CHILD POVERTY IN SOUTH AFRICA

Assessing changes in multidimensional poverty using the MODA approach (2015–2023)

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CHILD POVERTY IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Assessing Changes in Multidimensional Poverty using MODA Approach

(2015-2023)

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Statistics South Africa

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Cautionary Notes

Readers are advised to take the following into account when interpreting the results:

Weighting Adjustments

The South African multidimensional child poverty estimates published in 2020 were based on the 2014/15 Living Conditions Survey (LCS) data using weights aligned to the 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates. For this report, the 2014/15 LCS weights were recalibrated to align with the 2022 Mid-Year Population Estimates. Consequently, the estimates are not directly comparable with the previously published 2015 figures. This revision in the weighting framework affects comparability over time and results in slight variations in the poverty estimates.

Rounding of Figures

Due to rounding, the figures presented may not always sum exactly to the totals shown in the rows or columns. Small differences may therefore occur.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACPF	African Child Policy Forum
AF	Alkire-Foster
CPS	Continuous Population Survey
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CV	Coefficient of variation
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ECE	Early Childhood Education
FIES	Food Insecurity Experience Scale
IES	Income and Expenditure Survey
LBPL	Lower Bound Poverty Line
LCS	Living Conditions Survey
MODA	Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis
N-MODA	National MODA
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
RTHC	Road To Health Card
SDG	Sustainable Development Goalsdfv
SPRI	Social Policy Research Institute
STATS SA	Statistics South Africa
UBPL	Upper Bound Poverty Line
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene

Definition of Terms

Multidimensional deprivation headcount (H%):	the proportion (or percentage) of individuals deprived in one or more dimensions of well-being simultaneously.
Average deprivation intensity (A%)	the average proportion of dimensions in which multidimensionally poor individuals experienced, expressed as a percentage of all possible dimensions.
Adjusted deprivation headcount (M_0)	the product of the multidimensional deprivation headcount (H) and the average deprivation intensity (A), measuring the overall level of overlapping deprivations experienced by children by combining both the incidence and the breadth of deprivation (range from 0 to 1)
Farm	An area of land, together with its buildings, concerned with the growing of crops or the raising of animals.
Poor	individuals living in a household whose income or consumption falls below the defined poverty line.
Non-poor	individuals living in a household whose income or consumption is equal or above the poverty line.
Household	group of people who live together at least four nights a week, eat together and share resources, or a single person who lives alone.
Household head	member of the household identified by the household as their head.
Lower Bound Poverty Line (LBPL)	austere threshold of deprivation below which an individual has to choose between food and important non-food items Calculation: food poverty line plus the average amount derived from non-food items of households whose total expenditure is equal to the food poverty line.
Non-urban	a geographic region located outside of high-density land use, including farm and traditional areas.
WASH	the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene dimension of child well-being that measures whether children have access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation facilities, and proper hygiene practices essential for their health and overall development.
Poverty line	line drawn at a particular level of income or consumption. Households/individuals whose incomes fall below a given level of the poverty line or whose consumption level is valued at less than the value of the poverty line are classified as poor.

Traditional area	Communally owned land under the jurisdiction of a traditional leader.
Upper Bound Poverty Line (UBPL)	Threshold of deprivation below which an individual cannot afford the minimum food and non-food requirements Calculation: food poverty line plus the average amount derived from non-food items of households whose food expenditure is equal to the food poverty line.
Urban	Formal cities and towns characterised by higher population densities, high levels of economic activities and high levels of infrastructure

Foreword

While South Africa has achieved notable progress in advancing the well-being of its children, enduring inequalities and overlapping deprivations continue to affect many young lives. This report provides a comprehensive analysis of changes in multidimensional child deprivation between 2015 and 2023, drawing on data from the 2014/15 Living Conditions Survey and 2022/23 Income and Expenditure Survey (IES).

The analysis uses UNICEF's Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA), a child-centred methodology that examines multiple, simultaneous deprivations affecting children's well-being across key development dimensions. It follows a life-cycle approach, analysing child poverty separately for younger children (0–4 years), primary school-aged children (5–12 years), and adolescents (13–17 years) to reflect their changing needs and vulnerabilities. This is the second national report applying this methodology in South Africa, building on the 2020 report based on the 2014/15 Living Conditions Survey. By comparing findings across 2015 and 2023, this report assesses trends in multidimensional child poverty and provides evidence to support policy development, resource allocation, and improved service delivery for children.

Furthermore, this work supports national and international reporting commitments, particularly monitoring the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 1.2.2 on reducing by 2030 the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions. By focusing explicitly on children, this report emphasises the need for targeted, evidence-based actions that prioritises children in poverty reduction efforts.

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Acknowledgements

Statistics South Africa extends its sincere appreciation to the Government of South Africa for providing the funding required to conduct the 2022/23 Income and Expenditure Survey (IES). The availability of these data has made it possible to measure and analyse multidimensional child deprivation in the country.

This report is the result of a collaborative effort between Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the Social Policy Research Institute (SPRI), and UNICEF South Africa. It marks the second partnership of this kind, reflecting a continued commitment to advancing rigorous and policy-relevant research on child poverty. The completion of this report was made possible through the support of SPRI by providing technical expertise and constructive feedback that significantly contributed to enhancing the quality of the analysis and report writing.

UNICEF South Africa is greatly acknowledged for coordinating the collaboration between Stats SA and SPRI, and for its continued partnership in advancing the measurement of multidimensional child poverty.

Executive Summary

This report presents an analysis of multidimensional child deprivation in South Africa using data from the 2014/15 Living Conditions Survey (LCS) and 2022/23 Income and Expenditure Surveys (IES), conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The analysis applies the Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) framework to assess the extent, intensity and drivers of deprivation among children aged 0–17 in the country.

Acknowledging that children's needs change at different stages of development, this report applies a life-cycle approach. It first examines deprivation among all children aged 0–17 and then provides a more detailed analysis of three distinct age groups: younger children (0–4 years), primary school-aged children (5–12 years), and adolescents (13–17 years). By using age-specific dimensions and indicators, the analysis captures the varied ways in which poverty is experienced across childhood.

The report examines child deprivation using seven dimensions of well-being (nutrition, health, protection, child development, education, housing and WASH) and fourteen indicators.

Purpose and Approach

The primary objective of the report is to measure changes in multidimensional child deprivation between 2015 and 2023 and to identify the dimensions contributing most to child poverty. Children are considered multidimensionally deprived if they experienced deprivation in three or more dimensions (k = 3). The report presents the multidimensional deprivation headcount (H), the average deprivation intensity (A), and the adjusted headcount ratio (M_0), disaggregated by province, settlement type, metropolitan municipality category, population group, and money-metric poverty status.

Key Findings

Results show that in South Africa, multidimensional child deprivation remained high, despite some progress between 2015 and 2023. Nationally, the proportion of children aged 0–17 who were multidimensionally poor declined from 60,8% in 2015 to 57,3% in 2023. Although this represents an improvement, it indicates that more than half of children continued to face multiple deprivations. Multidimensional child deprivation declined across all age groups between 2015 and 2023. The highest reduction was observed among younger children (0–4 years), whose deprivation fell from 58,1% in 2015 to 51,5% in 2023 (a 6,6 percentage points decline).

Despite this improvement, primary school-aged children (5–12 years) continued to experience the highest levels of deprivation in both years, with rates of 62,5% in 2015 and 59,3% in 2023. Among adolescents (13–17 years), deprivation declined from 61,2% to 59,8%, a smaller reduction of 1,4 percentage points. Overall, while all age groups saw some progress, younger children experienced the largest reduction, whereas primary school-aged children remained the most deprived group throughout the period.

The findings show clear differences in multidimensional deprivation according to money-metric poverty status of the household in South Africa between 2015 and 2023. Nationally, in both years, children living in monetary poor households consistently experienced substantially higher levels of multidimensional deprivation than those in non-poor households, with children in poor households being nearly twice as likely to be multidimensionally deprived.

In 2015, 78,9% of children in poor households were multidimensionally poor, experiencing on average 58,7% of all possible deprivations, equivalent to 4,1 out of seven dimensions. By 2023, the proportion declined slightly to 78,2%, with the average intensity of deprivation decreasing to 57,4%, indicating deprivation in 4,0 out of seven dimensions. Among children in non-poor households, 35,2% were identified as multidimensionally deprived in 2015. On average, these children experienced 51,1% of all possible deprivations, amounting to 3,6 out of seven deprivations. By 2023, the headcount increased to 37,1% among children in non-poor households, with the average deprivation rising slightly to 3,7 out of seven dimensions, representing 52,4% of all possible deprivations.

Across provinces, multidimensional child poverty declined in most provinces between 2015 and 2023, although levels remained high in several areas. Limpopo recorded the highest rates, decreasing from 82,4% in 2015 to 73,7% in 2023, followed by the Eastern Cape (76,3% to 75,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (74,2% to 71,9%). Notable declines were also observed in Mpumalanga (67,9% to 57,6%), North West (63,4% to 59,7%), and Free State (53,4% to 48,2%). Slight differences occurred in the Western Cape (37,6% to 36,8%) and Gauteng, which experienced a smaller increase from 34,9% to 35,9%**.** In the Northern Cape, deprivation remained relatively stable, increasing marginally from 54,1% to 54,5%**.**

Variations in child deprivation were evident across metropolitan municipalities between 2015 and 2023, with the overall average for all metros remaining relatively stable at 40,0% in 2015 and 39,8% in 2023**.** Increases in multidimensional child poverty were observed in Mangaung (from 52,7% to 59,3%), Nelson Mandela Bay (from 38,9% to 46,0%) and eThekwini (from 44,0% to 49,9%). Conversely, declines were recorded in Buffalo City (from 56,6% to 50,5%) and City of Tshwane (from 41,3% to 31,9%). Smaller increases were noted in City of Johannesburg (from 33,2% to 34,5%**)** and Ekurhuleni (from 34,1% to 35,4**%**), while City of Cape Town experienced a slight decline, from 35,3% to 34,2%.

Multidimensional child deprivation in metropolitan areas remained relatively stable, declining slightly from 40.0% in 2015 to 39.8% in 2023. In contrast, non-metropolitan areas saw a more noticeable decline, with deprivation rates decreasing from over 72 out of every 100 children in 2015 to just over 67 out of every 100 in 2023. Despite this improvement, children in non-metropolitan areas still faced significantly higher levels of multidimensional deprivation compared to their metropolitan counterparts.

In both 2015 and 2023, children living in non-urban areas were more likely to experience multiple overlapping deprivations. In 2015, the highest proportions were among those facing four (31,0%) and five (25,1%) deprivations simultaneously. By 2023, four deprivations remained the most common (29,5%), while the share experiencing five deprivations declined to 22,3%.

In urban areas, children were more concentrated in the lower deprivation categories. In 2015, the largest shares experienced two (27,1%) and three (22,2%) deprivations. By 2023, the proportion with two deprivations declined to 23,9%, while those with three deprivations increased slightly to 20,8%. Notably, the share of children experiencing no deprivation rose from 9,6% to 13,6%, reflecting improvement.

Multidimensional child deprivation declined nationally between 2015 and 2023, with reductions observed across most household and child characteristics. Children in households where the head had no education (82,1% to 83,7%) or only some primary education (76,7% to 78,8%) continued to experience the highest deprivation levels, while those in households where the head had higher education recorded the lowest rates (21,1% to 16,0%**).** Deprivation remained strongly associated with household size, being highest among households with seven or more members (71,8% to 68,7%)**,** and with employment status, particularly where no adult was employed (77,9% to 74,2%)**.**

By orphanhood status, double orphans (74,5% to 68,2%) and children with only their mother alive (73,8% to 72,0%) faced elevated deprivation. Children in households with an above-median number of children (median=2) also recorded higher rates (69,9% to 66,3%).

Persistent disparities were evident by population group. Black African children (66,9% to 62,4%) experienced the highest levels of deprivation, followed by coloured children (39,6% to 38,1%)**,** while Indian/Asian (16,7% to 12,9%) and white children (10,7% to 9,0%) recorded substantially lower rates.

At the national level, the contribution of dimensions to the adjusted multidimensional child poverty index (M_0) shows notable shifts between 2015 and 2023. For younger children, housing was the largest contributor in 2015, followed by WASH and health. By 2023, the relative importance had shifted, with health, WASH and nutrition emerging as the dominant contributors, indicating a growing role of basic service access and child well-being outcomes in driving deprivation.

Among primary school-aged children, education consistently accounted for the largest share of multidimensional poverty in both years, although its contribution declined slightly over time. In 2015, housing and WASH were also major contributors, whereas by 2023 housing had declined in

prominence and health replaced it among the top contributing dimensions. For adolescents, education remained the most significant contributor in both 2015 and 2023. While housing was a key contributor in 2015, its relative importance diminished by 2023. In contrast, nutrition emerged as a more prominent contributor in 2023, alongside WASH and health.

In South Africa, the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional child poverty reveals important shifts between 2015 and 2023. Money-metric child poverty declined markedly from 58,6% in 2015 to 49,1% in 2023, while multidimensional child poverty decreased slightly from 60,8% to 57,3%. The proportion of children who were poor by both measures fell from 46,3% to 38,3%, indicating a reduction in overlapping deprivations. Similarly, the share of children who were money-metric poor only declined from 12,4% to 10,7%.

In contrast, the proportion of children who were multidimensionally poor only increased from 14,6% to 18,9%, suggesting that improvements in income did not consistently translate into better access to essential services and living conditions. Encouragingly, the percentage of children who were non-poor by both measures rose from 26,8% to 32,0%, reflecting overall progress in child well-being. Overall, while income poverty showed substantial improvement, multidimensional deprivation remains widespread and continues to affect a significant proportion of children.

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

1. Introduction

Poverty is a complex and multifaceted issue impacting millions worldwide every day. As a result, all United Nations member states committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, which established seventeen (17) universal, people-centred Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at addressing various global challenges over the next fifteen years. Central to this agenda is the commitment to eradicate poverty in all its forms everywhere, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Given its complexity, various methodological approaches have been developed to measure poverty. These approaches often differ in identifying the poor as each captures distinct aspects of poverty. Traditionally, poverty measurement relied on money-metric indicators based on income and/or expenditure. However, poverty extends beyond a mere lack of financial resources and includes other critical aspects of well-being such as shelter, safe drinking water, food, sanitation, and access opportunities such as education and health care, all which affect the quality of life. As such, poverty is increasingly understood and defined by the multiple co-existing deprivations experienced by the poor.

South Africa is among countries that adopted a multidimensional approach to poverty measurement to capture the multiple aspects of this phenomenon. Numerous research organisations, academics, policymakers and international bodies explored and contributed to the multidimensional measurement and analysis of poverty within the country.

Children are the most severely affected by poverty as compared to other age groups. Growing up in poverty negatively impacts their experiences, development and learning, affecting their quality of life into the future (Bessell et al, 2024). Child poverty is therefore a multifaceted issue influenced by social, economic and environmental factors that shape children's lives. It includes children going to bed hungry without access to nutritious food, living or begging on the streets, or engaging in hazardous work to support themselves and their families instead of attending school. Additionally, child poverty involves lack of access to healthcare, clean drinking water, and proper hygiene and sanitation facilities (African Child Policy Forum, 2023). Addressing child poverty requires a multidimensional approach to fully understand and improve children's well-being. Without adequate attention, children risk remaining trapped in a cycle of poverty that extends into future generations.

In many countries, including South Africa, children constitute between a third to almost half of the population. Given their greater vulnerability to poverty than adults, it is crucial to closely monitor their poverty levels. In 2022, South Africa's total population was estimated at 62 million, with nearly 21 million children under the age of 18, representing 34% of the population. (South African Child Gauge, 2024).

According to a 2025 report by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on poverty trends from 2006 to 2023, nearly half (49.1%) of children aged 0-17 in the country were classified as monetary poor, based on the Lower Bound Poverty Line (LBPL)[1] (Stats SA, 2025).

The global COVID-19 pandemic, along with lockdown restrictions aimed at controlling the virus, had a profound impact on people's lives in South Africa, including children. Although children were perceived to be at lower risk of severe illness or death compared to adults, the aftermath of the pandemic had lasting physical and social effects on their well-being. The sudden shift to home-based activities raised concerns about developmental delays, physical health problems, and psychological challenges. While some children exhibited increased emotional maturity, many also faced difficulties in social and behavioural aspects.

This transition resulted in the dismantling of daily routines and their replacement with home-based activities and an increase in screen time. The absence of structural learning environments and peer interaction that ensued raised concerns regarding long-term developmental and educational setbacks. Physical health was also impacted, as a result of the reduction in outdoor play and the increase in sedentary behaviour, which led to a rise in childhood obesity and a decline in gross motor skills. The lockdown exacerbated pre-existing inequalities for underprivileged children, resulting in acute deprivation of nutrition, healthcare and protection, as well as an increased vulnerability to abuse and exploitation (Madhesiya, 2025).

Children represent the future of every nation, making their wellbeing a top priority. Regular assessment and tracking of child poverty are essential to provide current information on the poverty situation of children in the country and to evaluate the effectiveness of policies aimed at reducing or eliminating childhood poverty. This process supports both national and international reporting efforts, particularly regarding SDG indicator 1.2.2, which aims to reduce by 2030, the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty across all dimensions, including multidimensional child poverty as recognised in the SDG framework. Without specific monitoring of child poverty, policy makers might have the misconception that progress is being made, when in fact the situation may not be improving.

[1] LBPL refers to food poverty (minimum required daily energy intake), plus the average amount derived from non-food items of households whose total expenditure is equal to the food poverty line, set at R1 300,00 per person per month in March 2023 prices

In 2020, Stats SA released a report on multidimensional child poverty in South Africa using United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) approach, based on data from the 2014/15 Living Conditions Survey (LCS). This project was a collaborative effort between Stats SA, UNICEF South Africa and the Social Policy Research Institute (SPRI), focusing on the multiple and simultaneous deprivations experienced by South African children in 2015. This report aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of changes in child poverty levels in South Africa to inform policy development, strengthen resource allocation, and improve the delivery of services that promote child well-being nationwide.

Going forward, the report is structured as follows: *Chapter 2* outlines the overall methodology, including the MODA approach, data sources, and the dimensions and corresponding indicators used to assess changes in multidimensional poverty among children aged 0-17 in South Africa. It also presents the disaggregation of children by developmental age groups, discusses data limitations and constraints, and describes the analytical framework for measuring child poverty. *Chapter 3* presents the findings, focusing on changes in child deprivations and money-metric child poverty for all children (0-17 years), as well as by developmental stages (0–4 years, 5–12 years and 13–17 years). The chapter further profiles multidimensionally poor children according to socio-economic and geographic characteristics and analyses deprivation patterns by money-metric poverty status across age groups. *Chapter 4* sets out the recommendations, while *Chapter 5* presents the reliability of estimates. The list of references is provided in *Chapter 6.*

CHAPTER 2

Methodology

2. Methodology

2.1 MODA methodology

This report utilises the Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) methodology, developed by United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), to examine changes in multidimensional deprivation among children aged 0–17 in South Africa between 2015 and 2023. This approach complements other existing methodologies used to measure multidimensional child poverty, including the Bristol[2] approach and the Alkire-Foster[3] (AF) methodology, among others.

MODA guides the measurement of multidimensional child poverty by defining key dimensions of child well-being and their respective indicators, identifying the proportion of children who experience deprivation in one or more of these dimensions simultaneously, and assessing the severity and overlap of deprivations among affected children.

The methodology is explicitly child-centred, recognising the child as the unit of analysis, and applies a life-cycle approach in the selection of dimensions and indicators to capture the multiple and overlapping deprivations experienced at different stages of childhood. It also enables the identification of where deprived children are located geographically and who they are in terms of their socio-economic characteristics. Furthermore, MODA allows for integrated analysis of multidimensional deprivation alongside other fields of child well-being, such as monetary poverty, making it possible to assess the overlap between these fields (de Neubourg et al., 2012).

The MODA methodology is grounded in a rights-based framework that promotes children's rights to survival, development, protection and participation, as articulated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and aligned with the SDGs.

2.2 Data source

This report analyses data from the 2023 Income and Expenditure Survey (IES), which was collected over a one-year period. The IES is a household-based sample survey that primarily collects information on household acquisitions, consumption, spending, and income in South Africa. In addition, the survey gathers detailed information on individual household members, enabling the analysis of multidimensional child deprivations.

[2] The Bristol approach is a multidimensional framework for assessing child poverty, defining it as the experience of severe deprivation of basic human needs. It was developed by researchers at the University of Bristol, notably David Gordon, in collaboration with UNICEF for global child poverty estimation.

[3] The Alkire–Foster (AF) methodology is a widely recognized framework for measuring multidimensional poverty, including child poverty. Developed by Sabina Alkire and James Foster, it captures poverty as deprivation across multiple dimensions of well-being, not just low income.

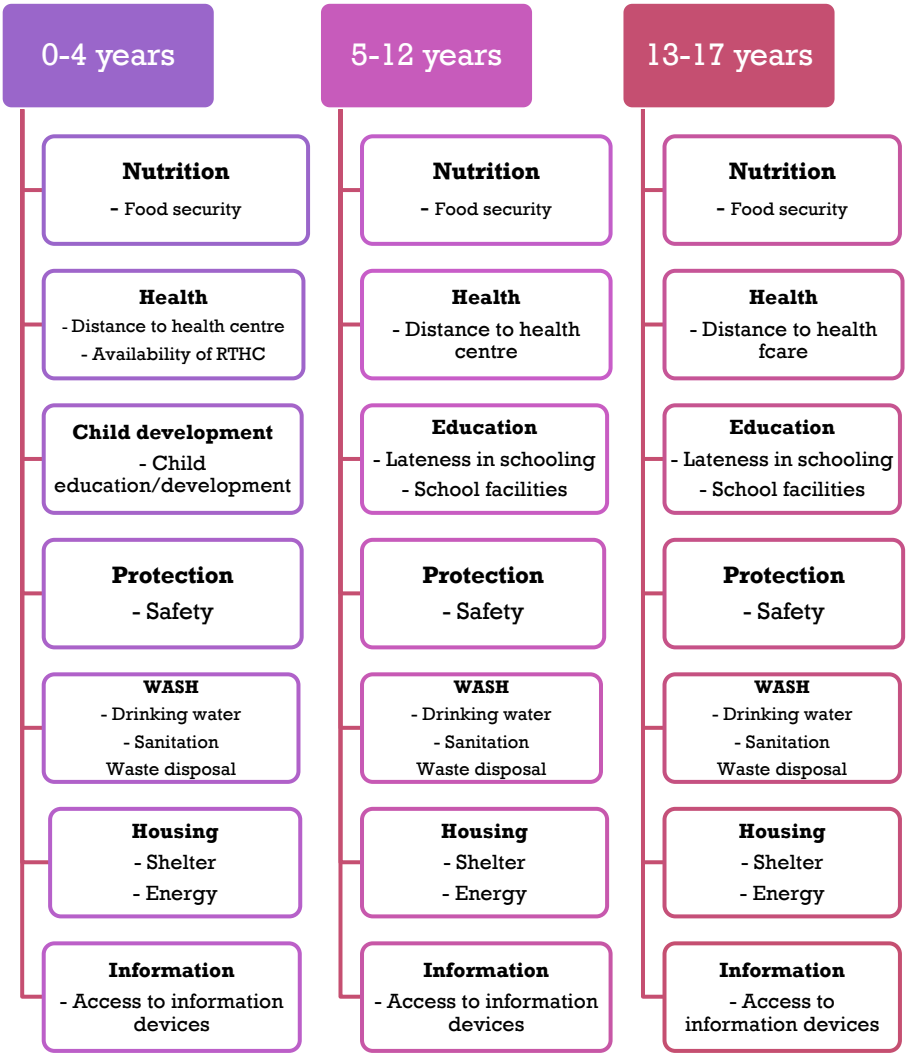
A total of 24 336 sampled households responded to the survey and participated over a period of four weeks. The survey instruments, comprising of the household questionnaire and two weekly diaries, were administered in stages through multiple visits during the data collection period. The survey sample covered all domestic households, including holiday homes and households in workers' residences such as mining hostels and dormitories for workers. Institutional populations including hospitals, prisons, old-age homes, student hostels and school dormitories were excluded from the sample. Boarding houses, hotels, lodges and guesthouses were also excluded.

2.3 Dimensions, indicators and age groupings

The National MODA (N-MODA) methodology uses national databases and country context-specific parameters to analyse the situation of children within a specific country. Choices can be made on different age groups, dimensions and their corresponding indicators of deprivation, thresholds, and other methodological specifications to tailor the MODA methodology to each specific country profile (EPRI, 2018). As MODA advocates for children's rights, the selection of dimensions and indicators are guided by the national and international treaties that hold governments accountable for ensuring the protection and well-being of children.

Recognising the various needs of children across the life-cycle, different dimensions and indicators are applied at different stages of child development. For this report, children are categorised into four age groups: 0–17 years (all children), 0–4 years (younger age), 5–12 years (primary school-aged) and 13–17 years (adolescent age). MODA prioritises the needs and interests of children, therefore, the selection of dimensions and indicators is child-focused. A child is considered deprived in a dimension if they are deprived in any of the indicators within that dimension. Deprivation thresholds are assigned to each indicator to determine whether a child is deprived in that specific indicator. The seven dimensions and fourteen indicators applied in this report are presented in Figure 1, with the corresponding deprivation thresholds provided in Table A.0.1 in the annexure.

Figure 2.1*: Dimensions and indicators with relevant age groups (IES 2022/23)*



2.4 Limitations and constraints

The selection of dimensions and indicators was guided by the availability of relevant data from the IES 2022/23. By design, this survey primarily collects information on household income and expenditure, with limited coverage of specific aspects of child well-being. As a result, it did not capture child-specific indicators for several critical dimensions, including protection (e.g., birth registration, child labour, neglect, exposure to violence, etc.); health (e.g., vaccination, access to medical treatment, etc.) and nutrition (e.g., breast feeding, stunting, wasting, meal frequency, etc.). The limited availability of child-focused data constrains the systematic measurement and monitoring of vulnerabilities affecting children and restricts a comprehensive assessment of child well-being.

Additional data constraints were encountered in the construction of certain deprivation dimensions. In 2015, the child development indicator incorporated two indicators: (i) exposure in Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes for children aged 0–2 and (ii) attendance in Early Childhood Education (ECE). However, the IES 2023 did not collect information on ECD exposure. Consequently, for the 2023 reference period, the child development indicator is constructed solely on the basis of ECE attendance.

In order to preserve the dimensional structure of the analysis, it is assumed that ECE attendance constitutes an adequate proxy for Early Childhood Development in the absence of ECD exposure data. This assumption is necessitated by data constraints rather than conceptual revision. Nonetheless, the exclusion of ECD exposure in 2023 may introduce measurement inconsistencies and reduce direct comparability with the 2015 results, particularly for children 0–2 years.

A similar limitation applies to the health dimension. In 2015, the health dimension comprised two indicators: (i) distance to the nearest health care facility, measured using both physical distance and mode of transport to health centre, and (ii) availability of a Road-to-Health Card (RTHC) for children 12–23 months. The 2023 dataset, however, excludes information on mode of transport to health centre, meaning that data on this indicator was not collected.

To compensate for this limitation, household money-metric poverty status (based on the Upper Bound Poverty Line (UBPL[4])) and/or vehicle ownership were incorporated as proxy variables for the mode of transport to health centre. The underlying assumption is that households above the UBPL and/or those owning a vehicle are more likely to have effective physical access to health facilities relative to poorer households without private transport.

Although this adjustment allows the health dimension to be estimated for 2023, it is a methodological change. Therefore, comparisons between 2015 and 2023 should be interpreted with caution, as they may not be fully comparable over time.

2.5 Analysis approach

Overall, the analysis examines changes in multidimensional child poverty in South Africa since 2015 for all children (0–17 years), as well as for specific age group (0–4 years, 5–12 years and 13–17 years). For the purpose of this report, a child is classified as multidimensionally deprived if they experience deprivation in three or more dimensions of well-being simultaneously.

[4] UBPL refers to the food poverty line plus the average amount derived from non-food items of households whose food expenditure is equal (or near) to the food poverty line, set at R2 635,00 per person per month in March 2023 prices.

Child deprivation is analysed by dimension and indicator to identify key drivers of multidimensional child poverty in the country. In addition, profiling of multidimensionally poor children based on various individual characteristics (socio-economic, geographic and demographic) is also explored.

The report further place emphasis on child deprivation measures (indices), including the headcount ratio (H), average intensity (A) and the adjusted deprivation headcount (M_0), to provide a comprehensive assessment of child poverty. The headcount ratio (H) reflects the proportion of South African children living in multidimensional poverty, highlighting the magnitude of the problem. The average intensity for the deprived (A) measures the extent of deprivation experienced by poor children, indicating the average number of deprivations affecting their well-being. The adjusted deprivation headcount (M_0) combines these two components to capture both the prevalence and severity of poverty, thereby offering a more detailed understanding of the challenges faced by children. By examining these measures together, the report aims to identify not only how many children are affected, but also the depth of their deprivation.

Furthermore, the report examines the deprivation distribution to determine the number of simultaneous deprivations poor children experience simultaneously, providing insight into the complexity and severity of their circumstances. These deprivation distribution counts are further analysed alongside key profiling variables of interest.

Beyond multidimensional child poverty, the report also explores the money-metric poverty status of all poor children. In this analysis, children are considered money-metric poor if they live in households with per-capita consumption below the LBPL, set at R 827 per person per month in 2015 and R1,300 per person per month in 2023.

The overlap between these forms of child poverty is examined to assess the extent to which they coexist, recognising that not all monetary poor children are deprived nor are all deprived children monetary poor. The overlap analysis is further conducted for children across different age groups, acknowledging that multiple overlapping deprivations may have a combined negative impact on their future development. Specifically, three-way deprivation overlaps are analysed by examining combinations of three dimension simultaneously.

CHAPTER 3

Results

3. Analysis of results

This chapter presents the results and findings on changes in multidimensional child poverty in South Africa between 2015 and 2023. It begins by examining multidimensional child deprivation for all children (0 to 17 years). The analysis then explores deprivation patterns across three age groups: 0 to 4 years, 5 to 12 years, and 13 to 17 years, following a life-cycle approach. Sectoral deprivation analysis is also explored to understand how specific sectors contribute individually and collectively to child poverty. Finally, the chapter explores deprivation according to money-metric poverty status of children across these age groups and examines the overlap between these two poverty measures.

CHAPTER 3.1

Deprivation among all children (0 to 17 years)

3.1. Multidimensional and money-metric poverty amongst all children (0–17 years)

Box 1: Key findings observed for multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 0-17 years

Key findings

Multidimensional and money-metric poverty among children 0–17 years

- ✓ Multidimensional child poverty declined slightly from 60,8% in 2015 to 57,3% in 2023.
- ✓ Children from poor households were nearly twice as likely to be multidimensionally deprived as those from non-poor households.
- ✓ Higher deprivation levels were consistently observed among children in non-urban and non-metropolitan areas in both 2015 and 2023.
- ✓ In 2023, the highest provincial deprivation rates were recorded in Eastern Cape (75,8%), Limpopo (73,7%) and KwaZulu-Natal (71,9%), while Western Cape (36,8%) and Gauteng (35,9%) had the lowest.
- ✓ No significant differences in child deprivation were found between female and male children in 2015 and 2023.
- ✓ Over 62% of black African children experienced multidimensional deprivation in both years.
- ✓ Children in larger households and those in households with no adults employed had higher deprivation rates in both years.
- ✓ The share of children who were neither money-metric poor nor multidimensionally deprived increased from 26,8% in 2015 to 32,0% in 2023.

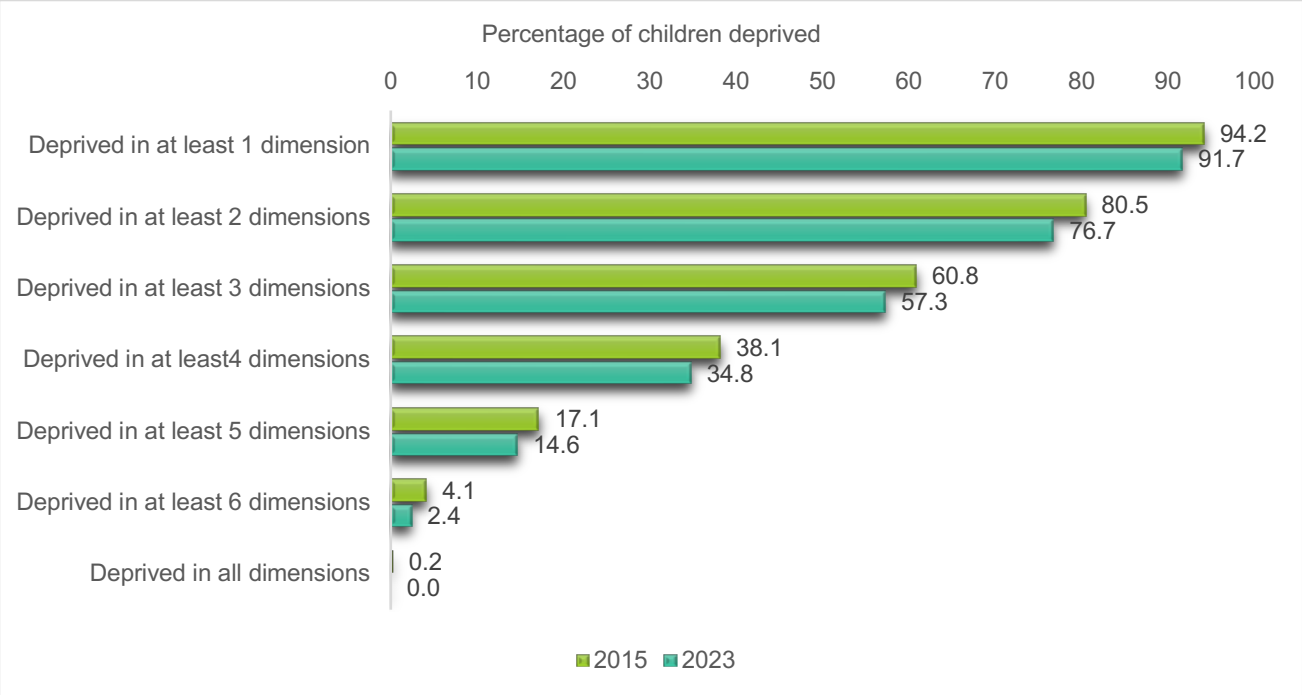
This section examines changes in child poverty for all children (0–17 years) in 2015 and 2023, focusing on both money-metric and multidimensional perspectives. The multidimensional deprivation analysis is conducted to capture the extent to which South African children experienced simultaneous deprivations across various aspects of their lives, providing a comprehensive understanding of their challenges. Additionally, the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional child poverty is analysed to identify children who are poor using both measures, those who are deprived but not monetary poor, and vice versa. Understanding these differences is important for designing more effective and targeted policies.

3.1.1 Multiple deprivation analysis

Figure 3.1.1 and Table 3.1.1a present multidimensional deprivation measures for children 0–17 years at national level in 2015 and 2023. It can be observed that in both years, the majority of children were deprived in at least one dimension, with a decline from 94,2% in 2015 to 91,7% in 2023. This indicates that while there has been some improvement, most children still face challenges in one or more critical areas of life. Furthermore, the proportion of children deprived in at least two dimensions simultaneously also dropped from 80,5% to 76,7%.

At the threshold of three deprivations (*k = 3)*, approximately 60,8% of children in South Africa were identified as multidimensionally poor in 2015, indicating that more than 60 out of every 100 children experienced deprivation in at least three dimensions of well-being simultaneously. By 2023, this proportion declined slightly to 57,3%, or about 57 out of every 100 children. Although this reduction is small, it signals some progress in alleviating the severity and prevalence of multidimensional poverty among children. Nevertheless, the fact that more than 57 out of 100 children faced multiple deprivations emphasises the ongoing need for targeted policies and interventions that address the diverse and overlapping challenges affecting children in South Africa.

Figure 3.1.1:Multidimensional poverty headcount (H%) for children 0–17 years at national level and for all thresholds (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

As shown in Table 3.1.1, the average intensity of deprivation among multidimensionally poor children slightly dropped from 56,9% in 2015 to 55,8% in 2023. This indicates that, on average, children identified as poor were deprived in about four out of the seven dimensions considered in the analysis.

Consequently, the deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0) showed only a small decline, decreasing from 0,346 in 2015 to 0,319 in 2023. This reflects a limited overall change in the depth (severity) and breadth (number of deprivations) of child deprivation over the period.

Table 3.1.1: Multidimensional deprivation indices for children 0–17 years at national level using a threshold of (k=3) (2015 and 2023)

Year	Deprivation headcount (H) %	Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %	Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number	Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)
2015	60,8	56,9	4,0	0,346
2023	57,3	55,8	3,9	0,319

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.1.2 below, presents multidimensional deprivation indices (k = 3) for children 0–17 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status. In both 2015 and 2023, monetary poor children consistently experienced higher levels of multidimensional deprivation than those classified as non-poor, with children in poor households being almost twice as likely to be deprived.

The deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0) among poor children declined from 0,463 in 2015 to 0,449 in 2023, compared with an increase from 0,180 to 0,195 among non-poor children over the same period. In addition, the average intensity of deprivation among deprived children remained higher for those from poor households, between 57,4% and 58,7%, compared with between 51,1% and 52,4% for children from non-poor households. Overall, approximately more than 78 out of every 100 children from poor households experienced multidimensional deprivation, compared with more than 37 out of every 100 children from non-poor households in 2023.

Table 3.1.2: Multidimensional deprivation indices (k=3) for children 0–17 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)

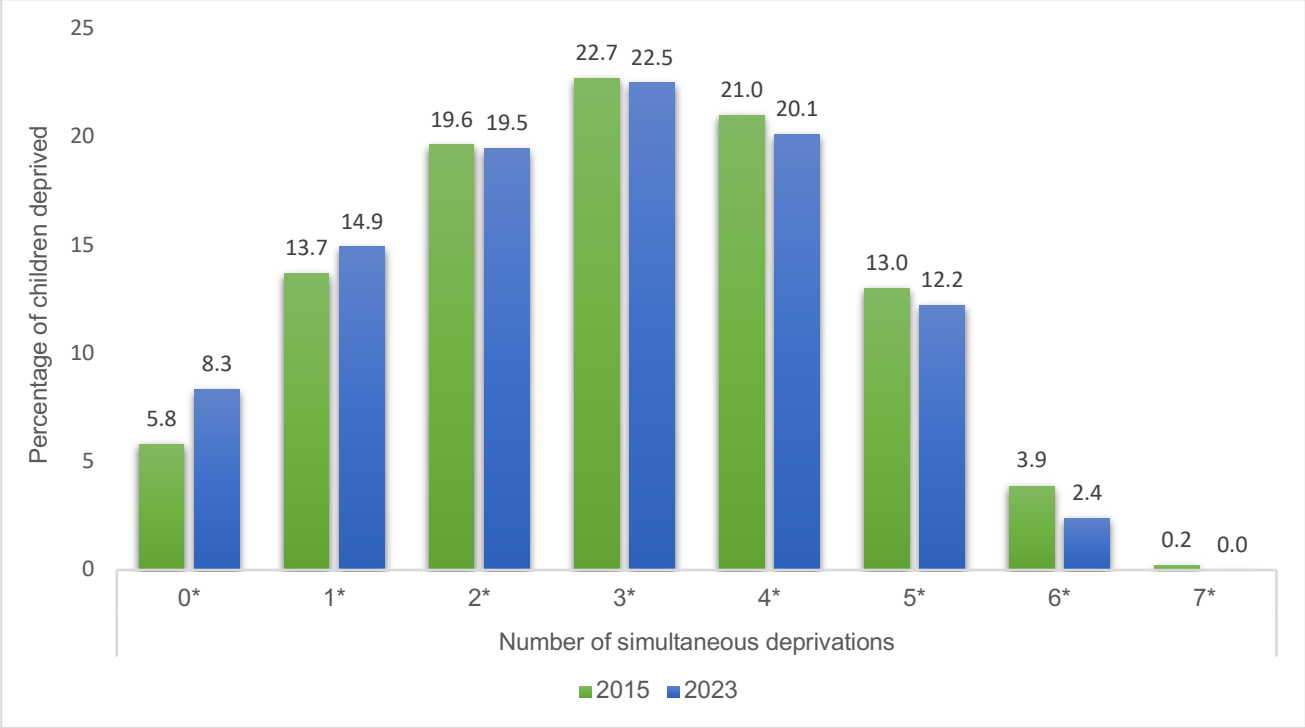
Money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Deprivation headcount (%)		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	**2023**	**2015**	**2023**	**2015**	**2023**	**2015**	**2023**
Non-poor	35,2	37,1	51,1	52,4	3,6	3,7	0,180	0,195
Poor	78,9	78,2	58,7	57,4	4,1	4,0	0,463	0,449
National	**60,8**	**57,3**	**56,9**	**55,8**	**4,0**	**3,9**	**0,346**	**0,319**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023
Note: *Money-metric poverty status is used solely as a grouping variable. The deprivation measures (H, A and M_0) are calculated independently of money-metric poverty and should not be interpreted as trends in income poverty.*

Figure 3.1.2 reflects the national distribution of simultaneous deprivations among children 0–17 years. The proportion of children who were not deprived in any dimension increased from 5,8% in 2015 to 8,3% in 2023, indicating that a slightly larger share of children experienced no deprivation in 2023. This suggests an increase of about 3 children per 100 who were not deprived in any dimension over the period.

Children deprived in at least one dimension accounted for 13,7% in 2015 and 14,9% in 2023, while approximately 20 out of every 100 children experienced deprivation in two dimensions simultaneously in both years. The largest share of children was deprived in three dimensions of well-being simultaneously in 2015 and 2023. By contrast, the smallest proportions were observed among children deprived in all seven dimensions at the same time, declining from 0,2% in 2015 to nearly zero in 2023.

Figure 3.1.2: Deprivation distribution for children 0–17 years at national level (2015 and 2023)



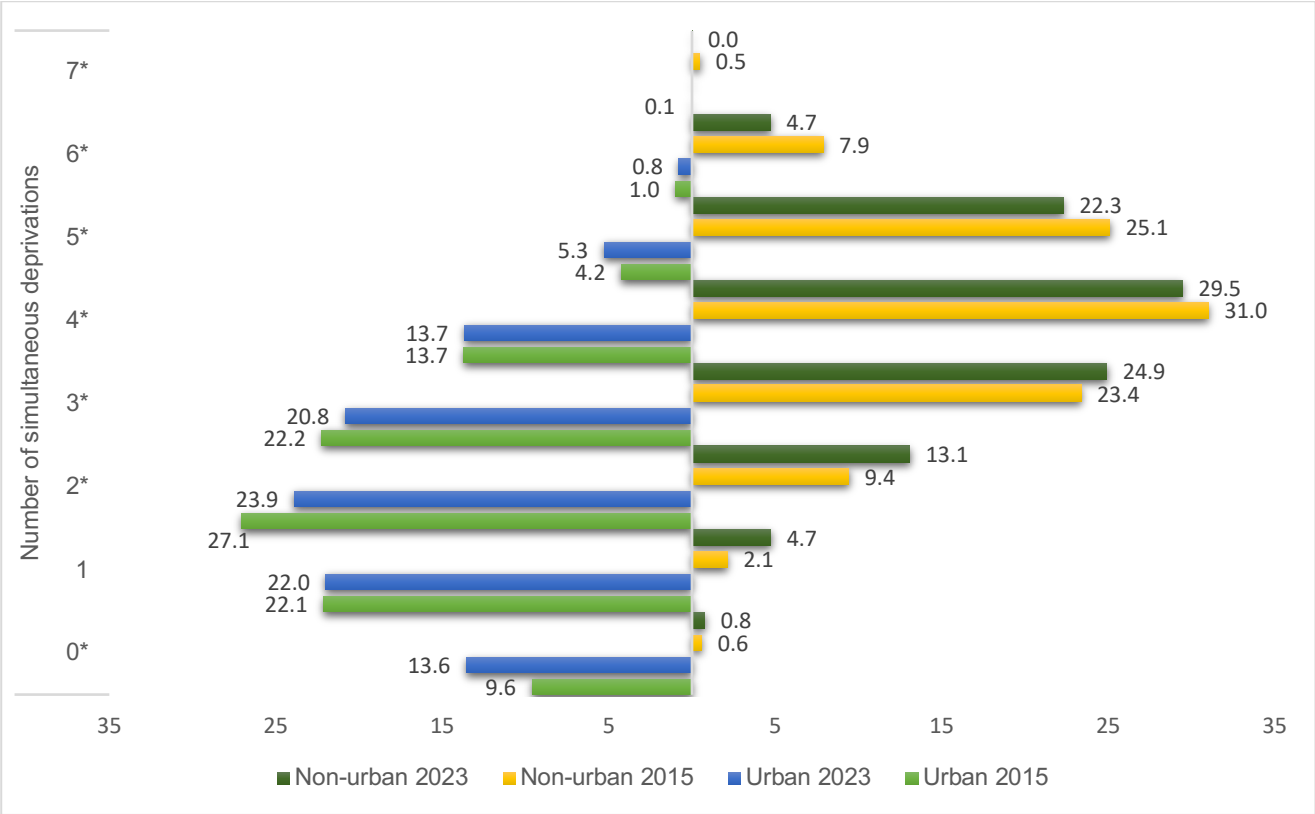
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.1.3 presents the distribution of simultaneous deprivations among children 0–17 years by settlement type. In both 2015 and 2023, children residing in non-urban areas were more likely to experience multiple deprivations at the same time compared to children living in urban areas. The proportion of children deprived in four dimensions simultaneously in non-urban areas was approximately 31 out of every 100 children in 2015, declining slightly to about 30 out of every 100 children in 2023, indicating a marginal reduction over the period.

As illustrated in the figure, a higher proportion of children residing in urban areas did not experience any deprivation in 2015 and 2023. The share of urban children with no deprivation increased from 9,6% in 2015 to 13,6% in 2023, indicating an improvement in well-being of children. In contrast, a much smaller proportion of children in non-urban areas were not deprived in any dimension in 2023, highlighting differences in deprivation patterns by settlement type.

Overall, the results show that children residing in non-urban areas consistently presented higher levels of deprivation than those residing in urban areas in both years.

Figure 3.1.3: Deprivation distribution for children 0–17 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)



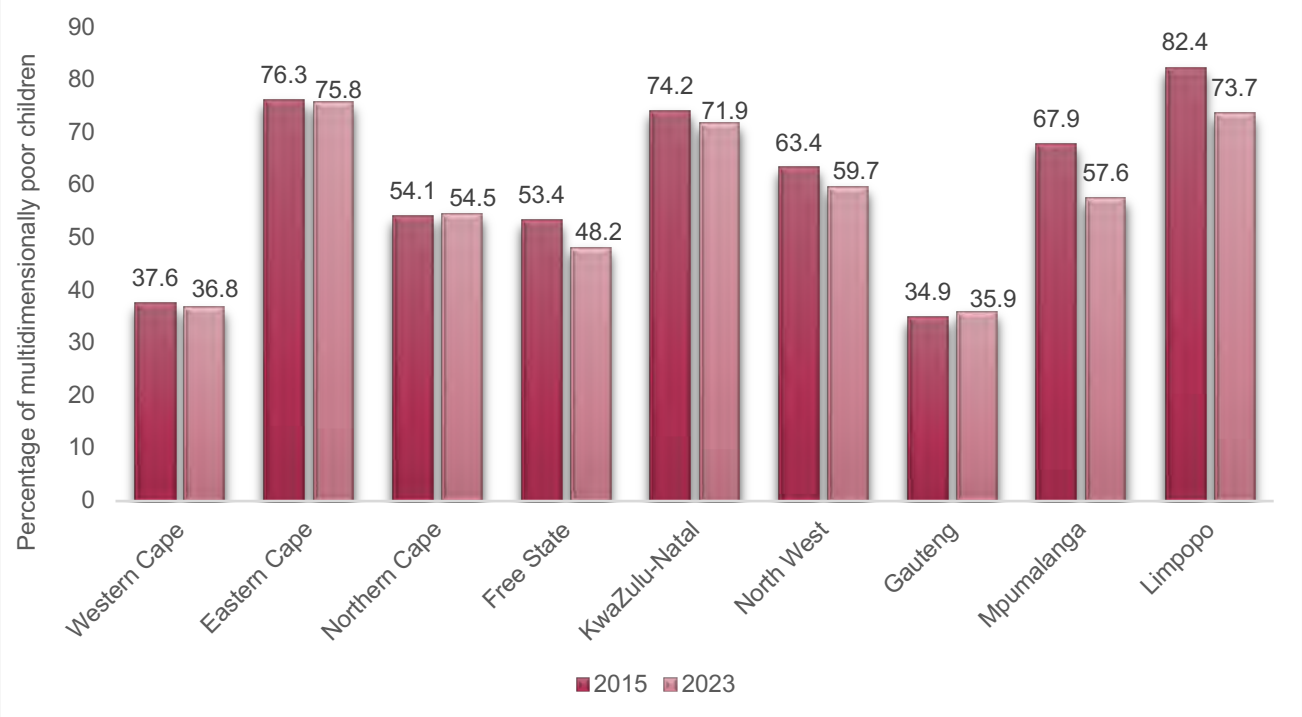
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.1.4 presents the multidimensional child poverty headcount (k = 3) for children 0–17 years by province. In both 2015 and 2023, the highest proportion of multidimensionally deprived children, that is, those deprived in three or more dimensions were observed in four provinces, namely: Limpopo (82,4 and 73,7%), Eastern Cape (76,3% and 75,8%), KwaZulu-Natal (74,2% and 71,9%), and Mpumalanga (67,9% and 57,6%). Despite persistently high levels of deprivation, all four provinces experienced declines in multidimensional child poverty over the period, indicating some improvement in child well-being, although from very high baseline levels.

Northern Cape and Free State recorded mid-level multidimensional child deprivation relative to other provinces. Although these provinces did not show the highest levels of deprivation, substantial proportion of children were still deprived in at least three dimensions simultaneously in both years, indicating the continued presence of multidimensional child poverty. Changes over time in these provinces were generally small, suggesting limited shifts in the extent of deprivation.

By contrast, Western Cape and Gauteng consistently recorded the lowest levels of multidimensional child deprivation in both years. In Western Cape, the proportion of children deprived in at least three dimensions at the same time remained relatively stable, at 37,6% in 2015 and 36,8% in 2023. Gauteng recorded a slight increase, from 34,9% in 2015 to 35,9% in 2023, representing an increase by 1,0 percentage point.

Figure 3.1.4: Multidimensional child poverty headcount (k=3) for children 0–17 years by province (2015 and 2023)

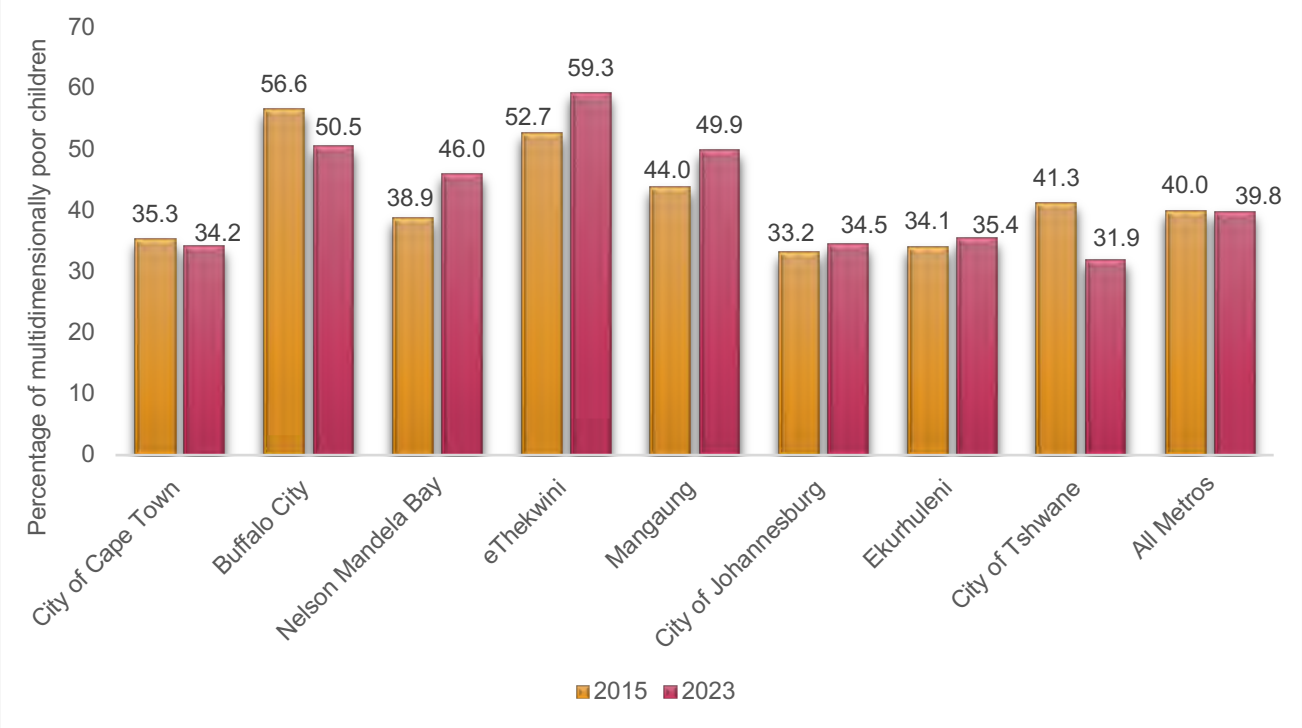


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.1.5 shows multidimensional child poverty headcount (k = 3) for children 0–17 years by metropolitan municipality in 2015 and 2023. An increase in multidimensional child poverty was observed in eThekwini (from 52,7% to 59,3%), Nelson Mandela Bay (from 38,9% to 46,0%), and Mangaung (from 44,0% to 49,9%). In contrast, City of Tshwane and Buffalo City recorded notable declines, with deprivation headcounts decreasing from 41,3% to 31,9% and from 56,6% to 50,5%, respectively.

Relatively stable levels of multidimensional child deprivation were observed in City of Cape Town (35,4% to 34,2%), Ekurhuleni (34,1% to 35,4%), and City of Johannesburg (33,2% to 34,5%), where changes between 2015 and 2023 were minimal. Overall, children residing in Ekurhuleni, City of Tshwane, City of Johannesburg, City of Cape Town, and Nelson Mandela Bay had broadly similar levels of multidimensional child deprivation, with approximately 40 out of every 100 children considered multidimensionally poor in both years.

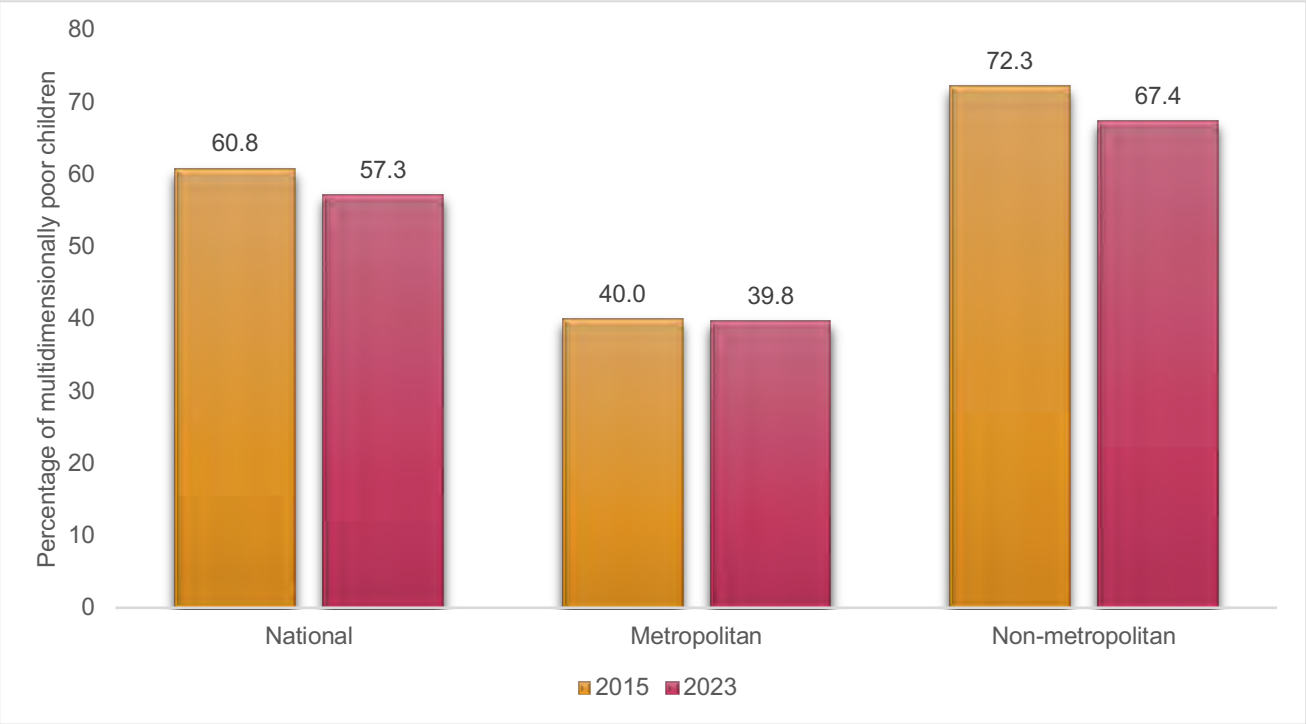
Figure 3.1.5: Multidimensional child poverty headcount (k=3) for children 0–17 years by metropolitan municipality (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.1.6 depicts the proportion of multidimensionally poor children 0–17 years deprived in at least three deprivations (k = 3), at national level by metropolitan municipality category in 2015 and 2023. Children residing in non-metropolitan municipalities experienced higher levels of multidimensional deprivation than those in metropolitan municipalities. In both years, over 67 out of every 100 children in non-metropolitan areas were deprived in three or more dimensions compared to 39,8% in metropolitan areas. The figure also reveals that the number of multidimensionally poor children in non-metropolitan municipalities exceeded the national average by more than 10 children per 100 in both 2015 and 2023.

Figure 3.1.6: Multidimensional child poverty headcount (k=3) 0–17 years by metropolitan municipality category (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

The multidimensional child poverty headcount (k = 3) for children 0–17 years, disaggregated by key child and household attributes is presented in Figure 3.1.7.

Child characteristics

As displayed in the figure, there were no meaningful differences in multidimensional child deprivation among female and male children in either 2015 or 2023, indicating similar levels of deprivation across both groups. However, clear disparities exist by population group. Black African children experienced highest levels of multidimensional child deprivation in both years, with more than 62 out of every 100 children deprived in three or more dimensions. In comparison, around 38 out of every 100 coloured children were deprived, while Indian/Asian and white children saw substantially lower levels of deprivation, at approximately 13 and 9 out of every 100 children, respectively.

Orphanhood status also showed significant differences. In both 2015 and 2023, children with only their mother alive, only their father alive, or double orphans faced high levels of multidimensional deprivation, with more than 65 out of every 100 deprived in three or more dimensions simultaneously. By contrast, more than half of non-orphan children (with both parents alive) were multidimensionally deprived (58,3% in 2015 and 54,9% in 2023).

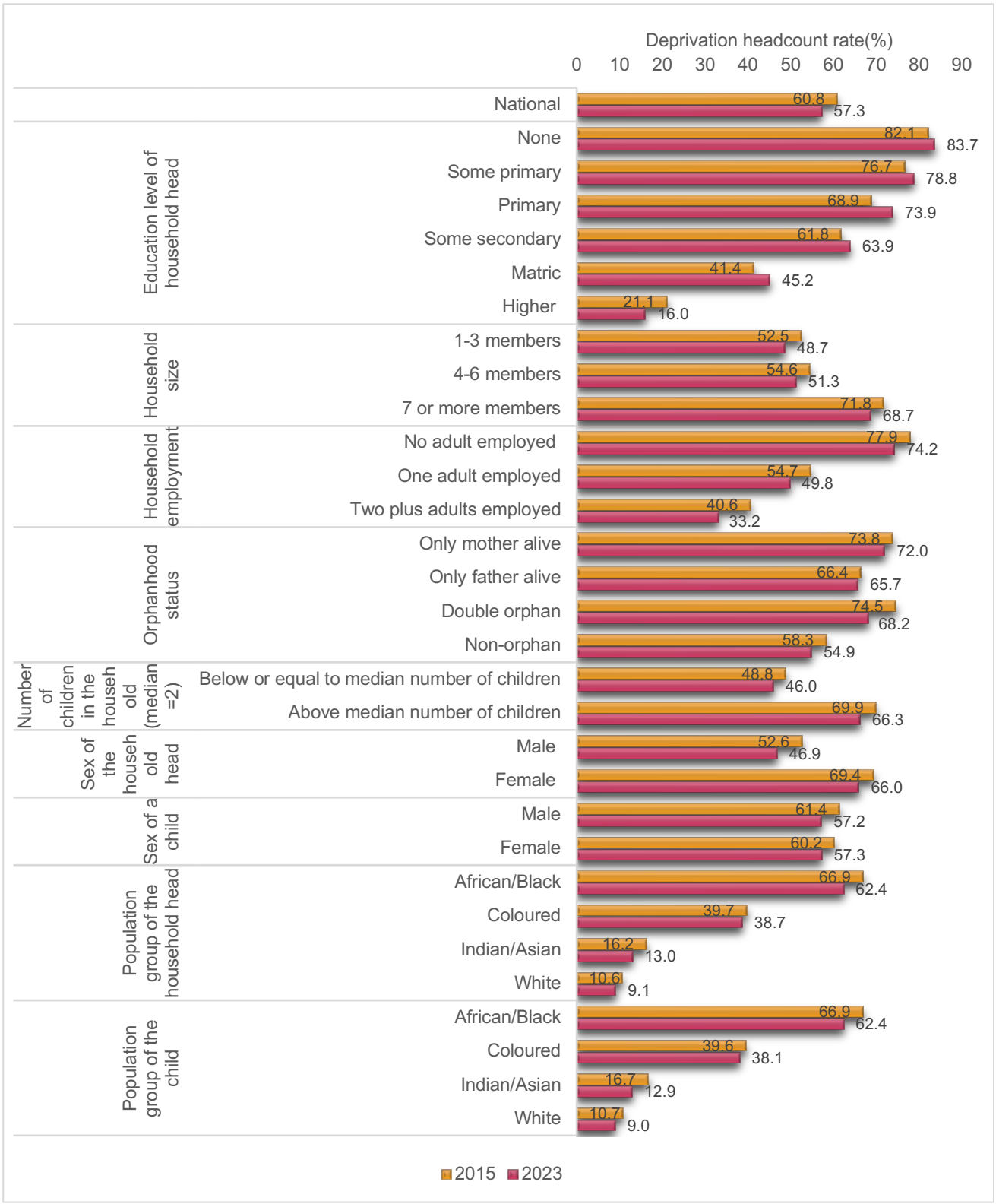
Household characteristics

Children living in households with more than two children experienced higher levels of multidimensional deprivation, with proportions exceeding 66% in both 2015 and 2023, compared to those in smaller households with two or fewer children (48,8% in 2015 and 46,0% in 2023). This indicates that children in larger households were more likely to be deprived in three or more dimensions of well-being simultaneously.

Household employment status plays an important role in reducing child deprivation. More than 70 out of every 100 children from households with no adult employed were multidimensionally poor, with deprivation rates of approximately 74,2% in 2015 and 77,9% in 2023, showing an increase over the period. The results further confirm that as the number of employed adults in a household increases, children tend to experience lower levels of multidimensional deprivation. For example, in 2023, 40,6% of children with at least two adults employed in the household experienced multidimensional deprivation.

Furthermore, the educational attainment of the household head is associated with multidimensional child deprivation outcomes. Children living in households headed by individuals with no formal education faced substantially higher levels of multidimensional deprivation, with more than 80 out of every 100 children deprived in three or more dimensions. In contrast, less than 22 out of every 100 children in households headed by someone with higher educational attainment were multidimensionally poor.

Figure 3.1.7: Multidimensional (k=3) child poverty headcount for children 0–17 years by child's characteristics (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

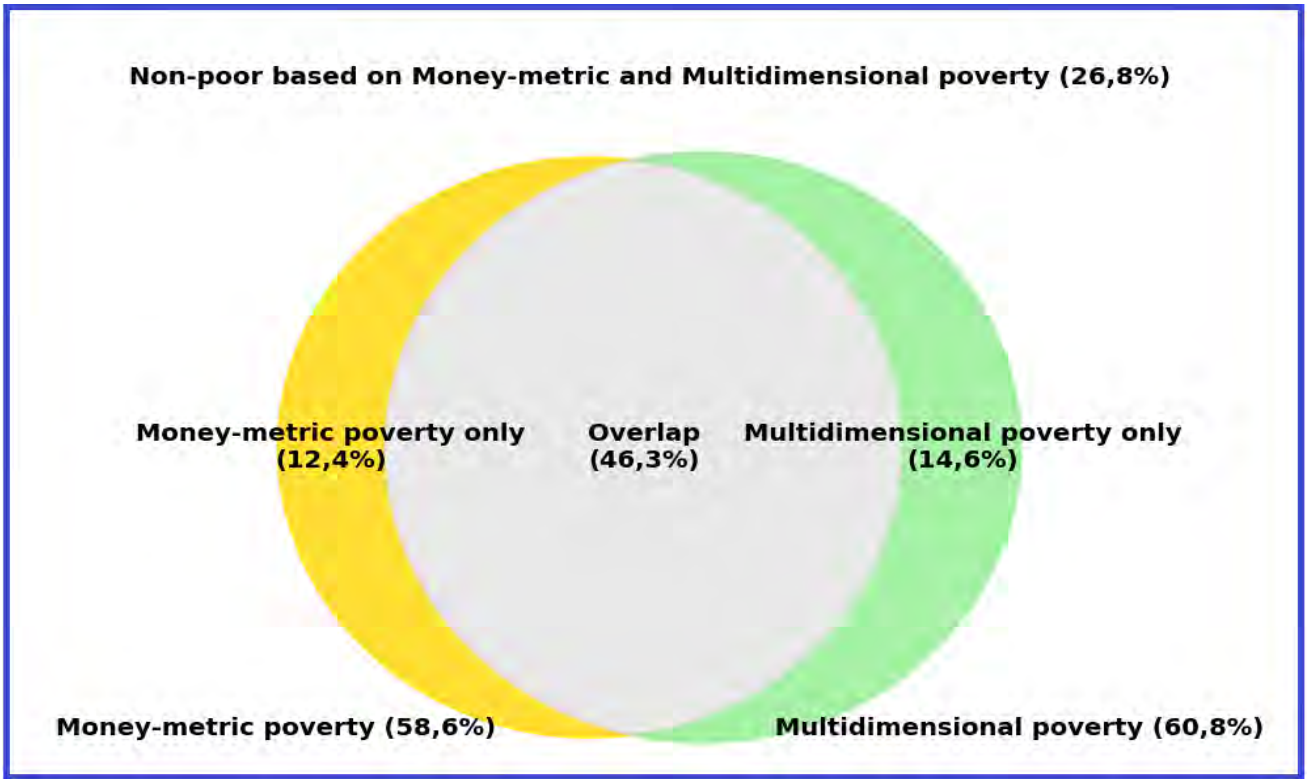
3.1.2 Money-metric and multidimensional deprivation overlaps

This section examines the extent and distribution of overlap between money-metric poverty, based on the Lower Bound Poverty Line, and multidimensional child deprivation. It highlights how much these two measures identify the same or different groups of children. Understanding these overlaps provides valuable insight into the degree to which each approach captures similar or distinct aspects of child poverty.

Figures 3.1.8 and 3.1.9 below, show the overlap between money-metric poverty and multidimensional child poverty (k = 3) among children 0–17 years at the national level between 2015 and 2023. Results reveal a decline in the proportion of children who were both money-metric poor and multidimensionally deprived. Specifically, the share of children deprived in three or more dimensions of well-being and living below the LBPL decreased from 46,3% in 2015 to 38,3% in 2023, representing a reduction of about 8 children per 100 over the period.

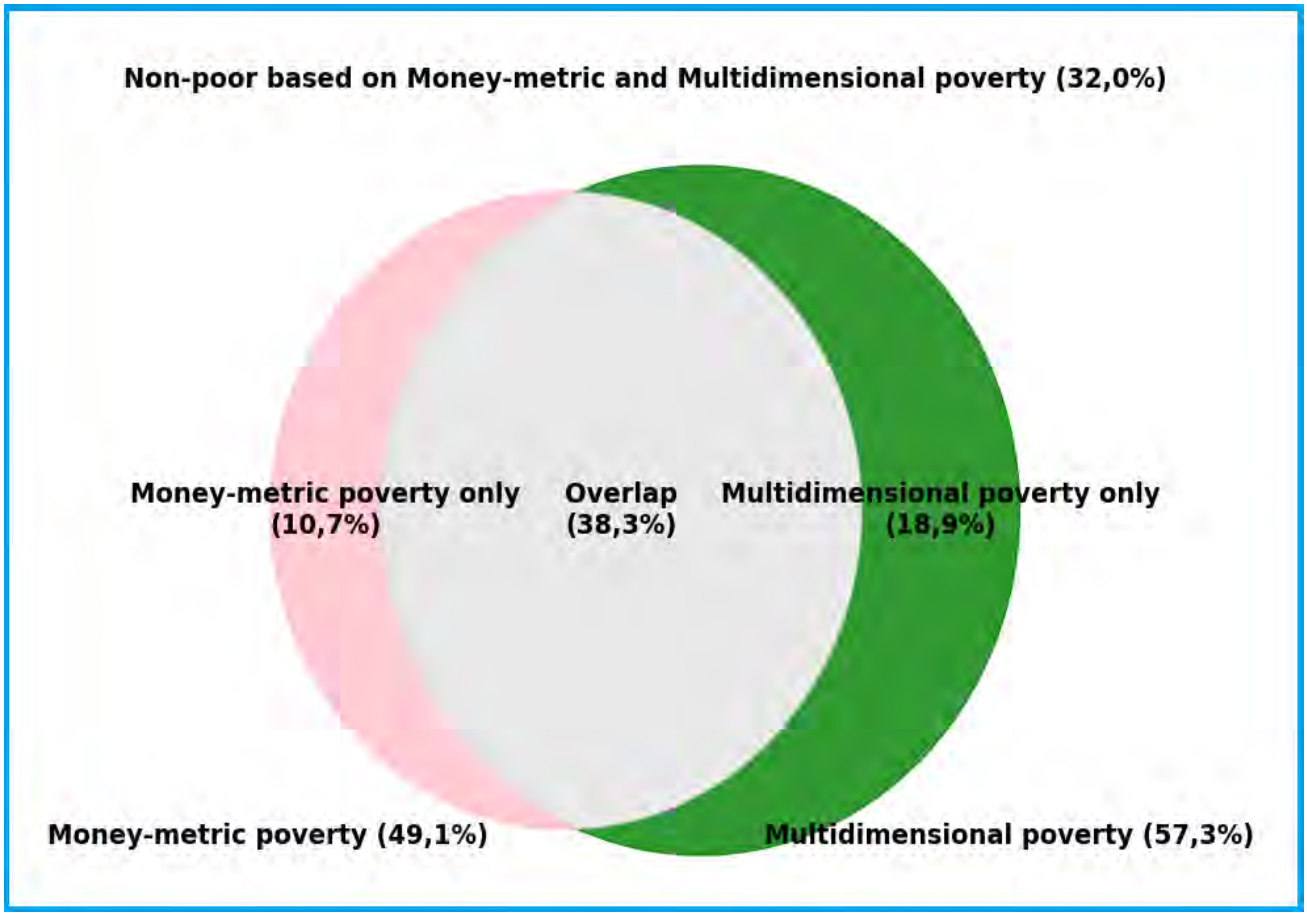
The proportion of children who were neither money-metric poor nor multidimensionally deprived increased from 26,8% in 2015 to 32,0% in 2023. During the same period, the share of children experiencing multidimensional poverty only rose from 14,6% to 18,9%, while the proportion of children facing money-metric poverty only decreased slightly from 12.4% to 10.7%.

Figure 3.1.8: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–17 years at the national level, 2015



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.1.9: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–17 years at the national level, 2023



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.1.3 shows the deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty by settlement type in 2015 and 2023. In both periods, larger proportions of children in urban areas were not poor in either measure, increasing from 42,6% in 2015 to 45,3% in 2023. In contrast, the share of children in non-urban areas who were neither poor nor deprived was very low in 2015, at 5,1%. Although this share more than doubled to 12,8% in 2023, it remained well below the level observed in urban areas. This improvement corresponds to an increase of roughly 8 children per 100 in non-urban areas who were not classified as poor according to either measure over the period.

Table 3.1.3: Deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	42,0	38,5	25,8	24,4	41,2	40,6	16,2	14,1	15,4	16,2	42,6	45,3
Non-urban	81,5	64,3	74,4	58,5	87,9	81,4	7,1	5,8	13,5	22,9	5,1	12,8
National	**58,6**	**49,1**	**46,3**	**38,3**	**60,8**	**57,3**	**12,4**	**10,7**	**14,6**	**18,9**	**26,8**	**32,0**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Children living in non-urban areas were more likely to be poor according to both approaches. This is demonstrated by the substantial overlap between money-metric and multidimensional child poverty in both years, with 74,4% of children in non-urban areas facing poverty according to both measures in 2015, declining to 58,5% in 2023. Despite this reduction, the overlap remained considerably higher than that observed among children living in urban areas.

Table 3.1.4: Deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty by province (2015 and 2023)

Province	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Western Cape	37,3	27,5	20,6	18,0	37,6	36,8	16,7	9,4	17,0	18,8	45,7	53,8
Eastern Cape	73,2	60,1	64,5	53,3	76,3	75,8	8,8	6,8	11,8	22,4	15,0	17,4
Northern Cape	60,6	54,2	40,5	38,4	54,1	54,5	20,0	15,8	13,6	16,1	25,9	29,7
Free State	54,5	44,3	37,4	29,9	53,4	48,2	17,1	14,4	16,0	18,3	29,5	37,4
KwaZulu-Natal	72,2	61,2	61,9	52,8	74,2	71,9	10,3	8,4	12,3	19,1	15,5	19,7
North West	62,2	62,0	47,1	48,4	63,4	59,7	15,1	13,6	16,3	11,2	21,6	26,7
Gauteng	35,2	35,2	19,1	20,9	34,9	35,9	16,0	14,3	15,7	15,0	49,1	49,7
Mpumalanga	59,8	46,4	50,2	36,3	67,9	57,6	9,6	10,2	17,7	21,3	22,5	32,2
Limpopo	75,1	56,3	68,2	47,1	82,4	73,7	6,9	9,2	14,2	26,5	10,7	17,1
National	**58,6**	**49,1**	**46,3**	**38,3**	**60,8**	**57,3**	**12,4**	**10,7**	**14,6**	**18,9**	**26,8**	**32,0**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years, based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty by province is presented in Table 3.1.4, above. The results show provincial disparities in the overlap between the two poverty measures.

Children residing in provinces historically associated with former homeland areas namely: Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, and Mpumalanga experienced higher levels of overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty in both 2015 and 2023. Although the extent of overlap declined over the period, it remained high in Limpopo (from 68,2% in 2015 to 47,1% in 2023), Eastern Cape (from 64,5% to 53,3%), KwaZulu-Natal (from 61,9% to 52,8%), and Mpumalanga (from 50,2% to 36,3%). The overlap levels in 2023 remained substantially higher than those recorded in provinces such as Western Cape and Gauteng.

Western Cape and Gauteng stand out as the only provinces with relatively high proportions of children who were not poor by either money-metric or multidimensional measures. In Western Cape, the share of children not deprived by either measure increased from 45,7% in 2015 to 53,8% in 2023, while in Gauteng it remained consistently high at around 49,0% in both years. These patterns indicate that children residing in Western Cape and Gauteng had a greater likelihood of escaping poverty under both measures compared to children in other provinces, particularly those in historically disadvantaged provinces.

Table 3.1.5: Deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years based on money-metric and multidimensional by metropolitan municipality category (2015 and 2023)

Metro category	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Metro	39,4	36,6	24,2	23,4	40,0	39,8	15,1	13,2	15,8	16,3	44,9	47,0
Non-metropolitan	69,2	56,3	58,3	47,0	72,3	67,4	10,8	9,3	13,9	20,4	16,9	23,3
National	**58,6**	**49,1**	**46,3**	**38,3**	**60,8**	**57,3**	**12,4**	**10,7**	**14,6**	**18,9**	**26,8**	**32,0**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.1.5 above, displays the deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty by metropolitan municipality category in 2015 and 2023. Children living in metropolitan municipalities were consistently less likely to experience poverty in both measures, compared to those in non-metropolitan municipalities. This is reflected in the higher proportion of non-poor children by either measure in metropolitan municipalities, increasing from 44,9% in 2015 to 47,0% in 2023. In contrast, the corresponding proportion of children in non-metropolitan municipalities was substantially lower, increasing from 16,9% in 2015 to 23,3% in 2023. This represents a difference of approximately 20 children per 100 in 2023 between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas.

Children living in non-metropolitan municipalities were more likely to experience overlapping poverty. In 2015, approximately 58 out of every 100 children in non-metropolitan areas were both money-metric poor and multidimensionally deprived, declining to 47 out of every 100 children in 2023. By comparison, metropolitan municipalities recorded much lower and relatively stable levels of overlap, at approximately 24 out of every 100 children in 2023. Despite the observed decline in overlapping poverty in non-metropolitan municipalities over time, the level in 2023 remained considerably higher than that observed in metropolitan municipalities.

Table 3.1.6: Deprivation overlap for children 0–17 years based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty by metropolitan municipality (2015 and 2023)

Metropolitan municipality	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
City of Cape Town	33,5	24,0	19,0	14,4	35,3	34,2	14,5	9,6	16,3	19,8	50,1	56,2
Buffalo City	46,5	43,2	37,1	33,1	56,6	50,5	9,4	10,1	19,5	17,4	34,0	39,4
Nelson Mandela Bay	48,3	41,2	30,0	25,2	38,9	46,0	18,2	16,0	8,8	20,8	42,9	38,0
Mangaung	53,7	53,9	37,6	41,4	52,7	59,3	16,1	12,5	15,1	17,9	31,2	28,1
eThekwini	38,6	41,2	28,4	31,7	44,0	49,9	10,1	9,5	15,5	18,2	45,9	40,6
City of Johannesburg	31,1	32,1	14,6	19,2	33,2	34,5	16,5	12,8	18,6	15,3	50,3	52,7
Ekurhuleni	39,1	33,6	19,9	19,3	34,1	35,4	19,2	14,4	14,3	16,2	46,6	50,2
City of Tshwane	36,5	39,5	26,7	21,5	41,3	31,9	9,8	17,9	14,6	10,4	48,9	50,2

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Looking at Table 3.1.6 above, results show notable variation in deprivation overlap across metropolitan municipalities. Children residing in Mangaung and Buffalo City experienced relatively higher levels of overlapping poverty compared to other metropolitan municipalities over the period. In Mangaung, the proportion of children who were both money-metric poor and multidimensionally deprived increased from 37,6% in 2015 to 41,4% in 2023, indicating that approximately 41 out of every 100 children were deprived according to both measures in 2023. In Buffalo City, the overlap declined from 37,1% in 2015 to 33,1% in 2023, representing a reduction of about 4 children per 100 over the period.

On the other hand, metropolitan municipalities such as City of Cape Town, City of Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni, and City of Tshwane recorded higher proportions of children who were neither poor nor deprived in 2023. In these municipalities, more than half of children were not deprived by either money-metric or multidimensional measures. All four municipalities also recorded increases in the proportion of children not deprived according to either measure between 2015 and 2023.

Overall, findings indicate that children residing in metropolitan municipalities located in provinces with stronger economic performance had a greater likelihood of not experiencing poverty under either measure, with more than a 50% chance of being non-poor according to both approaches.

