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STATISTICAL RELEASE

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General Household Survey

2024

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Abbreviations

EC	Eastern Cape
FS	Free State
GP	Gauteng
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LP	Limpopo
MP	Mpumalanga
NC	Northern Cape
NW	North West
RSA	Republic of South Africa
WC	Western Cape

BUF	Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality
CPT	City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality
EKU	Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality
ETH	eThekwini Metropolitan Municipality
JHB	City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality
MAN	Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality
NMA	Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality
TSH	City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality

CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews
CATI	Computer-Assisted Telephonic Interviews
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CV	Coefficient of Variation
DU	Dwelling Unit
EA	Enumeration Area
ECD	Early Childhood Development
FIES	Food Insecurity Experience Scale
GHS	General Household Survey
HFIAS	Household Food Insecurity Access Scale
MYPE	Mid-Year Population Estimates
NSC	National Senior Certificate
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
NTC	National Technical Certificate
OHS	October Household Survey
PAPI	Pen-and-Paper Personal Interviews
PSU	Primary Sampling Unit
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Plan
SRD	Special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress Grant
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Summary and Key Findings

The General Household Survey (GHS) tracks the progress of development and identifies persistent service delivery gaps. Over the past twenty-three years the survey has yielded a rich set of information across a wide variety of themes, and the following figures summarise some of the most significant findings from the 2024 report.

Families and households are profoundly important to the developmental, emotional and cognitive growth of children, and parents and/or caregivers can play a central role in the development of children. The survey found that 18,8% of children lived with neither of their biological parents. Less than a third (31,4%) of children lived with both parents, while 45,5% of children lived with only their mothers. More than one-tenth (11,8%) were orphaned, having lost one or both parents.

More than one-quarter (26,9%) of households consisted of a single person, while 39,4% of households were nuclear households comprised of parents and children. Two-generation households comprised 39,2% of all households while 13,4% contained three generations. Skip generation households, in which grandparents lived with grandchildren, comprised 4,2% of all households. The latter were most common in Eastern Cape (7,7%) and Limpopo (6,9%).

More than two-fifths (42,4%) of all households had female heads. Female heads were most common in rural areas (47,1%), particularly in Eastern Cape (48,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (46,8%), and least common in Gauteng (37,3%).

ECD programmes are offered at day-care centres, crèches, playgroups, nursery schools and in pre-primary schools. More than one-third (35,0%) of the 0–4-year-olds attended these kinds of facilities and access to these facilities was highest in Western Cape (42,1%), Free State (41,3%) and Gauteng (41,1%) and lowest in Northern Cape (22,0%). Almost half (49,1%) of children aged 0–4 years stayed at home with parents or guardians. This was most common in Northern Cape (63,1%) and North West (62,7%) and least common in Western Cape (36,3%).

There were approximately 15,6 million learners at school in 2024. Participation in education institutions was virtually universal (96,2%) by the age of 15 years (the last compulsory school age). Approximately two-thirds (64,3%) of learners were still in school by the age of 18 which usually represents the age at which learners exit grade 12. A notable percentage of learners, however, remained in primary and secondary schools long after they should have exited those institutions. This is highlighted by the fact that 16,0% of twenty-year olds still attended school. While the percentage of learners who have achieved grade 12 has been increasing, the survey shows that the percentage of individuals who attended post-school education has remained relatively small for youth aged 19 to 22 years of age.

Although almost two-thirds (65,7%) of learners attended no-fee schools (up from 21,4% in 2007), the percentage varies from 89,8% in Limpopo to 51,2% in Western Cape. Learners who dropped out of school before the age of 18 years cited reasons such as poor performance (25,7%), and a lack of money (20,1%) as the main reasons. Although 5,6% named family commitments as the main reason, it was more common for females (11,0%) than for males (0,4%).

The percentage of individuals aged 20 years and older who did not have any education decreased from 11,4% in 2002 to 3,0% in 2024, while those with at least a grade 12 qualification increased from 30,5% to 52,1% over the same period. Inter-generational functional illiteracy (where individuals have not attained grade 7) has also decreased markedly. Although 33,1% of South Africans over the age of 60 years were still functionally illiterate, this figure dropped to only 3,1% for those aged 20–39 years of age.

Despite some fluctuations, the percentage of individuals who were covered by a medical aid scheme changed very little between 2002 and 2024, declining only slightly from 15,9% to 15,5% over the period. Medical aid coverage was most common in Western Cape (25,4%) and Gauteng (21,3%), and least common in Limpopo (10,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (10,2%). Black African individuals comprised more than half (52,7%) of all medical aid beneficiaries.

Social grants remain a vital safety net, particularly in the poorest provinces. The percentage of persons who benefitted from a social grant have increased from 12,8% in 2003 to 30,9% in 2019, before rising sharply to 40,1% in 2024 due to the introduction of the special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grant. Similarly, the percentage of households that received grants concurrently increased from 30,8% to 50,4%. Grants were the second most important source of income (50,9%) for households after salaries (62,2%), and the main source of income for more than one-fifth (23,8%) of households nationally. A larger percentage of households received grants compared to salaries as a source of income in five provinces, viz. Eastern Cape (65,6% versus 49,0%), Free State (64,2% versus 54,6%), Limpopo (62,9% versus 50,4%), Northern Cape (64,0% versus 60,5%) and Mpumalanga (59,1% versus 56,8%). Grants were particularly important as a main source of income for households in Eastern Cape (38,9%), Northern Cape (34,4%) and Limpopo (33,8%).

The report shows that 84,1% of all households resided in formal dwellings while 11,7% lived in informal dwellings. Nationally, three-fifths (60,1%) of households owned the dwelling they lived in. A further 25,1% rented their dwellings.

The percentage of households with access to an improved source of water increased by 3,3 percentage points between 2002 and 2024 (growing from 84,4% to 87,7%). The increases were particularly notable in Eastern Cape (+13,8 percentage points) and KwaZulu-Natal (+7,5 percentage points). Despite these notable improvements, access to water declined in four provinces between 2002 and 2024. The largest declined was observed in Limpopo (-10,9 percentage points) and Mpumalanga (-3,0 percentage points). Although the percentage of households with access to piped water only increased by 1,2 percentage points between 2004 and 2024, this percentage represented an additional 6,3 million households that received safe piped water since 2004.

Of the households without piped water in their dwellings or on site, three-quarters (73,7%) took less than thirty minutes to fetch water from a neighbour’s tap, communal taps and other sources of water. A further 18,4% took between 31–60 minutes. Households that took less than thirty minutes were most common in the Western Cape (100%) and Gauteng (95,6%). More than one-third (35,7%) of households in KwaZulu-Natal took more than 30 minutes to fetch water.

The percentage of households with access to improved sanitation increased by 21,4 percentage points between 2002 and 2024, growing from 61,7% to 83,1%. The most improvement was noted in Eastern Cape where the percentage of households with access to improved sanitation increased by 56,5 percentage points to 89,9%, and Limpopo in which access increased by 35,3 percentage points to 62,2%. The installation of pit toilets with ventilation pipes played an important part in achieving the large improvements.

An increase in the percentage of households that were connected to the electricity supply from the mains from 76,7% in 2002 to 90,2% in 2024, was accompanied by a decrease in the use of wood (20,0% to 7,7%) and paraffin (16,1% to 2,2%) for cooking over the same period. Due to its relative abundance, a third of households in Limpopo (34,3%) and (16,7%) of households in Mpumalanga continued to use wood for cooking purposes. Almost one quarter (22,7%) of households did not use mains electricity for cooking in 2024, preferring to use wood (7,7%), gas (7,2%), paraffin (2,2%) and ‘Other sources’ (0,8%) such as solar electricity. Another 4,5% used electricity from other sources such as generators. LPG/gas and combustible fuels such as wood and coal were popular sources of alternative energy for cooking during electrical interruptions.

Although the percentage of households whose solid waste was removed weekly or less often declined from 66,4% in 2018 to 63,6% in 2024, the latter figure is still higher than the figure of 58,4% recorded in 2002. Household access to refuse removal services vary greatly by geographical area. Although refuse was removed for 85,3% of households in urban areas, only 13,5% of households in rural areas received the same service. As a result of not having access to refuse removal services, 85,5% of households in South Africa burned their refuse from time to time. Nationally, 42,7% of households burned refuse weekly or more regularly.

The GHS also found that the percentage of households without access to mail services increased from 9,0% in 2002 to 62,6% in 2024. Although 29,9% of households still received some mail at home, only 5,2% used post boxes or private bags. The percentage of households with access to the internet through all means increased from 28,0% in 2010 to 82,1% in 2024.

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

1 Introduction

This statistical release presents a selection of key findings from the General Household Survey (GHS) 2024, which was conducted between January and December 2024.

1.1 Purpose

Statistics South Africa has been conducting the GHS annually since 2002. The survey replaced the October Household Survey (OHS) that took place between 1993 and 1999. The survey is an omnibus household-based instrument aimed at determining the progress of development in the country. It measures, on a regular basis, the performance of programmes as well as the quality of service delivery in a number of key service sectors in the country. Six broad areas are covered in the survey, namely education, health and social development, housing, households' access to services and facilities, food security, and agriculture.

This report presents key findings, and more in-depth analysis of selected service delivery issues from the GHS 2024 survey. The report further outlines some trends for selected variables across a twenty-three-year period since the GHS was introduced in 2002.

Two additional reports viz. Selected provincial development indicators (P0318.2) and Selected development indicators: metros (P0318.3) are published with this report.

1.2 Survey scope

The target population of the survey consists of all private households and residents in workers' hostels across all nine provinces of South Africa. The survey does not cover other collective living quarters such as students' hostels, old-age homes, hospitals, prisons and military barracks, and is therefore only representative of non-institutionalised and non-military persons or households in South Africa.

The findings of the GHS 2024 provide a critical assessment of the levels of development in the country as well as the extent of service delivery and the quality of services in a number of key service sectors. Amongst these are: education, health, disability, social security, housing, energy, access to and use of water and sanitation, environment, refuse removal, telecommunications, transport, household income, access to food, and agriculture.

2 Basic population statistics

2.1 Population estimates

The population figures in Table 2.1 are based on mid-year population estimates produced for 2024 using the 2017 series mid-year population estimates (MYPE).

Table 2.1 – Population per province, 2002–2024

	Total population (Thousands)									
	WC	**EC**	**NC**	**FS**	**KZN**	**NW**	**GP**	**MP**	**LP**	**RSA**
2002	4 756	6 515	1 030	2 645	9 660	3 054	9 764	3 478	5 019	**45 921**
2003	4 858	6 505	1 040	2 652	9 718	3 097	10 010	3 530	5 050	**46 461**
2004	4 960	6 498	1 050	2 661	9 783	3 141	10 258	3 586	5 085	**47 021**
2005	5 063	6 493	1 060	2 670	9 853	3 186	10 511	3 643	5 123	**47 602**
2006	5 168	6 489	1 071	2 680	9 928	3 232	10 772	3 701	5 165	**48 205**
2007	5 276	6 484	1 082	2 691	10 005	3 281	11 044	3 760	5 207	**48 830**
2008	5 388	6 480	1 093	2 704	10 087	3 330	11 325	3 820	5 252	**49 479**
2009	5 502	6 478	1 105	2 717	10 175	3 382	11 612	3 883	5 299	**50 152**
2010	5 618	6 477	1 117	2 732	10 268	3 434	11 910	3 947	5 349	**50 850**
2011	5 738	6 476	1 130	2 748	10 365	3 488	12 219	4 012	5 400	**51 574**
2012	5 860	6 476	1 143	2 764	10 468	3 545	12 539	4 078	5 453	**52 325**
2013	5 985	6 477	1 156	2 782	10 576	3 603	12 868	4 147	5 511	**53 104**
2014	6 112	6 481	1 170	2 802	10 691	3 663	13 203	4 218	5 573	**53 912**
2015	6 242	6 486	1 184	2 822	10 812	3 726	13 549	4 291	5 638	**54 750**
2016	6 374	6 492	1 199	2 844	10 941	3 790	13 906	4 367	5 707	**55 620**
2017	6 510	6 499	1 214	2 867	11 075	3 856	14 278	4 444	5 779	**56 522**
2018	6 650	6 508	1 230	2 891	11 215	3 925	14 661	4 523	5 854	**57 458**
2019	6 794	6 519	1 246	2 917	11 363	3 997	15 055	4 605	5 933	**58 429**
2020	6 941	6 530	1 263	2 945	11 519	4 070	15 465	4 689	6 015	**59 437**
2021	7 091	6 542	1 280	2 973	11 682	4 146	15 888	4 776	6 102	**60 482**
2022	7 231	6 539	1 294	3 000	11 822	4 206	16 267	4 857	6 168	**61 384**
2023	7 370	6 536	1 308	3 027	11 960	4 266	16 644	4 938	6 233	**62 283**
2024	7 508	6 533	1 322	3 053	12 096	4 327	17 023	5 019	6 298	**63 179**

The 2017 series MYPE replaced the previously used 2013 series since it better reflected the demographic shifts observed during Census 2011. Using benchmark totals that are based on the latest set of mid-year estimates requires a full recalibration of all historical time series data. Since the process is time consuming and the revised weights could potentially confuse users, new benchmark totals are ideally only introduced every five years. The 2017 series model that is presently being used will be replaced by the 2025 model that incorporates the results of Census 2022 in the near future.

Users must consult the Statistical release P0302: Mid-Year Population Estimates for the most recent population estimates.

2.2 Household estimates

Table 2.2 outlines the estimated number of households to which the GHS data were benchmarked in each province. Household estimates were calculated using the 2017 series MYPE for 2024 and the United Nations headship ratio methodology.

Table 2.2 – Number of households per province, 2002–2024

	Total households (Thousands)									
	WC	**EC**	**NC**	**FS**	**KZN**	**NW**	**GP**	**MP**	**LP**	**RSA**
2002	1 217	1 506	247	679	2 070	767	2 785	801	1 121	**11 194**
2003	1 251	1 518	252	692	2 105	789	2 882	827	1 144	**11 459**
2004	1 287	1 526	257	703	2 137	812	2 982	851	1 164	**11 718**
2005	1 323	1 530	261	715	2 168	834	3 088	876	1 181	**11 977**
2006	1 360	1 532	266	726	2 198	858	3 202	902	1 199	**12 243**
2007	1 396	1 541	272	738	2 240	881	3 305	929	1 222	**12 522**
2008	1 432	1 551	277	751	2 284	906	3 416	956	1 247	**12 819**
2009	1 469	1 561	282	763	2 331	930	3 537	984	1 272	**13 128**
2010	1 507	1 571	287	775	2 382	956	3 668	1 013	1 298	**13 456**
2011	1 547	1 580	293	787	2 434	982	3 807	1 043	1 324	**13 797**
2012	1 585	1 596	299	801	2 495	1 008	3 938	1 074	1 357	**14 152**
2013	1 626	1 611	305	815	2 556	1 037	4 075	1 105	1 390	**14 521**
2014	1 670	1 624	311	830	2 619	1 067	4 220	1 138	1 424	**14 904**
2015	1 718	1 636	318	845	2 683	1 099	4 377	1 172	1 459	**15 307**
2016	1 771	1 648	325	862	2 752	1 135	4 546	1 208	1 495	**15 744**
2017	1 823	1 667	333	882	2 827	1 172	4 709	1 248	1 537	**16 199**
2018	1 877	1 685	342	901	2 905	1 210	4 884	1 289	1 579	**16 671**
2019	1 933	1 702	350	921	2 985	1 248	5 072	1 332	1 621	**17 163**
2020	1 962	1 709	354	931	3 026	1 267	5 174	1 354	1 641	**17 418**
2021	2 021	1 725	363	952	3 111	1 308	5 384	1 399	1 684	**17 947**
2022	2 079	1 742	371	975	3 200	1 349	5 587	1 445	1 729	**18 477**
2023	2 136	1 761	380	999	3 292	1 390	5 779	1 493	1 775	**19 005**
2024	2 195	1 780	388	1 024	3 387	1 432	5 981	1 542	1 822	**19 551**

This model estimates that the number of households increased from 11,2 million in 2002 to 19,6 million in 2024. Gauteng had the largest number of households, followed by KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape, Limpopo and Eastern Cape. Northern Cape – the least populous province – also had the smallest number of households.

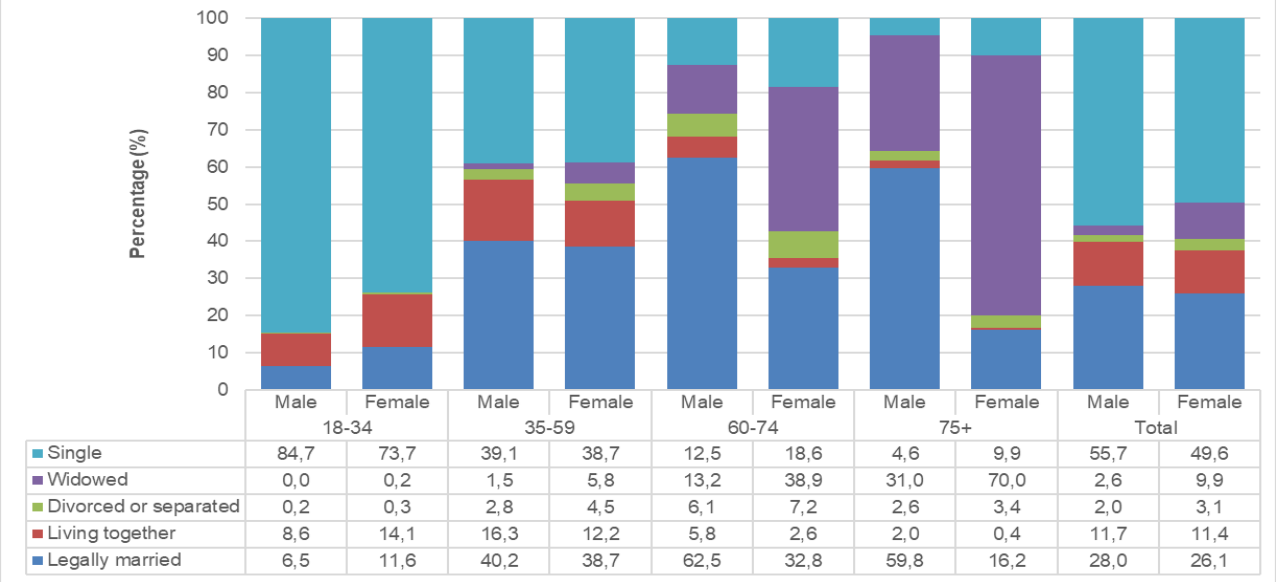
3 Household composition

3.1 Household composition and living arrangements

Most individuals rely on their families and households for their physical, social and economic well-being and survival; hence most people consider families and households as their most important social institutions and social reference groups. Although traditional family structures are constantly changing, they remain very important in countries such as South Africa, where large proportions of the population are subject to debilitating poverty and unemployment, and where institutional support is inadequate.

Stats SA defines households as all individuals who live together under the same roof or in the same yard, and who share resources such as food or money to keep the household functioning. The definition is much more restrictive than the concept of a family which usually refers to individuals who are related by blood and who may live very far apart. Although household members are usually related, blood relations are not a prerequisite for the formation of a household. The living arrangements of individuals are generally defined in terms of marital status and the composition of households.

Figure 3.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals aged 18 years and older by marital status, 2024

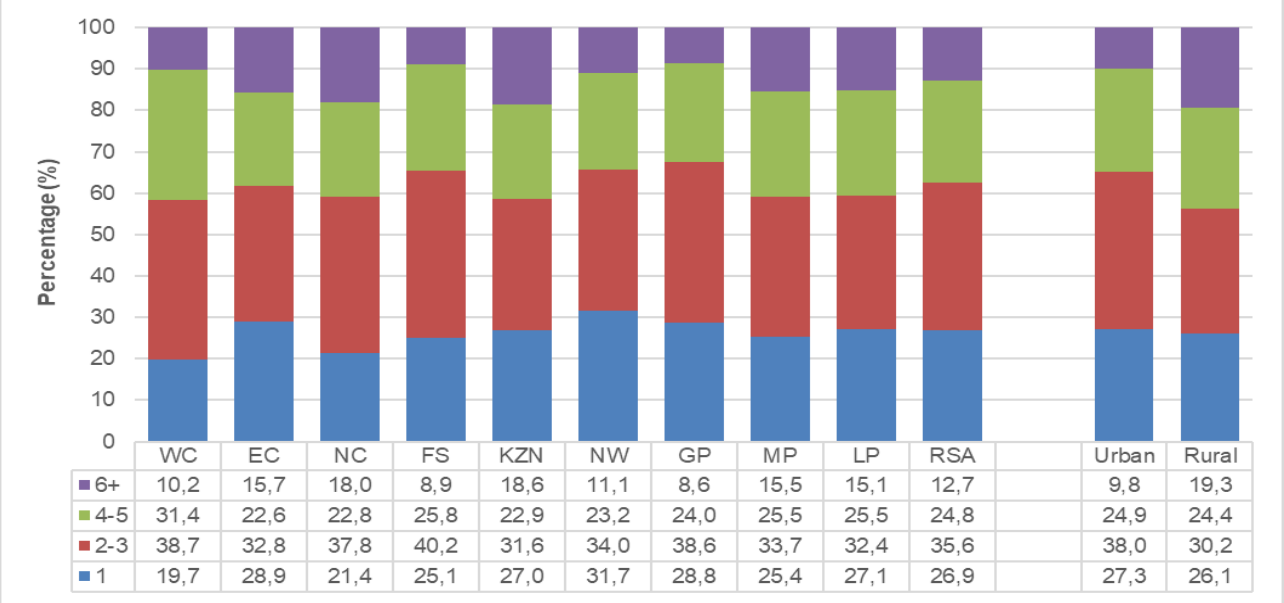


	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	18-34		35-59		60-74		75+		Total	
Single	84,7	73,7	39,1	38,7	12,5	18,6	4,6	9,9	55,7	49,6
Widowed	0,0	0,2	1,5	5,8	13,2	38,9	31,0	70,0	2,6	9,9
Divorced or separated	0,2	0,3	2,8	4,5	6,1	7,2	2,6	3,4	2,0	3,1
Living together	8,6	14,1	16,3	12,2	5,8	2,6	2,0	0,4	11,7	11,4
Legally married	6,5	11,6	40,2	38,7	62,5	32,8	59,8	16,2	28,0	26,1

Figure 3.1 shows that a slightly larger percentage of males than females aged 18 years and older (55,7% compared to 49,6%) were categorised as single. A larger percentage of females than males in this age group were widowed (9,9% compared to 2,6%) or divorced/separated (3,1% compared to 2,0%). The picture changes notably when relationship status is compared between different age groups.

Although marriage and cohabitation are more common among women than men in the age group 18–34 years, the situation is reversed for older age groups, particularly for women older than 60 years of age. Marriage was much more common amongst males than females in both the 60–74 (62,5% compared to 32,8%), and over 75 years age groups (59,8% compared to 16,2%). By contrast, 79,9% of women in the age group 75 years and older remained single or widowed compared to 35,6% of males in this age group.

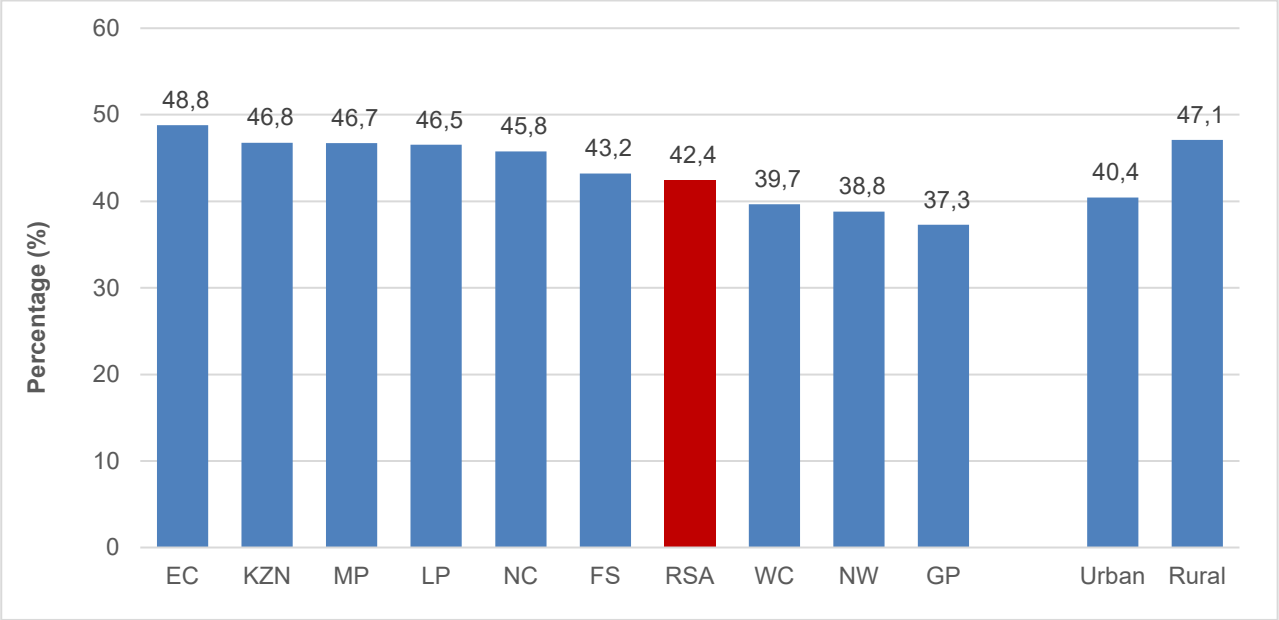
Figure 3.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of household size by province and rural/urban status, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA	Urban	Rural
6+	10,2	15,7	18,0	8,9	18,6	11,1	8,6	15,5	15,1	12,7	9,8	19,3
4-5	31,4	22,6	22,8	25,8	22,9	23,2	24,0	25,5	25,5	24,8	24,9	24,4
2-3	38,7	32,8	37,8	40,2	31,6	34,0	38,6	33,7	32,4	35,6	38,0	30,2
1	19,7	28,9	21,4	25,1	27,0	31,7	28,8	25,4	27,1	26,9	27,3	26,1

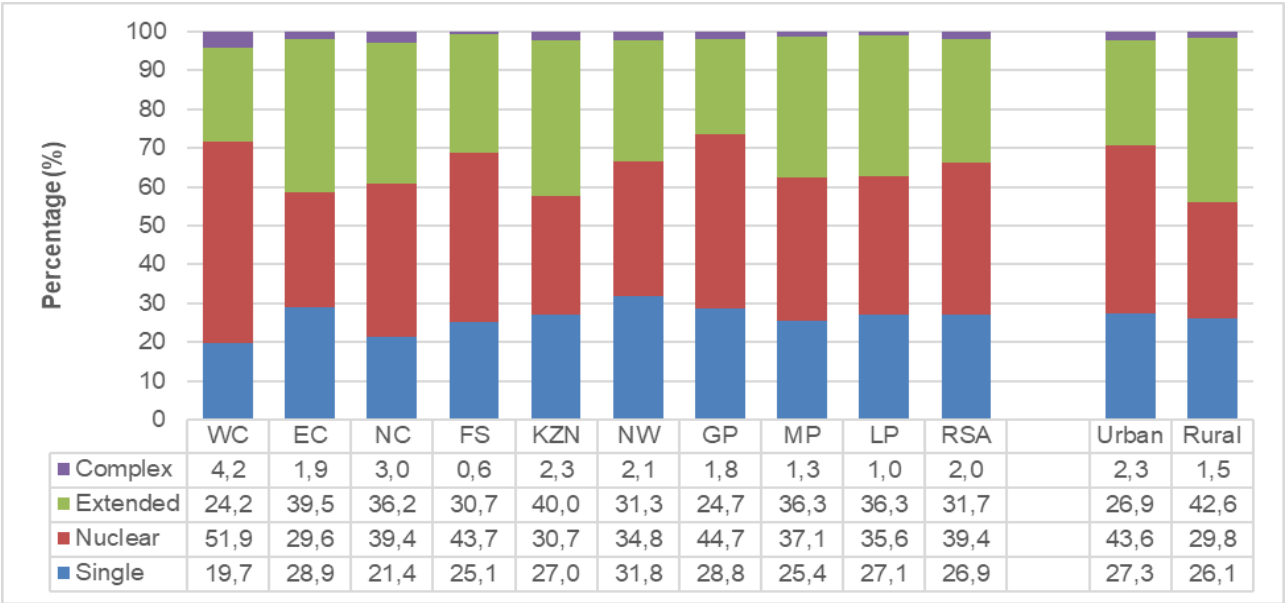
More than one-quarter (26,9%) of South African households consisted of a single person in 2024. Single-person households were most common in North West (31,7%) and least common in Western Cape (19,7%). By contrast, households that comprised six people or more were most common in KwaZulu-Natal (18,6%) and Northern Cape (18,0%). Larger households with more than six members were more common in rural areas (19,3%) than in urban areas (9,8%).

Figure 3.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of female-headed households by province and urban/rural status, 2024



More than four-tenths (42,4%) of households in South Africa were headed by females in 2024. According to Figure 3.3, 40,4% of urban and 47,1% of rural households were headed by females. Female-headed households were most common in Eastern Cape (48,8%) and least common in Gauteng (37,3%).

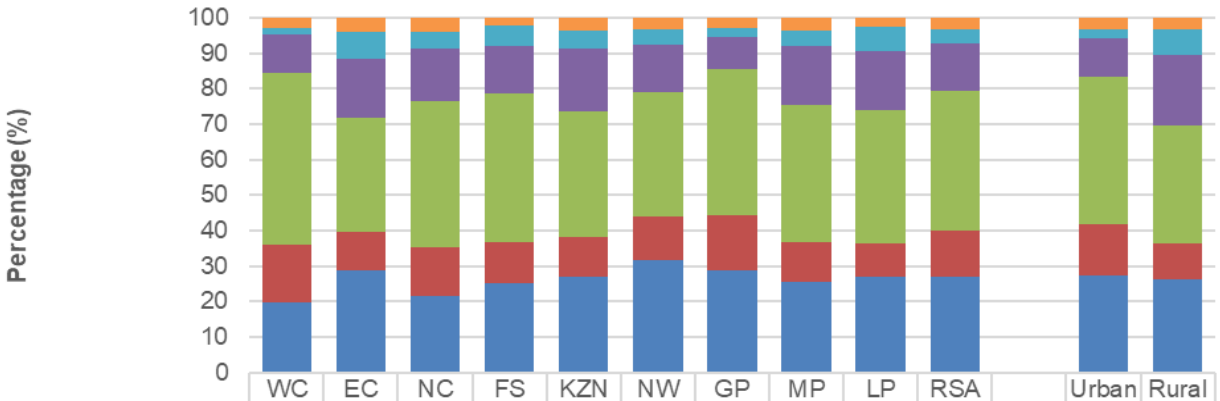
Figure 3.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of households by their composition, province and rural/urban status, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA	Urban	Rural
Complex	4,2	1,9	3,0	0,6	2,3	2,1	1,8	1,3	1,0	2,0	2,3	1,5
Extended	24,2	39,5	36,2	30,7	40,0	31,3	24,7	36,3	36,3	31,7	26,9	42,6
Nuclear	51,9	29,6	39,4	43,7	30,7	34,8	44,7	37,1	35,6	39,4	43,6	29,8
Single	19,7	28,9	21,4	25,1	27,0	31,8	28,8	25,4	27,1	26,9	27,3	26,1

Households can be configured in a variety of ways. Figure 3.4 describes a configuration based around the core nuclear unit. Nationally, an estimated 39,4% of households were classified as nuclear (couples or one or more parent(s) living with children) while 31,7% of households were classified broadly as extended households (a nuclear core combined with other family members such as parents or siblings). Only 2,0% of households were classified as complex, meaning they contained at least one non-related person. It is noticeable that extended households were much more common in rural than urban areas (42,6% compared to 26,9%), while nuclear families were more common in urban areas (43,6% compared to 29,8%). Nuclear households were most common in Western Cape (51,9%) and Gauteng (44,7%), while extended households were most widespread in KwaZulu-Natal (40,0%) and Eastern Cape (39,5%).

Figure 3.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of inter-generational households by province and rural/urban status, 2024



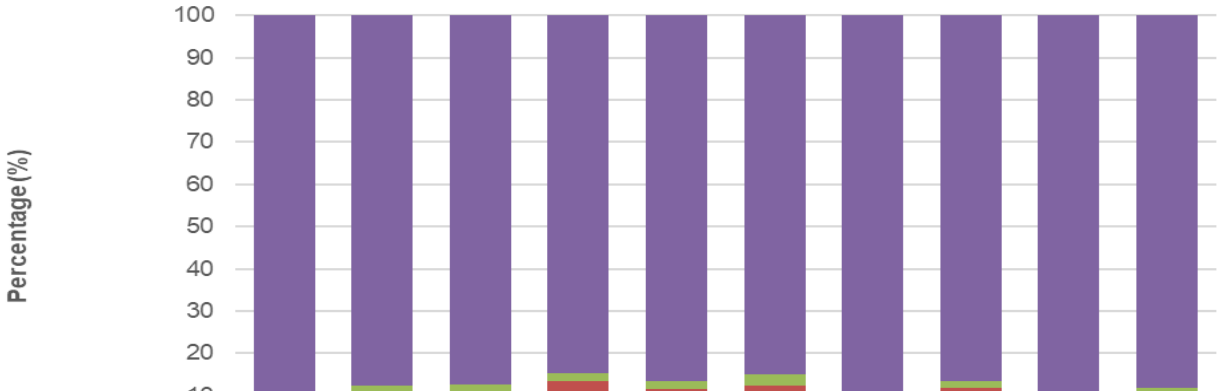
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA	Urban	Rural
Unclear	2,9	3,9	4,1	2,2	3,7	3,3	3,0	3,7	2,6	3,2	3,2	3,3
Skip generation	1,9	7,7	4,6	6,0	5,0	4,2	2,3	4,3	6,9	4,2	2,8	7,4
Triple generation	10,6	16,7	15,0	13,1	17,7	13,4	9,2	16,6	16,7	13,4	10,7	19,7
Double generation	48,7	32,0	41,2	42,1	35,2	35,0	41,0	38,7	37,6	39,2	41,7	33,5
Single generation	16,1	10,9	13,7	11,6	11,4	12,4	15,7	11,3	9,2	13,1	14,4	10,1
Single person	19,7	28,9	21,4	25,1	27,0	31,7	28,8	25,4	27,1	26,9	27,3	26,1

Figure 3.5 outlines household membership based on an inter-generational configuration. Nationally, 39,2% of households were classified as double generational households (comprising parents and children) while 13,1% of households could be classified as single generation households (partners or siblings living together). Approximately 13,4% of households contained three generations, while 4,2% were skip-generation households in which grandparents lived with grandchildren. The highest percentage of skip-generation households were found in Eastern Cape (7,7%), Limpopo (6,9%), and Free State (6,0%). Triple generational (or inter-generational) households were most common in KwaZulu-Natal (17,7%), Eastern Cape (16,7%) and Limpopo (16,7%). Skip and triple generational households were more common in rural than in urban areas.

3.2 Living arrangements of children

Figure 3.6 outlines the percentage distribution of children according to their orphanhood status. Orphans are commonly defined as the children who have lost one or both biological parents to any cause of death.

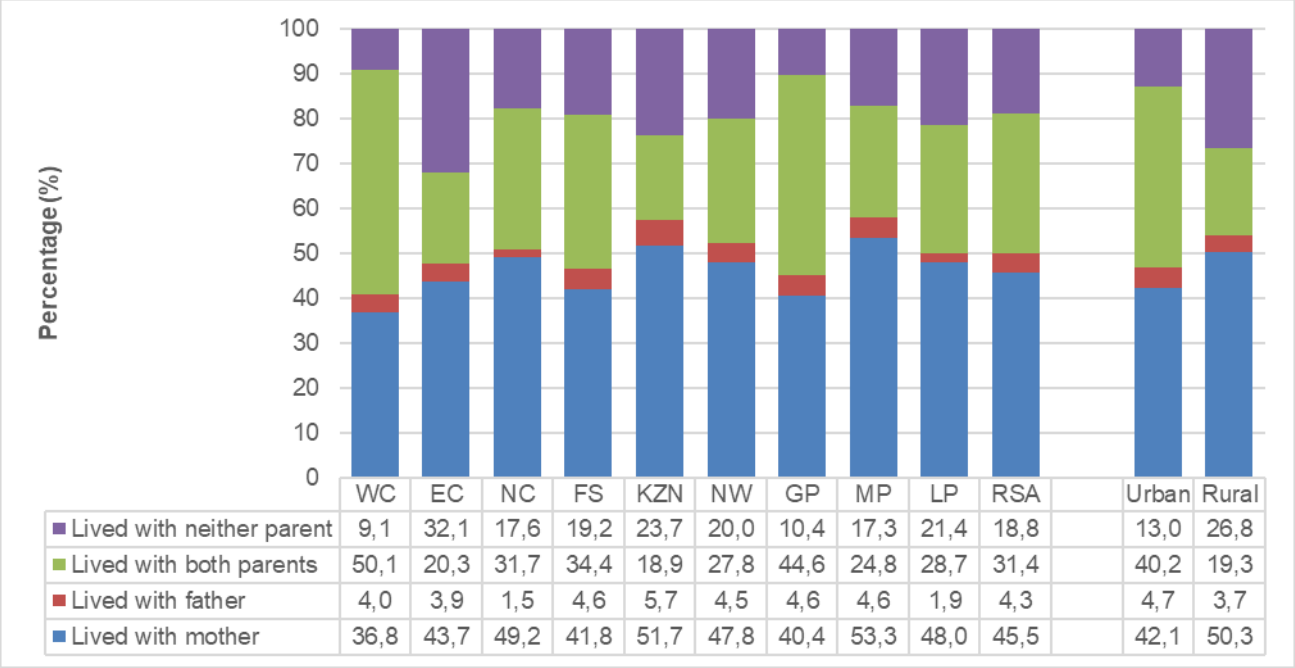
Figure 3.6 – Percentage (%) distribution of children orphanhood status by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Not Orphaned	91,9	87,8	87,5	84,8	86,6	85,1	89,9	86,5	89,8	88,3
Double Orphan	0,9	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	2,5	1,0	1,7	1,9	1,5
Paternal Orphan	5,9	7,6	7,5	10,7	8,6	8,1	6,5	9,3	6,3	7,6
Maternal Orphan	1,3	3,0	3,3	2,6	3,0	4,3	2,6	2,5	2,1	2,7

Figure 3.6 shows that 11,8% of children in South Africa could be classified as orphans who have lost either one or both their parents. While 1,5% had lost both parents, 2,7% had lost their mothers and 7,6% had lost their fathers. The percentage of orphaned children was the highest in Free State (15,2%) and North West (14,9%), and lowest in Western Cape (8,1%).

Figure 3.7 – Percentage (%) distribution of children's living arrangements by province and urban/rural status, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA	Urban	Rural
Lived with neither parent	9,1	32,1	17,6	19,2	23,7	20,0	10,4	17,3	21,4	18,8	13,0	26,8
Lived with both parents	50,1	20,3	31,7	34,4	18,9	27,8	44,6	24,8	28,7	31,4	40,2	19,3
Lived with father	4,0	3,9	1,5	4,6	5,7	4,5	4,6	4,6	1,9	4,3	4,7	3,7
Lived with mother	36,8	43,7	49,2	41,8	51,7	47,8	40,4	53,3	48,0	45,5	42,1	50,3

Figure 3.7 shows that 18,8% of all children lived with neither their parents while 31,4% lived with both parents. A much larger percentage of children lived only with their mothers (45,5%) than with their fathers (4,3%). Not living with either parent was most common in Eastern Cape (32,1%), KwaZulu-Natal (23,7%) and Limpopo (21,4%) and least common in Western Cape (9,1%) and Gauteng (10,4%).

The largest percentage of children in urban areas lived with both parents (40,2%) or with their mothers (42,1%). In rural areas, more than half (50,3%) of children lived with their mothers while just under one-fifth (19,3%) lived with both parents.

Families and households are profoundly important to the developmental, emotional and cognitive growth of children. Although biological parents can play a central role in the development of children, the value of living with biological parents depends on the quality of care they can provide.

4 Education

All South Africans have a right to basic education and the Bill of Rights obliges the government to progressively make education available and accessible to everyone through reasonable measures. Human resources constitute the ultimate basis for the wealth of a nation, and it is therefore vital that a country develops the skills and knowledge of its residents for the greater benefit of all.

By tracking a number of core education and education-related indicators on an annual basis, particular aspects of the circumstances of learners can be analysed. As noted earlier, the focus of this section is to provide an overview of various aspects of the education profile of South Africans over the period 2002 to 2024. In this regard, the report will highlight important patterns and trends with respect to educational attendance of persons aged 0–4 years, individuals currently attending schools and higher education institutions, general attendance rates and educational achievements of individuals aged 20 years and older.

4.1 Educational profile of learners aged 0–4 years

Policy decisions and investments by government related to access to early childhood development (ECD) provisioning has increased over time. It is very difficult to measure the direct contribution of the state towards ECD activities since a household-based survey, such as the GHS, is not designed to accurately identify the suppliers of ECD services. These surveys can, however, quantify the children making use of such services. The survey shows that access to and participation in ECD activities among children aged 0–4 has overall increased over time.

Table 4.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of children aged 0–4 years that used different childcare arrangements by province, 2024

Care arrangements for children aged 0–4 years	Province (Per cent)									
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Grade R, Pre-school, nursery school, crèche, edu-care centre	42,1	31,2	22,0	41,3	26,3	31,0	41,1	32,3	40,5	**35,0**
Day mother/gogo	7,7	4,5	3,0	9,8	1,9	1,5	5,2	1,3	15,1	**5,4**
Home based play group	0,7	0,8	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,0	0,0	**0,2**
School (Grade 1 or 2)	0,6	0,4	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,2	**0,3**
At home with parent or guardian	36,3	50,0	63,1	43,7	57,6	62,7	43,9	59,0	38,1	**49,1**
At home with another adult	9,0	11,3	9,8	4,7	12,9	4,2	7,7	5,3	5,7	**8,5**
At home with someone younger than 18 years	0,6	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,0	**0,1**
At somebody else's dwelling	2,8	1,4	1,7	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,8	1,4	0,4	**1,0**
Other	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,3	0,2	0,0	0,9	0,2	0,0	**0,3**
Total	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**

Table 4.1 summarises the attendance of young children aged 0–4 years at different types of ECD facilities or care arrangements, and the extent to which children were exposed to stimulation activities across provinces during 2024. Nationally, over half (57,6%) of children aged 0–4 stayed home with a parent or guardian, or with another adult. The figure was most pronounced in Northern Cape (72,9%) and KwaZulu-Natal (70,5%). Only 35,0% of children in this age group attended formal ECD facilities, nationally. Attendance of ECD facilities was most common in Western Cape (42,1%), Free State (41,3%) and Gauteng (41,1%) and least common in Northen Cape (22,0%) and KwaZulu Natal (26,3%).

4.2 General attendance of individuals aged five years and older at educational institutions

Almost one-third (31,2%) of individuals aged five years and older attended some kind of educational institution. Table 4.2 shows that, nationally, 86,9% of these individuals attended primary or secondary schools, while a further 5,5% attended tertiary institutions. Only 2,3% of individuals attended Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges.

Table 4.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals aged five years and older who were attending educational institutions by province and type of institution attended, 2024

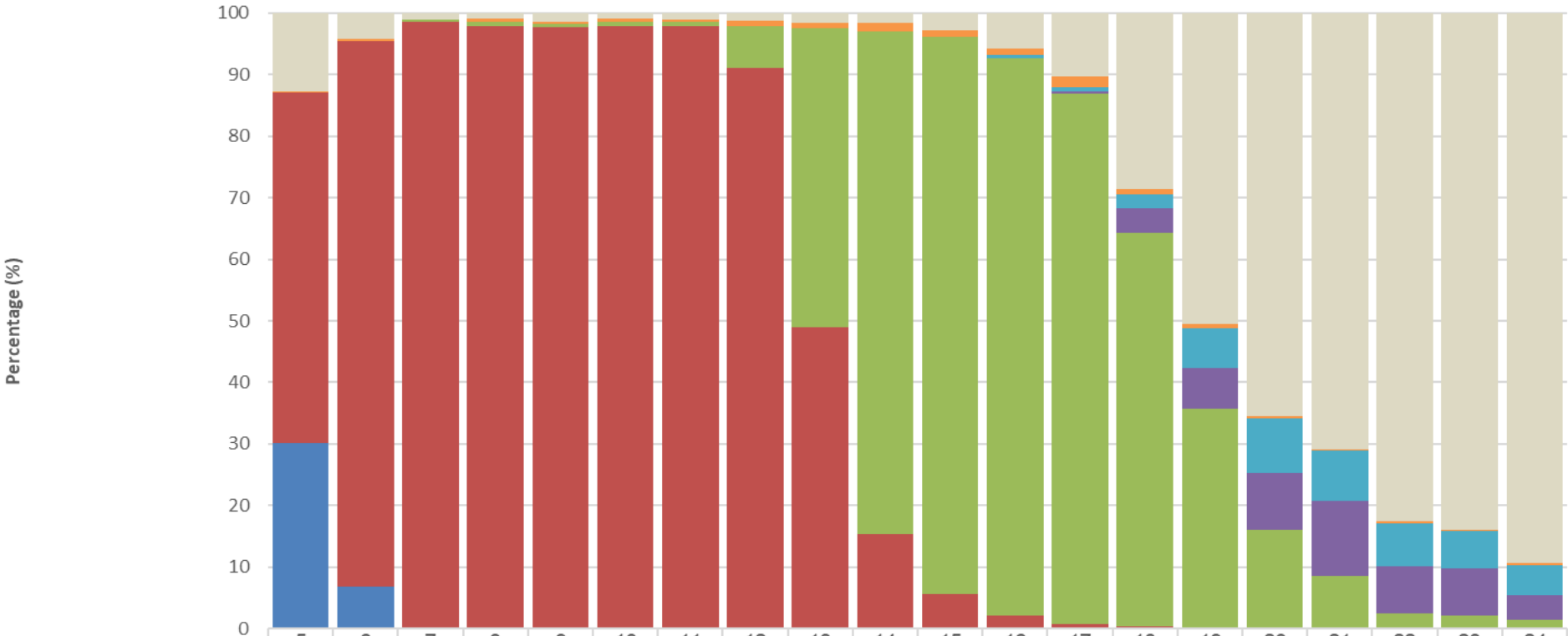
	Province (per cent)									
Type of institution	**WC**	**EC**	**NC**	**FS**	**KZN**	**NW**	**GP**	**MP**	**LP**	**RSA**
Pre-school	3,7	2,4	2,7	3,0	1,8	1,7	3,5	2,1	1,2	**2,5**
School	82,0	92,6	90,6	88,0	92,3	89,7	76,9	90,7	92,7	**86,9**
Higher education institutions	7,7	2,6	2,5	4,7	3,4	4,2	10,0	3,2	3,4	**5,5**
TVET	2,7	1,5	2,1	2,9	1,5	2,5	3,2	1,9	2,4	**2,3**
Other colleges	1,6	0,6	0,9	1,1	0,5	0,7	4,6	1,4	0,2	**1,7**
Home Schooling	1,0	0,1	0,6	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,5	0,1	0,0	**0,3**
Other	1,3	0,3	0,6	0,3	0,4	0,9	1,4	0,6	0,2	**0,8**
Total (Thousands)	**1 786**	**2 014**	**343**	**900**	**3 567**	**1 156**	**4 484**	**1 493**	**2 155**	**17 899**

Unspecified was excluded from the denominator when calculating percentages

The percentage of individuals aged five years and older who attended school was the highest in Limpopo (92,7%), Eastern Cape (92,6%), KwaZulu-Natal (92,3%), Mpumalanga (90,7%) and Northern Cape (90,6%), and lowest in Gauteng (76,9%). Attendance of higher education institutions was most common in Gauteng (10,0%) and Western Cape (7,7%) and least common in Eastern Cape (2,6%) and Northern Cape (2,5%).

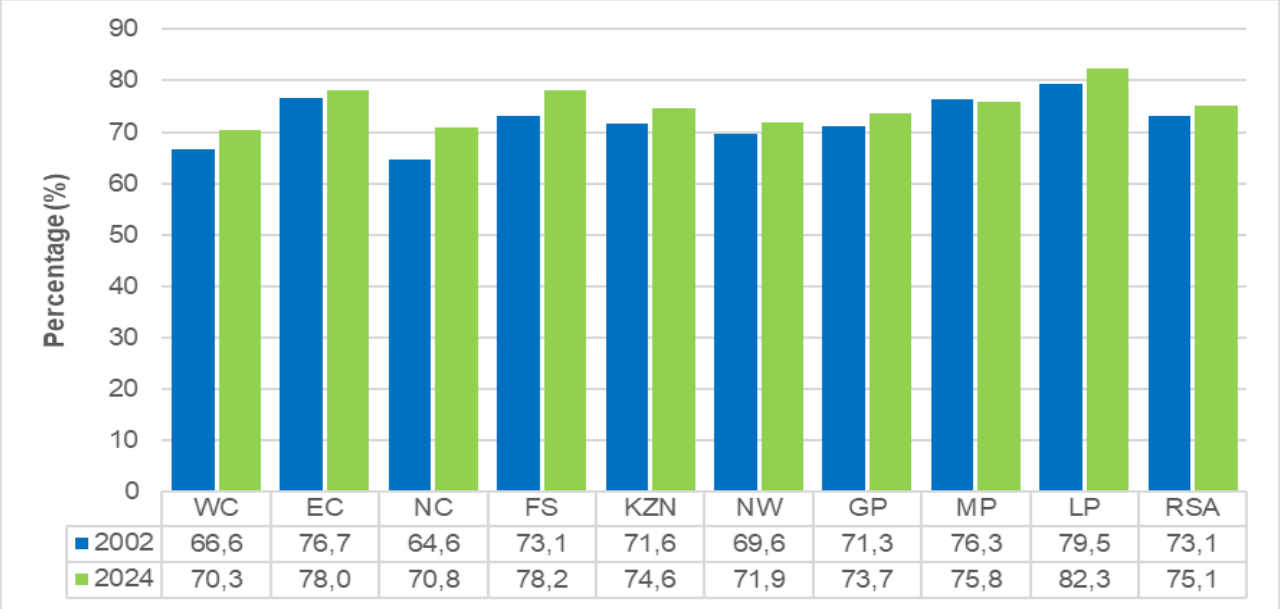
The percentage of individuals aged 5–24 years that attended educational institutions by single ages is presented in Figure 4.1. The figure shows very high school attendance (primary and secondary school) in the age group 7–16 years, after which the attendance of educational facilities drops sharply. By the age of 24 years, approximately 10,7% of individuals were still attending an educational facility. The figure also shows a noticeable representation of learners who were older than the ideal completion age in primary and secondary schools.

Figure 4.1 – Type of educational institution attended by individuals aged 5–24 years, 2024



	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Not in education	12,7	4,3	1,0	0,8	1,3	0,9	1,0	1,3	1,7	1,6	2,8	5,8	10,4	28,5	50,5	65,6	71,0	82,5	83,9	89,3
Other	0,2	0,3	0,1	0,6	0,5	0,5	0,3	0,8	0,8	1,4	1,1	1,1	1,7	0,9	0,7	0,4	0,1	0,4	0,3	0,4
TVET and other colleges	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,4	0,7	2,3	6,5	8,9	8,2	7,0	6,0	4,9
University	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,2	4,0	6,7	9,2	12,3	7,5	7,7	4,0
Secondary school	0,0	0,0	0,4	0,7	0,4	0,8	0,8	6,8	48,7	81,8	90,6	90,6	86,4	63,9	35,5	16,0	8,4	2,4	2,1	1,4
Primary school	56,9	88,7	98,5	98,0	97,8	97,9	97,9	91,1	48,9	15,3	5,6	2,1	0,6	0,4	0,2	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0
Pre-school	30,2	6,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0

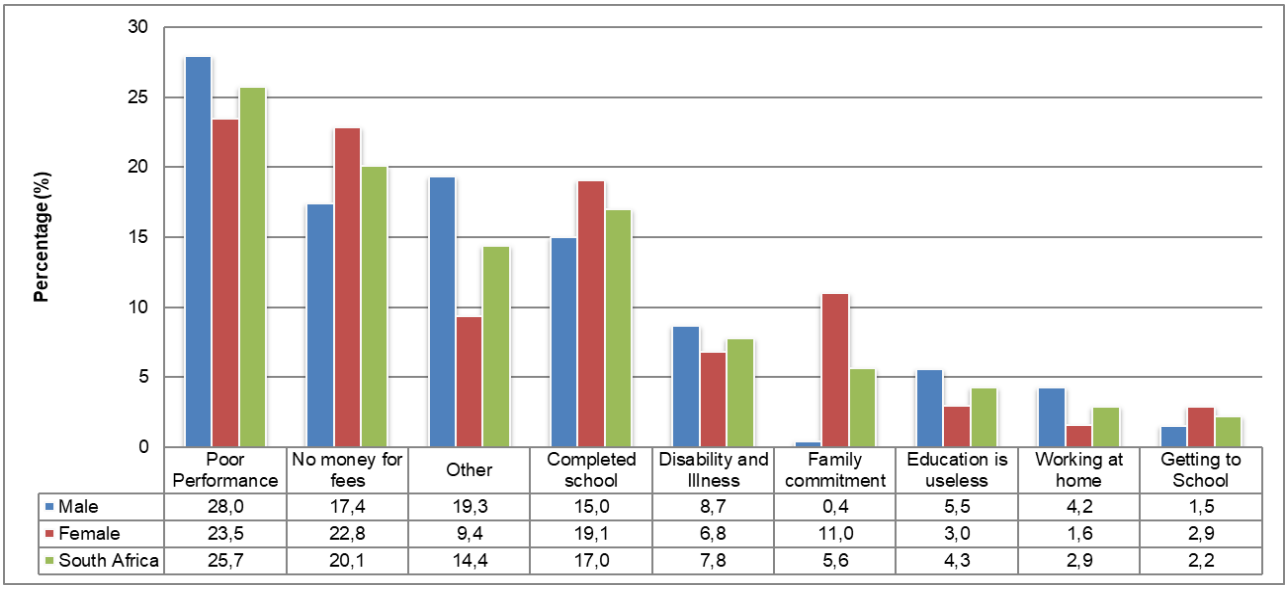
Figure 4.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals aged 7 to 24 years who attended educational institutions by province, 2002 and 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
2002	66,6	76,7	64,6	73,1	71,6	69,6	71,3	76,3	79,5	73,1
2024	70,3	78,0	70,8	78,2	74,6	71,9	73,7	75,8	82,3	75,1

Figure 4.2 shows that, nationally, the percentage of persons aged 7–24 years who attended educational institutions increased from 73,1% in 2002 to 75,1% in 2024. Attendance increased across most provinces between 2002 and 2024 with the highest increase observed in Northern Cape (+6,3 percentage points), and Free State (+5,1 percentage points). There is a decrease in Mpumalanga of 0,5 percentage points between 2002 and 2024.

