



LIMPOPO

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PROVINCIAL TREASURY

LIMPOPO

**SOCIO ECONOMIC
REVIEW AND OUTLOOK**

2022/23

The heartland of southern Africa - development is about people

Foreword

The 2022/23 Socio Economic Review and outlook is presented during the continuing mist of COVID-19, which is accompanied by the new waves of infections and the recent emergent of the new Omicron variant. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to force government to act in a context of great uncertainty and under heavy economic, fiscal and social pressures. Both the national and provincial government are continuing to protect the health of the citizens and to limit the impact of the crisis on the already ailing economy.

Global economic recovery continues amid a resurging pandemic that poses unique policy challenges. Meanwhile, inflation has increased markedly in the United States and some emerging market economies, including South Africa. As restrictions are relaxed, demand has accelerated, but supply has been slower to respond. Although price pressures are expected to subside in most countries in 2022, inflation prospects are highly uncertain. These increases in inflation are occurring even as employment is below pre-pandemic levels in many economies, forcing difficult choices on policymakers.


With the pandemic continuing to maintain its grip, the emphasis on an effective global health strategy is more significant than ever. Worldwide access to vaccines, tests, and treatments is essential to reduce the risk of further dangerous COVID-19 variants. This requires increased production of supplies, as well as, better in country delivery systems and fairer international distribution. Monetary policy in many countries will need to continue on a belt tightening path to curb inflation pressures, while fiscal policy operating with more limited space than earlier in the pandemic will need to prioritize health and social spending while focusing support on the worst affected. In this context, international cooperation will be essential to preserve access to liquidity and expedite orderly debt restructurings where needed. Investing in climate policies remains imperative to reduce the risk of catastrophic climate change.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently revised South Africa's GDP outlook from 5 percent to 4.6 percent. But the country is unlikely to sustain this pace of recovery beyond 2021, with growth expected to slow to 1.9 percent in 2022. In

Limpopo, the provincial economy is expected to rebound from the 2020 negative growth, stimulated by the international demand for minerals.

Vaccination efforts in South Africa and the Sub-Saharan region are slower than others in the world, this is largely due to hoarding by advanced economies, export restrictions by major vaccine manufacturing countries and demands for booster shots in advanced economies. Only 3 percent of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa has been vaccinated, compared to advanced and many emerging market countries which have vaccination rates close to 60 percent.

While significant strides have been made in improving access to services such as housing, electricity and water, there still remains a lot to do in terms of refuse removal, access to piped water in the dwelling, sanitation and paving strategic economic roads to stimulate economic growth and reverse the high unemployment rate in the province.



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1 March 2022

DATE

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LIST OF ABRIVIATIONS

CPI	Consumer Price Inflation
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DTPS	Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GDR	Gender Parity Ratios
GPSJS	Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey
HDI	Human Development Index
HoD	Head of Department
ICASA	Independent Communication Authority of South Africa
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LDP	Limpopo Development Plan
LP	Limpopo Province
LTSM	Learner
MEC	Members of Executive Council
MPC	Monetary Policy Committee
NCAPS	National Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS)
NDP	National Development Plan
NICD	National Institute for Communicable Disease
NSC	National Senior Certificate
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PAA	Provincial Appropriation Act
PEDs	Provincial Education Departments
PGMs	Platinum Group Metals
Q	Quarter
Q on Q	Quarter on Quarter
QLFS	Quarterly Labour Force Survey
RAL	Road Agency Limpopo
SA	South African
SARB	South African Reserve Bank
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SERO	Socio
StatsSA	Statistics South Africa
USA	United States of America
USAO	Universal Service and Access Obligations
WEO	World Economic Outlook
WHO	World Health Organization

CHAPTER 1: ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

1.1 Introduction

Global economic recovery is continuing, but the momentum has weakened and uncertainty has increased with the recent resurgence of the COVID-19 virus Omicron variant. The greater sub-Saharan Africa region is expected to grow by 4.0 percent in 2021, the slowest recovery in the world compared to advanced markets and other emerging markets and developing economies. Despite possibly achieving growth of 4.6 percent in 2021, South Africa is unlikely to maintain this momentum into 2022 according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The upward revision to South Africa's 2021 growth outlook is largely linked to better than expected growth during the first half of the year before the massive social unrest in Kwazulu and Gauteng provinces, as well as the impact of the country's improved national accounts position, which has been helped by a stronger trade account bolstered by the commodities boom.

However, the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) has warned that the country can't solely rely on upbeat commodities for the economic recovery, especially as commodity prices are cyclical. There are risks of a downturn in commodities prices. The SARB has noted that the climb in commodity prices is starting to slow, and this can have a negative impact on the growth prospects of the country and our province due to over reliance on commodity exports.

Despite recent increases in headline inflation, in both advanced and emerging market economies, long-term inflation expectations remain anchored. Looking ahead, headline inflation is expected to return to pre-pandemic levels by mid-2022 for most economies. But given the recovery's uncharted nature, considerable uncertainty remains, and inflation could exceed forecasts for a variety of reasons.

Strong policy effort at the multilateral level is needed on vaccine deployment, climate change and international liquidity to strengthen global economic prospects. National and provincial policies to complement the multilateral effort will require much more tailoring to country and region specific conditions and better targeting, as policy space constraints become more binding the longer the pandemic lasts.

1.2 World Economic Outlook

The Global economy enters 2022 in a weaker position than previously expected. As the new Omicron COVID-19 variant spreads, countries have re-imposed mobility restrictions. Rising energy prices and supply disruptions have resulted in higher and more broad-based inflation than anticipated, notably in the United States and many emerging market and developing economies. The ongoing retrenchment of China's real estate sector and slower-than-expected recovery of private consumption also have limited growth prospects.

Table 1: World Economic Outlook Real GDP, annual percent change

	Year over Year			
	2020	Estimate 2021	Projections 2022 2023	
World Output	-3,1	5,9	4,4	3,8
Advanced Economies	-4,5	5,0	3,9	2,6
United States	-3,4	5,6	4,0	2,6
Euro Area	-6,4	5,2	3,9	2,5
Germany	-4,6	2,7	3,8	2,5
France	-8,0	6,7	3,5	1,8
Italy	-8,9	6,2	3,8	2,2
Spain	-10,8	4,9	5,8	3,8
Japan	-4,5	1,6	3,3	1,8
United Kingdom	-9,4	7,2	4,7	2,3
Canada	-5,2	4,7	4,1	2,8
Other Advanced Economies 3/	-1,9	4,7	3,6	2,9
Emerging Market and Developing Economies	-2,0	6,5	4,8	4,7
Emerging and Developing Asia	-0,9	7,2	5,9	5,8
China	2,3	8,1	4,8	5,2
India 4/	-7,3	9,0	9,0	7,1
ASEAN-5 5/	-3,4	3,1	5,6	6,0
Emerging and Developing Europe	-1,8	6,5	3,5	2,9
Russia	-2,7	4,5	2,8	2,1
Latin America and the Caribbean	-6,9	6,8	2,4	2,6
Brazil	-3,9	4,7	0,3	1,6
Mexico	-8,2	5,3	2,8	2,7
Middle East and Central Asia	-2,8	4,2	4,3	3,6
Saudi Arabia	-4,1	2,9	4,8	2,8
Sub-Saharan Africa	-1,7	4,0	3,7	4,0
Nigeria	-1,8	3,0	2,7	2,7
South Africa	-6,4	4,6	1,9	1,4

Source: International Monetary Fund, WEO, January 2022

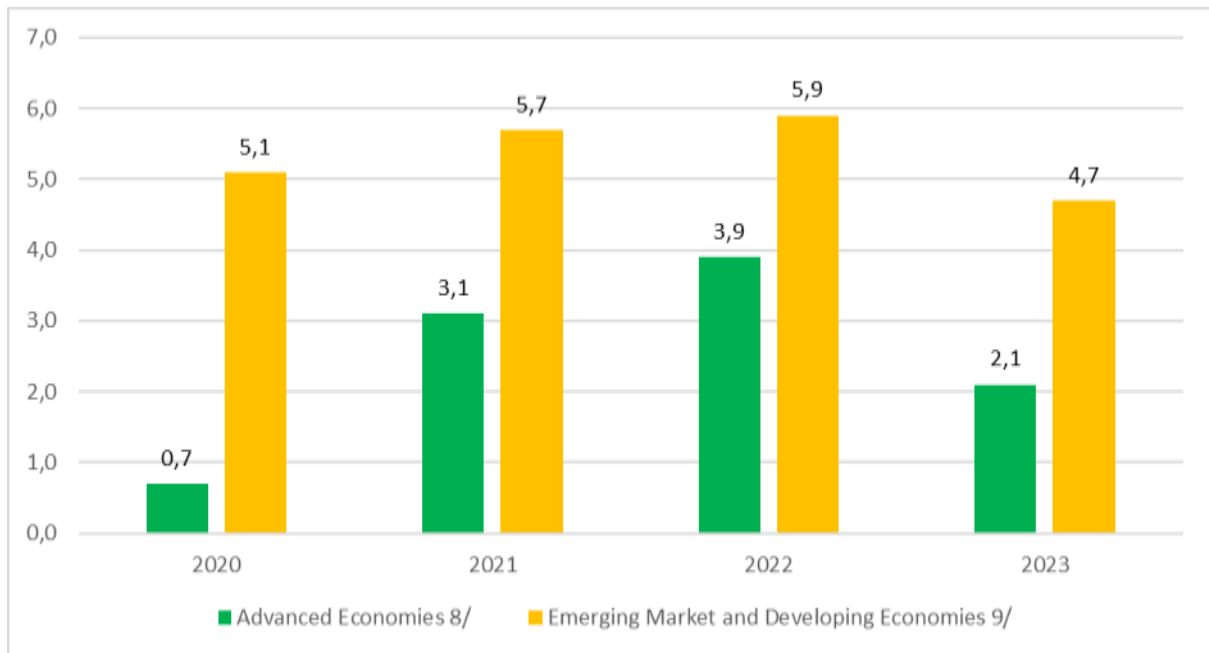
Global growth is expected to moderate from 5.9 in 2021 to 4.4 percent in 2022 half a percentage point lower for 2022 than in the October World Economic Outlook (WEO), largely reflecting forecast markdowns in the two largest economies. A revised assumption removing the Build Back Better fiscal policy package from the baseline, earlier withdrawal of monetary accommodation, and continued supply shortages produced a downward 1.2 percentage-points revision for the United States. In China, pandemic induced disruptions related to the zero-tolerance COVID-19 policy and protracted financial stress among property developers have induced a 0.8 percentage point downgrade. Global growth is expected to slow to 3.8 percent in 2023. Although this is 0.2 percentage points higher than in the previous forecast, the upgrade largely reflects a mechanical pickup after current drags on growth dissipate in the second half of 2022. The forecast is conditional on adverse health outcomes declining to low levels in most countries by end 2022, assuming vaccination rates improve worldwide and therapies become more effective.

Advanced economy output is forecast to exceed pre-pandemic medium-term projections, largely reflecting further sizable anticipated policy support in the United States that includes measures to increase potential. By contrast, persistent output losses are anticipated for the emerging market and developing economy group due to slower vaccine rollouts and generally less policy support compared to advanced economies.

1.3 Global Consumer prices

The inflation rate forecast for the euro area is 3.0 percent in 2022 and 1.7 percent in 2023, for Japan is 0.7 percent in 2022 and 2023, and for the United States is 5.9 percent in 2022 and 2.7 percent in 2023, respectively.

Figure 1: World Consumer prices



Source: International Monetary Fund, WEO, January 2022

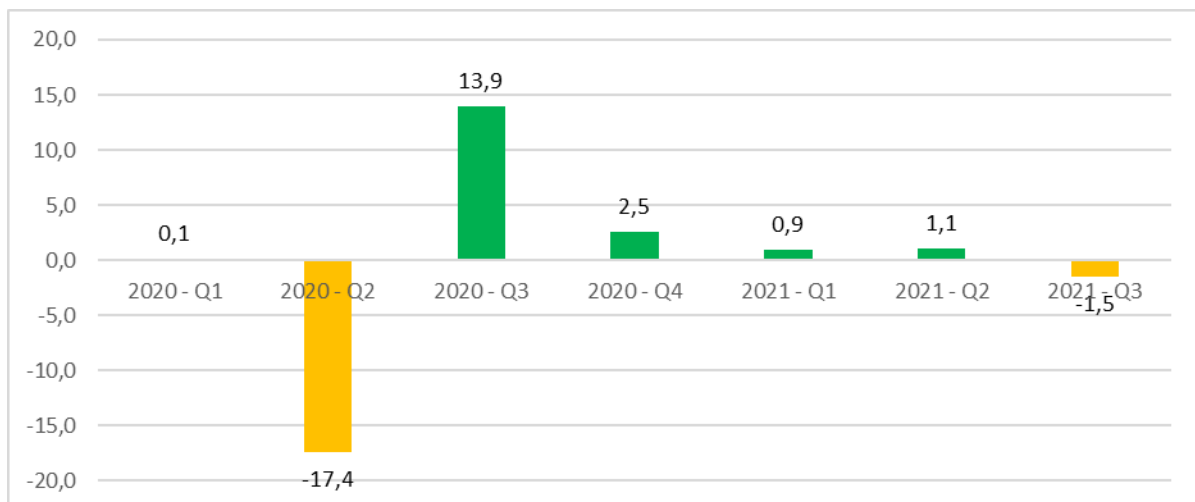
Elevated inflation is expected to persist for longer than envisioned in the October WEO, with ongoing supply chain disruptions and high energy prices continuing in 2022. Assuming inflation expectations stay well anchored, inflation should gradually decrease as supply-demand imbalances wane in 2022 and monetary policy in major economies responds.

Risks to the global baseline are tilted to the downside. The emergence of new COVID-19 variants could prolong the pandemic and induce renewed economic disruptions. Moreover, supply chain disruptions, energy price volatility, and localized wage pressures mean uncertainty around inflation and policy paths is high. As advanced economies lift policy rates, risks to financial stability and emerging market and developing economies' capital flows, currencies, and fiscal positions, especially with debt levels having increased significantly in the past two years. Other global risks may crystallize as geopolitical tensions remain high, and the ongoing climate emergency means that the probability of major natural disasters remains elevated.

1.4 SA Economic Overview

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the national income and output for a given country's economy. The gross domestic product (GDP) is equal to the total expenditures for all final goods and services produced within the country in a stipulated period of time. The South African Real Gross Domestic Product (measured by production) decreased by 1.5 percent in the third quarter of 2021, following an increase of 1.1 percent in the second quarter of 2021.

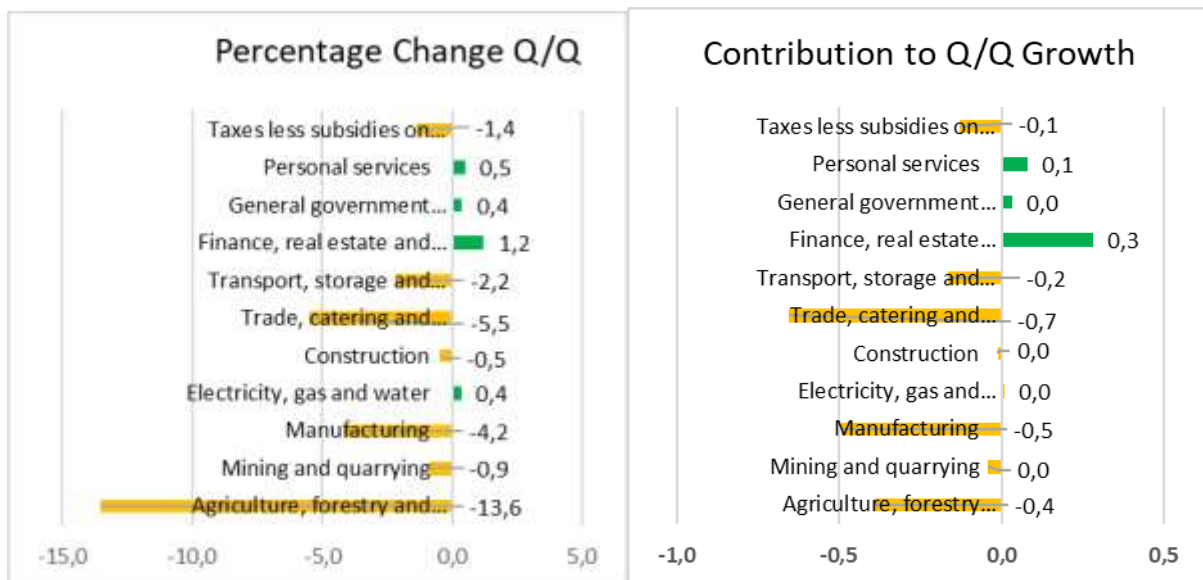
Figure 2:SA GDP growth in expenditure (constant 2015 prices seasonally adjusted percent change Q on Q)



Source: StatsSA, Gross Domestic Product, Q3 2021

Six industries recorded negative growth between the second quarter of 2021 and the third quarter of 2021. The largest negative contributors to growth in GDP in the third quarter were the trade, manufacturing and agriculture industries. Trade industry decreased by 5.5 percent and contributed -0.7 of a percentage point to GDP growth, manufacturing industry decreased by 4.2 percent and contributed -0.5 of a percentage point to GDP growth. The agriculture industry decreased by 13.6 percent and contributed -0.4 of a percentage point to GDP growth.

Figure 3: SA Industries growth and Contributions to growth in GDP, Q3 2021 (percent points)



Source: StatsSA, Gross Domestic Product, Q3 2021

Primary Sector

The agriculture, forestry and fishing industry decreased by 13.6 percent and contributed -0.4 of a percentage point to GDP growth. The decrease was mainly due to decreased production of field crops and animal products.

The mining and quarrying industry decreased by 0.9 percent in the third quarter. Decreased production was reported for Platinum Group Metals (PGMs), coal, other metallic minerals and gold.

Secondary Sector

The manufacturing industry decreased by 4.2 percent in the third quarter, contributing -0.5 of a percentage point to GDP growth. Eight of the ten manufacturing divisions reported negative growth rates in the third quarter of 2021. The motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment division made the largest contribution to the decrease in the third quarter. The food and beverages division and basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery division also made noteworthy contributions to the contraction.

The electricity, gas and water industry increased by 0.4 percent in the third quarter, largely due to higher electricity consumption. The construction industry decreased by 0.5 percent in the third quarter. Decreases were reported for non-residential buildings and construction works.

Tertiary sector

The trade, catering and accommodation industry decreased by 5.5 percent, contributing -0.7 of a percentage point to GDP growth. Decreased economic activities were reported for wholesale, retail and motor trade; and catering and accommodation services.

The transport, storage and communication industry decreased by 2.2 percent, contributing -0.2 of a percentage point. Decreased economic activity was reported for land transport and air transport.

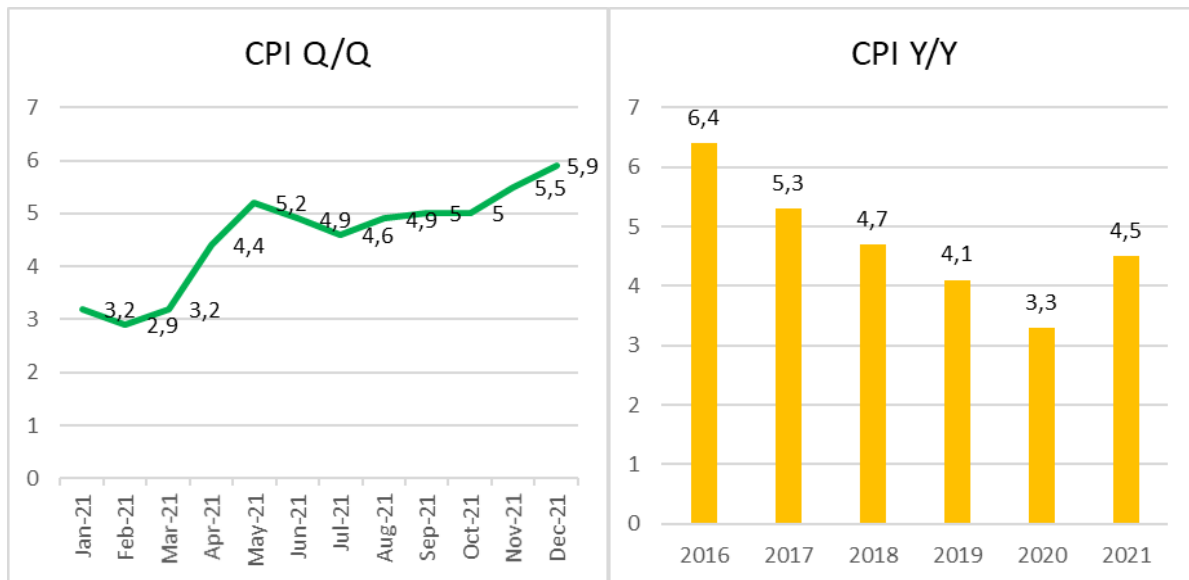
Finance, real estate and business services increased by 1.2 percent in the third quarter. Increased economic activity was reported for financial intermediation, auxiliary activities and business services.

General government services increased by 0.4 percent, mainly attributed to increased employment in extra-budgetary accounts and local government. The personal services industry increased by 0.5 percent in the third quarter. Increases were reported for community services and other producers.

1.5 Headline Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Headline consumer inflation ended 2021 at 5.9 percent in December, up from 5.5 percent in November. The monthly increase was 0.6 percent, slightly higher than the 0.5 percent rise recorded between October and November. The factors driving the rise in the cost of living over the last few months were also behind December's inflation reading. Specifically, large price rises in the transport category (particularly fuel) and increases in important food groups such as meat, oils & fats.

Figure 4: CPI headline quarter-on quarter and year-on-year rates



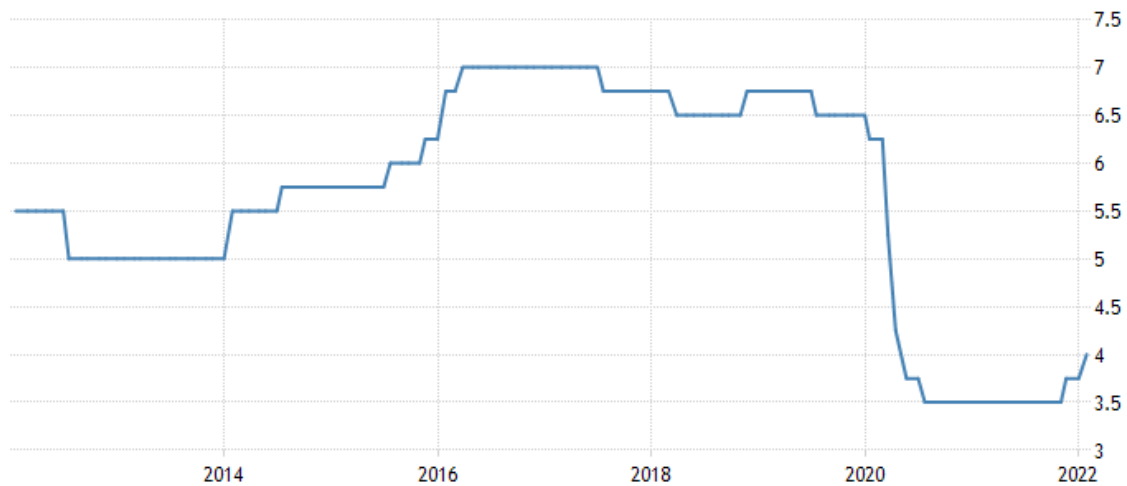
Source: StatsSA, CPI 2021

The average headline Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) for goods and services in the country has been on the decline since 2016 to 2020, declining from 6.4 percent in 2016 to a low of 3.3 percent in 2020. The COVID-19 has spiked increases on the prices of fuel and food items, which lead to the 2021 CPI reaching 4.5 percent, higher than the averages recorded for 2020 (3.3 percent) and 2019 (4.1 percent).

1.6 Repo rate

In South Africa, the interest rates decisions are taken by the South African Reserve Bank’s Monetary Policy Committee (MPC). The official interest rate is the repo rate. This is the rate at which central banks lend or discount eligible paper for deposit money banks.

Figure 5: SA repo rate



Source: SARB, 2021

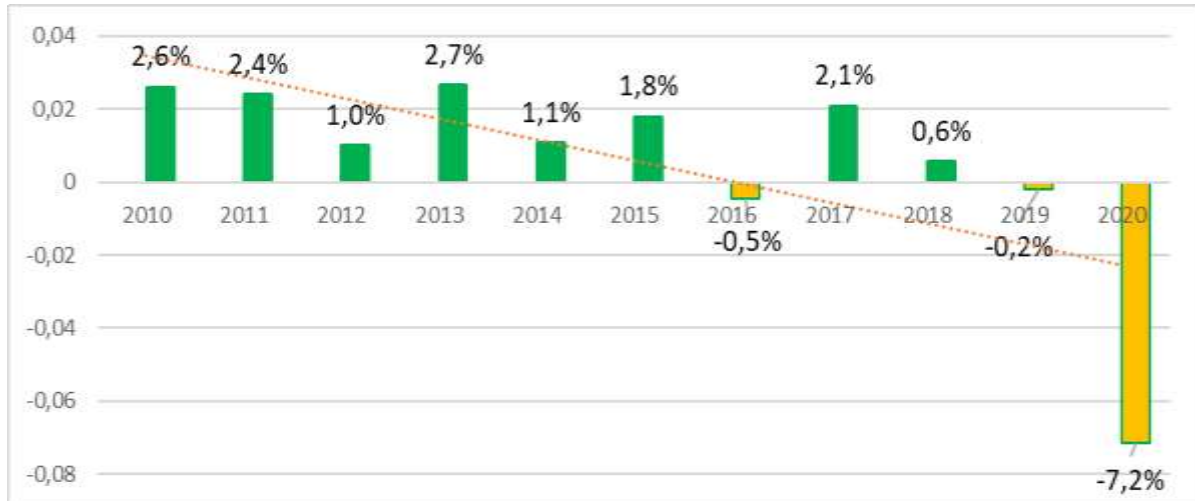
The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) lifted its benchmark repo rate by 25 basis points to 4 percent at its January 2022 meeting, as widely expected. This is the second consecutive hike due to increased inflation risks and despite the economy still recovering from the fourth wave of COVID-19 infections driven by the Omicron variant. The Committee believes a gradual rise in the repo rate will be sufficient to keep inflation expectations well anchored and moderate the future path of interest rates. In December, headline inflation accelerated further to 5.9 percent, above market expectations of 5.7 percent and moving closer to the top of the SARB's target range of 3 to 6 percent. Headline CPI forecast has been revised slightly higher to 4.9 percent for 2022 (vs 4.3 percent in November) but lowered to 4.5 percent in 2023 (vs 4.6 percent). Meanwhile, the GDP growth projections by SARB were kept unchanged at 1.7 percent for 2022 and 1.8 percent for 2023. The central bank's model indicates gradual normalisation in the first quarter of 2022, and into 2023 and 2024.

