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**SOUTH AFRICA**



**P R E - F I E L D   B R I E F I N G   P A C K E T**

**SOUTH AFRICA**



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## ABOUT THIS PACKET

This packet has been created to serve as a resource for the IMR South Africa Medical/Dental Team.

This packet is information about the country and can be read at your leisure or on the airplane. The final section of this booklet is specific to the areas we will be working near (however, not the actual clinic locations) and contains information you may want to know before the trip.

The contents herein are not for distributional purposes and are intended for the use of the team and their families. Sources of the information all come from public record and documentation. You may access any of the information and more updates directly from the World Wide Web and other public sources.



## BACKGROUND

Dutch traders landed at the southern tip of modern day South Africa in 1652 and established a stopover point on the spice route between the Netherlands and the Far East, thus founding the city of Cape Town. After the British seized the Cape of Good Hope area in 1806, many of the Dutch settlers (Afrikaners, called "Boers" (farmers) by the British) trekked north to found their own republics in lands taken from the indigenous black inhabitants. The discovery of diamonds (1867) and gold (1886) spurred wealth and immigration and intensified the subjugation of the native inhabitants. The Afrikaners resisted British encroachments but were defeated in the Second South African War (1899-1902); however, the British and the Afrikaners, ruled together beginning in 1910 under the Union of South Africa, which became a republic in 1961 after a whites-only referendum. In 1948, the Afrikaner-dominated National Party was voted into power and instituted a policy of apartheid - the separate development of the races - which favored the white minority at the expense of the black majority. The African National Congress (ANC) led the opposition to apartheid and many top ANC leaders, such as Nelson MANDELA, spent decades in South Africa's prisons. Internal protests and insurgency, as well as boycotts by some Western nations and institutions, led to the regime's eventual willingness to negotiate a peaceful transition to majority rule. The first multi-racial elections in 1994 following the end of apartheid ushered in majority rule under an ANC-led government. South Africa since then has struggled to address apartheid-era imbalances in decent housing, education, and health care. ANC infighting came to a head in 2008 when President Thabo MBEKI was recalled by Parliament, and Deputy President Kgalema MOTLANTHE, succeeded him as interim president. Jacob ZUMA became president after the ANC won general elections in 2009; he was reelected in 2014.



## CAPE TOWN

**Area:** 948 mi<sup>2</sup>

**Founded:** 1652

**Population:** 3.5 million (2011)

### OVERVIEW

Established as a trading outpost by the Dutch East India Company in 1652, the city of Cape Town has expanded to be a multicultural destination that houses over 60% of the population in the Western Cape. Cape Town is the southernmost city in Africa and is the third most populated city in South Africa after Johannesburg and Durban. The Legislative branch of the government resides in Cape Town along with the state's National Parliament. Cape Town is a popular tourist destination and brings travelers from around the world to experience the beauty of what is known as the 'Mother City of Africa'.



### GEOGRAPHY

Cape Town is located at latitude 33.55° S and longitude 18.25° E. Cape Town has many geographical attractions including the most popular, Table Mountain, with its near vertical cliffs and flat-topped summit over 1,000 m (3,300 ft) high, and mountain regions such as Devils Peak, and Lion's Head, which together form a dramatic mountainous backdrop enclosing the central area of Cape Town into the so-called City Bowl.

To the immediate south, the Cape Peninsula is a scenic mountainous spine jutting 40 kilometers (25 mi) southwards into the Atlantic Ocean and terminating at Cape Point. There are over 70 peaks above 300 m (980 ft) within Cape Town's official city limits. Many of the city's suburbs lie on the large plain called the Cape Flats, which extends over 50 kilometers (30 mi) to the east and joins the peninsula to the mainland. The Cape Town region generally, with its Mediterranean climate, extensive coastline, rugged mountain ranges, coastal plains, inland valleys and semi-desert fringes, has much in common with Southern California.

### CLIMATE

Cape Town has a warm- summer Mediterranean climate with mild, moderately wet winters and dry, warm summers. Cape Town's average amount of sunshine per year is 3,100 hours, which compares favorably with that of Los Angeles at 3,300 hours and exceeds that of Athens and Madrid 2,900 hours.

Winter, lasts from the beginning of June to the end of August with average temperatures ranging from a maximum of 18.0 °C (64 °F) to a minimum of 8.5 °C (47 °F). Total annual rainfall in the city averages 515 millimeters (20.3 in).

Summer, which lasts from early December to March, is warm and dry with an average maximum of 26.0 °C (79 °F) and minimum of 16.0 °C (61 °F). The region can get uncomfortably hot when the Berg Wind, meaning "mountain wind", blows from the Karoo interior for a couple of weeks in February or early March. Late spring and early summer may sometimes feature a strong wind from the south-east, known locally as the Cape Doctor, so called because it blows air pollution away.

## POPULATION

According to the South African Census of 2011 the population of the City of Cape Town metropolitan municipality - an area that includes suburbs and exurbs, not always considered as part of Cape Town, is 3,740,026 people. This represents an annual growth rate of 2.6% compared to the results of the previous census in 2001 where the population was 2,892,243 people. The gender ratio is 96 meaning there are slightly more women than men. 42.4% of the population described themselves as "Colored", 15.7% as "White", 38.6% as "Black African", and 1.4% as "Indian or Asian". In 1944, 47% of the city's population was White, 46% were colored, and less than 6% were Black African and 1% were Asian. Of those residents who were asked about their first language, 35.7% spoke Afrikaans, 29.8% spoke Xhosa and 28.4% spoke English. 24.8% of the population is under the age of 15, while 5.5% is 65 or older

Of those residents aged 20 or older, 1.8% have no schooling, 8.1% have some schooling but did not finish primary school, 4.6% finished primary school but have no secondary schooling, 38.9% have some secondary schooling but did not finish Grade 12, 29.9% finished Grade 12 but have no higher education, and 16.7% have higher education. Overall, 46.6% have at least a Grade 12 education. Of those aged between 5 and 25, 67.8% are attending an educational institution. Amongst those aged between 15 and 65 the unemployment rate is 23.7%. The average annual household income is R161,762.

There are 1,068,573 households in the municipality, giving an average household size of 3.3 people. Of those households, 78.4% are in formal structures (houses or flats), while 20.5% are in informal structures (shacks). 94.0% of households use electricity for lighting. 487.3% of households have piped water to the dwelling, while 12.0% have piped water through a communal tap. 94.9% of households have regular refuse collection service. 91.4% of households have a flush toilet or chemical toilet, while 4.5% still use a bucket toilet. 82.1% of households have a refrigerator, 87.3% have a television and 70.1% have a radio. Only 34.0% have a landline telephone, but 91.3% have a cell phone. 37.9% have a computer, and 49.3% have access to the Internet (either through a computer or a cell phone).



## TOURISM

Cape Town is not only the most popular international tourist destination in South Africa, but the most popular destination on the continent. This is due to its good climate, natural setting, and well-developed infrastructure. The city has several well-known natural features that attract tourists, most notably Table Mountain, which forms a large part of the Table Mountain National Park and is the back end of the City Bowl. Reaching the top of the mountain can be achieved either by hiking up, or by taking the Table Mountain Cableway. Cape Point is recognized as the dramatic headland at the end of the Cape Peninsula. Many tourists also drive along Chapman's Peak Drive, a narrow road that links Noordhoek with Hout Bay, for the views of the Atlantic Ocean and nearby mountains. It is possible to either drive or hike up Signal Hill for closer views of the City Bowl and Table Mountain.

Many tourists also visit Cape Town's beaches, which are popular with local residents. Due to the city's unique geography, it is possible to visit several different beaches in the same day, each with a different setting and atmosphere. Clifton Beach is one of Cape Town's most famous beaches and is a significant destination on tourist maps. Both east and west coasts are equally popular, although the beaches in affluent Clifton and elsewhere on the Atlantic Coast are better developed with restaurants and cafés, with a strip of restaurants and bars accessible to the beach at Camps Bay. Boulders Beach near Simon's Town is known for its colony of African penguins. Surfing is popular and the city hosts the Red Bull Big Wave Africa surfing competition every year.

The city has several notable cultural attractions. The Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, built on top of part of the docks of the Port of Cape Town, is the city's most visited tourist attraction. It is also one of the city's most popular shopping venues, with several hundred shops and the Two Oceans Aquarium. The V&A also hosts the Nelson Mandela Gateway, through which ferries depart for Robben Island. It is possible to take a ferry from the V&A to Hout Bay, Simon's Town and the Cape fur seal colonies on Seal and Duiker Islands. Several companies offer tours of the Cape Flats, a mostly Colored township, and Khayelitsha, a mostly black township.

Cape Town is noted for its architectural heritage, with the highest density of Cape Dutch style buildings in the world. Cape Dutch style, which combines the architectural traditions of the Netherlands, Germany, France and Indonesia, is most visible in Constantia, the old government buildings in the Central Business District, and along Long Street. The annual Cape Town Minstrel Carnival, also known by its Afrikaans name of *Kaapse Klopse*, is a large minstrel festival held annually on 2 January or "*Tweede Nuwe Jaar*" (Afrikaans: Second New Year). Competing teams of minstrels parade in brightly colored costumes, performing Cape Jazz, either carrying colorful umbrellas or playing an array of musical instruments. The Artscape Theatre Centre is the main performing arts venue in Cape Town.

The city also encloses the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden that contains protected natural forest and fynbos along with a variety of animals and birds. There are over 7,000 species in cultivation at Kirstenbosch, including many rare and threatened species of the Cape Floristic Region. In 2004 this region, including Kirstenbosch, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Cape Town's transport system links it to the rest of South Africa; it serves as the gateway to other destinations within the province. The Cape Winelands and in particular the towns of Stellenbosch, Paarl, and Franschhoek are popular day trips from the city for sightseeing and wine tasting. Whale watching is popular amongst tourists: southern right whales and humpback whales are seen off the coast during the breeding season (August to November) and Bryde's whales and killer whale can be seen any time of the year. The nearby town of Hermanus is known for its Whale Festival, but whale's can also be seen in False Bay. Heaviside's dolphins are endemic to the area and can be seen from the coast north of Cape Town; dusky dolphins live along the same coast and can occasionally be seen from the ferry to Robben Island.

Sources: *SouthAfrica.info*, and *Wikipedia*



## DURBAN

Area: 948 mi<sup>2</sup>

Founded: 1824

Population: 2.7 million (2011)

### OVERVIEW

Durban (meaning "bay/lagoon") is the largest city in the South African province of KwaZulu-Natal. After Johannesburg, the Durban Metropolitan Area ranks second among the most populous urban areas in South Africa after Cape Town. It is also the second most important manufacturing hub in South Africa after Johannesburg. Durban is famous for being the busiest port in South Africa. It is also seen as one of the major centers of tourism because of the city's warm subtropical climate and extensive beaches.



Today, Durban is the busiest container port in Africa. The Golden Mile, developed as a welcoming tourist destination in the 1970s, as well as Durban at large, provides ample tourist attractions, particularly for people on holiday from Gauteng. The Golden Mile was redeveloped in late 2009 in time for the 2010 FIFA World Cup. It was resurfaced and widened between Ushaka Marine World and Moses Mabida Stadium. Durban's most popular

beaches are also located along the Golden Mile. The city is also a gateway to the national parks and historic sites of Zulu Kingdom and the Drakensburg.

### GEOGRAPHY

Durban occupies a total area of 94,361 square kilometers, in the province of KwaZulu-Natal and is roughly the size of Portugal. While it's the state's third-smallest province, taking up 7.7% of South Africa's land area, it has the second-largest population, with 10.3-million people living there. Some of South Africa's best-protected indigenous coastal forests are found along the subtropical coastline of KwaZulu-Natal, such as at Dukuduku and Kosi Bay. It is also along this coast that the magnificent Isimangaliso Wetland Park is found - along with the Drakensburg, one of KwaZulu-Natal's two Unesco World Heritage sites. The northern part of the province, on the Swaziland border, is typical African savanna, providing a natural backdrop for its rich wildlife, protected in several game parks. Durban and its suburbs are hilly, except for locations in and around the central business district and the harbor.

