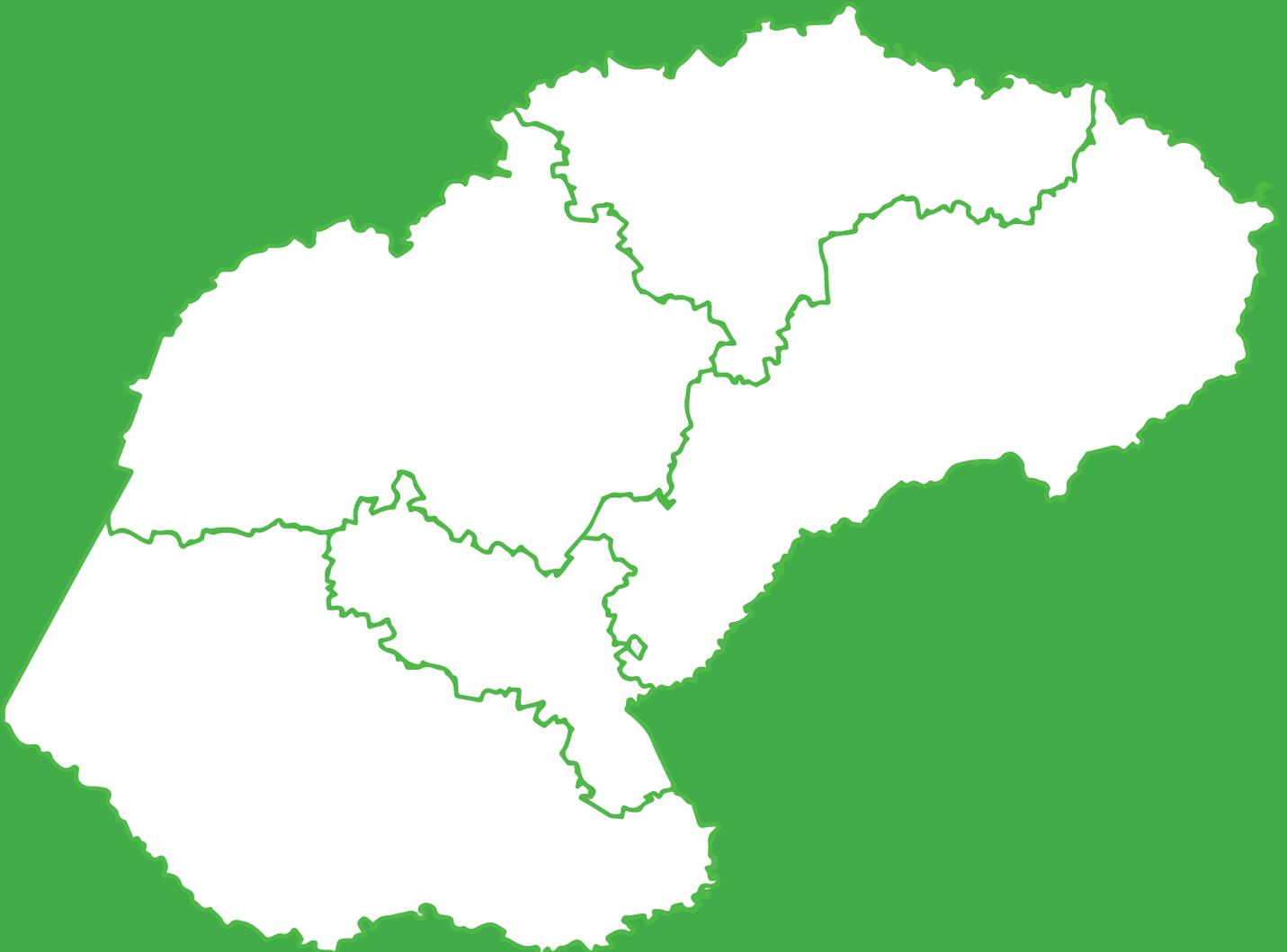




# CENSUS 2022

## Provincial Profile: Free State



IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**Census 2022**  
**Provincial Profile: Free State**

## **Census 2022 Provincial Profile: Free State / Statistics South Africa**

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## PREFACE

This report forms part of a series of publications generated from the recently conducted Census 2022. It is the third volume following the provincial profiles based on Census 2011 and Community Survey 2016. The report has been compiled for each of the nine provinces to profile the uniqueness of each province in terms of population dynamics, socio-economic development as well as progress in addressing challenges relating to access to basic services rendered in the provinces. This report profiles indicators for Free State province.

The report provides statistics disaggregated at the municipal level based on the 2021 municipal boundaries. All indicators where Census 2022 data have been compared with other Censuses, data for the latter were aligned to the 2021 municipal boundaries. The publication profiles various themes, including population characteristics, demographics, education, migration, disability prevalence and access to basic services.



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Statistician-General

## CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>11</b>
1.1 Background .....	11
1.2 How the count was done .....	11
1.2.1 Census 2022 project planning and implementation committees .....	14
1.2.2 Census management and operational structures Census management and operational structures .....	15
1.2.3 High-level Census 2022 process flow .....	19
1.3 Exclusions .....	20
1.3.1 Variables and themes not in public domain .....	20
1.3.2 Households .....	21
1.3.3 Homeless and institution-based populations .....	21
<b>CHAPTER 2: POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS</b> .....	<b>22</b>
2.1 Introduction.....	22
2.2 Population distribution .....	22
2.3 Population density .....	1
2.4 Age and sex structure.....	3
2.5 Sex ratio .....	1
2.6 Population group .....	2
2.7 Marital status .....	6
2.8 Language .....	8
2.9 Religion .....	9
2.10 Conclusion.....	9
<b>CHAPTER 3: MIGRATION</b> .....	<b>11</b>
3.1 Introduction.....	11
<b>CHAPTER 4: EDUCATION</b> .....	<b>15</b>
4.1 Introduction.....	15
4.2 Educational attendance .....	15
4.3 Early Childhood Development .....	16
4.4 Level of education .....	18
4.5 Field of education .....	20
4.6 Conclusion.....	20
<b>CHAPTER 5: GENERAL HEALTH AND FUNCTIONING</b> .....	<b>22</b>
5.1 Introduction.....	22
5.2 Type of domain and degree of difficulty in functioning .....	23
5.3 Disability prevalence.....	24
5.4 Conclusion.....	25
<b>CHAPTER 6: HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS AND ACCESS TO SERVICES</b> .....	<b>26</b>
6.1 Introduction.....	26
6.2 Household size .....	26
6.3 Household headship and composition .....	27
6.4 Housing .....	30
6.5 Ownership of household goods .....	44
6.6 Access to internet .....	46
6.7 Conclusion.....	48
<b>Annexures</b> .....	<b>49</b>
Annexure 7.1: Boundary changes.....	49

Annexure 7.2: Distribution of population by district, local municipality and marriage rates, Census 2011-2022 ..... 56

Annexure 7.3: Distribution of population by district, local municipality and divorce rates, Census 2011-2022 ..... 57

Annexure 7.4: Distribution of persons by five-year age groups, district and disability status, Census 2022 ..... 58

## List of tables

Table 2.1: Population distribution by province, Census 1996-2022 .....	22
Table 2.2: Distribution of population by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022 .....	24
Table 2.3: Population density by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022 .....	2
Table 2.4: Distribution of population by broad age groups, district & local municipality, Census 2022.....	2
Table 2.5: Dependency ratios for population 15-64 years (per 100), Census 2011-2022 .....	3
Table 2.6: Sex ratio by province, Census 1996-2022 .....	1
Table 2.7: Sex ratio by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022 .....	2
Table 2.8: Distribution of population by population group, district & local municipality, Census 2022.....	4
Table 2.9: Distribution of population aged 12 years & older by marital status, district & local municipality, Census 2022 .....	6
Table 2.10: Distribution of population aged one year & older by language most often spoken in the household, Census 2011-2022.....	8
Table 2.11: Distribution of population by religious affiliation, Census 2022.....	9
Table 3.1: Distribution of population by province of birth & province of usual residence, Census 2022	12
Table 3.2: Percentage distribution of population by place of birth, district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022.....	13
Table 3.3: Distribution of population born outside South Africa by region of birth, Census 2011-2022.....	13
Table 4.1: Distribution of population aged 5–24 years attending an educational institution by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022	15
Table 4.2: Distribution of population aged 0–5 years by ECD institution attendance status, district & local municipality, Census 2022.....	17
Table 4.3: Distribution of population aged 20 years & older by highest level of education completed, district & local municipality, Census 2022 .....	18
Table 4.4: Distribution of persons aged 20 & older by field of education & sex, Census 2022 .....	20
Table 5.1: Distribution of persons aged five years & older by type & degree of difficulty in functional domains, Census 2011-2022	23
Table 5.2: Disability prevalence for persons aged five years & older by age groups & district, Census 2022.....	24

Table 6.1: Distribution of households by average household size, district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022	26
Table 6.2: Distribution of households by sex of household head & district, Census 2022	27
Table 6.3: Distribution of households by age of household head, district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022	29
Table 6.4: Distribution of households by type of main dwelling, district & local municipality, Census 2022	30
Table 6.5: Distribution of households by type of main dwelling, district & local municipality, Census 2022	32
Table 6.6: Distribution of households with access to piped water inside the dwelling/yard by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022	34
Table 6.7: Distribution of households by reliability of water supply in the last 12 months, district & local municipality, Census 2022	35
Table 6.8: Distribution of households by main type of toilet facility, district & local municipality, Census 2022	37
Table 6.9: Distribution of households by main energy source used for lighting, district & local municipality, Census 2022	39
Table 6.10: Distribution of households by main energy source used for cooking, district & local municipality, Census 2022	41
Table 6.11: Distribution of households by type of refuse removal, district & local municipality, Census 2022	41

## List of figures

Figure 1.1: Census 2022 high-level process flow .....	19
Figure 2.1 Distribution of population by district, Censuses 2001-2022 .....	23
Figure 2.2: Percentage distribution of population by province & sex, Census 2022 .....	3
Figure 2.3: Percentage distribution of population by five-year age groups, Census 2011-2022.....	1
Figure 2.4: Free State population pyramid, Census 2011 (transparent) & Census 2022 (grey shaded).....	1
Figure 2.5: Distribution of youth (15-34 years old) by district, Census 1996-2022 .....	1
Figure 2.6: Distribution of youth (15-34 years) by district & sex, Census 1996-2022 .....	2
Figure 2.7: Distribution of population by population group, Census 2011-2022 .....	3
Figure 4.1: Percentage of population aged 20 years & older with no schooling by district, Census 2022.....	19
Figure 6.1: Percentage of female-headed households by district, Census 2022.....	28
Figure 6.2: Percentage of households residing in an informal dwelling by province, Census 2011- 2022.....	31
Figure 6.3: Percentage of households with access to piped water inside the dwelling/yard by province, Census 2011-2022 .....	33
Figure 6.4: Percentage of households with access to a flush toilet by province, Census 2011-2022.....	36
Figure 6.5: Percentage of households with no access to a toilet facility by district & local municipality, Census 2022 .....	38
Figure 6.6: Percentage of households with no refuse removal by district, Census 2022.....	43
Figure 6.7: Percentage of households by ownership of selected household goods in KwaZulu-Natal & South Africa, Census 2011-2022 .....	44
Figure 6.8: Percentage of households by ownership of selected household goods & population group of household head, Census 2022 .....	45
Figure 6.9: Percentage of households with access to the internet by province, Census 2011-2022.....	46
Figure 6.10: Percentage of households with access to the internet by district and local municipality, Census 2022 .....	47

## List of maps

Map 2.1: Distribution of population by local municipality, Census 2022 .....	1
Map 2.2: Population growth rates by local municipality, Census 2011-2022.....	2

## Abbreviations and acronyms

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
PMO	Project Management Office
IT	Information Technology
CEESD	Census End-to-End Systems Development
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease
PPE	Personal Preventive Equipment
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
CAPI	Computer-assisted Personal Interview
CATI	Computer-assisted Telephone Interview
CAWI	Computer-assisted Web Interview
NAC	National Advisory Committee
EXCO	Executive Council
SCM	Supply Chain Management
FLOS	Field logistics management tool
HO	Head Office
EAs	Enumeration Areas
FOO	Field Operations Officer
DCC	District Census Coordinator
FTSM	Facilities, Transport and Security Management
NATJOC	National Joint Operations Committee
PROVJOCS	Provincial Joint Operations Committees
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
PCMA	Publicity, Community Mobilisation and Advocacy
PIQA	Provincial Integration and Quality Assurance
UN	United Nations
SA	South Africa
SADC	Southern African Development Community
UK	United Kingdom
ECD	Early Childhood Development
WG	Washington Group
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Free State is the second least populated province in South Africa with approximately 3 million people. Sesotho (72.3%) is the most spoken language in the province followed by Afrikaans (10.3%). The province has a thriving agricultural industry, and this is attributed to its rich soil and pleasant climate. It has more than 3 000 farms, which produce over 70% of the grain in the country. The capital city of this province is Bloemfontein which also serves as the judicial capital of the country. This province was formerly known as Orange Free State province during apartheid.

The dynamics of the South African economy measured by Gross Domestic Product (GDP) indicates that the Free State province economy growth rate is just below the national average (1,5 and 1,9% respectively). The province's GDP is largely driven by Finance (19%), Personal Services (18%) and Trade (13%) industries<sup>1</sup>.

Fundamental linkages exist between the province's economic development, population, and service delivery. The report highlights the Free State population size and its distribution, demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. Trends and patterns of these indicators give insights into the progress of development and service delivery gaps using census data.

### 1.2 How the count was done

In South Africa, once in ten years, the census presents an opportunity for the country to obtain data on key population, household and demographic indicators such as population size, age and sex structure, and geographical distribution across the country. Population and housing censuses provide the population denominators for several socioeconomic, health and other indicators and renew the basis for revising population estimates and projections for another ten years, and beyond. Censuses provide data at various levels of planning, essential in assisting the country and global monitor development programs. Census data are fundamental for informed planning, policy formulation and decision-making in various sectors as nations address socio-economic and service delivery challenges. This includes building

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics South Africa (2023). *Provincial gross domestic product: Experimental estimates, 2013–2022*

and maintaining critical infrastructure such as hospitals and schools. The census data is also critical in determining budgetary allocations for various spheres of government.

In the Census 2022 planning phase, project goals and objectives were outlined and the strategic direction of conducting a digital census was defined ensuring that all dependencies between the different phases and role players were identified, potential risks highlighted and control measures put in place to minimise adverse effects. This facilitated the effective integration and implementation of various activities by ensuring that each phase was properly managed through the census structure that was put in place. During the planning phase, all work streams namely Project Management Office (PMO), Secretariat, Census Inputs and Outputs, Data Operations, Governance, Corporate Services, Census Geography (Frame Update), Information Technology (IT), Census End-to-End Systems Development (CEESD), Publicity, Community Mobilisation and Advocacy, Field Logistics and Specification Development; and Provincial Coordination and Quality Assurance were established. The census workstreams prepared operational plans which provided detailed lists of activities that were undertaken to achieve specific objectives and outputs as profiled in the Census 2022 Project Charter.

The goal of the Census 2022 project was to count everyone within the borders of South Africa without omission and duplication. Census 2022 key objectives were linked to three questions:

- **How many are we?** Determining population size per locality/area, a critical indicator used for resource allocation, measurement of the extent of service delivery, decision making and budgeting, among others.
- **Who are we?** Census 2022 data provides the current picture in terms of population dynamics of the South African population including demographics and some socio-economic characteristics. The information on population characteristics such as age and sex composition, educational attainment and employment status is pertinent to planning and resource allocation
- **Where do we live?** Census 2022 data provides insights into the living conditions of South Africans in terms of the number of households and average household sizes and the type of dwelling structures (housing), access to water, availability of essential services and facilities, and access to Internet etc. This information is critical in understanding and addressing development challenges at all levels of geography and communities.

Central to answering the three questions is how the information was collected in Census 2022 and how regional and international standards and guidelines in census undertaking including compliance with the United Nations *Principles and Recommendations of the Population*

*Census*, a set of guidelines issued every ten years to facilitate the implementation of censuses across countries. Other international standards include:

- Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics<sup>2</sup>
- Handbook on census management and;
- Handbook on Population and Housing Census Editing among others.

Adhering to international standards allows not only for international and regional comparisons – it is also a measure of national capabilities to implement them. If particular circumstances within a country require a departure from international standards, every effort should be made to explain these departures in the census publications and to indicate how the national presentation can be adapted to international standards<sup>3</sup>.

Critical to note in how Census 2022 was conducted is the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on census planning, processes, data collection methods and enumeration period. The impact of the pandemic was twofold, affecting the rollout of the census exercise and the responsiveness of the populace. With respect to the census operations, there were among others: disruptions in the census planning and preparations, no matter how far the implementation had reached; postponement of the census; uncertainties about when preparatory activities could resume and when the census could actually take place; repeat of some programmes already conducted, for example pre-tests and pilot censuses; increased costs from having to comply with the different requirements of the restrictions from the alerts and introduction of personal preventive equipment (PPE); and the necessity of adopting new approaches not previously envisaged, including for example restriction of training to virtual training mode. The repeated COVID-19 pandemic waves in South Africa led to the implementation of strict regulations in population movement and interactions between and across households. The restrictions brought interruptions in the census project activities forcing Stats SA to postpone the Census from 2021 October to February 2022. The pandemic partly presented the organisation with an opportunity for innovation, though at a greater cost in time, financial resources skills and capacity requirements. It also created the opportunity to harness the benefits of the changing pace of the multi-mode data collection approach. Despite COVID-19 interruptions processes, methods, tools and systems/applications were tested and implemented. In preparation for Census 2022, a multi-mode data collection approach was

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<sup>2</sup> Adopted by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in its resolution 2013/21 of 24 July 2013 and endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 68/261 of 29 January 2014, available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/fundprinciples.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> Handbook on Census management

adopted and tested in various tests including Census Pilot, before implementation during the main census. Three methods of data collection were used in this census, namely:

- Face to face interviews- Computer-assisted Personal Interview (CAPI);
- Telephonic interviews -Computer-assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI); and
- Computer-assisted Web Interview (CAWI).

The use of a multi-mode data collection approach became an advantage in conducting a census in the COVID-19 pandemic environment, which affected census key phases of geography frame finalisation and data collection.

### **1.2.1 Census 2022 project planning and implementation committees**

The success of a census is determined by how well processes are planned, executed and monitored. The following oversight and advisory bodies/committees were set up and required to assist with monitoring the project processes and implementation:

#### **Technical Committee**

The purpose of this committee was to coordinate discussions and approval of Census project documents pertaining to planning, processes and methods presented by project workstreams.

#### **National Advisory Committee**

The Census 2022 National Advisory Committee (NAC) was inaugurated in November 2020 to serve as an oversight body to advise and assist Stats SA in delivering a historic technology-driven census with improved coverage and response rates.

#### **Project Steering committee**

Stats SA's Executive Council (EXCO) played the role of Census project steering committee. The steering committee assisted in the monitoring and implementation of various census value chain activities and phases. This committee was the primary decision-making body with a strategic mandate of ensuring the alignment of the census project with expectations from internal and external stakeholders.

#### **Rapid Response Committee**

The purpose of this committee is to provide a forum for process owners to discuss urgent interventions to census processes, procedures and methodologies.

## **1.2.2 Census Management and operational structures**

In preparation for Census 2022, Stats SA enacted a census structure to plan for and coordinate all activities during project implementation. This was to ensure that the census objectives and methodologies were executed accordingly and to monitor progress towards a complete and successful population count. Census 2022's management structure comprised of twelve managerial workstreams, each responsible for the planning and implementation of census activities. Each workstream was mandated with specific objectives and outputs which were implemented through the various tests and census pilot in preparation for the main census. The twelve workstreams included: Project Management Office (PMO), Secretariat, Census Inputs and Outputs, Data Operations, Governance, Corporate Services, Census Geography (Frame Update), Information Technology (IT), Census End-to-End Systems Development (CEESD), Publicity, Community Mobilisation and Advocacy, Field Logistics and Specification Development; and Provincial Coordination and Quality Assurance.

### **Project Management Office**

Project Management Office (PMO) workstream was responsible for the development and application of best project management practices to ensure a successful planned and executed Census 2022 project. Workstream specific objectives included:

- To ensure that the census project was planned and managed in a structured manner and that the principles of good project management were applied throughout the project life cycle;
- To ensure overall project management, coordination and monitoring of workstream activities and all strategic, policy and governing issues pertaining to the project.

### **Field Logistics and Specifications Development**

The deliverables of the workstream included facilitation and consolidation of the Census 2022 project's logistical requirements, specifications for the field logistics management tool/application, facilitation of cost-effective procurement of Census 2022 materials through Supply Chain Management (SCM) and implementing the field logistics management tool (FLOS) for the purpose of distribution, tracking and monitoring of the Census 2022 materials. Further, the workstream coordinated forward and reverse logistics between HO and the provincial/district offices providing efficient asset/inventory management.

### **Census Geography Frame Update**

Frame Update workstream (Frame Update) was responsible for the Census 2022 digital geographical frame that included Enumeration Areas (EAs), identification and assessment of the appropriateness of external data sources towards constructing the frame. The workstream was also responsible for creating Fieldwork, Supervisor, Field Operations Officer (FOO) and District Census Coordinator (DCC) Units. To support the multi-mode data collection, the workstream also provided resources to customise the online registration and unpacking of structures.

### **Facilities, Transport and Security Management**

The Facilities, Transport and Security Management (FTSM) workstream was responsible for screening of contract staff applicants in order to identify and exclude those with criminal records from the census project, securing vehicles, airtime/data, safe storage of tablets and registering Census 2022 with National Joint Operations Committee (NATJOC) and Provincial Joint Operations Committees (PROVJOCS).

### **Information Communication and Technology**

Census 2022 was digital and central to this were applications and systems that required an ICT environment that was agile and adaptive to cater for an increased network load. Information Communication and Technology (ICT) workstream was responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of an efficient and effective integrated ICT infrastructure and architecture to enable the organisation to conduct a successful digital census. The workstream was also responsible for the configuration of tablets for the census project and the procurement of servers. The ICT team also provided ICT infrastructure for virtual training and support during the national, provincial and district training, as well as during data collection.

### **Census End to end-to-end systems development**

The Census End-to-End Systems (CEESD) workstream was responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining efficient and effective integrated application architecture to enable the organisation to conduct a successful digital. The applications developed included among others data collection tools of CAPI, CATI and CAWI. Other workstream objectives included:

- Development, implementation and maintenance of quality approved systems to enable Stats SA to conduct a successful digital Census 2022;
- Testing the efficacy of the deployed end-to-end census systems, integration of census systems and automation of all identified census processes;

- Delivering real-time reporting to enable project stakeholders to make informed decisions;
- Providing continuous technical support during all levels of training and during data collection.

### **Census Inputs and Outputs:**

The workstream was responsible for the development of data collection instruments/tools and basic print products. Additional responsibilities included:

- Coordinating the activity of developing data editing and imputation specifications/rules;
- Conduct data editing in collaboration with Census Inputs& Outputs workstream and subject matter specialists and;
- Coordination of census data assessment and evaluation in collaboration with subject matter specialists.

### **Data Operations**

The workstream was responsible for:

- Planning and implementation of training and enumeration approaches;
- Prepare for and implement data integration from the three data collection modes of CAPI, CAWI, and CATI;
- Development of data editing programmes;
- Conduct data editing in collaboration with Census Inputs& Outputs workstream and subject matter specialists.

### **Project Governance**

The Governance workstream was responsible for ensuring that the Census 2022 was managed with care and integrity and that the culture of good governance was practised by all teams. Its objectives were, among others, to coordinate and facilitate the overall development and monitoring of Census 2022 risks and their mitigations; ensure coordination of Census 2022 Internal Audit planning, execution and reporting; and coordination of efforts on compliance activities and provide advice on governance-related matters. The workstream also advocated for compliance and adherence to Census 2022 project activities to set standards and requirements. Conducting a census in an era of varying levels of COVID-19 spread and state of health system readiness required such innovation and adaptability that significantly increased the risk factors, compelling the organisation to think differently about the plans, timelines and methodologies and above all, project governance.

## **Corporate services**

This workstream was responsible for all aspects of human resource management, supply chain management, contracting and financial management, transport, security, accommodation, and legal services. The human resources sub-workstream recruited, appointed, paid and terminated contract staff. This workstream also managed permanent staff deployment to provinces and districts during census field operations.

## **Publicity, Community Mobilisation and Advocacy**

The Census 2022, being the first ever digital census to be conducted in the country, required a more elaborate communication strategy entailing the extensive use of technology to reach out to various audiences and adopting new media, such as social media, online and mobile communication. The Publicity, Community Mobilisation and Advocacy (PCMA) workstream was responsible for:

- The development and implementation of a communication strategy that encompasses among others, educating communities about Census 2022, coordination of internal and external communication activities to ensure awareness of the Census 2022 project by key stakeholders;
- Creation of effective media relations and use of relevant advertising that reach and call targeted audiences to action;
- Conduct publicity and advocacy campaigns supporting recruitment drives, and stakeholder partnerships, educating the public about their participation and the issue of data privacy; and
- Promoting greater buy-in at the community level.

## **Secretariat**

The Secretariat workstream was responsible for Census 2022 documentation on methodologies, instruments/data collection tools, processes and procedures.

## **Provincial Integration and Quality Assurance**

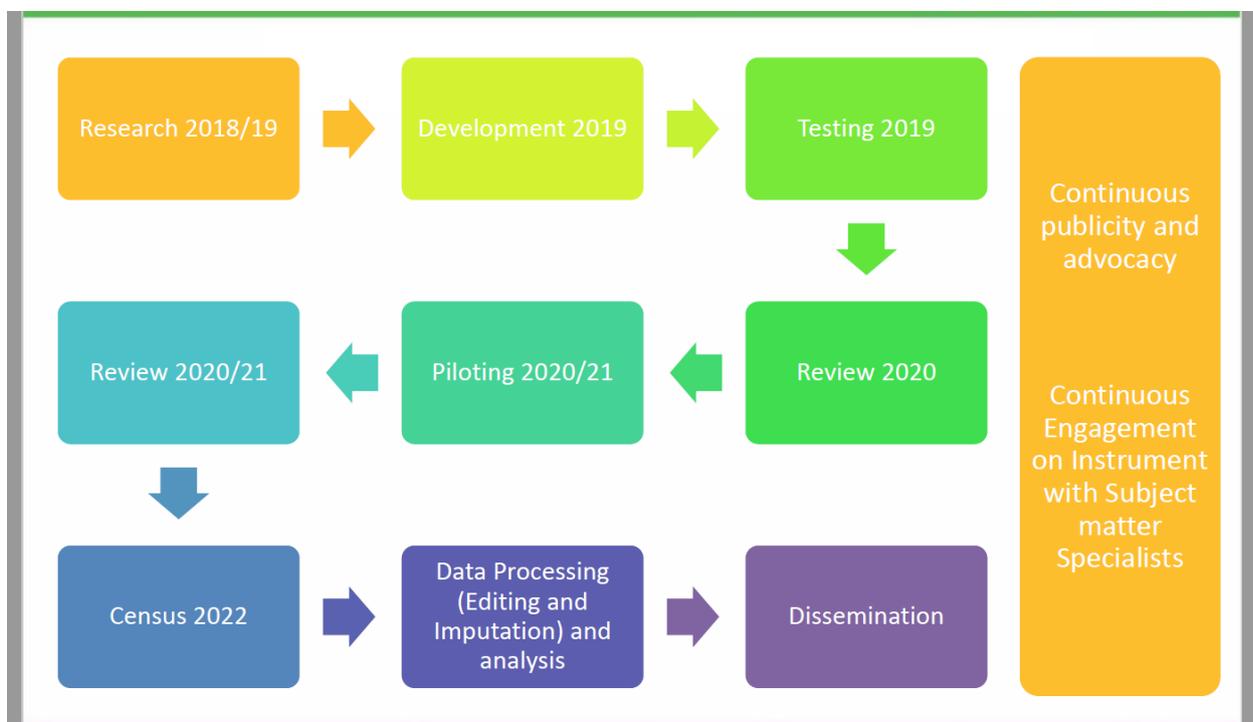
Provincial Integration and Quality Assurance (PIQA) workstream was created to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of Census 2022 operations by coordinating and integrating Census 2022 project operational plans and activities across provinces and ensuring quality outputs, particularly at the field level. Among others, the workstream sought to facilitate the finalisation and approval of the Census 2022 project structures at provincial and district levels in support of the integration of operational activities across provinces, districts and the head office. It ensured that resources needed for Census 2022 were distributed in accordance with

the workload for each province and district offices. PIQA also managed monitoring, quality assurance and oversight of Census 2022 activities in the provinces and facilitated a coherent and consistent approach for timeous communication and implementation of project decisions across provinces.

