

# Mid-Year Population Estimates 2025

---

**Risenga Maluleke**  
Statistician-General



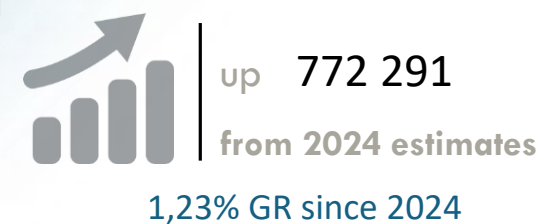
stats sa  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

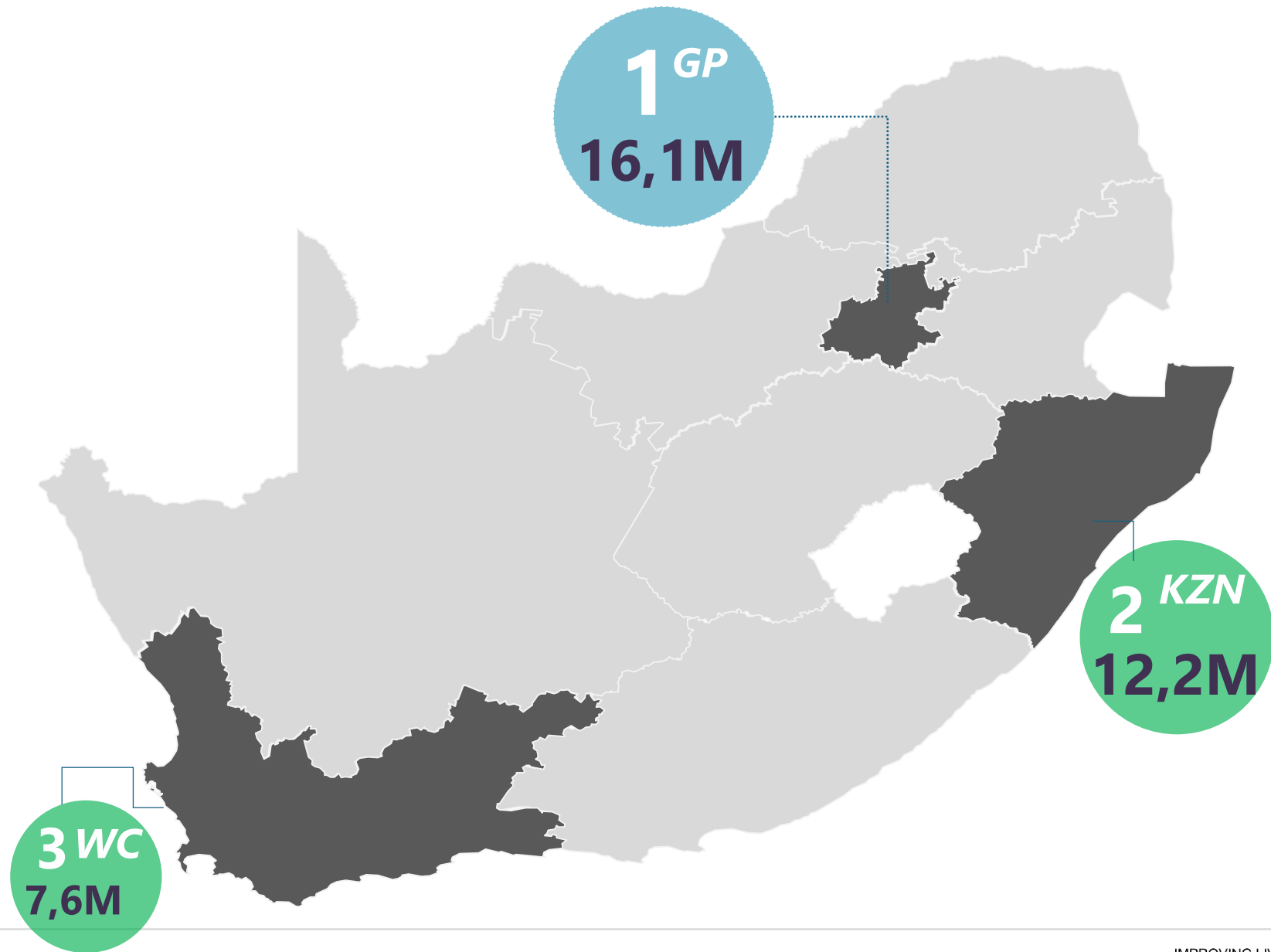


The **South African** population in  
2025 is estimated at

**63 100 945**

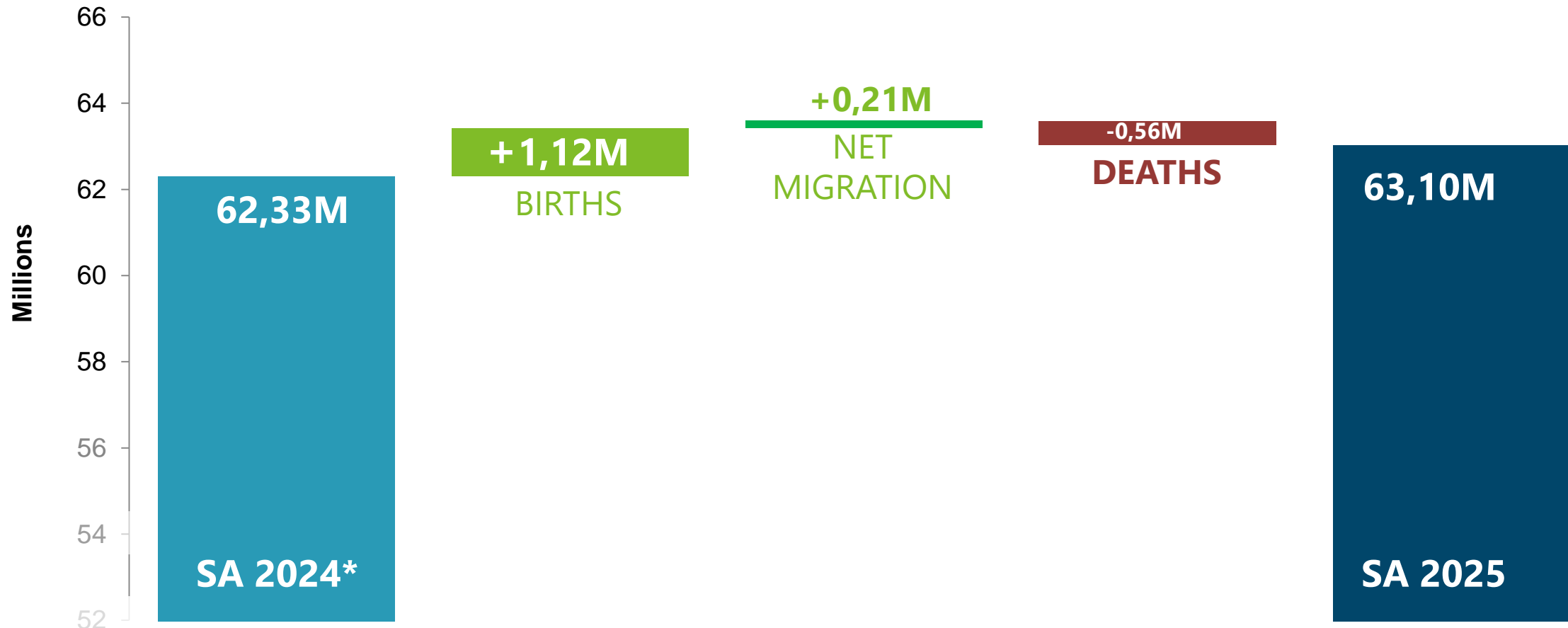


More than  
half (57,0%)  
of the  
population  
live in **just 3  
provinces**



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

Impact of births, deaths and migration on population, 2025



\*data based 2025 series

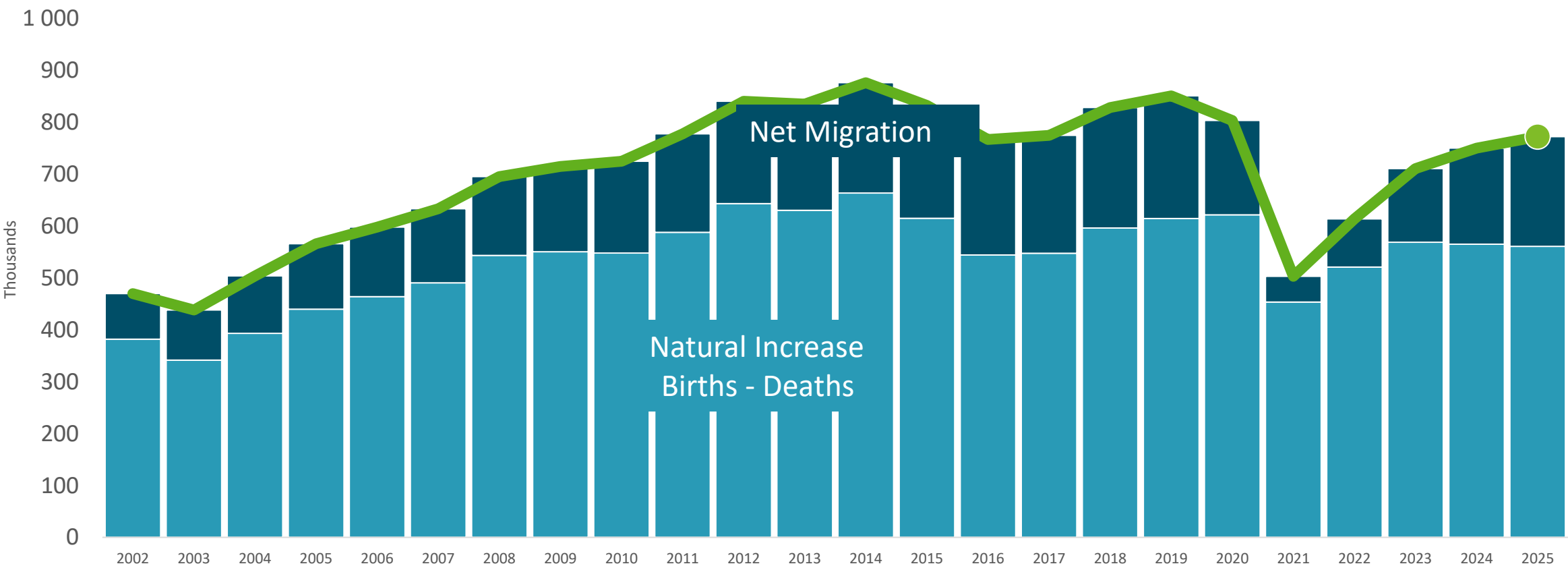
Due to rounding totals may not add up to the total



**stats sa**  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# Annual Population growth, whilst improved, have not reached pre-COVID-19 levels.