Figure 3.1.10: Monetary child poverty among children 0–17 years by province, 2015

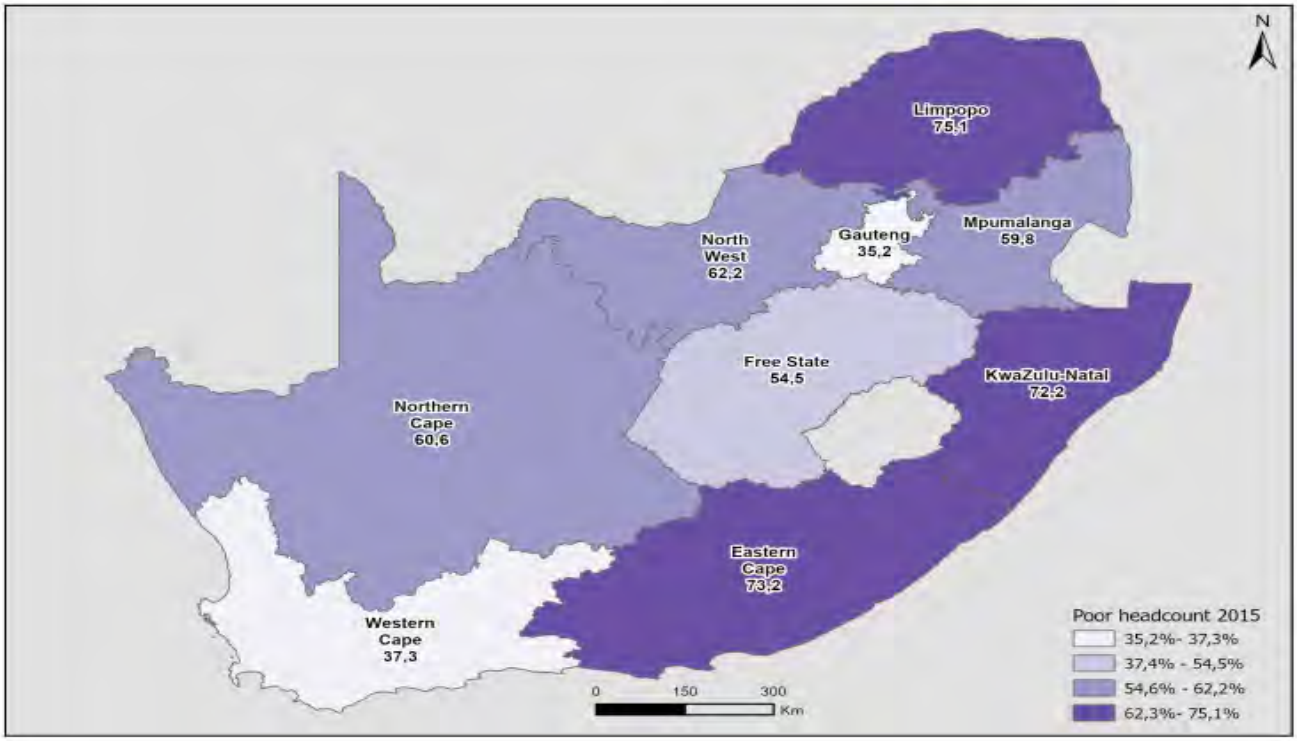


Figure 3.1.11: Monetary child poverty among children 0–17 years by province, 2023

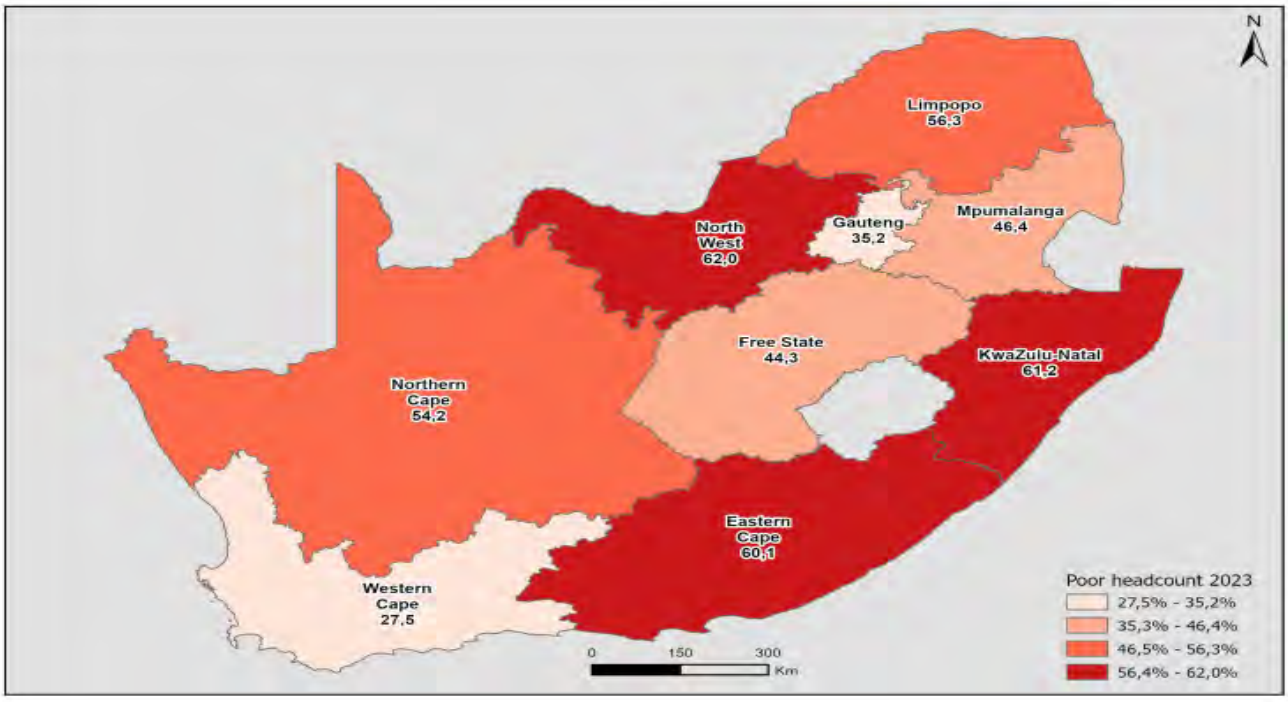


Figure 3.1.12: Multidimensional child poverty (k = 3) for children 0–17 years by province, 2015

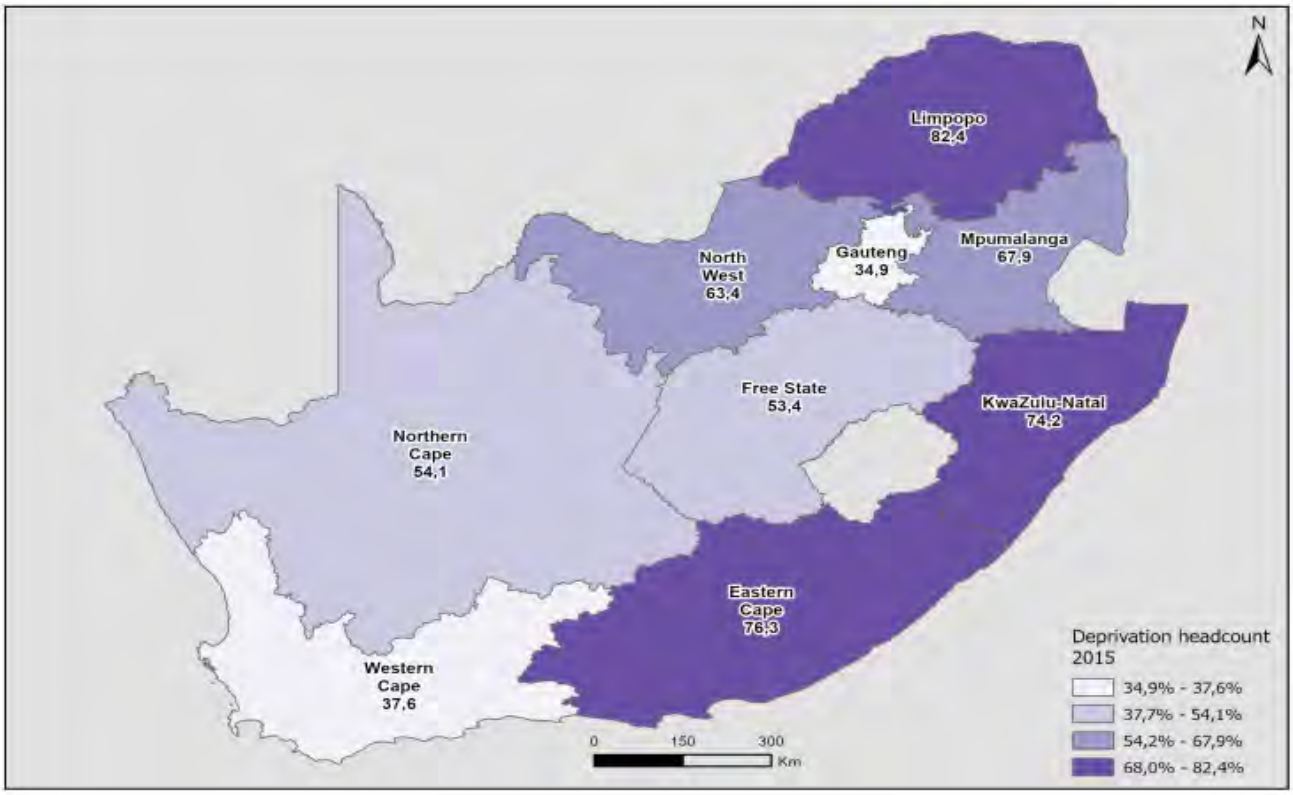
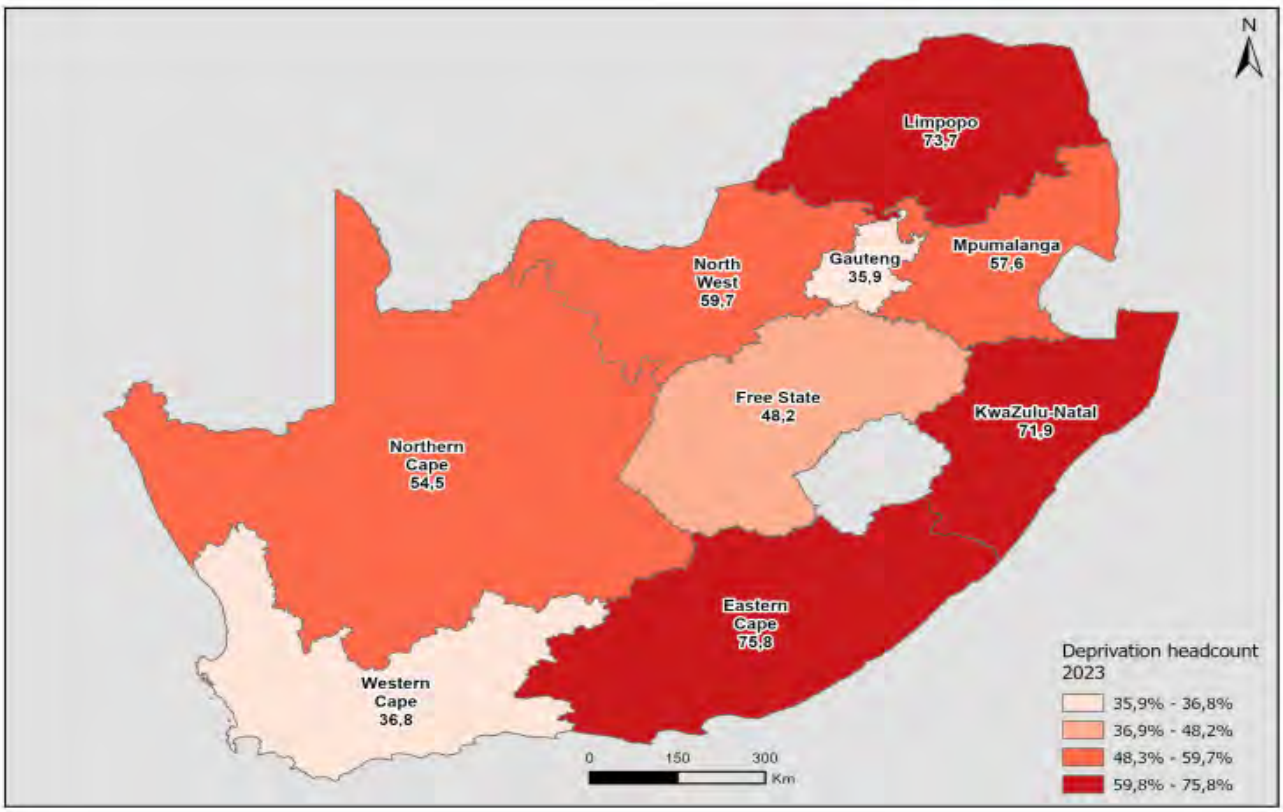


Figure 3.1.13: Multidimensional child poverty (k = 3) for children 0–17 years by province, 2023



DEPRIVATION ANALYSIS BY CHILD AGE GROUPS

CHAPTER 3.2

Children 0 to 4 years

3.2 Deprivation among children 0–4 years (younger children)

Box 2: key findings observed for multidimensional poverty for children 0–4 years.

Key findings

Multidimensional poverty among children 0–4 years

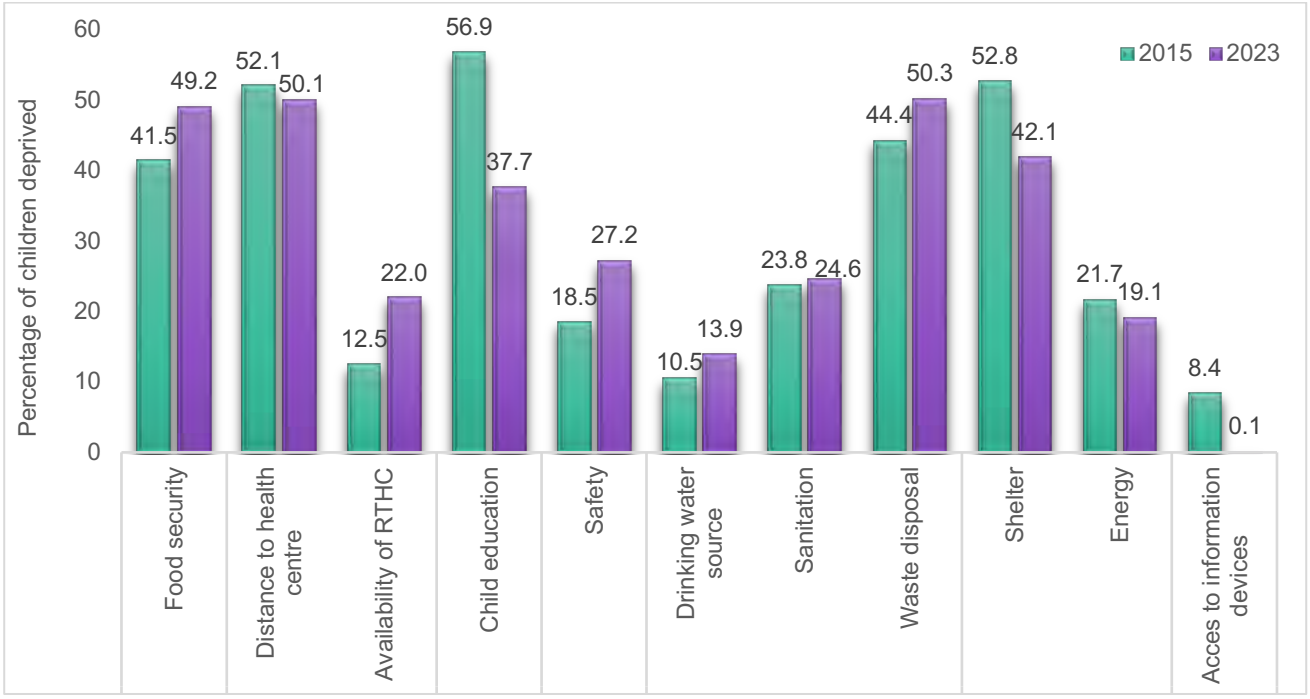
- ✓ Multidimensional poverty among children aged 0–4 declined from 58,1% in 2015 to 51,5% in 2023, representing a decline in 6,6 percentage points.
- ✓ In 2023, children 0–4 years faced highest deprivation in waste disposal (50,3%), distance to health centre (50,1%), food security (49,2%), and shelter (42,1%).
- ✓ Black African children experienced the highest deprivation levels compared to other population groups in both years.
- ✓ Children in non-urban and non-metropolitan areas consistently faced higher and more intense deprivation than those in urban and metropolitan areas.
- ✓ Highest multidimensional deprivations were observed among children in larger households, households with no employed adults, and households headed by individuals with low or no education in both 2015 and 2023.
- ✓ In 2023, children in female-headed households (59,7%) were more likely to be poor than those in male-headed households (42,0%).
- ✓ WASH remained a major contributor to deprivation over time, with health emerging as a leading contributor in 2023.

This section presents the deprivation results for younger children 0–4 years in 2015 and 2023. It covers single deprivation rates by dimension and indicator, including analysis based on individual child characteristics. Additionally, it examines the extent to which children experience multiple deprivations at the same time through the deprivation distribution, deprivation indices, and overlaps between selected dimensions of interest.

3.2.1 Single deprivation analysis

In this sub-section, the proportion of children deprived in each dimension and indicator of well-being at a time is analysed. It identifies the most common areas of deprivation during early childhood and examines how these affect children's basic living conditions and development. Understanding these patterns helps highlight early risks and guides targeted interventions to support children's well-being in their early years of life.

Figure 3.2.1: Deprivation headcount rates for children 0–4 years by indicator (2015 and 2023)

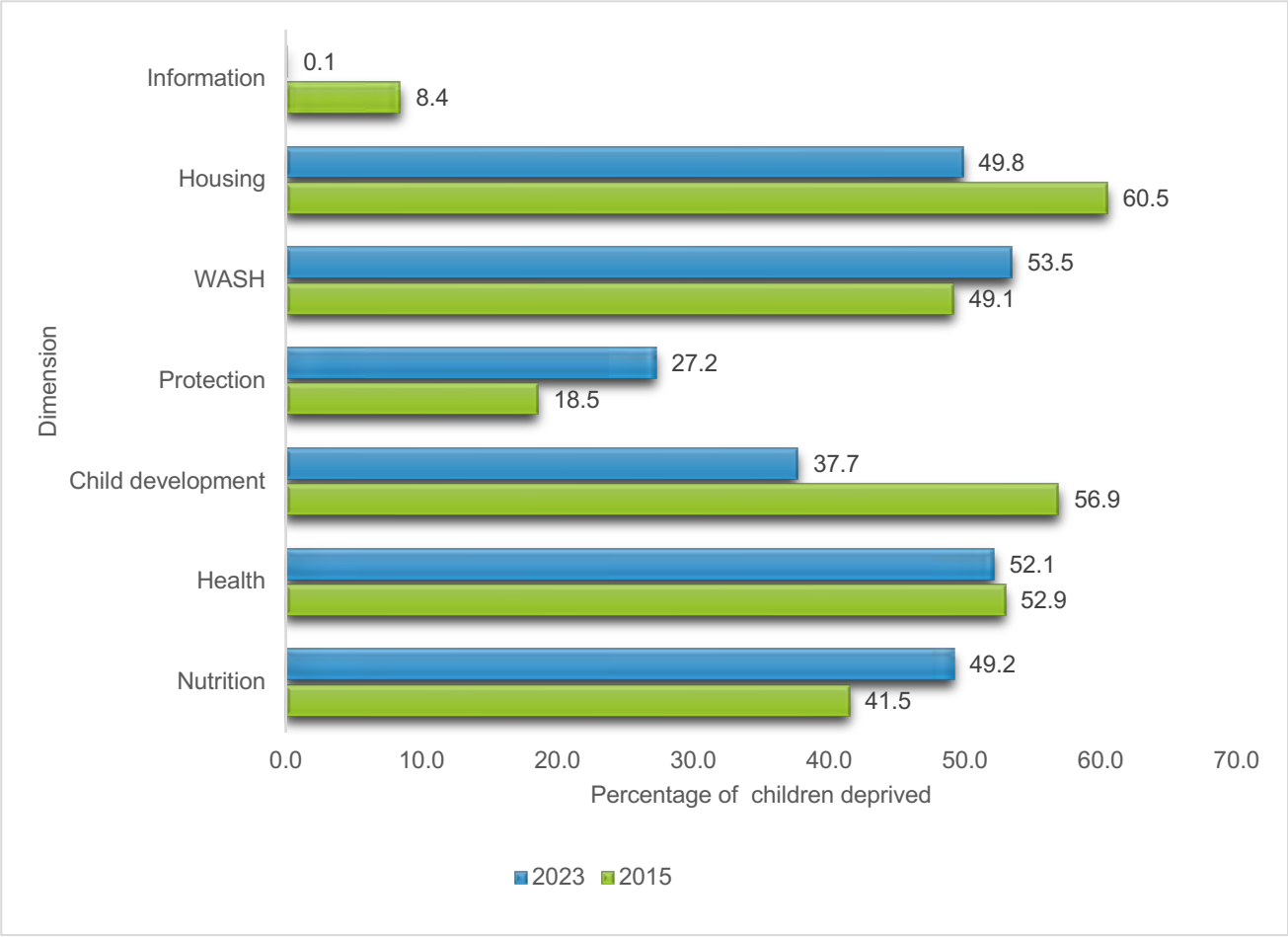


Note: For the child education/development indicator in 2023, information for children 0–2 years is not available, as the exposure data item was not included in the IES 2023 questionnaire.

Figure 3.2.1 above, shows deprivation headcount rates by indicator for children 0–4 years in 2015 and 2023. It can be observed from the figure that in 2023, children experienced the highest deprivation levels in waste disposal (50,3%), distance to health centre (50,1%), food security (49,2%), and shelter (42,1%), indicating that many young children were living in households lacking basic services, with limited health care access, food insecurity and inadequate housing.

In 2015, the highest rate of deprivation was recorded for child development at 56,9%, dropping to 37,7% in 2023. Access to information devices saw a substantial drop in deprivation, from 8,4% in 2015 to 0,1% in 2023. However, several indicators showed increased deprivation in 2023 compared to 2015, including food security (41,5% to 49,2%), safety (18,5% to 27,2%), availability of RTHC (12,5% to 22,0%), waste disposal (44,4% to 50,3%), drinking water source (10,5% to 13,9%), and sanitation (23,8% to 24,6%), suggesting worsening conditions in these areas of child well-being.

Figure 3.2.2: Deprivation headcount rates for children 0–4 years by dimension, nationally (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.2 above, presents the deprivation headcount rates aggregated at the dimension level for children 0–4 years nationally in 2015 and 2023. According to the MODA methodology, a child is considered deprived in a given dimension if he or she faces deprivation in at least one of its indicators. In 2015, the highest deprivation rates by dimension were recorded in housing (over 60%), mainly due to poor shelter conditions; child development (over 54%), driven by non-attendance in early childhood education; and health (over 52%), linked to the lack of Road-to-Health Cards (RTHC).

In addition, 49,1% of children in this age group were deprived in WASH, primarily due to inadequate waste disposal. By 2023, the greatest deprivation shifted to WASH (53,5%), followed by health (51.8%), housing (49.8%), and nutrition (49,2%), the latter driven by food insecurity.

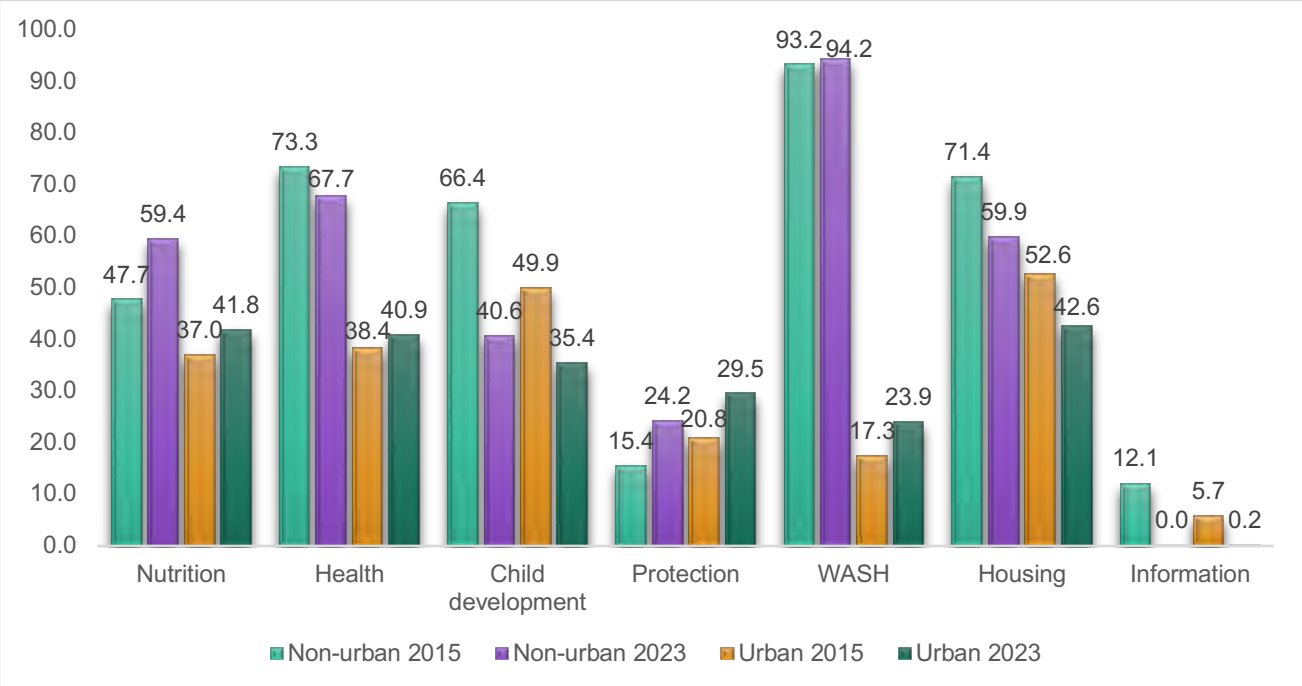
Comparing 2015 and 2023, increases in deprivation were observed in nutrition (41,5% to 49,2%), protection (18,5% to 27,2%), and WASH (49,1% to 53,5%). Deprivation rates increased in all other dimensions except health, which remained almost unchanged at 52,5% in 2015 and 51,8% in 2023.

3.2.1.1 Deprivation rates based on geographic location of the child

The deprivation headcount rates, disaggregated by dimension and settlement type among children 0–4 years, for 2015 and 2023, are shown in Figure 3.2.3. Children living in non-urban settlements experienced higher deprivation levels than those in urban settlements in both years. In 2015, more than half of non-urban children were deprived in health (73,3%), child development (66,4%), WASH (93.2%), and Housing (71.4%). In contrast, urban children presented deprivation rates above 50% in Housing only (52,6%). Protection was the only dimension where non-urban children were better off than their urban counterparts.

In 2023, similar results were found for non-urban children as in 2015. Deprivation in nutrition increased from 47,7% to 59,4%, while child development deprivation sharply declined from 66,4% to 40,6%. The highest deprivation rate observed in urban areas was in Housing, which declined by 10 percentage points, from 52,6% in 2015 to 42,6% in 2023.

Figure 3.2.3: Deprivation headcount rates for children 0–4 years by dimension and settlement type (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.4: Nutrition deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2015

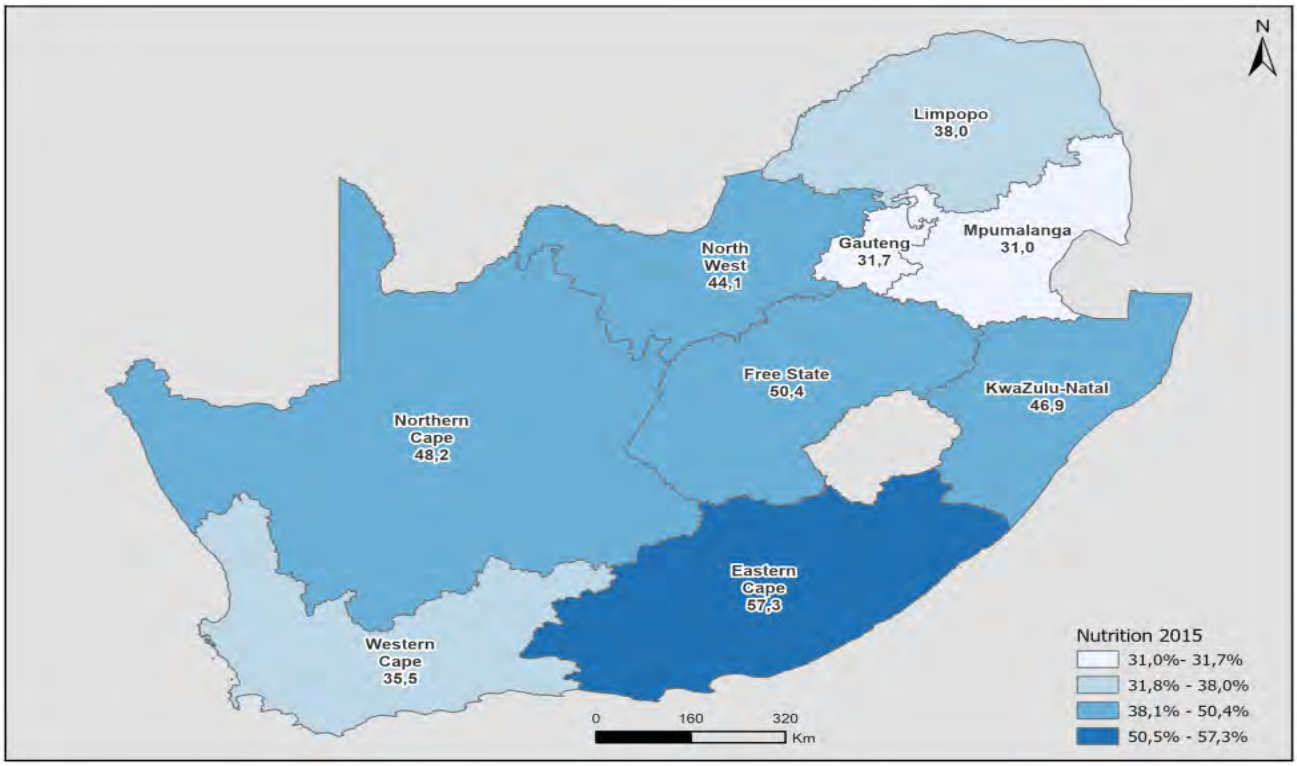


Figure 3.2.5:Nutrition deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2023

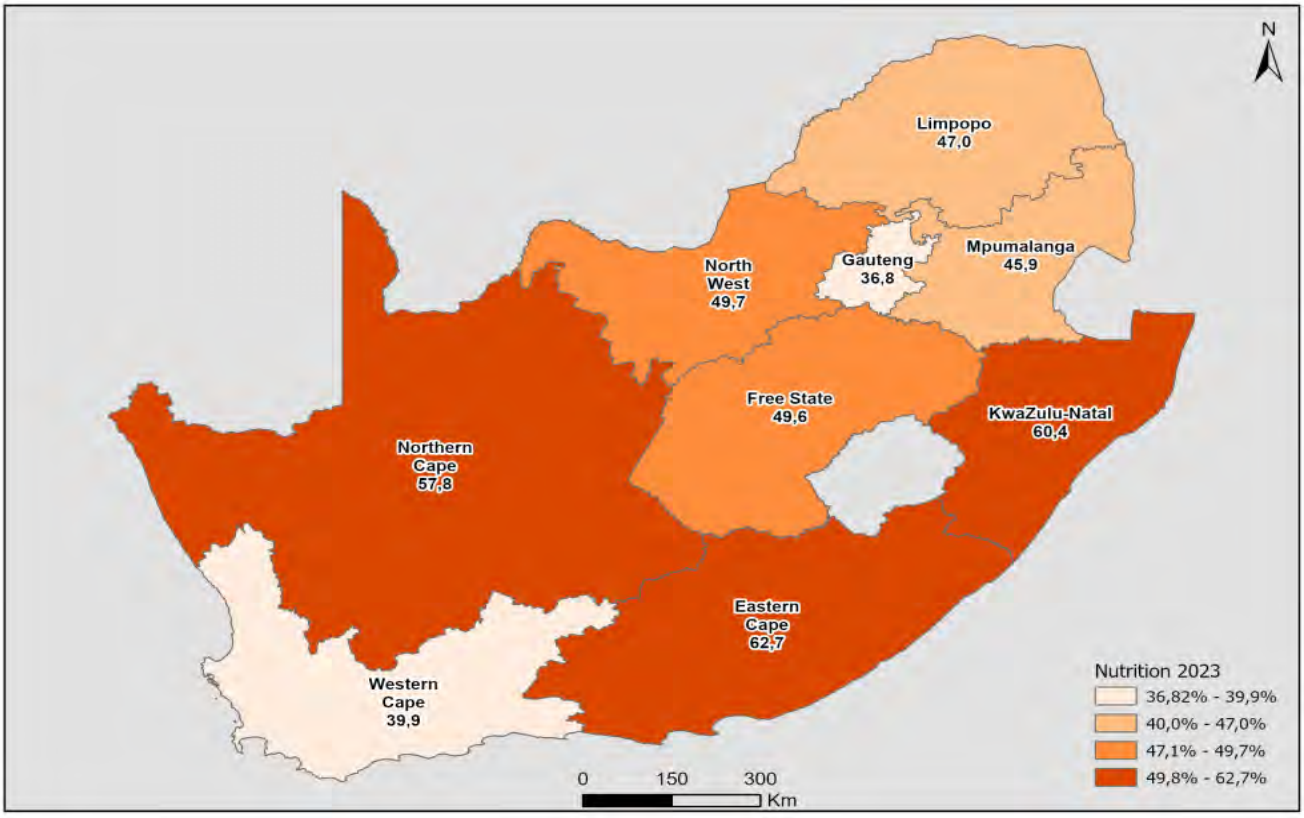


Figure 3.2.6:Health deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2015

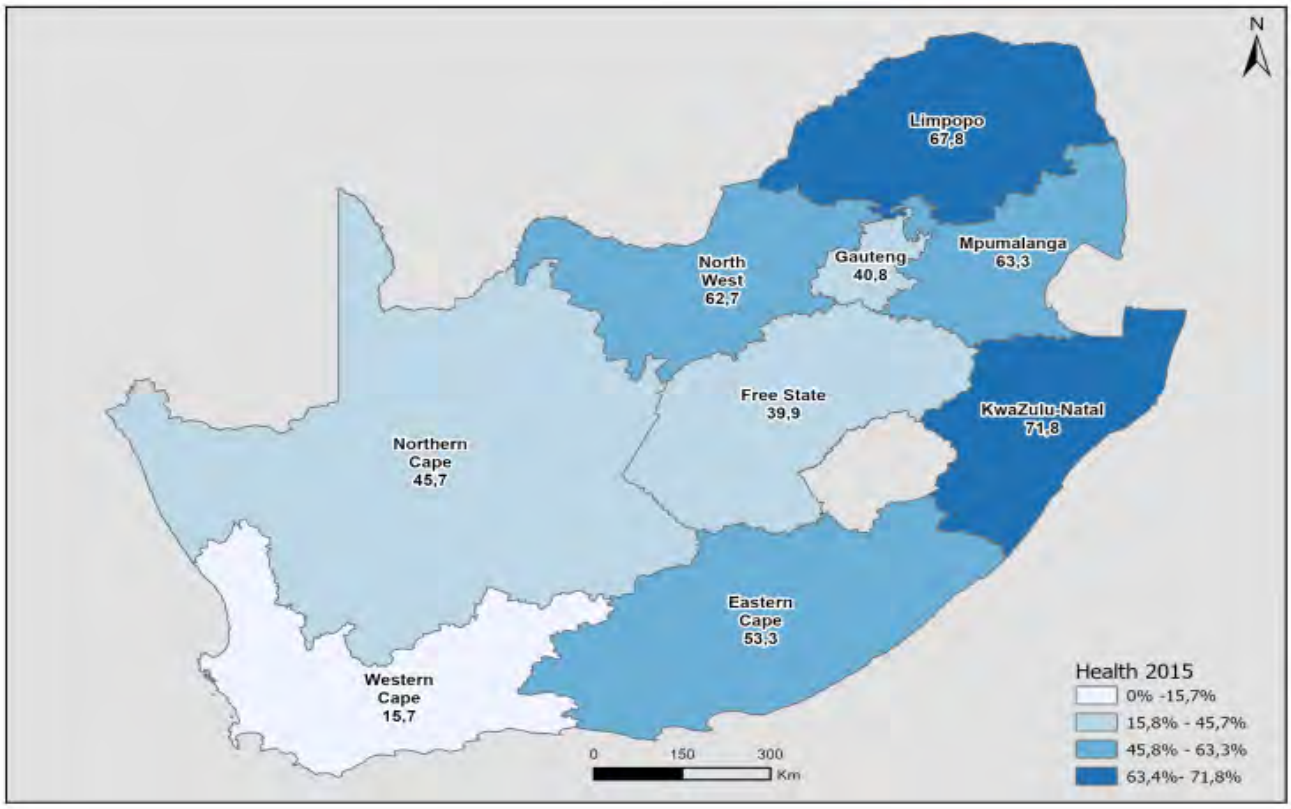


Figure 3.2.7: Health deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2023

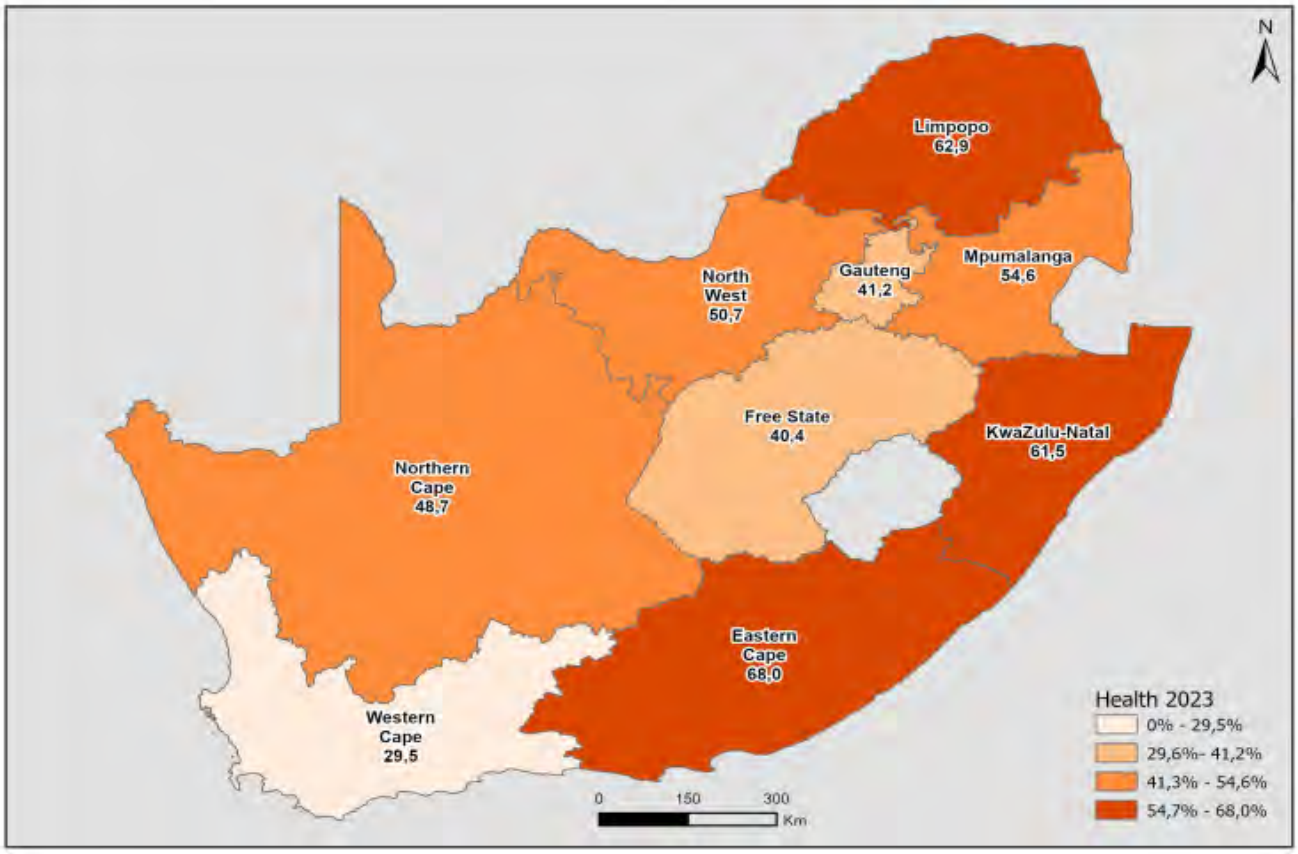


Figure 3.2.8: Child development deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2015

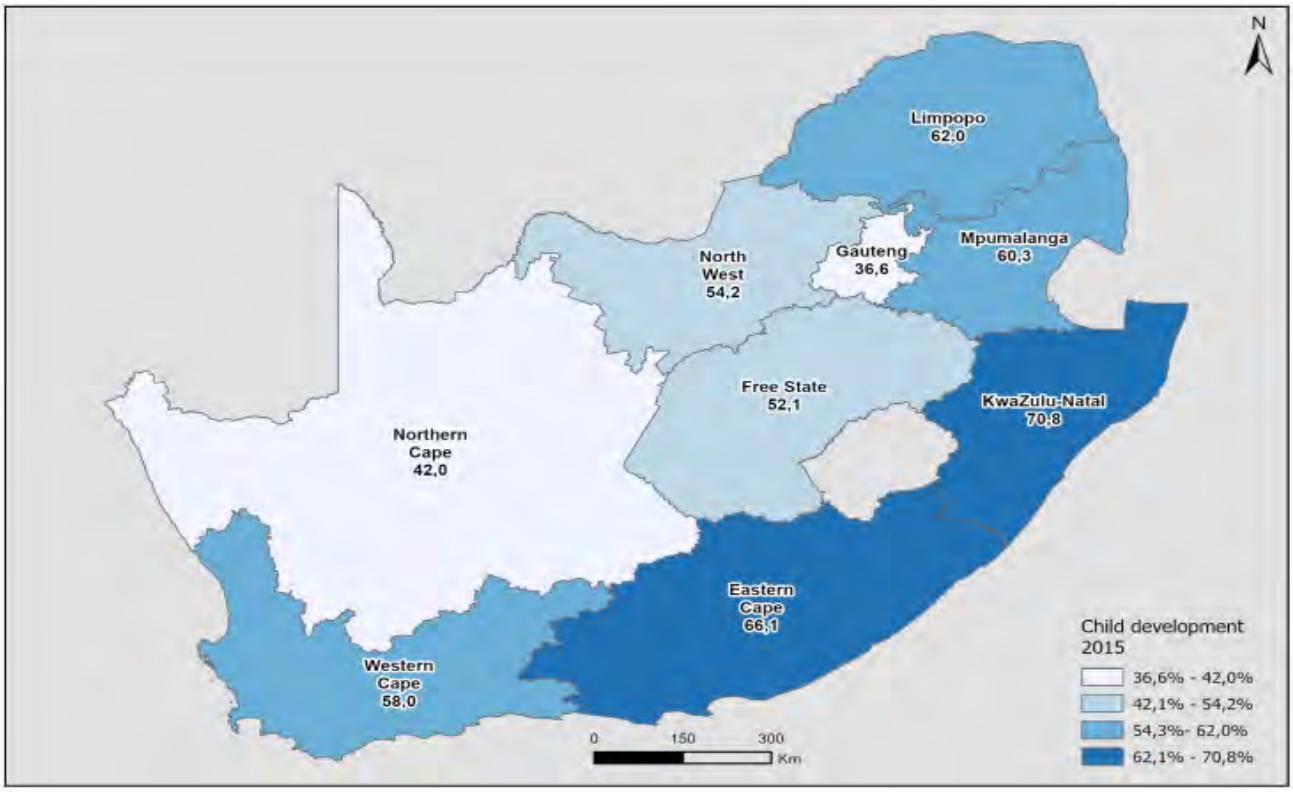


Figure 3.2.9: Child development deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2023

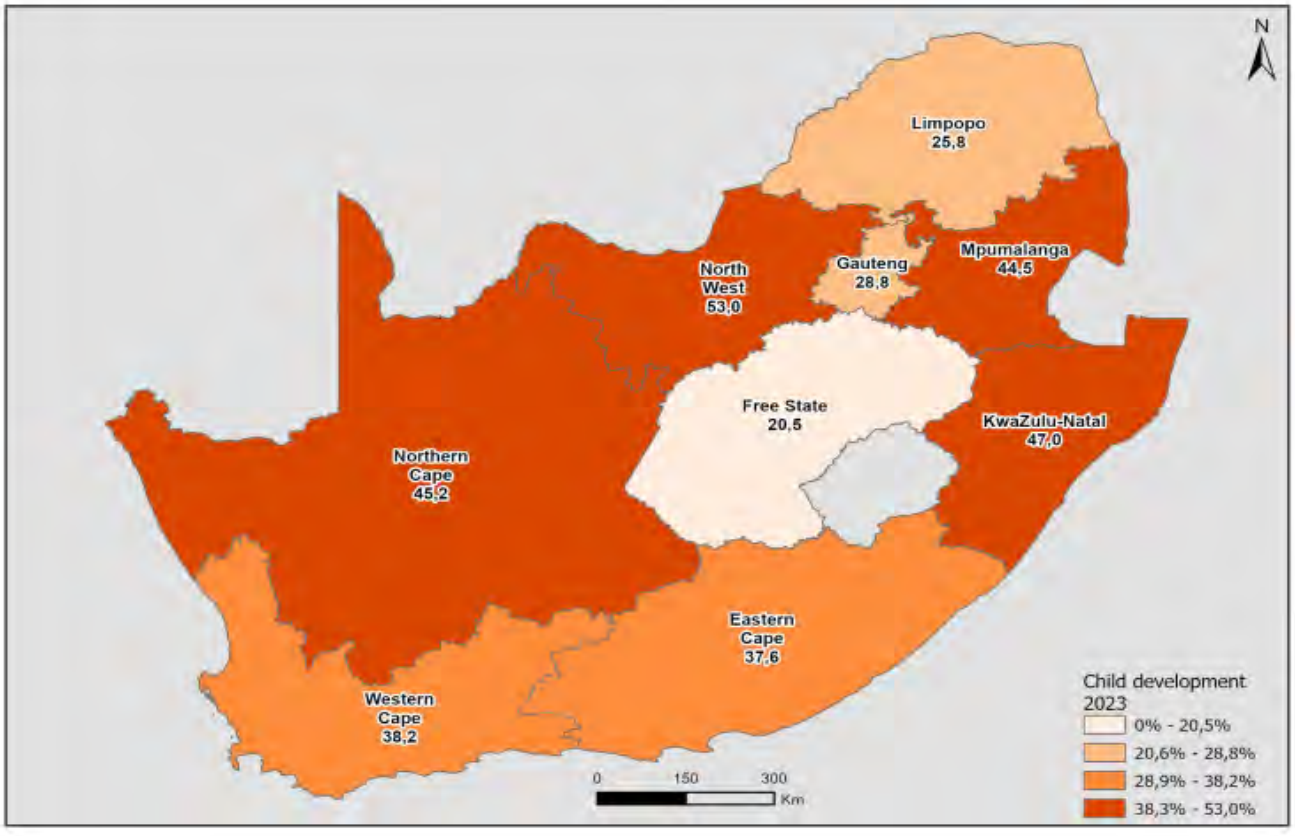


Figure 3.2.10: WASH deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2015

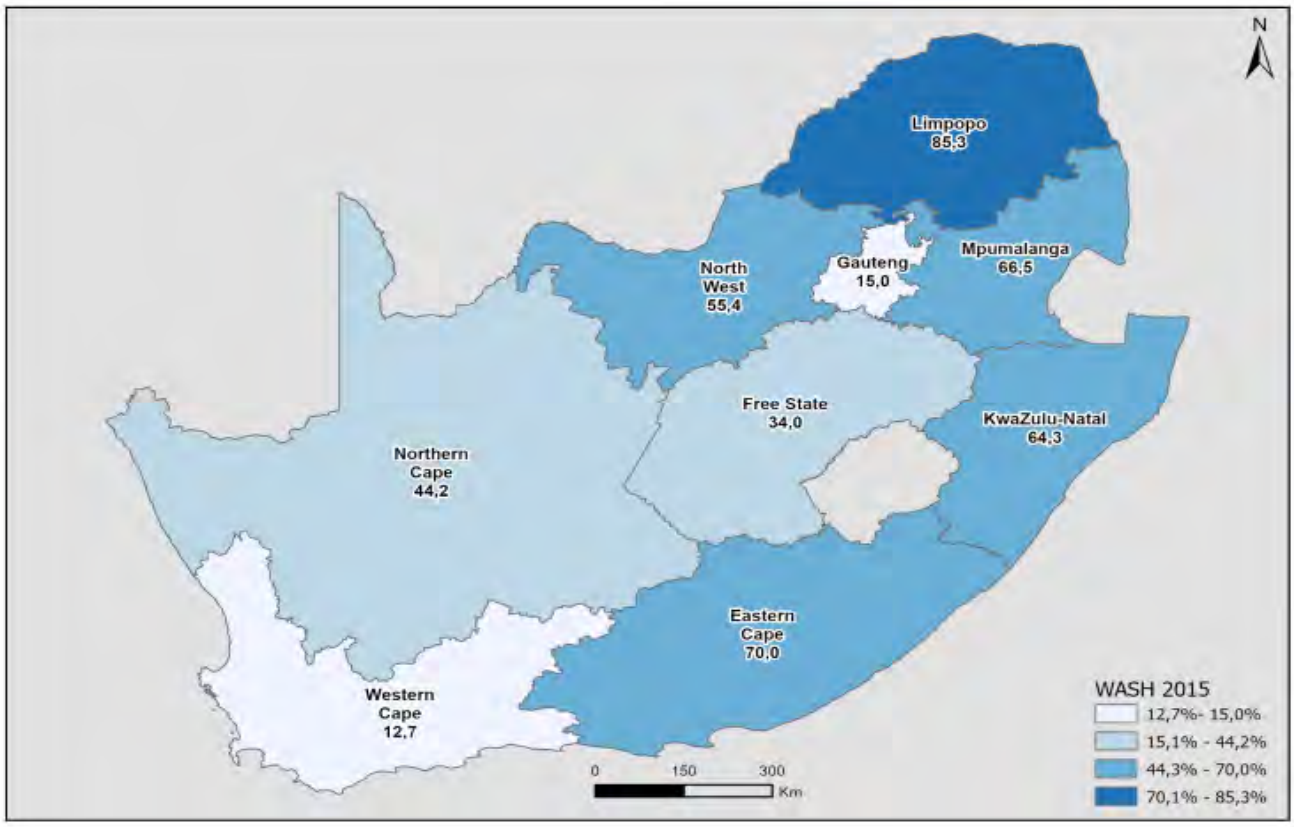


Figure 3.2.11: WASH deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2023

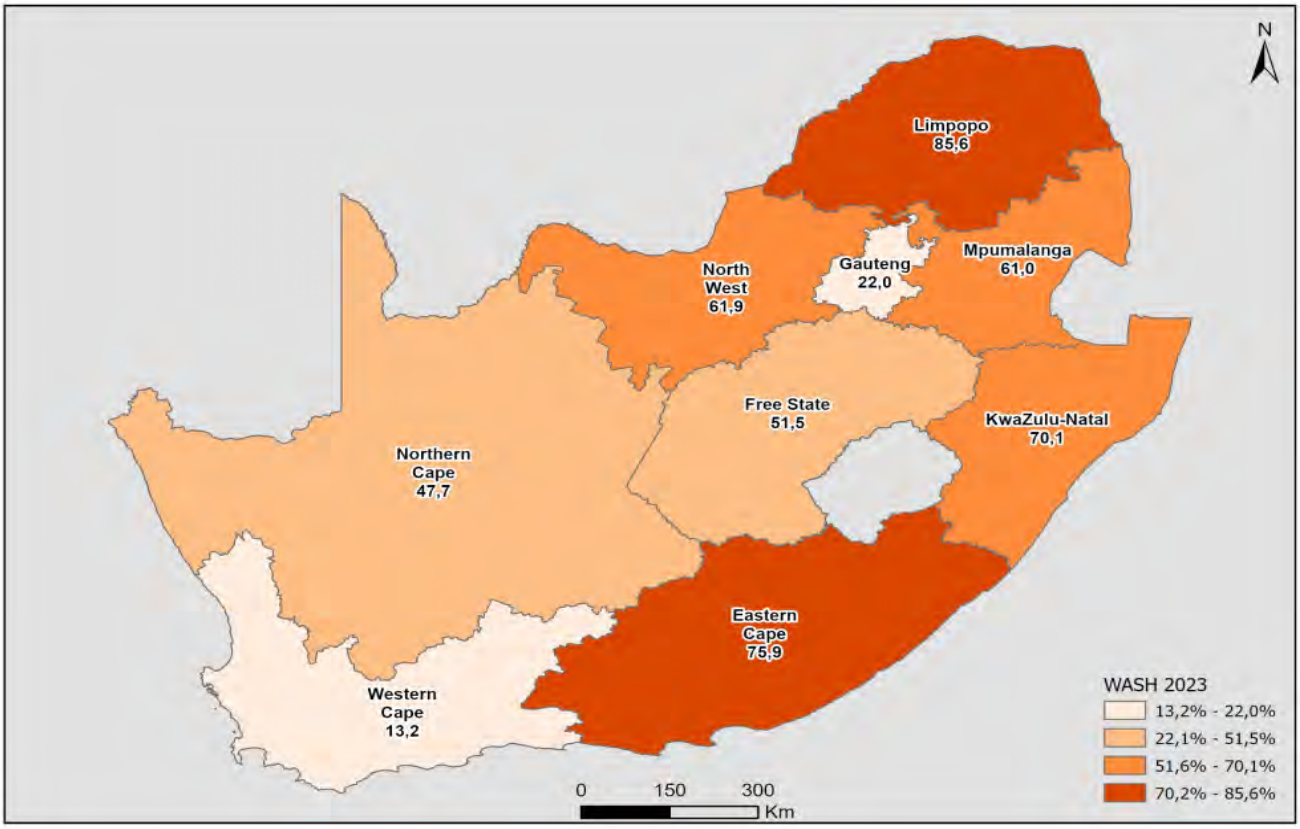


Figure 3.2.12: Housing deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2015

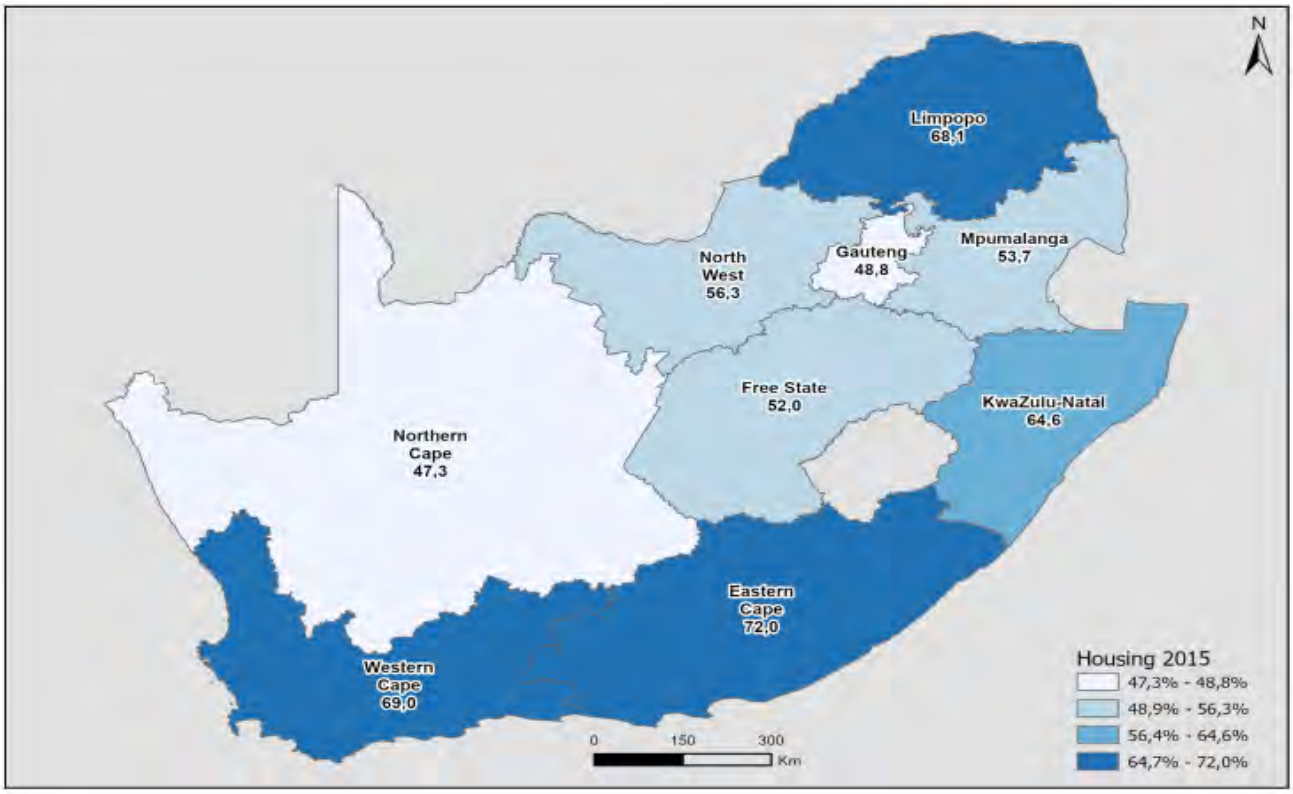


Figure 3.2.13: Housing deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2023

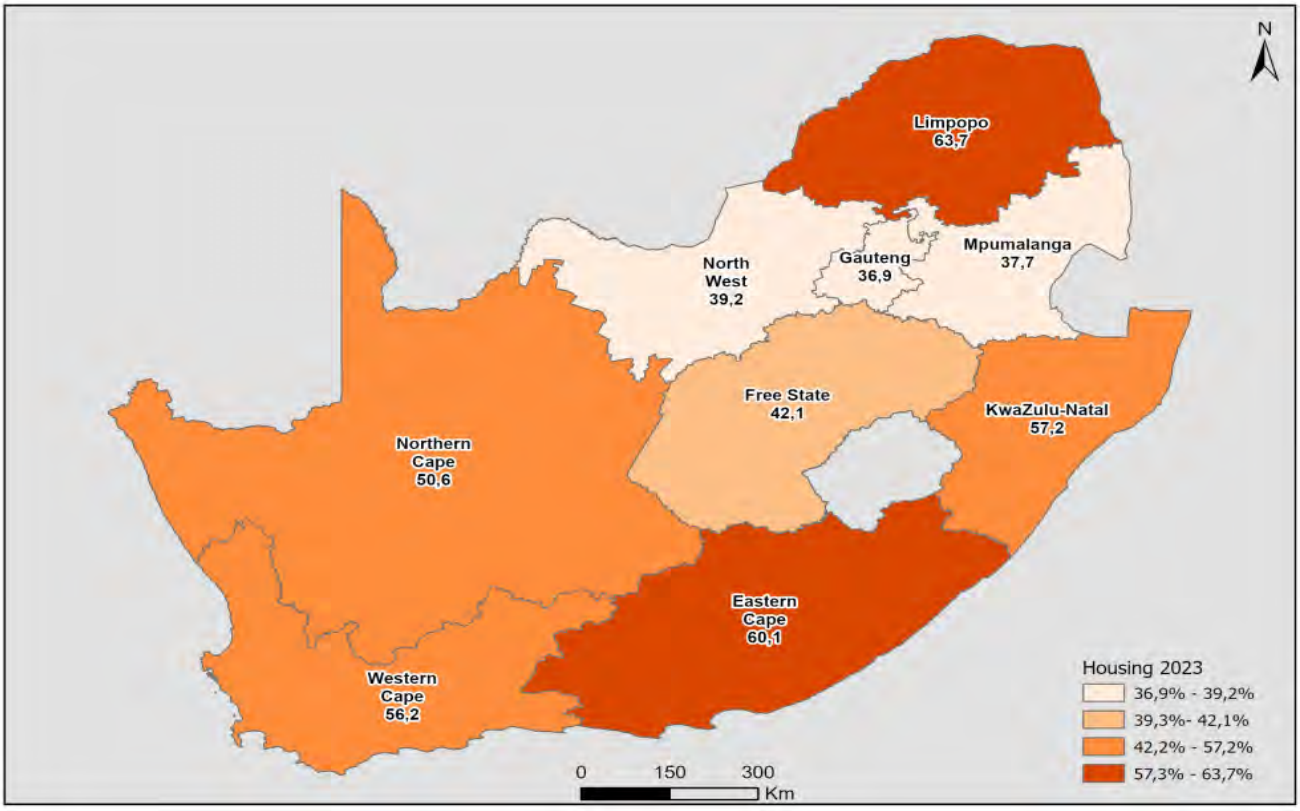


Figure 3.2.14: Protection deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2015

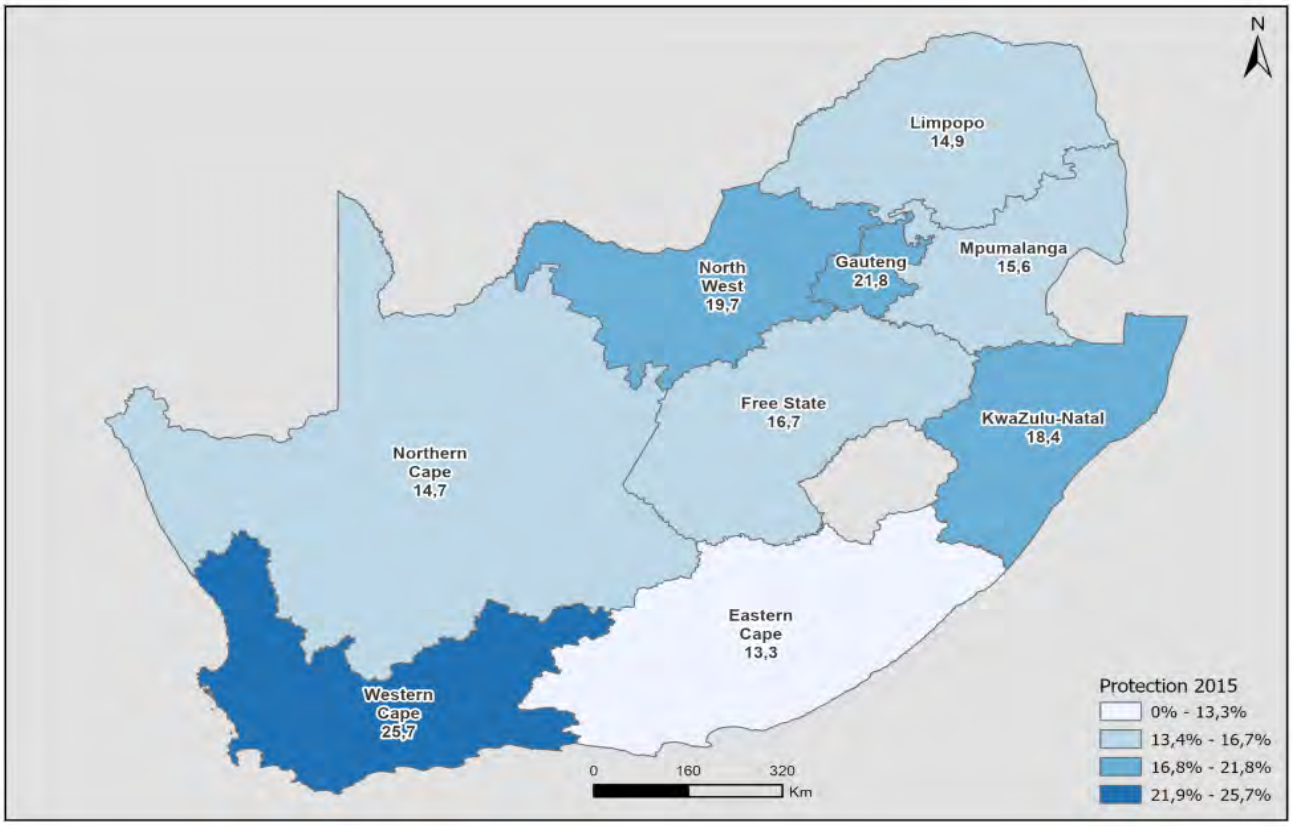
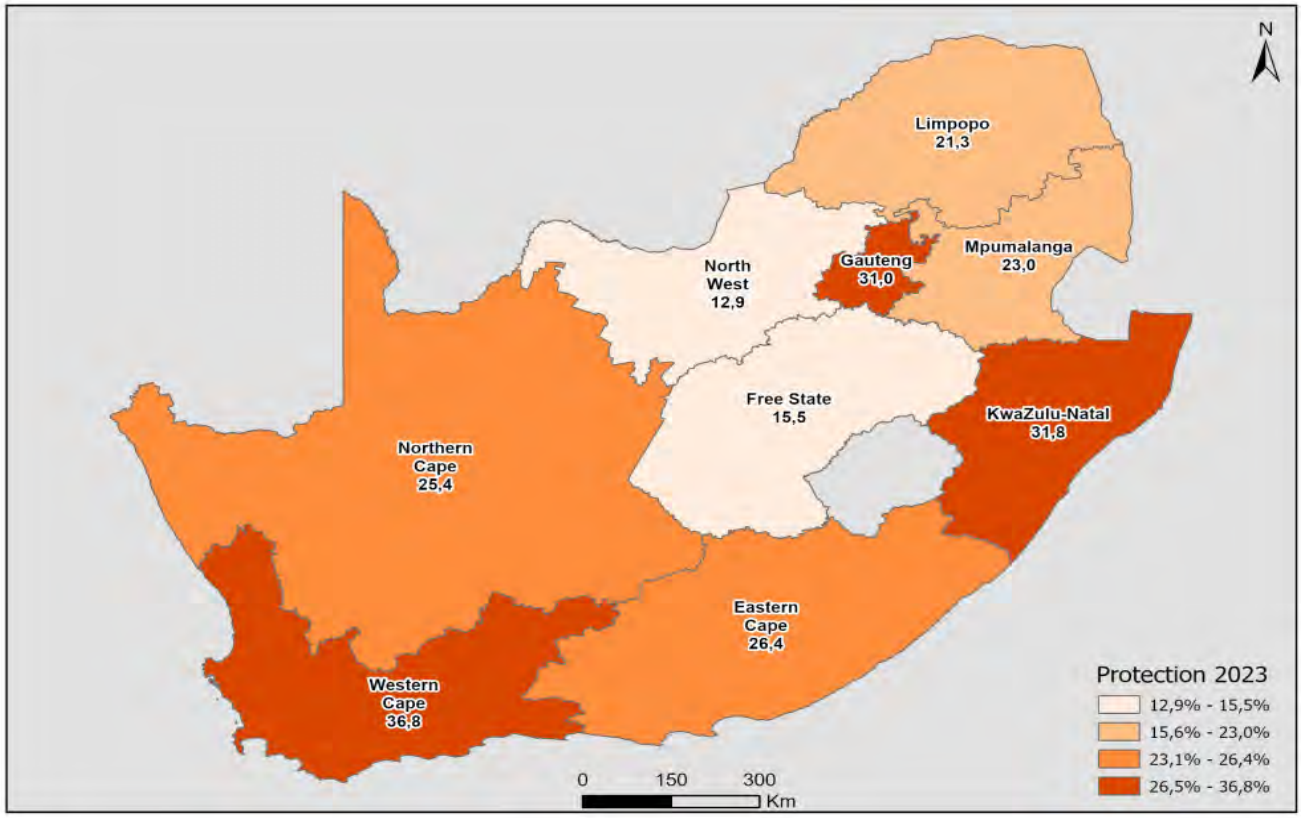


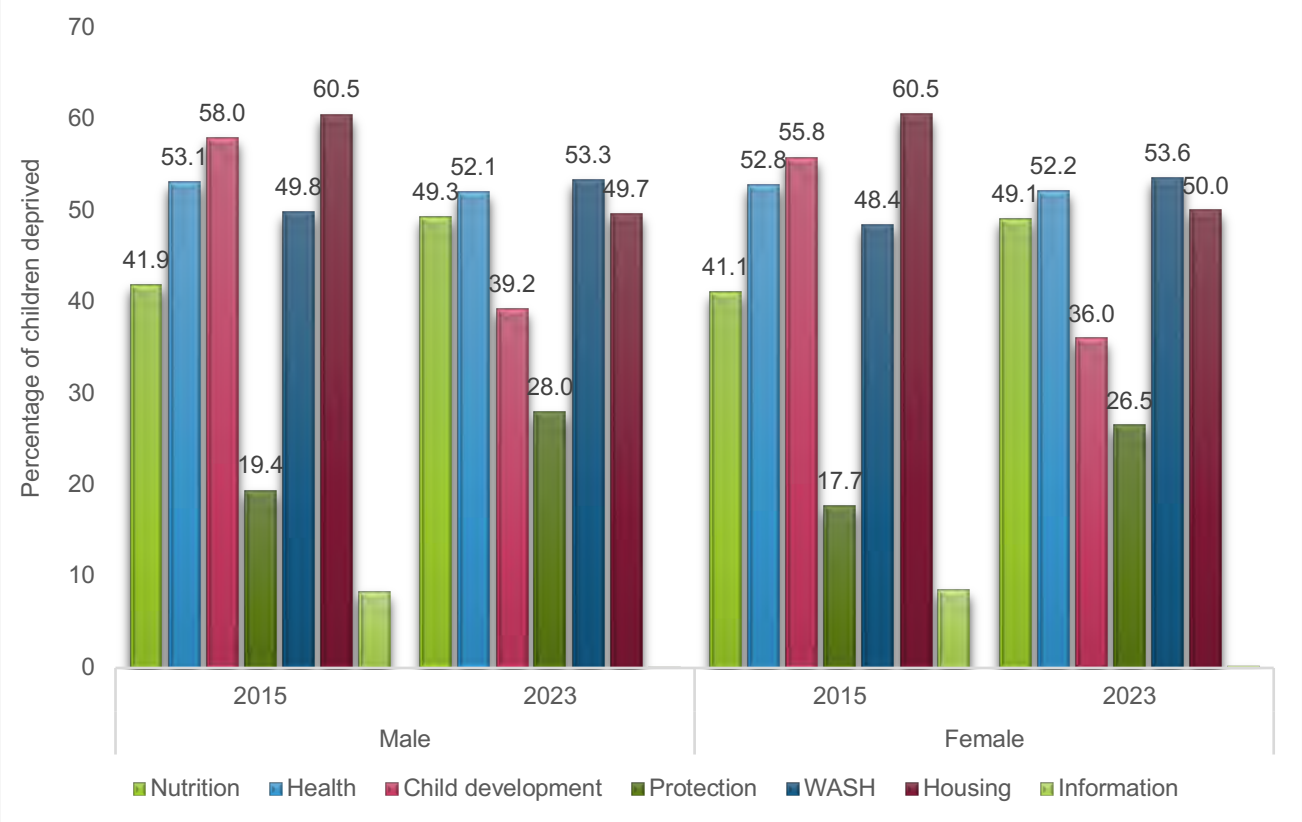
Figure 3.2.15: Protection deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by province, 2023



3.2.1.2: Deprivation rate based on individual characteristics of the child

Figure 3.2.16 illustrates deprivation levels by dimension for children 0–4 years according to the sex of child. The deprivation patterns were largely similar for male and female children in both 2015 and 2023, indicating minimal sex differences in early childhood deprivation. High levels of deprivation were observed in housing, health, WASH, and nutrition across both sexes and years. Housing and health remained the most prevalent areas of deprivation, though slight declines were recorded in 2023. Notably, deprivation in protection noticeably declined over time, particularly among female children. Deprivation in access to information was minimal for both boys and girls, decreasing to less than 1,0% in 2023.

Figure 3.2.16: Deprivation rate for children 0–4 years by sex of child (2015 and 2023)



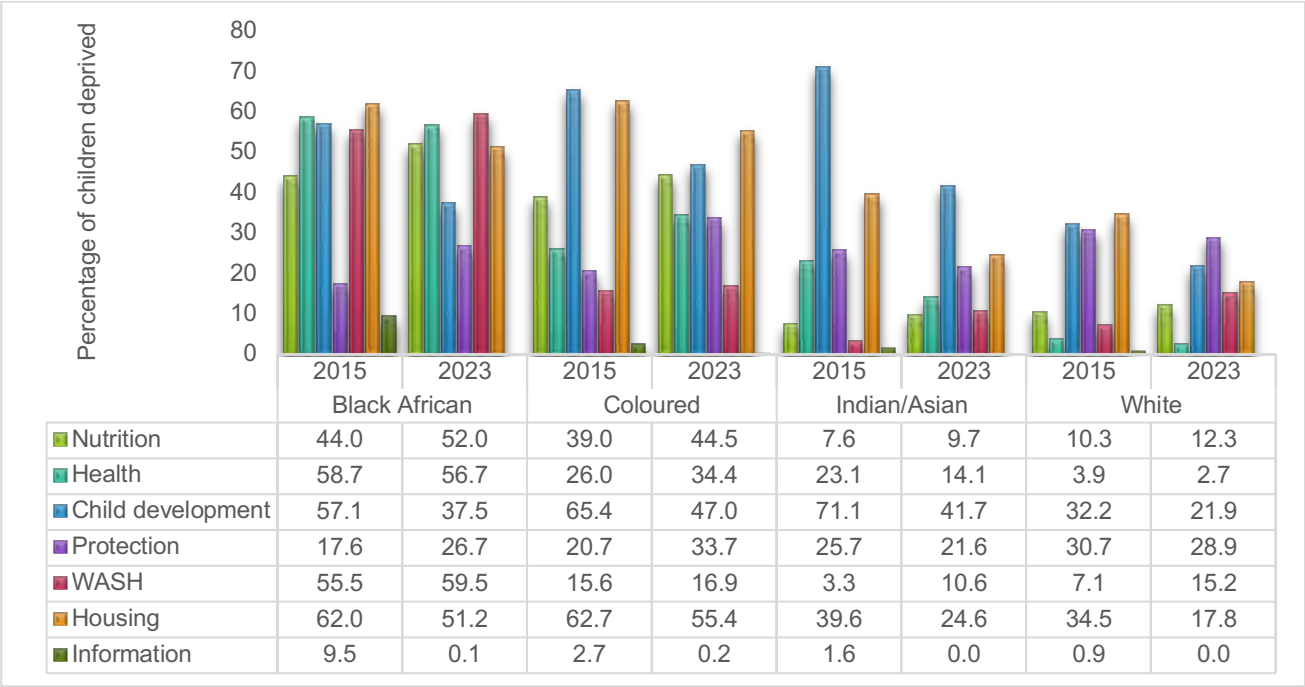
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.17 demonstrates deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by population group between 2015 and 2023. In 2015, black African children experienced deprivation rates above 50% in four dimensions: health, child development, WASH, and housing. Among Coloured children, deprivation exceeded 50% in child development and Housing, while Indian/Asian children recorded deprivation above this threshold only in child development. White children did not exhibit deprivation rates above 50% in any dimension.

By 2023, black African children experienced increased deprivation in nutrition (from 44,0% to 52,0%), protection (from 17,6% to 26,7%) and WASH (from 55,5% to 59,5%). For coloured children, deprivation surged in nutrition (from 39,0% to 44,5%), health (from 26,0% to 34,4%), protection (from 20,7% to 33,7%) and WASH (from 15,6% to 16,9%), whereas Indian/Asian and white children saw increases in deprivation only in nutrition and WASH.

Overall, deprivation in nutrition and WASH increased across all population groups between 2015 and 2023, while deprivation in child development, Housing and Information declined over the same period.

Figure 3.2.17: Percentage distribution of deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by population of child (2015 and 2023)



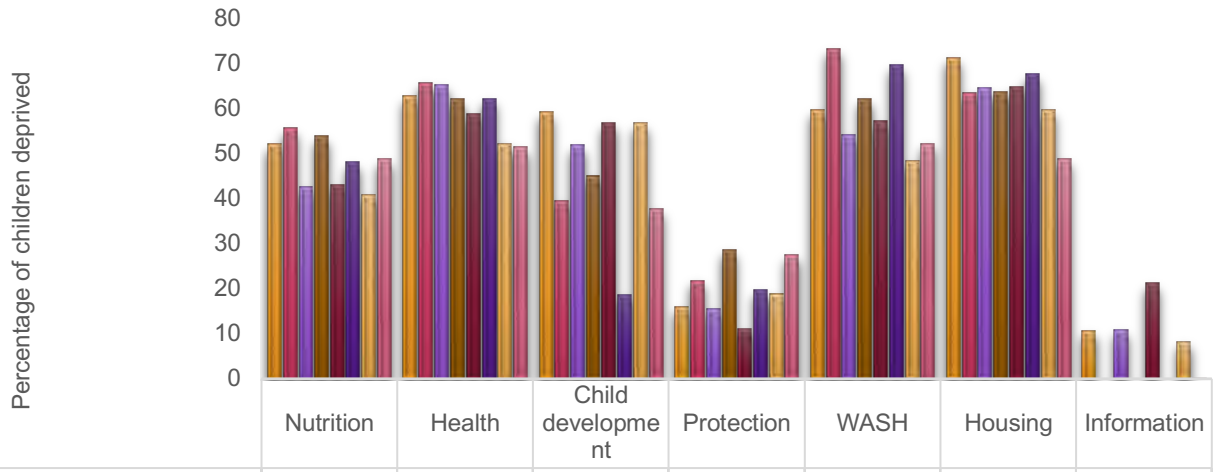
	Black African		Coloured		Indian/Asian		White	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Nutrition	44.0	52.0	39.0	44.5	7.6	9.7	10.3	12.3
Health	58.7	56.7	26.0	34.4	23.1	14.1	3.9	2.7
Child development	57.1	37.5	65.4	47.0	71.1	41.7	32.2	21.9
Protection	17.6	26.7	20.7	33.7	25.7	21.6	30.7	28.9
WASH	55.5	59.5	15.6	16.9	3.3	10.6	7.1	15.2
Housing	62.0	51.2	62.7	55.4	39.6	24.6	34.5	17.8
Information	9.5	0.1	2.7	0.2	1.6	0.0	0.9	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Based on Figure 3.2.18, protection and WASH dimensions showed an increase in deprivation among children across all Orphanhood statuses. Looking at protection, children with only their father alive indicated the highest deprivation rate, rising by 13,2 percentage points (15,4% to 28,6%) from 2015 to 2023. For children with only their mother alive, deprivation in WASH increased notably from 59,8% in 2015 to 73,3% in 2023, a 13,5 percentage points increase. Nutrition deprivation generally increased slightly, with children having only father alive experiencing an increase from 42,6% in 2015 to 53,8% in 2023.

In the housing dimension, double orphans saw a 2,7 percentage point increase in deprivation, while other orphanhood statuses showed declines in deprivation rates. Overall, Orphaned children tend to face higher deprivation in several areas compared to non-orphans, though these patterns vary by dimension and year.

