



stats sa

Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

P0305

Recorded live births

2019

Embargoed until:

19 October 2020

11:00

ENQUIRIES:

User Information Services

Tel.: 012 310 8600

FORTHCOMING ISSUE:

2020

EXPECTED RELEASE DATE:

30 September 2021

www.statssa.gov.za

info@statssa.gov.za

T +27 12 310 8911

F +27 12 310 8500

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa

ISibalo House, 1 Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002

Preface

This statistical release presents information on South Africa's recorded live birth occurrences and registrations for 2019. It also provides information on live birth occurrences and registrations from 1997 to 2018 to show trends and patterns in recorded live births. The release is based on live births from the national birth registration system at the Department of Home Affairs.

Mr Risenga Maluleke

Statistician-General

Table of contents

Preface	ii
List of figures	v
List of tables	v
1. Introduction	1
2. Data and methods	3
2.1 Data source	3
2.2 Assessment of the quality of data	4
2.2.1 Completeness of birth registration	4
2.2.2 Timeliness of birth registration	4
2.2.3 Year-on-year changes in birth registration	6
2.3 Data analysis	6
3. Birth registrations	7
3.1 Trends in birth registration	7
3.2 Birth registrations by selected variables	10
3.2.1 Age of the mother	10
3.2.2 Province of birth registration	11
3.2.3 Sex of the child	16
4. Birth occurrences	17
4.1 Birth occurrences as at 28 February 2020	18
4.2 Birth occurrences registered within 30 days from date of birth	20
4.2.1 Age of the mother, for births occurring in 2019	21
4.2.2 Median age of mother from 2000 to 2019	22
4.2.3 Provincial distribution of births 2019	23
4.3 Birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020	24
4.3.1 Sex of the child	24
4.3.2 Month of birth as at 01 July 2020	25
4.4 Baby forenames and surnames in South Africa, 2019	27
5. Concluding remarks	29
References	30
Appendices	31
Appendices A: Notice of birth form (DHA-24) – page 1	31
Appendix A: Notice of birth form (DHA-24) – page 2	32
Appendix B1: Total birth registrations for 2019 by year of birth occurrence, province and district municipality	33
Appendix B1: Total birth registrations for 2019 by year of birth occurrence, province and district municipality (continued)	34
Appendix B2: Total birth registrations for 2019 by registration status, province and district municipality	35

Appendix B2: Total birth registrations for 2019 by registration status, province and district municipality (continued)	36
Appendix C: Birth registrations by registration status, sex, province and district municipality (concluded)	38
Appendix D: Birth occurrences by year of birth and age of the mother, 2015–2019	39
Appendix E: Birth occurrences by province of birth registration and age of mother, 2019	40
Appendix F: Birth occurrences by year of birth and province and district municipality of birth registration, 2015–2019	41
Appendix F: Birth occurrences by year of birth and province and district municipality of birth registration, 2015–2019 (concluded)	42
Appendix G: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 1994–1996	43
Appendix G.1: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 1997–1999	44
Appendix G.2: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2000–2002	45
Appendix G.3: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2003–2005	46
Appendix G.4: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2006–2008	47
Appendix G.5: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2009–2011	48
Appendix G.6: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2012–2014	49
Appendix G.7: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2015–2017	50
Appendix H: Number distribution of 2019 top ten baby forenames and surnames by province of birth registration (continued)	53
Appendix H: Number distribution of 2019 top ten baby forenames and surnames by province of birth registration (concluded)	54
Explanatory notes	55
General Information	57

List of figures

Figure 1: Birth registrations by status of registration, South Africa: 1997–2019.....	8
Figure 2: Late birth registrations by year of birth, South Africa: 1981–2019	9
Figure 3: Birth registrations by age of mother and status of registration, South Africa: 2019	11
Figure 4A : Birth registrations by province of birth registration and status of registration, South Africa: 2019	14
Figure 5: Sex ratios by province of birth registration, South Africa: 2019.....	16
Figure 6: Median age of mother by year of birth, South Africa: 2000–2019	23
Figure 7: Birth occurrences by province of birth registration, South Africa: 2019.....	24
Figure 8: Percentage distribution of birth occurrences as at 1st of July 2020 by year and month of birth, South Africa: 2015–2019	26

List of tables

Table 1: Birth registrations, 2018–2019	3
Table 2: Distribution of birth registrations by the number of days it took to register the birth: 2015-2019.....	5
Table 3: Year on year changes in the number of days/years it took to register the birth: 2015-2019 ...	6
Table 4: Birth registrations by status of registration, South Africa: 1997–2019.....	7
Table 5: Birth registrations by age of mother and status of registration, South Africa: 2019	10
Table 6: Birth occurrences by year of birth and reference period, South Africa: 1996–2019.....	17
Table 7: Birth occurrences (as at end of February 2019) by year of birth occurrence and year of birth registration, South Africa: 1999–2019	19
Table 8: Number of births registered within 30 days of occurrence by month of birth occurrence and month of birth registration, South Africa: 2019	20
Table 9: Number and percentage of births by age of mother, South Africa: 2019	22
Table 10: Birth occurrences (as at 1st of July 2020) by year of birth and sex, South Africa: 1999–2019	25
Table 11: Number distribution of top ten baby forenames and surnames, South Africa, 2019	28

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Everyone has the right to be recognised as a person before the law, as enshrined in Article 6 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 16 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The right to be recognised as a person before the law is a critical step in ensuring lifelong protection and is a prerequisite for exercising all other rights. The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, imposes an obligation that every child has the right to a name and a nationality from birth. By providing all children with proof of legal identity from birth, their rights can be protected and universal access to social services can be enabled. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), defines birth registration as "a compulsory, continuous, permanent and universal recording, within the civil registry, of the occurrence and characteristics of births in accordance with the legal requirements of the United Nations". Functioning and effective civil registration systems are the main vehicles through which a legal identity for all can be achieved. Such systems produce vital statistics, significantly those on birth registration, which are foundational for achieving sustained human and economic development.

There are large differences in coverage of birth registration among world regions with Western Europe and North America having the highest levels of birth registration, with 100 percent of children under age 5 registered. The lowest levels of birth registration are found in sub-Saharan Africa: In Eastern and Southern Africa, only 40 per cent of children are registered by their fifth birthday, while the level in West and Central Africa is slightly higher, at 51 per cent (UNICEF, 2020). This lack of formal recognition of the child's existence means that a child is unable to obtain a birth certificate and as a result may lack access to health care, education and other social services.

Civil registration and vital statistics data are essential for planning and implementing development policies and programmes, particularly the National Development Plan (NDP) in South Africa; Agenda 2063 at regional level; and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) at international level. A dedicated target (16.9) under Goal 16 of the SDGs aims to provide legal identity for all, including birth registration, by 2030, and this can be achieved through civil registration. Additionally, civil registration contributes to the monitoring and achievement of SDG Goal 5, '*achieve gender equity and empower all women and girls*', as birth certificates can enable the enforcement of such laws which relate to child labour and child marriage.

In South Africa, the right to birth registration is enshrined in the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1992 (Act No. 51 of 1992) amended as the Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act, 2010 (Act No. 18 of 2010). According to the Amendment Act all children born in South Africa must be registered within 30 days of their birth. However, where the notice of a birth is given after the expiration of 30 days, it is still possible to register it, provided reasons for non-compliance are provided (DHA, 2014). After birth registration is completed, a birth certificate is issued to the applicant.

Registration of vital events has greatly improved in South Africa and the increase arises from a number of concerted efforts aimed at improving registration rates such as an increase in civil registration service delivery points (e.g. hospitals, mobile units, Thusong centres), national campaigns and outreach programmes mobilising the nation to adhere to civil registration laws, institutionalisation of key role players (traditional authorities and funeral undertakers) and demand for registration documents to access social services.

1.2 Objective of this statistical release

This statistical release has two main objectives:

- To present information on the births that occurred in 2019 and were registered at the DHA between January 2019 and February 2020.
- To show a historical pattern of birth occurrence and registration from 1998 to 2019.

2. Data and methods

2.1 Data source

The production of this statistical release is based on recorded live births data obtained from the DHA. It covers current birth registrations and occurrences of live births for 2019 recorded for a period of 14 months (from January 2019 to February 2020). Furthermore, it covers information for late birth registrations that occurred in 2018 and earlier years, but were captured between January 2019 and February 2020. Birth registrations at the DHA are divided into five sub-categories depending on the age of the child which are then saved into five different sub-files. The sub-files include: (i) births registered within 30 days; (ii) births registered after 30 days up to 365 days; (iii) one to 14 years; (iv) 15 years and older; as well as (v) births registered at health facilities.

Table 1 shows the total number of birth registrations for the 2018 and 2019 reporting periods. It further shows how birth registrations were combined to arrive at the final birth registrations for analyses. The table indicates that 1 191 694 births were registered between January 2018 to February 2019. It is important to note that 54 418 registrations, have to be subtracted from the 2018 total births registrations (1 191 694) as they were late registrations for the earlier years. In addition, a further 128 211 had to be subtracted for births registered in January to February 2019 as these were 2019 births which were already registered when data was requested from DHA.

For the 2019 period, Stats SA received 1 238 260 birth registration data from DHA. A total of 61 012 were births that occurred earlier than 2019 but were only registered in January and February of 2019. Finally, 125 937 births were removed from the 2019 birth registrations as they were 2020 births and these will be included in the 2020 recorded live births publication. The final number of births that occurred in 2019 and were registered in the period 01 January 2019 and 28 February 2020 in South Africa was 1 051 311.

Table 1: Birth registrations, 2018–2019

2018	Number of birth registrations
Total births registered January 2018 to February 2019	1 191 694
Less births for 2017 and earlier years registered in January to February 2018	54 418
	1 137 276
Less 2019 births registered in January to February 2019	128 211
	1 009 065
2019	
Total births registered January 2019 to February 2020	1 238 260
Less births for 2018 and earlier years registered in January to February 2019	61 012
	1 177 248
Less 2020 births registered in January to February 2020	125 937
	1 051 311

2.2 Assessment of the quality of data

2.2.1 Completeness of birth registration

Completeness of birth registration cannot be over-emphasized as a measure of the quality of vital statistics data. It is further an important assessment of the effectiveness, efficiency and functioning of the Department of Home Affairs, which is mandated to maintain the birth register and has invested considerable effort in improving its vital registration system. Of importance to note is that in 2010, the DHA ramped up efforts to increase births registration within 30 days of an occurrence through raising awareness levels, introducing penalties for late registrations and including health facilities in the system of birth registrations.

There are various methods that can be applied to measure the completeness of birth registrations from the vital statistics system. One method is the synthetic cohort P/F method suggested by Zlotnik together with Hill. Conversely, Hill applied it on the data from several countries as an alternative to the Brass P/F ratio method (1964). The method presumes that cumulated age specific fertility rates for every known age is equivalent to the average number of children ever born by woman at particular age. Age dissemination of women aged 15–49 years is ideally the input data required for estimating the completeness of births. The overall completeness of birth registration is estimated at 88,6% for the intercensal period 2011–2016.

2.2.2 Timeliness of birth registration

According to the Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act (Act No. 18 of 2010), a birth must be registered within 30 days after it has occurred (Republic of South Africa, 2010). Table 2 shows the distribution of birth registrations by the number of days it took to register the birth. It shows that birth registration within 30 days has been increasing from 2015 to 2019. Registration of births within 30 days of occurrence shows an upward trend for 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 with rates of 65,1%; 75,6%; 77,7%; 79,6% and 80,0% respectively.

Contrary, during the same period, late registrations of birth after the lapse of 30 days but before a celebration of first birth day declined from 22,6% in 2015 to 12,6% in 2019. For the 2019 birth registrations, late birth registrations for those aged 1-14 years constituted 4,8% of all registrations, whereas registration of births 15 years and older constituted 2,6%. These continued declines are indicative of the successes of the DHA's efforts to strengthen early registration through raising awareness and expediting birth registrations in line with legislation.

**Table 2: Distribution of birth registrations by the number of days it took to register the birth:
2015-2019**

Number of days/years	Number of birth registrations					Percentage*					Cumulative percentage*				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
0-30 days	706 191	732 672	768 418	803 286	840 746	65,1	75,6	77,7	79,6	80,0	65,1	75,6	77,7	79,6	80,0
31-364 days	245 323	169 495	151 145	143 260	132 367	22,6	17,5	15,3	14,2	12,6	87,7	93,1	92,9	93,8	92,6
1-14 years	76 280	40 234	45 271	39 219	50 580	7,0	4,2	4,6	3,9	4,8	94,8	97,2	97,5	97,7	97,4
15 years and older	56 717	27 014	24 484	23 300	27 618	5,2	2,8	2,5	2,3	2,6	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Total	1 084 511	969 415	989 318	1 009 065	1 051 311	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0					

*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding off.

2.2.3 Year-on-year changes in birth registration

Information on the annual percentage changes in the number of births registered by age in days or years for the period 2015 to 2019 are shown in Table 3. Throughout these years, though with varying magnitude, increases were observed in the number of births registered within 30 days, while decreases were observed in the number of births registered after 30 days. This gives an indication of improvements in timely registration of births over time. In the period 2015–2016, a 3,7% increase was observed, followed by a 4,9% increase during the 2016–2017; a slight decrease to 4,5% during 2017–2018; then followed by a marginal increase to 4,7% in 2018–2019.

Regarding births registered from 31 to 364 days, the year to year percentage changes are all negative which signify a decline in the number of days it took to register the birth, and which decreases from 30,9% between 2015 and 2016 to 7,6% in 2018–2019. However, the year on year percentage changes indicate increases in the births registered at 1–14 years (29,0%) and 15 years and older (18,5%) for the years 2018–2019.

Table 3: Year on year changes in the number of days/years it took to register the birth: 2015-2019

Number of days/years	Number of birth registrations					Percentage changes			
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015–2016	2016–2017	2017–2018	2018–2019
0–30 days	706 191	732 672	768 418	803 286	840 746	3.7	4.9	4.5	4.7
31–364 days	245 323	169 495	151 145	143 260	132 367	-30.9	-10.8	-5.2	-7.6
1–14 years	76 280	40 234	45 271	39 219	50 580	-47.3	12.5	-13.4	29.0
15 years and older	56 717	27 014	24 484	23 300	27 618	-52.4	-9.4	-4.8	18.5
Total	1 084 511	969 415	989 318	1 009 065	1 051 311	-10.6	2.1	2.0	4.2

2.3 Data analysis

This release includes descriptive analyses by making use of both bivariate and univariate analyses. Additionally, it also includes trends or patterns of median ages at birth together with cross-tabulations. Analyses were mainly on birth occurrences and registered births. Socio-demographic indicators covered include but are not limited to, age of the mother, sex of the child, and province of birth registration. Furthermore, statistics on months of birth occurrence, citizenship status, baby forenames and surnames are covered.

The appendices include information on, current or late registrations of births by district municipality, birth occurrences by province and age of a mother, birth occurrences by district municipality from 2015–2019 and birth occurrences by sex and month for the years 1994–2019.

3. Birth registrations

3.1 Trends in birth registration

This statistical publication reports on the total number of birth registrations registered at the DHA offices between 1997 and 2019. It is the combination of both current registrations (live births occurring in a specific year and registered within the same year) and late registrations (live births registered later than the year of birth).

Table 4 shows the number and proportion of birth registrations by status of registration for the period 1997 to 2019. Generally, birth registrations in South Africa have been consistently more than a million births each year with the exception of the years 2016 and 2017, where birth registrations were less than a million. Over the 23-year period, the year 2003 had the highest number of birth registrations compared to any other year at 1 677 415. Of these, 62,9% were late registrations. It is also worth noting that in the period 1997–2004, the proportion of late birth registrations was higher than current birth registrations. Late birth registrations increased from 70,4% in 1997 to 77,5% in 1998. From 1999 the proportion of late registration constantly declined from a high of 74,7% to as low as 9,2% in 2019. The decline indicates an improvement in current registrations as an outcome of the DHA's concerted efforts aimed at universal and early birth registration.

