Recorded Live Births, 2017

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Statistician-General
What are the regulations?

**Timeliness of birth registrations**

- All births occurring in South Africa ought to be *registered within 30 days* from date of occurrence.
NDP objectives for change

Why does registration matter?

Every child has the right to:

i. A name and a nationality from birth; (Scandal of invisibility)

ii. Family care or parental care, or to appropriate alternative care when removed from the family environment;

iii. Basic nutrition, shelter, basic health care services and social services;

iv. Be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation;

v. Be protected from exploitative labour practices; (Human trafficking)
Not all Births are Registered on Time
BIRTH REGISTRATION COMPLETENESS IS VITAL PLANNING AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION. * The 2017 estimate used is the same as for 2016: 88.6%
There were 989 318 births registered in South Africa in 2017. This reflects an increase of 2.1% from 2016 to 2017. 9% of births registered during 2017 were registered late.
LATE REGISTRATIONS PEAKED AT 78% IN 1998 DROPPING TO 9% IN 2017.
Current registrations increased from 32% in 1995 to 91% in 2017.
THE MEDIAN AGE OF MOTHERS AT BIRTH HAS FLUCTUATED BETWEEN 26 AND 28 YEARS OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

Birth occurrences median age of mother 1998–2017

AGE OF MOTHER


27 years Median age in 2017
THE TIMELINESS OF BIRTH REGISTRATIONS IMPROVED FROM 56% IN 2013 TO 78% IN 2017. Birth registrations for 31 days and older flattened indicating declines in the late registration of births.

Birth registration Act mandate: Registration of births within 30 days of occurrence
SOUTH AFRICA 989 318 BIRTH REGISTRATIONS

Total birth registrations by province 2017

GP 239 457
LP 122 947
NW 58 038
KZN 197 913
FS 50 130
NC 24 395
EC 115 893
WC 99 965
MP 79 782

Total: 999 318
KZN HAD LOWER PROPORTIONS (66%) OF BIRTHS REGISTERED WITHIN 30 DAYS.

Timeliness of birth registration of occurrences by province, 2017

Birth Registration Act mandate: Registration of births within 30 days of occurrence

78% of births registered in 2017 complied
PERCENTAGE OF BIRTHS REGISTERED WITHIN 30 DAYS IN KZN, 2017

South Africa 78%

KZN 66%

District Variations
- iLembe (52%)
- uMzinyathi (57%)
- uThungulu (63%)
- Zululand (64%)
- uMkhanyakude (64%)
- uThukela (68%)
- Ugu (69%)
- eThekwini (69%)
- Amajuba (70%)
- uMgungundlovu (71%)
- Sisonke (74%)
Overview of 2017 Birth occurrences
THERE WERE 897 750 REGISTERED BIRTH OCCURRENCES IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 2017. Gauteng has the highest percentage of birth occurrences.

Birth occurrences by province 2017

- GP: 200 726 (22%)
- KZN: 178 456 (20%)
- LP: 116 616 (13%)
- WC: 92 514 (11%)
- EC: 104 325 (11%)
- MP: 75 369 (8%)
- NW: 55 392 (6%)
- FS: 47 047 (5%)
- NC: 23 402 (3%)

The statistics are presented with a bar chart and a map indicating the distribution by province.
KZN HAD LOWER PROPORTIONS (72%) OF BIRTHS REGISTERED WITHIN 30 DAYS. Northern Cape had highest percentage of birth registration in the country.
SOUTH AFRICA HAS 102 MALE BIRTHS PER 100 FEMALE BIRTHS. Northern Cape had highest sex ratio in the country.

Sex ratio of birth occurrences by province 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Sex Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Cape</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KwaZulu- Natal</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>South Africa</strong></td>
<td><strong>102</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Stats SA
BIRTHS OCCURRING TO MOTHERS IN AGE GROUPS 20–34 YEARS REPRESENT 73% OF ALL BIRTHS IN 2017. The mother’s age is useful when developing maternal and child health policies and planning for the provision of health care services.

Mothers aged 35 years and older accounted for 14,7% of all births.
BIRTHS OCCURRING TO ADOLESCENTS 10–19 YEARS WERE DOWN TO 11% IN 2017. Mothers in high risk pregnancy ages 35–54 remained at 15% in 2017.