Figure 3.2.18: Deprivation rate for children 0–4 years by Orphanhood status (2015 and 2023)



	Nutrition	Health	Child development	Protection	WASH	Housing	Information
Only mother alive 2015	52.1	62.8	59.2	16.0	59.8	71.3	10.6
Only mother alive 2023	55.7	65.8	39.6	21.9	73.3	63.6	0.0
Only father alive 2015	42.6	65.3	51.8	15.4	54.3	64.5	10.8
Only father alive 2023	53.8	62.1	45.2	28.6	62.3	63.6	0.0
Double orphan 2015	43.1	58.9	56.9	11.2	57.2	64.9	21.2
Double orphan 2023	48.1	62.2	18.6	19.8	69.8	67.6	0.0
Non-orphan 2015	40.8	52.3	56.8	18.8	48.5	59.8	8.2
Non-orphan 2023	48.8	51.4	37.8	27.6	52.3	48.9	0.1

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.2.2 Multiple deprivation Analysis

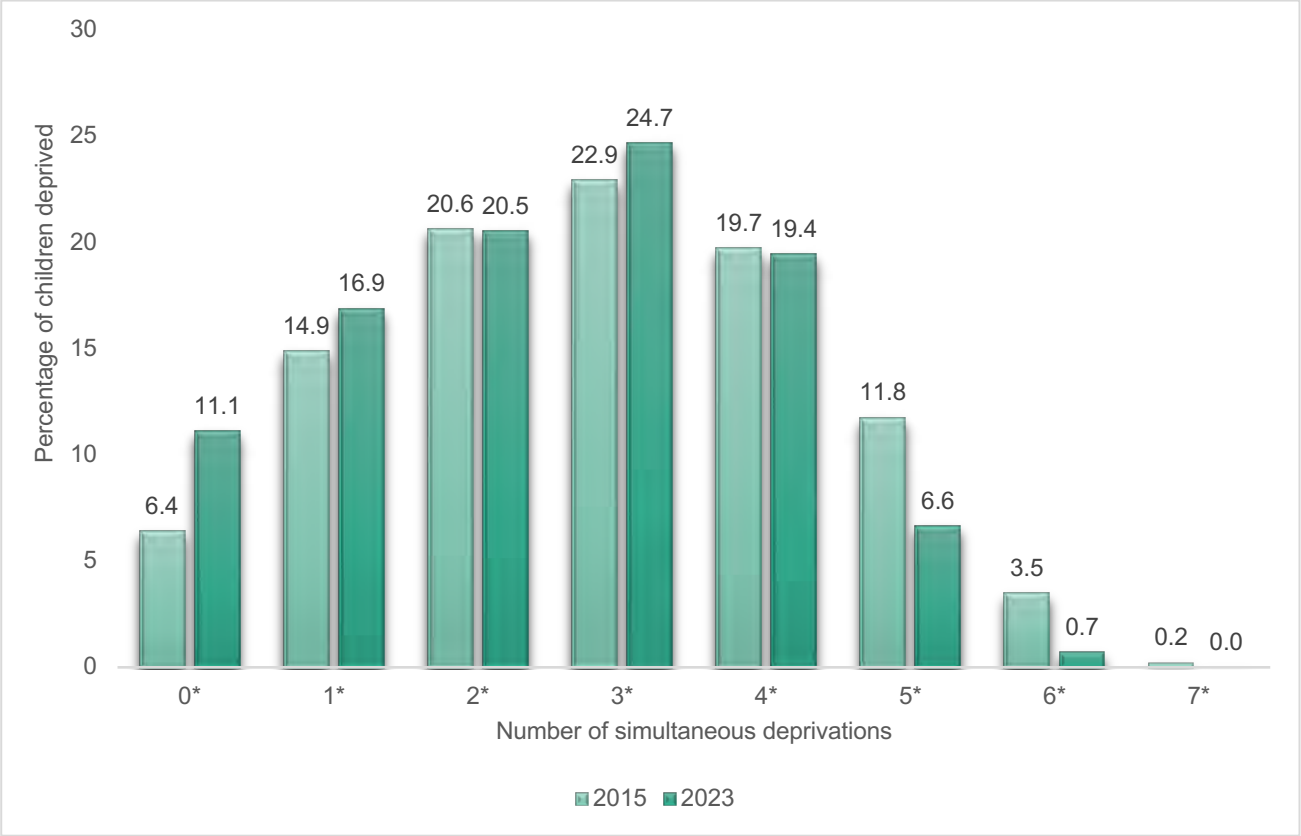
This sub-section of the report focuses on the analysis of multiple deprivations among children below the age of four (0–4 years), assessing the various and simultaneous forms of deprivation faced by South African children at an early age across different dimensions of well-being in 2015 and 2023. The analysis examines how multiple deprivations overlap and interact, thereby providing a more comprehensive understanding of child poverty and helping to identify its extent, intensity, and patterns.

3.2.2.1 Deprivation distribution

Figure 3.2.19 displays the deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years at the national level. The proportion of children experiencing no deprivation increased from 6,4% in 2015 to 11,1% in 2023, indicating that about 5 more out of every 100 children were not deprived in any dimension in 2023 compared to 2015.

The share of children who were deprived in exactly three dimensions rose from 22,9% in 2015 to 24,7% in 2023. At the same time, the proportion of children suffering five simultaneous deprivations decreased by 5,2 percentage points in 2023.

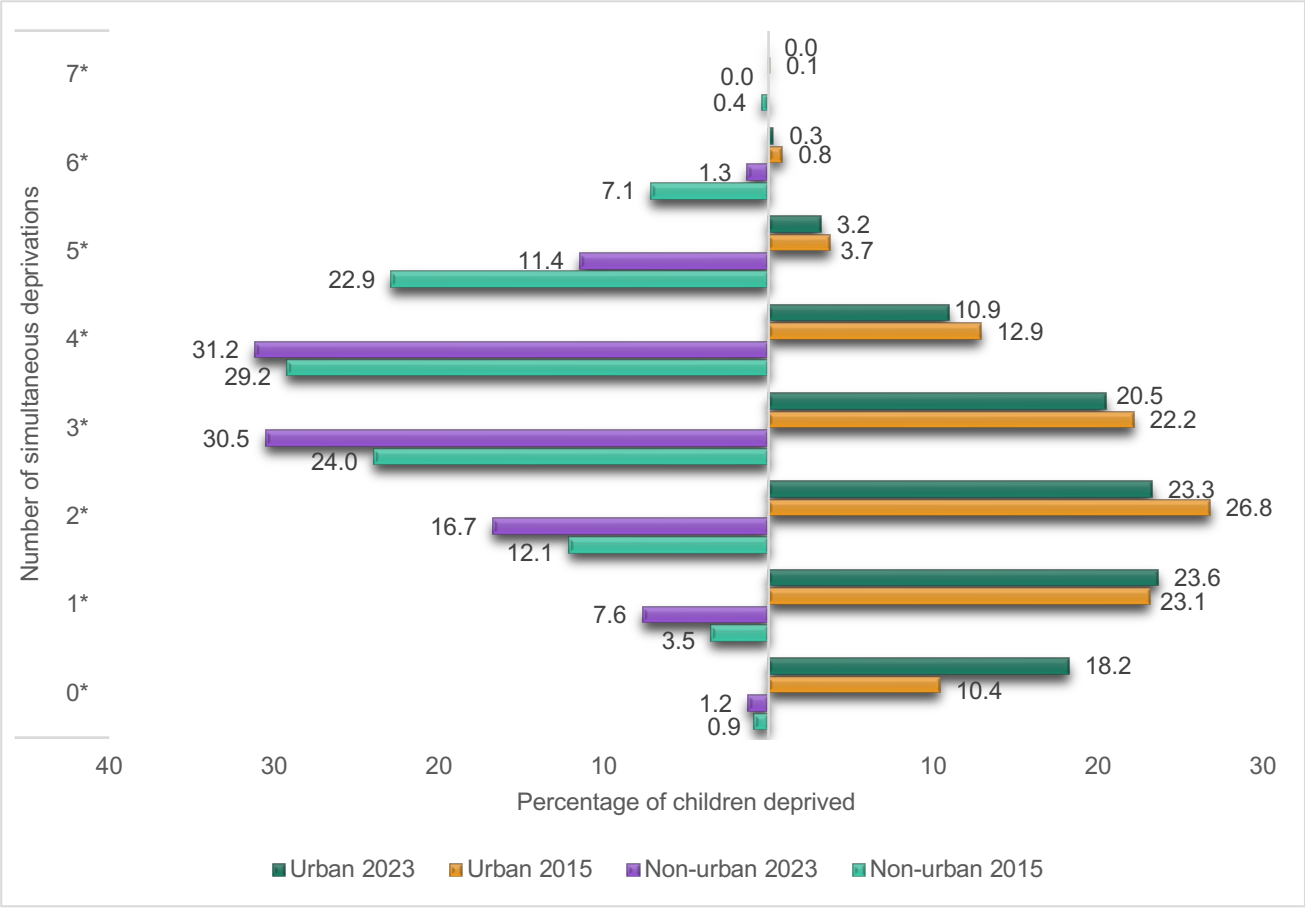
Figure 3.2.19: Deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years at national level (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.20 illustrates the deprivation distribution among children 0–4 years by settlement type between 2015 and 2023. In 2023, the majority of children (61,7%) in non-urban areas experienced high levels of deprivation, being simultaneously deprived in three or four dimensions of well-being, an increase from 53,2% in 2015. In urban areas, almost half (49,9%) of children were deprived in 1 or two dimensions in 2015, with this share declining to 46,9% in 2023. Over the same period, the proportion of non-urban children not deprived in any dimension increased slightly from 0,9% to 1,2%. In contrast, the share of urban children not deprived in any dimension rose substantially from 10,4% to 18,2%, indicating an overall improvement in well-being among children living in urban settlements.

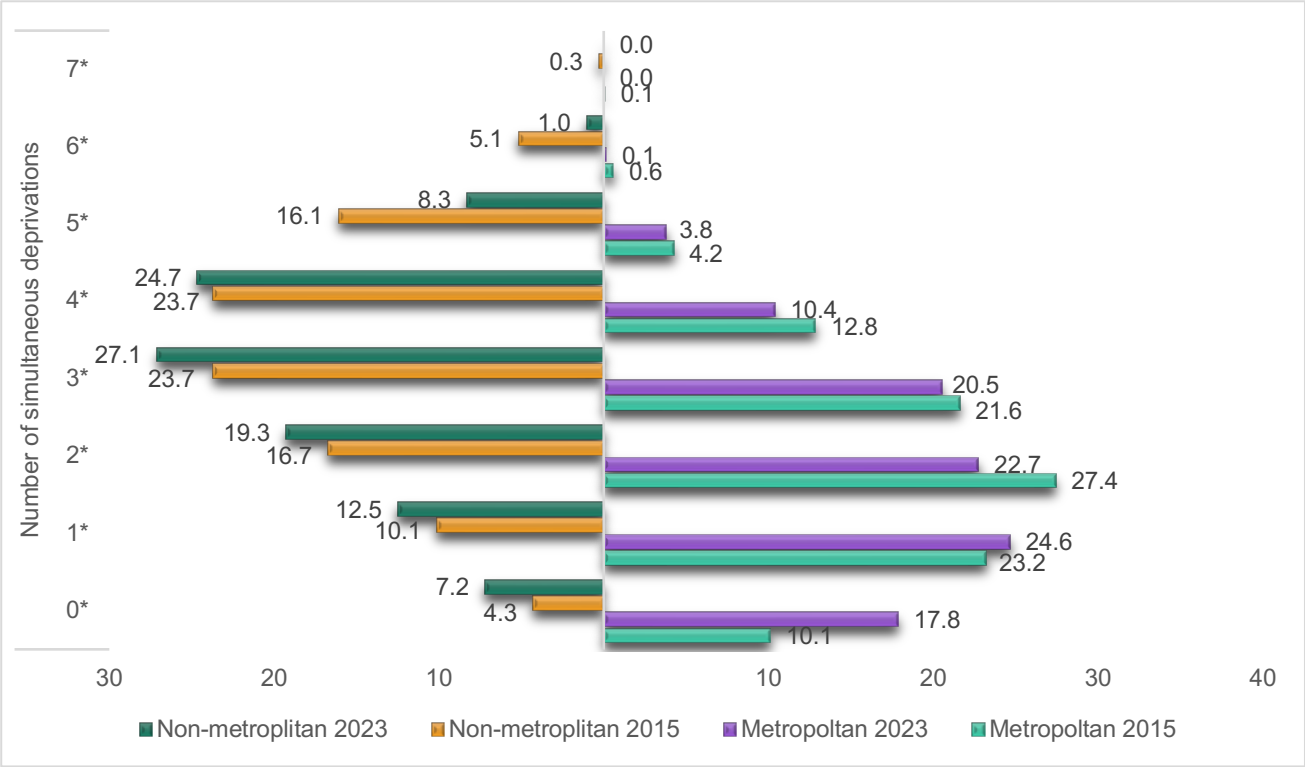
Figure 3.2.20: Deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.21 illustrates the deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years by metropolitan municipality category in 2015 and 2023. In 2015, 47,4% of children in non-metropolitan municipalities were deprived in three or four dimensions simultaneously, increasing to 51,8% in 2023. On the contrary, 50,6% of children in metropolitan municipalities experienced deprivation in one or two dimensions in 2015, with this proportion declining to 47,3% in 2023. Across both metropolitan and non-metropolitan municipalities, less than 1,0% of children were deprived in all seven dimensions of well-being in both years.

Figure 3.2.21: Deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years by metropolitan municipality category (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.2.2.2 Deprivation overlap analysis

Children often face multiple, interconnected deprivations that affect their overall well-being and development. The deprivation overlaps are analysed to identify common overlaps of deprivations, providing a comprehensive understanding of the full scope and complexity of child poverty.

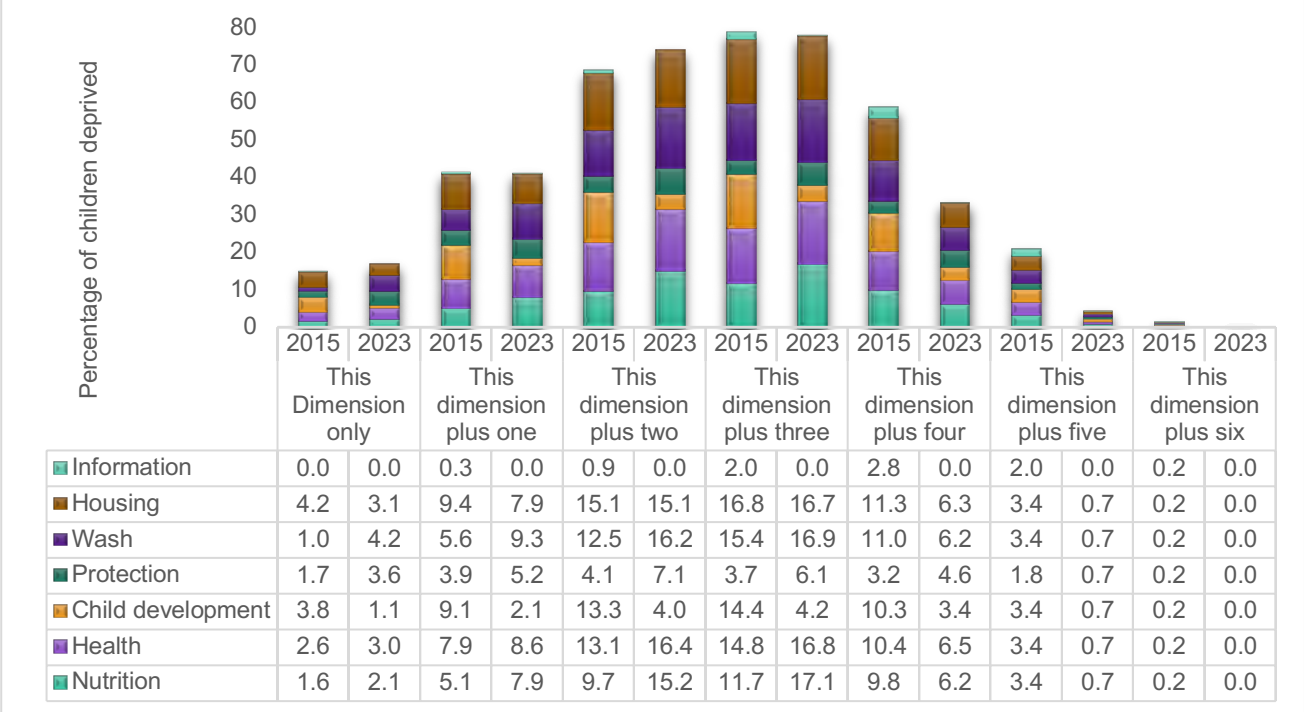
Figure 3.2.22 shows proportion of children 0–4 years deprived in each specific dimension plus additional dimensions in 2015 and 2023. It therefore shows the overlap between a particular dimension and 1-6 additional dimensions. In 2023, less than 1,0% of children were deprived in a particular dimension plus five other dimensions across all dimensions. However, in 2015, 3,4% of children experienced deprivation in a particular dimension plus five others, except in the protection and information dimensions. For deprivation in a dimension plus six other dimensions, fewer than 1,0% of children were affected in both 2015 and 2023.

Focusing on specific dimensions, the percentage of children deprived only in WASH increased from 1,0% in 2015 to 4,2% in 2023. Among children deprived in nutrition in 2023, a large share (17,1%) experienced deprivation in nutrition plus three other dimensions. In 2015, 16,8% of children were deprived in Housing plus three other dimensions.

Among children deprived in child development, just over 1,0% were deprived in this dimension only in 2023, compared to 3,8% in 2015. In both years, 15,1% of children suffered deprivation in housing plus two other dimensions.

Regarding information, no children were deprived exclusively in this dimension in 2023, though 8,2% experienced deprivation in information plus one or more dimensions in 2015. For protection, 3,6% of children were deprived only in this dimension in 2023, while 11,4% were deprived in protection plus three or more other dimensions.

Figure 3.2.22: Proportion of children 0–4 years deprived in each specific dimension and additional dimensions (2015 and 2023)



	2015 This Dimension only	2023 This Dimension only	2015 This dimension plus one	2023 This dimension plus one	2015 This dimension plus two	2023 This dimension plus two	2015 This dimension plus three	2023 This dimension plus three	2015 This dimension plus four	2023 This dimension plus four	2015 This dimension plus five	2023 This dimension plus five	2015 This dimension plus six	2023 This dimension plus six
Information	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.9	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Housing	4.2	3.1	9.4	7.9	15.1	15.1	16.8	16.7	11.3	6.3	3.4	0.7	0.2	0.0
Wash	1.0	4.2	5.6	9.3	12.5	16.2	15.4	16.9	11.0	6.2	3.4	0.7	0.2	0.0
Protection	1.7	3.6	3.9	5.2	4.1	7.1	3.7	6.1	3.2	4.6	1.8	0.7	0.2	0.0
Child development	3.8	1.1	9.1	2.1	13.3	4.0	14.4	4.2	10.3	3.4	3.4	0.7	0.2	0.0
Health	2.6	3.0	7.9	8.6	13.1	16.4	14.8	16.8	10.4	6.5	3.4	0.7	0.2	0.0
Nutrition	1.6	2.1	5.1	7.9	9.7	15.2	11.7	17.1	9.8	6.2	3.4	0.7	0.2	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figures 3.2.23 presents the three-way overlap of deprivations in health, WASH and nutrition among children 0–4 years in 2023 and 2015. The figure highlights the extent to which deprivations in these dimensions occur simultaneously rather than in isolation. In 2023, just over one-fifth (21,1%) of children 0–4 years were not deprived in any of the three dimensions, indicating that the majority experienced at least one form of deprivation. A larger share of children (22,5%) faced simultaneous deprivation in all three dimensions.

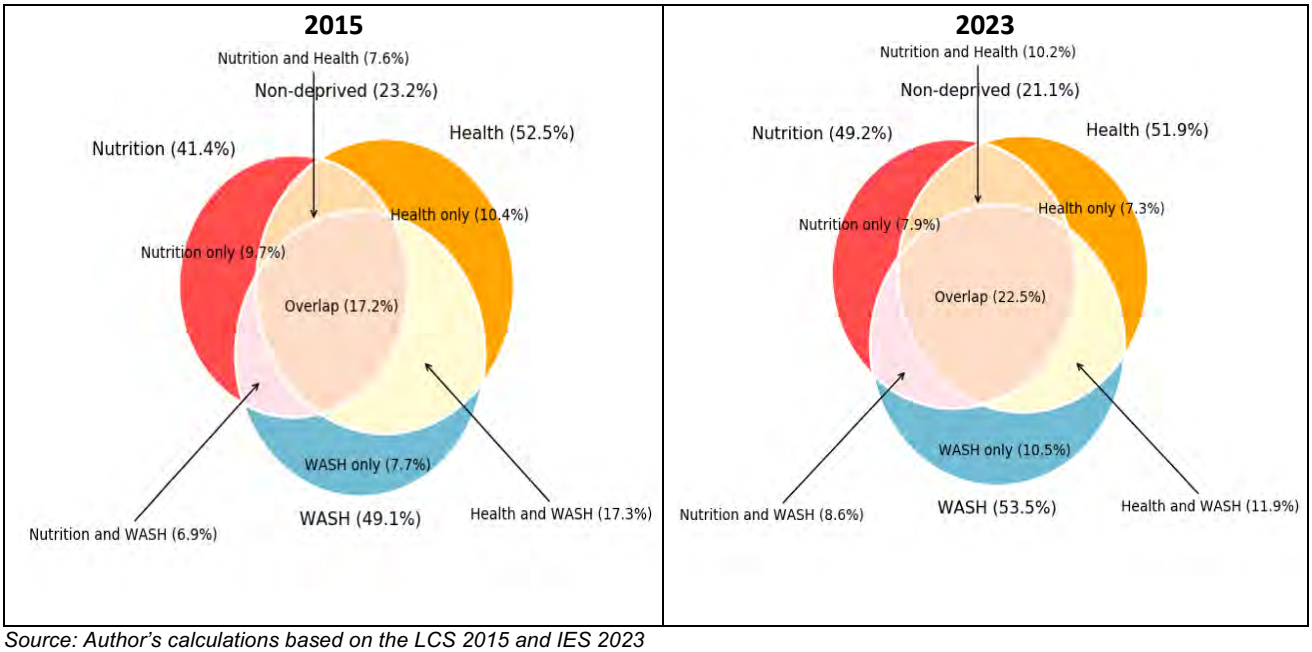
Nutrition deprivation affected 49,2% of children in this age group. However, only 7,9% of children were deprived in nutrition only, while the majority experienced nutrition deprivation alongside health and/or WASH deprivations. In particular, 32,7% of children experienced overlapping deprivation in nutrition and health, including those who were also deprived in WASH. More than 10,0% of children were deprived in nutrition and health only, highlighting stronger interlinkages between these dimensions.

Health deprivation also exhibited noticeable overlap. While 7,3% of children were deprived in health only, 34,4% experienced deprivation in both health and WASH, including those simultaneously deprived in nutrition. This group comprised 11,9% of children deprived in health and WASH only, and an additional 22,5% deprived in all three dimensions. These patterns confirm that health deprivation among young children is closely embedded within broader environmental and nutritional disadvantages.

In 2015, a similar but less intense pattern of overlap is observed. Approximately 23,2% of children were not deprived in any of the three dimensions. Deprivation in all three dimensions affected 17,2% of children, which, although substantial, was notably lower than in 2023. Single-dimension deprivation was more prevalent in 2015, with 7,7% of children deprived in WASH only and 6,9% deprived in nutrition and WASH only. Overlapping deprivation between nutrition and WASH affected 24,1% of children in 2015 when including those also deprived in health, consisting of 6,9% deprived in nutrition and WASH only and a further 17,2% deprived in all three dimensions.

Comparing the two years, the proportion of children not deprived in any of the three dimensions declined from 23,2% in 2015 to 21,1% in 2023. At the same time, the share of children experiencing simultaneous deprivation in health, WASH and nutrition increased from 17,2% to 22,5%, reflecting a 5,3 percentage-point increase. This shift indicates a growing concentration and deepening of deprivation among young children.

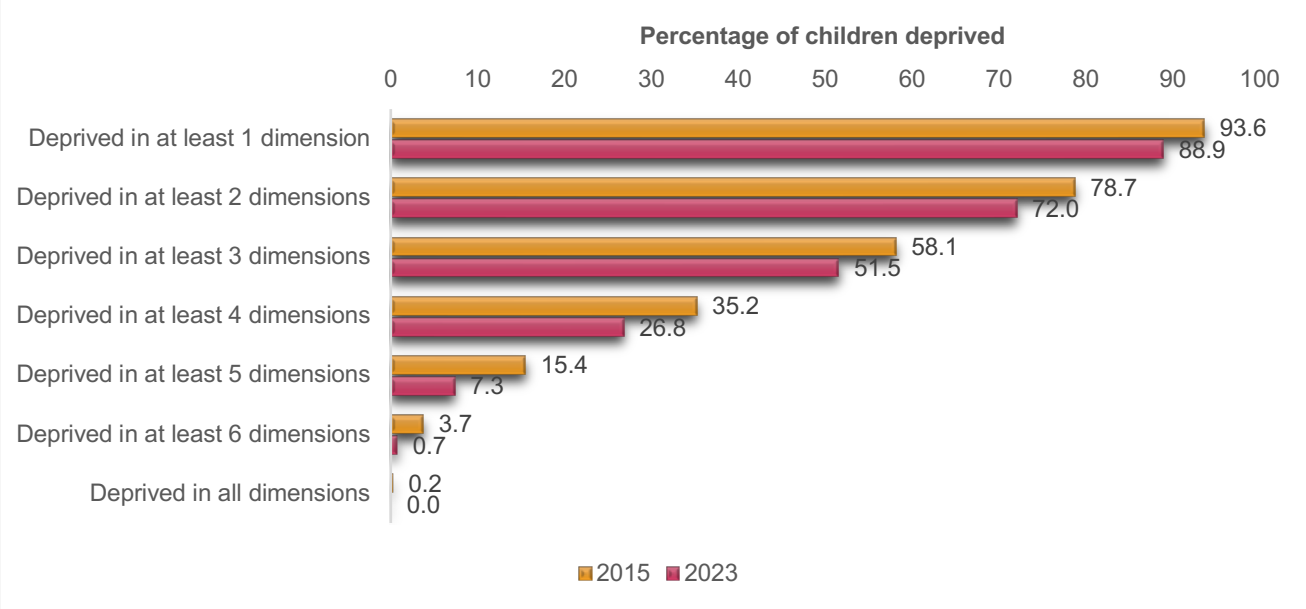
Figure 3.2.23: Three-way overlap between the dimensions Health, WASH and Nutrition for children 0–4 years (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.24 illustrates a decline in deprivation headcount across all thresholds between 2015 and 2023, signalling an overall improvement in child well-being at national level. The proportion of children deprived in at least one dimension dropped from 93,6% to 88,9%. The share of children deprived in at least three dimensions decreased from 58,1% to 51,5%, while the proportion of children deprived in at least five dimensions fell significantly from 15,4% to 7,3%. Notably, the percentage of children deprived in all dimensions declined from 0,2% to 0,0%, indicating that severe deprivation among children 0–4 was being effectively reduced or eliminated.

Figure 3.2.24: Multidimensional headcount (H%) for children 0–4 years at national level (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.2.1: Multidimensional deprivation indices for children 0–4 years at national level and by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Deprivation headcount (%)		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	39,7	34,9	51,2	50,3	3,6	3,5	0,203	0,175
Non-urban	83,6	74,4	59,6	54,0	4,2	3,8	0,498	0,402
National	**58,1**	**51,5**	**56,3**	**52,5**	**3,9**	**3,7**	**0,327**	**0,270**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

As shown in Table 3.2.1 above, the proportion of young children who were multidimensionally deprived declined between 2015 and 2023 in both urban and non-urban settlements. However, in 2023, a substantially higher percentage of children living in non-urban areas (74,4%) were multidimensionally poor compared to those in urban areas (34,9%). Despite this progress, levels of deprivation in non-

urban areas remained more than twice as high as those observed in urban areas. The average intensity of deprivation also declined slightly over the period, with urban children experiencing a decrease from 3,6% in 2015 to 3,5% in 2023, while non-urban children saw a reduction from 4,2% to 3,8%.

Figure 3.2.25 displays the deprivation headcounts for children 0-4 years by child and household characteristics in 2015 and 2023.

Child characteristics

Deprivation by sex of the child showed insignificant differences, with poverty headcount declining for both boy and girl children. Orphanhood status also presents challenges, suggesting that children with only their father alive experienced a slight increase in deprivation, with multidimensional poverty rising from 62,3% in 2015 to 66,0% in 2023.

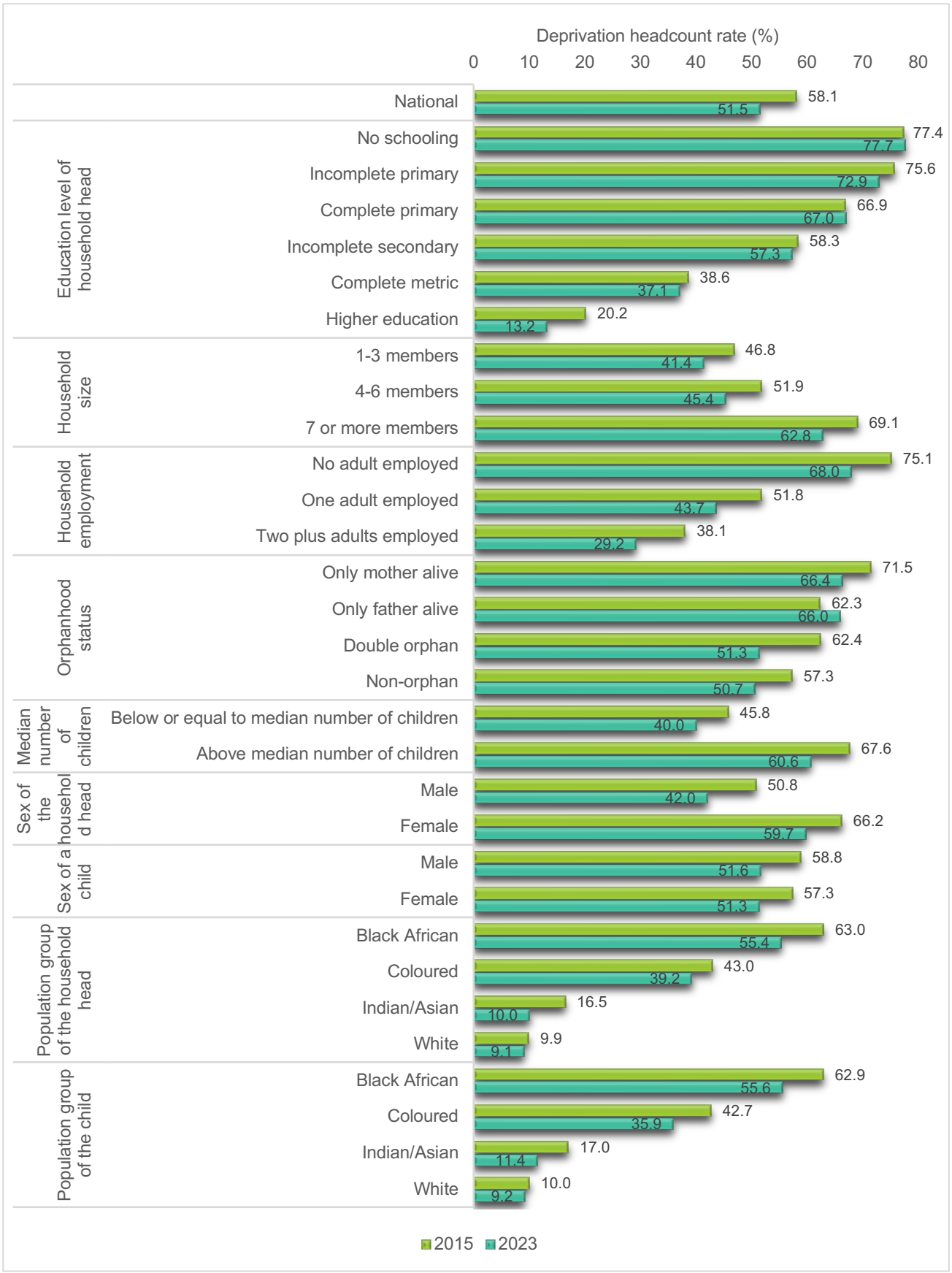
Household characteristics

The figure shows that poverty sharply reduced with the increase in education level of the household head. Children in household heads with no education remained the most deprived. Conversely, the largest improvement was seen in households headed by individuals with higher education levels, where poverty dropped from 20,2% in 2015 to 13,2% in 2023.

Children in larger households continued to face higher levels of multidimensional deprivation (exceeding 60%), even though poverty declined across all household sizes from 2015 to 2023. Similarly, despite improvements in household employment status, children in households with no adult employed remained highly deprived (75,1% in 2023). In terms of the number of children in the household, higher levels of multidimensional poverty were observed in households with a higher number of children.

Also, children in female-headed households were substantially more likely to be poor than children in male-headed households (59,7% vs 42,0% in 2023), although the poverty rates decreased for both female and male-headed households compared to 2015. While progress was made across all population groups of household heads, significant racial disparities in poverty persist.

Figure 3.2.25: Multidimensional headcount (k=3) for children 0–4 years by child's and household's characteristics (2015 and 2023)



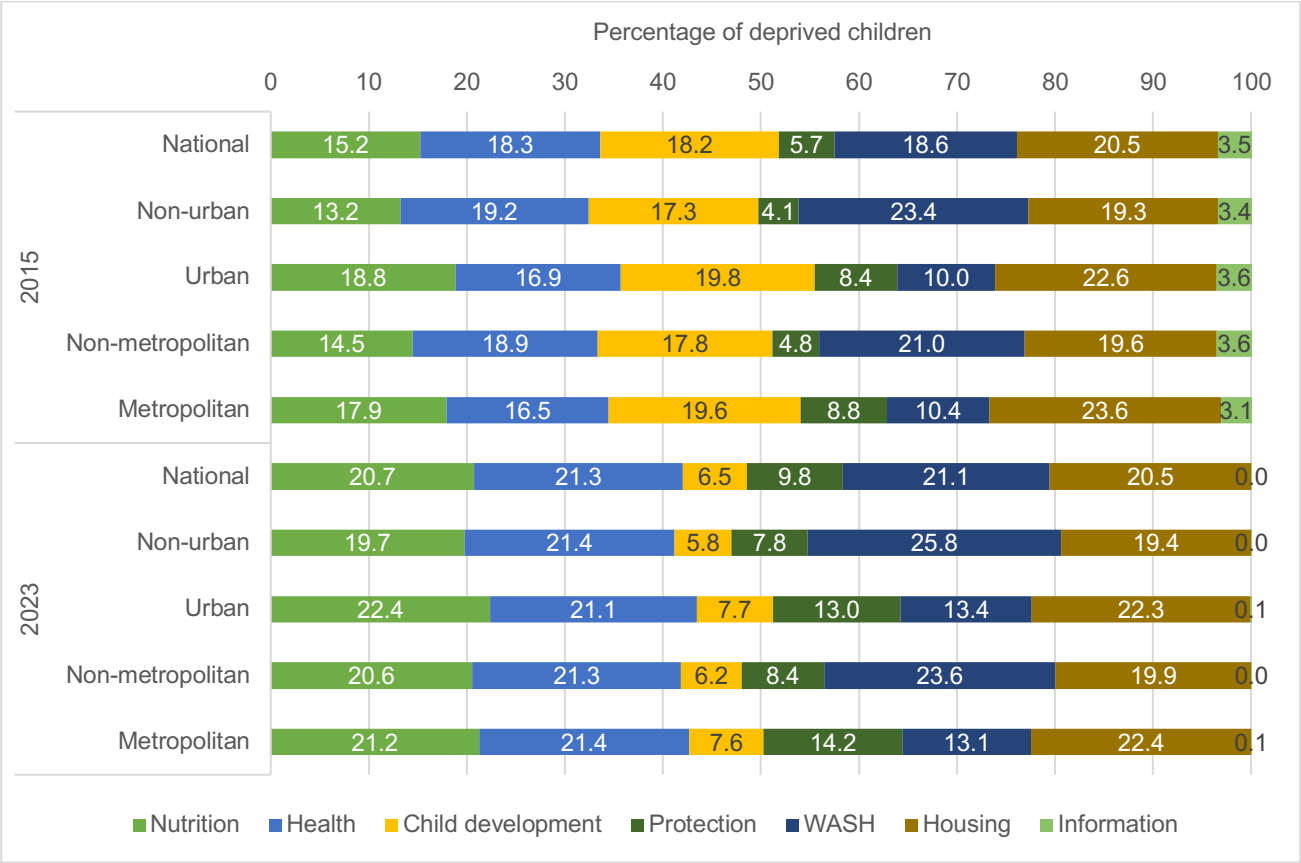
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.2.26 illustrates the contribution of various dimensions to the adjusted child deprivation index (M_0) for children 0–4 years by settlement type and metropolitan municipality category in 2015 and 2023. At national level, housing (20.5%) and WASH (18.6%) were the largest contributors to child deprivation in 2015, while in 2023 health (21.3%) and WASH (21.1%) contributed the most.

Across settlement types, WASH (23,4%) and housing (19,3%) were the main contributors to child deprivation in non-urban settlements in 2015. By 2023, the contribution of WASH rose to 25,8%, while Health emerged as the second largest contributor (21,4%). In urban settlements, housing (22,6%) and child development (19,8%) were the largest contributing dimensions in 2015, shifting to nutrition and housing in 2023 at 22,4% and 22,3%, respectively.

When examining the metropolitan municipality categories, WASH (21,0%) and housing (19,6%) dominated in non-metropolitan municipalities in 2015, with WASH (23,6%) and health (21,3%) taking precedence in 2023. In metropolitan municipalities, housing (23,6%) and child development (19,6%) were the largest contributors to child deprivation in 2015, while in 2023 housing (22,4%) and health (21,4%) contributed most to deprivation among young children. This reflects shifts in the key drivers of child deprivation across different areas over time.

Figure 3.2.26: Decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rate (k=3) for children 0–4 years by settlement type and metropolitan category (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

CHAPTER 3.3

Children 5 to 12 years

3.3 Deprivation among children 5–12 years (primary school-aged children)

Box 3: Key findings observed for multidimensional poverty for children 5–12 years.

Key findings

Multidimensional poverty among children 5–12 years.

- ✓ Multidimensional poverty for children 5–12 years declined slightly from 62,5% in 2015 to 59,3% in 2023.
- ✓ Children 5–12 years recorded a deprivation decline in education, housing, health, and information dimensions of well-being in 2023, with the largest improvement observed in housing.
- ✓ Protection and nutrition deprivation increased over time for children this age, from 19,6% to 26,3% and from 40,8% to 46,4%, respectively.
- ✓ In both 2015 and 2023, less than 1% of non-urban children were free from deprivation, compared to 9–13% in urban areas. Non-urban children were over four times more likely to face multiple deprivations.
- ✓ Children in non-metropolitan municipalities experienced higher and more intense deprivation than those in metropolitan areas in both years.
- ✓ Highest deprivation levels were observed among double orphans, children with only a mother alive, children in female-headed households, and those in larger households in both years.

This section examines deprivation among primary school-aged children (5–12 years) for the years 2015 and 2023. It analyses deprivation rates by dimension and indicator and looks at the differences based on certain household and individual characteristics. Additionally, the section explores to what extent deprivations are experienced simultaneously through the distribution of deprivations, overlaps, and deprivation indices.

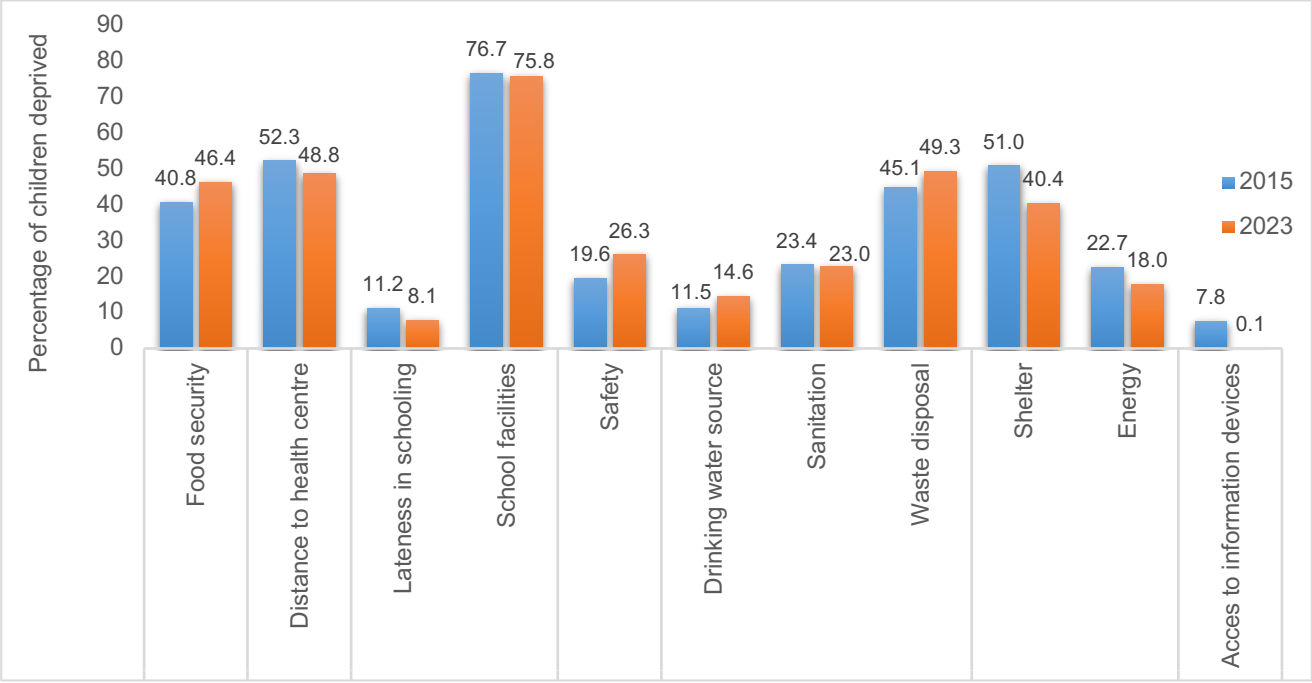
3.3.1 Single deprivation analysis

Figure 3.3.1 displays deprivation headcount rates for children 5–12 years by indicator at the national level. In both 2015 and 2023, the school facilities indicator recorded the highest level of deprivation among children in this age group.

More than 75 out of every 100 children attended a school with no facilities or services available in both years. Deprivation in terms of lateness in schooling stood much lower, with less than 12 out of every 100 children deprived.

Looking at the housing dimension, both indicators showed a decline in deprivation between 2015 and 2023. Deprivation related to shelter decreased from 51,4% in 2015 to 40,4% in 2023, while deprivation related to energy declined from 22,7% to 18.0% over the same period. These trends suggest an overall improvement in housing conditions for children this age. In contrast, within the WASH dimension, deprivation related to waste disposal and drinking water source increased between 2015 and 2023, while deprivation in sanitation showed a slight decline in the proportion of deprived children.

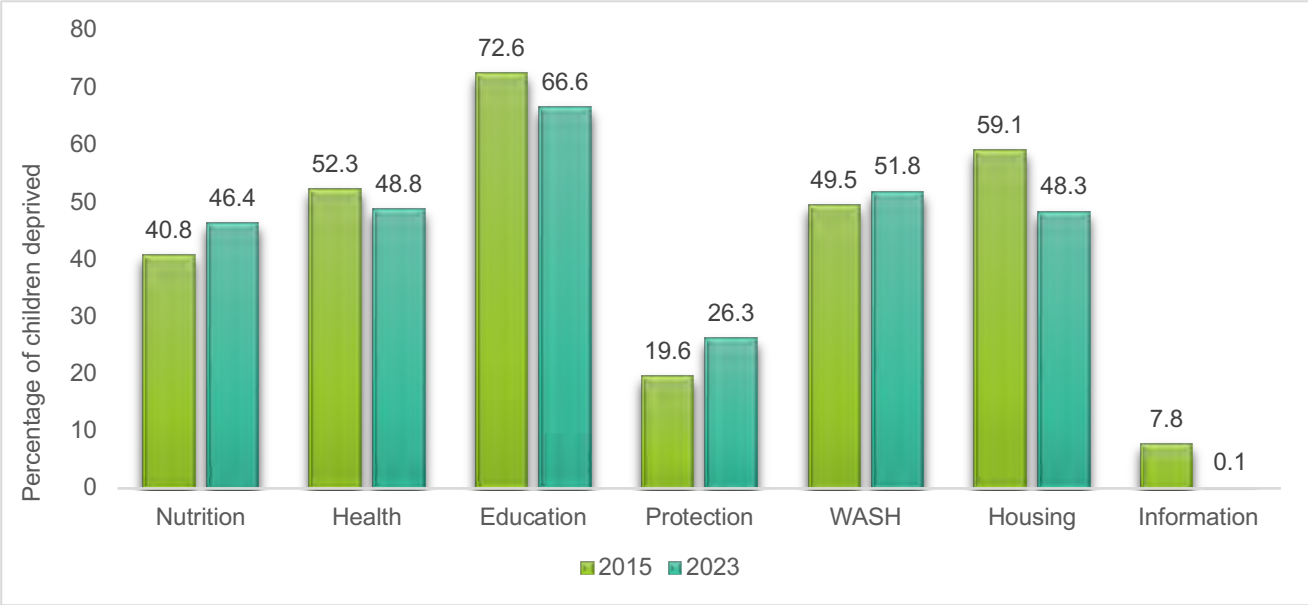
Figure 3.3.1: Deprivation headcount rates for children 5–12 years by indicator and dimension (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.3.2 presents deprivation headcount rates by dimension for children 5–12 years in 2015 and 2023. Between the years, deprivation decreased in several dimensions, including education (from 72,6% to 66,6%), housing (from 59,1% to 48,3%), health (from 52,3% to 48,8%), and information (from 7,8% to 0,1%). On average, this represents a decline of about 7 children out of every 100. The smallest reduction was observed in health, with fewer than 4 children per 100 less deprived, while housing showed the greatest improvement, reducing deprivation by approximately 11 children per 100. In contrast, deprivation increased in the protection and nutrition dimensions, by 6.7 and 5.6 percentage points, respectively, indicating persistent challenges in these areas of child well-being.

Figure 3.3.2: Deprivation headcount rates for children 5–12 years by dimension (2015 and 2023)



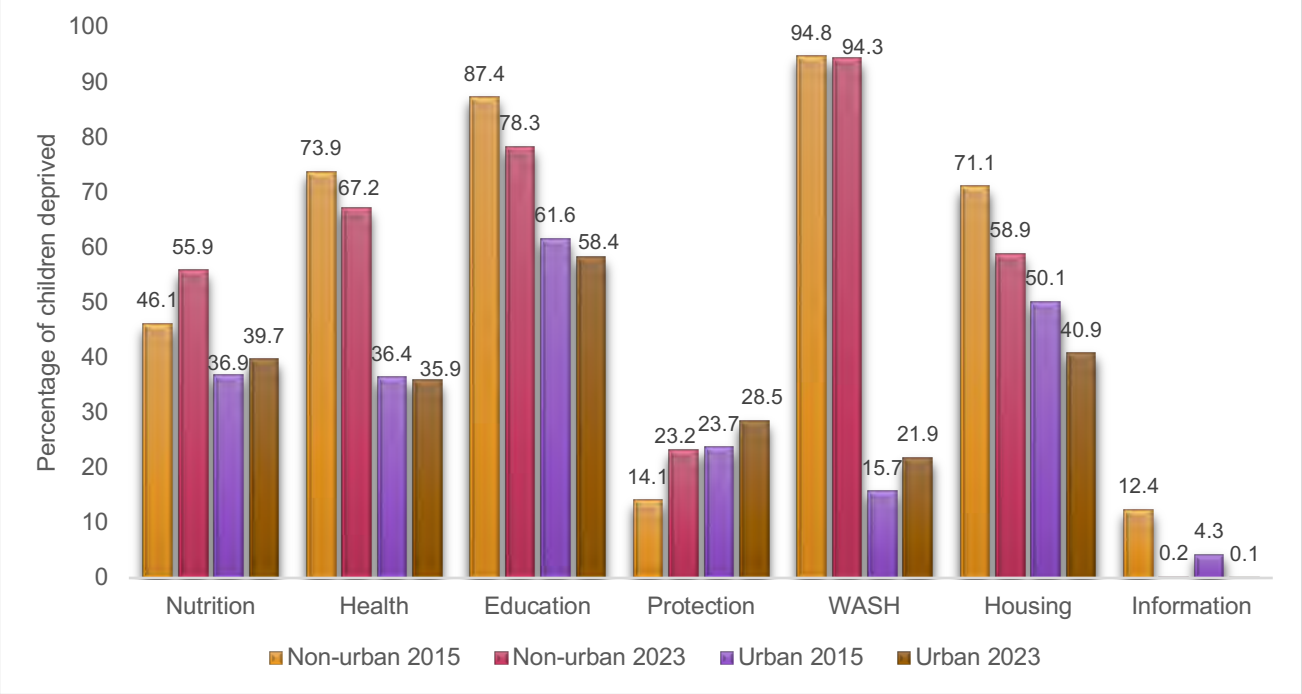
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.3.3 depicts the deprivation headcount rates for children 5–12 years by dimension and settlement type in 2015 and 2023. In both years, children living in non-urban areas experienced higher levels of deprivation across most dimensions. Deprivation remained particularly high in WASH (94,8% vs 94,3%), education (87,4% vs 78,3%), health (73,9% vs 67,2%), and housing (71,1% vs 58,9%). While three of these dimensions recorded notable declines over time, WASH showed only a slight reduction. In contrast, nutrition and protection deprivation increased in non-urban areas by 9,8 and 9,2 percentage points, respectively.

Among urban children, deprivation declined in education (61,6% to 58,4%) and housing (50,1% to 40,9%) between 2015 and 2023, reflecting improvements with about 3 out of every 100 children deprived in education and 9 out of every 100 children deprived in housing. However, deprivation increased in nutrition, protection, and WASH, with approximately 5 out of every 100 children experiencing deprivation in these areas in 2023.

Overall, children in non-urban areas consistently experienced higher deprivation across all dimensions, except for protection, compared to their urban counterparts, indicating that urban children were less likely to face deprivation in most dimensions of well-being during both years.

Figure 3.3.3: Deprivation headcount rates for children 5–12 years by dimension and settlement type (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.3.4: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Nutrition by province, 2015

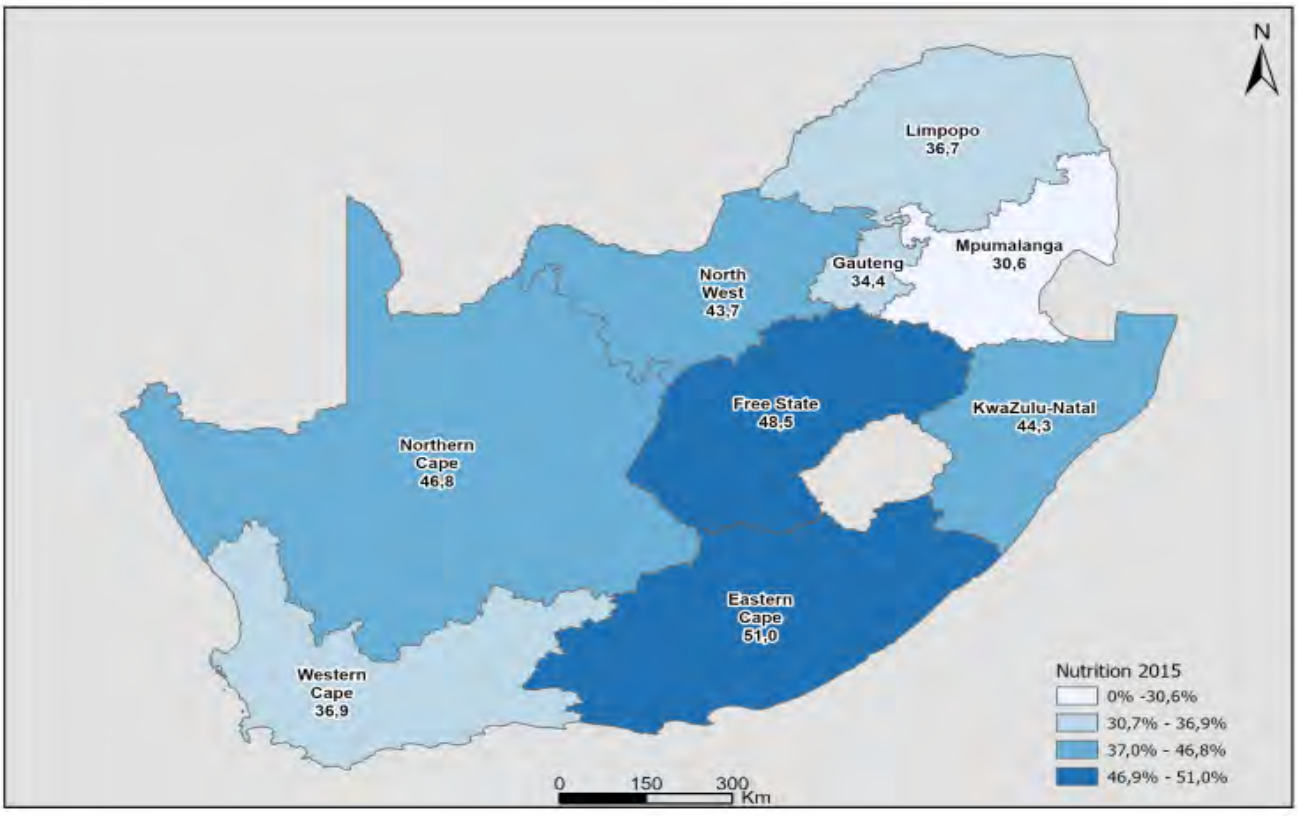


Figure 3.3.5: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Nutrition by province, 2023

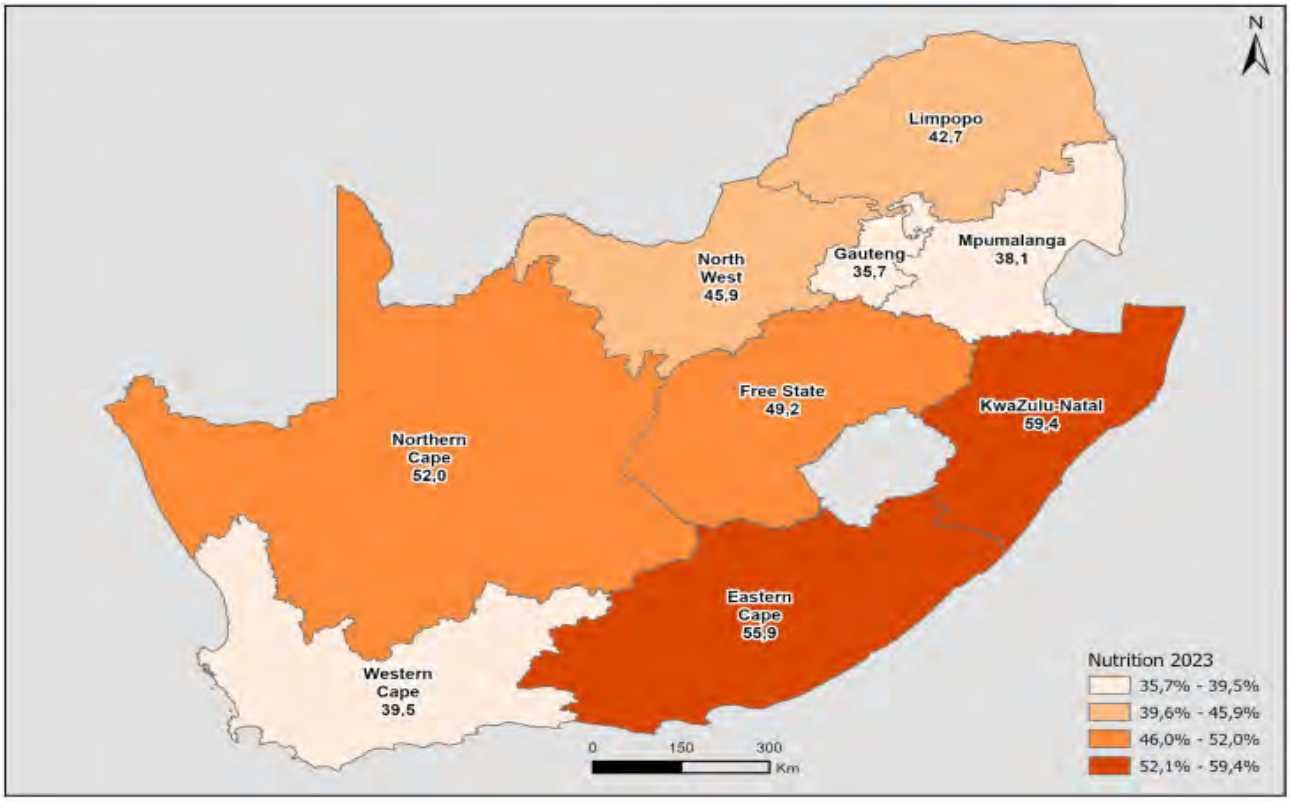


Figure 3.3.6: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Health by province, 2015

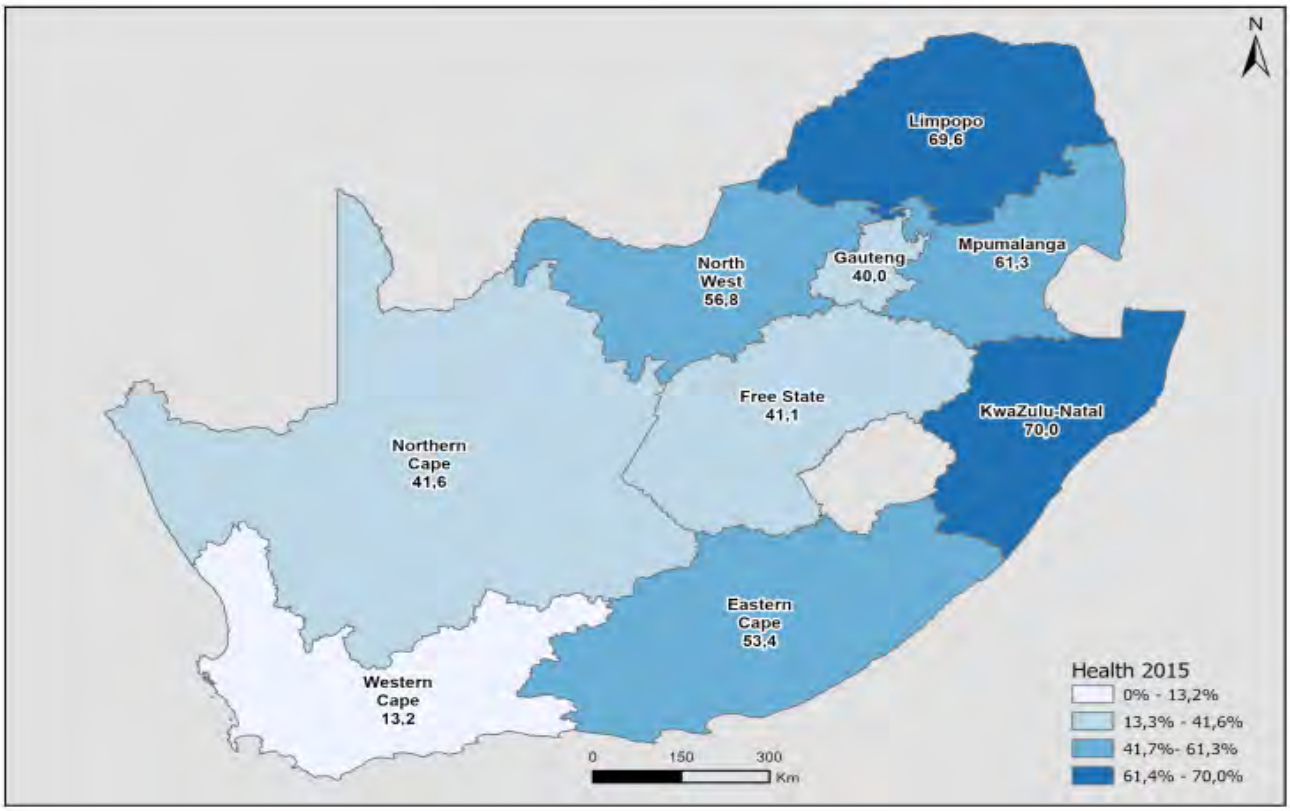


Figure 3.3.7: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Health by province, 2023

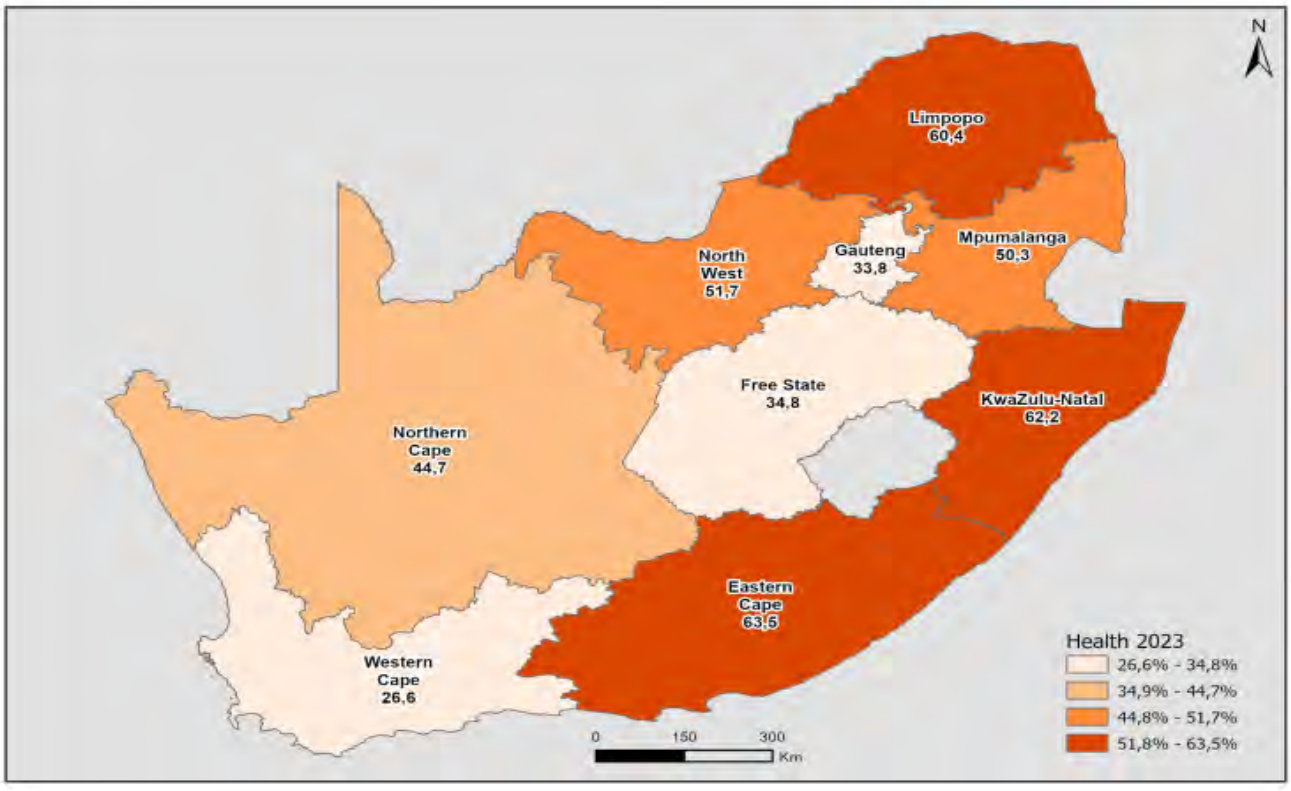


Figure 3.3.8: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Education by province, 2015

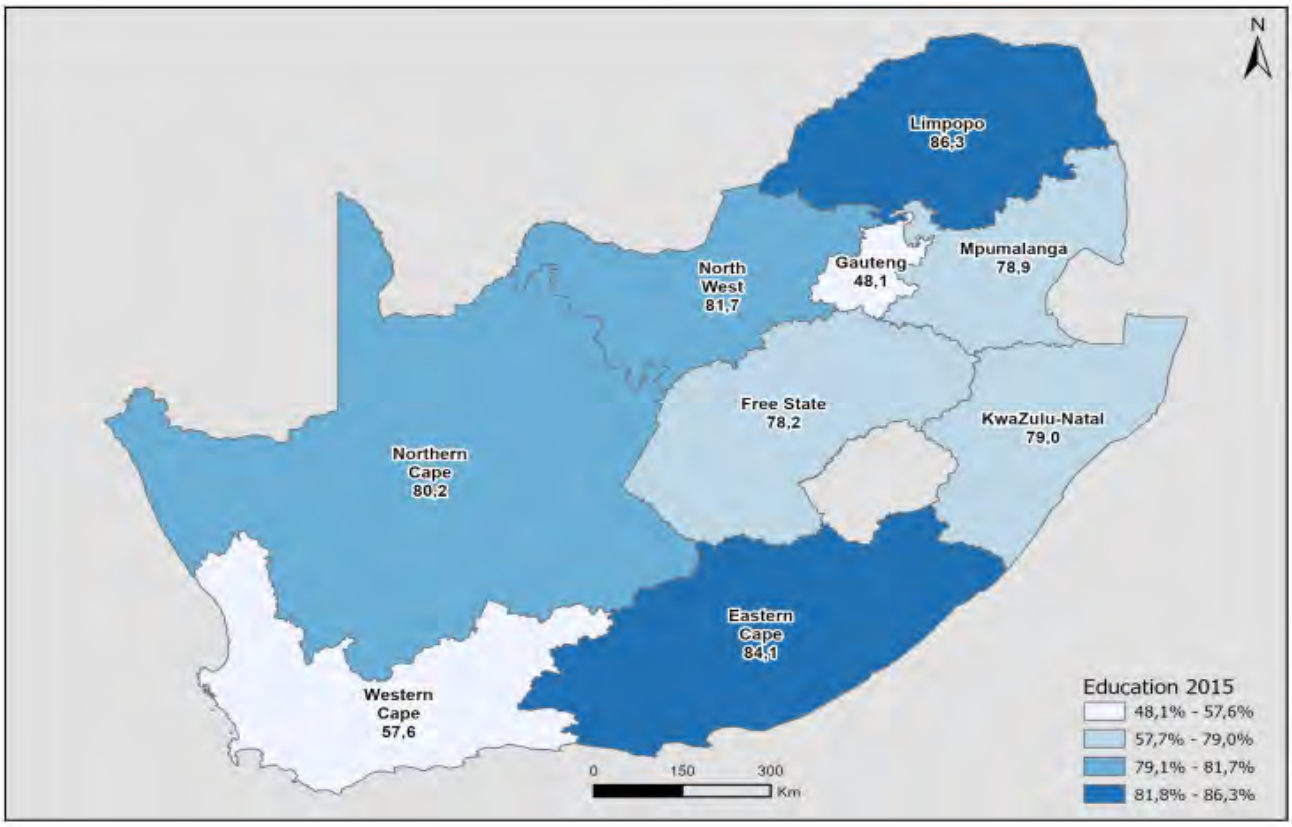


Figure 3.3.9: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Education by province, 2023

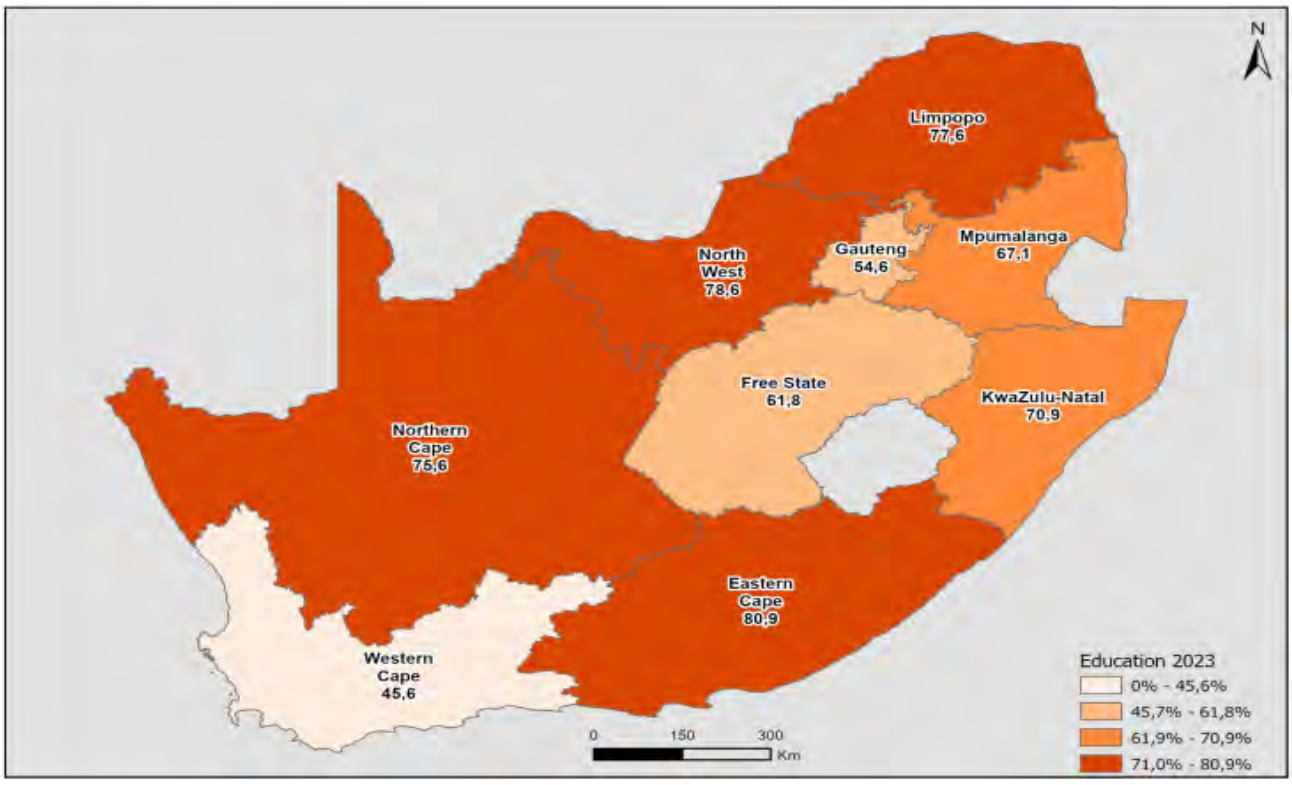


Figure 3.3.10: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Protection by province, 2015

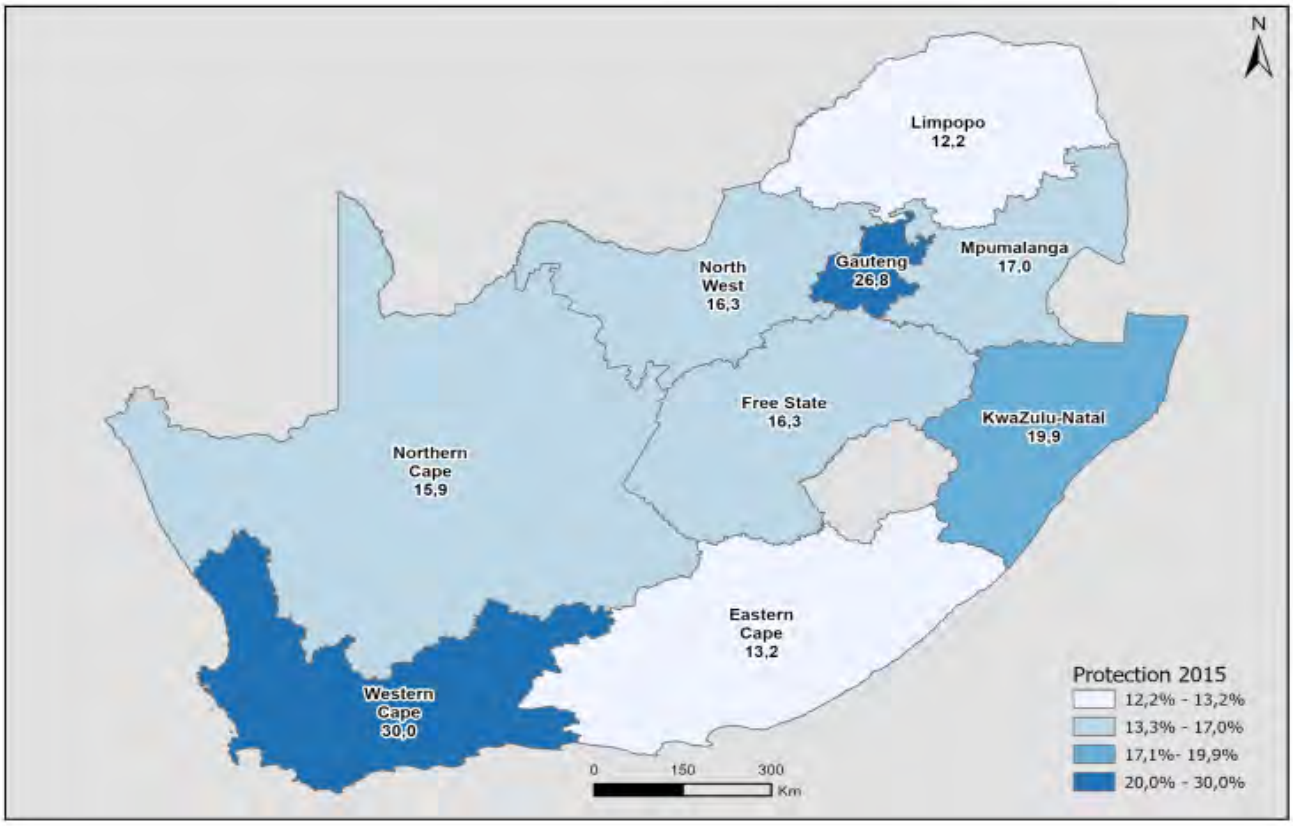


Figure 3.3.11: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for protection by province, 2023

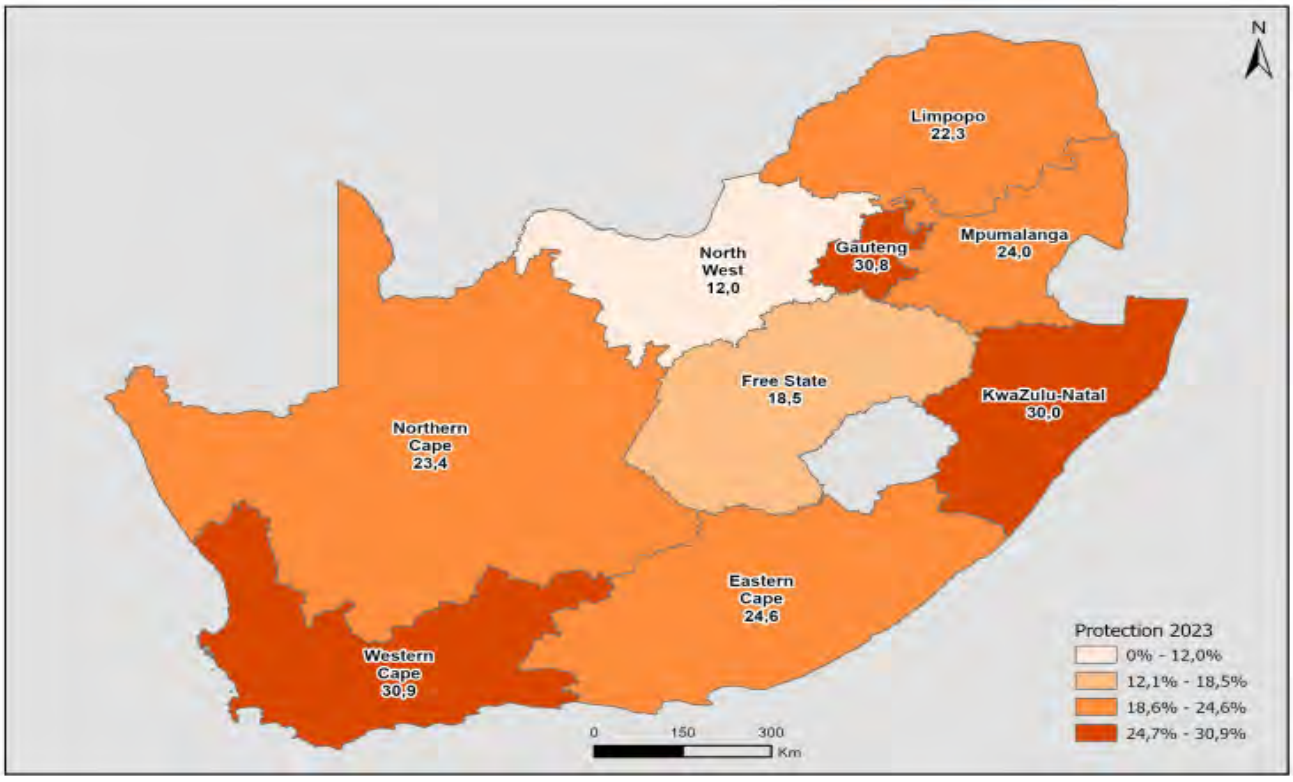


Figure 3.3.12: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for WASH by province, 2015

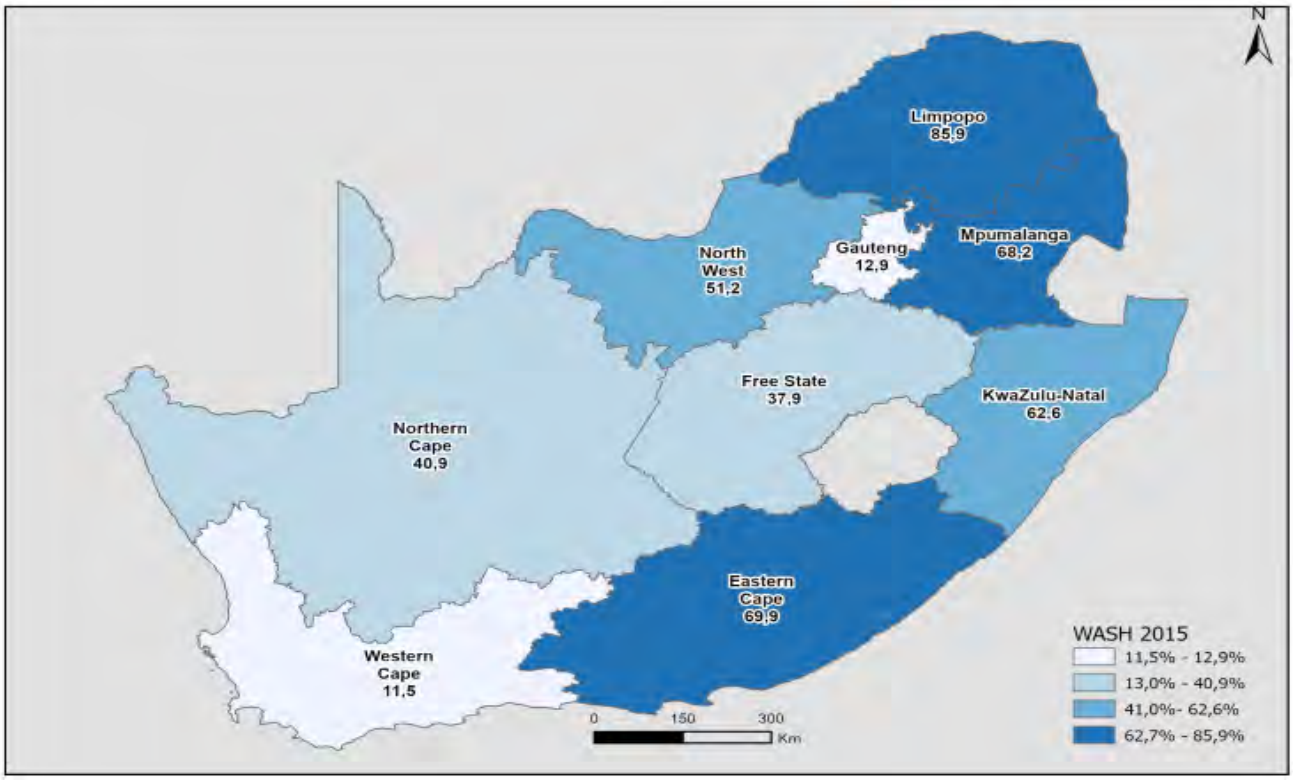


Figure 3.3.13: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for WASH by province, 2023