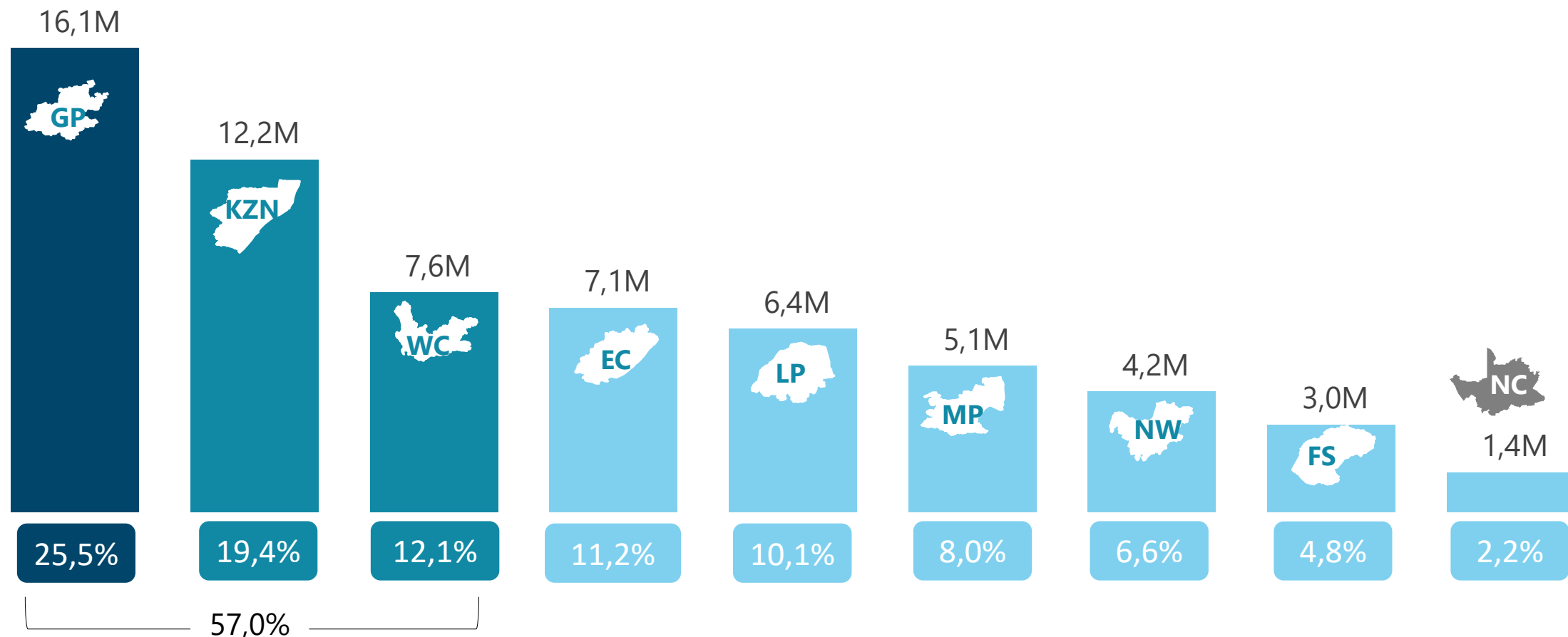
Impact of births, deaths and migration on population, 2002 – 2025



More than half of the population (36 million) live in 3 provinces.

## GP remains SA's most populous province

Mid-year population estimates for South Africa by province, 2025

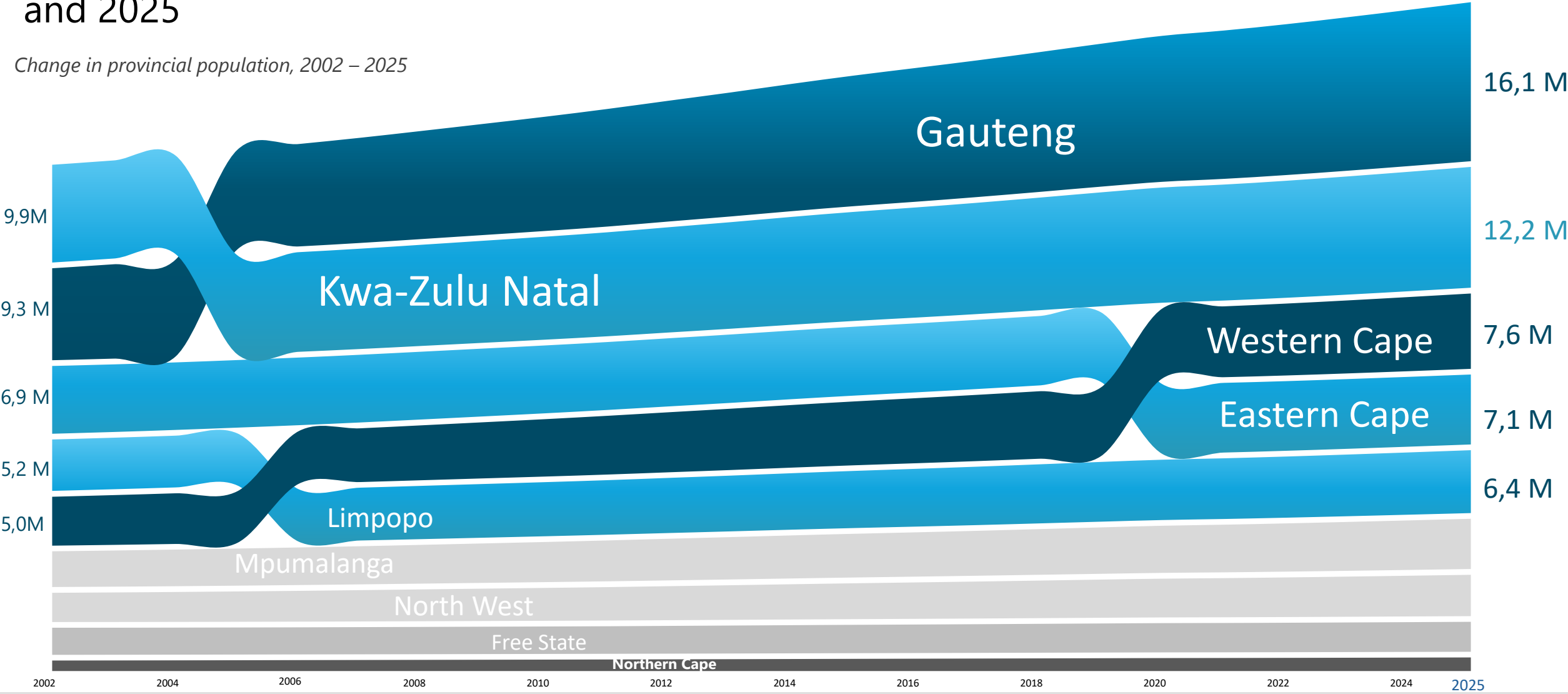


stats sa

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# GP has increased its **share** of the total population by more than 6 million between 2002 and 2025

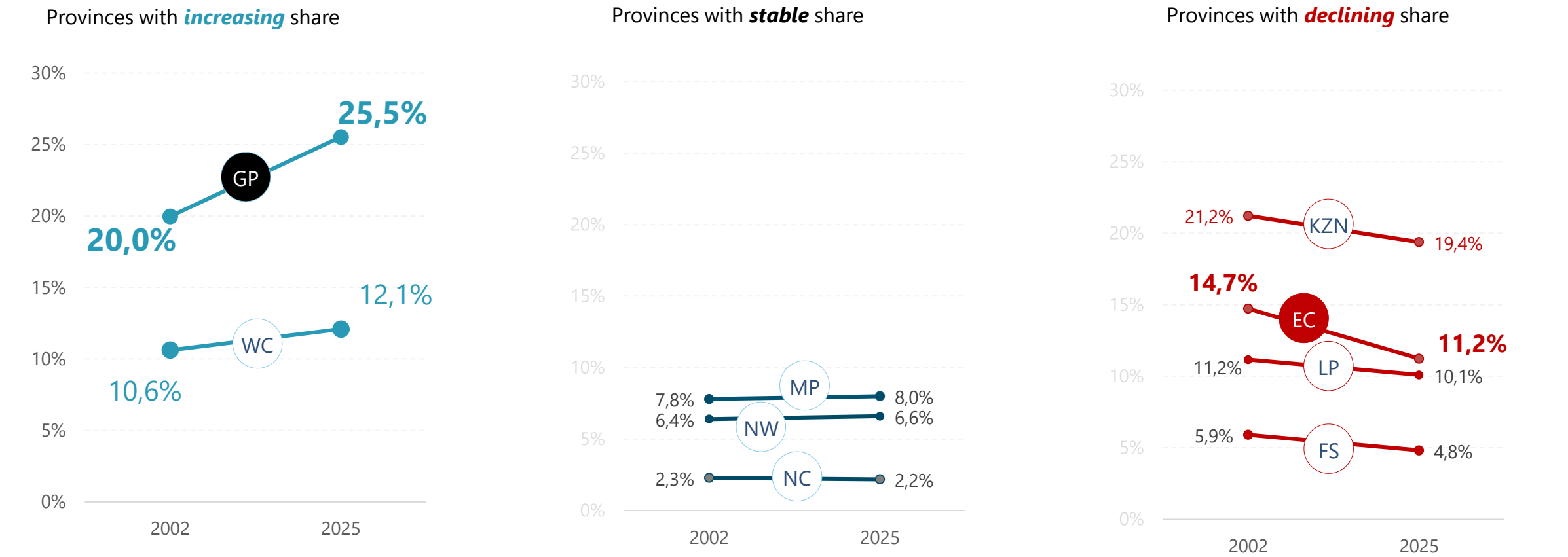
Change in provincial population, 2002 – 2025





