

Measuring poverty in SA

Poverty is high on our country's agenda. It has been since the start of our democratic government. **Werner Ruch**, Manager in Poverty and Inequality Statistics, takes us through the latest poverty trends

Since 1994 many programmes have been introduced to reduce poverty among the people of South Africa. Social grants, no fee schools, low-income housing subsidies and free basic services are some of the measures put in place to improve the living conditions of the poor. The fight continues and the National Development Plan (NDP) has set new goals for 2030, namely:

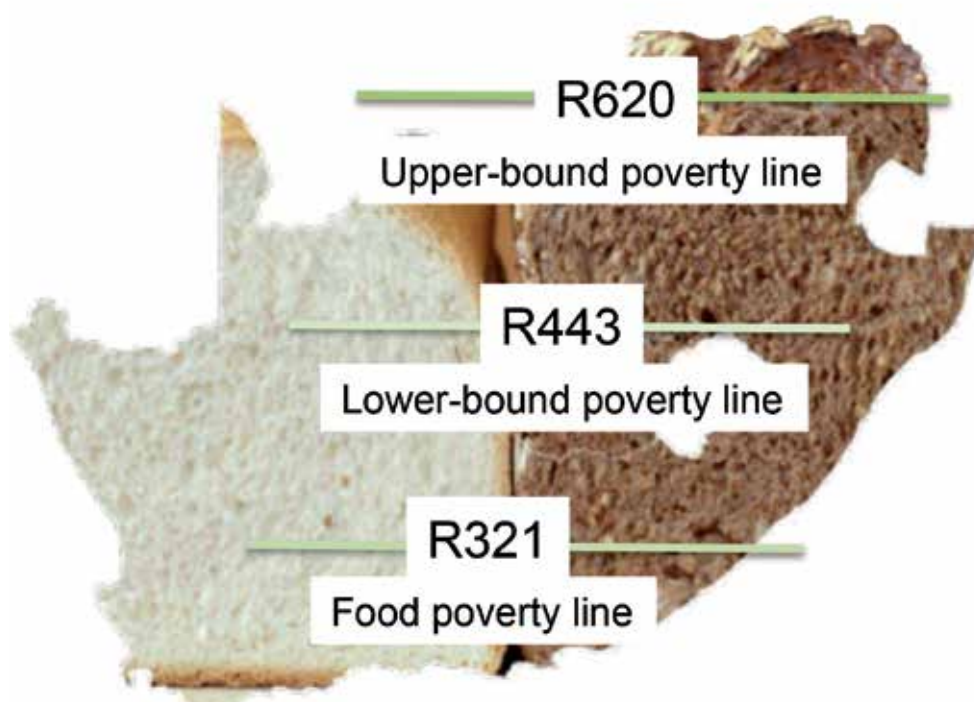
- Eliminate income poverty — Reduce the proportion of households with a monthly income below *R416 per person per month (in 2009 prices) from 39% to zero.
- Reduce inequality — The Gini coefficient should fall from 0.69 to 0.6. (The Gini coefficient is the most common way to measure inequality. This is a number between 0 and 1, where 0 indicates total equality — each person has equal income share — and 1 indicates total inequality all income goes to one person.)

Poverty is widely accepted as people living in poor living conditions. The definition and measurement of poverty is complex. Poverty shows itself in social, economic and political ways and it is difficult to capture all dimensions of it in a single definition. Nevertheless, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has over the past two years published several reports that attempt to measure poverty in different ways to provide policy-makers with quality information on the state of poverty and inequality in the country. The latest is the report on Poverty Trends in South Africa, which measures poverty between 2006 and 2011.

What is poverty and how can it be measured?

Poverty can be determined by whether a person has access to the following:

- income
- employment
- basic services
- ownership of assets
- social inclusion/exclusion
- participation in decision-making



- ability to provide for basic needs

Poverty is most commonly measured by looking at the issue from two perspectives:

- Money to buy goods and services needed to live (money-metric approach)
- Multidimensionally through aspects such as health, education, living standards and employment (non-money-metric)

Money is an indirect measure of a person's ability to buy certain things such as food, clothing and shelter to improve their well-being. Household expenditure surveys, such as the Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) and Living Conditions Survey (LCS) (both conducted by Stats SA), are the best and most detailed sources of information of household expenditure and income. This information enables us to apply a poverty line to distinguish between the poor and non-poor.

Poverty lines

The National Planning Commission adopted the use of the *lower-bound poverty line*, where one has to choose between food and important non-food items, (R443 per person per month in 2011 prices) with regard to its poverty targets outlined in the National Development Plan (NDP). They have set the target of eliminating poverty below this line by 2030. As of 2011, 32,3% of the population or roughly 16,3 million people were living below this poverty line. Poverty can be measured in other

ways. The *food poverty line* represents the amount of money required to purchase the minimum required daily energy intake (R321 per person per month in 2011 prices).

The *upper bound poverty line* is R620 per person per month (in 2011 prices). Below this line people cannot afford the minimum lifestyle desired by most South Africans.

Poverty line	Percentage of people living below these lines	
	2006	2011
Food poverty line	26,6%	20,2%
Lower-bound poverty line	42,2%	32,3%
Upper bound poverty line	57,2%	45,5%

Social grants and hunger

Social grant beneficiaries have increased from 2,6 million in 1997 to 16,6 million in 2012. The number of persons who reported

* NDP states the poverty line at R419 per person per month, however, the CPI was adjusted and the figure has changed to R416 per person per month.

to experience hunger has dropped from roughly 30% in 2002 to 13% in 2011. This shows the positive impact social grants has had on reducing hunger and poverty.

Poverty and age

Poverty was highest among the youth, even with a 19% decrease in poverty from 2006 to 2011.

Age	Percentage living in poverty	
	2006	2011
17 and younger	68,9%	55,7%
65 and older	55,6%	36,2%

Poverty and education

There are differences between poverty and education status of individuals. The higher an individual's education level, the less chance the person has of living in poverty.

Education level	Percentage living in poverty	
	2006	2011
No education	78,5%	66,0%
Completed primary	65,3%	54,6%
Matric	30,9%	23,6%
Higher education	6,0%	5,5%

Spending profiles



The poor spent most of their income on food compared to non-poor households, whose largest expense was housing.

Important progress has been made in the fight to reduce poverty and inequality. However, there is still work to be done to reach the NDP goals by 2030. Working together as a nation, it can be achieved.