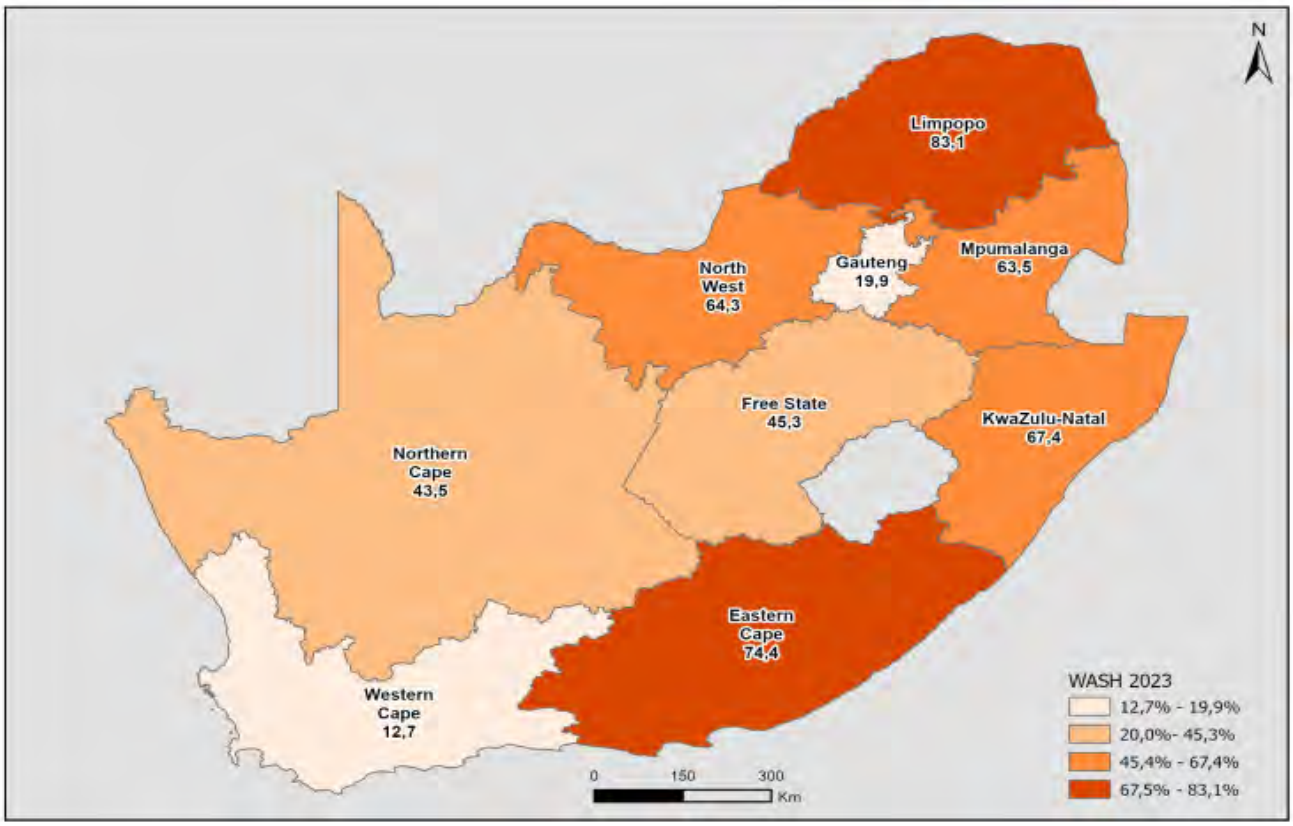


Figure 3.3.14: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Housing by province, 2015

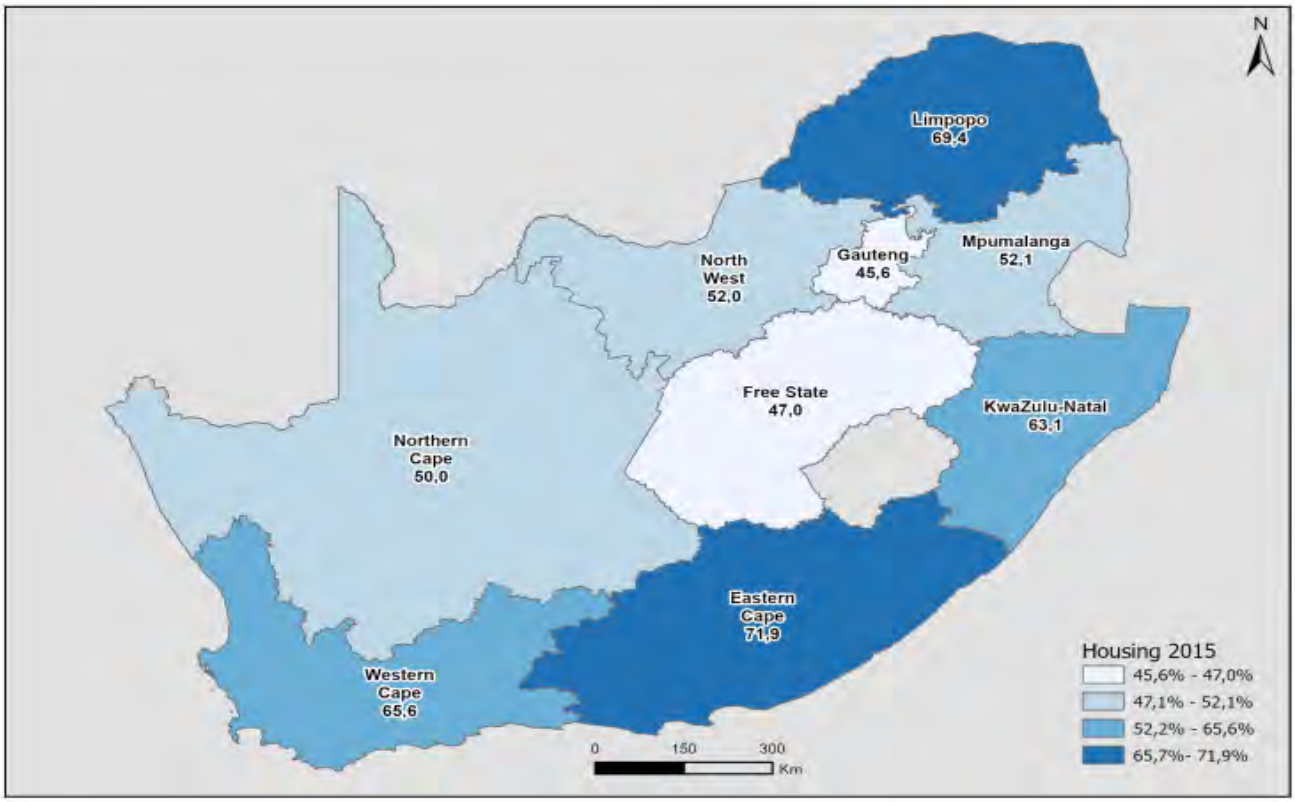
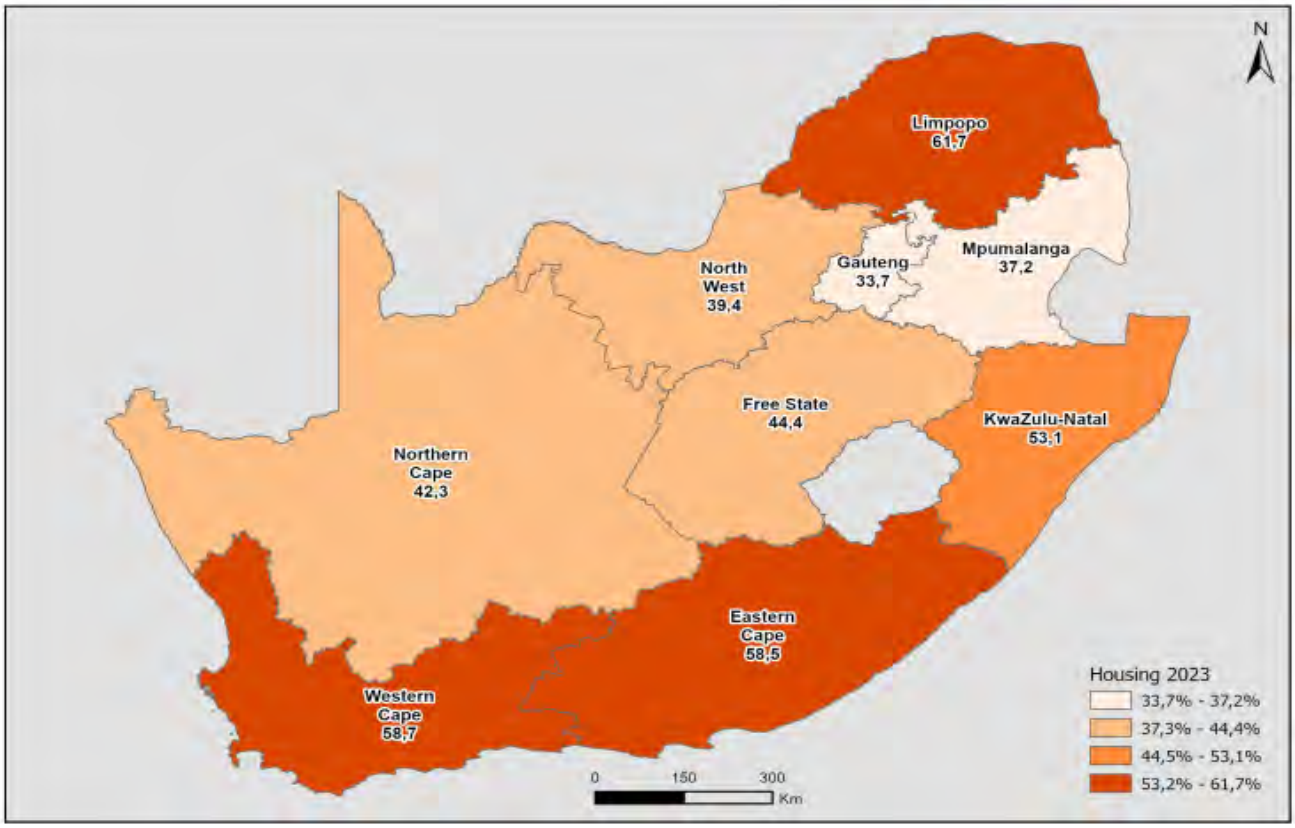


Figure 3.3.15: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years for Housing by province, 2023

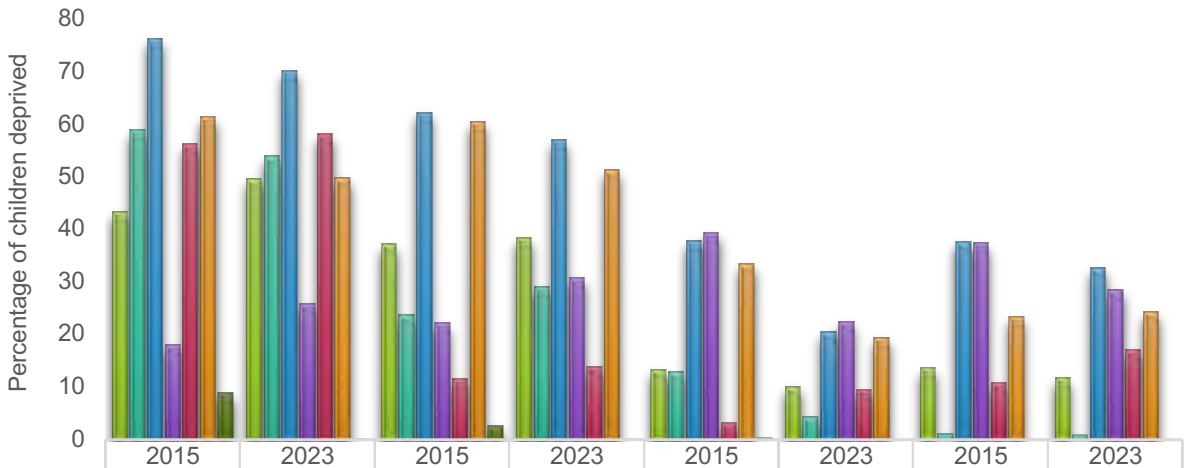


3.3.1.2 Deprivation rates based on individual characteristics of the child

According to Figure 3.3.16, which shows deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by population group between 2015 and 2023, black African children experienced highest levels of deprivation in four dimensions. In 2023, the majority of children were deprived in education (70,1%), WASH (58,0%), health (53,9%), and housing (49,8%). Deprivation in housing registered the largest decline (11,6 percentage points), followed by education with a decrease of 6,1 percentage points, while health recorded the smallest decline at 4,9 percentage points.

Coloured children also experienced relatively high levels of deprivation in education and housing, with declines of approximately 9 out of every 100 children in housing and about 5 out of every 100 children in education over time. In contrast, Indian/Asian and white children consistently experienced lower levels of deprivation across all dimensions compared to black African and coloured children in both years.

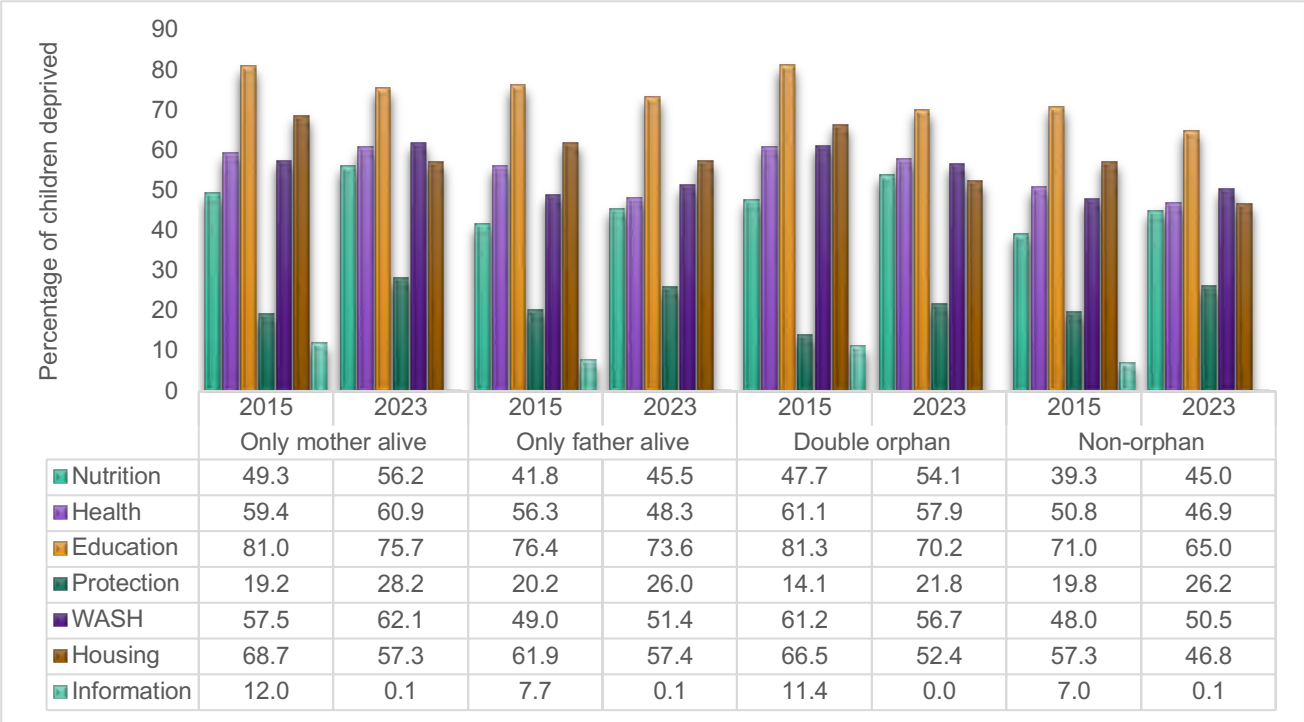
Figure 3.3.16: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by population group of child (2015 and 2023)



	Black African		Coloured		Indian/Asian		White	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Nutrition	43.2	49.6	37.1	38.4	13.2	10.2	13.6	11.6
Health	58.8	53.9	23.6	29.1	13.0	4.3	1.1	1.0
Education	76.2	70.1	62.3	57.0	37.8	20.5	37.6	32.7
Protection	18.0	25.8	22.1	30.8	39.4	22.4	37.3	28.4
WASH	56.3	58.0	11.5	13.7	3.2	9.5	10.7	17.1
Housing	61.4	49.8	60.4	51.3	33.4	19.3	23.4	24.2
Information	8.8	0.1	2.7	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.3.17: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by orphan hood status (2015 and 2023)



	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Only mother alive		Only father alive		Double orphan		Non-orphan	
Nutrition	49.3	56.2	41.8	45.5	47.7	54.1	39.3	45.0
Health	59.4	60.9	56.3	48.3	61.1	57.9	50.8	46.9
Education	81.0	75.7	76.4	73.6	81.3	70.2	71.0	65.0
Protection	19.2	28.2	20.2	26.0	14.1	21.8	19.8	26.2
WASH	57.5	62.1	49.0	51.4	61.2	56.7	48.0	50.5
Housing	68.7	57.3	61.9	57.4	66.5	52.4	57.3	46.8
Information	12.0	0.1	7.7	0.1	11.4	0.0	7.0	0.1

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.3.17 highlights deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by orphanhood status in 2015 and 2023. Regardless of orphanhood status, children experienced the highest levels of deprivation in the education dimension in both years, indicating that education remains a major challenge for this age group. Despite this, education deprivation declined for all orphanhood status categories by 2023, indicating some progress in addressing educational vulnerabilities among children 5–12 years.

In 2015, children with only their mother alive and double orphans experienced the highest levels of deprivation in education, with over 80 out of every 100 children affected. In comparison, children with their only father alive and non-orphans had slightly lower educational deprivation, ranging from 70 to 76 out of every 100 children.

Over time, housing deprivation declined across all orphanhood groups, with an average reduction of 10.1 percentage points and decreases ranging from 4.5 to 14.1 percentage points, indicating overall improvements in housing conditions.

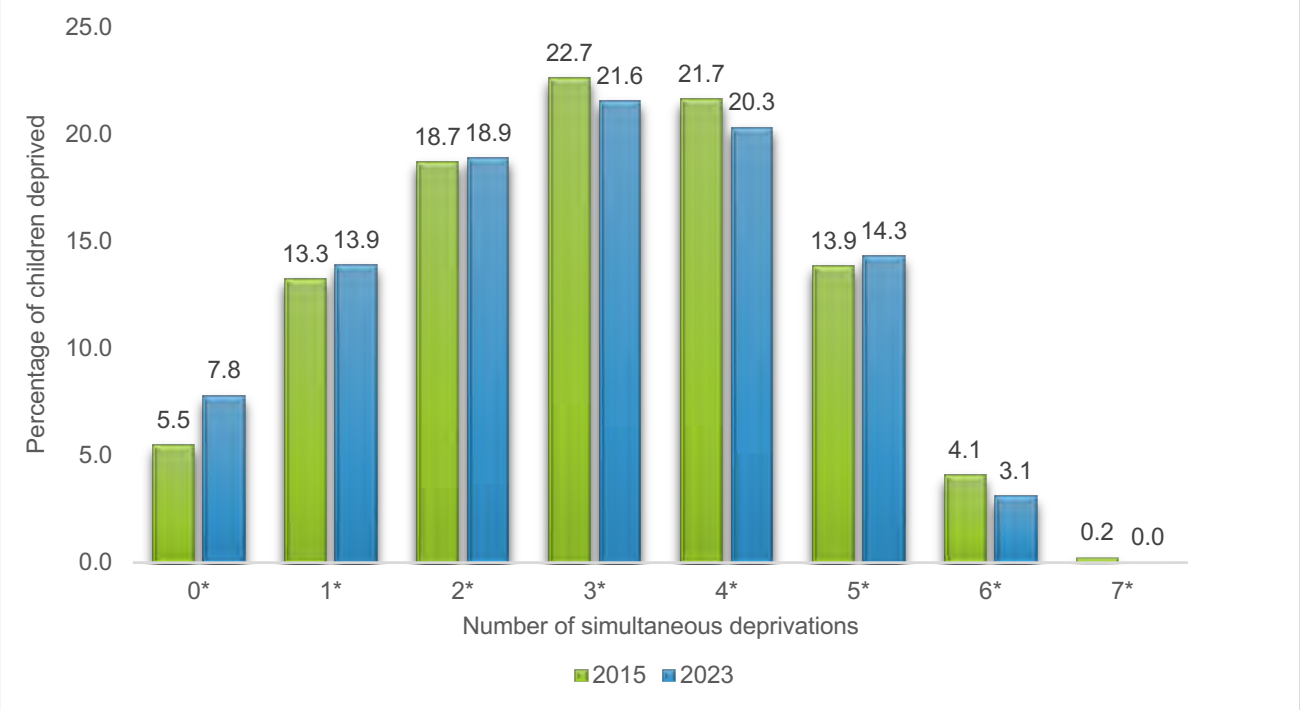
3.3.2 Multiple deprivation analysis

3.3.2.1 Deprivation distribution

Figure 3.3.18 shows that 63,1% of primary school-aged children were simultaneously deprived in two to four dimensions of well-being in 2015, compared to 60,8% in 2023, reflecting a decline of 2,3 percentage points. Deprivation levels remained relatively stable among children deprived in at least

one dimension, affecting more than 13 out of every 100 children in both years. Almost similar levels of deprivation were observed among children deprived in five dimensions simultaneously, accounting for about 14 out of every 100 children between 2015 and 2023. In contrast, the proportion of children not deprived in any dimension increased in 2023, recording a rise of 2,3 percentage points, indicating some improvement in overall child well-being.

Figure 3.3.18: Deprivation distribution for children 5–12 years at national level (2015 and 2023)

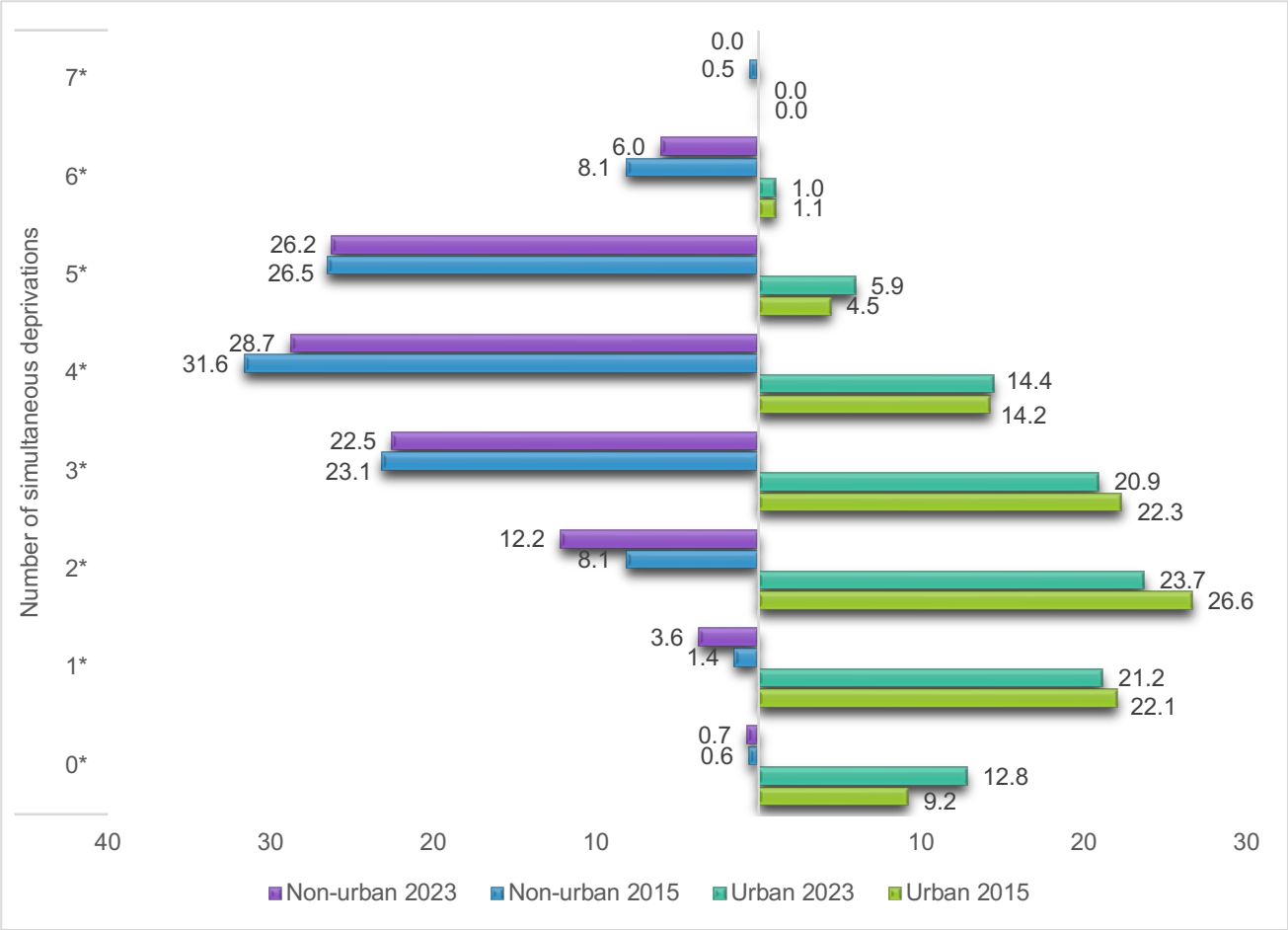


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Deprivation distribution for children 5–12 years by settlement type in 2015 and 2023 is displayed in Figure 3.3.19. In both years, less than 1,0% of children in non-urban areas were not deprived in any dimension of well-being, whereas in urban areas, between 9 and 13 out of every 100 children were not deprived in any dimension.

When examining children deprived in five dimensions of well-being, non-urban children experienced a significantly higher proportion of deprivation compared to urban children. These findings indicate that children residing in non-urban areas were more than four times as likely to experience multidimensional deprivation in both 2015 and 2023.

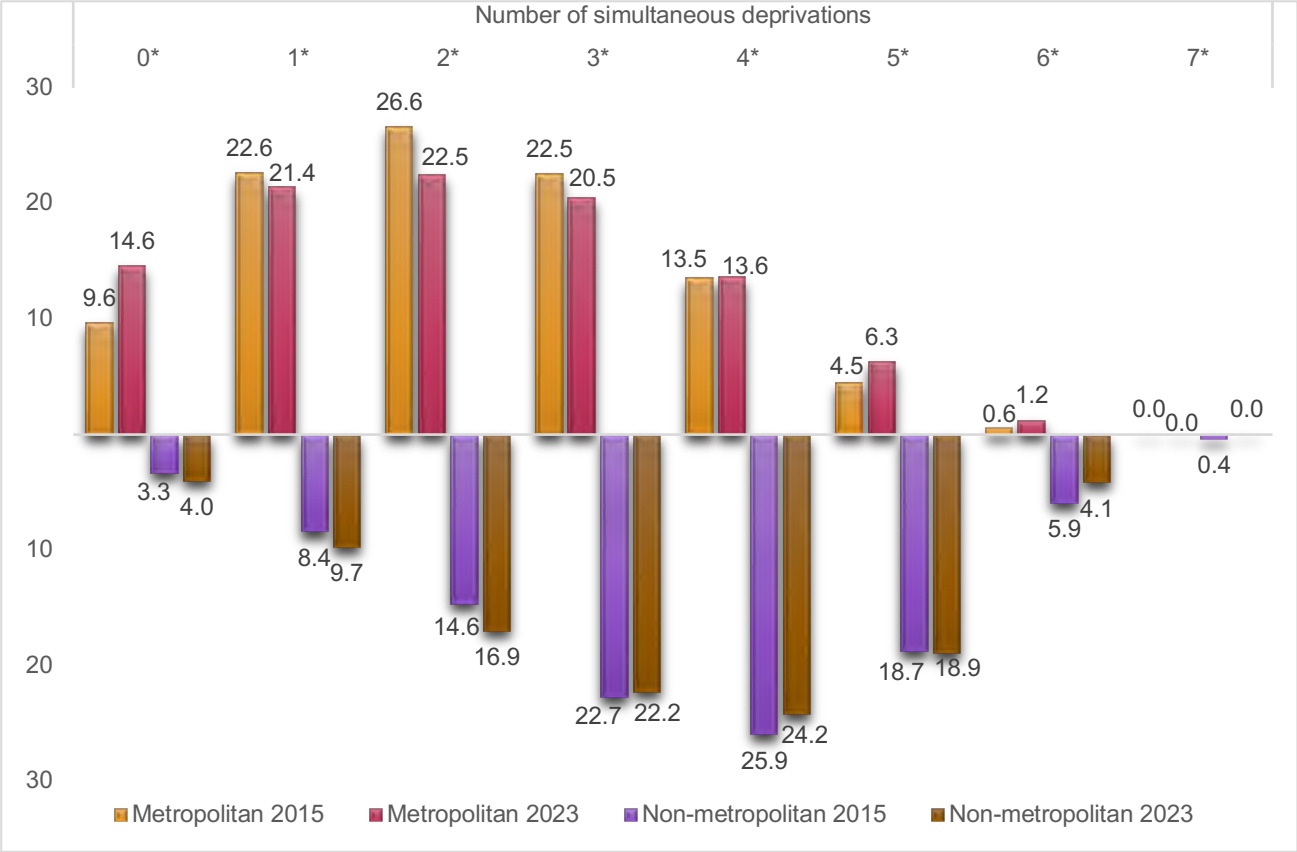
Figure 3.3.19: Deprivation distribution for children 5–12 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

As shown in Figure 3.3.20, children residing in non-metropolitan municipalities were more likely to experience higher levels of deprivation, particularly deprivations in four to seven dimensions of well-being, in both years, when compared to children living in metropolitan municipalities. In contrast, children in metropolitan municipalities experienced lower levels of deprivation, with a higher proportion of children deprived in two or fewer dimensions of well-being in both years. Overall, the findings reveal sustained differences by metropolitan municipality category in deprivation among children 5–12 years.

Figure 3.3.20: Deprivation distribution for children 5–12 years by metropolitan municipality (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

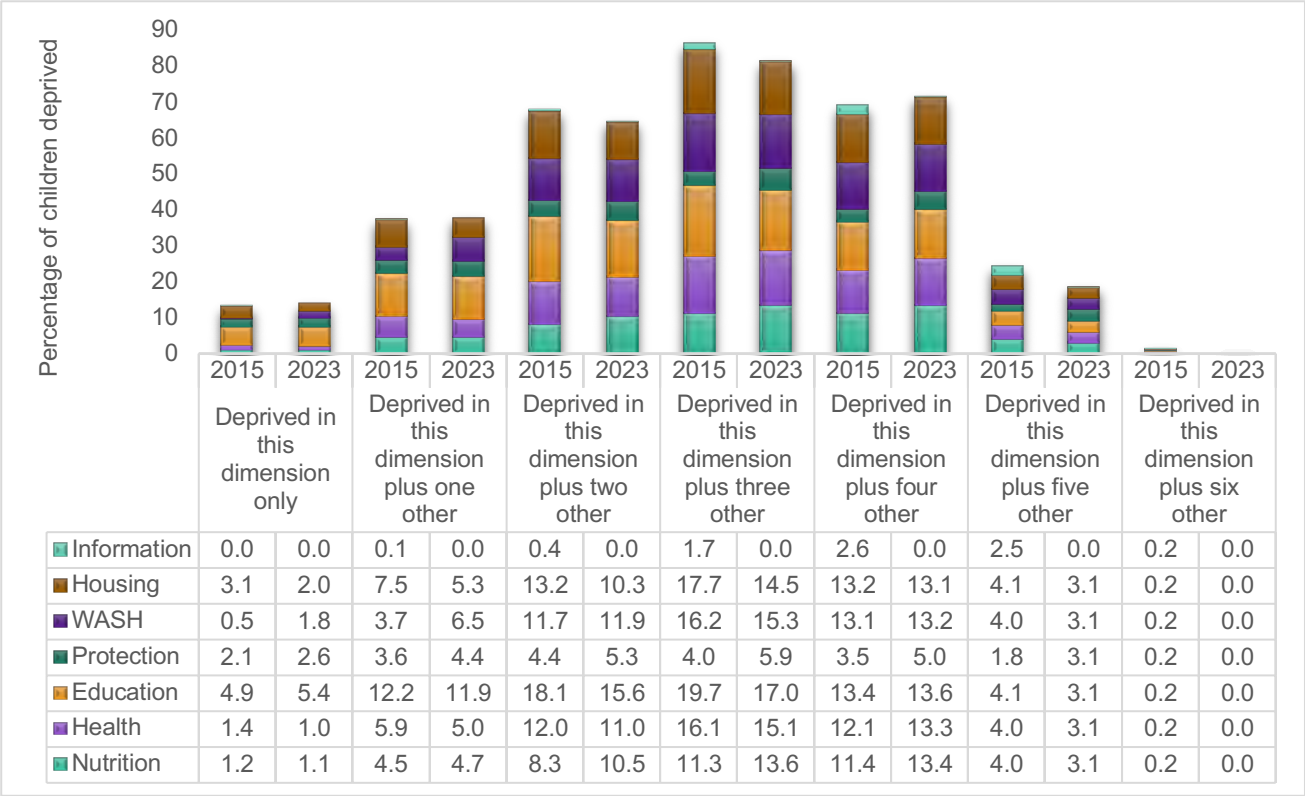
3.3.2.2 Deprivation overlap analysis

Figure 3.3.21 presents the proportion of children 5–12 years who were deprived in each specific dimension, both in isolation and in combination with additional dimensions of well-being in 2015 and 2023. In both years, fewer than six out of every 100 children were deprived in one dimension only. education recorded the highest prevalence of single-dimension deprivation, increasing from 4,9% in 2015 to 5,4% in 2023.

On the other hand, education also emerged as the dimension with the highest levels of overlapping deprivation, with a majority of children deprived in three or more additional dimensions of well-being. This pattern indicates that education remained a persistent area of concern for children 5–12 years to be addressed using a multi-sectoral approach.

In 2023, high levels of overlap were also found for the dimensions: health, housing, nutrition, and WASH. These dimensions showed similar proportions, with just over 13 out of every 100 children experiencing deprivation in a specific dimension and four or more additional dimensions.

Figure 3.3.21: Proportion of children 5–12 years deprived in each specific dimension and additional dimensions (2015 and 2023)



	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Deprived in this dimension only		Deprived in this dimension plus one other		Deprived in this dimension plus two other		Deprived in this dimension plus three other		Deprived in this dimension plus four other		Deprived in this dimension plus five other		Deprived in this dimension plus six other	
Information	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.7	0.0	2.6	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.2	0.0
Housing	3.1	2.0	7.5	5.3	13.2	10.3	17.7	14.5	13.2	13.1	4.1	3.1	0.2	0.0
WASH	0.5	1.8	3.7	6.5	11.7	11.9	16.2	15.3	13.1	13.2	4.0	3.1	0.2	0.0
Protection	2.1	2.6	3.6	4.4	4.4	5.3	4.0	5.9	3.5	5.0	1.8	3.1	0.2	0.0
Education	4.9	5.4	12.2	11.9	18.1	15.6	19.7	17.0	13.4	13.6	4.1	3.1	0.2	0.0
Health	1.4	1.0	5.9	5.0	12.0	11.0	16.1	15.1	12.1	13.3	4.0	3.1	0.2	0.0
Nutrition	1.2	1.1	4.5	4.7	8.3	10.5	11.3	13.6	11.4	13.4	4.0	3.1	0.2	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

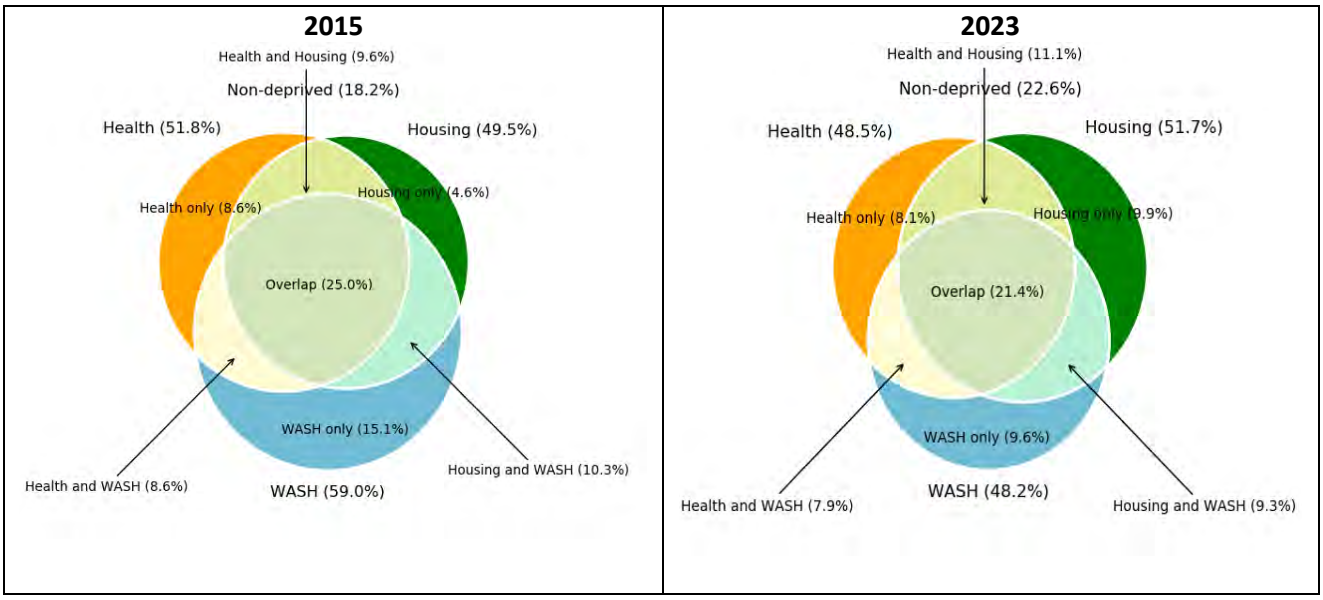
The Venn diagram (Figure 3.3.22) illustrates the three-way overlaps between housing, health and WASH deprivations among the primary school-aged children (5–12 years) in 2015 and 2023. In 2015, 25,0% of children 5–12 years were deprived in all three dimensions, compared to 21,4% in 2023. Among the 59,0% children in this age group who were deprived in housing in 2015, 15,1% experienced deprivation in housing only, and 33,6% faced deprivation in both housing and health, including those who were simultaneously deprived in WASH.

Focusing on 2023, 9,9% of the 51,8% of children deprived in WASH, experienced deprivation in WASH only, while 30,7% were deprived in both WASH and housing, including those who were simultaneously deprived in health. This share comprised 9,3% of children deprived in WASH and housing only, and an additional 21,4% who were deprived in all three dimensions.

It can also be observed from the figure that the proportion of children who were not experiencing deprivation in any of these three dimensions increased from 18.2% in 2015 to 22.6% in 2023, representing an improvement of approximately 4,4 percentage points. In contrast, the share of children experiencing deprivation in all three dimensions declined from 25,0% in 2015 to 21,4% in 2023, representing a reduction of 3,6 percentage points.

When examining two-way overlaps, deprivation in both health and WASH increased over the period, while overlaps between health and housing, as well as between WASH and housing, declined between 2015 and 2023.

Figure 3.3.22: Three-way overlap between dimensions of Housing, Health and WASH for children 5–12 years (2015 and 2023)

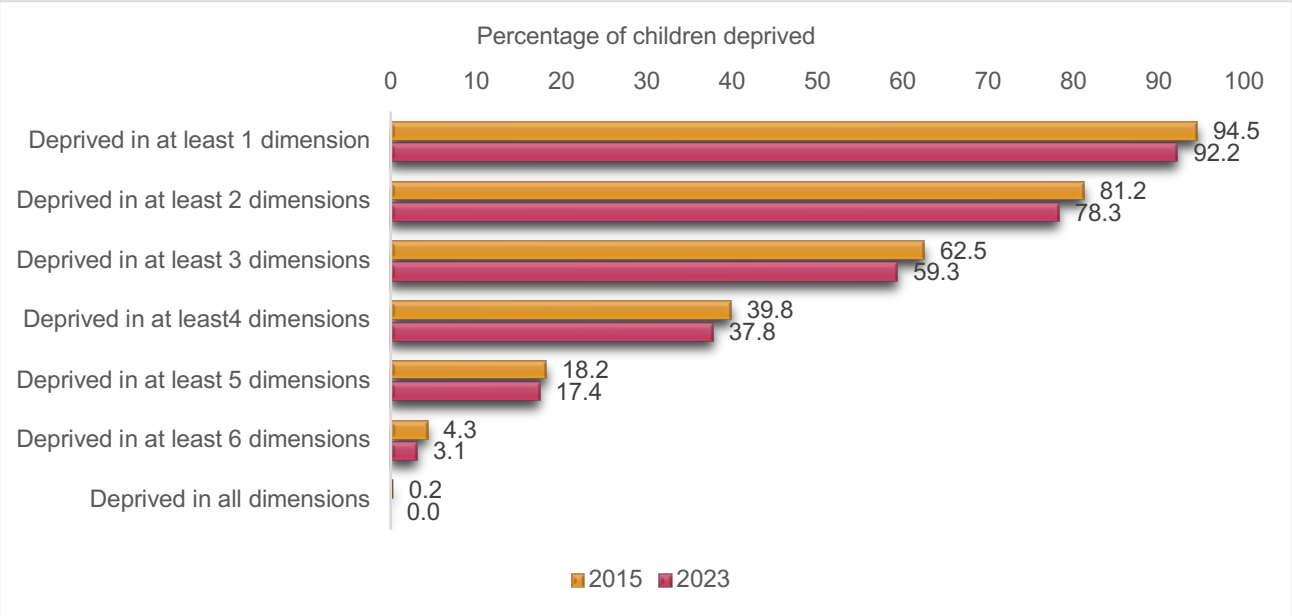


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.3.2.3 Multidimensional deprivation indices

Changes in the multidimensional deprivation headcount by the number of simultaneous deprivations among children 5–12 years at the national level between 2015 and 2023 are shown in Figure 3.3.23. Overall, the results indicate a decline in the proportion of children experiencing multiple deprivations over time, particularly among those deprived in three or more dimensions simultaneously. Specifically, the share of children deprived in at least three dimensions (k=3), declined from 62,5% in 2015 to 59,3% in 2023, representing a reduction of 3,2 percentage points. This points to a slight improvement in multidimensional deprivation for these children. Less than 1,0% of children in this age group were deprived in all seven dimensions in both years, indicating that most severe form of deprivation was rare and did not change over time.

Figure 3.3.23: Multidimensional poverty headcount (H%) for children 5–12 years at national level (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.3.1 set forth the multidimensional deprivation indices for children 5–12 years at national level and by settlement type for 2015 and 2023. Differences in settlement type remained, with children residing in non-urban areas consistently experiencing considerably higher levels of deprivation than those in urban areas. Although the deprivation headcount in non-urban areas declined from 89,9% in 2015 to 83,5% in 2023, deprivation intensity remained high, averaging just over four deprivations. Thus, the deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0) decreased from 0,544 to 0,499, indicating some improvement but continued high levels of multidimensional deprivation.

Differently, deprivation levels among children in urban areas remained relatively stable over time. The deprivation headcount showed little change between 2015 and 2023, while the average intensity increased slightly from 51,9% to 52,8%. This resulted in a negligible increase in the M_0 index, from 0,218 to 0,224. Overall, the findings show clear and ongoing inequalities in both how many children 5–12 years were deprived and how severely they were deprived, depending on where they lived.

Table 3.3.1: Multidimensional deprivation indices for children 5–12 years at national level and settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Deprivation headcount (H) %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	42,1	42,3	51,9	52,8	3,6	3,7	0,218	0,224
Non-urban	89,9	83,5	60,5	59,8	4,2	4,2	0,544	0,499
National	**62,5**	**59,3**	**57,2**	**56,9**	**4,0**	**4,0**	**0,357**	**0,338**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.3.24 exhibits the multidimensional deprivation headcount (k = 3) for children 5–17 years by selected child and household characteristics.

Child characteristics

Black African children were most likely to experience deprivation in three or more dimensions in both years. Compared with white children, black African children were more than six times as likely to experience multiple deprivations in both periods. On the other hand, Indian/Asian children recorded a notable decline of 9.3 percentage points in 2023 indicating that more than half of the children who were multidimensionally deprived in 2015 had moved out of deprivation by 2023.

Children who were double orphans and those with only a mother alive showed highest levels of deprivation in both years, with approximately 70 out of every 100 children in these groups deprived in three or more dimensions simultaneously. This was higher among children with only a father alive and non-orphans, where fewer than 66 out of every 100 children experienced multidimensional deprivation over the same period.

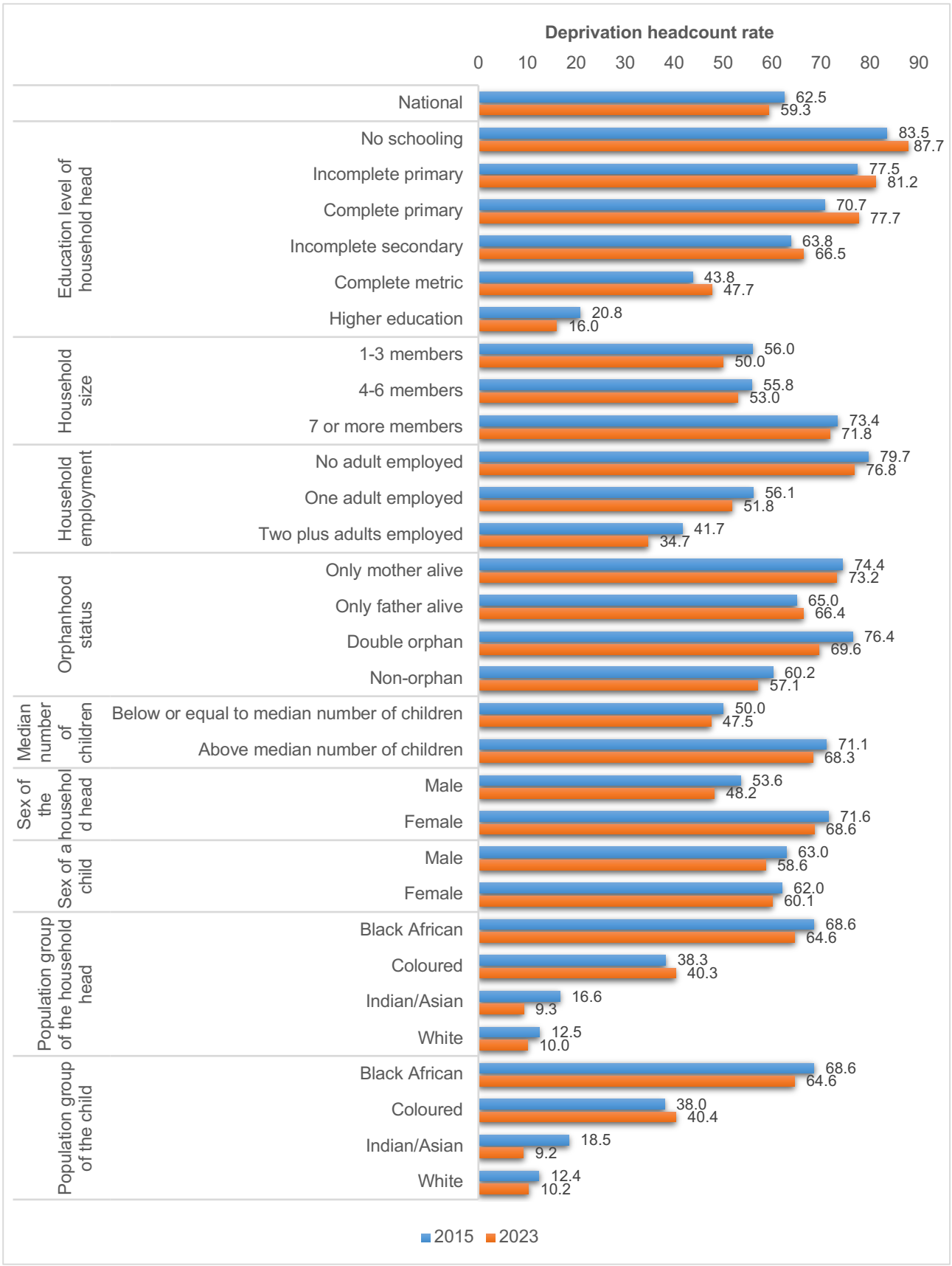
Household characteristics

In both years, children from female-headed households experienced a higher proportion of deprivation in three or more dimensions of well-being compared to children from male-headed households. The results indicate percentage-point differences of about 18,0 in 2015 and 20,4 in 2023, respectively.

Focusing on household size**,** children living in households with seven or more members experienced a higher proportion of deprivation in three or more dimensions of well-being in both years. The results indicate that more than 76 out of every 100 children in larger households were multidimensionally deprived, compared to fewer than 56 out of every 100 children in households with less than seven members in 2015 and 2023. This suggests that as household size increases, the proportion of children experiencing multidimensional deprivation also increases.

The figure further indicates that as the number of children in a household increases, the proportion of multidimensional deprivation rises**.** It is evident that households with a median number of children above two experienced higher levels of deprivation than those with fewer than two children**,** with a difference of approximately 20.8 percentage points in 2023**.**

Figure 3.3.24: Multidimensional headcount (k=3) for children 5–12 year by child's and household's characteristics (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

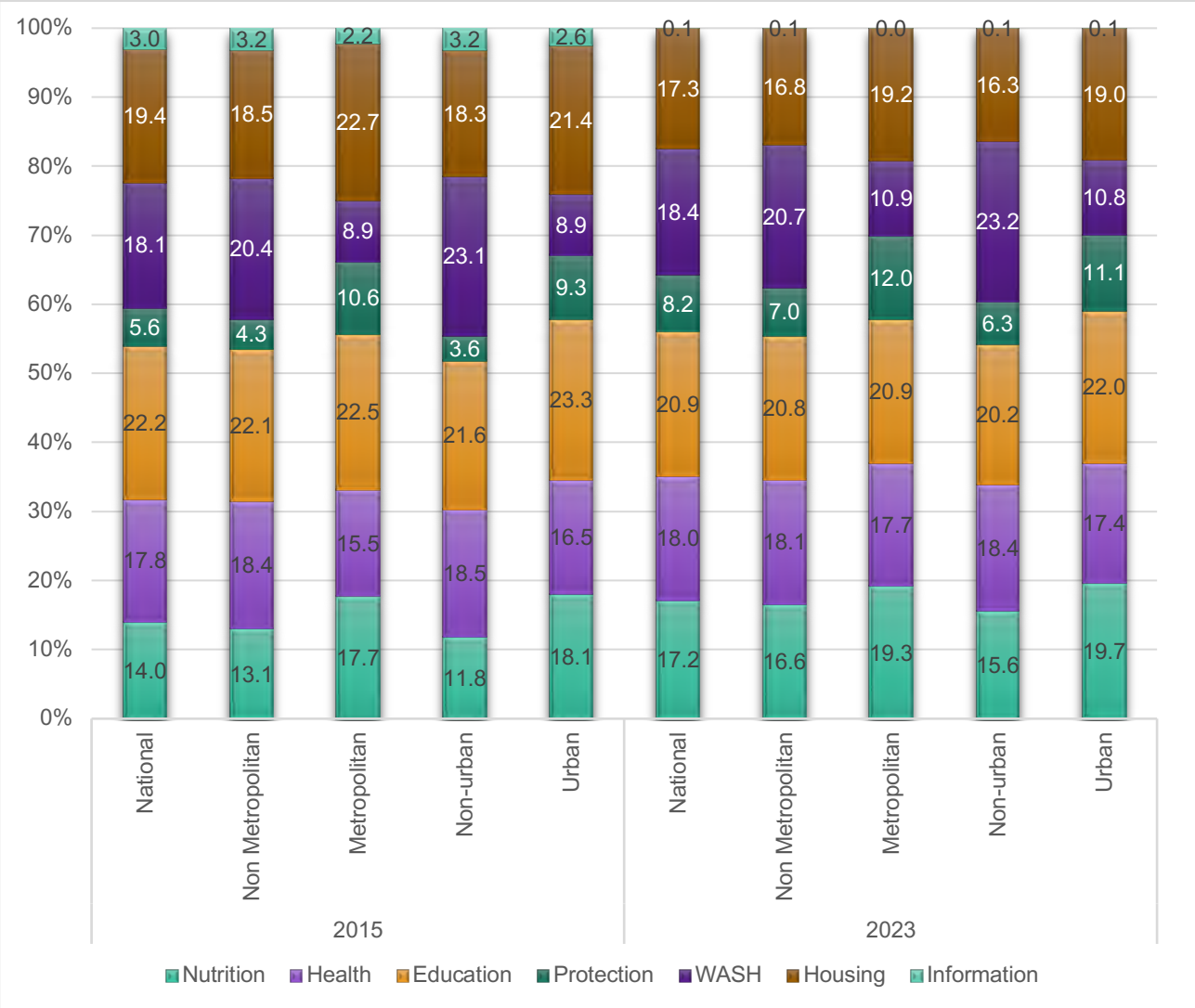
Figure 3.3.25 shows the decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rates by settlement type and metropolitan municipality category. Among children 5–12 years residing in non-metropolitan municipalities, multidimensional deprivation in 2015 was driven primarily by education (22,1%), followed by WASH (20,4%), housing (18,5%), and health (18,4%).

By 2023, the contribution of these dimensions slightly declined, with education accounting for 20,8% and WASH for 20,7% of overall multidimensional deprivation. The contributions of health (18,1%) and housing (16,8%) also decreased. Notably, health and housing interchanged their relative positions in 2023, with health emerging as a more significant contributor to multidimensional deprivation than housing.

For children residing in metropolitan municipalities, multidimensional deprivation in 2015 was primarily driven by housing (22,7%) and education (22,5%), followed by nutrition (17,7%), and health (15,5%). In 2023, the composition of deprivation shifted, with education emerging as the largest contributor (20,9%), followed by nutrition (19,3%), housing (19,2%), and health (17,7%). While education, housing and health all recorded the smallest declines in their contributions to overall multidimensional deprivation, nutrition showed a noticeable increase, indicating a growing relative importance of food security and adequate dietary intake for children living in metropolitan municipalities.

Almost similar patterns were observed between metropolitan municipalities and urban areas, as well as between non-metropolitan municipalities and non-urban areas. This is expected, given that these classifications are closely related and reflect overlapping spatial and socio-economic characteristics. As a result, the distribution of dimensional contributions to multidimensional deprivation remains broadly consistent across these groupings.

Figure 3.3.25: Decomposition of the Adjusted deprivation headcount rate k=3) for the children 5–12 years by settlement type and metropolitan municipality category (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

CHAPTER 3.4

Children 13 to 17 years

3.4 Deprivation among children 13–17 years (adolescents)

Box 4: Key findings observed for multidimensional poverty for children 13–17 years

Key findings

Multidimensional poverty among children 13–17 years

- ✓ In 2023, more than 60 out of every 100 children 13–17 years were multidimensionally poor, compared to 61 out of every 100 in 2015, indicating only a marginal improvement, with approximately 1 child out of every 100 moving out of poverty over the period.
- ✓ Black African children experienced the highest levels of multidimensional deprivation, although this declined from 68,7% in 2015 to 65,8% in 2023.
- ✓ Indian/Asian children were the only population group to record an increase in deprivation, rising from 14,2% in 2015 to 21,6% in 2023.
- ✓ White children consistently recorded the lowest levels of multidimensional deprivation in both years.
- ✓ Education remained the most critical area of concern among adolescents, with deprivation declining only marginally from 73,4% in 2015 to 72,6% in 2023, indicating persistent challenges.
- ✓ Deprivation in WASH was consistently and extremely high among non-urban children, at 94,7% in both 2015 and 2023.
- ✓ Children living in non-urban areas experienced substantially higher deprivation levels, with more than 29 out of every 100 facing high-intensity deprivation, compared to fewer than 16 out of every 100 children in urban areas in both years.
- ✓ There were no statistically significant differences in multidimensional deprivation between boys and girls in either 2015 or 2023, indicating that poverty levels were broadly similar across sex.
- ✓ The highest deprivation rates were recorded among children living in households with no employed adults and among those whose household heads had lower levels of educational attainment, underscoring the strong interrelationship between poverty, limited education, and unemployment.

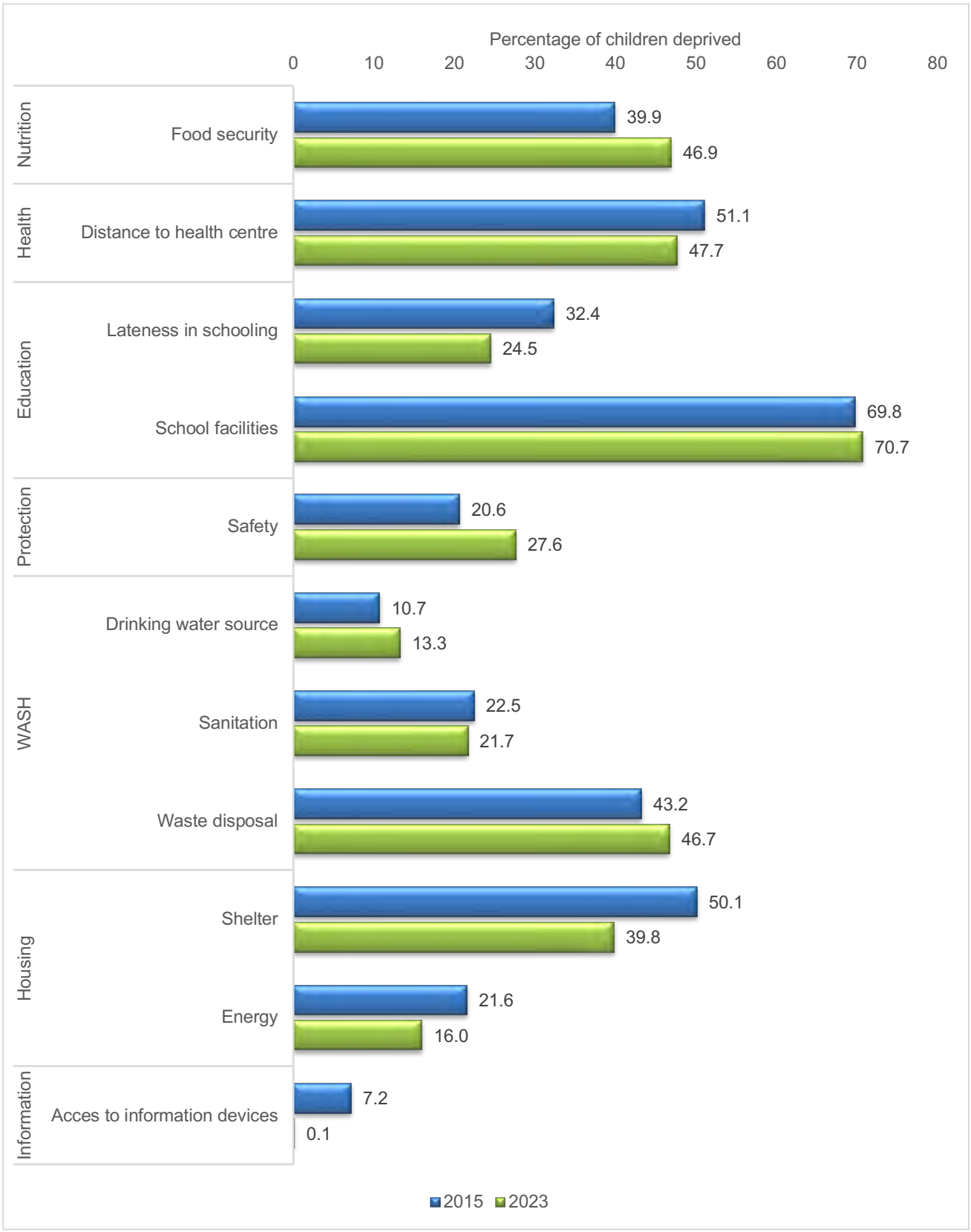
3.4.1 Single deprivation analysis

Figure 3.4.1 illustrates the proportion of children 13–17 years who were deprived in each indicator of well-being in 2015 and 2023. In both years, access to information devices recorded the lowest levels of deprivation, declining sharply from 7,2% in 2015 to 0,1% in 2023, indicating substantial improvements in access to information and communication resources among adolescents.

In 2015, the highest levels of deprivation were observed in school facilities (69,8%), distance to health centre (51,1%), shelter (50,1%), waste disposal (43,2%) and food security (39,9%). By 2023, deprivation remained particularly high for the indicators: school facilities, waste disposal and food security, with proportions exceeding those recorded in 2015. For example, food security deprivation rose substantially from just over 40 out of every 100 children in 2015 to nearly 47 out of every 100 children in 2023. In contrast, deprivation related to distance to a health centre and shelter declined in 2023 compared to 2015.

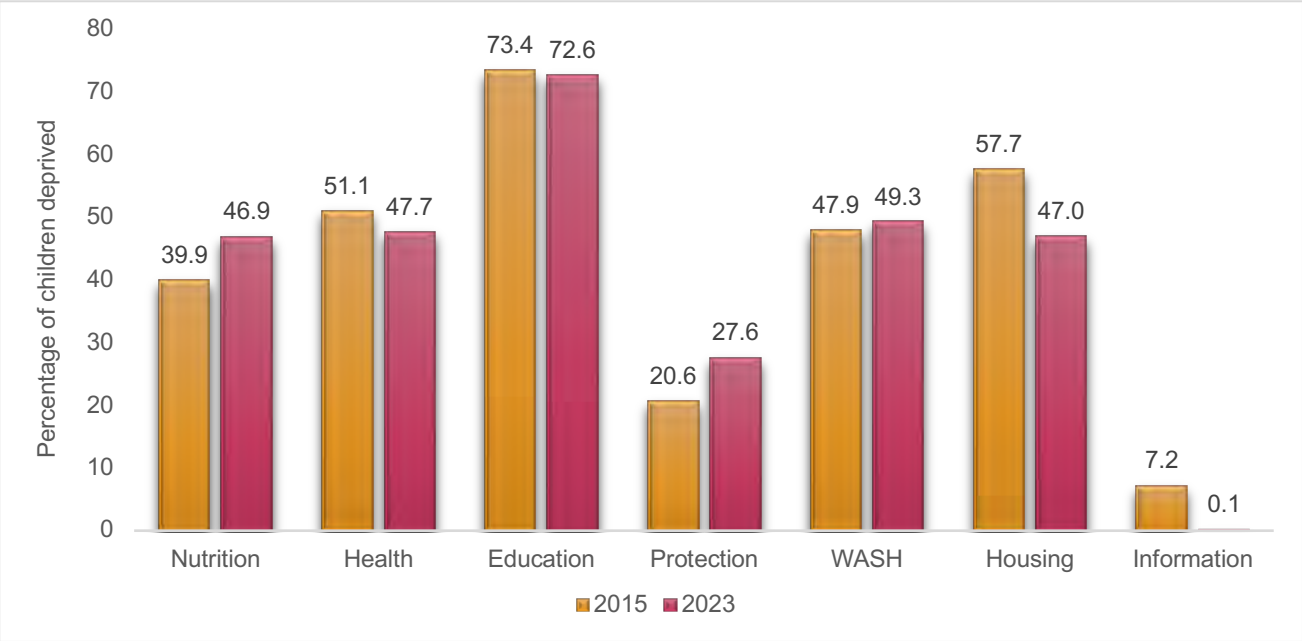
The results further show an increase in deprivation related to safety over the period. Deprivation related to safety increased by approximately 7,0 percentage points, adding about seven out of every 100 children to those already experiencing safety related deprivation.

Figure 3.4.1: Deprivation headcount rates for children 13–17 years by indicators and dimension (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.2: Deprivation headcount rates for children 13–17 years by dimension (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.2 above, shows deprivation headcount rates by dimension for children 13–17 years in 2015 and 2023. Education remained a major area of concern throughout the period, with the proportion of children deprived in this dimension declining marginally from 73,4% in 2015 to 72,6% in 2023. Despite this slight improvement, deprivation in education remained exceptionally high in 2023, indicating continued fundamental challenges affecting adolescents' schooling outcomes.

Deprivation in health declined from 51,1% in 2015 to 47,7% in 2023, while housing deprivation decreased more noticeably from 57,7% to 47,0% over the same period. Even with these reductions, nearly half of children 13–17 years continued to experience deprivation in the health and housing dimensions in 2023. In contrast, deprivation in nutrition and WASH increased between 2015 and 2023, indicating a worsening situation related to food security and access to safe water and sanitation.

3.4.1.1 Deprivation rates based on geographical location of the child

Figure 3.4.3 presents deprivation headcount rates for children 13–17 years by settlement type in 2015 and 2023. Children living in non-urban areas experienced consistently higher levels of deprivation across several dimensions compared to those living in urban areas. In both years, the highest levels of deprivation in non-urban areas were observed in WASH (94,7% in both 2015 and 2023), education (88,8% in 2015 and 86,5% in 2023) and housing (69,7% in 2015 and 56,9% in 2023).

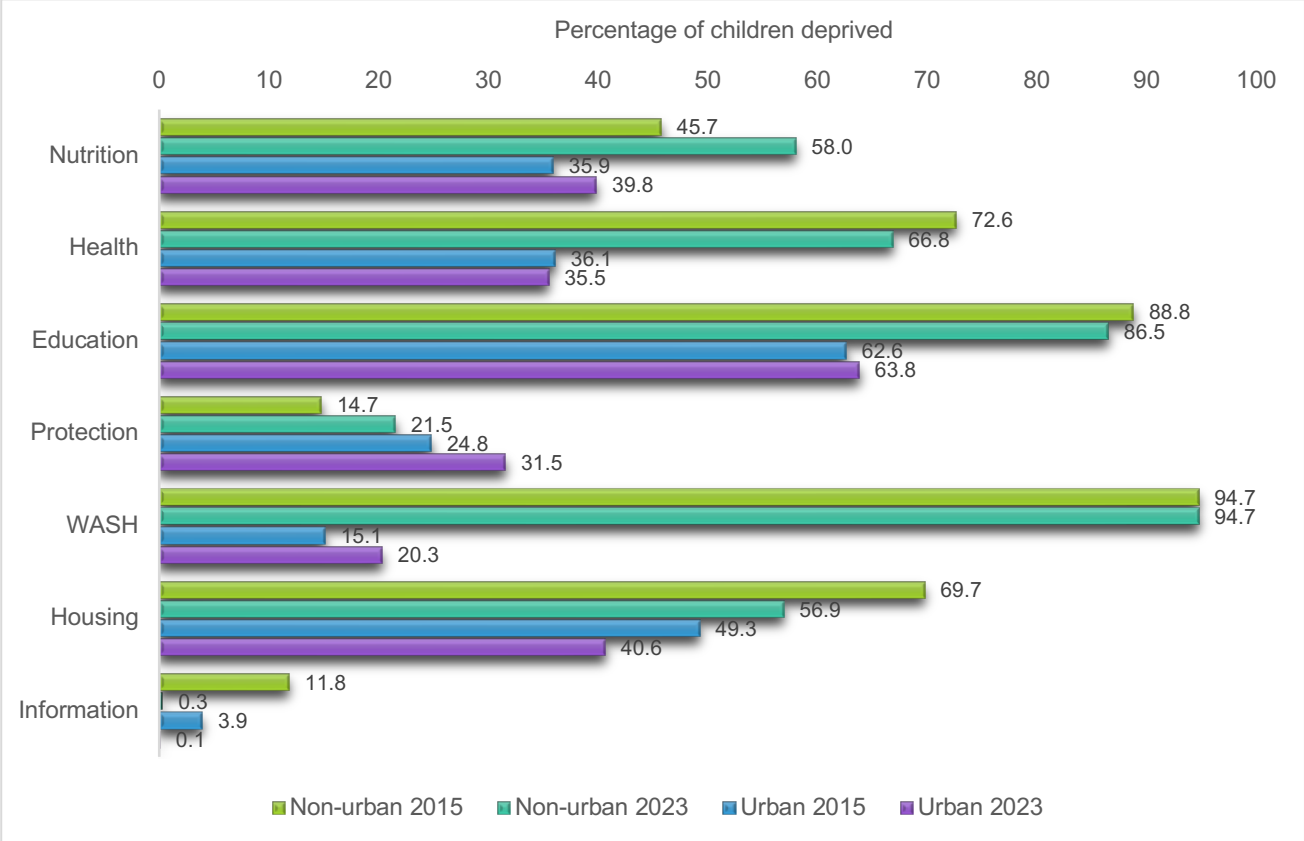
Among the dimensions with high deprivation in non-urban areas, WASH deprivation remained unchanged between 2015 and 2023, indicating that children continued to face extremely high levels

of deprivation in this dimension. Although deprivation in education, housing and health declined over the period, these dimensions remained among the primary drivers of deprivation affecting children in non-urban areas in 2023.

Children living in urban areas experienced lower levels of deprivation than their non-urban counterparts for almost all dimensions analysed. In both 2015 and 2023, the highest levels of deprivation in urban areas were recorded in education (62,6% in 2015 and 63,8% in 2023) and housing (49,3% in 2015 and 40,6% in 2023). Deprivation in nutrition and health in urban areas remained relatively stable over the period, averaging around 35%, although nutrition deprivation increased by nearly 5 percentage points in 2023.

In both urban and non-urban areas, deprivation related to access to information devices was almost negligible by 2023, reflecting a substantial improvement from 2015. By 2023, children in both settlement types experienced near zero deprivation in access to information, indicating notable progress in this aspect of adolescent well-being.

