DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

STATISTICAL BRIEF

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Executive Summary

The Development Indicators publication has been in existence since 2007 when it was first published as a Mid-term review of the third administration of the South African government. The Development indicators have been there to monitor the progress the country is making against the set policy targets. It was re-engineered to monitor progress against National Planning Development (NDP) Vision 2030 and the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) goals.

This statistical brief has been developed to stimulate policy discussions on issues that are pertinent to development in the country using the census data. The 2023 Development Indicators Statistical report cover a selection of indicators produced by population censuses from 1996 to 2022 and other data sources where census data was not available. The statistical brief has three main themes representing the triple challenges faced by South Africa as stipulated by the NDP i.e., poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The South African government has displayed commitment to solving the persistent difficulties of unemployment and underemployment through aggressive labour market policies and measures targeted at increasing employment possibilities and protecting the rights of disadvantaged people. However, there is a need for focused measures that will address barriers to labour market entry participation. The inequality between males and females in employment has been increasing since 1996, showing that the country is not going in the right direction to deal with the employment gap between males and females.

South Africa has worked hard to close the gap between race groups on basic services. The percentage of Black Africans with access to basic services was low, i.e. below 50% in 1996; however, it has been increasing gradually to be just below other population groups and above 90%.

South Africa has been dealing with the issue of poverty over the years. This is reflected by the number of grant recipients increasing rapidly to 18,8 million in 2022/23. Research has shown that grant monies have been used for food; however, there is evidence that grants were also used for productive investments in livelihood activities.

The statistical brief has proven that South Africa has performed well on some of the indicators, while there are still challenges that are still impacting the population in the country. Even though the country has created systems to alleviate poverty, there is still a lot that needs to be done to alleviate it and meet the NDP targets. Unemployment is still a major challenge to the country. The DPME has produced the 30-Year Review publication, which drew from the Development Indicators data series. The DPME, in collaboration with the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the National Policy Data Observatory (NPDO), has created a Development Indicators dashboard, which has a comprehensive data series of all the indicators reflected in this statistical brief.

1. Introduction

The Development Indicators (DI) report is one of the flagship publications for government published annually. The report has been used over the years to monitor and track progress being made towards achieving the National Development Plan (NPD) vision 2030 goals, Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF) targets and other key government policy goals.

The purpose of this DI statistical brief is to stimulate policy discussions on issues that are pertinent to development in the country using census data. Stats SA released new census data information in 2023 providing an opportunity since 2011 to critically assess development indicators at lower geographic levels up to the year 2022. Therefore this 2023 DI Statistical report will cover a selection of DI indicators using the results of population censuses from 1996 to 2022. Analysis in the statistical brief covers the three main triple challenges faced by South Africa as stipulated by the NDP i.e., poverty, inequality and unemployment.

Census 2022 is the fourth census since the advent of democracy, with the other three being conducted in 1996, 2001 and 2011. This was the first-ever digital census in South Africa, conducted using the three collection modes; Face-to-face (CAPI), Telephonic (CATI) and Online (CAWI). Census 2022 was affected by unprecedented challenges, including riots, ongoing COVID-19 lockdowns and climate change issues such as flooding in some parts of the country. Dissemination of information started in October 2023, giving DPME, and other users access to a range of indicators at the national, provincial and municipal level.

Census data assist in providing information about demographics, economic and social data pertaining the citizens of the country, at a specified time. This is important information in planning resource location, market analysis and looking at the general demography of the population. Census is important for both the public and private sectors and is also used to estimate poverty levels.

South Africa has undergone a significant transformation since the end of apartheid in 1994. The country has made progress in areas such as democracy, human rights, access to education and social protection. However, South Africa also faces some challenges, including poverty, inequality, and unemployment. The Census data provides a comprehensive picture of the social, economic, and demographic landscape of South Africa and is used to track progress towards the attainment of the developmental agenda of the country and to identify areas that require policy intervention.

2. Methodology

The primary data source for this DI statistical brief is the Census data released by Statistics South Africa in 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022. Of importance to note is that not all the Census 2022 dataset and indicators were released when this DI 2023 statistical brief was finalised. However, snippets of the data from Census 2022 and supplementary data sources providing lower-level disaggregated data from other data producers was used to provide information for some of the indicators. This data is a comprehensive source of information on the demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics of the South African population.

This DI statistical brief does not use common poverty metrics as a measure of poverty. It uses proxy indicators measuring income, social assistance and family status. This cover poverty based on household affordability for basic needs social support. The census data was made available in excel spreadsheet with data disaggregated by geographic location at local municipality level.

Trend analysis was used to track progress made towards the development indicators across the three main themes of this report i.e., it focused on the NDP triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment. The data sourced was analysed using excel to produce tables and graphs. The findings from the analysis of indicators in the DI 2023 Statistical Brief will be used to support policy implementation and intervention strategies.

Table 1: Poverty, Inequality and Unemployment Indicators

Themes	Indicators
Unemployment	Employment Status in Employed, Unemployed and Not Economically Active
	Unemployment by Race
	Employment Statistics by Gender
	Youth Unemployment Rate
	Employed Persons by Industry
	Employed Persons by Occupation
	Employed Persons by Race and type of Skills

Themes	Indicators
Poverty	Children who are orphaned in South Africa
	Percentage distribution of children aged 0–17 years by orphan type
	Percentage of households according to the various sources of income
	Poverty Headcount ration at National Poverty Line(s)
	Number of people on social grants in South Africa
	Percentage of the Population Living Below Food Poverty Line
	Population Living Below Food Poverty Line by race
	Proportion of households with no formal sanitation
Inequality	Schooling in South Africa by race
	Schooling by sources/levels of income
	Proportion of people's attendance to education system by race
	Type of main dwelling (grouped) by population group of household head
	Electricity for lighting by Head household by Population group
	Access to piped water in dwelling by population group

3. Results

This section provides the results of the analysis according to the three selected NDP themes. The analysis also cross-references between the themes for indicators that are contributing to multiple themes.

Table 2: Population of South Africa, Census 1996 – 2022

Province	1996	2001	2011	2022	% of change (1996 - 2022)
EC	6 147 244	6 278 651	6 562 053	7 230 204	18%
FS	2 633 504	2 706 775	2 745 590	2 964 412	13%
GP	7 834 620	9 390 528	12 272 263	15 099 422	93%
KZN	8 572 302	9 584 129	10 267 300	12 423 907	45%
LP	4 576 133	4 995 462	5 404 868	6 572 721	44%
MP	3 124 203	3 365 957	4 039 939	5 143 324	65%
NC	1 011 864	991 876	1 145 861	1 355 946	34%
NW	2 726 828	2 982 064	3 509 953	3 804 548	40%
WC	3 956 875	4 524 335	5 822 734	3 804 548	88%
SA	**40 583 573**	**44 819 777**	**51 770 561**	**62 027 503**	53%

Table 2 shows that South Africa's population has grown over the years from 40,6 million in 1996 and increased to 62 million in 2022. This represented 53% growth in the South African population. All provinces have shown an increase in the population residing in those provinces. Gauteng and Western Cape provinces had the highest increase of 93% and 88% respectively. The lowest increase was reflected in the Eastern Cape and Free State provinces at 18% and 13% respectively.

The urbanisation of the South African population has a number of implications for the country. It puts pressure on urban infrastructure and services, such as housing, transportation, sanitation and health. It is also leading to the exponential growth of informal settlements.

The growth and urbanization of the South African population are likely to continue in the coming years; and it is expected to pose a number of challenges for the country. The South African government will need to continue to invest in infrastructure and services to meet the needs of its growing urban population.

Table 3: Percentage Distribution of the Population by Population Group and Provinces

Provinces	Black African				Coloured				Asian				White				Other	
	1996	2001	2011	2022	1996	2001	2011	2022	1996	2001	2011	2022	1996	2001	2011	2022	2011	2022
EC	86,6	87,2	86,3		7,7	7,7	8,3		0,3	0,3	0,4		5,4	4,9	4,7		0,3	
FS	84,8	88,0	87,1		3,0	3,1	3,1		0,1	0,1	0,4		12,1	8,8	8,7		0,3	
GP	72,3	75,0	77,4		3,6	3,6	3,5		2,1	2,3	2,9		22,0	18,8	15,6		0,7	
KZN	82,8	85,2	86,8		1,4	1,5	1,4		9,3	8,3	7,4		6,6	5,0	4,2		0,3	
LP	96,9	97,0	96,7		0,2	0,2	0,3		0,1	0,2	0,3		2,8	2,7	2,6		0,2	
MP	91,0	93,2	90,7		0,7	0,7	0,9		0,4	0,3	0,7		7,9	5,9	7,5		0,2	
NW	90,1	90,0	89,8		1,6	1,8	2,0		0,4	0,3	0,6		7,9	7,8	7,3		0,3	
NC	44,9	46,5	50,4		43,7	42,9	40,3		0,2	0,2	0,7		11,2	10,3	7,1		1,6	
WC	21,6	26,7	32,9		56,0	53,9	48,8		1,1	1,0	1,0		21,4	18,4	15,7		1,6	
RSA	**77,4**	**79,0**	**79,2**		**9,0**	**8,9**	**8,9**		**2,6**	**2,5**	**2,5**		**11,0**	**9,6**	**8,9**		**0,5**	

Table 3 indicates that the Black African population has the highest proportion of over 70% in all provinces with the exception of Northern Cape and Western Cape where the percentages were 32,9% and 50,4%, respectively in 2011. On the other hand, Coloured population is the highest in the Northern Cape and Western Cape provinces. However, the figure shows a decreasing pattern in the Northern Cape from 43,7% in 1996 to 40,3% in 2011 and 56,0% to 48,8% in the Western Cape in the same period. The highest percentage of the Indian or Asian population is found in KwaZulu-Natal. The percentage of the Indian and Asian population in KwaZulu Natal has declined from 9,3% in 1996 to 7,4% in 2011. Gauteng and Western Cape provinces had the highest percentages of the White population at 22% and 21,4% in 1996, which declined to 15,6% and 15,7%, respectively.

Figure 1: Distribution of population by age group from 1996 to 2022 using Census data

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
1996	4.44	4.67	4.65	4.18	3.98	3.46	3.07	2.65	2.14	1.68	1.27	1.07	0.89	0.76	0.48	0.377	0.78	0.14
2001	4.45	4.85	5.06	4.98	4.29	3.93	3.34	3.07	2.62	2.09	1.64	1.21	1.07	0.79	0.63	0.37	0.27	0.16
2011	5.69	4.82	4.59	5.00	5.37	5.06	4.03	3.47	2.95	2.62	2.22	1.80	1.39	0.96	0.75	0.48	0.32	0.26
2022	5.83	5.11	5.40	4.98	5.31	5.73	5.59	5.22	4.19	3.29	2.77	2.50	2.10	1.60	1.05	0.65	0.39	0.31
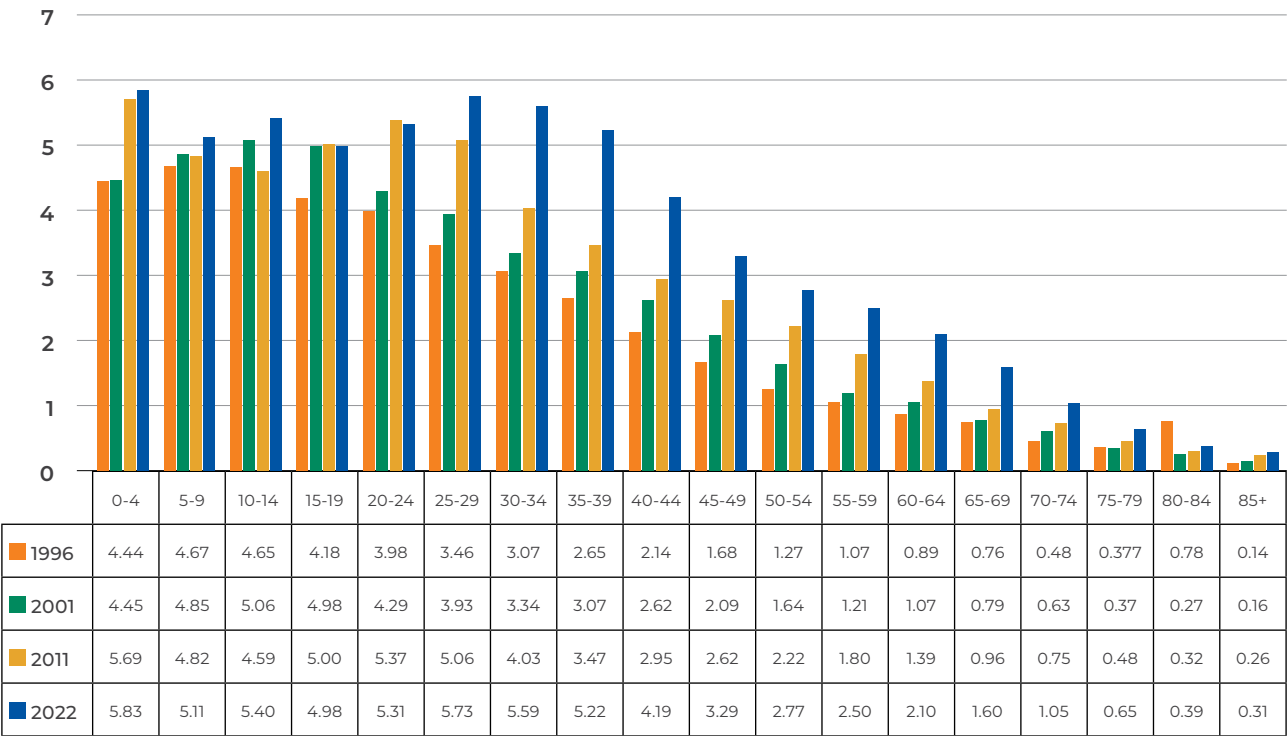
Figure 1 shows population group by age group from 1996 to 2022 using Census data. The figure shows that the population has been growing in all age groups except for the age group 5 to 9 years where the population shrunk by 1% from 4,85 million in 2001 to 4,82 million in 2011, and the age group 10 -14 years where the population shrunk by 9% from 5,06 million in 2001 to 4,59 million in 2011, and age group 15 – 19 years where the population declined by 0,4% from 5,00 million in 2011 to 4,98 million in 2022.

Figure 2: Median age by province from 1996 to 2022 using Census data

	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LP	MP	NC	NW	WC	**SA**
1996	17	24	27	21	17	20	24	22	26	**22**
2001	18	24	27	21	18	21	24	23	26	**23**
2011	21	25	27	22	21	23	25	25	28	**25**
2022	26	28	30	28	26	27	27	27	31	**28**
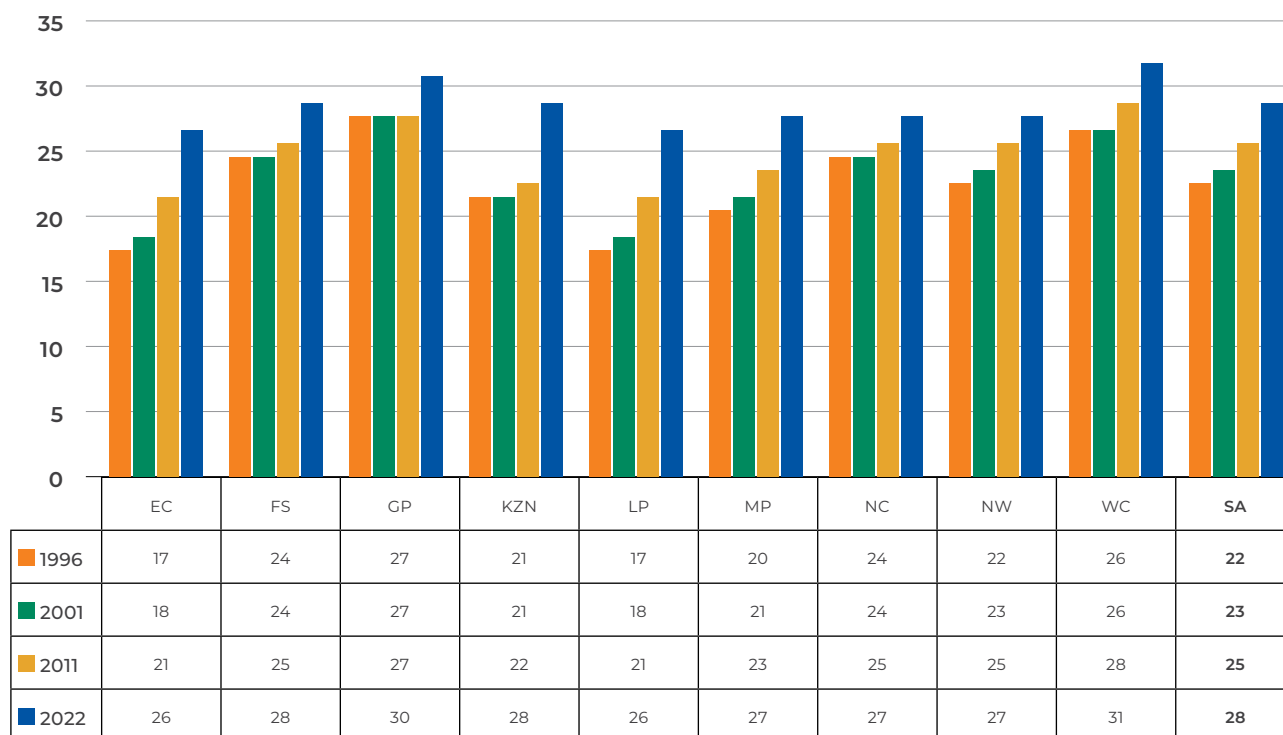
Figure 2 shows the median age by province in South Africa from 1996 to 2022 using census data. South Africa's median age has increased gradually from 22 years in 1996 to 28 years in 2022. This was an increase of 6 years. Gauteng and Western Cape provinces have been having the highest median age since 1996 as compared to other provinces. Limpopo and Eastern Cape provinces have reflected a youthful age structure since 1996.