What the poor eat			
Poor		Non-poor	
Average annual food expenditure	R8 485	Average annual food expenditure	R14 020
Percentage spent on:		Percentage spent on:	
Bread and cereals	34,7%	Bread and cereals	22,1 %
Meat and fish	22,4%	Meat and fish	28,9%
Milk, cheese and eggs	7,4%	Milk, cheese and eggs	10,3%
Fruits and vegetables	12,3%	Fruits and vegetables	12,3%
Non-alcoholic beverages	4,9%	Non-alcoholic beverages	8,1%
Oils and fats	4,9%	Oils and fats	3,8%




North West municipal stats

 Municipality	 Ranking by population size	Description	Total population	Unemployment rate	Youth unemployment rate	Higher education aged 20+	Flush toilet connected to sewerage	Piped water inside dwelling	Electricity for lighting
City of Matlosana	12	The City of Matlosana municipality is located in Dr Kenneth Kaunda District.	2001 2011	2001 2011	2001 2011	2001 2011	2001 2011	2001 2011	2001 2011
			359.202 398.676	40% 32,7%	52,5% 43,1%	6,1% 9%	72% 92,8%	25,2% 50,1%	83,9% 89%
Ditsobola	61	Ditsobola Local Municipality is located in Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality.	147.599 168.902	42,5% 28,3%	54,2% 37%	5,2% 6,7%	42,7% 43,9%	28,5% 34,9%	67% 74%
Greater Taung	57	The municipality is one of the five local municipalities in Dr Ruth S Mompati District Municipality.	182.164 177.642	65,2% 49,8%	75,7% 61,7%	4,1% 4,7%	7,4% 9%	5,3% 10%	49,4% 88,5%
Kagisano Molopo	106	The local municipality borders the Republic of Botswana, Naledi Local Municipality and Ratlou Local Municipality.	100.469 105.789	39% 30,2%	46,1% 38,8%	3,1% 4,5%	7% 7,5%	8,3% 11,3%	64,1% 73,8%
Kgetleng River	170	Forms part of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality.	36.477 51.049	30,2% 20,5%	39,6% 26,7%	3,9% 6,3%	50,7% 51,9%	22% 34,8%	63,2% 78%
Lekwa-Teemane	166	Makes up 7,75% of the total area of the Dr. Ruth S Mompati District Municipality area.	42.967 53.248	42,8% 30,5%	51,9% 39,3%	4,3% 5,1%	63% 86,8%	16% 29,5%	71,2% 86,1%
Madibeng	9	Located in the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality and means place of water.	347.578 477.381	41,9% 30,4%	52,9% 38,2%	5,6% 7,7%	22,5% 27,2%	13,7% 22,2%	69,7% 81%
Mafikeng	24	Mafikeng Local Municipality is located in Mafikeng, the capital city of the North West province.	259.478 291.527	49,3% 35,7%	60,3% 47,1%	8,6% 12,4%	28,1% 29,2%	24,2% 30,9%	72,1% 84,5%
Mamusa	161	The town of Schweizer-Reneke is the only town in Mamusa Local Municipality and is surrounded by agricultural farms.	48.366 60.355	44,7% 35,1%	56,6% 45,8%	3,9% 4,6%	24% 59,3%	11,8% 21,9%	71,3% 80,8%
Laquassi Hills	137	One of the five local municipalities in the Dr Kenneth Kaunda District.	69.037 77.794	41,8% 33,4%	52,6% 42,6%	3,6% 4,7%	37,3% 74,4%	20,3% 32,2%	63,1% 82,8%
Moretele	53	Moretele is the Setswana name for a river that runs through the area, Noka ya Moretele (the Moretele River).	181.033 186.947	58,1% 45,9%	72,9% 57,2%	4,1% 4,6%	0,8% 4,4%	1,6% 8,7%	71,5% 92,2%
Moses Kotane	37	Named in memory of Moses Kotane, who was General Secretary of the Communist Party and Treasurer General of the African National Congress.	237.175 242.554	50,9% 37,9%	63,7% 47,4%	5,8% 5,3%	10,1% 12,3%	8,3% 18,6%	91,2% 89,9%
Naledi	148	The administrative centre of the municipality is in the town of Vryburg.	56.263 66.781	36,3% 26,1%	46,1% 35,5%	5,9% 9,1%	64,2% 65,4%	32,2% 40,9%	65% 76,7%
Ramotshere Moleiwa	72	One of the five local municipalities in Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality.	137.443 150.713	53,6% 36,2%	64,6% 45,8%	5% 6,4%	18,8% 22,3%	10,9% 19%	69,8% 81,9%
Ratlou	104	Ratlou Local Municipality is one of the local municipalities under Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality.	106.165 107.339	61,3% 43,9%	69,9% 52,4%	2% 3,1%	1% 1,8%	1,9% 5,2%	76,3% 83,7%
Rustenburg	6	Rustenburg is the most populous municipality in the North West province.	387.096 549.575	31,8% 26,4%	43,5% 34,7%	6,9% 8,9%	39,9% 52,7%	21,3% 35,8%	71,4% 83%
Tlokwe City Council	64	Falls within Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality in the North West province.	128.353 162.762	37,1% 21,6%	47,7% 29,5%	11,4% 14,2%	69,3% 80,6%	31,5% 56,9%	78,6% 90,5%
Tswaing	87	Tswaing Local Municipality is located in Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality.	114.155 124.218	34,1% 28,7%	46,1% 40,1%	4,6% 5,6%	26,4% 32,1%	12,9% 21,4%	69,2% 73,7%
Ventersdorp	164	One of the four local municipalities of Dr Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality. I	43.078 56.702	33% 27%	43,1% 34%	4,2% 4%	36,2% 40,3%	19,8% 20%	61,5% 76,1%

In the next few editions Fieldworker will provide key statistics on your municipality. The information provides a picture of the progress made at municipal level.

We start off with the predominantly Setswana speaking province of the North West.



Stats SA offices in the North West

Office	Address	Telephone
Mafikeng	Mega City shopping Complex Shop 55 North Entrance, James Moroka and Sekame Road, MMABATHO	(018) 384 2877-9
Rustenburg	26 Von Wellight Street	(014) 597 5916 / 7 or 592 7133
Klerksdorp	5th Floor, P C Palser Buildings Corner Voortrekker and Anderson Street	(018) 462 2966
Mabopane	Corner Nel & Vry Street	(053) 927 6258
Vryburg	Central House Site 426 Unit E, Suite 221, 1st Floor Central House	(012) 701 1797 or 702 9174

The state of the youth in SA

The youth of 1976 stood up so they could have a better life in this country. After 38 years the question remains — how have the lives of the youth improved? Using employment and education figures derived from Stats SA data, **Biziwe Maswili** reports on the state of the youth

June 16 1976 still resonates in the hearts of many South Africans. Protest marches against apartheid laws and the infamous Bantu education system across the country became violent. Young learners, mostly from schools in Soweto, lost their lives on this day. This sent shockwaves through the country and international community. The uprisings were a means to retaliate against government's 1974 Afrikaans Medium Decree, which among other things, forced schools in the townships to use Afrikaans as a language of instruction. The youth fought for education. In the years since our democracy our education figures have improved, but the youth still struggle to find employment.

Education
Education levels have improved since the first democratic census was conducted in 1996. This is due to the fact that more people have access to education opportunities. This, however, has not translated into economic opportunities such as jobs for the youth and many are still unemployed.

Percentage of youth (age 15–34) by highest education level reached		
Education level	Census 1996	Census 2011
Higher education	5,3%	8,8%
Matric (completed)	18,8%	31,8%
Below matric	68,3%	57,3%
No schooling	7,6%	2,2%

Former Minister in The Presidency for Performance Monitoring and Evaluation, Collins Chabane, stated two years ago that the South African youth is in urgent need of economic opportunities, access to quality education and skills in order to meaningfully participate in the economy. Government has, over the past few years, continued to invest in empowering the youth with education. The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) continues to provide study loans and bursaries to students in all universities and Further Education and Training (FET) colleges in the country. Mpumalanga opened its doors to the first university in the province — University of Mpumalanga — at the beginning of this year. The Northern Cape's university, the Sol Plaatje University, is under construction. These two universities will add value in preparing young people for the job market.