Figure 3.4.3: Deprivation headcount rates for children 13–17 years by dimension and settlement type (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.4: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Nutrition by province, 2015

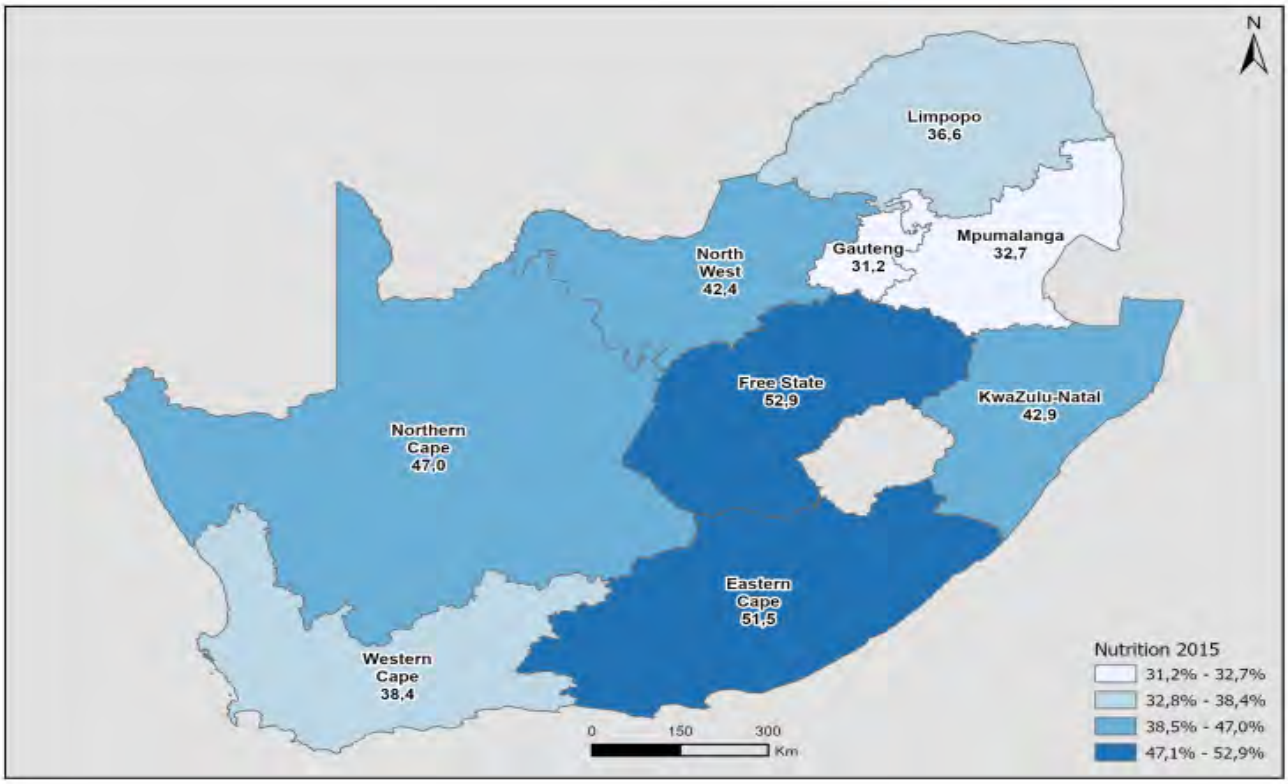


Figure 3.4.5: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Nutrition by province, 2023

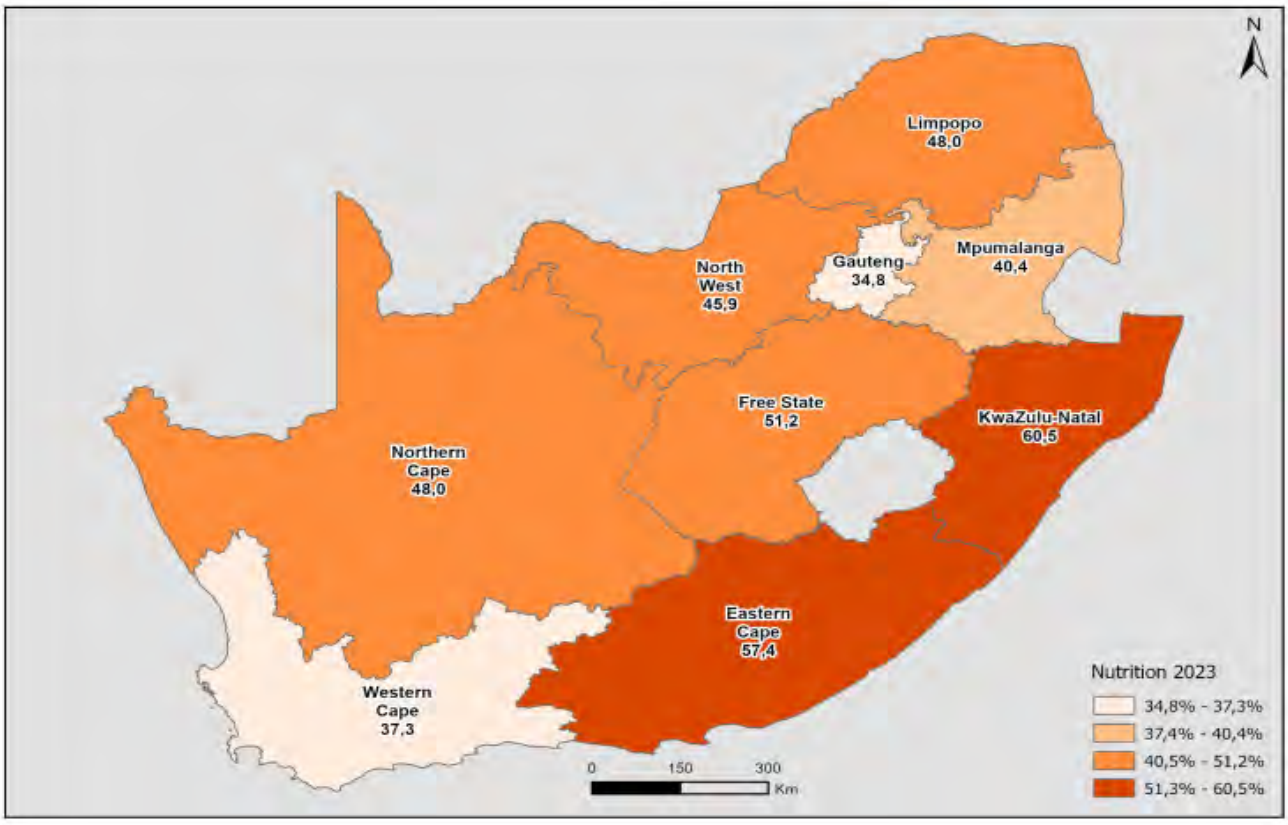


Figure 3.4.6: **Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Health by province, 2015**

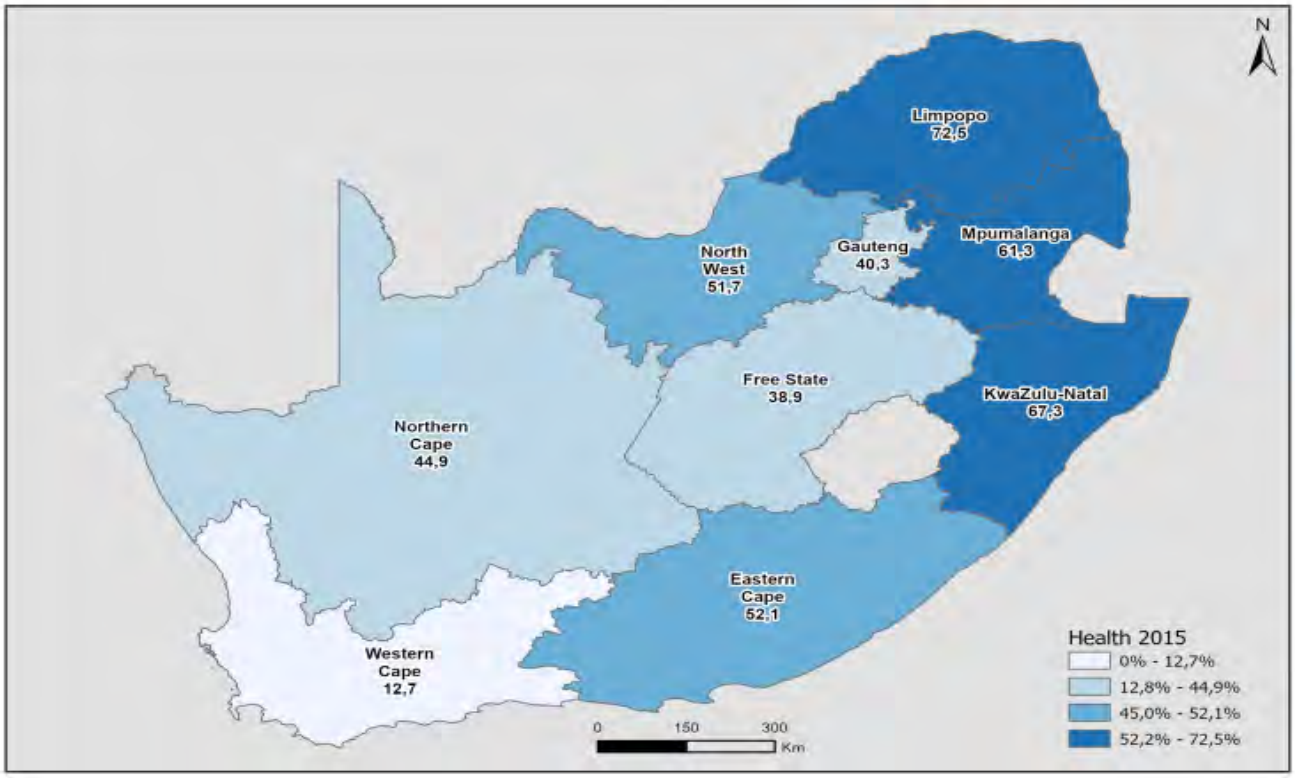


Figure 3.4.7: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Health by province, 2023

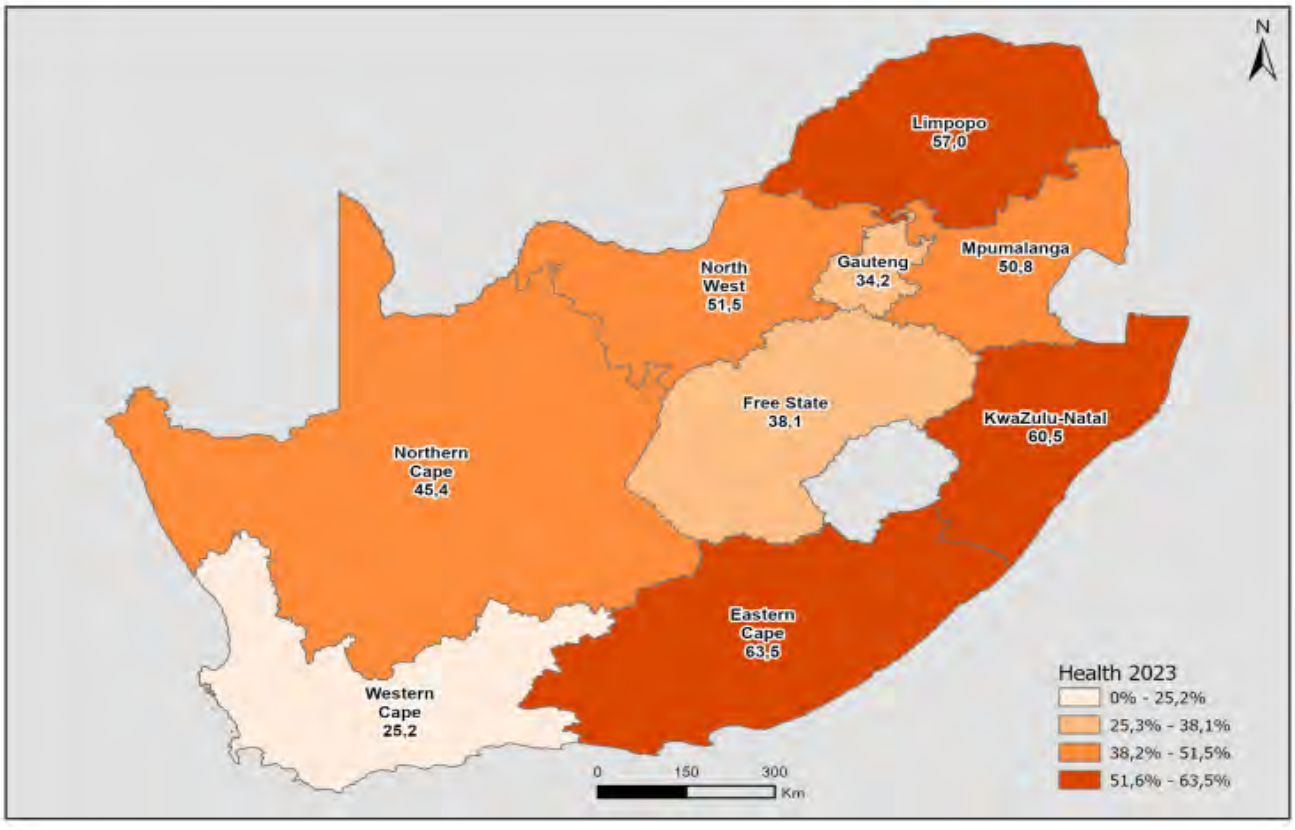


Figure 3.4.8: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Education by province, 2015

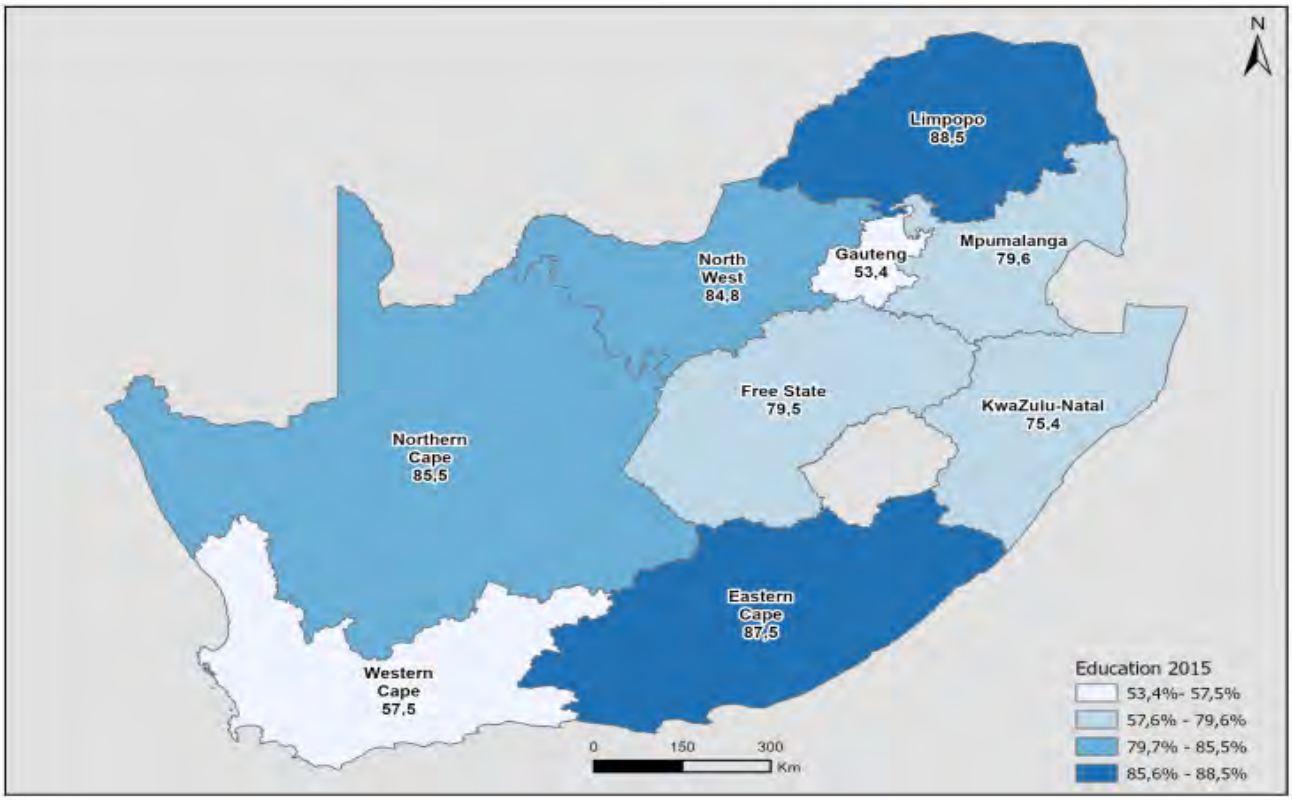


Figure 3.4.9: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Education by province, 2023

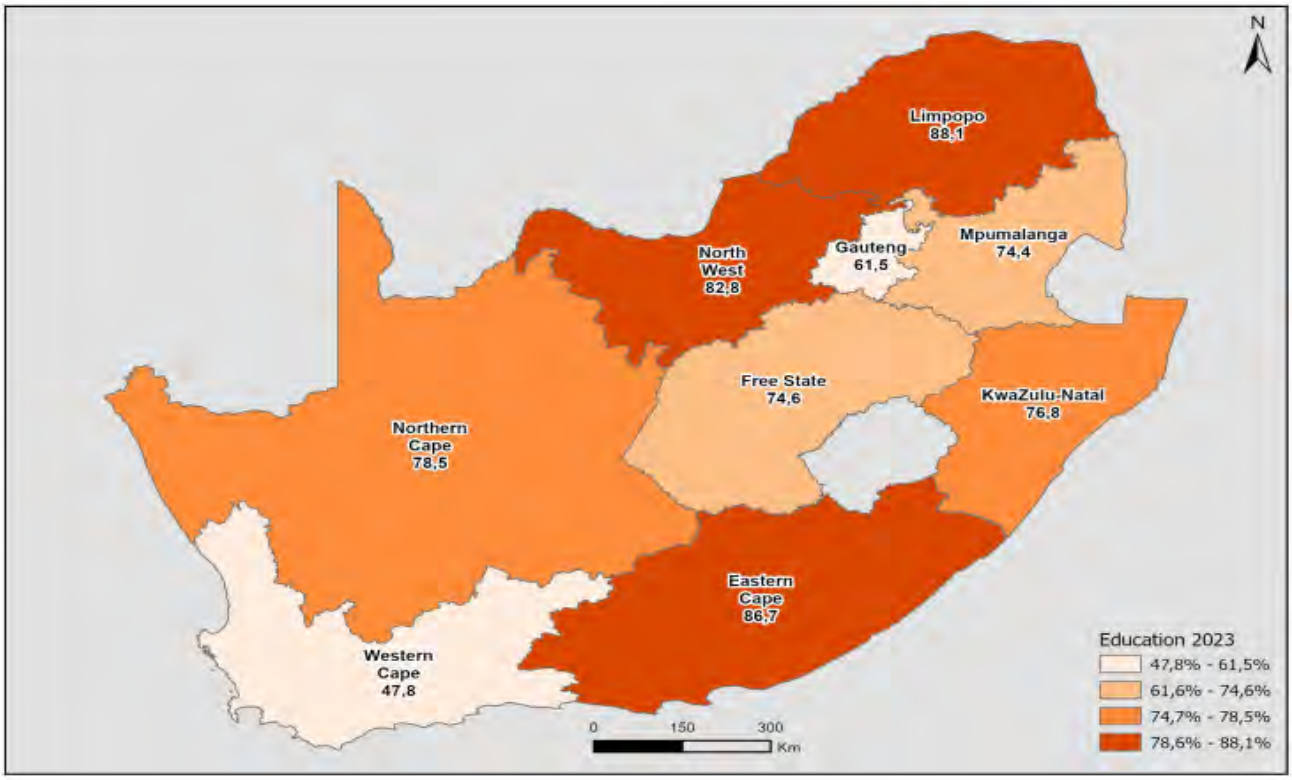


Figure 3.4.10: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Protection by province, 2015

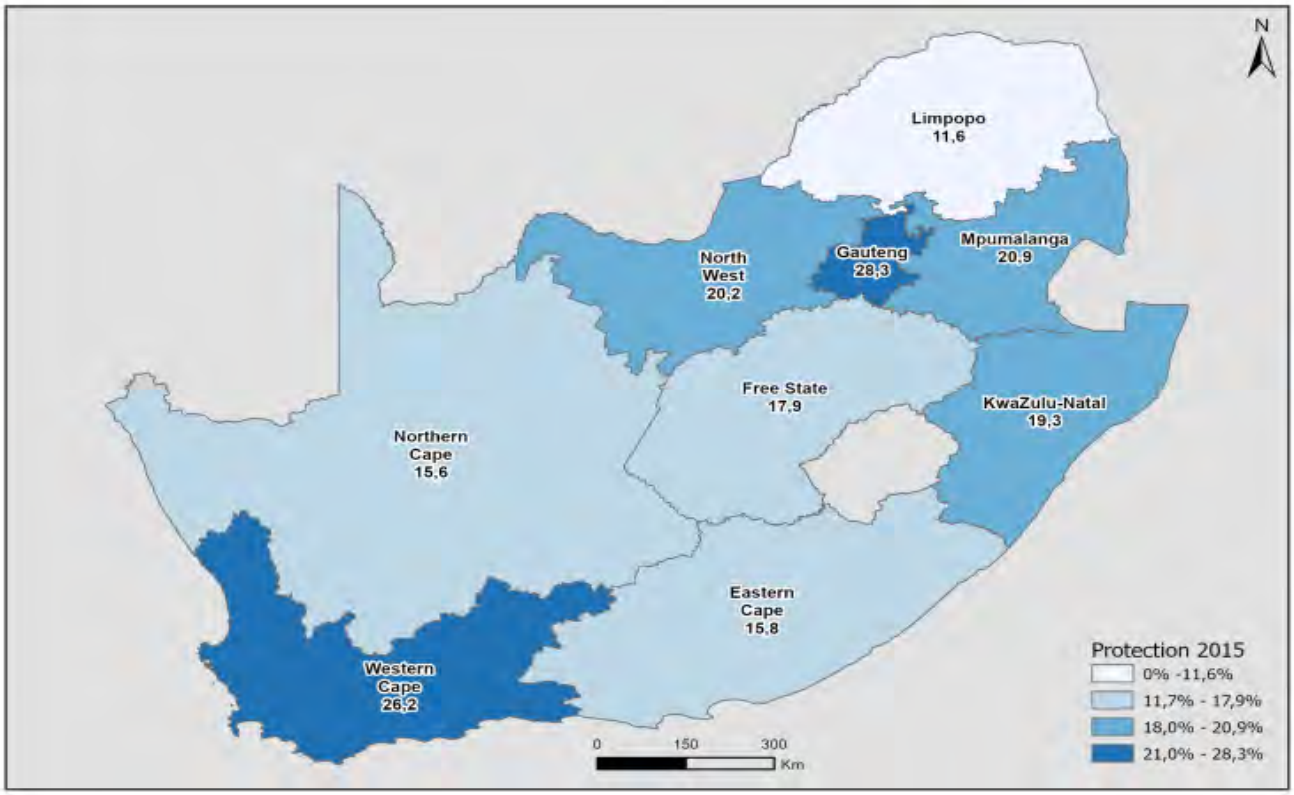


Figure 3.4.11: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Protection by province, 2023

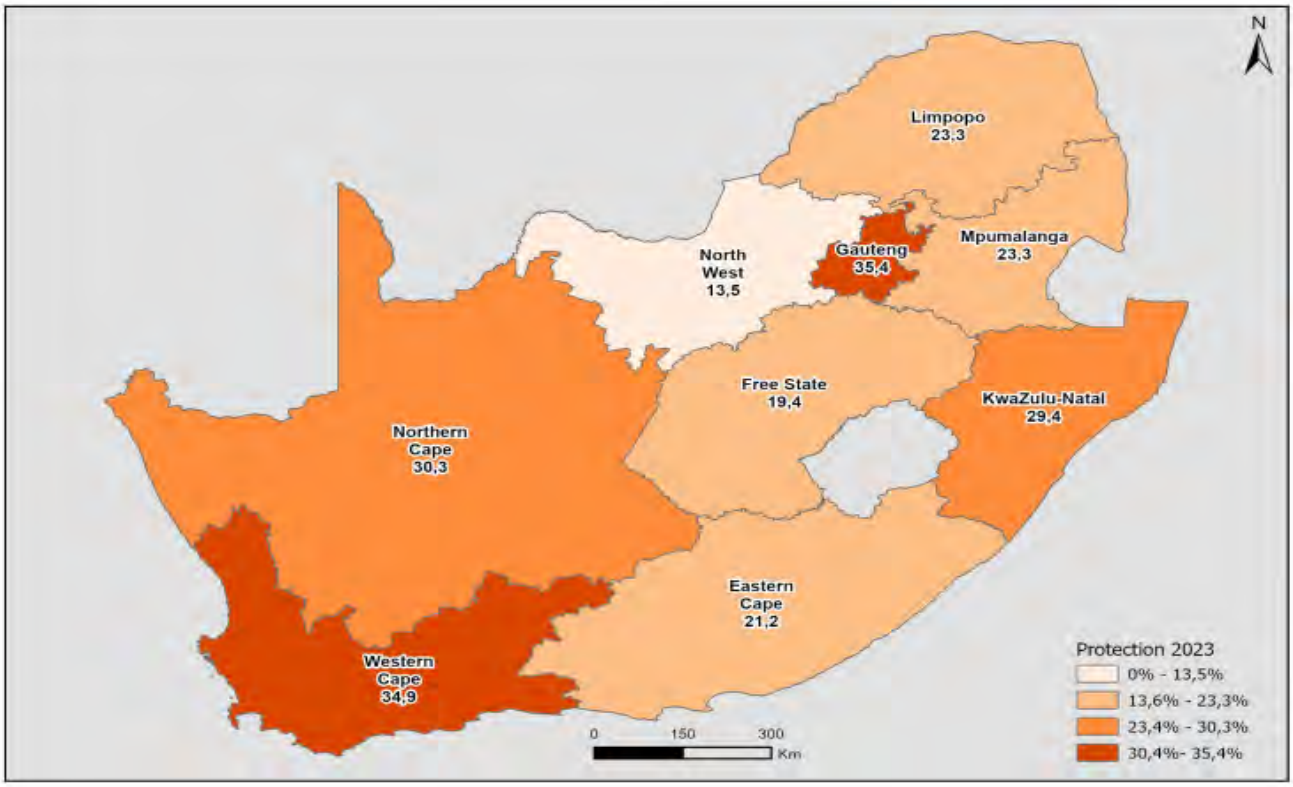


Figure 3.4.12: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for WASH by province, 2015

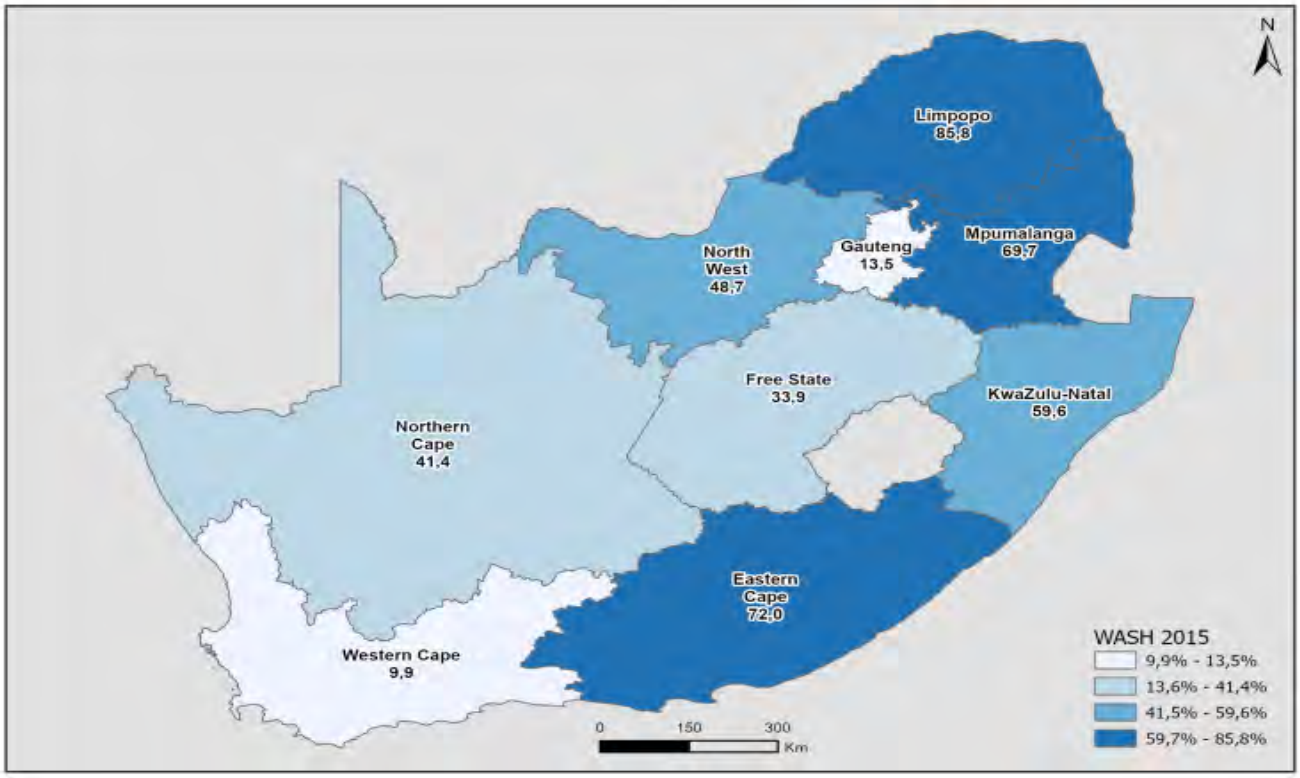


Figure 3.4.13: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for WASH by province, 2023

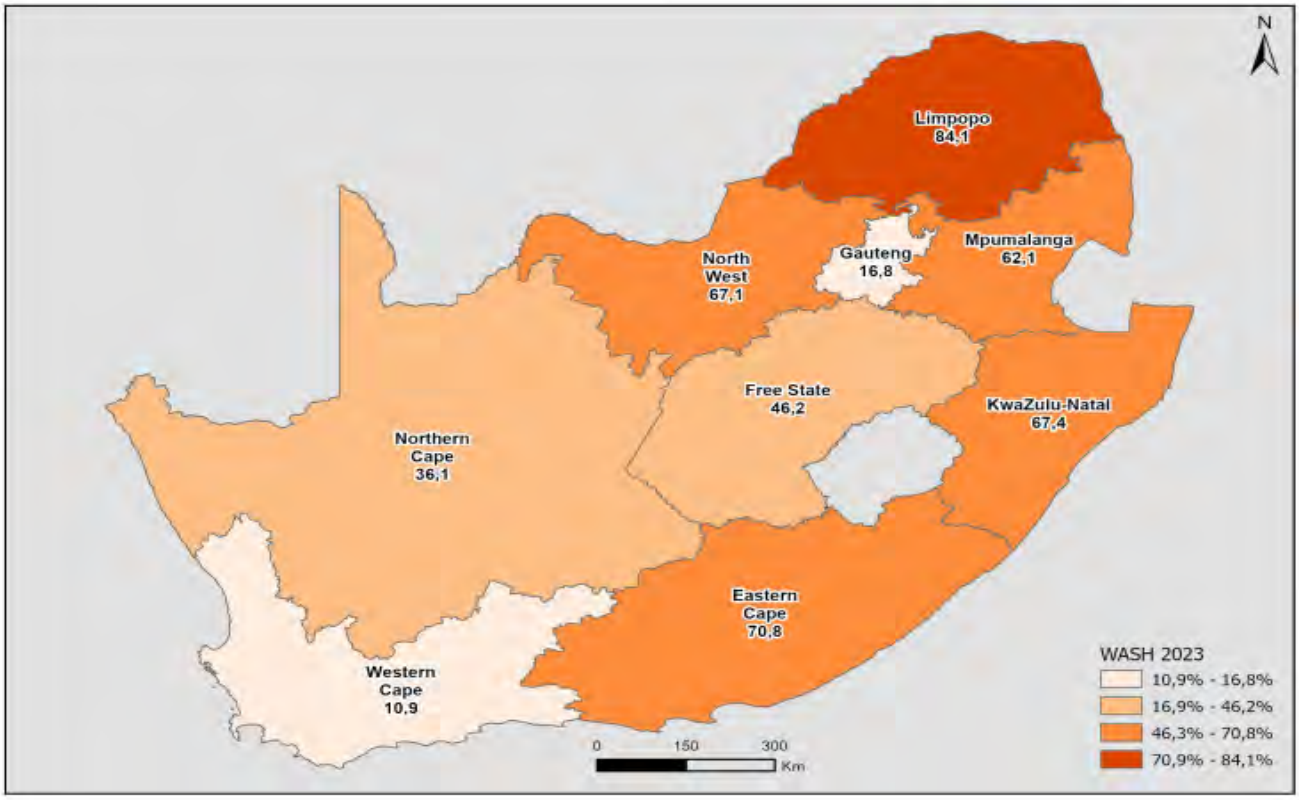


Figure 3.4.14: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Housing by province, 2015

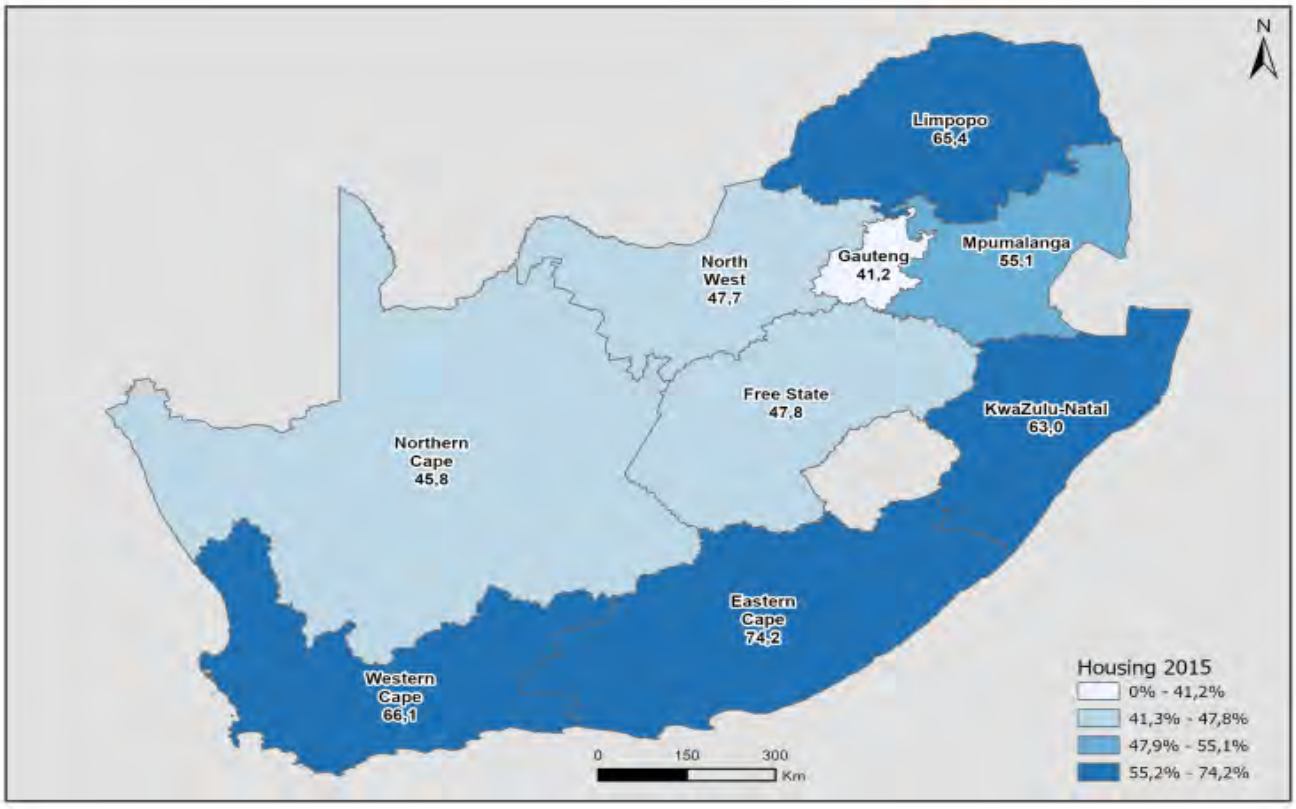
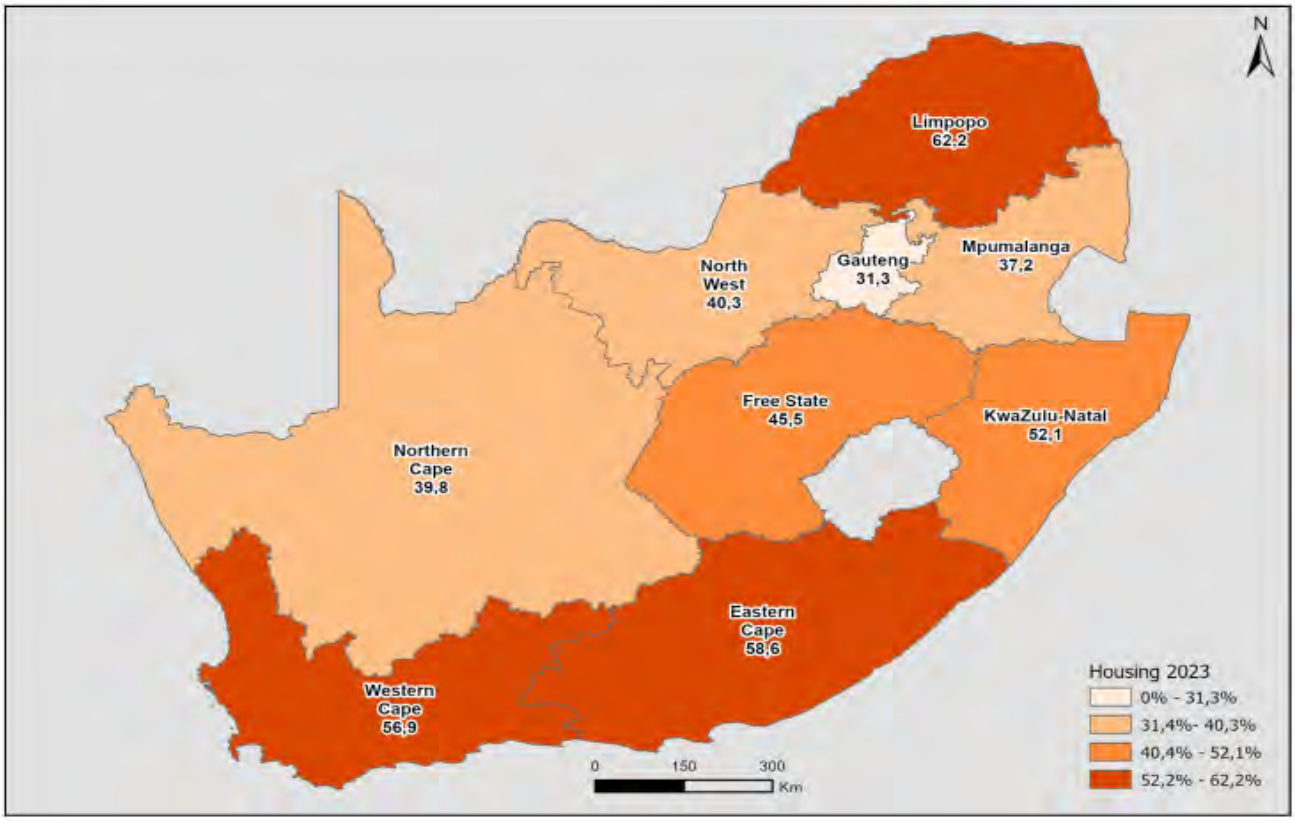


Figure 3.4.15: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years for Housing by province, 2023



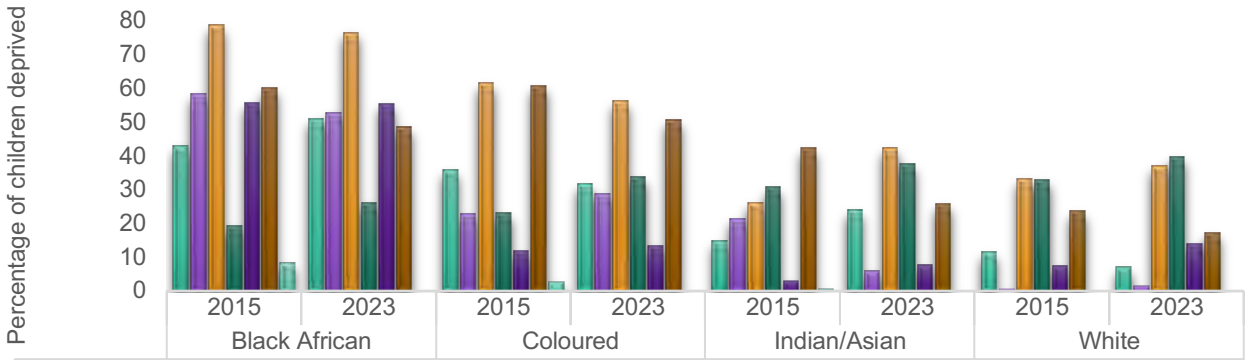
3.4.1.2 Deprivation rates based on individual characteristics of the child

As shown in Figure 3.4.16, black African and coloured children experienced higher levels of deprivation across several dimensions compared to other population groups. In the education dimension, deprivation remained high for both groups, despite notable improvements over time. Among black African children, deprivation in education declined from 78,8% in 2015 to 76,8% in 2023, while among coloured children it fell from 61,7% to 56,4%.

In the housing dimension, deprivation levels were similarly high and showed limited improvement. black African children experienced housing deprivation rates of 60,2% in 2015 and 48,7% in 2023, while coloured children recorded rates of 61,0% and 50,8%, respectively. Similar results were found for the health dimension, with deprivation rates among black African children declining from 58,0% in 2015 to 53,0% in 2023, whereas coloured children experienced lower levels of deprivation in health in both years. Although housing deprivation decreased slightly for black African children, coloured children consistently experienced marginally higher housing deprivation than black African children in both years.

The figure further shows that white and Indian/Asian children consistently experienced much lower levels of deprivation across all dimensions in both 2015 and 2023. Overall, the results indicate persistent population group disparities in adolescent child deprivation, with black African and coloured children being more likely to experience deprivation across multiple dimensions of well-being than their white and Indian/Asian counterparts.

Figure 3.4.16: Deprivation rate for children aged 13–17 years by population group of a child (2015 and 2023)

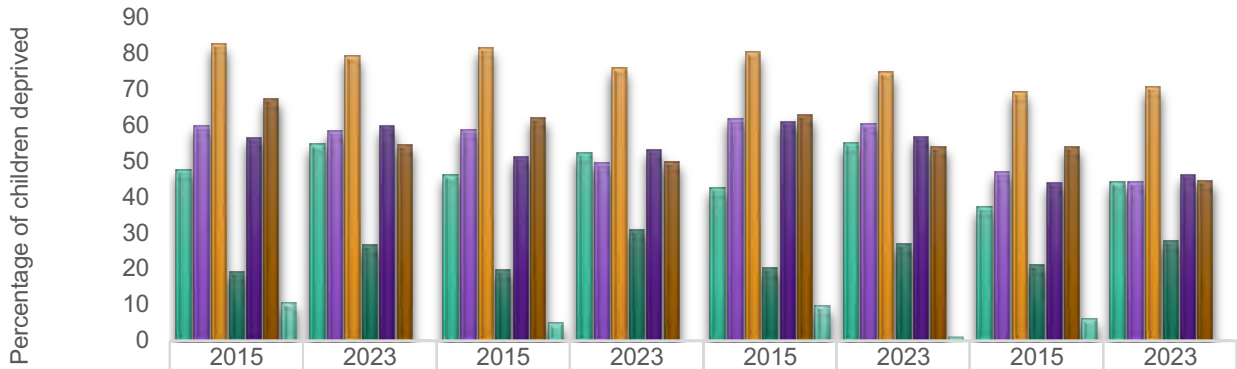


	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Black African		Coloured		Indian/Asian		White	
Nutrition	43.1	51.1	35.9	31.9	14.8	23.9	11.5	6.9
Health	58.5	53.0	22.8	28.7	21.4	5.9	0.7	1.4
Education	78.8	76.8	61.7	56.4	26.2	42.6	33.2	37.1
Protection	19.2	26.1	23.1	34.0	30.7	37.6	32.9	39.8
WASH	55.9	55.6	11.6	13.4	2.9	7.7	7.6	14.0
Housing	60.2	48.7	61.0	50.8	42.3	25.8	23.6	17.3
Information	8.4	0.2	2.6	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.17 shows deprivation rates for children 13–17 years by orphanhood status in 2015 and 2023. The results suggest that orphanhood status was not strongly associated with differences in multidimensional deprivation. Across all the dimensions of well-being, children experienced almost similar levels of deprivation, regardless of whether they were orphans or non-orphans in both years. This suggests that, for adolescents, being an orphan did not largely increase the likelihood of experiencing deprivation relative to their non-orphan peers.

Figure 3.4.17: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years by orphanhood status (2015 and 2023)



	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Only mother alive		Only father alive		Double orphan		Non-orphan	
Nutrition	47.7	54.8	46.4	52.4	42.8	55.1	37.1	44.4
Health	60.0	58.4	58.9	49.5	62.1	60.5	47.0	44.3
Education	82.8	79.5	81.8	76.2	80.6	74.9	69.6	70.8
Protection	19.3	26.9	19.7	31.0	20.2	27.0	21.2	27.8
WASH	56.7	59.9	51.4	53.4	61.1	56.9	44.1	46.1
Housing	67.6	54.6	62.3	50.0	63.0	54.1	54.3	44.7
Information	10.6	0.1	4.9	0.0	9.7	0.9	6.2	0.1

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

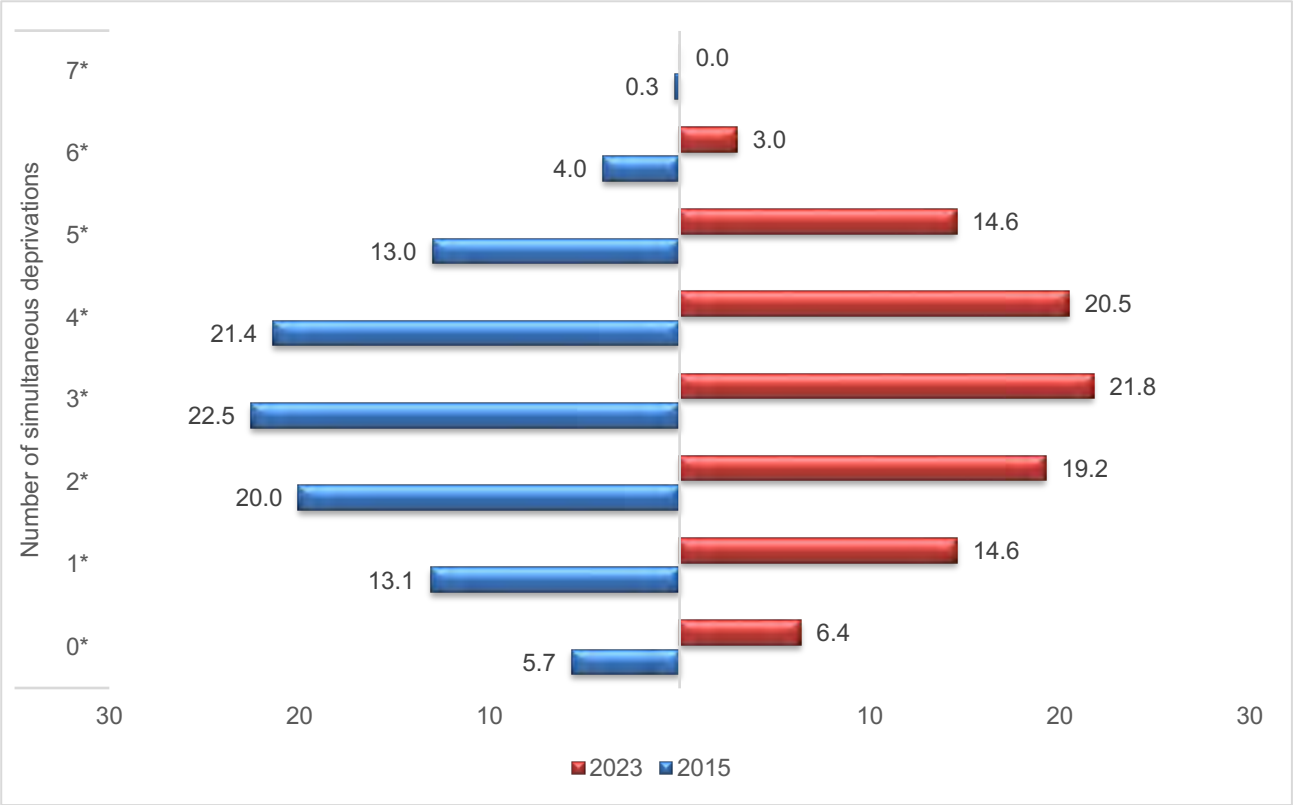
3.4.2 Multiple deprivation analysis

This section examines multiple deprivation among adolescent children by assessing the number of dimensions in which they are simultaneously deprived. The analysis is conducted nationally and disaggregated by type of settlement and metropolitan municipality category. Changes over time are captured by comparing deprivation patterns in 2015 and 2023, allowing for an assessment of both the prevalence and intensity of multiple deprivation and highlighting how children's exposure to overlapping deprivations evolved over the period.

3.4.2.1 Deprivation distribution

Figure 3.4.18 displays the distribution of deprivation for children aged 13–17 years at the national level in 2015 and 2023. The proportion of children not deprived in any dimension of well-being increased slightly from 5,7% in 2015 to 6,4% in 2023, reflecting a small improvement in overall child well-being. The figure further shows that as the number of deprivations increases, the proportion of children deprived also increases. This trend reverses once children experience three to four deprivations, at which point the proportion of children deprived began to decline. This pattern indicates a concentration of children experiencing moderate levels of deprivation, with relatively fewer children at the extremes of very low or very high numbers of simultaneous deprivations. Overall, the pattern resembles a bell-shaped distribution, highlighting that most adolescents faced multiple, but not extreme deprivations across dimensions of well-being.

Figure 3.4.18: Deprivation distribution for children 13–17 years at national level (2015 and 2023)

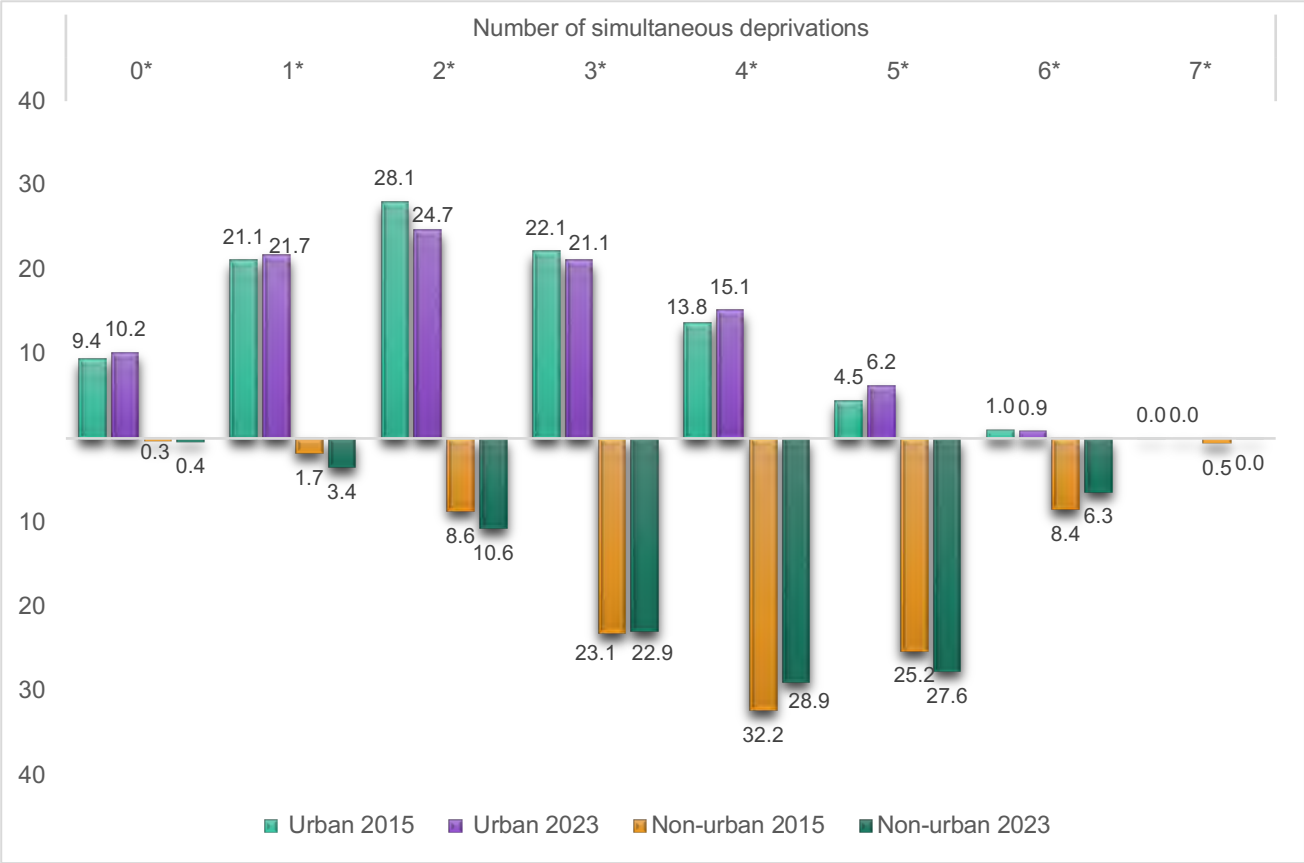


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.19 exhibits the distribution of deprivation for children 13–17 years by settlement type between 2015 and 2023. A larger proportion of children residing in urban areas were not deprived in any dimension, at 9,4% in 2015 and 10,2% in 2023, compared to children living in non-urban areas (less than 1,0% in both years), highlighting better overall well-being among urban adolescents.

The deprivation distribution for children in urban areas was skewed to the right, indicating that relatively few children in this age group experienced two or more simultaneous deprivations. In contrast, children in non-urban areas faced greater burden of multiple deprivation, with larger share experiencing four or more simultaneous deprivations. Specifically, more than 29 out of every 100 children in non-urban areas faced high levels of deprivation, compared to fewer than 16 out of every 100 children in urban areas in both 2015 and 2023.

Figure 3.4.19: Deprivation distribution of children 13–17 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

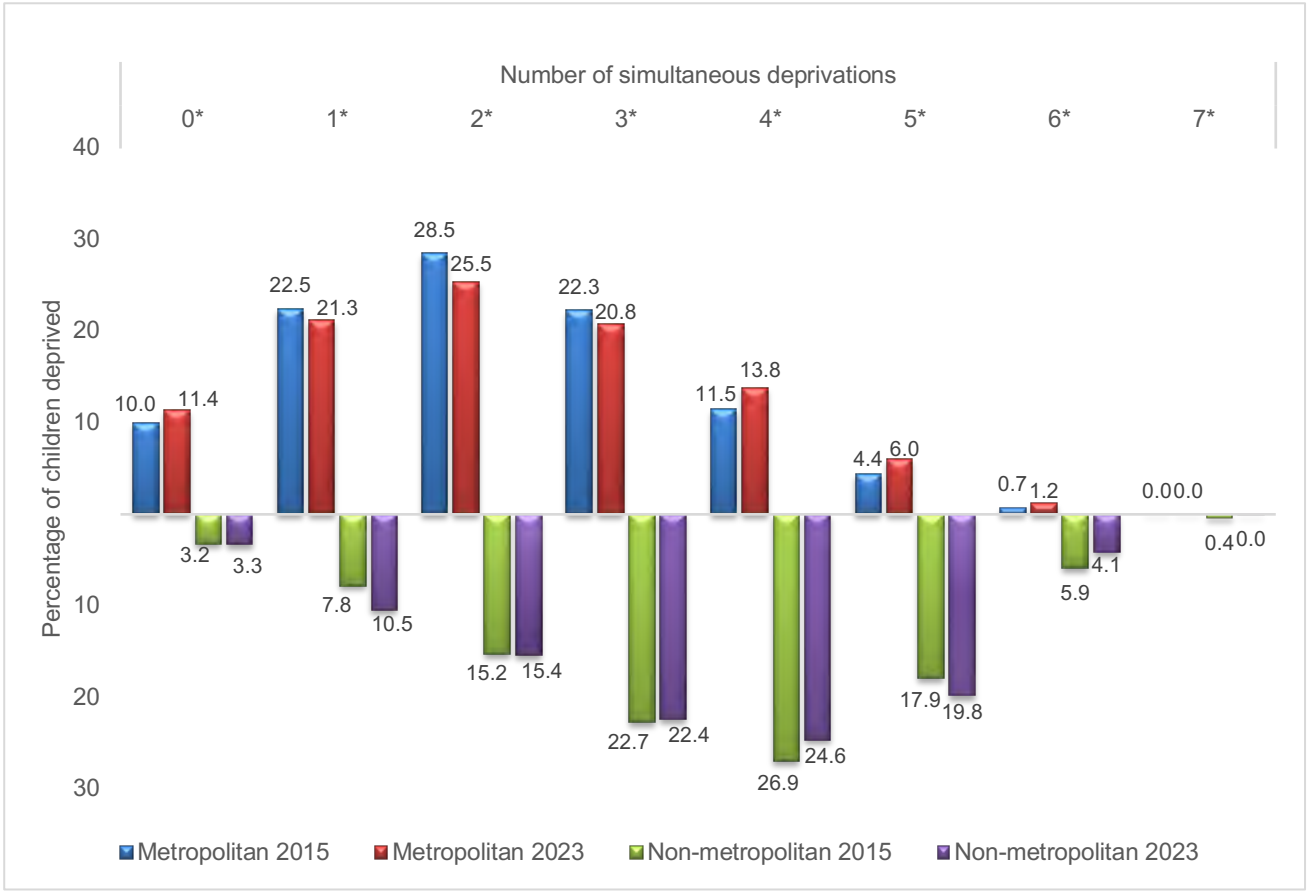


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.20 depicts the deprivation distribution for children 13–17 years by metropolitan municipality category between 2015 and 2023. The distribution highlights an inverse association between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. In both 2015 and 2023, metropolitan areas recorded higher proportion of children not deprived in any dimension of well-being, whereas non-metropolitan areas presented a much lower share of children without any deprivation.

Just over 4 out of every 100 children living in metropolitan areas experienced deprivation in five dimensions at the same time, compared to more than 18 out of every 100 children in non-metropolitan areas in both years. These findings further confirm the inverse relationship between metropolitan municipality category and child deprivation, showing that children in non-metropolitan areas were exposed to substantially higher levels of multiple deprivation than their metropolitan counterparts.

Figure 3.4.20: Deprivation distribution for children 13–17 years by metropolitan municipality category (2015 and 2023)



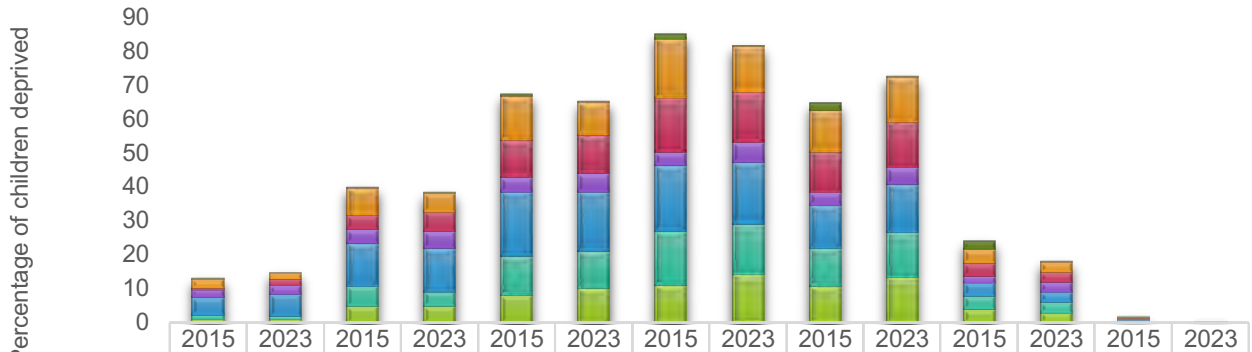
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.4.2.2 Deprivation overlap analysis

This section examines overlapping deprivations among children 13–17 years, highlighting how multiple dimensions of well-being are experienced simultaneously and illustrating the extent of the challenges faced by older children.

Figure 3.4.21 presents the deprivation overlap by dimension, showing the proportion of children 13-17 years deprived in a given dimension along with additional dimensions. A substantial proportion of children deprived in education and housing were deprived in said dimension and three additional dimensions at the same time (19,6% in 2015 vs 18,4% in 2023) and (17,4% in 2015 vs 13,6% in 2023) respectively. Similar to previous age groups, the majority of children deprived in one dimension also experienced deprivation in other dimensions analysed.

Figure 3.4.21: Proportion of children 13–17 years deprived in each specific dimension and additional dimension (2015 and 2023)



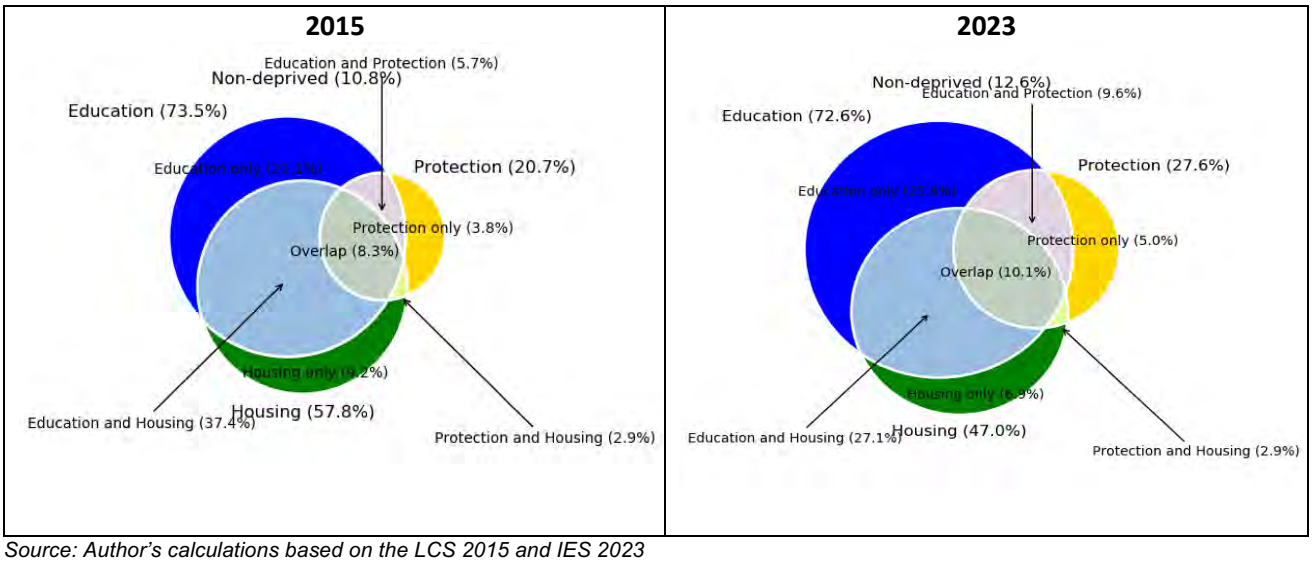
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Deprived in this Dimension only		Deprived in this dimension plus one other		Deprived in this dimension plus two other		Deprived in this dimension plus three other		Deprived in this dimension plus four other		Deprived in this dimension plus five other		Deprived in this dimension plus six other	
Information	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.1	1.4	0.0	2.2	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
Housing	2.6	1.8	8.1	5.6	13.0	9.6	17.4	13.6	12.3	13.4	4.0	3.0	0.3	0.0
WASH	0.6	1.6	4.2	5.6	10.9	11.3	16.1	14.6	12.0	13.2	4.0	3.0	0.3	0.0
Protection	2.4	2.8	4.1	5.1	4.4	5.6	3.9	6.1	3.7	5.1	1.9	3.0	0.3	0.0
Education	5.1	6.4	12.6	13.0	19.1	17.6	19.6	18.4	12.7	14.2	4.0	3.0	0.3	0.0
Health	1.3	1.0	6.1	4.3	11.6	11.0	16.0	14.9	11.4	13.3	4.0	3.0	0.3	0.0
Nutrition	1.0	1.0	4.8	4.8	8.1	10.2	11.0	14.3	10.8	13.6	3.9	3.0	0.3	0.0

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.22 illustrates the patterns of deprivation among adolescents 13–17 years in education, protection, and housing for 2015 and 2023. In 2015, 8,3% of adolescents were deprived across all three dimensions simultaneously. The most common overlap occurred between education and housing, affecting 37,4% of adolescents, followed by education and protection at 5,7%, and protection and housing at 2,9%, excluding 8,3% of children deprived in all three dimensions. Deprivation concentrated in a single dimension was highest in education (22,1%), followed by housing (9,2%) and protection (3,8%). At the same time, 10,8% of adolescents experienced no deprivation in any of the aforementioned dimensions.

As observed in 2023, multiple deprivation had increased, with 10,1% of adolescents facing deprivation in all three dimensions. The overlap between education and protection rose to 9,6%, while the overlap between education and housing declined to 27,1%, and protection and housing overlap remained stable at 2,9%, excluding 10,1% of children deprived in all three dimensions. Single-dimension deprivation in education and protection grew to 25,8% and 5,0%, respectively, whereas housing only deprivation fell to 6,9%. The share of adolescents not deprived in any dimension rose slightly to 12,6%, indicating that approximately 13 out of every 100 adolescents were free from any deprivation in the dimensions: education, protection and housing in 2023, compared to 11 out of every 100 children in 2015.

Figure 3.4.22: Three-way overlap between the dimensions education, protection and housing for children 13–17 years (2015 and 2023)

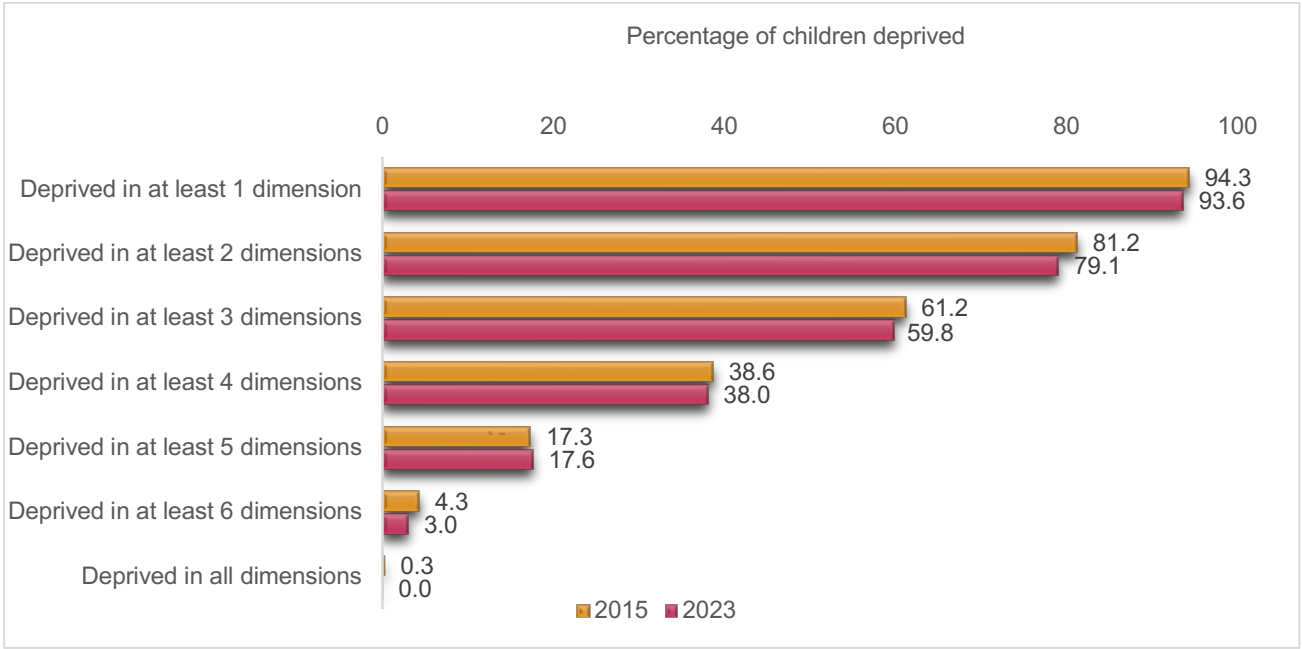


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.4.2.3 Multidimensional deprivation indices

Figure 3.4.23 and Table 3.4.1 present the multidimensional poverty headcount (H%) for children 13–17 years at national level, as well as differences by settlement type in 2015 and 2023. At the national level, the proportion of multidimensionally (k=3) poor children declined slightly from 61,2% in 2015 to 59,8% in 2023, indicating a small improvement over time. This suggests that while more than half of adolescents continued to experience multiple deprivations in 2023, the national trend points to a slight reduction in the prevalence of multidimensional poverty among older children.

Figure 3.4.23: Multidimensional poverty headcount (H%) for children 13–17 years at national level (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

The proportion of children experiencing any deprivation remained high, with 94,3% in 2015 and 93,6% in 2023 experiencing deprivation in at least one dimension of well-being. Less than 1% of children were deprived in all seven dimensions in both years.

Clear differences by settlement type are evident in Table 3.4.1. In urban areas, the multidimensional poverty headcount increased from 41,4% in 2015 to 43,3% in 2023. The average intensity of deprivation among poor children also rose slightly, from 51,8% to 52,8%, resulting in an increase in the adjusted headcount ratio (M_0) from 0,214 to 0,229. These trends indicate a small but worsening incidence and intensity of deprivation among urban children over time.

In contrast, non-urban areas continued to experience much higher levels of multidimensional poverty, although some improvement was observed. The headcount declined from 89,4% in 2015 to 85,6% in 2023, while the average intensity remained almost stable at around 60%. As a result, the adjusted headcount ratio (M_0) decreased from 0,540 to 0,514, showing a reduction in overall multidimensional poverty among non-urban children.

Overall, national multidimensional poverty among adolescents declined slightly between 2015 and 2023. However, large differences continued between urban and non-urban areas, with non-urban children far more likely to experience multiple deprivations. This shows the need for focused support to help children facing ongoing disadvantages in non-urban areas.

Table 3.4.1: Multidimensional (H%) deprivation indices (k=3) for children 13–17 years at national level and by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Deprivation headcount (H) %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	41,4	43,3	51,8	52,8	3,6	3,7	0,214	0,229
Non-urban	89,4	85,6	60,4	60,0	4,2	4,2	0,540	0,514
National	**61,2**	**59,8**	**57,0**	**56,9**	**4,0**	**4,0**	**0,349**	**0,340**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.4.24 presents multidimensional poverty (k=3) among children 13–17 years, based on selected child and household characteristics. At a child level, the analysis considers sex and population group, while at a household level, it examines the highest education level of the household head and the number of employed adults. These characteristics help explain children's exposure to multiple deprivations and highlight differences in well-being, providing insights for targeted interventions to support adolescents in disadvantaged households.

Child's characteristics

The analysis of Figure 3.4.24 shows that the sex of the child does not play a role in terms of child deprivation in both years. Both boys and girls presented very similar deprivation levels. Approximately 60 out of every 100 children in 2015 and almost 60 out every 100 children in 2023 were multidimensionally deprived, indicating that sex did not influence adolescents' exposure to multiple deprivations.

Focusing on the population group of the child, black African children experienced the highest levels of multidimensional poverty, at 68,7% in 2015 and 65,8% in 2023, reflecting a decline of 2,9 percentage points. Despite this improvement, black African children remained the most likely to face multiple deprivations compared to children in other population groups. Coloured children exhibited the second-highest rates, with 38,6% in 2015 and 36,7% in 2023, showing a slight decline of about 2 children per 100.

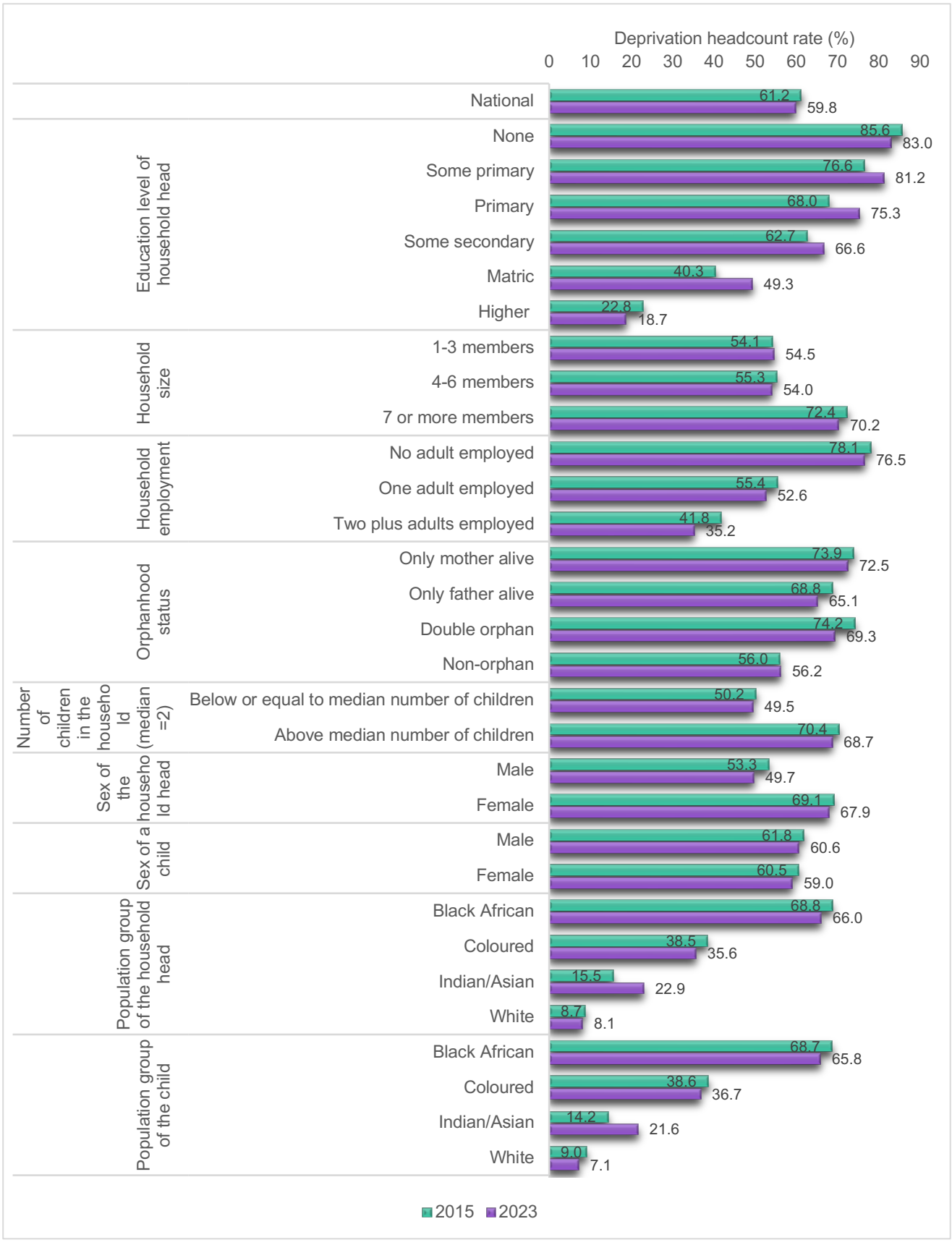
In contrast, Indian/Asian children experienced a notable increase in multidimensional poverty, rising from 14,2% in 2015 to 21,6% in 2023. White children reported the lowest levels of multidimensional poverty in both years, with a small decline of about 2 children per 100. Overall, among all population groups, only Indian/Asian children experienced an increase in multidimensional poverty between 2015 and 2023. Other groups showed either stable or small declines.

Household characteristics

The results indicate that as the education level of the household head improved, the proportion of children experiencing multidimensional poverty declined in both 2015 and 2023. Between 2015 and 2023, an increase in multidimensional poverty was observed among children living in households where the household head's highest level of education was some primary, primary, some secondary, and matric, averaging about 6 children per 100 experiencing poverty. The largest increase occurred among children in households headed by individuals with completed matric (9,0 percentage point), while the smallest increase was observed among children whose household head had some secondary education (4,6 percentage points). In contrast, children from households where the head had higher education or no schooling experienced a decline in multidimensional poverty in 2023, of approximately 4 and 3 children per 100, respectively.

Regarding the number of employed adults in the household, children living in households with no employed adults recorded the highest levels of multidimensional poverty in both years, with around 77 to 78 out of every 100 children affected. This is substantially higher than among children in households with at least one adult employed, where multidimensional poverty ranged between 52,6% and 55,4% in both years. These findings highlight the critical role of household education and employment in shaping children's exposure to multiple deprivations.

Figure 3.4.24: Multidimensional headcount ratios (k=3) for children 13–17 years by child's and household's characteristics (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

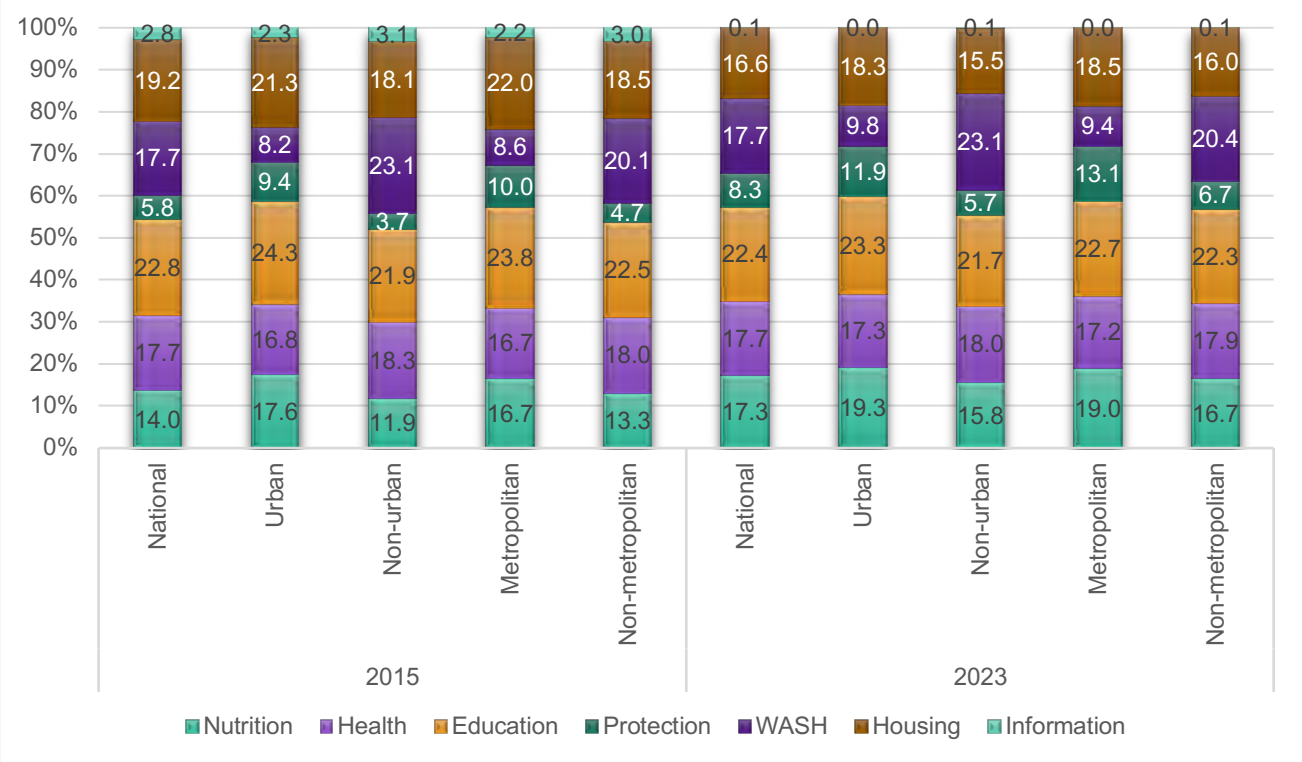
Figure 3.4.25 presents the decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rate (k = 3) for children 13–17 years disaggregated by settlement type and metropolitan municipality category.

At the national level, multidimensional deprivation among children in 2015 was mainly driven by education (22,8%), housing (19,2%), WASH and health, both at 17,7%. By 2023, deprivation continued to be driven primarily by education (22,4%), followed by health and WASH, which contributed equally at 17,7% and nutrition (17,3%).

In non-urban areas, WASH was the dominant driver of multidimensional deprivation in both years, contributing 23,1%. In 2015, other key contributors included education (21,9%), health (18,3%) and housing (18,1%). However, in 2023, education, health, nutrition and housing also emerged as substantial contributors, alongside WASH, indicating a more diversified set of drivers of child deprivation in non-urban settings.

Similar trend is observed in urban areas and metropolitan municipalities, with multidimensional deprivation among children primarily been driven by education in both years. The contribution of other dimensions such as housing, health, and WASH, was smaller, suggesting that children in urban and metropolitan areas generally had better access to basic services, while education related challenges remained the most persistent barrier to reducing multidimensional deprivation.

Figure 3.4.25: Decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rate (k=3) for children 13–17 years by settlement type and metropolitan municipality category (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

CHAPTER 3.5

Multidimensional poverty profiles by money-metric poverty status

3.5 Analysis of multidimensional poverty according to money-metric poverty status

This section provides a detailed analysis of multidimensional child deprivation among children 0–17 years, categorised by their money-metric poverty status. The analysis is further disaggregated by children's key life-cycle age groups, which is younger age (0–4 years), primary school-age (5–12 years), and adolescence (13–17 years). By comparing multidimensional deprivation across these age groups and poverty statuses, the section highlights specific vulnerabilities and patterns that can inform targeted policy interventions aimed at improving child well-being throughout their growth and development.

3.5.1 Younger children (0–4 years)

Box 5: Key findings on the relationship between multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 0–4 years.

Key findings

Relationship between multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 0–4 years

- ✓ Around 71 out of every 100 children from poor households were deprived in three or more dimensions, compared to about 30 out of every 100 children from non-poor households in 2023.
- ✓ Children from poor households consistently experienced substantially higher deprivation rates across all dimensions than those from non-poor households in South Africa in both 2015 and 2023.
- ✓ Children from poor households were more likely to experience simultaneous deprivations in three to four dimensions, whereas children from non-poor households were more concentrated in one to two dimensions.
- ✓ In 2023, approximately 21 out of every 100 children from non-poor households experienced no deprivation, compared to only about 3 out of every 100 children from poor households.
- ✓ The proportion of children who were not poor under both money-metric and multidimensional measures increased from 27,6% in 2015 to 33,1% in 2023.
- ✓ The share of children who were simultaneously money-metric and multidimensionally poor declined noticeably from 46,1% in 2015 to 37,4% in 2023.

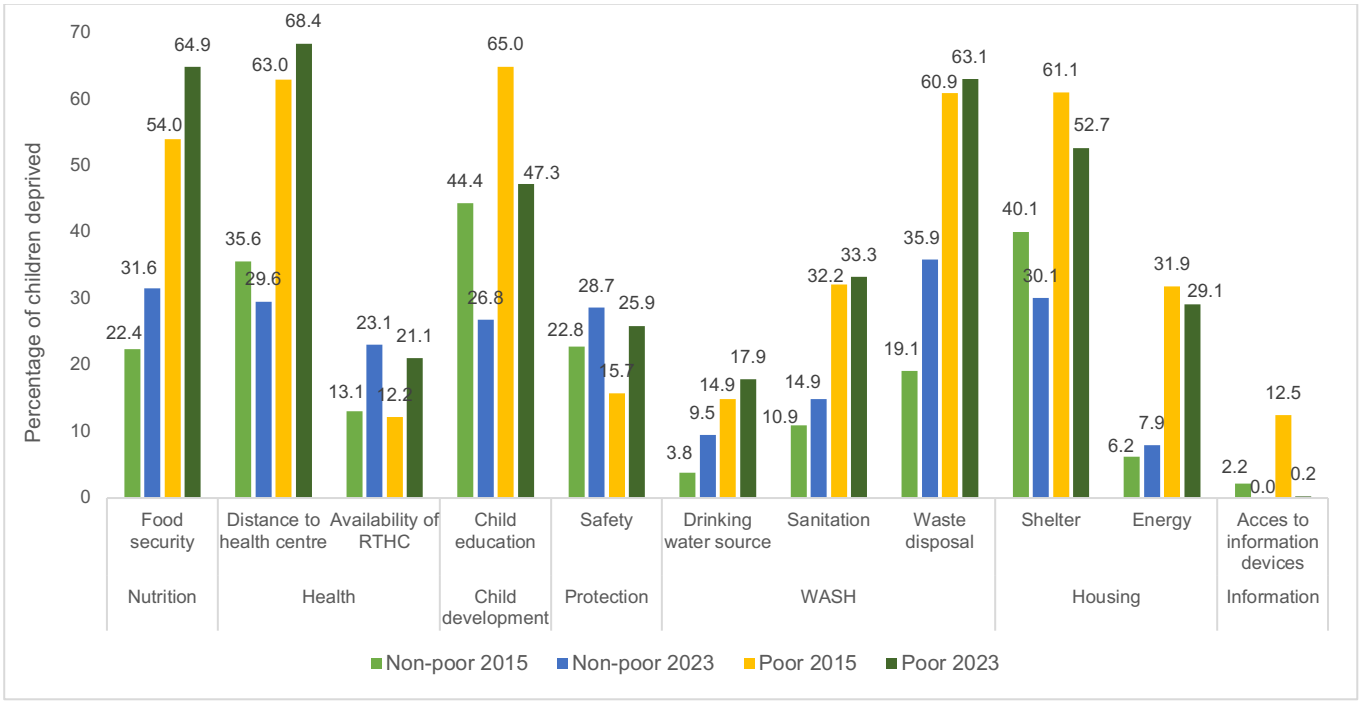
3.5.1.1 Single deprivation analysis

Figure 3.5.1 shows deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by indicator, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status in 2015 and 2023. In 2015, children from monetary poor households experienced a higher levels of deprivation across several indicators, including child development, distance to a health centre, waste disposal, shelter and food security. Between 2015 and 2023, deprivation declined in shelter and education indicators, with shelter recording a reduction of approximately 8,4 percentage points. However, the apparent decline in child development should be interpreted with caution, as it largely reflects data limitations for children younger than 3 years rather than a substantive improvement.

In contrast, food security, distance to health centre, and waste disposal recorded increases in deprivation in 2023, by 10,9, 5,4, and 2,2 percentage points, respectively. This indicates that deprivation related to these indicators remained a persistent challenge for children 0–4 years in 2023.

In 2023, the lowest deprivation levels among children from poor households were observed in access to information devices (0,2%) and drinking water source (17,9%). Children from non-poor households consistently recorded lower deprivation levels across all indicators in both years. This suggests that children from non-poor households were less likely to face deprivation than their counterparts from poor households.

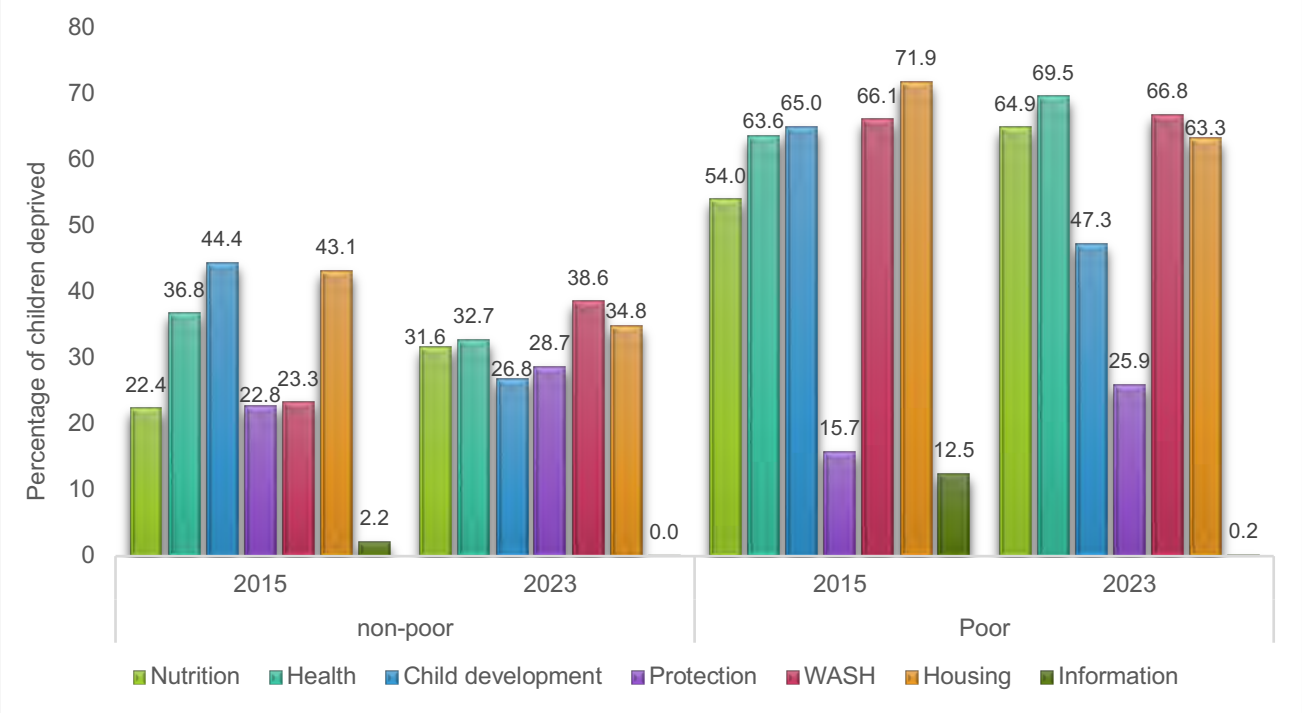
Figure 3.5.1: Deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by indicator, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.2 depicts deprivation rates for children 0–4 years by dimension, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status between 2015 and 2023. Children from poor households were consistently more likely to experience deprivation across dimensions in both years, presenting deprivation rates exceeding 60% in four dimensions. The exception observed in 2023 should be interpreted with caution, as it reflects data limitations for children under 3 years, rather than a true improvement in well-being.

