CENSUS 2022 ANALYSIS

OCTOBER 2023

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1. RATIONALE OF THE ANALYSIS

Every ten years South Africa embarked on the exhaustive and vigorous process of counting the population. The last census conducted was in 2011, which was the third one since post-apartheid South Africa. The year 2022 has been the fourth year, while 1996 was the first census since South Africa attained democracy in 1994. Thus far, ahead of deep diving into analysis, it is essential to clarify or explain the census concept, so that readers fully comprehend the message across. In reality, the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) is a youth entity, and ordinarily, it is always cognisant to ensure that every reader comprehends the written concepts, phrases, and the context in which the analysis is based. In line with the Statistics South Africa (2022:1) census is the principal means of collecting basic population and housing statistics required for planning. Online Dictionary further espouses more lights as for the meaning of census, and thus … 'census is an official enumeration of the population, with details as to age, sex or gender or occupation, etcetera' see *here*. In a nutshell, the census can be defined as the government's official process of counting the number of populace within the country's borders. Often, the census pays attention to the number of people within the borders, gender, demographics, geographical locations, occupations, and services enjoyed by such a populace.

2. ELECTRIFYING OUTCOMES OF CENSUS 2022

The release of the census 2022 report stunned the public mood. The report was released on Tuesday, 10 October 2023, amidst the census conducted in the first semester of 2022. Browsing through the report, it is clear that so much has been achieved despite the current challenges that the country is faced with. In a similar vein, nothing surprises about the registered development and achievement since the dawn of an inclusive democratic state. South Africa is not what is dupped as a 'pariah state'. It is well known that South Africa is part of the global community of states, and obviously, it would not be where it is today if it had remained a pariah state like it was during the apartheid regime. It is of course obvious that it is also influenced by developmental trajectories observed at a global stage. Therefore, the inroads and gains of the recent past ten years of the democratic dispensation could not be viewed as a surprise. It makes us echo the documented line of the discourse by Steven Pinker

in his inspiring book, titled, "*Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, science, humanism, and Progress*" (2018:39-52) when speaks of progressophobia by castigating those who often advance negative narratives about enlightenment and innovation. In an evaluation of Pinker's (2018)' work, it is noticeable that 2023 is far in advanced as compared to 1960 and late 1970s. The human lifespan has advanced – meaning nowadays people live longer than in the 1950s to 60s due to the improvement of the health system. There could be numerous factors for instance access to information and education have enabled humans to lead prosperous lives. South Africa is of course not immune from such majestic advancement of development. Granted; development by its very nature breeds new challenges, that is, the more people advance in life, the more new challenges arise. Therefore, census 2022 outcomes must be viewed from such contextuality.

3. OVERVIEW OF THE CENSUS FINDINGS

As cited earlier, this analysis focuses on youth entities such as NYDA and this propels it to directly zoom into youth cohorts, who are ages between 15 to 34, bearing in mind that NYDA as a youth entity targets youth who are 14 to 35 years old. The study deliberately looks at ages between 15 to 34 years old because the report starts counting from 10 – 14 years and 15 - 19 years old. We have avoided counting the 10-year-olds because it would not present good reflections of the analysis.

For now, before deep diving into such analysis, it is essential to state it from the outset that the overall population has increased by 10, 256, 943 from 51, 770, 560 (2011) to **62, 027,503** (2022). In this growth, it has been noted that Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal Province recorded the highest population growth with **15, 099, 422,** and **12, 423, 907** respectively. These are a summation of the demographics. It should however be noted that the report does not only cover the demographic variables but also captures the education, provision of health services, social services, e.g. housing, access to water and sanitation, and the participation in the agricultural industry by different population groups enumerated as per their race. The diagram below represents a disaggregated youth age from 15 to 34 years, as already stated above.

