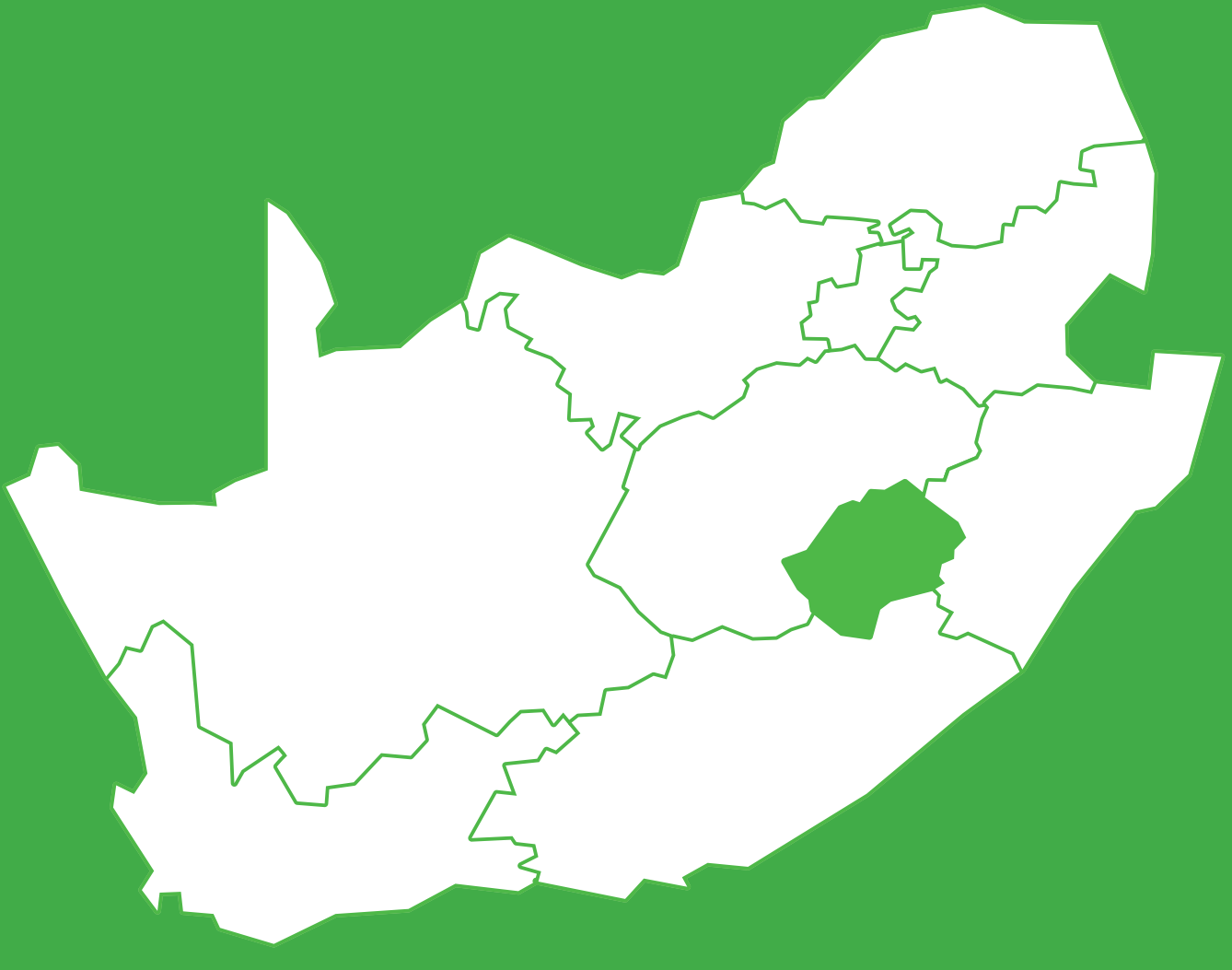
CENSUS 2022

Profiling the socio-economic status and living arrangements of men and women in South Africa - Census 2022



Report 03-01-36

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

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2030 NDP

Profiling the socio-economic status and living arrangements of men and women in South Africa – Census 2022

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Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
BPFA	Beijing Platform for Action
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
CATI	Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing
CAWI	Computer-Assisted Web Interview
CEDAW	Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
EC	Eastern Cape
ECD	Early Childhood Development
FS	Free State
GP	Gauteng
GPR	Gender Parity Ratio
ILO	International Labour Organization
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
LP	Limpopo
MP	Mpumalanga
MTS	Medium-Term Strategic Framework
NC	Northern Cape
NDP	National Development Plan
NEET	Not in Education, Employment, or Training
NW	North West
PAPI	Pen and Paper Personal Interview
REC	Regional Economic Communities
SASA	South African Schools Act
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WAP	Working Age Population
WC	Western Cape
WHO	World Health Organization

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Census night (reference night): The night before census day. It is the decisive point of time for being included in the census (2 February 2022).

Formal education: Education that is institutionalised, intentional and planned through public organisations and recognised private bodies.

Income: All receipts by all members of a household, in cash and in kind, in exchange for employment, or in return for capital investment, or receipts obtained from other sources such as pension, etc.

Gender: Conception of a person as male or female, with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones.

Head of 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: A person, or a group of persons who occupy a common dwelling unit (or part of it) and stayed for an average of four nights a week for the past four weeks.

Sex: The biological distinction between males and females.

Working Age Population: Persons aged 15 or above.

Wealth index: A composite measure of a household's cumulative living standard. The wealth index is calculated using data on a household's ownership of selected assets, materials used for housing construction and access to selected facilities. Generated with a statistical procedure known as principal components analysis, the wealth index places individual households on a continuous scale of relative wealth4. The wealth index is used as a proxy measure for socio-economic status.

Disability: The loss or elimination of opportunities to take part in the life of the community, equitably with others, that is encountered by persons having physical, sensory, psychological, developmental, learning, neurological or other impairments, which may be permanent, temporary or episodic in nature, thereby causing activity limitations and participation restriction with the mainstream society.

Sex ratio: Ratio of males to females in a given population, usually expressed as the number of males for every 100 females.

FOREWORD

South Africa conducts a population and housing census every ten years as a vehicle to obtain data on key demographic indicators such as population size and composition, household size and living conditions, and geographic distribution of the population across the country. Census 2022 was the fourth population Census since the dawn of democracy in 1994. It was the first digital census conducted by South Africa and used three modes of collection: Computer-assisted Personal Interview (CAPI); Computer-assisted Web Interview (CAWI) and Computer-assisted Telephonic Interview (CATI).

The main objective of the 2022 Census was to provide government and other stakeholders with essential information on the population, regarding demographic, social and economic characteristics, housing conditions and household services. By generating such information at all geographic levels, it is also intended to provide a sound basis for evidence-based decision-making and to evaluate the impact of social and economic policies and programmes in the country.

Results of the 2022 Census have so far been published in a phased approach. The first was the Statistical Release (Census Volume 1), launched in October 2023. Other reports published include Provinces at Glance, SA at Glance PES statistical Release and How the count was done, Disability Monograph, Education Monograph and Census 2022 Municipal factsheet. Other planned publications include; Monograph for Migration, Fertility, Service Delivery and Agriculture.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015, contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), of which SDG 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; the attainment of which is an important element to realize many other SDGs and targets. This report aims to make an important contribution to understanding gender equality and inequality in South Africa by providing quantitative evidence based on the results of the 2022 Census about the differences between boys and girls, youth and adults across a wide range of demographic and socio-economic characteristics covering marriage; education; disability; migration; household headship; and housing and access to services.

This report underlines the importance of such data in tracking progress towards the achievement of national as well as international goals. While the Census itself can provide no qualitative information on the underlying factors responsible for gender differences observed in this report, government hopes that the findings presented here will nevertheless provide the information required for evidence-based public policy formulation and programme implementation, as well as stimulate further research into gender issues in South Africa.

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Statistics South Africa undertook the Population and Housing Census 2022 (Census 2022), which serves as the main source of demographic and socio-economic data, at all geographic levels of the country, as mandated by the Statistics Act No.6 of 1999. Census 2022 is preceded by Census 1996, 2001 and 2011, and it serves as the country's fourth all-inclusive census to help measure progress towards developmental priorities and inform evidence-based planning. The primary output of the census concisely describes the population size and composition, general health and functioning, education, income, employment, mortality, housing and household goods, services and agricultural activities at aggregate levels. The Statistics Release P0301.4 mainly disaggregates data by province, sex, population group and age (Stats SA, 2022). This Gender Report is a theme-based report that provides a detailed sex-specific analysis of the census data.

While South Africa is among the performing African countries developmentally, it is also among the most unequal societies in the world, scourged by triple challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment (DPME, 2019, p.13). The National Development Plan 2030 (NDP) outlines South Africa's 15-year plan to address these and other challenges in the country in alignment with international commitments including the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the African Union's Agenda 2063 (DPME, 2019). The focus areas of the NDP include: (i) economy and employment, (ii) economic infrastructure, (iii) environmental sustainability, (iv) inclusive rural economy, (v) global positioning, (vi) spatial development, (vii) education and training, (viii) promoting health, (ix) social protection, (x) safer communities, (xi) strong state and institutions, (xii) fighting corruption, and (xiii) uniting the country.

As with most countries, the South African development agenda is sensitive to the empowerment of the previously disadvantaged and the marginalised groups in society, thus women, youth and disability are found as cross-cutting themes in the NDP. Moreover, women's economic empowerment is central to the achievement of the constitutional vision of a gender-equal and non-sexist society (DPME, 2019, p. 18). Nevertheless, women remain systematically discriminated against and excluded from social, political and economic spheres. Furthermore, gender-related advancements in most societies underplay the intersectionality of women's identities, which further perpetuates inequality between males and females and among females themselves. In a country like South Africa, this would mean in order to track the progress the country is making relating to the empowerment of women, it is essential to explore sex in unison with their intersecting identities such as race, migration status, geographical location, gender identity and disability (DPME, 2019, p.18).

1.2 Legislation and Policy Framework

This subsection will illustrate the legislative framework, policies and other treaties South Africa is part of regarding gender equality, at international, continental and regional levels.

1.2.1 International context

Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in December 1979, it was put into force in September 1981. Some of the key agendas of this convention are equality of civil rights and access to equal opportunities in public and political spaces. After the end of the apartheid era, the South African parliament ratified without reservation to the CEDAW in December 1995. The South African Constitution of 1996 (Act 108 of 1996) was reliant on various international and human rights mechanisms, and CEDAW was one of them.

The Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA)

The Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) is one of many instruments adopted by the United Nations General Assembly which met in Beijing in September 1995[1]. The conference reaffirmed the following commitments:

- To equal rights and inherent human dignity: to eliminate all forms of discrimination particularly towards women.
- Empowerment and advancement of women: to ensure women have equal participation in the society, economy, and political spheres as men.
- Equal opportunities: Men and women must have equal rights to access resources, equal sharing of responsibilities in the family as well as balanced partnerships.

Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs)

In 2015, about 193 nations adopted the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals as a framework to steer global development for the next fifteen years. The SDGs were preceded by the Millennium Development Goals which ended in 2015. Furthermore, Goal 5 in the SDGs seeks to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. It also covers 9 targets and a total of 15 indicators, however, South Africa reports on 10 out of 15 indicators in SDG 5 the other 5 indicators there are no data available to report on them (Goaltracker, 2019). The South African NDP and the SDGs have a considerable connection due to the fact that most of the targets in the SDGs are found in the NDP (Statistics South Africa, 2020).

The following are the 9 targets for SDG 5:

5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
5.2 End all violence against and exploitation of women and girls.
5.3 Eliminate forced marriages and genital mutilation.
5.4 Value unpaid care and promote shared domestic responsibilities.
5.5 Ensure full participation in leadership and decision-making.
5.6 Universal access to reproductive rights and health.
5.7 Equal rights to economic resources, property ownership and financial services.
5.8 Promote empowerment of women through technology.
5.9 Adopt and strengthen policies and enforceable legislation for gender equality.

1.2.2 Regional context

Agenda 2063

Following extensive consultations with all formations of African society, including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and other continental bodies, as well as the Diaspora and the 24th Session of the African Union (AU) Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Addis Ababa, January 2015, adopted the Agenda 2063 Framework document and its Popular Version. As a result, it is an Agenda to which every African woman, man, girl, and boy has contributed, either directly or indirectly, and thus has a stake in its implementation. The Agenda 2063 is a collective action guide founded on the notion of solidarity and an awareness of what links Africans together. It should serve as a guide for actions at the continental and regional levels, but it should also inform actions at the national level.

Some of the main priorities in Agenda 2063 are:

- **Aspiration 1** (A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development)**:** eliminate poverty and income inequalities that exist within the continent. Moreover, the creation of job opportunities while improving access to necessities of life. The continent aspires to develop an African human and social capital through education and skills expansion with a specific focus on science and technology. Importantly, a radical transformation of the agricultural sector with the objective of having sufficient food security and being a net food exporter.

[1] United Nation 1995. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Available from https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Women/WG/BeijingDeclarationPlatformAction1995.pdf

- **Aspiration 6** (An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children): enhancing women's roles on the continent through gender equality and parity in all spheres of life (political, economic, and social); eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls; providing opportunities for self-realization, access to health, education, and jobs for Africa's youth; and ensuring the safety and security of children on the continent, as well as providing for early childhood development.

1.2.3 National context

Gender equality in a South African context is a constitutional obligation which is driven by the legislative process that seeks to establish the foundation for a gender-equitable society. However, the government has encountered various hurdles in converting constitutional, legal and legislative demands on gender equality and women's empowerment into practical achievements in women's and girls' lives (Shozi and Commission for Gender Equality). The following are some of the legislations developed in South Africa which address gender equality:

- The Bill of Rights (Chapter 2 of the South African Constitution): clearly states that no one must be discriminated against whether directly or indirectly based on their gender, sexual orientation, race, age, disability status, religion or belief etc.
- Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998: this act seeks to address all the discriminatory practices and laws that existed during the apartheid as well as to correct the disparities in employment, income and occupation in the labour market.
- Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act (PEPUDA Act 4 of 2000): this non-discriminatory law prohibits all forms of unfair discrimination in both public and private organisations. This act also gives the Commission for Gender Equality the power to advance, promote and protect gender equality in South Africa in the equality court.
- Civil Union Act 17 of 2006: allows two people to be married irrespective of their gender.
- Criminal Law Amendment Act 38 of 2007: this amendment was aimed at reviewing the sexual offences aspects in the law.
- The Children's Act 41 of 2007: aims at executing the children's constitutional rights to protection, education and care as enshrined in the constitution.

These are some of the legislative instruments used to ensure that the country is on the correct path in achieving all set outcomes, goals and plans by 2030 as listed in the NDP 2030, Africa Agenda 2063 and SDGs.

1.3 Objectives of the report

This report aims to provide evidence on how South Africa has progressed towards achieving SDG 5 as well as how the legislative instruments performed between census years. For us to be able to monitor and evaluate these interventions by the government, robust and reliable data is needed, hence the use of census data as it can give low-level estimates. The objectives of the report are:

- To provide the demographic profile of the population based on sex.
- To assess the socio-economic profile of persons based on sex.
- To assess the socio-economic profile of households based on the sex of the head of household.
- To provide trends in the demographics and socio-economic characteristics of men and women.

1.4 Data sources

The report will be based mainly on findings from the South African population and housing census of 2022, while the previous census data sources (2001 and 2011) will supplement it. Population census is defined by the United Nations as "the total process of collecting, compiling, evaluating, analysing and publishing or otherwise disseminating demographic, economic and social data pertaining, at a specified time, to all persons in a country or a well-defined part of the country". This task of conducting a population census is enshrined in the Statistics Act (Act No. 6 of 1996). The main aim of the census is to provide government, private institutions and agencies with information essential for policy development, planning, monitoring, and evaluation of development projects, and for making informed decisions.

1.5 Limitations

Provided the high levels of contention in the use of the concept ‘gender’ to narrowly differentiate between experiences between males and females. As a result, this report falls short of profiling the intersecting identities of men and women who make up this society, which is essential in uncovering hidden inequalities. However, the report does shed light on the socio-economic and lived experiences of males and females which remains the foundation of both sex-based and gender discrimination and inequality.

1.6 Proposed structure of the final report

Chapter 1: Will introduce the report and outline the legislative framework and policies underpinning the report. The chapter will also outline the objectives, limitations of the report and the description of the census data.

Chapter 2: Provides the demographic profile of the country based on Census 2022 with references to previous censuses, from a gendered perspective.

Chapter 3: Presents the educational outcomes of males and females in South Africa.

Chapter 4: Will profile households' living conditions based on the sex of the head of the household, socio-economic outcomes and household service status.

Chapter 5: Concludes with a summary of the key findings as well as recommendations.

CHAPTER 2: POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS AND DYNAMICS

2.1 Introduction

Demographics of the population are noteworthy in determining how vital the various development programs should be allocated. Furthermore, the population growth of a country sustains the labour market, which generates commodities and services in return for income, resulting in the consumption of those produced goods and services in the long run. Therefore, legislative instruments must play a role in ensuring men and women do equitably partake in the economy to achieve the goals of the SDGs. This chapter will profile the demographics of the South African population by sex, population group, age, province, district and marital status for census 2022 compared to previous censuses.

2.2 Basic demographics of the population

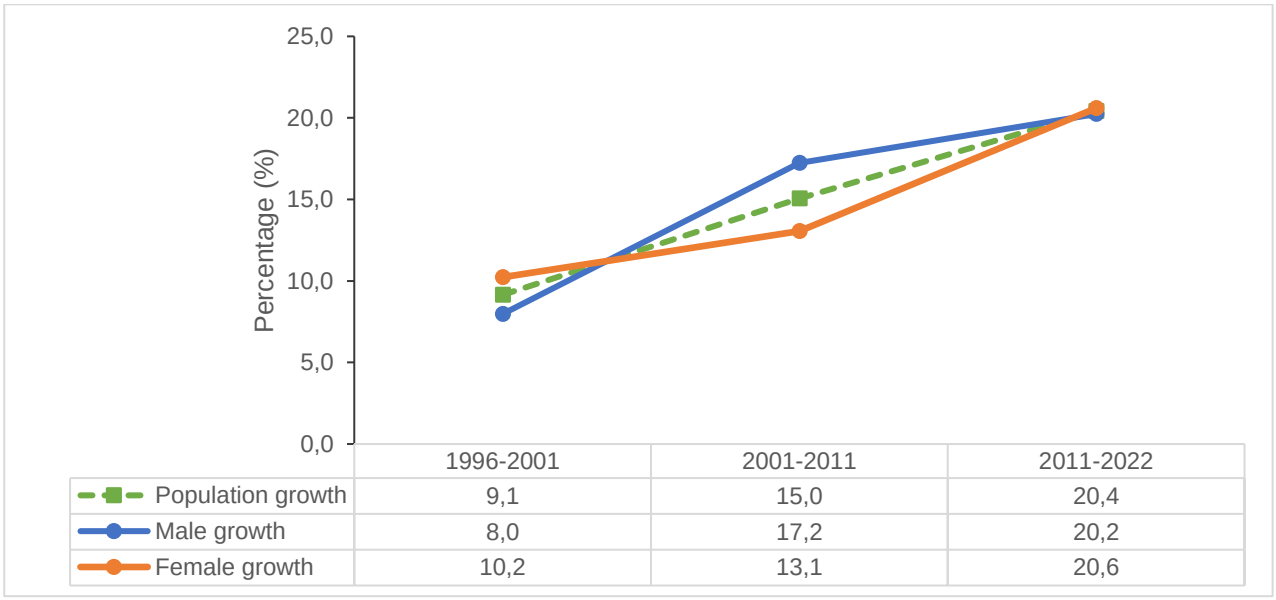
2.2.1 Population dynamics

Table 2.1: Total population and change by sex and census years, 1996–2022

Census year	Total population	%change	Male	Female	Male (%share)	Female (%share)	Male (%change)	Female (%change)
1996	**40 583 573**	**-**	19 520 887	21 062 685	48,1	51,9	-	-
2001	**44 295 046**	**9,1**	21 077 732	23 217 313	47,6	52,4	8,0	10,2
2011	**50 961 443**	**15,0**	24 711 220	26 250 223	48,5	51,5	17,2	13,1
2022	**61 367 659**	**20,4**	29 711 481	31 656 178	48,4	51,6	20,2	20,6

Table 2.1 above, examines the population for the census period 1996 to 2022 based on population change by sex. Between 1996 and 2001, the population climbed by 9,1%, and 15,0% from 2001 to 2011, it further increased by 20,4% between 2011 and 2022. Moreover, there were roughly 31,7 million females representing 51,6% of the population, while males accounted for 29,7 million representing 48,4% of the population during the census 2022. Despite having more females in the population during the census years, males had a higher percentage change of 17,2% than females' percentage change of 13,1% in 2011.

Figure 2.1: South African inter-census population and percentage change by sex and census years, 1996–2022



	1996-2001	2001-2011	2011-2022
Population growth	9,1	15,0	20,4
Male growth	8,0	17,2	20,2
Female growth	10,2	13,1	20,6

Figure 2.1 above, compares the percentage change in population and the gender disparities for the census periods (1996–2022), the data showed that both female and male populations were increasing. Between 1996 and 2001 and between 2011 and 2022 females showed a higher increase than males 10,2 % and 20,6 % respectively. However, during the census period 2001–2011, there was a marked increase in the male population of 17,2% compared to the 13,1% growth in females.

Figure 2.2: South African population by sex, 1996–2022

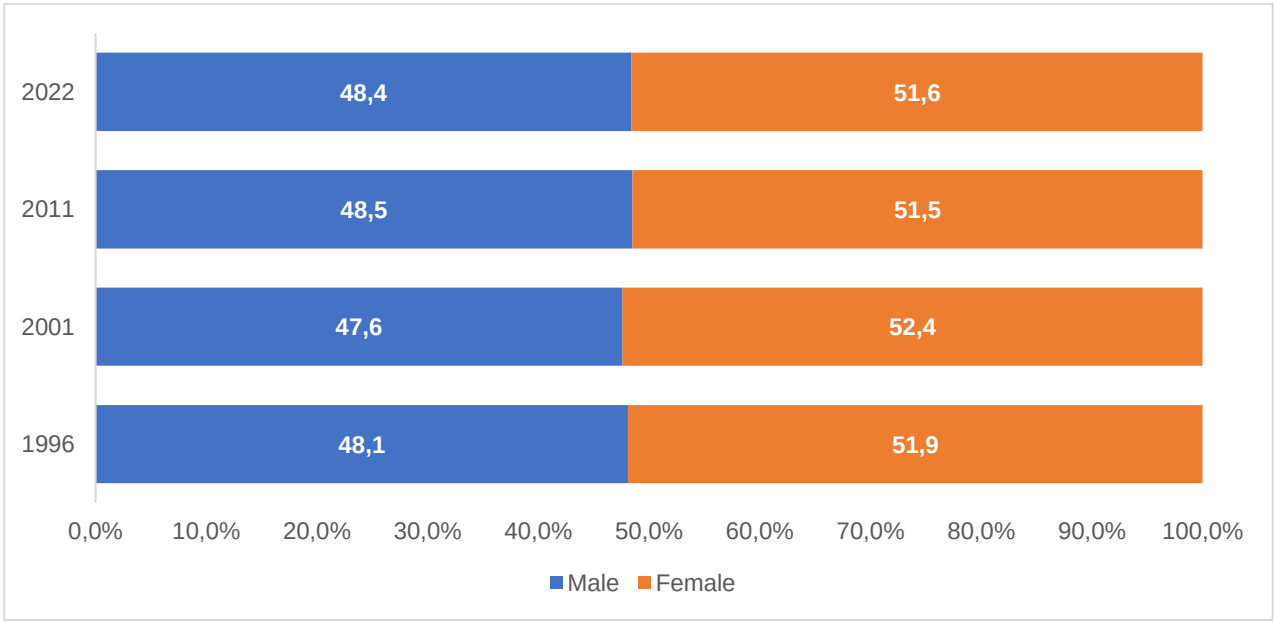


Figure 2.2 above, presents the share of the South African population by sex during census years 1996, 2001, 2011, and 2022. Since 1996 to 2022, the female population in South Africa has always been slightly higher than that of men. The pattern since 1996 presented in figure 2.2 above, has shown little variation in female and male population share. In 1996 there were 51,9% females and 48,1% males and in 2022, about 51,6% of total South Africa's population was constituted by females compared to 48,4% for males.

Table 2.2: Distribution of the population by sex and population group, 2011 and 2022

Population group	Sex	2011		2022	
		Number	Per cent (%)	Number	Per cent (%)
Black African	Male	19 548 920	48,4	24 183 776	48,4
	Female	20 864 487	51,6	25 808 176	51,6
	Both sexes	**40 413 407**	**100,0**	**49 991 952**	**100,0**
Coloured	Male	2 182 356	48,1	2 388 191	47,5
	Female	2 359 002	51,9	2 636 147	52,5
	Both sexes	**4 541 358**	**100,0**	**5 024 338**	**100,0**
Indian/Asian	Male	636 286	50,1	851 807	50,5
	Female	634 872	49,9	836 562	49,5
	Both sexes	**1 271 158**	**100,0**	**1 688 369**	**100,0**
White	Male	2 176 936	48,8	2 143 691	48,5
	Female	2 284 473	51,2	2 279 888	51,5
	Both sexes	**4 461 409**	**100,0**	**4 423 579**	**100,0**
Other	Male	166 722	60,8	144 016	60,2
	Female	107 389	39,2	95 406	39,8
	Both sexes	**274 111**	**100,0**	**239 422**	**100,0**
Total	**Male**	**24 711 220**	**48,5**	**29 711 481**	**48,4**
	Female	**26 250 223**	**51,5**	**31 656 179**	**51,6**
	Both sexes	**50 961 443**	**100,0**	**61 367 660**	**100,0**

Table 2.2 above, represents the population distribution by sex and population group for the census years 2011 and 2022. Results revealed that there were 26,3 million (51,5%) females in the population and 24,7 million (48,5%) males in 2011. In addition, a similar pattern was observed during the census of 2022, where females continued to dominate the share of the population. Furthermore, the Indian/Asian population was the only population group with an equal share of males and females in the population compared to other population groups.

Figure 2.3: Sex ratio, Census 1996–2022

The sex ratio is the main measure of sex composition used in demography. The sex ratio is usually defined as the number of males per 100 females. One hundred is the point of balance of the sexes according to this measure. A sex ratio above 100 denotes an excess of males, and a sex ratio below 100 denotes an excess of females. In other words, the greater the excess of males, the higher the sex ratio, and the greater the excess of females, the lower the sex ratio.

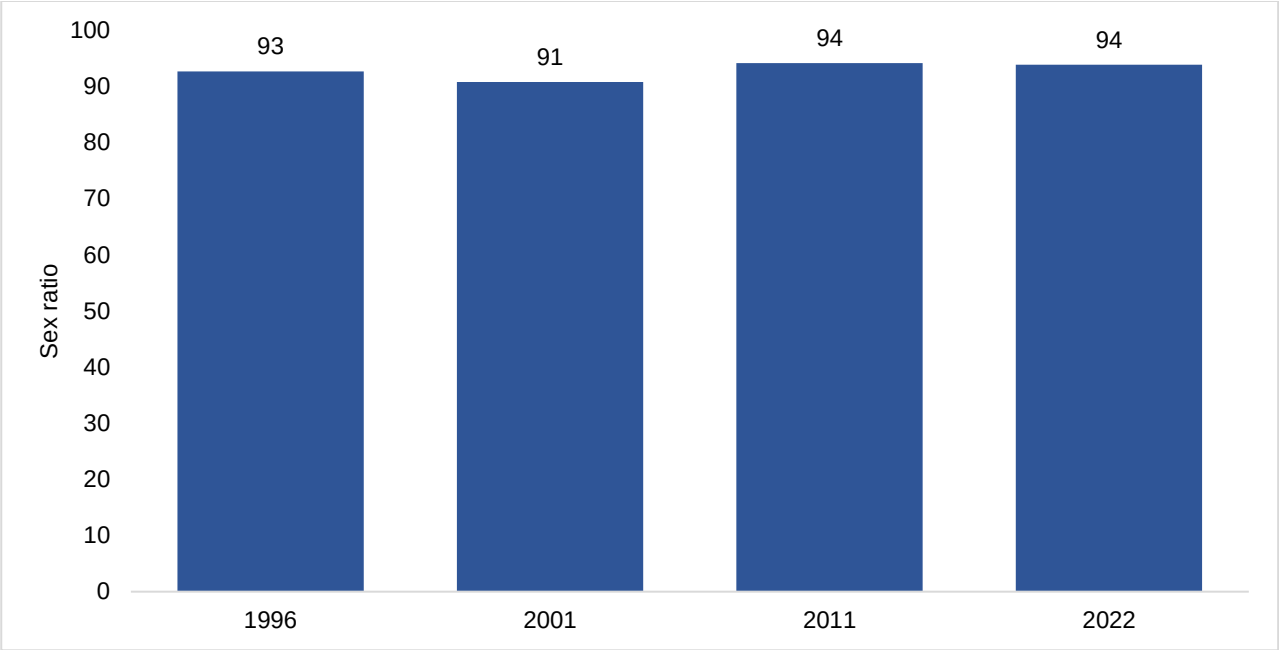
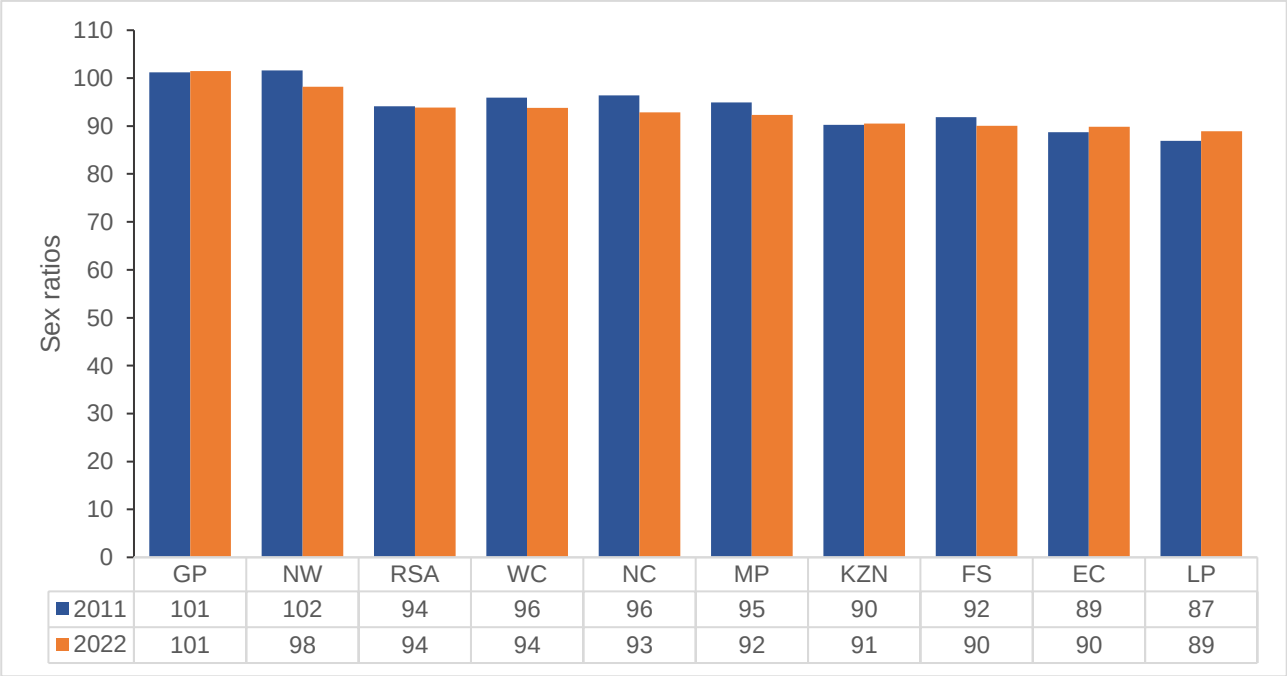


Figure 2.3 above, shows the sex ratio for the census period 1996 to 2022. Overall, consistent sex ratios were observed across all the census years, with a slight drop in the sex ratio from 93 in 1996 to 91 in 2001, while 2011 and 2022 had a sex ratio of 94 respectively.

