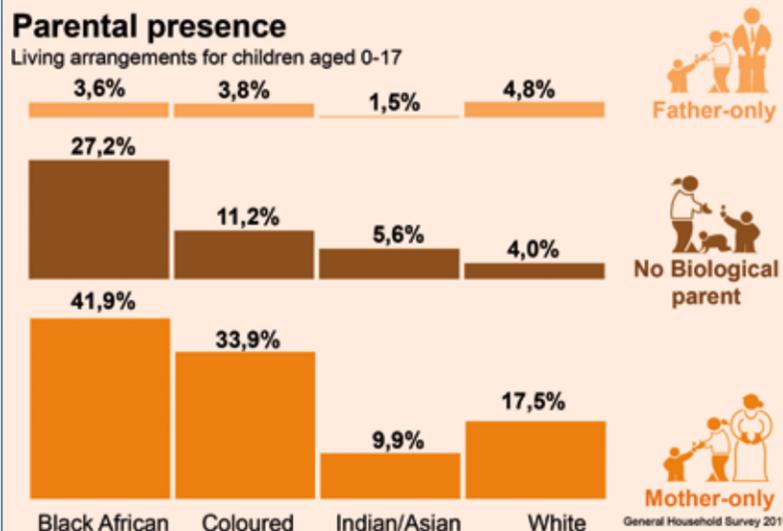
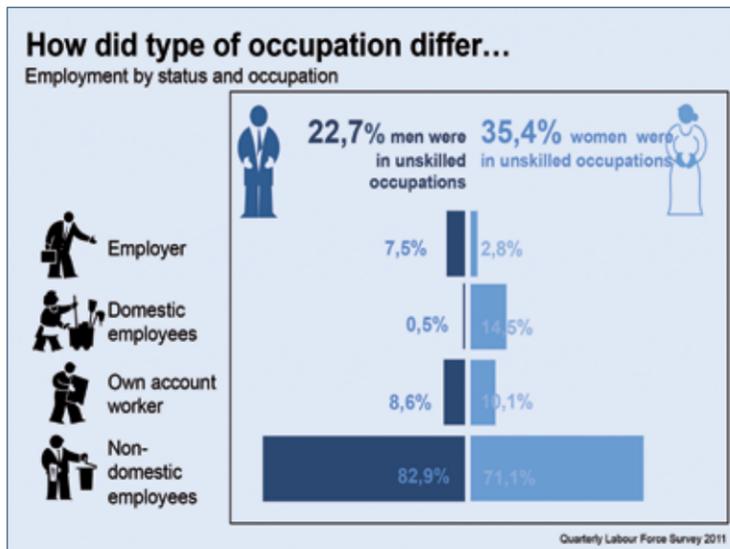


FIELDWORKER

The people behind the numbers

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www.statssa.gov.za



Stats SA's latest report on gender shows men are better off in terms of employment (left), while black women are more likely to be single mothers. Graphics: Helen North/Stats SA

Power in numbers

This year marks the 57th anniversary of the stand taken by more than 20 000 courageous women as they marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest against the law that required black women to carry pass books in 1956.

Often described as one of the most successful protest actions in history, this day has come to symbolise the strength of women in striking back against an unjust government and unjust legislation, which sought to censor and control the movement of black women in urban areas. The act of solidarity between women of all races gave birth to a heightened awareness of gender issues in society, which, more often than not, only come to the fore as we celebrate National Women's Day on August 9 every year.

Confining gender activism to one month is not enough if we are to bring about change and equality in all facets of society. It is up to women to empower themselves with knowledge and information, and to continue the public debate around achieving gender equality. Statistics are key to this debate as they provide a picture of how far we have come and give an indication of how far we still have to travel to ensure that everyone is treated equally.

This edition of the Fieldworker pays tribute to the strength and courage of women in South Africa and provides a glimpse of the data and information generated by Stats SA that highlights the gains and losses we have achieved as a nation in the area of gender equality.

Fast facts

- National Women's Day was declared a public holiday in 1994.
- The month of August is celebrated as Women's Month.
- The protest on 9 August 1956 was not the first protest against the pass laws
- Many in the higher echelons of government, the liberation movement and political parties were surprised at how "active, organised and militant" women could be
- The Federation of South African Women and the African National Congress Women's League orchestrated the march
- The march was led by Lilian Ngoyi (trade unionist and political activist), Helen Joseph, Albertina Sisulu, and Sophia Williams-De Bruyn
- 20 000 women participated in the march, leaving petitions with 100 000 signatures on the doorstep of Prime Minister JG Strijdom, who was not available to accept the petition

Sources: www.gov.za
Passiontounderstand.blogspot.com

Gender gaps in SA

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 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 women and men, 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, health, work and income.

Population

According to Census 2011 there are 51,8

When you see this arrow it means the release is available on www.statssa.gov.za

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 (34,0%) compared to men (31,3%). This could be as 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 in every 10 (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 common for white children. The percentage of children living with both parents was highest among Indian/Asian children (83%), 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 in 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 (8,2%) are likely to have

visited a health worker compared to men (6,2%). 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 9,1% 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

Child birth

A total of 38,8% of women aged 15–24 years have given birth to at least one child. In addition, 28,2% of young women aged 15–24 years have given birth and have never married.

Work

Less women are employed and economically active. Among both men and women, the percentage employed is highest for white people and lowest for black Africans. Women employed in the informal sector work in two main industries — 58,4% in trade and 19,9% in services. Employed women were most likely to be working in unskilled occupations such as domestic work (35,4%) compared to males (22,7%).

On the positive side the country is making some progress in gender representation in political decision making. At 45% South Africa ranks number two in Africa and number three in the world for female representation in Parliament. Rwanda holds both the number one position in the world and on the continent.

There is still more that needs to be done to provide equal employment opportunities for the unemployed. South Africa has one of the highest unemployment rates in

the world (Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 2011) with an unemployment rate of 24,9% in 2011. Women are most affected with an unemployment rate 5,3% higher than men.