1.7 Limpopo Economic Growth

Limpopo province's, GDP growth has been facing a decline in recent years, growing well below the Limpopo Development Plan's aspired 3 percent growth rate. From 2018 the provincial economy grew by 0.6 percent, from the 2017 2.1 percent growth. Limpopo GDP further declined to negative 0.2 percent in 2019 and to negative 7.2

percent in 2020. It is expected that as the mining and other industries recover the provincial economy will recover.

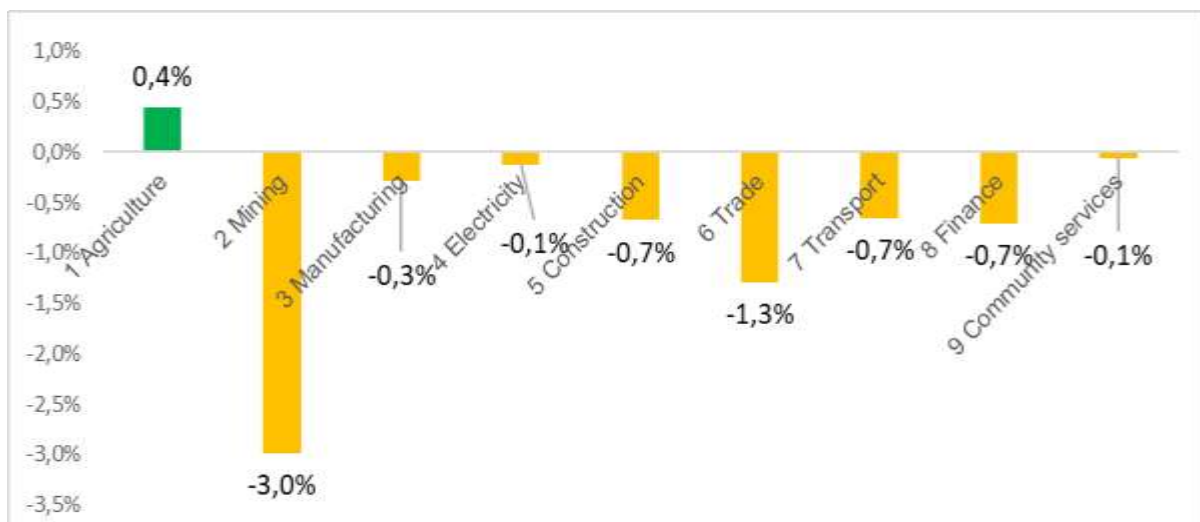
Figure 6: Limpopo GDP Constant 2010 prices percent change year-on-year



Source: IHS Regional Explorer, 2021

In 2020 the industry that contributed positively towards the Limpopo’s gross domestic product was the agriculture sector with 0.4 percent points.

Figure 7:Contribution to total economic growth (percent point, Constant 2010 prices)



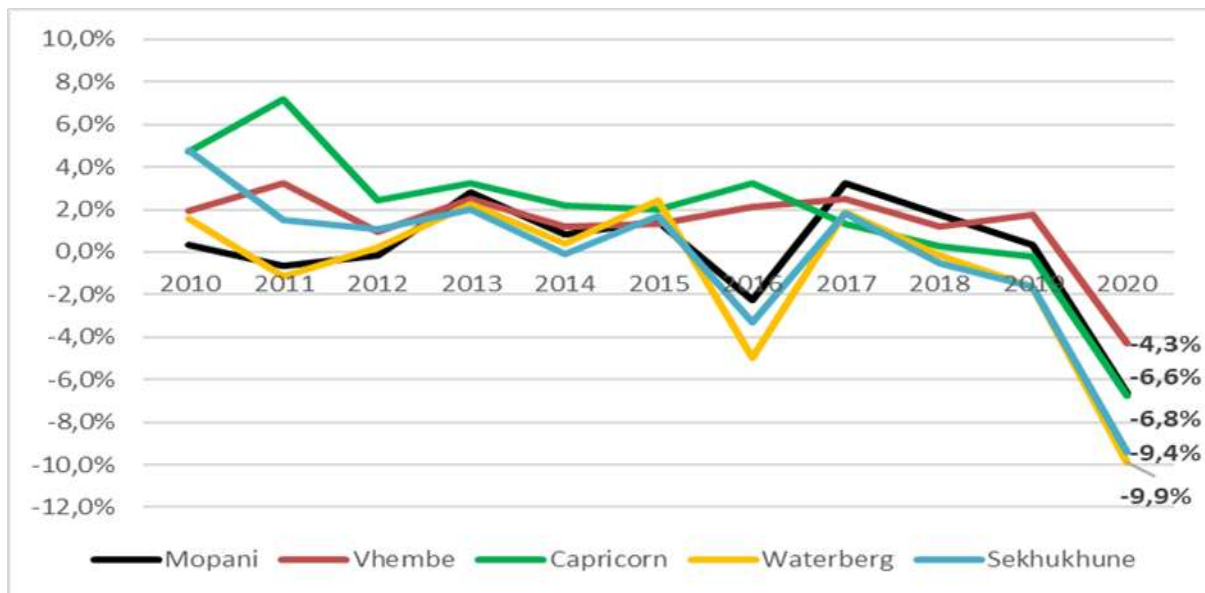
Source: IHS Regional Explorer, 2021

Due to the complications caused by the deadly Corona virus other industries contributed negatively towards the economic growth in Limpopo province. Mining industry recorded the highest negative of 3.0 percent followed by trade with negative 1.3 percent.

1.8 Limpopo District economic growth

The Limpopo Districts GDP has been on decline over the years from 2010. Capricorn District has been the leading district in terms of GDP growth in the province from 2010 to 2016, and it was over taken by Mopani and Vhembe districts from 2017. In 2020 all the districts suffered a negative growth due to the impact of Covid-19. The hardest hit districts were Waterberg and Sekhukhune, experiencing a negative growth of -9.9 and -9.4 percent respectively. Capricorn, Mopani and Vhembe district experienced a negative growth of -6.8, -6.6 and -4.3 percent respectively.

Figure 8: Limpopo district economic growth



Source: Regional explorer, 2021

1.9 Conclusion

The Global economic recovery is continuing in the mist of COVID-19 pandemic, but the momentum has weakened and uncertainty has increased with the recent resurgence of Omicron COVID-19 virus variant. The world remains in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic, which highlight the need for increased global co-operation and dialogue. Solutions to these global problems must involve all countries and all regions, especially Sub-Saharan Africa, with the world's least vaccinated population. In particular, the economic outlook points to divergences at three levels: between Sub-Saharan Africa and other regions, within Sub-Saharan Africa, and within countries. These divergences reflect the region's slower vaccines rollout, more limited fiscal space, and regional disparities in resilience. The outlook remains extremely uncertain, and risks are tilted to the downside. In particular, the recovery depends on the path of the global pandemic and the regional vaccination effort, the fuel, energy and food price inflation, and is also vulnerable to disruptions in global activity and financial markets.

As the fifth wave is widely expected to arise in South Africa around the winter season, it is more likely that the Covid-19 pandemic will slow down business and entrepreneurial ventures. The Province and the Country will need to gear up the vaccination programs so that herd immunity can be achieved to allow the country and the province to return to normal operations as soon as possible, as well as reducing the pressure to the health facilities. A fundamental approach is needed for the province to move from an extractor of raw material and to become a processor and add value through manufacturing and processing. This will help in creating industries and employment in the province. Substantial investments in infrastructure, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), climate-smart agricultural technologies, and climate resilience combined with sustainable energy policies can play a pivotal role in rebuilding the provincial economy. Comprehensive set of policies will be required to promote a strong recovery that mitigates inequality and enhances environmental sustainability. The province will need to gear up in terms of planning and implementation of infrastructure projects so that the intended benefits to the communities are achieved.

CHAPTER 2: LABOUR MARKET

2.1 Introduction

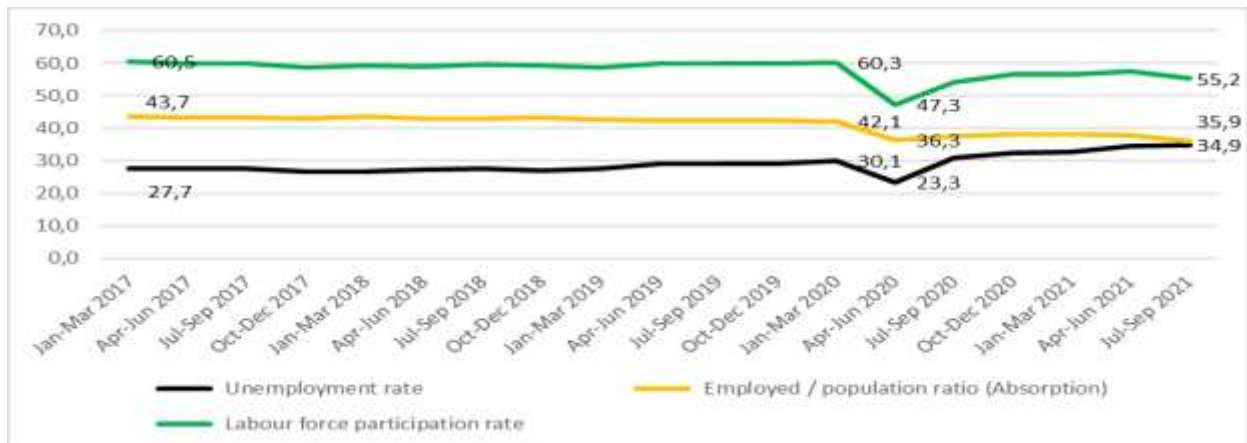
The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It collects data on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 years and older who live in South Africa. However, this report only covers labour market activities of persons aged 15–64 years. The number of working age population in South Africa compared to the employed number is widening, meaning that there are not enough jobs being created to absorb more people. The national unemployment rate has been on an increase in recent times.

2.2 South Africa Unemployment, Employment and Labour force participation rate

Unemployed persons according to the Official definition are those aged between 15– and 64 years who: a) Were not employed in the reference week; and b) Actively looked for work or tried to start a business in the four weeks preceding the survey interview; and c) Were available for work, i.e. would have been able to start work or a business in the reference week; or d) Had not actively looked for work in the past four weeks, but had a job or business to start at a definite date in the future were available. Unemployment rate is the proportion of the labour force that is unemployed.

According to the official definition of unemployment South African unemployment rate surged from 30.1 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 34.9 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021. This is an increase of about 5 percent since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in the early 2020. During the same period, the employed rate reduced from 42.1 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 35.9 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021. While the labour force participation rate decreased from 60.3 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 55.2 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021. The reduction in the labour force participation rate is an indication that the more and more people in the country have lost hope in looking for or finding employment.

Figure 9:SA Q3 Unemployment , Employment and Labour force participation rate

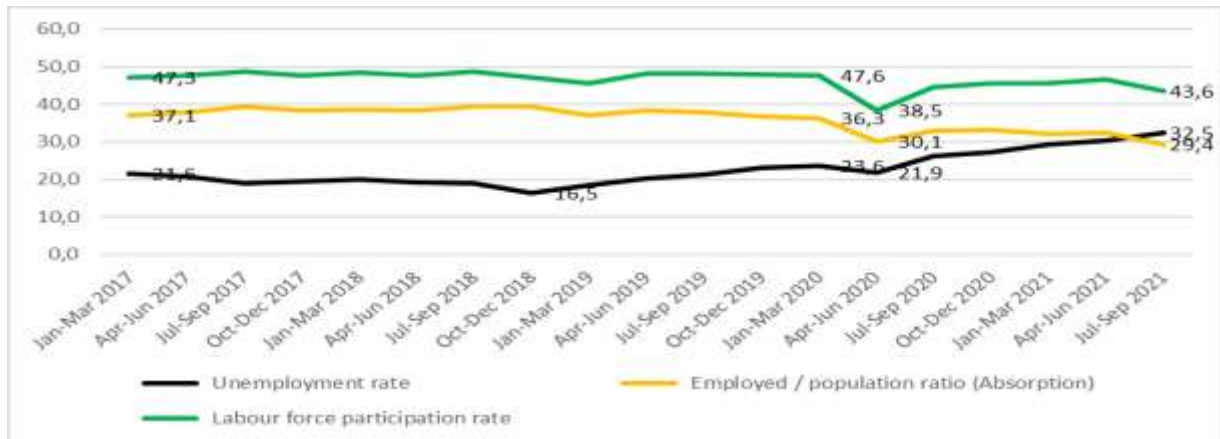


Source: StatsSA, 2021

2.3 Limpopo Unemployment, Employment and Labour force participation rate

Limpopo’s unemployment rate surged from 23.6 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 32.5 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021. Though the provincial unemployment rate is still below the national unemployment rate, the province has seen a bigger upsurge of about 9 percent since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020. During the same period, the absorption rate reduced from 36.3 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 29.4 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021, a reduction of about 7 percent in the absorption rate in the province. While the labour force participation rate also witnessed a decrease from 47.3 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 43.6 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021.

Figure 10: Limpopo Unemployment, Employment and Labour force participation rate

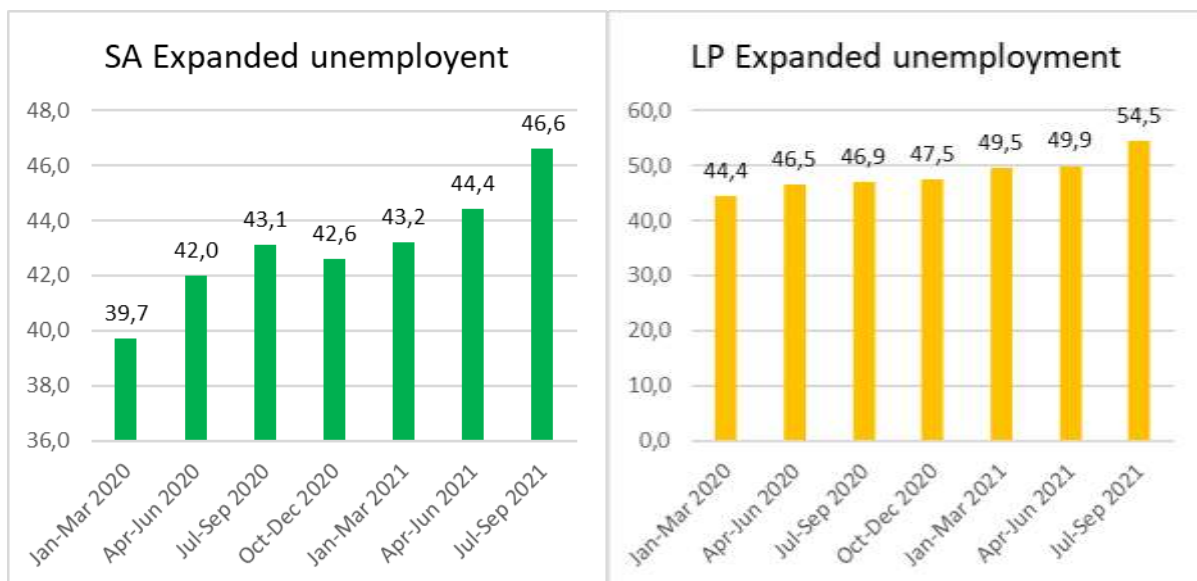


Source: StatsSA, 2021

2.4 SA and Limpopo Expanded definition of unemployment

Unemployed persons according to the Expanded definition are those (aged 15–64 years) who fall under official unemployment (searched and available) and were available to work but are/or Discouraged work-seekers or have other reasons for not searching.

Figure 11: South African and Limpopo expanded unemployment rate

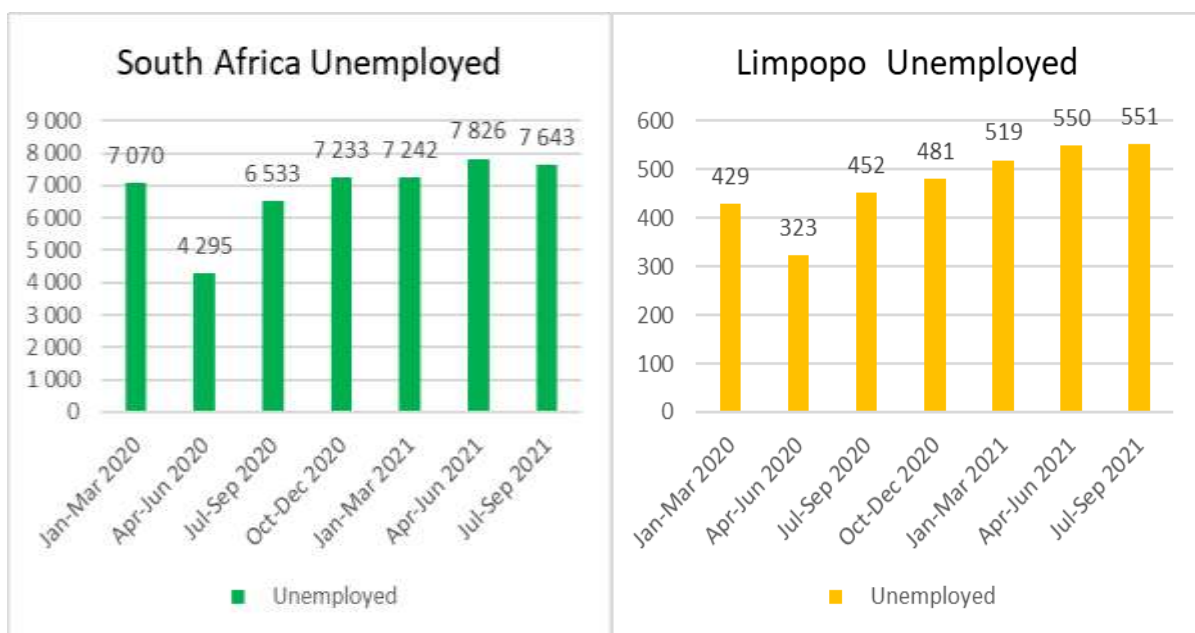


Source: StatsSA, 2021

South African expanded unemployment rate surged from 39.7 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 46.6 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021. This is an increase of about 6.3 percent since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in the early 2020. In Limpopo the expanded unemployment rate increased from 44.4 percent in the 1st quarter of 2020 to 54.5 percent in the 3rd quarter of 2021. This is an increase of about 10 percent in the province since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in the early 2020.

2.5 South Africa and Limpopo number of unemployed

Figure 12: South Africa and Limpopo unemployment ('000)

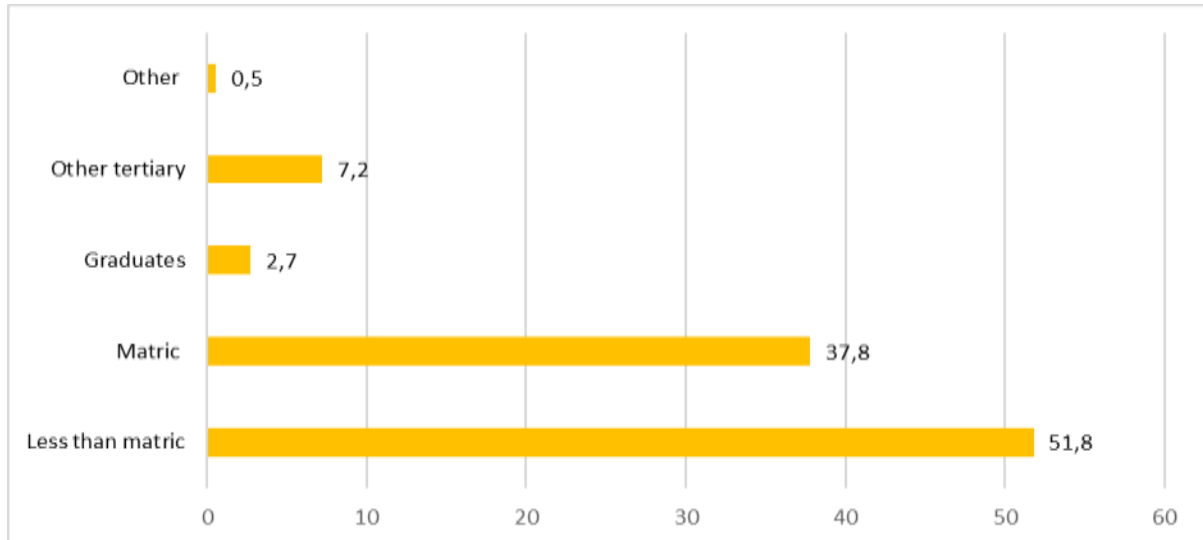


Source: StatsSA, 2021

Over the period Apr-Jun 2020 the unemployment number in South Africa and in Limpopo Province were recorded at 4.3 million and 323 thousand respectively. South Africa recorded an unemployment number of 7.8 million and Limpopo recorded 550 thousand on the second quarter of 2021. The number of unemployed persons in South Africa decreased by 183 000 to 7.6 million in the 3rd quarter of 2021, while in Limpopo there was no significant changes.

2.6 SA unemployed by education level

Figure 13: Proportion of the SA unemployed by education level, Q3 2021



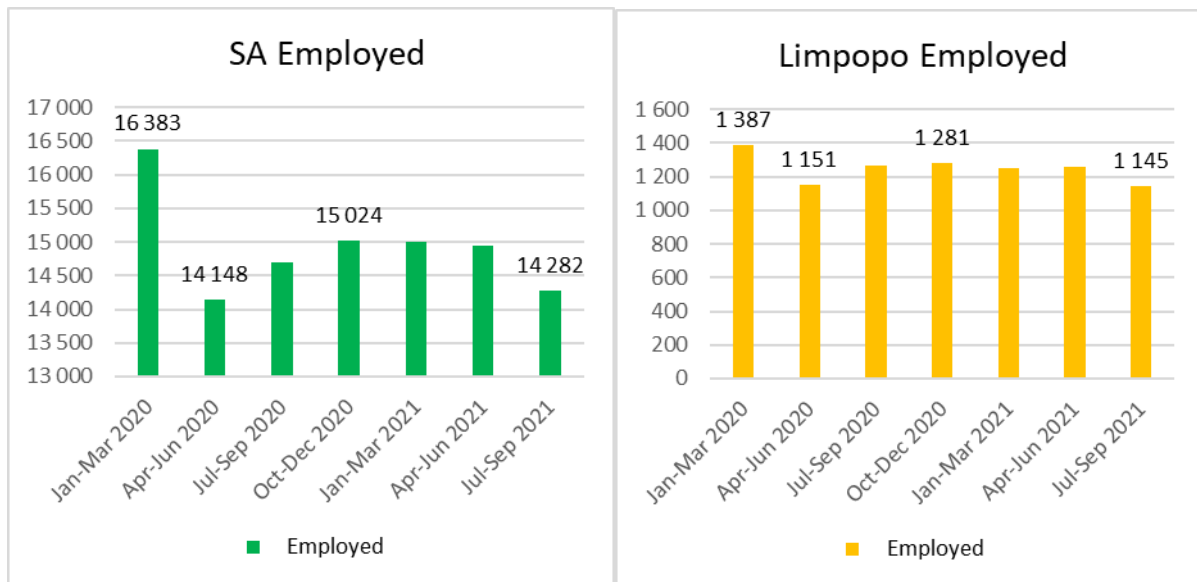
Source: StatsSA, 2021

The above figure shows that of the 7.6 million unemployed persons in the third quarter of 2021 in South Africa, as many as 51.8 percent had education levels below matric, followed by those with matric at 37,8 percent. Only 2.7 percent of unemployed persons were graduates, while 7.2 percent had other tertiary qualifications as their highest level of education.

2.7 SA and Limpopo employed persons

Both South Africa and Limpopo province has experienced a decline in the number of people employed between Jan-March 2020 and Jul-Sep 2021.

