

Report On **Migration** Statistics from 2022/2023 **Income** and **Expenditure** Survey (IES)



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REPORT ON MIGRATION STATISTICS FROM THE 2022/2023 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY (IES)

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Statistician-General

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Statistics South Africa**

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PREFACE

The thematic report on migration statistics presents key indicators from the Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) 2022/2023, conducted by Statistics South Africa from 7 November 2022 to 26 November 2023. The thematic report focuses on international and internal migration dynamics, as well as on the analysis of household consumption expenditure and income disaggregated by migratory status at national, provincial, and metropolitan levels.



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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CAPI	Computer-assisted Personal Interview
CATI	Computer-assisted Telephonic Interview
CAWI	Computer-assisted Web Interview
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
CPI	Consumer Price Index
ECD	Early Childhood Development
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
IES	Income and Expenditure Survey
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NDP	National Development Plan
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
STATS SA	Statistics South Africa
SWB	Subjective well-being
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Non-mover	A non-mover is an individual born in a particular province and is a usual resident of the same province (Stats SA, 2024).
Non-migrant/ SA-born	A person who resides in the country where he/she was born and has not crossed international borders for residence purposes (Stats SA, 2024).
Internal migrant	Any person who is moving or has moved within a state for the purpose of establishing a new temporary or permanent residence, or because of displacement (IOM, 2019b).
Period migration	Measures movements of persons at one point in time relative to a previous point in time (e.g. one calendar year) (Stats SA, 2024).
Lifetime migrant	An individual whose place of usual residence at a point in time differs from his/her place of birth (Stats SA, 2024).
International migrant	A person who has changed his or her country of residence and established new usual residence in the country within a given year (6 months and 1 day). An international migrant can be either 'immigrant' or 'emigrant' and include those with national or foreign citizenships or stateless persons (McAuliffe and Oucho, 2024).
Usual resident	A person who has lived most of the last 12 months within a given year or have intentions to stay (or granted to stay) for at least 6 months, not including temporary absence for holidays or work assignments (Stats SA, 2024).
Place of usual residence	The geographical place where a person has lived most of the last 12 months within a given year or have intentions to stay (or granted to stay) for at least 6 months; not including temporary absence for holidays or work assignments (Stats SA).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter 1- Introduction and background: Migration in South Africa is influenced by a combination of economic, social, political and environmental factors. These drivers shape both internal migration (movement within the country) and international migration (people moving into or out of South Africa). By definition, migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intent of settling temporarily or permanently in a new location. This can occur between countries (international migration) or within a country (internal migration).

The purpose of this report is to present insights and statistics on the socio-demographic patterns of immigrants, internal migrants and non-migrants in South Africa. The report provides analytical information on how migration impacts the socioeconomic well-being of individuals and households, including effects on income, education, and consumption patterns. The data analysis approach used was descriptive statistical techniques.

The report used data from the IES 2022/2023, a nationally representative household-based sample survey conducted approximately every five years that uses both diary and recall data collection methodologies. The current IES data was collected from 7 November 2022 to 26 November 2023, collecting information on all acquisition, consumption, spending and income earned by households living in South Africa using the diary and recall method. *This thematic report* is positioned by the following developmental frameworks: The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the African Union Migration Policy Framework (AUMPF), and South Africa's National Development Plan 2030 (NDP 2030).

Chapter 2 - International migration: Findings from this chapter indicate that immigrants made up 5,1% of South Africa's population, with males (56,2%) outnumbering females (43,8%), and the largest share were aged 35–39 years (16,9%). Most immigrants were black African (83,8%), and 42,1% were legally married. The average age at migration was about 25–26 years, with 11,4% of immigrants holding South African citizenship, whilst 1,9% were stateless persons. The SADC region accounted for 63,6% of immigrants in South Africa, mainly settled in Gauteng (51,2%) and the Western Cape (13,3%), with high concentrations in the City of Johannesburg (27%), Ekurhuleni (12%), and Cape Town metro (9,2%). With regards to education, 23,4% of immigrants aged 5–18 years had never attended school, compared to 5,3% among South Africans born children in South Africa. Individual health for persons aged 15 years and older, 55,9% of immigrants rated their health status as “good”, and most used public sector clinics (77,7%).

Chapter 3 - Internal migration: There were 9,1 million lifetime migrants who moved across provincial boundaries in South Africa. The majority of lifetime migrants resided in Gauteng (4 553 644) and the Western Cape (1 526 581). Most lifetime migrants were aged 20–39 years, with the highest proportion aged 35–39 years. Period migrants accounted for 1,53 million persons, with Gauteng recording the highest positive net-migration of 210 803 period migrants. The most common migration streams were Limpopo to Gauteng (13,4%) and KwaZulu-Natal to Gauteng (7,2%), citing employment and economic opportunities (44,8%) as the main reason for migration for migration.

Chapter 4 – Household income and expenditure: The IES 2022/23 revealed that there were 21,3 million households. Most of the households were headed by non-migrants (14 million), Internal migrants accounted for 5,2 million households, and immigrants accounted for 2,1 million household heads. Among immigrant-headed households, 74,1% were male-headed and 25,9% female-headed.

The average national household income was R199 656 (median of R92 679), main source of income was work. Internal migrants reported the highest income (R253 837), followed by immigrants (R208 012) and non-migrants headed household (R178 144). Among female-headed households, income averaged R143 432 for non-migrants, R187 337 for internal migrants, and R171 643 for immigrants. The median income is the largest among internal migrant with R112 214. Immigrant-headed households also recorded higher average than median household income across all provinces.

The national average expenditure was R138 905 per household, with internal migrants recording the highest (R169 760) and immigrants the lowest (R127 963). Internal migrants in the Western Cape had the highest consumption expenditure (R218 248), while immigrants in Limpopo (R96 057) and North West (R95 060) recorded the lowest consumption expenditure per household. The largest spending category was housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (R956,3 billion), followed by food and non-alcoholic beverages (R498,7 billion). Median consumption expenditure is the largest among Male headed household (R84 650) which is higher than the national median of R81 596. Household in the Western Cape reported the highest provincial median accounting for R129 865.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Overview of the report

Migration in South Africa is influenced by a combination of economic, social, political and environmental factors. These drivers shape both internal migration and international migration dynamics. Based on historical data, employment opportunities, population movement from rural to urban areas, and the search for better opportunities were found to be the main drivers of migration in South Africa. Furthermore, education opportunities were also found to be a social driver of migration, especially among youth, as learners and students move from rural areas to cities in search of higher education (Stats SA, 2015; Stats SA, 2024; Songelwa et al, 2023).

By definition, migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intent of settling temporarily or permanently in a new location (Stats SA, 2024). This can occur between countries (international migration) or within a country (internal migration) (Stats SA, 2024). According to the World Migration Report 2024, there were approximately 281 million international migrants which is about 3,6% of the global population as compared to the 150 million reported in the same report in 2000 (McAuliffe, and. Oucho, 2024). However, in South Africa, Census 2022 recorded 2,4 million immigrants, representing approximately 3,9% of South Africa's population and reflecting a significant increase from the 1 million reported in 2001 (Stats SA, 2024).

According to research, global migration comes from middle- and low-income countries that migrate largely to high-income nations (McAuliffe and Oucho, 2024). Whereas most immigrants in South Africa came from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, accounting for 83,7% of the total migrant population in 2022. This reflects the significance of neighbouring countries in contributing to South Africa's immigrant population (Stats SA, 2024).

The relationship between migration and inequality is complex, because inequality is both a driver and an outcome of human migration (World Bank, 2023). For instance, it was reported that South national Gini coefficient dropped from 0,720 in 2006 to a series low of 0,635 in 2023. (Stats SA, 2025). Research on migration and inequality indicates a deep connection as a result of remittance dynamics, consumption, and socioeconomic determinants (David et al, 2025). Globally, migrants channel substantial funds back to their countries of origin. In 2022 remittances were estimated to be at US\$831 billion, with countries like Tajikistan, Tonga, and Lebanon receiving over one third of their GDP from these flows (World Bank, 2023). In the South African context, remittance inflows were estimated at R755 million in 2016, rising to R873 million in 2022. Over the same period, remittance outflows also grew, from an estimated R897 million in 2016 to R1,01 billion in 2022 (Stats SA, 2023). Such inflows often raise living standards for recipient households, helping to reduce poverty and ease socio-economic vulnerabilities (Davids et al, 2025). Although, the distributional effects of remittances vary. Research indicates that some nations see inequality decline when low-income households receive transfers, while others may experience increased inequality if remittances disproportionately benefit wealthier segments (David et al, 2025; World Bank, 2023).

Household spending varies significantly based on migratory status. Migrant households, both international and internal, tend to have different spending patterns compared to non-migrant households (Ramos, 2018). With migration playing an important role in reducing poverty and improving household welfare in developing countries, which helps explain why differences in expenditure patterns emerge between migrant and non-migrant households (Ramos, 2018). For instance, migration has a positive impact on household welfare improvement through increases in their consumption expenditures. Households with migration status are found to spend more on food, non-food (housing, durable goods, fuel, cosmetics, cleaning, transport, clothing, taxes, insurance, recreation) items and medical expenses compared to non-migrants household (Aktar Hossain & Mohammad Osman Gani; 2022).

In line with the discussion above, it is essential for Stats SA to draft this report with a focus on providing comprehensive insights and statistics on the socio-demographic characteristics of immigrants, internal migrants, and non-migrants in South Africa. Such information is crucial for assessing migration's potential contribution to development, particularly through the income and expenditure patterns of households by migratory status.

1.2 Rationale

The report provides analytical information on how migration impacts the socioeconomic well-being of individuals and households, including effects on income, education, and consumption patterns. The report further sheds light on subjective well-being, access to health facilities, income, and expenditure behaviour among immigrants compared to the South African-born population. These insights are essential for informing policy decisions related to international migration in South Africa. Furthermore, this report is aligned with South Africa's commitment to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), particularly Objective 1, which promotes the use of accurate and disaggregated data for evidence-based policymaking. It strengthens the national evidence base to inform inclusive development planning, service delivery, and the monitoring of migration-related SDG indicators.

Additionally, this report will explore internal migration dynamics, with a focus on illustrating migration flows and streams within South Africa's provinces. These insights are essential for informing policy decisions related to interprovincial movement. The analysis is disaggregated by migratory status to highlight key patterns and the socio-demographic characteristics of the populations under study. Furthermore, this report seeks to contribute to the understanding of differences between international/internal migrants and the South African-born population by examining household income and expenditure, an area where empirical evidence remains relatively scarce.

1.3 Objective of the Report

The primary objective of this report is to provide insight and statistics on the socio-demographic patterns of international migration and internal migration in South Africa with key indicators disaggregated by province and metropolitan municipality and non-metropolitan municipality. The following are themes addressed in the report:

1. Demographic characteristics of the study population, disaggregated by migratory status.
2. Education profile and subjective well-being by migratory status.
3. Access and health status of individuals, disaggregated by migratory status.
4. Patterns of lifetime migration, and recent/period migration.
5. Household income by migratory status.
6. Household consumption expenditure patterns by migratory status.

1.4 Data Sources

1.4.1 Income and Expenditure Survey

The Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) is a nationally representative, household-level survey conducted approximately every five years using both the diary and recall data collection methodologies (Stats SA, 2025a). Its main goals are to collect detailed data on household income and expenditure including all sources of income and spending across thirteen consumption categories based on the COICOP 2018 classification at both national and local levels, it informs poverty, inequality, and living standards analysis, offering policymakers insight into socioeconomic disparities and update the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket and weights, ensuring the CPI reflects current consumption patterns (Stats SA, 2025a).

Statistics South Africa conducted the Income and Expenditure Survey from 7 November 2022 to 26 November 2023. Information was collected on all acquisitions, consumption, spending and income earned by households living in South Africa using diary and recall methods. The Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) 2022/23, conducted by Statistics South Africa, used a stratified, two-stage sample design to select the 31 042 dwelling units. The stratified two-stage sampling design was based on Statistics South Africa's Master Sample frame to ensure national representativeness. In the first stage, primary sampling units (Enumeration Areas) were selected using probability proportional to size within defined strata such as province, geographic type, and population characteristics. In the second stage, a random sample of dwelling units was drawn from each selected Enumeration Area. This approach resulted in a final sample of 31 042 dwelling units across the country (Stats SA, 2025a). Sampling weights were applied to account for the survey design and ensure accurate population estimates.

1.4.2 IES 2022/23 migration questions

The Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) is a household-based sample survey that collects information on all acquisitions, consumption spending and income earned of households living in South Africa. The IES 2022/23 collected data from various topics divided into the following four modules:

- Module 1 captures the particulars of the dwelling unit, followed by particulars of the household, demographic module, personal relationships and sources of income, and education, employment, social welfare, and individual health and migration.
- Module 2 captures information regarding dwellings, housing, crime, and swimming pool.
- Module 3 captures expenditure (accommodation away, computers and telecommunication).
- Module 4 captured subsistence, living circumstances, food security, finance and banking.

1.4.3 Migration question

The IES 2022/23 questionnaire contained a comprehensive module on migration, which included the following data items. A migration module extract is attached, **See Annexure I.**

MIG_PRBIRTH: In which province was %roster% born?

The purpose of the questions is essentially ascertained where a person was born in relation to their current place of residence at the time of the survey. If the person currently resides in the same place, i.e. province in which he or she was born, this person is regarded as a non-migrant. If the person currently resides in a different place, i.e. a province or country different from the one in which he or she was born, this is regarded as lifetime migration. If a person was born outside South Africa, they were asked to report the country of their birth as well as the year of arrival into South Africa.

MIG_REBIRTH: In which region was %roster% born?

The purpose of the question is to capture the regions of birth of those who indicated they were born outside South Africa

MIG_YEARMOV: Which year did %roster% last move to South Africa?

The purpose of the question is to capture the year in which those who indicated they were born outside South Africa moved.

MIG_CITIZEN: What is %roster%'s main region/country of citizenship? If a person is a citizen of more than one region/country (i.e. dual citizen), select region/country in which the person resides most often. If a person is not a citizen of any country, select Stateless

MIG_RESIDENCE: Has %roster% been part of this household for the last six months OR intends to be part of this household for the next six months?

MIG_REASON: What is the main reason or purpose of %roster%'s visit to this place?

MIG_RET MIG: Has %roster% lived outside South Africa for at least six consecutive months at anytime in the past 10 years?

MIG_PRLIVED: Has %roster% been staying in this place since November 2017?

MIG_PRYEAR: In which year did %roster% move to this place?

MIG_PROVPRE: In which province did %roster% live before moving to this place? If moved more than once, select the province of the last move.

MIG_MOVREAS: What was the MAIN reason for %roster% to move to this place?

1.5 Data Analysis

Data analysis was conducted using descriptive statistical techniques. The analysis focused on summarizing and organizing the collected data to inform policy. The method(s) applied were important to describe the study populations distribution patterns and characteristics

The following descriptive tools were used:

- Frequencies
- Percentages
- Median and Means
- Tables and charts

1.6 Assessment of Data

The IES 2022/23 captured both international and internal migration, providing relatively comprehensive coverage of migration themes. Unlike births and deaths, migration data in South Africa does not have a continuous administrative registration system to conduct data triangulation. For this reason, Census 2022 data was used as a benchmark for assessing the IES 2022/23 migration data. Comparisons were made between the two sources in relation to demographic characteristics of immigrants, including age and sex structure, region of birth, and year of arrival in South Africa. At the internal migration level, the analysis compared migration streams and corridors. These comparisons were undertaken with caution due to differences in scope and methodology across the two data sources. The migration patterns from the IES 2022/23 were largely consistent with those of Census 2022.

In addition, measures of statistical precision were computed to assess the reliability of migration-related estimates derived from the IES 2022/23. These included standard errors and coefficients of variation (CVs), which provide an indication of the extent of sampling variability associated with the estimates. Detailed precision measures for key variables for data disaggregation are presented in **Annexure IV** to facilitate appropriate interpretation and use of the results.

1.7 Development Framework Positioning the Report

A development framework is a structured document that guides the selection of relevant data sources, key indicators and analytical methods, ensuring that insights are systematic, comparable and policy-relevant. The report on migration statistics from the IES is positioned by the frameworks as summarised below in Table 1.

Table 1.1 – Summary of the Development framework positioning the report

Plan	Objectives	Target
GCM	Objective 1	Collect and utilise accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
	Resolution	We commit to strengthening the global evidence base on international migration by improving and investing in the collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable, comparable data, disaggregated by sex, age, migration status and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, while upholding the right to privacy under international human rights law and protecting personal data. We further commit to ensure this data fosters research, guides coherent and evidence-based policy-making and well-informed public discourse, and allows for effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of commitments over time.
	Objective 20	Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants.
	Resolution	To promote faster, safer and cheaper remittances by further developing existing conducive policy and regulatory environments that enable competition, regulation and innovation on the remittance market and by providing gender-responsive programmes and instruments that enhance the financial inclusion of migrants and their families. We further commit to optimise the transformative impact of remittances on the well-being of migrant workers and their families, as well as on sustainable development of countries, while respecting that remittances constitute an important source of private capital, and cannot be equated to other international financial flows, such as foreign direct investment, official development assistance, or other public sources of financing for development.
SDG	SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.	Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value (8.5).
	SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.	Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average (10.1).

Plan	Objectives	Target
		Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies (10.7).
	SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.	Strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection (17.1).
		Calls for enhanced capacity to collect, analyse, and use high-quality, timely, and reliable data that is disaggregated by migration status (17.8).
National Development Plan	Population movement: Migration	Eliminate extreme poverty, aiming to reduce the proportion of people living in households with a monthly income below R419 per person from 39% to zero. Reduce inequality, as measured by the Gini coefficient, from 0,69 to 0,60 by 2030. Reducing inequality and poverty through inclusive growth.
African Union Migration Policy Framework	Themes	g) Migration data, h) Migration and development

1.8 Report Structure

The layout of the report will cover data from IES 2022/23, following the structure outlined below.

Table 1.2 – Chapter layout of the report

Chapter Contents	
Chapter 1: Introduction	Contains the introduction, background, objectives and development framework informing the report. It also provides the data sources utilised in the analysis.
Chapter 2: International Migration	Contains indicators linked with the following subthemes: Demographic characteristics, subjective well-being, access & health status of immigrants as compared to the South African-born population.
Chapter 3: Internal Migration	Contains the demographic and socioeconomic profile of internal migrants (lifetime and period migration).
Chapter 4: Household Consumption Expenditure and Income	Contains indicators on household expenditure behaviour disaggregated by sex of the head of household and geographic level by migratory status. The chapter also concludes by presenting household income by migratory status.

CHAPTER 2: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

2.1 Introduction

This chapter on international migration provides insights and patterns on international migration in South Africa. The chapter will present results focusing on demographic and socioeconomic characteristics among immigrants and SA-born populations.

International migration has significantly increased in the past few decades, becoming a central feature of globalisation. The United Nations estimated in 2020 that there were about 281 million international migrants worldwide, representing approximately 3,6% of the global population 2020 (McAuliffe and Oucho, 2024). This number has risen from 173 million in 2000 and 221 million in 2010, reflecting economic opportunities and an increased level of conflict and inequality across the world in 2020 (McAuliffe and Oucho, 2024). The causes of international migration are many, as individuals migrate from developing countries to wealthier regions seeking better job opportunities, higher wages, and improved standards of living (Stats SA, 2015).

International migration is a dynamic and complex phenomenon that significantly shapes the demographic, social, economic, and political landscapes of nations across the globe, defined as the movement of people across international borders for the purpose of settlement (McAuliffe and Oucho, 2024). The main objective of this chapter is to document the migration stock in South Africa with reference to demographic and socioeconomic characteristics.

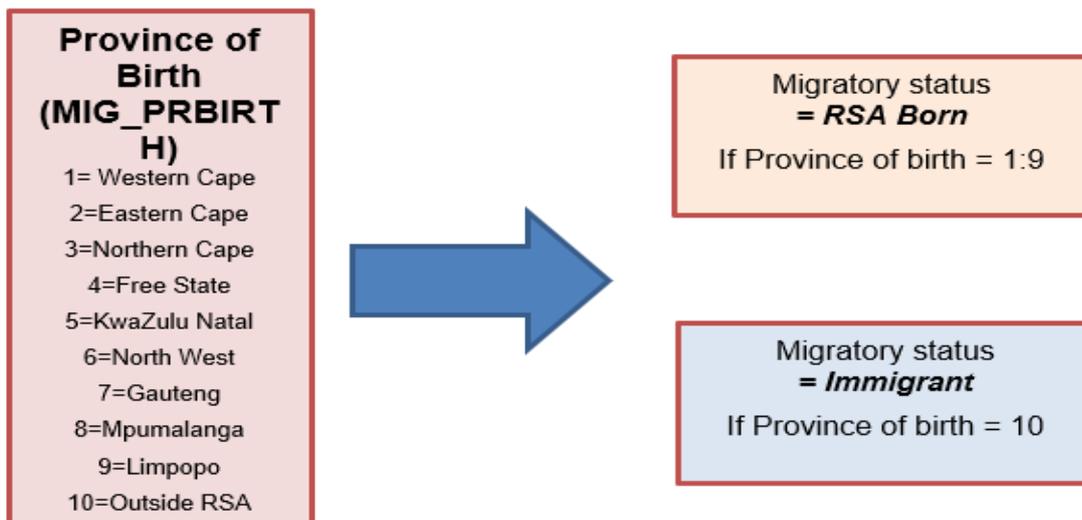
2.2 Study populations

This chapter on international migration presents insights and patterns by focusing on two study populations: South African-born individuals and immigrants, as defined and derived below.

A non-migrant/SA-born person is a person who resides in the country where he/she was born and has not crossed international borders for residence purposes (see Figure 2.1: Categorisation of study population) (Stats SA, 2024).

An international migrant is a person who has changed his or her country of residence and established a new usual residence in the country within a given year (6 months and 1 day). An international migrant can be either 'immigrant' or 'emigrant' and includes those with national or foreign citizenships or stateless persons (McAuliffe and Oucho, 2024).

Figure 2.1 – Categorisation of study population



2.3 Immigrant Profile

Table 2.1 below presents the distribution of the population by migratory status using data from IES 2022/23. The results indicate that immigrants contributed marginally to the overall population size of South Africa, accounting for 5,1% (over 3 million people).

Table 2.1 – Distribution of the population by migratory status, IES 2022/23

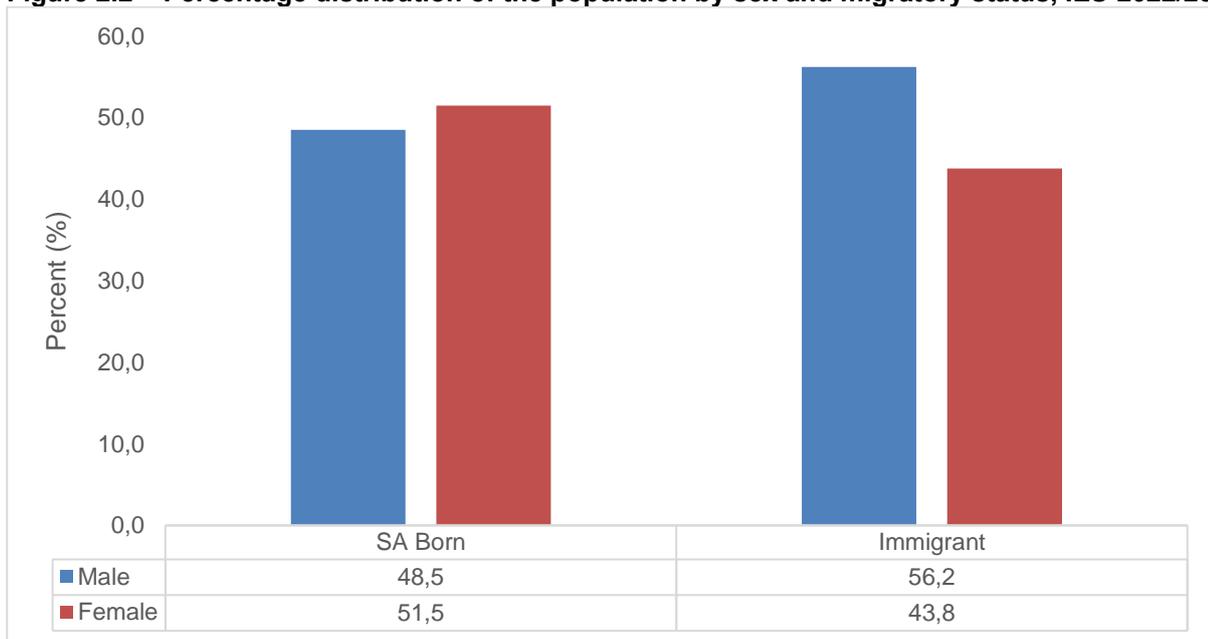
Migratory	Count	Percent
SA-born	58 067 815	94,9
Immigrant	3 094 927	5,1
Total	61 162 742	100,0

Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.2 below presents the percentage distribution of the population by sex and migratory status, IES 2022/23. The results show that among the SA-born population, there were more females (51,5%) compared to males (48,5%). On the other hand, among immigrants, the picture is different, with males (56,2%) being more than females 43,8%.