Youth population from age 15 - 34 years

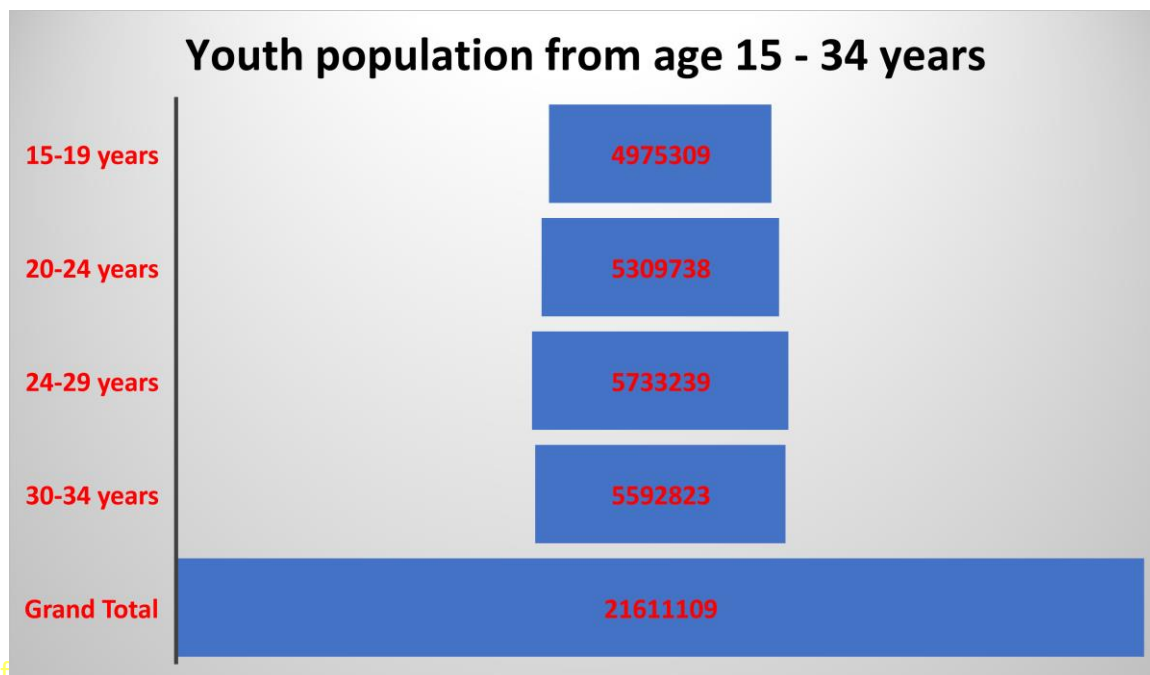|	
15-19 years	4975309
20-24 years	5309738
24-29 years	5733239
30-34 years	5592823
Grand Total	21611109

Figure 1: - The graph simply illustrates youth ages from 15 to 34. The total number of them is 21 611 109. This means that the 15 to 34-year-old cohort is over 50% of the country's population which is counted at 62 027 503.

In essence, these numbers tell us that the government and NYDA, in particular, should always plan in cognisance of **21,6** million young people. In this regard, we are speaking about youth who have outgrown the childhood stage. The next section focuses on other variables like education, health, service delivery, housing, and agriculture as all of these form part of the enumeration. However, the aim is not to go into details but otherwise to provide snapshots.

4. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

This section presents key findings from the demographic characteristics. It covers the total population by province, and population by composition, which includes age and sex structure, population group, and median ages. However, for this publication, the focal point will only be on age and sex structure highlighting the youth factor. This section compares the age and sex

structures of 2022 to show shifts that occurred over time. The table below primarily depicts the distribution of the population by 5-year age groups and sex (youth only).

	Numbers			%		
Age group	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
15-19	2 504 677	2 470 633	**4975 309**	50,3	49,7	100
20-24	2 670 986	2 638 753	**5 309 738**	50,3	49,7	100
25-29	2 825 292	2 907 947	**5 733 239**	49,3	50,7	100
30-34	2 776 212	2 816 611	**5 592 823**	49,6	50,4	100
Total	10 777 167	10 833 944	**21 611 109**			

Figure 2:- *The table above shows ages from 15 to 34 years segmentations.*

This segmented result shows a higher distribution among the younger and youthful age cohorts compared to the elderly age cohort. A slightly higher number of males were observed at ages 0-4, while the number of females was higher than males at advanced ages, showing a typical declining proportion of males with advancing age compared to that of females. *(For detailed information on how the count was done, refer to the full Census report 2022 which included ages 0-4 & 35-84+).*