Figure 14:South Africa and Limpopo employed persons



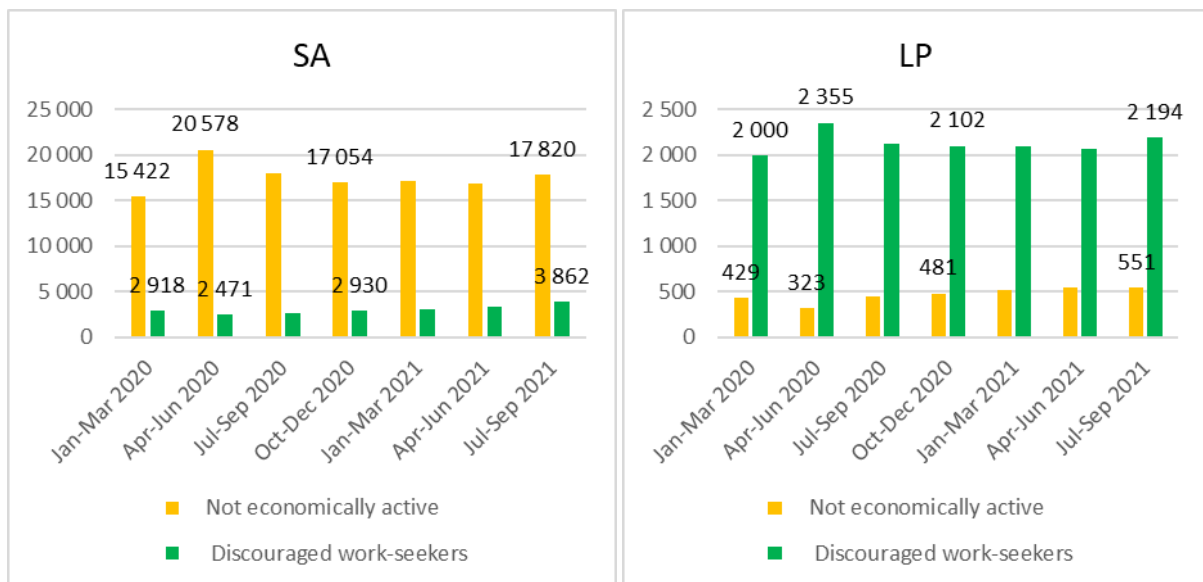
Source: StatsSA, 2021

In South Africa the number of employed persons declined from 16.4 Million between Jan-March 2020 to about 14.3 Million in Jul-Sep 2021 period. About 2.1 Million jobs were lost during this period in the country. The Limpopo number of employed persons declined from 1.4 million between Jan-Mar 2020 to 1.1 million between Jul-Sep 2021.

2.8 SA and Limpopo discouraged work seekers

Discouraged work-seeker is a person who was not employed during the reference period, wanted to work, was available to work/start a business but did not take active steps to find work during the last four weeks, provided that the main reason given for not seeking work was any of the following: no jobs available in the area; unable to find work requiring his/her skills; lost hope of finding any kind of work. The COVID-19 pandemic has discouraged many people from looking for employment. It became difficult for most job-seekers to seek for employment at the time when COVID-19 was at the peak, also because many companies and businesses were closing down due to lack of business and profit.

Figure 15: SA and Limpopo discouraged work-seekers



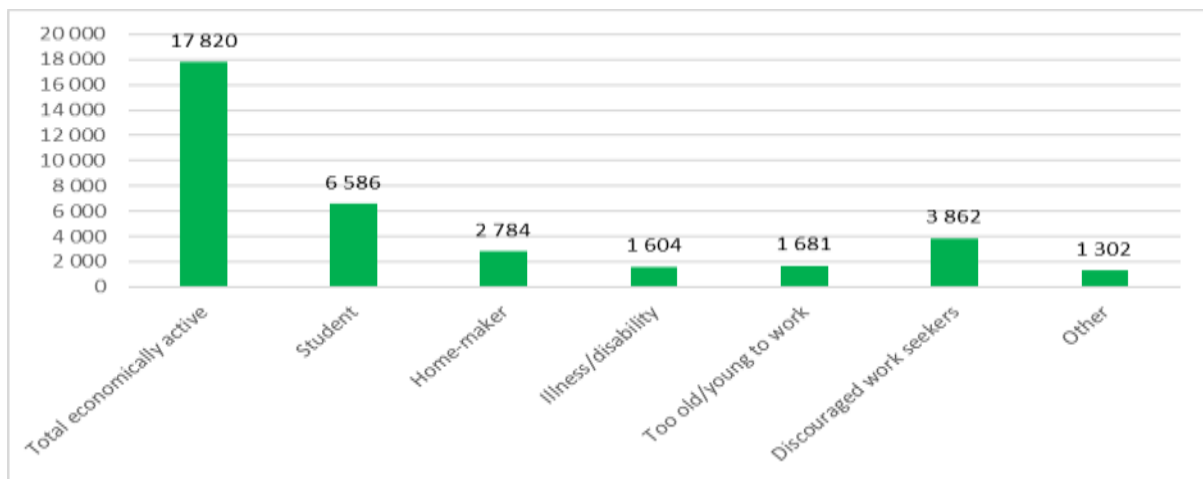
Source: StatsSA, 2021

Over the period Apr-Jun 2020 the not economically active number in South Africa and in Limpopo Province were recorded at 20.5 Million and 2.3 Million respectively. While those discouraged work seekers were recorded at 2.4 Million for South Africa and 323 thousand for Limpopo. As at the end of third quarter SA recorded a number of 17.8 million and Limpopo recorded 2.1 Million not economically active people, with the number of discouraged work seekers increasing to 3.8 million in the country, while in the province the number increased to 551 thousand on the 3rd quarter of 2021 amid Covid-19.

2.9 Characteristics of the not economically active - South Africa

Not economically active persons are those aged 15–64 years who are not involved in the labour market - they are neither employed or actively seeking for work in the reference week.

Figure 16: Characteristics of the not economically active - South Africa



Source: StatsSA, 2021

The total number of not economically active in the country was recorded at 17.8 Million in the 3rd quarter of 2021. The number of people who were not economically active in the country were characterised as students at 6.5 Million, discouraged at 3.8 Million, home-makers at 2.7 Million, too old/too young to work at 1.6 Million, illness/disability at 1.6 Million and those who gave other reasons than specified at 1.3 Million.

2.10 Conclusion

In a quest to protect South African citizens from the novel Corona virus, the government announced a national lockdown that brought about a shutdown of the economy, which in turn resulted in a shock in the labour market and a big change in the way people went about doing their work. To better understand the observed large changes in the key labour market indicators between Q2: 2021 and Q3: 2021, special tabulations were done to study movements between labour market status categories. It was observed that a large number of persons moved from the employed and unemployed statuses to the not economically active categories between the two quarters, which resulted in an increase of 0.5 of a percentage point in the unemployment rate to 34.9 percent. This is the highest unemployment rate recorded since the start of the QLFS in 2008.

CHAPTER 3: DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

3.1 Introduction

The ultimate purpose of the population estimates and population dynamics is to assist with policy making and planning based on the population structure and profile. The population dynamics cannot be addressed without taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic that has greatly affected the nation over the past months. On 5 March 2020, South Africa recorded its first case of COVID-19, by the 11th of March, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. South Africa's first COVID-19 death occurred on 27 March 2020. By 1 July 2020, approximately 152 000 confirmed COVID-19 infection cases and 2 700 confirmed COVID-19 related deaths were reported in South Africa by the National Department of Health.

COVID-19 reported number of cases and deaths, during the early days of the epidemic, were always cautioned with a preface that such estimates may be hampered by definitional inconsistencies, logistical issues and general aspects that come with attempting to count whilst also researching a relatively unknown pandemic with unclear testing, monitoring and classification processes at the time. It was clear that this was an underestimation and had a bearing in the actual population numbers.

3.2 South African Population Estimates

The population estimates cover all the residents of South Africa at the 2021 mid-year point, and are based on the latest available information. The updated estimates are accompanied by an entire series of revised estimates for the period 2002–2021. On this basis, comparisons between this model and previous ones should not be made.

Table 2: 2021 Mid-year population estimates by population group and sex

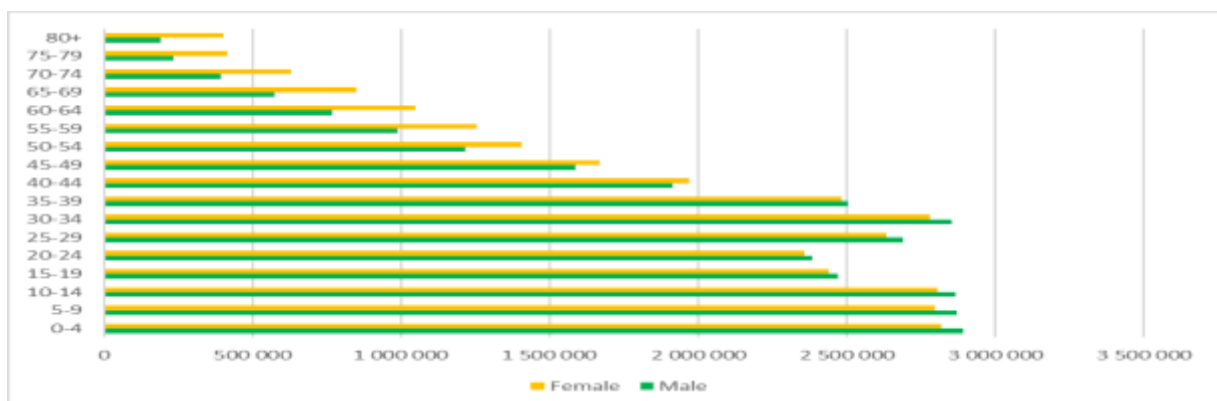
Population group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	percent of total population	Number	percent of total population	Number	percent of total population
African	23 761 051	80,9	24 879 278	80,9	48 640 329	80,9
Coloured	2 578 930	8,8	2 716 038	8,8	5 294 968	8,8
Indian/Asian	790 412	2,7	754 810	2,5	1 545 222	2,6
White	2 257 654	7,7	2 404 805	7,8	4 662 459	7,8
Total	29 388 047	100,0	30 754 931	100,0	60 142 978	100,0

Source: StatsSA 2021 Mid-year population estimates

For 2021, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) estimates the mid-year population at 60,14 million people. The black African population is in the majority (48, 640 million) and constitutes approximately 81 percent of the total South African population. The white population is estimated at 4, 662 million, the coloured population at 5, 294 million and the Indian/Asian population at 1, 545 million. Approximately 51.1 percent (approximately 30, 754 million) of the population is female, while 48.9 percent (approximately 29, 388 million) is male.

3.3 SA population age structure

Figure 17: SA population age structure

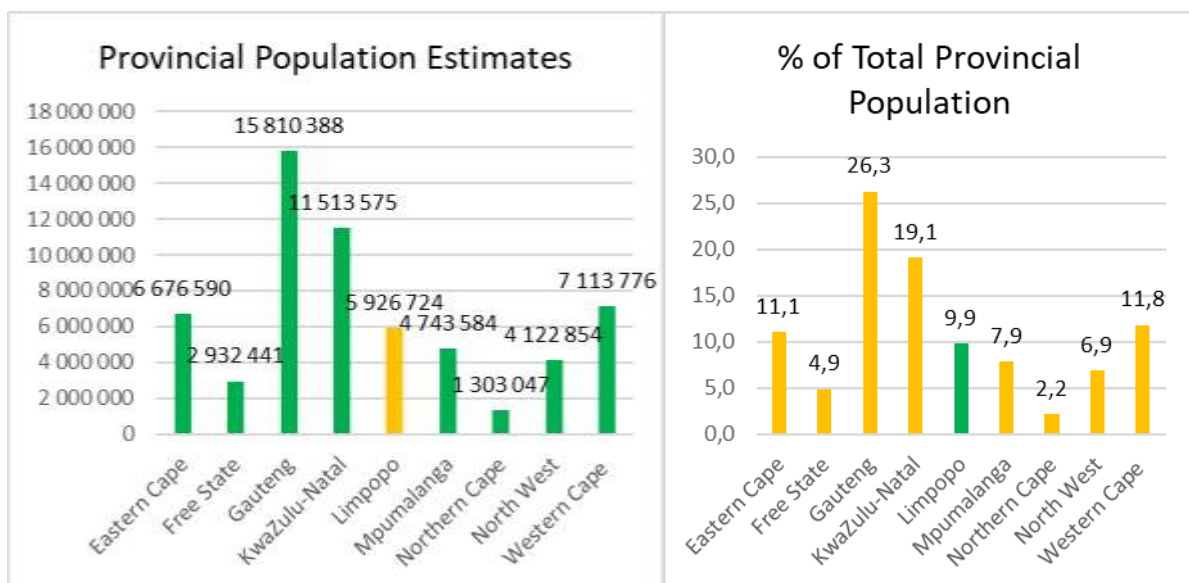


Source: StatsSA 2021 Mid-year population estimates

The South African population in terms of age structure is dominated by people of young age or youth, with ages ranging between below 39 years. From the age group of 0-4 to the age group of 35-39 the male gender is dominant, while from the age group of 40-44 to the age group of 80+ the South African population is dominated by females with a large variance between the genders. This is an indication that females are generally living much longer than their male counterparts, for generalised reasons that men tend to adopt risky life styles as compared to the females. The general social behavioural patterns of men tend to put their lives at risks, such as stress related illnesses that tend to cut their lives short.

3.4 Provincial population

Figure 18: Provincial population estimates



Source: StatsSA 2021 Mid-year population estimates

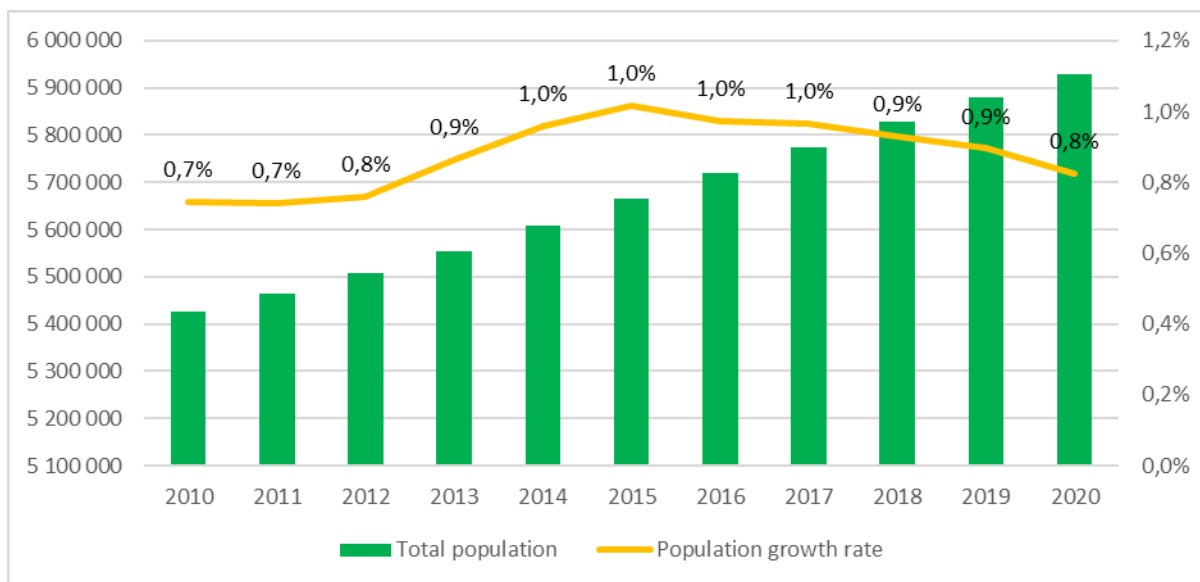
The provincial estimates show that in 2021, Gauteng with a population of around 15,8 Million has the largest share of the population, followed by KwaZulu-Natal (11,5 Million), Western Cape (7,1 Million), Eastern Cape (6,6 Million), Limpopo (5,9 Million), Mpumalanga (4,7 Million), North West (4,1 Million), Free State (2,9 Million) and Northern Cape (1,3 Million). Inter-provincial as well as international migration patterns significantly influence the provincial population numbers and structures in South Africa. By 2021 approximately 26.3 percent of South Africa's population lived in

Gauteng. Northern Cape has the smallest share of the population (2.2 percent). Limpopo province is in the middle with the fifth largest share of the South African population, constituting 9.9 percent of the population of the country.

3.5 Limpopo population

Limpopo population was recorded at 5.4 million in 2010 and it has since increased to 5.9 million in 2020, this means that the provincial population has increased by around 500 thousand people between 2010 and 2020 period. The population growth rate has been on decline since 2016, in 2020 the population increased at a rate of 0.8 percent from a high of 1 percent in 2016.

Figure 19: Limpopo Total Population and Population growth rate

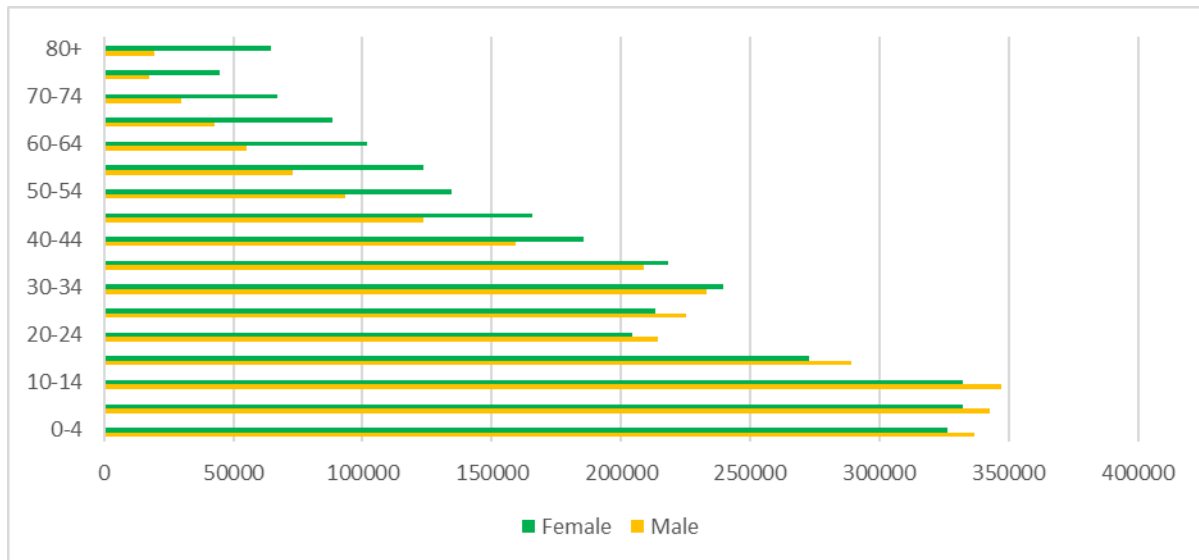


Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer, 2021

As the population number is forever increasing, it means there will be more demand for public goods such as water, housing, energy, healthcare, transportation and more.

3.6 Population age structure

Figure 20: Limpopo population age structure

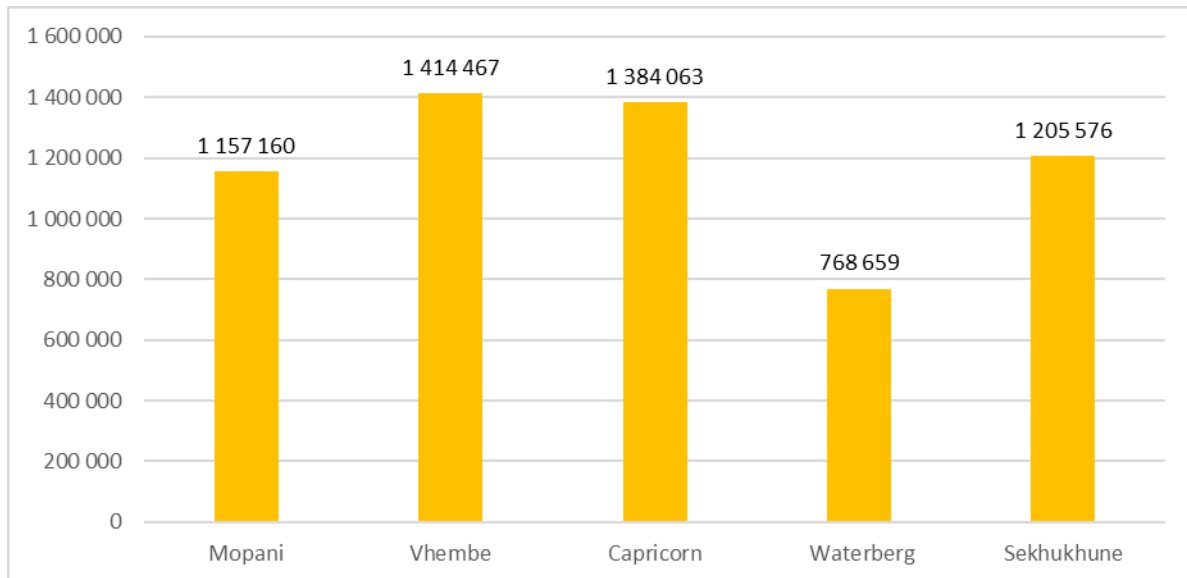


Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer, 2021

Limpopo population in terms of age structure tend to follow similar pattern as that of the country, dominated by people of young age or youth, with ages ranging between below 39 years. Though in Limpopo from the age group of 0-4 to the age group of 25-29 the male gender is dominant. From the age group of 30-34 to the age group of 80+ the Limpopo population is dominated by females with a large variance between the genders.

3.7 Limpopo district population

Figure 21: Limpopo district population distribution



Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer, 2021

In terms of the district distribution of the Limpopo population, majority of the Limpopo population resides in Vhembe district with a population of around 1.4 Million. It is followed by Capricorn, Sekhukhune and Mopani districts with a population size of 1.3 Million, 1.2 Million, and 1.1 Million respectively. The lowest population in the province is found in Waterberg district with a population size of 768 thousand people.

3.8 Migration patterns

Between 11 March 2020, when the WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and 22 February 2021, nearly 105 000 movement restrictions were implemented around the world. COVID-19 restrictions and protocols, combined with increased logistical burdens around travel, limited the movement of people across international borders. Migration to Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) member countries are estimated to have fallen by an unprecedented 46 percent in the first half of 2020. These estimates are informed by the number of new immigration permits issued, which only partly represents migration flow. Furthermore, illegal migration constitutes a significant proportion of migration, often missed in official

estimates, and this varies from country to country. Given the far-reaching impact of an infectious disease such as COVID-19 on travel and movement, it is only rational to expect migration to decline globally. However, the pace and level of that decline over time is somewhat more difficult to predict. Over time, travel restrictions have been amended and protocols revised, to facilitate mobility and migration.

South Africa, under the Disaster Management Act of SA called for the closure of South African international borders (during lockdown level 5). This was enacted on 26 March 2020 for a period of 21 days, and further extended by two more weeks. A significant proportion of the South African international migration outside of Africa are facilitated by air travel, primarily to countries such as the USA, Canada, European countries, Australia, and New Zealand, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, China

Table 3: International migration

	African	Indian/Asian	White	Net International Migration
1985-2000	632 633	36 908	-202 868	466 673
2001-2006	565 916	25 310	-99 574	491 652
2006-2011	815 780	43 222	-106 787	752 215
2011-2016	972 995	54 697	-111 346	916 346
2016-2021	894 365	49 584	-90 957	852 992

Source: StatsSA 2021 Mid-year population estimates

The table above shows international migration by population group for selected periods. As already indicated, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international migration for the period 1st July 2019- 30th June 2020 was endured for only a quarter of the year. However, for the period 1st July 2020 to 30th June 2021, assumptions for international migration incorporated impact of COVID-19 for a 12-month period. For the year 2021, the assumption is that international migration remains at a low level given the current situation of effective travel bans, lockdown reactions to surges in infection levels and mutation of the virus, low vaccination rollout numbers globally, worsening economic and employment opportunities, among other factors. For all periods, the number of international migrants entering the provinces was highest in

Gauteng, with Western Cape ranking second. Census 2021 will be a key empirical resource indicating current trends in inter-provincial migration in South Africa.

Table 4: Estimated provincial migration streams 2016–2021

Province in 2016	Province in 2021											
	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LIM	MP	NC	NW	WC	Out-migrants	In-migrants	Net migration
EC	0	13 130	147 216	98 999	14 097	16 907	8 142	37 832	176 181	512 504	192 839	-319 665
FS	8 606	0	83 753	8 023	6 688	11 004	9 259	24 258	12 453	164 042	134 907	-29 135
GP	52 253	40 607	0	70 587	103 823	83 037	12 677	111 615	98 673	573 271	1 564 861	991 590
KZN	26 274	12 718	231 202	0	9 873	37 878	8 879	12 074	34 468	373 366	288 998	-84 367
LIM	4 598	5 959	354 909	8 447	0	48 647	2 659	33 135	11 605	469 960	281 289	-188 671
MP	5 394	5 577	143 825	13 504	25 051	0	2 482	14 343	10 465	220 641	283 137	62 496
NC	4 598	9 245	17 413	5 898	2 763	4 681	0	13 244	18 994	76 837	88 433	11 596
NW	5 407	12 274	112 809	6 359	20 723	12 386	24 594	0	9 501	204 053	320 679	116 626
WC	53 745	8 473	65 819	13 882	6 132	7 700	13 528	8 858	0	178 136	470 657	292 521
Outside SA (net migration)	31 965	26 925	407 915	63 299	92 140	60 896	6 214	65 320	98 317			

Source: StatsSA 2021 Mid-year population estimates

Movement made during lockdown constitutes a temporary one in the majority of cases whilst inter-provincial migration in the mid-year estimation constitutes a more permanent move. In addition, the provincial estimates are for a 5-year period and the 16-month period of the COVID pandemic would contribute only a fourth of the 5-year period. The assumptions indicate that Gauteng (1.5 Million) and Western Cape (470 thousand) received the highest number of in-migrants for all periods. The Eastern Cape (512 thousand), Limpopo (469 thousand) and Gauteng (573 thousand) experienced the largest number of outflow of migrants. Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape provinces received positive net migration, while Eastern Cape, Limpopo, Kwa Zulu Natal experienced a negative net migration

3.9 Conclusion

The social and economic effect of losing so many elderly people to the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to be felt in many years to come. All three aspects of demography, i.e. declining fertility, declining international migration as well as a significant rise in deaths, significantly influenced the decline in the rate of growth for South Africa as a whole. International migration remains at a low level given the current situation of effective travel bans, lockdown reactions to surges in infection levels and mutation of the virus, low vaccination rollout numbers globally, worsening economic and employment opportunities, among other factors. The shifts in the demographic age and sex profile of South Africa due to the COVID-19 pandemic must be taken into consideration when planning for the future health, economics and welfare.