Figure 2.2 – Percentage distribution of the population by sex and migratory status, IES 2022/23

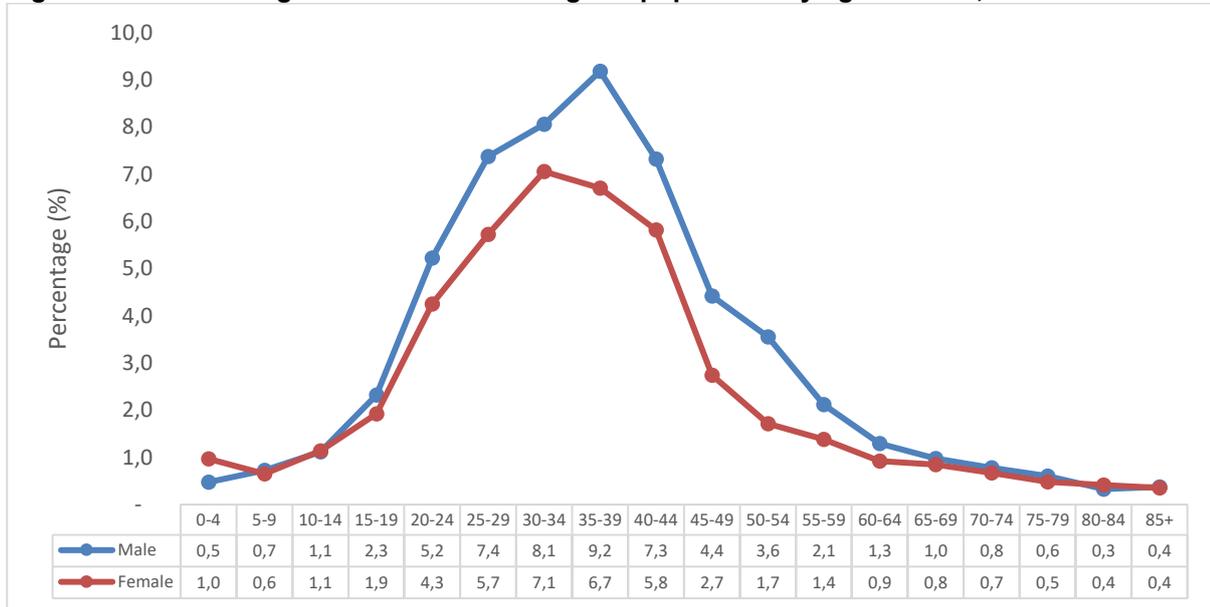


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.3 below presents the percentage distribution of the immigrant population by age and sex from the IES 2022/23. The results show that the pattern of age and sex structure for both male and female immigrants is similar, however there were more male immigrants compared to females. The larger proportion of immigrant males were in the age group 35-39 years (9,2%) whilst that of females were in the age group 30-34 years with 7,1%. The age profile of both male and female immigrants shows an increase beginning at ages 20–24, followed by a gradual decline from the 40–44 age group onward.

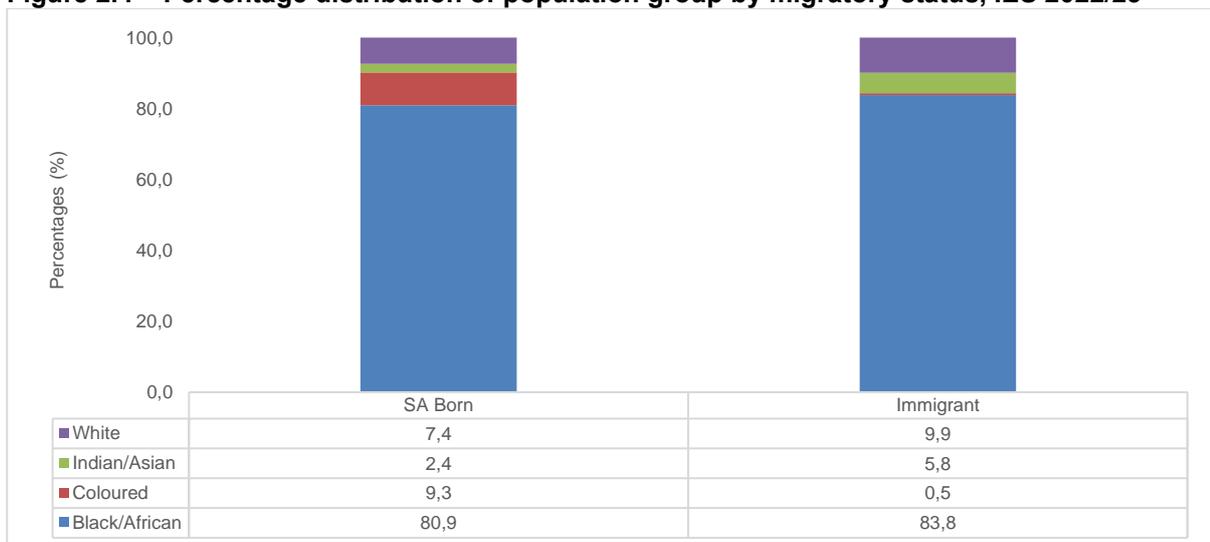
Figure 2.3 – Percentage distribution of immigrant population by age and sex, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.4 below illustrates the percentage distribution of the population group by migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that a larger percentage of the immigrant population were black Africans, accounting for 83,8%, followed by the white population with 9,9%. The SA-born population followed the same trend, where black Africans constituted 80,9% followed by the coloured population with only 9,3% of SA-born population.

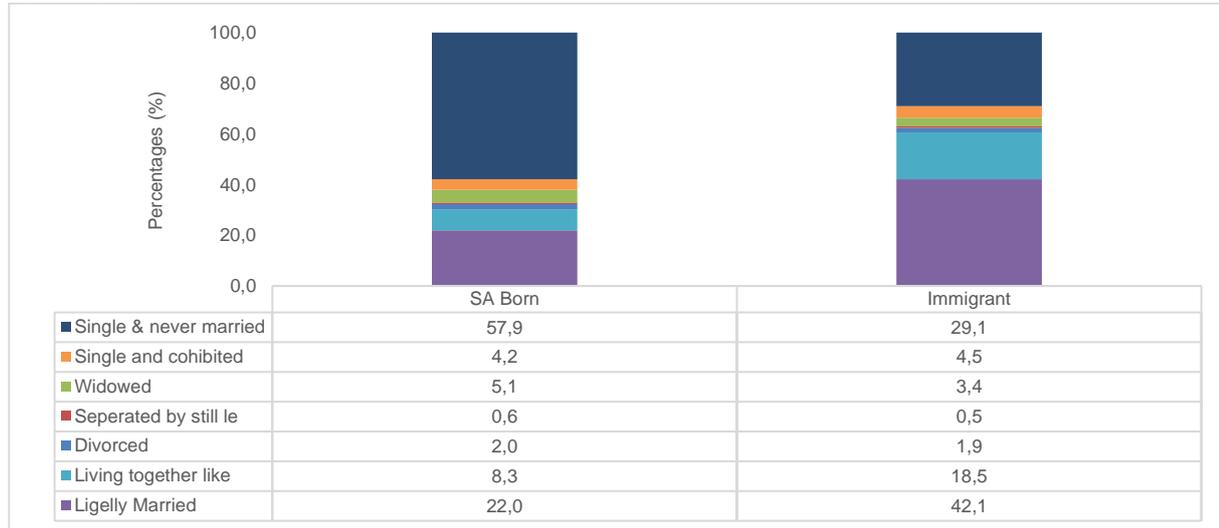
Figure 2.4 – Percentage distribution of population group by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified case

Figure 2.5 below illustrates the percentage distribution of the population by marital status and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that a larger percentage of the immigrant population were legally married, accounting for 42,1%, followed by those who indicated that they were single and never married at 29,1%. However, when looking at the SA-born population, the result indicated that those who were single and never married accounted for 57,9%, and those who indicated that they were legally married accounted for 22,0% of the SA-born population.

Figure 2.5 – Percentage distribution of population by marital status and migratory status, IES 2022/2023

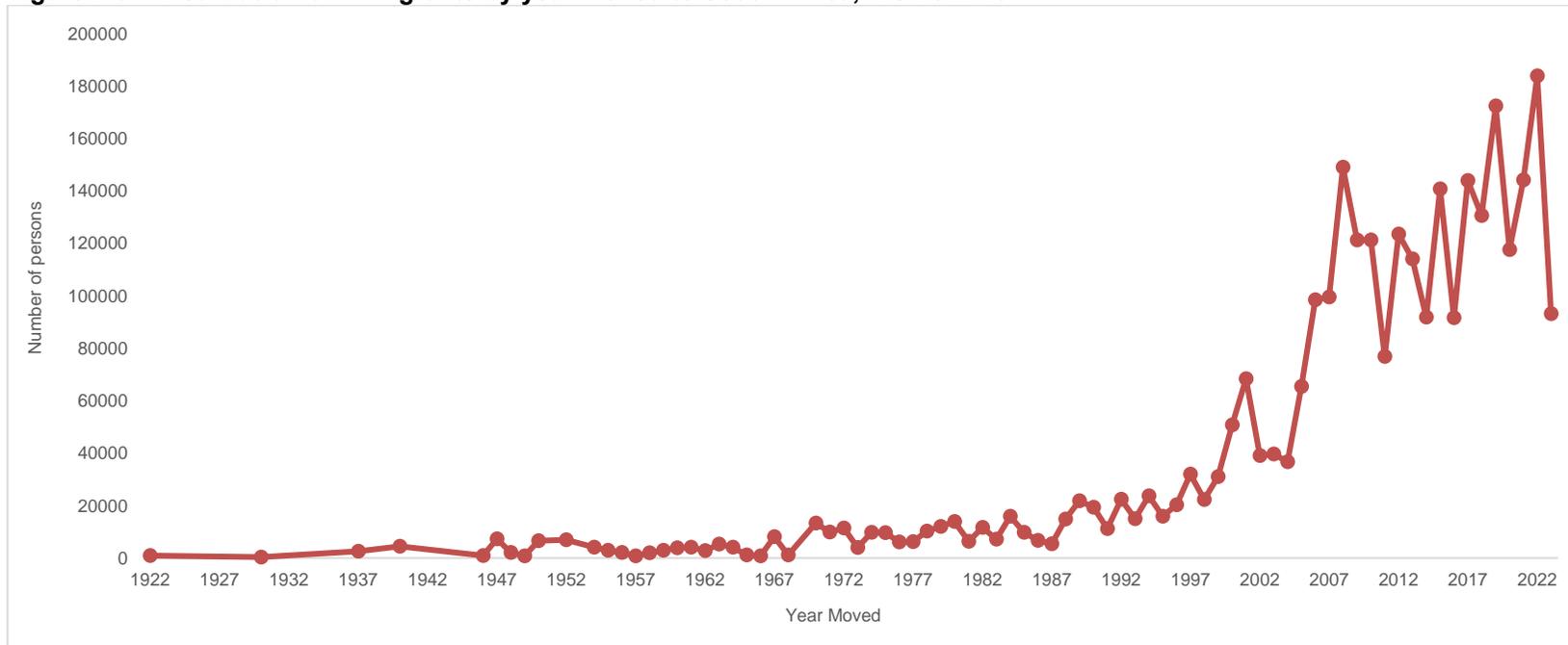


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.6 below shows the distribution of immigrants by year moved to South Africa from the IES 2022/23. The results show immigration trends in South Africa from 1922 to 2023. From 1922 to the late 1980s, the number of immigrants who indicated that they moved to South Africa in those years was very low, and the trend was stable. In the 1990s onwards, there was a noticeable increase in the number of immigrants in South Africa, with occasional peaks. In addition, the number of persons who indicated that they moved to South Africa in the 2000s was very high. Noticeably, the highest number of immigrants indicated 2022 (183 872) as the year in which they arrived in South Africa.

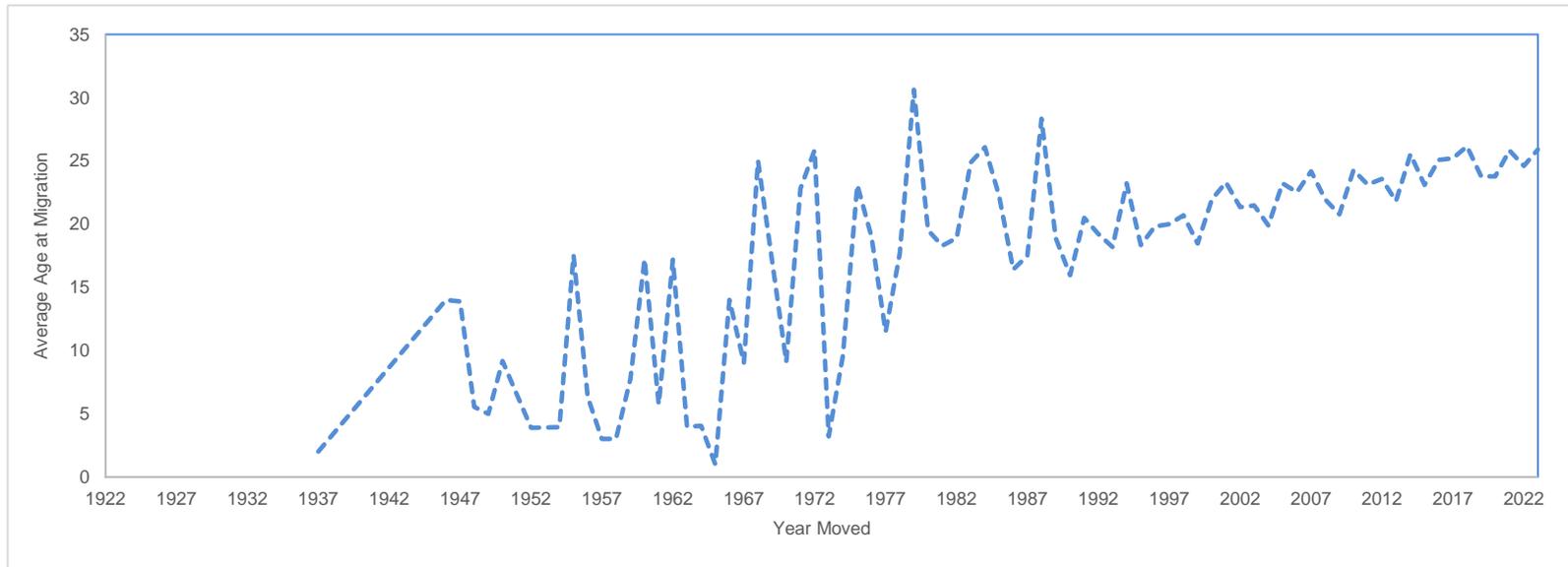
Figure 2.6 – Distribution of immigrants by year moved to South Africa, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.7 below shows the average age at migration for immigrants by year moved to South Africa from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that the average age of immigrants between 1923 and 1977 was low. The average age in this period ranged between 2 and 11 years old. However, the average age has significantly increased between 1992 and 2023, and it has narrowed. In this period (1992–2023), the average age ranged between 18 and 26 years. The average age shows a gradual upward trend, reaching about 25–26 years by 2023.

Figure 2.7 – Average age at migration for immigrants by year moved to South Africa, IES 2022/23

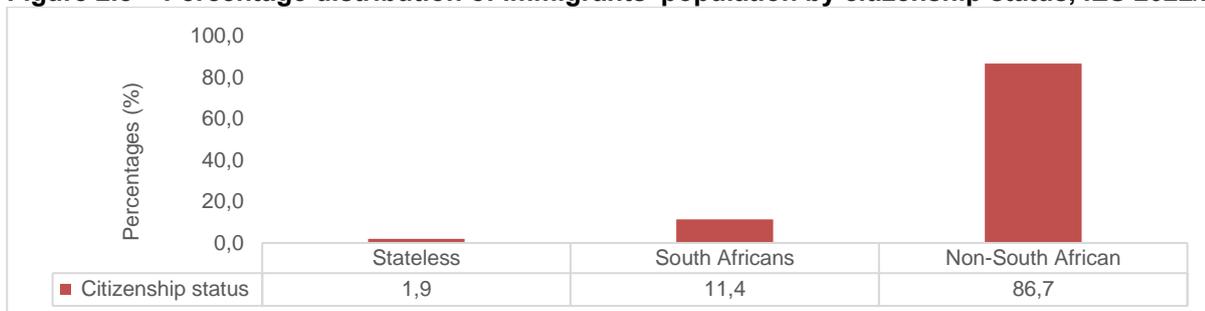


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.8 below presents the percentage distribution of immigrants' population by citizenship status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that only 11,4% of immigrants reported that they were South African citizens, and only 1,9% identified as the stateless persons. Looking at the characteristics of stateless immigrants which is a person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law (DHA, 2021). The results indicate that there were 58 962 immigrants who reported that they were stateless. The majority of these were males (53,9%), aged 30–34 (20,9%) and 35–39 (31,1%) and most were enumerated in Gauteng (36,5%) followed by Limpopo (28,6%). **See Annexure II.**

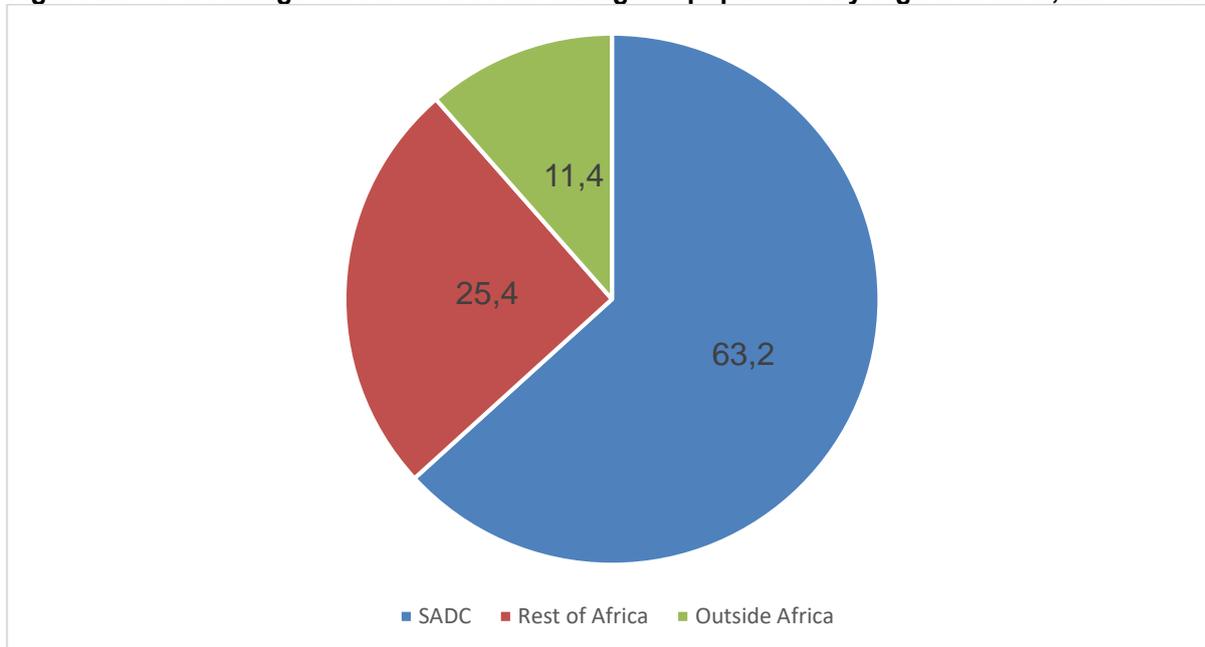
Figure 2.8 – Percentage distribution of immigrants' population by citizenship status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.9 below presents the percentage distribution of the immigrant population by region of birth from the IES 2022/23. Most of the immigrants in South Africa were from the SADC region, accounting for 63,60%, followed by immigrants from the rest of Africa with 25,5%, the least.

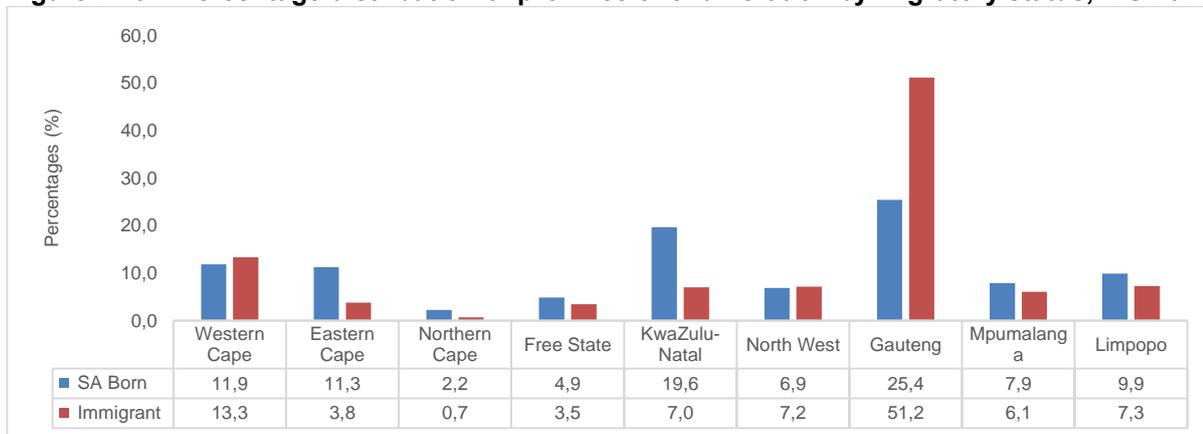
Figure 2.9 – Percentage distribution of the immigrant population by region of birth, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases
 Outside Africa include United Kingdom & Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America & Caribbean, Oceania

Figure 2.10 below shows the province of enumeration by migratory status from the IES 2022/23. Most of the immigrant population indicated Gauteng as their province of enumeration accounting for 51,2%. The second populous province of enumeration among immigrants was the Western Cape accounting for 13,3%. Regarding the SA-born population, the majority of the population were found in Gauteng (25,4%), KwaZulu-Natal (19,6%) and the Western Cape, accounting for 11,9%

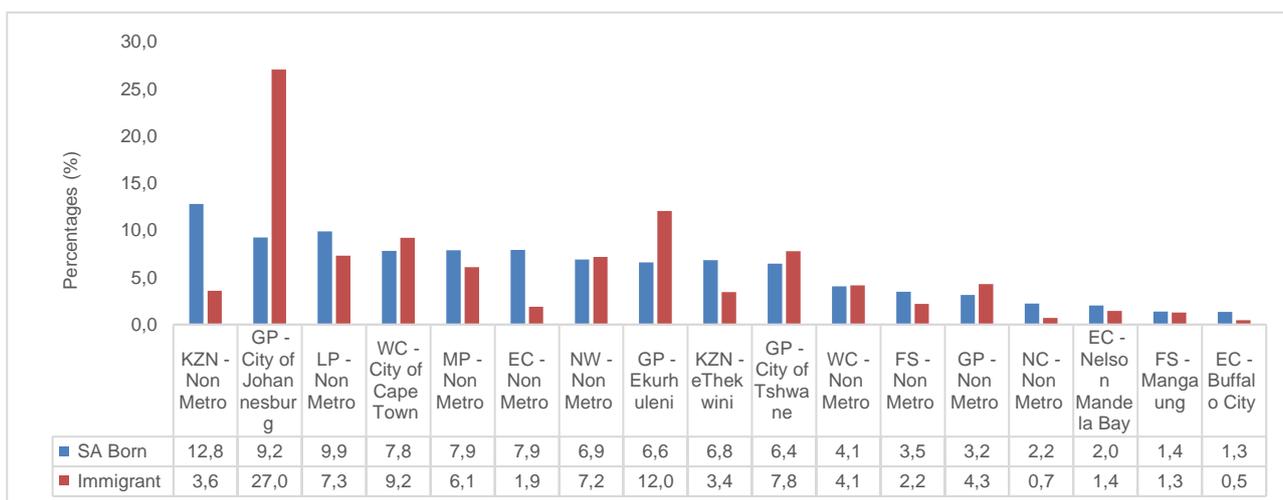
Figure 2.10 – Percentage distribution of province of enumeration by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.11 below shows the metropolitan and non-metropolitan municipality of enumeration by migratory status, IES 2022/23. Among immigrants, 27% were found in the City of Johannesburg, followed by the City of Ekurhuleni with 12% and the City of Cape Town with 9,2%. On the other hand, when looking at the SA-born population, the majority were found in non-metros of KwaZulu-Natal (12,8%), followed by non-metros in Limpopo at 9,9%. The only leading metropolitan municipality that hosts most of the SA-born population was the City of Johannesburg with 9,2%.