* Note: Percentages may increase as births are updated with late registrations
BIRTH OCCURRENCES PEAK IN MARCH, MAY AND SEPTEMBER. This indicates conception occurring in June, August and December.

Percentage of birth occurrences by month of birth 2017

Month of birth occurrence

- JAN
- FEB
- MAR
- APR
- MAY
- JUN
- JUL
- AUG
- SEP
- OCT
- NOV
- DEC

Percentage of births
- 7.0%
- 7.5%
- 8.0%
- 8.5%
- 9.0%
- 9.5%
THERE IS A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF LATE BIRTHS REGISTERED FOR MOTHERS 10–14 & 50–54 YEARS.

Percentage late registrations by mother’s age 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of mother</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10–14</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15–19</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20–24</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25–29</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30–34</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35–39</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40–44</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45–49</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50–54</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
62% of 2017 births had no information on fathers.

| Availability of Information on fathers 2017 |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Not Present      | Present              |
| Total births     |                      |
|                  |                      |
| 62%              | 38%                  |
| 554 298          | 343 452              |
| 100%             |                      |
| 897 750          |                      |
38% OF BIRTHS REGISTERED, INCLUDED INFORMATION ON THE FATHERS. Of these, 32.2% of the children born in 2017 were to fathers aged 30-35 years.
A TOTAL OF 1 302 CHILDREN WERE BORN TO TEENAGERS AGED 10-14. Most of the fathers were ages 17-25.
What Baby Names Reflect in South Africa

- Unique Identity
- Ethnicity
- Political history
- Social history
- Religious beliefs
- Unisex trend
- Modernisation
- Pride
- Thankfulness
- Joy
TOP TEN GIRLS FIRST NAMES

1. Enzokuhle
   Translation: To do good

2. Melokuhle
3. Amahle
4. Lethabo
5. Amogelang
6. Omphile
7. Lesedi
8. Rethabile
9. Lutando
10. Thandolwethu

TOP TEN BOYS FIRST NAMES

1. Enzokuhle
   Translation: To do good

2. Lethabo
3. Melokuhle
4. Lubanzi
5. Amogelang
6. Siyabonga
7. Bandile
8. Junior
9. Bokamoso
10. Mpho
TOP TEN GIRLS MIDDLE NAMES

1. Precious
2. Princess
3. Angel
4. Blessing
5. Faith
6. Hope
7. Grace
8. Pretty
9. Amahle
10. Luthando

TOP TEN BOYS MIDDLE NAMES

1. Junior
2. Blessing
3. Gift
4. Prince
5. Innocent
6. Lubanzi
7. Bandile
8. Enzokuhle
9. Melokhule
10. Siyabonga
POPULAR BABY NAMES BY PROVINCE, 2017

**Western Cape**
- Boy: Liam
- Girl: Mia
- Junior: Grace

**Eastern Cape**
- Boy: Enzokuhle
- Girl: Iminathi
- Junior: Angel

**Northern Cape**
- Boy: Lethabo
- Girl: Reatlegile
- Junior: Precious

**Free State**
- Boy: Amohelang
- Girl: Amohelang
- Junior: Precious

**KwaZulu-Natal**
- Boy: Enzokuhle
- Girl: Enzokuhle
- Junior: Lubanzi

**North West**
- Boy: Lethabo
- Girl: Amogelang
- Junior: Precious

**Gauteng**
- Boy: Luthando
- Girl: Lethabo
- Junior: Precious

**Mpumalanga**
- Boy: Blessing
- Girl: Melokuhle
- Blessing: Princess

**Limpopo**
- Boy: Amogelang
- Girl: Lethabo
- Junior: Precious
TEN MOST POPULAR BABY SURNAME S IN SA 2017

1. Dlamini
2. Nkosi
3. Ndlovu
4. Khumalo
5. Sithole
6. Mokoena
7. Mkhize
8. Mahlangu
9. Ngcobo
10. Mthembu

STATS SA
STATISTICS SOUTH AFRICA
THE SOUTH AFRICA I KNOW, THE HOME I UNDERSTAND
Ndzi Hela Kwala!

THANK YOU