

REPORT ON MIGRATION STATISTICS BASED ON VARIOUS DATA  
SOURCES INCLUDING CENSUS 2022



IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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# REPORT ON MIGRATION STATISTICS BASED ON VARIOUS DATA SOURCES INCLUDING CENSUS 2022

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Statistician-General

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**Report on migration statistics based on various data sources including Census 2022 /**  
Statistics South Africa

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## Table of contents

<b>LIST OF TABLES</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>PREFACE</b> .....	<b>vi</b>
<b>ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS</b> .....	<b>vii</b>
<b>CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS</b> .....	<b>viii</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>ix</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1 Overview of the report.....	1
1.2 Rationale.....	2
1.3 Data Sources.....	2
1.3.1 The Quarterly Labour Force Survey.....	2
1.3.2 Population and Housing Census.....	2
1.3.3 Administrative data from SASSA.....	3
1.4 Development framework positioning the report.....	3
1.5 Objective of the Report.....	5
1.6 Report structure.....	5
<b>CHAPTER 2: IMMIGRATION</b> .....	<b>6</b>
2.1 Introduction.....	6
2.2 Immigrant Profile.....	7
2.3 Employment and Decent Work Agenda.....	13
2.3.1 Employment opportunities.....	14
2.3.2 Decent working time.....	18
2.3.3 Combining work, family, and personal life.....	18
2.3.4 Stability and security of work.....	19
2.3.5 Social security.....	20
2.3.6 Social dialogue, workers and employers' representation.....	22
2.4 Children on the Move.....	23
2.4.1 Demographic Profile of Children.....	23
2.4.2 School attendance and educational attainment of children.....	26
2.4.3 Geography Profile dynamics of children.....	27
2.4.4 Disability Index.....	30
2.4.5 Orphanhood.....	30
2.4.6 Household headed by children.....	31
2.4.6.1 Dynamics of Child-headed Households.....	32
2.4.6.2 Dwelling type and household services.....	32
2.5 Access to social assistance.....	36
2.6 Summary and Conclusion.....	38
<b>CHAPTER 3: INTERNAL MIGRATION</b> .....	<b>39</b>
3.1 Introduction.....	39
3.2 Lifetime migration.....	39
3.2.1 Demographic Profile.....	40
3.2.2 Person born outside the Province of usual residence.....	41
3.3 Period migration.....	45
3.3.1 Methods used to determine interprovincial migration of the population:.....	45
3.4 Interprovincial Streams and Corridors.....	50
3.4.1 Migration Streams.....	50
3.4.2 Migration Corridors.....	51
3.5 Summary and Conclusion.....	55
<b>References</b> .....	<b>56</b>
<b>Annexures</b> .....	<b>57</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 – Summary of Development framework positioning the report .....	3
Table 1.2 – Chapter layout of the report .....	5
Table 2.1 – The framework for measuring decent work .....	13
Table 2.2 – Employment status of the population by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	14
Table 2.3 – Distribution of children by migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	24
Table 2.4 – Distribution of child-headed households by sex, Census 2022 .....	32
Table 2.5 – Distribution of children receiving grants by grant type and migratory status, 2023–2024 .....	36
Table 2.6 – Distribution of children receiving grants by province, grant type and migratory status, 2023–2024 .....	37
Table 3.1 – Number of the population by migratory status, Census 2022 .....	40
Table 3.2 – Median age of the population by migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	42
Table 3.3 – Provincial distribution of the population by migratory status, census 2022 .....	47
Table 3.4 – Median age by migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	52

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Distribution of population by migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	7
Figure 2.2: Sex ratio of the population by migratory status, Census 2022 .....	7
Figure 2.3: Percentage distribution of Immigrants year moved to South Africa and sex, Census 2022 .....	8
Figure 2.4: Percentage distribution of Immigrants by citizenship status and sex, Census 2022 .....	8
Figure 2.5: Percentage distribution of Marital status by migratory status, and sex, Census 2022 .....	9
Figure 2.6: Percentage distribution of Province of usual residence by sex and migratory status, Census 2022 .....	10
Figure 2.7: Percentage distribution of Top ten sending countries to South Africa by sex, Census 2022 .....	10
Figure 2.8: Percentage distribution of region of birth of immigrants by sex, Census 2022 .....	11
Figure 2.9: Percentage distribution of the population educational by level migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	12
Figure 2.10: Employment status by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	15
Figure 2.11: Percentage distribution of the population by industry, migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	16
Figure 2.12: Percentage distribution of the population by occupation, migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	17
Figure 2.13: Type of employment among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	17
Figure 2.14: Hours worked in a week among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	18
Figure 2.15: Entitlement to Maternity/ Paternity leave among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	19
Figure 2.16: Type of employment contract by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	19
Figure 2.17: Contract duration among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	20
Figure 2.18: Medical aid contribution of the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	21
Figure 2.19: UIF contribution of the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	21
Figure 2.20: Pension fund contribution of the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	22
Figure 2.21: Trade union membership among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022 .....	22
Figure 2.22: Distribution of children by age group, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022 .....	24

Figure 2.23: Distribution of children by population group, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022 .....	25
Figure 2.24: Percentage distribution of citizenship status of immigrant children by sex, Census 2022 .....	25
Figure 2.25: Percentage distribution of Language spoken by immigrant children by sex (3 – 17 years), Census 2022 .....	26
Figure 2.26: Percentage distribution of population by school attendance, migratory status and sex (7 -17 years), Census 2022 .....	26
Figure 2.27: Percentage distribution of level of education by migratory status and sex (7-17 years), Census 2022 .....	27
Figure 2.28: Percentage distribution of population by type of place of residence, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	27
Figure 2.29: Percentage Distribution of population by province of usual residence, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	28
Figure 2.30: Top 10 countries of birth of immigrant children by sex, Census 2022 .....	28
Figure 2.31: Percentage distribution of Region of birth of immigrant children by sex, Census 2022.....	29
Figure 2.32: Immigrant children's year of movement to South Africa by sex, Census 2022.....	29
Figure 2.33: Distribution of children's disability status by migratory status and sex, Census 2022.....	30
Figure 2.34: Percentage distribution of children's orphanhood status by migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	31
Figure 2.35: Distribution of type of main dwelling by migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	32
Figure 2.36: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by province, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	33
Figure 2.37: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to water, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	33
Figure 2.38: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access toilet facility, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022 .....	34
Figure 2.39: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to Energy for lighting, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	35
Figure 2.40: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to refuse removal facility, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	35
Figure 3.1: Percentage distribution of persons born outside the province of usual residence by sex, Census 2022 .....	41
Figure 3.2: Age and sex structure of population by migratory status, Census 2022.....	42
Figure 3.3: Percent distribution of persons by population group and migratory status, Census 2022.....	43
Figure 3.4: Percentage distribution of population aged 12 years and older by marital and migratory status, Census 2022 .....	44
Figure 3.5: Percentage distribution of period in-migration by sex, census 2022 .....	48
Figure 3.6: Percentage distribution of period out-migration by sex, census 2022 .....	49
Figure 3.7: Interprovincial streams by sex, Census 2022 .....	50
Figure 3.8: Interprovincial corridor by sex, Census 2022.....	51
Figure 3.9: Age and sex structure of the population by migratory status, Census 2022.....	52
Figure 3.10: Percentage distribution of the population by population group, migratory status and sex, Census 2022 .....	53
Figure 3.11: Percentage distribution of population by marital status and migratory status, Census 2022 .....	54
Figure 3.12: Main reason for moving from the previous place of residence by sex, Census 2022.....	54

## PREFACE

Today, more people than ever live in a country other than the one in which they were born. According to UNDESA, since 1990, the number of African migrants living outside of their region has more than doubled, with the growth in Europe most pronounced. In 2020, most African-born migrants living outside the region were residing in Europe (11 million), Asia (nearly 5 million) and Northern America (around 3 million). For South Africa with approximately 2,4 million international migrants in 2022, these data plays a critical role in demography as it shapes provincial population distributions.

The purpose of the thematic report is to provide insight and statistics on the immigrant population and identify vulnerable groups, such as women and children. Furthermore, this report provides data on the representation of immigrant males and females in various sectors of the economy, highlighting gender-specific economic contributions and challenges. Importantly, the report also examines internal migration within South Africa, offering insights into major migration streams and corridors. The migration report is positioned to provide insightful data that is informative and responsive to user demands.

This report responds to user requests from stakeholders and further highlights the importance of Interconnected statistical systems. The use of administrative data promotes good relations among data producers and is paramount to narrowing the data gap. Therefore, this is a call for us to unite in efforts to enhance and transform lives by strengthening data-sharing collaborations.



**Risenga Maluleke**  
**Statistician-General**

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CAPI	Computer-assisted Personal Interview
CDG	Care Dependency Grant
CSG	Child Support Grant
CATI	Computer-assisted Telephonic Interview
CAWI	Computer-assisted Web Interview
FCG	Foster Care Grant
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NEET	Not in employment, education or training
NDP	National Development Plan
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SASSA	South African Social Security Agency
STATS SA	Statistics South Africa
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



## CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

Non-mover	A non-mover is an individual born in a particular province and is a usual resident of the same province.
Non-migrant/ SA-born	A person who resides in the country where he/she was born and has not crossed international borders for residence purposes (Stats SA, 2024).
Internal Migrant	Any person who is moving or has moved within a state for the purpose of establishing a new temporary or permanent residence, or because of displacement (IOM, 2019b).
Period migration	Measures movements of persons at one point in time relative to a previous point in time (e.g. one calendar year) (Stats SA).
Lifetime migrant	An individual whose place of usual residence at a point in time differs from his/her place of birth (Stats SA, 2024).
International migrant	A person who has changed his or her country of residence and established new usual residence in the country within a given year (6 months and 1 year). An international migrant can be either 'immigrant' or 'emigrant' and include those with national or foreign citizenships or stateless persons (UN Expert Group on Migration Statistics).
Usual resident	A person who has lived most of the last 12 months within a given year or have intentions to stay (or granted to stay) for at least 6 months, not including temporary absence for holidays or work assignments (Stats SA, 2024).
Place of usual residence	The geographical place where a person has lived most of the last 12 months within a given year or have intentions to stay (or granted to stay) for at least 6 months; not including temporary absence for holidays or work assignments (Stats SA).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intent of settling temporarily or permanently in a new location (IOM, 2011). This can occur between countries (international migration) or within a country (internal migration). Migration can be driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, environmental conditions, political instability, or social reasons (Stats SA, 2019).

The purpose of the report is to provide insight and statistics on the immigrant population, identify vulnerable groups such as women and children, and provide data on employment and decent work. Furthermore, the report aims to provide internal migration statistics highlighting the rate of movement within provinces in the country. This is pivotal in informing policy decision-making aimed at movement between provinces in South Africa. The analysis in the report will be disaggregated by sex to highlight the patterns and socio-demographic characteristics of the study populations. The analysis in this report was generated using the following data sources; Population and housing census, 2022, Quarterly labour survey, Q3 2022, and administrative data from the South African Social Security Agency. *The report on migration statistics based on various data sources including Census 2022* is positioned by the following frameworks: The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM), the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the African Union Migration Policy Framework (AUMPF), and South Africa's National Development Plan 2030 (NDP 2030).

Findings from Chapter 2 on immigration revealed that there were 1,3 million immigrants who were males and 1 010 173 immigrants who were females in South Africa. Only 22,5% of immigrants indicated that they were South African citizens of these immigrants, 12,3% were males and only 10,2% were females.

The majority of immigrants indicated Gauteng as their preferred province of usual residence accounting for 28,4% among males and 21,8% among females. Most of the immigrants in South Africa were from the SADC region. The proportion of males from the SADC region accounted for 47,0% meanwhile females accounted for 36,5%.

The results from the employment and decent work showed that among immigrants aged 15–64 years, 45,8% of males were employed as compared to 18,2% of females. Among internal migrants aged 15–64 years, 31,9% of males indicated that were employed compared to 22,9% of females. The majority of immigrants were employed in the informal sector, 43,6% were males and 16,1% were females. The majority of internal migrants were employed in the formal sector similar to the non-migrant population. Findings from the report show that male internal migrants had the highest percentage of permanent duration contracts at 41,5% followed by non-migrant males at 32,0% and non-migrant females had the highest limited duration contracts recorded at 8,8%.

Findings from children on the move indicated that there were 172 389 immigrant children aged 0–17 years. Most immigrant children (16,0%) of males and females (15,7%) spoke the Shona language, and 11,2% of male immigrants and 9,5% of female immigrants aged 07–17 years were not attending school. Among immigrant children, 0,5% of both males and females were living with a disability while among SA-born, 0,8% of males and only 0,7% of females were living with a disability. Meanwhile, 1,4% of SA-born male and female children

were double orphans whilst among immigrants 1,1% of male children and 0,8% of female children were double orphans. Findings from child-headed households (10–17 years) show that among immigrant child-headed households, 58% were headed by males while only 50% of SA-born child-headed households were headed by males. In terms of social security grants, the results indicate that the majority of children receive child support grants followed by care dependency grants.

Findings from Chapter 3 on internal migration revealed that among lifetime migrants, males (30,4%) and females (28,9%) who reported Gauteng as their province of usual residence were born outside the province. Most lifetime migrants were between the ages of 20 and 39 years, with slightly more males than females in these cohorts.

Results on inter-provincial migration show that Gauteng and Western Cape provinces had net migration of 2 940 686 and 1 363 562, respectively. However, the Eastern Cape and Limpopo provinces experience a negative net migration of 1 681 810 and 1 364 248. The results further indicated that among both males and females, a high number of in-migrants were observed in Gauteng and Western Cape. The dominant inter-provincial streams were Limpopo to Gauteng and Eastern Cape to Western Cape. The migration streams were male-dominated. In terms of inter-provincial migration corridors in South Africa, the route between Gauteng and Limpopo was prominent. The main reason for movement among males (13,7%) was looking for paid work and the main reason for females was moving to live with or be closer to a spouse (marriage) or family or friends at 9,6%.

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

### 1.1 Overview of the report

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another with the intent of settling temporarily or permanently in a new location (IOM, 2011). This can occur between countries (international migration) or within a country (internal migration). Migration can be driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, environmental conditions, political instability or social reasons (Stats SA, 2019)

Today, more people than ever live in a country other than the one in which they were born. According to UNDESA, since 1990, the number of African migrants living outside of their region has more than doubled, with the growth in Europe most pronounced. In 2020, most African-born migrants living outside the region were residing in Europe (11 million), Asia (nearly 5 million) and Northern America (around 3 million). The number of Africans living in different regions also grew during the same period, from around 17 million in 2015 to over 19.5 million in 2020 (IOM, 2024b).

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal recognises the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development. The Agenda's core principle is to leave no one behind, which includes migrants and acknowledges the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development. South Africa has become an increasingly popular destination for migrants within the SADC region. Some reasons for this trend could be varied, including economic opportunities as a pull factor and political stability, and social factors as a push factor, particularly from neighbouring countries (Stats SA, 2024).

Among this growing migrant population are diverse groups, including children, the elderly, and individuals of working age, each with distinct needs and vulnerabilities. Children on the move include all children who are migrating, displaced, or seeking refuge due to various reasons, such as armed conflict, natural disasters, economic hardship, or persecution (UNICEF, 2024). Children on the move, whether due to migration, displacement, or seeking asylum, are a significant global concern due to their sensitive vulnerability and specific needs, and children on the move are often exposed to various dangers, including exploitation, trafficking, and abuse. Displacement migration can disrupt children's education, and a lack of access to essential healthcare services including vaccinations, and regular medical checkups. In Africa, it was estimated that 13,5 million children moved to other regions in the world (UNICEF, 2019a).

Internal migration is defined as the movement of people within the country's borders. This can occur for various reasons, such as seeking better economic opportunities, escaping conflict or environmental disaster, pursuing education, or joining family members. There is a key aspect of internal migration which is rural-to-urban migration which is driven by a search for better employment opportunities, access to education, health-seeking services, and improving living standards (European Parliament, 2020). Internal migration within South Africa is largely driven by economic opportunities, with a significant number of people moving from rural to urban areas. Key urban areas are Gauteng, and Western Cape; Eastern Cape and Limpopo are provinces with significant sources of out-migration (Stats SA, 2024).

## 1.2 Rationale

The purpose of the report is to provide insight and statistics on the immigrant population and identify vulnerable groups, such as women and children. Collecting information on children on the move is important in highlighting the dynamics of children on the move that are related to their socioeconomic characteristics. This is important because children are exposed to significant risks, including exploitation, trafficking, and abuse (UNICEF, 2024). Decent work is fundamental to human dignity and well-being, ensuring that immigrants have access to decent work upholds their human rights, and contributes to their overall well-being and quality of life (ILO, 2013). This includes providing data on how immigrant males and females are represented in different sectors and occupations, shedding light on gender-specific economic contributions and challenges (ILO, 2013). This report will further highlight the dynamics of immigrant workers and the conditions they work in. Additionally, internal migration statistics highlight the rate of movement within provinces in the country. This is pivotal in informing policy decision-making aimed at movement between provinces in South Africa. The analysis in the report will be disaggregated by sex to highlight the patterns and socio-demographic of the study populations.

## 1.3 Data Sources

### 1.3.1 The Quarterly Labour Force Survey

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based, sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It collects data on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 years and older who live in South Africa. The QLFS questionnaire is answered by usual residents of the household only. A usual resident is defined as a person who had stayed in the households in selected dwelling units at least four nights a week in the four weeks prior to the interview. Those who were not household members (those who had not spent at least four nights per week during the last four weeks) were excluded from completing the survey. Migration on the QLFS questionnaire asks about place of birth, usual residence, province of previous residence, and reason for moving. The limitation of the module is that the QLFS may not capture all migrant-born individuals due to clustering as immigrants are not evenly distributed across the sampled dwelling units (DUs) and difficulty in reaching "hard-to-reach" migrant groups.

### 1.3.2 Population and Housing Census

South Africa conducts a de facto Census (people counted based on where they were on census night). It aims to gather data on various demographic, social and economic characteristics of the population. Census 2022 had four types of questionnaires which is the household questionnaire, special dwellings and institutions (SDI) questionnaire, transient questionnaire and homeless questionnaire. The census is typically conducted every ten years and involves extensive planning, data collection, and analysis. The most recent census was conducted in 2022, it collected information on various themes such as demographics, labour, education, migration and housing conditions. This data helps the government and other stakeholders in policy-making, planning and resource allocation. The four core questions that were asked in the Census 2022 questionnaire are province of birth, province of previous residence, province of usual residence and movement since 2011. The census data shows how different communities have grown or shrunk over time, how access to education and employment have changed, and where infrastructure improvements are most needed, and Census 2022 was the first digital census conducted by South Africa and used three modes of collection which are computer-

assisted personal interview (CAPI), computer-assisted web interview (CAWI) and computer assisted telephonic interview (CATI).

### 1.3.3 Administrative data from SASSA

In terms of the Social Assistance Act, 2004 (Act No. 13 of 2004) social assistance is an income transfer in the form of grants provided by the government to an eligible South African citizen, permanent resident, or refugee permanently living in South Africa. Social grants refer to grants paid by the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA). An eligible applicant has to apply for the grant they qualify for through SASSA's administrative processes. This information is then shared through the Technical Working Group (TWG) with the National Statistical Office for statistical use.

## 1.4 Development framework positioning the report

A development framework on migration statistics is a structured document that provides insight into migration trends, patterns, and impacts using data collected from various data sources such as census, surveys (QLFS), and administrative data. *The report on migration statistics based on various data sources including Census 2022* is positioned by the frameworks as summarised below in Table 1.

**Table 1 – Summary of Development framework positioning the report**

Plan	Objectives	Target
GCM	Objective 1	Collect and utilise accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
	Resolution	We commit to strengthening the global evidence base on international migration by improving and investing in the collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable, comparable data, disaggregated by sex, age, migration status and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, while upholding the right to privacy under international human rights law and protecting personal data. We further commit to ensure this data fosters research, guides coherent and evidence-based policy-making and well-informed public discourse, and allows for effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of commitments over time.
SDG	SDG 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and	Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary

Plan	Objectives	Target
	promote lifelong learning opportunities for all)	education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes (4.1)
	SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls)	Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation (5.2).
	SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with full disaggregation when relevant to the target, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.
National Development Plan	Population movement: Migration	Required steps to better facilitate migration include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving data collection, coordination and analysis as a matter of urgency;</li> <li>• Easing the entry of skilled migrants;</li> <li>• Effectively addressing the rights and vulnerabilities of migrants;</li> <li>• Introducing support programs to regularise migrant residence.</li> </ul>
	Objectives for employment and growth	The high-level numeric targets for sustainable and inclusive growth include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A fall in the strict unemployment rate from 25 per cent to 14 per cent in 2020 to 6 per cent by 2030;</li> <li>• A rise in the labour force participation rate from 54 per cent in 2010 to 65 per cent;</li> <li>• About 11 million additional jobs by 2030.</li> </ul>
African Union Migration Policy Framework	Themes	a) Labour migration, b) Border management, c) Irregular migration, d) Forced displacement, e) Human rights of migrants, f) Internal migration, g) Migration data, h) Migration and development, and i) Inter-state cooperation and partnerships.

## 1.5 Objective of the Report

The report addresses the following objectives:

1. To provide a profile of international migrants (including migrant children) by sex.
2. To provide a profile of migrants in the context of employment and decent work agenda by sex.
3. To provide a profile of internal migrants by sex (lifetime migrants and period migrants).

## 1.6 Report structure

The layout of the report will cover data from Census 2022 and QLFS Q3 2022 following the structure outlined below.

**Table 1.2 – Chapter layout of the report**

Chapter Contents	
Chapter 1: Introduction	Contains the introduction, background, objectives and development framework informing the report. It also provides the data sources utilised in the analysis.
Chapter 2: International Migration	Contains an analysis of immigration dynamics, employment and decent work as well as children on the move indicators.
Chapter 3: Internal Migration	Contains the demographic and socioeconomic profile of internal migrants



## CHAPTER 2: IMMIGRATION

### 2.1 Introduction

This chapter on international migration will provide insights and patterns on international migration in South Africa. The chapter will present results focusing on demographic and socioeconomic characteristics among immigrants, internal migrants, and SA-born or non-migrant populations.

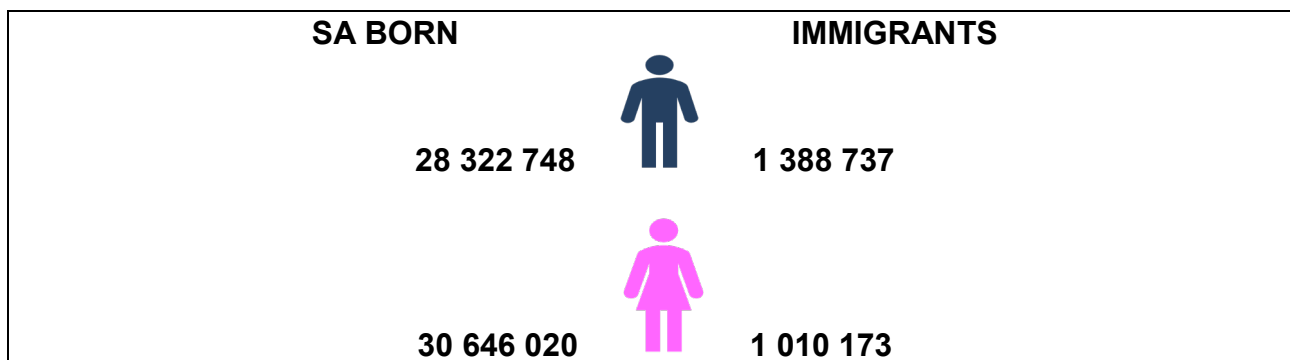
International migration (immigration) has significantly increased in the past few decades, becoming a central feature of globalisation. The United Nations estimated in 2020 that there were about 281 million international migrants worldwide, representing approximately 3.6% of the global population (IOM, 2024b). This number has risen from 173 million in 2000 and 221 million in 2010, reflecting both economic opportunities, increased levels of conflict, and inequalities across the world. The causes of international migration are many, as individuals migrate from developing countries to wealthier regions seeking better job opportunities, higher wages, and improved standards of living (Stats SA, 2015).

International migration is a dynamic and complex phenomenon that significantly shapes the demographic, social, economic, and political landscapes of nations across the globe—defined as the movement of people across international borders for the purpose of settlement. Immigrants in this section are defined as persons who indicated that they were born in another country using the province of birth question which includes the nine South African provinces and those born outside South Africa. This question was asked to all members of the household who were present on the census night. The main objective of this chapter is to document the migration stock in South Africa with reference to demographic and socioeconomic determinants by sex.

## 2.2 Immigrant Profile

Figure 2.1 below presents the percentage distribution of the population by migratory status and sex in 2022. The results indicate that immigrants contributed marginally to the population size of South Africa. Among immigrants, males were the largest in number, contributing an amount that was over 1,3 million to the population of South Africa and females were just over 1 million.

