

COUNTRY FACT SHEET ON RBs: SWEDEN

SWEDEN			
	1978	1981	1985
Name	Reasonable Living Cost (<i>skäliga levnadskostnader</i>), Swedish Consumer Agency (SCA) (<i>Konsumentverket</i>)	Subsistence level, reservation amount (<i>Existensminimum, Förbehållsbelopp</i>) Swedish Enforcement Authority (<i>Kronofogdemyndigheten</i>)	Riksnorm för försörjningsstöd (National standard for social assistance)
Year of first construction	1978	1981	1985
State of use	In use	In use	In use
Key moments	1976: The SCA began constructing a RB 1978: The SCA's RB was finished and made publicly available 1984: Major revision of the RB 1995-96: Major revision of the RB 2007-08: Major revision of the RB 2012: Revised ways of collecting data on consumer prices	1996: The current system for debt restructuring is put in place, with the intention of keeping the subsistence level higher than the national standard for social assistance 2008: Revision of subsistence level shows that the initial intentions have not been met	1979: National Board of Health and Welfare (NBoHW) requested advice on social assistance standards. 1985: NBoHW issues its 1 st norms to serve as guidance for social assistance benefit 1996: Changes to the calculations of the standard including a separation between household and individual expenses, and an exclusion of medical expenses and expenses for durable goods 1998: New legislation: national standard as basis for social assistance benefit levels
Geographical focus	Commodity prices: middle-sized town (Örebro) 2000: 27 municipalities (price collection was made by CSA in 1998) 2009: 10 representative (in terms of size and location) urban areas around the country. 2013: 5 representative urban areas. 2018: 5 representative urban areas.	- Entire country	Entire country
Data used	- Swedish Consumer Agency's - Expert knowledge - Focus group decisions	- Partially based on SCA's reference budget.	- Swedish Consumer Agency's (SCA)
Household types	Calculations are made for one person, and up to seven persons. In households with more than one, the assumption is that they include two grown-ups with 0-5 children.	-Single person or couple Amount for children depend upon the age of the child (2 levels, 6 years or younger, and 7 years or older).	-Single person or couple -Amount for children depend upon the age of the child (8 levels).
Institutions involved	Run by the consumer agency (<i>Konsumentverket</i>). SCB (<i>Statistics Sweden</i>) and NIER	The Swedish enforcement authority.	The National Board of Health and Welfare (<i>Socialstyrelsen</i>).

	<i>(The National Institute of Economic Research) are involved in the quality control of prices on goods and services..</i>		
Key publications	<i>See below</i>	See below	See below
Updates	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly
Last update	2018	2018	2018

Reference: EU Platform on Reference Budgets (2018). Country fact sheet on reference budgets in Sweden, August, 2018, Antwerp: EPRB.

All available publications about RBs in Sweden

Konsumentverket. (2009). *Skäliga levnadskostnader, Beräkningar av Konsumentverket, Rapport 2009* (12), pp. 38. Karlstad: Konsumentverket.

Konsumentverket. (2013). *Konsumentverkets beräkningar av referensvärden – för några av hushållens vanligaste utgiftsområden, Rapport 2013* (4), pp. 38.

Nordenankar, V. (2009). More than A Minimum Budget in Sweden. In: Moser. M., Horak, G. (eds.), *Money Matters - Reference Budgets for Social Inclusion* (6), pp. 7-9. Varna: ECDN. European Consumer Debt Network.

Socialstyrelsen. (2007). *Översyn av riksnormen*.

Socialstyrelsen. (2009). *Normer för ekonomiskt bistånd (socialbidrag) 1985–2005*.

The Swedish Consumer Agency. (2009). Estimated costs of living - the basis of decision making for reference budgets and budget advising in Sweden. *Report 2009* (8), pp. 39. Karlstad: The Swedish Consumer Agency - Konsumentverket.

The Swedish Consumer Agency (2008). *Making your Money last longer. Personal finance advice and tips. The Consumer Agency's calculation*. Karlstad: The Swedish Consumer Agency - Konsumentverket.