Youth of the past stood up against the Bantu education system so that today's youth are not discriminated against



According to the National Development Plan (NDP), education is critical for the country's long-term development. The plan further calls for a complete education chain from early childhood development and basic education to further and higher education.

Education and unemployment
Education is critical in securing employment. The higher the education qualification achieved, the better the chance of getting a job. Education levels have improved since 1996, but not enough to make a change in unemployment levels.

Education level
The unemployment rate by education level for 15 to 34 year olds is:
■ Higher education completed — 17,3%
■ Secondary education completed — 35,8%
■ Secondary education not completed — 42,0%

Youth employment
Statistics point out that a majority of those under the age of 34 remain — unemployed. Youth accounted for 40,4% of the employed, 67,4% of the unemployed and 66,5% of the discouraged job-seekers. Trade, Agriculture, and Construction sectors offer more job opportunities for the youth than other sectors.

Labour market dynamics for 15 to 34-year olds
■ Employed — 40,4%
■ Unemployed — 67,4%
■ Discouraged from looking for work — 66,5%

Main industries of employment
■ Trade - 47,6%
■ Agriculture - 46,9%
■ Construction - 45,8%
According to the *Labour Market Dynamics* report, the unemployment rate among black African and coloured youth is substantially higher than that of Asian/Indian and white groups. Noticeably, the figure of black African unemployed youth is 38,6%, the highest of all the population groups, followed by coloured at 34,2%, Asian/Indian at 17,2% and whites at a mere 11,2%. South Africa's youth have a greater chance of improving their lives. Higher education qualifications provide a greater chance of being employed. As the 1976 youth exemplified by standing up for their beliefs, a young population can contribute to change in a country.

The available resources and government's efforts should be used to provide opportunities for the youth to improve their lives and create financial independence through education. This will change the country by driving national growth and creating more jobs.

The NDP's vision for building a future for the youth is to:

- Improve the school system, including increasing the number of students achieving above 50% in literacy and mathematics.
- Increase graduation rate from Further Education Training colleges to 75%.
- Improve teacher training.
- Expand the role of state-owned enterprises in training artisans and technical professionals.
- A formalised graduate recruitment scheme for the public service to attract highly skilled people.
- Add incentives on the employment of young, unskilled workers by creating an environment for sustainable employment and economic growth.
- Employment will be promoted in labour-absorbing industries — 90% of new jobs will be created in small and growing firms.
- Putting a plan in place to ensure that the services sector provides more job opportunities than the mining and manufacturing sectors.



The Fieldworker editorial team

Editor-in-chief: Trevor Oosterwyk

Editor: Shirazaan Taylor

Deputy Editor and News Editor: Aneen Jordaan

Contributors: Vienie Botha, Mbongiseni Mndebele, Biziwe Maswili; Werner Ruch, Gift Madiaga, Gerald White, Tebogo Mashila

Language editor, layout and design: Cheryl Taylor

Printer: Mailtronic
The Fieldworker is a bimonthly publication produced by Statistics South Africa, Private Bag X44, Pretoria 0001 Tel: (012) 310 6552;

Please send your comments to us at fieldworker@statssa.gov.za

What do you think of The Fieldworker?

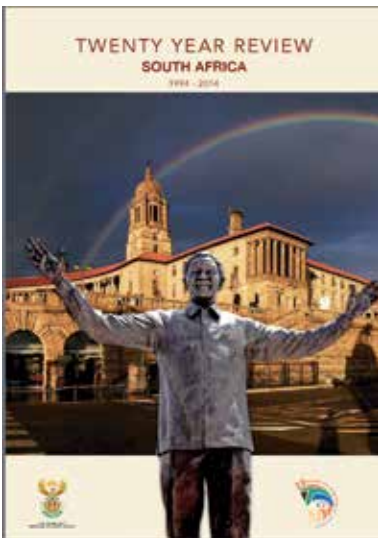
Email us: fieldworker@statssa.gov.za



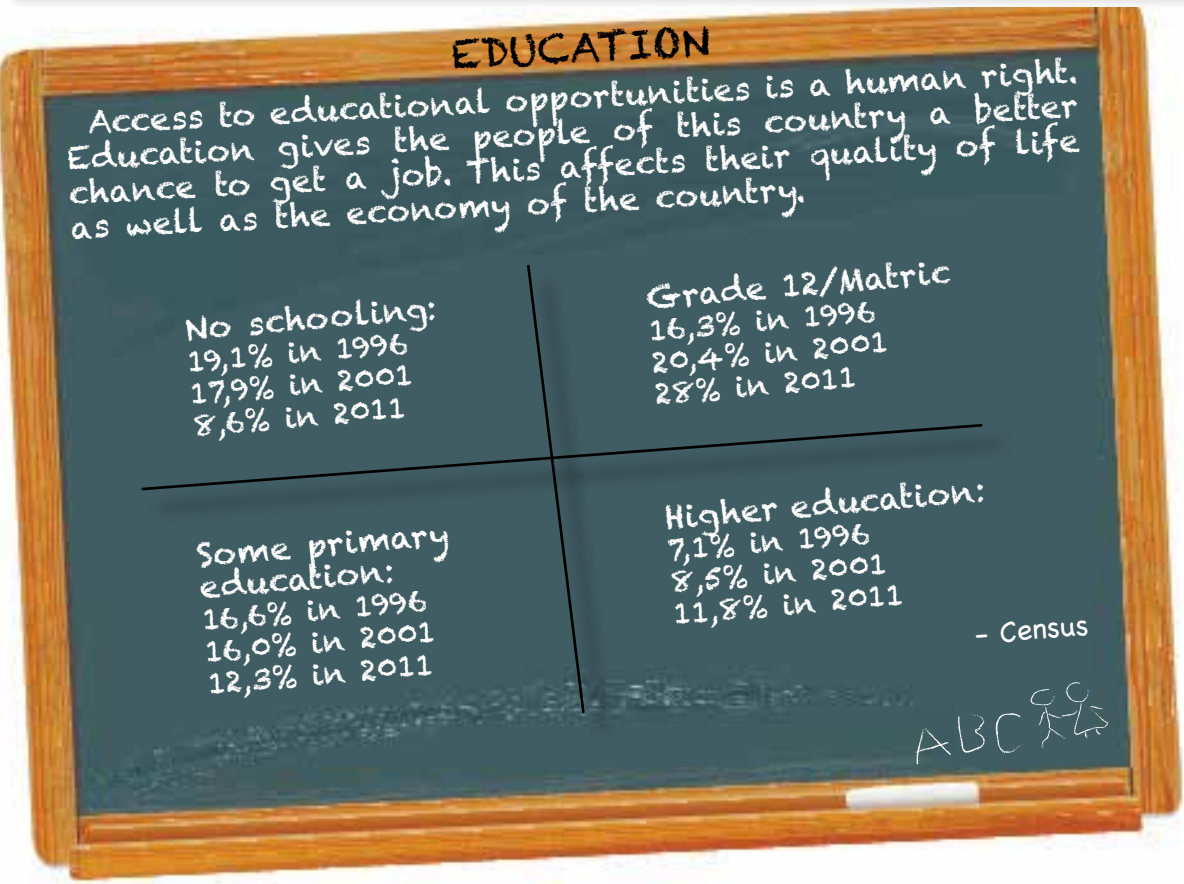
This year we celebrate 20 years of freedom and democracy in South Africa. "It is an occasion to reflect on what has been achieved in our country over the past 20 years, by South Africans working together," stated President Jacob Zuma at the launch of the Presidency's 20 Year Review.