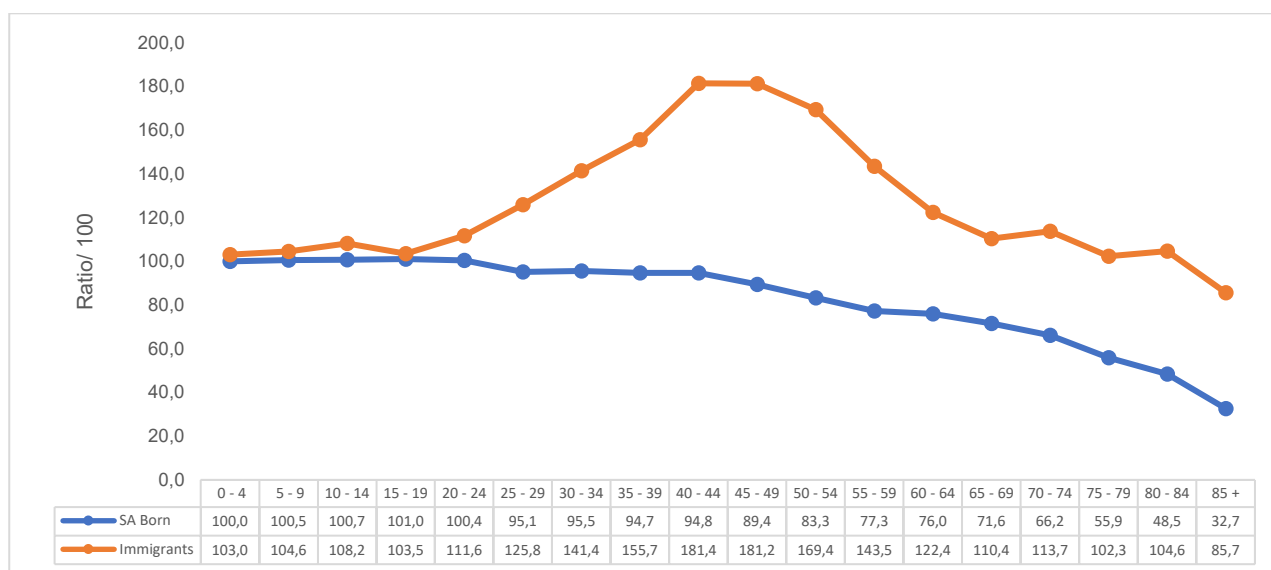
**Figure 2.1: Distribution of population by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022  
 Note\*\* This table excludes unspecified and not known cases.

Figure 2.2 below presents the sex ratio of the population by migratory status in 2022. The sex ratio was used to measure the number of males per 100 females. The sex ratio results show consistency for immigrants from age 0 to 19 years, and it shows the peak at age 20 to 49 years, and a decline was observed from 50 to 85 years and above. Regarding SA born, the sex ratio was stable at young ages from 0 to 24 years, however with a declining trend throughout.

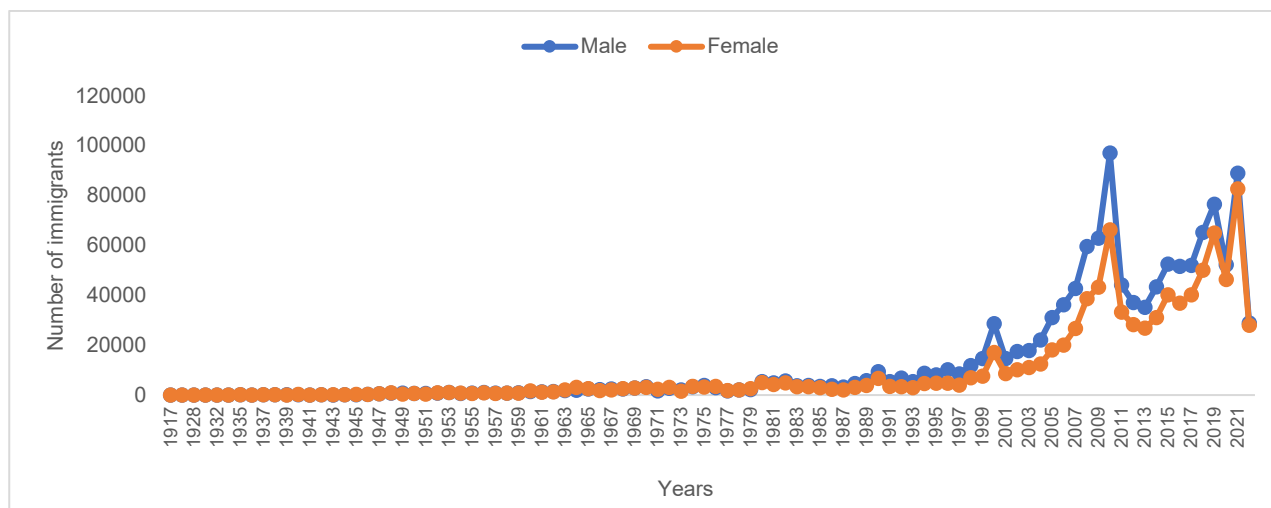
**Figure 2.2: Sex ratio of the population by migratory status, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.3 below shows the percentage distribution of immigrants by year moved to South Africa and sex in 2022. The graph shows immigration trends in South Africa from 1917 to 2022, with male immigrants generally outnumbering females. From 1917 to the 1970s immigration for both males and females remained low and stable. In the 1980s onwards there was a noticeable increase in immigration, with occasional heaps. Furthermore, in the 2000s a high increase in immigration was observed particularly for males compared to females.

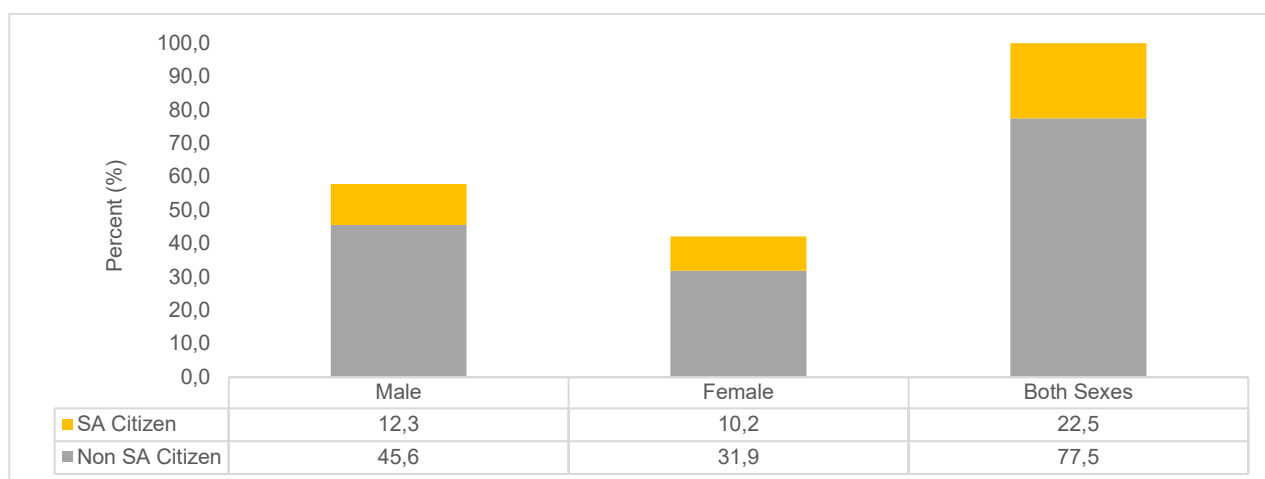
**Figure 2.3: Distribution of immigrants by year moved to South Africa and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.4 below presents the percentage distribution of immigrants by citizenship status and sex in 2022. The results indicate that only 22,5% of immigrants indicated that they were South African citizens. Of these immigrants, 12,3% were males and only 10,2% were females.

**Figure 2.4: Percentage distribution of immigrants by citizenship status and sex, Census 2022**

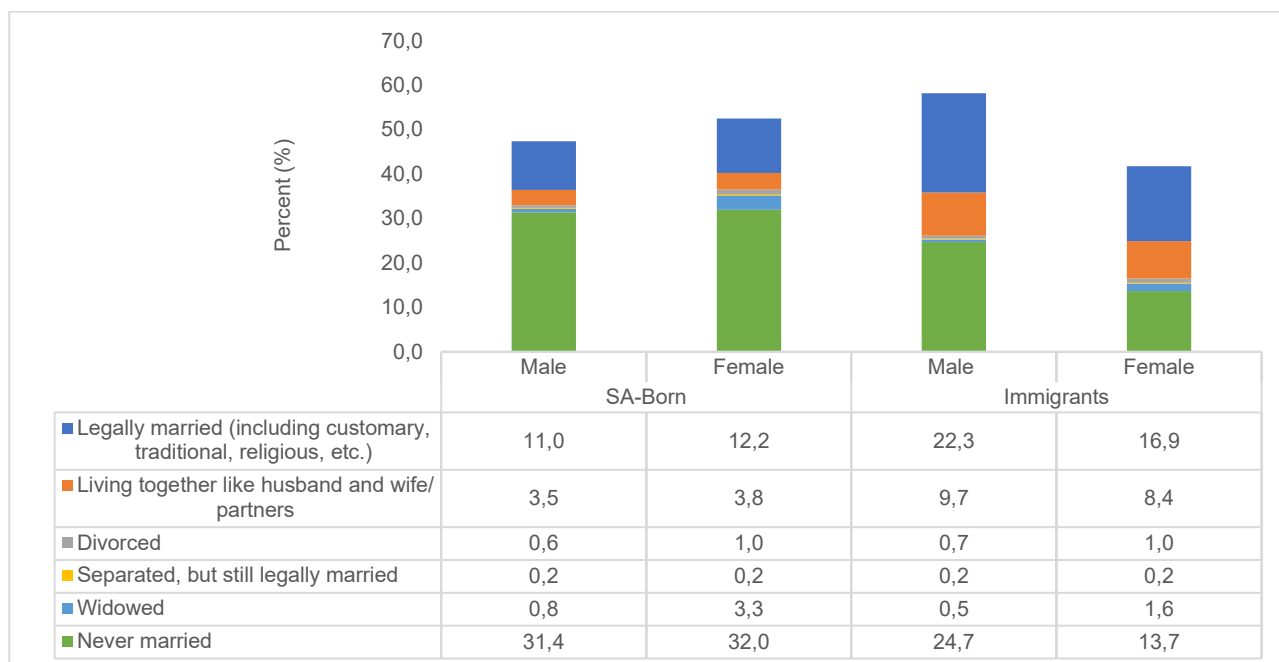


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

**Note: South African citizenship can be acquired by descent or naturalisation as per the South African Citizenship Act 88 of 1995**

Figure 2.5 below illustrates the percentage distribution of population by marital status, migratory status and sex in 2022. The results indicate that a larger percentage of immigrant males are never married, accounting for 24,7% and immigrant females were 13,7%. The results show that most immigrants were legally married when compared with the SA-born population. For instance, 22,3% of immigrant males were legally married when compared to only 11% of SA-born males.

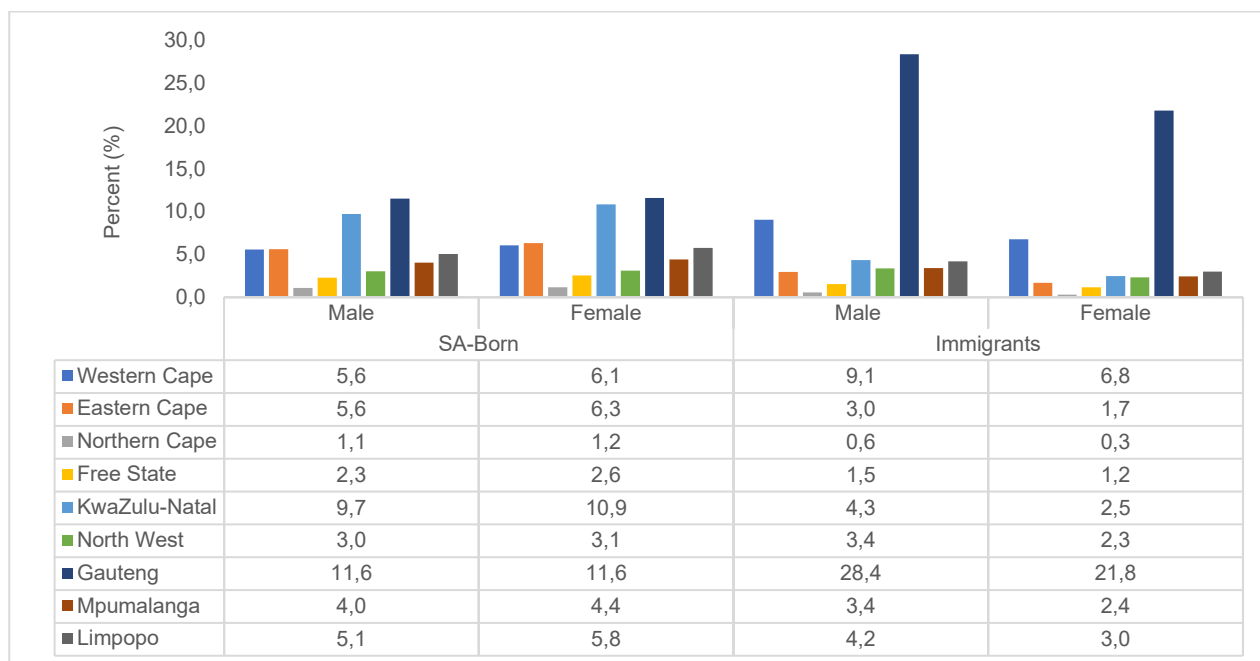
**Figure 2.5: Percentage distribution of population by marital status, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.6 below shows the province of usual residence by migratory status and sex in 2022. The majority of the immigrant population indicated Gauteng as their preferred province of usual residence accounting for 28,4% among males and 21,8% among females. The second preferred province of usual residence among immigrants was the Western Cape accounting for 9,1% of males and 6,8% of females. Regarding SA-born, the preferred province of usual residence was still Gauteng, however, the proportions were twice as low as the immigrant proportion. SA-born males and females in Gauteng accounted for 11,6% each. This was followed by Kwazulu-Natal, accounting for 9,7% of SA-born males and 10,9% of SA-born females.

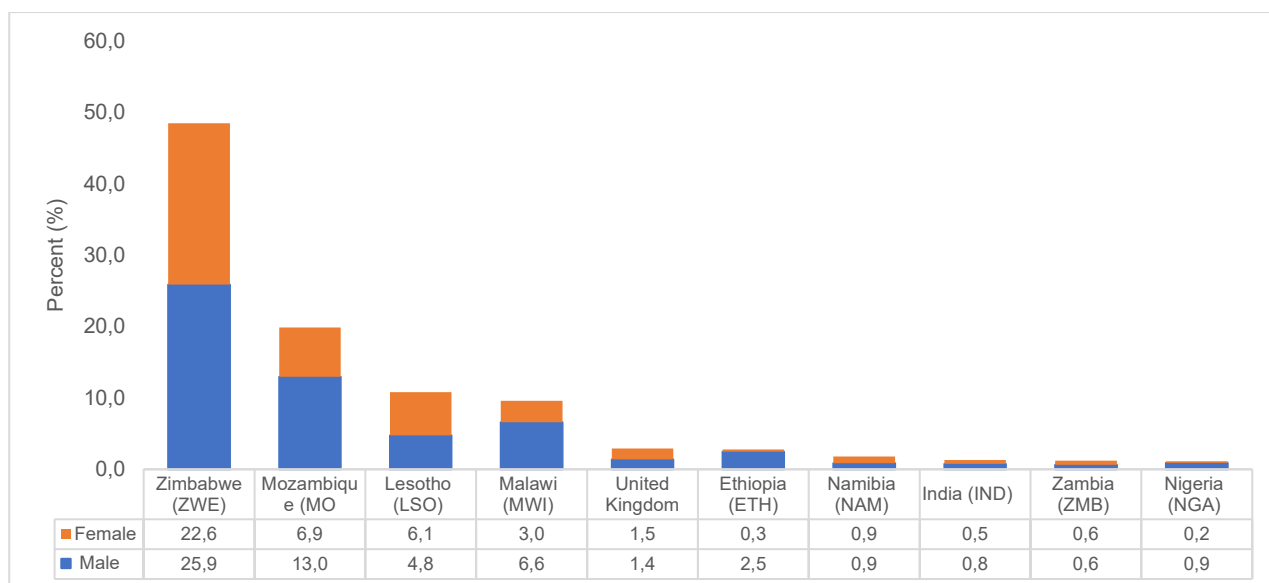
**Figure 2.6: Percentage distribution of province of usual residence by sex and migratory status, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.7 below shows the percentage distribution of the top ten sending countries to South Africa in 2022. Among the top ten, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Lesotho were the top three sending countries of immigrants to South Africa. The results further show that of the top ten immigrant populations, male immigrants from Zimbabwe contribute the most at 25,9% and females contribute 22,6%. Of the top ten migrant population, males from Mozambique constitute 13,0%, whilst their female counterparts account for 6,9% of the top ten migrant population. Notably female immigrants from Lesotho were 6,1% of immigrants from Lesotho as compared to 4,8% of male compatriots.

**Figure 2.7: Percentage distribution of top ten sending countries to South Africa by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.8 below presents the percentage distribution of the immigrant population by region of birth and sex in 2022. The majority of immigrants in South Africa were from the SADC region. The proportion of males from the SADC region accounted for 47,0% while females accounted for 36,5%. Of note was the sex distribution of immigrants from the rest of Africa, the results indicate that for every one female from the rest of Africa region, there were three males.

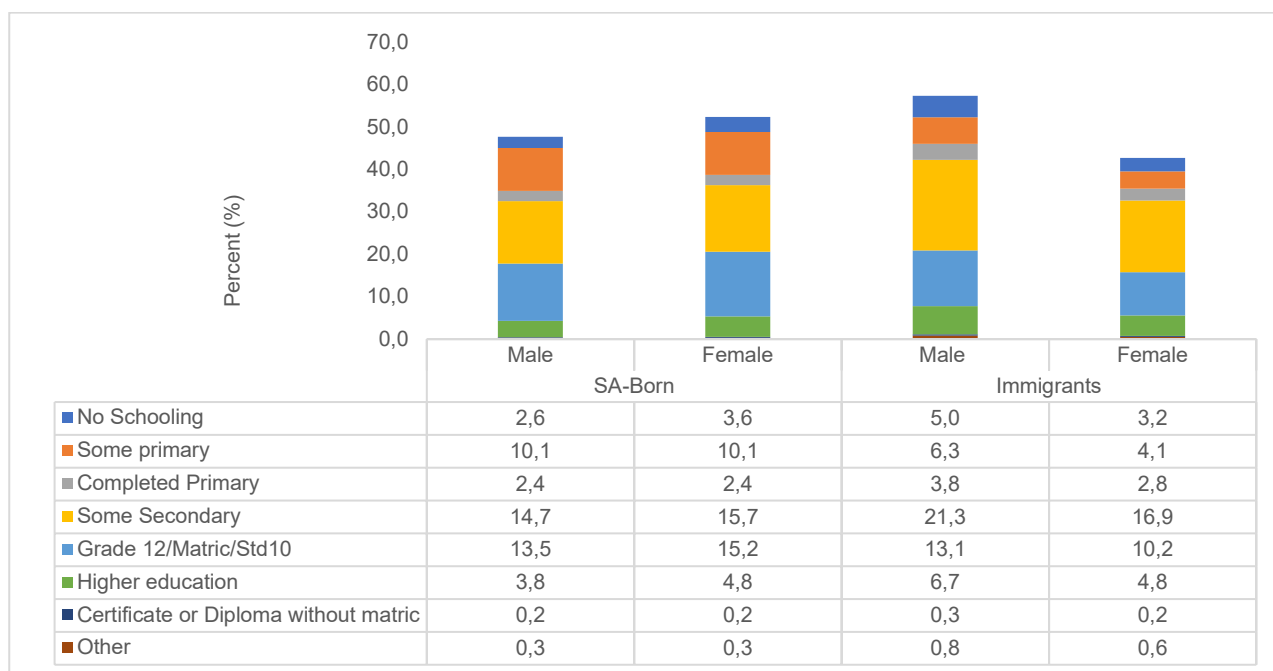
**Figure 2.8: Percentage distribution of the immigrant population by region of birth and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.9 below shows the percentage distribution of the population by level of education, migratory status and sex in 2022. A larger percentage of both SA-born and immigrant populations indicated some secondary schooling as their highest level of education, followed by those who completed Grade 12/Matric/Std 10. Considering immigrants, 21,3% of males had reported some secondary schooling as their highest level of education, and only 16,9% of females had some secondary education. Regarding the SA-born population, 15,7% of females had some secondary as compared to 14,7% of SA-born males. When observing at higher education as the highest level of education, immigrant males account for 6,7% and immigrant females account for 4,8% as compared to 3,8% SA-born males and 4,8% SA-born females.

**Figure 2.9: Percentage distribution of the population by level of education, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

## 2.3 Employment and Decent Work Agenda

According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), decent work is defined as work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace, social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration, freedom for people to express their concerns, organise and participate in the decisions that affect their lives, and equality of opportunity and treatment for all women and men. Decent work is central to efforts to reduce poverty and is a means for achieving equitable, inclusive, and sustainable development. It involves productive work opportunities that deliver a fair income, provide security in the workplace and social protection for workers and their families, and give people the freedom to express their concerns, organise and participate in decisions that affect their lives (ILO, 2013).

The data used in this section is from the QLFS third quarter of 2022. The QLFS is a quarterly continuous household survey, with a representative sample of approximately 32 000 dwelling units across the country. It collects detailed labour market information from persons of working age (15 - 64 years). The Migration module is attached to QLFS every 5 years. The limitation of the module is that the QLFS may not capture all migrant-born individuals due to clustering as immigrants are not evenly distributed across the sampled dwelling units (DUs). In this section, the study population includes non-migrants, internal migrants, and immigrants. These study populations were derived by using a question on place of birth where it asks the respondent whether they were born in this province (non-migrant), in another province (internal migrant), and in another country (immigrant). Thus, the main objective of this section is to present indicators relating to decent work frameworks as seen on table 2.1 below

**Table 2.1 – The framework for measuring decent work**

<b>Elements of Decent Work Agenda</b>	<b>Indicator</b>
<b>Employment Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployment Rate</li> <li>• Youth not in employment, education, or training (NEET)</li> <li>• Informal employment</li> </ul>
<b>Decent working time</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment not in excessive working time (more than 48 hours per week)</li> </ul>
<b>Combining work, family, and personal life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maternity/ paternity leave</li> </ul>
<b>Stability and security of work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract duration</li> <li>• Contract type (written or verbal contract)</li> </ul>
<b>Social security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pension fund, medical aid and Unemployment Insurance fund (UIF)</li> </ul>
<b>Social dialogue, workers and employers' representation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade union membership</li> </ul>

Source: ILO, 2013



### 2.3.1 Employment opportunities

Table 2.2 below presents the count of the population by employment status, migratory status, and sex in 2022. The results represent the population aged 15–64 years. The results show that the male population was more employed compared to females across the three study populations. For instance, among immigrants, there were over 1 million employed males as compared to approximately 400 000 females. However, among the immigrant population, there were 281 553 females who were not economically active compared to the males with 88 598.

