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Mid-year population estimates

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Summary

- This release uses the cohort-component methodology to estimate the 2017 mid-year population of South Africa.
- The estimates cover all the residents of South Africa at the 2017 mid-year, and are based on the latest available information. Estimates may change as new data become available. With the new estimate comes an entire series of revised estimates for the period 2002–2017.
- For 2017, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) estimates the mid-year population at 56,52 million.
- Approximately fifty-one per cent (approximately 28,9 million) of the population is female.
- Gauteng comprises the largest share of the South African population. Approximately 14,3 million people (25,3%) live in this province. KwaZulu-Natal is the province with the second largest population, with 11,1 million people (19,6%) living in this province. With a population of approximately 1,21 million people (2,1%), Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population.
- About 29,6% of the population is aged younger than 15 years and approximately 8,1% (4,60 million) is 60 years or older. Similar proportions of those younger than 15 years live in Gauteng (21,1%) and KwaZulu-Natal (21,1%). Of the elderly aged 60 years and older, the highest percentage 24,0% (1,10 million) reside in Gauteng. The proportion of elderly persons aged 60 and older is increasing over time.
- Migration is an important demographic process in shaping the age structure and distribution of the provincial population. For the period 2016–2021, Gauteng and Western Cape are estimated to experience the largest inflow of migrants of approximately, 1 595 106 and 485 560 respectively (see migration stream tables for net migration).
- Life expectancy at birth for 2017 is estimated at 61,2 years for males and 66,7 years for females.
- The infant mortality rate for 2017 is estimated at 32,8 per 1 000 live births.
- The estimated overall HIV prevalence rate is approximately 12,6% among the South African population. The total number of people living with HIV is estimated at approximately 7,06 million in 2017. For adults aged 15–49 years, an estimated 18,0% of the population is HIV positive.

Table 1: Mid-year population estimates for South Africa by population group and sex, 2017

Population group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	% distribution of males	Number	% distribution of females	Number	% distribution of total
Black African	22 311 400	80,8	23 345 000	80,8	45 656 400	80,8
Coloured	2 403 400	8,7	2 559 500	8,9	4 962 900	8,8
Indian/Asian	719 300	2,6	689 800	2,4	1 409, 100	2,5
White	2 186 500	7,9	2 307 100	8,0	4 493 500	8,0
Total	27 620 600	100,0	28 901 400	100,0	56 521 900	100,0

Table 2: Mid-year population estimates by province, 2017

	Population estimate	% of total population
Eastern Cape	6,498,700	11.5
Free State	2,866,700	5.1
Gauteng	14,278,700	25.3
KwaZulu-Natal	11,074,800	19.6
Limpopo	5,778,400	10.2
Mpumalanga	4,444,200	7.9
Northern Cape	1,214,000	2.1
North West	3,856,200	6.8
Western Cape	6,510,300	11.5
Total	56 521 900	100,0

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1. Introduction

In a projection, the size and composition of the future population of an entity such as South Africa is estimated. The mid-year population estimates produced by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) uses the cohort-component method for population estimation. In the cohort-component method, a base population is estimated that is consistent with known demographic characteristics of the country. The cohort base population is projected into the future according to the projected components of change. Selected levels of fertility, mortality and migration are used as input to the cohort-component method. For the 2017 mid-year estimates, the cohort-component method is utilised within the Spectrum Policy Modelling system. Spectrum is a Windows-based system of integrated policy models (version 5.47). The DemProj module within Spectrum is used to make the demographic projection, while the AIDS Impact Model (AIM) is used to incorporate the impacts of HIV and AIDS on fertility and mortality.

Stats SA subscribes to the specifications of the Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and publishes the mid-year population estimates for the country annually. The Mid-year estimates are an estimate of the population as at 1 July in a given year. The estimates of stock such as population size, number infected with HIV etc. pertain to the middle of the year i.e. 1 July, whilst the estimates of flow e.g. births, Total Fertility Rates (TFRs), Infant Mortality Rates (IMRs) etc. are for a 12-month period e.g. 1 July 2016 to 30th June 2017. A stock variable is measured at one specific time, and represents a quantity at each moment in time – e.g. the number of population at a certain moment whilst an estimate of flow is typically measured over a certain interval of time.

2. Demographic and other assumptions

A cohort-component projection requires a base population distributed by age and sex. Levels of mortality, fertility and migration are estimated for the base year and projected for future years. The cohort base population is projected into the future according to the projected components of population change. The DemProj module of Spectrum is used to produce a single-year projection, thus the TFR and the life expectancy at birth must be provided in the same way. The time series of TFR estimates for all population groups in South Africa are interrogated following a detailed review of TFR estimates (1985–2017), published and unpublished, from various authors, methods and data sources. The finalised TFR assumptions can be found in Table 3 (page 4). The estimates of fertility show a fluctuation over the period 2002–2017, giving rise to a population structure indicative of that of Census 2011 population structure. Between the period 2007 and 2017, fertility has declined from an average of 2,73 children per woman to 2,41 children. Other inputs required in DemProj include the age-specific fertility rate (ASFR) trend, sex ratios at birth and net international migration. In estimating South Africa's population, international migration is provided as an input into the model (see Table 4, page 4).

