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Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

District Population Estimates - Limpopo Report

MYPE 2025 series

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ASFR	Age-Specific Fertility Rate
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
CBR	Crude birth rate
CDR	Crude death rate
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DHA	Department of Home Affairs
DHIS	District Health Information System
EA	Enumeration Area
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LP	Limpopo
MACOD	Mortality and causes of death
MDB	Municipal Demarcation Board
MYPE	Mid-year population estimates
NDoH	National Department of Health
NPR	National Population Register
SDDS	Special Data Dissemination Standards
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
TFR	Total fertility rate
VRS	Vital Registration System

Definition of Concepts

Crude birth rate (CBR) – The number of live births per 1 000 population in a given year

Crude death rate (CDR) – The number of deaths per 1 000 population in a given year

Dependency ratio – A measure of the number of dependents aged 0–14 and 65 years and older, compared to the total population aged 15–64 years.

Growth rate (GR) – The exponential rate at which the population is increasing or decreasing in a given year due to natural increase and net migration, expressed as a percentage of the base population.

Rate of Natural Increase (RNI) – The rate at which the population is increasing or decreasing in a given year due to the surplus or deficit of births over deaths, expressed as a percentage of the base

Sex ratio – A measure of the number of males per 100 females in a population.

Summary

- The cohort-component methodology is used to estimate the district population.
- The estimates cover all the residents of South Africa at the 2025 mid-year point and are based on the latest available information. Estimates may change as new data becomes available. The updated estimates are accompanied by an entire series of revised estimates for the period 2002–2025. On this basis, comparisons between this model and previous series should not be made.
- For 2025, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) estimates the mid-year population at 6 366 192 people in Limpopo province. The female population accounts for 52,2% (approximately 3,3 million) of the population.
- The most populous district in the province is Vhembe district municipality (accounting for 24,0% of the population), whilst the least populated district is Waterberg district municipality (13,0%).
- The highest crude birth rate (CBR) for the period 2021–2026 can be found in Sekhukhune district municipality with 24,1 births per 1000 persons, whilst the lowest CBR is located in Waterberg district municipality with 20,1 births per 1000 persons.
- The highest crude death rate (CDR) can be found in Waterberg district municipality with 9,8 deaths per 1000 persons, whilst the lowest CDR is located in Vhembe district municipality with 7,6 deaths per 1000 persons for the period 2021–2026.
- The highest proportion of the elderly (65+) can be found in Capricorn district municipality, whilst the highest proportion of school-age persons can be found in both Vhembe and Sekhukhune district municipalities.

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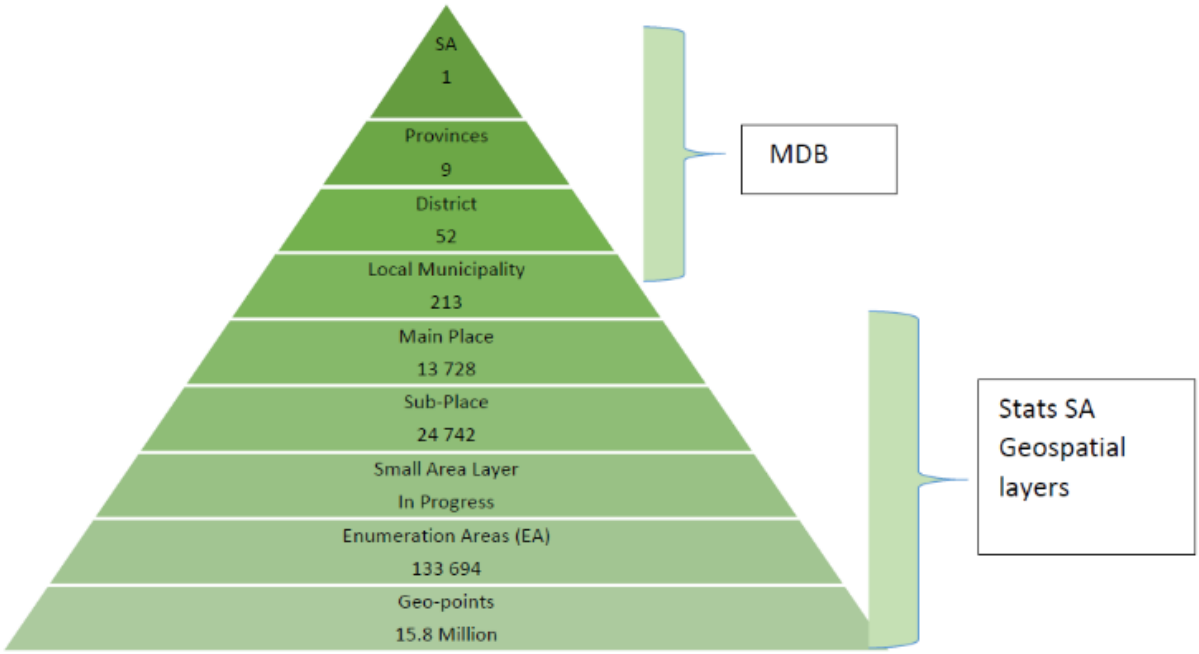
1. Overview

Internationally, the mid-year population estimates (MYPE) are designed to provide population and demographic information between censuses and are done annually to compare population trends over time. Population estimates are typically based on a variety of administrative records, such as births, deaths, school enrolment, housing, etc., to determine population changes since the most recent decennial census (Bryan, 2004). In an effort to plan, budget, and cater for the needs of the population, a spectrum of government agencies, ranging from transport to education and health, require population estimates (Smith and Cody, 2013). International institutions as well as those within the private sector of the country will also require population estimates to monitor, plan, budget and allocate resources (Lomahoza, Brockerhoff and Frye, 2013). Estimates are also used as a uniform denominator for surveys as well as reporting on population-based indicators (Lymer and Brown, 2012).

In planning, it is important to understand the spatial demarcation that exists. South Africa's geographic hierarchy is such that the country is divided into nine provinces (Figure 1). Each province is divided into district municipalities or metropolitan municipalities (52 districts in total). There are currently eight metropolitan municipalities spread out across five of the provinces. Each district in turn is divided into local municipalities. Inclusive of the metro municipalities, there are 213 local municipalities in South Africa. Below local municipality, the geographical hierarchy is broken down into main place, sub-place, wards and a small area layer, respectively. Given the dependency of small area estimates on the demarcation of South Africa, changes in demarcation over time will affect processes in producing not only small area estimates but also estimates at other aggregate levels (Rayer, 2015).

Figure 1 – Stats SA nested geographical hierarchy



Source: Stats SA (2023) How the count was done.

2. Methodology

2.1 District Estimation

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes national, provincial, district and local municipal population estimates annually.

We distinguish between four levels of geography in our projections. These are:

(a) National population estimates and projections by using the cohort-component method, enabled by the SPECTRUM software.

(b) Provincial projection by applying a UN sub-national method of cohort-component projections (United Nations, 1992).

(c) District projection by applying a UN sub-national method of cohort-component projections (United Nations, 1992).

(d) Local Municipal Population projection by applying a geographical ratio method.

The detailed methodology at national and provincial levels can be found in the MYPE report published by Stats SA (https://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=P0302). Stats SA develops district estimates and projections that are updated annually. It is therefore important to note that population and other demographic data in each release form a new set of time series. **Users should therefore compare the time series data in each statistical release and not data across statistical releases. This publication refers to the MYPE 2025 series.**

When developing the district population estimates and projections, Stats SA uses a cohort-component method. In the projection with base-year 2001 (census based on 2021 boundaries), fertility, mortality and both internal as well as international migration for the projection period are required. The base from which a population projection is done is very important, as it has a big effect on the outcome of a projection. Census information regarding the population structure over time was used as an input in determining the base.

Census generally provides fairly accurate data at fine geographical detail; however, it is rather costly and not frequently updated (conducted decennially in SA). Statistics South Africa conducts a Community Survey in order to supply information at lower levels of geography between censuses, the latest being the CS 2016. However, the Community Survey 2016 is also a sample survey that was weighted and thereafter calibrated using the mid-year population estimates (2015 series), and thus, we are unable to use the survey as an independent point. Many countries, including South Africa, are opting for the utilisation of estimation techniques using various data sources to produce estimates at lower levels over a series of time (Smith and Morrison, 2005). The projections are unique for each year due to the assumptions made and the data inputs thereof, i.e. fertility, mortality and migration patterns.

2.2 District Municipality Estimation

For district projections, data on fertility, mortality and migration are prepared over 5-year periods, i.e. 2001–2006, 2006–2011, 2011–2016, 2016–2021, 2021–2026, etc. A cohort-component method is used to develop the projection for each 5-year period. There are several principles that must be considered when implementing the cohort component method. To preserve the integrity of the age cohorts as they progress through time, it is helpful to follow basic principles: i.e. the number of years in the projection should be equal to the number of years in the age groups. Also, projections by sex are essential in that the projection for females in determining the projection of births is done separately.

