General Household Survey
2020

Measuring the progress of development in the country
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COVID-19 Impact on Data Collection

- Stats SA suspended face-to-face data collection for all its surveys on 19 March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and restricted movement.

- Mode of data collection changed from face-to-face CAPI (Computer Assister Personal Interviews) to CATI (Computer Assisted Telephonic Interviews) to facilitate data collection during successive phases of COVID.

- Households that provided usable telephone numbers in 2019 were called. The sample, therefore, excluded households that were out-of-scope, or who could not participate in 2019, as well as those where telephone numbers were incorrect or have changed, or where households have moved.

- Only realised 8 896 households and 34 370 Individuals

- Conducted Bias-Adjustment to adjust for possible differences in the characteristics of households that provided contact details, and those that did not.

Household Characteristics
Nationally, one-third of children lived with both parents whilst 42% lived with mothers only. Children in affluent provinces (WC and GP) were most likely to live with both parents.

Percentage of children living arrangements by province, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Lived with neither</th>
<th>Lived with mother</th>
<th>Lived with both</th>
<th>Lived with father</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WC</td>
<td>14,1%</td>
<td>25,8%</td>
<td>55,1%</td>
<td>5,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td>10,6%</td>
<td>37,3%</td>
<td>47,6%</td>
<td>4,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>16,4%</td>
<td>41,8%</td>
<td>39,0%</td>
<td>2,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>15,4%</td>
<td>48,5%</td>
<td>30,2%</td>
<td>5,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA</td>
<td>19,7%</td>
<td>41,7%</td>
<td>34,2%</td>
<td>4,4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>22,2%</td>
<td>41,2%</td>
<td>31,3%</td>
<td>5,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>24,2%</td>
<td>39,7%</td>
<td>32,2%</td>
<td>4,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP</td>
<td>19,7%</td>
<td>46,6%</td>
<td>31,8%</td>
<td>1,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KZN</td>
<td>24,2%</td>
<td>49,6%</td>
<td>20,5%</td>
<td>5,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>32,7%</td>
<td>40,9%</td>
<td>23,5%</td>
<td>3,0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 2020, NC had the highest percentage of maternal orphans (6%) while EC had the highest percentage of paternal orphans (10,1%).

Nationally, 12,3% of children were orphaned, having lost one or both parents.
Nationally, 45.1% of households were classified as double generation households (comprising parents and children). *GP, FS, NC and WC* were higher than the national average.

Percentage of households by household composition and province, 2020

- **Single person**
- **Single generation**
- **Double generation**
- **Triple generation**
- **Skip generation**
- **Unclear**

**RSA**
- Single person: 19.5%
- Double generation: 45.1%
- Triple generation: 14.9%

**LP**
- Single person: 17.8%
- Double generation: 45.2%
- Triple generation: 20.1%

**MP**
- Single person: 18.3%
- Double generation: 44.0%
- Triple generation: 20.0%

**GP**
- Single person: 20.6%
- Double generation: 47.5%
- Triple generation: 11.1%

**NW**
- Single person: 26.4%
- Double generation: 39.2%
- Triple generation: 14.7%

**KZN**
- Single person: 19.9%
- Double generation: 42.0%
- Triple generation: 16.8%

**FS**
- Single person: 17.3%
- Double generation: 48.1%
- Triple generation: 14.3%

**NC**
- Single person: 16.7%
- Double generation: 49.2%
- Triple generation: 19.6%

**EC**
- Single person: 18.9%
- Double generation: 39.3%
- Triple generation: 17.9%

**WC**
- Single person: 15.4%
- Double generation: 50.6%
- Triple generation: 11.4%

Triple generation households were most common in rural areas like Limpopo (20.1%), Mpumalanga (20.0%) and Northern Cape (19.6%).

North West had the highest percentage of single person households (26.4%)

*Single generation households (partners or siblings living together).
*Skip-generation households in which grandparents lived with grandchildren.
The percentage who attained Grade 12 as their highest level of education increased from 21.3% in 2002 to 36% in 2020.
Growing percentage of children aged 0–4 kept at home with parents or other guardians in 2020. While children who attended educational institutions declined sharply.