	Province %									
Age group	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	SA
15-19	7,2	9,2	9,2	8,7	8,6	8,4	6,8	8,2	8,6	8,0
20-24	8,7	7,8	8,5	8,3	8,5	8,5	9,1	9,0	8,0	8,6
25-29	9,4	8,1	8,0	8,4	9,2	8,5	10,5	9,5	8,4	9,2
30-34	9,2	7,2	7,6	8,4	9,1	8,4	10,7	9,2	7,6	9,0

Figure 3:- *shows the segmentation of age by provinces.*

The table presents the proportional distribution of the population by 5-year age groups and province for Census 22. The results indicate that those in the age group 0-4 (9,4%), 25-29 (9,2%), and 30-34 (9%) had the highest proportions nationally, while those in the age groups

80-84 and 85+ were the lowest. (*Refer to the full report Census 2022 for detailed information on other age groupings*). Furthermore, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and Western Cape recorded the highest proportion among those in the youthful ages 25-34 years almost similar proportions, ranging between 8,7 and 10,5%. The Eastern Cape province (10,2%) reported the highest proportion among those in the age group 10-14 years, while Limpopo (10,1%) reported the same proportion among those in the age group 5-9 and 10-14 years respectively, and (11,5%) among the youngest age group. Overall, the results show that the South African population remains relatively young and youthful, with the majority concentrated in the age groups 0-39 years. (*Refer to the Census 2022 report for full details*).

4.1 Median Age

The median age measures the age above which one-half of the population is located and below which the other half is located. It indicates whether the population is young, intermediate, or old. The median age by province for Census 1996 to 2022 indicates that over time the median ages increased consistently, from 22 years in 1996 to 28 years in 2022, an overall increase of six years since 1996.

4.2 Marital Status

The percentage distribution of the population by marital status and age group, Census 2022 shows a decrease in the never-married population and an increase among those legally married as age increases. It is observed that more than nine in every ten of those aged 12-14 were never married, while close to half (48,7%) in the age group 55-59 were legally married in 2022. The never married proportion decreased from 98,8% among those aged 12-14 to 40,9% among those aged 45-49. The proportion legally married increases from below one percentage point among those aged 12-14 years to 48,7% among those aged 55-59 and was 50,5% among those aged 70-74 years in 2022. The proportion of those who reported being widowed increased from 0,3% among those aged 25-29 to 46,3% among those aged 85+. Although slightly lower, the results also show that those living together like husband and wife/partners were concentrated in the youthful ages.

5. MIGRATION

Census 2022 defined migration as a change in a person's permanent or usual place of residence. The migration module includes questions on citizenship, place of birth, country of birth, year moved to South Africa, usual residence, place of usual residence, movement since 2011, and reasons for moving. Migration between countries is driven largely by the quest for economic opportunities, political instability, and increasingly, environmental hazards. South Africa is one of the migration destinations on the African continent with a historically well-established migration stream.

The distribution of the population born outside South Africa by age and sex indicates that there were more male immigrants compared to females. Furthermore, the prevalent ages of migrants were between the ages of 20-44 years, suggesting that young adults are more likely to migrate than children and the elderly. In Census 2011, males aged 25-29 reported the highest number of immigrants with 260 885, whilst in 2022 male immigrants aged 30-34 (235 297) numbered the highest.

The top five sending countries remained the same between Census 2011/22 (Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Lesotho, Malawi, and the United Kingdom). Namibia, Eswatini, Somalia, Portugal, and Germany went down the ranks in 2022. Countries that moved up the ranks in Census 2022 were Ethiopia, Nigeria, Congo, DRC, Bangladesh, Botswana, and Pakistan. China is the only country that moved out of the top 20 sending countries in 2022, whereas Ghana is the new entry into the top 20 sending countries in 2022.

6. Parental survival

A comparison of Census 2011 and Census 2022 showed that in both censuses, paternal orphanhood was more prevalent compared to maternal and double orphanhood. Trends show that there has been a decrease in orphanhood, and this is the case for all three.

Type of orphan	2011	2022
Non-orphans	81,0	86,2
Paternal orphans	12,1	8,9
Maternal Orphans	3,0	2,3
Double orphans	3,9	2,5
Total	100,0	100,0

Figure 4:- Percentage distribution of children aged 0-17 years by orphan type.