The democratic government inherited legacies from apartheid such as Bantu education, uneven land distribution, the migrant labour system, racial segregation and white areas being prioritised for basic services. 20 years on and work is still being done to remove the negative impact of this inequality.

The 20 Year Review evaluates government's performance, elaborating on the achievements and progress made in the democratic era. It paints a picture of the journey the country has travelled in getting to where we are today.



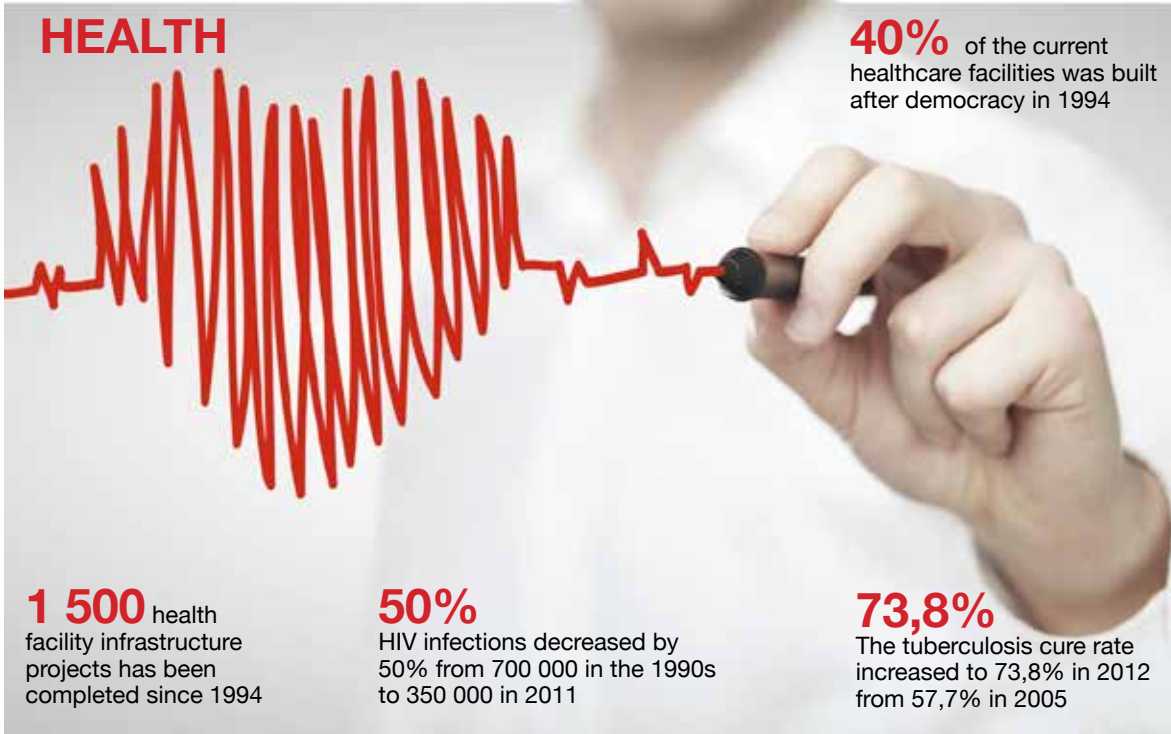
The full document can be downloaded from The Presidency website:
www.thepresidency-dpme.gov.za/news/Pages/20-Year-Review.aspx



- Primary school enrolment rates approximately 98% in 2012
- 78% of learners are now benefitting from no-fee policies (2012)
- Secondary school enrolment increased from 51% in 1994 to 89% in 2012
- Matriculation pass rate was 53,4% in 1994 and increased to 78% in 2013

