



**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Mid-year population Estimates, 2024

---

**Risenga Maluleke**  
Statistician-General  
Statistics South Africa



[statssa.gov.za](http://statssa.gov.za)



[twitter.com/StatsSA](https://twitter.com/StatsSA)



[facebook.com/StatsSA](https://facebook.com/StatsSA)



**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# Mid Year Population *Estimates* 2024

The population of South Africa is  
estimated at **63,02 MILLION**  
in mid-2024



The population annual **growth rate is 1,33%**, up by 835 513 people since 2023

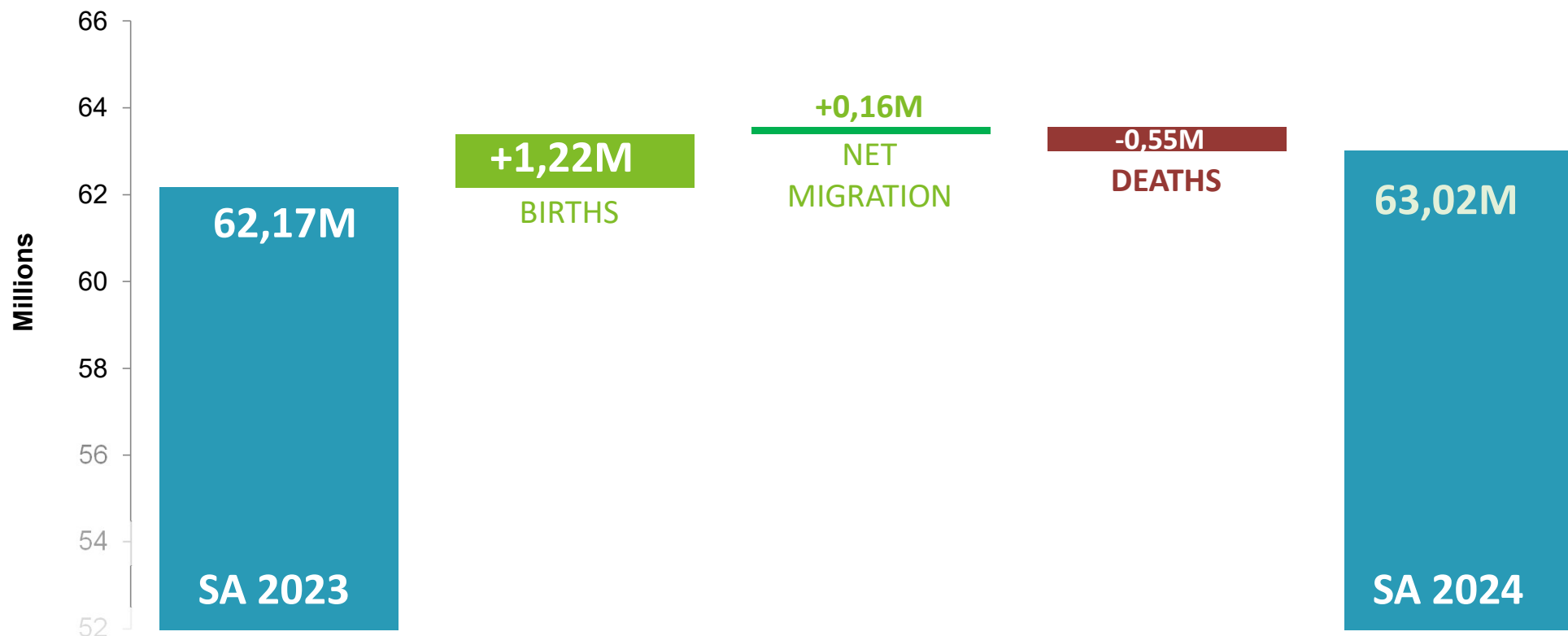


**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Births are the main driver of population growth in South Africa

Impact of births, deaths and migration on population, 2024

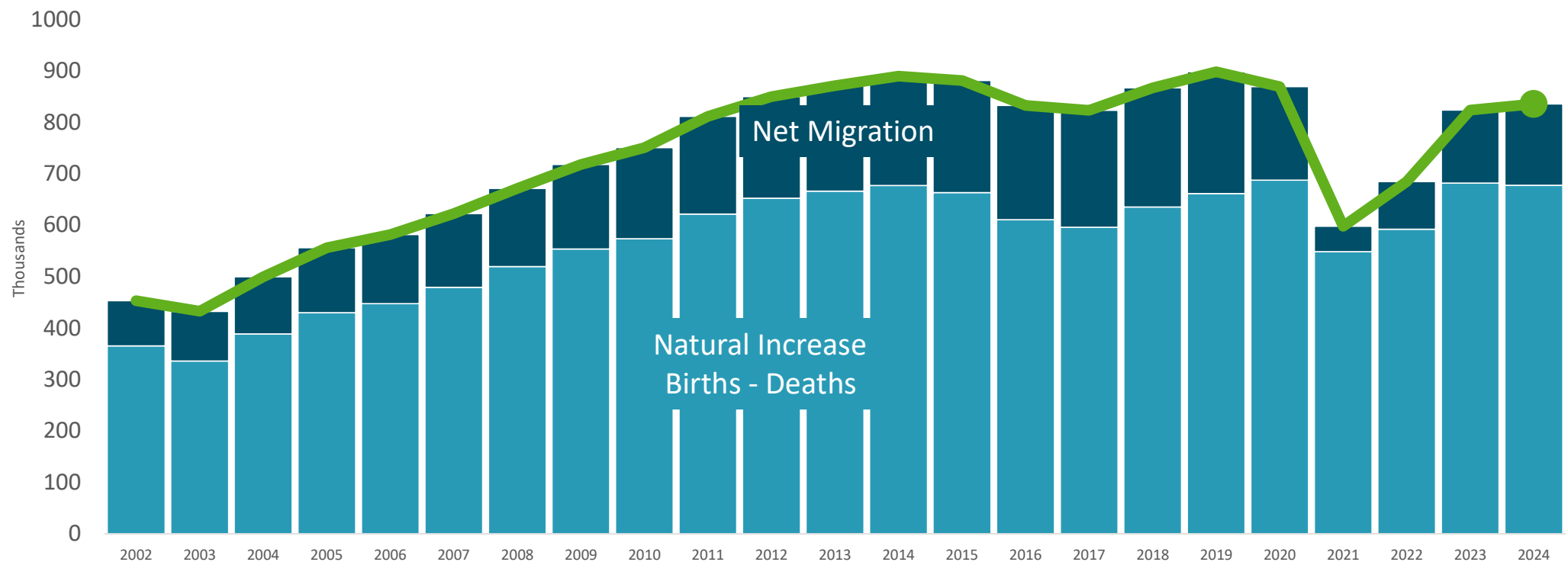


\*data based 2024 series

\*Due to rounding totals may not add up to the total

# SA growth is driven by Natural increase. Annual Population growth has almost bounced back to pre-COVID-19 levels.

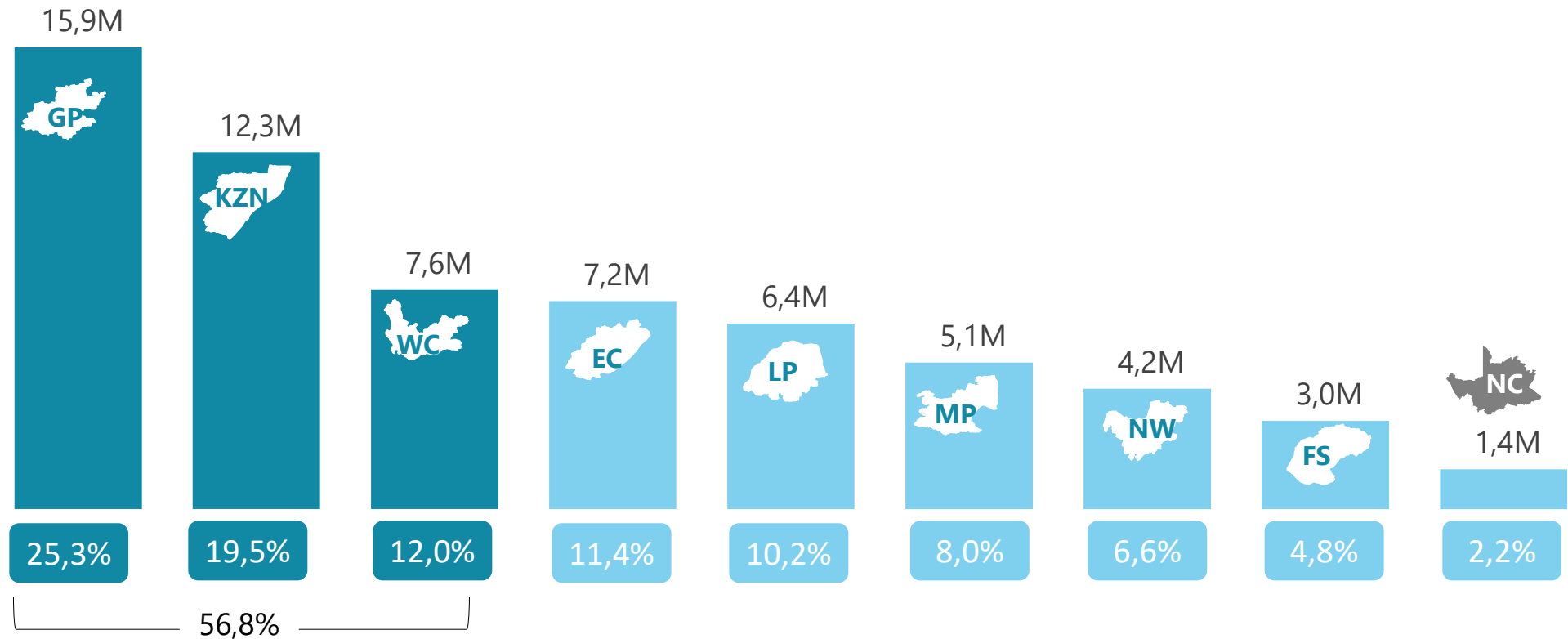
*Impact of births, deaths and migration on population, 2002 – 2024*



## More than half of the population **(35,8 million)** live in 3 provinces **(GP, KZN and WC)**

GP remains SA's most populated province with over 15,9 million people (25,3%) living in this province.

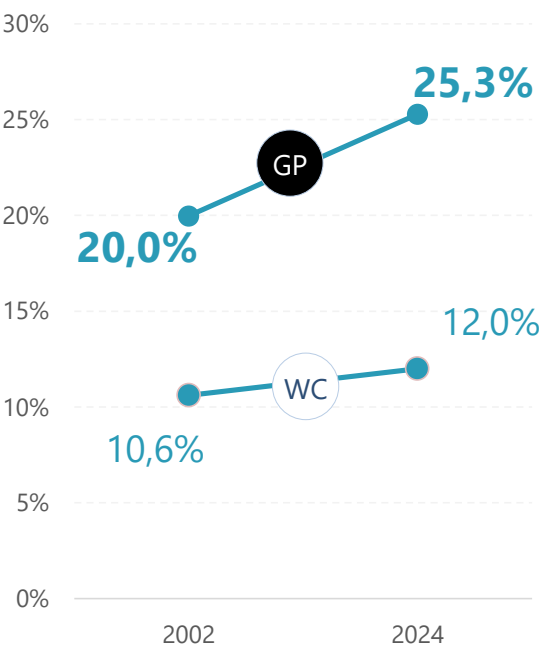
*Mid-year population estimates for South Africa by province, 2024*



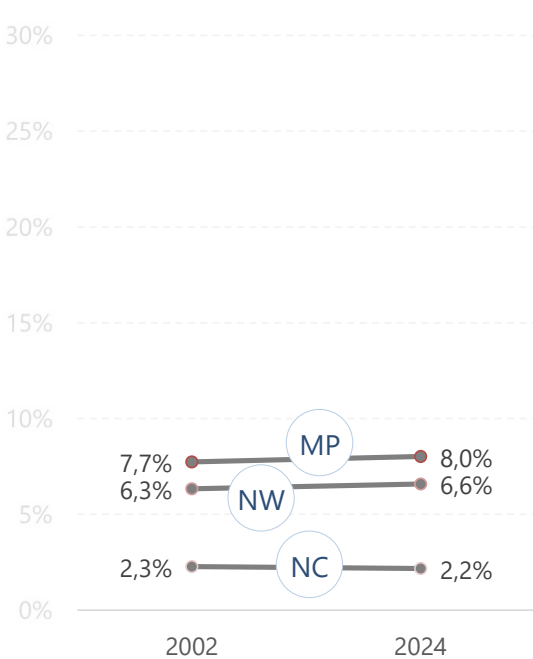
# GP has increased its **share** of the total population from **20,0% to 25,3%** points between 2002 and 2024