The life expectancy assumption entered into DemProj by gender is the life expectancy in the absence of AIDS (see Table 3). Each population group is also subjected to non-AIDS mortality according to the input non-AIDS life expectancy and the selected model life table. AIM will calculate the number of AIDS deaths and determine a new set

of life expectancies that incorporates the impact of AIDS, (see Table 5, page 6). Stats SA applies the country-specific UN Model Life table for South Africa built into Spectrum. Survival rates from the selected life tables were then used to project the population forward.

Table 3: Assumptions of expectation of life at birth without AIDS and fertility

Year	TFR	Life expectancy at birth without HIV/AIDS	
		Male	Female
2002	2,50	61,6	68,8
2003	2,46	62,0	69,1
2004	2,56	62,3	69,5
2005	2,62	62,5	69,6
2006	2,68	62,8	69,8
2007	2,73	63,1	70,0
2008	2,72	63,2	70,4
2009	2,66	63,4	70,6
2010	2,61	63,8	70,7
2011	2,56	64,0	70,9
2012	2,54	64,2	71,0
2013	2,52	64,4	71,1
2014	2,50	64,6	71,2
2015	2,46	64,9	71,5
2016	2,43	65,2	71,6
2017	2,41	65,2	71,7

Table 4: International net-migration assumptions for the period 1985–2021

	Black African	Indian/Asian	White
1986–2000	516 886	33 166	-184 431
2001–2006	481 842	22 719	-95 210
2006–2011	773 946	39 406	-103 885
2011–2016	940 352	53 444	-108 269
2016–2021	1 072 557	59 432	-112 740

The Spectrum Policy Modeling System (Futures Group) consists of 7 components, but Stats SA used only two of them in this projection, namely (a) **Demproj** for population projections and (b) **AIM** in which the consequences of the AIDS epidemic were projected. In the AIM, several programmatic and epidemiological data inputs are required. These are related to programme coverage of adults and children on antiretroviral treatment (ART) and Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) treatment. In addition to eligibility for treatment as per national guidelines, the epidemiological inputs include antenatal clinic data (NDoH, 2013). The assumptions regarding the HIV epidemic in South Africa are based primarily on the prevalence data collected annually from pregnant women attending public antenatal clinics (ANC) since 1990. However, antenatal surveillance data produce biased prevalence estimates for the general population because only a select group of people (i.e. pregnant women attending public health services) are included in the sample. To correct this bias, we adjusted the ANC prevalence estimates by adjusting for relative

attendance rates at antenatal clinics and for the difference in prevalence between pregnant women and the general adult population (Shisana et al., 2014).

Indicators of HIV prevalence, incidence and HIV population numbers over time, merely show the impact of HIV on the population. HIV indicators shown in Table 6 are based on the aforementioned assumptions and may differ to HIV indicators published elsewhere.

3. Demographic and other indicators

Table 5 shows the life expectancies that incorporate the impact of AIDS (using the AIM model). The crude death rate (CDR) is down from 13,4 deaths per 1 000 people in 2002 to 9 deaths per 1 000 people in 2017. The crude birth rate (CBR) has increased between 2002 and 2008, thereafter declines in the period 2009 to 2017. The CBR is directly related to the fluctuating TFR assumptions (Table 3, page 4). Life expectancy at birth had declined between 2002 and 2006 but expansion of health programmes to prevent mother to child transmission as well as access to antiretroviral treatment, has partly led the increase in life expectancy since 2007. By 2017 life expectancy at birth is estimated at 61,2 years for males and 66,7 years for females. Table 5 indicates that life expectancy is increasing, and this may be related to marginal gains in survival rates among infants and children under-5 post HIV interventions in 2005. Infant mortality rate (IMR) has declined from an estimated 48,1 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 32,8 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in 2017. Similarly the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) declined from 71,3 child deaths per 1 000 live births to 42,4 child deaths per 1 000 live births between 2002 and 2017. IMR and U5MR shown in Table 5 (page 6) are based on the selected model life table and may differ to similar indices published elsewhere.

Table 5: Demographic indicators, 2002–2017

Year	Crude Birth Rate	Life Expectancy			Infant Mortality Rate	Under 5 Mortality Rate	Crude Death Rate	Rate of Natural Increase (%)
		Male	Female	Total				
2002	21,7	52,9	56,6	54,9	48,1	71,3	13,4	0,83
2003	21,7	52,5	55,8	54,2	48,1	71,6	14,0	0,77
2004	22,7	52,2	55,3	53,8	48,7	71,8	14,4	0,83
2005	23,4	52,1	54,8	53,5	49,1	72,5	14,8	0,86
2006	24,1	52,3	54,7	53,5	48,7	71,7	14,8	0,93
2007	24,8	53,3	56,1	54,7	47,8	70,1	14,0	1,08
2008	24,8	54,3	57,9	56,1	46,6	67,6	13,0	1,18
2009	24,4	55,0	58,7	56,9	42,8	63,3	12,6	1,18
2010	23,9	56,4	60,6	58,5	41,1	58,4	11,6	1,23
2011	23,5	57,6	62,7	60,2	39,9	54,4	10,7	1,28
2012	23,3	58,5	63,6	61,1	38,8	51,5	10,2	1,31
2013	23,0	59,2	64,6	61,9	37,4	49,1	9,8	1,32
2014	22,7	59,7	65,1	62,5	36,0	47,1	9,6	1,31
2015	22,2	60,0	65,5	62,8	34,0	44,7	9,5	1,27
2016	21,7	60,6	66,1	63,4	33,5	43,6	9,2	1,25
2017	21,3	61,2	66,7	64,0	32,8	42,4	9,0	1,23