7. HOMELESSNESS

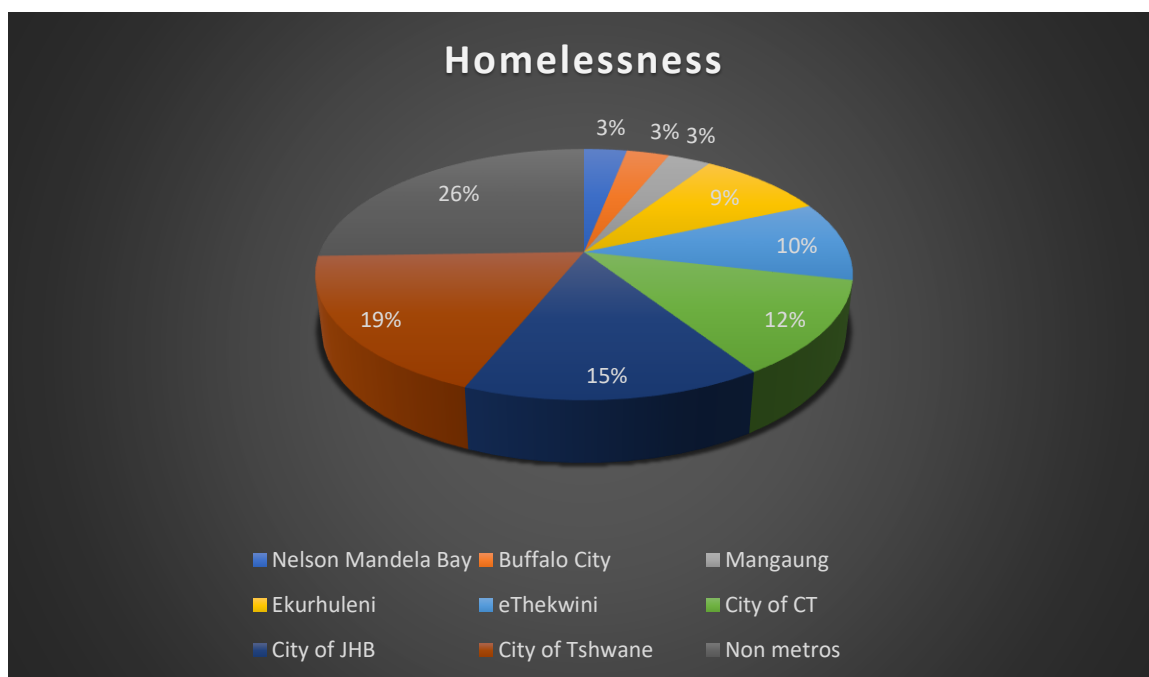The graph below represents homelessness in the metros in South Africa.

Figure 5:- Percentage distribution of homeless persons by location, metropolitan and non-metropolitan

Results showed that homelessness was more prevalent in metropolitan areas (74,1%), with the City of Tshwane recording the highest proportion of homeless persons, followed by the City of Johannesburg (15,6%). Nelson Mandela Bay metropolitan area recorded the lowest proportion of homeless persons (2,7%).

7.1 The distribution of homeless persons by type of homelessness in 5-year age groups, Census 2022.

Showed the distribution of homeless persons (roofless and in the shelter) by age. It is noticed that irrespective of the type of homelessness, homeless persons were predominantly youth aged 20–34 years and adults aged 35–44 years. Looking at differences in age structure for both primary homelessness (roofless) and secondary homelessness, there were more homeless children aged 0–17 years residing in shelters compared to those that were roofless.

7.2 The percentage distribution of roofless persons by main reason for homelessness

The main reasons for homelessness for both males and females were lost job/no job/no income (41,3%), followed by drug/alcohol abuse (25%). "Cannot afford accommodation" ranked the lowest of the top five reasons provided by homeless persons, at 7,9%. Results showed slight variations between males' and females' reasons for homelessness. The main reasons for homelessness among males were job loss or no income (41,3%), drug or alcohol abuse (26%), and arguments with family or friends (16,5%). Females indicated that their main reason for homelessness was job loss or no income (41,6%), followed by arguments with family or friends (20,3%). The striking difference between the male and female homeless population is that more males (26%) than females (18,9%) were homeless because of alcohol and drug abuse. Another difference is that when it comes to arguments with family or friends, females (20,3%) were more likely to be homeless than males (16,5%). Another difference between the two sexes was a higher percentage of females (10,9%) reported inability to afford accommodation compared to their male counterparts (7,4%).

