



# **SADA**

## **South African Data Archive**

**Quarterly Labour Force Survey,  
4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2012  
(South Africa)**

**Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)**

**CODEBOOK**

**SADA 0189**

## **BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION**

Any publication or other presentation based in whole or part on the data and documentation supplied by SADA must prominently use the following citation:

Statistics South Africa. *Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2012* [Computer file]. S0189. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer] 2012. Pretoria: South African Data Archive, National Research Foundation [distributor], 2013.

## **DEPOSIT OF PUBLICATIONS**

At least one copy of any published work or report based in whole or part on the dataset will be deposited with the South African Data Archive. Please indicate the title and number of the study utilised.

## **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

The Archive and the depositor of the dataset supplied to the user bear no legal responsibility for their accuracy or comprehensiveness.

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## STUDY DESCRIPTION

### SADA 0189

**TITLE:** Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2012

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)

**DEPOSITOR:** Statistics South Africa

#### ORGANISATION HOUSING THE DATA:

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**KEYWORDS:** Employment; Unemployment; Household surveys; Housing; Informal sector; Labour supply.

#### SERIES DATA:

Series name:	Principal Investigator:	Currently available:
Labour Force Survey; February and September	Statistics South Africa	2000 – 2002
Labour Force Survey; March and September	Statistics South Africa	2003 – 2007
The South African Labour Force Survey Panel, 2006	Statistics South Africa	2006
Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter – 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Statistics South Africa	2008 – 2012

#### ABSTRACT:

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It collects data on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 years or older who live in South Africa. Starting in 2005, Stats SA undertook a major revision of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which was conducted twice per year since 2000. This revision resulted in changes to the survey methodology, the survey questionnaire, the frequency of data collection and data releases, and the survey data capture and processing systems. The redesigned labour market survey is the QLFS which is now the principal vehicle for disseminating labour market information on a quarterly basis.

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:** South Africa

**IMPORTANT VARIABLES:** Employment, unemployment, informal sector.

**DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES:** Age, gender, level of education, marital status, migration, use of health services, economic activity, unemployment, employment and self-employment.

**UNIVERSE:** Households in the nine provinces of South Africa

**METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION:** Survey Questionnaire

#### SAMPLING:

The Labour Force Survey frame has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other household surveys irrespective of the sample size requirement of the survey. The sample size for the QLFS is roughly 30 000 dwellings.

The sample is based on information collected during the 2001 Population Census conducted by Stats SA. In preparation for Census 2001, the country was divided into 80 787 enumeration areas (EAs). Some of these EAs are small in terms of the number of households that were enumerated in them at the time of Census 2001. Stats SA's household-based surveys use a Master Sample of Primary Sampling units (PSUs) which comprises EAs that are drawn from across the country. For the purposes of the Master Sample, the EAs that contained fewer than 25 households were excluded from the sampling frame, and those that contained between 25 and 99 households were combined with other EAs of the same geographic type to form Primary Sampling Units (PSUs). The number of EAs per PSU ranges between one and four. On the other hand, very large EAs represent two or more PSUs.

The sample is designed to be representative at provincial level and within provinces at the metro/non-metro level. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geography type. The four geography types are: urban formal, urban informal, farms, and tribal. This implies that, for example, within a metropolitan area the sample is designed to be representative at the different geography types that may exist within that metro.

The current sample size is 3 080 PSUs. It is equally divided into four subgroups or panels called rotation groups. The rotation groups are designed in such a way that each of these groups has the same distribution pattern as that which is observed in the whole sample. They are numbered from one to four and these numbers also correspond to the quarters of the year in which the sample will be rotated for the particular group. The sample for the redesigned Labour Force Survey is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of primary sampling units (PSUs) in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

**UNITS OF OBSERVATION:** Households

**DATE OF DATA COLLECTION:** October – December, 2012.

**EXTENT OF DATA COLLECTION:** 1 data file in ASCII and machine-readable documentation.

**FILE SPECIFICATIONS:**

**Part 1: Data File**

Number of cases:	84 731
Number of records:	84 731
Number of records per case:	1
Logical Record Length:	275
Number of variables:	146
Number of kilobytes:	23 199 KB

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Statistics South Africa. 2012. Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 4, 2012. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa.

**NOTES:**

Most questions in the Labour Force Survey questionnaire are pre-coded, i.e. there is a set number of options from which one or more must be selected. For open-ended (write-in) questions, the description will note that post-coding occurred and explain how this was done. For most variables the coding is apparent from the questionnaire (available elsewhere in the documentation) and is not repeated in the variable description. Where the coding is not apparent, the description either provides the codes or indicates where code lists are to be found.

**RESTRICTIONS:**

Only available to bona fide researchers.

**DATE STUDY ADDED:**

26 April, 2013