

Country Profiles for Population and Reproductive Health:

Policy Developments and Indicators 2003



United Nations Population Fund



Population Reference Bureau

South Africa



Overview

The Government adopted a National Population Policy in 1998 (reinforced by an extensive population report for 2000). The policy has three major objectives: to systematically integrate population factors into all development policies and plans at all levels and within all sectors; to develop and implement a comprehensive (i.e., coordinated, multisectoral and interdisciplinary) approach for the planning, implementation and management of development programmes; and to generate reliable data on demographic and related socio-economic indicators to guide policy and programme interventions.

South Africa also has a national Strategic Plan (2000-2005) for HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. The plan focuses on facilitating and supporting behavioural change. Development efforts are being seriously hampered by the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS (estimated at about 20 per cent among the general population and 22.4 per cent among pregnant women), which is expected to cut average age life expectancy from 56.5 to 40 years by 2010.

While the Constitution guarantees equality between the sexes in all aspects of life, many administrative and cultural practices still discriminate against women. Moreover, the incidence of violence against women remains very high. An affirmative action policy to redress past inequities is gradually evolving.

Although the per capita gross national product puts South Africa into an upper-middle-income category (and contraceptive prevalence is high relative to most of sub-Saharan Africa), the majority of people are poor and there are both large rural areas and urban squatter settlements that are not yet adequately covered by social services (including reproductive health services).

With assistance from international and bilateral donors and from non-governmental organizations, the Government is working hard to strengthen the provincial population units so that population factors are integrated into sub-national development plans, particularly those targeting youth and adolescents in disadvantaged areas. To address low condom use, community-based reproductive health information and services are focusing more attention on organizations with predominantly male memberships. Supported by the provincial units, the Chief Directorate of Population and Development is being further strengthened to enhance its coordination of the overall population and development programme.

Statistics

POPULATION

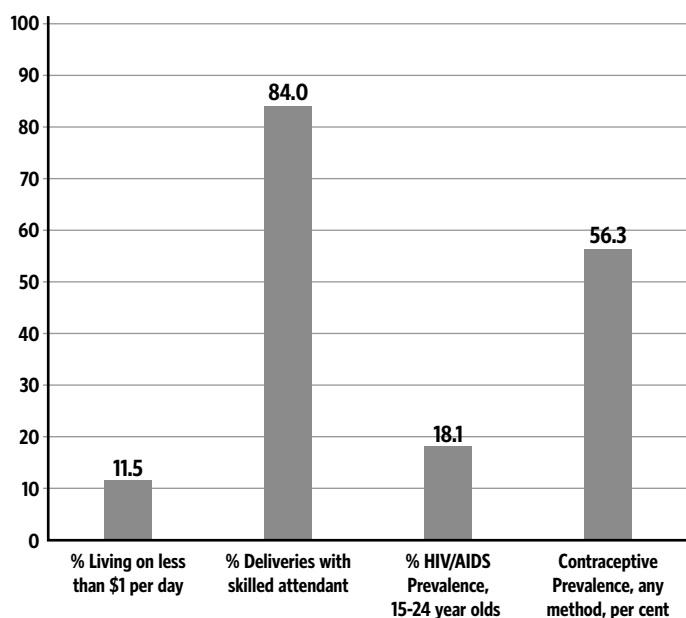
Population in Thousands, 2001, Total, Male	21,776.4
Population in Thousands, 2001, Total, Female	22,426.1
Population Growth Rate, Per Cent	1.6
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	26.7
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population	10.8
Urban Population, Per Cent	58.5
Sex Ratio at Birth, Male Births per Female Birth	1.03
Women 15-49, Thousands	11,853.1
Women 15-49, Per Cent	52.9
Total Fertility Rate per Woman 15-49	3.10
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate for Women 15-49, Modern Method, Per Cent	na
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate for Women 15-49, Any Method, Per Cent	▲ 56.3
Maternal Mortality Ratio per 100,000 Live Births (MMR)	● ▲ 340
MMR, Lower Bound	● ▲ 110
MMR, Upper Bound	● ▲ 930
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	● ▲ 58.2
Under Age 5 Mortality Rate, Total	● ▲ 101
Under Age 5 Mortality Rate, Female	● ▲ 95
Under Age 5 Mortality Rate, Male	● ▲ 107
Life Expectancy at Birth, Combined, Years	● ▲ 56.7
Life Expectancy at Birth, Female, Years	● ▲ 59.5
Life Expectancy at Birth, Male, Years	● ▲ 53.9
Population 60 Years and Over, Per Cent	6.3

Estimated Annual Resource Requirements for Population Programmes

Years 2005-2015 (in millions \$US)