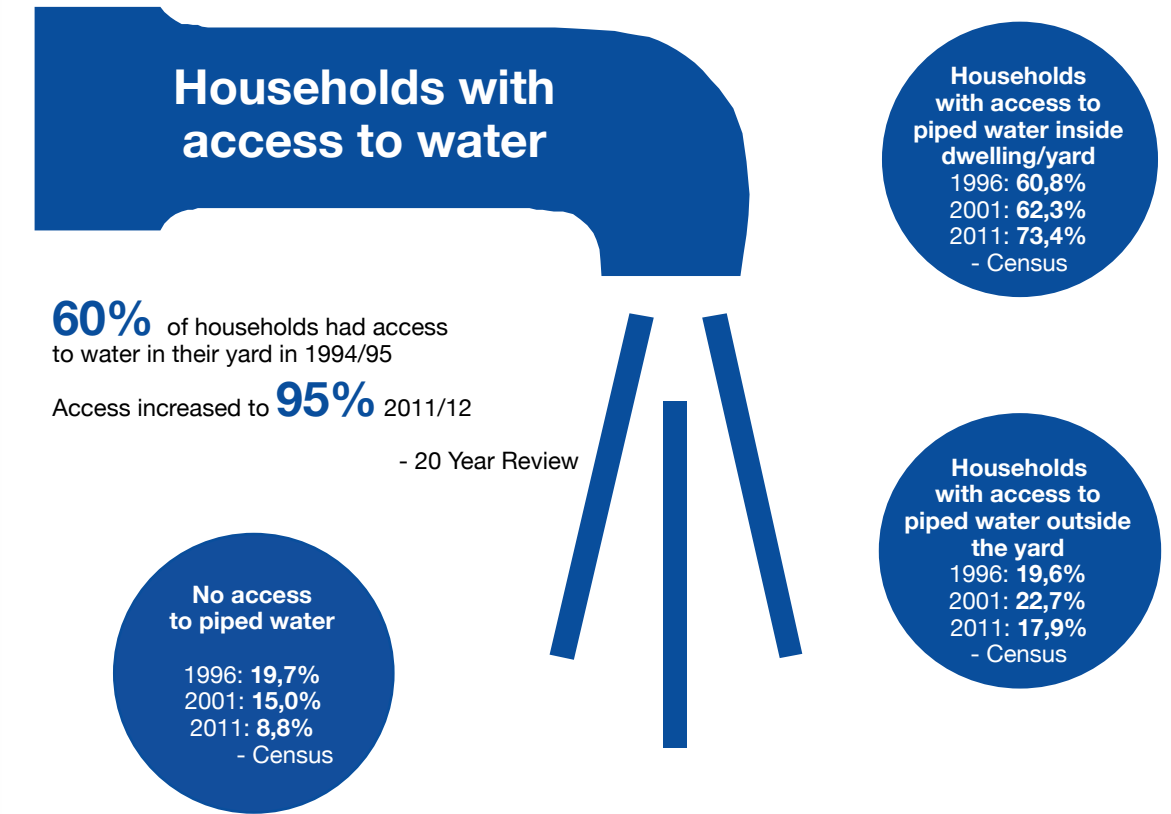
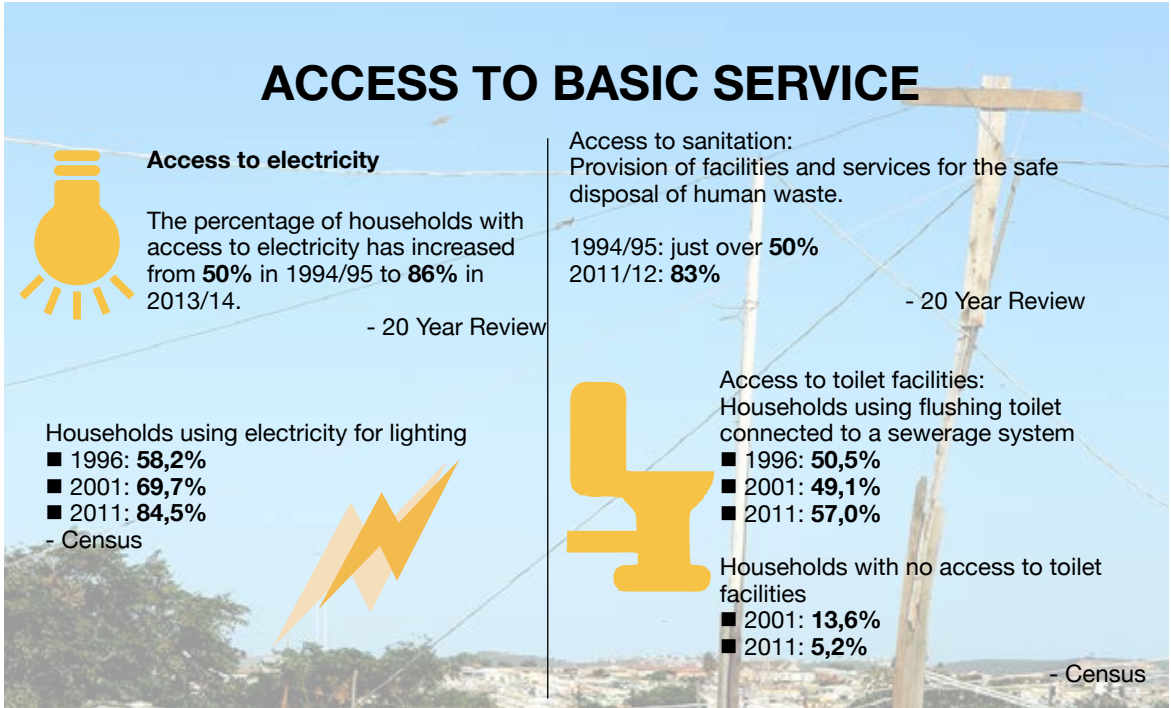
- 20 Year Review

South Africa - 20 years of progress



■ 62,7% of South African households had a clinic within 2 km while 37,3% of the households had a clinic further than 2 km from their dwelling

- 20 Year Review



POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Poverty levels have decreased over the past 20 years. Programmes, such as social grants and no fee schools have been put in place to reduce poverty. Eliminating poverty is, however, still an ongoing battle.

■ In 1993 the poverty rate was **45%** using a lower poverty line of R131,27. This decreased to 38% in 2013 using a poverty line of R497,45

■ **3,4%** of the country's GDP is spent on social grants at a total annual cost of about R120 billion to the national budget

■ The child support grant has grown the most, from just under 22 000 beneficiaries in 1998 to more than **11,3 million** in 2013

- 20 Year Review



EMPLOYMENT

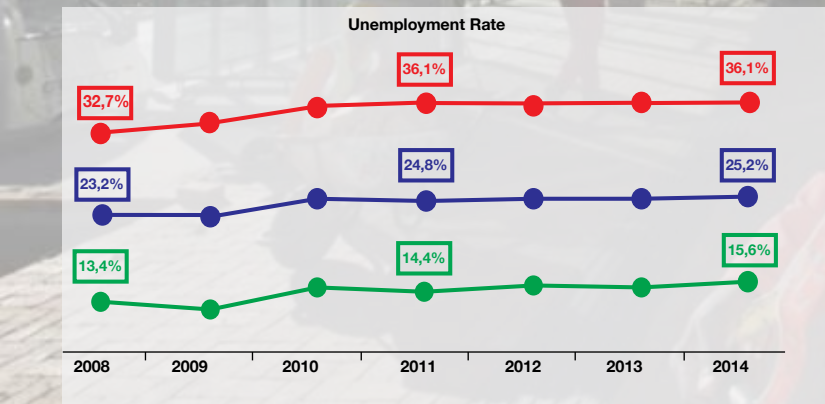
9,5 million people were employed in 1994

This increased to **15,2 million** in 2013 (60%)

■ Employment grew by approximately 5,6 million between 1994 and 2013, or by 60%

■ In 1994 the official unemployment rate was 20%, but only 39,8% of working-age adults had a job

- 20 Year Review



GENDER EQUALITY

■ Less than 2% of members of parliament were women before 1994. In 2011 45% of members of parliament were women

- 20 Year Review

■ The average annual income of households headed by women was R27 864, compared with R63 626 for households headed by men in 2001.

■ In 2011 women still earned less than 50% of households headed by men

■ Women with tertiary education earn around 82% of what their male counterparts do

■ More women (33,7%) live below the food poverty line (R321) compared to men (31,0%)

■ Women have an unemployment rate 5,3% higher than men

- Gender Statistics in South Africa, 2011

ECONOMY



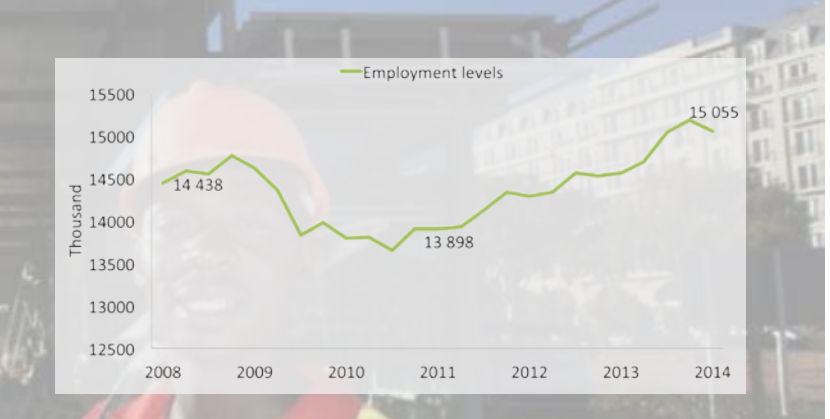
■ The South African economy has grown at an average of **3,2%** a year from 1994 to 2012

■ Mining production fell by **0,4%** annually from 1994 to 2012 and the industry lost 80 000 jobs during this period

■ Tourism has grown dramatically since 1994. Foreign arrivals (including tourists) to South Africa grew from fewer than 1 million per year in the late 1980s to **13,5 million** in 2012

- 20 Year Review

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): The total value of goods and services produced in a country



UNEMPLOYMENT

1994 of young people aged 18 to 29 were not in employment, training or education in 1994

37%

2013 of young people aged 18 to 29 were not in employment, training or education in 2013

44%

■ The estimated unemployment rate for youth rose from 30% in 1994 to 40% in 2013

■ The number of unemployed youth doubled from 1,3 million to 2,6 million over the same time period

■ The current unemployment rate for quarter one of 2014 is 25,2%

- Quarterly Labour Force Survey



Monthly economic statistics

How the collection is done
Questionnaires are sent to the survey-specific sample through the use of email, fax, telephone and post.

