

# Children's Rights to an Adequate Standard of Living

## Status of Child Poverty and Hunger

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 27:** (1) States Parties recognise the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. (2) The parent(s) or others responsible for the child have the primary responsibility to secure, within their abilities and financial capacities, the conditions of living necessary for the child's development. (3) States Parties, in accordance with national conditions and within their means, shall take appropriate measures to assist parents and others responsible for the child to implement this right and shall in case of need provide material assistance and support programmes, particularly with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 14 (2)(c); 20(2)(a).

### SA Constitution

**Section 27(1):** Everyone has the right to have access to – (b) sufficient food and water; ....

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right – (c) to basic nutrition, ....

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**Vision 2014:** Halve poverty between 2004 and 2014.

**DRDLR Service Delivery Agreement, output 7.2:** Improved access to affordable and diverse food.

**Key targets:** Decrease the proportion of the total population that experiences hunger from 52% in 2005 to 30% in 2014 using national food consumption survey data.

### RELATED INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

**MDG 1, Target 1.A:** Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.

**MDG 1, Target 1.B:** Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.

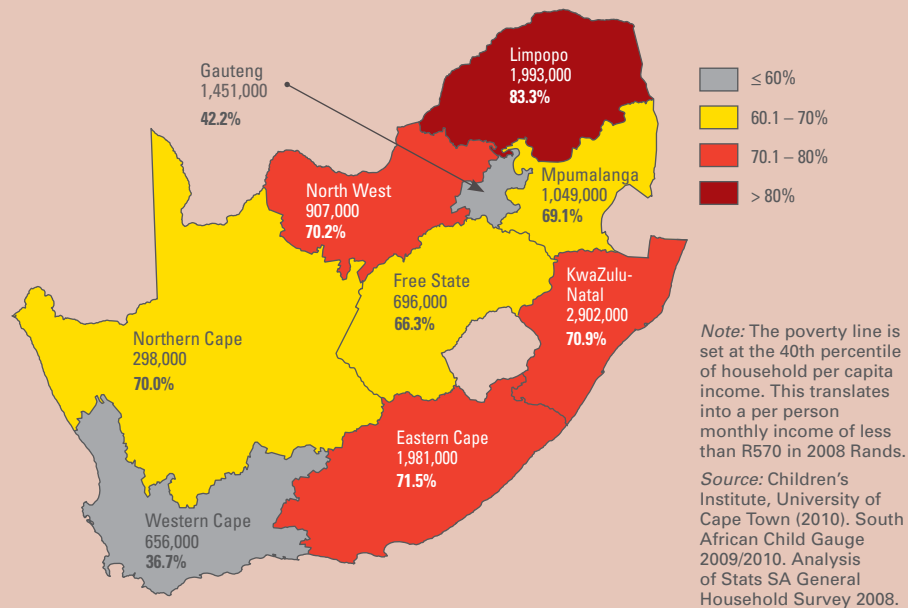
**MDG 1, Target 1.C:** Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.



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## In South Africa, 11.9 million children (64% of all children) live in income poverty

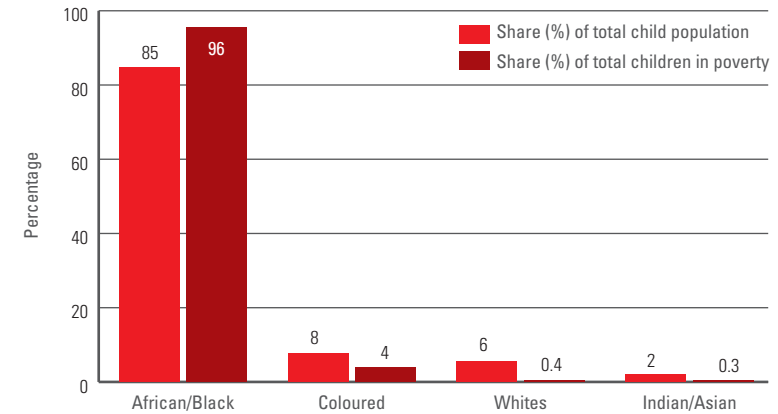
Number and percentage of children living in poverty by province, 2008



## Racial disparities in child poverty remain

Black children constitute a disproportionately large share of the total number of children living in poverty

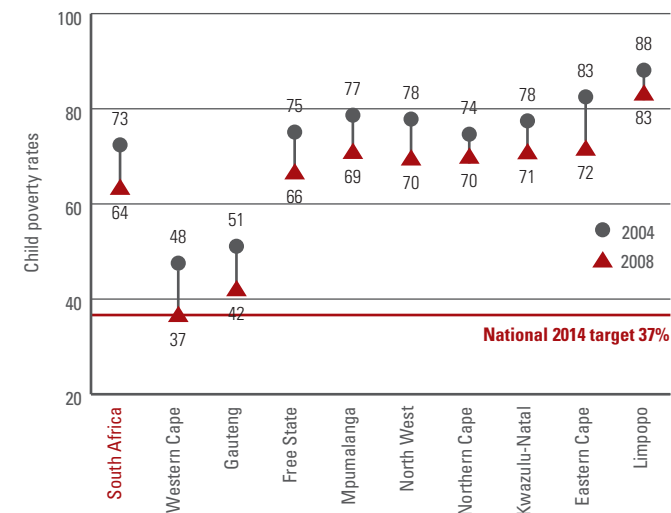
Percentage share of each population group in the total child population and the total number of children living in poverty, 2008



Source: Children's Institute, University of Cape Town (2010). South African Child Gauge 2009/2010. Analysis of Stats SA General Household Survey 2008, and Stats SA mid-year population estimates 2008.

**Child poverty has decreased by an average annual rate of 3.2% between 2004 and 2008 in all declining by just 13% over the period**  
 If the Vision 2014 target is to be met, child poverty has to decrease from the current rate of 64% to 37% in 2014

Percentage of children living in poverty by province, 2002–2008



Note: The poverty line is set at the 40th percentile of household per capita income.

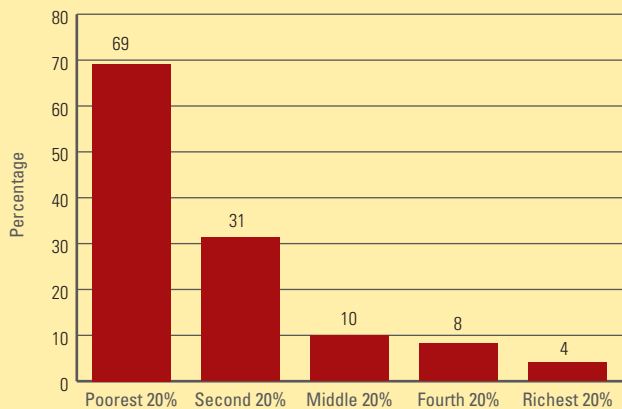
Source: Children's Institute, University of Cape Town (2010). Children Count – Abantwana Babalulekile. Analysis of Stats SA General Household Survey 2004–2008.



## Unemployment appears to be a key driver of poverty

Overall, nearly 4 out of 10 children live in households with no employed household members. Among the poorest, 7 of out 10 children live in households with no employed members

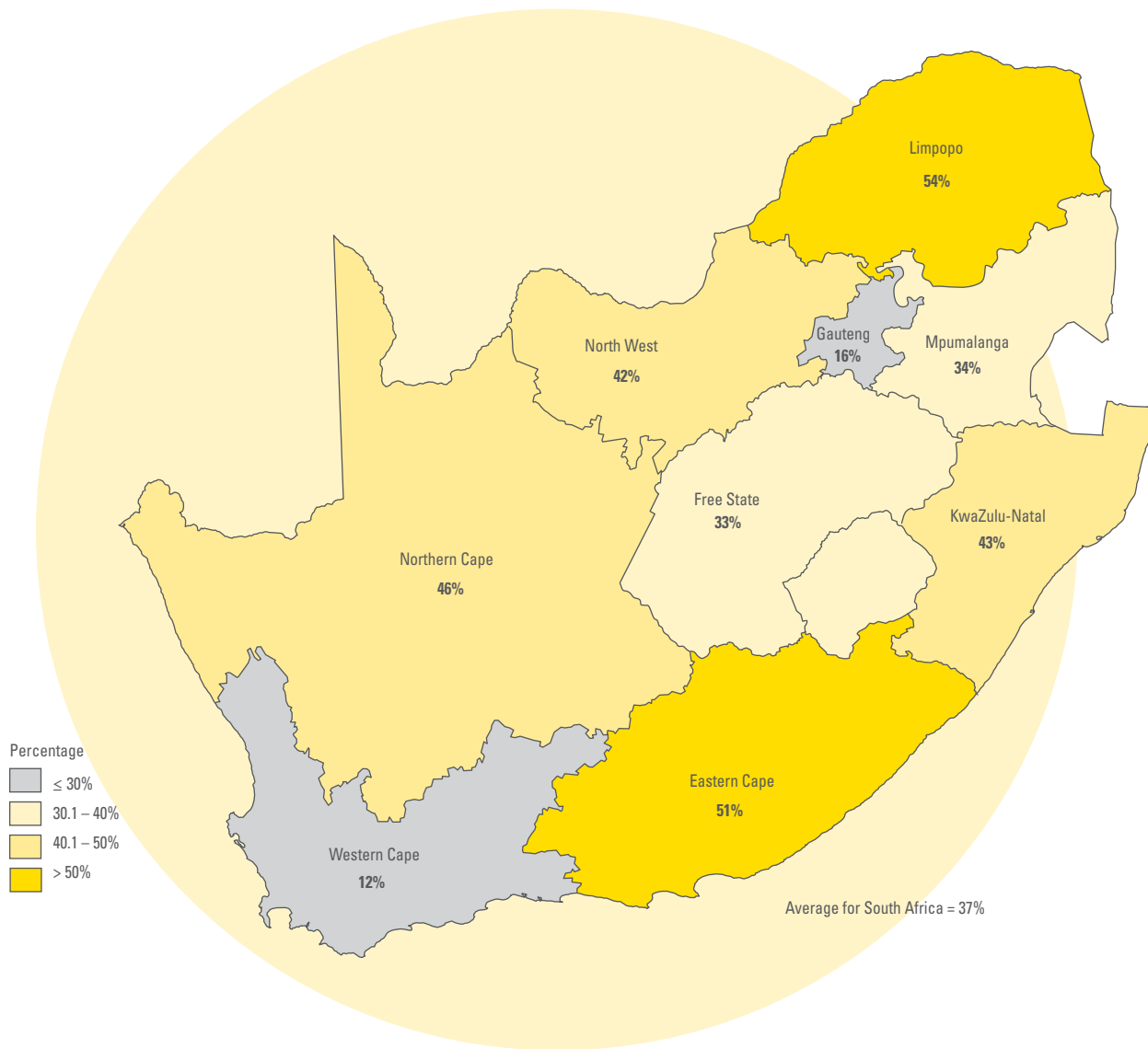
Percentage of children living in households with no economically active household members by province and household income quintile, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

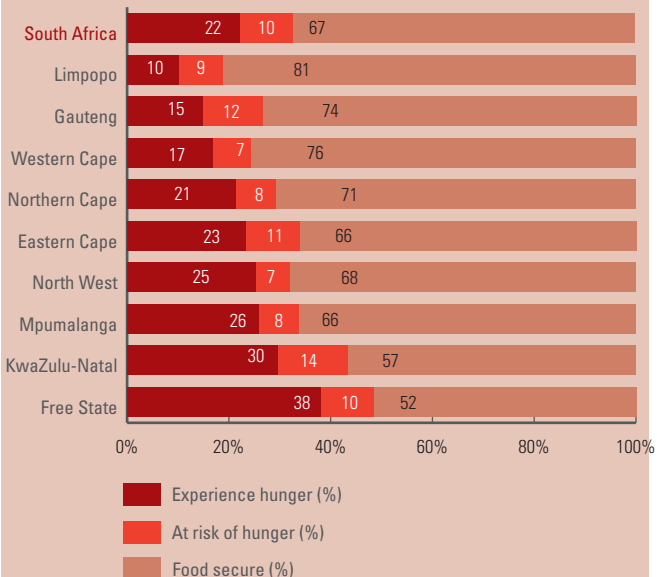


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## 1 in 3 children nationwide experience hunger or are at risk of hunger

Hunger risk classification in children by province, 2009

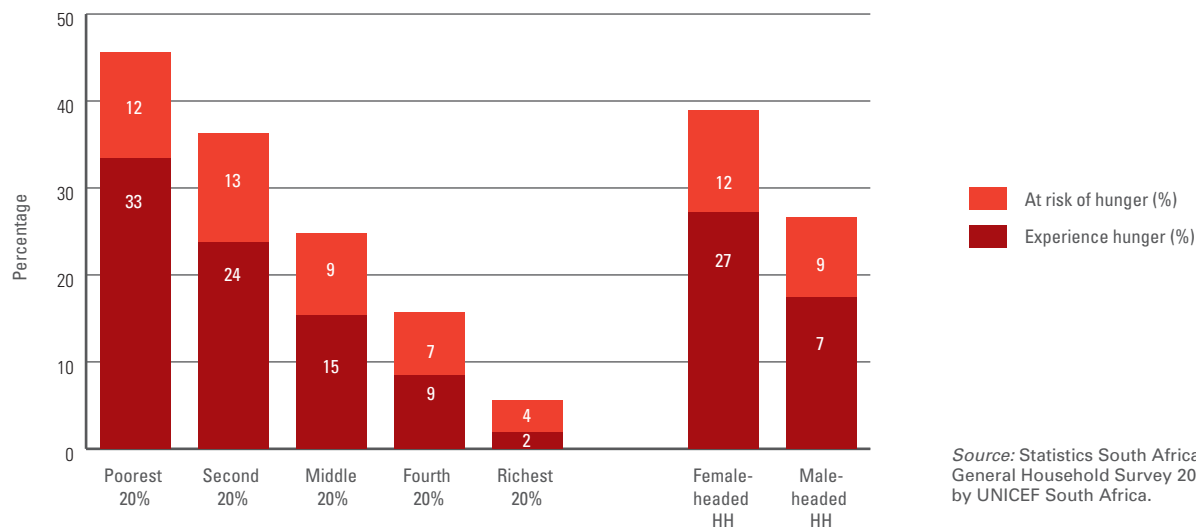


Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

Note: The Hunger Scale Questionnaire introduced in the GHS 2009 is composed of eight questions that investigate whether adults and children are affected by food insecurity, food shortages, perceived food insufficiency or altered food intake due to constraints on resources. Children living in households responding negatively to all eight questions are classified as 'food secure'. Children in households responding affirmatively to 1-4 questions are classified as 'at risk of hunger', while children in households responding affirmatively to five or more questions are considered to 'experience hunger'.

## Children in the poorest households and female-headed households are significantly more likely to experience hunger

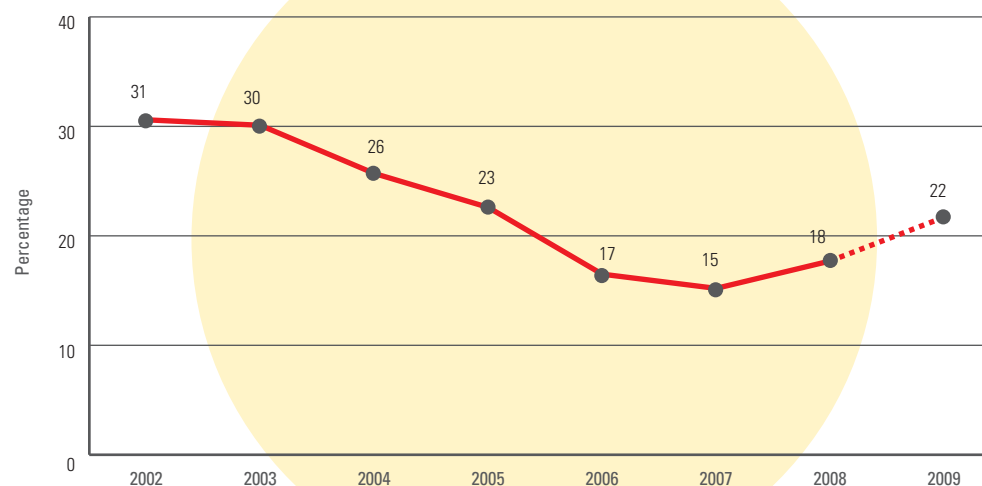
Hunger risk classification in children by household income quintile and sex of household head, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Progress made in reducing child hunger is at risk of being reversed

Percentage of children experiencing hunger, 2002-2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). Reweighted GHS 2002-2008 data series and GHS 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

Note: Data for 2009 are not strictly comparable with data for previous years because of revisions in the GHS questionnaire. The GHS 2002-2008 asks: "In the past 12 months, did any child in this household go hungry because there wasn't enough food?" Children living in households reporting 'sometimes', 'often' or 'always' are classified as experiencing hunger. The GHS 2009 asks: "Did your children ever say they are hungry during the past year because there was not enough food in the house?" (Yes/No).



## The Right to Social Security

### RIGHTS

CRC, Article 26: (1) States Parties shall recognise for every child the right to benefit from social security, including social insurance, and shall take the necessary measures to achieve the full realisation of this right in accordance with their national law. (2) The benefits should, where appropriate, be granted, taking into account the resources and the circumstances of the child and persons having responsibility for the maintenance of the child, as well as any other consideration relevant to an application for benefits made by or on behalf of the child.

### SA Constitution

**Section 27(1):** Everyone has the right to have access to – (c) social security, including, if they are unable to support themselves and their dependants, appropriate social assistance.

**Section 27(2):** The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of each of these rights.

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### Children's access to social grants has expanded dramatically

The eligibility age range for the child support grant has gradually been extended from 0–6 years in 1999 to 0–17 years from 2012 onwards

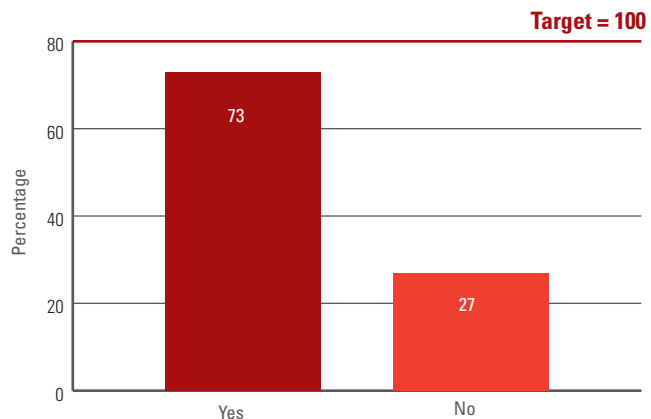
Year	Child Support Grant			Care Dependency Grant		Foster Care Grant	
	Beneficiaries	Age threshold	Nominal grant value	Beneficiaries	Nominal grant value	Beneficiaries	Nominal grant value
1999	21,997	< 7 years	R100	16,835	R520	46,496	R374
2000	150,366	< 7 years	R100	22,789	R540	49,843	R390
2001	856,402	< 7 years	R110	33,574	R570	66,967	R410
2002	1,277,396	< 7 years	R140	34,978	R640	67,817	R460
2003	3,947,073	< 9 years	R160	42,355	R700	83,574	R500
2004	4,446,230	< 11 years	R170	76,494	R740	120,571	R530
2005	5,465,545	< 14 years	R180	86,917	R780	195,454	R560
2006	7,075,266	< 14 years	R190	90,112	R820	317,434	R590
2007	7,892,869	< 14 years	R200	98,631	R870	400,503	R620
2008	8,189,975	< 14 years	R220	102,292	R960	454,199	R650
2009	8,765,354	< 15 years	R240	107,065	R1,010	474,759	R680
2010	9,570,287	< 16 years	R250	110,731	R1,080	510,760	R710
2011*	10,336,000	< 17 years	R260	121,000	R1,080	554,000	R710
2012*	10,977,000	< 18 years	R270	128,000	R1,140	613,000	R740

*Note:* \*Projections by National Treasury. The Child Support Grant is paid to parents or primary caregivers of a child within the eligible age range who pass the means test. The Care Dependency Grant is paid to parents, primary caregivers or foster parents of any child with severe mental and/or physical disabilities between the ages of 1 and 18 years, requiring full-time home care. The Foster Care Grant is paid to foster parents for children between the ages of 0 and 18 years. An extension order on a foster care grant can be given until the age of 21 years.

*Source:* South African Social Security Agency's (SASSA) Social Security Pension System (Socpen). National Treasury (2011) National Budget Review 2011.

## Yet, 2.1 million children eligible for the child support grant (27% of all eligible children) were not receiving it in 2008

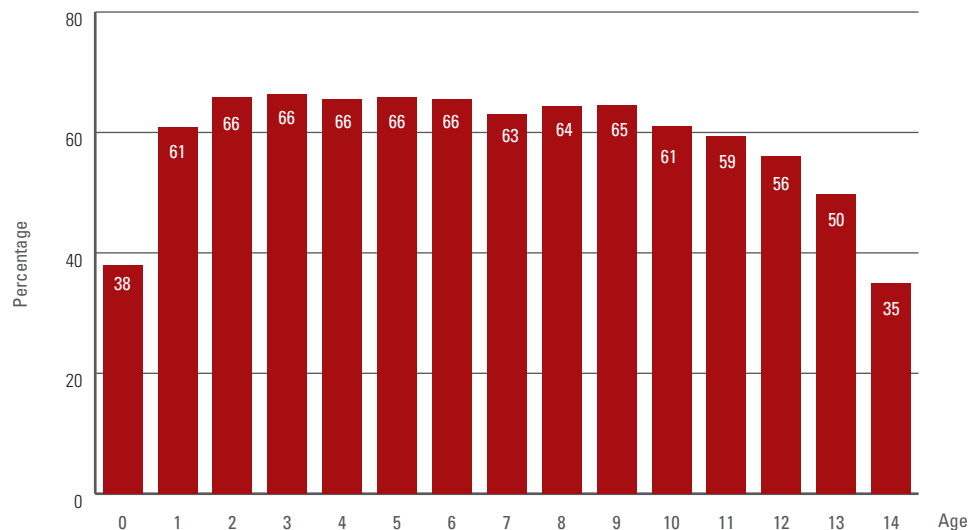
Percentage of eligible children receiving the child support grant, 2008



Source: Coetzee (2010). Finding the Benefits Evaluating the Impact of the South African Child Support Grant. Analysis of National Income Dynamics Survey (NIDS) 2008.