Change in provincial population proportions, 2002 – 2024

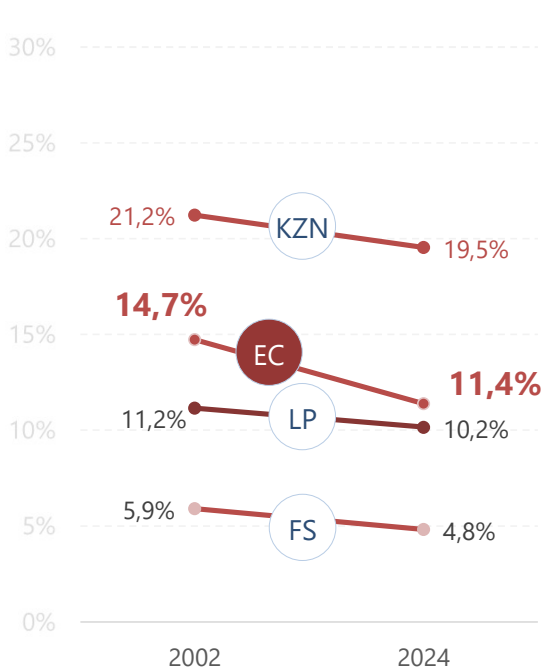
Provinces with **significant increase** in share



Provinces with **stable** share

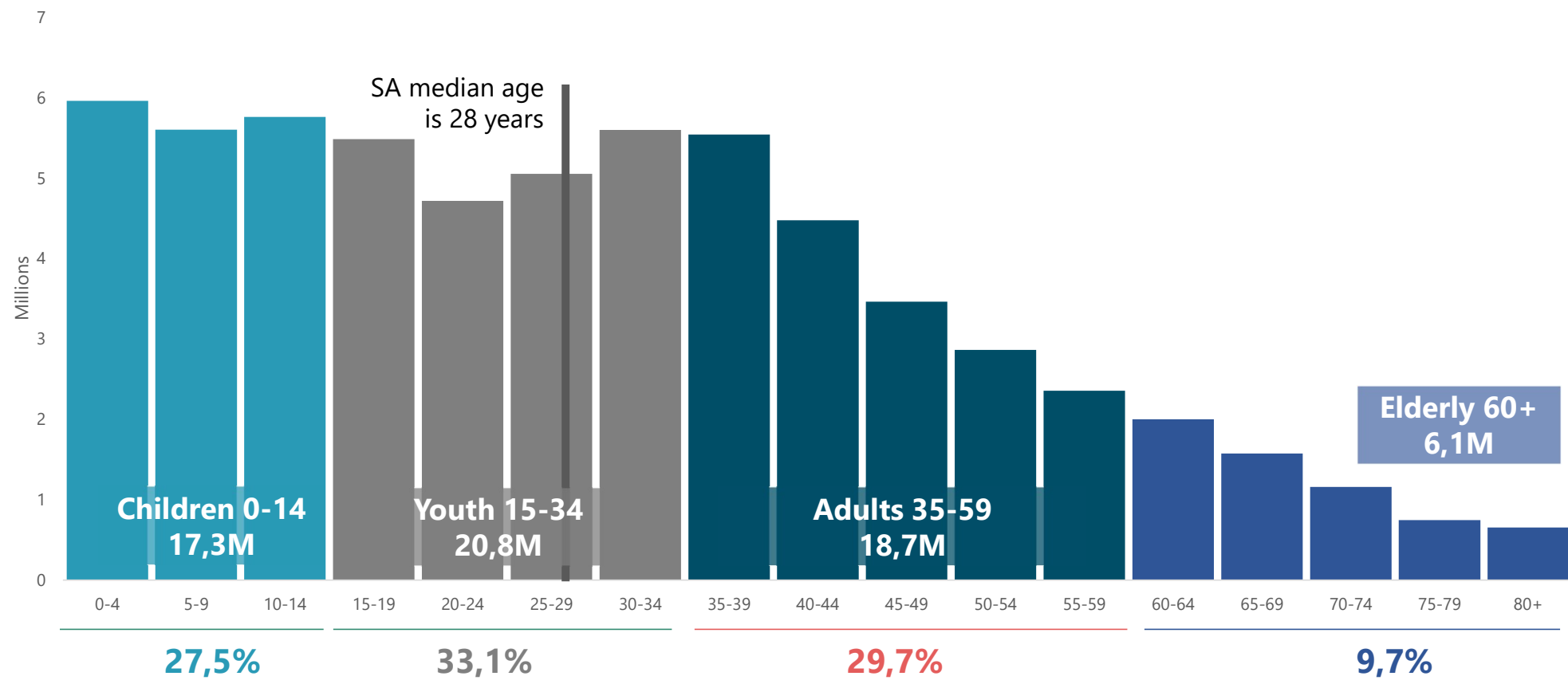


Provinces with **declining** share



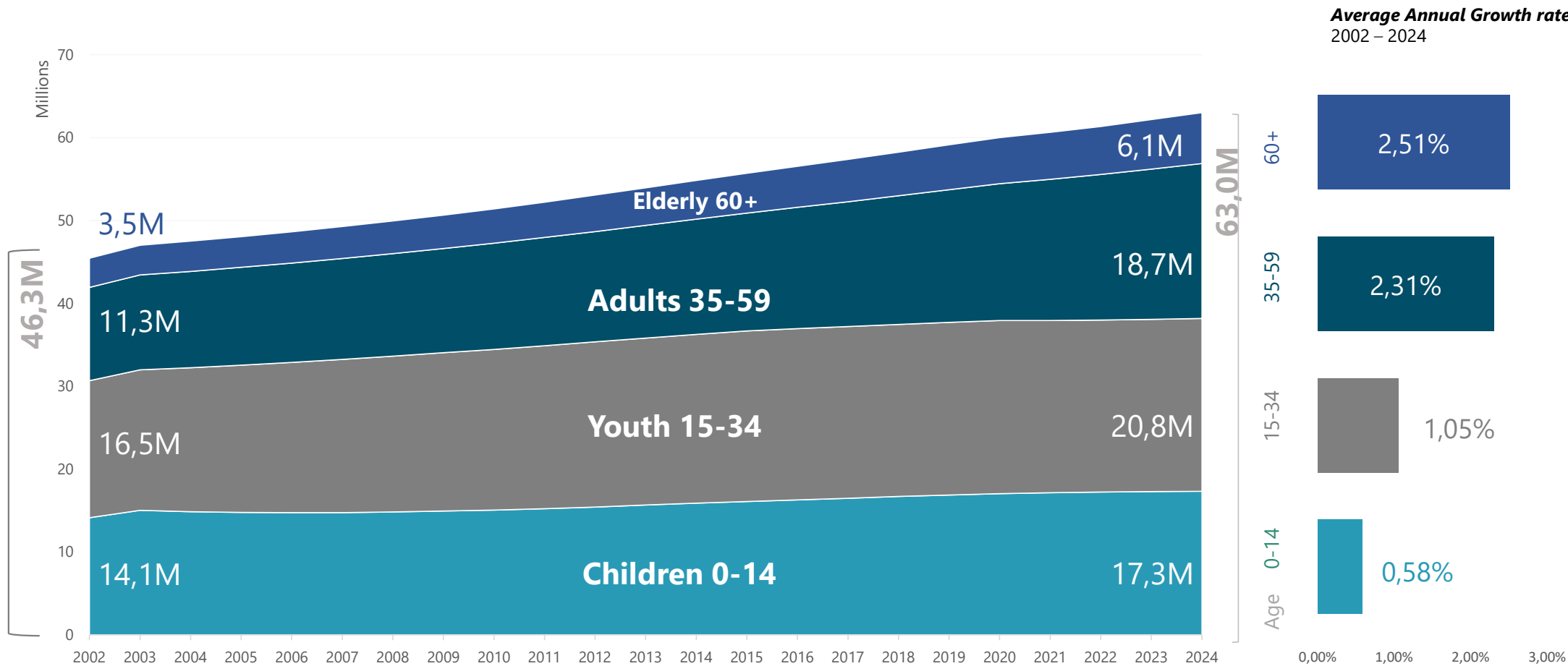
# Children and youth amount to just over 38 million in SA

Population age structure 5-year age groups, 2024



\*Due to rounding totals may not add up to 100%

The **elderly** have seen the largest *growth* over the period 2002 to 2024

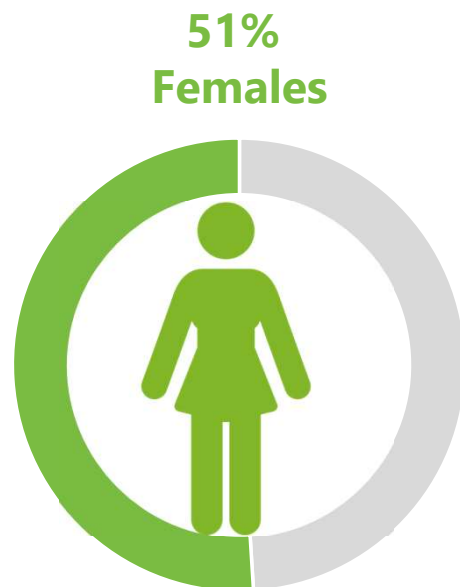


*\*Due to rounding totals may not add up to 100%*

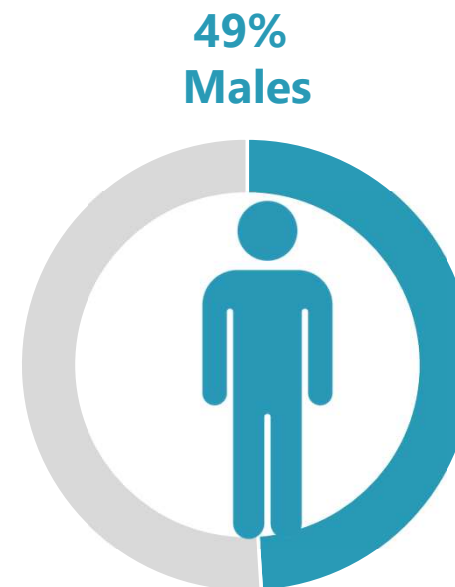


**Approximately 51% (32,1 million)** of the population is female.

*South Africa's population by sex, 2024*



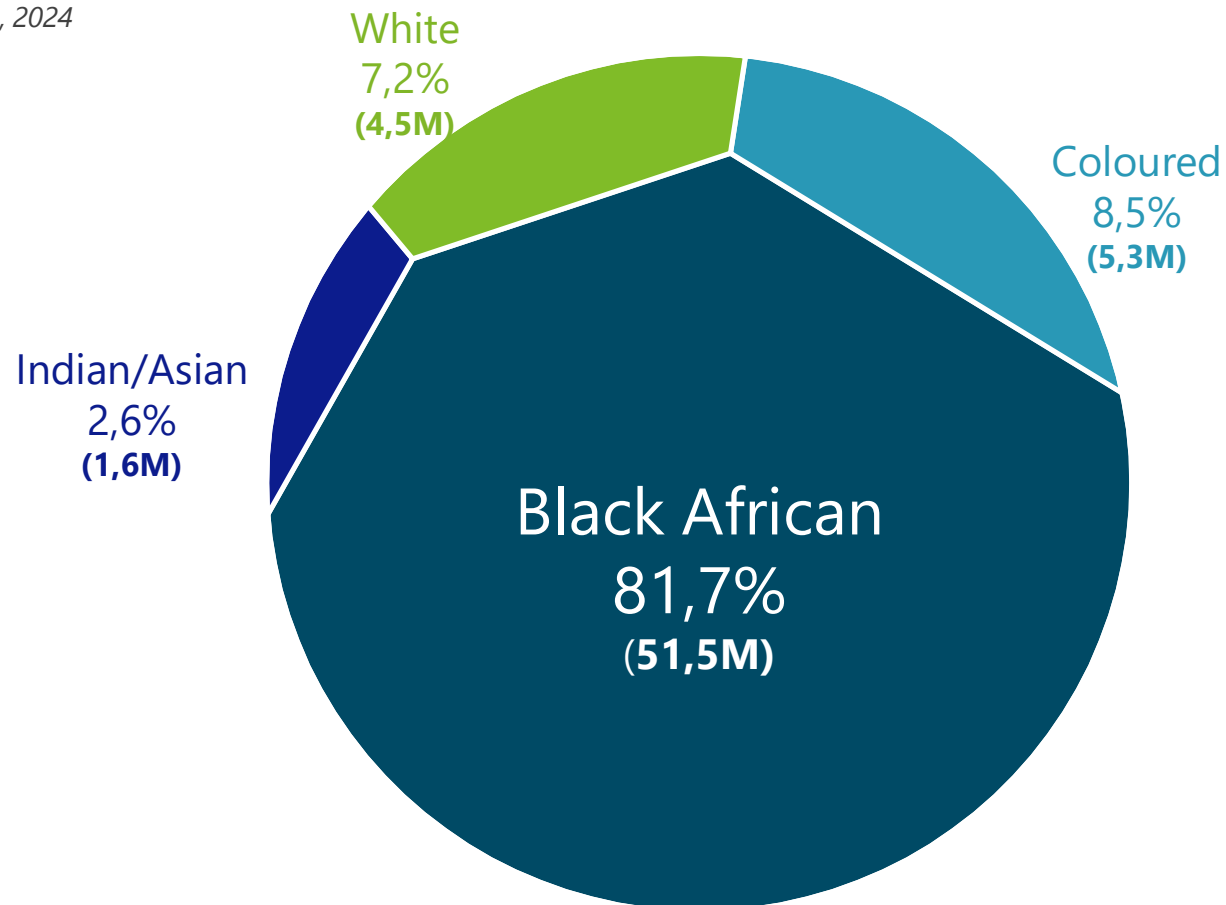
**32 129 704  
females**



**30 886 200  
males**

The **Black African population** constitutes almost **82%** of the total SA population