3.3. Reducing Unemployment

By 2030, the unemployment rate should drop from 25% to 6%, according to the NDP vision 2030. Its objectives are to generate an extra 11 million jobs and raise the labour force participation rate from 54% to 65% by 2030.

From 1994 to 2023, the South African economy grew at an annual rate of 2.4%, peaking at 5,6% in 2006. The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) maintained macroeconomic stability by keeping inflation between the 3%-6% target range, hence bolstering resilience amid the Global Economic Crisis and Covid-19 disruptions. Global reintegration facilitated inward foreign direct investment (FDI), regional economic integration, and export market expansion. Following a 6,4% GDP drop in 2020 due to Covid-19, the economy returned to 2019 levels by the first quarter of 2022. Despite the economy's recovery and structural advancements, the unemployment rate has remained one of the country's most pressing challenges.

The NDP vision 2030 has identified unemployment as one of the triple challenges

the country is facing. Unemployment remains a major concern, affecting individuals, households, and the overall economy. Despite strenuous attempts by the government to boost job creation and economic growth, South Africa's unemployment rates remain stubbornly high, aggravated by structural unemployment, skill mismatches, and labour market rigidities. Efforts to reduce unemployment include a variety of government measures targeted at job creation, skill development, and the promotion of small and medium-sized businesses. The Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) and other targeted employment projects aim to create temporary employment and reduce poverty. However, attaining significant and lasting unemployment reductions will necessitate comprehensive reforms as well as inclusive economic growth capable of absorbing the expanding labour force. Understanding the complexities of unemployment patterns is critical for developing targeted policy actions that promote sustainable and equitable economic opportunities for all.

The global unemployment and underemployment situation, as indicated by the 5,3% unemployment rate and 11,6% underemployment rate in 2023 and 2022, respectively (ILO, 2023), demonstrates a persistent difficulty confronting economies around the world. Despite nominal improvements, labour market recovery after the epidemic has been unequal, with lower-middle-income nations suffering the most severe setbacks and slow recovery. This disparity in recovery paths exacerbates global inequities and highlights the importance of tailored policies to alleviate labour market imbalances.

According to the Statistics South Africa Quarterly Labour Force Survey (2023) latest figures, the situation in South Africa is particularly bleak, with a shocking unemployment rate of 32.4%, much higher than the international average. The disproportionately high youth unemployment

rate is especially concerning, with young people aged 15 to 34 experiencing an alarming jobless rate of roughly 45,3%. Furthermore, the frequency of young people not in employment, education, or training (NEET) is 32,7%, indicating major obstacles in providing pathways to meaningful economic involvement for the youth generation.

The ramifications of these trends highlight the need to harness the employment effects of policies and investments. National governments hold tremendous power through policy and investment decisions that have far-reaching consequences for job growth and employment quality. Despite this, there is still room to improve the explicit incorporation of employment issues into policy, funding, and project implementation decision-making processes. Prioritizing employment-focused measures allows policymakers to reduce the negative consequences of unemployment and underemployment, stimulate inclusive growth, and support long-term development paths that prioritize all citizens' well-being and economic empowerment.

3.3.1 Employment Status

The NDP provides the approximation of the country's aspirations by aiming to halve unemployment by 2030 and reduce the official unemployment rate to 6 percent.

Table 4: Employment Statistics Corresponding to Census 1996 – 2022

Indicators	1996	2001	2011	2022
Labour force (000)	11 956	15 878	18 262	23 146
Total employed (000)	9 007	11 221	13 683	15 339
Unemployed (000)	2 949	4 657	4 579	7 807
Unemployment rate (strict %)	24,7	29,3	25,1	33,7
Unemployment rate (expanded %)	36,4	39,9	33,8	42,5
Labour absorption rate (%)	37,0	40,5	40,4	38,3
Labour force participation rate (%)	49,1	57,4	53,9	57,8

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer v2441

Figure 3: Employment Status
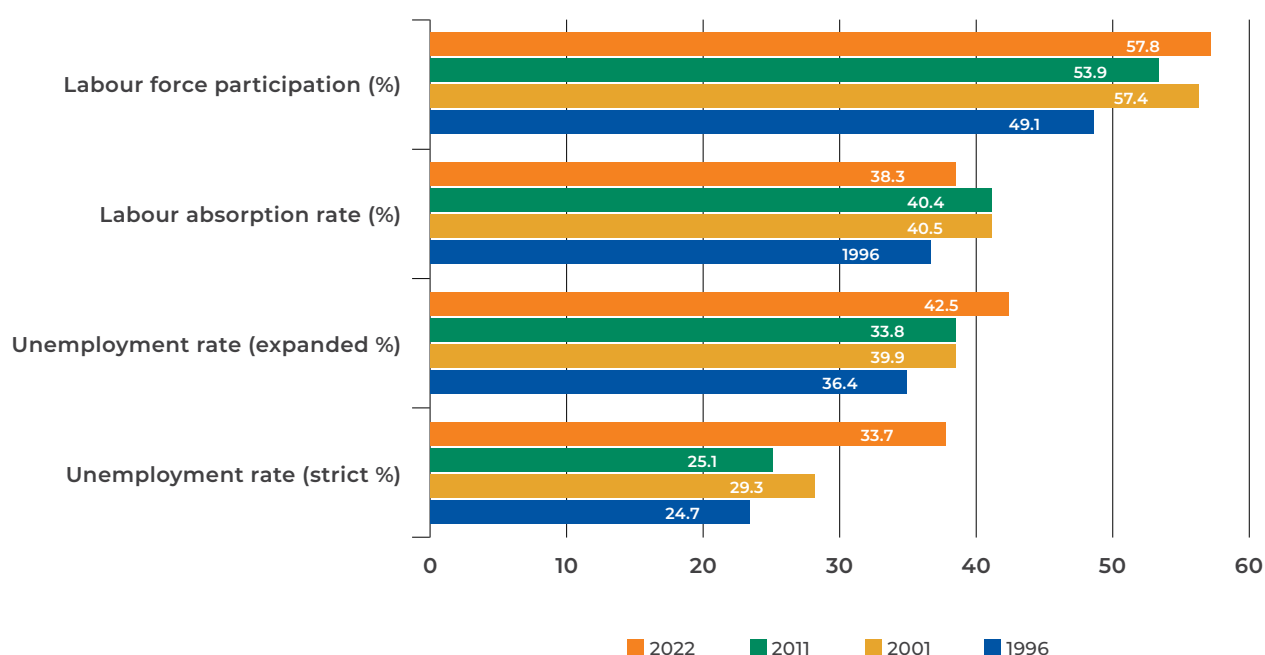
Table 4 shows that the labour market in South Africa has expanded and transformed significantly since 1994. The labour force grew from 11,9 million in 1996 to 23,1 million in 2022, with notable changes in race, gender, age, and skills composition due to progressive labour legislation as illustrated below. Over the same period, the total number of people employed increased from 9 million to 15,3 million, and the number of people unemployed increased from 2,9 million to 7,8 million respectively. It shows that even though the number of key initiatives such as the 2011 Jobs

Fund, the 2018 Job Summit, Youth Employment Service, Amavulandlela Funding Scheme, Public-Private Growth Initiative, Expanded Public Works Programme, Presidential Employment Stimulus, and the National Rural Youth Service Corps have played significant roles, there is still a lot required in terms of policies to reduce the increasing number of people unemployed.

Figure 3 shows that even though both numbers of employed and unemployed people increased with the working-age population, the South African economy was able to absorb more employees for around 40,5% between the years 2001 and 2011, resulting in a significant decrease

of 29,9 percent to 25,1% of official unemployment rate. Since the year 2011, the economic conditions changed from increasing rates of economic growth and employment numbers to ever-ending challenges, all rates indicated a deteriorating picture such as an increase in the unemployment rate by 8,6 percentage points to 33,7% and labour force participation rate increased by 3,9 of a percentage points to 57,8%, and labour absorption rate decreased by 2,1 percentage point to 38,3% in 2022 respectively. The decrease in labour absorption rate indicated that as the South African economy was struggling to grow, it could not also absorb the required number of employees to reduce the unemployment rate.

Figure 4: Unemployment rate per district for 1996 and 2011

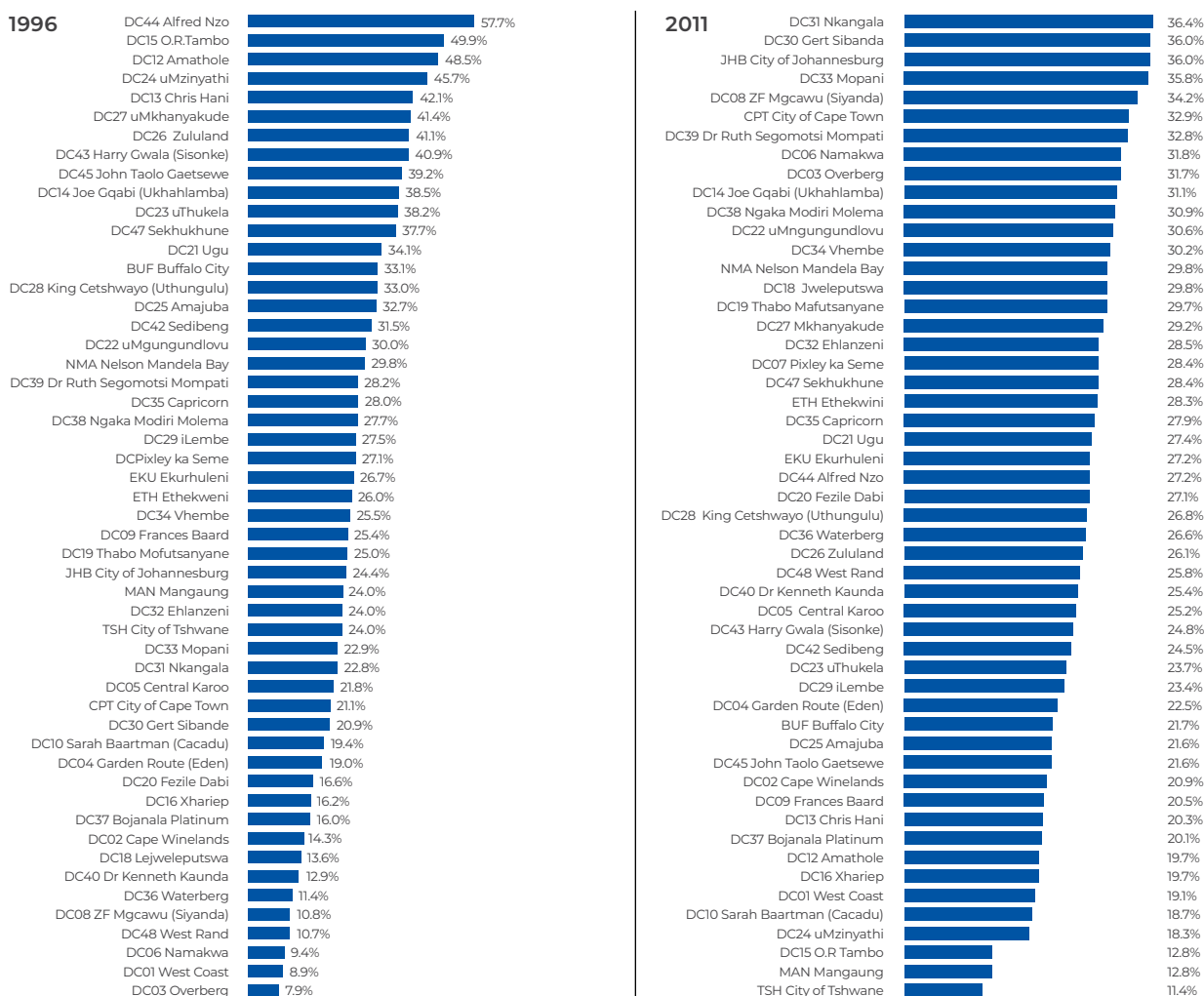| 1996		2011	
DC44 Alfred Nzo	57.7%	DC31 Nkangala	36.4%
DC15 O.R.Tambo	49.9%	DC30 Gert Sibanda	36.0%
DC12 Amathole	48.5%	JHB City of Johannesburg	36.0%
DC24 uMzinyathi	45.7%	DC33 Mopani	35.8%
DC13 Chris Hani	42.1%	DC08 ZF Mgcawu (Siyanda)	34.2%
DC27 uMkhanyakude	41.4%	CPT City of Cape Town	32.9%
DC26 Zululand	41.1%	DC39 Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	32.8%
DC43 Harry Gwala (Sisonke)	40.9%	DC06 Namakwa	31.8%
DC45 John Taolo Gaetsewe	39.2%	DC03 Overberg	31.7%
DC14 Joe Gqabi (Ukhahlamba)	38.5%	DC14 Joe Gqabi (Ukhahlamba)	31.1%
DC23 uThukela	38.2%	DC38 Ngaka Modiri Molema	30.9%
DC47 Sekhukhune	37.7%	DC22 uMngungundlovu	30.6%
DC21 Ugu	34.1%	DC34 Vhembe	30.2%
BUF Buffalo City	33.1%	NMA Nelson Mandela Bay	29.8%
DC28 King Cetshwayo (Uthungulu)	33.0%	DC18 Jweleputswa	29.8%
DC25 Amajuba	32.7%	DC19 Thabo Mafutsanyane	29.7%
DC42 Sedibeng	31.5%	DC27 Mkhanyakude	29.2%
DC22 uMgungundlovu	30.0%	DC32 Ehlanzeni	28.5%
NMA Nelson Mandela Bay	29.8%	DC07 Pixley ka Seme	28.4%
DC39 Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	28.2%	DC47 Sekhukhune	28.4%
DC35 Capricorn	28.0%	ETH Ethekwini	28.3%
DC38 Ngaka Modiri Molema	27.7%	DC35 Capricorn	27.9%
DC29 iLembe	27.5%	DC21 Ugu	27.4%
DCPixley ka Seme	27.1%	EKU Ekurhuleni	27.2%
EKU Ekurhuleni	26.7%	DC44 Alfred Nzo	27.2%
ETH Ethekweni	26.0%	DC20 Fezile Dabi	27.1%
DC34 Vhembe	25.5%	DC28 King Cetshwayo (Uthungulu)	26.8%
DC09 Frances Baard	25.4%	DC36 Waterberg	26.6%
DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane	25.0%	DC26 Zululand	26.1%
JHB City of Johannesburg	24.4%	DC48 West Rand	25.8%
MAN Mangaung	24.0%	DC40 Dr Kenneth Kaunda	25.4%
DC32 Ehlanzeni	24.0%	DC05 Central Karoo	25.2%
TSH City of Tshwane	24.0%	DC43 Harry Gwala (Sisonke)	24.8%
DC33 Mopani	22.9%	DC42 Sedibeng	24.5%
DC31 Nkangala	22.8%	DC23 uThukela	23.7%
DC05 Central Karoo	21.8%	DC29 iLembe	23.4%
CPT City of Cape Town	21.1%	DC04 Garden Route (Eden)	22.5%
DC30 Gert Sibande	20.9%	BUF Buffalo City	21.7%
DC10 Sarah Baartman (Cacadu)	19.4%	DC25 Amajuba	21.6%
DC04 Garden Route (Eden)	19.0%	DC45 John Taolo Gaetsewe	21.6%
DC20 Fezile Dabi	16.6%	DC02 Cape Winelands	20.9%
DC16 Xhariep	16.2%	DC09 Frances Baard	20.5%
DC37 Bojanala Platinum	16.0%	DC13 Chris Hani	20.3%
DC02 Cape Winelands	14.3%	DC37 Bojanala Platinum	20.1%
DC18 Lejweleputswa	13.6%	DC12 Amathole	19.7%
DC40 Dr Kenneth Kaunda	12.9%	DC16 Xhariep	19.7%
DC36 Waterberg	11.4%	DC01 West Coast	19.1%
DC08 ZF Mgcawu (Siyanda)	10.8%	DC10 Sarah Baartman (Cacadu)	18.7%
DC48 West Rand	10.7%	DC24 uMzinyathi	18.3%
DC06 Namakwa	9.4%	DC15 O.R Tambo	12.8%
DC01 West Coast	8.9%	MAN Mangaung	12.8%
DC03 Overberg	7.9%	TSH City of Tshwane	11.4%

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2441

Figure 4 shows that in 1996 the unemployment rate was higher in Alfred Nzo and OR Tambo district municipalities at 57,7% and 49,9% respectively. The picture changed in 2011 when the unemployment rate was higher in Nkangala and Gert Sibande districts in Mpumalanga province at 36,4% and 36,0% respectively. The unemployment rate for the City of Johannesburg metro increased from 25% in 1996 to 36,0% in 2011. In 2011 the City of Johannesburg municipal ranked one of the top 3 of the highest unemployment rates in South Africa. The City of Tshwane reported the lowest unemployment rate of 11,4% in 2011 as compared to other districts, and this was an improvement from 24,0% in 1996.