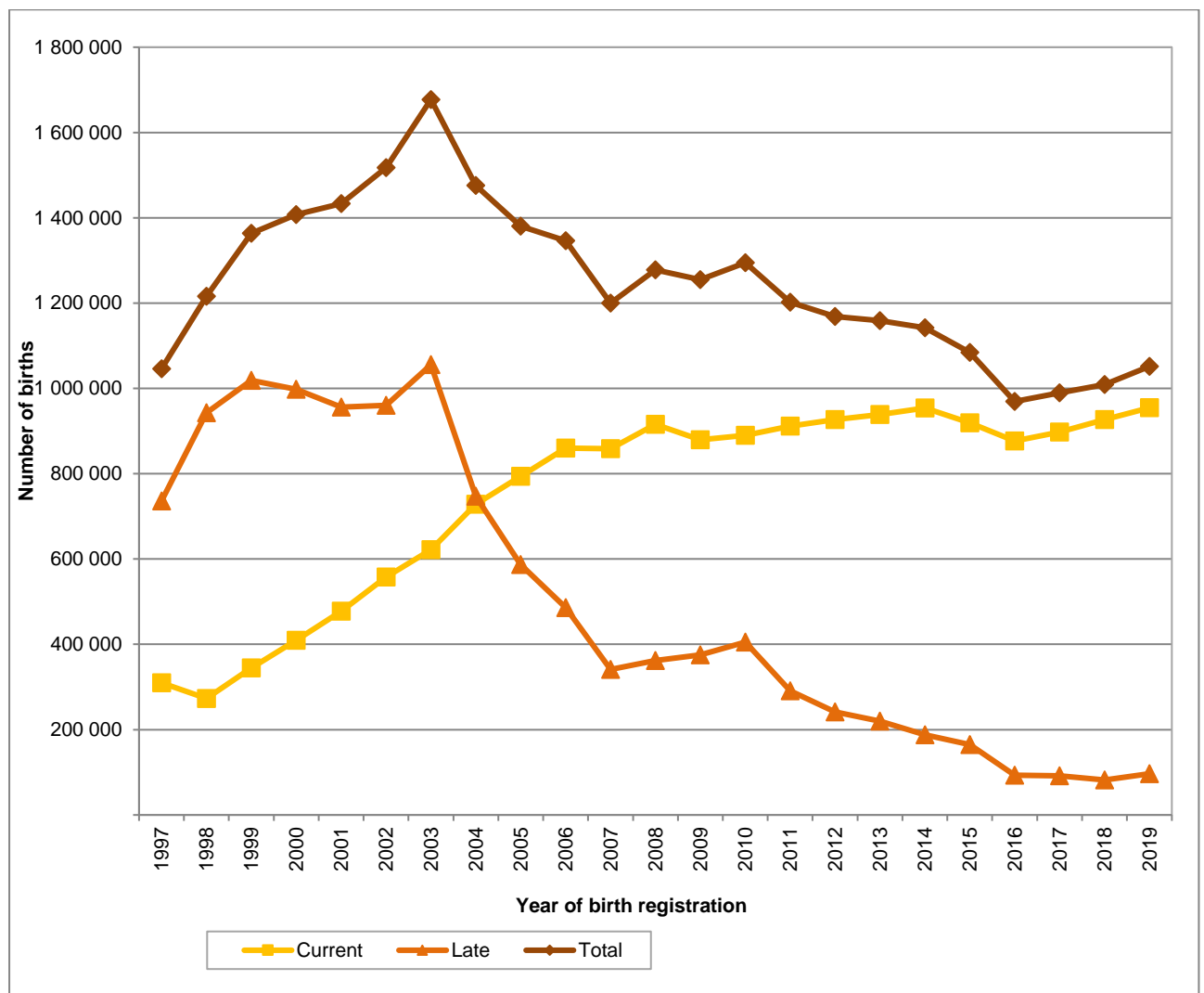
Table 4: Birth registrations by status of registration, South Africa: 1997–2019

Year of registration	Number of birth registrations			Percentages		
	Total	Current	Late	Total	Current	Late
1997	1 046 095	309 723	736 372	100,0	29,6	70,4
1998	1 216 337	273 180	943 157	100,0	22,5	77,5
1999	1 363 800	344 700	1 019 100	100,0	25,3	74,7
2000	1 407 833	409 707	998 126	100,0	29,1	70,9
2001	1 433 432	477 489	955 943	100,0	33,3	66,7
2002	1 517 671	557 573	960 098	100,0	36,7	63,3
2003	1 677 415	621 887	1 055 528	100,0	37,1	62,9
2004	1 475 809	728 283	747 526	100,0	49,3	50,7
2005	1 380 496	793 788	586 708	100,0	57,5	42,5
2006	1 346 119	860 263	485 856	100,0	63,9	36,1
2007	1 199 712	858 866	340 846	100,0	71,6	28,4
2008	1 277 763	915 674	362 089	100,0	71,7	28,3
2009	1 254 707	879 707	375 000	100,0	70,1	29,9
2010	1 294 694	889 691	405 003	100,0	68,7	31,3
2011	1 202 377	911 353	291 024	100,0	75,8	24,2
2012	1 168 403	926 726	241 677	100,0	79,3	20,7
2013	1 158 622	939 011	219 611	100,0	81,0	19,0
2014	1 142 275	954 385	187 890	100,0	83,6	16,4
2015	1 084 511	919 562	164 949	100,0	84,8	15,2
2016	969 415	876 435	92 980	100,0	90,4	9,6
2017	989 318	897 750	91 568	100,0	90,7	9,3
2018	1 009 065	927 113	81 952	100,0	91,9	8,1
2019	1 051 311	954 532	96 779	100,0	90,8	9,2

Figure 1 shows the trends and patterns of birth registrations by status of registration for the years 1997–2019, categorised by status of registration. The total birth registrations increased sharply from 1997 peaking in 2003 with a total of 1 677 415 birth registrations. Thereafter, registrations steadily declined to as low as 969 415 in 2016. There was an upward change from 2017 to 2019 as birth registration continued to increase year on year.

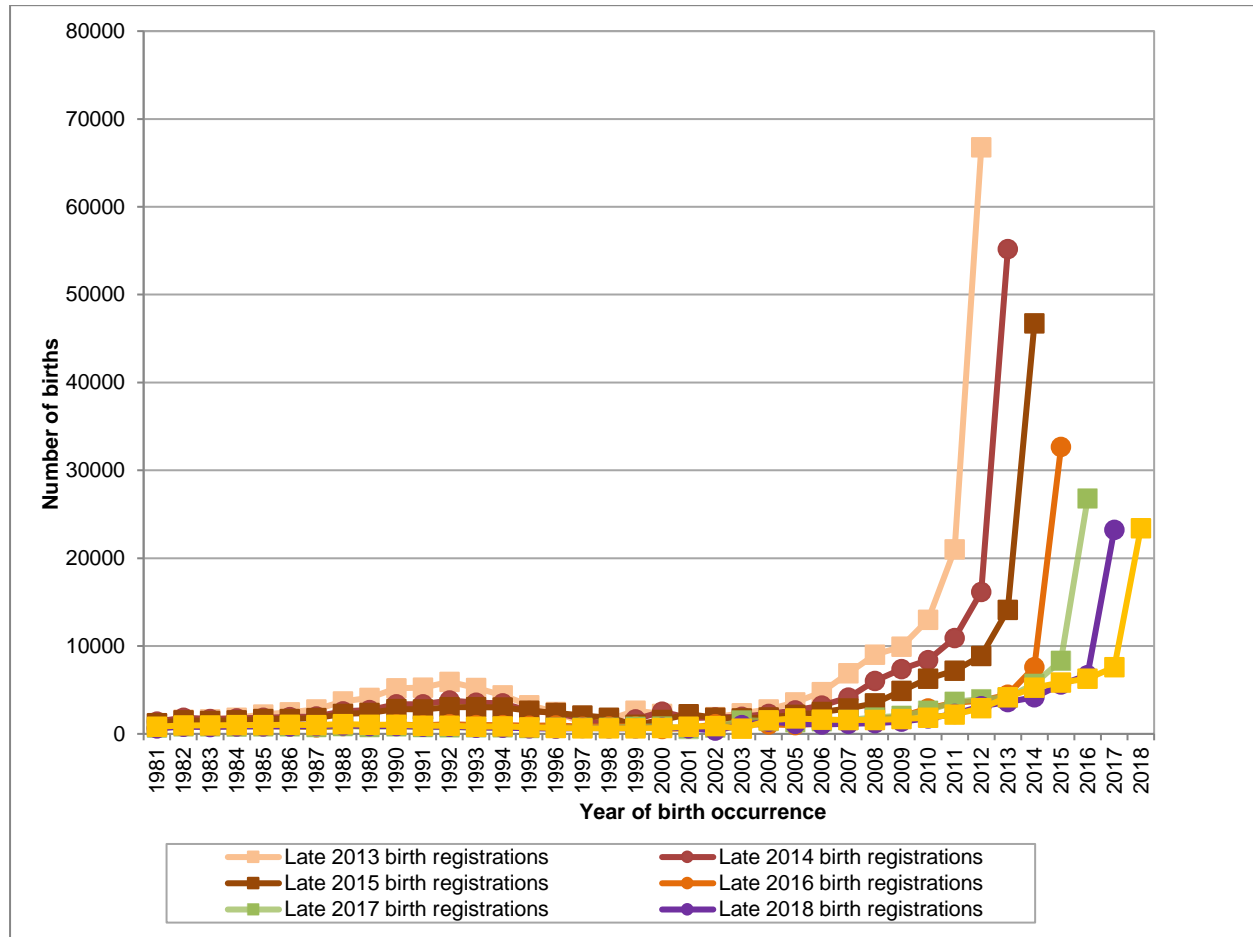
Late registrations increased sharply from 1997 (736 372) first peaking in 1999 (1 019 100) and thereafter decreasing slightly between 2000 and 2002 (998 126 and 960 098, respectively) and then peaked for a second time in 2003 (1 055 528), which was the highest level for late registrations in the 23-year period. Late registrations were lowest in 2018 with only 81 952 late birth registrations. Overall, current registrations have been characterised by a year on year increase from 1998 with the highest number of current registrations recorded in 2019 (954 532). It is also worth noting that in the more recent years (2011–2019) the gap between current and late registrations has increased, with 2018 having the widest gap since 1997.

Figure 1: Birth registrations by status of registration, South Africa: 1997–2019



The overall number of late birth registrations between the years 2013–2018 for the period 1981 to 2018 is shown in Figure 2. For almost all the years, late registrations were highest in the year prior to the year of reporting, which means that the year preceding the reporting period makes up the majority of late registrations. Furthermore, the figure also shows that late registrations have declined over the seven-year period.

Figure 2: Late birth registrations by year of birth, South Africa: 1981–2019



3.2 Birth registrations by selected variables

3.2.1 Age of the mother

The notice of birth form (DHA-24) makes provision for the inclusion of the details of both the biological father and mother of a child. However, nearly two-thirds (63,4%) of births did not contain information on fathers. This finding is consistent with those of the previous years, which means information about the age of the natural fathers remain relatively unknown. This section will therefore report only on information pertaining to mothers.

Table 5 below describes the number and percentage distribution of registered births by age of the mother and status of registration. The table shows that the age group 25–29 years accounted for the highest number of total birth registrations (261 361), followed by 20–24 years and 30–34 years. The lowest number of births (305) occurred for the 50–54 year age group.

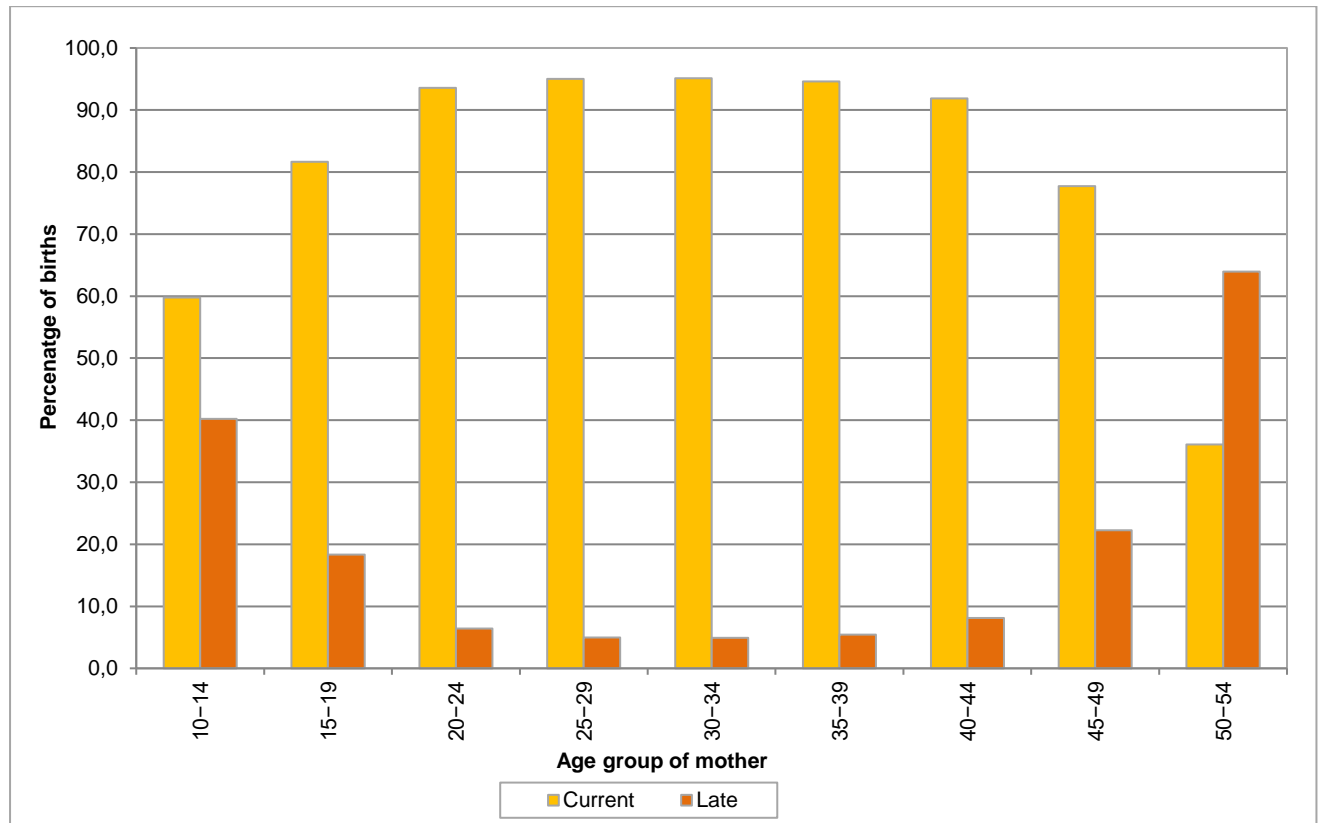
With regard to status of birth registration, mothers aged 25–29 and those aged 30–34 years had 95% of their births registered within the year of occurrence, followed by those aged 35–39 years (94,6%). A high proportion of births registered later than the year of occurrence was observed for age groups 10–14 years (40,2%) and 50–54 years (63,9%). Almost 72% of births were registered late for mothers within the unspecified/outside the 10–54 year age range category.

Table 5: Birth registrations by age of mother and status of registration, South Africa: 2019

Age of mother	Number of birth registrations			Percentage		
	Total	Current	Late	Total	Current	Late
10–14	5 112	3 055	2 057	100,0	59,8	40,2
15–19	126 593	103 353	23 240	100,0	81,6	18,4
20–24	250 421	234 334	16 087	100,0	93,6	6,4
25–29	261 361	248 362	12 999	100,0	95,0	5,0
30–34	214 695	204 181	10 514	100,0	95,1	4,9
35–39	124 906	118 142	6 764	100,0	94,6	5,4
40–44	34 959	32 124	2 835	100,0	91,9	8,1
45–49	3 047	2 368	679	100,0	77,7	22,3
50–54	305	110	195	100,0	36,1	63,9
Unspecified/outside the 10–54 age range	29 912	8 503	21 409	100,0	28,4	71,6
Total	1 051 311	954 532	96 779	100,0	90,8	9,2

Figure 3 shows the proportion of birth registrations by registration status and age of the mother. Current birth registrations were higher than late birth registrations for all age groups with the exception of mothers aged 50–54 years. Worth noting is that in previous years, mothers aged 10–14 years registered births late, however, in 2019, current birth registrations surpassed late birth registrations. The figure also depicts that current birth registrations increased as the mother's age increases, however, from age 45 onward, current birth registrations decrease as the mother's age increases.

Figure 3: Birth registrations by age of mother and status of registration, South Africa: 2019



3.2.2 Province of birth registration

Province of birth occurrence in this statistical release is based on the 2016 municipal boundaries. The information on the office where a birth was registered is provided by the DHA, which Stats SA then uses to derive province of birth registration. It must be noted that births that occurred outside of the country, and where at least one parent was a South African citizen at the time of the child's birth, were not classified into any of the provinces as was previously done, whereby births were classified into the province and district municipality of registration. Furthermore, for persons 15 years and older, the majority of registrations are allocated to the City of Tshwane metropolitan municipality in Gauteng province, which is where late registrations from 15 years and above are centralised for processing.

Figure 4A on page 14, illustrates the distribution of all births registered in 2019 by province of registration and registration status according to the following four categories:

- i. 0–30 days: registered within the time stipulated by law (classified as current registrations)
- ii. 31–364: registered after a month but within a year (classified as current registrations)
- iii. 1–14 years: registered between one year and 14 years (classified as late registrations)
- iv. 15 years and above: registered from 15 years (classified as late registrations)

The highest number of total births was registered in Gauteng (254 952) followed by KwaZulu-Natal (219 290) then Limpopo (134 056). For all the provinces, there were more births registered within 0–30 days than in the 31–364 days category, although the difference was marginal for Northern Cape province. As mentioned previously, due to the centralisation of registrations for persons 15 years and above, Gauteng (27 425) had the highest number of birth registrations in this age category.

Appendix B on pages 33-36 provides analysis of total birth registrations by year of birth occurrence and status of registration, province and district municipality. As in previous years, the top five district municipalities with the highest number of total birth registrations were the metropolitan municipalities. These were City of Cape Town, Ekurhuleni, eThekweni, City of Tshwane, and City of Johannesburg. The highest number of current birth registrations were recorded in the City of Cape Town (66 220), followed by Ekurhuleni (62 421) and eThekweni (60 495). Central Karoo in Western Cape and Namakwa in Northern Cape province had the lowest number of birth registrations with 1 225 and 1 566 births registered, respectively. Of the 1 051 311 total births registered in 2019, 954 532 were current birth registrations and 96 779 were late birth registrations.

Amongst non-metropolitan districts, Ehlanzeni in Mpumalanga had the highest number of current birth registrations with 41 067 registrations followed by Vhembe in Limpopo with 31 322 current birth registrations.

For late registrations the City of Tshwane had the highest number of late birth registrations at 31 616, followed by eThekweni with 5 885 and the City of Johannesburg with 5 321. These figures must be interpreted with caution as this can also be a reflective function of the population size in each of these municipalities. The City of Tshwane will always have the highest number of late birth registrations owing to the centralisation of late registrations by the Department of Home Affairs. All late registrations are approved by their Head Office, which is situated in Pretoria.