### 1.2.3 High-level Census 2022 process flow

The Census 2022 high-level process flow describes the different project stages and linked timeframes from the beginning to the end of the project.

**Figure 1.1: Census 2022 high-level process flow**



Planning for Census 2022 commenced with research on the use of multi-mode data collection approaches, followed by the development of census content, methods and systems, all of which were subjected to testing their practicality, relevancy and user-friendliness. All key census phases were planned and fully tested, with revisions made to ensure successful implementation during the main census.

For a detailed report on how the count was done, refer to **Census 2022 Report no. 03-01-45** available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## **1.3 Exclusions**

### **1.3.1 Variables and themes not in the public domain**

Based on census data quality evaluation exercises undertaken by Stats SA subject matter specialists and Census 2022 technical experts in various census themes, the following variables/ themes will not be published and are therefore not part of this report:

#### **Income**

The income variable is one of the most sensitive questions asked in a census. The Census 2022 data quality evaluation of this variable showed two issues of concern: (1) High level of individuals who reported no incomes (41%) and (2) about 8% of the population did not have a response to this question (Unspecified income).

#### **Labour module**

Following extensive analysis of labour data, it has been decided that the labour module data from the Census 2022 will not be released to the general public.

#### **Demography themes**

Mortality, fertility and migration are the drivers of population change in terms of population size, growth, structure, and composition.

#### **Mortality**

During the data evaluation exercise, it was observed that the number of household deaths from Census 2022 was almost half of the deaths estimated by Mid-Year Population Estimates (MYPE) and Medical Research Council (MRC) over the same period. The deaths were also lower than the deaths reported in the National Population Register (NPR) in 2021. In addition to these, there was a significant proportion of unspecified cases for age and sex of the deceased, indicative of content errors.

#### **Fertility**

Variables on the fertility section recorded high proportions of unspecified cases including women who reported that they have never given birth to children in their lifetime, particularly among women at the end of the reproductive life span. Further, the magnitude of underreporting of both births reported in the year preceding the census and the total number of children ever born yielded a low estimate that is not comparable to estimates produced by other sources over the same period.

## **Migration**

- Statistics South Africa asks questions on migration which do not distinguish between documented and undocumented migrants since it is the objective of census to count everyone in the country at the time of the census. Therefore, no statistics reported in this report based on the distinction between documented and undocumented migrants.
- Province of previous residence variable is derived and has not been part of the analysis in this report.

### **1.3.2 Households**

- The number and proportions profiled in this report excludes unconventional households (i.e. households in dwelling units that are attached to collective living quarters).
- Agricultural households have been excluded in this report and they are to be profiled in separate reports.

### **1.3.3 Homeless and institution-based populations**

Homeless persons as well as persons who were in institutions on census reference night (2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022) with the exception of tables and indicators on age and sex structure.

## CHAPTER 2: POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

### 2.1 Introduction

Understanding the aspects of the population will continue to be crucial across all phases of life. One of the United Nations (UN) sustainable development goals is to ensure that poverty and hunger are eliminated in all their forms and dimensions as well as ensure that everyone fulfils their potential and equality in a healthy environment<sup>4</sup>. This chapter will look at population trends over time for the Free State province across censuses conducted since 1996. The results will further provide the growth rates of the population including age and sex structure of the Free State population, the population group, marital status, language, religion and population density of all local municipalities in the province. The analysis covers Free State province and the following districts: Xhariep, Lejweleputswa, Thabo Mofutsanyane, Fezile Dabi and Mangaung. Furthermore, a total of 18 local municipalities were included. Please note that the 2018 municipal boundaries have come with certain changes in the names of some district and local municipality names.

### 2.2 Population distribution

**Table 2.1: Population distribution by province, Census 1996-2022**

Province	Population				Growth Rate		
	Census 1996	Census 2001	Census 2011	Census 2022	1996-2001	2001-2011	2011-2022
Western Cape	3 956 875	4 524 335	5 822 734	7 433 020	2,7	2,5	2,4
Eastern Cape	6 147 244	6 278 651	6 562 053	7 230 204	0,4	0,4	0,9
Northern Cape	1 011 864	991 876	1 145 861	1 355 945	0,4	1,4	1,6
<b>Free State</b>	<b>2 633 504</b>	<b>2 706 775</b>	<b>2 745 590</b>	<b>2 964 412</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>0,7</b>
KwaZulu-Natal	8 572 302	9 584 129	10 267 300	12 423 907	2,2	0,7	1,9
North West	2 726 828	2 982 064	3 509 953	3 804 547	1,8	1,6	0,8
Gauteng	7 834 620	9 390 528	12 272 263	15 099 423	3,6	2,7	2,0
Mpumalanga	3 124 203	3 365 957	4 039 939	5 143 324	1,5	1,8	2,3
Limpopo	4 576 133	4 995 462	5 404 868	6 572 721	1,8	0,8	1,9
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>40 583 573</b>	<b>44 819 778</b>	<b>51 770 560</b>	<b>62 027 503</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>1,8</b>

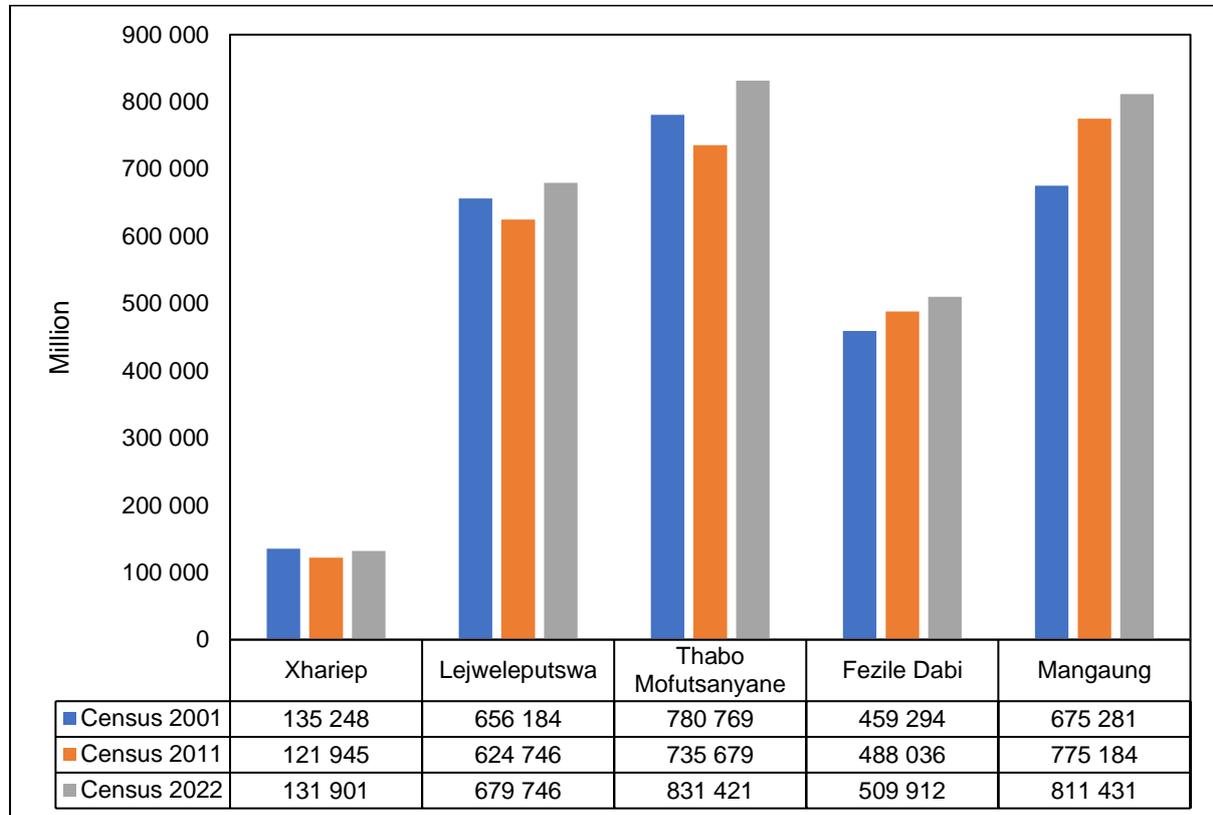
Source: Censuses 1996, 2001, 2011 & 2022

Table 2.1 shows the distribution of population by province across four censuses conducted in South Africa since 1996. The results indicate that the South African population grew from 40 million in 1996 to 62 million in 2022. Over the same period, the Free State population grew from 2,6 million in 1996 to approximately 3 million in 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Transforming our world: The 2030 agenda for sustainable development

Looking at the population growth rate, one of the indicators that drives population change, the province recorded an upward trend in population growth rate (from 0.5 to 0,7). However, the population grew at a rate way lower than the national average in all three intercensal periods.

**Figure 2.1 Distribution of population by district, Censuses 2001-2022**



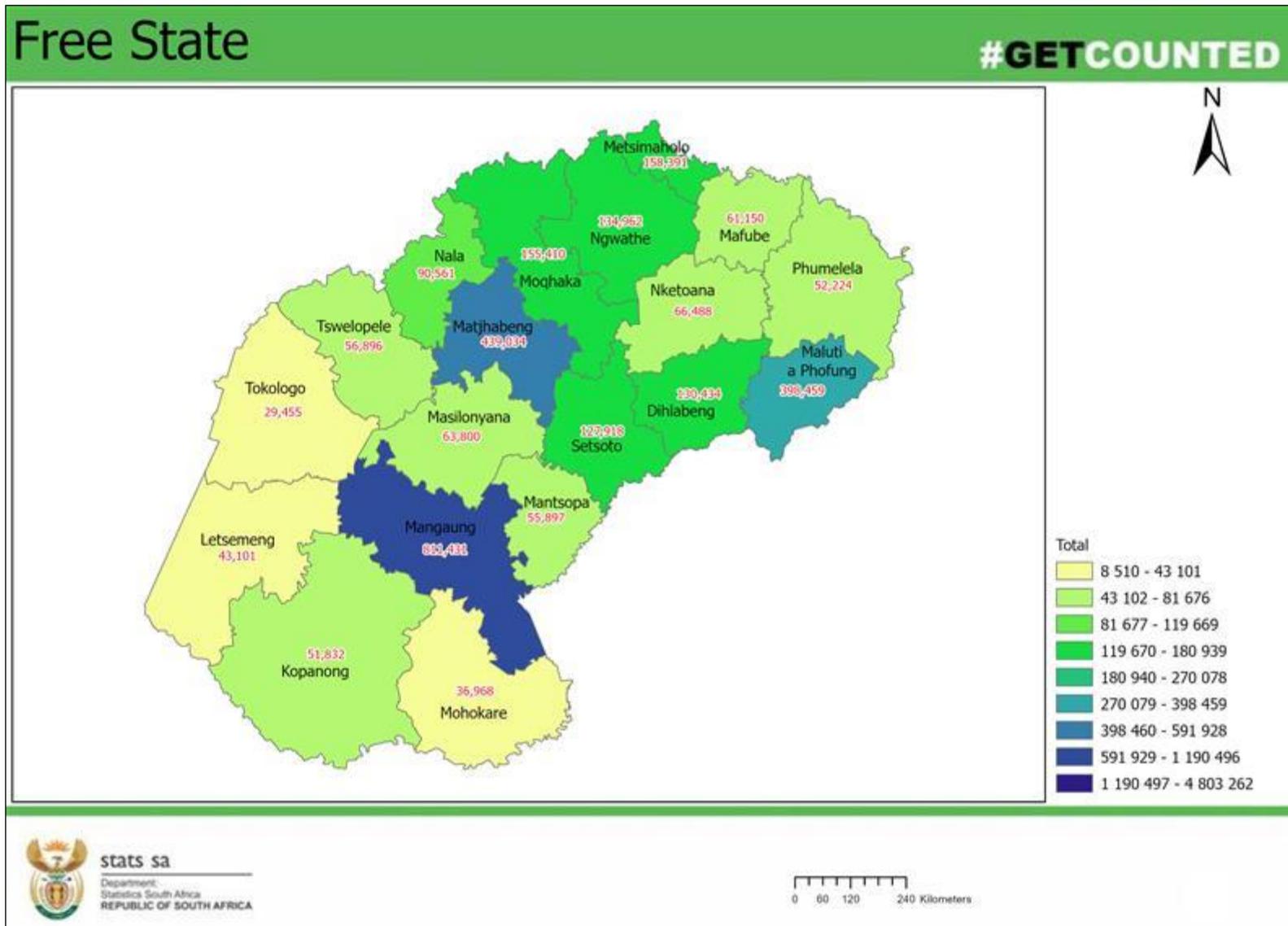
Source: Censuses 2001, 2011 & 2022

**Table 2.2: Distribution of population by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

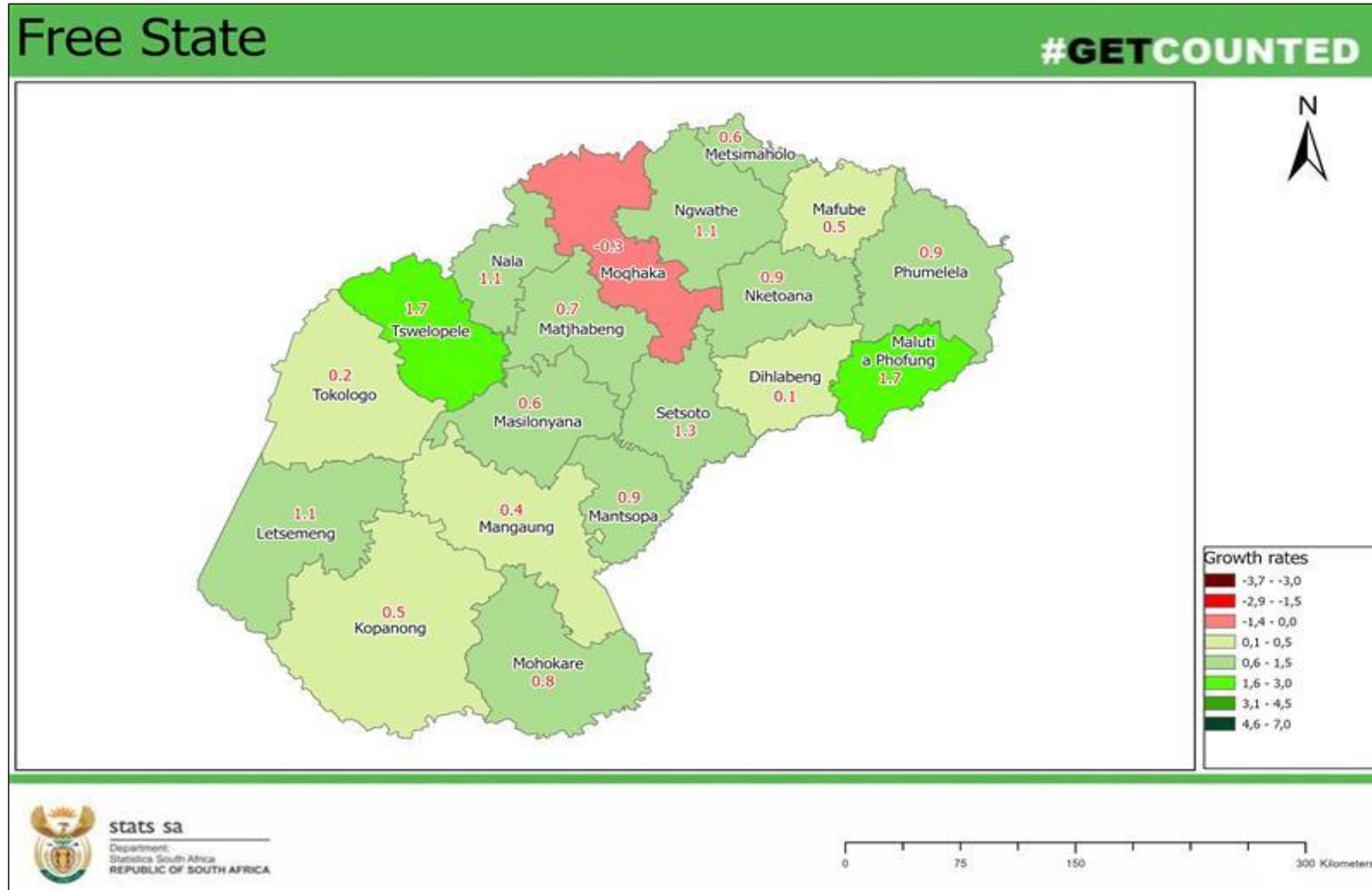
Province, district and municipality	Population		Growth Rate 2011-2022
	Census 2011	Census 2022	
<b>Free State</b>	<b>2 745 590</b>	<b>2 964 412</b>	<b>0,7</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>121 945</b>	<b>131 901</b>	<b>0,8</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	38 628	43 101	1,1
FS162 : Kopanong	49 171	51 832	0,5
FS163 : Mohokare	34 146	36 968	0,8
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>624 746</b>	<b>679 746</b>	<b>0,8</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	59 895	63 800	0,6
FS182 : Tokologo	28 986	29 455	0,2
FS183 : Tswelopele	47 625	56 896	1,7
FS184 : Matjhabeng	407 020	439 034	0,7
FS185 : Nala	81 220	90 561	1,1
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>735 679</b>	<b>831 421</b>	<b>1,2</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	112 038	127 918	1,3
FS192 : Dihlabeng	128 704	130 434	0,1
FS193 : Nketoana	60 324	66 488	0,9
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	335 784	398 459	1,7
FS195 : Phumelela	47 772	52 224	0,9
FS196 : Mantsopa	51 056	55 897	0,9
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>488 036</b>	<b>509 912</b>	<b>0,4</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	160 532	155 410	-0,3
FS203 : Ngwathe	120 520	134 962	1,1
FS204 : Metsimaholo	149 108	158 391	0,6
FS205 : Mafube	57 876	61 150	0,5
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>775 184</b>	<b>811 431</b>	<b>0,4</b>

Source: Census 2011 & 2022

Map 2.1: Distribution of population by local municipality, Census 2022



Map 2.2: Population growth rates by local municipality, Census 2011-2022



The results on population size as depicted in Figure 2.1, Table 2.2, and Maps 2.1 and 2.2 show that Thabo Mofutsanyane and Mangaung metropolitan area was the biggest district in terms of population size whilst Xhariep district recorded the least population size, and this pattern is the same in all censuses. Furthermore, the district profile showed that Thabo Mofutsanyane grew most at an annual rate of 1,2% followed by Xhariep and Lejweleputswa at a rate of 0,8% respectively. The annual population growth rates for these three districts were higher than the provincial average.

The local municipality dynamics showed that Mangaung metropolitan, Matjhabeng and Maluti a Phofung were the most populous in both Census 2011 and 2022. Annual growth rates showed that six municipalities namely; Maluti a Phofung, Tswelopele, Setsoto, Ngwathe, Nala and Letsemeng grew at an annual rate of above 1%. Moqhaka is the only local municipality that recorded a negative population growth rate (-0,3%).

### **2.3 Population density**

Population density refers to the number of people per unit of area, usually transcribed as per kilometre and which may include, for example, areas of water. For this section, population density is calculated for provinces, districts and municipalities.

**Table 2.3: Population density by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

Province, district and municipality	Area km <sup>2</sup>	Population		Population Density	
		2011	2022	2011	2022
<b>Free State</b>	<b>249 764</b>	<b>2 745 590</b>	<b>2 964 412</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>34 250</b>	<b>121 945</b>	<b>131 901</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	9 826	38 628	43 101	4	4
FS162 : Kopanong	15 648	49 171	51 832	3	3
FS163 : Mohokare	8 776	34 146	36 968	4	4
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>32 287</b>	<b>624 746</b>	<b>679 746</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	6 618	59 895	63 800	9	10
FS182 : Tokologo	9 317	28 986	29 455	3	3
FS183 : Tswelopele	6 534	47 625	56 896	7	9
FS184 : Matjhabeng	5 690	407 020	439 034	72	77
FS185 : Nala	4 129	81 220	90 561	20	22
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>32 729</b>	<b>735 679</b>	<b>831 421</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	5 431	112 038	127 918	21	24
FS192 : Dihlabeng	4 868	128 704	130 434	26	27
FS193 : Nketoana	5 605	60 324	66 488	11	12
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	4 338	335 784	398 459	77	92
FS195 : Phumelela	8 197	47 772	52 224	6	6
FS196 : Mantsopa	4 291	51 056	55 897	12	13
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>20 673</b>	<b>488 036</b>	<b>509 912</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	7 925	160 532	155 410	20	20
FS203 : Ngwathe	7 055	120 520	134 962	17	19
FS204 : Metsimaholo	1 717	149 108	158 391	87	92
FS205 : Mafube	3 977	57 876	61 150	15	15
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>9 886</b>	<b>775 184</b>	<b>811 431</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>82</b>

Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

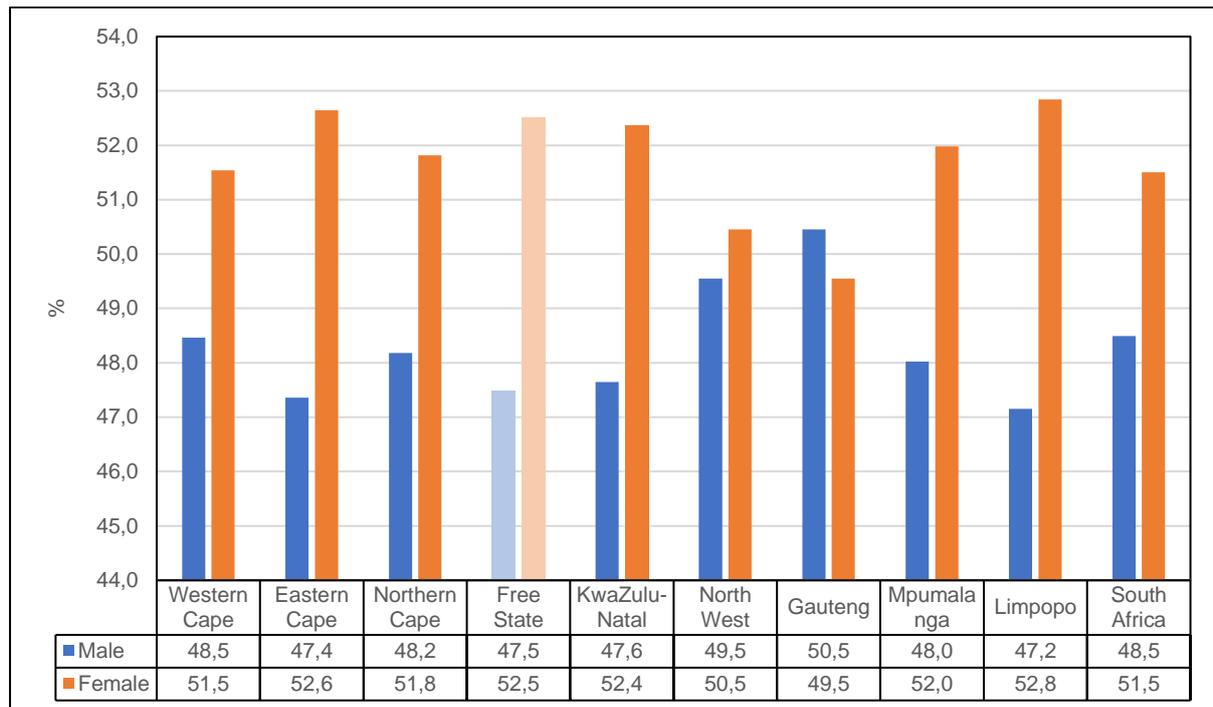
The results presented in Table 2.3 depict the Free State as one of the most sparsely populated provinces with 12 persons per square kilometre, which remained almost unchanged in the two censuses.

District variations in population density showed that with the exception of Xhariep district, the rest recorded population density above the provincial average. Mangaung metropolitan area recorded the highest population density in the province in both census years at 78 and 82 persons per square kilometre respectively). Thabo Mofutsanyane's population density increased slightly from 22 to 25 persons per square kilometre. Looking at the municipal profile, the majority of local municipalities in the province have low population density. Metsimaholo, Maluti a Phofung and Matjhabeng have relatively higher population densities i.e. 92 & 77 persons per square kilometre respectively.

## 2.4 Age and sex structure

The age and sex structure deals with the distribution of the population over time-based on 5-year age groups. It compares the age and sex structures of Census 2011 and 2022 to show shifts in age and sex patterns that occurred over time.

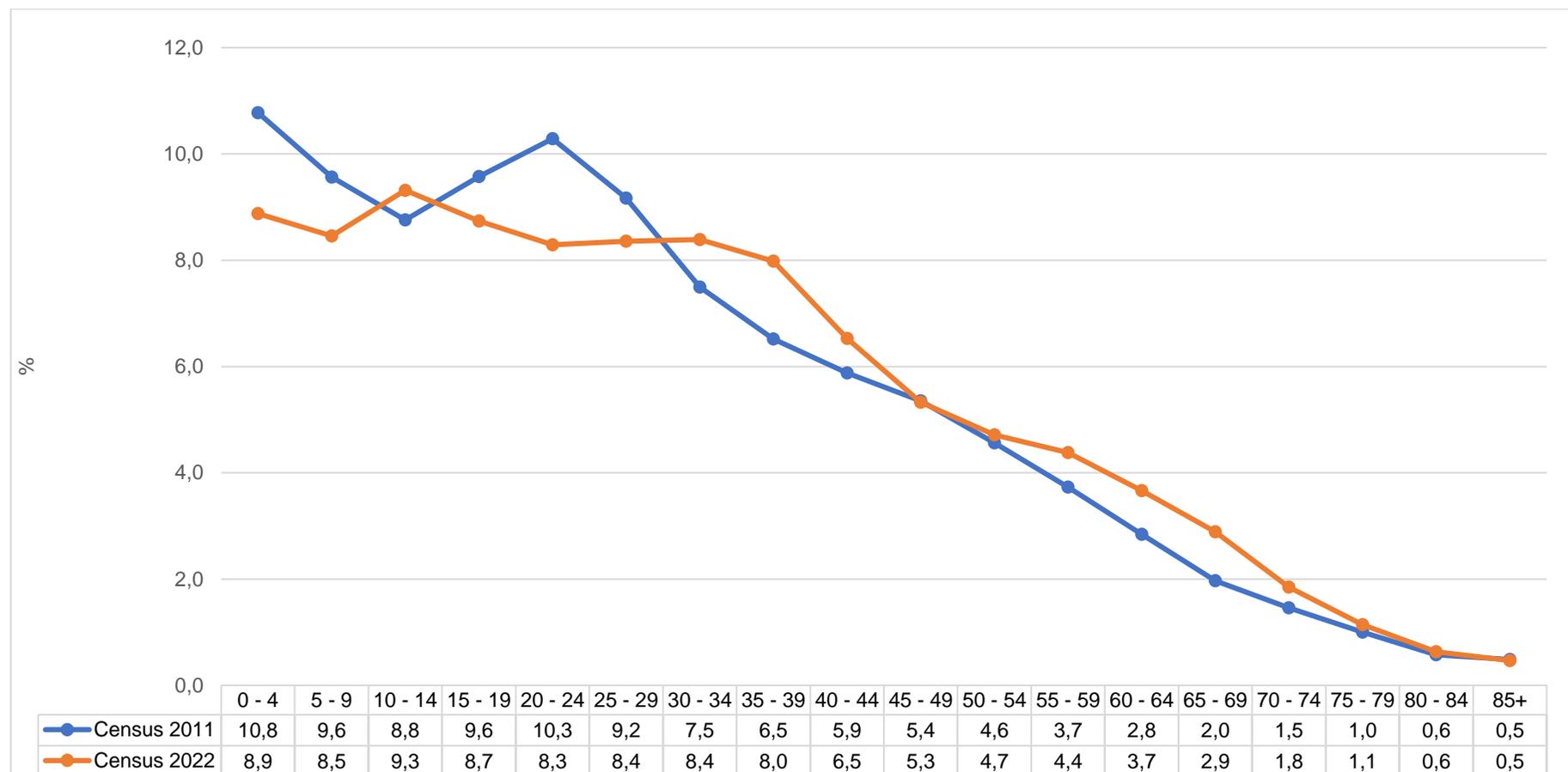
**Figure 2.2: Percentage distribution of population by province & sex, Census 2022**



Source: Census 2022

Figure 2.2 shows how the population is distributed by sex and province. The national profile shows that there are more females than males (51,5% and 48,5% respectively) and Free State depict a similar pattern with 52,5% females and 47,5% males.

