It is women’s month and once again we pay tribute to the great women of our nation. Recognising those who fought against the apartheid government and who are still fighting today for acknowledgement, equality and empowerment. It is also once again time for us to take stock of how far we’ve come as society in narrowing the gender gap. Statistics South Africa’s manager for data quality in the Labour Statistics Division, Dr Tshepo Mabela, shares information on the status of women and men in South African society.

Gender gaps in SA

Gender statistics provide vital information on gender equality, highlighting areas of progress and putting a spotlight on inequalities that prevail across the social, economic and political spectrum. To date, there has been a long standing focus on achieving equality between women and men in South Africa. Commitments nationally and internationally have been put in place, such as the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and other legislation as well as the Millennium Development Goals. Statistics South Africa generates a wealth of information on the status of women and men in the country. The organisation published the first gender report titled Women and Men in South Africa in 1998. This report compares the life circumstances and living conditions of men and women in the country. The second publication was released in 2002. The latest (third) report titled Gender Statistics in South Africa, 2011 also compares life circumstances and living conditions of men and women, and provides a more comprehensive picture of gender statistics.

The 2011 report provides statistics used for monitoring gender equality and is compiled using various data sources within the organisation. Findings in the report have been grouped into six topics – population, families and households, living conditions, education, work and income.

Population
According to Census 2011 there are 51,8 million people in the country – of which more than half (51,4%) are female. Census 2011 also reveals women dominate the 15-64 year age group. This is the working age of the population and is used as the basis for calculations of labour force activity.

A higher proportion of the South African population resides in urban areas (63,4%). There are more women of working age living in rural areas (36,4%) compared to men (31,3%). This could be a result of migrant work. Men are more likely to move to areas where there are job opportunities, leaving their wives and children at home.

Families and households
A large number of South African children live in households where only their mother is present. Almost four out of ten (41,9%) black African children were in this situation, compared to only 9,9% of Indian/Asian children. Children living in households where neither parent was present were highest among black African children at 27,2%. This was least for white African children (3,0%). The proportion of children living with both parents was highest among Indian/Asian children (93%), and lowest among black African children (27,2%).

Education
Statistics show education provides a better chance of improved life circumstances. More men are able to read at least one language than women. This is true for both urban and rural areas. Gender differences are less visible among those with a tertiary (university) education. Disappointingly, educated women are not as well off as their male counterparts. The number of employed women with a tertiary education is almost 10% lower than men with the same education level. Women also earn less. Women with tertiary education earn around 82% of what their male counterparts do.

Health
More women (82%) are likely to have visited a health worker compared to men (62%). This pattern is expected as women have more needs than men for reproductive health care, including health care related to pregnancy and childbearing. South African men (39,9%) are slightly more likely than women (38,8%) to visit private health facilities when they need health care.

Access to medical aid
Access to medical aid is more than seven times higher among the white population than the black African population. For men in 2011, access ranged from 9,5% for black African men to 70,5% for white men. For women in 2011, access ranged from 9,3% for black African women to 70,7% for white women. The report indicates that women use most of their earnings for household expenses such as rent, water and electricity, whereas men spend most of their income on clothing and transport. The report also reveals gender differences in food at home and in food security.
The Stats Act and you

Every South African is obliged to cooperate when asked to do so by the organisation. This article explains what your rights and duties are, according to the law.

Gerald White reports

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is an organisation of Government that is responsible to Parliament for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information. Stats SA has the authority to ask questions and to make sure that you, as a respondent, have the opportunity to answer these questions.

The Stats Act says Stats SA has the authority to ask questions that are deemed necessary for the purposes of collecting information.

Our survey officers may require access to your premises in order to update our records and to make sure that you understand the purpose of the surveys. The survey officer may require access to your premises at a mutually convenient time to ask you questions about your household for a specific survey.

Section 15

Entry on and mapping of premises

The Stats Act says Stats SA has the authority to enter your premises to make sure that you understand the purpose of the surveys.

The survey officer may require access to your premises at a mutually convenient time to ask you questions about your household for a specific survey.

Section 16

Dealing with questions

If you have been asked to participate in a survey, our survey officer may ask you questions about members of your household and your living conditions.

If you have been asked to participate in a survey, our survey officer may ask you questions about members of your household and your living conditions.