8. EDUCATION

The National Youth Policy (NYP) 2020-2030 in conjunction with the Integrated Youth Development Strategy (IYDS) 2022-2025 makes education its apex pillar/priority to advance youth development. Early Child Development policy is one of its objectives which had hoped

to achieve by 2030, and by assessing census 2022 outcomes, they are at least **3 422 160** children aged 0-4 years had attended Early Child Development centres. Regarding young people ages between 5 and 24 years, at least **5 265 324** attended educational institutions. Out of the latter total number, **2 666 806** were males, while **2 598 324** were females. The interesting part is that it has been observed that more females compared to males attended school among the 21-24 year olds.
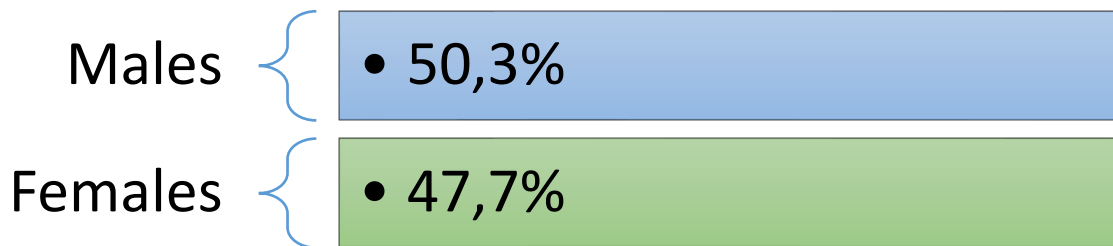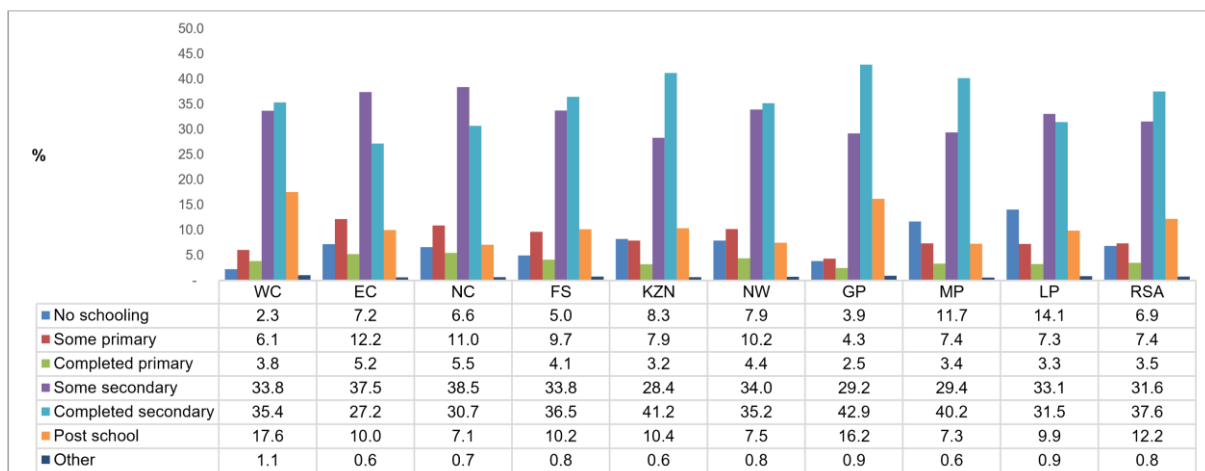
| Males | • 50,3% |
| Females | • 47,7% |

Figure 6: *- The information captured above the diagram represents the number of males and females aged between 5 – 24 years who attended educational institutions.*

The above data is contained in the census report 2022 in Table 4.3 for readers who would want to see and get the in-depth statistical presentation. For now, it could be concluded that more young people have been attending educational institutions. Secondly, the Limpopo province has 80,6% of the population aged 5-24 who attended the educational institutions followed by Eastern Cape with 77,3% of attending educational institutions.