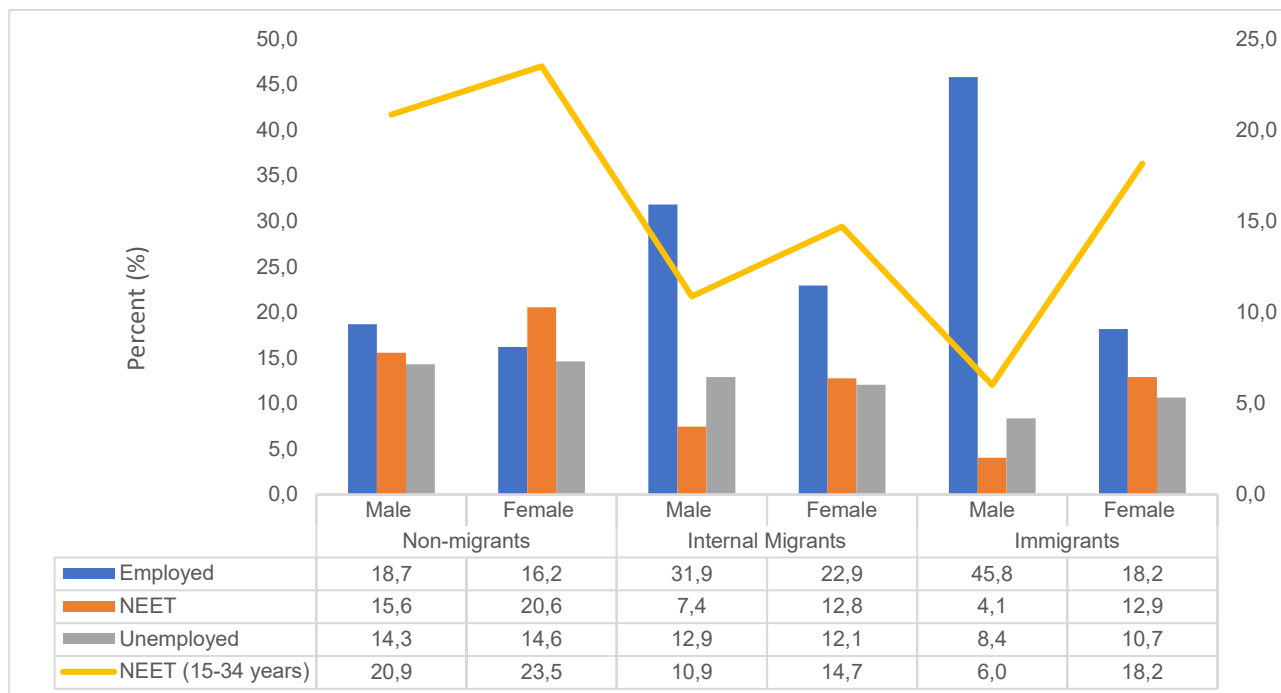
**Table 2.2 – Employment status of the population by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

Employment status	Non-migrants			Internal Migrants			Immigrants		
	Male (N)	Female (N)	Total	Male (N)	Female (N)	Total	Male (N)	Female (N)	Total
Employed	6 152 734	5 328 328	<b>11 481 062</b>	1 678 570	1 208 946	<b>2 887 516</b>	1 000 108	396 718	<b>1 396 826</b>
Unemployed	3 237 290	3 087 216	<b>6 324 506</b>	584 343	505 479	<b>1 089 822</b>	147 465	163 338	<b>310 803</b>
Discouraged job-seeker	1 463 236	1 719 668	<b>3 182 904</b>	96 148	130 706	<b>226 854</b>	35 148	69 301	<b>104 448</b>
not economically active	5 118 885	6 763 707	<b>11 882 592</b>	392 081	672 082	<b>1 064 163</b>	88 598	281 553	<b>370 151</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 972 145</b>	<b>16 898 919</b>	<b>32 871 064</b>	<b>2 751 142</b>	<b>2 517 213</b>	<b>5 268 355</b>	<b>1 271 318</b>	<b>910 910</b>	<b>2 182 228</b>

Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

Figure 2.10 below presents the percentage distribution of employment status by migratory status and sex in 2022. Among immigrants aged 15–64 years, 45,8% of males were employed as compared 18,2% of females. Among internal migrants, 31,9% of males indicated that were employed compared to 22,9% of females. Among Youth aged 15–34 years majority of females were in NEET. For instance, 23,5% of non-migrant females were in NEET whilst immigrant females at 18,2%.

**Figure 2.10: Employment status by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**



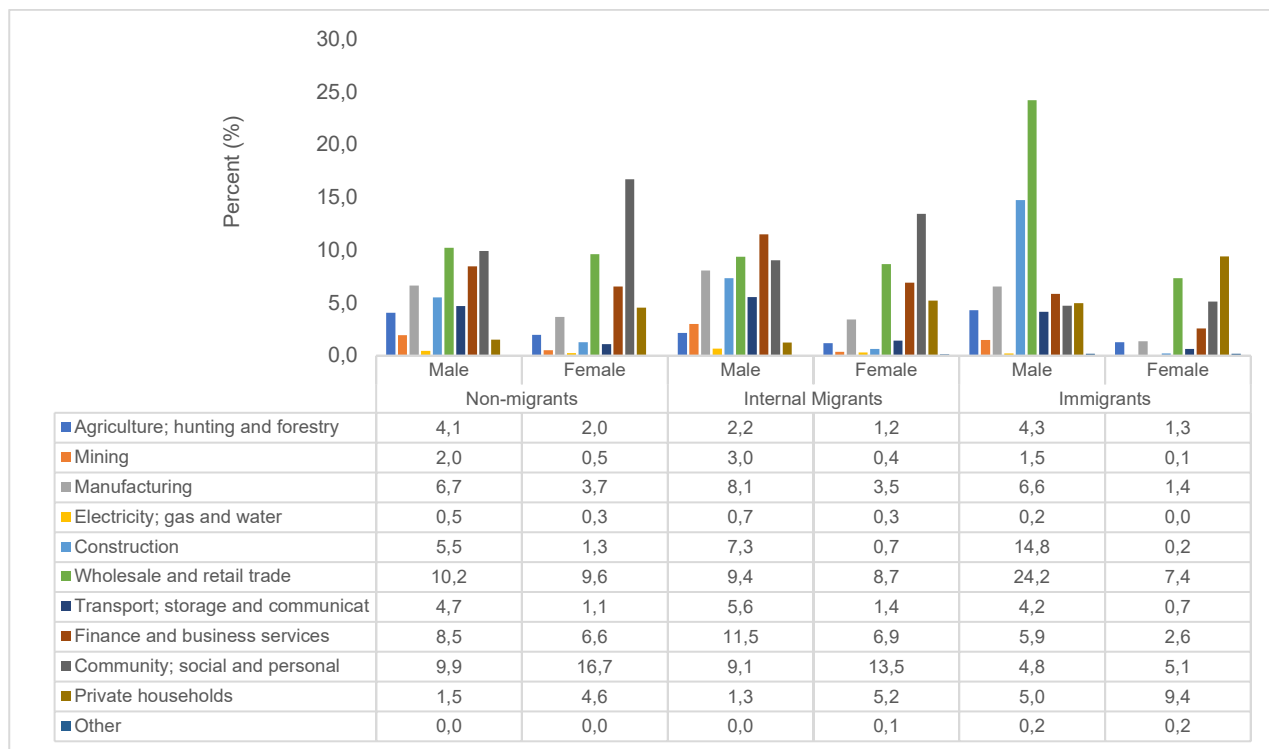
Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

Note\*\* NEET = Not in employment, education or training

Unemployed = unemployed and discouraged job seekers

Figure 2.11 below presents the percentage distribution of the industry by migratory status and sex in 2022. This industry-specific breakdown provides a clear picture of how different groups of people were participating in the South African labour market based on their migratory status. Among immigrants, males were more concentrated in sectors such as wholesale and retail trade (24,2%) and construction (14,8%) while females showed a notable representation in private households (9,4%). Internal migrants, particularly males, were more involved in finance and business services (11,5%), wholesale and retail trade (9,4%), and community; social, and personal services industry (8,7%). Non-migrants, particularly females, dominated the community; social, and personal services industry (16,7%).

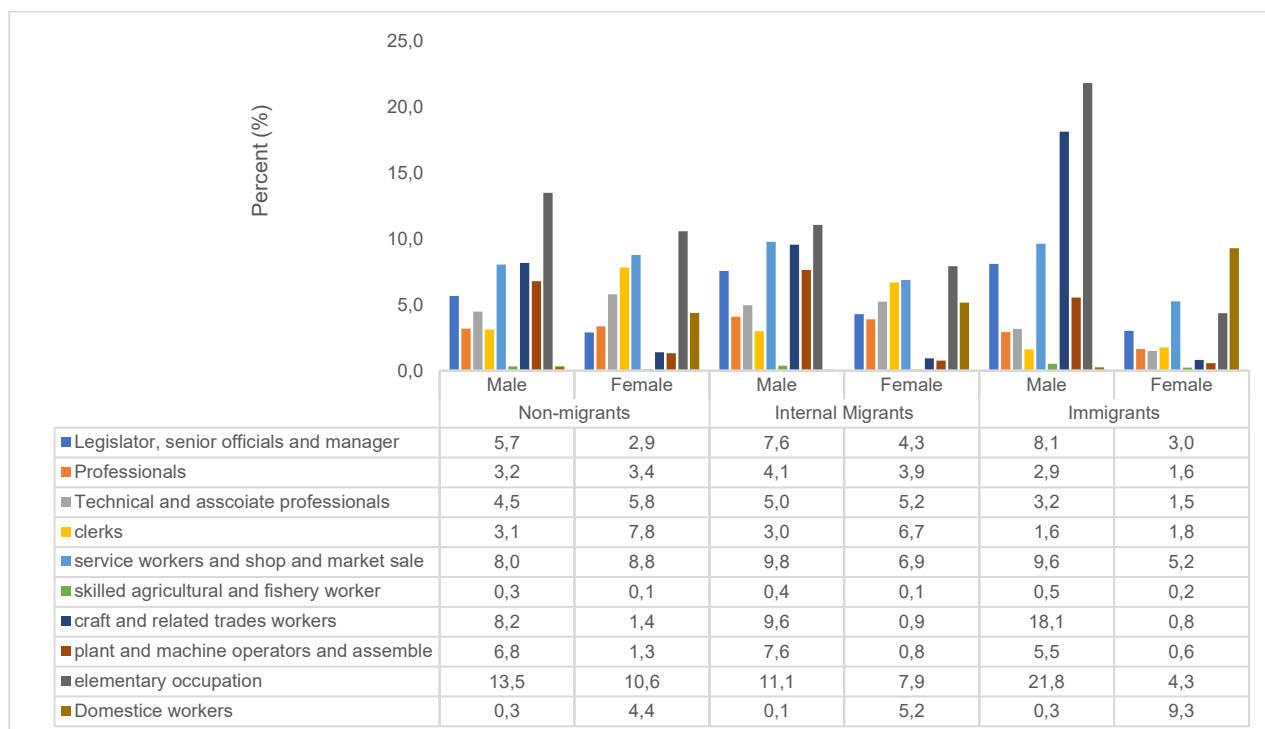
**2.11: Percentage distribution of the population by industry, migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

Figure 2.12 below presents the percentage distribution of occupation by migratory status and sex in 2022. Immigrants, particularly males, were well-represented in elementary occupation (21,8%), though they were less likely to be found in professional (3,2%) and technical occupations (4,5%) non-migrants and internal migrants (5,0%). Elementary occupation, craft and related trade workers and machine operators have high levels of male participation, especially among males compared to females. Immigrant males were heavily concentrated in craft and trade-related occupations, far surpassing internal migrants and non-migrant individuals. This indicates a strong presence of skilled labour among immigrant males in trades. Immigrants, particularly males, are disproportionately represented in elementary occupations, which require less skill. This trend was observed across all migration groups, but immigrant males dominate this sector, possibly reflecting a greater reliance on low-skill employment. Immigrant females overwhelmingly dominate the domestic work sector (9,3%), more so than internal migrants (5,2%) and non-migrant females (4,4%), highlighting the concentration of immigrant women in this lower-paid occupation.

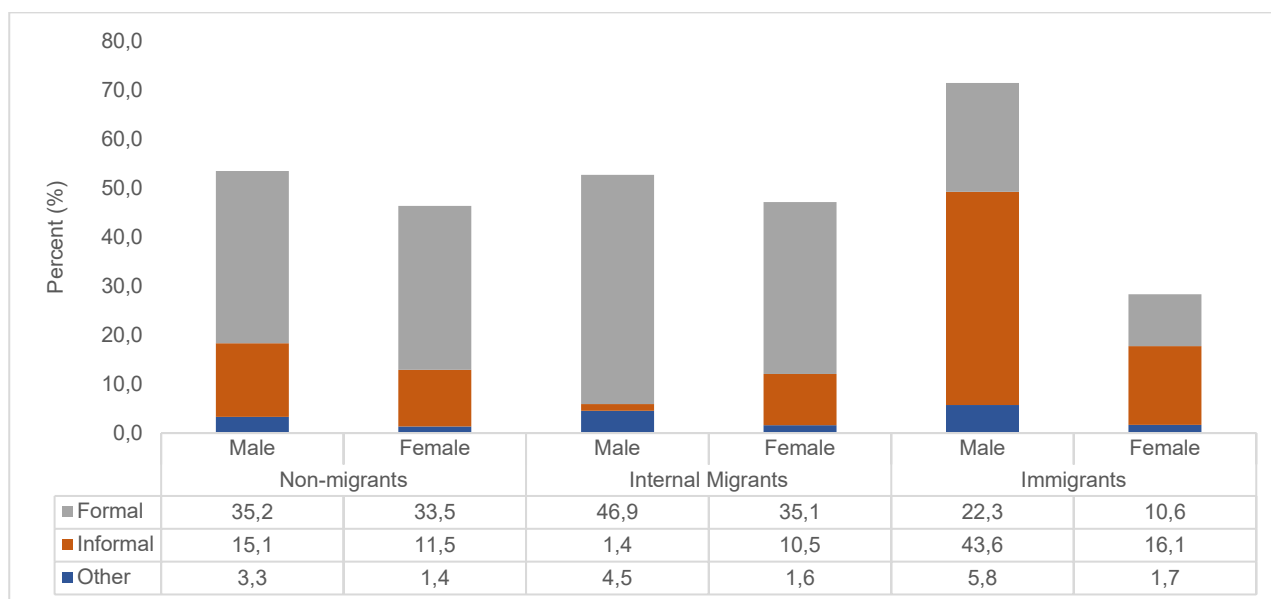
**Figure 2.12: Percentage distribution of the population by occupation, migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

Figure 2.13 below shows the type of employment among the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. Immigrants recorded the highest percentage of males and females employed in the informal sector at 43,6% and 16,1% respectively. The results further indicate that among internal migrants, males employed in the formal sector account for 46,9% as compared to females at 35,1%. Concerning the non-migrant population, males in the formal sector constituted 35,2% compared to 33,5% of females.

**Figure 2.13: Type of employment among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

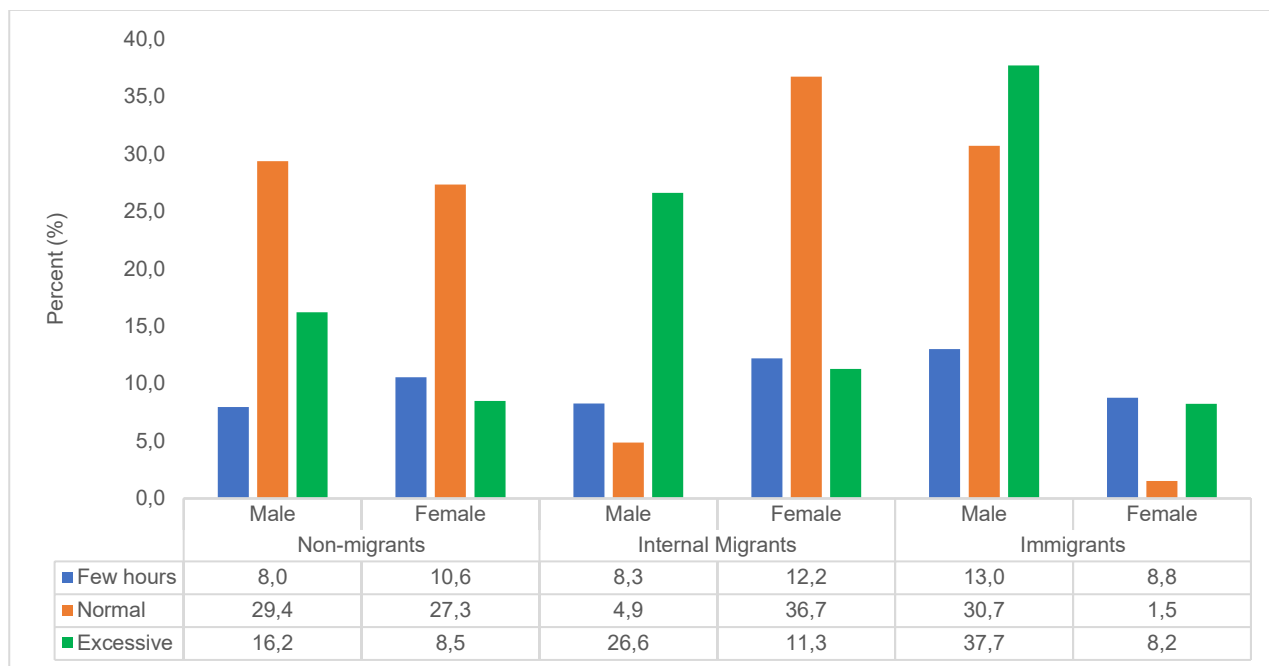


Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

### 2.3.2 Decent working time

Figure 2.14 below presents the percentage distribution of hours worked in a week among the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. The results show that among immigrants, the majority of the males were working excessive hours (37,7%), whilst among internal migrants, males worked excessive hours accounting for 26,6%. Furthermore, female internal migrants who reported that they worked excessive hours accounted for 11,3%.

**Figure 2.14: Hours worked in a week among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

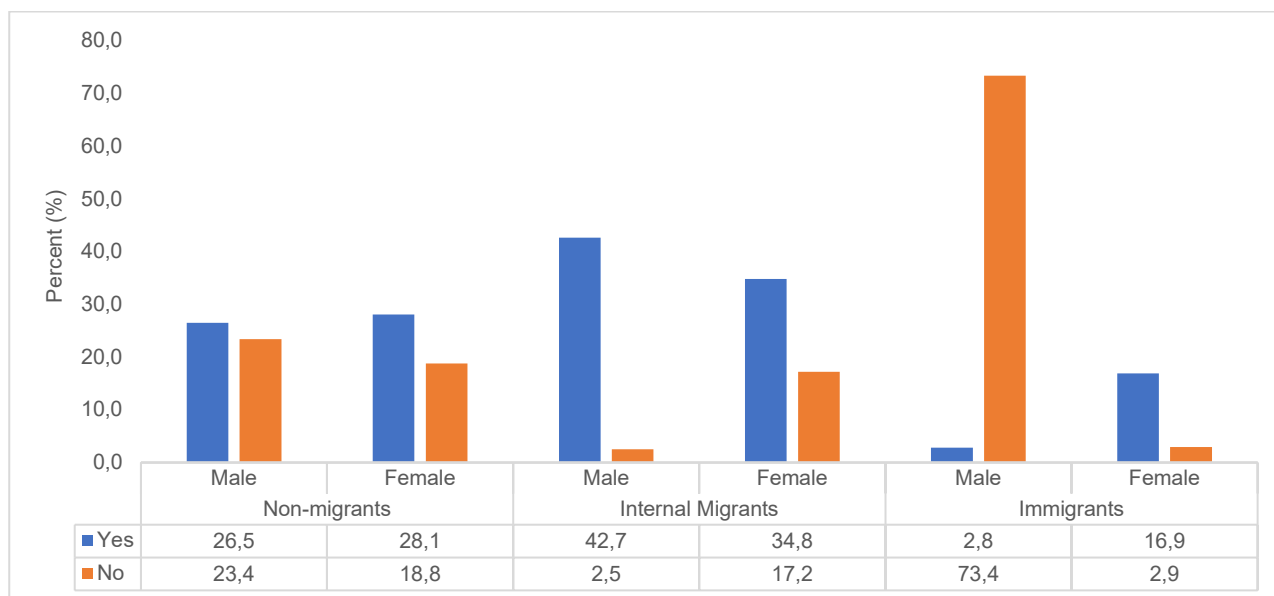


Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

### 2.3.3 Combining work, family, and personal life

Figure 2.15 shows the percentage distribution entitlement to maternity/paternity leave among the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. The results indicate among immigrants an overwhelming 76,4% of males were not entitled to paternity leave. Regarding internal migrants, 17,7% of females were not entitled to maternity leave. Furthermore, among non-migrants the results indicate that 24,2% of males were not entitled to paternity leave and only 19,4% females reported that they were not entitled to maternity leave.

**Figure 2.15: Entitlement to maternity/paternity leave among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

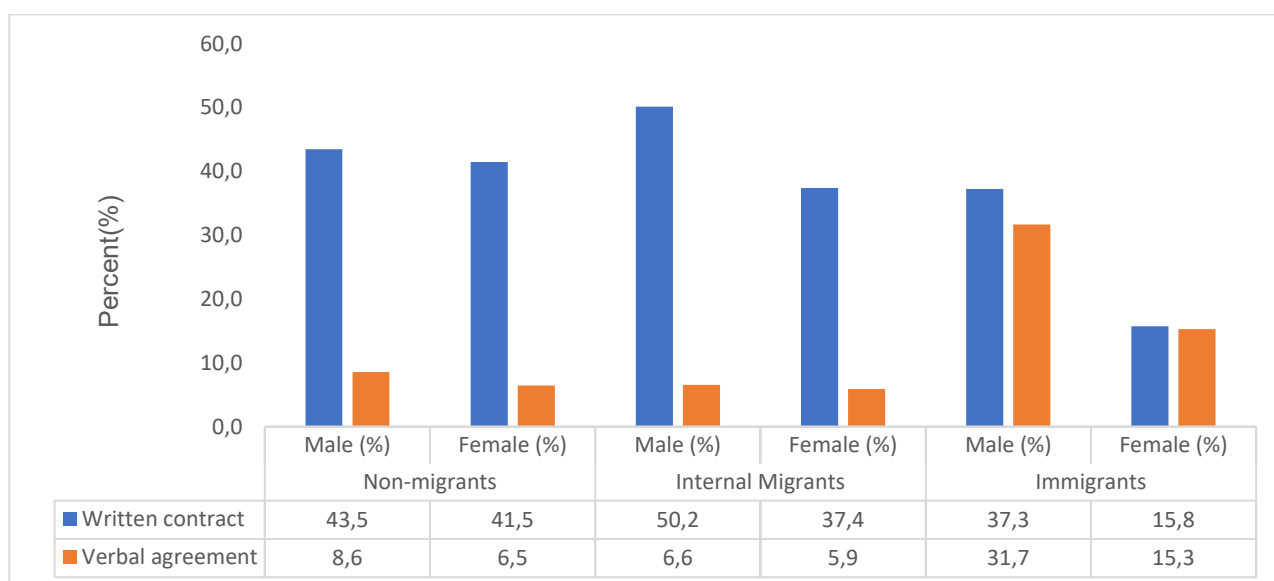


Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

### 2.3.4 Stability and security of work

Figure 2.16 below shows the percentage distribution of the population by type of employment contract and sex in 2022. Among the internal migrants, 50,2% of males reported that they had a written contract followed by non-migrant males at 43,5%. Immigrants recorded the highest percentage of those with verbal agreement, males recorded 31,7% followed by female immigrants at 15,3% and the lowest percentage recorded at 5,9% for verbal agreements was for female internal migrants.

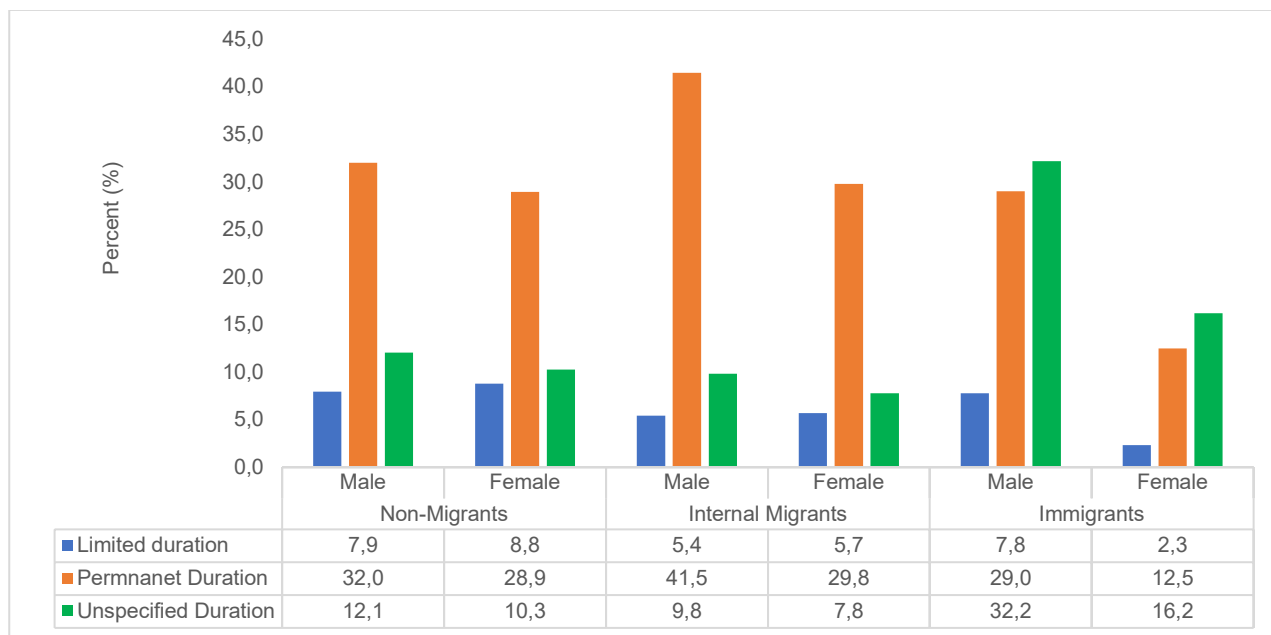
**Figure 2.16: Type of employment contract by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

Figure 2.17 below shows the percentage distribution of the population by contract duration among the employed, migratory status and sex in 2022. Internal migrant males reported the highest percentage of permanent duration contracts recorded at 41,5% followed by non-migrant males at 32,0% and non-migrant females reporting the highest limited duration contracts recorded at 8,8% and the lowest limited duration contracts were recorded at 2,3% for immigrant females. The figure further shows that immigrant males had the highest unspecified contact recorded at 32,2% and the lowest was recorded at 7,8% of internal migrant females that had unspecified duration contracts.