## Uptake of the child support grant is lowest among children under 1 and in the older age groups

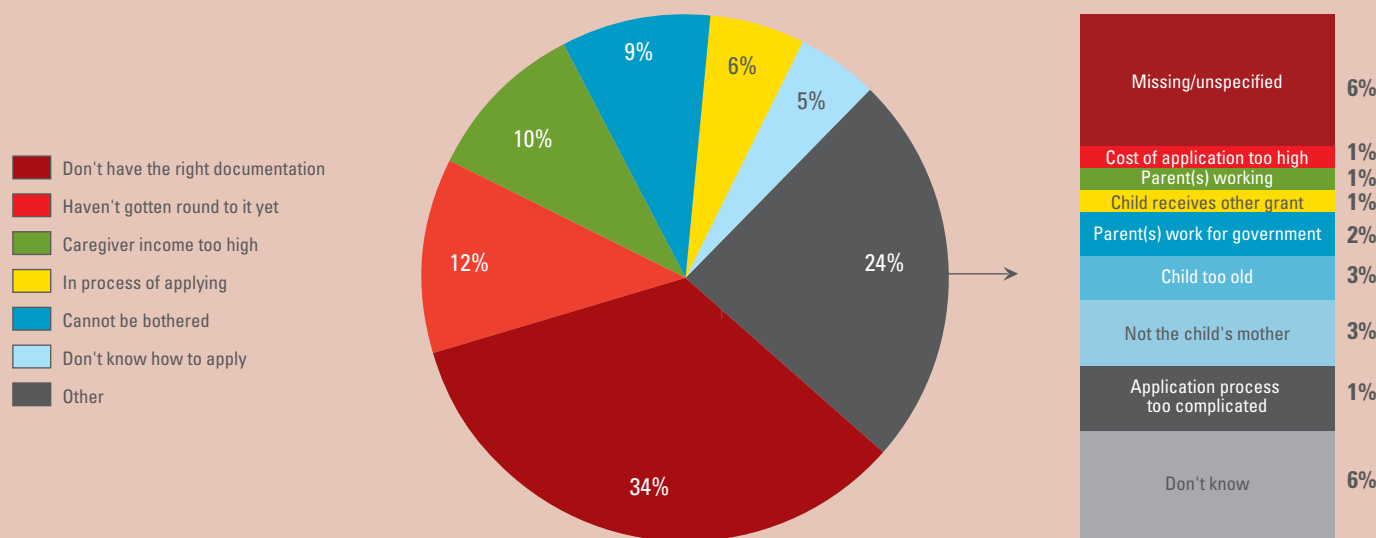
Percentage of children receiving a child support grant by age (single years), 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Lack of documentation is the biggest barrier to access the child support grant

Reasons why eligible caregivers do not apply for the child support grant, 2008



Source: Coetzee (2010). Finding the Benefits – Evaluating the Impact of the South African Child Support Grant. Analysis of National Income Dynamics Survey (NIDS) 2008.

## The Right to Housing

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 27:** (1) States Parties recognise the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. (3) States Parties, in accordance with national conditions and within their means, shall take appropriate measures to assist parents and others responsible for the child to implement this right and shall in case of need provide material assistance and support programmes, particularly with regard to ... housing. Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 20(2)(a).

### SA Constitution

**Section 26(1):** Everyone has the right to have access to adequate housing.

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right – (c) to ... shelter ....

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**DoHS Service Delivery Agreement, Output 8.1:** Accelerated Delivery of Housing Opportunities. **Key target by 2014:** Upgrading of 400,000 households in well-located informal settlements with access to basic services and secure tenure.

**DoHS Service Delivery Agreement, Output 8.2:** Improve access to basic services. **Key target by 2014:** Universal access to electricity (100%).

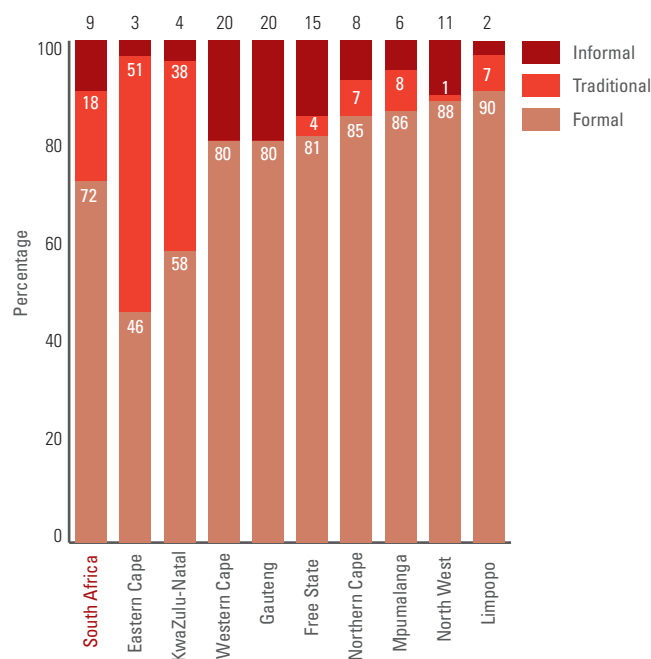
**DoHS Service Delivery Agreement, Output 8.3:** Mobilisation of well-located public land for low income and affordable housing. **Key target for 2014:** Set aside at least 6,250 hectares of well-located public land for low income and affordable housing.

### RELATED INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

**MDG 7, Target 7.D:** By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers (global figure).

### 1.7 million children (9% of all children) live in informal housing such as shacks in backyards or squatter settlements

Percentage of children living in formal, informal or traditional housing by province, 2009

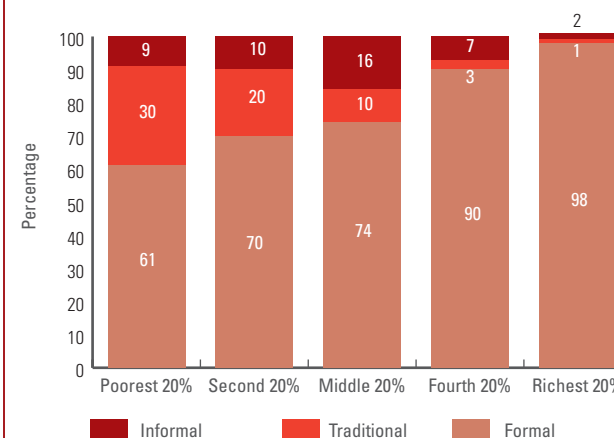


*Note:* Formal refers to dwelling/house or brick/concrete block structure on a separate stand or yard or on farm; flat or apartment; town/cluster/semi-detached house; dwelling/house/flat/room in backyard; room/flatlet on a property or a larger dwelling servants' quarters/granny flat. Informal refers to informal dwelling/shack in backyard or an informal/squatter settlement or on farm. Traditional refers to traditional dwelling/hut/structure made of traditional materials. Numbers may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

*Source:* Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

### Children from the poorest households are less likely to live in formal housing

Percentage of children living in formal, informal or traditional housing by household income quintile, 2009



*Source:* Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

### 2.8 million children (15% of all children) have been reached with a RDP or state subsidised dwelling

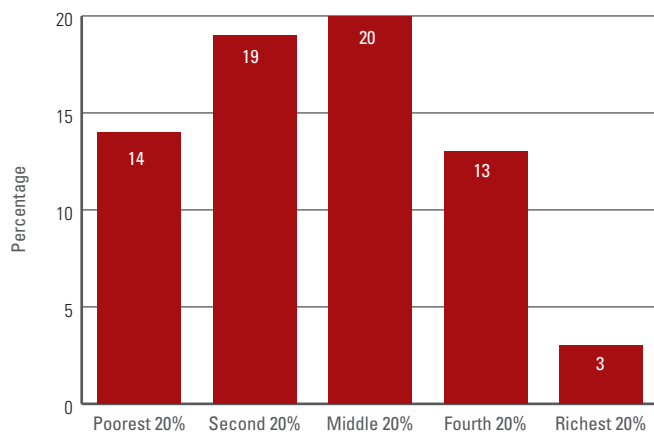
Number and percentage of children living in Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) or state subsidised dwelling by province, 2009

Province	Number	Percentage
Free State	311,820	29
Northern Cape	116,680	27
Western Cape	464,840	26
Gauteng	543,790	17
North West	193,630	15
Mpumalanga	223,690	15
Eastern Cape	329,820	12
Limpopo	265,590	12
KwaZulu-Natal	343,760	8
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>2,793,615</b>	<b>15</b>

*Source:* Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Children from middle-income households appear to have received most benefits from RDP or state subsidised housing

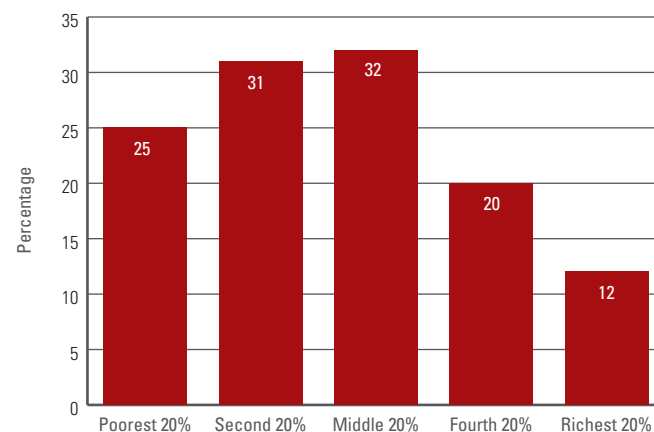
Percentage of children living in RDP or state subsidised dwelling by household income quintile, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Children from middle-income households appear to be benefiting most from receiving free electricity

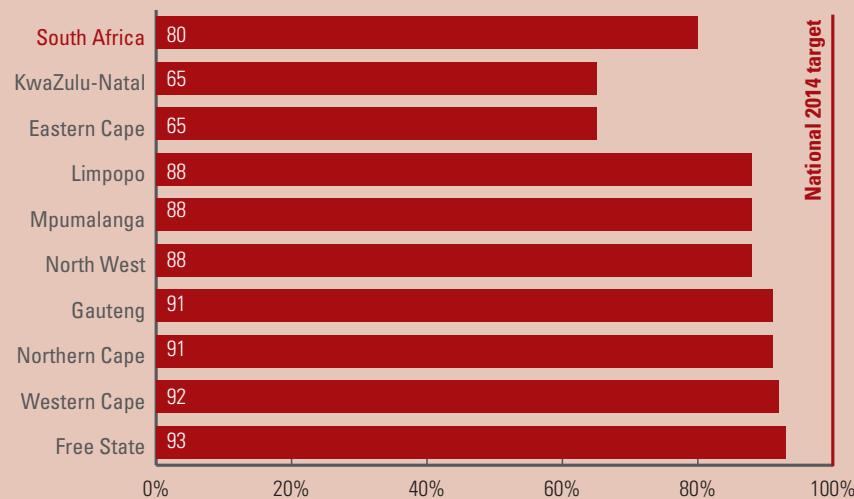
Percentage of children living in households with a connection to the mains supply receiving free electricity, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## 8 out of 10 children live in households connected to the mains electricity supply

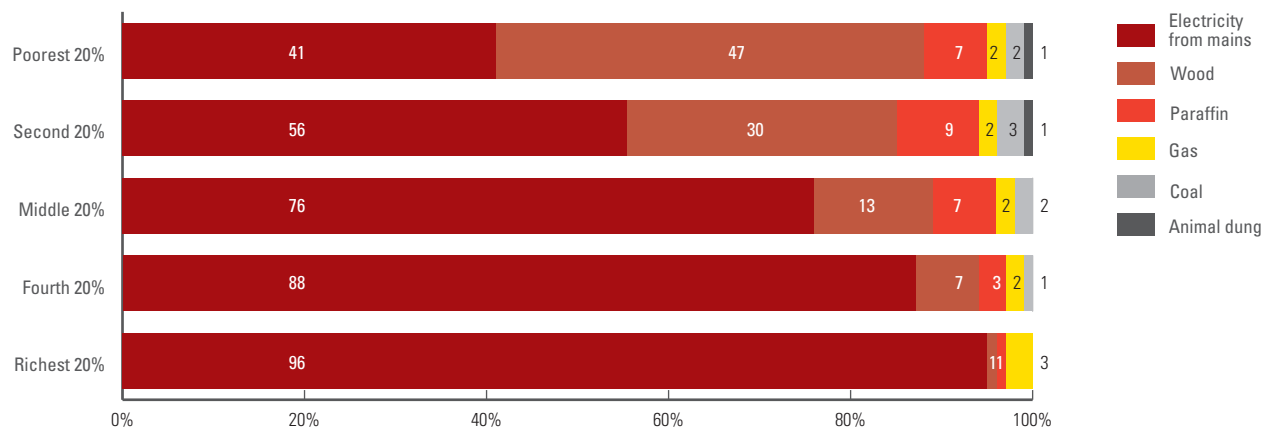
Percentage of children living in households with a connection to the mains electricity supply, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## 47% of the poorest children live in households using wood as the main energy source for cooking

Percentage of children by main energy source for cooking in the household by income quintile, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.



## The Right to Water and Sanitation

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 24:** States Parties shall ... take appropriate measures: (d) to combat disease and malnutrition, including within the framework of primary health care, through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of ... clean drinking-water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 14(2)(c).

### SA Constitution

**Section 27(1):** Everyone has the right to have access to – (b) sufficient ... water.

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**DoHS Service Delivery Agreement, Output 8.2:** Improve access to basic services.

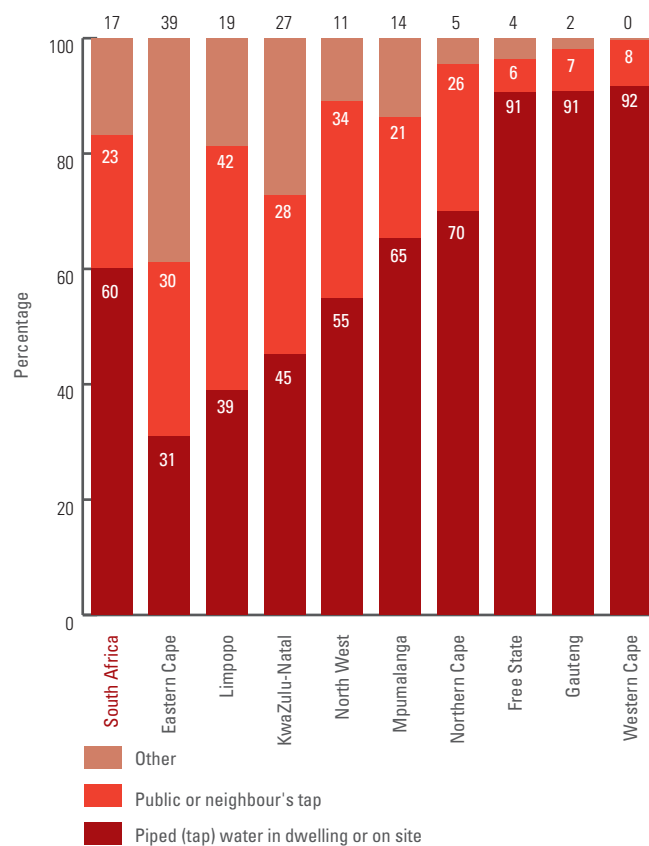
**Key target by 2014:** Universal access to water and sanitation (100%).

### RELATED INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

**MDG Goal 7, Target 7.C:** Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

## 4 out of 10 children do not have access to piped water inside the dwelling or on site

Percentage of children living in households with access to water by type of source, 2009



Note: Numbers may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Almost 1.4 million children (8% of all children) live in households relying on rivers or streams as their main source of drinking water

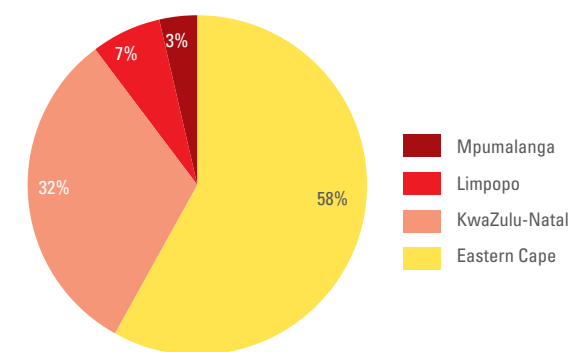
Number and percentage of children by main source of drinking water in the household, 2009

Source	Number	Percentage
Piped (tap) water in dwelling	6,101,660	32.8
Piped (tap) water on site or in yard	5,067,520	27.2
Public tap	3,763,845	20.2
Flowing water/stream/river	1,392,980	7.5
Neighbour's tap	536,325	2.9
Borehole off site/communal	434,310	2.3
Spring	369,350	2.0
Water-carrier/Tanker	354,415	1.9
Borehole on sit	236,305	1.3
Other (e.g. well, dam, rain-water tank)	350,650	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,607,354</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Where do these 1.4 million children live?

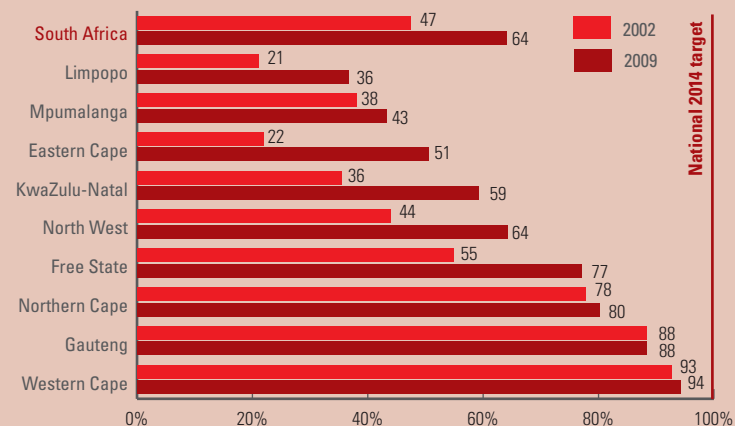
Percentage distribution of children living in households relying on flowing water/stream/river as main source of drinking water, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Access to adequate sanitation has improved over the past decade

Percentage of children living in households with access to adequate sanitation by province, 2002 and 2009

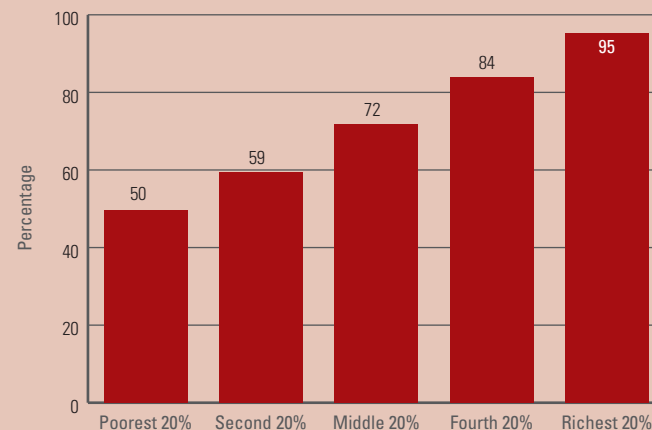


*Note:* Adequate sanitation includes flush toilets connect to a public sewerage system or septic tank, and pit latrines with ventilation. Inadequate sanitation includes chemical toilets, pit latrines without ventilation, bucket toilets or no toilet facility at all.

*Source:* Statistics South Africa (2003; 2010) General Household Survey 2002; 2009. Analysis of 2002 data by Children's Institute, University of Cape Town; analysis of 2009 data by UNICEF South Africa.

## Among children in the poorest households just 50% have access to adequate sanitation

Percentage of children living in households with access to adequate sanitation by household income quintile, 2009



*Source:* Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Yet, nearly 1.5 million children (8% of all children) live in households with no toilet facility at all

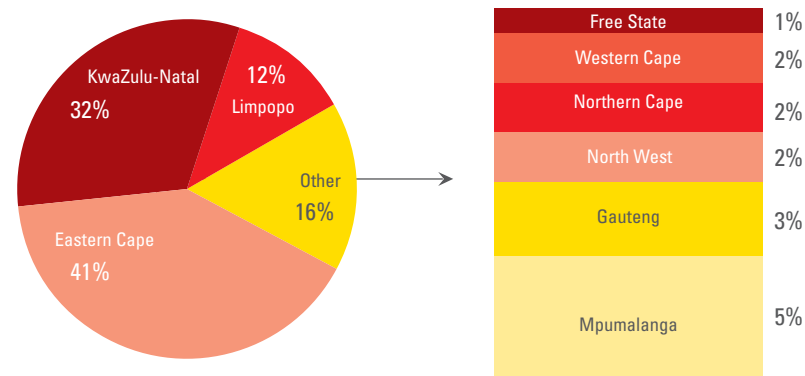
Number and percentage of children by type of toilet facility used in the household, 2009

Type of Toilet Facility	Number	Percentage
Flush toilet (connected to public sewerage system or septic tank)	8,499,515	45.7
Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe	4,917,100	26.4
Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe	3,431,120	18.4
None	1,471,455	7.9
Bucket toilet	174,915	0.9
Chemical toilet	52,305	0.3
Other/Unspecified	60,940	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,607,355</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source:* Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Where do these 1.5 million children live?

