



Living in North West

Selected findings of
the 1995 October
household survey

Stats SA

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Living in North West

**Selected findings of the 1995
October household survey**

**Statistics South Africa
1998**

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The detailed statistical tables on which this publication is based are available as 'October household survey', statistical release **P0317** (South Africa as a whole), and **P0317.1** to **P0317.9** (the nine provinces). These can be ordered from Statistics South Africa, Pretoria, in both printed and electronic format.

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Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is the new name for the organisation previously known as the Central Statistical Service (CSS).

Statistics South Africa issued the results of the 1996 population census in October 1998. The total population of South Africa, as at October 1996, was calculated to be 40,6 million.

The new census numbers will have an effect on some of the weights and raising factors that were used in this report, since these are presently based on projections of population and household size to 1995, using the 1991 census estimates as baseline.

The number of people, the number of households and the percentages reported here will therefore need to be modified in the light of more complete information about household size and distribution of the population by population group and age from Census '96. Nevertheless, these overall trends should be accepted as indicative of the broad patterns in households in South Africa in general, and in North West in particular, during 1995.

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Section 1

Introduction

Background

South Africa's first democratically elected government is committed to a better life for all. The extent of change that is required in the country to bring about such improvement can best be measured through periodic household surveys. Statistics South Africa, until recently known as the Central Statistical Service conducts the October household survey (OHS) annually to give detailed information about the living conditions and life circumstances of all South Africans.

A series of household surveys should make it possible, not only to describe the situation in a country at a given point in time, but also to measure change in people's life circumstances as and when new government policies are implemented.

The first comprehensive October household survey was conducted in October 1993. It was repeated, with modifications to the questionnaire, in 1994 and 1995. The former 'TBVC states' (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) were excluded from the 1993 survey, but included in 1994 and 1995.

This report summarises the findings of the 1995 OHS in North West. It paints a demographic, social and economic picture of life in that province and compares the findings with those for the whole country.

North West

North West covers an area of 116 320 km², representing 9,5% of the total surface area of South Africa. Only three provinces (KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and Gauteng) cover a smaller area. The population density is 29 people per km², slightly less than the average of 34 per km² for the whole country. Mmabatho, the capital, experiences its highest rainfall in the summer months, with an average rainfall in January of 117 mm. Setswana is the home language of 59% of the population, followed by Afrikaans (9%) and isiXhosa (6%). The inhabitants of North West have the lowest life expectancy at birth in the country, namely 59,7 years. They also have the lowest adult literacy rate – 69,5% of persons 15 years and older can read, write and speak their home language compared with the national figure of 82,2%.

The research process

With this background in mind, we now turn to the life circumstances of people in the province, as shown in the OHS of 1995. But first we describe the research methodology.

The following steps constitute the research process for the 1995 OHS:

- Questionnaire
- Drawing a sample
- Fieldwork
- Data capture
- Weighting the sample back to the population
- Data analysis
- Report writing

Each step is discussed in more detail below.

The questionnaire

The 1995 OHS questionnaire contained questions about the household as a whole, as well as on all individual members. In the household section, questions were asked about the type of dwelling in which the household lived, access to facilities such as electricity, tap water, toilets and regular refuse removal, access to health and social welfare services, and the safety and well-being of the household.

In the section completed for each individual in the household, questions were asked on age, gender, education, marital status, migration, use of health services, economic activity and employment.

Questions were also asked on births and deaths in the household. These are not discussed in the present report.

Drawing a sample

The 1995 OHS included almost 30 000 households and 130 787 individuals country-wide; the number of households selected in each province was proportionate to the estimated population size. In North West, information was obtained from 2 452 households, representing all households in North West, and from 10 495 people living in these households.

- Altogether, 245 enumerator areas (EAs) in 27 districts in North West were drawn for the sample. Ten households were visited in each selected EA. This was an improvement compared with the 1994 OHS, in which fewer EAs were selected,

and information was obtained from 30 households per EA. The 1995 sample was stratified by province, urban and non-urban areas ¹ and population group.

- The 1991 population census was used as a frame for drawing the sample. However, this census had certain shortcomings, affecting the drawing of all OHS samples between 1993 and 1995:
 - ⇒ The former ‘TBVC states’ (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) were excluded in the 1991 census. Consequently, their size had to be estimated when drawing samples of households. District-level information was available for size estimates in Bophuthatswana and Venda but not for the others. With the exception of the two relatively small magisterial districts of Thaba ‘Nchu (now in Free State) and Moretele II (now in Mpumalanga), most of the nominally independent Bophuthatswana homeland was incorporated in North West when South Africa was reunified in 1994, affecting sampling.
 - ⇒ Certain parts of the country, particularly non-urban areas in the former ‘self-governing territories’, were not demarcated into clearly defined EAs, and the households in these districts were not listed. Instead, a ‘sweep census’ was done, covering an entire magisterial district.
 - ⇒ In some areas of the country, particularly informal settlements, aerial photography was used to estimate population size, backed by small-scale surveys among households in those areas. The informal settlements around urban centres such as Klerksdorp and Lichtenburg were affected by this procedure.
 - ⇒ No allowance was made for new informal settlements, which were springing up all over South Africa, to be incorporated into the sampling frame, including those in North West.

Attempts were made in the 1995 OHS to overcome sampling problems occurring as a result of the above shortcomings of the 1991 census. For example, magisterial districts where a ‘sweep census’ had taken place were sub-divided into smaller units, and new informal settlements were incorporated into the boundaries of existing enumerator areas.

Difficulties were experienced in the field when implementing the sampling plan. Fieldworkers became confused about the exact boundaries of a particular EA in relation to the above changes.

The fieldwork for the 1995 OHS took place at the same time as the demarcation of new EA boundaries for the 1996 census. This sometimes resulted in confusion between the old 1991 census and new 1996 census EA boundaries.

These problems were partly taken into account in the weighting procedures, as discussed in a later part of this chapter.

¹ An urban area is, for the purposes of the 1995 OHS, defined as one where there is a fully-established local government. A non-urban area, on the other hand, does not have an established local authority. The area could, for example, be run by a tribal authority or a regional authority.

The fieldwork

In the 2 452 households which were sampled throughout North West, information was collected through face-to-face interviews. During these interviews, fieldworkers administered a questionnaire to a responsible person in each household.

The fieldwork of the 1995 OHS was combined with the fieldwork of an income and expenditure survey (IES), used primarily for calculating weights for household purchases for the consumer price index. The same households were visited for both the OHS and the IES. The fieldworkers first administered the OHS questionnaire and returned at a later date to administer the questionnaire for the IES.

Problems were experienced in returning to the same household, particularly in informal settlements and in rural areas, where addresses were not available, and where demarcation of the EA or listing of households had not been undertaken for the 1991 census. These problems were solved, as far as possible, during the data-capture process by matching responses to common questions in the two surveys.

Data capture

Data capture of both the 1995 OHS and the IES took place at the head office of Stats SA. This process involved linking the information contained in the 1995 OHS with that contained in the IES. The linking of the two data sets was regarded as an important exercise, because it allowed for details concerning household income and expenditure patterns (IES) to be added to details about education, employment and overall life circumstances (OHS), thus giving a more comprehensive socio-economic description of life in North West.

Problems were encountered when attempting to link the two data sets. For example, information in the OHS on type of dwelling, household income and access to services did not always coincide with the IES data. These problems were generally solved by identifying the incompatibilities and adjusting the data at head office, but sometimes revisits to households had to be made. The linking of the two data sets caused considerable delays in data capture.

Weighting the sample

A complex sampling strategy was employed in the 1995 OHS. In order to correct for the resulting unequal probabilities of selection, the survey data were weighted.

First the data on individuals were weighted. This was done by using the estimated population (projected from the 1991 census) by province, urban/non-urban area, age, population group and gender. The original aim was to weight the data by magisterial district as well. This was not possible because of the EA boundary problems described earlier.

The weight assigned to the head of the household was used as the weight for that household.

Note that the weights for the OHS and IES are different because relative scaling by age and gender were applied to the OHS but not to the IES. In the OHS we were concerned with the education and occupation of the head of household. However, in the IES we worked with household incomes. Section 3 of this report, which relates to the living conditions of households, should be read with this in mind.

All further discussions in this report are based on weighted figures.

Preliminary estimates of the size of the population of South Africa, based on the October 1996 population census, indicate that there are fewer people in the country (37,9 million) than was previously realised. The new census numbers may affect some of the weights and raising factors used in this report, since these are based on the 1991 estimates. Nevertheless, the overall trends in this report should be accepted as indicative, but not as definitive, of life circumstances in households in North West.

Data analysis and report writing

The data were made available for report writing as a series of tables and cross-tabulations. These were released in February 1997 (statistical release P0317.6 *October Household Survey 1995: North West*). Minor differences between results presented in this report and the figures in the tables are due to rounding off.

Comparison with 1994 data

Stats SA is still grappling with sampling issues, based on its attempts to use the incomplete sampling frame generated by the 1991 population census. It is anticipated that the 1996 census will provide a better sampling frame for future surveys.

Since different methodologies were used for drawing the sample in 1994 and 1995, and as diverse problems were encountered in the two surveys, the 1994 and 1995 OHS data sets are not directly comparable in all respects. They are essentially separate snapshots of different parts of the country during two consecutive years. Nevertheless, they do yield similar broad patterns. For example, access to water and toilet facilities remained problematic in non-urban areas in both surveys. Unemployment was high and the proportion of Africans in elementary occupations remained similar in the two surveys.

There are many possible reasons for different results in the two surveys. These include genuine developmental changes, sampling error and problems with interpreting the questions. In this report, we have avoided making comparisons between the 1994 and 1995 OHS. As more household surveys are conducted over time, however, it should become increasingly possible to compare the data.

Acknowledgements

This report is the result of participation by thousands of people. Without the willing co-operation of the many selected respondents, this information would not be available. Other critical members of the team include those who undertook the fieldwork, data entry, and the production of the tables. To all of them, a big thank you.

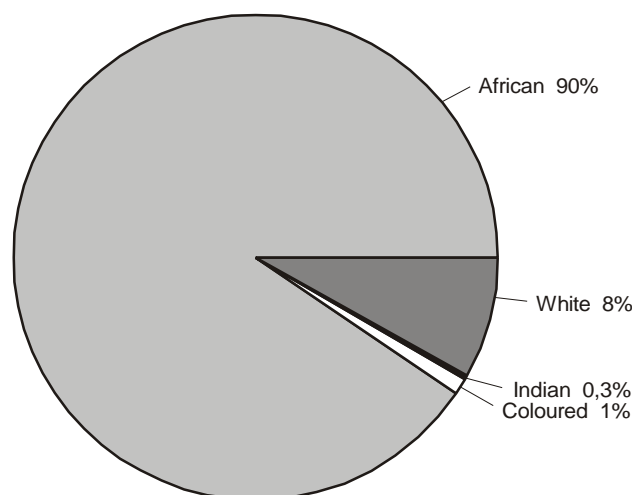
Section 2

The main findings regarding individuals

The population of North West

On the basis of the 1991 population census estimates, Stats SA estimated the size of the population in North West in 1995 to be approximately 8% of the total population of South Africa. This makes North West the sixth most populated province, after KwaZulu-Natal (estimated at 21%), Gauteng (17%), Eastern Cape (16%), Northern Province (13%) and Western Cape (9%).

Figure 1 shows that the vast majority in the province is African (90%), fewer than one in ten is white (8%), and the remainder consists of coloured (1%) and Indian (0,3%) people.² Compared to the total South African population, a larger proportion of North West population is African – 91% compared with 76%. Only Northern Province has a greater proportion of Africans (95%). Mpumalanga (89%), Eastern Cape (87%) and Free State (84%) have marginally lower proportions of the population consisting of Africans.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 1: Population of North West by population group

² The racial classification of South Africans as African, coloured, Indian and white is retained in the series of October household surveys to enable CSS to monitor changes in the life circumstances of those who were disadvantaged during the apartheid era.

In the country as a whole, the urban/non-urban distribution of the population is fairly equal. In North West, however, less than half the population (40%) lives in urban areas. This is very similar to the distribution in KwaZulu-Natal (39%). Only three other provinces – Northern Province (13%), Mpumalanga (30%) and Eastern Cape (35%) – are less urbanised than North West.

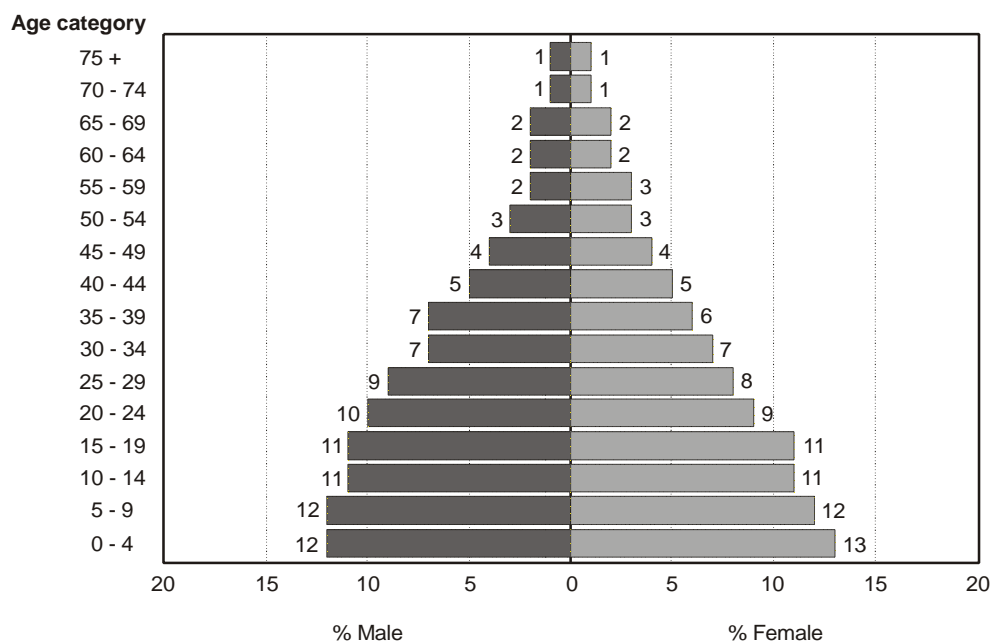
In North West, the vast majority of coloureds, Indians and whites live in urban areas – 97%, 99% and 99%, respectively. This contrasts with the African population, of whom only one in three (34%) live in urban areas.

Because the number of coloureds and Indians in North West is so small, no results for these two groups are given in the remainder of this report. Where results for the total population are described, however, they *are* included. The results among whites should be treated with caution, since they form a small proportion (8%) of the population in the province, and the sample size was small.

Age distribution

The age distribution of a population is important for a number of reasons. A young population requires greater educational resources, whilst an elderly population needs more facilities to take care of its members. The economy of the country is influenced by the age structure of the population: a relatively small proportion of people aged 15 to 64 years implies, for example, that this group has to support a relatively large proportion of children, apart from the aged.

Figure 2 shows the age distribution in five-year age groups of the total population of North West according to gender. The age pyramid is typical of a developing society. It consists of a broad base, which is indicative of a relatively greater proportion of younger age groups, and a steadily decreasing proportion of older age groups in the rest of the pyramid. Children under the age of five years constitute 12% of the province's total population, while at below the age of 15 years they constitute 36% of the population. The proportion of the elderly (aged 65 years and over) is only four percent, while the proportion of the population aged between 15 and 64 years, from which the economically active population is drawn, is 60%. This pattern is very close to that of the country as a whole. The proportion of children in the age group 0-4 years in the country as a whole is only a percentage point above that of the province (13% compared to 12%). The reverse is the case in the age group 15-64 years, where the proportion for the entire country is 59% compared to the province's 60%.



Source: October household survey, 1995

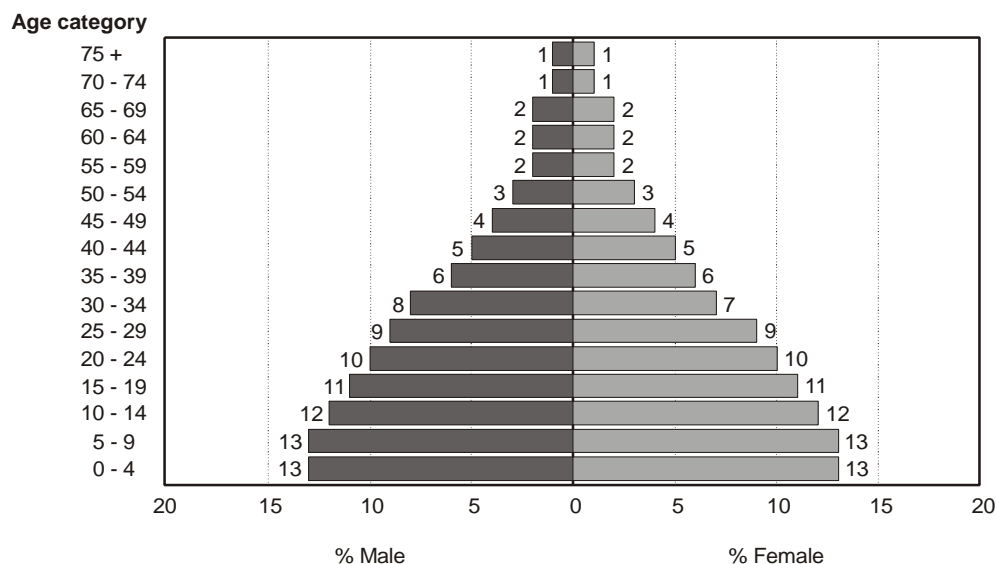
Figure 2: Age distribution of the total population of North West by gender

The above pattern of age distribution within the province varies only very slightly by gender. For example, the proportions for males differ by a mere percentage point from the overall provincial picture for age groups 15-64 years (61% compared with 60%) and 65 years and over (3% compared with 4%). There are no differences between age groups 0-4 years and 0-14 years. The pattern of age distribution for females in the province compared with the overall provincial proportions also differs only slightly in age groups 0-4 years, 15-64 years and 65 years and over. In the age groups 0-4 years the proportion of females is greater by only one percentage point (13% compared with 12%). Females are also one percentage point below the overall provincial pattern in the age group 15-64 years (59% compared with 60%). These differences are slightly greater between males and females than they are between each gender and the province as a whole.

With regard to gender, the pattern of age distribution in the province is also not very different from that of the country as a whole.

As elsewhere in South Africa, the pattern of age distribution in North West varies with population group; accordingly, this section is devoted to identifying differences between patterns pertaining to the dominant two population groups, Africans and whites.

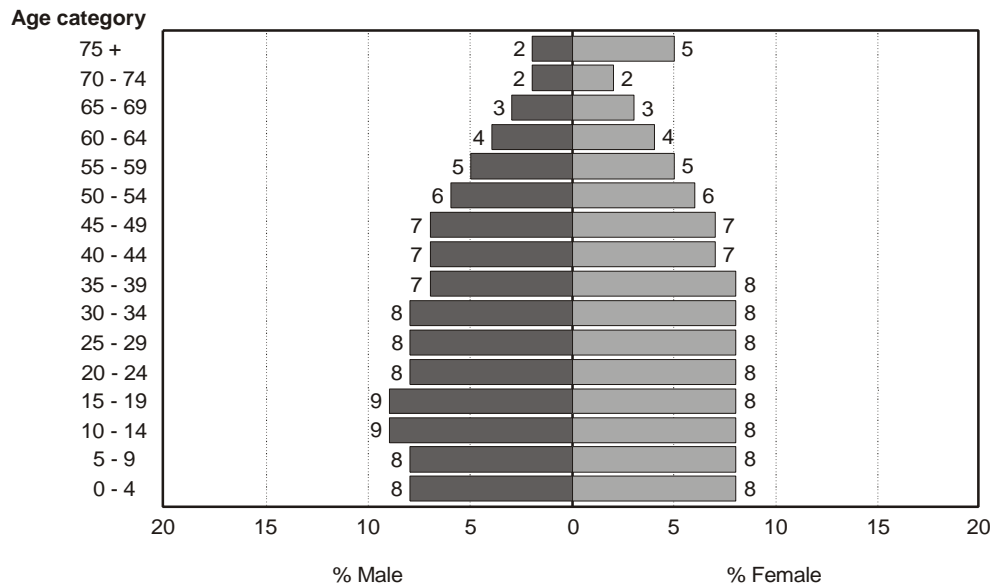
Figure 3 shows the age distribution of Africans in North West. It is similar to Figure 2, which shows the age distribution of all population groups in the entire province. However, Figure 3 more clearly reflects the dominating influence on the age structure of the population in the province of the majority population group than Figure 2, in which presence of the white population exerts some moderating influence on the age structure. In Figure 3, the base of the age-pyramid is proportionately greater than in Figure 2. Youngsters under the age of five years represent 13% of the province's population, whilst children under the age of 15 years represent 37% of the population. Fifty-nine percent constitute the working age group of 15-64 years. A relatively small percentage (4%) of the African population consists of the elderly, aged 65 years and older. This distribution is fairly similar to that of Africans in the whole country – 14% under five years, 40% under 15 years, 56% in the age group 15-64 years and 4% in age group 65 years and over. Nevertheless one should note the slightly lower proportion in the province of children under 15 years (37% compared to 40%) as well as the slightly higher proportion in the province in the working age group 15-64 years. As indicated later, these differences are most probably due to labour migration to the mainly platinum mining areas in the province from other provinces such as Northern Province.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 3: Age distribution of the African population in North West by gender

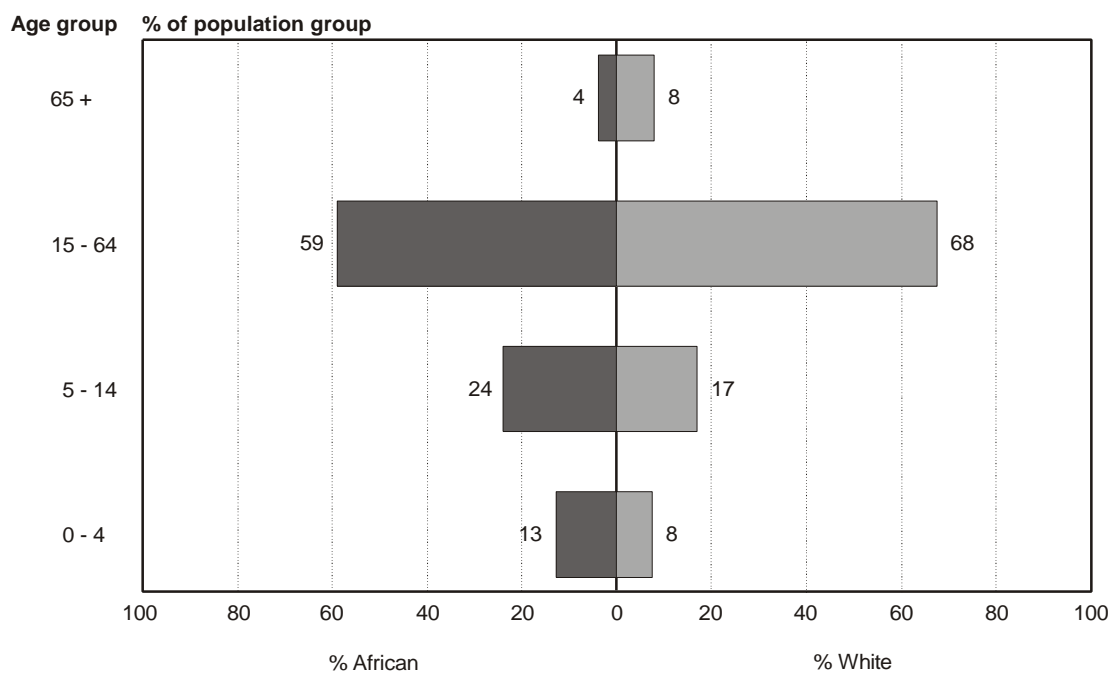
Whites in North West exhibit a very different age pattern, typical of industrialised societies. There are proportionately fewer children and more elderly people, as shown in Figure 4. Fewer than one in ten whites (8%) are under the age of five years, a quarter (25%) are under 15 years, whilst 8% are at least 65 years of age. This is a slightly younger population than whites throughout the country. Nationally, 7% of whites are younger than five years, 21% are under 15 years of age and 10% are aged 65 years and older.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 4: Age distribution of the white population in North West by gender

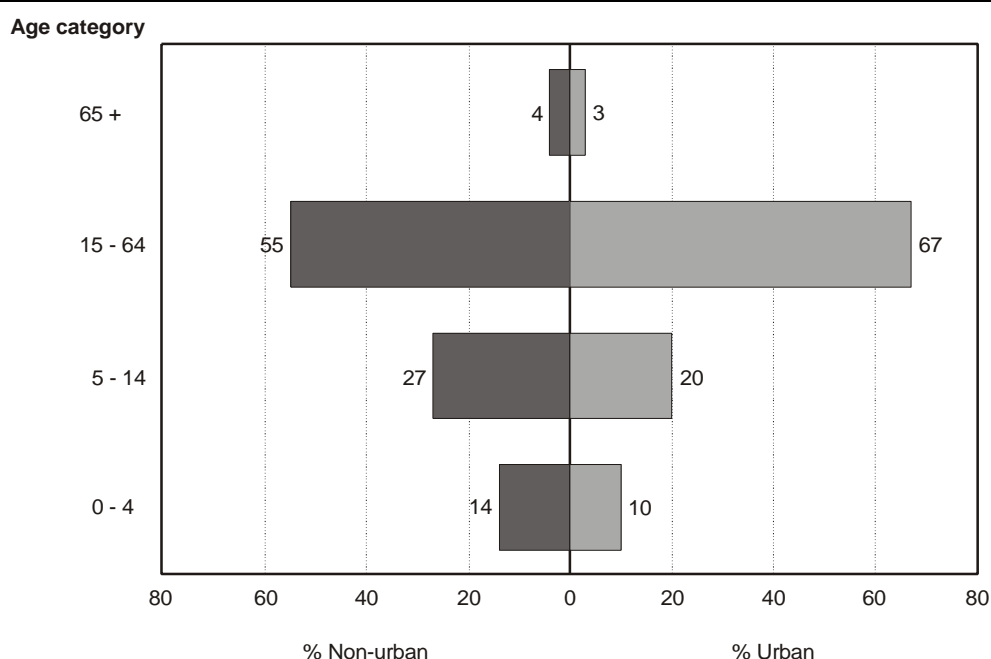
Figure 5 examines the population distribution within four broad age categories. The pattern of age distribution within these four categories, in the first instance, shows a relatively young African population, in which 13% and 24% are in age groups 0-4 and 5-14 years respectively, compared to the corresponding proportions of whites of 8% and 17% respectively. Secondly, the proportion of the African population in the working age group (ages 15-64 years) is noticeably smaller (59%) than the corresponding white proportion (68%). In addition, the proportion of the elderly (65 years and over) in the African population (4%) is half that of the white population (8%). These differences have implications for the dependency ratio where, on average, an economically active African has a greater number of people to support than his or her white counterpart.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 5: Age distribution of Africans and whites within four broad age categories in North West

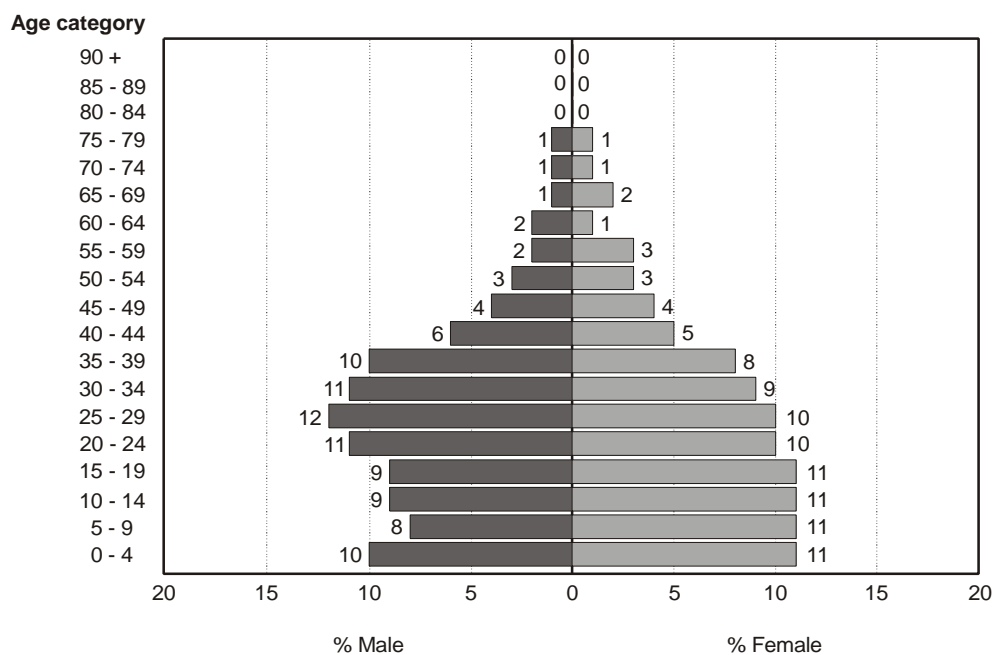
Age distribution of Africans in North West varies between urban and non-urban areas.³ According to Figure 6, in non-urban areas, a large proportion of the population consists of children (41% compared with 30% in the urban areas). The proportion of elderly people (aged 65 years and over) is also slightly higher for non-urban areas than for urban areas (4% compared with 3%). As might be expected, presumably because of in-migration mostly of males from other provinces to the mining areas of the province, the proportion of the population in the working age group is visibly greater in urban areas (67%) than in non-urban areas (55%). This observation appears to be strongly supported by comparison of the age distribution pattern of Africans in urban areas. Figure 7 shows an increase in the proportion of males between age groups 20-24 years and 35-39 years compared to that of females in the same age groups. This pattern is clearly in contrast to the age distribution of Africans in non-urban areas in the province, as shown in Figure 8.



Source: October household survey, 1995

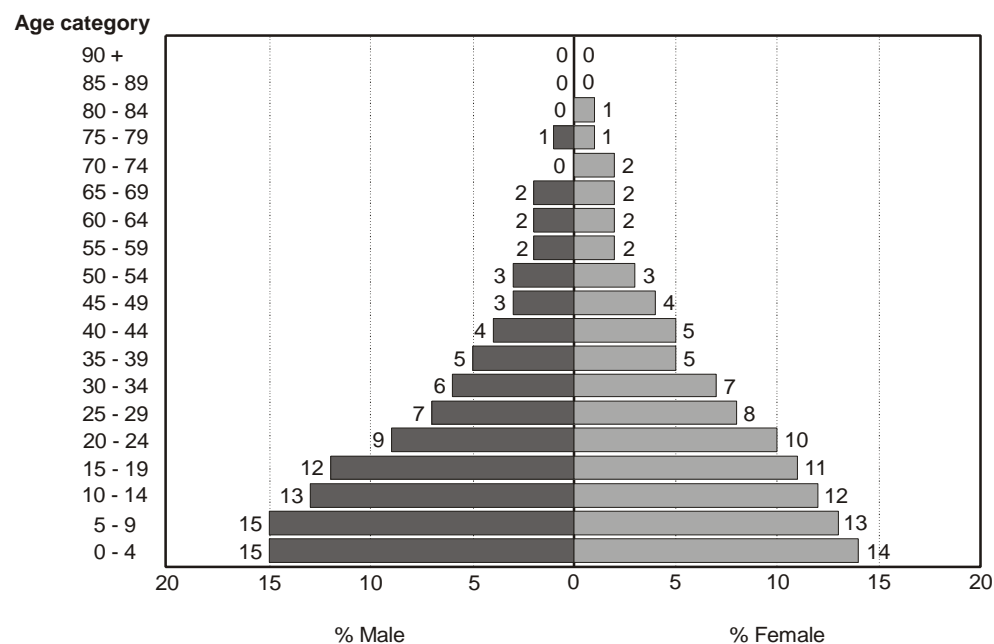
Figure 6: African population in North West by age and urban/non-urban classification

³ This section excludes whites from the analysis because their proportion in non-urban areas is very small.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 7: Age distribution of the urban African population in North West by gender

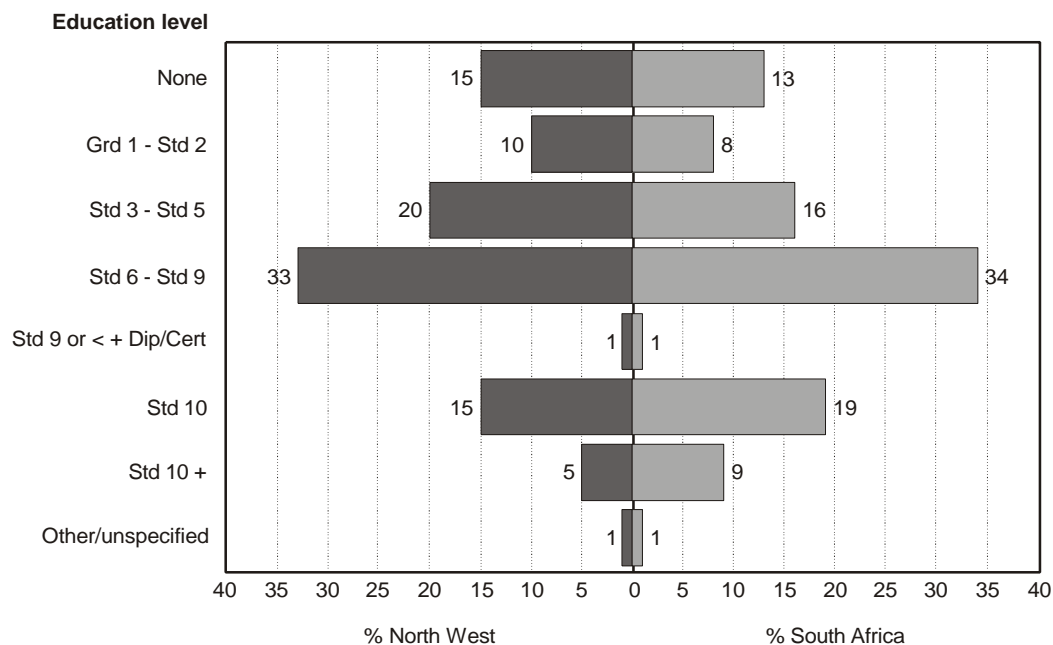


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 8: Age distribution of the non-urban African population in North West by gender

Education

Access to educational opportunities in South Africa varies by province. In general, the opportunities available in North West in 1995 are fairly comparable to those which were available in South Africa as a whole. However, there are minor differences which distinguish the province from the country as a whole. For example, the proportion of the population 20 years and older who have not attended school is two percentage points above the national proportion – 15% compared with 13% (Figure 9). A similar difference applies to those who attended at least some lower primary school (Grade 1 to Standard 2) – 10% compared with 8% nationally. The province has a slight advantage over the country as a whole at the upper primary level (Standards 3 to 5) where it has a proportion of 20% compared with the national figure of 16%. In general the proportions of the population 20 years and older who have attained some secondary education (Standards 6 to 9), matriculation (Standard 10) or had some post-secondary education (Standard 10 and above) are less for the province than they are for the whole country.