### CLIMATE

Durban has a humid subtropical climate with hot and humid summers and pleasantly warm and dry winters, which are frost-free. Durban has an annual rainfall of 1,009 millimeters (39.7 in). The average temperature in summer ranges around 24 °C (75 °F), while in winter the average temperature is 17 °C (63 °F). The rainy season is in the summer which begins in November and ends mid-April. Summers are sunny, hot and humid during the day, but are relieved by afternoon or evening thunderstorms. The city is also occasionally affected by tropical storms and cyclones during the cyclone season, which is from 15 November to 30 April. Winters, which are from June to August, are generally warm and sunny.

**POPULATION**

Durban is ethnically diverse, with a cultural richness of mixed beliefs and traditions. Zulus form the largest single ethnic group. It has a large number of people of British descent and has the most Indians of any city outside India.

The population of the city of Durban increased 10.9% between 2001 and 2011 from 536,644 to 595,061. The number of Black Africans increased while the number of people in all the other racial groups decreased. Black Africans increased from 34.9% to 51.1%. Indian or Asians decreased from 27.3% to 24.0%. Whites decreased from 25.5% to 15.3%. Colored's decreased from 10.26% to 8.59%. A new racial group 'Other' was included in the 2011 census at 0.93%. The city's demographics indicate that 68% of the population is of working age, and 38% of the people in Durban are under the age of 19 years.

**ECONOMY**

The Durban Metropolitan Area (DMA) has a large and diversified economy with strong manufacturing, tourism, transportation, finance and government sectors. Its coastal location and large port gives it comparative advantage over many other centers in South Africa for export-related industry. Durban's subtropical climate, warm marine current and culturally diverse population has drawn in tourists.

The city has revitalized its inner areas with the new Durban Point Waterfront development south-east of downtown sporting uShaka Marine World and many new residential and leisure developments. Efforts by the city to clean up the business district, new developments in Point and the 2010 FIFA World Cup stadium north of the CBD (Moses Mabhida Stadium) has aided in the economic turnaround. In 2010, Durban was rated as a Gamma-level global city.

The Durban Metropolitan Area is the main economic driver in KwaZulu-Natal, contributing over half of the province's output, employment and income. In national terms, Durban is the second most important economic complex after Gauteng, accounting for 15% of national output, 14% of household income and 11% of national employment. Regional development corridors link Durban northwards to Richards Bay and Maputo, and westward to Pietermaritzburg and Johannesburg.

*Sources: SouthAfrica.info, Wikipedia*



## PUBLIC HEALTH OVERVIEW

### SOUTH AFRICA AT A GLANCE

Population: 52,776,000 (2013)  
 Per capita income: \$12,240 PPP  
 Life expectancy at birth men/women: 59/63 years  
 Infant mortality rate: 34/1,000 live births

**Total Population:** 55 Million (2015 est.)  
 Life Expectancy at Birth: 61.2  
 Median Age: 27.3  
 Average Annual Growth Rate: 1.33%

**Infant Mortality:** 32.99/1000 live births  
**<5 Mortality:** 41/1000 (2014)  
 Children <5 underweight: 8.7% (2008 est.)  
**Child Labor** (7 - 15): 24.8% (2008 est.)

Total Fertility Rate: 2.33/woman  
**Maternal Mortality:** 138/100,000 live births

**Adult +15 Literacy rate:** 94.3% (Male: 95.5%;  
 Female: 93.1%)

Sources: South Africa Statistics, CIA World Fact Book (2015), World Health Organization 2016, and South African Statistics, 2014

**Improved Drinking Water Source:** 93.2% of population (99.6% urban; 81.4% rural)  
**Access to Sanitation Facilities:** 66.4% of population (69.6% urban; 60.5% rural)

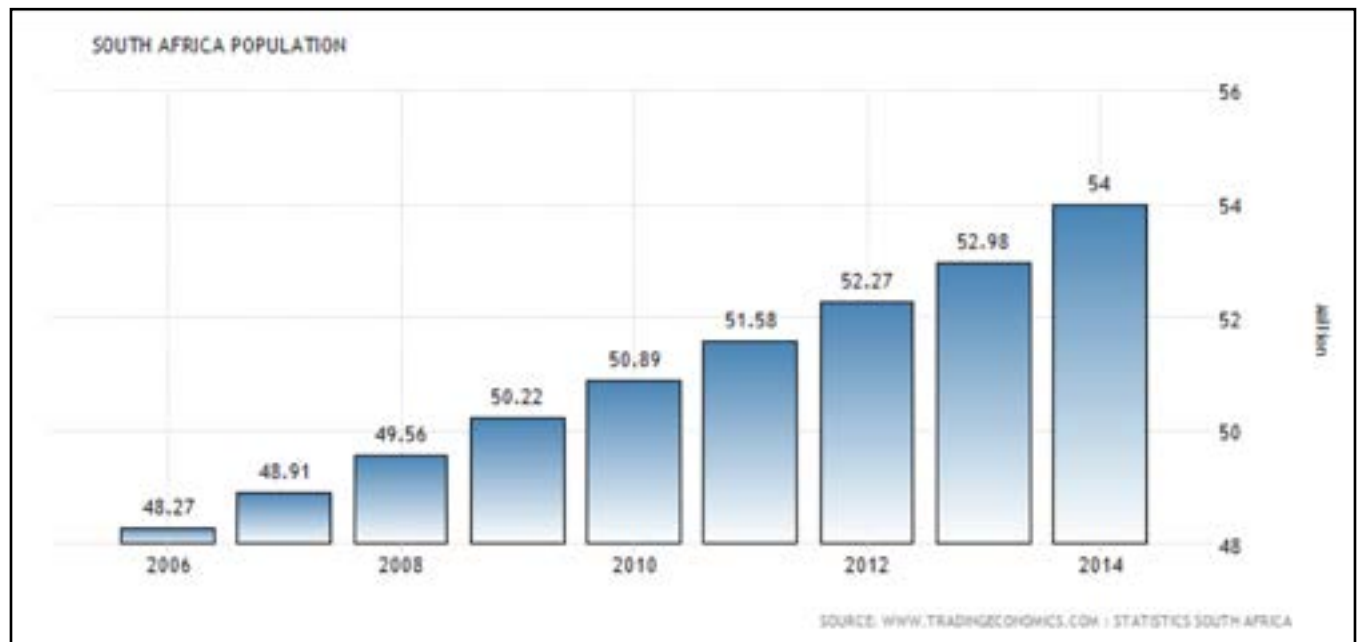
**HIV/AIDS** (2014 est.)  
 Adult prevalence rate: 18.92%  
 People living with HIV/AIDS: 6,836,500  
 Deaths from HIV/AIDS: 138,400 (2014 est.)

Major infectious diseases  
 Degree of risk: intermediate  
**Food or waterborne diseases:** Bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A and typhoid fever  
 Vector borne diseases: Malaria  
 Water contact disease: Schistosomiasis  
 Animal contact disease: Rabies

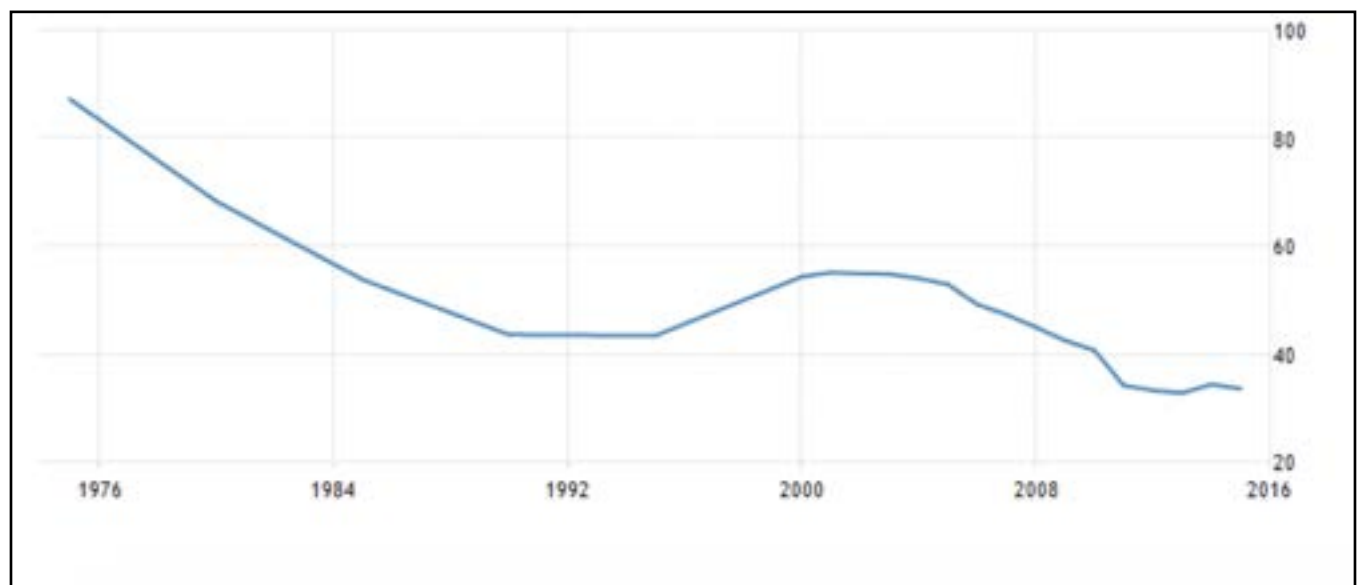
### TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

1. Tuberculosis 10%
2. Influenza/Pneumonia 5%
3. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) 5%
4. Cerebrovascular disease 5%
5. Diabetes Mellitus 5%
6. Heart Disease 4.5%
7. Hypertension 4%
8. Intestinal infection 3%
9. Viral disease 3%
10. Chronic lower respiratory infection 3%

## POPULATION GRAPH



## INFANT MORTALITY



## PUBLIC HEALTH

### OVERVIEW

In South Africa, private and public health systems exist in parallel. The public system serves the vast majority of the population, but is chronically underfunded and understaffed. The wealthiest 20% of the population use the private system and are far better served. In 2005, South Africa spent 8.7% of GDP on health care, or US\$437 per capita. Of that, approximately 42% was government expenditure. About 79% of doctors work in the private sector.

In 2013 it was estimated that vacancy rates for doctors were 56% and for nurses 46%. Half the population lives in rural areas, but only 3% of newly qualified doctors take jobs there. All medical training takes place in the public sector but 70% of doctors go into the private sector. 10% of medical staff qualified in other countries. Between 2000 and 2012 the total number of medical students increased by 34%.

### HOSPITALS

There are more than 400 public hospitals and more than 200 private hospitals. The provincial health departments manage the larger regional hospitals directly. Smaller hospitals and primary care clinics are managed at district level. The national Department of Health manages the 10 major teaching hospitals directly. The Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital is the third largest hospital in the world and located in Johannesburg.

### HIV/AIDS

According to the World Health Organization, about 37% of infected individuals were receiving treatment at the end of 2009. It wasn't until 2009 that the South African National AIDS Council urged the government to raise the treatment threshold to be within the World Health Organization guidelines. Although this is the case, the latest anti-retroviral treatment guideline, released in February 2010, continue to fall short of these recommendations. In the beginning of 2010, the government promised to treat all HIV-positive children with anti-retroviral therapy, though throughout the year, there have been studies that show the lack of treatment for children among many hospitals. In 2009, a bit over 50% of children in need of anti-retroviral therapy were receiving it.

A controversy within the distribution of anti-retroviral treatment is the use of generic drugs. When an effective anti-retroviral drug became available in 1996, only economically rich countries could afford it at a price of \$10,000 to \$15,000 per person per year. For economically disadvantaged countries, such as South Africa, to begin using and distributing the drug, the price had to be lowered substantially. In 2000, generic anti-retroviral treatments started being produced and sold at a much cheaper cost. Needing to compete with these prices, the big-brand pharmaceutical companies were forced to lower their prices. This competition has greatly benefited low economic countries and the prices have continued decline since the generic drug was introduced. The anti-retroviral treatment can now be purchased at as low as eighty-eight dollars per person per year. While the production of generic drugs has allowed the treatment of many more people in need, pharmaceutical companies feel that the combination of a decrease in price and a decrease in customers reduces the money they can spend on researching and developing new medications and treatments for HIV/AIDS.

### NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

The current government is working to establish a national health insurance (NHI) system out of concerns for discrepancies within the national health care system, such as unequal access to healthcare amongst different socio-economic groups. Although the details and outline of the proposal have yet to be released, it seeks to find ways to make health care more available to those who currently are unable to afford it, or whose situation prevents them from attaining the services they need. There is a discrepancy between money spent in the

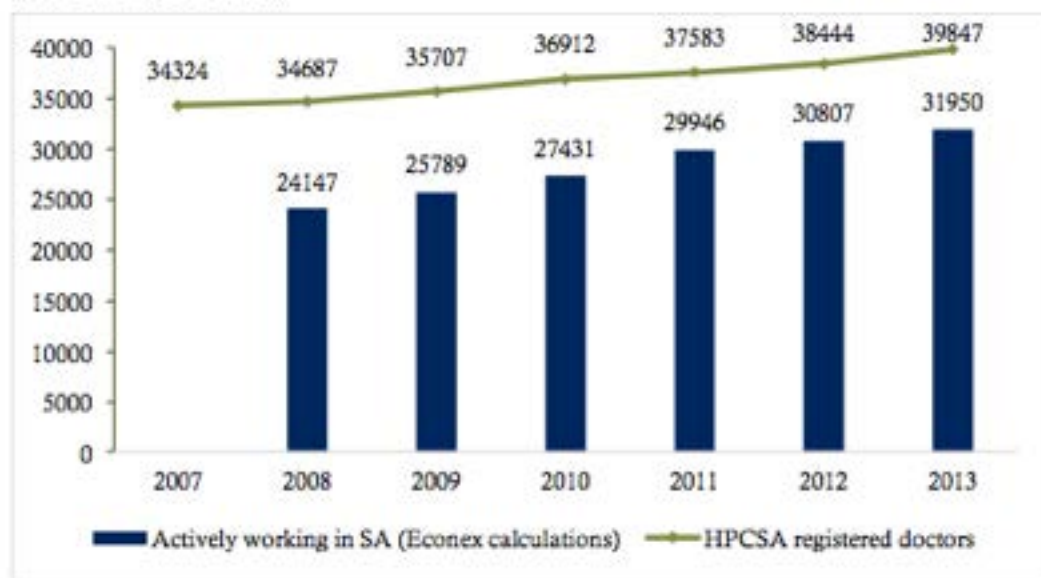
private sector which serves the wealthy (about US\$1500 per head per year) and that spent in the public sector (about US\$150 per head per year) which serves about 84% of the population. About 16% of the population has private health insurance. The total public funding for healthcare in 2012/3 was R21 billion. The NHI scheme is expected to require expenditure of about R336 billion.

The NHI is speculated to propose that there be a single National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) for health insurance. This fund is expected to draw its revenue from general taxes and some sort of health insurance contribution. The proposed fund is supposed to work as a way to purchase and provide health care to all South African residents without detracting from other social services. Those receiving health care from both the public and private sectors will be mandated to contribute through taxes to the NHIF. The ANC hopes that the NHI plan will work to pay for health care costs for those who cannot pay for it themselves.

There are those who doubt the NHI and oppose its fundamental techniques. For example, many believe that the NHI will put a burden on the upper class to pay for all lower class health care. Currently, the vast majority of health care funds come from individual contributions coming from upper class patients paying directly for health care in the private sector. The NHI proposes that health care fund revenues be shifted from these individual contributions to general tax revenue. Because the NHI aims to provide free health care to all South Africans, the new system is expected to bring an end to the financial burden facing public sector patients.

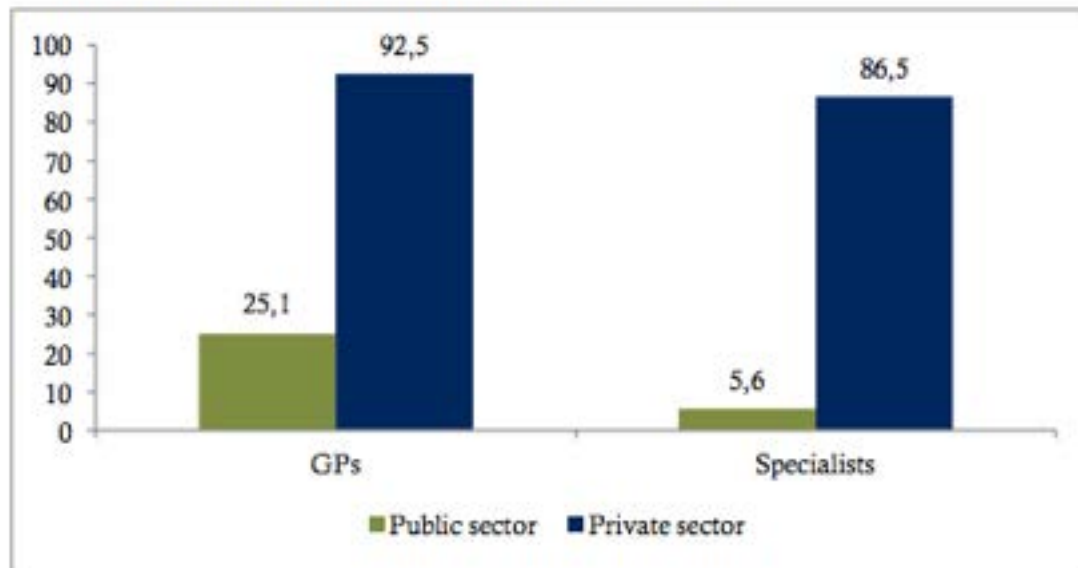
Source: CIA World Factbook and Wikipedia

**Figure 2: Estimates of active doctors in South Africa and doctors registered with the HPCSA (GPs and specialists)<sup>6</sup>**



Source: Econex (2009), Econex (2013)

**Figure 3: Number of doctors in the public sector per 100,000 citizens, relative to the number of doctors in the private sector per 100,000 beneficiaries (2013)**



Source: Econex, 2014

## NATIONAL FLAG



The flag of South Africa was adopted on 27 April 1994, at the beginning of South Africa's 1994 general election, to replace the flag that had been used since 1928. The new national flag, designed by State Herald Frederick Brownell, was chosen to represent the new democracy.

The flag has horizontal bands of red (on the top) and blue (on the bottom), of equal width, separated by a central green band which splits into a horizontal "Y" shape, the arms of which end at the corners of the hoist side (and follow the flag's diagonals). The Y embraces a black isosceles triangle from which the arms are separated

by narrow yellow bands; the red and blue bands are separated from the green band and its arms by narrow white stripes. The stripes at the fly end are in the 5:1:3:1:5 ratios.

Three of the colors - black, green and yellow - are found in the banner of the African National Congress. The other three - red, white and blue - are displayed on the old Transvaal vierkleur (which also includes green), the Dutch tricolor and the British Union flag.

Source: Wikipedia

## COUNTRY OVERVIEW



There are nine provinces in South Africa that all have their own form of legislations, distinct landscape, economy, climate and population. International Medical Relief will be focusing our resources on the cities of Cape Town and Durban.

The nine provinces are:

- The Eastern Cape
- The Free State
- Gauteng
- KwaZulu-Natal
- Limpopo
- Mpumalanga
- The Northern Cape
- North West
- The Western Cape

## BRIEF HISTORY OF SOUTH AFRICA

The original inhabitants of South Africa were various tribal groups. The main group residing in South Africa were the Khoisan people who were primarily hunters and gatherers. In 1652 Dutch settlers established their trade settlement at the Cape of Good Hope to be a stopping point for the Dutch East India Trade Company as a supply station. Eventually, the British took over the colony from the Dutch in 1795. In the late 19th century diamonds and gold were discovered which brought additional settlers and helped expand the colonies. By 1910, the previously separate British colonies, Cape, Orange River, Transvaal, and Natal unified and the Union of South Africa was created.

Since the first Dutch settlers landed, there were laws and restrictions that separated the whites from the black Africans. Oppression increased during the 1950's which caused division in the state. In 1990 the apartheid opposition ended and restrictions were lifted on black Africans. 4 years later South Africa held its first Democratic elections and Nelson Mandela was elected president. A new constitution was written and the state is now at peace. Continued democratic elections have helped the state leave segregation in the past and embrace a unified nation.

*Sources: SouthAfrica.info, and Wikipedia*

### THE EARLIEST PEOPLE

The earliest representatives of South Africa's diversity were the San and Khoekhoe peoples. Both were resident in the southern tip of the continent for thousands of years before its written history began with the arrival of European seafarers.

The hunter-gatherer San ranged widely over the area; the pastoral Khoekhoe lived in those comparatively well-watered areas, chiefly along the southern and western coastal strips, where adequate grazing was to be found. So it was with the latter that the early European settlers first came into contact - much to the disadvantage of the Khoekhoe.

### SETTLERS & SLAVES

The existence of the indigenous people was of little importance to Jan van Riebeeck and the 90 men who landed with him in 1652 at the Cape of Good Hope, under instructions by the Dutch East India Company to build a fort and develop a vegetable garden for the benefit of ships on the Eastern trade route. Their relationship with the Khoekhoe was initially one of bartering, but a mutual animosity developed over issues such as cattle theft - and, no doubt, the growing suspicion on the part of the Khoekhoe that Van Riebeeck's outpost was becoming a threat to them. By the time Van Riebeeck left in 1662, 250 white people lived in what was beginning to look like a developing colony. Later governors of the Cape Colony encouraged immigration, and in the early 1700s independent farmers called *trekboers* began to push north and east.

The descendants of some of the Khoisan, slaves from elsewhere in Africa and the East, and white colonists formed the basis of the mixed-race group now known as "colored". It is noteworthy that the slaves from the East brought a potent new ingredient to South Africa's racial and cultural mix, especially with their religion of Islam.

As the colonists began moving east, they encountered the Xhosa-speaking people living in the region that is today's Eastern Cape. A situation of uneasy trading and more or less continuous warfare began to develop. By this time, the second half of the 18th century, the colonists - mainly of Dutch, German and French Huguenot stock - had begun to lose their sense of identification with Europe. The Afrikaner nation was coming into being. As a result of developments in Europe, the British took the Cape over from the Dutch in 1795. Seven years later, the colony was returned to the Dutch government, only to come under British rule again in 1806, recaptured because of the alliance between Holland and Napoleon.

### EXPANDING COLONIES & WAR

The emancipation of slaves in 1834 had dramatic effects on the colony, precipitating the Great Trek, an emigration north and east of about 12 000 discontented Afrikaner farmers, or Boers. These people were determined to live independently of colonial rule and what they saw as unacceptable racial egalitarianism. They began to settle in Natal, but smaller conflicts followed and the British - fearing repercussions in the Cape Colony - annexed Natal, where a small British settlement called Port Natal (later Durban) had already been established. Later, two Boer republics were formed: the central Orange Free State and South African Republic. By the mid-1800s, the tiny refreshment post at the Cape of Good Hope had grown into an area of white settlement that stretched over virtually all of what is today South Africa.

The Cape Colony was granted representative legislature in 1853 and self-government in 1872. Between these two dates, a dramatic new element was introduced to the economic, and consequently political, balance - the discovery of diamonds and subsequent establishment of Kimberley. In addition, the colony had taken tentative steps towards political equality among the races. Equality was based on economic qualifications but excluded the vast majority of African and colored people in practice.

During this time Cecil John Rhodes had become Prime Minister in Cape Town. His overriding vision of a federation of British-controlled states in southern Africa was well served by the growing discontent of the *uitlanders* and exasperation of the mining magnates in the ZAR. Rhodes' first attempt at takeover, however, came to an ignominious end when his plan to have Leander Starr Jameson lead a raid into Johannesburg in response to a planned *uitlander* uprising failed. Not long after, the Anglo-Boer/South African War began in October 1899. Up to half a million British soldiers squared up against some 65 000 Boers; black South Africans

were pulled into the conflict on both sides. The war ended in Boer defeat at the Peace of Vereeniging in 1902.

In 1909 a delegation appointed by the South African Native Convention, including representatives of the colored and Indian populations, went to London to plead the case of the country's black population. When the Union of South Africa came into being on 31 May 1910, the only province with a non-racial franchise was the Cape, and blacks were barred from being members of parliament. Of the estimated 6-million inhabitants of the Union in that year, 67% were black African, 9% colored and 2.5% Asian. The South African Party, a merging of the previous Afrikaner parties, held power under the premiership of General Louis Botha.