Both the country and the province populations are dominated by a youthful and young male population of ages below 39 years, this situation changes for the ages above 40 years as they are dominated by females at a much higher scale. This is an indication that the females are generally living much longer than their male counter parts, for generalised reasons that men tend to adopt to risky life styles as compared to the females, also men assume dangerous jobs where they may be exposed to illness that may cut their life span short.

CHAPTER 4: DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

4.1 Introduction

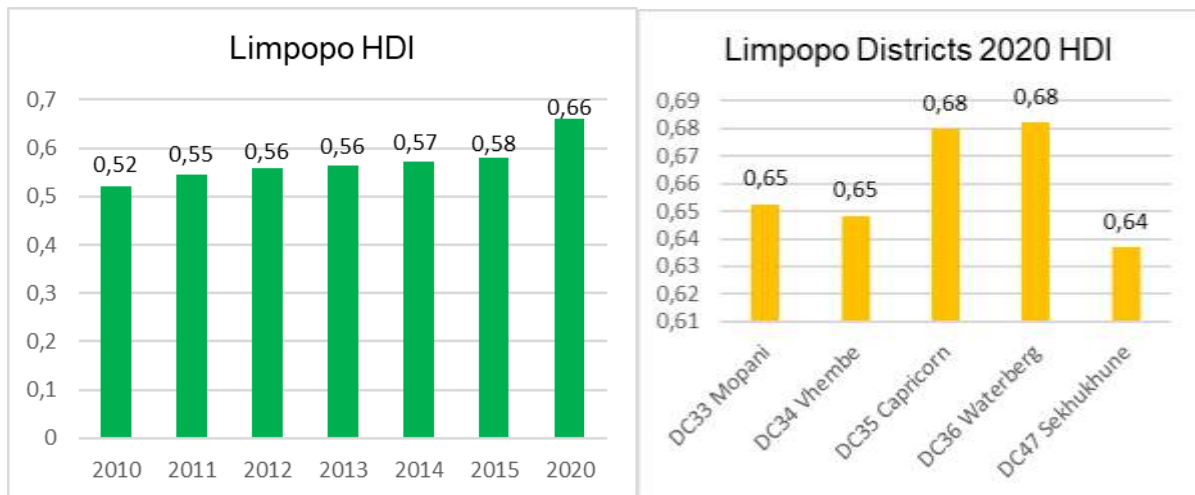
Human Development Index (HDI) is a compound index focusing on three basic dimensions of human development: to lead a long and healthy life, measured by life expectancy at birth; the ability to acquire knowledge, measured by mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling; and the ability to achieve a decent standard of living, measured by gross national income per capita. The HDI can assume a maximum value of 1 indicating a very high level of development and a minimum value of 0, indicating no human development.

Income inequality is measured through the Gini Coefficient. When the Coefficient is equal to zero it means that incomes are distributed in a perfectly equal manner, indicating a low variance between high and low income earners in the population. When the Gini coefficient is equal to one, income is completely inequitable, with one individual in the population earning income, whilst everyone else earns nothing.

4.2 Limpopo Human Development Index

The Human development index is used to measure the standard of living of citizens in a particular region. Limpopo province has improved when it comes to the standard of living for its citizens since 2010, as the provincial Human Development Index increased from 0.52 in 2010 to 0.66 in 2020. This is an indication that the living conditions of the people in the province has somehow increased over the period of time.

Figure 22: Limpopo HDI



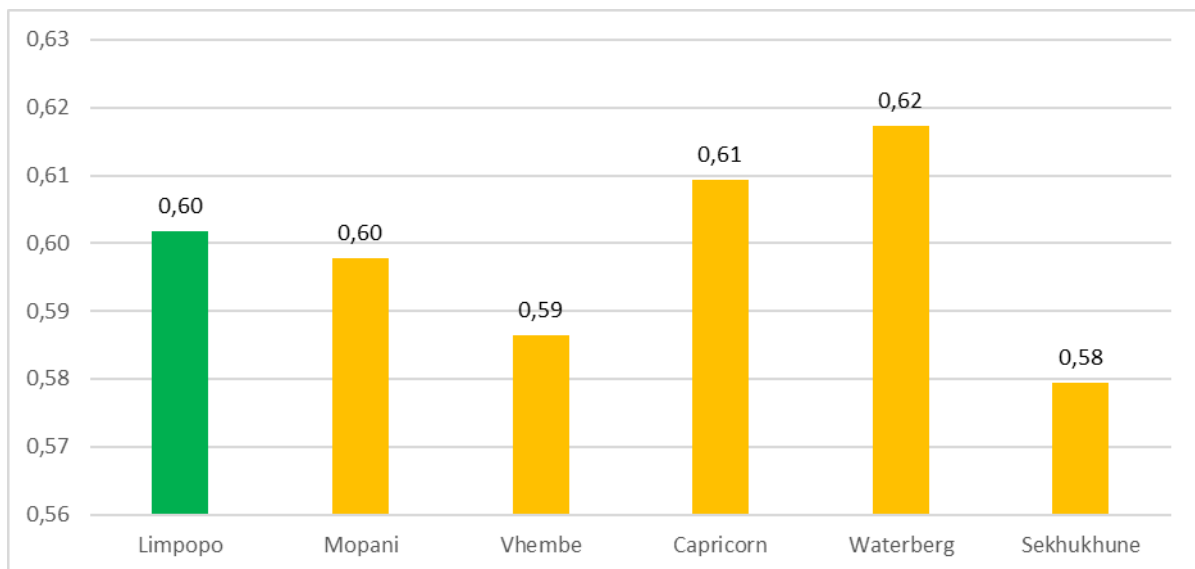
Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer

Citizens of Waterberg and Capricorn district have higher standard of living compared with other districts in Limpopo province recorded at 0.68 HDI point respectively. Sekhukhune district recorded an HDI of 0.64 which shows less human prosperity in levels of education, standard of living and life expectancy compared with other districts in the province.

4.3 Limpopo Inequality

Income inequality continue to be a challenge that is facing not only the country, but also in the province and districts in Limpopo. In recent times, the province has been experiencing an increase in the number of unemployed persons, as a result unemployment is also considered one of the factors of income inequality. Low level of education and skills limit people's ability to access decent jobs for themselves and to also participate fully in the society.

Figure 23: Limpopo Gini coefficient



Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer 2021

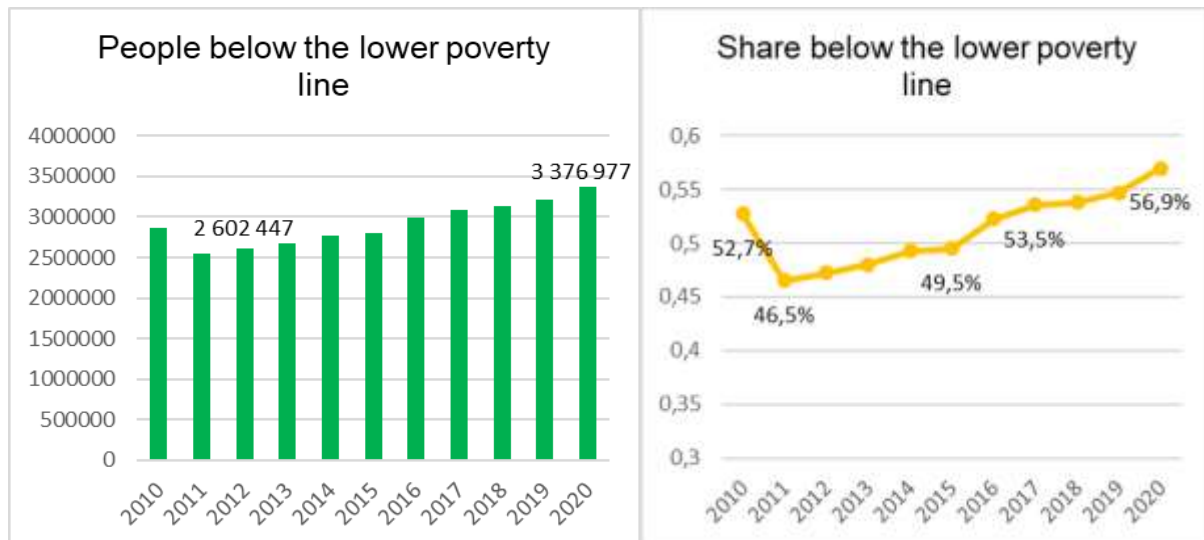
Limpopo province recorded a Gini Coefficient of 0.60 percent, there is no significant changes between 2019 and 2020 income inequality. Waterberg and Capricorn district recorded the highest income inequality amongst the districts in the province at 0.62 and 0.61 respectively, this is an affirming that the rich are getting richer while poor citizens are becoming poorer. Sekhukhune and Vhembe districts respectively recorded 0.58 and 0.59 percent in 2020.

4.4 Limpopo Poverty indicators

Poverty is more than lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihoods. It includes hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services as well as lack of participation in decision making, therefore poverty continues to be a prevalent issue. People living in poverty comes across challenges of meeting their basic needs, most of them experience different types of health problems. Poverty eradication is a long-standing policy priority of various government programs with the aim, to ensure an equitable society characterized by broad-based development. The number is anticipated to rise because of the consequences of COVID-19 where many people lost income streams from employment and business

failures (particularly informal traders). The lockdown also highlighted the extreme plight of the poor with hundreds of people joining queues to get food.

Figure 24: Limpopo people living below the lower poverty line and share of people living below the poverty line

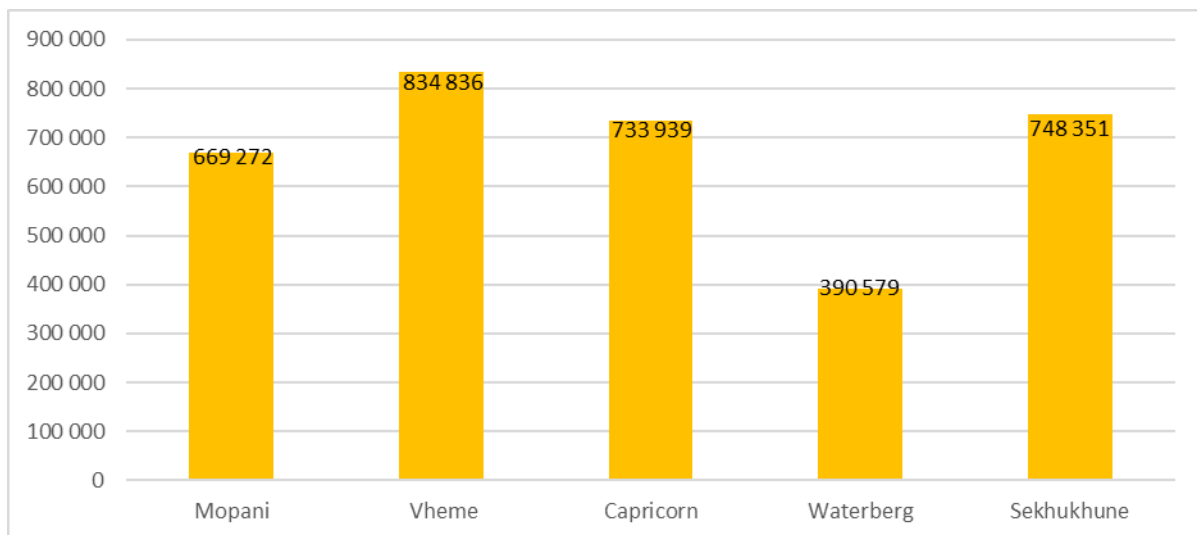


Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer

The number of people living below the lower poverty line has been increasing since 2012 to 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has contributed in this increase as many people have lost their jobs and some businesses closed down. In 2012 Limpopo province recorded 2.6 million people living below the lower poverty line, the number increased in 2020 significantly to 3.3 million.

The share of people living below the lower poverty line increased by 10.4 percent from 46.5 percent in 2011 to 56.9 percent in 2020.

Figure 25: Limpopo people living below the lower poverty line per district



Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer

Vhembe district had the highest number of people living below the poverty line of 834 thousand followed by Sekhukhune district at 748 thousand. Waterberg district recorded the least number of 390 thousand people living below the lower poverty line.

4.5 Conclusion

The primary way for the province to achieve high living conditions and closing the income gap in the province is by having a job creating economy, which will be through the manufacturing sector. Low employment and high poverty levels will lead to high reliance on public goods and services which will adversely affect the provincial fiscus, at its worse situation diverting investment expenditure to social welfare. Government and private sector could improve the provincial human development by providing more adult education, especially for those that have not been to school and ensure health facilities are accessible to everyone, especially in the rural outskirts of the province. Human development will only be increased in the province when the government and private sector can strive to create jobs that are sustainable and pay decent salaries which will intern improve household's income.

CHAPTER 5: SOCIAL SERVICES

5.1 Introduction

Nearly two years into the pandemic, researchers are still in the early stages of understanding the scope and impact of “Long COVID”, the informal name of what the World Health Organization calls post COVID-19 condition. There are roughly 200 symptoms associated with Long COVID, including chronic fatigue, persistent cough, cognitive issues with memory and concentration, as well as sleep problems. Early in the epidemic it became clear that some people who had recovered from a COVID-19 infection continued to experience a range of neurological issues, from fatigue, concentration problems and persistent headaches to strange sensory aberrations and psychological disturbances and research indicates that 10 to 25 per cent of all people infected will end up with some sort of Long COVID symptoms. "Learning to live with the COVID virus?" That's the new messaging of some governments and public health officials these days. The health system burden, the societal burden, the economic burden, is going to be something the country and all the provinces and territories will be grappling with for years to come.

5.2 World update on Covid-19 as of 15 February 2022

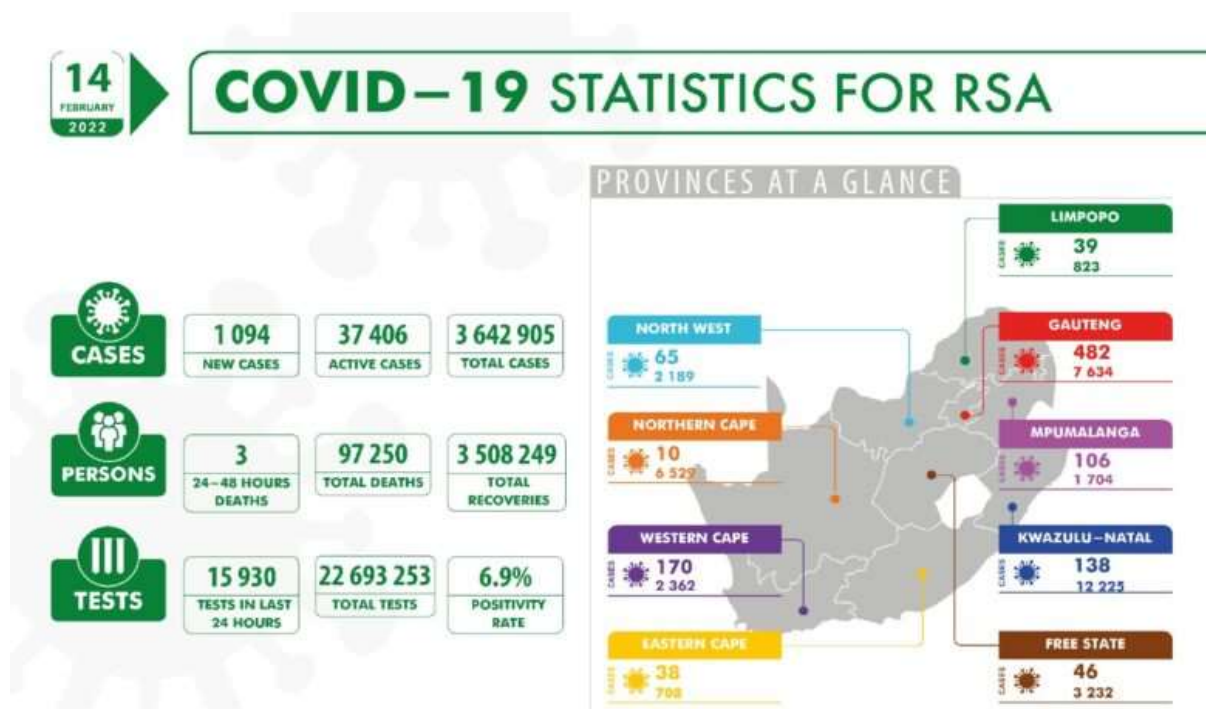
As of the 15th February 2022, more than 413.7 million cases of COVID-19 had been reported worldwide, while the reported global death toll stood at more than 5.8 million. In Europe, coronavirus case numbers have slightly dropped in Germany, as the government plans to loosen restrictions. Meanwhile, the head of the World Health Organization's Europe office is turning their attention to growing rates of COVID-19 infection in eastern Europe, where six countries including Russia and Ukraine have seen a doubling in case counts over the last two weeks. In the Middle East, Iran, 167 people had died with COVID-19 in the past 24 hours, with 25,034 additional cases. In Africa, health officials in South Africa reported 1,094 new cases of COVID-19 and 57 additional deaths.

In the Americas, Washington, D.C., will no longer require people to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to enter many businesses, joining a slew of local leaders who are pulling back pandemic restrictions as the Omicron wave is disappearing.

5.3 SA update as of 15 February 2022

The cumulative number of detected Covid-19 cases in South Africa stood at 3,642,925 with 1,094 new cases identified, the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) confirmed. This increase represented a 6.9 percent positivity rate.

Figure 26: SA Covid-19 stats



Source: NCID, 2022

Gauteng continued to record the majority of new cases nationally at 482 (44 percent).

The national Department of Health reported 257 deaths and of these, three occurred in the past 24 – 48 hours. This brings the total fatalities to 97,250 to date.

Covid-19 Provincial Breakdown

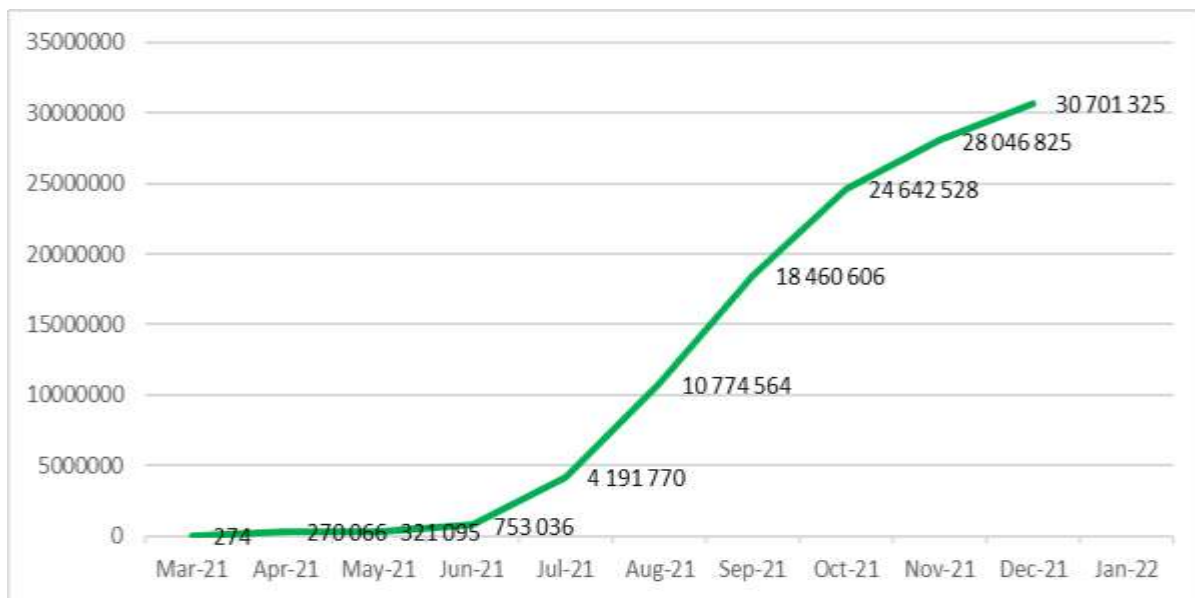
- Gauteng 44 percent
- Western Cape 16 percent
- KwaZulu-Natal 13 percent
- Mpumalanga 10 percent
- North West 6 percent
- Free State 4 percent
- Limpopo 4 percent
- Eastern Cape 3 percent
- Northern Cape 1 percent

The positivity rate, new positive cases per total new tested, was 6.9 percent (1094/15930), which is lower than the previous days rate of 8.1 percent. The seven-day average was 8.2 percent, which is lower than the previous seven day average of 8.3 percent. In terms of hospital admissions, there was an increase of 47 hospital admissions in the past 24 hours.

5.4 SA Vaccination

The World Health Organization bemoans the slow vaccination rate in other African countries. According to the organisation, Africa has received more than 587 million vaccine doses, but it is still struggling to expand rollout, with only 11 percent of the population fully vaccinated. This calls for Africa to boost the vaccination rate against Covid-19 at a rate of six times to reach the target of 70 percent vaccine coverage set for the end of the first half of 2022. The world has finally heard the calls from African countries, as Africa is now accessing the vaccines it has demanded for far too long, which gives a dose of hope for this year. However, a dependable pipeline must go hand in hand with operational funding to move doses out of depots and into people's arms.

Figure 27: Total number of Vaccines Administered in SA as at 15 February 2022



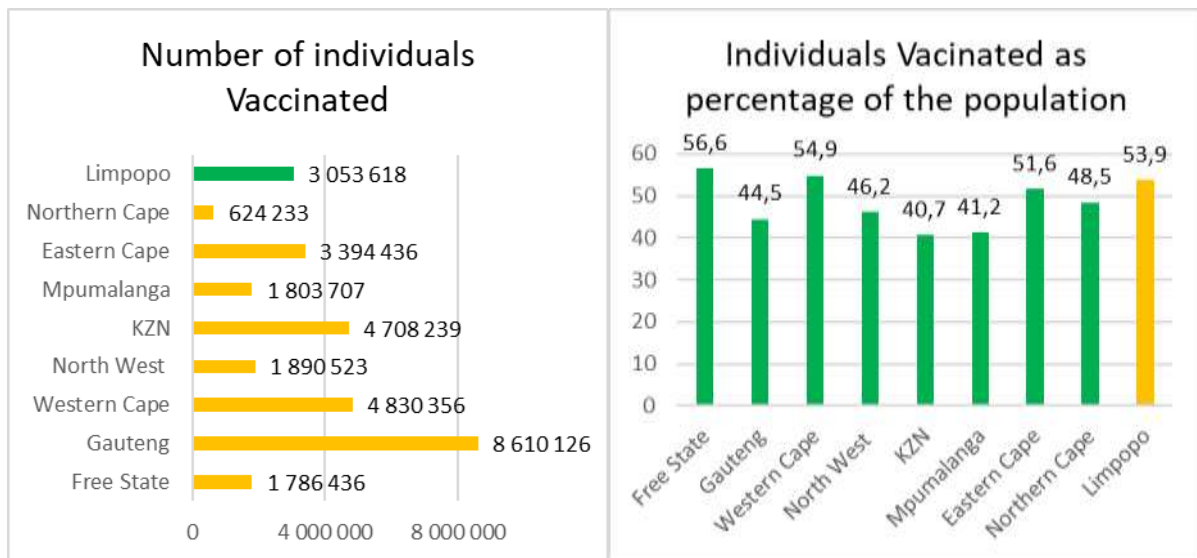
Source: NICD,2022

In South Africa, the Department of Health has more than 30 million or more than 50 percent of vaccine doses administered by the 15th of February 2022. The vaccinations started slow from March 2021, as about 274 people were vaccinated, this was due to reluctance to the vaccination process. Between June and July 2021 the number of vaccinated people in the country started to pick up to over 4 million and it rose sharply to reach over 30 million by the 15th of February 2022. The sharp increase in the vaccination of the population in the country was driven by a massive vaccination drive such as the “Vooma” drive and other programmes that were aimed at encouraging the people to get vaccinated.

5.5 Number of Vaccines Administered by province

The majority of the individuals that are vaccinated are from Gauteng at 8.6 Million with 44 percent of the population vaccinated, followed by Western Cape at 4.8 Million or 54 percent of the population, Kwa-Zulu Natal at 4.7 Million or 40 percent of the population.

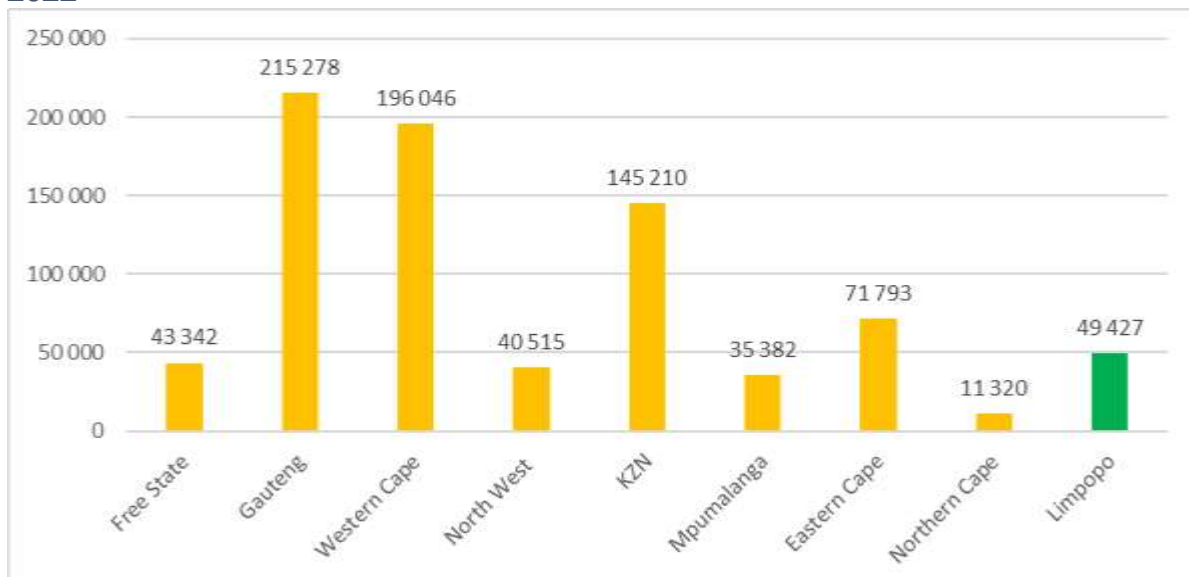
Figure 28: Total number of Vaccines Administered by province as at 15 February 2022



Source: NICD,2022

Limpopo and Eastern Cape each accounted for about 3 Million or 54 percent and 3,4 Million or 51,6 percent of their population vaccinated respectively. North West at 1,8 Million or 46,2 percent and Northern Cape at 624 thousand or 48,5 percent had the least number of people vaccinated.