3.3.2 Employment Status

Figure 5: Employment Statistics by Gender
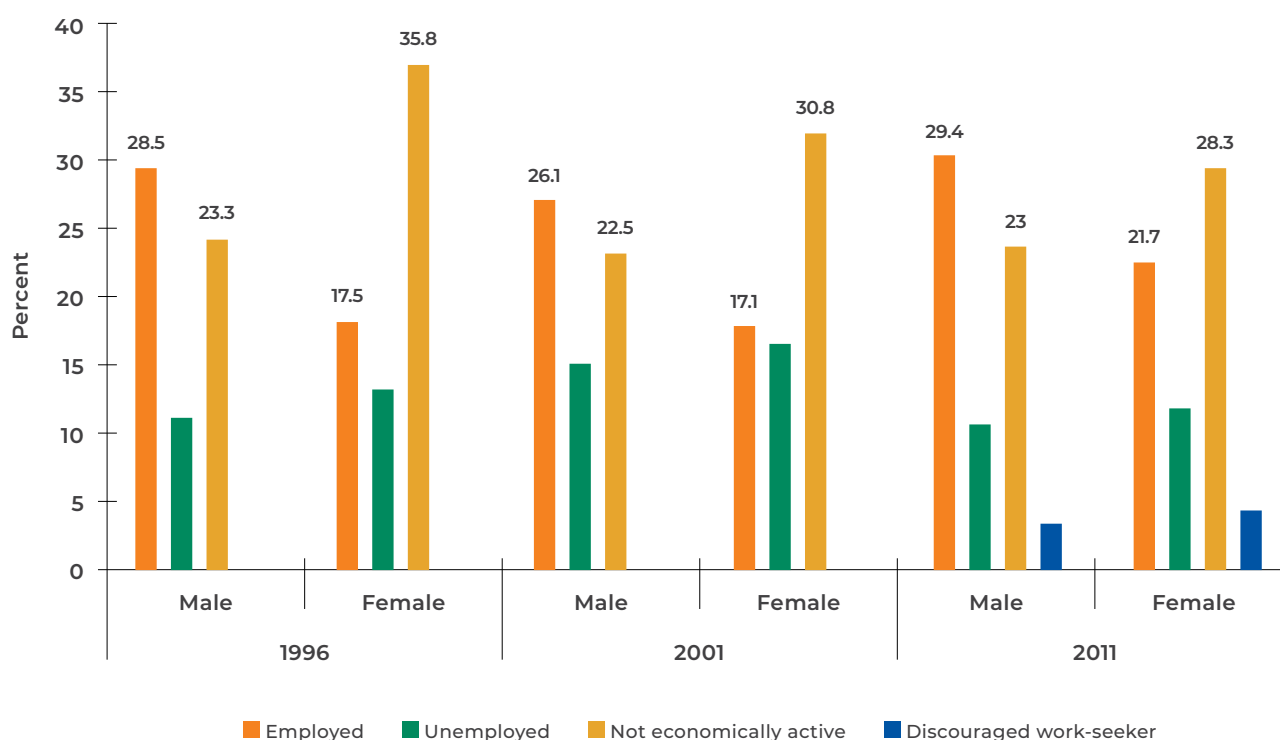
	1996		2001		2011	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Employed	5 572 777	3 675 550	5 586 300	3 997 462	7 412 285	5 767 793
Unemployed	2 063 855	2 653 389	3 120 142	3 703 933	2 548 873	3 045 182
Discouraged work-seeker	-	-	-	-	769 369	1 065 723
Not economically active	4 545 935	7 540 939	4 823 430	7 195 859	5 784 656	7 510 599
Unspecified	39 694	38 657	-	-	-	-
Not applicable	7 298 626	7 154 150	7 904 168	8 488 483	8 673 608	9 192 472
Total	19 520 887	21 062 685	21 434 040	23 385 737	25 188 791	26 581 769

Gender gaps still exist, with males having higher employed percentages than females. However, the difference has slowly narrowed over time. Figure 5 depicts gender differences in employment. The number of employed males increased from over 5,5 million (28,5%) in 1996 to 7,4 million (29,4%) in 2011. The number of females employed increased from over 3,6 million (17,5%) in 1996 to 5,7 million (21,7%) in 2011. While both male and female employment rose between 1996 and 2011, the gender difference narrowed in 2011, indicating that women's employment is increasing relatively faster compared to men. The number of people unemployed for both males and females increased from 1996 to 2001 and decreased to 2,5 million and 3,0 million in 2011, respectively.

Figure 6: Employment Status by Race

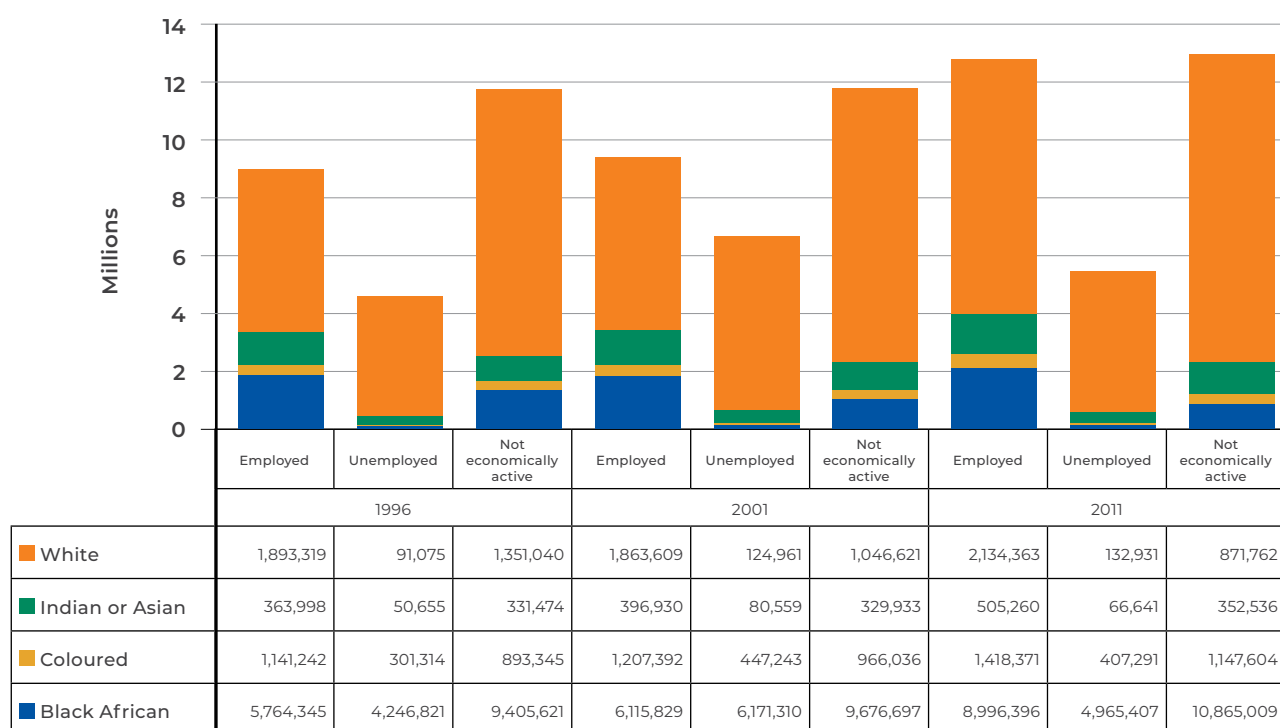|	Employed	Unemployed	Not economically active	Employed	Unemployed	Not economically active	Employed	Unemployed	Not economically active
	1996			2001			2011		
White	1,893,319	91,075	1,351,040	1,863,609	124,961	1,046,621	2,134,363	132,931	871,762
Indian or Asian	363,998	50,655	331,474	396,930	80,559	329,933	505,260	66,641	352,536
Coloured	1,141,242	301,314	893,345	1,207,392	447,243	966,036	1,418,371	407,291	1,147,604
Black African	5,764,345	4,246,821	9,405,621	6,115,829	6,171,310	9,676,697	8,996,396	4,965,407	10,865,009

Figure 6 shows a significant growth in the number of employed Black Africans in South Africa between 1996 and 2011, indicating progress in employment prospects for this demographic group, the number of employed Black Africans increased from 5,8 million in 1996 to almost 9,0 million in 2011. Despite these achievements, the number of unemployed remains a significant concern, particularly for Black Africans, as seen by the continued rise in the number of unemployed people over the same period. Conversely, the white population, which has historically been associated with lower levels of unemployment, has seen an increase in the unemployed numbers from 91 thousand in 1996 to 132 thousand in 2011, albeit from a smaller base than Black Africans.

The number of non-economically active populations has been increasing since 1996 for Black Africans and Indian or Asian, while numbers for Whites and Coloured have moderated in 2011. Figure 19 also highlights the alarming trend of increased non-economic activity among the Black African population after 1996 until 2011, implying structural barriers to effective economic involvement for this demographic group. This trend emphasizes the need for focused measures that address barriers to labour market entry and participation.

3.3.3 Youth Unemployment

Figure 7: Youth unemployment rate
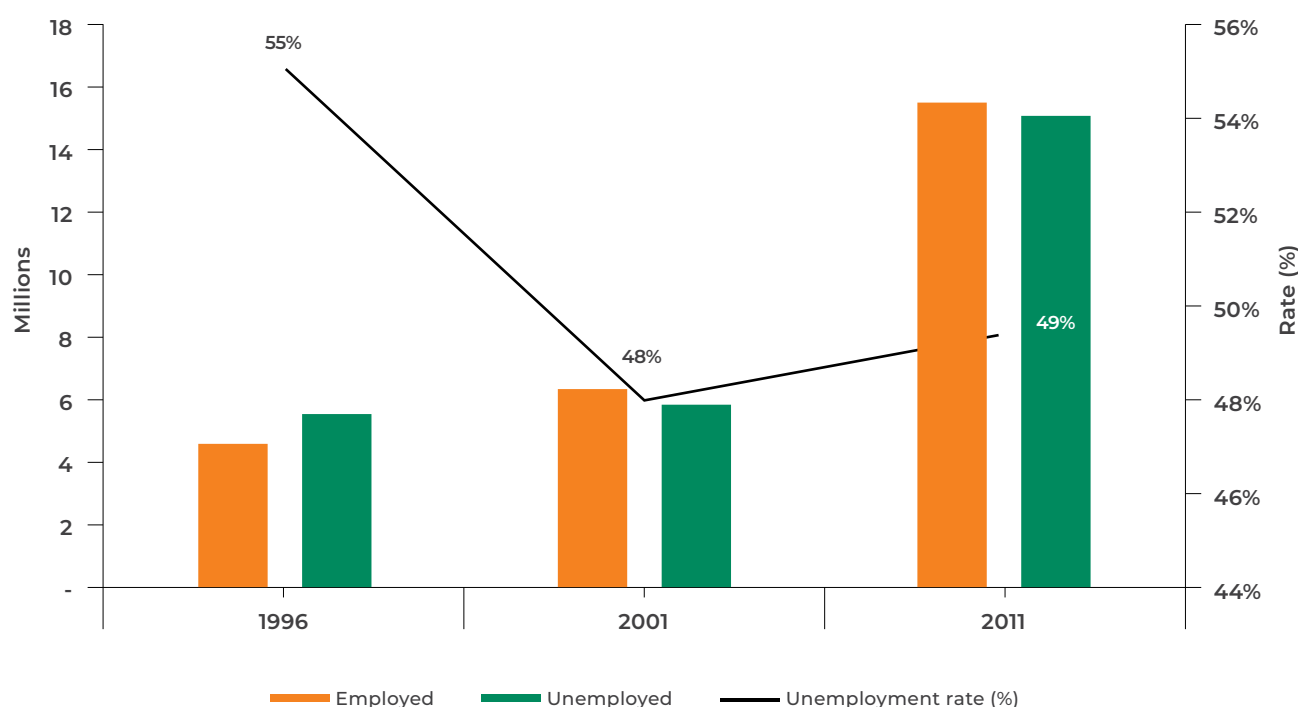
Youth unemployment has emerged as a serious concern, as seen in Figure 7, with continuously high jobless rates among young people since 1996. While youth unemployment rates fell modestly from 55% in 1996 to 48% in 2001, the following insignificant uptick of 1 percentage point to 49% highlights the ongoing problems of integrating young people into the Labour market.

3.3.4 Employed persons by Industry and occupation
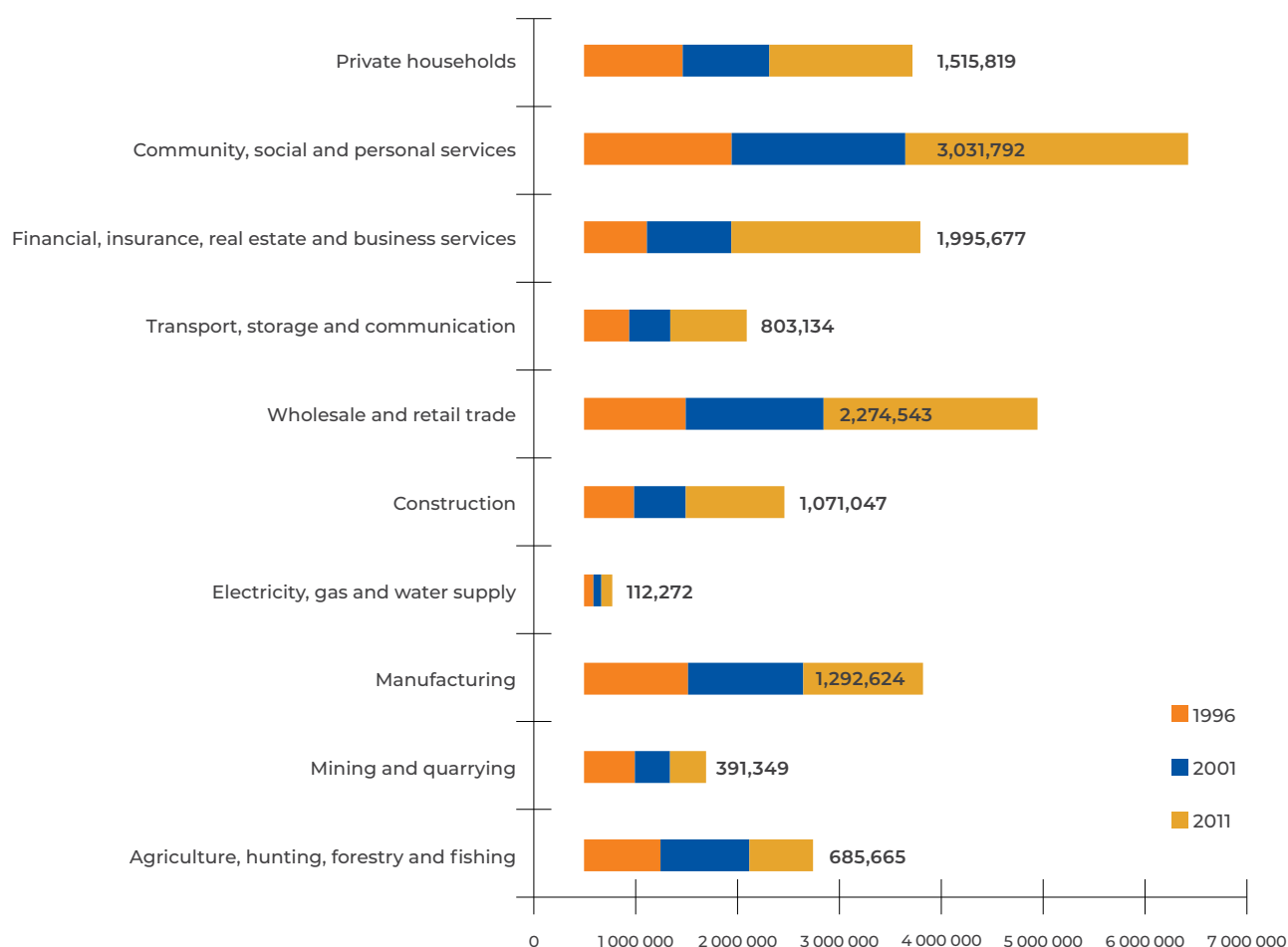
Figure 8: Employed Persons by Industry

Figure 8 shows employment composition, that between 1996 and 2011, there were considerable shifts in the allocation of economic activities in the various sectors. Notably, agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing declined from 810 thousand in 1996 to 686 thousand employed in 2011, indicating a possible shift away from traditional primary sectors. Manufacturing, on the other hand, grew steadily, from 1,1 million to 1,3 million within the same period. Wholesale and retail commerce increased significantly from 1,1 million to 2,3 million employed showing a rise in economic activity.

Construction also had significant growth, nearly tripling from 554 employed in 1996 thousand to 1,1 million employed in 2011. Furthermore, the sectors of finance, insurance, real estate, and business services expanded dramatically, rising from 678 employed in 1996 thousand to almost 2 million in 2011, indicating a shift towards service-based industries. Meanwhile, community, social, and personal services have more than doubled from 1,6 million employed in 1996 to over 3 million employed in 2011, indicating an increasing emphasis on societal and personal well-being.