2.3 Age-sex Structures of the Base Population

The base age/sex structures of the district municipalities were determined through an iterative process, using the following datasets:

- The projected 2001 provincial populations by sex and five-year age groups (2021 boundaries),
- The district municipalities and metro populations for Census 2001 by age and sex (2021 boundaries).

The 2025 MYPE series incorporates the 2022 Census district and metro populations' age and sex structure, bearing in mind also the administrative data available.

2.4 Migration Trends Between District Municipalities

When projections for all the regions of a country are desired, and the appropriate data are available, a multi-regional approach should be considered, as this is the only way to guarantee that the total migration flows between regions will sum to zero, or to the assumed level of international migration (United Nations, 1992).

Developed by Willekens and Rogers (1978), multi-regional methods require the estimation of separate age and sex specific migration rates between every region of the country and every other region, and such detailed data are rarely available. For example, in South Africa, 2448 (9x8x17x2) migration streams are derived if the multi-regional model is applied in calculating migration streams by age group (17 in total) and sex for each province. This becomes even higher (90 168) and more complex at a district level where there are 52 districts and metropolitan municipalities.

The census is the primary source of collecting migration stream data. Migration rates from Censuses 2011 and 2022 are applied to the different projection periods with modifications where inconsistencies are found. While initiatives by the Department of Home Affairs are underway to improve the availability of information on movement across borders, census data will continue to remain the primary source of international and internal migration data in the country. Due to the wide-ranging number of streams for each district, migration patterns at district level are not discussed in this report. Narratives on the provincial migration streams can be found in the MYPE 2025 series report (https://www.statssa.gov.za). Migration at district is based on census data and updated using the residual method based on current data on age/ sex structure to determine migration estimates.

2.5 Fertility Estimation of District Municipalities

The following steps were used to obtain a set of age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) for each district municipality and each metro to be used in these cohort-component projections:

(a) Analyses of the recorded live births datasets (1998 to 2023) were done to adjust for late registration and completeness. The number of births for women in the age groups 15 to 49 was obtained. This was done for each district municipality and metro (Stats SA, 2024).

(b) The total number of births generated from the district municipalities was then compared with the total number of births in each respective province. Proportional adjustments were made if necessary, and TFRs were calculated by applying the births to the specific district municipality or metro population's 15–49 female population.

(c) Using these adjusted TFRs and ASFRs as well as survival ratios, the number of births and the 0–4 projected population were obtained. The projected 0–4 year and 5–9 year populations were checked for consistency. Provision was made to adjust the TFR if inconsistencies were found.

(d) The process above was repeated if inconsistencies were found in (c).

2.6 Mortality Estimation of District Councils and Metros

The following steps were used to obtain a set of survival ratios for each district municipality and metro, and were used in the cohort-component projections:

(a) Only data up to 2021 (1997–2021) were available at this level to do analyses of the Mortality and Causes of Death (MACOD) datasets to adjust for late registration and completeness (Stats SA, 2025).

(b) The numbers of male and female deaths calculated for each district municipality were then compared with the total number of male and female deaths in each respective province. Proportional adjustments were made if necessary.

(c) Age-specific mortality rates (m(x)) were then calculated.

(d) Using the m(x) rates, separate Life Tables for males and females and for each district municipality were calculated.

(e) Life expectancies at birth, as well as survival ratios by age, can be read from the obtained life tables.

2.7 Data Confrontation at the District Level

The age-sex pattern of mortality is informed by the MACOD data from the Vital Registration System (VRS), District Health Information System (DHIS), as well as that of censuses. The number of registered deaths processed by Stats SA and those recorded on the National Population Register (NPR) is maintained by the DHA for the period 1997–2021 (Stats SA, 2025). In general, estimated deaths reported in the MYPE are always expected to be higher than those in the VRS, as MYPE reports on all deaths occurring and not just those registered. Deaths data from the DHA are collected regardless of citizenship status and birth registration, while the NPR maintained by DHA only includes deaths of South African citizens and permanent residents whose particulars were already on the NPR. Other sources of data used to determine the plausibility of the MYPE age and sex structure include the Independent Electoral Commission Data (IEC) and Department of Basic Education data (DBE).

In October 2010, Stats SA for the first time made available estimates on the District Council level on its website. This was seen as a Beta version and has since been published annually for over a decade. Stats SA has engaged with stakeholders on these projections. The data will be updated when necessary and on the basis of empirical data.

3. Provincial Demographics

This section of the report looks at MYPE indicators for the year 2025 within Limpopo (LP) districts/metropolitan municipalities. According to the MYPE 2025 series, LP is the fifth most populous province in the country with an estimated population of 6 366 192 persons, with five districts. LP is the northernmost province of South Africa and constitutes 125 754 km². This province shares international borders with three countries (Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique). The neighbouring provinces include North West, Gauteng and Mpumalanga. The capital of Limpopo is Polokwane, which is the province's largest city, found in Capricorn District municipality.

3.1. Population in the Limpopo District Municipalities

Figure 2 below depicts the distribution of the population in LP by district municipalities. The 2025 population distribution across Limpopo's district municipalities shows that four districts—Vhembe, Capricorn, Greater Sekhukhune, and Mopani—share relatively similar portions of the population, ranging from about 19,0% to 24,0%. Vhembe District has the largest share at 24,0%, followed closely by Capricorn District with 22,2%, reflecting their dense settlements and administrative significance. Greater Sekhukhune contributes 20,9%, while Mopani accounts for 19,9%. In contrast, Waterberg District holds a significantly smaller portion of the population, with only 13,0%. This lower figure is consistent with Waterberg's extensive conservation areas, mining zones, and generally low-density settlement patterns. For the total populations for each district, refer to Appendix F.

Figure 2 – Distribution of Population in Limpopo by district municipality, 2025

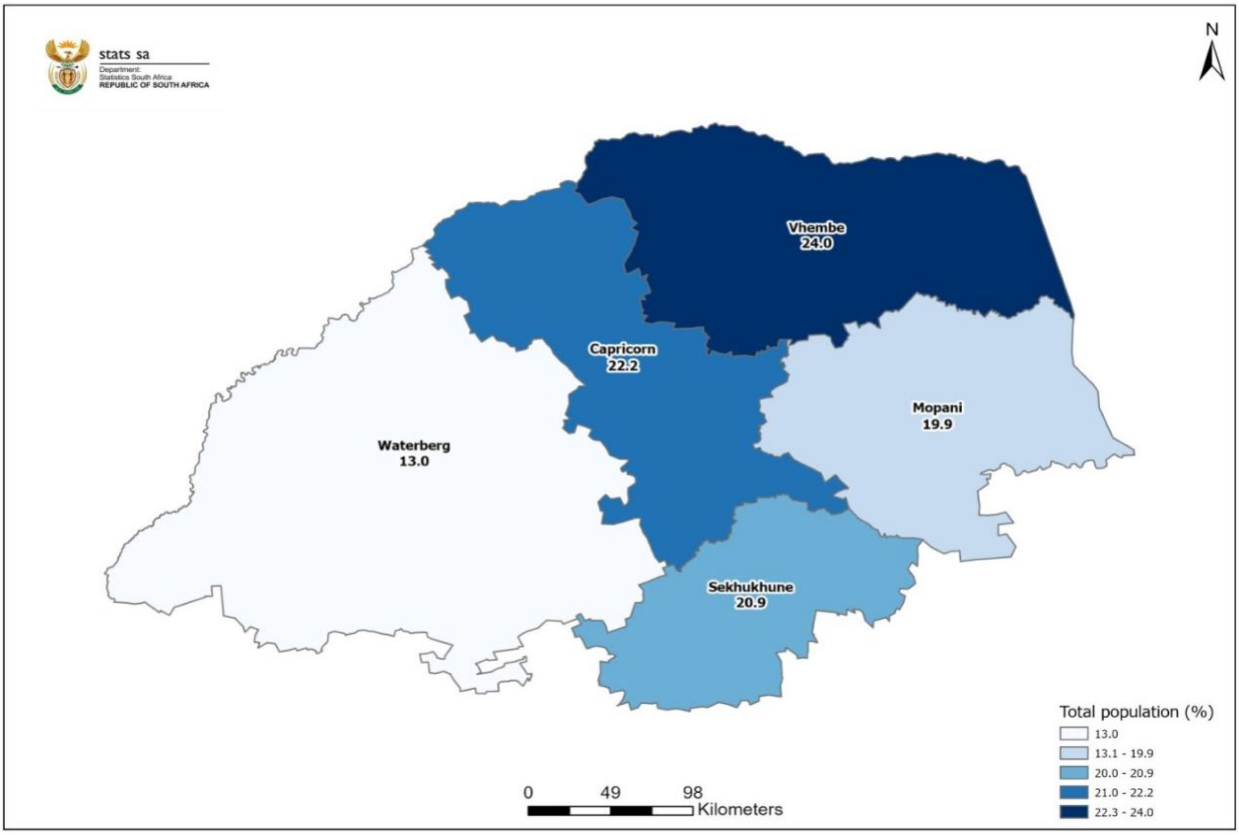


Table 1 presents the population, age structure as well as other indicators. These indicators include the districts' shares to the national and provincial population, as well as sex ratios and annual growth rates of the district municipalities in LP. Four of the districts contribute about 2,0% each to the national share, with the exception of Waterberg, which contributes 1,3%. The sex ratios are indicative of the population structure by sex in a population and are influenced significantly by migration as well as mortality. Limpopo has a sex ratio of 92 males per 100 females. The sex ratios for Vhembe and Mopani districts (89 males per 100 females per district)