Figure 29: Total Number of booster Vaccines Administered as of 15 February 2022



Source: NICD,2022

In the country a total of 808 thousand booster vaccines have been Administered as of 15 February 2022. Gauteng, Western Cape and KZN are the leading provinces with majority of the individuals that have received or are vaccinated with the booster shots at 215, 196 and 145 thousand respectively. Limpopo province has accounted for about 49 thousand of its population vaccinated with booster shots. Northern Cape at 11 thousand had the least number of people vaccinated with booster shots.

5.6 The race to vaccinate Sub-Saharan Africa falls behind in the wake of Omicron virus

The first Omicron mutations were detected in South Africa and neighbouring Botswana, with its discovery formally announced on 25 November 2021. The variant is now the overwhelmingly dominant one in South Africa. South African hospitals are bracing for a surge in admissions as the new Omicron variant drives a sharp rise in coronavirus infections since its discovery in the country.

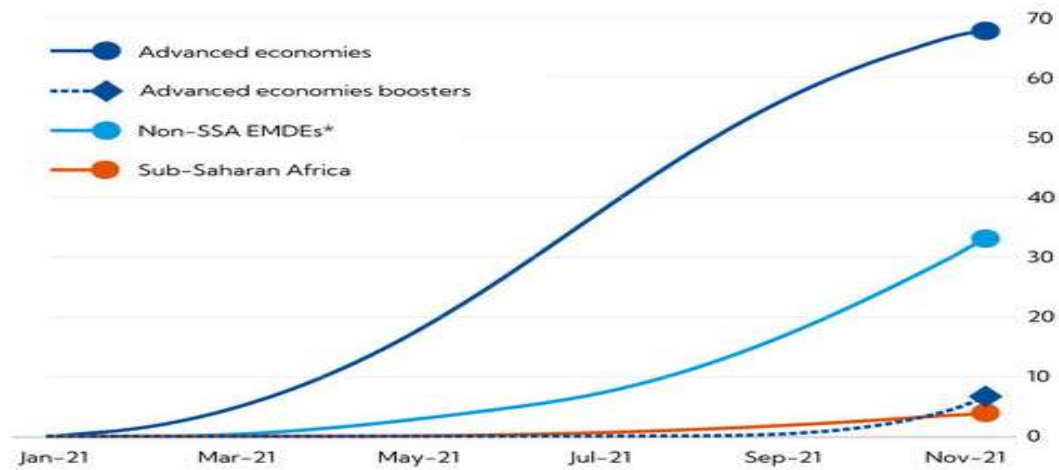
Severe symptoms in patients who contracted earlier variants typically developed between one and three weeks after they were diagnosed, according to the National Institute for Communicable Diseases. While circumstantial evidence and initial data analysis from hospitals suggests that Omicron may cause milder illness, especially among those who've been vaccinated or previously infected.

It seems like the Sub-Saharan Africa is losing the race to vaccinate its population against COVID-19. As of November 15, only about 4 percent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa has been fully vaccinated, up from merely 1 percent three months ago. It took 27 and 56 days to achieve the same milestone in advanced economies and other emerging markets and developing economies, respectively.

The World Health Organization's target of vaccinating 10 percent of population by end September 2021 was reached by only 5 sub-Saharan African countries. Only a handful of countries in the region are expected to reach a target set by the IMF, World Health

Organization, World Trade Organization and World Bank to vaccinate 40 percent of the population in all countries by the end of 2021.

Figure 30: 2021 World vaccination outlook (percentage of population)



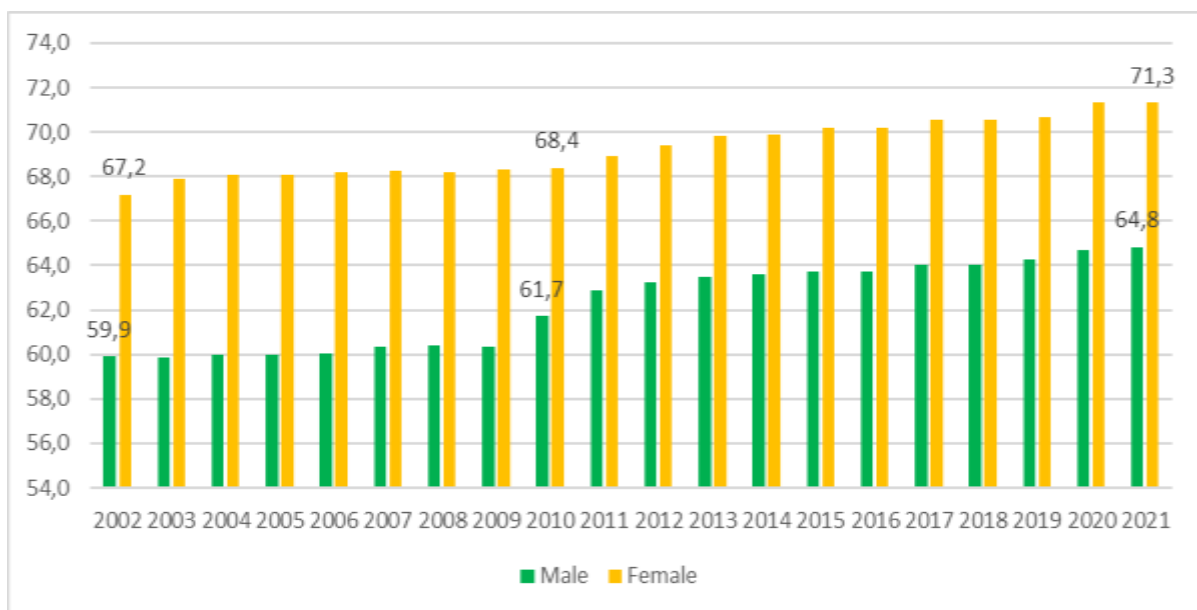
Source: Our World in Data, and IMF Staff calculations

Sub-Saharan Africa vaccination is stalling even as advanced economies has started ramping up booster shots. The lack of vaccines weighs on the region's growth outlook, contributing to the dangerous divergence with advanced economies. Sub-Saharan Africa is projected to be the world's slowest growing region, with a permanently lower path of real GDP that could have long-lasting consequences for social and political stability in the region. Furthermore, continued delays to the vaccine rollout leave sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the world exposed to new, more virulent strains of the virus. Thus, it is essential that the international community step up a concerted effort to ensure that the global supply of vaccines is distributed swiftly and fairly to achieve herd immunity in all the regions.

5.7 Life expectancy at birth without HIV/AIDS

Life expectancy at birth for both males and females in South Africa has been on a rise over the period 2002- 2021. The Life expectancy for males increased from 59.9 in 2002 to 64.8 in 2021, this shows an increase of around five years for males during this period. For females, life expectancy increased from 67.2 in 2002 to 71,3 in 2021, indicating an increase of around four years in terms of life expectancy. In the period 2021 there is an average 6-year gap between male and female life expectancy in South Africa.

Figure 31: Life expectancy at birth reflects the overall mortality level of a population

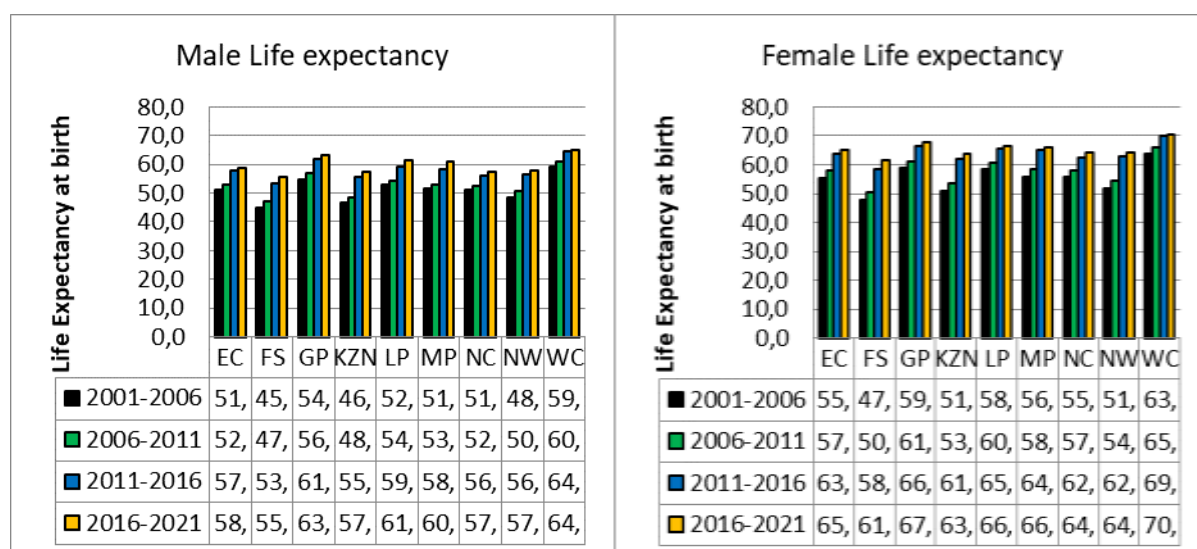


Source: StatsSA,2021

5.8 Provincial male and female life expectancy

The below figures, show the average provincial life expectancies at birth for males and females for the 5-year periods 2001–2006; 2006–2011; 2011–2016 and 2016–2021. Over the 16-month period (March 2020 to end June 2021), there has been great variability in the COVID-19 related mortality rates occurring across the nine provinces and over time. Whilst the number of deaths in the Western Cape peaked earlier on during the pandemic (months of May and June 2020) other provinces soon followed suit.

Figure 32: Male and female Life expectancy



Source: StatsSA, 2021

Behavioural factors affecting the spread, population age and sex structure of the province as well as varying health capacity across provinces, amongst others, played a determining role in mortality rates across provinces in the last months. The impact of COVID-19 deaths occurring since March 2020 have been incorporated into the provincial estimation and slowed down the improvement in life expectancy over the 5-year period.

The life expectancy increased incrementally for each period across all provinces but more significantly in the period 2011–2016 due to the uptake of antiretroviral therapy over time in South Africa. Though the life expectancy in the periods 2001–2006 and 2006–2011, depicts marginal improvement, this masks the interaction between the highest number of deaths in 2006 in combination with declining numbers of deaths between 2007 and 2010. Western Cape consistently has the highest life expectancy at birth for both males and females over time whilst the Free State has the lowest life expectancy at birth. The overall marginal improvement in life expectancy across all provinces for the period 2016–2021 is indicative of the dramatic increase in deaths occurring between the 1st July 2020 and 30th June 2021.

5.9 Crime

According to the Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey (GPSJS) 2020/21 released by Statistics South Africa, levels of crime experienced by households and individuals in SA over the 2020/21 period has dropped.

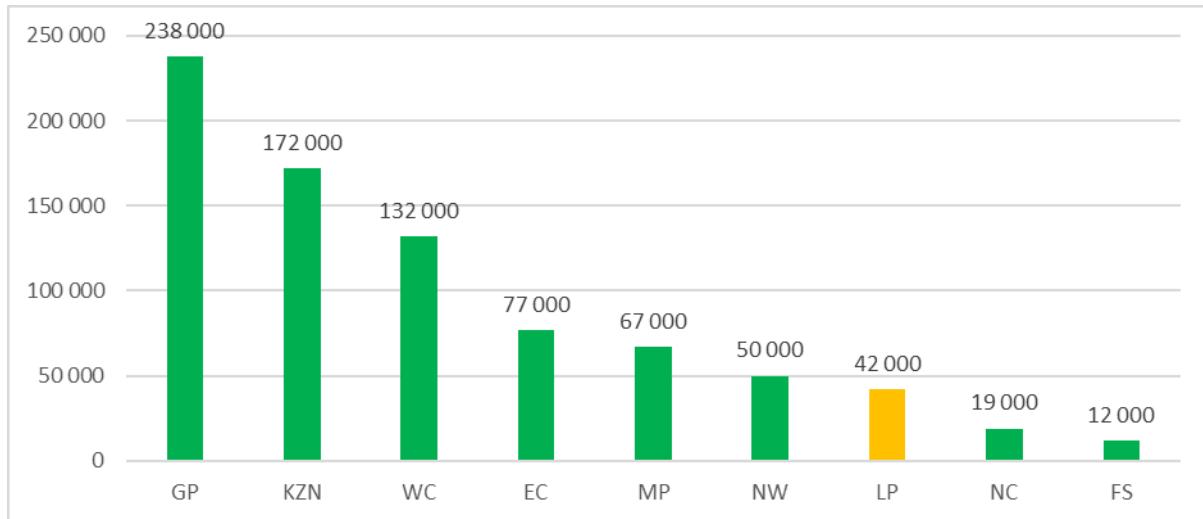
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, South Africa implemented strict measures, with multi-level lockdowns, curfews, the ban on travel, and restrictions on alcohol and cigarettes. The survey, which covers the period of the pandemic (01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021) shows that while an upward trend was observed between 2016/17 and 2019/20 for experience of housebreaking, theft of motor vehicle and murder, there was a decline in the experience of these three types of crime between 2019/20 and 2020/21.

5.9.1 General individual perception about crime in SA

While lockdown restrictions attempted to control the spread of COVID-19 by keeping people at home, this may have increased the chance for domestic and family violence to occur. According to United Nations Women, since the outbreak of COVID-19, emerging reports have shown that several types of violence against women and girls have intensified. According to GPSJS 2020/21 report, there has been a decrease in the proportions of those who believe that it is justifiable for a man to beat his woman/wife. Both males (88.3 percent) and females (87.3 percent) think that the spouse or intimate partner commit the most acts of gender-based violence. This is followed by those who think a previous partner, relative or family member that is not part of the household commits the most acts of gender-based violence. About 99 percent of persons aged 16 years and older agreed/strongly that all kinds of violence against women and children must be reported.

5.9.2 House breaking in South Africa

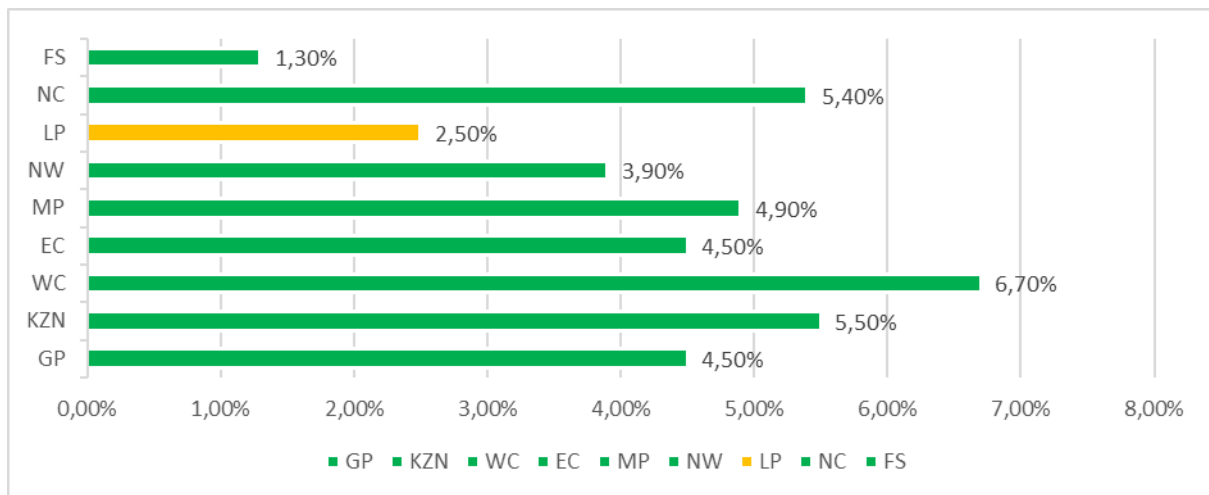
Figure 33: Number of households that experienced house breaking by province



Source: StatsSA 2022

Home robbery has been declining since 2016/17. In 2020/21 the household experience of home robbery declined by 25 percent from the previous year. An estimated 141 000 incidences of home robberies occurred, affecting 112 000 or 0.6 percent of all households in 2020/21. About 56 percent of households that experienced home robbery reported it to the police. While housebreaking is the most common crime experienced by households in the country, the number of households that experienced housebreaking was down by 17 percent in 2020/21 from the previous year. An estimated 1,0 million incidences of housebreaking occurred, affecting 809 000 households in South Africa. The number of affected households represents 4.6 percent of all households in the country. Almost 56 percent of households that experienced housebreaking reported it to the police.

Figure 34: Percentage of households that experienced house breaking by province

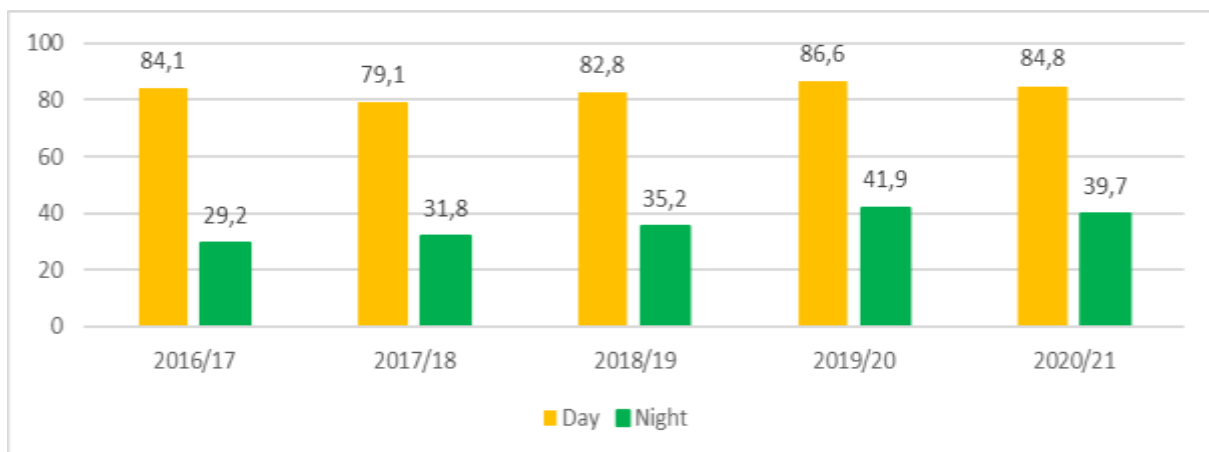


Source: StatsSA 2022

The province with highest proportion of households that experienced housebreaking was the Western Cape at 6.7 percent, followed by KZN, Northern Cape and Mpumalanga at 5.5, 5.4 and 4.9 percent respectively. Limpopo and Free State at 2.5 and 1.3 percent have experienced the lowest proportion of households that experienced housebreaking in the country.

5.9.3 Feeling of safety

Figure 35: Percentage of Individuals who felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day vs during the night



Source: StatsSA, 2022

About 85 percent of adults aged 16 years and older felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the day, while about 40 percent felt safe walking alone in their neighbourhood during the night. A larger proportion of females felt unsafe walking alone at night in their neighbourhoods compared to males, while rural residents had a greater feeling of safety walking alone in their areas when it is dark than residents in urban areas.

5.9.4 SA 2021 Crime summary

The latest report on crime issued by Stats SA covers a range of crimes experienced by South African citizens. Below are some of the key findings of the 2021 crime report:

Theft of a motor vehicle

There were an estimated 83 000 incidences of theft of motor vehicles in 2020/21, affecting 81 000 households. The number of affected households represents 0.5 percent of all households in the country. About 91.0 percent of households that experienced theft of motor vehicles reported the crime to the police.

Murder

An estimated 11 000 incidences of murder occurred in 2020/21 affecting 11 000 households. The number of households represents 0.1 percent of the households in South Africa and is down 19 percent from 2019/20.

Theft of personal property

An estimated 844 000 incidences of theft of personal property occurred in 2020/21, affecting 732 000 individuals aged 16 years and older. The number of affected individuals represents 1.8 percent of the population. About 30.5 percent of individuals who experienced theft of personal property reported all or some incidences to the police.

Street robbery

An estimated 346 000 incidences of street robbery occurred in 2020/21, affecting 304 000 individuals aged 16 years and older. The number of affected individuals

represents 0.7 percent of the population. About 54.9 percent of individuals who experienced theft of personal property reported all or some incidences to the police.

Hijacking of motor vehicles

An estimated 64 000 incidences of hijackings occurred in 2020/21, affecting 64 000 individuals aged 16 years and older. The number of affected individuals represents 0.2 percent of the population.

5.10 Gender equality for equal future of women

There is no doubt that South Africa has made significant progress towards achieving gender equality since 1956, when 20 000 women marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women. Activists rebelled against a patriarchal system designed to control women and reduce them to submissive beings at the mercy of men.

As part of the global movement towards achieving gender equality by 2030, South Africa's progressive laws have seen more women serving in high-ranking positions in government than ever before. Access to education by young girls and women has improved substantially over time. Recent statistics depict a balance in gender parity ratios (GPR) amongst those who are functionally literate from 0.95 in 2002, to 0.99 (zero – no gender equality to one – full gender equality) in 2019, indicating that more women are now literate.

In SA and globally, one of the biggest challenges facing women is educational inequality. Access to education has played a pivotal role in ensuring that women have progressed to higher education levels. According to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2019 country report, GPR for female participation in tertiary education was 1.39 during 2016, underpinning the fact that significant strides have been achieved in ensuring universal access to education for everyone.

5.11 Educational and employment inequality

The female unemployment rate has remained higher than that of their male counterparts. This is indicative of apparent disparities between men and women in different facets of life, which leaves women lagging behind in terms of socio-economic opportunities. According to the unemployment figures from the QLFS Q1: 2021 released by Stats SA, unemployment rates for males and females were 31.4 percent and 34.0 percent respectively. Of these, black African women were the most vulnerable with an unemployment rate of 38.3 percent. Disparities by sex and occupation show that females accounted for 31.2 percent of those occupying managerial occupations. In addition, more women (56.2 percent) than men tended to be discouraged from participating in the labour market. In both Q1: 2020 and Q1: 2021, more than four in every ten young females were not in employment, education or training. Females were more likely to offer family commitment as a reason for not attending school than males (17.1 percent compared to 0.3 percent)

Table 5: Main reasons given for not attending educational institutions

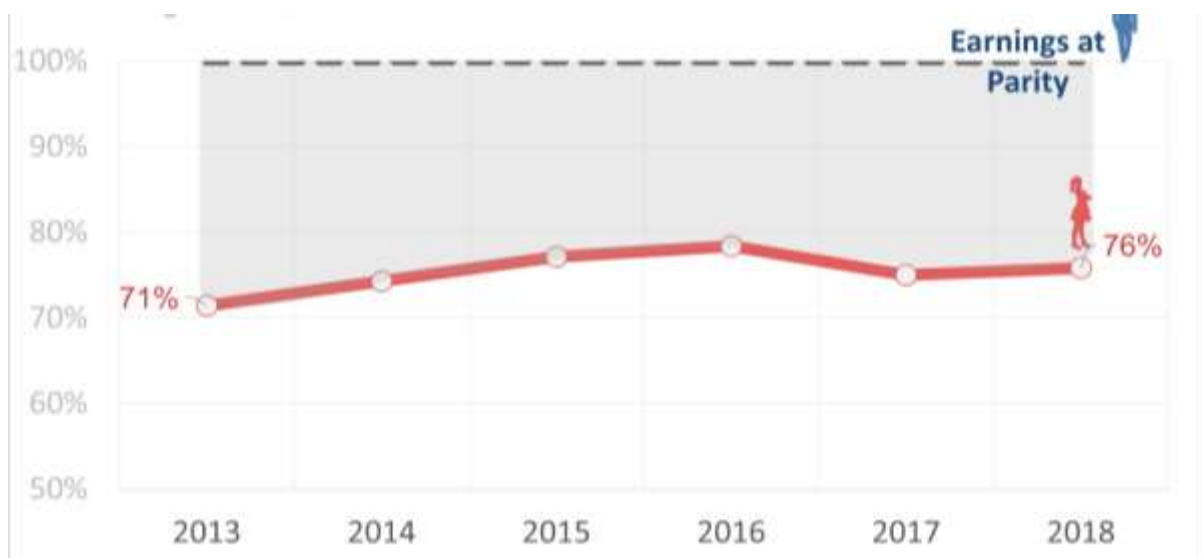
<i>Gender</i>	Male	Female
<i>No money for fees</i>	21,3%	21,9%
<i>Poor academic performance</i>	24,5%	20,6%
<i>Family commitment</i>	0,3%	17,1%
<i>Education is useless</i>	9,8%	6,1%
<i>Illness and disability</i>	9,5%	12,1%
<i>Completed education</i>	9,9%	7,3%
<i>Working at home</i>	5,7%	2,8%

Source: StatsSA, GHS 2019

5.12 Equal pay for equal work

In terms of the perceptions on income being the catalyst for women to be independent, the results of the Governance, Public Safety and Justice Survey (GPSJS) showed that only 55.6 percent of males believed that earning an income was the best way for women to be truly independent. On average, 64.7 percent of South Africans believed that women earning more than their partners would almost certainly cause trouble; 67.5 percent of males and 62.2 percent of females agreed with this statement. The country's gender pay gap is highlighted in the QLFS 2018 report, which showed that the median monthly earnings were below parity at 0.76 in 2018, an improvement from 0.71 in 2013.