Census 2011 data indicates that 32,5% of 15–24 year olds are not in education, employment or training, 35,9% of these were women and 29,1% men.

Time use

The report indicates that women use most of their time on unpaid work. Women aged 15–64 spend an average of 155 minutes per day on paid and 253 minutes on unpaid work, whereas men in the same age group spend an average of 254 minutes per day on paid and only 102 minutes per day on unpaid work.

Poverty

More women (33,7%) live below the food poverty line compared to men (31,0%).

There have been some achievements on aspects of gender equality but there are still worrying imbalances in the circumstances of women and men. It is expected the continuation of work such as the *Gender Statistics in South Africa, 2011* report will strengthen the ability of the national statistical systems to collect and maintain data on gender statistics. This will allow policy makers to use this information for effective and sustainable progress.

What is 'food poverty'?

* The food poverty line refers to the amount of money that an individual will need to have enough to eat to live. The South African food poverty line is R321 a person a month (in 2011 figures). — Poverty and Inequality statistics — Stats SA



THE SOUTH AFRICA I KNOW, THE HOME I UNDERSTAND



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Inside this edition: The Stats Act and you 2, Kicking off a passion for numbers 3, Gender counts: Women in Statistics 4-5, Building a future in construction 6, Bringing data to life 7, Test your knowledge 8

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 mandated by government, through the Statistics Act (No. 6 of 1999) to collect, process and disseminate official statistics. This means that Stats SA has to gather information from different sources – households, businesses, and administrative sources, to provide data and information which assists government and other stakeholders to make informed decisions.

The collection effort of Stats SA is highly reliant on the willingness of respondents at household level and businesses to participate in these surveys and to provide the required information.

Although the Statistics Act gives Stats SA the right to gather information and obliges citizens of South Africa to participate in the work of the organisation, our work would be futile if the information we collect is not accurate.

Without accurate information, the government won't be able to deliver proper services in the areas where it is needed.

So, as a South African citizen, it is your obligation to provide entry to your premises by Stats SA survey officers and to answer the questions put to you in a truthful manner.

The Statistics Act confers a number of obligations on normal citizens, the organisation and our survey officers and also outlines the penalties that can be incurred for non-compliance with the Act.

Here is a summary of some of the most important sections of the Act to help you, as a model citizen, to comply with this important legislation.

Section	Topic	What it means	How it impacts on you
Section 15	Entry on and inspection of premises	The Statistician-General (SG) or any officer of Statistics South Africa has the right to enter your premises or land to make enquiries or observations to achieve the purpose of the Stats Act.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our survey officers may require access to your premises to list the physical structures on your property in order to update our master sample. Our survey officers may also require access to your premises (at a mutually convenient time) to ask you questions about your household for a specific survey.
Section 16	Duty to answer questions	An employee of Stats SA has the authority to ask you questions that are deemed necessary for the purposes of collecting information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. As a respondent you have the obligation to answer these questions truthfully to the best of your knowledge.
Section 17	Confidentiality and disclosure	No employee of Stats SA has the right to disclose any information collected from an individual to another unauthorised individual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing information on your household entitles you to confidentiality. Our survey officers have a legal obligation to keep your information confidential and they may not discuss this with any unauthorised person(s). All employees are required by law to sign a confidentiality agreement before commencing their duties. When the information from your household is captured it will not be able for anyone to know that the information comes from your household.
Section 18	Offences and penalties	<p>Breach of confidentiality If an employee is found to have breached the confidentiality agreement that they signed, s/he may be fined up to R10 000 or spend six months in prison or even both.</p> <p>Non-compliance with the act by respondents If you, as a respondent, refuse an employee entry onto your premises (Section 15), or refuse to answer the questions (Section 16) put to you by an employee of Stats SA you can be fined up to R10 000 or spend six months in prison or even both.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stats SA has a high regard for the trust placed in us by our respondents and any breach of this trust by our officials will be dealt with expediently. As a citizen of South Africa, you have an obligation to comply with the Statistics Act and also to play your role as an active citizen by participating in our surveys and providing information in a truthful manner. The information provided by your household is essential to track government progress and to inform planning which will ultimately improve the lives of all our citizens.

Look out for these surveys in your community

Stats SA has survey officers visiting homes to collect data throughout the year. Our survey officers may approach you to participate in one of our surveys if your home is selected. We appeal to you to support our work by allowing our survey officers access to your household and answering the questions posed by them. Remember, this information is used to create a better South Africa for us all.

Quarterly Labour Force Survey

This is the primary means of collecting information on the labour market in South Africa. The survey gathers information on employment, unemployment and whether people are actively seeking employment or not. This information is gathered from selected households and is only asked from respondents that are aged 15 years and above.

General Household Survey

This annual household survey gathers information on life circumstances of South Africans. The survey also measures service delivery in areas such as education, health, housing, social grants, social development and access to basic services and facilities.

Victims of Crime Survey

Information from this survey is used as a tool to assist government and the public to understand the dynamics of crime in the country. The survey focuses on the viewpoints of respondents that may or may not have come into contact with crime in their lifetime. It provides the South African Police Service (SAPS) with vital information pertaining to crime and can assist in crime prevention efforts. It assists the SAPS with their reputation management as the information collected also gives insight into the public's perception of the police service.

Domestic Tourism Survey

This annual survey collects information on the travel behaviour and expenditure of residents in South Africa. The information is based on South Africans travelling within the borders of South Africa, to determine the contribution of tourism to the economy. See page 6.

Kicking off a passion for numbers

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

Mathematics and statistical literacy remain a challenge in the country. South Africa is ranked last among 62 countries for maths and science education according to the 2012 World Economic Forum Annual Report on financial development.

But who would say that maths, stats and soccer, make for a winning combination? At Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) we do, hence the introduction of the Stats4Soccer programme in 2009. This capacity-building initiative presents maths in a fun way and shows learners that statistics is important in everyday life.