Figure 3.5.2: Deprivation rate for children 0–4 years by dimension, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.1.2 Multiple deprivation analysis

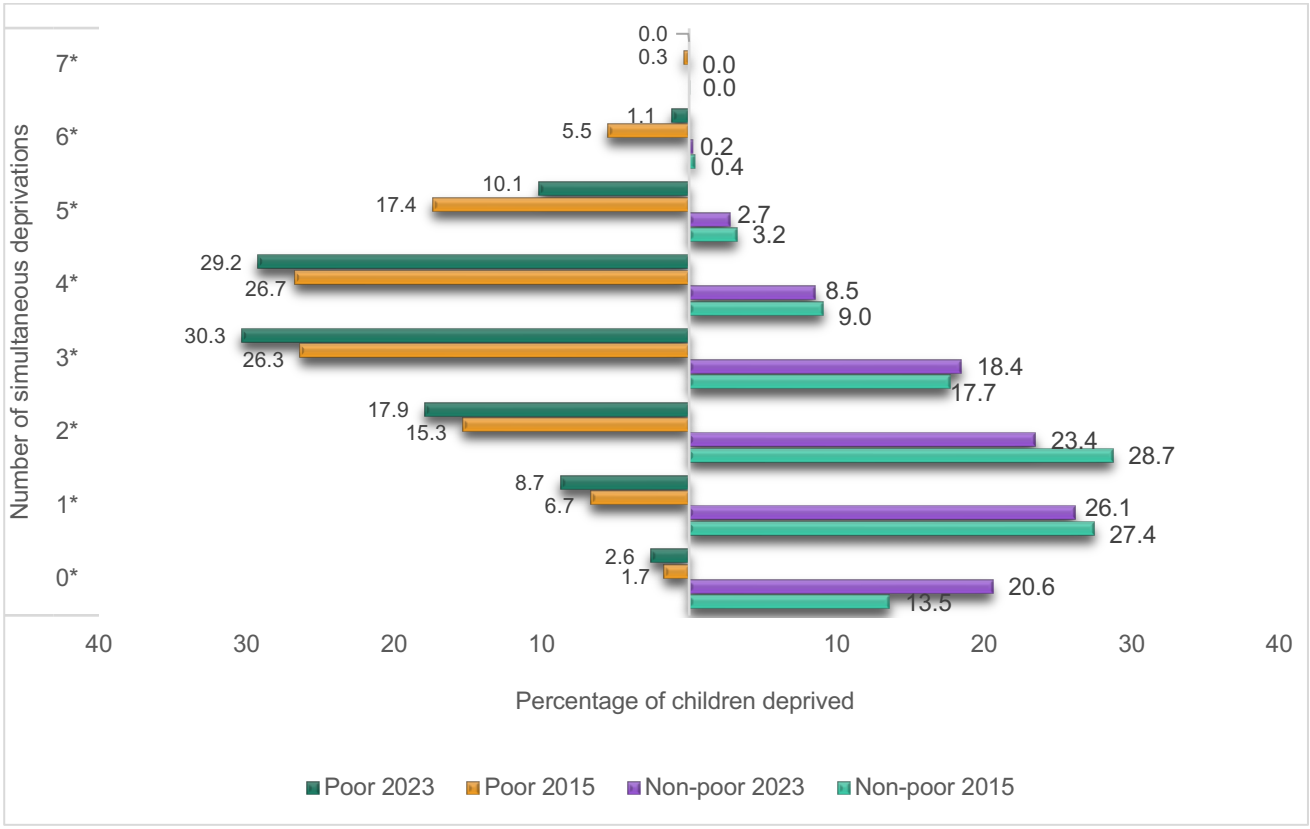
In this section, multiple deprivation of children 0–4 years by money-metric poverty status is analysed to examine how income poverty relates to broader forms of deprivation affecting children's well-being. The analysis identifies children experiencing both income poverty and multiple deprivations, as well as those facing multidimensional poverty without being income poor. It covers the distribution of deprivation, deprivation indices, and overlaps by dimension and child characteristics.

3.5.1.2.1 Deprivation distribution

Figure 3.5.3 presents the distribution of deprivation among children 0–4 years by money-metric poverty status in 2015 and 2023. Children from poor households consistently exhibited higher levels of simultaneous deprivation in three to four dimensions of well-being, compared to those from non-poor households with greater concentration in one to two dimensions of deprivation in both years.

These patterns indicate that children from poor households were more likely to experience multiple deprivations at the same time than their non-poor counterpart. This disparity was further emphasised by the proportion of children facing no deprivation at all. In 2023, approximately 21 out of every 100 children from non-poor households experienced zero deprivation, compared to only about 3 out of every 100 children from poor households.

Figure 3.5 3: Deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.1.2.2 Multidimensional deprivation headcount rates

Table 3.5.1 exhibits multidimensional deprivation indices (k=3) for children 0–4 years at national level in 2015 and 2023, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status. Children from poor households were more than twice as likely to be multidimensionally deprived as those from non-poor households. Approximately 71 out of every 100 children from poor households were deprived in three or more dimensions of well-being, compared to about 30 out of every 100 children from non-poor households. Among the poor, around 41 out of every 100 children were classified as multidimensionally poor.

Between 2015 and 2023, multidimensional deprivation declined for children in both poor and non-poor households, with reductions of 5,5 and 0,4 percentage points, respectively. Despite these improvements, the average intensity of deprivation remained consistently higher among children from

poor households. Average intensity of deprivation ranged from 53,5% to 57,7%, for poor children compared to 49,8% to 50,7% among their non-poor counterparts. This translates to an average deprivation of 3,7 to 4,0 out of seven dimensions of well-being for children from poor households, as opposed to 3,5 to 3,6 dimensions for children from non-poor households.

Table 3.5.1: Multidimensional deprivation indices (k=3) for children 0–4 years at national level and money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)

Money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Deprivation headcount (%)		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Non-poor	30,3	29,9	50,7	49,8	3,6	3,5	0,154	0,149
Poor	76,3	70,8	57,7	53,5	4,0	3,7	0,440	0,379
National	**58,1**	**51,5**	**56,3**	**52,5**	**3,9**	**3,7**	**0,327**	**0,270**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023
Note: Money-metric poverty status is used solely as a grouping variable. The deprivation measures (H, A and M_0) are calculated independently of money-metric poverty and should not be interpreted as trends in income poverty.

Figure 3.5.4: Child poverty headcount rate for children 0–4 years based on money-metric poverty by province, 2015

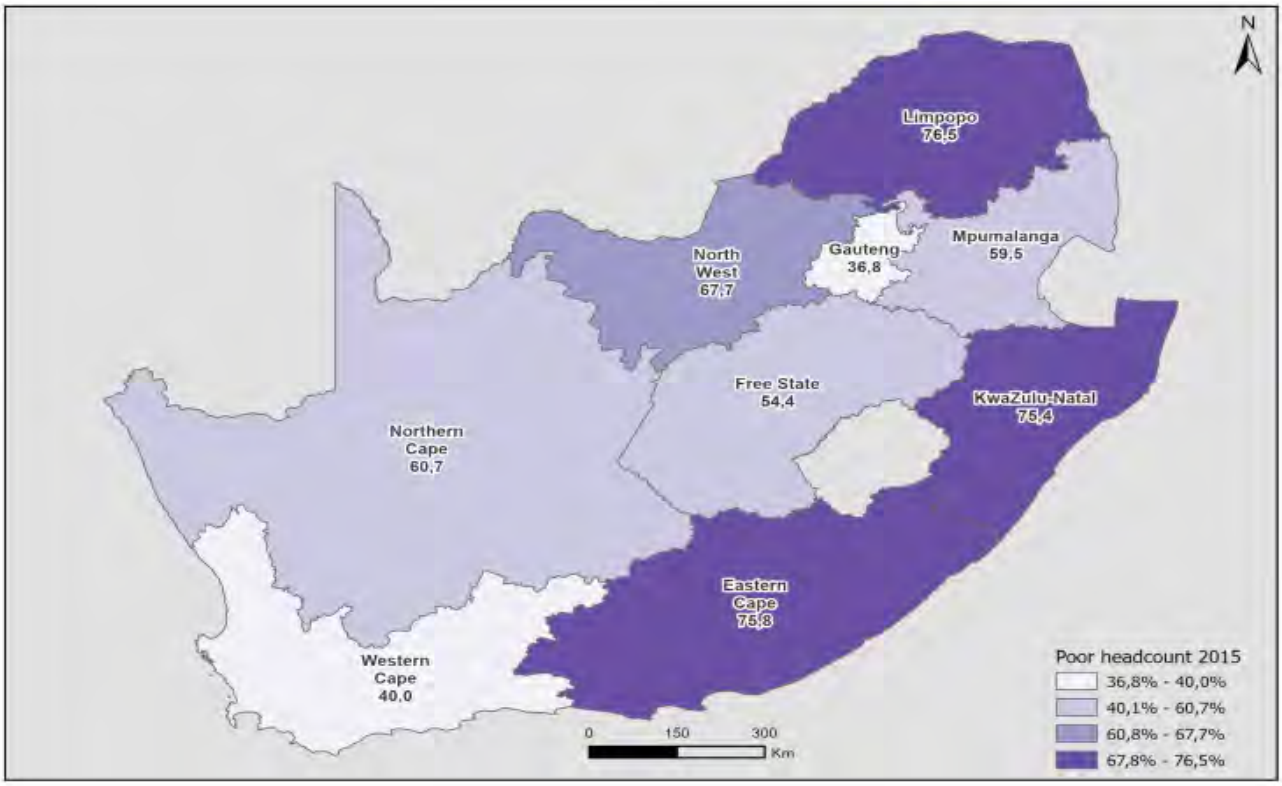


Figure 3.5.5: Child poverty headcount rate for children 0–4 years based on money-metric poverty by province, 2023

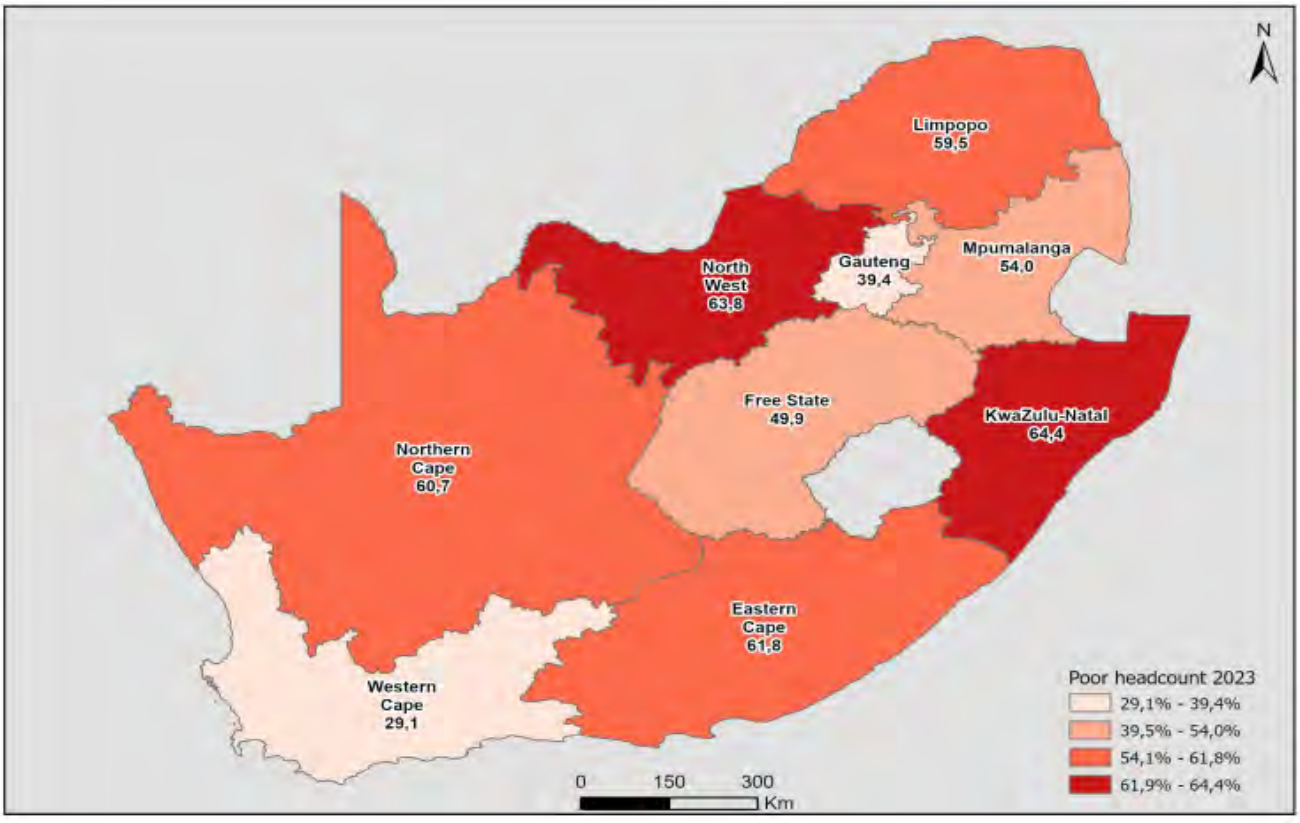


Figure 3.5.6: Child poverty headcount rate for children 0–4 years based on multidimensional poverty (k=3) by province, 2015

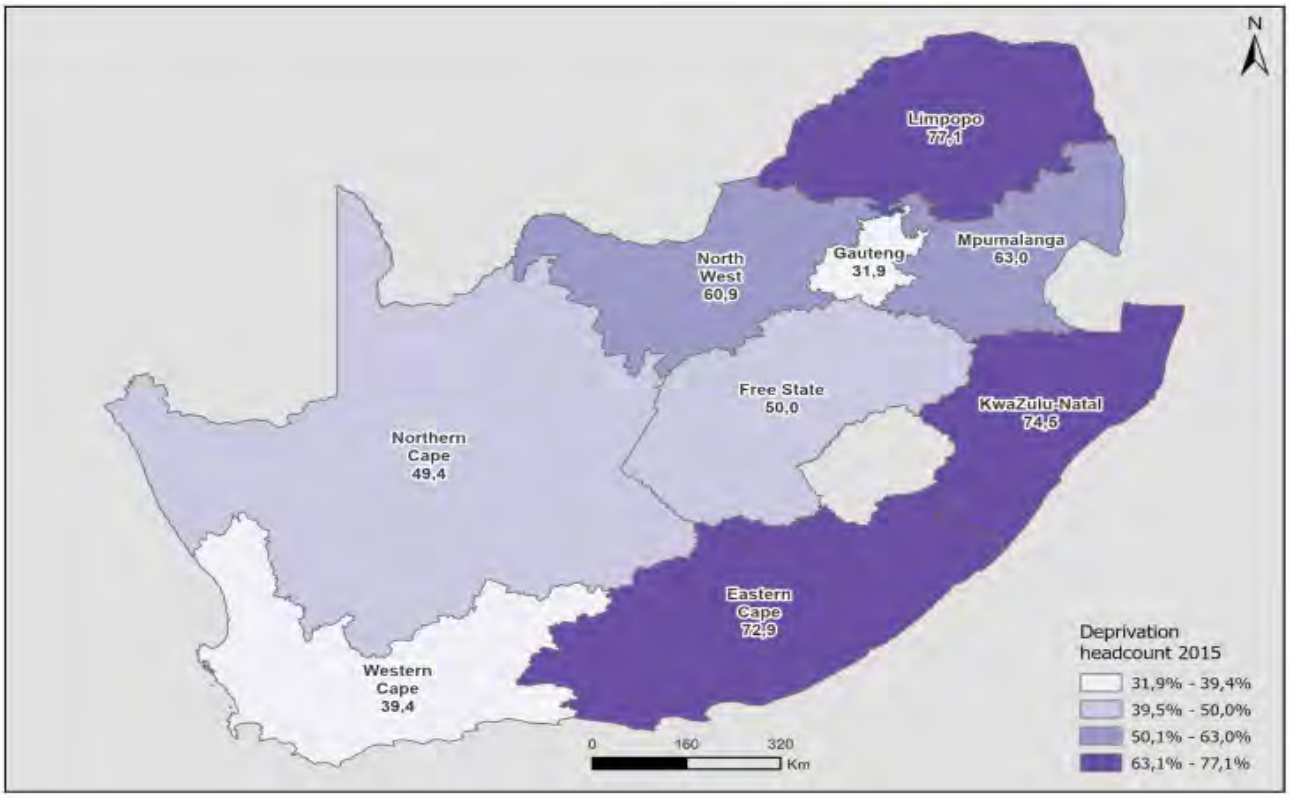


Figure 3.5.7: Child poverty headcount rate for children 0–4 years based on multidimensional poverty (k=3) by province, 2023

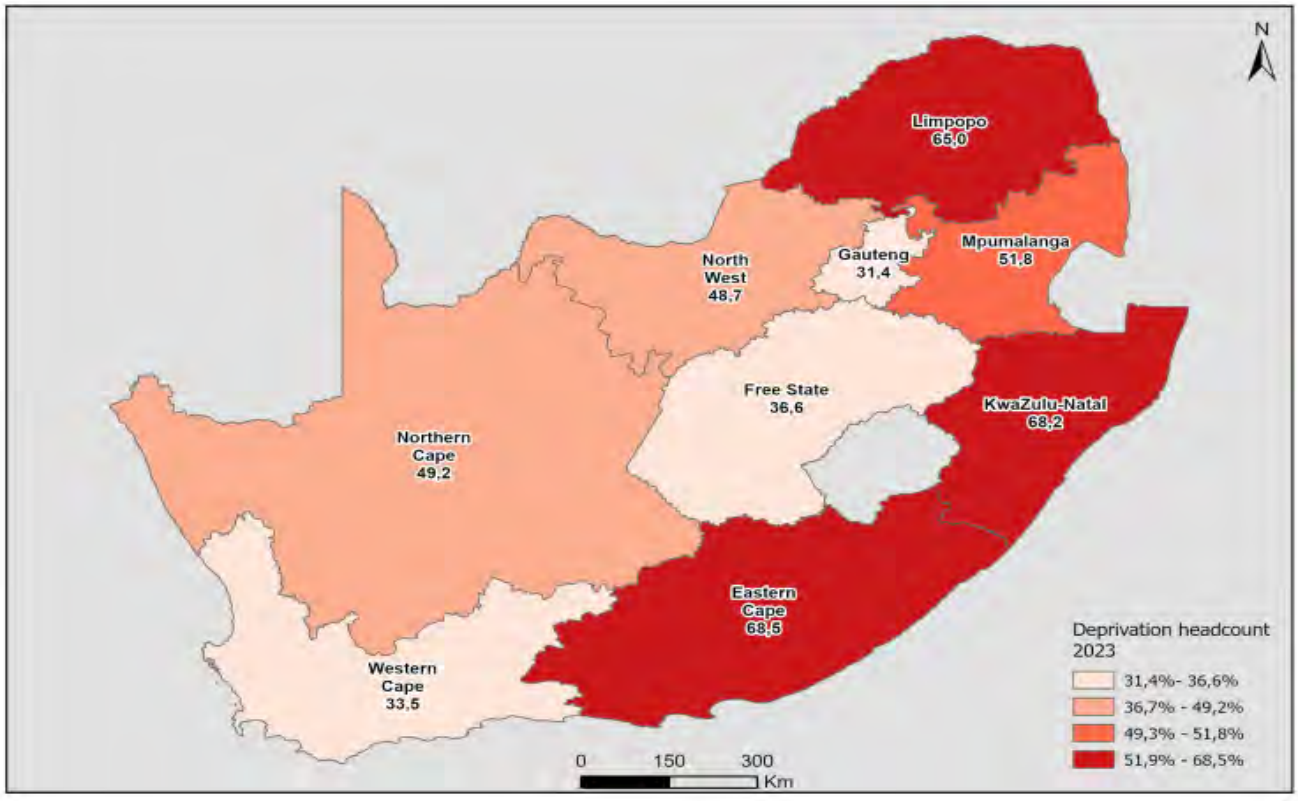
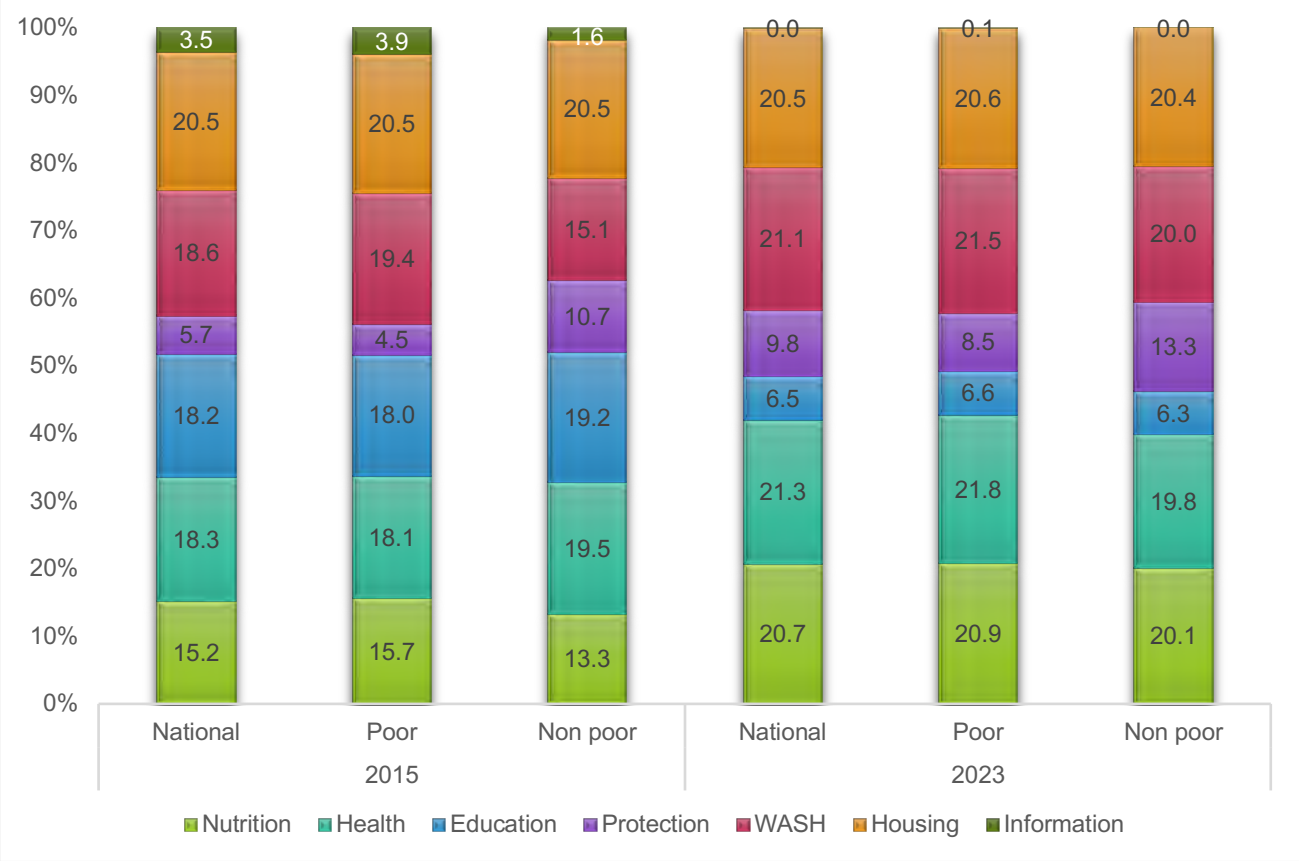


Figure 3.5.8 shows the decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount ratio (k=3) for children 0–4 years at the national level between 2015 and 2023 by money-metric poverty status. Among children from poor households, multidimensional deprivation in 2015 was mainly driven by housing (20,5%), WASH (19,4%), health (18,1%), education (18,0%), and nutrition (15,7%). By 2023, the contribution of housing remained almost unchanged; while the contributions of nutrition, health, and WASH increased by approximately 5,2, 3,7, and 2,1 percentage points, respectively.

A similar pattern is observed among children from non-poor households. In 2015, multidimensional deprivation was primarily driven by housing (20,5%), health (19,5%), education (19,2%), WASH (15,1%), and nutrition (13,3%). In 2023, the contribution of housing again remained relatively stable, while nutrition, health, and WASH increased by approximately 6,8, 0,3, and 4,9 percentage points, respectively. This shift indicates that, even among children in non-poor households, deprivations are increasingly concentrated in areas closely related to early childhood health and nutrition, rather than only in dimensions related to structural or access to services alone.

Figure 3.5.8: Decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rate (k=3) for children 0–4 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

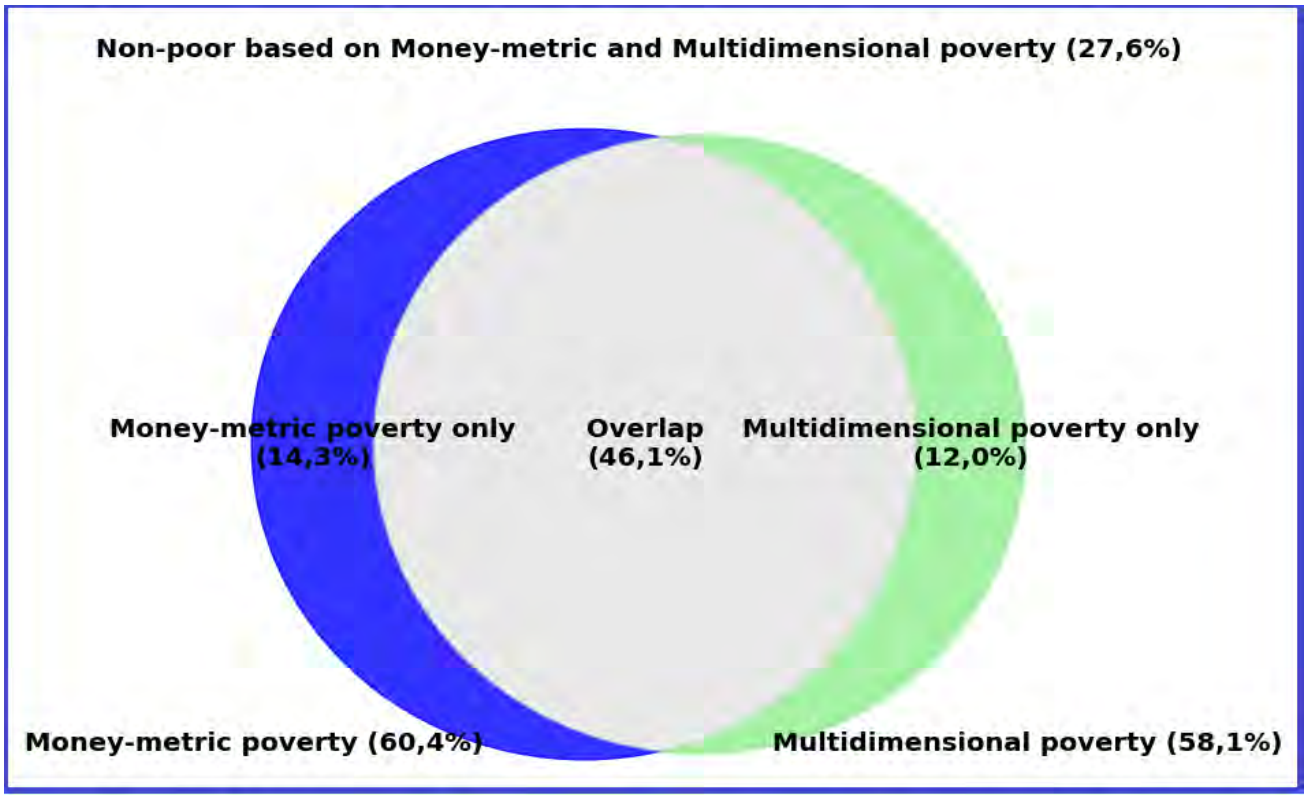
3.5.1.3 Overlap analysis between money-metric and multidimensional poverty

Figures 3.5.9 and 3.5.10 reveals the deprivation overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty (k=3) among children 0–4 years at national level in 2015 and 2023. The proportion of children who were not poor in both poverty measures increased from 27,6% in 2015 to 33,1% in 2023, indicating that approximately 6 out of every 100 children moved out of poverty under both measures by 2023.

At the same time, the proportion of children identified as money-metric poor increased by 1,1 percentage points in 2023, while the share of multidimensionally poor children increased by 2,1 percentage points.

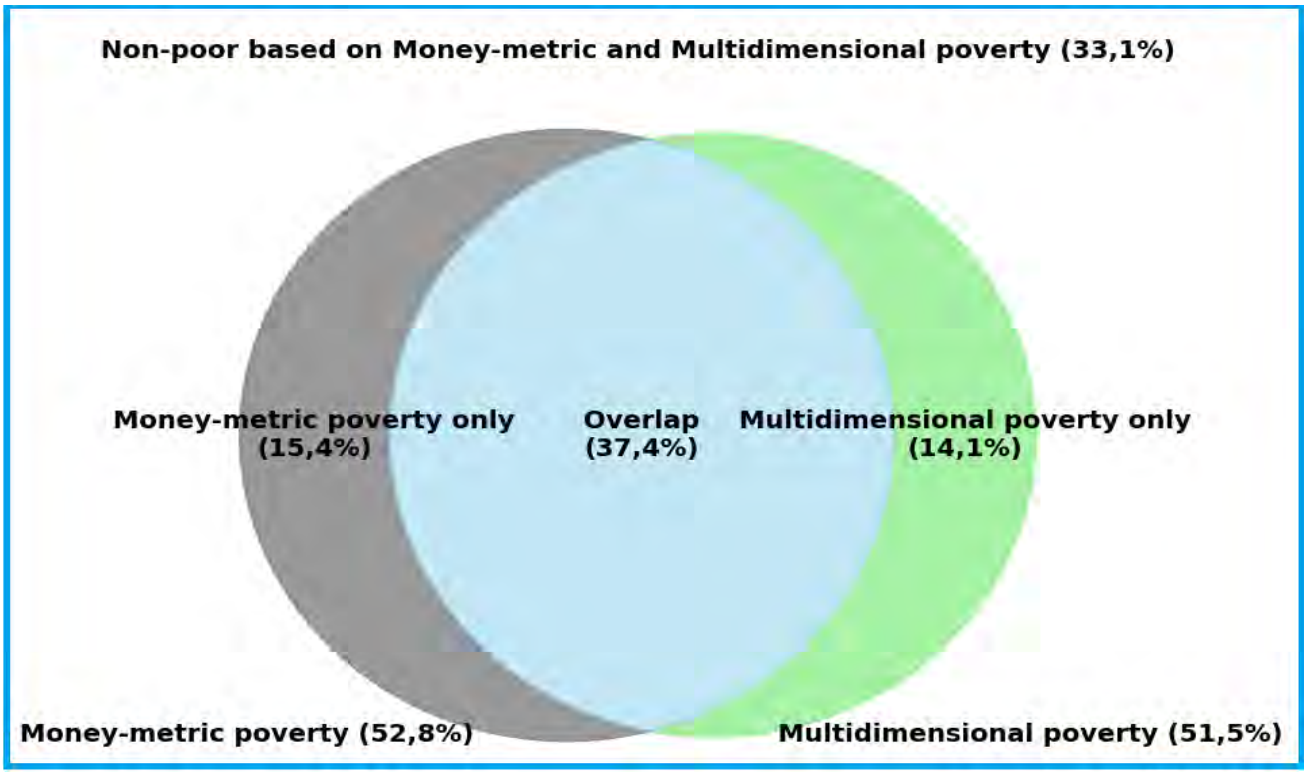
In contrast, the proportion of children identified as money-metric and multidimensionally poor at the same time declined substantially, from about 46 out of every 100 children in 2015 to 37 out of every 100 children in 2023. This reduction corresponds with the observed increase in the share of children who were not poor according to either measure in 2023.

Figure 3.5.9: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–4 years at national level, 2015



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.10: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–4 years at national level, 2023



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

The deprivation overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty (k=3) for children 0–4 years) by settlement type in 2015 and 2023 is displayed in Table 3.5.2. Among children residing in non-urban areas, the proportion of those not affected by either poverty measure more than doubled between 2023 and 2015. In contrast, children in urban areas experienced a small increase of 2,8 percentage points over the same period. Despite these gains, children in non-urban areas remained substantially more exposed to overlapping deprivations. Fewer than 30 out of every 100 urban children were identified as poor by both money-metric and multidimensional measures, compared with more than 57 out of every 100 children in non-urban areas.

The proportion of children who are multidimensionally poor only increased in non-urban areas, while children in urban areas recorded a decline of 1,4 percentage points. This means that in non-urban areas, even though income poverty has improved, problems affecting young children's well-being did not enhance as much.

Table 3.5.2: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–4 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	44,3	43,0	26,9	23,5	39,7	34,9	17,4	19,5	12,8	11,4	42,9	45,7
Non-urban	82,7	66,3	72,6	56,5	83,6	74,4	10,1	9,8	10,9	17,9	6,3	15,8
National	**60,4**	**52,8**	**46,1**	**37,4**	**58,1**	**51,5**	**14,3**	**15,4**	**12,0**	**14,1**	**27,6**	**33,1**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.3 indicates deprivation overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty (k = 3) among children 0–4 years between 2015 and 2023 by province. In 2023, Western Cape (56,0%), Gauteng (49,6%) and Free State (41,3%) recorded proportions of children who were not poor based on either measure that were above the national average of 33 out of every 100 children. This indicates that young children in these provinces were less likely to experience multiple forms of poverty. Over the period 2015 to 2023, Gauteng recorded a slight decline in this category, while Western Cape and Free State recorded increases of 11,4 and 9,1 percentage points, respectively.

On the other hand, the provinces of KwaZulu-Natal (52,4%), Eastern Cape (51,4%), Limpopo (44,8%), North West (42,5%) and Northern Cape (37,7%) presented proportions of children identified as poor by both money-metric and multidimensional measures that exceed the national average of 37 out of every 100 children in 2023. Among these provinces, Northern Cape recorded a slight increase, whereas KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, North West and Limpopo recorded noticeable declines between 2015 and 2023.

Table 3.5.3: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–4 years by province (2015 and 2023)

Province	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Western Cape	40,0	29,1	24,1	18,6	39,4	33,5	16,0	10,5	15,3	14,9	44,6	56,0
Eastern Cape	75,8	61,8	63,9	51,4	72,9	68,5	11,9	10,4	9,0	17,1	15,2	21,1
Northern Cape	60,7	60,7	37,4	37,7	49,4	49,2	23,3	23,0	12,0	11,5	27,3	27,8
Free State	54,4	49,9	36,7	27,8	50,0	36,6	17,8	22,1	13,3	8,8	32,2	41,3
KwaZulu-Natal	75,4	64,4	63,9	52,4	74,5	68,2	11,6	12,0	10,7	15,8	13,9	19,8
North West	67,7	63,8	49,8	42,5	60,9	48,7	17,9	21,4	11,1	6,3	21,2	29,9
Gauteng	36,8	39,4	19,6	20,4	31,9	31,4	17,2	19,0	12,3	10,9	50,9	49,6
Mpumalanga	59,5	54,0	47,3	36,8	63,0	51,8	12,3	17,2	15,7	15,0	24,7	31,0
Limpopo	76,5	59,5	65,3	44,8	77,1	65,0	11,2	14,7	11,9	20,2	11,6	20,3
National	**60,4**	**52,8**	**46,1**	**37,4**	**58,1**	**51,5**	**14,3**	**15,4**	**12,0**	**14,1**	**27,6**	**33,1**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.4 displays the money-metric poverty and multidimensional deprivation overlap for children 0–4 years based on between 2015 and 2023. In 2015, Nelson Mandela Bay recorded the highest proportion of money-metric poor children (62,2%), followed by eThekwini (58,7%) and Buffalo City (51,6%). These were the only metropolitan municipalities where more than half of young children were income-poor in 2015.

By 2023, eThekwini recorded the largest share of money-metric poor children, followed by Mangaung and Buffalo City. Over this period, both Buffalo City and Nelson Mandela Bay recorded notable improvements, with monetary poverty rates declining to below 50%, while eThekwini remained largely unchanged. With respect to multidimensional poverty, Buffalo City and eThekwini were the only metropolitan municipalities where more than 50% of children 0–4 years were multidimensionally deprived in 2015. In 2023, eThekwini continued to record the highest level of multidimensional deprivation, while Buffalo City showed a considerable decline to 35,8%.

Analysis of the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty indicates that the highest proportions of children experiencing both money-metric and multidimensional poverty lived in eThekwini, Buffalo City, and Nelson Mandela Bay in 2015. By 2023, overlapping deprivation decreased in both Buffalo City and Nelson Mandela Bay, while eThekwini experienced a slight increase, indicating ongoing and growing multidimensional challenges among young children in that metropolitan area.

Table 3.5.4: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 0–4 years by metropolitan municipality (2015 and 2023)

Metropolitan municipality	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
City of Cape Town	35,7	23,8	21,8	12,7	36,7	29,2	13,8	11,1	14,8	16,6	49,5	59,7
Buffalo City	51,6	46,5	40,4	26,7	54,9	35,8	11,2	19,7	14,5	9,1	33,9	44,4
Nelson Mandela Bay	62,2	43,2	39,1	23,2	43,1	37,3	23,1	20,0	4,1	14,1	33,7	42,7
eThekwini	58,7	58,7	41,7	41,9	54,8	55,5	17,0	16,8	13,1	13,6	28,2	27,7
Mangaung	37,2	48,2	27,2	31,3	41,9	38,2	10,0	16,9	14,6	6,9	48,1	44,9
City of Johannesburg	32,9	36,4	15,7	18,0	31,2	28,6	17,2	18,4	15,5	10,6	51,7	53,0
Ekurhuleni	43,9	37,6	23,2	18,6	33,6	30,7	20,7	19,0	10,4	12,2	45,7	50,3
City of Tshwane	33,6	43,7	23,7	22,3	36,4	30,2	9,9	21,4	12,7	7,9	53,8	48,4
All metros	**42,1**	**40,4**	**26,3**	**22,9**	**39,3**	**34,8**	**15,9**	**17,6**	**13,0**	**11,9**	**44,8**	**47,7**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.2 Primary school-aged children (5–12 years)

Box 6: Key findings on the relationship between multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 5–12 years.

Key findings

Relationship between multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 5–12 years

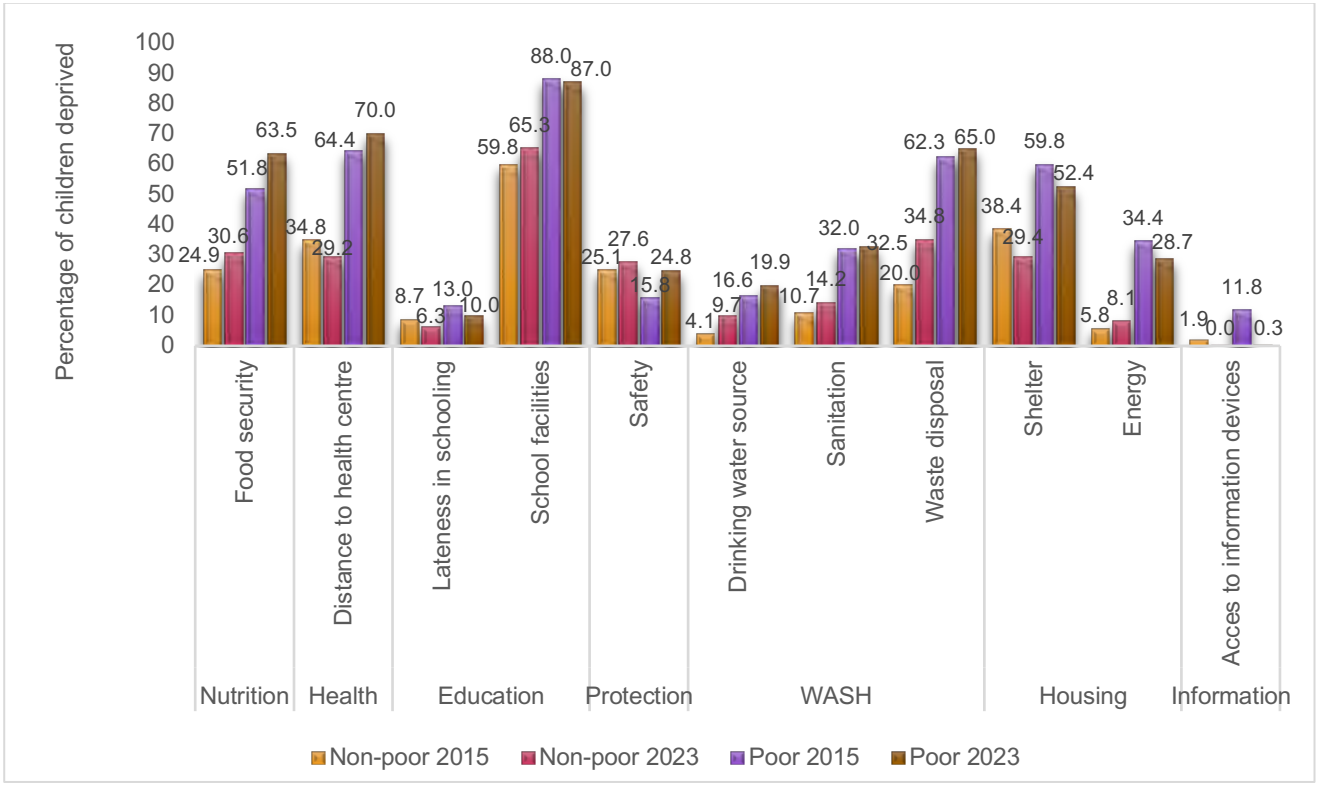
- ✓ More than 80 out of every 100 children from poor households were deprived in at least three dimensions, compared to less than half of children from non-poor households.
- ✓ Children from poor households consistently experienced higher deprivation rates across all indicators and dimensions in both 2015 and 2023.
- ✓ In the education dimension (2023), deprivation in school facilities was particularly severe, affecting about 87 out of every 100 children from poor households compared to 65 out of every 100 from non-poor households.
- ✓ Among children from non-poor households, deprivation in housing and health declined between 2015 and 2023, while education deprivation remained persistently high.
- ✓ A substantially higher share of children from non-poor households experienced no deprivation in any dimension. This increased from 11,8% in 2015 to 13,9% in 2023, compared to just over 1% among children from poor households.
- ✓ Children from poor households were more likely to experience simultaneous deprivation in three to five dimensions, while children from non-poor households were more concentrated in one to three overlapping deprivations.
- ✓ The proportion of children identified as multidimensionally poor only increased from 15,1% in 2015 to 20,2% in 2023, while money-metric poverty only declined, highlighting the importance of using both measures to fully capture child poverty.
- ✓ The share of children not poor by either measure improved from 25,8% to 31,7%, alongside a decline in the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty.
- ✓ About 12 out of every 100 non-urban children were non-poor by both measures in 2023, compared to approximately 46 out of every 100 children in urban areas.

3.5.2.1 Single deprivation analysis

Figure 3.5.11. exhibits the deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by indicator, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status of children in 2015 and 2023. While the overall pattern of deprivation was broadly similar for children from poor and non-poor households, children living in poor households consistently experienced higher levels of deprivation across all indicators in both years. This pattern suggests a strong negative association between household monetary status and child well-being, with monetary poverty being closely linked to a higher risk of multidimensional deprivation.

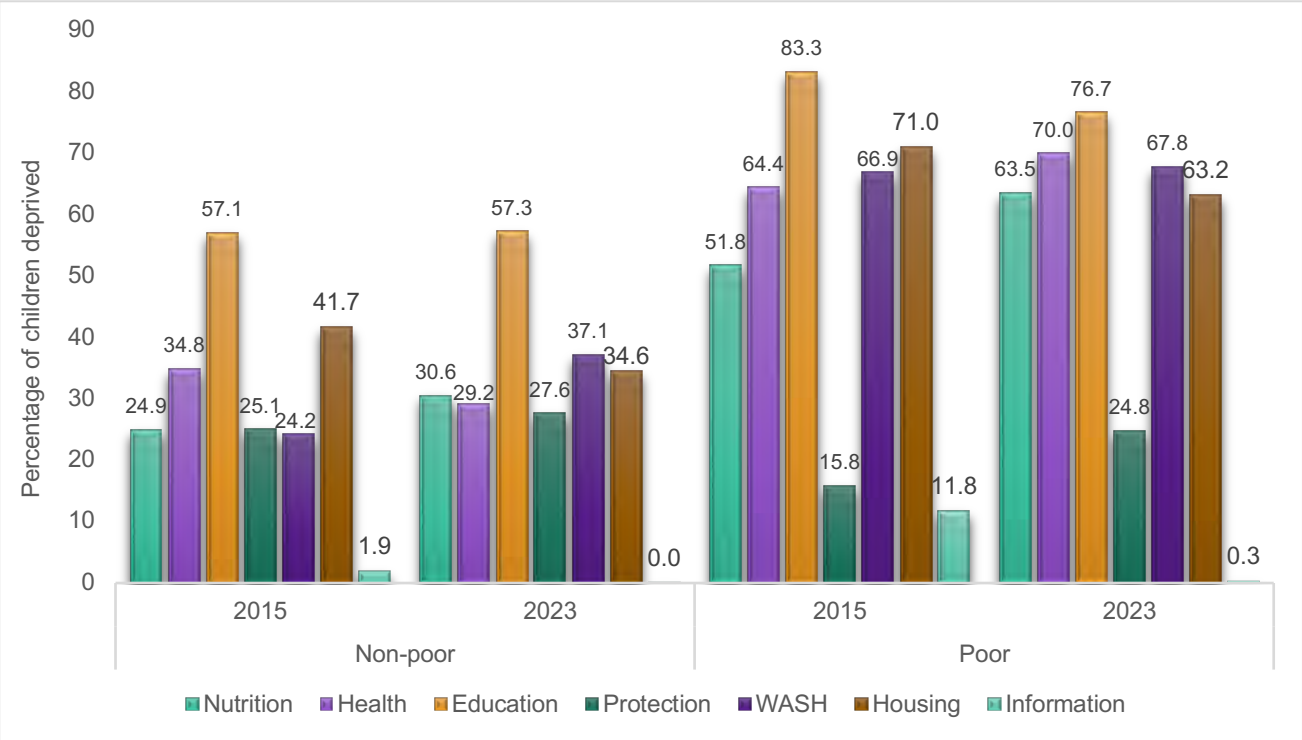
Focusing on the education dimension in 2023, children from poor households experienced substantially higher deprivation across all indicators within the dimension. Deprivation related to school facilities was particularly severe, with approximately 87 out of every 100 children from poor households being deprived, compared to about 65 out of every 100 children from non-poor households**.** On the other hand, lateness in schooling recorded relatively low levels of deprivation overall, with less than 14 out of every 100 children deprived in 2015. However, children from non-poor households consistently recorded lower rates of deprivation in lateness of schooling compared to their counterparts from poor households in both years.

Figure 3.5.11: Deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by indicator by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.12: Deprivation rate for children 5–12 years by dimension and money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.12 shows deprivation rates for children 5–12 years by dimension and money-metric poverty status. Among children from non-poor households, more than 30% were deprived in education, housing, and health in 2015. By 2023, deprivation in housing and health declined, while education remained largely unchanged, with about 57 out of every 100 children still deprived.

In contrast, children from poor households experienced deprivation levels exceeding 30% in five out of the seven dimensions in 2015, meaning only two dimensions presented deprivation rates below 30%. Overall, these results confirm that children from poor households were more likely to experience deprivation in almost all dimensions analysed than those from non-poor households.

3.5.2.2 Multiple deprivation analysis

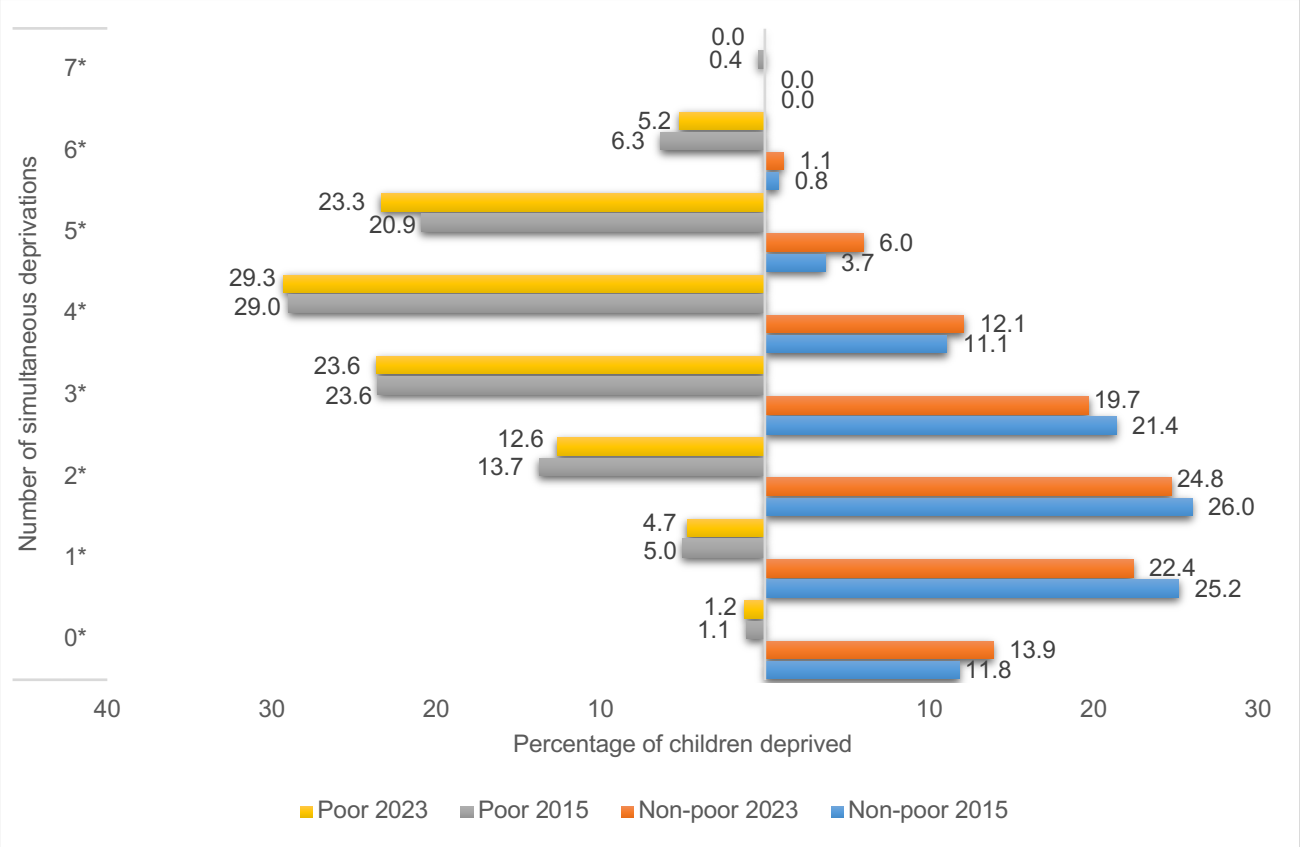
This section examines multiple deprivations among children 5–12 years by money-metric poverty status in 2015 and 2023. It analyses the distribution and indices of deprivation, the decomposition of deprivation, and the overlaps between money-metric poverty and multidimensional deprivation.

3.5.2.2.1 Deprivation distribution

Figure 3.5.13 shows the distribution of deprivation among children 5–12 years by money-metric poverty status between 2015 and 2023. In both years, a higher proportion of children from non-poor households experienced no deprivation in any dimension of well-being compared to children from poor households. In 2015, more than 11 out of every 100 children from non-poor households were not deprived, compared to fewer than 2 out of every 100 children from poor households. By 2023, this increased to nearly 14 out of every 100 non-poor children, while just over 1 out of every 100 children from poor households were not deprived.

Children from poor households experienced higher rates of simultaneous deprivation in three to five dimensions of well-being in both years. In contrast, children from non-poor households faced higher rates of deprivation in one to three dimensions simultaneously during 2015 and 2023. This indicates that children in poor households were more likely to face multiple deprivations compared to their peers in non-poor households.

Figure 3.5.13: Deprivation distribution for children 5–12 years by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.2.2.2 Multidimensional deprivation headcount by money-metric poverty status

Table 3.5.5 presents changes in multidimensional deprivation indices (k = 3) for children 5–12 years at the national level and by money-metric poverty status in 2015 and 2023. Children from poor households experienced higher rates of deprivation in three or more dimensions simultaneously compared to children from non-poor households in both years. Specifically, more than 80 out of every 100 children from poor households were deprived in at least three dimensions, compared to less than half of children from non-poor households.

The average intensity of deprivation among deprived children ranged from 51,0% to 52,9% for those in non-poor households, compared to 58,9% to 59,1% for children in poor households. On average, children from non-poor households were deprived in about 3,6 to 3,7 out of seven dimensions, while children from poor households faced deprivation in approximately 4,1 dimensions at the same time.

Table 3.5.5: Multidimensional deprivation indices (k=3) for children 5–12 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)

Money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Deprivation headcount (%)		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Non-poor	37,0	38,9	51,0	52,9	3,6	3,7	0,188	0,206
Poor	80,1	81,4	59,1	58,9	4,1	4,1	0,474	0,480
National	**62,5**	**59,3**	**57,2**	**56,9**	**4,0**	**4,0**	**0,357**	**0,338**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023
Note: Money-metric poverty status is used solely as a grouping variable. The deprivation measures (H, A and M0) are calculated independently of money-metric poverty and should not be interpreted as trends in income poverty.

Figure 3.5.14: Child poverty headcount rate for children 5–12 years based on money-metric poverty by province, 2015

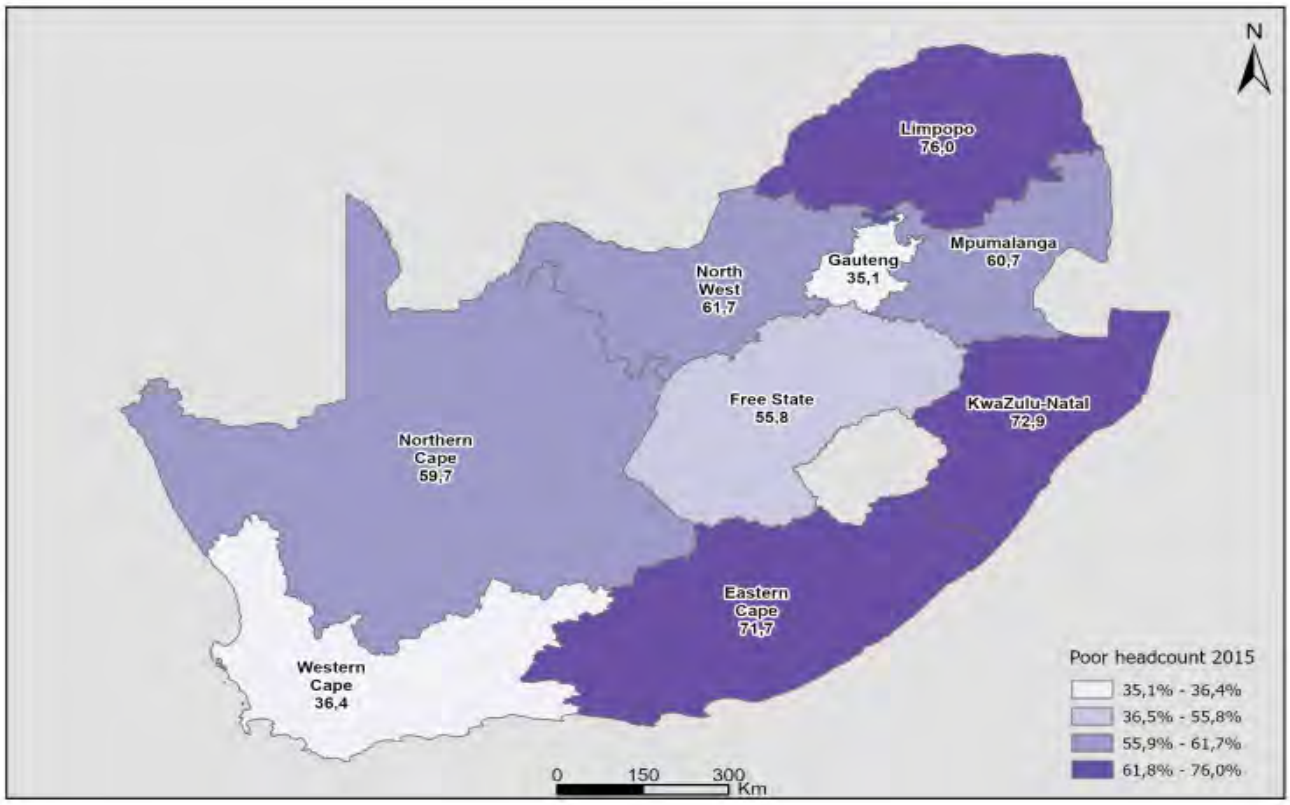


Figure 3.5.15: Child poverty headcount rate for children 5–12 years based on money-metric poverty by province, 2023

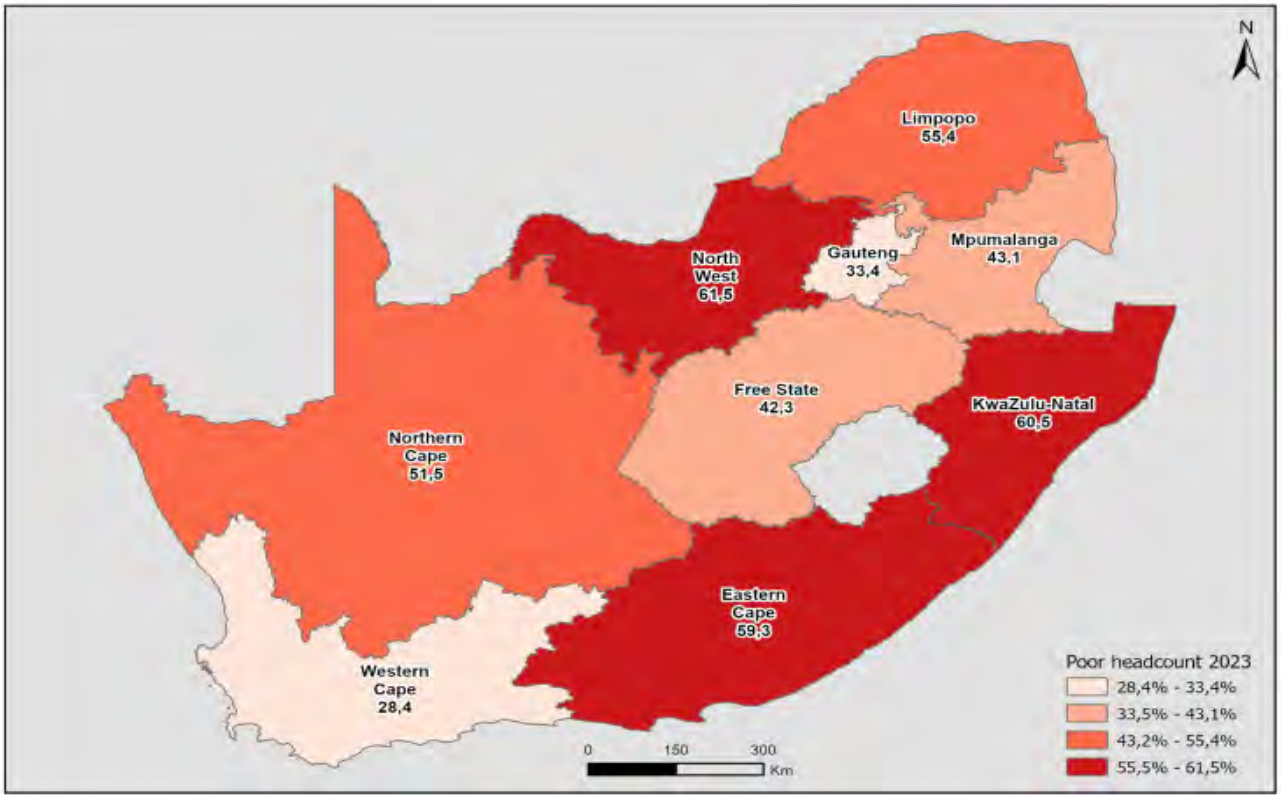


Figure 3.5.16: Child poverty headcount rate for children 5–12 years based on multidimensional poverty (k=3) by province, 2015

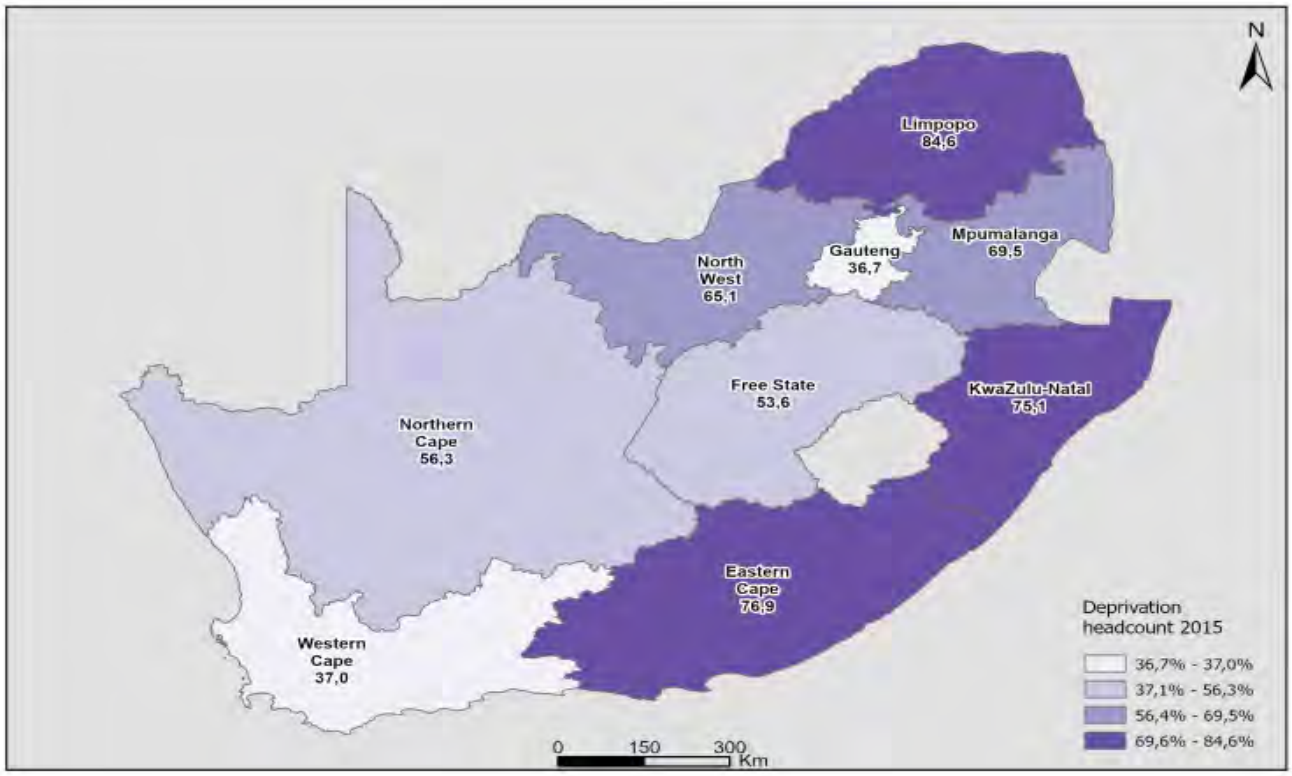


Figure 3.5.17: Child poverty headcount rate for children 5–12 years based on multidimensional poverty (k=3) by province, 2023

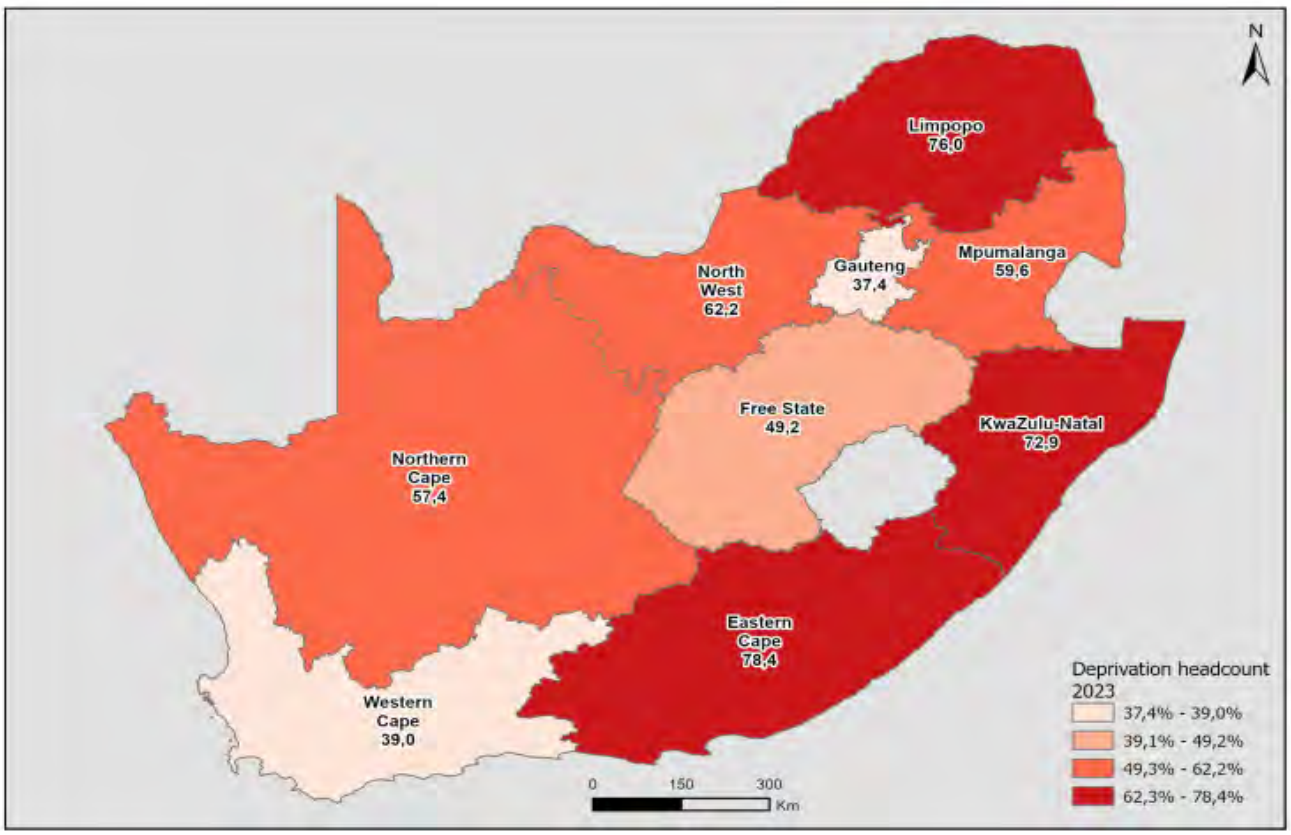
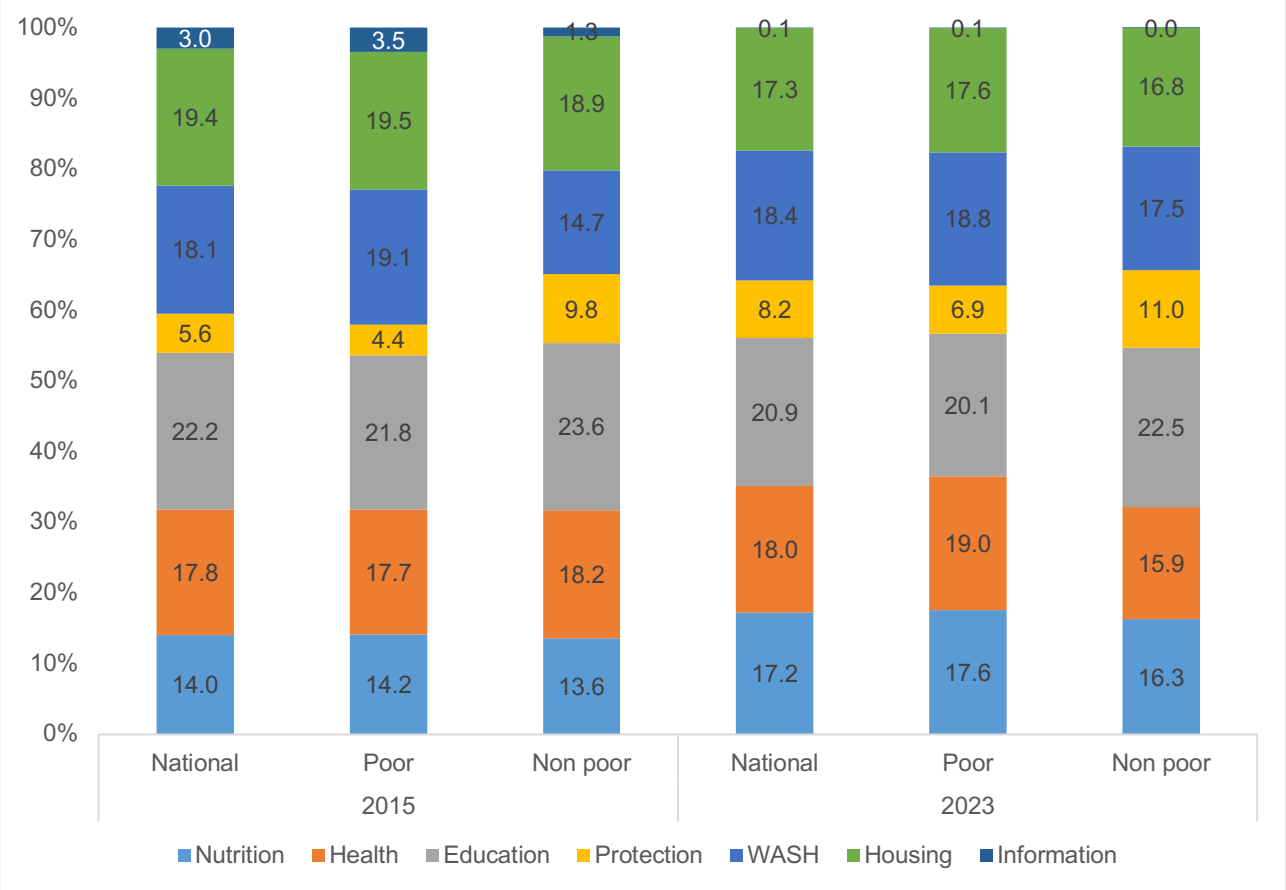


Figure 3.5.18 depicts the decomposition of the adjusted multidimensional deprivation headcount rate (k = 3) for children 5–12 years at the national level in 2015 and 2023, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status.

Among children from poor households, multidimensional deprivation in 2015 was mainly driven by education (21,8%), housing (19,5%), WASH (19,1%), and health (17,7%). By 2023, the contribution of education, housing, and WASH declined slightly to 20,1%, 17,6%, and 18,8%, respectively, while health deprivation increased by 1,3 percentage points. Nutrition also emerged as a key driver in 2023, contributing at a level comparable to housing.

For children in non-poor households, the main drivers of multidimensional deprivation in 2015 were education (23,6%), housing (18,9%), health (18,2%), and WASH (14,7%). In 2023, education, WASH, housing, and nutrition remained the principal contributors, while health recorded a decline of 2,3 percentage points. This indicates that although health related deprivation persists among children in non-poor households, its relative contribution has reduced over time.

Figure 3.5.18: Decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rate (k=3) for children 5–12 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



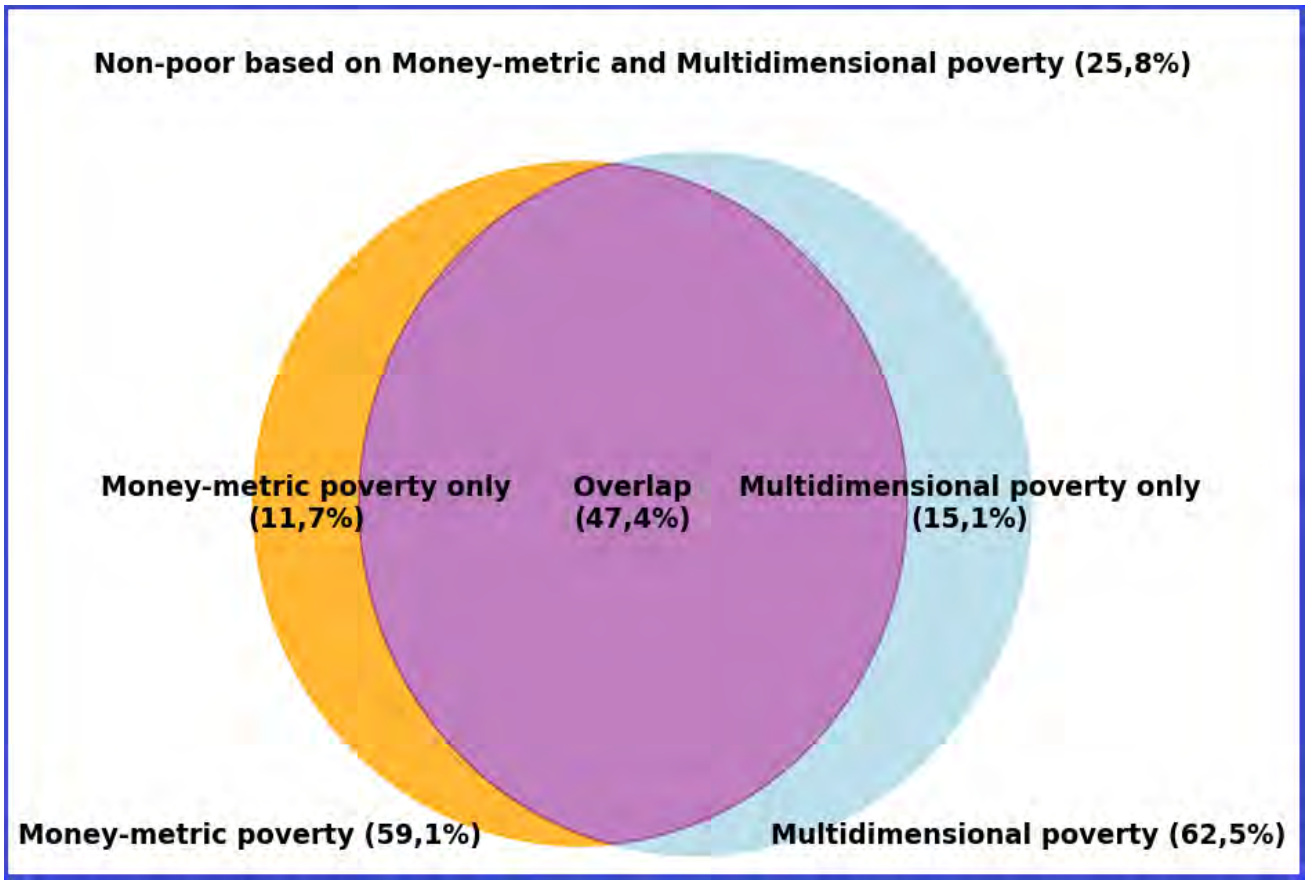
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.2.3 Overlap analysis between money-metric and multidimensional poverty

Figures 3.5.19 and 3.5.20 display overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty (k=3) among children 5–12 years at the national level, in 2015 and 2023. Children identified as money-metric poor only accounted for 11,7% in 2015, declining to 8,9% in 2023. In contrast, those identified as poor only by the multidimensional poverty measure increased from 15,1% in 2015 to 20,2% in 2023, indicating that approximately 5 more children per 100 were newly identified as multidimensionally poor in 2023. These results highlight the importance of applying both approaches when measuring child poverty, as each captures distinct aspects of deprivation.

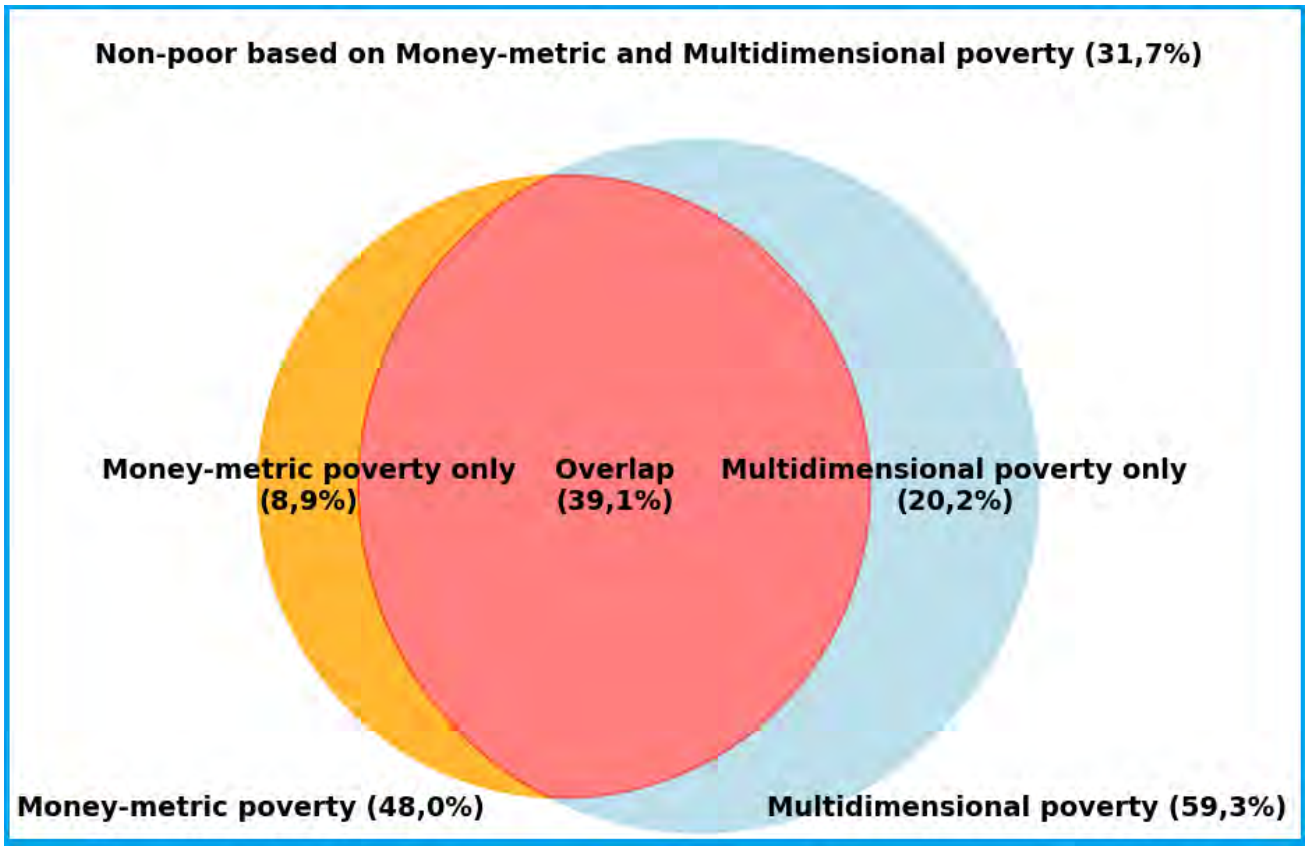
Additionally, the proportion of non-poor children by either measure increased from 25,8% in 2015 to 31,7% in 2023, representing an improvement of approximately 6 out of every 100 children. This improvement is consistent with the decline in the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty, which decreased by 8,3 percentage points over the same period.

Figure 3.5.19: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 5–12 years at national level, 2015



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.20: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 5–12 years at national level, 2023



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.6 shows the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty (k = 3) among children 5–12 years in 2015 and 2023, disaggregated by settlement type. Among children residing in non-urban areas, the proportion of children identified as non-poor by either measure increased from 4,3% in 2015 to 11,9% in 2023, an improvement of about 8 out of every 100 children, compared with an increase of roughly 4 out of every 100 children in urban areas over the same period. Despite this larger gain in non-urban areas, the overall share of children not poor by both measures remained low, at approximately 12 out of every 100 children, compared with 46 out of every 100 children in urban areas in 2023.

The results further confirm that children residing in non-urban areas were more likely to experience multiple forms of poverty than those in urban areas. This is supported by the higher overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty in non-urban areas, which exceeded the national average of 48,0% in 2023, while the overlap in urban areas remained below the national average during the same period.