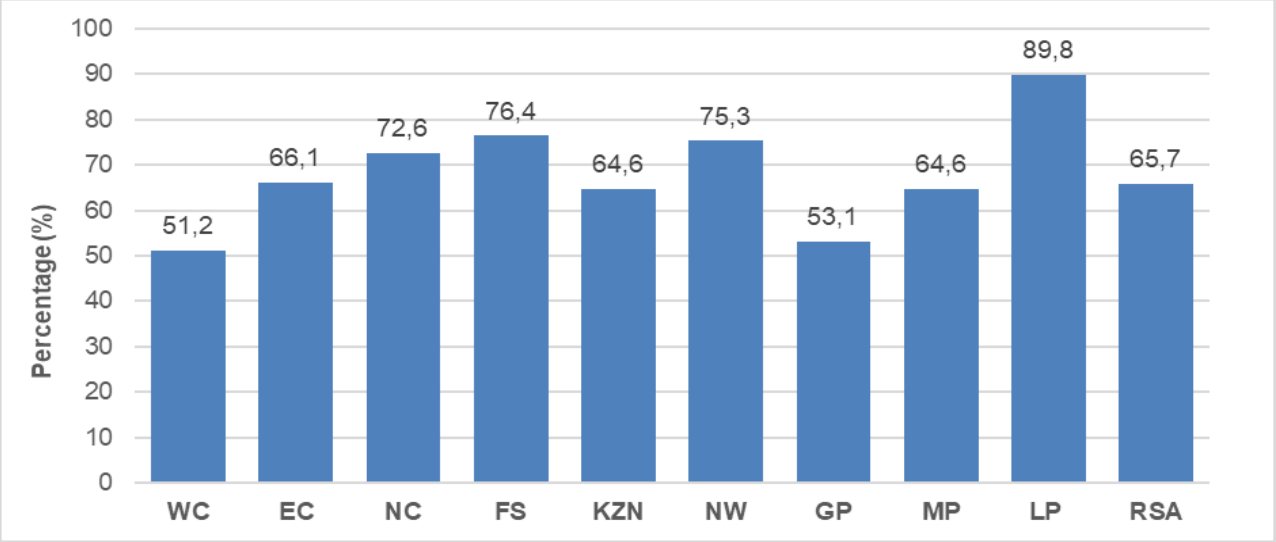
Figure 4.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of main reasons given by individuals aged 7 to 18 years for not attending an educational institution by sex, 2024



	Poor Performance	No money for fees	Other	Completed school	Disability and Illness	Family commitment	Education is useless	Working at home	Getting to School
Male	28,0	17,4	19,3	15,0	8,7	0,4	5,5	4,2	1,5
Female	23,5	22,8	9,4	19,1	6,8	11,0	3,0	1,6	2,9
South Africa	25,7	20,1	14,4	17,0	7,8	5,6	4,3	2,9	2,2

The main reasons provided by males and females in the age group 7–18 years for not attending any educational institutions are depicted in Figure 4.3. Learners most commonly reported poor performance (25,7%), no money for fees (20,1%) and completed school (17,0%) as the main reason for not attending an educational institution. Less than one-fifth of individuals aged 7–18 years have indicated either other reasons (14,4%) or disability and illness (7,8%) as the main reason for not attending school. Although 5,6% of individuals left their studies as a result of family commitments (i.e. getting married, minding children and pregnancy), it more commonly applied to females (11,0%) than males (0,4%).

Figure 4.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals aged 5 years and older who attended schools and who did not pay tuition fees, by province, 2024

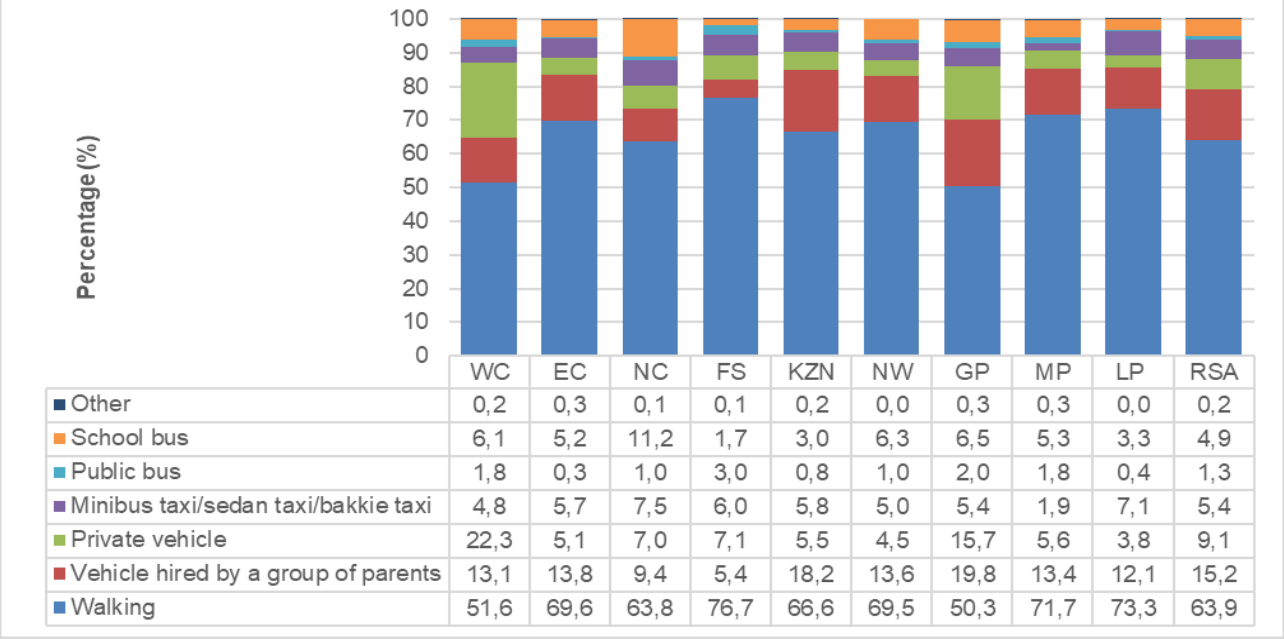


Although inadequate access to money to pay for fees remains a major hurdle for learners, two-thirds (65,7%) of learners aged five years and older attended schools where no tuition fees were levied in 2024 (Figure 4.4). The attendance of no-fee schools was most common in Limpopo (89,8%), and least common in Western Cape (51,2%), and Gauteng (53,1%).

4.3 School attendance

There were approximately 15,6 million learners at school in 2024. The largest percentage of these learners attended schools in KwaZulu-Natal (21,2%) and Gauteng (22,2%).

Figure 4.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of learners who attended school by main mode of transport to school and province, 2024

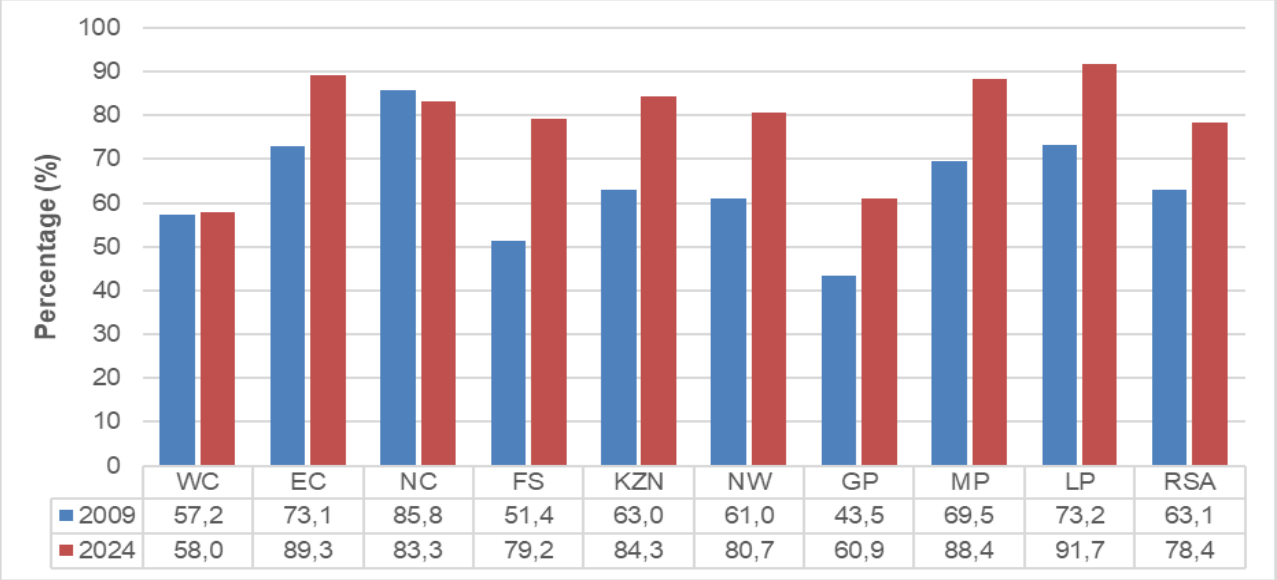


	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	0,2	0,3	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,0	0,3	0,3	0,0	0,2
School bus	6,1	5,2	11,2	1,7	3,0	6,3	6,5	5,3	3,3	4,9
Public bus	1,8	0,3	1,0	3,0	0,8	1,0	2,0	1,8	0,4	1,3
Minibus taxi/sedan taxi/bakkie taxi	4,8	5,7	7,5	6,0	5,8	5,0	5,4	1,9	7,1	5,4
Private vehicle	22,3	5,1	7,0	7,1	5,5	4,5	15,7	5,6	3,8	9,1
Vehicle hired by a group of parents	13,1	13,8	9,4	5,4	18,2	13,6	19,8	13,4	12,1	15,2
Walking	51,6	69,6	63,8	76,7	66,6	69,5	50,3	71,7	73,3	63,9

Note: *School bus refers to "Minibus/bus provided by institution/government and not paid for"*
Other includes "bicycle/motorcycle", "train" and "other" categories

Figure 4.5 shows that 63,9% of learners walked to school. Another 15,2% of learners were transported to school by vehicles hired by parents, while 9,1% were transported there using private vehicles. Although 4,9% used buses or minibuses provided by the school, 1,3% used public buses. Walking to school was most common in Free State (76,7%), Limpopo (73,3%) and Mpumalanga (71,7%) and least common in Gauteng (50,3%). Almost one-fifth (22,3%) of learners in Western Cape and 15,7% of learners in Gauteng were transported to school by private vehicles, compared to 3,8% of learners in Limpopo. The use of vehicles hired by parents was highest in Gauteng (19,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (18,2%).

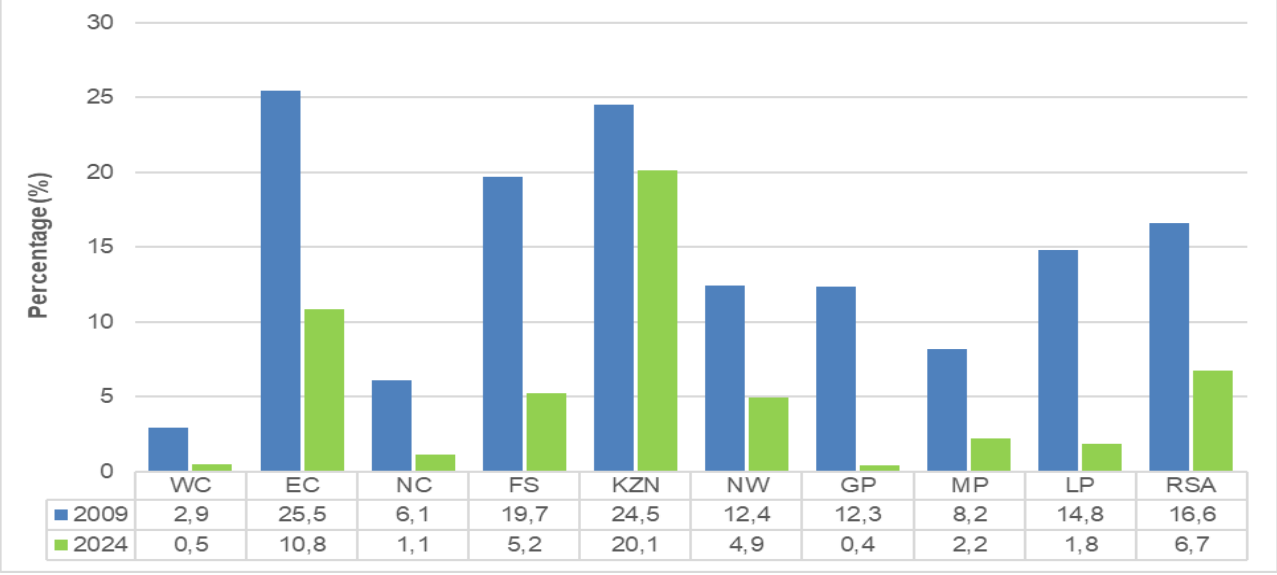
Figure 4.6 – Percentage (%) distribution of learners attending public schools who benefited from the school nutrition programme by province, 2009 and 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
2009	57,2	73,1	85,8	51,4	63,0	61,0	43,5	69,5	73,2	63,1
2024	58,0	89,3	83,3	79,2	84,3	80,7	60,9	88,4	91,7	78,4

Figure 4.6 presents the percentage of learners who attended public schools and who benefited from a school nutrition programme in each province in 2009 and 2024. More than three-quarters (78,4%) of learners who attended public schools benefitted from school feeding schemes in 2024, compared to 63,1% in 2009. Over 80% of learners in Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, North West, Mpumalanga and Limpopo benefitted from school nutrition programmes at public schools. Learners in Limpopo (91,7%) and Eastern Cape (89,3%) benefitted mostly from this programme, while only 58,0% of learners in Western Cape and 60,9% in Gauteng benefitted from this type of programme.

Figure 4.7 – Percentage (%) distribution of learners who experienced corporal punishment at school by province, 2009 and 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
2009	2,9	25,5	6,1	19,7	24,5	12,4	12,3	8,2	14,8	16,6
2024	0,5	10,8	1,1	5,2	20,1	4,9	0,4	2,2	1,8	6,7

Figure 4.7 shows that, nationally, the percentage of learners who experienced corporal punishment at school has decreased from 16,6% in 2009 to 6,7% in 2024.Corporal punishment was most prevalent amongst learners in KwaZulu-Natal (20,1%) and Eastern Cape (10,8%). By comparison, only 0,4% of learners in Gauteng and 0,5% of learners in Western Cape stated that they received this sort of punishment in 2024.

4.4 Attendance of institutions of higher education

Table 4.3 shows that the total number of students enrolled at higher education institutions increased by 59,7% between 2002 and 2024, growing to 980 000. Black African students comprised more than three-quarters (77,0%) of all students in 2024 (up from 60,2% in 2002). White students comprised 10,3% of all students in 2024, down from 27,5% a few decades earlier.

Table 4.3 – Distribution of students enrolled at higher education institutions by population group, 2002 and 2024

	2002	2024
Black African	60,2	77,0
Coloured	6,6	6,5
Indian/Asian	5,8	6,2
White	27,5	10,3
Total per cent	**100,0**	**100,0**
Total Number ('000)	**613**	**980**

Even though most students are black African, the education participation rate of this population group remained proportionally low in comparison with the Indian/Asian and white population groups.

Figure 4.8 – Percentage (%) distribution of student participation rates for individuals aged 18 to 29 years by population group, 2002 and 2024

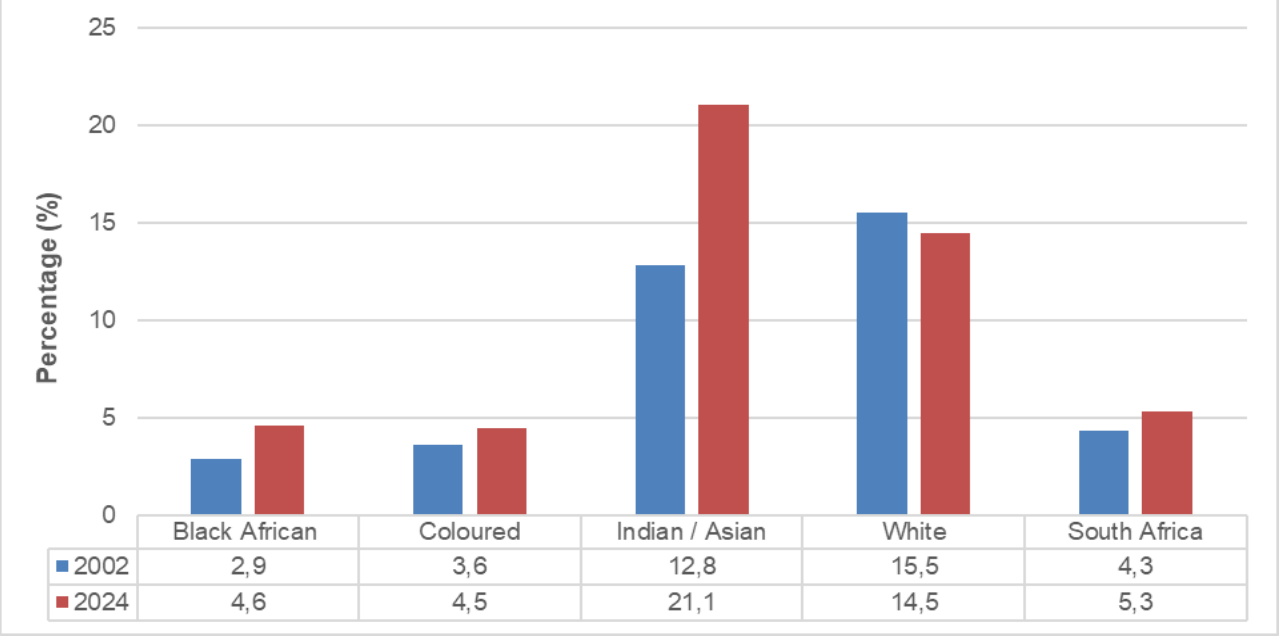
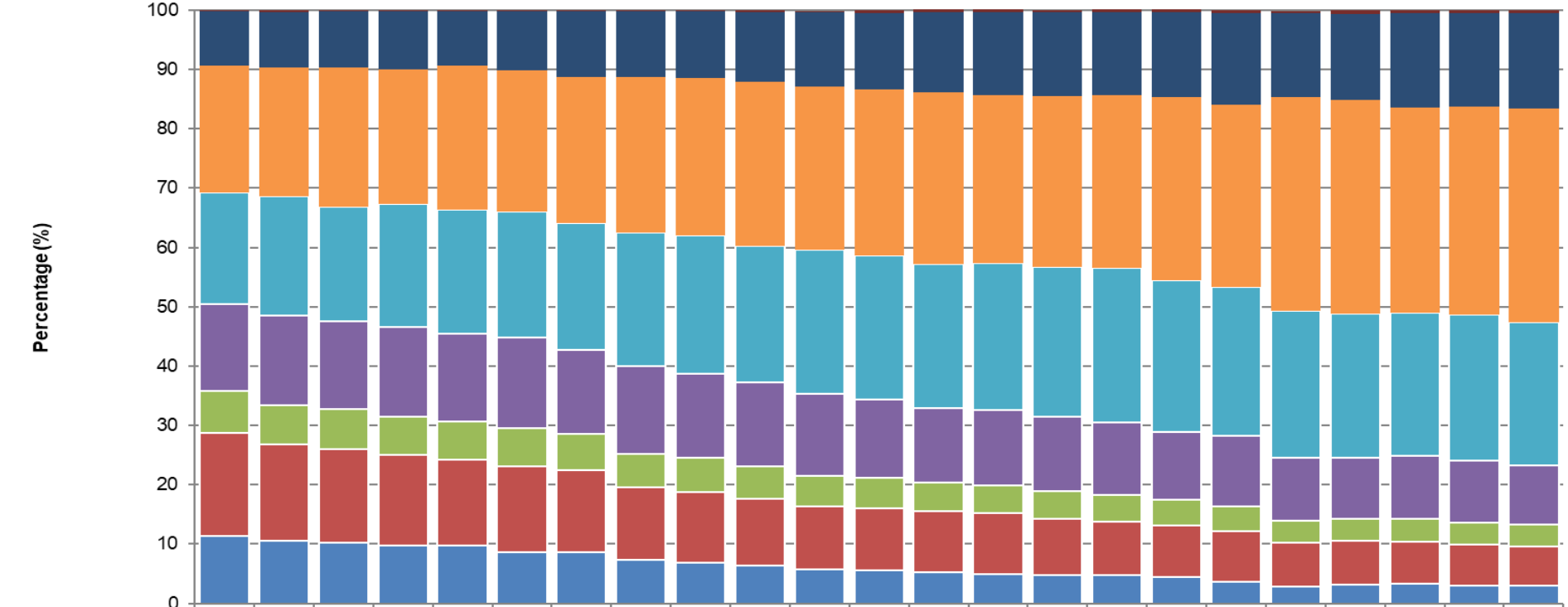


Figure 4.8 shows that the percentage of persons aged 18 to 29 years that were enrolled at an institution of higher education in the country increased from 4,3% in 2002 to 5,3% in 2024. Enrolment at a higher education institution was most common among Indian/Asians (21,1%) and whites (14,5%). By comparison, 4,5% of the coloured and 4,6% of the black African population groups were enrolled in institutions of higher education.

Figure 4.9 – Percentage (%) distribution of educational attainment for individuals aged 20 years and older, 2002–2024



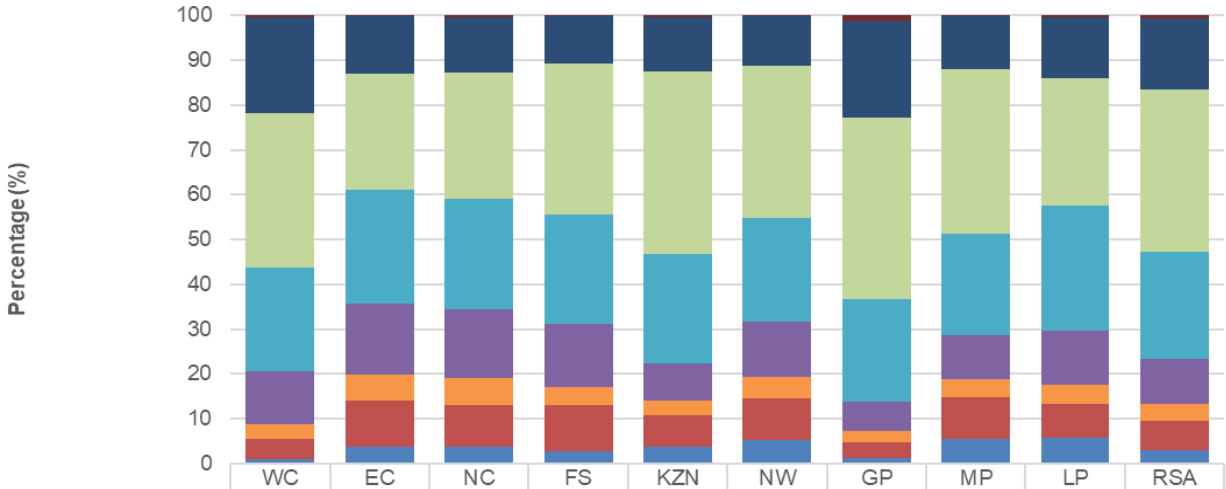
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Other	0,2	0,3	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,1	0,3	0,3	0,5	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,5	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,6	0,5	0,5	0,5
Post-School	9,2	9,4	9,6	9,8	9,2	10,0	11,0	11,0	11,3	11,7	12,5	12,8	13,5	14,1	14,1	13,9	14,3	15,4	14,1	14,6	15,9	15,8	16,1
NSC/Grade 12	21,3	21,7	23,5	22,7	24,3	23,8	24,6	26,3	26,6	27,7	27,5	28,0	29,0	28,3	28,8	29,2	30,9	30,8	36,0	35,9	34,6	35,0	36,0
Upper Secondary	18,8	20,1	19,3	20,8	20,8	21,2	21,4	22,5	23,3	23,1	24,3	24,3	24,3	24,7	25,3	26,0	25,5	25,1	24,9	24,4	24,2	24,6	24,0
Lower Secondary	14,7	15,1	14,8	15,1	14,9	15,3	14,3	14,8	14,2	14,1	13,8	13,3	12,5	12,7	12,5	12,3	11,4	11,8	10,5	10,2	10,6	10,5	10,1
Completed Primary	7,0	6,6	6,7	6,4	6,3	6,4	6,0	5,7	5,7	5,5	5,2	5,1	4,8	4,7	4,6	4,4	4,3	4,2	3,8	3,7	3,8	3,7	3,7
Some Primary	17,4	16,2	15,8	15,3	14,5	14,4	13,8	12,2	12,0	11,3	10,6	10,5	10,4	10,2	9,6	9,1	8,7	8,5	7,3	7,4	7,1	6,8	6,6
None	11,4	10,6	10,2	9,8	9,8	8,7	8,7	7,3	6,8	6,3	5,7	5,5	5,2	5,0	4,7	4,7	4,5	3,7	2,9	3,2	3,3	3,1	3,0

Note: *Post-school education refers to any qualification higher than Grade 12. Lower secondary refers to grades 8 and 9. Upper secondary refers to grade 10 and 11*

4.5 Educational attainment of persons aged 20 years and older

Figure 4.9, on the previous page, presents the highest level of education attained by individuals aged 20 years and older. The figure shows that the percentage of individuals in this age group who have attained at least Grade 12 has been increasing consistently since 2002, expanding from 30,5% in 2002 to 52,1% in 2024. Over this period, the percentage of individuals with some post-school education increased from 9,2% to 16,1%. The percentage of individuals without any schooling decreased from 11,4% in 2002 to 3,0% in 2024.

Figure 4.10 – Percentage (%) distribution of educational attainment for individuals aged 20 years and older by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,1	0,4	0,3	1,1	0,3	0,3	0,5
Post School	21,5	12,7	12,4	10,6	12,2	10,9	21,6	11,6	13,7	16,1
NSC/Grade 12	34,5	25,9	28,3	33,8	40,7	34,1	40,6	36,9	28,3	36,0
Upper Secondary	23,0	25,5	24,7	24,3	24,5	23,2	23,0	22,7	28,1	24,0
Lower Secondary	11,8	15,9	15,3	14,0	8,1	12,2	6,6	9,8	12,1	10,1
Completed Primary	3,3	5,8	6,0	4,1	3,3	4,8	2,6	4,1	4,2	3,7
Some Primary	4,7	10,3	9,5	10,3	7,0	9,4	3,5	9,3	7,6	6,6
None	0,9	3,7	3,7	2,7	3,8	5,2	1,1	5,5	5,7	3,0

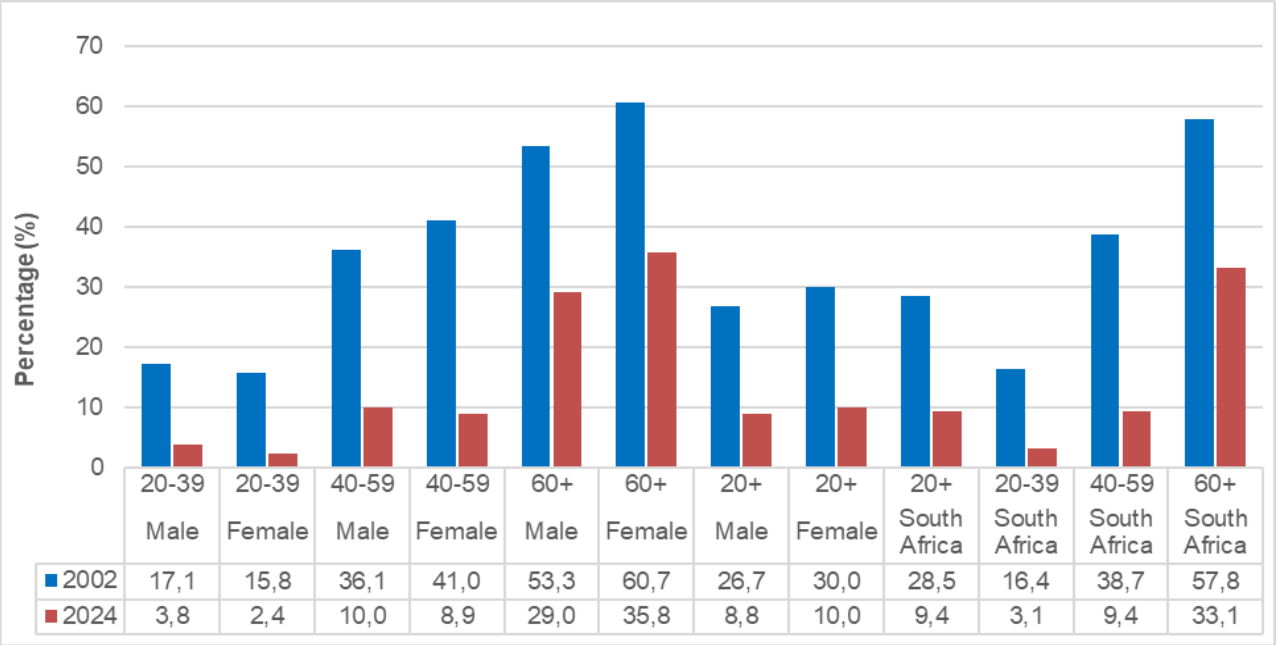
According to Figure 4.10, individuals without any formal education were most common in Limpopo (5,7%) and Mpumalanga (5,5%) and least common in Western Cape (0,9%) and Gauteng (1,1%). The figure shows that 20,4% of individuals aged 20 years or older have attained some academic qualifications that are equivalent to or less than Grade 9. Grade 9 is the final year of the senior phase and learners are allowed to leave school on its completion or when they turn 15 years old, whichever comes first. Individuals with lower secondary qualifications or less were most common in Eastern Cape (35,7%) and Northern Cape (34,4%).

Nationally, more than one-third (36,0%) of persons aged 20 years and older have attained Grade 12 as their highest level of education, while 16,1% have attained some post-school qualifications. Post-school qualifications were most common in Gauteng (21,6%) and Western Cape (21,5%) and least common in Free State (10,6%) and North West (10,9%).

4.6 Functional literacy

Literacy rates can be used as a key social indicator of development. Although a simple definition of literacy is the ability to read and write in at least one language, the simplicity of this measure is complicated by the need to know what is read and written, and for what purpose, and also how well it is done. Because it is so difficult to measure literacy, the GHS has historically measured adult literacy rates based on an individual's functional literacy, e.g. whether they have completed at least Grade 7. This measure is closely related to educational attainment as described above, and it is presented in Figure 4.11.

Figure 4.11 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals aged 20 years and older with no formal education or highest level of education less than Grade 7 (functional illiteracy) by sex and age group, 2002 and 2024



	20-39 Male	20-39 Female	40-59 Male	40-59 Female	60+ Male	60+ Female	20+ Male	20+ Female	20+ South Africa	20-39 South Africa	40-59 South Africa	60+ South Africa
2002	17,1	15,8	36,1	41,0	53,3	60,7	26,7	30,0	28,5	16,4	38,7	57,8
2024	3,8	2,4	10,0	8,9	29,0	35,8	8,8	10,0	9,4	3,1	9,4	33,1

According to Figure 4.11, the percentage of individuals over the age of 20 years who could be regarded as functionally illiterate (who have either received no schooling or who have not completed Grade 7 yet) has declined from 28,5% in 2002 to 9,4% in 2024.

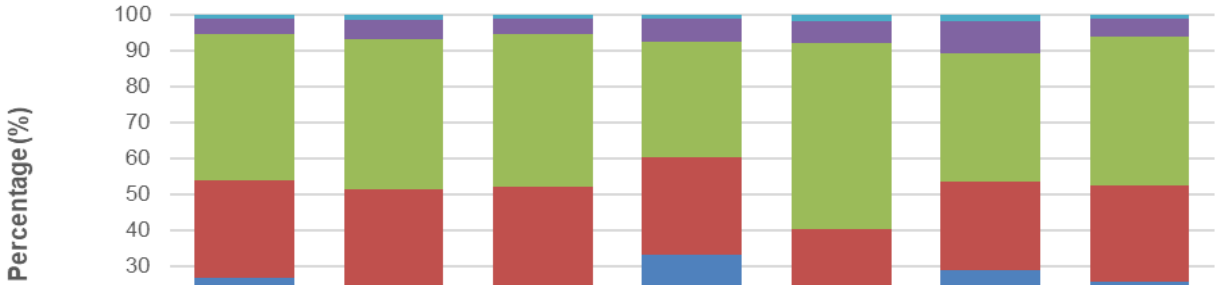
Individuals over the age of 60 years have consistently remained most likely to be functionally illiterate, followed by individuals in the age groups 40–59 and 20–39. Improved access to schooling has led to a significant decline in the percentage of functionally illiterate individuals in the 20–39 age group. Between 2002 and 2024, the prevalence of functional illiteracy in the age group 20–39 years declined noticeably for men (17,1% to 3,8%) and women (15,8% to 2,4%). The difference between men and women in terms of functional illiteracy has, however, declined significantly over time. Although a higher percentage of women than men over the age of 60 years were functionally illiterate in 2024 (35,8% compared to 29,0%), the difference has declined in each successive age group, to the point that, in 2024, a smaller percentage of women in the age group 20–39 were functionally illiterate than their male peers (2,4% compared to 3,8%).

5 Health

5.1 Self-reported health and health care provision

The GHS asked persons to assess their own health based on their own definition of health. Figure 5.1 shows that more than nine-tenths (94,0%) of South Africans perceived their health to be good, very good or excellent. A slightly higher percentage of males (26,5%) than females (24,5%) rated their health as ‘Excellent’. The percentage of persons who rated their health as excellent was the highest amongst coloureds (33,2%) and lowest amongst Indian/Asian (16,0%).

Figure 5.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of self-reported health status of individuals by sex and population group, 2024

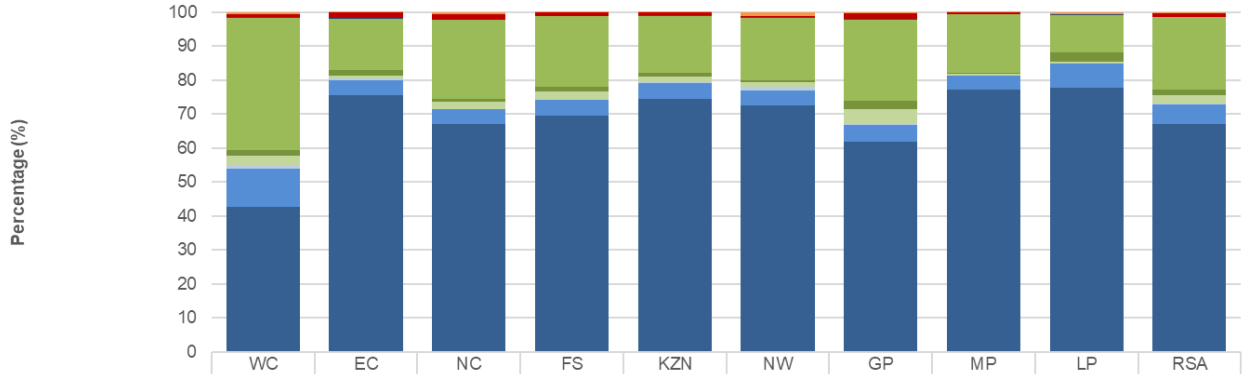


	Sex		Population group				South Africa
	Male	Female	Black African	Coloured	Indian / Asian	White	
Poor	1,0	1,2	1,1	0,9	1,8	1,8	1,1
Fair	4,2	5,5	4,4	6,5	5,9	8,7	4,9
Good	40,9	41,9	42,5	32,1	52,0	35,9	41,4
Very Good	27,3	26,8	27,3	27,2	24,2	24,5	27,1
Excellent	26,5	24,5	24,7	33,2	16,0	29,0	25,5

The type of healthcare facility consulted by household members is influenced by factors such as households' proximity to facilities as well as personal preferences based on factors such as affordability and the perceived quality of services.

Figure 5.2 presents the type of healthcare facility that households generally visit first when household members fall ill or have accidents. Nationally, 73,1% of households said that they would first go to public clinics, hospitals or other public institutions, while 25,3% of households said that they would first consult a private doctor, private clinic or hospital. The use of public health facilities was least common in Western Cape (54,8%) and Gauteng (67,0%), and most common in Limpopo (84,9%), Mpumalanga (81,4%) and Eastern Cape (80,4%).

Figure 5.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of the type of health-care facility consulted first by households when members fall ill or get injured by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	0,5	0,1	0,8	0,1	0,2	1,3	0,5	0,1	0,5	0,4
Pharmacy	1,0	1,6	1,6	1,2	0,9	0,3	1,6	0,5	0,2	1,1
Traditional healer	0,1	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,1
Private doctor	38,9	15,2	23,2	20,9	16,7	18,2	24,0	17,2	11,1	21,3
Private clinic	1,6	1,6	0,8	1,3	1,1	0,8	2,4	0,4	2,7	1,7
Private hospital	3,0	0,9	2,2	2,5	1,6	1,2	4,5	0,4	0,4	2,4
Other public institution	0,8	0,6	0,1	0,0	0,5	1,2	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,4
Public hospital	11,2	4,2	4,4	4,8	4,4	4,2	5,0	4,1	7,1	5,6
Public clinic	42,8	75,6	66,9	69,4	74,6	72,6	61,9	77,2	77,8	67,2

5.2 Medical aid coverage

Despite some minor fluctuations over the period, Table 5.1 shows that the percentage of individuals who were covered by a medical aid scheme changed very little between 2002 and 2024, declining only slightly from 15,9% to 15,5%. It is, however, notable that the number of individuals who were covered by a medical aid scheme increased from 7,3 million to 9,8 million persons during this period.

Table 5.1 – Medical aid coverage, 2002–2024

	Year (Numbers in thousands)										
Indicator	**2002**	**2004**	**2008**	**2010**	**2012**	**2014**	**2016**	**2018**	**2020**	**2022**	**2024**
Number covered by a medical aid scheme	7 284	7 268	8 057	8 967	9 157	9 470	9 447	9 380	9 017	9 699	9 783
Number not covered by a medical aid scheme	38 445	39 666	41 266	41 606	42 819	43 946	45 646	47 628	50 328	51 590	53 307
Subtotal	**45 728**	**46 934**	**49 322**	**50 573**	**51 976**	**53 416**	**55 093**	**57 008**	**59 346**	**61 289**	**63 090**
Percentage covered by a medical aid scheme	**15,9**	**15,5**	**16,3**	**17,7**	**17,6**	**17,7**	**17,1**	**16,4**	**15,2**	**15,8**	**15,5**
Do not know	140	58	101	23	58	46	53	42	63	95	89
Unspecified	53	29	56	254	291	451	474	408	27	-	-
Total population	**45 868**	**46 992**	**49 423**	**50 596**	**52 034**	**53 462**	**55 146**	**57 050**	**59 409**	**61 384**	**63 179**

Figure 5.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals who are members of medical aid schemes by province, 2024

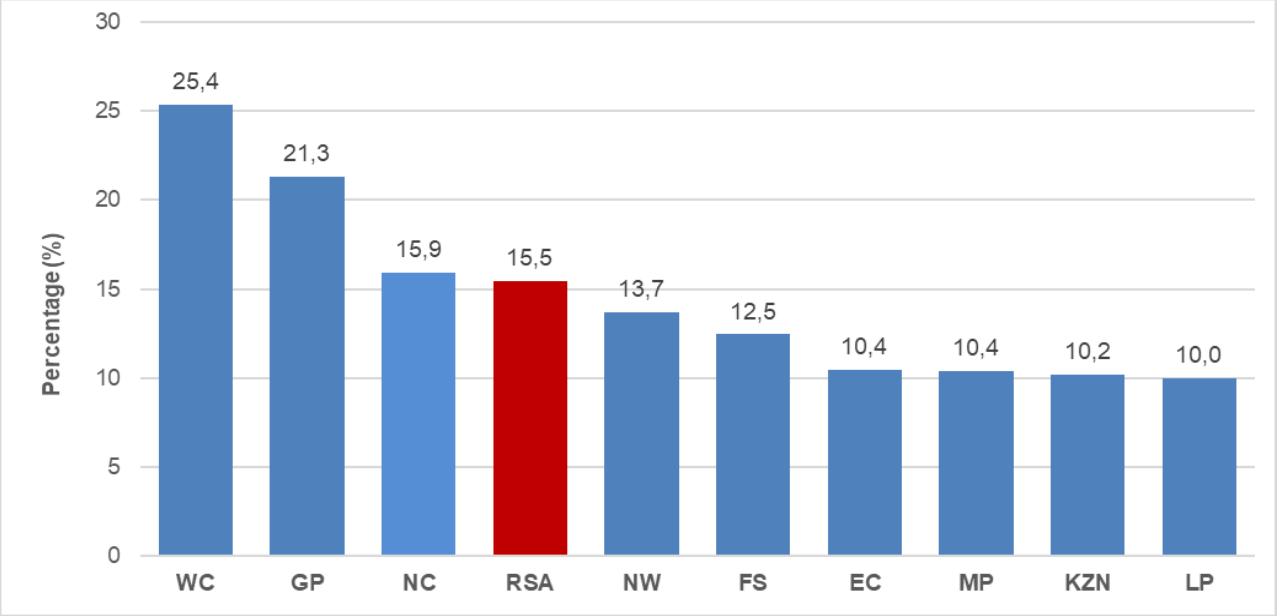
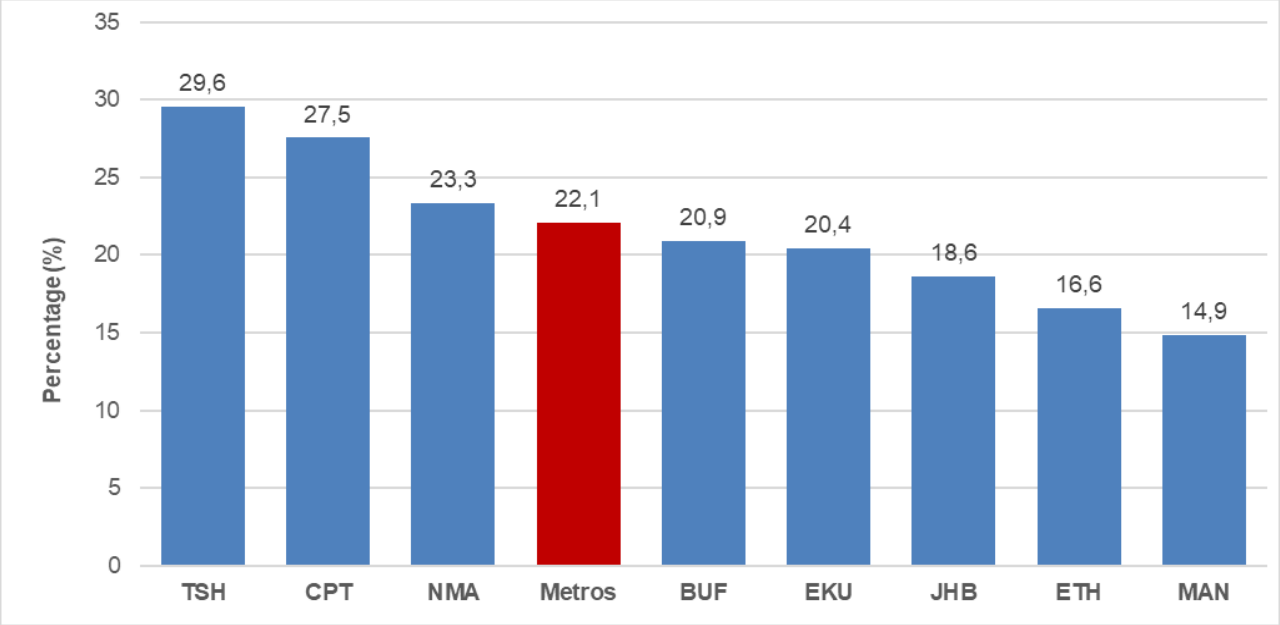


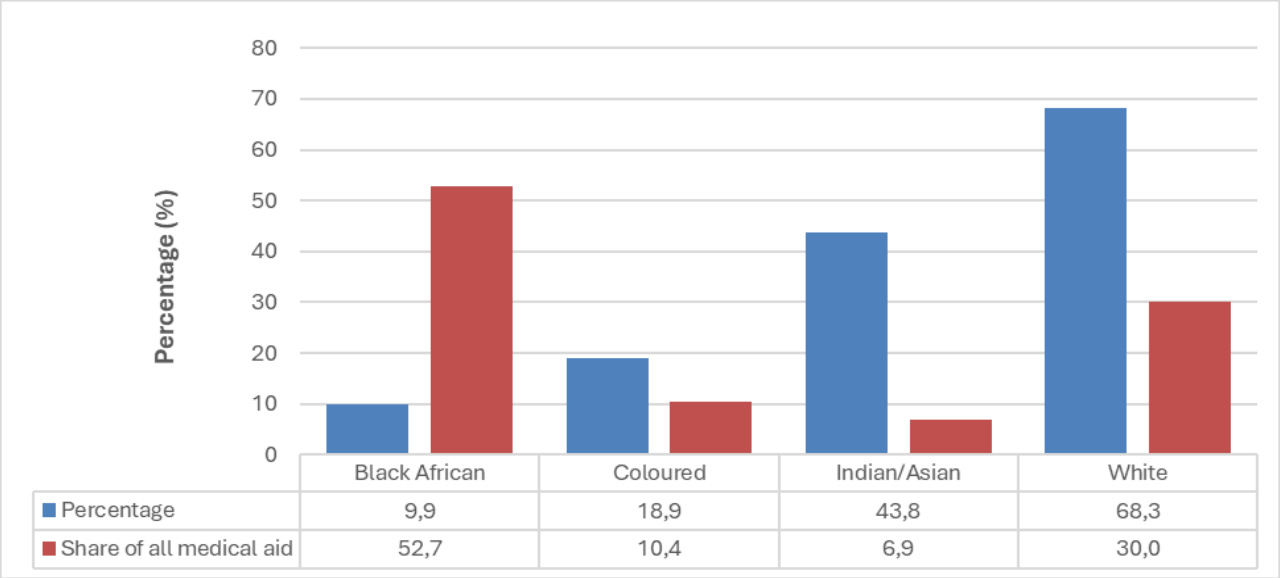
Figure 5.3 shows that medical aid coverage was most common in Western Cape (25,4%) and Gauteng (21,3%), and least common in Limpopo (10,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (10,2%).

Figure 5.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals who are members of medical aid schemes by metropolitan area, 2024



A higher percentage of individuals in metros were members of medical aid schemes than in the general population (22,1% compared to 15,5%). Figure 5.4 shows that membership was most common in City of Tshwane (29,6%) and Cape Town (27,5%), and least common in Mangaung (14,9%) and eThekwini (16,6%).

Figure 5.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals who are members of medical aid schemes by population group, and share of medical aid scheme members by population group, 2024



	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White
Percentage	9,9	18,9	43,8	68,3
Share of all medical aid	52,7	10,4	6,9	30,0

Figure 5.5 shows that 68,3% of white individuals were members of a medical aid scheme compared to 43,8% of Indian/Asian individuals, 18,9% of coloureds and 9,9% of black Africans. However, expressed as a share of all medical aid members, black Africans comprised 52,7% of all members compared to 30,0% of whites.

5.3 Teenage pregnancy

The questionnaire enquired whether any females between the ages of 12 and 50 years were pregnant during the 12 months before the survey. The results for teenagers aged 14 to 19 years of age are presented in Figure 5.6.

Figure 5.6 – Percentage (%) distribution of females aged 14–19 who were pregnant during the year preceding the survey, 2024

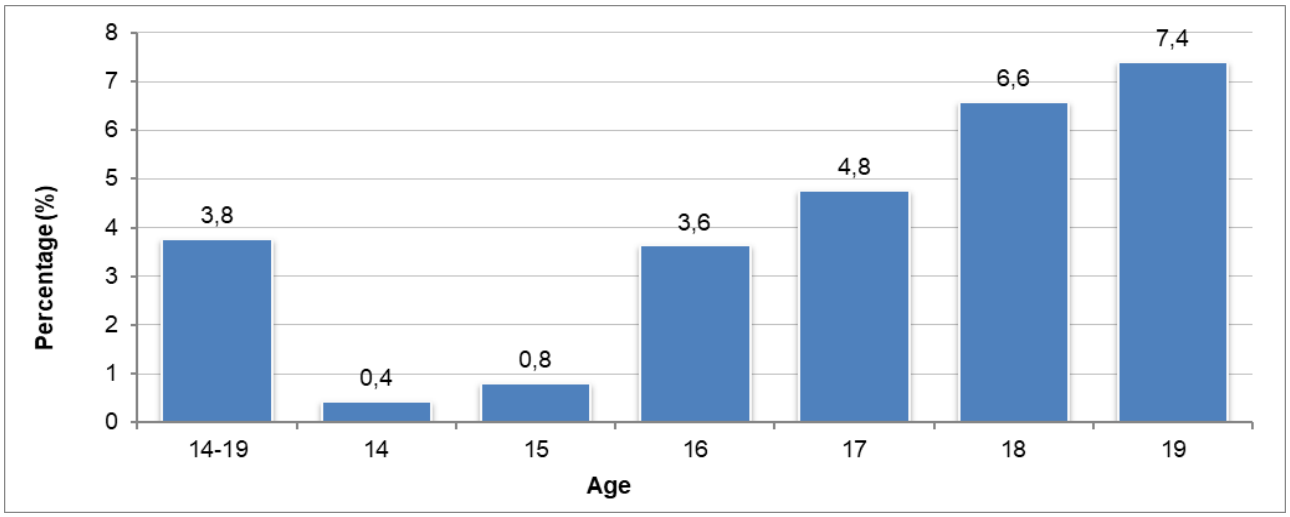


Figure 5.6 shows that 3,8% of females in the age group 14–19 years were at different stages of pregnancy during the 12 months before the survey. The prevalence of pregnancy increased with age, rising from 0,4% for females aged 14 years to 7,4% for females aged 19 years.

6 General Functioning

The questions used to establish general functioning were developed by the Washington Group and were first introduced in the 2009 questionnaire. These questions require each person in the household to rate their ability to perform a range of activities such as seeing, hearing, walking a kilometre or climbing a flight of stairs, remembering and concentrating, self-care, and communicating in his/her most commonly used language (including sign language).

During the analysis, individuals who said that they had some difficulty with two or more of the activities or had a lot of difficulty, or were unable to perform any one activity, were classified as having a disability. The analysis was only confined to individuals aged 5 years and older as children below the age of five years may often be mistakenly categorised as being unable to walk, remember, communicate, or care for themselves when it may be due to their level of development rather than any innate disabilities they might have. The findings are presented in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 – Distribution of individuals aged 5 years and older with disability by sex and province, 2024

Sex	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Percentage										
Male	4,4	6,4	11,1	6,5	4,0	4,8	3,5	4,4	2,9	**4,4**
Female	4,7	6,6	8,9	7,3	5,8	5,3	4,1	3,8	3,0	**5,0**
Total	**4,6**	**6,5**	**10,0**	**6,9**	**5,0**	**5,1**	**3,8**	**4,1**	**2,9**	**4,7**
Number (Thousands)										
Male	148	184	65	88	209	91	277	95	76	**1 233**
Female	167	198	54	103	332	106	320	88	90	**1 459**
Total	**315**	**382**	**119**	**191**	**541**	**197**	**598**	**183**	**165**	**2 692**
Population aged 5+	**6 933**	**5 862**	**1 191**	**2 769**	**10 931**	**3 895**	**15 734**	**4 520**	**5 620**	**57 454**

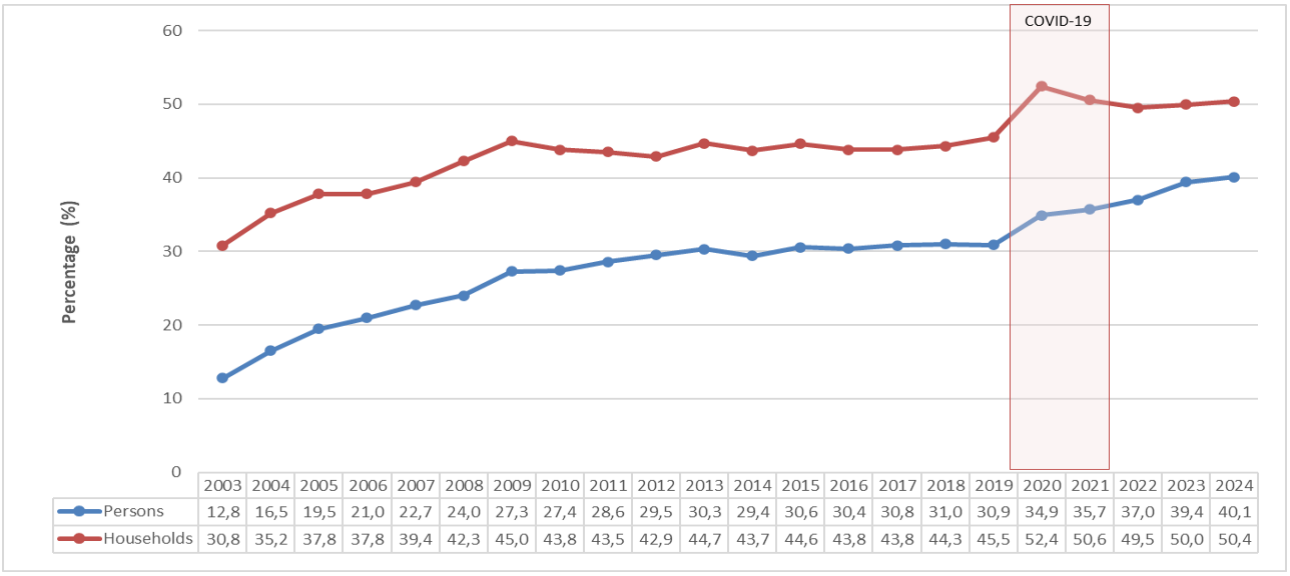
Table 6.1 shows that 4,7% of South Africans aged 5 years and older were people with disabilities. Disabilities were more common for females (5,0%) than for males (4,4%). Persons with disabilities were most common in Northern Cape (10,0%) and least common in Limpopo (2,9%).

7 Social security

The percentage of individuals that benefited from social grants increased gradually from 12,8% in 2003 to approximately 31% between 2017 and 2019 before rising steadily to 40,1% in 2024. This growth was tracked closely by that of households that received at least one social grant.

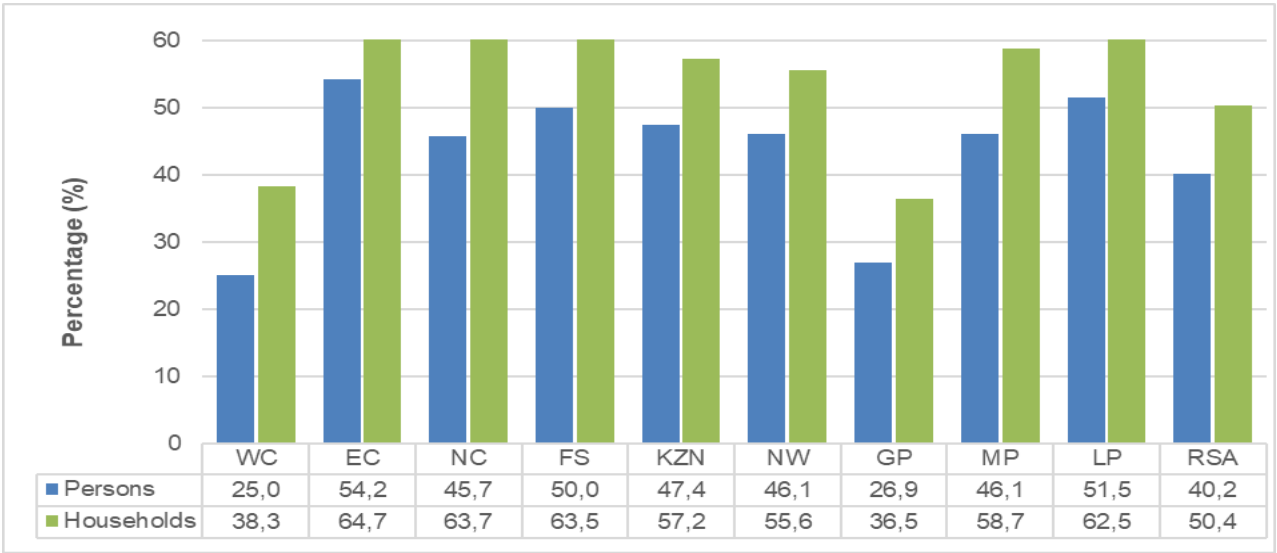
The percentage of households that received at least one social grant increased relatively consistently from 30,8% in 2003 to 45,5% in 2019, before rising to 52,4% in 2020 due to the introduction of the SRD Covid-19 grants. The percentage of households that receive at least one grant has, since then, declined to 50,4% in 2024.