SA by population group, 2024



# Population Structure

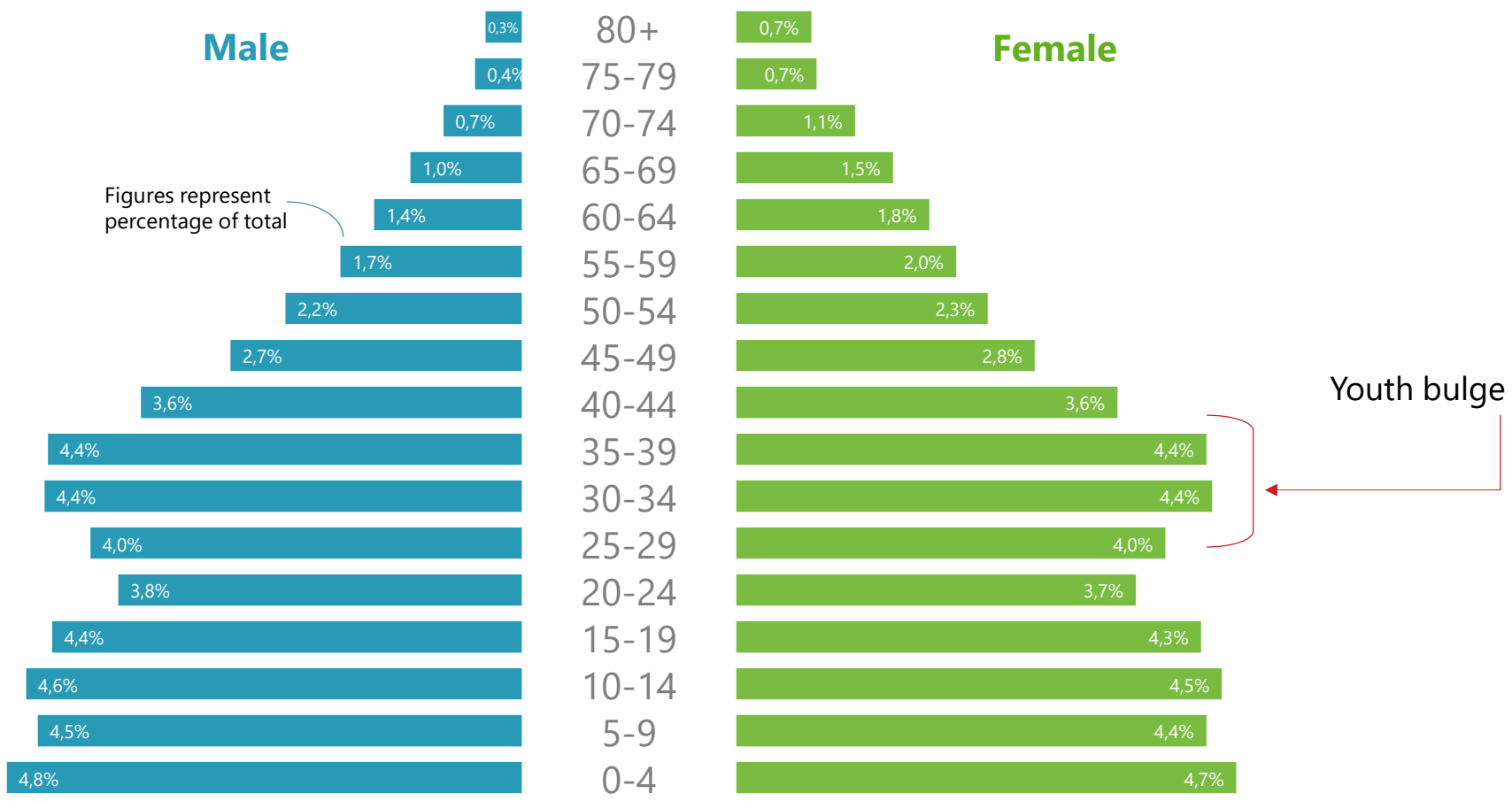


**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

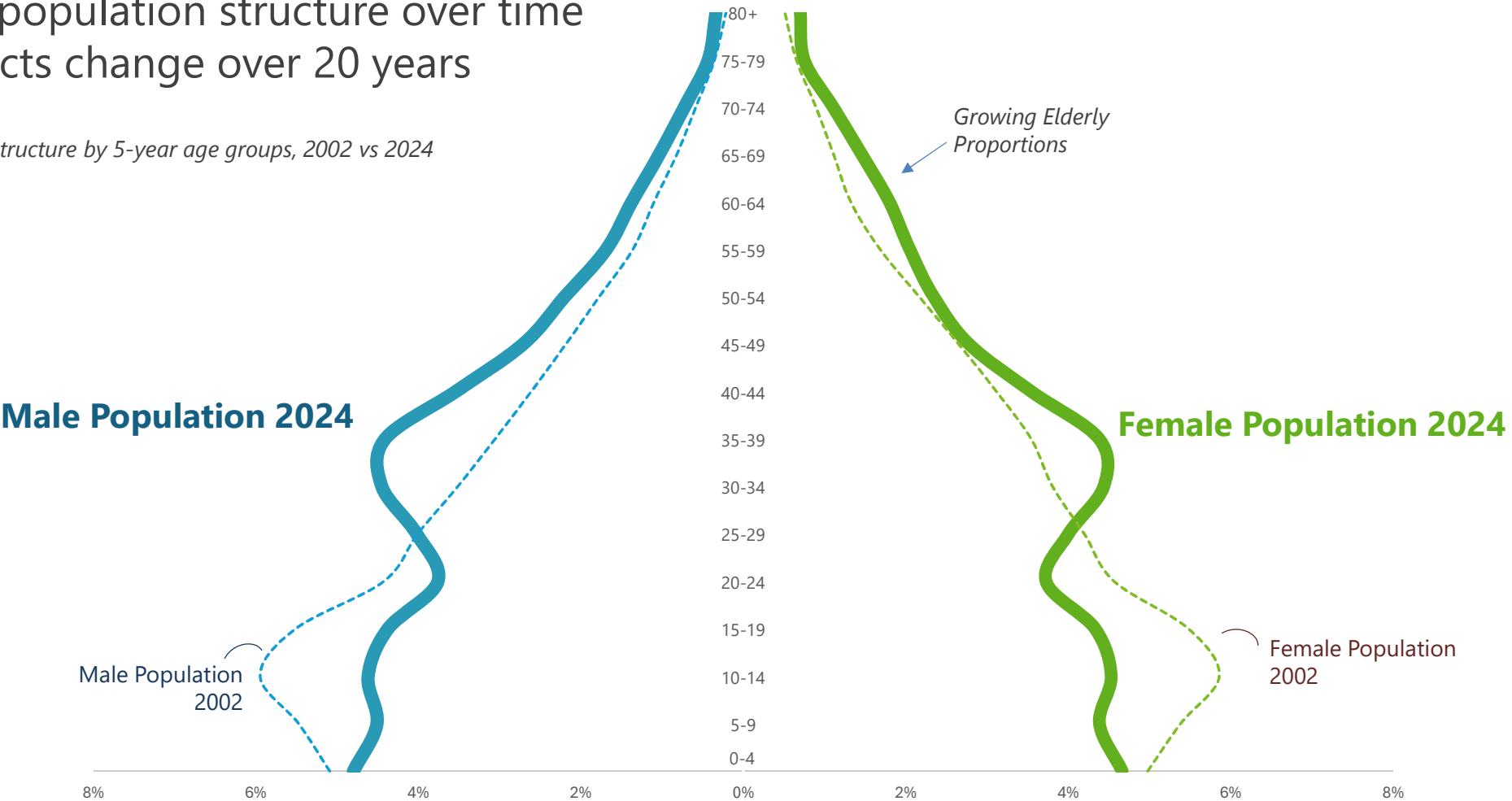
# South Africa has a youthful population, with a significant youth bulge aged 25-39

SA age structure by 5-year age groups, 2024



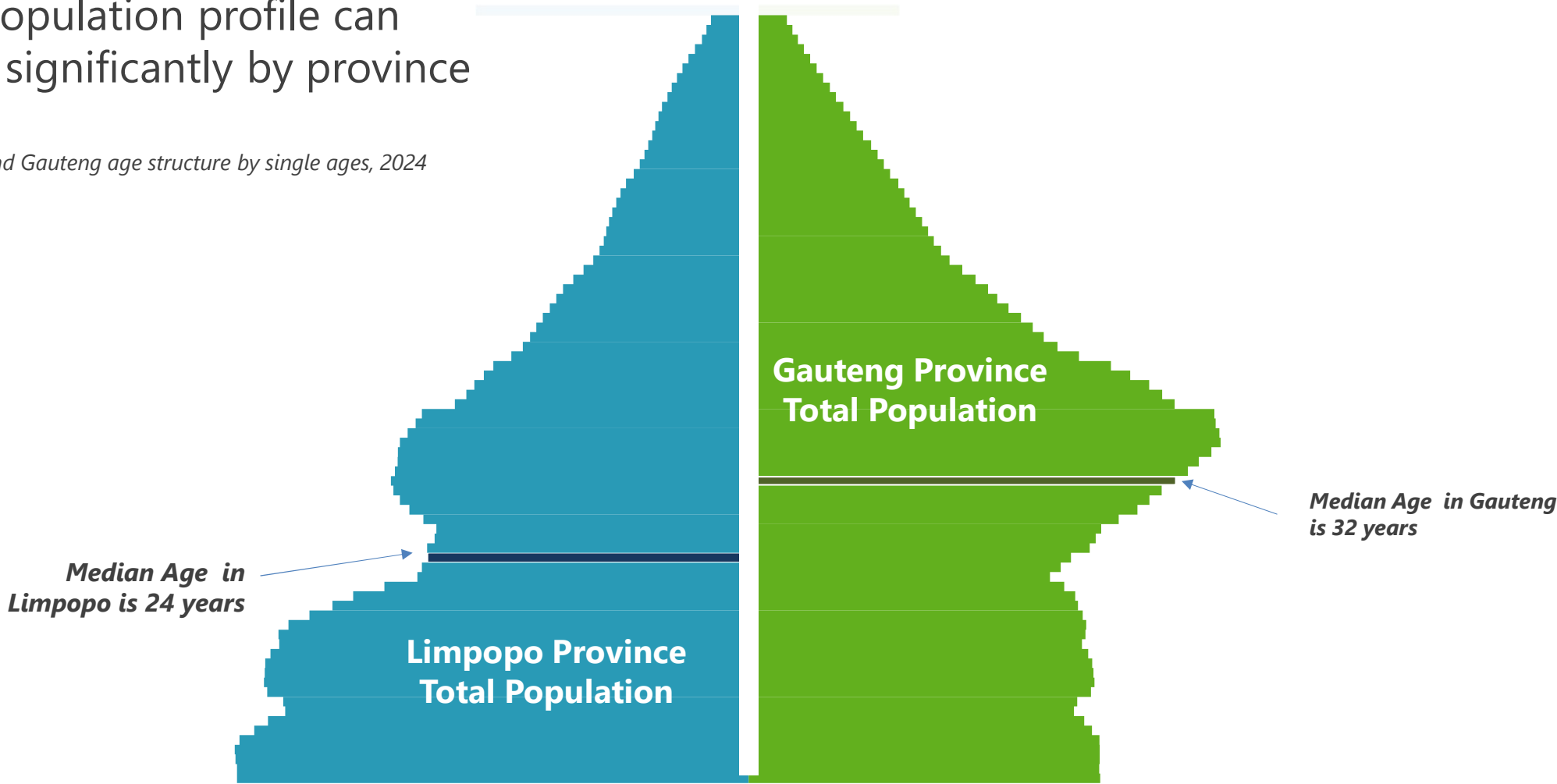
# The population structure over time reflects change over 20 years