Table 3.5.6: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty for children 5–12 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	42,1	36,8	25,9	24,8	42,1	42,3	16,1	12,0	16,2	17,5	41,7	45,7
Non-urban	82,1	63,9	76,3	59,4	89,9	83,5	5,8	4,6	13,6	24,1	4,3	11,9
National	**59,1**	**48,0**	**47,4**	**39,1**	**62,5**	**59,3**	**11,7**	**8,9**	**15,1**	**20,2**	**25,8**	**31,7**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

The deprivation overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty (k = 3) among children 5–12 years in 2015 and 2023, disaggregated by province is displayed in Table 3.5.7. In 2023, the provinces of Western Cape, Gauteng, Free State, and Mpumalanga presented a proportion of non-poor children defined by either measure above the national average. The largest percentage point difference was observed in Mpumalanga (12,3 points), while the smallest was in Gauteng (3,0 points).

By contrast, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal, and Eastern Cape recorded the lowest proportions of non-poor children, at 16,4%, 20,2%, and 16,1%, respectively, in 2023. Moreover, provinces with higher proportions of non-poor children recorded lower overlaps of money-metric and multidimensional poverty, with less than 37 out of every 100 children identified as poor by both approaches. Conversely, provinces with lower proportions of non-poor children showed larger overlaps, with more than 48 out of every 100 children identified as poor by both measures in 2023.

Table 3.5.7: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 5–12 years by province (2015 and 2023)

Province	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Western Cape	36,4	28,4	19,1	19,0	37,0	39,0	17,3	9,4	17,9	20,0	45,7	51,6
Eastern Cape	71,7	59,3	64,3	53,8	76,9	78,4	7,4	5,5	12,6	24,6	15,7	16,1
Northern Cape	59,7	51,5	42,0	38,2	56,3	57,4	17,7	13,3	14,3	19,2	26,1	29,3
Free State	55,8	42,3	38,4	29,4	53,6	49,2	17,4	12,9	15,2	19,9	28,9	37,8
KwaZulu-Natal	72,9	60,5	62,8	53,6	75,1	72,9	10,1	6,9	12,3	19,3	14,7	20,2
North West	61,7	61,5	47,1	50,5	65,1	62,2	14,6	11,0	18,0	11,6	20,3	26,9
Gauteng	35,1	33,4	19,5	21,4	36,7	37,4	15,7	12,0	17,3	16,0	47,6	50,6
Mpumalanga	60,7	43,1	51,2	36,0	69,5	59,6	9,5	7,1	18,3	23,6	21,0	33,3
Limpopo	76,0	55,4	71,0	47,8	84,6	76,0	5,0	7,6	13,6	28,3	10,4	16,4
National	**59,1**	**48,0**	**47,4**	**39,1**	**62,5**	**59,3**	**11,7**	**8,9**	**15,1**	**20,2**	**25,8**	**31,7**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.8 presents the overlap between money-metric poverty and multidimensional poverty (k=3) for children 5–12 years by metropolitan municipality in 2015 and 2023. In 2023, City of Cape Town, City of Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni, and the City of Tshwane presented a proportion of non-poor children which exceeded the metropolitan average. This suggests that metropolitan municipalities in South Africa's main economic hubs were less likely to experience money-metric and multidimensional poverty simultaneously. This is evident from the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty in these municipalities, which was below the overall metropolitan average of 24,0% in 2023.

The share of children identified as money-metric poor only, declined for most metropolitan municipalities in 2023. An exception was the City of Tshwane, where the proportion increased by 5,7 percentage points, rising from approximately 11 out of every 100 children in 2015 to about 17 out of every 100 children in 2023.

Table 3.5.8: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 5–12 years by metropolitan municipality (2015 and 2023)

Metropolitan municipality	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
City of Cape Town	32,7	25,0	17,5	15,3	34,2	36,8	15,2	9,8	16,6	21,5	50,6	53,4
Buffalo City	37,7	41,0	32,4	34,3	54,3	56,7	5,3	6,7	21,8	22,4	40,4	36,6
Nelson Mandela Bay	43,5	42,0	26,4	29,5	36,0	51,8	17,1	12,6	9,6	22,3	46,9	35,6
eThekwini	54,6	52,7	38,4	42,6	55,1	60,0	16,2	10,1	16,8	17,5	28,7	29,8
Mangaung	40,4	38,0	29,2	31,9	44,1	54,7	11,2	6,1	14,9	22,7	44,7	39,3
City of Johannesburg	29,6	28,5	14,9	18,2	36,4	35,2	14,6	10,3	21,5	17,1	48,9	54,4
Ekurhuleni	37,9	30,1	18,3	19,0	34,6	34,9	19,6	11,1	16,3	15,9	45,8	54,0
City of Tshwane	39,5	39,2	28,4	22,5	44,0	33,9	11,1	16,8	15,5	11,4	45,0	49,3
All metros	**38,7**	**35,1**	**23,8**	**24,0**	**41,1**	**41,6**	**14,9**	**11,1**	**17,3**	**17,6**	**44,0**	**47,3**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.3 Adolescents (13–17 years)

Box 7: Key findings on the relationship between multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 13–17 years

Key Findings

Relationship between multidimensional and money-metric poverty for children 13–17 years

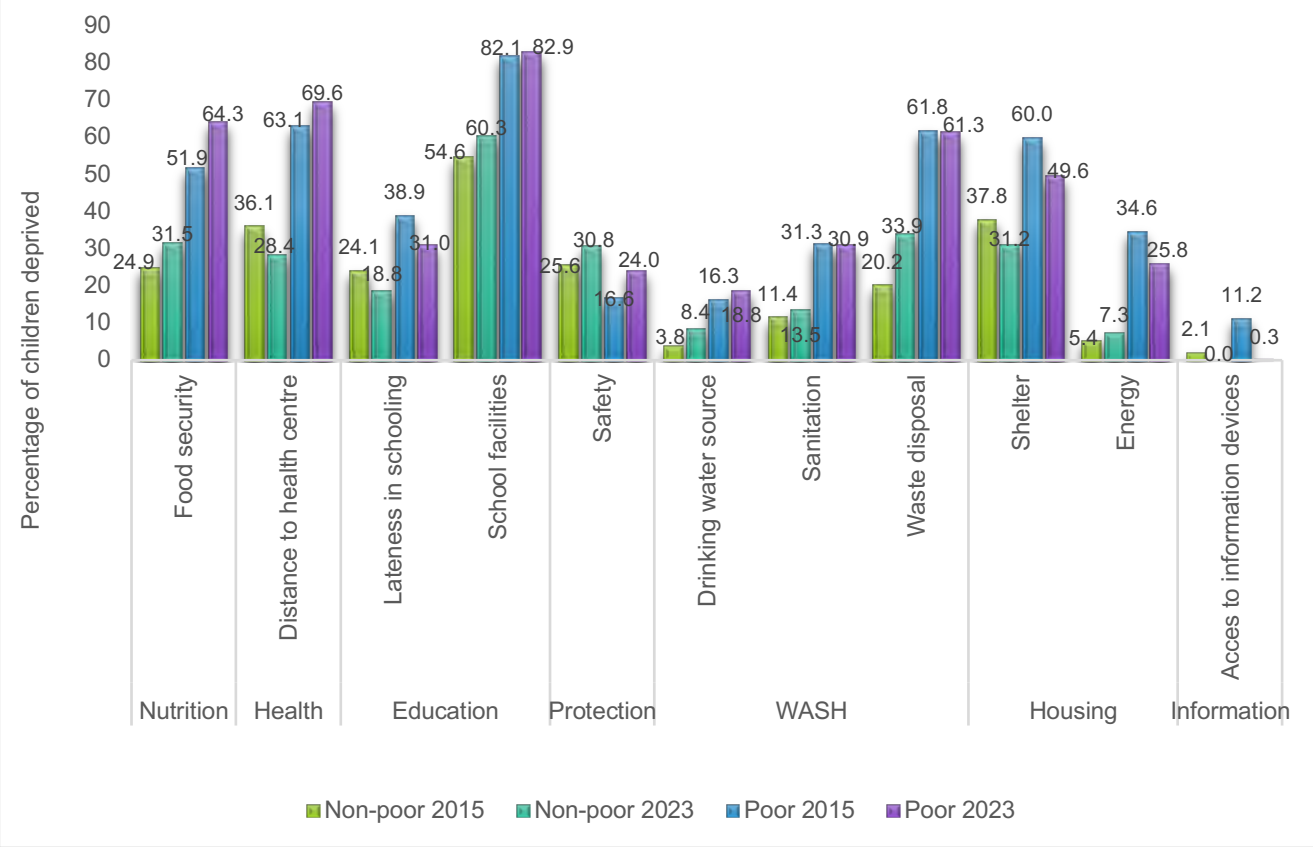
- ✓ The proportion of children from non-poor households deprived in three or more dimensions increased from 37,6% in 2015 to 40,9% in 2023. Among children from poor households, this figure increased slightly, reaching approximately 81,2% in 2023 compared to about 40,9% among non-poor children.
- ✓ Deprivation in protection was higher among adolescents from non-poor households than those from poor households in both years, increasing from 25,6% to 30,8% among the non-poor, and from 16,6% to 24,0% among the poor.
- ✓ Nutrition deprivation increased for both poor and non-poor children over the period, although levels remained higher among children from poor households.
- ✓ Children from poor households showed the highest concentration of simultaneous deprivation in four dimensions, while children from non-poor households were more commonly deprived in two dimensions.
- ✓ Among children from poor households, the contribution of nutrition increased notably (by about 3,7 percentage points), and health also became a more prominent driver of deprivation.
- ✓ The overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty declined by 6,4 percentage points over the period, indicating fewer children were poor under both measures simultaneously.
- ✓ The share of children identified as multidimensionally deprived only increased from 16,7% to 21,7%, suggesting that multidimensional deprivation was becoming more prevalent even where income poverty is not present.

3.5.3.1 Single deprivation analysis

As observed in Figure 3.5.21, adolescent children from monetary poor households reported higher levels of deprivation across all well-being indicators than those from non-poor households in both years. Deprivation was particularly high among children from poor households in school facilities (82,1% vs 82,9%), distance to health centre (63,1% vs 69,6%), food security (51,9% vs 64,3%), waste

disposal (61,8% vs 61,3%), and shelter (60,0% vs 49,6%). Although children from non-poor households also faced deprivation in these indicators, the levels were lower. Overall, children from poor households were more likely to be deprived across nearly all indicators of well-being

Figure 3.5.21: Deprivation rates for children 13–17 years by indicator, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)

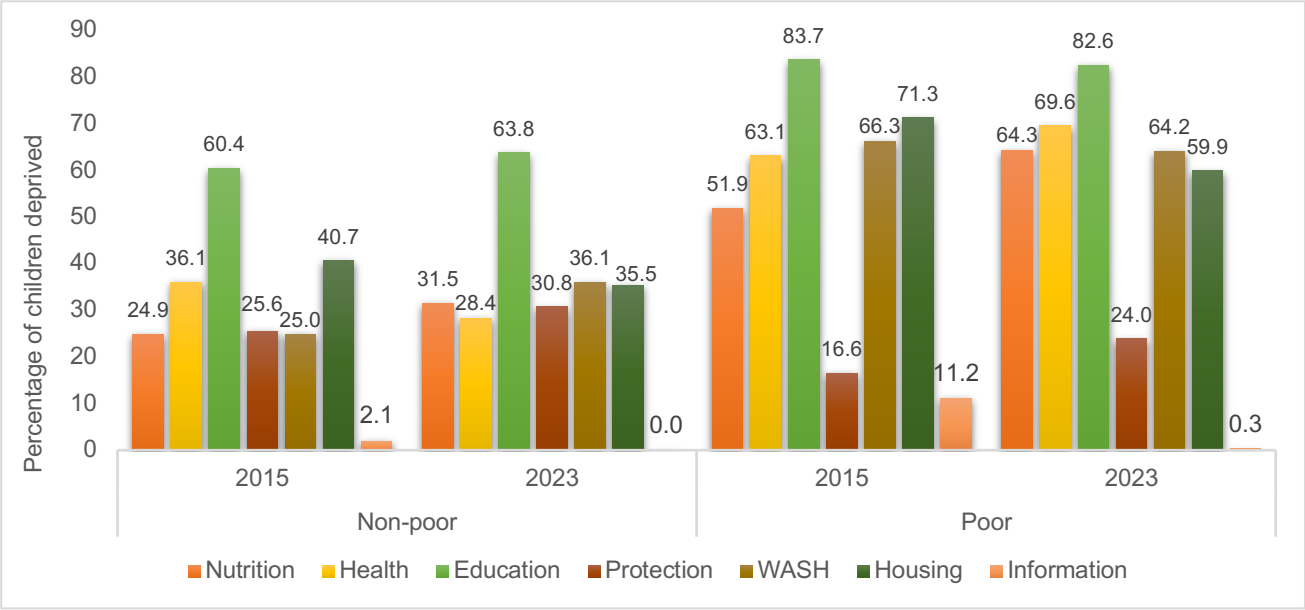


Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.22 presents the deprivation rates for children 13–17 years by dimension, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status between 2015 and 2023. In 2015, approximately 26 out of every 100 children from non-poor households were deprived in protection, increasing to about 31 out of every 100 children in 2023. In contrast, children from poor households experienced lower levels of protection deprivation, with about 16 out of every 100 children deprived in 2015, increasing slightly to 24 out of every 100 children in 2023.

Deprivation in nutrition increased among children from both non-poor and poor households over the period, however, children from poor households continued to experience higher levels of nutrition deprivation than those from non-poor households.

Figure 3.5.22: Deprivation rate for children 13–17 years by dimension, disaggregated by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



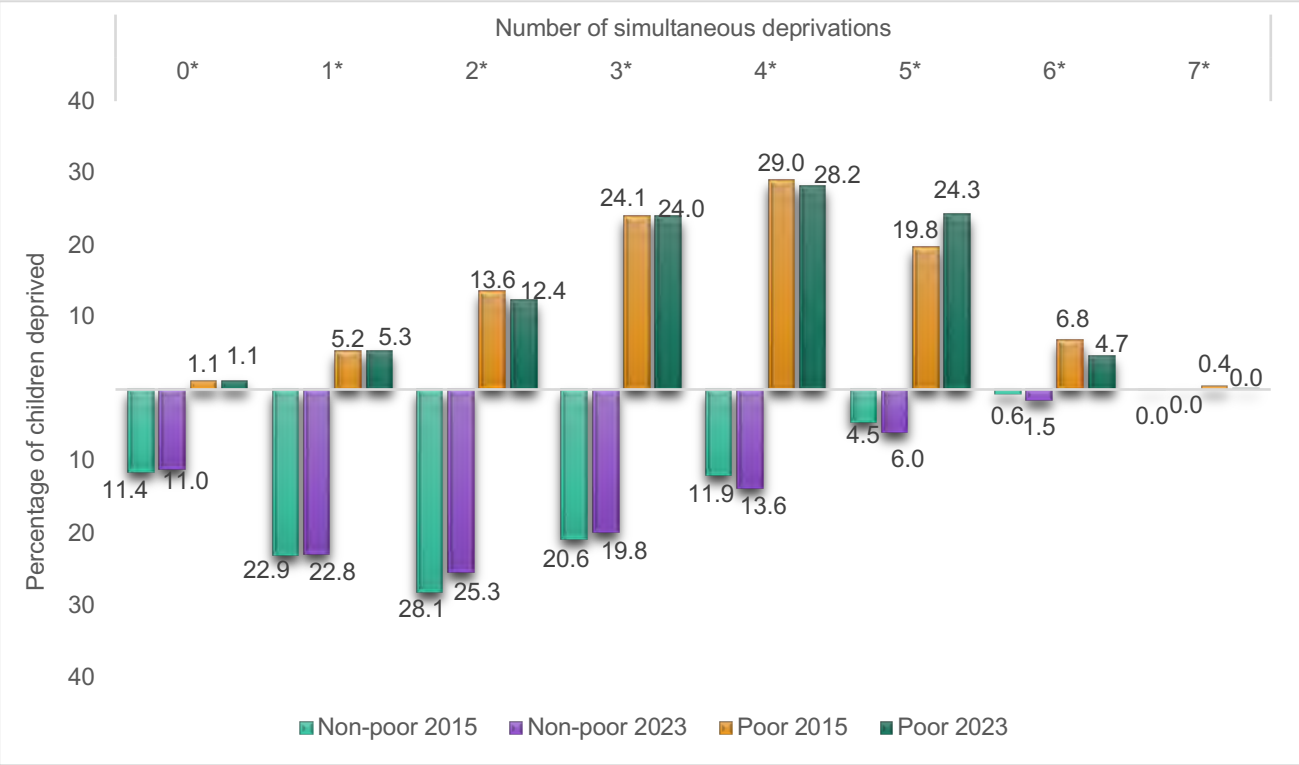
Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.3.2 Multiple deprivation analysis

3.5.3.2.1 Deprivation distribution

Figure 3.5.23 illustrates the deprivation distribution among children 13–17 years by money-metric poverty status in 2015 and 2023. In both years, children from poor households recorded the highest concentration of deprivation at four dimensions of well-being simultaneously, whereas the majority of children from non-poor households were deprived in two dimensions. The results indicate a positive association between multidimensional deprivation and money-metric poverty, with children from poor households more likely to experience deprivation across multiple dimensions at the same time than those from non-poor households.

Figure 3.5.23: Deprivation distribution for children 13–17 years by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

3.5.3.2.2 Multidimensional deprivation headcount by money-metric poverty status

Table 3.5.9 presents the multidimensional deprivation indices (k=3) for children 13–17 years at the national level and by money-metric poverty status. Among children from non-poor households, the proportion deprived in three or more dimensions of well-being simultaneously increased from 37,6% in 2015 to 40,9% in 2023. This represents an increase of 3,3 percentage points, indicating that approximately 3 additional children out of every 100 were multidimensionally deprived in 2023 compared to 2015.

The proportion of children from poor households deprived in three or more dimensions increased slightly by 1,2 percentage points between 2015 and 2023. Children from poor households continued to experience higher levels of multidimensional deprivation than children from non-poor households. In 2023, approximately 81 out of every 100 children from poor households were deprived in three or more dimensions, compared to about 41 out of every 100 children from non-poor households.

The results further indicate that the average deprivation intensity among deprived children was 53,4% for those in non-poor households (equivalent to 3,7 out of seven dimensions), compared to 58,9% among children in monetarily poor households (equivalent to 4,1 out of seven dimensions).

Overall, the findings confirm that children from poor households were consistently more likely to experience multiple deprivations than their counterparts from non-poor households in both years, as reflected in both the higher incidence and higher intensity of multidimensional deprivation.

Table 3.5.9: Multidimensional deprivation indices (k=3) for children 13–17 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)

Money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Deprivation headcount (%)		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in %		Average intensity across the deprived (A) in number		Deprivation headcount adjusted for intensity (M_0)	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Non-poor	37,6	40,9	51,5	53,4	3,6	3,7	0,194	0,218
Poor	80,0	81,2	59,0	58,8	4,1	4,1	0,473	0,478
National	**61,2**	**59,8**	**57,0**	**56,9**	**4,0**	**4,0**	**0,349**	**0,340**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023
Money-metric poverty status is used solely as a grouping variable. The deprivation measures (H, A and M0) are calculated independently of money-metric poverty and should not be interpreted as trends in income poverty

Figure 3.5. 24: Child poverty headcount rate for children 13–17 years based on money-metric poverty by province, 2015

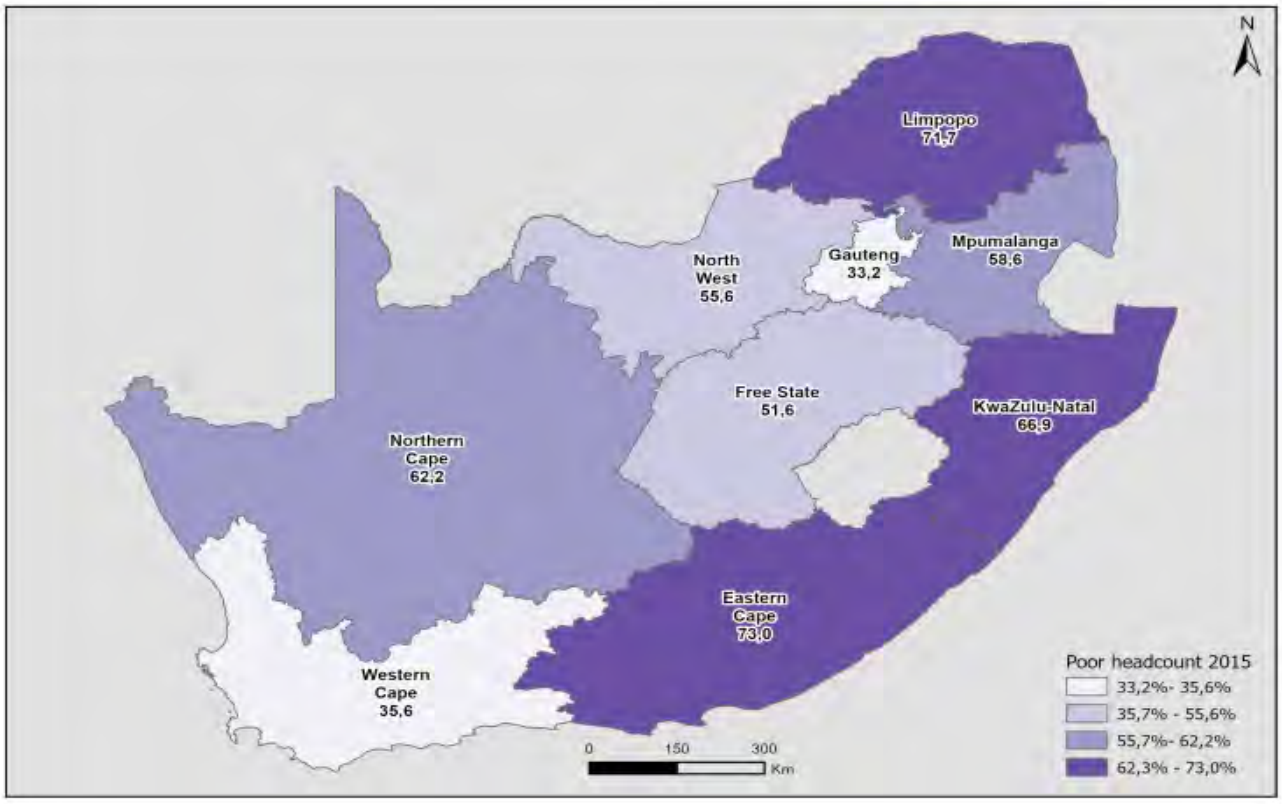


Figure 3.5.25: Child poverty headcount rate for children 13–17 years based on money-metric poverty by province, 2023

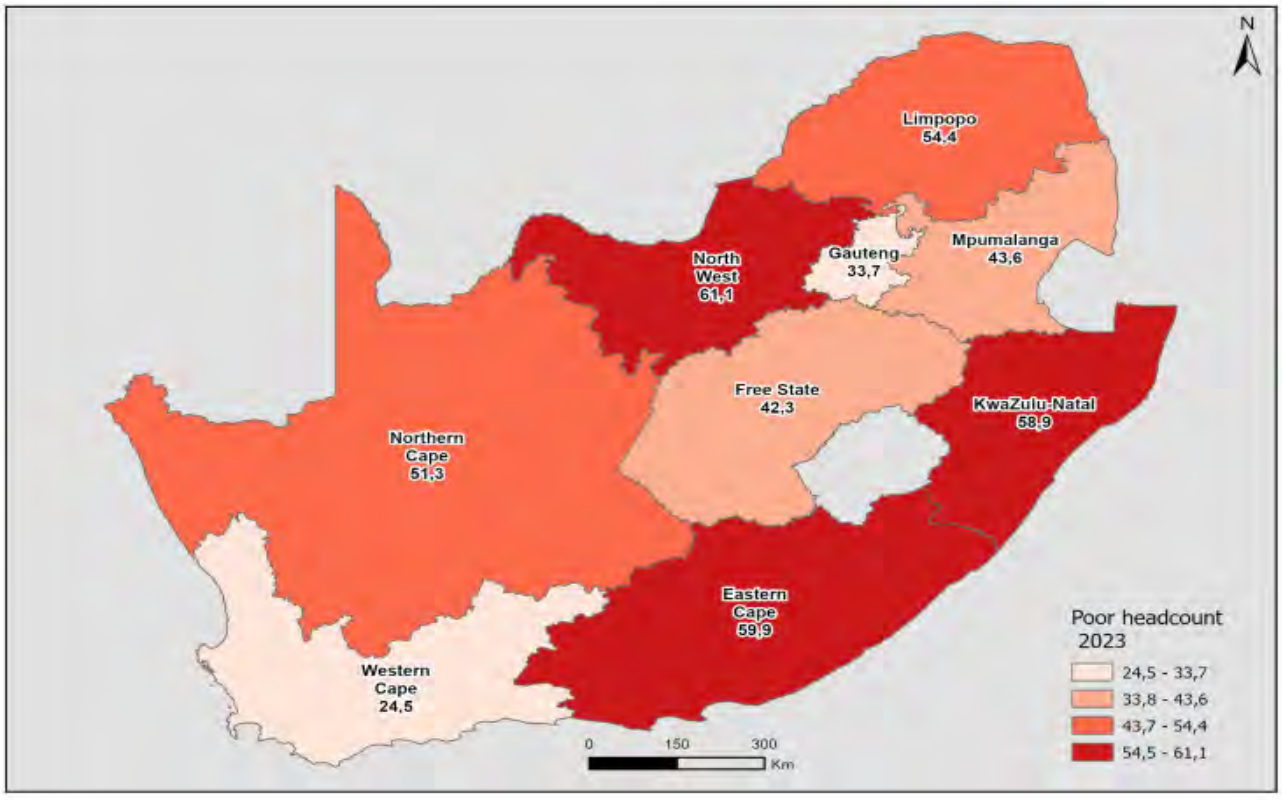


Figure 3.5.26: Child poverty headcount rate for children 3–17 years based on multidimensional poverty (k=3) by province, 2015

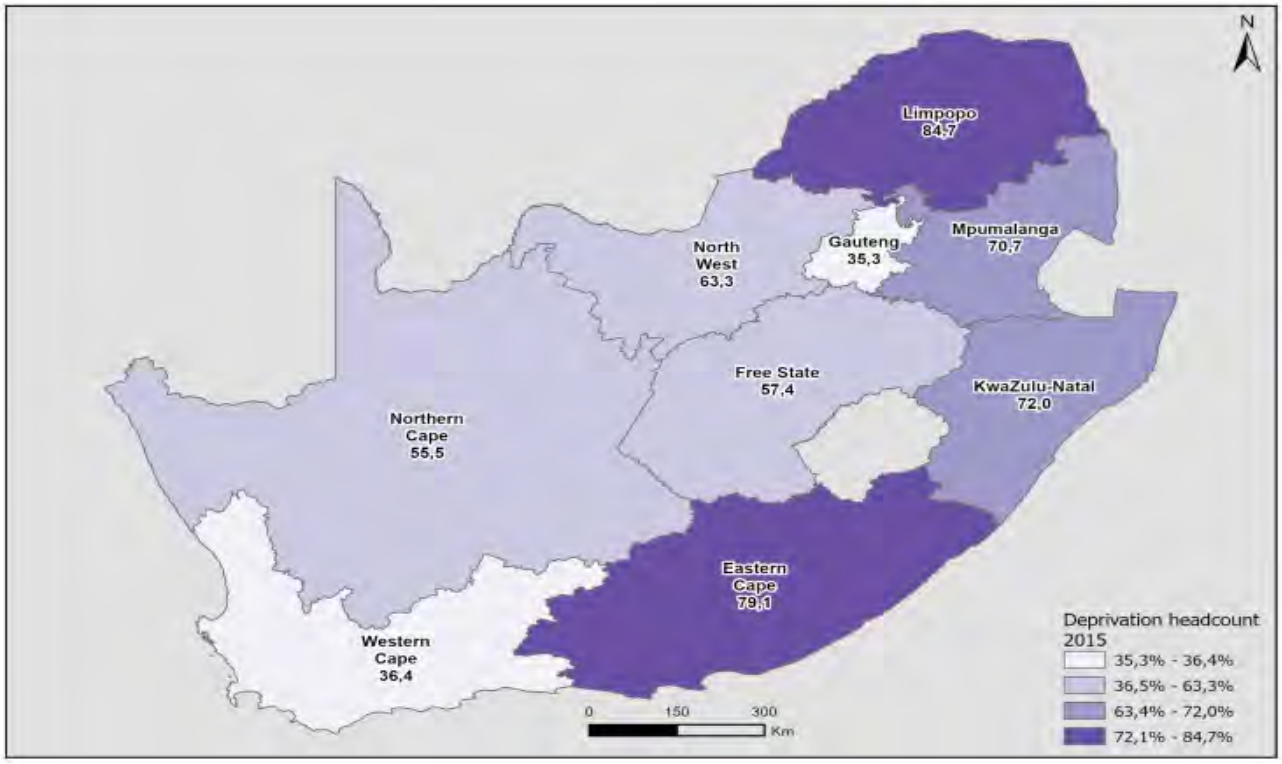
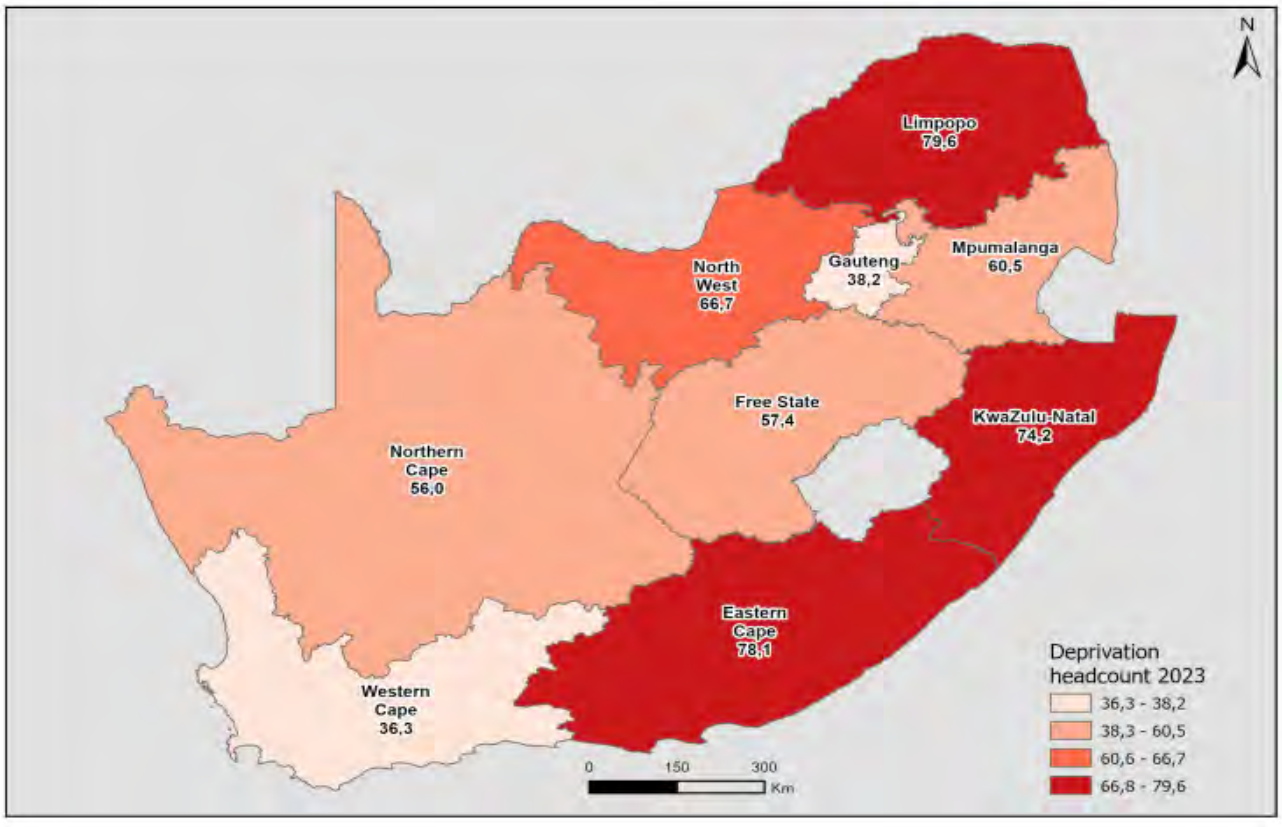


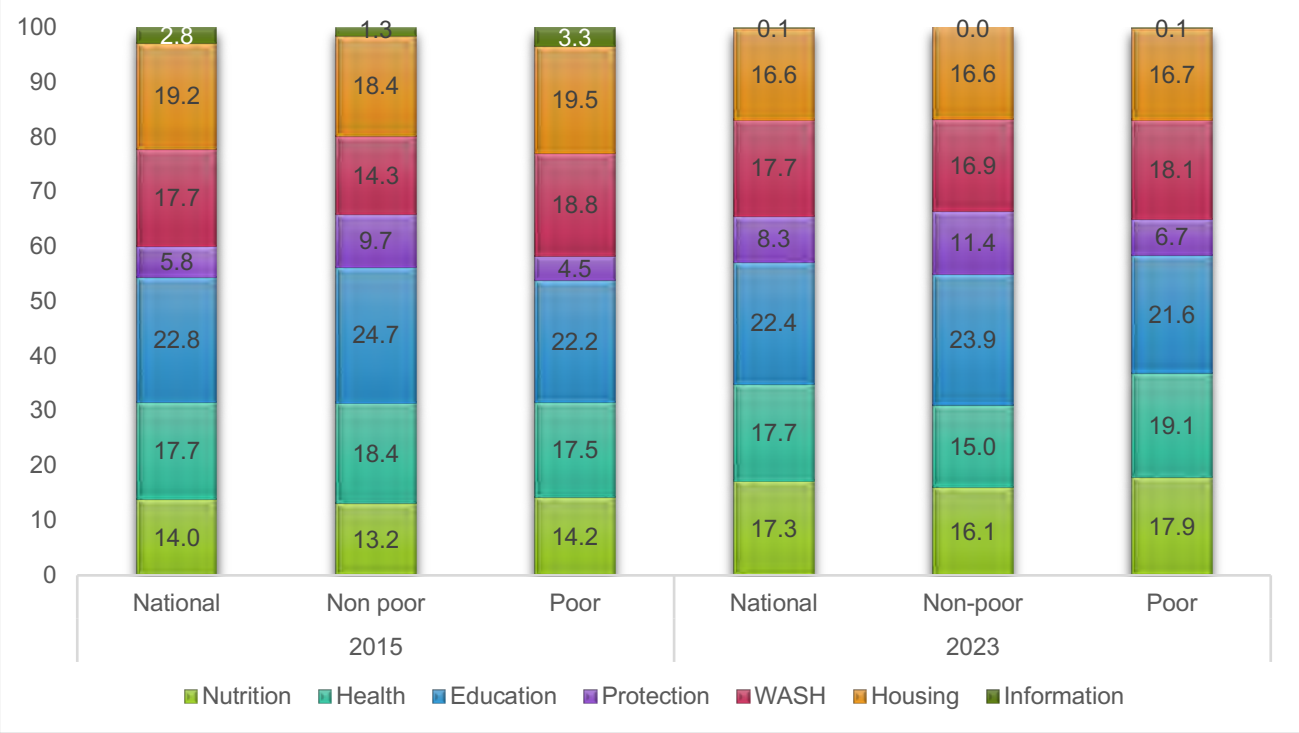
Figure 3.5.27: Child poverty headcount rate for children 13–17 years based on multidimensional poverty (k=3) by province, 2023



As shown in Figure 3.5.28, multidimensional deprivation among adolescents living in poor households in 2015 was mainly driven by education (22,2%), housing (19,5%), WASH (18,8%) and health (17,5%). By 2023, the main contributors shifted slightly to education (21,6%), health (19,1%), WASH (18,1%) and nutrition (17,9%), with the contribution of nutrition increasing by approximately 3,7 percentage points. Among children from non-poor households, multidimensional deprivation in 2023 was primarily driven by education (23,9%), WASH (16,9%), housing (16,6%) and nutrition (16,1%).

Overall, the results show that education remained a key and persistent driver of multidimensional poverty among children in this age group. At the same time, the increasing contribution of nutrition and health, particularly for children from poor households, highlighted growing challenges that cannot be addressed by income support alone. This suggests the need for integrated interventions that improve access to education, basic services, and adequate nutrition for these children.

Figure 3.5.28: Decomposition of the adjusted deprivation headcount rate (k=3) for children 13–17 years at national level and by money-metric poverty status (2015 and 2023)



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

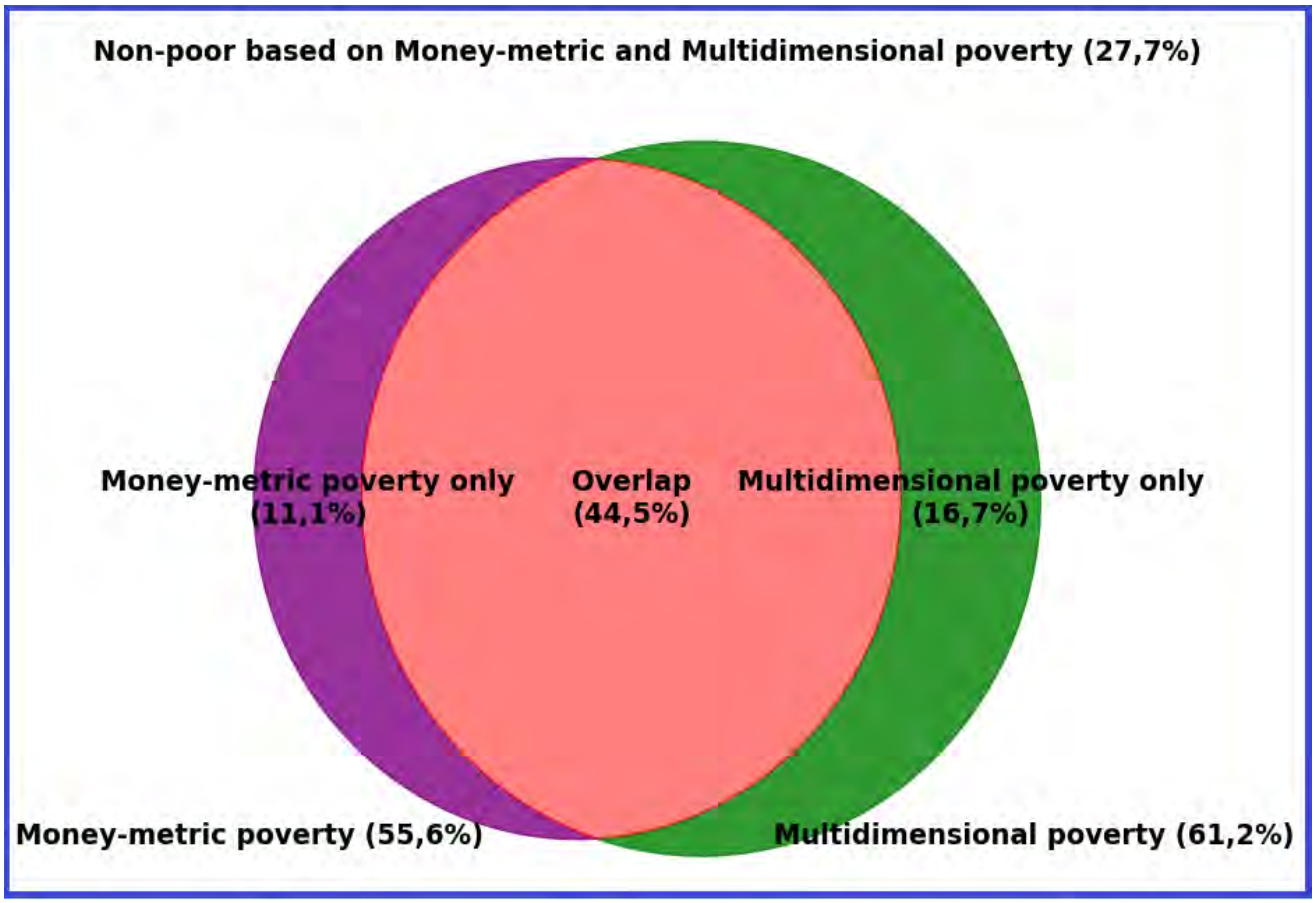
3.5.3.3 Overlap analysis between money-metric and multidimensional poverty

As shown in Figures 3.5.29 and 3.5.30, the proportion of children identified as non-poor in terms of money-metric and multidimensional poverty increased from 27,7% in 2015 to 31,4% in 2023. This indicates that about 4 out of every 100 children were no longer deprived under either measure in 2023. Over the same period, the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty declined, with the proportion of children identified as poor by both measures decreasing by about 6,4 percentage

points. At the same time, the share of children identified as multidimensionally deprived only increased from 16,7% in 2015 to 21,7% in 2023, representing an increase of about 5 out of every 100 children.

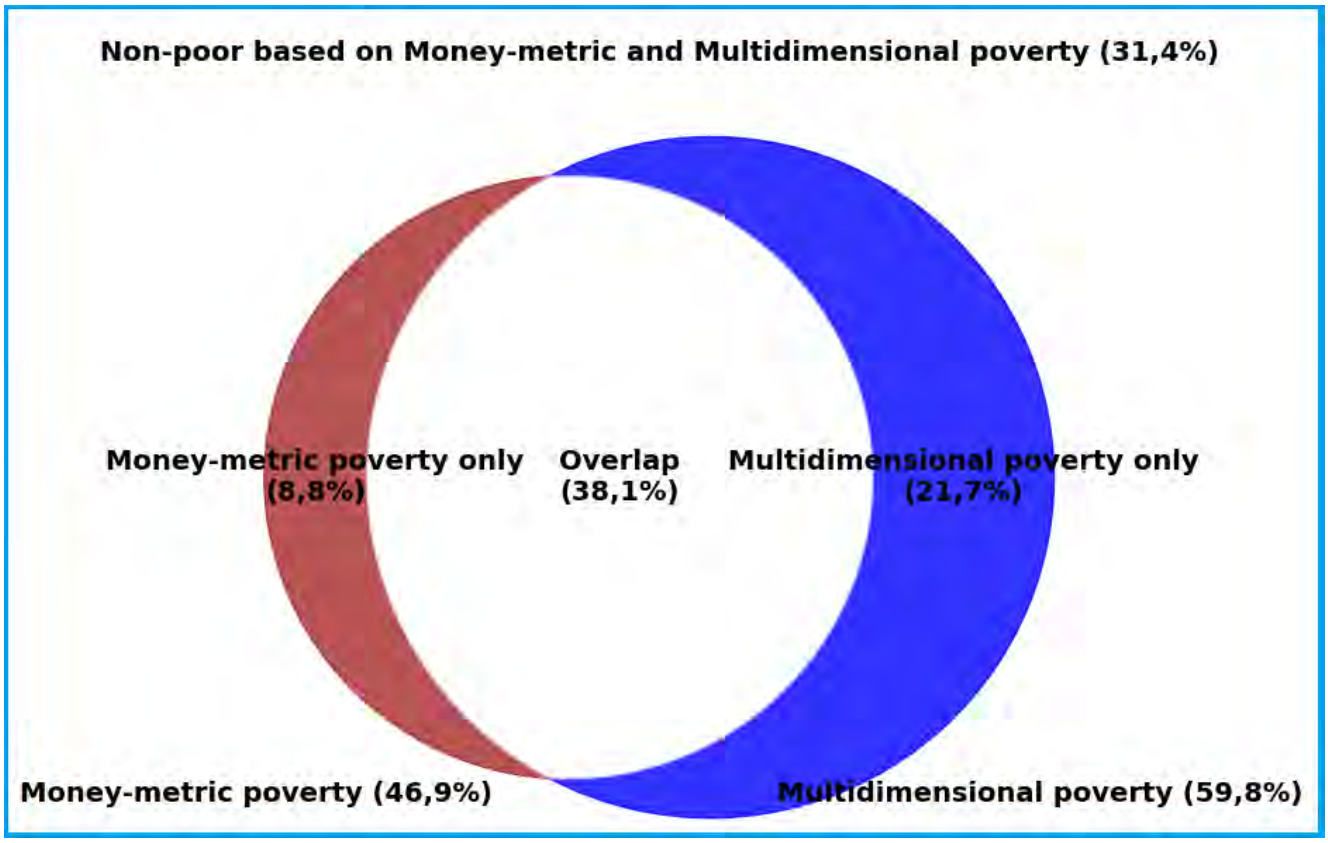
Overall, while fewer children were poor and deprived under both measures, a growing share of children experienced multidimensional deprivation. This highlights the importance of using both measures to fully assess changes in child deprivation and well-being over time.

Figure 3.5.29: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 13–17 years at national level, 2015



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Figure 3.5.30: Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 13–17 years at national level, 2023



Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.10 displays the overlap between money-metric poverty and multidimensional poverty among children 13–17 years in 2015 and 2023, disaggregated by settlement type. In non-urban areas, the share of children identified as money-metric poor only declined from 5,6% in 2015 to 3,5% in 2023, representing a reduction of about 2 out of every 100 children. In contrast, the proportion identified as multidimensionally poor only increased from 16,3% to 26,4% over the same period, representing an increase of approximately 10 out of every 100 children.

In both urban and non-urban areas, the proportion of non-poor children increased in 2023. While the increase was minimal in urban areas, the proportion more than doubled in non-urban areas. Despite this improvement, the proportion of non-poor children in non-urban areas remained much lower than in urban areas.

The share of children experiencing both money-metric and multidimensional poverty remained relatively stable over time. In contrast, in non-urban areas, the overlap declined substantially from 73,2% in 2015 to 59,2% in 2023, suggesting that approximately 14 out of every 100 children were no longer classified as poor by both measures over the period.

Table 3.5.10: Overlap between money metric and multidimensional poverty for children 13–17 years by settlement type (2015 and 2023)

Settlement type	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty status of household (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Urban	39,3	36,9	24,3	24,7	41,4	43,3	14,9	12,3	17,0	18,7	43,7	44,4
Non-urban	78,7	62,6	73,2	59,2	89,4	85,6	5,6	3,5	16,3	26,4	5,0	10,9
National	**55,6**	**46,9**	**44,5**	**38,1**	**61,2**	**59,8**	**11,1**	**8,8**	**16,7**	**21,7**	**27,7**	**31,4**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.11 shows the overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) deprivation among children 13–17 years in 2015 and 2023 by province. In 2023, Western Cape (55,1%), Gauteng (48,7%), Free State (33,0%), Northern Cape (32,4%), and Mpumalanga (31,9%) presented proportions of non-poor children that were above the national average (31,4%). The share of non-poor children increased for four out of five of these provinces in 2023, with an average of approximately 8 out of every 100 children. The smallest increase was recorded in the Free State (about 5,9 percentage points) while the Mpumalanga showed the largest increase of 9,4 percentage points. Gauteng, on the other hand, reported a marginal decline in the proportion of non-poor children over the same period.

Furthermore, the provinces of Limpopo, Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal, Free State and Eastern Cape displayed proportions of children who were multidimensionally deprived only above the national average. Limpopo recorded the largest increase over time, rising from 18,2% in 2015 to 31,0% in 2023, an increase of approximately 13 out of every 100 children.

Table 3.5.11: Overlap between money-metric poverty and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 13–17 years by province (2015 and 2023)

Province	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty status of household (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Western Cape	35,6	24,5	18,9	15,9	36,4	36,3	16,7	8,6	17,5	20,4	46,9	55,1
Eastern Cape	73,0	59,9	65,3	54,3	79,1	78,1	7,7	5,6	13,7	23,8	13,3	16,3
Northern Cape	62,2	51,3	41,5	39,7	55,5	56,0	20,6	11,7	14,0	16,3	23,9	32,4
Free State	51,6	42,3	36,1	32,7	57,4	57,4	15,6	9,6	21,3	24,7	27,1	33,0
KwaZulu-Natal	66,9	58,9	57,8	51,7	72,0	74,2	9,1	7,2	14,2	22,4	18,9	18,7
North West	55,6	61,1	43,4	51,3	63,3	66,7	12,2	9,8	19,9	15,4	24,5	23,5
Gauteng	33,2	33,7	18,0	20,6	35,3	38,2	15,2	13,1	17,3	17,6	49,5	48,7
Mpumalanga	58,6	43,6	51,8	36,1	70,7	60,5	6,8	7,5	18,9	24,5	22,5	31,9
Limpopo	71,7	54,4	66,5	48,7	84,7	79,6	5,2	5,7	18,2	31,0	10,1	14,7
National	**55,6**	**46,9**	**44,5**	**38,1**	**61,2**	**59,8**	**11,1**	**8,8**	**16,7**	**21,7**	**27,7**	**31,4**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 3.5.12 presents overlap between money-metric and multidimensional (k=3) poverty among children 13–17 years in 2015 and 2023 by metropolitan municipality. Among metropolitan municipalities with proportions below the all-metropolitan (all metros) average, the City of Cape Town, Nelson Mandela Bay, and the City of Tshwane recorded declines in the share of children who were poor according to both measures between 2015 and 2023. The declines were about 3,7 percentage points in the City of Cape Town, 4,3 points in Nelson Mandela Bay, and 8,6 points in the City of Tshwane.

In contrast, the City of Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni also recorded proportions below the all-metropolitan average, but experienced increases in the overlap over the same period. The City of Johannesburg and Ekurhuleni recorded increases of approximately 9,1 and 2,3 percentage points, respectively.

The City of Cape Town and the City of Tshwane experienced increases in the proportion of non-poor children, reflecting a reduction in the proportion of children who were poor according to both measures. In contrast, Nelson Mandela Bay recorded a decline in the share of non-poor children based on money-metric and multidimensional measures, amounting to about 10 out of every 100 children between 2015 and 2023. The proportion of non-poor children in Buffalo City increased in 2023, about 17 out of every 100 children classified as non-poor under both measures, representing the largest improvement among metropolitan municipalities.

Table 3.5.12: Overlap between money-metric poverty and multidimensional (k=3) poverty for children 13–17 years by metropolitan municipality (2015 and 2023)

Metropolitan municipality	Child poverty based on money-metric poverty status of household (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
City of Cape Town	32,3	22,6	18,2	14,5	35,7	34,6	14,2	8,1	17,6	20,1	50,1	57,3
Buffalo City	56,3	43,6	41,6	36,8	63,1	53,8	14,6	6,9	21,5	17,0	22,2	39,3
Nelson Mandela Bay	39,0	38,2	25,1	20,8	38,9	45,1	13,9	17,4	13,7	24,3	47,3	37,5
eThekwini	46,8	50,8	31,9	38,9	46,4	62,3	14,8	11,9	14,4	23,4	38,8	25,8
Mangaung	36,9	39,1	28,6	31,9	46,5	54,6	8,3	7,3	17,9	22,8	45,3	38,1
City of Johannesburg	31,6	33,1	12,8	21,9	30,2	39,0	18,7	11,2	17,4	17,0	51,1	49,8
Ekurhuleni	34,3	34,8	18,0	20,3	34,2	40,9	16,3	14,5	16,2	20,6	49,5	44,7
City of Tshwane	35,7	35,8	28,1	19,5	43,7	30,7	7,6	16,3	15,6	11,2	48,7	53,0
All metros	**37,0**	**35,3**	**22,5**	**23,1**	**38,9**	**41,9**	**14,6**	**12,1**	**16,5**	**18,7**	**46,5**	**46,0**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

CHAPTER 4

Reliability of Estimates

Coefficient of variation assessment

4. Reliability of the Estimates: Coefficient of Variation Assessment

The multidimensional child poverty estimate presented in this report, using MODA, is derived from sample survey data. As with all survey-based estimates, the results are subject to sampling error, and the level of uncertainty may vary across indicators, age groups and population groups particularly where estimates are produced for smaller subpopulations.

To assess the reliability of the child poverty estimates, coefficients of variation (CVs) are used. The CV provides a measure of relative precision by expressing the standard error of an estimate as a percentage of the estimate itself. Lower CV values indicate more precise and reliable estimates, while higher CV values reflect greater relative sampling variability, which may arise from smaller sample sizes or low prevalence of poverty.

The use of CVs enables a consistent and transparent assessment of estimate reliability across population groups, geographic areas and poverty measures, thereby supporting confident interpretation of the results presented in this report.

CV assessments are conducted separately for four analytical age groups: children 0–17 years, 0–4 years, 5–12 years and 13–17 years. These age group domains are analysed independently to account for differences in sample size, deprivation profiles and exposure to poverty-related risks across stages of childhood. Reliability is assessed for two key variables only: multidimensional child deprivation and money-metric poverty based on the Lower-Bound Poverty Line (LBPL).

Within each age group, CVs are calculated for estimates disaggregated by national and provincial level, sex of the child, and population group of the child. This domain-based approach to variance estimation reflects the survey design and allows for the identification of estimates that may be affected by higher relative sampling variability due to smaller effective sample sizes within specific subpopulations. CV assessments are not undertaken for other indicators or individual dimensions beyond multidimensional deprivation and money-metric poverty.

In accordance with Statistics South Africa standards, estimates with CVs between 0,0% and 16,5% are classified as statistically reliable, while estimates with CVs between 16,6% and 33,4% are classified as use with caution. These criteria are applied consistently across all age groups and disaggregation variables to ensure the robustness and comparability of the findings. The results of the CV assessment are presented in Tables 4.1.1.1a to 4.1.4.3b.

Table 4.1.1.1a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 0–4 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	57,0	58,8	60,6	0,015
Male	2023	49,7	51,6	53,5	0,019
Female	2015	55,5	57,3	59,2	0,016
Female	2023	49,4	51,3	53,3	0,020
South Africa	**2015**	**56,8**	**58,1**	**59,3**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**50,1**	**51,5**	**52,9**	**0,014**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.1.1b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 0–4 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	59,1	60,9	62,6	0,015
Male	2023	50,5	52,4	54,4	0,019
Female	2015	58,1	59,9	61,7	0,016
Female	2023	51,1	53,1	55,1	0,019
South Africa	**2015**	**59,1**	**60,4**	**61,7**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**51,4**	**52,8**	**54,2**	**0,013**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.1.2a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 0–4 years, by population group of child

Population group of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Black African	2015	61,6	62,9	64,2	0,011
Black African	2023	54,2	55,6	57,0	0,013
Coloured	2015	39,0	42,7	46,4	0,044
Coloured	2023	31,1	35,9	40,8	0,069
Indian/Asian	2015	8,7	17,0	25,3	0,248
Indian/Asian	2023	0,9	11,4	22,0	0,472
White	2015	5,3	10,0	14,7	0,238
White	2023	2,6	9,2	15,7	0,364
South Africa	**2015**	**56,8**	**58,1**	**59,3**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**50,1**	**51,5**	**52,9**	**0,014**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.1.2b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 0–4 years, by population group of child

Population group of child	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Black African	2015	64,8	66,1	67,4	0,010
Black African	2023	56,0	57,4	58,8	0,012
Coloured	2015	41,1	44,8	48,4	0,042
Coloured	2023	31,5	36,4	41,4	0,069
Indian/Asian	2015	0,9	5,2	9,4	0,423
Indian/Asian	2023	3,1	14,0	24,9	0,397
White	2015	0,0	1,1	2,3	0,604
White	2023	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,000
South Africa	**2015**	**59,1**	**60,4**	**61,7**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**51,4**	**52,8**	**54,2**	**0,013**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.1.3: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 0–4 years, by province

Province	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	70,0	72,9	75,8	0,020
Eastern Cape	2023	65,2	68,5	71,8	0,024
Free State	2015	45,6	50,0	54,4	0,045
Free State	2023	31,2	36,6	42,1	0,076
Gauteng	2015	28,7	31,9	35,1	0,051
Gauteng	2023	28,5	31,4	34,3	0,047
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	72,1	74,5	77,0	0,017
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	65,4	68,2	70,9	0,021
Limpopo	2023	74,3	77,1	80,0	0,019
Limpopo	2015	61,6	65,0	68,4	0,027
Mpumalanga	2023	59,1	63,0	66,9	0,032
Mpumalanga	2015	47,4	51,8	56,2	0,043
North West	2023	57,0	60,9	64,7	0,032
North West	2015	43,3	48,7	54,2	0,057
Northern Cape	2015	44,5	49,4	54,3	0,051
Northern Cape	2023	43,1	49,2	55,2	0,063
Western Cape	2015	35,7	39,4	43,1	0,048
Western Cape	2023	28,8	33,5	38,2	0,071
South Africa	**2015**	**56,8**	**58,1**	**59,3**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**50,1**	**51,5**	**52,9**	**0,014**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.1.3: Coefficients of variation and confidence Intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 0–4 years, by province

Province	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	73,0	75,8	78,6	0,019
Eastern Cape	2023	58,3	61,8	65,3	0,029
Free State	2015	50,0	54,4	58,9	0,042
Free State	2023	44,3	49,9	55,5	0,057
Gauteng	2015	33,5	36,8	40,2	0,046
Gauteng	2023	36,3	39,4	42,5	0,040
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	73,0	75,4	77,8	0,016
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	61,6	64,4	67,2	0,022
Limpopo	2023	73,7	76,5	79,3	0,019
Limpopo	2015	56,0	59,5	62,9	0,030
Mpumalanga	2023	55,4	59,5	63,6	0,035
Mpumalanga	2015	49,7	54,0	58,4	0,041
North West	2023	64,0	67,7	71,3	0,028
North West	2015	58,3	63,8	69,4	0,044
Northern Cape	2015	55,7	60,7	65,6	0,042
Northern Cape	2023	54,6	60,7	66,9	0,051
Western Cape	2015	36,3	40,0	43,7	0,047
Western Cape	2023	24,6	29,1	33,7	0,080
South Africa	**2015**	**59,1**	**60,4**	**61,7**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**51,4**	**52,8**	**54,2**	**0,013**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.2.1a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 5–12 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	61,6	63,0	64,4	0,011
Male	2023	57,1	58,6	60,2	0,013
Female	2015	60,6	62,0	63,4	0,011
Female	2023	58,6	60,1	61,6	0,013
South Africa	2015	61,5	62,5	63,5	0,008
South Africa	2023	58,3	59,3	60,4	0,009

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.2.1b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 5–12 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	57,5	58,9	60,3	0,012
Male	2023	46,3	47,8	49,3	0,016
Female	2015	58,0	59,4	60,8	0,012
Female	2023	46,8	48,3	49,7	0,016
South Africa	2015	58,1	59,1	60,1	0,009
South Africa	2023	47,0	48,0	49,1	0,011

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.2.2a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 5–12 years, by population group of child

Population group of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Black African	2015	67,5	68,6	69,6	0,008
Black African	2023	63,5	64,6	65,7	0,009
Coloured	2015	35,2	38,0	40,8	0,038
Coloured	2023	36,7	40,4	44,0	0,046
Indian/Asian	2015	11,4	18,5	25,6	0,196
Indian/Asian	2023	2,9	9,2	15,5	0,348
White	2015	8,1	12,4	16,7	0,178
White	2023	5,6	10,2	14,9	0,232
South Africa	**2015**	**61,5**	**62,5**	**63,5**	**0,008**
South Africa	**2023**	**58,3**	**59,3**	**60,4**	**0,009**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.2.2b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 5–12 years, by population group of child

Population group of child	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Black African	2015	64,1	65,1	66,2	0,008
Black African	2023	51,6	52,7	53,8	0,011
Coloured	2015	39,2	42,0	44,8	0,034
Coloured	2023	27,9	31,3	34,8	0,056
Indian/Asian	2015	1,1	4,3	7,5	0,382
Indian/Asian	2023	2,3	8,8	15,3	0,374
White	2015	0,3	1,2	2,2	0,392
White	2023	0,0	2,2	4,8	0,600
South Africa	**2015**	**58,1**	**59,1**	**60,1**	**0,009**
South Africa	**2023**	**47,0**	**48,0**	**49,1**	**0,011**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.2.3a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 5–12 years, by province

Province	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	74,8	76,9	79,0	0,014
Eastern Cape	2023	76,3	78,4	80,6	0,014
Free State	2015	50,6	53,6	56,7	0,029
Free State	2023	45,2	49,2	53,3	0,042
Gauteng	2015	34,0	36,7	39,5	0,038
Gauteng	2023	35,0	37,4	39,8	0,033
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	73,1	75,1	77,2	0,014
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	70,7	72,9	75,1	0,015
Limpopo	2023	82,6	84,6	86,6	0,012
Limpopo	2015	73,6	76,0	78,5	0,016
Mpumalanga	2023	66,5	69,5	72,4	0,022
Mpumalanga	2015	55,9	59,6	63,3	0,031
North West	2023	62,0	65,1	68,2	0,025
North West	2015	58,1	62,2	66,2	0,034
Northern Cape	2015	52,4	56,3	60,2	0,035
Northern Cape	2023	52,6	57,4	62,2	0,043
Western Cape	2015	34,1	37,0	39,9	0,040
Western Cape	2023	35,6	39,0	42,4	0,044
South Africa	**2015**	**61,5**	**62,5**	**63,5**	**0,008**
South Africa	**2023**	**58,3**	**59,3**	**60,4**	**0,009**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.2.3b: Coefficients of variation and confidence Intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 5–12 years, by province

Province	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	69,5	71,7	74,0	0,016
Eastern Cape	2023	56,8	59,3	61,8	0,022
Free State	2015	52,8	55,8	58,9	0,028
Free State	2023	38,3	42,3	46,2	0,048
Gauteng	2015	32,5	35,1	37,8	0,038
Gauteng	2023	31,1	33,4	35,8	0,036
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	70,9	72,9	74,9	0,014
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	58,3	60,5	62,8	0,019
Limpopo	2023	73,8	76,0	78,2	0,015
Limpopo	2015	52,7	55,4	58,1	0,025
Mpumalanga	2023	57,6	60,7	63,8	0,026
Mpumalanga	2015	39,6	43,1	46,6	0,042
North West	2023	58,6	61,7	64,9	0,026
North West	2015	57,4	61,5	65,6	0,034
Northern Cape	2015	55,7	59,7	63,6	0,034
Northern Cape	2023	46,6	51,5	56,3	0,048
Western Cape	2015	33,5	36,4	39,2	0,040
Western Cape	2023	25,3	28,4	31,6	0,057

Province	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
South Africa	**2015**	**58,1**	**59,1**	**60,1**	**0,009**
South Africa	**2023**	**47,0**	**48,0**	**49,1**	**0,011**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.3.1a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 13–17 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	59,9	61,8	63,7	0,015
Male	2023	58,8	60,6	62,5	0,016
Female	2015	58,6	60,5	62,5	0,016
Female	2023	57,1	59,0	60,9	0,016
South Africa	**2015**	**59,8**	**61,2**	**62,5**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**58,5**	**59,8**	**61,1**	**0,011**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.3.1b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 13–17 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	51,5	53,3	55,2	0,018
Male	2023	44,3	46,1	48,0	0,020
Female	2015	55,9	57,9	59,8	0,017
Female	2023	45,9	47,7	49,6	0,020
South Africa	**2015**	**54,2**	**55,6**	**56,9**	**0,012**
South Africa	**2023**	**45,6**	**46,9**	**48,2**	**0,014**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.3.2a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 13–17 years, by population group of child

Population group of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
African/Black	2015	67,3	68,7	70,0	0,010
African/Black	2023	64,5	65,8	67,1	0,010
Coloured	2015	34,9	38,6	42,3	0,049
Coloured	2023	32,6	36,7	40,9	0,058
Indian/Asian	2015	7,5	14,2	20,9	0,240
Indian/Asian	2023	10,2	21,6	33,0	0,269
White	2015	5,7	9,0	12,4	0,191
White	2023	3,2	7,1	11,1	0,284
South Africa	**2015**	**59,8**	**61,2**	**62,5**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**58,5**	**59,8**	**61,1**	**0,011**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.3.2b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 13–17 years, by population group of child

Population group	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
African/Black	2015	61,3	62,7	64,1	0,011
African/Black	2023	50,7	52,1	53,4	0,013
Coloured	2015	35,0	38,7	42,3	0,048
Coloured	2023	22,6	26,4	30,1	0,073
Indian/Asian	2015	0,4	4,0	7,6	0,461
Indian/Asian	2023	5,1	16,5	28,0	0,353
White	2015	0,0	0,8	1,6	0,579
White	2023	0,0	2,6	5,6	0,577
South Africa	**2015**	**54,2**	**55,6**	**56,9**	**0,012**
South Africa	**2023**	**45,6**	**46,9**	**48,2**	**0,014**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.3.3a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 13–17 years, by province

Province	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	76,2	79,1	81,9	0,018
Eastern Cape	2023	75,5	78,1	80,6	0,017
Free State	2015	52,8	57,4	61,9	0,040
Free State	2023	52,6	57,4	62,1	0,042
Gauteng	2015	31,7	35,3	38,9	0,052
Gauteng	2023	35,3	38,2	41,2	0,039
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	69,3	72,0	74,8	0,020
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	71,6	74,2	76,7	0,018
Limpopo	2023	81,9	84,7	87,5	0,017
Limpopo	2015	76,6	79,6	82,7	0,020
Mpumalanga	2023	66,9	70,7	74,5	0,027
Mpumalanga	2015	55,8	60,5	65,3	0,040
North West	2023	58,9	63,3	67,8	0,036
North West	2015	62,3	66,7	71,1	0,034
Northern Cape	2015	50,6	55,5	60,3	0,045
Northern Cape	2023	49,8	56,0	62,1	0,056
Western Cape	2015	32,7	36,4	40,1	0,052
Western Cape	2023	32,3	36,3	40,4	0,056
South Africa	**2015**	**59,8**	**61,2**	**62,5**	**0,011**
South Africa	**2023**	**58,5**	**59,8**	**61,1**	**0,011**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.3.3b: Coefficients of variation and confidence Intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 13–17 years, by province

Province	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	70,1	73,0	75,9	0,020
Eastern Cape	2023	56,9	59,9	62,9	0,026
Free State	2015	47,1	51,6	56,1	0,045
Free State	2023	37,6	42,3	47,0	0,057
Gauteng	2015	29,7	33,2	36,7	0,054
Gauteng	2023	30,9	33,7	36,6	0,043
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	64,2	66,9	69,6	0,021
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	56,1	58,9	61,7	0,024
Limpopo	2023	68,5	71,7	74,8	0,023
Limpopo	2015	50,8	54,4	57,9	0,034
Mpumalanga	2023	54,5	58,6	62,7	0,036
Mpumalanga	2015	39,1	43,6	48,1	0,053
North West	2023	51,1	55,6	60,1	0,041
North West	2015	56,6	61,1	65,7	0,038
Northern Cape	2015	57,4	62,2	67,0	0,039
Northern Cape	2023	45,1	51,3	57,5	0,062
Western Cape	2015	31,9	35,6	39,4	0,054
Western Cape	2023	20,9	24,5	28,1	0,074
South Africa	**2015**	**54,2**	**55,6**	**56,9**	**0,012**
South Africa	**2023**	**45,6**	**46,9**	**48,2**	**0,014**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.4.1a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 0–17 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	60,5	61,4	62,4	0,008
Male	2023	56,2	57,2	58,2	0,009
Female	2015	59,3	60,2	61,2	0,008
Female	2023	56,3	57,3	58,3	0,009
South Africa	**2015**	**60,2**	**60,8**	**61,5**	**0,006**
South Africa	**2023**	**56,5**	**57,3**	**58,0**	**0,006**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.4.1b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 0–17 years, by sex of child

Sex of child	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Male	2015	57,1	58,1	59,0	0,008
Male	2023	47,6	48,6	49,6	0,010
Female	2015	58,2	59,2	60,1	0,008
Female	2023	48,5	49,5	50,5	0,010
South Africa	**2015**	**57,9**	**58,6**	**59,3**	**0,006**
South Africa	**2023**	**48,3**	**49,1**	**49,8**	**0,007**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.4.2a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 0–17 years, by population group of child

Population group of child	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Black African	2015	66,2	66,9	67,6	0,005
Black African	2023	61,7	62,4	63,1	0,006
Coloured	2015	37,6	39,6	41,5	0,025
Coloured	2023	35,7	38,1	40,5	0,032
Indian/Asian	2015	12,5	16,7	21,0	0,130
Indian/Asian	2023	7,8	12,9	18,1	0,202
White	2015	8,3	10,7	13,2	0,118
White	2023	6,1	9,0	11,9	0,164
South Africa	**2015**	**60,2**	**60,8**	**61,5**	**0,006**
South Africa	**2023**	**56,5**	**57,3**	**58,0**	**0,006**

Table 4.1.4.2b: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 0–17 years, by population group of child

Population group	Year	Money metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Black African	2015	64,1	64,8	65,5	0,006
Black African	2023	53,1	53,8	54,6	0,007
Coloured	2015	40,1	42,0	43,9	0,023
Coloured	2023	29,1	31,4	33,7	0,037
Indian/Asian	2015	2,3	4,4	6,5	0,241
Indian/Asian	2023	7,0	12,2	17,4	0,217
White	2015	0,5	1,0	1,6	0,288
White	2023	0,3	1,8	3,3	0,419
South Africa	**2015**	**57,9**	**58,6**	**59,3**	**0,006**
South Africa	**2023**	**48,3**	**49,1**	**49,8**	**0,007**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.4.3a: Coefficients of variation and confidence intervals for multidimensional poverty headcount for children 0–17 years, by province

Province	Year	Multidimensional poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	74,8	76,3	77,7	0,010
Eastern Cape	2023	74,3	75,8	77,2	0,010
Free State	2015	51,1	53,4	55,6	0,021
Free State	2023	45,5	48,2	50,9	0,029
Gauteng	2015	33,0	34,9	36,7	0,026
Gauteng	2023	34,4	35,9	37,5	0,022
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	72,8	74,2	75,6	0,009
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	70,5	71,9	73,3	0,010
Limpopo	2023	81,0	82,4	83,8	0,009
Limpopo	2015	72,0	73,7	75,3	0,012
Mpumalanga	2023	65,8	67,9	69,9	0,015
Mpumalanga	2015	55,2	57,6	60,0	0,021
North West	2023	61,2	63,4	65,5	0,017
North West	2015	57,0	59,7	62,4	0,023
Northern Cape	2015	51,5	54,1	56,7	0,025
Northern Cape	2023	51,3	54,5	57,8	0,030
Western Cape	2015	35,6	37,6	39,5	0,026
Western Cape	2023	34,5	36,8	39,1	0,032
South Africa	**2015**	**60,2**	**60,8**	**61,5**	**0,006**
South Africa	**2023**	**56,5**	**57,3**	**58,0**	**0,006**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

Table 4.1.4.3b: Coefficients of variation and confidence Intervals for money-metric poverty headcount for children 0–17 years, by province

Province	Year	Money-metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Eastern Cape	2015	71,7	73,2	74,7	0,010
Eastern Cape	2023	58,5	60,1	61,8	0,014
Free State	2015	52,3	54,5	56,7	0,021
Free State	2023	41,6	44,3	47,0	0,031
Gauteng	2015	33,4	35,2	37,0	0,026
Gauteng	2023	33,7	35,2	36,8	0,023
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	70,8	72,2	73,5	0,010
KwaZulu-Natal	2015	59,7	61,2	62,7	0,012
Limpopo	2023	73,6	75,1	76,6	0,010
Limpopo	2015	54,5	56,3	58,2	0,017
Mpumalanga	2023	57,6	59,8	61,9	0,018
Mpumalanga	2015	44,0	46,4	48,8	0,026
North West	2023	60,0	62,2	64,3	0,017
North West	2015	59,4	62,0	64,7	0,022
Northern Cape	2015	57,9	60,6	63,2	0,022

Province	Year	Money-metric poverty			
		95% lower confidence limit	Poverty headcount	95% upper confidence limit	Coefficient of variation
Northern Cape	2023	51,0	54,2	57,5	0,030
Western Cape	2015	35,4	37,3	39,2	0,027
Western Cape	2023	25,3	27,5	29,6	0,039
South Africa	**2015**	**57,9**	**58,6**	**59,3**	**0,006**
South Africa	**2023**	**48,3**	**49,1**	**49,8**	**0,007**

Source: Author's calculations based on the LCS 2015 and IES 2023

CHAPTER 5

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ANNEXURE

Annexures

A.0 Dimensions, indicators and deprivation thresholds.

Table A.0.1: Dimensions, indicators and deprivation thresholds by age groups

Dimension	Indicator	Age groups			Deprivation threshold Deprived if:
		0–4 years	5–12 years	13–17 years	
Health	Distance to health care centre[1]	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 years lived further than 5km away from the nearest health care centre
	Availability of Road To Health Card (RTHC)	✔			a child 12–23 months did not have a RTHC
Education	School attendance		✔	✔	a child 5–17 years did not attend pre-school or school
	Lateness in schooling		✔	✔	a child 7–17 years did not complete the grade required for his/her age
	School facilities		✔	✔	a child 5–17 years attended a school with no facilities/services[2]
Child development	Child development	✔			a child 3–4 years did not attend Early Childhood Education (ECE) or care[3]
Nutrition	Food security	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 years lived in a household that experienced food inadequacy[4] during the 12 months prior to the survey period
Protection	Safety	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17- years lived in a household where any member experienced/have been a victim of any crime[5] during the last 12 months

[1] Health care centre includes clinics and hospitals
[2] Facilities/services includes: classrooms, running water, toilet facilities, library, science laboratory with usable apparatus, computers/tablets that can be used by learners, security guard at the gate and sports facilities.
[3] Only 'distance to health care centre' was used to construct this indicator due to data unavailability on the 'exposure to Early Childhood Development' (ECD) programmes from the 2022/23 IES.
[4] Food inadequacy in reference to child deprivation refers to children from household that responded positively to the 8 Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) questions.
[5] Crimes include assault, robbery, motor vehicle hijacking, theft of personal property, theft of bicycle/motorcycle, fraud, corruption, theft out of motor vehicle, motor vehicle vandalism/deliberate damage of motor vehicle, house breaking/burglary, home robbery, theft of livestock, poultry and other animals, theft of crops planted by household, murder, deliberate damaging or destruction of dwellings and motor vehicle theft (e.g. car, bakkies, trucks, etc.)

Dimension	Indicator	Age groups			Deprivation threshold Deprived if:
		0–4 years	5–12 years	13–17 years	
WASH	Sanitation (toilet type)	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 lived in a household that did not have access to an improved toilet type or shared sanitation facilities with at least one other household.
	Waste disposal	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 years lived in an area with inadequate (and infrequent) waste disposal and management services/facilities.
	Drinking water source	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 years lived in a household with access to unimproved[6] drinking water source.
Housing	Shelter (materials of roof, floor and walls)	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 lived in a household with roof, walls and floor made of rudimentary or non-permanent materials[7]
	Energy (fuel for cooking and lighting	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 lives in a household that used solid fuel for cooking[8] or lighting[9].
Information	Access to information devices	✔	✔	✔	a child 0–17 years lived in a household that did not have access to radio, television and internet.