Percentage distribution of the children living in households with no toilet facility by province, 2009



# Children's Rights to Life and Basic Health

## The Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 24:** (1) States Parties recognise the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health. States Parties shall strive to ensure that no child is deprived of his or her right of access to such health care services. (2) States Parties shall pursue full implementation of this right and, in particular, shall take appropriate measures: (a) To diminish infant and child mortality; (b) To ensure the provision of necessary medical assistance and health care to all children with emphasis on the development of primary health care;... (d) To ensure appropriate pre-natal and post-natal health care for mothers.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 5; 14 and 20(2)(a).

### SA Constitution

**Section 11:** Everyone has the right to life.

**Section 27(1):** Everyone has the right to have access to – (a) health care services, including reproductive health care.

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right ... (c) to ... basic health care services ...

### NATIONAL TARGETS

#### **DoH Service Delivery Agreement, Output 2.1:**

Decreasing maternal and child mortality. Key targets by 2014:

- Decrease infant mortality rate to 18 deaths (or less) per 1,000 live births.
- Decrease under-five mortality rate to 20 deaths (or less) per 1,000 live births.
- Decrease maternal mortality ratio to 100 (or less) per 100,000 live births.
- Increase the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel to 100%.
- Decrease diarrhoea incidence in children under 5 years.
- Decrease pneumonia incidence in children under 5 years.

### RELATED INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

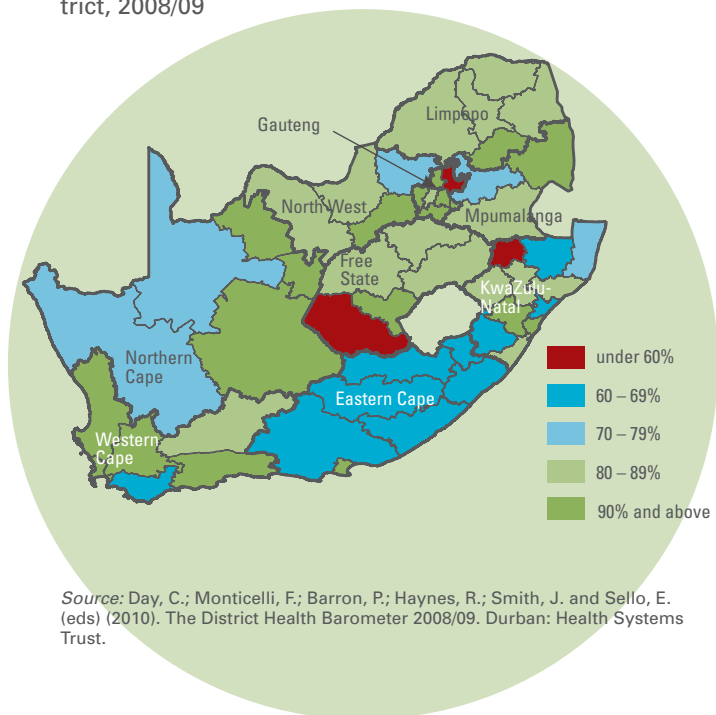
**MDG Goal 4, Target 4.A:** Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

**MDG Goal 5, Target 5.A:** Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

**MDG Goal 5, Target 5.B:** Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health.

## 9 out of 10 births take place in health facilities

Percentage of deliveries that take place in public health facilities under supervision of trained personnel by district, 2008/09

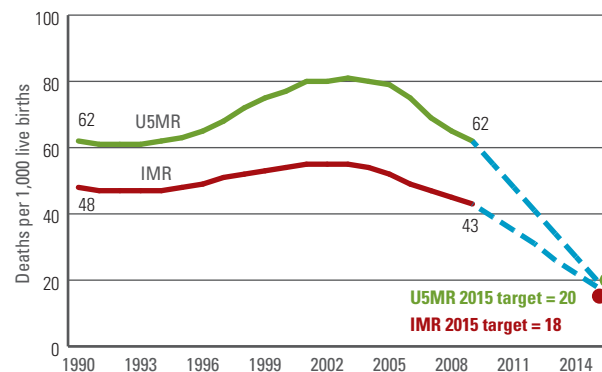


Source: Day, C.; Monticelli, F.; Barron, P.; Haynes, R.; Smith, J. and Sello, E. (eds) (2010). The District Health Barometer 2008/09. Durban: Health Systems Trust.

## Yet, South Africa is not on track for meeting the health targets of the 2015 Millennium Development Goals ...

Under-five mortality is at the same level it was in 1990

Trends in infant (IMR) and under-five (U5MR) mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births), 1990–2009

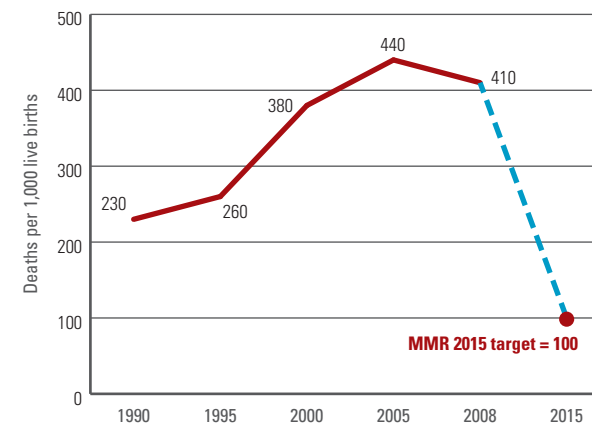


Note: The mortality trends are produced by compiling national estimates from the 1988–1992 Human Science Research Council (HSRC) Survey, the 1998 and the 2003 South Africa Demographic and Health Surveys, and the 2007 Community Survey. A regression curve is then fitted to these data points and extrapolated to a common reference year to produce a smooth trend.

Source: UN Inter-agency Group on Child Mortality Estimation (2010). Levels and Trends in Child Mortality.

Maternal mortality has increased by 80% since 1990

Trend in maternal mortality ratio (MMR, deaths per 100,000 live births), 1990–2008



Source: WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and World Bank (2010). Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2008.

## Each year in South Africa ...

4,300 mothers die due to complications of pregnancy and child birth.

20,000 babies are stillborn and another 23,000 die before they reach 1 month of age.

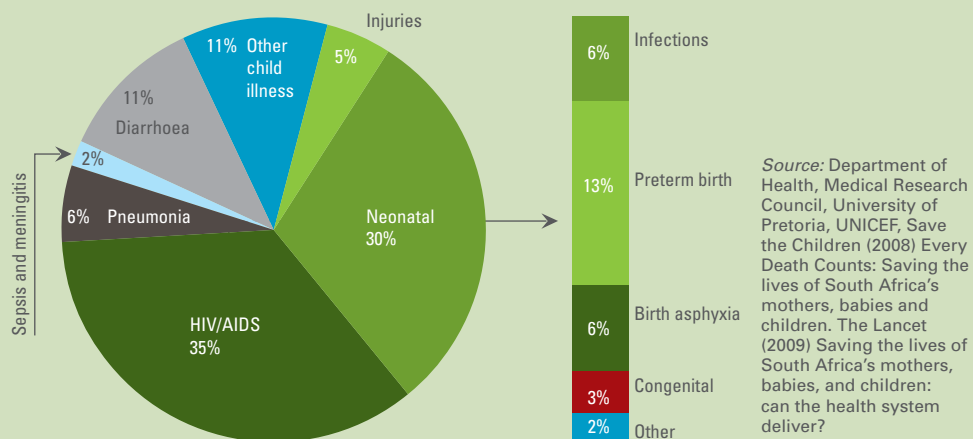
In total, some 75,000 children die before their fifth birthday.

**This toll of over 270 maternal and child deaths every day is mainly due to HIV and AIDS and poor implementation of existing packages of care.**

Source: The Lancet (2009). Saving the lives of South Africa's mothers, babies, and children: can the health system deliver?

## Most causes of under-five deaths are either preventable or treatable

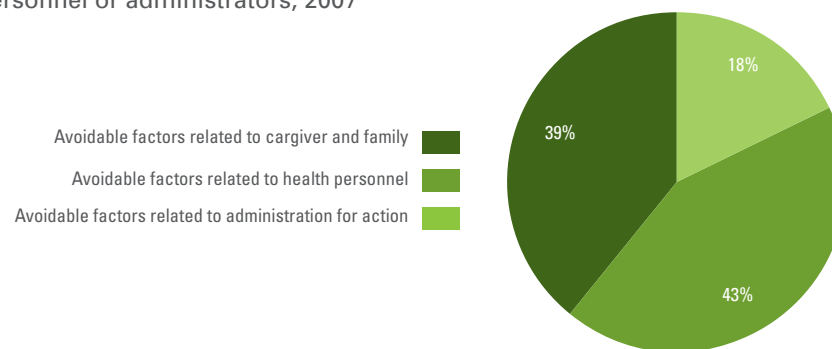
The lives of almost 50,000 newborn babies and children could be saved in 2015 if South Africa reached high, effective coverage of key packages of interventions such as PMTCT and neonatal care. This can be achieved at relatively little cost.



## Many child deaths are the result of avoidable factors, missed opportunities and substandard care

61% of avoidable factors in child deaths are related to health systems failures (either by health personnel or administrators), such as poor assessment and management in hospitals. 39% of avoidable factors are related to caregiver and family actions, such as delay in seeking care or caregiver not realising the severity of illness.

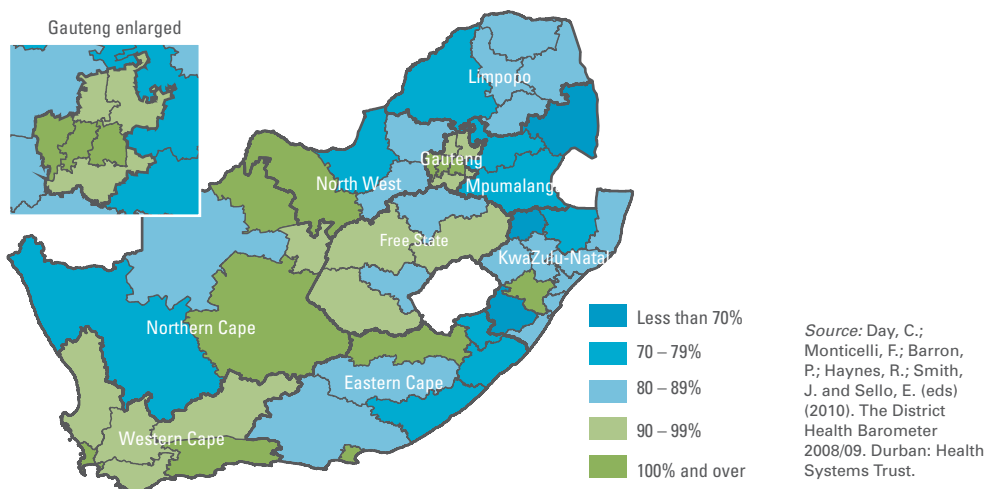
Percentage of modifiable factors related to actions by caregivers/family, health personnel or administrators, 2007



Source: Stephen, Mulaudzi, Kauchali and Patrick (2009) Saving Children 2005–2007: A fourth survey of child healthcare in South Africa. Pretoria: University of Pretoria, MRC, CDC.

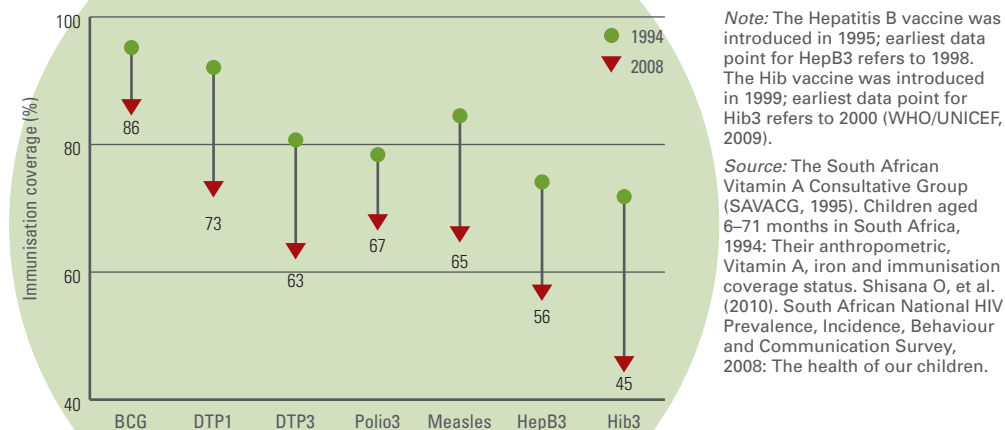
## Government data suggest 30 of the 52 districts did not achieve the national target of 90% full immunisation coverage

Percentage of children under 1 year who have received all their recommended vaccinations, 2008/09



## Data from surveys suggest immunisation coverage has decreased compared to 1994

National immunisation coverage among children 12–23 months by specific vaccines, 1994 and 2008



## The Right to Adequate Food

### RIGHTS

CRC, Article 24: States Parties shall pursue full implementation of this right and, in particular, shall take appropriate measures: (e) To ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of child health and nutrition, the advantages of breastfeeding ....

**CRC, Article 27:** (3) States Parties, in accordance with national conditions and within their means, shall take appropriate measures to assist parents and others responsible for the child to implement this right and shall in case of need provide material assistance and support programmes, particularly with regard to nutrition ....

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 14(2)(c) and 20(2)(a).

### SA Constitution

**Section 27(1):** Everyone has the right to have access to ... (b) sufficient food ....

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right ... (c) to basic nutrition ....

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**DRDLR Service Delivery Agreement, output 7.2:** Improved access to affordable and diverse food.

**Key target by 2014:** The rate of under-nutrition of children falls from 9.3% (2005 NFCS) to 5% in 2014.

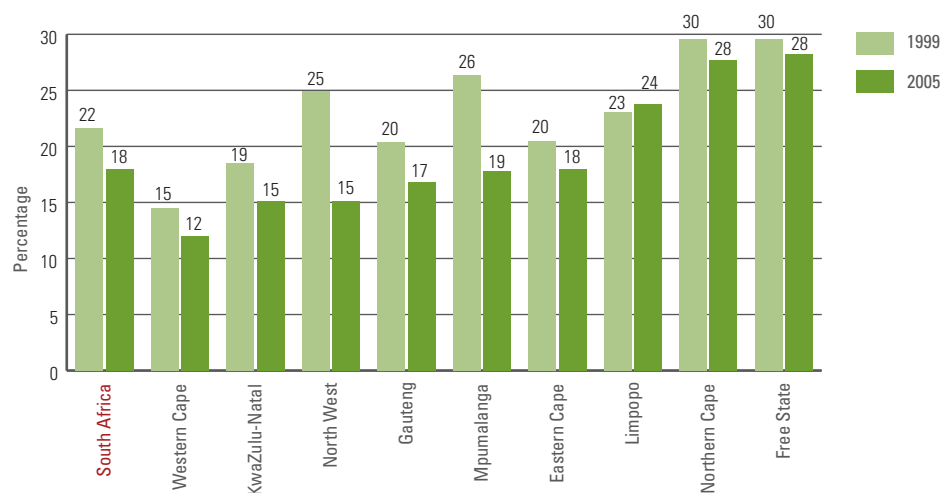
### RELATED INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

MDG 1, Target 3: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

## Status of child nutrition

### 1 in 5 children are stunted, a consequence of chronic nutritional deprivation

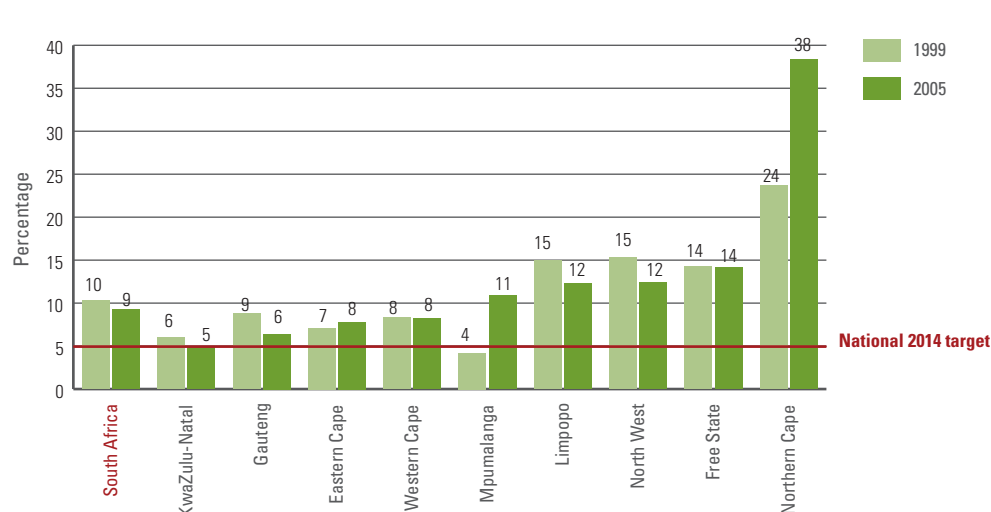
Percentage of children 1–9 years suffering from stunting (moderate and severe chronic malnutrition) by province, 1999 and 2005



Source: Department of Health (2000). The National Food Consumption Survey 1999; Department of Health (2007) The National Food Consumption Survey 2005: Fortification Baseline (NFCS-FB). Estimates are calculated according to the NCHS/WHO reference population.

### 1 in 10 children are underweight

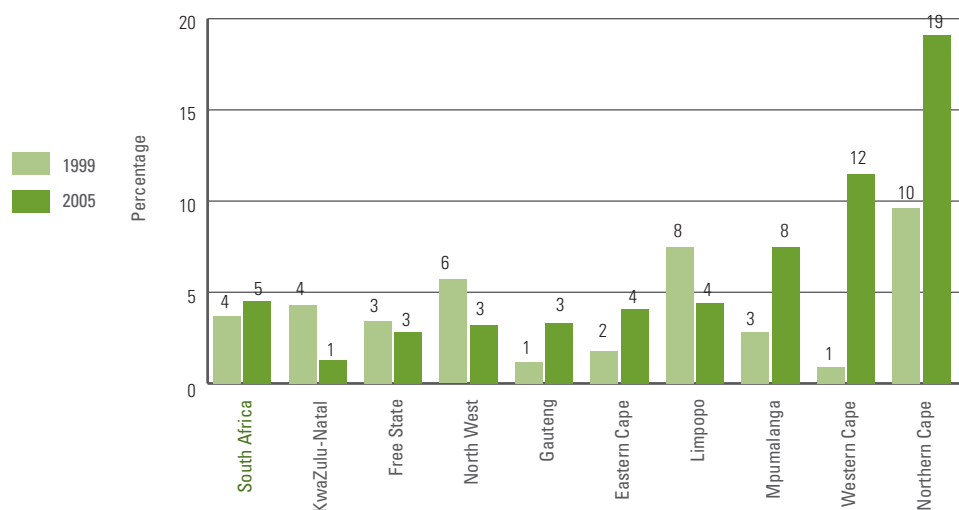
Percentage of children 1–9 years suffering from underweight (moderate and severe mixed acute and chronic malnutrition) by province, 1999 and 2005



Source: Department of Health (2000). The National Food Consumption Survey 1999; Department of Health (2007) The National Food Consumption Survey 2005: Fortification Baseline (NFCS-FB). Estimates are calculated according to the NCHS/WHO reference population.

## Close to 5% of children suffer from wasting and face a markedly increased risk of death

Percentage of children 1–9 years suffering from wasting (moderate and severe acute malnutrition) by province, 1999 and 2005

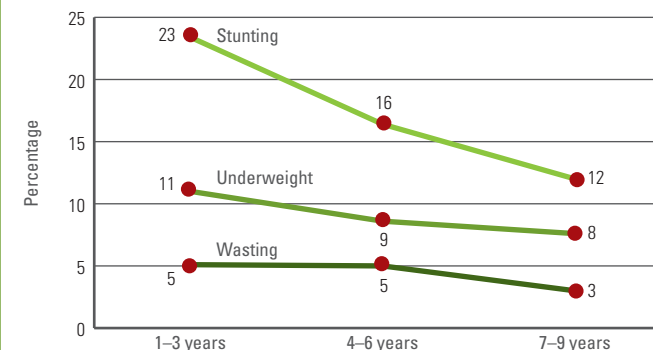


Source: Department of Health (2000). The National Food Consumption Survey 1999; Department of Health (2007). The National Food Consumption Survey 2005: Fortification Baseline (NFCS-FB). Estimates are calculated according to the NCHS/WHO reference population.

## Younger children are most severely affected by malnutrition

Chronic undernutrition in early childhood results in diminished cognitive and physical development, which puts children at a disadvantage for the rest of their lives

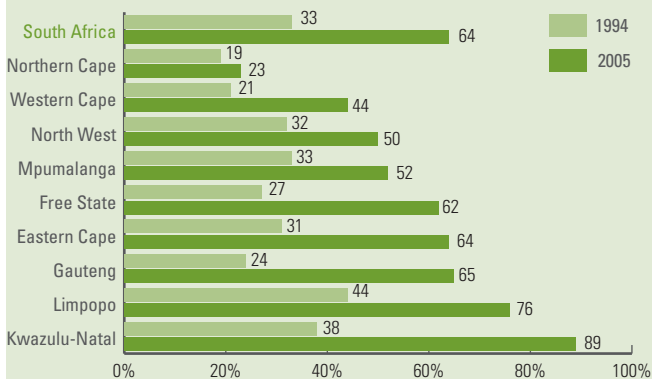
Percentage of children 1–9 years suffering from stunting, underweight and wasting by age group, 2005



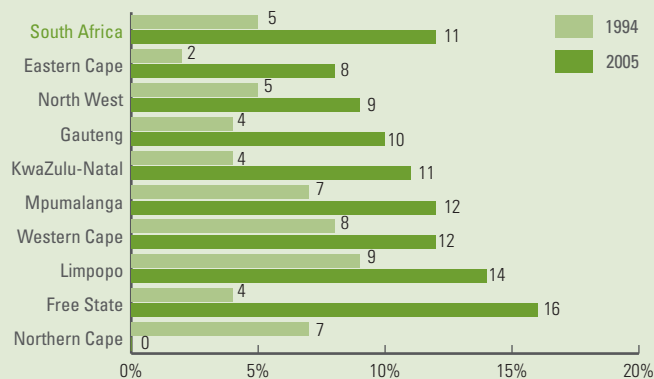
Source: Department of Health (2007). The National Food Consumption Survey 2005: Fortification Baseline (NFCS-FB). Estimates are calculated according to the NCHS/WHO reference population.