SA age structure by 5-year age groups, 2002 vs 2024



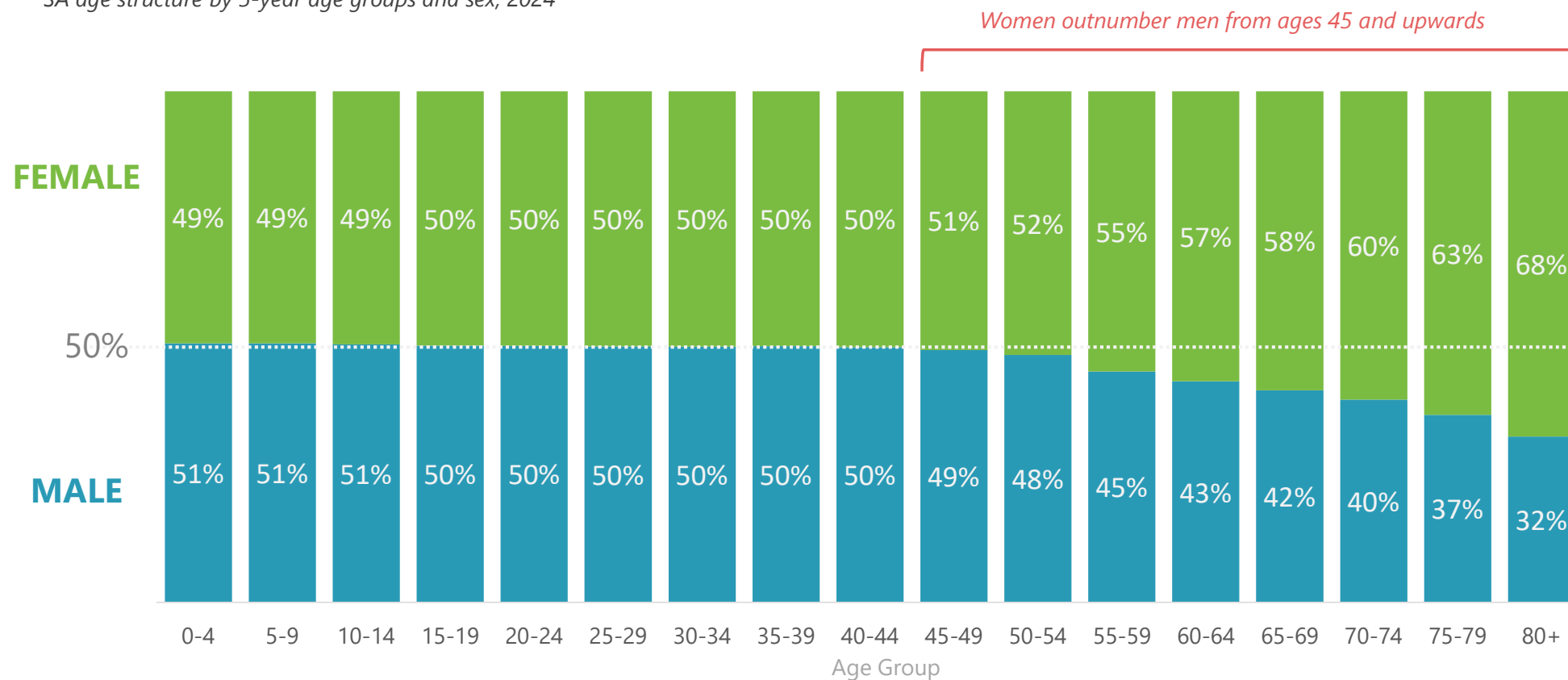
# The population profile can differ significantly by province

Limpopo and Gauteng age structure by single ages, 2024



## Women outnumber men from ages 45 and above

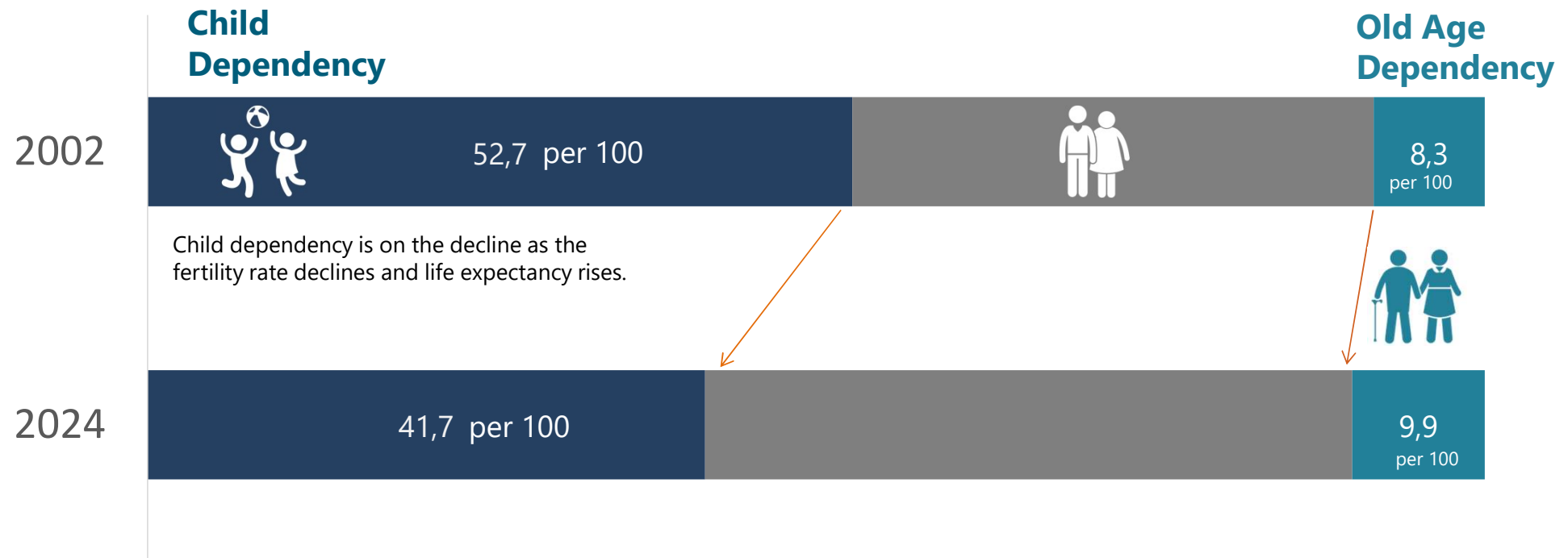
SA age structure by 5-year age groups and sex, 2024



**Child dependency is on the decline** as the fertility rate declines and life expectancy rises. **Old age dependency increased** due to better health outcomes.

Old Age and Child Dependency Ratio's, 2002 – 2024

\*The dependency ratio is an indicator of the potential dependency burden of children (0-14) and the elderly (65+) on those who are of economically productive ages (15-64)

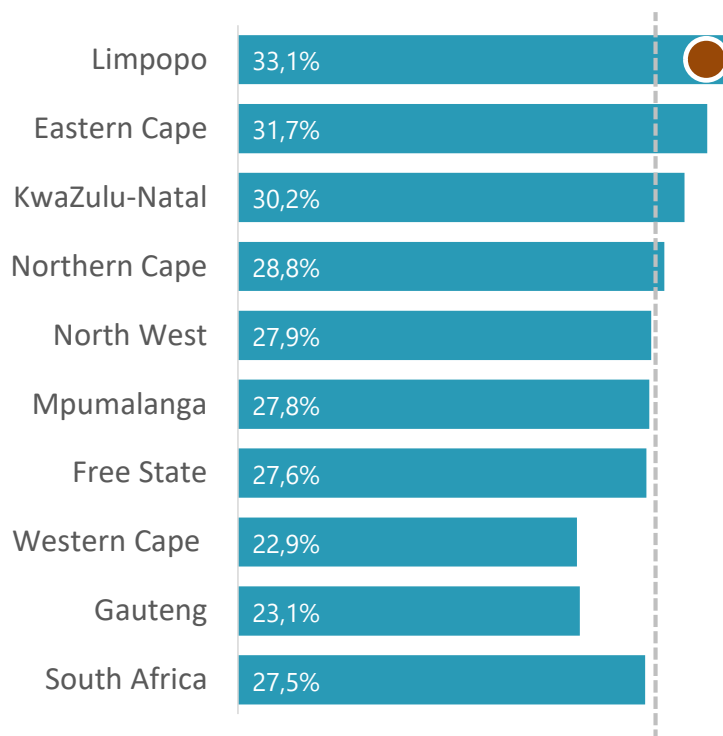




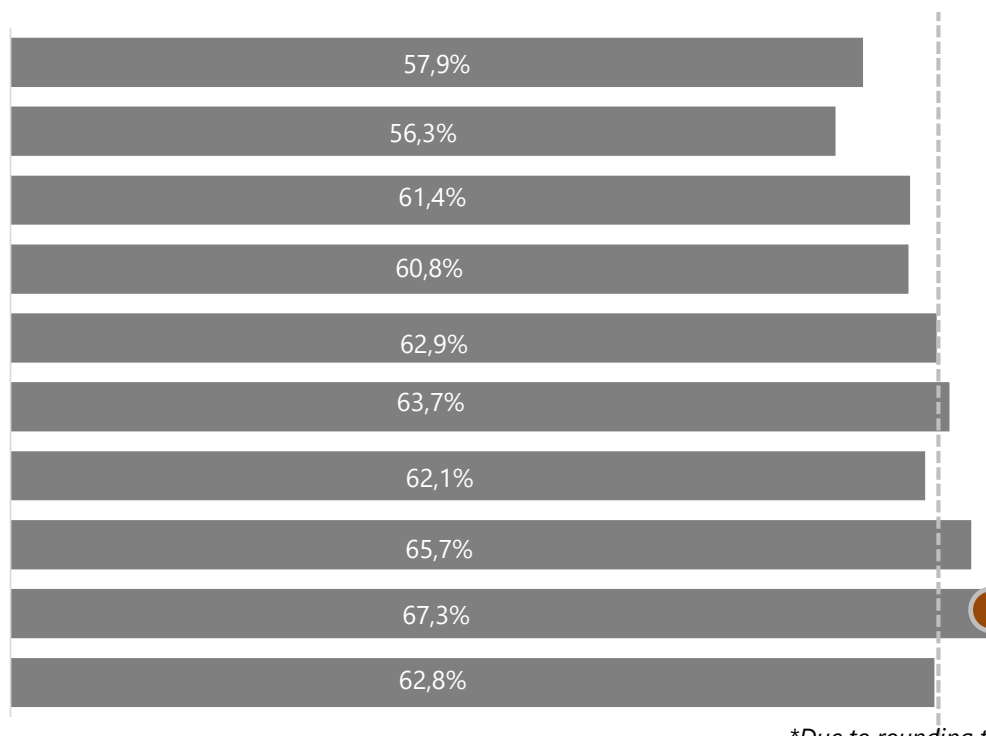
**LP has the highest proportion of children under 15** whilst Gauteng has the highest proportion of Youth and Adults (15-59). EC has the highest proportion of elderly(60+).