Figure 7.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households and individuals who have benefitted from social grants, 2003–2024



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Persons	12,8	16,5	19,5	21,0	22,7	24,0	27,3	27,4	28,6	29,5	30,3	29,4	30,6	30,4	30,8	31,0	30,9	34,9	35,7	37,0	39,4	40,1
Households	30,8	35,2	37,8	37,8	39,4	42,3	45,0	43,8	43,5	42,9	44,7	43,7	44,6	43,8	43,8	44,3	45,5	52,4	50,6	49,5	50,0	50,4

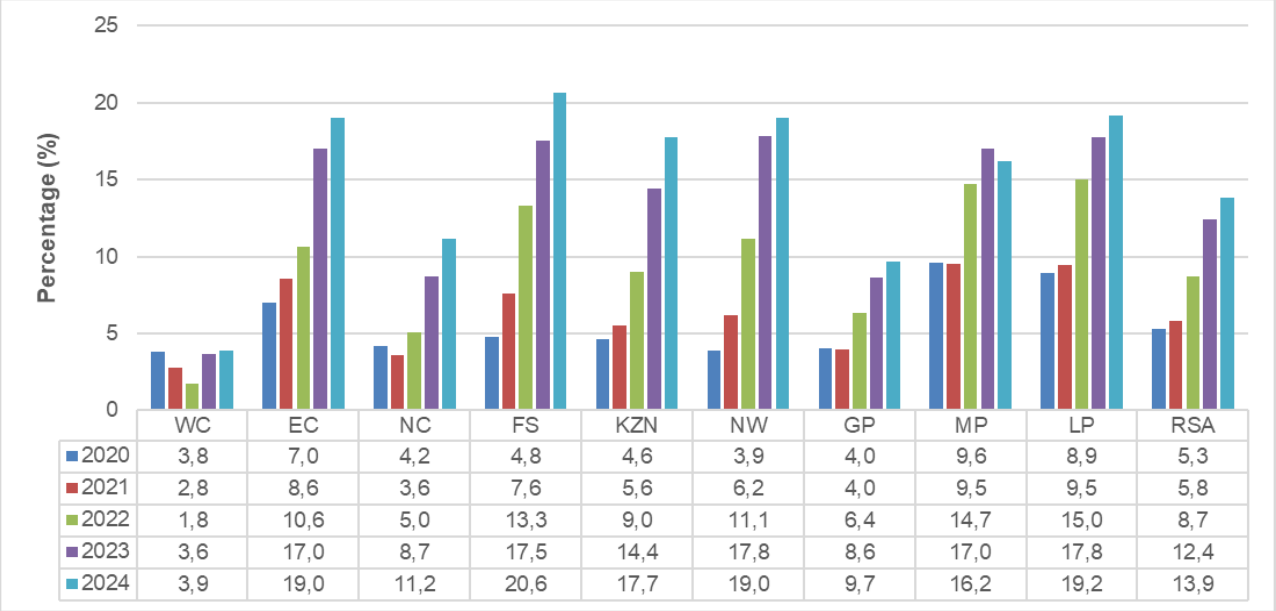
Figure 7.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals and households benefiting from social grants by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Persons	25,0	54,2	45,7	50,0	47,4	46,1	26,9	46,1	51,5	40,2
Households	38,3	64,7	63,7	63,5	57,2	55,6	36,5	58,7	62,5	50,4

Figure 7.2 summarises the provincial distribution of individuals and households that benefited from social grants in 2024. Grant beneficiaries were most common in Eastern Cape (54,2%) and Limpopo (51,5%), and least common in Western Cape (25,0%) and Gauteng (26,9%). Households that received at least one type of social grant were most common in Eastern Cape (64,7%), Northern Cape (63,7%) and Free State (63,5%), and least common in Gauteng (36,5%) and Western Cape (38,3%).

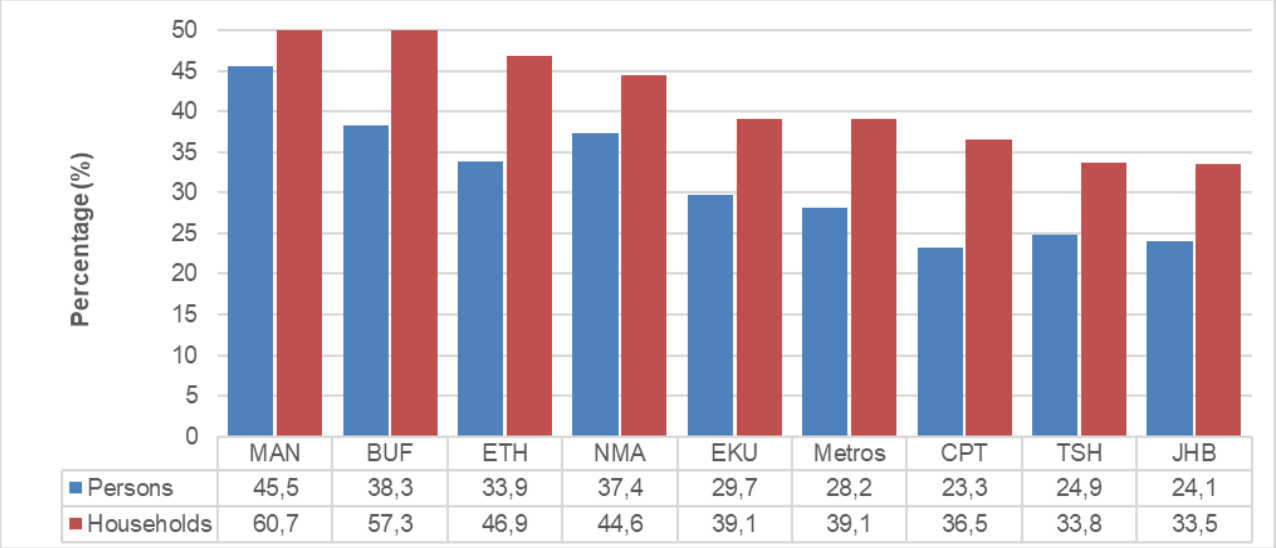
Figure 7.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of individuals aged 18–59 years that benefitted from the special COVID-19 social relief of distress grant by province, 2020–2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
2020	3,8	7,0	4,2	4,8	4,6	3,9	4,0	9,6	8,9	5,3
2021	2,8	8,6	3,6	7,6	5,6	6,2	4,0	9,5	9,5	5,8
2022	1,8	10,6	5,0	13,3	9,0	11,1	6,4	14,7	15,0	8,7
2023	3,6	17,0	8,7	17,5	14,4	17,8	8,6	17,0	17,8	12,4
2024	3,9	19,0	11,2	20,6	17,7	19,0	9,7	16,2	19,2	13,9

The Special Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress grant was introduced in 2020 in an attempt to offset the impact of COVID-19. Since then, the percentage of individuals in the age group 18– 59 years who received the grant has increased from 5,3% in 2020 to 13,9% in 2024. Figure 7.3 shows that the highest uptake was observed in Free State (20,6%) and Limpopo (19,2%), while the grants were least common in Western Cape (3,9%) and Gauteng (9,7%).

Figure 7.4 – Percentage (%) of individuals and households benefiting from social grants by metropolitan area, 2024



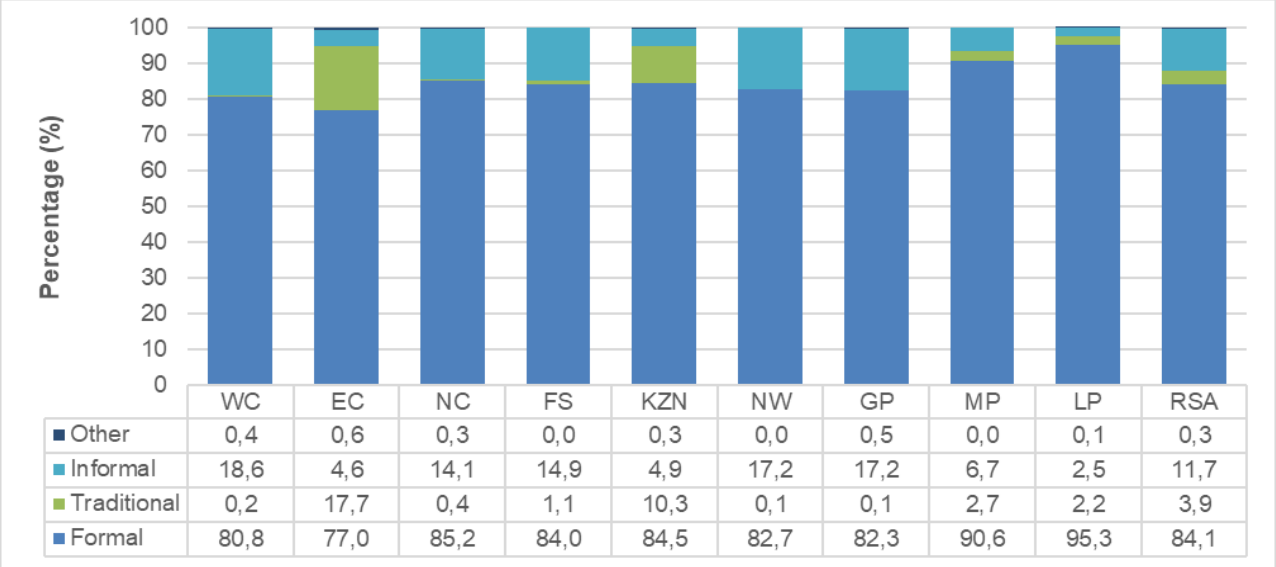
	MAN	BUF	ETH	NMA	EKU	Metros	CPT	TSH	JHB
Persons	45,5	38,3	33,9	37,4	29,7	28,2	23,3	24,9	24,1
Households	60,7	57,3	46,9	44,6	39,1	39,1	36,5	33,8	33,5

The percentage of individuals and households that received social grants in the various metropolitan areas during 2024 are presented in Figure 7.4. The figure shows that 28,2% of all individuals, and 39,1% of all households in metropolitan areas received some kind of social grant (compared to 40,1% of individuals and 50,4% of households nationally). Individual grant receipt was highest in Mangaung (45,5%), Buffalo City (38,3%) and Nelson Mandela Bay (37,4%) and lowest in Cape Town (23,3%), City of Johannesburg (24,1%) and Tshwane (24,9%). Figure 7.4 further shows that the receipt of one or more social grants was most common for households in Mangaung (60,7%) and Buffalo City (57,3%) and least common in City of Johannesburg (33,5%) and Tshwane (33,8%).

8 Housing

Shelter satisfies a basic human need for physical security and comfort and the characteristics of the dwellings in which households live provide an important indication of the well-being of household members. Section 8 presents selected findings from 2002 to 2024 on the types of dwellings in which South African households lived in as well as the perceived quality thereof.

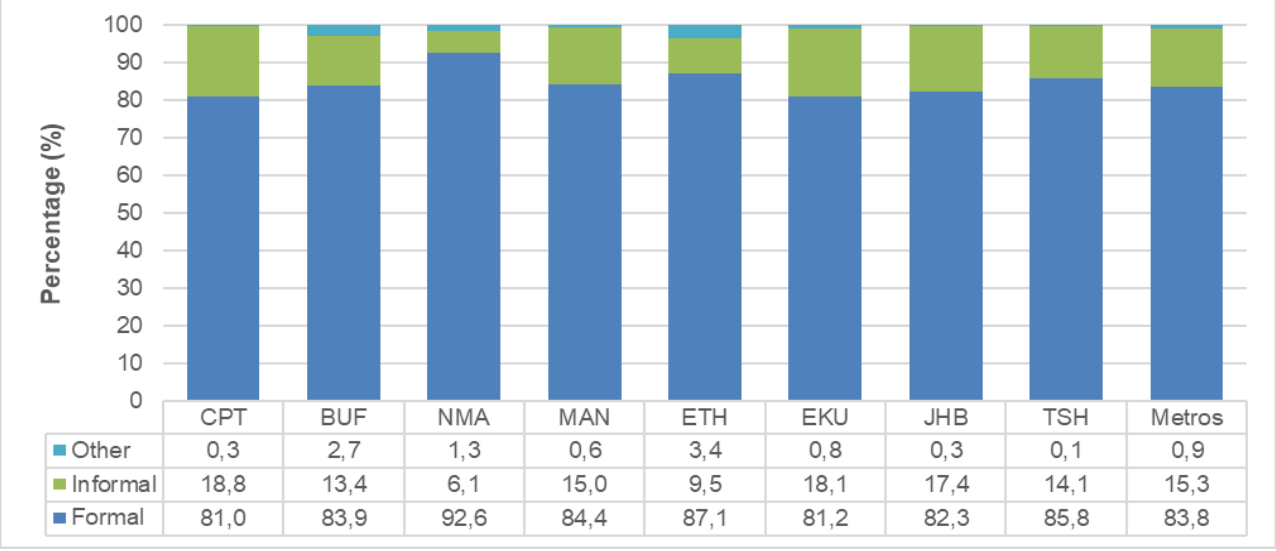
Figure 8.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that lived in formal, informal and traditional dwellings by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	0,4	0,6	0,3	0,0	0,3	0,0	0,5	0,0	0,1	0,3
Informal	18,6	4,6	14,1	14,9	4,9	17,2	17,2	6,7	2,5	11,7
Traditional	0,2	17,7	0,4	1,1	10,3	0,1	0,1	2,7	2,2	3,9
Formal	80,8	77,0	85,2	84,0	84,5	82,7	82,3	90,6	95,3	84,1

Figure 8.1 shows that slightly more than eight-tenths (84,1%) of South African households lived in formal dwellings in 2024, followed by 11,7% in informal dwellings, and 3,9% in traditional dwellings. Households that lived in formal dwellings were most common in Limpopo (95,3%) and Mpumalanga (90,6%). Western Cape (18,6%) had the highest percentage of households that lived in informal dwellings, followed by Gauteng (17,2%) and North West (17,2%). Traditional dwellings were most common in Eastern Cape (17,7%) and KwaZulu-Natal (10,3%).

Figure 8.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that lived in formal, informal and other types of dwellings by metropolitan area, 2024

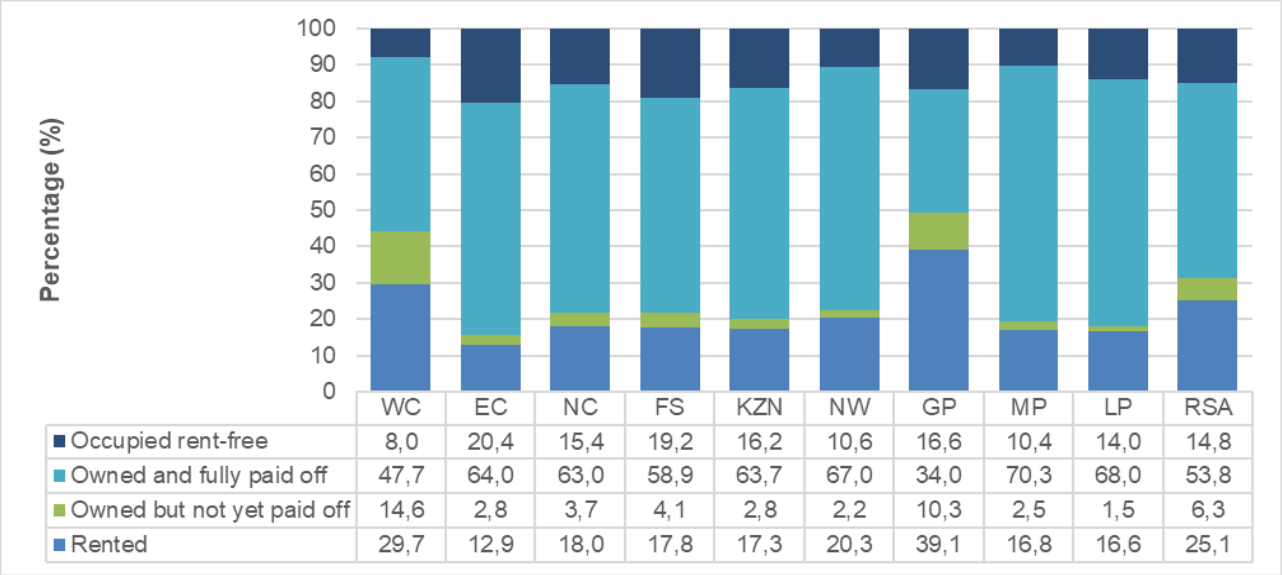


	CPT	BUF	NMA	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metros
Other	0,3	2,7	1,3	0,6	3,4	0,8	0,3	0,1	0,9
Informal	18,8	13,4	6,1	15,0	9,5	18,1	17,4	14,1	15,3
Formal	81,0	83,9	92,6	84,4	87,1	81,2	82,3	85,8	83,8

Note: Other includes traditional and 'other' dwellings

Figure 8.2 shows that 83,8% of households in metropolitan areas lived in formal dwellings while 15,3% lived in informal dwellings. Informal dwellings were most common in Cape Town (18,8%) and Ekurhuleni (18,1%), and least common in Nelson Mandela Bay (6,1%).

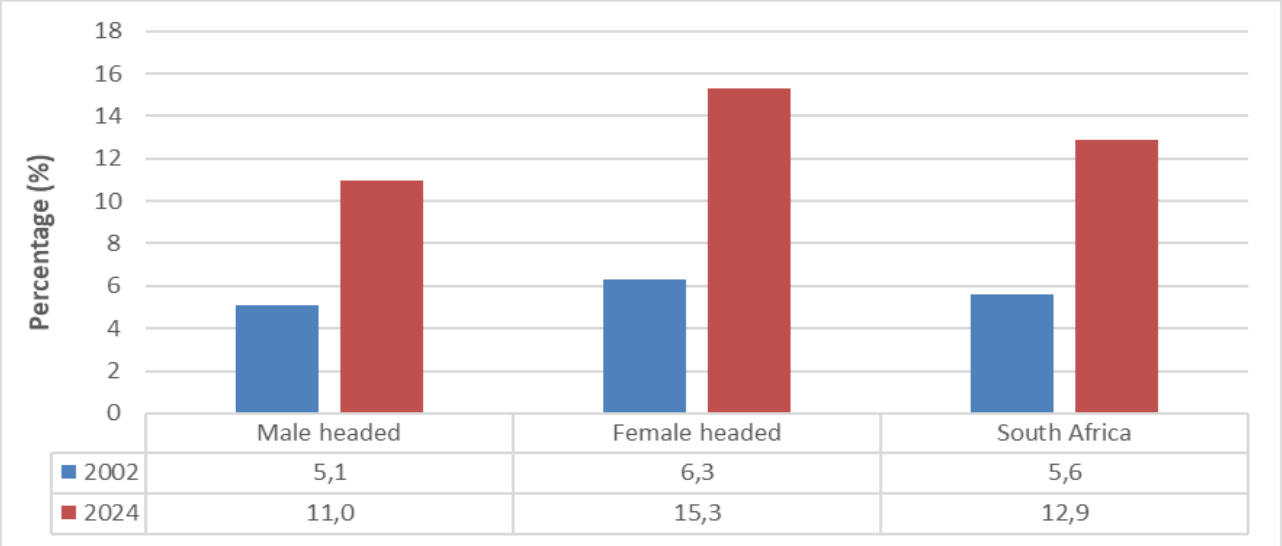
Figure 8.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of dwelling units by tenure status and province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Occupied rent-free	8,0	20,4	15,4	19,2	16,2	10,6	16,6	10,4	14,0	14,8
Owned and fully paid off	47,7	64,0	63,0	58,9	63,7	67,0	34,0	70,3	68,0	53,8
Owned but not yet paid off	14,6	2,8	3,7	4,1	2,8	2,2	10,3	2,5	1,5	6,3
Rented	29,7	12,9	18,0	17,8	17,3	20,3	39,1	16,8	16,6	25,1

Figure 8.3 shows that households that lived in rented dwellings were most common in Gauteng (39,1%) and Western Cape (29,7%), and least common in Eastern Cape (12,9%), Limpopo (16,6%), and Mpumalanga (16,8%). Households that owned the dwellings they lived in, regardless of whether they have fully paid it off or not, were most common in Mpumalanga (72,8%), Limpopo (69,5%), and North West (69,1%). Only 44,3% of households in Gauteng and 62,3% in Western Cape owned the dwellings they lived in. Nationally, 14,8% of households occupied the dwellings they were living in rent free.

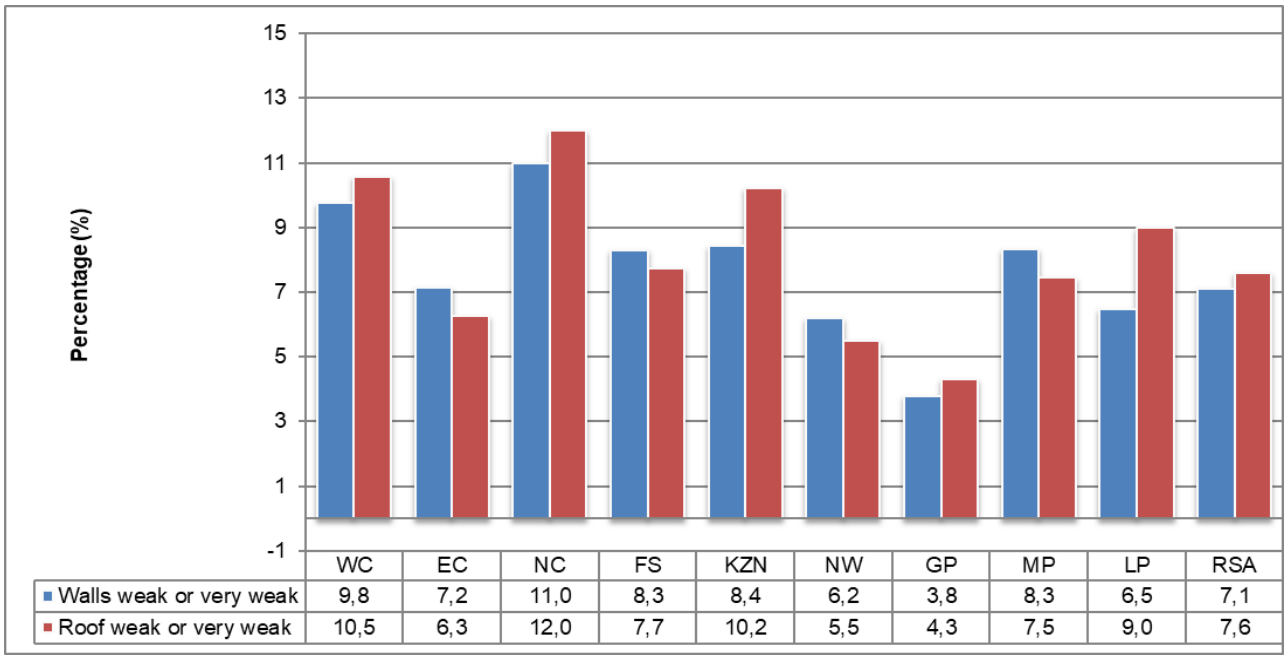
Figure 8.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that received a government housing subsidy by sex of the household head, 2002 and 2024



	Male headed	Female headed	South Africa
2002	5,1	6,3	5,6
2024	11,0	15,3	12,9

The GHS includes a number of questions aimed at establishing the extent to which subsidised housing provided by the state was used, and the quality of these dwellings. Figure 8.4 shows that the percentage of households that received some form of government housing subsidy increased from 5,6% in 2002 to 12,9% in 2024. A notably higher percentage of female-headed households (15,3%) than male-headed households (11,0%) received subsidies. This is in line with government policies that give preference to households headed by individuals from vulnerable groups, including females, and individuals with disabilities.

Figure 8.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that said that their 'RDP' or state-subsidised house had weak or very weak walls and/or roof by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Walls weak or very weak	9,8	7,2	11,0	8,3	8,4	6,2	3,8	8,3	6,5	7,1
Roof weak or very weak	10,5	6,3	12,0	7,7	10,2	5,5	4,3	7,5	9,0	7,6

As a result of the concerns raised by community groups about the quality of state-provided housing, a number of questions were included in the GHS questionnaires to facilitate an analysis of the extent of problems experienced by households with the construction of these dwellings. Respondents were asked to indicate whether the walls and roofs of their dwellings were: very good, good, needed minor repairs, weak or very weak.

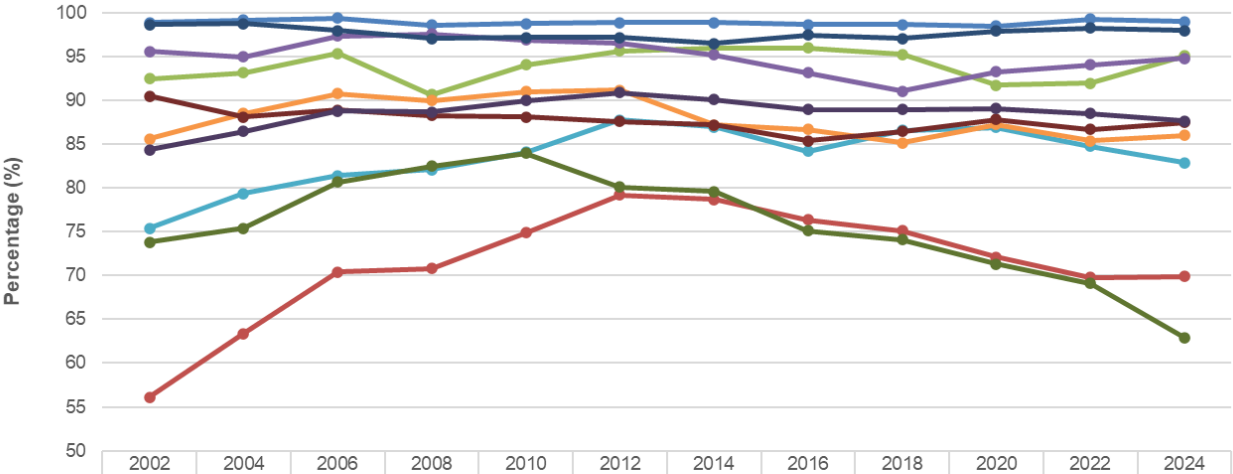
Figure 8.5 shows that, nationally, 7,6% of households that lived in subsidised dwellings reported weak or very weak roofs, while 7,1% reported weak or very weak walls. Responses varied across provinces. Households in Northern Cape (respectively 11,0% and 12,0%) were generally least satisfied with the quality of walls and roofs, while those in Gauteng complained least about the state of their dwellings' walls (3,8%) and roofs (4,3%).

9 Drinking water

9.1 Access to drinking water

The provision of safe and readily available water is important for public health and poverty reduction. The proportion of households with access to piped or tap water in their dwellings, off-site or on-site by province is represented in Figure 9.1.

Figure 9.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households with access to piped or tap water in their dwellings, off-site or on-site by province, selected years 2002–2024



	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
WC	98,9	99,2	99,4	98,6	98,8	98,9	98,9	98,7	98,7	98,5	99,3	99,0
EC	56,1	63,4	70,4	70,8	74,9	79,2	78,7	76,4	75,1	72,1	69,8	69,9
NC	92,5	93,2	95,4	90,7	94,1	95,7	96,0	96,0	95,3	91,8	92,0	95,1
FS	95,6	95,0	97,4	97,6	96,9	96,6	95,2	93,2	91,1	93,3	94,1	94,8
KZN	75,4	79,4	81,4	82,1	84,1	87,8	87,0	84,2	86,6	86,9	84,8	82,9
NW	85,6	88,5	90,8	90,0	91,0	91,2	87,2	86,7	85,2	87,3	85,4	86,0
GP	98,7	98,8	98,0	97,1	97,2	97,2	96,5	97,5	97,1	98,0	98,3	98,0
MP	90,5	88,1	88,9	88,3	88,1	87,6	87,2	85,4	86,5	87,9	86,7	87,5
LP	73,8	75,4	80,7	82,5	84,0	80,1	79,6	75,1	74,1	71,3	69,1	62,9
RSA	84,4	86,5	88,8	88,7	90,0	90,9	90,1	89,0	89,0	89,1	88,5	87,7

Access to drinking water on-site: Water accessed in the dwelling or in the yard

Access to drinking water off-site: Water accessed outside the yard using the neighbour's tap, public or communal taps.

Figure 9.1 shows that tap water inside dwellings, on-site, or off-site was most common among households in Western Cape (99,0%), Gauteng (98,0%), and Northern Cape (95,1%) and least common in Limpopo (62,9%) and Eastern Cape (69,9%). Although the percentage of households in Eastern Cape with access to water in the dwelling, on- or off-site increased by 23,1 percentage points between 2002 and 2012, access has declined by 9,3 percentage points to 69,9% since then. A similar pattern is observed in Limpopo where access to piped or tap water in their dwellings, off-site or on-site increased from 73,8% to 84,0% in 2010, before declining to 62,9% in 2024, just over 10 percentage points lower than in two decades earlier in 2002. On a more positive note, access to water in KwaZulu-Natal increased by 7,5 percentage points to 82,9% over this period.

Although, nationally, access to tap water inside dwellings, off-site or on-site improved by 3,3 percentage points between 2002 and 2024, it is notable that access actually declined in four provinces during this period. Declines were observed in Limpopo (-10,9 percentage points), Mpumalanga (-3,0 percentage points), Free State (-0,8 percentage points) and Gauteng (-0,7 percentage points). Although the percentage of households with access to water has been declining, it is important to note that a larger number of households received tap water in 2024 than two decades earlier.

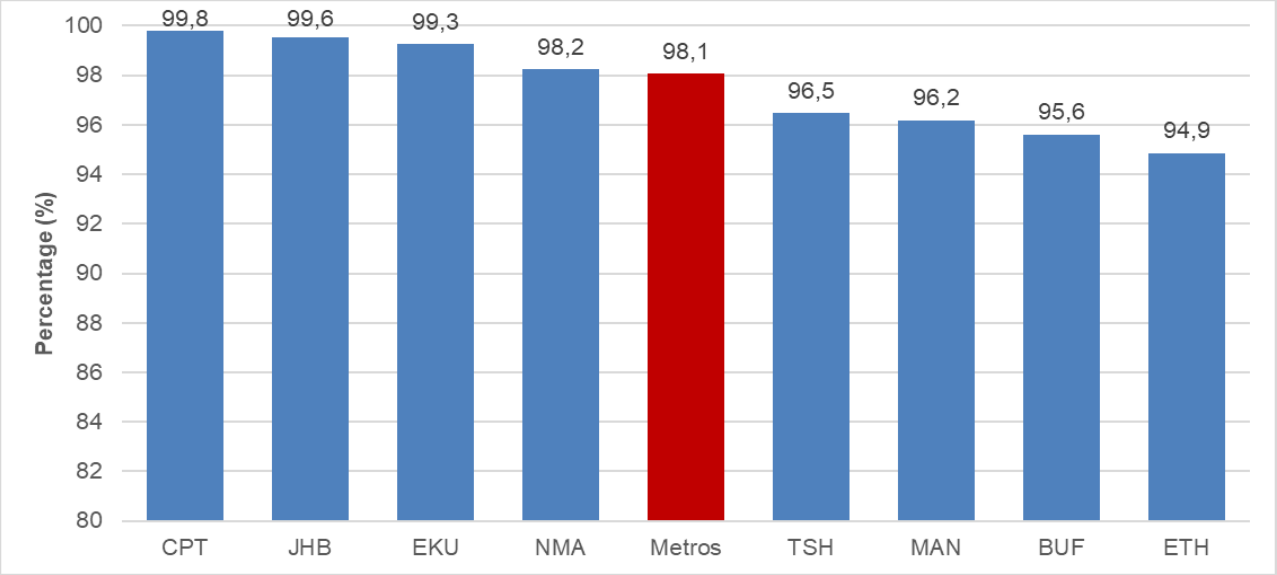
Table 9.1 – Comparison of the main water source for drinking used by households, 2002–2024

	Year											
	2002	**2004**	**2006**	**2008**	**2010**	**2012**	**2014**	**2016**	**2019**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**
Percentage (%)												
Piped (tap) water in dwelling	40,4	40,1	41,2	43,7	42,8	44,6	46,4	46,6	44,9	45,8	45,2	46,4
Piped (tap) water on site/yard	27,7	29,3	30,2	27,1	29,1	27,6	27,0	26,8	28,5	30,0	29,8	30,4
Borehole on site	2,7	1,6	1,2	1,2	1,1	1,4	1,9	1,8	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,6
Rain-water tank on site	1,3	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,3	0,6	0,4	0,8	1,4	1,9	2,5	2,3
Neighbour's tap	0,6	2,3	2,1	2,6	2,5	2,9	2,7	2,4	2,5	2,0	2,3	2,2
Public/communal tap	13,6	14,8	15,4	15,6	15,5	15,9	14,0	13,2	12,2	10,7	9,7	8,8
Water-carrier/tanker	0,6	0,6	1,1	1,1	1,4	1,4	1,2	2,4	1,7	1,4	1,3	1,1
Water vendor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,7	1,7	2,5	2,2
Borehole outside yard	2,8	2,7	2,3	1,9	1,3	1,1	1,2	1,6	1,4	1,1	1,1	1,2
Flowing water/stream/river	5,9	4,7	3,3	3,5	3,2	2,3	2,7	2,1	1,6	1,5	1,4	1,2
Stagnant water/dam/pool	0,7	0,6	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,4	0,2	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
Well	1,4	1,0	1,0	0,6	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,3	0,5	0,2	0,4	0,3
Spring	2,0	1,8	1,3	1,5	1,5	1,3	0,9	1,0	0,9	0,7	0,7	0,7
Other	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,6	0,5	0,7	0,9	0,5	0,7	0,7	0,5
Total	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**
Total												
Piped (tap) water in dwelling	4 521	4 698	5 037	5 582	5 757	6 304	6 908	7 339	7 708	8 459	8 598	9 068
Piped (tap) water on site/yard	3 097	3 429	3 695	3 460	3 920	3 902	4 023	4 214	4 898	5 540	5 668	5 941
Borehole on site	301	190	140	153	154	196	278	288	373	421	448	506
Rain-water tank on site	143	40	51	68	45	79	65	121	244	345	466	449
Neighbour's tap	63	267	253	337	341	411	409	378	433	370	429	419
Public/communal tap	1 522	1 737	1 882	1 995	2 089	2 241	2 084	2 078	2 095	1 977	1 841	1 727
Water-carrier/tanker	71	70	135	144	194	191	184	370	285	265	254	224
Water vendor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	290	310	471	420
Borehole outside yard	315	311	280	248	172	158	185	249	234	197	212	242
Flowing water/stream/river	660	553	405	447	428	323	401	335	266	276	264	241
Stagnant water/dam/pool	83	66	31	37	40	30	52	34	19	22	15	12
Well	159	120	127	70	36	54	73	50	81	43	68	61
Spring	224	208	163	190	205	184	140	154	160	131	130	142
Other	28	18	25	33	74	67	101	134	77	123	140	99
Subtotal	**11 187**	**11 707**	**12 223**	**12 765**	**13 456**	**14 140**	**14 904**	**15 744**	**17 163**	**18 477**	**19 005**	**19 551**
Unspecified	**8**	**12**	**20**	**55**	**0**	**12**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Total	**11 194**	**11 718**	**12 243**	**12 819**	**13 456**	**14 152**	**14 904**	**15 744**	**17 163**	**18 477**	**19 005**	**19 551**

-: Category was only introduced in 2019

Table 9.1 presents a comparison of the main sources of water used by households. An estimated 46,4% of households had access to piped water in their dwellings in 2024. A further 30,4% accessed water on-site while 8,8% relied on communal taps and 2,2% relied on a neighbours' tap. Although households' access to piped water improved over time, 2,3% of households used water from rivers, streams, stagnant water pools, dams, wells and springs in 2024.

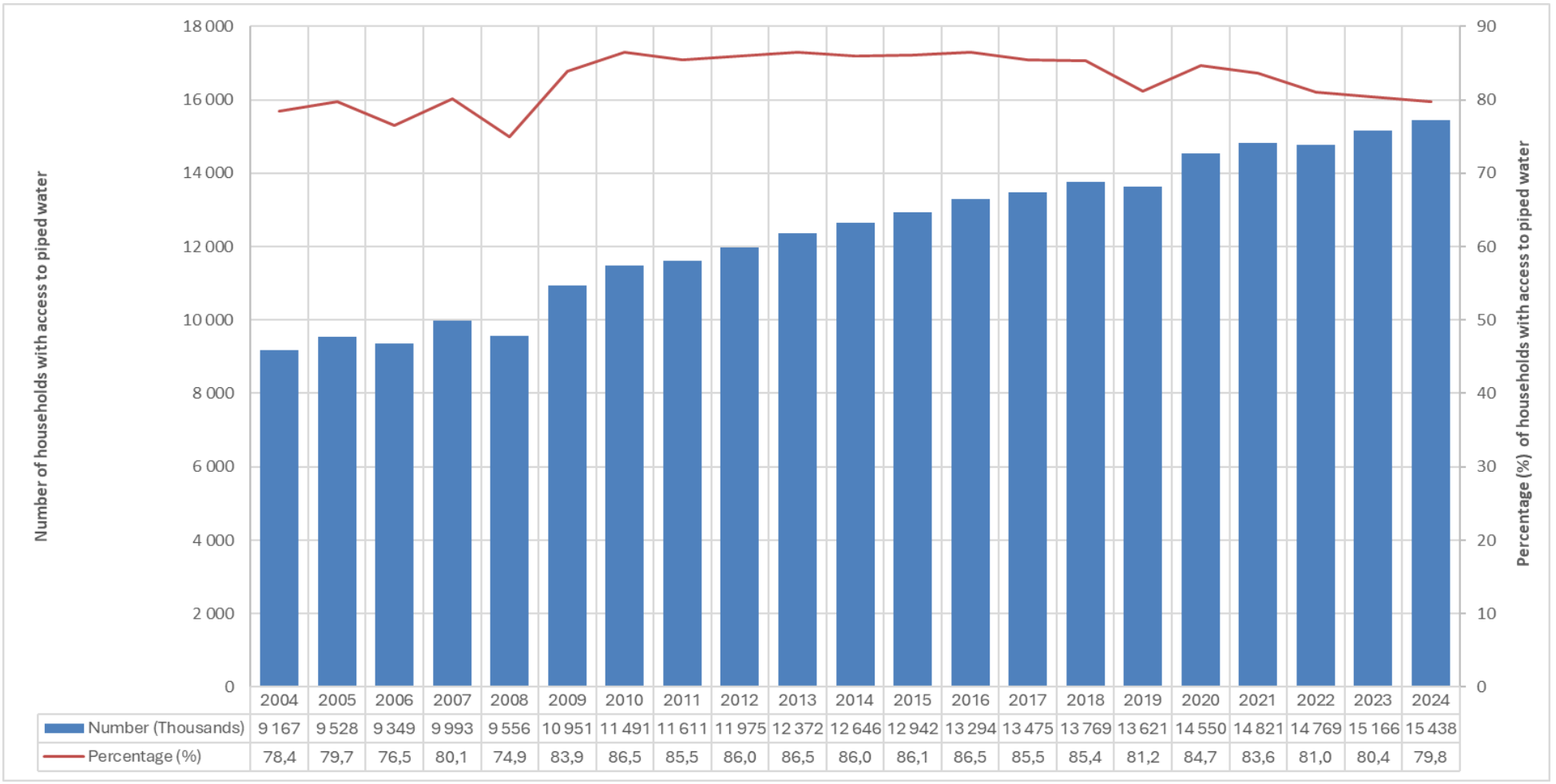
Figure 9.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households with access to piped or tap water in their dwellings, off-site or on-site by metropolitan area, 2024



The percentage of households with access to piped or tap water in their dwellings, off-site or on-site by metropolitan area, is presented in Figure 9.2. The figure shows that 98,1% of households in metros had access to tap water. This type of access to water was most common in Cape Town (99,8%), Johannesburg (99,6%), and Ekurhuleni (99,3%). The lowest access amongst metros was recorded in eThekwini (94,9%), and Buffalo City (95,6%).

Figure 9.3 shows that, despite a rather modest increase in the percentage of households with access to tap water between 2002 and 2024 (1,4 percentage points), the number of households with access to piped water from municipalities increased by 67,4% between 2004 and 2024, expanding from 9,2 million to 15,4 million during this period.

Figure 9.3 – Access to piped municipal water supplies, 2004–2024

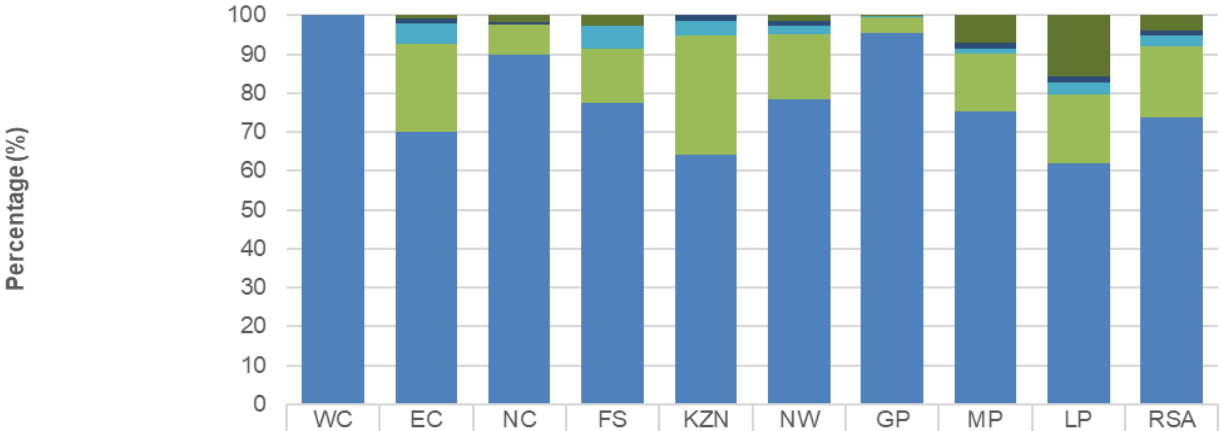


	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number (Thousands)	9 167	9 528	9 349	9 993	9 556	10 951	11 491	11 611	11 975	12 372	12 646	12 942	13 294	13 475	13 769	13 621	14 550	14 821	14 769	15 166	15 438
Percentage (%)	78,4	79,7	76,5	80,1	74,9	83,9	86,5	85,5	86,0	86,5	86,0	86,1	86,5	85,5	85,4	81,2	84,7	83,6	81,0	80,4	79,8

9.2 Fetching water

Figure 9.4 shows that almost three-quarters (73,7%) of households who did not have water in their dwelling, or on their yards took less than 30 minutes to fetch water (i.e. to go there, get water and come back) from the nearest collection point. A further 18,4% took between 31–60 minutes. Households that took less than thirty minutes were most common in the Western Cape (100%) and Gauteng (95,6%) and least common in Limpopo (62,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (64,2%).

Figure 9.4 – Percentage distribution of households by time taken to fetch drinking water, 2024



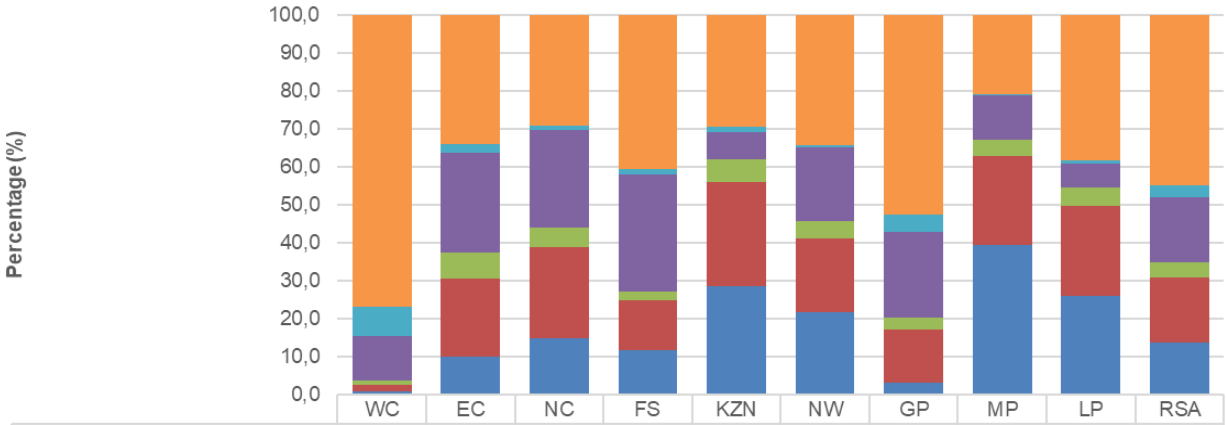
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Members do not collect	0,0	0,8	1,7	2,6	0,1	1,6	0,3	7,1	15,6	4,0
More than 90 minutes	0,0	1,4	0,6	0,0	1,3	1,2	0,0	1,6	1,8	1,2
61-90 minutes	0,0	5,2	0,0	5,9	3,8	2,2	0,2	1,2	3,1	2,8
31-60 minutes	0,0	22,7	7,8	14,0	30,6	16,6	3,9	14,6	17,5	18,4
Less than 30 minutes	100,0	70,0	89,9	77,5	64,2	78,5	95,6	75,4	62,0	73,7

9.3 Functionality of water supply

The functionality of municipal water supply services measures the extent to which households that received water from a municipality had reported, over the 12 months before the survey, interruptions that lasted more than 2 days at a time, or more than 15 days in total during the whole period. In addition to these number of days, households were asked to specify the frequency of these water interruptions.

Figure 9.5 shows that 55,2% of households in South Africa experiencing water interruptions in 2024. Weekly water interruptions (13,9%) were most common in Mpumalanga (39,4%), KwaZulu-Natal (28,5%) and Limpopo (26,0%) and least common in Western Cape (0,8%). Only 3,2% of the households experienced water interruptions only once in the past 12 months.

Figure 9.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of households by frequency of water interruptions and province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
No water interruption	76,6	33,9	29,2	40,5	29,4	34,3	52,6	20,9	38,4	44,8
Only one time over the past year	7,8	2,3	1,0	1,5	1,3	0,6	4,5	0,2	0,8	3,2
A couple of times per year	11,7	26,3	25,7	30,9	7,3	19,3	22,4	11,6	6,2	17,2
Once per month	1,1	7,1	5,1	2,1	6,0	4,5	3,4	4,4	4,8	4,0
A couple of times per month	1,9	20,3	23,9	13,3	27,5	19,6	13,9	23,4	23,9	17,0
Every week	0,8	10,3	15,1	11,8	28,5	21,7	3,3	39,4	26,0	13,9

Figure 9.6 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that reported water interruptions that lasted at least two days by province, 2024

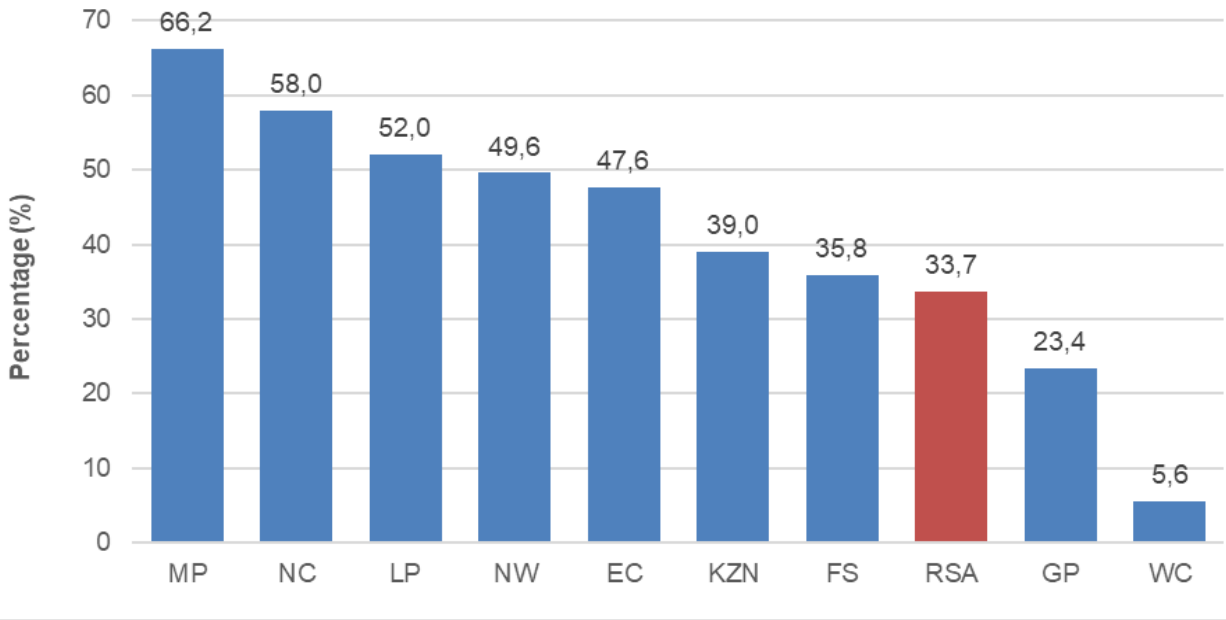


Figure 9.6 shows that water interruptions that lasted at least two days were most common for households in Mpumalanga (66,2%), Northern Cape (58,0%), and Limpopo (52,0%) and least common for households in Western Cape (5,6%) and Gauteng (23,4%). Approximately one-third (33,7%) of South African households reported some dysfunctional water supply service in 2024.

Figure 9.7 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that reported water interruptions that lasted at least two days by metropolitan area, 2024

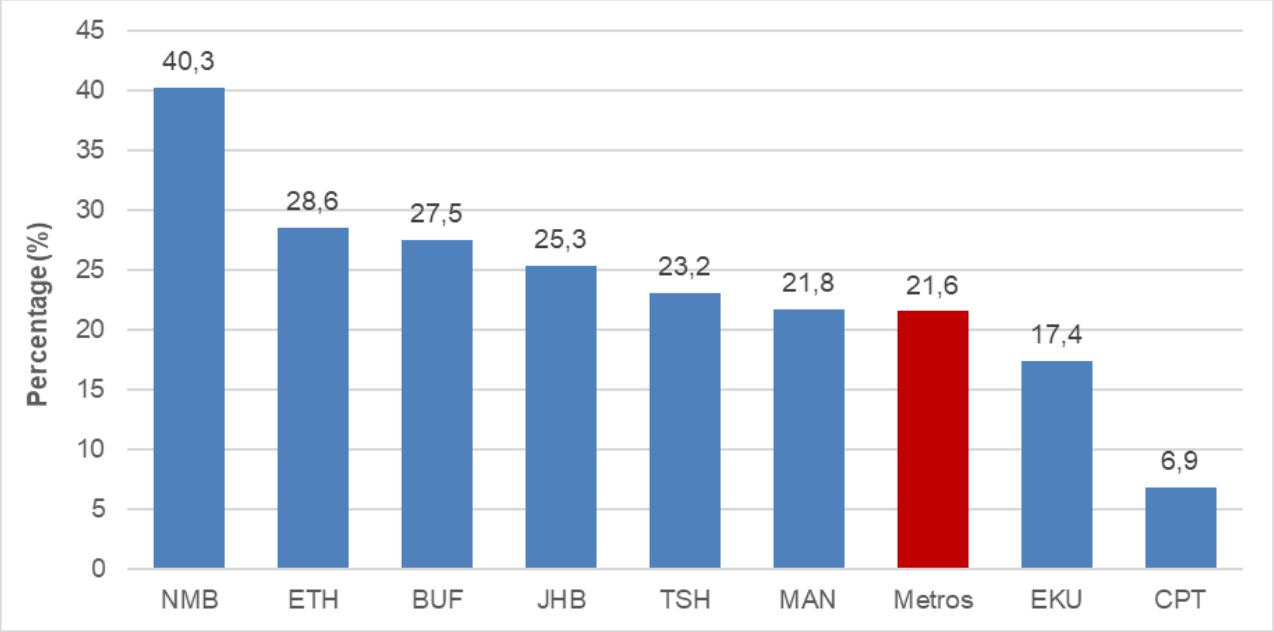


Figure 9.7 shows the percentage that reported water interruptions that lasted at least two days by metropolitan areas. Compared to households nationally, a smaller percentage of households in metropolitan areas reported water interruptions (21,6% compared to 33,7%). Water interruptions were most common in Nelson Mandela Bay (40,3%), which is almost six time more common than in Cape Town (6,9%).

9.4 Alternative sources of water

Table 9.2 presents the alternative sources of water used by households that experienced water interruptions that lasted two days or longer during the previous year. Nationally, 28,9% of households relied on water from water tankers or vendors. 4,7% used water from springs, wells, dams, pools or from rivers and streams. Rainwater tanks (4,0%) and boreholes (2,2%) were also relatively common. Moreover, 44,6% relied on stored water, while 11,2% did not have backup plans. The use of water vendors was highest in Limpopo (21,7%) and North West (20,8%), while water tankers were most common in Gauteng (34,3%), Western Cape (32,5%), Free State (26,4%), and KwaZulu-Natal (25,3%). Drawing water from springs, wells, dams, pools, rivers, or streams was most common in KwaZulu-Natal (13,0%), Western Cape (10,4%) and Eastern Cape (9,1%).