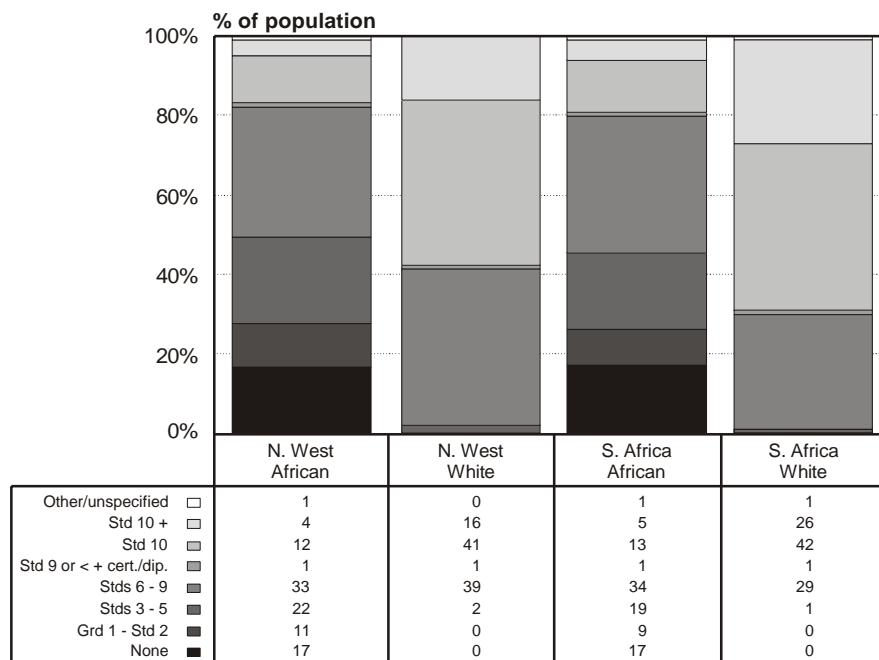


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 9: Level of education of the population 20 years and older in North West compared with South Africa as a whole

As elsewhere in South Africa, access to educational opportunities in North West varies by population group. In this respect, there is stark contrast in educational attainment between the proportions of Africans and whites 20 years and older in North West. In Figure 10, there are no whites recorded as either having had no education or having ended their educational careers in the lower primary school (Grade 1 to Standard 2). Yet 17% of the African population have had no formal education and 11% have ended their educational careers somewhere in the lower primary school. Furthermore, only 2% of whites ended their educational careers in upper primary school (Standards 3 to 5) compared to 22% of the African population. In fact, about half of the African population did not go beyond primary school, compared to only 2% of whites.

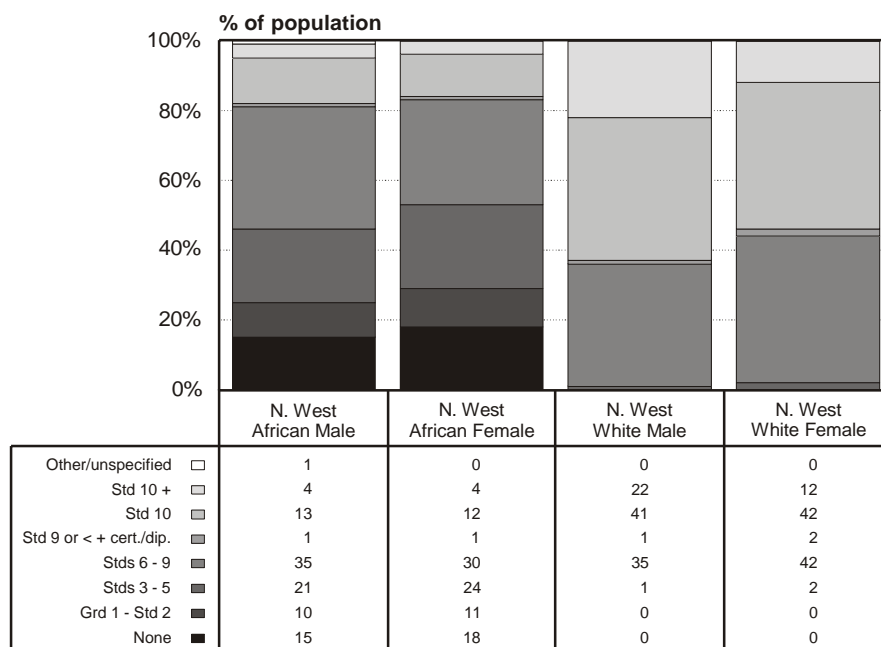
The pattern of educational attainment of the African population in the province differs only slightly from the national picture, with the province showing a slight disadvantage over the country as a whole (Figure 10). For example, the proportions of those with no formal education are equal (at 17% each), with the province having slightly greater proportions at the primary school level (11% compared with 9% for Grade 1 to Standard 2, and 22% compared with 19% for Standards 3 to 5). From then on, however, the national picture shows a slight advantage over the province. The pattern of educational attainment for whites, on the other hand, shows very clear differences at secondary school level, below Standard 10 and at the post-secondary school level. There are proportionately more whites with some secondary education below Standard 10 (Standards 6 to 9) in North West than in the country as a whole (39% compared with 29%). In addition, the proportion of whites in the entire country with a post-Standard 10 education is higher than the proportion in the province (26% compared with 16%).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 10: Level of education of Africans and whites 20 years and older in North West and in South Africa

Access to educational opportunities also varies by gender. With regard to the African population, gender differences are not very marked (Figure 11). However, proportionately fewer African males, compared to females, have received no formal education (15% compared with 18%); and proportionately more have had access to secondary school (35% compared to 30% in Standards 6-9, and 13% compared to 12% in Standard 10).

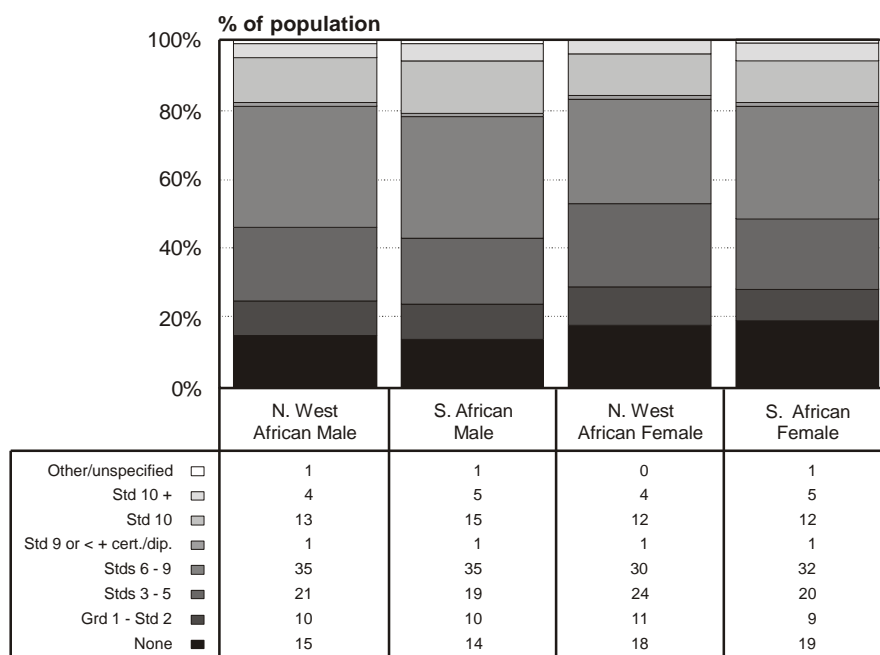


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 11: Level of education of Africans and whites 20 years and older in North West by gender

Gender differences within the white population are considerably more marked than in the African population. The greatest difference concerns access to post-secondary school education, where proportionately almost twice as many males (22%) as females (12%) study beyond Standard 10.

As Figure 12 shows, there are no marked differences in access to educational opportunities between African males in the province and their counterparts in the country as a whole. Nevertheless, some slight differences are noticeable in the relatively higher proportion who have received some upper primary school education (Standards 3 to 5) where the proportion in the province is 21% compared to 19% in the country as a whole. The reverse appears to be the case, albeit on a lower scale, in the case of Standard 10, where the national proportion is 15% compared with 13% in the province.



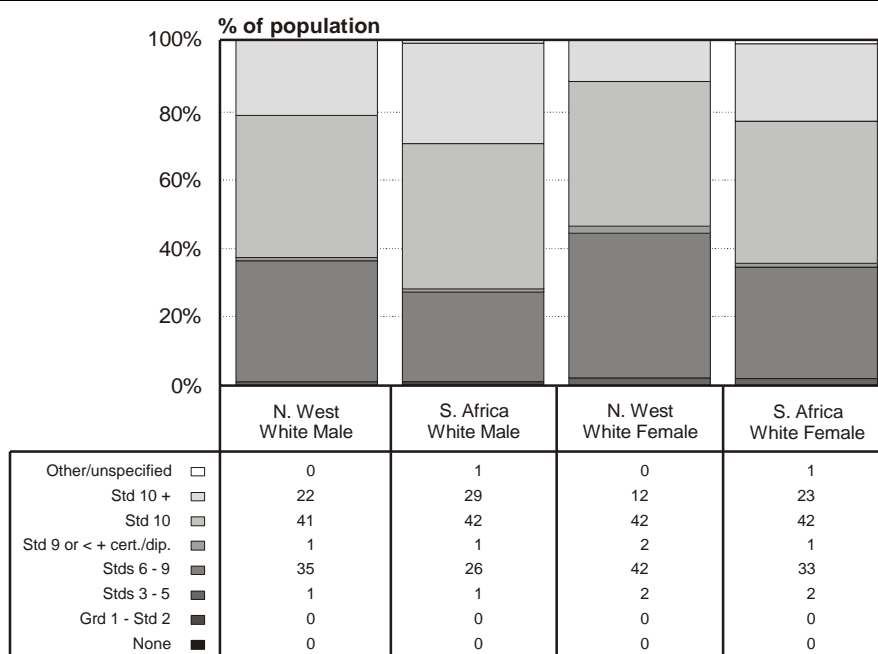
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 12: Level of education of Africans 20 years and older in North West and in South Africa by gender

As Figure 12 shows, there are also no marked differences in the educational attainment of African females in the province and in the country as a whole. However, some slight differences may be noted in the proportions of females who completed upper primary (24% in the province compared with 20% nationally) and also those who completed secondary school below Standard 10.

Differences exist in the educational attainment of whites in North West compared with that of whites in the country as a whole (Figure 13). These differences are mainly at secondary school level (below Standard 10) as well as at post-secondary school level (above Standard 10). The proportions of males who completed some secondary school (Standards 6-9) are greater in the province than in the country as a whole (35% compared with 26%). On the other hand, the proportion of white males who completed some post-secondary school or institution in the province is below the national level (22% compared with 29%).

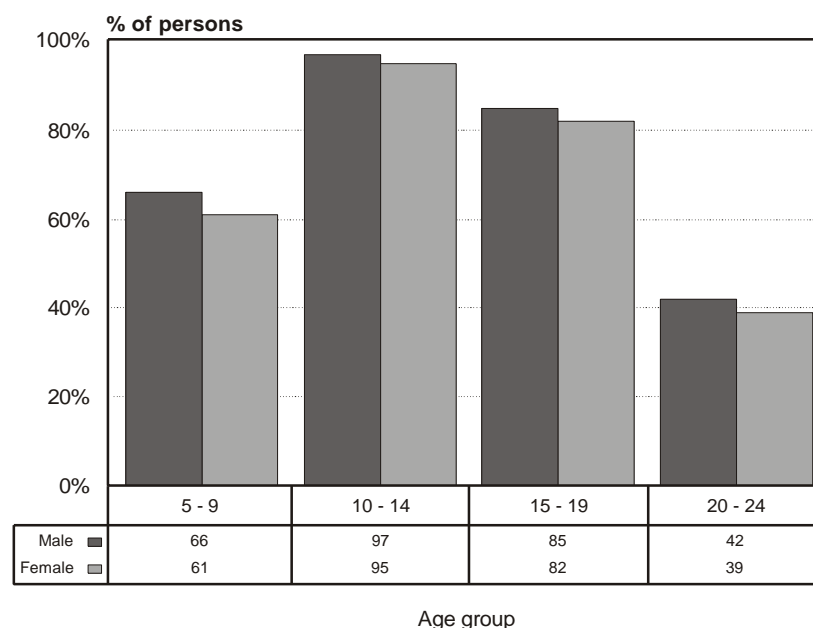
A similar trend is discernible between white females in the province and those in the country as a whole. There are proportionately more females in the province who attained some secondary school education (Standards 6-9) than there are in the country as a whole (42% compared to 33%). However, at post-secondary level, the proportion of females in the province is almost half that of the country as a whole (12% compared with 23%).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 13: Level of education of whites 20 years and older in North West and in South Africa by gender

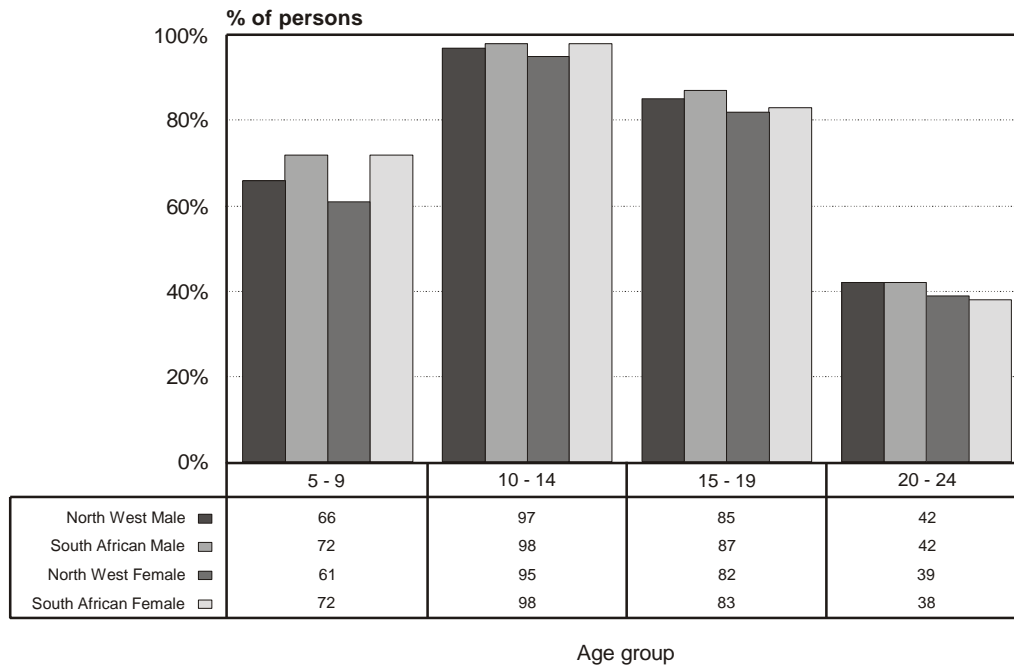
Figures 14, 15 and 16 show the age distribution of persons who were attending educational institutions such as schools, colleges, universities, technikons, and so on. Figure 14 shows relatively small, but consistent, differences in attendance at educational institutions according to gender when all population groups are considered together. Although the difference appears small, nevertheless the proportions of females in the four age groups are consistently lower than the corresponding ones for males, implying that proportionately more males than females attend educational institutions. The difference between gender proportions in the youngest age group is the greatest of all, most probably because some female children start school relatively late.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 14: Persons 5-24 years attending educational institutions in North West by 5-year age groups and gender

Figure 15 compares gender proportions in each age category between North West and South Africa as a whole among those aged 5 to 24 years attending an educational institution. With the exception of age group 5-9 years, the differences between gender proportions in the province and those in the country as a whole are generally negligible.

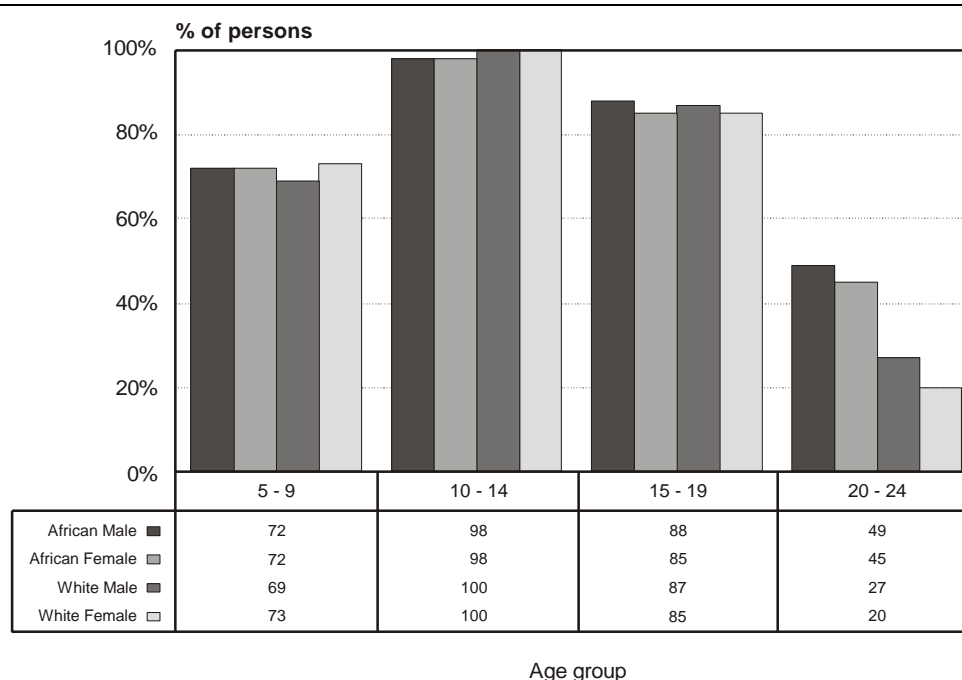


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 15: Persons aged 5-24 years attending educational institutions in North West and South Africa by 5-year age groups and gender

Figure 16 also focuses on those aged 5 to 24 years attending an educational institution, but introduces population group into the age distribution by gender. Differences between the gender proportions in the four age groups are generally smaller for Africans than for whites. Gender differences among Africans appear for the first time in age category 15-19 and continue into age category 20-24 years. For whites, however, gender differences in the attendance of educational institutions start in age category 5-9 (69% for males and 73% for females). It is only in age category 10-14 that the proportions become the same (100% each).

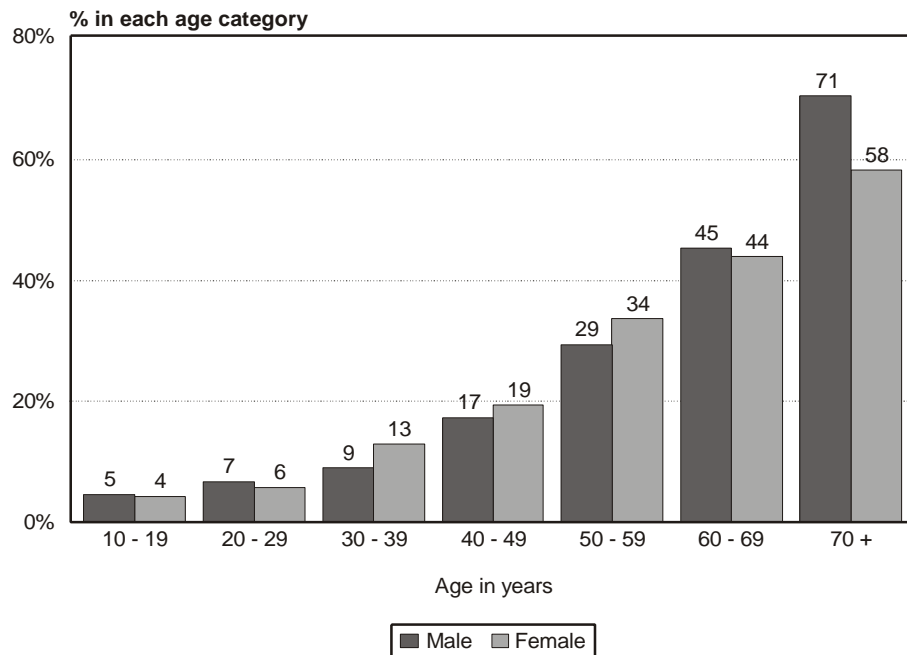
- In age group 15-19 years, the trend for whites is similar to that of Africans.
- A proportionately larger number of Africans (49% of males and 45% of females) tended to remain in educational institutions in age category 20-24 years than whites did (27% of males and 20% of females).
- Proportionately more African and white females end their educational careers earlier than their male counterparts. However, white females tend to end their educational career earlier than their African counterparts. Reasons for this are not clear, but may be due to the presence of an historically black university in the province.
- It would appear that, at one stage, especially in age group 10-14 years, practically all white children have attended school, whereas 2% of African children have not attended school.
- Finally, it is also not clear why white females appear to have started school earlier than their male counterparts (73% in age group 5-9 years compared to 69%).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 16: Africans and whites aged 5-24 years attending educational institutions in North West by 5-year age groups and gender

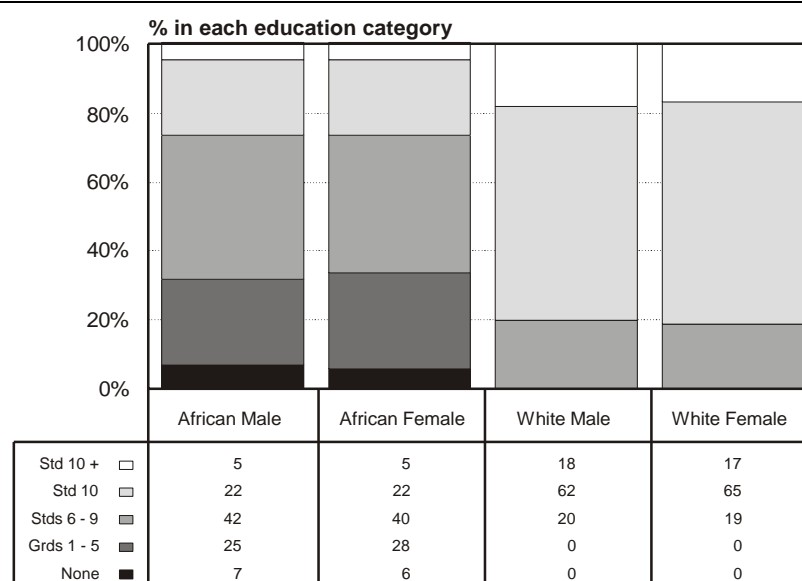
Extensive resources are needed to provide the large number of children in South Africa with adequate education. In this section, the proportion of children who did not attend school is estimated. In 1995 in North West, 4% of African children aged 10 to 19 years received no schooling at all. Among the other races, all children of this age group attended school. Figure 17 indicates that, with the exception of those aged 70 or more years, the percentage of Africans with no schooling fluctuates for males and females across age groups. It is also clear that this percentage has decreased steadily over time. In other words, proportionately more children are entering school to obtain at least some basic education. At the same time, the older the age cohort, the larger the proportion of non-school attendees.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 17: Percentage of Africans in North West who have received no education by age and gender

A closer look at the age group which is entering the employment market (those aged 20 to 29 years) reveals that one in 16 Africans (6%) has had no schooling, and one in four (26%) has had some education but less than Standard 6 (see Figure 18). All in all, about three-quarters of Africans have not passed Standard 10, in contrast with 19% of whites. Post-school qualifications have been obtained by 5% of Africans and 17% of whites. These statistics compare unfavourably with those of the corresponding age group in the whole country. In South Africa as a whole, 5% of Africans aged 20 to 29 years have had no schooling whilst 21% have had some education but less than Standard 6. Sixty-nine percent of Africans and 17% of whites have not passed Standard 10. Seven percent of Africans and 28% of whites have obtained post-school qualifications.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 18: Level of education in North West by population group and gender among those aged 20 to 29 years

Employment

The economically active population

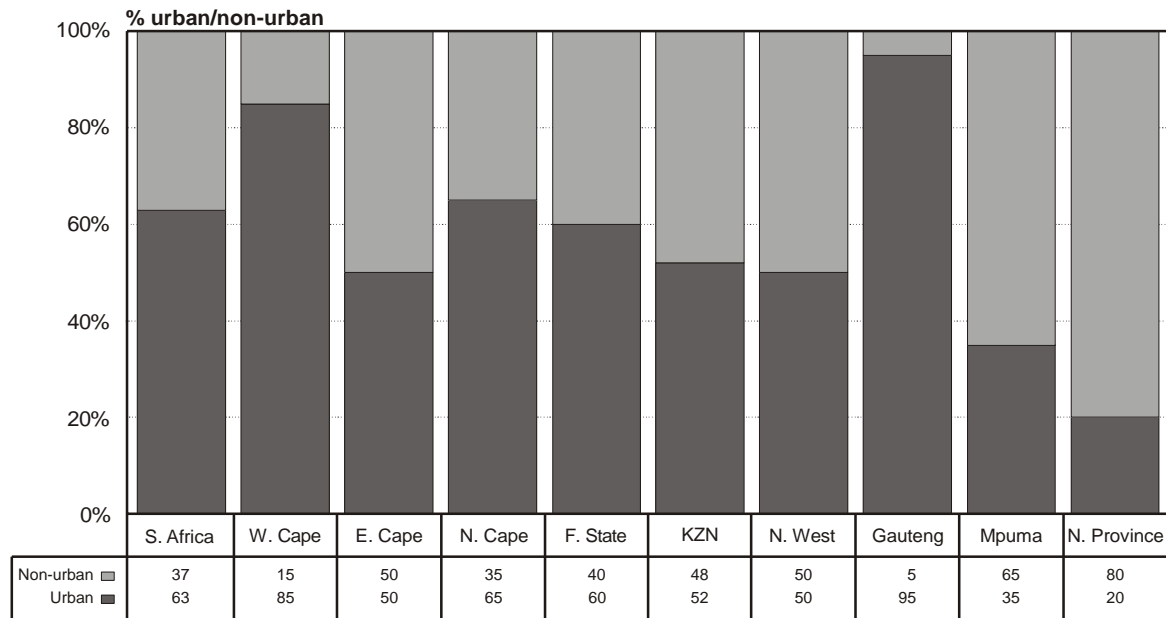
The term 'economically active' refers to all those who are available for work. It includes both the employed and the unemployed. People who are not available for work, such as those under the age of 15 years, students, housewives, pensioners, disabled persons and others who are permanently unable to work, are excluded from the definition of the economically active population. Worldwide, they are regarded as being outside the labour market.

In October 1995, the size of the economically active population in North West was estimated to be 8% of the country's total economically active population. This makes the province, together with Northern Province, fifth in rank after Gauteng (25%), KwaZulu-Natal (19%), Western Cape (12%) and Eastern Cape (12%). It is followed by Free State (7%), Mpumalanga (7%) and Northern Cape (2%), respectively.

Regarding the economically active population as a proportion of a province's total population, North West's proportion of 34% compares well with the national proportion of 35%. Nevertheless, the province ranks fifth behind Gauteng (51%), Western Cape (46%), Free State (39%) and Northern Cape (38%). It is followed by Mpumalanga (32%), KwaZulu-Natal (31%), Eastern Cape (26%) and Northern Province (20%).

In October 1995, 52% of people aged 15 years or more in North West were reported to be economically active. Of those economically active, 67% reported that they were gainfully employed, either in formal or informal work; the remaining 33% indicated that they were unemployed. These percentages are slightly lower than those for the country. In the whole of South Africa, approximately 55% of the people aged 15 years or more were reported to be economically active; and of the economically active people, 71% reported that they were gainfully employed.