Population by age category and province, 2024

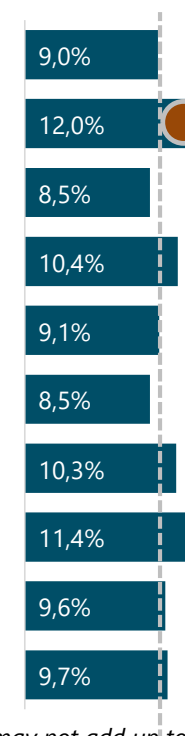
### Children



### Youth and Adults(15-59)



### Elderly 60+



\*Due to rounding totals may not add up to 100%

# Fertility (Births)

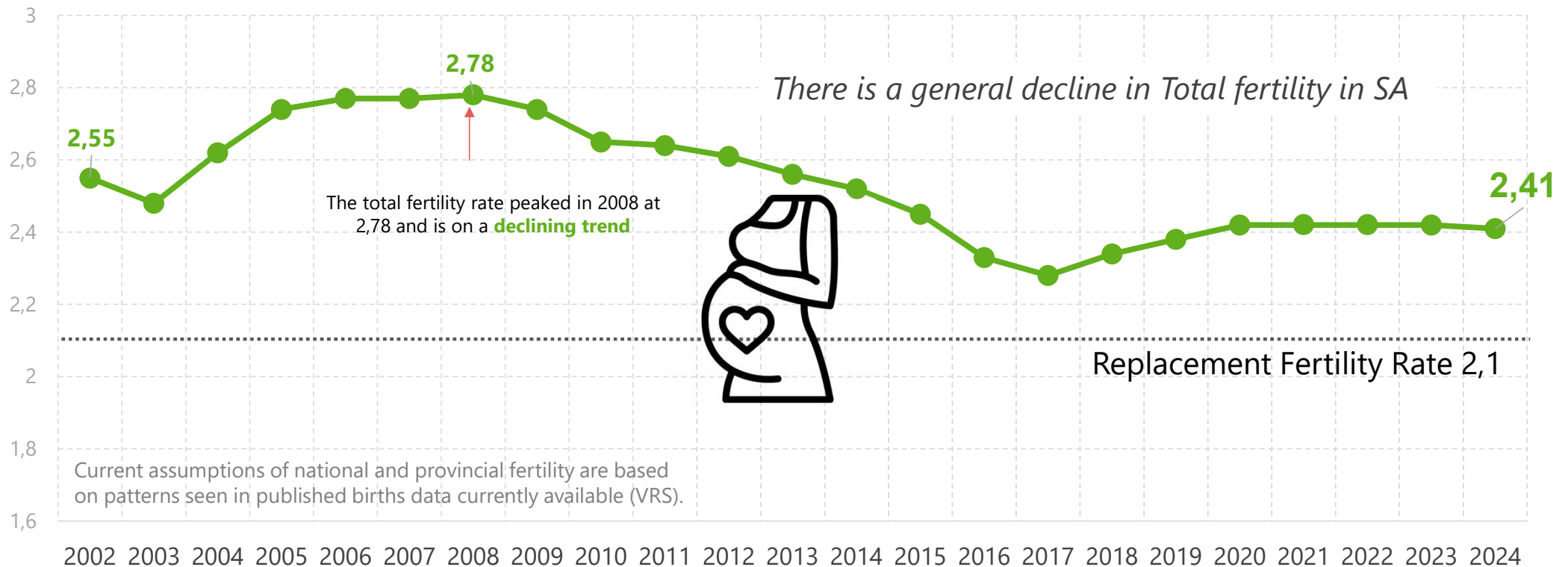


**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# There has been a fluctuation in Total Fertility in SA between 2002-2024

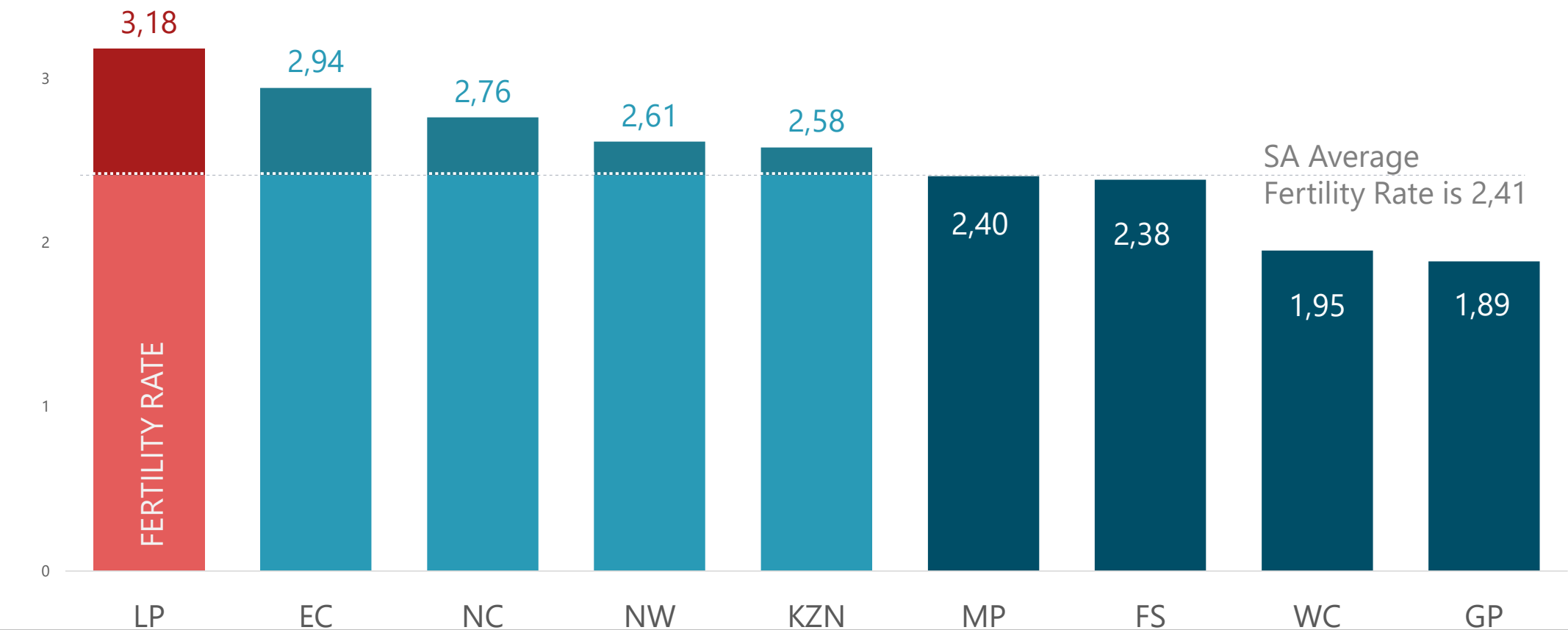
Total Fertility Rate, 2002 – 2024



\*data based 2022 series

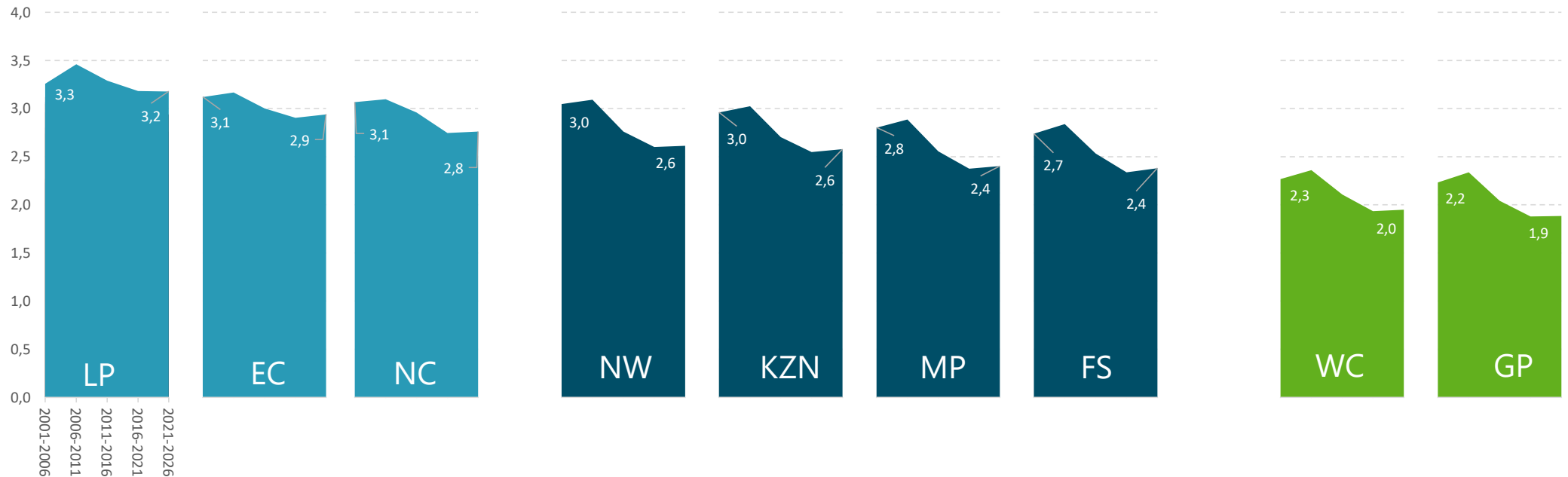
# Limpopo province is estimated to have the highest fertility rate with 3,18

Total Fertility Rate, by province, 2021 – 2026

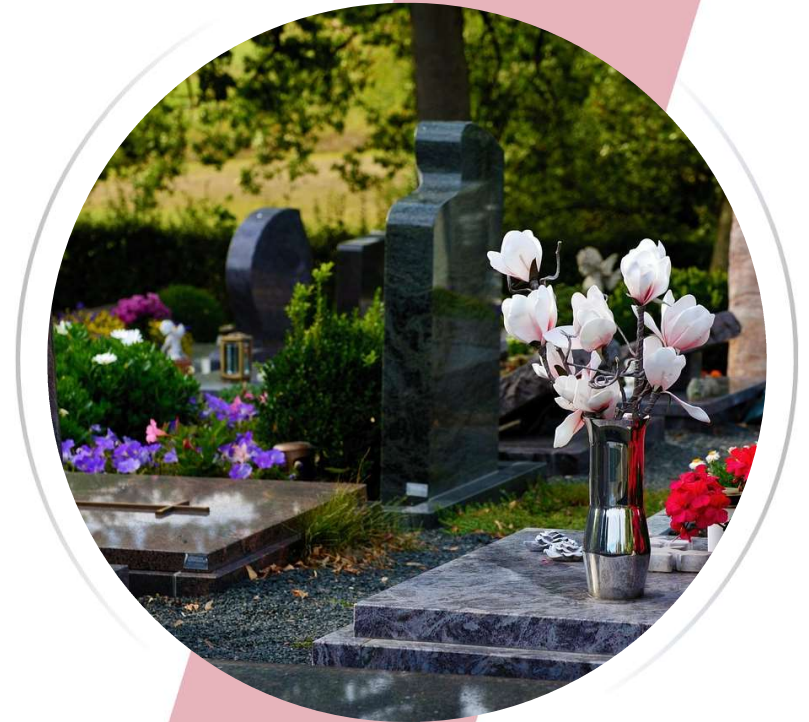


# All provinces have shown a downward trend in fertility over time

Total Fertility Rate, by province, 2001 – 2026



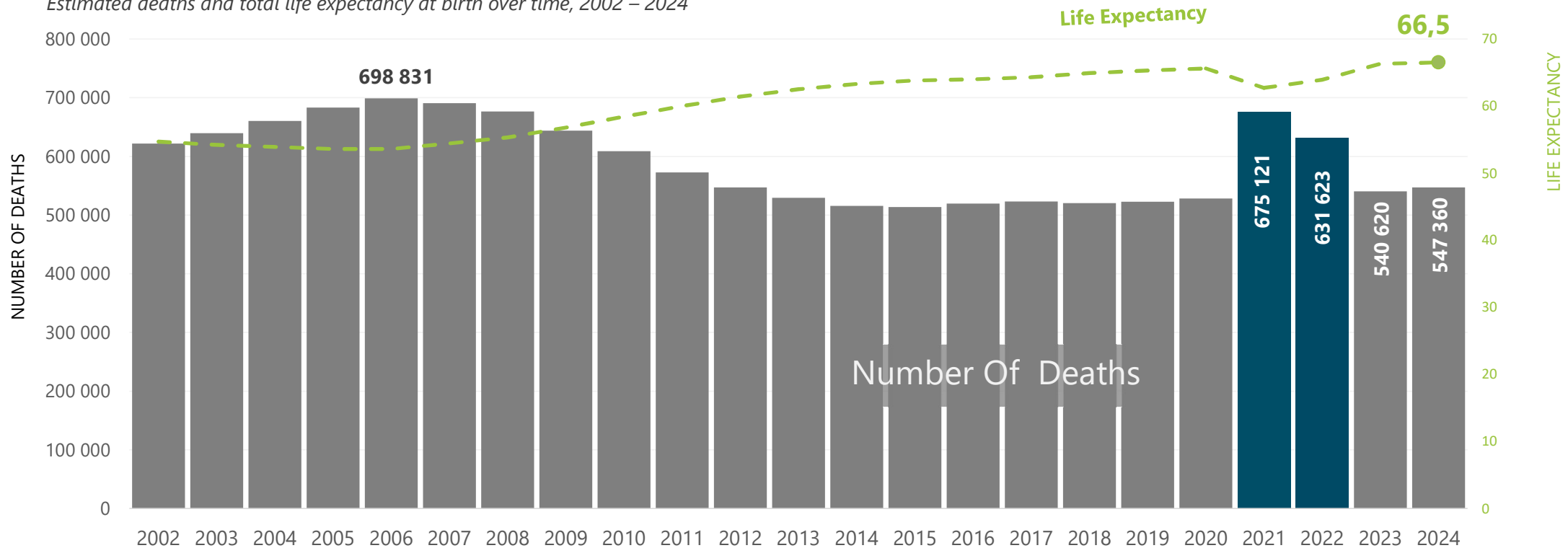
# Mortality (Deaths)