Figure 9: Employed Persons by Occupation
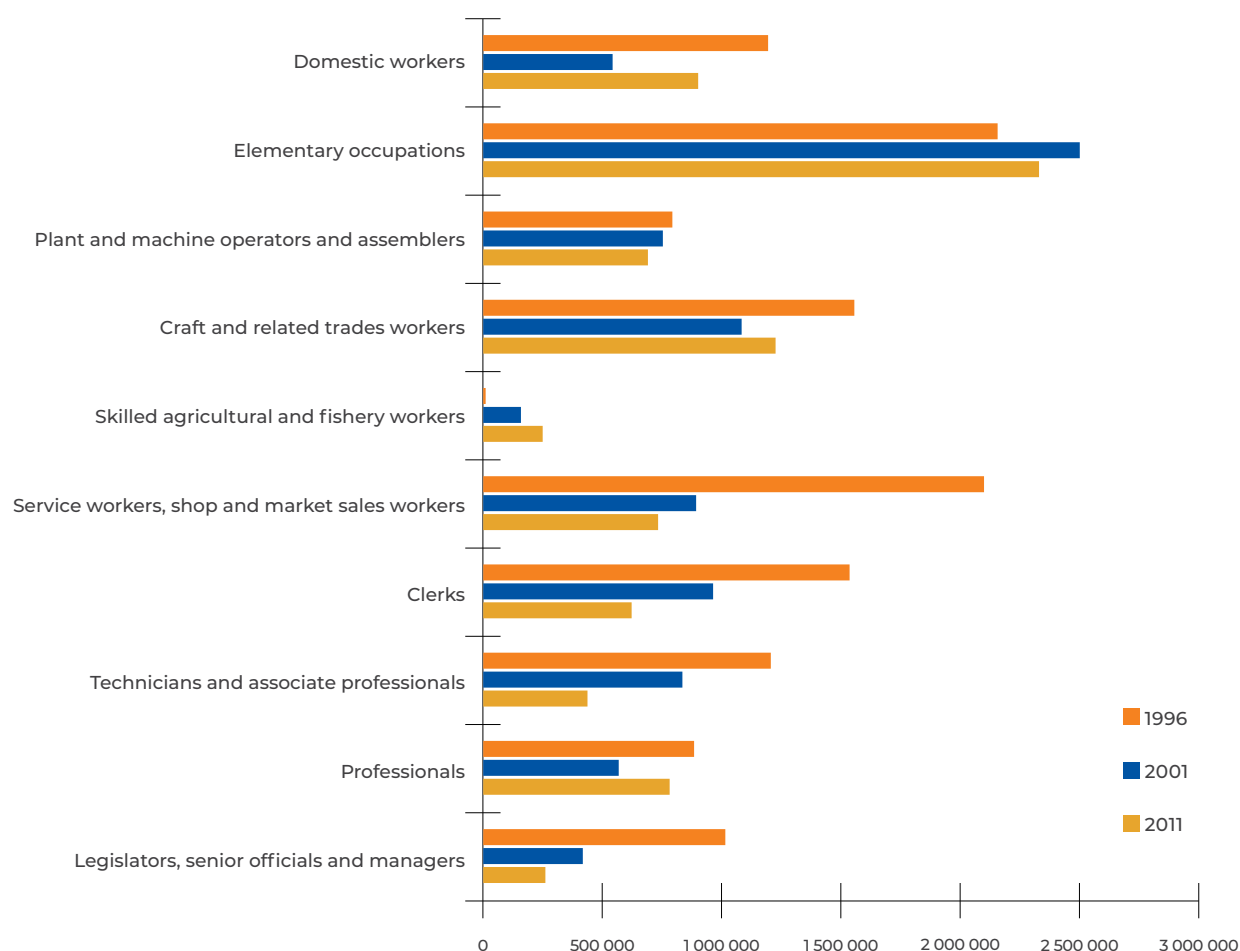
Figure 9 shows significant changes in the occupational distribution from 1996 to 2011. Legislators, senior officials, and managers saw significant growth, more than tripling from 363 thousand in 1996 to 1,1 million in 2011, showing an increased need for administrative and leadership positions. In contrast, skilled agricultural and fisheries workers decreased significantly from 355 thousand to 123 thousand employed indicating a probable transition away from traditional agricultural employment. Similarly, domestic workers fluctuated, falling from 984 thousand to 635 thousand by 2001 before rising to almost 1,3 million by 2011.

Service workers, shopkeepers, and market salespeople increased dramatically, more than doubling from 819 thousand to over 2,1 million presumably reflecting expansion in the retail and service industries. Overall, these patterns point to a shift towards professional and managerial jobs, as well as a fall in conventional manual labour roles, which reflects changing economic and societal systems.

Comparing census data across several variables and disaggregation sheds light on the complexities of South Africa's unemployment situation. Understanding these patterns and gaps is critical for developing targeted policy actions to promote inclusive economic growth, reduce unemployment, and improve living conditions for all individuals.

South African government has displayed a commitment to solving the persistent difficulties of unemployment and underemployment through aggressive labour market policies and measures targeted at increasing employment possibilities and protecting the rights of disadvantaged people. Aligned with the National Development Plan (NDP) and the Medium-Term Strategic Framework (MTSF), which emphasise the importance of economic transformation and job creation, the government has set lofty goals to significantly boost employment levels by 2030. The NDP's vision of a responsive labour market, combined with the MTSF's emphasis on long-term growth and the creation of 2 million jobs by 2024, demonstrates a coordinated commitment to promoting inclusive economic development while reducing inequality. Furthermore, the emphasis is on improving public sector delivery, governance capabilities, and establishing public-private partnerships.

3.1. Eradicating Poverty

Since the dawn of democracy, the country has made significant strides in implementing policies aimed at reducing extreme poverty through the provision of social assistance and free basic services. While the policy in South Africa's democratic dispensation has achieved some level of economic inclusion for all population groups, poverty has been a consistent factor in society. The NDP Vision 2030 aims to eliminate poverty by 2030. The plan aims to reduce the proportion of households with a monthly income below R419 per person (in 2009 prices) from 39% to 0%.

3.1.1: Multidimensional Poverty Index in South Africa

A multidimensional poverty Index (MPI) is an indicator that integrates a range of indicators to capture the complexity of poverty and provides a better insight to inform programmes and policies better to fight poverty. The MPI is made up of 10 indicators that are categorised into three dimensions of poverty (i.e. Health, Education, Living Standard). The MPI ranges from 0 to 1, and higher values imply higher poverty.

Figure 10: Multidimensional poverty index
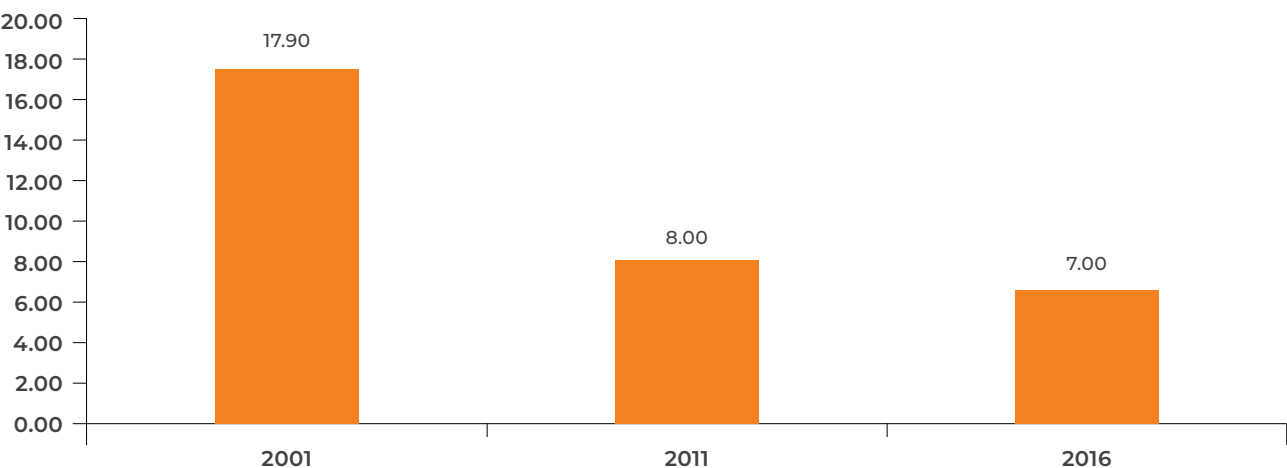
Source: Stats SA

As shown in the 30 years review of South Africa's Democracy (1994 - 2024), progress has been made in reducing MPI since 1994. Figure 10 shows that MPI in South Africa reduced from 17,9% in 2001 to 6,3% in 2016. Progress has been made in reducing the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) through universal access to primary education and increased access to basic services, including telecommunications, water, sanitation, and electricity.

Figure 11: Average annual household income by sex of head of household
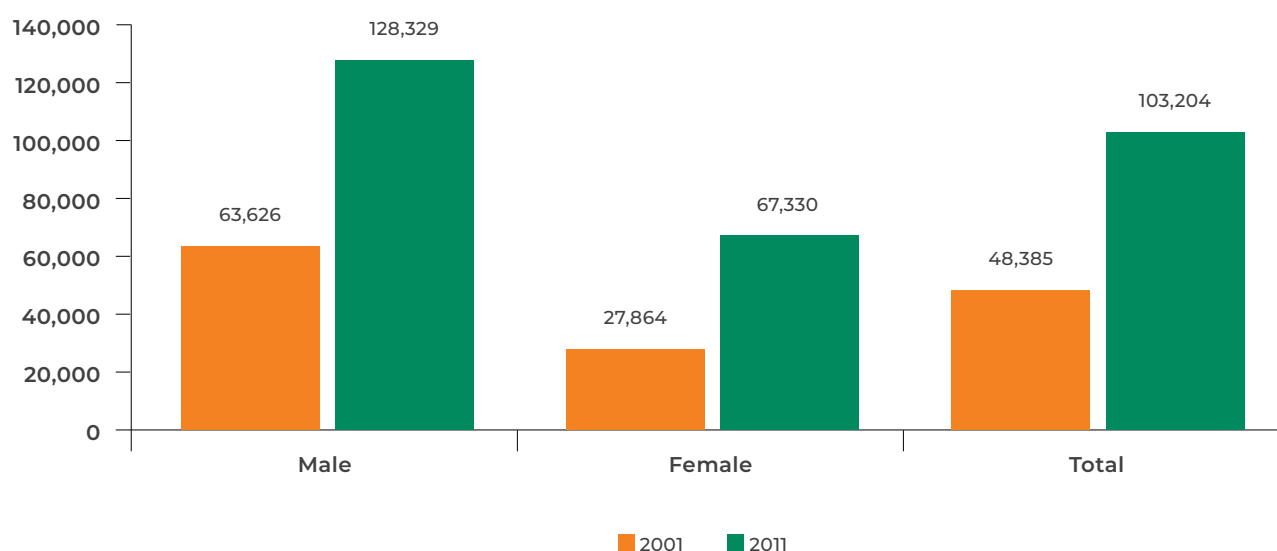
Figure 11 shows that the average household income increased by more than double from R48,385 in 2001 to R103,204 in 2011. Households headed by males had the highest income for both 2001 and 2011. However, it increased for households headed by both genders.

Table 5: Percentage Distribution of Sources of Household Income by Province, 2011 and 2022

Province	Salaries		Grant		Remittances		Pension		Business	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
EC	49,9	45,1	57,3	59,6	22,0	19,8	9,0	4,5	9,3	10,3
FS	60,7	62,2	51,6	70,6	18,9	15,9	4,8	4,4	9,6	13,6
GP	72,7	70,4	28,9	39,3	10,7	10,7	5,5	4,0	15,8	19,6
KZN	61,3	64,6	49,4	63,3	16,4	18,8	5,7	4,2	10,9	17,7
LP	44,9	46,8	59,1	59,3	16,2	17,6	5,4	2,4	12,3	14,6
MP	63,7	56,6	49,5	63,4	20,6	17,3	6,2	2,5	13,2	19,1
NW	60,7	61,9	47,0	63,1	14,4	18,7	3,7	2,5	11,4	16,3
NC	59,1	67,1	55,8	65,4	13,8	10,5	4,6	5,1	7,6	14,1
WC	73,6	66,7	37,2	34,1	8,3	6,0	9,0	6,5	11,7	14,6
RSA	62,6	61,9	44,8	52,2	16,2	14,3	5,4	4,0	12,3	16,5

Data Source: General Household Survey, based on Census data

Table 5 summarises the percentage of households according to the various sources of income reported by the province for the 2011 and 2022 censuses. A specific household can have more than one source of income. Nationally, salaries (61,9%) and social grants (52,0%) are reported as income sources by the highest percentages of households. This trend has been consistent for the last decade. Provincially, the largest percentage of households that earned salaries are found in Gauteng (70,4%), overtaking the Western Cape, which reported the largest percentage of households that earned salaries (73,6%) in 2011. Grants are more prevalent than salaries as a source of income in Free State (70,6%), North West (63,1), Limpopo (59,3%) and Eastern Cape (59,6%). Gauteng also reported the highest percentage of households that earn through business income (19,9%), followed by Mpumalanga (19,1%).

Table 6: Percentage of the Population Living Below the Food Poverty Line per Province

Province	2011	2016	2022
EC	27,6%	35,6%	40,5%
FS	19,2%	26,0%	28,7%
GP	13,3%	18,7%	23,0%
KZN	26,2%	34,4%	37,9%
LP	27,8%	34,6%	35,5%
MP	23,0%	30,7%	30,4%
NW	20,4%	27,3%	33,2%
NC	14,7%	22,4%	24,5%
WC	10,5%	17,4%	19,0%
RSA	20,5%	27,3%	30,4%

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2441

Poor households are quite vulnerable and are likely to experience hunger. According to the 2019 survey report on subjective poverty in South Africa, poverty incidence for households who experienced hunger was high. According to the World Bank brief (2023) the poverty rate in South Africa was estimated to be more than 50%. Rural-based provinces mainly had the highest incidence of poverty. In households, where the major source of income is social grant, it is mostly likely that those individuals cannot afford the minimum required daily energy intake. The percentage of the population living below the food poverty line in South Africa increased from 20,5% in 2011 to 30,4% in 2022.

Rural provinces like the Eastern Cape, Limpopo, and KwaZulu-Natal have consistently since 2010 have more than a third of the population experiencing extreme poverty because they cannot afford to buy food. Access to food can be inadequate or severely inadequate. At least 30,4% of the South African population are living in extreme poverty. This amounts to 18,8 million out of a population of 62 million.

Figure 12: Vulnerability to hunger and access to food, 2002 - 2022

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vulnarability to hunger: Household	24.2	22.8	18.5	16.3	11.7	10.8	13.2	13.0	11.6	11.1	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.7	10.4	9.7	10.3	10.8	11.6	11.6
Vulnarability to hunger: Individual	29.3	27.7	23.1	20.1	14.5	13.8	16	16.1	13.4	13.2	13.5	13.2	13.2	13.7	12.1	11.3	11.1	11.6	12.2	12.9
Complex food access: Household								23.6	21.2	21.3	22.9	22.3	22.5	22.1	21.3	20.2	17.8	20.6	20.9	19.6
Complex food access: Individual								29.1	25.2	26.3	26.3	26.4	26.6	25.2	24.7	23.8	19.5	22.8	23.8	22.0

Data Source: GHS

Often, adults and children can go hungry because there is not enough food in poor households. Figure 12 displays a trend of vulnerability to hunger and access to food during the period 2002 to 2022. The percentage of persons who experienced hunger decreased from 29,3% in 2002 to 12,9% in 2022. The percentage of households who were vulnerable to hunger reflects a similar pattern as experienced by individual persons as it declined from 24,2% in 2002 to 11,6% in 2022

The lack of employment and income has forced the South African government to implement policies of social protection and relief through grants. Otherwise, some households will barely make ends meet. South Africa's economic misfortunes remain closely tied to the legacy of apartheid, inequality and to add COVID-19 pandemic brought on by the novel coronavirus. South Africa's extensive social assistance remained a core element of the

national response to cushion the most vulnerable against poverty and hunger. In respond to the growing economic hardships experienced by the poor and unemployed, the number of social grant beneficiaries has been drastically increasing since the programme's inception.

3.1.2 Children who are orphaned in South Africa

Children who are orphaned are at a high risk of living in poverty. To deal with the issue of poverty on vulnerable children, including orphaned children, the country established a framework through the Social Assistance Act of 2004 to provide financial aid to eligible children and households. Table 6 below shows the percentage distribution of children aged 0 to 17 years who are orphaned by type and provinces using the census 2011 and 2022 datasets.