Date	2005	2010	2015
Cost	231.11	268.04	297.04

Indicators for Population and Reproductive Health



Indicators

for updates, please visit our web site: <http://www.unfpa.org/profile>

SOCIO-ECONOMIC & HEALTH

Gross Domestic Product Per Capita, Purchasing Power Parity, International Dollars	9,401
Gross Domestic Product Growth Rate, Annual Per Cent	3.1
Income Group per World Bank Classification	Lower middle income
UNFPA Country Priority Classification	B
Population Below \$1/Day, Per Cent	▲ 11.5
Access to Improved Water Supply, Per Cent	▲ 86
Deliveries Attended by Skilled Attendants, Per Cent	● ▲ 84
Family Planning Programme Effort Index, 1999 (Total Mean Score)	54.0
Illiteracy Rate, Per Cent of Population Age 15 and Over, Male	14
Illiteracy Rate, Per Cent of Population Age 15 and Over, Female	15
Primary School Enrolment, Gross % of School Age Population, Male	● ▲ 117
Primary School Enrolment, Gross % of School Age Population, Female	● ▲ 121
Secondary School Enrolment, Gross Per Cent of School Age Population, Male	● ▲ 133
Secondary School Enrolment, Gross Per Cent of School Age Population, Female	● ▲ 48
Children Underweight Under 5, Male, Per Cent	na
Children Underweight Under 5, Female, Per Cent	na
Stunted Children Under 5, Moderate, Per Cent	25
Stunted Children Under 5, Severe, Per Cent	na
Wasted Children Under 5, Moderate, Per Cent	na
Wasted Children Under 5, Severe, Per Cent	na

● ICPD Goals ▲ MDG Indicators

ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Proportion of Population 15-24	20.6
Age-Specific Fertility Rate per 1000 Women, 15-20	73.2
Mean Age at Marriage, Male	28.9
Mean Age at Marriage, Female	26.8
HIV/AIDS Prevalence, 15-24, Lower Bound, Female	● ▲ 20.5
HIV/AIDS Prevalence, 15-24, Upper Bound, Female	● ▲ 30.8
HIV/AIDS Prevalence, 15-24, Lower Bound, Male	● ▲ 8.5
HIV/AIDS Prevalence, 15-24, Upper Bound, Male	● ▲ 12.8

GENDER EQUALITY

Labour Force Participation Rate, 15-64, Total	53.2
Labour Force Participation Rate, 15-64, Male	60.7
Labour Force Participation Rate, 15-64, Female	47.6
Women in Managerial or Technical Positions, Thousands	na
Seats in Parliament Held by Women, Per Cent	27.9

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH COMMODITY SECURITY

Projected Increase/Decrease in Women of Reproductive Age 2000-2015, Thousands	-173.5
Projected Increase/Decrease in Women of Reproductive Age 2000-2015, Per Cent	-1.5
Unmet Need for Family Planning, Spacing, Per Cent	● 4.7
Unmet Need for Family Planning, Limiting, Per Cent	● 10.3
Unmet Need for Family Planning, Total, Per Cent	● 15.0
Unmet Need for Family Planning, Thousands	● 638.0

INTERNAL DISPARITIES

Total Fertility Rate per Woman 15-49:

Urban	2.3
Rural	3.9
No Education/Primary	4.5
Highest Level of Education	1.9
Provincial Low	2.2
Provincial High	3.9
Poorest	na
Richest	na

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births:

Urban	32.6
Rural	52.2
No Education/Primary	58.8
Highest Level of Education	29.3
Provincial Low	8.4
Provincial High	61.2
Poorest	na
Richest	na

Age-Specific Fertility Rate, 15-19 Years:

Urban	56.0
Rural	99.0
Poorest	na
Richest	na

Adolescent Women 15-19 Begun Childbearing:

Urban, Per Cent	12.5
Rural, Per Cent	20.9
No Education/Primary, Per Cent	29.2
Highest Level of Education, Per Cent	4.0
Provincial Low, Per Cent	9.5
Provincial High, Per Cent	25.2
Poorest, Per Cent	na
Richest, Per Cent	na

Deliveries Attended by Skilled Attendants:

Urban, Per Cent	93.4
Rural, Per Cent	75.5
No Education/Primary, Per Cent	59.7
Highest Level of Education, Per Cent	99.0
Provincial Low, Per Cent	74.6
Provincial High, Per Cent	96.1
Poorest, Per Cent	na
Richest, Per Cent	na

Modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rate for Women 15-49:

Urban, Per Cent	66.0
Rural, Per Cent	52.7
No Education/Primary, Per Cent	33.1

Highest Level of Education, Per Cent	78.1
Provincial Low, Per Cent	53.2
Provincial High, Per Cent	73.7
Poorest, Per Cent	na
Richest, Per Cent	na

Children Underweight Under 5, Moderate:

Urban, Per Cent	na
Rural, Per Cent	na
No Education/Primary, Per Cent	na
Highest Level of Education, Per Cent	na
Provincial Low, Per Cent	na
Provincial High, Per Cent	na
Poorest, Per Cent	na
Richest, Per Cent	na

Children Underweight Under 5, Severe:

Urban, Per Cent	na
Rural, Per Cent	na
No Education/Primary, Per Cent	na
Highest Level of Education, Per Cent	na
Provincial Low, Per Cent	na
Provincial High, Per Cent	na
Richest, Per Cent	na
Poorest, Per Cent	na