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Press Statement

Mid-year population estimates, 2010

South Africa's mid-year population estimates stands at 49,99 million people, up from last year's updated estimate of 49,46 million. This indicates an increase of about 530 000 people.

This release estimates the 2010 mid-year population of South Africa using the cohort-component methodology. The estimates are based on the latest available information but may change as new data become available.

The estimates cover all the residents of South Africa at the 2010 mid-year, and are based on the latest available information. Estimates may change as new data become available. The mid-year population estimates show that 51% (approximately 25,66 million) of the population is female.

Gauteng comprises the largest share of the South African population. Approximately 11,19 million people (22,4%) live in this province.

KwaZulu Natal has the second largest population with 21.3 percent people or 10.65 million people. With a population of approximately 1,10 million people (2,2%), Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population.

Nearly one-third (31,0%) of the population is aged younger than 15 years and approximately 7,6% (3,8 million) is 60 years or older. Of those younger than 15 years, approximately 23% (3,52 million) live in KwaZulu-Natal and 19,3% (2,99 million) live in Gauteng.

Migration is an important demographic process in shaping the age structure and distribution of the provincial population. For the period 2006–2011 it is estimated that approximately 211 600 people will migrate from the Eastern Cape.

Limpopo is estimated to experience a net out-migration of just over 140 000 people. During the same period, Gauteng and Western Cape are estimated to experience a net inflow of migrants of approximately 364 400 and 94 600 respectively.

Meanwhile life expectancy at birth is estimated at 53,3 years for males and 55,2 years for females while infant mortality rate is estimated at 46,9 per 1 000 live births.

The estimated overall HIV prevalence rate is approximately 10,5%. The total number of people living with HIV is estimated at approximately 5,24 million. For adults aged 15–49 years, an estimated 17% of the population is HIV positive.

The total number of new HIV infections for 2010 is estimated at 410 000. Of these, an estimated 40 000 will be among children.

For 2010, this release estimates that approximately 1,6 million people aged 15 and older; and approximately 183 000 children would be in need of ART.

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