Figure 2.11 – Percentage distribution of metropolitan and non-metropolitan municipality of enumeration by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

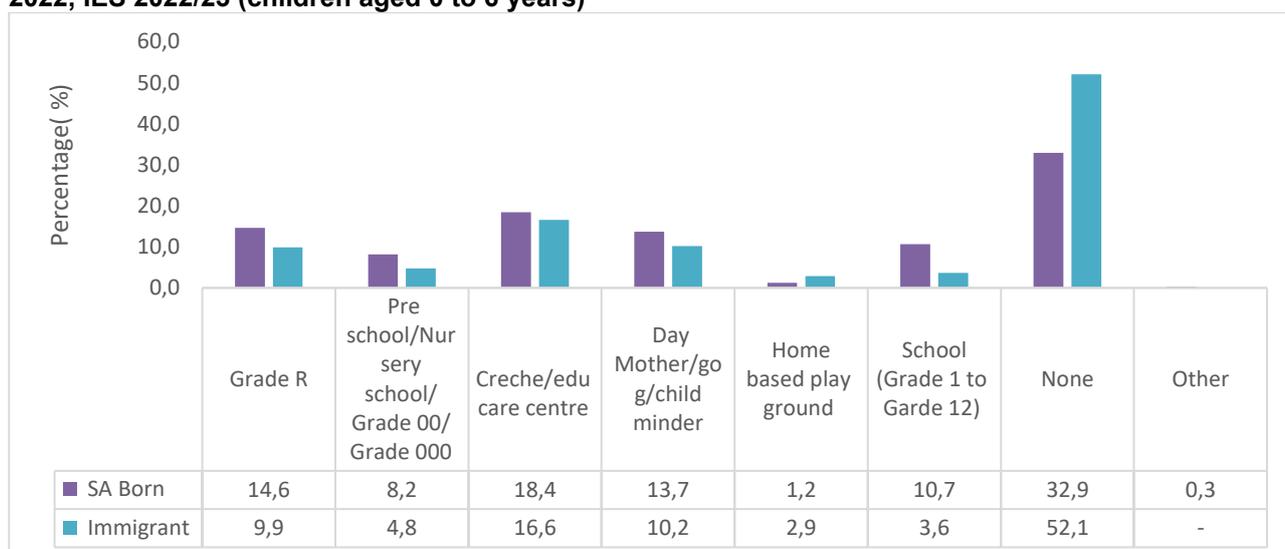
2.4 Educational Profile

In this section, the analysis focuses on key educational indicators, including attendance at Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes among children aged 6 years and below, school attendance among children aged 5–18 years, and the overall level of educational attainment of the population, disaggregated by migratory status. The purpose of this analysis is to assess differences in educational participation and outcomes between immigrants and the SA-born population. With the aim of providing a measure of progress toward equitable education access. This assessment aligns with the broader goal of monitoring South Africa’s advancement toward Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4, which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (Stats SA, 2023).

2.4.1 Education by migratory status

Figure 2.12 below presents the percentage distribution of children attending ECD programmes by migratory status according to the IES 2022/23. The analysis was done on children aged 0 to 6 years old. The results indicate that among the SA-born population, 18,4% of children were attending creche/educare centre whilst among immigrants only 16,6% were attending. Looking at those who do not attend any ECD programmes, 52,1% among immigrants were not attending any ECD programme compared to 32,9% of the SA-born population.

Figure 2.12 – Percentage distribution of children attending ECD programmes by migratory status IES 2022, IES 2022/23 (children aged 0 to 6 years)

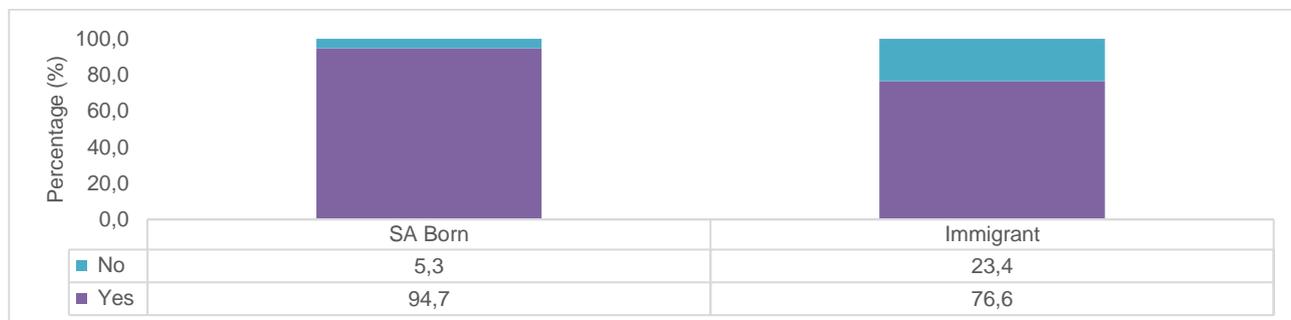


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.13 below presents the percentage distribution of educational institution attendance by migratory status from IES 2022/23. The results indicate that among immigrants, 23,4% did not attend educational institutions, whilst among the SA-born population the figure sat at 5,3%. The result further indicated that among immigrants who did not attend an educational institution, 12,9% were females and they fell in the age group 15–19 (16,4%). See **Annexure III**.

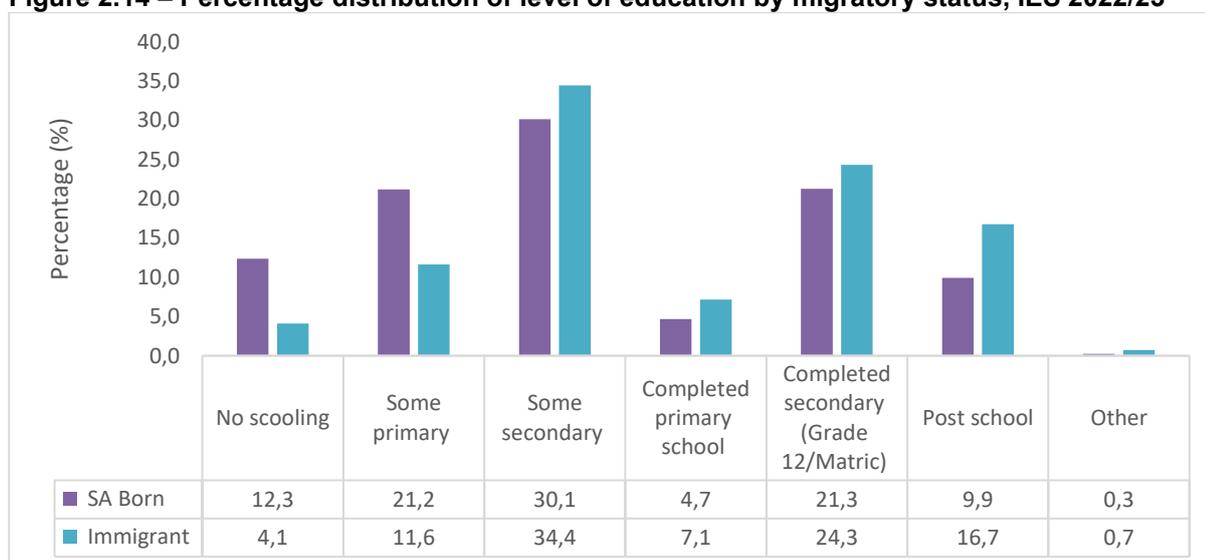
Figure 2.13 – Percentage distribution of educational institution attendance by migratory status IES 2022/23 (children aged 5 to 18)



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.14 below presents the percentage distribution of the level of education by migratory status from IES 2022/23. Among the immigrant population, 16,7% reported post-schooling as their level of education when compared to 9,9% among the SA-born population. The results further indicate that among immigrants, 24,3% completed secondary (grade 12/Matric) whilst among the SA-born, 21,3% completed secondary (grade 12/Matric).

Figure 2.14 – Percentage distribution of level of education by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

2.5 Individual health

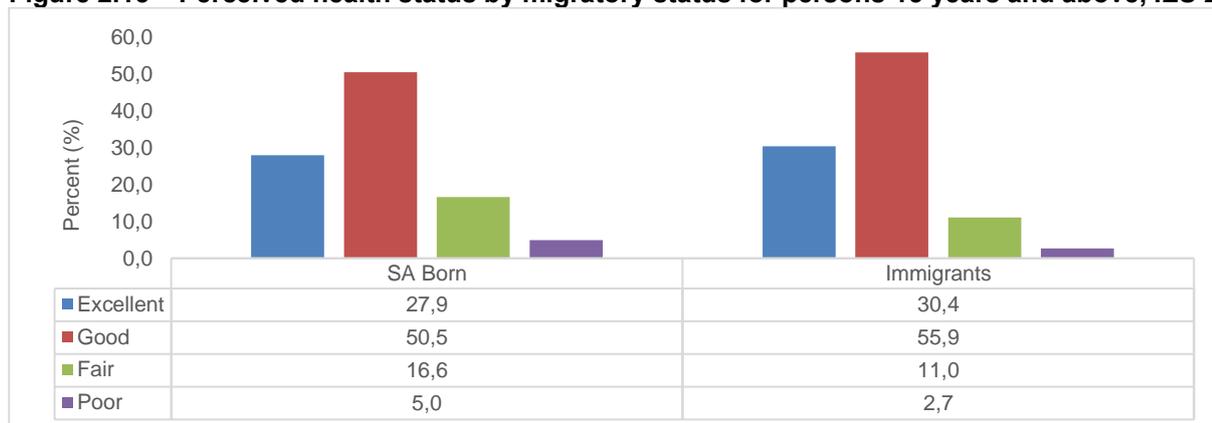
The purpose of the analysis in this section is to provide an understanding of the health profiles of different population groups, which is fundamental for equitable public health planning and service delivery. In the South African context, analysing the health disparities and commonalities between immigrant and SA-born populations is necessary for policy formulation. Furthermore, both SDG 3 and South Africa’s NDP 2030 are advocating for the vision of universal healthcare which ensures access, financial protection, and comprehensive services for all.

In this section, an examination of variables such as self-reported health status, access to primary healthcare, including the type of healthcare facility sought, delays in seeking healthcare, and the reasons for these delays, aims to provide data-driven insights to inform development plans. Analysis in this section was done for persons aged 15 years and above.

2.5.1 Health profile of population

Figure 2.15 below shows the perceived health status by migratory status for persons 15 years and above, IES 2022/23. Findings indicate that most persons perceived their health status to be “good,” followed by those with “excellent” health status. In terms of migratory status, 55,9% of immigrants indicated that they perceived their health status as “good” while only 50,5% among the SA-born population also perceived their health status as “good”.

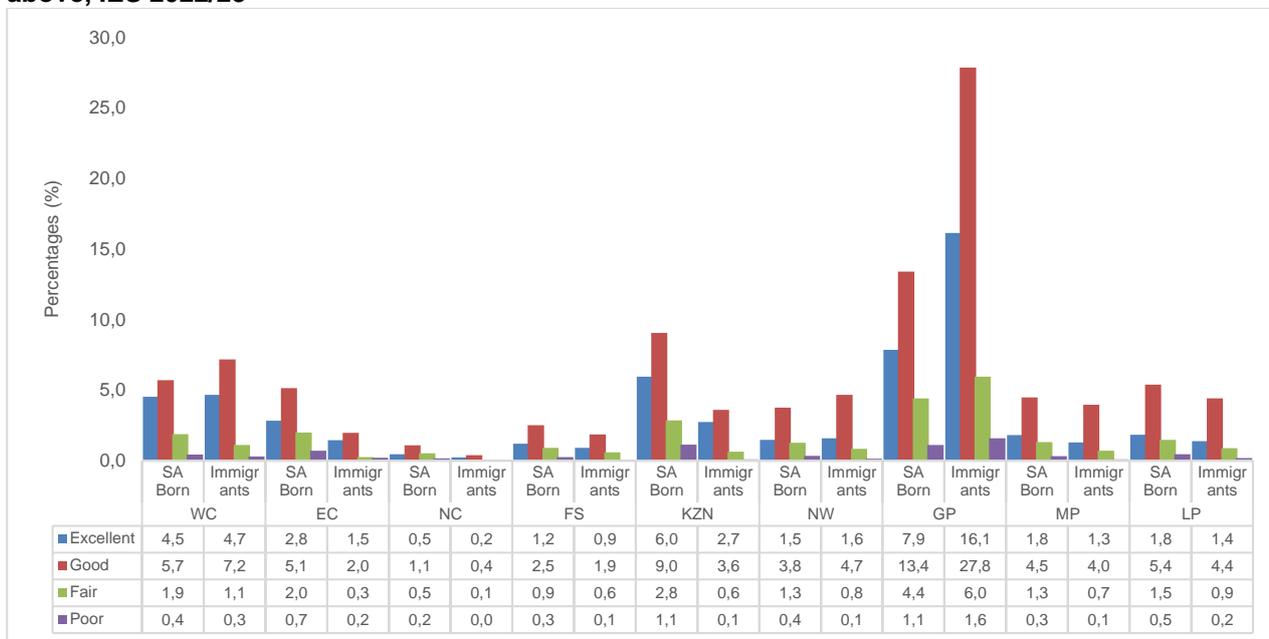
Figure 2.15 – Perceived health status by migratory status for persons 15 years and above, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.16 presents the perceived health status by province and migratory status for persons aged 15 years and older, based on the IES 2022/23. The findings show that immigrants in Gauteng reported relatively better health status, with 27,8% perceiving their health as 'good' and 16,1% as 'excellent.' In contrast, only 4,7% of immigrants in the Western Cape rated their health as 'excellent,' while 7,2% reported it as 'good.' Among the SA-born population, individuals in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Western Cape reported 'good' or 'excellent' health status compared to their counterparts in other provinces.

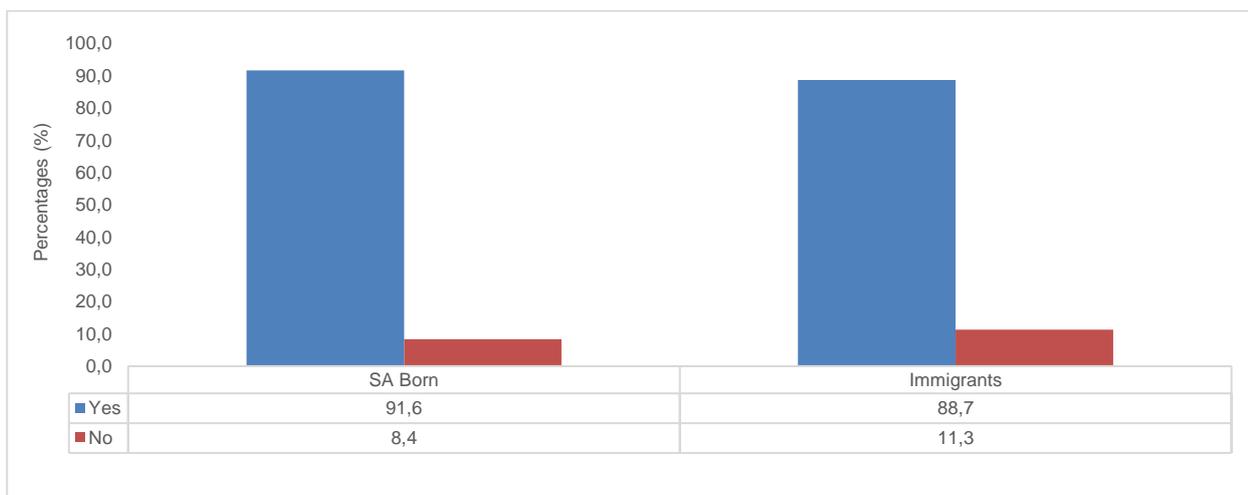
Figure 2.16 – Perceived health status by province and migratory status for persons 15 years and above, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.17 presents the proportion of individuals who reported having a place of seeking healthcare when needed, disaggregated by migratory status, based on the IES 2022/23. The findings indicate that most of the respondents reported that they have a place to seek healthcare. Among the SA-born population, 91,6% reported having a place of seeking healthcare, while 88,7% of immigrants indicated the same.

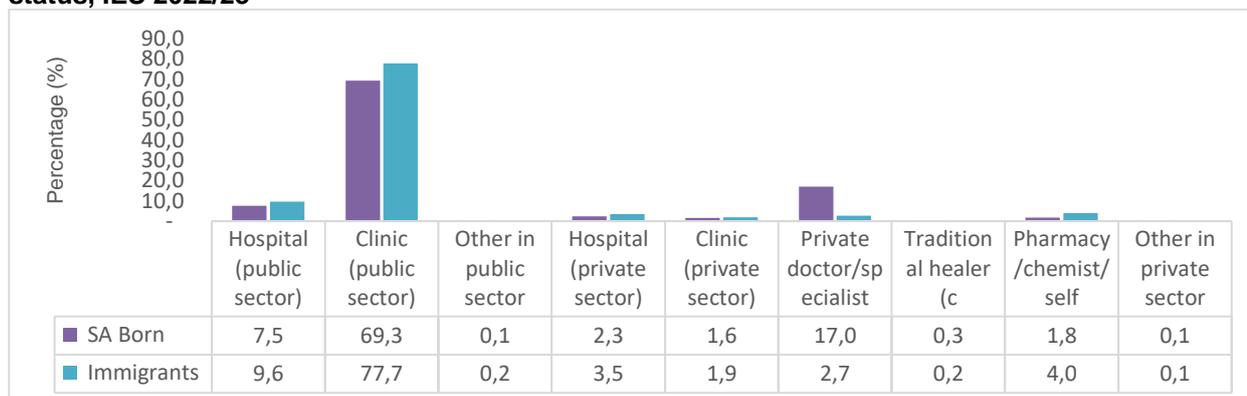
Figure 2.17 – Place of seeking healthcare when needed by migratory status for persons 15 years and above, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.18 presents the percentage distribution of type of place of seeking healthcare by migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The findings indicate that among immigrants, the majority reported that they access healthcare from public clinics (77,7%), followed by public hospitals at 9,6%. Whilst, among the SA-born, similarly, the majority indicated public clinics as a place where they sought healthcare at 69,3%. On the other hand, this is followed by the SA-born population, who indicated they visit private doctors/specialists at (17,0%) when seeking healthcare.

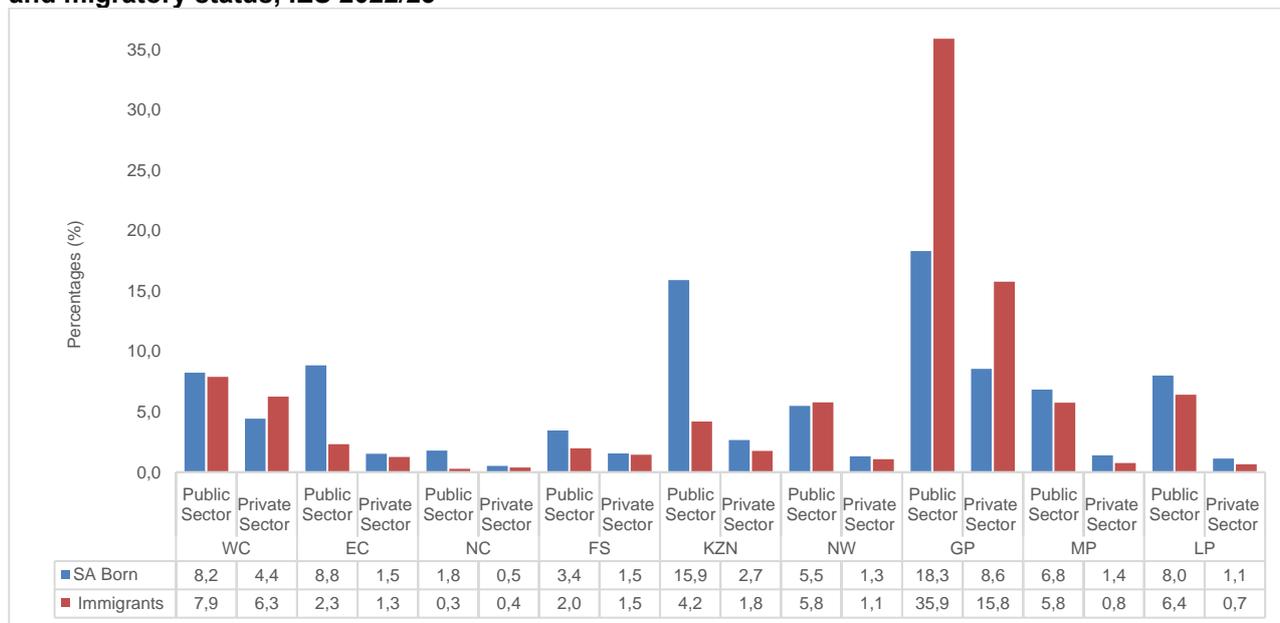
Figure 2.18 – Percentage distribution of population by type of place of seeking healthcare by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known or unspecified cases

Figure 2.19 in the next page presents the percentage distribution of the type of place of seeking healthcare by province and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The findings indicate that the majority of immigrants in Gauteng province reported that they access healthcare from public institutions at 35,9%, whereas only 15,8% use private facilities. When looking at the SA-born population in Gauteng province, only 18,3% use public facilities while 8,6% use private facilities. In the Western Cape province, 8,2% of the SA-born population used public facilities, whilst 7,9% of immigrants indicated that they used public facilities.

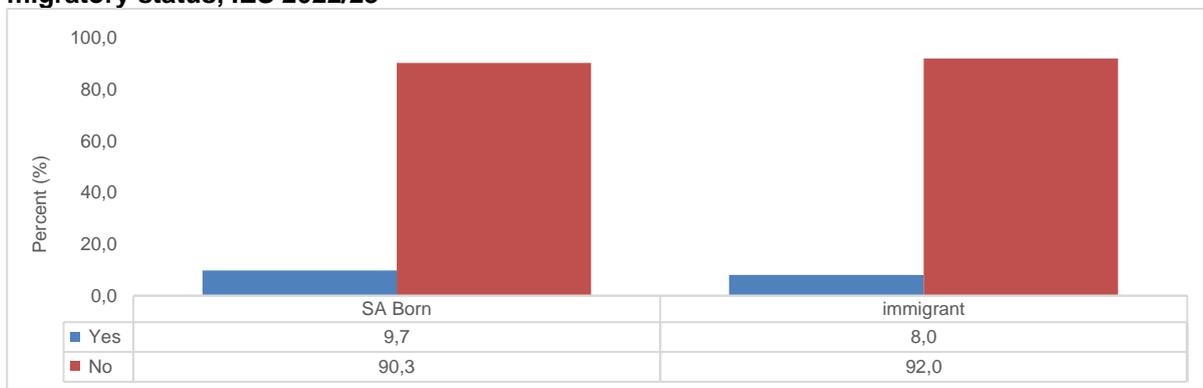
Figure 2.19– Percentage distribution of population by type of place of seeking healthcare, province and migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.20 presents the percentage distribution of population reporting delays in seeking healthcare, by migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The findings indicate that the majority of the population did not delay seeking healthcare. Among immigrants, only 8% indicated that they delayed seeking healthcare, whilst only 9,7% was reported among those SA-born.