**Figure 2.17: Contract duration among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

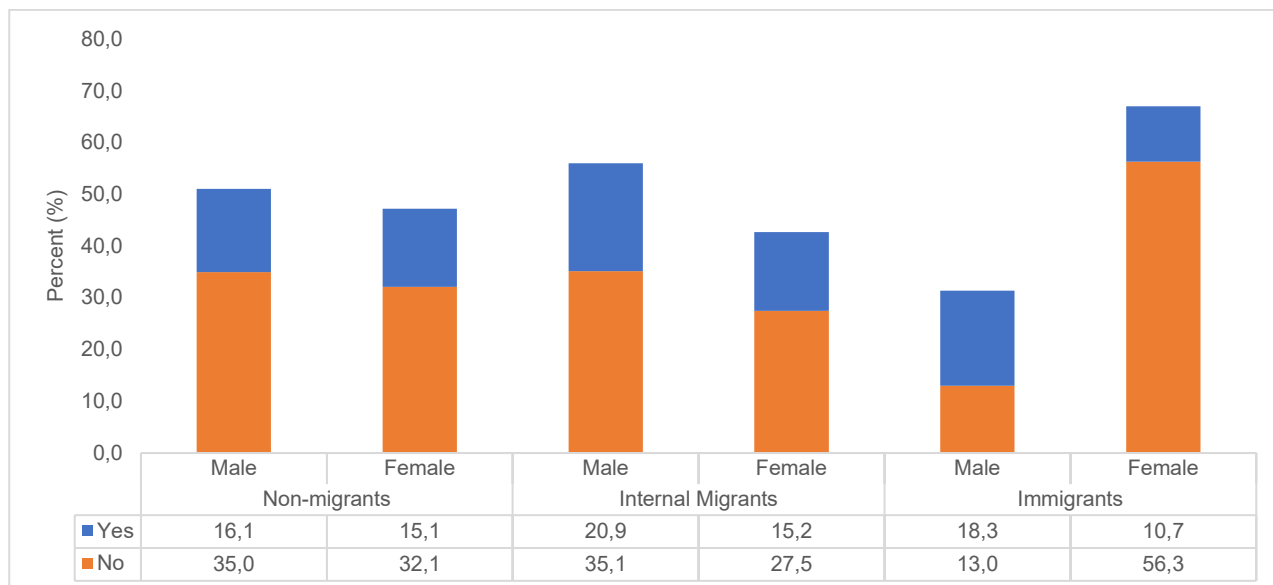


Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

### 2.3.5 Social security

Figure 2.18 below presents the percentage distribution of medical aid contributions of the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. The result shows that the proportion of internal migrant males remained high among those who have medical aid contributions which was recorded at 20,9% and followed by immigrant males at 18,3%. The graph further indicated that immigrant females have no medical aid contribution which was recorded at the higher percentage of 56,3% followed by internal migrant males at 35,1% and the lowest was recorded by male immigrants at 13,0% and female immigrants recorded at the lowest percentage at 0,4% and internal migrant females at 0,5%.

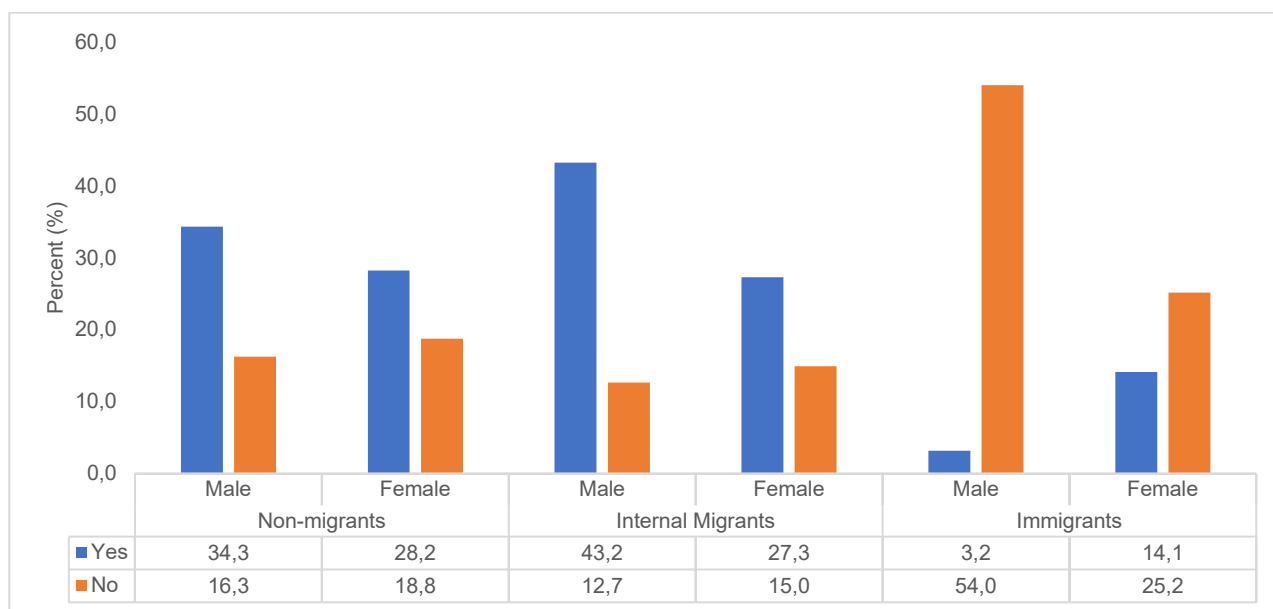
**Figure 2.18: Medical aid contribution of the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

Figure 2.19 below shows the percentage distribution of UIF contributions of the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. A larger percentage of immigrant males and females were not contributing to UIF which was recorded at 54,0% and 25,2% respectively, the figure further shows that internal migrant males had a large percentage of immigrants that pay UIF which was recorded at 43,2% followed by SA-born male at 34,3%.

**Figure 2.19: UIF contribution of the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

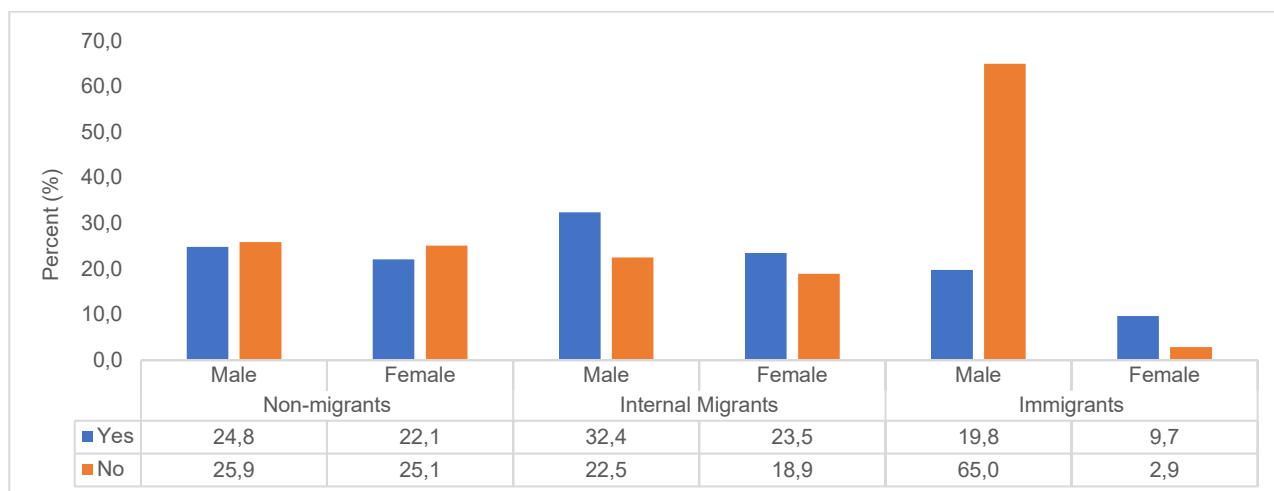


Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3



Figure 2.20 below presents the percentage distribution of pension fund contributions of the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. The results show that the proportion of immigrant males remained high with regards to those who were contributing to a pension fund, which was recorded at 65,0% and followed by non-migrant females at 25,9%. The graph further indicated that internal migrant females had contributed to pension fund at high percentages of 32,4% followed by non-migrant males at 24,8% and the lowest was recorded by immigrant females at 9,7% and non-migrant females recorded at the lowest percentage at 0,1%.

**Figure 2.20: Pension fund contribution of the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**

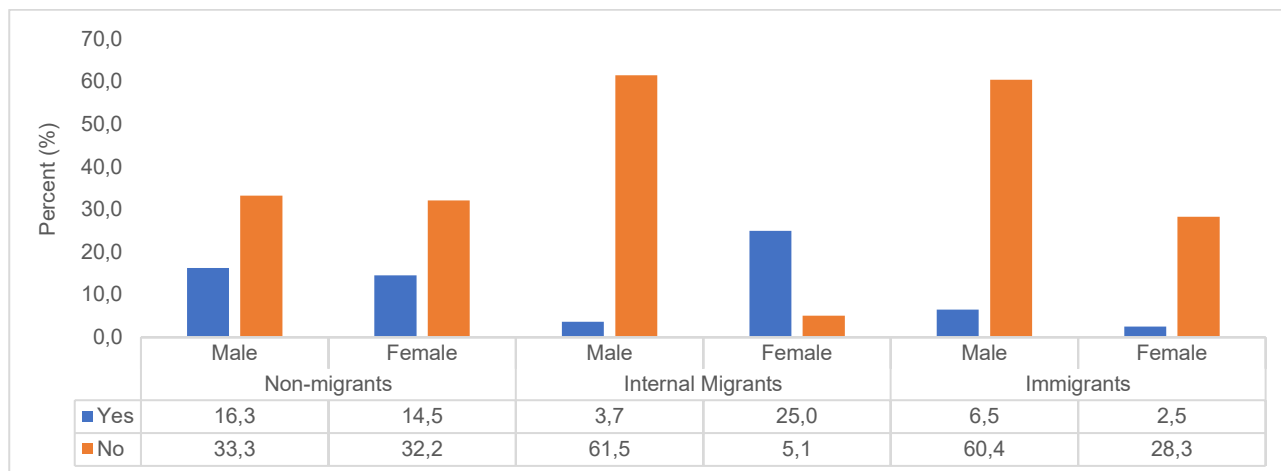


Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

**2.3.6 Social dialogue, workers and employers’ representation**

Figure 2.21 below shows the percentage distribution of trade union membership among the employed by migratory status and sex in 2022. Internal migrant females have the highest percentage of members belonging to the trade union followed by non-migrant males, immigrant males reported a high percentage of members that do not belong to the trade union followed by internal migrant males. The graph further indicated that internal migrant males have higher percentages of members belonging to the trade union followed by non-migrant males.

**Figure 2.21: Trade union membership among the employed by migratory status and sex, QLFS 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, QLFS 2022, Q3

## 2.4 International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC) indicators

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of children moving in recent years (UNICEF, 2019a, 2024). In 2020, there were an estimated 35.5 million international child migrants globally, the largest number ever recorded. Furthermore, it has been estimated that there are nearly 34 million refugees and asylum seekers who have been forcibly displaced from their own countries – half of them children (UNICEF, 2019a, 2024).

Children are set to migrate mainly with parents and caregivers. However, there are instances where children migrate on their own. This is partially attributed to incidents of separation during migration or the death of a parent or caregiver resulting in **unaccompanied or separated migrant children** (Stats SA, 2020). Literature on migrant children suggests that children migrate for multiple reasons such as to flee persecution, war, and violence; to reunite with family members abroad; and to seek better economic and educational opportunities. One in every eight migrants worldwide is a child (IOM, 2024a).

International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC) defines children on the move as those who have been directly or indirectly affected by migration or displacement, either internationally across borders or within the same country. When referring to children on the move, IDAC includes child migrants; children in need of international protection, such as refugees and asylum seekers; internally displaced children; children indirectly affected by migration, such as children who stay behind while parents or caregivers migrate, stateless children and child victims of cross-border trafficking (UNICEF, 2019a, 2024).

According to IDAC, four thematic areas have been identified as a framework for addressing themes relating to children on the move: health and nutrition, education, child protection, and poverty (UNICEF, 2019b). However, these domains face significant challenges in acquiring comprehensive, high-quality data that effectively captures the identified themes required to inform policy.

The main source of data in this section is from the census of 2022. Children in this section are defined as persons between the ages of 0–17 years old and the migratory status of children is determined by using a question on province of birth which includes the nine South African provinces and those born outside South Africa. This question was asked to all members of the household who were present on the census night. Therefore, the analysis in this section focuses on the place of birth of children, with the main aim being to profile children in South Africa regarding demographics, school attendance and educational attainment of children, geographical dynamics, household services, and access to social grants.

### 2.4.1 Demographic Profile of Children

Table 2.3 below illustrates the distribution of children by sex and migratory status in 2022. The result indicates that there were 172 389 immigrant children and 19 203 229 SA-born children with a distribution that was almost equal among males and females. However, males were slightly higher than females.

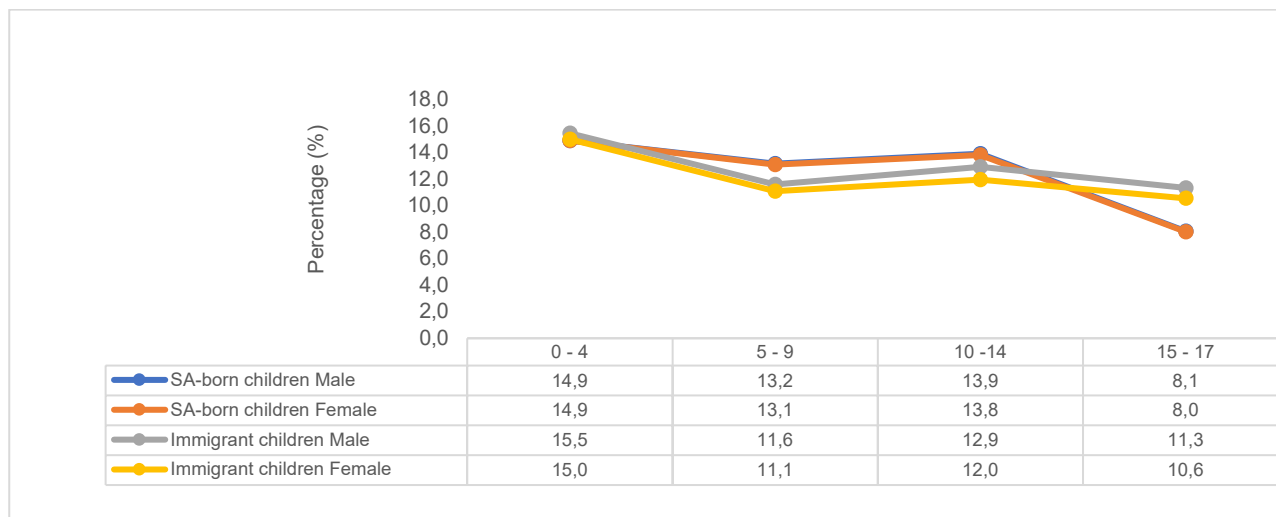
**Table 2.3 – Distribution of children by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**

Sex	Migration status	
	SA-born children	Immigrant children
Male	9 621 966	88 546
Female	9 581 263	83 843
<b>Both Sexes</b>	<b>19 203 229</b>	<b>172 389</b>

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.22 below presents the percentage distribution of children by age group, migratory status and sex in 2022. The results indicate that children aged 0–4 were the majority among both immigrant children and SA-born children, with an average proportion of 15%. This was followed by children aged 10–14 years with an average of 13%.

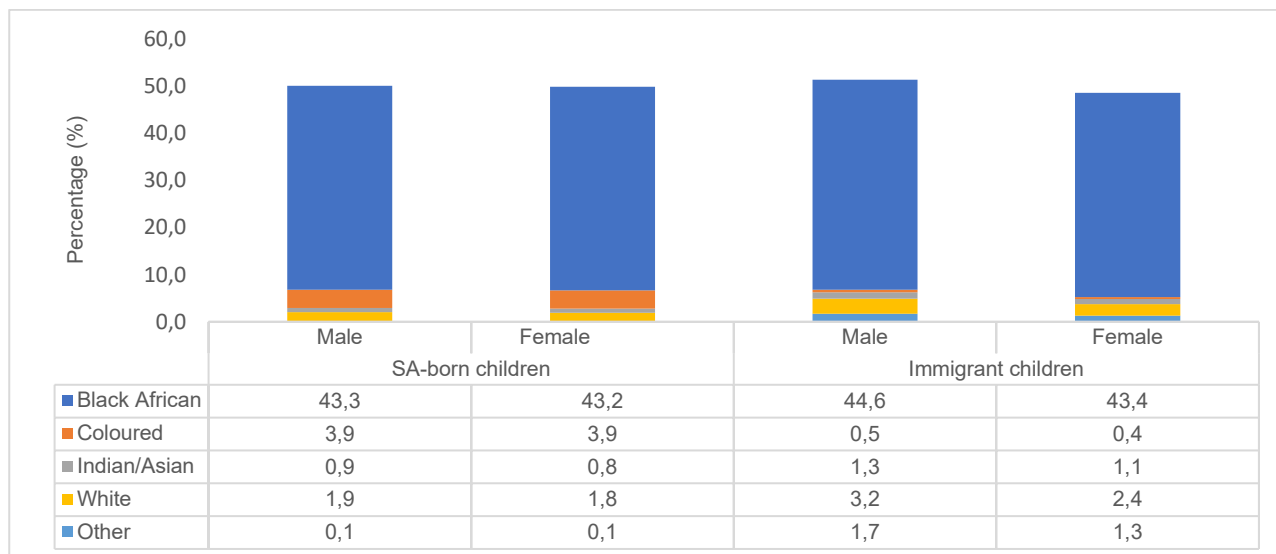
**Figure 2.22: Distribution of children by age group, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.23 below presents the distribution of children by population group, migratory status, and sex in 2022. The results indicated that an overwhelming proportion of children were black Africans among both immigrants and SA-born children representing at least 40% of children per sex. This was followed by children of white and coloured population groups among immigrants and SA-born children respectively.

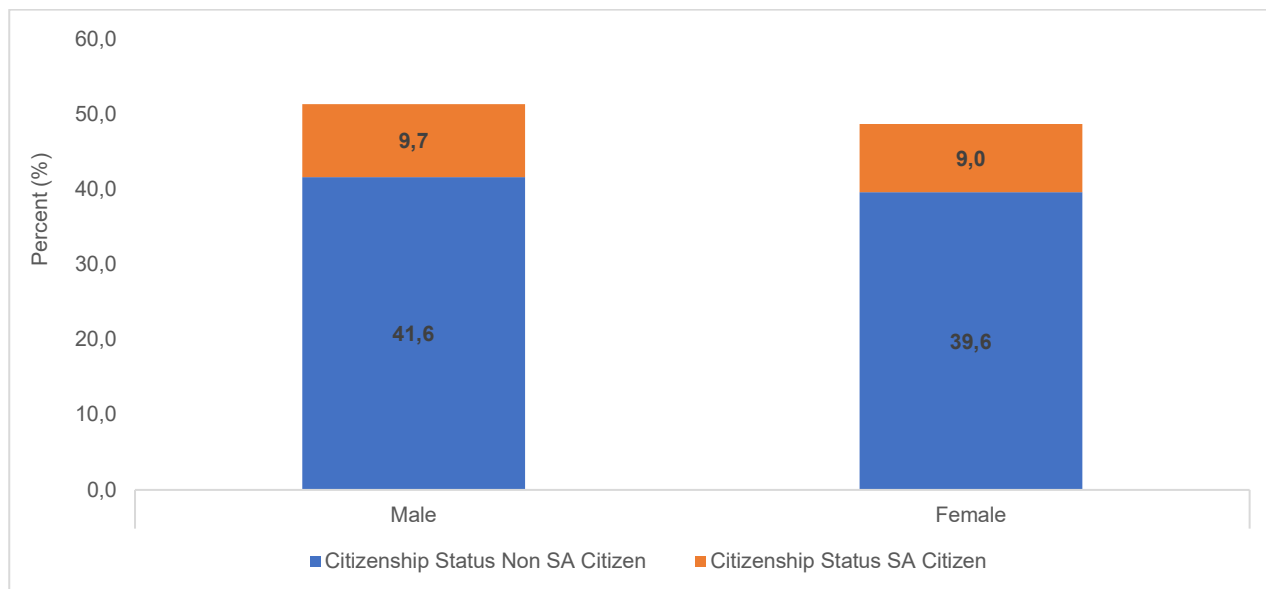
**Figure 2.23: Distribution of children by population group, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.24 below illustrates the percentage distribution of citizenship status of immigrant children by sex in 2022. The result shows that 9,7% of males and only 9,0% of females indicated that they have South African citizenship.

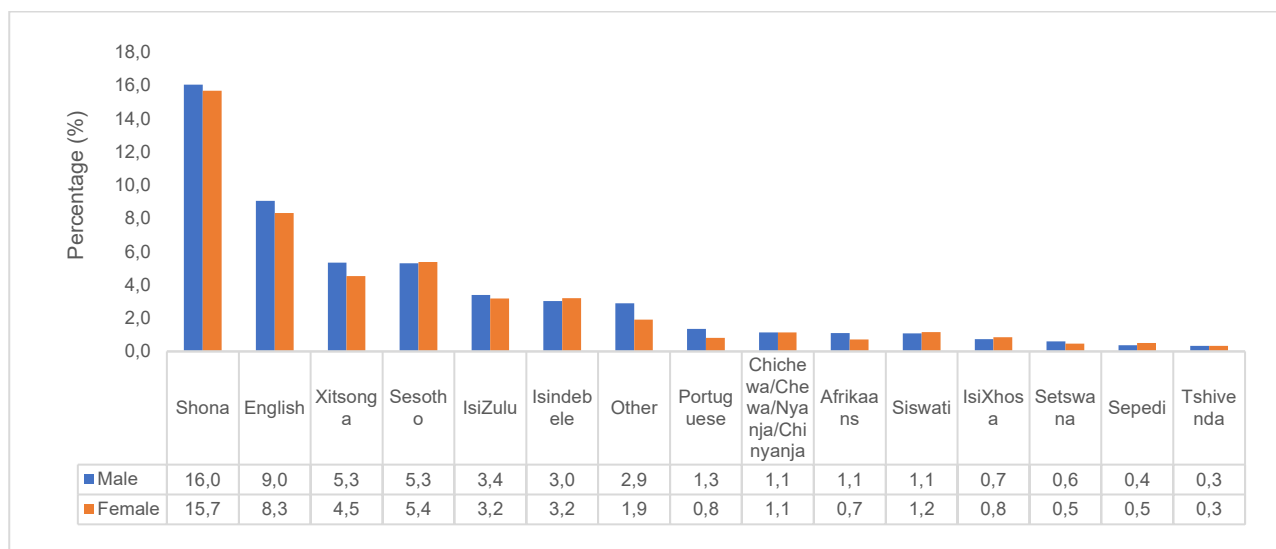
**Figure 2.24: Percentage distribution of citizenship status of immigrant children by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.25 below illustrates the percentage distribution of languages spoken by immigrant children by sex in 2022. The results presented were recorded for immigrant children who were aged three years and older. The results indicated that an overwhelming number of both male (16,0%) and female (15,7%) immigrant children indicated that they speak the Shona language. The second popular language spoken by immigrant children was English where 9,0% of males and only 8,3% of females indicated that they could speak English.

**Figure 2.25: Percentage distribution of language spoken by immigrant children by sex (3–17 years), Census 2022**

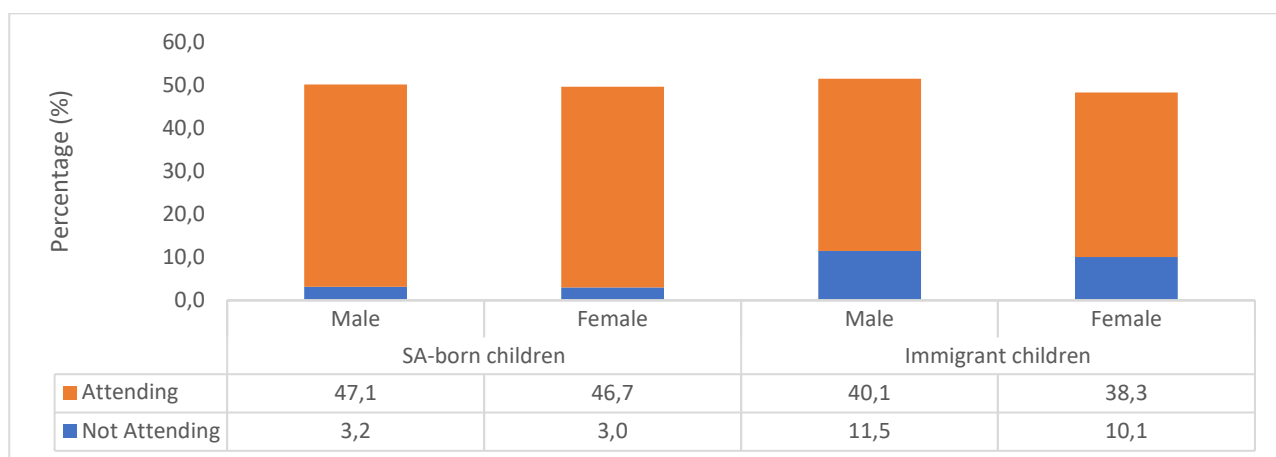


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

### 2.4.2 School attendance and educational attainment of children

Figure 2.26 below presents the percentage distribution of children's school attendance by migratory status and sex in 2022. Data presented here was for children aged 5–17 years. The result indicates that among immigrants, a large proportion of children were not attending school. Male immigrants have a higher proportion at 11,5% whilst female immigrant follows at 10% of not attending school.

**Figure 2.26: Percentage distribution of children's school attendance by migratory status and sex (5–17 years), Census 2022**

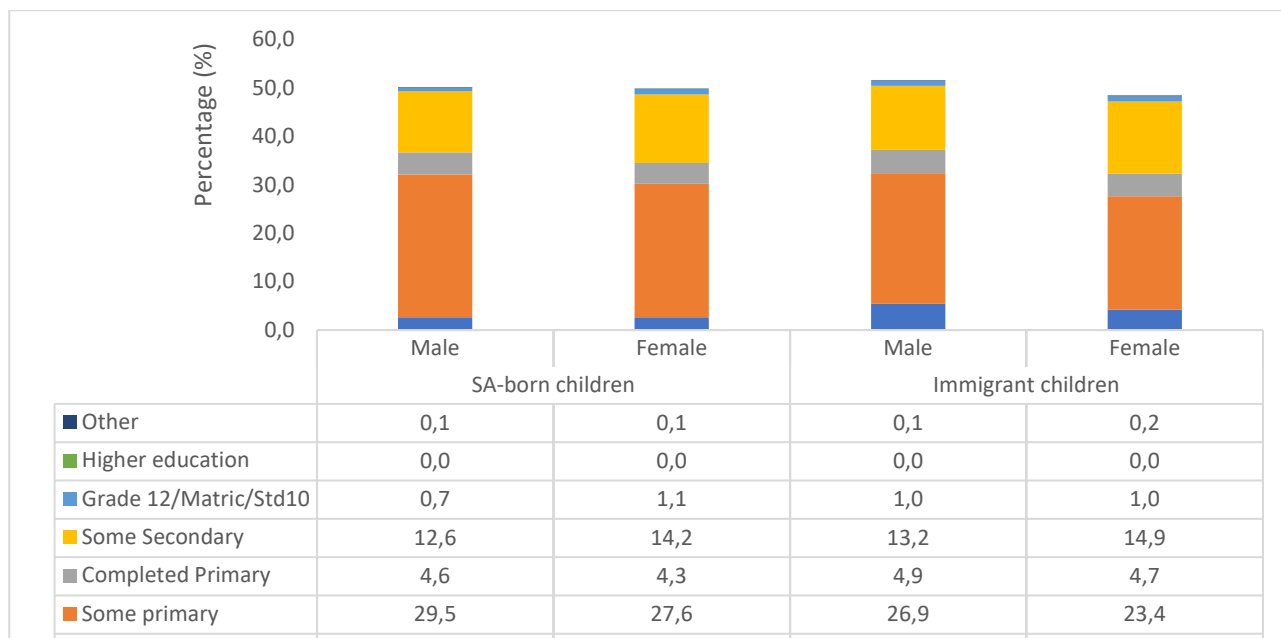


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.27 below presents the percentage distribution of level of education by migratory status and sex in 2022. Data presented here is for children aged 5–17 years. The results indicate that among immigrants 5,4% of males and 4,2% of females indicated no schooling as their highest level of education whilst among SA-born 2,6% of both males and females indicated no schooling as their highest level of education. The results further indicate that most of both immigrants and SA-born children indicated some primary as their highest level of

education and this is followed by some secondary. This can be attributed to the fact that these children are still in school.

**Figure 2.27: Percentage distribution population by level of education, migratory status and sex (5–17 years), Census 2022**

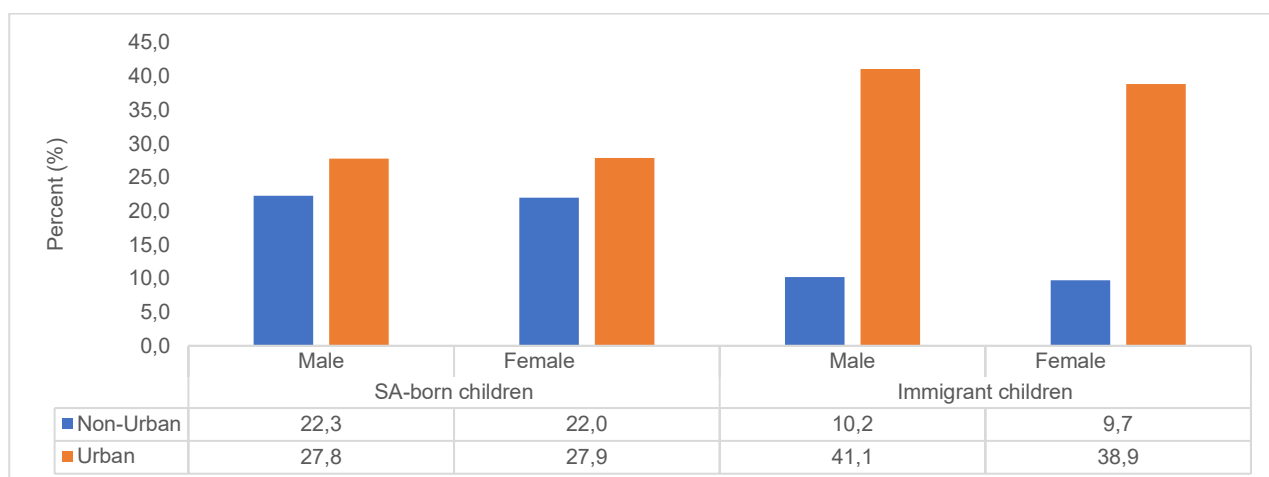


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

### 2.4.3 Geographical / Place of residence of children

Figure 2.28 below illustrates the percentage distribution of children’s type of place of residence by migratory status and sex in 2022. The results show that the majority of children indicated that they reside in urban areas. However, only 28% of both male and female SA-born children indicated that they reside in urban areas. When looking at immigrant children, at least 40% of both males and females indicated that they reside in urban areas too.

**Figure 2.28: Percentage distribution of population by type of place of residence, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**

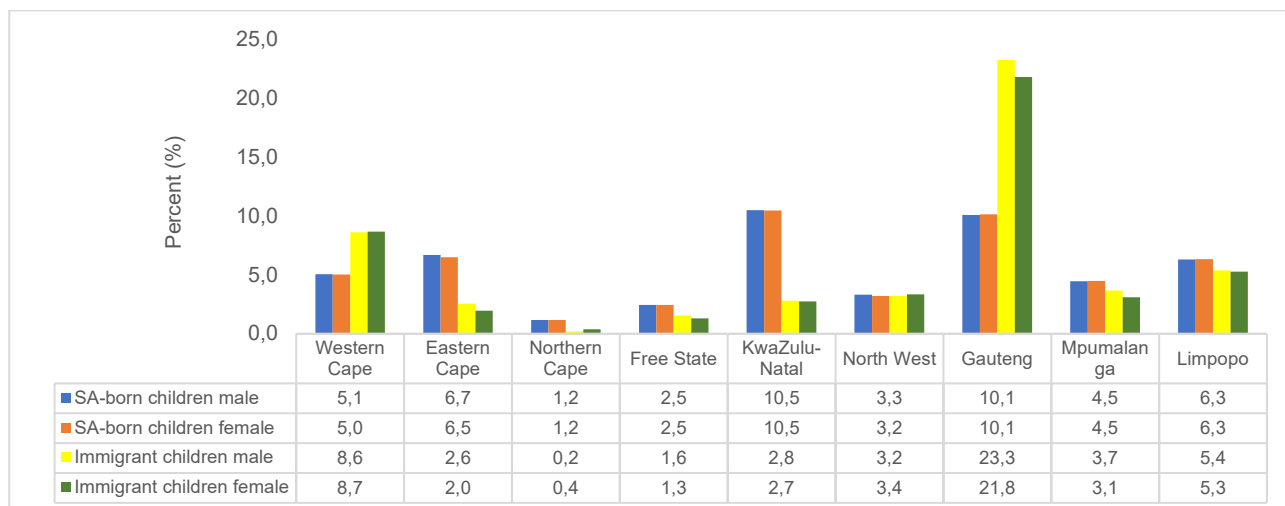


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Note: Non-urban areas include traditional areas and rural areas

Figure 2.29 below presents the percentage distribution of children’s province of usual residence by migratory status and sex in 2022. The result shows that among immigrants, 23,8% of males and 21,8% of females reside in Gauteng this was followed by the Western Cape at 8,6% for males and 8,7% for females. With regards to SA-born, the majority of children reside in KwaZulu-Natal followed by Gauteng and Limpopo.

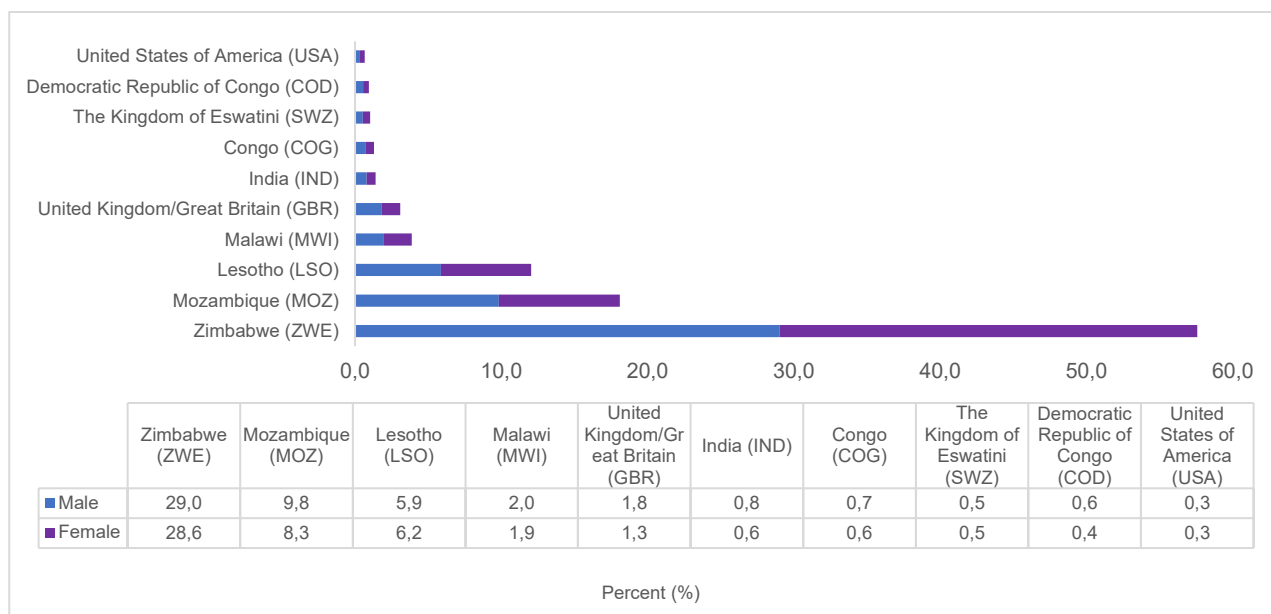
**Figure 2.29: Percentage distribution of population by province of usual residence, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.30 below illustrates the top 10 countries of birth of immigrant children by sex in 2022. The results indicate most immigrant children were from Zimbabwe, followed by Mozambique and Lesotho. The results indicate that at least 29% of male and 28,6% of female children were from Zimbabwe.

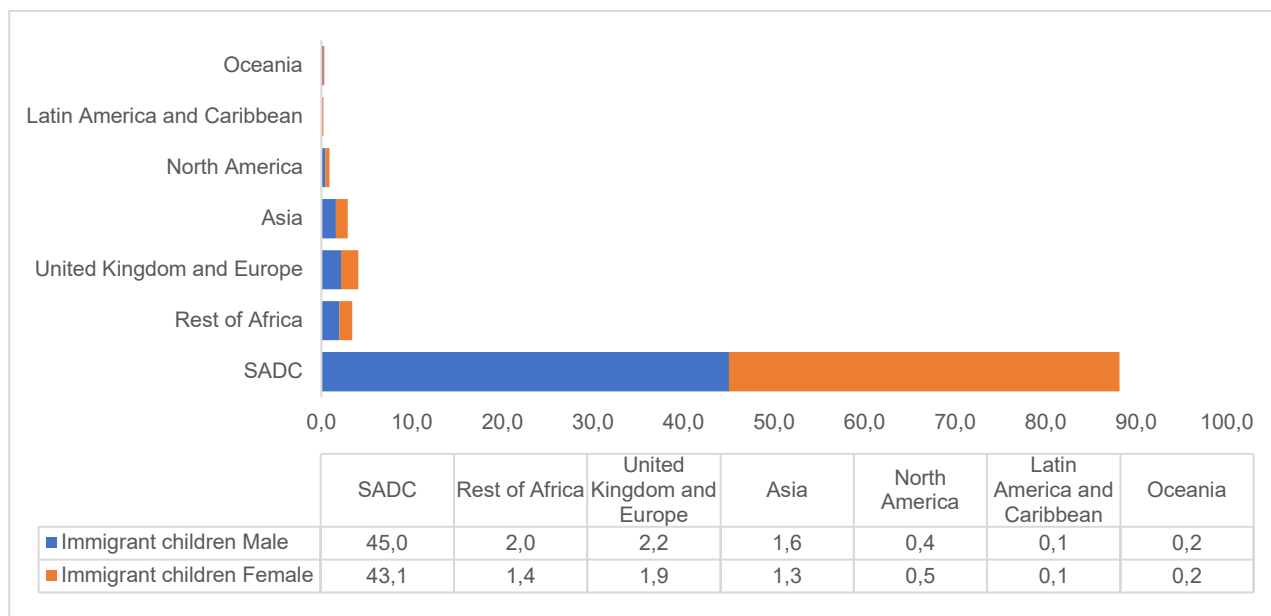
**Figure 2.30: Top 10 countries of birth of immigrant children by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.31 below illustrates the percentage distribution of region of birth of immigrant children by sex in 2022. The results indicate that at least eight out of ten immigrant children were from the SADC region with 45% being males and 43,1% being females.

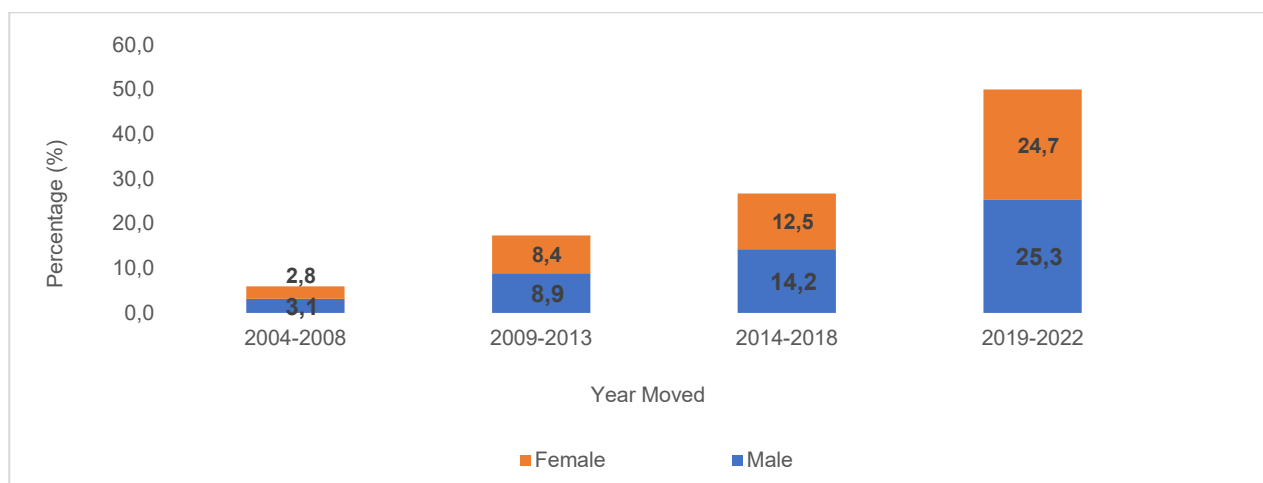
**Figure 2.31: Percentage distribution of region of birth of immigrant children by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.32 below illustrates the immigrant children's year of movement to South Africa by sex in 2022. The results indicate that the majority of immigrants moved to South Africa between 2019 and 2022. In terms of sex distribution, 25,3% of males and 24,7 of females moved to South Africa between 2019 and 2022.

**Figure 2.32: Immigrant children's year of movement to South Africa by sex, Census 2022**



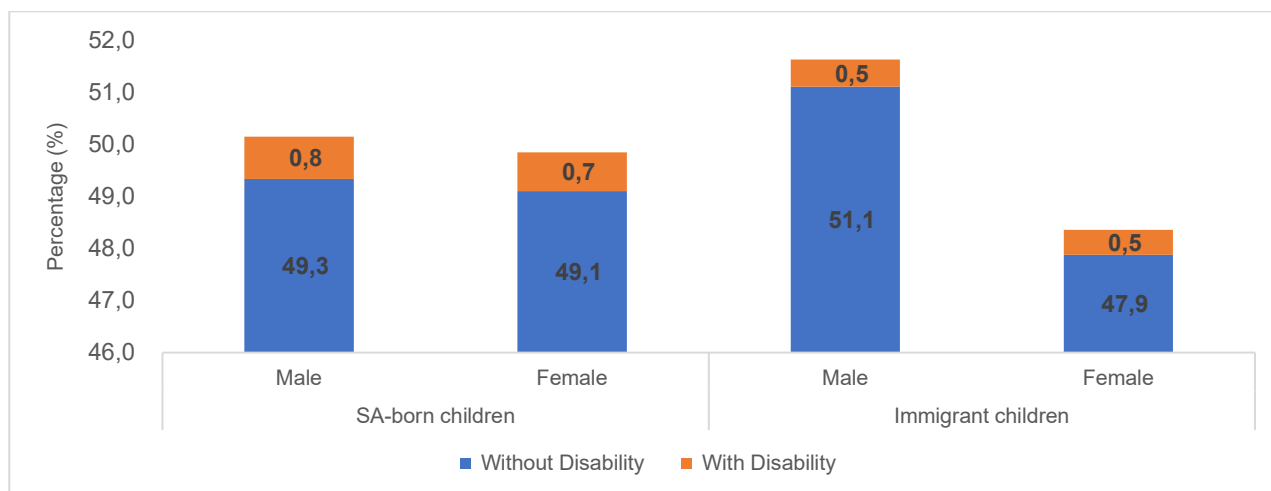
Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022



### 2.4.4 Disability Index

Figure 2.33 below illustrates children's disability status by migratory status and sex in 2022. The disability status is a composite variable generated from the Washington group short set of questions on functioning which include seeing, hearing, walking, remembering, communication, and self-care. Therefore, a person is considered to have a disability as and when he/she is reported to have some difficulty in at least two of the domains. In addition, he/she must have reported to be having "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do at all" in any of the six domains. The results presented in the chart below are for children aged between 5 and 17 years. According to the results, most of the children were without disability. Among immigrant children, 0,5% of both males and females were living with a disability while among SA-born children, 0,8% of males and only 0,7% of females were living with a disability.

**Figure 2.33: Distribution of children's disability status by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**

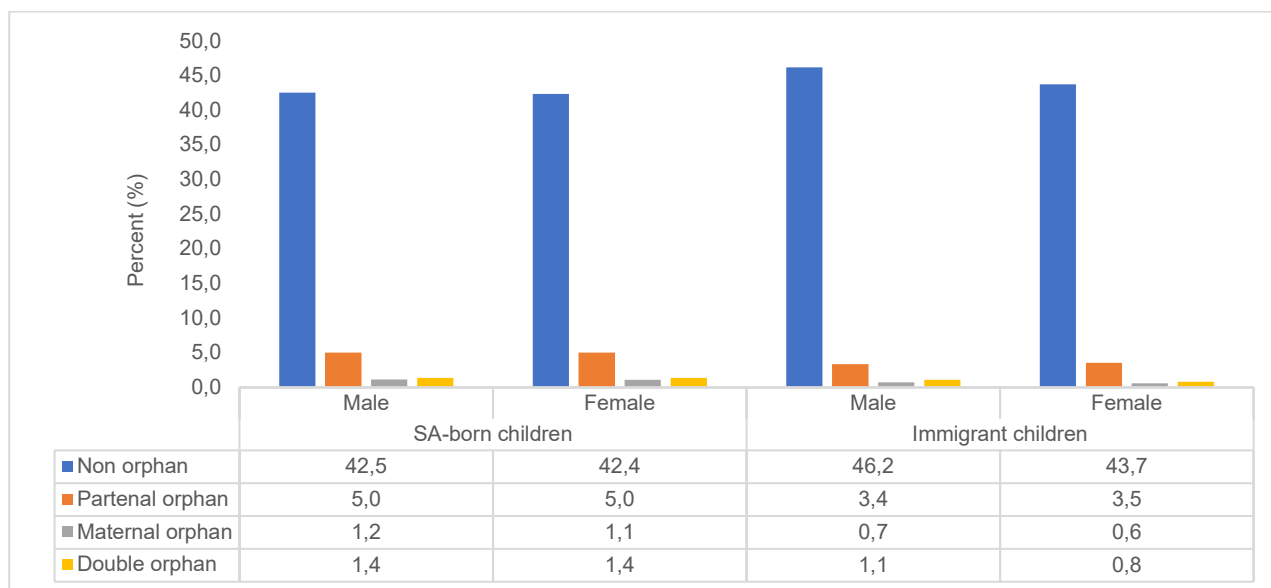


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

### 2.4.5 Orphanhood

Figure 2.34 below shows the percentage distribution of children's orphanhood status by migratory status and sex in 2022. The results show that a high proportion of children were non-orphans. Looking at SA-born children, 1,4% of males and females were double orphans whilst among immigrants 1,1% of males and 0,8% of females are double orphans.

**Figure 2.34: Percentage distribution of children’s orphanhood status by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

### 2.4.6 Household headed by children

In South Africa, the increase in morbidity and mortality due to HIV/AIDS, poverty, violence, and motor accidents have been identified as leading causes of death among adults, leaving millions of children orphaned and at greater risk in child-headed households (UNICEF, 2015). The death of parents among migrants further exacerbates this issue, forcing many immigrant children into the role of household heads at a young age. Literature suggests that child-headed households face worsened risks, including violence, among other vulnerabilities. Immigrant child-headed households encounter significant challenges such as discrimination and limited access to essential services like education and healthcare (UNICEF, 2015). In 2018, according to Stats SA, “an estimated 56 000 households in South Africa are headed by children between the ages of 14 and 17”. Child-headed households are defined as households that are headed by children between 12–17 years. The section aims to profile children-headed households by migratory status and sex. The section will focus on the type of main dwelling, access to water, refuse removal, sanitation facility, and energy for lighting.

**2.4.6.1 Dynamics of Child-headed Households**

Table 2.4 below presents the percentage distribution of child-headed households by migratory status and sex (12–17 years), in 2022. The results indicate that among immigrant child-headed households, 58,1% were headed by males compared to 41,9% of females. Meanwhile, among SA-born child-headed households 50,3% were headed by males compared to 49,7% of females.

**Table 2.4 – Distribution of child-headed households by sex, Census 2022**

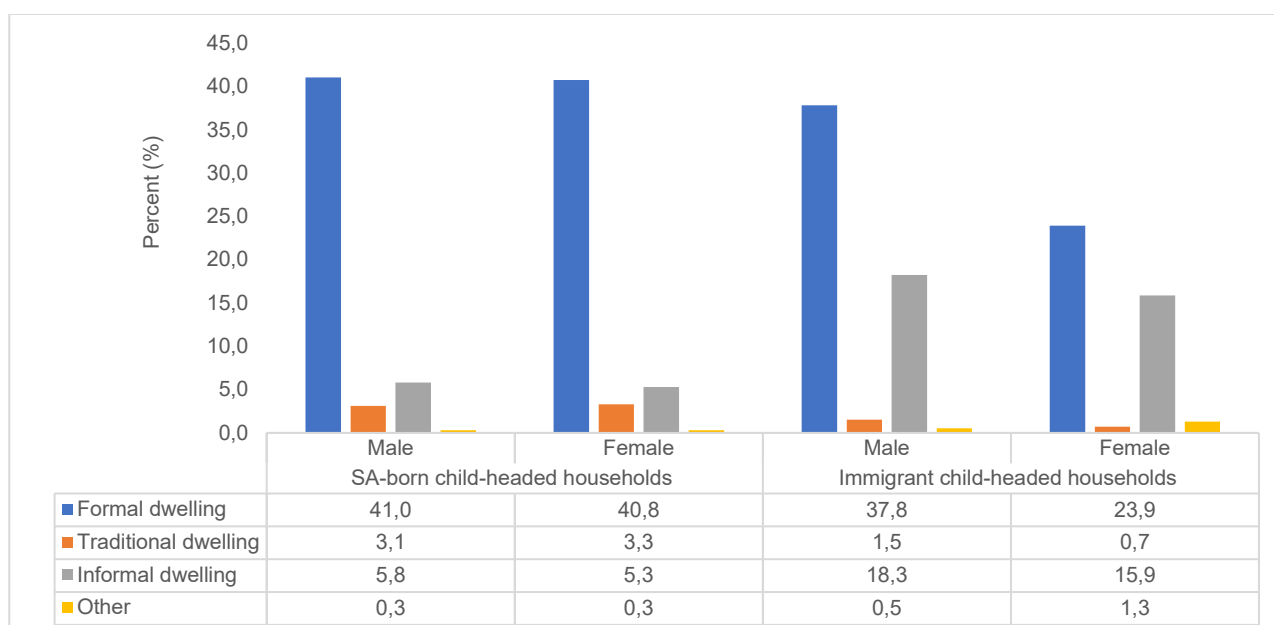
Sex of head of household	SA-born child-headed households		Immigrant child-headed households	
	N	%	N	%
Male	34 212	50,3	1 895	58,1
Female	33 818	49,7	1 364	41,9
<b>Total</b>	<b>68 030</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>3 259</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

**2.4.6.2 Dwelling type and household services**

Figure 2.35 below presents the percentage distribution of type of main dwelling by migratory status and sex, in 2022. The results show that the majority of households headed by children regardless of migratory status indicated that they were living in formal dwellings. However, a high number of households headed by children who were immigrant males indicated informal dwellings as their households accounted for 18,3% whilst females accounted for 15,9%. Concerning non-migrants, 5,8% of males indicated that they reside in informal dwelling houses whilst only 5,3% of females indicated that they also reside in informal dwelling houses.

