

**SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION (SIMD) 2009
– GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

COSLA	Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
Datazones	A statistical geography that was developed in 2004, which is population based with an average of 750 people living in each datazone. Since they are population based, the area of the datazone can vary significantly in size.
Domains	The domains included in the SIMD 2009 are Income; Employment; Health; Education; Access to Services; Housing; and Crime. Within each domain there are between two and eight indicators, which have been selected because they can explain an aspect of deprivation; because they are statistically robust; and because of their availability at datazone level for the whole of Scotland.
Deciles	Deciles are used to group data into ten equal parts or groups; therefore, each part represents 1/10 (one tenth) of the sample or population and allows comparisons to be made between groups.
Local Share	The percentage of datazones within a Local Authority that fall within the 0-15% most deprived.
Median	In probability theory and statistics, the median is described as the number separating the higher half of a sample from the lower half. The median of a finite list of numbers can be found by arranging all the observations from the lowest value to highest value and selecting the middle one. If there is an even number of observations, then there is no single middle value; therefore, often the mean of the two middle values is taken.
Multiple Deprivation	In the context of the SIMD, deprivation is about the range of problems that arise due to lack of resources or opportunities (not only financial). The SIMD is one measure of deprivation and takes the approach that deprivation is multi dimensional. Consequently, the SIMD comprises data from seven different subject areas or domains.
National Share	The number/percentage of datazones in the 0-15% most deprived in Scotland that fall in each Local Authority.
SAPE	Small Area Population Estimates
SIMD	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, which identifies small area concentrations of multiple deprivation across all of Scotland in a consistent way.
SQA	Scottish Qualifications Authority

Weighting

The process of weighting involves emphasising some domains more than others because they are regarded more important to the overall measurement of deprivation; and those which are weighted more highly have a disproportionate effect on the overall index. For example, the income and employment domains are weighted more highly than others as worklessness is regarded as a deprivation in its own right, not simply a driver for low income. While there is a degree of judgment involved in establishing weightings, those chosen for the SIMD reflect the wider academic literature, the strength of the datasets and wider consultation.

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