# GP has increased its share of the total population from 20,0% to 25,5% between 2002 and 2025

Change in provincial population proportions, 2002 – 2025

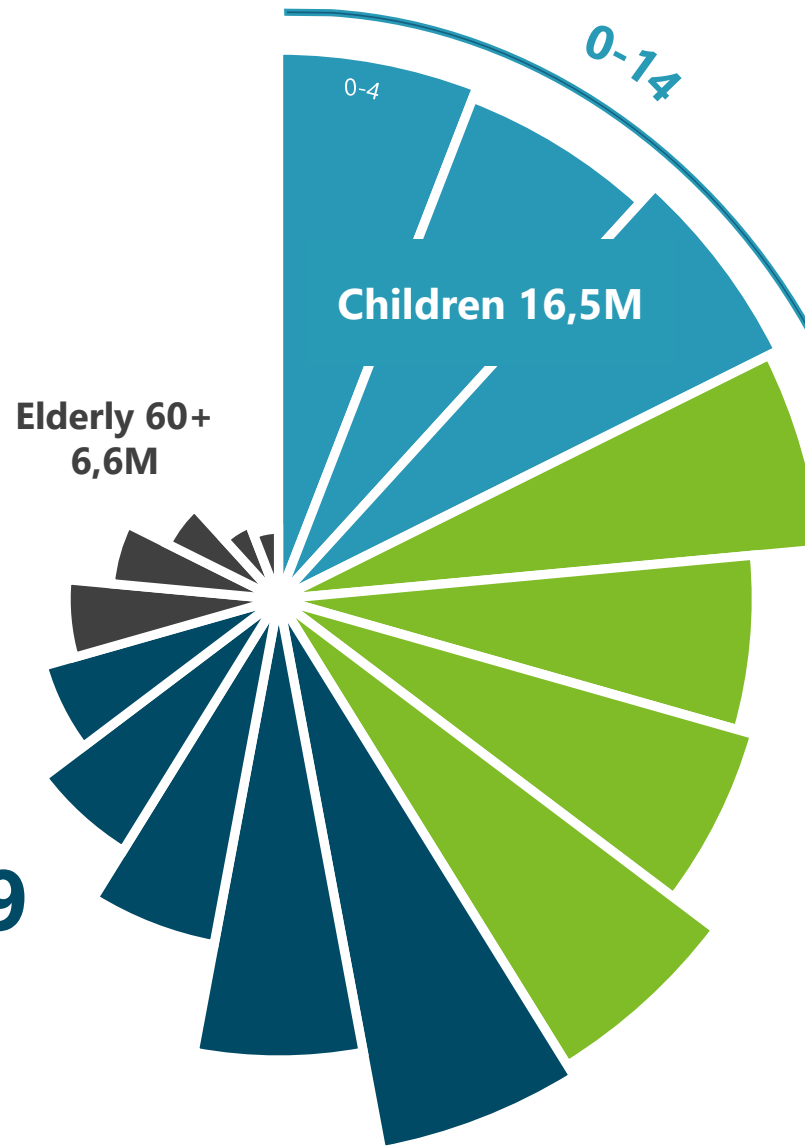




# Children and youth amount to just over 37,3 million in SA

Population age structure 5-year age groups, 2025

**Adults 35-59  
19,2M**



**Youth 15-34  
20,8M**



stats sa  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

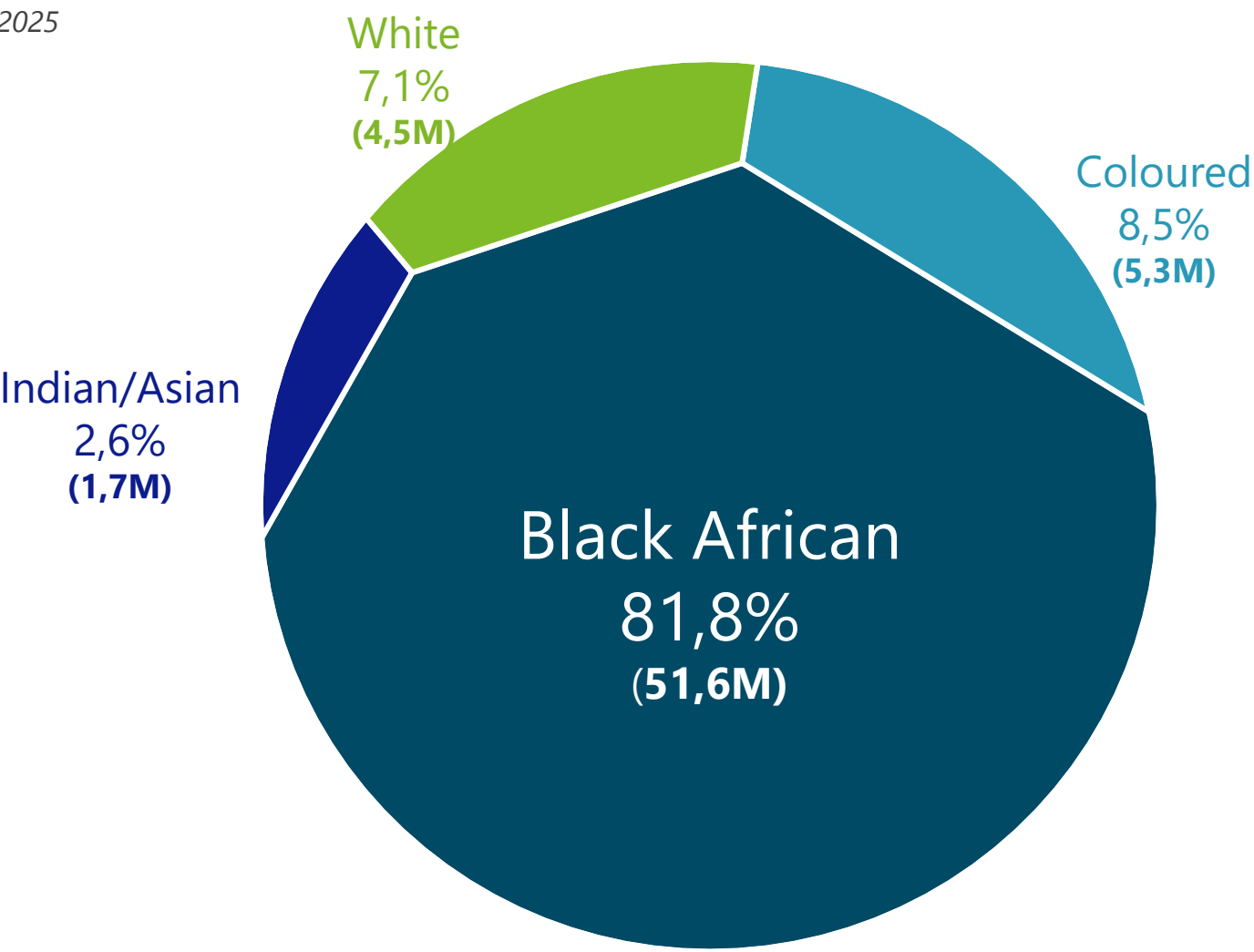
**Approximately 51% (32,2 million) of the population is female.**

*South Africa's population by sex, 2025*



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

SA by population group, 2025



# Population Structure

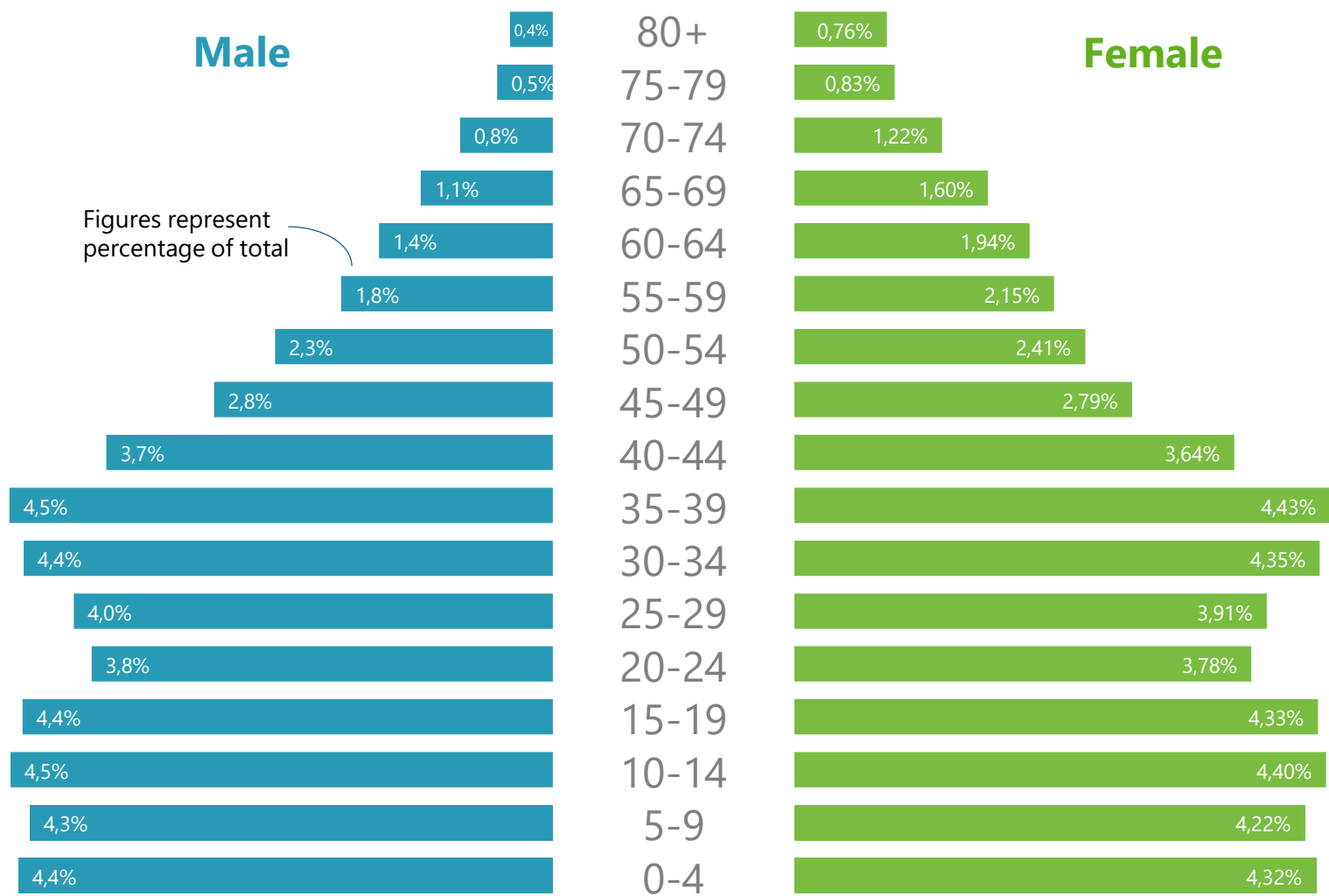


**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

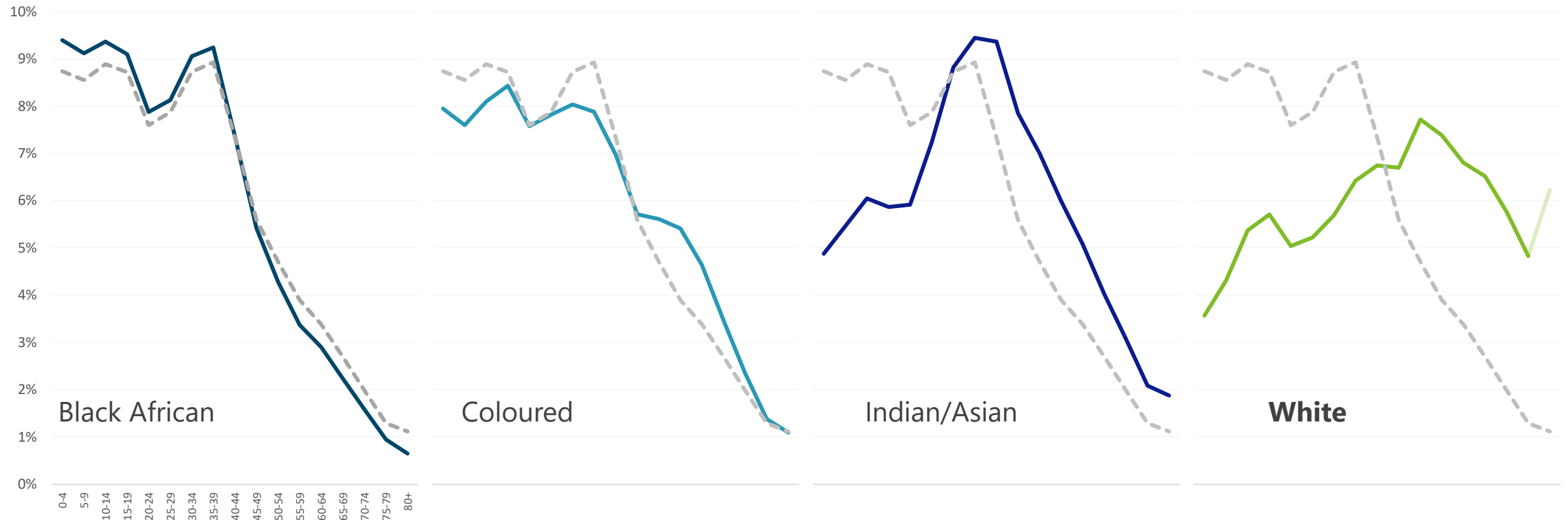
# South Africa's Population structure is youthful, with a relatively large base of children.

SA age structure by 5-year age groups, 2025



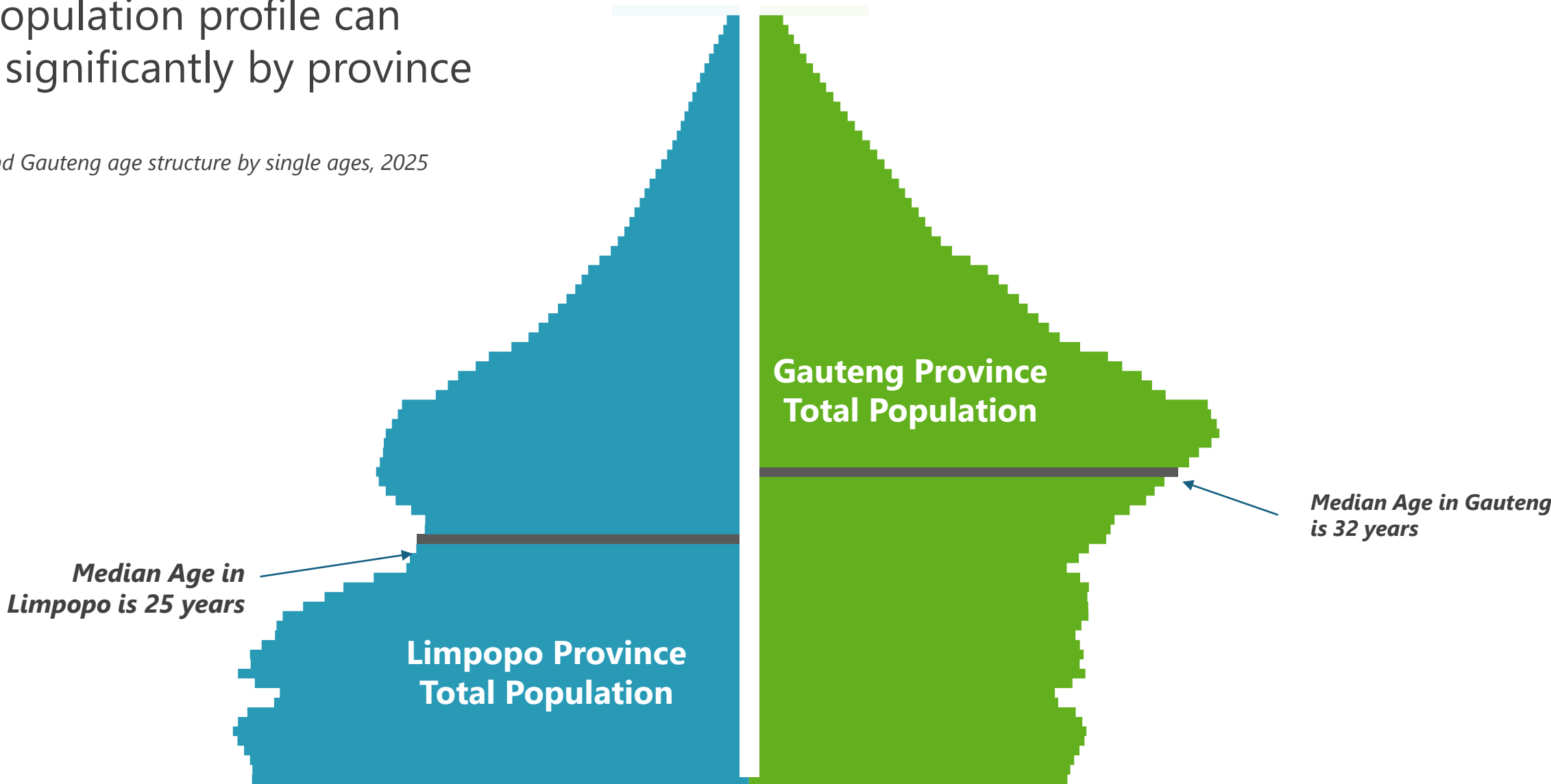
# The white population group has a significantly different age profile

