

# Panama - Encuesta de Niveles de Vida 2008

**Ministry of Economy and Finance (Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas (MEF))**

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## Identification

### SURVEY ID NUMBER

PAN\_2008\_ENV\_v01\_EN\_M\_v01\_A\_ESS

### TITLE

Encuesta de Niveles de Vida 2008

### TRANSLATED TITLE

Living Standards Survey 2008

### COUNTRY

Name	Country code
Panama	PAN

### STUDY TYPE

Living Standards Measurement Study [hh/lsmis]

### SERIES INFORMATION

This is the third Living Standards Survey conducted in Panama. The first and second Living Standards Surveys were conducted in 1997 and 2003.

Comparison of the scope of ENV 1997, ENV 2003 and ENV 2008

The scope of the Living Standards Surveys that have been carried out in Panama - 1997, 2003 and 2008 - show that past experiences allow us to innovate research and obtain better quality data that provide decision-makers with new and better elements to support their actions for the benefit of the people and communities with the greatest felt needs in order to achieve human development and a dignified life.

In updating the design and instruments of ENV 2008, research improvements were made in response to experiences from previous surveys, lessons learned from other countries, recommendations from national experts, and input from World Bank experts.

In 1997, following the trend of inter-institutional participation that characterises INEC/CGR and the MEF, an Intersectoral Technical Support Committee was set up, coordinated by the Census Department of INEC with the support of the Directorate of Economic and Social Analysis of the MEF. Representatives of the Planning Offices of the Ministries of Health (Gorgas Memorial Institute of Health Studies, Directorate of Health Policies and General Directorate of Health), Education, Housing, Agricultural Development, Social Development, and Labour and Labour Development participated.

The main criteria for the revision of the questionnaire contents focused on: comparability of the three surveys, new information needs, and improvement of data capture.

### ABSTRACT

Objectives of the ENV 2008

- To assess the impact of economic and social policies on the well-being of citizens.
- To estimate the levels of poverty and inequality in the population, and their determinants, in order to formulate public policies, and to design strategies and programmes to address these problems.
- Establish the changes that have occurred in living conditions, income, expenditure and the different social indicators of the population in relation to the years 1997 and 2003.
- Generate information to update the instruments for the prioritisation and targeting of public spending.

### KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

### UNIT OF ANALYSIS

Households, Individuals, Community

## Scope

### NOTES

The 2008 Living Standards Survey comprises modules aimed at households and individuals whose characteristics are investigated through the sections of the form; at the community to find out collective perceptions; and at local establishments selling food products.

#### 1. At the level of Dwellings, Households and Persons

Physical characteristics of housing, rent payments, tenure and title, source of funds for home acquisition and improvements, costs of improvements, rooms used by the household, bedrooms, access to water, energy, telephone, internet, cellular, cable, rubbish collection, consumption levels, costs and quality.

Social capital perceived by the head of household or housewife, collective actions in which household members participate, solidarity and trust in the community; social benefits received from programmes, projects or activities with community participation; perception of well-being and changes in their living conditions in the last five years, opinion on the problems and causes of poverty.

Structure, characteristics, size, composition of households and family nuclei; educational levels and occupations of non-household parents.

Child care for children under five years of age, breastfeeding, food subsidies, check-ups and immunisation, presence of diarrhoea and respiratory diseases, demand for and access to health services for all household members, monthly expenses for illness, accidents, preventive treatments and check-ups, breast and pap smears.

Demand for pre-school education services, food subsidies, annual and monthly expenditures. Literacy, mother tongue and other languages, demand for formal education services (enrolment, repetition, access, etc.), food subsidies, annual and monthly expenditures, non-attendance (time and reasons), scholarships for studies, highest level of education and diplomas. Training for work, institutions, courses, costs, certificates and benefits received.

Place of birth and previous residence, reasons and time of migration.

Economic activities, activity status (employed, unemployed, inactive), inactivity ratio, occupation, branch of activity, working time, time in the enterprise, size of the enterprise, occupation category, income from self-employment, income of employees, payments in kind, subsidies, workplaces, means of transport and time. Income from pensions, pensions, transfers, remittances and cash benefits, age at starting work.