are the lowest in the province. Waterberg district municipality has the highest sex ratio, i.e. 104 males per 100 females. The higher proportion of males relative to females in this district may be related to migration patterns prevalent in the district due to platinum and coal mining that attracts male migration, as well as higher male mortality (due to a risky work environment). The higher proportion of adults 15–64 in Waterberg (64,8%), as well as the age/sex profile of the district indicated in the population pyramid (Appendix A), is also reflective of these migratory movements. It is important to note that sex ratios may differ by age (see Appendix B). The percentage of males and females merely reiterates distributions identified by the sex ratios.

Table 1 – District municipality indicators in Limpopo, 2025

District municipality	Population		Age structure			Percentage to LP	Percentage to national	Sex ratio	Annual growth rate % (2024-2025)
	Male %	Female%	0-14	15-64	65+				
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	47,1	52,9	31,6	61,5	6,8	19,9	2,0	89	0,9
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	47,0	53,0	32,7	61,9	5,4	24,0	2,4	89	1,0
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	47,5	52,5	31,0	60,2	8,7	22,2	2,2	90	0,6
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	50,9	49,1	28,9	64,8	6,3	13,0	1,3	104	1,4
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	48,0	52,0	33,3	60,5	6,1	20,9	2,1	92	1,2

The demographic pillars of fertility, mortality and migration cumulatively impact the growth seen at a district level. Growth trends between 2024 and 2025 show moderate increases across districts. Waterberg leads with a growth rate of 1,4%, followed by Greater Sekhukhune at 1,2%. Capricorn shows the slowest growth at only 0,6% annually. In Limpopo, all districts are dominated by the working-age population (15–64), ranging from 60,0% to 65,0%. Waterberg has the highest share of working-age individuals at 64,8%, which may reflect an environment attractive to the economically active. Vhembe, on the other hand, has the youngest population, with 32,7% aged 0–14 and the lowest proportion of elderly at 5,4%. Mopani has the highest share of people aged 65 and older (6,8%), suggesting a slightly older population profile. Overall, the data highlights Vhembe's demographic weight, Waterberg's strong growth and male-dominant profile, and Mopani's relatively older population structure, painting a clear picture of demographic diversity within Limpopo's districts.

3.2. District Population Over Time

Figure 3 shows the percentage distribution of the working-age population (15–64 years) within each district municipality, while Table 2 presents the same distribution for the five districts in Limpopo, disaggregated by sex (male and female).

The working-age population (15–64 years) is consistently high across all districts in the Limpopo, with only slight variations between district municipalities and between males and females. Waterberg shows the highest share at 64,8% while Capricorn and Greater Sekhukhune have the lowest proportions at around 60,0%. Within these district municipalities, the distribution between males and females also differs, as Waterberg displays the widest gender gap with 67,1% of males compared to 62,4% of females in this age group. In contrast, districts like Mopani and Vhembe show minimal variation between sexes, both recording almost equal male and female working-age proportions. Vhembe and Mopani reflect the most balanced gender structures, with male and female working-age proportions differing by less than one percentage point, highlighting much smaller internal gender disparities compared to the more pronounced male dominance observed in Waterberg.

Figure 3 – Percentage distribution of Working-age population (15–64) within each district municipality, 2025

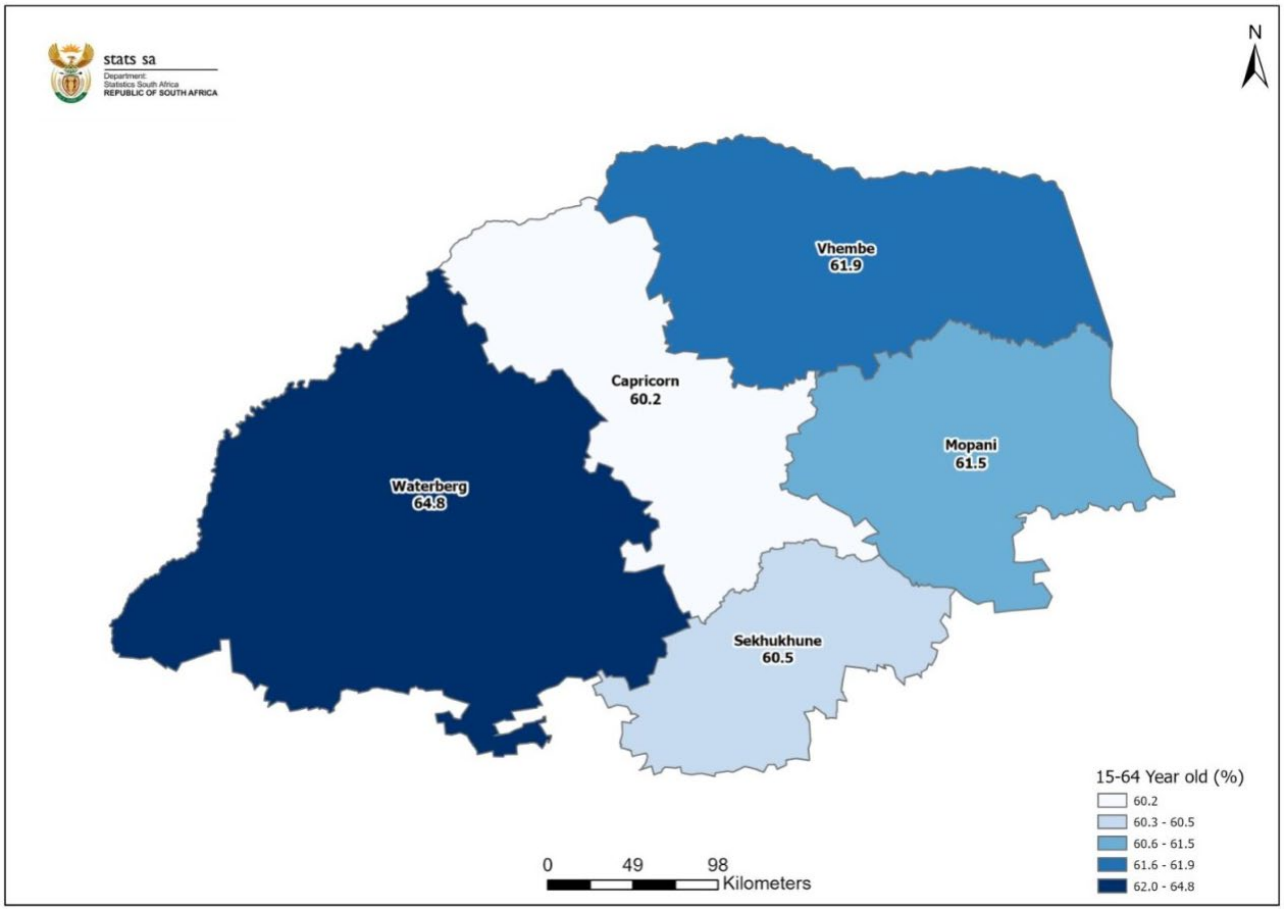


Table 1 – Percentage distribution of working-age population (15–64) within each district municipality, 2025

District Municipality	Male (%)	Female (%)
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	61,6	61,4
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	62,1	61,7
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	60,7	59,8
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	67,1	62,4
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	61,4	59,8