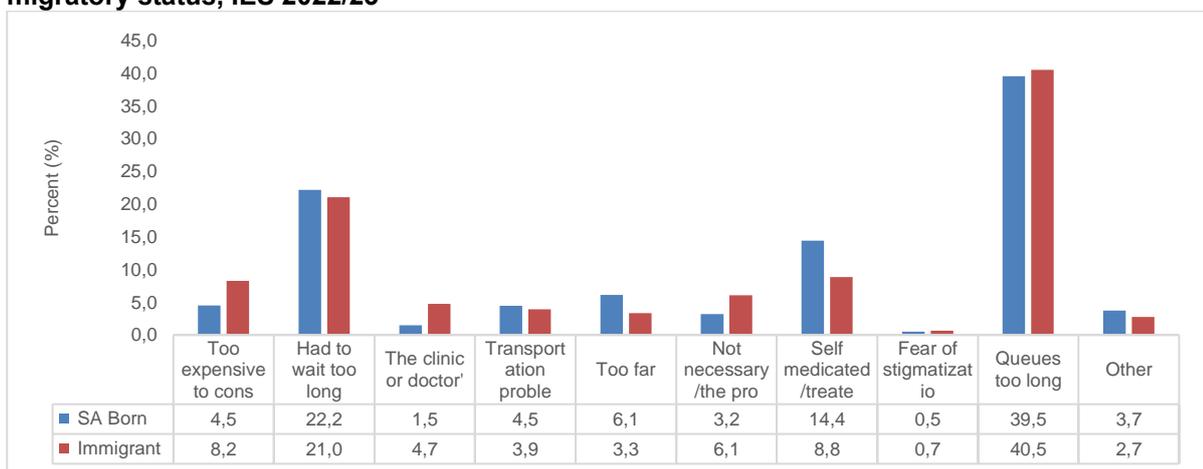
Figure 2.20 – Percentage distribution of population reporting delays in seeking healthcare, by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.21 presents the percentage distribution of reasons for delaying healthcare by migratory status, based on the IES 2022/23. The findings show that long queues were the most frequently cited reason among both the SA-born (39,5%) and immigrant populations (40,5%) in delaying healthcare. The second most common reason was long waiting times, reported by 22,2% of the SA-born and 21,0% of immigrants. The least cited reason for delaying healthcare among the SA-born population (0,5%) and immigrants (0,7%) was fear of stigmatization.

Figure 2.21 – Percentage distribution of population reasons for delaying seeking healthcare, by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

2.6 Subjective well-being

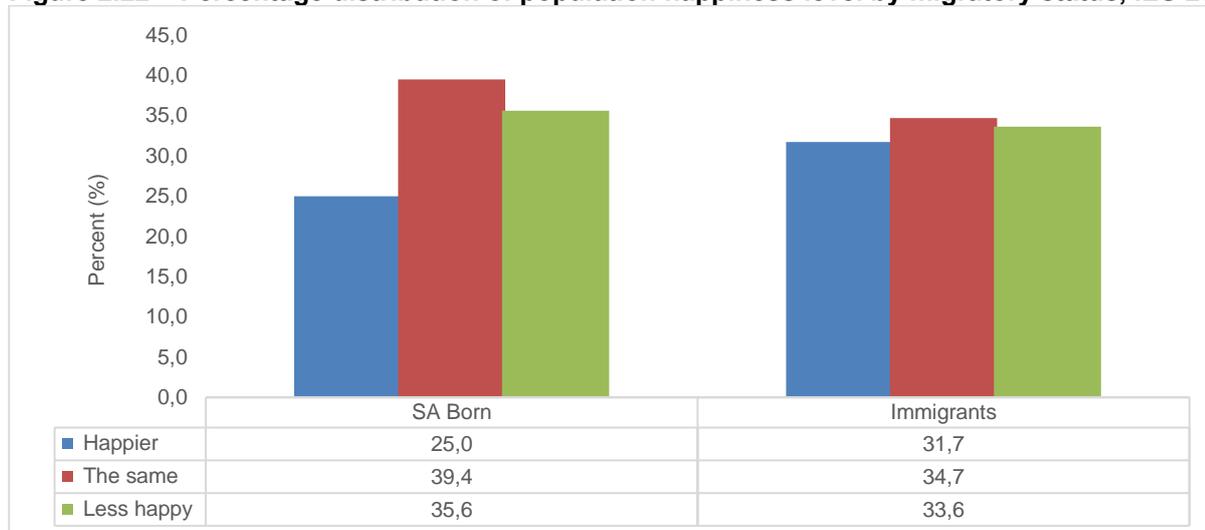
Subjective well-being (SWB), measured through levels of life satisfaction and happiness, is a key dimension of human development that aligns with both the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and South Africa’s National Development Plan (NDP) 2030. At the global level, SDG 3 explicitly promotes good health and well-being, while SDGs 8, 10, 11, and 16 emphasise the social, economic, and governance conditions that underpin quality of life. Similarly, the NDP 2030 prioritises improved living standards, access to healthcare, social protection, safer communities, and social cohesion, which influence people’s subjective experiences of well-being.

In this section, an examination of factors associated with subjective well-being such as life satisfaction and happiness were covered. Analysis in this section was done for persons aged 15 years and above with the aim of providing insight into how individuals perceive their lives beyond objective indicators such as income and employment, highlighting disparities across population groups and revealing the extent to which development outcomes translate into lived experiences of satisfaction and happiness.

2.6.1 Profile of population’s subjective well-being

Figure 2.22 presents the percentage distribution of the population’s happiness level by migratory status, based on the IES 2022/23. The happiness levels were framed to understand if the population was happier, the same or less happy with their lives compared to the past 10 years. The findings indicate that among immigrants, 31,7% were happier than they were 10 years ago, compared to 25,0% among the SA-born population. The results further indicate that the SA-born population reported a higher proportion at 35,6% of being less happy compared to 33,6% among the immigrant population.

Figure 2.22 – Percentage distribution of population happiness level by migratory status, IES 2022/23

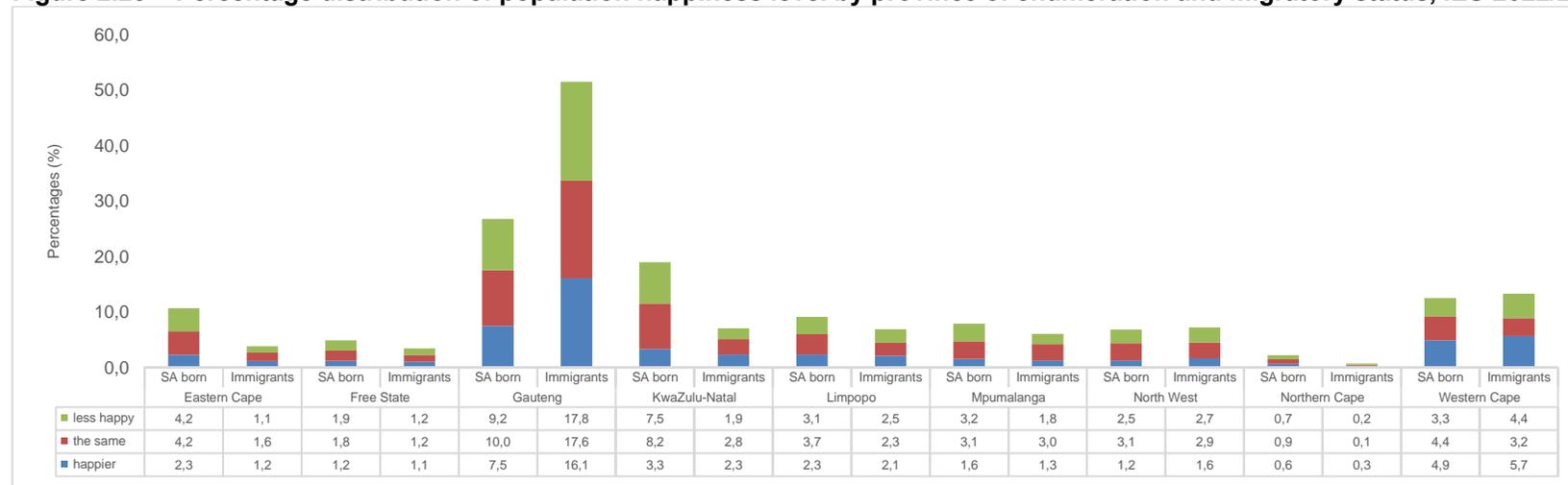


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.23 presents the percentage distribution of the population by province of enumeration, happiness level and migratory status, IES 2022/23. The analysis revealed the proportion of population who reported high happiness levels were concentrated in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Western Cape, with Gauteng showing the widest disparities, particularly between the SA-born population and immigrants. While immigrants in Gauteng report higher proportions of being “happier” compared to those born in South Africa, immigrants also reported higher level of being less happy at 16,1%. The population in the Western Cape reported a slight difference in the proportion of happiness levels. For instance, 5,7% of immigrants in the western cape that they were happier when compared to the SA-born at 4,9%).

Figure 2.23 – Percentage distribution of population happiness level by province of enumeration and migratory status, IES 2022/23

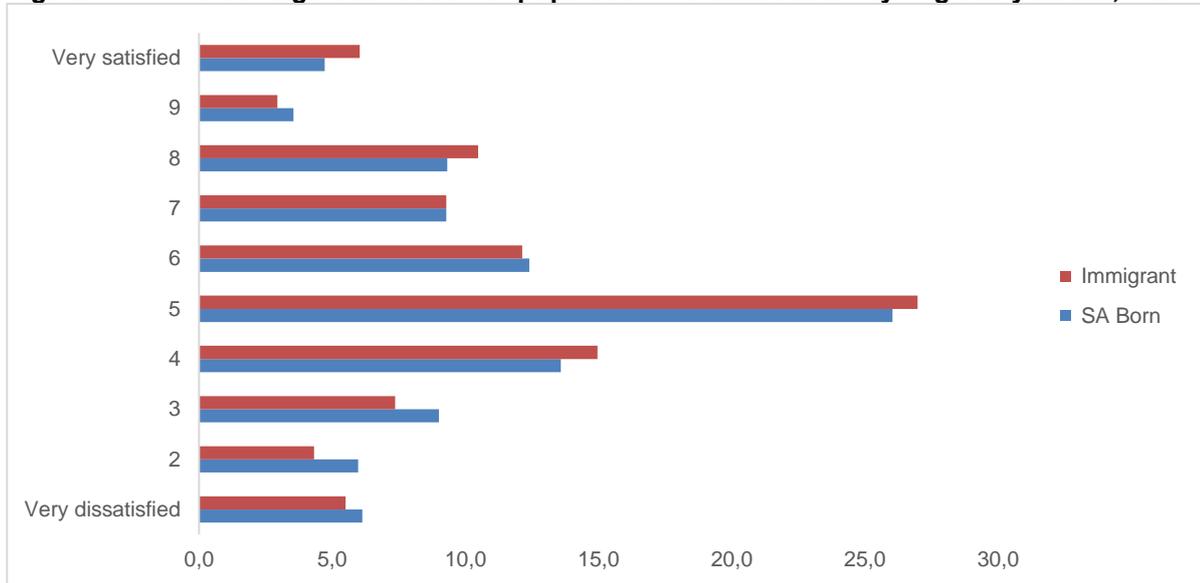


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 2.24 presents the percentage distribution of life satisfaction scores, which shows that both SA-born and immigrant populations cluster around the mid-point, with most respondents rating their satisfaction between 5 and 6. While the two study populations follow a similar pattern, immigrants show a slightly higher proportion at the top end of the scale (scores 8–10), whereas SA-born respondents show marginally higher proportions at the lower end (scores 2–3).

Figure 2.24 – Percentage distribution of population life satisfaction by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

2.7 Summary of the findings

- Immigrants contributed marginally to South Africa's total population, accounting for 5,1% (over 3 million people) of the national population.
- Within the immigrant population, there was a notable sex difference, with males (56,2%) outnumbering females (43,8%).
- The age structure of immigrants shows that the highest proportion (16,9%) were aged 35–39 years.
- Majority of immigrants (83,8%) identified as black African, highlighting the dominant racial composition within the immigrant community.
- In terms of marital status, immigrants (42,1%) reported being legally married.
- Migration in South Africa appears to be largely adult-driven, with the average age of migrants gradually increasing to approximately 25–26 years by 2023. Only 11,4% of immigrants indicated that they were South African citizens, while 1,9% reported being stateless.
- Immigrants from the SADC region accounted for the largest share (63,6%) in South Africa.
- Gauteng province remained the primary destination for immigrants, hosting 51,2% of them, followed by the Western Cape (13,3%).
- At municipal level, the City of Johannesburg accounted for the largest concentration (27%) of immigrants, followed by the City of Ekurhuleni (12%) and the City of Cape Town (9,2%).
- In early childhood education, 18,4% of South African-born children attended crèches or educare centres, compared to a slightly lower 16,6% among immigrant children.
- Regarding attending an educational institution 23,4% of immigrants aged 5–18 years reported never attending an educational institution, compared to only 5,3% among the South African-born population.
- In terms of health perception, 55,9% of immigrants rated their health status as “good”, compared to 50,5% among South African-born individuals.
- The majority of immigrants sought healthcare from public clinics (77,7%), followed by public hospitals (9,6%). Similarly, among South African-born individuals, most accessed public clinics (69,3%).
- In Gauteng, 35,9% of immigrants accessed healthcare from public institutions, while 15,8% relied on private facilities, reflecting reliance on public health services.
- Regarding subjective well-being, 31,7% of immigrants reported feeling happier than they were 10 years ago, compared to 25,0% among the South African-born population.

CHAPTER 3: INTERNAL MIGRATION

3.1 Introduction

An internal migrant is any person who is moving or has moved within a province or between provinces to establish a new temporary or permanent residence, or because of displacement (IOM, 2019b). It is often influenced by various factors that differ by country and region. As of the 21st century, internal migration is more prevalent than international migration. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), about 763 million people worldwide were internal migrants in 2020, far outnumbering immigrants (approximately 281 million). Internal migration is affected by economic factors, which include job opportunities and income disparities, cost of living, as well as environmental factors and cultural and personal reasons. (UNDP, 2020)

This section will profile and discuss internal migrants (lifetime and period migrants) according to their demographics and migration patterns. The results in this chapter are based on the Income and Expenditure Survey 2022/2023. The core questions asked under this theme relate to the place of birth, usual residence and movement since the previous date of enumeration. Under the question of province of birth, three subgroup populations can be derived and analysed, namely, non-movers, internal migrants and immigrants, but the focus in this chapter will be a breakdown of internal migrants (lifetime and period migrants).

3.2 Lifetime Migrants

A lifetime migrant is an individual whose province of enumeration at the date of enumeration differs from his/her province of birth, whilst a non-mover is an individual who was born in a particular province, which is the same as their province of enumeration (See Figure 3.1 Categorisation of lifetime migrants). The method of collecting income and expenditure data primarily used the four-by-four rule stated in chapter 1, which collected information from members of the household during four nights over four weeks and excluded those who did not meet the enumeration rule. However, the survey is unable to capture all movements of the population as it focuses on the last move to their place of enumeration.

The comparison group of lifetime migrant in this section were non mover. A non-mover is an individual born in a particular province and is a usual resident of the same province (Stats SA, 2024).

Figure 3.1– Categorisation of lifetime migrants

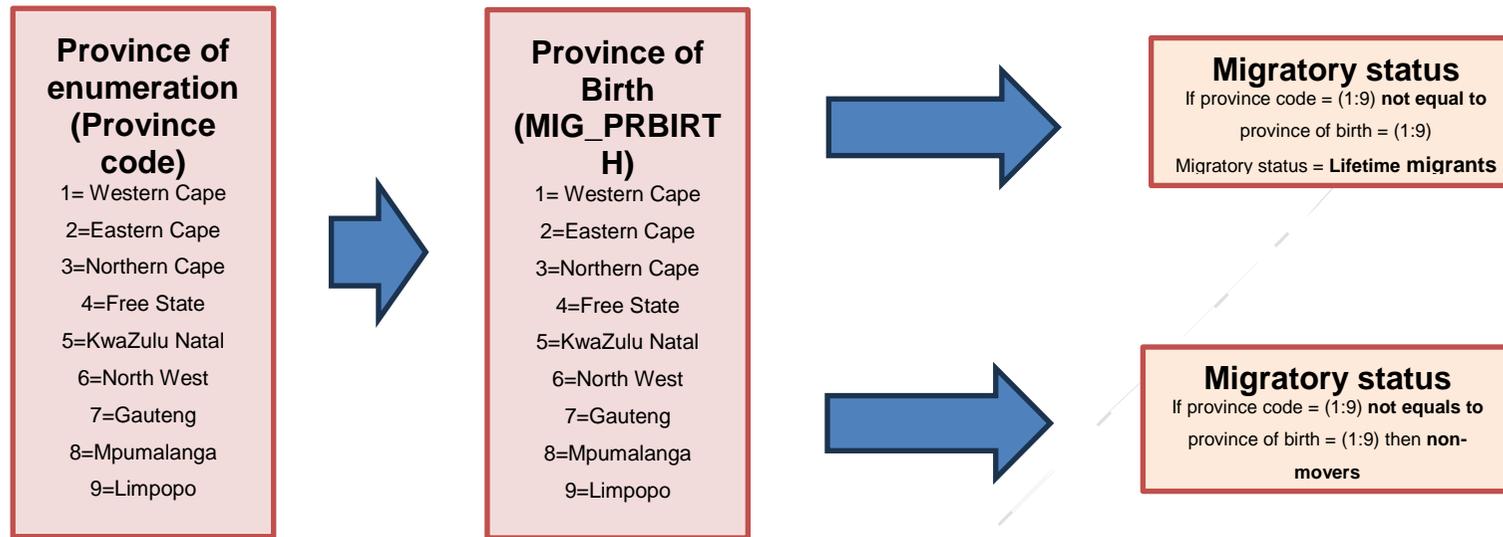


Table 3.1 below shows the distribution of the population by migratory status and migration patterns, IES 2022/2023. In 2022/2023, lifetime migration continued to shape the South African population distribution, with Gauteng and Western Cape emerging as the principal destinations for movers with 4 553 644 and 1 526 581. Gauteng recorded the largest net-migration gain of 3,3 million people, followed by Western Cape with 1,2 million, while North West experienced a modest net inflow of 86 thousand. By contrast, significant net-migration losses were observed in the Eastern Cape (-1,7 million) and Limpopo (-1,5 million), confirming their role as major sending provinces. KwaZulu-Natal (-665 thousand), Free State (-453 thousand), Mpumalanga (-208 thousand) and Northern Cape (-100 thousand) also recorded net outflows. Overall, nearly 9,1 million people moved across provincial boundaries, while 3,1 million immigrants were enumerated in the country. These patterns underscore Gauteng's role as the dominant migration hub and highlight the persistent out-migration pressures from largely rural provinces.

Table 3.1 – Distribution of the population by province of birth and province of enumeration, IES 2022/2023

Province of enumeration	Total population	Non-movers	Immigrants	In-migration	Out-migration	Net-migration
Western Cape	6 889 311	5 362 730	412 977	1 526 581	313 995	1 212 586
Eastern Cape	6 554 005	6 194 373	117 355	359 632	2 023 337	-1 663 705
Northern Cape	1 296 293	1 121 208	21 604	175 085	275 095	-100 010
Free State	2 821 954	2 499 638	107 243	322 316	774 938	-452 622
KwaZulu-Natal	11 403 626	10 869 354	216 795	534 272	1 199 623	-665 351
North West	4 010 862	3 323 911	221 357	686 951	601 123	85 828
Gauteng	14 768 368	10 214 724	1 583 372	4 553 644	1 258 507	3 295 137
Mpumalanga	4 577 696	4 014 061	188 011	563 635	771 166	-207 531
Limpopo	5 745 697	5 389 010	226 212	356 687	1 861 019	-1 504 332
SA	58 067 812	48 989 009	3 094 927	9 078 803	9 078 803	0

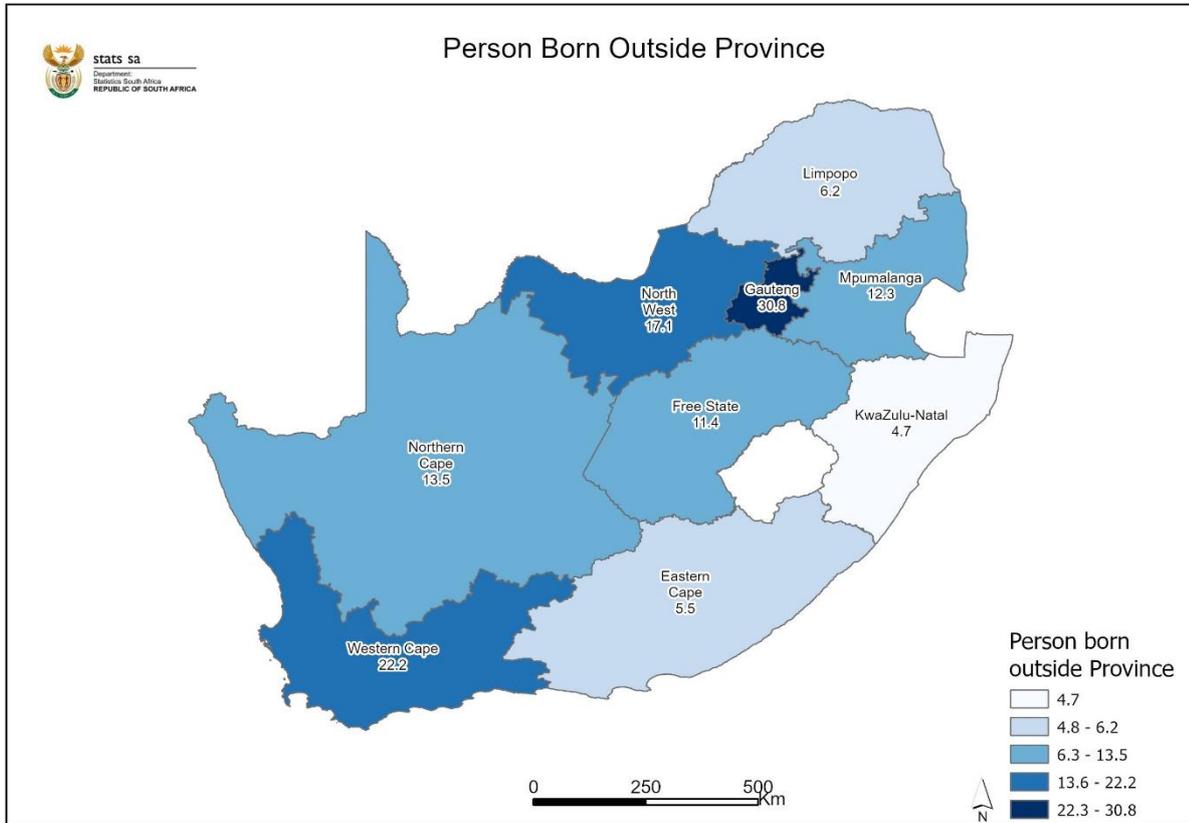
Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note** This table excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases.

**In, out, and net-migration exclude the persons born outside SA.

Figure 3.2 below shows the percentage distribution of persons born outside the province of enumeration, IES 2022/2023. The majority of lifetime migrants reported Gauteng (30,8%) as the province in which they were enumerated. This is followed by the Western Cape with 22,2%.