Table 9.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households by alternative water sources used during water interruptions that lasted 2 days or longer, 2024

Alternative water source	Province									
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Borehole	2,0	0,7	3,3	0,5	1,6	3,9	2,7	1,1	4,7	**2,2**
Spring	4,8	4,8	0,0	0,2	1,7	0,0	0,3	0,0	1,8	**1,2**
Well	3,8	0,0	0,0	1,2	0,6	0,2	0,0	1,3	0,9	**0,6**
Rainwater tank	2,6	24,7	0,9	0,7	4,2	1,6	0,7	0,1	4,2	**4,0**
Dam / Pool	1,8	0,6	0,0	0,3	0,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3	**0,3**
River/Stream	0,0	3,7	1,9	0,0	9,9	0,0	0,1	0,5	2,3	**2,7**
Bottled water	21,3	2,4	2,2	10,9	1,4	5,6	7,8	0,5	1,4	**4,3**
Water vendor	0,7	4,1	2,7	0,2	8,0	20,8	5,6	3,6	21,7	**8,0**
Water tanker	32,5	19,9	23,6	26,4	25,3	14,8	34,3	6,1	3,7	**20,9**
Stored water	6,3	29,1	55,5	48,9	35,2	41,5	32,6	79,1	54,5	**44,6**
None	6,3	1,3	2,0	7,3	8,4	5,3	7,1	2,5	4,1	**5,4**
Do not Know	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,7	0,0	0,0	0,2	0,1	0,0	**0,1**
Other	17,9	8,6	7,8	2,9	3,0	6,4	8,7	5,0	0,6	**5,8**
Total	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**

Figure 9.8 – Percentage (%) distribution of household consumption of bottled water by province, 2024

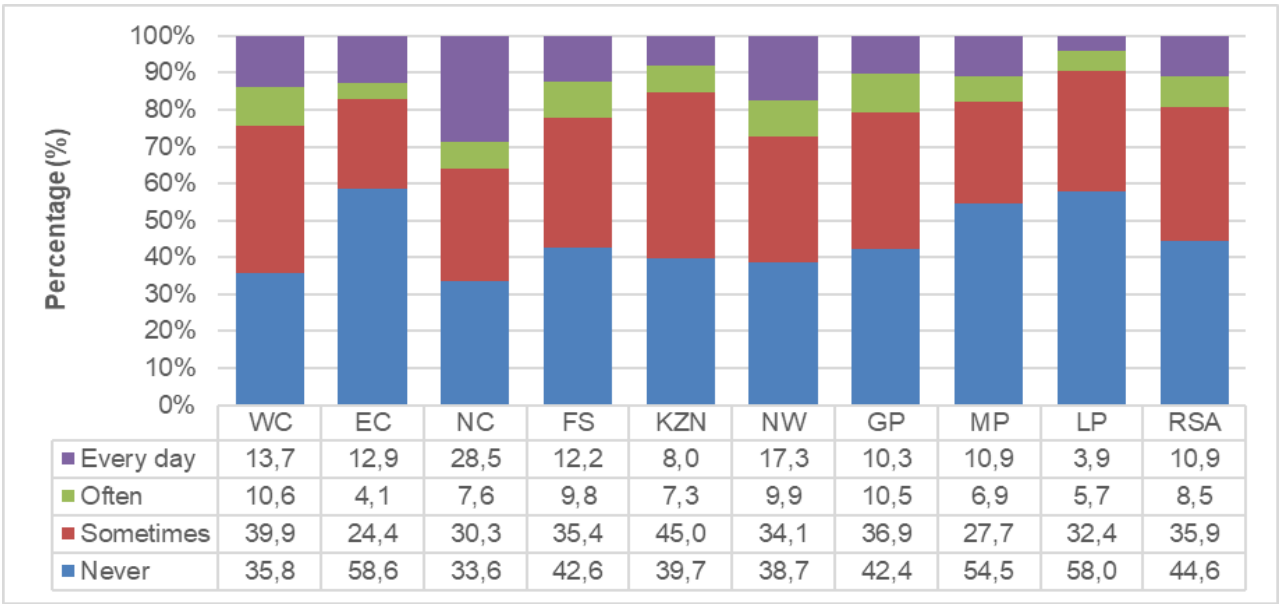


Figure 9.8 shows the percentage of households that consumed bottled water at home by province. Nationally, 44,6% of households never drank bottled water while 35,9% of households drank it 'sometimes'. Drinking bottled water everyday was most common in Northern Cape (28,5%) and North West (17,3%) and least common in Limpopo (3,9%).

9.5 Water Quality

Table 9.3 shows that, nationally, 84,4% of households believed that their water was safe to drink. Trust in the quality of water ranged from 90,8% in Limpopo, 89,4% in Gauteng and 89,6% in Western Cape to 66,8% in Northern Cape, and 75,9% in North West. Nationally, 84,4% of households reported that their water was clear, without colour and free from mud, while 82,4% reported that water tasted good. Water most commonly tasted good and was clear in Limpopo, Gauteng and Western Cape. In Northern Cape, only 65,5% of households felt that their water was clear, while 63,6% felt that it tasted good. Nationally, 85,0% of households stated that their drinking water was free from any smell. Households that reported that their water was free from any smell were most common in Western Cape (90,2%) and Gauteng (89,7%), and least common in Northern Cape (70,4%).

Table 9.3 – Perceptions of households regarding the quality of the water they drink per province, 2024

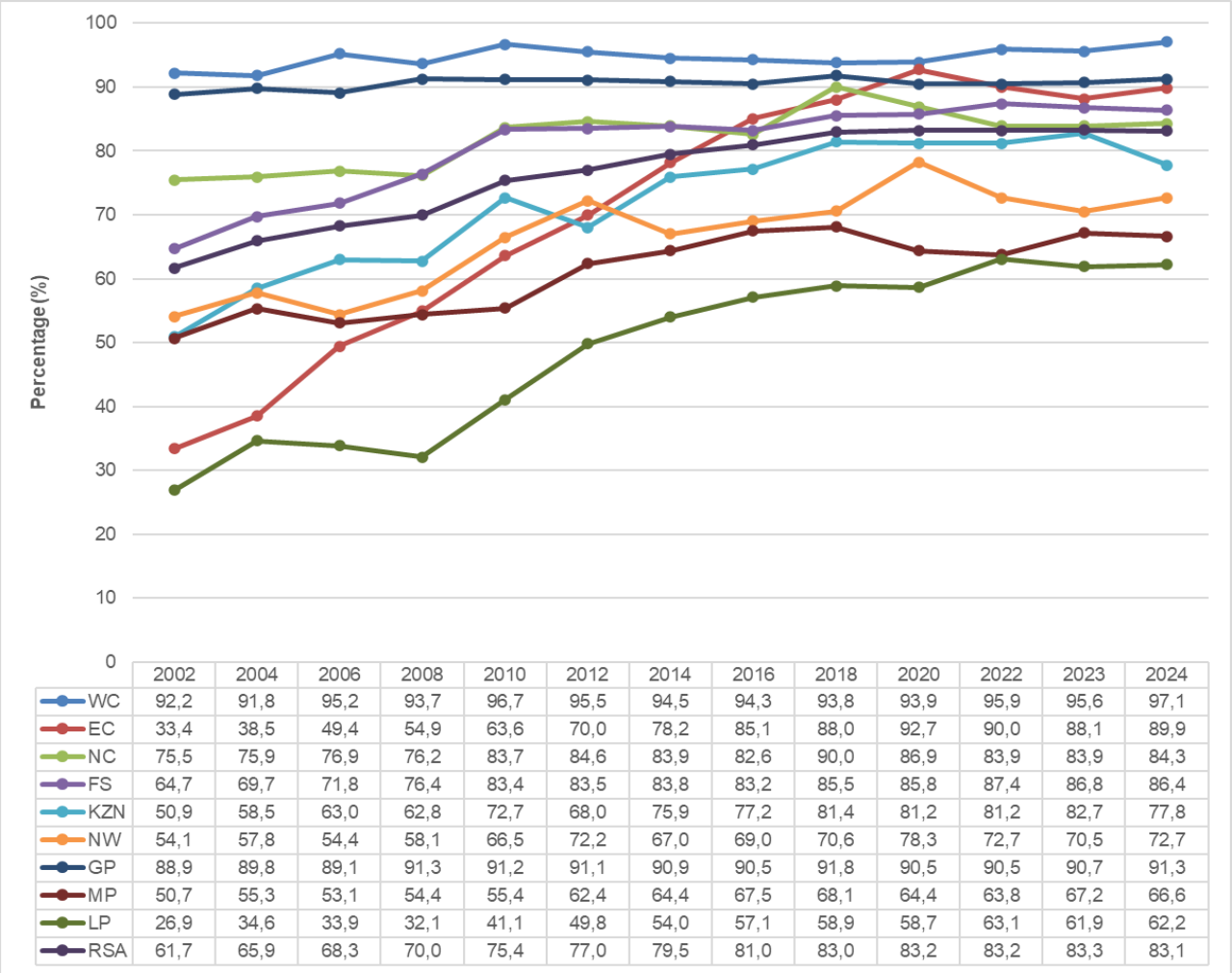
Perception on water quality	Statistics (Thousands)	Province									
		WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Safe to drink	Number	1 967	1 386	260	792	2 757	1 086	5 346	1 248	1 655	**16 496**
	Percentage	89,6	77,9	66,8	77,4	81,4	75,9	89,4	80,9	90,8	**84,4**
Clear (has no colour, free from mud)	Number	1 969	1 372	255	789	2 821	1 086	5 304	1 281	1 628	**16 504**
	Percentage	89,7	77,1	65,5	77,1	83,3	75,8	88,7	83,1	89,4	**84,4**
Tastes good	Number	1 944	1 345	247	767	2 789	1 010	5 254	1 225	1 523	**16 104**
	Percentage	88,6	75,5	63,6	75,0	82,3	70,6	87,9	79,4	83,6	**82,4**
Free from any odour / smell	Number	1 980	1 401	274	781	2 846	1 074	5 362	1 287	1 611	**16 617**
	Percentage	90,2	78,7	70,4	76,4	84,0	75,0	89,7	83,5	88,4	**85,0**

10 Sanitation

Environmental hygiene plays an essential role in the prevention of many diseases. It also impacts on the natural environment and the preservation of important natural assets, such as water resources. Proper sanitation is one of the key elements in improving environmental hygiene.

10.1 Sanitation facilities

Figure 10.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that have access to improved sanitation by province, 2002–2024

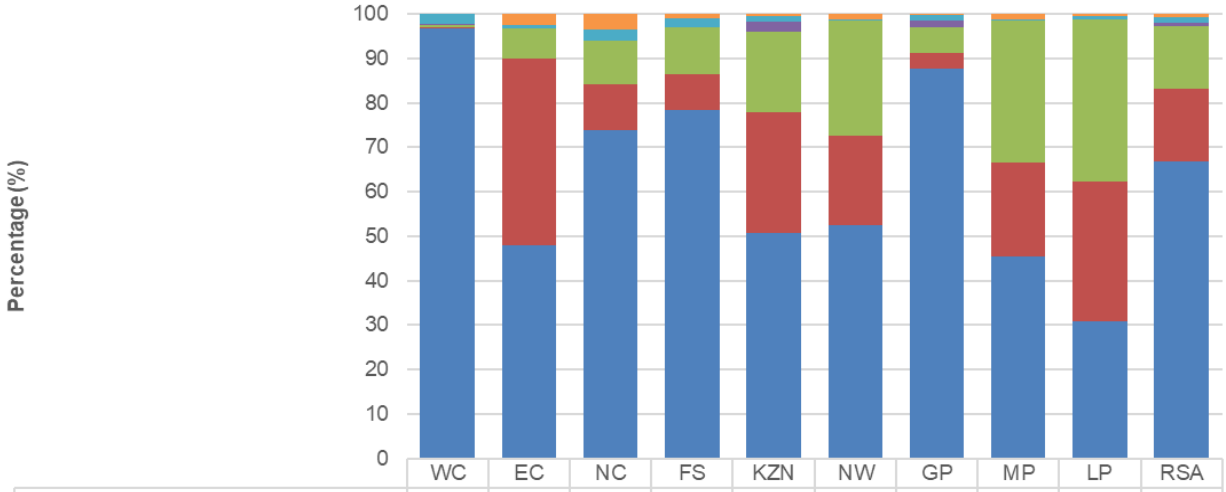


	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2023	2024
WC	92,2	91,8	95,2	93,7	96,7	95,5	94,5	94,3	93,8	93,9	95,9	95,6	97,1
EC	33,4	38,5	49,4	54,9	63,6	70,0	78,2	85,1	88,0	92,7	90,0	88,1	89,9
NC	75,5	75,9	76,9	76,2	83,7	84,6	83,9	82,6	90,0	86,9	83,9	83,9	84,3
FS	64,7	69,7	71,8	76,4	83,4	83,5	83,8	83,2	85,5	85,8	87,4	86,8	86,4
KZN	50,9	58,5	63,0	62,8	72,7	68,0	75,9	77,2	81,4	81,2	81,2	82,7	77,8
NW	54,1	57,8	54,4	58,1	66,5	72,2	67,0	69,0	70,6	78,3	72,7	70,5	72,7
GP	88,9	89,8	89,1	91,3	91,2	91,1	90,9	90,5	91,8	90,5	90,5	90,7	91,3
MP	50,7	55,3	53,1	54,4	55,4	62,4	64,4	67,5	68,1	64,4	63,8	67,2	66,6
LP	26,9	34,6	33,9	32,1	41,1	49,8	54,0	57,1	58,9	58,7	63,1	61,9	62,2
RSA	61,7	65,9	68,3	70,0	75,4	77,0	79,5	81,0	83,0	83,2	83,2	83,3	83,1

Improved sanitation is defined as flush toilets connected to a public sewerage system or a septic tank, or a pit toilet with a ventilation pipe.

Figure 10.1 shows the percentage of households per province that had access to improved sanitation facilities. Nationally, the percentage of households with access to improved sanitation increased from 61,7% in 2002 to 83,1% in 2024. Households' access to improved sanitation was highest in Western Cape (97,1%), Gauteng (91,3%) and Eastern Cape (89,9%), and most limited in Limpopo (62,2%) and Mpumalanga (66,6%). In Eastern Cape, households' access to improved sanitation facilities increased by 56,5 percentage points between 2002 and 2024, growing from 33,4% to 89,9%. Similarly, the percentage of households with access to improved sanitation increased by 35,3 percentage points in Limpopo, and 26,9 percentage points in KwaZulu-Natal over the same period.

Figure 10.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households by type of toilet facility and province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
None	0,0	2,4	3,6	0,9	0,6	1,3	0,1	1,2	0,6	0,7
Other	2,2	0,9	2,5	2,0	1,2	0,2	1,4	0,3	0,6	1,2
Chemical toilet	0,4	0,1	0,0	0,2	2,2	0,0	1,5	0,1	0,1	0,9
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe	0,3	6,8	9,6	10,5	18,3	25,8	5,6	31,9	36,5	14,1
Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe	0,4	42,0	10,5	8,0	27,0	20,2	3,5	21,3	31,5	16,3
Flush toilets	96,7	47,9	73,8	78,4	50,8	52,5	87,8	45,3	30,7	66,7

Much of the improvement observed in Eastern Cape since 2002 is due to the installation of Ventilated Pit (VIP) toilets. The distribution of different sanitation options by province in 2024 is presented in Figure 10.2. Nationally, almost two-thirds (66,7%) of households used flush toilets that were either connected to a public sewerage system or a septic or conservancy tanks, while another 16,3% used pit toilets that are connected to ventilation pipes. Households that did not have access to improved sanitation facilities largely depended on pit toilets without ventilation pipes (14,1%).

The use of flush toilets was most common in Western Cape (96,7%), Gauteng (87,8%) and Free State (78,4%). About one-third (30,7%) of households in Limpopo used some type of flush toilet, while another 31,5% used ventilated pit toilets. The largest percentage of pit toilets with ventilation pipes were observed in Eastern Cape (42,0%), Limpopo (31,5%) and KwaZulu-Natal (27,0%).

In the absence of flush toilets, 68,0% of households in Limpopo used pit latrines, the majority without ventilation pipes. Almost one-third (31,9%) of households in Mpumalanga and 25,8% of households in North West used pit toilets without ventilation pipes.

Figure 10.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that have access to improved sanitation by metropolitan area, 2024

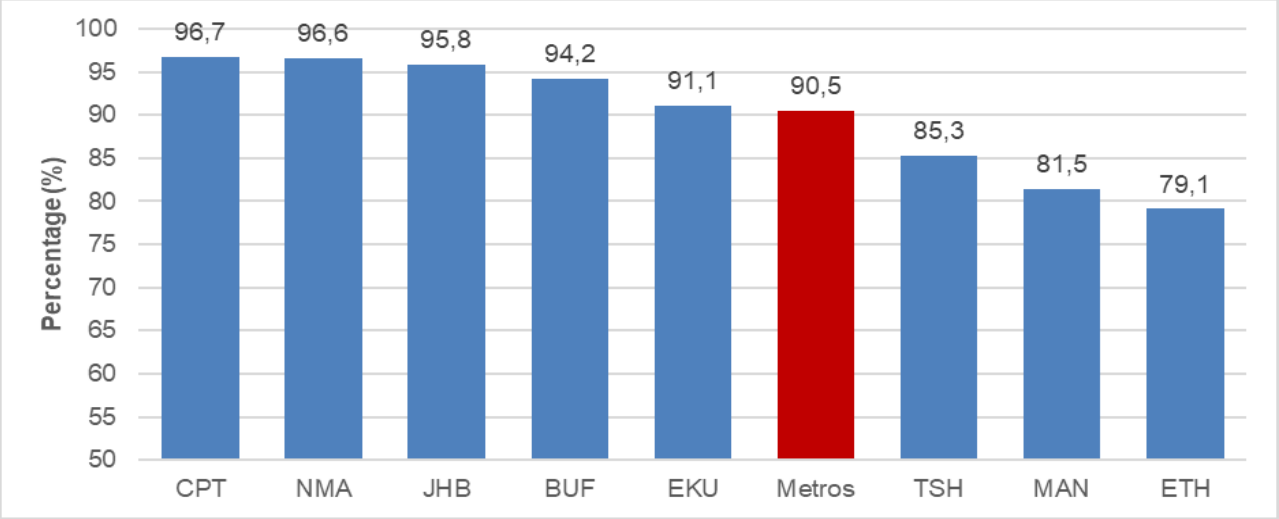


Figure 10.3 shows that households' access to improved sanitation was highest in Cape Town (96,7%) and Nelson Mandela Bay (96,6%), and least common in eThekwini (79,1%), Mangaung (81,5%) and Tshwane (85,3%).

10.2 Household Hygiene

Improved sanitation facilities are those designed to hygienically separate excreta from human contact. For sanitation facilities such as flush/pour flush toilets connected to piped sewer systems or septic tanks, excreta are treated and disposed of in situ or transported through a sewer with wastewater and then treated off-site. To meet the criteria for a safely managed sanitation service, the excreta from septic tanks or pit latrines (including ventilated pit latrines), and composting toilets should be stored temporarily and then emptied and treated off-site.

Figure 10.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that have ever emptied their pit latrines by province, 2024

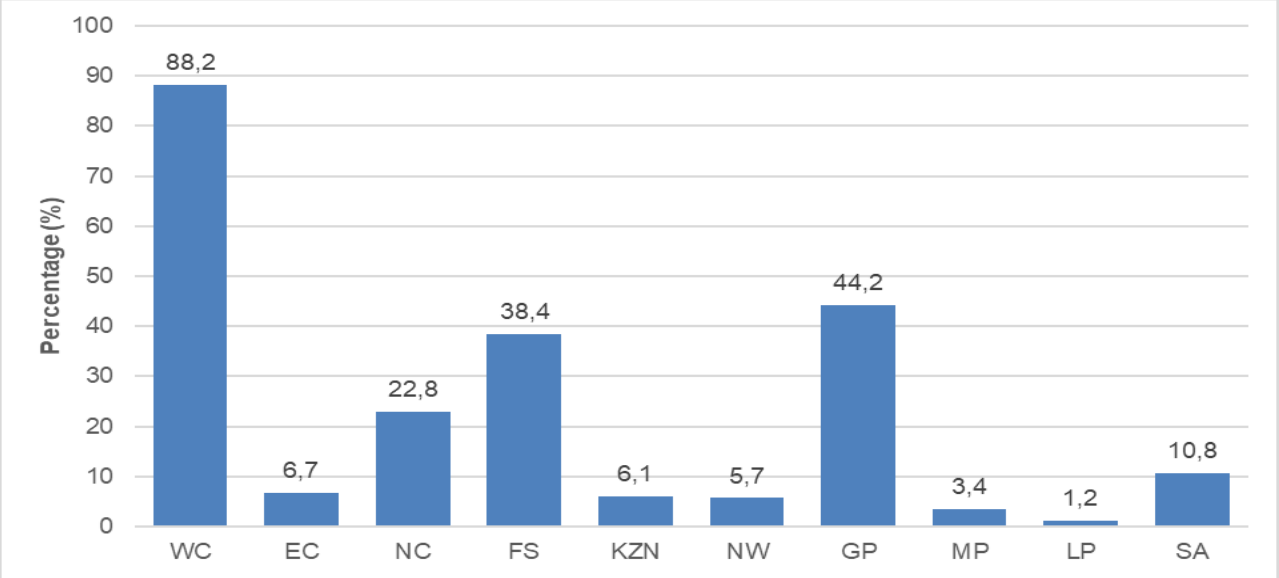
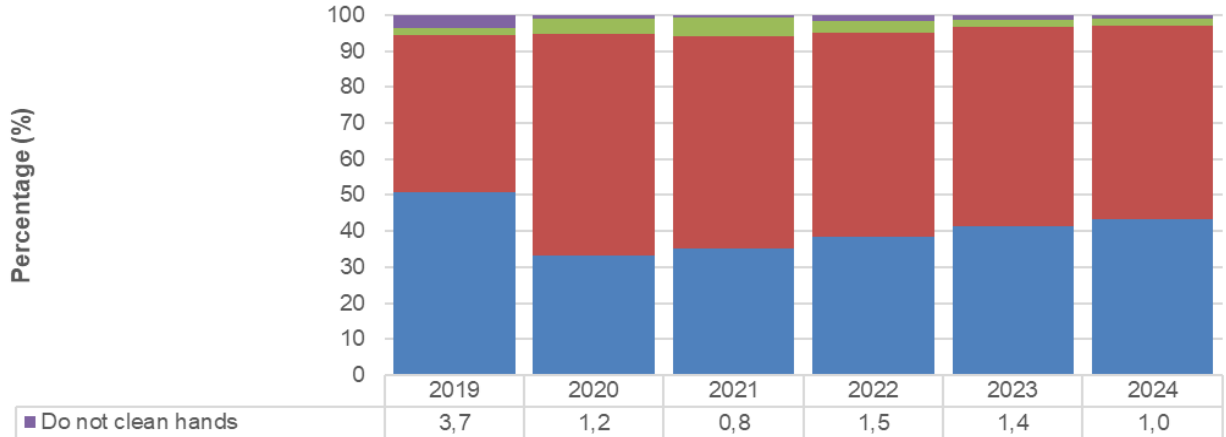


Figure 10.4 shows that, nationally, only one-tenth (10,8%) of households reported that their septic or conservancy tanks, or the chambers of the pit toilets they used have ever been emptied. Emptying was most common in Western Cape (88,2%), Gauteng (44,2%) and Free State (38,4%), and least common in Limpopo (1,2%) and Mpumalanga (3,4%).

Figure 10.5 compares the methods used nationally by household members to clean hands after using the toilet between 2019 (before the start of COVID-19) and 2024. The figure shows that the percentage of households whose members usually wash hands with soap and water increased notably from 43,6% to 61,4% in 2020, before declining to 53,7% in 2024. The percentage of households whose members only rinsed their hands with water concurrently decreased from 50,8% to 33,3% in 2020, before slowly increasing to 43,2% in 2024. The percentage of households whose members did not clean hands decreased from 3,7% in 2019 to 1,0% in 2024.

Figure 10.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of households by the methods usually used by household members to clean their hands after using the toilet, 2019–2024

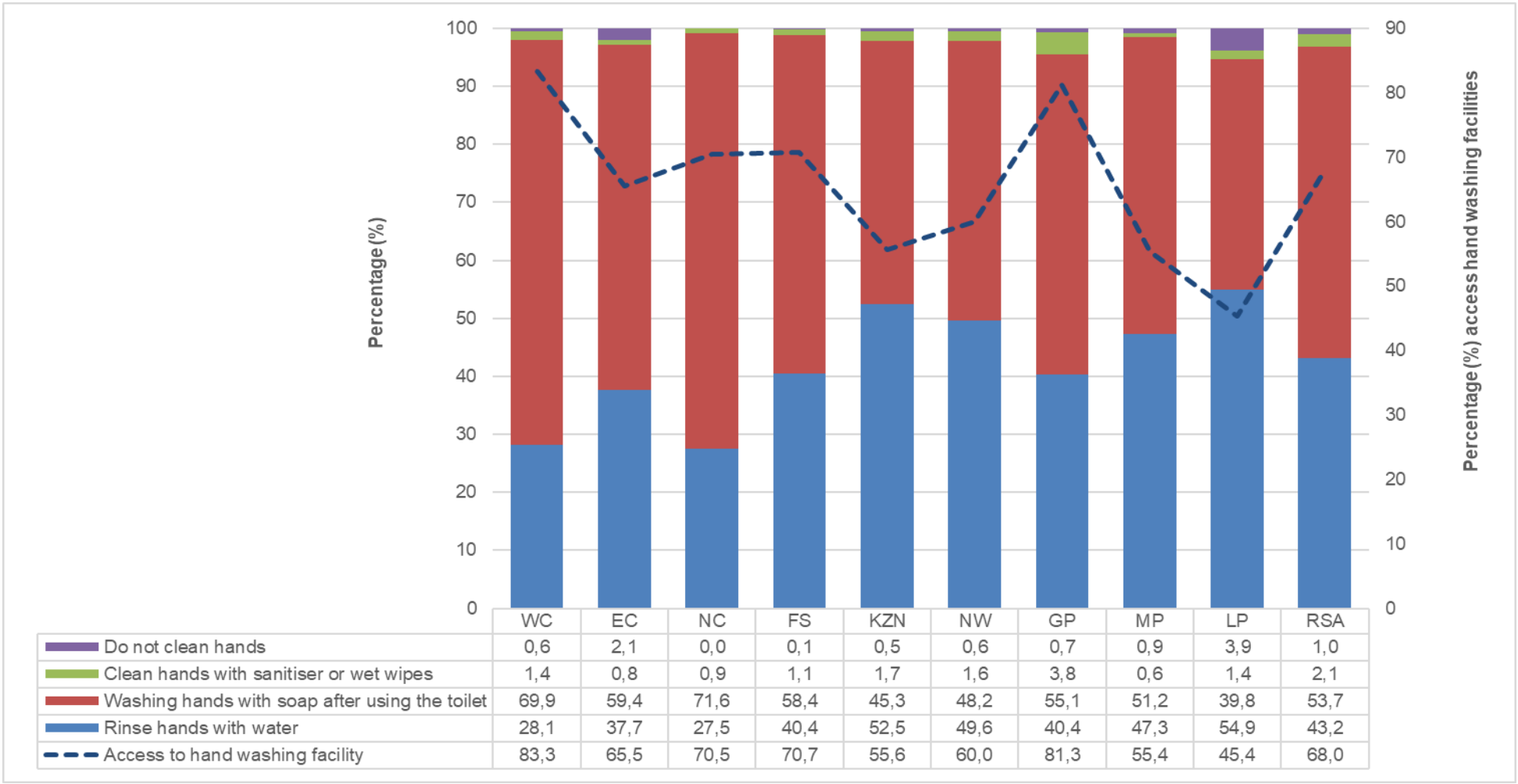


	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Do not clean hands	3,7	1,2	0,8	1,5	1,4	1,0
Use sanitiser or wet wipes	1,9	4,2	5,0	3,4	1,9	2,1
Wash hands with soap and water	43,6	61,4	59,1	56,5	55,3	53,7
Rinse hands with water	50,8	33,3	35,2	38,6	41,4	43,2

Figure 10.6 shows that, more than two-thirds (68,0%) of households had access to hand washing facilities nationally. Hand washing facilities were most common in Western Cape (83,3%) and Gauteng (81,3%), and least common in Limpopo (45,4%) and Mpumalanga (55,4%).

All households were also asked to indicate whether (and how) household members usually washed their hands after they had used the toilet. Washing hands with soap was most common among households in Northern Cape (71,6%) and Western Cape (69,9%), and least frequent in Limpopo (39,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (45,3%). Rinsing hands with water was most common in Limpopo (54,9%) and KwaZulu-Natal (52,5%) and least common in Northern Cape (27,5%). In Limpopo, 3,9% of households reported that their members did not clean their hands at all after using the toilet.

Figure 10.6 – Percentage (%) distribution of households by the methods usually used by household members to clean their hands after using the toilet by province and the percentage of households with access to hand washing facilities, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Do not clean hands	0,6	2,1	0,0	0,1	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,9	3,9	1,0
Clean hands with sanitiser or wet wipes	1,4	0,8	0,9	1,1	1,7	1,6	3,8	0,6	1,4	2,1
Washing hands with soap after using the toilet	69,9	59,4	71,6	58,4	45,3	48,2	55,1	51,2	39,8	53,7
Rinse hands with water	28,1	37,7	27,5	40,4	52,5	49,6	40,4	47,3	54,9	43,2
Access to hand washing facility	83,3	65,5	70,5	70,7	55,6	60,0	81,3	55,4	45,4	68,0

11 Energy

Having adequate and affordable access to energy sources is vital to address household poverty. In order to assess household access to energy, the GHS measures the diversity and main sources of energy used by households to satisfy basic human needs (cooking, lighting, and space heating). In addition to measuring access to electricity, the GHS is also concerned with measuring the extent to which households are connected to and use grid or mains electricity as this could provide a useful measure to guide future electrification programmes.

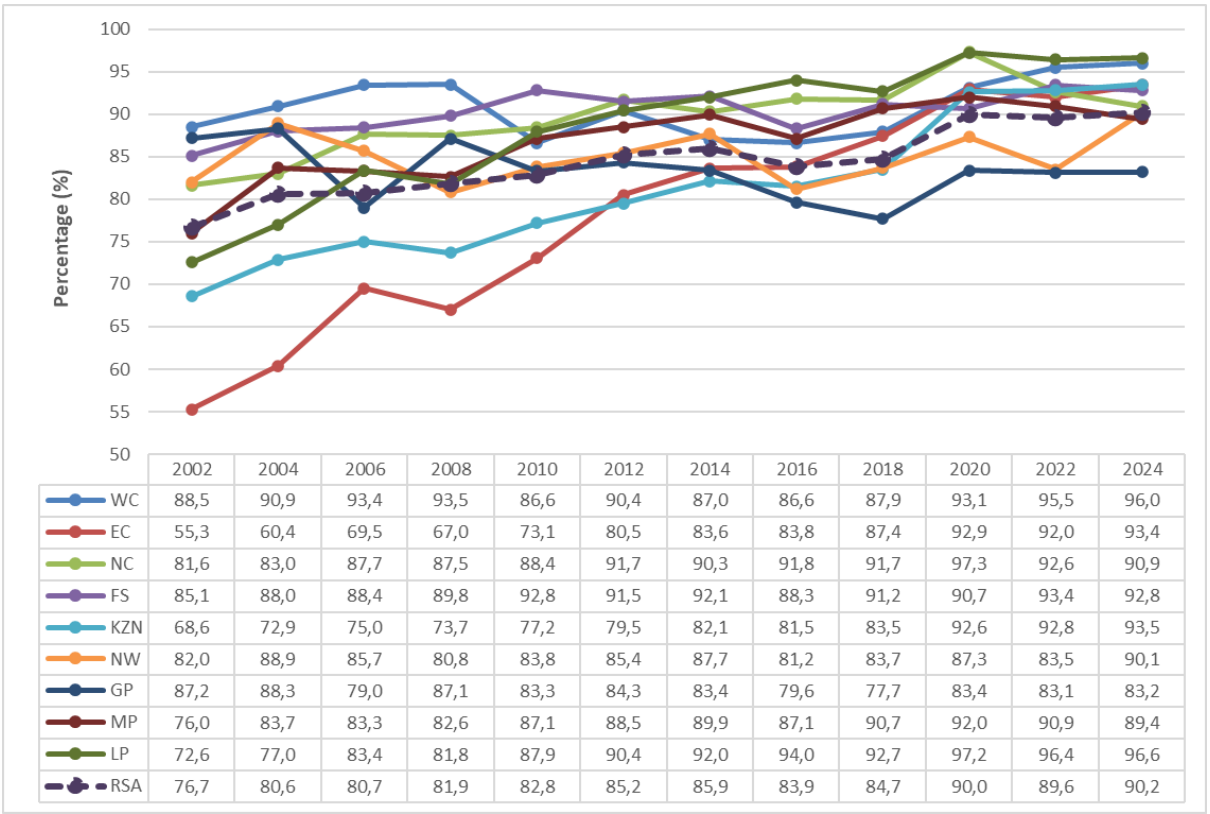
11.1 Access to electricity

The percentage of South African households that were connected to the mains electricity supply increased from 76,7% in 2002 to 90,2% in 2024. Figure 11.1 shows that households with access to mains electricity were most common in Limpopo (96,6%), Western Cape (96,0%), KwaZulu-Natal (93,5%) and Eastern Cape (93,4%), and least common in Gauteng (83,2%) and Mpumalanga (89,4%).

Mains electricity is provided by the municipality or by ESKOM. Electricity from generators and solar panels is not considered part of the mains supply.

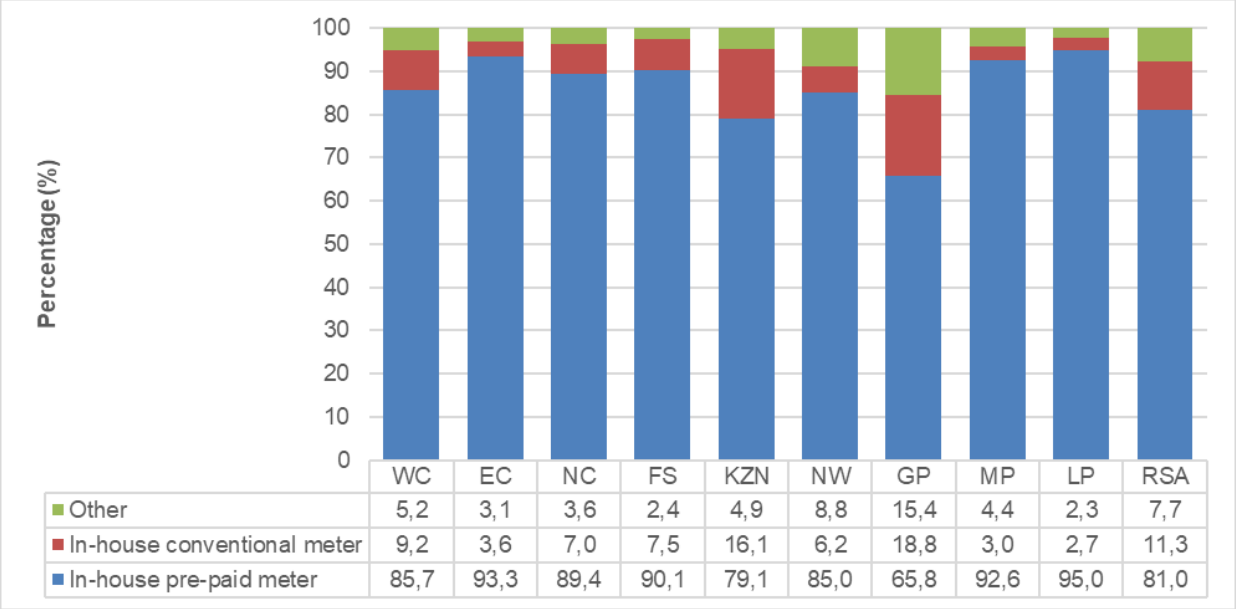
The largest increases between 2002 and 2024 were observed in Eastern Cape (+38,1 percentage points), KwaZulu-Natal (+24,9 percentage points), and Limpopo (+24,0 percentage points). However, the percentage of households with access to mains electricity declined in Gauteng (-4,0 percentage points) during the same period. This decline can be associated with the rapid in-migration experienced by the province and a rapid increase in household numbers.

Figure 11.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households connected to the mains electricity supply by province for selected years between 2002 and 2024



	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
WC	88,5	90,9	93,4	93,5	86,6	90,4	87,0	86,6	87,9	93,1	95,5	96,0
EC	55,3	60,4	69,5	67,0	73,1	80,5	83,6	83,8	87,4	92,9	92,0	93,4
NC	81,6	83,0	87,7	87,5	88,4	91,7	90,3	91,8	91,7	97,3	92,6	90,9
FS	85,1	88,0	88,4	89,8	92,8	91,5	92,1	88,3	91,2	90,7	93,4	92,8
KZN	68,6	72,9	75,0	73,7	77,2	79,5	82,1	81,5	83,5	92,6	92,8	93,5
NW	82,0	88,9	85,7	80,8	83,8	85,4	87,7	81,2	83,7	87,3	83,5	90,1
GP	87,2	88,3	79,0	87,1	83,3	84,3	83,4	79,6	77,7	83,4	83,1	83,2
MP	76,0	83,7	83,3	82,6	87,1	88,5	89,9	87,1	90,7	92,0	90,9	89,4
LP	72,6	77,0	83,4	81,8	87,9	90,4	92,0	94,0	92,7	97,2	96,4	96,6
RSA	76,7	80,6	80,7	81,9	82,8	85,2	85,9	83,9	84,7	90,0	89,6	90,2

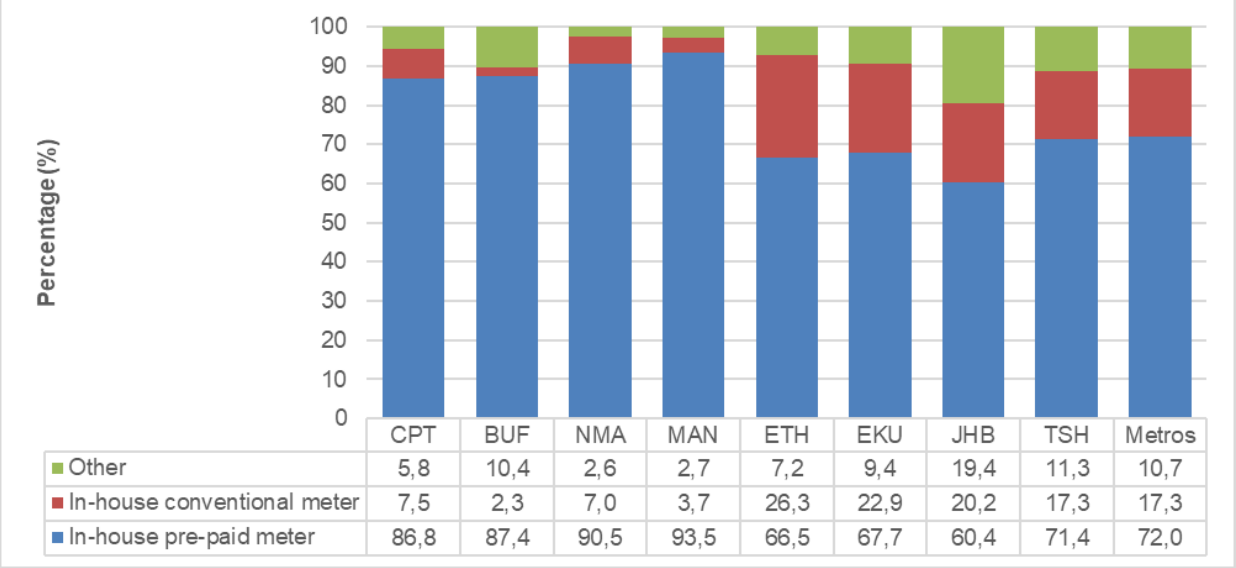
Figure 11.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households connected to different sources of electricity by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	5,2	3,1	3,6	2,4	4,9	8,8	15,4	4,4	2,3	7,7
In-house conventional meter	9,2	3,6	7,0	7,5	16,1	6,2	18,8	3,0	2,7	11,3
In-house pre-paid meter	85,7	93,3	89,4	90,1	79,1	85,0	65,8	92,6	95,0	81,0

Figure 11.2 shows that 81,0% of South African households used electricity from pre-paid meters, while 11,3% were still billed using a conventional meter. A large percentage (7,7%) of households obtained electricity from other sources (e.g. neighbour or landlord). This figure was particularly large in Gauteng (15,4%). The use of conventional meters was the highest in Gauteng (18,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (16,1%).

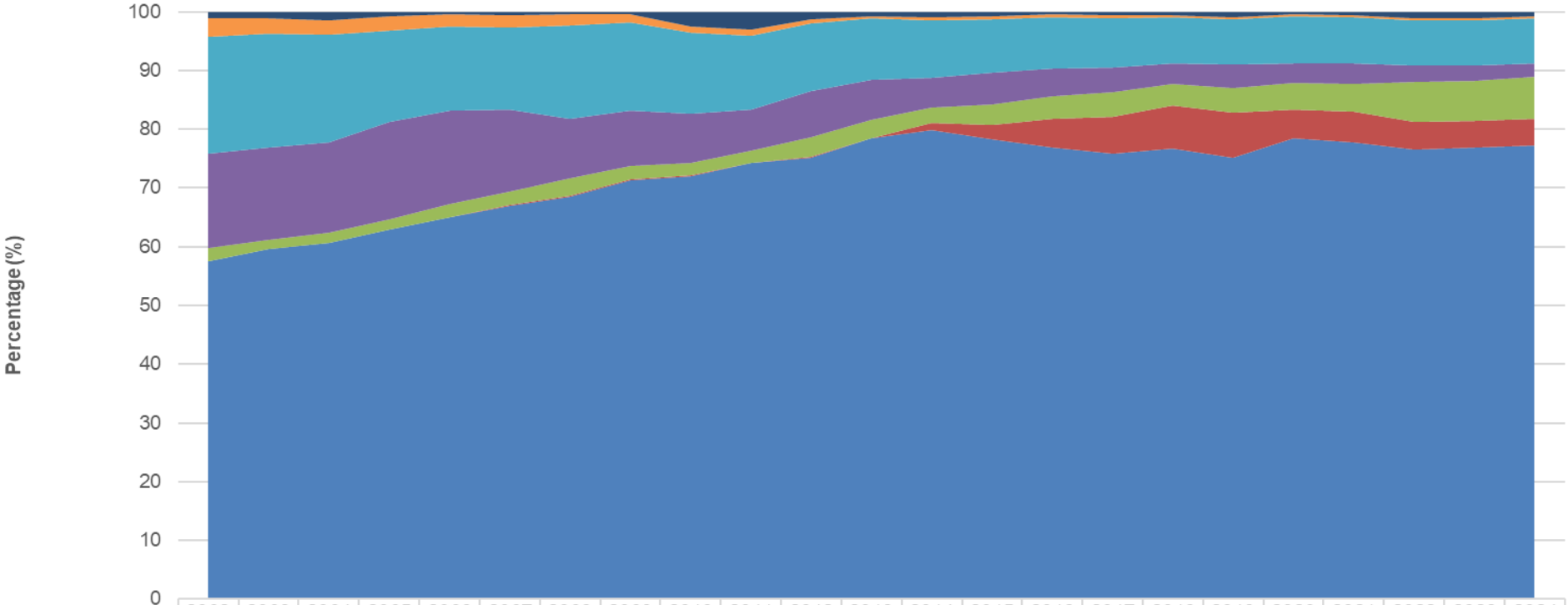
Figure 11.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of households connected to different sources of electricity by metropolitan area, 2024



	CPT	BUF	NMA	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metros
Other	5,8	10,4	2,6	2,7	7,2	9,4	19,4	11,3	10,7
In-house conventional meter	7,5	2,3	7,0	3,7	26,3	22,9	20,2	17,3	17,3
In-house pre-paid meter	86,8	87,4	90,5	93,5	66,5	67,7	60,4	71,4	72,0

Conventional electricity meters were more common amongst households in metros than nationally (17,3% compared to 11,3%). Figure 11.3 shows that the use of conventional meters was most widespread in eThekwini (26,3%) and Ekurhuleni (22,9%) and least common in Buffalo City (2,3%) and Mangaung (3,7%). Pre-paid meters were, by contrast, most common in Mangaung (93,5%) and Nelson Mandela Bay (90,5%). Approximately one-fifth (19,4%) of households in the City of Johannesburg obtained electricity from other sources (e.g. neighbour or landlord) compared to 10,7% across all metros.

Figure 11.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of main sources of energy used for cooking by year, 2002–2024



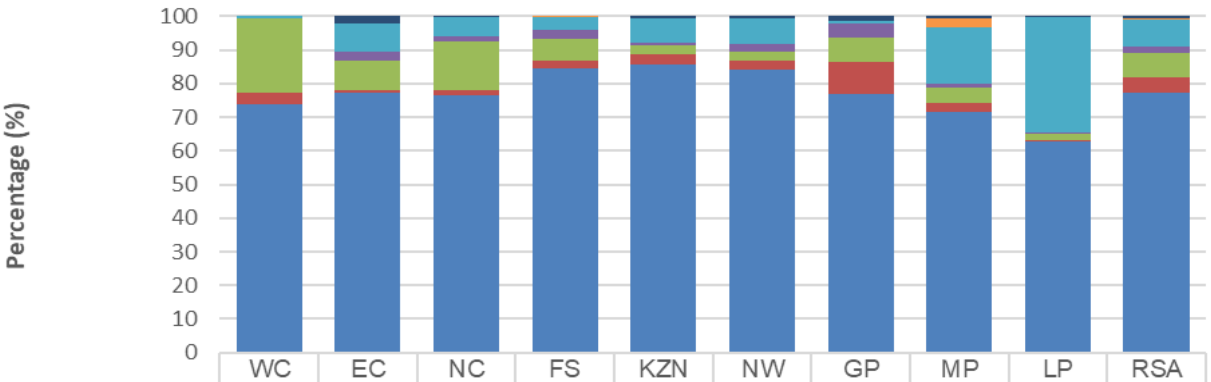
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Other	1,1	1,1	1,4	0,8	0,5	0,5	0,5	0,5	2,5	3,1	1,3	0,7	1,0	0,8	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,9	0,4	0,7	1,1	1,1	0,8
Coal	3,0	2,7	2,4	2,4	2,1	2,2	1,8	1,3	1,2	0,9	0,8	0,4	0,6	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,3	0,4	0,4	0,3	0,3
Wood	20,0	19,3	18,4	15,6	14,3	13,9	15,8	15,1	13,7	12,6	11,6	10,4	9,7	9,1	8,8	8,4	7,7	7,8	8,1	7,7	7,7	7,8	7,7
Paraffin	16,1	15,8	15,4	16,5	15,9	14,1	10,3	9,4	8,4	7,0	7,8	6,8	5,0	5,4	4,7	4,2	3,6	3,9	3,4	3,5	2,8	2,5	2,2
Gas	2,2	1,6	1,7	1,8	2,2	2,2	3,0	2,2	2,2	2,1	3,3	3,2	2,7	3,5	3,8	4,2	3,6	4,2	4,5	4,8	6,7	6,8	7,2
Other Electricity	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	1,2	2,5	4,9	6,3	7,3	7,8	4,9	5,3	4,8	4,5	4,5
Electricity	57,5	59,5	60,7	62,9	64,9	67,0	68,6	71,4	72,1	74,2	75,2	78,4	79,9	78,2	76,9	75,9	76,8	75,1	78,5	77,7	76,5	76,9	77,3

11.2 Main sources of energy for cooking

The main sources of energy used by households for cooking during the period 2002 to 2024 are presented in Figure 11.4. The figure shows that the percentage of households that used electricity for cooking increased from 57,5% in 2002 to 77,3% in 2024. This increase was accompanied by an increase in the percentage of households that used alternative sources of electricity, such as generators. This form of energy for cooking increased from 1,2% in 2014 to 4,5% in 2024. The percentage of households that used gas (mostly standard LPG - Liquefied Petroleum Gas) also increased, rising from 2,2% in 2002 to 7,2% in 2024.

The use of paraffin, coal and firewood declined notably since 2002. The percentage of households that used paraffin declined from 16,1% in 2002 to 2,2% in 2024, while the percentage of households that used firewood decreased from 20,0% in 2002 to 7,7% in 2024.

Figure 11.5 – Percentage (%) distribution of main sources of energy used for cooking by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	0,1	2,2	0,3	0,1	0,5	0,5	1,4	0,5	0,3	0,8
Coal	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,2	0,0	0,1	3,0	0,0	0,3
Wood	0,4	8,5	5,8	3,9	7,4	7,9	0,7	16,7	34,3	7,7
Paraffin	0,3	2,7	1,3	2,7	0,8	2,4	4,3	1,1	0,4	2,2
Gas	22,1	8,7	14,7	6,6	2,5	2,4	7,0	4,5	1,8	7,2
Other Electricity	3,1	0,6	1,4	2,1	2,9	2,9	9,8	2,7	0,3	4,5
Electricity	74,0	77,3	76,6	84,6	85,8	84,0	76,8	71,5	62,9	77,3

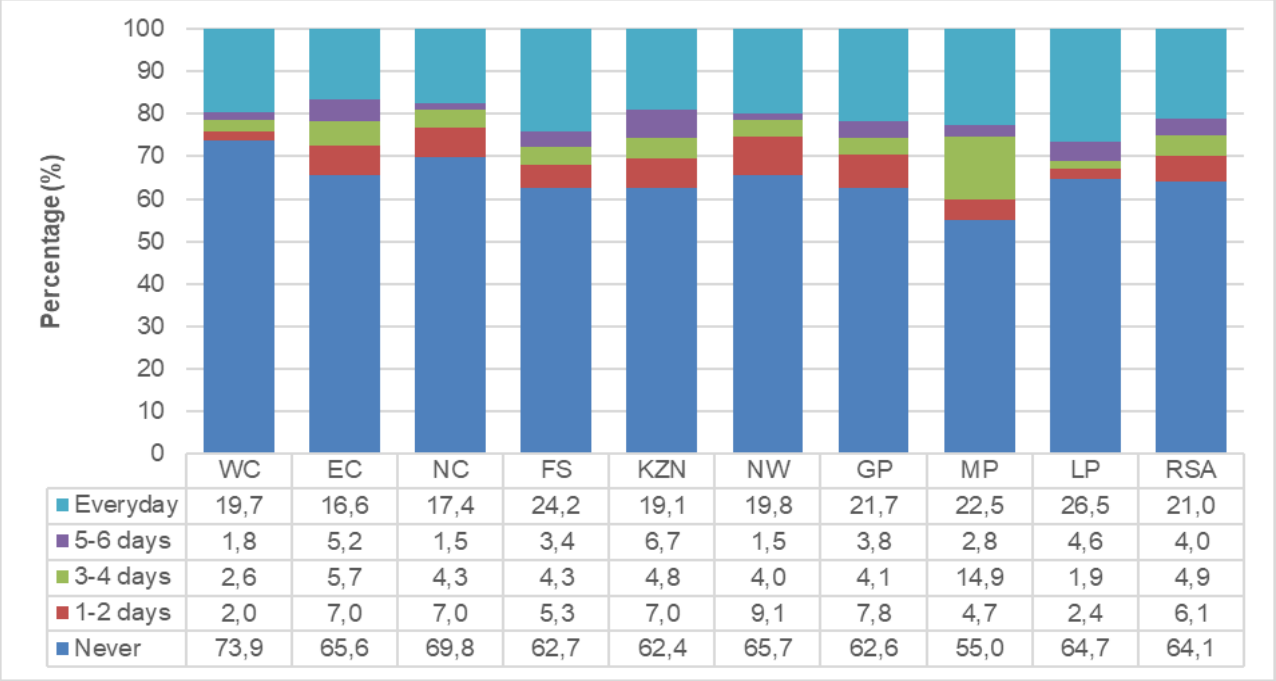
The main sources of energy used for cooking in 2024 by province are presented in Figure 11.5. The percentage of households that used electricity as a main source of energy for cooking was highest in KwaZulu-Natal (85,8%) and Free State (84,6%) and lowest in Limpopo (62,9%). Other sources of electricity (such as those from generators) were most common in Gauteng (9,8%) and Western Cape (3,1%).

The use of paraffin was most common in Gauteng (4,3%) and least common in Western Cape (0,3%) and Limpopo (0,4%). The use of wood or coal was particularly noticeable in Limpopo (34,3%), Mpumalanga (19,7%), Eastern Cape (8,5%), North West (7,9%) and KwaZulu-Natal (7,6%). Less than one per cent of households used wood for cooking in Western Cape (0,4%). Gas was most frequently used by households in Western Cape (22,1%) and Northern Cape (14,7%).

11.3 Loadshedding and electricity interruptions

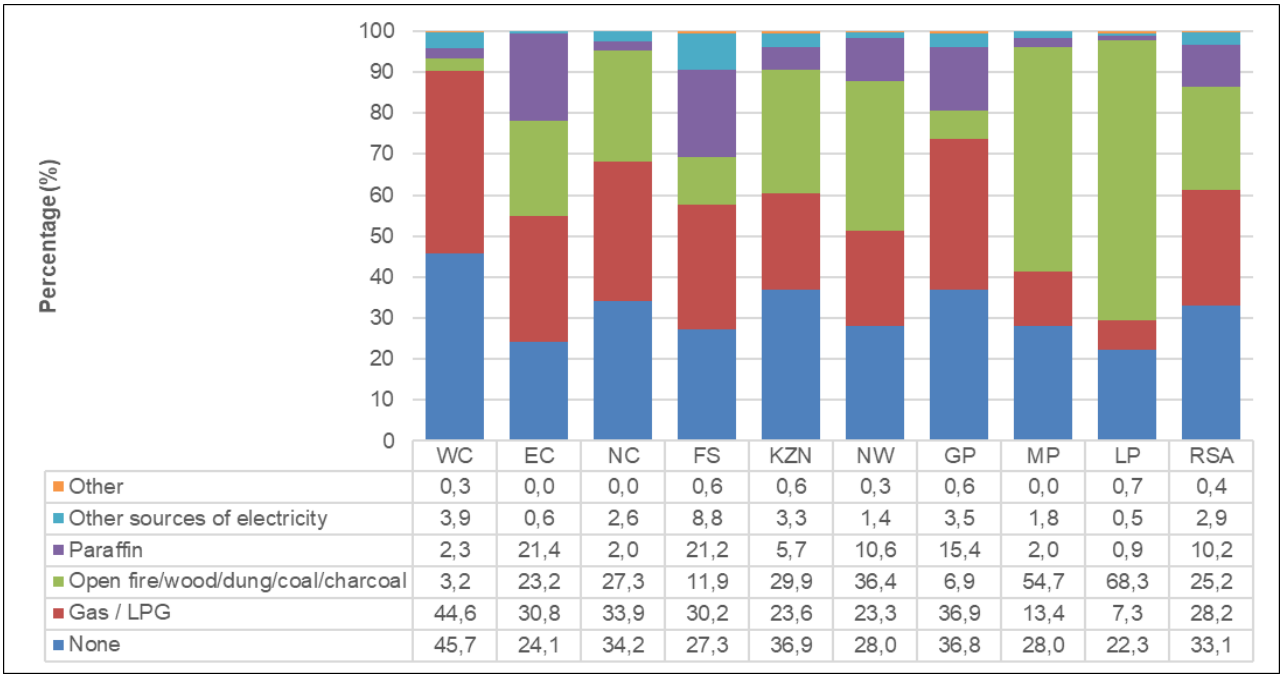
Figure 11.6 shows the percentage of households that experienced scheduled loadshedding and/or unscheduled outages or blackouts during the previous seven days by province. Nationally, 21,0% of the households experienced loadshedding every day, while 64,1% did not experience any interruptions which could be linked to the suspension of loadshedding in most months of the year in 2024. Daily electricity interruptions were most common in Limpopo (26,5%) and Free State (24,2%) and least common in Eastern Cape (16,6%).

Figure 11.6 – Percentage (%) distribution of the number of days households experienced loadshedding and/or unscheduled electricity outages during the previous week, by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Everyday	19,7	16,6	17,4	24,2	19,1	19,8	21,7	22,5	26,5	21,0
5-6 days	1,8	5,2	1,5	3,4	6,7	1,5	3,8	2,8	4,6	4,0
3-4 days	2,6	5,7	4,3	4,3	4,8	4,0	4,1	14,9	1,9	4,9
1-2 days	2,0	7,0	7,0	5,3	7,0	9,1	7,8	4,7	2,4	6,1
Never	73,9	65,6	69,8	62,7	62,4	65,7	62,6	55,0	64,7	64,1

Figure 11.7 – Percentage (%) distribution of alternative sources of energy used for cooking, by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Other	0,3	0,0	0,0	0,6	0,6	0,3	0,6	0,0	0,7	0,4
Other sources of electricity	3,9	0,6	2,6	8,8	3,3	1,4	3,5	1,8	0,5	2,9
Paraffin	2,3	21,4	2,0	21,2	5,7	10,6	15,4	2,0	0,9	10,2
Open fire/wood/dung/coal/charcoal	3,2	23,2	27,3	11,9	29,9	36,4	6,9	54,7	68,3	25,2
Gas / LPG	44,6	30,8	33,9	30,2	23,6	23,3	36,9	13,4	7,3	28,2
None	45,7	24,1	34,2	27,3	36,9	28,0	36,8	28,0	22,3	33,1

Households that experienced electricity interruptions employed a variety of alternative energy sources for cooking. Figure 11.7 shows that about one-third (33,1%) of households used no alternative source of energy nationally, while 28,2% used Gas/LPG and 25,2% used open fires using a variety of materials. The use of gas was most common in Western Cape (44,6%) and Gauteng (36,9%), and least common in Limpopo (7,3%). More than two-thirds (68,3%) of households in Limpopo used open fires, followed by 54,7% of households in Mpumalanga.