Table 7: Percentage distribution of children aged 0–17 years by orphan type and province, Census 2011 and 2022

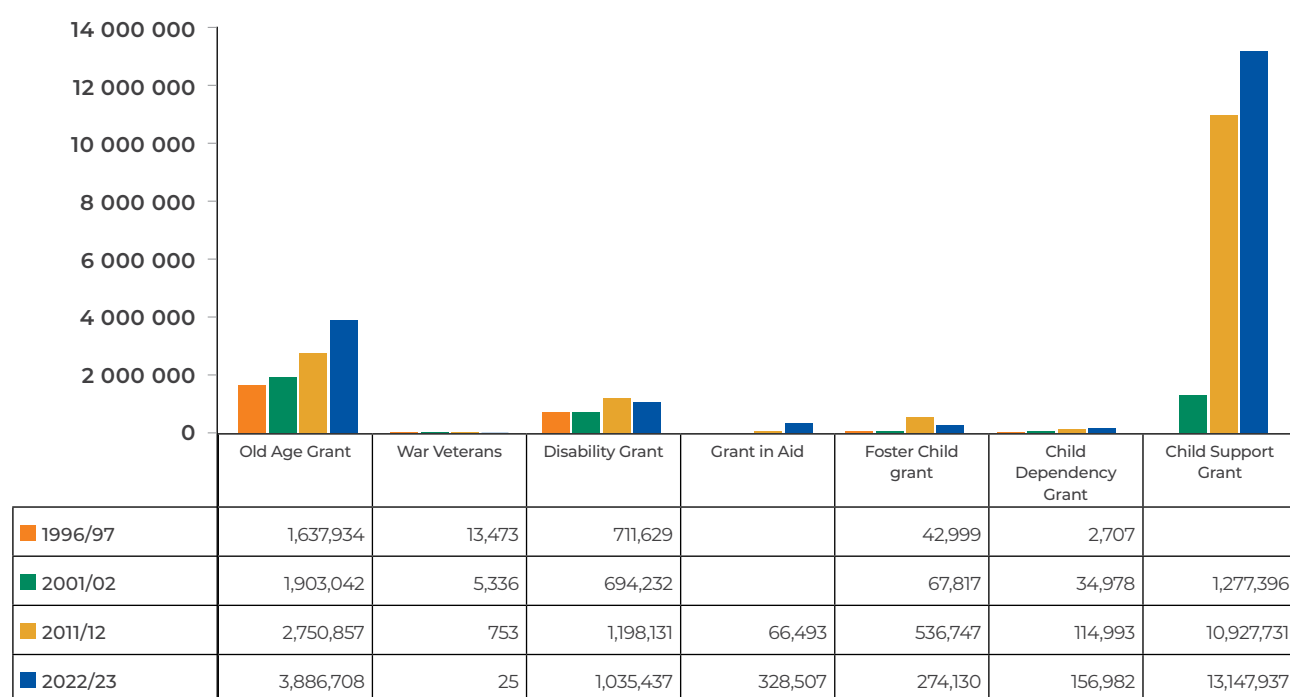| Type of orphan	Census year	Paternal orphan	Maternal orphan	Double orphan
WC	2011	6,2	1,6	1,1
	2022	6,1	1,6	1,5
EC	2011	15,8	3,4	4,9
	2022	11,5	2,8	3,4
NC	2011	8,9	3,6	3,1
	2022	7,8	3,1	2,4
FS	2011	13,1	3,8	5,7
	2022	10,3	2,8	3,1
KZN	2011	15,5	3,8	5,9
	2022	10,4	2,5	2,8
NW	2011	11,1	3,3	4,1
	2022	8,7	2,6	2,9
GP	2011	8,9	2,3	2,6
	2022	7,4	1,9	2,1
MP	2011	12,1	3,6	4
	2022	8,6	2,5	2,6
LP	2011	12,5	2,2	2,9
	2022	8,6	1,8	2,4
SA	2011	12,1	3	3,9
	2022	8,9	2,3	2,5

Source: Stats SA

Table 7 shows that the percentage of children who are double orphaned in South Africa declined from 3,9% in 2011 to 2,5% in 2022, while those who are paternal orphaned decreased from 12,1% in 2011 to 8,9% in 2022. Children who are maternally orphaned declined from 3% in 2011 to 2,3% in 2022. Table 7 shows that the paternal orphan type had the highest percentage of children as compared to the other orphan type since 2011. In 2011, KwaZulu Natal reported the highest percentage of children who are orphaned for all orphan type, with 15,5 percent of the children being paternal orphaned, 3,8% being maternal orphaned and 5,9% being double orphaned. Eastern Cape province also reported the highest percentage of children who are orphaned. These high figures of children who are orphaned may be due to the consequences of fatal crimes happening on those areas and the health challenges faced by the country. High numbers of orphans lead to high levels of child poverty.

Child poverty may lead to children being affected health wise, and this will lead to health facilities experiencing high number of people visiting health facilities. Malnutrition may be a challenge to the children as poverty affects their physical and psychological development. It may lead to children being used for criminal activities, which will lead to increased crime in the country.

3.1.3. Number of people on social grants in South Africa

One of the challenges South Africa is facing is an unemployment rate that is very high. Majority of labour force is unemployed. The massive unemployment has led to social grant system being heavily expanded where millions of people are surviving from the social grants.

Figure 13: Number of grant recipients by Grant type in South Africa

	Old Age Grant	War Veterans	Disability Grant	Grant in Aid	Foster Child grant	Child Dependency Grant	Child Support Grant
1996/97	1,637,934	13,473	711,629		42,999	2,707	
2001/02	1,903,042	5,336	694,232		67,817	34,978	1,277,396
2011/12	2,750,857	753	1,198,131	66,493	536,747	114,993	10,927,731
2022/23	3,886,708	25	1,035,437	328,507	274,130	156,982	13,147,937

Source: SASSA Annual Report 2022/23

Figure 13 shows that the number of grant recipients in South Africa grew from - 2,4 million in 1996/97 to 18,8 million in 2022/23. The total number of grant recipients increased by 65,3% from 1996/97 to 2001/02. From 2001/02 to 2011/12, the total number of grant recipients increased by 292,6%, which was the highest increase in the number of grant recipients over the years where census took place. From 2022/23, number of grant recipients grew by 20,7% from 2011/12. Due to the non-availability of food poverty data within census, it has been a challenge to show how the grant has assisted in ameliorating levels of poverty in South Africa. By the end of March 2023, the COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress grant had benefitted more than 8,5 million people[1].

Researchers have shown that grant monies are largely spent on food; however, there is evidence that grants are also used for productive investments in livelihood activities[2]. According to a DSD commissioned review on child poverty and the value of the Child Support Grant (2023). The South African social assistance programme is recognised worldwide for its efficiency and achievements and is widely regarded as the country's most successful poverty alleviation strategy. The Child Support Grant (CSG) has been especially successful at reaching large numbers of poor children with relative ease and it has the best pro-poor targeting record of all the existing social grants. Just over 13 million receive the CSG every month. Its biggest weakness is that the value of the CSG, at R500 per month in 2023.

More than 7 million children remain below the food poverty line (FPL), which was R663 per person per month in 2022. In 2021, 37% of all children in South Africa were living below this poverty line. The CSG is too small to protect the poorest children from hunger, malnutrition and stunting. Hence the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child have all recommended that the CSG amount be increased.

3.1.4 Food Security

Even though poor households have income through social grants, often access to nutritious food that meets their daily need and food preferences for an active and healthy life is not available. Hence, subsistence farming is encouraged in households. Agriculture and subsistence farming are a driver of food security, job creation and rural development, as envisaged in the National Development Plan. They also play a crucial role in alleviating poverty.

[1] SASSA, 2022/23 Annual report
[2] Patel L, Dikoko V, Archer J, 2023, Social Grants, Livelihoods and Poverty Responses of Social Grant Beneficiaries in South Africa, University of Johannesburg, Center for Social Development in Africa, South Africa

Figure 14: Non-agricultural households by province

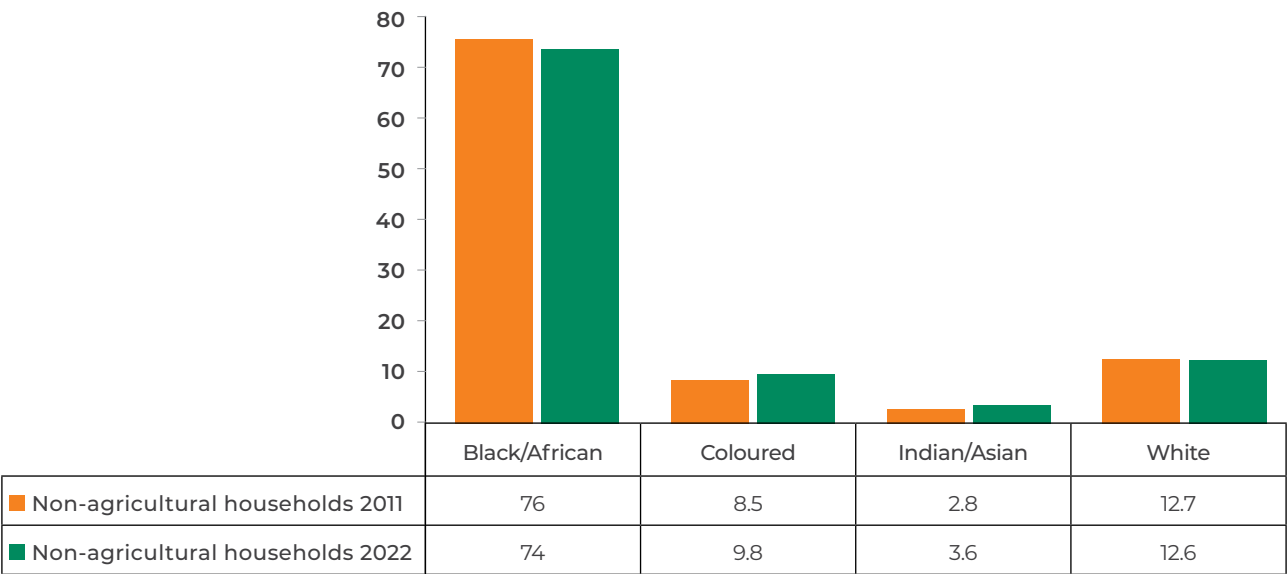|	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP
■ Non-agricultural households 2011	13.4	9.4	2.1	5.4	15.8	7.3	31.4	7	8.2
■ Non-agricultural households 2022	14.4	8.8	2	4.6	15	6.3	32.9	7.6	8.4
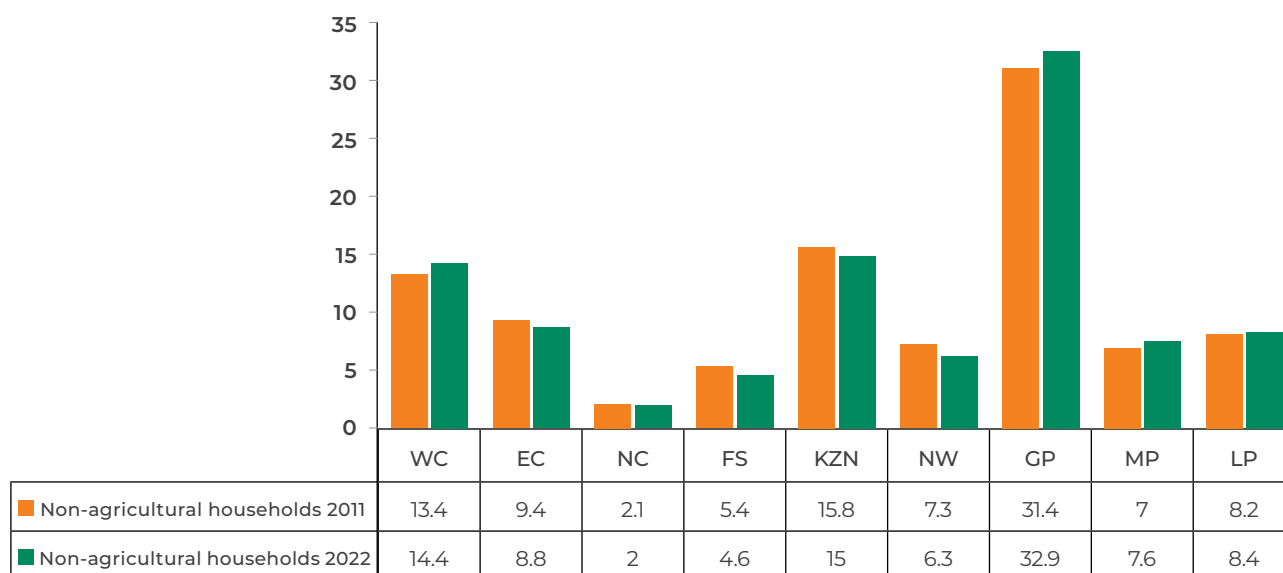
Source: Stats SA

Figure 14 shows that provinces such as Gauteng, Western Cape and KwaZulu Natal have the highest percentage of households involved in non-agricultural activities. This maybe expected as these provinces are metros and have small land occupation/area allocated mainly for building houses. There are fewer rural provinces such as North West, Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga and Limpopo not engaged in non-agricultural households.

Comparing non-agricultural households' activities using census 2011 and 2022, figure 14 shows that provinces such Gauteng, Western Cape and Mpumalanga experienced an increase in households not engaged in agricultural activities as compared to 2011, while other provinces show the decrease in non-agricultural activities. Only the Northern Cape remain the same or did not show any change during census 2011 and 2022. Consistently, Gauteng has the largest number of households not engaged in agricultural activities over the decade. This is the same province with the largest percentage of households that earn salaries for income.

Figure 15: Non-agricultural households by population group

	Black/African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White
■ Non-agricultural households 2011	76	8.5	2.8	12.7
■ Non-agricultural households 2022	74	9.8	3.6	12.6

Source: StatsSA

Figure 15 shows that the majority of Black Africans are not involved in agricultural activities at the household level as compared to other population groups. Fewer Indians/Asians are not involved in agricultural activities at the household level, compared to whites and coloured. It is concerning that the African population has the highest percentages of households not involved in agricultural activities considering this is the largest population in the country. The more people involved in either smallholder and subsistence agriculture, the more food will be available for households and assist in alleviating poverty.

Figure 16: Number of agricultural households by main type of agricultural activity and province, Census 2022

|	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP
Vulnarability to hunger: Household	15313	247902	24607	37939	247043	106649	27207	87732	164976
Vulnarability to hunger: Individual	5194	89962	1877	20942	126727	17325	51187	86419	250463
Complex food access: Household	30137	72569	6250	72803	117789	38613	180233	66296	76924
Complex food access: Individual	2093	70417	689	3699	55514	4575	3464	14734	26483

Source: StatsSA

Figure 16 shows that provincially, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu Natal have the highest number of households involved in livestock and poultry production as compared to other provinces. Gauteng province has the highest percentage in producing fruit or vegetable production as household activities. Grain, food crops and industrial crops are produced mostly in Limpopo as compared to other provinces

3.1.5 Population with access to basic services

Access to basic services such as housing, electricity, water and sanitation are important in improving people's living standards. Access to these services is also significant in improving households' health, the environment and the level of poverty in the country. The access to basic services indicators is contributing towards the multidimensional poverty index.

Figure 17: Population with access to basic services
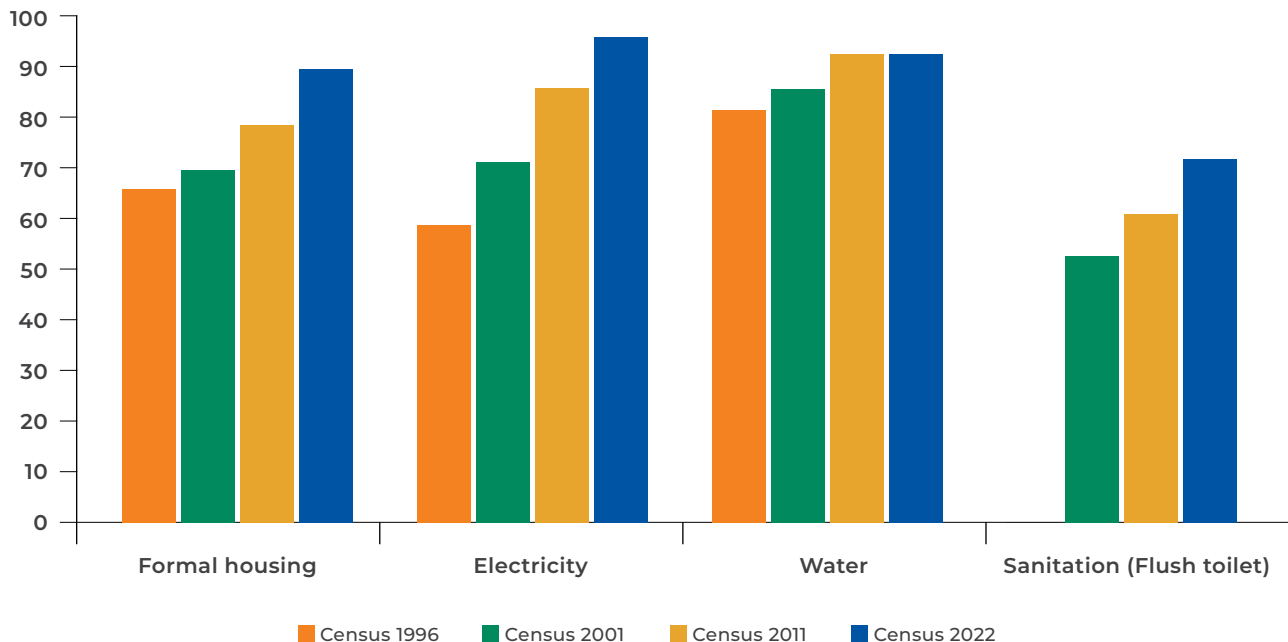
Source: StatsSA

The percentage of households with access to formal housing increased from 65,1% in 1996 to 88,5% in 2022. This is an increase of 23,4 percentage points. Access to electricity as the main source of energy increased from 58,1% in 1996 to 94,7% in 2022. This was an increase of 36,6 percentage points. The percentage of households with improved sanitation increased from 51,9% in 2001 to 70,8% in 2022. This was an increase of 18,9 percentage points for the households with access to flush toilets. Households with access to piped water increased from 80,4% in 1996 to 91,3% in 2011 and 2022.