Figure 2.4: Sex ratios by province, 2011 and 2022



	GP	NW	RSA	WC	NC	MP	KZN	FS	EC	LP
2011	101	102	94	96	96	95	90	92	89	87
2022	101	98	94	94	93	92	91	90	90	89

Figure 2.4 on page 8 looks at the sex ratios by geographical location during the period 2011 and 2022. Nationally, the sex ratio remained stable at 94 during the reference period, meaning that there were more females than males in the population. Gauteng province was the only province with a stable sex ratio of 101 (101 males for 100 females). North West had higher sex ratios than South Africa for both years and had more males than females in 2011 with a sex ratio of 102 and more females than males with a sex ratio of 98 in 2022. Provinces with the lowest sex ratios throughout the reference period were KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, Eastern Cape and Limpopo.

Figure 2.5: Sex ratios by geographical location, 2011 and 2022

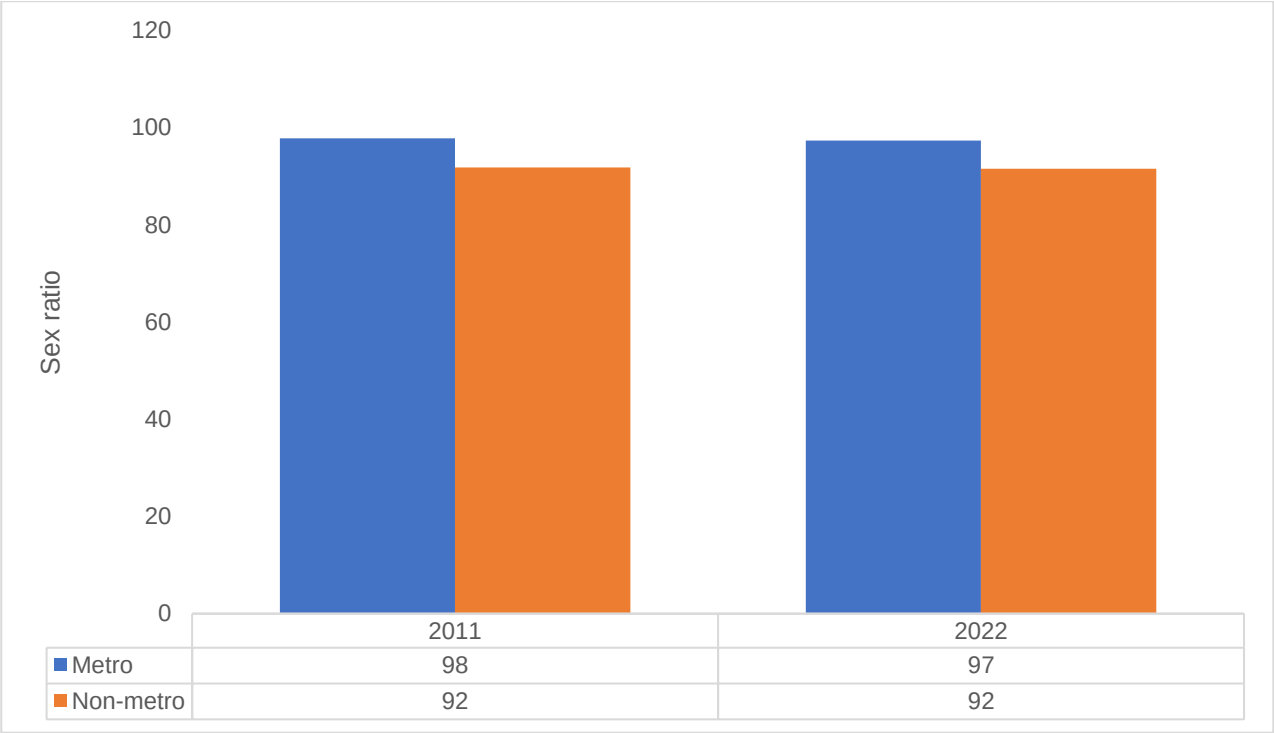


Figure 2.5 above, looks at the sex ratios by geographical location, 2011 and 2022. For both years the sex ratios indicate that there were more females than males in both metro and non-metro areas. Between 2011 and 2022 the sex ratio in metro areas decreased from 98 to 97 indicating that in 2022 the gap between females and males increased. With regards to the non-metros the sex ratio remained 92 indicating that the population is largely female.

Table 2.3: Distribution of the population aged 0–14 by age group, sex and sex ratio, 2022

Age groups	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio
	Number			Per cent		
Aged 0–4	2 891 121	2 890 430	**5 781 552**	50,0	50,0	**100**
Aged 5–9	2 551 434	2 536 825	**5 088 259**	50,1	49,9	**101**
Aged 10–14	2 696 732	2 676 208	**5 372 940**	50,2	49,8	**101**

The population aged 0–14 represents children in their formative years, whose access to services such as health and education is critical not only to their individual growth and development but also in determining the future manpower supply and the direction of development of a country. Table 2.3 above, shows that in 2022, for the age groups 0–4, there was a sex ratio of 100 which means that there was an equal number of males and females. Moreover, the age groups 05–14 recorded sex ratios above 100 meaning there were more males than females in those age groups.

Table 2.4: Distribution of the population aged 15–64 by age group, sex and sex ratio, 2022

Age groups	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio
	Number			Per cent		
Aged 15–19	2 470 212	2 444 095	**4 914 306**	50,3	49,7	**101**
Aged 20–24	2 625 719	2 600 348	**5 226 066**	50,2	49,8	**101**
Aged 25–29	2 778 581	2 867 822	**5 646 403**	49,2	50,8	**97**
Aged 30–34	2 736 537	2 785 729	**5 522 266**	49,6	50,4	**98**
Aged 35–39	2 556 084	2 602 450	**5 158 535**	49,6	50,4	**98**
Aged 40–44	2 055 092	2 084 252	**4 139 343**	49,6	50,4	**99**
Aged 45–49	1 567 176	1 698 035	**3 265 211**	48,0	52,0	**92**
Aged 50–54	1 266 212	1 484 701	**2 750 913**	46,0	54,0	**85**
Aged 55–59	1 092 673	1 389 856	**2 482 529**	44,0	56,0	**79**
Aged 60–64	903 676	1 174 517	**2 078 193**	43,5	56,5	**77**

The population aged 15–64 years is significant to a country's economic growth as it represents the most economically productive age group. Equal access to resources and services (including education, employment and health care) is essential for increasing their productivity. This population is also responsible for supporting the country's dependent population (0-14 and 65 years and over). Table 2.4 above, shows that the age groups (15–19) and (20–24) had a sex ratio of 101 which showed that males were in the majority. However, the sex ratios of the population aged 25-29 to 60-64 were all below 100 indicating that women form the greater part of the productive population and potential labour force supply in South Africa.

Table 2.5: Distribution of the population aged 65 and older by age group, sex and sex ratio, 2022

Age groups	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Sex ratio
	Number			Per cent		
Aged 65–69	666 440	919 944	**1 586 384**	42,0	58,0	**72**
Aged 70–74	414 335	619 270	**1 033 604**	40,1	59,9	**67**
Aged 75–79	234 445	405 672	**640 116**	36,6	63,4	**58**
Aged 80–84	128 814	255 245	**384 059**	33,5	66,5	**50**
Aged 85+	76 198	220 779	**296 977**	25,7	74,3	**35**

The population aged 65 and older is usually described as the dependent population, along with children aged 0–14. The sex composition reflects the differences between male and female life expectancy and has implications on the social support needs of a country. Table 2.5 above, demonstrates that among the older age groups, there was a significant drop in the sex ratio from 72 among those aged 65-69 to 35 among those aged 85 years and older. This confirms that females were in the majority among the older age groups compared to the younger age groups.

Table 2.6: Dependency ratios by sex, 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022

Census years	Sex	Total dependency ratio	Old age dependency ratio	Child dependency ratio
1996	Male	70,0	6,7	63,3
	Female	64,1	9,1	55,0
	Both sexes	**66,9**	**8,0**	**58,8**
2001	Male	60,3	6,1	54,3
	Female	58,2	9,3	48,8
	Both sexes	**59,2**	**7,8**	**51,4**
2011	Male	53,5	6,3	47,2
	Female	53,1	9,8	43,4
	Both sexes	**53,3**	**8,1**	**45,2**
2022	Male	48,2	7,6	40,6
	Female	49,8	11,5	38,3
	Both sexes	**49,0**	**9,6**	**39,4**

Table 2.6 shows trends in the dependency ratios by sex for the census years 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022. There has been a decline in the total dependency ratio during the reference period, from 66,9 in 1996 to 49,0 in 2022. Moreover, a shift in the total dependency ratio between males and females, from 70,0 among males and 64,1 for their female counterparts in 1996 to 48,2 for males and 49,8 for females in 2022. Reduced dependency ratios indicate a reduced burden on the workforce in 2022 as compared to 1996.

Old-age dependency ratio in South Africa increased between 1996 to 2022 from 8,0 to 9,6. Throughout the reference period, the old-age dependency ratios were higher for females than males. Although there was a slight decline in the ratios among the males between 1996 and 2001 from 6,7 to 6,1, there was a further increase observed between 2011 and 2022.

The child dependency ratio decreased between 1996 and 2022 from 58,8 to 39,4, this means that there were less number of children (aged 0-14) that were to be supported by the working-age population (aged 15-64) in 2022 than they were in 1996. Males had higher child dependency ratios throughout the reference period than their female counterparts.

Table 2.7: Total dependency ratio by sex and province, 2011 and 2022

Province	Sex	2011	2022
WC	Male	45,8	45,1
	Female	45,3	42,5
	Both sexes	**45,5**	**42,3**
EC	Male	70,4	59,6
	Female	64,1	59,6
	Both sexes	**67,0**	**60,2**
NC	Male	56,8	54,6
	Female	55,8	52,7
	Both sexes	**56,3**	**52,6**
FS	Male	54,7	52,1
	Female	53,5	51,4
	Both sexes	**54,1**	**51,2**
KZN	Male	60,9	53,1
	Female	57,2	50,8
	Both sexes	**58,9**	**50,9**
NW	Male	53,5	51,2
	Female	57,3	53,5
	Both sexes	**55,3**	**52,9**
GP	Male	37,9	43,7
	Female	40,7	41,1
	Both sexes	**39,3**	**38,7**
MP	Male	56,5	51,7
	Female	56,7	50,7
	Both sexes	**56,6**	**50,7**
LP	Male	71,1	65,0
	Female	65,6	62,9
	Both sexes	**68,1**	**63,1**
RSA	**Male**	**53,5**	**48,2**
	Female	**53,1**	**49,8**
	Both sexes	**53,3**	**49,0**

Table 2.7 above, presents the total dependency ratios by sex and province during 2011 and 2022. There was a slight decrease in the dependency ratio from 53,3 to 49,0. Males had a higher dependency ratio of 53,5 in 2011 compared to the 53,1 of females, however, in 2022 females had a slightly higher dependency ratio, (49,8) than males (48,2). Limpopo and Eastern Cape provinces had the highest dependency ratios compared to the rest of the provinces during the reference period. Gauteng and Western Cape had the lowest dependency ratios. Females had higher ratios than their male counterparts in Gauteng while in the Western Cape, there was parity in the dependency ratios.

Figure 2.6: Dependency ratios by sex, 2022

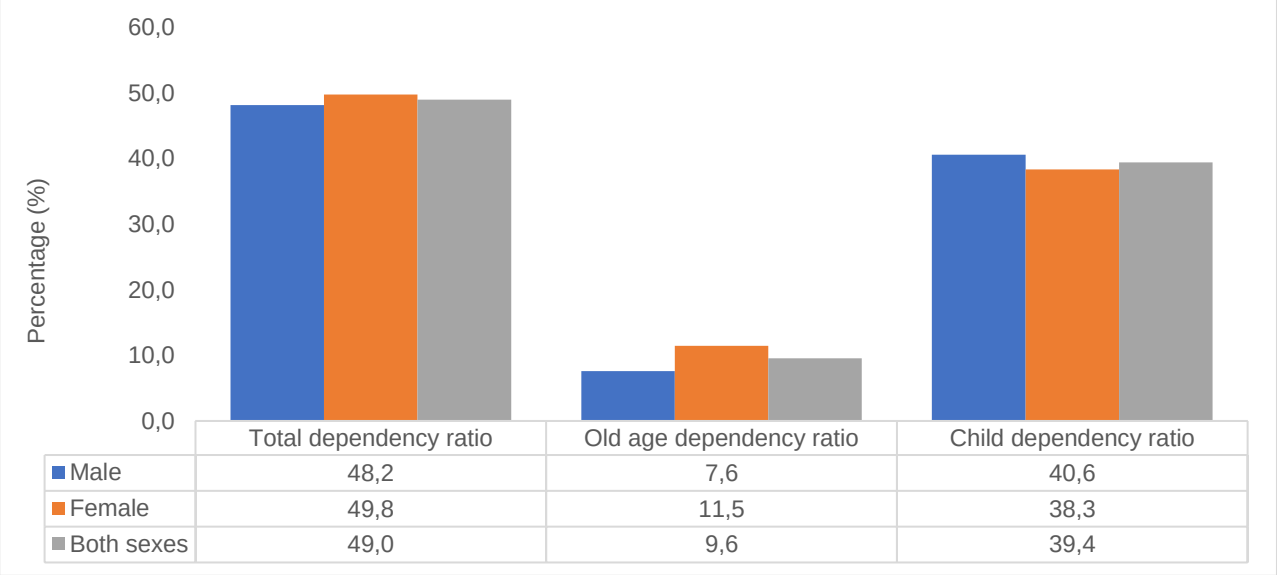


Figure 2.6 above, displays the dependency ratios by sex. The overall dependency ratio was 49,0, however, females had a higher dependency ratio of 49,8 compared to the 48,2 of their male counterparts. Meanwhile, there was a higher old-age dependency ratio among females (11,5) compared to those among males (7,6) this implies that females in the working-age population face a greater burden in supporting the old-age population. It was evident that 40,6 of male children needed support compared to 38,3 of female children.

Table 2.8: Dependency ratios by sex and population group, 2022

Population group	Sex of the head of household	Total dependency ratio	Old age dependency ratio	Child dependency ratio
Black African	Male	48,8	5,5	43,3
	Female	50,3	9,3	41,0
	Both sexes	**49,6**	**7,4**	**42,2**
Coloured	Male	46,4	7,8	38,6
	Female	45,4	11,2	34,1
	Both sexes	**45,9**	**9,6**	**36,2**
Indian/Asian	Male	33,9	12,7	21,2
	Female	39,1	17,8	21,3
	Both sexes	**36,4**	**15,2**	**21,2**
White	Male	50,9	29,0	21,8
	Female	53,8	34,1	19,7
	Both sexes	**52,4**	**31,6**	**20,7**

In 2022, the total dependency ratio among black Africans was 49,6 dependent population requiring support for every 100 working-age population irrespective of their sex. Moreover, females had higher dependency ratios in most of the population groups except the coloured population. Old-age dependency ratios were higher among the white population group than the other population groups; this signifies the burden carried by the working-age population to support the old-age population among the whites.

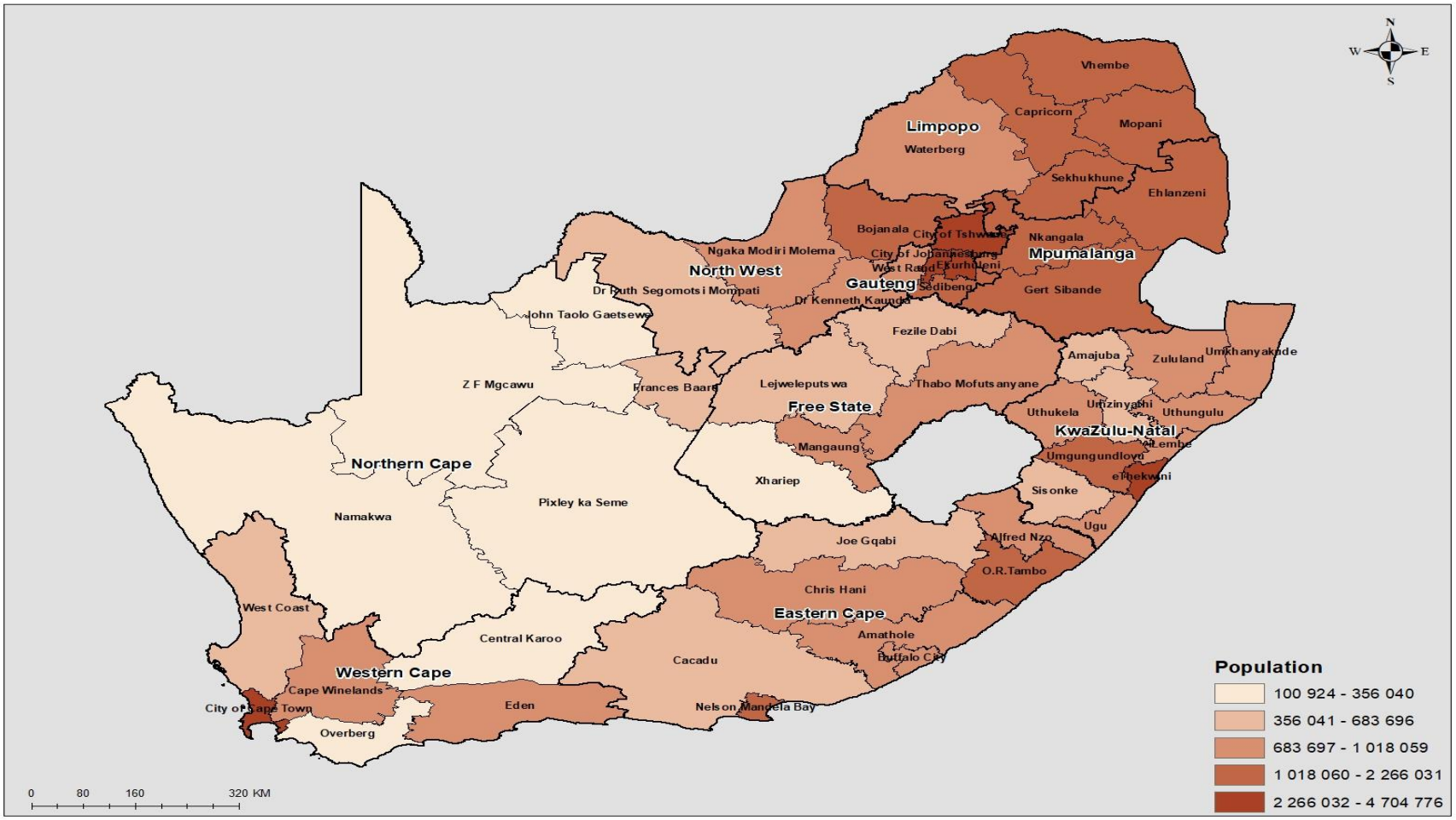
For the child dependency ratio, black African male children had the highest dependency ratio, for every 100 working-age population 43 children needed their support compared to the 41 female children who needed support from every 100 working-age population.

Table 2.9: Dependency ratios by province and sex, 2022

Province	Sex of the head of household	Total dependency ratio	Old age dependency ratio	Child dependency ratio
WC	Male	45,1	8,8	36,3
	Female	42,5	11,5	31,0
	Both sexes	**42,3**	**10,0**	**32,2**
EC	Male	59,6	9,1	50,5
	Female	59,6	15,7	44,0
	Both sexes	**60,2**	**13,2**	**47,1**
NC	Male	54,6	7,4	47,2
	Female	52,7	11,8	40,8
	Both sexes	**52,6**	**10,1**	**42,5**
FS	Male	52,1	7,1	45,1
	Female	51,4	12,8	38,6
	Both sexes	**51,2**	**10,6**	**40,6**
KZN	Male	53,1	6,5	46,6
	Female	50,8	11,6	39,2
	Both sexes	**50,9**	**9,7**	**41,2**
NW	Male	51,2	7,3	43,9
	Female	53,5	10,9	42,5
	Both sexes	**52,9**	**9,5**	**43,4**
GP	Male	43,7	5,4	38,4
	Female	41,1	9,0	32,2
	Both sexes	**38,7**	**7,4**	**31,3**
MP	Male	51,7	6,0	45,7
	Female	50,7	9,3	41,4
	Both sexes	**50,7**	**7,8**	**42,8**
LP	Male	65,0	8,3	56,7
	Female	62,9	13,9	49,0
	Both sexes	**63,1**	**11,3**	**51,8**
RSA	**Male**	**48,2**	**7,6**	**40,6**
	Female	**49,8**	**11,5**	**38,3**
	Both sexes	**49,0**	**9,6**	**39,4**

Table 2.9 above, shows the dependency ratios by province and sex during the census 2022. Limpopo had the highest dependency ratio (63,1) followed by Eastern Cape (60,2), while Gauteng and Western Cape had the lowest dependency ratios of 38,7 and 42,3 respectively. Among males, approximately 65 dependents (children 0–14 years and elderly aged 65 and older) were reliant on 100 working-age population in Limpopo. Additionally, 60 dependents were reliant on the 100 working-age population in the Eastern Cape, these were the highest dependency ratios compared to other provinces. Old-age dependency ratios were still higher in the Eastern Cape and Limpopo where females were more dependent than their male counterparts. It was evident that, across all the provinces elderly females were more likely to be dependent on the working-age population than males.

Map 2.1: Total population by district



Gauteng had a high population density, as shown in the metro region of Ekurhuleni, the city of Tshwane, and the city of Johannesburg. KwaZulu-Natal was highly populated in eThekwini, and the City of Cape Town in the Western Cape had a dense population. Eastern Cape was mostly populated in the Nelson Mandela Bay metro area. The Northern Cape demonstrated a more sparsely populated province.

Marriages

Marriage patterns in a country may directly, or indirectly, affect the economic and social well-being of men and women. The question on marital status is asked of all persons aged 12 years and older at the time of the census. It is an important indicator of the circumstances of individuals in relation to other demographic factors such as fertility and socio-economic variables. Marital status also provides an understanding of marital trends and family formation and dissolution.

Census 2022 included the following categories to determine marital status:

- Legally married (including customary, traditional, religious, etc.)
- Living together like husband and wife/partners
- Divorced
- Separated, but still legally married
- Widowed
- Never married

Table 2.10: Distribution of the population aged 12 and older by marital status by sex, 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022

Census years	Sex	Legally married	Living together like husband and wife/partners	Divorced	Separated	Widowed	Never married
1996	Male	35,1	4,7	1,9	-	1,5	56,8
	Female	35,3	4,4	3,2	-	7,3	49,8
	Both sexes	**35,2**	**4,5**	**2,6**	**-**	**4,6**	**53,0**
2001	Male	32,6	7,5	1,1	0,7	1,6	56,5
	Female	30,9	7,0	2,1	1,1	8,7	50,2
	Both sexes	**31,7**	**7,2**	**1,6**	**1,0**	**5,4**	**53,1**
2011	Male	30,6	9,6	1,0	0,7	1,5	56,6
	Female	29,5	9,0	1,9	1,0	7,4	51,2
	Both sexes	**30,0**	**9,3**	**1,5**	**0,8**	**4,6**	**53,8**
2022	Male	24,0	7,9	1,2	0,4	1,7	64,8
	Female	24,0	7,7	2,0	0,5	6,1	59,7
	Both sexes	**24,0**	**7,8**	**1,6**	**0,4**	**4,0**	**62,2**

- Census 1996 combined the option of divorce and separated into one category called “Divorced/separated”

Table 2.10 presents trends in the marital status of persons aged 12 and older by sex during the Census 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022. Majority of persons 12 years and older were never married, and there was an increase in the percentage of those who had never married between 1996 and 2022. Moreover, more males were never married compared to females throughout the reference period. Among the legally married category, a decline was observed during the reference period from 35,2% to 24,0% irrespective of sex. Furthermore, an equal share of legally married males and females was observed between 1996 and 2022 census data. Meanwhile, among those living together as husband and wife/partners, there was an increase between 1996 and 2011 from 4,5% to 9,3% and a decline in 2022 of 7,8%.

Table 2.11: Distribution of the population aged 12 and older by marital status, age group and sex, 2022

Sex	Marital status	Aged 12–17	Aged 18–34	Aged 35–59	Aged 60+	Total
Male	Legally married (including customary, traditional, religious, etc.)	0,8	7,7	39,1	62,3	**24,0**
	Living together like husband and wife/partners	0,2	6,9	12,4	5,7	**7,9**
	Divorced	0,0	0,2	2,2	3,5	**1,2**
	Separated, but still legally married	0,0	0,1	0,7	0,9	**0,4**
	Widowed	0,1	0,2	1,4	10,4	**1,7**
	Never married	98,8	84,9	44,3	17,1	**64,8**
	Total	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**
Female	Legally married (including customary, traditional, religious, etc.)	0,8	12,1	37,6	39,4	**24,0**
	Living together like husband and wife/partners	0,4	10,3	9,6	2,6	**7,7**
	Divorced	0,0	0,4	3,2	4,5	**2,0**
	Separated, but still legally married	0,0	0,2	0,8	0,7	**0,5**
	Widowed	0,1	0,3	4,9	29,5	**6,1**
	Never married	98,6	76,7	43,8	23,3	**59,7**
	Total	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**

Table 2.11 above, presents the distribution of the population aged 12 and older by marital status, age group and sex for the census year 2022. Close to a quarter of persons aged 12 years or older were legally married (24,0%) irrespective of sex, however, the majority were never married (64,8% males and 59,7% females). Furthermore, close to 8,0% of males and females were living together like husband and wife/partners, this was more popular among those aged 35–59 for males.

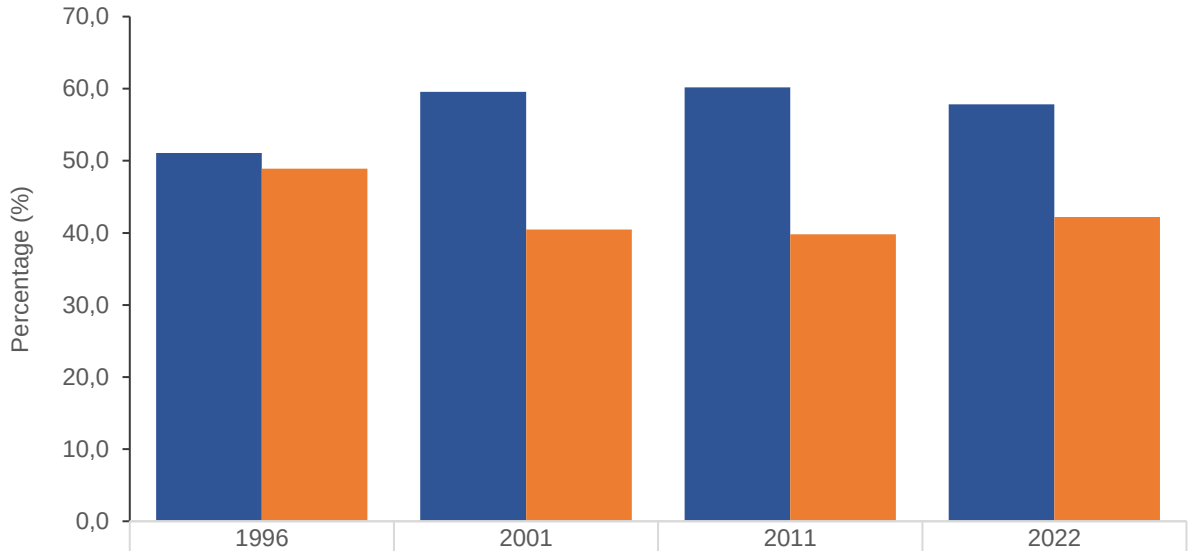
Six in ten males aged 60 years and older were more likely to be legally married (62,3%) compared to 39,4% of females. Looking at males aged 35-59 more than half (39,1% and 12,4%) were either legally married or living together like husband and wife/partner, among females there were 37,6% and 9,6% in the same category. Widowhood was more prevalent among women (6,1%) than among males (1,7%), which is indicative of the shorter life expectancy of men.

2.2.2 Demographics of international migrants in the South African population

Data on international migration is necessary for providing information on the existing diversity of a country's population. Migration is considered a contributor to economic growth and poverty reduction in the countries of origin, through remittance flows, as well as in the countries of destination, through the enhancement of economic growth. Migration plays a developmental role in determining the size and structure of labour markets and has an impact on people's livelihoods.

Gender influences motivation for migrating; who migrates; the social networks that migrants utilise to move; the integration experiences they go through; the employment opportunities available at their destination; and (for international migration) the relationships between the countries of origin and destination (International Organization for Migration, 2016).

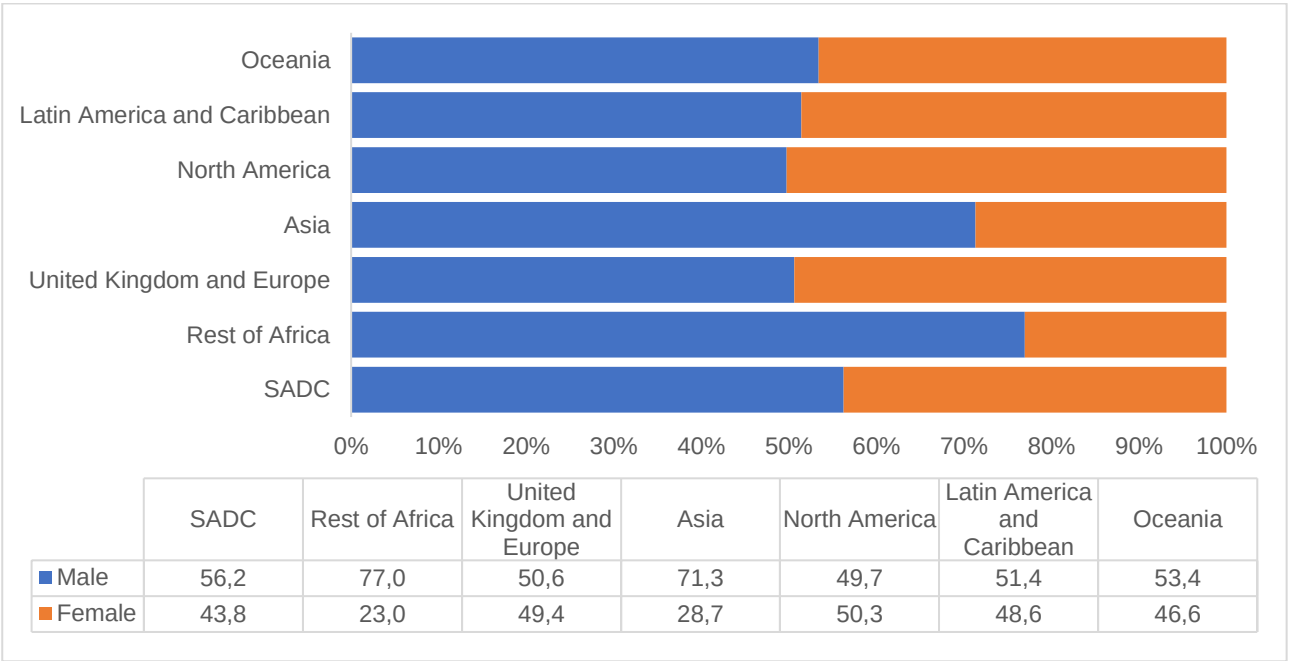
Figure 2.7: Distribution of the international migrants in South Africa by sex, 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022



	1996	2001	2011	2022
Male	51,1	59,5	60,2	57,8
Female	48,9	40,5	39,8	42,2

Figure 2.7 illustrates the distribution of the population born outside South Africa for Censuses from 1996 to 2022. The results over time show that there has been an increase in the share of the male population born outside South Africa from 1996 to 2011 and a slight drop in 2022. Female migrants were less than their male counterparts during the reference period.