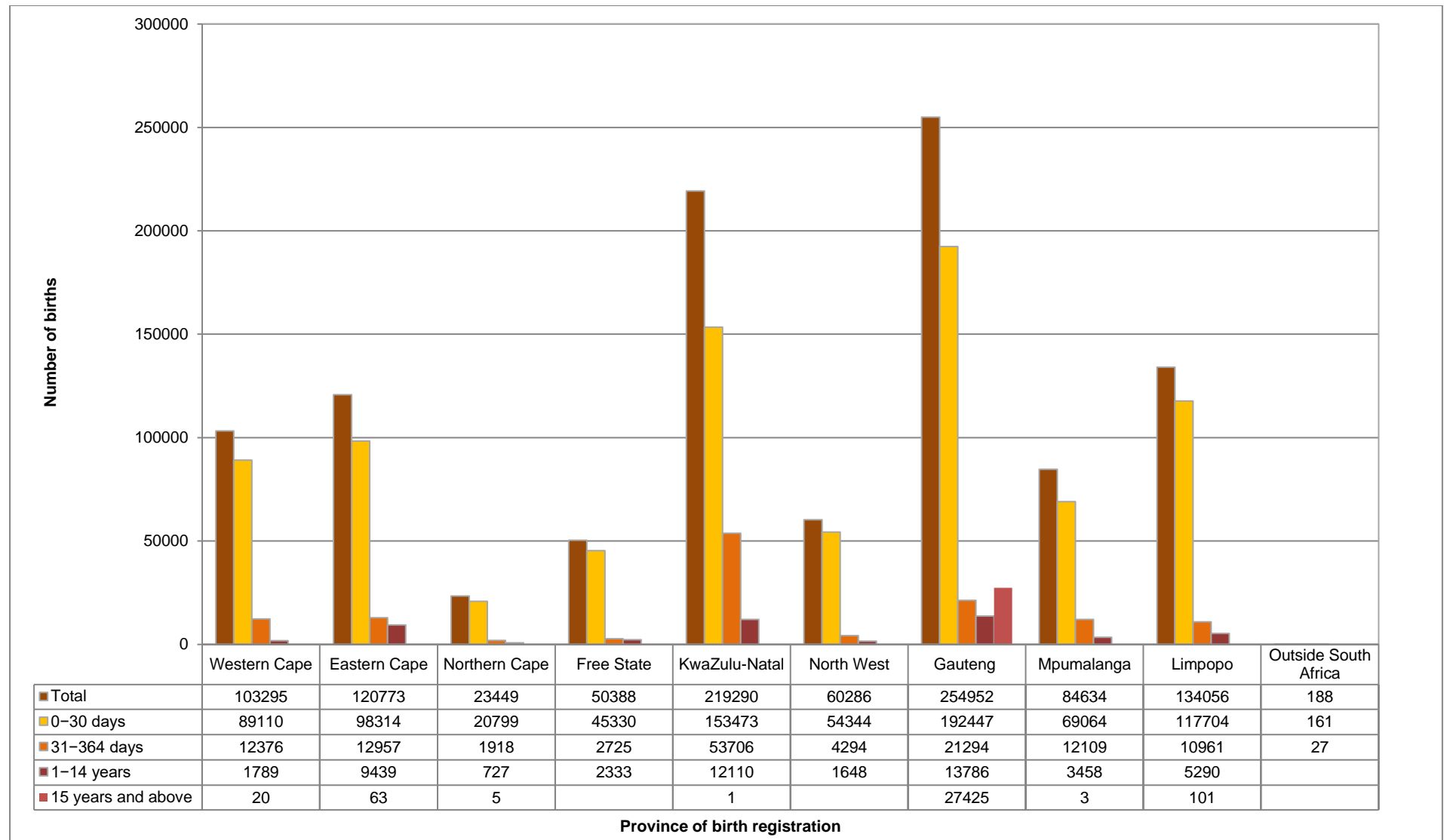
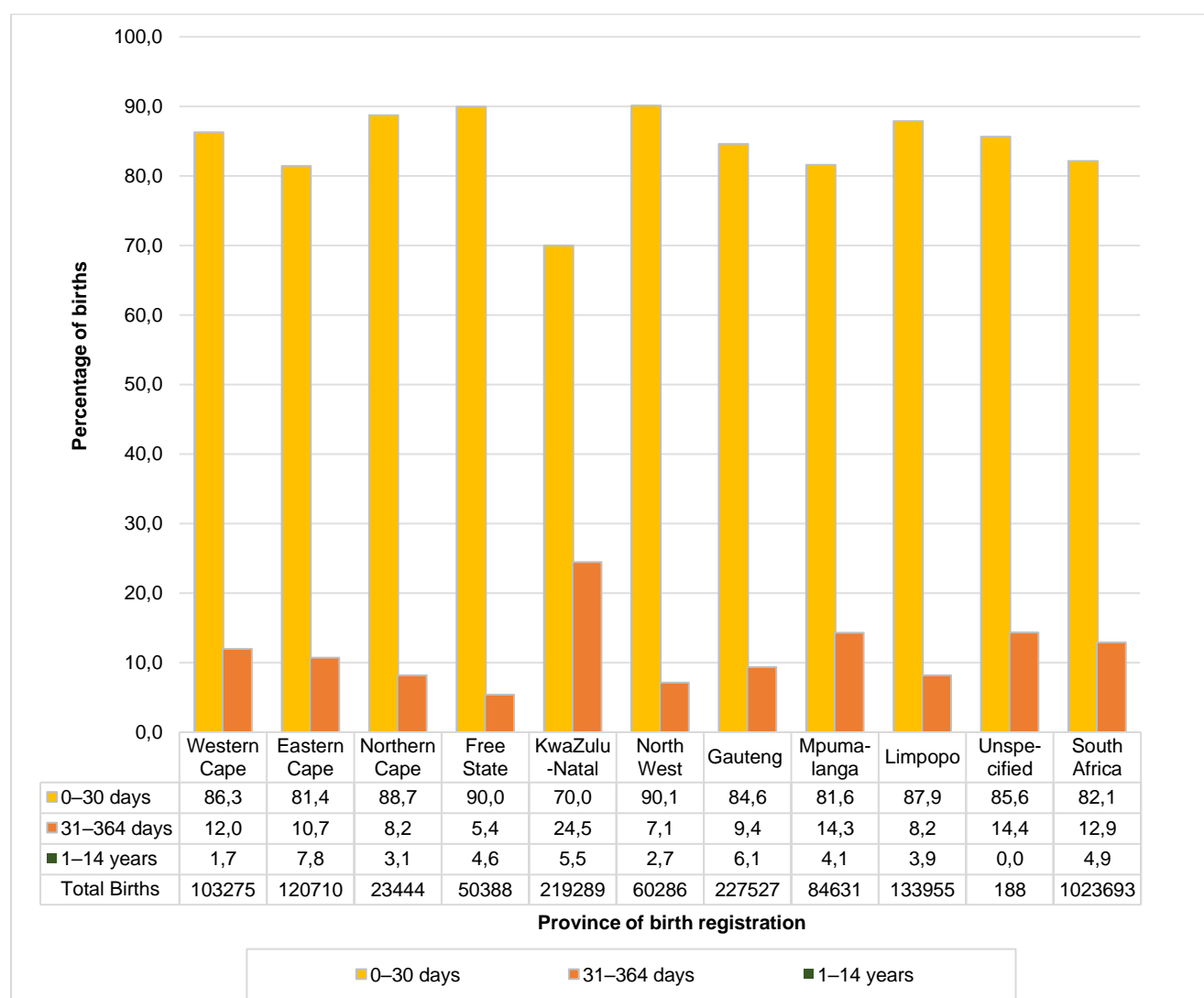
Figure 4A : Birth registrations by province of birth registration and status of registration, South Africa: 2019

Figure 4B shows the percentage distribution of 1 023 693 registered birth occurrences for 2019 by province of birth registration and status of registration. A total of 27 618 was removed in the analysis as these were birth registrations for those aged 15 years and older for which are all supposed to be registered at the head office in Gauteng (Pretoria). The figure shows that North West (90,1%) is in the lead in registrations of birth within 30 days. It is closely followed by Free State (90%) and Northern Cape (88,7%). The province with the lowest proportions was KwaZulu-Natal (70%). Almost 86% of births with no recorded province of registration information were for births registered within 30 days of birth occurrence.

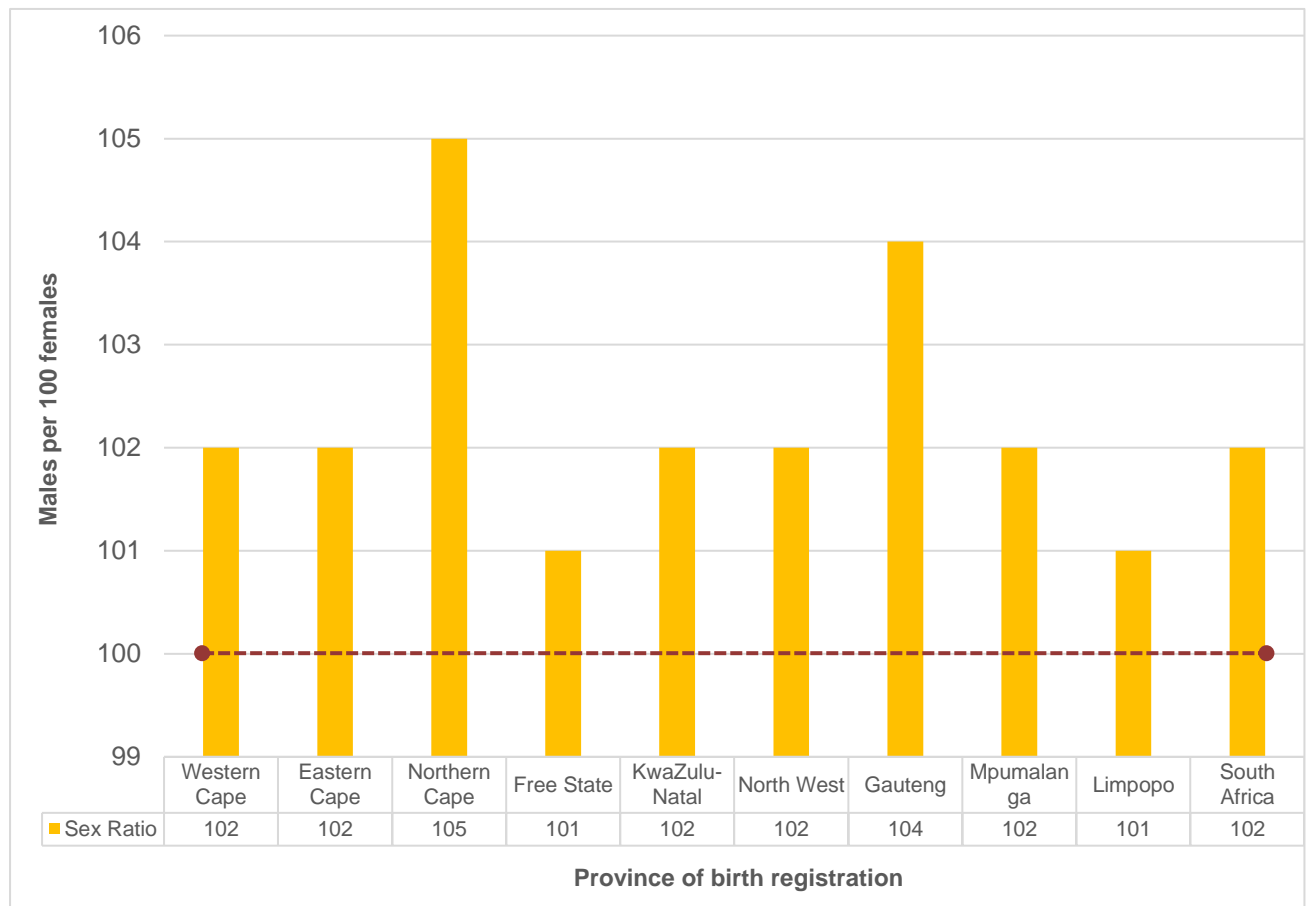
Figure 4B: Birth registrations by province of birth registration and status of registration, South Africa: 2019



3.2.3 Sex of the child

The sex ratio of birth registrations is defined as the number of male births per 100 female births in a population. A ratio of 100 indicates an equal number of male births for every female birth, whereas a number less than 100 indicates relatively more female births and a number above 100 indicates more male births. Sex ratios at birth registration by provincial distribution are presented in Figure 5. South Africa had a sex ratio of 102 males per 100 females indicating that there were more male birth registrations than female birth registrations in 2019. Five out of nine provinces had a sex ratio of 102 male birth registrations per 100 female birth registrations. These were Western Cape, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, North West and Mpumalanga. Northern Cape had the highest sex ratio at 105, whereas Free State and Limpopo had the lowest sex ratio at 101 male birth registrations per 100 female birth registrations. Further information on total registrations by sex, status of registration, province and district municipality for the year 2019 is provided in Appendix C on pages 37–38.

Figure 5: Sex ratios by province of birth registration, South Africa: 2019



*Sex ratios have been rounded off.

4. Birth occurrences

This section reports on birth occurrences based on the year of birth captured in the electronic birth registration system up to 28 February 2020 (with 28 February being the processing phase cut-off date by Stats SA) and birth occurrences extracted as a print-out from the national population register on 30 June 2020. Birth occurrences are all births that occur in a specific year and that have been registered with the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). They pertain to the year in which the birth actually occurred (year of birth) irrespective of whether the registration is current or late.

Table 6 below shows the total birth occurrences as at 28 February 2020, and the updated birth occurrences as at 1 July 2020 for the period 1996 to 2019. It is observed that by 31 December 2019, a total of 954 532 births that occurred in 2018 were registered, increasing to 972 946 by 01 July 2020. This indicates that the national birth register was updated by 18 414 births that occurred in 2019. This is indicative of the continuous updating of the national birth registration system.

Table 6: Birth occurrences by year of birth and reference period, South Africa: 1996–2019

Year of birth occurrence	Birth occurrences	Updated Birth occurrences
	(as at 28 Feb. 2020)	(as at 01 Jul. 2020)
1996	985 038	985 212
1997	968 766	969 220
1998	952 421	952 590
1999	968 249	968 407
2000	980 631	980 826
2001	963 408	963 591
2002	973 682	973 984
2003	968 743	969 018
2004	1 027 221	1 027 361
2005	1 068 182	1 068 840
2006	1 097 841	1 098 342
2007	1 084 545	1 085 060
2008	1 108 764	1 109 225
2009	1 057 704	1 058 156
2010	1 030 923	1 031 414
2011	1 039 724	1 040 307
2012	1 039 615	1 040 365
2013	1 026 727	1 035 435
2014	1 028 773	1 031 776
2015	976 905	982 827
2016	918 418	924 408
2017	930 960	934 421
2018	955 644	959 620
2019	954 532	972 946

4.1 Birth occurrences as at 28 February 2020

Table 7 on page 19 shows the number of births that occurred over the years 1999 to 2020 classified by year of birth occurrence and year of birth registration. For each year, births registered within the year they occurred and births registered later than the year of their occurrence are shown. The figures in bold indicate all births that were registered within the year of occurrence, while the rest represent late birth registrations, indicating the year in which the late registration occurred. The 'Total' row shows the updated number of births registered up to the end of February 2020.

Over the 21-year period birth occurrences have been improving with time. The total number of births that occurred and were registered for the year 2019 was 954 532. This number is expected to increase in the next report because it only refers to births registered within the year of occurrence. The average number of birth occurrences for a particular year increases due to updating of the national birth register with either late registrations or births that were not processed in time to reach Stats SA during the 2020 processing phase. The number of 2018 birth occurrences registered by 28 July 2019 was 879 273; however, due to updating of birth registrations for births that occurred in 2018 but were registered late, the number of birth occurrences for 2018 increased to 950 533 by 28 February 2020. This indicates that within the 12-month period (28 February 2019 to 28 February 2020) there was an increase of 71 260 birth registrations for births that occurred in 2018.

The table further shows that the highest number of late registrations was registered during the year immediately following the year of birth occurrence. Additionally, late registrations have been decreasing over time, with increases in birth registration during the year of occurrence.

