

RAMS® Definition of Terms

Community Size

On the database, each respondent was allocated to one of the following 4 groups, according to the size of the community in which he/she lives.

Metropolitan areas	250 000 or more	} Large Urban
Cities and Large towns	40 000 - 249 999	
Small towns and Villages	500 - 39 999	- Small Urban
Settlements (Less than 500) + Non-urban		- Rural

The fourfold breakdown is used in the electronic reports.

An additional two-fold classification is now available on the database:

Large Urban (40 000 or more)
Small Urban + Rural (Less than 40 000 + Non-Urban)

Note that the SAARF RAMS®/AMPS® definition of “Non-urban” comprises both the “Non-urban” and “Tribal” areas of the Stats SA Population Census.

Home Language

Since 2001, all 11 official languages are available on the release datafiles as follows:

English	South Sotho	Tswana
Afrikaans	North Sotho	Venda
Xhosa	Ndebele	Swazi
Zulu	Tsonga	Other

The language spoken most often at home is obtained, thus the language breakdowns on the release datafile provide unduplicated data.

Household

A household consists either of one person living alone or a group of persons, usually but not always members of one family, who live together and whose expenditure on food and other household items is jointly managed. Boarders or lodgers may be included as members of a household, provided that they have at least one meal a day communally. Resident domestic workers are, however, excluded and are regarded as forming a household of one or more persons in their own right.

Household Income

“Household income” is defined to respondents as the total monthly income of all earners within the household before tax and other deductions but including salaries, pensions, income from investments, etc.

In cases of refusal to answer, household income is estimated by interviewers.

Household Purchaser

Any respondent of either gender who claims to be solely or partly responsible for the day-to-day purchases of the household is described as a household purchaser.

There may be more than one person who could claim to be a household purchaser within any given household, but only one would be interviewed.

The SAARF RAMS® datafile has a filter code for “household purchaser”.

Housewife

Previously, a housewife was defined as a female member of the household who claims to be solely, mainly or partly responsible for household purchases. Since 1993, "Female Housewives" have been replaced by "Household Purchasers". However, database users are able to apply a gender filter to "Household Purchasers".

Metropolitan area

A metropolitan area may be described as a parent municipality together with the adjoining areas which are urban in character and which are economically and socially linked to the parent city or town. It may thus comprise more than one legally constituted local authority.

The following metropolitan areas are provided for in the SAARF RAMS[®] database:

- Bloemfontein
 - Cape Town
 - Cape Town Fringe Area
 - Durban
 - East London
 - Greater Johannesburg (Alexandra, Jhb, Sandton, Soweto, Randburg)
 - Kimberley
 - Pietermaritzburg
 - Port Elizabeth / Uitenhage
 - Pretoria
 - Reef (Urban Gauteng excl. Jhb, Pta, Vaal)
 - Soweto
 - Vaal (De Deur, Meyerton, Sasolburg, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging)
 - Welkom
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Province

The nine provincial boundaries in the SAARF RAMS[®]/AMPS[®] sample coincide with those of Statistics South Africa (StatsSA).

Radio Listening

The following definition of radio listening is included in the Radio Diary:

By radio listening we mean...

- That you personally listened to the radio - it may be all of a programme or only part of it
 - It doesn't matter whether it was your own radio or somebody else's - nor does it matter where you listened to it.
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SAARF Living Standards Measure LSM[®])

The SAARF Living Standards Measure (LSM[®]) scale is a measure to group respondents into ten SAARF LSM[®] groups (1 to 10). Twenty-nine variables are used in the construction of the SAARF LSM[®] scale. Currently, the twenty-nine variables are:

Var.No.	Attribute
1.	Hot running water from a geyser
2.	Washing machine
3.	Electric Stove
4.	Computer - Desktop/Laptop
5.	0 or 1 radio set in household
6.	No domestic workers or household helpers in household (this includes live-in and part time domestics)
7.	Flush toilet in/outside house
8.	TV set
9.	Motor vehicle in household
10.	Vacuum cleaner/floor polisher
11.	Microwave oven
12.	M-Net/DStv subscription
13.	House/cluster house/town house
14.	Metropolitan dweller
15.	DVD player
16.	Tumble dryer
17.	3 or more cellphones in household
18.	2 cellphones in household
19.	VCR
20.	Tap water in house/on plot
21.	Home security service
22.	Refrigerator of combined fridge/freezer
23.	Deep freezer – free standing
24.	Rural rest (excl. W. Cape & Gauteng rural)
25.	Built-in kitchen sink
26.	Home theatre system
27.	Home telephone (excl. cellphone)
28.	Dishwashing machine
29.	Hi-fi/music centre