**Figure 2.35: Distribution of type of main dwelling by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.36 below illustrates the percentage distribution of child-headed households by province, migratory status, and sex in 2022. The result indicates that the majority of households headed by children were in Gauteng. Among immigrants, an overwhelming 30,4% of households was headed by males whilst only 20% were headed by females and all these households were in Gauteng. Households headed by immigrant males in Limpopo accounted for 7,3% whilst households headed by immigrant females accounted for 6,5%.

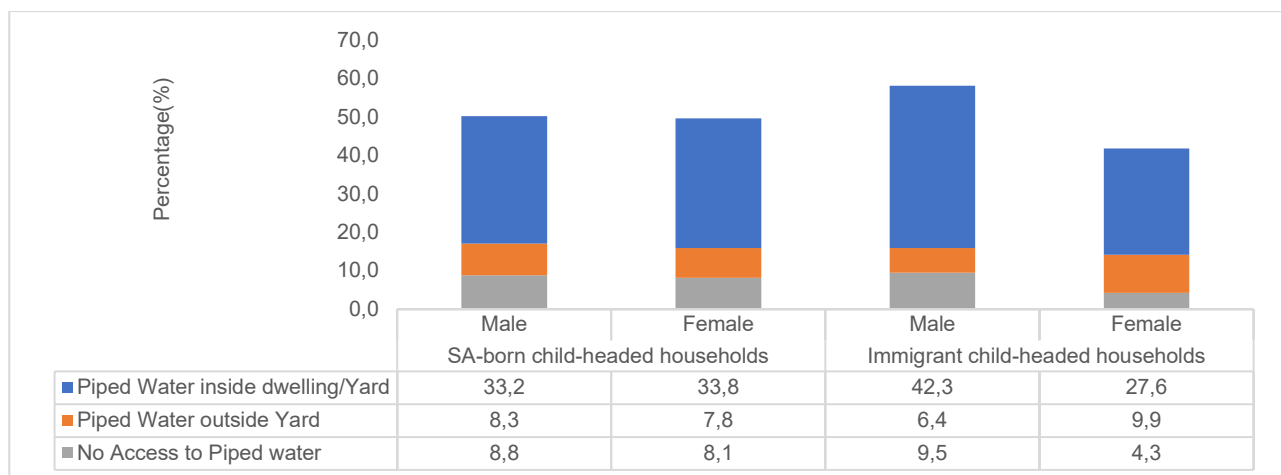
**Figure 2.36: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by province, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.37 below presents the percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to water, migratory status and sex in 2022. The results show that households headed by male immigrant children were worse off accounting for 9,5% of those that do not have access to piped water whilst among females only 4,3% do not have access to piped water. Concerning non-migrant children, 8,8% of households headed by males do not have access to piped water and this is almost equal to households headed by SA-born females.

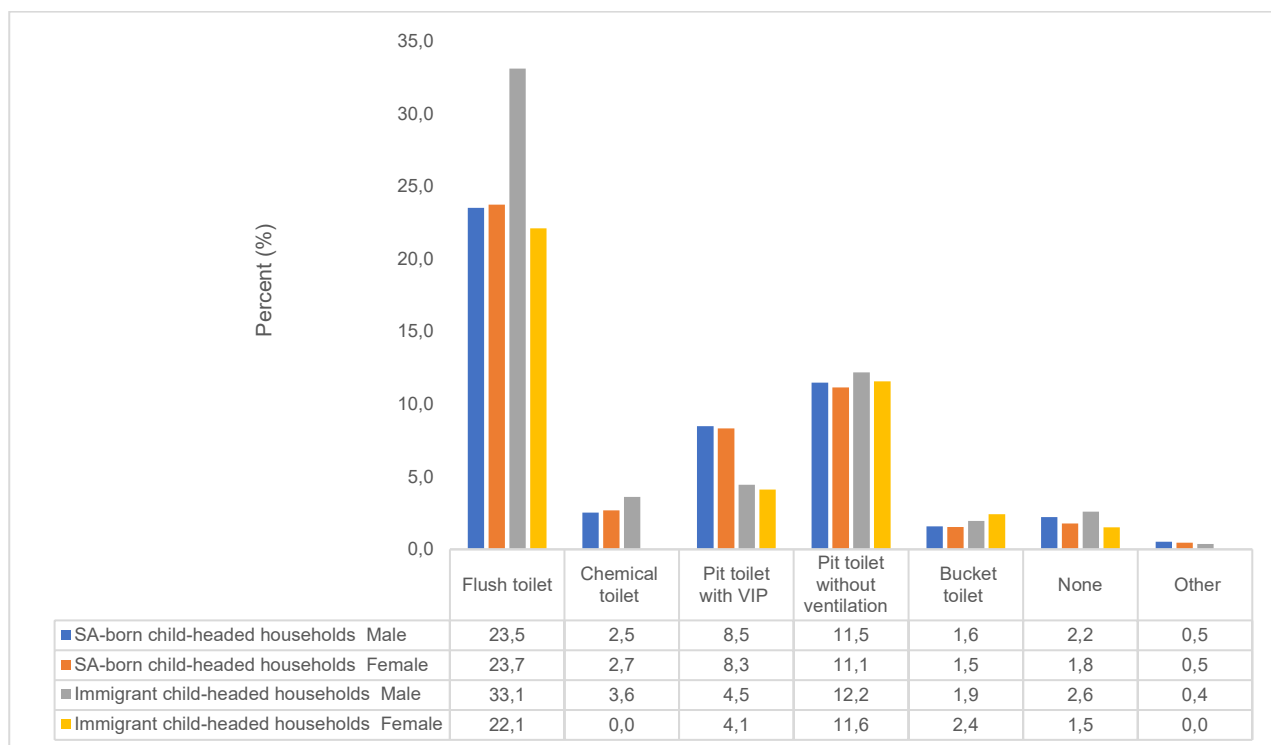
**Figure 2.37: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to water, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.38 below presents the percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to toilet facilities, migratory status, and sex in 2022. The results indicate that the majority of child-headed households were using flush toilets followed by pit toilets without ventilation. However, in households headed by immigrant female children, 2,4% of them indicated that they were still using the bucket toilet and only 1,9% of households headed by immigrant male children were also using the bucket toilet.

**Figure 2.38: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access toilet facility, migratory status, and sex, Census 2022**



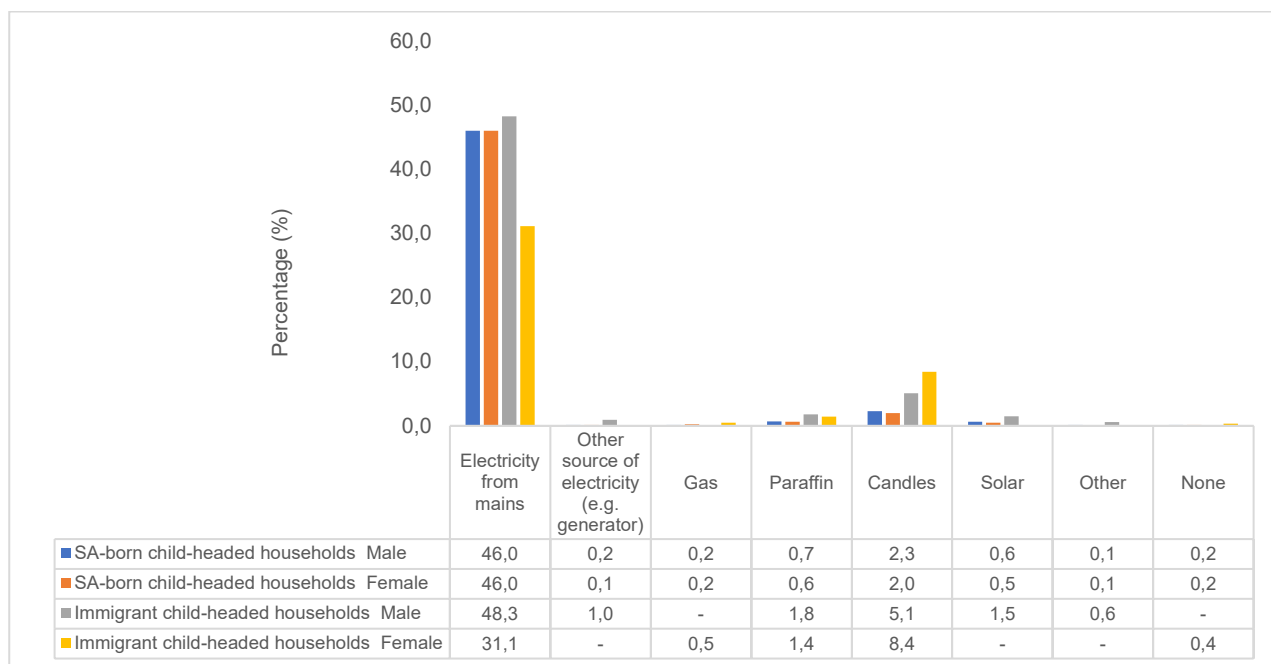
Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Note: Flush toilets for 2022 include flush toilets connected to a public sewerage system and flush toilets connected to a septic tank/conservancy tank.

- Bucket toilet for 2022 includes bucket toilet collected by the municipality and bucket toilets emptied by households.
- Other for 2022 includes an ecological toilet.

Figure 2.39 below presents the percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to energy for lighting, migratory status and sex in 2022. The results indicate that immigrant female children were still lacking in terms of access to energy for lighting with only 31,1% using electricity from the mains. Furthermore, the results indicate that households headed by immigrant females were still marginalized with 8,4% of them still using candles as energy for lighting and only 5,1% of households headed by immigrant males.

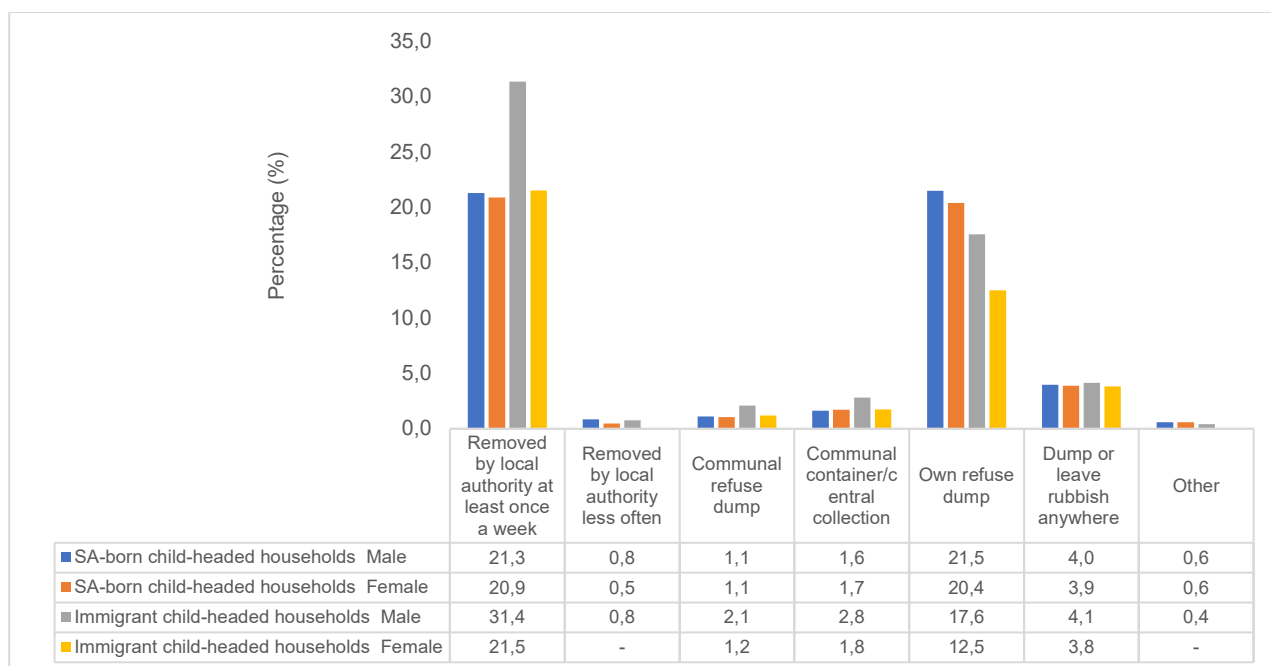
**Figure 2.39: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to Energy for lighting, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 2.40 below illustrates the percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to refuse removal facilities, migratory status and sex in 2022. The result indicates that the majority of the households headed by children were using local authority for refuse removal at least once a week followed by households that remove refuse on their own.

**Figure 2.40: Percentage distribution of child-headed households by access to refuse removal facility, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

## 2.5 Access to social assistance

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No. 108 of 1996) provides that everyone has the right to have access to social security, including – if they are unable to support themselves and their dependants – appropriate social assistance, and obliges the state to take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of each of these rights.

In terms of the Social Assistance Act, 2004 (Act No. 13 of 2004) social assistance is an income transfer in the form of grants provided by the government to an eligible South African citizen, permanent resident, or refugee permanently living in South Africa. Social grants refer to grants paid by the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA): disability grant; grant for older persons and war veteran's grant; foster child grant; care dependency grant; child support grant, child support grant top-up; and Grant-in-Aid, social relief of distress as well as the COVID-19 Social Relief of Distress grant. These grants are designed to provide support to children in income-compromised households (up to 18 years of age) and older persons without adequate incomes (older than 60 years of age).

In South Africa, the social assistance grants are categorical and means-tested (with the exception of the foster child grant). Social assistance is subject to means testing which implies that SASSA evaluates the income and assets of the person applying as well as his/her spouse in order to determine whether the person's means are below a stipulated amount. This means test is a way of determining whether a person qualifies to receive a grant as grants are indeed meant for those who have insufficient means to support themselves. The means test varies from one grant type to another.

Data on immigrants receiving social assistance are derived and generated from SASSA's legacy information management system called SOCPEN, which started in the 1980s. SOCPEN is a primary database for beneficiary information management which provides data on grants and beneficiaries. The data presented were for the financial year ending March of 2023 and March 2024. The aim of this section is to present the number of children eligible for grants.

Table 2.5 below presents the distribution of grant recipients by grant type and migratory status, 2023–2024. The results indicate that the majority of children received child support grants followed by care dependency grants. The table indicates that the number of children who were permanent residents was 22 272 and the number of children who were refugees was 35 443.

**Table 2.5 – Distribution of grant recipients by grant type and migratory status, 2023–2024**

Type of grant	Permanent Resident	Refugee	SA Born
Care dependency grant	308	142	156 530
Child Support Grant	23 219	13 753	13 110 934
Foster Care Grant	306	25	259 951
<b>2023/03</b>	<b>23 833</b>	<b>13 920</b>	<b>13 527 415</b>
Care dependency grant	316	341	165 106
Child Support Grant	22 272	35 443	13 160 958
Foster Care Grant	278	23	236 564
<b>2024/03</b>	<b>22 866</b>	<b>35 807</b>	<b>13 562 628</b>

Source: SASSA, 2023 – 2024

Table 2.6 below presents the distribution of grant recipients by province, grant type and migratory status for period 2023/03 and 2024/03. Results indicate that most children were receiving CSG grant type. Generally, the results indicate consistency in the grant types CDG and FCG among different population groups with the exception to CSG received by refugees. For instance, the findings show that in Gauteng there was an increase in the number of refugees receiving CSG from 202303 (7819) to 202403 (20 573). Another increase in the number of refugee children receiving CSG was observed in the Western Cape from 3020 in the financial year ending March 2023 to 8388 in the 2 financial year ending March 2024. The increase was also observed in the Eastern Cape, where there were 364 refugee children receiving CSG in 202303 as compared to 2 376 refugee children in the period ending 202403.

**Table 2.6 – Distribution of population receiving grants by province, grant type, and migratory status, 2023–2024**

Province	Grant type	2023/03			2024/03		
		Permanent Resident	Refugee	SA-Citizen	Permanent Resident	Refugee	SA-Citizen
Eastern Cape	CDG	9	6	23 617	11	38	24 576
	CSG	513	364	1 961 843	563	2 376	1 953 176
	FCG	9	0	56 405	7	0	50 058
Free State	CDG	13	1	9 330	12	2	9 820
	CSG	469	620	710 986	471	615	708 235
	FCG	13	0	17 066	13	0	14 824
Gauteng	CDG	107	54	22 288	115	101	23 839
	CSG	6 831	7 819	2 002 100	6 742	20 573	2 018 887
	FCG	68	3	34 725	68	3	32 583
KwaZulu-Natal	CDG	30	19	39 155	32	33	41 078
	CSG	559	1 251	2 977 418	591	1 859	3 004 948
	FCG	9	5	45 568	6	3	39 952
Limpopo	CDG	42	1	17 698	43	1	18 396
	CSG	8 469	128	1 990 578	7 780	395	1 994 328
	FCG	124	1	30 609	109	1	28 114
Mpumalanga	CDG	45	0	12 013	40	4	12 641
	CSG	4 465	280	1 192 425	4 126	817	1 201 908
	FCG	66	0	15 832	62	0	13 550
North West	CDG	8	1	9 836	11	4	10 952
	CSG	413	151	910 138	400	278	916 715
	FCG	6	0	20 091	3	0	18 428
Northern Cape	CDG	2	3	5 813	2	5	6 095
	CSG	81	120	333 147	85	142	336 119
	FCG	1	0	8 500	1	0	7 784
Western Cape	CDG	52	57	16 780	50	153	17 709
	CSG	1 419	3 020	1 032 299	1 514	8 388	1 026 642
	FCG	10	16	31 155	9	16	31 271

Source: SASSA, 2023 - 2024

CDG = Care Dependency Grant

CSG = Child Support Grant

FSG = Foster Care Grant



## 2.6 Summary and Conclusion

- There were 1,3 million immigrants who were males and 1 010 173 immigrants who were females in South Africa.
- Only 22,5% of immigrants indicated that they were South African citizens. Of these immigrants, 12,3% were males and only 10,2% were females.
- The majority of immigrants indicated Gauteng as their preferred province of usual residence accounting for 28,4% among males and 21,8% among females. Gauteng is followed by Western Cape accounting for 9,1% of males and 6,8% of females.
- Most of the immigrants in South Africa were from the SADC region. The proportion of males from the SADC region accounted for 47,0% meanwhile females accounted for 36,5%.
- Of the immigrants aged 15–64 years, 45,8% of males were employed as compared 18,2% of females. Among internal migrants aged 15–64 years, 31,9% of males indicated that they were employed compared to 22,9% of females.
- The majority of immigrants were employed in the informal sector, 43,6% were males and 16,1% were females. The majority of internal migrants were employed in the formal sector similarly to non-migrant population.
- Findings from the report, show that male internal migrants had the highest percentage of permanent duration contracts at 41,5% followed by non-migrant males at 32,0% and non-migrant females had the highest limited duration contracts recorded at 8,8%.
- There were 172 389 immigrant children aged 0–17 years.
- Most immigrant children, both males (16,0%) and females (15,7%) spoke Shona as a language.
- 11,2% of male immigrants and 9,5% of female immigrants aged 07–17 years were not attending school.
- Among immigrant children, 0,5% of both males and females were living with a disability while among SA-born children, 0,8% of males and only 0,7% of females were living with a disability.
- 1,4% of SA-born male and female children were double orphans whilst among immigrants 1,1% of male children and 0,8% of female children were double orphans.
- Of the child-headed households (aged 12–17 years), findings show that among immigrant child-headed households, 58% were headed by males while only 50% of SA-born child-headed households were headed by males.
- The results indicate that the majority of children receive child support grants followed by care dependency grants.

## CHAPTER 3: INTERNAL MIGRATION

### 3.1 Introduction

Internal migration is influenced by various factors that differ by country and region. As of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, internal migration is more prevalent than international migration. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), about 763 million people worldwide were internal migrants in 2020, far outnumbering immigrants (approximately 281 million). The causes of internal migration are economic factors which are job opportunities and income disparities, cost of living, environmental factors and cultural and personal reasons. (UNDP, 2020)

This section will discuss and profile internal migrants according to their demographics and socioeconomic characteristics. An internal migrant is any person who is moving or has moved within a state to establish a new temporary or permanent residence or because of displacement (IOM, 2019b). In addition, the results obtained in this chapter are based on Census 2022, which was a cross-sectional method of collecting this information and the Quarterly Labour Force Statistics Survey of 2022 collected in the third quarter. The core questions asked under this theme relate to the place of birth, usual residence and movement since the previous date of enumeration. Under the question of province of birth three subgroup populations can be derived and analysed, namely, non-movers, internal migrants and immigrants, but the focus in this chapter will be a breakdown of internal migrants.

### 3.2 Lifetime migration

A lifetime migrant is an individual whose province of usual residence at the date of enumeration is their usual residence in a census or survey, but it differs from his/her province or country of birth, whilst a non-mover is an individual who was born in a particular province and was enumerated in the same province they usually reside (Statistics South Africa, 2019). Individuals who are not usual residents of a household were not included in the results obtained below. However, the census is unable to capture all movements of the population as it focuses on the last move to their usual place of residence.

### 3.2.1 Profile of Lifetime migrants

Table 3.1 below presents the summary of the matrix on province of birth and province of usual residence in 2022. Gauteng and Western Cape provinces had net migration of 2 940 686 and 1 363 562, respectively. Whilst the Eastern Cape and Limpopo provinces experience a negative net migration of 1 681 810 and 1 364 248 respectively, where Northwest had the lowest net migration.

In addition, Gauteng had the highest percentage of the population born outside the province with 29,9 percent followed by the Western Cape with 24,7. These percentages suggest that there was a higher rate of migration in and out of these two provinces between 2011 and 2022 compared to the other provinces. Whilst KZN had the lowest percentage of the population born outside the province.