Table 7: Birth occurrences (as at end of February 2019) by year of birth occurrence and year of birth registration, South Africa: 1999–2019

Year of birth registration	Year of birth occurrence																				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1999	344 700																				
2000	178 516	409 707																			
2001	116 374	192 410	477 489																		
2002	98 553	118 600	218 256	557 573																	
2003	72 533	77 256	94 588	194 204	621 887																
2004	42 511	43 503	48 197	63 234	165 662	728 283															
2005	24 996	24 807	23 798	27 701	43 404	150 546	793 788														
2006	21 911	26 516	24 057	26 042	34 601	54 941	154 331	860 263													
2007	10 969	14 158	15 200	16 766	20 009	26 769	42 569	126 358	858 866												
2008	6 927	8 327	8 722	11 378	14 085	17 869	23 732	40 554	128 336	915 674											
2009	4 609	5 128	5 072	6 053	8 322	11 793	14 208	19 510	31 885	101 743	879 707										
2010	3 340	3 450	3 535	3 844	4 852	7 623	10 566	13 736	19 323	30 164	91 064	889 691									
2011	2 517	2 604	2 632	2 743	3 457	4 763	7 298	10 111	12 628	16 091	23 665	80 079	911 353								
2012	2 240	2 310	2 139	2 259	2 644	3 301	4 578	6 599	9 104	10 776	13 065	21 005	74 374	926 726							
2013	2 626	2 262	1 904	1 925	2 357	2 800	3 590	4 742	6 914	9 018	9 938	12 978	21 023	66 775	939 011						
2014	1 664	2 531	1 802	1 866	1 950	2 261	2 673	3 241	4 122	6 039	7 390	8 418	10 898	16 147	55 202	954 385					
2015	1 046	1 570	2 256	1 838	1 759	1 874	2 151	2 489	2 892	3 476	4 908	6 290	7 197	8 882	14 125	46 754	919 562				
2016	856	569	626	1 098	1 072	1 084	1 010	1 186	1 468	1 675	1 973	2 901	3 556	3 771	4 470	7 601	32 680	876 435			
2017	722	749	465	699	1 218	1 206	1 148	1 239	1 350	1 585	1 768	2 233	3 153	3 220	3 532	5 032	7 355	25 885	849 918		
2018	719	814	755	384	1 313	1 671	1 331	1 296	1 367	1 512	1 677	2 155	2 797	3 865	4 197	4 834	6 605	7 595	71 050	879 273	
2019	643	682	802	891	600	1 555	1 763	1 636	1 600	1 584	1 698	1 845	2 222	2 939	4 177	5 250	5 849	6 290	7 606	71 260	954 532
Total	938 972	937 953	932 295	920 498	929 192	1 018 339	1 064 736	1 092 960	1 079 855	1 099 337	1 036 853	1 027 595	1 036 573	1 032 325	1 024 714	1 023 856	972 051	916 205	928 574	950 533	954 532

4.2 Birth occurrences registered within 30 days from date of birth

Timely birth registration is mandated in the Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act (Act No. 18 of 2010), which stipulates that all births must be registered within 30 days from date of occurrence (Republic of South Africa, 2010). In an effort to encourage immediate registration of births the, DHA has set up offices in some hospitals and health facilities throughout the country. This is an effort to ensure that parents do not leave a hospital or health facility without registering the birth of their child and receiving a birth certificate. As a further measure to enforce registration of birth within 30 days, parents who register a birth after the 30-day period, but within a period of a year, are liable for a penalty fee. However, even if registration of births is anchored in a legal framework, if there is lack of oversight or enforcement of the legal framework, birth registration can be undermined (WHO, 2013).

Accordingly, the tabulation of month of birth occurrence by month of birth registration provides necessary information for evaluating progress towards this requirement.

Table 8 below presents the distribution of births that occurred in 2019 and that were registered within 30 days by month of birth occurrence and month of birth registration. The table shows that 840 746 births occurred and were registered within 30 days. This represents 88,1% of the 954 532 total birth occurrences for 2019. This is a slight improvement from 86,6 % of the birth occurrences in 2018, which were registered before the end of 30 days.

The highest number of birth occurrences that were registered within the 30-day timeframe was for January (52 050), followed by March (52 017) and May (51 361). The months of December and June had the lowest number of births registered within 30 days (42 085 and 44 389, respectively).

Table 8: Number of births registered within 30 days of occurrence by month of birth occurrence and month of birth registration, South Africa: 2019

Month of birth registration	Month of birth occurrence												
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
January	52 050												52 050
February	19 152	46 022											65 174
March	60	19 711	52 017										71 788
April			22 249	46 494									68 743
May				24 350	51 361								75 711
June					20 357	44 389							64 746
July						26 072	50 888						76 960
August							20 508	49 647					70 155
September								21 760	48 960				70 720
October									24 964	48 628			73 592
November										18 544	45 499		64 043
December											19 446	42 085	61 531
January												25 533	25 533
Total	71 262	65 733	74 266	70 844	71 718	70 461	71 396	71 407	73 924	67 172	64 945	67 618	840 746

4.2.1 Age of the mother, for births occurring in 2019

Both young and advanced maternal age at childbirth have been shown to correlate positively with numerous child outcomes which are policy-relevant. Form DHA-24 makes provision for the inclusion of the mother's details, making it possible to derive the mother's age at birth of her child. The information on the mother's age is useful when developing maternal and child health policies and planning for the provision of health care services.

Table 9 on page 22, shows the distribution of births occurring in 2019 by age of the mother. Most births occurred to women aged 25–29 years (26%), closely followed by those aged 20–24 years (24,5%), and then those aged 30–34 years (21,4%). Births occurring in these age groups (20–34 years) represent 71,9% of all births occurring in 2019. Almost 11% of births occurred to older adolescents aged 15–19; while 0,3% of births occurred to younger adolescents in the 10–14 age range. Mothers aged 40 and older together with mothers in the unspecified age category, accounted for a lower proportion of births (4,5%). This is to be expected, as the probability to conceive decreases as women get older.

Additional information, providing the number of births by age of mother for the past five years (2015–2019), is provided in Appendix D on page 39.

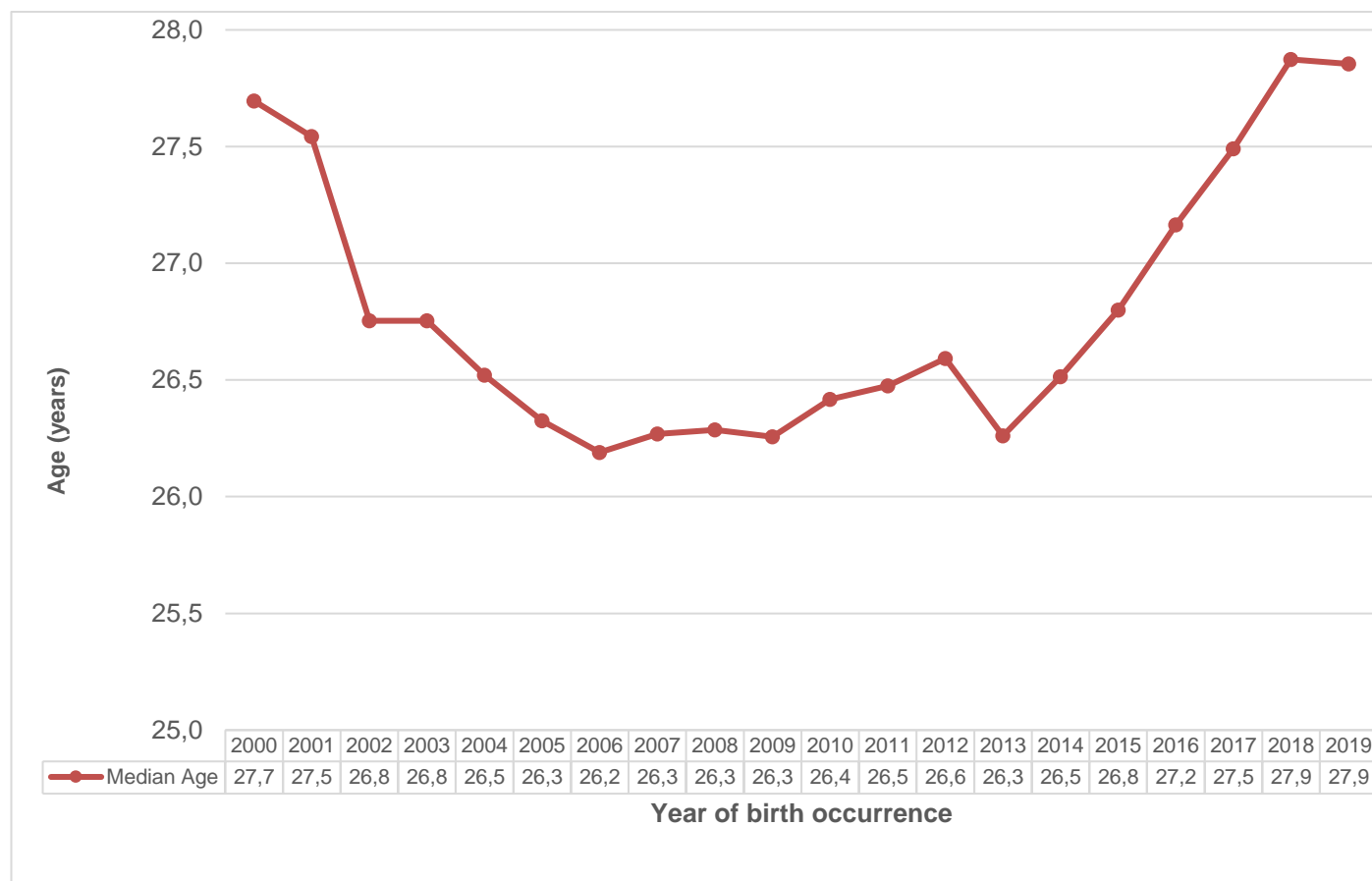
Table 9: Number and percentage of births by age of mother, South Africa: 2019

Age of mother	Number of birth occurrences	Percentage
10–14	3 055	0,3
15–19	103 353	10,8
20–24	234 334	24,5
25–29	248 362	26,0
30–34	204 181	21,4
35–39	118 142	12,4
40–44	32 124	3,4
45–49	2 368	0,2
50–54	110	0,0
Unspecified/outside the 10–54 age range	8 503	0,9
Total	954 532	100,0

4.2.2 Median age of mother from 2000 to 2019

The median ages of the mothers for births occurring between 2000 and 2019 are shown in Figure 6 on page 23. The median age of the mothers is the exact age that divides the mothers into two numerically equal groups; that is, half the mothers are younger than this age and the other half are older. In essence, the median age at birth specifies how early or late births occur within a population. The figure shows that on average, the median ages of mothers for the years 2000 to 2019 ranged from 26 to 28 years.

Between 2000 and 2019 the median age of mothers increased slightly from 27,7 years in 2000 to 27,9 years in 2019. In the years between 2000 and 2006 the median age decreased from 27,7 years to 26,2. From 2007 to 2009 the median age of mothers stabilised to around 26,3 years before increasing from 26,4 years in 2010 to 26,6 years in 2012. The median age declined to 26,3 years in 2013 and thereafter increased yearly, reaching 27,9 years in 2019.

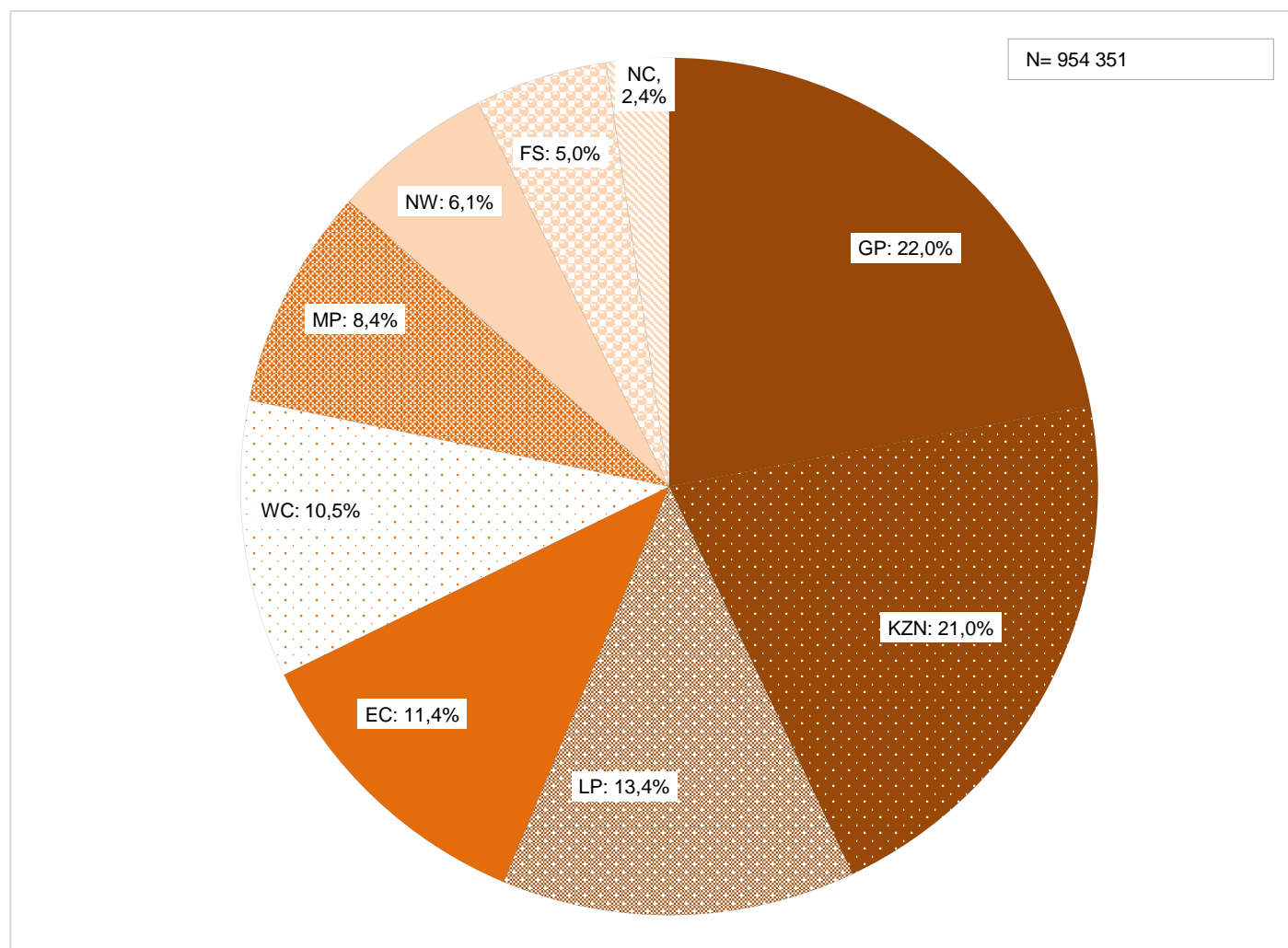
Figure 6: Median age of mother by year of birth, South Africa: 2000–2019

4.2.3 Provincial distribution of births 2019

Figure 7 below presents the distribution of 2019 birth occurrences by province of birth registration. The information excludes unspecified birth registrations. The highest proportion of births was registered in Gauteng, followed by KwaZulu-Natal, at 22,0% and 21,0% respectively. Generally, birth registrations remain higher in the most populated provinces in South Africa. Northern Cape and Free State reflected the lowest proportions of birth registrations at 2,4% and 5,0% respectively.

Further information on birth occurrences by province and age of mother is provided in Appendix E on page 40. The results show that Gauteng had the highest number of births amongst women in the age group 25–29 years and KwaZulu-Natal had the highest number of birth occurrences in age group 20–24 years. Overall, Northern Cape reflected the lowest birth occurrences across all age groups. The highest number of births occurring to teen mothers were recorded in Limpopo (541), followed closely by KwaZulu-Natal (538) and Eastern Cape (506).

Appendix F on pages 41–42, shows a detailed distribution of birth occurrences by province and district municipality of birth registration for the years 2015 to 2019. The results indicate that birth occurrences were highest in Gauteng each year for the period 2015 to 2019 followed by KwaZulu-Natal in the same period. This is indicative of the population of South Africa, as these two provinces are the most populated. Information on district municipalities shows that the metropolitan municipalities continue to dominate as the top five district municipalities with regard to the highest number of birth occurrences in the five-year period.

Figure 7: Birth occurrences by province of birth registration, South Africa: 2019*

*Excluding births with unspecified province of birth registration

4.3 Birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020

This sub-section reports on birth occurrences extracted from the national birth register on the 1st of July 2020 categorised by sex of the child and year of birth as a way of providing the most recent data available before publication. Table 10 on page 25 presents information on the number of birth occurrences by birth year and sex. The total number of birth occurrences per year, as shown in the table indicates that a total of 20,917 948 million births occurred in South Africa between 1999 and 2019, with an average of 996 093 births per year over the 21-year period. The table further shows that the highest number of birth occurrences was observed in 2008, and the lowest in 2016.

4.3.1 Sex of the child

Table 10 shows that from 1999 to 2019, sex ratios were between 100 and 102 male births per 100 female births. For the years 2003 to 2009, the sex ratio was at 101 male births per 100 female births, signifying slightly more males than females. In 1999 to 2002, the sex ratio of birth occurrences was 100, indicating equal male and female births. Since 2010, the sex ratios have been at 102 male births per 100 female births except in 2015 where it was 101 male births per 100 females. Over the 21-year period the sex ratio has been 101 male births per 100 females.