Table 6 below shows estimates for selected indicators. The highest number of deaths were estimated in 2006. The decline in the percentage of AIDS-related deaths from 2007 can be attributed to the increase in the roll-out of ART over time. National rollout of ART began in 2005 with a target of one (1) service point in each of the 53 districts of South Africa. The number of AIDS-related deaths declined consistently since 2007 from 345 185 in 2006 to 126 755 AIDS related deaths in 2017. Access to antiretroviral treatment has changed historical patterns of mortality. Access to ART has thus extended the lifespan of many in South Africa, who would have otherwise died at an earlier age, evident in the decline of AIDS deaths post-2006.

Table 6: Births and deaths for the period 2002–2017

Year	Number of births	Number of deaths	Number of AIDS related deaths	Percentage of AIDS deaths
2002	984 061	607 922	254 883	41,93
2003	989 447	637 293	286 186	44,91
2004	1 048 309	664 677	314 000	47,24
2005	1 092 198	689 231	335 392	48,66
2006	1 139 823	701 102	345 185	49,23
2007	1 185 508	667 997	310 419	46,47
2008	1 204 465	633 219	274 113	43,29
2009	1 201 801	620 370	260 480	41,99
2010	1 197 553	580 217	219 741	37,87
2011	1 197 028	543 709	181 807	33,44
2012	1 207 253	529 569	163 827	30,94
2013	1 211 713	517 600	148 632	28,72
2014	1 214 277	514 620	142 534	27,70
2015	1 206 155	517 474	143 059	27,65
2016	1 200 207	511 139	135 154	26,44
2017	1 198 481	506 429	126 755	25,03

HIV prevalence

Table 7 (page 8) shows the prevalence estimates and the total number of people living with HIV from 2002 to 2017. The total number of persons living with HIV in South Africa increased from an estimated 4,94 million in 2002 to 7,06 million by 2017. For 2017, an estimated 12,6% of the total population is HIV positive. Approximately one-fifth of South African women in their reproductive ages (15-49 years) are HIV positive. HIV prevalence among the youth aged 15–24 has declined over time from 7,3% in 2002 to 4,6 in 2017. The rate at which the population in South Africa is being infected is estimated to be declining from 1,9% in 2002 to 0,9% in 2017.

Table 7: HIV prevalence estimates and the number of people living with HIV, 2002–2017

	Prevalence %				Incidence rate % 15-49	HIV population (in millions)
	Women 15-49	Adults 15-49	Youth 15-24	Total population		
2002	20,23	17,65	7,31	10,91	1,90	4,94
2003	20,42	17,77	7,02	11,15	1,87	5,09
2004	20,56	17,85	6,86	11,33	1,88	5,23
2005	20,65	17,89	6,78	11,48	1,86	5,35
2006	20,70	17,90	6,71	11,58	1,83	5,47
2007	20,79	17,95	6,60	11,70	1,74	5,60
2008	21,00	18,11	6,56	11,88	1,74	5,77
2009	21,16	18,22	6,48	12,01	1,62	5,92
2010	21,31	18,31	6,32	12,14	1,46	6,08
2011	21,45	18,39	6,09	12,28	1,33	6,25
2012	21,53	18,43	5,82	12,39	1,21	6,41
2013	21,48	18,35	5,45	12,43	1,02	6,54
2014	21,40	18,25	5,12	12,46	0,97	6,67
2015	21,34	18,17	4,92	12,50	1,01	6,80
2016	21,29	18,10	4,79	12,55	1,00	6,93
2017	21,17	17,98	4,64	12,57	0,91	7,06

4. National population estimates

Table 8 shows the mid-year estimates by population group and sex. The mid-year population is estimated at 56,5 million. The black African population is in the majority (45,7 million) and constitutes approximately 81% of the total South African population. The white population is estimated at 4,5 million, the coloured population at 5,0 million and the Indian/Asian population at 1,4 million. Just over fifty-one per cent (28,9 million) of the population is female.

Table 8: Mid-year estimates by population group and sex, 2017

Population group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	% of total male population	Number	% of total female population	Number	% of total population
Black African	22 311 400	80,8	23 345 000	80,8	45 656 400	80,8
Coloured	2 403 400	8,7	2 559 500	8,9	4 962 900	8,8
Indian/Asian	719 300	2,6	689 800	2,4	1 409 100	2,5
White	2 186 500	7,9	2 307 100	8,0	4 493 500	8,0
Total	27 620 600	100,0	28 901 400	100,0	56 521 900	100,0

Table 9 below shows that the implied rate of growth for the South African population has increased between 2002 and 2017. The estimated overall growth rate increased from approximately 1,17% between 2002 and 2003 to 1,61% for the period 2016 to 2017. The proportion of elderly in South Africa is on the increase and this is indicative in the estimated growth rate over time rising from 1,34% for the period 2002–2003 to 3,0% for the period 2016–2017. Given the fluctuation in fertility the growth rate among children aged 0–14 declines between 2002 to 2005, thereafter increasing between 2006 and 2017.