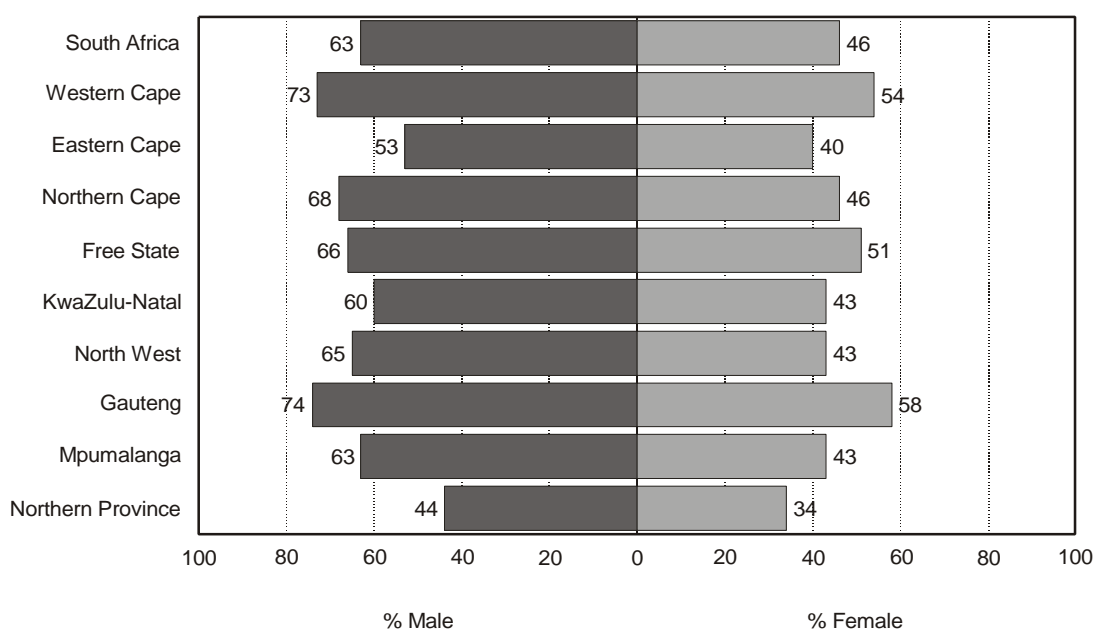
The proportional distribution of the economically active persons in urban and non-urban areas both in the country as a whole and in the provinces is shown in Figure 19. With regard to urban areas, North West shares sixth place with Eastern Cape at 50% each. North West is not only noticeably below the national proportion of 63%, it follows after five provinces – Gauteng (95%), Western Cape (85%), Northern Cape (65%), Free State (60%) and KwaZulu-Natal (52%). Mpumalanga (35%) and Northern Province (20%) bring up the rear.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 19: Proportions of the economically active persons in urban and non-urban areas in South Africa and the provinces

Amongst those aged 15 years or more, gender differences exist in the distribution of the proportions of the economically active persons within North West, the rest of the provinces, and South Africa as a whole (Figure 20). The male-female proportions in North West are 65% and 43%, respectively. This is very close to South Africa as a whole where 63% of males and 46% of females are economically active. In Gauteng, however, at the upper end 74% of males and 58% of females aged 15 years or more are economically active. This is the highest proportion of economic activity in the country. The lowest proportion of economically active people 15 years or more is found in Northern Province, where only 44% of males and 34% of females are in this category.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 20: Proportions of economically active persons in South Africa and the provinces by gender amongst those aged 15 years or more

The unemployed

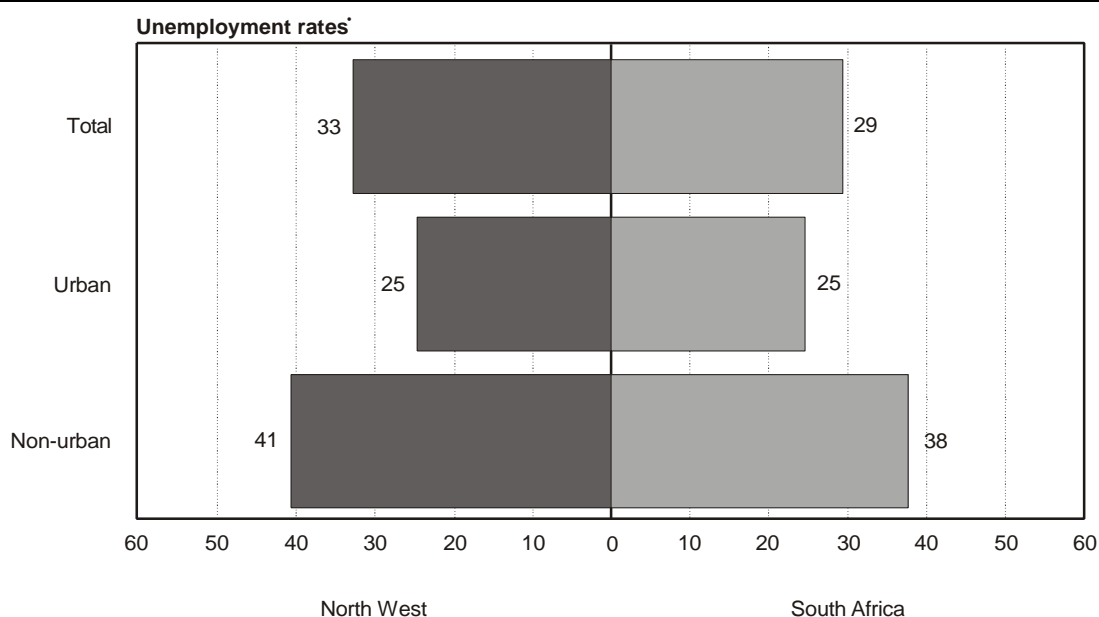
At least two definitions of unemployment are used in South Africa – the *strict* and the *expanded* definition. Both include people aged 15 years or older who are not employed but are available for work. A requirement of the *strict* definition is that an individual has taken specific steps to seek employment in the four weeks prior to a given point in time. The *expanded* definition focuses on the desire to work, irrespective of whether or not the person has taken active steps to find work.

Using the *strict* definition, about 17% of the economically active sector in North West in 1995 were unemployed. According to the *expanded* definition, almost double this proportion (33%) were unemployed. These unemployment rates are slightly higher than those for the country as a whole, namely 17% and 29% , respectively.

It has been widely recognised that the strict definition is too limited in the present South African context, where employment opportunities are limited and many unemployed people have ceased to seek work actively. Transport and other costs entailed in job-seeking, often with negative results, have discouraged people from going out and seeking work. In other words, there are people who would readily accept work but have given up seeking it because the process is too costly. The World Bank calls these people ‘the discouraged’ unemployed.

Stats SA thus defines the unemployment rate in terms of the *expanded* definition. It is the proportion of people in the economically active population who are not in paid employment or self-employment at a given point in time, but who are available for work or for other income-generating activities and who want to be employed or self-employed. *The following discussion on unemployment is based on the expanded definition.*⁴

According to Figure 21, the unemployment rate in North West is slightly higher than the national rate – 33% versus 29%. Unemployment rates are clearly unequal between urban and non-urban areas within the province. The rate is higher in non-urban areas (41%) than it is in urban areas (25%). While the urban rate in the province is basically equal to the national rate (25% each), the provincial and national non-urban rates are slightly different. The rate is slightly higher in the province (41%) than in the country as a whole (38%).



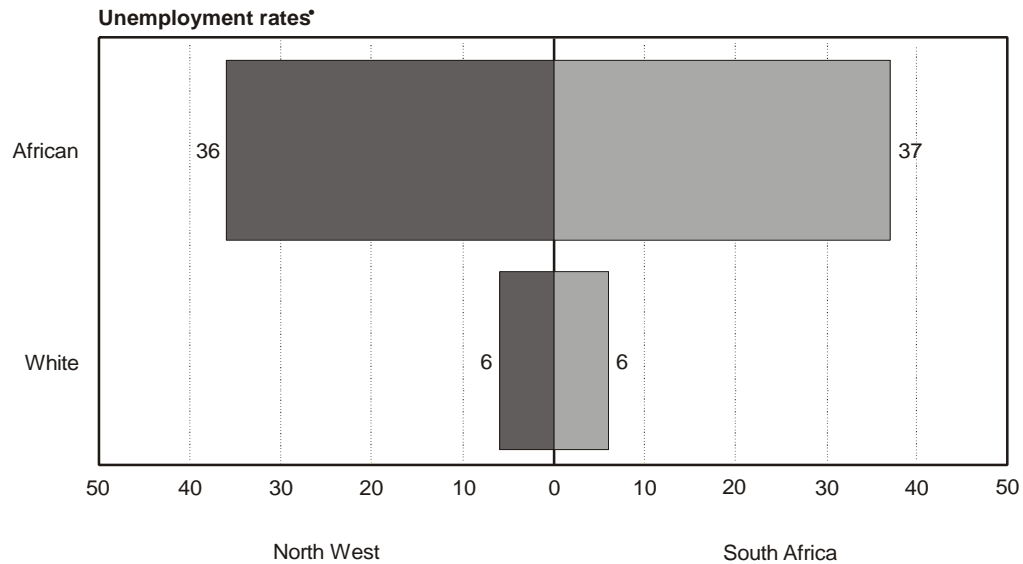
• Expanded definition

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 21: Unemployment rates in North West and in South Africa

⁴ Since this report was written, Stats SA has moved to accepting the 'strict' definition as the official definition, although it will continue to report on both definitions.

There are significant variations in the employment rate of population groups in the province. The unemployment rate for Africans in the province is 36% whereas it is only 6% for whites. This is very similar to the national rates of 37% for Africans, and 6% for whites (Figure 22). In other words, for every unemployed white, there are six unemployed Africans both in North West and in South Africa as a whole.

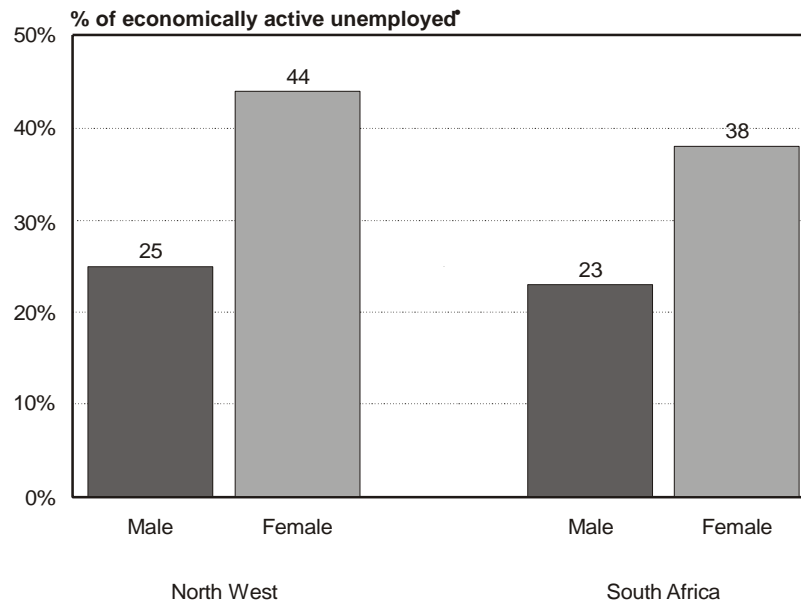


• Expanded definition

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 22: Unemployment rates for Africans and whites in North West and in South Africa

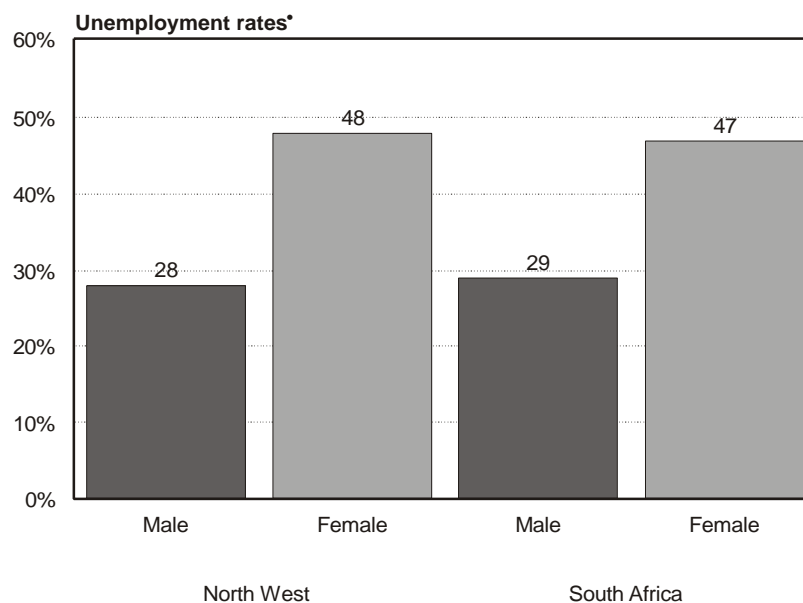
The unemployment rate in North West varies by gender, the rate for males (25%) being considerably lower than that for females (44%) (Figure 23). These provincial rates are comparable to those of the country as a whole (23% for males and 38% for females). Nevertheless, the difference in the provincial rates is four percentage points higher than the national rates. Among Africans, unemployment rates by gender are very similar to the national unemployment rates – 28% for males and 48% for females in the province, compared to 29% for males and 47% for females in the country as a whole (Figure 24). Among whites, the provincial and national unemployment rates are more or less equal – 4% for males and 9% for females in the province, compared with 4% for males and 8% for females in the country as a whole (Figure 25).



• Expanded definition

Source: October household survey, 1995

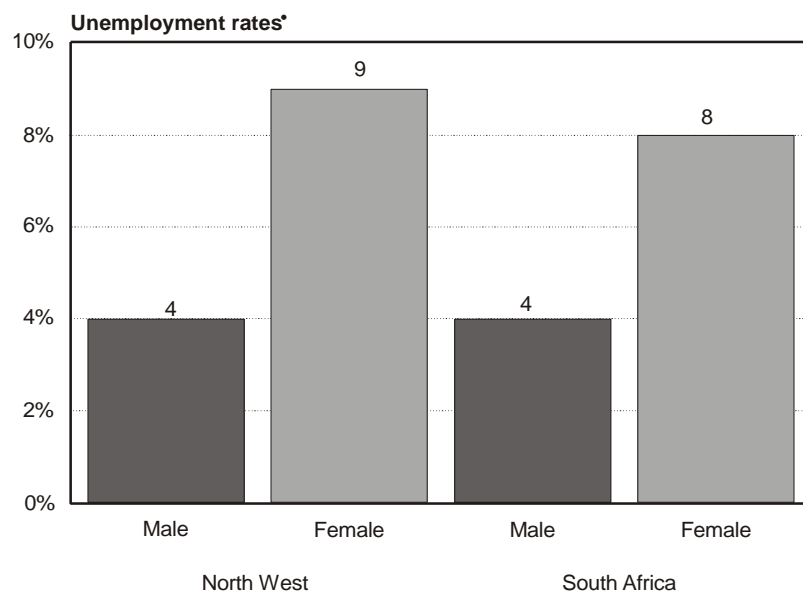
Figure 23: Unemployment rates in North West and in South Africa by gender



• Expanded definition

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 24: Unemployment rates of Africans in North West and in South Africa by gender



• Expanded definition

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 25: Unemployment rates of whites in North West and in South Africa by gender

Unemployment rates for both males and females are higher in non-urban areas (41%) than urban areas (25%). Over half (54%) of economically active females in non-urban areas are unemployed compared to 33% in urban areas (Figure 26). For males, the unemployment rates are 31% and 20% respectively. South Africa's overall rates are slightly lower than those in North West. The unemployment rates in the non-urban areas (38%) of the country are higher than in the urban areas (25%). One in two (50%) economically active females in non-urban areas is unemployed compared with 31% in the urban areas. Amongst males, the unemployment rates nationally are 27% and 20% respectively.

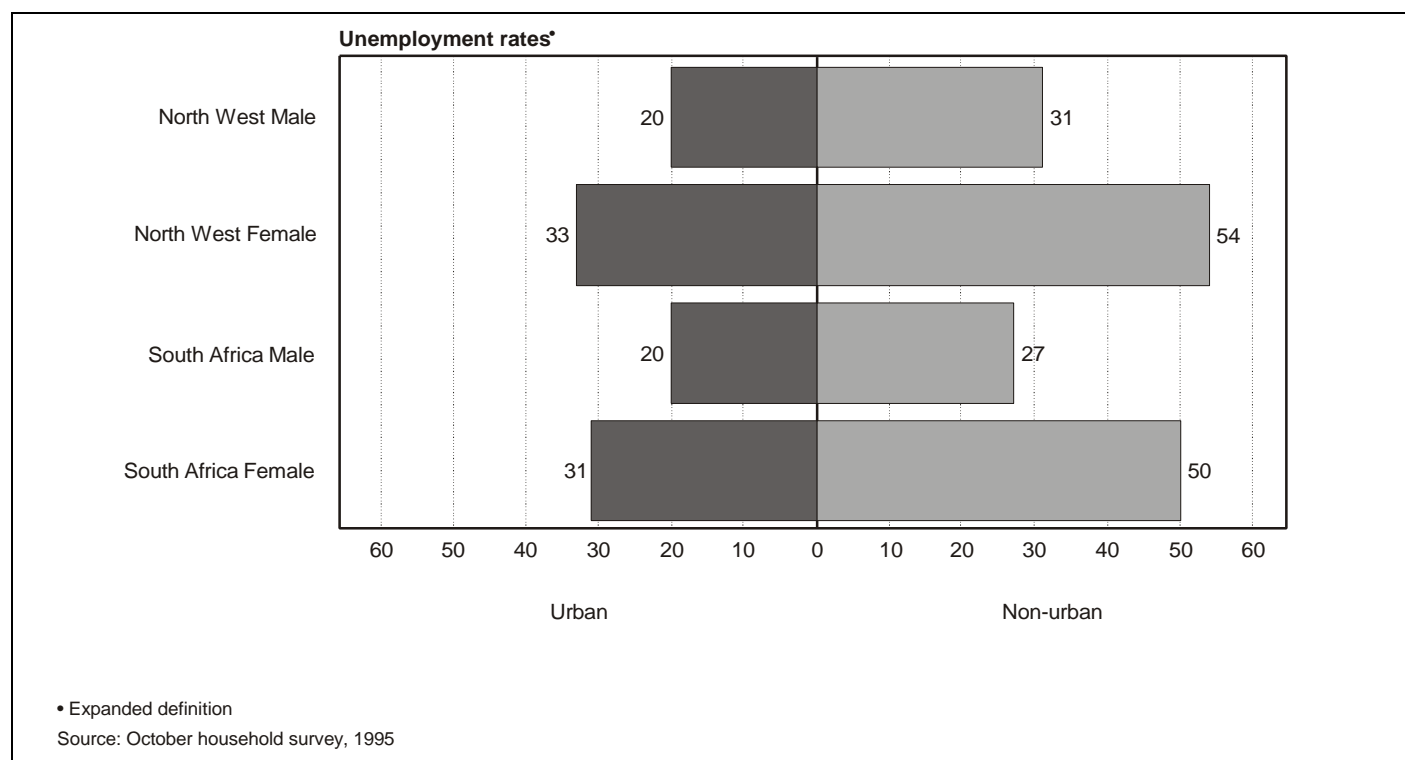


Figure 26: Unemployment rates in North West and in South Africa by urban and non-urban areas and gender

Variation in unemployment rates between urban and non-urban areas, as well as by gender, is evident in the racial differentiation of the population. Figure 27 shows unemployment rates among Africans in North West by gender in both urban and non-urban areas. The rates between males and females in urban areas differ by 15 percentage points – a rate of 24% for males compared with a rate of 39% for females.

Differences in employment rates between African males and females in non-urban areas in North West are the greatest of all (Figure 27). A rate of 32% for males differs by 22 percentage points from the females' unemployment rate of 54%. Differences between urban and non-urban areas are also evident. Males in urban areas have a lower unemployment rate (24%) than males in non-urban areas (32%). Females in urban areas have a lower unemployment rate (39%) than in non-urban areas (54%). These trends are nationally replicated. Except perhaps for males in non-urban areas – where unemployment rates in the province are 24% and 28% respectively – the provincial and the national rates are quite close (Figure 28).

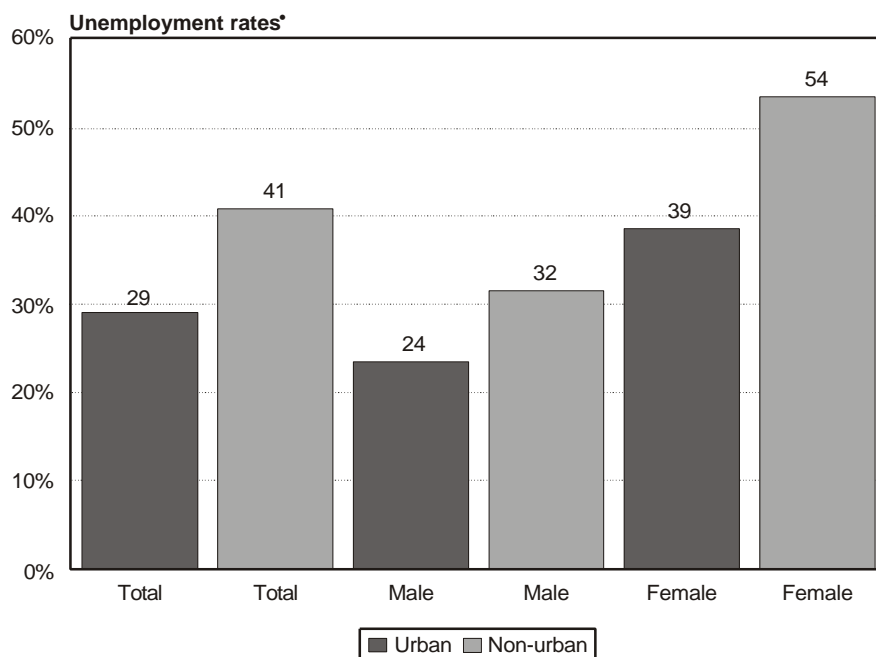


Figure 27: Unemployment rates among Africans in North West by urban, non-urban areas and gender

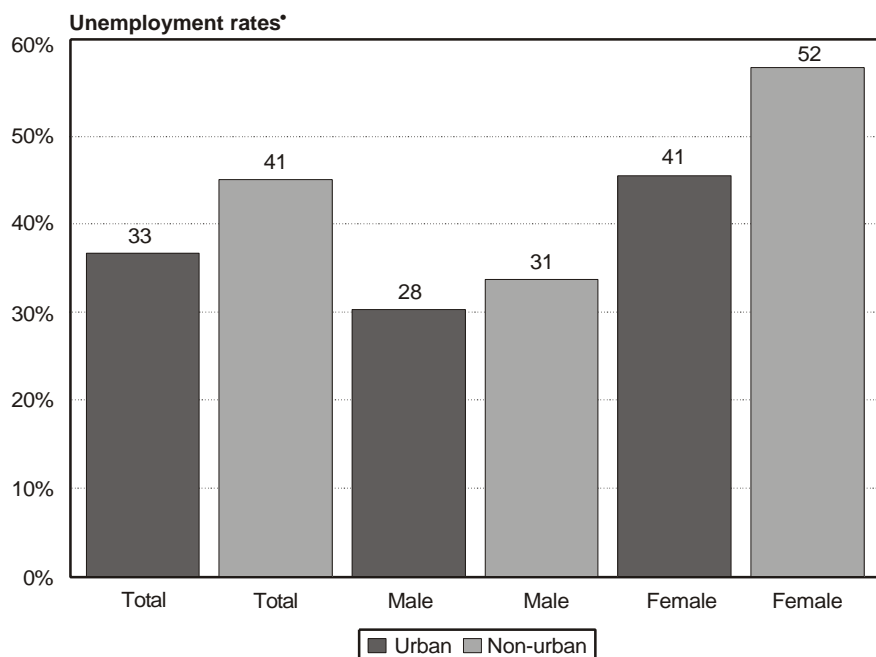


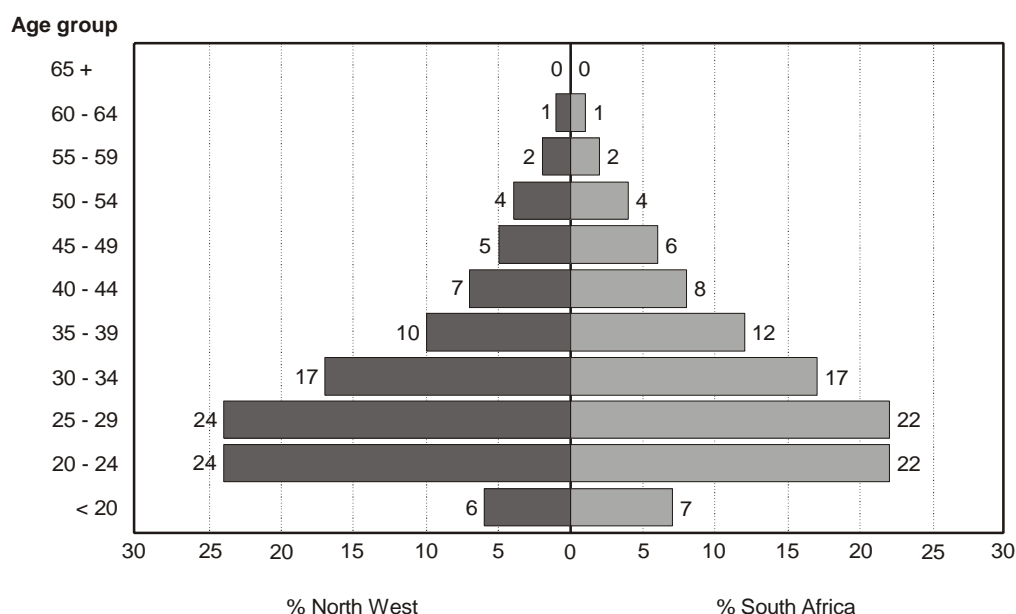
Figure 28: Unemployment rates among Africans in South Africa by urban, non-urban areas and gender

Two conclusions emerge from this section. First, economically active Africans in urban areas are associated with relatively lower unemployment rates than their counterparts living in non-urban areas. Second, males are associated with lower unemployment rates than females, irrespective of whether the former are in urban or non-urban areas.

A similar analysis of unemployment by gender and in urban/non-urban areas is not possible among whites because there are too few non-urban whites in the sample to sustain this breakdown.

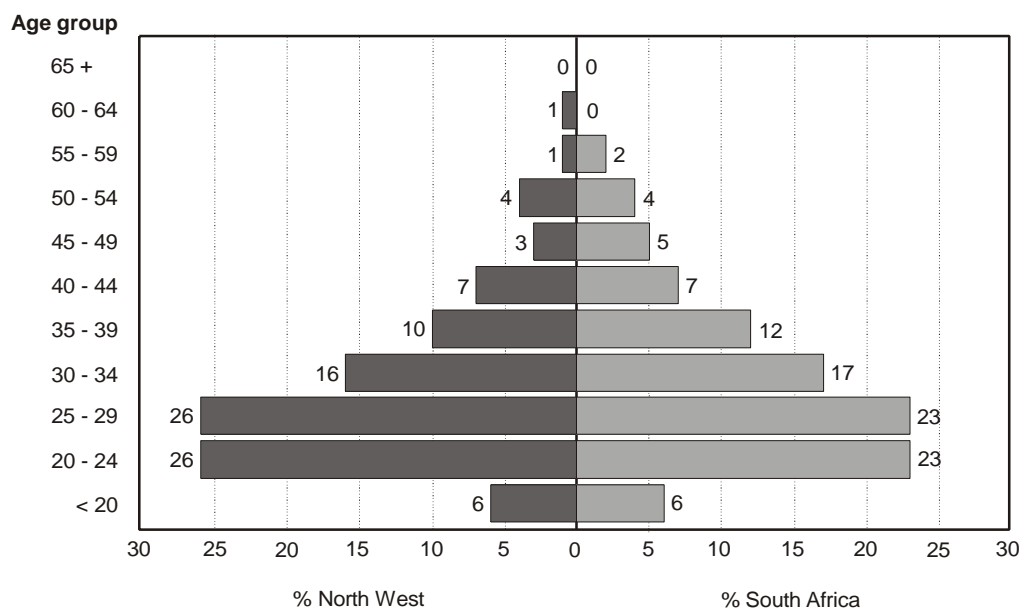
Figures 29, 30 and 31 show the age distribution of the unemployed in both North West and South Africa as a whole. Figure 29 shows that, in both cases, the majority of the unemployed are below 35 years of age – 71% in the case of North West and 68% in the case of the country as a whole. The two age groups which account for the greatest proportion of the unemployed are 20-24 years and 25-29 years, each accounting for 24% of the unemployed in the province, and 22% for the country as a whole. The proportions of the unemployed below 20 years of age are small (6% for the province and 7% for South Africa as a whole) presumably because most of them are still in school. There are two main points here. First, the greatest proportion of the unemployed is young. Second, the province is only slightly worse off than the country as a whole.

Figure 30 shows the age distribution of the unemployed in urban areas. The distribution is similar to that in Figure 29, with the exception that proportions of the unemployed in the age groups 20-24 years and 25-29 years are more pronounced, at 26% each. In North West, 74% of the unemployed are below the age of 34 years, while the corresponding proportion in South Africa is 69%.



Source: October household survey, 1995

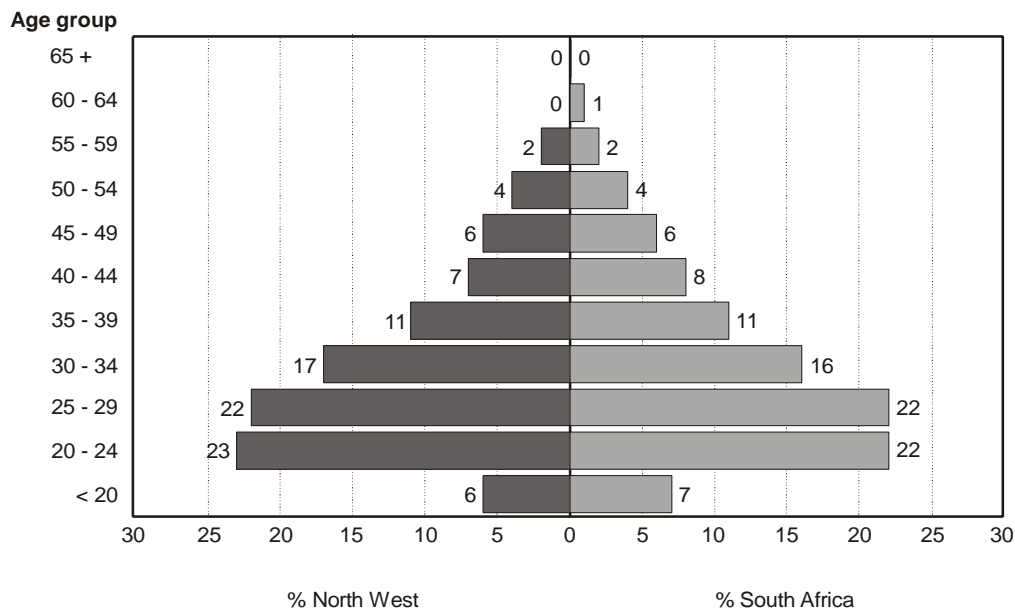
Figure 29: Unemployed persons in North West and in South Africa by age group



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 30: Unemployed persons in urban areas in North West and in South Africa by age group

Figure 31, which indicates unemployment in non-urban areas of North West and in South Africa as a whole, shows trends similar to those reflected in Figures 29 and 30; however, the similarity is closer to Figure 29 than it is to Figure 30. This means that there are relatively more unemployed young persons in urban areas than in non-urban areas. Sixty-eight percent of the unemployed in the province is below the age of 35 years, compared to 67% in South Africa as a whole.

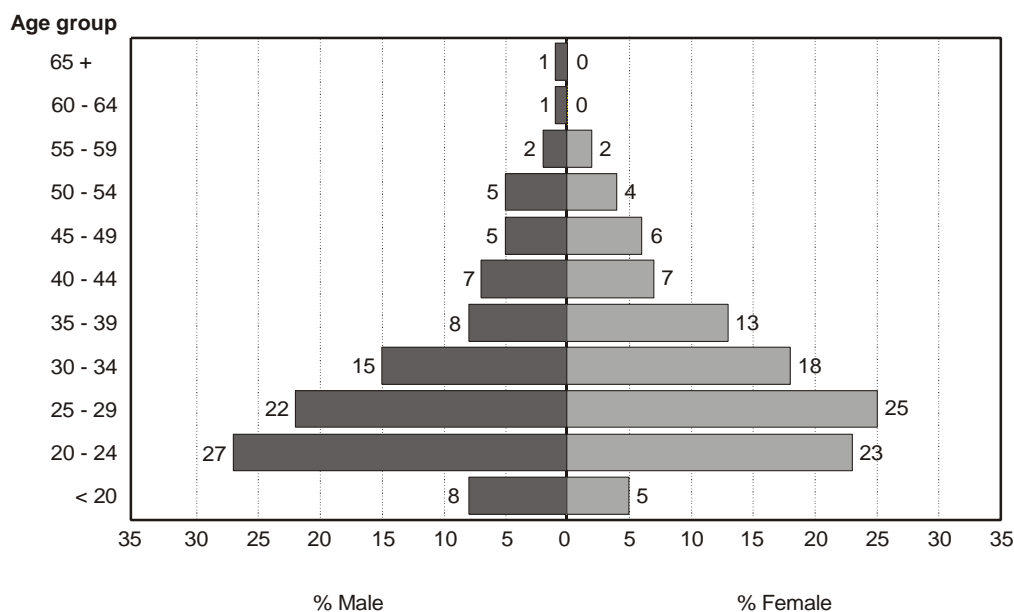


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 31: Unemployed persons in non-urban areas in North West and in South Africa by age group

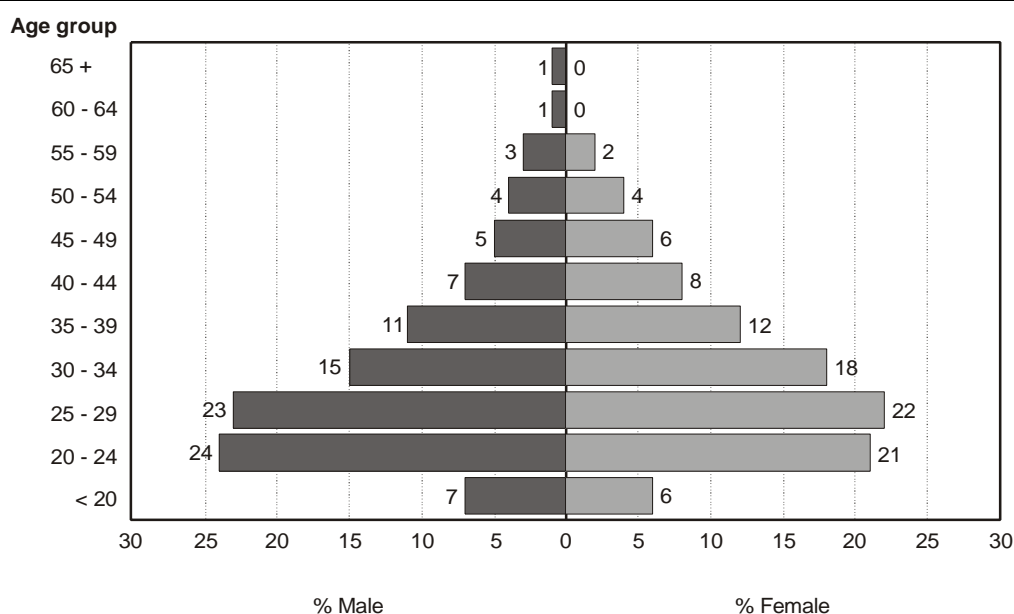
Figures 32, 34 and 36 show the age distributions by gender of the unemployed in North West as a whole, and in the province's urban and non-urban areas. Figures 33, 35 and 37 show the corresponding distributions in South Africa as a whole. While the distributions are generally similar, the highest proportions of the unemployed both by gender and geographic location (urban and non-urban) are in different age groups. For males, the age group with the highest proportion of the unemployed is 20-24 years in all the three distributions – 27% province-wide (Figure 32), 28% in urban areas (Figure 34) and 26% in non-urban areas (Figure 36). In the case of females, however, the age group with the highest proportion of the unemployed is 25-29 years in all the three figures – 25% province-wide (Figure 32), 27% in urban areas (Figure 34) and 24% in non-urban areas (Figure 36).