Table 10: Birth occurrences (as at 1st of July 2020) by year of birth and sex, South Africa: 1999–2019

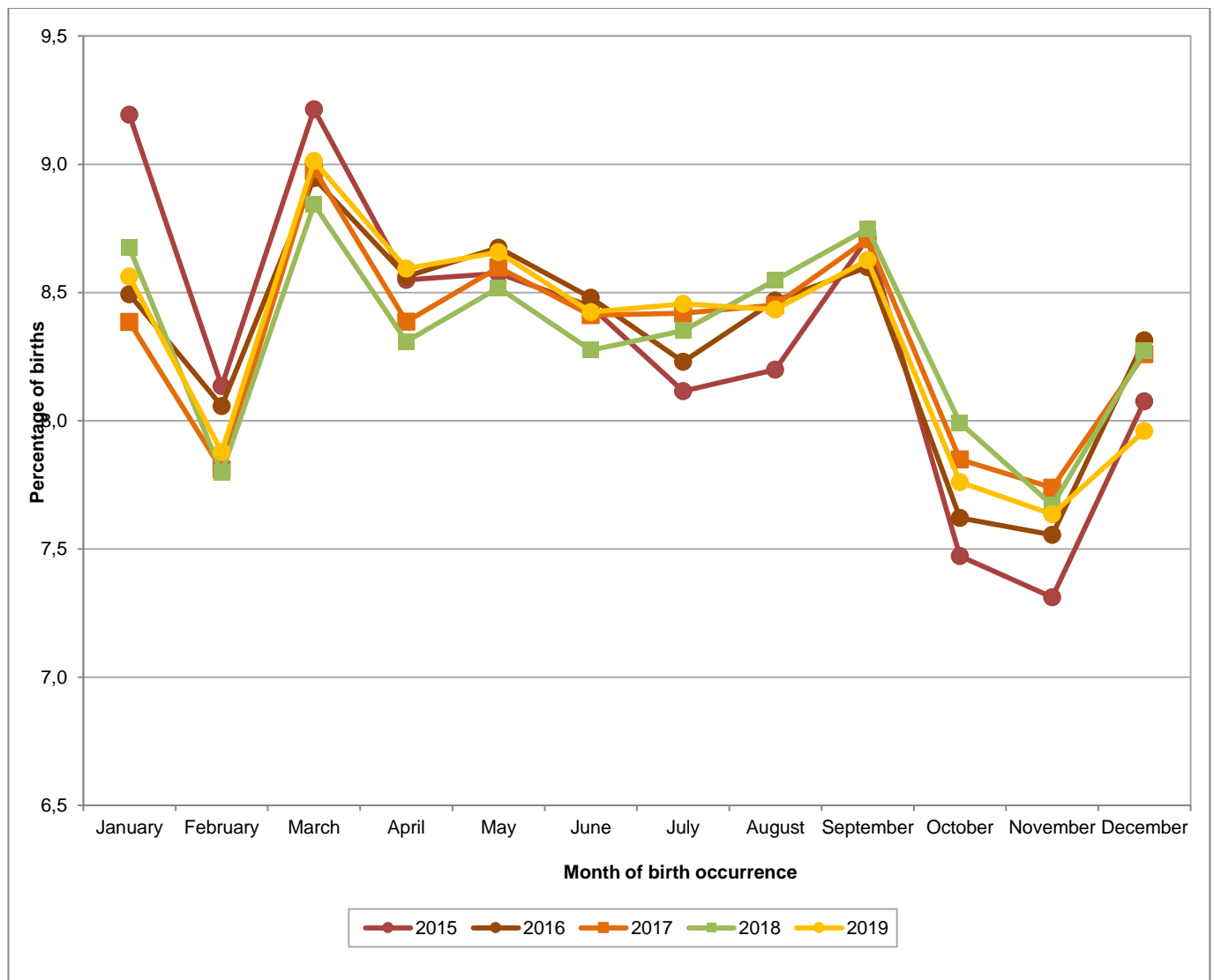
Year	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio
1999	938 972	469 770	469 202	100
2000	937 953	469 687	468 266	100
2001	932 295	466 797	465 498	100
2002	920 498	460 561	459 937	100
2003	929 192	466 257	462 935	101
2004	1 018 339	511 304	507 035	101
2005	1 064 736	534 989	529 747	101
2006	1 092 960	548 390	544 570	101
2007	1 079 855	543 124	536 731	101
2008	1 099 337	552 458	546 879	101
2009	1 036 853	521 431	515 422	101
2010	1 027 595	517 991	509 604	102
2011	1 036 573	522 339	514 234	102
2012	1 032 325	520 266	512 059	102
2013	1 024 714	516 625	508 089	102
2014	1 023 856	516 229	507 627	102
2015	972 051	489 530	482 521	101
2016	916 205	462 565	453 640	102
2017	928 574	468 171	460 403	102
2018	950 533	479 697	470 836	102
2019	954 532	481 400	473 132	102
Total	20 917 948	10 519 581	10 398 367	101

4.3.2 Month of birth as at 01 July 2020

The percentage distribution of birth occurrences from 2015 to 2019 classified by month of birth (updated as of 01 July 2020) is shown in Figure 8. In general, over the five-year period, the pattern of birth occurrences by month and year of birth was somewhat uniform, with the highest proportion of births occurring during the month of March. This suggests that over the five years, birth occurrences were likely to be conceived during June or July. The second most common month of birth occurrence varied was September except for the years 2016 and 2019. The figure further shows that for all the years, the lowest proportion of births occurred during the month of November. In 2019, the most common month of birth occurrence was March followed by May.

Detailed information on birth occurrences from 1994 to 2019 by month of birth and sex is provided on Appendices G-G8 on pages 43–50.

Figure 8: Percentage distribution of birth occurrences as at 1st of July 2020 by year and month of birth, South Africa: 2015–2019



4.4 Baby forenames and surnames in South Africa, 2019

According to section 28 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996), 'every child has the right to a name from birth' (Republic of South Africa, 1996). A person's forename and surname are fundamental human rights enshrined in the Births and Deaths Registration Act (Act No. 51 of 1992) which are some of the most distinctive markers of individuality and are a prerequisite for the issuing of a birth certificate (Republic of South Africa, 1992).

The naming of a new-born child plays a very important role in all cultures around the world. African baby names are given for reason, relevance and purpose. Similar to this, South Africa is a country with a variety of cultures and religions and this has a profound influence on baby naming. According to Tshivenda culture, the custodians of culture who are the paternal grandparents and other senior members, are vested with the power to name new-born babies (Mutshinyani M.M. & Thambatshira J.T., 2019). From the day or time a baby is born to the circumstances surrounding the birth, several factors influence the names that parents choose for their children (De Klerk V. & Bosch B., 1996).

Table 11 on page 28, shows the number distribution of the top ten baby forenames and surnames for 2019. The table shows that amongst males the top three leading forenames wereENZOKUHLE, LETHABO and LUBANZI. The leading forenames for females wereMELOKUHLE, ENZOKUHLE and AMAHLE. For middle names, the most popular choices for females were Precious, Princess and Angel. Amongst males Junior, Blessing and Gift were the top three popular middle names. The order for middle names has remained the same since 2017. In general, the popular baby forenames for males and females reflect positive hopes for the child, express beliefs and are inspired by positive connotations of both love and acceptance.

Table 11 further shows that for both sexes, Dlamini was the most common baby surname in 2019, closely followed by Ndlovu and then Nkosi. As in previous years, it is worth noting that nine of the surnames were from the Nguni clans, namely isiZulu, isiXhosa, isiNdebele and siSwati. Mokoena which featured as the sixth most popular surname was the only non-Nguni surname. Appendix H on pages 52–54 presents detailed information on the top ten baby first names and surnames for births which occurred and were registered in 2019 by province of registration. The distribution of male first names shows that ENZOKUHLE was the most common baby first name amongst male babies in Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, while it came third amongst male babies in Western Cape. LETHABO was the most common male baby name for Northern Cape, Free State, North West and Gauteng. In Mpumalanga and Limpopo, the most common male name was Junior and it was also the second most common name amongst male babies in all of the nine provinces.

Amongst female baby first names, ENZOKUHLE was the most common first name for babies born in Eastern Cape and in KwaZulu-Natal. MELOKUHLE was the chosen name in Western Cape and Mpumalanga, with REMOFILWE as most popular in Northern Cape and AMOHELANG in Free State. REATLEGILE was the preferred female baby name in North West while LETHABO and AMOGELANG were the most common baby names for females in Gauteng and Limpopo, respectively. Precious was the preferred second name in five of the nine provinces.

Regarding baby surnames, Nkosi was the most common baby surname in both Gauteng and Mpumalanga, while it was Jacobs for both Eastern Cape and Western Cape. For the other provinces, Van Wyk in Northern Cape was the most common baby surname, Molefe in the North West province, Mokoena in Free State, Dlamini in KwaZulu-Natal and Baloyi in Limpopo.

Table 11: Number distribution of top ten baby forenames and surnames, South Africa, 2019

Rank	Male				Female				Both sexes	
	First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	Surname	Number
1	Enzokuhle	3 851	Junior	10 644	Melokuhle	3 418	Precious	4 880	Dlamini	7 089
2	Lethabo	3 138	Blessing	4 806	Enzokuhle	3 273	Princess	4 303	Ndlovu	6 159
3	Lubanzi	3 110	Gift	3 880	Amahle	2 534	Angel	3 090	Nkosi	6 064
4	Melokuhle	2 907	Prince	3 103	Lethabo	2 420	Blessing	2 972	Khumalo	5 929
5	Junior	2 471	Lubanzi	1 896	Omphile	2 350	Hope	2 391	Sithole	4 982
6	Lethokuhle	2 169	Enzokuhle	1 743	Okuhle	2 313	Faith	2 251	Mokoena	4 142
7	Siyabonga	1 979	Innocent	1 586	Lesedi	2 154	Amahle	1 596	Mkhize	4 107
8	Omphile	1 929	Melokuhle	1 386	Lethokuhle	2 079	Okuhle	1 558	Gumede	3 748
9	Thato	1 887	Quinton	1 218	Lisakhanya	2 077	Enzokuhle	1 475	Ngcobo	3 735
10	Bokamoso	1 883	Lethabo	1 194	Rethabile	1 951	Grace	1 464	Mthembu	3 714

5. Concluding remarks

Legal identity is considered as the basic characteristic of an individual's identity conferred through birth registration and the issuance of a certificate by an authorised civil registration authority. Birth registration data are essential for planning and implementing development policies and programmes, particularly the National Development Plan (NDP) in South Africa; Agenda 2063 at regional level; and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) at international level.

The 2019 statistical release provided information on birth registrations and occurrences in South Africa for 2019. In addition, information for the period 1997 to 2019 was examined to review trends on birth registrations and occurrences. A total of 1 051 311 births were registered in 2019, reflecting a 42 246 increase from the 1 009 065 births registered in 2018. Whilst the number of birth registrations increased, the proportion of current births registered in 2019 decreased to 90,8% compared to 91,1% in 2018. However, in 2019, 80% of births were registered within the first 30 days of existence, compared to 79,6% in 2018 and 77,7% in 2017.

Differentials in births by sex showed that there were slightly more male births than female births with a sex ratio of 102 male birth registrations per 100 female birth registrations. Further analysis by age of the mother reflects higher proportions of births among women aged 20–29 years, while few occurred to women aged 50–54 years. On the one hand, provincial distributions show that the highest number of birth occurrences were in Gauteng (22,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (21,0%) followed by Limpopo (13,4%) while Northern Cape (2,4%) had the lowest number of registered birth occurrences followed by Free State (5,0%). In 2019, more births occurred in the months of March (9,0%) and the least number of births occurred in November (7,6%).

At national level, the most popular name amongst baby girls was Melokuhle, whilst the most popular name amongst baby boys wasENZOKUHLE. The popularity of these names for both males and females seems to continue, as they occupied the top three spots in 2017 and 2018. Dlamini was the most common surname amongst babies born and registered in 2019.

Although the completeness of birth registration has improved as more births are being recorded within the year of birth, there is still a need to increase not only birth registration but also the quality of birth registration information collected particularly information pertaining to fathers as nearly two-thirds (63,4%) of births did not contain information on fathers which means information about the natural fathers remain relatively unknown.

The efforts to improve birth registration coverage in South Africa exist, as health institutions and maternity units currently provide registration services and birth registration is a prerequisite to access a social grant. The continued improvement in the registration of births puts South Africa in the forefront of many sub-Saharan countries in monitoring the SDGs.

References

- Republic of South Africa. 1996. Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No.108 of 1996). Pretoria: Government of South Africa.
- Republic of South Africa. 1992. Births and Deaths Registration Act (Act No. 51 of 1992). Pretoria: Government of South Africa.
- Republic of South Africa. 2010. Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act (Act No. 18 of 2010). Pretoria: Government of South Africa.
- UNICEF global databases, 2020, based on Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), other national surveys, censuses and vital registration systems, 2010-2019.
- Stats SA (Statistics South Africa). 2019. Recorded live births, 2018. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa.
- United Nations (UN). 2015. Compilation of Metadata Received on Indicators for Global Monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets, Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators, Accessed on 10 August 2017.
- UNICEF (2017) Birth Registration https://www.unicef.org/protection/57929_58010.html, Accessed on 15 August 2020.
- UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund). 2013. Every Child's Birth Right: Inequities and trends in birth registration, UNICEF, New York.
https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/files/Embargoed_11_Dec_Birth_Registration_report_low_res.pdf. Accessed on 15 August 2020.
- WHO (World Health Organization). 2013. Strengthening civil registration and vital statistics for births, deaths and causes of death: Resource kit. Geneva: World Health Organization.
- Duncan, G.J., Lee, K.T.H., Rosales-Rueda, M. & Kalil M. Maternal Age and Child Development. *Demography* 55, 2229–2255 (2018).
- Mutshinyani Mercy Mahwasane & Thambatshira Johannes Tshifaro (2019) New-born baby naming practices of the Vhavenda: A sociolinguistic analysis perspective, *South African Journal of African Languages*, 39:2, 175-184,
- Vivian de Klerk & Barbara Bosch 1996. Naming Practices in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, *Names*, 44:3, 167-188.

Appendices

Appendices A: Notice of birth form (DHA-24) – page 1

DHA-24

Allocated Identity Number:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

NOTICE OF BIRTH

[Births and Deaths Registration Act 51 of 1992]

Regulation No 5

To be completed in full and submitted at the Department of Home Affairs' office or to a South African embassy or consulate. The form to be completed in black ink with BLOCK LETTERS. Please mark with ☒ the CORRECT box, where required. Applications that are not legible shall not be accepted.

Date of application

Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---

M	M
---	---

D	D
---	---

☐

Registration within
30 Days

☐

Registration after
30 Days

A. DETAILS OF THE CHILD

Surname

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Forenames in full

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Date of birth

Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---

M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

D	D
---	---

(write month in full)

Gender:

--	--	--	--	--	--

Place of birth: City/Town

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Province

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Country of birth

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Are the parents of the child married
to each other?

--	--

If Yes, nature of marriage

☐

Civil

☐

Customary

☐

Civil Union

☐

Religious: Specify _____

Date of marriage

Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---

M	M
---	---

D	D
---	---

If Yes, enclose a certified copy of the marriage certificate

COMPULSORY SECTION: Reasons for registering after 30 days as per section 9(1)

B. DETAILS OF FATHER (PARENT A)

Identity number (passport if foreigner)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Date of birth

Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---

M	M
---	---

D	D
---	---

Present surname

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Maiden surname

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Forenames in full

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Place of birth: City/Town

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Country of birth

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Citizenship

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Permanent/Temporary permit no.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

C. DETAILS OF MOTHER (PARENT B) (in the case of Civil Union this section must be completed by the natural mother)

Appendix A: Notice of birth form (DHA-24) – page 2

F. DECLARATION

I, _____, hereby declare that the information supplied is to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and correct, I understand that a false statement is punishable under section 31 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act of 1992.

Informant

Initials and surname	Signature	Date	Y Y Y Y	M M	D D
		Place			

Relationship to the child: ☐ Father (Parent A) ☐ Mother (Parent B) ☐ Legal guardian ☐ Social worker

G. FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY - OFFICE OF ORIGIN

NOTICE OF BIRTH RECEIVED BY:

Identity number

Surname

First name

Persal number

Stat		Birth	
I	O	S	M
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Office stamp - Office of origin

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION: PLEASE TICK ☒

Birth Registration within 30 Days:

☐ Confirmation of Birth

☐ Certified copy of Father's/Parent A's ID document (if applicable)

☐ Certified copy of Mother's/Parent B's ID document

☐ Certified copy of Legal Guardian/Social Worker's ID document

☐ Certified copy of Marriage Certificate of parents (if married)

☐ BI 1658 if married religiously i.e. Moslem, Hindu

☐ Medical Report: Same Sex Parents

☐ Certified copy of Social Worker's Registration Certificate

Birth Registration after 30 Days, additional documents:

☐ Proof of Paternity

If foreign birth, additional documents:

☐ Certified copy of the Foreign birth certificate of the child

☐ Citizenship determination form BI-529 (SA Parent)

☐ Citizenship determination form BI-529 (Child)

Online verification performed and printouts attached for following persons:

☐ Father (Parent A) ☐ Mother (Parent B) ☐ Legal guardian ☐ Social worker

Date Y Y Y Y M M D D

Signature _____

H. APPLICATION VERIFIED

Date Y Y Y Y M M D D

I hereby declare that I have verified the application and registration

Initials and surname _____

Signature

Identity number

Persal number

Appendix B1: Total birth registrations for 2019 by year of birth occurrence, province and district municipality*

Province and district municipality	Grand Total	2019 (current)	Late registrations					
			Total	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014 and below
Total	1 051 311	954 532	96 779	23 420	7 606	6 290	5 849	53 614
Western Cape								
Cape Winelands	13 224	12 775	449	223	27	34	39	126
Central Karoo	1 259	1 225	34	19	3	5	2	5
City of Cape Town	68 440	66 220	2 220	1 090	95	210	207	618
Eden	9 604	9 321	283	133	22	26	23	79
Overberg	4 481	4 324	157	56	16	22	12	51
West Coast	6 287	6 025	262	143	27	19	21	52
Total	103 295	99 890	3 405	1 664	190	316	304	931
Eastern Cape								
Alfred Nzo	16 463	14 494	1 969	556	228	175	189	821
Amatole	12 325	11 637	688	94	79	62	65	388
Buffalo City	15 207	14 517	690	192	67	57	78	296
Cacadu	5 841	5 248	593	192	78	56	54	213
Chris Hani	14 260	12 289	1 971	370	162	131	162	1 146
Joe Gqabi	5 389	4 750	639	184	52	51	53	299
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	18 837	17 481	1 356	353	170	163	133	537
O.R.Tambo	32 451	28 831	3 620	929	415	282	356	1 638
Total	120 773	109 247	11 526	2 870	1 251	977	1 090	5 338
Northern Cape								
Frances Baard	8 994	8 641	353	128	39	34	30	122
John Taolo Gaetsewe	5 498	5 384	114	44	18	8	13	31
Namakwa	1 599	1 566	33	13	7	2	4	7
Pixley ka Seme	3 247	3 055	192	76	28	15	13	60
Siyanda	5 305	4 992	313	75	21	20	26	171
Total	24 643	23 638	1 005	336	113	79	86	391
Free State								
Fezile Dabi	7 973	7 246	727	105	54	64	62	442
Lejweleputswa	9 661	9 292	369	99	27	37	40	166
Mangaung	16 670	16 067	603	135	60	69	70	269
Thabo Mofutsanyane	14 009	13 165	844	264	78	79	49	374
Xhariep	2 075	1 834	241	36	33	22	19	131
Total	50 388	47 604	2 784	639	252	271	240	1 382