### THE ANC & NATIONALIST PARTIES

Repressive measures to entrench white power were not long in coming - the Masters and Servants Act, the reservation of skilled work for whites, pass laws, the Native Poll Tax and the 1913 Land Act which reserved 90% of the country for white ownership. By the time this Act was passed, the African National Congress (ANC) had come into being on January 8 1912, in Bloemfontein, in an act of unity joining educated elite, the rural classes and tribal structures. The ANC was beginning to see itself as part of the wider African efforts against colonialism in Africa. In its 1918 constitution it referred to itself as a "Pan African Association" and the organization attended the second congress of the international Pan African Movement in 1921 (not to be confused with the later South African Pan-Africanist Congress). The ANC symbolically marked the start of what was to be nearly 50 years of head-to-head conflict between that organization and the Nationalist Party. The Nationalist Party came into being when the government's popularity with its voters declined in economic depression in the early 1930s, into a coalition government in 1933 of the Hertzog and Smut parties fusing as the United Party. The Hertzog-Smuts coalition fell apart with the Second World War, Smuts winning the power battle to form a government that took South Africa into the war.

The coalition government propelled the breaking away of a new Nationalist Party as a political home for the more extreme Afrikaner nationalists. Oppression increased by the new government when in 1936 black Cape voters were removed from the common roll; in the following year laws were passed to stem black urbanization and compel municipalities to segregate black African and white residents. The Nationalist Party, however, was gathering strength and, in a surprise result, gained power in the 1948 election - power that it would not relinquish until 1994. Apartheid became official government ideology.

### THE ANC YOUTH & OPPRESSION

In April 1944 the ANC Youth League was formed. Its first president was AM Lembede and Nelson Mandela as secretary. Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu were among those who came to the fore as the influence of the Youth League in the broader ANC increased. It was a time of rapid industrial expansion, but skilled work remained the

domain of whites. On the other hand, the black influx into urban areas combined with the continuing repression strengthened black resistance. The 1950s were to bring increasingly repressive laws against black South Africans and its obvious corollary - increasing resistance.

The Group Areas Act, rigidifying the racial division of land, and the Population Registration Act, which classified all citizens by race, were passed in 1950. The pass laws, restricting black movement, came in 1952. The Separate Amenities Act of 1953 introduced "petty apartheid" segregation, in areas such as buses and post offices.

### APARTHEID RESISTANCE

The Defiance Campaign of 1952 sought to take a stand against apartheid with non-violent resistance, it nevertheless led to the jailing of thousands of participants. The result was to increase unity among resistance groups with the forming of the Congress Alliance, which included black, colored, Indian and white resistance organizations as well as the South African Congress of Trade Unions. The following year saw two of the most significant events of the decade. The first was when the government changed the composition of the Senate by increasing its size (and consequently Nationalist majority) to give it the required majority in a joint sitting of the Senate and the House of Assembly in order to remove colored's from the 1910 common voters' roll. The second watershed moment came when, after an ANC campaign to gather mass input on freedom demands, the Freedom Charter - based on the principles of human rights and non-racialism - was signed on June 26 1955 at the Congress of the People in Soweto. The following year 156 leaders of the ANC and its allies were charged with high treason for taking a stand. The longest trial in South African history was conducted and led to the acquittal of all accused in 1961.

The 1950s offered many opportunities to resolve South Africa's racial injustices peacefully. This, however, was contrary to official ideology. Instead, apartheid transmuted itself into the policy of "separate development": the division of the black population into ethnic "nations", each of which was to have its own "homeland" and eventual "independence".

### CONTINUED CRISIS

A turning point came at Sharpeville on March 21 1960 when the Pan Africanist Congress organized passive anti-pass campaign. This campaign came to a bloody conclusion with police killing 69 unarmed protesters. A State of Emergency was declared: detention without trial was introduced and the ANC, PAC and other organizations were declared illegal. The resistance groups went underground.

At the end of that year, Umkhonto we Sizwe (The Spear of the Nation), emerged with acts of sabotage against government installations. Originally formed by a group of individuals within the ANC, including Mandela, it was

to become that organization's armed wing. Mandela was arrested in Natal in August 1962 and received a three-year sentence for incitement. The following year, in July of 1963, a police raid on the Rivonia farm Lilliesleaf led to the arrest of several of Mandela's senior ANC colleagues, including Walter Sisulu. They were charged with sabotage, Mandela being brought from prison to stand trial with them. All were sentenced in 1964 to life imprisonment and taken to Robben Island.

In September 1966 BJ Vorster became Prime Minister after the assassination in parliament of Verwoerd. Segregation became even more strictly enforced. Reeling under the blow of the "Rivonia Trial", the ANC



nevertheless continued to operate, regrouping at the Morogoro Conference in Tanzania in 1969. The first half of the next decade was marked by increasing repression, increasing militancy in the resistance camp, and extensive strikes.

PW Botha, who became Prime Minister in 1978 after Vorster's retirement, tried to co-opt the colored and Indian population in the early 1980s with a new constitution establishing a Tricameral Parliament, with separate houses for these groups. The constitution also did away with the post of Prime Minister and provided for an executive State President. Opposition came from both left and right, a section of the right wing splitting off from the National Party. The United Democratic Front, an internal coalition of anti-apartheid groups, organized highly successful boycotts of the colored and Indian elections in 1984. There was a further escalation of violence, with the country being governed - as far as it was governable - under a state of emergency in a spiral of revolution and repression. International sanctions increased.

1989 was the year in which the logjam started to break up. Negotiations had been entered into between Mandela and PW Botha, but these were secret. Dissension within the Nationalist Party, in combination with Botha's ill health, led to his resignation and he was replaced by FW de Klerk.

### **THE END OF APARTHEID**

On 2 February 1990, FW de Klerk lifted restrictions on 33 opposition groups, including the ANC, the PAC and the Communist Party, at the opening of Parliament. On February 11 Mandela, who had maintained a tough negotiating stance on the issue, was released after 27 years in prison.

The piecemeal dismantling of restrictive legislation began. Political groups started negotiating the ending of white minority rule, and in early 1992 the white electorate endorsed De Klerk's stance on these negotiations in a referendum. Violence continued unabated, a massacre at the township of Boipatong causing the ANC to withdraw temporarily from constitutional talks. In 1993, however, an agreement was reached on a Government of National Unity which would allow a partnership of the old regime and the new.

The optimism generated by the negotiations was shattered by the assassination of Chris Hani, the secretary-general of the Communist Party: only a prompt appeal to the nation by Mandela averted a massive reaction. At the end of the year an interim constitution was agreed to by 21 political parties.

South Africa's first democratic election was held on 26, 27 and 28 April 1994, with victory going to the ANC in an alliance with the Communist Party and Cosatu. Nelson Mandela was sworn in as President on May 10. Mandela's presidency was characterized by the successful negotiation of a new constitution; a start on the massive task of restructuring the civil service and attempts to redirect national priorities to address the results of apartheid; and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, set up primarily to investigate the wrongs of the past.

In the country's second democratic election on 2 June 1999 the ANC marginally increased its majority and Thabo Mbeki became President. The New Nationalist Party, previously the official opposition, lost ground and ceded that position to the Democratic Party, which later became the Democratic Alliance.

In 2004 South Africa's third democratic election went off peacefully, with Thabo Mbeki and the ANC again returning to power, and the Democratic Alliance retaining its position as official opposition. In the 2009 elections - democratic South Africa's fourth - the ANC won 65.9% of the vote and Jacob Zuma was elected as

president. The Democratic Alliance strengthened its position as opposition, winning 16.7% of the vote as well as the Western Cape. In the 2014 elections - democratic South Africa's fifth - the ANC won 62.1% of the vote, down from the 2009 election, and Jacob Zuma was elected as president. The Democratic Alliance increased its share

of the vote from 16.7% to 22.2%, while the newly formed Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) obtained 6.4% of the vote.

Sources: *SouthAfrica.info*

## GEOGRAPHY

### AREA

**Total:** 1,219,090 sq km

**Land:** 1,214,470 sq km

**Water:** 4,620 sq km

**Area - comparative:** approximately 2x the size of France

**Land boundaries:** 5,244 km

**Border countries:** Botswana 1,969 km, Lesotho 1,106 km, Mozambique 496 km, Namibia 1,005 km, Swaziland 438 km, Zimbabwe 230 km

**Maritime claims:** 12 nm

Source: *CIA World Factbook*

### LOCATION

South Africa occupies the southern tip of Africa, its coastline stretching more than 2,500 kilometers (1,600 miles) from the desert border with Namibia on the Atlantic (western) coast southwards around the tip of Africa and then north to the border with Mozambique on the Indian Ocean. The low-lying coastal zone is narrow for much of that distance, soon giving way to a mountainous escarpment (Great Escarpment) that separates the coast from the high inland plateau. In some places, notably the province of KwaZulu-Natal in the east, a greater distance separates the coast from the escarpment. Although most of the country is classified as semi-arid, it has considerable variation in climate.

South African central plateau contains only two major rivers, the Limpopo (a stretch of which is shared with Zimbabwe) and the Orange which runs with a variable flow across the central landscape from east to west, emptying into the Atlantic Ocean at the Namibian border

## CLIMATE AND WEATHER

South Africa has a generally temperate climate, due in part to being surrounded by the Atlantic and Indian Oceans on three sides, by its location in the climatically milder Southern Hemisphere and due to the average elevation rising steadily towards the north (towards the equator) and further inland. Due to this varied topography and oceanic influence, a great variety of climatic zones exist. The climatic zones range from the extreme desert of the southern Namib in the farthest northwest to the lush subtropical climate in the east along the Mozambique border and the Indian Ocean. Winters in South Africa occur between June and August. The extreme southwest has a climate remarkably similar to that of the Mediterranean with wet winters and hot, dry summers. This area also produces much of the wine in South Africa and is also particularly known for

its wind, which blows intermittently almost all year. The severity of this wind made passing around the Cape of Good Hope particularly treacherous for sailors, causing many shipwrecks. Further east on the south coast, rainfall is distributed more evenly throughout the year, producing a green landscape. This area is popularly known as the Garden Route.

The Free State is particularly flat because it lies centrally on the high plateau. North of the Vaal River, the Highveld becomes better watered and does not experience subtropical extremes of heat. Johannesburg, in the centre of the Highveld, is at 1,740 m (5,709 ft) and receives an annual rainfall of 760 mm (29.9 in). Winters in this region are cold, although snow is rare.

The high Drakensberg Mountains, which form the south-eastern escarpment of the Highveld, offer limited skiing opportunities in winter. The coldest place on mainland South Africa is Sutherland in the western Roggeveld Mountains, where midwinter temperatures can reach as low as  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $5^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). The Prince Edward Islands have colder average annual temperatures, but Sutherland has colder extremes. The deep interior of mainland South Africa has the hottest temperatures: a temperature of  $51.7^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $125.06^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) was recorded in 1948 in the Northern Cape Kalahari near Uprington, but this temperature is unofficial and was not recorded with standard equipment, the official highest temperature is  $48.8^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $119.84^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) at Vioolsdrif in January 1993. *Source: Wikipedia*

## PEOPLE

### DEMOGRAPHICS

Black African 80.2%, White 8.4%, Colored 8.8%, Indian/Asian 2.5%

### OVERVIEW

According to the Census 2011 data from Statistics South Africa, in 2011 the country's population was 51 770 560, of which 26 581 769 (51.3%) were female and 25 188 791 (48.7%) were male.

Africans are in the majority at just over 41-million, making up 79.2% of the total population. The colored population is 4 615 401 (8.9%), while there are 4 586 838 (8.9%) whites. The Indian/Asian population stands at 1 286 930 (2.5%). In 2011, "other" was included in the Census, and accounts for 280 454 or 0.5% of the total.

There have been three official censuses since South Africa's first democratic election in 1994, the first in 1996, the second in 2001, and the third conducted in October 2011. The population in 1996 was 40.6-million, increasing by 10.4% to 44.8-million in 2001. The population grew by 15.5%, or almost 7-million people, in the space of 10 years to reach a total of 51.7-million in 2011.

The provinces of Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal account for 42% of South Africa's population, with Gauteng taking top spot as the most populous province from KwaZulu-Natal: 12.3 million people (23.7%) live in Gauteng, while 10.3 million (19.8%) live in KwaZulu-Natal.