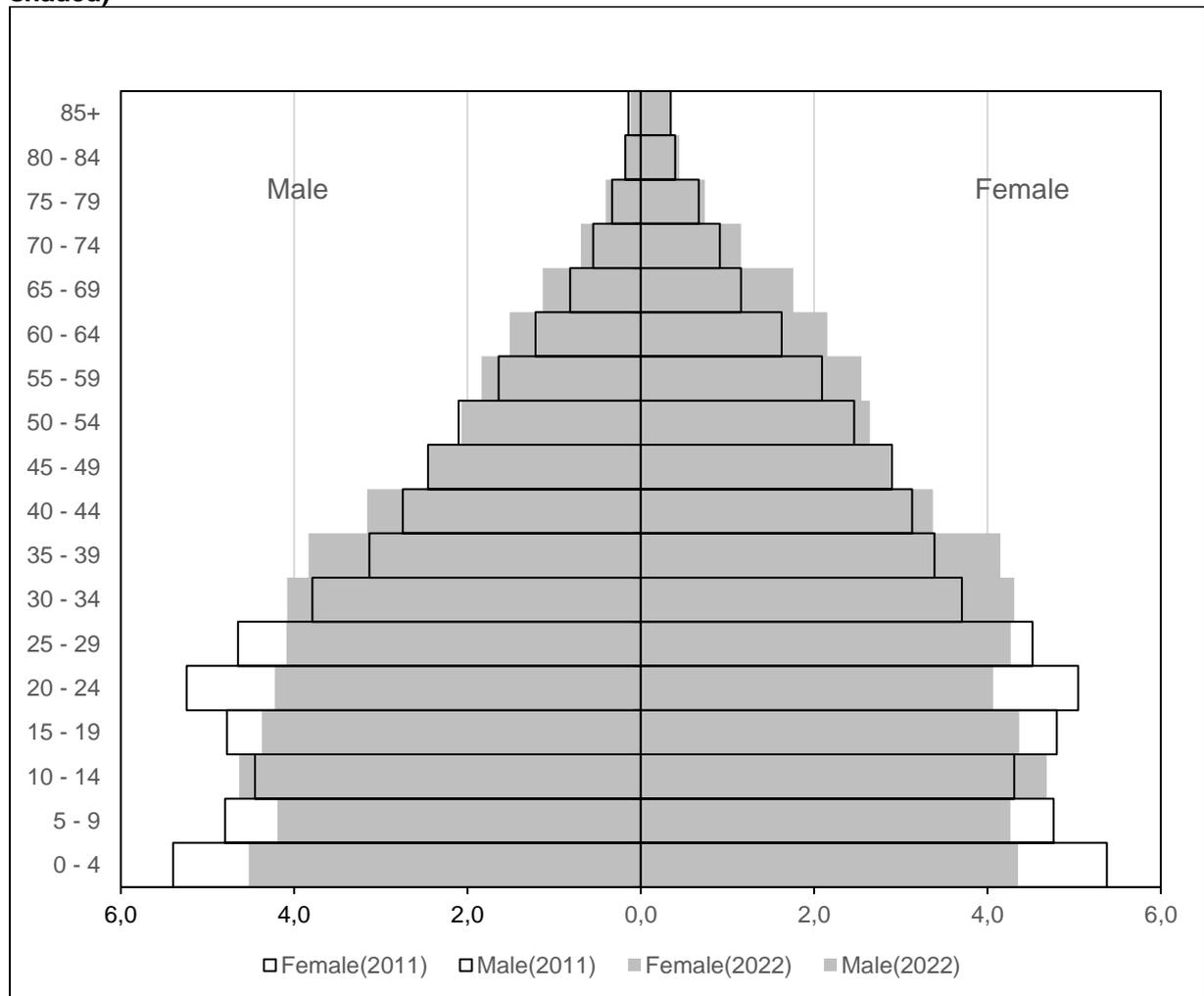
**Figure 2.3: Percentage distribution of population by five-year age groups, Census 2011-2022**



Source: Census 2011 & 2022

Figure 2.3 shows the age distribution of the province’s population for both Censuses 2011 and 2022. Results showed a decrease in the proportions of persons aged 0-10 and 15-34 in 2022 whilst ages 30-44 and 50-84 recorded an increase.

**Figure 2.4: Free State population pyramid, Census 2011 (transparent) & Census 2022 (grey shaded)**



Source: Census 2011 & 2022

The population pyramid in Figure 2.4 shows the age-sex structure of the Free State. The broad base structure is typical of the province with high birth rates, although the base seems to have narrowed as reflected in age groups (0-9). Results further showed a decrease in the proportion of youth for both males and females aged 15- 29 for the period 2011-2022. The adult population in 2022 has increased for both males and females. The pyramid further depicts more female older persons compared to their male counterparts.

**Table 2.4: Distribution of population by broad age groups, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

Province, District and Municipality	Broad age groups							Total	
	0 - 14		15 - 64		65 +				
<b>Free State</b>	<b>789 979</b>	<b>26,6</b>	<b>1 967 409</b>	<b>66,4</b>	<b>206 983</b>	<b>7,0</b>	<b>2 964 371</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>36 971</b>	<b>28,0</b>	<b>84 823</b>	<b>64,3</b>	<b>10 104</b>	<b>7,7</b>	<b>131 899</b>	<b>100</b>	
FS161 : Letsemeng	12 301	28,5	27 882	64,7	2 919	6,8	43 101	100	
FS162 : Kopanong	14 426	27,8	32 850	63,4	4 555	8,8	51 831	100	
FS163 : Mohokare	10 245	27,7	24 091	65,2	2 631	7,1	36 967	100	
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>187 030</b>	<b>27,5</b>	<b>448 088</b>	<b>65,9</b>	<b>44 622</b>	<b>6,6</b>	<b>679 739</b>	<b>100</b>	
FS181 : Masilonyana	17 318	27,1	41 522	65,1	4 960	7,8	63 800	100	
FS182 : Tokologo	8 830	30,0	18 540	62,9	2 086	7,1	29 455	100	
FS183 : Tswelopele	17 108	30,1	36 409	64,0	3 379	5,9	56 896	100	
FS184 : Matjhabeng	117 878	26,8	293 333	66,8	27 816	6,3	439 027	100	
FS185 : Nala	25 896	28,6	58 284	64,4	6 381	7,0	90 561	100	
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>232 277</b>	<b>27,9</b>	<b>542 839</b>	<b>65,3</b>	<b>56 288</b>	<b>6,8</b>	<b>831 403</b>	<b>100</b>	
FS191 : Setsoto	37 055	29,0	81 967	64,1	8 893	7,0	127 914	100	
FS192 : Dihlabeng	33 790	25,9	87 401	67,0	9 242	7,1	130 432	100	
FS193 : Nketoana	17 918	26,9	43 641	65,6	4 928	7,4	66 488	100	
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	113 478	28,5	259 144	65,0	25 827	6,5	398 448	100	
FS195 : Phumelela	14 131	27,1	34 519	66,1	3 574	6,8	52 224	100	
FS196 : Mantsopa	15 905	<b>28,5</b>	36 167	<b>64,7</b>	3 824	<b>6,8</b>	55 896	<b>100</b>	
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>130 129</b>	<b>25,5</b>	<b>338 477</b>	<b>66,4</b>	<b>41 301</b>	<b>8,1</b>	<b>509 907</b>	<b>100</b>	
FS201 : Moqhaka	39 168	25,2	102 836	66,2	13 405	8,6	155 409	100	
FS203 : Ngwathe	34 995	25,9	86 644	64,2	13 322	9,9	134 961	100	
FS204 : Metsimaholo	40 055	25,3	108 297	68,4	10 036	6,3	158 388	100	
FS205 : Mafube	15 912	26,0	40 700	66,6	4 538	7,4	61 150	100	
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>203 572</b>	<b>25,1</b>	<b>553 182</b>	<b>68,2</b>	<b>54 668</b>	<b>6,7</b>	<b>811 422</b>	<b>100</b>	

Source: Census 2022

Table 2.4 shows that the working age population (15 – 64) at 66,4 % constituted the biggest share followed by children aged 0-14 at 26,6 % and older persons aged 65+ at 7%. In Mangaung district, the working-age population constituted about 68% with two percentage points above the provincial average. The profile of children at the district level showed that Xhariep (28%), Lejweleputswa (27,5%) and Thabo Mofutsanyane (27,9%) recorded higher proportions than that of the province. Fezile Dabi and Xhariep recorded the highest proportions of older persons (8,1, % and 7,7% respectively). The local municipality profile depicts a pattern similar to the province; the working population constitutes higher percentage share compared to children and older persons.

### Dependency ratio

Age dependency ratios are important indicators in every population. These ratios are used to measure the financial burden on the working population. Dependency ratios indicate the potential effects of changes in population age structures for social and economic development, pointing out broad trends in social support needs.

When dependency ratios are higher, there is a greater burden carried by the working-age population and lower ratios are indicative of more working-age population potential to support the dependent population (children and older persons).

**Table 2.5: Dependency ratios for population 15-64 years (per 100), Census 2011-2022**

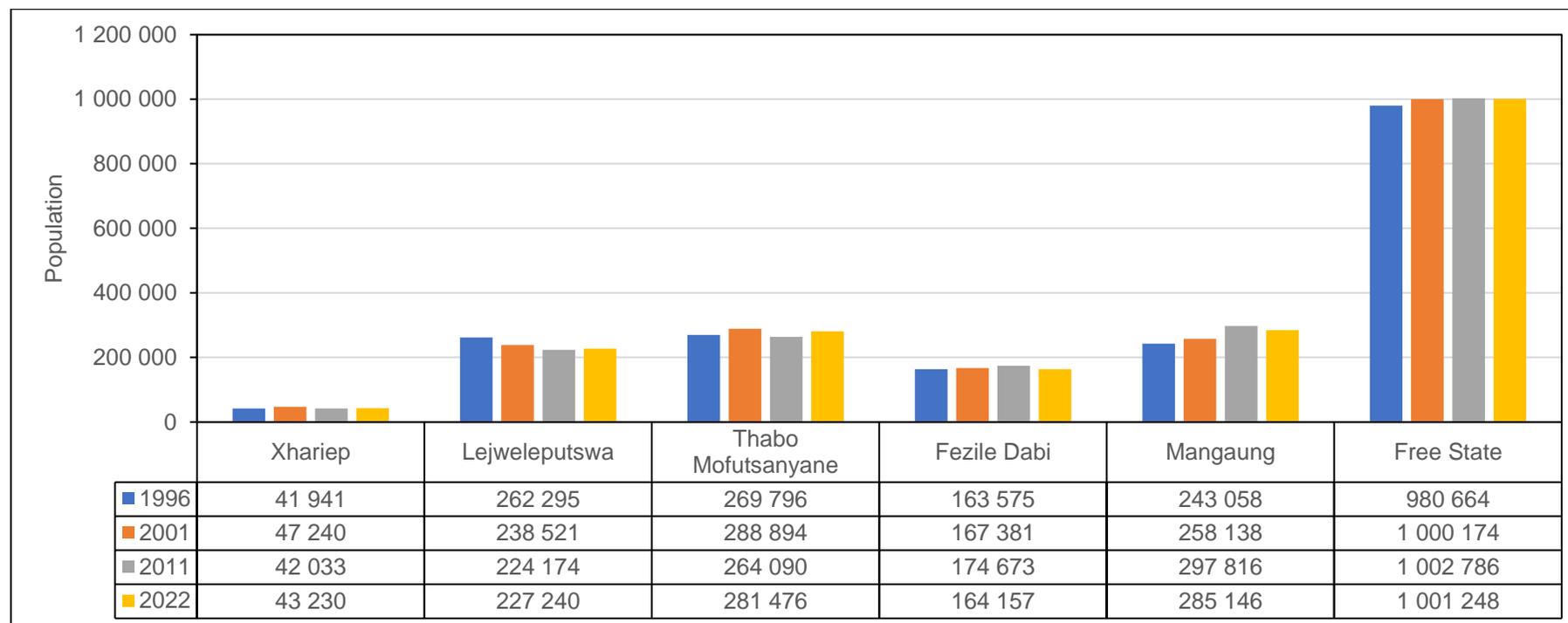
District and local municipality	Dependency Ratio per 100 (15-64)	
	2011	2022
<b>Free State</b>	<b>52,9</b>	<b>50,7</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>57,9</b>	<b>55,5</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	54,2	54,6
FS162 : Kopanong	57,4	57,8
FS163 : Mohokare	62,9	53,4
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>51,3</b>	<b>51,7</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	55,0	53,7
FS182 : Tokologo	58,9	58,9
FS183 : Tswelopele	64,5	56,3
FS184 : Matjhabeng	46,9	49,7
FS185 : Nala	62,4	55,4
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>59,6</b>	<b>53,2</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	61,2	56,1
FS192 : Dihlabeng	53,5	49,2
FS193 : Nketoana	61,6	52,4
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	61,2	53,8
FS195 : Phumelela	60,5	51,3
FS196 : Mantsopa	59,2	54,6
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>51,9</b>	<b>50,6</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	50,5	51,1
FS203 : Ngwathe	60,2	55,8
FS204 : Metsimaholo	44,3	46,3
FS205 : Mafube	61,1	50,2
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>48,0</b>	<b>46,7</b>

Source: Census 2011 & 2022

Table 2.5 shows dependency ratios in Free State by district and local municipality over the period 2011-2022. The dependency ratio in Free State was 52,9 in 2011 and 50,7 in 2022 depicting a slight decrease during the intercensal period.

In 2022, three districts namely: Xhariep, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Lejweleputswa recorded a dependency ratio above the provincial average (55,5, 53,2 and 51,7 respectively). Fezile Dabi district and Mangaung Metropolitan on the other hand recorded dependency ratios lower than the province (50,6 and 46,7 respectively). The local municipality profile showed that several municipalities in Free State i.e. Kopanong, Ngwathe, Mantsopa, Setsoto, Nala and Tswelopele recorded high dependency ratios.

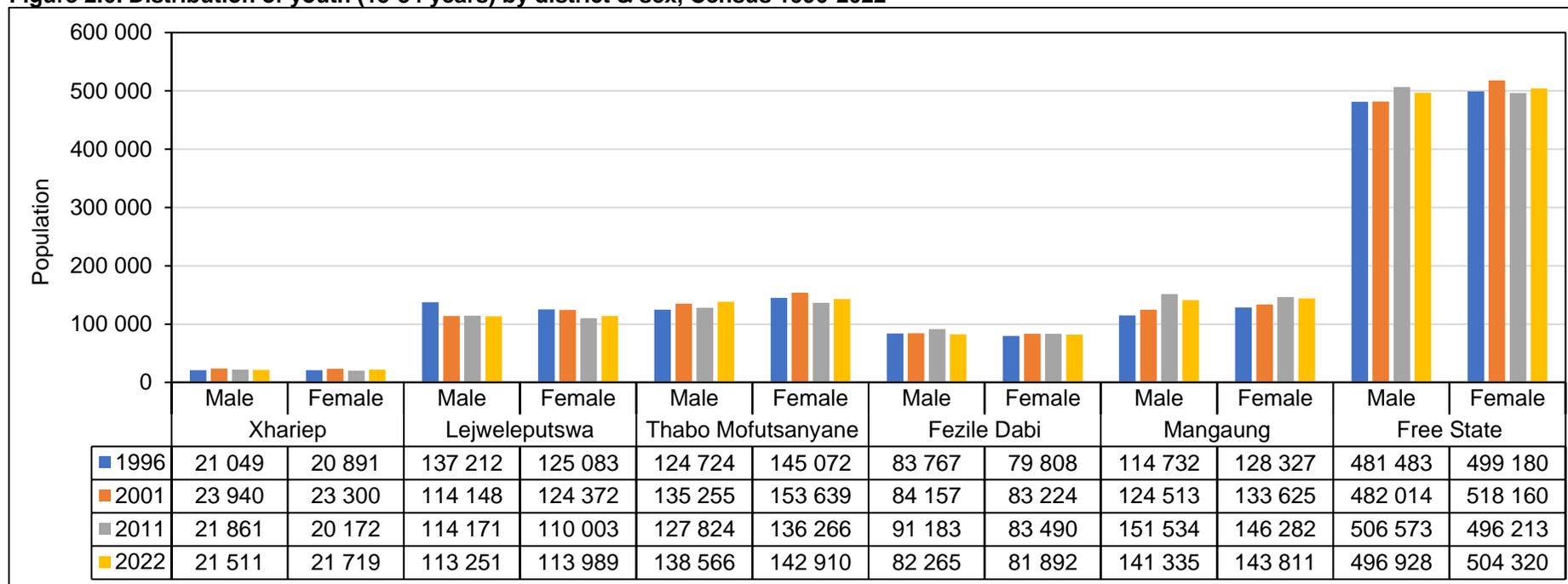
**Figure 2.5: Distribution of youth (15-34 years old) by district, Census 1996-2022**



Source: Census 1996, 2001, 2011, 2022

Figure 2.5 shows youth population by district municipalities in the four Censuses 1999-2022. Overall, the results show that youth population increased from less than a million in 1996 to over a million (1 001 248) in 2022. Mangaung metropolitan has the biggest share of youth whilst Xhariep has the smallest number.

**Figure 2.6: Distribution of youth (15-34 years) by district & sex, Census 1996-2022**



Source: Census 1996, 2001, 2011, 2022

The results presented in Figure 2.6 showed that in three censuses, the province recorded more female youth compared to their male counterparts. Sex variations at district level showed that Mangaung metropolitan depict a pattern similar to that of the province in all census years. On the other hand, while Thabo Mofutsanyane and Fezile Dabi districts recorded more male youth in all census years, Xhariep district recorded more male youth for years 1996-2011 and in 2022, the district recorded slightly more female youth.

## 2.5 Sex ratio

Sex ratio is the number of males and the number of females, expressed as the number of males per 100 females. High sex ratios reflect a bias towards more males and low sex ratios a bias towards more females. The sex ratio indicator measures the sex composition of the population.

**Table 2.6: Sex ratio by province, Census 1996-2022**

Province	Census year			
	1996	2001	2011	2022
<b>Western Cape</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>94</b>
Eastern Cape	86	86	89	90
Northern Cape	95	94	97	93
Free State	97	92	94	90
KwaZulu-Natal	88	88	91	91
North West	98	99	103	98
Gauteng	104	101	102	102
Mpumalanga	93	91	96	92
Limpopo	85	83	88	89
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>94</b>

Sources: Censuses 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022

Table 2.6 show the sex ratio by province comparing Censuses 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022. The sex ratio of South Africa fluctuated between 93 in 1996, 92 in 2001, 96 in 2011 and decreased to 94 in 2022. These results indicate that generally in all four censuses, there were more female than males. The sex ratios of Free State depict similar trends.

**Table 2.7: Sex ratio by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

District & municipalities	Sex ratio	
	Census 2011	Census 2022
<b>Free State</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>DC16 Xhariep</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>92</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	106	96
FS162 : Kopanong	96	90
FS163 : Mohokare	91	91
<b>DC18 Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>92</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	102	92
FS182 : Tokologo	99	93
FS183 : Tswelopele	92	93
FS184 : Matjhabeng	98	92
FS185 : Nala	92	92
<b>DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	88	88
FS192 : Dihlabeng	91	87
FS193 : Nketoana	90	89
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	84	86
FS195 : Phumelela	94	92
FS196 : Mantsopa	92	89
<b>DC20 Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>92</b>
FS201: Moqhaka	98	92
FS203 : Ngwathe	91	89
FS204 : Metsimaholo	109	97
FS205 : Mafube	92	88
<b>MAN Mangaung</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>91</b>

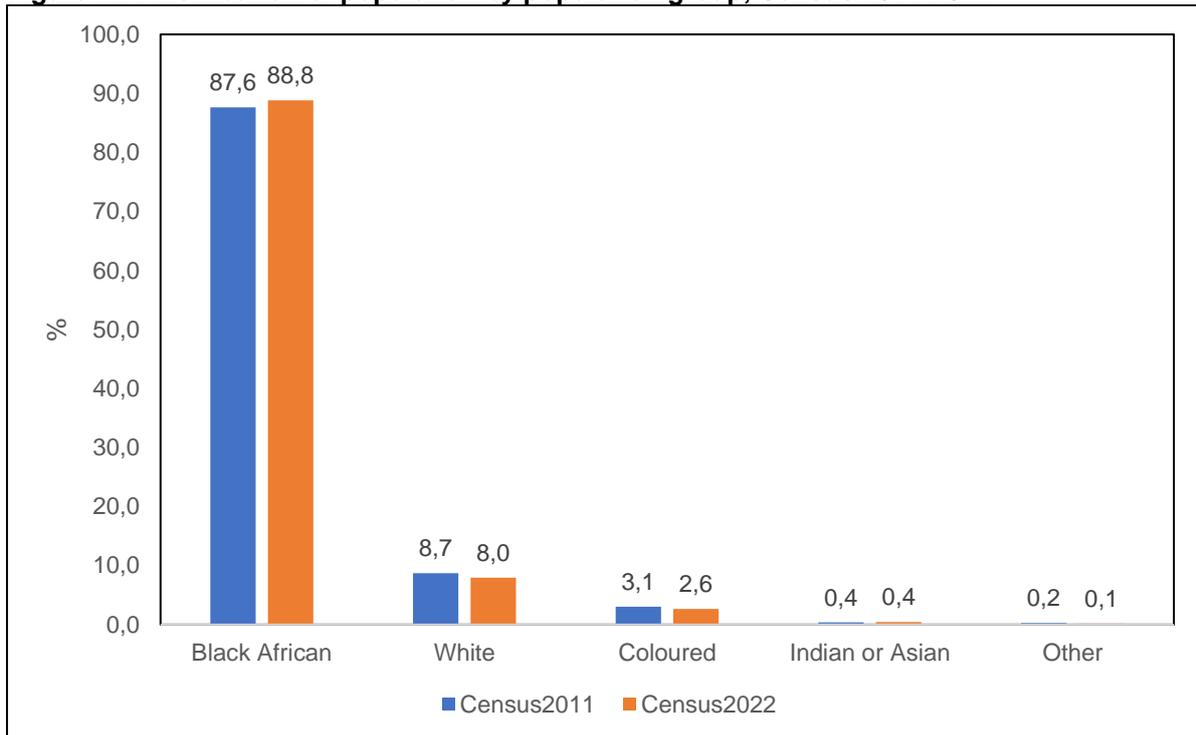
Source: Census 2011 & 2022

Table 2.7 profiles sex ratio by district and local municipalities for Census 2011 and 2022. As indicated in previous table, the province recorded sex ratios below 100 in Census 2011 and Census 2022, indicative of more females than males. The results showed that most district in the province recorded slight decrease in sex ratios over the period 2011-2022, with the exception of Thabo Mofutsanyane which remained the same in both census years. The municipality profile showed that in 2011, sex ratios above 100 were observed in Metsimaholo (109), Letsemeng (106) and Masilonyana (102) local municipalities depicting more males in these municipalities. However, all the local municipalities recorded sex ratios below 100 in Census 2022.

## 2.6 Population group

The information on population group will help to shed some light on how diversified the population of the province differs.

**Figure 2.7: Distribution of population by population group, Census 2011-2022**



Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Figure 2.5 shows population group dynamics in the Free State province for two census years. The results showed that the province of Free State is predominantly black African (87.6% in 2011 and 88,8% in 2022), followed by white population (8,7% in 2011 and 8,0% in 2022) and coloured population (3,1% in 2011 and 2,6% in 2022). On the other hand, the Indian/Asian population group recorded the least proportions with 0,4% for both 2011 and 2022.

**Table 2.8: Distribution of population by population group, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

District and Municipality	Black African		Coloured		Indian or Asian		White		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>2 630 556</b>	<b>88,8</b>	<b>78 141</b>	<b>2,6</b>	<b>12 978</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>235 915</b>	<b>8,0</b>	<b>4 274</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>2 961 865</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>97 821</b>	<b>74,2</b>	<b>19 747</b>	<b>15,0</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>13 325</b>	<b>10,1</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>131 878</b>	<b>100</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	28 745	66,7	9 993	23,2	250	0,6	3 961	9,2	148	0,3	43 097	100
FS162 : Kopanong	35 907	69,3	9 039	17,4	347	0,7	6 416	12,4	114	0,2	51 823	100
FS163 : Mohokare	33 169	89,7	716	1,9	98	0,3	2 948	8,0	27	0,1	36 958	100
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>606 131</b>	<b>89,2</b>	<b>12 681</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>2 903</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>57 013</b>	<b>8,4</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>679 624</b>	<b>100</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	56 932	89,3	492	0,8	173	0,3	6 070	9,5	97	0,2	63 765	100
FS182 : Tokologo	25 345	86,0	1 378	4,7	232	0,8	2 432	8,3	68	0,2	29 454	100
FS183 : Tswelopele	52 108	91,6	287	0,5	197	0,3	4 192	7,4	110	0,2	56 894	100
FS184 : Matjhabeng	386 796	88,1	10 053	2,3	2 050	0,5	39 529	9,0	526	0,1	438 955	100
FS185 : Nala	84 949	93,8	471	0,5	251	0,3	4 789	5,3	96	0,1	90 556	100
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>777 685</b>	<b>93,6</b>	<b>6 283</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>4 563</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>41 283</b>	<b>5,0</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>830 674</b>	<b>100</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	117 033	91,5	1 139	0,9	1 490	1,2	8 107	6,3	128	0,1	127 897	100
FS192 : Dihlabeng	114 570	88,2	1 715	1,3	706	0,5	12 689	9,8	175	0,1	129 854	100
FS193 : Nketoana	60 122	90,4	166	0,2	192	0,3	5 914	8,9	89	0,1	66 484	100
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	390 083	97,9	932	0,2	1 100	0,3	5 881	1,5	354	0,1	398 350	100
FS195 : Phumelela	47 610	91,2	122	0,2	369	0,7	4 078	7,8	42	0,1	52 221	100
FS196 : Mantsopa	48 267	86,4	2 209	4,0	706	1,3	4 614	8,3	71	0,1	55 867	100
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>436 882</b>	<b>85,7</b>	<b>9 047</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>1 559</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>61 424</b>	<b>12,1</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>509 716</b>	<b>100</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	133 145	85,8	4 519	2,9	473	0,3	16 867	10,9	257	0,2	155 261	100
FS203 : Ngwathe	112 592	83,4	3 317	2,5	457	0,3	18 350	13,6	219	0,2	134 935	100
FS204 : Metsimaholo	134 712	85,1	901	0,6	557	0,4	21 936	13,9	265	0,2	158 371	100
FS205 : Mafube	56 434	92,3	309	0,5	72	0,1	4 272	7,0	63	0,1	61 150	100
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>712 036</b>	<b>87,9</b>	<b>30 384</b>	<b>3,8</b>	<b>3 258</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>62 870</b>	<b>7,8</b>	<b>1 424</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>809 972</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Census 2022

The results showed that Thabo Mofutsanyane (93,6%) and Lejweleputswa (89,2%) districts have the highest percentage of black African population, surpassing even the province's average of 88,8%. Most of the local municipalities in the Thabo Mofutsanyane district recorded higher proportions of black Africans population, above 90%. Although the white population group is significantly lower than the black African population group, it is slightly higher than the coloured, and Indian or Asian population group. Lastly, the Letsemeng local municipality recorded the lowest percentage of black African population (66,7%).