In North West urban areas (Figure 34), 72% of the unemployed males and 77% of the unemployed females are below the age of 35 years. In North West non-urban areas (Figure 36), these proportions are 72% for males and 68% for females. Overall, there are more unemployed females below the age of 35 years in urban areas than they are in non-urban areas.



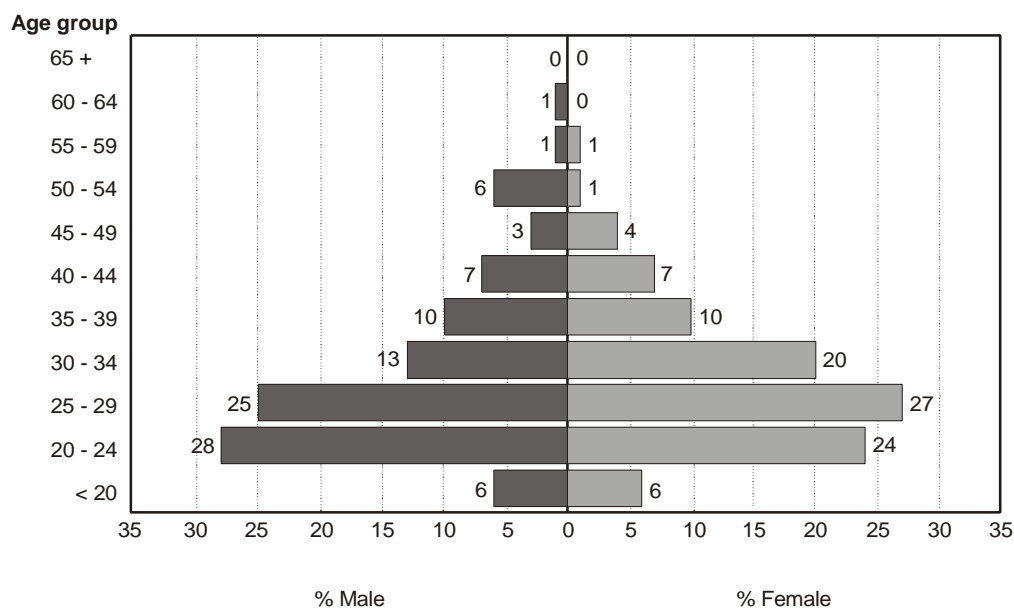
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 32: Unemployed persons in North West by age group and gender



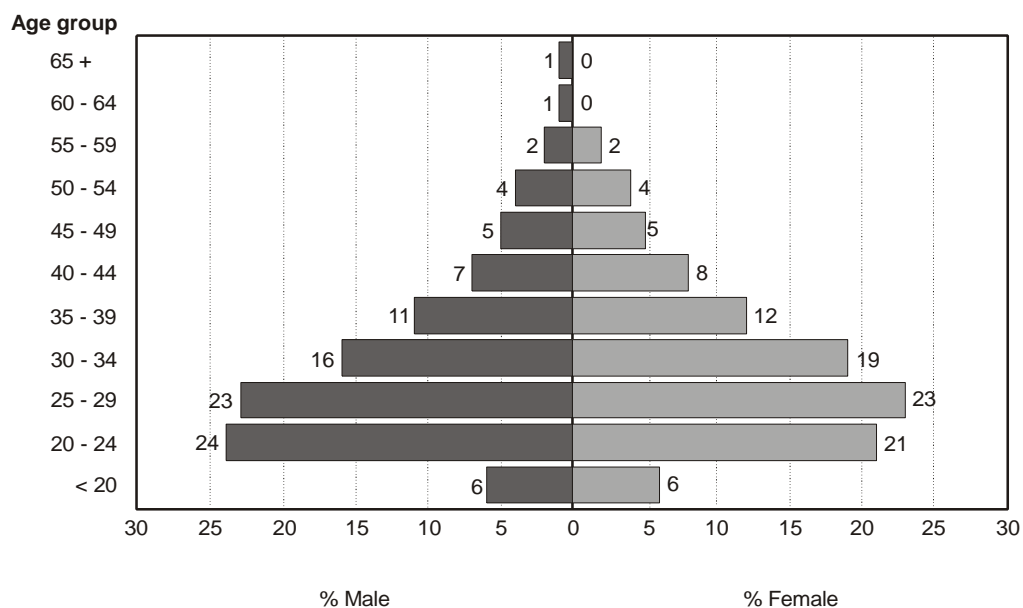
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 33: Unemployed persons in South Africa by age group and gender



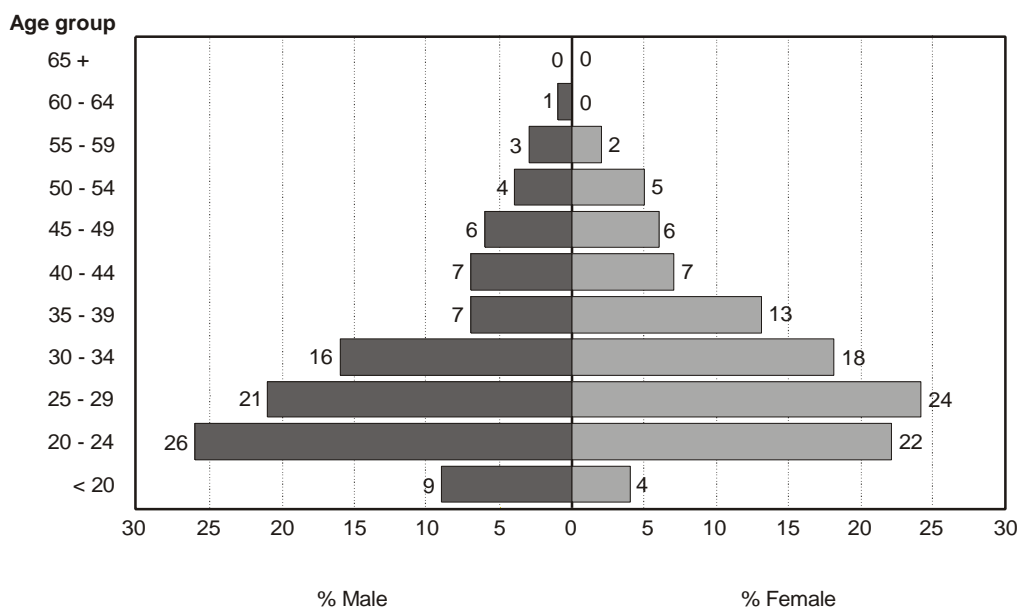
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 34: Unemployed persons in urban areas in North West by age group and gender



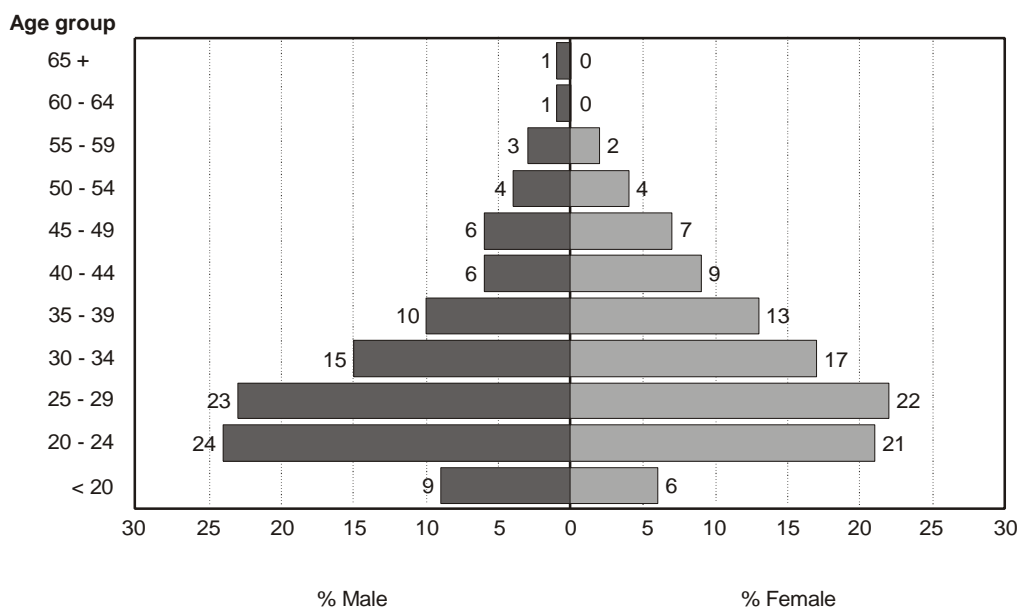
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 35: Unemployed persons in urban areas in South Africa by age group and gender



Source: October household survey, 1995

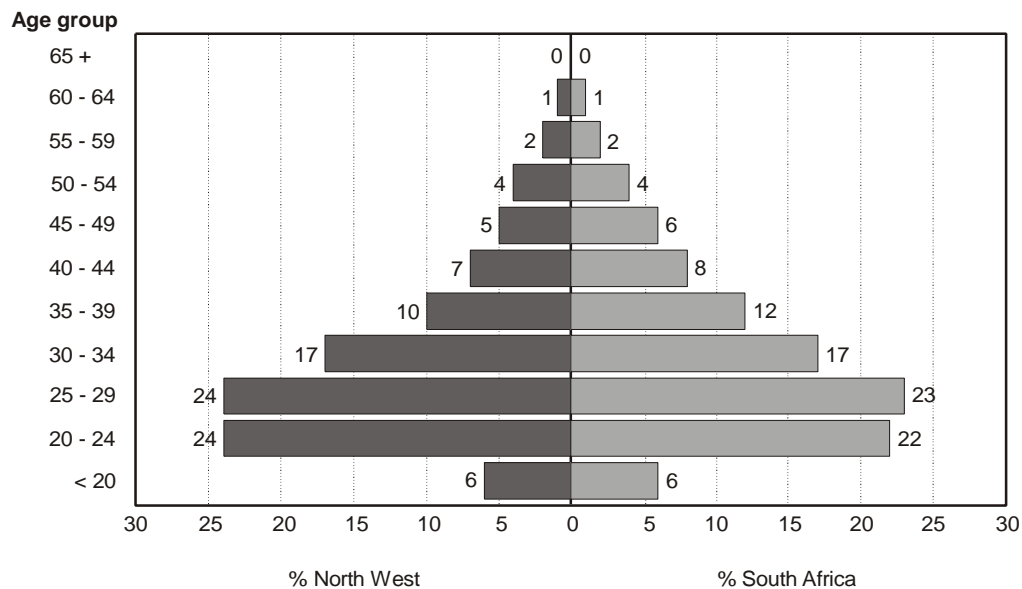
Figure 36: Unemployed persons in non-urban areas in North West by age group and gender



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 37: Unemployed persons in non-urban areas in South Africa by age group and gender

We now examine unemployment in North West and in South Africa as a whole by population group. The proportions of unemployed Africans below the age of 35 years both in North West (71%) and in South Africa as a whole (68%) are identical with those of the total unemployed. Even the distributions of these proportions by age group are practically identical. The point here is that African unemployment rates and their distributions by age group, both provincially and nationally, dominate the total unemployment rates.

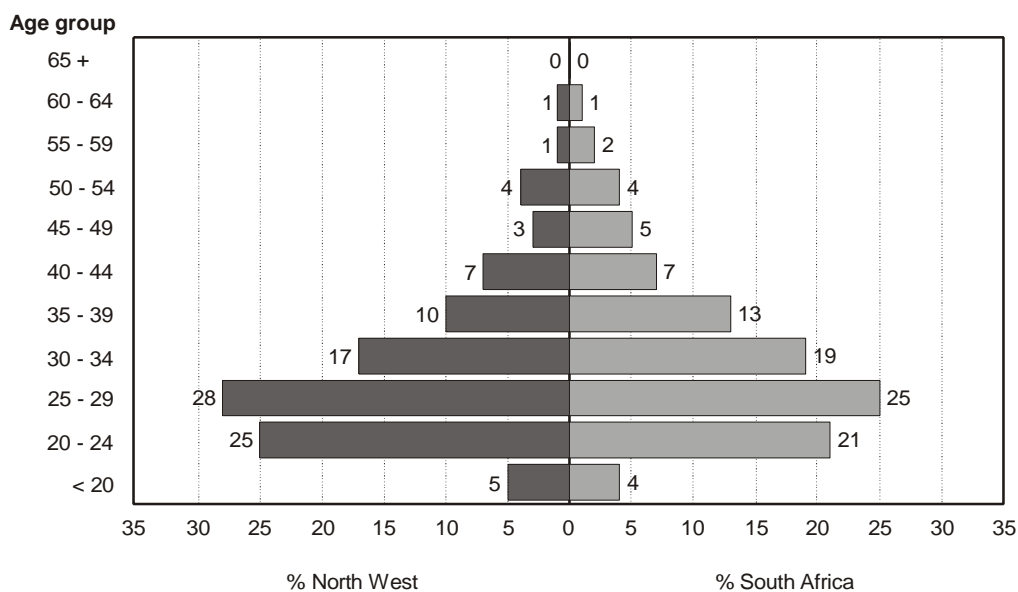


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 38: Unemployed Africans in North West and in South Africa by age group

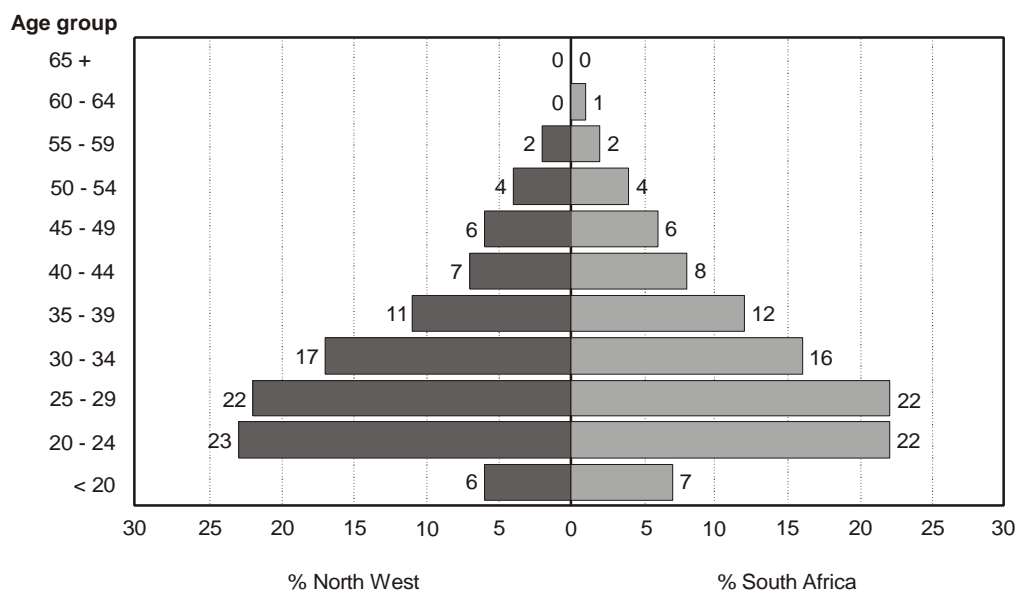
Among Africans, we now compare urban and non-urban differences in unemployment by age, in North West and South Africa. Figure 39 shows the proportions of unemployed Africans in urban areas by age group. While the overall proportions of the unemployed below 35 years of age in urban areas in both the province and the country as a whole are similar to those of the total unemployed (Figure 30), their distributions by age group are rather different. Among unemployed urban Africans, the age group with the greatest proportion of the unemployed is 25-29 years – 28% in the province and 25% in the country as a whole. In the case of total unemployment (Figure 30), there is little distinction between age groups 20-24 years (26% each) and 25-29 years (23% each).

The proportions of non-urban unemployed Africans, as well as their distributions by age group (Figure 40), are slightly different from those of the total unemployed both provincially and nationally (Figure 31). Thus, variation in the distribution of unemployment rates by age group varies principally in urban areas.



Source: October household survey, 1995

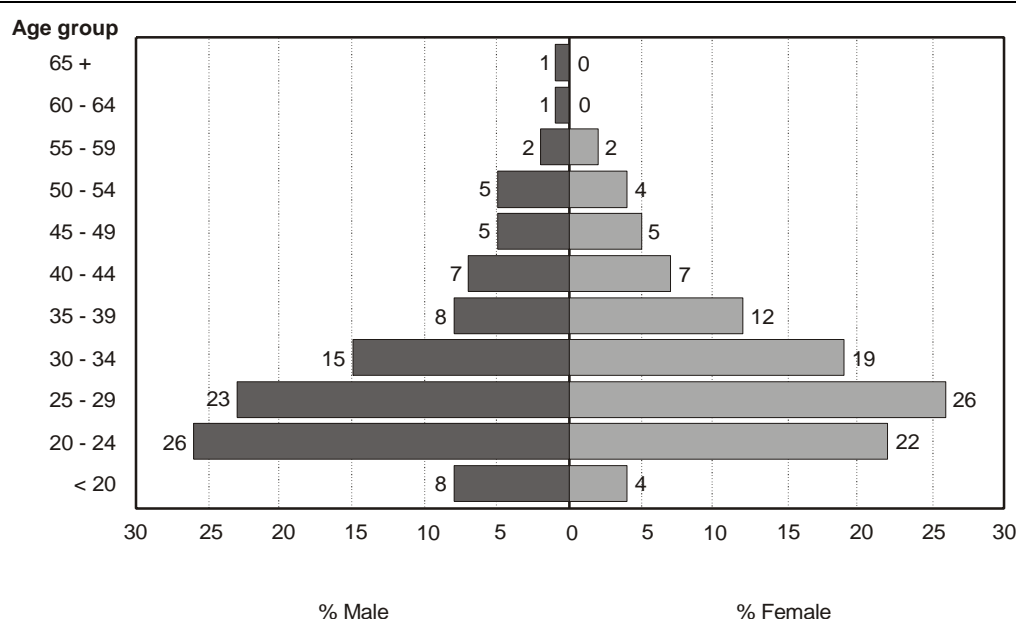
Figure 39: Unemployed urban Africans in North West and in South Africa by age group



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 40: Unemployed Africans in non-urban areas in North West and in South Africa by age group

We now take gender into account in unemployment rates by age and in urban or non-urban areas in North West. Figures 41, 42 and 43 show the age distribution by gender of the total unemployed African population, the unemployed Africans in urban areas, and the unemployed Africans in non-urban areas, respectively. In the case of the total population (Figure 41), proportions of the unemployed males and females who were less than 35 years of age are practically equal – 72% for males and 71% for females. Distributions by gender of the proportions of unemployed males and females by age group are similar to the previous patterns of the total unemployed in the province (see Figure 32). Age group 20-24 years still has the greatest proportion of unemployed males (26% compared with 27%) while age group 25-29 years has the greatest proportion of unemployed females (26% compared with 25%).

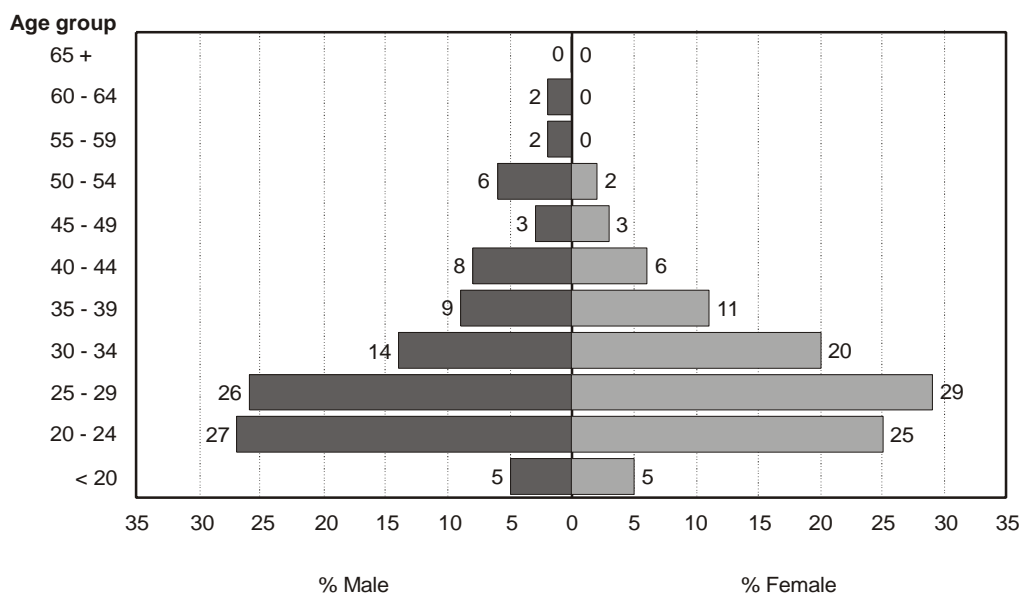


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 41: Unemployed Africans in North West by age group and gender

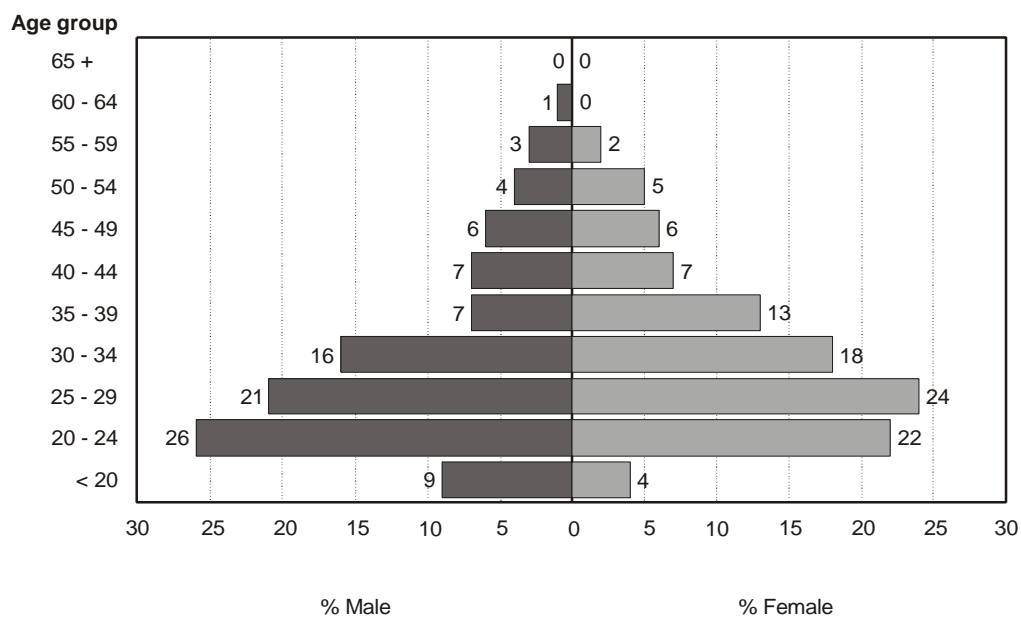
Differences exist in the proportions of unemployed males and females in urban areas under the age of 35 years in North West (Figure 42), as the proportion of males is 72% and that of females is 79%. In other words, in urban areas in the province, there is a tendency for proportionately more younger females to be unemployed than males. For males, age groups 20-24 and 25-29 years have not been distinctly differentiated as to which one has the greatest proportion of the unemployed. Although age group 20-24 years has a proportion of 27% while age group 25-29 years has a proportion of 26%, this one percent difference could be due to a sampling error. On the other hand, age group 25-29 years is relatively clearly the one with the greatest proportion (29%) of unemployed females.

Focusing on non-urban areas in North West, we find that there are proportionately more unemployed males under the age of 35 years than there are females in non-urban areas – 72% of males compared with 68% of females, respectively (Figure 43).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 42: Unemployed Africans in urban areas in North West by age group and gender

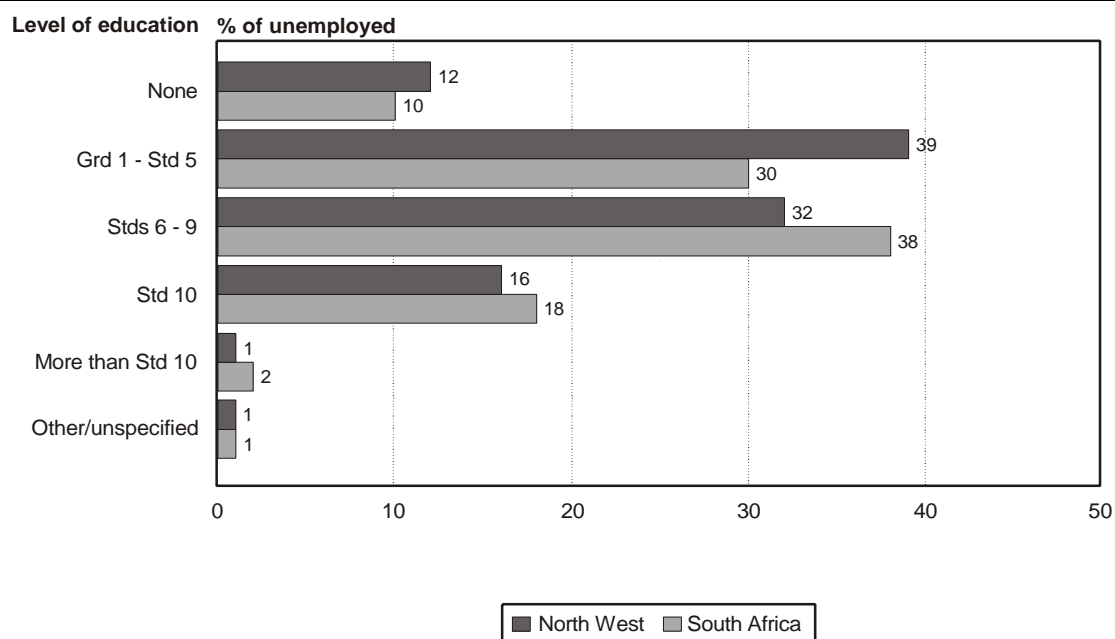


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 43: Unemployed Africans in non-urban areas in North West by age group and gender

There are, however, differences between urban and non-urban areas in North West in the proportions of the unemployed females under the age of 35 years. While the proportions for males remain constant at 72%, those for females change from 79% in urban areas to 68% in non-urban areas.

The educational distribution of the unemployed is shown in Figure 44 for both North West and South Africa as a whole. Thirty-nine percent of the unemployed in North West have had only primary school education (Grade 1 to Standard 5), followed (by 32%) who have had some secondary school education (Standards 6 to 9). Those with Standard 10 come third (16%), while those who have not been to school come fourth (12%). The relatively low proportion of the unemployed with no formal education may be explained by their relatively low proportion (12%) among the total unemployed.

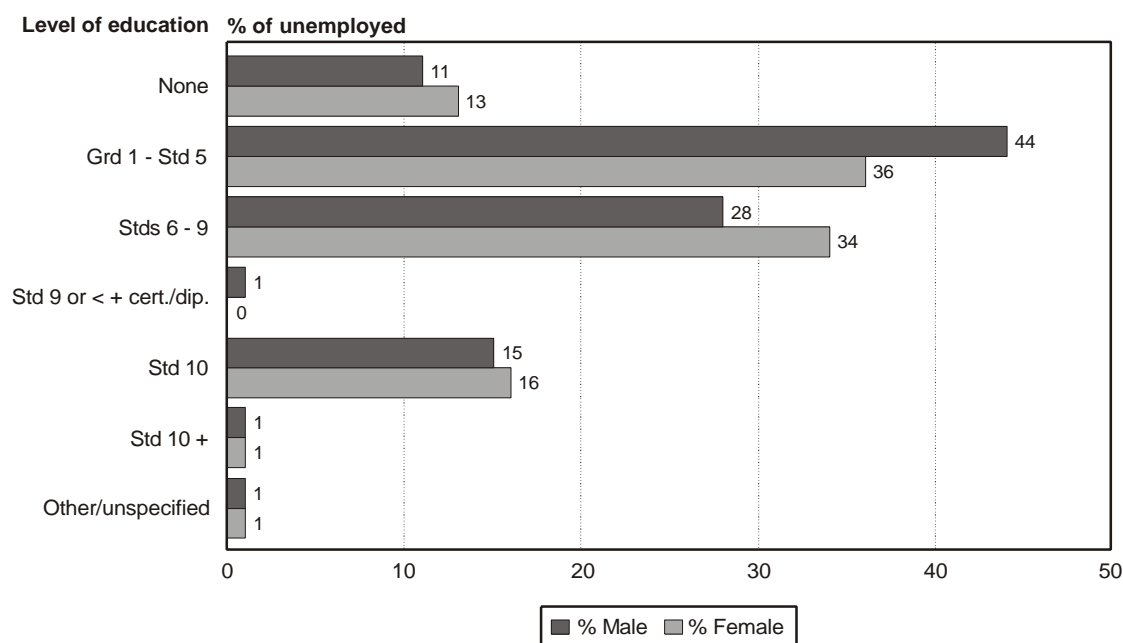


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 44: Level of education of the unemployed in North West and in South Africa

These proportions in North West follow a similar trend, with some variations, as those observed nationally. Among the unemployed nationally, 38% have completed some secondary education, compared with 32% in North West; while nationally only 30% have some primary school education compared with 39% in North West.

Exploration of the level of education of the unemployed by gender and by population group in North West is restricted to Africans due to their overwhelming presence among the unemployed. It is also partly because the proportion of the unemployed among whites is too small for meaningful analysis.



Source: October household survey, 1995

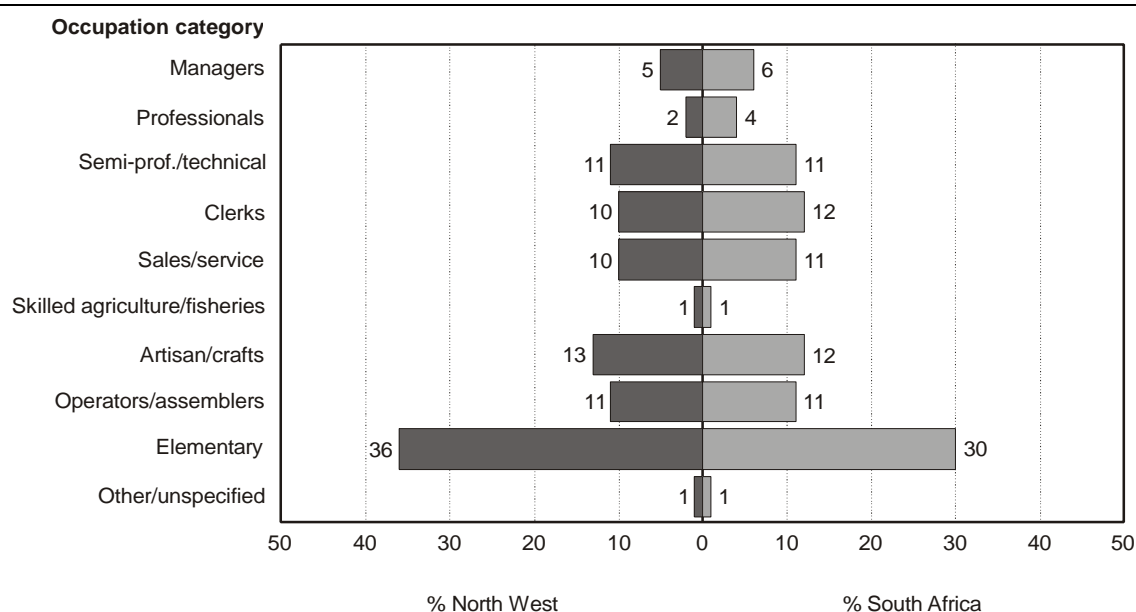
Figure 45: Level of education of unemployed Africans in North West by gender

In general, unemployed African males in North West have lower educational qualifications than unemployed African females. For example, Figure 45 shows that 44% of African males who were unemployed had some primary education (Grade 1 to Standard 5) compared to 36% of African females. On the other hand, as many as 34% of African females who were unemployed had some secondary education (Standard 6 to 9) compared with only 28% of males.

