

# Consumer Insights – Simmons Product Profiles

---

Simmons is a consumer research company that has been documenting the lives of American consumers for over 50 years. Founded in 1950 by Willard Simmons, Simmons is now Experian company. They survey over 30,000 consumers annually translating into multiple research studies. One of these surveys, The Simmons<sup>SM</sup> National Consumer Study, is incorporated into the Alteryx Core Data Bundle and accessed through the Alteryx Behavioral and Demographic tools. More can be read about Simmons at this link: <http://www.experian.com/simmons-research/consumer-study.html>

How does this information flow from Simmons to Alteryx and our datasets?

- Simmons adds a Mosaic code (cluster code) to their Simmons National Consumer Study respondents, summarizes the results to a cluster level and adds a universe base. The results are scaled from their survey sample to the United States. This process creates a cluster “profile” or penetration of respondents to a question as a percent of a universe count.
- Simmons provides to Alteryx a file of penetration by cluster for a subset of their survey questions.
- Alteryx applies the penetrations, by cluster by profile, to geographies to generate potential users with the value as a percent of the geography.
- The percent potential for a geography is compared to a % potential for the question (a U.S. benchmark, really) and expressed as an index.

How does the Simmons Survey translate to our use? Survey responses gets cluster coded with a Mosaic lifestyle then the information is summarized for each question into a “profile” or cluster distribution. Since there can be tens of thousands of questions, Simmons provides a subset of more than 1,600 product profiles to Alteryx. We process the profiles and turn into input for Allocate, Solocast and Alteryx Behavioral Analysis Tools.



- an **estimate** of adults/households (likely to do the behavior)
- a **percent** of adults/households (those likely to do the behavior as a % of the estimate of adults/households in a geography)

Here is an explanation of this product or market potential index. When values are expressed as integers, there is not much perspective to evaluate the number. An indexed value can add a proportional perspective to demographics. An index is a result of comparing a geography's value to that of a benchmark. The value is typically a percent, average, median or dollar figure. The benchmark's value becomes the average and is reflected as 100. If the area being compared has the same proportion, the index will be 100. Any index above or below 100 reflects a % difference between the two.

For a Simmons survey example, if there is a value of 200 adults for the Simmons profile "Domestic-most Recently Acquired Jeep/Eagle" in a radius, is this a high number? By itself, one would not know – that value looks low. If I know there are 10,000 adults in the radius and that 200 adults is 2% of the radius, that value still seems low. However, if the overall penetration for that Jeep/Eagle profile for the United States is 1%, now that 2% looks much better. There are twice as many potential buyers in that radius than the U.S. The index for the radius would be 200...the radius is twice as likely as the United States benchmark to have potential users. The index of 200 tells more than value of 200 or 2%.

Keep in mind when using the product potential estimates the values output from our Alteryx products are not actual counts of survey respondents. The values are estimates of consumer behavior based upon a survey sample and lifestyle segmentation.

What the number **IS**

- an estimate of the number of adults/households/population/males/females who may exhibit the behavior based upon the lifestyles of the Simmons survey respondents and the lifestyles of those in a geography

What the number **IS NOT**

- an actual count of the number of adults/households who do the behavior

If you have questions about this methodology or need instruction on the Alteryx tools and output, access our Forum or Knowledgebase or contact us on the Alteryx Community pages at <http://alteryx.force.com/alteryxcommunity>.