SA age structure by 5-year age group and population group, 2025



# The population profile can differ significantly by province

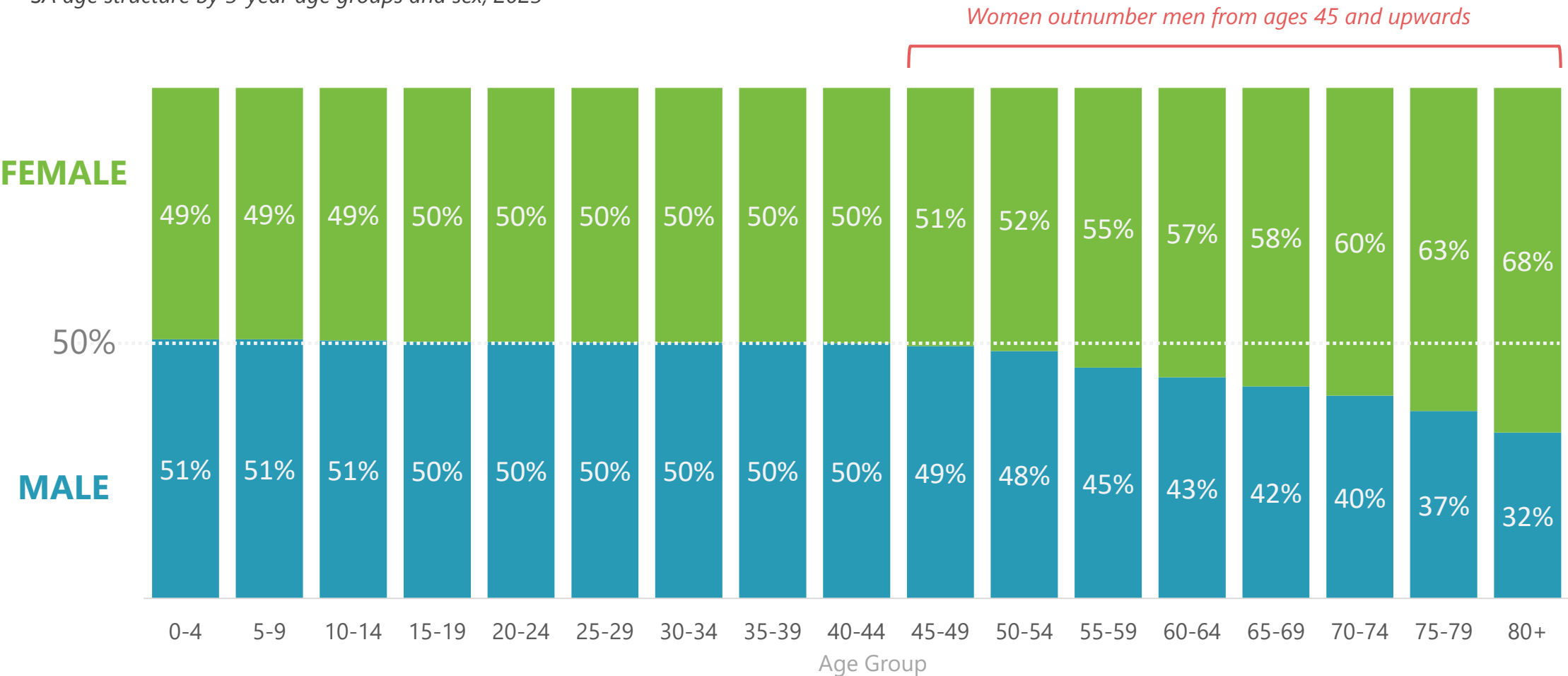
Limpopo and Gauteng age structure by single ages, 2025





# Women outnumber men from ages 45 and above

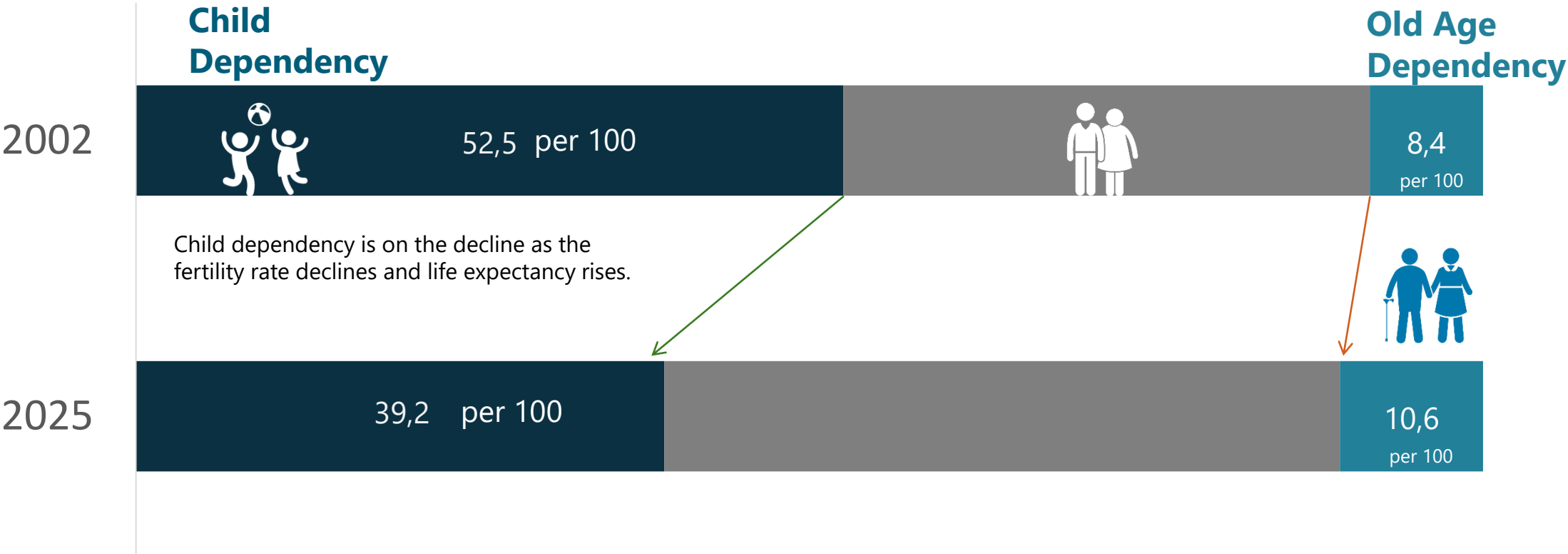
SA age structure by 5-year age groups and sex, 2025



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

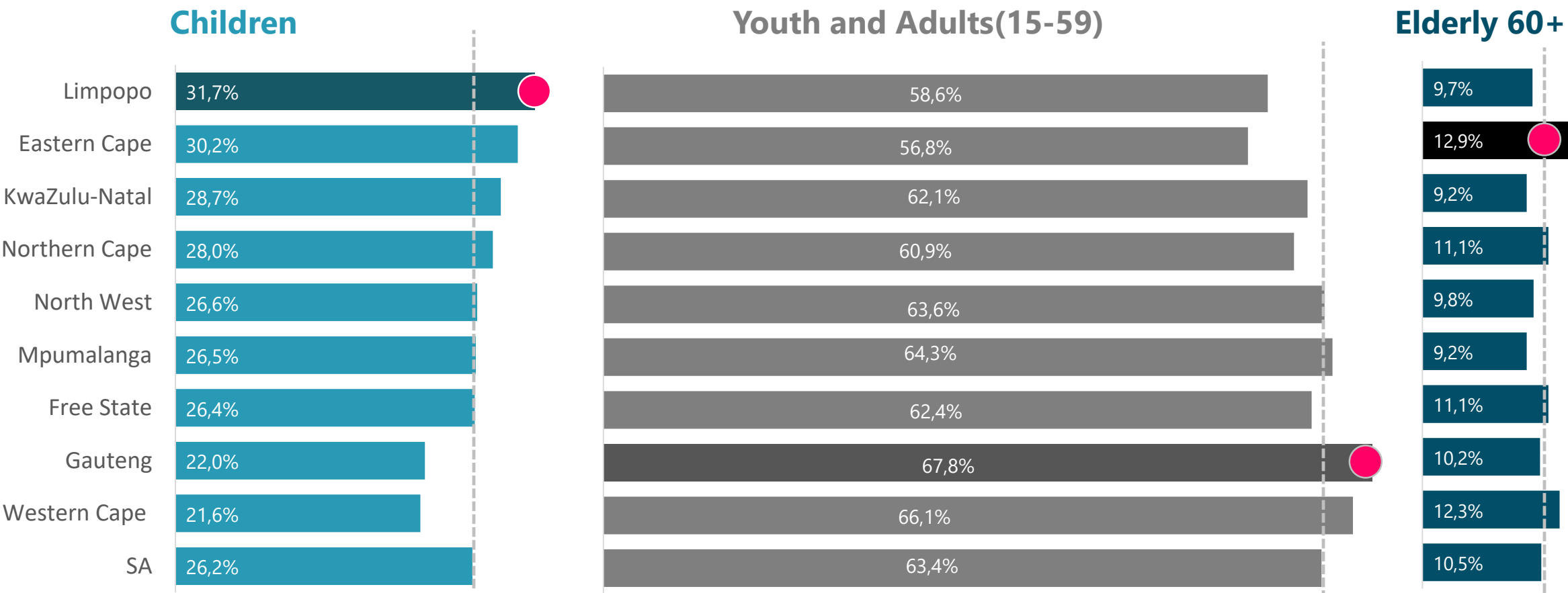
Old Age and Child Dependency Ratio, 2002 – 2025

\*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+).