Table 9: Estimated annual population growth rates, 2002–2017

Period	Children 0-14	Youth 15-34	Elderly 60+	Total
2002–2003	-0,85	2,48	1,34	1,17
2003–2004	-0,50	2,35	1,45	1,20
2004–2005	-0,16	2,18	1,60	1,23
2005–2006	0,21	1,96	1,74	1,26
2006–2007	0,45	1,73	1,87	1,29
2007–2008	0,58	1,61	2,11	1,32
2008–2009	0,74	1,49	2,30	1,35
2009–2010	0,84	1,36	2,46	1,38
2010–2011	0,94	1,24	2,59	1,41
2011–2012	1,23	1,02	2,69	1,45
2012–2013	1,39	0,87	2,75	1,48
2013–2014	1,46	0,78	2,90	1,51
2014–2015	1,44	0,68	2,95	1,54
2015–2016	1,54	0,32	2,98	1,58
2016–2017	1,56	0,18	2,99	1,61

Table 10 (page 10) shows the 2017 mid-year population estimates by age, sex and population group. About 29,6% of the population is aged 0–14 years and approximately 8,1% is 60 years and older.

Table 10: Mid-year population estimates by population group, age and sex, 2017

Age	Black African			Coloured			Indian/Asian			White			RSA		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	2 532 777	2 517 270	5 050 047	244 218	240 284	484 502	49 250	47 438	96 688	120 067	115 269	235 336	2 946 312	2 920 261	5 866 573
5-9	2 475 454	2 472 427	4 947 880	234 935	231 744	466 679	48 022	45 875	93 898	130 514	125 605	256 120	2 888 925	2 875 651	5 764 576
10-14	2 161 893	2 170 234	4 332 128	214 174	211 581	425 755	44 441	42 220	86 661	126 751	122 386	249 138	2 547 260	2 546 422	5 093 681
15-19	1 911 064	1 934 788	3 845 852	205 394	203 685	409 079	44 979	42 742	87 721	126 279	123 069	249 348	2 287 717	2 304 284	4 592 001
20-24	2 100 859	2 128 984	4 229 843	215 112	214 307	429 418	54 761	50 943	105 704	133 602	132 703	266 305	2 504 334	2 526 937	5 031 271
25-29	2 326 453	2 350 758	4 677 212	217 062	217 516	434 577	66 283	57 990	124 273	141 495	140 748	282 243	2 751 293	2 767 012	5 518 305
30-34	2 208 498	2 202 074	4 410 572	198 595	201 063	399 659	74 584	62 150	136 734	153 579	153 189	306 769	2 635 257	2 618 476	5 253 733
35-39	1 759 030	1 723 388	3 482 419	164 325	171 508	335 833	69 676	56 395	126 071	149 749	149 466	299 215	2 142 780	2 100 757	4 243 537
40-44	1 351 247	1 291 225	2 642 473	152 025	156 671	308 696	61 175	51 666	112 841	160 642	167 780	328 422	1 725 089	1 667 342	3 392 431
45-49	990 751	1 049 410	2 040 161	143 000	161 457	304 457	52 021	47 272	99 293	169 820	173 858	343 678	1 355 592	1 431 997	2 787 590
50-54	761 669	935 189	1 696 859	127 447	151 504	278 951	43 708	44 372	88 080	152 244	160 452	312 696	1 085 068	1 291 518	2 376 586
55-59	614 893	771 843	1 386 736	106 634	126 474	233 108	36 130	38 900	75 029	148 045	162 926	310 971	905 701	1 100 143	2 005 845
60-64	463 879	622 645	1 086 523	75 132	98 813	173 945	28 800	33 161	61 960	134 850	147 461	282 310	702 660	902 079	1 604 739
65-69	307 811	453 434	761 245	50 973	72 622	123 595	20 941	26 877	47 818	119 986	138 181	258 167	499 711	691 114	1 190 825
70-74	176 873	302 589	479 462	29 366	45 402	74 767	13 060	19 055	32 115	95 345	111 927	207 271	314 644	478 972	793 616
70-79	100 014	200 883	300 897	14 969	29 443	44 412	7 093	12 295	19 387	65 009	84 251	149 260	187 084	326 871	513 955
80+	68 280	217 812	286 092	10 037	25 452	35 489	4 402	10 427	14 830	58 496	97 778	156 275	141 215	351 469	492 684
Total	22 311 447	23 344 954	45 656 401	2 403 397	2 559 524	4 962 922	719 325	689 778	1 409 103	2 186 472	2 307 050	4 493 523	27 620 642	28 901 306	56 521 948

5. Provincial population estimates

When provincial population estimates are desired and the appropriate data are available a multi-regional approach should be considered as this is the only way to guarantee that the total migration flows between regions will sum to zero (United Nations.1992). The methods developed for this purpose by Willekens and Rogers (1978) have not been widely used in developing countries partly due to the lack of adequate migration data and the difficulty of applying these methods.