Figure 2.8: Distribution of the international migrants in South Africa by sex, 2022



	SADC	Rest of Africa	United Kingdom and Europe	Asia	North America	Latin America and Caribbean	Oceania
Male	56,2	77,0	50,6	71,3	49,7	51,4	53,4
Female	43,8	23,0	49,4	28,7	50,3	48,6	46,6

Figure 2.8 above, represents the distribution of migrants in South Africa by sex and their region of birth as recorded in Census 2022. Most regions were sending more males than females to South Africa, the only country that sent more females than male migrants was North America (50,3% for females and 49,7% for males). Among North American, United Kingdom and European migrants, there was a small gender gap compared to other regions, while in Latin America and the Caribbean, there were 2,8 percentage points more male than female migrants. The highest proportions of male migrants were from the rest of Africa (77%) more males than females followed by Asia with a 42,6-percentage points difference between males and females.

Table 2.12: Distribution of migrants in South Africa by sex and age group, 2022

Region of birth	Sex	Aged 0–14	Aged 15–34	Aged 35–59	Aged 60+	Total
SADC	Male	5,3	47,5	42,8	4,3	**100,0**
	Female	6,8	53,1	35,2	4,9	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**6,0**	**50,0**	**39,5**	**4,6**	**100,0**
Rest of Africa	Male	1,6	48,4	46,7	3,3	**100,0**
	Female	5,1	45,5	41,7	7,7	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**2,4**	**47,7**	**45,6**	**4,3**	**100,0**
United Kingdom and Europe	Male	4,6	9,9	29,3	56,2	**100,0**
	Female	4,7	9,4	30,9	55,1	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**4,6**	**9,6**	**30,1**	**55,7**	**100,0**
Asia	Male	3,7	37,9	51,3	7,1	**100,0**
	Female	7,6	30,6	47,4	14,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**4,8**	**35,8**	**50,2**	**9,2**	**100,0**
Other (North and South America)	Male	8,5	23,5	37,7	30,2	**100,0**
	Female	8,1	20,5	36,0	35,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**8,3**	**22,1**	**36,9**	**32,7**	**100,0**
Total	**Male**	**4,9**	**45,4**	**42,9**	**6,8**	**100,0**
	Female	**6,6**	**49,4**	**35,5**	**8,5**	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**5,6**	**47,1**	**39,8**	**7,5**	**100,0**

Table 2.12 above, illustrates the proportions of migrants by region of birth in South Africa by sex and age group during 2022. It was evident that most migrants were between the ages of 15 to 34 (47,1%) followed by those aged 35–59 (39,8%) while the least were those aged 0–14 (5,6%) irrespective of sex. Half of SADC migrants were between the ages of 15 to 34, males accounted for 47,5% while females were 53,1% in the same age group. A similar pattern was observed throughout the remainder of the African regions, where those aged between 15–59 accounted for more than 93% (47,7% for those aged 15–34 and 45,6% for those aged 35–59).

The United Kingdom and European-born migrants were more likely to be 60 years and older (55,7%). Moreover, only 9,9% were males and 9,4% were females among those aged 15–34 years. Meanwhile, the Asian region was importing mostly persons aged between 35 and 59, males accounted for 51,3% and females accounted for 47,4% in the same age group. Most of the North and South American as well as Latin American and Caribbean migrants were aged 35-59 (36,9%) followed by those aged 60 or older (32,7%) irrespective of the sex.

Disability:

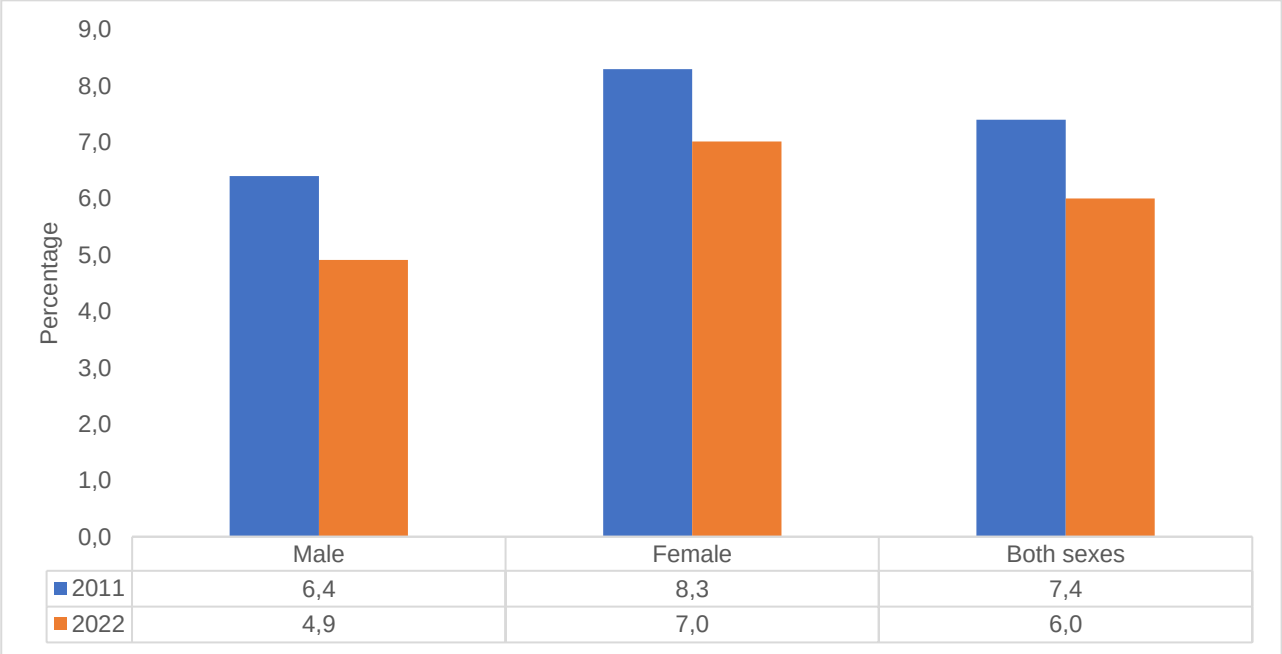
The disability prevalence estimates are presented based on a continuum of degree of difficulty in six domains of functioning (seeing, hearing, communicating, walking /climbing a flight of stairs, remembering/concentrating and self-care). These measures were adopted by the Washington Group on Disability (WG) established in 2001 to address the need for cross-nationally comparable population-based measures of disability (UN, 2017). The questions apply to only persons aged five years and older Prevalence of disability generated from the six functional domains (seeing, hearing, communicating, walking, remembering and self-care) for both Censuses 2011 and 2022.

The disability prevalence is computed as prescribed by the United Nations (UN) disability index computation guidelines. A person is regarded as having a disability if they reported any of the following degrees of difficulty in the six functions:

- A person who reported 'some difficulty' in at least two domains of functioning was categorised as having a disability;
- A person who reported 'a lot of difficulty in any of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having a disability;
- A person who reported 'unable to do' in any of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having a disability;
- A person who reported 'no difficulty' in any of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having no disability;
- A person who reported 'some difficulty' in one of the six domains of functioning was categorised as having no disability;

2.2.3 Disability prevalence amongst men and women in South Africa

Figure 2.9: Distribution of persons aged 5 or older by disability status in South Africa by sex, 2022



	Male	Female	Both sexes
2011	6,4	8,3	7,4
2022	4,9	7,0	6,0

Figure 2.9 above, shows that disability prevalence among persons aged five years and older was 6,0% in 2022, a slight decrease of 1,4% when compared with Census 2011. Prevalence for both males and females decreased by 1,5 percentage points from 6,4% in 2011 to 4,9 % in 2022 among males while for females there was a 1,3 percentage points decrease from 8,3% in 2011 to 7,0% in 2022. Moreover, the difference across both sexes during Census 2011 was 1,9 percentage points in favour of females while in 2022 there were 2,1 percentage points in favour of females. These results illustrate that females had a higher prevalence of disability for both censuses across the sex (female-to-male) while there was a slight decline amongst females between the two periods (2011–2022).

Figure 2.10: Distribution of persons aged 5 or older by disability status and 5-year age groups in South Africa by sex, 2022

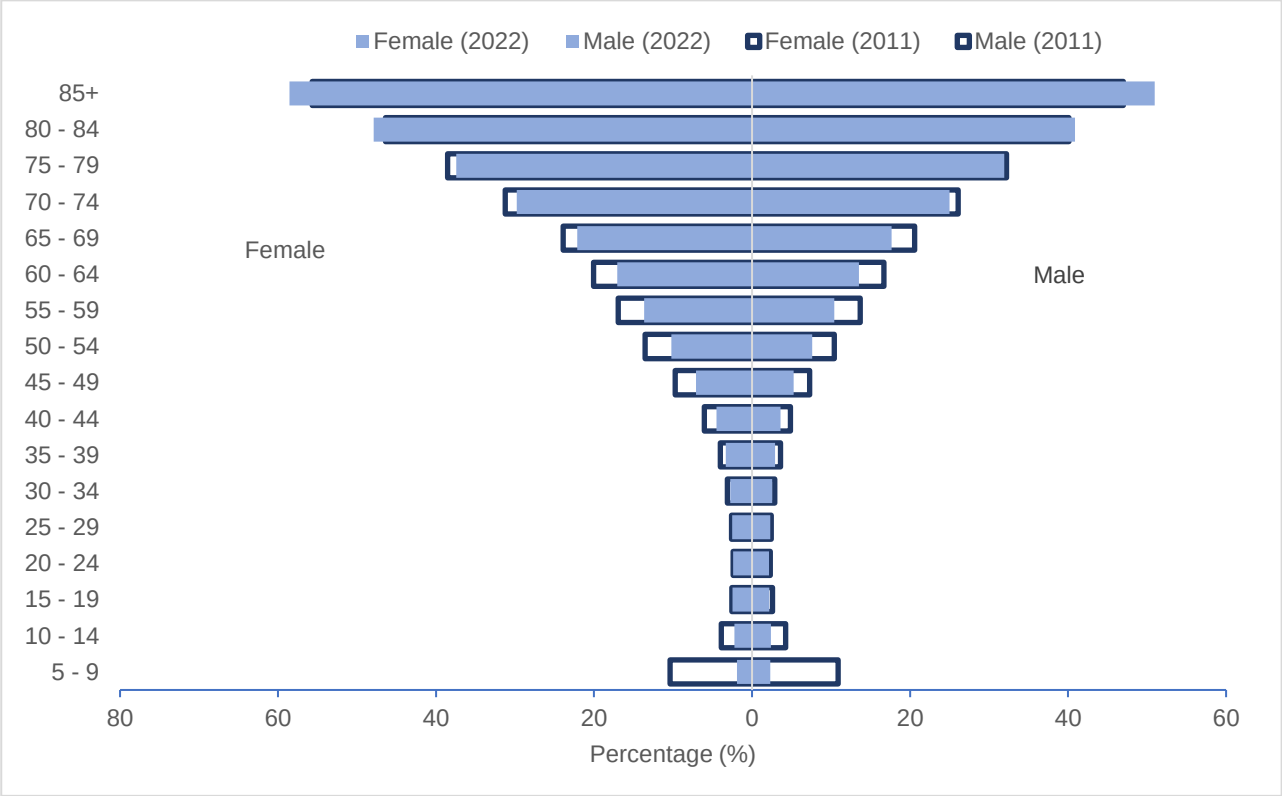
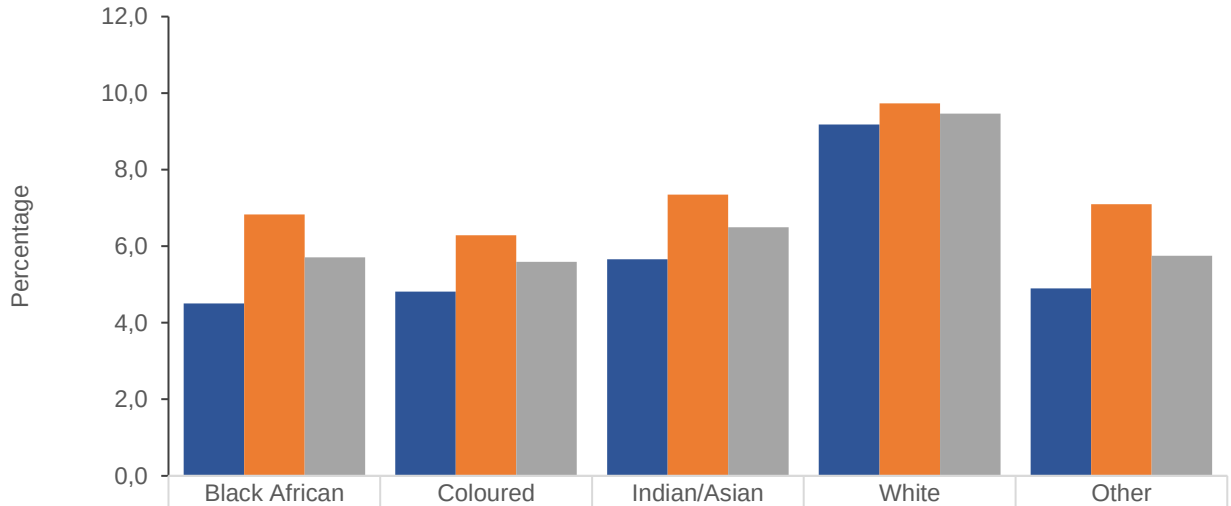


Figure 2.10 above, shows the comparison of the age-sex for persons with disability between 2011 and 2022. It was evident that there were more persons with a disability among those aged 5–9 and 10–14 in 2011 compared to 2022 for both males and females. Moreover, among those aged between 15–19 and 30–34, there were roughly equal proportions of those with a disability between 2011 and 2022 for both males and females. Furthermore, those aged between 35 and 79 years had a similar pattern as those between 5–14 where there was a higher proportion of those with a disability in 2011 compared to 2022. Those aged 80 years and older for both sexes had a higher proportion of disability during 2022 compared to 2011.

Figure 2.11: Distribution of persons aged 5 or older with disability by sex and population group, 2022



	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Other
Male	4,5	4,8	5,7	9,2	4,9
Female	6,8	6,3	7,3	9,7	7,1
Both sexes	5,7	5,6	6,5	9,5	5,8

Figure 2.11 above, presents the disability prevalence by sex and population group in the census 2022. Results show that disability prevalence was highest among the whites (9,5%) and Indian/Asian (6,5%) than among the black Africans (5,7%) and the coloured (5,6%). Throughout the population groups, females had the highest proportion. The gender gap in prevalence was highest among black Africans (2,3 percentage points) and lowest for the white population group (0,5 percentage points).

2.3 Summary

Between 2011 and 2022, the South African population (excluding population in institutions, transient and homeless) increased by 20,4% (61,4 million). This was comprised of 29,7 million males (48,4%) and 31,7 million females (51,6%). Females grew the most from 1996 to 2022, except for 2001 to 2011 when men grew the most. Black Africans dominated the population during the reference period, and they also had the highest growth rates for both males and females when compared to other demographic groups. Indian/Asian men were more than women; however, the rest of the population groups females were more than males. Furthermore, males were in the majority among those aged less than 25 years while females had higher proportions among those aged 25 years and older.

Among migrants in South Africa, African-born male migrants dominated the females, this was true for Asian, Latin American, and United Kingdom/European. However, the female North American-born region migrants dominated their male counterparts in the South African population. The African-born migrants were more likely to be aged 15–34, Asian migrants were more likely to be aged between 35 and 59, while the United Kingdom and European migrants were mostly aged 60 years or older. There was a decline in the disability prevalence for both men and women between 2011 and 2022, this was more prevalent amongst children aged 5–9 years and 40–74.

CHAPTER 3: EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

3.1 Introduction

Education, whether formal or informal, is essential for developing individuals, communities, and nations. Quality education empowers individuals to define who they are, take control of their lives, raise healthy families, and engage in socio-political and economic activities in their society, including making informed political and community governance decisions (NPC, 2011, p. 261). Unfortunately, owing to the dominant patriarchal system, females do not have equal access to education as males.

SDG Goal 4 advocates for inclusive and equitable quality education and promotes lifelong learning opportunities for everyone (UN, 2016). To achieve this, there is a need to ensure that all boys and girls receive free and equal primary and secondary education that produces relevant and useful skills. UNESCO (2020) reports progress in the reduction of differences in enrolment based on sex, where 180 million more girls started attending school between 1995 and 2018 globally. This accounts for 55,0% of the overall primary and secondary enrolment growth between 1995 and 2018 (UNESCO, 2020). However, despite these improvements, inadequate access to secondary and tertiary education is still a challenge for the youth in Africa due to limited household income (Musau, 2018). In addition to addressing the challenge of access to education, the AU further places emphasis on the need for African states to ensure that learning institutions, especially TVETs equip young people with relevant skills, including science and technology, for absorption into the labour market (AU, 2015, p. 139).

In South Africa, the right to an equal and high-quality education is protected and promoted by the Constitution as well as other legal frameworks, including the Children's Act No. 38 of 2005, the South African Schools Act No. 84 of 1996 and the NDP. The South African Schools Act seeks to ensure compulsory school attendance of children from the age of seven years until they reach 15 years or Grade nine. One of the most recent and important developments in the transformation of the South African educational system is the increased focus on ECD education, which is characterised by its incorporation into the basic education system. Emphasis is on improving the quality of educators, learning programmes, and ECD infrastructure, as well as on giving parents support in relation to children's holistic development, including children with disabilities.

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) in South Africa handles the General Education and Training (GET), Further Education and Training (FET) and ECD. The GET comprises all programmes leading to qualifications on the first level of the National Qualification Framework (NQF), which includes Grades 1 to 9 as well as adult literacy programmes, whereas the FET comprises of the learning and training programmes leading to qualifications from levels 2 to 4 of the NQF or levels above GET but below higher education (DBE, 2015). In broadening access to basic education, the DBE has set 27 goals in their Action Plan to 2024. Goal 12 of the Action Plan aims to improve the Grade promotion of learners through Grades 1 to 9 while goal 13 aims at improving the access of the youth to FET beyond Grade 9 (DBE, 2020).

The Post-School Education and Training (PSET) system in South Africa is made up of programmes offered by Higher Education Institutions (HIEs), Technical and Vocational education and Training (TVET) colleges, Community Education and Training (CET) colleges and private colleges under the leadership of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). The country’s goal with regard to improved access in line with the NDP is to enrol 1,6 million students in HEIs, 2,5 million in TVET colleges, and 1,0 million in CET colleges by 2030 (DHET, 2023).

This chapter will analyse educational outcomes among males and females in the South African population, by looking at educational attendance and enrolment rates. The chapter will also investigate school dropout rates and educational attainment.

3.2 Educational attendance

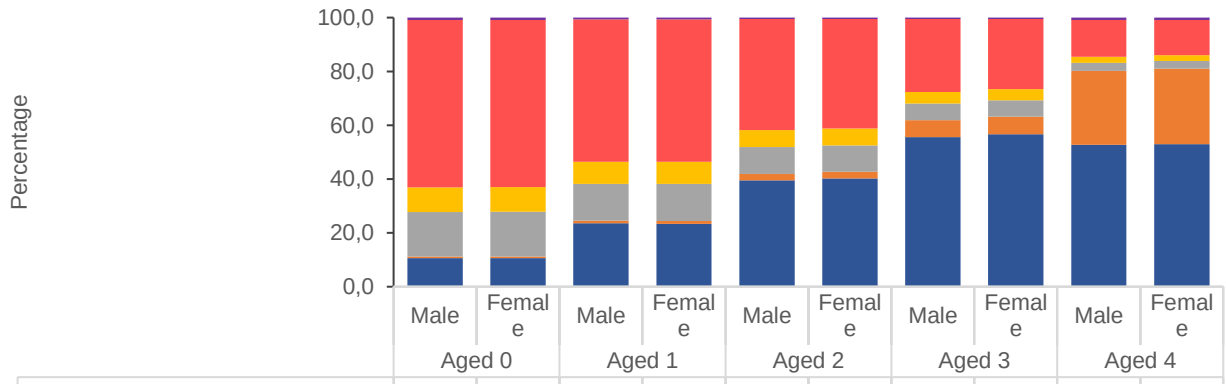
Table 3.1: Distribution of the population aged 0–4 attending an ECD institution by sex, 2022

Attendance at an ECD institution	Male	Female	Total
	Number		
Creche/educare centre	1 018 783	1 029 082	**2 047 865**
Pre-school/nursery school/Grade 00/Grade 000/Grade R	206 985	210 613	**417 598**
Day mother/Gogo/Childminder	284 990	285 032	**570 023**
Home/community playgroup	174 418	172 304	**346 722**
None	1 138 303	1 126 695	**2 264 998**
Other	20 078	19 876	**39 954**
Total	**2 843 557**	**2 843 602**	**5 687 160**
%			
Creche/Educare centre	35,8	36,2	**36,0**
Pre-school/nursery school/Grade 00/Grade 000/Grade R	7,3	7,4	**7,3**
Day mother/Gogo/Childminder	10,0	10,0	**10,0**
Home/community playgroup	6,1	6,1	**6,1**
None	40,0	39,6	**39,8**
Other	0,7	0,7	**0,7**
Total	**100,0**	**100,0**	**100,0**

Note: The totals exclude those who did not specify and did not know the ECD institution

Table 3.1 above, presents the proportion of the South African population aged 0–4 by ECD institution and sex for 2022. Of the 5,7 million children aged 0–4, about 2,3 million (39,8%) did not attend any early childhood centre, followed by almost 2 million (36,0%) that attended crèche/Educare centre while 6,1% attended home/community play groups. In general, there were no significant differences in ECD attendance between males and females in 2022.

Figure 3.1: ECD attendance status of those aged 0–4 by sex and age, 2022

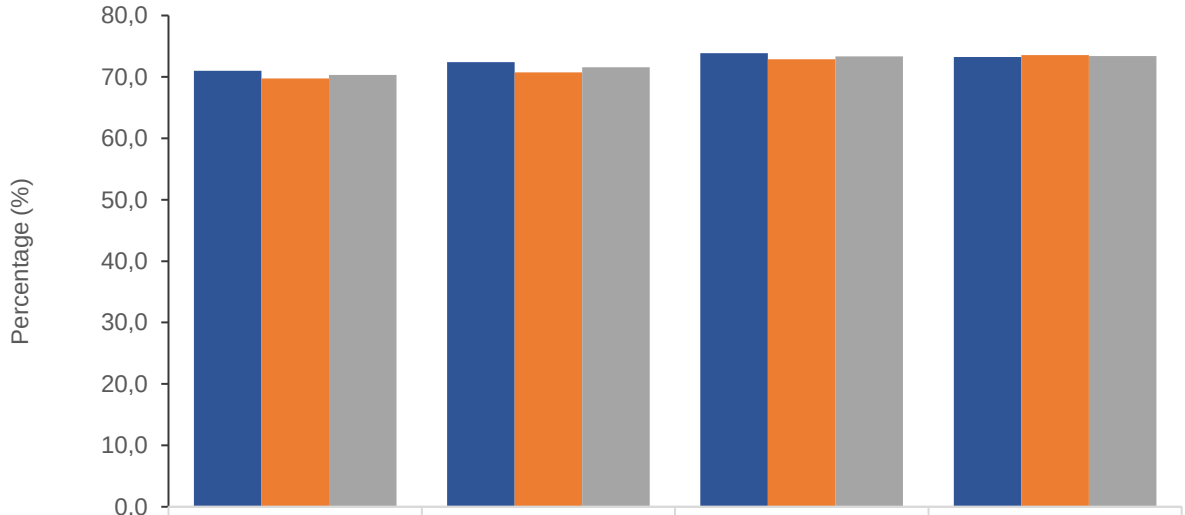


	Aged 0		Aged 1		Aged 2		Aged 3		Aged 4	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Other	0,9	0,9	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,6	0,5	0,9	0,9
NONE	62,2	62,1	52,9	53,0	41,2	40,6	27,1	26,0	13,7	13,1
Home/community playgroup	9,1	9,1	8,2	8,1	6,4	6,3	4,3	4,2	2,2	2,1
Day mother/Gogo/Childminder	16,6	16,6	13,6	13,9	9,9	9,8	6,2	6,1	2,9	2,9
Pre-school/Grade 00/000/Grade R	0,6	0,6	1,0	1,0	2,5	2,5	6,3	6,5	27,5	28,1
Creche/educare centre	10,6	10,7	23,5	23,4	39,5	40,2	55,6	56,7	52,7	53,0

Figure 3.1 shows the attendance status of those aged 0–4 years by single age and sex during 2022. It was evident that more than half of children aged 0 to 1 were more likely not to attend any ECD institution during the census of 2022. Furthermore, data revealed that children 3 to 4 years old were more likely to attend some form of ECD institution. Amongst the 0 to 4-year-olds, those aged 0 to 1 were more probable to stay with a day mother/Gogo/childminder during the 2022 census period.

Results further revealed that more than half of male (52,7%) and female (53,0%) children aged 4 attended creche/Educare centres, and 27,5% of males and 28,1% of females attended pre-schools. Based on the evidence presented in this figure, attendance amongst children aged 4 years had a slight difference between males and females of 0,9 percentage points, while amongst those aged 3, there was a 1,3 percentage point difference between males and females.

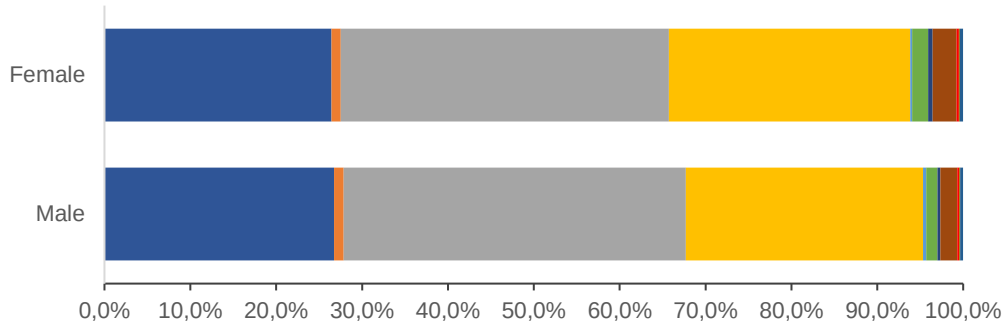
Figure 3.2: Distribution of the population aged 5-24 attending an educational institution by sex, 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022



	1996	2001	2011	2022
Male	71,0	72,4	73,9	73,3
Female	69,7	70,7	72,9	73,6
Both sexes	70,3	71,6	73,4	73,4

Figure 3.2 depicts individuals aged 5–24 years attending educational institutions by sex, 1996–2022. Overall, the percentage of individuals attending educational institutions increased from 70,3% in 1996 to 71,6% in 2001 but remained steady at 73,4% across both 2011 and 2022. During the past 26 years, the overall growth in attendance was 3,1 percentage points. There were no significant differences between the attendance of men and women in educational institutions during the review period, with men making up a higher percentage of attendees than women between 1996 to 2011. However, in 2022, there was a movement in favour of female attendance.

Figure 3.3: Distribution of the population aged 5-24 attending an educational institution by sex, 2022



	Male	Female
Not attending	26,7	26,4
Pre-school	1,1	1,1
Primary school	39,8	38,2
Secondary school	27,7	28,1
Special school	0,4	0,2
TVET	1,3	1,9
Other college	0,4	0,5
Higher educational institution	2,0	2,8
CET college	0,2	0,3
Home schooling	0,1	0,1
Other	0,4	0,4

The figure above, illustrates percentages of persons aged 5–24 by the type of educational institution and sex during 2022. Roughly two-thirds of those aged 5–24 attended primary/secondary school (male 67,5% and female 66,3%). About a quarter (male 26,7% and female 26,4%) of persons 5-24 years old were not attending any educational institution. Higher education institution attendance accounted for 2,8% of females and 2,0% of males. There were slight gender differences (1,6 percentage points) in primary school attendance in favour of males. In addition, attendance in higher educational institutions was slightly higher among females compared to males.

Table 3.2: Distribution of the population aged 5–24 attending an educational institution by province and sex, 2022

Province	Sex	Not attending	Pre-school	Primary school	Secondary school	Special school	TVET	Other college	Higher educational institution	CET	Home schooling	Other	Total
Western Cape	Male	357 073	17 171	387 686	229 758	6 256	12 783	4 491	32 616	1 951	2 759	4 903	1 057 447
	Female	347 901	16 729	377 868	254 776	3 425	18 330	6 516	42 416	2 368	2 599	5 038	1 077 968
	Both sexes	**704 974**	**33 900**	**765 554**	**484 534**	**9 681**	**31 114**	**11 008**	**75 033**	**4 318**	**5 358**	**9 941**	**2 135 414**
Eastern Cape	Male	297 227	12 481	563 211	380 164	3 695	11 141	2 372	16 367	2 648	877	3 885	1 294 070
	Female	277 532	11 404	510 563	381 556	2 374	19 805	3 744	23 710	2 323	803	4 489	1 238 303
	Both sexes	**574 760**	**23 885**	**1 073 775**	**761 720**	**6 069**	**30 947**	**6 116**	**40 077**	**4 971**	**1 680**	**8 374**	**2 532 372**
Northern Cape	Male	71 015	3 655	97 641	57 741	596	2 880	1 726	2 272	309	231	538	238 605
	Female	69 860	3 522	92 573	60 546	325	3 336	1 551	2 935	325	276	679	235 929
	Both sexes	**140 876**	**7 177**	**190 214**	**118 287**	**921**	**6 216**	**3 277**	**5 207**	**634**	**508**	**1 218**	**474 534**
Free State	Male	117 389	5 924	204 306	143 324	1 901	7 856	1 319	10 506	1 165	321	1 584	495 596
	Female	112 053	5 727	196 573	146 231	1 057	11 919	2 047	14 046	1 398	326	1 958	493 334
	Both sexes	**229 442**	**11 651**	**400 878**	**289 554**	**2 958**	**19 775**	**3 366**	**24 552**	**2 564**	**647**	**3 542**	**988 930**
KwaZulu-Natal	Male	522 124	18 802	819 946	613 378	6 479	20 204	4 782	32 902	5 492	1 249	5 474	2 050 833
	Female	537 394	18 825	782 971	611 620	4 138	35 726	7 823	51 392	6 033	1 564	6 251	2 063 736
	Both sexes	**1 059 518**	**37 627**	**1 602 917**	**1 224 998**	**10 617**	**55 930**	**12 604**	**84 295**	**11 524**	**2 814**	**11 724**	**4 114 569**
North West	Male	177 733	6 200	267 264	175 845	3 078	6 167	1 616	7 285	1 346	374	1 645	648 553
	Female	169 266	6 057	250 308	175 192	1 576	8 408	2 530	10 650	1 560	438	2 086	628 071
	Both sexes	**346 999**	**12 257**	**517 572**	**351 037**	**4 654**	**14 575**	**4 146**	**17 934**	**2 906**	**812**	**3 731**	**1 276 624**
Gauteng	Male	680 917	28 873	772 490	535 193	9 776	40 760	13 782	69 272	6 276	2 853	10 759	2 170 950
	Female	625 827	26 858	723 829	521 572	5 230	50 383	18 231	94 711	6 999	2 555	11 188	2 087 385
	Both sexes	**1 306 744**	**55 731**	**1 496 319**	**1 056 765**	**15 006**	**91 143**	**32 013**	**163 983**	**13 276**	**5 408**	**21 947**	**4 258 335**
Mpumalanga	Male	223 744	9 932	346 505	253 373	1 835	9 003	1 998	8 138	1 759	469	2 861	859 618
	Female	233 248	9 439	329 794	247 820	1 243	14 474	3 230	13 442	1 975	468	3 306	858 437
	Both sexes	**456 992**	**19 371**	**676 298**	**501 193**	**3 078**	**23 477**	**5 229**	**21 580**	**3 734**	**937**	**6 167**	**1 718 055**
Limpopo	Male	219 584	6 175	513 049	368 133	3 013	16 850	3 262	17 587	2 264	428	3 537	1 153 883
	Female	225 437	6 030	490 092	360 974	2 147	23 319	4 112	22 194	2 345	562	3 961	1 141 173
	Both sexes	**445 021**	**12 206**	**1 003 141**	**729 107**	**5 161**	**40 170**	**7 374**	**39 780**	**4 610**	**989**	**7 498**	**2 295 056**
RSA	**Male**	**2 666 806**	**109 213**	**3 972 098**	**2 756 909**	**36 630**	**127 646**	**35 349**	**196 945**	**23 211**	**9 562**	**35 186**	**9 969 554**
	Female	**2 598 518**	**104 591**	**3 754 571**	**2 760 287**	**21 516**	**185 700**	**49 784**	**275 496**	**25 326**	**9 591**	**38 956**	**9 824 337**
	Both sexes	**5 265 324**	**213 804**	**7 726 669**	**5 517 196**	**58 146**	**313 346**	**85 132**	**472 441**	**48 536**	**19 153**	**74 142**	**19 793 891**

Table 3.2 above, displays the distribution of persons aged 5–24 years by the type of educational institution attended province and sex. Generally, out of the 19,8 million of them, about 13,3 million were in primary/secondary/special schools in 2022. Furthermore, out of the 7,7 million primary pupils, approximately 4 million were males and 3,7 million were females, while of the 5,5 million in secondary schools, 2,8 million were females and 2,8 million were males. There were about 5,3 million persons aged between five and 24 years who were not attending any educational institution during the census year 2022.