## Micronutrient deficiencies: vitamin A and iron deficiency has doubled between 1994 and 2005

Percentage of children 1–5 years affected by vitamin A deficiency (serum retinol level < 20 µg/dL)



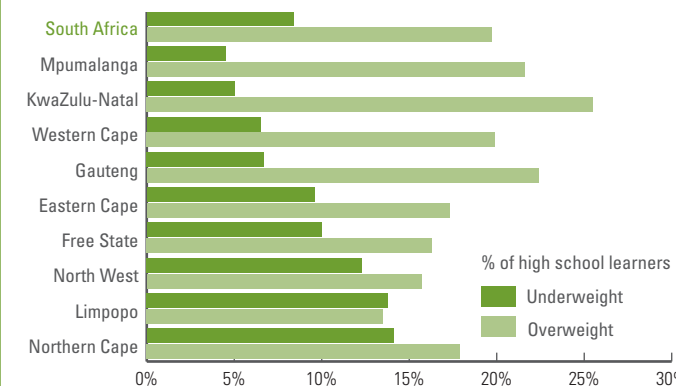
Percentage of children 1–5 years affected by iron deficiency anaemia (%Hb <11 and Ferritin <12)



Source: The South African Vitamin A Consultative Group (SAVACG, 1995). Children aged 6–71 months in South Africa, 1994: Their anthropometric, Vitamin A, iron and immunisation coverage status; Department of Health (2007). The National Food Consumption Survey 2005: Fortification Baseline (NFCS-FB).

## South Africa faces a dual burden of over- and under-nutrition, especially among youth

Percentage of high school learners (in grades 8–11) who are underweight (low weight for age); overweight (according to age-dependent BMI cut-off points) by province, 2008

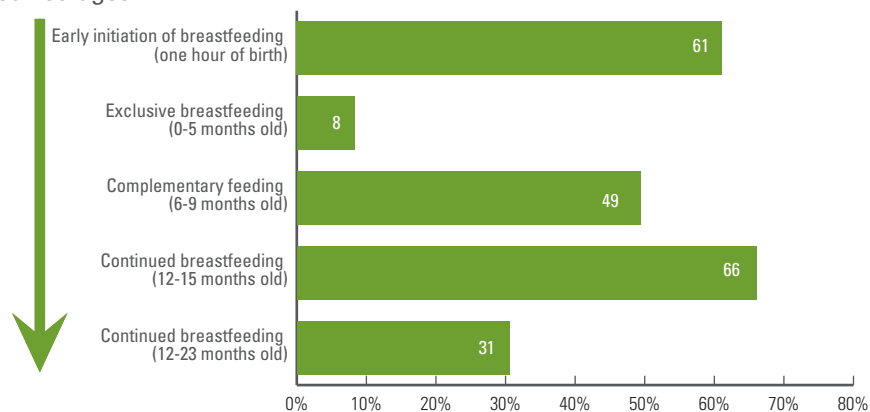


Source: Medical Research Council (2010). The 2nd South African National Youth Risk Behaviour Survey 2008.

## Coverage of interventions to improve nutrition

### Continuum of infant feeding practices

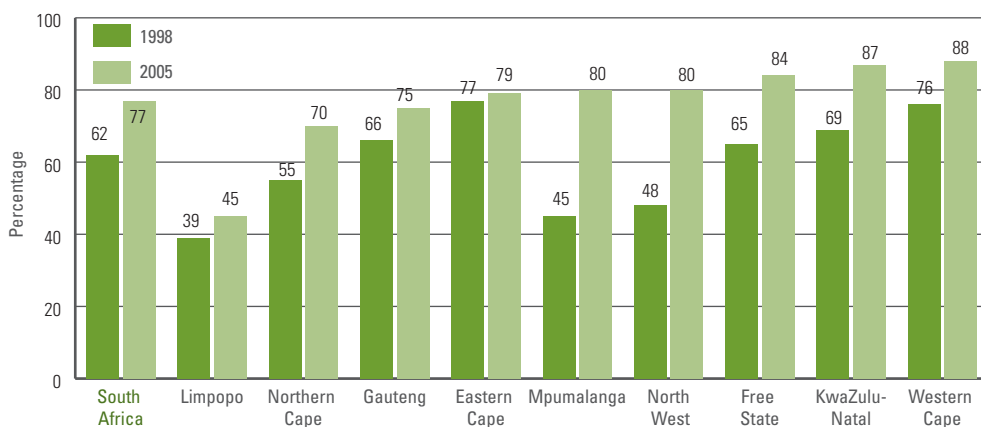
Percentage of children put to the breast within 1 hour of delivery; exclusively breast-fed; both breast-fed and receiving complementary foods; and continuing to breastfeed at specified ages



Source: Department of Health (2007). Demographic and Health Survey 2003.

## Use of adequately iodised salt in households has improved

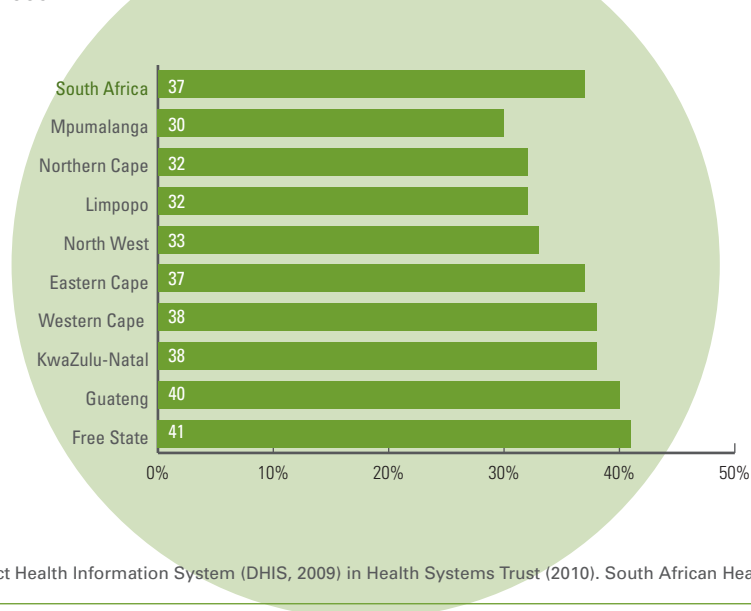
Percentage of households using adequately iodated salt (> 15 ppm of iodine) by province, 1998 and 2005



Source: Jooste L., Weight M. and Lombard C. (2001) A national survey of the iodine content of household salt in South Africa. Bull WHO 2001; 79:534-540; Department of Health (2007). The National Food Consumption Survey 2005: Fortification Baseline (NFCS-FB).

## Vitamin A supplementation coverage is low in all provinces

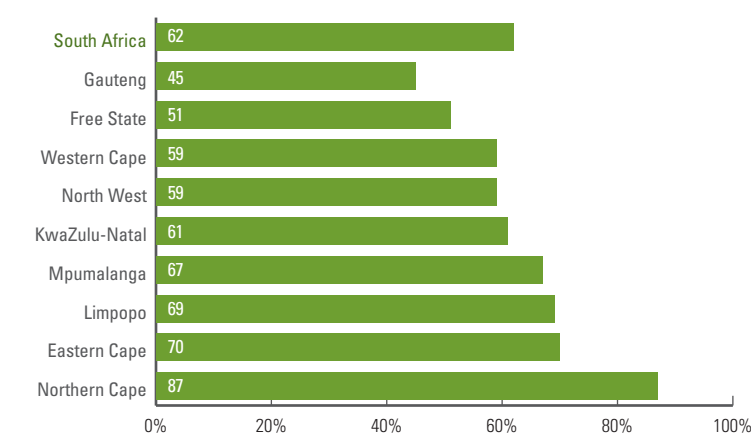
Percentage of children (12-59 months) receiving a high dose of vitamin A by province, 2009



Source: District Health Information System (DHIS, 2009) in Health Systems Trust (2010). South African Health Review.

## 6 out of 10 children in public schools benefit from the School Nutrition Programme

Percentage of children in public schools benefiting from the school nutrition programme by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009.



## Children and AIDS

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 6 (1):** States Parties recognise that every child has the inherent right to life. (2). States Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child.

**Committee on the Rights of the Child – General Comment No. 3, Article 25:** States parties are requested to ensure implementation of the strategies recommended by the United Nations agencies to prevent HIV infection in infants and young children. These include: (a) the primary prevention of HIV infection among parents-to-be; (b) the prevention of unintended pregnancies in HIV-infected women, (c) the prevention of HIV transmission from HIV-infected women to their infants; and (d) the provision of care, treatment and support to HIV-infected women, their infants and families.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 5.

### SA Constitution

**Section 11:** Everyone has the right to life.

### NATIONAL TARGETS

#### DoH Service Delivery Agreement, Output 2.3:

Combating HIV and AIDS and decreasing the burden of diseases from tuberculosis.

#### Key targets by 2014:

- Decrease HIV prevalence amongst 15–24 year old pregnant women.
- Decrease mother-to-child transmission rate from 10% to less than 5%.
- All eligible pregnant women to be initiated on ART at CD4 count of < 350.

- Total number of patients (adults and children) on ART increases from 1.1 million to 3.2 million.

### INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

**MDG Goal 6, Target 6.A:** Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.

**MDG Goal 6, Target 6.B:** Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.



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## South Africa has the largest burden of HIV and AIDS in the world

1 in 8 children infected with HIV globally live in South Africa

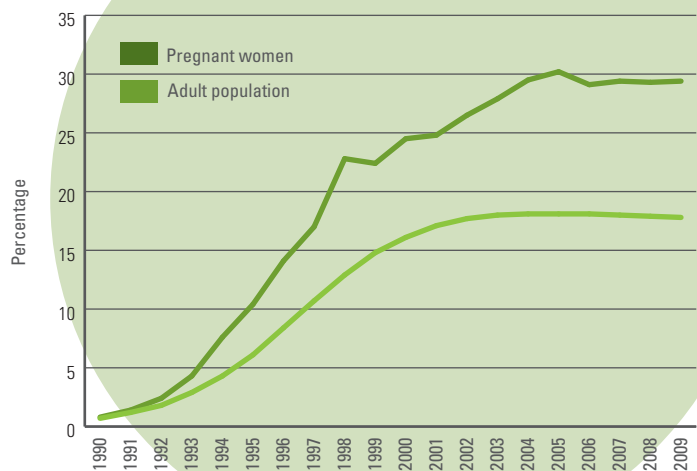
Summary of the AIDS epidemic, 2009

Number of people living with HIV			
	Globally	South Africa	Share (%)
Total	33.3 million	5.6 million	17%
Adults	30.8 million	5.3 million	17%
Women	15.9 million	3.3 million	21%
Children (<15 years)	2.5 million	330,000	13%
People newly infected with HIV in 2009			
	Globally	South Africa	Share (%)
Total	2.6 million	390,000	15%
Adults	2.2 million	347,000	16%
Children (<15 years)	370,000	43,000	12%
AIDS deaths in 2009			
	Globally	South Africa	Share (%)
Total	1.8 million	314,000	17%
Adults	1.6 million	284,000	18%
Children (<15 years)	260,000	30,000	12%

Source: UNAIDS (2010). Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic and AIDS info Database.

## The epidemic has reached its peak and HIV prevalence has stabilised at a very high level

National HIV prevalence in the adult population (15–49 years) and pregnant women (15–49 years), 1990–2009



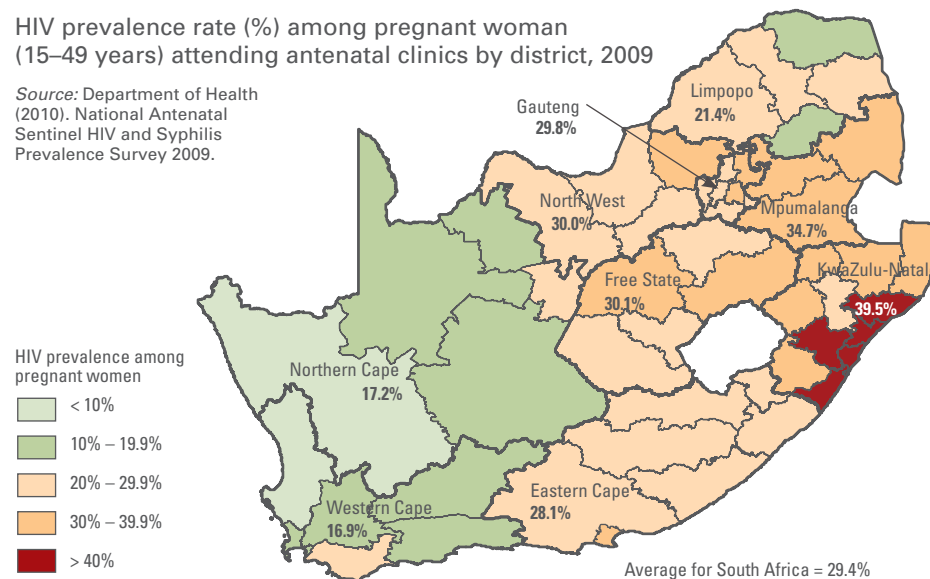
Source: UNAIDS (2010). AIDS info Database.

## Close to 30% of pregnant women are HIV positive

In 5 districts in KwaZulu-Natal more than 40% of pregnant women are living with HIV

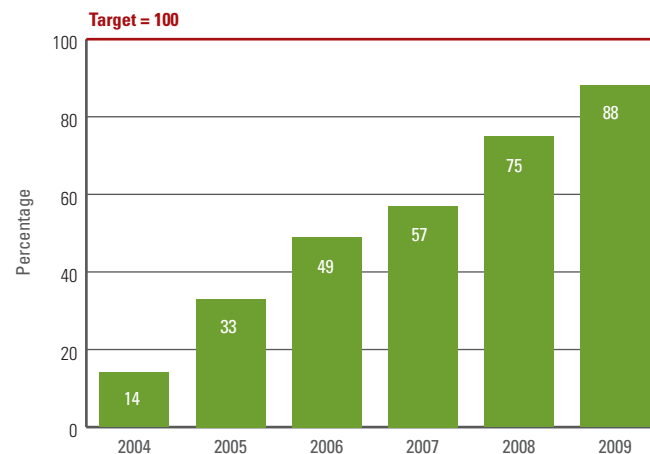
HIV prevalence rate (%) among pregnant woman (15–49 years) attending antenatal clinics by district, 2009

Source: Department of Health (2010). National Antenatal Sentinel HIV and Syphilis Prevalence Survey 2009.



## 9 in 10 pregnant women living with HIV receive antiretrovirals for preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV

Estimated percentage of pregnant women living with HIV who received ARV for preventing MTCT, 2004–2009



Source: Department of Health (2010). National Antenatal Sentinel HIV and Syphilis Prevalence Survey 2009; UNAIDS (2010). AIDS info Database.

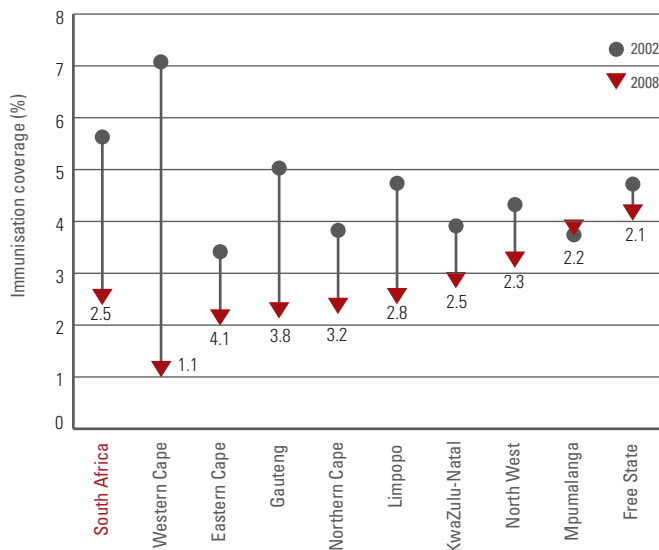


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## HIV prevalence among children has decreased since 2002

2.5% of children 2–14 years old are living with HIV

HIV prevalence among children 2–14 years by province, 2002 and 2008



Source: Shisana O, et al. (2009). South African national HIV prevalence, incidence, behaviour and communication survey 2008: A turning tide among teenagers? Cape Town: HSRC Press.

## Children's access to antiretroviral therapy has increased substantially in recent years

Around 100,000 children living with HIV were receiving treatment in 2010

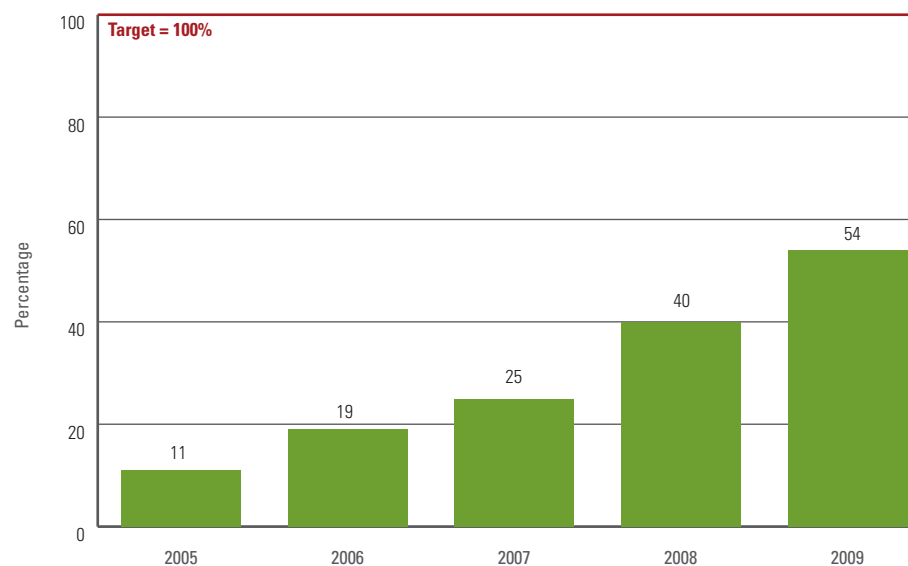
Number of children on comprehensive HIV and AIDS treatment (public sector), 2005–2010

	Dec. 2005	Dec. 2006	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2009	May 2010
KwaZulu-Natal	3,005	7,173	11,841	19,689	28,791	32,528
Gauteng	3,885	7,066	9,844	14,445	19,519	22,194
Eastern Cape	1,054	1,354	3,141	4,737	8,160	9,880
North West	616	1,804	3,502	5,530	7,319	8,123
Limpopo	441	1,068	2,061	4,136	5,897	6,618
Western Cape	1,877	2,649	3,505	4,496	5,389	5,883
Mpumalanga	261	899	1,874	2,983	5,033	5,695
Free State	465	806	806	2,066	3,601	4,638
Northern Cape	355	550	1,120	1,441	1,921	2,123
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>11,959</b>	<b>23,369</b>	<b>37,694</b>	<b>59,523</b>	<b>85,630</b>	<b>97,682</b>

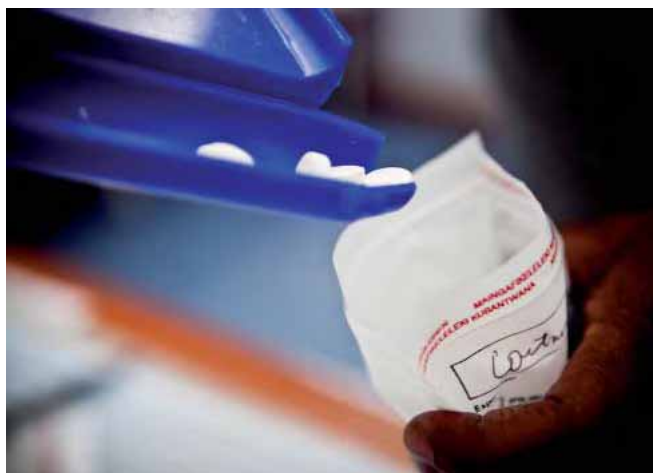
Source: Department of Health (2010). National Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS / Comprehensive HIV and AIDS Treatment Plan statistics.

## Yet, only 54% of children needing antiretroviral therapy were receiving it in 2009

Estimated coverage of antiretroviral therapy among children (0–14 years old), 2005–2009

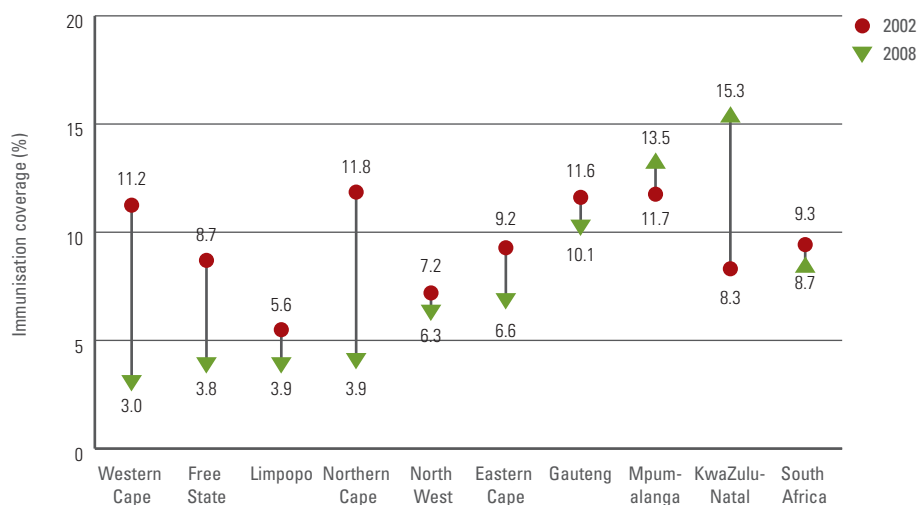


Source: Department of Health (2010). National Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS, Comprehensive HIV and AIDS Treatment Plan statistics (numerator). UNAIDS (2010). Estimated number of children (0–14 years old) needing antiretroviral therapy based on UNAIDS/WHO methods (denominator).