[6] Unimproved drinking water source includes rain water tank, water carrier/tanker, flowing water/stream/river, stagnant water/dam/pool, well, spring and other
[7] Rudimentary or non-permanent materials for the roof includes wood, plastic, cardboard, mud and cement mix, wattle and daub, mud, asbestos and other; for the floor includes earth sand, dung, wood planks and other; and for the walls include materials made of corrugated iron/zinc, plastic, cardboard, mud and cement mix, wattle and daub (e.g. sticks and mud), mud, thatch/grass, asbestos and other.
[8] Fuel for cooking includes paraffin, wood, coal, animal dung and none
[9] Fuel for lighting includes paraffin, candle and none

A.1 Deprivation headcount rates by dimension and each age group

Table A.1.1: Deprivation headcount rates by dimension at the national level and for various characteristics for children 0–4 years

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Child development		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**41,5**	**49,2**	**52,9**	**52,1**	**56,9**	**37,7**	**18,5**	**27,2**	**49,1**	**53,5**	**60,5**	**49,8**	**8,4**	**0,1**
Education level of household head	No schooling	54,0	74,7	65,4	71,4	65,6	45,1	15,1	19,0	76,1	84,3	73,5	68,3	12,8	0,3
	Incomplete primary	55,1	66,4	64,6	68,1	66,1	45,9	16,1	24,6	64,4	71,9	71,5	61,7	11,9	0,1
	Complete primary	50,7	58,1	56,9	59,5	62,6	54,7	17,0	28,1	54,9	68,2	66,4	59,8	10,0	0,1
	Incomplete secondary	41,3	56,2	54,6	58,7	56,3	42,5	19,2	27,1	45,7	55,0	60,2	55,1	8,9	0,2
	Complete metric	27,4	36,4	41,6	43,5	49,0	26,6	21,5	30,7	30,6	41,6	48,3	41,0	2,9	0,0
	Higher education	13,5	14,0	22,2	15,5	37,1	19,3	22,3	27,8	18,5	25,5	36,7	22,0	0,9	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	31,8	39,3	44,8	42,2	52,5	30,7	16,8	25,6	37,8	45,7	57,4	49,0	12,2	0,3
	4-6 members	36,5	43,0	48,5	47,6	52,7	34,7	18,4	27,4	44,3	48,5	57,3	46,1	7,4	0,0
	7 or more members	50,5	60,6	60,8	61,5	63,2	44,2	19,3	27,6	58,5	62,6	65,3	54,8	8,4	0,2
Household employment	No adult employed	31,8	39,3	44,8	42,2	52,5	30,7	16,8	25,6	37,8	45,7	57,4	49,0	12,2	0,3
	One adult employed	36,5	43,0	48,5	47,6	52,7	34,7	18,4	27,4	44,3	48,5	57,3	46,1	7,4	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	50,5	60,6	60,8	61,5	63,2	44,2	19,3	27,6	58,5	62,6	65,3	54,8	8,4	0,2
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	52,1	55,7	62,8	65,8	59,2	39,6	16,0	21,9	59,8	73,3	71,3	63,6	10,6	0,0
	Only father alive	42,6	53,8	65,3	62,1	51,8	45,2	15,4	28,6	54,3	62,3	64,5	63,6	10,8	0,0
	Double orphan	43,1	48,1	58,9	62,2	56,9	18,6	11,2	19,8	57,2	69,8	64,9	67,6	21,2	0,0
	Non-orphan	40,8	48,8	52,3	51,4	56,8	37,8	18,8	27,6	48,5	52,3	59,8	48,9	8,2	0,1
Median number of children	Below or equal to median number of children	32,4	39,7	43,9	42,2	50,3	31,4	18,2	28,0	37,9	43,0	54,7	45,2	7,2	0,1
	Above median number of children	48,6	56,8	60,0	60,1	62,0	43,0	18,8	26,6	57,9	61,8	65,0	53,5	9,4	0,1
	Male	35,8	40,0	46,3	42,0	55,1	36,9	20,3	26,5	43,2	47,3	56,6	44,2	6,3	0,1

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Child development		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Sex of the household head	Female	47,8	57,3	60,4	60,9	58,9	38,3	16,6	27,9	55,8	58,9	64,9	54,8	10,8	0,2
Sex of a child	Male	41,9	49,3	53,1	52,1	58,0	39,2	19,4	28,0	49,8	53,3	60,5	49,7	8,3	0,1
	Female	41,1	49,1	52,8	52,2	55,8	36,0	17,7	26,5	48,4	53,6	60,5	50,0	8,5	0,2
Population group of the household head	Black African	44,1	52,2	58,7	56,9	57,2	37,4	17,5	26,5	55,5	59,2	62,0	51,0	9,5	0,1
	Coloured	38,1	44,1	27,1	34,0	65,7	47,6	20,5	35,1	16,2	20,8	63,3	58,1	2,8	0,2
	Indian/Asian	7,4	6,3	22,4	10,6	69,3	39,6	25,6	22,4	3,2	11,7	38,4	22,9	1,6	0,0
	White	11,4	12,3	3,9	2,6	31,6	22,3	31,4	28,1	7,1	15,4	34,2	17,7	0,9	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	44,0	52,0	58,7	56,7	57,1	37,5	17,6	26,7	55,5	59,5	62,0	51,2	9,5	0,1
	Coloured	39,0	44,5	26,0	34,4	65,4	47,0	20,7	33,7	15,6	16,9	62,7	55,4	2,7	0,2
	Indian/Asian	7,6	9,7	23,1	14,1	71,1	41,7	25,7	21,6	3,3	10,6	39,6	24,6	1,6	0,0
	White	10,3	12,3	3,9	2,7	32,2	21,9	30,7	28,9	7,1	15,2	34,5	17,8	0,9	0,0
money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Non poor	22,4	31,6	36,8	32,7	44,4	26,8	22,8	28,7	23,3	38,6	43,1	34,8	2,2	0,0
	Poor	54,0	64,9	63,6	69,5	65,0	47,3	15,7	25,9	66,1	66,8	71,9	63,3	12,5	0,2

Table A.1.2: Deprivation headcount rates by dimension at the national level and for various characteristics for children 5–12 years

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**40,8**	**46,4**	**52,3**	**48,8**	**72,6**	**66,6**	**19,6**	**26,3**	**49,5**	**51,8**	**59,1**	**48,3**	**7,8**	**0,1**
Education level of household head	None	52,0	66,9	66,5	72,0	82,5	83,7	14,6	22,9	75,5	81,9	76,0	67,8	12,2	0,5
	Some primary	53,8	64,5	64,5	66,0	81,6	76,4	14,6	21,4	63,6	71,7	71,5	62,3	12,0	0,3
	Primary	46,3	61,9	58,2	63,0	81,7	77,2	15,7	29,6	54,6	65,1	67,7	63,3	9,5	0,2
	Some secondary	40,6	51,8	54,2	55,1	73,7	71,8	21,0	27,1	46,8	53,8	57,9	53,2	7,4	0,1
	Matric	29,6	36,3	37,6	40,4	63,7	62,0	24,0	28,4	30,5	41,9	45,6	37,7	2,7	0,1
	Higher	12,8	13,4	19,3	11,2	43,5	38,3	28,3	26,1	18,5	22,5	28,1	23,1	0,8	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	34,2	38,3	48,6	39,3	71,8	64,9	16,5	25,2	45,4	45,7	55,7	44,0	9,2	0,1
	4-6 members	35,1	40,7	47,5	43,8	68,6	62,3	20,9	26,0	43,7	46,3	53,4	44,4	6,5	0,2
	7 or more members	50,4	57,4	59,9	59,2	78,2	73,6	18,8	27,0	58,4	62,0	67,7	55,6	9,0	0,1
Household employment	No adult employed	53,4	58,8	64,4	66,1	82,0	75,0	15,0	25,4	66,6	67,6	70,0	57,7	12,9	0,2
	One adult employed	35,8	41,2	48,0	41,1	70,6	64,4	20,7	25,3	41,7	44,5	54,7	44,2	5,5	0,1
	Two plus adults employed	26,1	28,5	37,3	25,0	59,0	52,2	26,1	29,8	30,8	30,4	46,2	35,1	1,8	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	49,3	56,2	59,4	60,9	81,0	75,7	19,2	28,2	57,5	62,1	68,7	57,3	12,0	0,1
	Only father alive	41,8	45,5	56,3	48,3	76,4	73,6	20,2	26,0	49,0	51,4	61,9	57,4	7,7	0,1
	Double orphan	47,7	54,1	61,1	57,9	81,3	70,2	14,1	21,8	61,2	56,7	66,5	52,4	11,4	0,0
	Non-orphan	39,3	45,0	50,8	46,9	71,0	65,0	19,8	26,2	48,0	50,5	57,3	46,8	7,0	0,1
Median number of children	Below or equal to median number of children	33,1	37,9	43,3	37,7	67,1	60,8	19,6	26,9	38,3	41,5	51,2	42,1	5,3	0,1
	Above median number of children	46,2	52,9	58,5	57,2	76,4	71,0	19,6	25,8	57,2	59,7	64,5	53,1	9,5	0,2
Sex of the household head	Male	35,8	38,2	44,4	38,2	67,1	61,2	21,7	25,0	41,8	44,9	53,6	42,5	5,2	0,0
	Female	46,0	53,2	60,3	57,7	78,2	71,1	17,5	27,3	57,2	57,6	64,6	53,2	10,4	0,2
Sex of a child	Male	40,8	45,8	52,5	48,8	73,5	67,7	20,0	26,3	49,9	51,4	59,6	48,5	7,4	0,1

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Female	40,9	47,0	52,2	48,8	71,7	65,5	19,3	26,2	49,1	52,2	58,5	48,2	8,1	0,1
Population group of the household head	Black African	43,3	49,6	58,7	53,9	76,2	70,1	18,0	25,7	56,2	58,0	61,4	49,8	8,8	0,1
	Coloured	36,9	38,2	23,9	28,8	62,3	57,7	22,1	32,0	11,6	14,1	61,2	52,1	2,7	0,1
	Indian/Asian	11,7	8,9	11,3	5,2	37,7	20,6	37,4	22,2	2,1	9,5	30,9	17,9	0,4	0,0
	White	13,8	11,5	1,1	1,2	37,8	33,1	37,6	28,8	11,0	17,1	23,9	24,1	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	43,2	49,6	58,8	53,9	76,2	70,1	18,0	25,8	56,3	58,0	61,4	49,8	8,8	0,1
	Coloured	37,1	38,4	23,6	29,1	62,3	57,0	22,1	30,8	11,5	13,7	60,4	51,3	2,7	0,1
	Indian/Asian	13,2	10,2	13,0	4,3	37,8	20,5	39,4	22,4	3,2	9,5	33,4	19,3	0,4	0,0
	White	13,6	11,6	1,1	1,0	37,6	32,7	37,3	28,4	10,7	17,1	23,4	24,2	0,0	0,0
money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Non poor	24,9	30,6	34,8	29,2	57,1	57,3	25,1	27,6	24,2	37,1	41,7	34,6	1,9	0,0
	Poor	51,8	63,5	64,4	70,0	83,3	76,7	15,8	24,8	66,9	67,8	71,0	63,2	11,8	0,3

Table A.1.3: Deprivation headcount rates by dimension at the national level and for various characteristics for children 13–17 years

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**39,9**	**46,9**	**51,1**	**47,7**	**73,4**	**72,6**	**20,6**	**27,6**	**47,9**	**49,3**	**57,7**	**47,0**	**7,2**	**0,1**
Education level of household head	None	51,7	69,3	64,8	73,8	89,2	85,3	15,5	22,6	76,0	79,4	75,7	66,0	12,2	0,4
	Some primary	48,7	64,1	62,4	64,2	82,6	81,8	15,6	22,5	61,8	68,7	69,7	58,9	10,6	0,2
	Primary	46,3	59,4	55,2	59,8	80,5	86,2	17,3	24,6	50,6	60,5	65,7	55,8	6,1	0,3
	Some secondary	41,8	52,1	52,9	54,4	74,3	75,9	21,9	27,6	44,1	49,4	57,8	52,5	7,6	0,0
	Matric	28,4	37,4	39,5	39,0	62,6	69,0	25,4	31,2	31,5	41,1	42,2	37,4	2,1	0,3
	Higher	15,0	14,9	20,9	9,9	43,9	48,7	27,9	30,9	20,8	23,3	29,0	23,1	1,1	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	31,0	42,1	46,3	38,7	70,5	72,8	16,0	24,9	45,2	48,5	52,5	45,0	8,7	0,3
	4-6 members	35,8	41,3	48,3	43,0	70,3	68,4	22,6	29,4	41,4	42,9	52,7	44,0	5,7	0,2
	7 or more members	49,5	57,0	57,0	58,0	78,9	78,8	19,6	26,0	58,3	58,9	66,9	52,0	8,7	0,1
Household employment	No adult employed	51,3	60,8	63,8	63,3	83,4	81,1	15,9	25,7	64,6	62,9	67,5	55,7	11,8	0,3
	One adult employed	36,4	39,7	45,9	41,5	69,8	69,9	23,4	27,9	40,6	42,6	53,3	42,3	5,4	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	26,4	28,7	37,5	23,9	62,0	58,6	24,4	31,3	31,2	30,7	48,0	35,6	2,0	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	47,7	54,8	60,0	58,4	82,8	79,5	19,3	26,9	56,7	59,9	67,6	54,6	10,6	0,1
	Only father alive	46,4	52,4	58,9	49,5	81,8	76,2	19,7	31,0	51,4	53,4	62,3	50,0	4,9	0,0
	Double orphan	42,8	55,1	62,1	60,5	80,6	74,9	20,2	27,0	61,1	56,9	63,0	54,1	9,7	0,9
	Non-orphan	37,1	44,4	47,0	44,3	69,6	70,8	21,2	27,8	44,1	46,1	54,3	44,7	6,2	0,1
Median number of children	Below or equal to median number of children	32,4	39,0	43,5	37,0	66,8	68,0	21,0	29,0	37,0	39,6	50,6	41,4	5,2	0,2
	Above median number of children	46,2	53,7	57,4	56,9	78,9	76,6	20,3	26,4	57,0	57,7	63,7	51,8	8,8	0,1
Sex of the household head	Male	34,6	38,3	44,6	37,1	68,5	67,4	21,7	28,2	41,7	42,9	52,6	40,7	5,3	0,1
	Female	45,3	53,8	57,6	56,1	78,2	76,8	19,5	27,2	54,1	54,4	62,8	52,0	9,0	0,2
Sex of a child	Male	39,3	47,5	50,2	47,6	74,3	74,7	20,9	26,4	48,6	49,8	58,2	47,8	7,0	0,1
	Female	40,7	46,3	51,9	47,7	72,5	70,6	20,4	28,8	47,2	48,8	57,2	46,1	7,3	0,2

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Population group of the household head	Black African	43,1	51,3	58,5	53,2	78,9	76,9	19,3	26,0	56,0	55,9	60,3	48,8	8,4	0,2
	Coloured	36,1	31,9	23,2	27,2	61,6	55,9	23,1	33,9	11,3	12,3	61,0	50,9	2,4	0,0
	Indian/Asian	16,0	24,3	22,6	9,6	27,3	41,8	30,2	36,4	2,9	8,2	43,2	25,0	0,5	0,0
	White	11,2	6,7	0,7	1,6	33,3	39,1	32,2	40,9	8,1	13,5	23,6	17,8	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	43,1	51,1	58,5	53,0	78,8	76,8	19,2	26,1	55,9	55,6	60,2	48,7	8,4	0,2
	Coloured	35,9	31,9	22,8	28,7	61,7	56,4	23,1	34,0	11,6	13,4	61,0	50,8	2,6	0,0
	Indian/Asian	14,8	23,9	21,4	5,9	26,2	42,6	30,7	37,6	2,9	7,7	42,3	25,8	0,5	0,0
	White	11,5	6,9	0,7	1,4	33,2	37,1	32,9	39,8	7,6	14,0	23,6	17,3	0,0	0,0
money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Non poor	24,9	31,5	36,1	28,4	60,4	63,8	25,6	30,8	25,0	36,1	40,7	35,5	2,1	0,0
	Poor	51,9	64,3	63,1	69,6	83,7	82,6	16,6	24,0	66,3	64,2	71,3	59,9	11,2	0,3

A.2 Deprivation distribution for each age group

Table A.2.1: Deprivation distribution for children 0–4 years

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	National	**6,4**	**11,1**	**14,9**	**16,9**	**20,6**	**20,5**	**22,9**	**24,7**	**19,7**	**19,4**	**11,8**	**6,6**	**3,5**	**0,7**	**0,2**	**0,0**
Education level of household head	None	1,1	2,3	6,7	6,9	14,9	13,2	21,7	24,4	29,4	39,2	19,8	11,3	5,8	2,7	0,7	0,0
	Some primary	2,1	3,2	7,0	8,0	15,3	15,9	26,4	30,3	23,5	31,8	19,5	10,1	5,8	0,8	0,4	0,0
	Primary	4,3	6,9	10,8	7,7	18,0	18,5	23,8	30,1	23,5	25,2	13,3	10,7	6,1	1,0	0,3	0,0
	Some secondary	4,9	5,3	14,1	14,4	22,6	23,0	24,9	28,8	20,7	20,6	10,1	6,9	2,7	1,0	0,0	0,0
	Matric	9,8	16,3	23,9	22,7	27,7	23,9	21,4	20,5	12,1	12,0	3,8	4,5	1,2	0,1	0,1	0,0
	Higher	23,6	34,9	33,3	34,6	22,9	17,4	12,7	10,3	4,8	1,8	2,6	1,1	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	8,2	16,0	19,4	20,1	25,5	22,5	19,6	22,0	16,9	14,7	8,0	4,3	2,3	0,4	0,1	0,0
	4-6 members	8,4	13,9	18,1	19,4	21,6	21,3	22,1	23,1	17,3	16,1	9,4	5,7	2,9	0,5	0,1	0,0
	7 or more members	3,5	5,7	9,6	12,7	17,8	18,8	24,9	27,7	23,5	25,4	15,7	8,6	4,6	1,1	0,4	0,0
Household employment	No adult employed	1,4	4,2	7,7	10,0	15,8	17,9	24,4	29,6	26,1	27,3	18,3	9,9	6,1	1,2	0,2	0,0
	One adult employed	6,6	12,8	17,6	19,7	23,9	23,9	23,5	23,2	17,4	15,9	8,8	4,4	1,9	0,2	0,3	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	14,6	22,9	23,3	27,2	24,1	20,7	19,5	16,9	12,3	8,6	4,9	3,3	1,3	0,4	0,0	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	3,0	3,8	7,2	11,8	18,4	18,1	25,2	24,9	26,5	31,4	15,8	9,2	3,7	0,9	0,2	0,0
	Only father alive	7,0	3,2	11,0	8,4	19,6	22,4	20,3	27,2	26,5	35,2	11,0	3,6	4,5	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Double orphan	0,0	2,4	20,1	10,8	17,5	35,4	14,3	20,1	33,9	23,0	7,1	8,2	7,2	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Non-orphan	6,6	11,5	15,4	17,2	20,7	20,6	22,8	24,7	19,2	18,8	11,6	6,5	3,4	0,7	0,2	0,0
Number of children in the household (median=2)	Below or equal to median number of children	10,2	15,4	20,2	22,3	23,8	22,2	21,4	21,0	14,6	14,2	7,4	4,6	2,3	0,3	0,1	0,0
	Above median number of children	3,4	7,6	10,8	12,6	18,1	19,2	24,1	27,7	23,7	23,7	15,1	8,3	4,4	1,0	0,3	0,0
	Male	8,4	16,2	18,3	21,4	22,5	20,4	21,1	21,5	17,5	15,3	9,8	4,6	2,2	0,6	0,2	0,0

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Sex of the household head	Female	4,2	6,6	11,1	13,0	18,5	20,6	25,0	27,5	22,2	23,1	14,0	8,4	4,9	0,8	0,2	0,0
Sex of a child	Male	5,6	10,6	14,5	17,2	21,2	20,6	23,4	24,3	20,1	19,7	11,5	6,8	3,6	0,7	0,2	0,0
	Female	7,2	11,6	15,3	16,6	20,1	20,5	22,4	25,0	19,3	19,2	12,0	6,5	3,4	0,7	0,2	0,0
Population group of the household head	Black African	5,1	8,8	12,6	15,2	19,3	20,7	23,7	26,0	21,6	21,1	13,4	7,4	4,0	0,8	0,2	0,0
	Coloured	6,1	12,9	22,4	22,0	28,5	25,8	25,2	22,1	13,6	14,2	3,3	2,8	0,8	0,2	0,1	0,0
	Indian/Asian	7,8	45,3	44,9	37,7	30,8	6,9	13,0	5,6	3,4	4,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	30,6	43,7	33,1	35,9	26,3	11,2	7,7	9,1	0,9	0,0	0,7	0,0	0,6	0,0	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	5,1	8,8	12,6	15,0	19,4	20,6	23,7	26,2	21,7	21,2	13,4	7,4	4,0	0,8	0,2	0,0
	Coloured	6,7	14,1	22,4	23,2	28,2	26,7	25,3	20,2	13,0	12,3	3,4	3,1	0,9	0,2	0,1	0,0
	Indian/Asian	5,6	42,1	46,3	38,6	31,1	7,8	13,5	5,7	3,5	5,7	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	30,9	43,0	33,4	36,5	25,7	11,3	7,8	9,2	0,9	0,0	0,7	0,0	0,6	0,0	0,0	0,0
Money-metric poverty (LBPL)	Non poor	13,5	20,6	27,4	26,1	28,7	23,4	17,7	18,4	9,0	8,5	3,2	2,7	0,4	0,2	0,0	0,0
	Poor	1,7	2,6	6,7	8,7	15,3	17,9	26,3	30,3	26,7	29,2	17,4	10,1	5,5	1,1	0,3	0,0

Table A.2.2: Deprivation distribution for children 5–12 years

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	National	**5,5**	**7,8**	**13,3**	**13,9**	**18,7**	**18,9**	**22,7**	**21,6**	**21,7**	**20,3**	**13,9**	**14,3**	**4,1**	**3,1**	**0,2**	**0,0**
Education level of household head	None	1,8	0,3	4,1	2,9	10,6	9,1	22,2	20,6	29,4	30,0	23,3	30,4	8,2	6,8	0,4	0,0
	Some primary	1,2	1,8	6,1	4,5	15,3	12,5	22,1	23,4	26,9	29,9	21,2	24,1	6,6	3,7	0,6	0,0
	Primary	1,6	0,9	7,5	6,8	20,2	14,6	23,7	21,4	26,4	27,5	15,9	22,9	4,1	5,8	0,6	0,0
	Some secondary	4,0	3,7	12,4	10,8	19,8	19,0	25,6	24,7	22,5	23,0	12,3	15,2	3,4	3,6	0,0	0,0
	Matric	7,5	9,6	24,7	18,1	24,0	24,6	22,5	23,1	14,3	14,9	5,9	7,9	1,0	1,8	0,0	0,0
	Higher	24,7	28,3	30,1	33,3	24,3	22,4	13,8	9,6	5,0	4,7	1,8	1,3	0,2	0,4	0,0	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	7,8	10,0	14,5	16,7	21,7	23,3	20,6	20,9	20,6	16,4	11,0	10,7	3,4	2,0	0,3	0,0
	4-6 members	7,2	10,4	16,6	16,5	20,4	20,1	22,9	21,3	18,9	18,0	10,8	11,3	3,0	2,4	0,1	0,0
	7 or more members	2,5	3,2	8,4	9,2	15,6	15,8	22,9	22,3	25,6	25,1	18,8	19,9	5,7	4,5	0,3	0,0
Household employment	No adult employed	1,7	2,5	5,4	6,6	13,3	14,0	23,1	23,3	28,3	26,8	20,7	21,9	7,2	4,9	0,3	0,0
	One adult employed	6,5	8,9	15,3	16,7	22,1	22,7	23,8	22,1	19,1	17,7	10,6	10,2	2,5	1,7	0,3	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	10,7	17,3	24,2	24,9	23,5	23,1	20,3	17,0	13,7	11,0	6,8	5,0	0,9	1,5	0,0	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	2,1	3,0	7,4	7,5	16,0	16,2	23,1	22,9	26,3	25,4	18,4	20,0	6,3	5,0	0,4	0,0
	Only father alive	2,0	6,9	12,8	8,3	20,2	18,3	24,8	27,7	21,1	23,1	14,1	11,9	5,0	3,7	0,0	0,0
	Double orphan	2,8	3,4	6,1	8,9	14,6	18,1	27,8	28,6	27,5	23,2	13,2	17,8	7,9	0,0	0,0	0,0
	Non-orphan	6,2	8,6	14,4	15,1	19,2	19,2	22,3	21,1	20,8	19,6	13,2	13,5	3,6	2,9	0,2	0,0
Number of children in the household (median=2)	Below or equal to median number of children	8,6	11,2	18,4	19,1	23,0	22,1	21,6	20,5	17,1	15,5	9,0	9,4	2,2	2,1	0,2	0,0
	Above median number of children	3,4	5,2	9,7	10,0	15,7	16,5	23,4	22,4	24,8	24,0	17,3	18,0	5,4	3,9	0,3	0,0
Sex of the household head	Male	8,1	11,9	17,8	19,0	20,6	20,8	21,5	19,1	18,2	15,8	11,1	11,4	2,6	1,9	0,2	0,0
	Female	2,9	4,4	8,7	9,7	16,9	17,3	23,8	23,6	25,2	24,1	16,7	16,8	5,6	4,1	0,2	0,0
Sex of a child	Male	5,0	7,2	13,0	15,1	19,1	19,0	23,0	20,6	21,6	20,2	14,2	14,5	4,0	3,3	0,2	0,0

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Female	6,0	8,4	13,6	12,7	18,4	18,8	22,4	22,6	21,7	20,5	13,5	14,2	4,2	2,8	0,3	0,0
Population group of the household head	Black African	3,8	5,5	10,2	11,8	17,4	18,1	23,6	22,7	24,1	22,2	16,0	16,2	4,7	3,5	0,3	0,0
	Coloured	7,9	11,9	23,4	20,8	30,5	27,0	22,4	20,3	11,6	14,0	3,0	4,9	1,2	1,2	0,1	0,0
	Indian/Asian	23,5	52,5	44,1	21,7	15,8	16,6	10,9	7,5	5,8	1,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	24,6	28,5	39,7	41,0	23,1	20,5	11,3	6,3	1,2	3,7	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	3,8	5,4	10,2	11,8	17,4	18,2	23,6	22,7	24,1	22,2	15,9	16,2	4,7	3,5	0,3	0,0
	Coloured	8,2	12,9	23,5	20,5	30,3	26,3	22,3	21,1	11,4	13,4	3,1	4,8	1,2	1,1	0,1	0,0
	Indian/Asian	22,2	51,1	42,8	22,6	16,6	17,1	10,6	7,4	6,7	1,8	1,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	25,1	29,1	40,3	40,9	22,3	19,7	11,2	6,4	1,2	3,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Money-metric poverty (LBPL)	Non poor	11,8	13,9	25,2	22,4	26,0	24,8	21,4	19,7	11,1	12,1	3,7	6,0	0,8	1,1	0,0	0,0
	Poor	1,1	1,2	5,0	4,7	13,7	12,6	23,6	23,6	29,0	29,3	20,9	23,3	6,3	5,2	0,4	0,0

Table A.2.3: Deprivation distribution for children 13–17 years

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	National	**5,7**	**6,4**	**13,1**	**14,6**	**20,0**	**19,2**	**22,5**	**21,8**	**21,4**	**20,5**	**13,0**	**14,6**	**4,0**	**3,0**	**0,3**	**0,0**
Education level of household head	None	0,7	1,2	3,3	4,5	10,4	11,3	21,6	14,4	33,1	22,9	22,8	39,6	8,0	6,1	0,2	0,0
	Some primary	1,6	1,0	7,7	5,6	14,2	12,2	23,7	24,6	27,8	30,2	18,9	22,7	5,6	3,6	0,6	0,0
	Primary	1,9	2,1	10,4	5,8	19,7	16,8	24,0	25,0	25,7	25,4	13,3	19,0	4,6	5,7	0,3	0,1
	Some secondary	4,2	3,3	11,1	11,1	22,1	18,9	26,2	25,0	20,2	23,3	12,3	15,4	3,7	2,9	0,2	0,0
	Matric	9,8	7,9	20,9	19,0	29,0	23,8	17,9	21,9	15,0	16,8	5,7	7,9	1,7	2,7	0,0	0,0
	Higher	20,9	21,9	32,4	34,3	23,9	25,1	15,8	11,3	4,6	5,0	2,4	1,8	0,1	0,6	0,0	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	8,9	7,2	16,7	17,3	20,3	20,9	21,9	21,1	18,0	19,5	10,8	12,1	3,2	1,8	0,2	0,0
	4-6 members	6,9	8,7	15,0	17,0	22,8	20,3	22,6	21,3	19,0	18,7	10,6	11,6	2,9	2,5	0,2	0,0
	7 or more members	2,6	2,7	9,0	10,0	16,0	17,1	22,7	22,8	26,1	23,4	17,2	19,8	5,9	4,2	0,4	0,0
Household employment	No adult employed	2,3	1,9	6,2	7,3	13,4	14,2	22,8	23,2	27,6	26,7	20,2	22,4	7,0	4,2	0,4	0,0
	One adult employed	6,0	8,1	16,1	16,9	22,5	22,3	23,8	22,4	19,2	18,3	9,7	9,8	2,4	2,2	0,3	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	10,7	13,2	20,1	26,6	27,4	25,0	20,2	17,5	14,2	10,6	5,9	5,4	1,5	1,7	0,0	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	1,8	3,4	8,1	9,1	16,2	15,0	23,7	23,1	25,4	26,2	18,7	18,1	5,8	5,0	0,3	0,0
	Only father alive	2,1	4,0	6,2	10,8	22,9	20,0	25,7	23,9	24,7	20,9	13,9	15,9	4,2	4,5	0,3	0,0
	Double orphan	2,6	3,5	8,1	8,3	15,1	18,9	24,3	22,6	28,2	22,1	15,6	21,1	5,7	3,6	0,4	0,0
	Non-orphan	7,2	7,4	15,5	16,3	21,4	20,1	21,8	21,5	19,4	19,0	11,2	13,2	3,4	2,5	0,2	0,0
Number of children in the household (median=2)	Below or equal to median number of children	8,7	8,7	18,3	19,6	22,7	22,2	22,4	21,1	16,5	17,0	8,8	9,4	2,5	2,0	0,1	0,0
	Above median number of children	3,1	4,4	8,7	10,2	17,8	16,7	22,7	22,3	25,4	23,5	16,5	19,0	5,3	3,9	0,4	0,0
Sex of the household head	Male	7,9	9,2	16,7	19,4	22,1	21,7	21,7	20,5	18,7	17,4	9,7	10,3	2,8	1,5	0,3	0,0
	Female	3,4	4,1	9,5	10,8	17,9	17,3	23,4	22,8	24,0	22,9	16,3	18,0	5,3	4,2	0,2	0,0
Sex of a child	Male	5,8	6,2	12,9	13,9	19,5	19,3	22,9	21,9	21,8	21,0	12,8	14,7	4,0	3,0	0,3	0,0
	Female	5,5	6,5	13,3	15,3	20,6	19,2	22,2	21,6	21,0	20,0	13,2	14,4	4,1	3,0	0,2	0,0

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Population group of the household head	Black African	3,1	4,1	9,6	12,2	18,6	17,6	23,7	23,2	24,6	22,6	15,4	16,7	4,8	3,5	0,3	0,0
	Coloured	8,3	13,0	21,2	21,0	32,0	30,3	25,4	17,0	9,3	13,9	2,7	4,4	1,0	0,3	0,0	0,0
	Indian/Asian	23,9	30,8	30,2	20,7	30,5	25,5	11,1	18,1	4,4	4,8	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	29,3	24,9	42,9	40,8	19,1	26,2	7,3	6,7	1,1	0,9	0,3	0,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	3,2	4,2	9,6	12,2	18,6	17,7	23,6	23,2	24,7	22,6	15,3	16,6	4,8	3,4	0,3	0,0
	Coloured	8,4	12,8	21,0	20,8	32,1	29,7	25,9	17,8	8,8	13,8	2,9	4,2	1,0	0,8	0,0	0,0
	Indian/Asian	24,2	30,7	30,7	21,7	30,9	26,1	11,3	16,5	3,0	5,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	28,8	25,3	43,7	42,0	18,4	25,6	7,7	5,8	1,1	0,9	0,3	0,5	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Money-metric poverty (LBPL)	Non poor	11,4	11,0	22,9	22,8	28,1	25,3	20,6	19,8	11,9	13,6	4,5	6,0	0,6	1,5	0,0	0,0
	Poor	1,1	1,1	5,2	5,3	13,6	12,4	24,1	24,0	29,0	28,2	19,8	24,3	6,8	4,7	0,4	0,0

Table A.2.4: Deprivation distribution for children 0–17 years

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**5,8**	**8,3**	**13,7**	**14,9**	**19,6**	**19,5**	**22,7**	**22,5**	**21,0**	**20,1**	**13,0**	**12,2**	**3,9**	**2,4**	**0,2**	**0,0**
Education level of household head	None	1,3	1,1	4,7	4,4	11,9	10,8	21,9	19,8	30,3	30,4	22,1	27,9	7,4	5,5	0,4	0,0
	Some primary	1,6	2,0	6,8	5,8	15,0	13,4	23,8	25,7	26,1	30,5	20,1	19,7	6,1	2,8	0,5	0,0
	Primary	2,5	3,0	9,2	6,8	19,4	16,4	23,8	24,9	25,4	26,3	14,4	18,3	4,8	4,4	0,4	0,0
	Some secondary	4,3	4,1	12,6	11,9	21,2	20,1	25,5	25,9	21,4	22,4	11,6	12,9	3,3	2,7	0,1	0,0
	Matric	8,7	11,0	23,5	19,7	26,4	24,2	21,1	22,0	13,8	14,6	5,2	7,0	1,2	1,6	0,0	0,0
	Higher	23,4	28,1	31,7	33,9	23,8	21,9	14,0	10,3	4,8	4,0	2,2	1,4	0,2	0,3	0,0	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	8,3	11,1	16,7	17,9	22,5	22,3	20,6	21,3	18,6	16,8	10,0	9,1	3,0	1,4	0,2	0,0
	4-6 members	7,5	10,8	16,6	17,4	21,4	20,5	22,6	21,7	18,5	17,7	10,4	9,9	2,9	1,9	0,1	0,0
	7 or more members	2,9	3,8	8,9	10,4	16,4	17,0	23,5	24,0	25,1	24,7	17,4	16,6	5,4	3,4	0,4	0,0
households employment	No adult employed	1,8	2,8	6,3	7,8	14,1	15,2	23,4	25,0	27,5	26,9	19,9	18,6	6,8	3,7	0,3	0,0
	One adult employed	6,4	9,7	16,2	17,6	22,7	22,9	23,7	22,5	18,6	17,4	9,8	8,5	2,3	1,4	0,3	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	11,9	17,8	22,9	26,0	24,6	23,0	20,0	17,1	13,4	10,2	6,0	4,6	1,2	1,2	0,0	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	2,1	3,3	7,7	8,8	16,4	15,9	23,6	23,2	26,0	26,5	18,1	17,8	5,7	4,5	0,3	0,0
	Only father alive	2,5	5,3	9,9	9,6	21,3	19,4	24,8	25,8	23,0	22,8	13,8	13,3	4,6	3,9	0,1	0,0
	Double orphan	2,6	3,4	7,9	8,7	15,0	19,8	25,2	24,5	28,2	22,5	14,3	19,1	6,7	2,1	0,2	0,0
	Non-orphan	6,5	9,2	15,0	16,1	20,2	19,9	22,4	22,3	20,0	19,2	12,2	11,2	3,5	2,1	0,2	0,0
Number of children in the	Below or equal to median number of children	9,1	11,6	18,9	20,2	23,2	22,2	21,7	20,8	16,2	15,6	8,4	8,1	2,3	1,5	0,1	0,0

Profiling variables		Number of simultaneous deprivations (%)															
		0*		1*		2*		3*		4*		5*		6*		7*	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
household (median=2)	Above median number of children	3,3	5,7	9,8	10,8	16,9	17,3	23,4	23,9	24,6	23,8	16,5	15,6	5,1	3,1	0,3	0,0
Sex of the household head	Male	8,1	12,4	17,7	19,8	21,5	21,0	21,4	20,2	18,1	16,1	10,3	9,1	2,5	1,4	0,2	0,0
	Female	3,4	4,9	9,6	10,9	17,6	18,2	24,0	24,5	24,0	23,5	15,8	14,8	5,3	3,2	0,2	0,0
Sex of a child	Male	5,4	7,9	13,4	15,4	19,8	19,5	23,1	22,0	21,2	20,3	13,0	12,4	3,9	2,5	0,2	0,0
	Female	6,3	8,8	14,0	14,5	19,4	19,4	22,3	23,0	20,8	20,0	13,0	12,1	3,9	2,3	0,2	0,0
Population group of the household head	Black African	4,1	6,0	10,8	12,9	18,3	18,7	23,6	23,8	23,5	22,0	15,0	13,9	4,5	2,7	0,3	0,0
	Coloured	7,5	12,5	22,5	21,2	30,3	27,6	24,0	19,9	11,6	14,0	3,0	4,1	1,0	0,7	0,1	0,0
	Indian/Asian	19,2	44,9	40,0	25,9	24,6	16,2	11,6	9,7	4,7	3,3	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	27,7	31,0	38,9	39,7	22,8	20,1	9,1	7,1	1,1	1,8	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	4,1	6,0	10,8	12,8	18,3	18,8	23,6	23,8	23,5	22,0	15,0	13,9	4,5	2,7	0,3	0,0
	Coloured	7,8	13,2	22,5	21,3	30,1	27,4	24,1	19,9	11,2	13,2	3,2	4,2	1,0	0,8	0,1	0,0
	Indian/Asian	18,1	43,4	40,0	26,9	25,2	16,7	11,6	9,2	4,6	3,7	0,4	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
	White	27,8	31,3	39,4	40,2	22,0	19,6	9,2	6,9	1,1	1,9	0,3	0,2	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0
Money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Non poor	12,2	14,8	25,2	23,5	27,3	24,6	20,1	19,4	10,7	11,6	3,8	5,1	0,6	1,0	0,0	0,0
	Poor	1,3	1,6	5,6	6,1	14,2	14,2	24,6	25,7	28,3	29,0	19,5	19,6	6,2	3,8	0,4	0,0

A.3 Three-way overlap between all possible combinations

Table A.3.1: Three-way overlap between all possible dimensions for children 0–4 years

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
WASH, Housing, Information	2015	5,7%	29,9%	0,5%	1,5%	13,0%	23,4%	0,5%	25,5%
WASH, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	32,3%	0,0%	0,0%	21,1%	17,5%	0,0%	29,0%
Protection, Housing, Information	2015	0,9%	10,0%	0,2%	6,3%	7,4%	43,2%	0,9%	31,1%
Protection, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	13,8%	0,0%	0,0%	13,4%	35,9%	0,1%	36,7%
Protection, WASH, Information	2015	0,7%	7,1%	0,4%	5,5%	10,3%	35,8%	1,7%	38,5%
Protection, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	13,8%	0,0%	0,0%	13,4%	39,6%	0,1%	33,1%
Protection, WASH, Housing	2015	5,5%	2,3%	5,4%	30,1%	5,2%	11,2%	19,4%	20,8%
Protection, WASH, Housing	2023	8,4%	5,4%	5,5%	24,0%	7,9%	15,7%	12,0%	21,1%
Child development, Housing, Information	2015	5,0%	30,9%	0,7%	2,2%	17,9%	22,3%	0,4%	20,5%
Child development, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	8,7%	0,0%	0,0%	6,8%	41,1%	0,1%	43,3%
Child development, WASH, Information	2015	4,3%	26,6%	1,4%	1,9%	22,3%	16,3%	0,7%	26,6%
Child development, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	8,9%	0,0%	0,0%	6,6%	44,5%	0,0%	39,9%
Child development, WASH, Housing	2015	23,1%	7,9%	12,8%	12,5%	10,8%	5,7%	12,0%	15,2%
Child development, WASH, Housing	2023	5,6%	3,3%	3,1%	26,8%	3,5%	17,8%	14,4%	25,6%
Child development, Protection, Information	2015	0,7%	9,0%	5,0%	0,4%	39,8%	8,4%	2,2%	34,5%
Child development, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	4,0%	0,0%	0,0%	11,4%	23,2%	0,1%	61,3%
Child development, Protection, Housing	2015	6,5%	3,2%	29,4%	4,4%	15,4%	4,4%	20,2%	16,5%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Child development, Protection, Housing	2023	2,5%	1,6%	6,2%	11,4%	5,2%	11,8%	29,7%	31,6%
Child development, Protection, WASH	2015	4,9%	4,8%	26,0%	2,9%	18,8%	5,9%	15,3%	21,4%
Child development, Protection, WASH	2023	2,2%	1,9%	6,7%	11,6%	4,7%	11,5%	32,9%	28,4%
Health, Housing, Information	2015	4,6%	29,6%	0,7%	2,6%	17,5%	23,6%	0,4%	21,0%
Health, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	31,0%	0,0%	0,1%	20,8%	18,8%	0,0%	29,2%
Health, WASH, Information	2015	4,5%	30,0%	0,8%	1,7%	17,2%	12,9%	1,2%	31,7%
Health, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	34,4%	0,0%	0,1%	17,5%	19,0%	0,0%	29,0%
Health, WASH, Housing	2015	25,1%	9,4%	9,1%	10,4%	8,9%	4,2%	15,8%	17,1%
Health, WASH, Housing	2023	22,4%	12,0%	8,6%	10,0%	8,9%	9,1%	8,9%	20,2%
Health, Protection, Information	2015	0,7%	7,9%	4,7%	0,4%	39,2%	9,5%	2,5%	35,1%
Health, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	13,6%	0,0%	0,0%	38,2%	13,6%	0,1%	34,5%
Health, Protection, Housing	2015	5,5%	3,2%	28,8%	5,5%	15,1%	4,4%	20,7%	16,9%
Health, Protection, Housing	2023	7,9%	5,7%	23,1%	6,0%	15,2%	7,7%	12,9%	21,6%
Health, Protection, WASH	2015	5,3%	3,3%	29,2%	2,5%	14,7%	7,4%	12,1%	25,5%
Health, Protection, WASH	2023	8,4%	5,2%	26,0%	5,4%	12,2%	8,2%	13,6%	20,9%
Health, Child development, Information	2015	3,7%	27,2%	1,6%	2,0%	19,9%	21,6%	0,9%	22,9%
Health, Child development, Information	2023	0,0%	9,3%	0,0%	0,0%	42,5%	6,1%	0,1%	41,9%
Health, Child development, Housing	2015	21,5%	9,4%	12,8%	14,4%	8,8%	9,2%	11,7%	12,1%
Health, Child development, Housing	2023	5,9%	3,5%	25,1%	2,8%	17,4%	3,3%	16,0%	26,0%
Health, Child development, WASH	2015	22,2%	8,7%	12,3%	8,8%	9,3%	14,9%	5,8%	18,0%
Health, Child development, WASH	2023	6,2%	3,1%	28,1%	2,6%	14,4%	3,5%	16,4%	25,6%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Health, Child development, Protection	2015	5,0%	25,9%	3,6%	4,7%	18,0%	19,0%	5,2%	18,7%
Health, Child development, Protection	2023	2,5%	6,9%	11,1%	1,6%	31,4%	4,6%	12,0%	30,0%
Nutrition, Housing, Information	2015	4,7%	25,0%	0,5%	2,5%	11,3%	28,2%	0,6%	27,2%
Nutrition, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	31,0%	0,1%	0,0%	18,0%	18,7%	0,0%	32,1%
Nutrition, WASH, Information	2015	4,0%	20,1%	1,1%	2,2%	16,2%	22,8%	0,9%	32,6%
Nutrition, WASH, Information	2023	0,1%	31,0%	0,0%	0,0%	18,1%	22,4%	0,0%	28,4%
Nutrition, WASH, Housing	2015	19,5%	4,7%	10,3%	16,1%	7,1%	8,9%	14,6%	18,9%
Nutrition, WASH, Housing	2023	21,6%	9,5%	9,5%	10,8%	8,6%	11,6%	8,0%	20,5%
Nutrition, Protection, Information	2015	0,6%	7,2%	4,6%	0,4%	29,1%	10,2%	2,7%	45,2%
Nutrition, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	14,0%	0,1%	0,0%	35,0%	13,2%	0,0%	37,6%
Nutrition, Protection, Housing	2015	5,5%	2,4%	24,2%	5,4%	9,4%	5,2%	25,3%	22,6%
Nutrition, Protection, Housing	2023	8,5%	5,6%	22,6%	5,4%	12,5%	7,8%	13,4%	24,3%
Nutrition, Protection, WASH	2015	4,3%	3,6%	19,9%	3,5%	13,7%	7,1%	21,4%	26,5%
Nutrition, Protection, WASH	2023	8,2%	5,9%	22,9%	5,7%	12,2%	7,5%	16,7%	20,9%
Nutrition, Child development, Information	2015	3,5%	21,8%	1,7%	2,2%	14,5%	27,1%	0,9%	28,3%
Nutrition, Child development, Information	2023	0,0%	8,9%	0,1%	0,0%	40,1%	6,5%	0,0%	44,3%
Nutrition, Child development, Housing	2015	19,2%	6,1%	10,6%	16,7%	5,6%	12,6%	13,9%	15,3%
Nutrition, Child development, Housing	2023	5,7%	3,3%	25,4%	3,0%	14,8%	3,5%	15,7%	28,6%
Nutrition, Child development, WASH	2015	15,8%	9,4%	8,3%	15,1%	7,9%	14,2%	9,8%	19,4%
Nutrition, Child development, WASH	2023	5,3%	3,6%	25,8%	3,5%	14,5%	3,0%	18,8%	25,5%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Nutrition, Child development, Protection	2015	4,6%	20,7%	3,3%	5,2%	12,9%	24,1%	5,4%	23,8%
Nutrition, Child development, Protection	2023	2,3%	6,6%	11,7%	1,7%	28,5%	4,8%	11,5%	32,8%
Nutrition, Health, Information	2015	3,5%	21,4%	1,7%	1,9%	14,9%	25,8%	1,2%	29,7%
Nutrition, Health, Information	2023	0,0%	32,7%	0,1%	0,0%	16,4%	19,2%	0,0%	31,6%
Nutrition, Health, Housing	2015	18,5%	6,4%	11,3%	15,8%	5,3%	11,8%	14,9%	16,0%
Nutrition, Health, Housing	2023	21,7%	11,0%	9,4%	9,3%	7,1%	9,9%	9,4%	22,2%
Nutrition, Health, WASH	2015	17,2%	7,6%	6,9%	17,3%	9,7%	10,4%	7,7%	23,2%
Nutrition, Health, WASH	2023	22,5%	10,2%	8,6%	11,9%	7,9%	7,3%	10,5%	21,1%
Nutrition, Health, Protection	2015	4,4%	20,5%	3,5%	4,2%	13,2%	23,4%	6,4%	24,5%
Nutrition, Health, Protection	2023	8,9%	23,7%	5,1%	4,7%	11,4%	14,5%	8,5%	23,1%
Nutrition, Health, Child development	2015	15,5%	9,3%	9,8%	15,4%	6,9%	12,2%	13,9%	17,0%
Nutrition, Health, Child development	2023	6,0%	26,7%	3,0%	3,3%	13,6%	15,8%	3,2%	28,4%

Table A.3.2: Three-way overlap between all possible dimensions for children 5–12 years

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
WASH, Housing, Information	2015	5,6%	29,7%	0,5%	1,0%	13,6%	22,7%	0,4%	26,4%
WASH, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	30,7%	0,0%	0,0%	21,0%	17,5%	0,0%	30,6%
Protection, Housing, Information	2015	0,7%	10,2%	0,1%	5,9%	8,6%	42,2%	0,9%	31,5%
Protection, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	12,6%	0,0%	0,1%	13,6%	35,7%	0,0%	38,0%
Protection, WASH, Information	2015	0,5%	7,1%	0,3%	5,6%	11,6%	36,2%	1,2%	37,4%
Protection, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	12,6%	0,0%	0,0%	13,6%	39,2%	0,0%	34,5%
Protection, WASH, Housing	2015	5,2%	2,5%	5,7%	30,2%	6,2%	11,6%	18,0%	20,7%
Protection, WASH, Housing	2023	7,5%	5,1%	5,1%	23,3%	8,5%	15,9%	12,4%	22,1%
Child development, Housing, Information	2015	6,1%	39,8%	0,8%	0,6%	25,9%	12,6%	0,1%	14,2%
Child development, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	35,0%	0,0%	0,0%	31,5%	13,3%	0,0%	20,1%
Child development, WASH, Information	2015	5,7%	37,2%	1,3%	0,5%	28,5%	6,1%	0,2%	20,6%
Child development, WASH, Information	2023	0,1%	39,5%	0,1%	0,0%	27,0%	12,3%	0,0%	21,1%
Child development, WASH, Housing	2015	30,9%	11,9%	14,9%	4,4%	14,8%	2,3%	8,8%	12,0%
Child development, WASH, Housing	2023	24,1%	15,4%	10,9%	6,7%	16,1%	5,6%	6,6%	14,5%
Child development, Protection, Information	2015	0,7%	12,2%	6,2%	0,1%	53,4%	6,5%	0,6%	20,2%
Child development, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	17,5%	0,1%	0,0%	49,0%	8,7%	0,0%	24,6%
Child development, Protection, Housing	2015	7,9%	5,1%	38,0%	3,0%	21,6%	3,6%	10,1%	10,7%
Child development, Protection, Housing	2023	9,0%	8,5%	26,1%	3,6%	23,0%	5,1%	9,7%	15,0%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Child development, Protection, WASH	2015	6,5%	6,5%	36,4%	1,2%	23,2%	5,4%	5,4%	15,4%
Child development, Protection, WASH	2023	9,7%	7,8%	29,8%	2,9%	19,3%	5,9%	9,4%	15,2%
Health, Housing, Information	2015	4,7%	28,9%	0,7%	2,0%	17,5%	23,5%	0,2%	22,6%
Health, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	29,3%	0,0%	0,1%	19,2%	18,9%	0,0%	32,5%
Health, WASH, Information	2015	4,7%	29,8%	0,7%	1,4%	16,5%	13,5%	0,8%	32,6%
Health, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	32,5%	0,0%	0,1%	16,0%	19,2%	0,1%	32,1%
Health, WASH, Housing	2015	25,0%	9,6%	8,6%	10,3%	8,6%	4,6%	15,1%	18,2%
Health, WASH, Housing	2023	21,4%	11,1%	7,9%	9,3%	8,1%	9,9%	9,6%	22,6%
Health, Protection, Information	2015	0,5%	7,8%	4,9%	0,3%	38,6%	11,0%	1,9%	35,0%
Health, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	12,2%	0,0%	0,0%	36,3%	14,0%	0,1%	37,3%
Health, Protection, Housing	2015	5,3%	3,0%	28,3%	5,7%	15,2%	5,6%	19,8%	17,2%
Health, Protection, Housing	2023	7,4%	4,8%	22,0%	5,2%	14,3%	8,8%	13,7%	23,7%
Health, Protection, WASH	2015	4,9%	3,4%	29,6%	2,7%	13,8%	8,5%	12,1%	24,8%
Health, Protection, WASH	2023	7,8%	4,4%	24,8%	4,8%	11,5%	9,2%	14,4%	23,0%
Health, Child development, Information	2015	4,9%	37,1%	0,5%	2,0%	9,2%	28,5%	0,2%	17,5%
Health, Child development, Information	2023	0,0%	37,2%	0,0%	0,1%	11,4%	29,3%	0,0%	22,0%
Health, Child development, Housing	2015	28,0%	14,0%	5,5%	17,8%	4,2%	12,7%	7,6%	10,1%
Health, Child development, Housing	2023	22,8%	14,3%	6,5%	12,3%	4,8%	17,2%	6,7%	15,3%
Health, Child development, WASH	2015	30,4%	11,7%	4,2%	12,5%	5,5%	18,0%	2,4%	15,3%
Health, Child development, WASH	2023	25,9%	11,2%	6,6%	13,6%	4,8%	15,9%	5,7%	16,3%
Health, Child development, Protection	2015	6,3%	35,8%	2,0%	6,7%	7,7%	23,8%	4,6%	13,2%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Health, Child development, Protection	2023	9,4%	27,8%	2,8%	8,1%	8,6%	21,3%	5,9%	16,1%
Nutrition, Housing, Information	2015	4,2%	25,0%	0,4%	2,5%	11,2%	27,3%	0,6%	28,8%
Nutrition, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	29,2%	0,0%	0,0%	17,1%	19,1%	0,0%	34,5%
Nutrition, WASH, Information	2015	3,8%	19,4%	0,8%	2,3%	16,8%	23,9%	0,7%	32,2%
Nutrition, WASH, Information	2023	0,1%	28,8%	0,0%	0,0%	17,5%	23,0%	0,0%	30,6%
Nutrition, WASH, Housing	2015	18,6%	4,6%	10,6%	16,7%	7,1%	9,6%	13,1%	19,8%
Nutrition, WASH, Housing	2023	20,3%	8,6%	9,0%	10,5%	8,5%	12,5%	8,6%	22,1%
Nutrition, Protection, Information	2015	0,5%	7,5%	4,1%	0,4%	28,7%	11,2%	2,7%	44,9%
Nutrition, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	13,2%	0,1%	0,0%	33,1%	13,0%	0,0%	40,5%
Nutrition, Protection, Housing	2015	5,6%	2,3%	23,6%	5,3%	9,3%	6,3%	24,5%	23,1%
Nutrition, Protection, Housing	2023	7,8%	5,4%	21,4%	4,8%	11,8%	8,3%	14,3%	26,2%
Nutrition, Protection, WASH	2015	3,9%	4,1%	19,3%	3,7%	13,6%	7,8%	22,5%	25,1%
Nutrition, Protection, WASH	2023	7,5%	5,7%	21,3%	5,1%	11,8%	8,0%	17,9%	22,7%
Nutrition, Child development, Information	2015	4,2%	28,0%	0,4%	2,7%	8,3%	37,7%	0,3%	18,5%
Nutrition, Child development, Information	2023	0,1%	34,5%	0,0%	0,0%	11,8%	32,0%	0,0%	21,6%
Nutrition, Child development, Housing	2015	23,8%	8,3%	5,4%	22,0%	3,3%	18,4%	7,8%	11,0%
Nutrition, Child development, Housing	2023	22,3%	12,3%	7,0%	12,8%	4,9%	19,3%	6,3%	15,3%
Nutrition, Child development, WASH	2015	20,3%	11,8%	2,9%	22,5%	5,8%	17,9%	3,8%	15,0%
Nutrition, Child development, WASH	2023	22,8%	11,8%	6,1%	16,8%	5,7%	15,3%	6,2%	15,4%
Nutrition, Child development, Protection	2015	6,0%	26,1%	2,0%	6,9%	6,7%	33,5%	4,6%	14,1%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Nutrition, Child development, Protection	2023	9,6%	24,9%	3,6%	7,9%	8,2%	24,1%	5,1%	16,4%
Nutrition, Health, Information	2015	3,2%	21,2%	1,4%	2,2%	15,1%	25,2%	0,8%	31,0%
Nutrition, Health, Information	2023	0,0%	29,6%	0,1%	0,0%	16,7%	18,9%	0,0%	34,7%
Nutrition, Health, Housing	2015	18,0%	6,4%	11,2%	15,6%	5,2%	11,8%	14,2%	17,6%
Nutrition, Health, Housing	2023	20,2%	9,5%	9,1%	9,2%	7,7%	9,7%	9,9%	24,8%
Nutrition, Health, WASH	2015	16,7%	7,7%	6,5%	17,9%	9,9%	9,5%	8,4%	23,4%
Nutrition, Health, WASH	2023	20,6%	9,0%	8,3%	11,9%	8,5%	7,0%	11,0%	23,7%
Nutrition, Health, Protection	2015	4,3%	20,1%	3,7%	4,0%	12,8%	23,4%	7,6%	24,2%
Nutrition, Health, Protection	2023	8,1%	21,5%	5,1%	4,1%	11,7%	14,8%	9,0%	25,7%
Nutrition, Health, Child development	2015	20,1%	4,3%	12,0%	21,9%	4,4%	5,5%	18,5%	13,3%
Nutrition, Health, Child development	2023	23,1%	6,5%	11,4%	14,0%	5,3%	4,9%	18,0%	16,7%

Table A.3.3: Three-way overlap between all possible dimensions for children 13–17 years

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
WASH, Housing, Information	2015	5,0%	28,7%	0,5%	1,2%	13,8%	22,9%	0,4%	27,6%
WASH, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	27,9%	0,0%	0,0%	21,3%	19,0%	0,0%	31,7%
Protection, Housing, Information	2015	0,8%	10,3%	0,1%	5,3%	9,4%	41,2%	0,8%	32,0%
Protection, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	12,9%	0,0%	0,1%	14,6%	33,9%	0,0%	38,4%
Protection, WASH, Information	2015	0,5%	6,9%	0,4%	4,9%	12,8%	35,6%	1,3%	37,7%
Protection, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	11,4%	0,0%	0,1%	16,2%	37,8%	0,0%	34,5%
Protection, WASH, Housing	2015	5,0%	2,4%	6,1%	28,6%	7,0%	11,8%	17,9%	21,0%
Protection, WASH, Housing	2023	6,6%	4,8%	6,4%	21,4%	9,8%	16,5%	12,6%	21,9%
Child development, Housing, Information	2015	5,5%	40,2%	0,8%	0,7%	26,9%	11,4%	0,1%	14,5%
Child development, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	37,1%	0,0%	0,0%	35,4%	9,7%	0,0%	17,6%
Child development, WASH, Information	2015	5,0%	37,1%	1,3%	0,5%	30,0%	5,4%	0,3%	20,5%
Child development, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	41,4%	0,1%	0,0%	31,1%	7,8%	0,0%	19,5%
Child development, WASH, Housing	2015	30,1%	11,9%	15,5%	3,5%	15,8%	2,3%	8,5%	12,3%
Child development, WASH, Housing	2023	24,4%	17,1%	12,8%	3,6%	18,4%	4,2%	6,2%	13,3%
Child development, Protection, Information	2015	0,8%	13,1%	5,5%	0,1%	54,0%	6,6%	0,7%	19,3%
Child development, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	19,7%	0,1%	0,0%	52,8%	7,9%	0,0%	19,4%
Child development, Protection, Housing	2015	8,3%	5,7%	37,4%	2,9%	22,1%	3,8%	9,2%	10,8%
Child development, Protection, Housing	2023	10,1%	9,6%	27,1%	2,9%	25,8%	5,0%	6,9%	12,6%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Child development, Protection, WASH	2015	6,6%	7,4%	35,5%	0,9%	23,9%	5,8%	5,0%	15,0%
Child development, Protection, WASH	2023	9,7%	10,0%	31,7%	1,7%	21,2%	6,2%	6,2%	13,3%
Health, Housing, Information	2015	4,2%	28,0%	0,6%	1,9%	17,8%	23,5%	0,3%	23,6%
Health, Housing, Information	2023	0,0%	27,7%	0,0%	0,1%	19,8%	19,2%	0,0%	33,2%
Health, WASH, Information	2015	4,2%	28,6%	0,6%	1,2%	17,2%	13,9%	1,0%	33,2%
Health, WASH, Information	2023	0,0%	30,8%	0,0%	0,1%	16,7%	18,5%	0,0%	33,9%
Health, WASH, Housing	2015	23,7%	9,1%	8,6%	10,0%	9,2%	5,1%	15,4%	18,8%
Health, WASH, Housing	2023	19,5%	11,3%	8,2%	8,5%	8,5%	10,0%	10,8%	23,2%
Health, Protection, Information	2015	0,6%	8,2%	4,3%	0,3%	37,6%	11,5%	1,9%	35,6%
Health, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	11,8%	0,0%	0,0%	35,7%	15,8%	0,1%	36,6%
Health, Protection, Housing	2015	5,2%	3,6%	27,1%	6,0%	14,8%	5,9%	19,4%	18,1%
Health, Protection, Housing	2023	6,9%	4,9%	20,8%	6,1%	14,9%	9,7%	13,2%	23,5%
Health, Protection, WASH	2015	4,8%	3,9%	28,0%	2,6%	13,9%	9,2%	12,5%	25,0%
Health, Protection, WASH	2023	6,8%	5,0%	24,0%	4,6%	11,7%	11,2%	13,9%	22,7%
Health, Child development, Information	2015	4,4%	37,4%	0,5%	1,9%	8,4%	29,6%	0,3%	17,5%
Health, Child development, Information	2023	0,0%	39,1%	0,0%	0,1%	8,4%	33,5%	0,0%	18,9%
Health, Child development, Housing	2015	27,5%	14,3%	4,7%	18,1%	4,1%	13,5%	7,3%	10,5%
Health, Child development, Housing	2023	23,6%	15,5%	4,1%	13,6%	4,3%	19,9%	5,6%	13,3%
Health, Child development, WASH	2015	29,1%	12,7%	3,7%	13,0%	5,1%	18,6%	2,1%	15,6%
Health, Child development, WASH	2023	26,9%	12,2%	3,9%	14,6%	4,5%	18,9%	3,9%	15,0%
Health, Child development, Protection	2015	7,1%	34,7%	1,7%	6,9%	7,2%	24,7%	5,0%	12,8%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Health, Child development, Protection	2023	9,7%	29,4%	2,1%	10,0%	6,3%	23,5%	5,8%	13,2%
Nutrition, Housing, Information	2015	3,9%	24,2%	0,4%	2,2%	11,4%	27,3%	0,5%	30,0%
Nutrition, Housing, Information	2023	0,1%	28,2%	0,0%	0,1%	18,7%	18,7%	0,0%	34,3%
Nutrition, WASH, Information	2015	3,5%	18,6%	0,8%	1,9%	17,1%	23,9%	0,8%	33,4%
Nutrition, WASH, Information	2023	0,1%	27,9%	0,0%	0,0%	19,0%	21,3%	0,1%	31,7%
Nutrition, WASH, Housing	2015	17,5%	4,5%	10,6%	16,1%	7,3%	9,7%	13,4%	20,8%
Nutrition, WASH, Housing	2023	18,7%	9,2%	9,5%	9,3%	9,4%	12,1%	9,5%	22,2%
Nutrition, Protection, Information	2015	0,5%	7,4%	3,8%	0,4%	28,2%	12,3%	2,4%	45,1%
Nutrition, Protection, Information	2023	0,0%	13,8%	0,0%	0,0%	33,0%	13,7%	0,1%	39,3%
Nutrition, Protection, Housing	2015	5,6%	2,3%	22,5%	5,5%	9,5%	7,1%	24,0%	23,4%
Nutrition, Protection, Housing	2023	8,0%	5,8%	20,2%	4,9%	12,9%	8,8%	13,8%	25,5%
Nutrition, Protection, WASH	2015	3,9%	4,0%	18,1%	3,5%	13,9%	9,1%	22,3%	25,1%
Nutrition, Protection, WASH	2023	7,2%	6,6%	20,7%	4,2%	12,4%	9,6%	17,2%	22,1%
Nutrition, Child development, Information	2015	4,0%	28,2%	0,3%	2,3%	7,5%	38,9%	0,4%	18,4%
Nutrition, Child development, Information	2023	0,0%	37,7%	0,0%	0,1%	9,1%	34,8%	0,0%	18,2%
Nutrition, Child development, Housing	2015	23,3%	8,9%	4,9%	22,3%	2,9%	18,9%	7,2%	11,6%
Nutrition, Child development, Housing	2023	23,3%	14,4%	4,9%	13,8%	4,3%	21,0%	4,9%	13,3%
Nutrition, Child development, WASH	2015	19,7%	12,5%	2,4%	22,4%	5,4%	18,9%	3,5%	15,3%
Nutrition, Child development, WASH	2023	24,4%	13,4%	3,6%	17,1%	5,6%	17,8%	4,3%	13,9%
Nutrition, Child development, Protection	2015	6,4%	25,8%	1,6%	7,6%	6,2%	33,7%	5,1%	13,7%

Combination of three dimensions	Year	Overlap between all dimensions	Overlap between first two dimension	Overlap between first and third dimensions	Overlap between second and third dimensions	Deprivation in only first dimension	Deprivation only second dimension	Deprivation in only third dimension	Deprived in none of the three dimensions
Nutrition, Child development, Protection	2023	11,0%	26,8%	2,8%	8,7%	6,3%	26,2%	5,1%	13,2%
Nutrition, Health, Information	2015	3,0%	20,8%	1,3%	1,8%	14,8%	25,0%	0,9%	32,3%
Nutrition, Health, Information	2023	0,0%	29,7%	0,0%	0,0%	17,2%	17,8%	0,1%	35,2%
Nutrition, Health, Housing	2015	17,1%	6,7%	11,1%	15,2%	5,1%	11,7%	14,4%	18,8%
Nutrition, Health, Housing	2023	19,4%	10,3%	8,8%	8,3%	8,4%	9,5%	10,4%	24,8%
Nutrition, Health, WASH	2015	15,8%	8,0%	6,3%	17,1%	9,9%	9,8%	8,8%	24,4%
Nutrition, Health, WASH	2023	19,6%	10,1%	8,3%	11,2%	8,9%	6,7%	10,2%	25,1%
Nutrition, Health, Protection	2015	4,5%	19,3%	3,5%	4,3%	12,7%	22,6%	8,4%	24,8%
Nutrition, Health, Protection	2023	8,1%	21,6%	5,8%	3,7%	11,5%	14,1%	10,0%	25,2%
Nutrition, Health, Child development	2015	20,3%	3,5%	11,8%	21,5%	4,3%	5,3%	19,7%	13,5%
Nutrition, Health, Child development	2023	24,8%	4,9%	12,9%	14,3%	4,3%	3,5%	20,6%	14,7%

A.4 Overlap between multidimensional and money-metric child poverty for each age group

Table A.4.1: Overlap between multidimensional and money-metric child poverty for children 0–4 years

Profiling variables		Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**60,4**	**52,8**	**46,1**	**37,4**	**58,1**	**51,5**	**14,3**	**15,4**	**12,0**	**14,1**	**27,6**	**33,1**
Education level of household head	None	83,6	86,4	70,7	70,3	77,4	77,7	12,9	16,1	6,6	7,3	9,8	6,2
	Some primary	82,8	72,9	67,8	58,2	75,6	72,9	15,1	14,7	7,9	14,7	9,3	12,4
	Primary	79,1	71,0	57,6	56,2	66,9	67,0	21,5	14,8	9,3	10,7	11,6	18,2
	Some secondary	61,2	61,1	44,1	41,5	58,3	57,3	17,1	19,7	14,3	15,8	24,5	23,0
	Matric	33,3	35,6	21,8	21,4	38,6	37,1	11,4	14,3	16,7	15,7	50,0	48,7
	Higher	10,6	9,5	5,9	3,3	20,2	13,2	4,7	6,1	14,3	9,8	75,2	80,7
Household size	1-3 members	32,8	27,8	25,9	19,6	46,8	41,4	6,9	8,3	21,0	21,8	46,2	50,3
	4-6 members	51,6	41,8	38,2	29,3	51,9	45,4	13,4	12,5	13,6	16,1	34,7	42,1
	7 or more members	79,7	75,8	61,8	54,1	69,1	62,8	17,9	21,7	7,2	8,8	13,1	15,4
Household employment	No adult employed	80,7	69,9	66,2	53,8	75,1	68,0	14,4	16,1	8,9	14,2	10,4	15,9
	One adult employed	52,6	44,2	37,0	28,4	51,8	43,7	15,6	15,8	14,8	15,3	32,5	40,5
	Two plus adults employed	37,1	30,6	24,7	17,2	38,1	29,2	12,3	13,5	13,3	12,1	49,6	57,3
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	74,2	69,5	53,3	53,9	62,3	66,0	20,9	15,5	9,0	12,0	16,8	18,5
	Only father alive	67,8	62,5	58,3	37,8	62,4	51,3	9,5	24,7	4,1	13,6	28,1	24,0
	Double orphan	59,1	51,8	45,0	36,5	57,3	50,7	14,2	15,3	12,3	14,2	28,6	34,0
	Non-orphan	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0

Profiling variables		Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Median number of children	Below or equal to median number of children	40,0	33,3	28,8	22,1	45,8	40,0	11,2	11,3	17,0	18,0	43,0	48,7
	Above median number of children	76,2	68,3	59,5	49,6	67,6	60,6	16,7	18,7	8,1	11,0	15,6	20,7
Sex of the household head	Male	50,3	42,4	37,9	28,3	50,8	42,0	12,5	14,1	12,9	13,8	36,7	43,8
	Female	71,6	61,9	55,2	45,4	66,2	59,7	16,4	16,5	11,0	14,4	17,4	23,7
Sex of a child	Male	60,9	52,4	46,6	37,4	58,8	51,6	14,3	15,1	12,2	14,2	26,9	33,3
	Female	59,9	53,1	45,5	37,4	57,3	51,3	14,4	15,8	11,8	14,0	28,3	32,9
Population group of the household head	Black African	66,1	57,1	51,0	40,9	63,0	55,4	15,1	16,3	11,9	14,5	21,9	28,4
	Coloured	45,2	40,5	29,2	25,6	43,0	39,2	16,1	14,9	13,8	13,6	41,0	45,9
	Indian/Asian	5,0	12,5	2,2	3,0	16,5	10,0	2,7	9,5	14,2	7,0	80,8	80,5
	White	1,3	0,0	0,5	0,0	9,9	9,1	0,8	0,0	9,4	9,1	89,3	90,9
Population group of the child	Black African	66,1	57,4	51,0	41,1	62,9	55,6	15,1	16,3	11,9	14,5	21,9	28,1
	Coloured	44,8	36,4	29,0	21,9	42,7	35,9	15,8	14,6	13,7	14,1	41,6	49,5
	Indian/Asian	5,2	14,0	2,3	4,3	17,0	11,4	2,8	9,7	14,7	7,2	80,2	78,9
	White	1,1	0,0	0,6	0,0	10,0	9,2	0,5	0,0	9,4	9,2	89,5	90,8

Table A.4.2: Overlap between multidimensional and money-metric child poverty for children 5–13 years

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**40,8**	**46,4**	**51,8**	**48,5**	**72,6**	**66,6**	**19,6**	**26,3**	**49,5**	**51,8**	**59,0**	**48,3**	**7,6**	**0,1**
Education level of household head	None	52,0	66,9	65,4	71,8	82,4	83,7	14,5	22,9	75,4	81,9	75,9	67,8	12,1	0,5
	Some primary	53,8	64,5	63,8	65,8	81,5	76,4	14,6	21,4	63,6	71,7	71,5	62,3	11,9	0,3
	Primary	46,3	61,9	57,8	62,5	81,7	77,2	15,7	29,6	54,6	65,1	67,7	63,3	9,2	0,2
	Some secondary	40,6	51,8	53,8	54,7	73,7	71,8	21,0	27,1	46,8	53,8	57,9	53,2	7,3	0,1
	Matric	29,6	36,3	37,3	40,2	63,7	62,0	24,0	28,4	30,5	41,9	45,6	37,7	2,6	0,1
	Higher	12,8	13,4	18,9	11,1	43,5	38,3	28,1	26,1	18,4	22,5	27,9	23,1	0,8	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	34,2	38,3	47,8	39,1	71,8	64,9	16,4	25,2	45,3	45,7	55,5	44,0	9,1	0,1
	4-6 members	35,1	40,7	47,0	43,5	68,6	62,3	20,9	26,0	43,7	46,3	53,4	44,4	6,4	0,2
	7 or more members	50,4	57,4	59,4	59,0	78,1	73,6	18,7	27,0	58,4	62,0	67,7	55,6	8,9	0,1
Household employment	No adult employed	53,4	58,8	63,9	65,6	81,9	75,0	15,0	25,4	66,6	67,6	70,0	57,7	12,8	0,2
	One adult employed	35,8	41,2	47,5	40,9	70,5	64,4	20,7	25,3	41,7	44,5	54,7	44,2	5,5	0,1
	Two plus adults employed	26,1	28,5	36,7	24,8	59,0	52,2	26,0	29,8	30,7	30,4	46,0	35,1	1,7	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	49,3	56,2	58,8	60,6	80,9	75,7	19,2	28,2	57,5	62,1	68,7	57,3	11,9	0,1
	Only father alive	41,8	45,5	55,6	48,3	76,4	73,6	20,2	26,0	49,0	51,4	61,9	57,4	7,5	0,1
	Double orphan	47,7	54,1	60,5	57,7	81,1	70,2	14,1	21,8	61,2	56,7	66,5	52,4	11,2	0,0
	Non-orphan	39,3	45,0	50,3	46,6	70,9	65,0	19,8	26,2	47,9	50,5	57,2	46,8	6,9	0,1
Median number of children (median=2)	Below or equal to median number of children	33,1	37,9	42,8	37,4	67,0	60,8	19,6	26,9	38,3	41,5	51,1	42,1	5,1	0,1
	Above median number of children	46,2	52,9	58,0	56,9	76,4	71,0	19,6	25,8	57,2	59,7	64,5	53,1	9,4	0,2
Sex of the household head	Male	35,8	38,2	43,8	38,0	67,1	61,2	21,6	25,0	41,8	44,9	53,5	42,5	5,1	0,0
	Female	46,0	53,2	59,8	57,3	78,1	71,1	17,5	27,3	57,2	57,6	64,6	53,2	10,2	0,2

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Sex of a child	Male	40,8	45,8	51,9	48,5	73,5	67,7	19,9	26,3	49,9	51,4	59,6	48,5	7,3	0,1
	Female	40,9	47,0	51,6	48,5	71,6	65,5	19,3	26,2	49,0	52,2	58,5	48,2	8,0	0,1
Population group of the household head	Black African	43,3	49,6	58,1	53,6	76,2	70,1	18,0	25,7	56,2	58,0	61,4	49,8	8,7	0,1
	Coloured	36,9	38,2	23,7	28,8	62,3	57,7	22,1	32,0	11,6	14,1	61,2	52,1	2,6	0,1
	Indian/Asian	11,7	8,9	11,3	5,2	37,7	20,6	37,4	22,2	2,1	9,5	30,9	17,9	0,4	0,0
	White	13,8	11,5	1,1	1,2	37,8	33,1	37,3	28,8	10,9	17,1	23,7	24,1	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	43,2	49,6	58,1	53,6	76,2	70,1	18,0	25,8	56,2	58,0	61,4	49,8	8,7	0,1
	Coloured	37,1	38,4	23,5	29,1	62,2	57,0	22,1	30,8	11,5	13,7	60,4	51,3	2,6	0,1
	Indian/Asian	13,2	10,2	13,0	4,3	37,8	20,5	39,4	22,4	3,2	9,5	33,4	19,3	0,4	0,0
	White	13,6	11,6	1,1	1,0	37,6	32,7	37,0	28,4	10,6	17,1	23,2	24,2	0,0	0,0
money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Non poor	24,9	30,6	34,4	29,0	57,0	57,3	25,0	27,6	24,2	37,1	41,6	34,6	1,9	0,0
	Poor	51,8	63,5	63,8	69,6	83,3	76,7	15,8	24,8	66,9	67,8	71,0	63,2	11,6	0,3

Table A.4.3: Overlap between multidimensional and money-metric child poverty for children 13–17 years

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**39,9**	**46,9**	**50,6**	**47,5**	**73,4**	**72,6**	**20,6**	**27,6**	**47,9**	**49,3**	**57,7**	**47,0**	**7,1**	**0,1**
Education level of household head	None	51,7	69,3	64,3	73,6	89,2	85,3	15,3	22,6	76,0	79,4	75,7	66,0	12,1	0,4
	Some primary	48,7	64,1	61,7	64,1	82,6	81,8	15,5	22,5	61,8	68,7	69,7	58,9	10,5	0,2
	Primary	46,3	59,4	55,0	59,2	80,5	86,2	17,3	24,6	50,6	60,5	65,7	55,8	6,0	0,3
	Some secondary	41,8	52,1	52,5	54,2	74,3	75,9	21,9	27,6	44,1	49,4	57,8	52,5	7,5	0,0
	Matric	28,4	37,4	39,2	38,9	62,6	69,0	25,4	31,2	31,5	41,1	42,2	37,4	2,0	0,3
	Higher	15,0	14,9	20,7	9,9	43,9	48,7	27,9	30,9	20,8	23,3	28,9	23,1	1,1	0,0
Household size	1-3 members	31,0	42,1	46,2	38,6	70,5	72,8	16,0	24,9	45,2	48,5	52,5	45,0	8,6	0,3
	4-6 members	35,8	41,3	47,8	42,8	70,3	68,4	22,6	29,4	41,4	42,9	52,7	44,0	5,6	0,2
	7 or more members	49,5	57,0	56,5	57,7	78,9	78,8	19,5	26,0	58,2	58,9	66,9	52,0	8,6	0,1
Household employment	No adult employed	51,3	60,8	63,4	63,0	83,4	81,1	15,8	25,7	64,6	62,9	67,5	55,7	11,7	0,3
	One adult employed	36,4	39,7	45,6	41,5	69,8	69,9	23,4	27,9	40,6	42,6	53,3	42,3	5,3	0,0
	Two plus adults employed	26,4	28,7	37,0	23,8	62,0	58,6	24,3	31,3	31,1	30,7	48,0	35,6	2,0	0,0
Orphanhood status	Only mother alive	47,7	54,8	59,3	58,3	82,8	79,5	19,2	26,9	56,7	59,9	67,6	54,6	10,5	0,1
	Only father alive	46,4	52,4	58,4	49,5	81,8	76,2	19,7	31,0	51,4	53,4	62,3	50,0	4,7	0,0
	Double orphan	42,8	55,1	61,7	60,3	80,6	74,9	20,2	27,0	61,1	56,9	63,0	54,1	9,6	0,9
	Non-orphan	37,1	44,4	46,7	44,1	69,6	70,8	21,1	27,8	44,1	46,1	54,3	44,7	6,1	0,1

Profiling variables		Nutrition		Health		Education		Protection		WASH		Housing		Information	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
Median number of children (median=2)	Below or equal to median number of children	32,4	39,0	43,2	37,0	66,8	68,0	21,0	29,0	37,0	39,6	50,5	41,4	5,1	0,2
	Above median number of children	46,2	53,7	56,9	56,7	78,9	76,6	20,2	26,4	57,0	57,7	63,7	51,8	8,7	0,1
Sex of the household head	Male	34,6	38,3	44,2	36,9	68,5	67,4	21,7	28,2	41,7	42,9	52,6	40,7	5,2	0,1
	Female	45,3	53,8	57,1	56,0	78,2	76,8	19,5	27,2	54,1	54,4	62,8	52,0	8,9	0,2
Sex of a child	Male	39,3	47,5	49,9	47,5	74,3	74,7	20,8	26,4	48,6	49,8	58,2	47,8	6,9	0,1
	Female	40,7	46,3	51,4	47,6	72,5	70,6	20,3	28,8	47,2	48,8	57,2	46,1	7,2	0,2
Population group of the household head	Black African	43,1	51,3	58,0	53,0	78,9	76,9	19,2	26,0	56,0	55,9	60,3	48,8	8,3	0,2
	Coloured	36,1	31,9	23,1	27,2	61,6	55,9	23,0	33,9	11,3	12,3	61,0	50,9	2,3	0,0
	Indian/Asian	16,0	24,3	21,9	9,6	27,3	41,8	30,2	36,4	2,9	8,2	43,1	25,0	0,5	0,0
	White	11,2	6,7	0,7	1,6	33,3	39,1	32,1	40,9	8,0	13,5	23,5	17,8	0,0	0,0
Population group of the child	Black African	43,1	51,1	58,0	52,8	78,8	76,8	19,2	26,1	55,9	55,6	60,2	48,7	8,2	0,2
	Coloured	35,9	31,9	22,7	28,7	61,7	56,4	23,1	34,0	11,6	13,4	61,0	50,8	2,5	0,0
	Indian/Asian	14,8	23,9	20,8	5,9	26,2	42,6	30,6	37,6	2,9	7,7	42,3	25,8	0,5	0,0
	White	11,5	6,9	0,7	1,4	33,2	37,1	32,8	39,8	7,6	14,0	23,6	17,3	0,0	0,0
money-metric poverty status (LBPL)	Non poor	24,9	31,5	35,9	28,3	60,4	63,8	25,6	30,8	25,0	36,1	40,7	35,5	2,0	0,0
	Poor	51,9	64,3	62,4	69,2	83,7	82,6	16,6	24,0	66,2	64,2	71,3	59,9	11,1	0,3

Table A.4.4: Overlap between multidimensional and money-metric child poverty for children 0–17 years

Profiling variables		Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
National	**National**	**58,6**	**49,1**	**46,3**	**38,3**	**60,8**	**57,3**	**12,4**	**10,7**	**14,6**	**18,9**	**26,8**	**32,0**
Education level of household head	None	84,1	79,5	74,0	68,9	82,1	83,7	10,2	10,7	8,2	14,8	7,7	5,6
	Some primary	80,1	72,4	65,6	61,9	76,7	78,8	14,5	10,5	11,1	16,9	8,8	10,7
	Primary	75,7	67,6	57,6	57,1	68,9	73,9	18,0	10,5	11,3	16,8	13,1	15,6
	Some secondary	59,9	56,5	45,0	42,6	61,8	63,9	14,9	13,9	16,9	21,3	23,3	22,2
	Matric	30,4	32,7	20,9	22,7	41,4	45,2	9,5	10,0	20,4	22,5	49,2	44,8
	Higher	8,1	8,1	5,2	4,3	21,1	16,0	3,0	3,8	16,0	11,7	75,9	80,1
Household size	1-3 members	33,7	22,6	27,5	18,0	52,5	48,7	6,1	4,6	25,0	30,7	41,4	46,7
	4-6 members	49,1	38,4	38,2	29,9	54,6	51,3	10,9	8,6	16,4	21,4	34,6	40,1
	7 or more members	79,3	73,3	62,9	57,5	71,8	68,7	16,3	15,9	8,9	11,3	11,9	15,4
Household employment	No adult employed	79,8	66,1	67,3	55,0	77,9	74,2	12,6	11,1	10,6	19,3	9,5	14,7
	One adult employed	49,8	40,0	37,1	29,6	54,7	49,8	12,7	10,4	17,5	20,3	32,6	39,8
	Two plus adults employed	35,1	27,7	23,6	17,2	40,6	33,2	11,5	10,5	17,0	16,0	47,9	56,3
Orphan status	Only mother alive	73,1	60,4	60,1	50,7	73,8	72,0	13,1	9,7	13,7	21,3	13,1	18,3
	Only father alive	63,2	54,4	48,4	44,6	66,4	65,7	14,8	9,8	18,0	21,2	18,8	24,4
	Double orphan	70,0	60,0	58,7	47,7	74,5	68,2	11,3	12,3	15,8	20,4	14,2	19,5
	Non-orphan	56,0	47,1	43,8	36,4	58,3	54,9	12,2	10,8	14,5	18,5	29,5	34,4
Number of children in the house (median=2)	Below or equal to median number of children	38,5	29,5	28,8	22,1	48,8	46,0	9,7	7,5	20,0	23,9	41,5	46,5

Profiling variables		Child poverty based on money-metric poverty (LBPL)		Overlap between money-metric and multidimensional poverty		Multidimensional child poverty (k=3)		Poor based only on money-metric		Multidimensionally poor only		Non-poor based on money-metric and multidimensional poverty	
		2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023	2015	2023
	Above median number of children	73,8	64,7	59,4	51,3	69,9	66,3	14,3	13,3	10,5	14,9	15,7	20,4
Sex of the household head	Male	48,3	39,2	37,3	29,1	52,6	46,9	11,0	10,1	15,3	17,8	36,4	43,1
	Female	69,4	57,3	55,6	46,1	69,4	66,0	13,8	11,2	13,8	19,9	16,8	22,8
Sex of a child	Male	58,1	48,6	46,0	38,0	61,4	57,2	12,0	10,6	15,4	19,2	26,5	32,2
	Female	59,2	49,5	46,5	38,6	60,2	57,3	12,7	10,8	13,8	18,7	27,1	31,9
Population group of the household head	Black African	64,9	53,8	52,1	42,6	66,9	62,4	12,7	11,2	14,8	19,8	20,4	26,4
	Coloured	42,4	32,9	24,7	21,3	39,7	38,7	17,8	11,6	15,1	17,4	42,5	49,7
	Indian/Asian	3,9	10,2	1,8	1,6	16,2	13,0	2,1	8,5	14,4	11,4	81,7	78,5
	White	1,2	1,8	0,3	1,5	10,6	9,1	0,8	0,2	10,3	7,6	88,5	90,6
Population group of the child	Black African	64,8	53,8	52,1	42,6	66,9	62,4	12,8	11,2	14,8	19,8	20,4	26,4
	Coloured	42,0	31,4	24,5	20,6	39,6	38,1	17,5	10,8	15,1	17,5	43,0	51,1
	Indian/Asian	4,4	12,2	2,3	1,7	16,7	12,9	2,1	10,5	14,4	11,3	81,2	76,6
	White	1,0	1,8	0,3	1,6	10,7	9,0	0,7	0,2	10,4	7,4	88,5	90,8

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