3.1.6 Households with no access to basic services

South Africa has made critical progress in ensuring that people have access to basic services. Even though significant disparities remain across the provinces and demographic groups, access to basic services have generally improved from 1996 to 2022. The indicators on access to basic services below reflect progress the country has made since 1996.

Table 8: Household with no formal dwellings by Province

Year	SA	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP
1996	31,8%	17,3%	49,0%	18,1%	34,4%	41,3%	25,8%	23,7%	30,7%	32,4%
2001	28,8%	17,1%	47,3%	13,9%	31,4%	36,5%	19,0%	25,4%	24,6%	23,4%
2011	22,3%	16,8%	39,9%	14,7%	17,5%	28,9%	22,1%	20,2%	15,5%	10,1%
2022	17,3%	16,9%	30,1%	14,7%	16,4%	17,4%	18,6%	18,6%	10,4%	4,2%

Source: StatsSA

Access to adequate housing remains a challenge in South Africa. The government has implemented various housing programs to address this issue, including subsidies for low-income households, upgrading informal settlements, and promoting affordable housing initiatives. Households should have at least a certain level of possessions, or perceived necessities, for a dignified life. The type of dwelling and access to basic services, including sanitation and piped water, can be indicators of poverty. Table 8 shows that the percentage of Households with no formal dwelling across all Provinces dropped from 31,8% to 17,3%. This could be linked to the backlog in housing service delivery. Limpopo province has the biggest improvement over the 30-year period from 32,4% in 1996 to 4,2% in 2022. Followed by Mpumalanga province with 10,4% in 2022, and the Western Cape shows very minimal changes over the years after starting with 17,3% in 1996 and now in 2022 with only 16,9% showing a drop of only 0,4% reduction over the years.

3.1.5.1 Households with no formal sanitation

South Africa has made significant efforts to improve access to sanitation services. The census data shows progress in extending access to sanitation facilities, particularly in rural areas. Initiatives such as the upgrading of sanitation facilities have assisted in improving access to sanitation services in the country.

Table 9 below shows the proportion of households with no formal sanitation by district in South Africa. This also reflects a backlog in access to formal sanitation by metropolitan from the census of 1996 to census of 2022. At the national level, the country has managed to improve on access to formal sanitation, where the proportion of households with no access to sanitation declined from 43,3% in 1996 to 15,4% in 2022, which is a 64,4% decrease.

In 2022 Nelson Mandela Bay Metro had the lowest proportion of households with access to no formal sanitation at 2,6%, which was an improvement from 15,6% recorded in 1996. Three metros, namely, the City of Tshwane, eThekwini and Mangaung, had the highest proportion of households with no formal sanitation at 14,1%, 11,1% and 10,5%, respectively. Even though they recorded the highest proportion of households with no formal sanitation, the metros also improved significantly as compared to what was there in 1996.

Table 16 in the appendix below shows that there were 8 districts which had the proportion of households with no formal sanitation above 30% in the country. The districts are from the following provinces: Limpopo (4 districts), North West (2 districts), Mpumalanga (1 district) and Northern Cape (1 district). This is reflected in appendix 1. The districts with the highest proportion of households

with no formal sanitation was Sekhukhune (59,6%) in Limpopo and Ehlanzeni (54,5%) in Mpumalanga. Table 15 in appendix shows that even though the districts have the highest proportion of households with no formal sanitation, observed proportion distributions have been on the decline since 1996.

Table 9: Share of households with no formal sanitation by district - backlog (%)

Metropolitan Municipalities (2016/18 boundaries)	1996	2001	2011	2022
National Total	43,3	39,8%	25.5%	15,4%
JHB City of Johannesburg	9,8%	9,3%	5,1%	2,9%
CPT City of Cape Town	10,6%	10,5%	5,6%	4,1%
NMA Nelson Mandela Bay	15,6%	20,1%	7,7%	2,6%
EKU Ekurhuleni	15,6%	14,3%	9,4%	7,0%
TSH City of Tshwane	22,8%	21,4%	16,9%	14,1%
ETH eThekwini	27,4%	25,5%	15,0%	11,1%
MAN Mangaung	43,4%	31,1%	15,9%	10,5%
BUF Buffalo City	33,5%	40,8%	21,0%	6,6%

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2471

3.1.5.2 Household with no access to water

Access to safe drinking water has an impact on the health, well-being and safety of the population. In this section, the focus is mainly on household access to clean water, and also the distance from communal water infrastructure. On the national level, the proportion of households with access to water infrastructure inside the dwelling has not significantly improved since 1996 (Figure 18). Water infrastructure connection, thus no access to water, reduced by 64,7%. However, metro and district-level information show much improvement in reducing service delivery backlog.

Table 10 below shows that all the metros have a decline on proportion of households with no access to formal water. Households with no formal access to formal water includes those without water

inside the dwelling, in the yard, less than 200m from dwelling and more than 200m from dwelling. eThekwini and Buffalo city metros had the highest proportion of households with no access to formal water at 7,5% and 6,0 % respectively.

A lot has been achieved to improve communal water infrastructure in order to reduce walking distance to access safe water. According to inequality trends using multidimensional diagnostic of poverty report from Statistics South Africa, despite the general positive story in terms of access to water, African-headed households still remained well below the access levels experienced by the other population groups. They reported the lowest proportion of households with access to piped or tap water ranging from 63,7% in 2002 to 69,1% in 2017.
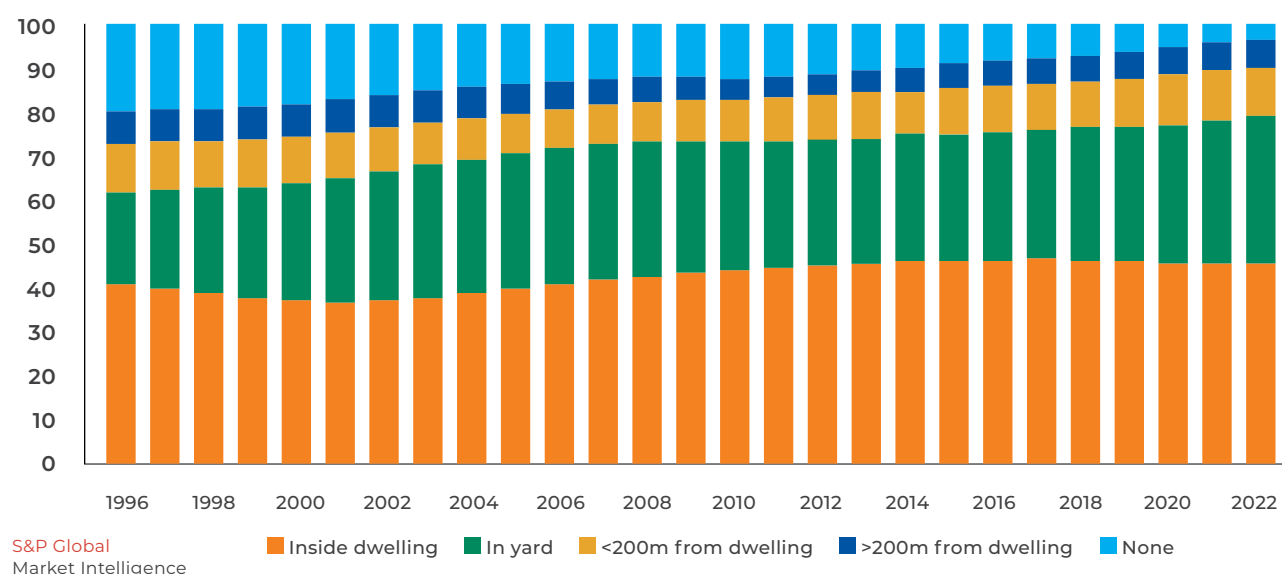
Table 17 in the appendix shows that the provinces that had districts with more than 30% of household without formal water connection were KwaZulu-Natal (4 districts), Eastern Cape (2 districts) and Limpopo (1 district). These include Alfred Nzo (42,2%), O.R Tambo (38,1%), Harry Gwala (37,5%), Ugu (36,9%), uMkhanyakude (34,6%), uMzinyathi (31,4%) and Vhembe (31,5%). However, all the district reflected a decline in the proportion of households without access to formal water.

Table 10: Water infrastructure - Share of households with no formal water - backlog (%)

Census Years	1996	2001	2011	2022
National Total	26,9%	24,4%	16,6%	9,5%
CPT City of Cape Town	4,3%	4,7%	2,5%	1,3%
ETH eThekwini	14,4%	13,2%	9,4%	7,5%
EKU Ekurhuleni	7,0%	6,2%	3,3%	1,2%
JHB City of Johannesburg	5,0%	5,2%	2,6%	0,5%
NMA Nelson Mandela Bay	7,2%	9,4%	3,1%	1,4%
TSH City of Tshwane	10,3%	8,7%	4,6%	0,7%
MAN Mangaung	12,1%	10,2%	3,3%	3,1%
BUF Buffalo City	22,0%	21,1%	8,5%	6,0%

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2471

Figure 18: Household by water Infrastructure

S&P Global
Market Intelligence

■ Inside dwelling ■ In yard ■ <200m from dwelling ■ >200m from dwelling ■ None

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2471

3.1.5.3 Household with no access to electricity

Electricity is one of the basic services that South African households depend on for their daily lives and wellbeing. Figure 19 shows proportion of households connected to electricity. Over the years, access to electricity for lighting and other use has significantly improved. However, there are still household with no access to electricity. There is 83,9% improvement or change in reducing electricity connection backlog since 1996 at the national level, with the most improvement occurring in eThekwini (93,4%), Nelson Mandela Bay (93,3%) and Buffalo City (90,5%) Metropolitans. The slow performing metros in this regard include Ekurhuleni (45,4%) and the City of Johannesburg (44,2%).

Table 11 below shows the proportion of households with no formal electricity connections in metros. Nationally, the proportion of households with no formal electricity connections declined significantly from 35,5% in 1996 to 5,7% in 2022. All the metros reported a decline from 1996 to 2022. However, Ekurhuleni metro reported the highest proportion of households with no formal electricity connection at 11,9%, followed by City of Johannesburg at 6,7%.

Table 18 in the appendix shows that he districts with the highest proportion of households with no electricity connection was uMkhanyakude (19,1%) in KZN followed by Alfred Nzo (16,3%) in Eastern Cape.

Table 11: Household Infrastructure - Share of households with no formal electricity connections-backlog (%)

Census Years	1996	2001	2011	2022
National Total	35,5%	27,5%	14,7%	5,7%
CPT City of Cape Town	11,2%	10,9%	5,0%	1,8%
ETH eThekwini	21,5%	17,2%	8,6%	1,4%
EKU Ekurhuleni	21,8%	19,6%	17,9%	11,9%
JHB City of Johannesburg	12,0%	11,4%	9,1%	6,7%
NMA Nelson Mandela Bay	28,4%	27,3%	7,2%	1,9%
TSH City of Tshwane	17,4%	17,2%	14,6%	6,1%
MAN Mangaung	29,1%	13,6%	6,3%	4,7%
BUF Buffalo City	52,1%	40,0%	16,0%	4,9%

Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2471

Figure 19: Household by electricity connection

Lighting only   Lighting and other   No electricity
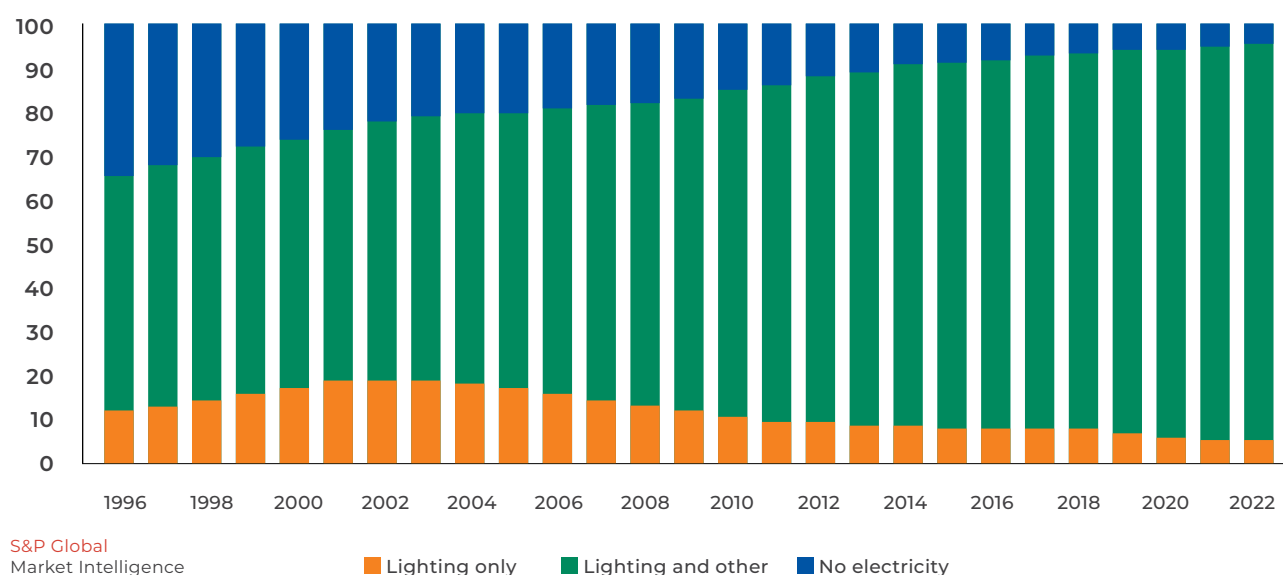
Source: South Africa Regional eXplorer 2471

3.2. Reducing Inequality

The National Development Plan (NDP) 2030 aims to reduce inequality - The Gini coefficient should fall from 0,69 to 0,60 by 2030 through achieving among others, the following enabling milestone:

•   Addressing income inequality - Increase employment from 13 million in 2010 to 24 million in 2030.

•   Raising the per capita income from R50 000 in 2010 to R120 000 by 2030.

•   Increasing the share of national income of the bottom 40% from 6% to 10%.

•   Ensuring that skilled, technical, professional and managerial posts better reflect the country's racial, gender and disability makeup.

•   Broadening ownership of assets to historically disadvantaged groups.

•   Broaden social cohesion and unity while redressing the inequities of the past.

However, despite the comprehensively outlined vision of the NDP and critically identified interventions needed to address Inequality, the World Bank report on "Inequality in Southern Africa: An assessment of the Southern African customs union of 2022" detailed that South Africa "is the most unequal country in the world, ranking first among 164 countries in the World Bank's global poverty database".

Furthermore, Income per capita remains to be spatialised, gendered and racialised implying that the White population group is more likely to find work opportunities and work that pays better than their Black African counterparts; Female employees earn about 30% less than male colleagues; and urban workers earn about double that of those in the rural parts of the country.

Data from the 1996 and Census 2022 continues to show that Inequality still exists within races, educational systems, access to basic services and adequate dwellings. The subsequent data observations seek to further support evidence of minimal to moderate progress in addressing the pro-longed Inequality that is still the lived experience of many of Black Africans:

3.2.1 Schooling in South Africa

Table 12: Schooling in South Africa by race from 1996 to 2011

Totals from 1996 to 2011 Education level (grouped)	Black African Total	Coloured	Indian or Asian	Whites	Other	Unspecified
No schooling	14,53%	7,80%	5,31%	2,86%	6,9%	14,03%
Some primary	26,05%	24,69%	15,34%	9,34%	14,76%	18,46%
Complete primary	6,02%	7,80%	4,22%	1,91%	4,23%	5,13%
Some secondary	25,67%	31,78%	28,54%	23,88%	26,19%	22,09%
Grade 12/Std 10	11,47%	12,48%	25,81%	29,73%	22,37%	8,97%
Higher	3,40%	3,58%	11,38%	22,56%	12,68%	4,75%
Unspecified	0,94%	1,06%	1,66%	3,01%	1,43%	13,36%
Not applicable	11,91%	10,82%	7,74%	6,69%	11,44%	13,22%
Total	100,00%	100,00%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%

Table 12 shows that the Black African, coloured and Indian or Asian communities have been lagging behind in terms of attending and remaining in the schooling system. In the past 3 censuses (1996 to 2011), a total of 72,27% of the black Africans, 72,07% of coloured and 53,41% of Indian or Asian communities indicated that they haven't been able to complete secondary level of the basic schooling system. When comparing the 3 communities with the white community, it can be observed that whites have a lower percentage (37,99) of people who haven't completed the secondary school phase.

Of concerning, is the 14,53% of black Africans, followed by coloured with 7,80% and 5,31% of Indian or Asians who have indicated that they have no schooling. The measure of literacy in South African is based on the completion of Grade 7 (functional literacy) and anything below falls in the category of illiteracy, therefore what the 3 censuses have shown, is that a greater contribution of the illiteracy rate comes from the 3 communities made up of blacks, Coloured and Indians. The white community has continued to enjoy a greater access to the schooling system compared to the other 3 communities.