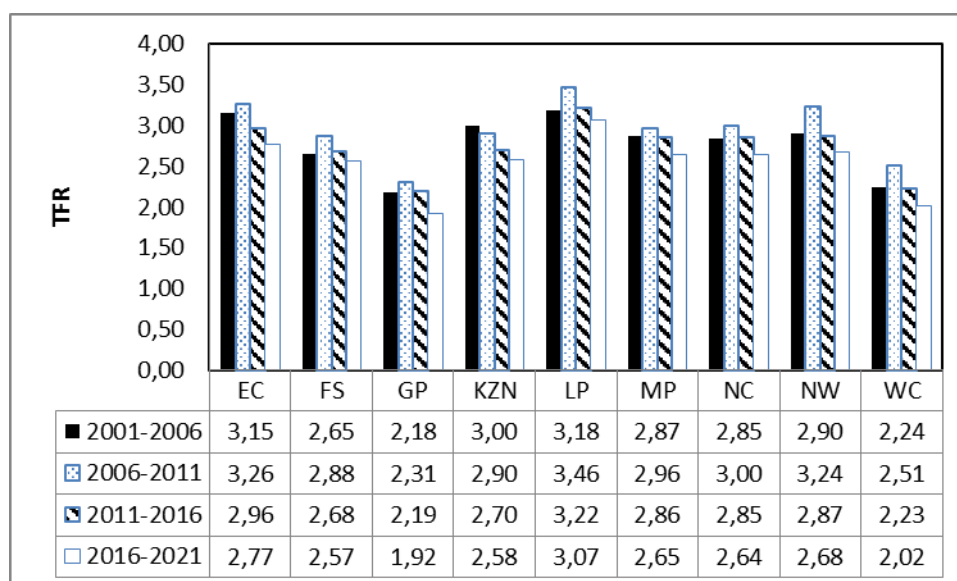
Multi-regional methods require the estimation of separate age-specific migration rates between every region of the country and every other region and such detailed data are rarely available. Although it is possible to estimate some of the missing data (see Willekens et al. 1978) the task of preparing data can become overwhelming if there are many regions. If there are only a few streams however the multi-regional method is the best method to use. In South Africa 2 448 (9x8x17x2) migration streams are derived if the multi-regional model is applied in calculating migration streams by age group (17 in total) and sex for each of the nine provinces.

The cohort-component approach suggested by the United Nations (United Nations. 1992) was used to undertake the provincial projections for this report.

5.1 Demographic assumptions

The demographic data from the 2011 Census i.e. fertility, mortality and migration rates are incorporated in the assumptions. The population structure as per Census 2011 as well as the distribution of births and deaths from vital registrations (adjusted for late registration and completeness) are used to determine provincial estimates (Stats SA, 2017). Figure 1 shows the provincial fertility estimates for the periods 2001–2006, 2006–2011, 2011–2016 and 2016–2021. In the period 2006–2011, there is a general rise in TFR giving shape to the Census 2011 provincial population structure. However for the period 2011–2021 there is an overall decline in TFR over time.

Figure 1: Provincial average total fertility rate



Figures 2 and 3 (page 13) show the average provincial life expectancies at birth for males and females for the periods 2001–2006, 2006–2011, 2011–2016 and 2016–2021. The life expectancy increased incrementally for each period across all provinces but more significantly in the period 2011–2016 due to the uptake of antiretroviral therapy over time in South Africa. Though the Life expectancy in the periods 2001–2006 and 2006–2011, depict marginal improvement, this masks the interaction between the highest number of deaths in 2006 in combination with declining number of deaths between 2007 and 2010. Western Cape consistently has the highest life expectancy at birth for both males and females over time whilst the Free State has the lowest life expectancy at birth.

Figure 2: Provincial average life expectancy at birth (males)