## HIV prevalence among youth is increasing in KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga while decreasing in all other provinces

HIV prevalence among youth 15–24 years by province, 2002 and 2008

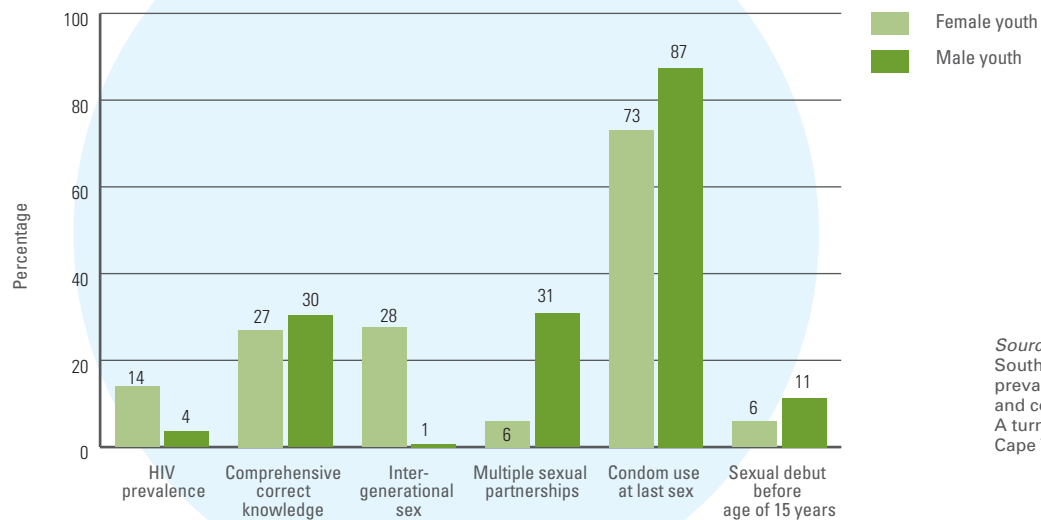


Source: Shisana O, et al. (2009). South African national HIV prevalence, incidence, behaviour and communication survey 2008: A turning tide among teenagers? Cape Town: HSRC Press.

## Women are disproportionately affected by HIV

Female youth are 3.5 times more likely to be HIV positive than their male counterparts

HIV prevalence and behavioural determinants among youth 15–24 years by sex, 2008



Source: Shisana O, et al. (2009). South African national HIV prevalence, incidence, behaviour and communication survey 2008: A turning tide among teenagers? Cape Town: HSRC Press.



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# Children's Rights to Early Childhood Development and Education

## The Right to Early Childhood Development

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 6(2):** States Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the ... development of the child.

**CRC, Article 18(2):** ... States Parties shall render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities and shall ensure the development of institutions, facilities and services for the care of children.

### Committee on the Rights of the Child

**General Comment No. 7, Article X:** The Committee interprets the right to education during early childhood as beginning at birth and closely linked to young children's right to maximum development (art. 6.2).

**Linking education to development is elaborated in article 29.1:** States parties agree that the education of the child shall be directed to: (a) the development of the child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential. ... The Committee calls on States parties to ensure that all young children receive education in the broadest sense (as outlined in paragraph 28 above), which acknowledges a key role for parents, wider family and community, as well as the contribution of organised programmes of early childhood education provided by the State, the community or civil society institutions.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 20(2)(b) and (c).

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**DoE Service Delivery Agreement, Output 1.3:** Improve Early Childhood Development. Key target by 2014:

The percentage of Grade 1 learners who have received formal Grade R increases from 80% to 100%.

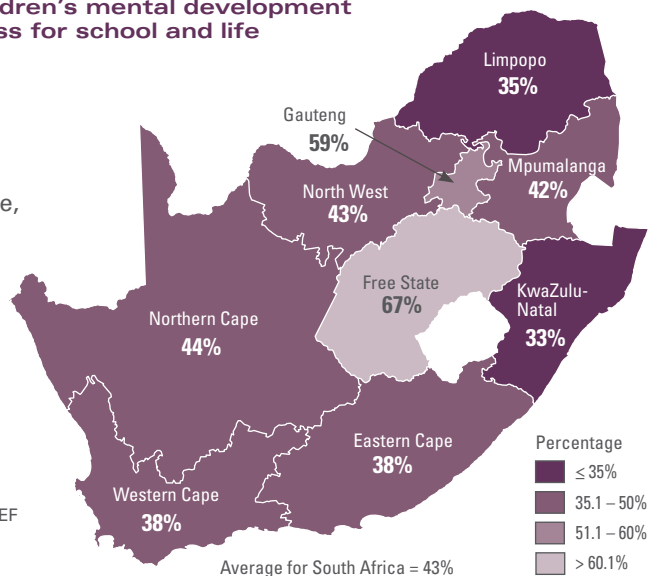
### INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

**EFA, Goal 1:** Expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

## Only 43% of children under 5 are exposed to an Early Childhood Development programme at home, a centre or elsewhere

ECD is crucial in children's mental development and in their readiness for school and life

Percentage of children under 5 exposed to an ECD programme (anywhere) by province, 2009

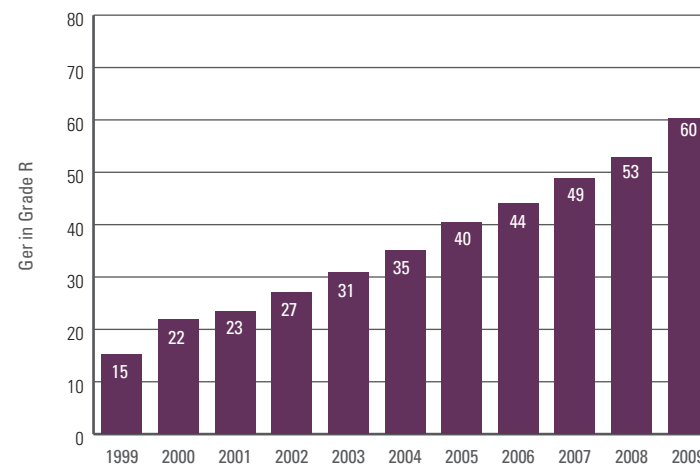


Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Grade R enrolment increased from 15% in 1999 to 60% in 2009

Grade R (Reception Year) programmes are meant to prepare children for primary education

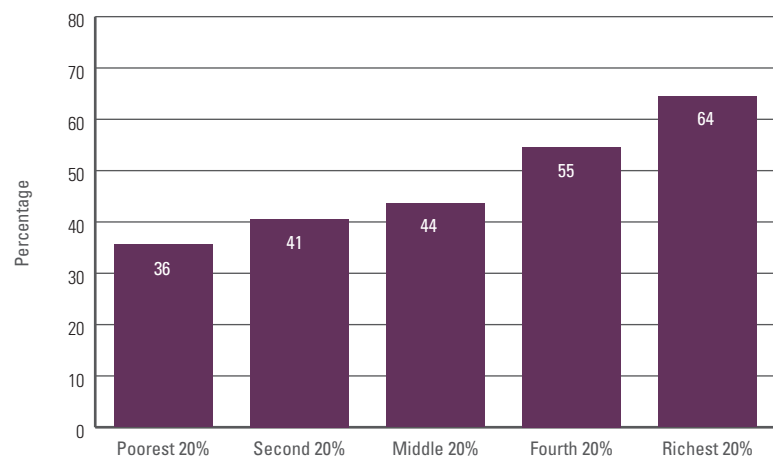
Participation in Grade R (Gross Enrolment Ratio) to sites attached to public and independent ordinary schools, 1999–2009



Source: Department of Education (2011). Education for All (EFA) Country Report South Africa, 2010.

## Children in the poorest households are only half as likely to benefit from ECD than children in the richest households

Percentage of children under 5 exposed to an ECD programme (anywhere) by household income quintile, 2009



Note: In South Africa, ECD is defined as the emotional, cognitive, sensory, spiritual, moral, physical, social and communication development of a child.

Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.



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## The Right to Education

### RELATED RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 28:** (1) States Parties recognise the right of the child to education, and with a view to achieving this right progressively and on the basis of equal opportunity, they shall, in particular: (a) Make primary education compulsory and available free to all; (b) Encourage the development of different forms of secondary education, including general and vocational education, make them available and accessible to every child, and take appropriate measures such as the introduction of free education and offering financial assistance in case of need; ... (e) Take measures to encourage regular attendance at schools and the reduction of drop-out rates.

**CRC, Article 23 (3):** Recognising the special needs of a disabled child, assistance extended in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present article shall be provided free of charge, whenever possible, taking into account the financial resources of the parents or others caring for the child, and shall be designed to ensure that the disabled child has effective access to and receives education, training ....

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 11 and 13.

### SA Constitution

**Section 29(1):** Everyone has the right – (a) to a basic education, including adult education; and (b) to further education, which the state, through reasonable measures, must make progressively available and accessible.

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**DoE Service Delivery Agreement, Output 1.1:** Improve the quality of teaching and learning.

#### Key targets by 2014:

- Percentage of Grade 3 learners performing at the required literacy level according to the country's Annual National Assessments increases from 48% to 60%.
- Average score obtained in Grade 6 in mathematics in the SACMEQ assessment increases from 495 to 520.
- Percentage of Grade 9 learners performing at the required mathematics level according to the country's Annual National Assessments increases to 60%.
- Number of Grade 12 learners who become eligible for a Bachelor's programme in the public national examinations increases from 110,000 to 175,000.
- The percentage of teachers who are able to attain minimum standards in anonymous and sample-based assessments of their subject knowledge (baseline and target to be determined).
- The percentage of learners having access to the required textbooks and workbooks for the entire school year increase to 100%.
- The percentage of learners in schools with a library or media centre fulfilling certain minimum standards increasing by 20 percentage points.

### RELATED INTERNATIONAL GOALS/TARGETS

**MDG 2, Target 2.A:** Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

**MDG Goal 3, Target 3.A:** Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.



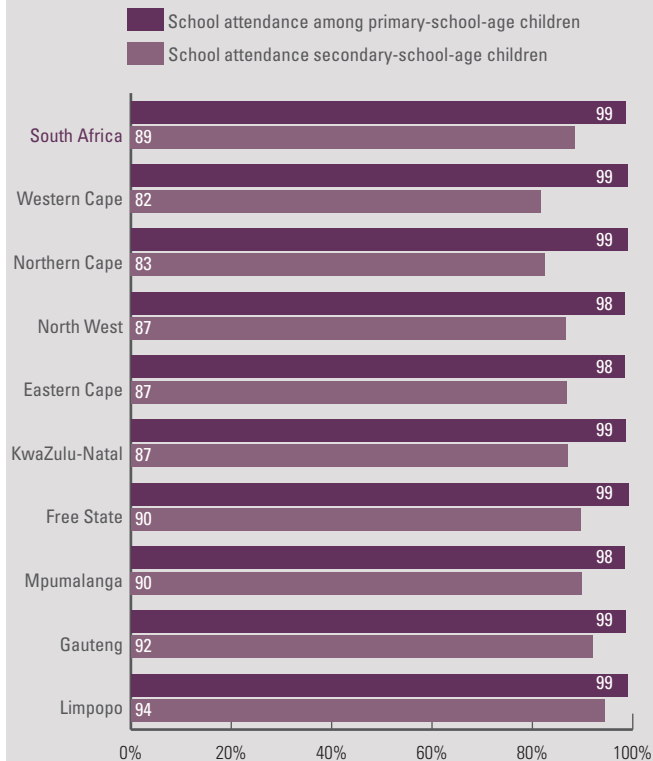
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## Access to Education

### Near universal primary education has been achieved in all provinces

Less than 90% of secondary-school-age children attend school

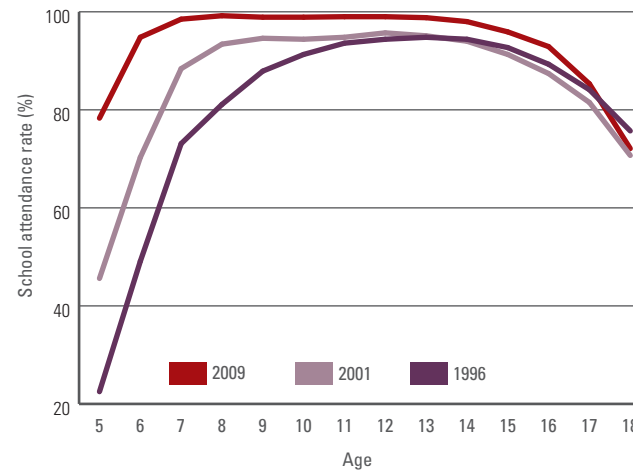
Percentage of children of primary school age (7–13 years) and secondary school age (14–18 years) attending an educational institution by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

### School attendance among children has increased steadily in the past 15 years, but less so for the older age groups

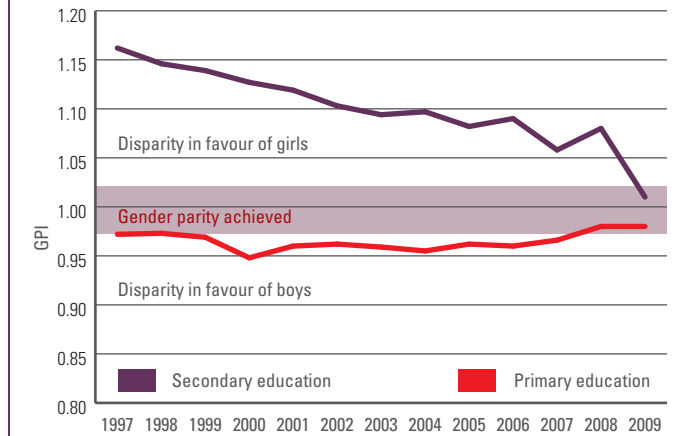
Percentage of children attending an educational institution by age, 1996; 2001 and 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (1998; 2003; 2010). Census 1996; Census 2001; General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

### Gender parity has been achieved both in primary and secondary education

Gender Parity Index (GPI) in primary and secondary education, 1997–2009



Source: The Presidency (2010). Development Indicators 2009.



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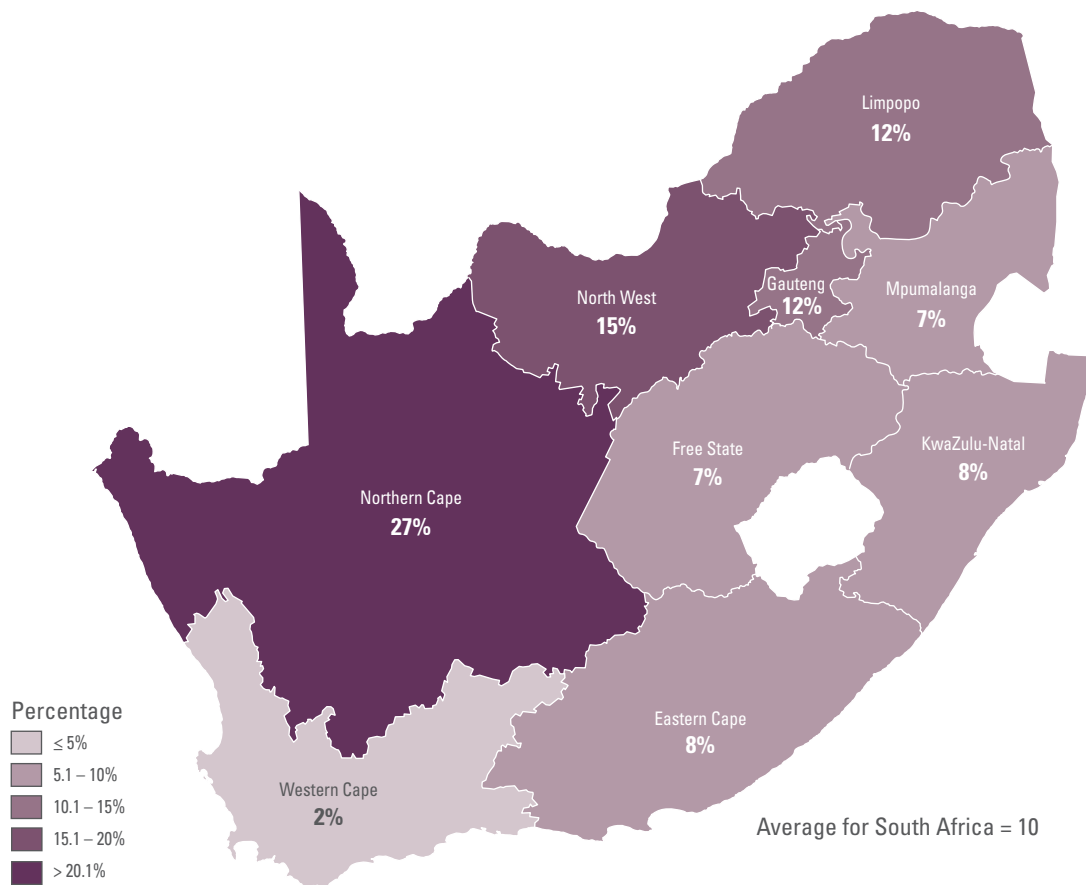


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## Disability is a serious barrier to access basic education

10% of children with disabilities do not attend school

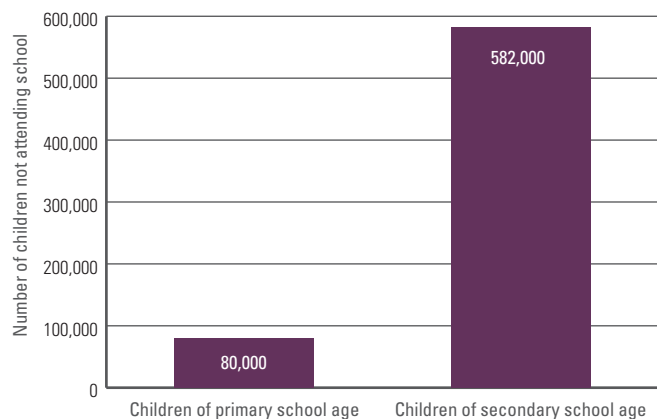
Percentage of children with disabilities 7–15 years old not attending an educational institution by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). Selected development indicators – A discussion document sourced from the General Household Survey, 2009.