The Stats4Soccer project introduces a new dimension in teaching maths and statistics, as it applies the "learning through play" concept. Mathematics and statistics are taken out of the



Measuring success: Learners participate in the programme. Photo: Mbongiseni Mndebele

classroom and applied on the soccer field. It further provides educators with a creative and alternative means of teaching these subjects. "It is a new way of linking maths to the most popular and loved sport in the world," said Refiloe Phakiso, Stats4Soccer programme facilitator at Stats SA.

The success of the programme relies on dedicated staff with the skills and passion to take the programme forward. "I joined the Stats4Soccer programme when we were promoting Census 2011 at a match between Wits University and Amazulu football clubs. I was chosen because of the noise our section was making," said Phakiso. According to Phakiso, the "noise" represented her passion!

As a facilitator, Phakiso's role includes setting up the exercises on the field, placing learners at the correct stations and preparing food parcels for participants. The most interesting part for her is seeing how learners are able to approach mathematics in a fun way. "There is more to it than just kicking the ball, there are angles, vectors and shapes involved, so you see – maths can be fun," added Phakiso.

Stats4Soccer engages learners in data collection and raises interest among youngsters in maths and data handling. "More learners are moving away from taking mathematics as a subject in high school, due to its perceived level of 'difficulty', however this programme shows a less intimidating side of the subject," concluded Phakiso.

How Stats4Soccer works:

The programme has two phases. In the first phase:

- Learners participate in soccer-related exercises at seven testing stations. These are each designed to represent a different geometric shape – trapezoid, octagon, equilateral triangle, pentagon, hexagon, isosceles triangle and right-angled triangle. These are then laid out on the field.
- At the beginning of the exercise, there are four players at each station. Each player performs the exercise of running with the ball and dribbling simultaneously, moving to the next station when they complete the exercise.
- A group of time keepers is assigned to monitor the time taken to complete an exercise by each participant.
- A group of data capture records the time taken by each participant to complete an exercise or how girls performed compared to boys. This information is used for further analysis and discussion by the learners.

Committing to evidence-based decision-making

The commitment of Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) to building statistical capacity and ensuring that statistics is used to improve the country through evidence-based decision-making has been unwavering.

The two passions collided at the First ISibalo Symposium on Evidence-based Decision-making held in Stellenbosch in July 2013. One of the ways in which Stats SA tackles statistical capacity building in the organisation is through attending a programme at the Centre for Regional and Urban Innovation and Statistical Exploration (CRUISE) in 2009. The graduates of this programme and the stakeholders using Stats SA data in their planning came together over three days to learn from one another. Presentations were given on statistical findings and also on how statistics is used in a range of sectors throughout South Africa. This proved successful and the engagement between producer and user will continue at provincial symposiums during August and September.

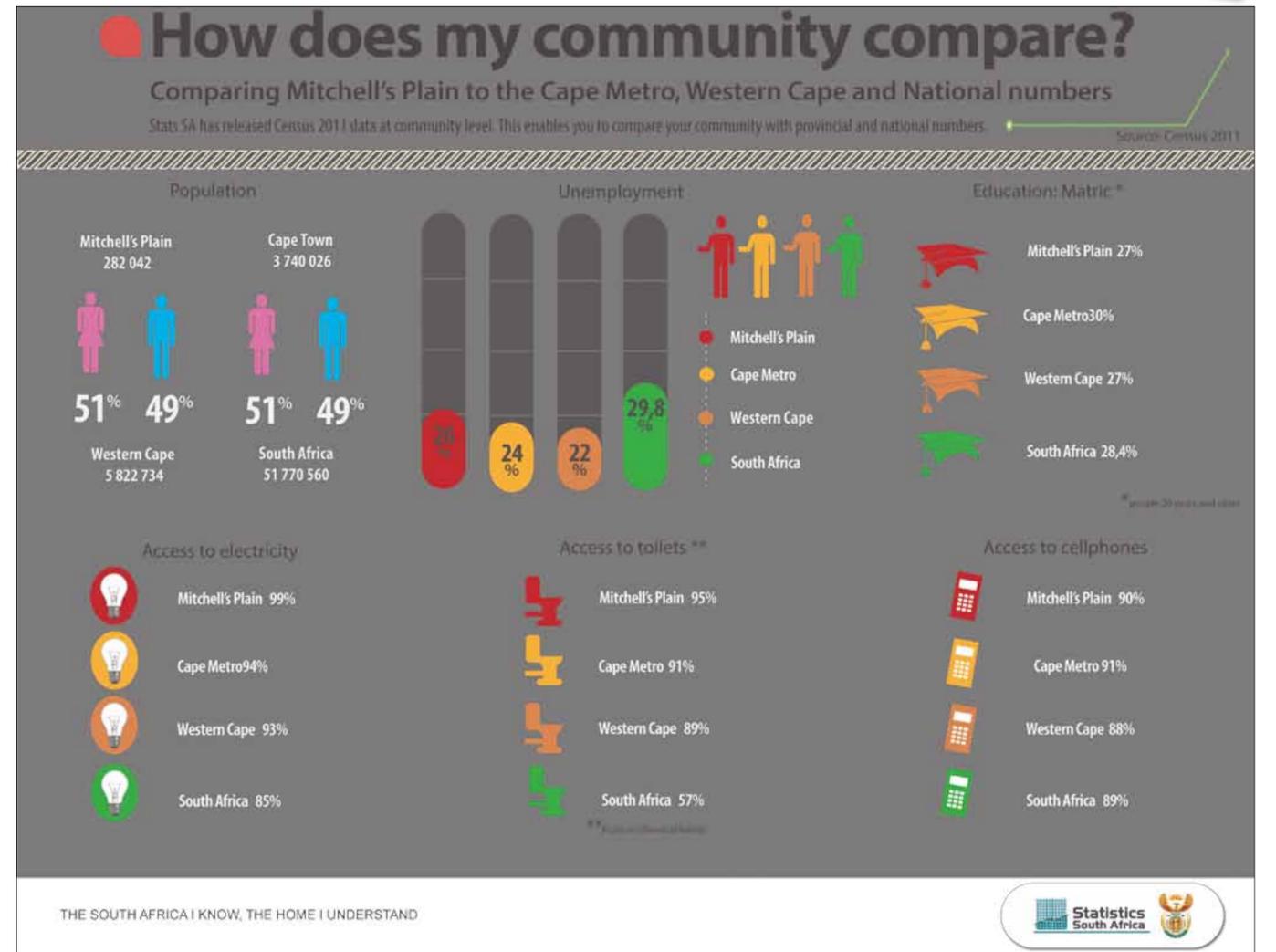


'Why' and 'how' statistics are collected



As South Africa's official statistical agency, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) collects information about the country's population and other social and economic issues. Information is collected from people, administrative sources and also from businesses. A statistical value chain guides the statistical production process. Let's take a look at the nine phases in the value chain:

- 1. Need:** This phase assesses if there is a need for new information, or if current data will meet the needs of users. Consultations with external stakeholders take place during this phase to establish if there is a need for a new survey, and to ensure collected information meets this need.
- 2. Design:** In this phase all the variables (information) that will be collected as well as the specific data tool to be used is agreed upon. National and international standards and best practise are considered in this phase.
- 3. Building:** This phase focuses on building and testing the production systems to the point where they are ready for use in the "live" environment.
- 4. Collection:** This is the first time in the process that the general public becomes involved. All necessary data are collected, using different collection methods (including visiting households, getting data from administrative and statistical registers and databases, and calling, visiting or emailing businesses).
- 5. Process:** Statistics are produced, examined in detail, interpreted, and made ready for distribution to end-users.
- 6. Analysis:** Includes the sub-processes and activities that enable statistical analysts to understand the statistics produced.
- 7. Dissemination:** The process of making statistical products available to customers (end-users).
- 8. Archiving:** Statistical data and metadata are archived or disposed of.
- 9. Evaluate:** Statistical business processes are evaluated. This usually takes place at the end of the process, but relies on inputs gathered throughout the different phases.





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 who are claiming their space in terms of skills, opportunities and accomplishments. This concept is shaped by 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

Akhona Nkenkana

Job title: Survey Statistician — Labour Statistics Development and Output
Experience: Three years at Stats SA

Explain your journey into the field of statistics

Taking into account my studies and where I am today, it is evident that destinies are not defined by academic qualifications alone. Determination, and always doing your best in anything that life throws at you, plays a part. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Public Health Promotion and not Statistics.

I was introduced to Stats SA through the Young Statisticians Programme. The ISibalo Capacity Building Programme was initiated to facilitate statistical research and capacity development and to support the training of young statisticians in Africa. As an Assistant Researcher for IkweziLokusa in East London in 2009, I was granted a research award to attend and present my research work in Canada. In preparation for Canada, I presented my work at the 2009 session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in Durban. Stats SA played a vital role in the organisation of this particular conference. This is how I was introduced to Stats SA and ISibalo. As a result I was fortunate to be considered as an intern within the organisation, which remains an opportunity that I am humbled to have ever been granted.

What inspired you to study the sciences?

My first choice was to study dance. My mother objected and I then decided to study a BSc at the Walter Sisulu University. Rather than resist the choice that was made for me, I tackled the question of how best I would make it work.

“It is challenging for young women starting out in the corporate world. We constantly need to assert our capabilities”

What are the challenges, if any, that you face as a woman in the scientific community or in the industry?

It is challenging for young women starting out in the corporate world. We constantly need to assert our capabilities. We have to prove our capability and intelligence matches or even exceeds that of men.

What are your career highlights thus far?

I currently serve as the Chairperson of the ISibalo Young African Statisticians Association. Another highlight of my career was heading the Uitenhage (Eastern Cape) office during the 2011 Census operations. It was seven months after completion of my internship and to be trusted with such a task was daunting and challenging. Census is not a project for the faint hearted. My motto “Do it with all your might or don’t do it at all” pulled me through.

Outline your job at Stats SA

I work within the Development and Output section of the Labour Statistics division as a Survey Statistician. This falls within the Population and Social Statistics cluster. I work within a team responsible for:

- Providing input into the development of survey content and product planning documents;
- Providing relevant statistics and methodology through effective planning;
- Providing input into questionnaire design;
- Assisting with the development and testing of how surveys are conducted;
- Organising statistical releases; and
- Monitoring and evaluation of data collection.

These are just some of the tasks I am involved in.

What are the prerequisites for the job?

When I applied for the job the requirements were:

- Three-year tertiary qualification in Statistics or Demography.
- Experience in survey methodology, sampling theory and planning.
- A postgraduate qualification was stated as an advantage and good knowledge of statistical analysis packages (eg SAS, SPSS) and MS Office Suite.

What advice would you give to someone who would like to build a career in statistics?

If you would like to become a statistician, the question you should ask yourself is: “Why do I want to be a statistician?” rather than “How can I become a statistician?”. What contribution do you want to make as a statistician in your community, country, Africa and, ultimately, the world?

Renscha Pietersen

Job title: Manager: Annual Financial Statistics
Experience: 31 years

Explain your journey into the field of statistics.

I studied Statistics and Mathematical Statistics at Bloemfontein University. Once I completed my studies I came to Pretoria where I started working at Stats SA, 31 years ago in the Short Term Indicators division. When the Annual Financial Statistics Survey was introduced in 2000, I was appointed to manage the Financial Statistics component and that is where I am today.

What inspired you to study the sciences?

I always had an interest in figures. My sister is a mathematics teacher, my brother is a civil engineer and my dad was a bank manager. So we came from a background where everyone worked with figures and that is where my love and interest for figures grew. From a young age my father impressed upon us the value of education, a luxury he was unable to afford himself. I then decided to study in the science and mathematics field.

What are the challenges, if any, that you face as a woman in the scientific community or in the industry?