stats sa  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

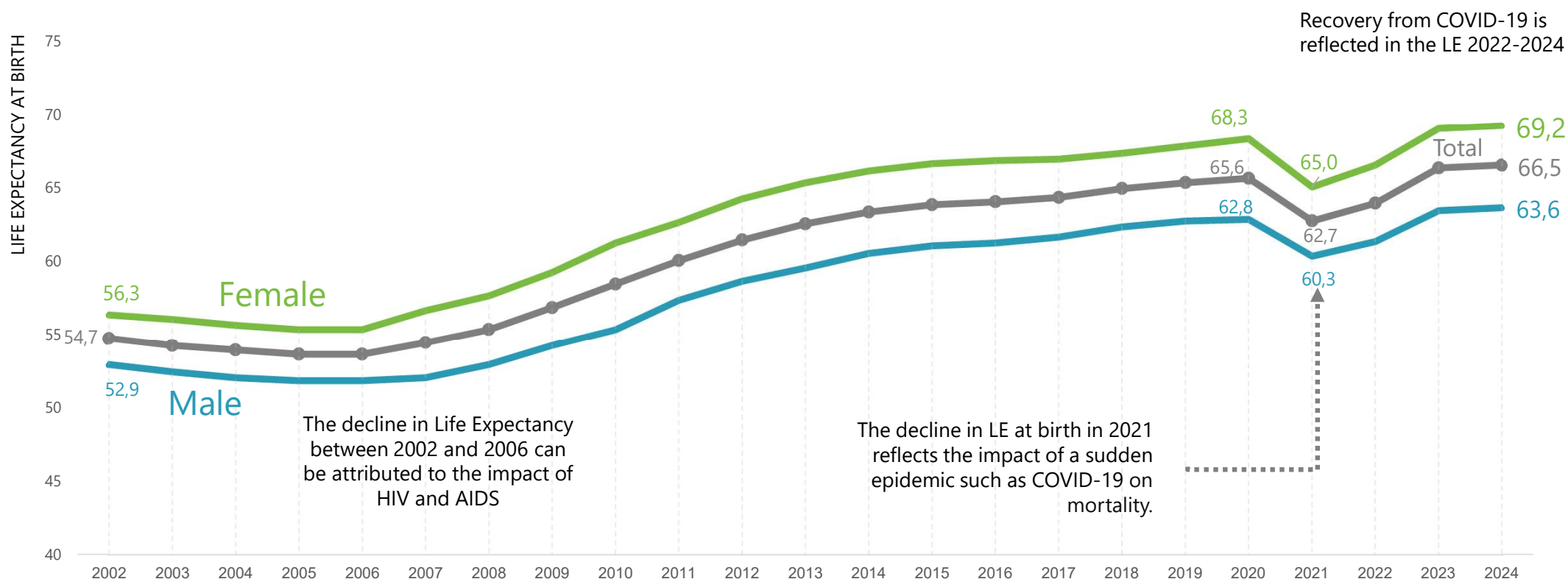
In 2022, deaths declined by **6,4%**, and a further 14,4% by 2023. By 2024 deaths slightly increased by 1,2%. However, this is expected due to population momentum. *Life Expectancy has improved to 66,5 years in 2024.*

Estimated deaths and total life expectancy at birth over time, 2002 – 2024



# Total Life Expectancy (LE) at birth increased from 54,7 years in 2002 to 66,5 years in 2024

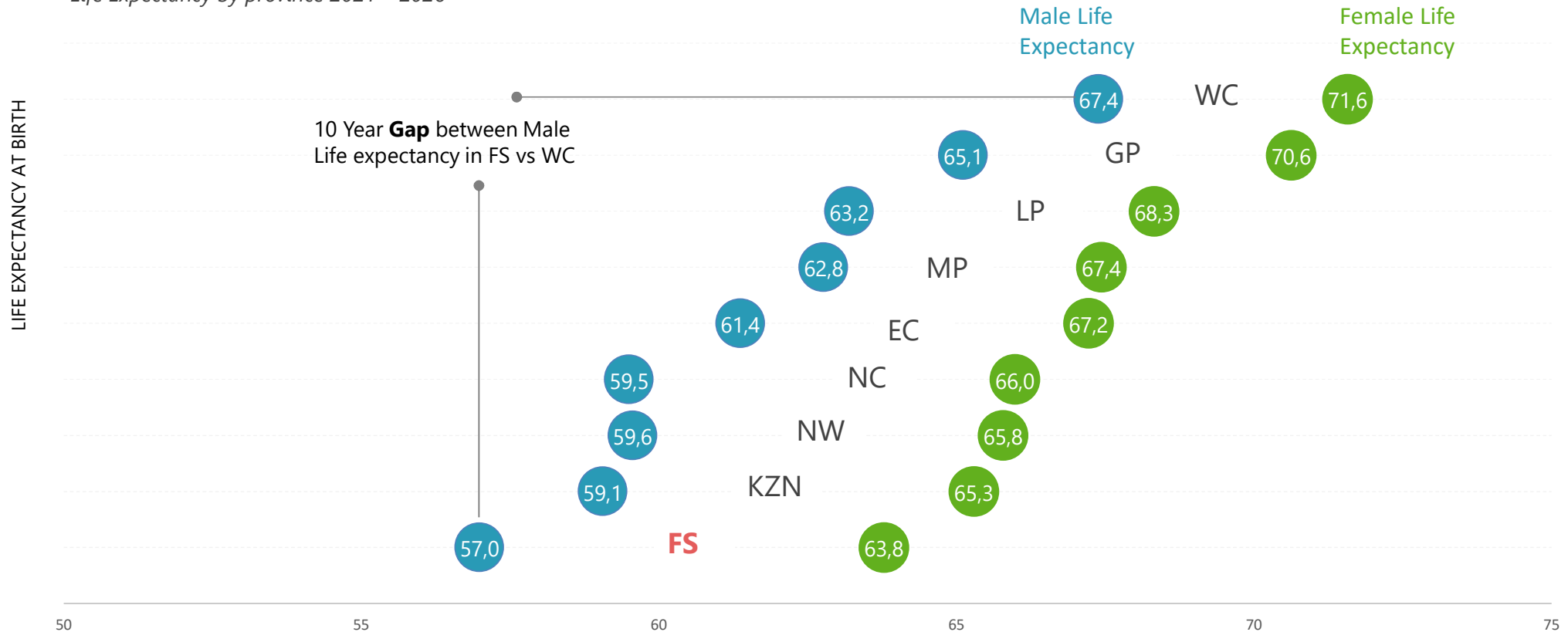
Total life expectancy at birth by sex over time, 2002 – 2024





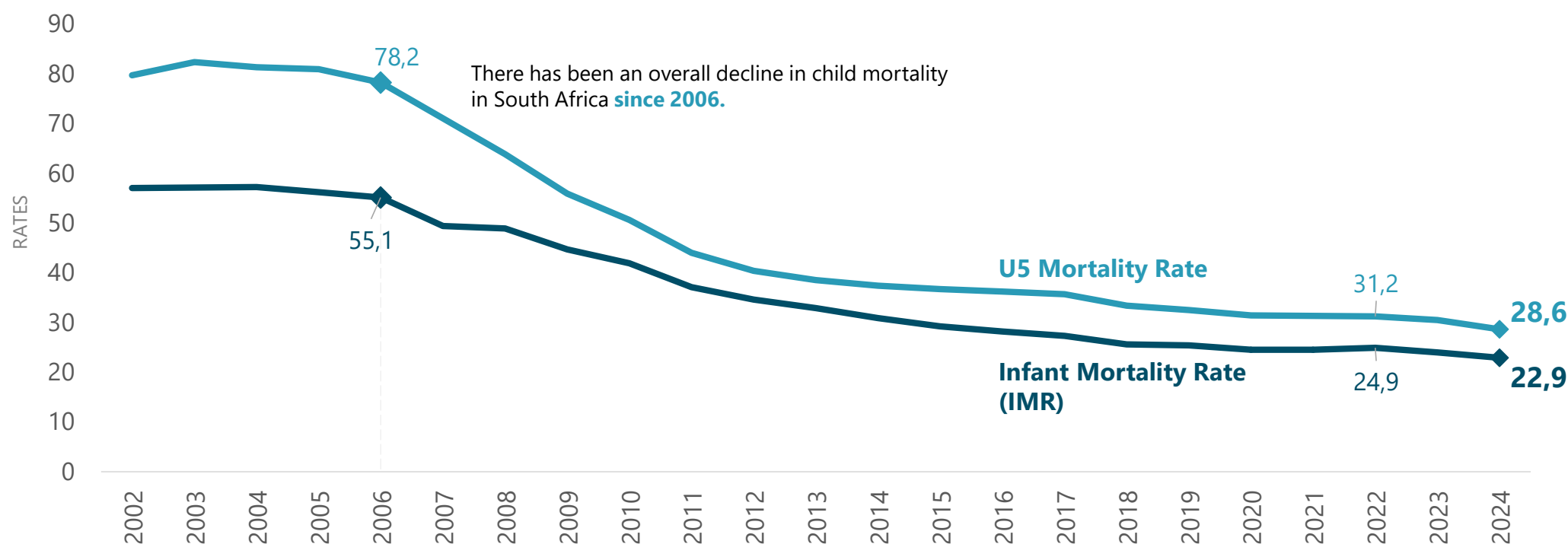
# Free State has a significantly lower life expectancy at birth than all other provinces

Life Expectancy by province 2021 – 2026



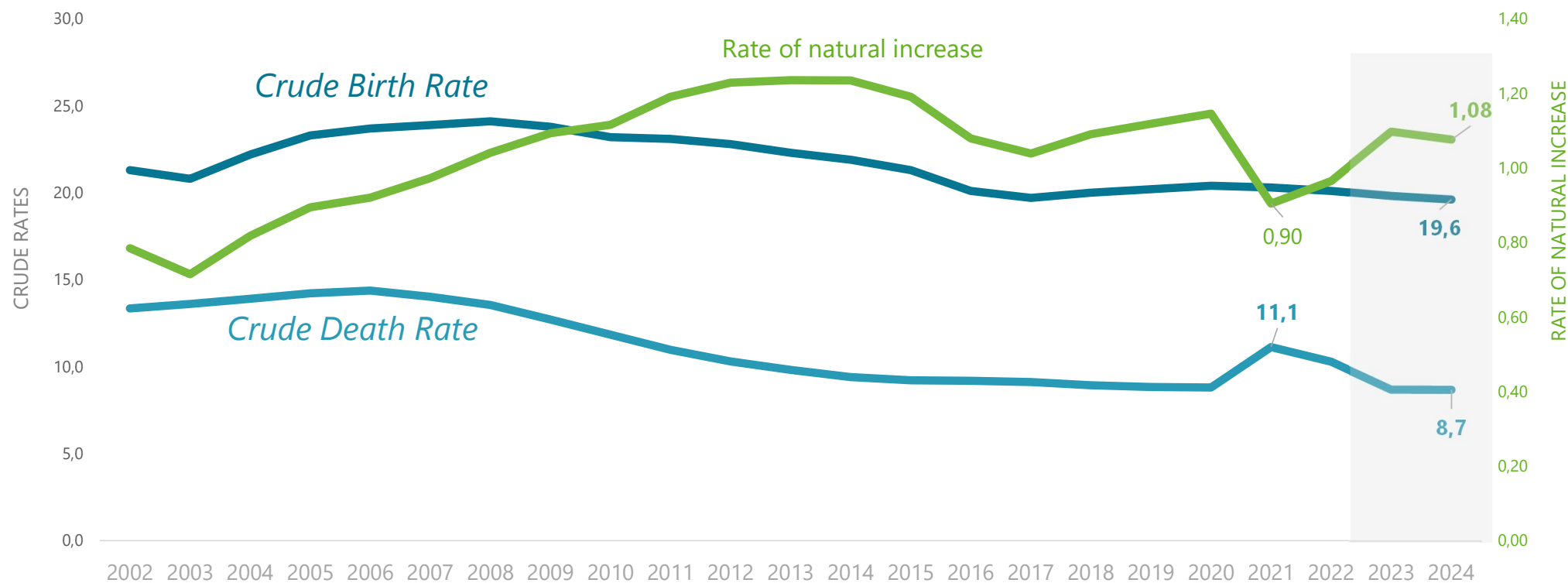
The under-5 mortality rate declined to 28,6 per 1000 live births in 2024 whilst IMR declined to 22,9 per 1000 live births in 2024.