They are followed by the Eastern Cape with 6.56-million (12.7%), the Western Cape with 5.82-million (11.3%), Limpopo with 5.4-million (10.4%), Mpumalanga with 4.04-million (7.8%), North West with 3.51- million (6.8%), and Free State with 2.75-million (5.3%). Although the Northern Cape is the largest province, at almost a third of South Africa's land area, it is an arid region with the smallest population - only 1.15-million people, or 2.2% of the total.

Comparing the three sets of census data, the provincial share of the total population has fallen in the Eastern Cape (from 15.1% in 1996 to 12.7% in 2011). The fastest growing province is the Western Cape, growing by 29% between 2006 and 2011. Gauteng's population grew by 31% to 12.8-million people by 2011, up from 9.4- million a decade ago. Around 1-million people have moved to Gauteng in the past decade, highlighting the flow of people from rural to urban areas. Only 56% of people living in Gauteng today were born there.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

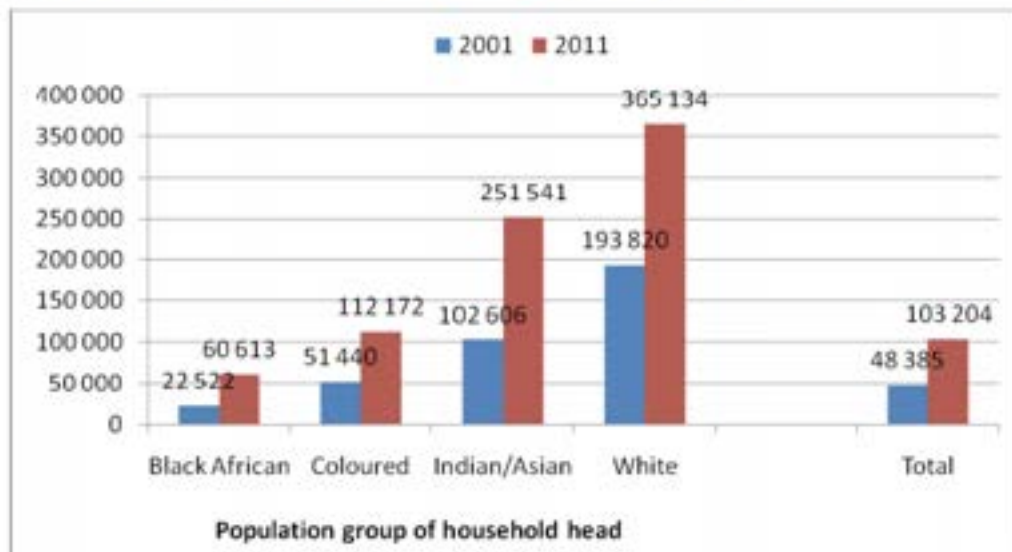
The African population is made up of four broad groupings:

- The Nguni, comprising the Zulu, Xhosa, Ndebele and Swazi people
- The Sotho-Tswana, who include the Southern, Northern and Western Sotho (Tswana people)
- The Tsonga
- The Venda

White South Africans include:

- Afrikaners, descendants of Dutch, German and French Huguenot who came to the country from the 17th century onwards.
- English-speakers, descendants of settlers from the British Isles who came to the country from the late 18th century onwards.
- Immigrants and descendants of immigrants from the rest of Europe, including Greeks, Portuguese, Eastern European Jews, Hungarians and Germans.

Figure 3.26: Average annual household income by population group of household head



"Colored" South Africans (the label is contentious) are a people of mixed lineage descended from slaves brought to the country from east and Central Africa, the indigenous Khoisan who lived in the Cape at the time, indigenous Africans and Whites. The majority speak Afrikaans.

Khoisan is a term used to describe two separate groups, physically similar in being light-skinned and small in stature. The Khoi, who were called Hottentots by the Europeans, were pastoralists and were effectively annihilated; the San, called Bushmen by the Europeans, were hunter-gatherers. A small San population still lives in South Africa.

The majority of South Africa's Asian population is Indian in origin, many of them descended from indentured workers brought to work on the sugar plantations of what was then Natal in the 19th century. They are largely English-speaking, although many also retain the languages of their origins. There is also a significant group of Chinese South Africans.

Source: CIA World Factbook and Southafrica.info

## ECONOMY

### STATISTICS

**Labor force:** 20.86 million (2015 est.)

Unemployment rate: 25.9% (2015 est.)

**GDP Per Capita income:** \$13, 4000 USD (2015 est.)

Population below poverty line: 35.9% (2012 est.)

**Public debt:** 45.4% (2015 est.)

Household income: (lowest 10%) 1.2% (highest 10%) 51.7% (2009 est.)

Industrial production growth rate: 1.7% (2015 est.)

### AGRICULTURE

Corn, wheat, sugarcane, fruits, and vegetables: beef, poultry, and mutton, wool, dairy

### INDUSTRIES

Mining (world's largest producer of platinum, gold, chromium, automobile assembly, metalworking, machinery, textiles, iron, steel, chemicals, fertilizer, foodstuff, commercial ship repair

Source: CIA World Factbook

### OVERVIEW

South Africa is a middle-income, emerging market with an abundant supply of natural resources; well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, and transport sectors; and a stock exchange that is Africa's largest and among the top 20 in the world.

Even though the country's modern infrastructure supports a relatively efficient distribution of goods to major urban centers throughout the region, unstable electricity supplies retard growth. Economic growth has decelerated in recent years, slowing to just 1.5% in 2014. Unemployment, poverty, and inequality - among the highest in the world - remain a challenge. Official unemployment is roughly 25% of the work force, and runs significantly higher among black youth.

South Africa's economic policy has focused on controlling inflation; however, the country faces structural constraints that also limit economic growth, such as skills shortages, declining global competitiveness and frequent work stoppages due to strike action. The current government faces growing pressure from urban constituencies to improve the delivery of basic services to low-income areas and to increase job growth.

*Source: CIA World Factbook, and Wikipedia*

### CURRENT ECONOMICS

South Africa has a mixed economy, the second largest in Africa after Nigeria. It also has a relatively high GDP per capita compared to other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (\$11,750 at PPP as of 2012). Despite this, South Africa is still burdened by a relatively high rate of poverty and unemployment, and is also ranked in the top 10 countries in the world for income inequality. Unlike most of the world's poor countries, South Africa does not have a thriving informal economy; according to Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), only 15% of South African jobs are in the informal sector, compared with around half in Brazil and India

and nearly three-quarters in Indonesia. The OECD attributes this difference to South Africa's widespread welfare system. World Bank research shows that South Africa has one of the widest gaps between per capita GNP versus its Human Development Index ranking, with only Botswana showing a larger gap.

After 1994 government policy brought down inflation, stabilized public finances, and gained foreign capital, however growth was still subpar. From 2004 onward economic growth picked up significantly; both employment and capital formation increased. During the presidency of Jacob Zuma, the government has begun to increase the role of state-owned enterprises. Some of the biggest state-owned companies are Eskom, the electric power monopoly, South African Airways (SAA), and Transnet, the railroad and ports monopoly. Some of these state-owned companies have not been profitable, such as SAA, which has required bailouts totaling 30 billion rand (\$2.3 billion) over 20 years.

South Africa is a popular tourist destination, and a substantial amount of revenue comes from tourism. Illegal immigrants are involved in informal trading. Many immigrants to South Africa continue to live in poor conditions, and the immigration policy has become increasingly restrictive since 1994. Principal international trading partners of South Africa—besides other African countries—include Germany, the United States, China, Japan, the United Kingdom and Spain.

The South African agricultural industry contributes around 10% of formal employment, relatively low compared to other parts of Africa, as well as providing work for casual laborers and contributing around 2.6% of GDP for the nation. Due to the aridity of the land, only 13.5% can be used for crop production, and only 3% is considered high potential land.

In August 2013, South Africa was ranked as the top African Country of the Future by FDI magazine based on the country's economic potential, labor environment, cost-effectiveness, infrastructure, business friendliness, and foreign direct investment Strategy. The FSI ranks South Africa as the 36th safest tax haven in the world, ahead of the Philippines but behind the Bahamas.

*Source: Wikipedia*

## LANGUAGE

### STATISTICS

IsiZulu (official) 22.7%, IsiXhosa (official) 16%, Afrikaans (official) 13.5%, English (official) 9.6%, Sepedi (official) 9.1%, Setswana (official) 8%, Sesotho (official) 7.6%, Xitsonga (official) 4.5%, siSwati (official) 2.5%, Tshivenda (official) 2.4%, isiNdebele (official) 2.1%, sign language 05%, other 1.6% (2011 est).

### LANGUAGE

South Africa has eleven official languages: Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Northern Sotho, Sotho, Swazi, Tswana, Tsonga, Venda, Xhosa, and Zulu. In this regard it is third only to Bolivia and India in number. While all the languages are formally equal, some languages are spoken more than others. According to the 2011 census, the three most spoken first languages are Zulu (22.7%), Xhosa (16.0%), and Afrikaans (13.5%). Despite the fact that English is recognized as the language of commerce and science, it ranked fourth, and was spoken by only 9.6% of South Africans as a first language in 2011.

The country also recognizes several unofficial languages, including Fanagalo, Khoe, Lobedu, Nama Northern Ndebele, Phuthi, San and South African Sign Language. These unofficial languages may be used in certain official uses in limited areas where it has been determined that these languages are prevalent. Nevertheless, their populations are not such that they require nationwide recognition.

Many of the "unofficial languages" of the San and Khoikhoi people contain regional dialects stretching northwards into Namibia and Botswana, and elsewhere. These people, who are a physically distinct population

from other Africans, have their own cultural identity based on their hunter-gatherer societies. They have been marginalized to a great extent, and many of their languages are in danger of becoming extinct.

Many white South Africans also speak other European languages, such as Portuguese (also spoken by black Anglicans and Mozambicans, German, and Greek, while some Indians and other Asians in South Africa speak South Asian languages, such as Tamil, Hindi, Gujarati, Urdu and Telugu. Although many South Africans are of Huguenot (French) origin, South African French is spoken by fewer than 10,000 individuals countrywide.

Source: Wikipedia

## EDUCATION

### LITERACY STATISTICS (2015 est.)

**Literacy:** age 15 and over can read and write

**Total Population:** 94.3%

**Male:** 95.5%

**Female:** 93.1%

### EDUCATION

The adult literacy rate in 2007 was 88.7%. South Africa has a 3 tier system of education starting with primary school, followed by high school and tertiary education such as academic universities and universities of technology. Learners have twelve years of formal schooling, from grade 1 to 12.



Grade R is a pre-primary foundation year. Primary schools span the first seven years of schooling. High School education spans five years. The Senior Certificate examination takes place at the end of grade 12 and is necessary for tertiary studies at a South African University.

Public universities in South Africa are divided into three types: traditional universities, which offer theoretically oriented university degrees; universities of technology ("Technikons") which offer vocational oriented diplomas and degrees; and comprehensive universities, which offer both types of qualification. There are 23 public universities in South Africa: 11 traditional universities, 6 universities of technology and 6 comprehensive universities.

Under apartheid, schools for blacks were subject to discrimination through inadequate funding and a separate syllabus called 'Bantu Education' was only designed to give them sufficient skills to work as laborers. In 2004, South Africa started reforming its higher education system, merging and incorporating small universities into larger institutions, and renaming all higher education institutions "university" to redress these imbalances. By 2015, 1.4 million students in higher education have benefited from a financial aid scheme, which was promulgated in 1999. Public expenditure on education was at 5.4% of the 2002-05 GDP

Source: CIA World Factbook and Wikipedia

## RELIGION

According to the 2001 national census, Christians accounted for 79.7% of the population. This includes Zion Christian (11.1%), Pentecostal (Charismatic) (8.2%), Roman Catholic (7.1%), Methodist (6.8%), Dutch Reformed (6.7%), Anglican (3.8%); members of other Christian churches accounted for another 36% of the population. Muslims accounted for 1.5% of the population, Hindus about 1.3%, and Jews 0.2%. 15.1% had no religious affiliation, 2.3% were classified as other and 1.4% were unspecified.