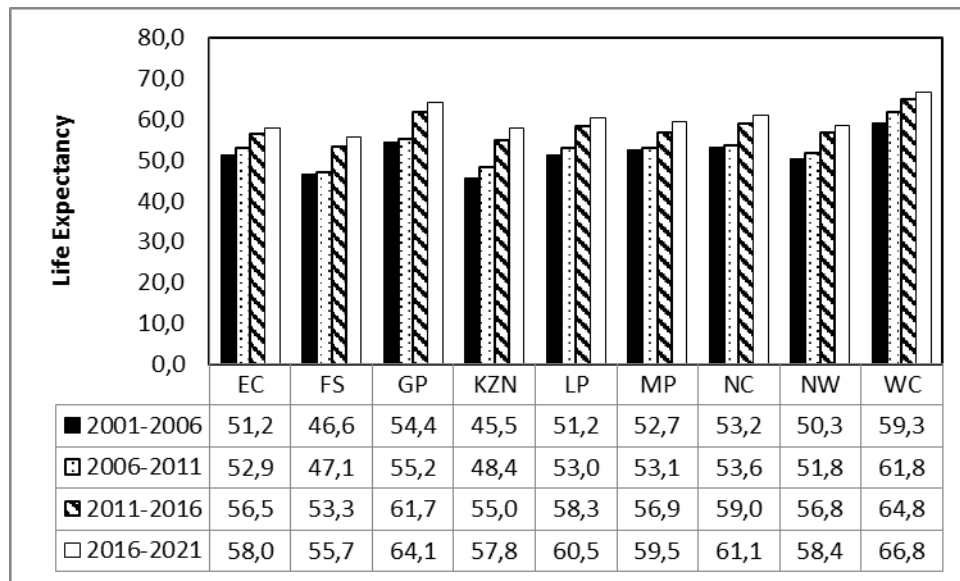
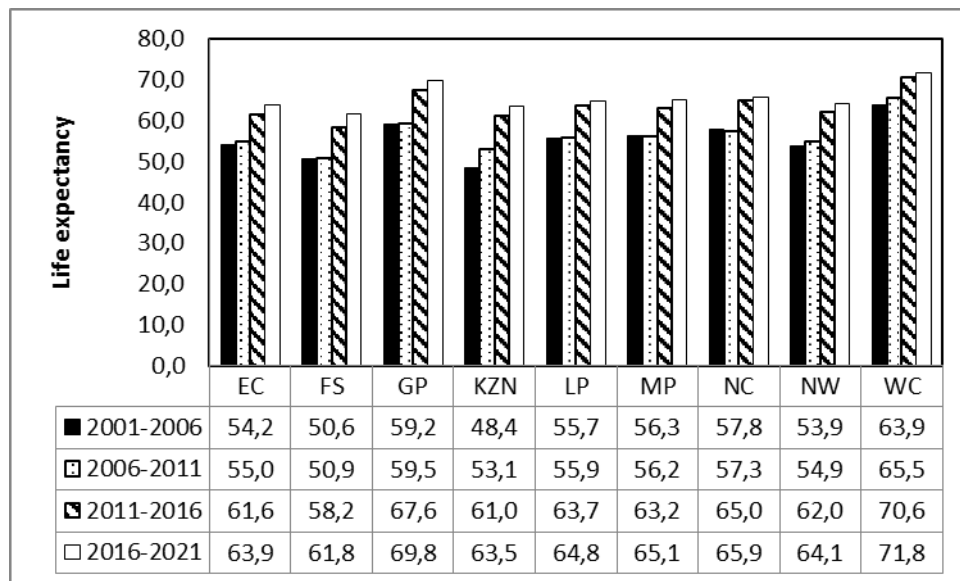


Figure 3: Provincial average life expectancy at birth (females)



5.2 Migration patterns

From Census 2011 it was possible to determine outmigration rates for each province. Applying these rates to the age structures of the province it was possible to establish migration streams between the provinces. The result of these analyses is shown in Tables 11, 12 and 13. The assumptions imply that Gauteng and Western Cape received the highest number of migrants for all periods. The Eastern Cape and Gauteng experienced the largest number of outflow of migrants. Due to its relatively larger population size, Gauteng achieves the highest number of in and out flows. Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape, North West and Western Cape provinces received positive net migration over all 3 periods. For all periods the number of international migrants entering the provinces was highest in Gauteng, with Western Cape ranking second.

Table 11: Estimated provincial migration streams 2006–2011

Province in 2006	Province in 2011									Out-migrants	In-migrants	Net migration
	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LIM	MP	NC	NW	WC			
EC	0	18 109	148 640	99 501	13 714	16 390	7 847	36 758	171 347	512 305	153 823	-358 482
FS	7 424	0	76 945	7 481	6 233	9 658	8 415	21 649	11 587	149 393	120 146	-29 247
GP	38 451	33 427	0	57 893	65 874	63 185	9 664	75 900	74 971	419 366	1 323 985	904 619
KZN	20 607	10 733	211 060	0	7 315	29 216	2 479	9 797	30 810	322 018	257 968	-64 050
LIM	4 136	5 382	274 432	6 897	0	41 283	2 151	27 385	10 465	372 131	216 247	-155 884
MP	4 124	4 685	112 810	11 346	21 086	0	2 080	13 899	8 797	178 826	231 420	52 594
NC	4 018	8 092	16 434	5 201	2 415	3 971	0	11 633	16 533	68 296	69 453	1 157
NW	4 555	10 379	95 072	5 367	17 531	10 472	20 709	0	7 990	172 074	258 766	86 691
WC	43 626	6 788	52 525	11 067	4 736	6 139	10 824	7 053	0	142 758	414 826	272 069
Outside SA	26 882	22 552	336 067	53 215	77 345	51 104	5 285	54 691	82 326			

Table 12: Estimated provincial migration streams 2011–2016

Province in 2011	Province in 2016									Out-migrants	In-migrants	Net migration
	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LIM	MP	NC	NW	WC			
EC	0	17 461	143 937	93 489	13 149	15 721	7 562	36 751	171 472	499 543	173 372	-326 171
FS	7 676	0	79 445	7 739	6 454	9 994	8 706	22 397	11 994	154 405	133 492	-20 913
GP	44 064	38 334	0	66 477	75 454	72 524	11 088	87 127	86 195	481 263	1 462 553	981 290
KZN	21 785	11 334	222 828	0	7 764	30 914	2 629	10 374	32 599	340 228	277 867	-62 360
LIM	4 379	5 685	289 638	7 301	0	43 638	2 280	28 920	11 063	392 905	249 137	-143 767
MP	4 502	5 110	122 961	12 368	22 991	0	2 271	15 161	9 594	194 958	258 961	64 003
NC	4 259	8 568	17 423	5 513	2 565	4 212	0	12 341	17 561	72 441	75 752	3 311
NW	4 975	11 306	107 431	5 856	19 105	11 413	22 595	0	8 732	191 413	289 177	97 764
WC	48 263	7 572	58 692	12 864	5 289	6 868	12 070	7 895	0	159 513	451 885	292 372
Outside SA	33 468	28 122	420 199	66 261	96 365	63 678	6 550	68 210	102 673			