When I started here at Stats SA there were quite a few women already in statistics. I never experienced any discrimination whatsoever. I started at the “bottom” and was able to work my way up without difficulty. I worked hard and smart, went through the interview processes and was promoted.

What are your career highlights thus far?

The Survey Management System (used to track progress of units) that Stats SA uses was pioneered by me. It was then modified by the Business Register. The database administrators built on this system and added to it to allow a user to look at various other surveys and track the progress of a questionnaire using Standard Industry Classification codes.

Another success, my “crowning glory” is a programme that we developed using the SAS system, to make analysis of financial data easier.

Outline your job at Stats SA

I am responsible for the Annual Financial Statistics Survey. It is an annual survey and I am responsible for releasing the data every year, in October or November. Our data are used by National Accounts because it bases the annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on our figures and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) uses data contained in the questionnaire.

What are the pre-requisites for the job?

The prerequisites are mathematics and statistics. However, almost half of the survey statisticians employed in this component have a BCom Accounting qualification. Since this is a financial survey and we are working with financial statements, you would need to know what an asset schedule is, for example.

What advice would you give to someone who would like to build a career in statistics?

If you are really interested in figures then this is the place for you. The field is wide open, be passionate about what you do and do it well. There are always positions and opportunities available.

“If you are really interested in figures then this is the place for you. The field is wide open, be passionate about what you do and do it well”

Keshnee Govender

Job title: Manager, Distributive Trade Statistics
Experience: Seven years

Explain your journey into the field of statistics.

I have always had a passion for numbers and calculations. There was only one path to choose when I was honoured as the best maths and science student in my matric year. I decided to pursue my Bachelor of Science degree at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. I majored in Mathematics and Statistics. In June 2006, I was appointed at Stats SA, in the Short Term Indicators division, as an Assistant Statistical Officer and since then it has been a real journey.

What inspired you to study the sciences?

I excelled in the sciences: mathematics, physical science, computer science and biology. There were so many fields I could choose to follow. Choosing just one field of study seemed almost impossible. My dad and I discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each. With all my options set out in front of me, and with strong guidance from my parents, I decided to pursue studying mathematics and statistics.

What are the challenges, if any, you face as a woman in the scientific community or the industry?

I consider myself to have been born “lucky”. I have never experienced any discrimination as a woman in this industry. Women are treated equally and given the opportunity to study and work in any field they want to.

What are your career highlights thus far?

My biggest success as a survey statistician was when I published my first land transport release in April 2009, under the leadership of my previous manager. This was a new survey Stats SA introduced and I was one of the key role players in its development.

Next I was given the opportunity to manage the Distributive Trade Statistics (DTS) team. The team’s dedication ensured that we meet our target of 72 publications per year. I believe every publication we have assisted in completing, is a success. From the assistant statistical officers responsible for building relationships with stakeholders and collecting their information monthly, to the supervisors who ensure targets are met; and the survey statisticians who process the information into meaningful results each month. This is what makes me, as well as my team, successful.

Outline your job at Stats SA.

As manager of the Distributive Trade Statistics component, I am responsible for managing the compilation and publication of six monthly surveys namely: Wholesale trade sales; motor trade sales; retail trade sales; tourist accommodation; food and beverages; and land transport.

Apart from the normal management duties, my monthly tasks include:

- Conducting and assisting with research for development/improvement of current methodologies used for these surveys;
- Analysing the statistical releases;
- Clearance documents (contains information explaining the results of the information in the statistical release);
- Developing articles and other research documents;
- Interacting with both internal and external stakeholders as requested; and
- Providing on-the-job training to team members.

What are the pre-requisites for the job?

- **Assistant Statistical Officer:** Matric certificate with maths/accounting; knowledge of MS Office Suite; experience in the field/survey is an advantage;
- **Supervisor:** Matric with maths/accounting; at least one year experience in the field/survey; knowledge of data collection and knowledge of MS Office Suite;
- **Survey statistician:** a three-year qualification in statistics/mathematics/economics; at least three years’ experience in the relevant field/survey and knowledge of MS Office Suite and statistical analysis tools.

What advice would you give to someone who would like to build a career in statistics?

If you enjoy working with numbers, then pursuing a career in the mathematics and statistics fields is the way to go. If you want to fulfill your dreams in the statistics field and you meet our requirements, apply for advertised positions. You too can be part of the Stats SA family.

“I have never experienced any discrimination as a woman in this industry”

Building a future in construction

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

Hard labour and heavy lifting is still the work preserve of men! This is confirmed by the latest 2011 construction industry report released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), which indicates that there are only 11% females in the construction industry. This statistic mirrors that of the Engineering Council of South Africa's (ECSA) May 2013 membership report. Improving the proportion of women trained as engineers and technicians will go a long way to improve the gender profile of the industry. However, there are still a number of negative perceptions and social stereotypes which preclude the entrance of women into this male dominated field.

Koketso Mela, an unemployed female graduate who holds a National Certificate in civil engineering and building believes that female matriculants have a fear of pursuing construction related studies. The sector is perceived to be a threatening environment characterised by muscles, conflict and crisis. "Women are mis-

Fast facts

- 89,3% of the construction industry is made up of male employees compared to only 11% of females.
- Total income in 2011 was R267 014 million down from R285 910 million in 2009.
- The largest contributor (39%) to income was "construction of civil engineering structures" for example roads, bridges, dams and buildings.
- Lower profit margin for 2011 (2,8%) compared to 2007(4,8%) and 2009 (5,0%). Construction has the lowest profit margins by industry.
- Industries refers to mining and quarrying; finance, real estate and business services; agriculture, forestry and fishing; manufacturing; trade; electricity, gas and water

led in their perceptions of this sector. The industry needs new sustainable workers and women are viable candidates as they bring essential skills to the industry and can multitask, and perform very well under pressure," says Mela. Retention programmes for female graduates in the construction industry are important to ensure healthy and sustainable growth through

supply; transportation; community, social and personal services. Gauteng has the highest percentage (40,4%) of construction income compared to other provinces. This is down from 47,5% in 2007. Gauteng is also the province where most construction happens (43%). Construction was the eighth largest contributor to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). In June 2011 construction employed 1 043 million people. The construction industry ranked in the bottom three industries in terms of employee benefits. Only 11,3% of construction employees had access to medical aid compared to 76,9% of mining employees.

a regular supply of manpower. "I think both the public and private sectors are not doing enough to recruit female graduates to enter the industry. Access to learnerships, in-service training and internship programmes should be made available to ensure skilled females have a background of the performance expectations required in the construction sector," says Mela.