African Indigenous Churches made up the largest of the Christian groups. Some believe that many people

claiming no affiliation with any organized religion adhered to traditional indigenous religions. Many people have syncretic religious practices combining Christian and indigenous influences.



Muslims are largely found in the Colored and Indian ethnic groups. They have been joined by black or white South African converts as well as immigrants from other parts of Africa. South African Muslims claim that their faith is the fastest-growing religion of conversion in the country, with the number of black Muslims growing rapidly, from 12 000 in 1991 to 74 700 in 2004.

The Hindu population has its roots in the British colonial period, but later waves of immigration from India have also contributed to it. Most Hindus are of South Asian origin, but there are many who come from mixed racial stock. Some are converts due to the efforts of Hindu missionaries such as ISKCON.

Other minority religions in South Africa are Sikhism, Jainism, and Baha'i Faith.

*Source: CIA World Factbook and Southafrica.info*

## POVERTY



Poverty levels dropped in South Africa between 2006 and 2011, reaching a low of 20.2% for extreme poverty and of 45.5% for moderate poverty, according to the Poverty Trends in South Africa report released by Statistics South Africa. The report applied three measures of poverty, with extreme poverty defined in terms of a "food poverty line" below which people are unable to purchase enough food for an adequate diet. Less extreme poverty is defined in terms of a "lower-bound poverty line", below which people can afford an adequate diet but would have to sacrifice food to purchase non-food items; and an "upper-bound poverty line" marking the level at which people can purchase both adequate food and non-food items.

The drop in poverty in the country, translates to roughly 10.2-million South Africans living in extreme poverty in 2011, compared to 12.6-million in 2006; and 23-million living in moderate poverty, compared to 27.1-million in 2006. In terms of the lower poverty line - higher than the food line but lower than the upper line - 32.3% of the population, or roughly 16.3-million people, were living in poverty in 2011, down

from 42.2% or 20-million people in 2006. It is this line that the country's National Development Plan (NDP) uses in setting its ambitious target of eliminating poverty by 2030.

The global financial crisis of 2008/09 had a great impact on South Africa's poorest, with the number of people living below the food line jumping to 15.8-million in 2009 before dropping below 2006 levels again by 2011. The overall decrease in poverty is attributed to the combination of a growing social safety net, income growth, above-inflation wage increases, decelerating inflationary pressure, and an expansion of credit.

The South African government provides a "social wage" in various ways, including free primary health care, no-fee paying schools, social grants (most notably old-age pensions and child support grants), state-subsidized

housing, and the provision of basic services (water, electricity and sanitation) to households which translates to approximately 60% of government spending on social wage. Expenditure continues to rise for these services. While the poverty situation is improving, inequality in the country remains a serious problem, according to the Poverty Trends report, which measures inequality in terms of the Gini coefficient - a number between 0 and 1, where 0 indicates total equality and 1 indicates total inequality. South Africa's Gini figure was approximately

0.65 based on expenditure data (per capita excluding taxes) and 0.69 based on income data (per capita including salaries, wages and social grants) in 2011. "The share of national consumption between the richest and poorest remains stubbornly stagnant. The richest 20% of the population account for over 61% of consumption in 2011 (down from a high of 64% in 2006). Meanwhile, the bottom 20% sees their share remaining fairly constant at below 4.5%".

*Source: SouthAfrica.Info*

## CULTURE



### GENDER ROLES

In general, all racial and ethnic groups in South Africa have long-standing beliefs concerning gender roles, and most are based on the premise that women are less important, or less deserving of power, than men. Most African traditional social organizations are male centered and male dominated. Even in the 1990s, in some rural areas of South Africa, for example, wives walk a few paces behind their husbands in keeping with traditional practices. Minorities of conservative Afrikaners' believe in a biblically based notion that women's contributions to society should normally be approved by, or be on behalf of, men. English speaking whites tend to be the most liberal group, including on issues pertaining to gender roles.

In the 20th century, economic and political developments presented South African women with both new obstacles and new opportunities to wield influence. For example, labor force requirements in cities and mining areas have often drawn men away from their homes for months at a time, and, as a result, women have borne many traditionally male responsibilities in the village and home. Women have had to guarantee the day-to-day survival of their families and to carry out financial and legal transactions that otherwise would have been reserved for men.

*Source: Wikipedia*

## GREETINGS & COMMUNICATION

There are several greeting styles in South Africa depending upon the ethnic heritage of the person you are meeting. When dealing with foreigners, most South Africans shake hands while maintaining eye contact and smiling.

Some women do not shake hands and merely nod their head, so it is best to wait for a woman to extend her hand. Men may kiss a woman they know well on the cheek in place of a handshake. Greetings are leisurely and include time for social discussion and exchanging pleasantries.

There are major differences in communication styles depending upon the individual's cultural heritage. For the most part, South Africans want to maintain harmonious working relationships, so they avoid confrontations. They often use metaphors and sports analogies to demonstrate a point.

Most South Africans, regardless of ethnicity, prefer face-to-face meetings to more impersonal communication mediums such as email, letter, or telephone. Do not interrupt a South African while they are speaking.

*Source: Kwintessential.co.uk, and Wikipedia*

## FOOD

It was the search for food that shaped modern South Africa: spices drew the Dutch East India Company to Java in the mid-1600s, and the need for a half-way refreshment stop for its ships rounding the Cape impelled the Company to plant a farm at the tip of Africa. There are sections of Commander Jan van Riebeeck's wild almond hedge still standing in the Kirstenbosch Gardens in Cape Town. That farm changed the region forever. The Company discovered it was easier to bring in thousands of hapless slaves from Java to work in the fields than to keep trying to entrap the local people, mostly Khoi and San, who seemed singularly unimpressed with the Dutch and their ways. The Malay slaves brought their cuisine, perhaps the best-known of all South African cooking styles.

The French Huguenots arrived soon after the Dutch, and changed the landscape in wonderful ways with the vines they imported. They soon discovered a need for men and women to work in their vineyards, and turned to the Malay slaves (and the few Khoi and San they could lure into employment).

Much later, sugar farmers brought indentured laborers from India to cut the cane. The British, looking for gold and empire, also brought their customs and cuisine, as did German immigrants. Black communities carried on eating their traditional, healthy diet: game, root vegetables and wild greens, berries, millet, sorghum and maize, and protein-rich insects like locusts.

Today the resultant kaleidoscope - the famous "rainbow" - applies not only to the people but to the food, for one finds in South Africa the most extraordinary range of cuisines.

For the more daring diner, South Africa offers culinary challenges ranging from crocodile sirloins to fried caterpillars to sheep heads. All three are reputed to be delicious. For the not-quite so brave, there are myriad indigenous delicacies such as biltong (dried, salted meat), *bobotie* (a much-improved version of Shepherd's pie) and *boerewors* (hand-made farm sausages, grilled on an open flame). Those who prefer to play it altogether safe will find that most eateries offer a familiar global menu - anything from hamburgers to sushi to pad Thai to spaghetti bolognese.



Major centers, such as Cape Town or Durban there are a variety of restaurants to choose from. Restaurant guides categorize eateries by national style list close to two dozen, including Vietnamese and Swiss. Those in search of authentic South African cuisine have to look harder for those few establishments that specialize in it - like the justly famous Gramadoelas in central Johannesburg, Wandie's Place in Soweto, the Africa Café in central Cape Town or smaller restaurants in that city's Bo-Kaap, in Khayelitsha and Langa.

Source: *SouthAfrica.info*

### TRADITIONAL CLOTHES

Traditional clothes are one of the most creative forms of expression and one where South Africans love to show their diverse culture. Traditional Zulu dress code is animal skin for men and skirts decorated with hardwood beads for women. The Indian ethnic clothes are dhoti, kurta, and salwar kameez, sari, turban and sherwani for men.



Xhosa dress includes intricately sewn designs on blankets that are worn by both men and women as shawls or capes. The other symbol that explains the Xhosa tradition is face-painting by women. For the Xhosa people, face painting allegedly improves beauty and in fact no traditional attire is complete without it. The dots and painting can be found on the face, arms and legs, depending on the style of the dress that is worn.

The Tswana dress in traditional animal skins, communicate themes of nature and imitate animals through dance, clapping and song. The women clap and sing to help the dancers reach a trance and soon the dance becomes frenetic. The Basotho

people wear seshweshwe, which are colorful German-print clothes, and the men wear blankets.

Source: *SAHistory.org*

### MUSIC & DANCE

South African music speaks volumes about its ability to celebrate all aspects of its diverse culture. Firstly, is the multilingual national anthem, 'Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika'. Elsewhere in South Africa, people play kwaito (African house music), jazz, hip hop, Afrikaans rock, African gospel, classic rock, pop, traditional drums, Afrikaans sakkie sakkie, and many more.

Zulu dance involves high stepping and stomping the ground in rhythm. Dancers hold weapons and shields with their hands raised high. The dancers kick over their head and fall to the ground in a "crouch" position. In Zulu dances, ankle rattles, shields, headdresses and belts are used as props and to differentiate social class and societal roles.



Xhosa traditional music places a strong emphasis on group singing and handclapping as accompaniment to dance. Drums are used occasionally, and they are not musical expression as they are for other South African ethnic groups. Other instruments used by Xhosa people are mouth harps, rattles, whistles, flutes, and stringed-instruments constructed with a bow and resonator.

The most famous dance of the Venda is the Domba, or python dance which is held annually at one of their most sacred sites, Lake Fundudzi to secure good rains for the following season. Another famous dance is a royal dance called the Tshikona, which can be considered as the Venda national dance. Traditionally, Tshikona is a male dance performed at funerals, wedding or religious ceremonies. Each dancer has a pipe which is made out

of a special indigenous type of bamboo and has only one note and they blow it in at a specific time so as to build a melody with the other pipes. Drums form an important part of Venda culture and there are legends and symbols linked to them. Most sets of drums are kept in the homes of chiefs and headmen, and comprise one ngoma, one thungwa and murumbas. Drums are always played by females.

The Shangaan-Tsonga people have developed a number of musical instruments. The fayi is a small, stubby wooden flute that produces a breathless, raspy, but haunting sound, and is often played by young boys. The xitende is a long thin bow tied on each end by a taut leather thong or wire, which runs across a gourd. The Shangaan-Tsonga people are also known for the beat of drums and horns and wide variety of musical instruments such as the mbila. Shangaan-Tsonga male dancers performed the muchongolo dance, which celebrated the role of women in society, war victories and ritual ceremonies.

The Indian dances are separated into classical dances and folk dances. These classical dances are usually spiritual and the folk dances of Indians are also spiritual and religious, and it is performed during celebrations. Like the Indian culture, Indian classical dances are equally diverse in nature. There are numerous classical dance forms in Indian culture. Each form represents the culture and ethos of a particular region or a group of people. The most popular classical dance styles of Indians are Bharata Natyam of Tamil Nadu, Kathakali and Mohiniattam of Kerala, Odissi of Orissa, Kathak of Uttar Pradesh, Kuchipudi of Andhra Pradesh and Manipuri of Manipur.

The Afrikaner's communities hold folk and dancing events (volkspele) as well as perform their traditional music. Symphony music, ballet, opera, jazz and is enjoyed by all communities.

## ARTS & CRAFTS

South Africa's art and craft scene reflects the country's rich cultural diversity. You'll find skilled craftsmen and



women working everywhere, from the pavements and vibrant markets of South Africa's big cities, to remote rural villages. Traditional objects find new markets as South African creative skills evolve interesting ways. South Africa has no shortage of creative talent, reflected in the output of artists and craftsmen and women from around the country.

South African arts and crafts are made from every possible medium. Traditional materials like beads, grass, leather, wood and clay are worked using traditional skills, while materials such as telephone wire, plastic bags, glass and bottle tops are used to create vibrant, contemporary craft items that reflect our cultural diversity.

Art and craft objects in South Africa include items like wire art and eco-friendly bags made from recycled bottle tops, traditional beadwork, pottery and woven baskets, tableware, fabrics, ceramics and beautiful

wooden carvings. There are a number of markets and collectives selling modern and traditional African craft in every city and in cultural villages dotted around the country. Often, these South African arts and crafts co-operatives directly benefit local communities, teaching skills and providing employment through tourism.

These cooperatives also nurture hidden talent, with skilled artists emerging to attain national and international attention for their work. South Africa also has many galleries and museums that showcase examples of traditional and more recent South African art, from that of the San to artists like Irma Stern, Gerald Sekoto and Walter Battiss.