## 2.7 Marital status

Table 2.9: Distribution of population aged 12 years & older by marital status, district & local municipality, Census 2022

Province, district & municipality	Legally married		Living together like husband and wife/partners		Divorced		Separated, but still legally married		Widowed		Never married		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>558 667</b>	<b>24,4</b>	<b>219 195</b>	<b>9,6</b>	<b>44 315</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>15 649</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>139 717</b>	<b>6,1</b>	<b>1 312 577</b>	<b>57,3</b>	<b>2 290 120</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>23 335</b>	<b>23,5</b>	<b>10 721</b>	<b>10,8</b>	<b>1 528</b>	<b>1,5</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>5 485</b>	<b>5,5</b>	<b>57 548</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>99 267</b>	<b>100</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	8 286	25,5	3 908	12	412	1,3	251	0,8	1 813	5,6	17 777	54,8	32 448	100
FS162 : Kopanong	9 016	22,9	4 385	11,1	742	1,9	226	0,6	2 440	6,2	22 633	57,4	39 441	100
FS163 : Mohokare	6 033	22	2 427	8,9	374	1,4	175	0,6	1 231	4,5	17 138	62,6	27 378	100
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>130 290</b>	<b>24,7</b>	<b>51 575</b>	<b>9,8</b>	<b>9 922</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>3 419</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>32 416</b>	<b>6,2</b>	<b>298 876</b>	<b>56,8</b>	<b>526 498</b>	<b>100</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	11 667	23,4	5 256	10,5	812	1,6	324	0,6	2 923	5,9	28 891	57,9	49 873	100
FS182 : Tokologo	4 246	19,2	2 516	11,4	223	1	148	0,7	1 235	5,6	13 724	62,1	22 092	100
FS183 : Tswelopele	9 586	22,3	4 047	9,4	471	1,1	243	0,6	2 204	5,1	26 411	61,5	42 962	100
FS184 : Matjhabeng	89 895	26,3	32 810	9,6	7 645	2,2	2 309	0,7	21 450	6,3	187 702	54,9	341 810	100
FS185 : Nala	14 896	21,4	6 947	10	770	1,1	395	0,6	4 605	6,6	42 148	60,4	69 761	100
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>140 991</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>60 635</b>	<b>9,5</b>	<b>8 898</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>3 969</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>40 485</b>	<b>6,3</b>	<b>384 557</b>	<b>60,1</b>	<b>639 536</b>	<b>100</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	23 150	23,7	9 106	9,3	1 698	1,7	842	0,9	6 865	7	56 091	57,4	97 752	100
FS192 : Dihlabeng	25 284	24,9	12 200	12	2 055	2	669	0,7	6 518	6,4	54 909	54	101 634	100
FS193 : Nketoana	11 667	22,5	5 284	10,2	702	1,4	318	0,6	3 324	6,4	30 478	58,9	51 773	100
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	62 855	20,6	25 505	8,4	3 462	1,1	1 666	0,5	19 227	6,3	192 557	63,1	305 273	100
FS195 : Phumelela	7 399	18,3	4 081	10,1	358	0,9	103	0,3	1 799	4,4	26 724	66	40 463	100
FS196 : Mantsopa	10 638	24,9	4 460	10,5	624	1,5	370	0,9	2 752	6,5	23 798	55,8	42 642	100
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>100 306</b>	<b>25,1</b>	<b>38 336</b>	<b>9,6</b>	<b>8 596</b>	<b>2,2</b>	<b>2 674</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>25 022</b>	<b>6,3</b>	<b>224 841</b>	<b>56,2</b>	<b>399 775</b>	<b>100</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	29 266	24,6	10 721	9	3 465	2,9	891	0,7	8 635	7,3	66 088	55,5	119 066	100
FS203 : Ngwathe	25 835	24,3	10 002	9,4	1 950	1,8	587	0,6	7 192	6,8	60 889	57,2	106 456	100
FS204 : Metsimaholo	35 271	28	12 917	10,3	2 668	2,1	1 002	0,8	6 881	5,5	67 141	53,3	125 880	100
FS205 : Mafube	9 934	20,5	4 695	9,7	513	1,1	194	0,4	2 314	4,8	30 723	63,5	48 373	100
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>163 745</b>	<b>26,2</b>	<b>57 928</b>	<b>9,3</b>	<b>15 371</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>4 937</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>36 309</b>	<b>5,8</b>	<b>346 755</b>	<b>55,5</b>	<b>625 044</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 2.9 profiles number and percentage the distribution of persons aged 12 and older by marital status. More than half of Free State population aged 12 and older was never married (57,3%) followed by proportions of legally married persons (24.4%), living together (9,6%), widowed (6,1%), divorced (1,9%) and those separated, but still legally married constituted 0,7%.

The districts with the highest proportions of persons who have never married was Thabo Mofutsanyane (60,1%), Xhariep (58%), Lejweleputswa (56,8%) and Fezile Dabi (56,2%) and these proportions were above the provincial average. Phumelela local municipality recorded the highest proportion of persons that never married (66%).

Mangaung metropolitan area (26,2%), recorded the highest proportion of persons that are legally married, higher than provincial average; followed by Lejweleputswa district with 24,7%. The local municipality profile show that Metsimaholo has about 28,7% of legally married persons and this higher than all other municipalities in the province, while the Phumelela contributed 18,7 which is the lower as compared to provincial average.

The marriage rate in Free State province increased from 229 per 1000 persons in 2011 to 242 per 1000 persons in 2022. Looking at district profile in Free State, the district with highest marriage rate is Mangaung with 260 per 1000 persons in 2022. This followed by Fezile Dabi district with 240 in 2011 and 250 in 2022. The highest marriage rate was recorded at Metsimaholo Municipality with 278 per 1000 persons in 2022 (See Annexure 7.2).

The divorce rate in Free State increased from 12 per 1000 persons in 2011 to 19 per 1000 persons in 2022. The noticeable aspect in all Free State districts is that divorce rate is increasing from 2011 to 2022. The highest divorce rate observed in Mangaung metropolitan municipality with 16 per 1000 persons in 2011 and 24 per 1000 persons in the year 2022 which above the provincial average (See Annexure 7.3).

The crude marriage rate (CMR), which is expressed as the number of marriages in a given year per 1 000 people (see Appendix 1.5). indicate that there was a slight upward trend in marriages from 229 in 2011 to 242 in 2022. Mangaung metropolitan area recorded the highest marriage rate (260), an increase from 232 in 2011. Variations at local municipal level showed that Metsimaholo local municipality at 278 area recorded the highest marriage rate and the lowest was observed in Phumelela local municipality at 182 marriages per 1 000 persons in 2022.

On the other hand, the crude divorce rate (CDR), which is calculated similar to the CMR showed a slight increase in the province, from 12 in 2011 to 19 divorces per 1 000 persons in 2022. Divorce rates were highest in Mangaung metropolitan area (24 in 2022, an increase from 16 in 2011). At local municipality level, Moqhaka recorded the highest divorce rate (29, an increase from 15 in 2011). (See Appendix 1.6).

## 2.8 Language

**Table 2.10: Distribution of population aged one year & older by language most often spoken in the household, Census 2011-2022**

Language	Census 2011		Census 2022	
	N	%	N	%
Afrikaans	335 306	12,8	295 919	10,3
English	77 137	2,9	43 870	1,5
IsiNdebele	9 742	0,4	2 017	0,1
IsiXhosa	196 533	7,5	158 814	5,5
IsiZulu	115 577	4,4	106 550	3,7
Sepedi	7 164	0,3	5 641	0,2
Sesotho	1 678 585	64,1	2 067 539	72,3
Setswana	137 420	5,3	151 833	5,3
Sign language	32 041	1,2	417	0,0
SiSwati	2 164	0,1	1 623	0,1
Tshivenda	2 529	0,1	1 601	0,1
Xitsonga	7 858	0,3	5 739	0,2
Khoi, Nama and San languages			182	0,0
Shona			9 099	0,3
Chichewa/Chewa/Nyanja/Chinyanja			1 076	0,0
Portuguese			924	0,0
Other	15 203	0,6	8 721	0,3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 617 258</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>2 861 564</b>	<b>100,0</b>

*Note: Unspecified and not applicable are not included*

Table 2.10 shows the distribution of population aged one year and older by language most often spoken in the households for Censuses 2011 and 2022. The most spoken language in the province was Sesotho (64,1% and 72,3%) for the census year 2011 and 2022 respectively. Afrikaans is the second most spoken language at 12,8% for Census 2011 and 10,3% during Census 2022. IsiXhosa and Setswana were the third and fourth most spoken languages in the province.

## 2.9 Religion

**Table 2.11: Distribution of population by religious affiliation, Census 2022**

Religion	Number	%
Christianity	2 696 485	92,7
Islam	13 202	0,5
Traditional African Religion	143 879	4,9
Hinduism	1 434	0,0
Buddhism	549	0,0
Bahaism	123	0,0
Judaism	344	0,0
Atheism	1 397	0,0
Agnosticism	1 501	0,1
No religious affiliation/belief	38 499	1,3
Other	11 816	0,4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 909 228</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 2.11 show the population of the Free State broken down by religious affiliation. The findings indicate that 92,7% of people in the Free State identify themselves as Christians whilst about 5% affiliates to traditional African religions, and 1,3% of the population does not affiliates to any religion.

## 2.10 Conclusion

Free State is sparsely populated province with approximately 12 persons per square kilometre. Free State population grew from 2,6 million in 1996 to approximately 3 million in 2022 and the province recorded upward trend in annual population growth rates (from 0.5 to 0,7) in the three intercensal periods. The population in Free State was predominantly female in Census 2022 (52,5%) and male (47,5%). Overall, the results show that youth population increased from less than a million in 1996 to over a million (1 001 248) in 2022. Generally, among the youth, there were more female youth compared to their male counterparts. With exception of Thabo Mofutsanyane and Fezile Dabi districts which recorded more male youth in all census years, Mangaung metropolitan has the biggest share of youth whilst Xhariep has the smallest.

The province's age and sex population depict youthful province characterised by broad base pyramid which implies high fertility rates. Six in ten (66,4%) persons in the province were of working age population, children aged 0-14 constitute about 27% and the older persons aged 65+ about 7%. Fezile Dabi and Xhariep recorded the highest proportions of older persons (8,1, % and 7,7% respectively). Population group dynamics showed that eight in ten persons (87.6%) in Free State were black African and about white population group recorded

proportions of 8,0%. Looking at marital status, about half of Free State population aged 12 and older was never married (57,3%) and about 24% were legally married. The most spoken language in the province Sesotho (72,3%). The findings indicated that 92,7% of people in the Free State identify themselves as Christians.

## **CHAPTER 3: MIGRATION**

### **3.1 Introduction**

Migration is the movement of people from one region to another and this concept has been used in the past and present times. Generally, there are many reasons which encourages people to migrate from one point to another. In certain cases, migration may be forced due to conflicts on the ground while some people migrate as a result of poverty, unemployment and lack of opportunities in areas where they come from. This chapter, which covers both of these situations, will explore migration in the Free State between 2011 and 2022. The results will identify the number of migrants born in other provinces residing in the province including those born from outside South Africa who are currently residing in Free State.

**Table 3.1: Distribution of population by province of birth & province of usual residence, Census 2022**

Province of place of birth	Province of usual residence								
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP
WC	5 163 398	115 102	28 411	12 319	25 617	7 634	98 519	9 309	6 326
EC	1 134 674	6 696 087	15 144	48 160	194 489	74 077	495 494	34 509	13 312
NC	76 481	16 285	1 188 256	20 367	9 639	33 074	64 947	6 806	5 050
FS	60 247	24 351	21 643	2 626 762	33 047	75 309	349 952	30 991	13 084
KZN	89 660	56 258	4 837	24 709	11 626 610	19 457	738 399	86 222	12 509
NW	26 411	8 567	33 906	21 574	12 321	3 086 960	375 556	18 863	24 034
GP	241 313	86 385	19 849	67 767	129 530	187 502	9 513 562	171 217	146 988
MP	24 395	7 635	3 061	10 986	27 604	29 011	501 190	4 434 841	68 381
LP	21 591	6 489	3 517	8 080	7 722	87 141	1 378 304	149 109	6 046 238
Outside SA	368 854	110 811	21 790	64 444	163 296	134 466	1 185 925	140 991	170 147

*Note: This table exclude cases where the province was unspecified, not applicable and do not know. information only obtained from household questionnaire*

Source: Census 2022

The questions on “place of usual residence and place of birth” provide valuable insights into both lifetime and period migration patterns and trends. Overall, most people were born and reside in Free State (2,6 million). High number of persons (349 952) born in Free State but reside in Gauteng. About by 75 309 born in Free State were residing in North West and about 13 084 born in State resided in Limpopo. Also, to note was that about 64 444 persons born outside South Africa were residing in Free State. During Census 2022, high number of person (67 767) residing in Free State were born in Gauteng.

The results on population by birth and province of usual residence as depicted in table 3.1 shows that, over 2,6 million people were born in the Free State. Furthermore, the table shows that the highest number of population born in the Free State had relocated to Gauteng during the enumeration period, followed by slightly higher movement to North West.

**Table 3.2: Percentage distribution of population by place of birth, district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

Province, district and municipality	Born in South Africa		Born outside South Africa	
	Census 2011	Census 2022	Census 2011	Census 2022
<b>Free State</b>	<b>97,4</b>	<b>97,8</b>	<b>2,6</b>	<b>2,2</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>98,5</b>	<b>98,5</b>	<b>1,5</b>	<b>1,5</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	98,9	98,4	1,1	1,6
FS162 : Kopanong	98,5	98,6	1,5	1,4
FS163 : Mohokare	98,1	98,4	1,9	1,6
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>96,3</b>	<b>97,3</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>2,7</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	98,0	98,8	2,0	1,2
FS182 : Tokologo	98,9	98,7	1,1	1,3
FS183 : Tswelopele	99,1	99,0	0,9	1,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	94,9	96,4	5,1	3,6
FS185 : Nala	99,0	98,9	1,0	1,1
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>98,3</b>	<b>98,2</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>1,8</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	97,3	97,2	2,7	2,8
FS192 : Dihlabeng	98,1	97,9	1,9	2,1
FS193 : Nketoana	99,0	98,8	1,0	1,2
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	99,0	98,7	1,0	1,3
FS195 : Phumelela	98,7	98,3	1,3	1,7
FS196 : Mantsopa	95,8	96,7	4,2	3,3
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>98,2</b>	<b>98,4</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>1,6</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	98,6	98,9	1,4	1,1
FS203 : Ngwathe	98,5	98,1	1,5	1,9
FS204 : Metsimaholo	97,3	97,9	2,7	2,1
FS205 : Mafube	99,2	98,9	0,8	1,1
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>96,8</b>	<b>97,2</b>	<b>3,2</b>	<b>2,8</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 3.2 shows the distribution of population in the Free State by place of birth. The results show that 97.8% of population residing in Free State were born in South Africa. The district follows the similar trend as the province of less population of those born outside the country.

**Table 3.3: Distribution of population born outside South Africa by region of birth, Census 2011-2022**

Region of birth	Census 2011		Census 2022	
	N	%	N	%
SADC	47 873	51,1	52 677	79,6
Rest of Africa	3 904	4,2	5 399	8,2
United Kingdom and Europe	2 464	2,6	1 333	2,0
Asia	5 517	5,9	4 906	7,4
North America	77	0,1	162	0,2
Latin America and Caribbean	118	0,1	87	0,1
Oceania	90	0,1	96	0,1
Unspecified	33 693	35,9	1 547	2,3
<b>Total</b>	<b>93 736</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>66 208</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Table 3.3 shows the distribution of population in Free State which were born outside of South Africa by region of birth. The total number of persons in Free State who were born outside of

South Africa is 52 677 and out of those, about 79,62% emanates from SADC region followed by 8,24% of those coming from the Rest of Africa and 7,4% from Asia. Those born North America, Oceania, Latin America and Caribbean contributed population of less than 1% each in the province. Lastly, the province has about 2,3% of persons who did not specify their region of birth.

## CHAPTER 4: EDUCATION

### 4.1 Introduction

Education is not a privilege but a human right issue. The Freedom Charter which was adopted at the congress of the people in 1955 highlighted the need for free education which should be compulsory, universal and equal for all children. It further stated that higher education and technical training should be opened to all by means of state allowances and scholarships awarded on the basis of merit<sup>5</sup>. This chapter will focus on attendance at an educational institution among persons aged 5-24 in the Western Cape and comparison is made between 2011 and 2022 censuses. This will assist in tracking the progress made by the province as far as attendance at an educational institution over ten-year period is concerned. In addition, the chapter will focus on the attendance at an Early Childhood Development (ECD) for children aged 0-4 as well as the attainment in terms of highest level of education for persons aged 20 and older in the province.

### 4.2 Educational attendance

**Table 4.1: Distribution of population aged 5–24 years attending an educational institution by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

District and Municipality	Census 2011		Census 2022	
	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>736 002</b>	<b>73,1</b>	<b>759 488</b>	<b>76,8</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>31 103</b>	<b>69,8</b>	<b>32 587</b>	<b>73</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	9 084	65,6	9 830	65,5
FS162 : Kopanong	12 374	71,2	12 659	73,8
FS163 : Mohokare	9 646	72,4	10 099	80,9
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>158 066</b>	<b>70,7</b>	<b>175 713</b>	<b>76,3</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	14 768	70,1	16 808	76,6
FS182 : Tokologo	7 001	66,5	7 638	72
FS183 : Tswelopele	13 031	69,7	15 704	74,5
FS184 : Matjhabeng	101 830	71,5	112 067	77,2
FS185 : Nala	21 435	69,4	23 496	74,7
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>218 696</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>223 777</b>	<b>77,9</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	32 339	73,8	34 689	78
FS192 : Dihlabeng	33 843	73,5	31 000	75,2
FS193 : Nketoana	17 259	73,2	17 055	77,2
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	108 045	77,3	113 419	79,4
FS195 : Phumelela	13 325	71,2	13 090	74,1
FS196 : Mantsopa	13 885	71	14 523	76,1

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.dffe.gov.za/sites/default/files/docs/publications/history\\_freedomcharter.pdf](https://www.dffe.gov.za/sites/default/files/docs/publications/history_freedomcharter.pdf)

District and Municipality	Census 2011		Census 2022	
	N	%	N	%
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>121 309</b>	<b>72,3</b>	<b>123 954</b>	<b>76</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	37 396	71,1	37 328	77,3
FS203 : Ngwathe	31 829	73,6	32 426	74,6
FS204 : Metsimaholo	35 503	71,8	38 730	76,3
FS205 : Mafube	16 580	74	15 470	75,1
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>206 827</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>203 457</b>	<b>77,2</b>

Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

The results presented in Table 4.1 shows the population aged 5-24 in Free State who were attending educational institution by district and municipality. The attendance of an educational institution is at 76,8% in Free State, which is 3,7% increase from the previous Census (2011). Additionally, all districts recorded increase in attendance to educational institution. Thabo Mofutsanyane district had highest proportion of population attending educational institution at 77,9% which is above the provincial average in 2022, followed by Mangaung 77,2% for the same period. Looking at municipal profile, Mohokare Municipality had the highest proportions of population attending educational institution at 80,9% and the lowest proportions of persons attending the educational institution were recorded in Letsemeng local municipality.

### 4.3 Early childhood development

Early childhood education sets the basis for a child's future learning and development. The importance of ECD is to prepare the mind-sets of children before they could start formal education. It is important to invest in children at very younger ages develop their basic learning and socialisation skills. Therefore, the education system in the province has to ensure that children are equipped with necessary skills at very early stages of development through attending ECD institutions.

**Table 4.2: Distribution of population aged 0–5 years by ECD institution attendance status, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

Province, district and Municipality	Attending		Not Attending		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>169 944</b>	<b>65,7</b>	<b>88 830</b>	<b>34,3</b>	<b>258 774</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>6 706</b>	<b>56,3</b>	<b>5 206</b>	<b>43,7</b>	<b>11 911</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	2 033	50,2	2 020	49,8	4 053	100,0
FS162 : Kopanong	2 725	59,8	1 829	40,2	4 554	100,0
FS163 : Mohokare	1 947	58,9	1 357	41,1	3 305	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>35 851</b>	<b>58,1</b>	<b>25 856</b>	<b>41,9</b>	<b>61 707</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	2 972	55,5	2 379	44,5	5 351	100,0
FS182 : Tokologo	1 602	52,1	1 471	47,9	3 073	100,0
FS183 : Tswelopele	2 787	49,1	2 891	50,9	5 678	100,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	24 661	62,7	14 646	37,3	39 308	100,0
FS185 : Nala	3 829	46,1	4 469	53,9	8 298	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>57 156</b>	<b>74,5</b>	<b>19 540</b>	<b>25,5</b>	<b>76 697</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	8 407	68,4	3 879	31,6	12 285	100,0
FS192 : Dihlabeng	9 110	79,3	2 383	20,7	11 493	100,0
FS193 : Nketoana	4 012	70,1	1 714	29,9	5 726	100,0
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	28 597	77,1	8 472	22,9	37 069	100,0
FS195 : Phumelela	3 259	66,1	1 670	33,9	4 929	100,0
FS196 : Mantsopa	3 773	72,6	1 422	27,4	5 195	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>27 350</b>	<b>64,8</b>	<b>14 887</b>	<b>35,2</b>	<b>42 237</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	7 907	60,5	5 157	39,5	13 064	100,0
FS203 : Ngwathe	6 990	61,9	4 297	38,1	11 287	100,0
FS204 : Metsimaholo	9 067	70,3	3 824	29,7	12 891	100,0
FS205 : Mafube	3 387	67,8	1 609	32,2	4 996	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>42 882</b>	<b>64,8</b>	<b>23 340</b>	<b>35,2</b>	<b>66 222</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 4.2 shows attendance at ECD for children aged 0-5. About 65,7% of children aged 0-5 in the province were attending an ECD institution, whilst 34,3% were not attending. Variations in attendance at district showed highest proportions for Thabo Mofutsanyane (74,5%), proportions above the provincial average. All the local municipalities within Thabo Mofutsanyane district recorded higher proportion of children between age of 0- 5 attending ECD institutions. Xhariep district had the lowest proportion (56,3%) of children attending ECD institutions Tswelopele local municipality recorded the lowest proportion of children attending an ECD institution (40,1%).

#### 4.4 Level of education

Table 4.3: Distribution of population aged 20 years & older by highest level of education completed, district & local municipality, Census 2022

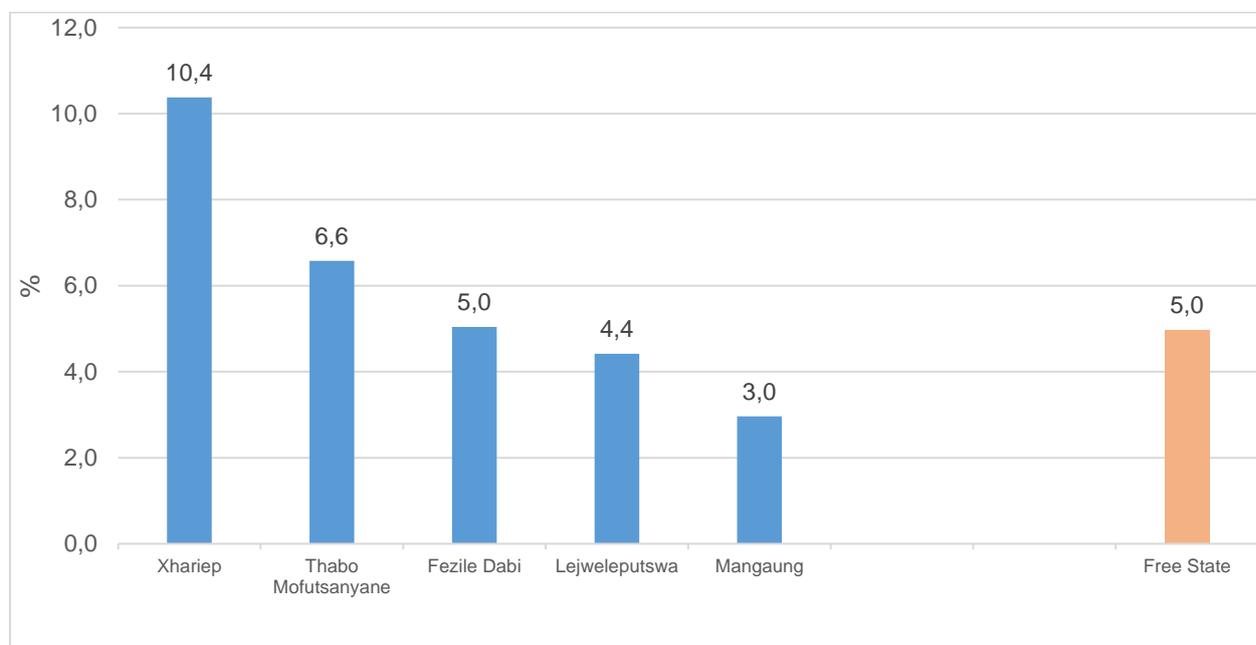
Province, District & Municipality	No schooling		Some Primary		Completed		Some Secondary		Grade 12/ Matric		Higher		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>87 834</b>	<b>5,0</b>	<b>170 786</b>	<b>9,7</b>	<b>72 999</b>	<b>4,1</b>	<b>596 076</b>	<b>33,8</b>	<b>643 484</b>	<b>36,5</b>	<b>179 316</b>	<b>10,2</b>	<b>13 512</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>1 764 007</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>7 896</b>	<b>10,4</b>	<b>9 560</b>	<b>12,6</b>	<b>4 189</b>	<b>5,5</b>	<b>25 139</b>	<b>33,0</b>	<b>23 489</b>	<b>30,9</b>	<b>5 280</b>	<b>6,9</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>76 079</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Letsemeng Local Municipality	2 720	10,8	3 644	14,4	1 454	5,8	8 593	34,1	7 313	29,0	1 282	5,1	229	0,9	25 235	100,0
Kopanong Local Municipality	3 122	10,2	3 279	10,7	1 534	5,0	10 169	33,3	10 045	32,9	2 276	7,4	148	0,5	30 574	100,0
Mohokare Local Municipality	2 054	10,1	2 637	13,0	1 200	5,9	6 377	31,5	6 131	30,2	1 722	8,5	149	0,7	20 270	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>17 917</b>	<b>4,4</b>	<b>40 954</b>	<b>10,1</b>	<b>18 485</b>	<b>4,6</b>	<b>146 997</b>	<b>36,3</b>	<b>143 051</b>	<b>35,3</b>	<b>35 007</b>	<b>8,6</b>	<b>3 089</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>405 500</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Masilonyana Local Municipality	1 895	5,1	4 342	11,7	2 131	5,7	13 885	37,3	12 562	33,7	2 182	5,9	272	0,7	37 269	100,0
Tokologo Local Municipality	1 954	11,6	2 649	15,8	883	5,3	5 846	34,8	4 536	27,0	859	5,1	89	0,5	16 816	100,0
Tswelopele Local Municipality	2 134	6,6	4 788	14,9	1 906	5,9	11 794	36,6	9 180	28,5	2 224	6,9	165	0,5	32 192	100,0
Matjhabeng Local Municipality	8 912	3,3	22 079	8,3	10 708	4,0	96 245	36,1	99 480	37,3	26 934	10,1	2 286	0,9	266 645	100,0
Nala Local Municipality	3 022	5,7	7 096	13,5	2 857	5,4	19 226	36,6	17 292	32,9	2 808	5,3	277	0,5	52 579	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>31 944</b>	<b>6,6</b>	<b>50 218</b>	<b>10,3</b>	<b>19 318</b>	<b>4,0</b>	<b>165 467</b>	<b>34,1</b>	<b>169 853</b>	<b>35,0</b>	<b>44 934</b>	<b>9,3</b>	<b>3 842</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>485 575</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Setsoto Local Municipality	3 644	5,1	8 641	12,0	4 031	5,6	25 702	35,6	23 713	32,9	5 935	8,2	430	0,6	72 097	100,0
Dihlabeng Local Municipality	5 380	6,7	6 378	8,0	2 584	3,2	24 946	31,3	29 840	37,4	9 783	12,3	795	1,0	79 705	100,0
Nketoana Local Municipality	4 655	11,7	4 602	11,6	1 531	3,9	12 772	32,2	13 153	33,1	2 707	6,8	270	0,7	39 690	100,0
Maluti a Phofung Local Municipality	15 149	6,6	22 691	9,8	7 846	3,4	79 357	34,4	82 393	35,7	21 632	9,4	1 830	0,8	230 897	100,0
Phumelela Local Municipality	2 125	6,9	4 640	15,1	1 534	5,0	11 173	36,3	8 856	28,8	2 199	7,1	242	0,8	30 769	100,0
Mantsopa Local Municipality	991	3,1	3 265	10,1	1 791	5,5	11 518	35,5	11 898	36,7	2 677	8,3	276	0,9	32 416	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>15 682</b>	<b>5,0</b>	<b>28 597</b>	<b>9,2</b>	<b>11 563</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>103 684</b>	<b>33,3</b>	<b>119 741</b>	<b>38,5</b>	<b>29 611</b>	<b>9,5</b>	<b>2 052</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>310 930</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Moqhaka Local Municipality	3 063	3,3	8 519	9,2	3 548	3,8	30 913	33,3	36 351	39,2	9 778	10,5	565	0,6	92 738	100,0
Ngwathe Local Municipality	4 583	5,6	8 453	10,4	3 367	4,1	26 461	32,4	30 813	37,8	7 248	8,9	632	0,8	81 557	100,0
Metsimaholo Local Municipality	3 647	3,7	7 279	7,3	3 166	3,2	34 955	35,2	39 348	39,6	10 269	10,3	647	0,7	99 312	100,0
Mafube Local Municipality	4 390	11,8	4 346	11,6	1 481	4,0	11 355	30,4	13 228	35,4	2 317	6,2	207	0,6	37 324	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>14 395</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>41 457</b>	<b>8,5</b>	<b>19 446</b>	<b>4,0</b>	<b>154 789</b>	<b>31,9</b>	<b>187 350</b>	<b>38,6</b>	<b>64 484</b>	<b>13,3</b>	<b>4 003</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>485 923</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

The result presented in Table 4.3 shows number and percentage of population aged 20 and older who completed highest level of education. The provincial profile shows that 36,5% of the population has attained grade 12/matric and 33,8% had also obtain some secondary education. Furthermore, Free State has 10,2% of population that have obtained higher education, which closely to those who have completed some part of primary education at 9,7%.