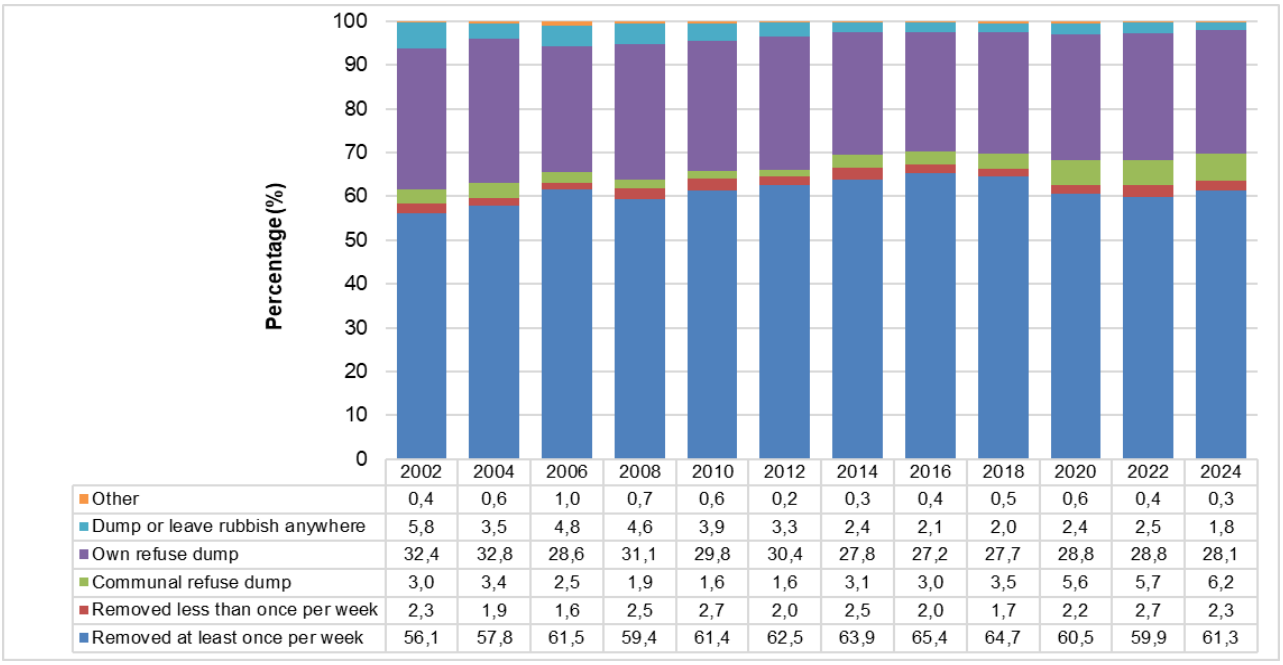
12 Solid waste

The proper disposal of household waste and refuse is important to maintain environmental hygiene of the households' neighbourhoods.

12.1 Refuse removal

Figure 12.1 shows that, nationally, household refuse was removed at least once per week (61,3%) or less than once per week (2,3%). More than one-third (34,3%) of households used communal or household refuse dumps, while 1,8% of households had no facilities at all. It is notable that the percentage of households that used communal refuse dumps has been increasing consistently over the five years before the 2024 survey, growing from 3,0% in 2016 to 6,2% in 2024.

Figure 12.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of household refuse removal for even years between 2002 and 2024



	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
Other	0,4	0,6	1,0	0,7	0,6	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,4	0,3
Dump or leave rubbish anywhere	5,8	3,5	4,8	4,6	3,9	3,3	2,4	2,1	2,0	2,4	2,5	1,8
Own refuse dump	32,4	32,8	28,6	31,1	29,8	30,4	27,8	27,2	27,7	28,8	28,8	28,1
Communal refuse dump	3,0	3,4	2,5	1,9	1,6	1,6	3,1	3,0	3,5	5,6	5,7	6,2
Removed less than once per week	2,3	1,9	1,6	2,5	2,7	2,0	2,5	2,0	1,7	2,2	2,7	2,3
Removed at least once per week	56,1	57,8	61,5	59,4	61,4	62,5	63,9	65,4	64,7	60,5	59,9	61,3

The national figures, however, hide large discrepancies between rural and urban areas, but also between urban and metropolitan areas. Households in urban areas are much more likely to receive some rubbish removal services than those in rural areas, while a much larger percentage of rural households are left to rely on their own refuse dumps. This is presented in Table 12.1.

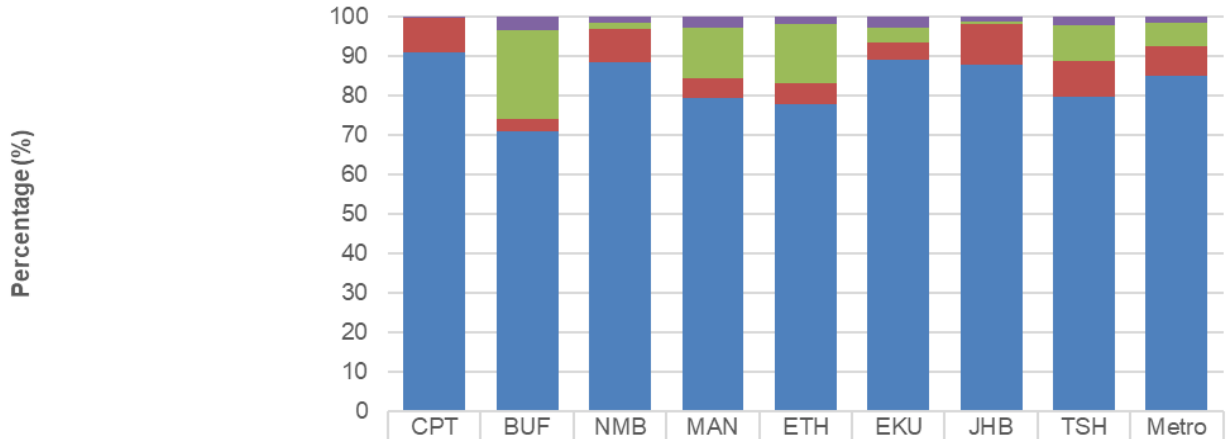
Table 12.1 – Household refuse removal by province and urban/rural status, 2024

Province	Urban / Rural status	Removed at least once a week or less often	Communal refuse dump	Own refuse dump	Other
Western Cape	Rural	65,1	11,9	21,4	1,6
	Urban	92,8	6,9	0,0	0,2
	Total	**91,5**	**7,1**	**1,0**	**0,3**
Eastern Cape	Rural	1,2	1,8	94,1	2,8
	Urban	78,9	6,2	12,5	2,4
	Total	**43,4**	**4,2**	**49,8**	**2,6**
Northern Cape	Rural	32,6	7,8	55,8	3,8
	Urban	80,5	0,9	9,9	8,8
	Total	**65,8**	**3,0**	**23,9**	**7,3**
Free State	Rural	18,7	6,1	65,3	9,9
	Urban	83,0	5,5	8,0	3,5
	Total	**73,7**	**5,6**	**16,3**	**4,4**
KwaZulu-Natal	Rural	8,0	4,8	86,2	1,0
	Urban	81,9	4,7	12,2	1,2
	Total	**49,9**	**4,7**	**44,3**	**1,1**
North West	Rural	28,3	3,6	64,0	4,1
	Urban	86,1	7,2	5,5	1,3
	Total	**52,8**	**5,1**	**39,2**	**2,9**
Gauteng	Rural	23,4	23,6	41,3	11,7
	Urban	85,8	7,6	4,8	1,9
	Total	**84,3**	**8,0**	**5,7**	**2,1**
Mpumalanga	Rural	17,2	5,8	74,1	3,0
	Urban	79,2	1,6	18,4	0,9
	Total	**45,1**	**3,9**	**49,0**	**2,0**
Limpopo	Rural	8,5	9,6	79,2	2,7
	Urban	89,6	1,8	8,0	0,5
	Total	**25,3**	**8,0**	**64,5**	**2,3**
South Africa	**Rural**	**13,5**	**6,2**	**77,4**	**3,0**
	Urban	**85,3**	**6,2**	**6,8**	**1,7**
	Total	**63,6**	**6,2**	**28,1**	**2,1**

Table 12.1 shows that, nationally, close to two-thirds (63,6%) of households had their refuse removed on a weekly basis, or less often, while 28,1% had to use their own refuse dumps. Refuse removal was most common in Western Cape (91,5%) and Gauteng (84,3%), and least common in Limpopo (25,3%). Compared to urban area, refuse removal took place much less often in rural areas. The table shows that refuse removal was least common in the rural areas of Eastern Cape (1,2%), KwaZulu-Natal (8,0%) and Limpopo (8,5%). Overall, 77,4% of households in rural areas discarded refuse themselves compared to only 6,8% of households in urban areas.

Figure 12.2 shows that refuse is removed at least once per week or less often for 85,1% of all households in metropolitan areas, notably higher than the national figure of 63,6%. Refuse removal was most common in Cape Town (91,1%), Ekurhuleni (89,1%), and Nelson Mandela Bay (88,5%), and least common in Buffalo City (71,1%) and eThekwini (77,9%).

Figure 12.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of household refuse removal by metropolitan areas, 2024

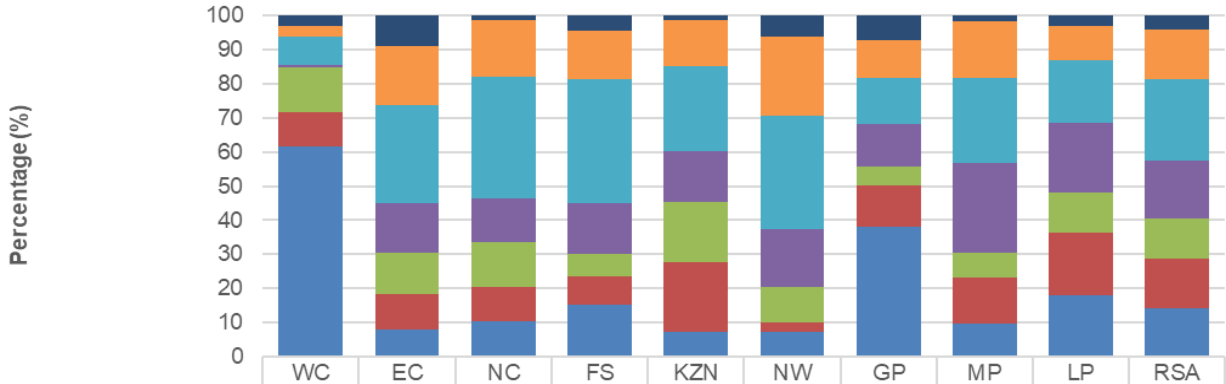


	CPT	BUF	NMB	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metro
Other	0,2	3,3	1,3	2,6	1,8	2,7	1,1	2,0	1,6
Own rubbish dump	0,0	22,6	1,7	13,0	15,0	3,8	0,6	9,3	5,7
communal refuse dump	8,8	3,1	8,4	5,0	5,3	4,4	10,4	9,1	7,7
Removed (weekly or less often)	91,1	71,1	88,5	79,5	77,9	89,1	88,0	79,6	85,1

12.2 Burning refuse

Burning household waste is a relatively common practice that poses significant health and environmental risks. It contributes to air pollution, releasing harmful pollutants that can impact human health, particularly in those with respiratory or heart conditions. Figure 12.3 shows that 85,5% of households in South Africa burned their refuse from time to time. Burning refuse was least common in Western Cape and Gauteng where respectively 61,7% and 38,0% of households never burned their refuse. Burning waste from time to time was most common in KwaZulu-Natal (92,7%), North West (92,6%) and Eastern Cape (91,9%). Nationally, 24,0 % of households burned their waste every week, 17,0% every few weeks and 14,4% a few times per week.

Figure 12.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that burn some or all of their solid waste by province, 2024

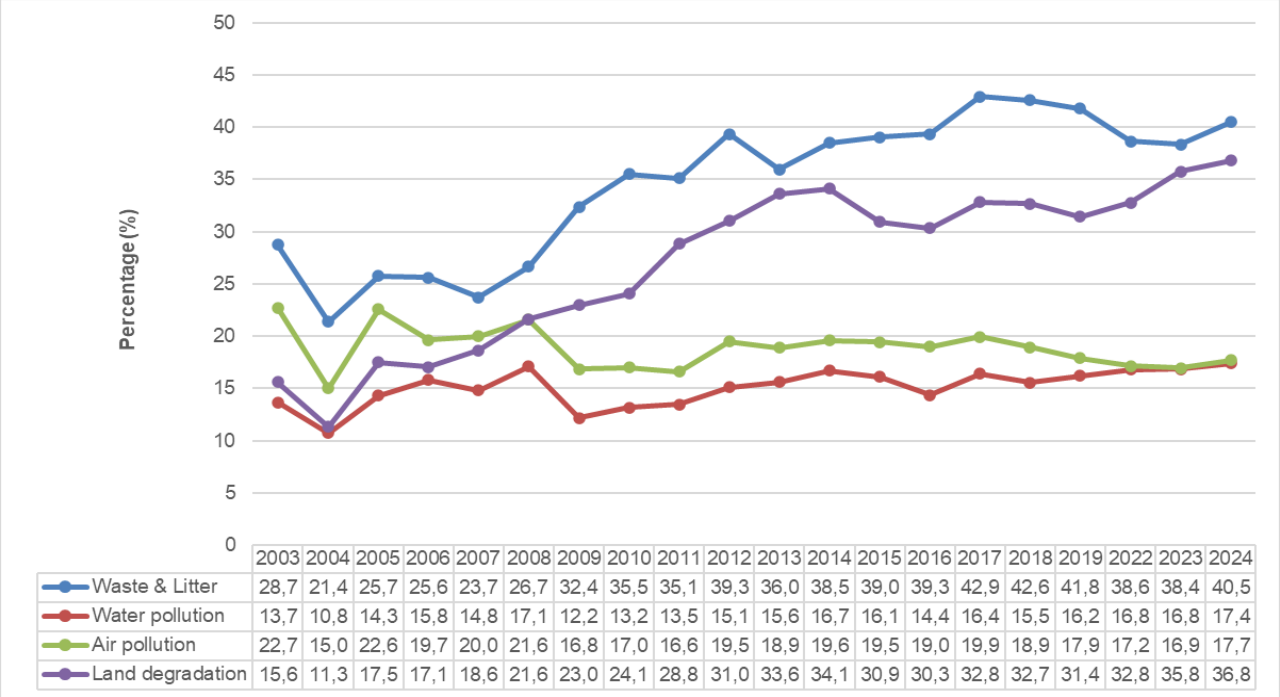


	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Everyday	3,3	9,3	1,5	4,5	1,4	6,4	7,3	2,0	3,3	4,3
A few times per week	3,2	17,1	16,6	14,4	13,5	23,0	11,1	16,6	10,1	14,4
Every week	8,2	28,8	35,5	36,0	25,0	33,0	13,3	24,7	18,2	24,0
Every few weeks	0,7	14,3	12,8	15,1	14,8	17,1	12,4	26,0	20,2	17,0
Every month	13,0	12,2	13,0	6,4	17,6	10,2	5,7	7,5	11,8	11,7
Less regularly	10,0	10,3	10,0	8,3	20,6	2,9	12,2	13,3	18,5	14,2
Never	61,7	8,1	10,6	15,3	7,3	7,4	38,0	9,8	18,0	14,5

13 Environmental trends

The GHS includes a number of questions on the environment, the most important of which have been included in the questionnaire from 2003 onwards. These questions specifically ask households whether they have experienced any of the environmental problems listed in the area where they live. Figure 13.1 summarises these responses for all years between 2003 and 2024, with the exception of COVID-19 years (2020 and 2021).

Figure 13.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households who experience specific kinds of environmental problems, 2003–2024

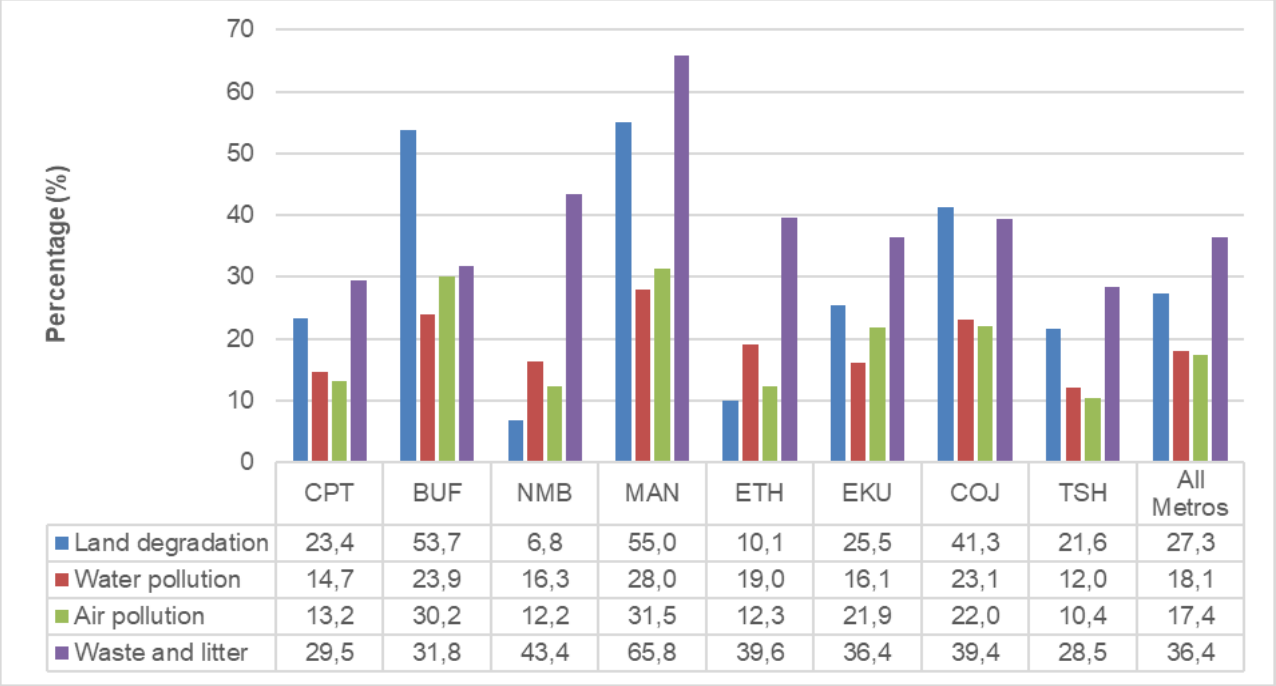


	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2022	2023	2024
Waste & Litter	28,7	21,4	25,7	25,6	23,7	26,7	32,4	35,5	35,1	39,3	36,0	38,5	39,0	39,3	42,9	42,6	41,8	38,6	38,4	40,5
Water pollution	13,7	10,8	14,3	15,8	14,8	17,1	12,2	13,2	13,5	15,1	15,6	16,7	16,1	14,4	16,4	15,5	16,2	16,8	16,8	17,4
Air pollution	22,7	15,0	22,6	19,7	20,0	21,6	16,8	17,0	16,6	19,5	18,9	19,6	19,5	19,0	19,9	18,9	17,9	17,2	16,9	17,7
Land degradation	15,6	11,3	17,5	17,1	18,6	21,6	23,0	24,1	28,8	31,0	33,6	34,1	30,9	30,3	32,8	32,7	31,4	32,8	35,8	36,8

Figure 13.1 reveals that waste removal problems and littering[1] (40,5%), and land degradation and soil erosion (36,8%), were the two environmental problems that concerned the highest percentage of households in 2024. The proportion of households that felt that there were problems with littering and waste removal in their areas increased notably since 2009 when 32,4% of households regarded this as a problem. Households that considered air pollution to be a problem decreased from 22,7% in 2003 to 17,7% in 2024. This corresponds with a switch from wood and coal to electricity as a main source of energy.

[1] The question related to waste removal/littering was asked slightly differently in 2009 in that the two categories were separated in 2009, whilst it was combined as an option in the previous years. For the purposes of comparison, they were grouped together again for 2009. The slight modification may also have contributed to a higher number of households concerned about waste removal/littering.

Figure 13.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households who experience specific kinds of environmental problems by metropolitan area, 2024



	CPT	BUF	NMB	MAN	ETH	EKU	COJ	TSH	All Metros
Land degradation	23,4	53,7	6,8	55,0	10,1	25,5	41,3	21,6	27,3
Water pollution	14,7	23,9	16,3	28,0	19,0	16,1	23,1	12,0	18,1
Air pollution	13,2	30,2	12,2	31,5	12,3	21,9	22,0	10,4	17,4
Waste and litter	29,5	31,8	43,4	65,8	39,6	36,4	39,4	28,5	36,4

Figure 13.2 shows that waste removal problems and littering (36,4%), and land degradation (27,3%) were the most common environmental problems in metros. With the exception of Mangaung (55,0%) and Buffalo City (53,7%) where land degradation was considered the most important environmental problem, waste removal and littering were considered most important across most of the other metros. Almost two-thirds (65,8%) of households in Mangaung considered waste removal and littering a problem. Water and air pollution were generally considered the least common problems across all metropolitan areas.

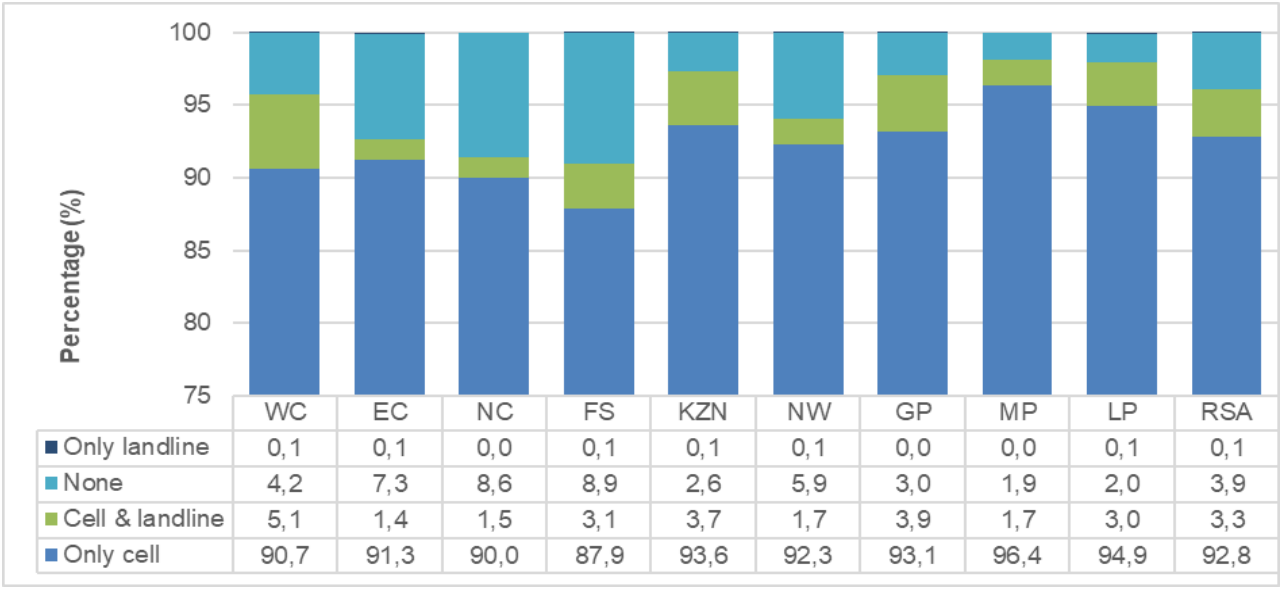
14 Communication and postal services

Communication plays an important role in the fundamental operation of a society. It links people and businesses, facilitating communication and the flow of ideas and information, and coordinating economic activities and development.

14.1 Landlines and cell phones

Figure 14.1 summarises statistics collected on access to functional landlines and cellular (mobile) phones within the sampled dwelling units during 2024. Nationally, only 3,9% of households did not have access to either landlines or cellular phones while only 0,1% of South African households exclusively used landlines. By comparison, 92,8% of South African households exclusively used cellular phones. The exclusive use of cellular phones was most common in Mpumalanga (96,4%) and Limpopo (94,9%) and least common in Free State (87,9%). Households that used both cellular phones and landlines were most common in Western Cape (5,1%).

Figure 14.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households who have a functional landline and cellular telephone in their dwellings by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Only landline	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1
None	4,2	7,3	8,6	8,9	2,6	5,9	3,0	1,9	2,0	3,9
Cell & landline	5,1	1,4	1,5	3,1	3,7	1,7	3,9	1,7	3,0	3,3
Only cell	90,7	91,3	90,0	87,9	93,6	92,3	93,1	96,4	94,9	92,8

14.2 Internet access

The Internet is a vital resource to access information and to communicate with others. Having access to the Internet has become so ubiquitous that it is difficult to imagine how access has expanded over the years. Figure 14.2 shows that the percentage of households who could access the Internet through a fixed connection (be it dial-up, ADSL or, more recently, fibre) has remained relatively stable between 2010 and 2021, before increasing steadily to 17,4% in 2024. By contrast, mobile broadband – connecting to the Internet through a cell phone – increased by 54,1 percentage points over the same period, growing from 28,0% in 2010 to 82,1% in 2024.

Figure 14.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households with access to the Internet at home or through all means, 2010–2024

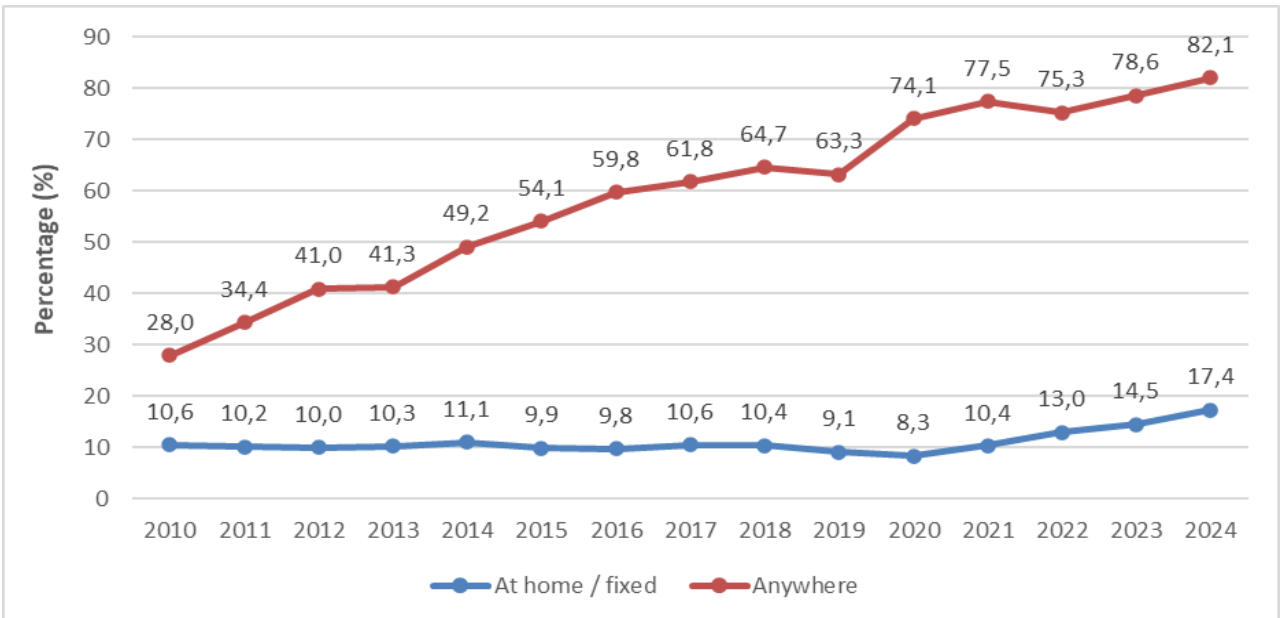


Table 14.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households with access to the Internet by province and type of Internet access, 2024

Type of internet access	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Mobile	79,5	68,0	65,3	72,0	80,0	73,2	75,7	77,9	74,4	**75,6**
Fixed Internet at home	44,9	8,0	11,1	11,3	7,5	7,5	25,8	5,6	7,0	**17,4**
Internet at work	21,7	8,6	9,1	8,7	5,9	7,1	18,9	6,6	4,5	**12,1**
Public Wi-Fi	12,9	1,7	10,5	5,2	5,5	5,4	10,0	5,3	1,4	**7,0**
Internet Café	8,8	3,1	0,4	3,8	1,6	2,9	8,5	7,3	0,8	**5,2**
At an educational facility	8,6	2,4	0,6	4,7	1,8	3,5	5,6	1,6	1,1	**4,0**
At a library	5,0	0,4	0,1	2,9	3,3	1,7	1,1	0,5	0,5	**1,9**
Any kind of access	**92,0**	**70,7**	**70,3**	**77,2**	**84,2**	**75,0**	**86,0**	**80,2**	**76,9**	**82,1**

Table 14.1 shows that 82,1% of South African households had at least one member who had access to or used the Internet at one or more locations such as their home, work, place of study, internet café, or at a public hot spot. Internet access using all available means was highest in Western Cape (92,0%) and Gauteng (86,0%), and lowest in Northern Cape (70,3%) and Eastern Cape (70,7%). Just 17,4% of South African households had access to fixed Internet at home. Access to the Internet at home was highest among households in Western Cape (44,9%) and Gauteng (25,8%), and lowest in Mpumalanga (5,6%) and Limpopo (7,0%). More than three-quarters (75,6%) of households could access the Internet using mobile devices. Access to Public Wi-Fi spots was highest in Western Cape (12,9%), Northern Cape (10,5%) and Gauteng (10,0%), and lowest in Limpopo (1,4%) and Eastern Cape (1,7%).

Table 14.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households with access to the Internet by metro and type of internet access, 2024

Type of internet access	CPT	BUF	NMA	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metros	RSA
Mobile	79,0	53,7	75,8	77,7	82,4	77,6	76,8	69,7	**76,3**	**75,6**
Fixed internet at home	49,0	9,5	22,6	10,0	14,2	25,1	27,7	27,0	**27,2**	**17,4**
Internet at work	20,1	23,3	9,3	8,1	6,0	26,7	21,1	11,8	**17,2**	**12,1**
Public Wi-Fi	8,4	2,2	3,7	4,8	1,3	6,0	14,3	9,0	**8,0**	**7,0**
Internet Café	13,0	15,7	0,2	0,5	2,9	14,4	11,5	1,1	**8,6**	**5,2**
At an educational facility	7,7	3,6	1,7	6,1	1,6	7,8	5,5	5,0	**5,4**	**4,0**
At a library	4,2	0,2	0,0	0,2	3,6	2,0	1,2	0,0	**1,9**	**1,9**
Any kind of access	**94,3**	**63,1**	**78,7**	**79,4**	**90,0**	**92,1**	**86,3**	**81,8**	**87,2**	**82,1**

A larger percentage of households in metropolitan areas (87,2%) could access the Internet than South African households in general (82,1%). Almost three-quarters (76,3%) of metro residents had access to mobile internet (compared to 75,6% of South African households in general), while 27,2% of metropolitan households had a fixed internet connection at home (compared to 17,4% of South African households in general). It is notable that 49,0% of households had fixed internet at home in Cape Town, compared to 27,7% in Johannesburg, 27,0% in Tshwane and 25,1% in Ekurhuleni. Overall, average access to the Internet trailed access in metropolitan areas across all seven categories outlined in Table 14.2.

Table 14.3 – Households' access to the Internet by place of access, urban/rural status and province, 2024

Place where Internet is accessed	Rural/ Urban status	Province (per cent)									
		WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
At home	Metro	49,0	17,3	-	10,0	14,2	-	26,8	-	-	**27,2**
	Urban	40,5	5,9	12,4	12,9	7,8	16,3	18,9	9,8	16,2	**16,3**
	Rural	15,7	1,2	8,1	5,9	0,4	1,1	24,7	2,2	4,6	**2,7**
	Total	**44,9**	**8,0**	**11,1**	**11,3**	**7,5**	**7,5**	**25,8**	**5,6**	**7,0**	**17,4**
At work	Metro	20,1	14,9	-	8,1	6,0	-	20,2	-	-	**17,2**
	Urban	25,4	7,7	11,2	8,4	11,8	11,2	10,8	8,1	11,7	**12,1**
	Rural	19,9	3,6	4,2	11,7	2,2	4,0	6,8	5,5	2,6	**3,9**
	Total	**21,7**	**8,6**	**9,1**	**8,7**	**5,9**	**7,1**	**18,9**	**6,6**	**4,5**	**12,1**
Using mobile devices	Metro	79,0	67,0	-	77,7	82,4	-	75,1	-	-	**76,3**
	Urban	81,8	76,7	68,8	69,4	83,9	78,8	79,9	82,6	86,3	**79,4**
	Rural	70,8	64,8	57,5	71,0	75,1	69,0	78,7	74,0	71,3	**71,1**
	Total	**79,5**	**68,0**	**65,3**	**72,0**	**80,0**	**73,2**	**75,7**	**77,9**	**74,4**	**75,6**
At Internet cafes or educational facilities	Metro	19,5	9,0	-	6,6	5,3	-	15,3	-	-	**13,7**
	Urban	14,6	5,5	1,3	9,9	4,3	9,5	5,7	9,9	5,1	**7,9**
	Rural	4,6	2,7	0,0	6,9	5,8	3,2	0,0	8,1	1,1	**4,0**
	Total	**17,3**	**5,6**	**0,9**	**8,6**	**5,3**	**5,9**	**14,0**	**8,9**	**1,9**	**9,4**

Table 14.3 shows that household access to the Internet at home was highest in Western Cape (44,9%) and Gauteng (25,8%) and lowest in Mpumalanga (5,6%) and Limpopo (7,0%). While 27,2% of households in metropolitan areas had access to the Internet at home, this was true for only 2,7% of rural households in general and less than one per cent of rural households in KwaZulu-Natal (0,4%). A large percentage of households accessed the Internet at work (12,1%) and Internet cafés or at educational institutions (9,4%). Households in Western Cape (21,7%) and Gauteng (18,9%) were most likely to access the Internet at work, while only 4,5% of households in Limpopo and 5,9% in KwaZulu-Natal accessed the internet at work.

Using mobile devices to access the Internet includes access on cellular telephones or using mobile access devices such as 3G cards. It is clear from Table 14.3 that mobile access to the Internet has made it much more accessible to households in rural areas. Nationally, Internet access using mobile devices (75,6%) was the most common form of access to the Internet. Although the use of mobile Internet devices in rural areas (71,1%) still lags, its use in urban (79,4%) and metro areas (76,3%) is much more common in rural areas than any of the alternative methods.

14.3 Mail

The volume of mail that is handled by the South African Post Office has declined steeply over the past few decades as demand for physical post declined and electronic alternatives such as email became more common. Figure 14.3 shows that the percentage of households that did not receive any mail increased steadily from 9,0% in 2002 to 32,7% in 2019, before increasing sharply to 62,6% in 2024 in the wake of COVID-19.

Figure 14.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of households without any mail services, 2002–2024

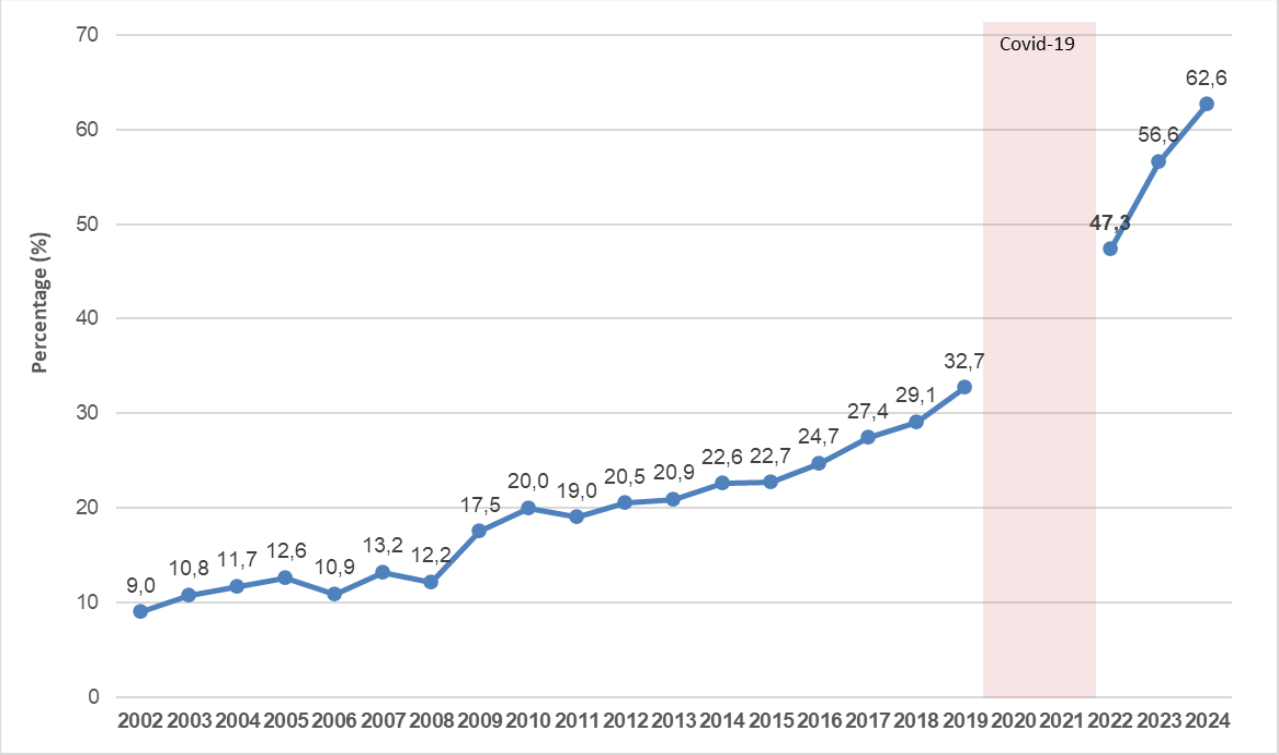
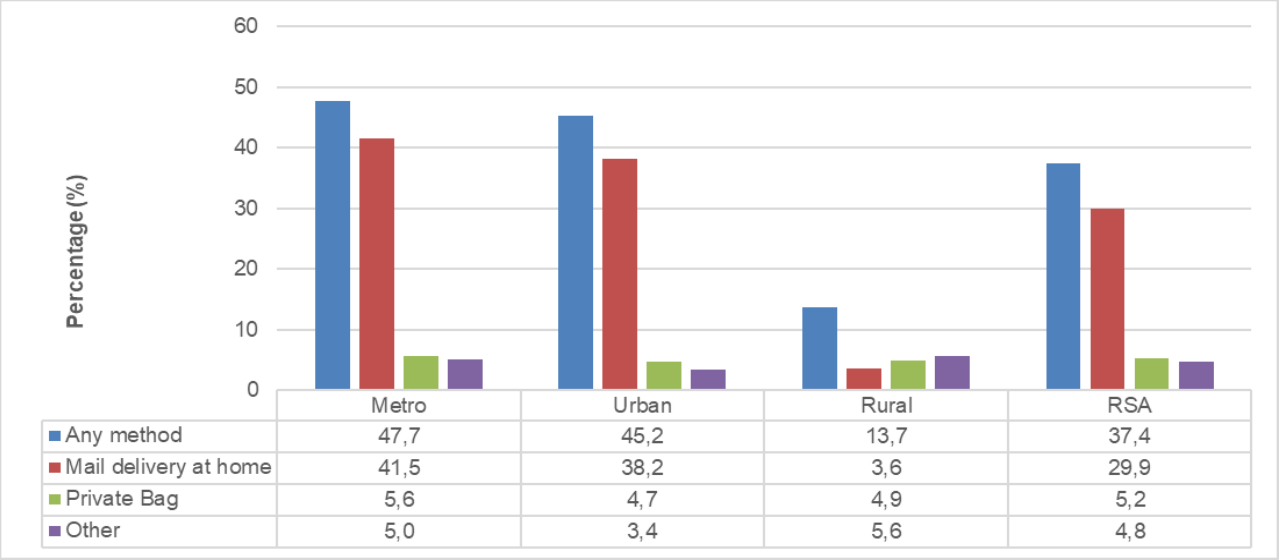


Figure 14.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of households that received mail services by type of service and geographical area, 2024



	Metro	Urban	Rural	RSA
Any method	47,7	45,2	13,7	37,4
Mail delivery at home	41,5	38,2	3,6	29,9
Private Bag	5,6	4,7	4,9	5,2
Other	5,0	3,4	5,6	4,8

Figure 14.4 shows that households in rural areas have poorer access to mail services than their counterparts in urban and metropolitan areas. While 47,7% of households in metros, and 45,2% of households in urban areas could access mail services, less than one-fifth (13,7%) of rural households enjoyed the same access. Only 3,6% of rural households had access to mail delivery at home compared to 38,2% of households in urban, and 41,5% of households in metro areas. It is notable that relatively the same percentage of rural households and urban households used post boxes or private bags, 4,9% and 4,7% respectively. The use of other arrangement to get post (i.e. getting it through a school, community leader or at work) was also more common in rural areas (5,6%) than in metro (5,0%) or urban (3,4%) areas.

15 Transport

The transport questions asked in the GHS focus primarily on the use of public and/or state subsidised transport, the cost of transport to households and the types of transport and time needed to travel to work and school.

Table 15.1 – Mode of transport used by household members to travel to school and work, 2024

Mode of transport	Usual transport to school		Usual transport to work	
	N	%	N	%
Walking	10 277	61,1	4 257	22,8
Bicycle	9	0,1	62	0,3
Motorcycle	4	0,0	33	0,2
Minibus taxi/sedan taxi/bakkie taxi	1 198	7,1	4 539	24,3
Bus	248	1,5	666	3,6
Train	11	0,1	79	0,4
Minibus/bus provided by institution/government and not paid for	831	4,9	n/a	n/a
Vehicle hired by a group of parents	2 484	14,8	n/a	n/a
Own car or other private vehicle	1 705	10,1	4 849	25,9
Lift club by a group of people sharing a private vehicle	n/a	n/a	481	2,6
None, students/works from home	n/a	n/a	2 348	12,5
Total	**16 818**	**100,0**	**18 716**	**100,0**

Table 15.1 shows that just over three-fifths (61,1%) of the learners walked to school, while a further 14,8% used transport that was arranged by parents, 10,1% travelled by private car, and 7,1% used taxis. The most used mode of transport to travel to work was a private car (25,9%), followed by taxis (24,3%) and walking (22,8%). The survey found that 12,5% of the working population worked from home and that they therefore had no need for transport.

Figure 15.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households who made use of public transport during the week preceding the survey by province, 2024

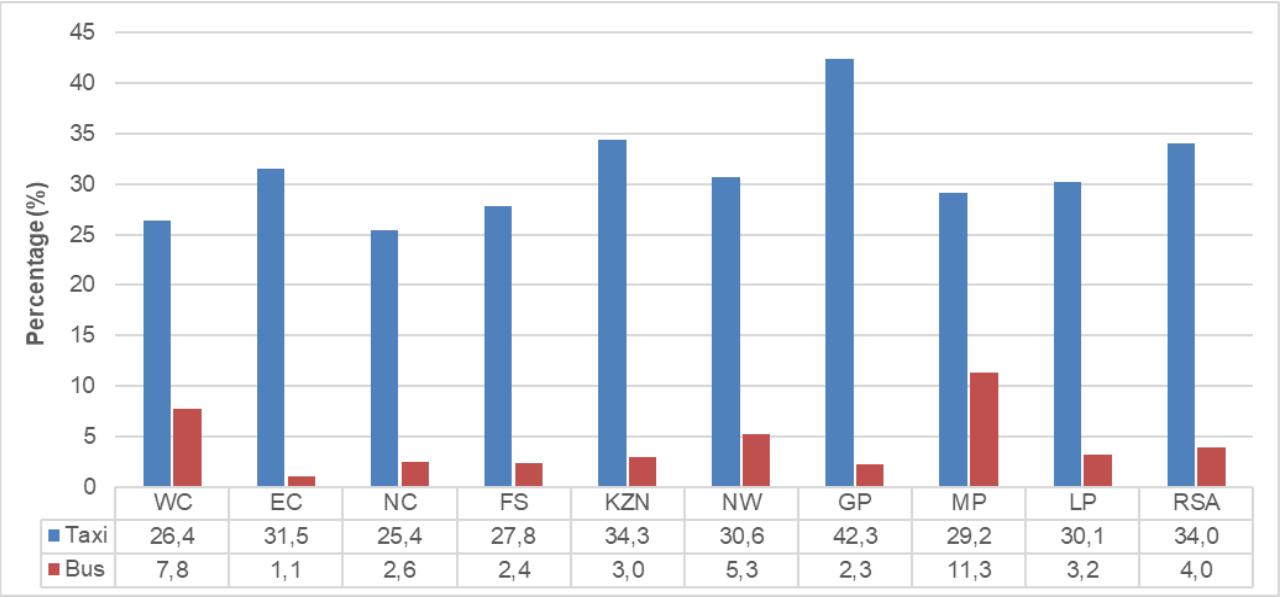
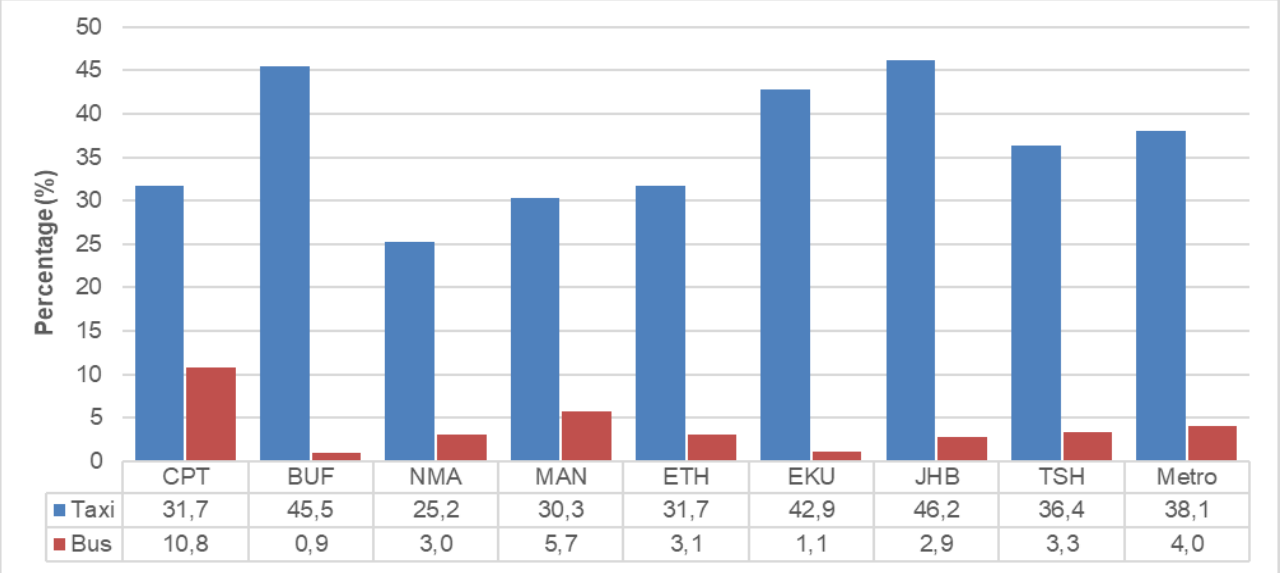


Figure 15.1 shows that 34,0% of South African households had at least one household member who used a taxi during the week preceding the survey. The use of taxi was most common in Gauteng (42,3%) and KwaZulu-Natal (34,3%). By comparison, only 4,0% of South African households used a bus during the preceding week. It is notable that 11,3% of households in Mpumalanga used the bus.

Although 1,8% of households used trains nationally in 2019 (4,2% in Western Cape and 3,7% in Gauteng), too few households used the train in 2024 to provide any reliable estimates at provincial level.

Figure 15.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households who made use of public transport during the week preceding the survey by metropolitan area, 2024



	CPT	BUF	NMA	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metro
Taxi	31,7	45,5	25,2	30,3	31,7	42,9	46,2	36,4	38,1
Bus	10,8	0,9	3,0	5,7	3,1	1,1	2,9	3,3	4,0

In metropolitan areas, 38,1% of households included at least one member who used a taxi during the week preceding the survey. This percentage was the highest in the City of Johannesburg (46,2%) and Buffalo City (45,5%). By comparison, 4,0% of households used buses during the previous week. The use of buses was most common in City of Cape Town (10,8%) and Mangaung (5,7%).

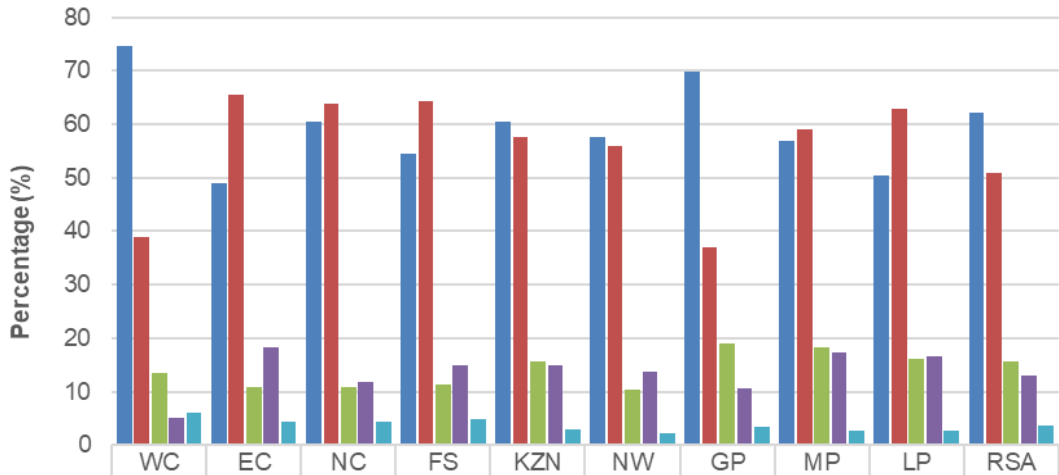
16 Household assets and sources of income

16.1 Household sources of income

The diversification of livelihood strategies is considered an important strategy to reduce poverty and to improve the livelihoods of households. A range of possible factors could motivate households to diversify the various sources of income they receive. These could, inter alia, include the need to generate enough income to ensure a sufficient livelihood; and limit the risk associated with relying on a single source of income. Households were requested to list all their sources of income from a list of seven categories which included: salaries and wages; income from a business; remittances; grants; pensions; income from farming; and income generated through rental income and interest.

Figure 16.1 summarises the percentage of households according to the various sources of income reported by them. Nationally, salaries (62,2%) and grants (50,9%) were the most common sources of income reported by households. Provincially, salaries as a source of income were most common in Western Cape (74,7%) and Gauteng (69,9%), and least common in Eastern Cape (49,0%) and Limpopo (50,4%). Grants were notably more prevalent than salaries as a source of income in Eastern Cape (65,6% vs 49,0%), Free State (64,2% vs 54,6%) and Northern Cape (64,0% vs 60,5%). Remittances as a source of income played an important role in most provinces, but especially in Eastern Cape (18,3%), Mpumalanga (17,4%) and Limpopo (16,5%).

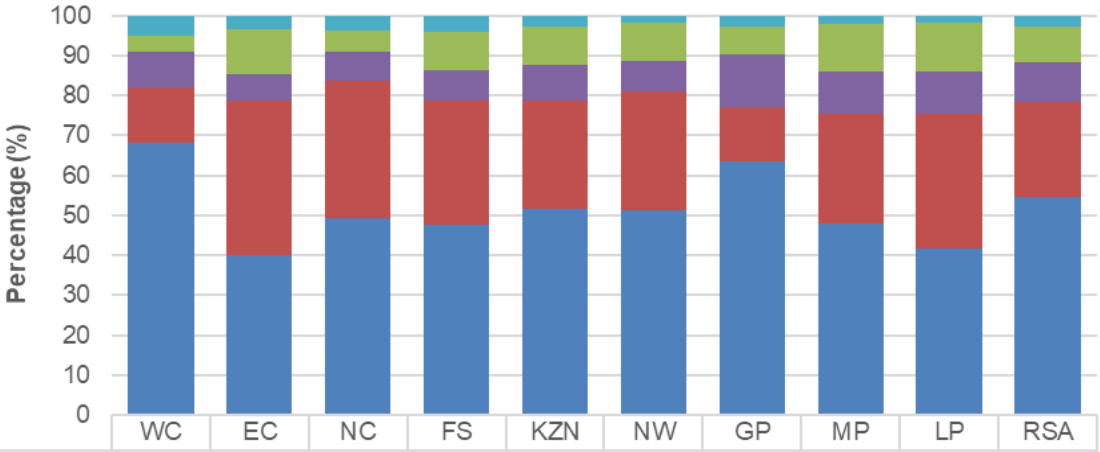
Figure 16.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of sources of household income by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Salary	74,7	49,0	60,5	54,6	60,5	57,7	69,9	56,8	50,4	62,2
Grants	38,9	65,6	64,0	64,2	57,7	55,9	36,9	59,1	62,9	50,9
Income from a business	13,5	10,8	10,9	11,5	15,7	10,3	19,0	18,3	16,1	15,5
Remmitances	5,0	18,3	11,8	14,8	14,9	13,8	10,7	17,4	16,5	13,0
Pension	6,0	4,4	4,5	4,9	3,0	2,3	3,5	2,6	2,6	3,6

A specific household can have more than one source of income. Percentages, therefore, do not add up to 100%

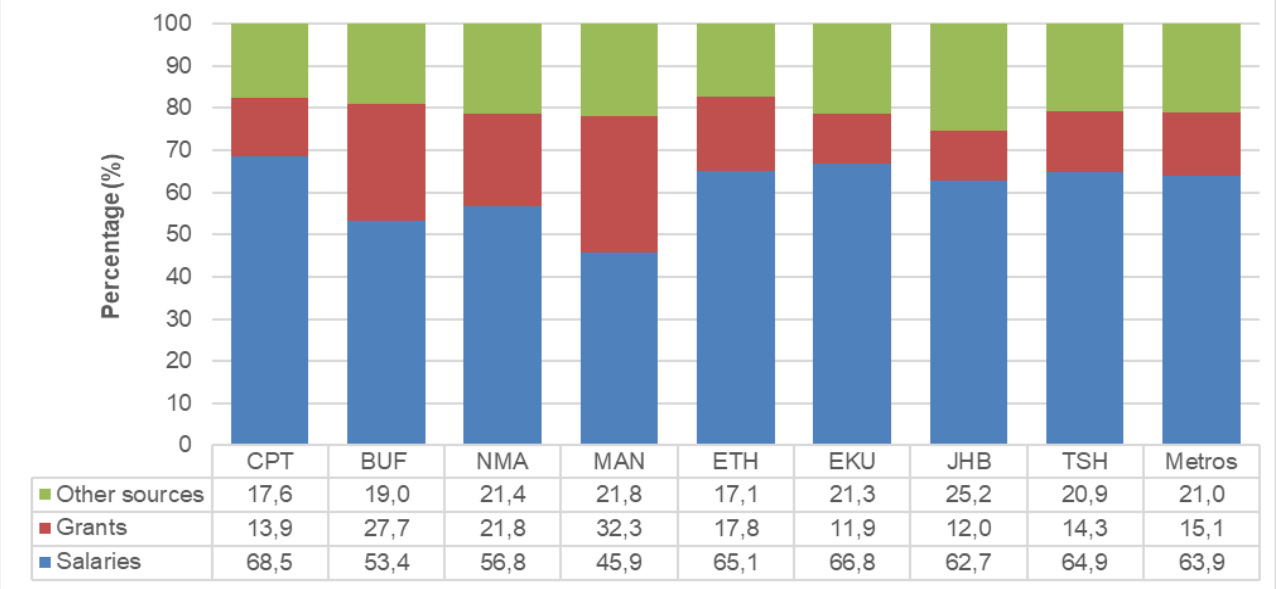
Figure 16.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of main source of household income by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Pensions	5,0	3,3	3,9	4,0	2,6	1,9	2,7	2,1	1,8	2,9
Remittances	4,0	11,5	5,2	9,6	9,7	9,6	6,9	11,8	12,3	8,7
Other sources	8,9	6,4	7,3	7,7	9,0	7,6	13,3	10,6	10,4	10,1
Grants	14,0	38,9	34,4	31,2	27,0	29,6	13,6	27,5	33,8	23,8
Salaries	68,2	39,9	49,3	47,6	51,7	51,3	63,5	48,0	41,7	54,5

Households' main sources of income are presented in Figure 16.2. Nationally, 54,5% of households reported salaries/wages/commission as their main sources of income, followed by grants (23,8%), other sources of income (10,1%) and remittances (8,7%). Source of main income varies considerably across provinces. Western Cape (68,2%) and Gauteng (63,5%) were the only two provinces in which more than 60 percent of households reported salaries as their main source of income. By comparison, more than a third of households in Eastern Cape (38,9%) and Northern Cape (34,4%) listed social grants as their main source of income. Remittances were the main source of income for 12,3% of households in Limpopo, 11,8% of households in Mpumalanga and 11,5% of households in Eastern Cape.