U5MR and IMR per 1000 live births for the period 2002 – 2024



# Natural increase for the period 2002 – 2024

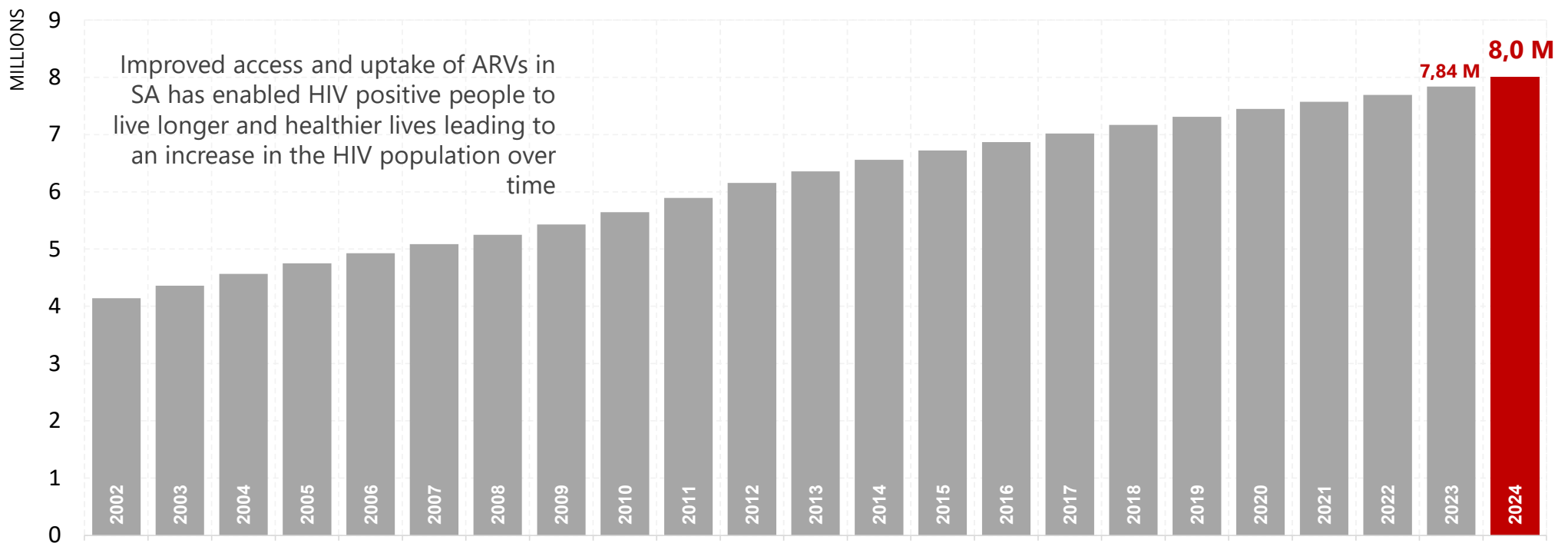
CBR, CDR and RNI per 1000 population over time, 2002 – 2024



\*Current assumptions of national and provincial fertility are based on patterns seen in published births data currently available (VRS).

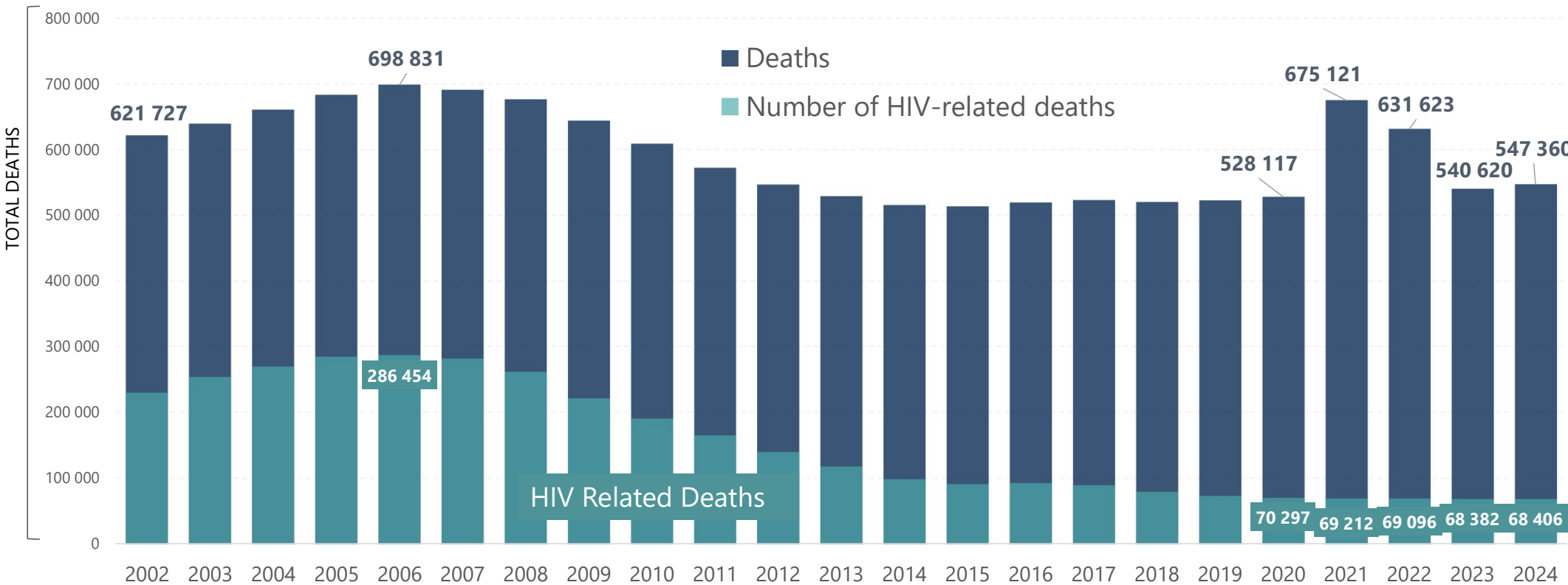
There are **8,0 million** people living with HIV in 2024.

*Number of people living with HIV, 2002 – 2024 (millions)*

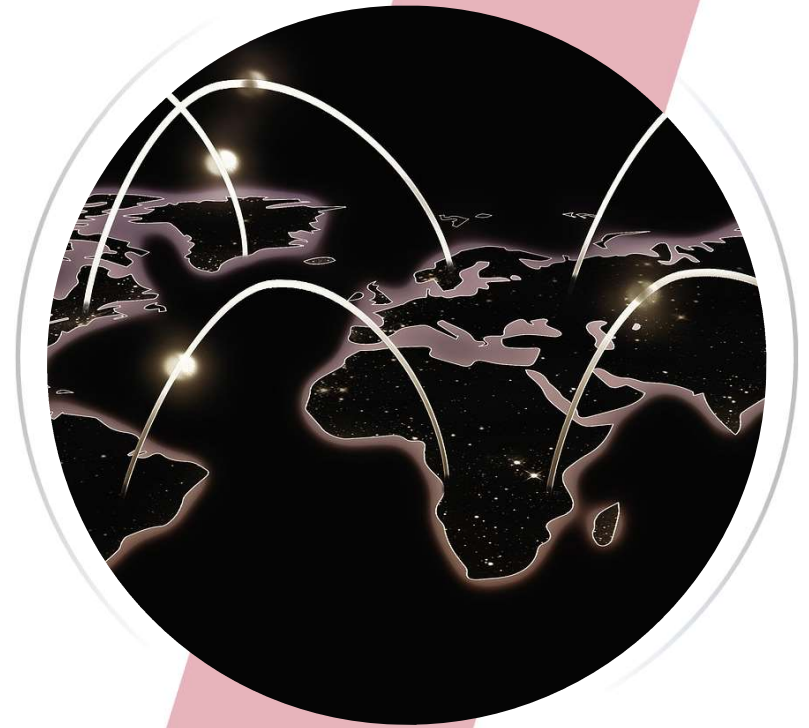


There has been a decline in HIV related deaths due to Antiretroviral therapy (ART) rollout in SA.

Total number of deaths estimated over time vs HIV-related deaths in thousands, 2002 – 2024



# Migration

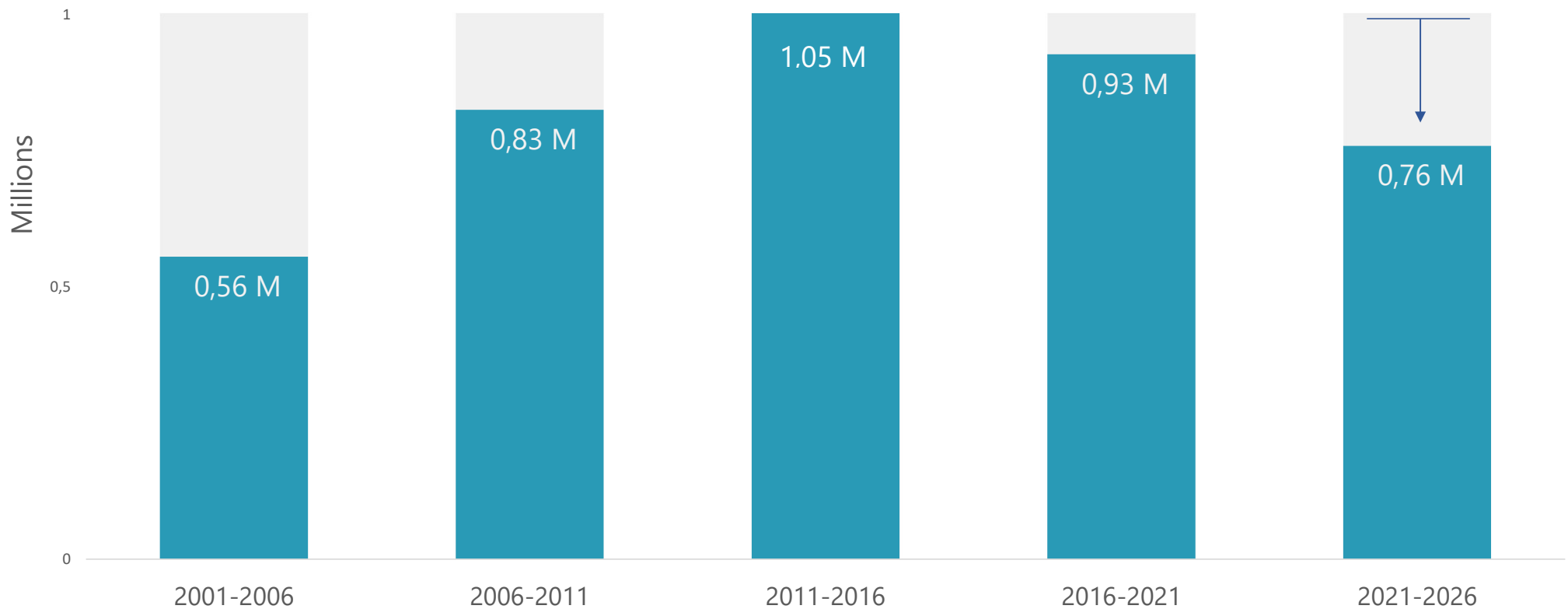


**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

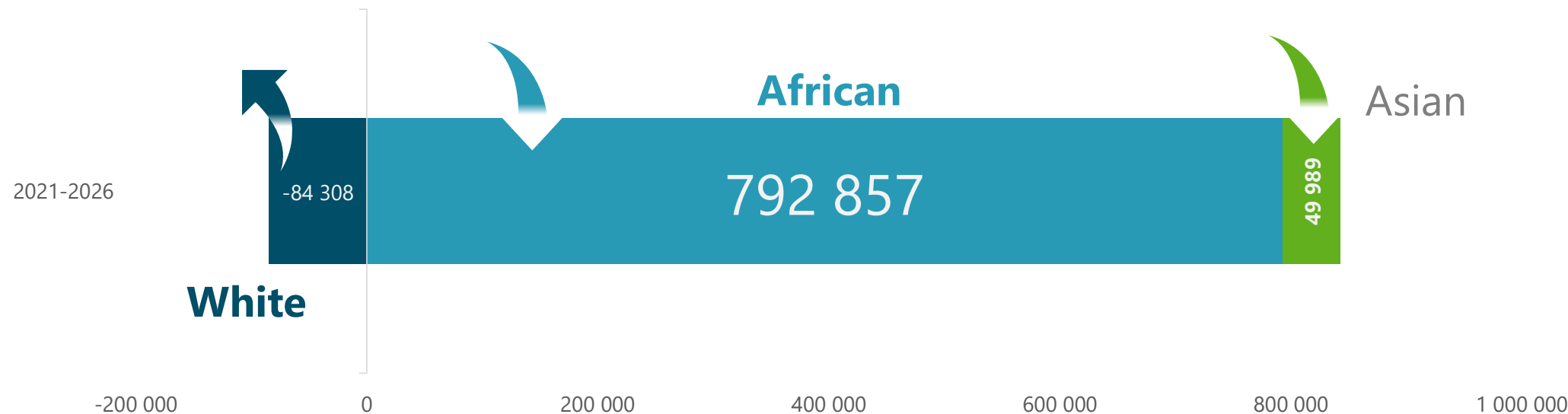
Despite recovery of international migration post-COVID-19, net international migration in 2021-2026 is estimated to be lower at 760 000.