Gauteng had the highest number of persons who were attending higher education institutions (163 983). In addition, KwaZulu-Natal followed with about 84 295 students in higher education institutions which reflected a 1,56 GPR in favour of females. It was evident that more females attended higher education institutions than males nationally and in all the provinces.

Figure 3.4: Gender parity ratio for persons aged 5-24 by attendance status, 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022

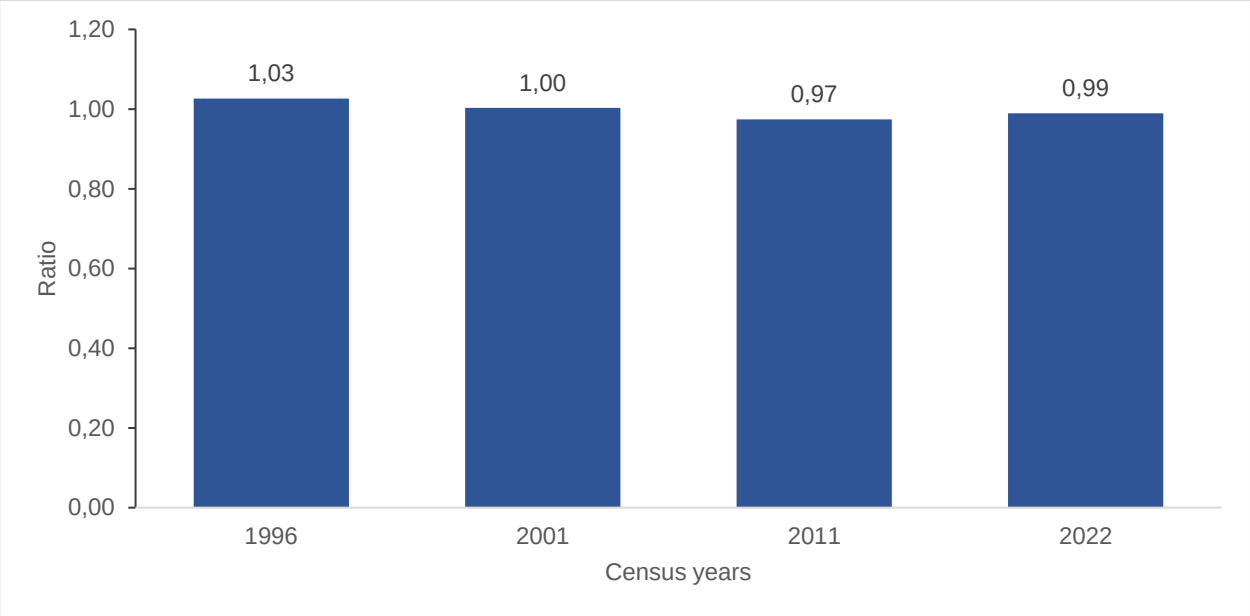


Figure 3.4 above, shows the gender parity ratio (GPR) for persons aged 5-24 by attendance status, during Census 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022. A gender parity ratio (GPR) is a measure of gender equality; i.e. a GPR of 1,0 represents parity (equality), a GPR below 1,0 shows a disparity or a gender gap in favour of males, whereas a GPR of greater than 1,0 shows disparities in favour of females. The GPR between 1996 and 2022 shows that there was parity in attendance at educational institutions with a GPR of 1,03 in 1996 and a GPR of 0,99 in 2022.

Figure 3.5: Gender parity ratio by attendance status, 2022

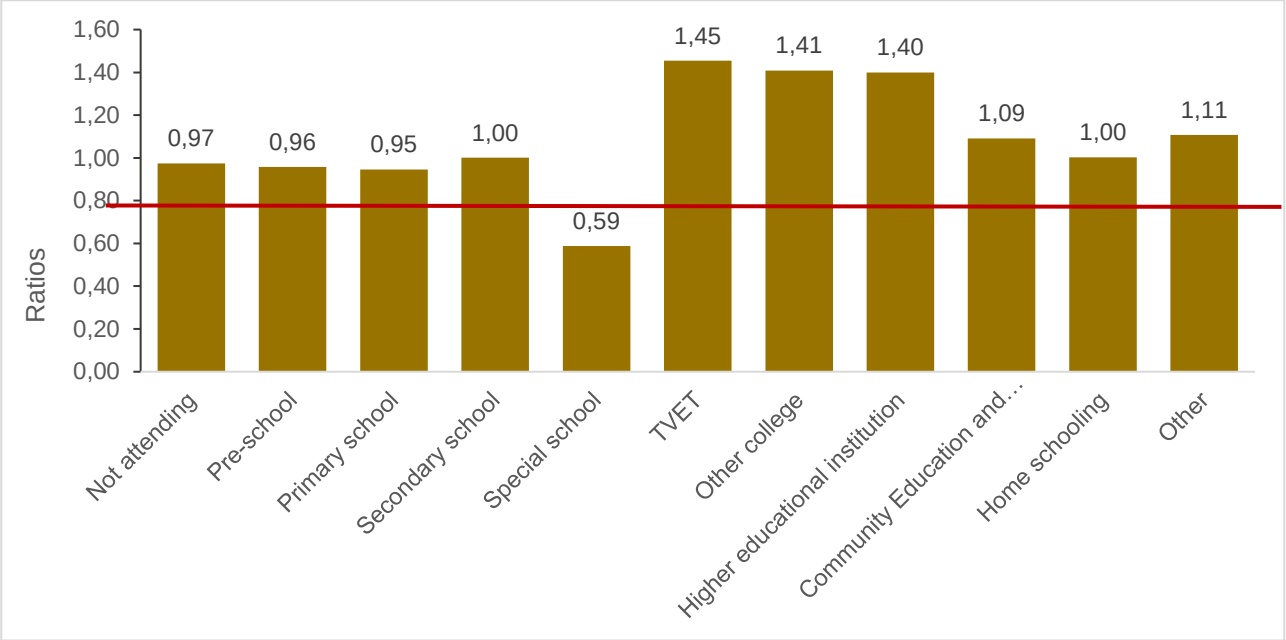


Figure 3.5 above, depicts the gender parity ratio by attendance status during Census 2022. A gender parity ratio (GPR) is a measure of gender equality; i.e. a GPR of 1,0 represents parity (equality), a GPR below 1,0 shows a disparity or a gender gap in favour of males, whereas a GPR of greater than 1,0 shows disparities in favour of females. The results show parity in attendance among secondary school and home-schooling pupils. Similarly, among those not attending there were no significant gender differences. There were disparities among pupils attending special schools (0,59), there we more males attending these schools than females. There was evidence of disparities in post-school institutions (TVETs, higher educational institutions and other colleges) in favour of females.

Figure 3.6: Population aged 5 to 24 years attending and not an educational institution by sex and age, 2022

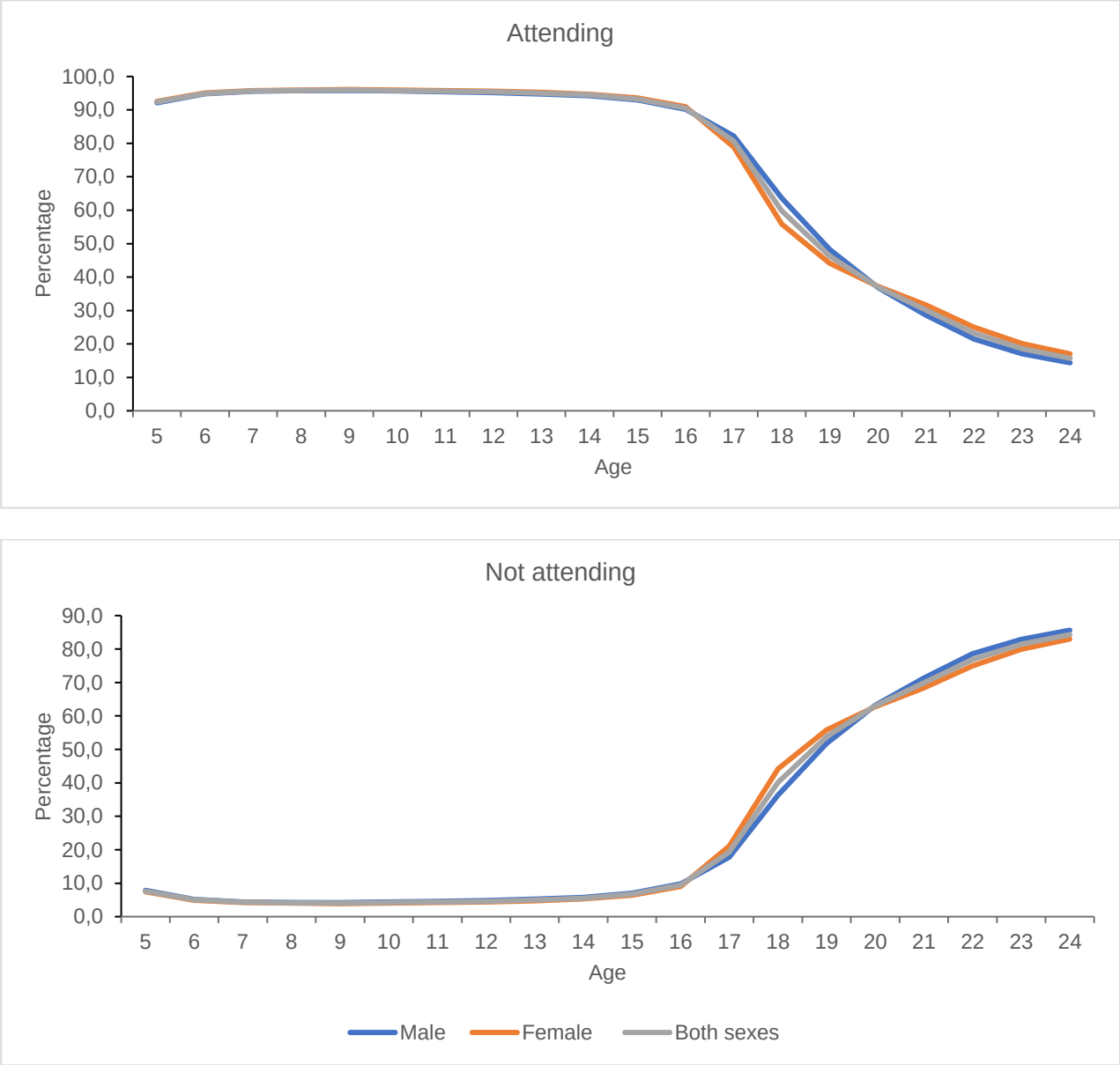
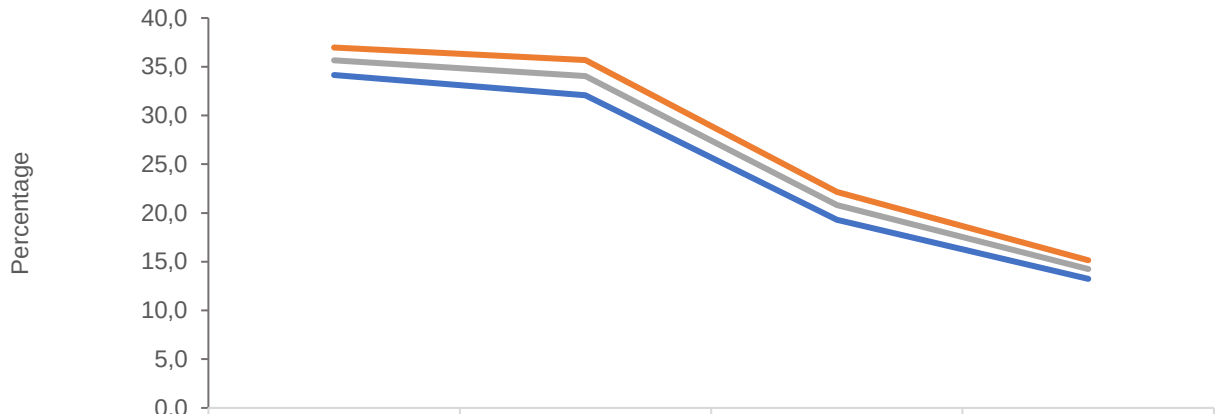


Figure 3.6 above, presents the attendance status amongst persons aged 5-24 by single age and sex, 2022. Results show that the peak attendance for both males and females was at the ages 6-16, these are school-going age which is also in the South African Schools Act of 1996. Furthermore, attendance rates were more than 90% for those between the age of 5-16, however, we started seeing a sharp decline from the age of 17 to 24 for both males and females during Census 2022. The decline in attendance was slightly higher for females between the ages of 17 to 19 compared to their male counterparts, but the females had higher attendance rates than males in their twenties (20–24 years).

As alluded to previously, South African education is compulsory for children aged 7-15 to attend schools. However, about 4,9% (235 072) of male and 4,6% (217 181) of female children between the ages of seven and 15 were not attending any educational institution. There were no significant gender differences for persons aged 5–17 in attendance, however, between the ages of 18-19 there were slightly more males attending while between the ages of 21–24, females had slightly higher attendance proportions.

3.3 Functional literacy

Figure 3.7: Trends in functional illiteracy for persons aged 20+ by sex, 1996–2022



	1996	2001	2011	2022
Male	34,2	32,1	19,3	13,2
Female	37,0	35,7	22,2	15,1
Both sexes	35,7	34,0	20,8	14,2

The figure above depicts the trends in functional illiteracy for persons aged 20 years and above by sex for the census period 1996–2022. Generally, functional illiteracy has declined over the reference period, in 1996 there were 35,7% illiterate persons aged 20 or more while in 2022 there were 14,2% which represents 21,5 percentage points decrease over 26 years. It was evident that females had slightly higher rates of illiteracy compared to their male counterparts during the census period 1996-2022. However, females (21,9 percentage points) reflected a higher decrease in illiteracy rates between 1996 and 2022 while males reflected 21 percentage points.

Furthermore, the biggest decline was observed between 2001 and 2011 (13,2 percentage points) irrespective of sex. Amongst females between 2001 and 2011 there were 13,5 percentage points while for their male counterparts, there were 12,8 percentage points.

Table 3.3: Distribution of persons aged 20+ by functional literacy, sex and metro status, 2022

	Male			Female		
	Functional illiterate	Functional literate	Total	Functional illiterate	Functional literate	Total
Metro status	Number					
Metro	636 740	7 285 742	**7 922 481**	688 094	7 600 463	**8 288 557**
Non-metro	1 710 576	8 094 721	**9 805 297**	2 318 899	9 242 754	**11 561 653**
Total	**2 347 316**	**15 380 463**	**17 727 779**	**3 006 992**	**16 843 217**	**19 850 210**
	Per cent					
Metro	8,0	92,0	**100,0**	8,3	91,7	**100,0**
Non-metro	17,4	82,6	**100,0**	20,1	79,9	**100,0**
Total	**13,2**	**86,8**	**100,0**	**15,1**	**84,9**	**100,0**

Table 3.3 above, shows the distribution of persons aged 20+ by functional literacy, sex and metro status. Of the 17,7 million males aged 20+, roughly 2,3 million (13,2%) were functionally illiterate while about 15,4 million were functionally literate. Moreover, among the 19,9 million females, 3 million (15,1%) were functionally illiterate and the remaining 16,8 million were functionally literate. Among males, illiteracy rates were higher in the non-metro (17,4%) compared to the metro areas (8,0%). A similar pattern was observed among the females with 20,1% in non-metro and 8,3% in metro areas.

Table 3.4: Functional literacy for persons aged 20+ by sex and population group, 2022

Population group	Male			Female			Both sexes		
	Functional literate	Functional illiterate	Total	Functional literate	Functional illiterate	Total	Functional literate	Functional illiterate	Total
Black African	11 873 322	2 090 706	**13 964 029**	13 001 687	2 703 108	**15 704 795**	24 875 009	4 793 814	**29 668 824**
Coloured	1 258 582	164 104	**1 422 686**	1 484 848	202 978	**1 687 826**	2 743 430	367 082	**3 110 512**
Indian/Asian	579 091	43 909	**623 000**	562 118	58 547	**620 665**	1 141 209	102 456	**1 243 665**
White	1 582 143	33 856	**1 615 999**	1 737 420	36 626	**1 774 047**	3 319 563	70 482	**3 390 046**
Other	87 324	14 741	**102 065**	57 144	5 733	**62 876**	144 468	20 474	**164 941**
Total	**15 380 463**	**2 347 316**	**17 727 779**	**16 843 217**	**3 006 992**	**19 850 210**	**32 223 680**	**5 354 308**	**37 577 989**
	Functional literacy rates (%)								
Black African	85,0	15,0	**100,0**	82,8	17,2	**100,0**	83,8	16,2	**100,0**
Coloured	88,5	11,5	**100,0**	88,0	12,0	**100,0**	88,2	11,8	**100,0**
Indian/Asian	93,0	7,0	**100,0**	90,6	9,4	**100,0**	91,8	8,2	**100,0**
White	97,9	2,1	**100,0**	97,9	2,1	**100,0**	97,9	2,1	**100,0**
Other	85,6	14,4	**100,0**	90,9	9,1	**100,0**	87,6	12,4	**100,0**
Total	**86,8**	**13,2**	**100,0**	**84,9**	**15,1**	**100,0**	**85,8**	**14,2**	**100,0**

Table 3.4 above, demonstrates the functional literacy for persons aged 20+ by sex and population group. The data shows that black Africans and coloureds have the highest illiteracy rates than other population groups (16,2% and 11,8%) respectively. For both male and female whites had the least illiteracy rates compared to other population groups. In addition, females were more likely to have higher rates of illiteracy compared to males for most population groups except for the whites as they share the same illiteracy rates (2,1%). Therefore, there are variations in the literacy rates by population group and sex observed in the Census 2022 data.

Table 3.5: Functional literacy for persons aged 20 or more by sex and age group, 2022

	Male			Female			Both sexes		
Age group	Functional literate	Functional illiterate	Total	Functional literate	Functional illiterate	Total	Functional literate	Functional illiterate	Total
20–29	4 828 375	307 338	**5 135 713**	5 017 549	227 374	**5 244 923**	9 845 924	534 712	**10 380 636**
30–39	4 524 894	412 637	**4 937 531**	4 782 684	330 794	**5 113 478**	9 307 578	743 431	**10 051 009**
40–49	2 935 811	399 167	**3 334 978**	3 158 964	389 296	**3 548 260**	6 094 775	788 463	**6 883 238**
50–59	1 668 465	460 370	**2 128 835**	2 012 058	637 549	**2 649 607**	3 680 523	1 097 919	**4 778 442**
60+	1 422 917	767 804	**2 190 721**	1 871 961	1 421 979	**3 293 940**	3 294 878	2 189 783	**5 484 661**
Total	**15 380 463**	**2 347 316**	**17 727 779**	**16 843 217**	**3 006 992**	**19 850 209**	**32 223 680**	**5 354 308**	**37 577 988**
	Functional literacy rates								
20–29	94,0	6,0	**100,0**	95,7	4,3	**100,0**	94,8	5,2	**100,0**
30–39	91,6	8,4	**100,0**	93,5	6,5	**100,0**	92,6	7,4	**100,0**
40–49	88,0	12,0	**100,0**	89,0	11,0	**100,0**	88,5	11,5	**100,0**
50–59	78,4	21,6	**100,0**	75,9	24,1	**100,0**	77,0	23,0	**100,0**
60+	65,0	35,0	**100,0**	56,8	43,2	**100,0**	60,1	39,9	**100,0**
Total	**86,8**	**13,2**	**100,0**	**84,9**	**15,1**	**100,0**	**85,8**	**14,2**	**100,0**

Table 3.5 above, further shows the functional literacy rates for persons aged 20 years or older by age group. Analysis depicts that illiteracy rates were higher amongst the older age groups compared to the younger age group irrespective of sex. Approximately four out of ten (39,9%) persons aged 60 years or older were functionally illiterate compared to 5,2% of those aged 20–29 years. A similar pattern was observed for both males and females, younger males had lower illiteracy rates while older age groups had higher illiteracy rates, and the same was true among females. Generally, literacy rates were above high amongst persons aged 20 years and older and even higher for those between 20 and 39 years (94,8% for 20–29 and 92,6% for those 30–39).

Figure 3.8: Illiteracy rates for persons 20 or older by disability status and sex, 2022

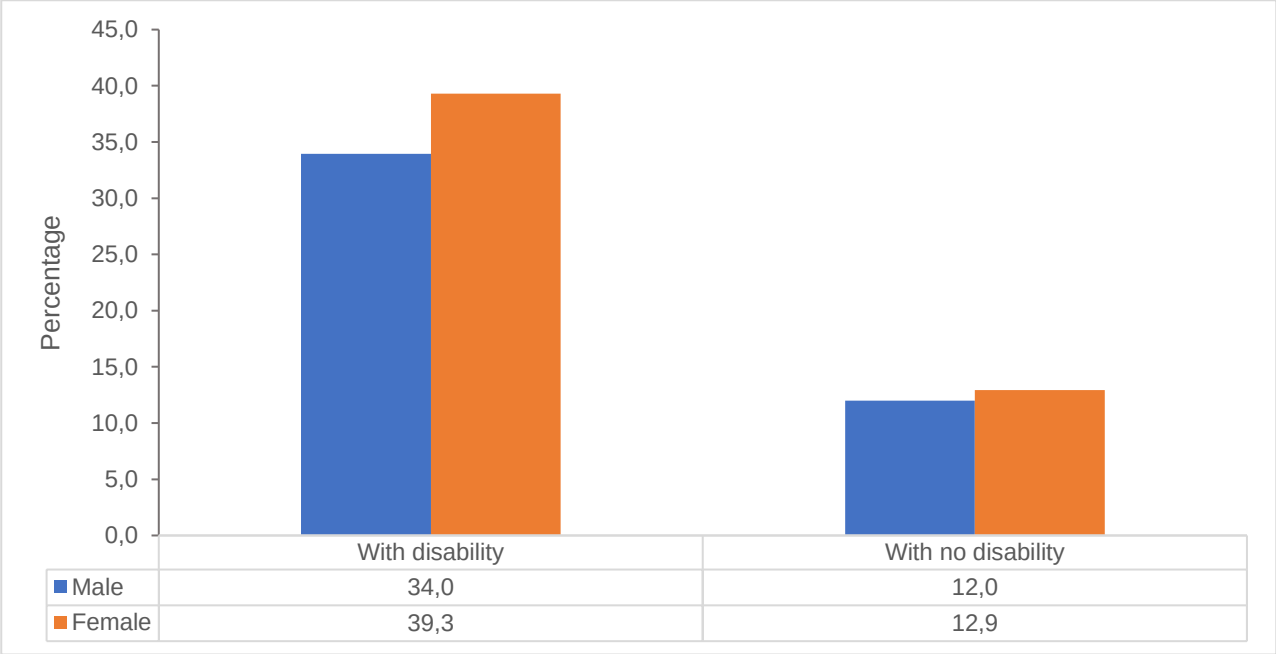


Figure 3.8 above, illustrates the illiteracy rates for persons 20 years or older by disability status and sex. Persons with disability recorded the highest illiteracy rates compared to their counterparts irrespective of sex. Among those with a disability, females (39,3%) had a slightly higher percentage of illiteracy rate compared to males (34,0%) this represented a 5,3 percentage points difference. Moreover, for those with no disability females (12,9%) still recorded a slightly higher percentage than males (12,0%) reflecting a 0,9 percentage point difference.

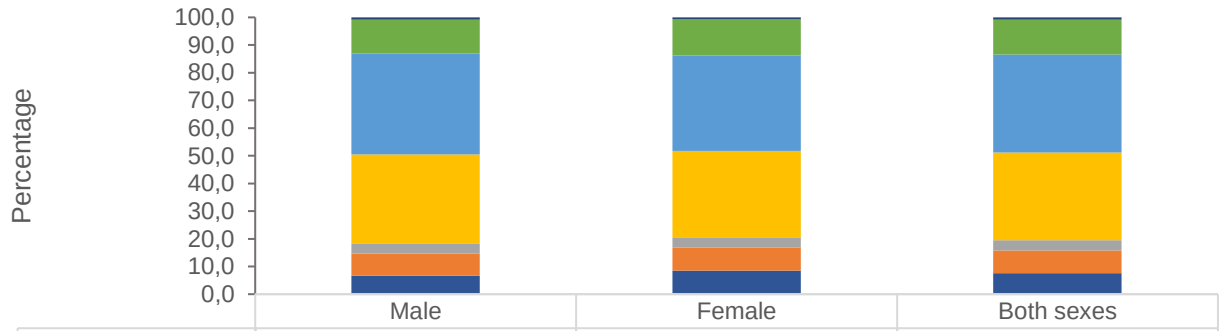
3.4 Educational attainment

Table 3.6: Educational attainment among persons aged 25 and older by sex, 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022

Census years	Sex	No schooling	Some primary	Primary	Some secondary	Matric/NTC III/N3	Post-secondary	Other qualifications
1996	Male	19,9	17,3	7,3	31,9	14,8	7,7	1,1
	Female	24,2	17,5	7,9	30,7	13,1	6,0	0,6
	Both sexes	**22,3**	**17,4**	**7,6**	**31,3**	**13,9**	**6,8**	**0,8**
2001	Male	17,5	17,9	6,6	28,9	19,6	9,5	-
	Female	22,6	17,2	6,7	28,2	16,9	8,4	-
	Both sexes	**20,3**	**17,5**	**6,7**	**28,5**	**18,1**	**8,9**	**-**
2011	Male	8,3	13,6	4,8	32,6	27,6	12,6	0,4
	Female	11,4	14,0	5,0	31,8	25,1	12,3	0,3
	Both sexes	**9,9**	**13,8**	**4,9**	**32,2**	**26,3**	**12,4**	**0,4**
2022	Male	6,6	8,0	3,7	32,1	36,4	12,3	0,8
	Female	8,5	8,4	3,7	31,2	34,4	13,1	0,7
	Both sexes	**7,6**	**8,2**	**3,7**	**31,6**	**35,4**	**12,7**	**0,8**

Table 3.6 presents the educational attainments among persons aged 25 years and older by sex during 1996-2022. The results show that persons with no schooling declined during the reference period from 22,3% to 7,6%. Moreover, females were more likely to have no schooling than males throughout the census years. There was a shift in the most held qualification for persons aged 25 years and older between 1996 and 2022, during 1996 majority of people had some secondary qualification as their highest level of education while in 2022 matric/NTCIII/N3 was the most acquired qualification with males (36,4%) having the higher percentage than females (34,4%). An increase in persons with a post-secondary qualification was observed during the reference period from 6,8% in 2011 to 12,7% in 2022. Furthermore, males had slightly higher proportions of those with a post-secondary qualification between 1996-2011, however, in 2022 females (13,1%) had higher proportions with a post-secondary qualification than males (12,3%).

Figure 3.9: Educational attainment among persons aged 25 and older by sex, 2022



	Male	Female	Both sexes
Other qualifications	0,8	0,7	0,8
Post-secondary	12,3	13,1	12,7
Matric/NTC III/N3	36,4	34,4	35,4
Some secondary	32,1	31,2	31,6
Primary	3,7	3,7	3,7
Some primary	8,0	8,4	8,2
No schooling	6,6	8,5	7,6

According to figure 3.9 above, more than a third of persons aged 25 and older attained matric/NTCIII/N3 (35,4%) followed by those with some secondary qualification (31,6%) irrespective of their sex. Both males and females shared a similar pattern as an overall one. However, it was notable that females had a slightly higher percentage of those aged 25 and older with a post-secondary (13,1%) attainment while their male counterparts had 12,3% which reflects 0,8 percentage points. Contrary to that, females still had more proportions of those with no schooling (8,5%) than the 6,6% of males.

Table 3.7: Distribution of men and women aged 25 years and older by disability status and the highest level of education attained, 2022

Highest level of education	Sex	Without disability	With disability	Total
No schooling	Male	83,6	16,4	**100,0**
	Female	76,9	23,1	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**79,6**	**20,4**	**100,0**
Primary	Male	86,9	13,1	**100,0**
	Female	79,7	20,3	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**83,0**	**17,0**	**100,0**
Some secondary	Male	94,3	5,7	**100,0**
	Female	91,4	8,6	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**92,8**	**7,2**	**100,0**
Grade 12/Matric/NTC III/N3	Male	96,3	3,7	**100,0**
	Female	95,3	4,7	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**95,8**	**4,2**	**100,0**
Post-secondary	Male	94,6	5,4	**100,0**
	Female	94,3	5,7	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**94,4**	**5,6**	**100,0**
Other qualifications	Male	90,0	10,0	**100,0**
	Female	89,5	10,5	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**89,7**	**10,3**	**100,0**
Total	**Male**	**93,5**	**6,5**	**100,0**
	Female	**90,4**	**9,6**	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**91,9**	**8,1**	**100,0**

Table 3.7 above, presents the distribution of persons aged 25 years and older by disability status, highest level of education and sex. Roughly 8,1% of persons aged 25 years and older had some form of a functional disability and this was more prevalent among females (9,6%) than males (6,5%). Among those with no schooling, one in every five (20,4%) persons aged 25 years and older had a disability and this was more prominent among females than their male counterparts. The census data further showed that more than 90% of those with some secondary qualifications had no disability as compared to 79,6% of those with no schooling irrespective of their sex. A similar pattern was observed for those with Grade 12 and post-secondary qualifications.

3.5 Summary

In light of achieving the SDG 4 and 5 goals, South Africa has maintained an equal opportunity for both males and females in the age group 5–24 years where at least two-thirds of this age group have been attending primary/secondary school. Between 1996 and 2022 attendance of individuals aged 5-24 years in educational institutions increased from 70,3% in 1996 to 73,4% in 2022.