Figure 16.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of main source of household income by metropolitan area, 2024

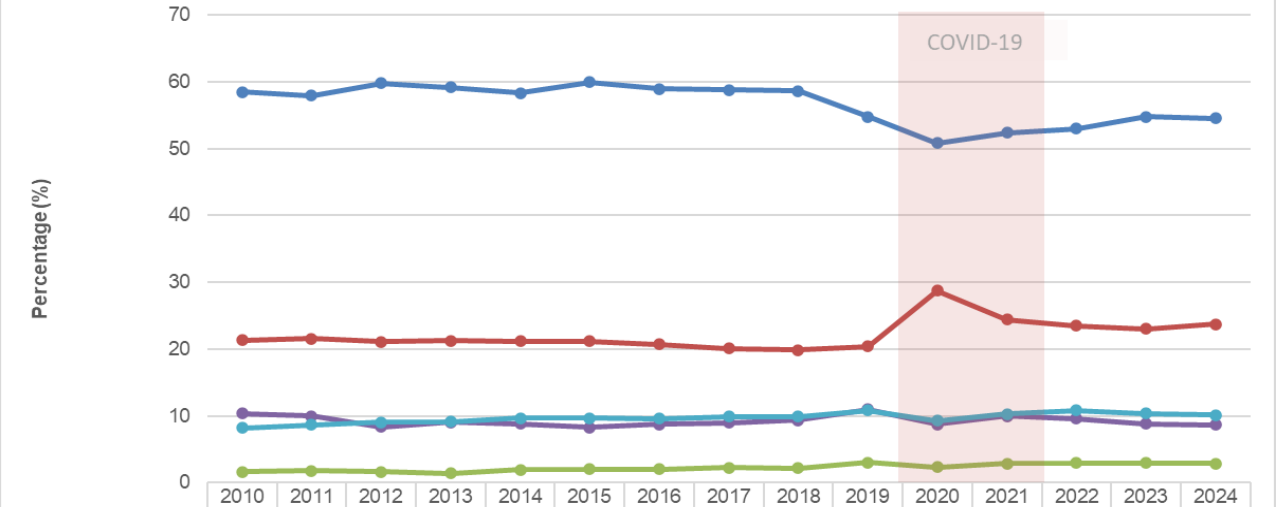


	CPT	BUF	NMA	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metros
Other sources	17,6	19,0	21,4	21,8	17,1	21,3	25,2	20,9	21,0
Grants	13,9	27,7	21,8	32,3	17,8	11,9	12,0	14,3	15,1
Salaries	68,5	53,4	56,8	45,9	65,1	66,8	62,7	64,9	63,9

Note: Other sources of income refers to income from pensions, remittances, rental income, interest, income from a business or sales of farming products or services

Households' main sources of income by metropolitan area are presented in Figure 16.3. More than three-fifths (63,9%) of metropolitan households reported salaries or wages as their main source of income, while 15,1% of households reported social grants as the main source of income. Salaries and wages as the main source of income was most common in Cape Town (68,5%), Ekurhuleni (66,8%), eThekwini (65,1%), Tshwane (64,9%) and Johannesburg (62,7%), and least common in Mangaung (45,9%). By comparison, almost a third (32,3%) of households in Mangaung, and 27,7% of households in Buffalo City considered social grants as the main source of income.

Figure 16.4 – Percentage (%) distribution of main source of household income, 2010–2024



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Salaries	58,5	57,9	59,8	59,2	58,3	59,9	58,9	58,8	58,6	54,8	50,8	52,4	53,0	54,8	54,5
Grants	21,3	21,6	21,1	21,2	21,2	21,1	20,7	20,1	19,9	20,4	28,8	24,4	23,5	23,0	23,8
Pensions	1,6	1,8	1,7	1,5	2,0	2,0	2,0	2,2	2,2	3,0	2,4	2,9	3,0	3,0	2,9
Remittances	10,4	10,0	8,4	9,0	8,9	8,3	8,8	9,0	9,4	11,0	8,8	10,0	9,6	8,8	8,7
Other	8,2	8,7	9,1	9,1	9,7	9,7	9,6	9,9	9,9	10,8	9,3	10,3	10,8	10,4	10,1

As shown in Figure 16.4, the relative distribution of main income sources has remained fairly consistent until the start of COVID-19. Although wages and salaries as the main source of income already declined to 54,8% in 2019, it declined to an all-time low (50,8%) in 2020 in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic before rebounding somewhat to 54,5% in 2024. Government introduced the Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress (SRD) grants during 2020 to ameliorate the loss of income from wages and salaries. Faced with a decline in salaries and wages, the percentage of households that considered social grants as their main source of income increased from 20,4% in 2019 to 28,8% in 2020, before falling back to 23,8% in 2024. It is notable that the percentage of households that considered remittances as their main source of income dropped by 1,7 percentage points between 2010 and 2024.

16.2 Household assets

Assets, whether they are owned by individuals or by households, may provide a range of direct and indirect benefits, including status and security, to their owners. Household assets influence the extent to which households can diversify their livelihoods. Asset poverty is an economic and social condition that is more persistent and prevalent than income poverty.

Table 16.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of household ownership of selected assets by urban/rural status, 2024

	Rural	Urban	Metro	South Africa
Electric Stove	86,2	89,3	89,4	**88,3**
Refrigerator	73,0	84,3	84,8	**80,9**
Television	70,3	80,6	81,1	**77,5**
Microwave Oven	42,0	66,9	67,4	**59,3**
Pay-tv decoder	56,3	59,6	57,2	**58,6**
Built in kitchen sink	14,8	52,5	53,8	**41,1**
Washing Machine	22,3	47,4	47,0	**39,8**
Radio	34,1	30,1	30,1	**31,3**
Gas Stove	19,2	35,2	36,3	**30,4**
Working Vehicle	16,2	36,2	37,6	**30,2**
Geyser	7,9	36,6	39,0	**27,9**
Computer	11,2	31,4	33,4	**25,3**
Freezer	24,8	21,9	19,6	**22,8**
DVD Player	16,0	20,3	19,2	**19,0**
Home security	1,8	15,0	18,1	**11,0**
Rainwater tank	25,6	4,6	3,9	**10,9**
Vacuum Cleaner	2,1	13,3	14,1	**9,9**
Home Theatre	3,7	11,9	12,9	**9,4**
Air Conditioning	2,4	8,4	8,1	**6,6**
Tumble Drier	2,2	8,4	8,8	**6,5**
Dish Washer	1,3	7,0	7,9	**5,3**
Swimming pool	0,5	5,4	6,4	**3,9**
Borehole	7,7	2,1	2,0	**3,8**
Solar Geyser	1,4	4,1	4,7	**3,3**
Solar Panels	1,1	3,8	4,4	**3,0**

Table 16.1 shows that households commonly owned electric stoves (88,3%), refrigerators (80,9%) and televisions (77,5%) and ownership of these items was more common in metropolitan and urban areas than in rural areas. Even so, ownership of electric stoves (86,2%), refrigerators (73,0%), and televisions (70,3%) was still quite common amongst rural households. Nationally, 58,6% of households owned DStv or OpenView television decoders in working condition. The question did not ask whether households had an active subscription at the time of the interview. It is notable that there is a relatively small gap between the ownership of pay-tv decoders in rural (56,3%), urban (59,6%) and metro (57,2%) areas.

By comparison, gas stoves, vehicles, geysers and computers are much more common in metro and urban areas than rural areas. Just over one-third (36,3%) of metropolitan households owned a gas stove compared to 19,2% of rural households. Similarly, a larger percentage of metropolitan households than rural households owned vehicles (37,6% compared to 16,2%), geysers (39,0% compared to 7,9%) and computers (33,4% compared to 11,2%). Slightly more than one-tenth (11,0%) of South African households had home security services. Households with access to security at home were more common in metro areas (18,1%) than in rural areas (1,8%).

Compared to households in general, a larger percentage of rural households had rainwater tanks (25,6% vs 10,9%) and boreholes (7,7% v 3,8%). The survey found that solar geysers (3,3%) and solar panels (3,0%) remained relatively rare in 2024.

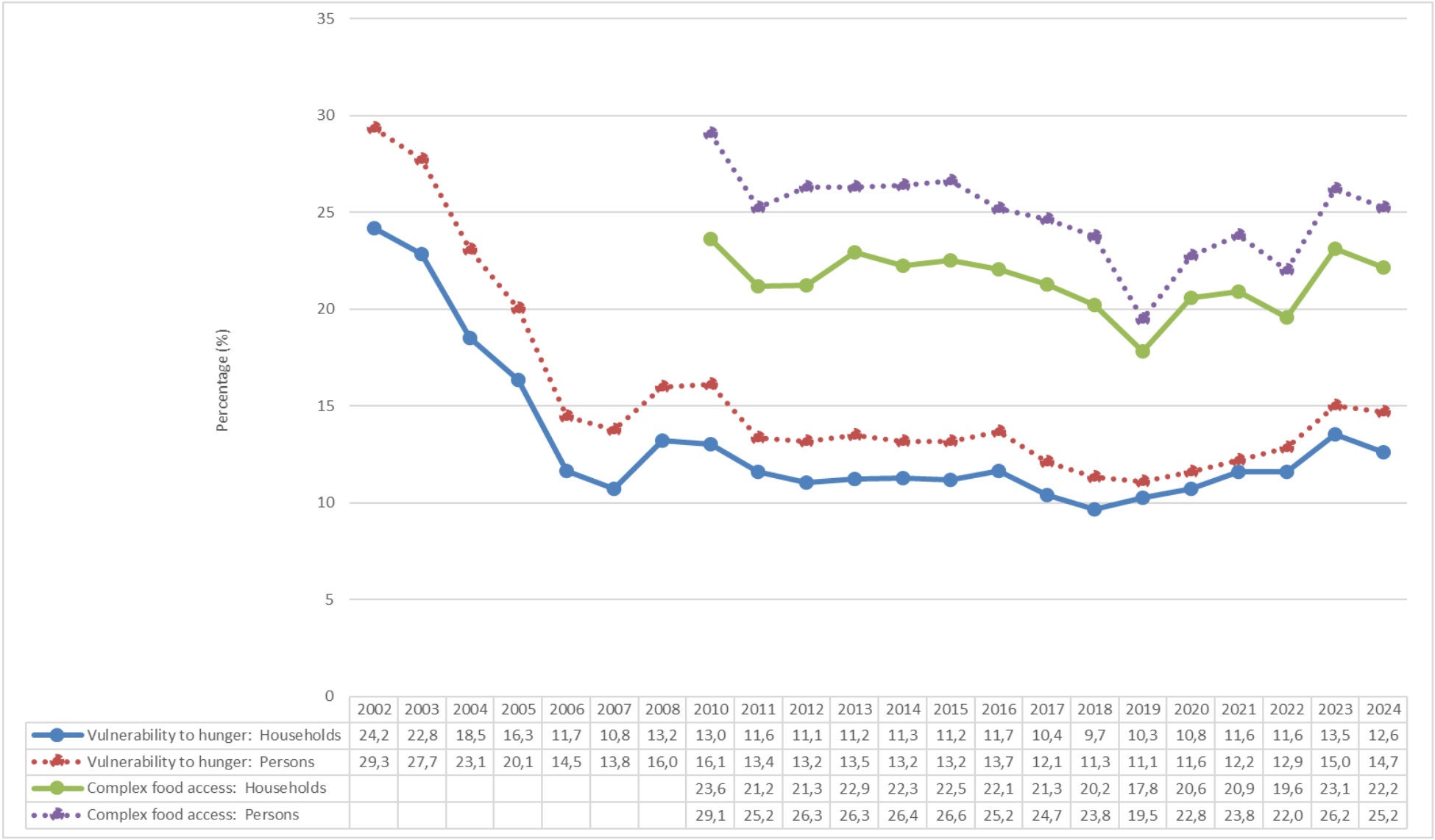
17 Access to food

Between 2002 and 2008, the GHS asked households to indicate whether, and how often, adults and children went hungry because there was not enough food in the household. The question was discontinued in 2009 but reinstated in the 2010 questionnaire and has been asked annually since then. Figure 17.1 shows that the percentage of persons that experienced hunger decreased from 29,3% in 2002 to 11,1% by 2019 before gradually increasing to 14,7% in 2024. The percentage of households who were vulnerable to hunger reflects a similar pattern as experienced by persons as it declined from 24,2% in 2002 to 12,6% in 2024.

Since 2009, the GHS questionnaire has also included a set of questions based on the Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS) to determine households' access to food. These questions aim to measure households' food access by asking households about modifications they made in their diet or eating patterns during the previous month because of limited sources available where they could obtain food. The index provides a slightly more sensitive measure of food access than the question on hunger. The question used in 2009 was expanded in 2010 with the addition of a question on possible decreases in the variety of foods consumed. The index seems to reflect a similar pattern, though it is slightly higher.

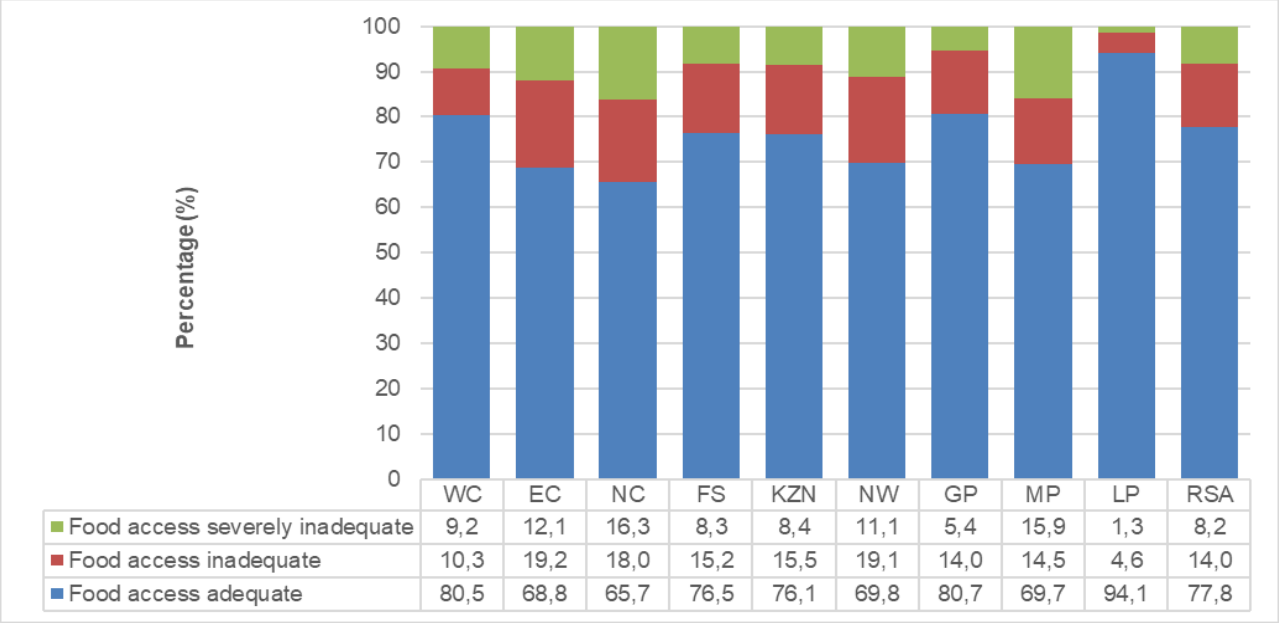
Figure 17.1 shows that the percentage of households that had limited access to food decreased from 23,6% in 2010 to 17,8% in 2019 after which it increased to 22,2% by 2024. Simultaneously, the percentage of persons with more limited access to food declined from 25,2% in 2011 to 19,5% in 2019 before increasing to 25,2% by 2024.

Figure 17.1 – Vulnerability to hunger and access to food, 2002–2024



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Vulnerability to hunger: Households	24,2	22,8	18,5	16,3	11,7	10,8	13,2	13,0	11,6	11,1	11,2	11,3	11,2	11,7	10,4	9,7	10,3	10,8	11,6	11,6	13,5	12,6
Vulnerability to hunger: Persons	29,3	27,7	23,1	20,1	14,5	13,8	16,0	16,1	13,4	13,2	13,5	13,2	13,2	13,7	12,1	11,3	11,1	11,6	12,2	12,9	15,0	14,7
Complex food access: Households								23,6	21,2	21,3	22,9	22,3	22,5	22,1	21,3	20,2	17,8	20,6	20,9	19,6	23,1	22,2
Complex food access: Persons								29,1	25,2	26,3	26,3	26,4	26,6	25,2	24,7	23,8	19,5	22,8	23,8	22,0	26,2	25,2

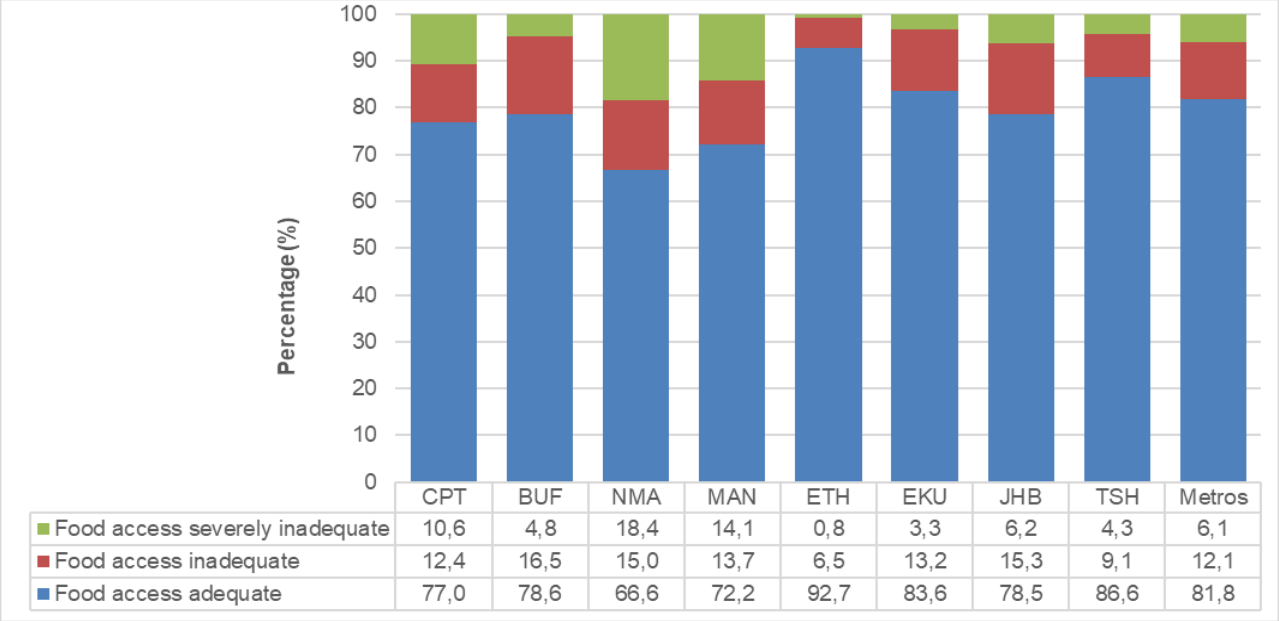
Figure 17.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households experiencing food adequacy or inadequacy by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Food access severely inadequate	9,2	12,1	16,3	8,3	8,4	11,1	5,4	15,9	1,3	8,2
Food access inadequate	10,3	19,2	18,0	15,2	15,5	19,1	14,0	14,5	4,6	14,0
Food access adequate	80,5	68,8	65,7	76,5	76,1	69,8	80,7	69,7	94,1	77,8

Figure 17.2 shows that 22,2% of households, nationally, considered their access to food as inadequate or severely inadequate. Food access problems were most common in Northern Cape (34,3%), and Eastern Cape (31,2%). Only 5,9% of households in Limpopo had inadequate or severely inadequate access to food.

Figure 17.3 – Percentage (%) distribution of households experiencing food adequacy or inadequacy by metropolitan areas, 2024



	CPT	BUF	NMA	MAN	ETH	EKU	JHB	TSH	Metros
Food access severely inadequate	10,6	4,8	18,4	14,1	0,8	3,3	6,2	4,3	6,1
Food access inadequate	12,4	16,5	15,0	13,7	6,5	13,2	15,3	9,1	12,1
Food access adequate	77,0	78,6	66,6	72,2	92,7	83,6	78,5	86,6	81,8

Figure 17.3 shows that 18,2% of metropolitan households had experienced inadequate or severely inadequate access to food during the preceding year. Food access problems were most common in Nelson Mandela Bay (33,4%) and Mangaung (27,8%).

18 Agriculture

Agriculture plays an important role in the process of economic development and can contribute significantly to household food security.

Figure 18.1 – Percentage (%) distribution of households involved in agricultural activities by province, 2024

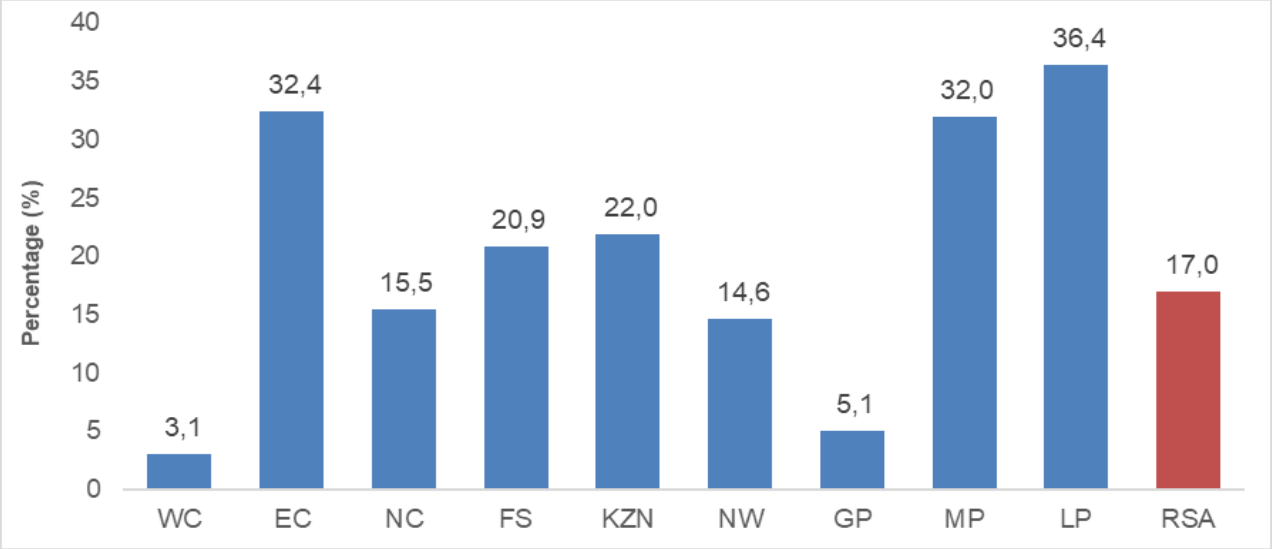
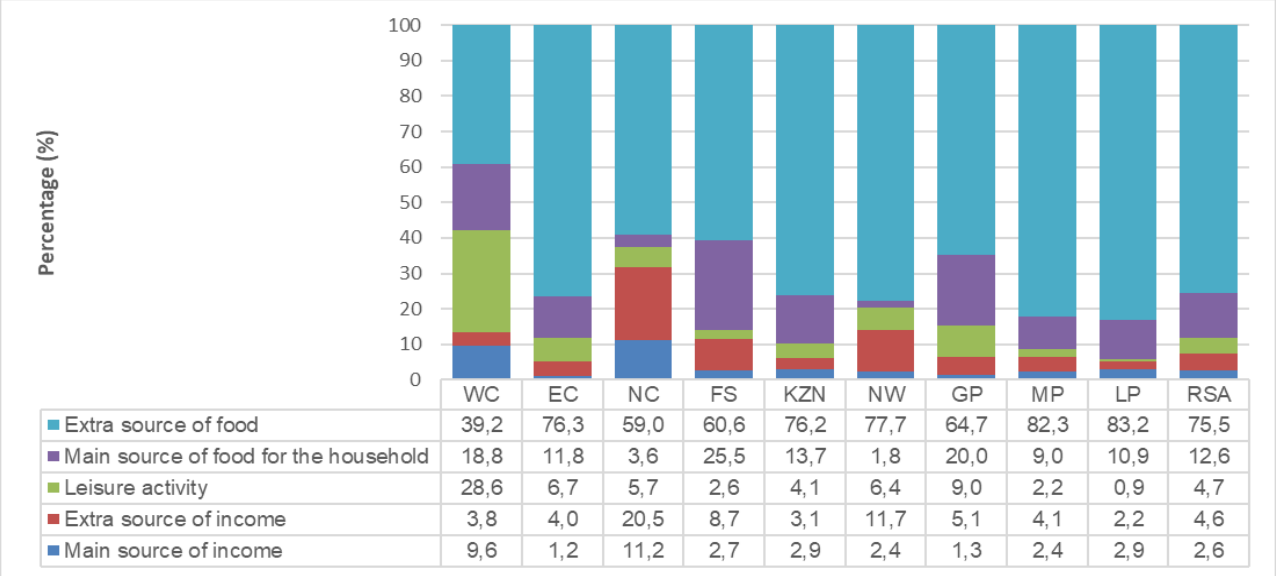


Figure 18.1 shows that only 17,0% of South African households were involved in some sort of agricultural production activities during the reference period. Households in Limpopo (36,4%), Eastern Cape (32,4%) and Mpumalanga (32,0%) were most involved, while only 3,1% of households in Western Cape, and 5,1% of households in Gauteng engaged in some agricultural activity.

Figure 18.2 – Percentage (%) distribution of households' main reasons for agricultural involvement in South Africa by province, 2024



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Extra source of food	39,2	76,3	59,0	60,6	76,2	77,7	64,7	82,3	83,2	75,5
Main source of food for the household	18,8	11,8	3,6	25,5	13,7	1,8	20,0	9,0	10,9	12,6
Leisure activity	28,6	6,7	5,7	2,6	4,1	6,4	9,0	2,2	0,9	4,7
Extra source of income	3,8	4,0	20,5	8,7	3,1	11,7	5,1	4,1	2,2	4,6
Main source of income	9,6	1,2	11,2	2,7	2,9	2,4	1,3	2,4	2,9	2,6

Figure 18.2 shows that the vast majority of South African households that engaged in agriculture did so in an attempt to secure an additional (75,5%) or a main (12,6%) source of food. The production of an additional source of food was most commonly reported in Limpopo (83,2%) and Mpumalanga (82,3%).

By contrast, only 39,2% of households in Western Cape used the production of an additional source of food as a reason to engage in agriculture. Only 7,2% of households engaged in agriculture to generate any income. Participation in agriculture to generate an extra source of income was most common in Northern Cape (20,5%) and North West (11,7%).

Table 18.1 – Nature of agricultural production activities per province, 2024

Production activity	Statistic (Thousands)	Province									
		WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	SA
Livestock production	Number	3	294	27	29	277	51	15	94	136	**925**
	Percentage	4,1	51,0	44,1	13,4	37,3	24,6	5,0	19,0	20,5	**27,8**
Poultry production	Number	5	367	17	19	444	100	13	156	154	**1 275**
	Percentage	7,7	63,6	28,5	8,9	59,8	47,9	4,3	31,6	23,2	**38,3**
Grains and food crops	Number	2	278	2	36	408	15	23	269	468	**1 500**
	Percentage	2,7	48,2	3,2	16,6	54,9	7,4	7,5	54,6	70,6	**45,1**
Fruit and vegetable crops	Number	59	313	27	188	170	127	274	355	430	**1 943**
	Percentage	87,3	54,2	44,7	88,2	22,9	60,6	90,2	72,0	64,8	**58,3**

A particular household can be involved in more than one activity and percentages therefore do not add up to 100%

Table 18.1 shows that, of the households that were engaged in agricultural production, 58,3% (1,9m households) grew fruits and vegetables, 45,1% (1,5m households) cultivated grains and food crops, while 38,3% (1,3m households) produced poultry. Livestock was produced by 27,8% of the households in South Africa.

19 Technical notes

19.1 Response rates

The national response rate for the survey was 85,5%. The highest response rate (97,2%) was recorded in Limpopo and the lowest in Gauteng (75,4%). This is presented in Table 19.1.

Table 19.1 – Response rates per province, GHS 2024

Province / Metropolitan Area	Response Rates
Western Cape	**81,75**
Non Metro	91,22
City of Cape Town	77,44
Eastern Cape	**94,09**
Non Metro	96,02
Buffalo City	92,14
Nelson Mandela Bay	88,58
Northern Cape	**83,17**
Free State	**88,43**
Non Metro	89,83
Mangaung	85,33
KwaZulu-Natal	**89,23**
Non Metro	93,88
eThekwini	80,97
North West	**87,01**
Gauteng	**75,36**
Non Metro	83,79
Ekurhuleni	83,83
City of Johannesburg	70,1
City of Tshwane	69,26
Mpumalanga	**91,76**
Limpopo	**97,15**
South Africa	**85,47**

19.2 Sample design

The General Household Survey (GHS) uses the Master Sample frame which has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other Stats SA household-based surveys that have design requirements that are reasonably compatible with the GHS. The GHS 2024 collection was based on the 2013 Master Sample that is, in turn, based on information collected during the 2011 Census conducted by Stats SA.

In preparation for Census 2011, the country was divided into 103 576 enumeration areas (EAs). The census EAs, together with the auxiliary information for the EAs, were used as the frame units or building blocks for the formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the Master Sample, since they covered the entire country and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs. There are 3 324 primary sampling units (PSUs) in the Master Sample with an expected sample of approximately 33 000 dwelling units (DUs). The number of PSUs in the current Master Sample (3 324) reflect an 8,0% increase in the size of the Master Sample compared to the previous (2008) Master Sample (which had 3 080 PSUs). The larger Master Sample of PSUs was selected to improve the precision (smaller coefficients of variation, known as CVs) of the GHS estimates.

The Master Sample is designed to be representative at provincial level and within provinces at metro/non-metro levels. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geographical type. The three geography types are Urban, Tribal and Farms. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area, the sample is representative of the different geography types that may exist within that metro. The sample for the GHS is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of PSUs in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

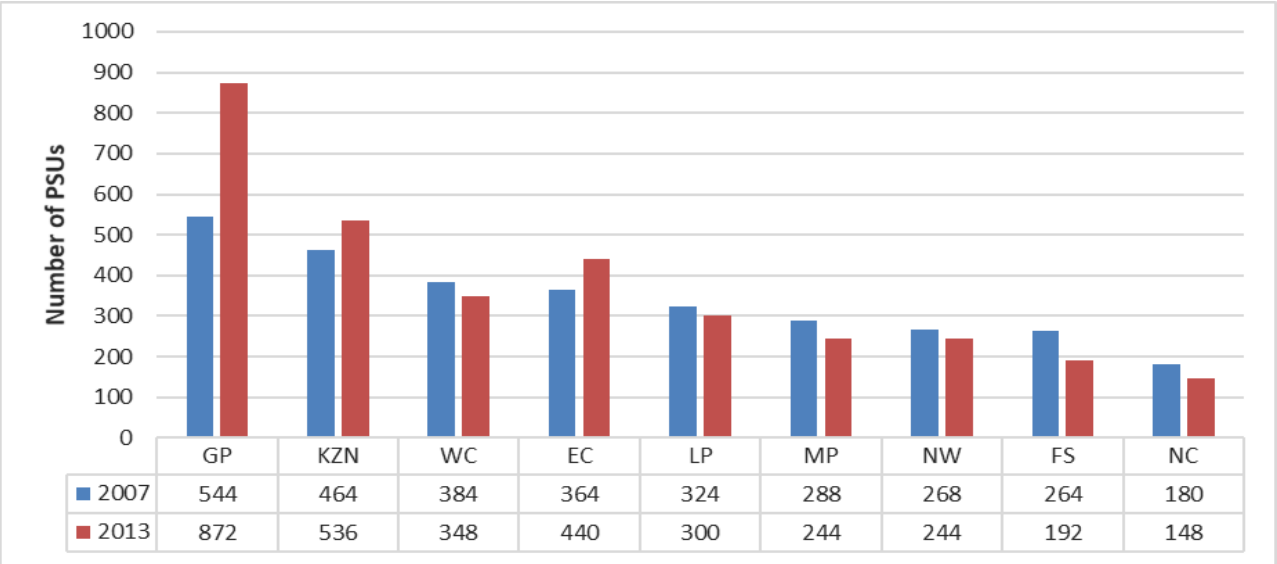
Table 19.2 – Comparison between the 2007 (old) Master Sample and the new Master Sample (designed in 2013)

	2007 Master Sample (GHS 2008-2014)	2013 Master Sample (GHS 2015 onwards)
Design	Two-stage stratified design	Two-stage stratified design
Number of primary sampling units (PSUs)	3 080 PSUs	3 324 PSUs
Number of dwelling units (DUs)	Approximately 30 000 DUs	Approximately 33 000 DUs
Stratification	No stratification by geo-type within metros/non-metros	Stratification by geo-type within metros/non-metros
Geo-types	4 geo-types, namely urban formal, urban informal, tribal areas, and rural formal	3 geo-types, namely urban, traditional, and farms
Sample	Sample representative at national, provincial and metro levels, but estimates only produced to provincial level	Sample representative at national, provincial and metro levels Weights produced to publish estimates at metro level

There are a number of aspects in which the two Master Samples differ. The number of geo-types were, firstly, reduced from four to three (excluding urban informal, and keeping urban, rural traditional and rural farms). The new Master Sample, furthermore, allows for the publication of estimates at metro level.

Primary stratification occurred at provincial and metro/non-metro levels, for mining, and geography type, while the secondary strata were created within the primary strata based on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population. Given the change in the provincial distribution of the South African population between 2001 and 2011, the Master Sample was accordingly adjusted. This is presented in Figure 19.1. There was also an 8% increase in the sample size of the Master Sample of PSUs to improve the precision of the GHS estimates. In particular, the sample sizes increased most notably in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape.

Figure 19.1 – Distribution of primary sampling units by province, 2007 (old) Master Sample and the new Master Sample (designed in 2013)



	GP	KZN	WC	EC	LP	MP	NW	FS	NC
2007	544	464	384	364	324	288	268	264	180
2013	872	536	348	440	300	244	244	192	148

19.3 Allocating sample sizes to strata[2]

The randomised PPS systematic sampling method is described below. This procedure was applied independently within each design stratum.

Let N be the total number of PSUs in the stratum, and the number of PSUs to be selected from the stratum is denoted by n. Also, let x_i denote the size measure of the PSU i within the stratum, where $i = 1, 2, 3, ..., N.$ Then, the method for selecting the sample of n PSUs with the Randomised PPS systematic sampling method can be described as follows:

Step 1: Randomise the PSUs within the stratum

The list of N PSUs within the stratum can be randomised by generating uniform random between 0 and 1, and then by sorting the N PSUs in ascending or descending order of these random numbers. Once the PSUs have been randomised, we can generate permanent sequence numbers for the PSUs.

Step 2: Define normalised measures of size for the PSUs

We denote by x_i the measure of size (MOS) of PSU i within the design stratum. Then, the measure of size for the stratum is given by $X = \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i$. We define the normalised size measure p_i of PSU i as $p_i = x_i / X; \quad i = 1, 2, 3, - - - N,$ where N is the total number of PSUs in the design stratum. Then, p_i is the relative size of the PSU i in the stratum, and $\sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i = 1$ for all strata. It should be noted that the value of $n \times p_i$, which is the selection probability of PSU i must be less than one.

Step 3: Obtain inverse sampling rates (ISRs)

Let R be the stratum inverse sampling rate (ISR). The stratum ISR is the same as the corresponding provincial ISR because of the proportional allocation within the province. It should also be noted that the proportional allocation within the province also results in a self-weighting design.

Then, the PSU inverse sampling rates (ISRs) are obtained as follows:

First, define N real numbers $Z_i = n \times p_i \times R; i = 1, 2, 3, - - -, N$. It is easy to verify that $\sum_{i=1}^{N} Z_i = n \times R$. Next, round the N real numbers $Z_i; i = 1, 2, 3, ..., N$ to integer values $R_i; i = 1, 2, 3, ..., N$ such that each R_i is as close as possible to the corresponding Z_i value and the R_i values add up to $n \times R$ within the stratum. In other words, the sum of the absolute differences between the R_i and the corresponding Z_i values is minimised subject to the constraint that the R_i values add up to $n \times R$ within the stratum. Drew, Choudhry and Gray (1978) provide a simple algorithm to obtain the integer R_i values as follows:

[2] Source: Sample Selection and Rotation for the Redesigned South African Labour Force Survey by G. Hussain Choudhry, 2007.

Let $"d"$ be the difference between the value $n \times R$ and the sum $S = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [Z_i]$, where $[.]$ is the integer function, then R_i values can be obtained by rounding up the $"d"$ Z_i values with the largest fraction parts, and by rounding down the remaining $(N-d)$ of them. It should be noted that the integer sizes $R_i; i = 1, 2, 3, ..., N$ are also the PSU inverse sampling rates (ISRs) for systematic sampling of dwelling units.

Step 4: Obtain cumulative ISR values

We denote by $C_i; i = 1, 2, 3, ..., N$ the cumulative ISRs of the PSUs within the stratum. It should be noted that the PSUs within the stratum have been sorted according to the sequence numbers that were assigned after the randomisation. Then, the cumulative ISRs are defined as follows:

$$C_1 = R_1,$$
$$C_j = C_{(j-1)} + R_j; \quad j = 2, 3, - - -, N.$$

It should be noted that the value C_N will be equal to $n \times R$, which is also the total number of systematic samples of dwelling units that can be selected from the stratum.

Step 5: Generate an integer random number r between 1 and R, and compute n integers $r_1, r_2, - - -, r_n$ as follows:

$$r_1 = r$$
$$r_2 = r_1 + R$$
$$r_3 = r_2 + R$$
.
.
$$r_i = r_{(i-1)} + R$$
.
.
$$r_n = r_{(n-1)} + R.$$

Step 6: Select n PSUs out of the N PSUs in the stratum with the labels (sequence numbers) number $i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_n$ such that:

$$C_{i_1 - 1} < r_1 \leq C_{i_1}$$
$$C_{i_2 - 1} < r_2 \leq C_{i_2}$$
.
.
$$C_{i_n - 1} < r_n \leq C_{i_n}.$$

Then, the n PSUs with the labels $i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_n$ would get selected with probabilities proportional to size, and the selection probability of the PSU i will be given by R_i / R.

19.4 Methodology and fieldwork

A multi-stage sample design was used in this survey, which is based on a stratified design with probability proportional to size selection of primary sampling units (PSUs) at the first stage and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling at the second stage. After allocating the sample to the provinces, the sample was further stratified by geography (primary stratification), and by population attributes using Census 2011 data (secondary stratification). Survey officers employed and trained by Stats SA visited all the sampled dwelling units in each of the nine provinces. During the first phase of the survey, sampled dwelling units were visited and informed about the coming survey as part of the publicity campaign. A total of 20 940 households were successfully interviewed during face-to-face interviews.

Approximately 233 enumerators and 62 provincial and district coordinators participated in the survey across all nine provinces. An additional 27 quality assurers were responsible for monitoring and ensuring questionnaire quality. National refresher training took place over a period of two days. The national trainers then trained provincial trainers for two days at provincial level.

The GHS sample is divided into twelve relatively equal parts meant to be completed between January and December each year. Due to practical considerations, data collection usually starts towards the end of January before concluding by mid-December before the annual Christmas holidays.

19.5 Editing and imputation

Historically the GHS used a conservative and hands-off approach to editing. Manual editing, and little if any imputation was done. The focus of the editing process was on clearing skip violations and ensuring that each variable only contained valid values. Very few limits to valid values were set, and data were largely released as they were received from the field.

With GHS 2009, Stats SA introduced an automated editing and imputation system that was continued for GHS 2010–2015. The challenge was to remain true, as much as possible, to the conservative approach used prior to GHS 2009, and yet, at the same time, to develop a standard set of rules to be used during editing which could be applied consistently across time. When testing for *skip violations* and doing automated editing, the following general rules are applied in cases where *one question follows the filter question* and the skip is violated:

- If the filter question had a missing value, the filter is allocated the value that corresponds with the subsequent question which had a valid value.

- If the values of the filter question and subsequent question are inconsistent, the filter question's value is set to missing and imputed using either the hot-deck or nearest neighbour imputation techniques. The imputed value is then once again tested against the skip rule. If the skip rule remains violated, the question subsequent to the filter question is dealt with by either setting it to missing and imputing or, if that fails, printing a message of edit failure for further investigation, decision-making and manual editing.

In cases where *skip violations* take place for questions where *multiple questions follow the filter question*, the rules used are as follows:

- If the filter question has a missing value, the filter is allocated the value that corresponds with the value expected given the completion of the remainder of the question set.

- If the filter question and the values of subsequent questions values were inconsistent, a counter is set to see what proportion of the subsequent questions have been completed. If more than 50% of the subsequent questions have been completed, the filter question's value is modified to correspond with the fact that the rest of the questions in the set were completed. If less than 50% of the subsequent questions in the set were completed, the value of the filter question is set to missing and imputed using either the hot-deck or nearest neighbour imputation techniques. The imputed value is then once again tested against the skip rule. If the skip rule remains violated the questions in the set that follows the filter question are set to missing.

When dealing with *internal inconsistencies,* as much as possible was done using logical imputation, i.e. information from other questions is compared with the inconsistent information. If other evidence is found to back up either of the two inconsistent viewpoints, the inconsistency is resolved accordingly. If the internal consistency remains, the question subsequent to the filter question is dealt with by either setting it to missing and imputing its value or printing a message of edit failure for further investigation, decision-making and manual editing.

Two imputation techniques were used for imputing missing values: hot deck and nearest neighbour. In both cases the already published code was used for imputation. The variable composition of hot decks is based on a combination of the variables used for the Census (where appropriate), an analysis of odds ratios and logistic regression models. Generally, as in the QLFS system, the GHS adds geographic variables such as province, geography type, metro/non-metro, population group, etc. to further refine the decks. This was not done for Census 2001 and it is assumed that the reason for this is the differences in deck size and position for sample surveys as opposed to a multi-million record database.

The 'No' imputations assume that if the 'Yes'/'No' question had to be completed and there is a missing value next to any of the options, the response should have been 'No'. Missing values are therefore converted to the code for 'No', namely '2'. This is only done if there is some evidence that the questions have been completed. Otherwise, all remain missing. For questions for which each option represents a question, no 'No' imputations were made.

19.6 Weighting [3]

The sample weights were constructed in order to account for the following: the original selection probabilities (design weights), adjustments for PSUs that were sub-sampled or segmented, excluded population from the sampling frame, non-response, weight trimming, and benchmarking to known population estimates from the Demographic Analysis Division within Stats SA.

The sampling weights for the data collected from the sampled households were constructed so that the responses could be properly expanded to represent the entire civilian population of South Africa. The design weights, which are the inverse sampling rate (ISR) for the province, are assigned to each of the households in a province.

Mid-year population estimates produced by the Demographic Analysis Division were used for benchmarking. The final survey weights were constructed using regression estimation to calibrate to national level population estimates cross-classified by 5-year age groups, gender and race, and provincial population estimates by broad age groups. The 5-year age groups are: 0–4, 5–9, 10–14, 55–59, 60–64; and 65 and over. The provincial level age groups are 0–14, 15–34, 35–64; and 65 years and over. The calibrated weights were constructed such that all persons in a household would have the same final weight.

The Statistics Canada software StatMx was used for constructing calibration weights. The population controls at national and provincial level were used for the cells defined by cross-classification of Age by Gender by

[3] Source: Sampling and Weighting System for the Redesigned South African Labour Force Survey, by G. HussainChoudhry, 2007.

Race. Records for which the age, population group or sex had item non-response could not be weighted and were therefore excluded from the dataset. No additional imputation was done to retain these records.

Household estimates that were developed using the UN headship ratio methodology were used to weight household files. The databases of Census 1996, Census 2001, Community Survey 2007 and Census 2011 were used to analyse trends and develop models to predict the number of households for each year. The weighting system was based on tables for the expected distribution of household heads for specific age categories, per population group and province.

19.7 Data revisions

Stats SA survey data are benchmarked data against mid-year population estimates which are informed by the best available population data and most recent assumptions. Since populations change and estimates become less accurate the further they are projected into the future, benchmark figures have to be reviewed and replaced with more appropriate figures from time to time.

GHS data was reweighted in 2013 based on the 2013 series Mid-Year Population estimates which were released after the publication of Census 2011 data. Recent comparisons have, however, shown a discrepancy between the size and structure of the benchmark population and the Census 2011 data, and other complimentary data sources. It was therefore decided to replace the 2013 series MYPEs with the more recent 2017 series MYPEs as benchmarks for weighting the GHS data files.

In order to ensure comparability across the whole data series, the introduction of new benchmark totals means that all historical data also have to be reweighted. Weighting and benchmarking were also adjusted for the provincial boundaries that came into effect in 2011. The data for the GHS 2002 to 2024 as presented in this release are therefore comparable.

Household estimates, developed using the UN headship ratio methodology, were used to calibrate household files. The databases of Census 1996, Census 2001, Community Survey 2007 and Census 2011 were used to analyse trends and develop models to predict the number of households for each year. The weighting system was based on tables for the expected distribution of household heads for specific age categories, per population group and province.

Missing values and unknown values were excluded from totals used as denominators for the calculation of percentages, unless otherwise specified. Frequency values have been rounded off to the nearest thousand. Population totals in all tables reflect the population and sub-populations as calculated with SAS and rounded off. This will not always correspond exactly with the sum of the preceding rows because all numbers are rounded off to the nearest thousand.

19.8 Sampling and the interpretation of the data

Caution must be exercised when interpreting the results of the GHS at low levels of disaggregation. The sample and reporting are based on the provincial boundaries as defined in 2011. These new boundaries resulted in minor changes to the boundaries of some provinces, especially Gauteng, North West, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Eastern Cape, and Western Cape. In previous reports the sample was based on the provincial boundaries as defined in 2006, and there will therefore be slight comparative differences in terms of provincial boundary definitions.

19.9 Comparability with previous surveys

GHS questions and response options are modified from time to address changing government priorities as well as gaps identified through stakeholder interaction. When modifying the questionnaire, a balance is always struck between trying to maintain comparability over time and improving the quality of our measurements over time. As a result, variables do not always remain comparable over time and it is advisable to consult the meta data or to contact Stats SA to establish comparability when in doubt.

In most instances, changes do not negatively affect comparability. Modifications in the questions on marital status, highest level of education, and social grants have, for instance, not affected comparability at all. However, the questions used to measure disability until 2008 and thereafter are not comparable as a set of questions devised by the Washington Group replaced the questions used until 2008. Each individual is asked to rate their ability to perform six different tasks and their inability to perform two or more of the activities, of alternatively being unable to do one renders them disabled. Similarly, the comparison of the total number of rooms in a dwelling should also be treated with caution as a single room with multiple uses were added in 2014, based on the Census 2011 categories.

The transition to CAPI has also required some modifications to the questions and response options. Although modifications were tested before they were implemented, slight variations linked to the electronic format, and changes in the question order, response options and entrenched skip patterns and enabling conditions might occur.

19.10 Questionnaire

Table 19.2 summarises the details of the questions included in the GHS questionnaire. The questions are covered in 19 sub-sections, each focusing on a particular aspect. Depending on the need for additional information, the questionnaire is adapted on an annual basis. New sections may be introduced on a specific topic for which information is needed, or additional questions may be added to existing sections. Likewise, questions that are no longer necessary may be removed.

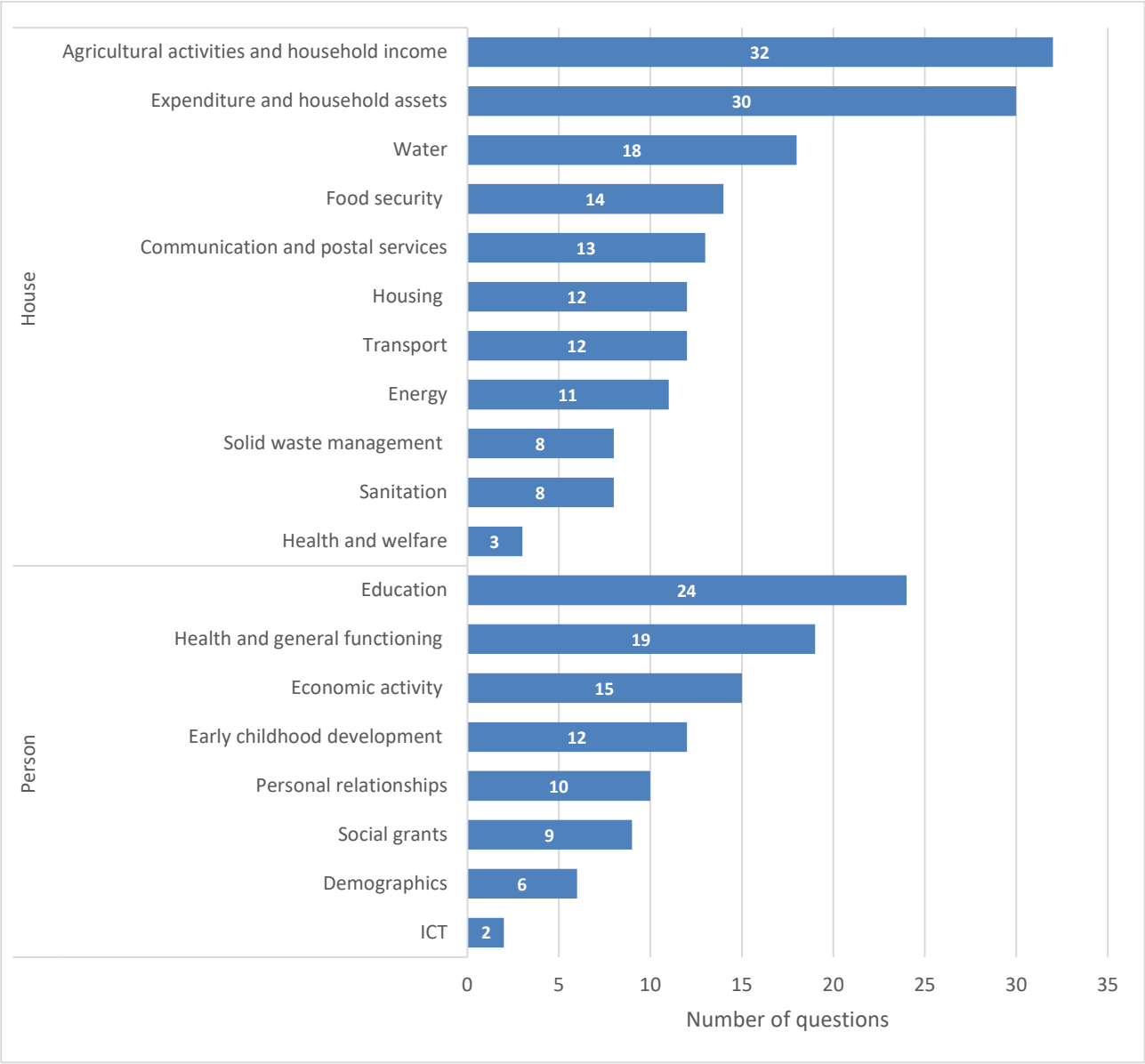
The GHS questionnaire has undergone some revisions over time. These changes were primarily the result of shifts in focus of government programmes over time. The 2002–2004 questionnaires were very similar. Changes made to the GHS 2005 questionnaire included additional questions in the education section with a total of 179 questions. Between 2006 and 2008, the questionnaire remained virtually unchanged. For GHS 2009, extensive stakeholder consultation took place during which the questionnaire was reviewed to be more in line with the monitoring and evaluation frameworks of the various government departments. Particular sections that were modified substantially during the review process were the sections on education, social development, housing, agriculture, and food security.

Even though the number of sections and pages in the questionnaire remained the same, questions in the GHS 2009 were increased from 166 to 185 between 2006 and 2008. Following the introduction of a dedicated survey on Domestic Tourism, the section on tourism was dropped for GHS 2010. Due to a further rotation of questions, particularly the addition of a module on Early Childhood Development (ECD) in 2015, the GHS 2016 questionnaire contained 219 questions. The number of ECD questions were decreased in 2019 in order to reduce respondent burden.

As from 2019, computer assisted personal interviews (CAPI) replaced paper and pen data collection (PAPI). Although the structure of the questionnaire remained recognisable, sections, questions and response options were modified, in most cases very slightly, to satisfy the requirements of the electronic platform. The number of questions were also further reduced to reduce interview time.

Although the overall length of the CAPI questionnaire was shortened significantly in 2020 and 2021 to accommodate the telephonic interviews, the longer 2019 questionnaire was reintroduced in 2022 to date. Currently, the GHS 2024 questionnaires contained approximately 258 questions.

Figure 19.2 – Summary of the sections covered by GHS 2024



19.11 Measures of precision for selected variables of the General Household Surveys

Since estimates are based on sample data, they differ from figures that would have been obtained from complete enumeration of the population using the same instrument. Results are subject to both sampling and non-sampling errors. Non-sampling errors include biases from inaccurate reporting, processing, and tabulation, etc., as well as errors from non-responses and incomplete reporting. These types of errors cannot be measured readily. However, to some extent, non-sampling errors can be minimised through the procedures used for data collection, editing, quality control, and non-response adjustment. The variances of the survey estimates are used to measure sampling errors.

19.11.1 Variance estimation

The most commonly used methods for estimating variances of survey estimates from complex surveys such as the QLFS are the Taylor-series Linearization, Jack-knife Replication, Balanced Repeated Replication (BRR), and Bootstrap methods (Wolter, 2007). The Fay's BRR method has been used for variance estimation in the QLFS because of its simplicity.

19.11.2 Coefficient of variation

It is more useful in many situations to assess the size of the standard error relative to the magnitude of the characteristic being measured (the standard error is defined as the square root of the variance). The coefficient of variation (cv) provides such a measure. It is the ratio of the standard error of the survey estimate to the value of the estimate itself expressed as a percentage. It is very useful in comparing the precision of several different survey estimates, where their sizes or scales differ from one another.

Coefficient of variation (CV) is a measure of the relative size of error defined as 100 X (standard error / estimated value).