* Foreign births reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix B1: Total birth registrations for 2019 by year of birth occurrence, province and district municipality* (continued)

Province and district municipality	Grand Total	2019 (current)	Late registrations					
			Total	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014 and below
Total: South Africa	1 051 311	954 532	96 779	23 420	7 606	6 290	5 849	53 614
KwaZulu-Natal								
Amajuba	9 728	9 050	678	326	91	61	56	144
Sisonke	10 367	9 618	749	345	92	57	47	208
Ugu	14 744	13 684	1 060	462	165	113	76	244
Zululand	19 511	18 059	1 452	692	217	126	88	329
eThekweni	66 380	60 495	5 885	2 432	801	644	629	1 379
iLembe	12 849	11 253	1 596	697	225	170	131	373
uMgungundlovu	17 489	16 482	1 007	440	69	82	70	346
uMkhanyakude	18 258	16 378	1 880	705	259	180	147	589
uMzinyathi	14 645	13 322	1 323	728	165	88	64	278
uThukela	14 423	13 195	1 228	571	195	98	72	292
uThungulu	20 896	18 838	2 058	957	301	201	135	464
Total	219 290	200 374	18 916	8 355	2 580	1 820	1 515	4 646
North West								
Bojanala	22 911	22 185	726	268	69	63	85	241
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	13 985	13 206	779	302	99	52	51	275
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	10 696	10 236	460	243	60	32	25	100
Ngaka Modiri Molema	11 500	11 135	365	99	39	36	47	144
Total	59 092	56 762	2 330	912	267	183	208	760
Gauteng								
City of Johannesburg	63 674	58 353	5 321	1 812	660	519	416	1 914
City of Tshwane	92 041	60 425	31 616	1 318	447	452	340	29 059
Ekurhuleni	67 331	62 421	4 910	1 350	539	510	433	2 078
Sedibeng	15 528	14 468	1 060	364	94	76	60	466
West Rand	16 378	14 023	2 355	487	99	139	167	1 463
Total	254 952	209 690	45 262	5 331	1 839	1 696	1 416	34 980
Mpumalanga								
Ehlanzeni	43 950	41 067	2 883	704	256	242	249	1 432
Gert Sibande	18 449	17 165	1 284	490	139	92	97	466
Nkangala	22 235	21 494	741	434	31	40	62	174
Total	84 634	79 726	4 908	1 628	426	374	408	2 072
Limpopo								
Capricorn	31 486	30 401	1 085	297	119	116	148	405
Greater Sekhukhune	25 899	25 103	796	187	103	75	82	349
Mopani	26 088	24 829	1 259	355	110	80	71	643
Vhembe	33 914	31 322	2 592	547	235	207	189	1 414
Waterberg	16 669	15 765	904	292	121	96	92	303
Total	134 056	127 420	6 636	1 678	688	574	582	3 114
Unknown	188	181	7	7				

* Foreign births reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix B2: Total birth registrations for 2019 by registration status, province and district municipality*

Province and District Municipality	Number of birth registrations					Percentages				
	Total	0–30 Days	31–364 Days*	1–14 Years	From Age 15	Total	0–30 Days	31–364 Days	1–14 Years	From Age 15
Total: South Africa	1 051 311	840 746	132 367	50 580	27 618	100.0	80.0	12.6	4.8	2.6
Western Cape										
Cape Winelands	13 224	11 271	1 714	239	0	100.0	85.2	13.0	1.8	0.0
Central Karoo	1 259	1 080	162	17	0	100.0	85.8	12.9	1.4	0.0
City of Cape Town	68 440	59 304	7 975	1 141	20	100.0	86.7	11.7	1.7	0.0
Eden	9 604	8 538	906	160	0	100.0	88.9	9.4	1.7	0.0
Overberg	4 481	3 923	452	106	0	100.0	87.5	10.1	2.4	0.0
West Coast	6 287	4 994	1 167	126	0	100.0	79.4	18.6	2.0	0.0
Total	103 295	89 110	12 376	1 789	20	100.0	86.3	12.0	1.7	0.0
Eastern Cape										
Alfred Nzo	16 463	12 751	2 161	1 551	0	100.0	77.5	13.1	9.4	0.0
Amatole	12 325	11 445	222	658	0	100.0	92.9	1.8	5.3	0.0
Buffalo City	15 207	13 641	1 031	535	0	100.0	89.7	6.8	3.5	0.0
Cacadu	5 841	4 473	915	453	0	100.0	76.6	15.7	7.8	0.0
Chris Hani	14 260	10 845	1 711	1 647	57	100.0	76.1	12.0	11.5	0.4
Joe Gqabi	5 389	3 970	897	518	4	100.0	73.7	16.6	9.6	0.1
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	18 837	15 687	2 059	1 091	0	100.0	83.3	10.9	5.8	0.0
O.R.Tambo	32 451	25 502	3 961	2 986	2	100.0	78.6	12.2	9.2	0.0
Total	120 773	98 314	12 957	9 439	63	100.0	81.4	10.7	7.8	0.1
Northern Cape										
Frances Baard	8 994	7 940	795	259	0	100.0	88.3	8.8	2.9	0.0
John Taolo Gaetsewe	5 498	5 205	213	79	1	100.0	94.7	3.9	1.4	0.0
Namakwa	1 599	1 511	62	26	0	100.0	94.5	3.9	1.6	0.0
Pixley ka Seme	3 247	2 699	412	136	0	100.0	83.1	12.7	4.2	0.0
Siyanda	5 305	4 476	574	251	4	100.0	84.4	10.8	4.7	0.1
Total	24 643	21 831	2 056	751	5	100.0	88.6	8.3	3.0	0.0
Free State										
Fezile Dabi	7 973	6 797	512	664	0	100.0	85.3	6.4	8.3	0.0
Lejweleputswa	9 661	8 970	406	285	0	100.0	92.8	4.2	3.0	0.0
Mangaung	16 670	15 623	535	512	0	100.0	93.7	3.2	3.1	0.0
Thabo Mofutsanyane	14 009	12 285	1 065	659	0	100.0	87.7	7.6	4.7	0.0
Xhariep	2 075	1 655	207	213	0	100.0	79.8	10.0	10.3	0.0
Total	50 388	45 330	2 725	2 333	0	100.0	90.0	5.4	4.6	0.0

* Foreign births reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix B2: Total birth registrations for 2019 by registration status, province and district municipality* (continued)

Province and District Municipality	Number of birth registrations					Percentages				
	Total	0–30 Days	31–364 Days*	1–14 Years	From Age 15	Total	0–30 Days	31–364 Days	1–14 Years	From Age 15
Total: South Africa	1 051 311	840 746	132 367	50 580	27 618	100.0	80.0	12.6	4.8	2.6
KwaZulu-Natal										
Amajuba	9 728	7 291	1 994	443	0	100.0	74.9	20.5	4.6	0.0
Sisonke	10 367	7 748	2 174	445	0	100.0	74.7	21.0	4.3	0.0
Ugu	14 744	10 387	3 682	675	0	100.0	70.4	25.0	4.6	0.0
Zululand	19 511	14 358	4 247	906	0	100.0	73.6	21.8	4.6	0.0
eThekweni	66 380	48 023	14 486	3 871	0	100.0	72.3	21.8	5.8	0.0
iLembe	12 849	6 795	5 031	1 023	0	100.0	52.9	39.2	8.0	0.0
uMgungundlovu	17 489	13 371	3 543	574	1	100.0	76.5	20.3	3.3	0.0
uMkhanyakude	18 258	12 451	4 500	1 307	0	100.0	68.2	24.6	7.2	0.0
uMzinyathi	14 645	9 102	4 790	753	0	100.0	62.2	32.7	5.1	0.0
uThukela	14 423	10 138	3 463	822	0	100.0	70.3	24.0	5.7	0.0
uThungulu	20 896	13 809	5 796	1 291	0	100.0	66.1	27.7	6.2	0.0
Total	219 290	153 473	53 706	12 110	1	100.0	70.0	24.5	5.5	0.0
North West										
Bojanala	22 911	20 795	1 612	504	0	100.0	90.8	7.0	2.2	0.0
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	13 985	12 395	1 009	581	0	100.0	88.6	7.2	4.2	0.0
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	10 696	9 571	859	266	0	100.0	89.5	8.0	2.5	0.0
Ngaka Modiri Molema	11 500	10 551	676	273	0	100.0	91.7	5.9	2.4	0.0
Total	59 092	53 312	4 156	1 624	0	100.0	90.2	7.0	2.7	0.0
Gauteng										
City of Johannesburg	63 674	53 928	5 735	4 008	3	100.0	84.7	9.0	6.3	0.0
City of Tshwane	92 041	56 566	4 780	3 335	27360	100.0	61.5	5.2	3.6	29.7
Ekurhuleni	67 331	55 863	7 721	3 739	8	100.0	83.0	11.5	5.6	0.0
Sedibeng	15 528	13 245	1 504	769	10	100.0	85.3	9.7	5.0	0.1
West Rand	16 378	12 845	1 554	1 935	44	100.0	78.4	9.5	11.8	0.3
Total	254 952	192 447	21 294	13 786	27 425	100.0	75.5	8.4	5.4	10.8
Mpumalanga										
Ehlanzeni	43 950	36 938	4 725	2 284	3	100.0	84.0	10.8	5.2	0.0
Gert Sibande	18 449	14 228	3 364	857	0	100.0	77.1	18.2	4.6	0.0
Nkangala	22 235	17 898	4 020	317	0	100.0	80.5	18.1	1.4	0.0
Total	84 634	69 064	12 109	3 458	3	100.0	81.6	14.3	4.1	0.0
Limpopo										
Capricorn	31 486	29 169	1 458	857	2	100.0	92.6	4.6	2.7	0.0
Greater Sekhukhune	25 899	23 956	1 284	622	37	100.0	92.5	5.0	2.4	0.1
Mopani	26 088	22 522	2 575	944	47	100.0	86.3	9.9	3.6	0.2
Vhembe	33 914	27 702	4 027	2 171	14	100.0	81.7	11.9	6.4	0.0
Waterberg	16 669	14 355	1 617	696	1	100.0	86.1	9.7	4.2	0.0
Total	134 056	117 704	10 961	5 290	101	100.0	87.8	8.2	3.9	0.1
Unknown	188	161	27	0	0	100.0	85.6	14.4	0.0	0.0
Total	1 051 311	840 746	132 367	50 580	27 618	100.0	80.0	12.6	4.8	2.6

* Foreign births reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix C: Birth registrations by registration status, sex, province and district municipality*

Province and district municipality	Total registrations			Current registrations			Late registrations					
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Before age 15			From age 15		
							Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total - South Africa	1051 311	532 018	519 293	973 113	490 860	482 253	50 580	25 265	25 315	27 618	15 893	11 725
Western Cape												
Cape Winelands	13 224	6 609	6 615	12 985	6 497	6 488	239	112	127	-	-	-
Central Karoo	1 259	656	603	1 242	650	592	17	6	11	-	-	-
City of Cape Town	68 440	34 684	33 756	67 279	34 088	33 191	1 141	583	558	20	13	7
Eden	9 604	4 890	4 714	9 444	4 810	4 634	160	80	80	-	-	-
Overberg	4 481	2 286	2 195	4 375	2 230	2 145	106	56	50	-	-	-
West Coast	6 287	3 129	3 158	6 161	3 072	3 089	126	57	69	-	-	-
Total	103 295	52 254	51 041	101 486	51 347	50 139	1 789	894	895	20	13	7
Eastern Cape												
Alfred Nzo	16 463	8 408	8 055	14 912	7 639	7 273	1 551	769	782	-	-	-
Amatole	12 325	6 201	6 124	11 667	5 863	5 804	658	338	320	-	-	-
Buffalo City	15 207	7 614	7 593	14 672	7 326	7 346	535	288	247	-	-	-
Cacadu	5 841	2 985	2 856	5 388	2 750	2 638	453	235	218	-	-	-
Chris Hani	14 260	7 281	6 979	12 556	6 391	6 165	1 647	858	789	57	32	25
Joe Gqabi	5 389	2 617	2 772	4 867	2 378	2 489	518	236	282	4	3	1
Nelson Mandela Bay Metro	18 837	9 549	9 288	17 746	9 033	8 713	1 091	516	575	-	-	-
O.R.Tambo	32 451	16 440	16 011	29 463	14 968	14 495	2 986	1 472	1 514	2	-	2
Total	120 773	61 095	59 678	111 271	56 348	54 923	9 439	4 712	4 727	63	35	28
Northern Cape												
Frances Baard	7 800	3 995	3 805	7 565	3 875	3 690	235	120	115	-	-	-
John Taolo Gaetsewe	5 498	2 815	2 683	5 418	2 777	2 641	79	37	42	1	1	-
Namakwa	1 599	810	789	1 573	795	778	26	15	11	-	-	-
Pixley ka Seme	3 247	1 637	1 610	3 111	1 566	1 545	136	71	65	-	-	-
Siyanda	5 305	2 741	2 564	5 050	2 605	2 445	251	134	117	4	2	2
Total	23 449	11 998	11 451	22 717	11 618	11 099	727	377	350	5	3	2
Free State												
Fezile Dabi	7 973	3 974	3 999	7 309	3 649	3 660	664	325	339	-	-	-
Lejweleputswa	9 661	4 800	4 861	9 376	4 674	4 702	285	126	159	-	-	-
Mangaung	16 670	8 390	8 280	16 158	8 145	8 013	512	245	267	-	-	-
Thabo Mofutsanyane	14 009	7 066	6 943	13 350	6 742	6 608	659	324	335	-	-	-
Xhariep	2 075	1 029	1 046	1 862	922	940	213	107	106	-	-	-
Total	50 388	25 259	25 129	48 055	24 132	23 923	2 333	1 127	1 206			

* Foreign births reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix C: Birth registrations by registration status, sex, province and district municipality* (concluded)

Province and district municipality	Total registrations			Current registrations			Late registrations					
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Before age 15			From age 15		
							Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total: South Africa	1 051 311	532 018	519 293	973 113	490 860	482 253	50 580	25 265	25 315	27 618	15 893	11 725
KwaZulu-Natal												
Amajuba	9 728	4 903	4 825	9 285	4 677	4 608	443	226	217	-	-	-
Sisonke	10 367	5 317	5 050	9 922	5 105	4 817	445	212	233	-	-	-
Ugu	14 744	7 436	7 308	14 069	7 106	6 963	675	330	345	-	-	-
Zululand	19 511	9 891	9 620	18 605	9 396	9 209	906	495	411	-	-	-
eThekweni	66 380	33 371	33 009	62 509	31 409	31 100	3 871	1 962	1 909	-	-	-
iLembe	12 849	6 520	6 329	11 826	6 020	5 806	1 023	500	523	-	-	-
uMgungundlovu	17 489	8 914	8 575	16 914	8 615	8 299	574	299	275	1	-	1
uMkhanyakude	18 258	9 102	9 156	16 951	8 465	8 486	1 307	637	670	-	-	-
uMzinyathi	14 645	7 453	7 192	13 892	7 083	6 809	753	370	383	-	-	-
uThukela	14 423	7 239	7 184	13 601	6 851	6 750	822	388	434	-	-	-
uThungulu	20 896	10 487	10 409	19 605	9 825	9 780	1 291	662	629	-	-	-
Total	219 290	110 633	108 657	207 179	104 552	102 627	12 110	6 081	6 029	1		1
North West												
Bojanala	22 911	11 502	11 409	22 407	11 256	11 151	504	246	258	-	-	-
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	13 985	7 062	6 923	13 404	6 769	6 635	581	293	288	-	-	-
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	10 696	5 391	5 305	10 430	5 266	5 164	266	125	141	-	-	-
Frances Baard	1 194	598	596	1 170	589	581	24	9	15	-	-	-
Ngaka Modiri Molema	11 500	5 850	5 650	11 227	5 696	5 531	273	154	119	-	-	-
Total	60 286	30 403	29 883	58 638	29 576	29 062	1 648	827	821			
Gauteng												
City of Johannesburg	63 674	32 066	31 608	59 663	30 085	29 578	4 008	1 979	2 029	3	2	1
City of Tshwane	92 041	48 098	43 943	61 346	30 661	30 685	3 335	1 691	1 644	27 360	15 746	11 614
Ekurhuleni	67 331	33 751	33 580	63 584	31 858	31 726	3 739	1 887	1 852	8	6	2
Sedibeng	15 528	7 880	7 648	14 749	7 482	7 267	769	392	377	10	6	4
West Rand	16 378	8 180	8 198	14 399	7 217	7 182	1 935	942	993	44	21	23
Total	254 952	129 975	124 977	213 741	107 303	106 438	13 786	6 891	6 895	27 425	15 781	11 644
Mpumalanga												
Ehlanzeni	43 950	22 320	21 630	41 663	21 199	20 464	2 284	1 121	1 163	3	-	3
Gert Sibande	18 449	9 312	9 137	17 592	8 897	8 695	857	415	442	-	-	-
Nkangala	22 235	11 180	11 055	21 918	11 018	10 900	317	162	155	-	-	-
Total	84 634	42 812	41 822	81 173	41 114	40 059	3 458	1 698	1 760	3		3
Limpopo												
Capricorn	31 486	15 716	15 770	30 627	15 279	15 348	857	435	422	2	2	-
Greater Sekhukhune	25 899	13 168	12 731	25 240	12 816	12 424	622	332	290	37	20	17
Mopani	26 088	13 092	12 996	25 097	12 577	12 520	944	485	459	47	30	17
Vhembe	33 914	17 183	16 731	31 729	16 101	15 628	2 171	1 074	1 097	14	8	6
Waterberg	16 669	8 333	8 336	15 972	8 000	7 972	696	332	364	1	1	-
Total	134 056	67 492	66 564	128 665	64 773	63 892	5 290	2 658	2 632	101	61	40
Unknown	188	97	91	188	97	91						