Table 13: Proportion of people's attendance to education system by race since 2001

Attendance and educational institution/ Population group	Black African			Coloured			Indian or Asian			White		
	2001	2011	2022	2001	2011	2022	2001	2011	2022	2001	2011	2022
No	77,99%	90,93%	77,99%	9,1%	5,52%	9,10%	3,35%	1,12%	3,354%	9,1%	1,81%	9,097%

Table 13 shows the proportion of people's attendance in the educational system by race since 2001. The table shows that black Africans continue to fall behind all other races in attending institutions of learning. This can be observed across all the 3 censuses (2001, 2011 and 2022), Black Africans have the highest proportion of above 77% across all the census years. During the 2011 census, the proportion of Black Africans who indicated their lack of participation in educational institutions increased to the highest level of 90% and all the other races recorded decreases compared to the 2001 census. In the 2022 census the white community recorded an increase in the proportion of white people who are not participating in the educational system relative to the 2011 census.

3.2.2 Type of main dwellings in South Africa

Table 14 : Type of main dwelling (grouped) by population group of household head

|	Black African				Coloured				Indian or Asian				White			
	1996	2001	2011	2022	1996	2001	2011	2022	1996	2001	2011	2022	1996	2001	2011	2022
Formal dwelling	52,6%	60,6%	72,9%	85,7%	89,0%	89,4%	90,2%	94,5%	97,9%	97,3%	97,4%	99,3%	98,0%	98,1%	98,6%	99,3%
Traditional dwelling	24,7%	18,7%	9,9%	4,0%	1,9%	2,8%	0,7%	0,6%	0,5%	1,4%	0,7%	0,2%	0,7%	1,1%	0,5%	0,2%
Informal dwelling	21,2%	20,4%	16,4%	9,9%	7,8%	7,4%	8,0%	4,6%	0,8%	1,1%	1,3%	0,4%	0,1%	0,5%	0,4%	0,4%
Other	0,4%	0,3%	0,9%	0,3%	0,6%	0,3%	1,1%	0,2%	0,1%	0,2%	0,6%	0,1%	0,3%	0,4%	0,5%	0,1%
Unspecified	1,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,8%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,6%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,8%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%
Total	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%	100,0%

Table 14 shows the population group of household head by type of main dwelling. The table shows that in 1996, only 52,6% of Black African lived in formal dwellings while all other population groups had approximately 90% or more of their households in formal dwellings due to inequality that was engineered by legacy of colonialism and the apartheid regime that consequently deprived the majority of Black African population of opportunities to earn a decent income, access to basic services and social amenities. The democratic dispensation has brought about observable improvements in for the Black African population with more than

85% of households now living formal dwellings, a decrease in households living in informal dwellings from 21,2% to under 10% and traditional dwellings from 24,7% to 4,0% correspondingly in 1996 and 2022.

Despite the transformation gains made to advance the agenda of addressing inequality, Black Africans remain the main race residing in informal settlements at 10% of the population group as observed by the Census 2022 results while almost all other races are housed in the comfort of formal dwellings with access to adequate basic services.

3.2.3 Access to Electricity

Figure 20: Electricity for lighting by Head of Population group (%)
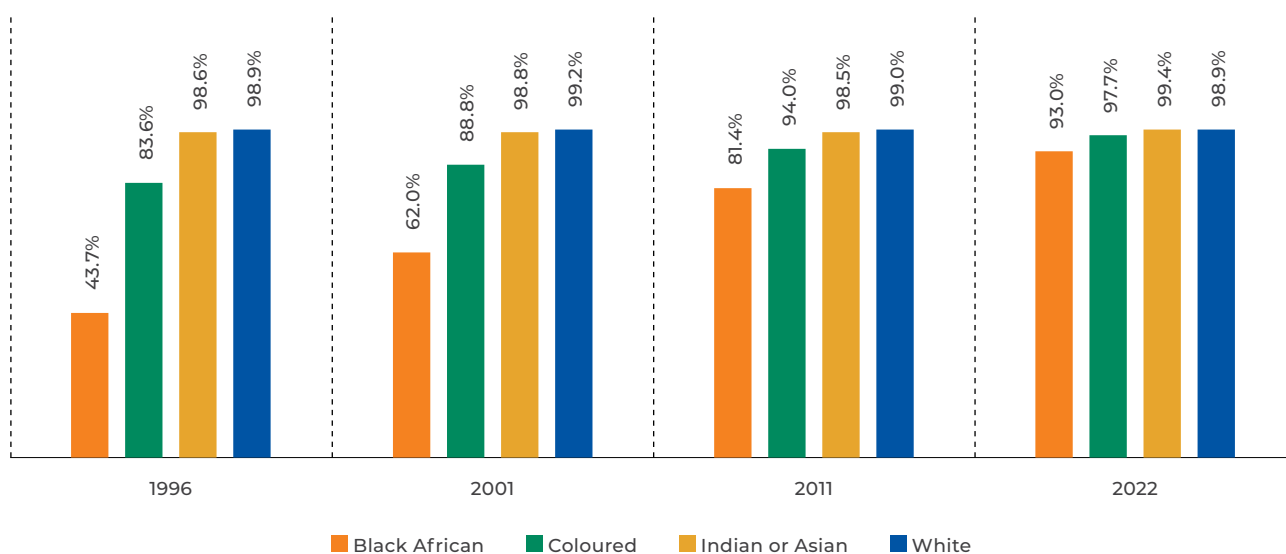
South Africa has prioritized electrification to provide access to electricity, especially in rural and underserved areas. The census dataset reflects an improvement in access to electricity across the country.

Figure 20 shows access to electricity for lighting by population group of the Head of household. The figure shows that access to electricity for

lighting increased gradually for all race groups from 1996 to 2022. Access to electricity for lighting for households of black Africans increased from a low of 43,7% in 1996 to 93,0% in 2022. This shows that government of South Africa has been working very hard to reduce the inequality, by rapidly increasing access to electricity for the Black Africans households so that it can reach the level of the other race groups. The access to

electricity for lighting by other race groups, i.e. white, coloured, and Indian or Asian population groups have been increasing, and this shows that the increase in access to electricity for lighting for black South African households have not negatively affected access to electricity for lighting for other race groups.

The changes in Electrification policies over the years and widescale roll-out of Bulk infrastructure projects to electrify areas that never had grid electricity; and upgrades to capacities of existing infrastructure facilitated the connection of more households to the grid through the Government's Electrification Programme. Evidently, the Census 2022 painted a positive picture of progress towards equal access to electricity with over 90% of households of all races having access to grid electricity albeit the loadshedding challenges that are experienced by most parts of the country.

Figure 21: Black African Household's access to electricity, 1996
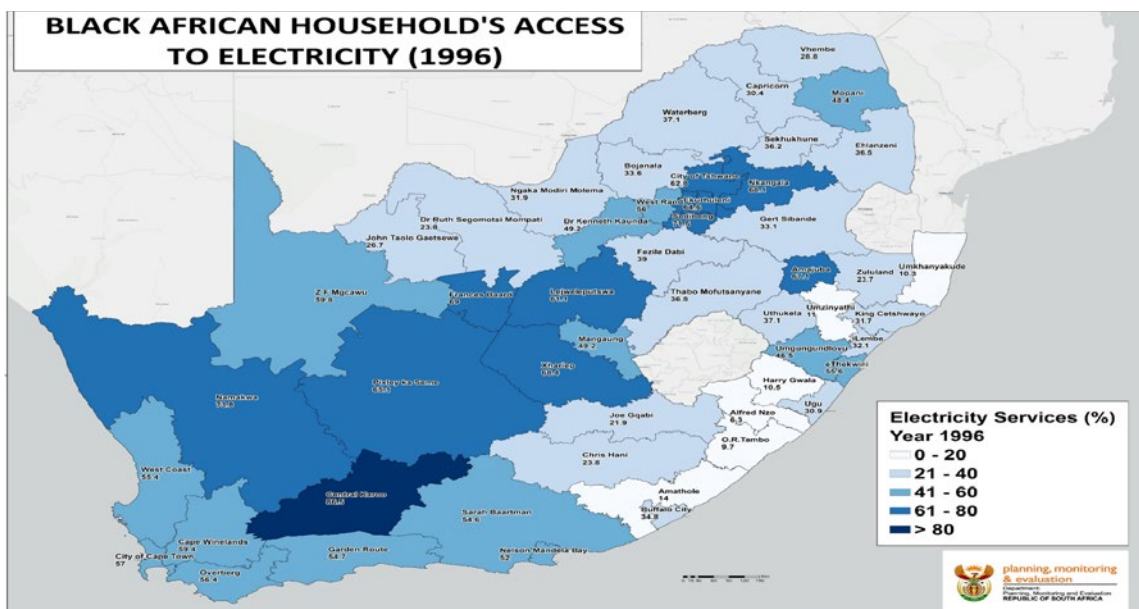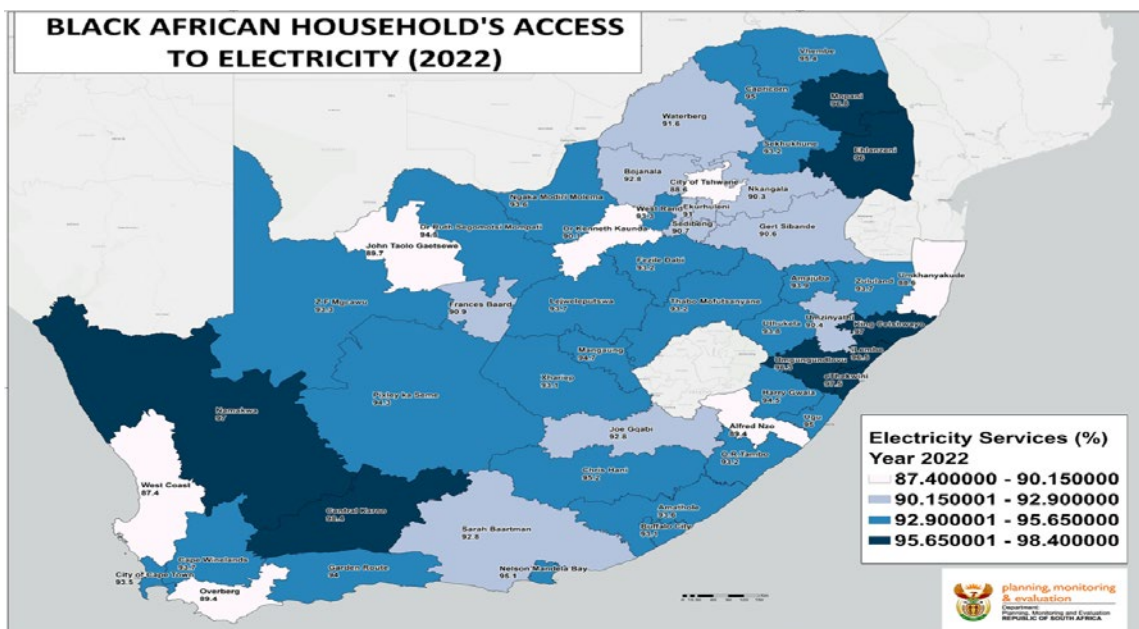

Figure 22: Black African Household's access to electricity, 2022

The two maps in figure 21 and 22 represent access to electricity for black African households in 1996 and 2022 indicate encouraging progress at District and Metropolitan Municipalities. Data from the Census 1996 data reaffirms the notion presented by the 2022 World Bank report that Inequality is Spatialised, Gendered and Racialised in South Africa, black African households in the rural areas bore the brunt of historical injustices as observed in poor District Municipalities such Alfred Nzo, OR Tambo, Umkhanyakude and Umzinyathi where access to electricity was below 12%. The most recent Census 2022 showed massive movement towards universal access to electricity for the once deprived black African households; access now stands at approximately 90% for the aforementioned municipalities. Additionally, the Central Karoo district was the only district with access to electricity from the mains with more than 80% followed by 11 districts

with access to electricity ranging between 60% and 80 % in 1996. Amongst the eleven districts were the Namakwa district in the Northern Cape province, Amajuba district in Kwa-Zulu Natal province and Nkangala district in Mpumalanga province.

According to the Census 2022 data, 8 district municipalities in South Africa had the highest percentage of Black Africans households with access to electricity with more than 95%. Among these districts, 4 are from Kwa-Zulu Natal province, and the other 4 districts are from the Northern Cape, Western Cape, Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces with 1 district each. None of the district municipalities from the top-8 ranking districts with access to electricity in 2022 are found in the Gauteng province. Furthermore, none of the districts have with access to electricity below 80% access.

3.2.4 Access to drinking water

Figure 23: Black African Household's access to drinking water inside their dwellings (1996)
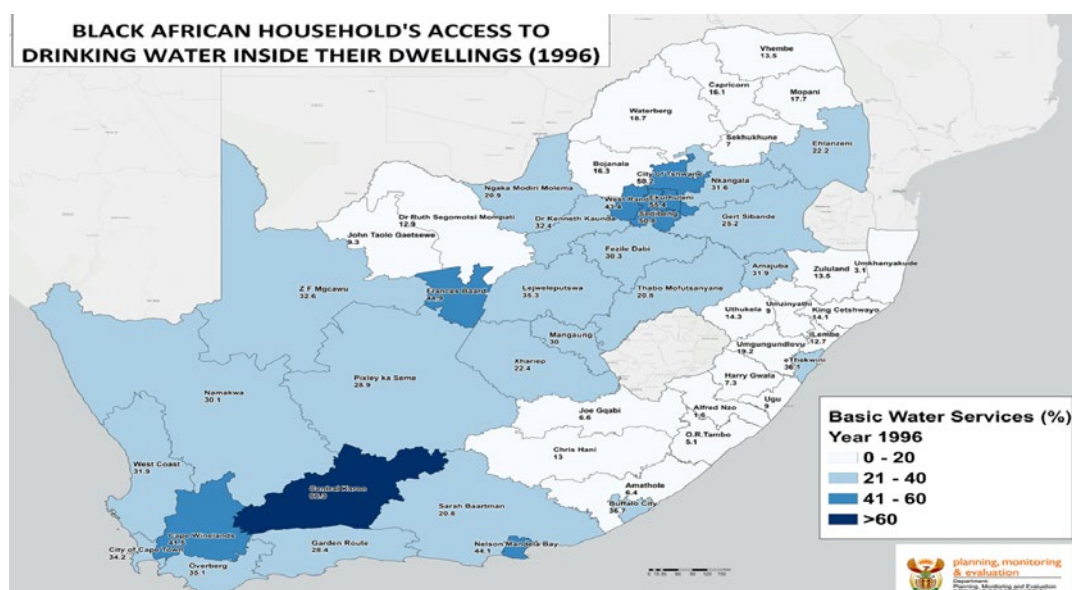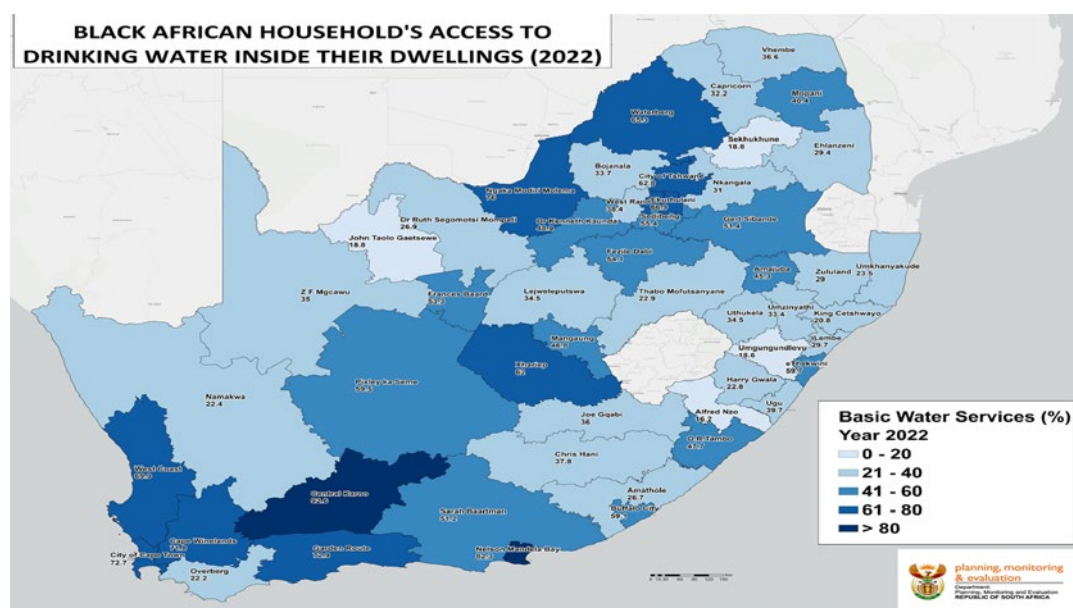
Figure 24: Black African Household's access to drinking water inside their dwellings (2022)

The Sustainable Development Goal of achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030 remains an unachievable dream for the majority of black Africans, more so for rural households with less means to have access to water inside their dwellings. Similar with access to electricity, Black African households in the rural areas consequently deprived by apartheid spatial planning and segregation laws.

District Municipalities such Alfred Nzo, OR Tambo, Umkhanyakude, Joe Gqabi and Amathole were underserved in 1996 with access to piped water in the dwelling for Black Africans being below 8% while their white counterparts apart from Alfred Nzo where above 80% in the same municipalities as presented in the below table and preceding map of 1996 Census data for Black Africans with access to piped water in the dwelling.

Table 15: Selected Access to piped water in the dwelling by population group (districts and metros with the lowest access for the Black Africans in 1996)

	Black African			Coloured			Indian or Asian			White		
	1996	2001	2011	1996	2001	2011	1996	2001	2011	1996	2001	2011
Alfred Nzo	1,6%	1,9%	5,3%	43,0%	37,8%	54,0%	41,5%	48,7%	38,0%	59,0%	77,7%	66,1%
Umkhanyakude	3,1%	3,4%	12,6%	65,6%	36,3%	57,7%	83,5%	64,1%	47,2%	81,8%	72,3%	82,0%
O.R.Tambo	5,1%	3,3%	8,4%	39,4%	21,6%	43,4%	72,5%	53,5%	50,8%	86,8%	65,0%	63,4%
Amathole	6,4%	4,3%	10,4%	43,6%	29,0%	53,8%	67,3%	66,4%	42,7%	82,5%	78,3%	85,5%
Joe Gqabi	6,6%	3,6%	14,1%	51,6%	45,4%	45,7%	54,0%	44,8%	32,3%	92,8%	80,9%	92,1%

The 2022 Census shows minimal development in the above-mentioned municipalities with access to water in the dwellings still below 50% for all and even lower for Alfred Nzo at 16,2%.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

The statistical brief provided analysis of the census data to determine if the country has improved based on triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment as reflected in the NDP vision 2030. Based on the indicators identified and analysed using census data from 1996 to 2022, there has been an improvement in closing the gap between races in terms of education, access to basic services and access to employment.

However, black African and coloured communities remain have been lagging in accessing the schooling system. White community continue to have lower percentage of people who have not completed secondary school level of basic schooling system, followed by Indian/Asian population.

Government has been working hard to have all communities accessing schooling system, however, black Africans, coloureds and Indians have lagged behind in consuming the service. Government should work on identifying strategies that can provide support to this communities to attend the schools, and reduce the level of non-completion of secondary level of basic schooling system.

Unemployment has been a challenge since the start of the 1st census. Unemployment for both males and females has been on the increase since 1996. This reflects the economy that is unable to provide employment to the citizens that are economically active. The gap in employment between males and females have been very high over the census period, even though it declined over the period. Male continue to have high numbers in employment as compared to females. Youth unemployment has been a curse

in the South Africa economy over the years. Youth in South Africa continue to be the face on unemployment in the country.

The South African National Human Development Report (SANHDR) 2022 emphasized that youth employment is crucial in economic terms and for human development.

The government has introduced strategies to close the gap between males and females in employment, and solve the challenge of youth unemployment. Institutions should work very hard in implementing those employment equities strategies that can assist in closing employment gap between genders.

A demographic dividend refers to the growth in an economy that is the result of a change in the age structure of a country's population. The last two decades has seen South Africa undergoing a demographic transition characterised by a growing youth population and ageing. Census 2022 results reveal that the median age in the country increased from 25 years in 2021 to 28 in 2022. It is projected that the median age in South Africa will be in the 30's in the next three decades. This changing age structure of the population gives rise to the demographic dividend. Census 2022 data also shows that young people make up the largest contribution to the population. Those between the ages of 15-34 contribute 34,8% to the total population, reflecting a steady increase going back to 1996. The country's current age profile is an opportunity for human capital development. Evidence shows that for any country, a healthy, socially and economically empowered youthful generation can contribute effectively toward sustainable development efforts, greater

5. Limitations

economic growth and democracy. However, over the last decade, young people in South Africa have been confronted by unprecedented socio-economic challenges which are threatening the potential leverage that the current demographic dividend presents to fulfilling the country's developmental agenda.

Access to basic services in South Africa has been a critical issue since 1996, particularly due to historical inequalities and socio-economic disparities. South Africa implemented various initiatives to address these challenges, focusing on improving access to basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity. All the districts have improved significantly in improving access to basic services.

During the production of this DI statistical brief, there were data accessibility challenges, as StatsSA had not released the full 2022 census dataset thereby limiting data availability for reporting on trend analyses and for all indicators included in the current report. The available census data that was released was used provide insights on how the country progressed on the thematic areas of this report (poverty, inequality and unemployment) since the first census produced in 1996. Supplementary data from other sources was therefore used to show progress that was made over the years where census data was not available.

6. References

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7. Appendix

Table 16: Proportion of households with access to no formal sanitation

Province	Districts	1996	2001	2011	2022
	National Total	43,3%	39,8%	25,5%	15,4%
Western Cape	DC01 West Coast	18,1%	12,1%	5,0%	2,9%
Western Cape	DC02 Cape Winelands	14,8%	12,0%	4,2%	2,4%
Western Cape	DC03 Overberg	17,3%	12,8%	4,9%	2,1%
Western Cape	DC04 Garden Route (Eden)	20,1%	16,7%	7,1%	2,7%
Western Cape	DC05 Central Karoo	25,8%	14,6%	3,9%	1,4%
Eastern Cape	DC10 Sarah Baartman (Cacadu)	52,5%	51,6%	18,9%	5,8%
Eastern Cape	DC12 Amathole	87,0%	84,6%	58,5%	15,9%
Eastern Cape	DC13 Chris Hani	77,3%	74,7%	43,3%	11,3%
Eastern Cape	DC14 Joe Gqabi (Ukhahlamba)	83,7%	81,8%	40,7%	10,4%
Eastern Cape	DC15 O.R.Tambo	87,1%	88,8%	52,6%	9,0%
Eastern Cape	DC44 Alfred Nzo	92,0%	89,9%	56,5%	9,2%
Northern Cape	DC06 Namakwa	40,1%	25,4%	9,2%	6,7%
Northern Cape	DC07 Pixley ka Seme	44,0%	36,5%	16,3%	7,0%
Northern Cape	DC08 ZF Mgcawu (Siyanda)	29,2%	19,4%	14,8%	12,1%
Northern Cape	DC09 Frances Baard	23,8%	16,8%	11,5%	8,0%
Northern Cape	DC45 John Taolo Gaetsewe (Kgalagadi)	67,9%	54,3%	40,4%	30,7%
Free State	DC16 Xhariep	44,5%	28,1%	12,3%	6,9%
Free State	DC18 Lejweleputswa	42,5%	39,9%	17,8%	10,9%
Free State	DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane	65,3%	56,6%	34,5%	20,4%
Free State	DC20 Fezile Dabi	41,1%	27,0%	10,7%	11,8%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC21 Ugu	64,2%	60,9%	41,8%	23,5%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC22 uMgungundlovu	46,1%	43,4%	23,6%	15,3%

Province	Districts	1996	2001	2011	2022
KwaZulu-Natal	DC23 uThukela	66,2%	63,4%	34,6%	17,2%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC24 uMzinyathi	75,8%	72,6%	40,7%	13,5%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC25 Amajuba	39,9%	38,2%	28,6%	26,3%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC26 Zululand	75,7%	71,7%	42,2%	19,4%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC27 uMkhanyakude	85,7%	79,6%	40,6%	17,1%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC28 King Cetshwayo (Uthungulu)	68,6%	60,2%	37,5%	17,4%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC29 iLembe	68,0%	61,5%	38,5%	18,5%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC43 Harry Gwala (Sisonke)	80,6%	73,7%	46,5%	24,8%
North-West	DC37 Bojanala Platinum	66,9%	61,5%	45,3%	32,3%
North-West	DC38 Ngaka Modiri Molema	69,2%	56,6%	47,3%	36,8%
North-West	DC39 Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	68,8%	54,9%	32,6%	14,0%
North-West	DC40 Dr Kenneth Kaunda	34,0%	29,6%	10,4%	4,4%
Gauteng	DC42 Sedibeng	19,8%	13,8%	8,1%	5,8%
Gauteng	DC48 West Rand	20,1%	17,4%	10,7%	8,5%
Mpumalanga	DC30 Gert Sibande	40,2%	38,2%	23,8%	15,5%
Mpumalanga	DC31 Nkangala	48,7%	46,8%	38,6%	29,4%
Mpumalanga	DC32 Ehlanzeni	71,9%	63,5%	55,0%	54,5%
Limpopo	DC33 Mopani	78,3%	77,0%	56,2%	31,7%
Limpopo	DC34 Vhembe	82,4%	81,8%	59,6%	37,0%
Limpopo	DC35 Capricorn	75,3%	70,3%	54,2%	38,2%
Limpopo	DC36 Waterberg	58,5%	59,9%	39,7%	25,8%
Limpopo	DC47 Sekhukhune	89,0%	83,1%	71,3%	59,6%

Table 17: Proportion of access to no formal water

Province	Districts	1996	2001	2011	2022
Western Cape	DC01 West Coast	6,9%	7,7%	6,0%	0,9%
Western Cape	DC02 Cape Winelands	7,8%	9,5%	6,8%	1,5%
Western Cape	DC03 Overberg	10,3%	11,2%	7,0%	1,2%
Western Cape	DC04 Garden Route (Eden)	12,2%	8,6%	6,4%	1,3%
Western Cape	DC05 Central Karoo	4,8%	4,5%	6,2%	0,6%
Eastern Cape	DC10 Sarah Baartman (Cacadu)	21,0%	24,4%	10,8%	2,1%
Eastern Cape	DC12 Amathole	72,9%	71,4%	53,1%	21,3%
Eastern Cape	DC13 Chris Hani	59,4%	60,2%	36,8%	17,2%
Eastern Cape	DC14 Joe Gqabi (Ukhahlamba)	64,0%	63,1%	40,4%	17,3%
Eastern Cape	DC15 O.R.Tambo	84,6%	84,6%	68,2%	38,1%
Eastern Cape	DC44 Alfred Nzo	88,5%	85,9%	65,9%	42,2%
Northern Cape	DC06 Namakwa	10,0%	6,7%	5,8%	0,7%
Northern Cape	DC07 Pixley ka Seme	10,5%	7,3%	7,2%	3,7%
Northern Cape	DC08 ZF Mgcawu (Siyanda)	13,5%	15,5%	13,0%	3,8%
Northern Cape	DC09 Frances Baard	6,8%	5,8%	5,3%	4,8%
Northern Cape	DC45 John Taolo Gaetsewe (Kgalagadi)	43,0%	36,5%	18,5%	23,0%
Free State	DC16 Xhariep	12,2%	9,4%	6,1%	2,0%
Free State	DC18 Lejweleputswa	9,5%	10,8%	4,3%	2,8%
Free State	DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane	17,7%	14,7%	5,9%	3,0%
Free State	DC20 Fezile Dabi	12,9%	6,9%	3,6%	2,8%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC21 Ugu	65,0%	61,0%	42,4%	36,9%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC22 uMgungundlovu	31,7%	24,7%	18,3%	10,6%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC23 uThukela	51,8%	44,4%	38,0%	23,0%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC24 uMzinyathi	72,2%	66,1%	52,5%	31,4%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC25 Amajuba	30,0%	31,3%	18,1%	6,0%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC26 Zululand	66,4%	58,5%	49,9%	24,8%

Province	Districts	1996	2001	2011	2022
KwaZulu-Natal	DC27 uMkhanyakude	85,2%	74,1%	53,2%	34,6%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC28 King Cetshwayo (Uthungulu)	68,1%	51,1%	28,4%	16,4%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC29 iLembe	62,2%	53,6%	39,1%	29,6%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC43 Harry Gwala (Sisonke)	72,6%	61,2%	56,3%	37,5%
North-West	DC37 Bojanala Platinum	31,6%	27,9%	14,8%	10,2%
North-West	DC38 Ngaka Modiri Molema	35,2%	34,2%	27,1%	18,0%
North-West	DC39 Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	37,4%	35,0%	26,8%	21,8%
North-West	DC40 Dr Kenneth Kaunda	9,5%	11,1%	6,1%	2,9%
Gauteng	DC42 Sedibeng	6,7%	5,1%	3,0%	0,6%
Gauteng	DC48 West Rand	10,1%	6,8%	6,0%	2,9%
Mpumalanga	DC30 Gert Sibande	26,2%	21,6%	14,9%	5,6%
Mpumalanga	DC31 Nkangala	18,9%	15,5%	12,1%	6,1%
Mpumalanga	DC32 Ehlanzeni	36,2%	33,4%	26,2%	17,4%
Limpopo	DC33 Mopani	41,4%	39,8%	33,4%	26,1%
Limpopo	DC34 Vhembe	45,4%	40,6%	33,5%	31,5%
Limpopo	DC35 Capricorn	41,4%	38,6%	24,3%	13,5%
Limpopo	DC36 Waterberg	35,8%	33,2%	20,5%	10,8%
Limpopo	DC47 Sekhukhune	65,0%	62,2%	43,3%	26,7%

Table 18: Proportion of households with no formal electricity connections

Province	Districts	1996	2001	2011	2022
KwaZulu-Natal	DC27 uMkhanyakude	83,8%	76,8%	56,7%	19,1%
Eastern Cape	DC44 Alfred Nzo	87,3%	80,8%	53,5%	16,3%
Gauteng	DC48 West Rand	25,9%	19,7%	16,8%	13,6%
Mpumalanga	DC31 Nkangala	21,4%	14,4%	11,4%	10,6%
North-West	DC38 Ngaka Modiri Molema	49,3%	28,1%	17,7%	10,4%
North-West	DC39 Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	56,3%	38,3%	18,4%	10,1%
North-West	DC37 Bojanala Platinum	46,1%	25,4%	14,5%	8,9%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC24 uMzinyathi	77,9%	73,1%	51,2%	8,5%
Mpumalanga	DC30 Gert Sibande	43,6%	34,9%	15,8%	8,5%
Free State	DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane	46,2%	30,7%	11,7%	6,8%
Free State	DC20 Fezile Dabi	37,5%	17,3%	6,6%	6,7%
Eastern Cape	DC12 Amathole	77,5%	57,8%	30,8%	6,6%
Northern Cape	DC09 Frances Baard	18,2%	14,2%	11,9%	6,5%
North-West	DC40 Dr Kenneth Kaunda	25,9%	18,5%	11,4%	6,5%
Gauteng	DC42 Sedibeng	16,4%	12,1%	9,0%	6,3%
Northern Cape	DC08 ZF Mgcawu (Siyanda)	25,8%	20,2%	10,4%	6,3%
Northern Cape	DC06 Namakwa	22,8%	16,3%	7,5%	6,0%
Eastern Cape	DC14 Joe Gqabi (Ukhahlamba)	65,1%	56,5%	29,9%	5,9%
Free State	DC18 Lejweleputswa	23,6%	21,0%	8,0%	5,8%
Northern Cape	DC07 Pixley ka Seme	25,1%	17,4%	10,5%	5,7%
ATOT	National Total	35,5%	27,5%	14,7%	5,7%
Eastern Cape	DC15 O.R.Tambo	81,6%	74,5%	33,4%	5,4%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC43 Harry Gwala (Sisonke)	78,1%	67,3%	41,1%	5,3%
Limpopo	DC36 Waterberg	48,9%	33,7%	11,7%	5,1%
Northern Cape	DC45 John Taolo Gaetsewe (Kgalagadi)	50,4%	36,3%	11,9%	4,9%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC21 Ugu	51,7%	45,9%	25,0%	4,5%

Province	Districts	1996	2001	2011	2022
KwaZulu-Natal	DC29 iLembe	54,5%	45,6%	26,5%	4,4%
Mpumalanga	DC32 Ehlanzeni	45,7%	28,2%	10,8%	4,2%
Free State	DC16 Xhariep	17,9%	16,8%	8,1%	4,1%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC26 Zululand	65,4%	57,9%	32,4%	3,7%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC23 uThukela	50,1%	38,6%	25,2%	3,7%
Eastern Cape	DC13 Chris Hani	64,3%	51,3%	25,2%	3,6%
Limpopo	DC47 Sekhukhune	55,0%	36,6%	13,4%	3,2%
Western Cape	DC03 Overberg	15,3%	15,7%	6,9%	3,0%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC28 King Cetshwayo (Uthungulu)	55,1%	42,7%	25,0%	2,8%
Western Cape	DC02 Cape Winelands	13,1%	11,2%	5,7%	2,8%
Eastern Cape	DC10 Sarah Baartman (Cacadu)	32,2%	28,1%	10,1%	2,7%
Western Cape	DC04 Garden Route (Eden)	17,4%	14,5%	7,8%	2,7%
Western Cape	DC05 Central Karoo	17,1%	15,1%	6,7%	2,7%
Limpopo	DC34 Vhembe	58,8%	40,4%	12,2%	2,5%
Western Cape	DC01 West Coast	14,7%	12,2%	4,6%	2,5%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC25 Amajuba	25,3%	23,1%	14,8%	2,5%
Limpopo	DC33 Mopani	42,6%	29,6%	10,7%	2,4%
Limpopo	DC35 Capricorn	58,8%	41,5%	12,1%	2,3%
KwaZulu-Natal	DC22 uMgungundlovu	33,9%	23,7%	12,7%	1,9%

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