## Nationwide, some 662,000 children are out of primary and secondary school

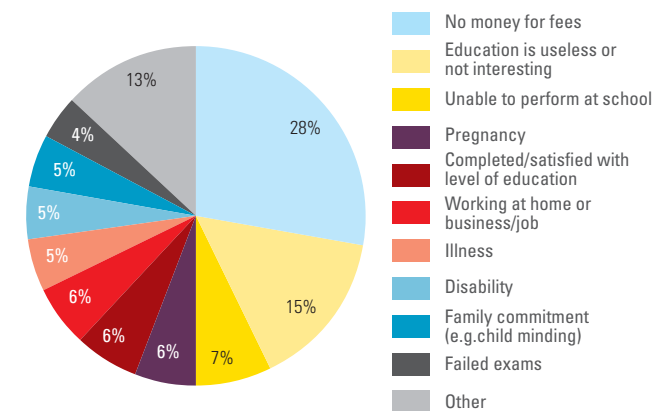
Number of children of primary/secondary school age not attending an educational institution, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Lack of money is the most important reason why children are not attending school

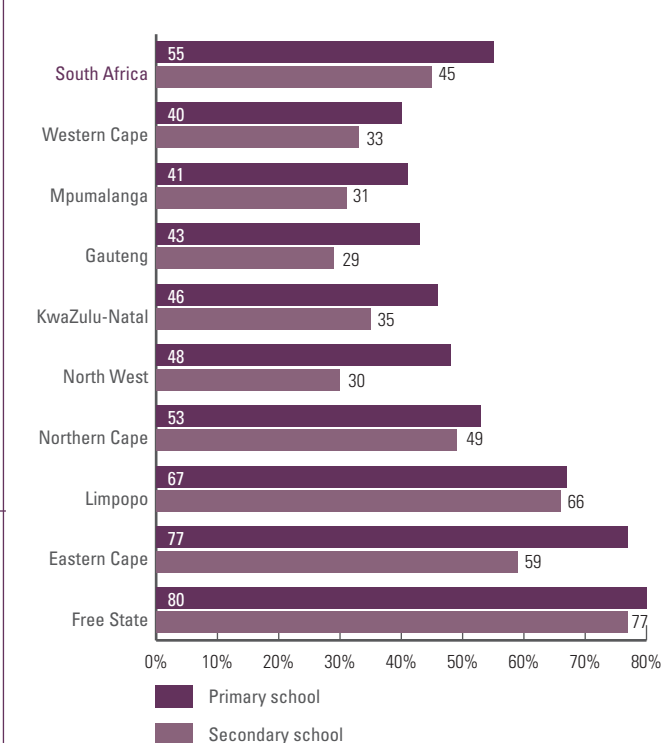
Reasons for children (7–18 years old) not attending school, 2009



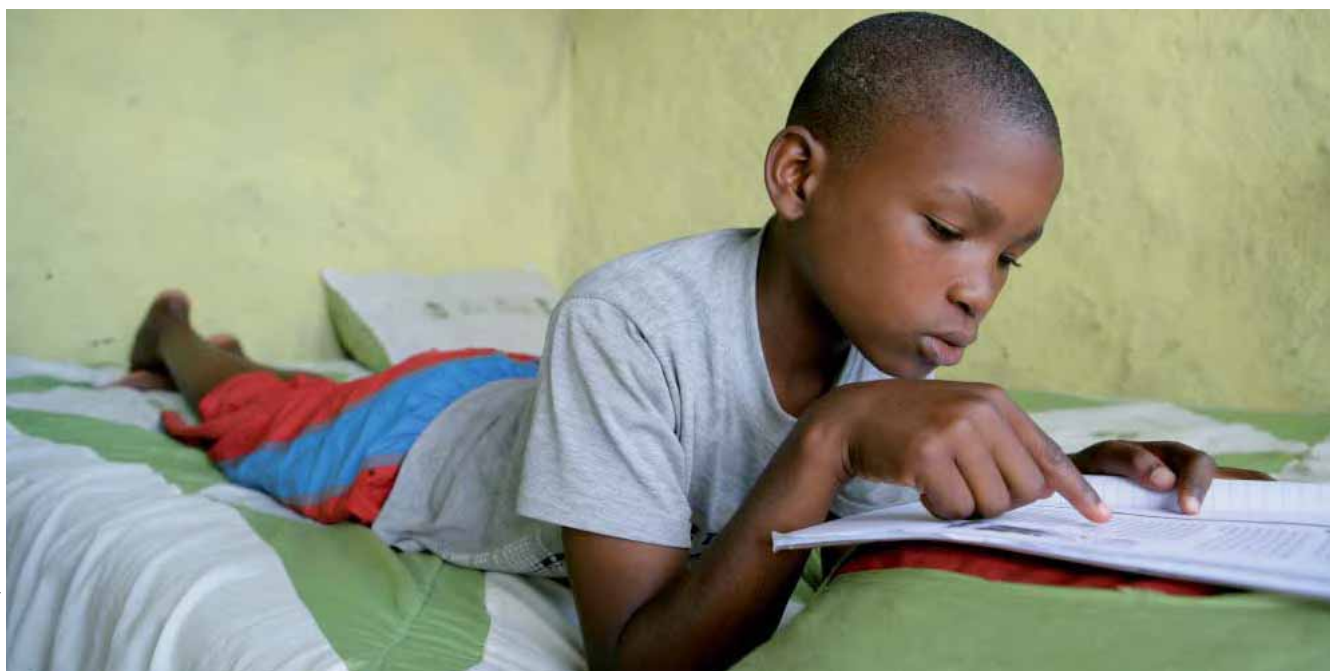
Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Yet 1 in 2 learners in public schools receive free education

Percentage of learners attending public schools (primary/secondary) who do not pay school fees by province, 2009



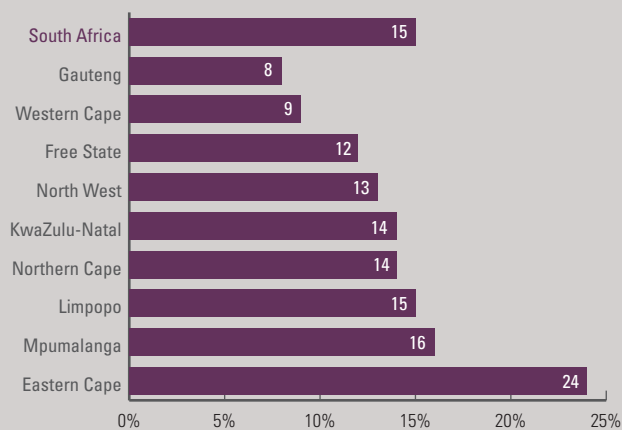
Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.



## Efficiency and Quality of the Education System

### 15% of secondary-school-age children attend primary school because of late entry or grade repetition

Percentage of children of secondary school age (14–18 years) attending primary school (Grade 1–7) by province, 2009

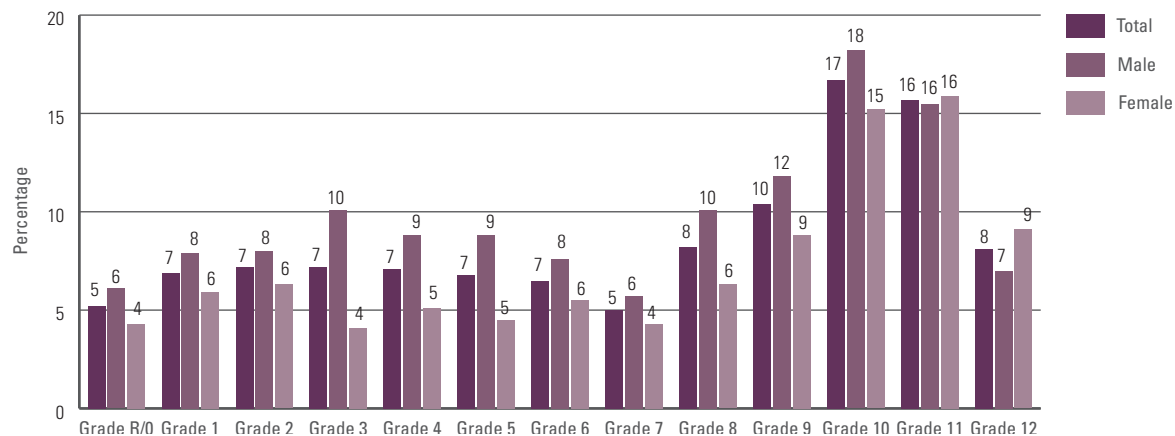


Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Repetition rates are high, especially in Grade 10 and Grade 11

Female learners generally have lower repetition rates than male learners

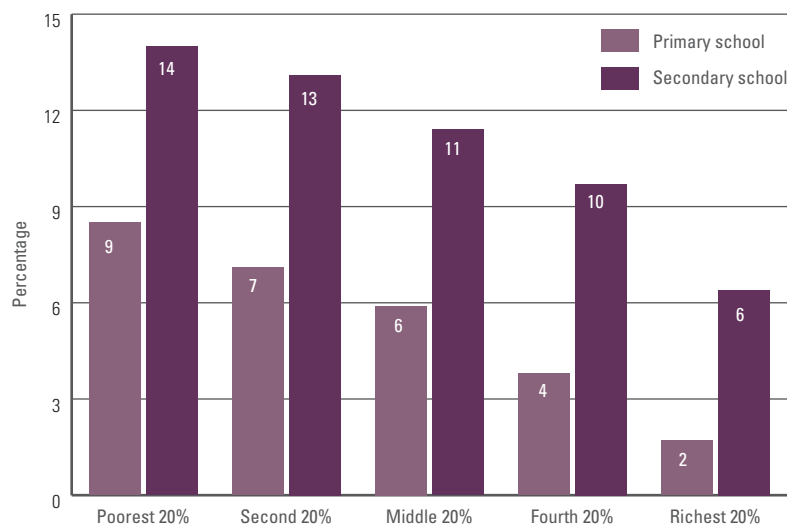
Percentage of learners who repeat the same grade by sex of learners and by grade, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Children in the poorest households are more likely to repeat the same grade

Repetition rates in primary and secondary school by household income quintile, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

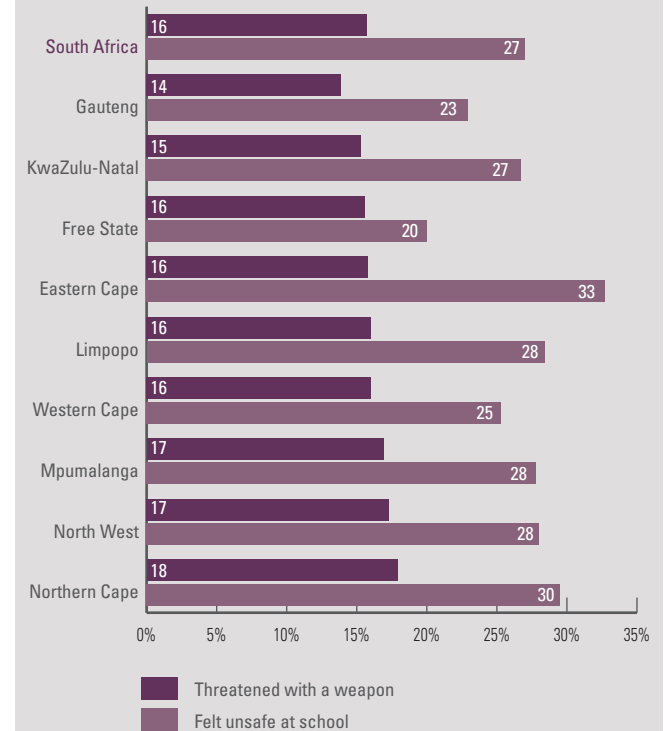


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## Violence at school is a barrier to quality education

**27% of high school learners feel unsafe at school while 16% have been threatened with a weapon**

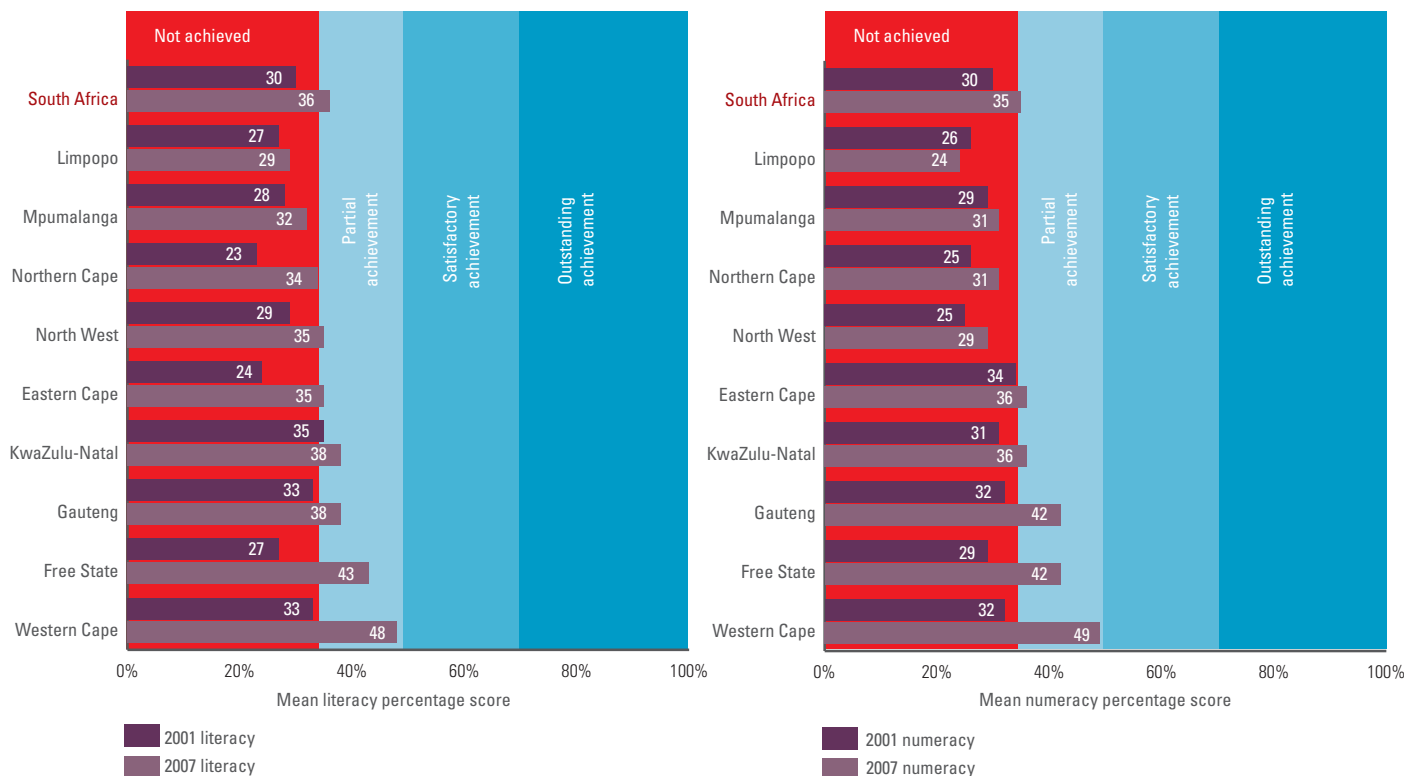
Percentage of high school learners who have been threatened/injured with a weapon; felt unsafe at school by province, 2008



Source: Medical Research Council (2010). Youth Risk Behaviour Survey 2008.

## Grade 3 learners' achievement in national assessments is generally very poor

Average percentage scores of learners in literacy and numeracy in Grade 3 Systemic Evaluations by province, 2001 and 2007

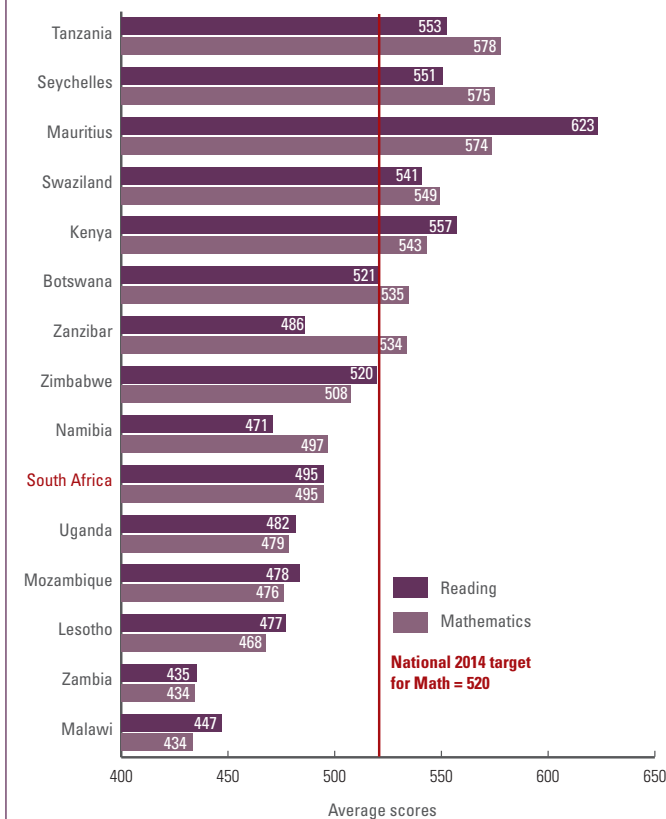


Note: Attainment score bands: Not achieved: 0–34; Partial achievement: 35–49; Satisfactory achievement: 50–69; Outstanding achievement: 70–100.

Source: Department of Education (2005; 2008). National Protocol on Assessment; Grade 3 Systematic Evaluation Report.

## South Africa's Grade 6 learner achievement levels are poor compared to many other countries in the region

Average reading and mathematics scores for Grade 6 learners in SACMEQ countries, 2007



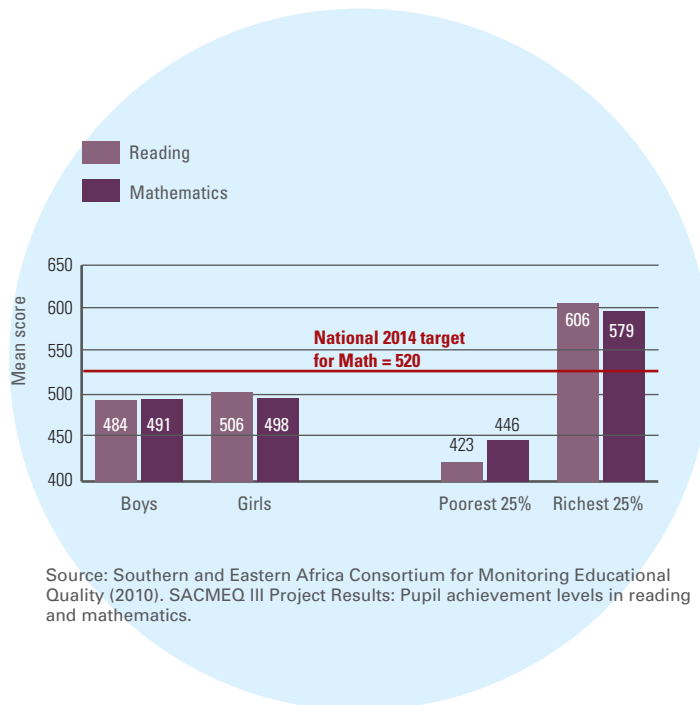
Note: A linear transformation of the reading and mathematics scores was undertaken that resulted in the mean and standard deviation of pupil scores being 500 and 100, respectively (for the pooled data with equal weight given to each country). As a result, a score of 500 is equal to the average of all country mean scores.

Source: Southern and Eastern Africa Consortium for Monitoring Educational Quality (2010). SACMEQ III Project Results: Pupil achievement levels in reading and mathematics.

## Children living in poor households have lower achievement levels in school

Girls tend to perform better than boys

Average reading and mathematics scores for South African Grade 6 learners in SACMEQ assessment by pupil sex, and socioeconomic status (SES), 2007

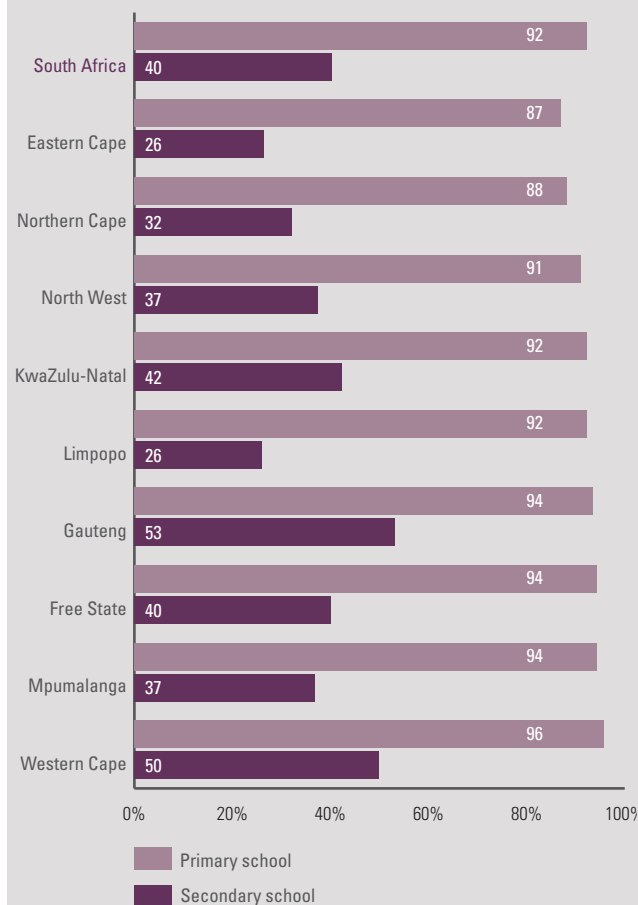


Source: Southern and Eastern Africa Consortium for Monitoring Educational Quality (2010). SACMEQ III Project Results: Pupil achievement levels in reading and mathematics.

## Completion of primary and secondary schooling

Over 90% of youth has completed primary schooling. Yet, only 40% has finished secondary schooling

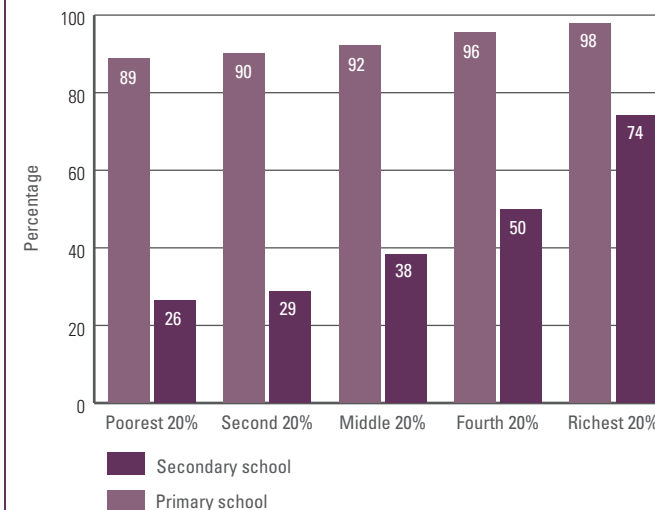
Percentage of youth (20–24 years old) who have completed primary/secondary education by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Children in the poorest households are nearly 3 times less likely to complete secondary schooling than children in the richest households

Percentage of youth (20–24 years old) who have completed primary/secondary education by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

# Children's Rights to a Family Environment and Alternative Care

## The Right to Parental or Family Care

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 5:** States Parties shall respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided for by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child, to provide, in a manner consistent with the evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance in the exercise by the child of the rights recognised in the present Convention.

**CRC, Article 7(1):** The child shall ... have ... as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.

**CRC, Article 8(1):** States Parties undertake to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognised by law without unlawful interference.

**CRC, Article 18(1–2):** States Parties shall use their best efforts to ensure recognition of the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child. Parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child. The best interests of the child will be their basic concern. 2. For the purpose of guaranteeing and promoting the rights set forth in the present Convention, States Parties shall render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child-rearing responsibilities and shall

ensure the development of institutions, facilities and services for the care of children.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 18, 19 and 20.