In 2022, males aged 18–19 years had slightly higher proportions of attendance than females, while among those aged 21–24 females had slightly higher attendance proportions compared to males. Furthermore, females had marginally higher proportions of attendance in higher educational institutions compared to their male counterparts.

Female functional illiteracy rates were marginally higher than male illiteracy rates between 1996 and 2022. Furthermore, it was evident that geographical location negatively influences the functional literacy rate for both males and females specifically those residing in the non-metro areas. Black Africans experience the highest levels of illiteracy rates compared to other population groups whilst whites had the least number of illiteracy rates for both males and females. The illiteracy rates were higher among persons with disability compared to those with no disability, moreover, this was more prevalent among females than males. However, there has been an improvement in the functional illiteracy rates from 1996 to 2022.

A review of educational attainment among persons aged 25 years and older indicated that individuals with no schooling decreased between 1996 and 2022 from 22,3% to 7,6% respectively. Females were more likely to have no schooling than males. In addition, an increase in persons with a post-secondary qualification was observed during the reference period from 6,8% in 2011 to 12,7% in 2022. Males had slightly higher proportions of those with a post-secondary qualification between 1996-2011, however, in 2022 females (13,1%) had higher proportions with a post-secondary qualification than males (12,3%). In 2022, At least a third of persons aged 25+ attained a matric/NTCIII/N3 qualification, this was in favour of males. Females had a marginally higher percentage of persons with a post-secondary qualification compared to their male counterparts.

CHAPTER 4: HOUSEHOLD PROFILE

4.1 Introduction

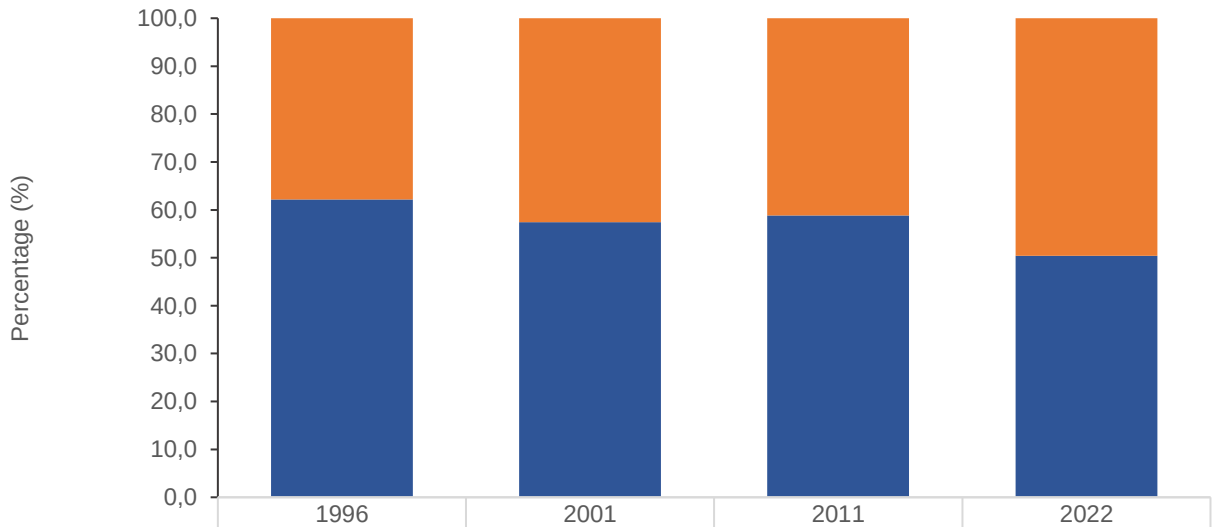
Economic and social policies aimed at poverty alleviation in developing countries, including South Africa, are guided by both the individual and household level analysis of the welfare from household surveys and censuses. Looking into welfare at the household level, it is found that in most developing countries "female-headed households, migrant families, families living in rural areas and urban slums, households affected by HIV and AIDS, children and youth, older persons, and people living with disabilities" are among the most vulnerable to poverty due to systematic discrimination in income and access to services (Komane, 2012, p.1).

This chapter will explore household living conditions differentiated by the sex of the head of the household. This is done to compare the possible differences in living conditions between male and female-headed households that will help guide efforts in assessing progress made thus far. The focus of the chapter is to start by providing a profile of South African households by measures of household composition and size. Welfare measures that will be presented will include household access to basic services, ownership of household goods and household participation in agricultural activities.

4.2 Household composition and living conditions

This subsection will describe South African households in terms of their composition and socio-economic status. This will be done to provide context for the subsequent subsections that will explore ownership of household goods, access to basic services and participation in agricultural activities. The aim is to differentiate between the composition and living conditions of male and female-headed households, this is because the physical housing and household composition play an important role in the lives of individuals and drive health, social and economic outcomes.

Figure 4.1: Distribution of households by headship, census 1996-2022



	1996	2001	2011	2022
Female-headed	37,8	42,6	41,2	49,6
Male-headed	62,2	57,4	58,8	50,4

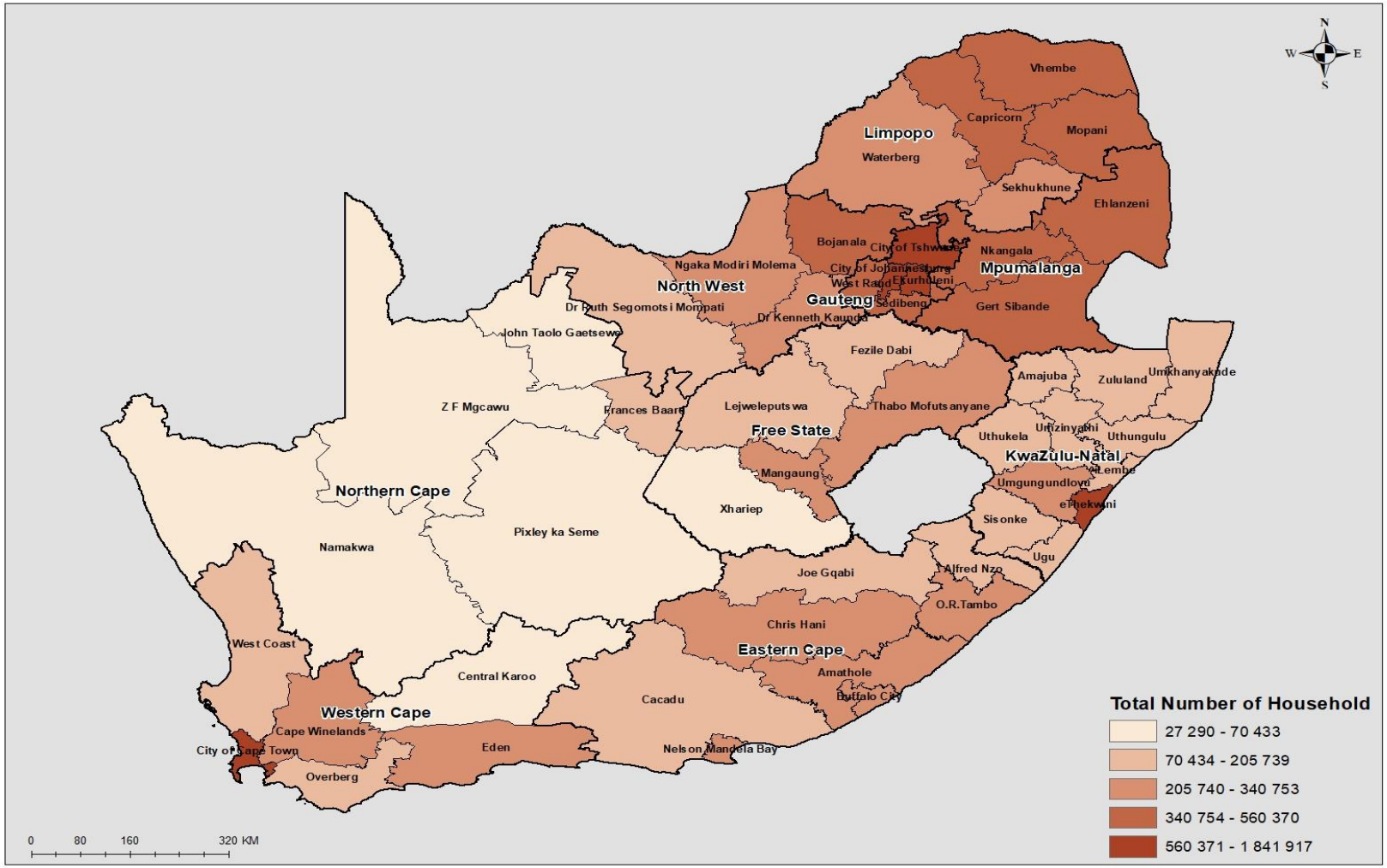
Figure 4.1 illustrates the distribution of households by headship between 1996 and 2022. The proportion of female-headed households increased from 37,8% in 1996 to 42,6% in 2001, however, there was a decline (41,2%) in 2011. There was a notable shift in the share of headship within the households which reflected an increase in the female-headed households while the male-headed households decreased towards equality in 2022.

Table 4.1: Distribution of households by provinces and sex of the household head, 2011 and 2022

	2011		2022	
Provinces	**Male**	**Female**	**Male**	**Female**
Western Cape	63,7	36,3	51,8	48,2
Eastern Cape	50,4	49,6	48,1	51,9
Northern Cape	61,2	38,8	50,9	49,1
Free State	58,4	41,6	49,1	50,9
KwaZulu-Natal	53,4	46,6	46,9	53,1
North West	63,5	36,5	53,7	46,3
Gauteng	65,7	34,3	52,1	47,9
Mpumalanga	59,9	40,1	53,1	46,9
Limpopo	49,6	50,4	48,4	51,6
RSA	**58,8**	**41,2**	**50,4**	**49,6**

Table 4.1 above, illustrates the percentage distribution of households by province and sex of the household head, 2011 and 2022. The findings indicate that in 2011 there were slightly more male-headed households nationally and in most provinces, except for Limpopo which had parity in headship. Furthermore, in 2022 there was headship shifted toward parity between male and female-headed households. KwaZulu-Natal recorded the highest percentage share of female-headed households (53,1%), followed by Eastern Cape (51,9%) and Limpopo (51,6). North West recorded the highest share of male-headed households (53,7%) followed by Mpumalanga (53,1%) and Gauteng province (52,1).

Map 4.1: Total household population by district, 2022



Gauteng had the highest number of households, as indicated by the metro regions of Ekurhuleni, City of Tshwane, and City of Johannesburg. Kwa-Zulu Natal had a large number of households in eThekwini, and City of Cape Town in the Western Cape also depicted a large number of households. The Northern Cape illustrated a sparser number of households.

Table 4.2: Distribution of household heads by sex, age groups and province, 2022

Province	Head sex	Age 12–17	Age 18–34	Age 35–59	Age 60+
Western Cape	Male	0,2	19,1	61,0	19,7
	Female	0,3	17,8	62,0	19,9
	Both sexes	**0,2**	**18,5**	**61,5**	**19,8**
Eastern Cape	Male	0,6	18,5	59,3	21,6
	Female	0,5	16,0	52,7	30,8
	Both sexes	**0,6**	**17,2**	**55,8**	**26,4**
Northern Cape	Male	0,3	25,5	54,0	20,2
	Female	0,3	18,3	55,3	26,1
	Both sexes	**0,3**	**22,0**	**54,6**	**23,1**
Free State	Male	0,4	26,6	55,0	18,0
	Female	0,3	18,5	55,1	26,1
	Both sexes	**0,3**	**22,5**	**55,1**	**22,1**
KwaZulu-Natal	Male	0,5	23,8	57,6	18,1
	Female	0,4	21,0	53,7	24,9
	Both sexes	**0,4**	**22,3**	**55,6**	**21,7**
North West	Male	0,3	19,9	62,6	17,2
	Female	0,4	18,6	55,4	25,6
	Both sexes	**0,3**	**19,3**	**59,3**	**21,1**
Gauteng	Male	0,3	24,7	62,4	12,7
	Female	0,3	22,9	61,3	15,5
	Both sexes	**0,3**	**23,8**	**61,9**	**14,0**
Mpumalanga	Male	0,5	24,0	60,5	15,0
	Female	0,5	22,2	54,5	22,7
	Both sexes	**0,5**	**23,2**	**57,7**	**18,6**
Limpopo	Male	0,7	26,7	53,0	19,6
	Female	0,6	19,8	52,7	26,9
	Both sexes	**0,6**	**23,1**	**52,8**	**23,4**
RSA	**Male**	**0,4**	**23,1**	**59,6**	**16,9**
	Female	**0,4**	**20,3**	**57,0**	**22,4**
	Both sexes	**0,4**	**21,7**	**58,3**	**19,6**

The table above demonstrates the distribution of households by province, sex and age groups. The majority of households were headed by those aged 35 to 59 years (58,3%), followed by households headed by those aged 18–34 (21,7%), and those aged 60+ (19,6%). The households headed by persons aged 12–17 were the least prevalent (0,4%) with Limpopo and Eastern Cape having the lowest share. Among the households headed by persons aged 35–59 (59,6%) were headed by males while (57,0%) were headed by females. Households that were headed by older persons were more prevalent in the Eastern Cape (26,4) followed by Limpopo (23,4%). Among the older persons households, female-headed households had higher proportions in all the provinces.

Figure 4.2: Distribution of household heads by household composition and sex, 2011 and 2022

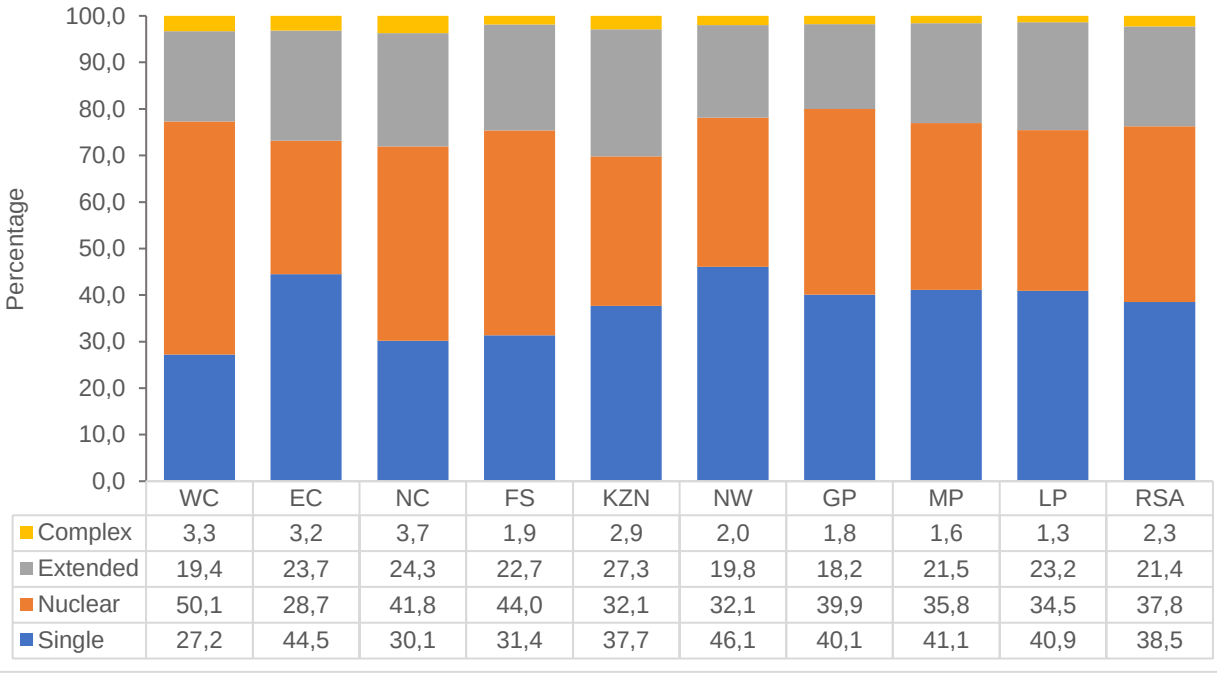
	2011		2022	
	Male-headed	Female-headed	Male-headed	Female-headed
Complex	9,1	15,5	2,3	2,2
Extended	18,3	31,8	21,4	43,2
Nuclear	42,9	30,1	37,8	37,1
Single	29,6	22,6	38,5	17,6

Figure 4.2 above, demonstrates South Africa's household composition by sex of the household head. It was notable that there was a shift in the composition of male-headed households between 2011 and 2022, there were more males in the single member households in 2022 (38,5%) compared to 2011 (29,6%).

Furthermore, a significant decline in the complex households was observed for both male and female-headed households. There was no significant difference in the proportions of nuclear households irrespective of the sex of the household head. The analysis further showed that only 2,3% of male and 2,2% of female-headed households lived in complex households (these contained at least one non-related person).

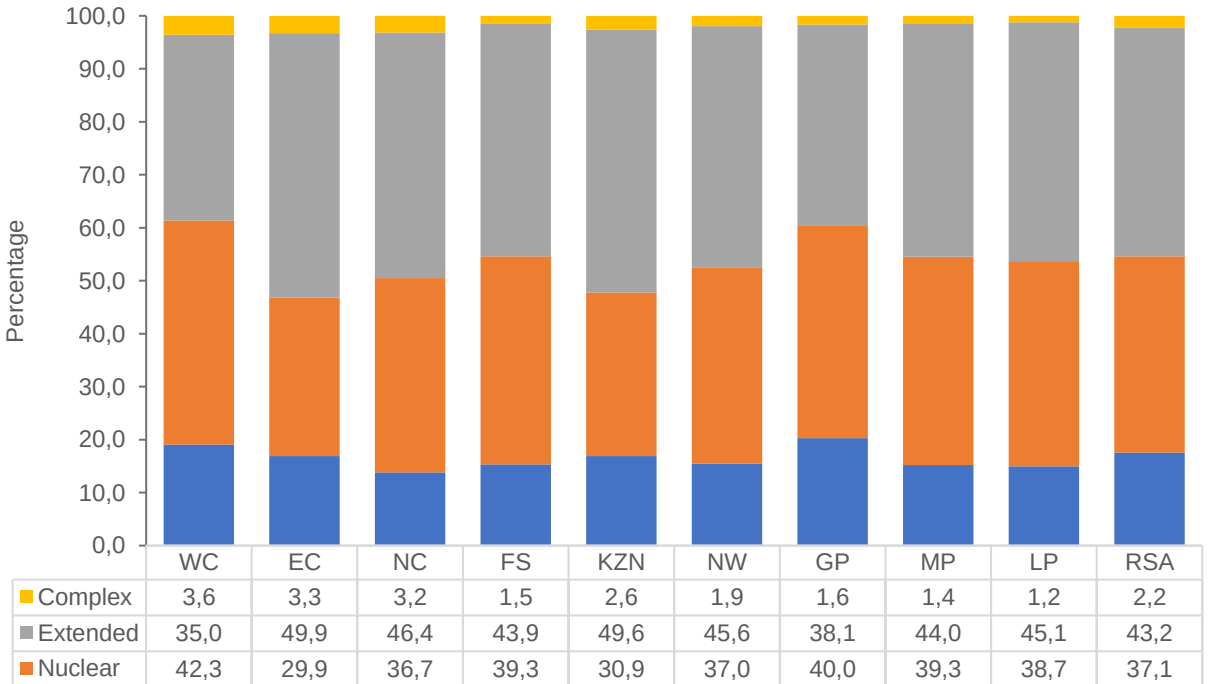
Figure 4.3: Distribution of household heads by composition, sex and province, 2022

Male-headed households



	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Complex	3,3	3,2	3,7	1,9	2,9	2,0	1,8	1,6	1,3	2,3
Extended	19,4	23,7	24,3	22,7	27,3	19,8	18,2	21,5	23,2	21,4
Nuclear	50,1	28,7	41,8	44,0	32,1	32,1	39,9	35,8	34,5	37,8
Single	27,2	44,5	30,1	31,4	37,7	46,1	40,1	41,1	40,9	38,5

Female-headed households



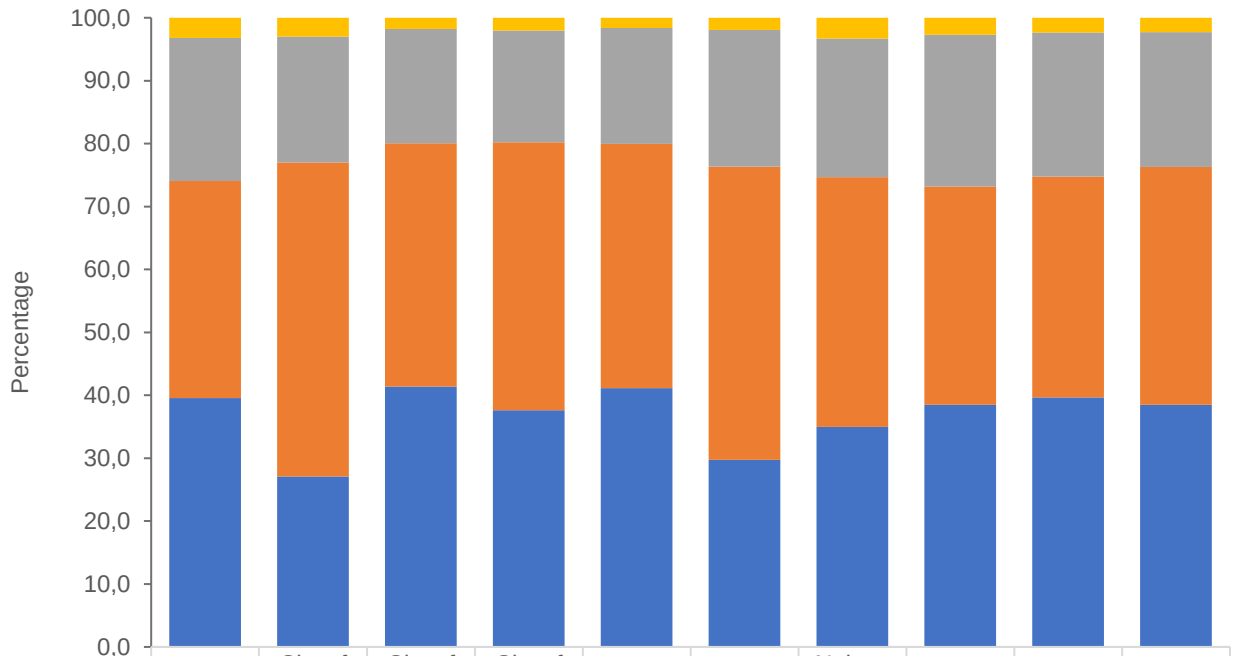
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Complex	3,6	3,3	3,2	1,5	2,6	1,9	1,6	1,4	1,2	2,2
Extended	35,0	49,9	46,4	43,9	49,6	45,6	38,1	44,0	45,1	43,2
Nuclear	42,3	29,9	36,7	39,3	30,9	37,0	40,0	39,3	38,7	37,1
Single	19,1	16,9	13,8	15,3	16,9	15,4	20,3	15,2	14,9	17,6

Figure 4.3 above, depicts the distribution of households by household composition, sex of the household head and provinces. Nationally, 38,5% of male-headed households were more likely to be composed of single-member, and 37,8% were in nuclear composition, while 2,3% were complex households. The analysis further showed provincial variations among male-headed households, with five of the nine provinces (North West, Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Gauteng) being more likely to have single-member households than other provinces. Half of the Western Cape (50,1%) households were classified as nuclear families which was the highest compared to the rest of the provinces.

A slightly different pattern was observed among the female-headed households, 43,2% of female-headed households were in extended composition, followed by 37,1% in nuclear composition, while 2,2% were in complex households. Provincially, the majority of female-headed households were more likely to be classified as extended family configurations except in the Western Cape and Gauteng provinces which were more likely to have nuclear compositions.

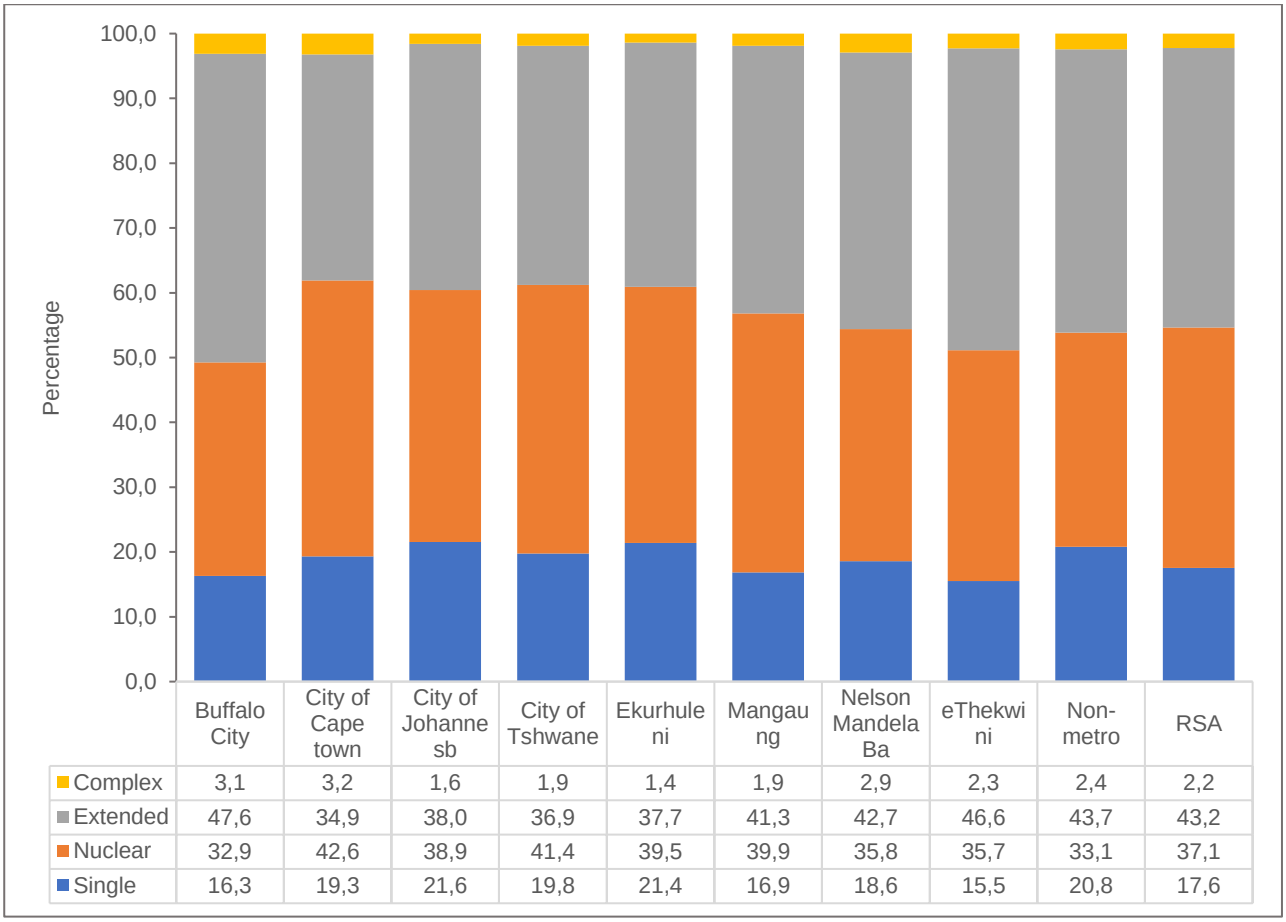
These findings showed that there were differences in the household configurations between male and female-headed households and even further variations at a provincial level between and across male and female-headed households.

Figure 4.4: Distribution of households by household composition, sex and geographical location, 2022
Male-headed households



	Buffalo City	City of Cape town	City of Johannesb	City of Tshwane	Ekurhuleni	Mangaung	Nelson Mandela Ba	eThekwini	Non-metro	RSA
Complex	3,2	3,0	1,8	2,0	1,6	1,9	3,3	2,7	2,3	2,3
Extended	22,7	20,0	18,2	17,7	18,4	21,7	22,0	24,1	22,9	21,4
Nuclear	34,5	49,9	38,7	42,6	38,8	46,6	39,7	34,7	35,1	37,8
Single	39,5	27,1	41,4	37,6	41,1	29,7	35,0	38,5	39,6	38,5

Female-headed households



	Buffalo City	City of Cape town	City of Johannesb	City of Tshwane	Ekurhuleni	Mangaung	Nelson Mandela Ba	eThekwini	Non-metro	RSA
Complex	3,1	3,2	1,6	1,9	1,4	1,9	2,9	2,3	2,4	2,2
Extended	47,6	34,9	38,0	36,9	37,7	41,3	42,7	46,6	43,7	43,2
Nuclear	32,9	42,6	38,9	41,4	39,5	39,9	35,8	35,7	33,1	37,1
Single	16,3	19,3	21,6	19,8	21,4	16,9	18,6	15,5	20,8	17,6

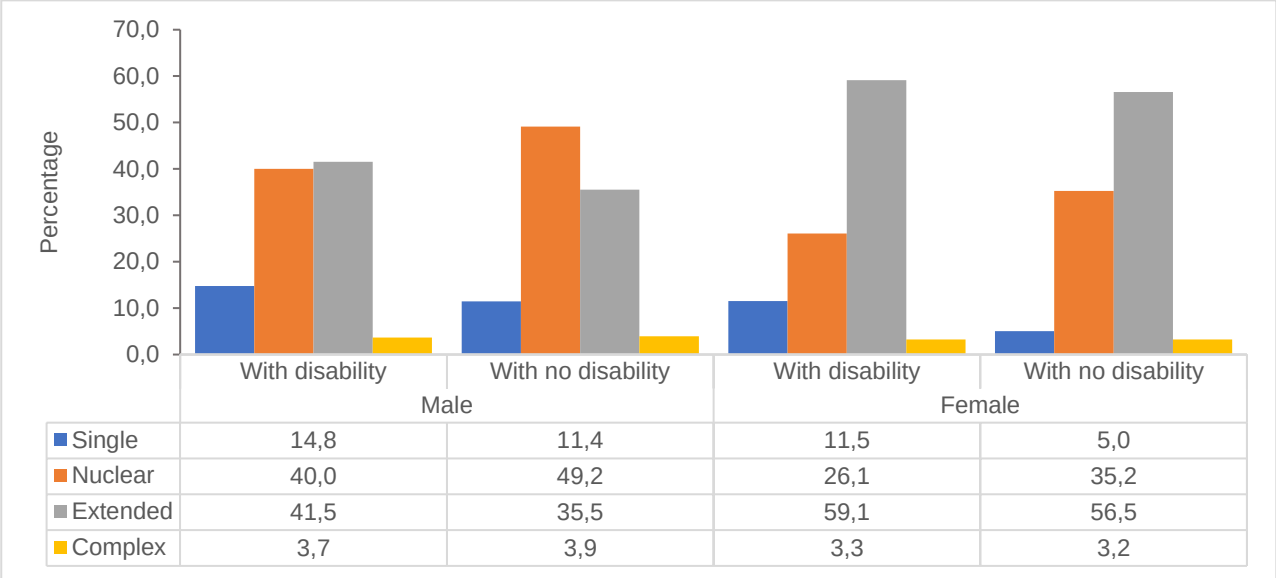
Figure 4.4 above, depicts the distribution of households by household composition, sex and geographical location. The results reveal that there were more male-headed households residing in single-member households compared to their female counterparts in all metros and non-metros areas. These male-headed single-member households were found in City of Johannesburg (41,4%) followed by Ekurhuleni (41,1%) and non-metros areas at 39,6% for male-headed households. Extended households were much more common in female-headed households with the highest percentage proportion in Buffalo City (47,6%), followed by eThekwini (46,6%) while City of Cape Town was the least with 34,9%. Not much difference was observed in nuclear households for both male and female-headed households. Majority of nuclear households were found in City of Cape Town for both female (42,6%) and male-headed (49,9%) households.