Mangaung (38,6%) metropolitan and Fezile Dabi (38,5%) district had the highest proportion of population above 20 and older that finished Grade 12/matric. The local municipality with the highest proportion of 20 and older population who finished matric were Moqhaka (39,2%) and Metsimaholo (39,6%).

**Figure 4.1: Percentage of population aged 20 years & older with no schooling by district, Census 2022**



Source: Census 2022

Figure 4.1 shows the proportions of persons aged 20 and older with no schooling in Free State. Generally, the province recorded about 5% of persons with no schooling. The district with the highest population with no schooling was Xhariep (10,4%), followed by Thabo Mofutsanyane (6,4%). Fezile Dabi and Lejweleputswa with 5% and 4,4% respectively. The lowest district with population that have never attended school was Mangaung (3%).

## 4.5 Field of education

**Table 4.4: Distribution of persons aged 20 & older by field of education & sex, Census 2022**

Field of education	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Business management	23 294	25,6	34 079	29,5	57 373	27,8
Natural and mathematical sciences	5 315	5,8	2 955	2,6	8 270	4,0
Engineering and other applied sciences	21 138	23,2	6 186	5,4	27 324	13,2
Humanities, social sciences and applied humanities	18 427	20,2	41 140	35,6	59 567	28,8
Health sciences	4 149	4,6	12 581	10,9	16 730	8,1
Law	3 193	3,5	2 219	1,9	5 411	2,6
Other	15 562	17,1	16 458	14,2	32 020	15,5
<b>Total</b>	<b>91 077</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>115 618</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>206 695</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 4.4 shows the distribution of the population aged 20 and older by field of education and sex for Census 2022. The provincial profile shows that about 29% persons qualified in Humanities and social science related fields or Business management. The two principal fields of study for both male and female in Census 2022 were Humanities, social sciences and applied humanities and Business management. Both fields of study were dominated by females. About 36% of females studied Humanities as compared to 20,2% of male counterparts. Female who studied business management accounted for almost a third (29,5%) which was higher than the province average of 27,8%. Males' who qualified in this field accounted for 25.6% and this proportion was below the provincial average. About 23,2% of male population studied engineering and other applied sciences and this proportion was higher than the provincial average of 13,2%.

## 4.6 Conclusion

The attendance of an educational institution among persons aged 5-24 was 76,8% in Free State, which is 3,7% increase from the previous Census 2011. About 65,7% of children aged 0-5 in the Free State were attending an ECD institution, and 34,3% were not attending. The provincial profile of Free State shows that 36,5% of the population has attained grade 12/matric and 33,8% completed some secondary education. About 10,2% of population aged 20 and older completed higher education. Mangaung (38,6%) metropolitan area and Fezile Dabi (38,5%) district recorded the highest proportion of population above 20 that completed Grade 12/matric. The local municipality with the highest proportion of 20 and older population who completed matric were Mophaka (39,2%) and Metsimaholo (39,6%).

Results on field of education showed that about 29% persons qualified in Humanities and social science related fields or Business management. The two principal fields of study for both male and female in Census 2022 were Humanities, social sciences and applied humanities and Business management. Both fields of study were dominated by females. About 23,2% of male population studied engineering and other applied sciences and this proportion was higher than the provincial average of 13,2%.

## CHAPTER 5: GENERAL HEALTH AND FUNCTIONING

### 5.1 Introduction

During our lifetime, almost every person will encounter some temporary or permanent impairment in their bodies and among those who survive to older ages, they will experience an increasing difficulty in functioning<sup>6</sup>. The first part in this chapter will profile the disability in terms of the degree of difficulty in functioning among persons aged five and older using the six recommended Washington Group (WG) short set of questions or domains which are seeing, hearing, communication, walking, remembering and self-care. Persons were asked if whether they had difficulty in performing certain tasks of functioning in any of the aforementioned domains with anticipated responses being “*No difficulty*”, “*Some difficulty*”, “*A lot of difficulty*” and “*Cannot do at all*” including those with response category ‘*do not know*’ in cases of proxy responses.

The second part examines the disability prevalence among persons aged five and older whereby disability status is derived using the WG short set of questions. The method of computing disability status using the questions already mentioned is widely believed to provide good disability estimates. This is because the questions are designed to collect data which is comparable across various areas as well as avoiding issues of not reporting due to asking direct question such as “do you have a disability or not”<sup>7</sup>. Therefore, a person is considered to be having a disability (UN measurement) as and when the following criteria is met:

- A person who reported ‘some difficulty’ in at least two domains of functioning was categorised as having a disability;
- A person who reported ‘a lot of difficulty’ in any of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having a disability;
- A person who reported ‘Cannot do at all’ in any of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having a disability;
- A person who reported ‘no difficulty’ in any of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having no disability;
- A person who reported ‘some difficulty’ in only one of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having no disability;

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<sup>6</sup> World report on disability 2011

<sup>7</sup> Using the Washington Group questions on disability data in development programs

All persons who did not meet the above criteria were considered not having disabilities while those who did not provide response to any of the domains including those with response category 'do not know' were excluded from computation of the disability status variable. Therefore, any person that reported some difficulty in more than one domain of functioning was counted once to avoid double counting. It is crucially important to provide disability statistics as it helps in planning and allocation of resources. Disability statistics are used by both government and non-government organisations (NGOs) including academics in developing programmes and interventions which seek to eliminate any sort of discrimination facing by persons with disabilities.

## 5.2 Type of domain and degree of difficulty in functioning

**Table 5.1: Distribution of persons aged five years & older by type & degree of difficulty in functional domains, Census 2011-2022**

Type and degree of difficulty		Census 2011		Census 2011	
		N	%	N	%
<b>Seeing</b>	No difficulty	1 942 512	83,4	2 255 904	85,1
	Some difficulty	320 882	13,8	318 857	12,0
	A lot of difficulty	61 997	2,7	70 613	2,7
	Cannot do at all	3 768	0,2	3 228	0,1
	Do not know	1 055	0,0	1 684	0,1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 330 214</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2 650 287</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Hearing</b>	No difficulty	2 210 473	95,0	2 537 299	95,7
	Some difficulty	94 503	4,1	91 456	3,5
	A lot of difficulty	17 699	0,8	17 664	0,7
	Cannot do at all	2 475	0,1	2 428	0,1
	Do not know	806	0,0	1 432	0,1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 325 956</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2 650 278</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Communication</b>	No difficulty	2 280 384	98,3	2 607 320	98,4
	Some difficulty	27 786	1,2	33 029	1,2
	A lot of difficulty	7 154	0,3	6 206	0,2
	Cannot do at all	3 867	0,2	2 430	0,1
	Do not know	1 121	0,0	1 281	0,0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 320 312</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2 650 265</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Walking</b>	No difficulty	2 236 267	96,0	2 540 697	95,9
	Some difficulty	66 599	2,9	76 909	2,9
	A lot of difficulty	20 312	0,9	25 787	1,0
	Cannot do at all	5 509	0,2	5 545	0,2
	Do not know	889	0,0	1 317	0,0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 329 576</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2 650 255</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Remembering</b>	No difficulty	2 164 775	93,1	2 531 719	95,5
	Some difficulty	116 201	5,0	91 824	3,5
	A lot of difficulty	35 502	1,5	23 195	0,9
	Cannot do at all	6 185	0,3	1 833	0,1
	Do not know	2 510	0,1	1 679	0,1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 325 173</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2 650 250</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Self-care</b>	No difficulty	2 169 192	95,5	2 599 506	98,1
	Some difficulty	53 477	2,4	33 114	1,2
	A lot of difficulty	20 505	0,9	9 304	0,4
	Cannot do at all	22 455	1,0	6 928	0,3
	Do not know	5 990	0,3	1 386	0,1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2 271 619</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2 650 238</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Table 5.1 shows the distribution of persons aged five and older in Free State by type and degree of difficulty in functioning. Across almost all functional domains except for seeing in 2022, the results show that over 90% of the population had no difficulty in functioning. The proportions of those with no difficulty in seeing increased by 1,7% from 83,4% in 2011 to 85,1% in 2022. There was slight decrease among those with some difficulty in seeing from 13,8% in 2011 to 12% in 2022.

### 5.3 Disability prevalence

**Table 5.2: Disability prevalence for persons aged five years & older by age groups & district, Census 2022**

Age group	District					
	Xhariep	Lejweleputswa	Thabo Mofutsanyane	Fezile Dabi	Mangaung	Free State
5-9	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,1	2,4	2,8
10-14	2,6	3,3	3,3	3,4	2,7	3,2
15-19	2,7	3,3	3,4	3,4	3,0	3,2
20-24	3,1	3,4	3,2	3,2	2,9	3,2
25-29	3,5	3,4	3,5	3,3	2,8	3,3
30-34	3,8	3,9	3,9	3,6	3,5	3,8
35-39	4,8	5,1	5,0	4,2	4,2	4,6
40-44	6,1	6,8	6,3	5,9	5,5	6,2
45-49	8,9	10,1	9,6	8,9	8,3	9,2
50-54	13,4	14,5	13,3	12,6	12,2	13,2
55-59	19,7	18,8	17,5	17,0	15,9	17,4
60-64	22,0	23,4	21,6	20,1	20,8	21,6
65-69	28,6	28,5	27,9	24,4	25,0	26,7
70-74	38,5	37,9	36,4	34,2	34,7	36,0
75-79	44,2	45,6	44,8	39,4	41,3	42,8
80-84	50,7	57,1	56,6	51,1	52,9	54,3
85+	67,0	66,9	66,7	62,8	63,6	65,2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,9</b>	<b>8,8</b>	<b>8,5</b>	<b>8,6</b>	<b>7,8</b>	<b>8,4</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 5.2 shows the disability prevalence in the Free State by district municipalities among persons aged five and older. In total, the disability prevalence in the province was around 8,4%. With exception Mangaung, which recorded disability prevalence of 7,8%, the rest of districts recorded prevalence above the provincial average of 8,4%. The results also depict an association between disability prevalence and age. It is noted that disability was more prevalent at older ages. At province level, more than half (54,3%) of persons aged 80-84 had a disability. The disability prevalence by age pattern is expected pattern given the nature of questions currently

recommended to measure disability. It is widely known that functioning in a number of areas becomes difficult due to frailty in old age.

#### **5.4 Conclusion**

Generally, over 90% of population aged five and older had no difficulty in functioning in five out of six functional domains. There was slight decrease among those with some difficulty in seeing from 13,8% in 2011 to 12% in 2022. Disability prevalence in Free State was 8,4% and the highest prevalence was recorded in Xhariep district municipality (8,9%) whilst Mangaung metropolitan area recorded the lowest at 7,8%.

## CHAPTER 6: HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS AND ACCESS TO SERVICES

### 6.1 Introduction

The delivery of housing and access to basic services should be based on social justice and human rights as pronounced in the constitution of South Africa<sup>8</sup>. It is the responsibility of government to ensure that proper conditions are created so that there is adequate housing for everyone.

### 6.2 Household size

**Table 6.1: Distribution of households by average household size, district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

District and municipality	Census 2011			Census 2022		
	Population	Households	Average HH size	Population	Households	Average HH size
<b>Free State</b>	<b>2 745 590</b>	<b>823 285</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>2 964 412</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>3,5</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>121 945</b>	<b>37 678</b>	<b>3,2</b>	<b>131 901</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>3,7</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	38 628	11 242	3,4	43 101	10 940	3,9
FS162 : Kopanong	49 171	15 643	3,1	51 832	14 578	3,6
FS163 : Mohokare	34 146	10 793	3,2	36 968	10 546	3,5
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>624 746</b>	<b>182 247</b>	<b>3,4</b>	<b>679 746</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>3,6</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	59 895	16 476	3,6	63 800	17 853	3,6
FS182 : Tokologo	28 986	8 698	3,3	29 455	8 061	3,7
FS183 : Tswelopele	47 625	11 991	4,0	56 896	14 798	3,8
FS184 : Matjhabeng	407 020	123 382	3,3	439 034	126 068	3,5
FS185 : Nala	81 220	21 700	3,7	90 561	23 027	3,9
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>735 679</b>	<b>217 689</b>	<b>3,4</b>	<b>831 421</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>3,4</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	112 038	33 496	3,3	127 918	36 471	3,5
FS192 : Dihlabeng	128 704	38 590	3,3	130 434	41 468	3,1
FS193 : Nketoana	60 324	17 318	3,5	66 488	19 738	3,4
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	335 784	100 226	3,4	398 459	115 151	3,5
FS195 : Phumelela	47 772	12 888	3,7	52 224	15 605	3,3
FS196 : Mantsopa	51 056	15 170	3,4	55 897	15 982	3,5
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>488 036</b>	<b>144 971</b>	<b>3,4</b>	<b>509 912</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>3,5</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	160 532	45 661	3,5	155 410	42 789	3,6
FS203 : Ngwathe	120 520	37 099	3,2	134 962	36 793	3,7
FS204 : Metsimaholo	149 108	45 752	3,3	158 391	49 060	3,2
FS205 : Mafube	57 876	16 459	3,5	61 150	16 896	3,6
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>775 184</b>	<b>240 700</b>	<b>3,2</b>	<b>811 431</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>3,5</b>

Source: Census 2011 & 2022

The results in Table 6.1 show an upward trend in the number of households in Free State from 823 285 in 2011 to 845 250 in 2022 and the average household size in the province increased from 3.3 (2011) to 3.5 (2022) in the province.

<sup>8</sup> Constitution of South Africa, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996). refer to: <https://housingfinanceafrica.org/app/uploads/Constitution-of-the-Republic-of-South-Africa-Act-108-of-1996.pdf>

Xhariep district accounts for highest average household size 3,7 in 2022 followed by Lejweleputswa with average household size of 3,6. While Fezile Dabi and Mangaung have similar average household size with the provincial average of 3.5. Only Thabo Mofutsanyane district have average household size less than provincial average (3,4).

Comparison of average household size at local municipality level showed fluctuations over time. Letsemeng and Nala local municipalities recorded the highest average household size (3,9) whilst Dihlabeng local municipality recorded the lowest average household size of 3,1.

### 6.3 Household headship and composition

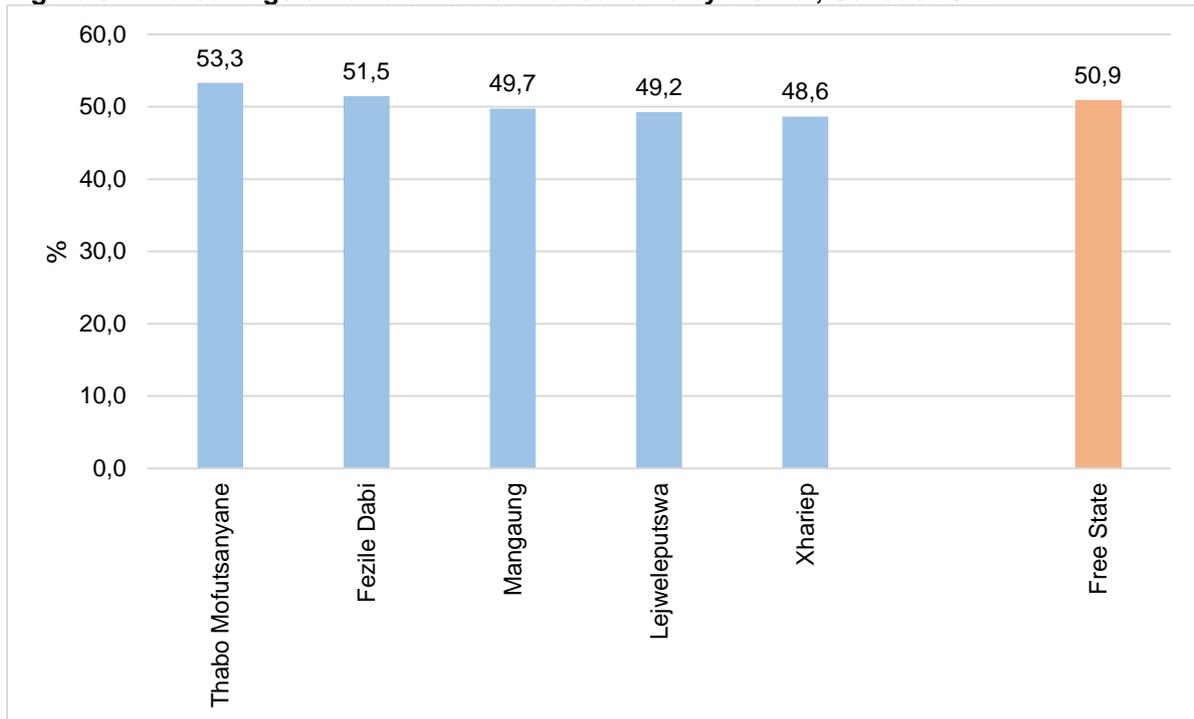
**Table 6.2: Distribution of households by sex of household head & district, Census 2022**

Province and district	Male		Female		Total	
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Numbers	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>414 981</b>	<b>49,1</b>	<b>430 270</b>	<b>50,9</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100</b>
Xhariep	18 520	51,4	17 544	48,6	36 064	100
Lejweleputswa	96 331	50,8	93 475	49,2	189 807	100
Thabo Mofutsanyane	114 153	46,7	130 262	53,3	244 415	100
Fezile Dabi	70 649	48,5	74 890	51,5	145 539	100
Mangaung	115 328	50,3	114 098	49,7	229 426	100

*Source: Census 2022*

The result presented in Table 6.2 shows number and percentage of households and sex of head of the household in Free State. Overall, there were more female-headed households. More than half (50,9%) of households were headed by females. Only two districts follow the provincial pattern of more headed by females than males, with Thabo Mofutsanyane having the highest proportion (53,3%), higher than that of the provincial average. Xhariep, Lejweleputswa and Mangaung have more households headed by males with 51,4%; 50,8% & 50,3% respectively.

**Figure 6.1: Percentage of female-headed households by district, Census 2022**



Source: Census 2022

The result presented in Figure 6,1 shows percentage of households headed by females in Free State. There are 50,9% of households that are headed by females in the Free State. Thabo Mofutsanyane (53,3%) recorded the highest household headed by females in the entire province, followed by Fezile Dabi (51,5%) whilst the remaining districts; Mangaung, Lejweleputswa and Xhariep recorded a marginally lower proportion of female-headed household.

Table 6.3: Distribution of households by age of household head, district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022

District & local municipality	Census 2011								Census 2022							
	<15		15 - 17		18 +		Total		<15		15 - 17		18 +		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>0,11</b>	<b>3 181</b>	<b>0,39</b>	<b>819 214</b>	<b>99,5</b>	<b>823 285</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>2 454</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>842 314</b>	<b>99,7</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0,14</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>0,38</b>	<b>37 480</b>	<b>99,5</b>	<b>37 678</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>35 897</b>	<b>99,5</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	8	0,07	39	0,35	11 196	99,6	11 242	100	1	0,0	24	0,2	10 915	99,8	10 940	100,0
FS162 : Kopanong	20	0,13	57	0,36	15 566	99,5	15 643	100	6	0,0	60	0,4	14 513	99,6	14 578	100,0
FS163 : Mohokare	26	0,24	48	0,44	10 718	99,3	10 793	100	9	0,1	67	0,6	10 469	99,3	10 546	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>0,11</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>0,33</b>	<b>181 439</b>	<b>99,6</b>	<b>182 247</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>189 267</b>	<b>99,7</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	20	0,12	57	0,35	16 399	99,5	16 476	100	1	0,0	42	0,2	17 811	99,8	17 853	100,0
FS182 : Tokologo	13	0,15	29	0,33	8 655	99,5	8 698	100	1	0,0	14	0,2	8 046	99,8	8 061	100,0
FS183 : Tswelopele	21	0,18	41	0,34	11 929	99,5	11 991	100	11	0,1	37	0,3	14 751	99,7	14 798	100,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	117	0,09	393	0,32	122 872	99,6	123 382	100	61	0,0	308	0,2	125 698	99,7	126 068	100,0
FS185 : Nala	32	0,15	85	0,39	21 583	99,5	21 700	100	19	0,1	46	0,2	22 962	99,7	23 027	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>0,12</b>	<b>1 297</b>	<b>0,60</b>	<b>216 128</b>	<b>99,3</b>	<b>217 689</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>243 475</b>	<b>99,6</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	52	0,16	216	0,64	33 228	99,2	33 496	100	32	0,1	178	0,5	36 261	99,4	36 471	100,0
FS192 : Dihlabeng	17	0,04	125	0,32	38 447	99,6	38 590	100	17	0,0	91	0,2	41 360	99,7	41 468	100,0
FS193 : Nketoana	22	0,13	85	0,49	17 212	99,4	17 318	100	10	0,1	46	0,2	19 683	99,7	19 738	100,0
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	134	0,13	700	0,70	99 392	99,2	100 226	100	85	0,1	381	0,3	114 685	99,6	115 151	100,0
FS195 : Phumelela	26	0,20	88	0,68	12 774	99,1	12 888	100	7	0,0	43	0,3	15 555	99,7	15 605	100,0
FS196 : Mantsopa	11	0,07	83	0,55	15 075	99,4	15 170	100	6	0,0	46	0,3	15 930	99,7	15 982	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>0,10</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>0,34</b>	<b>144 340</b>	<b>99,6</b>	<b>144 971</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>145 088</b>	<b>99,7</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	43	0,09	108	0,24	45 510	99,7	45 661	100	26	0,1	127	0,3	42 636	99,6	42 789	100,0
FS203 : Ngwathe	43	0,12	155	0,42	36 901	99,5	37 099	100	23	0,1	88	0,2	36 682	99,7	36 793	100,0
FS204 : Metsimaholo	30	0,07	129	0,28	45 593	99,7	45 752	100	23	0,0	116	0,2	48 922	99,7	49 060	100,0
FS205 : Mafube	28	0,17	94	0,57	16 336	99,3	16 459	100	6	0,0	42	0,2	16 849	99,7	16 896	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>0,09</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>0,27</b>	<b>239 826</b>	<b>99,6</b>	<b>240 700</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>228 587</b>	<b>99,6</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>100,0</b>

## 6.4 Housing

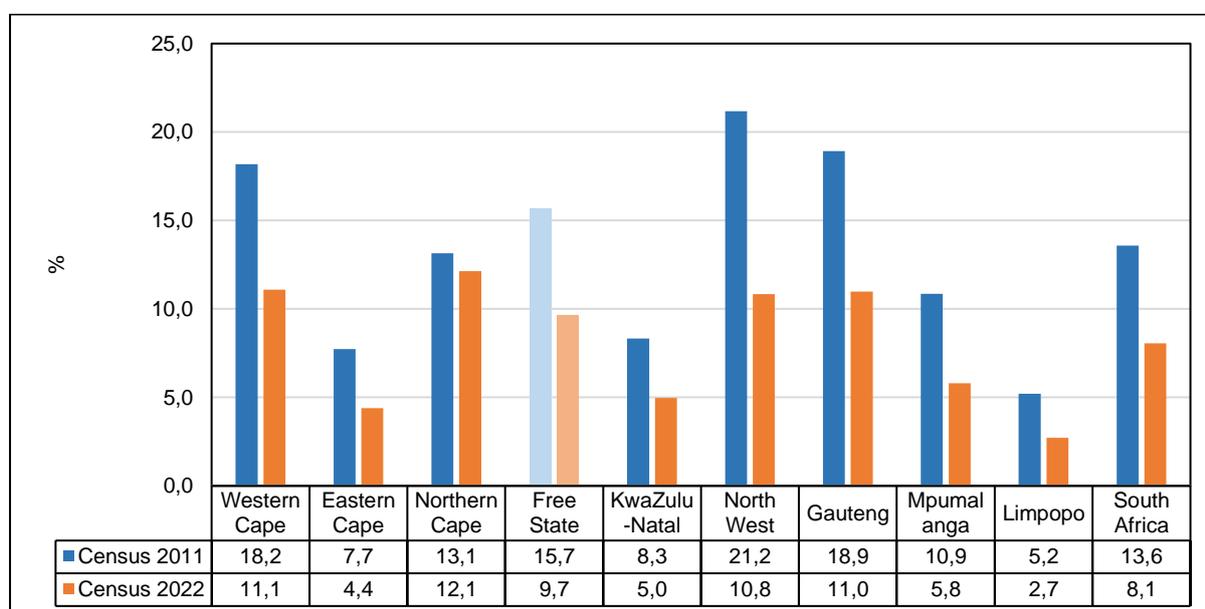
Table 6.4: Distribution of households by type of main dwelling, district & local municipality, Census 2022

District and municipality	Formal dwelling		Traditional dwelling		Informal dwelling		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>748 304</b>	<b>88,5</b>	<b>10 497</b>	<b>1,2</b>	<b>81 693</b>	<b>9,7</b>	<b>4 757</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>32 814</b>	<b>91,0</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>2 939</b>	<b>8,1</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	9 279	84,8	33	0,3	1 586	14,5	43	0,4	10 940	100,0
FS162 : Kopanong	13 797	94,6	50	0,3	663	4,5	68	0,5	14 578	100,0
FS163 : Mohokare	9 739	92,3	39	0,4	689	6,5	78	0,7	10 546	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>167 356</b>	<b>88,2</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>20 608</b>	<b>10,9</b>	<b>1 097</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	16 246	91,0	84	0,5	1 316	7,4	207	1,2	17 853	100,0
FS182 : Tokologo	6 739	83,6	12	0,1	1 125	14,0	185	2,3	8 061	100,0
FS183 : Tswelopele	12 613	85,2	111	0,8	1 984	13,4	91	0,6	14 798	100,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	111 125	88,1	440	0,3	13 987	11,1	516	0,4	126 068	100,0
FS185 : Nala	20 632	89,6	99	0,4	2 197	9,5	99	0,4	23 027	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>211 287</b>	<b>86,4</b>	<b>6 660</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>25 082</b>	<b>10,3</b>	<b>1 386</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	30 369	83,3	349	1,0	5 452	14,9	301	0,8	36 471	100,0
FS192 : Dihlabeng	35 430	85,4	646	1,6	5 283	12,7	109	0,3	41 468	100,0
FS193 : Nketoana	16 587	84,0	148	0,7	2 790	14,1	213	1,1	19 738	100,0
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	101 408	88,1	4 405	3,8	8 806	7,6	531	0,5	115 151	100,0
FS195 : Phumelela	12 937	82,9	836	5,4	1 765	11,3	67	0,4	15 605	100,0
FS196 : Mantsopa	14 556	91,1	275	1,7	986	6,2	164	1,0	15 982	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>130 089</b>	<b>89,4</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>13 790</b>	<b>9,5</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	38 915	90,9	202	0,5	3 357	7,8	315	0,7	42 789	100,0
FS203 : Ngwathe	33 560	91,2	181	0,5	2 718	7,4	335	0,9	36 793	100,0
FS204 : Metsimaholo	43 311	88,3	215	0,4	5 364	10,9	170	0,3	49 060	100,0
FS205 : Mafube	14 303	84,7	216	1,3	2 351	13,9	26	0,2	16 896	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>206 758</b>	<b>90,1</b>	<b>2 155</b>	<b>0,9</b>	<b>19 274</b>	<b>8,4</b>	<b>1 239</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

The results presented in Table 6.3 shows the distribution of households by type of main dwelling in the Free State. Xhariep, Mangaung and Fezile Dabi district has the highest proportion of people living in formal dwellings and the proportions are higher than that of the province. Lejweleputswa 88,2% and Thabo Mofutsanyane 86,4% districts had lower proportions of population living in the formal dwellings. Thabo Mofutsanyane district has the highest proportion of population living in in traditional dwellings at 2,7%. Lejweleputswa and Thabo Mofutsanyane had recorded highest proportion of population living in the informal dwellings at 10,9% and 10,3% respectively. Looking at municipal profile at Free State, Kopanong, Mohokare, Masilonyana, Ngwathe, Moqhaka and Mantsopa recorded highest proportion of population living in the formal dwellings with proportions above 90 per cent.