Figure 4 – Total dependency ratio by district municipality, 2025

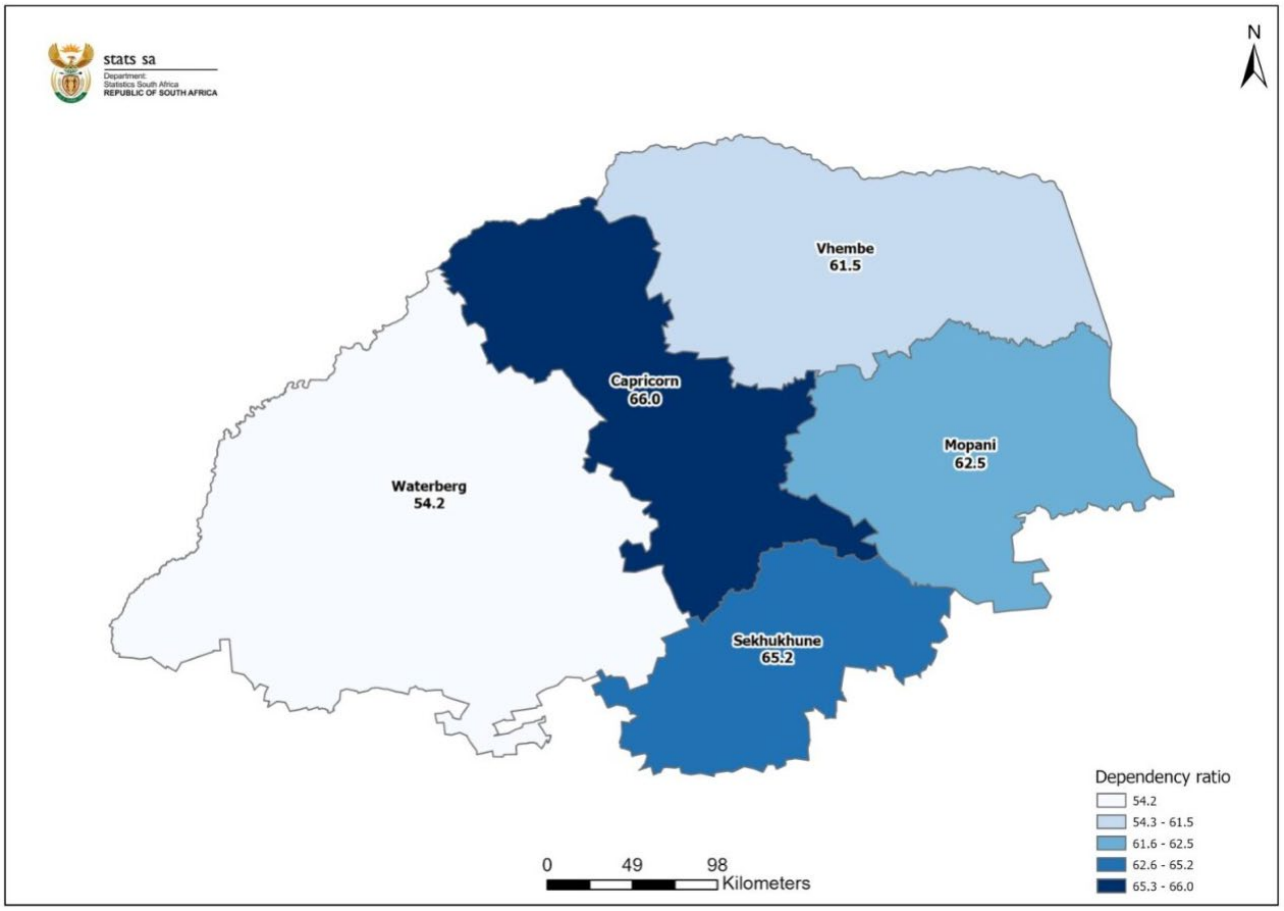


Figure 4 shows the total dependency ratio by district municipality. The total dependency ratio is the proportion of children and the elderly relative to working-age persons. It should be noted that there are elderly persons who are engaged in work beyond the age of 64; similarly, a significant proportion of those in the working age of 15–64 are, in fact, unemployed and dependent on those who are working. The dependency ratio is a crude reflection of the burden defined by age. A moderate dependency ratio is generally between 50% and 65%, which is common in many developed countries and signifies a balance between the number of working-age people and the number of dependents (under 15 and over 64). The dependency ratios across the Limpopo district municipalities reflect a moderate demographic burden on the working-age population (on average, 63 elderly and children per 100 working-age persons).

The dependency ratio is lowest in Waterberg district (54,2 elderly and children per 100 working age adults 15–64 years), followed by Mopani district (65,4 elderly and children per 100 working age adults 15–64 years) and Vhembe district (66,0 elderly and children per 100 working age adults 15–64 years). Capricorn district municipality has the highest dependency ratio in LP, with 71,8 elderly and children per 100 working-age persons.

Figure 5 – Percentage distribution of school-age population (4–17 years) within each district municipality, 2025

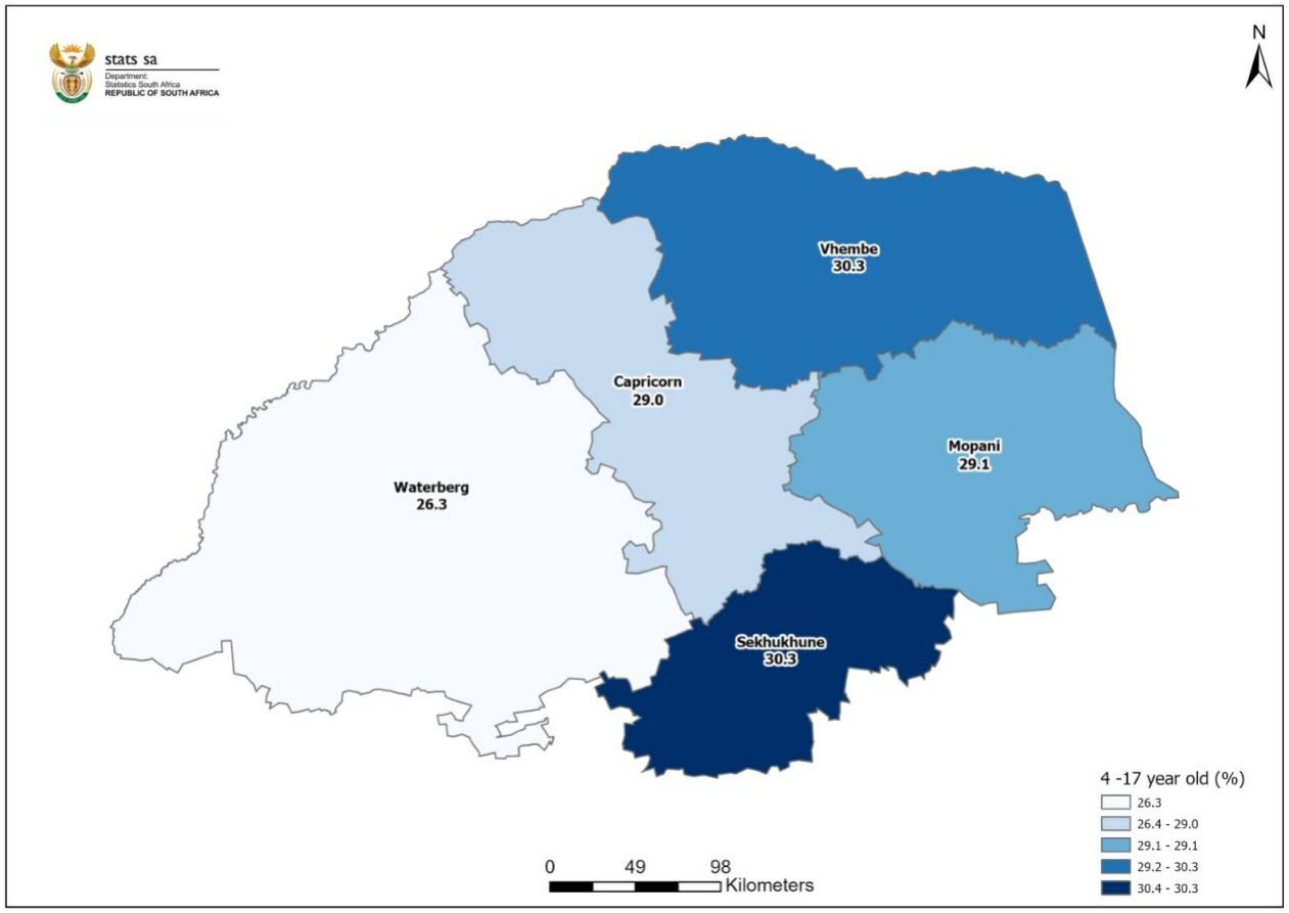


Figure 5 depicts the percentage of the school-age population by district in LP for the year 2025. The proportions are fairly high, ranging from 26,3% to just over 30,0% across the five districts, indicating a youthful population structure across the province. Vhembe and Greater Sekhukhune have the highest shares at 30,3%, suggesting relatively larger cohorts of children who will require substantial schooling resources and educational infrastructure. Mopani (29,1%) and Capricorn (29,0%) follow closely, still reflecting strong demand for basic education services. Waterberg has the lowest school-age proportion at 26,3%, which may indicate a slightly older population profile compared to the other districts. Despite this variation, all districts show a significant youth presence, reinforcing the need for continued investment in education, early childhood development, and youth-focused services across Limpopo. Over the years, the school-age populations across all districts have remained fairly constant (Appendix C).

