



2007 Survey of Afghans

Methodology

This survey was conducted for Environics Research Group by D3 Systems, Inc., with fieldwork by the Afghan Center for Social and Opinion Research (ACSOR-Surveys) based in Kabul. Interviews were conducted in person, in Dari or Pashto, among a random national sample of 1578 Afghan adults from September 17 to 24, 2007.

The survey was conducted in all of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. A total of 177 sampling points were distributed proportional to population size in each province, stratified by urban/non-urban status to yield a national sample of 1,278, with an additional 25 sampling points representing 100 boosted interviews in Kabul and 200 boosted interviews in Kandahar. Sampling points were then distributed to randomly selected districts within provinces, also proportionate to population size; and lastly to randomly selected villages or neighborhoods within those districts, by simple random sampling. Sources for population parameters were United Nations population estimates and population projections from the Afghan Central Statistical Office. The data are not weighted, but are reported separately for national sample of 1278 interviews, total Kabul interviews of 270, and total Kandahar interviews of 260.

Half of the sampling points were designated for male interviews, half for female interviews. Male respondents were interviewed only by male interviewers and female respondents only by female interviewers using a 50/50 split for gender in the survey. Residences were selected within each settlement by random route/random interval and respondents were selected within residence by Kish grid. Ten interviews were conducted per sampling point in 114 of the 202 sampling points, and 5 interviews were conducted per sampling point in 88 of the sampling points. Having 88 sampling points with 5 interviews in each was part of an effort to further expand geographic coverage in the survey.

Interviews were conducted by 178 interviewers in 34 supervised teams. All interviewers were trained and most had experience on previous ACSOR administered surveys. Ten percent of interviews were directly observed by field supervisors, and an additional 17% were back-checked after the interviews, with further logical controls on all questionnaires conducted at the ACSOR offices in Kabul.

The survey had a contact rate of 91 percent and a co-operation rate of 85 percent. The impact of clustering on the sample produces an estimated design effect of 1.31, for a total margin of sampling error (for the 1,578 sample) of 3.78 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level.