This differs from the national picture. In South Africa as a whole, the educational attainments of unemployed African males and females are similar. For example, 36% of unemployed African males, and 37% of unemployed African females have some secondary school (Standard 6 to 9), and 33% of unemployed African males, as against 31% of unemployed African females have some primary education (Grade 1 to Standard 5).

The employed

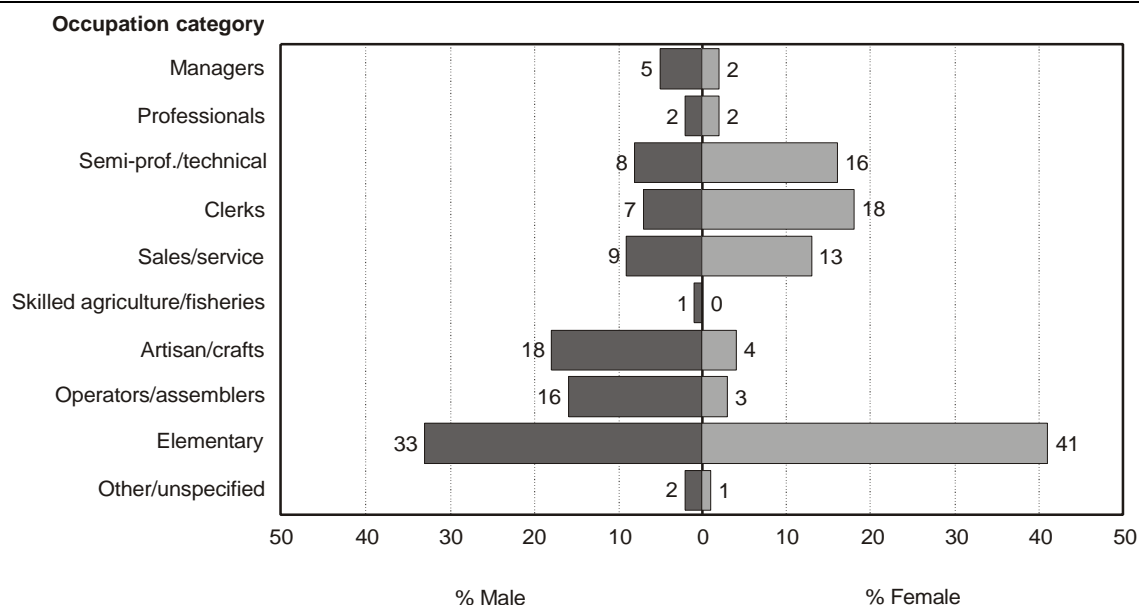
The pattern of occupations of those working (employers and employees) in North West is similar to that of the country as a whole (Figure 46). Of the nine occupational categories, that of elementary occupations dominates the rest. It accounts for 36% of those working (employers and employees) in the province, and 30% of all those working (employers and employees) in the country. The rest of those working (employers and employees) are fairly equally distributed among the other occupations, except for managers and professionals, who account for relatively small proportions – 5% of managers and 2% of professionals in the province, compared to 6% of managers and 4% of professionals in the country. Nevertheless, one notes the slight advantage the country as a whole has over the province with regard to the proportions of those working (employers and employees) in elementary occupations (such as cleaning, garbage collecting, agricultural labour, etc).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 46: Occupations of those working (employers and employees) in North West and in South Africa

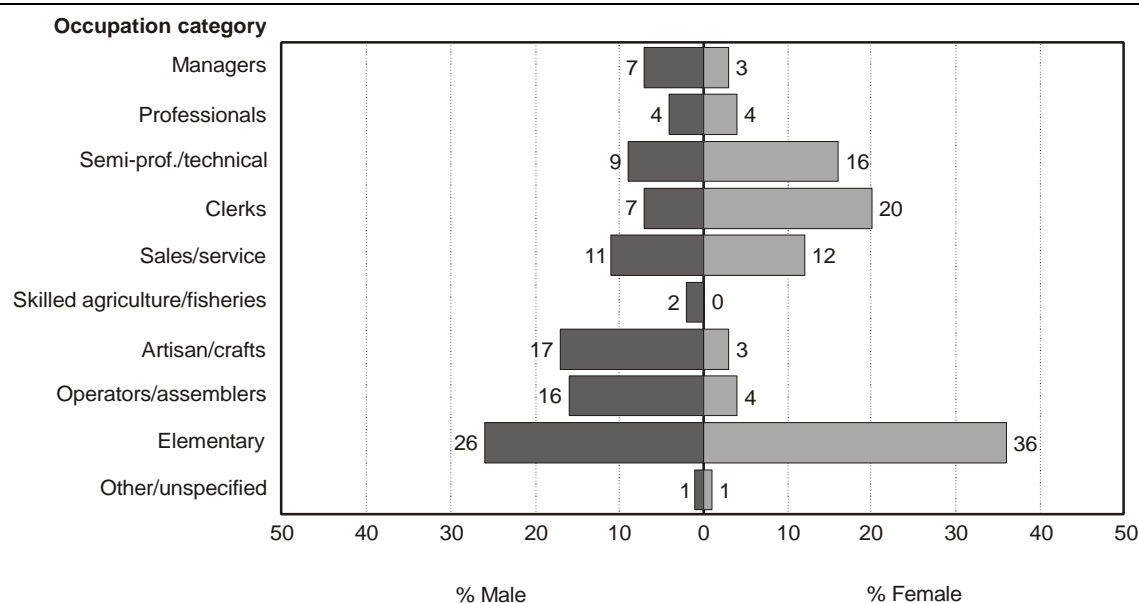
Occupations of those working (employers and employees) in the province clearly vary with gender (Figure 47). Females tend to cluster in elementary occupations (41% of females compared to 33% of males) as well as in the semi-professional/technical, clerical and sales and service occupations. The latter three account for 47% of those females working compared to 24% of those males working (employers and employees). On the other hand, males proportionately dominate occupations in which relatively high levels of technical skills are involved: artisan/craft and operator/assembler occupations, for example, together account for 34% of males working compared to 7% of females working (employers and employees).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 47: Occupations of those working (employers and employees) in North West by gender

This pattern of gender differences in occupations is a slightly better at national level (Figure 48). Elementary occupations account for proportionately fewer males (26% in the country compared to 33% in the province) and females (36% in the country compared to 41% in the province). The national proportions of male managers (7%) and professionals (4%) are slightly greater than the corresponding ones for the province (5% of managers and 2% of professionals). The national proportions for females (3% of managers and 4% of professionals) are not as pronounced, but they are still greater than their provincial counterparts (2% each of managers and professionals).

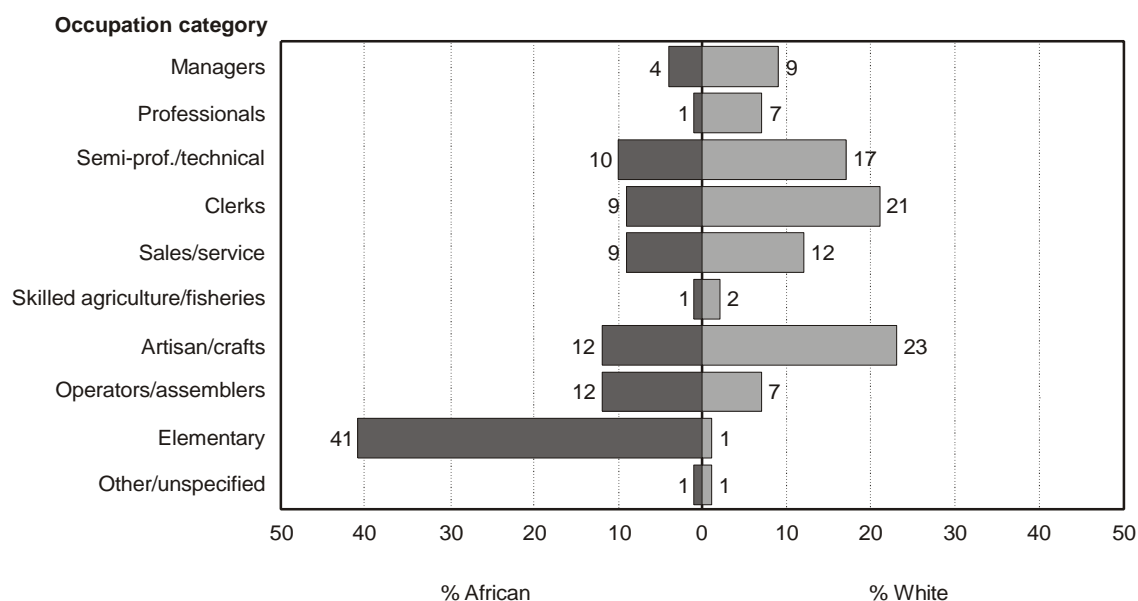


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 48: Occupations of those working (employers and employees) in South Africa by gender

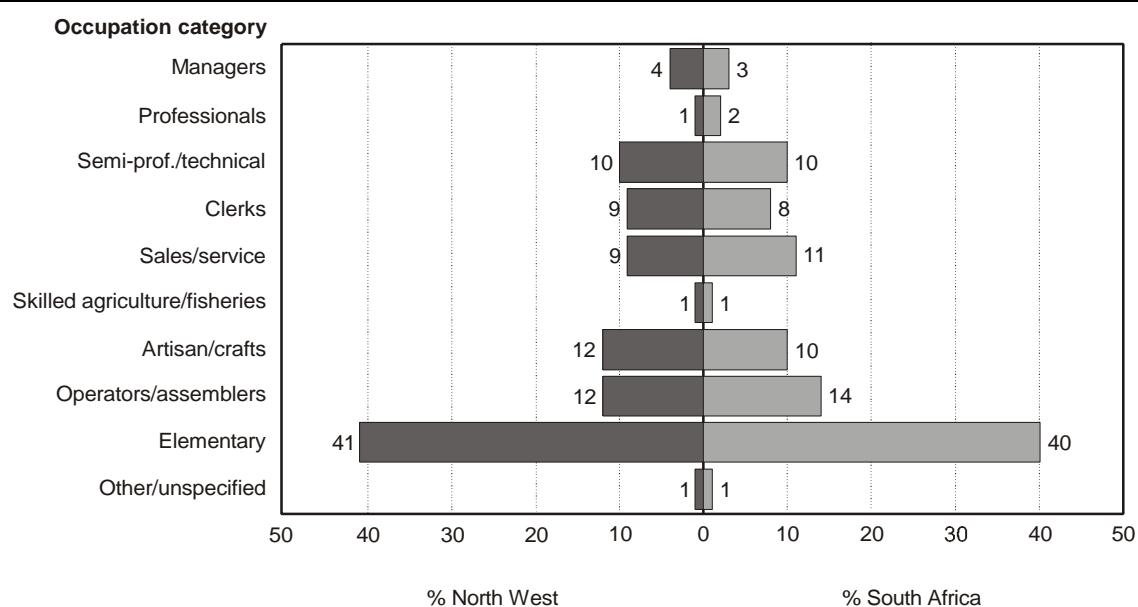
Figure 49 shows the occupations of Africans and whites in North West. The main point here is the inequality shown by the differences in the occupations of the two population groups. For example, 41% of African workers are in elementary occupations, compared with only 1% of whites. In general, whites proportionately dominate occupations which require technical skills. For example, the proportion of whites (23%) in the artisan/crafts occupation is almost twice that of Africans (12%). The same trend applies to clerical (21% of whites, 9% of Africans), semi-professional/technical (17% of whites, 10% of Africans) and managerial occupations (9% of whites, 4% of Africans). The 4% of Africans who are classified as managers appear to include taxi owners; if this is so, the proportion of Africans in managerial occupations may be much less than the 4% indicated.

The pattern of occupations of Africans working in North West (employers and employees) is remarkably similar to the national pattern (Figure 50).



Source: October household survey, 1995

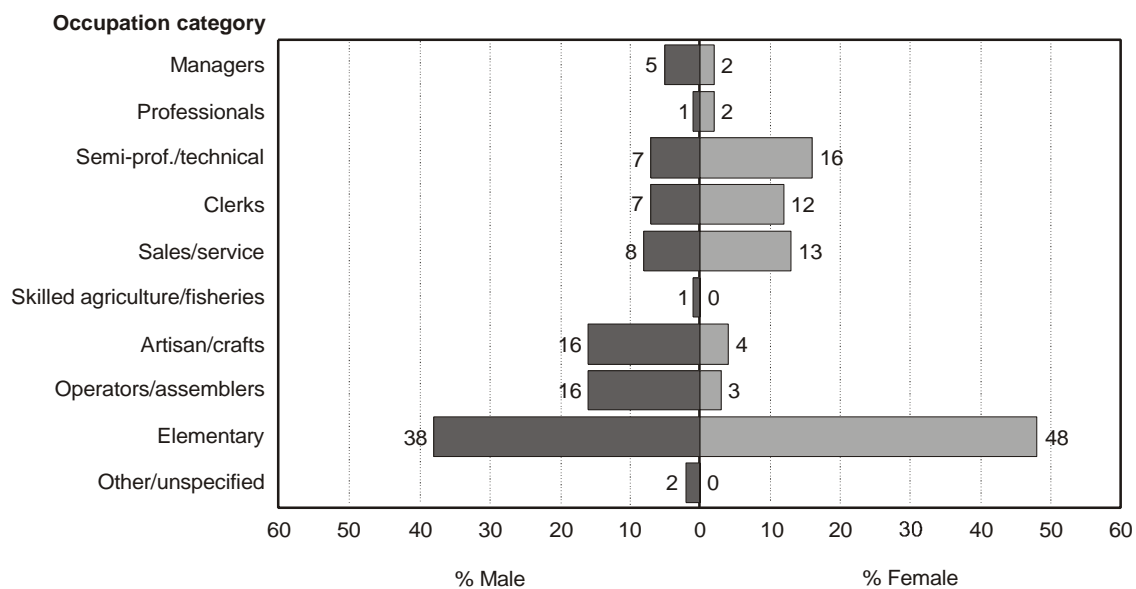
Figure 49: Comparison of occupations of Africans and whites working (employers and employees) in North West



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 50: Occupations of Africans working (employers and employees) in North West and in South Africa

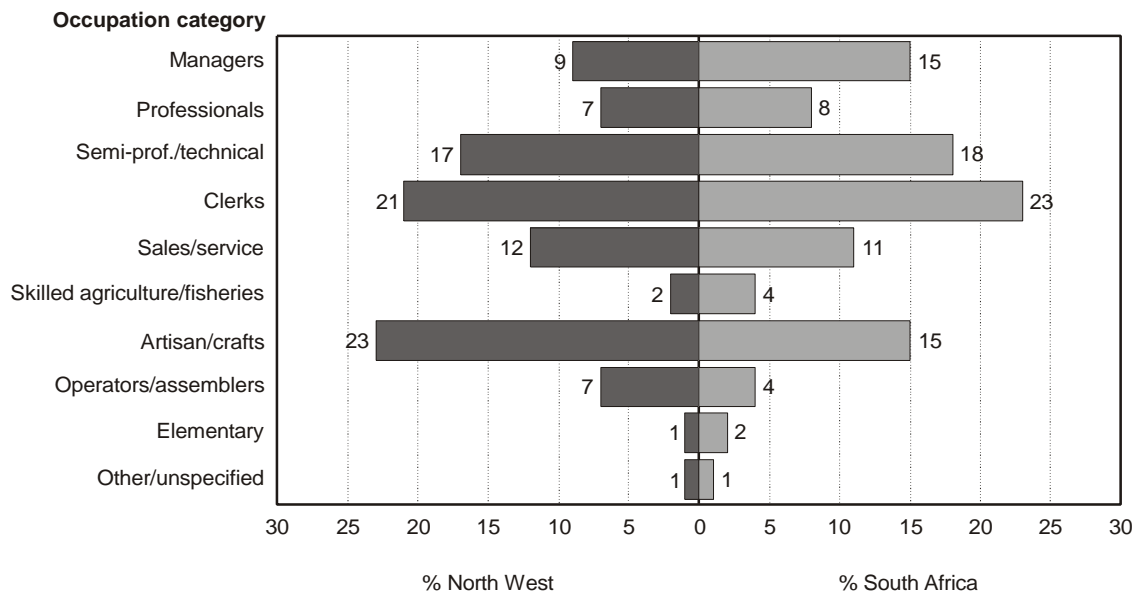
Occupational differences by gender exist among Africans working (employers and employees) in North West. While both males and females dominate elementary occupations, the proportion of females is ten percentage points higher than the corresponding proportion of males – 48% of females compared to 38% of males (Figure 51). Males also tend to dominate managerial occupations (5% of males compared with 2% of females) as well as those blue collar occupations which need relatively sophisticated technical skills. For example, 16% of males and 4% of females are in the artisan/crafts occupation while 16% of males and 3% of females are in the operator/assembler occupation. On the other hand, females tend to dominate sales and service occupations (13% of females compared to 8% of males), clerical occupations (12% of females compared to 7% of males) and semi-professional/technical occupations (16% of females compared to 7% of males).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 51: Occupations of Africans working (employers and employees) in North West by gender

The distribution of occupations of whites working (employers and employees) in North West also reflects the national picture (Figure 52). However, some differences exist between the province and South Africa as a whole regarding managerial occupations (9% in the province compared with 15% nationally), artisan/crafts occupations (23% in the province compared with 15% nationally) and operator/assembler occupations (7% in the province compared with 4% nationally).

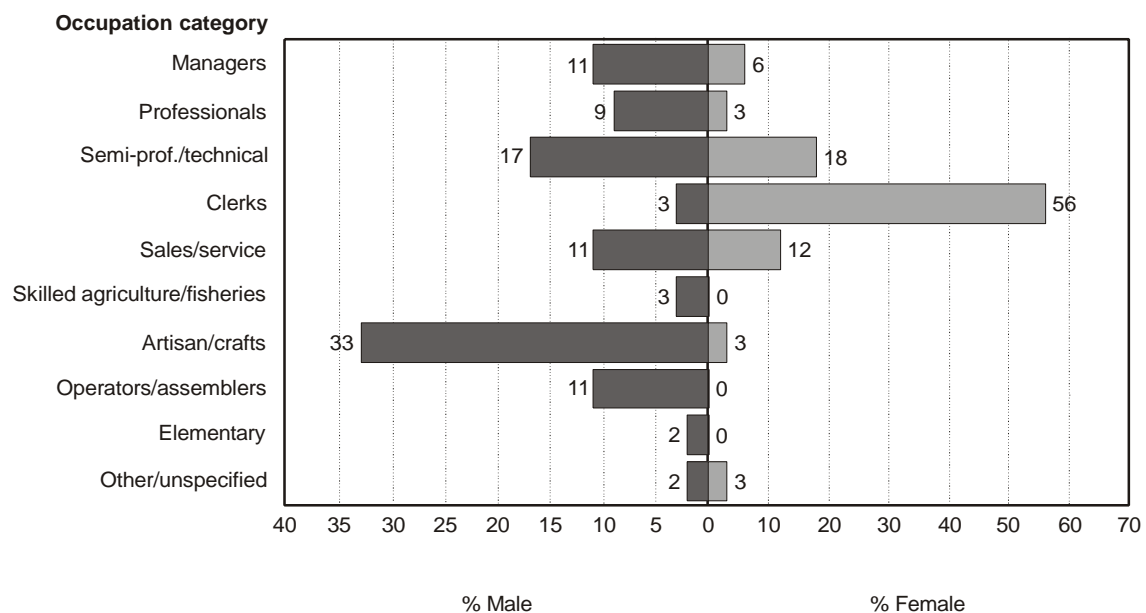


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 52: Occupations of whites working (employers and employees) in North West and in South Africa

As in the case of Africans working (employers and employees), occupational differences by gender also exist among whites working (employers and employees) in the province (Figure 53). However, these appear to be relatively greater than they are in the case of Africans working (employers and employees). White females working (employers and employees) overwhelmingly dominate clerical occupations (56% of females compared with 3% of males). A noticeable presence of females is also found in the other white-collar occupations. For example, there are 12% of females compared to 11% of males in the sales and service occupations, 18% of females compared to 17% of males in the semi-professional/technical occupations, and 6% of females compared with 11% of males in managerial occupations.

The distribution of males among the occupations is not as bunched up as that of females, as the former are relatively well represented between the white-collar and blue-collar occupations. Males almost totally dominate blue-collar occupations of artisan/crafts (33% of males compared to 3% of females) and operators/assemblers (11% of males compared to 0% of females).

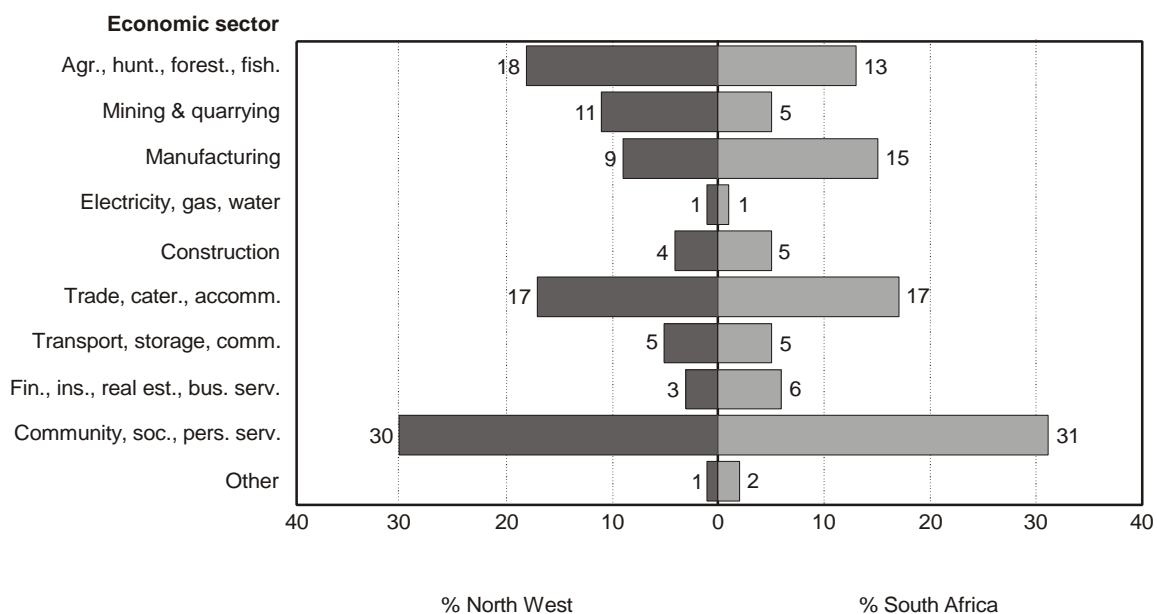


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 53: Occupations of whites working (employers and employees) in North West by gender

Examination of the economic sector (type of industry) in which people work shows that a large proportion of the employed is found in tertiary industries. As illustrated in Figure 54, almost one-third of the employed in North West (30%) work in the community, social and personal services sector. This percentage is very similar to the national figure of 31%. An additional 17% work in trade, catering and accommodation. Again this proportion is similar to the national one. In primary industries the agricultural sector provides jobs for 18% of the employed. The proportion employed in the agricultural sector in the province is greater than the corresponding one in the country as a whole (13%). A similar explanation applies to the mining and quarrying sector, with the province producing most of the platinum produced in the country. The mining sector accounts for 11% of the employed in the province compared with 5% in South Africa as a whole. On the other hand, the provincial proportion of the employed in manufacturing (9%) is below the national proportion (of 15%).

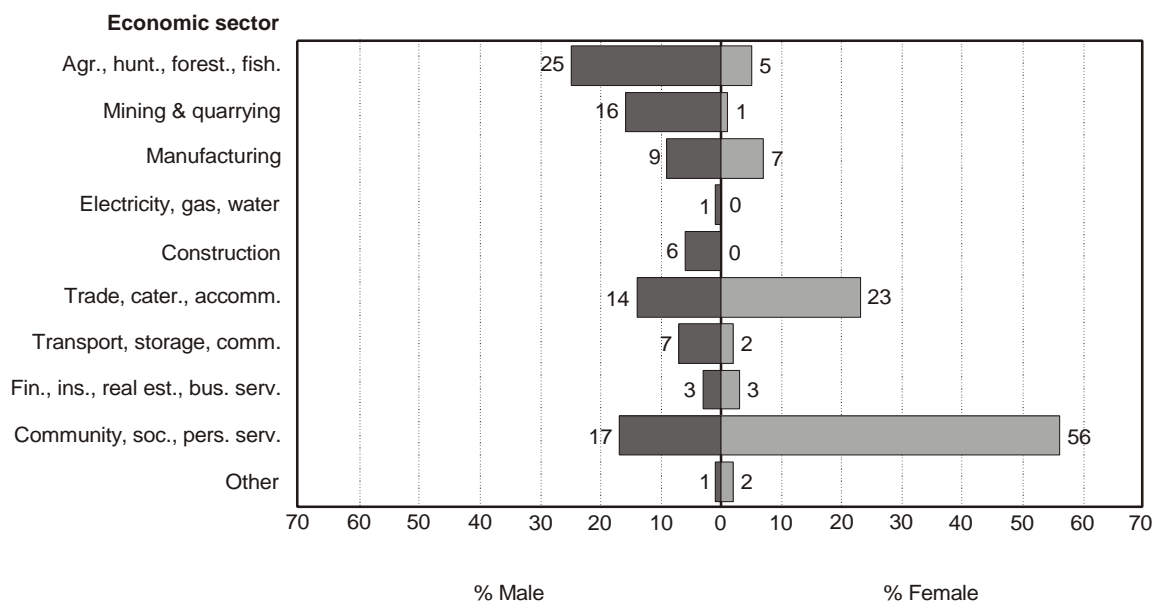
In summary, the distribution of the workers among the economic sectors in North West is similar to that of the country as a whole with regard to tertiary industries, but differs with regard to primary and secondary industries.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 54: Economic sector of those working (employers and employees) in North West and in South Africa as a whole

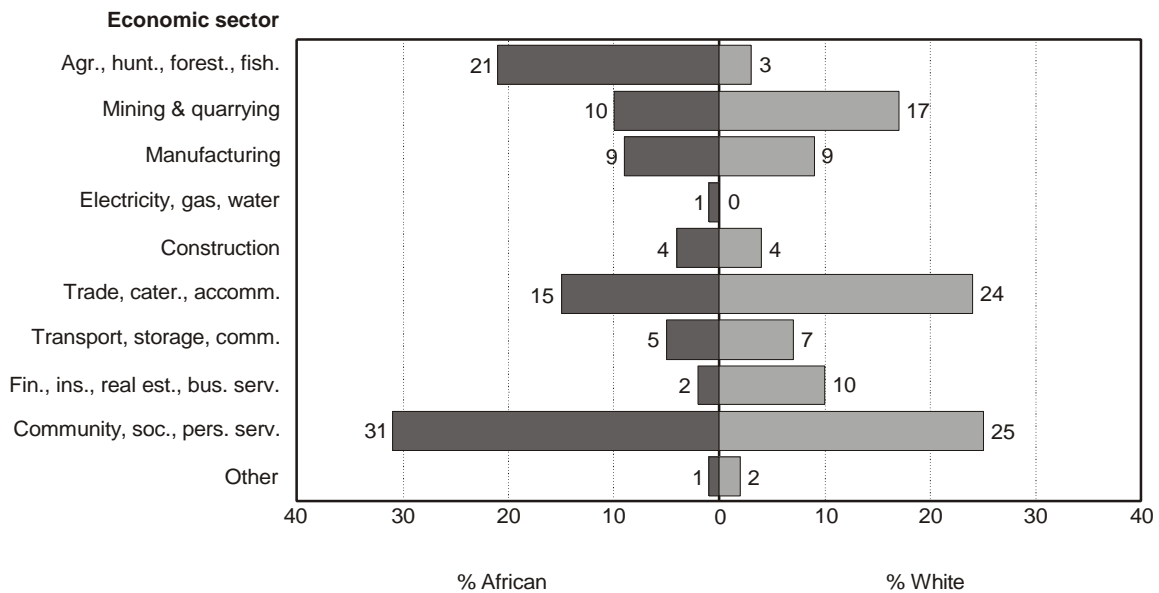
The distribution of workers by economic sector varies by gender (Figure 55). Females proportionately dominate the community, social and personal service sector (hereafter referred to as the *service sector*). Fifty-six percent of this sector consists of females, compared to only 17% of males. The proportion of females in trade, catering and accommodation (23%) is also higher than that of males (14%). In other words, females are predominantly employed in the tertiary sector. Males, on the other hand, appear to be relatively more spread out among all the sectors. They are nevertheless proportionately more prominent in the agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing sector (hereafter referred to as the *agricultural sector*) where they constitute 25% of the male workers, compared to 5% of all female workers. Males are also dominant in mining and quarrying, where they constitute 16% of the male workers compared to 1% of all female workers. Gender representation in the manufacturing sector appears relatively balanced – 9% of males compared to 7% of females. In short, females proportionately dominate tertiary industries, males dominate primary industries, and males and females appear to be similarly represented in secondary industries.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 55: Economic sector of those working (employers and employees) in North West by gender

A large percentage of Africans working in North West are employed in the agricultural sector, compared to a very small percentage of whites (Figure 56). The service sector also stands out, with proportionately more African workers (31%) than white workers (25%). The trade, catering and accommodation sector employs more whites than Africans, 24% of all white workers and 15% of all African workers. The proportion of all white workers in mining and quarrying (the other major component of primary industries) is also noticeably greater (17%) than that of African workers (10%).

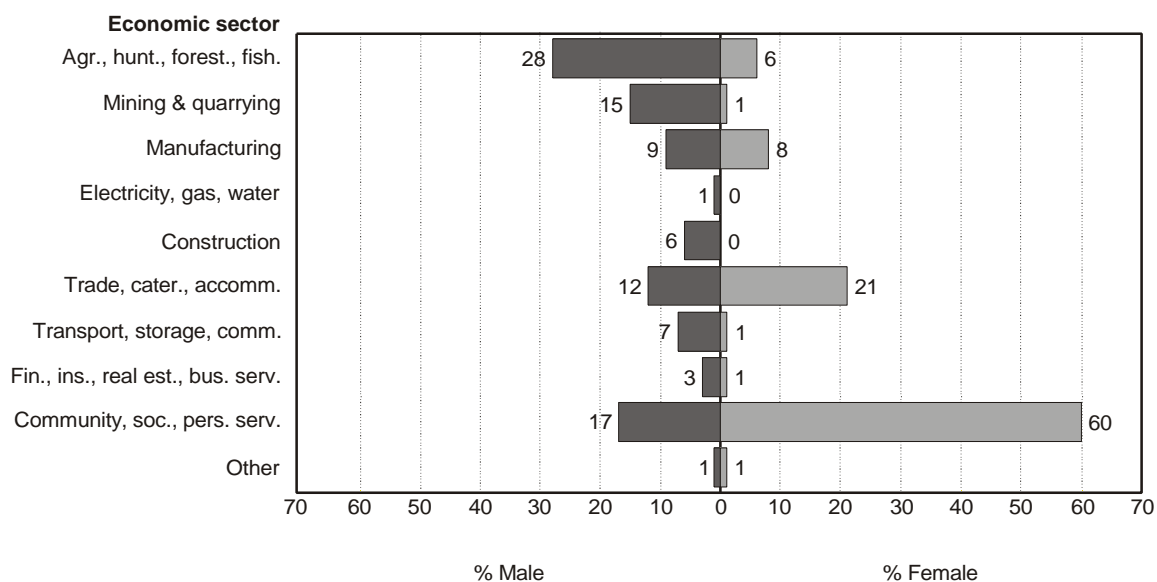


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 56: Economic sector of Africans and whites working in North West (employers and employees)

Figure 57 shows the gender distribution of African workers among economic sectors in North West. Males are more widely spread out among the sectors than females. The largest proportions of females are to be found in tertiary industries. Females are heavily concentrated in the service sector (60%), and to a much less extent in the trade, catering and accommodation sector (21%). These proportions contrast with 17% and 12% of males in the service sector and the trade, catering and accommodation sector, respectively. However, males are proportionately more represented in the transport, storage and communications sector (7%) than females (1%). A similar trend applies to the finance, insurance, real estate and business services sector, which employs 3% of males and 1% of females.