*Net International migration 2001 – 2026*



For the period 2021 to 2026, international migration will be led by **African migrants**

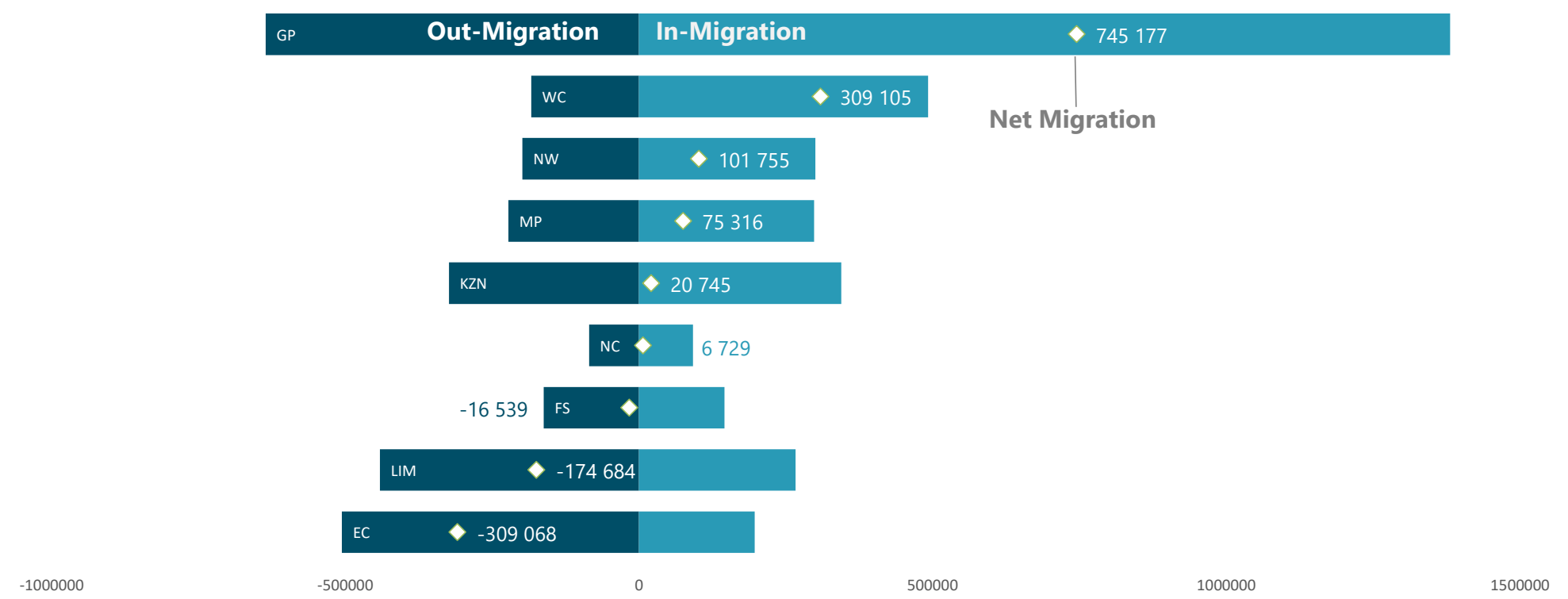
International migration by population group 2021 – 2026





**Gauteng will gain the most migrants.** Over the period 2021 to 2026 six provinces are estimated to have a positive net migration of people.

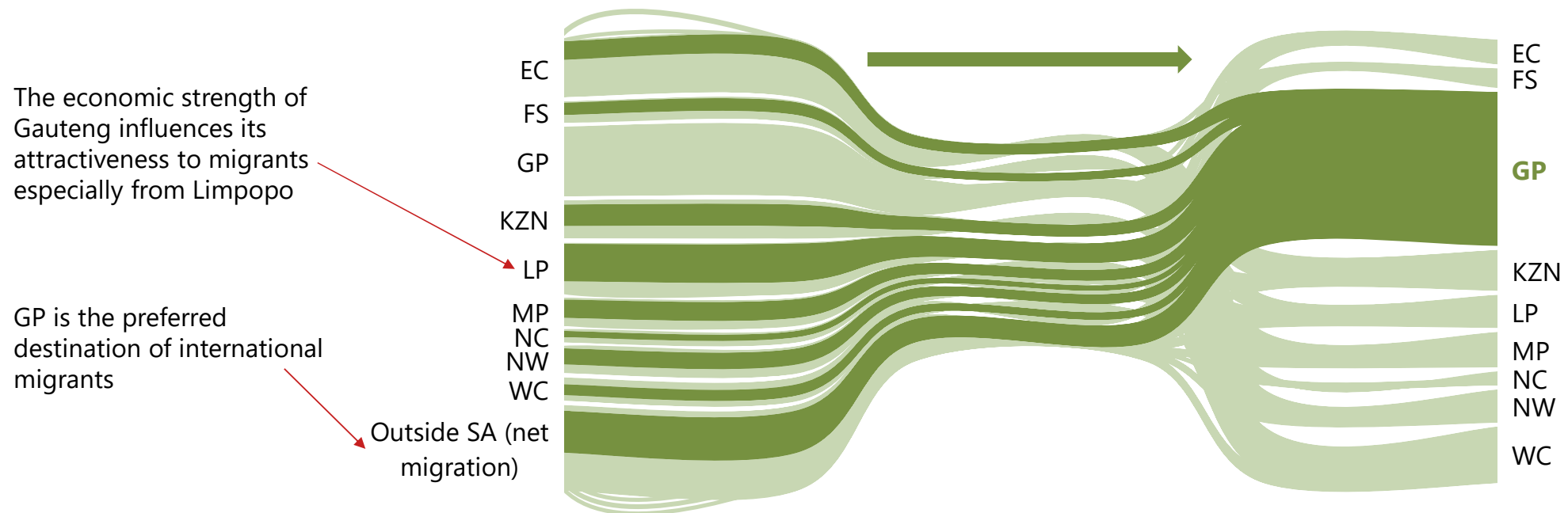
Net migration 2021 – 2026 by province



**GP** is estimated to experience the largest inflow of migrants of approx. 1 396 970 in-migrants.

*Provincial Migratory Flows 2021 – 2026: GP as a destination province*

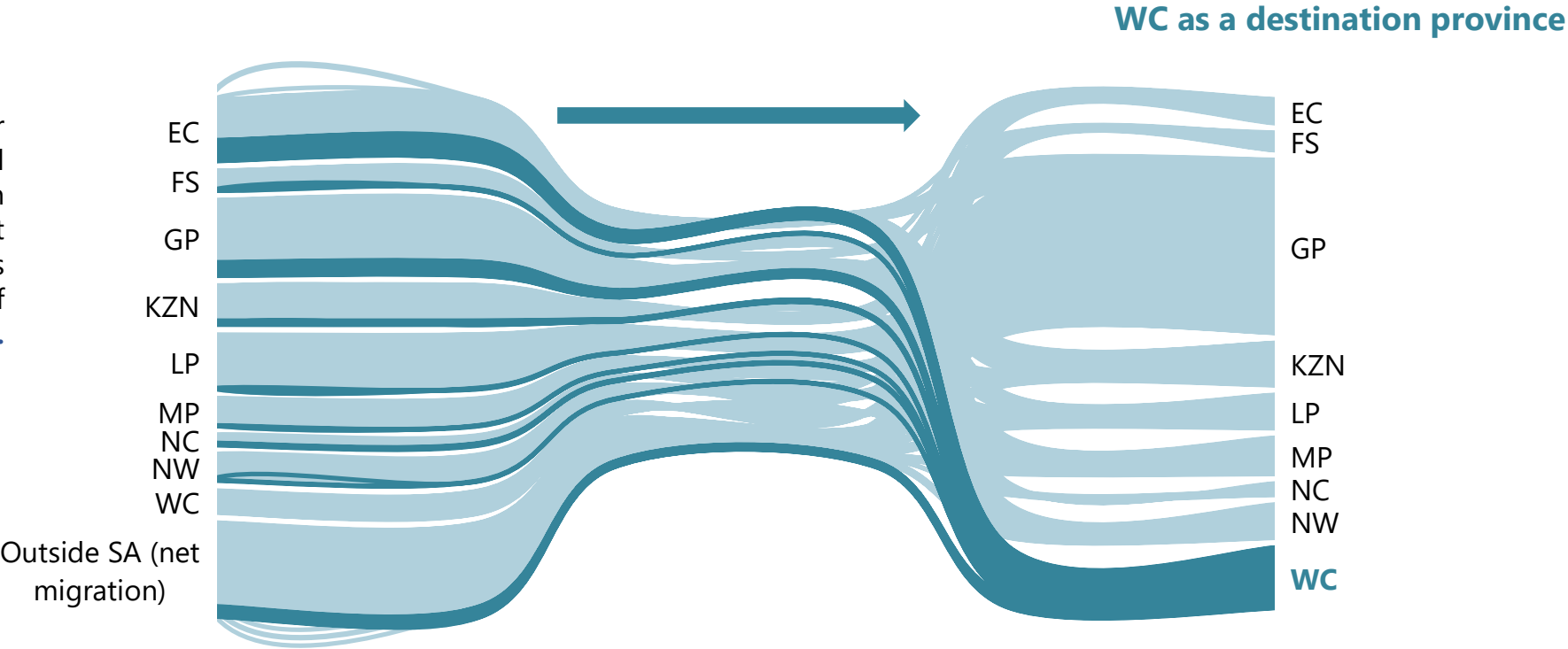
**GP as a destination province**



**WC** is estimated to experience the second highest inflow of migrants for the period 2021 to 2026 of approx. **491 831**.

Provincial Migratory Flows 2021 – 2026: WC as a destination province

Opportunities for employment, study and quality of life play an important role amongst the push-pull factors resulting in high flow of migrants to **WC**.



# RECAP, MYPE 2024

## Mid-Year Population 2024

For 2024 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) estimates the mid-year population at 63,02 million.

### By Province

LP has the highest proportion of children under 15 within the province whilst GP has the highest proportion of Youth and Adults (15-59). EC has the highest proportion of elderly (60+).

### Life Expectancy

Life Expectancy has improved to **66,5** years in 2024.

### People estimated to be living with HIV

There are 8,0 million people living with HIV in 2024.



stats sa

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# Mid-Year Population Estimates 2024 - Quick Facts

Figures as of 1 July 2024

The population of South Africa is estimated at **63,02 million** in mid-2024



South Africa's population is equivalent to **4,2%** of Africa's population and **0,8%** of the total population of the world.

South Africa ranks **23rd** in the list of countries by population and **5th in Sub-Saharan Africa and Africa** as a whole.  
(Source : WPP 2024)

The population density in South Africa is **51,61 people per km<sup>2</sup>**

The median age in South Africa is **28 years.**



stats sa

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA