

The Survey of Adult Skills (SAS)

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

The SAS is part of the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) which is run by the OECD.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

SAS was established to contribute to a better understanding of how education and training systems can improve different skills needed to participate in society and increase economic output.

Internet links to the website of the responsible organization

[The website of the OECD](#)

[The website of the SAS](#)

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

Round 1: 2008-13

Round 2: 2012-16

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey

The main elements of the survey are split into three parts.

1) Direct assessment

- Literacy
- Reading components
- Numeracy
- Problem solving in technology-rich environments

2) Background questionnaire

- Demographics characteristics
- Education and training
- Social and linguistic background
- Employment status and income

- Use of information and communication technologies and literacy and numeracy practices

3) Module on skills use

- Cognitive skills
- Interaction and social skills
- Physical skills
- Learning skills

For more information, please refer to the [Main Elements of the Survey](#).

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used

5,000 adults between 16 and 65 years of age were interviewed in each country.

Interviews are carried out in the respondent's home through use of computer or pen and pencil.

An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

From October 8, 2013, a tool for online analysis and a data file for public use are [available here](#).

Questionnaires, English version

The questionnaires are not available. However, information about and sample items from all three parts (direct assessment, background questionnaire and module on skills use) are available here: [Main Elements of the Survey](#).

The countries included in the different rounds

Round 1: 24 participating countries.

Round 2: 9 participating countries.

For details on which countries were included in which round, please refer to [Participating Countries](#).

Cumulative file of the various rounds

There is no cumulative file.

Publications based on the data

[Publications based on the SAS](#)

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the SAS.