19.11.3 P-value of an estimate of change

The p-value corresponding to an estimate of change is the probability of observing a value larger than the particular observed value under the hypothesis that there is no real change. If the p-value 0,05, the difference is not significant.

Figure 19.3 – CV Thresholds

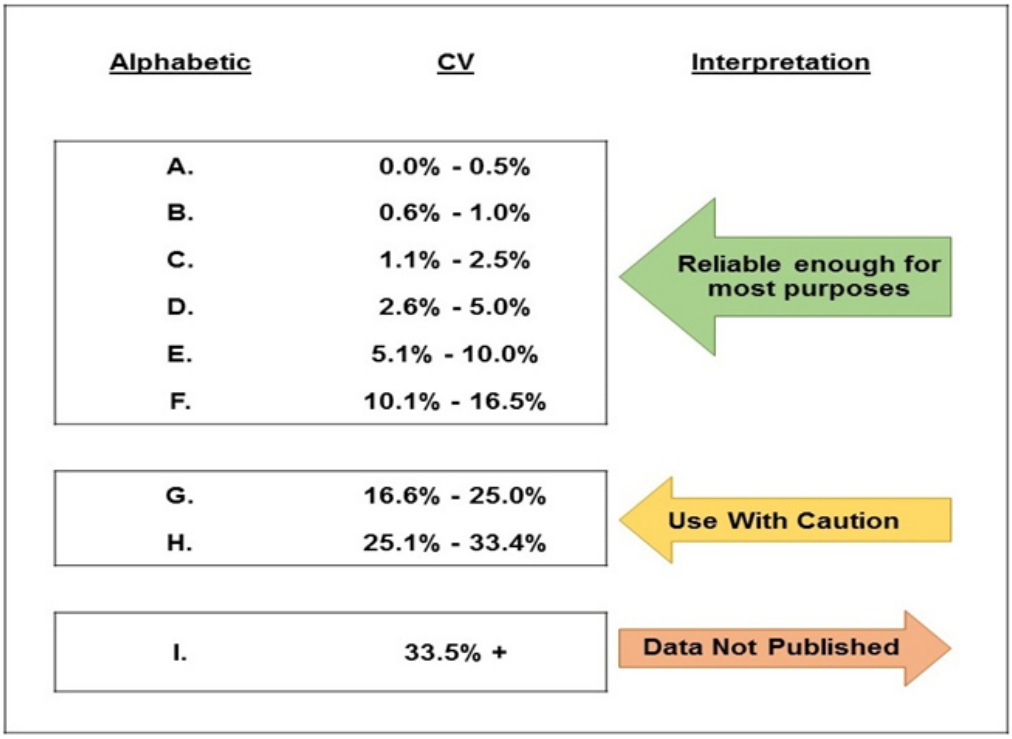


Table 19.3 – Measures of precision for relationship to the household head, 2024

Relationship to head/acting head of the household	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Head /Acting Head	17 815 267	28,2	27,9	28,6	0,2	0,6*	1,0
Spouse / Partner	6 844 648	10,8	10,6	11,1	0,1	1,2*	1,1
Son/Daughter/step- or adopted child	20 963 842	33,2	32,8	33,7	0,2	0,7*	1,6
Sibling	2 346 815	3,7	3,5	3,9	0,1	3,0*	2,5
Parent	199 838	0,3	0,3	0,4	0,0	9,3*	1,9
Grandparent	16 337	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	27,6**	1,4
Grandchild	9 816 660	15,6	15,0	16,1	0,3	1,7*	3,9
Other relative	4 524 550	7,2	6,8	7,5	0,2	2,7*	3,9
Non-related persons	593 974	0,9	0,8	1,1	0,1	8,3*	4,6

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.4 – Measures of precision for marital status, 2024

Marital Status	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Legally married	11 395 406	18,1	17,6	18,5	0,2	1,3*	2,6
Living together like husband and wife/partners	4 888 958	7,8	7,4	8,1	0,2	2,2*	2,9
Divorced	796 709	1,3	1,2	1,4	0,1	4,0*	1,4
Separated, but still legally married	278 349	0,4	0,4	0,5	0,0	5,7*	1,0
Widowed	2 668 119	4,2	4,1	4,4	0,1	1,9*	1,1
Single, but have lived together with someone as husband/wife before	864 493	1,4	1,2	1,5	0,1	5,4*	2,8
Single and have never been married/never lived together as husband/wife before	42 120 416	66,8	66,3	67,4	0,3	0,4*	2,3

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.5 – Measures of precision for educational institution attended, 2024

Educational institution attended	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Pre-school	449 488	2,5	2,3	2,8	0,1	5,4*	1,6
Grade R - 12	15 562 092	87,6	86,9	88,2	0,3	0,4*	2,2
ABET/AET	4 807	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	43,4***	1,0
Higher education institutions	979 500	5,5	5,0	6,0	0,2	4,3*	2,3
TVET	416 384	2,3	2,1	2,6	0,1	5,7*	1,6
Other colleges	307 904	1,7	1,5	2,0	0,1	7,8*	2,2
Home schooling	50 447	0,3	0,2	0,4	0,1	23,5**	3,2

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.6 – Measures of precision for highest level of education, 2024

Highest level of education	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
No schooling	2 579 004	4,6	4,4	4,8	0,1	2,1*	1,3
Grade R - 4	11 448 890	20,3	19,9	20,6	0,2	0,9*	1,4
Grade 5	2 869 255	5,1	4,9	5,3	0,1	2,0*	1,3
Grade 8 - 11	18 109 982	32,1	31,6	32,5	0,2	0,8*	1,8
Grade 12	14 792 969	26,2	25,7	26,7	0,3	1,0*	2,3
NTCI -II	86 072	0,2	0,1	0,2	0,0	10,7*	1,1
NTCIII	139 494	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,0	9,7*	1,5
N4 - N6	608 994	1,1	1,0	1,2	0,0	4,4*	1,4
Certificate/diploma without Grade12	117 129	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,0	10,5*	1,4
Certificate/diploma with Grade12	2 543 627	4,5	4,2	4,8	0,1	2,9*	2,4
Post matric qualifications	3 201 463	5,7	5,4	6,0	0,2	2,8*	3,1

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.7 – Measures of precision for disability status, 2024

Disability status	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
No	54 761 678	95,3	95,1	95,5	0,1	0,1*	2,0
Yes	2 692 107	4,7	4,5	4,9	0,1	2,5*	2,0

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.8 – Measures of precision for medical aid coverage, 2024

Medical aid coverage	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Yes	9 782 929	15,5	14,8	16,1	0,3	2,2*	6,1
No	53 307 283	84,4	83,7	85,0	0,3	0,4*	6,1
Do not know	89 053	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,0	12,5*	1,6

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.9 – Measures of precision for Main Dwelling, 2024

Main Dwelling	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Brick / concrete house	12 710 150	65,2	64,1	66,3	0,6	0,8*	2,8
Traditional dwelling	766 465	3,9	3,5	4,3	0,2	5,4*	2,4
Flat or apartment	914 538	4,7	4,0	5,3	0,3	7,0*	5,1
Cluster house in complex	163 778	0,8	0,6	1,1	0,1	15,5*	4,2
Town house	296 191	1,5	1,2	1,9	0,2	11,4*	4,2
Semi-Detached house	321 983	1,7	1,4	1,9	0,1	9,0*	2,8
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	1 147 358	5,9	5,3	6,5	0,3	4,9*	3,2
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	763 065	3,9	3,5	4,3	0,2	4,8*	1,9
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	1 525 583	7,8	7,1	8,5	0,4	4,6*	3,8
Room/flatlet on a property	880 966	4,5	4,0	5,1	0,3	6,2*	3,7
Caravan/tent	3 468	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	49,3***	0,9

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.10 – Measures of precision for type of toilet facility, 2024

Type of toilet facility	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits for		Standard Error of Percent	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Flush toilet (connected to sewerage system)	12 056 132	61,9	60,8	62,9	0,6	0,9*	2,7
Flush toilet (with septic tank)	924 970	4,7	4,3	5,2	0,2	5,1*	2,7
Pour flush toilet	63 898	0,3	0,2	0,4	0,1	18,4**	2,3
chemical toilet	181 071	0,9	0,7	1,2	0,1	14,8*	4,3
Pit toilet with ventilation (VIP)	3 192 124	16,4	15,6	17,2	0,4	2,4*	2,4
Pit toilet without ventilation,with a slab	1 874 158	9,6	9,0	10,2	0,3	3,3*	2,4
Pit toilet without ventilation, without a slab	880 176	4,5	4,0	5,0	0,3	5,6*	3,1
Bucket toilet(collected by mun)	113 601	0,6	0,3	0,8	0,1	20,4**	5,1
Bucket toilet (emptied by hh)	43 575	0,2	0,1	0,3	0,0	22,3**	2,3
Ecological sanitation system	20 159	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,0	38,1***	3,1
Open defecation	140 247	0,7	0,6	0,9	0,1	11,2*	1,9

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.11 – Measures of precision for main source of water for household use, 2024

Main source of water for household use	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits for		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Piped water in dwelling	9 067 552	46,6	45,6	47,7	0,5	1,1*	2,4
Piped water in yard	5 940 825	30,5	29,5	31,6	0,5	1,8*	2,9
Borehole in yard	505 738	2,6	2,3	2,9	0,2	6,3*	2,2
Rain water tank	448 778	2,3	2,1	2,5	0,1	5,1*	1,3
Neigbour tap	419 416	2,2	1,9	2,4	0,1	6,4*	1,9
Public tap	1 727 073	8,9	8,1	9,7	0,4	4,5*	4,1
Water tanker	223 810	1,2	0,9	1,4	0,1	11,7*	3,3
Water vendor	420 359	2,2	1,8	2,5	0,2	8,0*	2,9
Borehole outside yard	241 876	1,2	1,0	1,5	0,1	11,3*	3,3
Flowing water /River/stream	241 446	1,2	1,0	1,5	0,1	9,0*	2,1
Dam/pool/stagnant water	12 086	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,0	28,4**	1,0
Well protected	12 432	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,0	28,1**	1,0
Well unprotected	48 924	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,0	19,8**	2,1
spring protected	20 889	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,0	22,8**	1,2
spring unprotected	121 320	0,6	0,5	0,8	0,1	12,7*	2,1

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.12 – Measures of precision for tenure status, 2024

Tenure status	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Rented from private owner	4 551 091	23,4	22,5	24,3	0,5	2,0*	2,6
Rented from other	324 997	1,7	1,3	2,0	0,2	10,5*	3,9
Owned but not yet paid off to bank	1 030 287	5,3	4,8	5,8	0,2	4,6*	2,5
Owned but not yet paid off to private owner	193 466	1,0	0,8	1,2	0,1	10,0*	2,1
Owned and fully paid off	10 445 188	53,8	52,7	54,8	0,5	1,0*	2,4
Occupied rent free	2 882 368	14,8	14,0	15,6	0,4	2,7*	2,7

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.13 – Measures of precision for refuse removal, 2024

Refuse Removal	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Removed by local authority/private company/community at least once a week	11 980 117	61,5	60,3	62,6	0,6	1,0*	3,0
Removed by local authority/private company/community less often than once a week	450 787	2,3	2,0	2,7	0,2	7,8*	3,0
Communal refuse dump	716 241	3,7	3,2	4,2	0,3	6,9*	3,8
Communal container	498 491	2,6	2,1	3,0	0,2	8,7*	4,1
Own refuse dump	5 499 633	28,2	27,3	29,1	0,5	1,7*	2,2
Dump anywhere	343 613	1,8	1,5	2,1	0,2	8,7*	2,8

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.14 – Measures of precision for main source of energy used for cooking, 2024

Main source of energy used for cooking	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Electricity from mains	15 110 702	77,9	76,9	78,9	0,5	0,6*	3,0
Other sources of electricity	878 432	4,5	4,0	5,0	0,3	5,7*	3,2
Gas	1 405 850	7,2	6,7	7,8	0,3	4,1*	2,7
Paraffin	425 870	2,2	1,8	2,6	0,2	8,3*	3,2
Wood	1 511 671	7,8	7,3	8,3	0,3	3,3*	1,9
Coal	56 123	0,3	0,2	0,4	0,0	16,2*	1,6
Animal dung	5 022	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	43,4***	1,0

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.15 – Measures of precision for main source of energy used for lighting, 2024

Main source of energy used for lighting	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Electricity from mains	17 444 528	90,0	89,2	90,8	0,4	0,4*	3,5
Other sources of electricity	1 111 408	5,7	5,2	6,3	0,3	4,9*	3,1
Gas	36 893	0,2	0,1	0,3	0,0	18,8**	1,4
Paraffin	109 491	0,6	0,4	0,7	0,1	14,9*	2,6
Candles	683 050	3,5	3,1	4,0	0,2	6,6*	3,3

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table 19.16 – Measures of precision for health facility used by households, 2024

Health facilities used by households	Weighted Frequency	Percent	95% Confidence Limits		Standard Error	Coefficient of Variation	Design Effect
Public hospital	1 087 984	5,6	5,1	6,1	0,3	4,7*	2,7
Public clinic	13 121 015	67,2	66,3	68,1	0,5	0,7*	2,1
Other public institution	71 882	0,4	0,2	0,6	0,1	25,6**	5,1
Private hospital	467 613	2,4	2,1	2,7	0,2	6,9*	2,5
Private clinic	326 282	1,7	1,4	1,9	0,1	8,0*	2,3
Private doctor	4 151 557	21,3	20,5	22,0	0,4	1,9*	2,0
Traditional healer	20 185	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,0	25,3**	1,4
Spiritual healer's / church	20 473	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,0	27,0**	1,6
Pharmacy	212 194	1,1	0,9	1,3	0,1	9,4*	2,0
Health facility provided by employer	33 135	0,2	0,1	0,3	0,1	30,0**	3,2
Alternative medicine	15 056	0,1	0,0	0,1	0,0	35,4***	2,0

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics
** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution
*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

19.12 Limitations of the study

The questionnaires for the GHS series were revised extensively in 2009 and some questions might not be exactly comparable to the data series before then.

Analysts and users of the data are also advised not to do a comparative analysis over time before studying the questionnaires of the years concerned in detail, as there have also been small modifications to options to a number of questions.

In addition to changes to the questions, the data collection period has also changed since 2002. Between 2002 and 2008 data were gathered during July. The data collection period was extended to 3 months (July to September) between 2010 and 2012. As from 2013, the data collection period was extended to 12 months (January to December). Although the extension is not necessarily a limitation, it should be borne in mind when using the data for comparative purposes.

20 Glossary

Household	Group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food and/or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone. **Note:** The persons basically occupy a common dwelling unit (or part of it) for at least four nights in a week on average during the past four weeks prior to the survey interview, sharing resources as a unit. Other explanatory phrases can be 'eating from the same pot' and 'cook and eat together'. Persons who occupy the same dwelling unit but do not share food or other essentials, are regarded as separate households. For example, people who share a dwelling unit, but buy food separately, and generally provide for themselves separately, are regarded as separate households within the same dwelling unit. They are generally referred to as multiple households (even though they may be occupying the same dwelling). Conversely, a household may occupy more than one structure. If persons on a plot, stand or yard eat together, but sleep in separate structures (e.g. a room at the back of the house for single young male members of a family), all these persons should be regarded as one household.
Multiple household	When two or more households live in the same dwelling unit. **Note:** If there are two or more households in the selected dwelling unit and they do not share resources, all households are to be interviewed. The whole dwelling unit has been given one chance of selection and all households located there were interviewed using separate questionnaires.
Household head	Main decision-maker, or the person who owns or rents the dwelling, or the person who is the main breadwinner.
Acting household head	Any member of the household acting on behalf of the head of the household.
Nuclear households	Consist of spouses living alone, or with their children
Extended households	Family that extends beyond the nuclear family and which consists of parents, their children, and other family members such as aunts, uncles, grandparents and cousins, all living in the same household.
Complex households	Consist of a nuclear or extended household core and non-related individuals.
Single generation households	Consist of family members from the same generation (i.e. siblings, parents) living together.
Double generation households	Consist of family members from at least two generations, i.e. parents and children.
Triple generation households	Contains three generations of families (grandparents, parents and grandchildren) in the same household.
Skip generation households	Comprised of grandchildren living with one or more grandparents in the absence of any biological parents.

Formal dwelling	Structure built according to approved plans, i.e. house on a separate stand, flat or apartment, townhouse, room in backyard, rooms or flatlet elsewhere. Contrasted with *informal dwelling* and *traditional dwelling.*
Informal dwelling	Makeshift structure not erected according to approved architectural plans, for example *shack*s or *shanties* in *informal settlement*s or in backyards.
Piped water in dwelling or on-site	Piped water inside the household's own dwelling or in their yard. It excludes water from a neighbour's tap or a public tap that is not on site.
Hygienic toilet facility	Flush toilet, chemical toilet or pit latrine with ventilation pipe.
UN disability	Concentrating and remembering are grouped together as one category. If an individual has 'Some difficulty' with two or more of the six categories, then they are disabled. If an individual has 'A lot of difficulty' or is 'Unable to do' for one or more categories they are classified as disabled.
Severe disability	If an individual has 'A lot of difficulty' or is 'Unable to do' for one or more categories they are classified as severely disabled.
Social Relief of Distress Grant	Social Relief of Distress is paid to South African citizens or permanent residents, who have insufficient means and meet one or more of the following criteria: • The applicant is awaiting payment of an approved social grant. • The applicant has been found medically unfit to undertake remunerative work for a period of less than 6 months. • The bread winner is deceased and application is made within three months of the date of death. • No maintenance is received from parent, child or spouse obliged in law to pay maintenance, and proof is furnished that efforts made to obtain maintenance have been unsuccessful. • The bread winner of that person`s family has been admitted to an institution funded by the state (prison, psychiatric hospital, state home for older persons, treatment centre for substance abuse or child and youth care centre). • The applicant has been affected by a disaster as defined in the Disaster Management Act or the Fund Raising Act, 1978. • The person is not receiving assistance from any other organization or. • Refusal of the application for social relief of distress will cause undue hardships. • Period of Social Relief of Distress (New Policy) Social Relief of Distress is issued monthly for a maximum period of 3 months. An extension a further 3 months may be granted in exceptional cases.
COVID-19 SRD grants	A special grant of R350 per month that was implemented by Government to ameliorate the impact of COVID-19. The grant is aimed at individuals who are currently unemployed, or who do not receive any form of income, social grant or UIF payment. The grant was initially meant to be paid for six months, but it has been extended a number of times.
Improved source of water	'Piped water in dwelling or in yard', and 'Water from a neighbour's tap or public/communal tap' are also included provided that the distance to the water source is less than 200 metres.

ADDENDUM TABLES

1. Population

1.1 By province, population group and sex, 2024

Province	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Western Cape	1 242	1 320	**2 562**	1 732	1 835	**3 567**	69	50	**119**	589	671	**1 260**	3 632	3 876	**7 508**
Eastern Cape	2 777	2 898	**5 675**	261	291	**552**	28	13	**41**	134	130	**265**	3 200	3 333	**6 533**
Northern Cape	348	356	**705**	254	268	**523**	*	*	*	46	47	**93**	650	672	**1 322**
Free State	1 380	1 405	**2 785**	42	39	**82**	16	*	**19**	78	90	**167**	1 515	1 538	**3 053**
KwaZulu-Natal	5 176	5 652	**10 828**	47	41	**87**	411	416	**828**	171	182	**354**	5 805	6 292	**12 096**
North West	1 983	2 058	**4 042**	15	13	**28**	*	*	**11**	117	129	**246**	2 120	2 206	**4 327**
Gauteng	7 343	7 098	**14 441**	234	254	**487**	251	242	**493**	808	794	**1 602**	8 636	8 387	**17 023**
Mpumalanga	2 309	2 467	**4 776**	12	14	**26**	15	11	**26**	88	103	**191**	2 424	2 595	**5 019**
Limpopo	2 922	3 239	**6 160**	*	*	**5**	10	*	**15**	55	63	**118**	2 990	3 308	**6 298**
South Africa	**25 481**	**26 493**	**51 974**	**2 600**	**2 757**	**5 358**	**805**	**747**	**1 553**	**2 085**	**2 209**	**4 295**	**30 972**	**32 208**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

1. Population

1.2 By age group, population group and sex, 2024

Age group	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
00-04	2 495	2 471	**4 966**	237	232	**469**	48	46	**94**	100	96	**196**	2 880	2 846	**5 725**
05-09	2 558	2 543	**5 100**	243	239	**483**	50	48	**98**	113	108	**221**	2 964	2 938	**5 902**
10-14	2 547	2 547	**5 094**	239	236	**475**	50	47	**97**	123	119	**242**	2 959	2 949	**5 908**
15-19	2 379	2 401	**4 780**	223	221	**444**	47	44	**92**	127	123	**251**	2 777	2 790	**5 567**
20-24	2 044	2 070	**4 115**	204	202	**405**	48	44	**93**	110	110	**220**	2 406	2 426	**4 833**
25-29	2 189	2 202	**4 392**	210	210	**420**	63	54	**116**	112	112	**224**	2 575	2 578	**5 153**
30-34	2 408	2 426	**4 833**	216	216	**432**	76	63	**139**	124	123	**247**	2 824	2 828	**5 651**
35-39	2 357	2 359	**4 716**	205	207	**412**	81	65	**146**	142	142	**284**	2 785	2 772	**5 558**
40-44	1 935	1 900	**3 835**	174	182	**356**	79	63	**141**	146	146	**293**	2 334	2 291	**4 625**
45-49	1 395	1 357	**2 752**	147	152	**298**	65	53	**118**	147	153	**300**	1 754	1 715	**3 468**
50-54	1 036	1 056	**2 092**	138	153	**291**	56	49	**104**	166	171	**337**	1 396	1 429	**2 824**
55-59	716	897	**1 613**	121	149	**270**	45	44	**89**	151	160	**311**	1 032	1 251	**2 283**
60-64	562	755	**1 317**	99	125	**224**	36	39	**74**	136	152	**288**	834	1 070	**1 904**
65-69	397	587	**984**	67	95	**162**	26	32	**58**	125	143	**267**	616	857	**1 472**
70-74	250	417	**667**	41	67	**108**	18	25	**43**	105	127	**232**	415	636	**1 050**
75+	212	504	**716**	35	73	**107**	17	32	**49**	158	224	**382**	422	833	**1 255**
Total	**25 481**	**26 493**	**51 974**	**2 600**	**2 757**	**5 358**	**805**	**747**	**1 553**	**2 085**	**2 209**	**4 295**	**30 972**	**32 208**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

2. Education

2.1 Population aged 20 years and older, by highest level of education and province, 2024

Highest level of education	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
None	43	139	30	52	271	139	129	166	202	**1 170**
Grade R/0	*	3	*	3	5	*	*	*	3	**21**
Grade 1/ Sub A/Class 1	5	26	2	7	28	11	6	14	12	**111**
Grade 2 / Sub B/Class 2	18	36	6	26	62	26	40	27	29	**270**
Grade 3/Standard 1/ ABET / AET 1	28	42	10	25	78	31	39	49	41	**342**
Grade 4/ Standard 2	33	87	9	38	112	55	85	60	47	**527**
Grade 5/ Standard 3/ ABET / AET 2	51	92	18	37	95	45	97	52	62	**550**
Grade 6/Standard 4	101	104	29	60	124	85	131	77	73	**783**
Grade 7/Standard 5/ ABET 3	169	221	49	78	236	130	295	124	148	**1 449**
Grade 8/Standard 6/Form 1	273	307	61	109	270	170	341	128	169	**1 828**
Grade 9/Standard 7/Form 2/ ABET / AET 4/NCV Level 1	324	298	63	157	312	157	411	169	256	**2 146**
Grade 10/ Standard 8/ Form 3/NCV Level 2	588	421	113	247	673	330	1 011	309	427	**4 118**
Grade 11/ Standard 9/ Form 4/NCV Level 3	548	534	82	202	1 057	277	1 576	361	537	**5 175**
Grade 12/Standard 10/Form 5/Matric (No Exemption)/NCV Level 4	1 730	981	227	631	2 904	906	4 613	1 102	968	**14 061**
NTC 1/ N1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**18**
NTC 2/ N2	4	3	2	*	5	5	13	12	7	**53**
NTC 3/ N3	17	3	4	12	15	10	34	17	27	**138**

2. Education

2.1 Population aged 20 years and older, by highest level of education and province, 2024 (concluded)

Highest level of education	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
N4/NTC 4 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	23	12	5	10	24	13	57	25	30	**198**
N5/NTC 5 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	22	8	4	14	18	7	38	12	11	**135**
N6/NTC 6 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	31	16	5	23	34	24	84	17	39	**273**
Certificate with less than Grade 12/Std 10	*	3	*	3	2	*	15	*	9	**43**
Diploma with less than Grade 12/Std 10	15	4	*	6	13	6	18	*	8	**74**
Higher/National/Advance certificate with Grade 12/Std 10	79	28	13	13	59	30	223	39	46	**529**
Diploma with Grade 12/Std 10 / Certificate-NQF Level 6	290	232	35	57	258	112	715	143	170	**2 011**
Higher Diploma / Occupation Certificate (B-Tech)-NQF Level 7	101	35	5	11	67	12	189	20	22	**463**
Post Higher Diploma (University/University of Technology Master's degree)-NQF Level 9	335	105	22	51	302	69	758	65	113	**1 820**
Bachelor's Degree / Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 7	104	29	10	17	79	14	233	21	35	**543**
Honours Degree / Postgraduate diploma / Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 8	80	14	2	3	24	8	150	9	12	**303**
Doctoral Degrees (NQF Level 10)	23	4	*	*	9	5	23	*	4	**71**
Other	16	10	2	*	28	7	129	8	11	**214**
Do not know	69	21	17	17	156	58	247	14	35	**634**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**4**
Total population aged 20 years and older	**5 130**	**3 819**	**832**	**1 917**	**7 324**	**2 747**	**11 704**	**3 048**	**3 555**	**40 077**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.
This table measures the highest level of education for adults over the age of 20 years.

2. Education

2.2 Population aged 20 years and older, by highest level of education, population group and sex, 2024

	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
Highest level of education	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	419	693	**1 112**	22	22	**44**	*	8	**13**	*	*	*	448	723	**1 170**
Grade R/0	7	13	**20**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	7	14	**21**
Grade 1/ Sub A/Class 1	47	55	**103**	3	4	**7**	*	*	*	*	*	*	52	59	**111**
Grade 2 / Sub B/Class 2	123	130	**253**	4	13	**17**	*	*	*	*	*	*	127	143	**270**
Grade 3/Standard 1/ ABET / AET 1	151	163	**315**	12	11	**22**	*	5	**5**	*	*	*	164	178	**342**
Grade 4/ Standard 2	219	268	**486**	15	19	**34**	*	*	*	*	*	*	235	292	**527**
Grade 5/ Standard 3/ ABET / AET 2	261	234	**495**	24	28	**52**	*	*	*	*	*	*	286	264	**550**
Grade 6/Standard 4	349	332	**680**	44	46	**90**	*	4	**7**	*	*	**5**	398	386	**783**
Grade 7/Standard 5/ ABET 3	622	611	**1 233**	80	104	**185**	*	13	**17**	6	10	**16**	712	738	**1 449**
Grade 8/Standard 6/Form 1	735	756	**1 491**	137	121	**259**	17	15	**32**	20	26	**46**	910	919	**1 828**
Grade 9/Standard 7/Form 2/ ABET / AET 4/NCV Level 1	1 014	789	**1 804**	142	139	**281**	16	13	**29**	21	13	**33**	1 192	954	**2 146**
Grade 10/ Standard 8/ Form 3/NCV Level 2	1 629	1 606	**3 235**	247	272	**519**	41	39	**80**	136	148	**284**	2 053	2 065	**4 118**
Grade 11/ Standard 9/ Form 4/NCV Level 3	2 277	2 493	**4 769**	146	151	**297**	29	20	**49**	21	38	**59**	2 473	2 701	**5 175**
Grade 12/Standard 10/Form 5/Matric (No Exemption)/NCV Level 4	5 324	5 629	**10 953**	537	581	**1 118**	321	268	**589**	651	750	**1 401**	6 834	7 228	**14 061**
NTC 1/ N1	10	4	**15**	*	*	*	*	*	*	4	*	**4**	14	4	**18**
NTC 2/ N2	31	10	**41**	4	*	**5**	*	*	*	5	*	**7**	39	13	**53**
NTC 3/ N3	66	35	**101**	4	6	**9**	*	*	*	21	*	**24**	94	44	**138**

2. Education

2.2 Population aged 20 years and older, by highest level of education, population group and sex, 2024 (concluded)

	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
Highest level of education	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
N4/NTC 4 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	77	86	**163**	5	8	**13**	*	*	*	12	10	**22**	94	104	**198**
N5/NTC 5 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	46	56	**102**	5	11	**16**	*	*	*	14	*	**17**	65	69	**135**
N6/NTC 6 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	99	120	**219**	13	10	**24**	*	*	*	20	7	**28**	135	138	**273**
Certificate with less than Grade 12/Std 10	21	17	**38**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	23	20	**43**
Diploma with less than Grade 12/Std 10	23	30	**53**	*	*	**7**	*	*	**6**	7	*	**8**	37	37	**74**
Higher/National/Advance certificate with Grade 12/Std 10	159	217	**376**	19	21	**40**	5	5	**10**	46	57	**103**	229	300	**529**
Diploma with Grade 12/Std 10 / Certificate-NQF Level 6	571	825	**1 396**	63	102	**166**	41	34	**75**	161	213	**375**	836	1 175	**2 011**
Higher Diploma / Occupation Certificate (B-Tech)-NQF Level 7	117	152	**270**	19	18	**37**	12	17	**29**	48	79	**127**	197	266	**463**
Post Higher Diploma (University/University of Technology Master's degree)-NQF Level 9	463	651	**1 115**	37	78	**115**	61	74	**134**	225	231	**455**	786	1 034	**1 820**
Bachelor's Degree / Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 7	139	180	**320**	16	17	**33**	12	22	**34**	72	84	**157**	239	304	**543**
Honours Degree / Postgraduate diploma / Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 8	68	75	**142**	6	11	**17**	11	6	**17**	77	49	**127**	162	141	**303**
Doctoral Degrees (NQF Level 10)	18	8	**26**	*	*	**4**	5	*	**5**	22	14	**35**	47	24	**71**
Other	107	71	**178**	8	6	**14**	12	*	**13**	7	*	**8**	134	79	**214**
Do not know	307	220	**528**	34	22	**57**	5	11	**17**	20	13	**33**	367	267	**634**
Unspecified	*	*	**3**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	**4**
Total population aged 20 years and older	**15 502**	**16 532**	**32 034**	**1 657**	**1 829**	**3 486**	**610**	**562**	**1 171**	**1 622**	**1 763**	**3 385**	**19 391**	**20 685**	**40 077**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

2. Education

2.3 Population aged 20 years and older, by highest level of education, age group and sex, 2024

	Thousands														
	20-24			25-34			35-44			45+			Total		
Highest level of education	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	13	8	**21**	33	19	**53**	68	43	**112**	333	652	**985**	448	723	**1 170**
Grade R/0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	12	**17**	7	14	**21**
Grade 1/ Sub A/Class 1	*	*	*	7	*	**8**	10	5	**15**	35	52	**87**	52	59	**111**
Grade 2 / Sub B/Class 2	*	*	*	13	6	**19**	14	16	**30**	98	122	**220**	127	143	**270**
Grade 3/Standard 1/ ABET / AET 1	5	*	**7**	9	7	**17**	16	10	**26**	133	160	**293**	164	178	**342**
Grade 4/ Standard 2	6	7	**13**	14	23	**38**	49	32	**81**	166	229	**395**	235	292	**527**
Grade 5/ Standard 3/ ABET / AET 2	9	5	**13**	30	21	**50**	61	27	**88**	187	212	**398**	286	264	**550**
Grade 6/Standard 4	30	19	**49**	66	34	**100**	88	68	**156**	213	265	**478**	398	386	**783**
Grade 7/Standard 5/ ABET 3	65	40	**105**	153	97	**250**	154	137	**291**	340	464	**804**	712	738	**1 449**
Grade 8/Standard 6/Form 1	93	60	**153**	215	134	**348**	211	178	**389**	391	546	**938**	910	919	**1 828**
Grade 9/Standard 7/Form 2/ ABET / AET 4/NCV Level 1	189	99	**288**	345	246	**592**	327	267	**593**	331	343	**674**	1 192	954	**2 146**
Grade 10/ Standard 8/ Form 3/NCV Level 2	286	202	**489**	559	503	**1 062**	591	545	**1 135**	617	815	**1 432**	2 053	2 065	**4 118**
Grade 11/ Standard 9/ Form 4/NCV Level 3	314	303	**616**	792	886	**1 678**	797	853	**1 650**	571	660	**1 231**	2 473	2 701	**5 175**
Grade 12/Standard 10/Form 5/Matric (No Exemption)/NCV Level 4	1 208	1 371	**2 579**	2 199	2 239	**4 438**	1 757	1 808	**3 565**	1 669	1 810	**3 479**	6 834	7 228	**14 061**
NTC 1/ N1	*	*	*	4	*	**6**	5	*	**5**	4	*	**4**	14	4	**18**
NTC 2/ N2	6	5	**11**	14	5	**19**	12	*	**12**	8	*	**11**	39	13	**53**
NTC 3/ N3	17	11	**28**	28	21	**48**	25	7	**32**	24	6	**30**	94	44	**138**

2. Education

2.3 Population aged 20 years and older, by highest level of education, age group and sex, 2024 (concluded)

	Thousands														
	20-24			25-34			35-44			45+			Total		
Highest level of education	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
N4/NTC 4 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	4	15	**19**	41	49	**91**	22	22	**44**	27	17	**44**	94	104	**198**
N5/NTC 5 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	11	20	**31**	21	29	**50**	15	11	**26**	19	9	**27**	65	69	**135**
N6/NTC 6 /Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 5	8	27	**35**	60	61	**121**	38	35	**74**	28	15	**43**	135	138	**273**
Certificate with less than Grade 12/Std 10	*	*	*	8	4	**12**	7	7	**13**	8	10	**17**	23	20	**43**
Diploma with less than Grade 12/Std 10	*	3	**5**	9	8	**16**	13	11	**23**	14	15	**30**	37	37	**74**
Higher/National/Advance certificate with Grade 12/Std 10	21	20	**41**	64	96	**160**	53	92	**146**	91	92	**183**	229	300	**529**
Diploma with Grade 12/Std 10 / Certificate-NQF Level 6	38	75	**113**	250	312	**562**	236	347	**584**	311	441	**752**	836	1 175	**2 011**
Higher Diploma / Occupation Certificate (B-Tech)-NQF Level 7	3	8	**12**	53	74	**127**	61	63	**123**	79	122	**201**	197	266	**463**
Post Higher Diploma (University/University of Technology Master's degree)-NQF Level 9	44	78	**121**	229	343	**573**	198	279	**478**	314	334	**648**	786	1 034	**1 820**
Bachelor's Degree / Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 7	10	16	**25**	60	94	**154**	74	87	**161**	95	107	**202**	239	304	**543**
Honours Degree / Postgraduate diploma / Occupation Certificate-NQF Level 8	*	*	*	14	36	**51**	47	47	**93**	101	57	**158**	162	141	**303**
Doctoral Degrees (NQF Level 10)	*	*	*	*	*	*	11	6	**17**	34	16	**50**	47	24	**71**
Other	13	18	**32**	43	31	**74**	55	17	**72**	23	12	**36**	134	79	**214**
Do not know	6	9	**15**	60	24	**84**	105	41	**146**	196	193	**389**	367	267	**634**
Unspecified	*	*	**3**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	*	**4**
Total population aged 20 years and older	**2 406**	**2 426**	**4 833**	**5 398**	**5 406**	**10 804**	**5 120**	**5 063**	**10 183**	**6 467**	**7 789**	**14 256**	**19 391**	**20 685**	**40 077**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.1 Population attending and not attending an educational institution by population group and age group, 2024

Population group and age group		Thousands			
		Attending	Not attending	Do not know	Total
Black African	05–06	1 891	169	*	**2 061**
	07–15	9 016	119	*	**9 135**
	16–20	3 249	1 385	*	**4 637**
	21–25	659	3 462	*	**4 122**
	26+	615	26 427	11	**27 053**
	Total	**15 430**	**31 563**	**14**	**47 008**
Coloured	05–06	149	27	*	**176**
	07–15	862	23	*	**886**
	16–20	242	190	*	**432**
	21–25	30	364	*	**394**
	26+	59	2 941	*	**3 001**
	Total	**1 342**	**3 546**	*	**4 889**
Indian/Asian	05–06	36	*	*	**38**
	07–15	175	*	*	**177**
	16–20	64	30	*	**94**
	21–25	33	72	*	**105**
	26+	17	1 026	*	**1 044**
	Total	**324**	**1 133**	*	**1 459**

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.1 Population attending and not attending an educational institution by population group and age group, 2024 (concluded)

Population group and age group		Thousands			
		Attending	Not attending	Do not know	Total
White	05–06	82	6	*	**88**
	07–15	413	*	*	**415**
	16–20	191	57	*	**249**
	21–25	67	178	*	**247**
	26+	49	3 048	*	**3 100**
	Total	**802**	**3 291**	**5**	**4 099**
Total	**05–06**	**2 157**	**205**	*	**2 362**
	07–15	**10 467**	**146**	*	**10 613**
	16–20	**3 746**	**1 663**	*	**5 412**
	21–25	**790**	**4 077**	*	**4 868**
	26+	**739**	**33 442**	**17**	**34 198**
	Total	**17 899**	**39 533**	**22**	**57 454**

Totals exclude not applicable attendance.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.2 Population attending an educational institution, by type of institution, age group and sex, 2024

Educational institution	Thousands																	
	05-06			07-15			16-20			21-25			26+			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Pre-school	224	226	**449**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**224**	**226**	**449**
School	868	834	**1 702**	5 138	5 259	**10 397**	1 767	1 528	**3 295**	81	61	**142**	14	12	**26**	**7 868**	**7 694**	**15 562**
Adult Education and Training (AET) Learning Centre	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**5**	**5**
Higher educational institution	*	*	*	*	*	*	73	133	**205**	138	206	**344**	168	262	**430**	**379**	**600**	**979**
TVET	*	*	*	*	*	*	44	60	**104**	72	116	**188**	48	76	**125**	**164**	**252**	**416**
Other college	*	*	*	*	*	*	31	56	**87**	53	47	**100**	46	75	**121**	**130**	**178**	**308**
Home-based education/home schooling	*	4	**4**	16	15	**30**	9	7	**16**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**25**	**25**	**50**
Other than any of the above	*	*	*	28	11	**40**	27	9	**36**	7	7	**14**	15	21	**36**	**77**	**49**	**127**
Total	**1 092**	**1 065**	**2 157**	**5 182**	**5 285**	**10 467**	**1 951**	**1 796**	**3 746**	**351**	**439**	**790**	**292**	**447**	**739**	**8 868**	**9 032**	**17 899**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.3 Population aged 5 years and older attending an educational institution, by type of institution and province, 2024

Educational institution	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Pre-school	67	48	9	27	66	20	155	31	26	**449**
School	1 464	1 866	311	792	3 293	1 036	3 449	1 354	1 998	**15 562**
Adult Education and Training Learning Centre	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**5**
Higher Educational Institution	137	51	8	42	122	49	449	48	73	**979**
TVET	48	30	7	26	54	29	143	28	51	**416**
Other College	28	11	3	10	18	8	206	21	3	**308**
Home based education/home schooling	19	*	*	*	*	*	22	*	*	**50**
Other than any of the above	23	6	2	3	12	9	59	8	5	**127**
Total population 5 years and older attending educational institution	**1 786**	**2 014**	**343**	**900**	**3 567**	**1 156**	**4 484**	**1 493**	**2 155**	**17 899**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.4 Population aged 5 years and older attending an educational institution, by type of institution, population group and sex, 2024

	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
Educational institution	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
Pre-school	171	197	**368**	25	8	**32**	12	9	**21**	16	11	**27**	**224**	**226**	**449**
School	6 880	6 715	**13 595**	572	593	**1 166**	121	107	**229**	294	279	**573**	**7 868**	**7 694**	**15 562**
Adult Education and Training Learning Centre	*	4	**4**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**5**	**5**
Higher Educational Institution	281	473	**755**	26	38	**63**	33	27	**61**	39	62	**101**	**379**	**600**	**979**
TVET	143	233	**376**	15	11	**26**	*	*	**5**	*	*	**9**	**164**	**252**	**416**
Other College	87	146	**233**	11	15	**25**	6	*	**8**	26	16	**42**	**130**	**178**	**308**
Home based education/home schooling	*	*	**6**	*	*	**5**	*	*	*	20	20	**40**	**25**	**25**	**50**
Other than any of the above	57	35	**92**	16	8	**24**	*	*	*	5	*	**10**	**77**	**49**	**127**
Total	**7 622**	**7 808**	**15 430**	**667**	**675**	**1 342**	**174**	**150**	**324**	**404**	**398**	**802**	**8 868**	**9 032**	**17 899**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.5 Population aged 5 years and older attending an educational institution, by annual tuition fee, population group and sex, 2024

	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
Tuition fees	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
None	4 944	4 885	**9 829**	357	354	**711**	6	6	**11**	19	12	**30**	**5 325**	**5 256**	**10 582**
R1 - R100	219	201	**421**	11	9	**21**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**231**	**211**	**441**
R101 - R200	275	266	**541**	15	10	**25**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**290**	**276**	**566**
R201 - R300	219	234	**453**	15	16	**31**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**236**	**249**	**485**
R301 - R500	218	220	**438**	16	10	**26**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**235**	**231**	**466**
R501 - R1 000	184	190	**374**	35	31	**66**	8	9	**17**	10	*	**14**	**237**	**234**	**471**
R1 001 - R2 000	200	226	**426**	40	51	**91**	18	15	**33**	18	23	**40**	**275**	**315**	**590**
R2 001 - R3 000	130	126	**257**	19	19	**38**	18	16	**34**	17	18	**36**	**185**	**180**	**364**
R3 001 - R4 000	85	100	**184**	18	17	**35**	10	10	**19**	12	14	**25**	**124**	**140**	**264**
R4 001 - R8 000	192	189	**381**	14	23	**38**	14	8	**22**	17	10	**27**	**237**	**230**	**467**
R8 001 - R12 000	190	237	**426**	19	30	**49**	*	11	**12**	39	27	**66**	**249**	**304**	**554**
R12 001 - R16 000	148	187	**334**	22	20	**41**	12	9	**21**	39	29	**68**	**220**	**244**	**465**
R16 001 - R20 000	130	153	**284**	14	12	**26**	17	16	**33**	28	27	**55**	**189**	**209**	**398**
R20 001 - R40 000	195	257	**452**	31	37	**68**	18	20	**39**	75	72	**147**	**319**	**386**	**705**
R40 001 - R80 000	100	101	**201**	12	7	**19**	14	12	**26**	67	69	**136**	**193**	**190**	**383**
More than R80 000	34	38	**72**	9	*	**12**	9	8	**17**	26	38	**64**	**78**	**87**	**165**
Do not know	157	195	**352**	17	25	**42**	26	11	**37**	19	34	**53**	**219**	**265**	**484**
Not applicable	*	*	**6**	*	*	**5**	*	*	*	20	20	**40**	**25**	**25**	**50**
Total	**7 622**	**7 808**	**15 430**	**667**	**675**	**1 342**	**174**	**150**	**324**	**404**	**398**	**802**	**8 868**	**9 032**	**17 899**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.6 Population aged 5 years and older attending an educational institution, by annual tuition fee and type of institution, 2024

	Thousands								
Tuition fees	**Pre-school**	**School**	**Adult Education and Training Learning Centre**	**Higher Educational Institution**	**TVET**	**Other College**	**Home-based education/ home schooling**	**Other than any of the above**	**Total**
None	58	10 217	*	148	80	31	*	45	**10 582**
R1 - R100	18	422	*	*	*	*	*	*	**441**
R101 - R200	30	535	*	*	*	*	*	*	**566**
R201 - R300	48	434	*	*	*	*	*	*	**485**
R301 - R500	53	399	*	*	*	5	*	6	**466**
R501 - R1 000	49	410	*	*	4	*	*	5	**471**
R1 001 - R2 000	45	517	*	2	8	10	*	7	**590**
R2 001 - R3 000	31	288	*	9	14	13	*	10	**364**
R3 001 - R4 000	20	195	*	16	26	5	*	*	**264**
R4 001 - R8 000	27	319	*	42	51	17	*	10	**467**
R8 001 - R12 000	16	393	*	59	49	27	*	10	**554**
R12 001 - R16 000	3	326	*	57	48	21	*	10	**465**
R16 001 - R20 000	14	224	*	92	27	34	*	8	**398**
R20 001 - R40 000	17	407	*	193	39	48	*	*	**705**
R40 001 - R80 000	4	173	*	143	18	41	*	4	**383**
More than R80 000	4	66	*	77	8	9	*	*	**165**
Do not know	16	238	*	139	41	43	*	8	**484**
Not applicable	*	*	*	*	*	*	50	*	**50**
Total	**449**	**15 562**	**5**	**979**	**416**	**308**	**50**	**127**	**17 899**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.7 Population aged 5 years and older attending an educational institution that benefited from reductions or partial bursaries, by type of institution, sex and province, 2024

Educational institution		Thousands									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Pre-school	Male	*	2	*	*	2	*	*	*	*	**6**
	Female	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**1**
	Total	*	**3**	*	*	**3**	*	*	*	*	**8**
School	Male	117	125	19	18	183	*	99	12	61	**638**
	Female	143	110	13	18	169	5	87	6	75	**625**
	Total	**259**	**235**	**31**	**37**	**351**	**9**	**187**	**17**	**136**	**1 263**
Higher Educational Institution	Male	14	10	*	8	10	7	60	*	16	**127**
	Female	35	15	4	14	29	19	84	20	23	**244**
	Total	**48**	**26**	**4**	**23**	**38**	**26**	**145**	**22**	**40**	**371**
TVET	Male	8	3	*	4	6	4	26	4	10	**67**
	Female	14	7	*	8	15	11	26	10	22	**113**
	Total	**22**	**10**	*	**12**	**21**	**15**	**52**	**14**	**33**	**179**
Other College	Male	*	*	*	*	*	*	8	*	*	**14**
	Female	*	*	*	*	*	*	12	*	*	**25**
	Total	*	**4**	*	*	**6**	*	**20**	**4**	*	**39**

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.7 Population aged 5 years and older attending an educational institution that benefited from reductions or partial bursaries, by type of institution, sex and province, 2024 (concluded)

Educational institution		Thousands									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Other than any of the above	Male	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	*	*	**11**
	Female	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
	Total	**3**	*	*	*	*	*	**6**	*	*	**14**
Total	**Male**	**142**	**141**	**20**	**31**	**202**	**16**	**201**	**21**	**89**	**863**
	Female	**193**	**136**	**18**	**41**	**217**	**35**	**211**	**39**	**121**	**1 011**
	Total	**335**	**278**	**38**	**72**	**420**	**50**	**412**	**60**	**210**	**1 874**

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Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.8 Population aged 5 years and older currently attending school by grade and by province, 2024

School grade	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Grade R/0	65	100	23	40	133	56	129	57	108	**711**
Grade 1	127	174	25	58	302	84	283	115	168	**1 335**
Grade 2	111	130	20	64	243	70	295	105	157	**1 195**
Grade 3	140	158	27	64	247	100	247	96	148	**1 228**
Grade 4	106	161	29	71	273	78	279	99	162	**1 258**
Grade 5	131	149	25	65	275	90	237	106	167	**1 244**
Grade 6	132	159	22	42	271	87	261	108	155	**1 237**
Grade 7	117	160	21	68	240	103	267	104	151	**1 232**
Grade 8	122	140	30	79	297	88	301	116	164	**1 338**
Grade 9 / NCV Level 1	103	153	26	72	258	77	277	123	148	**1 236**
Grade 10 / NCV Level 2	107	180	29	65	302	77	315	119	185	**1 378**
Grade 11 / NCV Level 3	128	127	19	57	264	65	298	106	171	**1 236**
Grade 12/Matric / NCV Level 4	76	75	15	46	185	63	257	100	109	**924**
N1 / NTC1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**8**
N2 / NTC2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
N3 /NTC 3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**1 464**	**1 866**	**311**	**792**	**3 293**	**1 036**	**3 449**	**1 354**	**1 998**	**15 562**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.9 Population aged 0–4 years attending a day care centre, crèche, early childhood development centre (ECD) playgroup, nursery school or pre-primary school, by whether they attend or not, and by province, 2024

Province	Thousands		
	Attend	Do not attend	Total
Western Cape	294	281	**575**
Eastern Cape	248	424	**672**
Northern Cape	33	98	**131**
Free State	146	139	**285**
KwaZulu-Natal	335	831	**1 166**
North West	140	291	**431**
Gauteng	602	688	**1 289**
Mpumalanga	169	330	**499**
Limpopo	378	300	**678**
South Africa	**2 344**	**3 382**	**5 725**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

3. Attendance at an educational institution

3.10 Population aged 0–4 years attending a day care centre, crèche, early childhood development centre (ECD) playgroup, nursery school or pre-primary school, by whether they attend these institutions, and by population group and sex, 2024

Population group and sex		Thousands		
		Attend	Do not attend	Total
Black African	Male	1 015	1 480	**2 495**
	Female	1 017	1 455	**2 471**
	Total	**2 031**	**2 935**	**4 966**
Coloured	Male	81	156	**237**
	Female	81	151	**232**
	Total	**162**	**307**	**469**
Indian/Asian	Male	17	31	**48**
	Female	13	34	**46**
	Total	**29**	**65**	**94**
White	Male	61	39	**100**
	Female	60	36	**96**
	Total	**121**	**75**	**196**
Total	**Male**	**1 174**	**1 706**	**2 880**
	Female	**1 170**	**1 676**	**2 846**
	Total	**2 344**	**3 382**	**5 725**

Due to rounding numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

4. Medical aid coverage

4.1 Medical aid coverage, by province and population group, 2024

Province		Thousands									
		Western Cape	**Eastern Cape**	**Northern Cape**	**Free State**	**KwaZulu-Natal**	**North West**	**Gauteng**	**Mpuma-langa**	**Limpopo**	**South Africa**
Covered	Black African	288	394	85	274	680	448	2 071	389	528	**5 156**
	Coloured	674	105	66	13	19	*	129	7	*	**1 014**
	Indian/Asian	28	19	*	*	308	*	308	12	*	**680**
	White	914	165	60	88	224	145	1 122	116	100	**2 933**
	Total	**1 905**	**682**	**210**	**380**	**1 231**	**593**	**3 630**	**523**	**628**	**9 783**
Not Covered	Black African	2 271	5 279	619	2 511	10 121	3 587	12 336	4 383	5 629	**46 737**
	Coloured	2 891	447	456	68	68	27	358	20	5	**4 340**
	Indian/Asian	91	22	*	14	519	11	185	14	15	**872**
	White	346	100	33	80	128	101	477	75	18	**1 358**
	Total	**5 599**	**5 848**	**1 110**	**2 673**	**10 837**	**3 727**	**13 356**	**4 492**	**5 667**	**53 307**
Do not know	Black African	*	*	*	*	26	7	34	4	3	**81**
	Coloured	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
	Indian/Asian	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**1**
	White	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**4**
	Total	**5**	*	*	*	**28**	**7**	**37**	**4**	**3**	**89**
Total	Black African	**2 562**	**5 675**	**705**	**2 785**	**10 828**	**4 042**	**14 441**	**4 776**	**6 160**	**51 974**
	Coloured	**3 567**	**552**	**523**	**82**	**87**	**28**	**487**	**26**	**5**	**5 358**
	Indian/Asian	**119**	**41**	*	**19**	**828**	**11**	**493**	**26**	**15**	**1 553**
	White	**1 260**	**265**	**93**	**167**	**354**	**246**	**1 602**	**191**	**118**	**4 295**
	Total	**7 508**	**6 533**	**1 322**	**3 053**	**12 096**	**4 327**	**17 023**	**5 019**	**6 298**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

4. Medical aid coverage

4.2 Medical aid coverage, by population group and sex, 2024

Population group and sex		Thousands			
		Covered	Not Covered	Do not know	Total
Black African	Male	2 465	22 970	46	25 481
	Female	2 691	23 767	35	26 493
	Total	**5 156**	**46 737**	**81**	**51 974**
Coloured	Male	463	2 137	*	2 600
	Female	552	2 203	2	2 757
	Total	**1 014**	**4 340**	**3**	**5 358**
Indian/Asian	Male	344	461	*	805
	Female	336	411	*	747
	Total	**680**	**872**	*****	**1 553**
White	Male	1 415	667	*	2 085
	Female	1 518	691	*	2 209
	Total	**2 933**	**1 358**	*****	**4 295**
Total	**Male**	**4 687**	**26 235**	**49**	**30 972**
	Female	**5 096**	**27 072**	**40**	**32 208**
	Total	**9 783**	**53 307**	**89**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

4. Medical aid coverage

4.3 Medical aid coverage, by age group, 2024

Age group	Thousands			
	Covered	Not Covered	Do not know	Total
00–09	1 464	10 155	8	**11 628**
10–19	1 504	9 966	5	**11 475**
20–29	905	9 067	14	**9 986**
30–39	1 702	9 482	25	**11 209**
40–49	1 742	6 328	24	**8 094**
50–59	1 220	3 878	8	**5 107**
60+	1 245	4 431	5	**5 681**
Total	**9 783**	**53 307**	**89**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

5. Health

5.1 General health perception, by province, 2024

Province	Thousands						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Not sure	Total
Western Cape	2 157	2 225	2 586	467	71	*	**7 508**
Eastern Cape	2 468	1 701	1 873	359	130	*	**6 533**
Northern Cape	284	279	609	134	15	*	**1 322**
Free State	883	882	1 024	226	36	*	**3 053**
KwaZulu-Natal	1 909	2 903	6 598	515	172	*	**12 096**
North West	556	1 024	2 450	234	60	3	**4 327**
Gauteng	4 746	5 181	6 242	726	121	6	**17 023**
Mpumalanga	856	1 702	2 171	222	65	*	**5 019**
Limpopo	2 255	1 201	2 596	209	37	*	**6 298**
South Africa	**16 114**	**17 098**	**26 149**	**3 092**	**708**	**19**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

5. Health

5.2 The household's normal place of consultation by province, 2024

Place of consultation		Thousands									
		Western Cape	**Eastern Cape**	**Northern Cape**	**Free State**	**KwaZulu-Natal**	**North West**	**Gauteng**	**Mpuma-langa**	**Limpopo**	**South Africa**
Public sector	Public hospital	247	75	17	49	149	61	298	64	129	**1 088**
	Public clinic	939	1 345	260	710	2 524	1 038	3 700	1 190	1 417	**13 121**
	Other in public sector	17	11	*	*	17	17	9	*	*	**72**
	Total	**1 202**	**1 430**	**277**	**759**	**2 689**	**1 116**	**4 006**	**1 254**	**1 546**	**14 281**
Private sector	Private hospital	66	16	8	25	55	17	267	6	7	**468**
	Private clinic	36	29	3	13	38	11	142	6	49	**326**
	Private doctor/specialist	854	270	90	213	564	260	1 433	266	202	**4 152**
	Traditional healer	*	3	*	*	*	*	4	*	*	**20**
	Spiritual healer's workplace/church	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	*	6	**20**
	Pharmacy/chemist	23	29	6	12	30	*	97	8	4	**212**
	Health facility provided by employer	4	*	3	*	*	16	4	*	*	**33**
	Alternative medicine, e.g. homoeopathist	*	*	*	*	*	*	9	*	*	**15**
	Other in private sector	*	*	*	*	*	*	11	*	*	**13**
	Total	**993**	**349**	**111**	**264**	**695**	**314**	**1 971**	**287**	**274**	**5 259**
Unspecified/Do not know	Unspecified/Do not know	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**11**
	Total	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**11**
Total	**Total**	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

5. Health

5.3 The household's normal place of consultation and whether at least one member is covered by medical aid, 2024

Place of consultation		Thousands			
		Covered	Not Covered	Unspecified	Total
Public sector	Public hospital	86	1 002	*	**1 088**
	Public clinic	667	12 453	*	**13 121**
	Other in public sector	*	68	*	**72**
	Total	**757**	**13 523**	*	**14 281**
Private sector	Private hospital	399	69	*	**468**
	Private clinic	178	148	*	**326**
	Private doctor/specialist	2 906	1 245	*	**4 152**
	Traditional healer	*	19	*	**20**
	Spiritual healer's workplace/church	*	20	*	**20**
	Pharmacy/chemist	52	161	*	**212**
	Health facility provided by employer	14	19	*	**33**
	Alternative medicine, e.g. homoeopathist	*	15	*	**15**
	Other in private sector	*	11	*	**13**
	Total	**3 552**	**1 707**	*	**5 259**
Unspecified/Do not know	Unspecified/Do not know	2	9	*	**11**
	Total	**2**	**9**	*	**11**
Total	**Total**	**4 311**	**15 239**	*	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

5. Health

5.4 Population suffering from chronic health conditions as diagnosed by a medical practitioner or nurse, by sex and province, 2024

Chronic health condition		Thousands									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Asthma	Male	68	51	13	6	61	19	88	25	9	**340**
	Female	101	59	18	17	60	25	121	27	20	**448**
	Total	**170**	**109**	**31**	**23**	**121**	**44**	**209**	**53**	**29**	**788**
Diabetes	Male	150	66	15	26	93	31	184	35	36	**636**
	Female	213	155	23	53	205	65	256	66	41	**1 077**
	Total	**364**	**221**	**39**	**78**	**298**	**96**	**440**	**101**	**77**	**1 713**
Cancer	Male	15	8	3	3	5	4	28	6	*	**71**
	Female	18	9	4	5	4	3	29	6	3	**81**
	Total	**33**	**17**	**6**	**8**	**9**	**7**	**57**	**11**	**4**	**153**
HIV and AIDS	Male	23	78	9	56	186	48	115	50	35	**600**
	Female	29	158	18	81	350	88	169	93	66	**1 052**
	Total	**51**	**236**	**27**	**137**	**537**	**136**	**284**	**143**	**100**	**1 652**
Hypertension/high blood pressure	Male	341	204	72	103	221	150	452	102	81	**1 726**
	Female	549	476	115	233	539	303	817	237	202	**3 472**
	Total	**890**	**680**	**187**	**336**	**761**	**452**	**1 269**	**339**	**284**	**5 198**
Arthritis	Male	43	34	5	14	52	12	52	15	7	**235**
	Female	151	108	22	42	184	34	185	44	18	**788**
	Total	**194**	**142**	**27**	**57**	**236**	**46**	**236**	**59**	**25**	**1 023**
Stroke	Male	16	16	3	5	20	5	19	16	5	**104**
	Female	21	13	2	7	17	3	15	6	3	**88**
	Total	**37**	**30**	**5**	**12**	**37**	**8**	**33**	**22**	**8**	**192**
Tuberculosis	Male	8	48	3	8	18	7	19	7	*	**120**
	Female	6	24	3	5	8	9	10	7	3	**74**
	Total	**13**	**73**	**6**	**13**	**26**	**15**	**29**	**14**	**5**	**194**
Pneumonia/Bronchitis	Male	6	8	*	*	8	*	15	3	*	**46**
	Female	8	7	2	5	9	*	14	*	*	**51**
	Total	**14**	**15**	**3**	**7**	**17**	**3**	**28**	**6**	**3**	**97**
Total population	Male	**3 632**	**3 200**	**650**	**1 515**	**5 805**	**2 120**	**8 636**	**2 424**	**2 990**	**30 972**
	Female	**3 876**	**3 333**	**672**	**1 538**	**6 292**	**2 206**	**8 387**	**2 595**	**3 308**	**32 208**
	Total	**7 508**	**6 533**	**1 322**	**3 053**	**12 096**	**4 327**	**17 023**	**5 019**	**6 298**	**63 179**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

6. General Functioning

6.1 Population aged 5 years and older that have some difficulty or are unable to do basic activities, by province, 2024

Degree of difficulty with which basic activities are carried out		Thousands									
		Western Cape	**Eastern Cape**	**Northern Cape**	**Free State**	**KwaZulu-Natal**	**North West**	**Gauteng**	**Mpuma-langa**	**Limpopo**	**South Africa**
Seeing	Some difficulty	258	293	142	223	498	191	969	138	118	**2 830**
	A lot of difficulty	61	38	12	25	75	25	79	21	17	**353**
	Unable to do	4	9	2	*	7	6	6	*	5	**41**
	Total	**324**	**340**	**157**	**249**	**580**	**222**	**1 054**	**160**	**140**	**3 225**
Hearing	Some difficulty	110	106	41	81	212	54	202	42	55	**904**
	A lot of difficulty	21	22	8	13	47	12	28	14	15	**178**
	Unable to do	6	3	*	*	*	*	10	3	3	**30**
	Total	**137**	**131**	**49**	**95**	**261**	**67**	**240**	**59**	**72**	**1 112**
Walking	Some difficulty	160	174	52	63	287	69	284	76	85	**1 250**
	A lot of difficulty	78	87	20	17	107	29	116	34	35	**525**
	Unable to do	21	21	3	4	24	20	29	14	5	**140**
	Total	**260**	**282**	**76**	**84**	**418**	**118**	**428**	**124**	**125**	**1 915**
Remembering and concentrating	Some difficulty	125	192	40	112	291	86	250	62	65	**1 224**
	A lot of difficulty	28	57	9	31	83	38	54	29	26	**355**
	Unable to do	9	9	*	3	9	3	15	6	3	**59**
	Total	**162**	**259**	**50**	**145**	**383**	**128**	**319**	**97**	**94**	**1 638**
Self-care	Some difficulty	100	116	29	59	187	68	234	48	137	**978**
	A lot of difficulty	30	63	18	9	58	26	72	27	27	**330**
	Unable to do	38	21	5	6	21	23	31	22	6	**173**
	Total	**168**	**200**	**51**	**74**	**266**	**116**	**338**	**97**	**170**	**1 482**
Communication	Some difficulty	50	52	8	32	82	12	129	29	31	**426**
	A lot of difficulty	16	16	2	5	28	6	24	11	10	**118**
	Unable to do	12	8	*	*	10	2	20	8	5	**67**
	Total	**78**	**76**	**10**	**39**	**120**	**20**	**173**	**49**	**46**	**611**
Total aged 5 years and older		**6 933**	**5 862**	**1 191**	**2 769**	**10 930**	**3 895**	**15 734**	**4 520**	**5 620**	**57 454**

Totals exclude the 'don't know' and 'No difficulty' options as well as unspecified.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.
Only individuals aged five years and older are used for this analysis as children below the age of five years are often mistakenly categorised as being unable to walk, remember, communicate, or care for themselves when it is due to their level of development rather than any innate disabilities they might have. These issues are however actively addressed during training of fieldworkers.