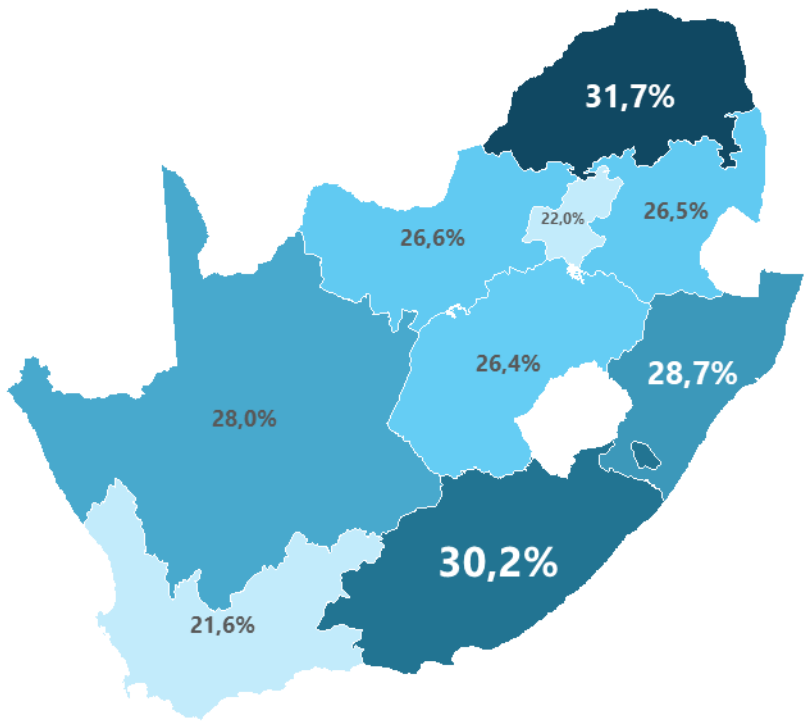
Population by age category and province, 2025



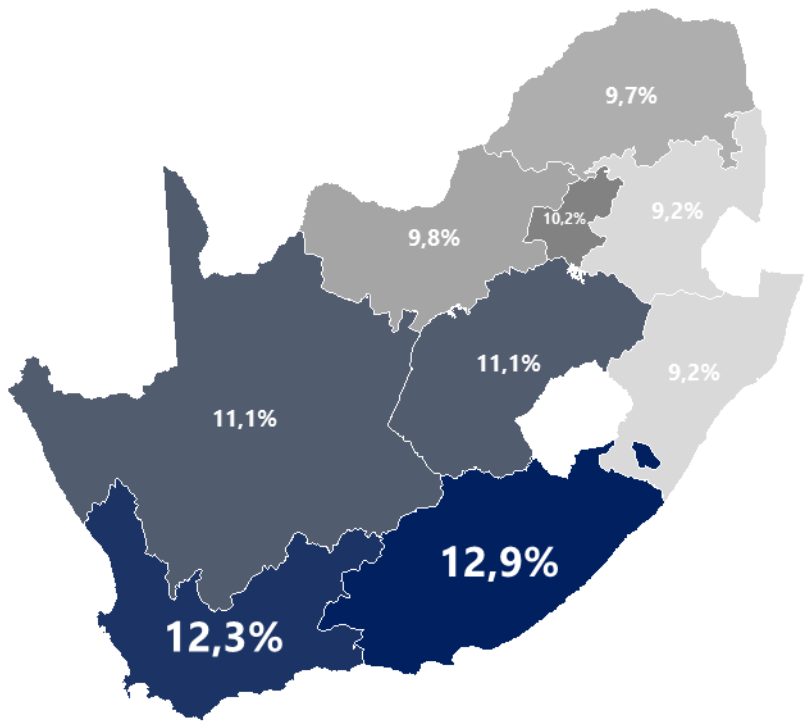
\*Due to rounding totals may not add up to 100%

# LP has the highest proportion of children under 15 whilst EC has the highest proportion of the elderly

Population by age category and province, 2025



Children under 15 within each province



Elderly (60+) within each province

# Fertility (Births)



stats sa

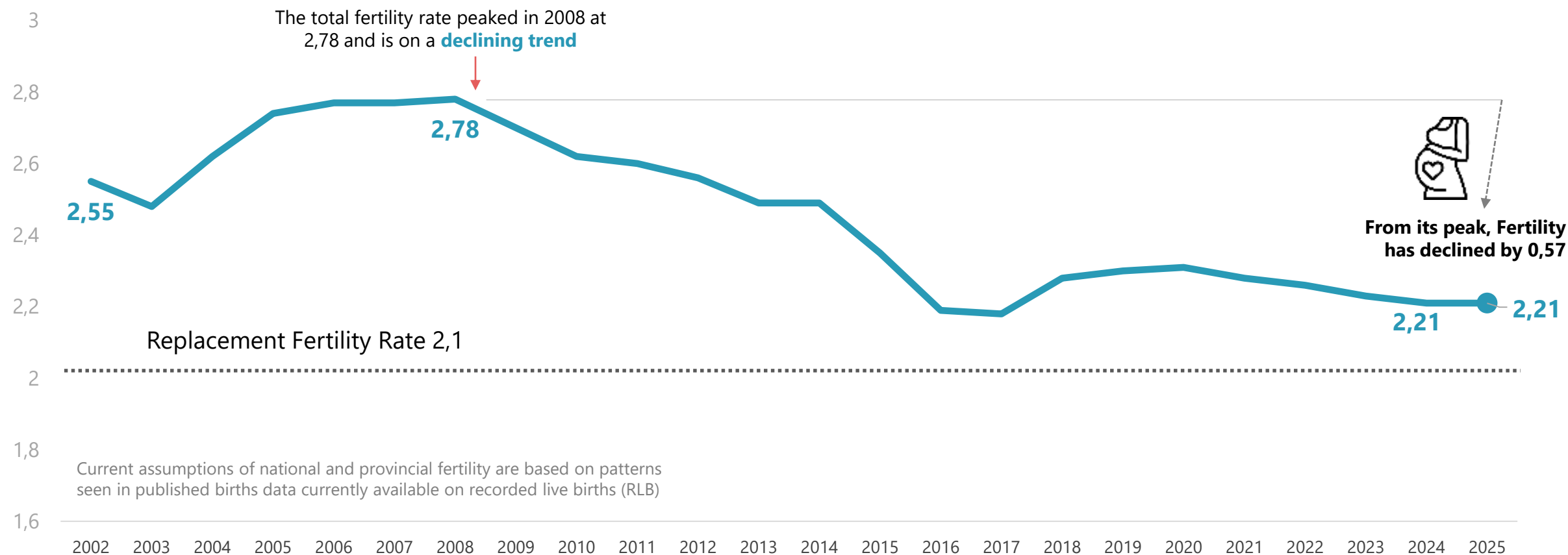
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



# There has been a fluctuation in Total fertility Rate in SA between 2002-2025

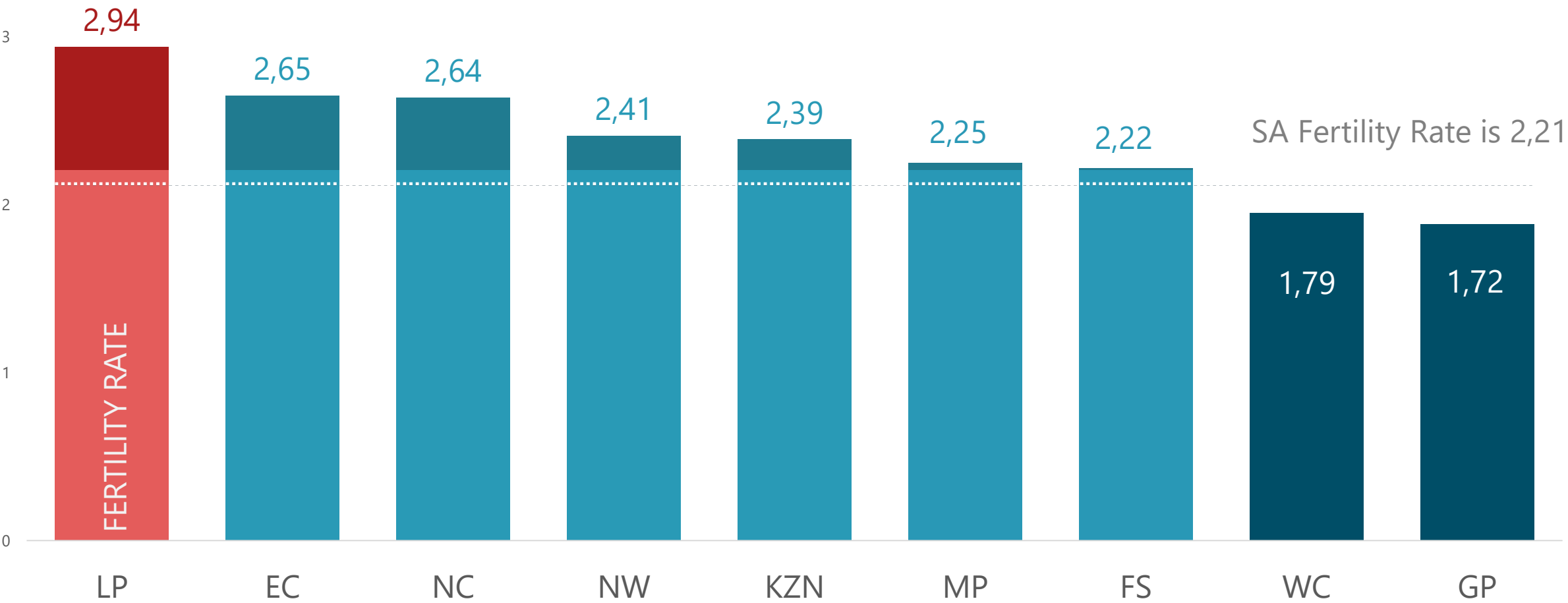
Total Fertility Rate, 2002 – 2025



\*data based on 2025 series

# GP and WC are the only provinces who are below the national fertility rate of South Africa (2,21)

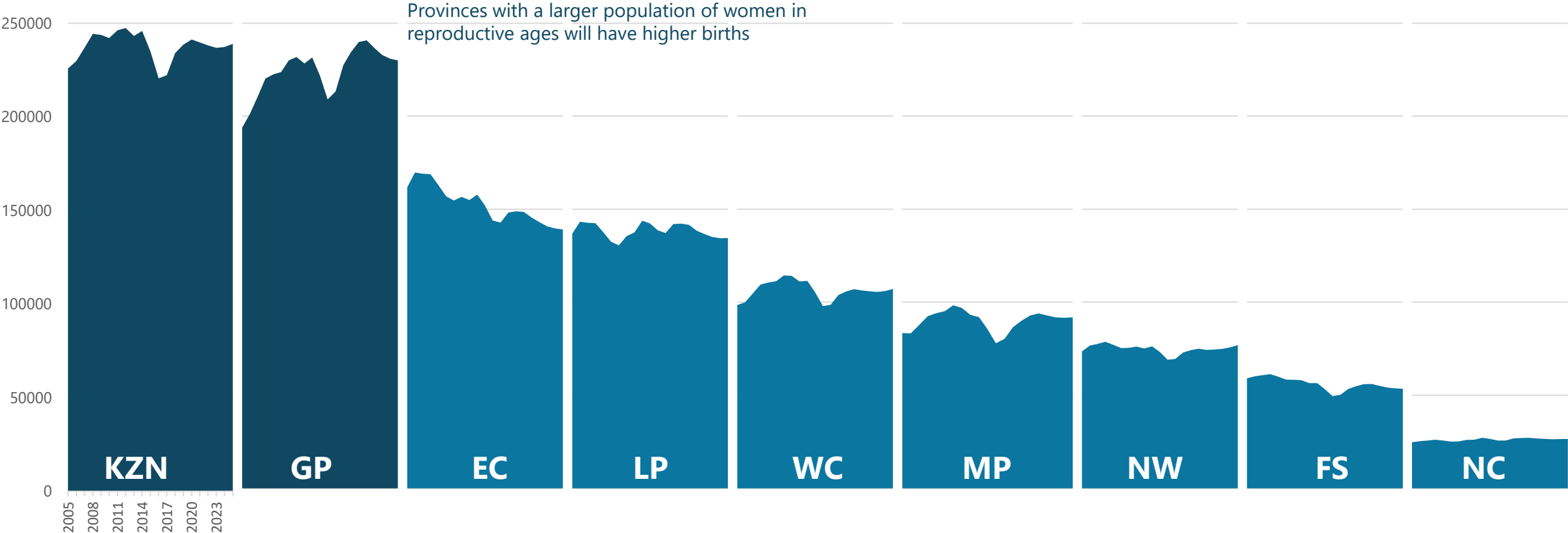
Total Fertility Rate, by province, 2021 – 2026





All provinces in SA have shown a fluctuation in births over time. KZN and GP have the highest proportion of newborns in 2025