Source: [Southafrica.net](http://Southafrica.net)

## SURVIVAL GUIDE

### ETIQUETTE

#### DINING ETIQUETTE

Food etiquette in South Africa is mostly westernized, with some of its own idiosyncrasies. For instance, it's acceptable to eat pasta twirling it onto a fork with aid of a spoon, and lobster with your hands. The popular *braai* (barbecue) is another occasion where you can use your hands. In rural areas, traditional stew and mealie *pap* are also eaten with the hands - use your right hand only and roll the *pap* into a ball with your fingers, then dip it into the stew and eat.

Most restaurants supply bread rolls as you wait for your meals - these should be broken and buttered a piece at a time. At fine dining restaurants, dress a little more formally towards a 'smart-casual' look. Most other eateries, however, are extremely informal, and in the many family-friendly establishments South African food etiquette is relaxed.

If you are invited to dine at the home of South Africans or share *abraai* with them, it is good etiquette to take a box of chocolates or a bunch of flowers, or a small gift as a token of appreciation.

Source: [SouthAfrica.info](http://SouthAfrica.info)

#### MEALTIMES AND TYPICAL FOODS

The typical diet is a combination of local ethnic group cuisine, Western foods, and Asian foods: much is available in South Africa. All groups enjoy barbecues, for example. Local food is rich in rice, yams and cassava (a root vegetable), plus breads, fresh vegetables, and fruits. Meats are enjoyed when available, and fish along the coast and rivers. Each ethnic group has its own specialties and preferences, and remember. Muslims will not eat pork or drink alcohol (although it is available). A typical dish is mealie meal (the South African version of the ubiquitous African porridge), served in any number of different ways.

A note on hosting and dining with observant Muslims: If you are serving a meal at home, be sure you do not use alcohol or pork in any of the dishes, and if you do, so labeling the dish and serving it separately will still make your Muslim guest uncomfortable: simply don't do it. You, as a guest in the more rural regions, may be rewarded with the opportunity to either dine first, or be offered the more favored food, such as the meat: please consider that this may mean that others in the family do not eat this. Also, if you are dining with or hosting Indians, there is a very good chance they are Hindu, and therefore, will most likely be vegetarian. If you are offered something you cannot eat or drink, acknowledge the honor and suggest that while you will always hold the honor in your heart, you in turn will bestow it on someone who can also appreciate it in his or

her belly: then pass the honored dish on to a South African colleague. Alternately, you may say thank you but that you have just eaten or drunk.

Breakfast is served from about 6 to 9 A.M., lunch from 12 to 2 P.M., and dinner from 8 to 10 P.M. the main meal of the day for most all groups is dinner. Urban South Africans will dine the Western way: rural South Africans will often dine in the more conservative African way, with a wooden spoon, a communal bowl, or no utensils (using the right hand). In such cases, traditionally children, women, and men dine separately, and men are offered the best parts first, women next, and children typically last.

#### **SHOES**

It is very important to remove your shoes before entering most South African homes (look to see if other sandals are lined up at the entrance as your cue), and when seated to always make sure that your toes and feet are not pointing to the food or to others at the meal. In such settings, typically, conversation while eating is minimal, and most South Africans avoid eye contact when dining.

#### **REGIONAL DIFFERENCES**

Remember, Islam prohibits the use of pork, and most meats of any kind for Muslims need to be prepared halal (meat slaughtered according to Islamic prescriptions). Do not eat in front of your Muslim colleagues, or invite them to join you for a meal, during the day during Ramadan, as Muslims typically fast (and refrain from drinking and smoking) during the day, and feast with family and friends at night. Ramadan lasts for a lunar month: this is simply not a good time to do business or go out entertaining in the Muslim world.

#### **DRINKS AND TOASTING ETIQUETTE**

Tea, coffee, beer, water, and soft drinks are all available in most places. Some of the world's best wines are now coming from South Africa. When you come to a South African home, even for just a brief visit, you will most likely be offered tea, sometimes served English style-with milk and sugar-if available. Many South Africans really do take the time to have afternoon tea. When offered, always accept the cup of tea and/or coffee, even if you only put it to your lips or just take a few sips. Your cup will always be refilled if it is less than half full. Typically, beer and other alcoholic drinks may also be served: fruit juices and lemonades, along with tea, may accompany meals.

If you are the honored guest, you are not expected to make a statement or toast, but if you offer a small compliment, it will be appreciated (and then dismissed as unnecessary): you can do this at the end of the meal, just before everyone departs. An appropriate comment would be to wish for the health of the host and all those present: always be humble.

Avoid drinking tap water anywhere in the region (this means you should brush your teeth with bottled water and not take ice in any of your drinks: drink only bottled water, or brewed tea or coffee or soft drinks, and avoid getting water from the morning shower into your mouth: never eat fresh fruits or vegetables that cannot be peeled first, and ideally cooked later before eating). This is a serious matter: there are some very nasty-and sometimes deadly-bugs going around in developing countries. In addition, avoid all dairy products except in the finest hotels, as the required refrigeration may be questionable. Do not swim in freshwater lakes, ponds, or rivers due to the possibility of serious parasitic infection.

#### **TABLE MANNERS**

Modern urban South Africa has been significantly Westernized, as many of the Western modes of dining are understood and accepted (many South Africans, for example, dine with spoon and knife, held, as they are in Europe, in both hands, and in the same hands throughout the meal). However, understanding the traditional South African modes of dining behavior will be quite helpful as they are apparent and respected in most places. They vary group to group, but the following basic suggestions should be considered: Before meals, you must

wash your hands, and wash them again when the meal is over. Traditionally, one eats with one's right hand from their plate. Never use your left hand unless you are clearly eating something that requires two hands; occasionally you may be offered a spoon or fork, which also must be held in the right hand, unless you also have a knife, in which case the knife is held in the right and the spoon or fork in the left. Keep your left hand off any bowls or serving items. If there is one communal bowl offered, eat only from that part of the communal plates or bowls that is directly in front of you. You may be seated at a table, on the floor, or on low stools. Do not smoke in the same area where the food is being served and wait to smoke until after the meal is finished (women typically do not smoke). Typically, people stay around for a bit after the meal for some conversation.

### **SEATING ETIQUETTE**

The most honored position is next to the host. Most social entertaining is done in people's homes (although in the cities there is business dining in restaurants). The home, the market, or a local cafe is where local people typically meet, socialize, and get things done, including business (although business is not easily done in the market), outside of the major urban centers. Your spouse might be invited with you to a meal at home, especially if the spouse of the host will be there, which will probably be the case. The invitation will then typically be phrased, "My spouse invites your spouse." and women and men may (especially in Muslim areas) eat separately. By the way, invitations, business or social, will most always be verbal, not written.

### **HOME / RESTAURANT / WORK ETIQUETTE**

The honored guest is served first, then the oldest male, then the rest of the men, then children, and finally women. Do not begin to eat or drink anything until the oldest man at the table has been served and has begun. At the end of the meal, it is appropriate to thank the host or hostess for a wonderful meal.

In informal restaurants, you may be required to share a table. If so, do not force conversation: act as if you are seated at a private table. Women should be sensitive to the fact that they may be seated only with other women. Wait staff may be summoned by raising your hand or by making eye contact; waving or calling their names is very impolite. Since business and socializing in this part of the world are usually one and the same, business is often discussed over meals, once individuals know each other well enough to talk terms. Take your cue from your South African associates: if they bring up business, then it's okay to discuss it, but wait to take your lead from their conversation.

Once inside the home do not wander around. If you move from one area to another in a South African home or restaurant, be sure to always allow more senior members of your party to enter the room ahead of you.

### **HOST / GUEST ETIQUETTE/ PAYING THE BILL**

Usually the one who does the inviting pays the bill. If invited to a home or if you are hosted in any way, thanks and compliments may be denied; nevertheless, it is important to state humble thanks, and to accept thanks graciously.

### **TIPPING ETIQUETTE**

Tipping practices are similar to those in the West, although when out in the bush and rural areas, favors are expected from individuals to individuals who are providing a service or favor. Typically, it is a way of taking care of people; when abused, it is a form of graft that in some countries in the region, South Africa included, can be a rampant form of corruption. It is traditional to always give a little something to someone who has helped you out. The offer may be refused at first in some cases, but if you insist, it will be graciously accepted and appreciated. Tips in restaurants run about 10 percent, and are typically not included in the bill (but double-check to be sure): a tip is not necessary if you have negotiated the fare for the taxi ahead of time and already figured in the tip. For everything else, a few coins are all that is needed, but you should always have a lot of spare change handy to see you through the day. The South African currency is the rand.

**ARRIVING / HELPING ETIQUETTE**

If invited to dinner at a private home do offer to help with the chores and to help out in any way you can. Do not leave the meal area unless invited to do so. When in the home, be careful not to admire something too effusively: South Africans may feel obligated to give it to you and doing so might represent a great sacrifice. Your compliments will most likely be dismissed, although they will be appreciated. Useful Afrikaans phrases

Source: [http://www.etiquettescholar.com/dining\\_etiquette/table-etiquette/africa-s\\_table\\_manners/south\\_african.html](http://www.etiquettescholar.com/dining_etiquette/table-etiquette/africa-s_table_manners/south_african.html)

**USEFUL AFRIKAAN PHRASES**

[www.omniglot.com](http://www.omniglot.com)

A collection of useful phrases in Afrikaans, a West Germanic language descended from Dutch and spoken mainly in South Africa and Namibia.

Key to abbreviations: inf = informal, frm = formal, sg = singular (said to one person), pl = plural (said to more than one person)

English	Afrikaans
Welcome	Welkom
Hello (General greeting)	Haai (inf) Hallo Goeie dag (frm)
How are you?	Hoe gaan dit met jou? (inf) Hoe gaan dit met u? (frm)
Reply to 'How are you?'	Goed, dankie, en met jou/u? Baie goed dankie, en self?
What's your name?	Wat is jou naam? (inf) Wat is u naam? (frm)
My name is ...	My naam is ...
Where are you from?	Waarvandaan kom jy? (inf) Waarvandaan kom u? (frm)
I'm from ...	Ek kom van ... af
Pleased to meet you	Bly te kenne (frm) Aangename kennis (frm) Lekker om jou te ontmoet (inf)
Good morning (Morning greeting)	Goeiemôre Môre
Good afternoon (Afternoon greeting)	Goeie middag
Good evening (Evening greeting)	Goeienaand
Good night	Goeienag Nag

English	Afrikaans
Goodbye (Parting phrases)	Totsiens Mooi loop (go/walk well)
Good luck	Sterkte!
Congratulations!	Geluk!
Cheers! (Toasts used when drinking)	Gesondheid!
Have a nice day	Lekker dag!
Bon appetit / Have a nice meal	Smaaklike ete! Lekker eet!
Bon voyage / Have a good journey	Veilige reis! Voorspoedige reis!
I understand	Ek verstaan
I don't understand	Ek verstaan nie
Yes	Ja
No	Nee
Maybe	Miskien
I don't know	Ek weet nie
Please speak more slowly	Praat stadiger asseblief
Please say that again	Kan jy dit weer sê? (inf) Kan u dit weer sê? (frm) Herhaal dit, asseblief
Please write it down	Skryf dit neer asseblief!
Do you speak English?	Praat jy Engels? (sg/inf) Praat julle Engels? (pl/inf) Praat U Engels? (frm/sg) Praat Meneer Engels? (frm/>m) Praat Mevrouw Engels? (frm/>f)
Do you speak Afrikaans?	Praat jy Afrikaans? (sg/inf) Praat julle Afrikaans? (pl/inf) Praat u Afrikaans? (frm/sg) Praat Meneer Afrikaans? (frm/>m) Praat Mevrouw Afrikaans? (frm/>f)
Yes, a little (reply to 'Do you speak ...?')	Ja, 'n bietjie
Speak to me in Afrikaans	Jy kan Afrikaans praat met my

English	Afrikaans
How do you say ... in Afrikaans?	Hoe sê u ... in Afrikaans? (frm) Hoe sê jy ... in Afrikaans? (inf)
Excuse me	Verskoon my! Ekskuus!
How much is this?	Hoeveel kos dit?
Sorry	Jammer!
Please	Asseblief
Thank you	Dankie Baie dankie
Reply to thank you	Dis 'n plesier
Where's the toilet?	Waar is die toilet? Waa issie toilet? (slang)
This gentleman will pay for everything	Hierdie heer sal alles betaal
This lady will pay for everything	Hierdie dame sal alles betaal
Would you like to dance with me?	Sal jy met my dans, asseblief?
I miss you	Ek mis jou
I love you	Ek's lief vir jou Ek het jou lief
Get well soon	Word gou gesond!
Go away!	Gaan weg!
Leave me alone!	Laat my met rus! Los my uit asseblief!
Help!	Help!
Fire!	Brand!
Stop!	Stop!
Call the police!	Bel die polisie!
Christmas and New Year greetings	Geseënde Kersfees en 'n voorspoedige Nuwe jaar Geseënde Kersfees en 'n gelukkige nuwe jaar
Birthday greetings	Gelukkige Verjaarsdag
One language is never enough	Een taal is nooit genoeg nie

## SAFETY

Traveling to a foreign country such as South Africa can offer the experience of a lifetime. However, in the midst of all this excitement you must also be cognizant of your surroundings and take certain precautions to ensure your safety. Like many of the countries in Africa and around the world, South Africa has certain neighborhoods you might be wise to avoid, and the country is currently experiencing a higher than average crime rate due to an increase in gang activity in certain regions of the country.