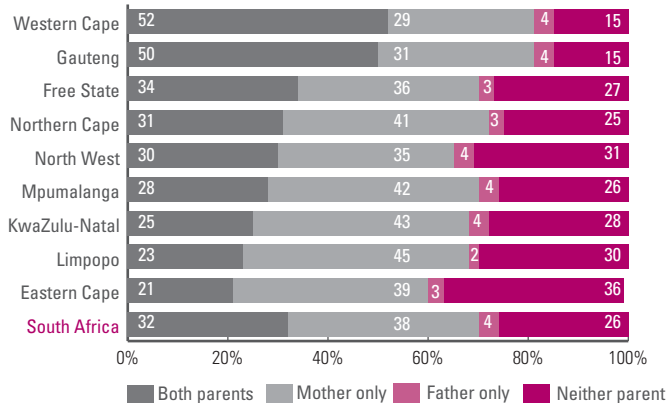
### SA Constitution

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right ... (b) to family care or parental care.



## Only 1 in 3 children live with both biological parents

Percentage of children living in the same household with both their biological parents; their mother only; their father only; or neither biological parent by province, 2009

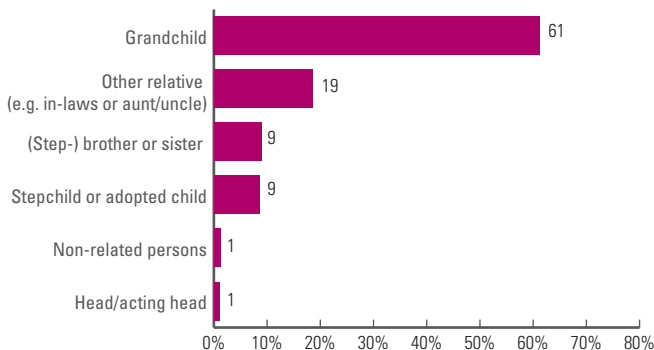


Note: Numbers may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## The majority of children (80%) not living with either parent reside with their grandparents or relatives

Child's relationship to head of the household when both biological parents are absent, 2009

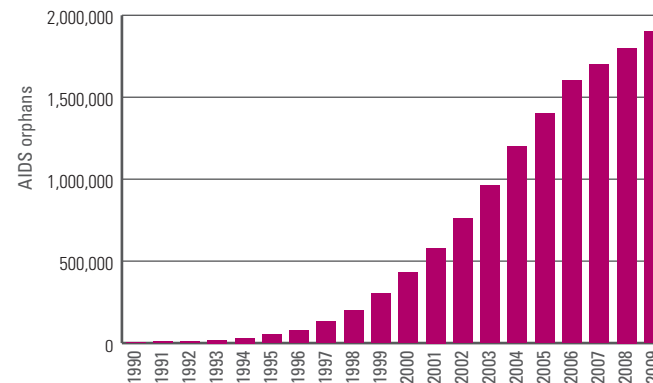


Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## The AIDS epidemic is an important driver of the growing number of orphans

1.9 million children have lost one or both parents due to AIDS

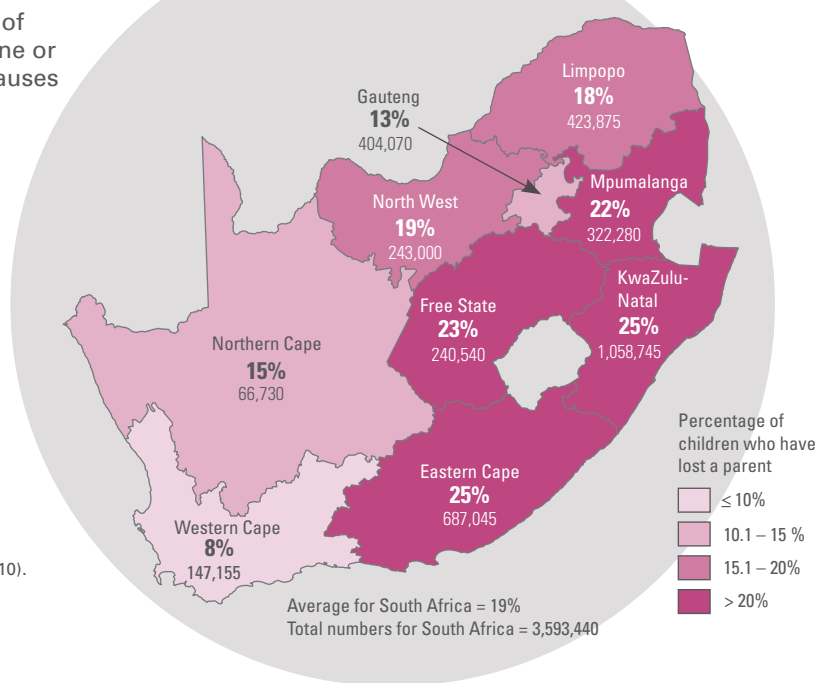
Total number of children who have lost one or both parents due to AIDS, 2000–2009



Source: UNAIDS (2010) Estimates.

## 1 in 5 children have lost one or both parents

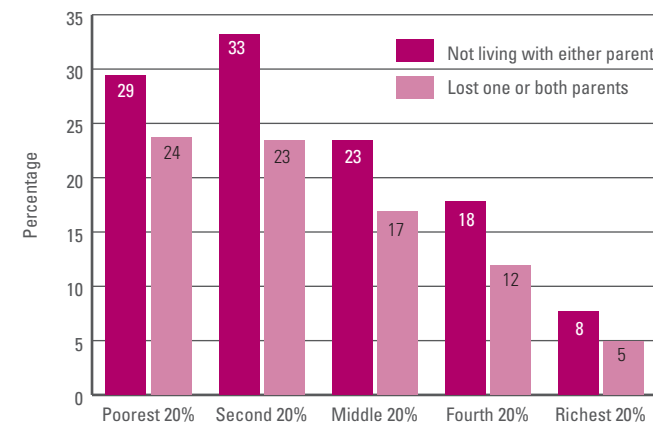
Number and percentage of children who have lost one or both parents due to all causes by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

## Poor children are less likely to live with their biological parents

Percentage of children not living with either parent; who have lost one or both parents due to all causes by household income quintile, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.



## The Right to Alternative Care in the Absence of Family Care

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 20(1);(2) and (3):** (1) A child temporarily or permanently deprived of his or her family environment, or in whose own best interests cannot be allowed to remain in that environment, shall be entitled to special protection and assistance provided by the State. (2) States Parties shall in accordance with their national laws ensure alternative care for such a child. (3) Such care could include, inter alia, foster placement, kafalah of Islamic law, adoption or if necessary placement in suitable institutions for the care of children. When considering solutions, due regard shall be paid to the desirability of continuity in a child's upbringing and to the child's ethnic, religious, cultural and linguistic background.

**CRC, Article 25:** States Parties recognise the right of a child who has been placed by the competent authorities for the purposes of care, protection or treatment of his or her physical or mental health, to a periodic review of the treatment provided to the child and all other circumstances relevant to his or her placement.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 24 and 25.

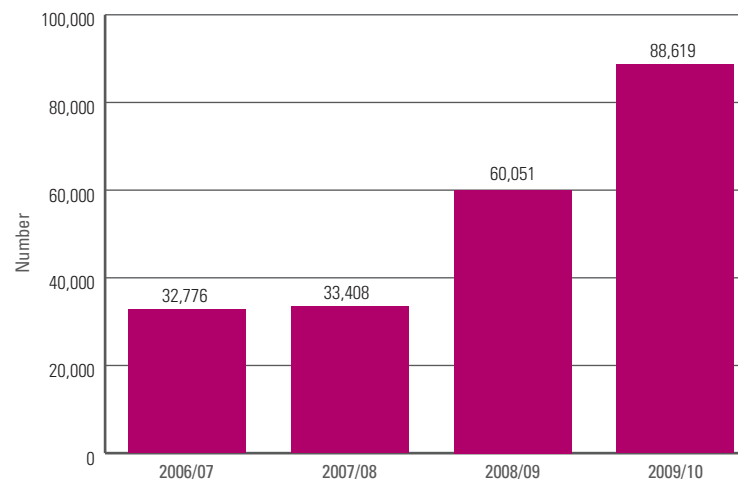
### SA Constitution

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right ... (b) to ... appropriate alternative care when removed from the family environment.

## Over 88,600 children were declared in need of care by a children's court during 2009/10

These children can be placed in foster care, in a children's home, in a school of industry or back into the parents' or guardians' care, under the supervision of a social worker. Orphaned and abandoned children may also be adopted.

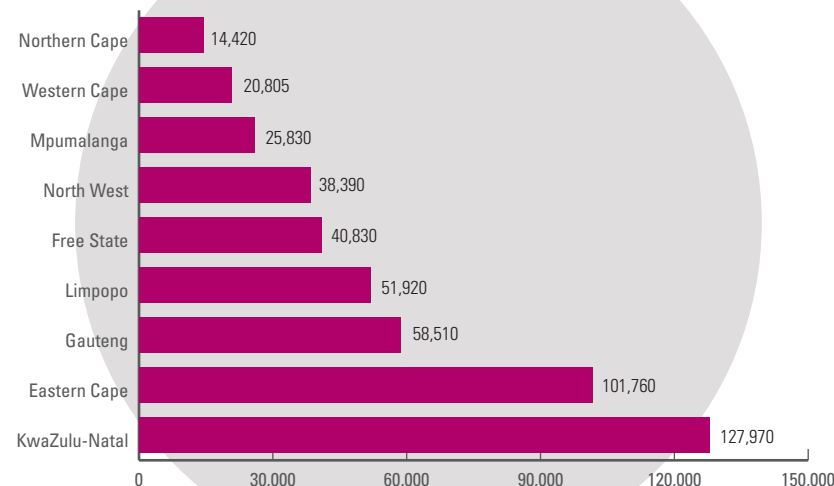
Number of children declared to be in need of care and protection by a children's court, 2006/07–2009/10



Source: Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (2007–2010). Annual Reports 2006/07–2009/10.

## Close to 500,000 children live with foster parents and benefit from the Foster Child Grant

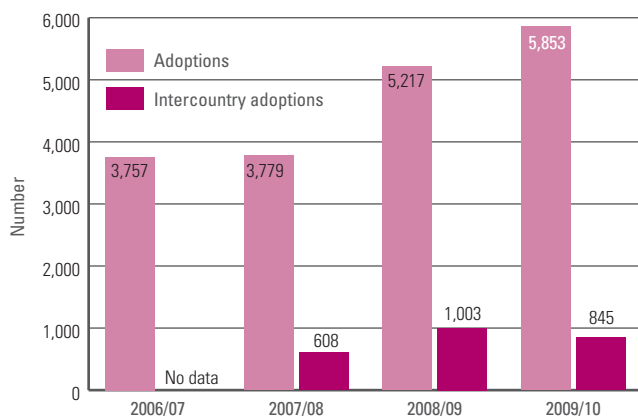
Number of Foster Child Grants by province, Jan. 2011



Source: South African Social Security Agency (2011). Statistical Report No. 38 on Social Grants (January 2011).

## The number of adoptions has increased to over 5,850 annually

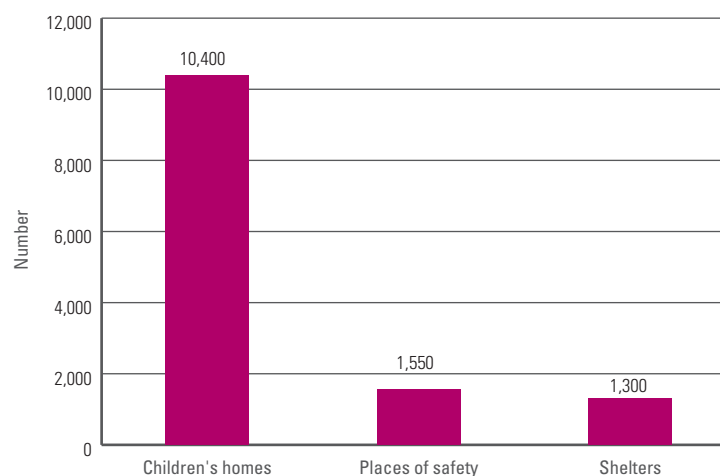
Number of adoptions and intercountry adoptions dealt with in children's courts, 2006/07–2009/10



Source: Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (2007–2010). Annual Reports 2006/07–2009/10.

## Approximately 13,250 children stay in registered child and youth care centres. The number of children in unregistered centres is unknown.

Number of children in registered child and youth care centres by centre type, 2010



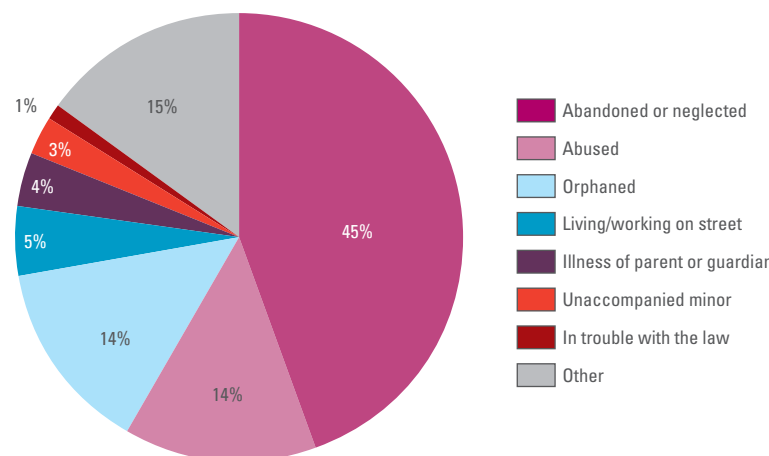
Note: This number is equivalent to only 76% of the total capacity of registered child and youth care centres, but 95% of the total number of children accommodated on the last weekday night during the time of the survey.

Source: Department of Social Development, UNICEF (2010). Baseline Study on Registered Child and Youth Care Centres.



## Close to half of children (45%) are admitted to registered child and youth care centres because of abandonment or neglect

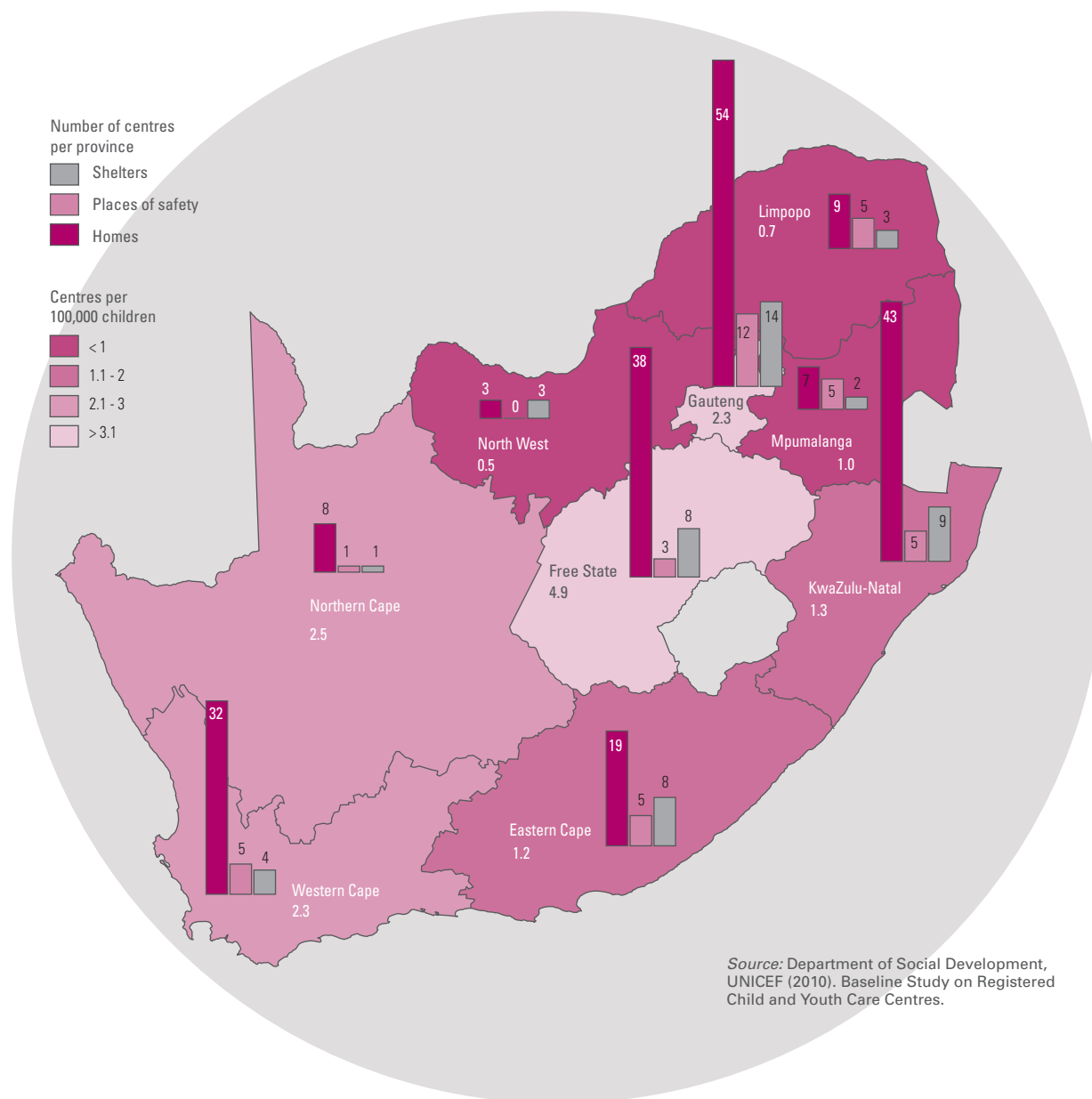
Main reason for admission of child to registered child and youth care centres, 2010



Source: Department of Social Development, UNICEF (2010). Baseline Study on Registered Child and Youth Care Centres.

## Registered child and youth care centres are not equitably distributed across the country

Number of registered child and youth care centres by province, type, and per 100,000 child population, 2010



## The Right to be Protected from all Forms of Violence

### RIGHTS

CRC, Article 19: States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child.

**CRC, Article 34:** States Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 16.

### SA Constitution

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right ... (d) to be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation.

### NATIONAL TARGETS

**JCPS Delivery Agreement, Output 3.1:** Address overall levels of crime and reduce the levels of contact and trio crimes.

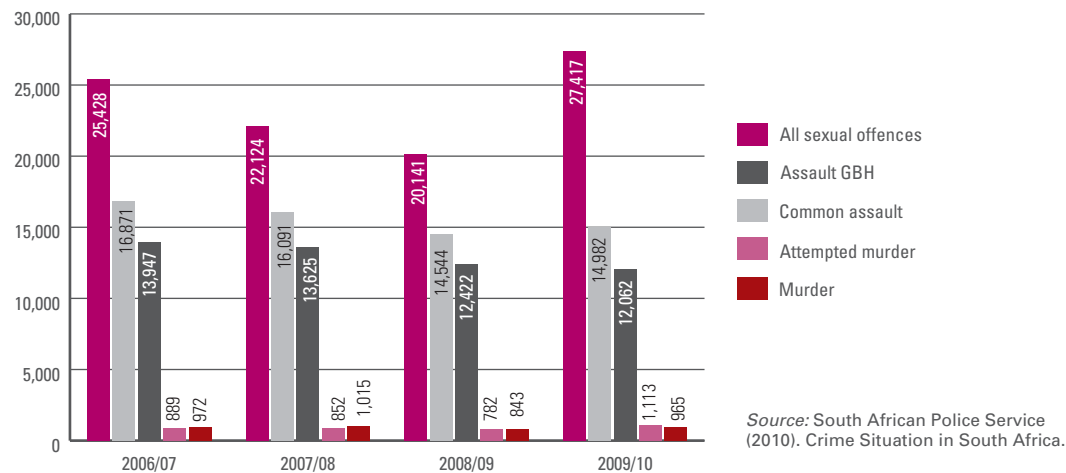
#### Key target by 2014:

- Reduce reported serious crimes from 3,924 (1,910,847 crimes) to at least 3,767 per 100,000 people.
- Reduce contact crimes from 1,407 (685,185 crimes) to 930 per 100,000 people whilst reducing trio crimes from 97,1 (47,273 crimes) to 67 per 100,000 people.

## Violence against children is pervasive in South Africa

Over 56,500 children were reported to be victims of violent crime in 2009/10, yet many more crimes remain unreported. People closest to them perpetrate the majority of cases of child sexual and physical abuse.

Reported crimes against children by crime category, 2006/07–2009/10



## Over 4,000 cases of child neglect or ill-treatment are reported to the police annually

Reported cases of neglect and ill-treatment of children by province, 2009/10

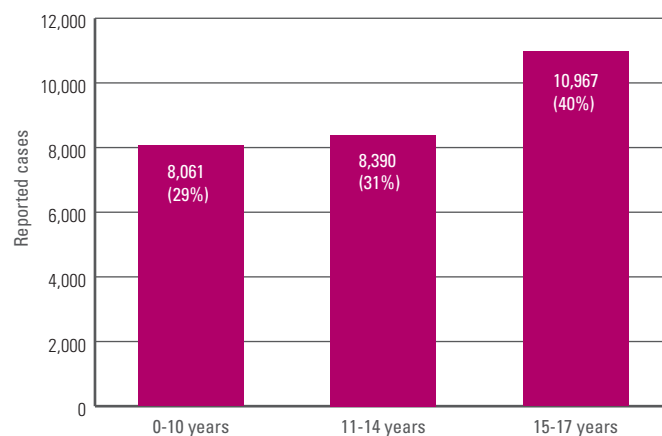
Province	Reported cases	Ratio per 100,000 population
Northern Cape	197	17.2
Western Cape	847	15.8
Free State	450	15.5
Gauteng	1,057	10.0
North West	270	7.8
Eastern Cape	356	5.4
Mpumalanga	164	4.5
KwaZulu-Natal	455	4.4
Limpopo	218	4.2
<b>South Africa</b>	<b>4,014</b>	<b>8.1</b>

Source: South African Police Service (2010). Crime Statistics: April 2009 – March 2010.