Children aged 0–4 years using different child care arrangements by province, 2020 (top 4)
Compared to 2019, a higher percentage of children between the ages of five and 14 was generally not attending educational institutions in 2020.

Percentage of individuals aged 5 to 18 years who did not attend educational institutions, 2002 and 2020

It is particularly notable amongst five year olds (37.7% not in education 2020 compared to 10.9% in 2019) and six year olds (11.8% in 2020 not in education compared to 3.5% in 2019)
Continued representation of learners who are older than the ideal graduation age in primary and secondary schools. Slight increase in individuals who are not in education

Type of educational institution attended by individuals aged 5–24 years, 2020
GRANTS AND SOURCES OF INCOME
An increase in the percentage of persons and individuals who accessed social grants in 2020 was mainly due to the large uptake of COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress grants.

Percentage of households and individuals who have benefited from social grants, 2003–2020

Increases were tracked closely by that of households that received at least one social grant (growing 30,8% in 2003 to 45,6% in 2019, and 52,4% in 2020).

The percentage of individuals that benefited from social grants steadily increased from 12,8% in 2003 to approximately 31% between 2017 and 2019 before increasing sharply to 34,9% in 2020.
**Nationally, 5.3% of respondents** aged 18 years and older were beneficiaries of the special COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress grant nationally.

Percentage of individuals aged 18 years and older that benefitted from the special COVID-19 social relief of distress grant by province, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSA</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
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<td>GP</td>
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<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
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</table>

The highest uptake of SRD grants was noted in Mpumalanga (9.6%), Limpopo (8.9%) and Eastern Cape (7.0%).
Nationally, although 34.9% of beneficiaries accessed grants if SRDs are included, the figures falls to 30.7% if SRDs are excluded, very similar to the estimate reported in 2019 (30.9%). Similar observations can be made across all provinces.

Percentage of individuals that benefitted from social grants per province in 2020 by access to Social Relief Grant, compared to individual beneficiaries in 2019.
Vulnerability to hunger at an **individual** and **household** level has been declining until 2019 whilst access to grants has been increasing. However, slight increases were observed in 2020.

Access to grants vs estimated percentage of households and persons vulnerable to hunger in South Africa, 2002-2020
20,6% of households nationally, considered their access to food as **inadequate** or severely **inadequate**. Food access problems were the most common in North West (35,7%), Mpumalanga (32,8%), Free State (26,2%) and Northern Cape (25,8%).

Percentage of households experiencing food adequacy or inadequacy by province, 2020
There is an increased reliance on **grants as main source of income** (20.4% in 2019 to 28.8% in 2020) and a slight decrease in salaries and wages (54.8% to 50.8%) and remittances (11.0% to 8.8%).

Percentage distribution of main sources of household income by province, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Other sources</th>
<th>Pensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
<td>44.8%</td>
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<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td>62.7%</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Slightly more than eight-tenths (84,0%) of South African households lived in formal dwellings in 2020. Approximately one-fifth of households in Gauteng (18,3%) and Western Cape (17,8%) lived in informal dwellings.

Percentage of households that lived in formal, informal and traditional dwellings by province, 2020.
Paraffin and wood as a source of **energy for cooking** continues to decline as electricity becomes more accessible.

Energy used for cooking, 2002-2020

*Other reasons listed include: Coal, Gas and Other*
Declines in **connection to electricity** in Gauteng can be associated with the rapid in-migration experienced by the province.

Percentage of households connected to the mains electricity supply by province, 2002—2020.
Water and Sanitation
Around 14% of Households relied on a communal or neighbours tap, for main sources of drinking water. 89.1% of SA households have access to improved water sources.

Percentage of households by selected main water source, 2020

- Piped water in dwelling: 46.6%
- Piped water on site: 28.3%
- Communal tap: 12.5%
- Water carrier: 1.8%
- Neighbour’s tap: 1.7%
- Stream, river, pool, dam: 4.0%
Six-tenths (61.4%) of households indicated that their members washed hands with soap after using the toilet, while one-third (33.3%) only rinsed their hands with water.