Although the highest number of females were working in the electrical contractors sector (3 600) this is still a far cry compared to the large number of males (31 769) in this sector. Other sectors with significant female representation are shop-fitting (9%) and painting and decoration (8%) sectors.

Another trailblazer in the construction industry is Heaven Maswanganyi who has been managing her own successful construction company since 2002. She attributes her success to navigate this male dominated industry to her "strong emotional intelligence". She also maintains that "investment in women has positive, long term, socio-economic ripple effects as women tend to invest their income in the health and education of their families, thus enabling our children to start off on a stronger footing and higher socio-economic level".

It is proven that women are more capable of performing the tasks undertaken by their professional male counterparts, and are able to play a vital role in contributing to the economy of the country. "After several years I realised that an office-based job will not bring me the fulfillment or unlock my full potential. That is the reason I decided to give-up my job at the local municipality I was employed at and work on my own by joining the construction industry," concluded Maswanganyi.

Stats SA conducts the Construction survey,

This release is available on the Stats SA Ipad app at the Apple Store

which covers private and public enterprises that are mainly engaged in construction and registered for value added tax (VAT) and income tax (IT). The results of the survey are used within the organisation to compile South Africa's national accounts including the gross domestic product (GDP). GDP is the total value of final goods and services produced within a country during a specified time period, such as one year. It is the most commonly used single measure of a country's overall economic activity. The latest report indicates that construction contributed 3,8% to the GDP in 2011. The information collected through this survey is used by the private sector to analyse the overall performance of the construction industry and also to analyse the performance of construction related sectors/businesses.

Gauteng, the hub of economic activity, had the highest number of construction activity in 2011 (40%) followed by Western Cape (14%) and KwaZulu-Natal (11%).

Discover our home, discover SA

In the month of September tourism is promoted in our beautiful country, highlighting our different cultures not only to the world but also to our citizens.

This annual celebration focuses on the importance of tourism to the economy of South Africa and encourages more people to travel within our country.

Tourism contributed 2,9% (R84 333 million) to our Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2011, according to Statistics South Africa's latest Tourism Satellite Account (TSA). TSA provides information on tourism's contribution to the South African economy both in terms of expenditure and employment. Tourism is one of the largest industries globally

and has been recognised as a driver of growth and development.

This labour-intensive sector supports one in every 12 jobs in South Africa according to the SouthAfrica.info website. It is a priority sector in government's planning and policy framework and is potentially one of the largest providers of jobs and earners of foreign exchange.

Although international tourism is of importance, a strong and vibrant domestic tourism market remains the backbone of the tourism sector and it is important that we, the people of South Africa, tour within our own country in order to create jobs and boost the local economy. — Oteng Makgotlwe

Tourism in our country

Statistics South Africa provides information on tourism in South Africa.

The **Domestic Tourism Survey (DTS)**, conducted at a household level, provides information on South African residents' travel behaviour (places travelled to, for how long, the purpose of the trip) and expenditure (money spent on the trip) within South Africa. The latest report (2012) shows:

- KwaZulu-Natal was the most popular overnight destination with a share of 20,8% (in 2010) and 20,3% (in 2011 of total overnight trips).
- Gauteng was the most visited province for day trips (getting a share of 23,9% in 2010 and 24,9% in 2011 of the total of such trips).
- The Northern Cape is the least visited province in the country with R131 million being spent.
- Total spend on overnight trips equaled R14 billion.
- The highest total spending on overnight trips by destination was in KwaZulu-Natal (R3,4 billion) and Western Cape (R2,5 billion).

The **Tourism and Migration** release provides monthly information on South African residents and foreign travellers who entered or left South Africa. This data is compiled using information from the Department of Home Affairs Movement Control System. According to the March 2013 release:

- A total of 3 213 707 travellers

(arrivals and departures) passed through South African ports of entry during March 2013.

- Of these travellers 849 218 were South African residents and 2 364 489 were foreign. This includes both arrivals in and departures from South Africa.

- In March 2013, there were 1 235 930 foreign arrivals in South Africa. This is an increase of 12,2% from February 2013 (from 1 101 684).

- The highest number of tourists who visited South Africa in March 2013 by continent are from other countries in Africa with 564 173 visits recorded. More than 27% of these were from Zimbabwe (151 695).

- The highest number of overseas tourists were from Europe with 152 534 visits recorded (accounting for 61,3% of the total overseas tourists).

The **Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)** provides information to policymakers so that they can understand and monitor the impact of tourism on the South African economy in terms of employment and expenditure.

- In 2011, 12 097 490 non-residents visited South Africa compared with 11 303 087 non-resident visitors in 2010.
- In 2011 there were 598 432 persons (4,5% of total employment) directly engaged in producing goods and services purchased by visitors compared with 567 378 persons (or 4,3% of total employment) in 2010.

Female-related basket and weights

(Total weight - 2,05%)

Skin lotion	0,32
Shoes (excluding sport shoes, slippers & sandals)	0,30
Knitwear	0,19
Panty	0,16
Powder	0,16
Jeans	0,15
Bra	0,15
Tops (including T-shirts)	0,13
hair pieces	0,09
Sport shoes	0,08
Dress	0,07
Jacket	0,07
Hair relaxer	0,06
Sanitary Pads	0,05
Sandals	0,05
Slippers	0,01
Hair pieces	0,01
Tampons	0,01
Hair colour	0,01
Bubble bath	0,00

Male-related basket and weights

(Total weight 1,48%)

Shoes (excluding sport shoes and sandals)	0,27
Sports shoes (tekkies)	0,26
Jeans	0,23
Underpants	0,16
Trousers (excluding jeans) — casual	0,11
Tops (including t-shirts)	0,09
Shorts	0,08
Shirt — casual	0,07
Trousers (excluding jeans) — business	0,07
Shirt — business	0,06
Jacket	0,05
Sandals	0,03

What women buy

Ladies, did you know that when you buy hair extensions and hair colouring products, your purchases affect the country's interest rates? Women are often in charge of buying goods for households so they have a direct impact on inflation*.

