V204	hhc_relationship	Relationship to the household head	
V205	hhc_marital	Marital status	
V206	spouse	Spouse/partner	
V207	spouse_name	Spouse number	
V208	hhc_fath_alive	Father alive	
V209	hhc_fath_parthh	Father part of the household	
V210	hhc_fath_name	Father person number	
V211	hhc_moth_alive	Mother still alive	
V212	hhc_moth_parthh	Mother part of the household	
V213	hhc_moth_name	Mother person number	
V214	education	Highest education level	
V215	ecd_chldatt	Type of ECD facility	
V216	ecd_notatt	Place where children spent most of their time during the day	
V217	ecd_notatt_rsn	Main reason for not attending the ECD facility	
V218	ecd_fees	Amount paid to attend the ECD facility	
V219	ecd_read	Read books/tell stories	
V220	ecd_sing	Sing	
V221	ecd_colour	Colour	
V222	ecd_object	Objects	
V223	ecd_count	Count	
V224	ecd_play	Play	
V225	edu_attend	Currently attending educational institution	
V226	edu_rsn	Main reason for not attending an educational institution	
V227	edu_edui	Educational institution	
V228	edu_ppriv	Public or private institution	
V229	edu_corr	Distance learning classes	
V230	edu_mode_tr	Means of transport	
V231	edu_time	Time taken to school	

ID	Name	Label	Question
V232	edu_burs	Fee reductions or bursaries	
V233	edu_totfees	Total amount of tuition fees paid	
V234	edu_nofees	Reason for no fees payment	
V235	edu_grde	Current grade	
V236	edu_same	Repeat Grade	
V237	edu_food	School feeding scheme	
V238	edu_eatfood	Provision of food	
V239	edu_vlnc	Violence, corporal punishment or verbal abuse	
V240	edu_vlnc_corp	Corporal punishment by teacher	
V241	edu_vlnc_phyt	Physical violence by teacher	
V242	edu_vlnc_vert	Verbal abuse by teacher	
V243	edu_vlnc_verl	Verbal abuse by learners	
V244	edu_vlnc_phyl	Physical abuse	
V245	edu_abs	Absent from school	
V246	edu_abs_days	Number of days absent	
V247	edu_abs_rsn	Main reason absent	
V248	hlt_medi	Medical aid scheme	
V249	hlt_genhealth	Health status	
V250	hlt_vacci	Covid-19 vaccine	
V251	hlt_chronic_asm	Asthma	
V252	hlt_chronic_dbt	Diabetes	
V253	hlt_chronic_can	Cancer	
V254	hlt_chronic_HIV	HIV and AIDS	
V255	hlt_chronic_hbp	Hypertension/high blood pressure	
V256	hlt_chronic_arth	Arthritis	
V257	hlt_chronic_strk	Stroke	
V258	hlt_chronic_tb	Tuberculosis	
V259	hlt_chronic_broncho	Pneumonia / Bronchitis	
V260	hlt_chronic_covid	Covid-19	
V261	hlt_preg	Pregnancy	
V262	dsb_see	Seeing	
V263	dsb_hear	Hearing	
V264	dsb_wal	Walking	
V265	dsb_rem	Remembering	
V266	dsb_sel	Self-care	
V267	dsb_com	Communication	
V268	soc_grant	Social grants	
V269	soc_grant_oag	Old-age grant	
V270	soc_grant_dis	Disability grant	
V271	soc_grant_csg	Child support grant	
V272	soc_grant_car	Care dependency grant	
V273	soc_grant_fos	Foster care grant	
V274	soc_grant_grn	Grant-in-aid	
V275	soc_grant_srd	Special COVID-19 social relief of distress grant	
V276	ltp_cell	Own a mobile telephone	

ID	Name	Label	Question
V277	ltp_cell_sphone	Own a smart phone	
V278	lab_wge	Working for a wage, commission or salary	
V279	lab_bus	Business Activities	
V280	lab_vol	Work without remuneration	
V281	lab_ret	Return to work or business	
V282	lab_amount	Willing to disclose their earning	
V283	lab_sto	Total salary/pay	
V284	lab_salper	Salary period	
V285	lab_salc	Income categories	
V286	lab_transp	Means of transport to go to work	
V287	lab_mins	Time taken to place of employment	
V288	lab_sector	Sector of organisation/business or branch	
V289	lab_look	Looking for any kind of job or trying business	
V290	lab_start	Liked to work	
V291	lab_rnsw	Reason for not trying to find work or starting a business	
V292	lab_accjob	Start work or a business	
V293	lab_res_name	Person number of the respondent	
V294	undisab	UN Disability	
V295	disab	Disability	
V296	sevdisab	Severe disability	
V297	geotype	Geography Type	
V298	metro_code	Metro Code	
V299	metro	Metro	
V300	stratum	Stratum	
V301	lab_salary	Salary	
V302	employ_Status1	Employment status one	
V303	employ_Status2	Employment status two	
V304	rotation	Rotation	
V305	person_wgt	Person weight	

Total: 112