The selected businesses are requested to complete the questionnaire and return to Statistics South Africa by the due date, which is 10 days after the reference month.

The collected information is checked and captured.

Once the information is captured, it is then analysed and used to compile the monthly statistical release.

The confidentiality of the information provided is protected by section 16 of the Statistics Act (Act No. 6 of 1999). Penalties and even jail time are imposed on any staff member who breaks this confidentiality.

Why the surveys are important
For government to make informed decisions and monitor the country's economic policies monthly, up-to-date information is needed. These decisions ultimately affect the lives of all South Africans through the impact of the policy on the country's economic well-being.

The information from the monthly economic surveys filters into the production of the gross domestic product (GDP). GDP measures the performance of a country's economy, which is the total value of goods and services produced in South Africa over a specific period. This impacts on the everyday person. For example, an increase in the production of goods and services builds a stronger economy, which increases the possibility that companies will hire more staff. Earning a salary leads to more spending in the country and further strengthens the economy. A strong economy leads to more investment in the country, which is good for South Africa and its people.

The information provided by these surveys assists the industry or businesses in measuring changes within the relevant industry and assists with making informed decisions.



Building statistics of the private sector
This survey deals with building statistics and collects information regarding building plans passed, buildings completed, and buildings financed by the private sector. Information included in the survey are number of units, square metres and rand value of building plans passed and buildings completed regarding:
■ residential buildings;
■ non-residential buildings; and
■ additions and alterations to all types of buildings.

Sample
Information is collected from 112 of the largest municipalities in South Africa.

Did you know?
■ The survey does not include information on low-cost housing. This information can be obtained from the Department of Housing.
■ Between January to April 2014, the biggest percentage increase for plans passed was reported for residential buildings (8,8% or R878,5 million). A decrease was reported for non-residential buildings (-10,1% or -R202,6 million).

Liquidations and insolvencies
This statistical release reflects voluntary and compulsory liquidations of companies and close corporations and insolvencies of individuals and partnerships.

Administrative information is collected on liquidations from:
The Registrar of Companies and Close Corporations.

Information on insolvencies is gathered from:
Notices of the Master of the Supreme Court that appear in the Government Gazette.

Did you know?
■ There were 206 liquidations recorded in May 2014.
■ The number of liquidations decreased by 24,9% between April 2013 and April 2014.
■ There were 281 insolvencies recorded in February 2014.
■ The number of insolvencies increased by 12,0% in April 2014 compared with April 2013.



Civil cases for debt
This survey covers the number of civil cases recorded, civil summonses issued, civil judgments recorded, and the value of the civil judgments recorded, for debt. This provides information on the extent of unpaid debt in South Africa.

Sample
The survey includes the 203 magistrate's offices, which are the largest in the country. It represents 98% of all cases of debt in South Africa.

Did you know?
■ The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 5,9% between April 2013 and April 2014.
■ In February 2014, 26 370 civil judgments for debt amounting to R402,7 million were recorded.



Mining production and sales
Mining production and sales is a release that is published monthly, based on surveys conducted by the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR). The statistical release contains detailed information regarding the physical volume of mining production and the total value of mineral sales according to minerals and mineral groups. The survey covers all mining operations in South Africa that undertake the extracting, dressing and beneficiating of naturally-occurring minerals such as coal.

Did you know?
■ Four mineral groups account for approximately 80,4% of the index, namely gold, platinum group metals, iron ore and coal. The other components of the total are chromium ore, copper, manganese ore, nickel, diamonds, building materials (e.g. sand, brickmaking clay, limestone for cement, etc.), and other minerals.

Terms explained
■ **Reference month** is the month/period for which the information is being collected.
■ **Civil summons** is a notice to appear before the court.
■ **Liquidations** is winding-up of the affairs of a company or close corporation when liabilities (debts) exceed assets and it can be resolved by voluntary action or by an order of the court.
■ **Insolvencies** is when an individual or partnership which is unable to pay its debt is placed under final sequestration — meaning legal possession is taken of assets to pay off debts.
■ **Statistical Release** is a publication made available to the public by a statistical agency, such as Stats SA, and contains statistical information aimed at measuring changes in the economic and social environment.

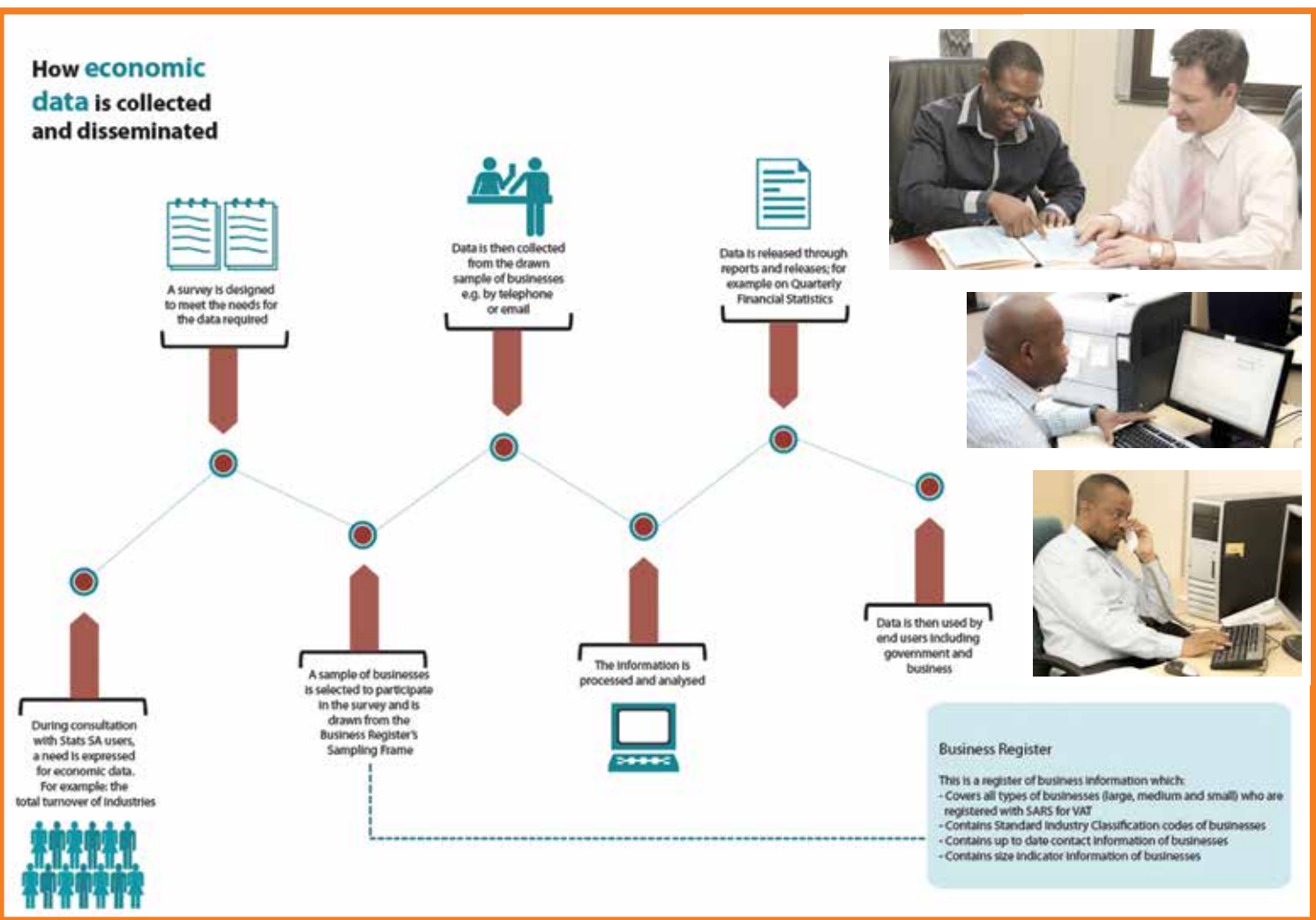
Business surveys: How economic data is collected

Statistics South Africa relies on information from businesses to produce its range of economic statistics. If your business is ever approached by Stats SA to participate in a survey, we would highly appreciate your cooperation. Here are some questions that are frequently asked by businesses on how they are selected to participate and why compliance by the business is important

How are businesses selected to participate in Stats SA surveys?
A sample of businesses is drawn from the Stats SA Business Sampling Frame, otherwise known as the Business Register. This register contains information of all businesses registered for value added tax (VAT) with the South African Revenue Service (SARS), and therefore forms the pillar of economic statistics because it is used for the collection of data for the different economic surveys produced by Stats SA. Information contained in the business register is updated on a regular basis. This is to ensure that the most recent information is available on existing businesses. Information on new businesses is included and businesses that are no longer operating are removed.

How does Stats SA choose the businesses that are selected to participate in their surveys?
Depending on the nature of the survey being conducted, businesses are randomly selected from the Business Sampling Frame to be part of the sample. In order to ensure that our statistics are representative, all large, and some medium, small and micro-sized businesses are included in the sample

Why should businesses participate in Stats SA surveys?
The cooperation of businesses ensures that Stats SA is able to compile reliable



The cooperation of businesses ensures that Stats SA is able to compile reliable and relevant economic statistics

and relevant economic statistics. The published statistics also assist companies, close corporations, partnerships and sole proprietors to make informed business decisions. For example, by looking at seasonal or annual trends and growth patterns, a business can compare its business performance to the performance of the relevant industry in

which it operates. The information is also used by government to make important policy and planning decisions and to monitor the state of the economy.

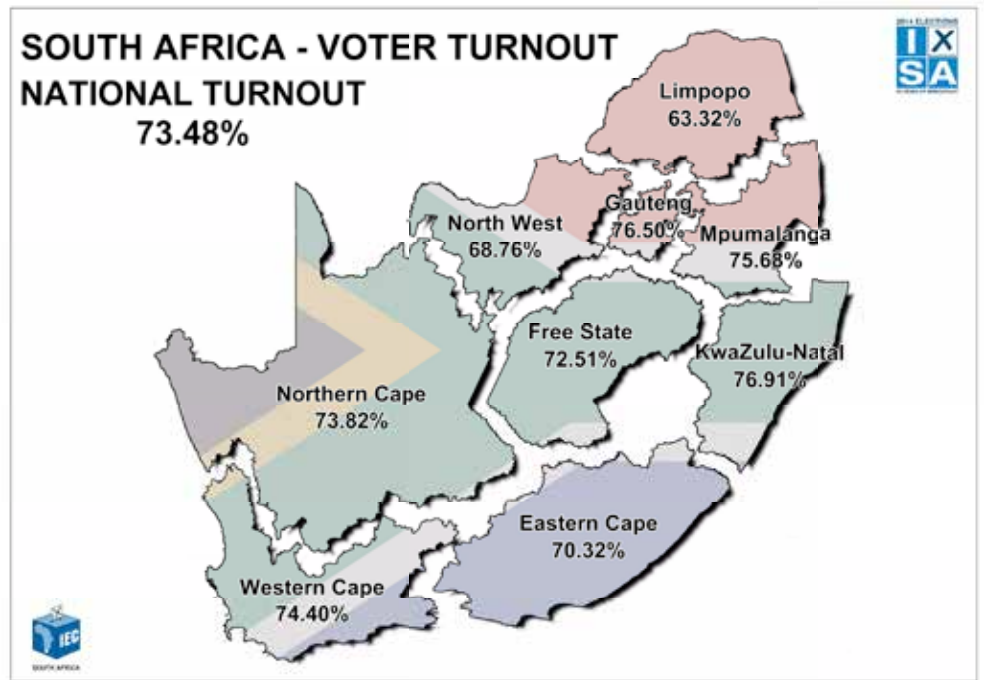
What is the impact of the Statistics Act on businesses?
In order to compile economic statistics, Stats SA needs to collect informa-

tion from businesses that operate in the South African economy. If your business is selected to participate in any of the surveys that Stats SA conducts, you are obligated by law to participate by answering the questions put to you, in a truthful manner.

How does Stats SA ensure that information provided by businesses is kept confidential?
Section 17 of the Statistics Act guarantees the confidentiality of the information provided. Every Stats SA official is sworn to uphold the confidentiality of collected data. Employees of Stats SA are legally bound, by signing an Oath of Confidentiality, never to disclose individual information gathered in the course of their duties, to any unauthorised persons. The oath continues to apply even after employment with the organisation has ceased.

South Africans make their mark

The right to vote was denied to a large part of South Africa's population under the apartheid rule. It has come to symbolise our freedom and the new society we are building. We should never forget the sacrifices of those who fought tirelessly so that all people in South Africa could play a part in shaping this country by casting their vote. Citizens have the right to vote for public representatives in the national, provincial and municipal elections. As a nation, we applaud the 73,48% of voters who participated in our democracy by casting their votes. For those who did not vote in these elections, make sure to make your mark in the next election. — Gift Madiega



Answers from page 8
Crossword:
Across
6. Questionnaire
8. Hunger
9. Education
10. Businesses
Down
1. Freedom
2. Youth
3. Municipalities
4. Sanitation
5. Democracy
7. Poverty
Trivia:
1. C 2. A 3. D
4. B 5. D 6. A
7. C 8. B 9. D
10. A

Test your knowledge

How much do you remember from reading this newspaper?