* Foreign births reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix D: Birth occurrences by year of birth and age of the mother, 2015–2019*

Age of the mother	Year of birth occurrence				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
10–14	3 531	2 344	1 927	1 700	3 055
15–19	141 768	121 895	108 301	95 220	103 353
20–24	251 579	233 437	234 919	241 763	234 334
25–29	244 788	233 158	240 316	251 348	248 362
30–34	193 228	189 870	195 499	204 954	204 181
35–39	102 440	100 080	104 983	114 610	118 142
40–44	30 480	30 414	31 148	32 480	32 124
45–49	2 164	2 077	2 240	2 572	2 368
50–54	178	148	172	207	110
Unspecified/outside 10–54 age range	1 895	2 782	9 069	5 679	8 503
Total	972 051	916 205	928 574	950 533	954 532

Appendix E: Birth occurrences by province of birth registration and age of mother, 2019*

Province of birth registration	Age of Mother										Total
	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40–44	45–49	50–54	Unsp.**	
Western Cape	339	8 489	22 834	27 488	23 662	13 178	2 985	188	3	724	99 890
Eastern Cape	506	14 842	29 536	26 077	20 615	12 536	3 490	335	17	1293	109 247
Free State	144	4 987	11 638	12 753	10 176	5 812	1 568	110	2	414	47 604
Gauteng	338	14 239	42 916	58 769	53 003	30 610	8 085	512	26	1192	209 690
KwaZulu-Natal	538	25 758	54 663	50 161	39 208	21 711	5 752	469	31	2083	200 374
Limpopo	541	14 824	31 916	32 545	25 632	15 547	4 894	363	11	1 147	127 420
Mpumalanga	328	10 339	20 336	20 206	15 879	9 003	2 535	202	15	883	79 726
North West	211	6 705	14 504	14 776	11 749	7 227	2 068	144	3	533	57 920
Northern Cape	109	3 146	5 944	5 548	4 219	2 499	739	45	2	229	22 480
Unknown	1	24	47	39	38	19	8	0	0	5	181
Total	3 055	103 353	234 334	248 362	204 181	118 142	32 124	2 368	110	8 503	954 532

**Unspecified or outside the 10–54 age range.

*Foreign births are reflected in province and district of birth registration

Appendix F: Birth occurrences by year of birth and province and district municipality of birth registration, 2015–2019*

Province and district municipality	Year of birth				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total - South Africa	972 051	916 205	928 574	950 533	954 532
Western Cape					
Cape Winelands (Boland)	13 695	12 872	13 589	14 093	12 775
Central Karoo	1 304	1 162	1 171	1 190	1 225
City of Cape Town	66 659	63 128	64 929	65 316	66 220
Eden	9 163	8 684	9 216	9 386	9 321
Overberg	3 177	3 727	3 905	4 042	4 324
West Coast	5 861	5 365	4 982	4 935	6 025
Total	99 859	94 938	97 792	98 962	99 890
Eastern Cape					
Alfred Nzo	15 388	13 990	18 894	14 051	14 494
Amathole	11 510	10 338	11 218	11 110	11 637
Buffalo City	16 023	14 488	17 751	15 070	14 517
Chris Hani	12 583	11 567	11 646	12 142	12 289
Joe Gqabi (Ukhahlamba)	5 463	4 689	2 695	4 750	4 750
Nelson Mandela Bay	17 341	17 155	17 296	17 273	17 481
O.R.Tambo	32 435	27 402	23 027	28 864	28 831
Sarah Baartman (Cacadu)	5 886	5 307	5 643	5 406	5 248
Total	116 629	104 936	108 170	108 666	109 247
Northern Cape					
Frances Baard	9 340	8 773	9 118	9 426	8 641
John Taolo Gaetsewe	5 871	5 323	5 226	5 380	5 384
Namakwa	1 715	1 517	1 572	1 670	1 566
Pixley ka Seme	3 106	2 907	2 981	3 091	3 055
Z F Mgcawu (Siyanda)	5 030	4 743	4 972	4 964	4 992
Total	25 062	23 263	23 869	24 531	23 638
Free State					
Fezile Dabi	7 626	7 042	7 496	7 760	7 246
Lejweleputswa	10 594	9 563	10 009	9 387	9 292
Mangaung	16 194	15 846	15 788	15 944	16 067
Thabo Mofutsanyane	13 294	12 612	13 209	13 307	13 165
Xhariep	1 654	1 333	1 445	1 547	1 834
Total	49 362	46 396	47 947	47 945	47 604

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 28 February 2020.

** Foreign births are reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix F: Birth occurrences by year of birth and province and district municipality of birth registration, 2015–2019* (concluded)

Province and district municipality	Year of birth				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total - South Africa					
KwaZulu-Natal					
Amajuba	9 052	8 734	8 645	9 001	9 050
Hary Gwala (Sisonke)	10 494	9 339	8 783	9 305	9 618
Ugu	15 158	13 241	13 227	13 596	13 684
Zululand	17 785	16 607	17 135	17 468	18 059
eThekweni	61 849	59 083	59 046	60 005	60 495
iLembe	8 772	9 729	10 086	10 953	11 253
uMgungundlovu	16 635	14 588	15 140	15 729	16 482
uMkhanyakude	14 684	14 799	14 164	18 012	16 378
uMzinyathi	13 226	12 955	12 749	13 487	13 322
uThukela	13 841	12 619	12 252	12 622	13 195
uThungulu	20 461	18 223	18 081	19 100	18 838
Total	201 957	189 917	189 308	199 278	200 374
North West					
Bojanala	24 879	22 841	18 715	16 705	22 185
Dr Kenneth Kaunda	13 189	12 259	12 688	12 785	13 206
Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati	9 460	9 485	9 422	9 837	10 236
Ngaka Modiri Molema	10 281	11 058	15 741	16 679	11 135
Total	57 809	55 643	56 566	56 006	56 762
Gauteng					
City of Johannesburg	70 509	60 643	60 162	59 611	58 353
City of Tshwane	61 904	58 552	64 799	60 204	60 425
Ekurhuleni	55 215	56 259	59 371	61 569	62 421
Sedibeng	15 472	14 809	15 326	16 727	14 468
West Rand	10 085	14 017	8 171	12 832	14 023
Total	213 185	204 280	207 829	210 943	209 690
Mpumalanga					
Ehlanzeni	38 859	39 507	40 187	37 978	41 067
Gert Sibande	16 625	16 069	16 600	19 704	17 165
Nkangala	22 089	20 805	20 602	21 299	21 494
Total	77 573	76 381	77 389	78 981	79 726
Limpopo					
Capricorn	30 217	28 488	26 688	30 604	30 401
Greater Sekhukhune	23 328	23 295	26 100	25 699	25 103
Mopani	24 851	22 776	22 579	25 698	24 829
Vhembe	32 308	30 359	30 839	28 453	31 322
Waterberg	16 544	15 490	12 727	14 638	15 765
Total	127 248	120 408	118 933	125 092	127 420
Unspecified	3 367	43	771	129	181

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 28 February 2020.

** Foreign births are reflected in province and district of birth registration.

Appendix G: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 1994–1996*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
1994	January	41 929	41 467	83 396
	February	37 944	37 552	75 496
	March	41 686	41 288	82 974
	April	42 270	42 307	84 577
	May	41 024	40 744	81 768
	June	42 631	42 680	85 311
	July	40 033	39 467	79 500
	August	41 794	41 593	83 387
	September	46 092	45 620	91 712
	October	40 312	39 876	80 188
	November	37 884	37 952	75 836
	December	43 165	42 806	85 971
	Total	496 764	493 352	990 116
1995	January	41 190	40 936	82 126
	February	36 178	35 920	72 098
	March	40 372	40 060	80 432
	April	38 433	38 546	76 979
	May	40 278	39 627	79 905
	June	41 637	41 076	82 713
	July	39 258	39 503	78 761
	August	41 017	40 463	81 480
	September	45 109	45 008	90 117
	October	39 024	39 304	78 328
	November	36 971	36 813	73 784
	December	41 734	41 224	82 958
	Total	481 201	478 480	959 681
1996	January	42 888	42 917	85 805
	February	37 949	37 508	75 457
	March	41 422	41 690	83 112
	April	40 205	39 554	79 759
	May	40 790	40 675	81 465
	June	43 064	42 576	85 640
	July	40 514	40 472	80 986
	August	41 910	41 550	83 460
	September	46 271	46 097	92 368
	October	39 802	39 060	78 862
	November	36 929	37 034	73 963
	December	42 455	41 880	84 335
	Total	494 199	491 013	985 212

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.1: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 1997–1999*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
1997	January	41 971	41 821	83 792
	February	37 376	37 283	74 659
	March	42 749	42 621	85 370
	April	39 885	40 175	80 060
	May	39 906	39 971	79 877
	June	41 048	41 346	82 394
	July	40 657	40 463	81 120
	August	40 725	40 933	81 658
	September	45 131	44 608	89 739
	October	38 783	38 215	76 998
	November	36 157	35 736	71 893
	December	40 849	40 811	81 660
	Total	485 237	483 983	969 220
1998	January	41 084	41 358	82 442
	February	37 296	37 219	74 515
	March	42 073	41 876	83 949
	April	39 048	39 574	78 622
	May	40 051	39 569	79 620
	June	40 465	40 349	80 814
	July	39 324	38 879	78 203
	August	39 802	40 191	79 993
	September	44 336	44 010	88 346
	October	38 145	38 040	76 185
	November	35 486	35 237	70 723
	December	39 545	39 633	79 178
	Total	476 655	475 935	952 590
1999	January	40 178	40 302	80 480
	February	35 955	35 673	71 628
	March	41 465	41 717	83 182
	April	41 036	41 280	82 316
	May	41 503	41 618	83 121
	June	41 762	41 757	83 519
	July	40 134	39 917	80 051
	August	40 614	40 462	81 076
	September	44 643	44 335	88 978
	October	38 462	38 784	77 246
	November	37 323	36 585	73 908
	December	41 545	41 357	82 902
	Total	484 620	483 787	968 407

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.2: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2000–2002*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2000	January	41 010	42 854	83 864
	February	40 085	39 731	79 816
	March	43 106	43 058	86 164
	April	40 741	40 832	81 573
	May	41 460	41 713	83 173
	June	41 949	41 705	83 654
	July	40 334	40 326	80 660
	August	41 109	40 606	81 715
	September	44 106	43 858	87 964
	October	39 012	38 715	77 727
	November	36 728	36 800	73 528
	December	39 586	39 402	78 988
	Total	489 226	489 600	978 826
2001	January	43 572	43 332	86 904
	February	37 014	37 259	74 273
	March	42 608	42 221	84 829
	April	40 450	40 343	80 793
	May	40 927	41 179	82 106
	June	40 352	40 748	81 100
	July	39 788	39 168	78 956
	August	39 852	39 888	79 740
	September	43 386	42 946	86 332
	October	38 295	38 665	76 960
	November	36 603	36 060	72 663
	December	39 751	39 184	78 935
	Total	482 598	480 993	963 591
2002	January	43 535	43 155	86 690
	February	38 282	38 150	76 432
	March	41 399	41 775	83 174
	April	39 520	39 779	79 299
	May	40 817	41 072	81 889
	June	41 538	41 234	82 772
	July	40 929	41 193	82 122
	August	40 989	40 020	81 009
	September	44 553	44 008	88 561
	October	39 138	39 572	78 710
	November	36 614	36 314	72 928
	December	40 323	40 075	80 398
	Total	487 637	486 347	973 984

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.3: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2003–2005*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2003	January	42 807	42 361	85 168
	February	37 944	37 749	75 693
	March	43 323	43 181	86 504
	April	40 783	40 405	81 188
	May	41 453	41 003	82 456
	June	41 048	40 705	81 753
	July	39 898	39 523	79 421
	August	40 312	40 142	80 454
	September	44 791	44 087	88 878
	October	38 481	38 419	76 900
	November	35 783	35 442	71 225
	December	40 039	39 339	79 378
	Total	486 662	482 356	969 018
2004	January	43 015	42 199	85 214
	February	39 530	38 559	78 089
	March	43 115	42 810	85 925
	April	41 584	41 034	82 618
	May	42 490	42 390	84 880
	June	43 218	43 028	86 246
	July	43 464	42 823	86 287
	August	44 884	44 251	89 135
	September	48 516	48 266	96 782
	October	41 882	41 650	83 532
	November	40 573	40 409	80 982
	December	44 156	43 515	87 671
	Total	516 427	510 934	1 027 361
2005	January	45 908	44 750	90 658
	February	41 280	40 817	82 097
	March	46 839	46 754	93 593
	April	45 010	44 822	89 832
	May	46 943	46 336	93 279
	June	45 738	45 783	91 521
	July	44 699	44 231	88 930
	August	44 916	43 967	88 883
	September	47 254	46 792	94 046
	October	41 879	41 070	82 949
	November	41 372	40 626	81 998
	December	45 828	45 226	91 054
	Total	537 666	531 174	1 068 840

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.4: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2006–2008*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2006	January	47 717	47 311	95 028
	February	42 987	43 020	86 007
	March	47 848	47 901	95 749
	April	45 940	45 826	91 766
	May	47 782	47 137	94 919
	June	46 893	46 468	93 361
	July	45 983	45 654	91 637
	August	46 110	45 969	92 079
	September	49 945	49 715	99 660
	October	43 696	43 116	86 812
	November	41 657	40 612	82 269
	December	45 010	44 045	89 055
	Total	551 568	546 774	1 098 342
2007	January	48 616	48 234	96 850
	February	42 393	41 565	83 958
	March	48 080	47 379	95 459
	April	46 480	46 254	92 734
	May	47 829	47 676	95 505
	June	46 430	45 327	91 757
	July	45 707	45 444	91 151
	August	45 100	44 634	89 734
	September	47 997	47 212	95 209
	October	42 018	41 090	83 108
	November	40 526	40 118	80 644
	December	45 025	43 926	88 951
	Total	546 201	538 859	1 085 060
2008	January	47 949	47 368	95 317
	February	45 026	44 357	89 383
	March	48 918	48 816	97 734
	April	46 385	46 143	92 528
	May	46 280	45 967	92 247
	June	45 985	45 402	91 387
	July	46 888	46 849	93 737
	August	47 280	46 266	93 546
	September	50 739	49 618	100 357
	October	43 322	43 306	86 628
	November	42 295	41 424	83 719
	December	46 824	45 818	92 642
	Total	557 891	551 334	1 109 225

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.5: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2009–2011*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2009	January	48 127	47 249	95 376
	February	42 405	41 975	84 380
	March	48 156	47 455	95 611
	April	43 943	43 671	87 614
	May	44 766	44 853	89 619
	June	45 083	44 214	89 297
	July	44 305	44 139	88 444
	August	44 291	43 699	87 990
	September	46 898	46 171	93 069
	October	41 052	39 954	81 006
	November	39 955	39 100	79 055
	December	43 721	42 974	86 695
	Total	532 702	525 454	1 058 156
2010	January	45 031	44 321	89 352
	February	40 323	39 702	80 025
	March	45 979	45 061	91 040
	April	43 053	42 539	85 592
	May	43 649	42 679	86 328
	June	43 873	43 255	87 128
	July	44 394	43 494	87 888
	August	44 224	43 007	87 231
	September	47 128	45 889	93 017
	October	40 511	40 083	80 594
	November	39 051	38 423	77 474
	December	43 145	42 600	85 745
	Total	520 361	511 053	1 031 414
2011	January	43 270	42 496	85 766
	February	41 364	40 331	81 695
	March	48 079	46 816	94 895
	April	43 642	43 473	87 115
	May	45 740	45 194	90 934
	June	44 289	43 637	87 926
	July	43 749	42 659	86 408
	August	43 995	43 234	87 229
	September	46 580	45 641	92 221
	October	40 643	40 774	81 417
	November	40 506	39 421	79 927
	December	42 850	41 924	84 774
	Total	524 707	515 600	1 040 307

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.6: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2012–2014*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2012	January	46 069	45 150	91 219
	February	41 998	41 388	83 386
	March	46 387	45 824	92 211
	April	44 660	44 030	88 690
	May	45 702	45 023	90 725
	June	44 026	43 180	87 206
	July	43 823	43 267	87 090
	August	44 306	43 191	87 497
	September	45 622	44 718	90 340
	October	39 960	39 490	79 450
	November	39 004	38 268	77 272
	December	43 259	42 020	85 279
	Total	524 816	515 549	1 040 365
2013	January	45 590	44 477	90 067
	February	40 718	39 563	80 281
	March	45 608	45 349	90 957
	April	43 429	42 650	86 079
	May	43 877	43 197	87 074
	June	43 040	42 118	85 158
	July	43 607	43 026	86 633
	August	43 916	43 159	87 075
	September	45 453	45 008	90 461
	October	40 176	38 858	79 034
	November	39 236	38 405	77 641
	December	43 458	42 809	86 267
	Total	518 108	508 619	1 026 727
2014	January	44 800	44 064	88 864
	February	40 711	40 016	80 727
	March	46 697	45 783	92 480
	April	43 857	43 330	87 187
	May	45 085	44 466	89 551
	June	43 922	42 904	86 826
	July	43 637	42 903	86 540
	August	43 215	42 557	85 772
	September	46 374	45 302	91 676
	October	40 258	39 345	79 603
	November	38 228	37 730	75 958
	December	42 243	41 346	83 589
	Total	519 027	509 746	1 028 773

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.7: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2015–2017*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2015	January	45 332	44 256	89 588
	February	39 834	39 435	79 269
	March	45 277	44 524	89 801
	April	42 130	41 242	83 372
	May	41 888	41 746	83 634
	June	41 481	41 120	82 601
	July	40 844	40 355	81 199
	August	40 206	39 637	79 843
	September	42 816	42 053	84 869
	October	36 835	35 969	72 804
	November	35 935	35 282	71 217
	December	39 748	38 960	78 708
	Total	492 326	484 579	976 905
2016	January	39 626	38 336	77 962
	February	37 376	36 596	73 972
	March	41 593	40 535	82 128
	April	39 610	39 015	78 625
	May	40 019	39 614	79 633
	June	39 256	38 635	77 891
	July	37 959	37 671	75 630
	August	39 120	38 682	77 802
	September	39 936	39 011	78 947
	October	35 562	34 451	70 013
	November	35 116	34 299	69 415
	December	38 830	37 570	76 400
	Total	464 003	454 415	918 418
2017	January	39 467	38 553	78 020
	February	36 534	36 168	72 702
	March	42 126	41 490	83 616
	April	39 422	38 661	78 083
	May	40 406	39 624	80 030
	June	39 587	38 756	78 343
	July	39 388	38 961	78 349
	August	39 920	38 766	78 686
	September	40 898	40 170	81 068
	October	36 799	36 307	73 106
	November	36 440	35 517	71 957
	December	38 555	38 347	76 902
	Total	469 542	461 320	930 862

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix G.8: Total births occurrences by sex and month, 2018–2019*

Year	Month	Male	Female	Total
2018	January	42 060	40 547	82 607
	February	37 463	36 793	74 256
	March	42 327	41 892	84 219
	April	40 010	39 107	79 117
	May	40 842	40 317	81 159
	June	39 769	39 125	78 894
	July	40 150	39 513	79 663
	August	41 251	40 383	81 634
	September	42 340	41 559	83 899
	October	38 798	37 951	76 749
	November	37 175	36 635	73 810
	December	40 379	39 258	79 637
	Total	482 564	473 080	955 644
2019	January	41 795	40 861	82 656
	February	38 175	37 545	75 720
	March	43 749	42 843	86 592
	April	41 580	41 170	82 750
	May	41 920	41 474	83 394
	June	40 982	40 397	81 379
	July	41 284	40 582	81 866
	August	41 158	40 584	81 742
	September	42 319	41 402	83 721
	October	38 365	37 097	75 462
	November	37 875	37 079	74 954
	December	39 773	39 169	78 942
	Total	488 975	480 203	969 178

*Figures include updated birth occurrences as at 01 July 2020.