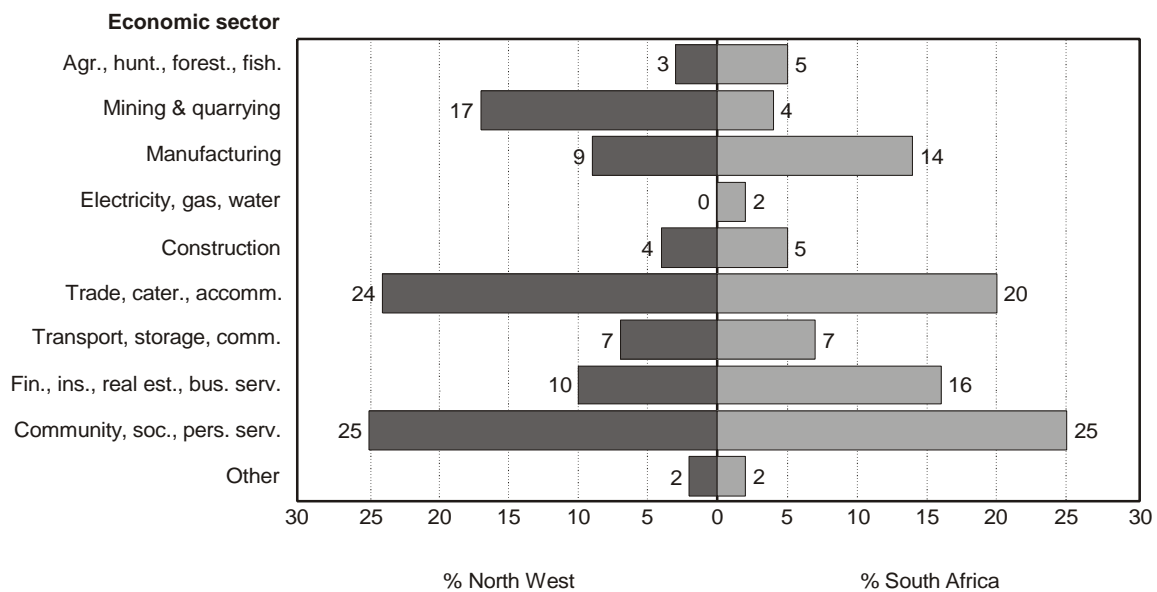
African females are more under-represented in primary industries than males. In the agricultural sector the proportion of females is 6%, compared to 28% of males. Similarly, in mining and quarrying, the proportion of females is 1% compared to 15% of males. Gender differences in representation are almost non-existent in the manufacturing sector, where the proportion of males is 9% and of females is 8%. Finally, there are practically no females in the construction industry, where the proportion of African males is 6%.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 57: Economic sector of Africans working (employers and employees) in North West by gender

The pattern of distribution of white workers in the province according to economic sector differs from that of the country as a whole. Among the tertiary industries, the national proportion is significantly higher than the provincial proportion in the financial, insurance, real estate and business services sector where the proportions of white workers in the province and in the country as a whole are 10% and 16% respectively (Figure 58). On the other hand, the provincial proportion is higher than the national proportion in the trade, catering and accommodation sector – 24% of workers in the province compared to 20% nationally. Among primary industries, the province has a higher proportion of workers in mining and quarrying (17%) than South Africa as a whole (4%). There is also a difference between the province and South Africa as a whole in the manufacturing sector, with the province having a lower proportion of workers (9%) than the country as a whole (14%).

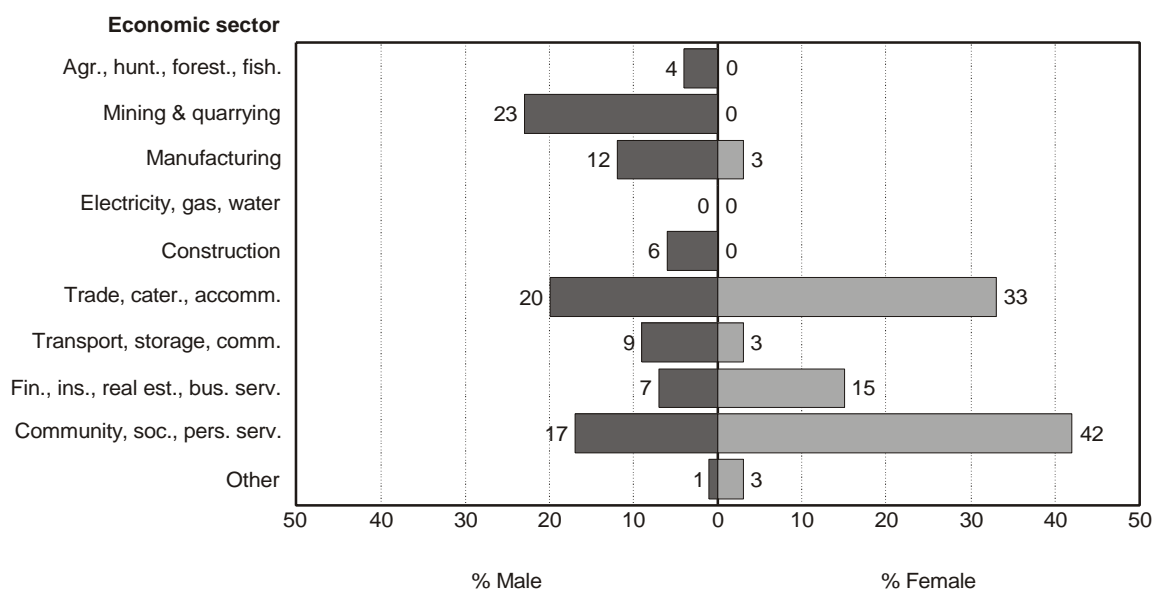


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 58: Economic sector of whites working (employers and employees) in North West and in South Africa as a whole

Gender differences among white workers in North West are such that females proportionately dominate tertiary industries. The proportion of female workers in the service sector is 42%, compared to 17% of males. Trade, catering and accommodation account for 33% of female workers and 20% of male workers (Figure 59). Furthermore, finance, insurance, real estate and business services account for 15% of female workers and 7% of male workers.

In transport, storage and communications males have a greater proportion than females – 9% compared with 3%. In primary industries the proportion of females is practically zero. This is the case in the agricultural sector as well as in the mining and quarrying sector, where the proportions of male workers are 4% and 23%, respectively. In manufacturing the proportion of male workers is 12% compared to 3% for female workers. In construction the proportion of male workers is 6% while that of female workers is 0%.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 59: Economic sector of whites working (employers and employees) in North West by gender

Trade union membership

Trade union membership often provided an outlet for democratic expression among the disenfranchised during the apartheid years. Its importance has continued, and a large proportion of employees are members. In 1995, almost one-third (31%) of all employees in North West stated that they belonged to a trade union. As shown in Figure 60, trade union membership is highest among white male employees (40%), followed by African females (35%) and African male employees (31%). Only 15% of white female employees are members of trade unions. These figures differ somewhat from the national profile of trade union membership. Amongst employees throughout the country, 28% of white males, 17% of white females, 39% of African males and 36% of African females stated that they belonged to a trade union.



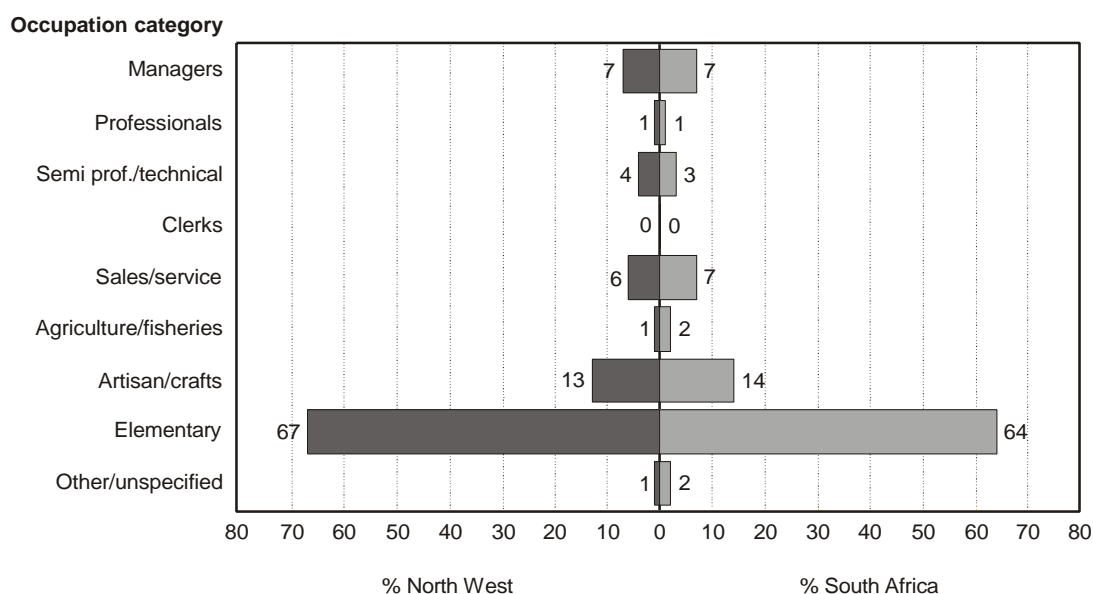
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 60: Trade union membership in North West by population group and gender

The informal economy

Approximately 12% of the economically active population in North West work in the informal sector. They constitute over 18% of all workers. Own account (self-employed) workers in the informal sector constitute 10% of the economically active population in the province, 15% of workers in the province and 81% of workers in the informal sector. Africans predominate in the sector, constituting approximately 96% of own account informal sector workers. In terms of gender, African females, including domestic workers, constitute 65% of own account informal sector workers while African males constitute slightly over 30%. Relatively few whites (3%) work for their own account in the informal sector. In the country as a whole, the informal sector constitutes approximately 12% of the economically active population, of which 9% work for own account. Informal sector workers constitute 17% of the country's actual workers. Over half (58%) of own account workers are African women.

The pattern of occupations of informal sector workers for own account largely mirrors the national picture (Figure 61). The highest proportion of workers both for the province and for South Africa as a whole is among elementary occupations – 67% for the province and 64% nationally. The artisan/crafts category follows, with 13% of the workers in the province and 14% in the country as a whole. The managerial category which, as indicated earlier, is likely to include taxi ownership, consists of 7% in the province as well as in the country as a whole.

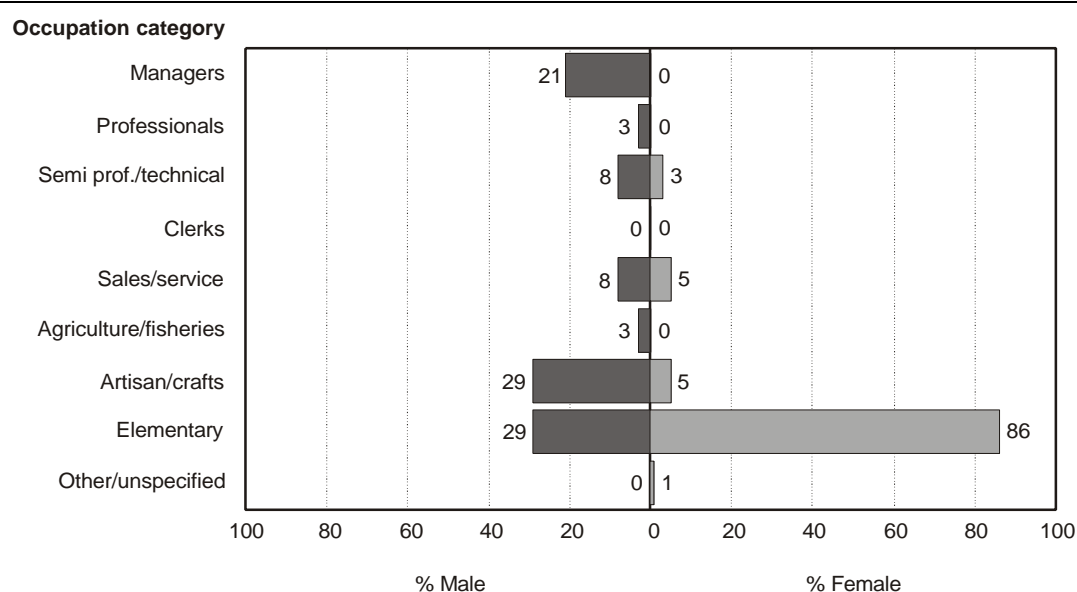


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 61: Occupations of informal sector workers for own account (self-employed) in North West and South Africa as a whole

Occupations of informal sector workers for own account vary considerably by gender in North West (Figure 62). While males are relatively more spread out among the occupational categories, while females are overwhelmingly bunched up in the elementary category where they comprise 86% of female informal sector workers. Elsewhere, female workers are found in relatively very small proportions, constituting 5% of workers in each of the artisan/crafts and sales/service categories.

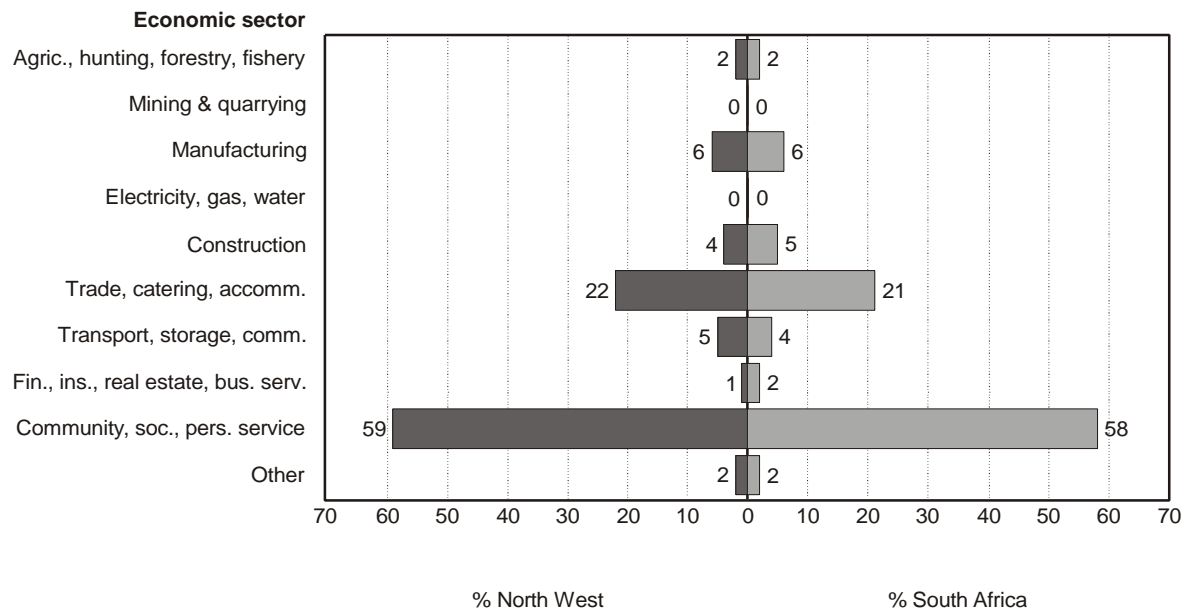
One in three (29%) male workers are found in elementary occupations; and they dominate the rest of the occupational categories excluding clerical occupations. They are prominent mostly in the artisan/crafts category (29%) as well as in the managerial category (21%).



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 62: Occupations of informal sector workers for own account (self-employed) in North West by gender

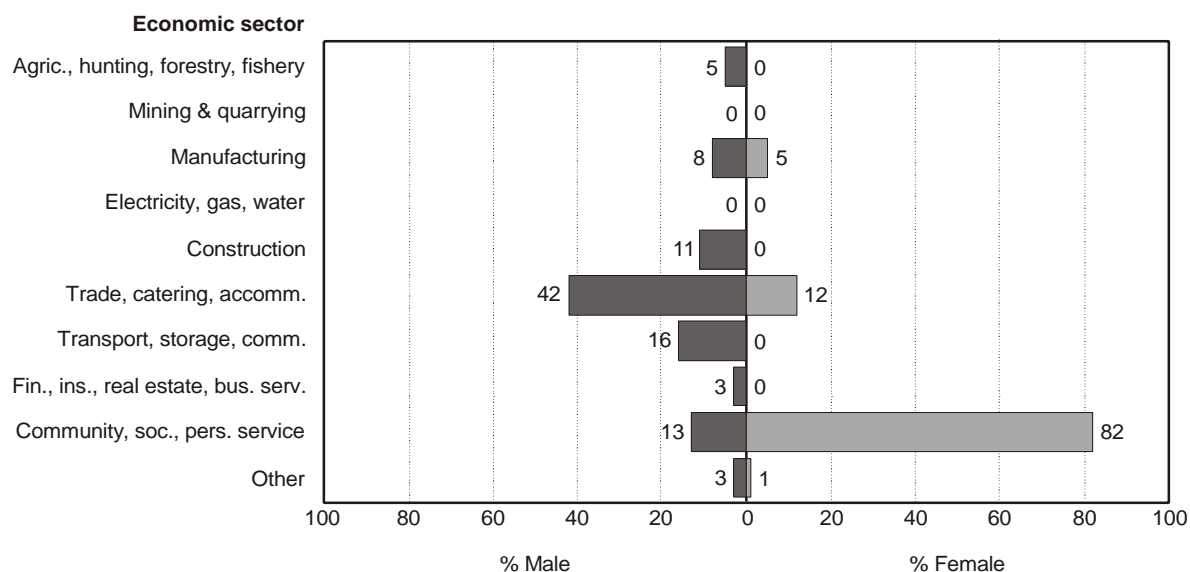
Figure 63 shows the distribution of informal sector workers for own account in North West and in South Africa as a whole. Workers are concentrated in two sectors – the service sector and trade, catering and accommodation. The proportions of workers in the service sector in the province and South Africa as a whole are 59% and 58%, respectively. The proportion for the trade, catering and accommodation sector is 22% in the province and 21% in the country as a whole. There is practically no difference in the patterns of distribution of workers in the province and in the country as a whole.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 63: Economic sector of informal sector workers for own account (self-employed) in North West and in South Africa as a whole

There are important gender differences in the patterns of distribution of workers among the economic sectors in North West (Figure 64). In general, males working informally for own account are found in seven of the nine sectors, the exceptions being mining and quarrying, and electricity, gas and water. However, males are very prominent in the trade, catering and accommodation sector, where they constitute 42% of male workers compared with 12% of female workers. On the other hand, females in the informal sector are practically absent from six out of nine sectors. They are heavily concentrated in the community, personal and social services sector where 82% of them work. They are found in only two other sectors – trade, catering and accommodation (12%) and manufacturing (5%).



Source: October household survey, 1995

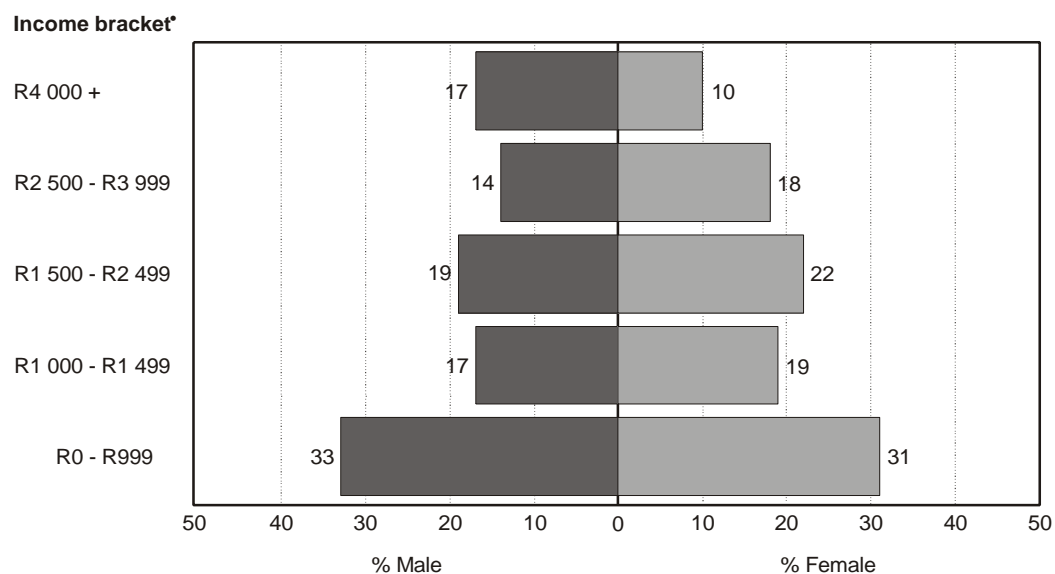
Figure 64: Economic sector of informal workers for own account (self-employed) in North West by gender

Incomes of employees

There are similarities in the patterns of income distribution in North West and in South Africa as a whole (Figures 65 and 66). However, there is a noticeable difference in the lowest income bracket. Figure 65 indicates the percentage of employees by gender in five broad income categories, based on average income in South Africa as a whole, while Figure 66 illustrates the average monthly income distribution by gender in the province. Nationally, almost one-third of males (33%) and females (31%) earn on average R999 or less per month. In North West, however, these proportions increase to 43% of males and 36% of females.

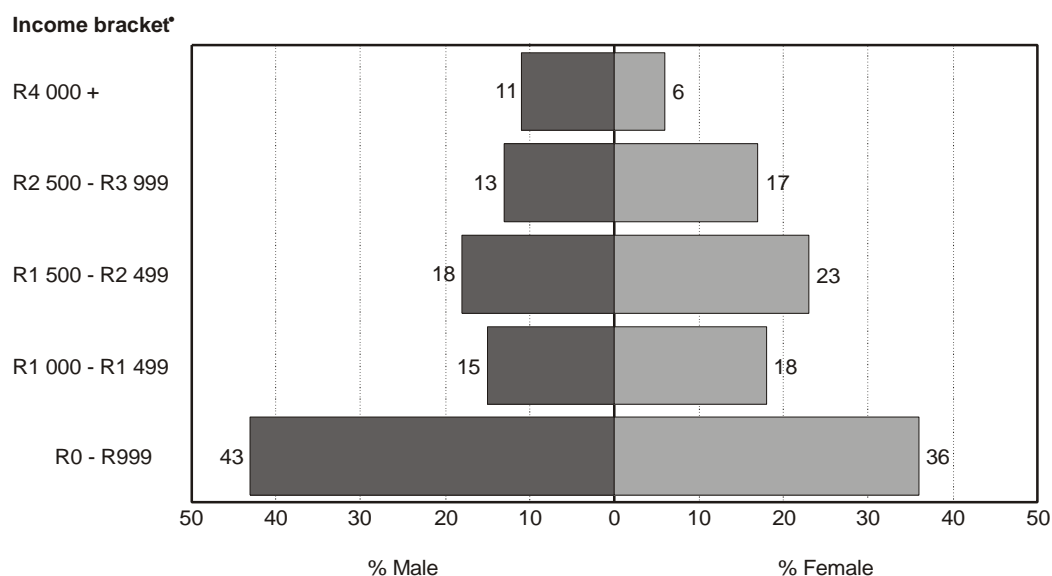
The proportions of males and females in the country as a whole earning R4 000 and over are 17% and 10%, respectively. In the province, however, these proportions decline to 11% of males and 6% of females.

As far as the lowest and highest income brackets are concerned, there are clear differences in income distribution between the province and the country as a whole, with the province appearing more disadvantaged when compared to South Africa as a whole.



• Gross monthly income of employees only. Data not adjusted to full time equivalent jobs
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 65: Among employees in South Africa, percentage in each monthly income category by gender



• Gross monthly income of employees only. Data not adjusted to full time equivalent jobs
Source: October household survey, 1995

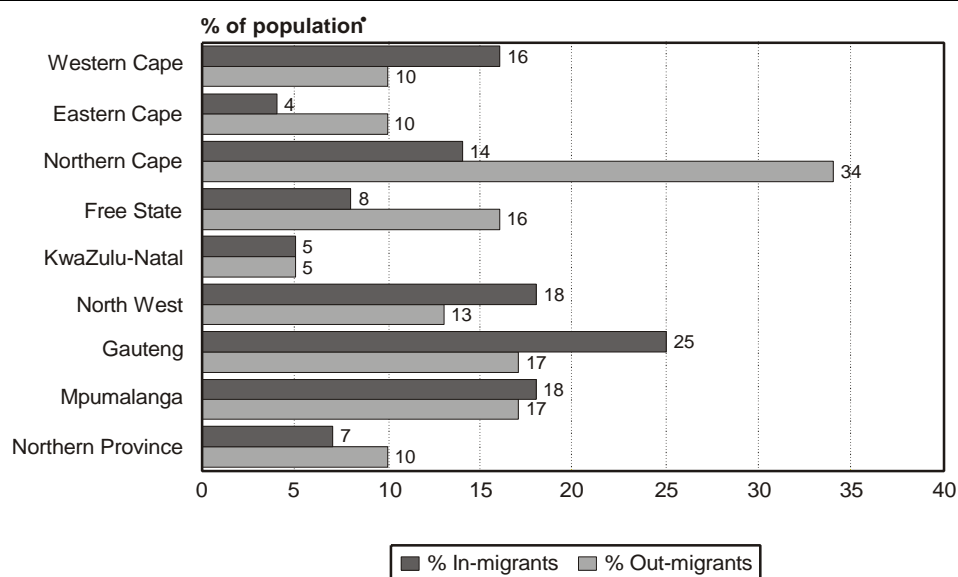
Figure 66: Among employees in North West, percentage in each monthly income category by gender

Internal migration

One of the major determinants of population change in any area is migration. Population change refers either to population growth or population decline. In either case, it affects the size of the population of the area, and is accordingly an important variable for planning. In-migration is the process whereby persons move into an area for the purpose of residence from another area within the same country. Out-migration is the process whereby persons leave a defined area for the purpose of residing elsewhere in the same country. When migration occurs at an international scale, in-migration becomes immigration while out-migration becomes emigration.

The 1995 OHS did not cover emigration; it also did not sufficiently cover immigration. These processes are complex and are best covered by data from the Department of Home Affairs. Accordingly, this section concentrates on migration within the borders of South Africa. In particular, the section is confined to inter-provincial migration because the data available can best be interpreted at this level.

Figure 67 shows the proportion of the population in the nine provinces that constitute gross life-time in-migrants, or migrants who resided in these provinces but had been born elsewhere. It also shows the proportions of inter-provincial gross life-time out-migrants, or migrants who left the provinces of their birth to reside in other provinces. With regard to in-migration, North West is the second most attractive province to migrants, who constitute 18% of its population. It shares this position with Mpumalanga. Only Gauteng is ahead of these two. North West attracts more migrants than even Western Cape, which has a migrant population of 16%. Northern Cape is another province classified among the most attractive provinces, with 14% of its population being migrants. The least attractive province appears to be Eastern Cape (with in-migrants constituting 4% of its population), closely followed by KwaZulu-Natal (5%) and Free State (8%).

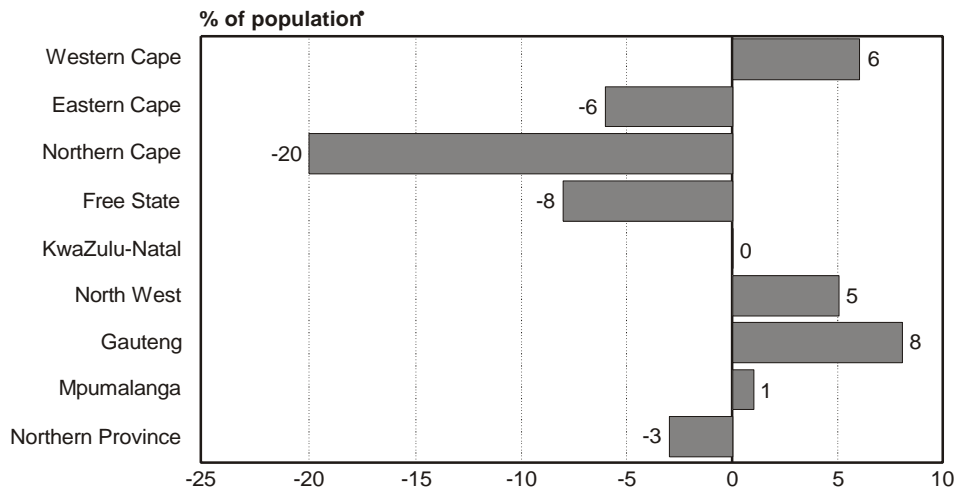


• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigrants
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 67: Inter-provincial gross life-time in-migrants and out-migrants in South Africa

With regard to out-migration, North West, with 13% of its native-born population having migrated to other provinces, ranks fifth after Northern Cape, with 34%; Gauteng and Mpumalanga each have the same proportion of 17%; while 16% of native-born Free Staters have migrated to other provinces. Northern Province is on a par with Eastern and Western Cape, in the sense that 10% of those born in these provinces have migrated to other provinces.

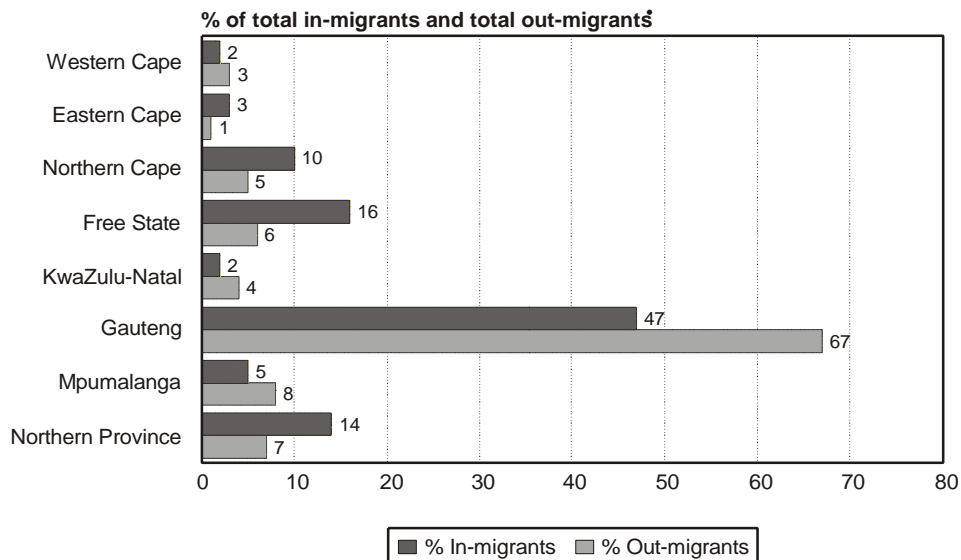
While the data from the 1995 OHS may not be conducive to the computation of precise net life-time migration, Figure 68 provides a good impression of provinces which were losing population through out-migration as well as those which were gaining population through in-migration. It shows net migration rates of the nine provinces. The net migration rate for an area refers to the proportion of net migration of the area (the differential between in-migrants and out-migrants) as a proportion of the area's resident population. North West is among the four provinces that have a net gain of migrants, placed third after Gauteng and Western Cape. Mpumalanga has a relatively small net gain, while Northern Cape appears to be the leading sending area, followed at a distance by Free State, Eastern Cape and Northern Province.



• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigrants
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 68: Provincial net migration rates (percent net migrants) in South Africa

Figure 69 shows the relationship North West has with the rest of the provinces through the processes of life-time in-migration and out-migration. Most of the in-migrants came from the province's geographical neighbours – Gauteng (47%), Free State (16%), Northern Province (14%) and Northern Cape (10%). Mpumalanga (5%), Eastern Cape (3%), Western Cape (2%) and KwaZulu-Natal (2%) do not appear to have contributed significantly to the migration stream to North West.