**Table 3.1 – Lifetime migration status by province of the population by migratory status, Census 2022**

Province of usual residence	Total population	Non-migrant	Immigrants	In-Migration**	Out-Migration**	Net-Migration	% Born outside the province**
Western Cape	6 831 745	5 158 515	371 880	1 673 230	304 537	1 368 693	24,5
Eastern Cape	7 016 522	6 696 355	109 263	320 167	2 010 942	-1 690 775	4,6
Northern Cape	1 319 534	1 188 081	21 219	131 453	234 170	-102 717	10,0
Free State	2 843 090	2 632 225	63 213	210 865	612 662	-401 797	7,4
KwaZulu-Natal	12 071 473	11 632 965	159 859	438 508	1 040 212	-601 705	3,6
North West	3 599 610	3 081 453	133 638	518 157	514 386	3 771	14,4
Gauteng	13 524 323	9 513 220	1 177 117	4 011 104	1 046 899	2 964 204	29,7
Mpumalanga	4 946 332	4 435 809	137 322	510 523	679 004	-168 481	10,3
Limpopo	6 338 109	6 046 751	168 521	291 358	1 662 551	-1 371 193	4,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>58 490 738</b>	<b>50 385 373</b>	<b>2 342 033</b>	<b>8 105 365</b>	<b>8 105 365</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,9</b>

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

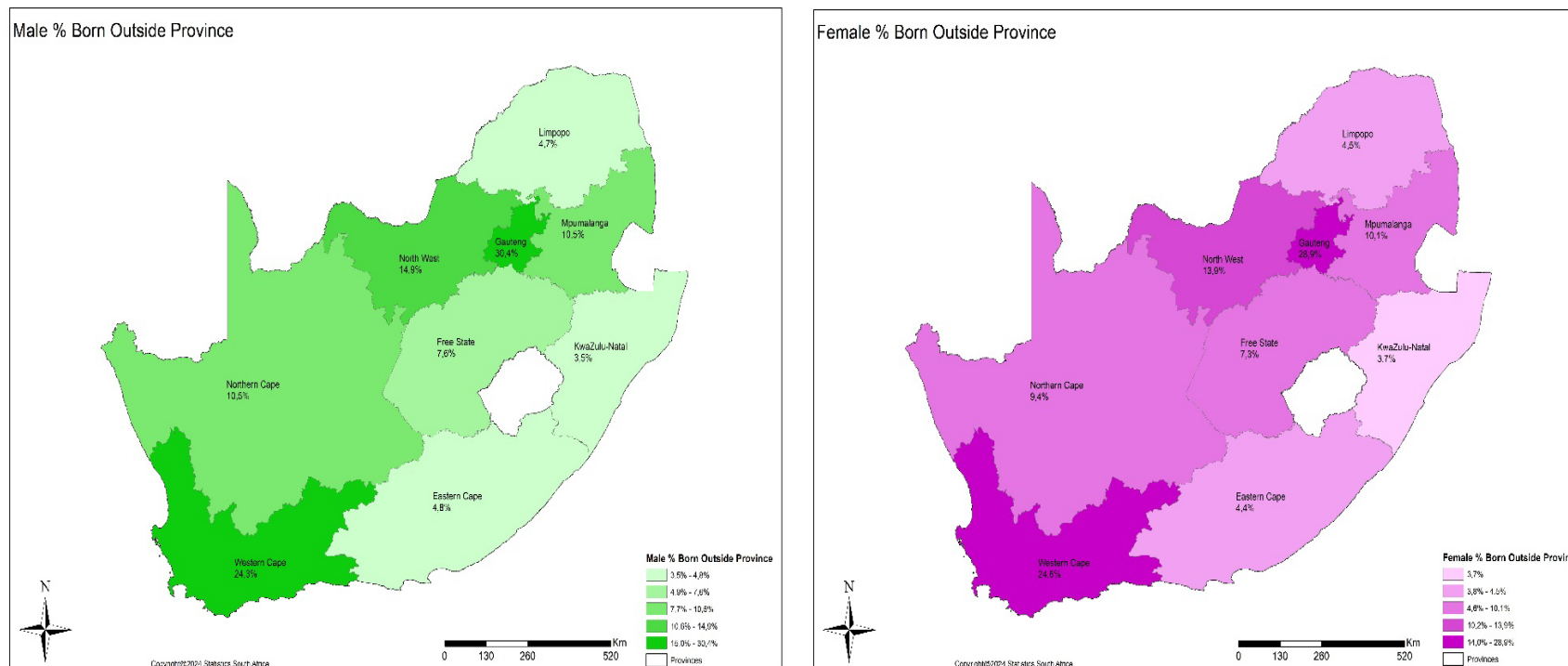
Note: This table excludes cases that are unspecified, and do not know.

\*\* In and out-migration, and % Born outside the province excludes the immigrant population.

**3.2.2 Person born outside the province of usual residence**

Figure 3.1 below shows the percentage distribution of persons born outside the province of usual residence by sex in 2022. The majority of lifetime migrant males (30,4%) and females (28,9%) who reported Gauteng as their province of usual residence were born outside the province. This is followed by the Western Cape, where 24,6% of females and 24,3% of males reported being born elsewhere, with females slightly outnumbering males.

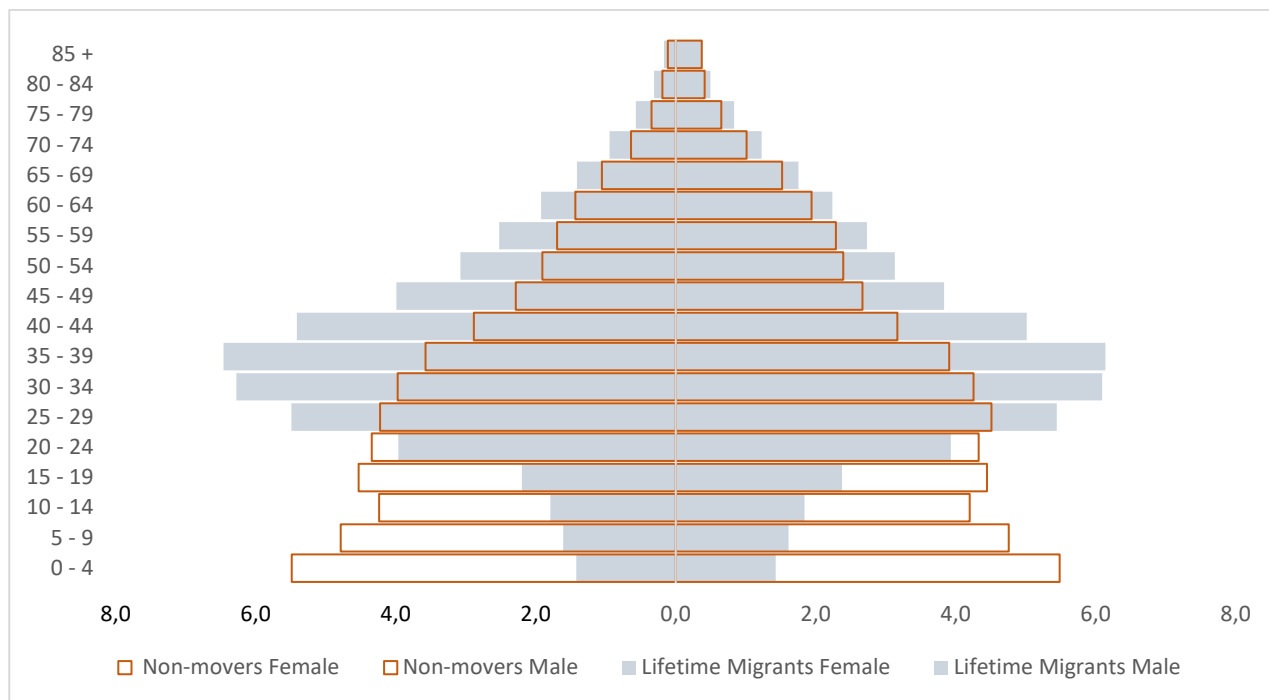
**Figure 3.1: Percentage distribution of persons born outside the province of usual residence by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.2 below shows the age and sex distribution of the population by migratory status in 2022. The results indicate a comparison between lifetime migrants and non-movers in 2022. The pyramid highlights that migration is age-selective, with a stronger impact on working-age populations. The majority of lifetime migrants were between the ages 20 and 39 years, with slightly more males than females in these cohorts. Migration declines in older age groups, indicating mobility primarily during economically active years

**Figure 3.2: Age and sex structure of the population by migratory status, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, 2022

Table 3.2 below shows median age of the population by migratory status and sex in 2022. The median age of 36 suggests that lifetime migrants tend to be young adults, possibly because migration often occurs in adulthood when people migrate for various reasons, amongst many, to seek better job opportunities, education, or other life improvements. The lower median age of 25 indicates that non-mover males are generally younger.

**Table 3.2 – Median age of the population by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**

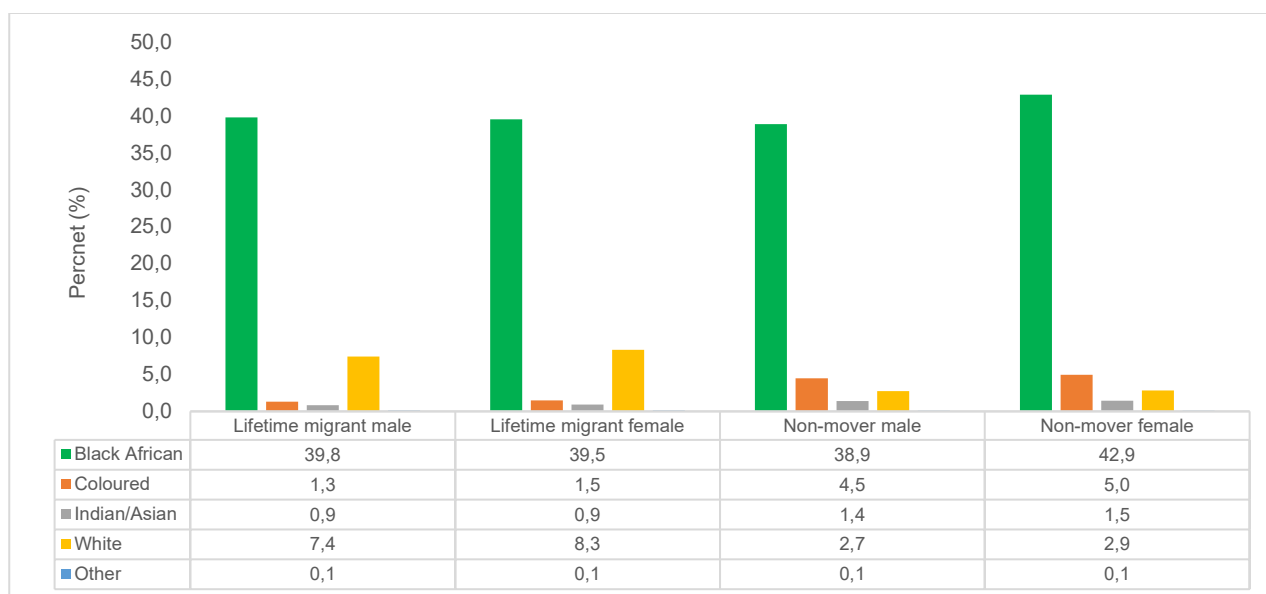
Population migratory status	Male	Female
<b>Lifetime migrants</b>		
Median age	36	36
<b>Non-movers</b>		
Median age	25	28

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.3 below shows the percentage distribution of persons by population group and migratory status in 2022. A significant majority of both lifetime migrants and non-movers belong to the black African group where male lifetime migrants were 39,8% compared to females with 39,5%, whereas non-mover males were 38,8% and females were 42,9%. The large number of female black African non-movers suggests that migration is less prevalent in this group, and this can be constituted by education, economic and cultural factors that discourage relocation or domestic obligations.

The percentage distribution amongst the white population group had more female lifetime migrants at 8,3% who migrated from their province of birth to their province of usual residence at the time of enumeration, compared to the male lifetime migrants with 7,4%.

**Figure 3.3: Percent distribution of persons by population group and migratory status, Census 2022**



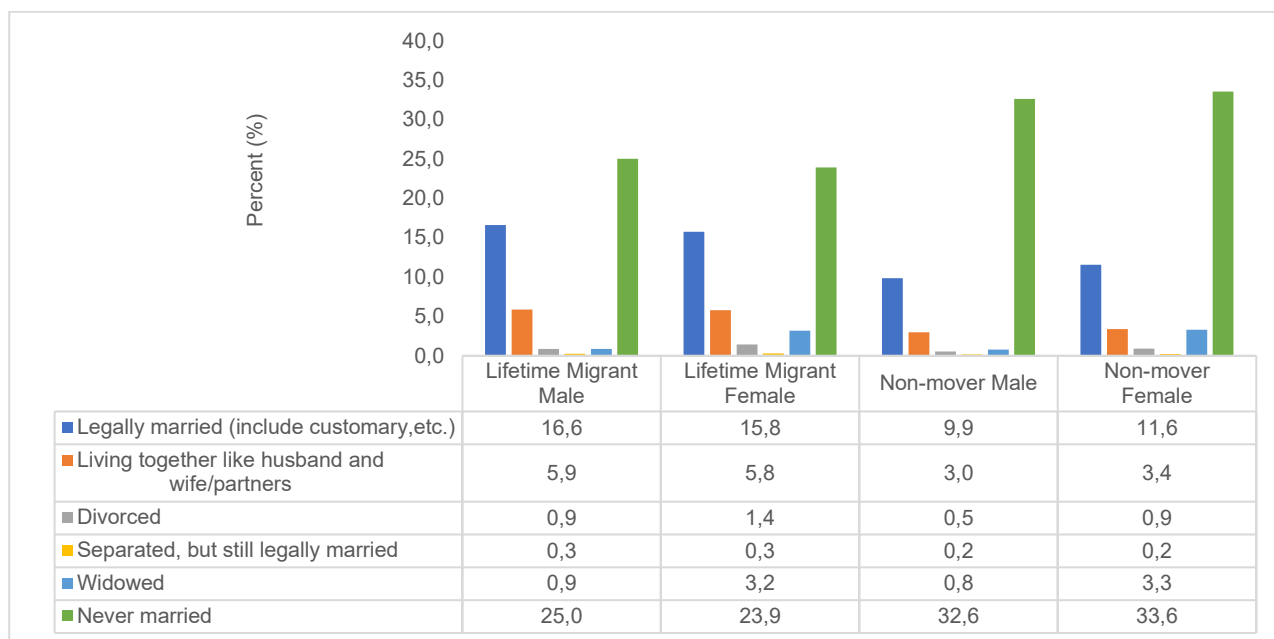
Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.4 below shows the percentage distribution of the population aged 12 years and older by marital status and migratory status in 2022. The majority of the lifetime migrants indicated that they were never married for both males (25,0%) and females (23,9%). Whilst the majority of non-movers indicated that they had never been married for both females and males at 33,3% and 32,4% respectively.

The data also revealed that legally married lifetime migrant males had a higher percentage at 16,5%, compared to females at 15,6%. However, there were more non-mover females that indicated they were legally married (including customary, traditional, religious, etc.) compared to the males 11,6% and 9,9%, respectively. This result suggests that amongst non-movers, the prevalence of those that indicated their marital status as being legally married was more amongst the females compared to the males.

Furthermore, amongst lifetime migrants that are living together like husband and wife or partners or cohabiting, males at 5,8% were slightly more than lifetime migrant females at 5,7%.

**Figure 3.4: Percentage distribution of population aged 12 years and older by marital and migratory status, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Note\*\* This table excludes do not know and unspecified cases

### 3.3 Period migration

Period migration refers to the movement of individuals from one location to another within a specified period, typically captured by comparing data on previous residence and current usual residence. In the context of South Africa, the 2022 Census gathered information on movement since 2011 where province of previous residence and the province of usual residence are used to identify period migrants. This group includes individuals who have relocated within South Africa during a defined timeframe. Furthermore, the group also includes individuals who indicated their previous residence to be outside South Africa. Analysing period migration is essential for understanding short- to medium-term mobility patterns, as it sheds light on the factors driving internal migration, the characteristics of those who move, and the impacts on both the areas people leave and the areas they settle in. This data is crucial for informing policies related to regional development, urbanisation, and the provision of services.

#### 3.3.1 Methods used to determine interprovincial migration of the population:

##### 3.3.1.1 Index of Relative Representativity (IRR)

The index of relative representativity (IRR) is calculated by dividing the respective or each of the calculated in/out migration percentage share by Census 2022 population distribution share (Stats SA, 2015). The IRR can be used to determine the level of significance at each observed population that moves between provinces when benchmarked to 100.

- IRR > 100: If the IRR is greater than 100, it means that the proportion of migrants coming to (or leaving) the province is higher than the proportion of the national population that resides in that province. This suggests that the province is overrepresented in migration compared to its share of the national population. Essentially, more people are moving in or out of this province than we would expect based on its population size.
- IRR = 100: If the IRR is equal to 100, it means that the migration share is perfectly proportional to the provincial population share. The province has the same percentage of migrants as it does of the national population.
- IRR < 100: If the IRR is less than 100, it indicates that the province is underrepresented in migration, meaning fewer migrants are coming to (or leaving) that province than expected based on its population size.

##### 3.3.1.2 Migration effectiveness

Migration effectiveness or rather known as efficiency is calculated by expressing net migration as a proportion of migration turnover, where the turnover is the sum of gross inflow and outflows (Stats SA, 2015). Similarly, to net migration, migration effectiveness can take negative or positive values representing the direction of migration and the value indicating the magnitude of movers.

Table 3.3 below shows the provincial distribution of the population by migratory status in 2022. In terms of net-migration Western Cape and Gauteng were the highest receivers of period migrants with 179 876 and



107 383, respectively. Three provinces had a negative net-migration since 2011 where Limpopo was the highest with 110 771 followed by Eastern Cape with 99 867 and KwaZulu-Natal with 59 552.

Furthermore, table 3.3 indicated that the IRR was higher than 100 and was prevalent for in-migration in the case of Gauteng (142,6%), North West (124,3%) Northern Cape (119,5%) and Western Cape (166,5%), while the IRR for out-migration is higher than 100 for Eastern Cape (142,5%), Free State (114,1%), Limpopo (104,8%), Mpumalanga (112,4%), and North West (135,8%).

In terms of migration effectiveness, table 3.3 also indicate that migration effectiveness was highly positive in Western Cape (44,7%%) followed by Gauteng (11,9%) and Northern Cape (11,1%). Furthermore, migration effectiveness was highly Negative in Limpopo (34,9%) and eastern caper (25,3%).

**Table 3.3 – Provincial distribution of the population by migratory status, Census 2022**

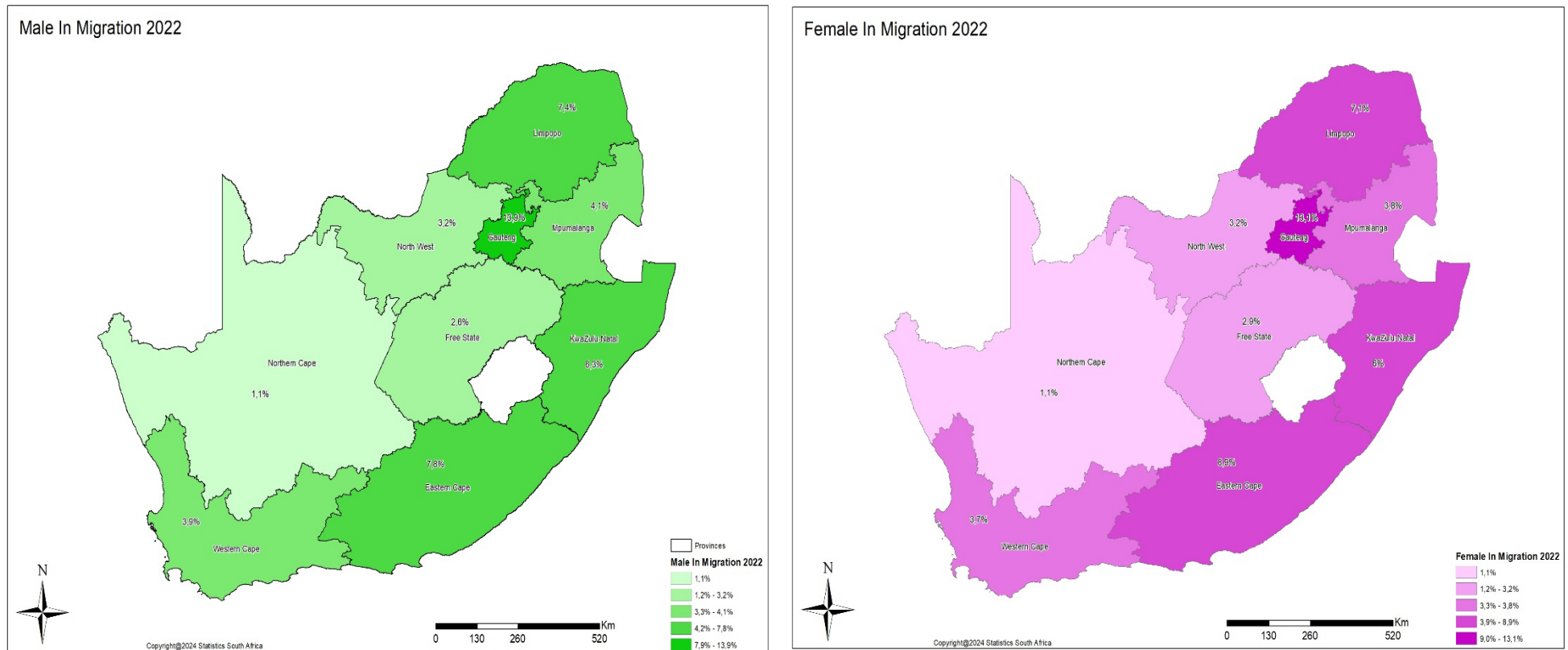
Province of usual residence	Total population	Non-migrant	In-Migration	Out-migration	Net-migration	Turnover	IRR in-migration	IRR out-migration	Migration effectiveness
Western Cape	<b>6 995 896</b>	6 704 576	291 320	111 444	179 876	402 764	166,5	63,7	44,7
Eastern Cape	<b>6 943 004</b>	6 795 449	147 555	247 422	-99 867	394 976	85,0	142,5	-25,3
Northern Cape	<b>1 311 776</b>	1 272 581	39 195	31 367	7 828	70 562	119,5	95,6	11,1
Free State	<b>2 839 975</b>	2 781 210	58 765	81 039	-22 275	139 804	82,7	114,1	-15,9
KwaZulu-Natal	<b>11 922 577</b>	11 800 000	122 577	182 129	-59 552	304 706	41,1	61,1	-19,5
North West	<b>3 628 105</b>	3 515 329	112 776	95 088	17 688	207 865	124,3	104,8	8,5
Gauteng	<b>14 206 751</b>	13 700 000	506 751	399 367	107 383	906 118	142,6	112,4	11,9
Mpumalanga	<b>4 950 941</b>	4 854 922	96 019	116 330	-20 311	212 349	77,5	93,9	-9,6
Limpopo	<b>6 299 985</b>	6 196 859	103 126	213 897	-110 771	317 023	65,5	135,8	-34,9
<b>Total</b>	<b>59 099 010</b>	<b>57 620 926</b>	<b>1 478 084</b>	<b>1 478 084</b>	<b>0</b>				

Source: Statistics South Africa, 2022

Note\*\* This chart excludes do not know, unspecified and not applicable cases

Figure 3.5 below shows the percentage distribution of period in-migration by sex between 2011 and 2022. The results show that among the males, Gauteng and Western Cape received a high number of period migrants with 35,1% and 19,8%, respectively. However, among females, 13,1% went to Gauteng and 8,9% to Eastern Cape.

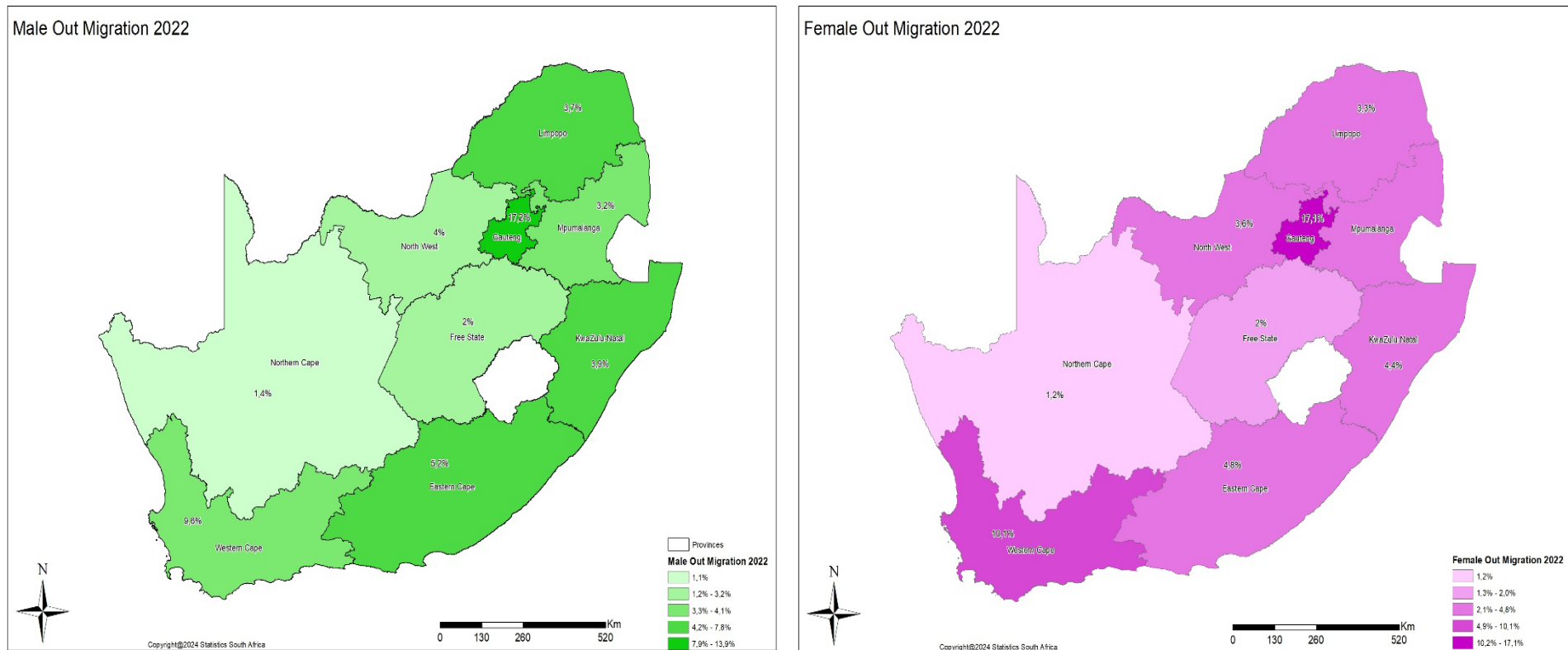
**Figure 3.5: Percentage distribution of period in-migration by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022  
 See full table on annexures I

Figure 3.6 below shows the percentage distribution of period out-migration by sex between 2011 and 2022. The results show that among the males, Gauteng and Western Cape experienced a high number of out-migrants with 17,2% and 9,6%. A similar pattern was observed among females were 17,1% out-migrated from Gauteng and 10,1% out-migrated from Eastern Cape.

