

CONCEPT
EXPLAINER

WHAT IS

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

Also known as **SIMD**

swipe



The Scottish Index
of Multiple Deprivation
(SIMD) is a measure of
deprivation combining
factors like income,
employment, health,
education, access to
services, crime, and
housing.

01



It is a tool used to identify areas in

Scotland that face the highest levels of deprivation. It ranks small areas, called data zones, based on a range of factors, which can help pinpoint where disadvantage is most concentrated.



There are 6,976 data zones

03

in Scotland, with
between 700 and 800
people living in each
zone. These zones are
revised and adjusted as
populations change or
move.



The complexity of the index

04

allows public health professionals to understand the overlapping issues facing deprived communities and is crucial for planning and delivering targeted public health strategies.



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Thanks for reading

*In the next explainer, we
take inspiration from
the Scottish Co-
production Network
and understand the
key concept in their
work.*

react and share