The consumer price index (CPI) measures changes in the prices of goods and services used by households. This important indicator* of price changes in the economy is one of the most used statistics to measure inflation.

The CPI is used mainly by the South African Reserve Bank for adjusting interest rates for the country. Interest rates are charged added by lenders to the amount borrowed — that is, the cost of borrowing in addition to the actual loan amount. For example, if there is an increase in the interest rates you will pay more on your home loan, your financed car instalment and your credit card. On the other hand if there is a decrease in the interest rates, you will pay less on these monthly instalments. The CPI is also used to work out how much pensions and salaries should increase by. This is to ensure that salaries and pensions are in line with the increased cost of goods and services.

* **Inflation** is the rate at which the cost of goods and services rise over time.

*An **indicator** is an instrument or measure of performance.

was done in 2012 and the CPI basket now consists of 402 items. Most of the female-related products in the old basket were included in the new basket during the reweighting process.

What's out:

- Skirt for business and casual.

What's new:

- Hair pieces, hair relaxers, hair colour, bubble bath and powder

Interesting facts

- The inclusion of hair products into the basket resulted in the weight for female-related products increasing from 1,69% to 1,99%.
- Females allocated a higher proportion of their household budget to food, beverages and tobacco compared to males (IES 2010/11).
- Although other provinces like Gauteng and Western Cape included bubble bath (according to the IES 2010/11 data), North West is the only province that warranted the inclusion of bubble bath in the CPI with a weighting in the overall CPI basket of 0,00% — Princess Tholoe

New and improved website features

- Information will be organised according to **themes** linked to different data sources, making it easier to find information. Quick facts, key statistics, related statistical and other publications, interactive data sources, graphs, charts, data stories and definitions will support each major theme.
- Key statistics** will be accessible on the home page and will be organised under topics such as: The people of South Africa, The economy of South Africa, The living conditions of South Africans and The natural environment.
- Users would be able to **find statistics** by place (province or municipality) and by theme (as per the themes mentioned above).
- Municipal pages — **My Municipality** — will be included. These provide information on all municipalities with links to Integrated Development Plan (IDP) indicators (what the municipalities use to plan how to provide services) serving as a tool to be used by municipalities for evidence-based planning, monitoring and decision-making. This will also serve as a gateway for ordinary citizens to access information on their municipalities and wards.
- Data stories** will be included on current events, demonstrating the link between statistical data and information, and everyday life.

Bringing data to life

Stats SA's website is changing for the better, **Onicah Seemise** explains

The Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) website is going through a transformation. Not only will it look different, it will also boast a number of improved functions that will make it easier to understand and find information.

The website will cater for all users. From the more advanced user of statistics looking for information on the economy, the labour market and key economic indicators to the statistical beginner who will easily be able to find information relating to basic services, population demographics and the living circumstances of citizens.

All of this will be available without having to figure out complicated tables and graphs or wading through and downloading complicated documents.

The mandate of Stats SA, according to the Statistics Act (No. 6 of 1999), is to collect, process and analyse information on society and the economy. The Statistics Act also places a responsibility on the organisation to make this information available for use by citizens.

The work of the organisation would be incomplete if the information generated is not shared to inform planning and decision-making. We have therefore planned a number of activities to make statistics more accessible and palatable to ordinary

South Africans. To facilitate dialogue and build a statistically literate society we continue to talk to communities, business people, learners and educators, government departments, and the media as part of our plan to get everyone in South Africa to use statistics.

We have also embraced new technologies and social media platforms to share data in an interactive and instantaneous manner.

Citizens are able to access our data on mobile platforms such as iPads and iPhones or any other mobile device. Sharing real time information with the public has also become so much easier through our presence on Facebook and Twitter.

The new website project fits into our overall plans as it will allow for data and information sharing in a user-friendly way, taking into account the views and needs of our stakeholders.

Struggling to find information on our website will be a thing of the past. The new website will provide easily accessible and understandable information for visitors to empower themselves with knowledge.

Visitors will gain a better understanding of our country and our communities. Stats SA will bring data to life by providing information that sketches a picture on the economic landscape and gives progress on social issues.

Through this information, citizens

will be able to get an idea of government's progress towards service delivery, not only at a national level but right up to municipal level.

By making data and information accessible in a user friendly manner, Stats SA aims to contribute towards building a statistically literate society, a society equipped with evidence that stimulates conversation around improving the lives of all South Africans.

To know where we are going, we need to

know how far we have come. This is the purpose of statistics — to provide a picture of the past — so that we know how to plan for the future and to keep track of our progress.

The website will be developed in a number of phases with the full site being available towards the latter part of 2013. Visit us on www.statssa.gov.za — Be part of "The SA I know — The Home I Understand" by using statistics to your advantage.