Table 13: Estimated provincial migration streams 2016–2021

Province in 2016	Province in 2021									Out-migrants	In-migrants	Net migration
	EC	FS	GP	KZN	LIM	MP	NC	NW	WC			
EC	0	18 240	149 693	100 139	13 830	16 501	7 928	36 915	172 401	515 648	191 435	-324 213
FS	7 952	0	82 409	8 018	6 688	10 359	9 033	23 214	12 434	160 107	147 246	-12 860
GP	49 690	43 374	0	75 313	85 180	82 199	12 552	98 714	97 853	544 875	1 595 106	1 050 230
KZN	23 077	12 012	236 363	0	8 235	32 772	2 788	11 007	34 576	360 830	307 123	-53706 4
LIM	4 652	6 036	307 929	7 754	0	46 279	2 420	30 662	11 722	417 453	278 847	-138 606
MP	4 893	5 553	134 036	13 438	24 972	0	2 471	16 485	10 423	212 271	285 678	73 407
NC	4 501	9 100	18 519	5 834	2 722	4 460	0	13 082	18 614	76 832	82 502	5 670
NW	5 391	12 244	116 633	6 346	20 694	12 362	24 521	0	9 471	207 662	317 261	109 599
WC	52 871	8 353	64 890	14 229	5 842	7 596	13 310	8 742	0	175 831	485 560	309 729
Outside SA	38 407	32 335	484 634	76 054	110 684	73 150	7 478	78 441	118 066			

5.3 Provincial distributions

Table 11 below shows the estimated percentage of the total population residing in each of the provinces from 2002 to 2017. The provincial estimates show that Gauteng has the largest share of the population followed by KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape. Inter-provincial as well as international migration patterns significantly influence the provincial population numbers and structures in South Africa. By 2017 approximately 11,5% of South Africa's population live in Western Cape and Northern Cape has the smallest share of the population (2,1%). Free State has the second smallest share of the South African population constituting 5,1% of the population.

Table 14: Percentage distribution of the projected provincial share of the total population, 2002–2017

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EC	14,2	14,0	13,8	13,6	13,5	13,3	13,1	12,9	12,7	12,6	12,4	12,2	12,0	11,8	11,7	11,5
FS	5,8	5,7	5,7	5,6	5,6	5,5	5,5	5,4	5,4	5,3	5,3	5,2	5,2	5,2	5,1	5,1
GP	21,3	21,5	21,8	22,1	22,3	22,6	22,9	23,2	23,4	23,7	24,0	24,2	24,5	24,7	25,0	25,3
KZN	21,0	20,9	20,8	20,7	20,6	20,5	20,4	20,3	20,2	20,1	20,0	19,9	19,8	19,7	19,7	19,6
LP	10,9	10,9	10,8	10,8	10,7	10,7	10,6	10,6	10,5	10,5	10,4	10,4	10,3	10,3	10,3	10,2
MP	7,6	7,6	7,6	7,7	7,7	7,7	7,7	7,7	7,8	7,8	7,8	7,8	7,8	7,8	7,9	7,9
NC	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,1
NW	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,8	6,8	6,8	6,8	6,8	6,8	6,8	6,8
WC	10,4	10,5	10,5	10,6	10,7	10,8	10,9	11,0	11,0	11,1	11,2	11,3	11,3	11,4	11,5	11,5
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Table 11: Provincial population estimates by age and sex, 2017