Savings, Insurance and Credit (loans), existence or not of household savings, depository banking institution, life and health insurance membership, car ownership and insurance, request or not for cash, credit granting institutions, number and purpose of loans obtained in the last 12 months.

Number, monitoring and costs of pregnancy and childbirth, live births, care and type of delivery, birth weight, delivery institutions, reproductive health.

Weight and height registration of all household members. Malnutrition and obesity.

Expenditure, self-consumption, self-supply of food, beverages and tobacco, credit purchases, frequent shopping sites, other household expenditure, within 7 days, monthly and yearly. Goods received or donated and purchases on credit.

Household income other than from work. Investments, purchase and sale of assets, household equipment.

Household businesses, independent and own-account non-agricultural activities. Business characteristics, staff employed, loans and credit, capital and inventory, reasons for starting the business and expectations (short-term plans).

Agricultural and Forestry Activity. Data on the production unit, production by crop, inputs and expenses, forestry and livestock production, stock of animals, maintenance expenses, labour force, technical assistance, agricultural equipment and working animals, cash loans and credit purchases.

#### 2. At the community level

Community characteristics, main basic services (roads and transport, aqueduct, sewerage, rubbish collection, electricity,

street lighting, telephones, post office, public market), other community services (recreation areas, parks, meeting places, security service).

Health. Most common diseases in children and adults, institutions, distances, accessibility, assessment of the state of public facilities, equipment and facilities, maintenance, evaluation of human resources, existence of private services.

Education. Type and number of public institutions, distances, accessibility, state of infrastructure, equipment, furniture and human resources assessment, existence of private sector schools, proportion of school-age children and youth not attending school, main causes of non-attendance, existence of adult literacy and job training programmes.

Labour market. Possibilities of getting paid work, difficulties in finding a job, groups that have more problems in finding a job.

Labour Migration.

Community Organisation. Organisations, participation, main problems and participation in the search for solutions.

Main problems linked to the environment. Serious problems and factors that deteriorate the environment of people and the community, presence of some diseases linked to the state of the environment.

Agricultural activity (only for rural and indigenous areas). Main activities of agricultural production, marketing, sales, credit, main problems, reforestation projects.

Prices in establishments. Price quotations for a set of everyday consumer items: food, beverages and tobacco (48 items), and personal and household hygiene goods (20 items) in urban (except Panama City and San Miguelito District), rural and indigenous areas throughout the country.

## Coverage

### GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National coverage.

Domains: Urban/rural; Panama City; Rest of Panama District; San Miguelito; West Panama; East Panama; Colon; Cocle; Herrera; Los Santos; Veraguas; Bocas del Toro; Chiriqui; Darien; Indigenous Area

### UNIVERSE

The living standards survey considered as the study universe the total population residing in the country's occupied private dwellings, according to the 2000 Population and Housing Census.

The universe, according to the objective of the research, was divided into a non-indigenous sub-universe and an indigenous sub-universe, the latter consisting of the country's comarcas and the indigenous rural areas outside the comarcal areas, which maintain their socio-cultural patterns.

## Producers and sponsors

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name
Ministry of Economy and Finance (Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas (MEF))

### PRODUCERS

Name
United Nations Development Programme

## Sampling

### SAMPLING PROCEDURE

#### SAMPLE FRAME

Based on the census information, as well as the Census 2000 cartography, the sampling frame consisted of the census segments of the country.

## PRIMARY SAMPLING UNITS

The constitution of the primary sampling units arises from the application of an association rule, which would allow at the moment of selection the union of the census segments, having a size of 20 or more private dwellings, both in the non-indigenous and indigenous universe. The secondary sampling units are the private dwellings in the country, registering the entire population residing in the selected occupied dwellings.

The primary sampling units, once selected, were sent to the Cartography section of the Directorate of Statistics and Census, in order to proceed with the cartographic update, drawing up a list or register of dwellings for each of the units, which would allow the second stage sample to be obtained; in other words, the dwellings that would be investigated in the survey.

## DOMAIN OF STUDY

Taking the 1997 and 2003 studies as a reference, and with the purpose of making the results of the research comparative, it was determined that the study domains, for which reliable estimates are desired, would be represented in the first instance at the level of the Republic by urban and rural area; non-indigenous sample by area and indigenous sample. The eight provinces of the country also constitute study domains.

The province of Panama, due to its importance, is broken down into the following sub-domains:

- a. District of Panama
- b. Panama City
- c. Rest of Panama District
- d. District of San Miguelito
- e. West Panama: made up of the District of Arraiján, La Chorrera, Capira, Chame and San Carlos.
- f. Rest of the province of Panama (East Panama).

## STRATIFICATION

The design of the non-indigenous and indigenous sample of the Living Standards Survey was based on implicit stratification, that is, on a geographic criterion, by domain of study, with the urban and rural areas of the country constituting strata.

### A. Non-indigenous sample

1. Province: urban and rural
2. Panama City: urban
3. Rest of Panama District: urban and rural
4. San Miguelito District: urban
5. West Panama:
  - Arraiján: urban, rural
  - La Chorrera: urban, rural
  - Rest of West Panama: urban, rural
6. Rest of Panama province
  - East Panama: urban, rural

## SAMPLE SIZE

Considering the requirements of disaggregation of the results at the province level and the desired comparability, it was determined to maintain the same sample size investigated in the 2003 survey.

The calculation of the sample size was applied at the level of the study domains and is based on the assumption of simple random sampling and the requirements of precision and confidence required for the research.

The mathematical model of simple random sampling allows an initial estimate of the required sample size to be obtained:

$$no = (k^2 * p * q) / E^2$$

Where:

no = Initial sample size estimate.

K = Required confidence level. The value specified for 1 -  $\alpha$ , usually 95%, where  $k = 1.96$ .

P = Value of the actual percentage or proportion of the study when unknown, so  $P = 0.50$

$$Q = 1 - P = 0.50$$

E = Maximum sampling error determined, representing the maximum acceptable difference between the actual value, P , and its estimate, p , from the survey.

The initial estimate of the sample size per domain must be corrected, as the sample design for the research corresponds to a stratified sample in two stages of selection. The sample correction is derived from the design effect (DEFF) and represents the ratio of the variance of the parameter estimated by cluster sampling to the variance of the same parameter resulting from simple random sampling.

A conservative correction, used in the previous survey, was to apply a DEFF = 2.25 to the sample sizes obtained by simple random sampling and an additional correction as a response rate of approximately 80%.

$$nF = (n0 * DEFF) / TR$$

Where nF = Final sample size of private dwellings

It is important to indicate that within the selected primary sampling units, an average of 10 private dwellings would be investigated, representing the second stage units of the sample design.

The sample sizes obtained for the study domains considered allow us to obtain estimates of percentages or proportions with a level of precision of less than or equal to 10%.

The total sample by design amounted to 8,000 private dwellings, with 4,165 in urban areas and 3,835 in rural areas. In the non-indigenous sample, the private dwellings selected amounted to 7,450 housing units and in the indigenous sample to 550 units. The total sample to be investigated allowed, according to the sample design criteria, the selection of 800 primary sampling units, of which 745 belonged to the non-indigenous sample and 55 to the indigenous sample.

#### DISTRIBUTION AND SELECTION OF THE SAMPLE

The size of the sample of private dwellings by urban and rural area for the non-indigenous and by comarcas for the indigenous, was made by means of a proportional distribution to the number of dwellings in the universe. The primary sampling units were selected by probability sampling proportional to the total number of private dwellings; while in the urban area, in secondary sampling units, five clusters of two private dwellings were selected by the systematic method, and in the rural area, one cluster of ten dwellings, respectively.

The final probability of sample selection by domain of study and area is a function of the probabilities of selection of the first and second stages, which have been calculated with the results of the Population and Housing Census of May 2000.

#### RESPONSE RATE

The coverage of the collection was recorded by Stage and by province, and then a summary of National Coverage was consolidated.

At the end of the ENV-08 Field Operation, a total of 7,274 dwellings were visited, and 6,977 were found to be fully occupied. Complete information was obtained in 7,045 households where 26,162 persons were interviewed. A total of 781 community meetings and 618 price surveys were conducted.

#### SUMMARY OF SURVEY COVERAGE STATUS (Percentage)

Dwellings Visited: 100.0

a. Fully Occupied: 95.9

b. Incomplete Occupied: 1.0

c. Refusals: 1.4

d. Temporarily absent: 1.7

#### WEIGHTING

##### EXPANSION FACTORS

The process of estimating the survey results is based on the application of expansion factors, per primary sampling unit, derived from the inverse of the probability of selection.

$$F_{pri} = (Spr \cdot T_{pri}) / (K_{pr} \cdot Spri)$$

$$F_{pui} = (Spu \cdot T_{pui}) / (K_{pu} \cdot Spui)$$

## Rural Areas

Kpr: the number of primary sampling units (PSUs), which are rural census segments (or groups of rural segments when joined to others), selected in the rural part of province p.

Spri: the number of private dwellings within the i-th rural PSU (taking into account all rural segments that comprise it) of province p, according to the 2000 census.

Spr: the total number of private dwellings within all census segments classified as rural in province p, according to the 2000 census

Tpri: the number of 'parts' into which the i-th rural PSU in province p was divided in order to randomly select one of them for the survey at the time of the survey.

## Urban Areas

Kpu: the number of primary sampling units (PSUs), which are urban census segments (or groups of urban segments when joined to others), selected in the urban part of province p.

Spui: the number of private dwellings within the i-th urban PSU (taking into account all the urban segments that comprise it) of province p, according to the 2000 census.

Spu: the total number of private dwellings within all census segments classified as urban in province p, according to the 2000 census.

Tpui: the number of 'parts' into which the i-th urban PSU in province p was divided in order to randomly select one of them for the survey at the time of the survey.

The expansion factors calculated were corrected for non-response at the level of the PSUs and adjusted by means of demographic projection to 1 July 2008; achieving with the latter by means of the ratio estimation methodology, a better estimate for the desired total of the variable of interest.

## Estimation Process

Most of the estimates to be obtained from the survey are ratios of two variables of interest; let them be:

Xpri<sub>j</sub>: the value of the characteristic of interest in the numerator of the ratio, for the jth household of the i-th PSU in the rural area of province p.

# Data Collection

## DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2008-07	2008-08

## DATA COLLECTION MODE

Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]

## DATA COLLECTION NOTES

The field staff consisted of monitors, a collection team and data entry clerks, as described below:

1. Monitors: Technicians from the institutions involved who supported the national and provincial coordination, who continuously and permanently supervised the work of the teams, whose functions included: overseeing the correct application of the LSMS methodology; ensuring that the coverage targets were met; supporting the work of coordinators, supervisors and data entry clerks; unifying the collection at the national level in terms of procedures, techniques and standards; and preparing reports on the status of the SNA in order to make the necessary corrections.

They unified criteria in training courses and received their respective Monitor's Manual where the scope of their workloads and their relations with regional supervisors and coordinators are specified.

2. Data collection team consisting of five persons: one supervisor, three enumerators, one data entry clerk and one driver.

Supervisors: Responsible for the control of coverage, quality, timeliness, data entry and behaviour of the enumerators; for the application of the Community and Price Survey in the most popular establishments in the communities; for the administration and care of the anthropometric measuring instruments (electronic scales and measuring rod), and for the programming and distribution of these instruments to the enumerators. The Supervisor's functions are duly explained in the

corresponding manual.

**Data entry clerks:** Responsible for the entry of data into the computer and its subsequent verification in the field. All basic working relationships of the data entry clerk are established directly with the supervisor. Each collection team had a data entry clerk. The data entry clerks were responsible for the mobile computing and printing equipment (laptops and printers). The functions and control forms are detailed in the Data Entry Clerk's Manual.

**Interviewers:** These are the persons who are responsible for identifying and locating the selected dwellings; interviewing the persons indicated to obtain the information in accordance with the rules, procedures and instructions contained in the Interviewer's Manual. Their work is undoubtedly one of the most important in the Survey; their good performance, responsibility and cooperation depends to a large extent on the information obtained being of the required coverage, quality and accuracy. Their main functions are described in the Interviewer's Manual.

## 1 - Recruitment, Selection and Training

### A. Recruitment and Selection of Personnel for ENV 2008

The Human Resources Directorate of the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic was in charge of the recruitment of field staff to work in the ENV 2008 at the national level, according to the distribution of the working groups in each province or district and considering the profiles required for each type of functions to be performed during the field operation.

The main sources of recruitment used were the database of the surveys conducted annually by INEC and the available personnel who worked in previous surveys. The Ngöbe Buglé Health Region and the Secretariat of the Kuna Nega Association requested applicants with completed secondary education and knowledge of the indigenous language. Coordination also took place with the Ministry of Labour and Labour Development (General Directorate of Employment).

In order to work in the ENV-08 Field Operation at the national level, approximately 739 persons were recruited who fulfilled the requested profiles. Of these, 639 passed the personnel evaluation and 294 were selected to participate in the training courses for interviewers, supervisors and data entry clerks. In the end, 277 persons were recruited. In addition, the recruitment of drivers with the special profile for this type of research was requested.

### B. Training of field staff

Training was organised for 294 participants in eight courses, distributed as follows:

Four courses held in the Province of Panama with participants from the cities of Panama and Colon, the province of Darien, the District of Chepo and the Comarcas of Kuna Yala and Embera.

A course held in the city of Chitre with participants from the provinces of Herrera and Los Santos.

A course in the city of Santiago with participants from the Provinces of Veraguas and Coclé.

A course held in the city of David with participants from the Province of Chiriqui and part of the Ngöbe Buglé Region.

A course in Bocas del Toro with participants from the Province of Bocas del Toro and part of the Ngöbe Buglé Comarca.

As a training strategy, the courses were given in parallel and staggered in the different sites, which allowed the specialists in the different topics to move from one site to another, as it was intended that one topic would be taught by the same specialists in order to achieve uniformity in the training.

The training was given by national trainers, specialists from the Directorate of Statistics and Census, the Directorate of Economic and Social Analysis of the MEF, and nutrition staff from the Ministry of Health. The duration of this training was three weeks full time including Saturdays.

The trainers were divided by specialty according to the Sections of the Household Form, including the Section for recording weight and height or length measurement data (Anthropometry) of all household members. From the participants who passed the enumerator courses, the most outstanding were selected to participate in the additional courses for supervisors and data entry clerks.

Four courses were given for the position of Supervisor (Panama, Santiago, David and Bocas del Toro), which included instructions for supervisory work, how to carry out the Community Survey and how to apply the Price Quotation Form for everyday items.

The courses for the selected candidate data entry clerks were given by the IT specialists.

## 2 - Field Operation



## A. Field operation

The field operation took place from 16 July to 15 August 2008.

The ENV-08 data collection was distributed in four work stages, with one interviewer doing two PSUs in each stage.

The information collection strategy for the application of the LSMS methodology in ENV-08 consisted of the enumerator collecting the information per direct informant in two rounds of visits to the dwellings in each PSU.

## B. Sample Layout

The basis for the organisation of the operation was the 'Sample Layout', which is a regional ordering of the PSUs, which was elaborated according to the sample selection documents, the lists and cartographic material (maps, sketches, plans) of the PSUs and the dwellings verified through the cartographic update.

This ordering and identification of the Primary Sampling Units (PSUs), by Region, Province, Comarca, District, Township and Village, was distributed and ordered by Stage.

For the grouping of the PSUs, the location, access and distance between them was taken into consideration, in order to facilitate the supervision and monitoring work, the allocation of resources and the contracting and distribution of vehicles.

Indigenous areas were given special treatment to facilitate fieldwork. Purely indigenous and bilingual personnel were hired to carry out the data collection work. The same procedure was followed as described for grouping the PSUs. This made it possible to schedule and hire appropriate means of transport.

## 3 - Work Plans

### A. Collection Plan and Coverage Reports

The Collection Plan was elaborated based on the sample size and the human resources available by stage in each province and according to their performance.

At each stage, the work plan for each province was broken down by groups with the names and codes assigned to each team member and the codes of the PSUs and the specific places where they were to carry out their work. This information allowed the coordinator to take the corresponding measures regarding human resources, means of transport and type of transport required. This plan also allowed the monitors to coordinate their work in terms of quality control of the information.

At the end of each stage, the Coordinator had to send to the National Coordination headquarters a report on the collection and coverage of the work carried out (details of this form can be found in the Coordinator's Manual). ) The National Coordination then integrated the consolidated report at the country level.

### B. Monitoring Plan

The monitoring plan was drawn up by stage and by province, taking into account the distribution of the sample, the performance of the field teams and the availability of human resources.

Each Monitor had to discuss with the Coordinator the accessibility of the field teams and the use of transport for the monitoring of the different PSUs. The functions are detailed in the Monitor's Manual.

The monitoring was carried out intensively in all the work teams, with greater emphasis on the teams that had a higher incidence of problems in the application of the questionnaires, in the location of direct informants due to refusals or problems of relationships between field staff, whether for home interviews or for anthropometric measurement. The monitors submitted a written report on the situations encountered in the assigned area.

Coordination meetings were held at the National Headquarters with the participation of the Monitors in order to share the experience, the problems encountered and the solutions that were imparted. Discussions and technical suggestions led to the drafting of Clarifications, for the handling of special situations encountered in the field, not contemplated in the manuals or due to changes in instructions conceived in a different way or omissions in the manuals and in the instructions given in the training courses.

### C. Typing Plan

The typing plan was made in consideration of the workloads, one typist for each supervisor's workload, which corresponded to the questionnaires applied in three PSUs.

## Questionnaires

### QUESTIONNAIRES

- Community Questionnaire
- Living Standards Survey
- Price Questionnaire

## Data Appraisal

### ESTIMATES OF SAMPLING ERROR

The quality indicators of the survey estimates will be calculated with the statistical package SPSS 15; considering the main variables of the survey.

## Access policy

### CONTACTS

Name	Affiliation	Email	URL
LSMS Data Manager	The World Bank	lsms@worldbank.org	surveys.worldbank.org/lsms

### CONFIDENTIALITY

This will be according to the conditions of the external repository providing access to the data.

### ACCESS CONDITIONS

The Access Policy to the Living Standards Survey 2008 Database is completely open to public, private and academic users and its delivery will be made on magnetic media or published on the website of the National Institute of Statistics and Census of the Office of the Comptroller General of Panama and there are certain rules for its proper use.

It is essential to be familiar with the documents that form part of the data and information package that are made public on the website of the National Institute of Statistics and Census.

The user must fill in and sign a form with his/her general data, the objectives of the use of the Database, the products or results that he/she expects to obtain and the commitments acquired.

The user undertakes to send to the Directorate of Social Policies of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Panama, a copy of the publications where the Living Standards Survey 2008 database is used.

The user undertakes to register references to the Living Standards Survey 2008, as the main or partial source of information or where the Database is used.

However, the National Institute of Statistics and Census is not responsible for the estimates made by it or the researchers.

The Database is considered a public good, therefore it may not be sold or transferred to other users within or outside the country, as each user must assume the same commitments established.

The Database will be available in 'SPSS' format on the website of the National Institute of Statistics and Census and the World Bank.

### ACCESS CONDITIONS FROM WORLD BANK LSMS (AS OF MARCH 2011)

In receiving these data it is recognized that the data are supplied for use within your organization, and you agree to the following stipulations as conditions for the use of the data:

1. The data are supplied solely for the use described in this form and will not be made available to other organizations or individuals. Other organizations or individuals may request the data directly.
2. Three copies of all publications, conference papers, or other research reports based entirely or in part upon the requested data will be supplied to:

Ministry of Economy and Finance (Ministerio de Económica y Finanzas)  
 Directorate of Social Policies (Dirección de Políticas Sociales)  
 Panama City, Panama

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3. The researcher will refer to the 2008 Panama Encuesta de Niveles de Vida as the source of the information in all publications, conference papers, and manuscripts. At the same time, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Directorate of Social Policies is not responsible for the estimations reported by the analyst(s).

4. Users who download the data may not pass the data to third parties.

5. The database cannot be used for commercial ends, nor can it be sold.

#### CITATION REQUIREMENTS

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## Metadata production

#### DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI\_PAN\_2008\_ENV\_v01\_EN\_M\_v01\_A\_ESS\_FAO

#### PRODUCERS

Name	Affiliation	Role
Statistics Division	Food and Agriculture Organization	Metadata adapted for FAM

#### DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

PAN\_2008\_ENV\_v01\_EN\_M\_v01\_A\_ESS\_v01

**Data Dictionary**

Data file	Cases	Variables
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