Section 17

Confidentially and disclosure

No employee of Stats SA has the right to disclose any information collected from an individual to another unauthorised individual.

If your household is selected to participate in a survey, our survey officer may ask you questions about members of your household and your living conditions.

Section 18

Omissions and penalties

Any employee who breaks the confidentiality and disclosure rules may be subject to a fine or imprisonment.

If your household is selected to participate in a survey, our survey officer may ask you questions about members of your household and your living conditions.

Section 19

Notice to respondents

If you, as a respondent, refuse an employee to enter your premises (Section 15), or refuse to answer the questions (Section 16), or refuse to disclose any information (Section 17), or refuse to sign a confidentiality agreement before commencing their duties (Section 18), or refuse to provide information from your household (Section 19), you may be subject to a fine or imprisonment.

Note: In South Africa, citizens are expected to answer the questions, as our constitution guarantees our rights and duties when asked to do so by Stats SA.

Kicking off a passion for numbers

Bizwe Maswili reports on an innovative programme that gets kids interested in maths and statistics

The Stats Act says Stats SA has survey officers visiting homes to collect data throughout the year. Our survey officers may ask the household whether you have performed any recent surveys. If your house is selected, you are invited to complete a survey and to assist government and other stakeholders in gathering the quantum of data you have by them.

Bizwe Maswili is a mathematics and statistics lecturer at the University of Johannesburg.

How does my comparison compare?

Comparing Mitchell’s Plan to the Cape Metro, Western Cape and national numbers

South Africa has accessed Census 2011 data for comparison. This enables us to compare our context with national and regional numbers.

Access to electricity

Mitchell’s Plan

Cape Metro

Western Cape

South Africa

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%

51%

49%
Gender counts: Women in statistics

According to a survey done by Fleishman Hillard, an international communications firm, women of the so-called Y Generation (age 21–34) or those born in the 1980s or early 2000s, perceive themselves as equal to their male colleagues in the workplace. The “battle of the sexes” is becoming a foreign concept for Y Generation women around the world as they are claiming their space in terms of skills, opportunities and accomplishments. This concept is being raised with a “girls can do anything boys can do” attitude. This year South Africa celebrates 57 years of women united against poverty, inequality and unemployment. In celebration of Women’s Month and The International Year of Statistics, we track the individual journeys of three successful women dedicated to the field of statistics at Statistics South Africa. Deborah Pillay reports and Mbongiseni Mndebele took the photos.
Discover our home, discover SA

The month of September is particularly significant for SA as it marks the beginning of the tourism season. Despite the current global economic climate, tourism continues to be a significant contributor to the SA economy. This industry is not only of importance to the national economy but also to the South African citizens.

Tourism in our country

Statistics South Africa provides information on tourism in SA. The Department of Tourism, under the Ministry of Trade and Industry, released a report showing the importance of tourism to the economy of South Africa and the growth achieved in the tourism sector.

Tourism contributed 1.9% (R11 357,2 billion) to the GDP of SA in 2011, according to Statistics South Africa’s Tourism Trends and Expenditure Survey (TTS). The information highlights the importance of tourism to the economy of South Africa and the growth achieved in the tourism sector.

Women’s Day was celebrated on 9 March 2012 and the report showed that women’s participation in the workforce has increased in recent years. The report also highlighted the importance of tourism in creating employment opportunities for women.

What women buy

Women are a significant market segment for retail and hospitality businesses. According to the report, women are more likely to spend money on products and services associated with leisure activities such as travel, beauty, and fashion. Women are also more likely to use credit cards and other financial products to finance their purchases.

Tourism and gender

Tourism is one of the growth drivers for the South African economy, and it is important that the industry works to improve the gender profile of the industry. Women’s Day is a significant day for the industry, as it provides an opportunity to highlight the role of women in tourism and to promote gender equality.

Building a future in construction

Biziwe Maswili reports on gender equality in a sector dominated by males

Although the number of female tourism workers in the hotel sector has increased, they still occupy a lower position in terms of managerial positions. The number of female tourism workers in the hotel sector has increased, but it is still lower than the number of male tourism workers.

The importance of tourism

Tourism is one of the most used statistics to measure the impact of tourism on the economy. The latest report from Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) shows that tourism is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities.