**Figure 3.6: Percentage distribution of period out-migration by sex, census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa. Census 2022  
 See full table on annexures I

### 3.4 Interprovincial Streams and Corridors

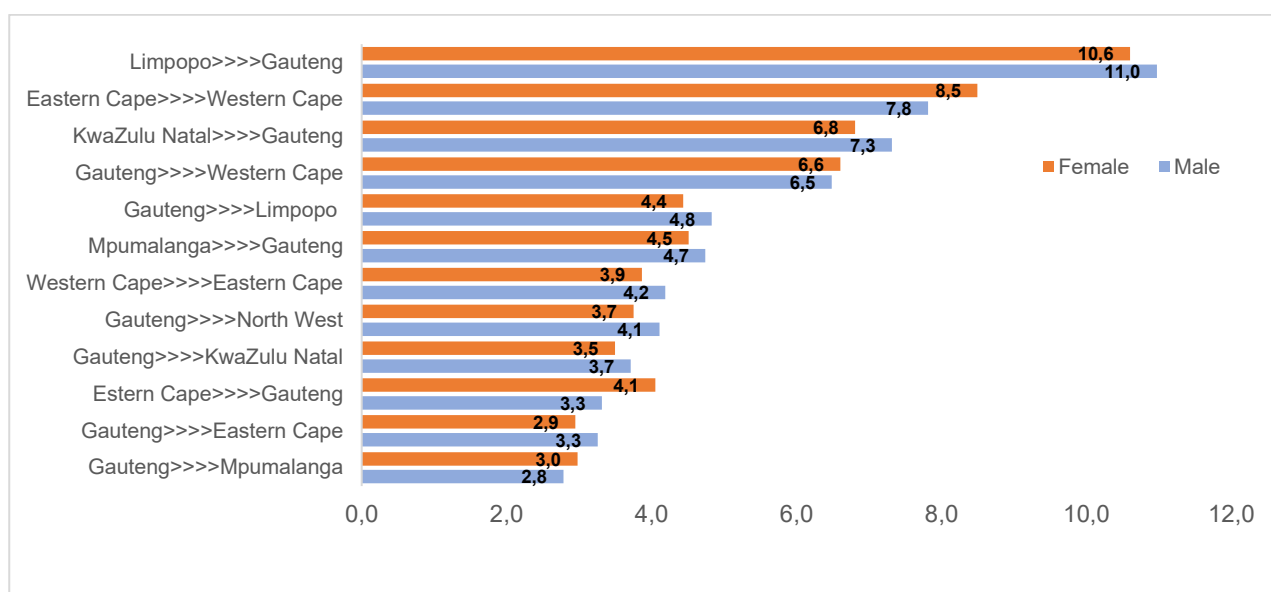
Migration streams refer to the patterns and flow of large numbers of people moving from one geographic area to another. Whereas, when a particular migration stream plus the stream in the opposite direction in combination cover a significant proportion of all migratory moves in the country, one can refer to it as an “internal migration corridor”. These streams and corridors can be driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, political instability, environmental conditions, social network, or cultural ties. Migration streams can be internal (within a country) or international (between countries) (Lee, 1966; Stats SA, 2015).

#### 3.4.1 Migration Streams

Figure 3.7 below shows the interprovincial streams by sex between 2011 and 2022. The results show that the most dominant stream was Limpopo to Gauteng and Eastern Cape to Western Cape. The results further show that migration streams were male-dominated. In terms of sex distribution, the dominant streams among females were Eastern Cape to Western Cape with 8,5% as compared to 7,8% among males. Gauteng to Western Cape with 6,6% as compared to 6,5% among males. Followed by the Eastern Cape to Gauteng stream with 4,1% among females as compared to 3,3% among males.

This distribution can be further seen at the municipal level for the two major streams namely Limpopo to Gauteng and Eastern Cape to Western Cape. Additionally, of all period migrants from Limpopo, 46,1% moved to the City of Tshwane in Gauteng. This was followed by those who moved to Ekurhuleni (25,5%) in Gauteng. With regards to the Eastern Cape to Western Cape migration stream; the results indicate that among all period migrants from the Eastern Cape, 63,9% moved to the City of Cape Town in the Western Cape wherein 10,1% of all Eastern Cape period migrants were from Buffalo City. **(See tables in the Excel workbook).**

**Figure 3.7: Interprovincial streams by sex, Census 2022**

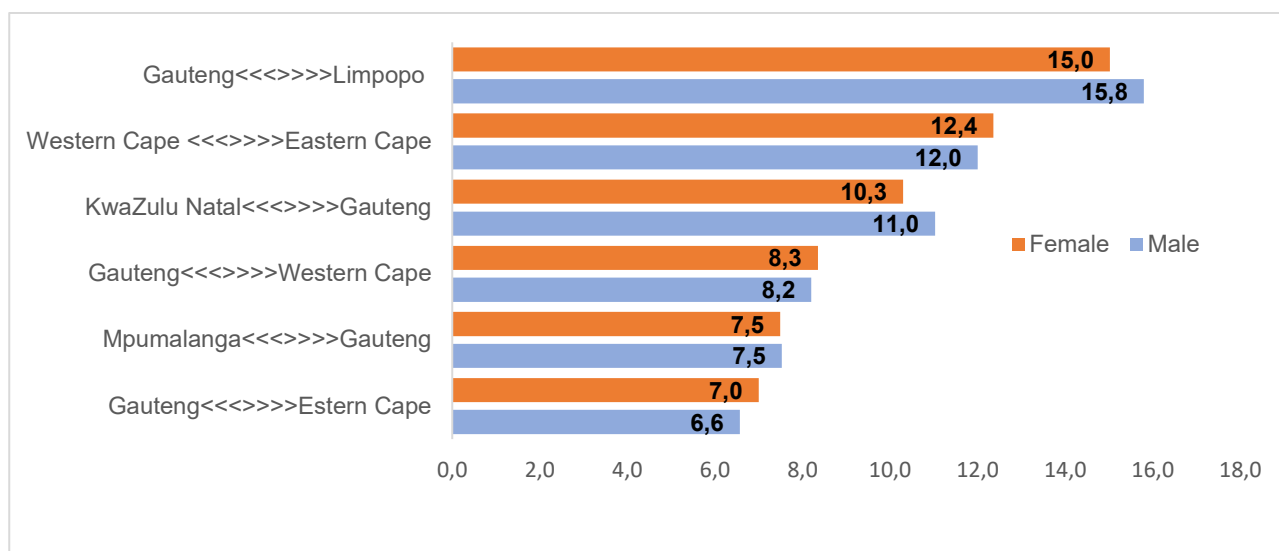


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

### 3.4.2 Migration Corridors

Figure 3.8 below shows the inter-provincial corridors by sex between 2011 and 2022. The results show that the prominent inter-provincial migration corridors in South Africa were Gauteng and Limpopo, with 15,8% among males and 15,0% among females. This was followed by an interprovincial corridor between Western Cape and Eastern Cape with slightly higher male migration (12,4%) compared to females (12,0%). The least interprovincial migration corridor was observed to be between Gauteng and Eastern Cape with females slightly higher than males at 7,0% and 6,6%, respectively.

**Figure 3.8: Interprovincial corridor by sex, Census 2022**

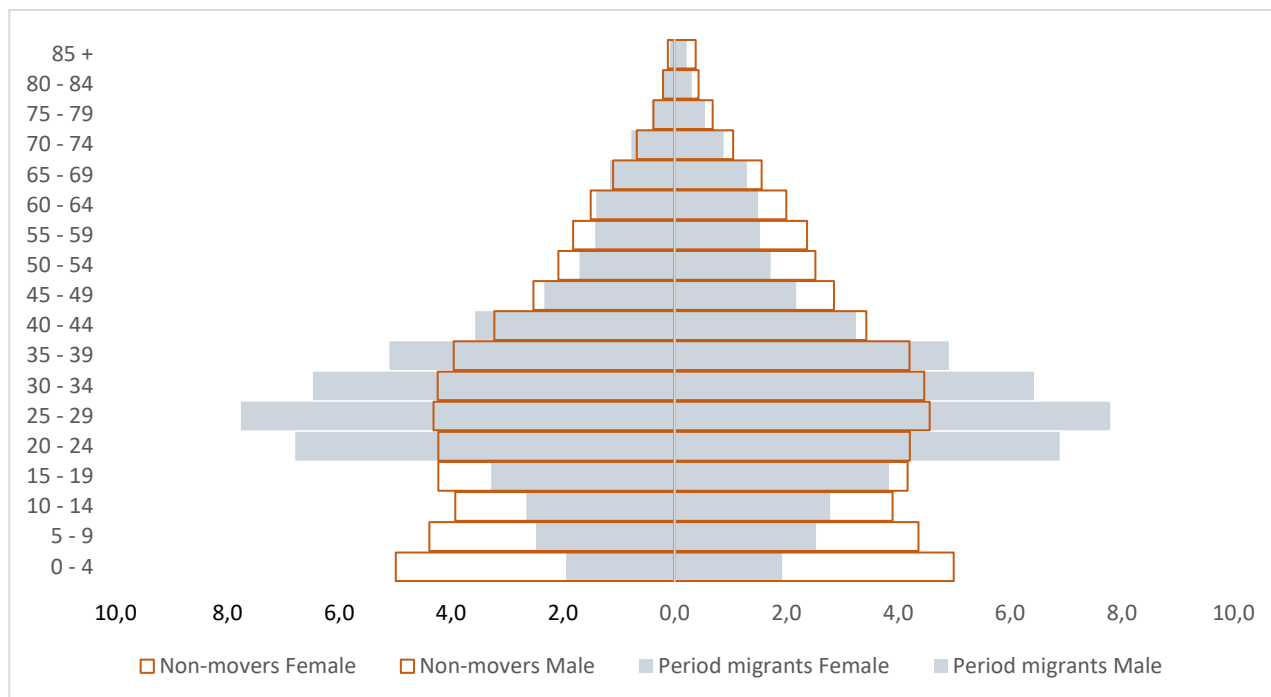


Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.9 below shows the age and sex distribution of the population by migratory status in 2022. The results indicate a comparison between period migrants and non-movers in 2022. Notably, young adults aged between 25 and 29 exhibited the highest migration rates at 7,8% for both males and females. Furthermore, migrants aged between 20 and 24 with the percentages of 6,8% and 6,9%. This was likely due to the pursuit of education, employment, and other opportunities.

Migration rates started to decline among those aged between 30 and 39 but remained relatively high at 5,1% for males and 4,9% for females. These age groups represent young adulthood, a period when migration tends to peak due to reasons like pursuing education, employment, or personal life transitions. The lower percentages of period migrants were seen in the older age groups.

**Figure 3.9: Age and sex structure of the population by migratory status, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Table 3.4 below shows the median age by migratory status and sex in 2022. The median age for both period migrant males and females was 29 years. Among non-movers, the median age was 27 years for males and 29 years for females.

**Table 3.4 – Median age by migratory status and sex, Census 2022**

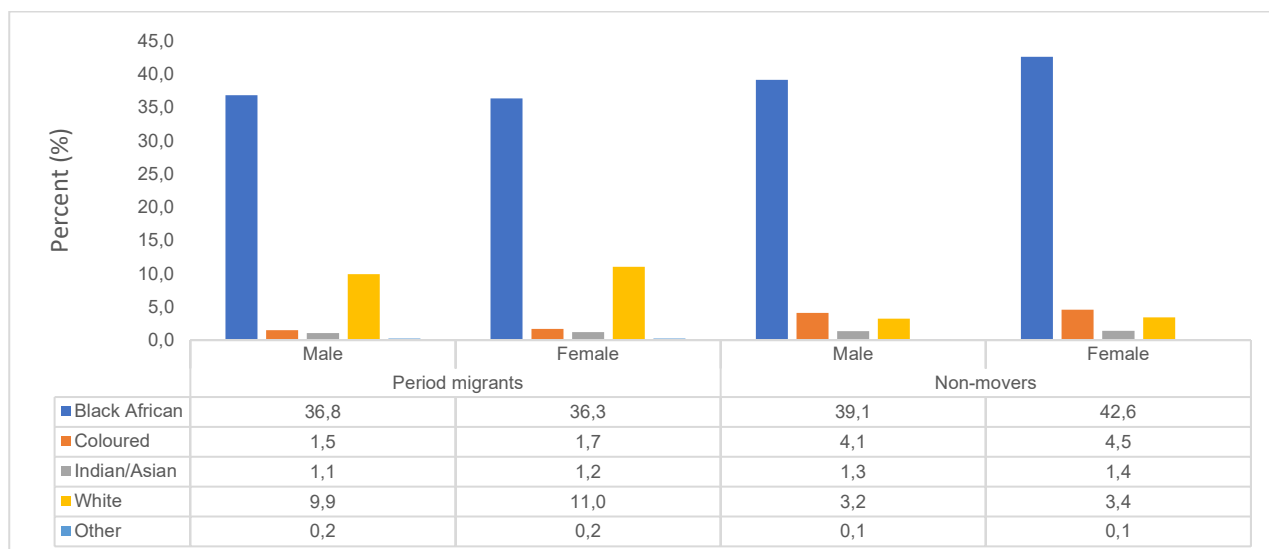
Population migratory status	Male	Female
<b>Period migrants</b>		
Median age	29	29
<b>Non-movers</b>		
Median age	27	29

Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.10 below shows the percentage distribution of the population-by-population group, migratory status and sex in 2022. The majority of period migrants were black African males and females with 36,8% and 36,3% respectively. This was an indication that the black African population had the highest proportion of individuals. The second highest percentage amongst migrants was the white population with 9,9% of males and 11% of females. This shows that white females have a slightly higher migration rate than males, but the proportion of migrants was notably higher than in the Indian/ Asian and coloured groups.

However, 39,1% of males and 42,6% of females among non-movers were black African. This was the highest percentage for both genders in the non-mover category, reflecting the dominance of this group in the population that did not migrate. On the other hand, 4,1% of males and 4,5% of females in the non-mover group were from the coloured population. This proportion was significantly higher than the corresponding percentage of coloured period migrants, suggesting a greater tendency for this group to remain as non-movers.

**Figure 3.10: Percentage distribution of the population by population group, migratory status and sex, Census 2022**



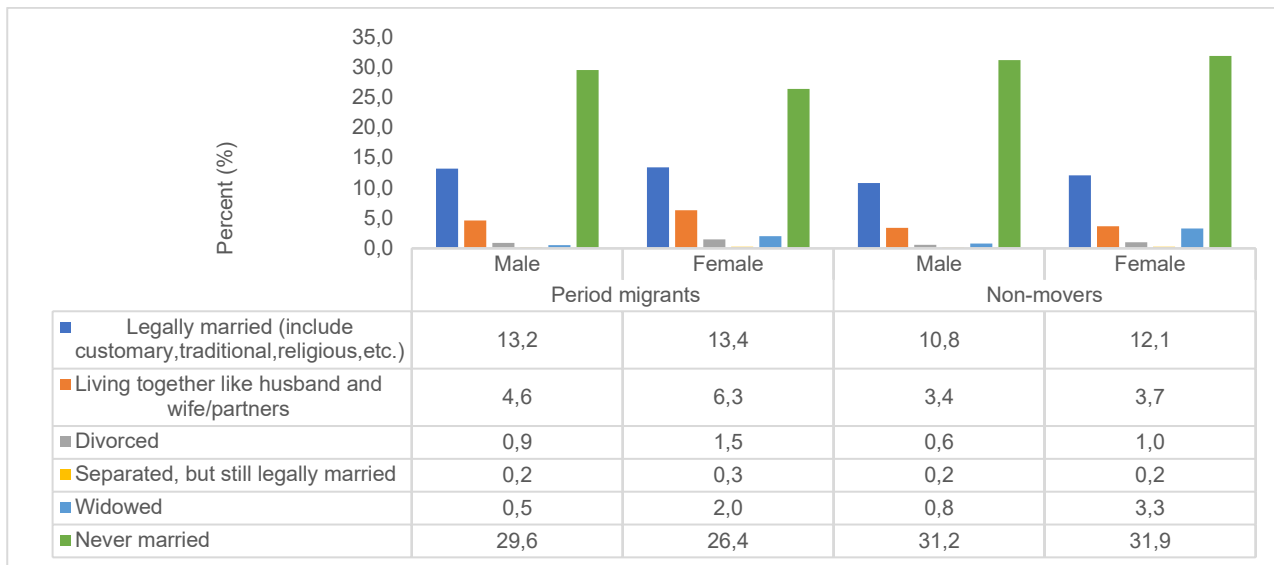
Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.11 below shows the percentage distribution of the population by marital status, migratory status, and sex in 2022. The majority of migrants who were never married constituted 29,6% of males and 26,4% of females. Males show a slightly higher proportion in this category, highlighting a greater prevalence of single, never-married males among period migrants. Amongst period migrants, those who were legally married (including customary, traditional, religious, etc.) 13,2% of males and 13,4% of females were legally married. The proportions were quite similar for both genders, indicating a balanced representation of legally married individuals. The lowest proportions observed within the period migrant population were those that were separated but still legally married at 0,2% for both males and females, showing a very small portion of the population being in this category.

Similarly, to the period migrant population, the non-mover population witnessed a high percentage of males with 31,2% and females with 31,9% who had never been married, which suggests a greater tendency for non-movers to remain single. The second highest proportion following non-movers that were never married was those who were legally married where 12,1% of females slightly higher than the males with 10,8% which is similar to period migrants but both figures were lower than in the migrant population indicating lower legal marriage rates amongst non-movers.



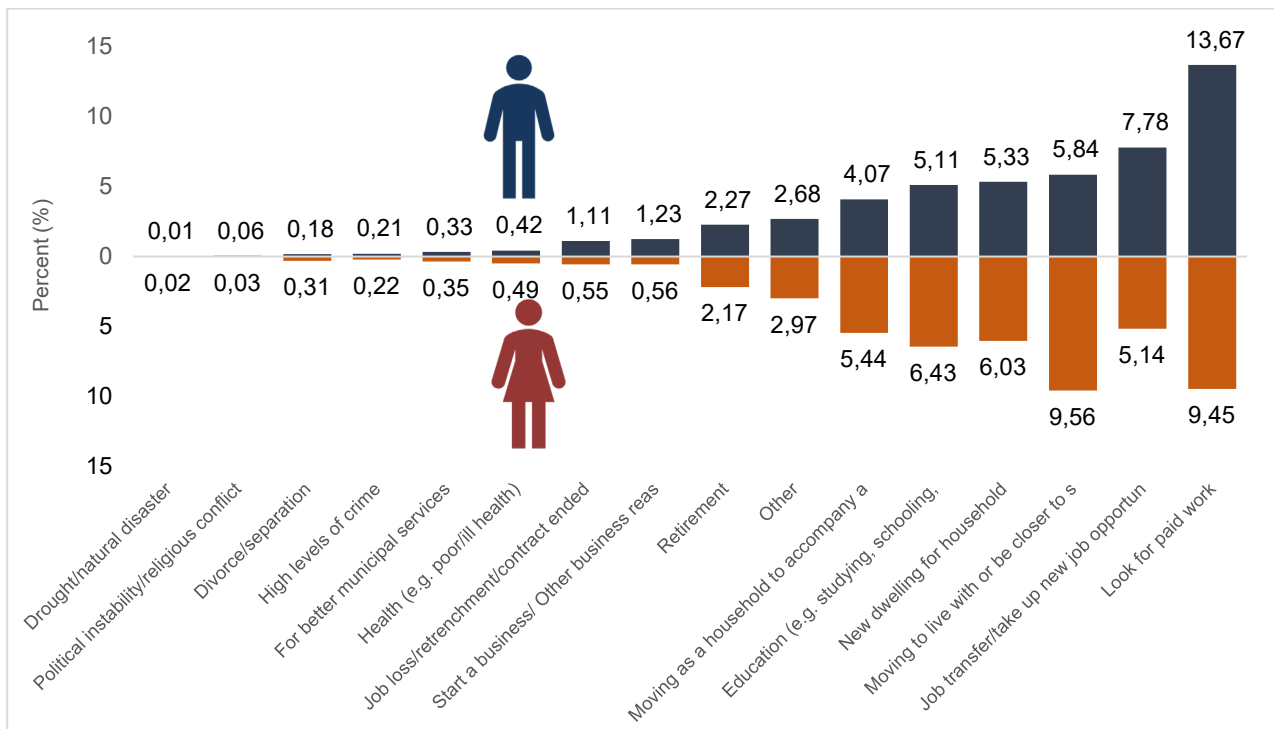
**Figure 3.11: Percentage distribution of population by marital status and migratory status, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Figure 3.12 below shows the main reasons for moving from the previous place of residence by sex in 2022. The majority of both male (13,7%) and female (9,4%) period migrants indicated looking for paid work as their main reason for movement. Among males, the second dominant reason for movement was job transfer or taking up a new job opportunity at 7,8%. Among females, the second dominant reason for movement was indicated as moving to live with or be closer to spouse (marriage) or family or friends at 9,6%.

**Figure 3.12: Main reason for moving from the previous place of residence by sex, Census 2022**



Source: Statistics South Africa, Census 2022

Note\*\*This table excludes cases unspecified cases and not applicable.

### 3.5 Summary and Conclusion

- The majority of lifetime migrant males (30,4%) and females (28,9%) who reported Gauteng as their province of usual residence were born outside the province. This was followed by the Western Cape, where 24,6% of females and 24,3% of males reported being born elsewhere, with females slightly outnumbering males.
- The majority of lifetime migrants were between the ages 20 and 39 years, with slightly more males than females in these cohorts.
- Results on inter-provincial migration show that Gauteng and Western Cape provinces had net migration of 2 940 686 and 1 363 562, respectively.
- The Eastern Cape and Limpopo provinces experienced a negative net migration of 1 681 810 and 1 364 248.
- The results show that among the males and females Gauteng and Western Cape experienced a high number of out-migrants.
- The results show that the most dominant streams were Limpopo to Gauteng and Eastern Cape to Western Cape. The migration streams were male-dominated.
- The prominent inter-provincial migration corridors in South Africa were Gauteng and Limpopo.
- The main reason for movement for both male (13,7%) and female (9,4%) period migrants was looking for paid work.

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## Annexures

### Annexure I: Distribution of period migration, Census 2022

Province of previous residence	Province of usual residence										
	Sex	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	Total
WC	Male	-	31 129	4 168	2 130	3 290	1 260	12 738	942	1 353	<b>57 010</b>
	female	-	28 397	4 074	2 058	3 820	1 193	12 845	1 119	927	<b>54 433</b>
EC	Male	58 065	-	1 703	3 893	16 262	6 393	24 630	2 966	1 624	<b>115 536</b>
	Female	62 428	-	1 272	4 490	24 373	5 358	29 776	2 901	1 288	<b>131 886</b>
NC	Male	5 762	1 432	-	1 343	555	2 680	2 934	402	419	<b>15 527</b>
	Female	5 285	1 407	-	1 638	453	2 549	3 571	639	296	<b>15 838</b>
FS	Male	5 915	3 914	2 400	-	2 585	4 433	16 814	1 687	1 109	<b>38 857</b>
	Female	6 991	4 088	2 099	-	2 825	5 136	17 597	2 330	1 114	<b>42 180</b>
KZN	Male	11 610	10 048	827	3 311	-	2 497	54 367	9 416	1 685	<b>93 761</b>
	Female	13 970	10 155	767	2 838	-	1 586	50 020	7 677	1 357	<b>88 370</b>
NW	Male	4 216	2 832	4 851	3 200	1 068	-	25 360	1 650	4 079	<b>47 256</b>
	Female	4 001	2 191	3 963	3 186	1 099	-	28 393	1 458	3 540	<b>47 831</b>
GP	Male	48 196	24 185	5 386	12 714	27 591	30 533	-	20 685	35 869	<b>205 159</b>
	Female	48 519	21 649	4 312	12 037	25 669	27 554	-	21 883	32 585	<b>194 208</b>
MP	Male	4 470	1 537	795	2 075	4 885	3 302	35 238	-	8 058	<b>60 360</b>
	Female	4 427	1 702	493	1 528	4 296	2 551	33 149	-	7 823	<b>55 969</b>
LP	Male	3 605	1 735	1 212	1 258	1 887	8 334	81 516	10 100	-	<b>109 647</b>
	Female	3 859	1 153	873	1 067	1 916	7 417	77 803	10 162	-	<b>104 250</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Both sexes</b>	<b>111 443</b>	<b>247 422</b>	<b>31 365</b>	<b>81 037</b>	<b>182 131</b>	<b>95 087</b>	<b>399 367</b>	<b>116 329</b>	<b>213 897</b>	<b>1 478 078</b>