**Figure 6.2: Percentage of households residing in an informal dwelling by province, Census 2011- 2022**



Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Figure 6.2 shows the distribution of households which are living in informal dwellings by province where comparison is made for both Censuses 2011 and 2022 respectively. Generally, the proportions of households living in informal dwellings dropped by 5,5% in South Africa from 13,6% in 2011 to 8,1% in 2022. Within the same period, all provinces experienced a decrease in the proportions of households living in informal dwellings. Similar pattern has been observed in the Free State where there is a decrease in the proportions of households living in informal dwellings from 15,7% in 2011 to 9,7% in 2022.

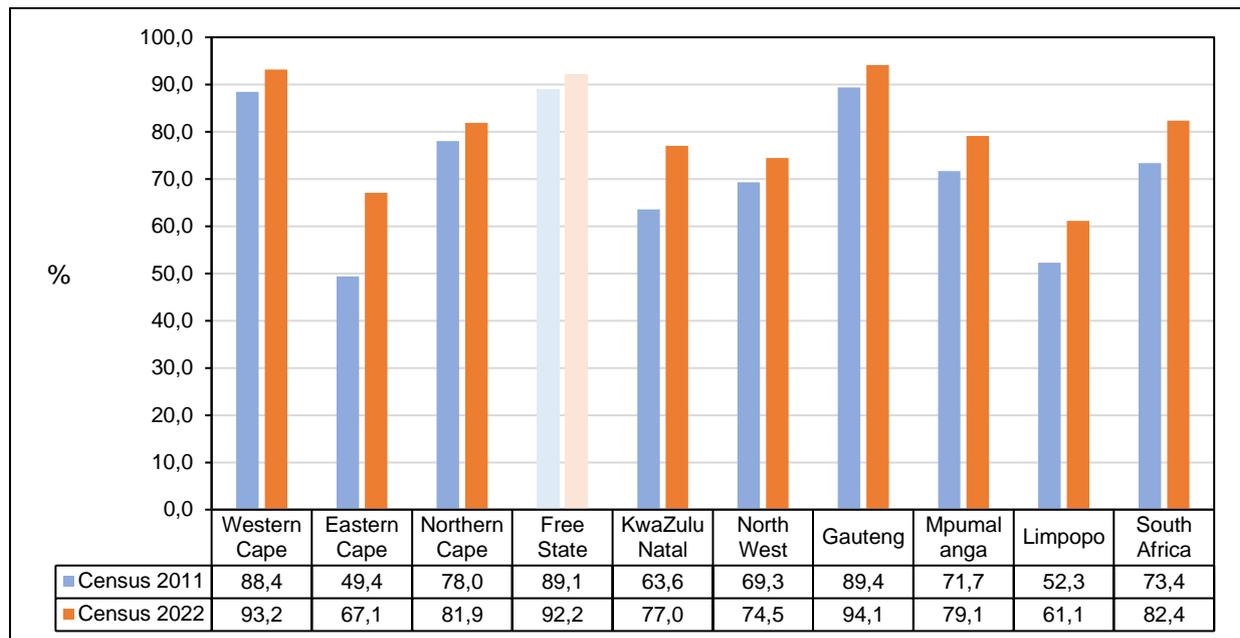
**Table 6.5: Distribution of households by type of main dwelling, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

Province, district and Municipality	RDP/government subsidised dwelling							
	Yes		No		Do not know		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>274 869</b>	<b>37,6</b>	<b>451 416</b>	<b>61,8</b>	<b>3955</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>730 240</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>15 238</b>	<b>47,2</b>	<b>16 868</b>	<b>52,3</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>32 257</b>	<b>100</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	4 783	48,2	5 100	51,4	46	0,5	9 930	100
FS162 : Kopanong	6 403	50,0	6 353	49,6	49	0,4	12 805	100
FS163 : Mohokare	4 052	42,6	5 415	56,9	55	0,6	9 522	100
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>71 437</b>	<b>44,5</b>	<b>87 789</b>	<b>54,7</b>	<b>1261</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>160 487</b>	<b>100</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	7 244	46,9	8 142	52,8	44	0,3	15 431	100
FS182 : Tokologo	3 888	60,1	2 568	39,7	12	0,2	6 468	100
FS183 : Tswelopele	5 034	39,2	7 778	60,5	38	0,3	12 851	100
FS184 : Matjhabeng	45 092	43,0	58 763	56,0	1058	1,0	104 913	100
FS185 : Nala	10 179	48,9	10 537	50,6	109	0,5	20 824	100
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>76 709</b>	<b>36,0</b>	<b>135 405</b>	<b>63,5</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>213 099</b>	<b>100</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	13 251	40,4	19 274	58,8	274	0,8	32 799	100
FS192 : Dihlabeng	12 717	37,7	20 823	61,7	203	0,6	33 743	100
FS193 : Nketoana	5 271	30,9	11 695	68,6	70	0,4	17 036	100
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	35 404	34,4	67 048	65,2	375	0,4	102 827	100
FS195 : Phumelela	4 231	32,5	8 771	67,3	35	0,3	13 036	100
FS196 : Mantsopa	5 834	42,7	7 795	57,1	29	0,2	13 658	100
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>51 537</b>	<b>42,0</b>	<b>70 534</b>	<b>57,5</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>122 611</b>	<b>100</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	14 477	38,1	23 364	61,4	202	0,5	38 043	100
FS203 : Ngwathe	12 573	40,3	18 525	59,3	117	0,4	31 215	100
FS204 : Metsimaholo	19 290	50,0	19 131	49,6	186	0,5	38 606	100
FS205 : Mafube	5 197	35,2	9 514	64,5	36	0,2	14 747	100
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>59 947</b>	<b>29,7</b>	<b>140 820</b>	<b>69,8</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>201 786</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 6.5 shows the distribution of households in the Free State residing in RDP or government subsidised dwelling. There is around 37,6% of households in the province which were residing in an RDP or government subsidised dwelling. Out of all districts in the province, Xhariep has about 47,2% of households residing in an RDP or government subsidised dwelling, and this is the highest share followed by Lejweleputswa (44,5%) and Fezile Dabi (42,0%)—the proportions of the aforementioned districts exceed that of the province. Tokologo, Metsimaholo and Kopanong local municipalities have the highest proportions of households in the province which are residing in an RDP or government subsidised dwelling.

**Figure 6.3: Percentage of households with access to piped water inside the dwelling/yard by province, Census 2011-2022**



Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Figure 6.3 shows the distribution of households in South Africa with access to piped water inside dwelling and in yard disaggregated by province. Across all nine provinces, the proportions of households with access to piped water inside dwelling and in yard have increased in 2022. Access to piped water inside dwelling and in yard increased by 9% in South Africa from 73,4% in 2011 to 82,4% in 2022. In 2022, about 94,1% of households in Gauteng have access to piped water inside dwelling and in yard followed by households in the Western Cape (93,2%) and Free State (92,2%) with the proportions that are slightly higher than the national prevalence.

**Table 6.6: Distribution of households with access to piped water inside the dwelling/yard by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

Province, district and municipality	Census 2011		Census 2022	
	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>733 279</b>	<b>89,1</b>	<b>779 430</b>	<b>92,2</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>35 637</b>	<b>94,6</b>	<b>33 024</b>	<b>91,6</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	10 211	90,8	9 907	90,6
FS162 : Kopanong	15 039	96,1	13 425	92,1
FS163 : Mohokare	10 387	96,2	9 692	91,9
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>165 498</b>	<b>90,8</b>	<b>176 723</b>	<b>93,1</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	15 332	93,1	17 046	95,5
FS182 : Tokologo	7 567	87,0	7 318	90,8
FS183 : Tswelopele	10 845	90,4	14 421	97,5
FS184 : Matjhabeng	111 962	90,7	116 348	92,3
FS185 : Nala	19 792	91,2	21 590	93,8
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>190 181</b>	<b>87,4</b>	<b>223 734</b>	<b>91,5</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	30 423	90,8	34 086	93,5
FS192 : Dihlabeng	34 123	88,4	39 060	94,2
FS193 : Nketoana	14 771	85,3	17 430	88,3
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	85 419	85,2	104 918	91,1
FS195 : Phumelela	10 954	85,0	13 601	87,2
FS196 : Mantsopa	14 490	95,5	14 638	91,6
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>132 695</b>	<b>91,5</b>	<b>137 253</b>	<b>94,3</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	43 031	94,2	41 269	96,4
FS203 : Ngwathe	32 503	87,6	34 808	94,6
FS204 : Metsimaholo	42 917	93,8	45 181	92,1
FS205 : Mafube	14 244	86,5	15 996	94,7
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>209 268</b>	<b>86,9</b>	<b>208 697</b>	<b>91,0</b>

Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Table 6.6 shows the distribution of households in the Free State with access to piped water inside the dwelling and in yard for both Censuses 2011 and 2022. It appears that Free State has recorded minor increases in households with access to piped water inside the dwelling from about 89,1% in Census 2011 to 92,2% in 2022. This seems to be a pattern across all the district excepts for Lejweleputswa and Fezile Dabi districts which recorded the highest proportion of households with piped water inside the dwelling for both censuses at above 90% which were higher than that of the province.

**Table 6.7: Distribution of households by reliability of water supply in the last 12 months, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

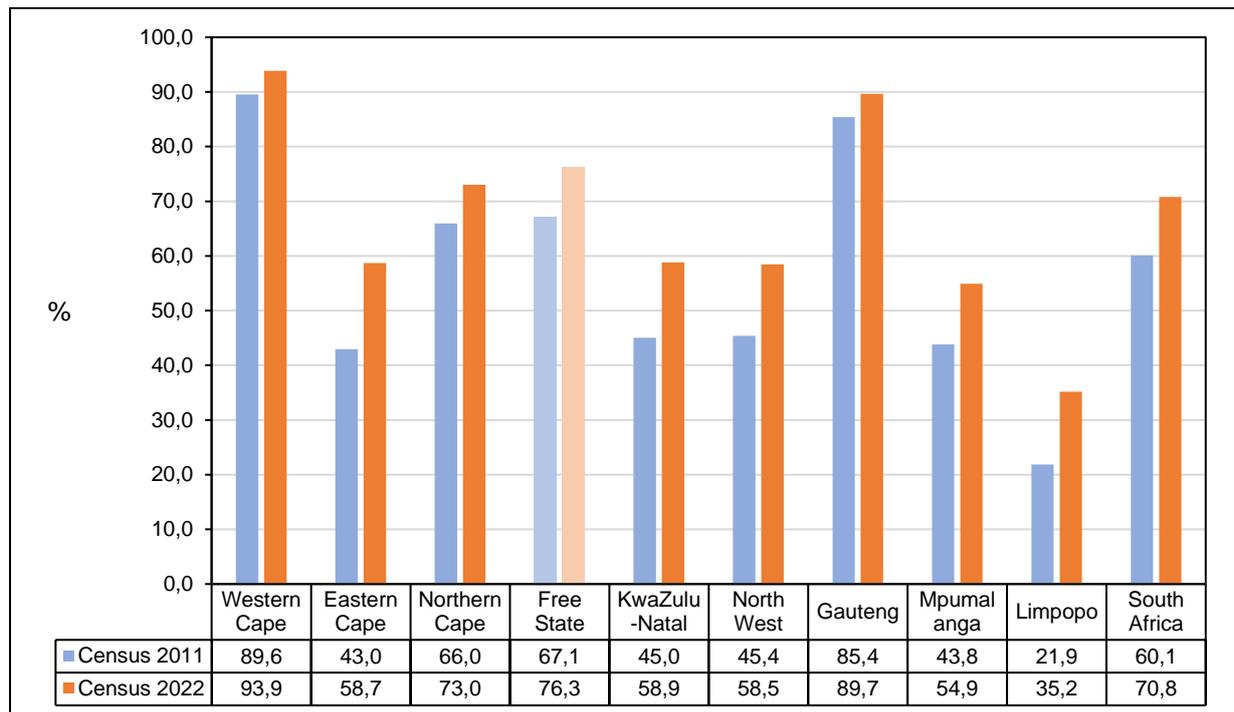
Province, district and municipality	YES		NO		Do not know		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>384 037</b>	<b>58,0</b>	<b>274 805</b>	<b>41,5</b>	<b>2945</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>661 787</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>18 175</b>	<b>67,3</b>	<b>8 705</b>	<b>32,2</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>26 995</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	5 223	65,7	2 719	34,2	13	0,2	7 955	100,0
FS162 : Kopanong	8 827	78,6	2 388	21,3	13	0,1	11 228	100,0
FS163 : Mohokare	4 125	52,8	3 599	46,1	89	1,1	7 813	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>107 522</b>	<b>73,0</b>	<b>39 298</b>	<b>26,7</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>147 233</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	10 104	78,5	2 762	21,5	7	0,1	12 872	100,0
FS182 : Tokologo	3 435	60,2	2 264	39,7	9	0,2	5 708	100,0
FS183 : Tswelopele	2 981	28,1	7 618	71,8	17	0,2	10 616	100,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	80 164	81,1	18 343	18,6	339	0,3	98 846	100,0
FS185 : Nala	10 838	56,5	8 311	43,3	41	0,2	19 190	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>115 460</b>	<b>62,6</b>	<b>68 315</b>	<b>37,0</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>184 555</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	19 912	67,4	9 450	32,0	182	0,6	29 545	100,0
FS192 : Dihlabeng	15 865	52,1	14 415	47,4	158	0,5	30 438	100,0
FS193 : Nketoana	8 114	57,5	5 980	42,4	26	0,2	14 120	100,0
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	58 470	65,5	30 469	34,1	332	0,4	89 272	100,0
FS195 : Phumelela	4 202	41,7	5 813	57,7	65	0,6	10 079	100,0
FS196 : Mantsopa	8 898	80,2	2 187	19,7	17	0,2	11 101	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>57 763</b>	<b>51,5</b>	<b>53 788</b>	<b>48,0</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>112 088</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	26 172	73,8	9 094	25,6	192	0,5	35 458	100,0
FS203 : Ngwathe	16 331	60,2	10 711	39,5	70	0,3	27 112	100,0
FS204 : Metsimaholo	8 267	23,1	27 310	76,3	227	0,6	35 804	100,0
FS205 : Mafube	6 993	51,0	6 674	48,7	46	0,3	13 714	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>85 117</b>	<b>44,6</b>	<b>104 698</b>	<b>54,8</b>	<b>1102</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>190 917</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

The results presented in Table 6.7 shows the distribution of households in the Free State, that have experienced water interruptions in the last 12 months. The findings revealed that approximately 58% of households have experienced water interruptions in the last 12 months as opposed to 41,5% have a not encountered water interruptions. The districts which were mostly affected by water interruptions are Lejweleputswa (which is the highest) at 73%, Xhariep 67,3% and Thabo Mofutsanyane 62,6%.

Looking at local municipality profile, Metsimaholo and Tswelopele were the most least affected by water interruptions with 23,1% and 28,1% respectively.

**Figure 6.4: Percentage of households with access to a flush toilet by province, Census 2011-2022**



Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

Figure 6.4 shows percentage of households in South Africa with access to flush toilets disaggregated by province for both Censuses 2011 and 2022. Nationally, there is about 10,7% increase in the proportions of households with access to flush toilets from 60,1% in 2011 to 70,8% in 2022. In general, access to flush toilets are in an uptrend for each province since 2011. This was also demonstrated by proportions in Free State which were 67,1% in 2011 and (76,3%) in 2022.

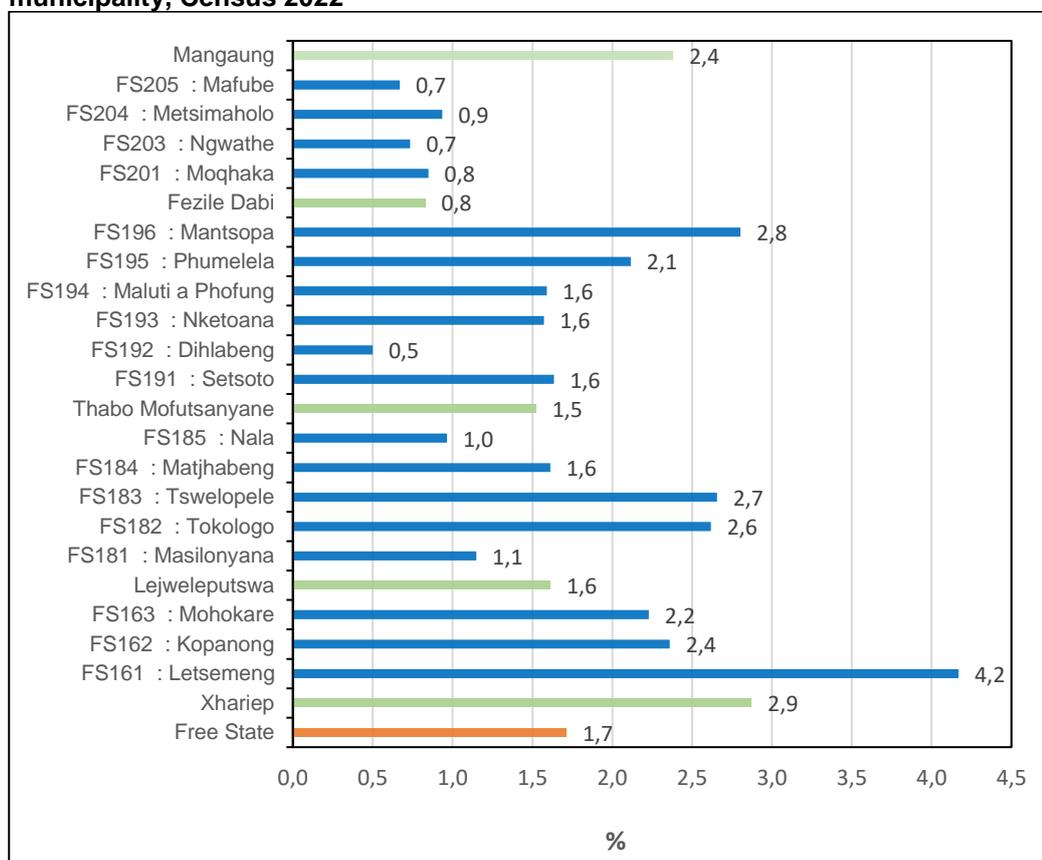
**Table 6.8: Distribution of households by main type of toilet facility, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

Province, District and Municipality	Flush toilet		Chemical toilet		Pit latrine /toilet with ventilation pipe (VIP)		Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe		Bucket toilet		None		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>644 697</b>	<b>76,3</b>	<b>9 340</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>49 378</b>	<b>5,8</b>	<b>89 455</b>	<b>10,6</b>	<b>29 990</b>	<b>3,5</b>	<b>14 485</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>7 905</b>	<b>0,9</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>32 147</b>	<b>89,1</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>1 049</b>	<b>2,9</b>	<b>1 036</b>	<b>2,9</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>100</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	9 031	82,6	81	0,7	652	6,0	223	2,0	473	4,3	456	4,2	24	0,2	10 940	100
FS162 : Kopanong	13 989	96,0	7	0,0	65	0,4	68	0,5	62	0,4	344	2,4	43	0,3	14 578	100
FS163 : Mohokare	9 128	86,6	131	1,2	195	1,8	282	2,7	514	4,9	235	2,2	59	0,6	10 546	100
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>163 578</b>	<b>86,2</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>0,5</b>	<b>3 156</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>11 777</b>	<b>6,2</b>	<b>5 966</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>3 062</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>1 389</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>100</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	16 162	90,5	38	0,2	125	0,7	341	1,9	854	4,8	205	1,1	128	0,7	17 853	100
FS182 : Tokologo	4 937	61,2	361	4,5	1 447	18,0	381	4,7	584	7,2	211	2,6	140	1,7	8 061	100
FS183 : Tswelopele	12 313	83,2	157	1,1	313	2,1	1 301	8,8	243	1,6	393	2,7	78	0,5	14 798	100
FS184 : Matjhabeng	109 797	87,1	247	0,2	974	0,8	8 969	7,1	3 082	2,4	2 031	1,6	966	0,8	126 068	100
FS185 : Nala	20 369	<b>88,5</b>	74	0,3	297	<b>1,3</b>	784	3,4	1 203	<b>5,2</b>	222	<b>1,0</b>	77	<b>0,3</b>	23 027	100
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>156 661</b>	<b>64,1</b>	<b>5 797</b>	<b>2,4</b>	<b>23 425</b>	<b>9,6</b>	<b>38 960</b>	<b>15,9</b>	<b>11 390</b>	<b>4,7</b>	<b>3 721</b>	<b>1,5</b>	<b>4 463</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>100</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	28 567	78,3	184	0,5	377	1,0	1 303	3,6	5 230	<b>14,3</b>	596	1,6	214	0,6	36 471	100
FS192 : Dihlabeng	37 825	91,2	176	0,4	316	0,8	2 231	5,4	595	<b>1,4</b>	207	0,5	118	0,3	41 468	100
FS193 : Nketoana	15 146	76,7	716	3,6	446	2,3	1 202	6,1	1 647	<b>8,3</b>	310	1,6	271	1,4	19 738	100
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	49 423	42,9	4 063	3,5	21 051	18,3	32 505	28,2	3 227	<b>2,8</b>	1 830	1,6	3 053	2,7	115 151	100
FS195 : Phumelela	11 715	75,1	244	1,6	838	5,4	1 427	9,1	293	<b>1,9</b>	330	2,1	759	4,9	15 605	100
FS196 : Mantsopa	13 985	<b>87,5</b>	414	2,6	398	<b>2,5</b>	292	1,8	398	<b>2,5</b>	448	2,8	48	0,3	15 982	100
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>129 358</b>	<b>88,9</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>2 424</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>7 242</b>	<b>5,0</b>	<b>4 098</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>1 205</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>100</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	39 248	91,7	364	0,9	1 034	2,4	1 125	2,6	583	<b>1,4</b>	363	0,8	72	0,2	42 789	100
FS203 : Ngwathe	32 802	89,2	67	0,2	1 018	2,8	882	2,4	1 545	<b>4,2</b>	270	0,7	209	0,6	36 793	100
FS204 : Metsimaholo	41 184	83,9	354	0,7	269	0,5	5 196	10,6	1 514	<b>3,1</b>	459	0,9	85	0,2	49 060	100
FS205 : Mafube	16 125	95,4	22	0,1	104	0,6	39	0,2	455	<b>2,7</b>	113	0,7	38	0,2	16 896	100
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>162 953</b>	<b>71,0</b>	<b>1 640</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>19 461</b>	<b>8,5</b>	<b>30 902</b>	<b>13,5</b>	<b>7 487</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>5 462</b>	<b>2,4</b>	<b>1 522</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 6,7 indicates that 76,3% of households in the Free State province has access to flush toilets. Almost all the districts shows that at least more than 86% of households have access to flush toilets, except for Mangaung and Thabo Mofutsanyana which recorded slightly lower households with access to flush toilets at 71% and 64.1% respectively. Thabo Mofutsanyane district recorded slightly higher percentage of households that use chemical toilets at 2,4%. Furthermore, Thabo Mofutsanyane and Mangaung have the highest percentage of household using Pit latrine /toilet with ventilation pipe(VIP) at 9,6% and 8,5% respectively. Similarly Thabo Mofutsanyane(15,9%) and Mangaung(13,5%) recorded highest households who use Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe. Lastly Thabo Mofutsanyane district had recorded the highest percentage of household using bucket toilets at 4,7% higher than that of the entire province.

**Figure 6.5: Percentage of households with no access to a toilet facility by district & local municipality, Census 2022**



Source: Census 2022

Figure 6.5 shows the distribution of households in the Free State with no access to toilet facilities. In general, the province has about 1,7% of households which does not have access to toilet facilities. The district that recorded high percentage households with no access toilet facilities are Xhariep (2,9%) and Mangaung (2,4%). Lastly, although most local municipalities were characterised by high proportion of households with no access to toilet facilities, Letsemeng is the highest at 4,2%.