## Sexual offences are often committed against young children

29% of all sexual offences against children involve children aged 0–10 years old

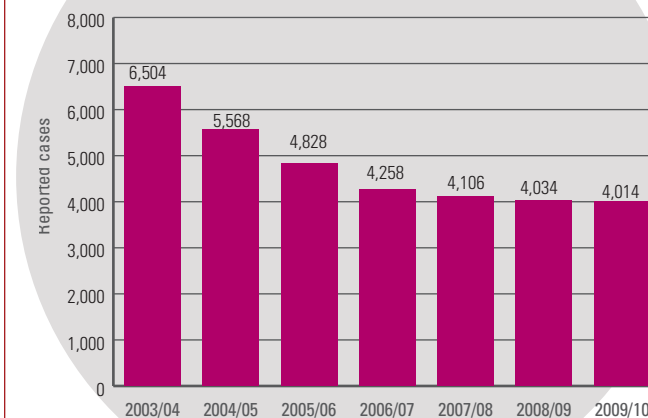
Reported sexual offences against children by age group, 2009/10



Source: South African Police Service (2010). Crime Situation in South Africa.

## The number of cases of neglect and ill-treatment reported to the police has decreased since 2003

Number of reported cases of neglect and ill-treatment of children, 2003/04–2009/10



Source: South African Police Service (2010). Crime Statistics: April 2009 – March 2010.

# Children's Rights to Special Protection

## The Right to Special Protection When in Conflict with the Law

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 40:** (1) States Parties recognise the right of every child alleged as, accused of, or recognised as having infringed the penal law to be treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child's sense of dignity and worth, which reinforces the child's respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others and which takes into account the child's age and the desirability of promoting the child's reintegration and the child's assuming a constructive role in society ....

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 15, 27, 28 and 29.

### SA Constitution

**Section 28(1):** Every child has the right ... (g) to not to be detained except as a measure of last resort, in which case ... the child may be detained only for the shortest appropriate period of time, and has the right to be (i) kept separately from detained persons over the age of 18 years; and (ii) treated in a manner, and kept in conditions, that take account of the child's age.

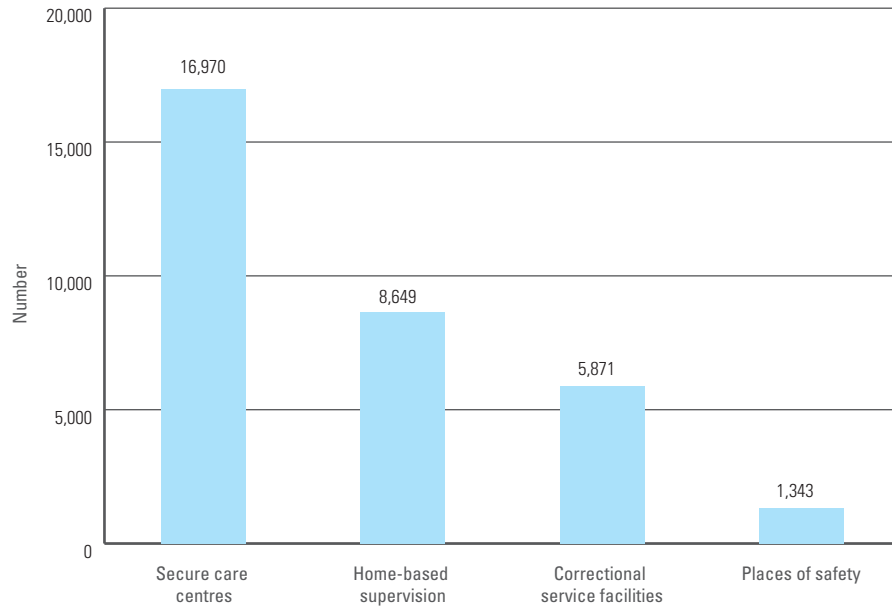
### Some facts on children in conflict with the law:

- On average, between 9,000 and 13,000 children are arrested by the South African Police Service on a monthly basis.
- Approximately 4,500 to 5,000 cases per month are converted into Children's Court Inquiries in terms of the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act 74 of 1983). Of the remaining numbers of children in the criminal justice system, between 3,000 and 5,500 children go through the courts on a monthly basis.
- On average, 1,900 children per month are diverted from the mainstream criminal justice system. This means that where a child acknowledges wrong-doing, the prosecutor provisionally withdraws charges, on condition that the child attends diversion programmes such as life skills and anger management programmes.

*Source:* Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (2008). Annual Report 2007/08.

## Approximately 33,000 children awaited trial in detention during 2008/09

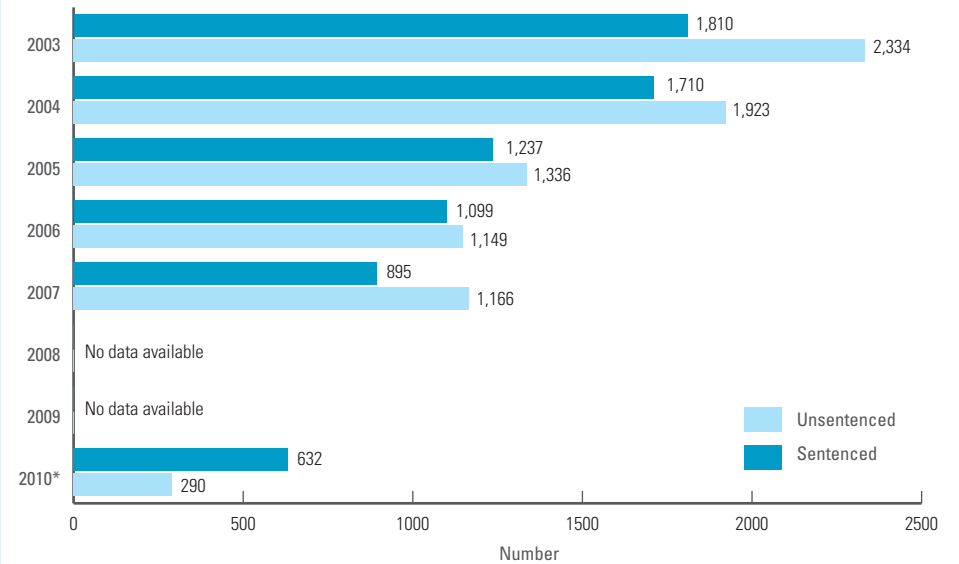
Number of children in conflict with the law awaiting trial by place of detention, 2008/09



Source: National Treasury (2009). Provincial Budgets and Expenditure Review 2005/06 – 2011/12. Annexure B: Non-financial (performance) information.

## The number of children in correctional facilities has decreased substantially

Average number of children detained in correctional service facilities by sentence status at any given point, 2003–2010



Note: 2010 data refers to children in detention on the last day of October 2010, while 2003–2007 data refers to the average number of children in detention at any given point within that year.

Source: Department of Correctional Services (2008). Presentation to the Portfolio Committee on Children in Conflict with the Law (2003–2007 data) and DCS Statistical Information at <http://www.dcs.gov.za/AboutUs/StatisticalInformation.aspx> (2010 data).



## The Right to Special Protection in Situations of Exploitation

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 32:** (1) States Parties recognise the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

**CRC, Article 33:** States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of such substances.

**CRC, Article 34:** States Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. For these purposes, States Parties shall in particular take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent: (a) The inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; (b) The exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; (c) The exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

**CRC, Article 35:** States Parties shall take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or traffic in children for any purpose or in any form.

**CRC, Article 36:** States Parties shall protect the child against all other forms of exploitation prejudicial to any aspects of the child's welfare.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's articles 15, 27, 28 and 29.

### SA Constitution

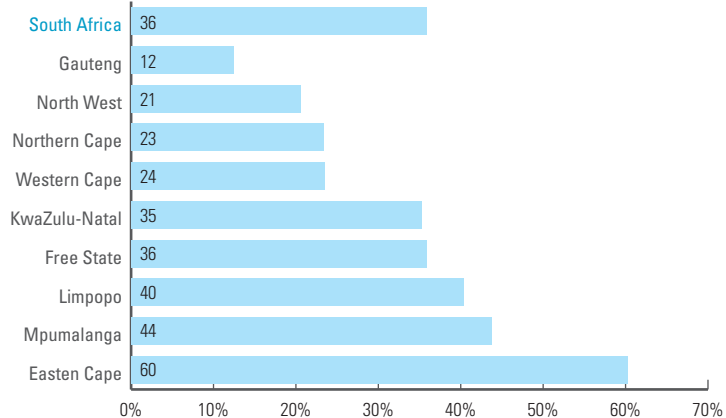
**Section 28.** Every child has the right ... (e) to be protected from exploitative labour practices; (f) not to be required or permitted to perform work or provide services that – (i) are inappropriate for a person of that child's age; or (ii) place at risk the child's well-being, education, physical or mental health or spiritual, moral or social development.



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## No recent data on child labour is available for South Africa. A 1999 survey found that 36% of children above 5 years of age were engaged in at least one form of work activity

Percentage of children aged 5–17 years engaged in children’s work activities (higher cut-off points), 1999

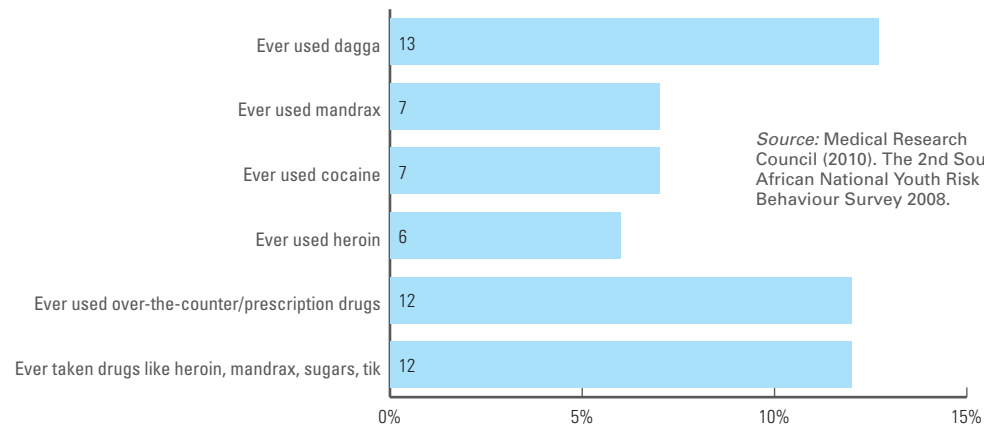


*Note:* To be classified as engaged in work, a child would have been involved in at least one activity, according to the following cut-off points: three hours per week for economic activities, seven hours per week for household chores, and five hours per week for school maintenance.

*Source:* Department of Labour and Statistics South Africa (2001). Survey of Activities of Young People (SAYP), 1999.

## More than 1 in 10 high school learners has taken at least one illegal drug such as dagga, heroin, or cocaine before

Percentage of high school learners (in Grades 8–11) who have ever used illegal drugs, 2008



*Source:* Medical Research Council (2010). The 2nd South African National Youth Risk Behaviour Survey 2008.



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# The Civil Rights and Freedoms of Children

## The Right to Birth Registration

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 7:** The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 6.

### SA Constitution

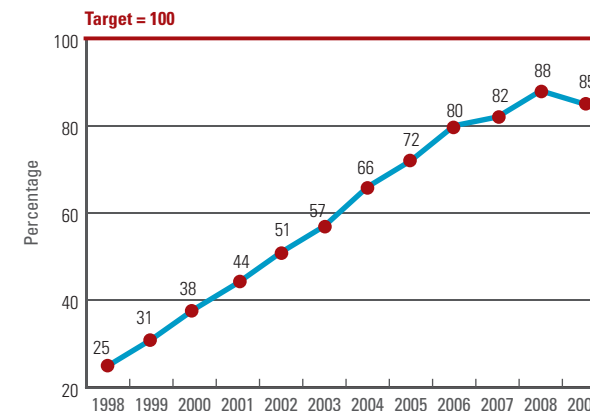
**Section 28(a):** Every child has the right to a name and nationality from birth.



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## Birth registration has improved steadily over the past decade

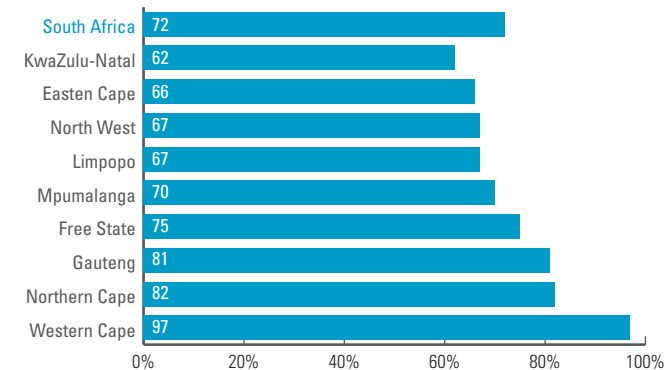
Percentage of births registered within year of birth, 1998–2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2007). Coverage and quality of birth registration 1998–2005; Statistics South Africa (2010). Recorded live births, 2009.

## The lowest levels of birth registration are found in predominantly rural provinces

Percentage of births registered within year of birth by province, 2005



Source: Statistics South Africa (2007) Coverage and quality of birth registration 1998–2005.

## The Right to Protection From Corporal Punishment and Other Cruel or Degrading Forms of Punishment

### RIGHTS

**CRC, Article 17:** No child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Also see African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child's article 20(1)(c); 21(1).

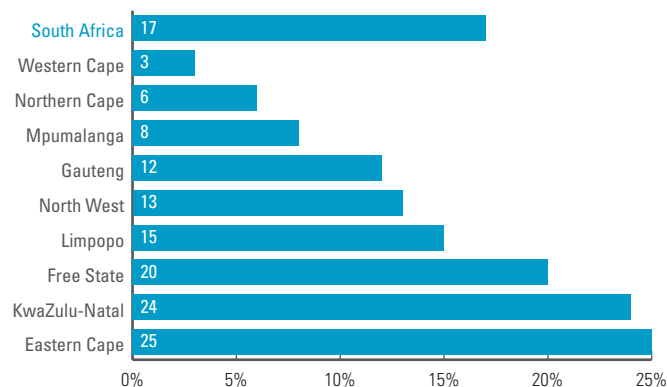
### SA Constitution

**Section 12:** Everyone has the right to freedom and security of the person, which includes the right ... (c) to be free from all forms of violence from either public or private sources; ... (d) not to be tortured in any way; and ... (e) not to be treated or punished in a cruel, inhuman or degrading way.

**Section 28(d):** Every child has the right to be protected from maltreatment, neglect, abuse or degradation.

### Though prohibited by law, nearly 1 in 5 children experience corporal punishment at school

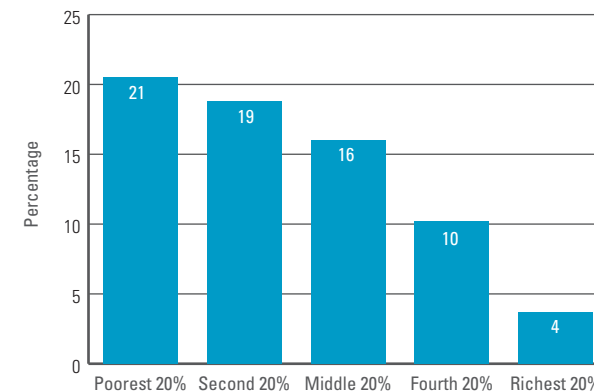
Percentage of children attending school experiencing corporal punishment by teachers by province, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009.

### Children in the poorest households are more likely to experience corporal punishment by teachers

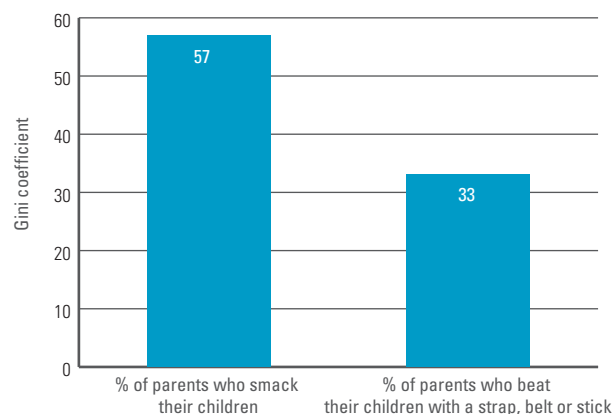
Percentage of children attending school experiencing corporal punishment by teachers by household income quintile, 2009



Source: Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009. Analysis by UNICEF South Africa.

### 1 in 3 parents use severe corporal punishment in the form of beatings

Percentage of parents who smack their children with their hand; beat their children with a strap, belt, stick or similar object, 2005



Source: Dawes, A., De Sas Kroppiwnicki, Z., Kafaar, Z. and Richter, L. (2005). Corporal punishment of children: a South African national survey.



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# Technical Note

**While South Africa is a relatively** data-rich country, published statistics usually focus on the entire population or on households, not specifically on children. Additional analysis of the raw General Household Survey (GHS) 2009 dataset was therefore undertaken to collate disaggregated statistics using children as the unit of analysis. The GHS was selected because of its sample size, annual frequency and the topics it covers. This note provides a brief description of the dataset and main approaches followed during the analysis.

## **Description of the GHS<sup>1</sup>**

The GHS is a household survey that has been executed annually by Stats SA since 2002. It is designed to measure multiple facets of the living conditions of South African households and covers six broad areas, namely: education, health, social development, housing, household access to services and facilities, food security and agriculture.

The survey covers private households in all nine provinces of South Africa, and residents in workers' hostels. A household is defined as a person, or group of persons, who occupy a common dwelling unit (or part of it) for at least four nights in a week on average during the past four weeks prior to the survey interview. The survey does not cover other collective living quarters such as students' hostels, old age homes, hospitals, prisons and military barracks. The GHS is therefore only representative of non-institutionalised and non-military persons or households in South Africa. These exclusions, however, should not have a noticeable impact on the findings in respect of children.

The sample design for the GHS 2009 was based on a master sample that was originally designed for the QLFS and was used for the first time for the GHS in 2008. The sample was stratified first by province and then by district council. A total of 25,303 households were successfully interviewed during the face-to-face interviews conducted in July, August and September 2009. Information was captured on 94,263 persons, including 35,494 children under the age of 18 years.

## **Analysing the GHS 2009**

The GHS 2009 data are available in two separate data files that can be accessed and downloaded from StatsOnline at [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za). The 'Person' file contains demographic information (sex, age, population group, etc.) and biographical information (education, health, social grants, and economic activities) of every member in the household. The 'House' file contains household information (housing, water and sanitation, electricity, environmental issues, services, etc.) and data on food security, household income sources and expenditure. The microdata files also contain a number of derived variables calculated by

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics South Africa (2010). General Household Survey 2009: Metadata.

Stats SA, as well as household and person weights. Data were analysed using the software package SPSS Statistics 17.0.

An important part of the equity analysis for this Report entailed disaggregating data by economic status in order to compare the situation of the poorest and the richest children. From the spectrum of indicators of economic status, household income was selected as the indicator of choice. The analysis relied on a derived variable on estimated total household income that was included in the 'House' file by Stats SA. This derived variable is a combination of total reported earnings, income from social grants, and income from remittances. Stats SA combined estimated monthly incomes of R20,000 and higher as 20,000 as the questionnaire was not designed to capture incomes from more complex sources such as rentals, interest etc. that are typical of higher income households.

Data on total household income was missing for 8.4 per cent of households. When analyzing inequality, ignoring households with unspecified household income can lead to biased results. A method called multiple imputation was therefore applied at household level to deal with missing values. The imputation model used the following variables as predictors of household income: province, race and sex of the household head, dwelling type, fuel for cooking, sanitation, water source, refuse removal, telephone, internet connection, means of transport, and economically active household members. The model was run 15 times and the imputed datasets were pooled to provide estimates that are generally more accurate than they would be with only one imputation.

Next, household income was converted into per capita income in order to compensate for differences in household size. All households were then ordered by household per capita income, and the distribution was divided into quintiles each containing 20 per cent of households. Each household was assigned a quintile score with 1 referring to the poorest 20 per cent of households, and 5 referring to the richest 20 per cent of households.

Finally, the data from the two separate data files ('House' and 'Person') were linked on the basis of a unique household identifier (UqNr), pre-classified by Stats SA, in order to allow for extensive analysis using children as the unit of analysis. All records with a given unique household identifier, no matter which file they are in, belong to the same household. This means that common household data, for example, on access to water or the quintile category, was applied to each individual household member in the merged dataset. Tabulations were then produced for the child indicators presented in this Report. Throughout the analysis, weights provided by Stats SA were applied to give representative estimates by province, population group and gender.

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## DATABASE ON CHILD RIGHTS INDICATORS

The database available in the CD ROM attached to this report contains key indicators to monitor the fulfilment of child rights in South Africa. By installing the database on your computer, you are literally just a few mouse clicks away from:

- Getting facts to help make better decisions based on evidence;
- Analyzing national, provincial and district data for monitoring and evaluation purposes;
- Producing high-quality tables, graphs and maps for inclusion in reports, presentations and advocacy materials.

### System requirements

The recommended hardware requirements to install this software application are:

- Pentium IV
- 512 MB of RAM
- 1 GB of free hard disk space
- Display resolution 1024 x 768
- Microsoft Windows XP or above
- Microsoft Office XP is recommended but not required.


### Installing the database


To install the application on your computer, follow these steps:

- Insert the CR-ROM into the CD drive.
- Wait for Auto-run to launch the Setup screen.
- Follow the instructions on the screen to complete setup.

If the setup program does not load automatically, then do the following:

- Click Start and then click Run.
- Type d:\setup (where 'd' is the location of your CD drive) and press Enter.
- Follow the instructions on the screen to complete setup.

After installation, double-click on the  icon on your desktop to start the application.

To view the User's Guide in .pdf format, click  di About and select Help.





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