Table 4.3: Distribution of households by the sex household composition and population group, 2022

Household composition	Sex of the household head	Single	Nuclear	Extended	Complex	Total
Black African	Male	40,6	34,9	22,3	2,2	**100,0**
	Female	17,7	36,1	44,2	2,0	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**29,3**	**35,5**	**33,1**	**2,1**	**100,0**
Coloured	Male	28,6	45,1	23,1	3,2	**100,0**
	Female	10,9	41,1	43,9	4,1	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**20,4**	**43,2**	**32,8**	**3,6**	**100,0**
Indian/Asian	Male	36,5	42,4	19,7	1,4	**100,0**
	Female	13,7	40,9	44,4	1,0	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**27,9**	**41,8**	**29,0**	**1,2**	**100,0**
White	Male	32,8	49,4	15,7	2,2	**100,0**
	Female	23,0	41,6	33,0	2,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**28,9**	**46,3**	**22,6**	**2,3**	**100,0**
Other	Male	40,9	37,8	15,3	6,0	**100,0**
	Female	33,6	41,9	20,1	4,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**39,1**	**38,8**	**16,5**	**5,6**	**100,0**
Total	**Male**	**38,5**	**37,8**	**21,4**	**2,3**	**100,0**
	Female	**17,6**	**37,1**	**43,2**	**2,2**	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**28,5**	**37,5**	**31,8**	**2,3**	**100,0**

Table 4.3 above, displays the distribution of households' sex, household composition and population group. Most male-headed households resided in nuclear and single households; while female-headed households resided more in extended and nuclear household composition, irrespective of population group. Among black Africans, 35,5% were more likely to be classified as nuclear families irrespective of the sex of the household head, however, when we analyse the sex of the household head, we observe a similar pattern as the national finding that male-headed households were more likely to head single-member households while females were more likely to head extended household composition. Furthermore, the rest of the population groups (coloureds, Indian/Asians and whites) were configured in the nuclear family structures irrespective of the sex of the household head.

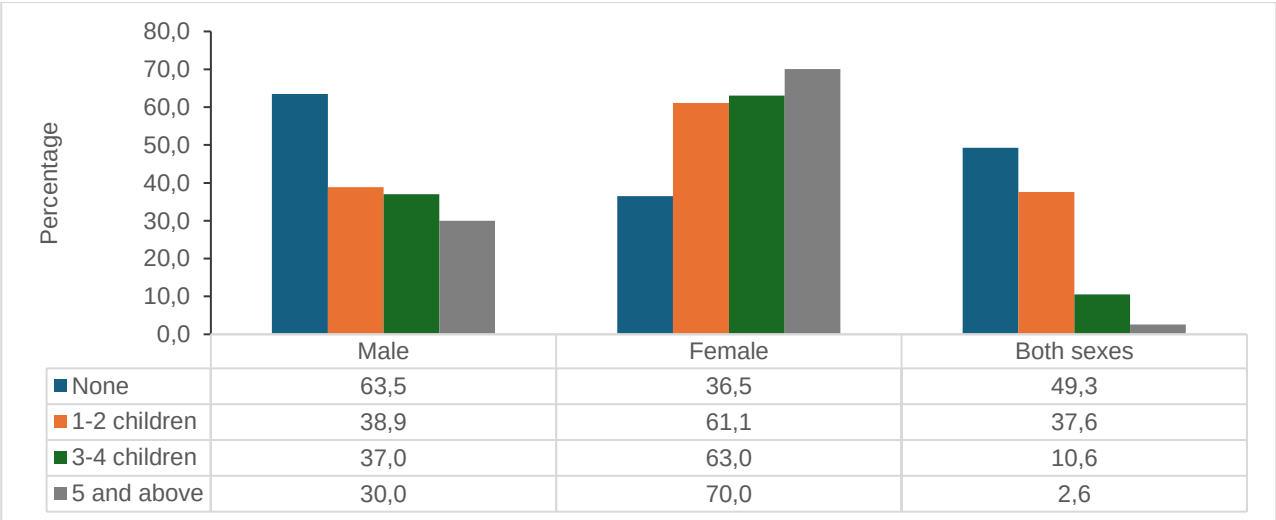
Figure 4.5: Distribution of household composition by the sex of household head and disability status, 2022



	Male		Female	
	With disability	With no disability	With disability	With no disability
Single	14,8	11,4	11,5	5,0
Nuclear	40,0	49,2	26,1	35,2
Extended	41,5	35,5	59,1	56,5
Complex	3,7	3,9	3,3	3,2

Figure 4.5 above, illustrates the distribution of households by sex, household composition and disability status. The majority of male household heads with no disability were found in nuclear households (49,2%) compared to male household heads with a disability who were mostly found in extended households (41,5%). Male heads with a disability were more likely to be in single-member households (14,8%) than those with no disability (11,4%). Female-headed households irrespective of their disability status were mostly found in extended households.

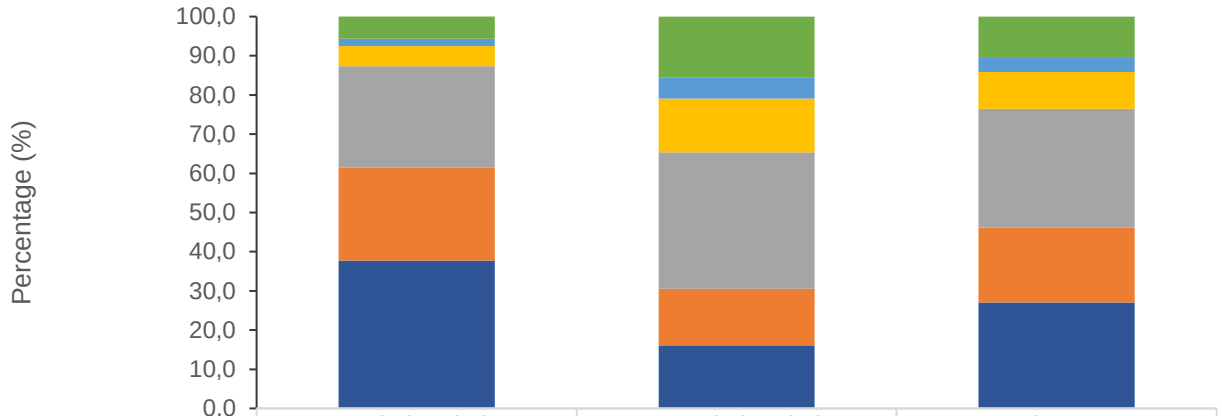
Figure 4.6: Distribution of households with presence of children by sex of household head, 2022



	Male	Female	Both sexes
None	63,5	36,5	49,3
1-2 children	38,9	61,1	37,6
3-4 children	37,0	63,0	10,6
5 and above	30,0	70,0	2,6

The presence of children in households has implications for financial resources associated with childcare. Figure 4.6 above, illustrates the distribution of households with the presence of children by sex of household head. Generally, half of the households (50,8%) had some presence of children while 49,3% did not have any presence of children. Female-headed households were more likely to have the presence of children than male-headed households. The analysis further showed that female-headed households were likely to head the households with a higher number of children. The proportion of households with five or more children was higher in female-headed households (70%) compared to male-headed households (30%). The findings showed that households without any children were more common in male-headed households (63,5%) than in female-headed households (36,5%).

Figure 4.7: Distribution of households by sex and inter-generational type, 2022



	Male-headed	Female-headed	Both sexes
Other	5,7	15,6	10,6
Skipped generation	1,9	5,4	3,6
Triple generation	5,1	13,7	9,4
Double generation	25,8	34,9	30,3
Single generation	23,7	14,4	19,1
Single person	37,8	16,1	27,0

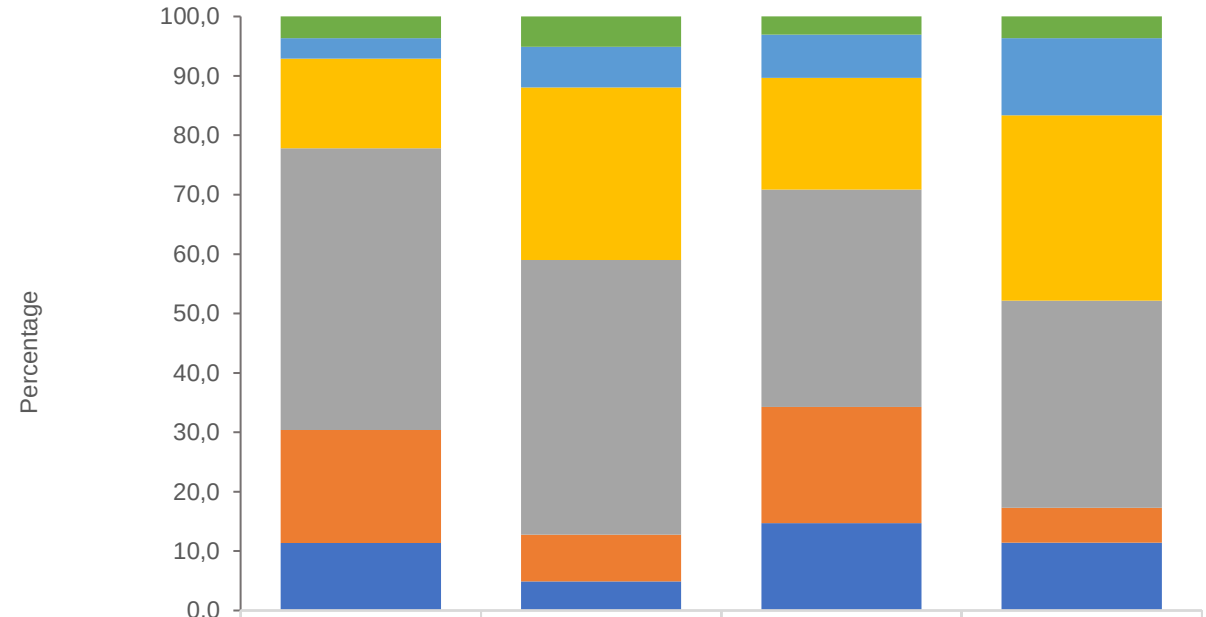
Figure 4.7 above, shows the distribution of households by sex and inter-generational type. Nationally, three out of ten households had double generations (30,3%) followed by single-member households (27,0%) while only 3,6% were configured as skipped generational type. Single-member households were more prevalent amongst male-headed households (37,8%) compared to their female counterparts (16,1%). Double-generation households were more common in female-headed households than their male counterparts. Females were more likely to head triple-generation households (13,7%) than males (5,1%).

Table 4.4: Distribution of household inter-generational type by the sex of household head and geographical area, 2022

Inter-generational type	Sex of the household head	Single-member	Single generation	Double generation	Triple generation	Skipped generation	Other
Buffalo City	Male	39,0	22,5	25,2	5,4	2,1	5,9
	Female	15,0	12,6	34,7	14,7	6,1	17,0
	Both sexes	**26,4**	**17,3**	**30,2**	**10,2**	**4,2**	**11,7**
City of Cape Town	Male	26,7	32,3	32,3	3,4	0,8	4,6
	Female	17,7	22,5	34,6	7,4	1,7	16,1
	Both sexes	**22,2**	**27,4**	**33,4**	**5,4**	**1,2**	**10,3**
City of Johannesburg	Male	40,3	28,7	21,3	2,2	0,8	6,8
	Female	18,7	20,2	28,4	6,8	2,2	23,8
	Both sexes	**29,6**	**24,5**	**24,8**	**4,5**	**1,5**	**15,1**
City of Tshwane	Male	37,0	26,7	27,0	3,3	1,1	5,0
	Female	18,0	18,3	34,5	9,3	2,9	17,1
	Both sexes	**28,3**	**22,9**	**30,4**	**6,0**	**1,9**	**10,6**
Ekurhuleni	Male	40,3	26,4	23,8	2,9	1,0	5,7
	Female	19,0	18,8	31,5	8,3	2,7	19,7
	Both sexes	**30,3**	**22,9**	**27,4**	**5,4**	**1,8**	**12,3**
Mangaung	Male	28,9	22,5	34,3	5,1	2,4	6,8
	Female	16,0	11,2	40,8	14,1	7,6	10,4
	Both sexes	**22,5**	**16,9**	**37,5**	**9,5**	**5,0**	**8,6**
Nelson Mandela Bay	Male	34,5	22,7	29,8	5,4	1,9	5,7
	Female	17,5	13,5	37,5	13,9	5,5	12,2
	Both sexes	**26,2**	**18,2**	**33,5**	**9,6**	**3,7**	**8,9**
eThekwini	Male	37,8	25,1	24,9	4,6	1,2	6,4
	Female	19,1	16,6	32,1	13,1	3,4	15,8
	Both sexes	**28,4**	**20,8**	**28,5**	**8,8**	**2,3**	**11,1**
Non-metro	Male	39,0	20,6	25,7	6,6	2,5	5,6
	Female	14,4	11,1	36,7	17,2	7,3	13,4
	Both sexes	**26,6**	**15,8**	**31,2**	**11,9**	**4,9**	**9,5**
Total	**Male**	**37,8**	**23,7**	**25,8**	**5,1**	**1,9**	**5,7**
	Female	**16,1**	**14,4**	**34,9**	**13,7**	**5,4**	**15,6**
	Both sexes	**27,0**	**19,1**	**30,3**	**9,4**	**3,6**	**10,6**

Table 4.4 displays the distribution of household inter-generational type by sex of household head and geographical location. Findings show that irrespective of the sex of the household head, three out of ten households had double generations (30,3%) followed by single-member households (27,0%) while only 3,6% were configured as skipped generational type. For households in the non-metros and headed by males, about 39,0% were single-member households, however, the majority of female-headed households in the same geographical area had a double-generation type than any other generational configuration. Among metro areas, male-headed households in the City of Cape Town were likely to be classified as single-generation households while most female-headed households in the same city were classified as single or double-generation households (32,3%). Most metros had a higher percentage of male-headed households residing in a single-member household, this excludes the City of Cape Town and Mangaung.

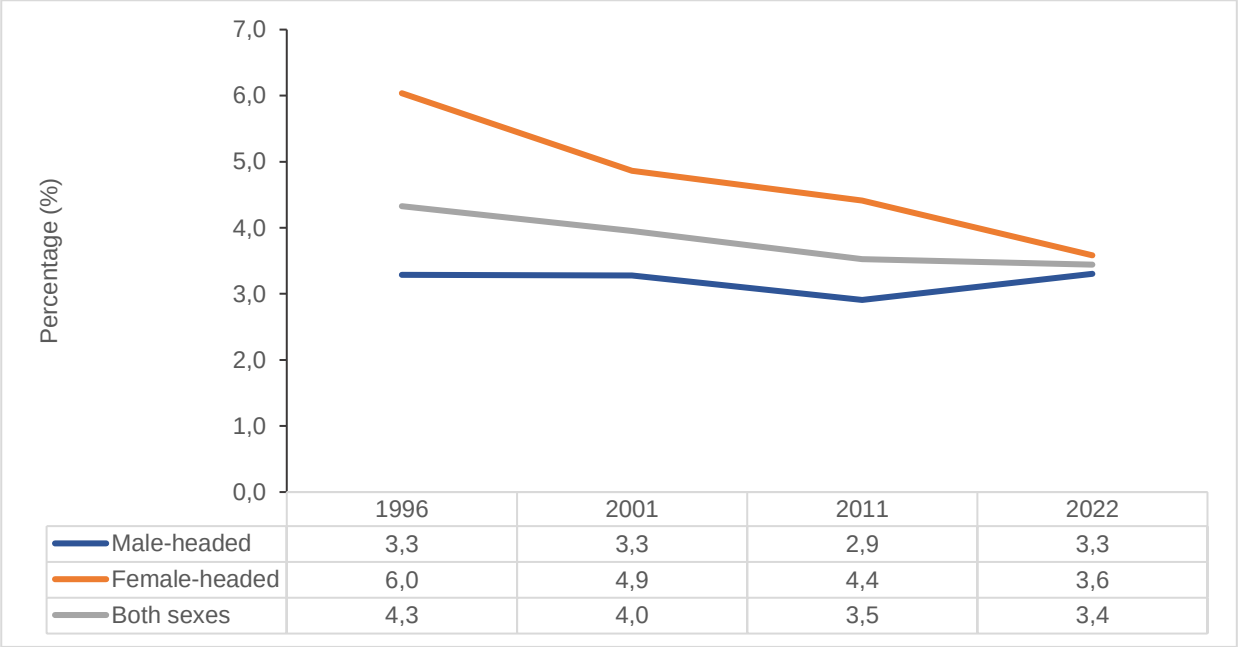
Figure 4.8: Distribution of household inter-generational type by the sex of household head and disability status, 2022



	Without disability		With disability	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Other	3,7	5,1	3,1	3,7
Skipped generation	3,4	6,9	7,3	13,0
Triple generation	15,1	29,1	18,8	31,2
Double generation	47,5	46,2	36,6	34,9
Single generation	19,0	7,9	19,6	5,9
Single person	11,4	4,9	14,7	11,4

Figure 4.8 above, depicts the distribution of households by sex and inter-generational type disability status. The analysis shows that households were more likely to be in double-generation for both male and female-headed households irrespective of disability status. Male heads without a disability were more likely to live in single-member households (11,4%) compared to their female counterparts (4,9%). The majority of persons with disabilities resided in double-generation households, with 36,6% being male-headed households and female-headed households at 34,9%. Single-generation households were more common in male-headed households compared to female-headed households.

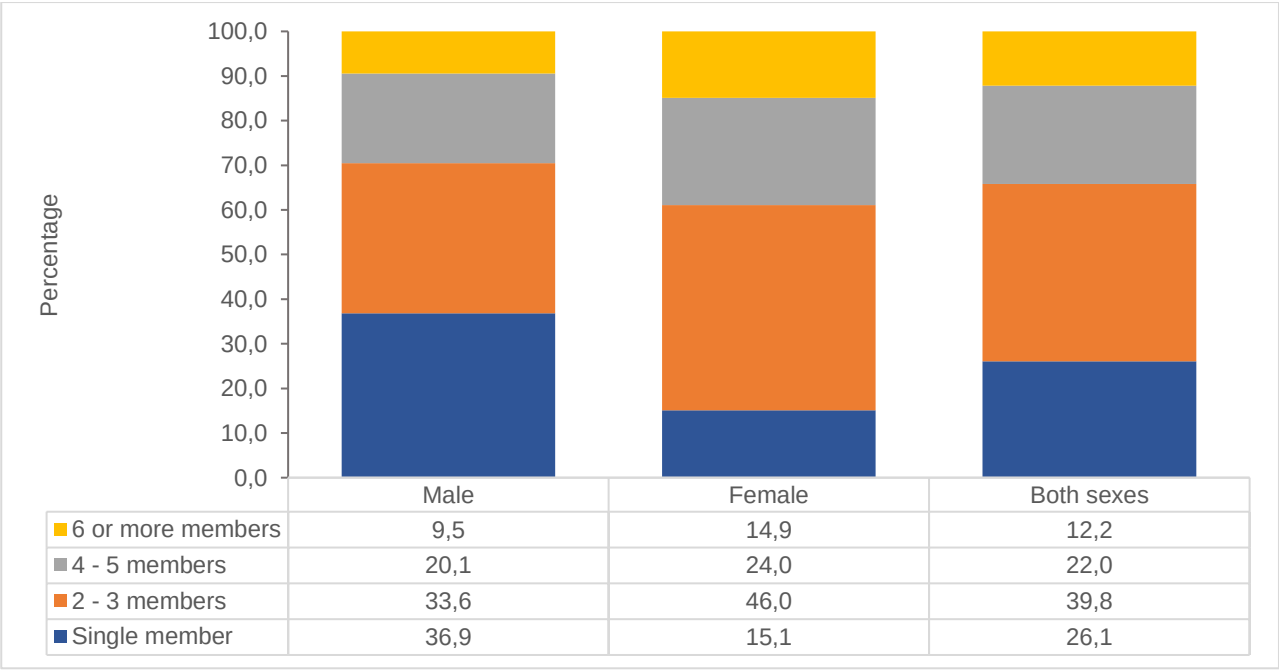
Figure 4.9: Trends in the average household size by sex, Census 1996-2022



	1996	2001	2011	2022
Male-headed	3,3	3,3	2,9	3,3
Female-headed	6,0	4,9	4,4	3,6
Both sexes	4,3	4,0	3,5	3,4

Figure 4.9 shows trends in the average household size by sex of the household head for Census 1996–2022. Nationally, the average household size decreased from 4,3 in 1996 to 3,4 in 2022. The average household size in male-headed households remained unchanged at 3,3 for the reported period, except in 2011 when it dropped to 2,9. The average household size for female-headed households dropped from 6,0 in 1996 to 3,6 in 2022.

Figure 4.10: Distribution of households by sex of the household head and household size, 2022



	Male	Female	Both sexes
6 or more members	9,5	14,9	12,2
4 - 5 members	20,1	24,0	22,0
2 - 3 members	33,6	46,0	39,8
Single member	36,9	15,1	26,1

Figure 4.10 above, illustrates the distribution of households by sex, province and household size. Generally, the majority of households resided in 2–3 member households irrespective of sex of the household head.

The majority of male-headed households were either a single-member household (36,9%) or 2 to 3 member households (33,6%). Moreover, females were more likely to head households with 2 to 3 members or 4 to 5 members. Therefore, it was evident from the data that females were more likely to head households with more members than males.

4.3 Ownership of dwelling and household goods

Table 4.3.1: Distribution of households by the type of main dwelling, province, and sex of household head, 2022

Province	Sex of the household head	Formal dwelling	Traditional dwelling	Informal dwelling	Other dwelling	Total
WC	Male	87,2	0,7	11,8	0,3	**100,0**
	Female	88,8	0,6	10,4	0,2	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**88,0**	**0,7**	**11,1**	**0,3**	**100,0**
EC	Male	84,8	10,0	4,9	0,3	**100,0**
	Female	82,4	13,3	3,9	0,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**83,6**	**11,7**	**4,4**	**0,3**	**100,0**
NC	Male	84,3	1,4	13,7	0,6	**100,0**
	Female	87,6	1,4	10,5	0,5	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**85,9**	**1,4**	**12,1**	**0,6**	**100,0**
FS	Male	87,4	1,3	10,7	0,6	**100,0**
	Female	89,7	1,2	8,7	0,5	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**88,5**	**1,2**	**9,7**	**0,6**	**100,0**
KZN	Male	87,7	6,5	5,4	0,3	**100,0**
	Female	86,0	9,2	4,5	0,3	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**86,8**	**8,0**	**5,0**	**0,3**	**100,0**
NW	Male	87,2	0,7	11,7	0,5	**100,0**
	Female	88,9	0,7	9,9	0,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**88,0**	**0,7**	**10,8**	**0,5**	**100,0**
GP	Male	86,6	0,3	12,8	0,3	**100,0**
	Female	90,5	0,2	9,0	0,2	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**88,5**	**0,3**	**11,0**	**0,3**	**100,0**
MP	Male	91,5	1,7	6,5	0,3	**100,0**
	Female	92,9	1,8	5,0	0,2	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**92,2**	**1,8**	**5,8**	**0,2**	**100,0**
LP	Male	94,5	2,0	3,1	0,4	**100,0**
	Female	94,9	2,4	2,4	0,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**94,7**	**2,2**	**2,7**	**0,4**	**100,0**
RSA	**Male**	**87,9**	**2,6**	**9,2**	**0,3**	**100,0**
	Female	**89,1**	**3,7**	**6,9**	**0,3**	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**88,5**	**3,1**	**8,1**	**0,3**	**100,0**

Table 4.3.1 above, displays the distribution of households by the type of main dwelling, province, and sex of the household head. Results show that 88,5% of households resided in formal dwellings, followed by 8,1% in informal dwellings and 3,1% in traditional dwellings.

Informal dwelling types were popular in the Northern Cape (12,1%), Western Cape (11,1%), Gauteng (11,0%) and North West (10,8%). Males were more likely to head households residing in informal dwelling types than females. Formal dwellings were more prevalent in Limpopo (94,7%) and Mpumalanga (92,2%), females were more likely to head formal dwellings than their male counterparts.

Table 4.3.2: Distribution of household dwelling tenure status by sex of household head and province, 2022

Province	Sex of the household head	Owned and fully paid off	Owned but not yet paid off	Rented	Occupied rent-free	Other	Total
WC	Male	36,9	14,7	28,4	17,8	2,2	**100,0**
	Female	40,2	10,5	27,8	19,1	2,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**38,4**	**12,8**	**28,1**	**18,4**	**2,3**	**100,0**
EC	Male	40,8	5,0	16,5	32,2	5,4	**100,0**
	Female	44,3	4,2	13,4	32,2	5,9	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**42,8**	**4,6**	**14,8**	**32,2**	**5,7**	**100,0**
NC	Male	44,8	4,0	19,5	27,6	4,2	**100,0**
	Female	50,8	2,9	13,7	28,3	4,3	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**47,7**	**3,5**	**16,7**	**27,9**	**4,2**	**100,0**
FS	Male	48,1	4,8	19,4	25,4	2,3	**100,0**
	Female	54,6	3,4	15,6	24,1	2,3	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**51,4**	**4,1**	**17,5**	**24,7**	**2,3**	**100,0**
KZN	Male	44,4	6,3	21,5	24,6	3,3	**100,0**
	Female	46,9	4,7	16,9	27,7	3,8	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**45,7**	**5,4**	**19,0**	**26,3**	**3,5**	**100,0**
NW	Male	41,9	4,1	21,2	29,7	3,0	**100,0**
	Female	48,1	3,3	14,0	31,1	3,4	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**44,9**	**3,8**	**17,7**	**30,4**	**3,2**	**100,0**
GP	Male	29,1	10,2	38,6	20,2	2,0	**100,0**
	Female	34,6	8,0	34,9	20,3	2,1	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**31,6**	**9,2**	**36,9**	**20,3**	**2,0**	**100,0**
MP	Male	50,2	4,1	20,6	23,2	1,8	**100,0**
	Female	56,4	3,2	14,1	24,5	1,9	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**53,3**	**3,7**	**17,3**	**23,8**	**1,9**	**100,0**
LP	Male	43,7	3,1	12,9	37,2	3,1	**100,0**
	Female	47,2	2,8	7,7	39,0	3,3	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**45,7**	**2,9**	**10,1**	**38,2**	**3,2**	**100,0**
RSA	**Male**	**39,0**	**7,6**	**25,9**	**24,7**	**2,8**	**100,0**
	Female	**44,2**	**5,6**	**20,5**	**26,5**	**3,2**	**100,0**
	Both sexes	**41,6**	**6,6**	**23,2**	**25,6**	**3,0**	**100,0**

Table 4.3.2 above, displays the distribution of household dwelling tenure status by sex of the household head and province. Nationally, there were about 42,0% of households that owned and fully paid off their dwelling with more females heading these households (44,2%) than males 39,0%). Moreover, one in every four male-headed households rented (25,9%) their dwellings while there were one in every five female-headed households rented their dwellings.

More than half of households in Mpumalanga and Free State provinces recorded the highest proportions of dwellings that were owned and fully paid off, this was more popular among the female-headed households.

In addition, households in Gauteng were more likely to rent their dwellings (36,9%) compared to other provinces, this was popular among male-headed households. Furthermore, residents in Limpopo (38,2%), Eastern Cape (32,2%) and North West (30,4%) had the highest proportion of households who occupied dwellings rent-free.

Table 4.3.3: Percentage distribution of households that received a government housing subsidy by sex of the household head, 2022

Province	Sex of the household head	Received subsidy	Did not receive subsidy	Total	% Received subsidy	% Did not receive subsidy
WC	Male	256 936	622 082	**879 018**	29,2	**70,8**
	Female	276 692	472 116	**748 808**	37,0	**63,0**
	Both sexes	**533 628**	**1 094 198**	**1 627 826**	**32,8**	**67,2**
EC	Male	205 036	443 664	**648 700**	31,6	**68,4**
	Female	250 684	534 485	**785 169**	31,9	**68,1**
	Both sexes	**455 719**	**978 150**	**1 433 869**	**31,8**	**68,2**
NC	Male	54 742	92 652	**147 394**	37,1	**62,9**
	Female	58 945	76 450	**135 395**	43,5	**56,5**
	Both sexes	**113 687**	**169 102**	**282 789**	**40,2**	**59,8**
FS	Male	123 262	233 869	**357 132**	34,5	**65,5**
	Female	151 606	217 547	369 153	41,1	58,9
	Both sexes	**274 869**	**451 416**	**726 285**	**37,8**	**62,2**
KZN	Male	274 696	791 718	**1 066 414**	25,8	**74,2**
	Female	344 782	891 276	**1 236 058**	27,9	**72,1**
	Both sexes	**619 478**	**1 682 994**	**2 302 472**	**26,9**	**73,1**
NW	Male	130 636	334 345	**464 982**	28,1	**71,9**
	Female	138 018	299 930	**437 948**	31,5	**68,5**
	Both sexes	**268 655**	**634 275**	**902 930**	**29,8**	**70,2**
GP	Male	645 838	1 402 554	**2 048 392**	31,5	**68,5**
	Female	623 218	1 077 682	**1 700 900**	36,6	**63,4**
	Both sexes	**1 269 056**	**2 480 237**	**3 749 293**	**33,8**	**66,2**
MP	Male	147 362	438 314	**585 676**	25,2	74,8
	Female	162 454	415 778	**578 232**	28,1	71,9
	Both sexes	**309 816**	**854 092**	**1 163 908**	**26,6**	**73,4**
LP	Male	118 153	566 178	**684 331**	17,3	**82,7**
	Female	158 993	664 925	**823 918**	19,3	**80,7**
	Both sexes	**277 145**	**1 231 103**	**1 508 249**	**18,4**	**81,6**
RSA	**Male**	**1 956 660**	**4 925 378**	**6 882 038**	**28,4**	**71,6**
	Female	**2 165 392**	**4 650 189**	**6 815 581**	**31,8**	**68,2**
	Both sexes	**4 122 052**	**9 575 567**	**13 697 620**	**30,1**	**69,9**

Table 4.3.3 above, demonstrates the percentage distribution of households that lived in an RDP house or received a government housing subsidy by sex of the household head and province**.** About 30,1% of households lived in a dwelling that was an RDP or received a government housing subsidy in South Africa with a slightly higher percentage recorded among female-headed households (31,8%) compared to their male counterparts (28,4%).

The analysis further showed provincial variations among household heads, with the highest proportions found in Northern Cape (40,2%) and Free State (37,8%). It was noticeable that female-headed households were more likely to receive a government housing subsidy than their male counterparts across all the provinces. Households without any form of government subsidy were more common in Limpopo province.