6. General Functioning

6.2 Population aged 5 years and older that have some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or are unable to do basic activities, by population group and sex, 2024

Degree of difficulty with which basic activities are carried out		Thousands														
		Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
		Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Seeing	Some difficulty	1 313	785	**2 098**	149	99	**248**	46	25	**71**	217	197	**413**	**1 725**	**1 105**	**2 830**
	A lot of difficulty	147	104	**250**	24	24	**48**	7	5	**12**	29	13	**42**	**207**	**146**	**353**
	Unable to do	17	19	**36**	*	*	**5**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**20**	**21**	**41**
	Total	**1 476**	**907**	**2 384**	**176**	**125**	**301**	**53**	**30**	**83**	**247**	**210**	**457**	**1 952**	**1 272**	**3 225**
Hearing	Some difficulty	345	279	**625**	57	39	**95**	23	11	**33**	67	83	**150**	**493**	**412**	**904**
	A lot of difficulty	63	55	**118**	8	6	**15**	*	4	**10**	18	17	**35**	**95**	**83**	**178**
	Unable to do	9	9	**19**	5	*	**7**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**15**	**16**	**30**
	Total	**418**	**344**	**761**	**70**	**48**	**117**	**29**	**17**	**46**	**86**	**101**	**187**	**602**	**510**	**1 112**
Walking	Some difficulty	562	340	**902**	75	58	**132**	29	15	**44**	83	88	**171**	**750**	**501**	**1 250**
	A lot of difficulty	207	150	**357**	33	29	**61**	13	6	**19**	63	24	**87**	**316**	**209**	**525**
	Unable to do	54	50	**104**	11	5	**16**	*	*	*	11	4	**16**	**77**	**64**	**140**
	Total	**824**	**540**	**1 363**	**118**	**92**	**210**	**42**	**26**	**68**	**158**	**116**	**274**	**1 142**	**774**	**1 915**
Remembering and concentrating	Some difficulty	531	440	**971**	49	55	**104**	18	12	**30**	59	61	**119**	**656**	**568**	**1 224**
	A lot of difficulty	130	168	**298**	15	9	**24**	8	7	**14**	11	7	**19**	**163**	**191**	**355**
	Unable to do	15	31	**46**	7	4	**11**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**22**	**37**	**59**
	Total	**675**	**639**	**1 315**	**71**	**69**	**140**	**25**	**19**	**44**	**71**	**69**	**140**	**842**	**796**	**1 638**

Totals exclude the 'don't know' and 'No difficulty' options as well as unspecified.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.
Only individuals aged five years and older are used for this analysis as children below the age of five years are often mistakenly categorised as being unable to walk, remember, communicate, or care for themselves when it is due to their level of development rather than any innate disabilities they might have. These issues are however actively addressed during training of fieldworkers.

6. General Functioning

6.2 Population aged 5 years and older that have some difficulty, a lot of difficulty or are unable to do basic activities, by population group and sex, 2024 (concluded)

Degree of difficulty with which basic activities are carried out		Thousands														
		Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
		Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Self-care	Some difficulty	389	391	**780**	41	41	**83**	21	15	**36**	39	41	**80**	**490**	**488**	**978**
	A lot of difficulty	130	139	**270**	9	13	**22**	7	7	**14**	12	13	**24**	**158**	**172**	**330**
	Unable to do	65	73	**138**	16	8	**24**	*	*	*	6	4	**10**	**87**	**87**	**173**
	Total	**585**	**604**	**1 188**	**66**	**63**	**129**	**28**	**23**	**51**	**57**	**57**	**114**	**735**	**747**	**1 482**
Communication	Some difficulty	126	178	**304**	22	19	**41**	12	13	**25**	17	39	**56**	**177**	**249**	**426**
	A lot of difficulty	30	69	**98**	6	6	**12**	*	*	**6**	*	*	*	**39**	**79**	**118**
	Unable to do	23	29	**52**	7	*	**9**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**33**	**33**	**67**
	Total	**179**	**276**	**455**	**36**	**27**	**63**	**15**	**18**	**33**	**19**	**41**	**59**	**249**	**361**	**611**
Total aged 5 years and older		**24 022**	**22 986**	**47 008**	**2 525**	**2 363**	**4 889**	**701**	**757**	**1 459**	**2 114**	**1 985**	**4 099**	**29 362**	**28 092**	**57 454**

Totals exclude the 'don't know' and 'No difficulty' options as well as unspecified.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

Only individuals aged five years and older are used for this analysis as children below the age of five years are often mistakenly categorised as being unable to walk, remember, communicate, or care for themselves when it is due to their level of development rather than any innate disabilities they might have. These issues are however actively addressed during training of fieldworkers.

7. Social welfare

7.1 Population that received social grants, relief assistance or social relief, by population group, sex and province, 2024

Population group and sex		Thousands									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Black African	Male	265	1 576	156	696	2 579	897	2 033	1 110	1 533	**10 844**
	Female	326	1 697	174	771	2 912	1 061	2 199	1 167	1 689	**11 996**
	Total	**591**	**3 273**	**329**	**1 467**	**5 491**	**1 958**	**4 232**	**2 277**	**3 222**	**22 840**
Coloured	Male	537	108	126	21	17	7	52	4	*	**873**
	Female	652	131	135	17	13	6	81	6	*	**1 041**
	Total	**1 189**	**239**	**261**	**38**	**29**	**13**	**133**	**10**	*	**1 914**
Indian/Asian	Male	4	*	*	*	62	*	16	*	*	**82**
	Female	*	*	*	*	95	*	18	*	*	**115**
	Total	**6**	*	*	*	**157**	*	**35**	*	*	**197**
White	Male	37	13	8	9	15	6	62	5	4	**160**
	Female	57	10	6	11	19	12	107	13	9	**243**
	Total	**94**	**22**	**13**	**20**	**34**	**19**	**169**	**19**	**13**	**403**
Total	**Male**	**843**	**1 697**	**290**	**727**	**2 674**	**910**	**2 163**	**1 119**	**1 538**	**11 960**
	Female	**1 036**	**1 838**	**314**	**799**	**3 038**	**1 080**	**2 405**	**1 186**	**1 699**	**13 395**
	Total	**1 879**	**3 535**	**604**	**1 526**	**5 711**	**1 990**	**4 568**	**2 305**	**3 236**	**25 355**

Totals exclude unspecified grant receipt.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

8. Dwellings and services

8.1 Type of dwelling, by number of rooms in the dwelling

8.1.1 All population groups, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands			
	1–3 rooms	4–5 rooms	6+ rooms	Total
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	2 227	4 305	6 177	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	265	261	241	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	315	488	111	**915**
Cluster house in complex	18	57	89	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	40	155	101	**296**
Semi-detached house	52	135	135	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	1 047	80	19	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	721	38	5	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	1 270	228	27	**1 526**
Room/flat let on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	809	60	12	**881**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	**3**
Other	52	5	*	**58**
Total	**6 818**	**5 812**	**6 919**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.1 Type of dwelling, by number of rooms in the dwelling

8.1.2 Black African population group, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands			
	1–3 rooms	4–5 rooms	6+ rooms	Total
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	2 072	3 811	4 543	**10 426**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	263	259	235	**757**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	256	325	61	**642**
Cluster house in complex	12	25	24	**61**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	28	72	39	**138**
Semi-Detached house	23	22	21	**66**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	1 036	66	16	**1 119**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	678	30	3	**711**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	1 229	209	24	**1 463**
Room/flat let on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	775	50	8	**834**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	**3**
Other	45	*	*	**47**
Total	**6 419**	**4 870**	**4 976**	**16 267**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.1 Type of dwelling, by number of rooms in the dwelling

8.1.3 Other** population groups, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands			
	1–3 rooms	4–5 rooms	6+ rooms	Total
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	156	494	1 634	**2 284**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	*	*	6	**9**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	60	163	50	**273**
Cluster house in complex	6	32	65	**103**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	13	83	62	**158**
Semi-Detached house	29	112	114	**256**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	11	14	3	**28**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	43	8	*	**52**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	40	19	3	**62**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	33	10	4	**47**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	*
Other	7	4	*	**11**
Total	**399**	**942**	**1 943**	**3 284**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.2 Type of dwelling of households, by province, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	1 199	1 256	291	769	2 474	1 053	2 856	1 253	1 559	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	4	315	*	11	349	2	3	41	39	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	158	22	12	30	100	33	532	24	5	**915**
Cluster house in complex	46	4	*	*	*	*	108	*	*	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	46	5	3	19	12	*	206	*	*	**296**
Semi-detached house	215	29	12	3	31	*	30	*	*	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	29	9	3	13	36	36	922	27	73	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	150	21	7	39	37	65	412	17	15	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	260	61	48	114	129	181	616	86	31	**1 526**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	82	46	10	26	207	62	266	87	95	**881**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
Other	9	10	*	*	*	*	28	*	*	**58**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.3 Type of dwelling of households, by main source of water, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands							
	Piped (Tap) water in dwelling	Piped (Tap) water on site or in yard	Borehole on site	Rain-water tank on site	Neighbours tap	Public tap	Water-carrier /Tanker	Water vendor
Formal dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	6 636	3 260	408	311	251	818	138	372
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	14	165	2	125	25	172	32	10
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	871	33	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cluster house in complex	163	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	287	*	*	*	*	*	*	4
Semi-detached house	296	20	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	272	801	17	*	5	23	5	10
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	67	601	*	*	18	57	6	4
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	107	602	22	*	106	622	37	9
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	320	442	50	8	13	22	6	6
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other	33	11	*	*	*	7	*	*
Total	**9 068**	**5 941**	**506**	**449**	**419**	**1 727**	**224**	**420**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.3 Type of dwelling of households, by main source of water, 2024 (concluded)

Type of dwelling	Thousands								
	Borehole off site / communal	**Flowing water / Stream / River**	**Dam / Pool / Stagnant water**	**Well protected**	**Well unprotected**	**Spring protected**	**Spring unprotected**	**Other**	**Total**
Formal dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	169	147	8	9	30	11	60	83	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	45	81	3	3	17	10	59	*	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**915**
Cluster house in complex	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**296**
Semi-detached house	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	6	5	*	*	*	*	*	*	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	9	3	*	*	*	*	*	8	**1 526**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	6	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	**881**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
Other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**58**
Total	**242**	**241**	**12**	**12**	**49**	**21**	**121**	**99**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.4 Households by type of dwelling, by tenure status, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands								
	Rented	Rented from other	Owned, but not yet paid off to bank/financial institution	Owned, but not yet paid off to private lender	Owned and fully paid off	Occupied rent-free	Other	Do not know	Total
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	1 412	76	842	138	8 466	1 705	42	27	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	21	*	*	*	574	170	2	*	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	549	157	48	18	89	46	5	*	**915**
Cluster house in complex	60	*	42	9	40	*	*	*	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	114	25	61	19	68	4	2	*	**296**
Semi-detached house	56	11	35	5	166	48	*	*	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	868	4	*	*	102	170	2	*	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	479	*	*	*	122	149	12	*	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	309	4	*	*	782	417	11	*	**1 526**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	671	37	*	*	29	136	6	*	**881**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
Other	11	*	*	*	6	32	8	*	**58**
Total	**4 551**	**325**	**1 030**	**193**	**10 445**	**2 882**	**90**	**33**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.5 Tenure status of households, by province, 2024

Province	Thousands								
	Rented	Rented from other	Owned, but not yet paid off to bank/financial institution	Owned, but not yet paid off to private lender	Owned and fully paid off	Occupied rent-free	Other	Do not know	Total
Western Cape	590	61	283	37	1 046	174	3	*	**2 195**
Eastern Cape	211	17	44	4	1 132	360	12	*	**1 780**
Northern Cape	61	8	12	2	243	59	3	*	**388**
Free State	165	17	30	12	602	196	*	*	**1 024**
KwaZulu-Natal	542	40	86	9	2 139	544	13	15	**3 387**
North West	276	14	24	7	956	151	*	*	**1 432**
Gauteng	2 181	133	497	112	2 011	985	47	15	**5 981**
Mpumalanga	245	14	35	4	1 082	160	*	*	**1 542**
Limpopo	280	21	20	7	1 235	253	6	*	**1 822**
South Africa	**4 551**	**325**	**1 030**	**193**	**10 445**	**2 882**	**90**	**33**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.6 Type of ownership of the dwellings of households, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Population group and sex		Thousands								
		Rented	Rented from other	Owned, but not yet paid off to bank/financial institution	Owned, but not yet paid off to private lender	Owned and fully paid off	Occupied rent-free	Other	Do not know	Total
Black African	Male	2 601	123	316	76	4 384	1 633	46	23	**9 201**
	Female	1 263	88	147	39	4 492	1 004	31	*	**7 066**
	Total	**3 864**	**211**	**463**	**114**	**8 876**	**2 636**	**76**	**26**	**16 267**
Coloured	Male	124	26	112	9	340	88	*	*	**703**
	Female	80	27	48	10	329	99	*	*	**593**
	Total	**205**	**53**	**160**	**19**	**669**	**187**	*	*	**1 296**
Indian/Asian	Male	78	10	65	5	141	15	*	*	**314**
	Female	31	*	14	*	73	5	*	*	**138**
	Total	**109**	**16**	**79**	**6**	**215**	**20**	*	*	**451**
White	Male	226	24	235	37	468	35	8	*	**1 035**
	Female	147	21	93	17	218	*	*	*	**502**
	Total	**373**	**45**	**328**	**53**	**686**	**39**	**10**	*	**1 536**
Total	Male	**3 030**	**183**	**728**	**127**	**5 333**	**1 771**	**55**	**25**	**11 253**
	Female	**1 522**	**142**	**302**	**66**	**5 112**	**1 112**	**35**	**8**	**8 298**
	Total	**4 551**	**325**	**1 030**	**193**	**10 445**	**2 882**	**90**	**33**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.7 Type of dwelling of households, by main source of energy

8.7.1 For cooking, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands									
	Electricity from mains	**Other source of electricity**	**Gas/LPG**	**Paraffin**	**Wood**	**Coal/ Charcoal**	**Animal dung**	**None**	**Other**	**Total**
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	10 357	158	939	106	1 087	30	3	17	13	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	469	*	33	15	240	4	*	*	*	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	827	10	69	*	*	*	*	*	*	**915**
Cluster house in complex	147	*	17	*	*	*	*	*	*	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	270	*	25	*	*	*	*	*	*	**296**
Semi-Detached house	247	*	66	*	5	*	*	*	*	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	835	238	21	16	6	*	*	*	27	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	414	199	37	50	23	*	*	*	37	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	820	147	147	228	130	19	*	8	27	**1 526**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	674	117	50	7	19	*	*	*	9	**881**
Caravan/tent	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
Other	50	4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**58**
Total	**15 111**	**878**	**1 406**	**426**	**1 512**	**56**	**5**	**39**	**119**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.7 Type of dwelling of households, by main source of energy

8.7.1 For heating, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands									
	Electricity from mains	Other source of electricity	Gas/LPG	Paraffin	Wood	Coal/ Charcoal	Animal dung	None	Other	Total
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	6 797	125	507	464	1 325	108	2	3 352	31	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	171	*	4	35	345	6	3	197	*	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	607	8	59	4	*	*	*	230	5	**915**
Cluster house in complex	126	*	15	*	*	*	*	23	*	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	188	*	44	*	*	*	*	56	*	**296**
Semi-Detached house	192	*	8	5	13	*	*	99	*	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	629	154	14	17	22	*	*	283	28	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	264	119	6	33	35	3	*	265	38	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	425	110	32	132	198	47	*	547	33	**1 526**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	477	81	7	10	25	*	*	269	11	**881**
Caravan/tent	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
Other	36	4	*	*	6	*	*	10	*	**58**
Total	**9 916**	**605**	**697**	**700**	**1 973**	**169**	**6**	**5 331**	**153**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

8. Dwellings and services

8.7 Type of dwelling of households, by main source of energy

8.7.3 For lighting, 2024

Type of dwelling	Thousands							
	Electricity from mains	Other source of electricity	Gas/LPG	Paraffin	Candles	None	Other	Total
Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	12 168	250	24	28	205	18	18	**12 710**
Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	673	12	*	9	71	*	*	**766**
Flat or apartment in a block of flats	890	14	*	*	*	*	*	**915**
Cluster house in complex	164	*	*	*	*	*	*	**164**
Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	293	*	*	*	*	*	*	**296**
Semi-Detached house	308	5	*	*	5	*	*	**322**
Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	855	244	*	*	14	*	29	**1 147**
Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	446	215	*	12	51	*	37	**763**
Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	869	238	5	58	310	5	40	**1 526**
Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	723	127	*	*	21	*	8	**881**
Caravan/tent	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	**3**
Other	52	4	*	*	*	*	*	**58**
Total	**17 445**	**1 111**	**37**	**109**	**683**	**29**	**137**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

9. Water services

9.1 Main source of water for households use, by province, 2024

Main source of water for households for use	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Piped (tap) water in dwelling/house	1 704	653	193	416	1 370	366	3 641	462	263	**9 068**
Piped (tap) water in yard	290	295	127	493	985	575	1 878	678	619	**5 941**
Borehole in yard	*	12	5	12	30	86	47	46	265	**506**
Rain-water tank in yard	5	351	*	*	61	*	*	*	23	**449**
Neighbours tap	10	40	5	28	95	64	55	71	53	**419**
Public/communal tap	171	257	44	35	358	226	289	137	210	**1 727**
Water-carrier/tanker	*	*	3	12	118	16	34	28	8	**224**
Water vendor (charge involved)	*	6	5	11	26	72	8	64	226	**420**
Borehole outside yard	*	6	2	12	98	20	17	24	56	**242**
Flowing water/stream/river	4	58	*	*	150	*	*	9	20	**241**
Stagnant water/dam/pool	*	3	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	**12**
Well protected	*	*	*	*	4	*	*	3	*	**12**
Well unprotected	*	4	*	*	36	*	*	*	6	**49**
Spring protected	*	9	*	*	10	*	*	*	*	**21**
Spring unprotected	*	78	*	*	23	*	*	*	15	**121**
Other	*	5	2	*	19	4	7	9	51	**99**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

9. Water services

9.2 Households by main source of water for household use, by population group of the household head, 2024

Main source of water for household use	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Piped (tap) water in dwelling/house	6 058	1 129	434	1 446	**9 068**
Piped (tap) water in yard	5 791	127	9	14	**5 941**
Borehole in yard	449	*	*	52	**506**
Rain-water tank in yard	441	6	*	*	**449**
Neighbours tap	411	6	*	*	**419**
Public/communal tap	1 712	13	*	*	**1 727**
Water-carrier/tanker	220	4	*	*	**224**
Water vendor (charge involved)	410	3	*	8	**420**
Borehole outside yard	228	*	*	9	**242**
Flowing water/stream/river	237	*	*	*	**241**
Stagnant water/dam/pool	12	*	*	*	**12**
Well protected	12	*	*	*	**12**
Well unprotected	48	*	*	*	**49**
Spring protected	20	*	*	*	**21**
Spring unprotected	121	*	*	*	**121**
OTHER	97	*	*	*	**99**
Total	**16 267**	**1 296**	**451**	**1 536**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

9. Water services

9.3 Households whose main source of water was supplied by the local municipality, by province, 2024

Main source of water supplied by local municipality	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Yes	1 962	1 042	321	898	2 589	907	5 475	1 261	984	**15 438**
No	231	738	67	123	701	499	468	262	828	**3 917**
Do not know	*	*	*	*	97	26	37	19	9	**194**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

9. Water services

9.4 Households whose main source of water was supplied by the local municipality, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Main source of water supplied by local municipality	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Yes	7 159	5 451	**12 610**	594	528	**1 122**	284	133	**417**	839	450	**1 289**	8 876	6 562	**15 438**
No	1 922	1 542	**3 464**	108	65	**173**	30	4	**34**	193	52	**245**	2 253	1 664	**3 917**
Do not know	120	72	**192**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	122	72	**194**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**9 201**	**7 066**	**16 267**	**703**	**593**	**1 296**	**314**	**138**	**451**	**1 035**	**502**	**1 536**	**11 253**	**8 298**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

9. Water services

9.5 Households without water in the dwelling or on site, by the distance household members have to travel to reach the nearest water source, and population group of the household head, 2024

Distance travelled to the nearest water source	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Less than 200m	2 100	22	6	15	**2 143**
Between 201m–500m	965	7	*	*	**974**
Between 501m–1km	283	3	*	*	**289**
More than 1km	149	*	*	*	**150**
Do not know	30	*	*	*	**31**
Total	**3 528**	**32**	**6**	**22**	**3 588**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

10. Communication

10.1 Households' ownership of a cellular phone, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Population group and sex of household head		Thousands		
		Yes	**No**	**Total**
Black African	Male	8 755	446	**9 201**
	Female	6 845	221	**7 066**
	Total	**15 600**	**668**	**16 267**
Coloured	Male	658	45	**703**
	Female	558	35	**593**
	Total	**1 216**	**80**	**1 296**
Indian/Asian	Male	310	3	**314**
	Female	133	4	**138**
	Total	**444**	**8**	**451**
White	Male	1 023	11	**1 035**
	Female	496	*	**502**
	Total	**1 519**	**17**	**1 536**
Total	**Male**	**10 747**	**506**	**11 253**
	Female	**8 032**	**266**	**8 298**
	Total	**18 779**	**772**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

10. Communication

10.2 Households' ownership of a cellular phone, by province, 2024

Cell phone	Thousands									
	Western Cape	**Eastern Cape**	**Northern Cape**	**Free State**	**KwaZulu-Natal**	**North West**	**Gauteng**	**Mpumalanga**	**Limpopo**	**South Africa**
Yes	2 102	1 649	355	932	3 295	1 346	5 803	1 513	1 784	**18 779**
No	94	131	33	92	92	86	178	29	38	**772**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

10. Communication

10.3 Households with connection to a landline phone, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Population group and sex of household head		Thousands			
		Yes	**No**	**Unspecified**	**Total**
Black African	Male	232	8 969	*	**9 201**
	Female	137	6 929	*	**7 066**
	Total	**369**	**15 898**	*	**16 267**
Coloured	Male	31	672	*	**703**
	Female	19	574	*	**593**
	Total	**50**	**1 246**	*	**1 296**
Indian/Asian	Male	50	264	*	**314**
	Female	9	128	*	**138**
	Total	**59**	**393**	*	**451**
White	Male	119	915	*	**1 035**
	Female	50	452	*	**502**
	Total	**169**	**1 367**	*	**1 536**
Total	**Male**	**432**	**10 820**	*	**11 253**
	Female	**215**	**8 083**	*	**8 298**
	Total	**647**	**18 903**	*	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

10. Communication

10.4 Households' ownership of a landline phone, by province, 2024

Ownership of a landline phone	Thousands									
	Western Cape	**Eastern Cape**	**Northern Cape**	**Free State**	**KwaZulu-Natal**	**North West**	**Gauteng**	**Mpumalanga**	**Limpopo**	**South Africa**
Yes	113	26	6	32	127	26	234	27	56	**647**
No	2 083	1 754	383	991	3 259	1 406	5 746	1 515	1 766	**18 903**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11. Energy

11.1 Electricity connection to the mains, by population group, sex of the household head and province, 2024

Population group and sex		Thousands									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Black African	Male	507	691	109	461	1 383	710	2 512	654	900	**7 927**
	Female	324	745	90	383	1 369	503	1 638	653	822	**6 528**
	Total	**831**	**1 436**	**199**	**845**	**2 752**	**1 212**	**4 150**	**1 308**	**1 722**	**14 454**
Coloured	Male	433	73	57	14	15	5	63	4	*	**665**
	Female	354	51	67	10	13	6	69	*	*	**571**
	Total	**787**	**124**	**124**	**24**	**29**	**11**	**132**	**6**	*****	**1 236**
Indian/Asian	Male	24	6	*	9	175	*	85	4	2	**310**
	Female	6	*	*	*	85	*	42	*	*	**134**
	Total	**30**	**7**	*****	**10**	**260**	*****	**126**	**4**	**2**	**444**
White	Male	306	67	20	40	93	51	365	40	25	**1 008**
	Female	154	28	10	31	33	12	195	21	10	**495**
	Total	**461**	**96**	**30**	**71**	**126**	**63**	**561**	**61**	**35**	**1 503**
Total	Male	**1 271**	**838**	**186**	**524**	**1 666**	**769**	**3 025**	**703**	**928**	**9 909**
	Female	**838**	**825**	**167**	**426**	**1 500**	**521**	**1 944**	**676**	**832**	**7 728**
	Total	**2 108**	**1 662**	**353**	**950**	**3 166**	**1 290**	**4 969**	**1 379**	**1 760**	**17 637**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11.2 Energy

11.2 Main source of energy used by households, by province

11.2.1 For cooking, 2024

Energy for cooking	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Electricity from mains	1 624	1 377	297	867	2 905	1 202	4 591	1 103	1 145	**15 111**
Other source of electricity	69	11	5	21	99	41	584	42	6	**878**
Gas/LPG	486	155	57	67	83	35	420	70	32	**1 406**
Paraffin	6	48	5	27	28	34	254	16	7	**426**
Wood	9	152	22	40	250	113	44	257	625	**1 512**
Coal/Charcoal	*	*	*	*	5	*	4	46	*	**56**
Animal dung	*	*	*	*	4	*	*	*	*	**5**
None	*	4	*	*	5	*	15	*	6	**39**
Other	*	35	*	*	7	*	68	4	*	**119**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Totals exclude households that did not specify electricity connections Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11.2 Source of energy

11.2 Main source of energy used by households, by province

11.2.2 For heating, 2024

Energy for heating	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Electricity from mains	1 157	398	139	517	1 977	769	3 527	563	867	**9 916**
Other source of electricity	29	6	3	10	70	31	428	19	10	**605**
Gas/LPG	101	91	18	76	25	10	336	36	3	**697**
Paraffin	140	295	5	149	12	8	90	*	*	**700**
Wood	118	337	79	80	333	153	177	226	469	**1 973**
Coal/Charcoal	4	3	*	6	5	*	67	79	*	**169**
Animal dung	*	*	*	*	3	*	*	*	*	**6**
None	639	615	140	183	941	458	1 277	611	467	**5 331**
Other	7	34	3	*	19	*	79	6	*	**153**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Totals exclude households that did not specify electricity connections Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11.2 Source of energy

11.2 Main source of energy used by households, by province

11.2.3 For lighting, 2024

Energy for lighting	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Electricity from mains	2 063	1 651	351	945	3 139	1 280	4 901	1 368	1 748	**17 445**
Other source of electricity	91	25	16	31	109	53	689	73	25	**1 111**
Gas/LPG	14	3	*	*	12	*	6	*	*	**37**
Paraffin	*	28	2	4	10	17	36	3	5	**109**
Candles	19	36	18	43	95	77	269	87	39	**683**
None	*	3	*	*	13	*	4	*	3	**29**
Other	4	35	*	*	10	*	76	6	*	**137**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Totals exclude households that did not specify electricity connections Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11. Energy

11.3 Main source of energy used by households, by population group of the household head

11.3.1 For cooking, 2024

Energy for cooking	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Electricity from mains	12 572	986	409	1 144	**15 111**
Other source of electricity	819	29	*	28	**878**
Gas/LPG	758	250	37	361	**1 406**
Paraffin	422	3	*	*	**426**
Wood	1 482	27	*	*	**1 512**
Coal/Charcoal	56	*	*	*	**56**
Animal dung	5	*	*	*	**5**
None	37	*	*	*	**39**
Other	116	*	*	*	**119**
Total	**16 267**	**1 296**	**451**	**1 536**	**19 551**

Totals exclude households that did not specify electricity connections Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11. Energy

11.3 Main source of energy used by households, by population group of the household head

11.3.2 For heating, 2024

Energy for heating	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Electricity from mains	7 884	716	351	966	**9 916**
Other source of electricity	557	17	*	30	**605**
Gas/LPG	442	53	19	183	**697**
Paraffin	690	10	*	*	**700**
Wood	1 790	102	8	73	**1 973**
Coal/Charcoal	161	4	*	3	**169**
Animal dung	6	*	*	*	**6**
None	4 594	393	70	275	**5 331**
Other	143	*	*	5	**153**
Total	**16 267**	**1 296**	**451**	**1 536**	**19 551**

Totals exclude households that did not specify electricity connections Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

11. Energy

11.3 Main source of energy used by households, by population group of the household head

11.3.3 For lighting, 2024

Energy for lighting	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Electricity from mains	14 321	1 220	439	1 464	**17 445**
Other source of electricity	1 003	47	4	58	**1 111**
Gas/LPG	18	5	*	11	**37**
Paraffin	109	*	*	*	**109**
Candles	658	19	*	*	**683**
None	26	*	*	*	**29**
Other	132	*	*	*	**137**
Total	**16 267**	**1 296**	**451**	**1 536**	**19 551**

Totals exclude households that did not specify electricity connections Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

12. Sanitation

12.1 Sanitation facility used by households, by province, 2024

Type of sanitation facility	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Flush toilet connected to a public sewerage system	2 061	782	261	734	1 521	565	5 154	583	395	**12 056**
Flush toilet connected to a septic tank or conservancy	59	63	26	64	184	185	74	111	160	**925**
Pour flush toilet connected to a septic tank	*	8	*	4	16	*	21	*	5	**64**
Chemical toilet	8	*	*	*	75	*	92	*	*	**181**
Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe	8	747	41	82	915	289	209	328	574	**3 192**
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, with slab	*	86	25	61	339	238	203	375	541	**1 874**
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, either without slab or open pit	*	35	12	46	279	132	134	117	124	**880**
Bucket toilet (Collected by Municipality)	34	5	4	10	*	*	60	*	*	**114**
Bucket toilet (Emptied by the Household)	12	4	2	6	8	*	7	*	4	**44**
Ecological Sanitation	*	*	*	*	*	*	16	*	*	**20**
Open defecation (e.g no facilities, field, bush)	*	42	14	9	19	19	8	18	11	**140**
Other	*	7	4	4	29	*	*	4	6	**60**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

12. Sanitation

12.2 Sanitation facility used by households, by population group of the household head, 2024

Type of sanitation facility	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Flush toilet connected to a public sewerage system	9 000	1 180	442	1 434	**12 056**
Flush toilet connected to a septic tank or conservancy	774	46	7	98	**925**
Pour flush toilet connected to a septic tank	59	*	*	*	**64**
Chemical toilet	179	*	*	*	**181**
Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe	3 180	11	*	*	**3 192**
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, with slab	1 858	15	*	*	**1 874**
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, either without slab or open pit	874	7	*	*	**880**
Bucket toilet (Collected by Municipality)	108	5	*	*	**114**
Bucket toilet (Emptied by the Household)	32	11	*	*	**44**
Ecological Sanitation	20	*	*	*	**20**
Open defecation (e.g no facilities, field, bush)	128	13	*	*	**140**
Other	55	5	*	*	**60**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**16 267**	**1 296**	**451**	**1 536**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

12. Sanitation

12.3 Sanitation facility used by households, by type of dwelling, 2024

Type of sanitation facility	Thousands					
	Dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm	Traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials	Flat or apartment in a block of flats	Cluster house in complex	Town house (semi-detached house in complex)	Semi-Detached house
Flush toilet connected to a public sewerage system	7 612	17	904	163	294	315
Flush toilet connected to a septic tank or conservancy	714	8	5	*	*	5
Pour flush toilet connected to a septic tank	27	*	*	*	*	*
Chemical toilet	62	15	*	*	*	*
Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe	2 286	506	*	*	*	*
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, with slab	1 369	98	*	*	*	*
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, either without slab or open pit	531	85	*	*	*	*
Bucket toilet (Collected by Municipality)	7	*	*	*	*	*
Bucket toilet (Emptied by the Household)	11	*	*	*	*	*
Ecological Sanitation	*	*	*	*	*	*
Open defecation (e.g no facilities, field, bush)	66	33	*	*	*	*
Other	21	*	*	*	*	*
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**12 710**	**766**	**915**	**164**	**296**	**322**

12. Sanitation

12.3 Sanitation facility used by households, by type of dwelling, 2024 (concluded)

Type of sanitation facility	Thousands						
	Dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard	Informal dwelling/shack in backyard	Informal dwelling/shack not in backyard	Room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servant quarters/granny flat	Caravan/tent	Other	Total
Flush toilet connected to a public sewerage system	1 030	578	480	618	*	44	**12 056**
Flush toilet connected to a septic tank or conservancy	25	12	49	96	*	11	**925**
Pour flush toilet connected to a septic tank	*	4	22	7	*	*	**64**
Chemical toilet	*	17	84	*	*	*	**181**
Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe	41	42	240	72	2	*	**3 192**
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, with slab	30	58	259	58	*		**1 874**
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe, either without slab or open pit	14	37	191	21	*	*	**880**
Bucket toilet (Collected by Municipality)	*	4	97	3	*	*	**114**
Bucket toilet (Emptied by the Household)	*	6	24	*	*	*	**44**
Ecological Sanitation	*	*	17	*	*	*	**20**
Open defecation (e.g no facilities, field, bush)	*	*	31	*	*	*	**140**
Other	*	*	33	*	*	*	**60**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**1 147**	**763**	**1 526**	**881**	**3**	**58**	**19 551**

13. Refuse removal

13.1 Type of refuse removal services used by households, by population group of the household head, 2024

Refuse removal	Thousands				
	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	South Africa
Removed by local authority/private company at least once a week	8 493	1 161	388	1 317	**11 359**
Removed by local authority/private company less often than once a week	311	15	4	25	**355**
Removed by community members, contracted by the municipality, at least once a week	469	14	34	51	**567**
Removed by community members, contracted by the municipality, less often than once a week	64	*	*	*	**70**
Removed by community members at least once a week	28	18	*	8	**54**
Removed by community members less often than once a week	16	*	*	*	**26**
Communal refuse dump	695	12	*	7	**716**
Communal container/central collection point	427	12	16	43	**498**
Own refuse dump	5 386	37	7	70	**5 500**
Dump or leave rubbish anywhere	328	16	*	*	**344**
Other	51	6	*	4	**61**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**16 267**	**1 296**	**451**	**1 536**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

14. Transport

14.1 Number of trips made by household members per week using each of the following modes of transport, by province, 2024

Mode of transport and number of trips		Thousands									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Taxi	1-10	438	510	91	233	991	390	1 953	384	519	**5 508**
	11-20	95	39	6	37	126	45	492	59	24	**923**
	21-30	35	9	*	10	24	*	71	4	3	**159**
	31-40	5	*	*	4	15	*	12	*	*	**40**
	41+	8	*	*	*	6	*	*	*	*	**23**
	Not travelled	1 615	1 220	290	740	2 224	993	3 450	1 092	1 273	**12 897**
Train	1-10	17	*	*	*	*	*	52	*	*	**76**
	11-20	6	*	*	*	7	*	5	*	*	**18**
	21-30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**1**
	41+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**1**
	Not travelled	2 172	1 779	388	1 024	3 375	1 431	5 923	1 542	1 822	**19 455**
Bus	1-10	144	18	9	23	87	70	125	121	51	**648**
	11-20	22	*	*	*	16	5	14	47	6	**112**
	21-30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	5	*	**9**
	31-40	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**4**
	41+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Not travelled	2 024	1 761	378	1 000	3 284	1 356	5 842	1 368	1 763	**18 775**

Total excludes unspecified.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

14. Transport

14.2 Distance travelled to get to the nearest minibus taxi/sedan taxi/bakkie taxi, bus and train, by population group of the household head, 2024

Mode of transport	Distance travelled	Thousands				
		Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total
Taxi	Less than 1km	4 829	232	26	12	**5 098**
	Between 1km and 3km	1 270	69	5	9	**1 352**
	More than 3km	188	9	*	*	**204**
Bus	Less than 1km	449	62	*	16	**531**
	Between 1km and 3km	193	18	*	*	**215**
	More than 3km	27	*	*	*	**29**
Train	Less than 1km	34	5	*	*	**39**
	Between 1km and 3km	32	7	*	*	**41**
	More than 3km	9	*	*	*	**16**

Total excludes unspecified.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

14. Transport

14.3 Money spent during the previous calendar week by households per transport mode, by the sex of the household head, 2024

Mode of transport	Money spent in the previous calendar week	Thousands		
		Male	Female	Total
Taxi	0 - 199	1 867	1 731	**3 598**
	200 - 399	1 144	907	**2 051**
	400 - 599	349	258	**606**
	600 - 799	87	106	**193**
	800+	121	80	**202**
	Unspecified	7 685	5 216	**12 901**
Train	0 - 199	56	25	**81**
	200 - 399	11	*	**12**
	400 - 599	*	*	*
	600 - 799	*	*	*
	800+	*	*	*
	Unspecified	11 183	8 272	**19 455**
Bus	0 - 199	212	170	**381**
	200 - 399	136	119	**255**
	400 - 599	42	38	**80**
	600 - 799	15	9	**24**
	800+	9	10	**19**
	Unspecified	10 838	7 953	**18 791**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

14. Transport

14.4 Time taken to get to the health facility that members of the household normally go to, by transport mode, 2024

Mode of transport	Thousands						
	Time in minutes						
	Less than 15 minutes	15 - 29 minutes	30 - 89 minutes	90 minutes and more	Do not know	Unspecified	Total
Walking	3 416	4 300	1 444	122	14	*	**9 297**
Minibus taxi/sedan taxi/bakkie taxi	1 427	2 764	834	26	6	*	**5 058**
Bus	15	42	47	*	*	*	**108**
Train	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Own transport	2 482	1 977	316	25	7	*	**4 807**
Bicycle/motorcycle	9	15	8	*	*	*	**33**
Other	74	109	43	13	6	*	**244**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**7 424**	**9 209**	**2 694**	**190**	**33**	*	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

15. Environment

15.1 Environmental problems experienced in the community or neighbouring farms, by province, 2024

Environmental problems experienced	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	South Africa
Littering	541	742	157	549	936	386	1 955	712	659	**6 636**
Outdoor/indoor air pollution	221	382	97	220	406	346	1 124	354	320	**3 470**
Water pollution	229	502	73	218	619	212	1 074	235	233	**3 395**
Land degradation/over-utilisation of natural resources	367	842	148	507	844	740	1 869	1 058	818	**7 194**
Excessive noise/noise pollution	296	183	70	187	263	183	1 175	295	175	**2 826**
Irregular or no waste removal	215	521	114	543	831	378	1 297	783	387	**5 069**
Total number of Household RSA	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Households can experience more than one environmental problem
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

15. Environment

15.2 Environmental problems experienced in the community or neighbouring farms, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Nature of environmental problem	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Littering	3 482	2 571	**6 053**	176	152	**328**	50	24	**74**	123	59	**182**	**3 831**	**2 806**	**6 636**
Irregular or no waste removal	2 712	1 970	**4 682**	90	71	**161**	45	20	**65**	110	52	**162**	**2 957**	**2 112**	**5 069**
Outdoor/indoor air pollution	1 859	1 337	**3 196**	81	60	**141**	15	13	**28**	74	31	**105**	**2 029**	**1 441**	**3 470**
Excessive noise/noise pollution	1 479	1 066	**2 545**	90	86	**175**	14	11	**25**	47	33	**80**	**1 629**	**1 196**	**2 826**
Water pollution	1 790	1 347	**3 137**	86	51	**138**	16	8	**23**	63	34	**97**	**1 955**	**1 439**	**3 395**
Land degradation/over-utilisation of natural resources	3 773	2 857	**6 630**	145	124	**269**	34	24	**59**	158	77	**236**	**4 111**	**3 082**	**7 194**
Total number of household RSA	**9 201**	**7 066**	**16 267**	**703**	**593**	**1 296**	**314**	**138**	**451**	**1 035**	**502**	**1 536**	**11 253**	**8 298**	**19 551**

Households can experience more than one environmental problem
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

16. Income and expenditure

16.1 Sources of income for households, by province, 2024

Sources of income	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Salaries/wages/commission	1 640	871	235	559	2 047	826	4 180	876	918	**12 153**
Income from a business	297	192	42	117	532	148	1 135	282	294	**3 038**
Grants	854	1 167	248	658	1 955	800	2 209	911	1 147	**9 948**
Pensions	132	78	17	50	102	34	210	40	47	**711**
Remittances	110	326	46	152	505	198	637	268	301	**2 542**
Other income e.g. rental income, interest	83	19	8	26	37	22	232	30	14	**471**
No income	35	9	5	13	53	19	81	16	19	**252**
Sales of farm products and services	*	5	2	*	*	7	4	8	4	**34**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

More than one source of income is possible per household.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

16. Income and expenditure

16.2 Households' sources of income, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Sources of income	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Salaries/wages/commission	6 126	3 765	**9 891**	548	391	**938**	220	95	**315**	701	308	**1 009**	**7 595**	**4 558**	**12 153**
Grants	3 945	4 870	**8 816**	353	408	**761**	68	55	**123**	150	98	**248**	**4 516**	**5 432**	**9 948**
No income	181	49	**230**	4	*	**5**	*	*	*	10	*	**14**	**195**	**57**	**252**
Remittances	840	1 482	**2 322**	23	66	**89**	13	17	**30**	23	78	**101**	**899**	**1 643**	**2 542**
Income from a business	1 633	773	**2 406**	90	35	**125**	92	11	**103**	317	87	**404**	**2 132**	**906**	**3 038**
Other income e.g. rental income, interest	195	157	**352**	15	15	**30**	*	*	**4**	48	38	**85**	**259**	**212**	**471**
Pensions	154	151	**305**	31	25	**56**	19	7	**26**	196	128	**324**	**400**	**311**	**711**
Sales of farm products and services	15	11	**25**	*	*	*	*	*	*	7	*	**8**	**21**	**12**	**34**
Total	**9 201**	**7 066**	**16 267**	**703**	**593**	**1 296**	**314**	**138**	**451**	**1 035**	**502**	**1 536**	**11 253**	**8 298**	**19 551**

More than one source of income is possible per household.
Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

16. Income and expenditure

16.3 Monthly household expenditure category, by province, 2024

Expenditure category	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
R0	*	*	4	*	6	*	6	*	4	**25**
R1 - R199	*	*	*	3	6	*	9	*	3	**29**
R200 - R399	18	40	7	23	46	62	65	22	42	**325**
R400 - R799	31	69	10	41	102	80	135	67	77	**611**
R800 - R1 199	73	81	16	73	205	96	263	95	144	**1 045**
R1 200 - R1 799	76	152	22	113	325	135	334	150	240	**1 546**
R1 800 - R2 499	187	334	50	173	529	235	655	242	344	**2 750**
R2 500 - R4 999	478	484	112	253	907	371	1 498	502	531	**5 137**
R5 000 - R9 999	442	317	83	154	537	230	1 340	269	244	**3 617**
R10 000–R19 999	381	167	55	102	309	113	835	125	125	**2 212**
R20 000–R39 999	270	76	23	41	129	53	521	45	50	**1 207**
R40 000 or more	205	19	3	8	54	23	237	18	17	**585**
DO NOT KNOW	18	23	3	8	211	30	52	*	*	**349**
REFUSE	10	18	*	31	19	*	29	*	*	**111**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

16. Income and expenditure

16.4 Monthly household expenditure category, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Expenditure category	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
R0	18	5	**24**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**20**	**5**	**25**
R1 - R199	21	7	**28**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	**23**	**7**	**29**
R200 - R399	258	55	**314**	3	8	**11**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**262**	**63**	**325**
R400 - R799	396	190	**586**	7	13	**21**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**407**	**205**	**611**
R800 - R1 199	585	426	**1 011**	15	16	**31**	*	*	*	*	*	*	**603**	**442**	**1 045**
R1 200 - R1 799	732	742	**1 474**	20	32	**52**	*	*	**5**	5	10	**15**	**759**	**788**	**1 546**
R1 800 - R2 499	1 238	1 351	**2 589**	55	72	**126**	6	*	**11**	11	13	**24**	**1 310**	**1 440**	**2 750**
R2 500 - R4 999	2 489	2 223	**4 712**	138	163	**301**	24	26	**50**	46	29	**75**	**2 696**	**2 441**	**5 137**
R5 000 - R9 999	1 839	1 154	**2 993**	175	138	**313**	65	31	**95**	121	95	**216**	**2 200**	**1 417**	**3 617**
R10 000–R19 999	905	534	**1 440**	160	96	**255**	86	39	**125**	244	148	**392**	**1 395**	**816**	**2 212**
R20 000–R39 999	380	190	**569**	82	42	**124**	71	14	**85**	306	123	**429**	**839**	**368**	**1 207**
R40 000 or more	136	43	**179**	39	7	**46**	41	*	**47**	252	60	**313**	**469**	**116**	**585**
DO NOT KNOW	155	121	**276**	5	7	**12**	13	15	**28**	22	11	**33**	**195**	**154**	**349**
REFUSE	48	25	**72**	3	*	**3**	2	*	*	23	11	**34**	**75**	**36**	**111**
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	**9 201**	**7 066**	**16 267**	**703**	**593**	**1 296**	**314**	**138**	**451**	**1 035**	**502**	**1 536**	**11 253**	**8 298**	**19 551**

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17. Household assets, 2024

17.1 Number of households owning a particular asset by province, 2024

Sources of income	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
TV Set	1 867	1 279	297	828	2 487	1 045	4 810	1 184	1 355	**15 154**
Pay TV (M-Net/ DSTV/ Top TV) Subscription	1 244	1 011	248	607	1 882	761	3 431	1 051	1 214	**11 450**
Washing machine	1 444	508	231	443	671	609	2 770	560	550	**7 788**
Deep freezer - free standing	721	254	151	261	845	304	870	422	631	**4 459**
Refrigerator or combined fridge freezer	1 949	1 410	311	871	2 774	1 120	4 941	1 182	1 257	**15 817**
Electric stove	1 922	1 564	337	918	3 102	1 262	5 268	1 354	1 541	**17 269**
Microwave oven	1 642	967	245	706	1 842	771	3 920	803	706	**11 601**
Built in kitchen sink	1 588	554	150	434	1 066	372	3 005	562	295	**8 027**
Gas Stove	948	676	163	305	1 007	339	2 060	295	140	**5 933**
Radio	705	455	116	537	1 184	563	1 686	419	455	**6 120**
Solar hot water geyser	1 066	287	91	207	737	265	2 281	274	254	**5 461**
DVD player/ Blu ray player	460	273	109	310	514	287	1 162	236	367	**3 718**
Air conditioner (Excluding fans)	275	36	40	31	328	46	388	47	101	**1 290**
Computer/ Desktop/ Laptop	900	271	108	230	518	278	2 031	313	288	**4 937**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

17. Household assets, 2024

17.1 Number of households owning a particular asset by province, 2024 (concluded)

Sources of income	Thousands									
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
Geyser providing hot running water	123	28	21	41	71	19	290	14	32	**640**
Home security service	378	91	20	56	313	66	1 106	47	79	**2 157**
Tumble dryer	342	37	17	78	152	43	482	43	79	**1 271**
Vacuum cleaner/ Floor polisher	618	119	34	91	186	87	693	68	38	**1 933**
Rain water tank	181	630	19	20	486	149	119	131	401	**2 137**
Dish washing machine	321	37	13	27	121	24	410	39	38	**1 030**
Home theatre system	239	87	36	108	186	123	910	66	91	**1 846**
Borehole	77	23	15	32	51	107	131	48	254	**738**
Solar electrical panel	107	25	17	21	49	31	290	28	12	**580**
Swimming pool	168	28	7	14	103	17	388	21	19	**765**
Total households	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

18. Agriculture

18.1 Number of households involved in one or more agricultural production activity, by province, 2024

Involved in agricultural production	Thousands									
	Western Cape	**Eastern Cape**	**Northern Cape**	**Free State**	**KwaZulu-Natal**	**North West**	**Gauteng**	**Mpumalanga**	**Limpopo**	**South Africa**
Yes	68	577	60	214	743	209	304	493	663	**3 330**
No	2 127	1 203	328	810	2 643	1 223	5 677	1 049	1 159	**16 221**
Total	**2 195**	**1 780**	**388**	**1 024**	**3 387**	**1 432**	**5 981**	**1 542**	**1 822**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks

18. Agriculture

18.2 Number of households involved in one or more agricultural production activity, by population group and sex of the household head, 2024

Involved in agricultural production	Thousands														
	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Yes	1 548	1 566	**3 115**	34	30	**64**	10	11	**21**	102	28	**130**	**1 695**	**1 636**	**3 330**
No	7 653	5 500	**13 152**	669	563	**1 232**	303	127	**430**	933	473	**1 406**	**9 558**	**6 663**	**16 221**
Total	**9 201**	**7 066**	**16 267**	**703**	**593**	**1 296**	**314**	**138**	**451**	**1 035**	**502**	**1 536**	**11 253**	**8 298**	**19 551**

Due to rounding, numbers do not necessarily add up to totals.
Values based on three or less unweighted cases are considered too small to provide accurate estimates, and values are therefore replaced by asterisks.

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