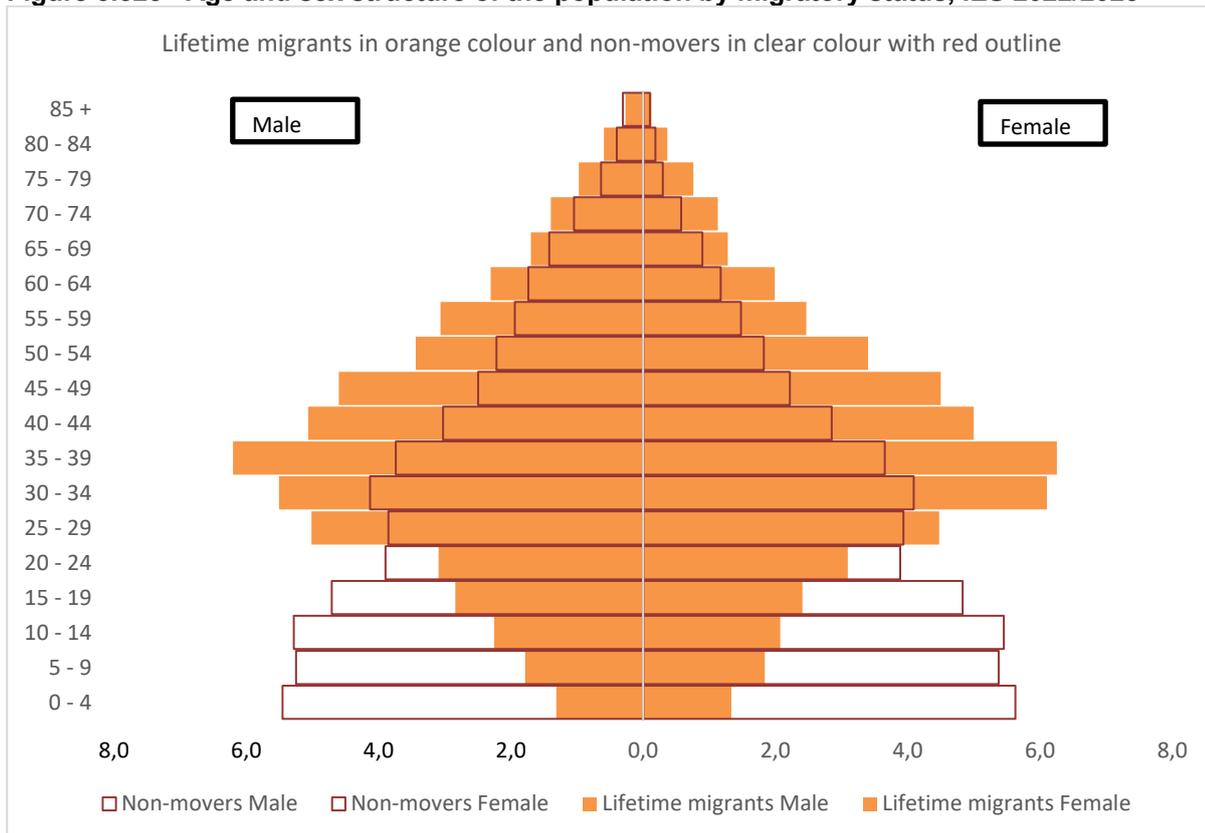
Figure 3.2 – Percentage distribution of persons born outside the province of enumeration, IES 2022/2023



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023,
 Note**This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases.
 **In, out, and net-migration exclude the persons born outside SA.

Figure 3.3 below shows the age and sex distribution of the population by migratory status, IES 2022/23. The results compare lifetime internal migrants and non-movers. The pyramid illustrates the age-selective nature of migration, with the greatest impact observed among working-age groups. The majority of lifetime migrants were concentrated in the 20–39 year age range, peaking at 35–39 years, where lifetime migrants accounted for approximately 6,3% of the male population and 6,2% of the female population. A secondary peak is observed in the 25–29 age group, with around 6,1% of males and 5,5% of females classified as lifetime migrants. Migration declines sharply in the older age groups, underscoring that movement is concentrated during the economically active years.

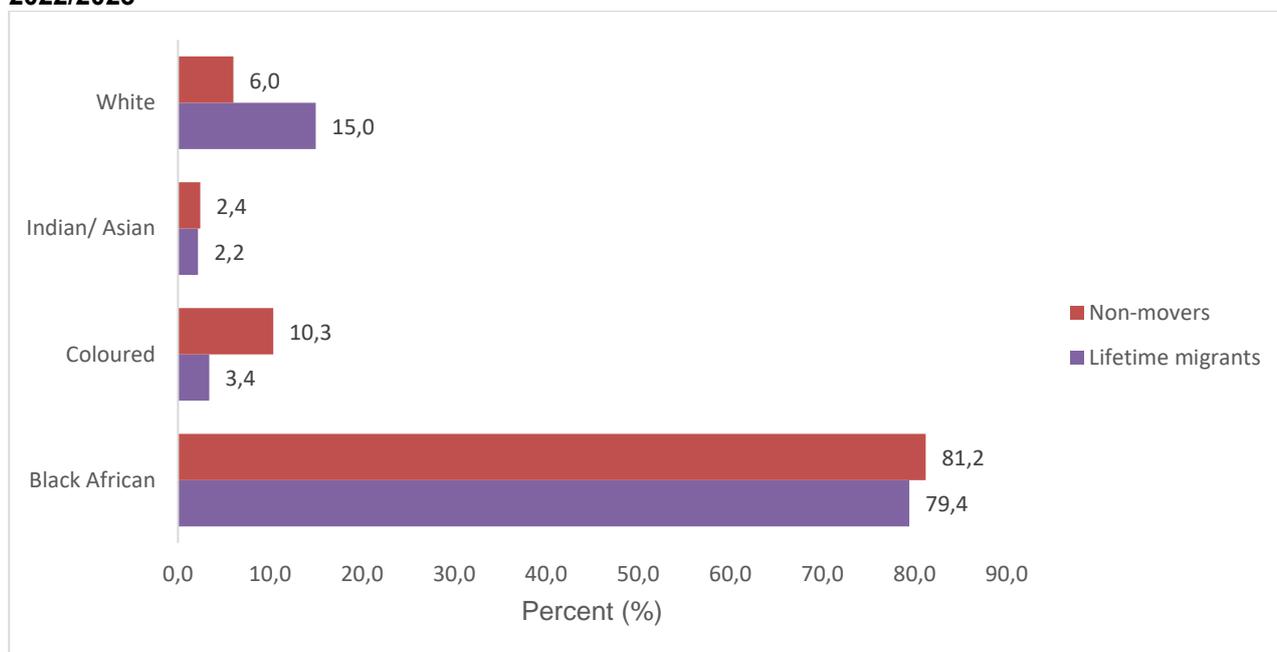
Figure 3.325– Age and sex structure of the population by migratory status, IES 2022/2023



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases
 **Figure excludes age of persons born outside SA

Figure 3.4 below shows the percentage distribution of persons by population group and migratory status, IES 2022/23. The results indicate that the majority of both lifetime migrants and non-movers were Black African, accounting for 79,4% among were lifetime migrants compared to 81,2% among non-movers. Among the White population group, 15% were lifetime migrants compared to 6% among non-movers. Among non-mover, 10,3% of the population indicated that they were coloured population group as compared to 3,4% among Lifetime migrants.

Figure 3.4 – Percentage distribution of the population by migratory status and population group, IES 2022/2023



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases, and other under population group.

3.3 Period Migrants

Period migration refers to the movement of individuals from one location to another within a specified period, typically captured by comparing data on previous residence and province of enumeration. In the context of South Africa, the Income and Expenditure Survey 2022/2023 gathered information on movement since 2017, where the respondent indicated “2=no” or “4=born after 2017 and moved”, and their province of previous residence is not the same as their province of enumeration. This population was then identified as period migrants. Non-movers were identified as respondents who reported 1=yes or 3=born after 2017 and never moved, and their province of previous residence is the same as their province of enumeration (see Figure 3.5 – Categorisation of period migrants). Analysing period migration is essential for understanding short- to medium-term mobility patterns, as it sheds light on the factors driving internal migration, the characteristics of those who move, and the impacts on both the areas people leave and the areas they settle in. This data is crucial for informing policies related to regional development, urbanisation, and the provision of services.

Figure 3.5 – Categorisation of period migrants



3.3.1 Methods used to determine interprovincial migration of the population

3.3.1.1 Index of relative representativity (IRR)

The index of relative representativity (IRR) is calculated by dividing the respective or each of the calculated in/out-migration percentage share by the Income and Expenditure Survey 2022/2023 distribution share (Stats SA, 2015). The IRR can be used to determine the level of significance at each observed population that moves between provinces when benchmarked to 100 (Stats SA, 2015).

- **IRR > 100:** If the IRR is greater than 100, it means that the proportion of migrants coming to (or leaving) the province is higher than the proportion of the national population that resides in that province. This suggests that the province is overrepresented in-migration compared to its share of the national population. Essentially, more people are moving in or out of this province than expected based on its population size.
- **IRR = 100:** If the IRR is equal to 100, it means that the migration share is perfectly proportional to the provincial population share. The province has the same percentage of migrants as it does of the national population (Stats SA, 2015).
- **IRR < 100:** If the IRR is less than 100, it indicates that the province is underrepresented in migration, meaning fewer migrants are coming to (or leaving) that province than expected based on its population size.

3.3.1.2 Migration effectiveness

Migration effectiveness or rather known as efficiency is calculated by expressing net-migration as a proportion of migration turnover, where the turnover is the sum of gross inflow and outflows (Stats SA, 2015). Similarly, to net-migration, migration effectiveness can take negative or positive values representing the direction of migration and the value indicating the magnitude of movers.

Table 3.2 below shows the distribution of the population by province of previous residence and province of enumeration, IES 2022/2023. The results indicate that there were at least 1,53 million period migrants. The results further indicate that there were provincial variations in migration dynamics across South Africa, with Gauteng recording the largest net in-migration (210 803 net period migrants), reinforcing its role as the primary migration hub.

By contrast, provinces such as Limpopo (-163 983), KwaZulu-Natal (-75 832), Eastern Cape (-73 440), and Free State (-28 222) show net out-migration, reflected in negative migration effectiveness. Limpopo records the largest net population loss, with an effectiveness ratio of -45,3, underscoring significant outflows (263 176) relative to inflows (99 193). Both the Eastern Cape and Free State also exhibit relatively high out-migration intensities (IRR out-migration of 134,4 and 131,7, respectively), suggesting persistent migration pressures.

An examination of the Northern Cape shows that the province recorded relatively low migration flows, with 59 089 in-migrants and 27 191 out-migrants during the reference period. Despite these marginal flows, the province exhibited a high migration effectiveness ratio of 37,0, indicating a substantial net gain relative to total migration turnover as compared to migration effectiveness of provinces such as Gauteng which received higher in and out-migration counts.

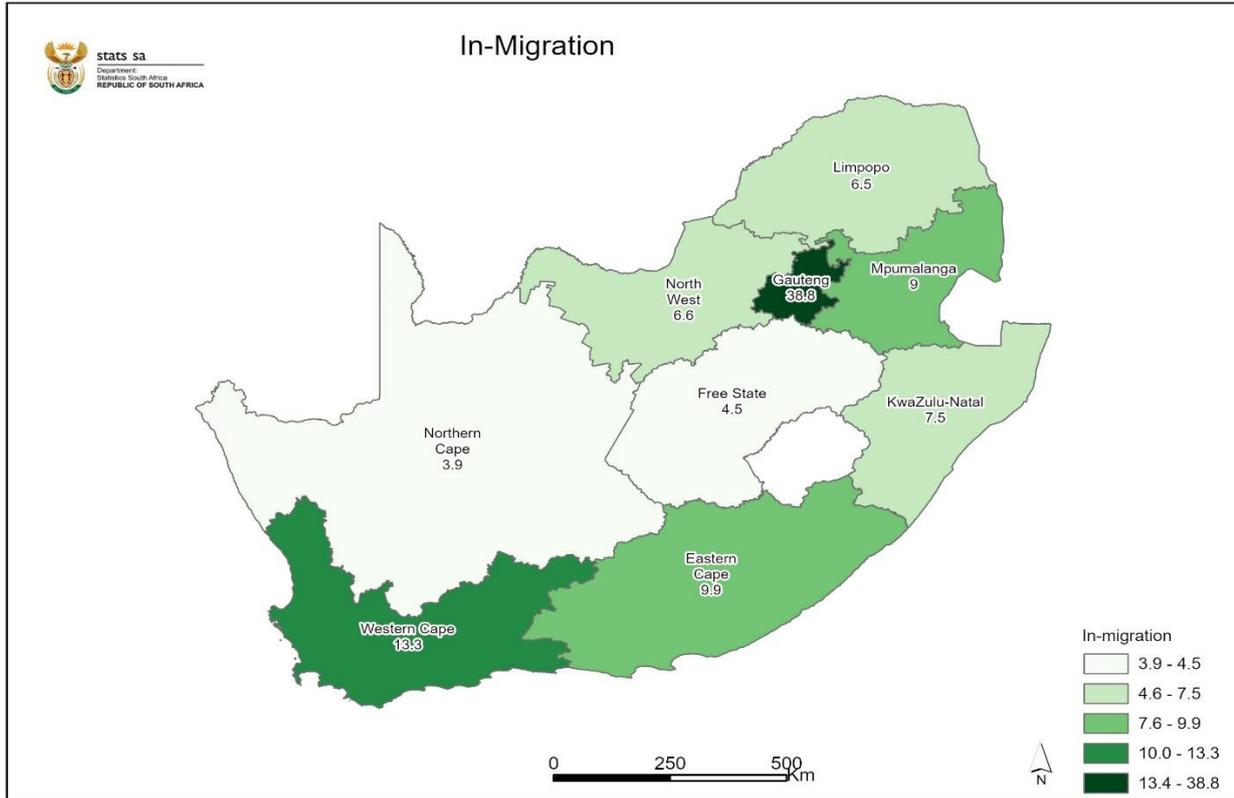
Table 3.2 – Distribution of the population by province of previous residence and province of enumeration, IES 2022/2023

Province of enumeration	Total population	Non-movers	In-migration	Out-migration	Net-migration	Total turnover	IRR in-migration	IRR out-migration	Migration effectiveness
Western Cape	7 223 728	7 019 680	204 048	126 342	77 706	330 390	111,8	69,2	23,5
Eastern Cape	6 640 302	6 488 187	152 115	225 555	-73 440	377 670	90,7	134,4	-19,4
Northern Cape	1 316 957	1 257 868	59 089	27 191	31 898	86 280	177,6	81,7	37,0
Free State	2 909 308	2 840 703	68 605	96 827	-28 222	165 432	93,3	131,7	-17,1
KwaZulu-Natal	11 579 268	11 464 780	114 488	190 320	-75 832	304 808	39,1	65,1	-24,9
North West	4 180 742	4 079 836	100 906	101 970	-1 064	202 876	95,5	96,5	-0,5
Gauteng	16 079 715	15 486 512	593 203	382 400	210 803	975 603	146,0	94,1	21,6
Mpumalanga	4 708 761	4 570 365	138 396	116 262	22 134	254 658	116,3	97,7	8,7
Limpopo	5 921 059	5 821 866	99 193	263 176	-163 983	362 369	66,3	175,9	-45,3
Total	60 559 840	59 029 797	1 530 043	1 530 043					

*Note**This table excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable*

Figure 3.6 presents the percentage distribution of period in-migration, IES 2022/2023. The results show that Gauteng (38,8%) and the Western Cape (13,3%) were the leading destinations for in-migrants, with Mpumalanga (9,0%) and the Eastern Cape (9,9%) also attracting notable shares. Provinces such as Northern Cape (3,9%) and Free State (4,5%) showed comparatively lower inflows. This indicates that Gauteng is the major recipient of migrants.

Figure 3.626 – Percentage distribution of period in-migration, IES 2022/2023

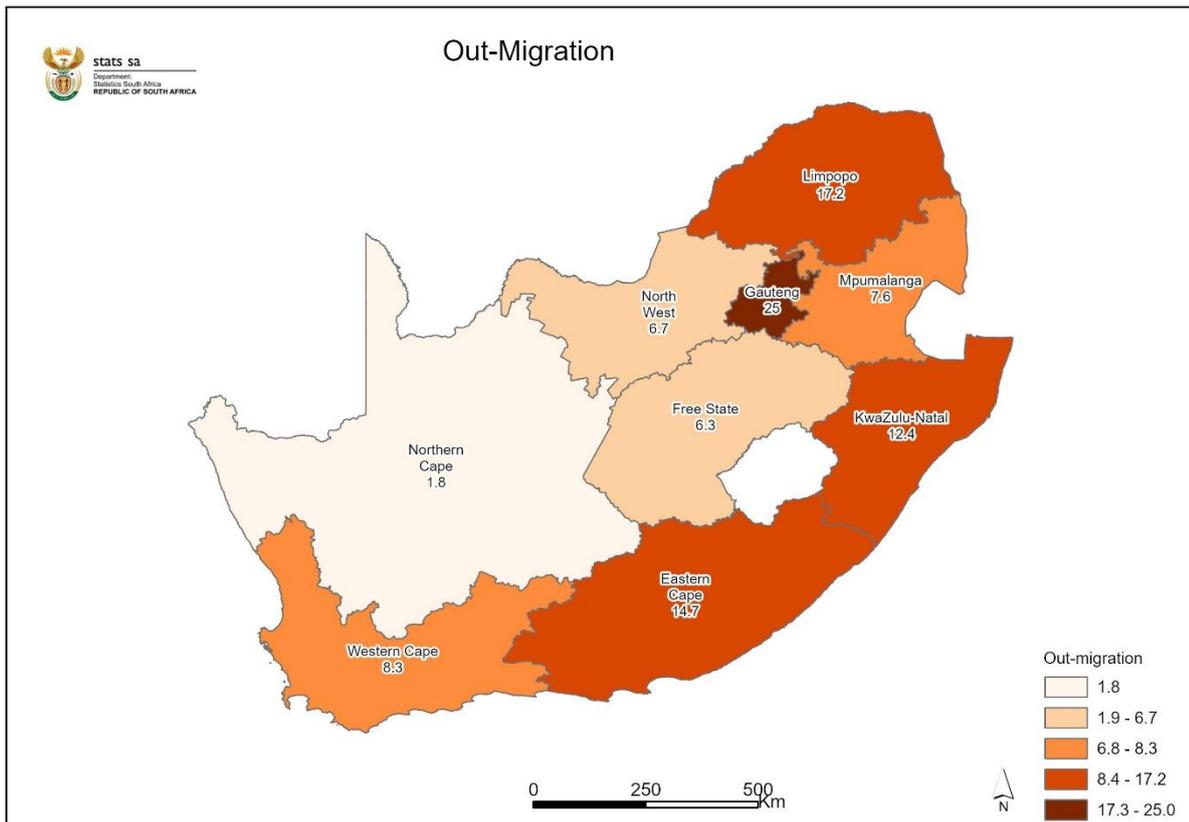


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note**This table excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

Figure 3.7 presents the percentage distribution of period out-migration, IES 2022/2023. The results show the out-migration patterns, of which Gauteng recorded the highest share (25,0%), followed by the Eastern Cape (14,7%) and KwaZulu-Natal (12,4%). Provinces such as Northern Cape (1,8%) and Free State (6,3%) showed comparatively lower outflows. This indicates that Gauteng was the major sending province of migrants. Overall, the results highlight that migration flows in South Africa were highly concentrated towards Gauteng and Western Cape, with other provinces such as Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo experiencing sustained outflows, particularly among female migrants.

Figure 3.7 – Percentage distribution of period out-migration, IES 2022/2023

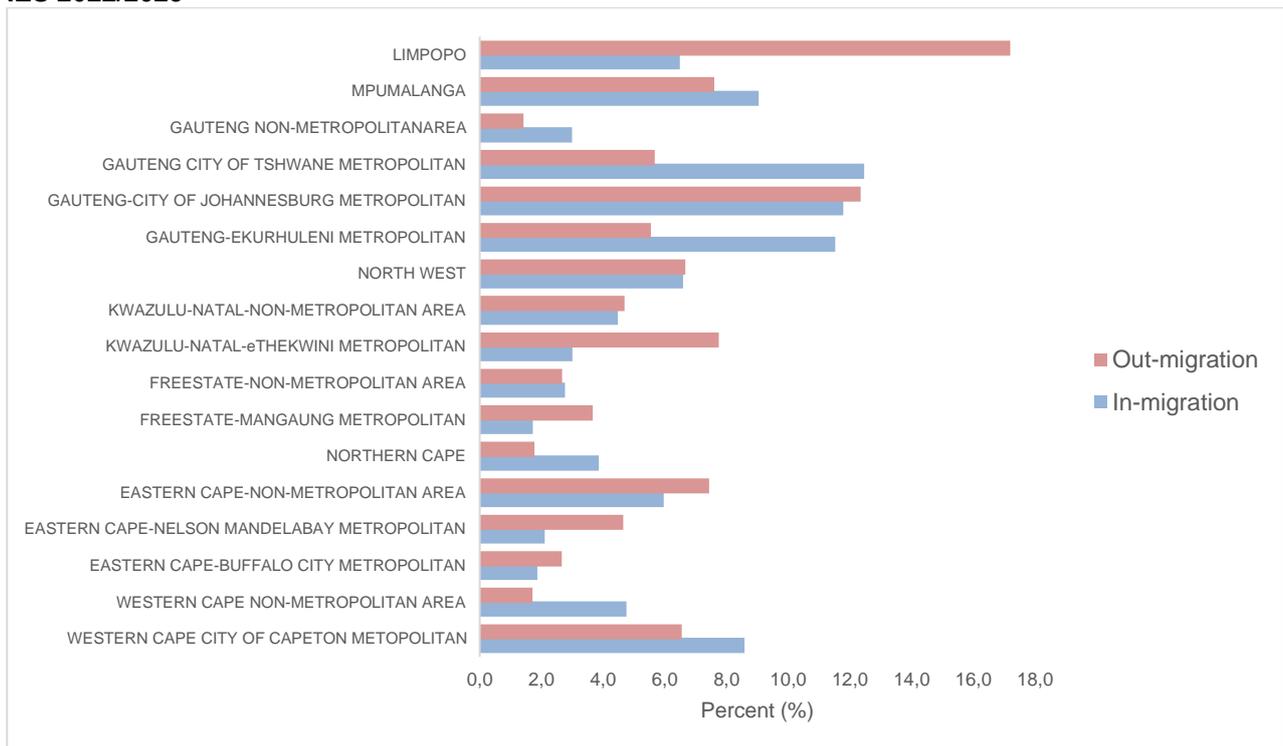


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note** This table excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

Figure 3.8 below shows the percentage distribution of period in-migration and out-migration by province and metropolitan area from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that Limpopo recorded the highest level of out-migration (17,2%), followed by KwaZulu-Natal, specifically eThekweni (7,7%) and Eastern Cape non-metropolitan areas (7,4%). In contrast, Gauteng metropolitan municipalities such as Tshwane (12,5%), Johannesburg (11,8%), and Ekurhuleni (11,5%) experienced the largest shares of in-migration. In the Western Cape, the City of Cape Town also attracted a notable share of in-migrants (8,6%), while simultaneously recording a relatively lower out-migration rate (6,5%). Overall, the results highlight that provinces like Limpopo and the Eastern Cape are predominantly sending areas, whereas Gauteng metros and Cape Town are the main receiving destinations of internal migrants in South Africa.

Figure 27 – Percentage distribution of period in-migration and out-migration by province at Metro level, IES 2022/2023



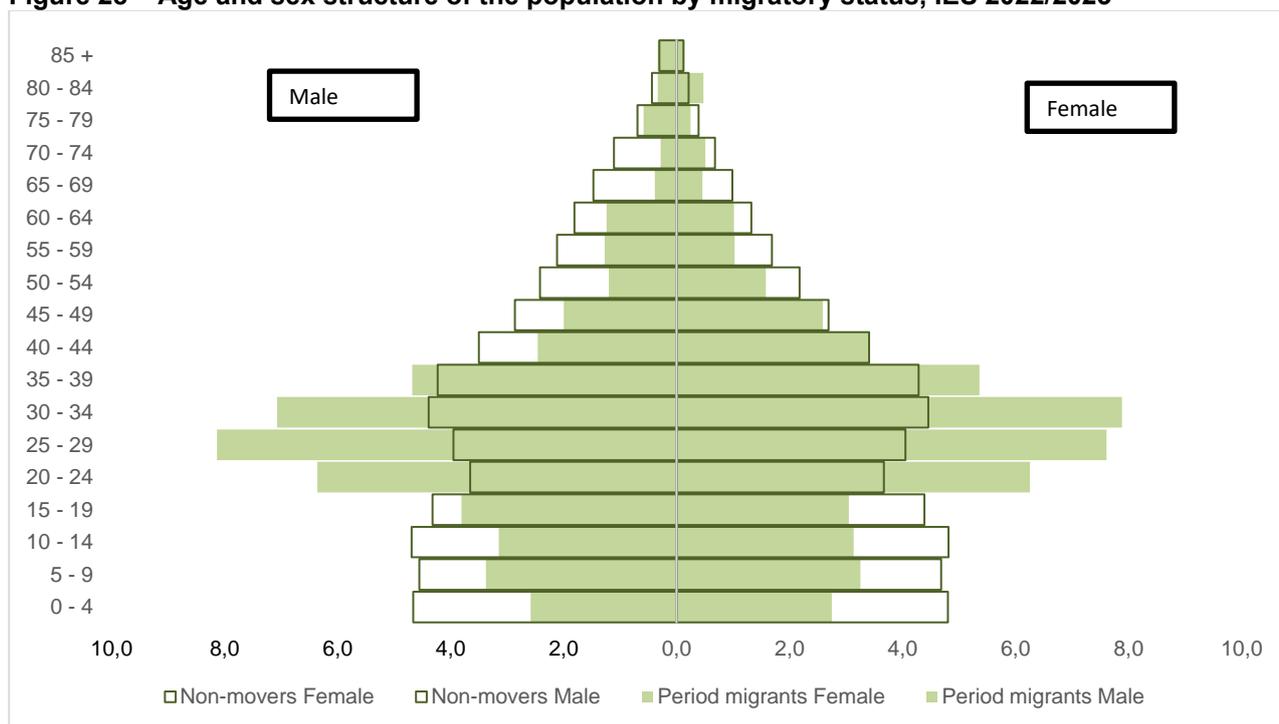
Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note** This table excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

Figure 3.9 below shows the age-sex distribution of period migrants and non-movers in 2022/2023. The results indicate that migration is highly concentrated among young adults aged 20–34 years. Specifically, period migrants accounted for 7,6% of males and 8,1% of females in the 25–29 age group, while in the age group 30–34 years, period migrants made up 7,9% of males and 7,1% of females.