Figure 4.3.1: Distribution of household asset ownership, 2022

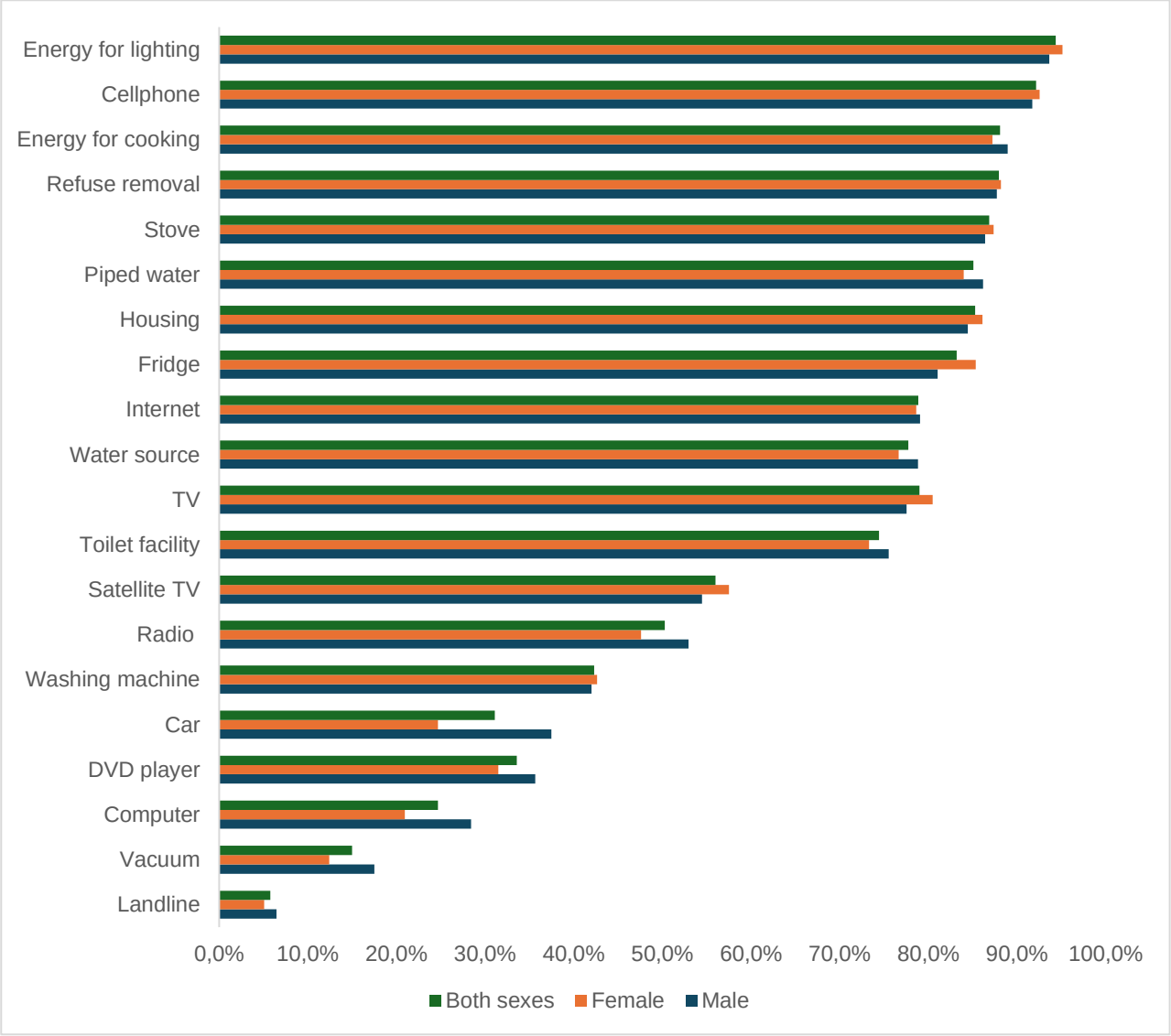


Table 4.3.4: Distribution of household asset ownership, 2022

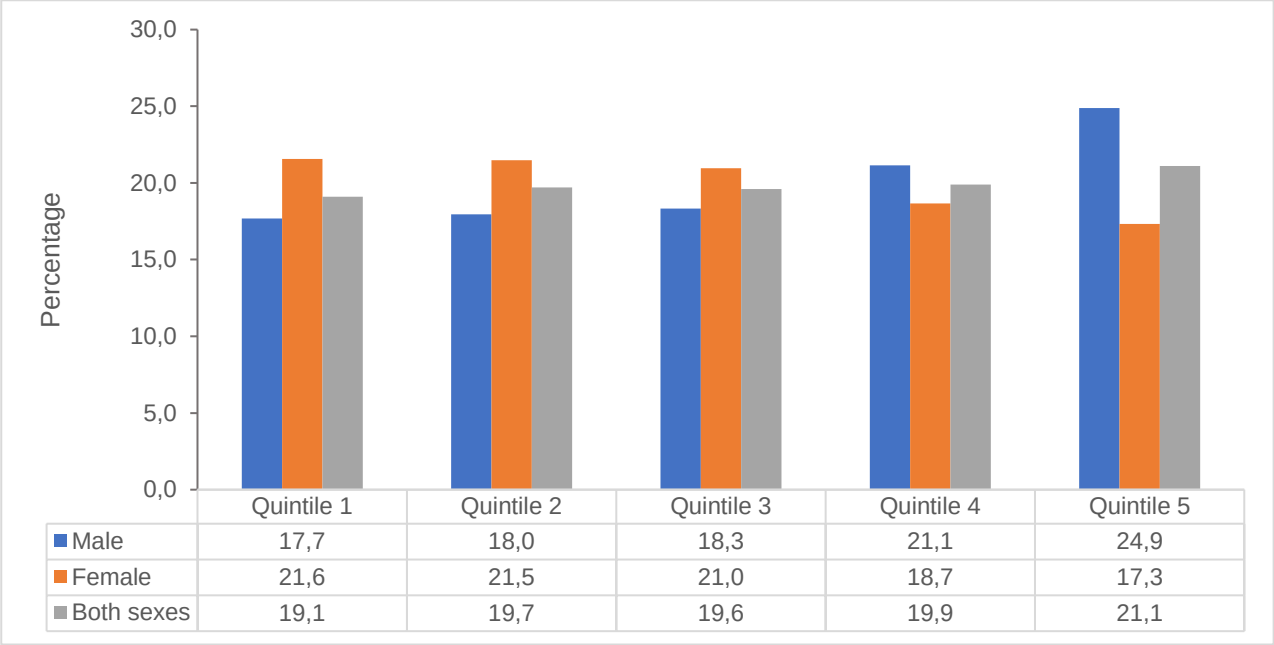
Assets	Male	Female	Both sexes
Energy for lighting	93,7	95,1	**94,4**
Mobile phone	91,7	92,6	**92,2**
Energy for cooking	88,9	87,2	**88,1**
Refuse removal	87,7	88,2	**88,0**
Stove	86,4	87,4	**86,9**
Formal housing	84,5	86,1	**85,3**
Piped water	86,2	84,0	**85,1**
Fridge	81,1	85,4	**83,2**
Television	77,5	80,5	**79,0**
Internet	79,1	78,6	**78,9**
Water source	78,9	76,7	**77,8**
Toilet facility	75,5	73,3	**74,4**
Satellite TV	54,5	57,5	**56,0**
Radio	52,9	47,6	**50,3**
Washing machine	42,0	42,6	**42,3**
DVD player	35,7	31,5	**33,6**
Car	37,5	24,7	**31,1**
Computer	28,4	20,9	**24,7**
Vacuum	17,5	12,4	**15,0**
Landline	6,5	5,1	**5,8**

Figure 4.3.1 and Table 4.3.4 demonstrate the distribution of household asset ownership by sex of the household head during the census year 2022. According to the results, most households had access to energy for lighting (94,4%), followed by ownership of mobile phone (92,2%) and access to energy for cooking (88,1%). However, landlines, vacuums and computers were the least owned assets, this was more prevalent among female-headed households than male-headed. Out of all the 7 Information and Communications Technological assets (mobile phone, TV, satellite TV, radio, Internet, computer and landline) female-headed households owned only 3 (mobile phone, TV and satellite TV) in comparison to male-headed households, while male-headed households owned 4 out of the 7. Formal housing was more prominent among female-headed (86,1%) households than males (84,5%).

4.3.1 Using Principal Component Analysis

The socio-economic status of households was derived using the Principal Component Analysis (PCA) method. Generally named the wealth index, it was generated by giving scores based on household goods and the type of basic services accessed by the households. Variables include; type of dwelling unit, access to piped water, source of energy used for cooking and lighting, toilet facilities and household assets (television, radio, computer, telephone, etc.). To apply PCA to selected variables, response categories for each variable were converted to binary or dichotomous form; value 1 means that the concerned household has access to the asset and basic services and 0 means the concerned household has no access. The selected variables become the input to the PCA model, which in turn generates a continuous household ranking indicator variable divided into five quintiles each comprising 20% of the population.

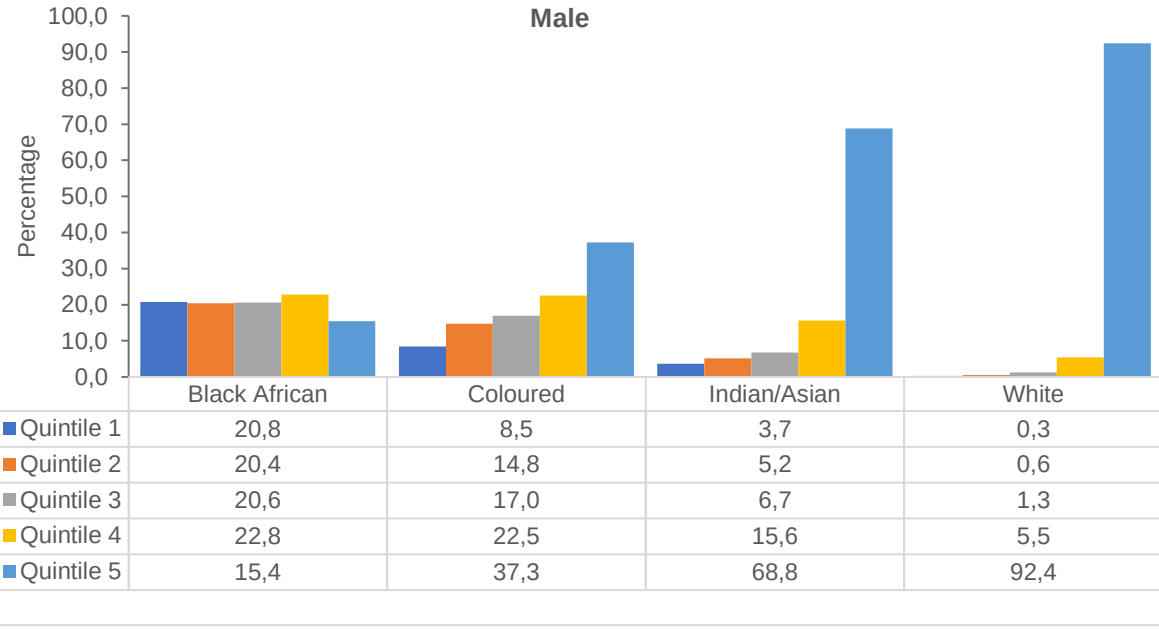
Figure 4.3.2: Distribution of household wealth status by sex of the household head, 2022



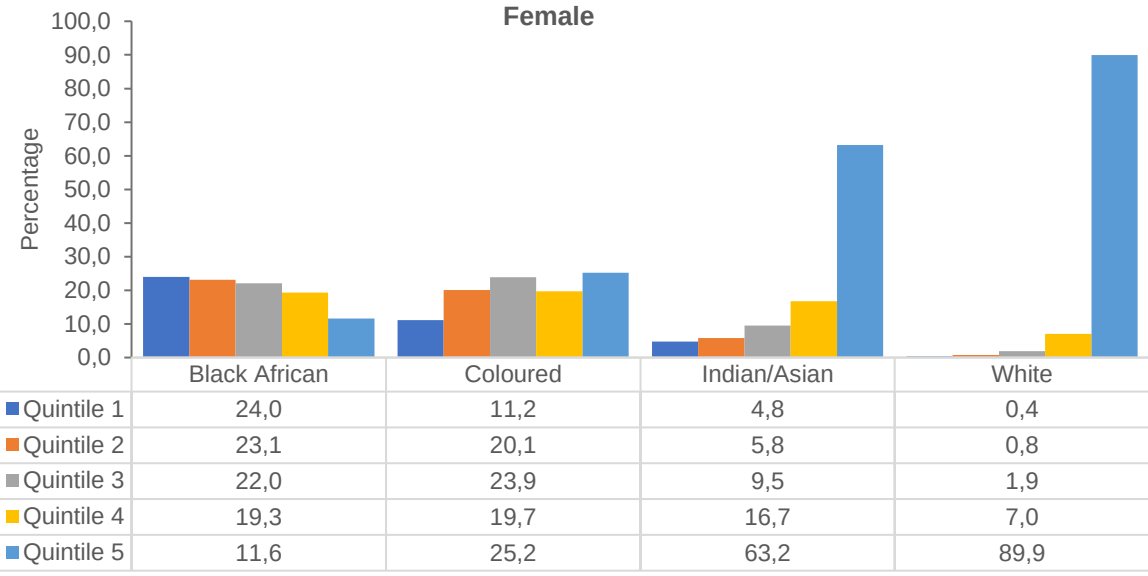
	Quintile 1	Quintile 2	Quintile 3	Quintile 4	Quintile 5
Male	17,7	18,0	18,3	21,1	24,9
Female	21,6	21,5	21,0	18,7	17,3
Both sexes	19,1	19,7	19,6	19,9	21,1

Figure 4.3.2 above, shows the distribution of households by wealth status and sex of the household head. It was evident that there were slight inequalities in the wealth status between the male and female-headed households. Male-headed households were concentrated in quintiles 4 and 5 (21,1% and 24,9%) compared to female-headed households reporting 18,7% in quintile 4 and 17,3% in quintile 5. For households classified as quintile 5, male-headed households reported roughly a quarter (24,9%) while those headed by females reported 17,3%. Among those in quintiles 1 and 2, findings show that four in ten (21,6% and 21,5%) female-headed households were in the lower quintiles compared to 17,7% in quintile 1 and 18,0% in quintile 2 of male-headed households.

Figure 4.3.3: Distribution of wealth status by sex and population group of the household head, 2022



	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White
Quintile 1	20,8	8,5	3,7	0,3
Quintile 2	20,4	14,8	5,2	0,6
Quintile 3	20,6	17,0	6,7	1,3
Quintile 4	22,8	22,5	15,6	5,5
Quintile 5	15,4	37,3	68,8	92,4

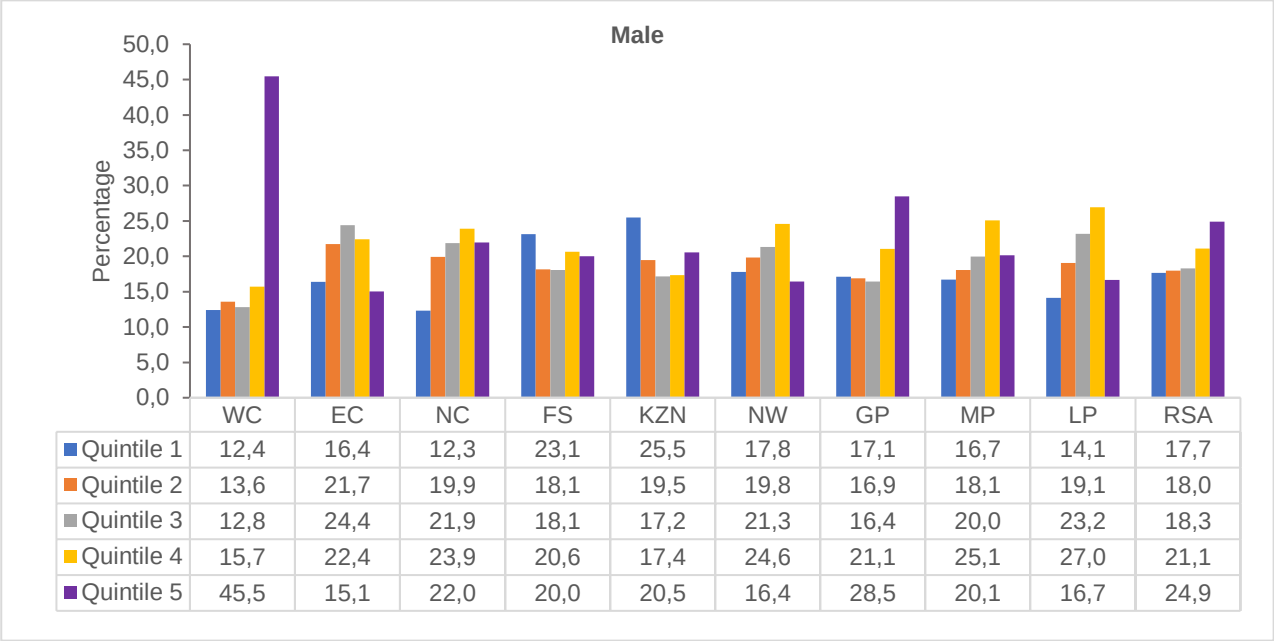


	Black African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White
Quintile 1	24,0	11,2	4,8	0,4
Quintile 2	23,1	20,1	5,8	0,8
Quintile 3	22,0	23,9	9,5	1,9
Quintile 4	19,3	19,7	16,7	7,0
Quintile 5	11,6	25,2	63,2	89,9

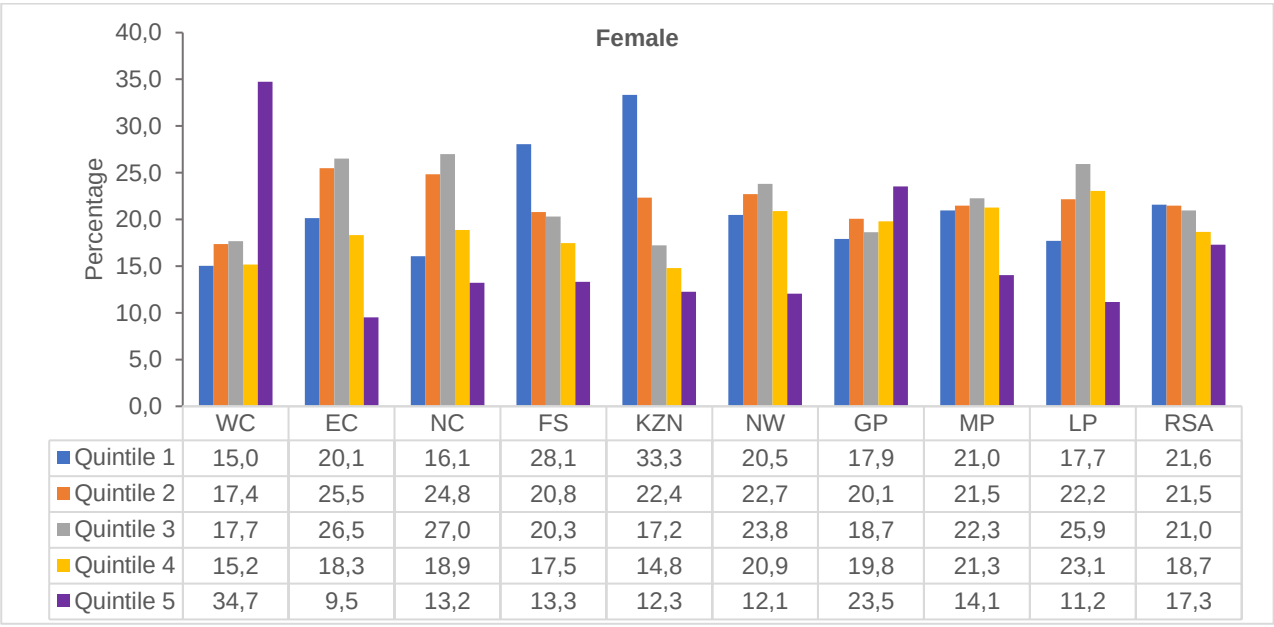
Figures 4.3.3 demonstrate the distribution of wealth status by the sex and population group of the head of household. The majority of households headed by Indians/Asians and whites were in quintile 5 irrespective of sex of the household head. Among households headed by black African males accounted for 15,4% in quintile 5 and 22,8% in quintile 4. However, nine in ten (92,4%) households headed by white males were in quintile 5, while 68,8% of households headed by Indian/Asian males were found in the same quintile as whites. It was evident that black African and coloured male-headed households were in the majority in the lower quintiles.

Households headed by black African females accounted for 47,1% in the lower quintiles (24,0% in quintile 1 and 23,1% in quintile 2) while coloured female-headed households reported 11,2% and 20,1% in the same quintiles. However, nine in ten (89,9%) households headed by white females were classified in the higher quintile, while 63,2% of households headed by Indian/Asian females were found in the same classification as whites. It was evident that black African and coloured female-headed households were in the majority in the lower quintiles (quintiles 1 and 2).

Figure 4.3.4: Percentage distribution of household wealth status by province and sex of the household head



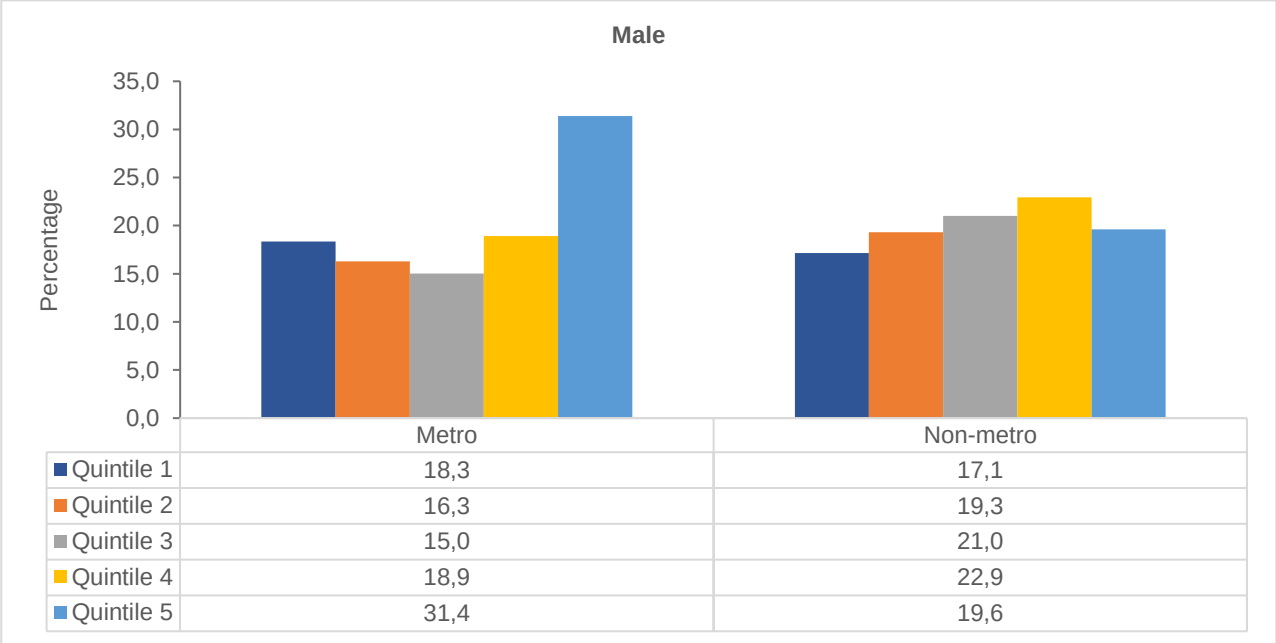
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Quintile 1	12,4	16,4	12,3	23,1	25,5	17,8	17,1	16,7	14,1	17,7
Quintile 2	13,6	21,7	19,9	18,1	19,5	19,8	16,9	18,1	19,1	18,0
Quintile 3	12,8	24,4	21,9	18,1	17,2	21,3	16,4	20,0	23,2	18,3
Quintile 4	15,7	22,4	23,9	20,6	17,4	24,6	21,1	25,1	27,0	21,1
Quintile 5	45,5	15,1	22,0	20,0	20,5	16,4	28,5	20,1	16,7	24,9



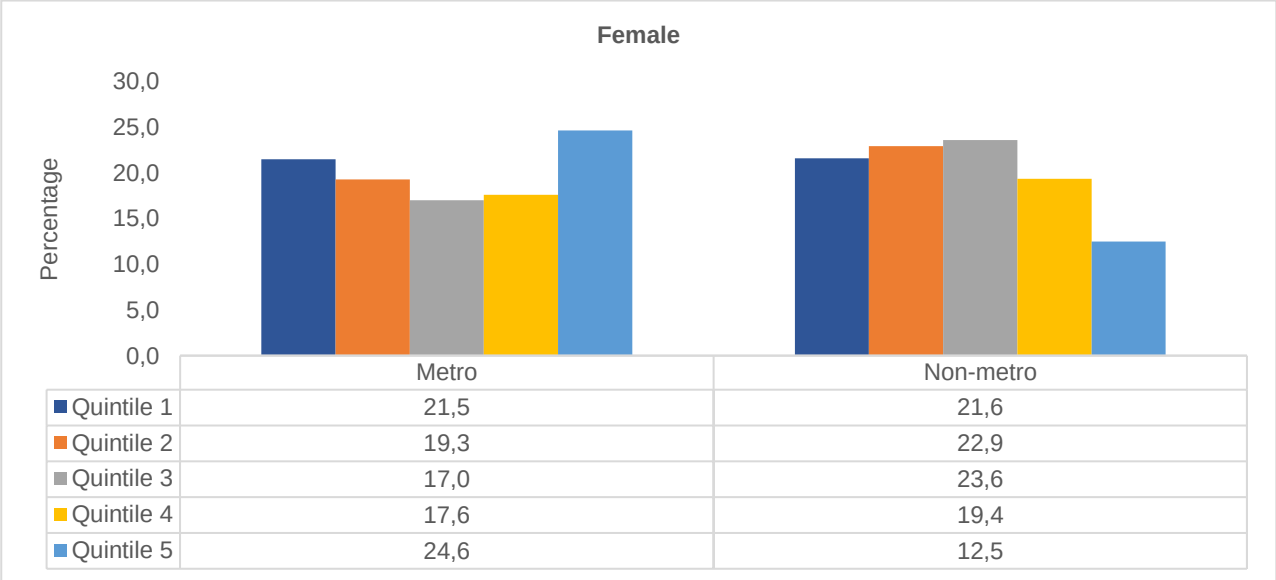
	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Quintile 1	15,0	20,1	16,1	28,1	33,3	20,5	17,9	21,0	17,7	21,6
Quintile 2	17,4	25,5	24,8	20,8	22,4	22,7	20,1	21,5	22,2	21,5
Quintile 3	17,7	26,5	27,0	20,3	17,2	23,8	18,7	22,3	25,9	21,0
Quintile 4	15,2	18,3	18,9	17,5	14,8	20,9	19,8	21,3	23,1	18,7
Quintile 5	34,7	9,5	13,2	13,3	12,3	12,1	23,5	14,1	11,2	17,3

Figure 4.3.4 above, presents the percentage distribution of household wealth status by province and sex of the household head. The analysis shows that Western Cape and Gauteng had the highest proportion of households in quintiles 4 and 5 irrespective of sex of the household head. On the contrary, KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, Eastern Cape and North West recorded the highest proportions of households in the lower quintiles, irrespective of the sex of the household head. Male-headed households within the lowest quintile had smaller proportions than female-headed households in all the provinces, the reverse was observed for households concentrated in the upper quintile.

Figure 4.3.5: Percentage distribution of household wealth status by geographical area and sex of the household head



	Metro	Non-metro
Quintile 1	18,3	17,1
Quintile 2	16,3	19,3
Quintile 3	15,0	21,0
Quintile 4	18,9	22,9
Quintile 5	31,4	19,6



	Metro	Non-metro
Quintile 1	21,5	21,6
Quintile 2	19,3	22,9
Quintile 3	17,0	23,6
Quintile 4	17,6	19,4
Quintile 5	24,6	12,5

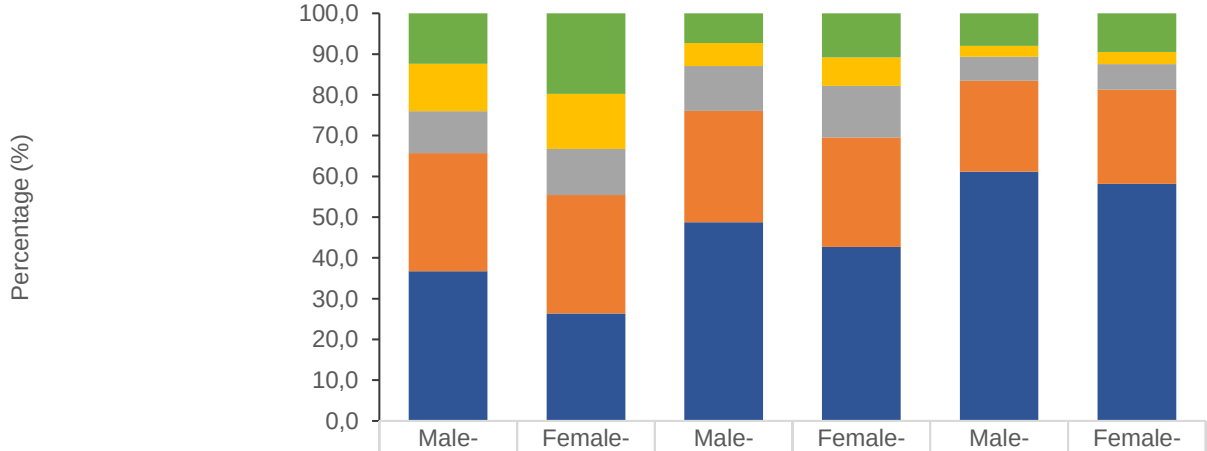
Figure 4.3.5 above, shows the percentage distribution of household wealth status by geographical area and sex of the household head. For female-headed households, there was almost no significant difference in households classified as quintile 1 irrespective of the geographical areas. In contrast, the inequalities between the two geographical areas were significant for female-headed households classified as quintile 5 (24,6% for metro areas vs 12,5% for non-metro areas). A similar pattern is observed for male-headed households, with households residing in metro areas reporting 31,4% and non-metro areas reporting 19,6%. Female-headed households had higher proportions in the lower quintiles in both geographical areas than their male counterparts. In contrast, male-headed households had higher proportions in the upper quintiles in both geographical areas compared to those residing in female-headed households.

4.4 Household access to services

Goals 6, 7, and 11 of the UN SDGs and Priority 1 of the AU's Agenda 2063 seek to advance inclusive, safe and sustainable cities that offer quality basic services to inhabitants (UN, 2016; AU, 2015). Access to basic services is not only a developmental agenda but also forms part of basic human rights, particularly improved water access and quality, toilet facilities and refuse disposal which are essential for human and environmental health. Regarding access to water, it is reported that Africa's population increased from 800 million in 2000 to 1,3 billion in 2020, with about 500 million people having access to basic drinking water and 290 million to basic sanitation services (UNICEF, 2022). This means that millions of Africans lack basic levels of drinking water and basic sanitation services. Many developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa struggle with providing these services to their citizens, with 22,55% of households in sub-Saharan African countries still practising open defecation (Belay, et al., 2022). In addition, access to safe and affordable energy and the Internet also form part of the crucial steps to ensure that rural populations equally benefit from digital development. Low access to electricity and the Internet can limit economic opportunities for individuals and countries' economic development, especially in light of the fourth industrial revolution. Moreover, women's lack of access to modern energy and the Internet is a direct threat to their empowerment and perpetuates economic inequalities- as they would spend more time cooking and would fail to participate in digital developments including the flow of information.

South Africa is among the water-scarce countries due to biophysical factors and the country is also characterised by a past of resource allocation discrimination where in 1994, "about a third of the population did not have access to a safe water supply" and "more than half the population lacked access to adequate sanitation" (Kaziboni, 2022, p.5). This resulted in South Africa being amongst the first countries in Africa to have the right to water billed in its constitution in the democratic dispensation. Nevertheless, the delivery of water and other basic services remains poor, leading to many community protests (Kaziboni, 2022, p.5). Goals towards electricity and Internet access in South Africa have in the past decade come under threat due to infrastructural challenges and corruption. The population in rural areas are most affected by the digital divide within the country.