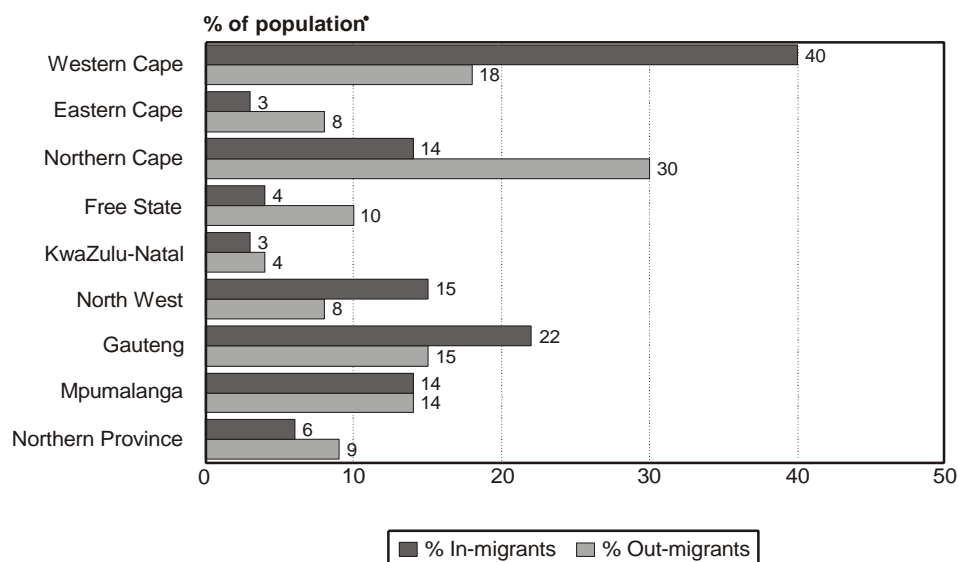
Note that there is no mathematical relationship in the chart between in-migrant and out-migrant values as they have different bases. The two should therefore not be compared. They are graphed together purely to condense information

• Excluding unspecified data

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 69: Provincial origins of gross life-time in-migrants to, and provincial destinations of gross life-time out-migrants from, North West

Figure 70 shows the proportion of inter-provincial gross life-time African in-migrants and out-migrants in South Africa in 1995. Western Cape appears to have been by far the most attractive destination to African migrants, with 40% of its population consisting of African life-time migrants. Gauteng (22%) is the second most attractive destination, and North West comes third (15%). North West is closely followed by Mpumalanga (14%) and Northern Cape (14%). Northern Province (6%), Free State (4%), Eastern Cape (3%) and KwaZulu-Natal (3%) appear to be the least attractive destinations for Africans.

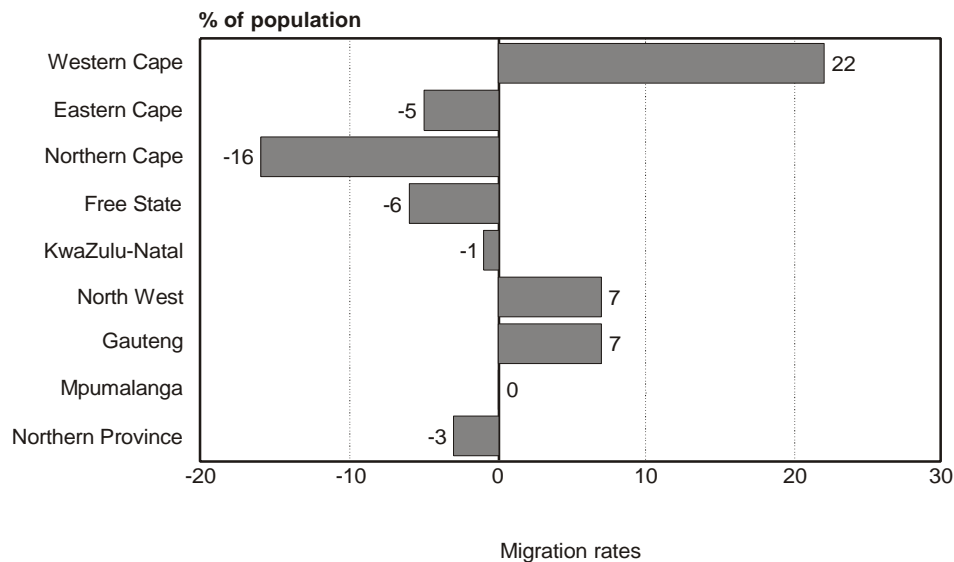


• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigrants
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 70: Inter-provincial gross life-time African in-migrants and out-migrants in South Africa

With regard to out-migration, North West is among the group of five provinces with low (below 10%) out-migration rates. North West shares third position with Eastern Cape (8% each) among the provinces with the least proportion of out-migrants. The leader is KwaZulu-Natal (4%). Northern Province (9%) is also classified as being among the provinces with low proportions of out-migrants. On the other hand, Northern Cape (30%) appears to have experienced proportionately more life-time African out-migrants than any other province. Western Cape, with a significantly lower proportion (18%), followed by Gauteng (15%), Mpumalanga (14%) and Free State (10%).

We now focus on migration patterns among Africans. As indicated in Figure 71, North West is among the three provinces which have gained African migrants. The province appears to have gained proportionately as many African migrants as Gauteng. Western Cape has proportionately gained almost three times as many migrants as either North West or Gauteng. It would appear that as many Africans have migrated to Mpumalanga as have moved away from the province. Provinces which have experienced African population loss through migration are led by Northern Cape, followed at a distance by Free State, Eastern Cape, Northern Province and KwaZulu-Natal.

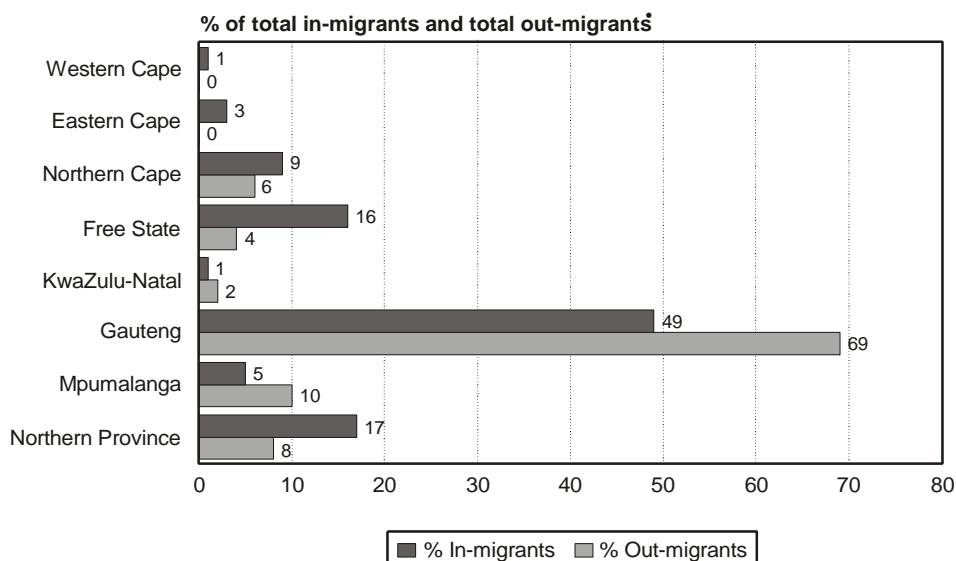


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 71: Provincial net migration rates (percent net migrants) for Africans in South Africa

According to Figure 72, Gauteng contributes a disproportionately higher proportion (49%) of the African migration stream to North West. Gauteng's contribution is supplemented by flows from Northern Province (17%), Free State (16%), Northern Cape (9%), Mpumalanga (5%), Eastern Cape (3%) and Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal (1% each). Most migrants to North West are the province's geographical neighbours. The majority of out-migrants from North West move to Gauteng (69%), followed by Mpumalanga (10%), Northern Province (8%), Northern Cape (6%), Free State (4%), KwaZulu-Natal (2%) and Western and Eastern Cape (0% each).

Whites appear to migrate in greater proportions than Africans in all nine provinces (Figure 73). Mpumalanga, with 54% of its white population consisting of in-migrants, is the leading destination. It is followed by Northern Province and North West (47% each) and KwaZulu-Natal (40%). The least attractive provinces appear to be Western Cape (28%), followed by Eastern Cape (29%), Gauteng (33%), Free State (34%) and Northern Cape (36%).

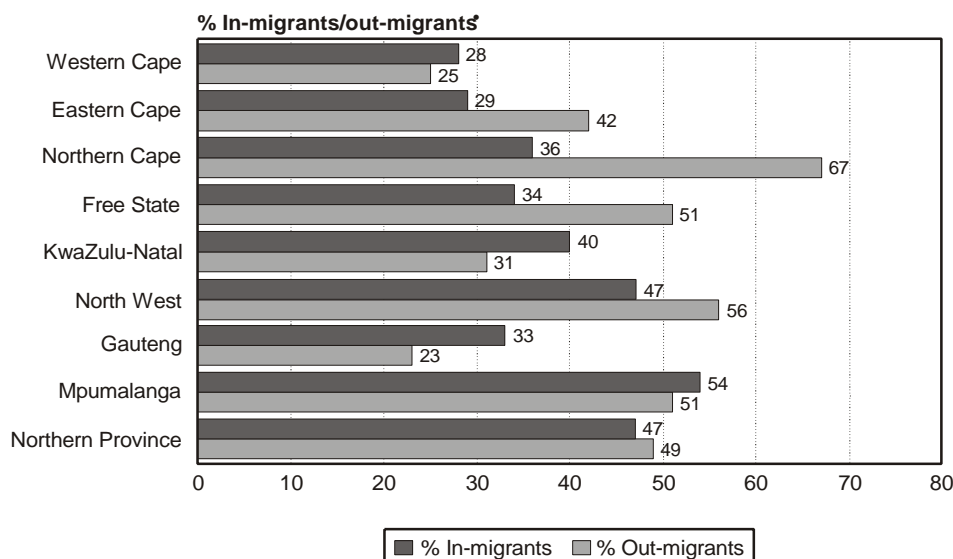


Note that there is no mathematical relationship in the chart between in-migrant and out migrant values as they have different bases. The two should therefore not be compared. They are graphed together purely to condense information

• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigration

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 72: Provincial origins of gross life-time African in-migrants to, and provincial destinations of gross life-time African out-migrants from, North West



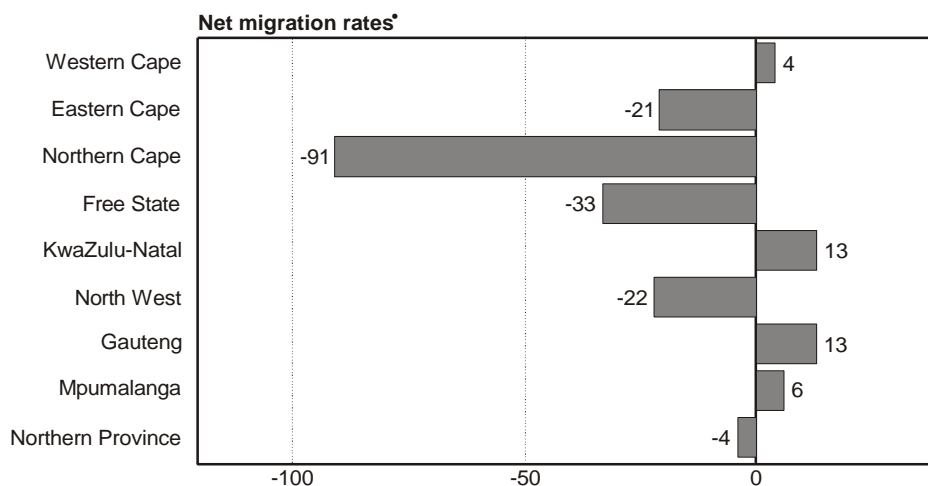
• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigrants

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 73: Inter-provincial gross life-time white in-migrants and out-migrants in South Africa

Northern Cape sends out the highest proportion of migrants (67%), followed by North West (56%), Mpumalanga and Free State (51% each), Northern Province (49%) and Eastern Cape (42%). The rest of the provinces are associated with relatively low proportions of out-migrants. The smallest contributor to the out-migration stream is Gauteng (23%), followed by Western Cape (25%), KwaZulu-Natal (31%) and Eastern Cape (42%).

Figure 74 shows net gain and net loss of white migrants by province. The provinces which have gained white population are (with equal proportions) KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng and, on a relatively moderate scale, Mpumalanga and Western Cape. Northern Cape has disproportionately experienced a net loss, followed by Free State, North West, Eastern Cape and, on a relatively very small scale, Northern Province.

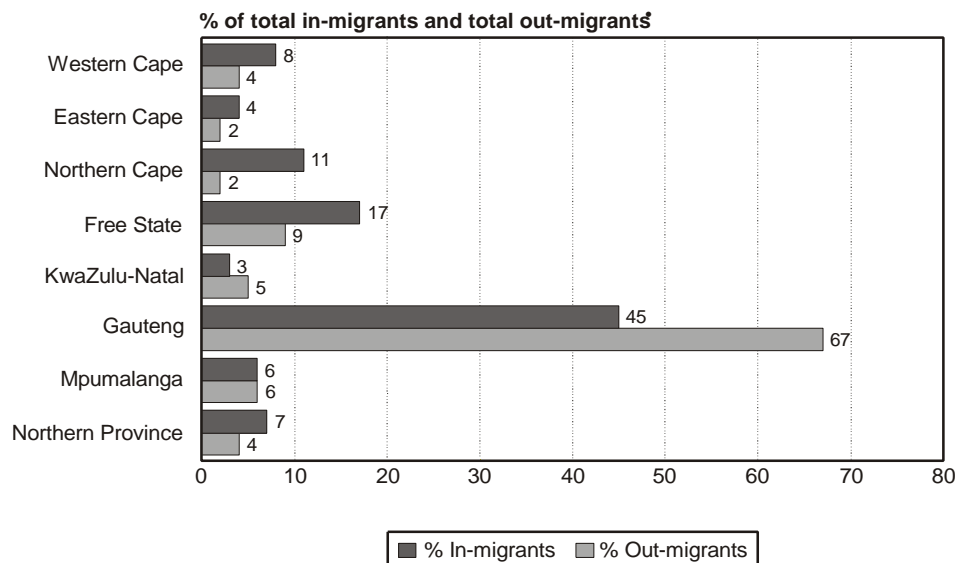


• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigrants
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 74: Provincial net migration rates (percent net migrants) for whites in South Africa

According to Figure 75, the greatest proportion of white in-migrants to North West (45%) comes from Gauteng. This is followed by Free State (17%), Northern Cape (11%), Western Cape (8%), Northern Province (7%), Mpumalanga (6%), Eastern Cape (4%) and KwaZulu-Natal (3%). With the minor exception of Western Cape, most white migrants to North West come from geographically neighbouring provinces.

Out-migration follows the same trend of preferring geographical neighbours. Gauteng takes the lion's share (67%), followed by Free State (9%), Mpumalanga (6%), KwaZulu-Natal (5%), Northern Province and Western Cape (4% each) and, lastly, Eastern and Northern Cape (2% each).



Note that there is no mathematical relationship in the chart between in-migrant and out-migrant data values as they are associated with different bases. They are graphed together purely to condense information.

• Excluding unspecified data and data on immigration

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 75: Provincial origins of gross life-time white in-migrants to, and provincial destinations of gross life-time white out-migrants from, North West

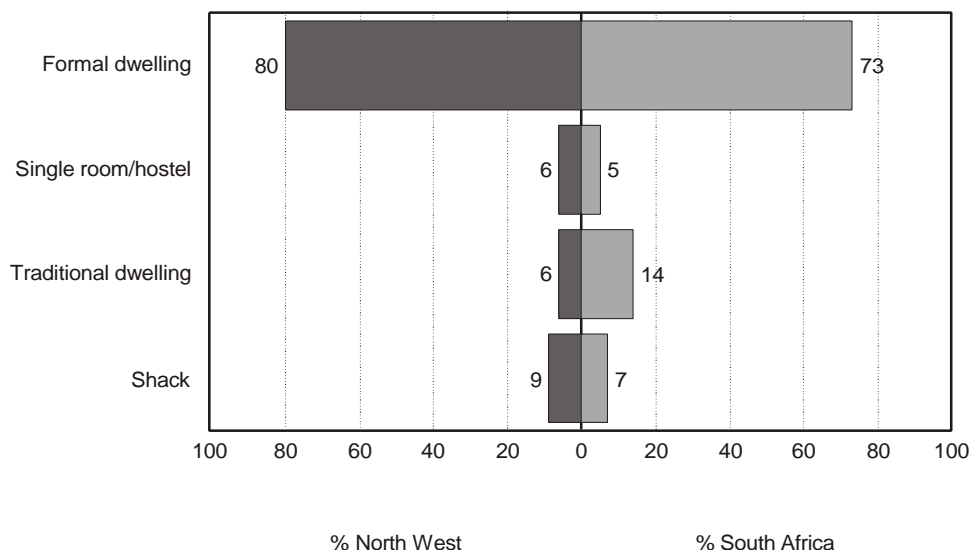
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Section 3

The main findings regarding households

Types of dwellings in which households live

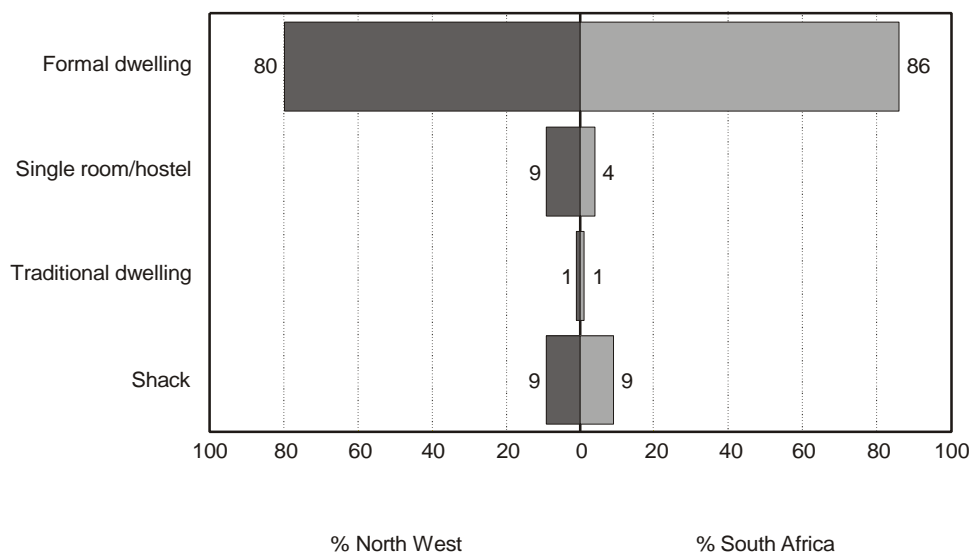
Approximately 8% of South Africa's population lives in North West, and the province contains the same proportion of the country's total number of households (8%). Almost equal proportions of households live in non-urban (51%) and urban (49%) areas. As Figure 76 indicates, most households (80%) live in formal brick structures such as a house, flat or backyard room, compared with 73% of all households in the country. Six percent live in traditional dwellings, 9% in shacks and 6% in hostels, compounds or single rooms in a dwelling. In the whole of South Africa, a larger proportion of households (14%) live in traditional dwellings. This indicates that the quality and quantity of housing in North West is proportionately higher than in South Africa as a whole.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 76: Types of dwellings in North West and in South Africa as a whole

Figure 77, however, shows that in urban areas the country as a whole has an edge over the province: housing in urban areas in South Africa consists of 86% formal dwellings whereas the corresponding proportion in the province is 80%.



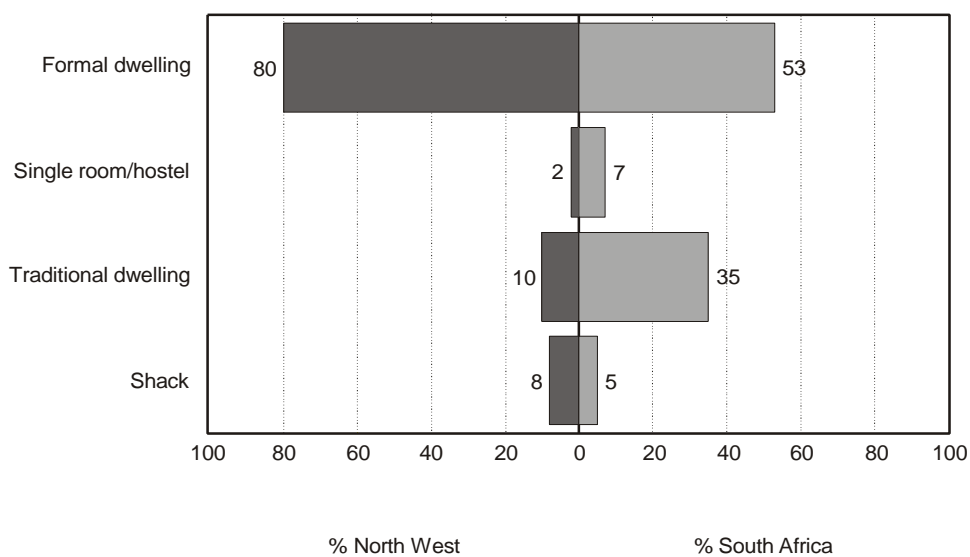
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 77: Types of dwellings in urban areas in North West and in South Africa as a whole

However, with regard to non-urban areas, the housing situation in North West is much above the country average (Figure 78). For example, formal dwellings in the province constitute 80% of dwellings, whereas they constitute 53% of dwellings in the country as a whole. In addition, traditional dwellings constitute only 10% of dwellings in the province, whereas the national proportion is 35%.

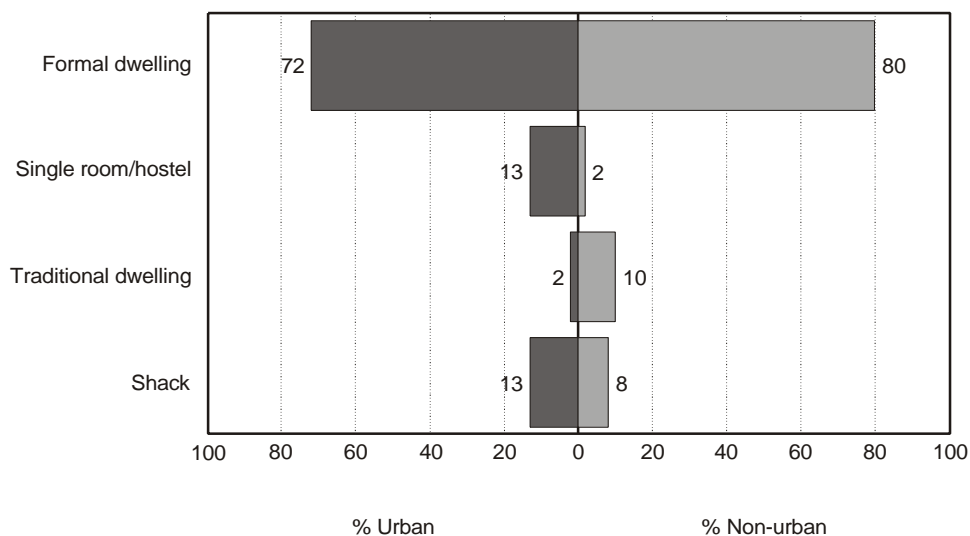
The distribution of dwellings among households varies by population group. Among Africans, 77% of households live in formal brick structures, whilst 7% live in traditional dwellings, 10% in shacks, and 7% in hostels, compounds or single rooms in a building. Almost all non-African households (more than 99%) live in formal structures.

Figure 79 investigates the type of dwelling occupied by African households in urban and non-urban areas. A slightly higher percentage of non-urban households (80%) lives in formal brick structures than urban households (72%). This, as indicated in Figure 80, contrasts with the national picture, where a larger proportion of urban African households (74%) lives in formal structures than non-urban households (49%). What is similar to the national profile is that a larger proportion of African households live in shacks in urban areas (13% in North West, 15% in South Africa as a whole) than in non-urban areas (8% in North West, 5% in South Africa as a whole).



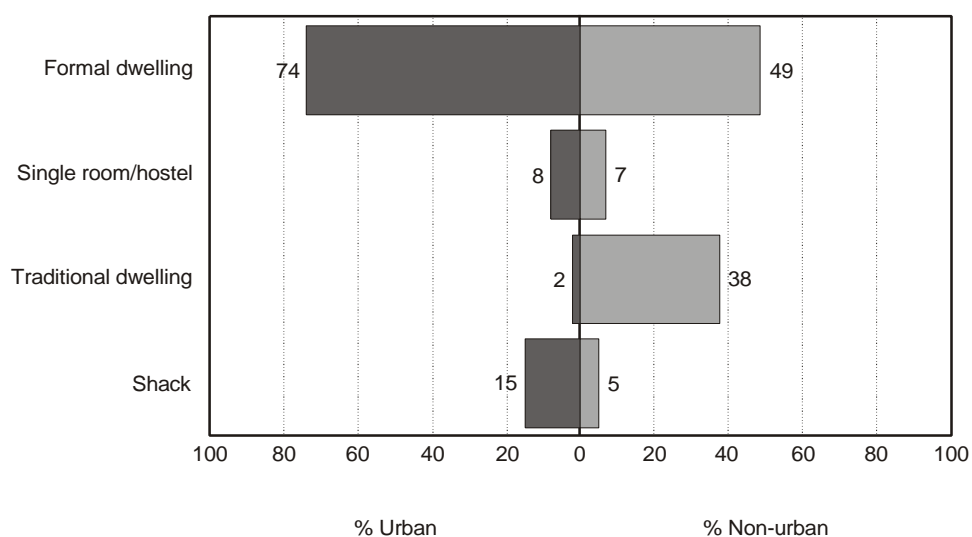
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 78: Types of dwellings in non-urban areas in North West and in South Africa as a whole



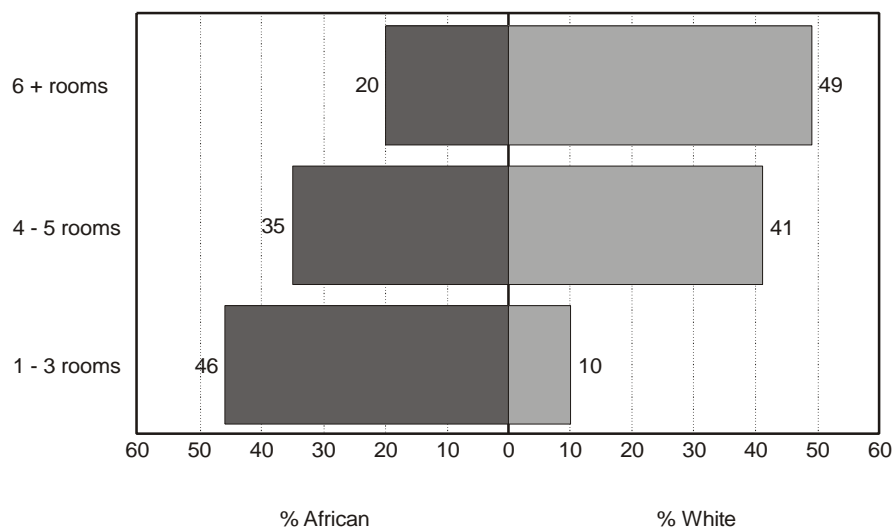
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 79: Types of dwellings for Africans in urban and non-urban areas in North West



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 80: Types of dwellings for Africans in urban and non-urban areas in South Africa as a whole

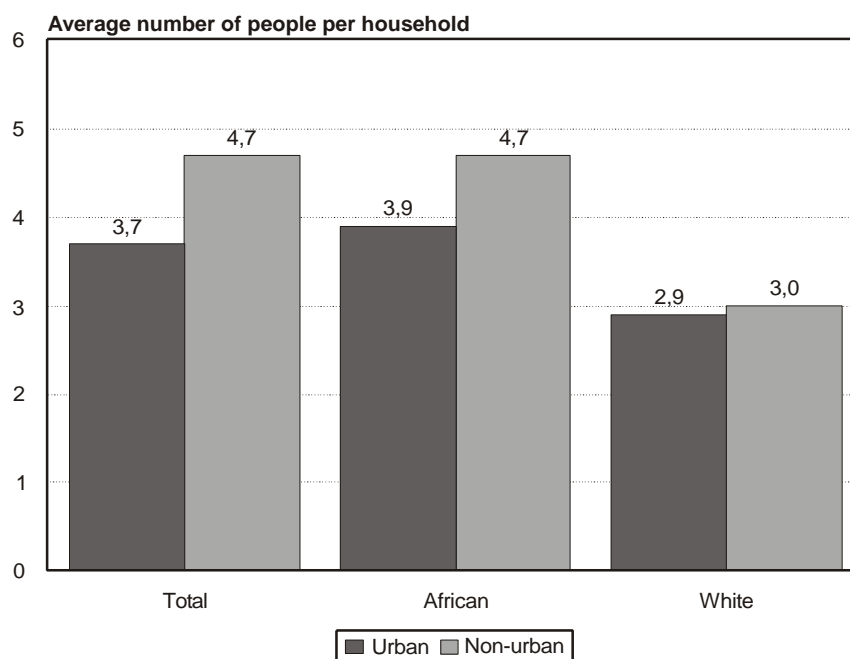


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 81: Size of dwellings (number of rooms) of Africans and whites by head of household in North West

Size of dwelling varies by population group. Figure 81 shows that 81% of African households live in dwellings containing five or fewer rooms (including kitchens but excluding bathrooms) compared with 51% of white households. In the whole of South Africa, a similar percentage of African households (79%) live in dwellings with five or fewer rooms; a substantially lower percentage of white households (38%) live in small dwellings.

While white households in North West tend to live in larger dwellings, they are also more likely to contain fewer people. Figure 82 indicates that, on average, white households in urban areas consist of 2,9 people and in non-urban areas 3,0 people. African households, on the other hand, on average, consist of 3,9 people in urban areas and 4,7 in non-urban areas. Overcrowding is thus a very real possibility in African households.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 82: Average household size of Africans and whites in urban and non-urban areas in North West

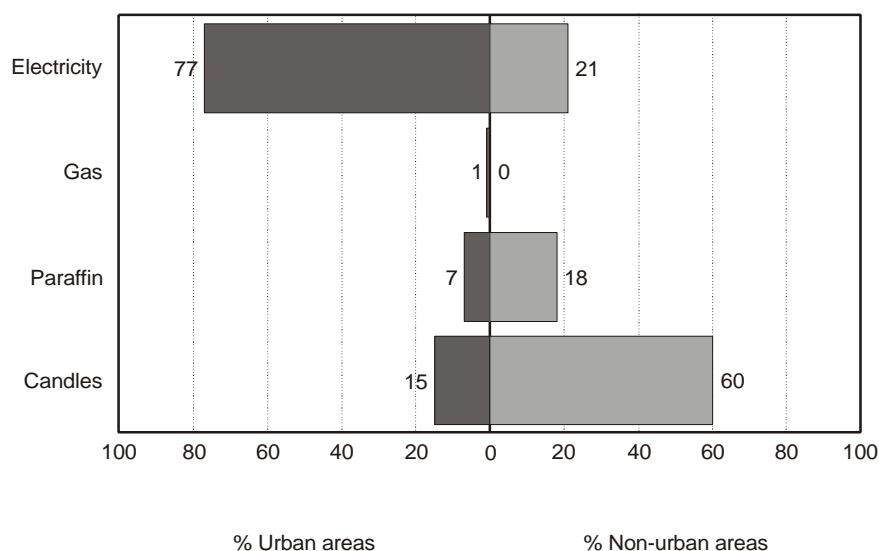
Access to facilities and services

Access to facilities and services such as electricity and piped water serve as good indicators of the material well-being of communities. In North West, such access is fraught with inequalities between population groups and between urban and non-urban areas.

Access to electricity

Electricity for lighting is unevenly distributed by population group in North West. Under half (44%) of all African households use electricity as their main source of lighting compared to more than 99% of white households. In the country as a whole, on the other hand, just over half (51%) of all African households and 99% of white households use electricity for lighting. Thus, the availability of electricity for lighting to African households in North West is substantially below the national level for African households.

There are marked differences in the use of electricity for lighting between urban and non-urban African households in North West and, to a lesser extent, between the province and the country as a whole. Figure 83 shows that three in every four (77%) African households in urban areas use electricity as the main source for lighting compared to one in five (21%) in non-urban areas. These percentages are slightly lower than the corresponding national figures: in South Africa, 81% of urban and 24% of non-urban African households use electricity for lighting. In North West, over half (60%) of non-urban households use candles for lighting and a further 18% use paraffin, compared with 48% and 24%, respectively, throughout the country.