Age	Eastern Cape			Free State			Gauteng			KwaZulu-Natal			Limpopo		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0–4	361 319	357 865	719 184	146 170	145 480	291 649	654 763	649 380	1 304 143	619 472	611 579	1 231 052	360 481	356 429	716 910
5–9	385 456	379 819	765 275	147 829	149 303	297 131	595 656	594 164	1 189 820	598 735	595 552	1 194 286	356 122	351 964	708 087
10–14	351 989	348 090	700 079	132 481	135 169	267 650	510 813	511 706	1 022 519	556 619	554 779	1 111 398	307 312	302 886	610 198
15–19	297 185	292 092	589 277	119 211	119 959	239 170	480 840	489 983	970 823	500 373	506 738	1 007 111	265 874	264 283	530 157
20–24	279 425	288 598	568 023	123 732	122 917	246 649	637 476	634 093	1 271 569	523 403	536 763	1 060 166	261 816	266 424	528 240
25–29	263 942	280 965	544 907	133 098	131 402	264 501	799 073	782 093	1 581 167	530 694	547 723	1 078 418	254 607	269 599	524 205
30–34	238 320	256 329	494 649	127 974	126 153	254 127	783 455	744 904	1 528 359	483 983	510 234	994 217	231 446	246 291	477 737
35–39	191 081	200 337	391 418	102 626	103 360	205 986	661 560	603 070	1 264 630	367 767	394 386	762 153	180 774	198 802	379 577
40–44	152 415	165 583	317 998	82 607	84 768	167 375	549 383	464 618	1 014 000	285 547	307 596	593 143	132 778	158 620	291 398
45–49	121 469	153 434	274 903	68 477	75 788	144 265	427 749	385 356	813 106	210 703	255 954	466 657	99 149	129 831	228 980
50–54	101 035	150 448	251 483	56 982	68 428	125 410	333 065	333 628	666 694	167 835	237 739	405 575	76 881	118 893	195 774
55–59	91 716	143 521	235 237	48 763	58 014	106 777	273 973	279 299	553 272	140 575	205 041	345 616	62 099	99 750	161 849
60–64	76 312	122 148	198 460	39 188	49 909	89 097	205 402	221 871	427 273	112 873	168 577	281 451	49 828	86 797	136 625
65–69	56 578	94 576	151 154	27 597	38 779	66 376	140 709	161 868	302 577	85 044	137 845	222 890	36 498	67 850	104 348
70–74	39 159	69 505	108 664	17 435	26 748	44 183	83 828	107 148	190 976	52 943	95 482	148 426	22 740	46 415	69 155
75–79	30 641	59 876	90 518	10 400	17 753	28 152	42 353	61 899	104 252	30 147	61 880	92 027	14 038	36 339	50 377
80+	30 601	66 851	97 452	7 658	20 521	28 179	21 193	52 297	73 491	21 018	59 182	80 200	13 950	50 875	64 826
Total	3 068 644	3 430 038	6 498 683	1 392 227	1 474 451	2 866 678	7 201 290	7 077 378	14 278 669	5 287 732	5 787 051	11 074 784	2 726 392	3 052 050	5 778 442

Table 15: Provincial mid-year population estimates by age and sex 2017 (concluded)

Age	Mpumalanga			Northern Cape			North West			Western Cape			All provinces		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	254 387	254 201	508 588	62 828	62 684	125 512	201 064	201 691	402 755	285 875	280 963	566 838	2 946 359	2 920 272	5 866 631
5-9	237 670	238 967	476 637	61 340	61 279	122 620	206 049	208 246	414 294	300 105	296 357	596 462	2 888 962	2 875 650	5 764 612
10-14	208 197	210 471	418 668	54 216	55 321	109 537	173 296	176 722	350 018	252 365	251 307	503 672	2 547 287	2 546 453	5 093 740
15-19	191 520	195 179	386 699	49 564	50 294	99 859	150 888	150 521	301 410	232 267	235 207	467 474	2 287 722	2 304 257	4 591 979
20-24	198 886	200 644	399 530	50 376	49 469	99 845	158 976	156 182	315 158	270 277	271 830	542 107	2 504 367	2 526 921	5 031 288
25-29	218 878	214 647	433 525	56 158	52 309	108 467	179 442	173 588	353 029	315 293	314 601	629 894	2 751 186	2 766 928	5 518 114
30-34	213 395	203 095	416 490	56 815	50 387	107 201	180 147	167 132	347 280	319 803	313 978	633 781	2 635 338	2 618 503	5 253 841
35-39	168 527	160 839	329 366	46 503	41 214	87 718	155 511	137 548	293 060	268 396	261 226	529 622	2 142 747	2 100 783	4 243 530
40-44	127 707	127 238	254 946	37 301	34 207	71 507	127 834	111 379	239 212	229 469	213 357	442 826	1 725 040	1 667 366	3 392 406
45-49	96 723	107 200	203 923	31 124	31 418	62 541	104 886	95 158	200 044	195 287	197 834	393 121	1 355 566	1 431 974	2 787 540
50-54	77 338	93 920	171 258	25 137	28 317	53 455	88 539	83 073	171 612	158 267	177 083	335 350	1 085 080	1 291 530	2 376 611
55-59	62 179	72 958	135 137	21 789	24 496	46 285	76 928	69 192	146 120	127 687	147 926	275 613	905 710	1 100 196	2 005 907
60-64	48 632	59 887	108 519	17 868	21 274	39 141	56 146	56 734	112 880	96 392	114 867	211 260	702 640	902 065	1 604 705
65-69	33 409	43 979	77 388	12 934	16 670	29 604	37 082	42 032	79 114	69 840	87 533	157 374	499 693	691 133	1 190 826
70-74	20 201	29 182	49 383	8 683	12 402	21 084	23 969	31 387	55 356	45 681	60 685	106 366	314 639	478 954	793 593
75-79	12 125	21 480	33 605	5 504	8 486	13 990	14 161	22 043	36 204	27 719	37 104	64 823	187 088	326 858	513 946
80+	11 724	28 825	40 549	4 807	10 821	15 628	10 789	27 838	38 628	19 476	34 252	53 728	141 216	351 463	492 680
Total	2 181 500	2 262 712	4 444 212	602 948	611 048	1 213 996	1 945 707	1 910 466	3 856 174	3 214 201	3 296 111	6 510 312	27 620 642	28 901 306	56 521 948

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