
MEDIA RELEASE

MAY 2007-05-23

**POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA
BY PROVINCE AND POPULATION GROUP, 2001 – 2021**

The number, size and structures of households in South Africa have undergone dramatic changes during the past decade. While the total number of households in South Africa has increased from an estimated 9 059 571 in 1996 to an estimated 12 726 000 in 2005, the average household size has declined from about 4.48 in 1996 to about 3.69 in 2005. With this in mind, the objective of this study was to conduct a projection of households in South Africa for the period 2001 to 2021 disaggregated by province (according to the 1994 and 2005 provincial boundary definitions) and population group.

The results of the population projection for South Africa (according to the 2005 provincial boundaries) are shown in table 1. It appears that the highest levels of population growth over the period 2001 – 2021 will be realised with regard to the African population where a total population growth of about 15.4 % is anticipated. For both the Asian and Coloured population groups total population growth of about 10 % will be realised, while for the White population there will be a loss of about 8.2 % over the projection period.

MORE...

(2)

(POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS, 2001 – 2021)

TABLE 1**POPULATION PROJECTION: SOUTH AFRICA
(2005 PROVINCIAL BOUNDARIES)**

Year	African	Asian	Coloured	White	Total
2001	35 405 471	1 112 336	3 818 693	5 218 030	45 554 529
2002	35 880 311	1 122 733	3 868 372	5 219 974	46 091 390
2003	36 270 916	1 132 900	3 915 511	5 219 323	46 538 650
2004	36 603 974	1 142 796	3 959 485	5 215 381	46 921 637
2005	36 880 005	1 152 384	3 999 901	5 208 408	47 240 698
2006	37 109 455	1 161 612	4 036 380	5 198 269	47 505 716
2007	37 300 881	1 170 184	4 068 544	5 184 539	47 724 148
2008	37 481 349	1 178 069	4 096 315	5 167 606	47 923 339
2009	37 654 959	1 185 317	4 119 802	5 147 583	48 107 661
2010	37 839 207	1 191 826	4 139 083	5 124 805	48 294 921
2011	38 036 155	1 197 587	4 154 597	5 099 416	48 487 755
2012	38 248 188	1 202 638	4 167 651	5 072 127	48 690 604
2013	38 486 905	1 206 959	4 177 979	5 042 968	48 914 812
2014	38 750 152	1 210 586	4 186 561	5 012 324	49 159 622
2015	39 043 456	1 213 550	4 194 231	4 980 891	49 432 128
2016	39 356 893	1 215 912	4 201 715	4 949 104	49 723 624
2017	39 693 290	1 217 746	4 209 758	4 917 163	50 037 957
2018	40 057 637	1 219 090	4 218 713	4 885 383	50 380 822
2019	40 445 466	1 219 986	4 228 614	4 853 600	50 747 665
2020	40 857 487	1 220 452	4 239 152	4 821 400	51 138 490
2021	41 230 385	1 220 517	4 250 025	4 788 935	51 549 834

It should be noted that different demographic dynamics drive population outcomes for the different population groups. It appears that the main drivers of population growth dynamics among the African population will be HIV/AIDS, migration (including immigration) as well as historically high levels of fertility. With regard to the Asian population, the main drivers appear to be low levels of HIV/AIDS, low historical fertility rates as well as rising life expectancies brought about by improvements in living standards.

MORE...

(3)

(POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS, 2001 – 2021)

For the Coloured population the main drivers appear to be historically high fertility rates, the increasing impact of HIV/AIDS as well as some migration impacts. For the White population the main demographic impacts appear to be historically low fertility rates, interprovincial migration, rising levels of HIV/AIDS as well as high emigration rates.

The average annual population growth rates for the period 2001 – 2021 disaggregated by province and population group are shown in table 2. It appears that the highest average annual population growth rates for the projection period will be experienced with regard to the African population while the White population will experience negative average annual population growth rates. The provinces with the highest average annual population growth rates will be the Eastern Cape and Limpopo, where a combination of comparatively high fertility rates and low HIV-prevalence rates will give rise to relatively high population growth rates over the projection period.

TABLE 2

**PROJECTED AVERAGE ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH RATES,
2001 – 2021 (2005 PROVINCIAL BOUNDARIES)**

	African	Asian	Coloured	White	Total
Eastern Cape	1.19	0.54	0.45	-0.42	1.06
Free State	0.23	0.35	0.19	-0.54	0.14
Gauteng	0.81	0.58	0.18	-0.46	0.52
KwaZulu-Natal	0.28	0.44	0.22	-0.34	0.25
Limpopo	1.11	0.29	0.33	-1.37	1.05
Mpumalanga	0.69	0.41	0.08	-0.32	0.61
North West	0.85	0.39	0.57	-0.58	0.73
Northern Cape	0.47	0.50	0.76	-1.20	0.43
Western Cape	1.35	0.55	0.59	-0.16	0.62

MORE...

(POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS, 2001 – 2021)

The results of a household projection for South Africa according to the 2005 provincial boundaries are provided in table 3. When comparing the results of the population projection for South Africa as a whole, as provided in table 1, and the results as shown in table 3, some important patterns emerge. It appears that while the African population is expected to grow by about 15.4 % during the period 2001 – 2021, African households are expected to increase by about 60.7 % over the same period. This disparity in growth rates could be attributed to declining average household sizes brought about by various reasons such as the impact of HIV/AIDS, urbanisation, lower fertility preferences, greater preference for single-person households and household mitosis, where existing African households are split into two or more separate households.

It also appears that although the Asian and Coloured population groups will experience low population growth rates over the period 2001 – 2021, fairly high levels of household growth can be expected. This could be explained by a greater number of single-person households, a growing number of nuclear family households as well as an ageing component of the population, characterised by empty nests and single-person households as discussed before.

The White population for South Africa also shows an important pattern, namely, a population decline of about 8.2 % over the projection period, but an increase of more than 4.3 % with regard to households. This disparity could also be explained by a growing preference for smaller households, household mitosis leading to more single-person, and also single-parent households.

MORE...

(5)

(POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS, 2001 – 2021)

TABLE 3

**HOUSEHOLD PROJECTION: SOUTH AFRICA
(2005 PROVINCIAL BOUNDARIES)**

Year	African	Asian	Coloured	White	Total
2001	8 629 090	286 486	864 590	1 780 203	11 560 370
2002	8 892 669	291 680	882 948	1 792 299	11 859 597
2003	9 141 354	296 883	900 962	1 803 587	12 142 786
2004	9 381 063	302 082	918 475	1 813 802	12 415 422
2005	9 611 309	307 267	935 379	1 823 017	12 676 972
2006	9 834 234	312 423	951 567	1 831 164	12 929 389
2007	10 049 140	317 466	966 917	1 837 981	13 171 503
2008	10 265 322	322 385	981 395	1 843 674	13 412 776
2009	10 483 959	327 189	995 007	1 848 260	13 654 415
2010	10 710 063	331 847	1 007 747	1 851 842	13 901 499
2011	10 944 510	336 351	1 019 700	1 854 456	14 155 017
2012	11 188 385	340 707	1 031 172	1 856 339	14 416 603
2013	11 445 402	344 904	1 042 081	1 857 492	14 689 879
2014	11 715 449	348 949	1 052 660	1 858 039	14 975 097
2015	12 000 688	352 845	1 063 112	1 858 235	15 274 881
2016	12 298 635	356 605	1 073 620	1 858 233	15 587 093
2017	12 610 808	360 249	1 084 375	1 858 105	15 913 537
2018	12 939 219	363 782	1 095 473	1 857 967	16 256 442
2019	13 283 014	367 215	1 106 932	1 857 756	16 614 917
2020	13 642 869	370 550	1 118 674	1 857 314	16 989 407
2021	14 018 255	373 792	1 130 626	1 856 693	17 379 366

MORE...

(6)

(POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS, 2001 – 2021)

The average annual household growth rates for the period 2001 – 2021 are reflected in table 4. The highest household growth rates over the forecast period will be experienced with regard to the African population while the provinces with the highest household growth will be the Eastern Cape, Limpopo, Mpumalanga and North West, brought about by a combination of comparatively higher population growth rates and rapidly declining average household sizes.

TABLE 4

**PROJECTED AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD GROWTH RATES,
2001 – 2021 (2005 PROVINCIAL BOUNDARIES)**

Province	African	Asian	Coloured	White	Total
Eastern Cape	2.88	1.42	1.27	0.21	2.60
Free State	1.90	1.22	1.01	0.09	1.64
Gauteng	2.49	1.45	0.99	0.17	1.94
KwaZulu-Natal	1.95	1.31	1.03	0.29	1.73
Limpopo	2.80	1.17	1.15	-0.75	2.70
Mpumalanga	2.38	1.28	0.89	0.31	2.19
North West	2.54	1.27	1.39	0.05	2.32
Northern Cape	2.15	1.38	1.58	-0.58	1.61
Western Cape	3.04	1.43	1.40	0.47	1.56

POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA BY PROVINCE AND POPULATION GROUP, 2001 - 2021 (Research Report no 364) was compiled by Prof Carel van Aardt of the Bureau of Market Research. The report, consisting of 93 pages, contains population and household projections for South Africa for the period 2001 to 2021. The report is available from the Bureau of Market Research, P O Box 392, UNISA 0003.

MORE...

(1)

(POPULATION AND HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS, 2001 – 2021)

END

Date of issue: 2007-05-23

Professional enquiries:

Prof Carel van Aardt
Bureau of Market Research
University of South Africa
P O Box 392
UNISA
0003

Tel: (012) 429-2940

Fax: (012) 429-3170

Email: vaardcj@unisa.ac.za

Other enquiries:

Mrs M Lamb
Bureau of Market Research
University of South Africa
P O Box 392
UNISA
0003

Tel: (012) 429-3070

Fax: (012) 429-3170

Email: lambm@unisa.ac.za