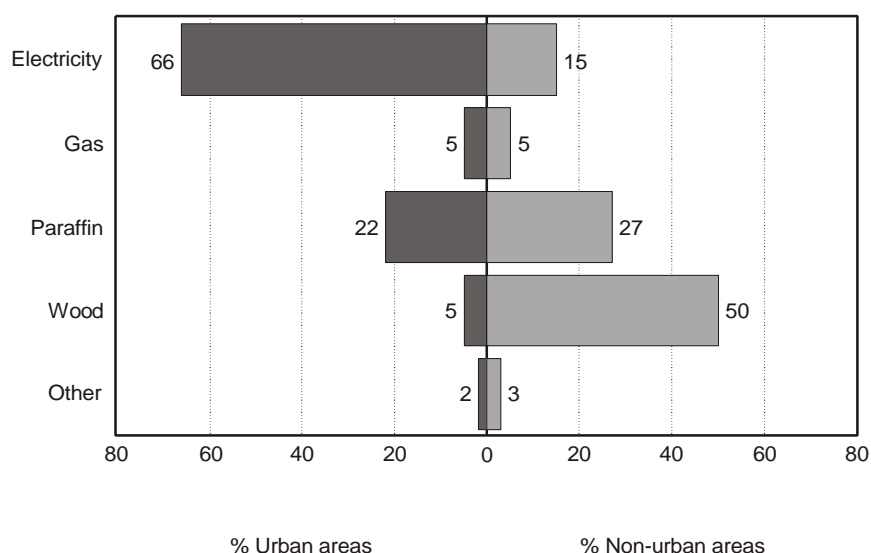
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 83: Sources of energy for lighting in African households in urban and non-urban areas in North West

A slightly lower proportion of African households make use of electricity as the main source of energy for cooking, compared to lighting, in both urban (66%) and non-urban (15%) areas. This is probably because it is more expensive to use electricity for cooking. Altogether, 36% of African households and over 99% of white households

use electricity for cooking in North West, compared with 42% and 98%, respectively, in South Africa as a whole.

As indicated above, relatively few (15%) non-urban African households use electricity for cooking; the corresponding national figure is 16%. Figure 84 shows that about half (50%) use wood and 27% use paraffin. In South Africa as a whole, a slightly higher percentage (55%) of non-urban African households use wood for cooking, and a lower percentage (20%) use paraffin.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 84: Source of energy for cooking in urban and non-urban African households in North West

Obtaining wood for domestic use in non-urban areas

Most non-urban African households (80%) that use wood obtain it from the *veld*. Alternative sources of wood include merchants (9%), woodlots (4%), indigenous forests (3%), trees growing on the site of the dwelling (3%) and commercial plantations (2%). In the whole country, a much lower proportion (52%) of non-urban African households that use wood obtain it from the *veld*, whilst a higher percentage (23%) obtain it from indigenous forests.

Forty-five percent of Africans in non-urban areas who fetch wood travel more than a kilometre to fetch it, compared with 51% nationally. Household members may thus spend large proportions of each day walking long distances to fetch wood and bringing it home for cooking. Time-use studies, which are planned by Stats SA, should give a clearer indication of the amount of time spent on fetching wood.

Fifteen percent of non-urban African households that fetch wood usually cannot obtain sufficient quantities. A further 39% usually, but not always, obtain the quantities required for household use.

Regular payment for wood is relatively infrequent in African non-urban households: 19% always pay, 20% sometimes pay and 61% never pay. The corresponding figures for the country are 15%, 21% and 64%.

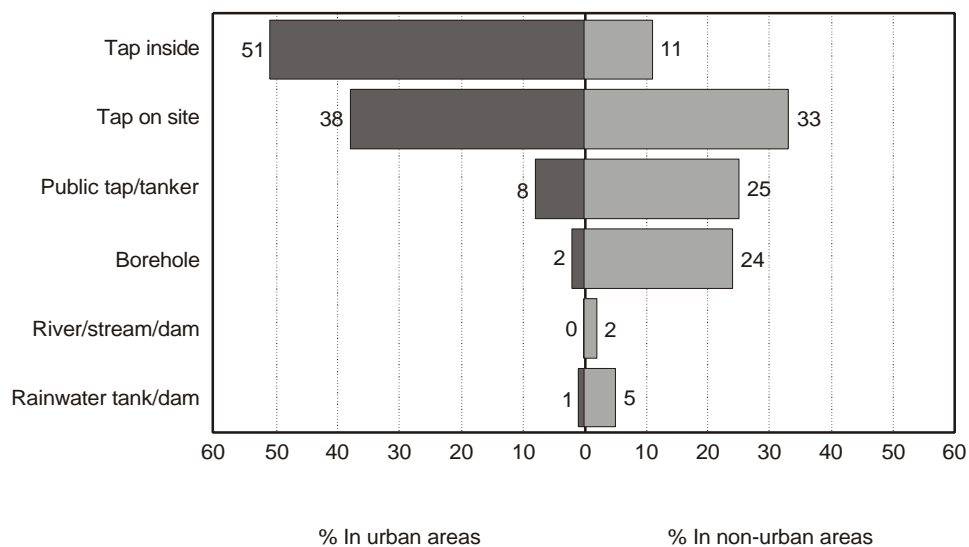
Water for drinking

Unequal access to convenient sources of drinking water between African and white households in North West is very obvious. Almost all white households (more than 99%) have the use of running tap water for drinking purposes inside the dwelling. By contrast, only about a quarter (27%) of African households have this facility. A slightly larger proportion of African households throughout the country (33%) have running tap water inside the dwelling.

Among African households, the differences between urban and non-urban areas regarding type of water source used for drinking purposes are noteworthy. Figure 85 illustrates that, in urban areas, 51% have a tap inside the dwelling and a further 38% have a tap on site. In non-urban areas, on the other hand, only one in ten (11%) have a tap inside the dwelling and 33% have a tap on site. A small proportion (2%) obtain water from a river, stream, dam or well whilst a quarter (24%) obtain water from a borehole. Non-urban African households in North West are more fortunate than their national counterparts in this regard: in South Africa as a whole, 28% of such households obtain water from a river, stream, dam or well whilst 16% obtain water from a borehole.

This is reflected in distance to the water source. Among African households in the province who have to fetch water from a source which is not on site, 2% travel at least one kilometre to reach the source, compared with 17% in the country.

Fewer than one in ten households (8%) in North West indicated that the water obtained was usually not adequate for normal household purposes, compared with 12% of households in South Africa.



Source: October household survey, 1995

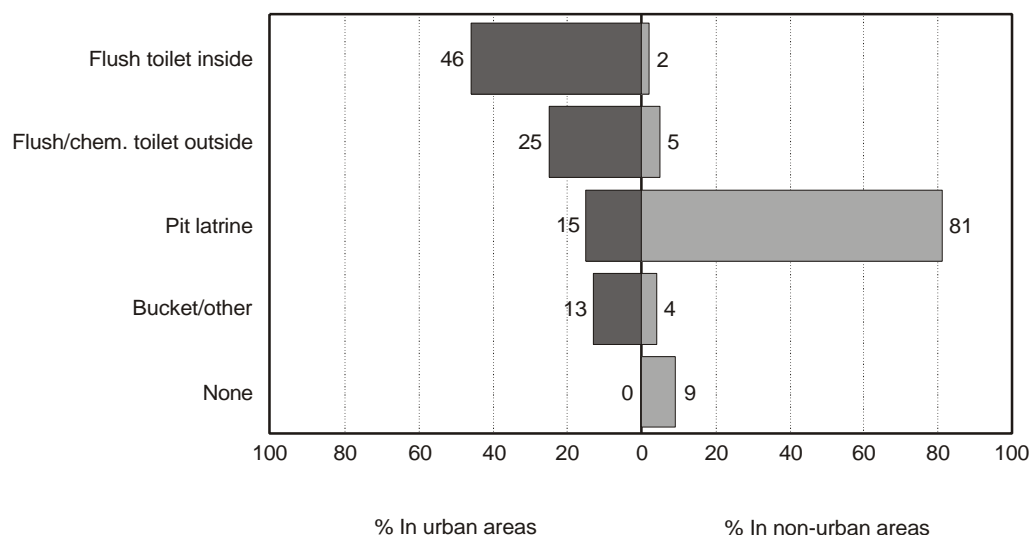
Figure 85: Sources of water for drinking in African households in urban and non-urban areas of North West

Sanitation

Flush toilets inside the dwelling are found in all white households but in only 20% of African households. Instead, African households make use of a flush toilet on site (12%), a pit latrine (50%) and a bucket or chemical toilet on site (8%). A further 5% have access to toilet facilities off-site, primarily a pit latrine, and 6% do not have access to any facilities. Countrywide, a larger percentage of African households (11%) do not have access to any sanitation facilities. African households in North West (54%) make greater use of pit latrines than African households in the country as a whole (40%).

The difference in access to sanitation among African households is again clear-cut along the urban/non-urban divide. Figure 86 indicates that 46% of urban African households have a toilet inside the dwelling, as against 2% of non-urban households. The corresponding figures for African households in South Africa are 42% and 5%.

In non-urban areas of North West, 81% of African households make use of a pit latrine, either on-site or off-site, while only 15% make use of this facility in urban areas. One in ten (9%) African non-urban households has no toilet facility at all, compared to less than 1% of urban households.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 86: Types of sanitation used among African households in urban and non-urban areas in North West

Telephones

Relatively few households in North West (18%) have a telephone inside the dwelling, compared to the national figure of 32%. While 77% of white households have a telephone, only 9% of African households have one. However, people also have access to telephone facilities at neighbours' places, shops and clinics, and through pay phones. Four in ten (42%) African households do not have access to any telephone facilities; the corresponding figure for white households is 14%. Nationally, 41% of African households and 9% of white households do not have access to telephone facilities.

As might be expected, a larger proportion of non-urban households have no access to telephones than urban households. Almost half (47%) of non-urban and 34% of urban African households in North West do not have access to telephone facilities, compared with 55% and 25%, respectively, in South Africa.

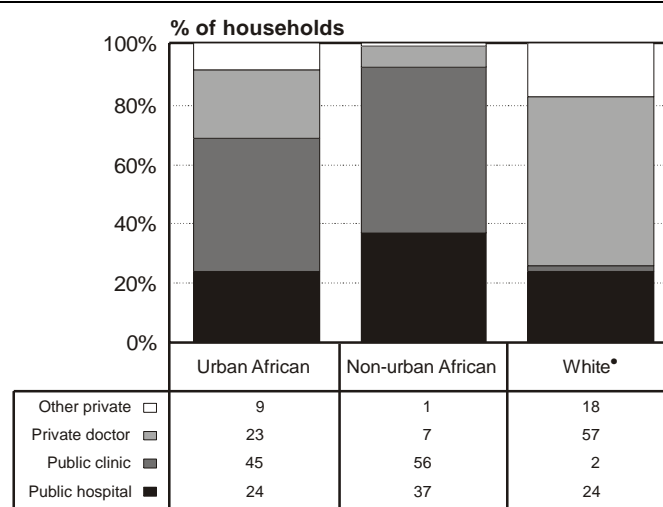
Cellular telephones were relatively uncommon in 1995. Only 1% of households (5% of white and less than 1% of African households) had them.

Access to health-care facilities

The public sector caters for the health requirements of most households in North West. The vast majority of African (82%) households make use of public health-care facilities when they need them, whilst whites tend to use the private sector (74%). Throughout the country, a similar percentage of African households (81%) use public health-care facilities, whilst a slightly higher percentage of white households (80%) use private facilities.

Non-urban Africans are more likely to make use of public facilities (92%) than urban Africans (68%), as shown in Figure 87. In both areas, a greater proportion go to public clinics than to public hospitals. In South Africa, 87% of non-urban Africans and 74% of urban Africans go to public health facilities.

Whites in North West make use of public hospitals to the same extent as urban Africans (24%), but tend not to go to public clinics. Instead, 57% make use of private doctors and a further 18% make use of other private facilities such as homeopaths and pharmacists when they require care.



• The white population lives mainly in urban areas

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 87: Sources of health-care for households in urban and non-urban areas by population group in North West

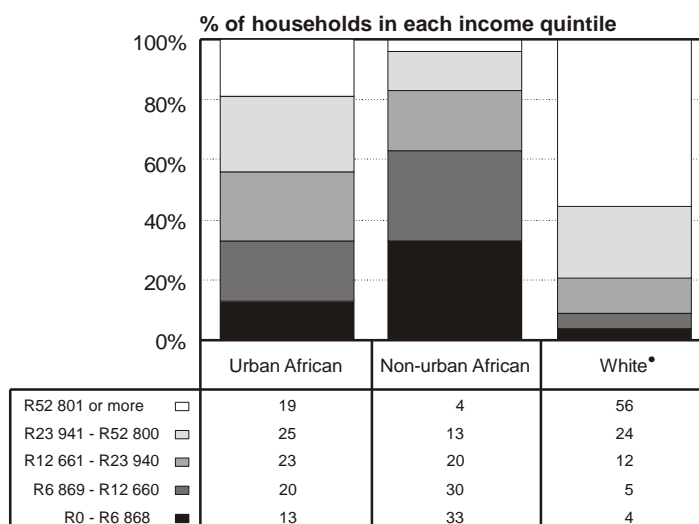
Distance to health-care facilities is an important factor in assessing access. Most white households (84%) are less than five kilometres from a health facility. A similar percentage (80%) of urban African households live within five kilometres of a health facility. Non-urban Africans tend to have to travel further in order to reach a health facility – only 40% of such households are within five kilometres.

Closely related to distance, but dependent on type of transport, is time to reach a health facility. Almost all white households (96%) take half-an-hour or less to travel to a health facility. As might be expected, a higher proportion of urban African households (86%) live within half-an-hour from a facility than non-urban African households (61%). Non-urban African households thus have less access to health-care than urban African and white households .

Household incomes

The household incomes discussed in this section are based on data contained in the *income and expenditure survey* (IES), not the OHS. However, the linking of the IES and OHS data sets has made it possible to explore further the relationships between income and expenditure of households and other household variables such as access to piped tap water and sanitation.

For a complete picture of people's living conditions and life circumstances, it is necessary to look at household income. Figure 88 is based on a division of overall annual disposable household incomes into groupings which correspond to the national quintiles. It is clear that non-urban African households tend to be the poorest in the province: 33% of them have incomes of less than R6 869 per annum, compared with 13% of urban African and 4% of white households. Looking at the top quintile of R52 801 or more, we find that 56% of white households, 19% of urban African households and 4% of non-urban African households fall in this category. In general, it would appear as though there is an inverse relationship between the quintile distribution of incomes of African households and those of white households.



• The white population lives mainly in urban areas

Source: October household survey, 1995

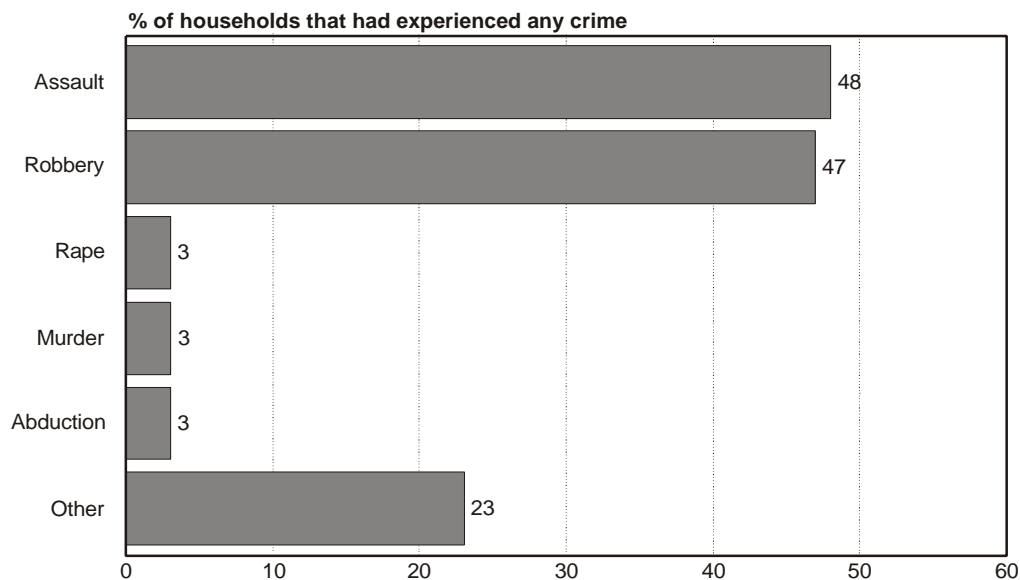
Figure 88: Household incomes in urban and non-urban areas in North West by population group

African households in North West are slightly poorer than all African households in the country. In North West, 28% and 27% of households have incomes in the lowest two quintiles compared with 26% and 24%, respectively, of African households in South Africa as a whole. Whilst 8% of African households in North West earn R52 801 or more, 9% of African households in South Africa fall in this category.

White households in North West are also somewhat poorer than their national counterparts. Nine percent have incomes in the lowest two quintiles compared with 6% of white households nationally. At the other extreme, 56% of white households in North West and 64% of white households in South Africa as a whole have incomes exceeding R52 801 per annum.

Safety and security

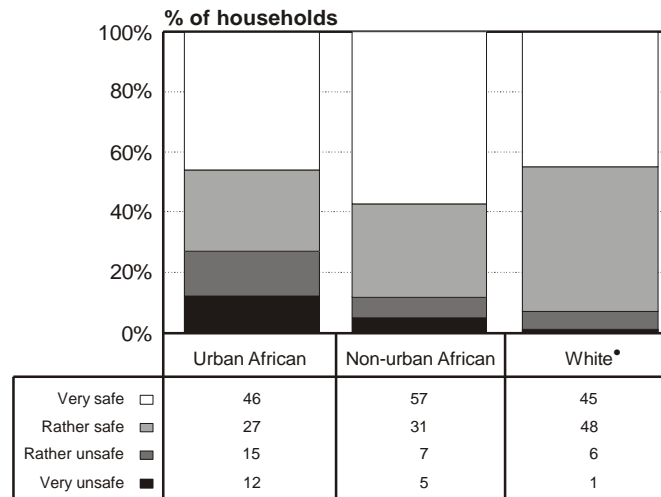
High levels of unemployment tend to go hand in hand with high levels of crime. Members of 5% of all households in North West had been a victim of crime in the 12 months prior to the OHS. Figure 89 shows the types of crimes that were experienced. Of the households that had been the victim of crime, 48% had experienced an assault and 47% a robbery. In the whole country, a larger proportion (9%) of households had experienced a crime, 56% being robbery and 25% assault.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 89: Types of crime experienced by households in North West

Urban households were more likely to have experienced a crime (7%) than non-urban households (3%). The national trend is similar, although reflecting slightly higher levels (10% of urban and 6% of non-urban households had been the victim of a crime). As indicated in Figure 90, this corresponds with feelings of safety by urban/non-urban areas. Twelve percent of African households in urban areas feel very unsafe in their neighbourhood compared with 5% of their non-urban counterparts. Only 1% of white households feel very unsafe in their neighbourhood. In South Africa, a smaller percentage of African households feel very unsafe in their neighbourhood (8% of urban, 5% of non-urban households) whilst a higher percentage of white households (5%) feel very unsafe. The majority of households in North West – 81% of African and 93% of white households – feel very or rather safe in their neighbourhoods.



• The white population lives mainly in urban areas

Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 90: Feelings of safety in neighbourhood in urban and non-urban areas in North West by population group of head of household

Households tend to feel even safer within the dwelling: 86% of African households in non-urban areas of North West feel very or rather safe inside the dwelling, compared with 79% of urban African households and 97% of white households. The corresponding national figures for African households are very similar (85% of non-urban households and 80% of urban households), but a lower percentage of white households (90%) feel safe inside the dwelling.

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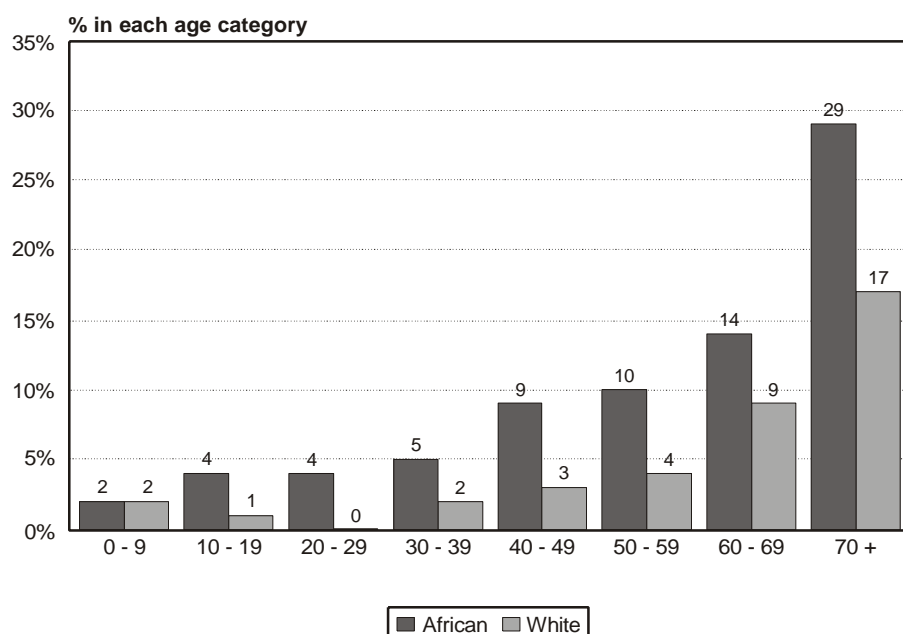
Section 4

Health in North West

Disability

Approximately one in 20 people (5%) in North West are reported as having at least one disability. This is the same as the national reported prevalence of disability.

Five percent of Africans and 3% of whites in the province reported a disability. Figure 91 shows that the disability rates are higher for Africans across all age groups except the very young.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 91: Disability in North West by age and population group

These figures may underestimate the true prevalence of disability because of a possible stigma attached to certain types of disabilities. In addition, members of households who have been institutionalised because of a disability may not have been included.

Figure 92 shows the various types of disabilities by ten-year age categories. Sight disabilities are the most prominent in each age group; the prevalence steadily increases with age, accelerating in those aged 60 years and older. In contrast to the prevalence of other types of disabilities, that of mental disabilities remains fairly stable over age. It is possible that mental disabilities are more prone to being under-reported than other disabilities.

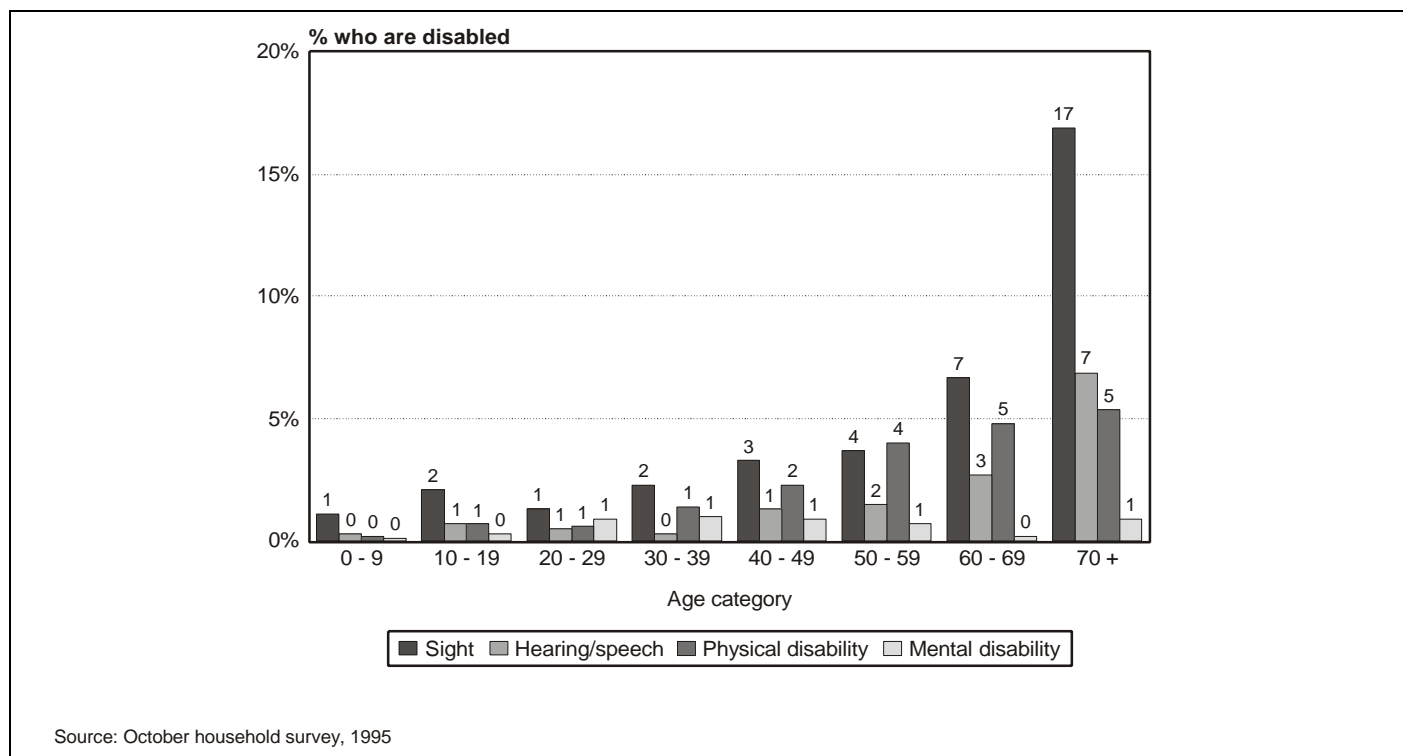


Figure 92: Types of disability by age in North West

Illness and injuries

Eight percent of North West population reported an illness during the month prior to the OHS. Less than one percent (0,9%) of the population had been injured during the same time period. The proportion discharged from hospital during this period was 1%. Similar percentages were reported by Africans and whites for all three indicators. Nationally, 9% and 1% of the South African population had been ill and injured, respectively, during the month prior to the OHS; a slightly higher percentage (2%) than in North West had been discharged from hospital.

Smoking

Smoking is considered to influence the health of the population. Despite the promotion of no-smoking and the cost involved with the habit of smoking, about one in five (22%) of North West population aged ten years or more smokes. A greater proportion of whites (31%) than Africans (21%) smoke in this age group. The prevalence of smoking in North West is slightly higher than in South Africa as a whole. In the country, 20% of the population aged ten years or more smokes (27% of whites and 16% of Africans).

Section 5

Summary and conclusion

Living circumstances in North West tend to be characterised by inequality regarding access to opportunities necessary for a better life. This inequality generally varies by urban and non-urban area, by population group and by gender. The level of urbanisation in North West (40%) is considerably below the national level (50%). This means that, in general, conditions of living in the province are worse than in the country as a whole. Since the larger proportion of the population of North West in non-urban areas is African (60%), this also means that living conditions of the African population in the province is also below the national level. This holds true even if conditions amongst non-urban Africans in the province are similar to those of non-urban Africans in the country as a whole.

The age structure of the population in the province echoes the national structure. It is one of a developing society, characterised by a high proportion (36%) of children (below the age of 15 years). The age structure of the white population in the province, on the other hand, is similar to that of a technologically developed society, as only 25% of the population is below the age of 15 years. This suggests that the developing part of society is largely constituted by the African population.

Educational attainment in the province is characterised by inequality between Africans and whites, and to a lesser extent between white males and white females. Practically all whites 20 years and older have gone to school and have reached educational levels beyond primary school. Yet about half of the corresponding African population have not gone beyond primary school. The proportion of whites with secondary school education is three times that of Africans, while the proportion of whites with post-secondary school education is four times that of Africans. There are marked differences in educational attainment between white males and white females. For example there are proportionately almost twice as many males (22%) as there are females (12%) with post-secondary school education. However, the general education of white females is above that of African females. Unequal access to educational opportunities is partly responsible for Africans being disadvantaged in the labour market. For example, about three-quarters of Africans entering the employment market (those aged 20-29 years) have not passed high school, compared to 19% of whites.

The proportion of the economically active population in North West (34%) is rather small, although it mirrors the national proportion (35%). This proportion has gender differences in its constitution (52% male compared to 37% female). For reasons not yet clear, such gender differences can be seen in provinces which have incorporated substantial portions of former homelands. Gender differences in the constitution of the economically active population are associated mainly with the African population.

These differences also occur between urban and non-urban areas, where males are proportionately dominant in urban areas.

The unemployment rate in the province (33%) is slightly higher than the national unemployment rate (29%). Unemployment rates are clearly unequal between urban (41%) and non-urban (25%) areas within the province. The non-urban unemployment rate (41%) in the province is higher than the national non-urban rate (38%). The unemployment rate tends to vary by population group, being 36% for Africans and 6% for whites. A similar pattern is associated with gender: 25% of males are unemployed compared to 44% of females.

Unemployment appears to be age selective, with 71% of the unemployed in North West and 68% in the country as a whole being below the age of 35 years. The greatest proportion of unemployed males falls within the 20-24 years age group, and the 25-29 years age group for females. Unemployment also appears to be education-selective in the sense that levels tend to be inversely associated with levels of education.

With regard to the employed, there are clear differences between occupations of Africans and whites. Irrespective of gender, the majority of employed Africans are found in elementary occupations (41%) characterised by low-level skills. On the other hand, whites are more evenly distributed in occupations generally associated with high skills. For example, 23% of whites are found in artisan/crafts occupation, 21% in clerical occupations and 17% in semi-professional and technical occupations. Gender differences in occupation are found mainly among white workers, with females dominating clerical occupations (56%) while males dominate the artisan/crafts occupations (33%).

The highest proportion of workers in North West (30%) are to be found in the community, social and personal services sector, dominated by females (56% females compared with 17% males). The agricultural sector (18%) and the trade, catering and accommodation sector (17%) are also relatively prominent. Only 9% are in manufacturing. These proportions are much the same as in the country as a whole.

The informal sector is quite active in North West, constituting approximately 12% of the provinces economically active population. Most informal sector workers are self-employed, constituting 81% of all workers in the informal sector. The sector consists of 96% of African workers for own account, especially females (65%). Elementary occupations dominate the rest of the occupational categories both provincially (67%) and nationally (64%). The community, social and personal services dominate the economic sectors, consisting of 59% of workers for own account.

Income differences are very pronounced among population groups, especially between Africans and whites. Incomes also vary by gender. Forty-nine percent of African male employees and 43% of African female employees are in the bottom income bracket, earning a monthly average of R999 or less. However, only 2% of white male employees and 7% of white female employees are in the bottom income bracket. Moreover, 5% of African male employees and 4% of African female employees are in the top income category (R4 000 or more), compared to 59% of white male employees and 13% of white female employees.

North West is one of the four provinces in the country which receive net migrants, presumably because of perceived opportunities in the mining sector; the other

provinces are Gauteng, Western Cape and, to a lesser extent, Mpumalanga. The net internal migrants are mostly Africans.

Compared to all South African households, a higher proportion of households in North West live in formal brick structures (80% versus 72%). This is particularly so in non-urban areas where 80% of households live in formal dwellings. Since the province's non-urban population is mostly African, housing for non-urban Africans in the province is above the national level.

In spite of the encouraging housing situation in North West, provision of services is below national levels. Electricity is used for lighting in 44% of African households in the province, compared to 51% of African households nationally. A slightly lower percentage of African households have running tap water inside the dwelling (27% versus 33%) and a flush toilet inside the dwelling (20% versus 22%). Eighteen percent of households in the province have a telephone inside the dwelling, compared to 32% of all South African households.

The majority of African households in the province make use of public health facilities (82%); this is similar to the national figure of 81%. In contrast, a lower proportion of white households make use of private health facilities (74% in North West versus 80% in South Africa as a whole).

The household income profile for Africans and whites in the province shows that both are slightly poorer than their national counterparts. However, since Africans are the poorest population group and because they represent a much larger proportion of the population in North West, households in the province are considerably less well-off, on average, than those in the country as a whole.

Crime appears to be less of a problem in North West than in the country: 5% of households had been the victim of a crime in the year prior to the survey, compared with a national figure of 9%. Assault and robbery constituted the most common crimes (48% and 47% of households that had experienced a crime versus 25% and 56% nationally).

All inequalities identified in this report will require careful monitoring in future. Special attention needs to be given to the life circumstances of the people living in the non-urban areas of North West.