By contrast, children aged 0–14 years had much lower proportions of migrants, ranging between 2,6% and 3,1% for both sexes, while older persons aged 60 years and above recorded less than 1,8% of period migrants. In these age groups, the majority were non-movers, with shares ranging between 0,1% and 4,8%. Overall, the pyramid demonstrates the youthful nature of period migration in South Africa, with females showing slightly higher levels of mobility than males in the 20–34 age range, while non-movement dominates among both the youngest and oldest age cohorts.

Figure 28 – Age and sex structure of the population by migratory status, IES 2022/2023



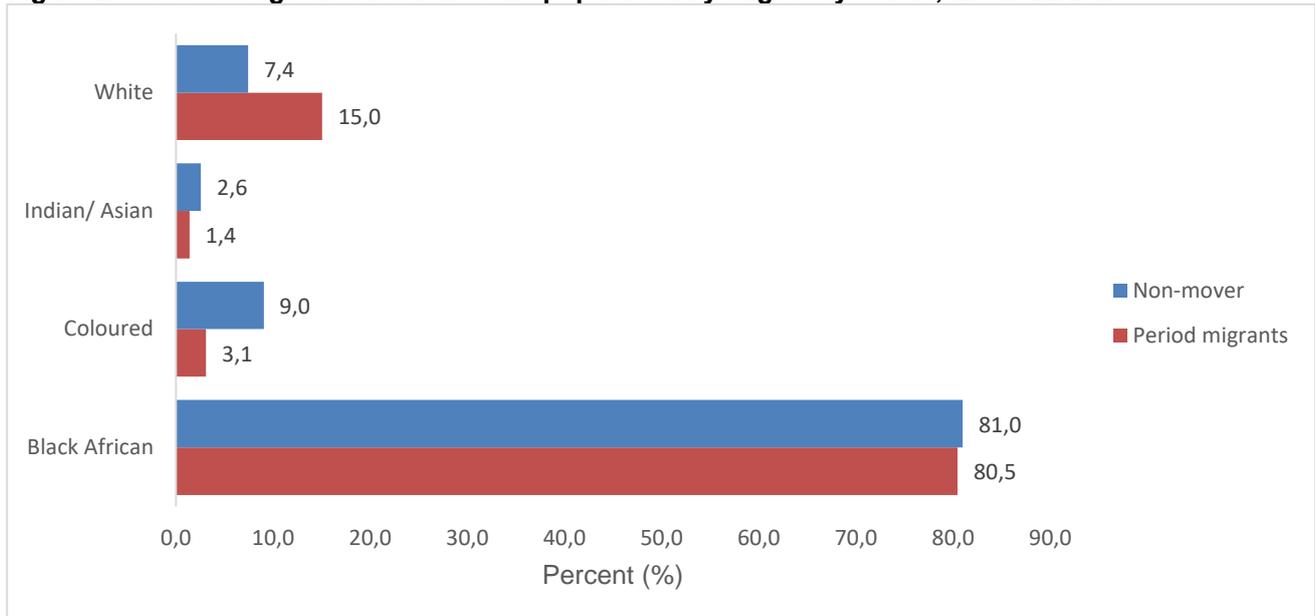
Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note**

This figure excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

Figure 3.10 below shows the percentage distribution of period migrants and non-movers by population group in 2022/2023. The results reveal that the majority of both period migrants and non-movers are from the black African population group, accounting for 80,5% of migrants and 81,0% of non-movers. Among period migrants, the white population accounted for 15,0%, which is notably higher than the share among non-movers (7,4%). Conversely, the coloured population represented 3,1% of migrants but a larger share of 9,0% among non-movers, indicating lower levels of migration within this group. Similarly, the Indian/Asian group accounted for 1,4% of migrants compared to 2,6% of non-movers, also reflecting lower mobility compared to their size in the non-mover population.

Figure 29 – Percentage distribution of the population by migratory status, IES 2022/2023



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note** This figure excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

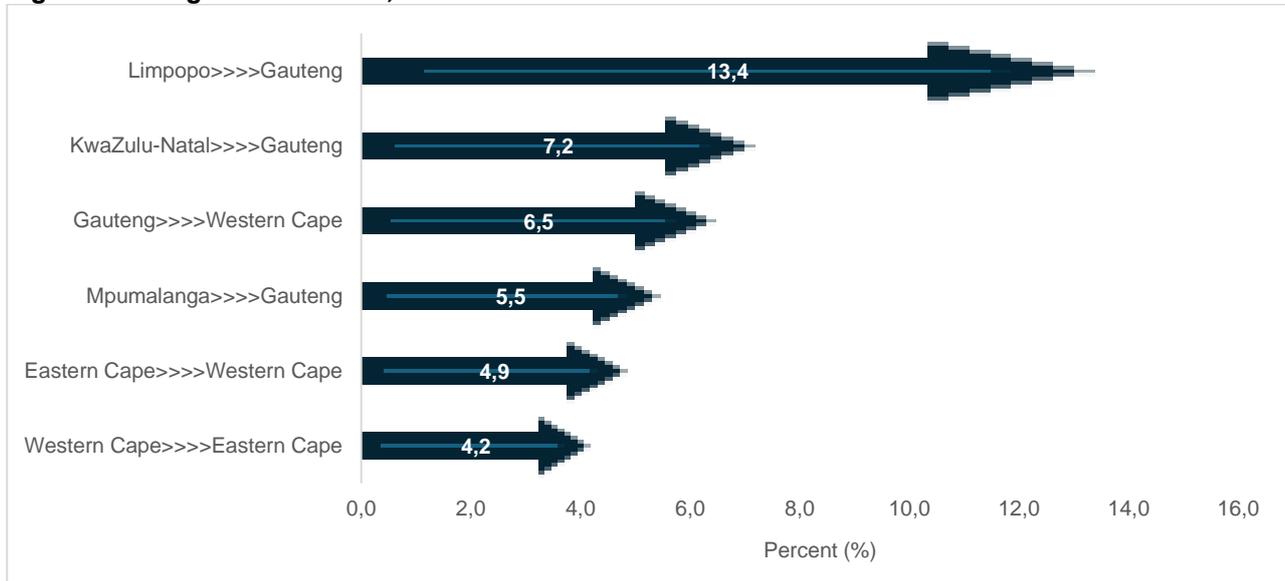
3.4 Interprovincial Streams and Corridors

Migration streams refer to the patterns and flow of large numbers of people moving from one geographic area to another. Whereas, when a particular migration stream plus the stream in the opposite direction in combination cover a significant proportion of all migratory moves in the country, one can refer to it as an “internal migration corridor”. These streams and corridors can be driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, political instability, environmental conditions, social networks, or cultural ties. Migration streams can be internal (within a country) or international (between countries) (Lee, 1966; Stats SA, 2015).

3.4.1 Migration streams

Figure 3.11 below shows the interprovincial streams, IES 2022/2023. The results show that the most dominant stream was Limpopo to Gauteng with 13,4% and KwaZulu-Natal to Gauteng with 7,2%. The results show that there was an attraction of period migrants in the urban areas. Gauteng to Western Cape with 6,5%.

Figure 30 – Migration streams, IES 2022/2023



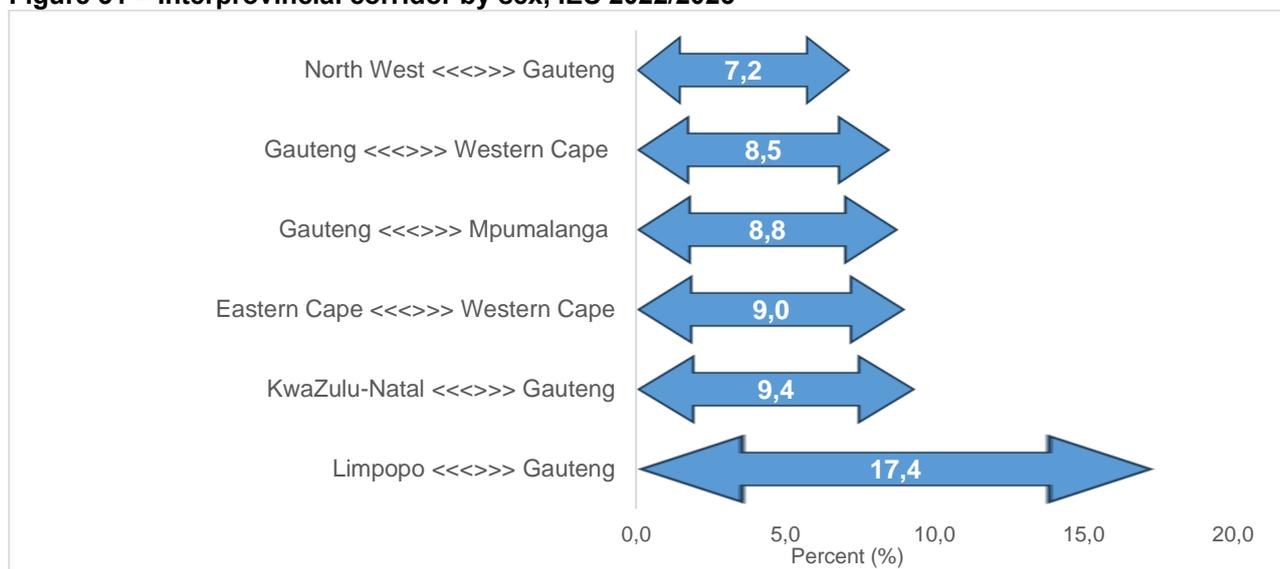
Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note** This figure excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

3.4.2 Migration corridors

Figure 3.12 below shows the inter-provincial corridors by sex between 2017 and 2022. The results show that the prominent inter-provincial migration corridors in South Africa were Gauteng and Limpopo, with 17,4%. This was followed by an interprovincial corridor between KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng at 9,4%. The least interprovincial migration corridor was North West to Gauteng at 7,2%.

Figure 31 – Interprovincial corridor by sex, IES 2022/2023



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

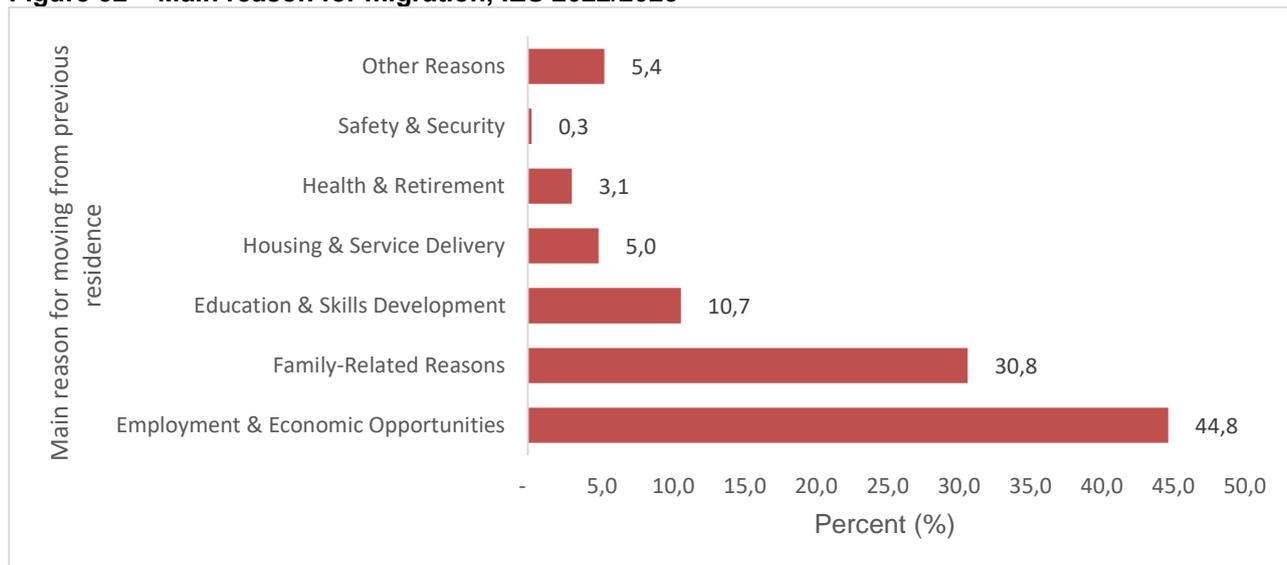
Note** This figure excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known and not applicable

3.4.3 Main reason for moving from previous place of residence

Figure 3.13 presents the main reason for moving from the previous place of residence, IES 2022/2023. The category of *Employment and Economic Opportunities* includes migration undertaken for labour market-related reasons such as looking for paid work, taking up a new job opportunity, job transfers, job loss, retrenchment or the end of a contract, as well as starting a business or other business-related reasons. *Family-Related Reasons* refer to movements associated with household or family dynamics, including moving to live with or be closer to a spouse (e.g. marriage), moving as part of a household accompanying another household member, and divorce or separation. *Education and Skills Development* include relocation for purposes related to studying, schooling or training. *Housing and Service Delivery* captures moves motivated by changes in living arrangements or the desire to access better municipal or basic services, including moving to a new dwelling for the household. *Health and Retirement* include migration due to poor or ill health as well as retirement-related relocation. *Safety and Security* included movements associated with concerns about high levels of crime, political instability, religious conflict or persecution. The category *Other Reasons* includes all migration motives that do not fall within the specified categories above.

The results indicated that migration from previous residence was largely driven by employment and economic opportunities, which accounted for 44.8% of all reported reasons for moving. This was followed by family-related reasons at 30.8%, while education and skills development contributed 10.7%. Housing and service delivery-related movements comprised 5.0%, and health and retirement accounted for 3.1% of migration reasons. Safety and security concerns represented 0.3% of the reported main reasons for migration, while other reasons collectively made up 5.4%.

Figure 32 – Main reason for migration, IES 2022/2023



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

Note**This figure excludes cases that are residing outside SA, are not known, and not applicable

3.5 Summary of the Findings

- There were 9,1 million lifetime migrants who moved across provincial boundaries in South Africa.
- Most of lifetime migrants resided in Gauteng (4 553 644) and the Western Cape (1 526 581).
- Most lifetime migrants were aged 20–39 years of age, with the highest proportion aged 35–39 years.
- Majority of both lifetime migrants were Black African, accounting for 79,4%.
- Period migrants accounted for 1,53 million persons, with Gauteng recording the highest positive net-migration of 209 147 period migrants.
- Most of period migrants were Black African, accounting for 80,5% of migrants.
- The most common migration streams were Limpopo to Gauteng (13,4%) and KwaZulu-Natal to Gauteng (7,2%).
- The main reason for migration was employment and economic opportunities, which accounted for 44.8% of all reported reasons for moving.

CHAPTER 4: HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

4.1 Introduction

A household is “a group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone” (Stats SA, 2023). To understand income and expenditure patterns and to monitor progress in South African households, the Income and Expenditure Survey is used. This chapter presents an analysis of household income and expenditure by migratory status, highlighting key patterns and characteristics in household income and expenditure behaviour of three study populations namely households headed by South African-born individuals, internal migrants, and households headed by immigrants. As a result, households headed by immigrants were identified using the country of birth variable (i.e. individuals born outside South Africa). Similarly, internal migrant-headed households were identified based on individuals born in a South African province different from their current province of residence whilst non-migrants-headed households were identified based on individuals born in a South African province similar to their current province of residence. The relationship-to-household-head variable was then used to determine individuals who were enumerated as heads of their respective households.

To further measure household income and expenditure, the IES 2022/23 captures data relating to the type of expenditure households incurred as well as the source of income for households. This information is captured using the Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP) 2018 edition (Stats SA, 2025). The COICOP is a standardised international classification framework, maintained by the United Nations, that systematically categorises household expenditure on goods and services. The 2018 revision (COICOP 2018) provides a structured hierarchy of consumption purposes, dividing them into 12 high-level divisions such as food and non-alcoholic beverages, housing, transport, and health, which are further disaggregated into detailed sub-categories such as group, class and sub-class (Stats SA, 2025). The COICOP 2018 hierarchical structure is as follows:

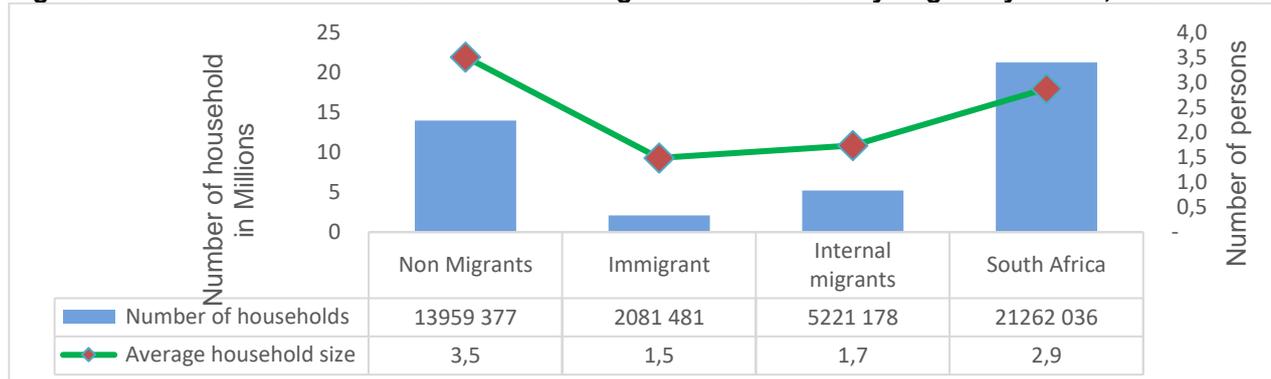
- Division - two-digit level
- Group - three-digit level
- Class - four-digit level
- Sub-class - five-digit level

This classification serves as the fundamental basis for constructing Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and conducting detailed economic analysis of consumption patterns, enabling rigorous cross-national and temporal comparisons of inflation, cost of living, and welfare. Its primary function is to ensure methodological consistency in the measurement and comparison of household consumption expenditure across economic territories and time periods (Stats SA, 2025).

4.2 Households by Migratory Status

Figure 4.1 below presents the distribution of households and average household size by migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that the total number of households in South Africa was about 21,3 million households, similarly, as found in the statistical release¹. With the vast majority of households headed by the non-migrant population (14 million), and only about 2,1 million households were immigrant-headed households, and 5,2 million households were headed by internal migrants. In terms of average household size, the overall South African households have an average size of 2,9 persons per household. Immigrant-headed households were smaller, with an average size of 1,5 persons per household, whilst non-migrants' household were the largest with 3,5 persons per household on average.

Figure 4.1– Distribution of household and average household size by migratory status, IES 2022/23

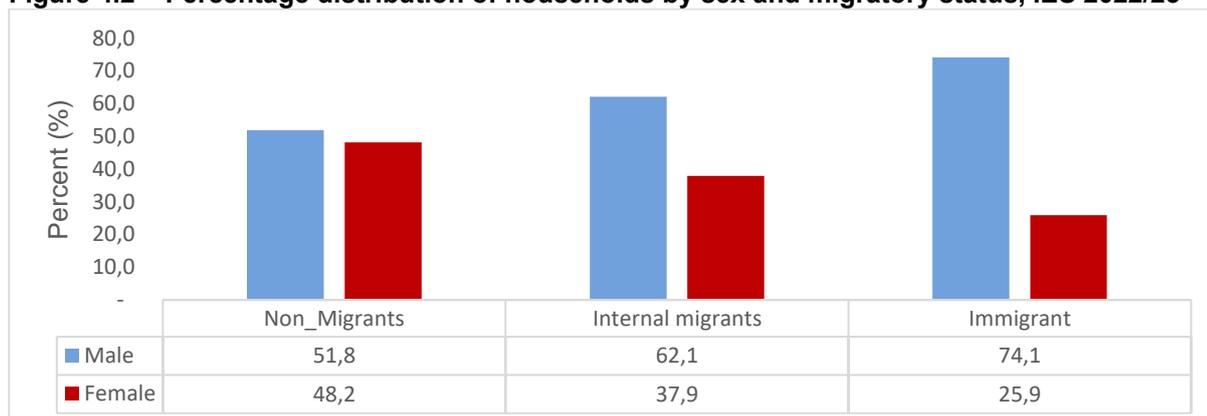


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 4.2 presents the percentage distribution of households by sex and migratory status, from IES 2022/23. The results indicate that households headed by males dominate across all population groups. Male-headed households were at least 51,8%, while female-headed households accounted for 48,2% of the total non-migrant households. Among immigrant headed-households, male-headed households accounted for a majority of 74,1%, while female-headed households accounted for 25,9% of immigrant headed-households. Among internal migrants, male-headed households (62,1%) were almost double the number of the female-headed households (37,9%).

Figure 4.2 – Percentage distribution of households by sex and migratory status, IES 2022/23



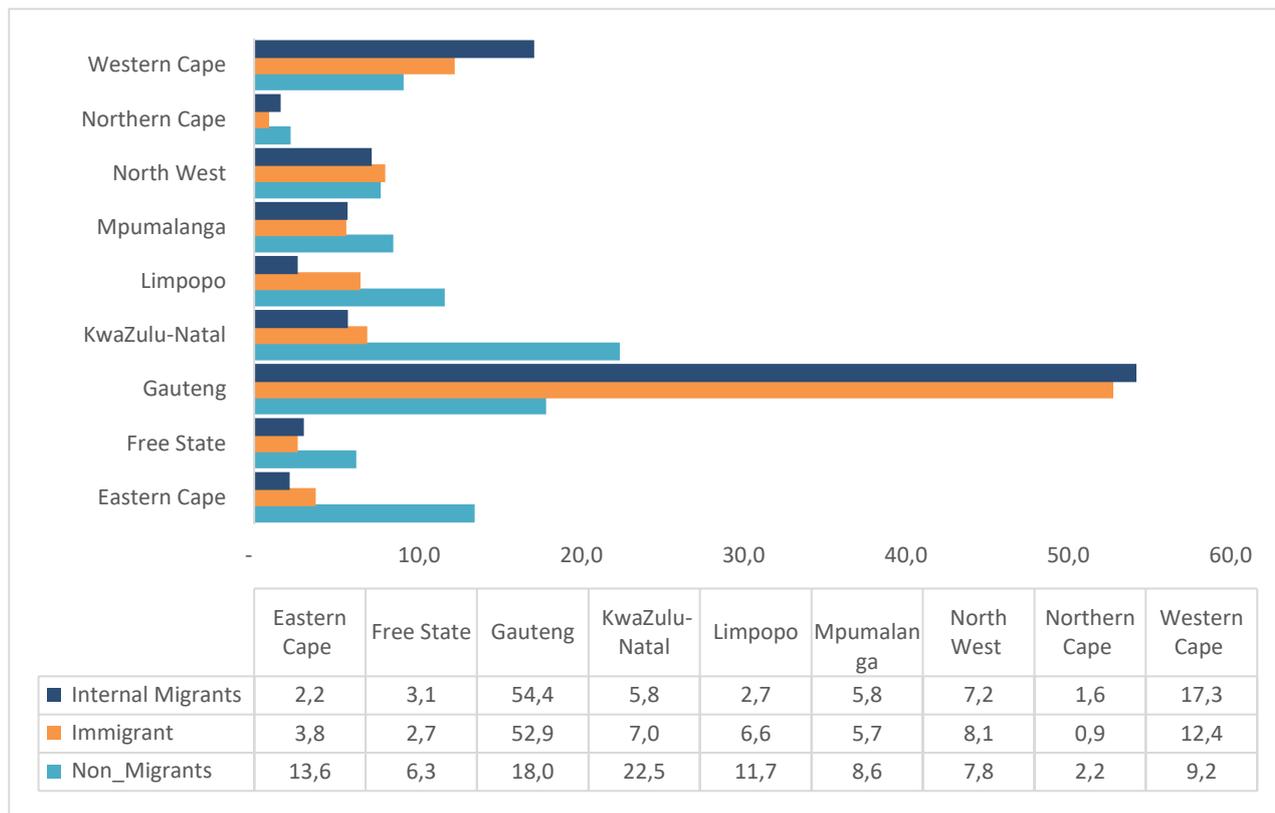
Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

¹ Income and Expenditure of households 2022/2023, statistical release P0100

Figure 4.3 presents the percentage distribution of households by province of enumeration and migratory status from IES 2022/23. The data shows that the majority of internal migrant and immigrant-headed households were concentrated in Gauteng province (54,4% and 52,9% respectively), followed by Western Cape, accounting for 17,3% and 12,4% respectively. When looking at non-migrant-headed households, majority of households were distributed between Gauteng (22,5%) and KwaZulu-Natal (18%).