1

How many social grant beneficiaries were there in 2012?

a) 15 million
b) 14,7 million
c) 16,6 million
d) 17 million

2

According to the Poverty Trends in South Africa report what percentage of people were living below the food poverty line in 2011?

a) 20,2%
b) 42,2%
c) 45,5%
d) 57,2%

3

How does the information Stats SA collects from business also assist businesses?

a) Gives information on growth trends
b) Gives information on seasonal & annual trends
c) Businesses can compare its performance to the industries performance
d) All of the above

4

What percentage of the current health care facilities was built after democracy in 1994?

a) 45%
b) 40%
c) 35%
d) 52%

5

What percentage of people aged between 15 and 34 who have completed higher education is unemployed?

a) 35,8%
b) 42%
c) 15%
d) 17,3%

6

What is the main area of employment for the youth?

a) Trade
b) Agriculture
c) Construction
d) Mining

7

The monthly mining production and sales release is based on information from where?

a) Government Gazette
b) Registrar of Companies and Closed Corporations
c) Department of Mineral Resources
d) Department of Trade and Industry

8

How many government-subsidised houses have been built since 1994 according to the 20 year review?

a) 3 million
b) 2,8 million
c) 2,5 million
d) 3,8 million

9

What kind of grant has grown the most in terms of beneficiaries?

a) Social security
b) Old age
c) Disability
d) Child support

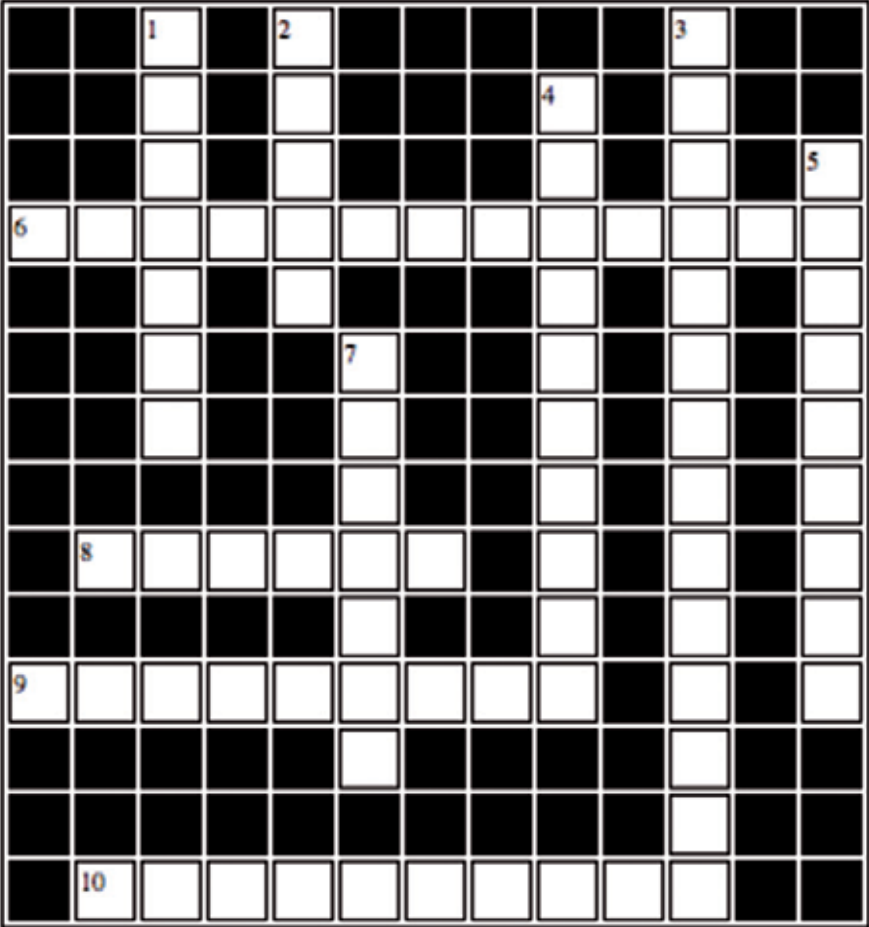
10

What percentage of voters participated in the national elections by casting their vote?

a) 73,48%
b) 80,8%
c) 77,1%
d) 70,32%

Answers on page 7

Crossword



Across

6. Stats SA uses this instrument to collect information from businesses via telephone, email, fax and post.

8. Social grants have shown a positive impact in reducing this aspect of poverty.

9. This is important to getting a job. The higher you go the better chance there is of securing employment.

10. Economic statistics relies on information from this source.

Down

1. Voting has come to symbolise this right of a democratic South Africa.

2. Which group is celebrated in June with a public holiday falling on 16 June?

3. Building statistics information is collected from here.

4. According to the 20 year review 83% had access to this basic service in 2011/12.

5. A 20 year review was release by The Presidency as this year we are celebrating 20 years of freedom and ...

7. This line is derived from the Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) and Living Conditions Survey (LCS) information.

Statistical publications schedule

All releases can be accessed on www.statssa.gov.za on the day of release

Statistical Release	Date
Mining: Production and sales, April 2014	12 June
Consumer Price Index (CPI), May 2014	18 June
Retail trade sales, April 2014	18 June
Statistics of civil cases for debt, April 2014	19 June
Wholesale trade sales, April 2014	19 June
Motor trade sales, April 2014	19 June
Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions, April 2014	19 June
Tourist accommodation, April 2014	23 June
Land transport survey, April 2014	23 June
Food and beverages, April 2014	23 June
Statistics of Liquidations and insolvencies, May 2014	23 June
Quarterly Employment Statistics, March 2014	24 June
Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions, 2013	25 June
Mortality & causes of death in SA: Findings from death notification, 2012	26 June
Export and import unit value indices, April 2014	26 June
Producer Price Index (PPI), May 2014	26 June
Contract Price Adjustment Provisions Work Group Indices, May 2014	26 June
Quarterly financial statistics (QFS), March 2014	30 June
Quarterly financial statistics of municipalities, March 2014	30 June
Bulletin of Statistics, June 2014	30 June
Manufacturing: Production and sales, May 2014	10 July
Retail trade sales, May 2014	16 July
Statistics of civil cases for debt, May 2014	17 July
Wholesale trade sales, May 2014	17 July
Motor trade sales, May 2014	17 July
Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions, May 2014	17 July
Tourist accommodation, May 2014	21 July
Land transport survey, May 2014	21 July
Food and beverages, May 2014	21 July
Consumer Price Index (CPI), June 2014	23 July
Tourism and Migration, April 2014	28 July
Statistics of Liquidations and insolvencies, June 2014	28 July
Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS), 2nd Quarter 2014	29 July
Electricity generated and available for distribution, June 2014	30 July
Export and import unit value indices, May 2014	31 July
Producer Price Index (PPI), June 2014	31 July
Contract Price Adjustment Provisions Work Group Indices, June 2014	31 July

Stats SA provincial numbers

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

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

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

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

Gauteng
Tel: (011) 781 3495
No fax

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

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

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

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

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