Tourism contributes 1.9% (R11 357,2 billion) to the GDP of SA in 2011, according to Statistics South Africa’s Tourism Trends and Expenditure Survey (TTS). The information highlights the importance of tourism to the economy of South Africa and the growth achieved in the tourism sector.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.

The tourism sector is a significant contributor to the South African economy, and it plays a crucial role in creating employment opportunities. The sector is also a significant source of foreign exchange earnings for the country.
Test your knowledge

How much do you remember from reading this newspaper?

1. What is the total weight of female products in the CPI basket?
   a) 2.05%
   b) 0.33%
   c) 1.48%
   d) 1.5%

2. Which survey gives information on the travel patterns of SA residents?
   a) Tourism and migration release
   b) Tourism Satellite Account
   c) Domestic Tourism Survey
   d) General Household Survey

3. What does the Stats4Soccer programme aim to improve?
   a) Soccer skills
   b) Mathematics and statistics literacy
   c) Science mark
   d) Reading ability

4. Which Stats SA tool is changing to make information more accessible and understandable to all users?
   a) Bulletin of Statistics
   b) Medium Brief
   c) Statistics Act
   d) Website

5. Which latest publication provides information on women and men (gender statistics) in SA?
   a) Women and men in SA
   b) Gender statistics in South Africa, 2011
   c) Censuses
   d) General Household Survey

6. The percentage of women who live below the food poverty line?
   a) 33.7%
   b) 19%
   c) 60%
   d) 40%

7. Which section of the Statistics Act deals with?
   a) Confidentiality and disclosure
   b) Duty to answer questions
   c) Entry to premises
   d) Offences and penalties

8. What is the total in the female CPI basket?
   a) Tourism and migration release
   b) Tourism Satellite Account
   c) Domestic Tourism Survey
   d) General Household Survey

9. What is the total in the female CPI basket?
   a) 0,32%
   b) 0,33%
   c) 1,48%
   d) 1,5%

10. What is the total in the female CPI basket?
    a) 2.05%
    b) 0.33%
    c) 1.48%
    d) 1.5%

Answers on page 7

Crossword

Across
2. Public holiday that falls on 9 August
5. The month in which tourism is celebrated.
7. This is used to select households for a survey using a computer-generated selection.
8. The section of the Statistics Act, which deals with entry to premises.
9. Which province according to the Construction Industry report had the highest construction activity in 2011?
10. Stats SA’s capacity building programme, which presents mathematics and statistics in a fun way.

Down
1. The release, which provides information on residents and foreign travellers leaving and entering the country.
2. Stats SA’s new website will organise information according to this to make it easier to find information.
4. Women with this level of education earn 82% of what males earn.
5. In 1956, twenty thousand women marched to the Union Buildings in protest against carrying which item?
6. Which item in the female CPI basket has the highest weight?
7. According to the Gender statistics in South Africa, 2011 report this gender is more likely to be working in unskilled occupations and earning less.

Answers on page 7

Sudoku

Sudoku is easy to play and the rules are simple. Fill in the blanks so that each row, each column, and each of the nine 3x3 grids contain one instance of each of the numbers 1 through 9. There are three elements in that grid: 9 rows, 9 columns, and 9 “big boxes” of 9 squares (3x3). The object is, by using logic only, to fill the puzzle so that each row, column and big box consists of one use each of the numbers 1-9.

Answers on page 7

Stats SA provincial numbers

North West
Tel: (010) 384 2676/9
Fax: (018) 384 2832

Gauteng
Tel: (011) 781 3495
No fax

Northern Cape
Tel: (053) 822 6350
Fax: (053) 832 5407

Western Cape
Tel: (021) 481 5500
Fax: (021) 422 1741

Free State
Tel: (051) 412 7500
Fax: (051) 412 7507

KwaZulu-Natal
Tel: (031) 305 0600
Fax: (031) 305 9960

Limpopo
Tel: (015) 295 3300/1/3/4
Fax: (015) 295 3579

Mpumalanga
Tel: (013) 754 0600
Fax: (013) 754 2898

Eastern Cape
Tel: (043) 707 4907
Fax: (043) 707 4908

Head Office
Tel: (012) 310 8911
Email: info@statssa.gov.za