Figure 36: Median female earning as percentage of male earning



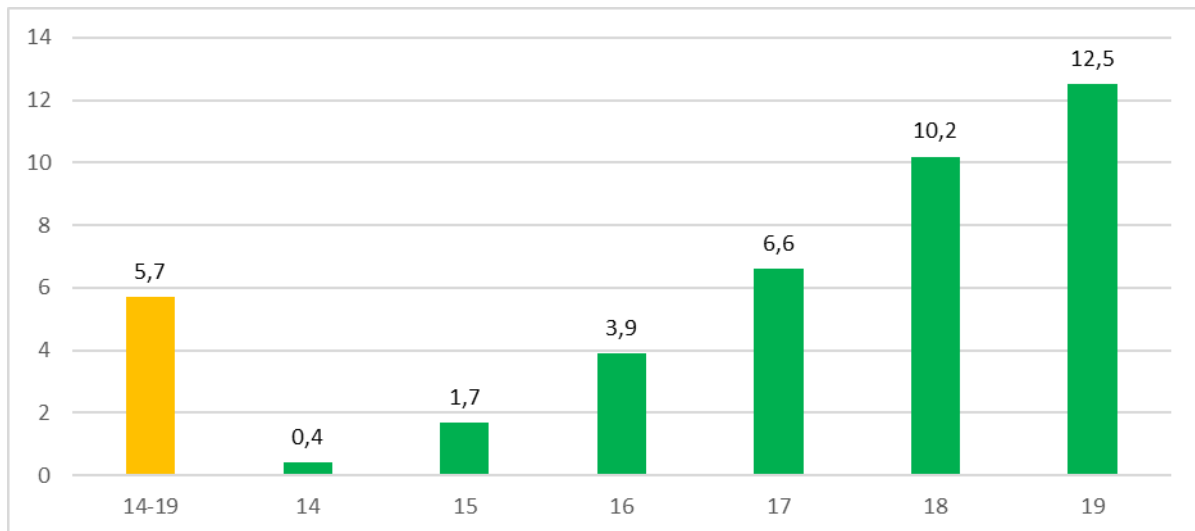
Source: StatsSA, GHS 2019

5.13 Teenage pregnancy and gender based violence

Issues related to teenage pregnancy significantly impact the empowerment of women. In 2019, almost 6 percent of girls between 14 -19 years of age were at different stages of pregnancy during the 12 months prior to the survey. Even though young girls are allowed to attend school while pregnant, other challenges such as financial and family support and discrimination and victimisation from society exist, that hinders them from

progressing to higher levels of education. Evidence shows that women of childbearing age who had their first birth at age 15-19 and 20-24 are less likely to attain a tertiary qualification compared to those who had their first birth later in life.

Figure 37: Teenage pregnancy



Source: StatsSA, GHS 2019

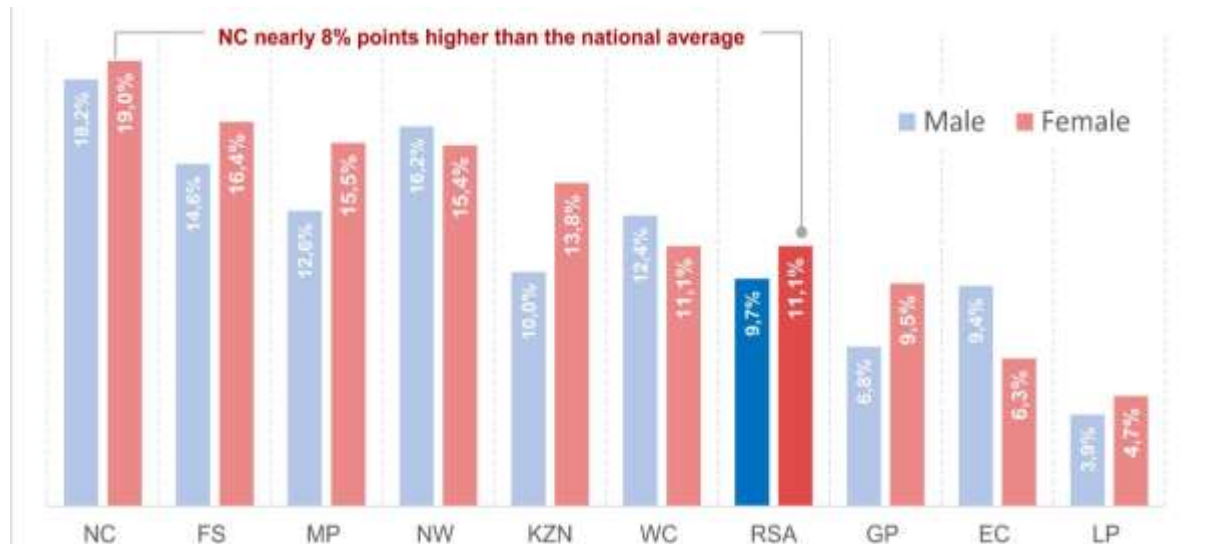
Gender-based violence is another major societal challenge in South Africa. While it is encouraging to note from the Governance, Public Safety, and Justice Survey (GPSJS) that most people do not justify wife-beating, some believe it is justifiable under certain circumstances. About 5.6 percent of the population believes that it is justified for a man/husband to beat his partner/wife if she has sex with another man or woman, and about 3.3 percent believed it is justified to do so if she neglects the children. One in four (26 percent) ever-partnered women age 18 or older have experienced intimate partner physical, sexual, or emotional violence in their lifetime.

5.14 Poverty and food insecurity

Poverty and food insecurity are central to women being vulnerable. There is a strong correlation between hunger and gender inequalities. The Marginalised Groups Indicator 2019 report shows that, on average, 40.6 percent of female-headed

households were without an employed household member. Gender equality is regarded as an important determinant of food security.

Figure 38: Households that reported hunger by province and sex



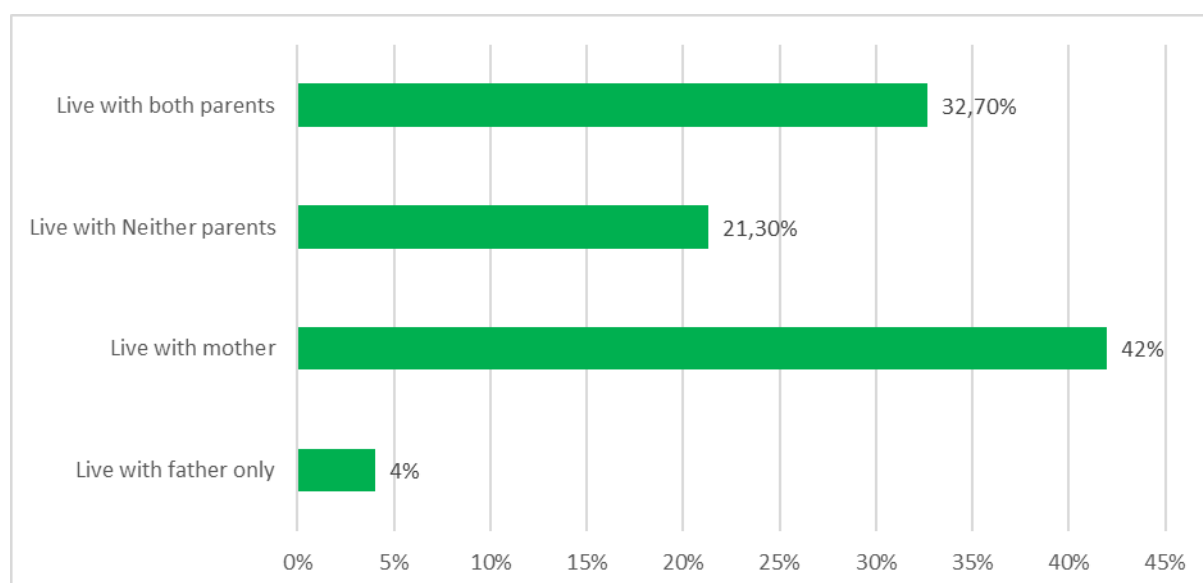
Source: StatsSA, GHS 2019

During 2019 approximately one-tenth of female-headed households (11.1 percent) reported having suffered from hunger as compared to 9.7 percent of male-headed households, while in Limpopo 4.7 percent of female-headed households reported having suffered from hunger as compared to 3.9 percent of male-headed households. It is also worth noting that Limpopo is the most food secure province in the country, with Northern Cape being the worst in terms of food security.

5.15 Families and Parents remain Key to well-being of Children

In South Africa, about one-fifth (21.3 percent) of children aged 17 years and less, did not live with their parents. This is against the international norm where the majority of children under 18 live with both their parents. However, in South Africa, children are more often not co-resident with their biological parents. This is mainly due to labour migration of the parents as well as low marital rates of mothers. Consequently, many children are raised by their grandparents or other relatives, especially in rural areas.

Figure 39: Percentage of children aged 17 and less living arrangement in SA



Source: StatsSA, GHS 2019

About one-third (32,7 percent) of all children lived with both parents. Most children, however, lived only with their mothers (42.0 percent) while a much smaller percentage (4.0 percent) of children lived only with their fathers.

According to the General Household survey, 2019, household compositions are shaped by the residential patterns of its members and their relationship to one another. Nationally, an estimated 39.9 percent of households were classified as nuclear (couples, or one or more parent(s) with children) while 34.2 percent of households were classified broadly as extended households (a nuclear core combined with other family members such as parents or siblings). Only 2.4 percent of households were classified as complex, meaning they contained non-related persons.

Nuclear households were most common among households with one or two children (55.0 percent and 51.3 percent respectively). Extended households were most common in households with a large number of children, i.e. three children (57.9 percent), four children (74.7 percent) and more than four children (84.5 percent).

The role played by families and extended families, especially grandparents who can share stories, skills and teachings, passing on cultural teachings and traditions, including language, to their grandchildren.

Approximately 14.7 percent of households contained three generations, while 4.5 percent were skip-generation households in which grandparents lived with grandchildren, with no parents in the household. The highest percentage of skip-generation households were found in Eastern Cape (8.5 percent). Triple-generation households were most common in Limpopo (19.0 percent), KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape (both 18.4 percent).

In South Africa, the more children there are in a household (more than 4 children), the greater the chances are that they are being looked after by extended family members (84,5 percent). Ultimately, it is the family who is responsible for shaping our children and influencing their values, skills, socialisation, and security during their childhood development stages.

5.16 Conclusion

South Africa and its provinces have done extraordinarily well in keeping COVID-19 in check, but the Omicron variant and the prospects of development of new variants has changed the playing field. The country and the province will need to be prepared for what comes after COVID or “Long COVID”. This long legacy effect, may last for years and many people are suffering from anxiety and depression from all the changes in their lives. There is no known treatment for Long COVID, but symptoms are less likely to show up in people who are vaccinated. The health system burden, the societal burden, the economic burden is going to be something all the provinces and territories will be grappling with for years to come.

The lockdown restrictions as they were implemented in the country has attempted to control the spread of COVID-19 by keeping people at home, this may have increased

the chance for domestic and family violence to occur. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, emerging reports have shown that several types of violence against women and girls have intensified. Gender-based violence is another major societal challenge in South Africa. According to GPSJS 2020/21 report, there has been a decrease in the proportions of those who believe that it is justifiable for a man to beat his woman/wife. Both males and females think that the spouse or intimate partner commit the most acts of gender-based violence and majority of persons aged 16 years and older agreed/strongly agreed that all kinds of violence against women and children must be reported as the country continued to experience high and brutal cases of this nature. South African citizens went as far as requesting the return of the death sentence as they continue to get tired of experiencing brutal incidences of gender based violence and crimes against women and young children mostly girls.

Even though young girls are allowed to attend school while pregnant, other challenges such as financial, family support, discrimination and victimisation from society exist, that hinders them from progressing to higher levels of education. Empowering women is key to reducing poverty and food insecurity, while notable progress has been achieved in the fight for gender equality, eradication of key challenges will enable young girls and women to improve their socio-economic well-being and lay claim to their fundamental human rights.

In South Africa, the more children there are in a household (more than 4 children), the greater the chances are that they are being looked after by extended family members. Ultimately, it is the family who are responsible for shaping our children and influencing their values, skills, socialisation, and security during their childhood development stages. Families and households are the most important socio economic institutions and play important roles in the care and development of children. Families and care arrangements for young children are particularly important for vulnerable children. However, in South Africa, government support for parenting and families are limited. Significant gaps exist in nutritional services and in providing care and learning opportunities for young children. It is often parents who make the greatest sacrifices for their children to ensure and promote children's safety and wellbeing.

CHAPTER 6: EDUCATION

6.1 Introduction

The Corona Virus has presented a challenge in the education sector in South Africa and the province. The schools in the country experienced sudden closure for a period of time and learners were expected to continue learning from home. As the gradual return to schools were happening, the learners were expected to practice social distancing which became a problem as this was not anticipated or planned for by the Department of Education. The Department was also faced with a need to teach the learners while they were at home, which required the need to internet connection for both learners and teachers to enable them to send work to learners. Limpopo province is considered rural and the quality of education is not as advanced as in other provinces such as Gauteng and the Western Cape and most public schools in the province still lack proper technology in the classes.

6.2 National Matric pass rate

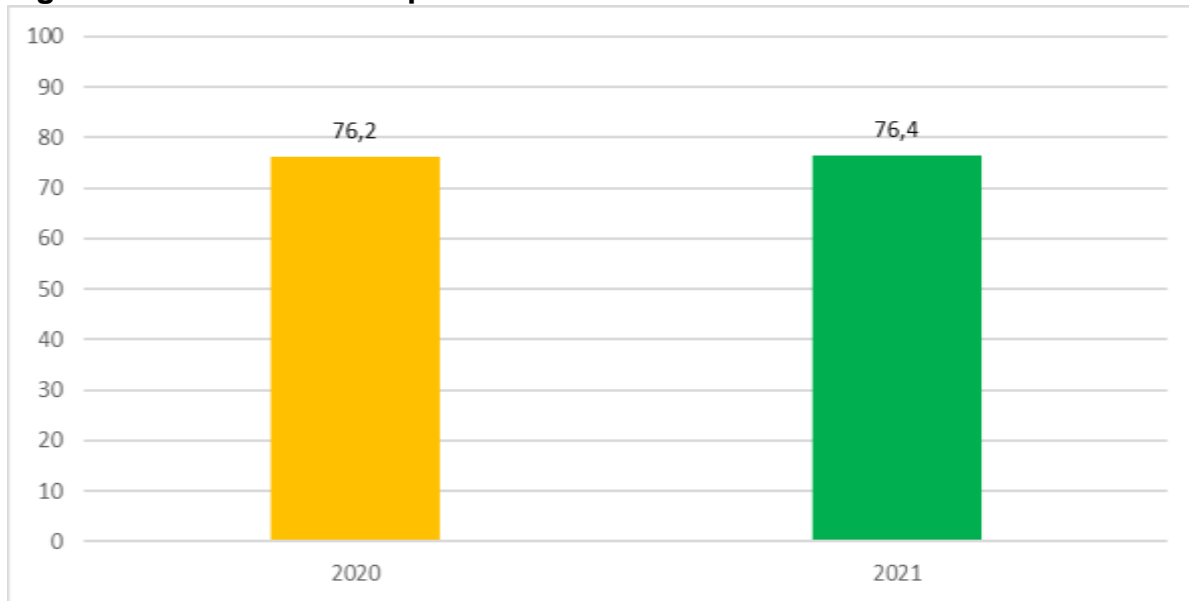
The 2021 class was the eighth cohort of candidates to write the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination that is aligned to the National Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS), a curriculum that is benchmarked against international standards. A total of 897,163 candidates registered to write the 2021 NSC examination, an increase of 23.6 percent from 2020. This includes 733,198 full-time students, the largest full-time cohort over the last few years. A total of 163,967 part-time candidates registered to write the examination. The class of 2021 was the 'most impacted' by the COVID-19 pandemic as it endured two years of restrictions and disruptions.

These include differentiated timetables, a trimmed curriculum, and additional after-school interventions to keep learners safe during the pandemic. Together, these issues contributed to a 'hostile' learning environment for the learners.

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) has published the matric results for the 2021 cohort, with the group achieving a pass rate of 76.4 percent. The matric pass

rate has improved by 0.2 percentage points, increasing from 76.2 percent last year to 76.4 percent in 2021.

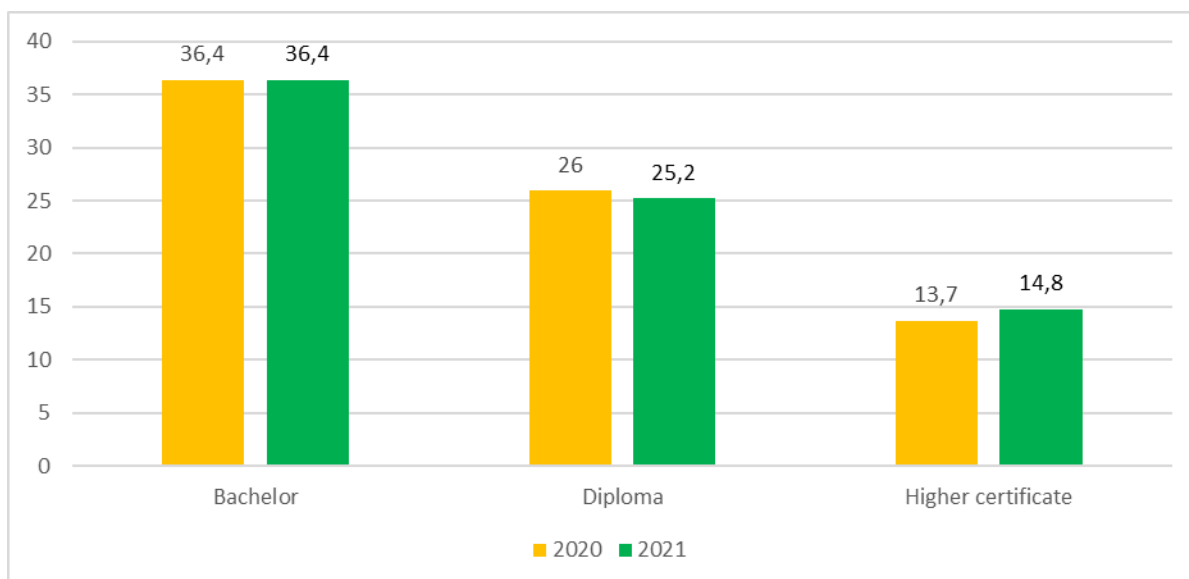
Figure 40: National Matric pass rate



Source: The Department of Basic Education (DBE)

This is an increase of 0.2 percentage points compared to the 2020 matric pass rate (76.2 percent). 256,031 learners received a Bachelor's degree pass, and with it, possible entry to one of the country's universities.

Figure 41: Matric pass by type

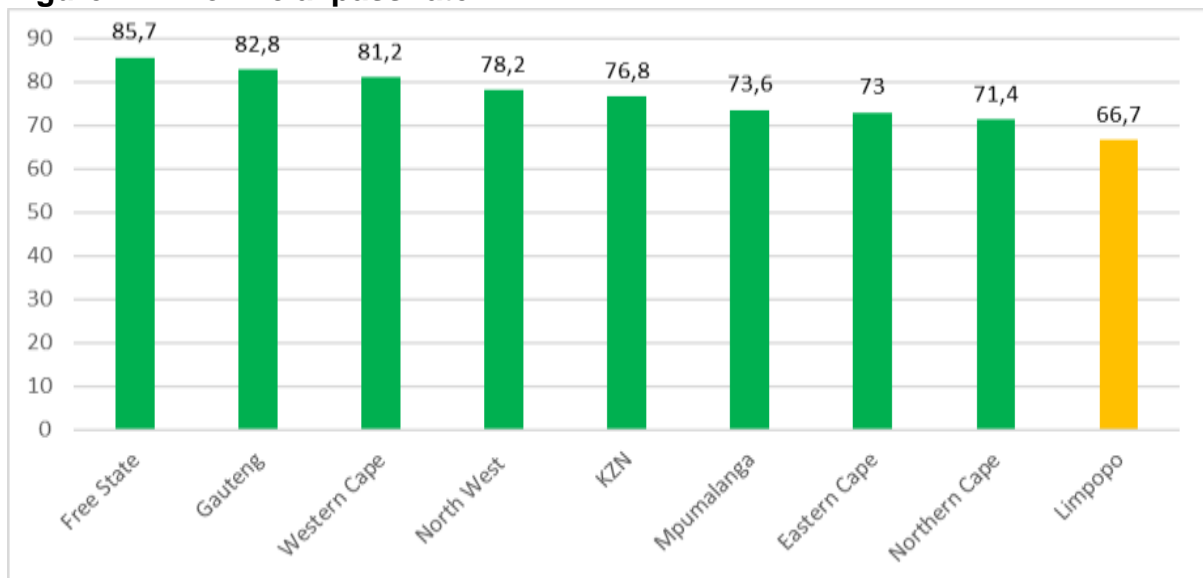


Source: The Department of Basic Education (DBE)

There was no change in terms of the bachelor pass between 2021 and 2020 as about 36.4 percent of matric students achieved a bachelor’s pass compared to 2020 pass of 36.4 percent, 25.2 percent achieved a diploma pass compared to 2020 pass of 26 percent a reduction of 0.8 percent, and 14.8 percent achieved a higher certificate pass as compared to 2020 pass of 13.7 percent indicating an increase of 1.1 percent.

6.3 Provincial Matric pass rate

Figure 42: Provincial pass rate



Source: The Department of Basic Education (DBE)

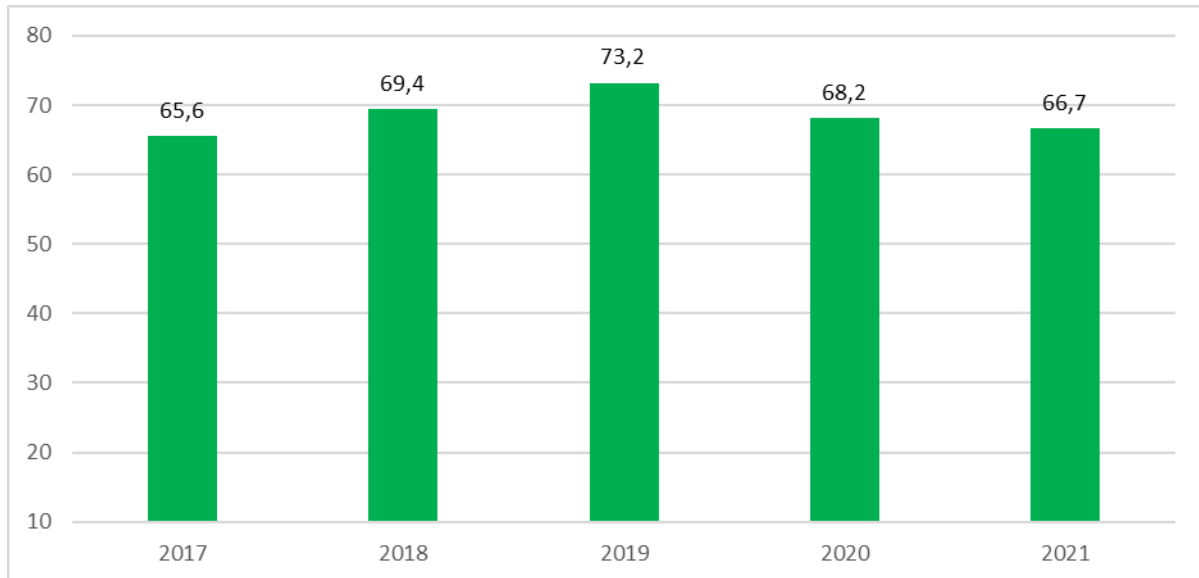
In terms of provincial performance, the Free State again was the best-performing province with a pass rate of 85.7 percent. Gauteng came second at 82.8 percent and the Western Cape achieved 81.2 percent. Limpopo was the only province to achieve a pass rate below 70 percent as the province only managed to get 66.7 percent.

6.4 Limpopo Matric Pass rate

Limpopo recorded the lowest matric pass rate among the nine provinces, with 66.7 percent. But for the first time in five years, in 2021 the province didn’t have any schools with a 0 percent pass rate as compared to 2020 where there were seven such schools. This is a step in the right direction and the Department shall continue to provide

targeted support so that no school ever reports a 0 percent pass rate in their NSC results.