Answers from page 8

- Across**
- Women's day
 - September
 - Sample
 - Fifteen
 - Gauteng
 - Stats4Soccer
- Down**
- Tourism and Migration
 - Themes
 - Tertiary
 - Pass book
 - Skin Lotion
 - Females

Trivia

1	3	6	2	5	9	7	4	8
7	2	5	4	1	8	9	3	6
4	8	9	3	6	7	1	5	2
3	6	4	7	8	5	2	1	9
5	1	8	6	9	2	3	7	4
9	7	2	1	3	4	6	8	5
2	4	1	5	7	6	8	9	3
8	5	3	9	2	1	4	6	7
6	9	7	8	4	3	5	2	1

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) 0,32%
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) Mbalo 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) Census 2011
d) General Household Survey

6

The percentage of women who live below the food poverty line?

a) 33,7%
b) 10%
c) 60%
d) 40%

7

Which has the highest unemployment?

a) Cape Metro
b) Mitchell's Plain
c) South Africa
d) Western Cape

8

What does section 16 of the Statistics Act deal with?

a) Confidentiality and disclosure
b) Duty to answer questions
c) Entry to premises
d) Offences and penalties

9

What do field staff use to collect information from households selected to participate in a survey?

a) A form
b) A computer
c) A questionnaire
d) None of the above

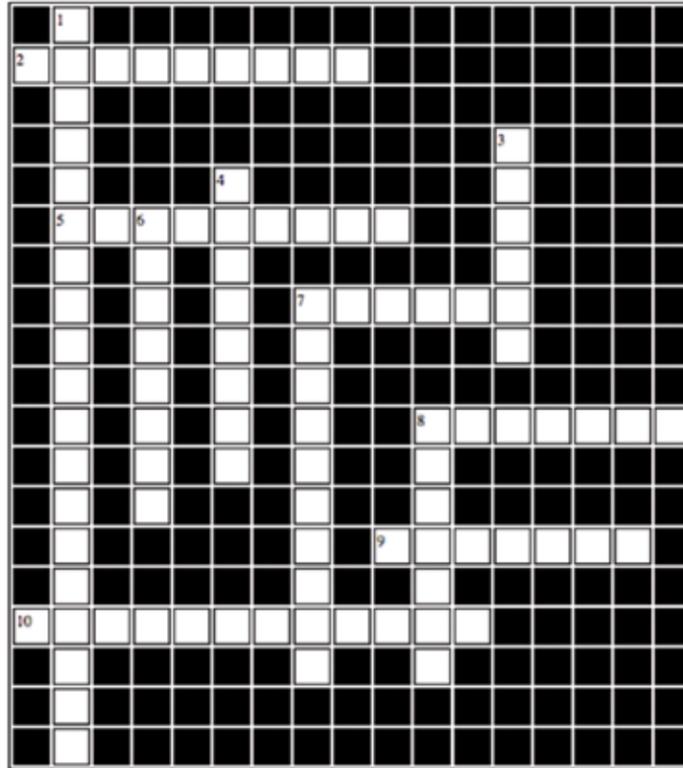
10

What percentage of women works in the construction industry?

a) 11%
b) 89,3%
c) 12%
d) 25%

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 Stats 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.

3. 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.

6. In 1956, twenty thousand women marched to the Union Buildings in protest against carrying which item?

7. Which item in the female CPI basket has the highest weight?

8. 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

Statistical publications schedule

All releases can be accessed on the Stats SA website on the day of release

Statistical Release	Release Date
Electricity generated and available for distribution	01 August 2013
Manufacturing: Utilisation of production capacity by large enterprises	01 August 2013
Mining: Production and Sales	08 August 2013
Manufacturing: Production and Sales	08 August 2013
Retail Trade Sales	14 August 2013
Building plans passed and completed	15 August 2013
Wholesale Trade Sales	13 June 2013
Motor Trade Sales	15 August 2013
Statistics of civil cases of debt	15 August 2013
Tourist Accommodation	19 August 2013
Food and Beverages	19 August 2013
Transport Statistics	19 August 2013
July - Consumer Price Index (CPI)	21 August 2013
Statistics on liquidations and insolvencies	26 August 2013
Tourism and Migration	26 August 2013
2nd Quarter Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	27 August 2013
Buildings completed 2011	28 August 2013
July - Producer Price Index (PPI)	29 August 2013
Joint Building Contracts Committee (JBCC)	29 August 2013
Annual Financial Statistics (AFS) of extra budgetary accounts, with audited data	29 August 2013
Annual non-financial census of municipalities	29 August 2013
Recorded live births	30 August 2013
Electricity generated and available for distribution	05 September 2013
Manufacturing: Production and Sales	11 September 2013
Mining: Production and Sales	12 September 2013
Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES)	17 September 2013
August - Consumer Price Index (CPI)	18 September 2013
Retail Trade Sales	18 September 2013
Wholesale Trade Sales	19 September 2013
Motor Trade Sales	19 September 2013
Statistics of civil cases of debt	19 September 2013
Building plans passed and completed	19 September 2013
Statistics on liquidations and insolvencies	23 September 2013
Annual release on the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS)	24 September 2013
August - Producer Price Index (PPI)	26 September 2013
Joint Building Contracts Committee	26 September 2013
Tourist Accommodation	26 September 2013
Food and Beverages	26 September 2013
Transport Statistics	26 September 2013
Annual Financial Statistics (AFS) of Provincial Governments, with audited data	26 September 2013
Tourism and Migration	30 September 2013
Quarterly Financial Statistics (QFS) of Private Sector Enterprises	30 September 2013
Quarterly Financial Statistics (QFS) of Municipalities	30 September 2013
Large Sample Survey (LSS) on Construction 2011	30 September 2013
Large Sample Survey on (LSS) Manufacturing 2011	30 September 2013
General Household Survey (GHS) Series Release	30 September 2013

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.

1	3		2			7	4	
		2	5		1			
4	8			6			5	
			7	8		2	1	
5				9		3	7	
9				3				5
	4				6	8	9	
	5	3			1	4		
6								

Answers on page 7

Stats SA provincial numbers

North West
Tel: (018) 384 2878/9
Fax: (018) 384 2832

KwaZulu-Natal
Tel: (031) 360 0600
Fax: (031) 305 9960

Gauteng
Tel: (011) 781 3495
No fax

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

Northern Cape
Tel: (053) 802 6800
Fax: (053) 832 5407

Mpumalanga
Tel: (013) 754 0600
Fax: (013) 755 2898

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

Eastern Cape
Tel: (043) 707 4907
Fax: (043) 707 4906

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