Percentage of households by access to hand washing facility, 2020
Almost two-thirds of South African households have access to flush toilets while 83.2% had access to improved sanitation. Less than 1% no access to sanitation facilities.

Percentage of households by type of toilet facility and province, 2020

- Flush Toilet: 64.9%
- Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe: 18.3%
- Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe: 14.1%
- Other: 2.5%
Majority of households in WC (93.9%) and GP (90.5%) had access to improved sanitation, access was most limited in Limpopo and Mpumalanga, 2020 SA Averages is 83.2%

Percentage of households that have access to improved sanitation per province, 2002–2020

Improved sanitation is defined as flush toilets connected to a public sewerage system or a septic tank, or a pit toilet with a ventilation pipe
**Regular refuse removal for almost 62.7%** of households. Almost one-third (28.8%) however used own refuse dumps in the absence of services.

Percentage of households by type of refuse removal services, 2020:

- **Removed at least once per week**: 60.5%
- **Own refuse dump**: 28.8%
- **Communal refuse dump**: 5.6%
- **Dump or leave rubbish anywhere**: 2.4%
- **Removed less than once per week**: 2.2%
- **Other**: 0.6%
Public Healthcare facilities still first port of call for the vast majority of South Africa.

Healthcare facility normally consulted by household when someone is ill, 2020

Public: 72%
Private: 27%
Other: 1%

Due to rounding, numbers may not add up to 100%
In 2020 **65.7%** of household members first consult a **Public Clinic health care facility**.

Percentage distribution of the type of health-care facility consulted first by the households when members fall ill or get injured 2004 - 2020.
Approximately 15.2% of the population have medical aid coverage. Only WC and GP have coverage rates higher than 20%.

Individuals who are members of medical aid schemes per province, 2020:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Coverage Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WC</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td>21.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>LP</td>
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</tr>
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</table>
Telecommunications
Mobile devices have revolutionized internet access. Access is generally much higher, although still lacking in rural areas.

Access to the Internet using mobile devices, 2020

- Metro: 66.8%
- Urban: 71.6%
- Rural: 52.9%
Agriculture
37.5% of Households in Limpopo are Agricultural with 93.4% of the involvement being for extra sources of food.

Proportion of Agricultural Households & Household involvement in agricultural activities by province, 2020

- **Extra Source of Food**:
  - LP: 93.4% (37.5%)
  - EC: 82.6% (35.9%)
  - MP: 84.8% (34.9%)
  - KZN: 76.8% (21.6%)
  - FS: 71.1% (20.9%)
  - SA: 79.7%
  - NC: 50.2% (14.7%)
  - NW: 73.4% (10.4%)
  - GP: 62.3% (4.6%)
  - WC: 48.5% (4.1%)

- **Main Source of Income**:
  - EC: 35.9%
  - MP: 34.9%
  - KZN: 21.6%
  - FS: 20.9%
  - SA: 14.7%
  - NC: 10.4%
  - NW: 4.6%
  - GP: 4.1%

- **Leisure**
  - EC: 35.9%
  - MP: 34.9%
  - KZN: 21.6%
  - FS: 20.9%
  - SA: 14.7%
  - NC: 10.4%
  - NW: 4.6%
  - GP: 4.1%

While only 4.1% of Households in the WC are agricultural, 27.4% of those are for leisure activity.
Recap GHS 2020

- One-fifth of children did not live with either their biological parents while 34,2% lived with both parents, and 41,7% lived with their mothers.

- Although salaries remain the main source of income for most households, nationally (50,8%), grants were the main source of income for 28,8% of households. Dependency on grants particularly high in EC (44,8%) and LP (42,3%).

- A comparison with 2019 estimates shows a larger percentage of children in the age group 0–4 years remained at home with a parent, guardian in 2020 (67,2% compared to 57,8% a year earlier), while a smaller percentage attended grade R, pre-school, nursery school, crèche, and edu-care centres (24,2% compared to 36,8%).

- Attendance almost universal at ages 7-15 years, 25,6% of persons aged 5–24 not attending educational institutions. Participation rates particularly low for 5/6 year olds during COVID.
Thank you.