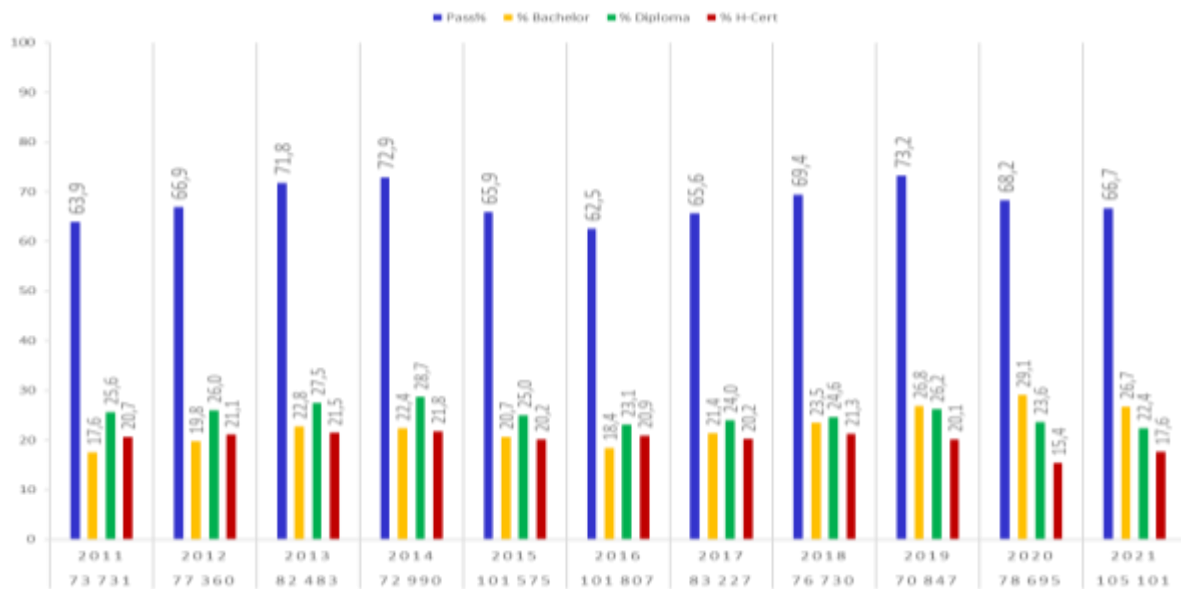
Figure 43: Limpopo matric pass rate



Source: Limpopo Department of Basic Education (DBE)

Although the province’s matric pass rate declined by 1.5 percent from the 2020 matric class. In 2020, the province’s matric pass rate was 68.2 percent which placed it seventh among the nine provinces. better than the 2017 performance of 65.1 percent where teaching and learning conditions were relatively normal.

Figure 44: Limpopo 2011 to 2021 matric pass rate



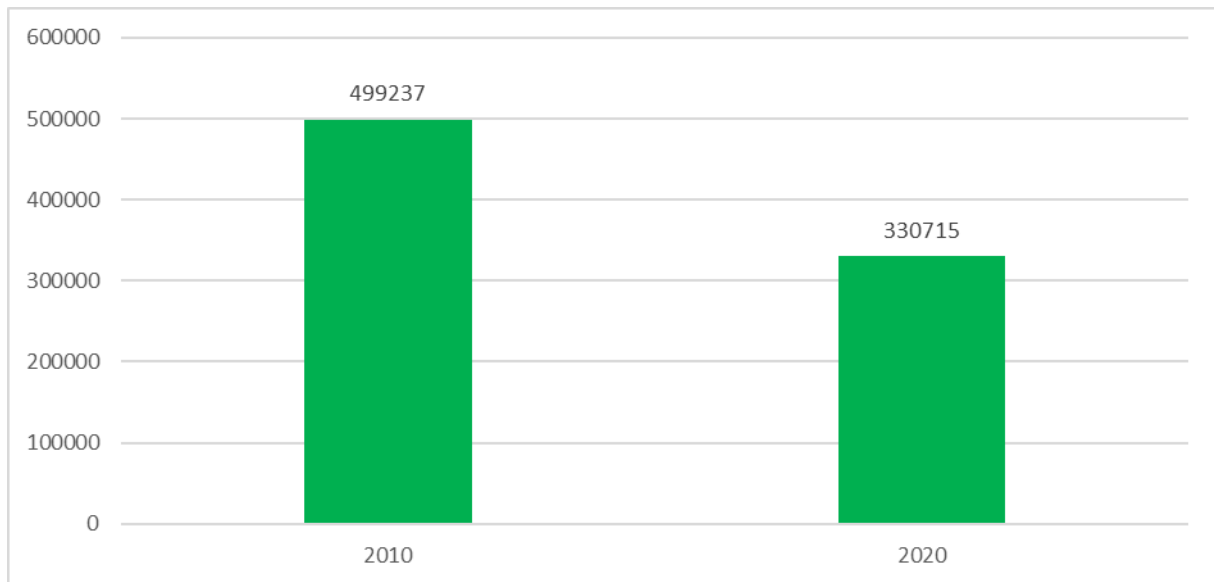
Source: Limpopo Department of Education

The Limpopo class of 2021 obtained more bachelor passes than the class of 2020. Out of the 105,101 candidates who sat for the 2021 NSC examination, 28,075 achieved bachelor passes compared to the 22,907 bachelor passes achieved by the class of 2020, which is an increase of 22.6 percent. There were also more diploma passes, from 18,588 in 2020 to 23,533 in 2021. Higher Certificate passes have also increased from 12,134 in 2020 to 18,516 in 2021. In total, Limpopo's class of 2021 achieved 17,751 distinctions across different subjects, which is an increase of 1,707 from the 2020 class.

6.5 Number of no schooling in Limpopo

Education is more significant to everyone as it broadens up the mind and knowledge of a person. Those with no schooling hardly engage openly in many things as they lack educational knowledge and understanding.

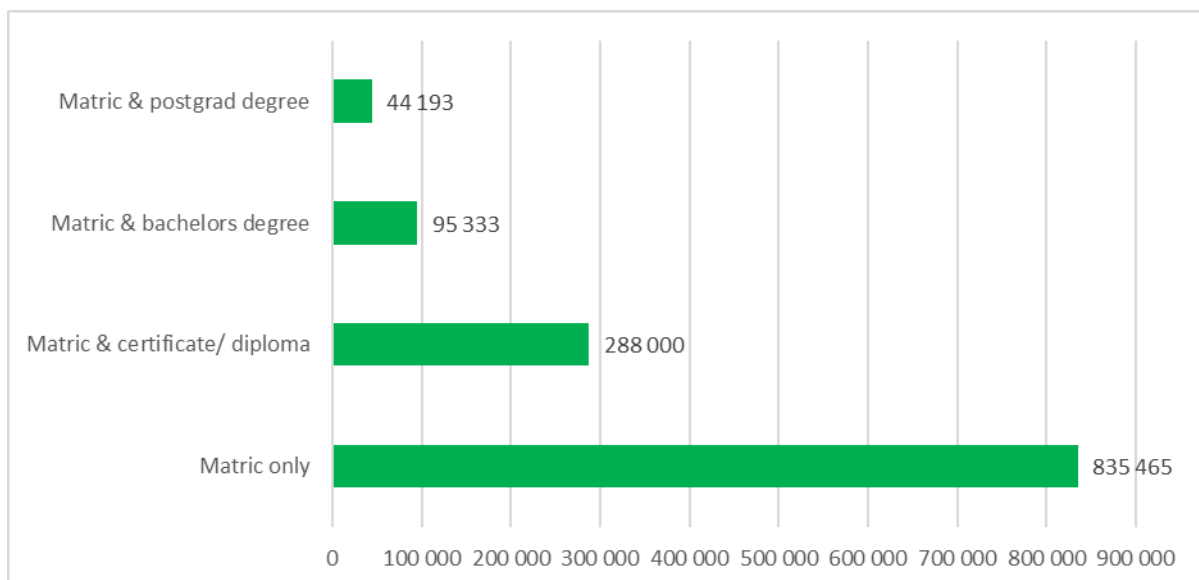
Figure 45: Number of no schooling persons in Limpopo



Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer, 2021

The number of people in Limpopo with no education was 499 thousand in 2010, this number reduced in 2020 to 330 thousand. This number shows that many people are now schooling more than before and Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) has also helped the adults to go to school and learn how to read and write.

Figure 46: Limpopo Education



Source: IHS Markit- Regional Explorer, 2021

Limpopo province is dominated by people with matric only, these people amounted to 835 thousand in 2020 followed by those with matric and certificate / diploma (288 thousand). Only 44 thousand people in Limpopo have matric and postgraduate degree.

6.6 Internet Access in South Africa's Public Schools

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) roll-out programme had been introduced in South Africa in compliance with the objectives of the White Paper 7 of 2004, the South Africa National Development Plan (NDP), the Action Plan 2019 towards the Realisation of Schooling 2030, and the SA Connect Policy of the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services (DTPS), to provide learners and teachers with connectivity for teaching and learning.

In 2019, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) had finalised a plan for the deployment of digital Learner Teacher Support Material (LTSM) through ICT at all levels of the basic education sector. The timeline for the implementation of this plan was 2019 to 2024. Under the amended Universal Service and Access Obligations (USAO) of 2014, the Independent Communication Authority of South Africa (ICASA) had requested network operators to provide 5 250 public schools with internet connectivity, and ICT equipment, as part of their obligations. The major three network operators: Vodacom, MTN and Cell C had each been allocated 1 500 public schools, while Neotel/Liquid Telecoms had been allocated 750 schools.

Table 6: USAO Project ordinary schools 2019

PROVINCIAL BREAKDOWN OCTOBER 2019						
	PROVINCE	MOBILE OPERATORS				
		Vodacom	MTN	Cell C	Liquid Telecoms / Neotel	Total
		1500	1500	1500	750	5 250
1	Eastern Cape	377	204	201		770
2	Free State	236	166	21	185	608
3	Gauteng		72	53		125
4	Kwa Zulu Natal	305	358	218	186	1 067
5	Limpopo	51	205	260		515
6	Mpumalanga	107	43	189		339
7	Northern Cape	240	141	176		557
8	North West	116	70	86		272
9	Western Cape	62	101	96	185	444
TOTAL		1 501	1 360	1300	613	4 697

Source: Department of Basic Education, 2020

The network service providers had deployed a total of 4 697 data projectors and servers, 9 394 laptops and 112 728 tablets to 4 697 schools across all the provinces. There were also provincial driven devices being rolled out. In Limpopo province 515 schools have been provided with projectors and laptops.

The DBE, Provincial Education Departments (PEDs), as well as Intel, Microsoft and other partners, had trained teachers on how to integrate ICT into teaching and learning. To date, a total of 298 620 had been trained across all provinces.

Table 7: Provincial breakdown of connectivity

Province	TOTAL NO SCHOOLS	BASELINE 2014/15	USAASA	USAO 2017	BASELINE 2017/18	USAO 2018	BASELINE 2018/19	USAO 2019	BASELINE 2019/20
Eastern Cape	5 727	2 521	537	723	3 781		3 781	47	3 828
Free State	1 327	781		384	1 165	185	1 350	39	1 389
Gauteng	2 183	2 164		125	2 289		2 289	0	2 289
Kwa Zulu Natal	5 937	1 667		1 034	2 701		2 701	33	2 734
Limpopo	3 924	1 150		281	1 431	200	1 631	34	1 665
Mpumalanga	1 948	879		340	1 219		1 219	0	1 219
Northern Cape	573	460	10	424	894		894	133	1 027
North West	1 542	1 029	8	220	1 257		1 257	52	1 309
Western Cape	1 614	1 610		353	1 963	385	1 963	91	2 054
TOTAL	24 775	12 261	555	3 884	16 700	770	17 085	429	17 514
		49,49 percent			67,41 percent		68,96 percent		70,69 percent

Source: Department of Basic Education, 2020

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) presentation to Parliament, in March 2020, on the progress being made with the roll-out of information communication technology (ICT) in the basic education sector indicated that 17,517 schools were connected to the internet or 71 percent of schools. In Limpopo 1665 schools were connected to the internet or 42 percent of schools.

Table 8: Teachers Centres connected to internet

Province	Number of Teacher Centres	Number of Teacher Centres connected	Centres with ICT infrastructure	Centres with programmes
Eastern Cape	16	14	14	12
Free State	5	6	6	4
Gauteng	21	13	13	19
Kwa Zulu Natal	49	25	45	38
Limpopo	9	8	8	9
Mpumalanga	17	15	17	16
Northern Cape	5	5	5	5
North West	24	15	23	14
Western Cape	3	3	3	3
Total	147	104	110	118

Source: Department of Basic Education, 2020

In respect of teacher centres, the Department had identified a total number of 147 centres in all provinces. There were 104 centres connected, 110 centres with infrastructure and 118 centres with programmes. In Limpopo there is a total number of 9 centres in the province. There were 8 centres connected, 8 centres with infrastructure and all 9 centres have programmes.

Table 9: Provincially driven devices rollout (progress)

PEDs	LAPTOPS FOR TEACHERS	LAPTOPS/ TABLETS FOR LEARNERS
Eastern Cape	64 000 Laptops provided to all teachers (permanent, temporary as well as SGB appointed teachers)	3000 Laptops for learners. These were provided to 100 for use by learners
Free State	The province has not procured for teachers	592 schools provided with tablets for teaching and learning. Furthermore, 560 schools have computer laboratories.
Gauteng	7700 Smart classrooms 487 schools 16 000 teachers have been 182 classrooms in 17 Teacher Centres	43 000 tablets in 56 Full ICT Schools
Kwa-Zulu Natal	3 358 Laptops for teacher use at 3 358 schools	1 600 Laptops for 50 primary schools (50 Laptops) 22 020 Tablets provided to 1018 schools
Limpopo	3 500 Laptops provided to 3500 Schools for administration	12 000 tablets to 400 Schools 5000 Laptops provided to 100 schools provided
Northern Cape	241 Laptops were procured for selected subject advisers of subjects that were earmarked as not performing well	The province has not procured for learners
Western Cape	7 778 Smart Classrooms in 600 schools	28 871 mobile devices for learners 1 160 ICT Suites

Source: Department of Basic Education (DBE)

In terms of provision of laptops for teachers, Limpopo province has provided about 3 500 laptops to 3 500 schools for administration, while about 5 000 laptops were provided to 100 schools for learners and 12 000 tablets provided to 400 schools.

6.7 Conclusion

The NDP requires that there should be distance education using ICT, so as to expand learning opportunities for both teachers and learners. Learners should have access to computer facilities at school or educational material accessible via all devices, e.g. laptops, desktop computers, tablets and smartphones; Learners are to use devices to access e-LTSM, so as to help teachers better deliver learning and conduct assessments and Teachers should be trained in ICT integration in teaching and learning, and given recognition for their work. The province needs to move fast in advancing the procurement and distribution of the ICT equipment's to both learners

and teachers as this has become more of a necessity given the recent challenges of COVID-19. High speed internet connection is also of great need mostly in the rural schools in the province where this is found to be a challenge.

The Department of Education needs to also find ways to encourage and train the older teachers to get themselves acquainted with ICT programmes, as this will assist in dealing with some sort of reluctance or resistance amongst them.

For the past ten years, the NSC pass rates have consistently been going up from 60 percent in 2009, to above 70 percent in recent years. The class of 2021 must be commended for maintaining this trend, despite the astronomical challenges they faced. The national situation is not translated to the Limpopo province and this calls for the provincial Department of Education to come up with strategies and interventions to deal with the declining pass rate.

CHAPTER 7: BASIC SERVICES

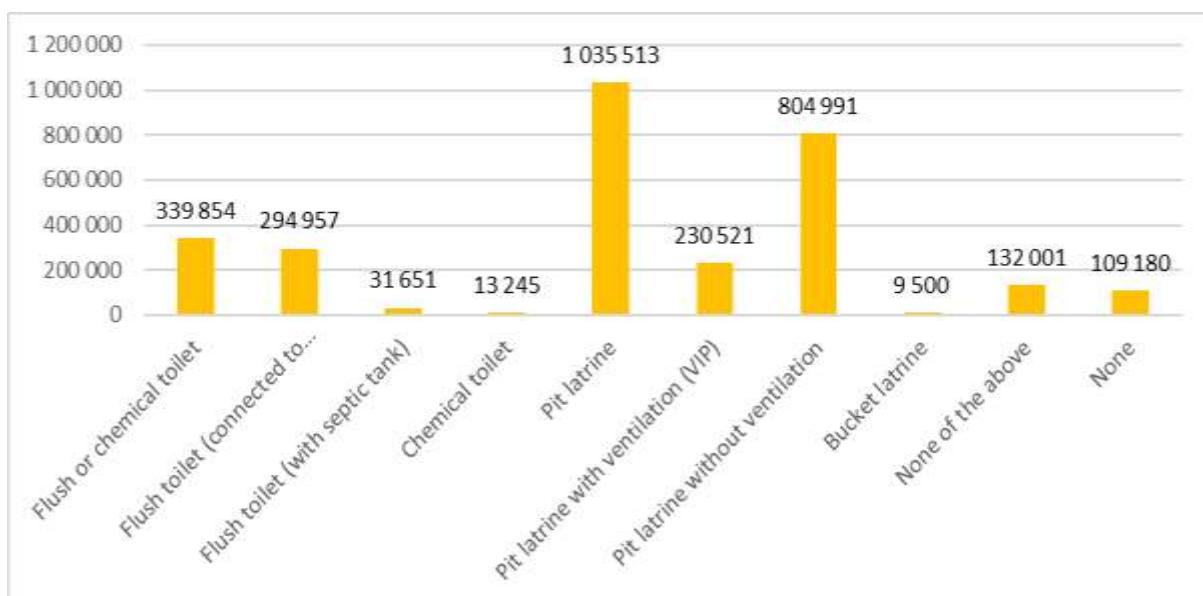
7.1 Introduction

In recent times the government has been faced with a challenging situation, where it has to continue to provide basic services to its citizens and on the other hand protecting citizens from the deadly COVID-19 virus. The COVID-19 dynamics forced the government to reprioritise its fiscus to support the health sector and other proactive preventative methods as more and more people were getting infected by the virus. This has compromised the provision of basic services and some major infrastructure was also damaged due to the extremely variant weather conditions, coupled with lower maintenance.

7.2 Sanitation

Limpopo province continue to experience huge backlog in terms of sanitation due to the rurality of the province, as the public services take time to reach most rural areas. The development of advanced and hygienic toilets is still a huge challenge in most of the areas in the province.

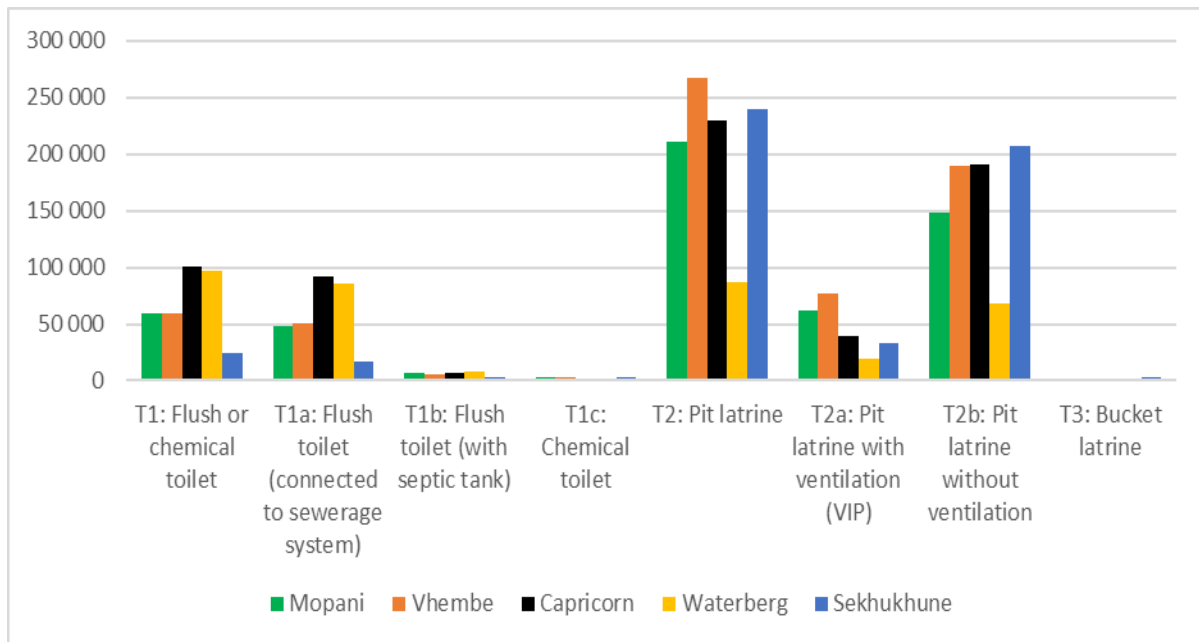
Figure 47: Limpopo household access to sanitation by type in 2020



Source: Quantec, 2021

The total number of households with a pit latrine toilet facility in Limpopo province was 1 million in 2020. Although there is some improvement in the number of households with hygienic toilets, the households number of those who are still using pit latrine without ventilation was 804 thousand, while those with ventilation was at 230 thousand in 2020. The province will need to put in some effort to address the 109 thousand households who still do not have access to toilet facilities.

Figure 48: Limpopo district household access to sanitation by type in 2020



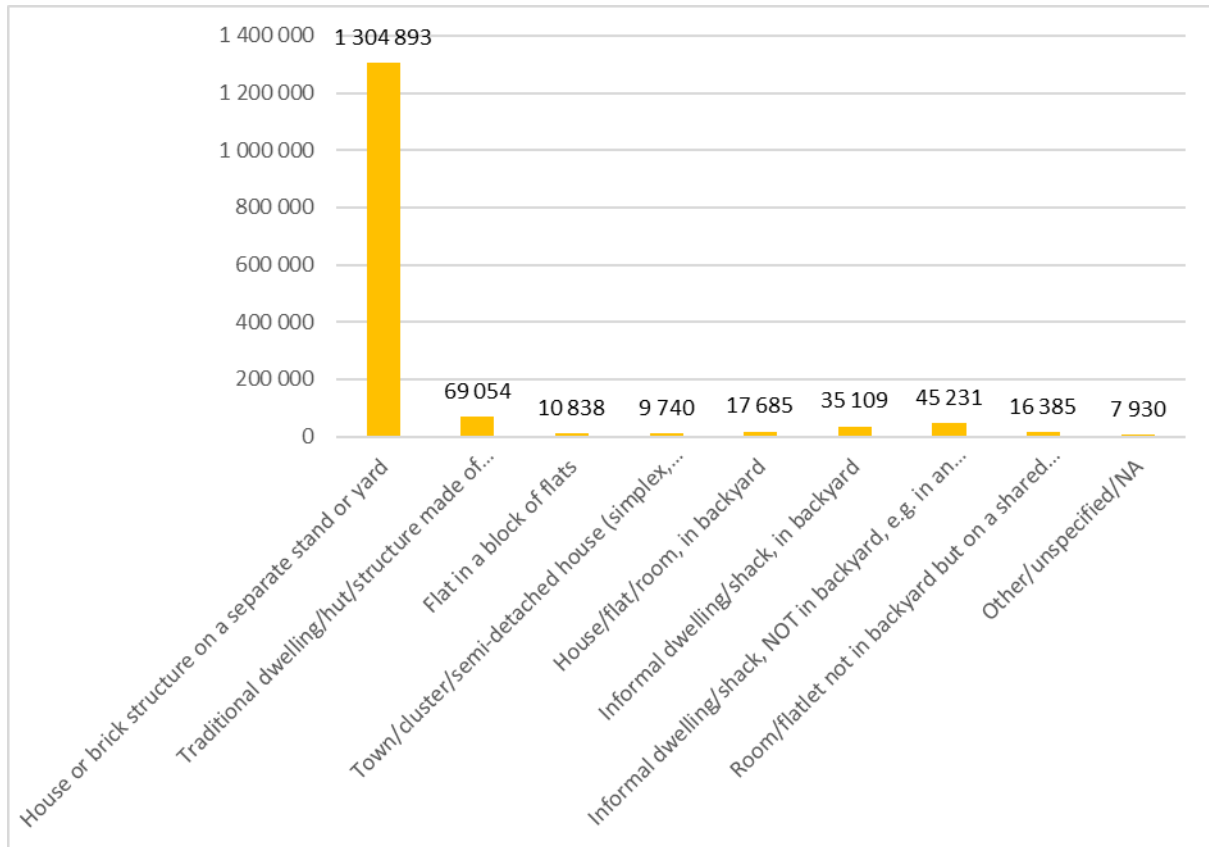
Source: Quantec, 2021

The districts that are dominated by urban areas in the province are more advanced than rural areas in the province, with Capricorn district having 100 thousand households who have access to flush or chemical toilets followed by Waterberg with 96 thousand households. Sekhukhune district has the least number of all the districts with only 23 thousand households who have flushing toilets. All districts in the province, except for Waterberg, has more people using pit latrines than all other types of toilet facilities.

7.3 Dwelling

Limpopo province is dominated by people who live in houses or brick house structure on a separate stand or yard.

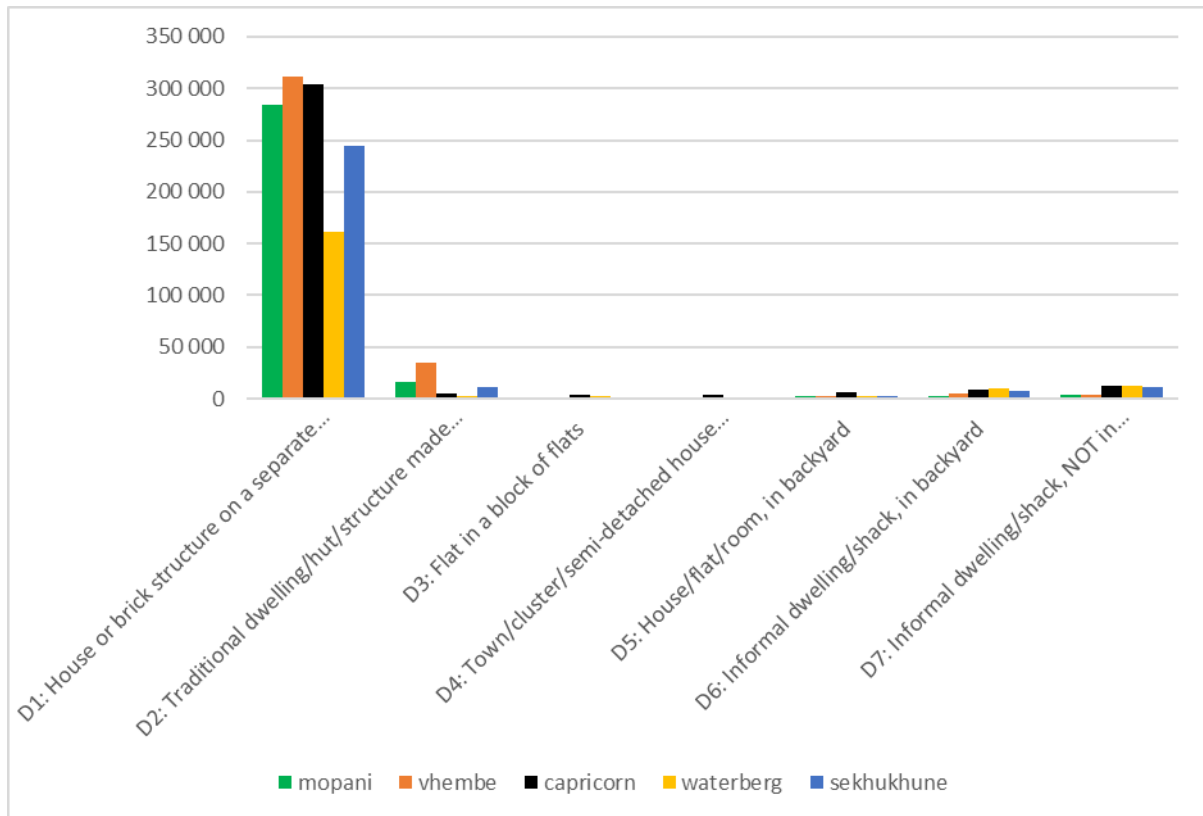
Figure 49: Limpopo household access to dwelling by type in 2020



Source: Quantec, 2021

There are 1,3 million households who live in houses or brick houses on a separate stand or yard. This is followed by about 69 thousand households who live in a traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional material, while about 45 thousand households live in informal dwelling/shack not in a backyard and about 35 thousand live in an informal dwelling/shack in a backyard. Although Limpopo province is considered rural the number of people living in an informal dwelling are less.