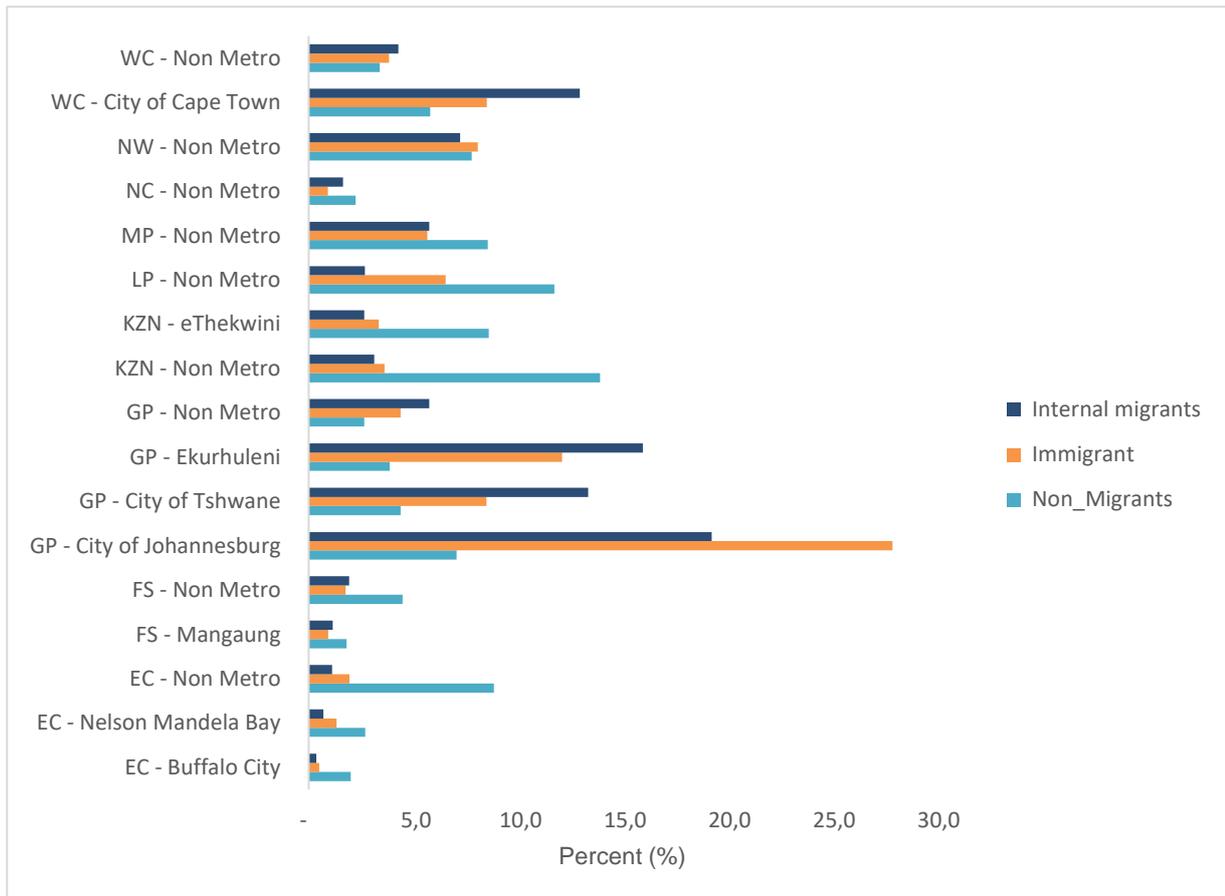
Figure 4.3 – Percentage distribution of household by province of enumeration and migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 4.4 presents the percentage distribution of households by the metropolitan and non-metropolitan municipality of enumeration and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that a large share of immigrant-headed households were in the City of Johannesburg (19,3%), City of Ekurhuleni (16,0%) and City of Tshwane (13,4%). The only non-metropolitan municipality that hosted a large share of immigrant-headed households was in the province of North West (7,2%). When looking at internal migrant-headed households, the municipalities with large shares of households were the City of Johannesburg (27,9%), City of Ekurhuleni (12,1%) and City of Tshwane and City of Cape Town with 8,5% per metropolitan municipality.

Figure 4.4 – Percentage distribution of households by the metropolitan and non-metropolitan municipality of enumeration and migratory Status, IES 2022/23

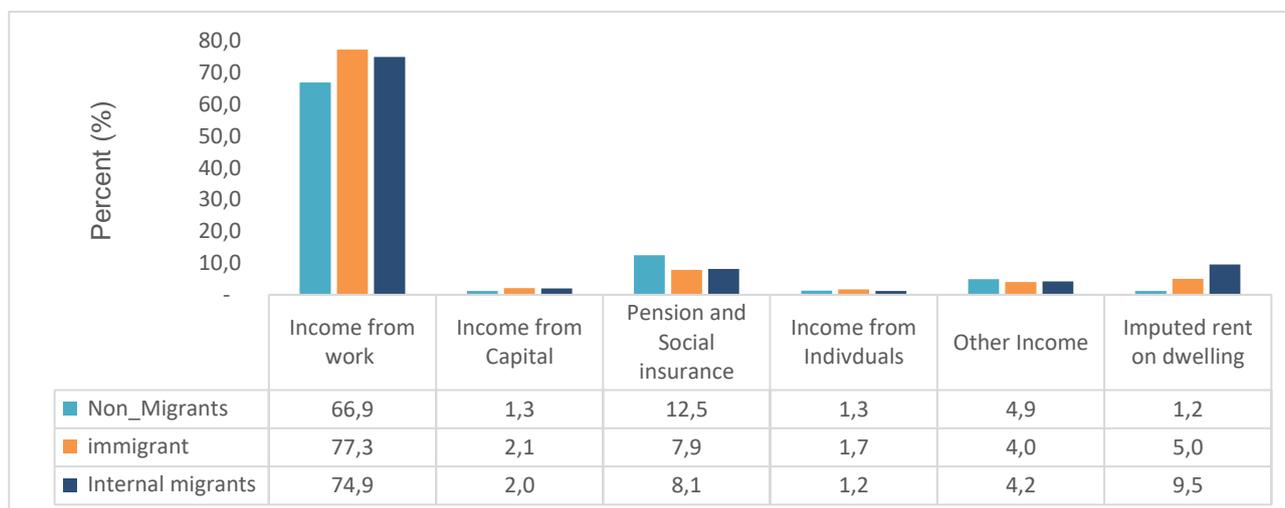


Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

4.3 Income sources by migratory status

Figure 4.5 below presents the proportion of household income source by migratory status. The results indicate that income from work forms the largest share of total income across all groups, ranging from 66,9% among non-migrants to 77,3% among immigrants. Pension and social insurance contribute between 7,9% among immigrants and 12,5% among non-migrants, while imputed rent accounts for 9,5% among internal migrants to 5,0% among immigrants. Smaller proportions are observed for income from capital (1,3%–2,1%), income from individuals (1,2%–1,7%), and other income (4,0%–4,9%)

Figure 4.533– Proportion of household income sources by migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Table 4.1 below presents the total household income by income sources and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate varying income distribution by migration status. Nationally, the total household income amounted to R42,45 trillion. Non-migrant households recorded the highest total income of R2 486 trillion, followed by internal migrant households with R1 325 trillion, and immigrant households with R432 billion.

Across all migration groups, income from work was the main income source, totalling R2,992 trillion nationally. Non-migrant households recorded the highest income from work (R1 664 trillion), followed by internal migrant households with R993 Billion, and immigrant households with R334 billion.

Table 4.1 – Household total income by income sources and migratory status, IES 2022/23

Source of Income	Total income in million			Total
	Non_Migrants	immigrant	Internal migrants	
Income from work	1 664 199	334 776	993 227	2 992 203
Income from Capital	31 106	9 304	26 776	67 187
Pension and Social insurance	310 583	34 160	107 815	452 558
Income from Individuals	32 929	7 403	15 401	55 733
Other Income	121 615	17 254	55 658	194 527
Imputed rent on dwelling	30 077	21 817	126 452	482 878
Total	2 486 780	432 975	1 325 330	4 245 085

Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Table 4.2 below presents the average and median household income by income sources and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. Internal migrant-headed households reported the highest total average household income (R253 837), followed by immigrant-headed households (R208 013) and non-migrant households (R178 144). Notably, average income is almost two times the median income. With, Internal migrant-headed households reporting the highest median household income (R112 214), followed by non-migrant households (R87 671) and immigrant-headed households (R84 795).

Table 4.2 – Average and median household income by income sources and migratory status, IES 2022/23

Source of Income	Average income				Median income			
	Non_Migrants	immigrant	Internal migrants	National Average	Non_Migrants	immigrant	Internal migrants	National Median
Income from work	119 217	160 836	190 230	140 730	132 827	81 804	126 246	115 633
Income from Capital	2 228	4 470	5 128	3 160	296 781	12 000	48 813	267 816
Pension and Social insurance	22 249	16 411	20 650	21 285	24 648	27 151	24 746	24 960
Income from Individuals	2 359	3 557	2 950	2 621	24 417	13 498	24 484	24 122
Other Income	8 712	8 289	10 660	9 149	5 087	1 618	3 851	4 090
Imputed rent on dwelling	2 155	10 481	24 219	22 711	85 656	114 133	116 477	92 688
Total	178 144	208 013	253 837	199 656	87 671	84 795	112 214	92 679

Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Table 4.3 below presents the average and median household income by sex of the head of the household and migratory status, IES 2022/23. The results indicate that Male-headed households reported higher levels of income than female-headed households across all migratory status groups in both average and median terms. Among male-headed households, internal migrants recorded the highest average income (R294 378), followed by immigrants (R220 701) and non-migrants (R210 407). A similar pattern was observed for median income, with internal migrant male-headed households reporting the highest median income (R125 273).

Female-headed households reported lower income levels across all groups. Internal migrant female-headed households had the highest average income (R187 337) among females, followed by immigrant-headed (R171 643) and non-migrant households (R143 432). Median income followed a similar trend, with internal migrant female-headed households recording the highest median income (R92 031).

Table 4.3 – Average and median household income by sex of the head of the household and migratory status, IES 2022/23

Source of Income	Average of income				Median income			
	Non-Migrants	Immigrants	Internal migrants	National Average	Non-Migrants	Immigrants	Internal migrants	National Median
Male	210 407	220 701	294 378	234 385	101 185	90 086	125 273	105 892
Female	143 432	171 643	187 337	154 472	77 084	70 921	92 031	79 974
Total	178 144	208 013	253 837	199 656	87 671	84 795	112 214	92 679

Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

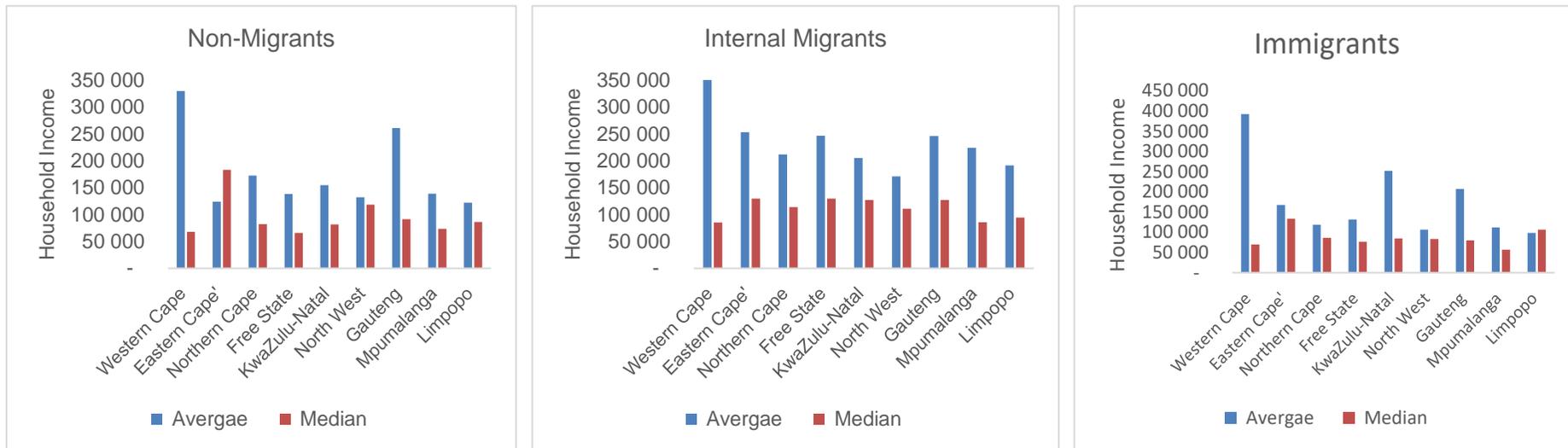
Figure 4.6 – Average and Median household income by provinces and migratory status, IES 2022/23. The result indicates that across all migratory status groups, average household income was consistently higher than median household income in all provinces.

Among non-migrant households, the Western Cape recorded the highest average household income, followed by Gauteng, while lower levels were observed in provinces such as the Free State and Limpopo. Median household income for non-migrant households followed a similar provincial pattern but remained lower than the corresponding averages.

For internal migrant-headed households, average household income was highest in the Western Cape and Gauteng, with comparatively lower levels recorded in the North West and Limpopo. Median household income remained below average income across all provinces. However, the median household income in eastern cape was higher than the average.

Immigrant-headed households also recorded higher average than median household income across all provinces. The Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal reported relatively higher average household income compared to other provinces, while provinces such as Mpumalanga and Limpopo recorded lower levels. Median household income remained consistently below average income across provinces.

Figure 34 – Average and Median household income by province and migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

4.4 Household expenditure by migratory status

Table 4.4 below presents total and average household consumption expenditure by division and migratory status, from the IES 2022/23, shown across major consumption divisions. Nationally, total household expenditure amounted to R2 953 trillion, with non-migrant households recording the highest total expenditure at R1 800 trillion, followed by internal migrant households at R886 billion and immigrant households at R266 billion. On average, internal migrant households spent R169 760 per year, which was higher than the national average of R138 905. Non-migrant households spent an average of R128 996, while immigrant households had the lowest average expenditure at R127 963. National totals were consistent with the figures from IES 2022/203 statistical release². However, due to further disaggregation by migratory status there are slight differences.

Across all population migratory statuses, the largest spending category was housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, totalling R956 billion. Average expenditure in this category was R44 991. Among internal migrants, average expenditure was R52 547 whilst among immigrants it was R43 740, and R42 351 among non-migrants. Food and non-alcoholic beverages formed the next major expenditure category with a total of R498 billion, where non-migrant headed households spent an average of R23 660, internal migrants R23 909, and immigrants R20 854.

Transport accounted for R466 billion in total spending, with internal migrants showing the highest household average at R30 990, followed by non-migrants at R19 086 and immigrants at R18 337. Other notable categories included insurance and financial services (R285 billion) and furnishings and household equipment (R126 billion). The lowest expenditure categories were education services (R43 billion) and health (R31 billion).

Overall, the data indicate that internal migrant households had the highest average expenditure across most spending categories, while immigrant households consistently recorded the lowest.

² Income and Expenditure of households 2022/2023, statistical release P0100.

Table 4.4 – Household consumption expenditure by division and migratory status, IES 2022/23

Division	Total expenses in millions (rands)				Average(rands)			
	Non-Migrants	Immigrant	Internal migrants	Total	Non-Migrants	Immigrant	Internal migrants	National average
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	330 283	43 407	124 833	498 523	23 660	20 854	23 909	23 447
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	26 438	3 855	12 675	42 968	1 894	1 852	2 428	2 021
Clothing and footwear	96 016	12 432	44 560	153 008	6 878	5 973	8 535	7 196
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	591 192	91 043	274 358	956 593	42 351	43 740	52 547	44 991
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	77 792	12 574	35 756	126 122	5 573	6 041	6 848	5 932
Health	17 198	3 184	11 145	31 527	1 232	1 529	2 135	1 483
Transport	266 427	38 168	161 807	466 402	19 086	18 337	30 990	21 936
Information and Communication	80 849	13 543	43 006	137 398	5 792	6 506	8 237	6 462
Recreation, sport and culture	23 210	3 711	12 713	39 634	1 663	1 783	2 435	1 864
Education Service	20 577	5 021	17 444	43 042	1 474	2 412	3 341	2 024
Restaurants and accommodation services	46 233	10 080	26 443	82 756	3 312	4 843	5 064	3 892
Insurance and financial services	168 307	22 050	95 341	285 698	12 057	10 593	18 260	13 437
Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods	56 188	7 286	26 266	89 740	4 025	3 501	5 031	4 221
Total	1 800 711	266 353	886 348	2 953 411	128 996	127 963	169 760	138 905

Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Table 4.5 below presents the household consumption expenditure by sex, province and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. At the national level, household expenditure varies by migration status. Internal migrant households record the highest average expenditure (R169 7609), above both the national average (R138 905) and non-migrant households (R128 996), while immigrant households report the lowest (R127 963). Average expenditure also differs by sex of the household head. Male-headed households generally spend more than female-headed households, for instance among internal migrants, male-headed households (R184 662) whilst female-headed households recorded R145 316). The Median household expenditure (rands) also depicts the same trend as the average expenditure where males headed household records a higher median compared to females headed household median. For instance, male headed household among immigrants recorded R69 728 as compared to R58 347 among female headed households

Provincial patterns demonstrate considerable variation. Internal migrants in the Western Cape record the highest average expenditure nationally (R218 601), while immigrant households in Limpopo (R61 442) and North West (R56 980) report the lowest. In Gauteng, non-migrant households (R180 383) exceed both internal migrants (R163 164) and immigrants (R133 766). In provinces such as KwaZulu-Natal and the Free State, internal migrants spend substantially more than both non-migrants and immigrants. Looking at the median household consumption expenditure, the results indicates that household headed by non-migrants in Gauteng recorded the largest median (R109 302) when compared to household headed by Internal migrants (R92 066) and immigrants (R69 496). Similarly in the Western cape, household headed by non-migrants recorded the largest median (R147 007) when compared to household headed by immigrants (R121 863) and by Internal migrants (R102 264).

Table 4.5 – Household consumption expenditure by sex, province and migratory status, IES 2022/23

Characteristics	Average household expenditure (rands)				Median household expenditure (rands)			
	Non-Migrants	Immigrant	Internal migrants	National average	Non-Migrants	Immigrant	Internal migrants	National median
Sex of household head								
South Africa	128 996	127 963	169 760	138 905	80 304	66 319	91 898	81 596
Male	144 812	132 426	184 662	87 059	83 023	69 728	95 142	84 650
Female	111 981	115 172	145 316	119 300	77 781	58 347	86 596	78 208
Province								
Western Cape	218 216	217 169	218 601	218 248	147 007	121 863	102 264	129 865
Eastern Cape	103 592	110 789	165 367	107 239	69 780	82 867	111 115	71 362
Northern Cape	118 548	95 487	154 772	124 891	72 897	64 552	114 302	79 108
Free State	99 712	98 571	180 909	111 529	67 891	71 259	98 249	71 284
KwaZulu-Natal	114 118	137 469	163 500	119 210	78 461	67 358	82 257	78 199
North West	89 527	56 980	127 930	95 060	60 518	38 493	68 402	59 742
Gauteng	180 383	133 766	163 164	164 848	109 302	69 496	92 066	93 607
Mpumalanga	111 357	76 509	157 190	117 352	74 407	56 617	85 876	74 503
Limpopo	94 944	61 442	142 662	96 057	67 845	45 044	84 794	67 253

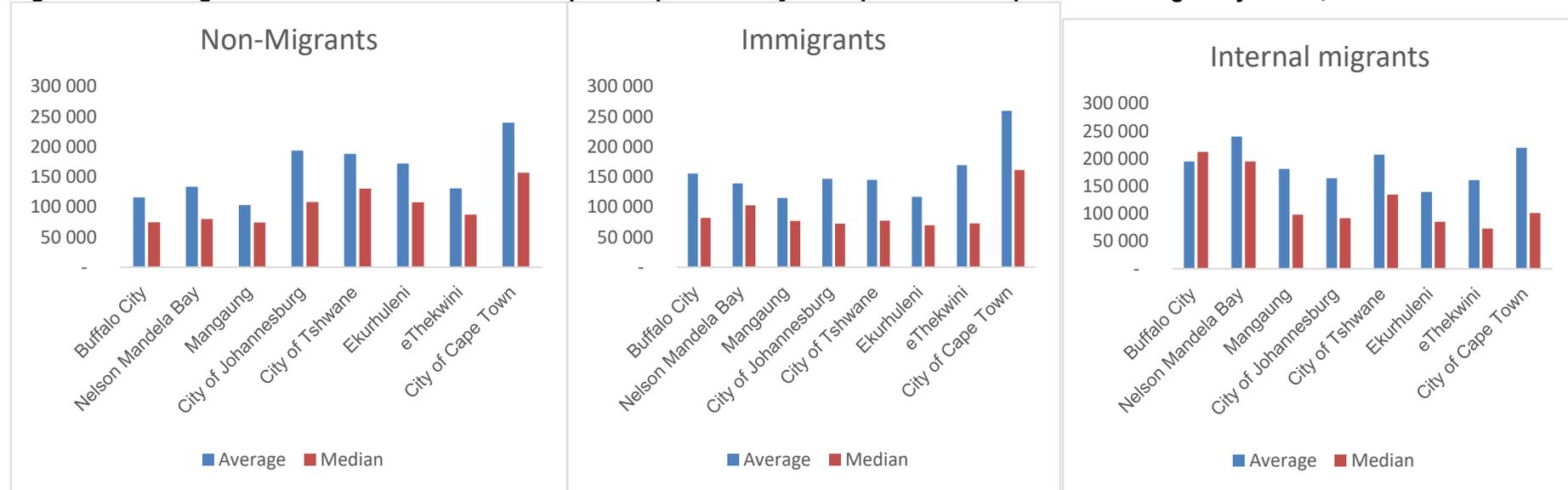
Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

Figure 4.7- below presents Average and Median household consumption expenditure by selected metropolitan municipalities and migratory status from the IES 2022/23. The results indicate that across all migratory status groups, average household consumption expenditure was consistently higher than median household consumption expenditure in all metropolitan municipalities.