Figure 6 – Percentage distribution of voting age population (18 years and older) within each district municipality, 2025

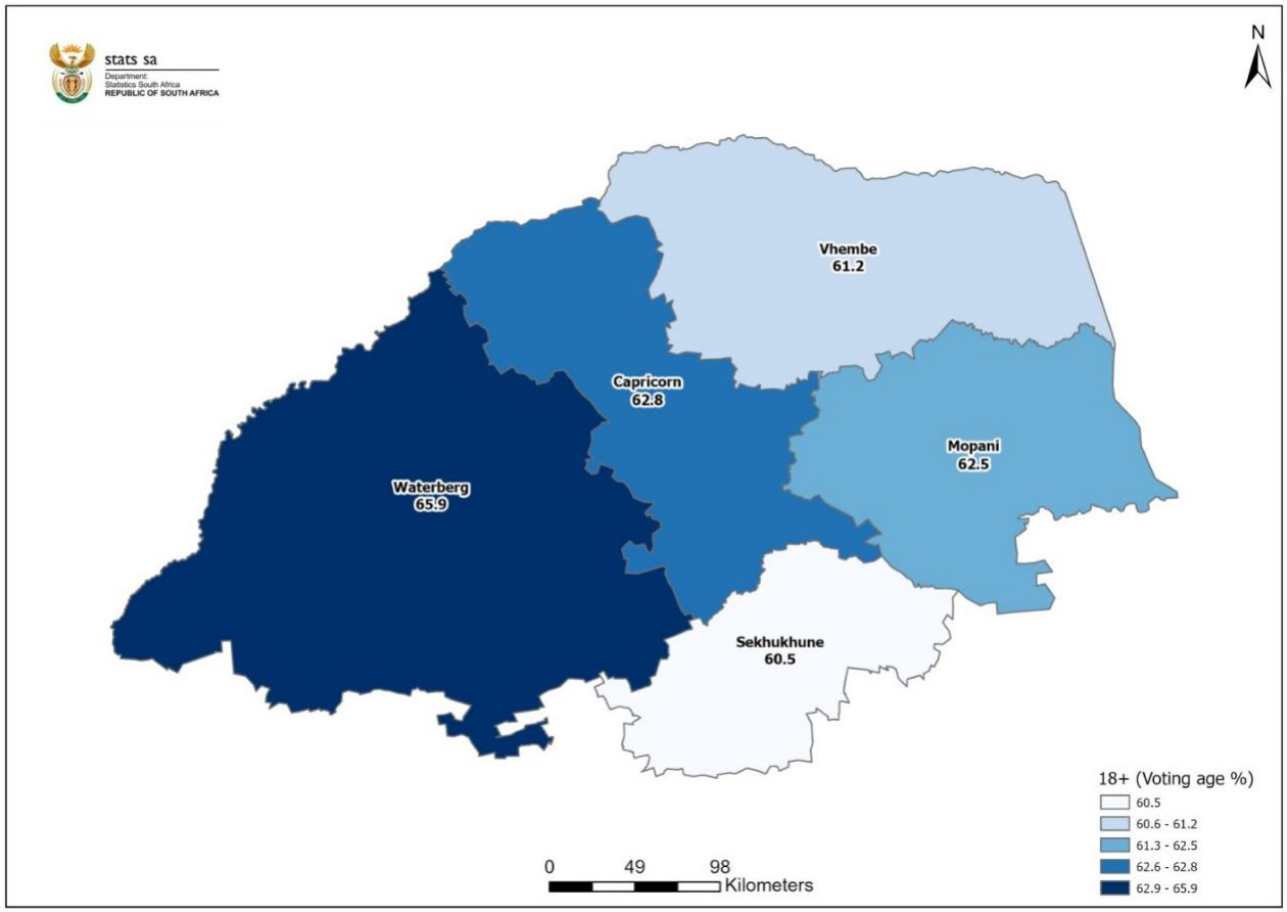


Figure 6 shows the percentage of voting-age population per district in the province. According to the MYPE, the proportion of residents aged 18 and older is relatively high across all LP district municipalities. Waterberg has the highest share at 65,9%, suggesting an older population profile relative to the rest of the province. Vhembe (61,2%) and Greater Sekhukhune (60,5%) have the lowest shares, reflecting comparatively larger youth populations in those districts. Data over time (2011–2025) indicates that while some districts have seen a constant voting-age population over the past decade, a few have seen a marginal increase (see Appendix C). Note, the voting age population and school-going age merely refer to persons who qualify to attend school or vote due to age (regardless of citizenship or school attendance). Overall, LP shows a consistently high representation of persons age 18 and over within its population, which has implications for electoral participation, service planning, and economic activity across the province.

3.3. Population Pyramids

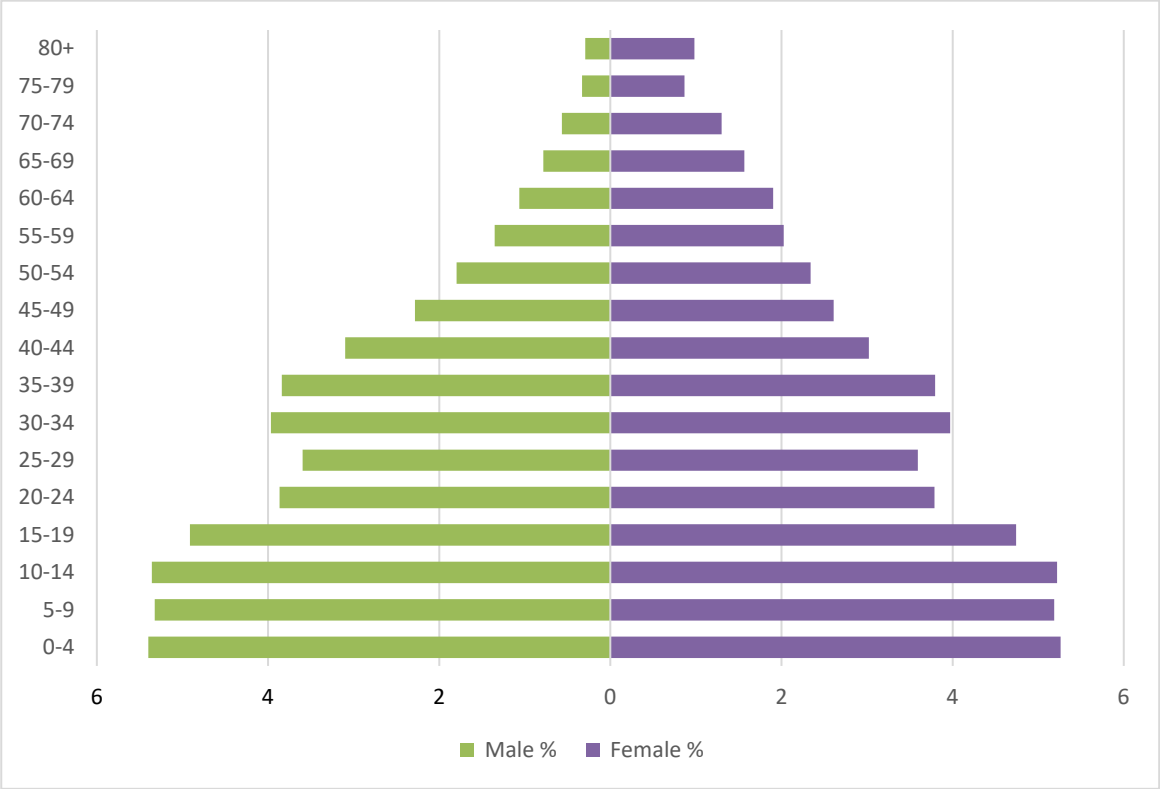
The age and sex structure of the population defines the ultimate shape of the population pyramid. As a result, this shape communicates information about that specific population, not only currently, but is also reflective of past trends in fertility, mortality and migration. For example, adults now aged 40–45 were 25–29 during the peak of the AIDS deaths occurring in 2006. The current size and composition of the population will reflect that experience. A broad-based pyramid indicates that young people make up a large proportion of the population while a narrow top indicates that older people make up a relatively small proportion of the population. The pyramid may also tell us if at older ages, women are more in the population. A bulge or indentation in the pyramid may also indicate changes in the population as a result of fertility, mortality and/or changes resulting from migration (Siegel & Swanson, 2004).

The population pyramid (as seen in Figure 7) graphically illustrates the age structure of the Limpopo province. The base of the pyramid shows that a third of the province's population is between 0 and 14 years, also reflecting that births have been constant over the last 15 years. The indentation in the 20–29 age group indicates negative net-migration, which results from more young people seeking employment, study and better economic opportunities in other provinces than those coming in. The pyramid narrows towards the top,

indicating a decline in population, indicative of the increase in deaths with age, highest amongst older people, particularly men.

The disproportionality of females over males is quite evident from the age of 40 years and above. This may indicate a combination of out-migration of males as well as mortality. The population of the elderly (60+) is 9,7% for this province. This indicates population ageing within the province, especially for Capricorn (11,9%) and Mopani (10,1%) districts, which have the highest proportions of elderly persons aged 60 years and above. Consequently, a higher proportion of females are found at the very old ages of the population pyramid compared to males. The higher 80+ female population may be as a result of higher male mortality resulting in lower survival of males in those older ages. The population pyramids for all the districts show a similar age structure (see Appendix A).

Figure 7 – Population pyramid for Limpopo province, 2025



3.4. Fertility and Mortality

Crude birth and death rates are basic measures of fertility and mortality, respectively. Both of these measures are referred to as crude, as they do not reflect the nuances of the fertility and mortality by sex and age, but rather as measures reflective of an entire population. These indicators can loosely be defined as total births/deaths per 1000 population. These measures provide trends in mortality and fertility over time. The district estimates are based on a 5-year cohort-component method, and as such, input data is required in 5-year periods.

Figure 8 – Crude birth rate (CBR), 2021–2026 period

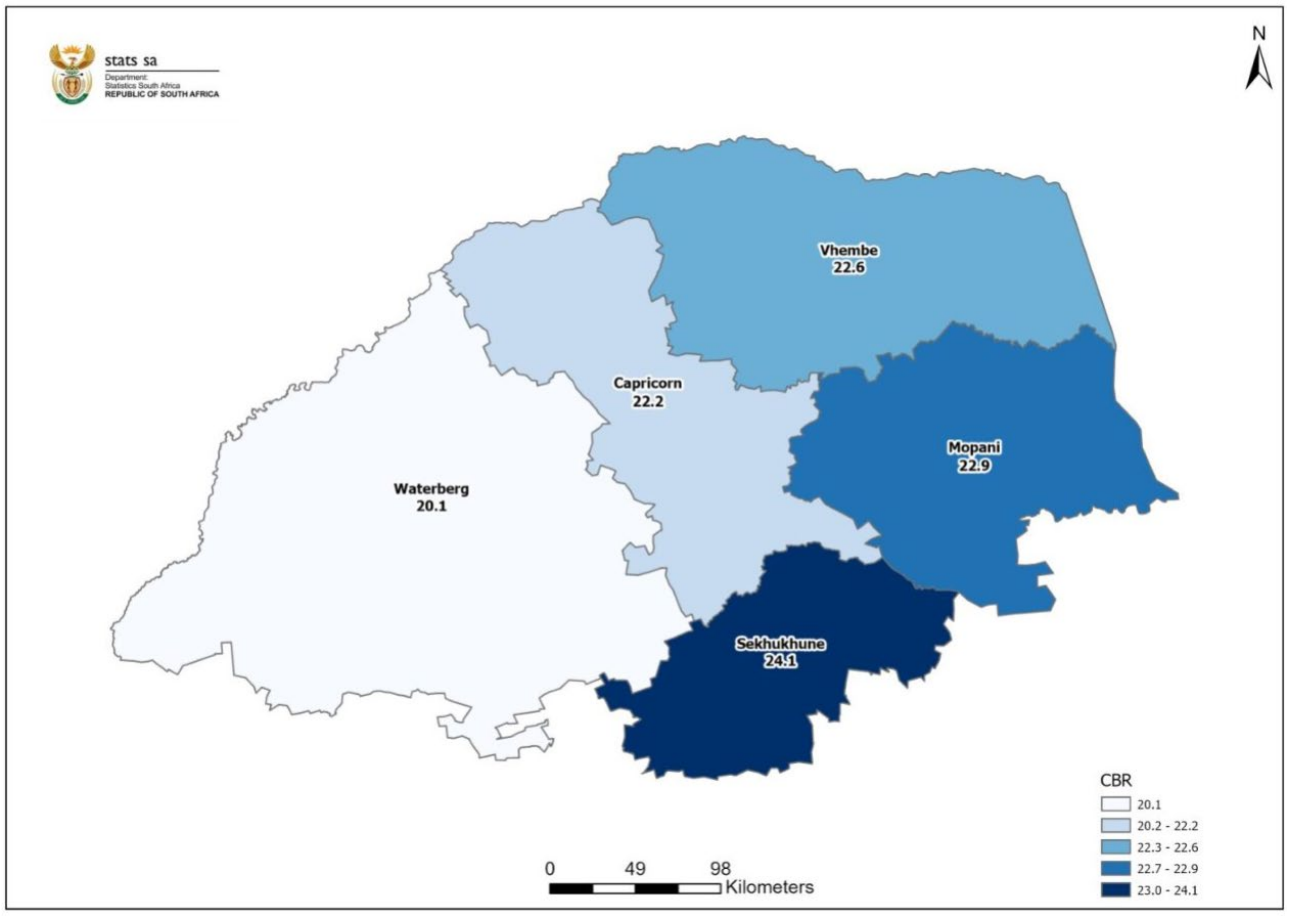


Figure 8 above shows the crude birth rate (CBR) by district municipalities in LP for the period 2021–2026. The CBR across the Limpopo district municipalities for the 2021–2026 period shows moderate variation, with values ranging from 20,1 to 24,1 births per 1 000 people. In general, the province reflects relatively high birth rates, suggesting steady natural population growth. Most districts cluster closely together, indicating broadly similar fertility patterns influenced by shared socioeconomic and cultural characteristics typical of the province.

Greater Sekhukhune has the highest CBR at 24,1, pointing to the strongest population growth momentum amongst the districts. This could be associated with higher fertility norms, a younger population structure, or varying access to family planning services. Following closely are Mopani (22,9), Vhembe (22,6), and Capricorn (22,2), all showing comparable birth rates that differ only slightly from one another.

Figure 9 – Crude death rate (CDR), 2021–2026 period

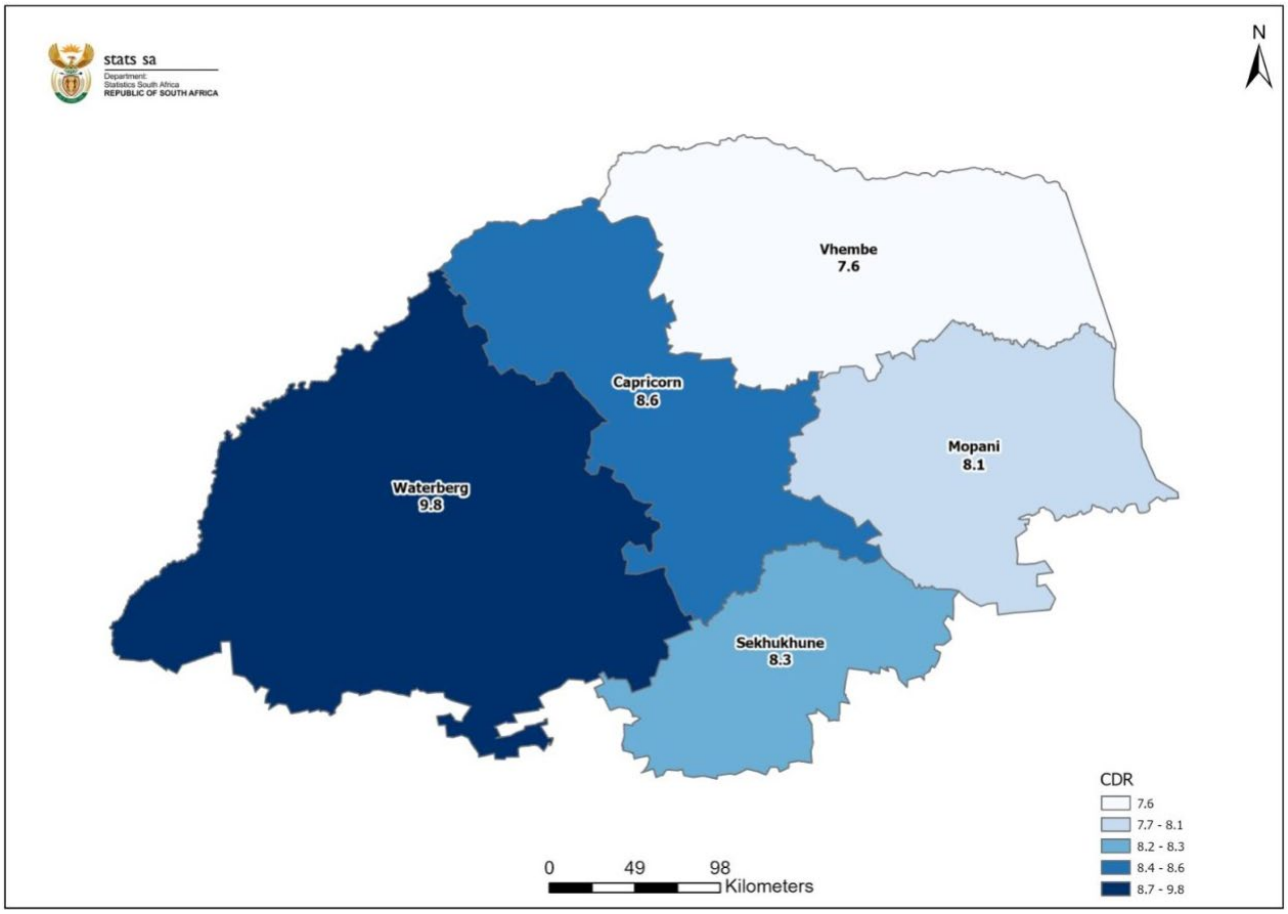


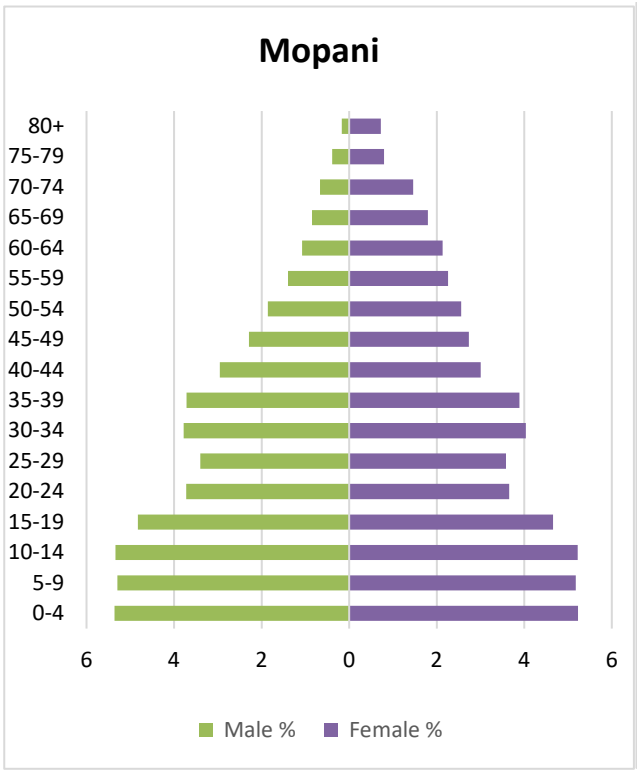
Figure 9 above displays CDR for districts in Limpopo for the period 2021–2026. The CDR across Limpopo's district municipalities for 2021–2026 ranges from 7,6 to 9,8 deaths per 1 000 people. Vhembe has the lowest CDR at 7,6, suggesting relatively favourable mortality conditions or a younger population. Mopani and Greater Sekhukhune, both at 8,1, fall in the middle range, while Capricorn is slightly higher at 8,6. These districts show broadly similar mortality patterns, likely shaped by comparable demographic profiles and access to health services.

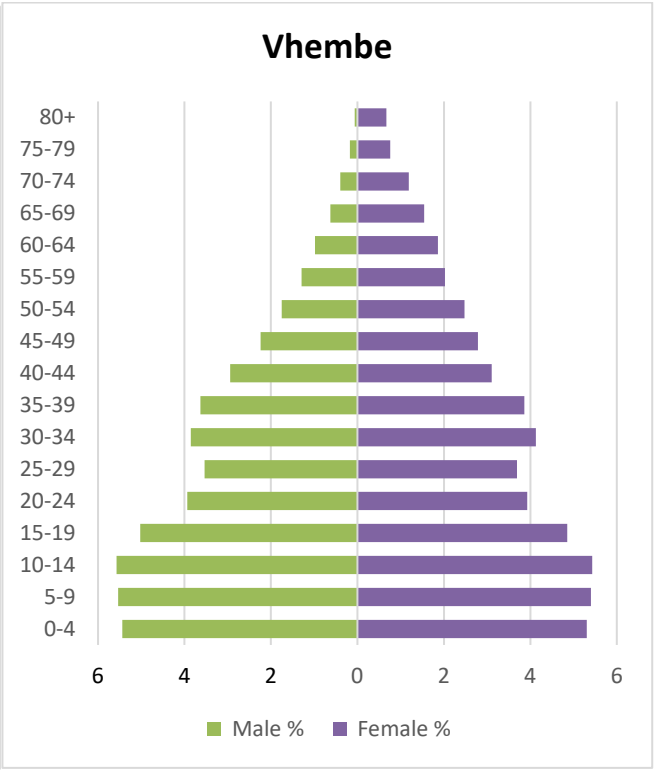
Waterberg stands out with the highest CDR at 9,8, reflecting comparatively poorer mortality outcomes, or differences in health and socioeconomic conditions. The spread between the highest and lowest CDR values highlights meaningful disparities within the province.

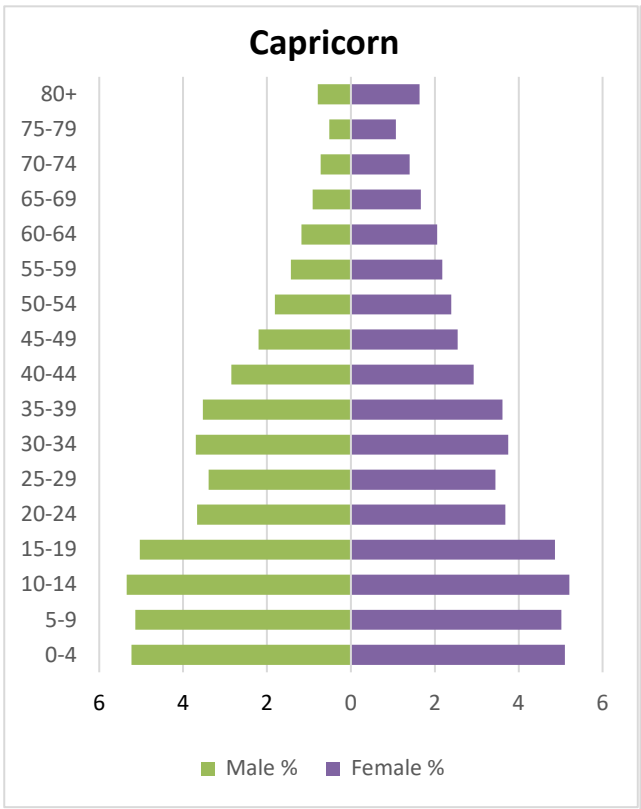
According to Appendix D, which indicates the CRB and CDR over time 2011–2026, in general, CDR has remained relatively constant across the districts between 2011 and 2026. Much of the health gains in SA were made following the access and utilisation of the HIV and AIDS treatment program since 2005. By 2011, access to antiretroviral treatment (ART) was universal in SA. In contrast, the height of the COVID-19 pandemic (pre-vaccine) between March 2020 and July 2021 resulted in a significant number of deaths in SA. This has seen some districts having CDR levels marginally higher in the period 2016-2021. CBR, on the other hand, has shown to have declined over time between 2011 and 2026.

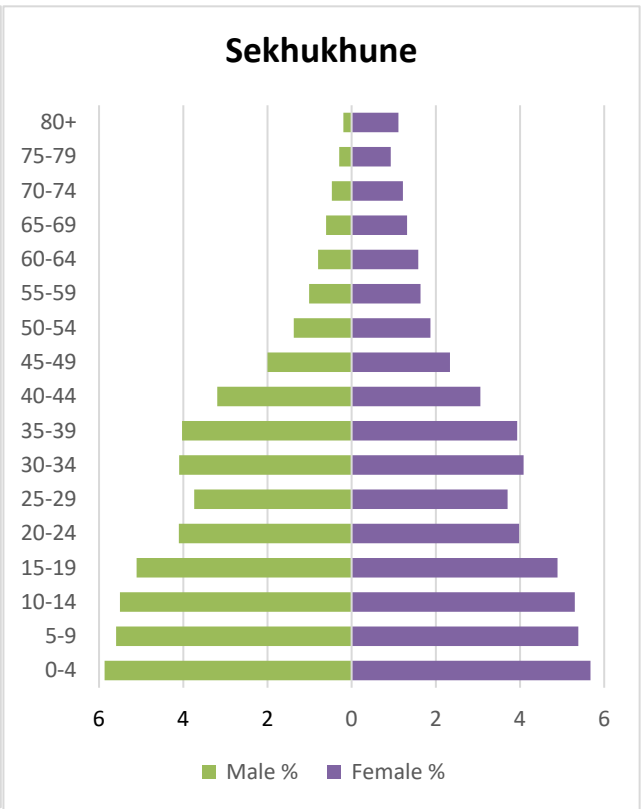
Appendices

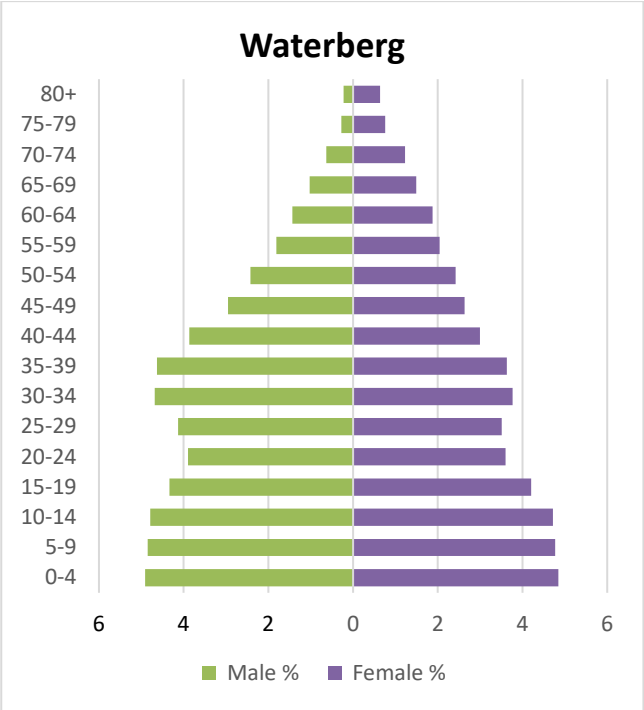
Appendix A – Population pyramids per district municipality, 2025











Appendix B – Sex ratios by age groups and district municipality, 2025

	LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)
0-4	103	103	103	101	103
5-9	102	102	102	102	104
10-14	102	103	103	102	104
15-19	104	104	103	103	104
20-24	102	100	100	108	103
25-29	95	96	98	118	101
30-34	94	93	99	124	100
35-39	95	94	98	128	102
40-44	98	95	97	129	104
45-49	84	80	87	112	86
50-54	73	71	76	100	73
55-59	62	64	66	89	61
60-64	51	53	57	76	50
65-69	47	41	55	69	46
70-74	45	33	51	52	38
70-79	48	23	48	37	32
80+	23	10	48	35	18

Appendix C – Population by selected age groups and indicators per district municipality over time in Limpopo, 2012–2025

District municipality	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Old Age Dependency Ratio														
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	8,1	8,3	8,4	8,6	8,8	9,0	9,3	9,6	9,9	10,1	10,3	10,6	10,8	11,1
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	8,1	8,0	8,0	8,0	8,0	8,0	8,1	8,2	8,2	8,3	8,3	8,5	8,6	8,8
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	12,0	12,2	12,3	12,5	12,7	12,9	13,2	13,4	13,6	13,8	13,9	14,1	14,3	14,5
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	8,7	8,7	8,7	8,7	8,7	8,8	8,9	9,1	9,2	9,2	9,3	9,4	9,5	9,7
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	10,5	10,5	10,6	10,7	10,7	10,7	10,8	10,8	10,8	10,7	10,5	10,4	10,2	10,1
School-going age 4-17														
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	30,1	29,6	29,2	29,0	29,0	28,9	28,9	29,0	29,1	29,3	29,2	29,2	29,1	29,1
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	31,9	31,4	30,9	30,6	30,6	30,4	30,4	30,5	30,6	30,7	30,5	30,4	30,4	30,3
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	30,9	30,5	30,1	30,0	30,1	29,8	29,7	29,7	29,7	29,8	29,5	29,3	29,1	29,0
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	28,0	27,6	27,2	26,9	26,8	26,7	26,6	26,7	26,7	26,8	26,7	26,6	26,5	26,3
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	32,3	31,8	31,4	31,1	31,1	30,9	30,9	30,9	30,8	30,8	30,6	30,5	30,4	30,3
Voting age population (18+)														
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	60,6	61,1	61,4	61,5	61,6	61,8	62,0	62,0	61,9	61,7	61,9	62,1	62,3	62,5
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	58,4	59,0	59,3	59,5	59,6	59,8	60,0	60,0	60,0	59,9	60,3	60,6	60,9	61,2
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	59,5	60,1	60,4	60,7	60,9	61,3	61,6	61,7	61,7	61,6	61,9	62,2	62,5	62,8
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	63,3	63,7	64,0	64,2	64,4	64,6	64,8	64,9	64,9	64,8	65,0	65,3	65,6	65,9
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	57,9	58,4	58,8	58,9	59,1	59,4	59,6	59,6	59,6	59,5	59,7	60,0	60,3	60,5

Appendix D – Crude Birth Rate and Crude Death Rate by district municipalities in LP, 2011–2026

District Municipality	CBR			CDR		
	2011-2016	2016-2021	2021-2026	2011-2016	2016-2021	2021-2026
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	26,0	24,5	22,9	8,8	9,1	8,1
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	26,8	25,1	22,6	8,5	8,5	7,6
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	24,9	23,2	22,2	9,0	9,1	8,6
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	23,9	22,2	20,1	11,4	11,3	9,8
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	25,8	25,0	24,1	8,2	8,4	8,3

Appendix E – Population estimates by district, 2002–2025

	LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)		LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)		LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)		LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)		LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2002	480 273	582 640	545 445	677 834	581 807	679 051	307 715	327 962	459 748	562 415
2003	481 697	581 655	548 202	678 088	581 361	679 371	310 000	329 150	464 089	564 306
2004	484 079	581 224	552 478	679 723	581 984	680 468	312 832	330 666	469 717	567 159
2005	487 328	581 161	558 211	682 628	583 656	682 173	316 173	332 458	476 634	570 812
2006	490 737	581 041	564 465	686 379	585 598	684 026	319 689	334 343	484 048	574 811
2007	495 507	583 137	571 694	691 180	589 097	685 008	324 351	335 853	492 022	580 328
2008	500 383	585 963	579 008	696 175	592 994	686 649	329 146	337 741	500 031	586 023
2009	504 889	588 969	585 796	700 713	596 670	688 321	333 813	339 708	507 601	591 409
2010	509 042	591 972	592 101	704 620	600 066	689 852	338 360	341 659	514 790	596 416
2011	513 253	595 555	598 447	708 613	603 621	691 951	343 019	343 954	522 086	601 697
2012	518 985	601 087	606 930	714 886	609 320	696 216	348 868	348 017	529 706	607 535
2013	525 139	606 845	616 170	722 047	615 043	700 491	354 970	352 354	537 876	613 849
2014	532 208	613 264	626 729	730 639	621 367	705 299	361 631	357 211	547 069	621 122
2015	539 128	619 244	637 262	739 313	627 148	709 485	368 171	361 925	556 170	628 241
2016	545 493	624 414	647 196	747 571	632 007	712 716	374 324	366 256	564 700	634 815
2017	551 848	630 281	656 347	755 666	636 545	716 720	379 987	370 683	573 401	641 733
2018	558 396	636 311	665 670	763 903	641 611	721 090	385 718	375 168	582 612	649 068
2019	564 905	642 452	674 896	772 198	646 924	725 724	391 392	379 676	592 062	656 694
2020	570 592	647 720	683 153	779 460	651 424	729 293	396 457	383 608	600 844	663 512
2021	573 922	650 640	688 746	783 920	653 478	730 320	399 762	386 115	607 493	668 102
2022	578 858	654 644	694 999	789 541	657 111	732 387	404 108	390 270	614 285	673 541
2023	584 398	659 543	702 025	795 985	661 297	735 401	409 099	395 084	622 064	679 881
2024	590 319	664 835	709 613	802 713	665 799	738 754	414 567	400 275	630 611	686 660
2025	596 448	670 385	717 539	809 558	670 415	742 242	420 396	405 777	639 705	693 727

Appendix F – District municipality population in Limpopo, 2025

District municipality	Population					Age structure			Age structure %		
	Total	Male	Female	Male %	Female%	0-14	15-64	65+	0-14	15-64	65+
LIM - Mopani District Municipality (DC33)	1 266 834	596 448	670 385	47,1	52,9	400 562	779 542	86 730	31,6	61,5	6,8
LIM - Vhembe District Municipality (DC34)	1 527 097	717 539	809 558	47,0	53,0	498 998	945 348	82 752	32,7	61,9	5,4
LIM - Capricorn District Municipality (DC35)	1 412 657	670 415	742 242	47,5	52,5	438 555	851 075	123 027	31,0	60,2	8,7
LIM - Waterberg District Municipality (DC36)	826 172	420 396	405 777	50,9	49,1	238 661	535 621	51 891	28,9	64,8	6,3
LIM - Sekhukhune District Municipality (DC47)	1 333 432	639 705	693 727	48,0	52,0	444 446	807 142	81 843	33,3	60,5	6,1

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