The following information focuses on young people attending educational institutions who are 20 years and older, and this is shown as per the provinces.

	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
No schooling	2.3	7.2	6.6	5.0	8.3	7.9	3.9	11.7	14.1	6.9
Some primary	6.1	12.2	11.0	9.7	7.9	10.2	4.3	7.4	7.3	7.4
Completed primary	3.8	5.2	5.5	4.1	3.2	4.4	2.5	3.4	3.3	3.5
Some secondary	33.8	37.5	38.5	33.8	28.4	34.0	29.2	29.4	33.1	31.6
Completed secondary	35.4	27.2	30.7	36.5	41.2	35.2	42.9	40.2	31.5	37.6
Post school	17.6	10.0	7.1	10.2	10.4	7.5	16.2	7.3	9.9	12.2
Other	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.8

Figure 7: *- represents the provincial distribution of persons aged 20 years and older by educational attainment.*

As observed, Mpumalanga and Limpopo had the highest percentage of persons with no schooling, which was above the national average of 6,9% (11,7% and 14,1% respectively). The lowest percentage of individuals with no schooling was found in the Western Cape (2,3%), followed by Gauteng (3,9%). The majority of individuals aged 20 years and older in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, and Mpumalanga had completed secondary education, which is also above the national average (42,9%, 41,2%, and 40,2% respectively). The lowest percentage of individuals who completed secondary education was found in the Eastern Cape (27,2%). In the Western Cape, close to 18% of individuals aged 20 years and older had achieved post-school education, followed by Gauteng (16,2%) (Statistics South Africa 2022:43). Over and above this, youth agencies/entities must prioritise 31,6% and 37,6% to give them opportunities of proceeding to higher learning institutions for further educational development. Perhaps, one last point that came out clearly from the census report is that males still dominate STEM fields, particularly, in the fields of engineering. Females are still located in the field of management sciences, and or hospitality field.

9. Health

Health is also one of the pillars of NYP 2020-2030. It is pillar number 3 in the IYDS. It is an important pillar to be reckoned with in youth development. It is known that a healthy nation succeeds in all tribulations despite the challenges, the country might face. Based on this analysis, the census in the faculty of health had focused more on persons with disabilities which by the way is one of the NYDA's key performance areas. Its methodology of sourcing information/data was based on six functional domains namely: - (a)Seeing (even with glasses/contact lenses), (b) Hearing (even with a hearing aid), (c) Communicating in his/her usual language, (d) Walking or climbing stairs, (e) Remembering or concentrating, and (f) Self-care. As stipulated in the report the population aged 5 years and older by the degree of difficulty in any of the six functional domains, the report reveals that the majority (over 90%) of persons had no difficulty in functioning in all six domains measured. On the contrary, there was a decrease in the percentage of those who experienced some difficulty and those with a lot of difficulty in the ten years. The general analysis shows that disability prevalence among

persons aged 5 years and older was 6,0% in 2022, a slight decrease of about 1% when compared with Census 2011. The slight decrease in disability prevalence may be attributed to improved understanding of the Washington set of questions. This signals dramatic intervention by the government regarding the disability sector, in the past 10 years. The total number of youths with disabilities (15-34 years) was roughly 551 000, and accounted for 2,7% of persons with disabilities in 2022 (3,8 million persons).

10.   HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

It is noted that there has been an upward trend in households residing in formal dwellings, an increase of almost from 65,1% in 1996 to 88,5% in Census 2022. The proportion of households that resided in informal dwellings halved from 16,2% in 1996 to 8,1% in 2022. The results show that almost all households in Limpopo 94,7%, and Mpumalanga 92,2% resided in formal dwellings. As expected, the provinces with larger rural areas such as KwaZulu-Natal 8% and Eastern Cape 11,7% recorded the highest proportion of traditional dwellings. Northern Cape (12,1%) had the highest proportion of households residing in informal dwellings, with Gauteng and the Western Cape (both at approximately 11%) following closely.