Figure 4.4.1: Distribution of households with access to piped water by sex, 2001, 2011 and 2022

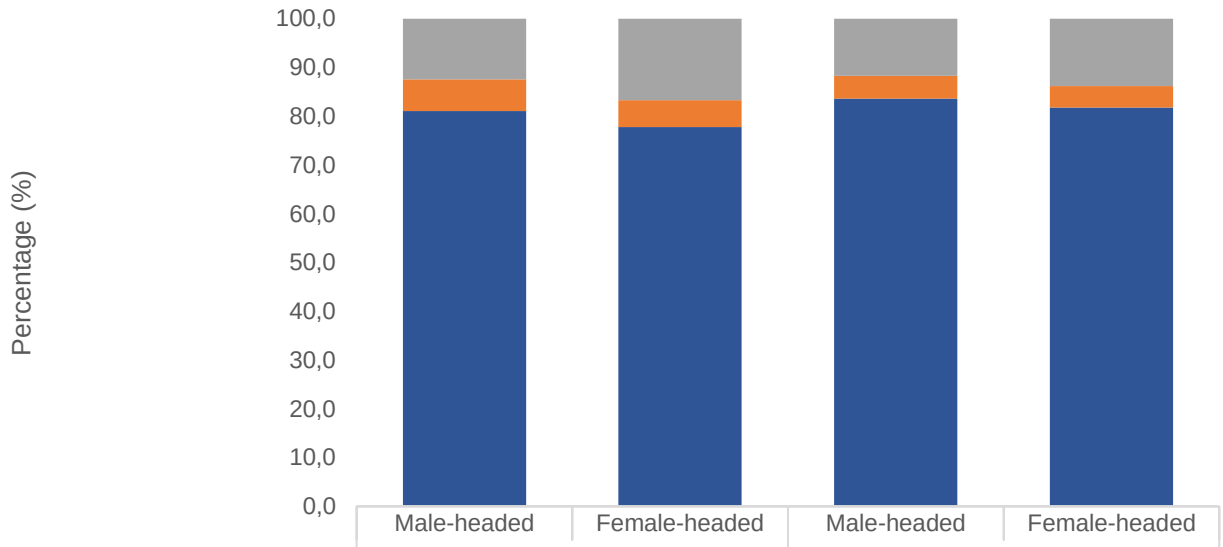


	Male-headed 2001	Female-headed 2001	Male-headed 2011	Female-headed 2011	Male-headed 2022	Female-headed 2022
No access to piped water	12,4	19,7	7,3	10,8	8,0	9,5
More than 200m	11,6	13,6	5,6	6,9	2,6	2,9
Less than 200m	10,3	11,2	11,0	12,7	5,9	6,3
Piped water inside the yard	29,0	29,1	27,3	26,9	22,3	23,0
Piped water inside the dwelling	36,7	26,3	48,7	42,7	61,1	58,2

Figure 4.4.1 illustrates the distribution of household access to piped water by sex of the household head between 2001 and 2022. Findings revealed that the proportion of households that had access to piped water inside their dwelling increased between 2001 and 2022, whilst the proportion of households that accessed piped water in their yards declined during the same period irrespective of sex of the household head. In 2022, more male-headed households than female-headed households received piped water inside their dwelling by 2,9 percentage points whilst more female-headed households received piped water inside the yard by 0,7 percentage points.

Generally, there was a decrease in the proportion of households that accessed piped water more than 200 meters from their dwelling between 2001 and 2022, about 10,7 percentage points for female-headed households and 9,0 percentage points for male-headed households.

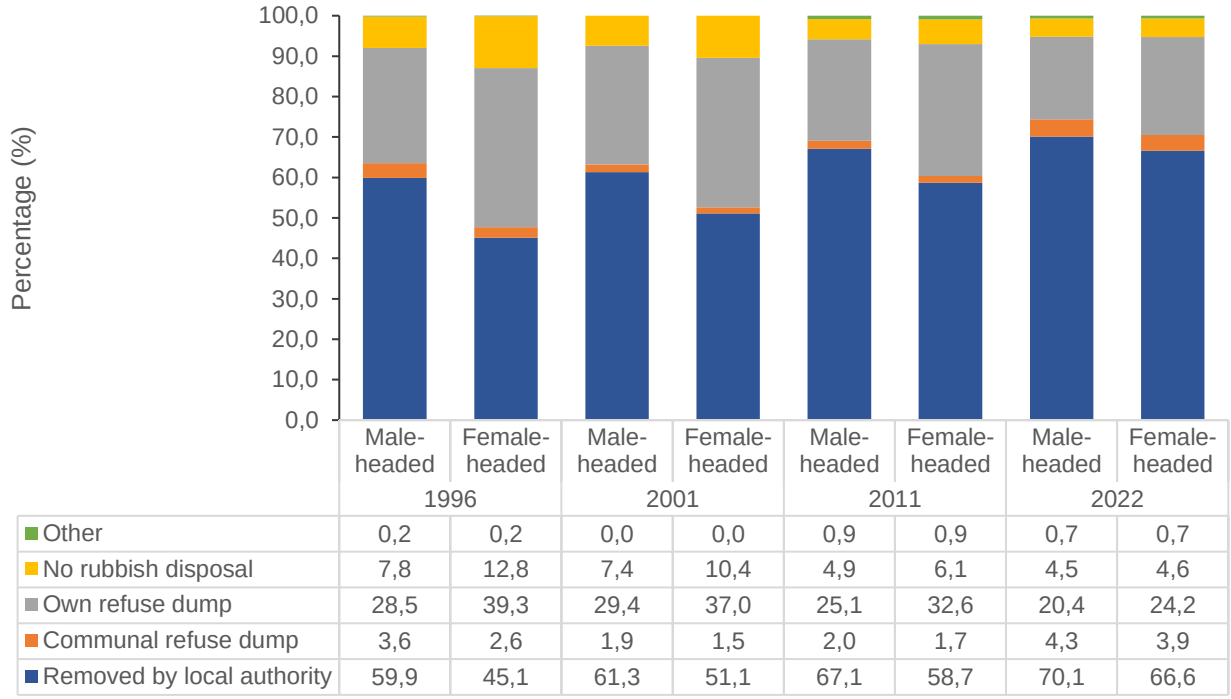
Figure 4.4.2: Distribution of households' main source of water for use by sex, 2011 and 2022



	Male-headed	Female-headed	Male-headed	Female-headed
	2011		2022	
Spring - Other	12,4	16,7	11,7	13,8
Borehole	6,5	5,5	4,7	4,4
Regional/local water scheme	81,1	77,8	83,6	81,8

Figure 4.4.2 above, presents the distribution of households' main source of water for use by sex of the household head, between 2011 and 2022. Most households' main source of water for use was through regional or local water schemes whilst boreholes accounted for the lowest percentage. There was an increase in the proportion of households that sourced water from regional water or local water schemes, from 81,1% in 2011 to 83,6% in 2022 among male-headed households, and 77,8% in 2011 to 81,8% in 2022 for female-headed households. There were no significant gender disparities in households that utilised boreholes as their main sources of water.

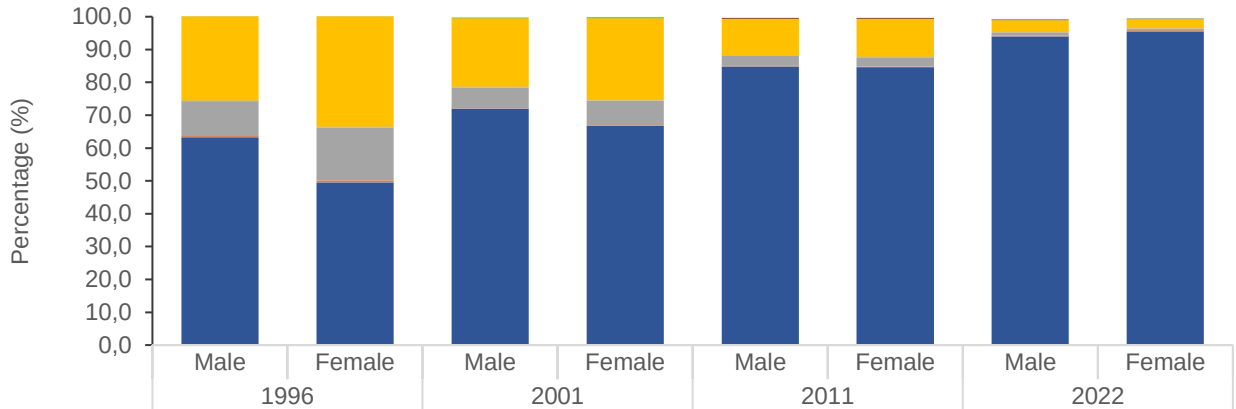
Figure 4.4.3: Distribution of household's refuse removal by sex of the household head, Census 1996-2022



	Male-headed	Female-headed	Male-headed	Female-headed	Male-headed	Female-headed	Male-headed	Female-headed
	1996		2001		2011		2022	
Other	0,2	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,9	0,9	0,7	0,7
No rubbish disposal	7,8	12,8	7,4	10,4	4,9	6,1	4,5	4,6
Own refuse dump	28,5	39,3	29,4	37,0	25,1	32,6	20,4	24,2
Communal refuse dump	3,6	2,6	1,9	1,5	2,0	1,7	4,3	3,9
Removed by local authority	59,9	45,1	61,3	51,1	67,1	58,7	70,1	66,6

Figure 4.4.3 depicts the distribution of household type of refuse removal by sex of the household head for 1996 and 2022. There was an upward trend in household refuse removed by local authorities and communal refuse dumps between 1996 and 2022. Close to 7 in 10 (70,1%) male-headed households reported that local authorities removed their refuse dump while 66,6% of their female counterparts reported the same in 2022. It was notable that own refuse dump declined between 2011 and 2022 for both male and female-headed households. Male-headed households with no rubbish disposal declined by 0,4 percentage points between 1996 and 2001, then declined further by 2,5 percentage points between 2001 and 2011.

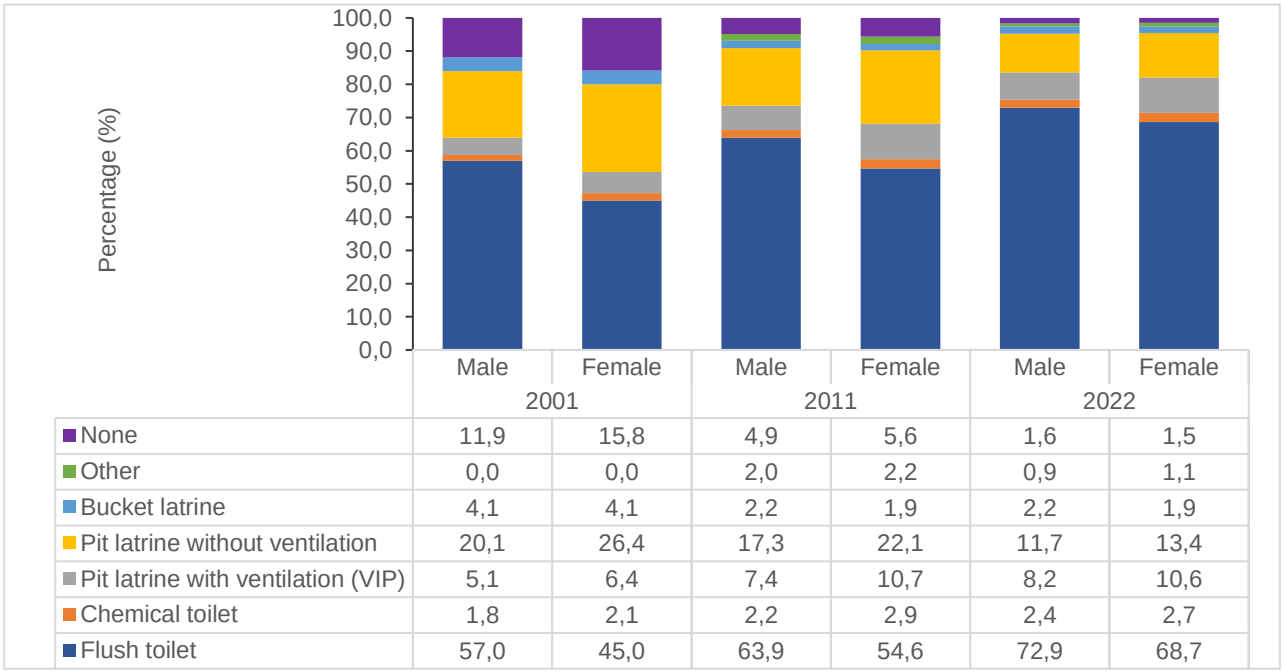
Figure 4.4.4: Distribution of households with access to electricity for lighting by sex of the household head, Census 1996-2022



	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	1996		2001		2011		2022	
None	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,1
Other	0,0	0,0	0,3	0,3	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,1
Solar	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Candles	25,7	33,7	21,0	25,0	11,2	11,6	3,5	2,7
Paraffin	10,6	16,3	6,3	7,5	3,0	2,8	1,0	0,8
Gas	0,4	0,4	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,3	0,2
Electricity	63,3	49,6	72,0	66,8	84,8	84,6	94,0	95,4

The proportion of households using electricity as the main source of energy for lighting increased significantly in the reported period; in contrast, the use of paraffin and candles as the main source of energy for lighting decreased irrespective of the sex of the household head. In 1996, 33,7% of female-headed households used candles for lighting compared to 2,7% in 2022 and male-headed households using candles for lighting declined from 25,7% to 3,5% in the same period. The use of paraffin by female-headed households declined, with only 0,8% of households using paraffin for lighting in 2022 compared to 16,3% in 1996; while male-headed households using paraffin declined from 10,6% in 1996 to 1,0% in 2022.

Figure 4.4.5: Distribution of households by main type of toilet facility and sex of the household head, 2001, 2011 and 2022

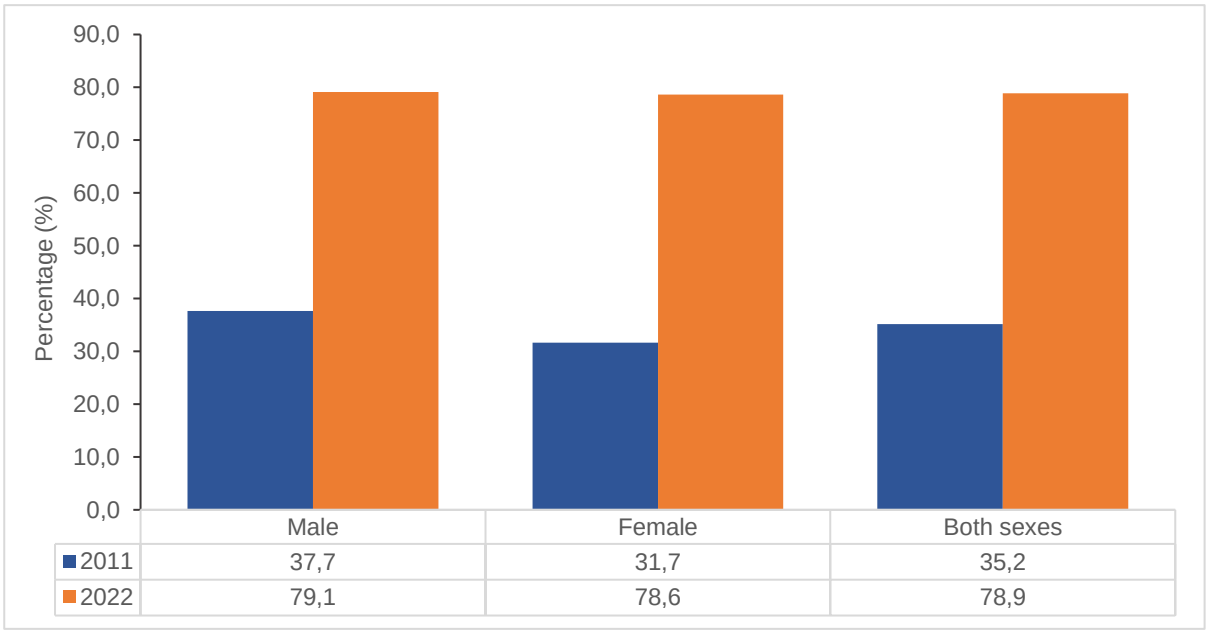


	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	2001		2011		2022	
None	11,9	15,8	4,9	5,6	1,6	1,5
Other	0,0	0,0	2,0	2,2	0,9	1,1
Bucket latrine	4,1	4,1	2,2	1,9	2,2	1,9
Pit latrine without ventilation	20,1	26,4	17,3	22,1	11,7	13,4
Pit latrine with ventilation (VIP)	5,1	6,4	7,4	10,7	8,2	10,6
Chemical toilet	1,8	2,1	2,2	2,9	2,4	2,7
Flush toilet	57,0	45,0	63,9	54,6	72,9	68,7

Figure 4.4.5 shows the percentage distribution of households by main type of toilet facility used and sex of the household head for the period between 2001 to 2022. There has been an increase in the percentage of households that used a flush toilet as their main type of toilet facility; with male-headed households reporting higher proportions compared to female-headed households.

The percentage of female-headed households that used a pit toilet without ventilation increased from 6,4% in 2001 to 10,6% in 2022; while the percentage of male-headed households increased from 5,1% to 8,2% in the same period. The proportion of households with no form of toilet facility declined during the reported period, from 11,9%% in 2001 to 1,6% in 2022 for male-headed households and from 15,8% to 1,5% for female-headed households in the same period.

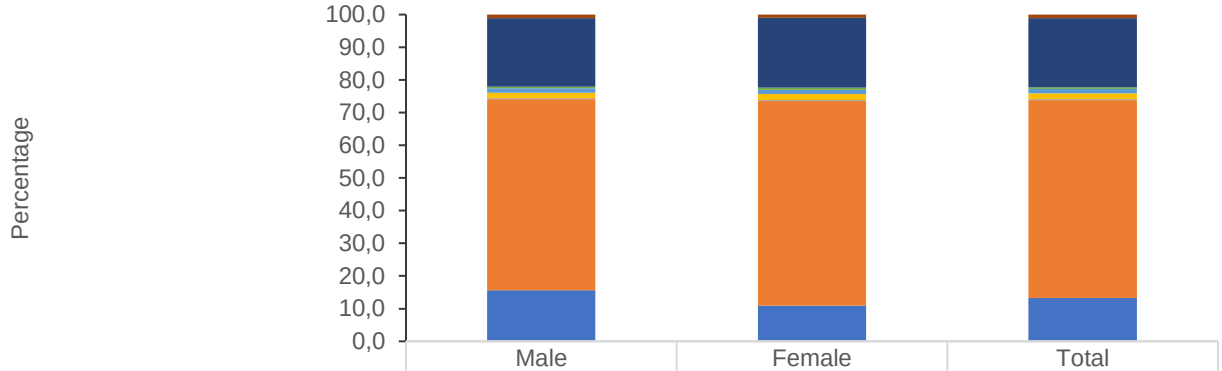
Figure 4.4.6: Percentage of households with Internet access by sex of the household head, 2011 and 2022



	Male	Female	Both sexes
2011	37,7	31,7	35,2
2022	79,1	78,6	78,9

The figure above, represents the percentage distribution of households with access to the Internet by sex of the household head during Census 2011 and 2022. In 2022, almost eight in every ten (78,9%) households had access to the Internet irrespective of sex of the head of household. The percentage of male-headed households with access to the Internet increased from 37,7% in 2011 to 79,1% in 2022; while the female-headed households with Internet access increased from 31,7% in 2011 to 78,6% in 2022. There was no significant difference between male and female-headed households in 2022, with a 0,5 percentage point difference in favour of males.

Figure 4.4.7: Percentage of households with Internet access by sex of the household head, 2022



	Male	Female	Total
Other	1,1	1,0	1,1
No access to internet	20,9	21,4	21,1
School/library	0,5	0,6	0,5
Public Wi-Fi	1,4	1,3	1,4
Internet café	1,7	1,9	1,8
Place of work	0,3	0,3	0,3
Mobile device	58,4	62,6	60,5
Home with an internet connection	15,7	11,0	13,3

The figure above, represents the main type of services households use to access the Internet by sex of the household head. About six in every ten households mainly access the Internet through a mobile device (60,5%) while one in every five (21,1%) did not have any access to the Internet irrespective of sex of the head of household. The pattern was no different between male and female-headed households in the types of Internet services used to access the Internet, however, a marginally higher proportion of male-headed households access the Internet through a home Internet connection. Moreover, female-headed households were more likely to access the Internet through a mobile device (62,6%) than their male counterparts (58,4%). For those with no Internet access, there was a 0,5-percentage point difference between male and female-headed households at the disadvantage of female-headed households.

Table 4.4.1: Distribution of households with access to the Internet by sex and age group of the head of household, 2022

Age group	Sex of the head of household	Home with an Internet connection	Mobile device	From place of work	From an Internet café	Public Wi-Fi	School /library	No access to Internet services	Other	Total
12–34	Male	11,9	65,4	0,4	1,7	1,6	0,6	17,3	1,1	**100,0**
	Female	11,2	67,6	0,4	1,8	1,7	0,7	15,6	1,1	**100,0**
	Total	**11,6**	**66,4**	**0,4**	**1,7**	**1,6**	**0,6**	**16,6**	**1,1**	100,0
35–59	Male	16,5	58,7	0,4	1,7	1,4	0,5	19,9	1,1	**100,0**
	Female	11,4	64,1	0,3	1,9	1,3	0,6	19,2	1,0	**100,0**
	Total	**14,0**	**61,3**	**0,4**	**1,8**	**1,4**	**0,5**	**19,6**	**1,0**	100,0
60 and older	Male	18,6	48,4	0,2	1,6	1,1	0,4	28,6	1,2	**100,0**
	Female	9,8	55,6	0,2	1,8	1,0	0,5	30,0	1,1	**100,0**
	Total	**13,5**	**52,5**	**0,2**	**1,7**	**1,0**	**0,5**	**29,4**	**1,1**	100,0
Total	**Male**	**15,7**	**58,4**	**0,3**	**1,7**	**1,4**	**0,5**	**20,9**	**1,1**	100,0
	Female	**11,0**	**62,6**	**0,3**	**1,9**	**1,3**	**0,6**	**21,4**	**1,0**	100,0
	Total	**13,3**	**60,5**	**0,3**	**1,8**	**1,4**	**0,5**	**21,1**	**1,1**	100,0

Table 4.4.1 above, shows the distribution of households with access to the Internet by sex and age group of the head of household. Irrespective of the sex and age group of the head of household, mobile devices were the main tool of access to the Internet for most South African households. Furthermore, the older the head of household, the more likely the household lacks access to the Internet. For those aged 12–34 years only 16,6% did not have access to the Internet, while for those aged 60 and older, about 29,4% did not have access to the Internet. It was noticeable that households headed by males aged 60 and above were more likely to access the Internet at home (18,6%) than female-headed households (9,8%).

4.5 Summary

Over the period 1996 to 2022 the proportion of female-headed households increased from 37,8% in 1996 to almost equality of 49,6% in 2022. All provinces experienced an increase of the female headed households. Provincial differences in headship showed that males were more likely to head most households in five out of nine provinces, namely Western Cape, Northern Cape, North West, Gauteng and Mpumalanga. An analysis of the household composition showed that in 2011, female-headed households were mainly composed of extended households while male-headed households were composed of nuclear households. In 2022, however, male-headed households were more likely to be composed of single member households.

In 2022, majority of heads of households were aged between 35 and 59 years and most were males. Furthermore, among those aged 60 years and older females were in majority. More than a third of single-member households were males (38,5%) compared to 17,6% of females, whilst eight in every ten households headed by females were more likely to be a nuclear or extended (80,3%) configured family structure compared to 59,2% male-headed households in the same category. Among persons with disability, it was evident that they were more likely to reside in households with one-member households compared to those with no disability.

In 2022, female-headed households showed higher proportions in larger household sizes than male-headed ones (70,0% for females and 30% for males), while most male-headed households with no presence of children. About 34,9% of females were more likely to head double-generation households than 25,8% of their male counterparts. Approximately eight in ten households were residing in a formal dwelling, among female-headed households 89,1% while among male-headed 87,9%. Moreover, males headed most of the households in informal dwellings than females. Furthermore, households that owned and fully paid off their dwellings were mostly headed by females (44,2%) than males (39,0%), this was popular in Mpumalanga and Free State. It was noticeable that female-headed households were more likely to receive a government housing subsidy than their male counterparts across all the provinces.

Access to basic services for South African households improved between 2001 and 2022. In 2022, most households had access to energy for lighting (94,4%), followed by ownership of mobile phones (92,2%) and access to energy for cooking (88,1%). However, landlines, vacuums and computers were the least owned assets. Socio-economic status by population group depicted that most households headed by females and black Africans remained in the poor categories compared to their counterparts. Western Cape and Gauteng were classified as the richest provinces, as well as metro areas compared to non-metro areas.

Access to piped water increased significantly for both male and female-headed households in South Africa between 2001 and 2022. In 2022, slightly more than eight in ten households accessed piped water inside the dwelling or in the yard irrespective of sex of the household head. Close to 10% of female-headed households had no access to piped water compared to the 8,0% of male-headed households. Over 80% of households received their main source of water from the regional/local water scheme while just under five per cent received it from a borehole. Most female-headed households (62,6%) accessed their Internet through mobile devices compared to male-headed households (58,4%), while males were more likely to head households that had Internet connections from home compared to their female counterparts.

CHAPTER 5: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This gender report looked at how South Africa has progressed towards achieving gender equality based on the Census. The objectives of the report was to:

- Provide the demographic profile of the population based on sex.
- Assess the socio-economic profile of persons based on sex.
- Assess the socio-economic profile of households based on the sex of the head of household.
- Provide trends in the demographics and socio-economic characteristics of men and women.

The Census 2022 gender profile indicated that South Africa's population comprises more females than males, with an overall sex ratio of 94 males for every 100 females. Sex ratios were slightly higher in metro than non-metro areas. The sex ratios also vary with age, there are more males than females between the ages five years to 24 years (101 males for every 100 females). Sex ratios decreased from 25 years and upwards with the sex ratios significantly low (more females than males) among the older population.

Females generally constitute the majority (52 per cent) of the population in the most economically productive age groups (15–64 years), but Gauteng stands out with a sex ratio of 101 males for every 100 females, the only province to have a ratio of over 100.

Trends in the dependency ratios for the Census years 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022 revealed that the total dependency ratio decreased from 66,9 in 1996 to 49,0 in 2022, a decrease which was observed for both males and females which signifies that in 2022, there was a reduced burden on the workforce in 2022 as compared to 1996.

Old-age dependency ratio in South Africa increased between 1996 to 2022 from 8,0 to 9,6. Throughout the reference period, the old-age dependency ratios were higher for females than males.

The child dependency ratio decreased between 1996 and 2022 from 58,8 to 39,4, which indicated that there were less number of children (aged 0–14) that were to be supported by the working-age population (aged 15–64) in 2022 than they were in 1996.

Trends in the marital status of persons aged 12 and older for the census periods 1996, 2001, 2011 and 2022 show that the majority of persons were never married, and there was an increase in the percentage of those who had never married between 1996 and 2022. More males were never married compared to females throughout the reference period. The proportion of females who were married was equal to that of males (24%) however, analysis of the marital status by age group and sex showed that the proportion of females who were married was greater than that of males for the population aged 18–34 but thereafter while that of males aged 39–59 and those aged 60 and over were more likely to be married than their female counterparts. Widowhood was more prevalent among females than males (6,1 per cent of women are widowed compared to just 1,7 per cent of men).

The distribution of the population born outside South Africa from 1996 to 2022 shows that female migrants were less than their male counterparts and that there has been an increase in the share of the male population born outside South Africa from 1996 to 2022. Similarly, in 2022 there were more male immigrants than female immigrants from Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the United Kingdom/Europe. However, there were more female migrants from North America than male migrants.

African-born migrants were more likely to be 15–35 years old, while Asian migrants were more likely to be between 35 and 59 years old. In contrast, the majority of European and United Kingdom migrants were 60 years of age or older. Male migrants were more prevalent than female migrants, and the majority of migrants, were between the ages of 15 to 34 (47,1%), followed by those aged 35 to 59 (39,8%), and 0 to 14 (5,6%). Males made up 47,5% of the SADC migrant population aged 15–34, while females made up 53,1%. Immigrants from the United Kingdom and Europe had a higher likelihood of being 60 years of age or older (55,7%).

There was a decline with the disability prevalence for both male and female between 2011 and 2022 in South Africa. In 2022, disability prevalence in South Africa based on the UN definition was 6,0 per cent, but proportions for females were higher than males. The prevalence of disability increases with age, especially after the age of 65, hence the need to scale up programmes aimed at assisting persons with disabilities.
Between 1996 and 2022 there were no significant differences between male and female aged 5-24 years who attended educational institutions with males making up the higher percentage of attendees than females between 1996 to 2011. However, in 2022, there was a movement in favour of female attendance. During the same period, the proportion of persons aged 5-24 years attending increased from 70,3% in 1996 to 73,4% in 2022.

In 2022, gender parity was achieved for those not attending and for those attending secondary school and preschool. On the other hand, male attendance at the primary school level was higher at the secondary school levels (GPR = 0.95), while female attendance at higher institutions was higher (GPR = 1.40).

Between 1996 and 2022, functional illiteracy was higher for females and males however, functional illiteracy significantly declined for both males and females from 34,2% to 13,2% for males and from 37,0% to 16,1% for females. In 2022, adult literacy rates were higher among males (86,8 per cent) than among females (84,9 per cent). Geographical disparities in functional literacy showed that the metro population were more likely to be literate than the non-metro population and that the gender gap was wider in non-metro than in metro areas.

According to an analysis of the educational attainment of those 25 years of age and older, the percentage of people with no schooling decreased from 22,3% in 1996 to 7,6% in 2022. Females were more likely to have no schooling than males (8,5 per cent of women, and 6,6 per cent of men in 2022). Furthermore, between 2011 and 2022, there was an increase in the percentage of individuals holding post-secondary qualifications from 6.8% in 2011 to 12.7% in 2022. From 1996 to 2011, there was a minor increase in the number of men with post-secondary qualifications; nonetheless, by 2022, the proportion of women (13,1%) with post-secondary qualifications was higher than that of men (12,3%).

While there were no appreciable disparities in headship between males and females nationally, in five of the nine provinces, males aged between 35 and 59 were more likely to head the majority of households. Looking at the household composition, males made up more than a third of single-member households (38,5%) compared to females' 17,6%. Additionally, eight out of ten homes headed by females were more likely to have a nuclear or extended family structure (80,3%) than were households headed by men (59,2%). It was clear that in comparison to people without disabilities, people with disabilities were more likely to live in single-member homes.

Whereas the majority of male-headed households were childless, female-headed households showed higher proportions in larger household sizes than male-headed ones (70,0% for females and 30% for males). About eight out of ten households, or 89,1% of households headed by women and 87,9% of households headed by men, were living in a formal dwelling. Moreover, males headed most of the households in informal dwellings than females. Women headed more households (44,2%) than men (39,0%) that owned and paid for their entire residence; this was common in Mpumalanga and Free State. It was observed that, in every province, households headed by women were more likely to obtain a government housing subsidy than households headed by men.

Socio-economic status by population group depicted that most households headed by females and black Africans were in the lowest quintiles compared to their counterparts. Western Cape and Gauteng households were most likely to have households in the highest quintiles, as well as metro areas compared to non-metro areas.

Trends between 2011 and 2022 show basic services in South Africa's households regardless of the headship were more widely accessible (water, sanitation, energy, and refuse removal). In 2022, Slightly more than 80% of the households accessed piped water inside the dwelling or in the yard irrespective of sex of the household head. Data also shows that during the review period, there was a significant technological uptake in the country as Internet access increased from 35,2 % in access to 78,9% among households in general. There were no significant differences in Internet access among the female-and male-headed households. However, in 2022 most female-headed households (62,6%) accessed their Internet through mobile devices compared to male-headed households (58,4%), while males were more likely to head households that had Internet connections from home compared to their female counterparts.

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