**Table 6.9: Distribution of households by main energy source used for lighting, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

Province, district and municipality	Electricity		Gas		Paraffin		Candles		Solar		Other		None		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>799 767</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>1 286</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9 744</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27 371</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5 446</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>33 808</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1 374</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>100</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	9 839	90	30	0	173	2	753	7	98	1	21	0	26	0	10 940	100
FS162 : Kopanong	14 156	97	21	0	65	0	241	2	70	0	7	0	19	0	14 578	100
FS163 : Mohokare	9 813	93	25	0	199	2	379	4	114	1	7	0	10	0	10 546	100
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>179 733</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2 722</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5 478</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1 239</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>100</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	16 654	93	25	0	262	1	709	4	168	1	13	0	23	0	17 853	100
FS182 : Tokologo	7 681	95	11	0	95	1	227	3	29	0	1	0	17	0	8 061	100
FS183 : Tswelopele	14 101	95	15	0	76	1	447	3	119	1	22	0	18	0	14 798	100
FS184 : Matjhabeng	119 812	95	137	0	1 921	2	3 199	3	815	1	74	0	109	0	126 068	100
FS185 : Nala	21 486	93	95	0	367	2	896	4	108	0	32	0	43	0	23 027	100
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>229 850</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 490</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10 831</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1 444</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>100</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	33 616	92	58	0	396	1	2 045	6	265	1	52	0	39	0	36 471	100
FS192 : Dihlabeng	38 926	94	53	0	297	1	1 958	5	164	0	35	0	34	0	41 468	100
FS193 : Nketoana	17 886	91	55	0	148	1	1 306	7	249	1	49	0	44	0	19 738	100
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	111 079	96	109	0	439	0	2 951	3	432	0	47	0	94	0	115 151	100
FS195 : Phumelela	13 240	85	31	0	91	1	1 969	13	244	2	9	0	21	0	15 605	100
FS196 : Mantsopa	15 102	94	26	0	121	1	601	4	90	1	30	0	12	0	15 982	100
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>137 236</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 202</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4 903</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1 652</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>100</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	41 765	98	48	0	118	0	723	2	75	0	23	0	37	0	42 789	100
FS203 : Ngwathe	35 206	96	62	0	165	0	1 137	3	170	0	22	0	31	0	36 793	100
FS204 : Metsimaholo	43 809	89	136	0	897	2	2 734	6	1 357	3	94	0	34	0	49 060	100
FS205 : Mafube	16 456	97	27	0	23	0	310	2	50	0	6	0	25	0	16 896	100
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>219 139</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3 894</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4 785</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Census 2022

The results presented in Table 6.9 shows the distribution of households by energy source used for lighting in the Free State. Approximately 95% of households in the province uses electricity as source of energy for lighting. The percentage rate of households using energy source for lighting in the following district: Xhariep (94%), Thabo Mofutsanyane (94%), and Fezile Dabi (94%), were marginally lower than that of the province. Metsimaholo and Phumelela local municipalities have lowest proportions of households using energy source for lighting with 89 and 85 per cent.

**Table 6.10: Distribution of households by main energy source used for cooking, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

Province, district and municipality	Electricity		Gas		Paraffin		Wood		Coal		Animal dung		Solar		Other		None		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	None	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>663 967</b>	<b>78,6</b>	<b>138 663</b>	<b>16,4</b>	<b>25 021</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>13 233</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>1 616</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>1 474</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>28 570</b>	<b>79,2</b>	<b>5 476</b>	<b>15,2</b>	<b>1 146</b>	<b>3,2</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	8 739	79,9	1 336	12,2	343	3,1	446	4,1	7	0,1	-	0,0	24	0,2	7	0,1	38	0,3	10 940	100,0
FS162 : Kopanong	11 808	81,0	2 382	16,3	257	1,8	69	0,5	2	0,0	-	0,0	16	0,1	7	0,0	37	0,3	14 578	100,0
FS163 : Mohokare	8 023	76,1	1 759	16,7	546	5,2	135	1,3	7	0,1	1	0,0	36	0,3	9	0,1	31	0,3	10 546	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>148 268</b>	<b>78,1</b>	<b>33 122</b>	<b>17,5</b>	<b>6 961</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	14 010	78,5	2 839	15,9	796	4,5	107	0,6	3	0,0	1	0,0	47	0,3	5	0,0	45	0,3	17 853	100,0
FS182 : Tokologo	5 975	74,1	1 724	21,4	264	3,3	65	0,8	2	0,0	2	0,0	9	0,1	0,0	0,0	19	0,2	8 061	100,0
FS183 : Tswelopele	11 941	80,7	2 366	16,0	335	2,3	90	0,6	0,0	0,0	2	0,0	25	0,2	4	0,0	36	0,2	14 798	100,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	97 421	77,3	23 402	18,6	4 617	3,7	288	0,2	17	0,0	5	0,0	98	0,1	39	0,0	180	0,1	126 068	100,0
FS185 : Nala	18 921	82,2	2 792	12,1	949	4,1	224	1,0	34	0,1	13	0,1	20	0,1	15	0,1	58	0,3	23 027	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>191 581</b>	<b>78,4</b>	<b>36 675</b>	<b>15,0</b>	<b>4 757</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>9 491</b>	<b>3,9</b>	<b>1 062</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	28 641	78,5	5 085	13,9	1 529	4,2	1 058	2,9	11	0,0	8	0,0	50	0,1	16	0,0	74	0,2	36 471	100,0
FS192 : Dihlabeng	29 869	72,0	8 644	20,8	672	1,6	2 111	5,1	48	0,1	8	0,0	38	0,1	16	0,0	62	0,1	41 468	100,0
FS193 : Nketoana	14 540	73,7	3 311	16,8	202	1,0	1 442	7,3	111	0,6	5	0,0	52	0,3	19	0,1	56	0,3	19 738	100,0
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	96 825	84,1	13 801	12,0	1 701	1,5	2 362	2,1	194	0,2	20	0,0	45	0,0	40	0,0	163	0,1	115 151	100,0
FS195 : Phumelela	9 437	60,5	3 007	19,3	240	1,5	2 092	13,4	698	4,5	44	0,3	25	0,2	23	0,1	40	0,3	15 605	100,0
FS196 : Mantsopa	12 269	76,8	2 827	17,7	412	2,6	427	2,7	1	0,0	3	0,0	13	0,1	7	0,0	22	0,1	15 982	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>108 474</b>	<b>74,5</b>	<b>30 750</b>	<b>21,1</b>	<b>3 814</b>	<b>2,6</b>	<b>1 605</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	36 034	84,2	5 574	13,0	779	1,8	276	0,6	12	0,0	22	0,1	19	0,0	13	0,0	60	0,1	42 789	100,0
FS203 : Ngwathe	27 754	75,4	7 586	20,6	840	2,3	433	1,2	63	0,2	22	0,1	29	0,1	16	0,0	51	0,1	36 793	100,0
FS204 : Metsimaholo	31 468	64,1	14 989	30,6	2 145	4,4	252	0,5	43	0,1	9	0,0	47	0,1	24	0,0	85	0,2	49 060	100,0
FS205 : Mafube	13 219	78,2	2 602	15,4	50	0,3	644	3,8	330	2,0	6	0,0	7	0,0	1	0,0	37	0,2	16 896	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>187 074</b>	<b>81,5</b>	<b>32 639</b>	<b>14,2</b>	<b>8 343</b>	<b>3,6</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

Table 6.10 shows the distribution of households in the Free State by energy source used for cooking. Generally, about 78,6% of households in the province use electricity as source of energy for cooking followed by Gas (16,4%), paraffin (3%) and wood (1,6%) while other sources of energy remain below 1%. The results indicate that two district that largely use electricity for cooking are Mangaung (81,5%) and Xhariep (79,2%). The highest percentage of household that use Gas as a source of cooking is recorded in Fezile Dabi (21,1%) and Lejweleputswa (17,5%) districts. Furthermore, the usage of Paraffin as energy for cooking is slightly higher in Lejweleputswa (3,7%), Mangaung (3,6%), and Xhariep (3,2%) district, opposed to the use of paraffin in other districts in the province.

**Table 6.11: Distribution of households by type of refuse removal, district & local municipality, Census 2022**

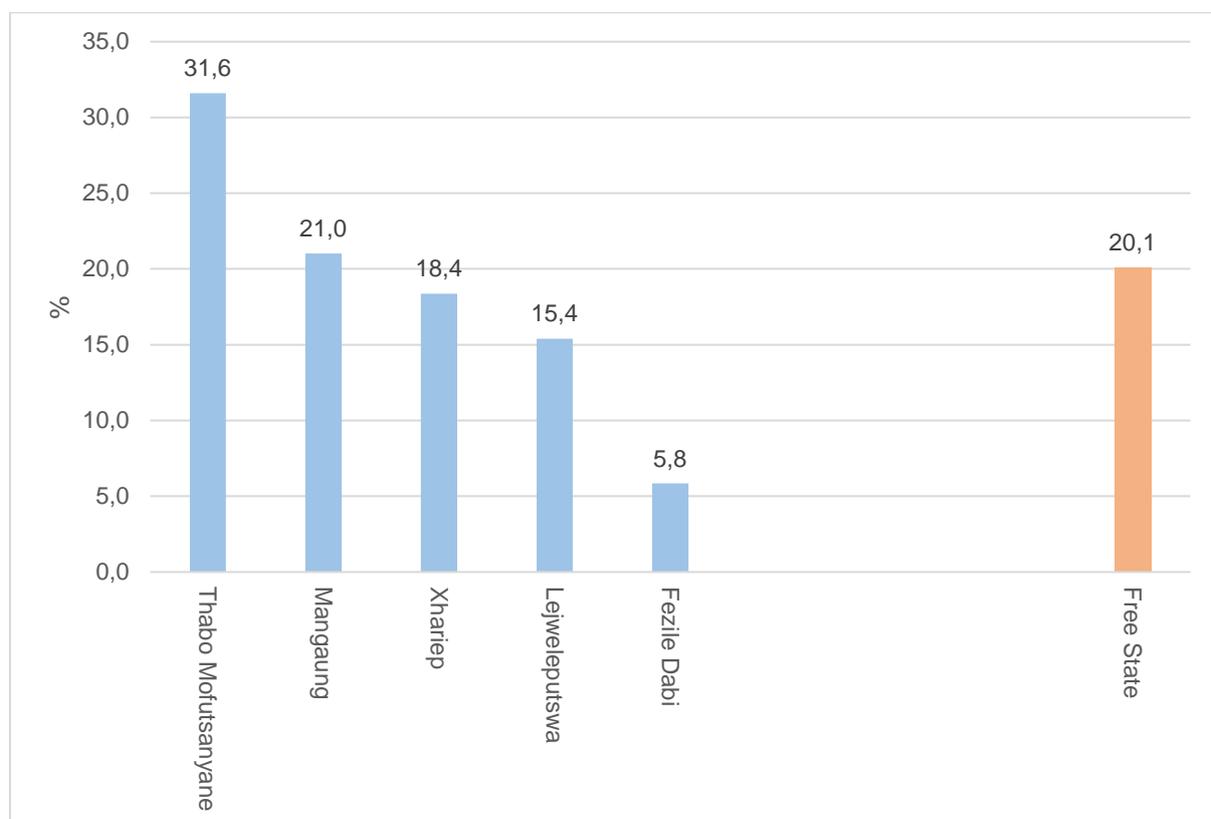
Province, district and municipality	Removed by local authority at least once a week		Removed by local authority less often		Communal refuse dump		Communal container/central collection point		Own refuse dump		No rubbish disposal		Other		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Free State</b>	<b>550 438</b>	<b>65,1</b>	<b>21 756</b>	<b>2,6</b>	<b>21 518</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>10 161</b>	<b>1,2</b>	<b>169 826</b>	<b>20,1</b>	<b>66 798</b>	<b>7,9</b>	<b>4754</b>	<b>0,56</b>	<b>845 250</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<b>Xhariep</b>	<b>24 787</b>	<b>68,7</b>	<b>1 011</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>1 327</b>	<b>3,7</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>0,6</b>	<b>6 625</b>	<b>18,4</b>	<b>1 928</b>	<b>5,3</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>0,43</b>	<b>36 064</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS161 : Letsemeng	7 569	69,2	244	2,2	547	5,0	34	0,3	1 379	12,6	1 115	10,2	54	0,49	10 940	100,0
FS162 : Kopanong	10 218	70,1	674	4,6	291	2,0	102	0,7	3 035	20,8	213	1,5	47	0,32	14 578	100,0
FS163 : Mohokare	7 001	66,4	93	0,9	489	4,6	96	0,9	2 211	21,0	600	5,7	55	0,52	10 546	100,0
<b>Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>129 604</b>	<b>68,3</b>	<b>7 464</b>	<b>3,9</b>	<b>3 762</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>2 131</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>29 222</b>	<b>15,4</b>	<b>16 652</b>	<b>8,8</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>0,51</b>	<b>189 807</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS181 : Masilonyana	14 637	82,0	396	2,2	74	0,4	126	0,7	2 345	13,1	247	1,4	28	0,16	17 853	100,0
FS182 : Tokologo	3 844	47,7	42	0,5	512	6,4	56	0,7	1 728	21,4	1 860	23,1	18	0,22	8 061	100,0
FS183 : Tswelopele	12 044	81,4	306	2,1	85	0,6	420	2,8	1 685	11,4	231	1,6	27	0,18	14 798	100,0
FS184 : Matjhabeng	83 287	66,1	5 922	4,7	2 907	2,3	1 447	1,1	19 429	15,4	12 218	9,7	857	0,68	126 068	100,0
FS185 : Nala	15 792	68,6	797	3,5	184	0,8	82	0,4	4 035	17,5	2 095	9,1	41	0,18	23 027	100,0
<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>133 716</b>	<b>54,7</b>	<b>5 556</b>	<b>2,3</b>	<b>6 634</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>0,4</b>	<b>77 256</b>	<b>31,6</b>	<b>19 024</b>	<b>7,8</b>	<b>1239</b>	<b>0,51</b>	<b>244 415</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS191 : Setsoto	27 779	76,2	1 528	4,2	392	1,1	413	1,1	4 651	12,8	1 539	4,2	169	0,46	36 471	100,0
FS192 : Dihlabeng	34 552	83,3	1 598	3,9	1 074	2,6	165	0,4	2 994	7,2	925	2,2	161	0,39	41 468	100,0
FS193 : Nketoana	12 403	62,8	650	3,3	714	3,6	49	0,2	4 080	20,7	1 778	9,0	64	0,32	19 738	100,0
FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	35 790	31,1	922	0,8	3 979	3,5	276	0,2	60 810	52,8	12 683	11,0	691	0,6	115 151	100,0
FS195 : Phumelela	10 956	70,2	576	3,7	399	2,6	44	0,3	2 418	15,5	1 100	7,0	112	0,72	15 605	100,0
FS196 : Mantsopa	12 236	76,6	282	1,8	76	0,5	42	0,3	2 305	14,4	998	6,2	43	0,27	15 982	100,0
<b>Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>124 875</b>	<b>85,8</b>	<b>1 520</b>	<b>1,0</b>	<b>2 142</b>	<b>1,5</b>	<b>3 901</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>8 506</b>	<b>5,8</b>	<b>4 167</b>	<b>2,9</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>0,29</b>	<b>145 539</b>	<b>100,0</b>
FS201 : Moqhaka	39 169	91,5	219	0,5	95	0,2	812	1,9	1 737	4,1	645	1,5	114	0,27	42 789	100,0
FS203 : Ngwathe	33 613	91,4	394	1,1	99	0,3	74	0,2	1 553	4,2	986	2,7	74	0,2	36 793	100,0
FS204 : Metsimaholo	39 730	81,0	308	0,6	1 155	2,4	2 955	6,0	2 810	5,7	1 922	3,9	181	0,37	49 060	100,0
FS205 : Mafube	12 363	73,2	599	3,5	794	4,7	60	0,4	2 407	14,2	614	3,6	58	0,34	16 896	100,0
<b>Mangaung</b>	<b>137 456</b>	<b>59,9</b>	<b>6 205</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>7 653</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>2 909</b>	<b>1,3</b>	<b>48 216</b>	<b>21,0</b>	<b>25 027</b>	<b>10,9</b>	<b>1959</b>	<b>0,85</b>	<b>229 426</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Census 2022

The results presented in Table 6.11 shows the distribution of households by type of refuse removal in the Free State. Approximately 65,1% households in the province had their refuse removed by local authority at least once a week, 20,1% households had no refuse removal. The following districts: Fezile Dabi (85,8%), Xhariep 68,7% and Lejweleputswa (68,3%) had their refuse removed by local authority at least once a week.

Thabo Mofutsanyane (31,6%). has the highest proportion of households that had their own refuse dump. Lastly the approximately 7,8% households in Thabo Mofutsanyane has no rubbish disposal

**Figure 6.6: Percentage of households with no refuse removal by district, Census 2022**

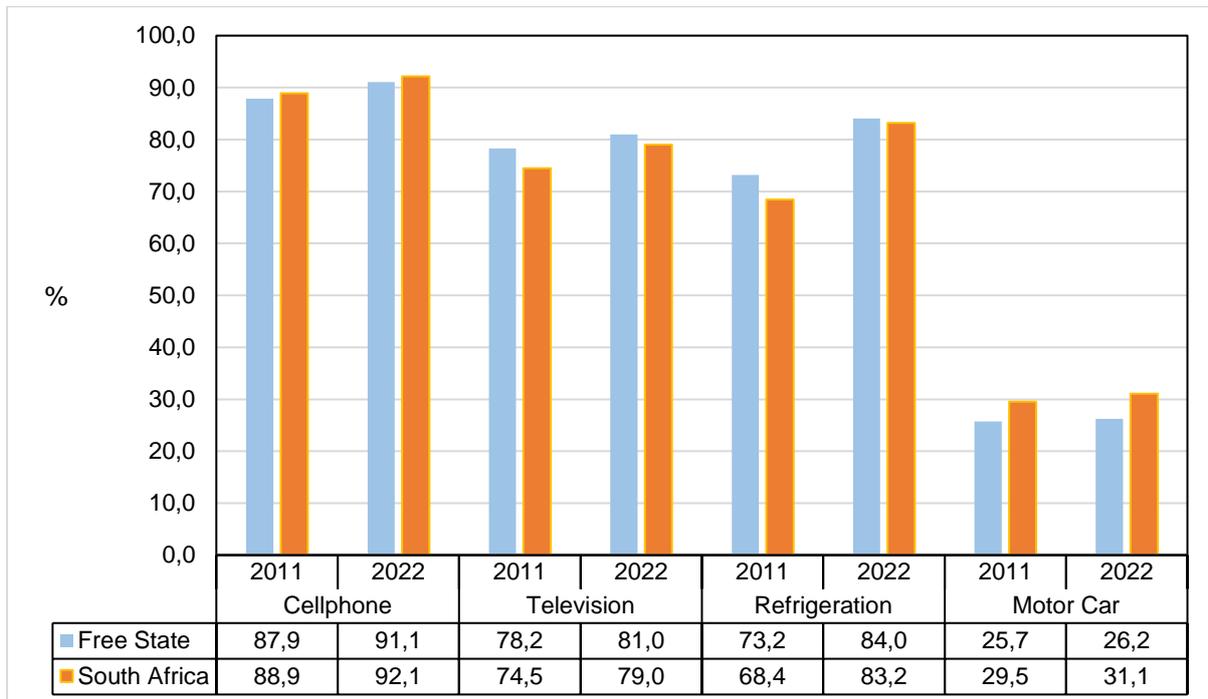


Source: Census 2022

Figure 6.6 shows the distribution of households with no refuse removal in the Free State province. The province has 20,1% of households which do not have refuse removal. Two of Free State district, Thabo Mofutsanyane (31,6%) and Mangaung (21%) have proportions higher than the provincial average. Lastly, the district with the lowest proportion of households with no refuse removal was Fezile Dabi (5,8%).

## 6.5 Ownership of household goods

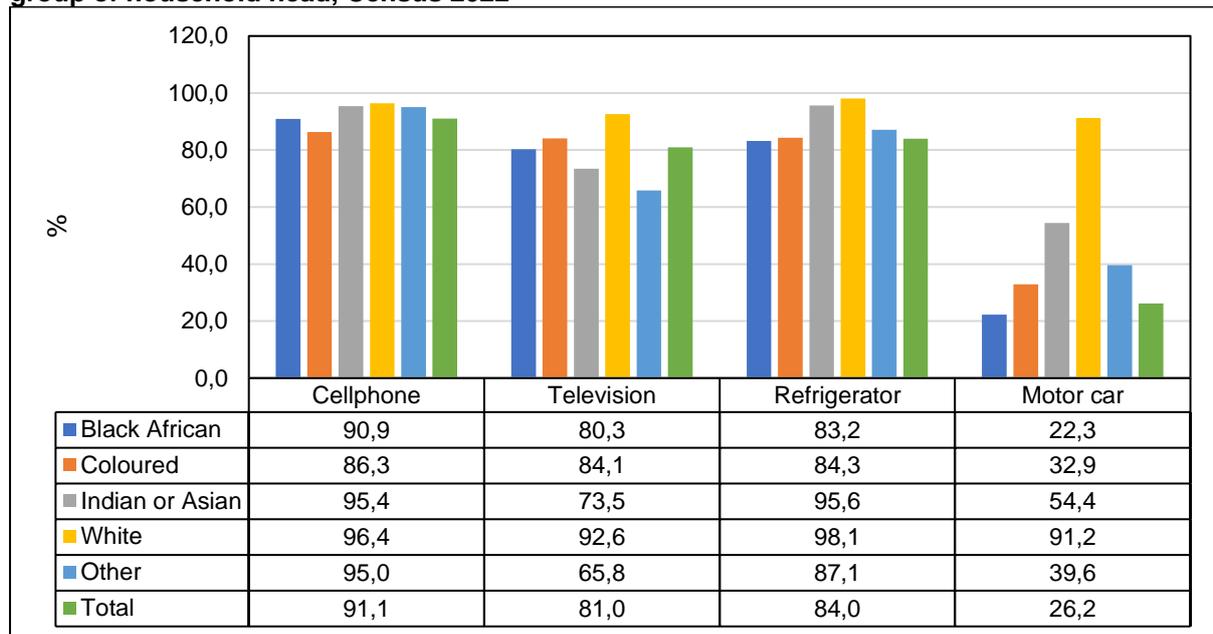
**Figure 6.7: Percentage of households by ownership of selected household goods in KwaZulu-Natal & South Africa, Census 2011-2022**



Source: Census2011 & 2022

Figure 6.7 shows the distribution of households by ownership of selected household goods in the Free State province. There has been over 3% increase in households who owned cellphone in South Africa between the census periods 2011 to 2022. The proportion of households that owns television has increased between 2011 and 2022 census, although at lower proportion compared to that of the country. There has been a massive increase in proportion of households that owns refrigeration. Lastly there has been a slight increase in proportion of household owning motor vehicle at a rate of less than 1% in Free State and over 1,5% nationally.

**Figure 6.8: Percentage of households by ownership of selected household goods & population group of household head, Census 2022**

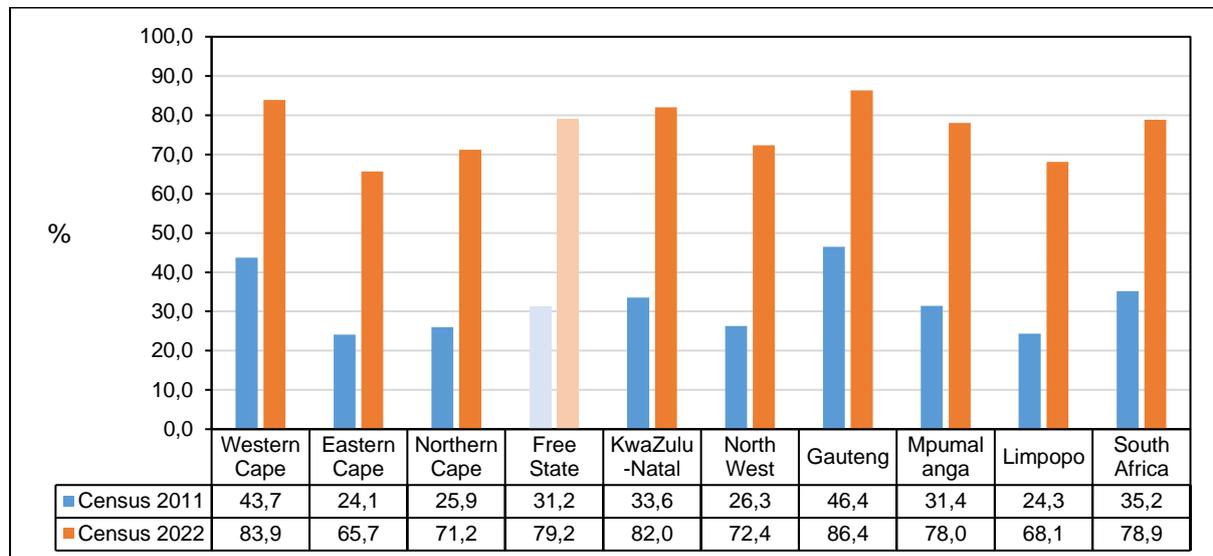


Source: Census 2022

Figure 6.8 shows percentage of households that own selected goods by population group of the head of household in Free State. The distribution of selected goods in the households within province is as follows: Cellphone 91,1%, refrigeration 84%, television 81% and motor cars 26,2%. When compared to all other population groups in the province, which have a rate of over 90%, the percentage of coloured households with cell phones (86.3%) is lower. Households headed by black African, Indians or Asians and other population groups have the lowest proportion of 81% in terms of television ownership. In addition, around 83,2% of household headed by black African, had recorded marginally lower proportion than any other population groups. Similarly, the ownership of motor car is lower among households headed by black African than that of the entire population group.