10.1 Water and Sanitation

In Census 2022, we noted a significant percentage (82,4%) of households in the country that have access to piped water either inside their dwelling or inside their yard which is a positive spin. There is also a proportion of households that accessed piped water off-site (from a water source outside the yard such as a neighbour or a community stand) that halved from 17,9% in 2011 to 8,9% in 2022. Although the national picture regarding access to piped water shows improvement over the years there is a sizeable proportion of households in Limpopo (20,5%) and Eastern Cape (19,5%) with no access to piped water.

11.   AGRICULTURE

These results on households' involvement in agriculture provide useful insights into agricultural activity at the household level. The statistics will equip policymakers to optimize agriculture as a driver of food security, job creation, and rural development, as envisaged in the National Development Plan. The information collected on households' involvement in agriculture also identifies all households involved in agriculture in the country to develop a frame for smallholder and subsistence agriculture. There is a decrease in agricultural households according to Census 2022 and contributing provinces to this decline are KwaZulu Natal, Free State, and Eastern Cape. Livestock and poultry production was the leading agricultural activity reported in households, followed by fruit or vegetable production and grains, food crops, and industrial crops.

12.   CONCLUSION

Although it is commendable for variables that exhibited some improvement such as the digital aspect for data collection during Census 2022 which is in line with National Youth Policy 2020/30 regarding 4IR, as well as the development of internet access in the rural areas. Young people will benefit a lot from a youth development perspective and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) is an organization for delivering products and services through Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) but more work still needs to be done. In addition, one should also applaud the participation of more than 3 million children in Early Childhood Development (ECD) across all provinces.

The population of South Africa increased from 51,7 million in 2011 to more than 62 million in 2022; a growth rate of 1,8% in the intercensal period. Females constituted 51,5% of the total population, while 48,5% were males. Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal had the highest populations at 15 million and 12,4 million respectively, while the Northern Cape had the smallest (1,3 million). Black Africans remain the dominant population group at 81,4%, followed by the colored population at 8,2%. The white population percentage declined to 7,3% in 2022 from 8,9% observed in 2011, while that for Indians/Asians increased slightly from 2,5% in 2011 to 2,7% in 2022.

The median age increased to 28 years from 25 years in 2011, suggesting a consistent increase over time and an overall increase of three years. More than 55,000 homeless individuals were recorded, with more males (70,1%) than females (29,9%), for both roofless and sheltered. Homelessness was more prevalent in metropolitan areas (74,1%) compared to non-metropolitan areas (25,9%). The City of Tshwane recorded the highest proportion of homeless persons (18,1%), followed by the City of Johannesburg at 15,6%.

Looking at the top five reasons for homelessness, job loss/no income was the most cited for both males and females (41,3%), followed by alcohol and drug abuse (25%). Internal migration results showed that two provinces still dominate internal migration in South Africa. Gauteng remained the dominant migration stream, receiving more than a third of all internal migrants, followed by the Western Cape with 15%. Over the intercensal period, four provinces experienced an outflow of people, namely Limpopo, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, and Free State.

Census 2022 showed there were more than 2,4 million international migrants, which equates to just above 3% of the total population. Most of these came from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region (86%) and of these, 45,5% came from Zimbabwe, followed by Mozambique with 18,7% and Lesotho with 10,2%. The top five sending countries to South Africa were Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Lesotho, and the United Kingdom; these five countries have also maintained their rank since 2011.

More than three million children (0–4 years) participated in Early Childhood Development (ECD). Provincially, children in the Northern Cape (57%) and Northwest (52,4%) were more likely not to participate in ECD, compared to other provinces. Seven out of ten black African children attended an ECD facility compared to eight out of ten white children. Attendance at an educational institution increased to an almost universal level between 1996 and 2022 for children aged 5 years and 6 years, while the attendance rate started to decline by age 15–24 over the period. Attendance increased for black Africans, coloreds, and whites over the period while the Indian/Asian population showed little change. For both 2011 and 2022, business, economics, and management sciences and education were dominated by females, while males continued to dominate in engineering and electrical infrastructure studies.

There was a slight decline in the number of households participating in agriculture across six of the nine provinces from 2011 to 2022. The exception was for Limpopo, where the number of agricultural households increased by almost 5%. Slight increases were observed for Gauteng and Mpumalanga as well. In both censuses, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo, and Eastern Cape had the highest number of households participating in agriculture. Almost 2 million households reported participating in agriculture for household consumption only.

13.   LIST OF THE REFERENCES

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