Newborns by province, 2002 – 2025



# Mortality (Deaths)

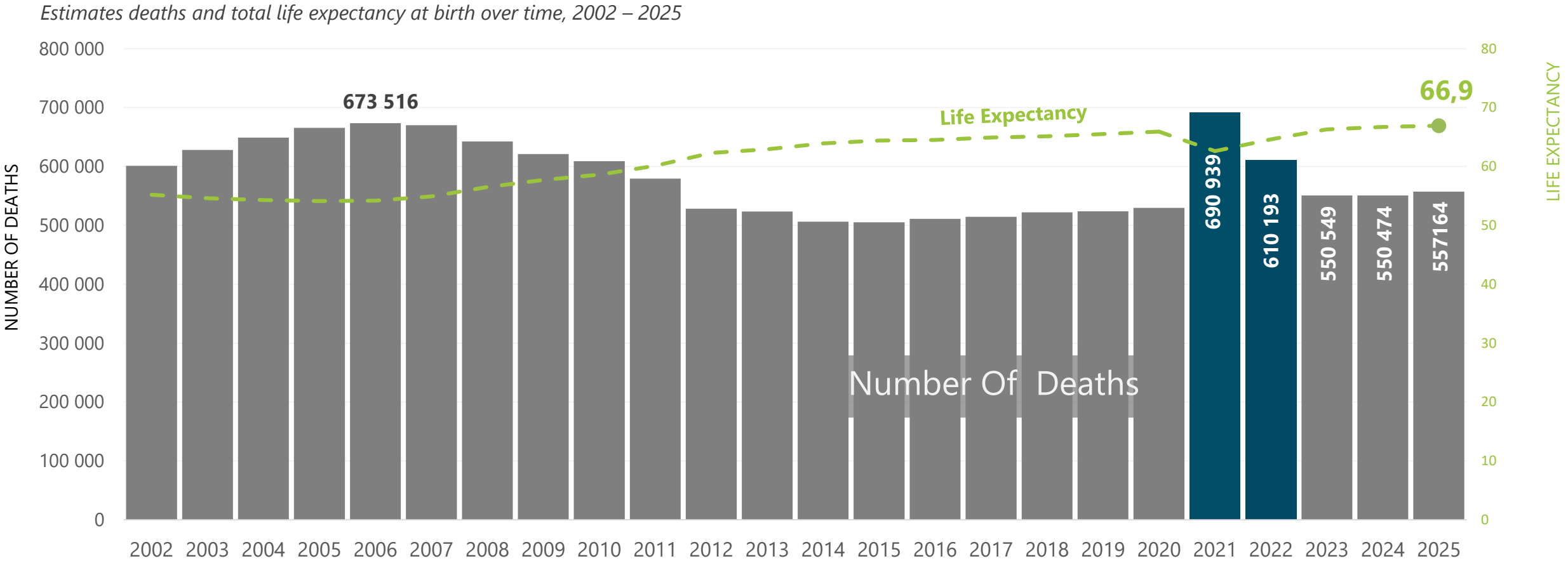


stats sa  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

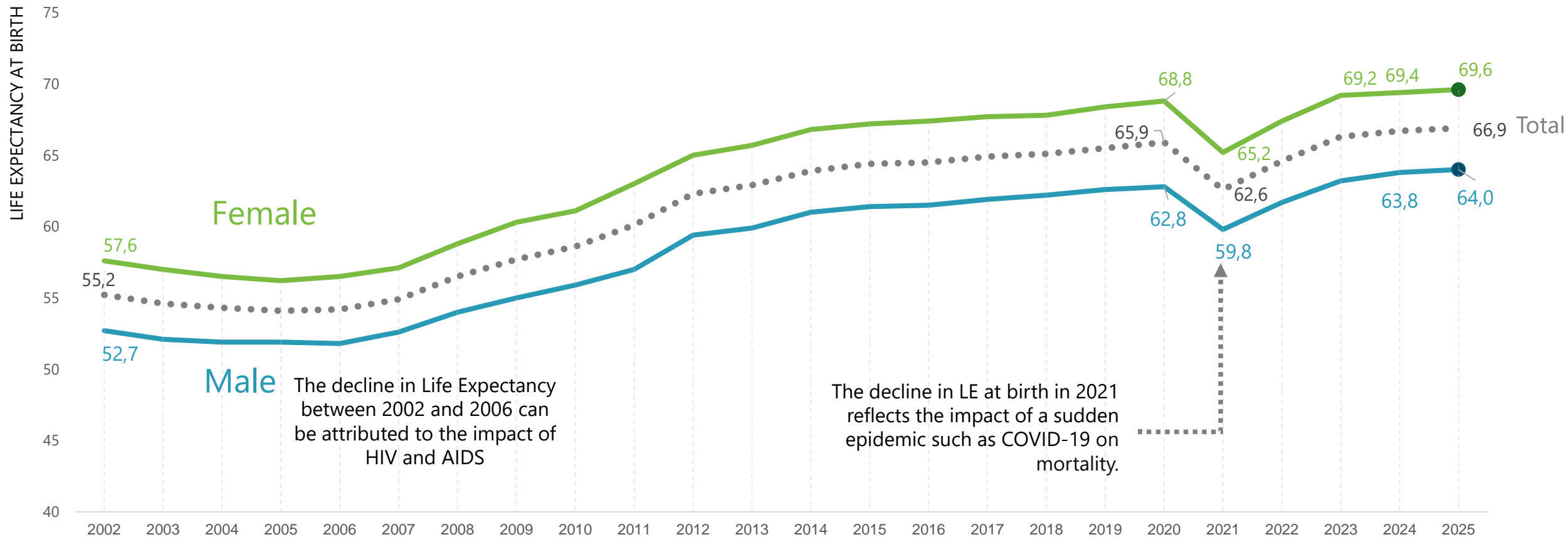


Death peaked in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, exceeding even the HIV pandemic peak of 2006. In 2022, deaths declined by 6,4%, and a further 14,4% by 2023. By 2025, deaths slightly increased by 1,2%.



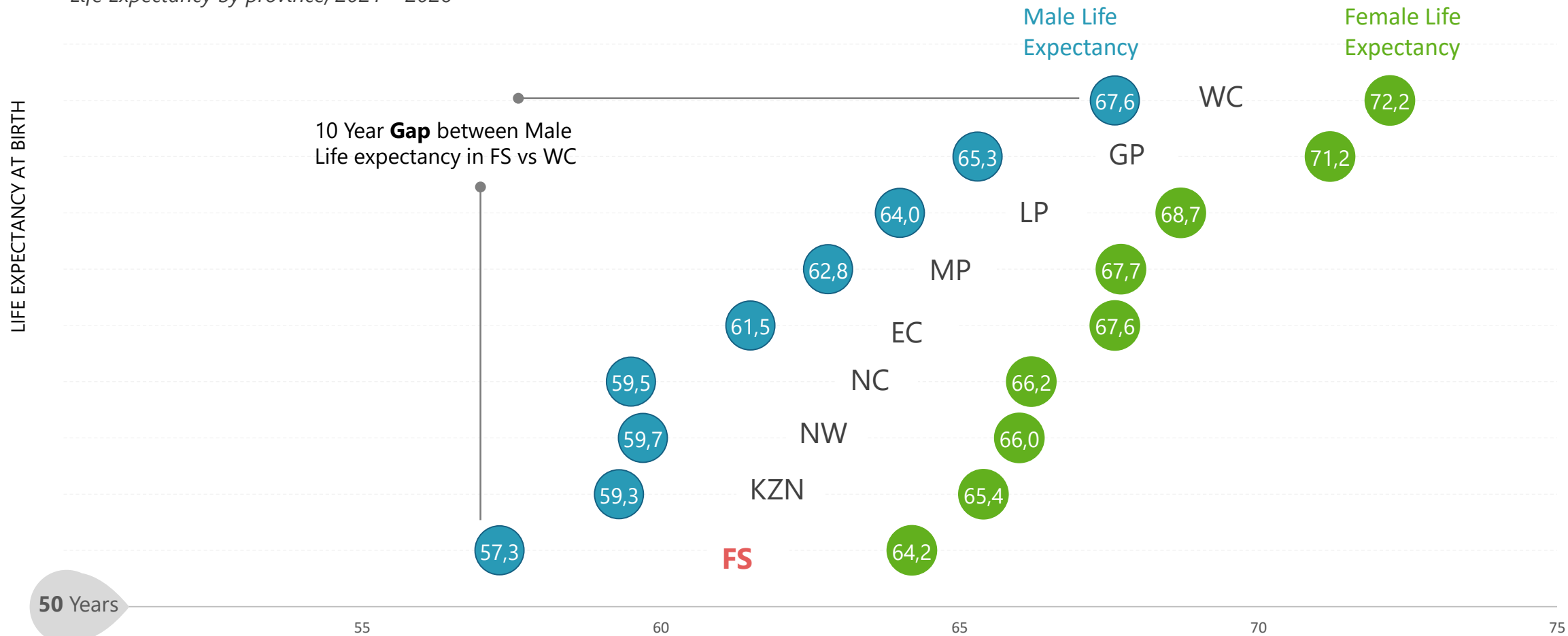
# Total Life Expectancy (LE) at birth increased from 55,2 years in 2002 to nearly 67 years in 2025.

Life Expectancy by sex, 2021 – 2026



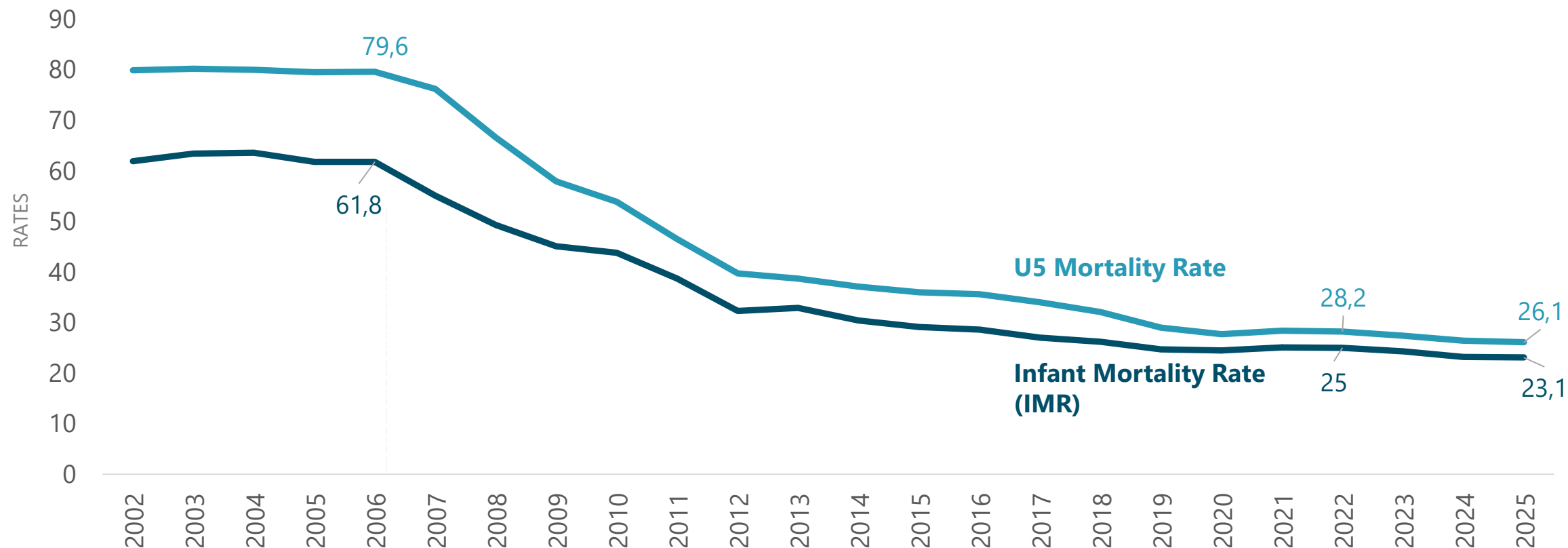
# Free State has a significantly lower life expectancy at birth than all other provinces

Life Expectancy by province, 2021 – 2026



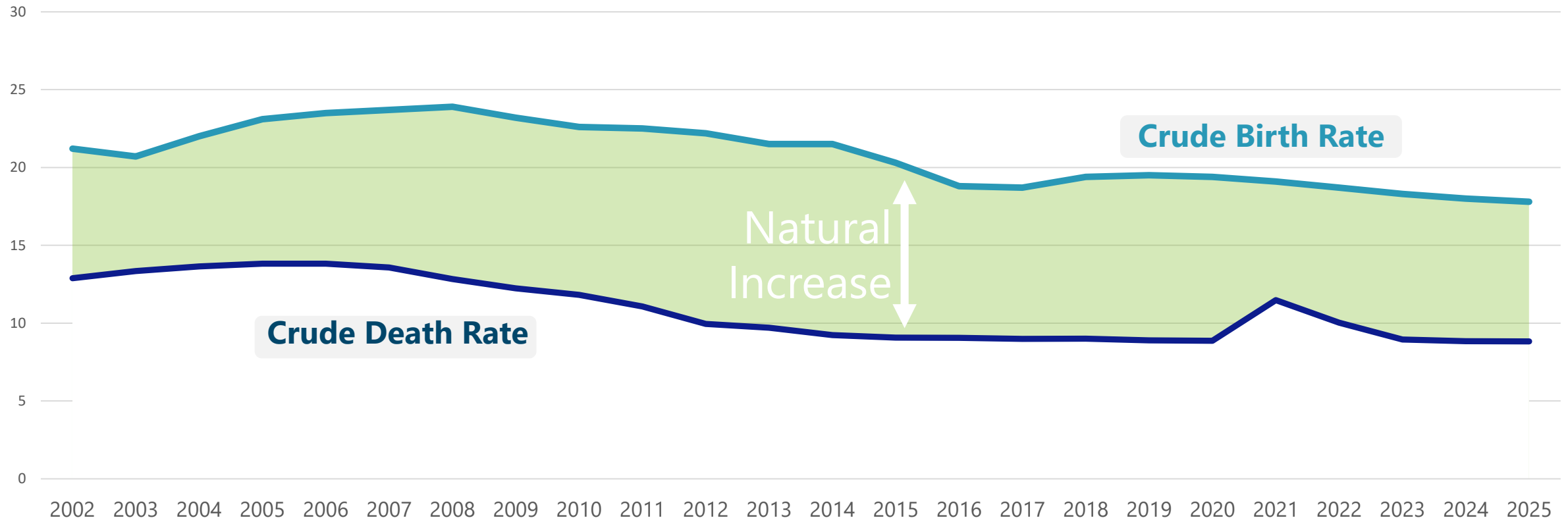
There has been an overall **decline** in child mortality in South Africa **since 2006**.

*U5MR and IMR per 1000 live births for the period, 2002 – 2025*



**Natural increase (difference between birth and death only) has contributed to annual population growth** for the period 2002 – 2025, though impacted significantly by COVID-19 in 2021.

*CBR, CDR and RNI per 1000 population over time, 2002 – 2025*



Current assumptions of national and provincial fertility are based on patterns seen in published births data currently available on recorded live births (RLB)

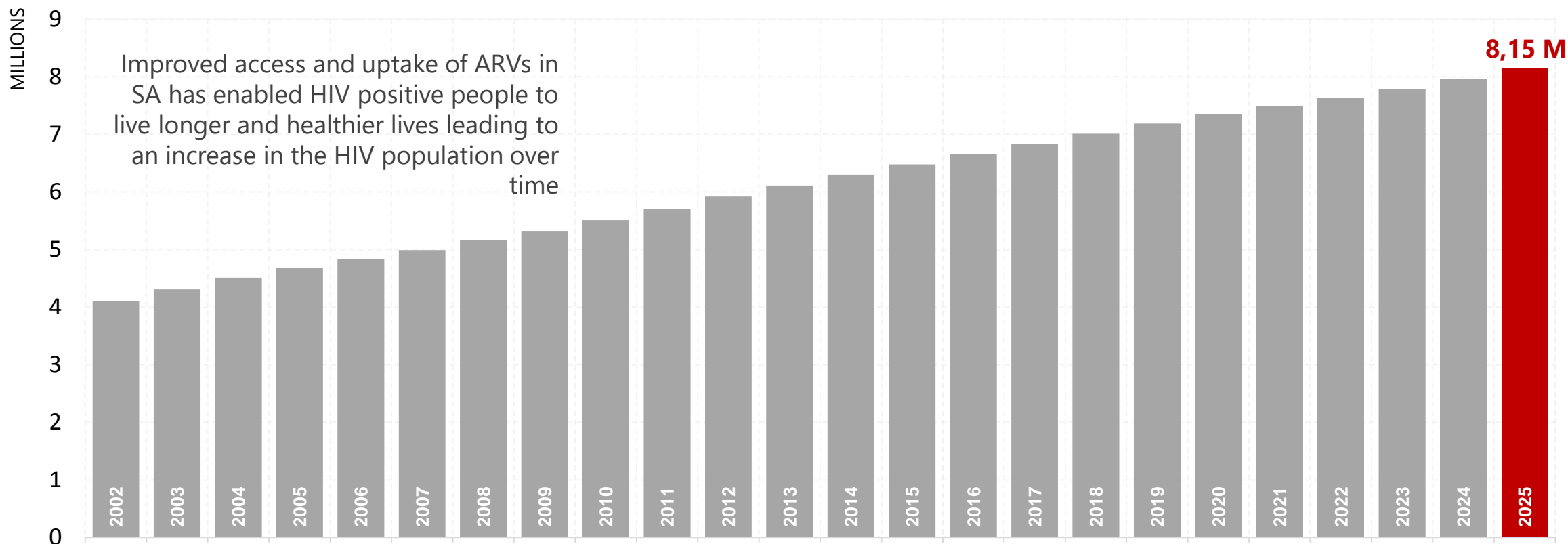


**stats sa**  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



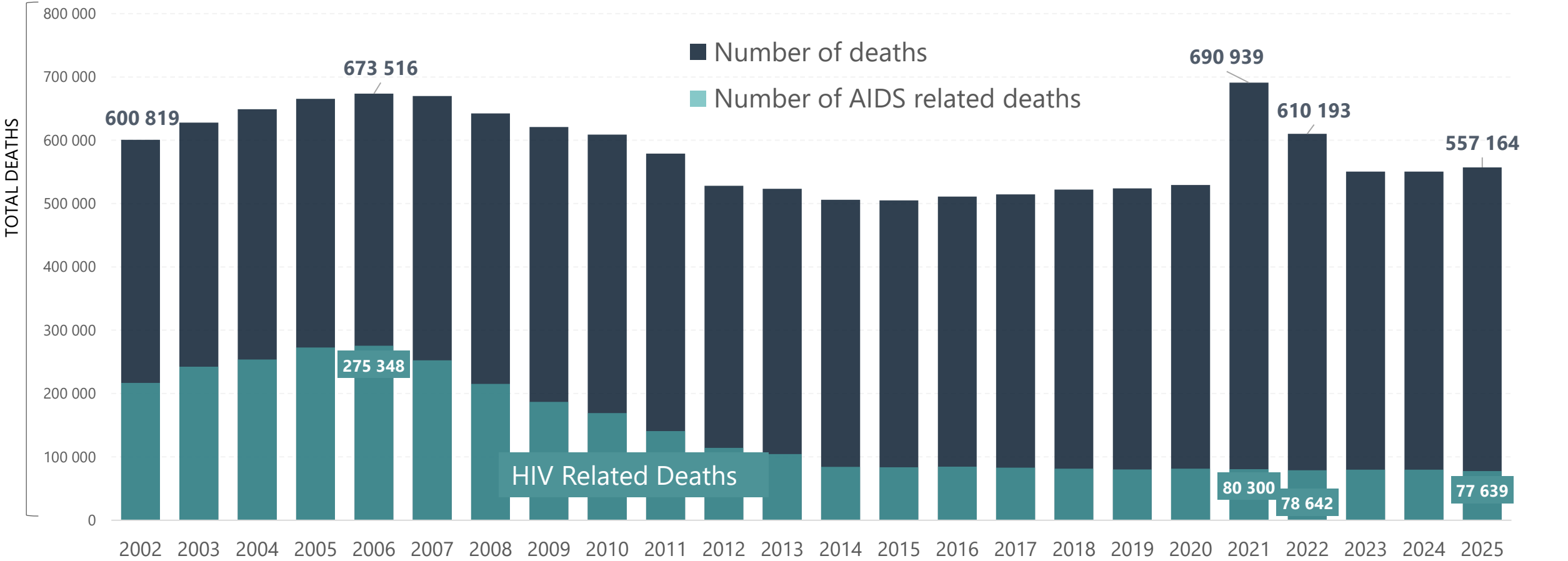
There are **8,15 million** people living with HIV in 2025.

*Number of people (in millions) living with HIV, 2002 – 2025*



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 death, 2002 – 2025



# Migration



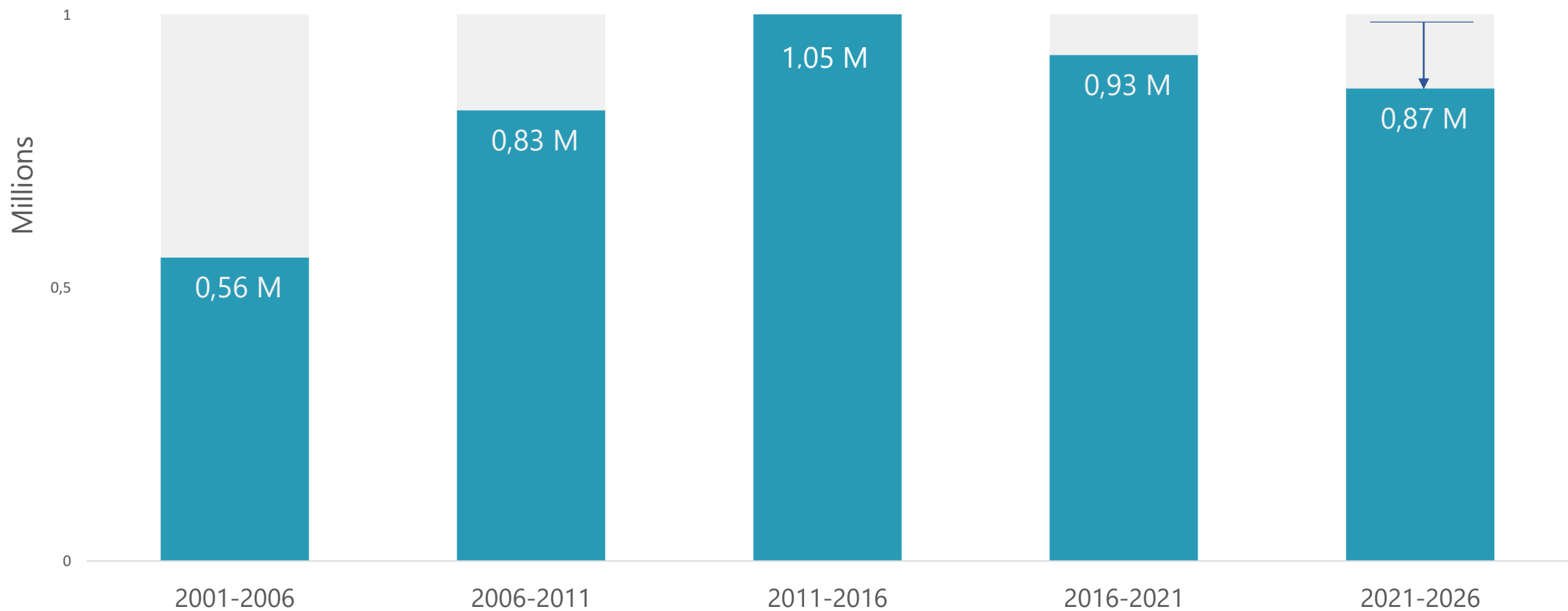
**stats sa**  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



Despite recovery of international migration post-COVID-19, net international migration in 2021-2026, is estimated to be lower at 870 000.

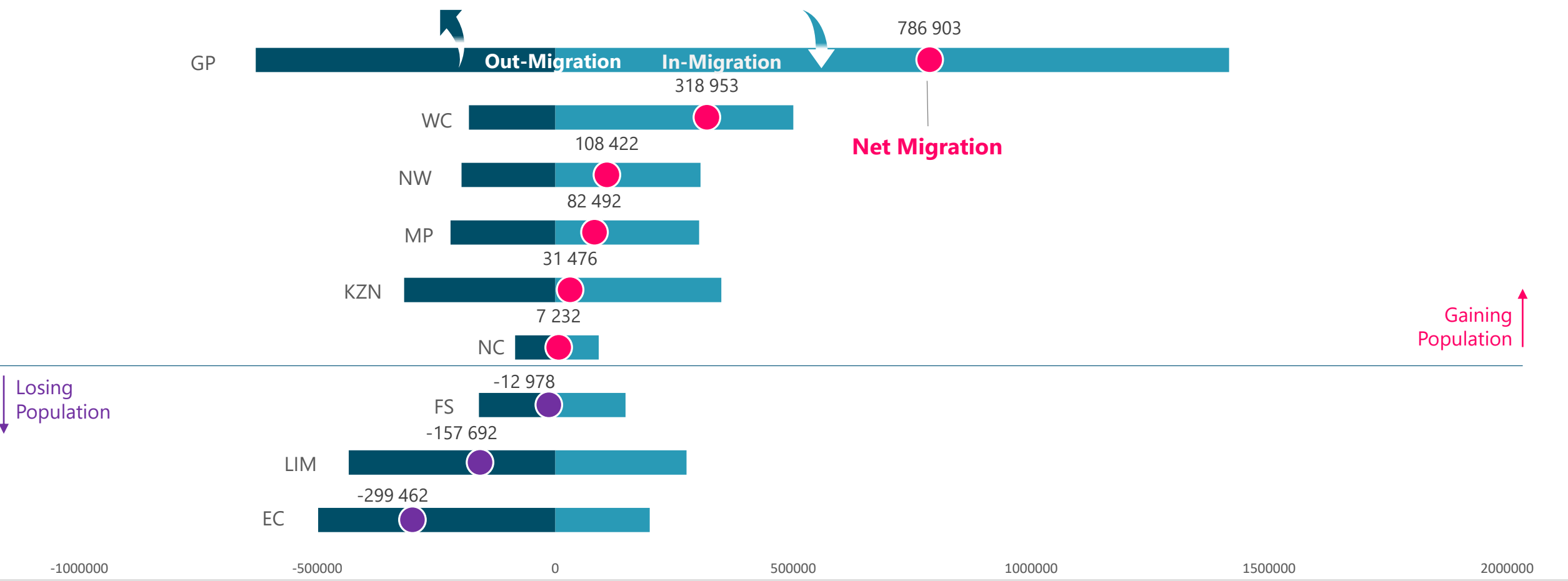
Net International migration, 2001 – 2026



# Gauteng will gain the most migrants.

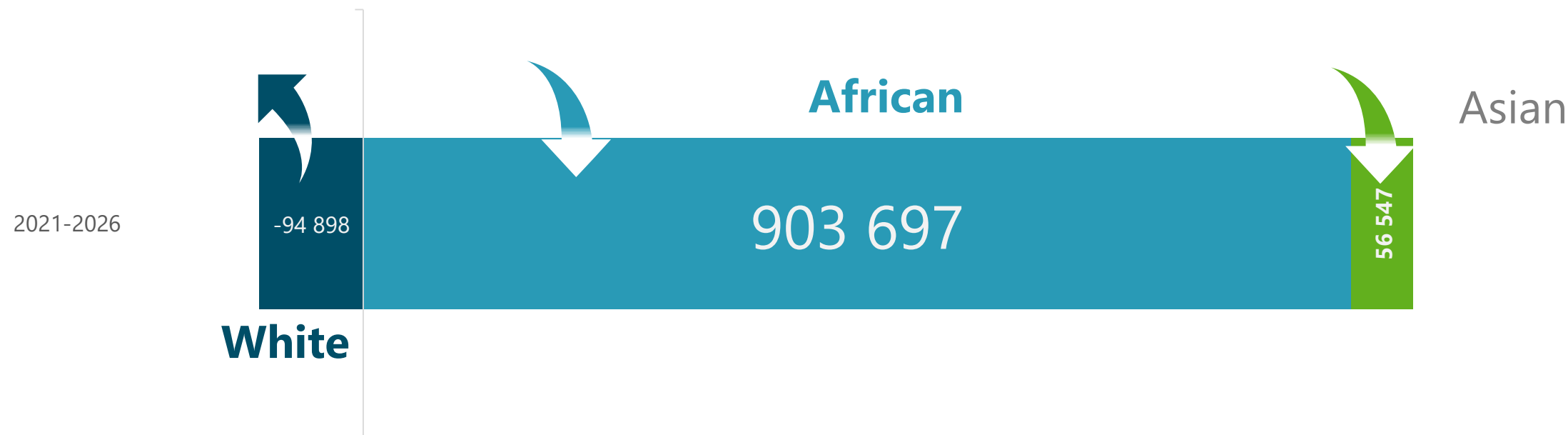
Over the period 2021 to 2026, six provinces are estimated to have a positive net migration of people.

Net migration, 2021 – 2026 by province



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

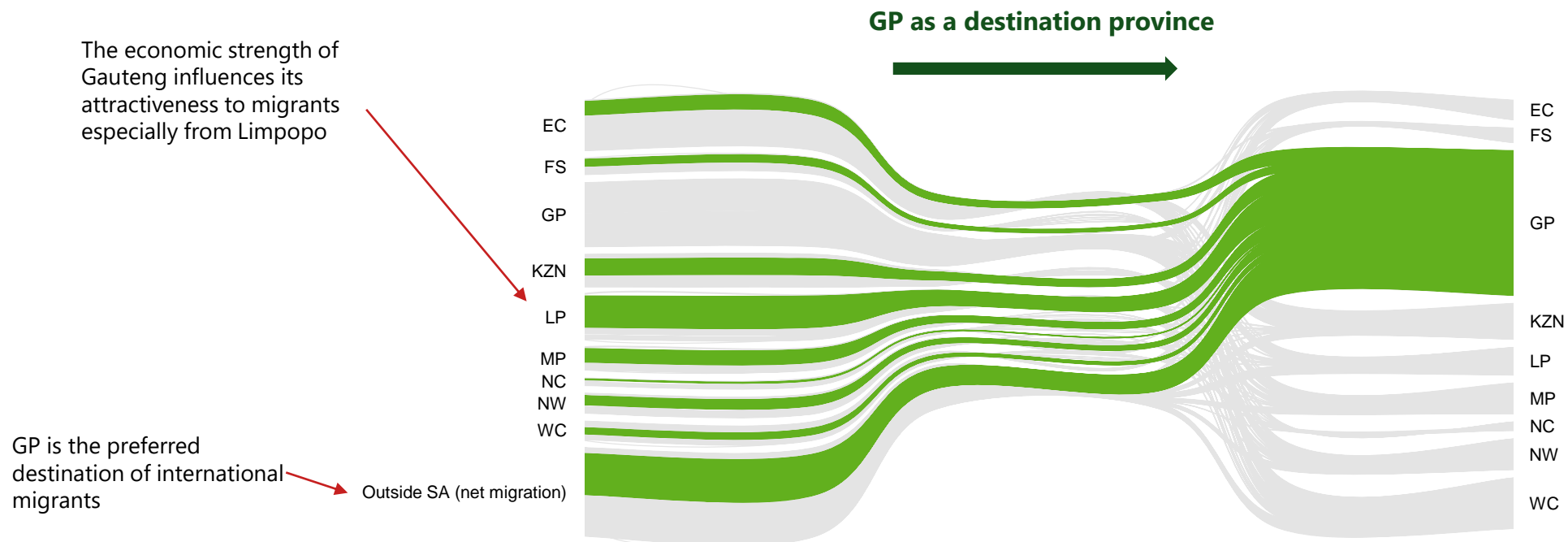
International **Net-migration** by population group, 2021 – 2026



# Migration flows

**GP** is estimated to experience the largest inflow of migrants of approx. **1 416 204** in-migrants for the period, 2021 to 2026

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

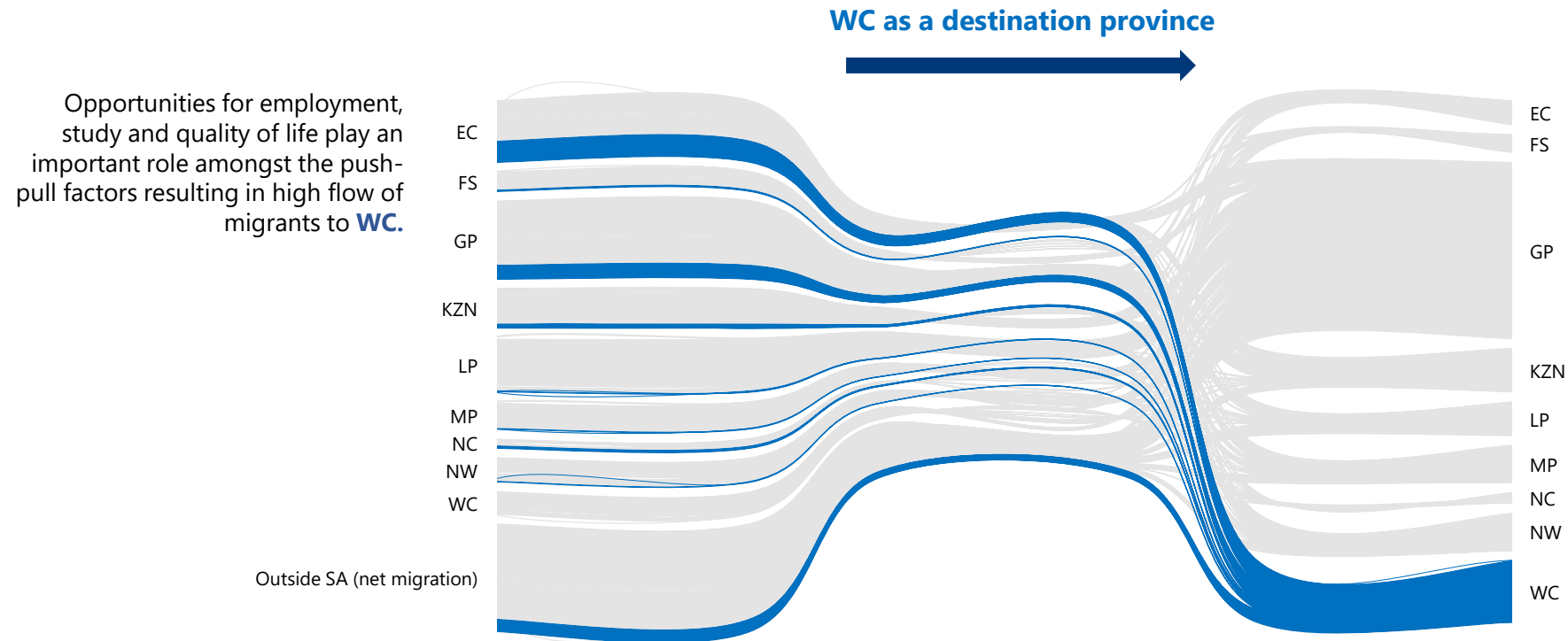




# Migration flows

**WC** is estimated to experience the second highest inflow of migrants for the period, 2021 to 2026 of approx. **500 347**

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





## RECAP, MYPE 2025

For 2025, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) estimates the mid-year population at **63,10 million**

### By Province

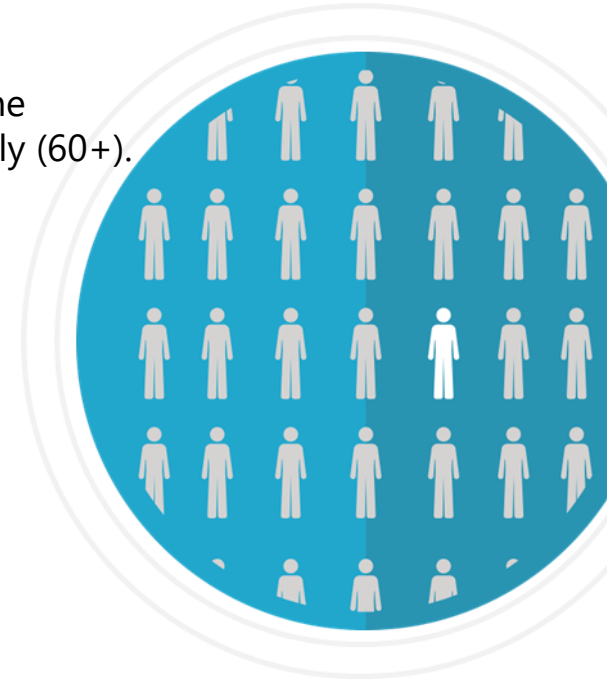
LP has the highest proportion of children under 15 within the province whilst GP has the highest proportion of Youth and Adults (15-59). EC has the highest proportion of elderly (60+).

### Life Expectancy

Life Expectancy has improved to **67** years in 2025.

### People estimated to be living with HIV

There are 8,15 million people living with HIV in 2025.



**MYPE**  
2025

Ndzi hela kwala!



[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