

SOFTWARE FOR ANALYSIS OF SURVEY DATA

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A large number of software packages which can be used for analysis of survey data is available, although these are not primarily developed for this purpose. These packages vary greatly in their statistical techniques, capabilities of handling survey data, user friendliness and documentation. This study was carried out in order to summarise and compare the facilities of a few locally available selected sets of statistical packages which are employed in surveys.

Five general areas, namely : data entry, editing, data management, tabulation and statistical techniques, in survey data analysis are identified. Four locally available statistical packages: MINITAB, SAS, SPSS and GLIM were investigated using several sets of survey data.

While the above statistical packages seem to be efficient in varying degrees for tabulation and statistical techniques, it is seen that where data entry, editing and data management are concerned, database packages (eg. DATAEASE) are more efficient than some of these statistical packages.