Figure 50: Limpopo District household access to dwelling by type in 2020

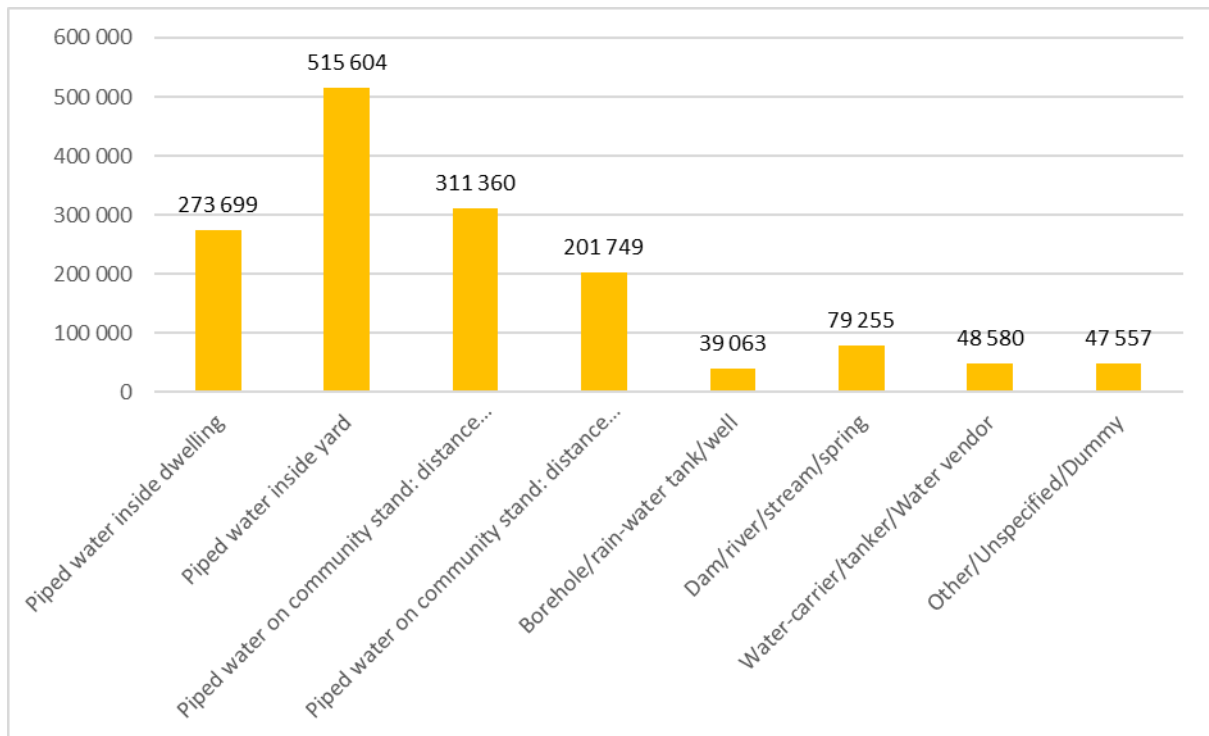


Source: Quantec 2021

All the districts in the province have high number of houses or brick structure on a separate stand compared to other forms of dwellings. Vhembe district has 311 thousand households occupied with people living in houses of bricks followed by Capricorn district at 303 thousand households. Waterberg has only 160 thousand houses or brick structure, more of Waterberg’s households live in an informal dwelling or squatter settlement when compared with other districts. Capricorn district is leading on the number of flats in a block of flats with about 4 thousand flats as it is not in a rural area

7.4 Water infrastructure

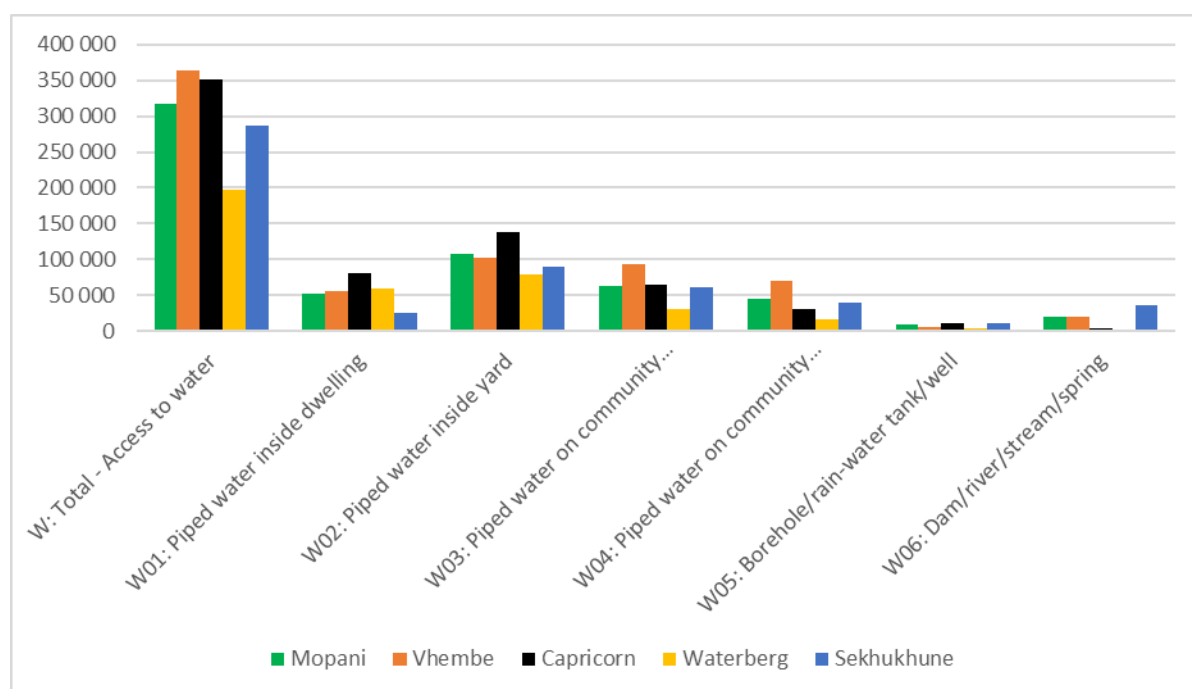
Figure 51: Limpopo household access to water by type in 2020



Source: Quantec, 2021

The number of households in Limpopo with access to piped water inside a yard was 515 thousand during the year 2020, with those having piped water inside the dwelling being 273 thousand households. The level of access to water still needs to be improved in the province as the province still has about 79 thousand households who collect their water from dams/river/stream/spring and about 48 thousand households who receive water through water-carrier/tanker/water vendors.

Figure 52: Limpopo District household access to water by type in 2020



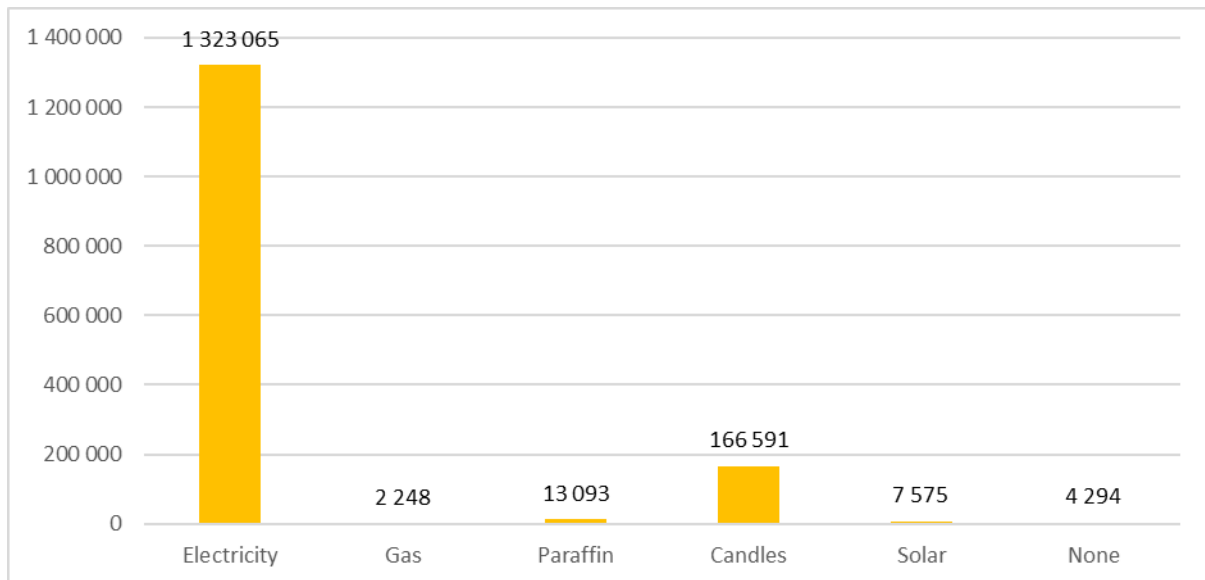
Source: Quantec 2021

Most of the household who have access to water are within the Vhembe and Capricorn district with 364 thousand and 351 thousand households respectively, while Waterberg district has least number of households with access to water in the province. Capricorn district has more households who have piped water inside their yard followed by Mopani and Vhembe districts. The district that has many households depending on Dam/river/stream/spring for water is the Sekhukhune district with 36 thousand households.

7.5 Electricity connection

The use of electricity is significant especially at this era where technology is taking place. For a province to be advanced in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) there should be good electrical connection especially in the rural remote areas.

Figure 53: Limpopo household source of energy by type in 2020

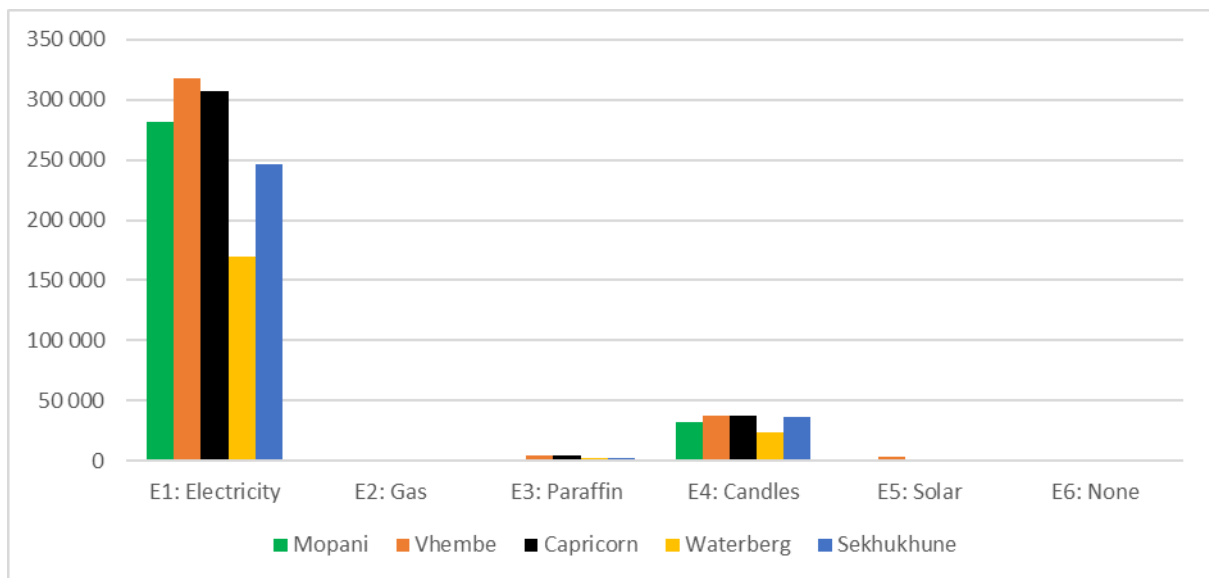


Source: Quantec 2021

Limpopo province has improved on the provision of electrical connections over the years, the number of households with electrical connections was recorded at around 1,3 million in 2020. Those who depend on candles, paraffin, solar and gas for lighting were recorded at 166 thousand, 13 thousand, 7,5 thousand and 2,2 thousand respectively. Only around 4,2 thousand households have no electricity connection in the province and this may be due to the new developments of residential areas.

Limpopo province districts are continuing to be dominated by households that use electricity as the main source of energy, with Vhembe district at 317 thousand households that are using electricity, followed by Capricorn and Mopani at 307 and 281 households respectively. The use of candles is still prevalent in the province's districts and it needs to be addressed due to the associated risks of causing fire in the households.

Figure 54: Limpopo District household source of energy by type in 2020



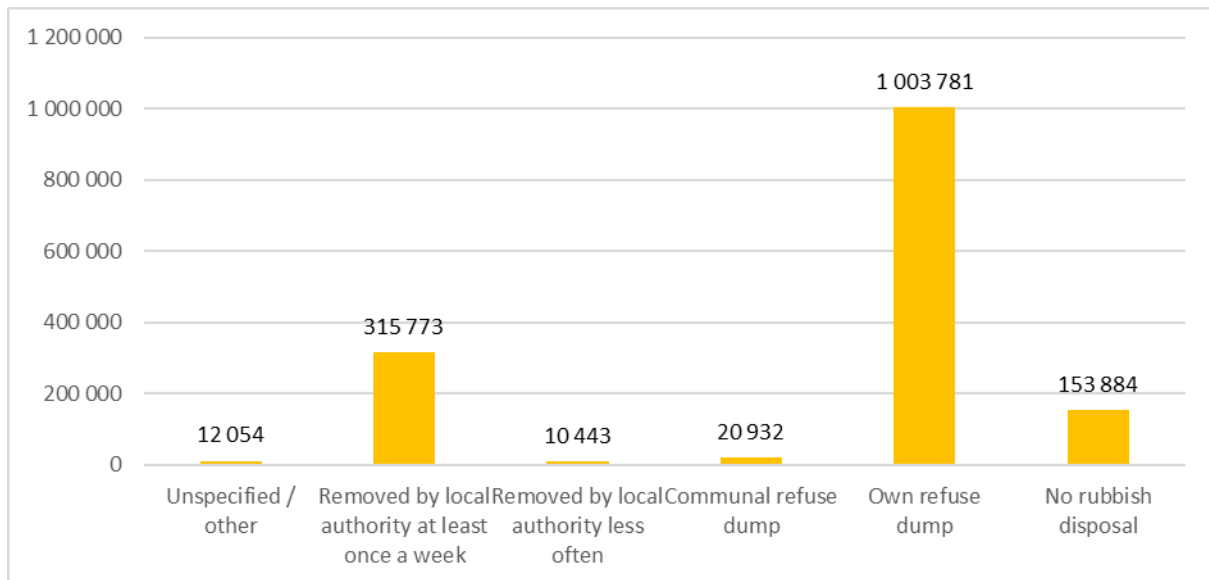
Source: Quantec 2021

7.5 Refuse removal

Proper management of refuse removal is of great significance in the province, as this helps in avoiding the polluting of water, air and the environment. This also creates an opportunity for the municipality to enter in the waste and recycling economy as a new industry.

In Limpopo province the local authorities remove the refuse at least once a week from around 315 thousand households. The province still has a need to improve refuse removal as the number of households that use their own refuse dump is over 1 million and those with no rubbish disposal were around 153 thousand in 2020.

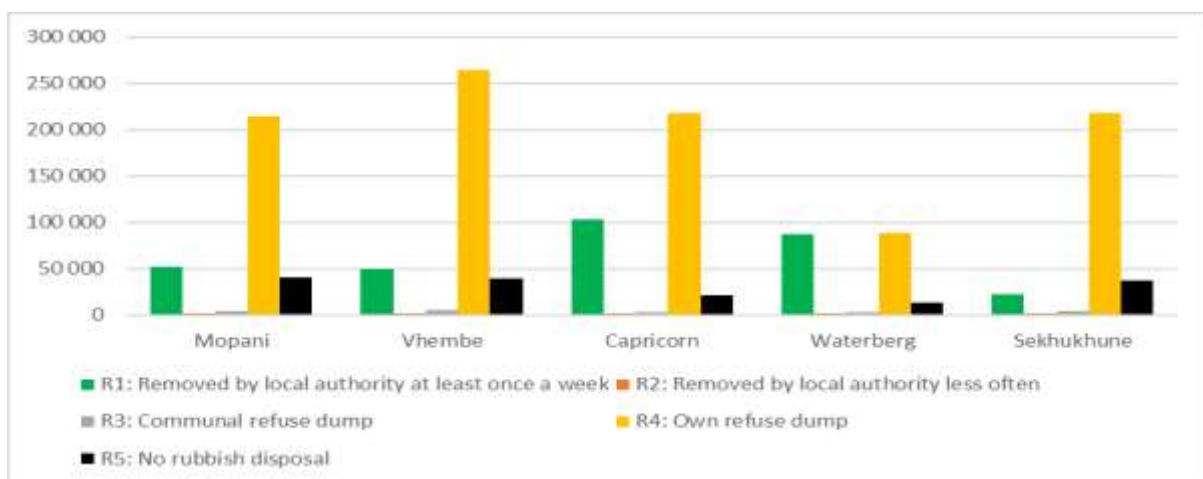
Figure 55: Limpopo household access to refuse removal by type in 2020



Source: Quantec, 2021

Majority of the households in the Limpopo province’s districts continue to use their own refuse dump, with a handful removed by the local authority once a week and the rest with no rubbish disposal or use communal refuse dump. About 264 thousand households in Vhembe district remove their own refuse followed by Capricorn district with 218 thousand households. Capricorn and Waterberg district recorded a number of 102 and 87 thousand households respectively who have the local authority that remove the refuse once a week.

Figure 56: Limpopo District household access to refuse removal by type in 2020

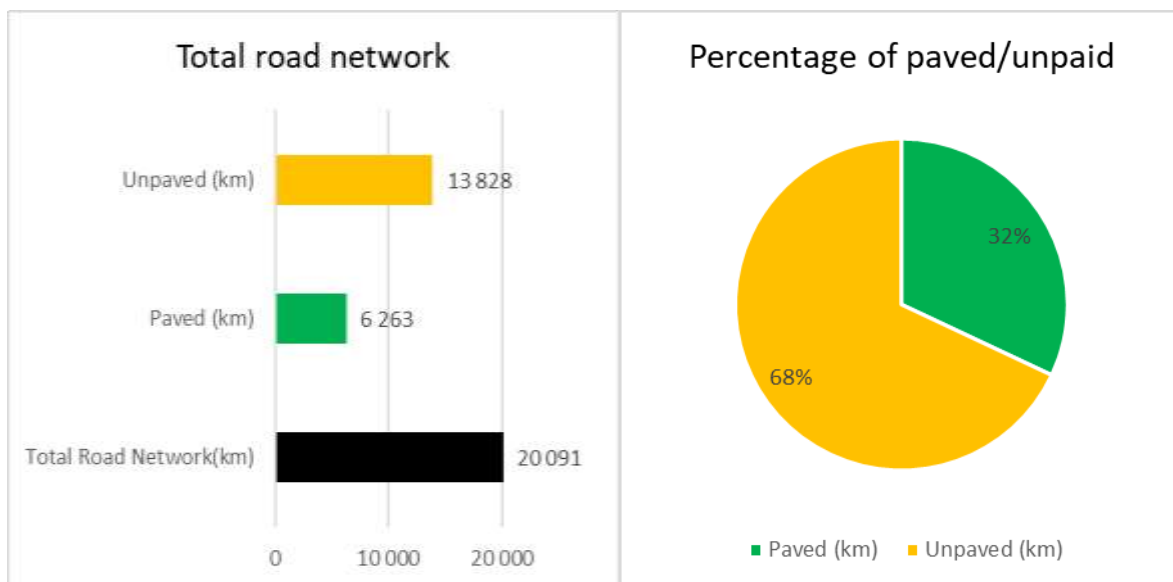


Source: Quantec, 2021

7.6 Roads infrastructure

Limpopo province is largely rural, with about 79.3 percent of the population residing in the rural areas. This generally presents a huge challenge towards rural economic growth and development in the province, as rural economic development requires conducive and targeted road infrastructure development.

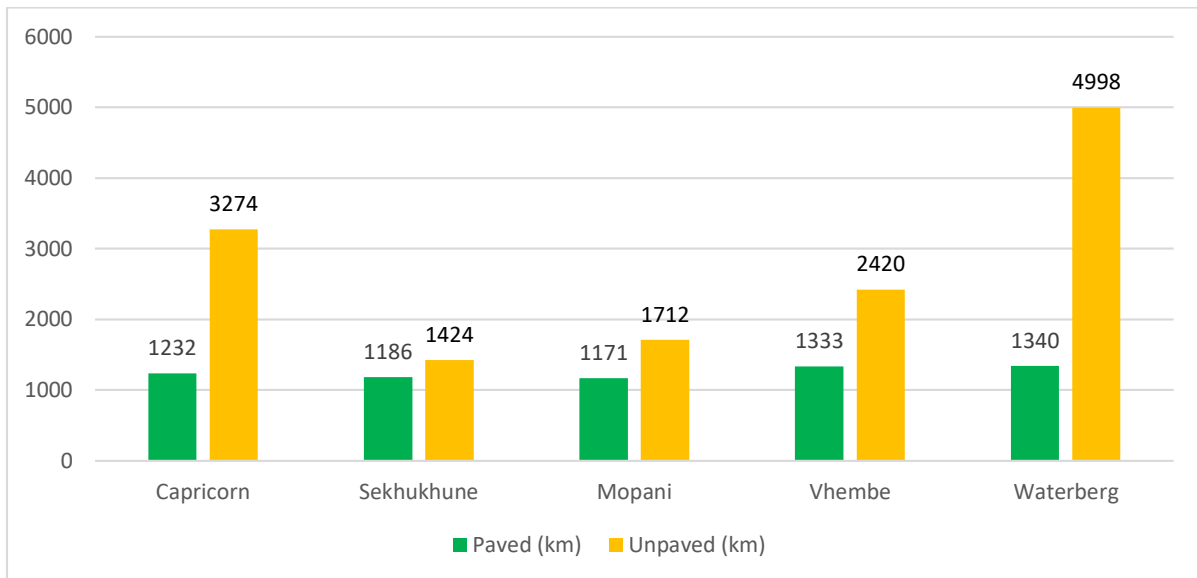
Figure 57: Status of the Limpopo Provincial road network



Source: Roads Agency Limpopo, 2021

Limpopo province has a total road network of about 20 thousand kilometres, of which only 6 263 kilometres are paved or 32 percent and about 14 thousand kilometres or 68 percent of the road network is unpaved.

Figure 58: Status of the Limpopo district road network



Source: Roads Agency Limpopo, 2021

Limpopo province districts are faced with low levels of roads network that are unpaved, Waterberg with 4 998 thousand kilometres of unpaved roads is the highest, followed by Capricorn at 3274 thousand kilometres and Vhembe at 2420 thousand kilometres of unpaved roads. Mopani and Sekhukhune districts are the districts with the least kilometres of unpaved roads in the province at 1712 and 1424 thousand kilometres respectively. Each district has a similar number of kilometres of paved roads, between 1186 kilometres and 1340 kilometres.

7.6 Conclusions

There is a serious challenge in terms of refuse removal in the province and this needs to be urgently addressed. The province will need to develop proper management of refuse removal that can be adopted and used in all the districts and municipalities, as this will help to avoid polluting water, air and the environment. This may also create an opportunity for the municipalities to enter in the waste and recycling economy as a new industry.

The use of solar energy will continue to rise in the province as households and businesses will be trying to find alternative sources of energy. The province will also need to shift from the current electricity supply and implement green energy sources as it develops new settlements, this will help in relieving the pressure on Eskom and assist in complying and reaching the national green energy goals. The province continues to experience a high number of households that use candles as a source of lighting and this needs to be addressed urgently due to the associated risks of causing fire in the households.

The majority of the Limpopo province rural population continue to drive on unpaved and low maintained roads. This has a bearing in the socio economic development status of the province as it discourages rural economic investment, as investors will also want to invest where there is well maintained roads and reliable road network infrastructure. Rural communities' economic growth and development in the province depend heavily on Agriculture, Mining and Tourism, this therefore requires the government to have a targeted infrastructure development plan to maximise on the existing economic activities through enhancing or supporting their productivity in a particular region.



LIMPOPO

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