## 6.6 Access to internet

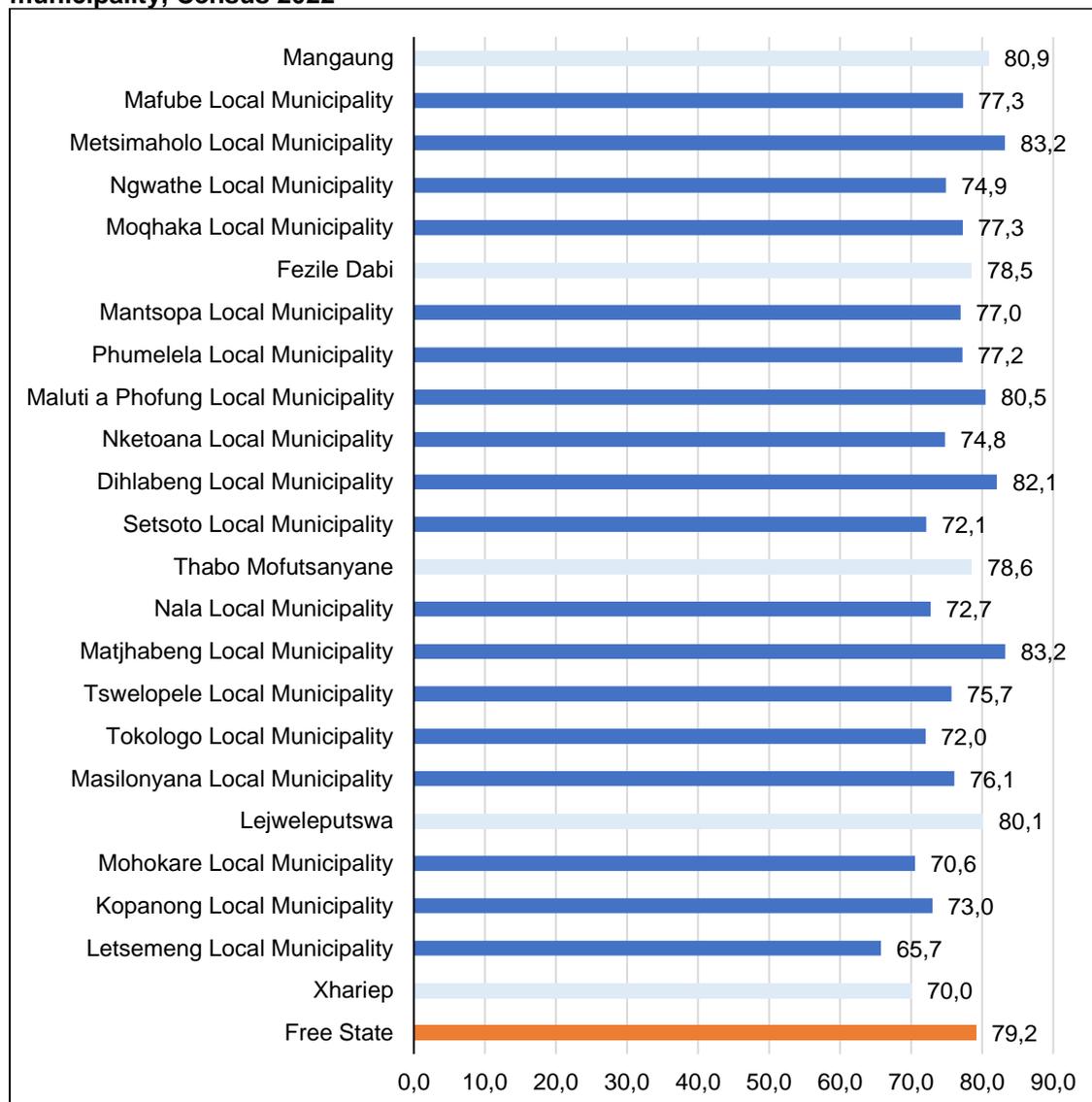
**Figure 6.9: Percentage of households with access to internet by province, Census 2011-2022**



Source: Census 2011 & 2022

Figure 6.9 shows percentage of households with access to internet by province for Census 2011 and 2022. The proportions of households with access to internet in South Africa increased massively from 35,2% in 2011 to 78,9% in 2022. In the same period, internet access among households in the Free State increased from 31,2% in 2011 to 79,2% in 2022 which is higher than the national average.

**Figure 6.10: Percentage of households with access to internet by district and local municipality, Census 2022**



For access to the internet, Census 2022 asked households if they have access to internet. Table 6.13 above reports on the proportions of households with access to internet in Free State. The results indicate that 79,2% of households in Free State have access to internet. A higher proportion 80,9% of household with access to internet is observed in Mangaung followed by Lejweleputswa 80,1%. Xhariep had a lower proportion 70% of households with access to internet.

Proportion with access to internet at the local municipality varied in 2022. Higher proportions of households with access to internet were noted in Matjhabeng and Metsimaholo local municipalities with both (83,2%) followed by Dihlabeng (82,1%).

## **6.7 Conclusion**

The number of households in Free State increased over the period 2011-2022. Thabo Mofutsanyane district municipality accounts for higher proportions of households in the province. There are more female-headed households in Free State compared to male headed households. The main type of dwelling in Free State are formal dwellings. Electricity is the main source of energy used for lighting and cooking in Free State. Ownership of households' goods such as cellphone, television, refrigerator and motor vehicle has been increasing in Free State from 2011 to 2022.

## Annexures

### Annexure 7.1: Boundary changes

Provincial, District Municipality and Local Municipality boundaries are based on the latest municipal boundary datasets published by the Municipal Demarcation Board in 2018. (<https://dataportal-mdb-sa.opendata.arcgis.com/search?tags=2018>)

The following changes between the 2011 and 2018 datasets have been detected.

#### Provincial boundary changes: 2011 to 2018

Provincial boundaries between 2011 and 2018 have remained stable with no changes in area or names.

**Table 1.12: Geographical land area per province (2011–2018)**

Province name	Provincial code	Area in square kilometers 2011	Area in square kilometers 2018
Western Cape	1	129 462	129 462
Eastern Cape	2	168 966	168 966
Northern Cape	3	372 889	372 889
Free State	4	129 825	129 825
KwaZulu-Natal	5	94 361	94 361
North West	6	104 882	104 882
Gauteng	7	18 178	18 178
Mpumalanga	8	76 495	76 495
Limpopo	9	125 754	125 754
Total		1 220 813	1 220 813

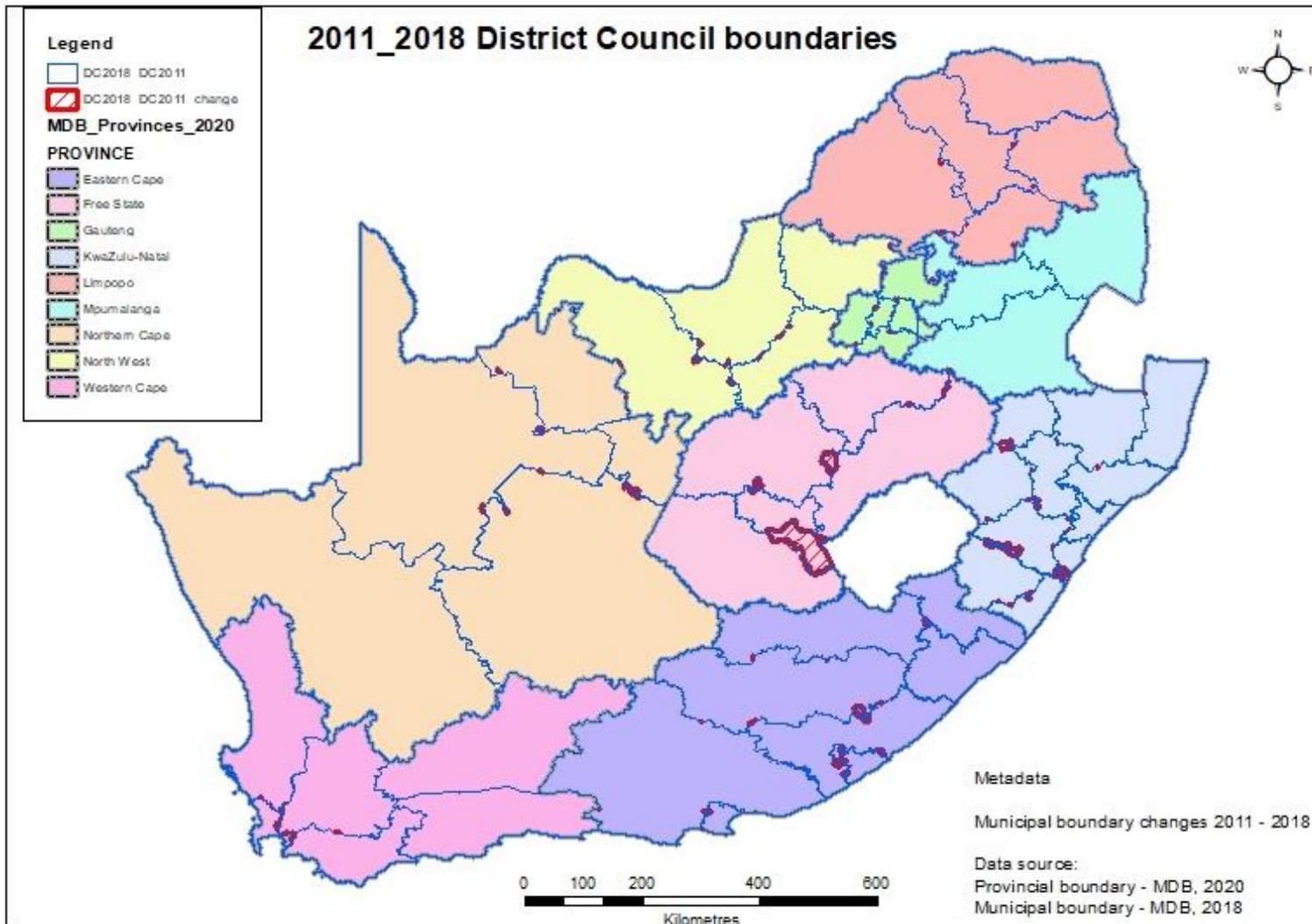
#### 1. District municipal changes (2011–2018)

During the period between 2011 and 2018, there were small-scale boundary adjustments for district municipalities and there were name changes throughout the country. There were no district amalgamations in any province. Therefore, the total number of districts (52) in the country have remained unchanged between 2011 and 2018.

**Table 2.1: District municipality boundary and name change, 2011–2018**

<b>District boundary</b>	<b>District name</b>
<p>In the 2018 boundary re-determination, Mangaung increased in area from 6 284 km<sup>2</sup> in 2011 to 9 886 km<sup>2</sup> in 2018 with the inclusion of parts of Xhariep and the Lejweleputswa district municipalities.</p> <p>The Xhariep district municipality area reduced from 37 674 km<sup>2</sup> in 2011 to 34 250 km<sup>2</sup> in 2018.</p> <p>Lejweleputswa district municipality area also changed from 31 930 km<sup>2</sup> to 32 287 km<sup>2</sup> through the loss of part of its area to Mangaung and the gain of a part of the Thabo Mofutsanyane district municipality.</p> <p>A part of the 2011 Thabo Mofutsanyane district municipality was included into Lejweleputswa district municipality which resulted in Thabo Mofutsanyane reducing to 32 729 km<sup>2</sup> from 33 269 km<sup>2</sup> in 2011.</p>	<p>There were no district municipality name changes in Free State province in 2018.</p>

Map 2.1: District council boundary changes, 2011–2018



## **Local municipal boundary changes (2011–2018)**

In 2011, there were 234 local municipalities. In 2018, the number of local municipalities reduced to 213. The 2018 re-determination of boundaries resulted in three types of boundary changes, which can be categorised as follows:

### **Class 1 – Technical and minor boundary re-determinations**

This re-determination entailed a small-scale boundary adjustment and alignment with a minor impact on the geographic area with no impact on the capacity of the affected municipalities.

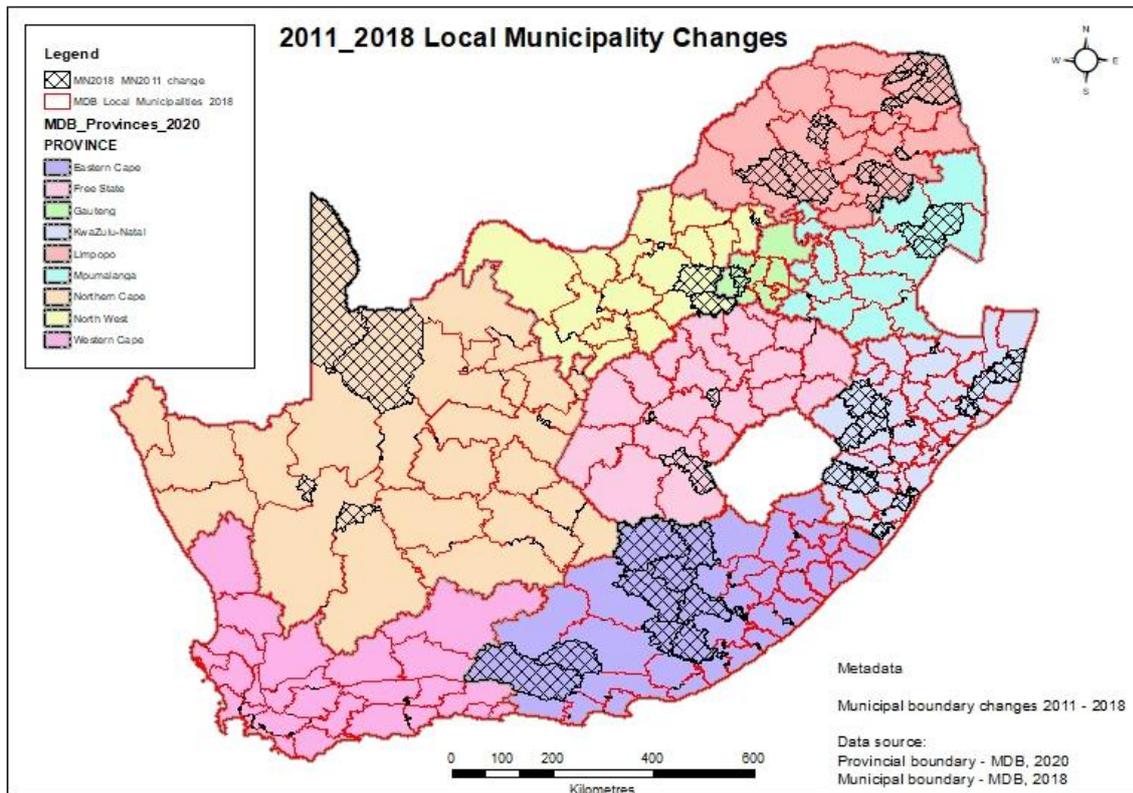
### **Class 2 – Consolidation and annexations**

This was a medium-scale boundary re-determination that may have an impact on a sizable geographic area. This type of determination may impact on ward arrangements but will not materially impact on the capacities of the affected municipalities to deliver services.

### **Class 3 – Amalgamations**

This type of re-determination entailed a major and large-scale municipal boundary re-determination, which will have a significant impact on the geographic areas and the capacities of the affected municipalities. The re-determination includes the merging of adjacent municipalities or the splitting of municipal areas to create other municipal areas.

**Map 2: Municipal boundary changes between 2011 and 2018**

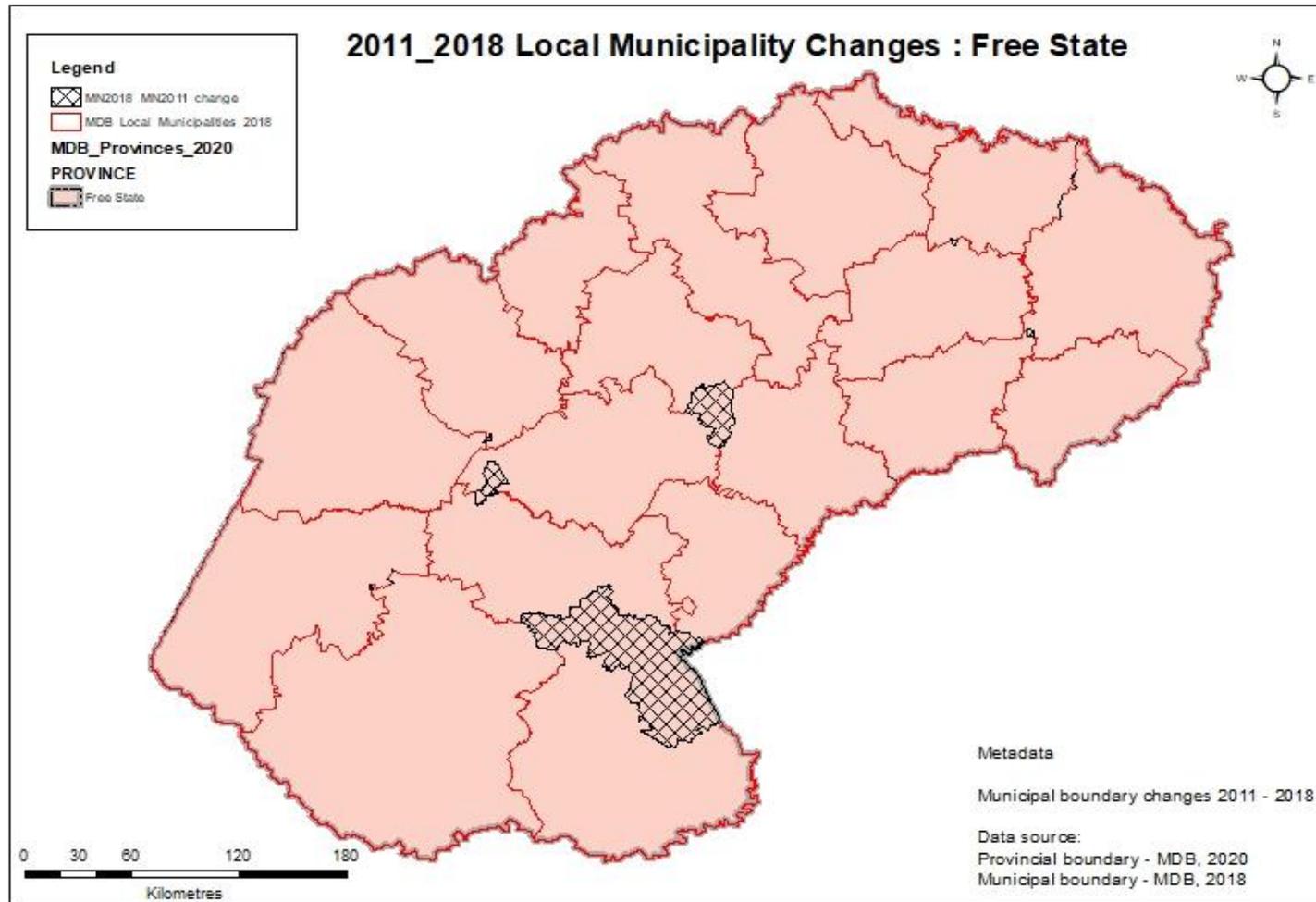


### Local municipal boundary and name changes

Between the 2011 and 2018 boundary re-determination, the following changes occurred to the 2011 municipalities:

- Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality received Naledi Local Municipality and part of Masilonyana Local Municipality to increase in area from 6 284 km<sup>2</sup> to 9 886 km<sup>2</sup>;
- Naledi Local Municipality was incorporated into Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality;
- Masilonyana Local Municipality reduced in area from 6 796 km<sup>2</sup> to 6 618 km<sup>2</sup> when part of Masilonyana was included in Mangaung;
- Matjhabeng Local Municipality increased in size from 5 155 km<sup>2</sup> to 5 690 km<sup>2</sup> with the inclusion of part of Setsoto Local Municipality;
- Setsoto Local Municipality reduced in area from 5 966 km<sup>2</sup> to 5 431 km<sup>2</sup>;

## Municipality boundary changes in Free State



### List of local municipalities

PROVINCE	CATEGORY	CAT_B	MUNICNAME	DISTRICT	DISTRICT_NAME	AREA KM <sup>2</sup>
FS	B	FS161	Letsemeng	DC16	Xhariep	9 825,9
FS	B	FS162	Kopanong	DC16	Xhariep	15 648
FS	B	FS163	Mohokare	DC16	Xhariep	8 775,8
FS	B	FS181	Masilonyana	DC18	Lejweleputswa	6 617,8
FS	B	FS182	Tokologo	DC18	Lejweleputswa	9 316,5
FS	B	FS183	Tswelopele	DC18	Lejweleputswa	6 533,5
FS	B	FS184	Matjhabeng	DC18	Lejweleputswa	5 690,4
FS	B	FS185	Nala	DC18	Lejweleputswa	4 128,8
FS	B	FS191	Setsoto	DC19	Thabo Mofutsanyane	5 431,2
FS	B	FS192	Dihlabeng	DC19	Thabo Mofutsanyane	4 867,7
FS	B	FS193	Nketoana	DC19	Thabo Mofutsanyane	5 604,5
FS	B	FS194	Maluti a Phofung	DC19	Thabo Mofutsanyane	4 337,7
FS	B	FS195	Phumelela	DC19	Thabo Mofutsanyane	8 197,2
FS	B	FS196	Mantsopa	DC19	Thabo Mofutsanyane	4 290,6
FS	B	FS201	Moqhaka	DC20	Fezile Dabi	7 924,6
FS	B	FS203	Ngwathe	DC20	Fezile Dabi	7 055
FS	B	FS204	Metsimaholo	DC20	Fezile Dabi	1 717,1
FS	B	FS205	Mafube	DC20	Fezile Dabi	3 976,6
FS	A	MAN	Mangaung	MAN	Mangaung	9 886,3

**Annexure 7.2: Distribution of population by district, local municipality and marriage rates, Census 2011-2022**

Province, district & municipalities	Marriage rate	
	Census 2011	Census 2022
<b>Free State</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>242</b>
<b>DC16 Xhariep</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>234</b>
FS161 FS161 : Letsemeng	232	253
FS162 FS162 : Kopanong	208	228
FS163 FS163 : Mohokare	189	219
<b>DC18 Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>246</b>
FS181 FS181 : Masilonyana	231	233
FS182 FS182 : Tokologo	200	191
FS183 FS183 : Tswelopele	201	222
FS184 FS184 : Matjhabeng	254	261
FS185 FS185 : Nala	219	212
<b>DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>219</b>
FS191 FS191 : Setsoto	219	236
FS192 FS192 : Dihlabeng	247	246
FS193 FS193 : Nketoana	230	224
FS194 FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	194	204
FS195 FS195 : Phumelela	200	182
FS196 FS196 : Mantsopa	226	248
<b>DC20 Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>250</b>
FS201 FS201 : Moqhaka	244	245
FS203 FS203 : Ngwathe	222	242
FS204 FS204 : Metsimaholo	270	278
FS205 FS205 : Mafube	191	204
<b>MAN Mangaung</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>260</b>

Source: Censuses 2011 & 2022

**Annexure 7.3: Distribution of population by district, local municipality and divorce rates, Census 2011-2022**

Province, district & municipalities	Divorce rate	
	Census 2011	Census 2022
<b>Free State</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>DC16 Xhariep</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>
FS161 FS161 : Letsemeng	8	13
FS162 FS162 : Kopanong	9	19
FS163 FS163 : Mohokare	8	14
<b>DC18 Lejweleputswa</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>
FS181 FS181 : Masilonyana	8	16
FS182 FS182 : Tokologo	8	10
FS183 FS183 : Tswelopele	6	11
FS184 FS184 : Matjhabeng	13	22
FS185 FS185 : Nala	7	11
<b>DC19 Thabo Mofutsanyane</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>
FS191 FS191 : Setsoto	9	17
FS192 FS192 : Dihlabeng	12	20
FS193 FS193 : Nketoana	6	13
FS194 FS194 : Maluti a Phofung	6	11
FS195 FS195 : Phumelela	4	9
FS196 FS196 : Mantsopa	8	15
<b>DC20 Fezile Dabi</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21</b>
FS201 FS201 : Moqhaka	15	29
FS203 FS203 : Ngwathe	12	18
FS204 FS204 : Metsimaholo	13	21
FS205 FS205 : Mafube	7	11
<b>MAN Mangaung</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>

**Annexure 7.4: Distribution of persons by five-year age groups, district and disability status, Census 2022**

Age group	Xhariep			Lejweleputswa			Thabo Mofutsanyane			Fezile Dabi			Mangaung			Free State		
	Without disability	With disability	Total															
<b>5-9</b>	11 619	321	<b>11 940</b>	57 193	1 649	<b>58 842</b>	70 586	2 197	<b>72 782</b>	39 486	1 255	<b>40 741</b>	62 583	1 552	<b>64 135</b>	241 466	6 975	<b>248 441</b>
<b>10-14</b>	11 980	319	<b>12 299</b>	62 518	2 164	<b>64 682</b>	77 441	2 674	<b>80 115</b>	43 904	1 559	<b>45 462</b>	68 333	1 927	<b>70 260</b>	264 176	8 643	<b>272 819</b>
<b>15-19</b>	11 301	312	<b>11 613</b>	56 167	1 915	<b>58 082</b>	72 970	2 537	<b>75 507</b>	40 554	1 411	<b>41 965</b>	65 630	2 013	<b>67 643</b>	246 622	8 188	<b>254 810</b>
<b>20-24</b>	9 660	309	<b>9 968</b>	52 565	1 860	<b>54 425</b>	64 449	2 133	<b>66 582</b>	37 497	1 252	<b>38 749</b>	66 811	1 966	<b>68 777</b>	230 981	7 520	<b>238 501</b>
<b>25-29</b>	9 720	353	<b>10 073</b>	52 980	1 882	<b>54 861</b>	65 658	2 352	<b>68 011</b>	38 083	1 320	<b>39 403</b>	65 854	1 928	<b>67 782</b>	232 295	7 834	<b>240 130</b>
<b>30-34</b>	9 671	387	<b>10 058</b>	55 743	2 290	<b>58 033</b>	65 302	2 663	<b>67 965</b>	39 851	1 497	<b>41 348</b>	64 920	2 362	<b>67 282</b>	235 488	9 199	<b>244 687</b>
<b>35-39</b>	8 708	442	<b>9 149</b>	50 773	2 711	<b>53 484</b>	60 644	3 176	<b>63 820</b>	38 481	1 672	<b>40 153</b>	59 864	2 614	<b>62 478</b>	218 470	10 615	<b>229 085</b>
<b>40-44</b>	7 344	480	<b>7 825</b>	40 275	2 950	<b>43 225</b>	49 467	3 353	<b>52 820</b>	32 078	2 016	<b>34 094</b>	49 266	2 894	<b>52 160</b>	178 430	11 694	<b>190 124</b>
<b>45-49</b>	6 187	605	<b>6 792</b>	31 068	3 482	<b>34 550</b>	38 103	4 054	<b>42 156</b>	25 522	2 501	<b>28 024</b>	39 644	3 572	<b>43 216</b>	140 523	14 214	<b>154 738</b>
<b>50-54</b>	5 344	827	<b>6 170</b>	26 765	4 545	<b>31 310</b>	31 823	4 900	<b>36 724</b>	21 319	3 061	<b>24 380</b>	33 655	4 683	<b>38 339</b>	118 907	18 016	<b>136 923</b>
<b>55-59</b>	4 589	1 126	<b>5 715</b>	24 975	5 789	<b>30 763</b>	28 340	6 010	<b>34 351</b>	19 218	3 940	<b>23 158</b>	28 494	5 382	<b>33 876</b>	105 617	22 247	<b>127 863</b>
<b>60-64</b>	3 876	1 096	<b>4 972</b>	19 342	5 907	<b>25 249</b>	22 675	6 251	<b>28 926</b>	16 172	4 061	<b>20 233</b>	22 182	5 836	<b>28 019</b>	84 248	23 151	<b>107 398</b>
<b>65-69</b>	2 864	1 148	<b>4 013</b>	13 767	5 491	<b>19 257</b>	16 711	6 472	<b>23 182</b>	12 343	3 987	<b>16 330</b>	16 649	5 564	<b>22 213</b>	62 333	22 662	<b>84 995</b>
<b>70-74</b>	1 704	1 069	<b>2 773</b>	7 230	4 419	<b>11 649</b>	9 365	5 354	<b>14 719</b>	7 161	3 728	<b>10 889</b>	9 272	4 934	<b>14 206</b>	34 732	19 504	<b>54 236</b>
<b>75-79</b>	868	689	<b>1 557</b>	3 725	3 116	<b>6 841</b>	4 895	3 971	<b>8 866</b>	4 254	2 768	<b>7 022</b>	5 353	3 765	<b>9 118</b>	19 095	14 308	<b>33 404</b>
<b>80-84</b>	425	437	<b>863</b>	1 548	2 063	<b>3 611</b>	2 121	2 772	<b>4 892</b>	1 886	1 971	<b>3 857</b>	2 348	2 638	<b>4 987</b>	8 329	9 881	<b>18 209</b>
<b>85+</b>	220	448	<b>668</b>	835	1 684	<b>2 519</b>	1 299	2 601	<b>3 900</b>	942	1 589	<b>2 531</b>	1 248	2 179	<b>3 427</b>	4 544	8 502	<b>13 046</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>106 082</b>	<b>10 367</b>	<b>116 449</b>	<b>557 467</b>	<b>53 917</b>	<b>611 385</b>	<b>681 851</b>	<b>63 469</b>	<b>745 319</b>	<b>418 751</b>	<b>39 589</b>	<b>458 340</b>	<b>662 105</b>	<b>55 812</b>	<b>717 917</b>	<b>2 426 256</b>	<b>223 153</b>	<b>2 649 409</b>

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