To help you safely enjoy all that South Africa has to offer, below we have outlined a few travel safety tips you may want to keep in mind while visiting the country.

### **Travel in Groups**

As the old saying goes, “there is safety in numbers.” Truer words have never been spoken. As you make your way through beautiful South Africa, en route to the various sites and attractions you’ve mapped out on your itinerary, always try to travel with at least one other person (even more if you can). Research shows that criminals are less likely to approach you when they feel outnumbered.

### **Make Copies of all Your Important Documents**

Documents can easily be misplaced or even stolen in the hustle and bustle of foreign travel, creating a nightmarish situation you just don’t need. This is why you should make copies of all your important papers. This includes copies of your passport, visa, driver’s license, social security card and medical insurance card. Travel experts suggest you keep one copy of these documents on your person at all times, and at least one other copy locked in the hotel safe.

### **Beware of the Night**

Sightseeing is an activity that should be limited to the daylight hours, as unsavory types tend to be hard at work during the nighttime, often preying on unsuspecting tourists. Enjoy your hotel during the nighttime hours, and if you must go out, try to stay in the immediate area.

### **Watch the Strays**

South Africa has many stray dogs and cats roaming the streets, many of which are feral and quite dangerous. Even if the animal looks friendly, resist the temptation to pet him/her, as many of these strays are infected with diseases, including rabies.

### **Get Vaccinated**

Although only people who have traveled to certain regions of the world are legally required to be vaccinated (for yellow fever) prior to entering South Africa, you may want to be on the safe side and receive certain vaccinations anyway. Check with your doctor regarding the vaccinations that would be appropriate when traveling to South Africa and don’t let a serious illness of some type ruin your long-awaited getaway.

## GOVERNMENT

### OVERVIEW

South Africa is a constitutional democracy with a three-tier system of government, an independent judiciary, and a Constitution - the highest law of the land - recognized as one of the most progressive in the world. South Africa's Constitution is internationally acclaimed for its emphasis on human rights.

The Bill of Rights - chapter 2 of the Constitution - ensures protection of a broad range of rights, from equality and human dignity, to freedoms of religion, expression, sexual orientation and more, to the right to adequate housing, water and sanitation. The Constitution was approved by the Constitutional Court on 4 December 1996. It became law on 4 February 1997.

### LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

South Africa has three levels of government: national, provincial and local (municipal). National government is further divided into three separate spheres: law-making (legislative authority), the actual work of governing (executive authority) and the courts (judicial authority).

South Africa's three capital cities reflect these spheres. The executive capital is Pretoria, where the Union Building's house the seat of government and the offices of the President. The Judicial capital is Bloemfontein, home of the Supreme Court of Appeal. Cape Town is the legislative capital, where the Houses of Parliament draft, vote and pass the laws of the country. The two houses of Parliament are the National Assembly, which creates law for the country as a whole, and the National Council of Provinces, which ensures those laws will meet the different needs of each province.

### THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES AND COUNSELS

The National Assembly is elected to represent all South Africans. It is a national forum for public debate, for passing laws and for inspecting and reviewing the actions of the government. As its name says, the National Assembly is an assembly of people brought together to look after the needs of the nation. These people are known as Members of Parliament, or MPs. The number of MPs in the National Assembly can range between 350 and 400. MPs are appointed by their political parties

The National Council of Provinces, or NCOP, is the second house of Parliament. It makes sure the different needs of each province are taken care of in the nationwide laws passed by the National Assembly. The National Council of Provinces is made up of 54 permanent members and 36 special delegates. It elects its own chair. Each of South Africa's nine provinces sends 10 representatives to the NCOP.

### PRESIDENCY & CABINET

The President, elected by the National Assembly from its members, is the executive head of state and leads the Cabinet. The President may not serve more than two five-year terms in office.

The Presidency is at the apex of South Africa's government system. Its office is in the Union Buildings in Pretoria, with a subsidiary office in Tuynhuys in Cape Town.

The Presidency is headed by four political principals: the president, the deputy president, the minister in the presidency, and the minister for women. The Cabinet is made up of the president, the deputy president, and ministers and deputy ministers of national departments. The President appoints Cabinet members, assigns their powers and functions, and may dismiss them.

**PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

The legislature portion of government elects a members as head of the provincial government often known as members of the Executive Council, or MECs.

The legislature makes provincial laws, and may adopt a Constitution for the province if two-thirds of its members agree. A provincial Constitution must be in line with the principles of the national Constitution. Provinces are allowed legislative and executive powers - alongside the powers of the national government - over a number of issues. These include gambling, education (excluding university education), the environment, healthcare, police services, vehicle licensing and welfare. The provinces also have exclusive powers over a number of areas, including abattoirs, ambulance services, liquor licenses, local museums, culture and recreation, and provincial roads and traffic.

Local government in South Africa administers cities and smaller regions. These are known as municipalities. There are three categories of municipality:

- **Metropolitan municipalities** - defined as category A - govern the major city regions.
- **District municipalities**, category C, are for wider areas outside the cities, like counties in the US and UK.
- Districts are further divided into **local municipalities**; which are defined as category B.

The country has 278 municipalities: eight metropolitan, 44 districts and 226 local. Metropoles have a choice between two types of government: the mayoral executive system where the mayor has the authority, or the collective executive committee system.

*Source: SouthAfrica.info*

**MILITARY**

The South African National Defense Force (SANDF) comprises the armed forces of South Africa. The commander of the SANDF is appointed by the President of South Africa from one of the armed services. The military as it exists today was created in 1994, following South Africa's first post-apartheid national elections and the adoption of a new constitution. It replaced the South African Defense Force (SANDF).

As of 2004, SANDF was considered complete however, due to integration problems, financial constraints, and other issues, the SANDF faced capability constraints. According to the Defense Ministry's 2014 Defense Review, the SANDF is "in a critical state of decline". In 1999, a R30 billion (US\$4.8 billion) purchase of weaponry by the South African Government was finalized, which has been subject to allegations of corruption.

The SANDF partakes in UN peacekeeping missions, mostly on the African continent. It also provides election security when needed. The SANDF is involved in a number of internal operations, including:

- Safeguarding the Border (Operation CORONA)
- Disaster relief and assistance (Operation CHARIOT)
- Safety and security (Operation PROSPER)
- Ridding the country of illegal weapons, drug dens, prostitution rings and other illegal activities (Operation FIELA)

Four armed services make up the forces of the SANDF:

- South African Army
- South African Air Force
- South African Navy
- South African Military Health Service

*Source: Wikipedia*

## Currency



The South African Rand is the currency of South Africa, and is issued by the South African Reserve Bank. The currency takes its name from the Witwatersrand ("White-waters-ridge"), the ridge where most of South Africa's gold deposits were found and where Johannesburg was built. The Rand has the symbol "R" and is subdivided into 100 cents. Unlike the dollar, the decimal separator between a rand and cent is expressed by a comma.

Coins are issued in 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, R 1, R 2, and R 5 denominations. Banknotes include R 10, R 20, R 50, R 100, R 200 denominations. The South African Rand is also legal tender in Swaziland and Lesotho, and is accepted in Namibia.

*Source: oanda.com and Wikipedia*

### IMR RECOMMENDATIONS ON MONEY

- Bring only the amount that you intend to spend on gifts or small personal articles, including snacks.
- IMR does not pay for alcohol. If you intend to purchase alcohol, you are required to obtain and pay with a separate bill.
- You will be able to change money upon arrival. Please do so. We do not guarantee that you will be able to change money in small towns or during clinic.

## TIME IN SOUTH AFRICA



## EMBASSY INFORMATION

### EMBASSY LOCATIONS

**U.S. Embassy, Pretoria**  
877 Pretorius St  
Arcadia  
Pretoria  
Phone: +27 (12) 431-4000  
Fax: +27 (12) 342-2299

**U.S. Consulate General Cape Town**  
Mailing Address:  
Post Net Suite 50  
Private Bag x26  
Tokai 7966  
Physical Address:  
2 Reddam Ave  
Westlake 7945  
Tel: +27 (21) 702-7300  
Fax: +27 (21) 702-7493  
Email: [americanscapetown@state.gov](mailto:americanscapetown@state.gov)

**U.S. Consulate General Durban**  
Mailing Address:  
303 Dr. Pixley KaSeme St  
31st Floor, Delta Towers  
Durban 4001  
Tel: +27 (31) 305-7600  
Fax: +27 (31) 305-7691  
Email: [consulardurban@state.gov](mailto:consulardurban@state.gov)

**U.S. Consulate General Johannesburg**  
Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 787197  
Sandton 2146  
Physical Address:  
1 Sandton Drive  
Sandhurst  
(Opposite Sandton City)  
Tel: +27 (11) 290-3000  
Fax: +27 (11) 884-0396  
Email: [consularjohannesburg@state.gov](mailto:consularjohannesburg@state.gov)

**DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN USA**  
**Ambassador:** Mninwa Johnnes Mahlangu  
Physical Address:  
3051 Massachusetts Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
Tel: [1] (202) 232-4400  
Fax: [1] (202) 265-1607

**DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION FROM USA**  
**Ambassador:** Patrick Hubert Gaspard  
Physical Address:  
877 Pretorius Street, Arcadia, Pretoria  
Tel: [27] (12) 431-4000  
Fax: [27] (12) 342-2299

NOTE: For your safety, this information is also available on the back of your IMR badge.

## WEBSITES

The following websites provide information on the country you are visiting. IMR highly recommends and encourages you to view these sites prior to departure. They are frequently updated and are a tremendous resource:

- ◆ Embassy of the United States for South Africa: <https://za.usembassy.gov/>
- ◆ State Department Travel Warnings: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/south-africa.html>
- ◆ CIA publication: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ha.html>
- ◆ Travel Health online: <http://www.tripprep.com/>
- ◆ World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/>
- ◆ Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>
- ◆ CDC Travel Medicine for SOUTH AFRICA: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/south-africa>
- ◆ CNN Weather Report: <http://www.cnn.com/WEATHER>
- ◆ Official SOUTH AFRICA Tourism Site: <http://country.southafrica.net/country/us/en>
- ◆ WIKI: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South\\_Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa)
- ◆ UNICEF Statistics: [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/southafrica\\_statistics.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/southafrica_statistics.html)
- ◆ Lonely Planet: <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/south-africa>

## Coat of arms of South Africa



### Details

<b>Armiger</b>	Republic of South Africa
<b>Adopted</b>	27 April 2000
<b>Crest</b>	A Knobkierie and a Spear, a Protea flower, a Secretary bird with its wings expanded, and a Rising sun
<b>Escutcheon</b>	Or, representations of two San human figures of red ochre, statant respectant, the hands of the innermost arms clasped, with upper arms, inner wrist, waist and knee bands Argent, and a narrow border of red ochre
<b>Supporters</b>	Elephant tusks and ears of wheat
<b>Motto</b>	<b>Ike e: /xarra ilke</b> "Diverse People Unite"