Internal Migrants record the highest average expenditure in the majority of listed metropolitan municipalities, including Nelson Mandela Bay (R240 000), Mangaung (R181 000), and the City of Cape Town (R219 000) whilst in the Buffalo City the average (R194 000) was less than the median (R212 000). Non-Migrants, meanwhile, lead in the Gauteng metros, reporting the highest figures in the City of Johannesburg (R193,000), City of Tshwane (R188,000), and Ekurhuleni (R172,000). Immigrants consistently record the lowest average and median expenditure across all municipalities. However, in the city of cape town, immigrants headed household recorded an average of R259 000 and a median of R161 000 which was higher than that of both internal migrants and non-migrants in the metropolitan municipality.

Figure 35 – Average and Median household consumption expenditure by metropolitan municipalities and migratory status, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023
 This figure excludes cases that were not known and unspecified cases

4.5 Summary of the findings

- There were 21,3 million households from the IES 2022/23. Most of the households were headed by non-migrants (14 million), Internal migrants accounted for 5,2 million households, and immigrants accounted for 2,1 million household heads.
- Among immigrant-headed households, male-headed households (74,1%) were more common than female-headed households (25,9%).
- Majority of internal migrant (54,4%) and immigrant-headed households (52,9%), were found in Gauteng Province. With the most found in City of Johannesburg.
- The results indicate that income from work forms the largest share of total income across all groups, ranging from 66,9% among non-migrants to 77,3% among immigrants.
- Nationally, the total household income amounted to R42,45 trillion. Non-migrant households recorded the highest total income of R2 486 trillion, followed by internal migrant households with R1 325 trillion, and immigrant households with R432 billion.
- Average household income was consistently higher than median household income in all provinces.
- Internal migrant-headed households reported the highest total average household income (R253 837), followed by immigrant-headed households (R208 013) and non-migrant households (R178 144).
- Female-headed households reported lower income levels across all groups. Internal migrant female-headed households had the highest average income (R187 337) among females, followed by immigrant-headed (R171 643) and non-migrant households (R143 432).
- Among non-migrant households, the Western Cape recorded the highest average household income, followed by Gauteng, while lower levels were observed in provinces such as the Free State and Limpopo.
- Nationally, total household expenditure amounted to R2 953 trillion, with non-migrant households recording the highest total expenditure at R1 800 trillion, followed by internal migrant households at R886 billion and immigrant households at R266 billion.
- The largest spending category was housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, totalling R956 billion.
- Provincial patterns demonstrate considerable variation. Internal migrants in the Western Cape record the highest average expenditure nationally (R218 601), while immigrant households in Limpopo (R61 442) and North West (R56 980) report the lowest.
- In the city of cape town, immigrants headed household recorded an average of R259 000 and a median of R161 000 on consumption expenditure which was higher than that of both internal migrants and non-migrants in the metropolitan municipality

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Annexure

Annexure I: Migration module from the IES 2022/23

MODULE 1: EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, INDIVIDUAL HEALTH & MIGRATION / PERSON CHARACTERISTICS ROSTER -

%ROSTERTITLE%

SECTION 6: MIGRATION

STATIC TEXT

Migration is the movement of people from one area/place to another.

6.1: In which province was %rostertitle% born?

SINGLE-SELECT

MIG_PRBIRTH

- 01 WESTERN CAPE
- 02 EASTERN CAPE
- 03 NORTHERN CAPE
- 04 FREE STATE
- 05 KWAZULU-NATAL
- 06 NORTH WEST
- 07 GAUTENG
- 08 MPUMALANGA
- 09 LIMPOPO
- 10 OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA
- 11 DO NOT KNOW

6.2: In which region was %rostertitle% born?

SINGLE-SELECT

MIG_REBIRTH

E MIG_PRBIRTH=10

- 01 Southern African Development Community (SADC)
- 02 Rest of Africa
- 03 United Kingdom and Europe
- 04 Asia
- 05 North America
- 06 Latin America and Caribbean
- 07 Oceania
- 08 DO NOT KNOW

<p>6.3: Which year did %roster% last move to South Africa?</p> <p>I If year moved is unknown, record "0000". If moved more than once into South Africa, please record the year of last move.</p> <p>E MIG_PRBIRTH=10</p>	<p>TEXT</p> <p>MIG_YEARMOV</p> <p>-----</p>
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MODULE 1: EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL WELFARE, INDIVIDUAL HEALTH & MIGRATION

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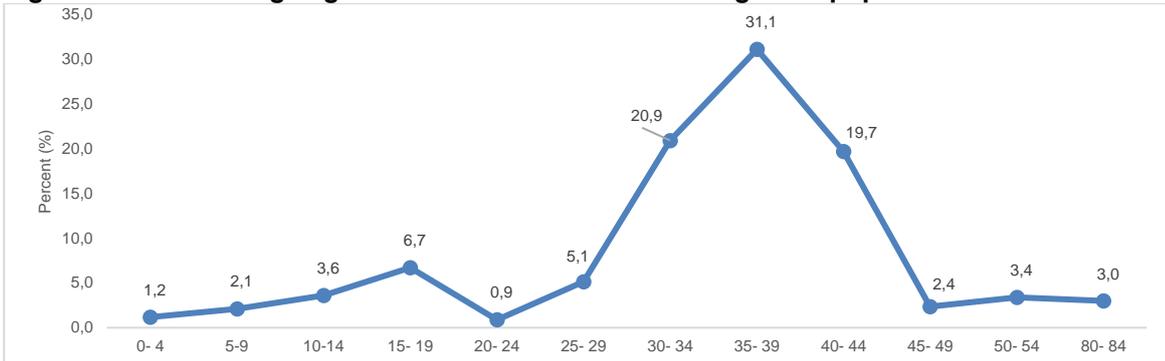
<p>6.4: What is %roster%'s main region/country of citizenship?</p> <p>I If a person is a citizen of more than one region/country (i.e. dual citizen), select region/country in which the person resides most often. If a person is not a citizen of any country, select Stateless</p> <p>And 2 other symbols [4]</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT</p> <p>MIG_CITIZEN</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> Stateless</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> South Africa</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> Southern African Development Community (SADC)</p> <p>04 <input type="radio"/> Rest of Africa</p> <p>05 <input type="radio"/> United Kingdom and Europe</p> <p>06 <input type="radio"/> Asia</p> <p>07 <input type="radio"/> North America</p> <p>08 <input type="radio"/> Latin America and Caribbean</p> <p>09 <input type="radio"/> Oceania</p> <p>10 <input type="radio"/> DO NOT KNOW</p>
<p>6.5: Has %roster% been part of this household for the last six months OR intends to be part of this household for the next six months?</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT</p> <p>MIG_RESIDENCE</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> NO (Reside elsewhere in South Africa)</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> NO (Reside outside South Africa)</p> <p>04 <input type="radio"/> DO NOT KNOW</p>

<p>6.6: What is the main reason or purpose of %ro stertitle%'s visit to this place?</p> <p>E MIG_RESIDENCE.InList(2,3)</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT MIG_REASON</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> Training or education</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> Seasonal or short term cont ract work</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> Medical</p> <p>04 <input type="radio"/> Forcibly displaced people</p> <p>05 <input type="radio"/> Visit to family or friends</p> <p>06 <input type="radio"/> Au pair or exchange visitor</p> <p>07 <input type="radio"/> OTHER</p>
<p>6.7: Has %rostertitle% lived outside South Afric a for at least six consecutive months at anytim e in the past 10 years?</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT MIG_RET MIG</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> DO NOT KNOW</p>
<p>6.8: Has %rostertitle% been staying in this plac e since November 2017?</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT MIG_PRLIVED</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> NO</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> BORN AFTER 2017, BUT NEV ER MOVED</p> <p>04 <input type="radio"/> BORN AFTER 2017 AND MOV ED</p> <p>05 <input type="radio"/> DO NOT KNOW</p>

<p>6.9: In which year did %rostertitle% move to this place?</p> <p>I If moved more than once, record the year of last move. If year moved is unknown, select "0000".</p> <p>E MIG_PRLIVED.InList(2,4)</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT MIG_PRYEAR</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> 2017</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> 2018</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> 2019</p> <p>04 <input type="radio"/> 2020</p> <p>05 <input type="radio"/> 2021</p> <p>06 <input type="radio"/> 2022</p> <p>07 <input type="radio"/> 2023</p> <p>08 <input type="radio"/> 0000</p>
<p>6.10: In which province did %rostertitle% live before moving to this place? If moved more than once, select the province of last move.</p> <p>E MIG_PRLIVED.InList(2,4)</p>	<p>SINGLE-SELECT MIG_PROVPRE</p> <p>01 <input type="radio"/> WESTERN CAPE - CITY OF CAPE TOWN METROPOLITAN</p> <p>02 <input type="radio"/> WESTERN CAPE - NON-METROPOLITAN AREA</p> <p>03 <input type="radio"/> EASTERN CAPE - BUFFALO CITY METROPOLITAN</p> <p>04 <input type="radio"/> EASTERN CAPE - NELSON MANDELA BAY METROPOLITAN</p> <p>05 <input type="radio"/> EASTERN CAPE - NON-METROPOLITAN AREA</p> <p>06 <input type="radio"/> NORTHERN CAPE</p> <p>07 <input type="radio"/> FREE STATE - MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN</p> <p>08 <input type="radio"/> FREE STATE - NON-METROPOLITAN AREA</p> <p>09 <input type="radio"/> KWAZULU-NATAL - eTHEKWINI METROPOLITAN</p> <p>10 <input type="radio"/> KWAZULU-NATAL - NON-METROPOLITAN AREA</p> <p>11 <input type="radio"/> NORTH WEST</p>

Annexure II (figure a-c): Characteristics of stateless immigrants from the IES 2022/23

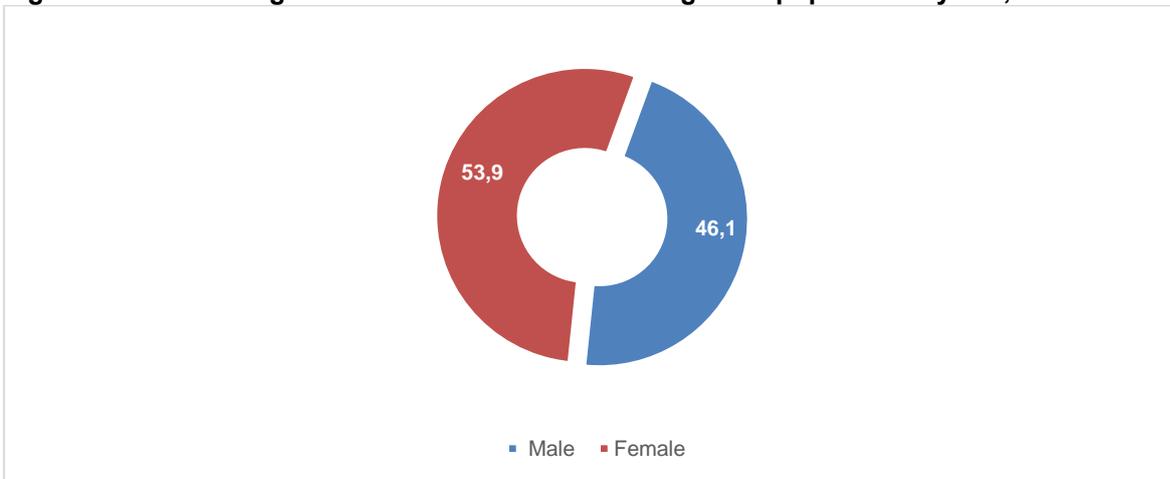
Figure A1 – Percentage age distribution of stateless immigrants’ population IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were do not know, unspecified cases

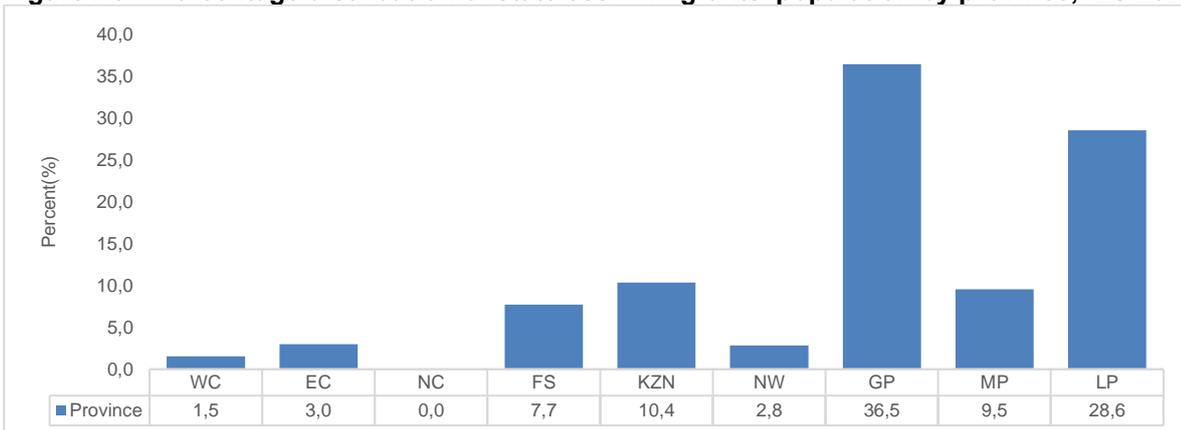
Figure A2 – Percentage distribution of stateless immigrants’ population by sex, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were do not know, unspecified cases

Figure A3 – Percentage distribution of stateless immigrants’ population by province, IES 2022/23



Source: Statistics South Africa, IES 2022/2023

This figure excludes cases that were do not know, unspecified cases

Annexure III: (figure d-e): Characteristics of immigrants by education institution attendance from the IES 2022/23

Figure A4 – Percentage distribution of immigrants’ population by sex and education institution attendance, IES 2022/23

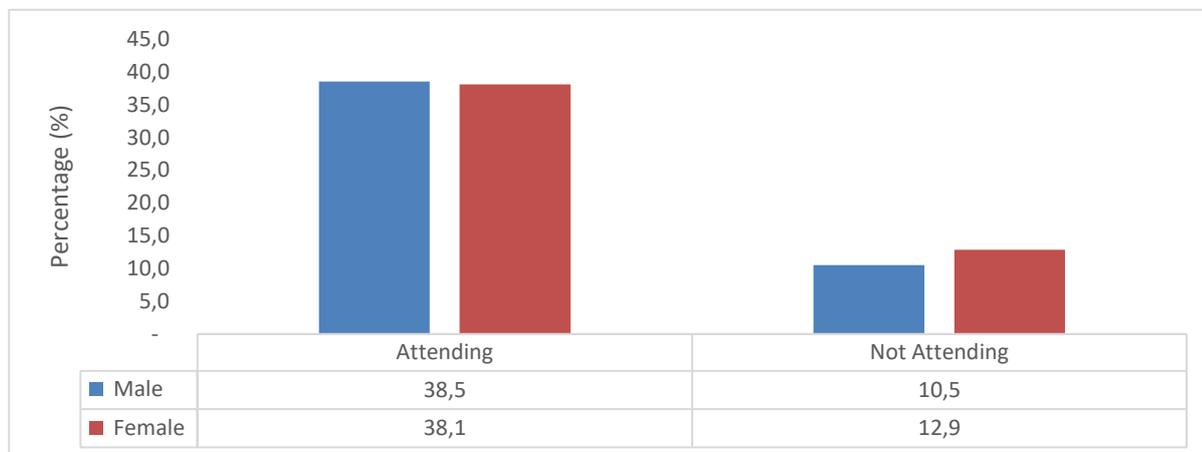
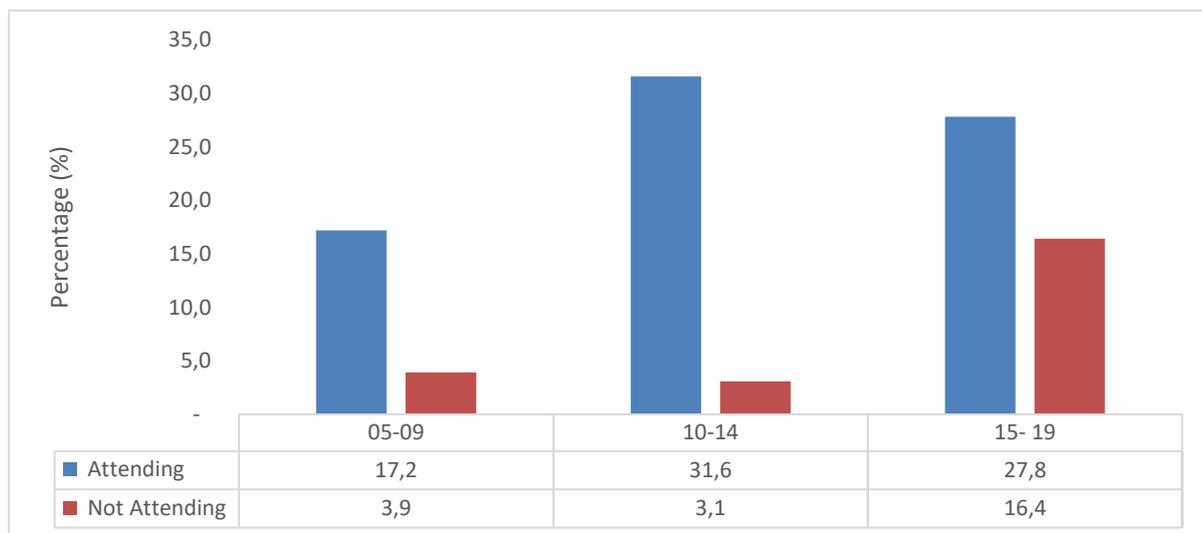


Figure A5 – Percentage distribution of immigrants’ population by age group and education institution attendance, IES 2022/23



Annexure IV: (Table a-e): measures of statistical precision for key migration variables from the IES 2022/23

Table A1 – Measures of precision for province of birth

Province of birth	Weighted Frequency	Percent	Std Error	95% Confidence Limits		Coefficient of variation	Design Effect
Western Cape	5 676 724	9.3	0.3	8.8	9.8	2.9*	5.9
Eastern Cape	8 217 711	13.4	0.3	12.9	14.0	2.2*	5.2
Northern Cape	1 396 305	2.3	0.1	2.1	2.5	4.1*	2.7
Free State	3 274 576	5.4	0.2	5.0	5.7	3.0*	3.5
KwaZulu-Natal	12 068 976	19.7	0.4	18.9	20.5	2.1*	7.9
North West	3 925 035	6.4	0.2	6.0	6.9	3.6*	6.1
Gauteng	11 473 231	18.7	0.4	18.0	19.5	2.1*	7.3
Mpumalanga	4 785 227	7.8	0.2	7.3	8.3	3.2*	5.9
Limpopo	7 250 030	11.8	0.3	11.3	12.4	2.3	5.1
Outside of South Africa	3 094 927	5.1	0.2	4.7	5.5	4.0*	5.9
Do Not Know	39 290	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	20.7**	1.9

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics

**Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution

*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table A2 – Measures of precision for region of birth

Region of birth	Weighted Frequency	Percent	Std Error	95% Confidence Limits		Coefficient of variation	Design Effect
SADC	1 956 414	3.2	0.1	2.9	3.5	4.6*	4.8
Rest of Africa	784 755	1.3	0.1	1.1	1.5	8.3*	6.3
UK and Europe	163 628	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	14.2**	3.8
Asia	137 890	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	34.9***	19.4
North America	25 932	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	42.3***	5.3
Latin America and Caribbean	4 967	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	58.0***	1.9
Oceania	4 812	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.3***	1.9
Do Not Know	16 528	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.7***	2.3
Not applicable	58 107 105	94.9	0.2015	94.5	95.3	0.0*	5.9

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of Variation for reliable enough statistics

**Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution

*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table A3 – Measures of precision for region/country of citizenship

Region of Citizenship	Weighted Frequency	Percent	Std Error	95% Confidence Limits		Coefficient of variation	Design Effect
Stateless	390 825	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.8	11.4*	5.8
South Africa	57 628 653	94.2	0.3	93.7	94.7	0.3*	8.3
SADC	2 169 651	3.5	0.2	3.2	3.9	5.6*	8.2
Rest of Africa	724 270	1.2	0.1	1.0	1.4	8.7*	6.4
UK and Europe	98 261	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	17.7**	3.5
Asia	130 514	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	36.7***	20.2
North America	24 218	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	42.0***	4.9
Latin America and Caribbean	1 163	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0***	1.3
Oceania	6 127	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	66.2***	3.1
Do Not Know	28 350	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	25.0**	2.0

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** Indicates 16,6% to 33,4% Coefficient of Variation for statistics that should be used with caution

*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table A4 – Measures of precision for residing at the sampled dwelling since November 2017

Residing at sample DU since November 2017	Weighted	Percent	Std error	95% Confidence Limits		Coefficient of variation	Design Effect
Yes	48 701 513	79.6	0.3	78.9	0.4	0.4	4.4
No	6 966 809	11.4	0.3	10.8	12.0	2.6	6.0
Born after 2017 and moved	5 240 519	8.6	0.1	8.3	8.9	1.7	1.9
Born after 2017, but never moved	268 777	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.5	8.5	2.3
Do Not Know	24 414	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	24.7	1.7

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*** Indicates Coefficient of Variation greater than 33,5%

Table A5 – Measures of precision for province of residence before last movement

Year of movement	Weighted frequency	Percent	Std Error	95% Confidence Limits		Coefficient of variation	Design Effect
Western Cape - City of Cape town Metropolitan	481 169	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.9	10.0	5.5
Western Cape - Non-Metropolitan area	175 886	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	14.0	4.0
Eastern Cape - Buffalo City Metropolitan	146 504	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	11.7	2.3
Eastern Cape - Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan	222 407	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.4	11.3	3.3
Eastern Cape - Non-Metropolitan area	238 388	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.5	10.2	2.9
Northern Cape	98 693	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	14.0	2.2
Free State - Mangaung Metropolitan	145 887	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	12.8	2.8
Free State - Non-metropolitan area	131 894	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	12.7	2.5
KwaZulu-Natal - eThekweni Metropolitan	478 821	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.9	9.9	5.4
KwaZulu-Natal - Non-Metropolitan area	453 545	0.7	0.1	0.6	0.9	8.7	3.9
North West	308 112	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.6	12.5	5.5
Gauteng - Ekurhuleni metropolitan	617 289	1.0	0.1	0.8	1.2	9.5	6.5
Gauteng - City of Johannesburg Metropolitan	1 250 493	2.0	0.1	1.8	2.3	7.2	7.6
Gauteng - City of Tshwane metropolitan	648 001	1.1	0.1	0.9	1.2	8.3	5.2
Gauteng - non-metropolitan area	193 298	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	14.1	4.4
Mpumalanga	348 136	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.7	9.2	3.4
Limpopo	654 871	1.1	0.1	0.9	1.2	6.8	3.5
Outside south Africa	617 871	1.0	0.1	0.8	1.2	8.8	5.4
Do not know	24 321	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	24.6	1.7
not applicable	53 966 446	88.2	0.3	87.6	88.8	0.3	6.1

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Table A6 – Measures of precision for main reason for last movement

Main reason for movement	Weighted Frequency	Percent	Std Error	95% Confidence Limits		Coefficient of variation	Design effect
Start a business/other business reason	172 802	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	11.4*	2.6
Look for paid work	1 370 633	2.2	0.1	2.0	2.5	5.0*	4.0
Job transfer/take up a new job opportunity	537 194	0.9	0.1	0.8	1.0	7.4*	3.4
Divorce/separation	67 615	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	15.9*	2.0
Moved as a household accompanying a household member	804 194	1.3	0.1	1.1	1.5	7.4*	5.1
New dwelling for household	1 691 909	2.8	0.2	2.4	3.1	5.9*	6.9
Moving to live with or be closer to spouse	1 185 534	1.9	0.1	1.8	2.1	4.7*	3.1
Education	432 387	0.7	0.1	0.6	0.8	7.7*	2.9
Health	57 930	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	18.9**	2.4
Retirement	65 078	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	27.0**	5.5
Job loss/retrenchment/contract ended	82 942	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	12.8*	1.6
For better municipal services	82 171	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	20.4**	3.9
Political instability/religious conflict/persecution	18 936	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	37.8***	3.1
High levels of crime	38 954	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	32.0**	4.6
Drought/Natural disaster	4 327	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.9***	1.2
Other	608 712	1.0	0.1	0.8	1.1	7.5*	3.9
DO NOT KNOW	14 268	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.7**	1.3
Not applicable	53 966 446	88.2	0.3	87.6	88.8	0.3	6.1

* Indicates 0% to 16,5% Coefficient of variation for reliable enough statistics

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