Appendix H: Number distribution of 2019 top ten baby forenames and surnames by province of birth registration

Province of Birth Registration	Rank	Male				Female				Both Sexes	
		First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	Surname	Number
Western Cape	1	Liam	381	Junior	770	Melokuhle	350	Grace	346	Jacobs	906
	2	Noah	322	John	251	Othalive	321	Rose	285	Williams	849
	3	Enzokuhle	289	Luke	208	Mia	273	Faith	265	Adams	796
	4	Othalive	266	James	195	Enzokuhle	242	Hope	249	Abrahams	684
	5	Luke	260	Joshua	182	Leah	226	Elizabeth	174	Davids	683
	6	Elijah	253	Daniel	171	Alunamda	213	Angel	154	Hendricks	582
	7	Joshua	240	Liam	148	Ava	212	Joy	144	Smith	493
	8	Melokuhle	220	David	134	Riley	197	Jade	114	Petersen	492
	9	Mason	217	Noah	120	Likuwe	190	Princess	112	Van Wyk	469
	10	Mogamat	217	William	117	Lelothando	180	Mia	105	Daniels	448
Eastern Cape	1	Enzokuhle	727	Junior	514	Enzokuhle	669	Othalive	155	Jacobs	260
	2	Othalive	565	Gift	138	Melokuhle	667	Angel	144	Williams	244
	3	Melokuhle	492	Othalive	138	Othalive	641	Melokuhle	140	Booi	242
	4	Alunamda	475	Lubanzi	132	Alunamda	556	Princess	136	Madikizela	191
	5	Likuwe	460	Likuwe	125	Iminathi	493	Alunamda	129	Ndamase	184
	6	Kungawo	438	Enzokuhle	124	Likuwe	340	Iminathi	112	Dyantyi	176
	7	Kungentando	423	Alunamda	104	Lethokuhle	293	Precious	112	Booyesen	165
	8	Lubanzi	390	Prince	104	Kungentando	288	Likuwe	107	Klaas	163
	9	Lingomso	322	Luphawu	92	Misokuhle	271	Faith	100	Jack	161
	10	Luphawu	317	Melokuhle	87	Lingomso	263	Enzokuhle	94	Peter	158
Northern Cape	1	Lethabo	117	Junior	376	Remofilwe	83	Precious	120	Van Wyk	357
	2	Leano	80	Gift	57	Reatlegile	78	Faith	72	Louw	258
	3	Refentse	65	Jayden	55	Rethabile	64	Princess	67	Cloete	242
	4	Junior	64	Christopher	40	Warona	63	Hope	63	Jacobs	179
	5	Katlego	57	Innocent	39	Omaatla	61	Angel	45	Olyn	154
	6	Jayden	54	Johannes	39	Omolemo	60	Grace	38	Visagie	109
	7	Warona	53	Blessing	38	Tshegofatso	53	Warona	38	Booyesen	108
	8	Thato	51	John	38	Onthatile	52	Blessing	30	Beukes	103
	9	Omogolo	50	Prince	35	Lesedi	51	Elizabeth	25	Modise	99
	10	Amogelang	48	Lethabo	32	Reneilwe	49	Innocentia	25	Williams	99

Appendix H: Number distribution of 2019 top ten baby forenames and surnames by province of birth registration (continued)

Province of Birth Registration	Rank	Male				Female				Both Sexes	
		First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	Surname	Number
Free State	1	Lethabo	520	Junior	1 110	Amohelang	420	Precious	541	Mokoena	1 312
	2	Katleho	452	Blessing	390	Omphile	372	Blessing	360	Mofokeng	1 215
	3	Amohelang	405	Gift	233	Bokamoso	342	Princess	309	Motaung	552
	4	Kamohelo	332	Prince	231	Relebohile	333	Portia	117	Moloi	501
	5	Letlotlo	329	Innocent	205	Rethabile	313	Lethabo	110	Tshabalala	486
	6	Bokamoso	306	Lethabo	167	Lesedi	312	Innocentia	109	Radebe	458
	7	Omphile	289	Letlotlo	124	Lethabo	285	Grace	93	Mosia	255
	8	Bokang	288	Vincent	115	Bonolo	280	Warona	93	Nhlapo	243
	9	Siyabonga	274	Quinton	102	Naledi	279	Faith	90	Motloung	239
	10	Lesedi	260	Bokamoso	101	Karabo	263	Angel	88	Tsotetsi	210
KwaZulu-Natal	1	Enzokuhle	2 300	Junior	770	Enzokuhle	1 834	Enzokuhle	1 040	Dlamini	5 136
	2	Lubanzi	2 160	John	251	Lisakhanya	1 558	Asemahle	965	Khumalo	3 699
	3	Melokuhle	1 334	Luke	208	Asemahle	1 465	Ziyanda	906	Mkhize	3 655
	4	Bandile	1 083	James	195	Emihle	1 226	Okuhle	886	Ndlovu	3 617
	5	Lethokuhle	1 067	Joshua	182	Okuhle	1 089	Lisakhanya	865	Ngcobo	3 320
	6	Bayanda	969	Daniel	171	Melokuhle	986	Emihle	852	Gumede	3 292
	7	Banele	922	Liam	148	Esihle	961	Esihle	767	Mthembu	2 896
	8	Ayabonga	914	David	134	Ziyanda	948	Luthando	685	Buthelezi	2 623
	9	Hlelolwenkosi	758	Noah	120	Aphelele	850	Amahle	680	Zulu	2 567
	10	Ndalwenhle	717	William	117	Alwande	819	Aphelele	652	Sithole	2 378
North West	1	Lethabo	516	Junior	899	Reatlegile	413	Precious	381	Molefe	457
	2	Reatlegile	300	Gift	262	Remofilwe	378	Princess	300	Modise	342
	3	Refentse	293	Blessing	256	Omolemo	331	Blessing	212	Mogale	156
	4	Amogelang	277	Prince	207	Onthatile	330	Warona	169	Mogapi	155
	5	Onthatile	276	Lethabo	142	Warona	304	Hope	111	Moeng	146
	6	Ofentse	266	Warona	115	Rethabile	274	Faith	95	Tau	146
	7	Warona	263	Innocent	94	Olerato	271	Angel	80	Khumalo	143
	8	Omolemo	261	Letlotlo	85	Amogelang	264	Olerato	80	Mongale	140
	9	Bokamoso	253	Johannes	77	Botshelo	235	Lethabo	78	Phiri	136
	10	Katlego	250	Vincent	71	Tshegofatso	235	Reatlegile	77	Motsamai	132

Appendix H: Number distribution of 2019 top ten baby forenames and surnames by province of birth registration (concluded)

Province of Birth Registration	Rank	Male				Female				Both Sexes	
		First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	First: Forename	Number	Second: Forename	Number	Surname	Number
Gauteng	1	Lethabo	1 046	Junior	2 511	Lethabo	957	Precious	1 382	Nkosi	1 470
	2	Siyabonga	753	Blessing	1 424	Lesedi	894	Princess	1 337	Mahlangu	1 457
	3	Thato	730	Gift	1 113	Amahle	805	Blessing	867	Mokoena	1 387
	4	Bokamoso	715	Prince	862	Omphile	711	Angel	721	Sithole	1 298
	5	Omphile	657	Lethabo	489	Naledi	697	Hope	645	Baloyi	1 233
	6	Amogelang	639	Siyabonga	379	Amogelang	634	Faith	630	Ndlovu	1 219
	7	Junior	605	Sibusiso	324	Tshegofatso	605	Amahle	436	Khumalo	1 188
	8	Mpho	598	Njabulo	317	Rethabile	601	Lethabo	417	Dlamini	1 069
	9	Ofentse	593	Quinton	314	Melokuhle	594	Lesedi	414	Mofokeng	1 013
	10	Karabo	577	Innocent	301	Bokamoso	590	Naledi	359	Chauke	971
Mpumalanga	1	Junior	443	Junior	1 035	Melokuhle	721	Princess	828	Nkosi	2 811
	2	Melokuhle	378	Blessing	824	Amahle	564	Angel	538	Mahlangu	1 603
	3	Blessing	376	Prince	589	Okuhle	420	Precious	459	Khoza	1 331
	4	Siyabonga	337	Gift	474	Lethokuhle	411	Hope	331	Mathebula	1 085
	5	Nkazimulo	310	Innocent	305	Minenhle	398	Melokuhle	321	Mnisi	932
	6	Siphosethu	309	Quinton	273	Thandolwethu	303	Amahle	313	Ndlovu	826
	7	Banele	293	Siphosethu	221	Hlelokuhle	264	Faith	253	Mokoena	801
	8	Lethokuhle	283	Jayden	205	Siphesihle	263	Okuhle	248	Ngwenya	767
	9	Bandile	278	Siyabonga	199	Enzokuhle	252	Happiness	219	Maseko	733
	10	Siyamthanda	275	Banele	193	Sphesihle	249	Minenhle	219	Shabangu	713
Limpopo	1	Junior	650	Junior	2 470	Amogelang	676	Precious	1 449	Baloyi	1 569
	2	Mpho	640	Blessing	1 502	Lethabo	665	Blessing	1 225	Maluleke	1 389
	3	Lethabo	639	Gift	1 156	Tshegofatso	581	Angel	802	Chauke	1 384
	4	Phenyo	608	Prince	545	Omphile	562	Princess	707	Malatji	1 131
	5	Blessing	598	Innocent	400	Keabetswe	526	Hope	671	Ngobeni	1 118
	6	Amogelang	587	Brilliant	289	Rethabile	509	Faith	647	Mathebula	909
	7	Kamogelo	587	Quinton	285	Ofentse	501	Pretty	487	Mudau	739
	8	Ofentse	580	Given	269	Kamogelo	482	Happiness	379	Mohlala	642
	9	Katlego	577	Emmanuel	267	Bohlale	426	Pearl	291	Nkuna	607
	10	Tshegofatso	550	Success	240	Karabo	424	Maria	282	Ndou	572

Explanatory notes

Sources of data

The Department of Home Affairs (DHA) provides Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) with information on recorded live births. Two sets of birth statistics are provided: registration-based and occurrence-based data. Both these datasets come from the Nucleus Bureau of the DHA. When the officials at the various offices of the Department of Home Affairs capture the information about a birth, they do so directly onto the database at the Nucleus Bureau. These transactions are used to update the database of the birth register.

For the purpose of producing vital statistics, the following system is followed: each day, all civil transactions carried out at all the Department of Home Affairs offices are written onto a cassette. At the end of every month, a combined set of cassettes is created, containing all the transactions done for the month. These transactions are downloaded and the birth transactions are extracted for processing at Stats SA. The year in which the births are registered is the registration year. Using this information, Stats SA provides the breakdown of the registered births according to the year in which the births occurred.

While births information sent to Stats SA is the same as that in the population register, there is a difference of format between the two. On the one hand, Stats SA's data are based on births registered during the year (registration-based), while on the other hand, entries in the population register reflect the date of birth. The date of registration of birth is not stored on the population registration file. For this reason, the population register can only be used to obtain birth data broken down by date of birth (occurrence-based).

By continuously updating the population register for late registration, the occurrence-based data from the population register get closer and closer to the true level of births. In a situation where birth registrations are complete (with very few late registrations), the occurrence-based perspective will be very similar to the registration-based perspective. However, if there are a large number of late registrations, the two perspectives will become widely dissimilar. With improvements in birth registration, the recorded data from the two sources will gradually converge.

The South African population register

The South African population register covers births, deaths, identity, marriages, divorces and movements of all South African citizens and permanent residents. The Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1992 (Act No. 51 of 1992) guides the registration of births and deaths throughout South Africa. The Act was subsequently amended in 1997 (Act No. 67 of 1997), in 1998 (Act No. 43 of 1998) and in 2010 (Act No. 18 of 2010). Another Act pertinent to the population register is the Identification Act, 1997 (Act No. 68 of 1997). This Act repealed previous Identification Acts (Act No. 72 of 1986, Act No. 21 of 1991, Act No. 4 of 1993, and Act No. 47 of 1995). Thus, each of the Acts dealing with any aspect of civil registration has implications for the information recorded into the population register.

From these Acts and amendments, the following persons and particulars are eligible to be included on the population register:

- All children born of South African citizens and permanent residents when the notice of the birth is given within one year after the birth of the child.
- All children born of South African citizens and permanent residents when the notice of the birth is given one year after the birth of the child together with the prescribed requirement for a late registration of birth.
- All South African citizens and permanent residents who, upon attainment of the age of 16, applied for and were granted identification cards (or books).
- All South African citizens and permanent residents who die at any age after birth.
- All South African citizens and permanent residents who depart permanently from South Africa.
- Persons whose particulars are not eligible for inclusion on the population register are listed below:
 - Non-South African citizens who sojourn temporarily in the country.
 - All South African citizens and permanent residents who died before notice of their birth had been given.

Foreign births

Statistics South Africa used to receive data on foreign birth registrations as part of births data obtained from the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). These births were subsequently excluded from annual data with effect from 2015 due to technical problems encountered in their retrieval by the DHA. Stats SA has been in discussions with DHA to find solutions to this challenge in order to restore these data as part of the annual births data for better completeness of the statistical release. As such, the total number of births in this statistical release exclude foreign births.

Municipal demarcation

The Department of Home Affairs captured information on places based on office of birth registration. Stats SA re-classified the offices of birth registration into district councils and metropolitan areas based on the 2016 municipal boundaries. Certain magisterial districts are situated in more than one district council, in which case such magisterial districts are allocated to the district council where the majority of the land area falls. The only exception was with Nigel in Gauteng province. The majority of the land area of Nigel magisterial district is in Sedibeng District Council (which is mainly farm areas and therefore sparsely populated), while the majority of the population lives in the Ekurhuleni metropolitan area. As such, Nigel was classified under Ekurhuleni and not under Sedibeng. Maps for the old and the new classification are available from Stats SA on request.

Population group

As from 1991, no distinction is made between the different population groups on the data collected by the Department of Home Affairs. The statistics collected, therefore, refer to all population groups combined.

Definitions of concepts used

1.1 Live birth

The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother's womb of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached. Each product of such a birth is considered live born (WHO, 1992).

1.2 Recorded live births

The number of births recorded (registered) in a specific year, irrespective of when the birth actually occurred. The births recorded in any given year include the births that occurred during that year plus other births that occurred in years prior to the year of registration. It should be noted that not all births are recorded (registered).

1.3 Current birth registrations

This refers to the number of births occurring in a specific year and registered within the same year.

1.4 Late birth registrations

This refers to births occurring in a given calendar year but registered in subsequent calendar years. In this release, late registrations are grouped into two: (i) births registered after one year of birth but less than 15 years after birth; and (ii) births registered from 15 years after birth

General Information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data; and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

Poorest

Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
 National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
 Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
 Library of Parliament, Cape Town
 Bloemfontein Public Library
 Johannesburg Public Library
 Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town
 Central Regional Library, Polokwane
 Central Reference Library, Nelspruit
 Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
 Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data are available via on-line services, diskette and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data services, contact 012 310 8600.

You can visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za

Enquiries

User Information Services:	Telephone number: 012 310 8600 Email address: info@statssa.gov.za
Orders/subscription services:	Telephone number: 012 310 8251 Email address: AnnelineB@statssa.gov.za
Technical enquiries:	Christinek@statssa.gov.za
Postal address:	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA