

A light gray outline map of South Africa is visible in the background. The Western Cape province is highlighted in a darker gray shade. The text is overlaid on this map.

Living in Western Cape

Selected findings of
the 1995 October
household survey

CSS

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Living in Western Cape

Selected findings of the 1995 October household survey

**Central Statistics
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The detailed statistical tables on which this publication is based are available as 'October household survey', CSS statistical release **P0317** (South Africa as a whole), and **P0317.1** to **P0317.9** (the nine provinces). These can be ordered from Central Statistics, Pretoria, in both printed and electronic format.

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Living in Eastern Cape. Selected findings of the 1995 October household survey, (1998)

Living in Northern Cape. Selected findings of the 1995 October household survey (forthcoming, 1998)

Living in North West. Selected findings of the 1995 October household survey (forthcoming, 1998)

Preliminary estimates of the size of the South African population, based on the population census conducted in October 1996, were issued by the CSS in July 1997. These indicated that there were fewer people (37,9 million) in the country, and that urbanisation (55%) had been more rapid, than was previously realised.

The new census numbers may have an effect on some of the weights and raising factors that were used in this report, since these are presently based on projections of population and household size to 1995, using the 1991 census estimates as baseline.

The new CSS management believes that the model used to adjust the actual count of people found in the 1991 census probably overestimated population growth rates in the country, hence overestimating the size of the population and number of households.

The number of people, the number of households and the percentages reported here will therefore probably need to be modified at a later date when the CSS has more complete information about household size and distribution of the population by race and age from Census '96. Nevertheless, these overall trends should be accepted as indicative of the broad patterns in households in South Africa in general, and Western Cape in particular, during 1995.

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Section 1

Introduction

The Western Cape province

The Western Cape province occupies 129 386 km², or 10,6%, of South Africa's land area. It has 12% of the country's arable land. Its farmlands are host to the bulk of South Africa's wine estates, while deciduous fruit, wheat, vegetables, sheep and cut-flower production make significant contributions to the province's total agricultural output. The west and south coasts support rich inshore and deep-sea fishing industries. Mineral resources include manganese, kaolin, gypsum, phosphate, limestone, dolomite and alluvial diamonds (Foundation for Research and Development, 1995:5). The province boasts some of the most spectacular scenery in South Africa and places considerable emphasis on developing its tourist industry.

Western Cape is strong in natural and human resources and industry. It has a robust manufacturing base, and a recent surge in demand for industrial properties has led to a shortage of established industrial sites. Financial and insurance services are also relatively important. Assets of the province include its manufacturing base, which has a significant high technology component; a large seaport complemented by minor harbours; two major airports; high tourism potential; productive farmlands; a variety of exploitable mineral resources; and a literate workforce.

Property development is an important source of growth in the province, and large investments have been made by foreigners and non-residents of Western Cape, especially in Cape Town and wineland areas (Bureau of Market Research, 1996:26). Cape Town is the provincial capital and the hub of the relatively lively metropolitan area. Secondary cities (with a population of between 50 000 and 500 000 and important regional and rural links) are George, Paarl, Worcester and Stellenbosch. The arid Karoo districts have low population densities and production potential compared to the rest of the province.

It is against this background that we focus on the life circumstances and living conditions of the people of the province, using the data of the 1995 October household survey.

Background

South Africa's first democratically-elected government has committed itself to improving the quality of life of the country's inhabitants. The extent of change required to bring about such improvement can best be measured through household surveys. The Central Statistical Service's (CSS) annual October household survey

(OHS) programme, for example, is able to provide detailed information about the living conditions and life circumstances of all South Africans in general, and those living in the Western Cape, in particular.

In addition, a programme of household surveys should make it possible not only to describe the situation in a country at a given point in time, but also to measure change in people's life circumstances as and when new government policies are implemented.

The first comprehensive CSS household survey was conducted in October 1993. It was repeated, with modifications to the questionnaire, in 1994 and 1995. The former 'TBVC states' (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) were initially excluded from the survey but, from 1994 onwards, the entire country was covered.

This report, a summary of the provincial findings of the 1995 OHS, paints a demographic, social and economic picture of life in Western Cape. Comparisons between Western Cape and South Africa as a whole will be made throughout the report, so that the province's development in relation to the rest of the country can be measured.

The research process

The following steps constituted the research process for the 1995 OHS:

- Questionnaire design.
- Drawing a sample.
- Fieldwork.
- Data capture.
- Weighting the sample back to the population.
- Data analysis.
- Report writing.

Each step is discussed in more detail below.

The questionnaire

The 1995 OHS questionnaire, in the same vein as previous ones, contains questions about the household as a whole, as well as on all individual members.

In the household section, questions are asked about type of dwelling (dwellings) in which the household lives; access to facilities such as electricity, tap water, toilets and regular refuse removal; access to health and social welfare services; and the safety and well-being of the household.

In the section completed for each individual in the household, questions are asked on age, gender, education, marital status, migration, use of health services, economic activity, unemployment, employment and self-employment.

Questions are also asked on births and deaths in the household, but these are not discussed in the present report.

Drawing a sample

In 1995, information was obtained from 30 000 households. Of these, 11% came from Western Cape.

- Altogether, 3 000 enumerator areas (EAs) were drawn for the sample, and ten households were visited in each EA. This was an improvement over the 1994 survey, when only 1 000 EAs were selected, and information was obtained from 30 households per EA.
- The 1995 sample was stratified by province, population group, and urban and non-urban area.¹
- In Western Cape, 324 enumerator areas were drawn for the sample, 3 326 households were selected, and information obtained on 12 733 people.
- The 1991 population census was used as a frame for drawing the sample. Although this census had certain shortcomings, affecting the drawing of all OHS samples between 1993 and 1995, the impact on Western Cape was minimal compared to other provinces.

Attempts were made to overcome sampling problems occurring as a result of the difficulties with the 1991 population census. For example, new informal settlements were incorporated into the boundaries of existing enumerator areas. However, when implementing the sampling plan, difficulties were experienced in the field, and enumerators on occasion became confused about the precise boundaries of particular EAs.

In addition, the fieldwork for the 1995 OHS took place at the same time as CSS staff were demarcating new EA boundaries for the 1996 population census. As a consequence, old 1991 census and new 1996 census EA boundaries were, on occasion, confused.

These problems were taken into account in the weighting procedures, as discussed in a later part of chapter.

¹ An urban area is defined as one where there is a fully established local government. A non-urban area, on the other hand, does not have an established local authority. The area could, for example, be run by a tribal or a regional authority.

The fieldwork

Information was collected through face-to-face interviews in the 3 326 households sampled throughout Western Cape. During these interviews, fieldworkers administered a questionnaire to a responsible person in each household.

Fieldwork for the 1995 OHS was combined with the fieldwork for an income and expenditure survey (IES), primarily aimed at recalculating weights for household purchases in calculation of the consumer price index. The same households were visited for both the OHS and the IES. Fieldworkers first administered the OHS questionnaire, and returned at a later date to administer the questionnaire for the IES.

Problems were, however, experienced in returning to the same household, particularly in informal settlements and rural areas, where addresses were not available, and where demarcation of the EA or listing of households had not been undertaken for the 1991 census. These problems were solved, as far as possible, during the data capture process by matching responses to common questions in the two surveys.

Data capture

Data capture of both the 1995 OHS and the IES took place at the head office of the CSS. This process involved linking the information contained in the 1995 OHS with that contained in the IES. The linking of the two data sets was regarded as an important exercise, because details concerning household income and expenditure patterns (IES) could be added to details about education, employment and overall life circumstances (OHS), thus giving a more comprehensive socio-economic description of life in South Africa.

However, difficulties were encountered in linking the two data sets. For example, information in the OHS on type of dwelling, household income and access to services did not always coincide with the IES data. Generally, these problems were solved by identifying the incompatibilities and adjusting the data within head office, but sometimes revisits to households had to be made. The linking of the two data sets caused considerable delays in data capture.

Weighting the sample

Data on individuals within households were weighted by age, race and gender, according to CSS population estimates of the population living in urban and non-urban areas in the nine provinces.

Data concerning households were weighted by the estimated number of households in the country in the various provinces, according to the proportions found in urban and non-urban areas, and by population group of head of the household. First, we weighted the data on individuals, and then the weight assigned to the head of household was used as the weight for the household.

Weights for the OHS and the IES are different, because relative scaling by age and gender was applied to the OHS but not the IES. In the OHS we were concerned with the education and occupation of the head of the household. In the IES, however, we worked with household incomes. Section 3 of this report, which details living conditions and incomes of households, should be read with this in mind.

The original aim was to weight the data by magisterial district, but this was not possible because of the EA boundary problems previously described. Boundary problems could only be overcome by weighting the sample to a higher level, namely the provinces.

All further discussions in this report are based on weighted figures. However, preliminary estimates based on the October 1996 population census have shown that the population of South Africa is smaller than was previously thought, and that urbanisation has been more rapid than anticipated. The numbers and percentages in this report should, therefore, be regarded as indicative of patterns and trends, rather than as definitive numbers or proportions.

Data analysis and report writing

The data were made available for report writing as a series of tables and cross-tabulations. This summary report is based on these tables.

Comparison with 1994 data

The CSS is still grappling with sampling issues based on attempts to use the incomplete sampling frame generated by the 1991 population census.

Since different methodologies were used for drawing the sample in 1994 and 1995, and since diverse problems were encountered as a result of these varying sampling techniques, the 1994 and 1995 OHS data sets are not directly comparable in all respects. They are essentially separate snapshots of different parts of the country during two consecutive years. However, there are similarities between these two surveys when looking at overall broad patterns. For example, access to water and toilet facilities remains problematic in non-urban areas in both surveys. Unemployment remains high, and the proportion of Africans in elementary occupations such as cleaning and garbage removal remains similar. Design effects, standard errors and confidence intervals have been calculated for selected variables in 1994 and 1995, and these are available on request from the CSS.

It should be possible to compare household survey data over time once there is a more accurate sampling frame from which to draw samples, and once the CSS has a standardised methodology for sampling.

We have avoided making comparisons between 1994 and 1995 in this report because, on the basis of two surveys, we cannot calculate whether variations in answers are due to genuine developmental changes, to sampling error, or to other sources of error such as misunderstanding of questions. As more household surveys are conducted over time, it should become increasingly possible to compare the data, particularly if the 1996 population census yields a better sampling frame.

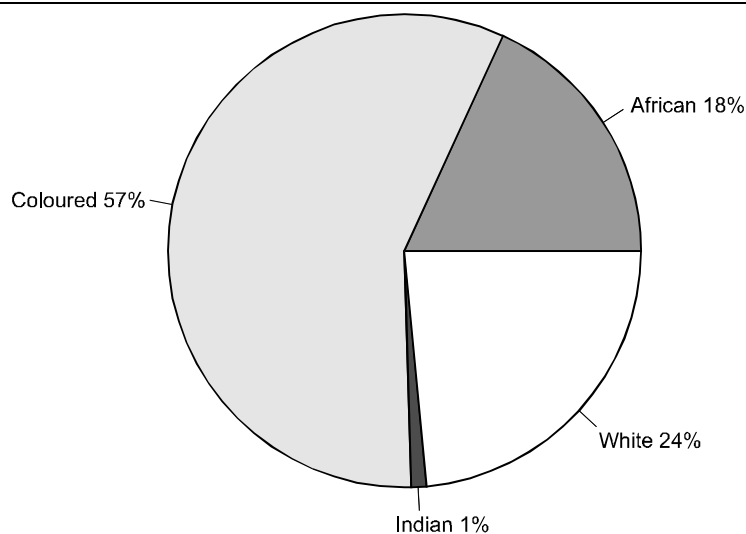
Section 2

The main findings regarding individuals

The population of Western Cape

The CSS estimated, on the basis of the 1991 census, that more than three-quarters (76%) of all South Africans are African, while fewer than one in seven (13%) are white. Approximately one in every ten (9%) South Africans are coloured and one in every 30 (3%) are Indian. When the new 1996 census results become available, these proportions may change slightly.

The composition of population groups in Western Cape, as indicated in Figure 1, differs markedly from that of South Africa as a whole. In this province, Africans represent only one in five (18%) of the population and only one in four (24%) people are white. The Indian population at only 1% is very small, while more than half (57%) of the population is coloured (note that percentage totals presented in figures presented in this report may not, as a result of rounding, always add up to exactly 100%).



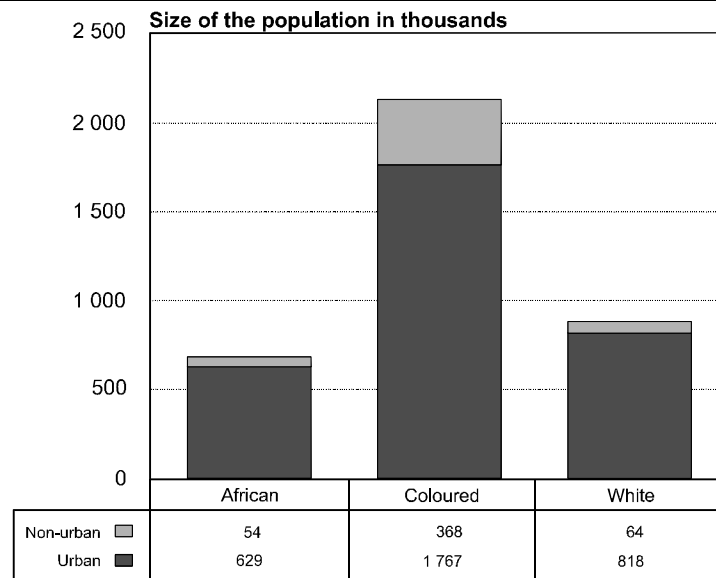
Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 1: Population of Western Cape by population group

Because of the small proportion of Indians in the province, and the small number in the sample, members of this population group are excluded from further comparisons in this report, but are included in discussions of the total weighted sample.

The national figures for the 1995 OHS, based on 1991 census estimates, indicate that half of the entire South African population (50%) lives in urban and half (50%) lives in non-urban areas. In Western Cape, however, only 15% of the population lives in non-urban areas, while 85% lives in urban areas.

Figure 2 indicates the extent of urbanisation in Western Cape. Among those living in the province's non-urban areas, members of the coloured population form the largest proportion (17%), compared to 8% of Africans and 7% of whites.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 2: Population of Western Cape in urban and non-urban areas by population group

While the Western Cape area was not fragmented by artificial borders in the apartheid era, the segregation of towns and the proclamation of so-called 'coloured reserves' had a similar effect in dividing the society and leading to developmental dualism. In addition, influx control was strictly enforced well into the 1980s in this 'coloured labour preference' area (Development Bank of Southern Africa, 1994:47). Consequently, the demographic picture in Western Cape is a reflection of the apartheid policies of the past, and is presently under substantial change as a result, *inter alia*, of the abolition of influx control.

The high rate of urbanisation among Africans is explained by the fact that the Cape metropolitan area offered some of the best opportunities for employment in a time of deteriorating economic circumstances. Consequently, many literate Africans in the TBVC states generally, and in the former Transkei in particular, migrated to Western Cape to make use of the available job opportunities. This goes some way in explaining the high literacy rate among adult Africans in Western Cape (74%).

The region, and particularly the Cape Town area, continues to attract migrants from rural areas, and stark poverty is clearly apparent on the outskirts of the metropolitan areas.

Age distribution of Western Cape population

The age distribution pattern in Western Cape is different in some respects from the national picture, but similar in others.

The national picture resembles a typical age pyramid of developing countries, but it differs in Western Cape, probably because of the migration described above. In contrast to South Africa, where 15% of all African males and 14% of all African females are aged 0 to 4 years, Figure 3 shows that only 9% of African males and 12% of females in Western Cape are under 5 years. The largest proportion of males (49%) and females (48%) are between the ages 20 to 44 with the proportion declining with increasing age.

Figure 3 suggests that young adults come into Western Cape from rural areas in search of work, but that they send their children back to the rural areas for nurturing and education.

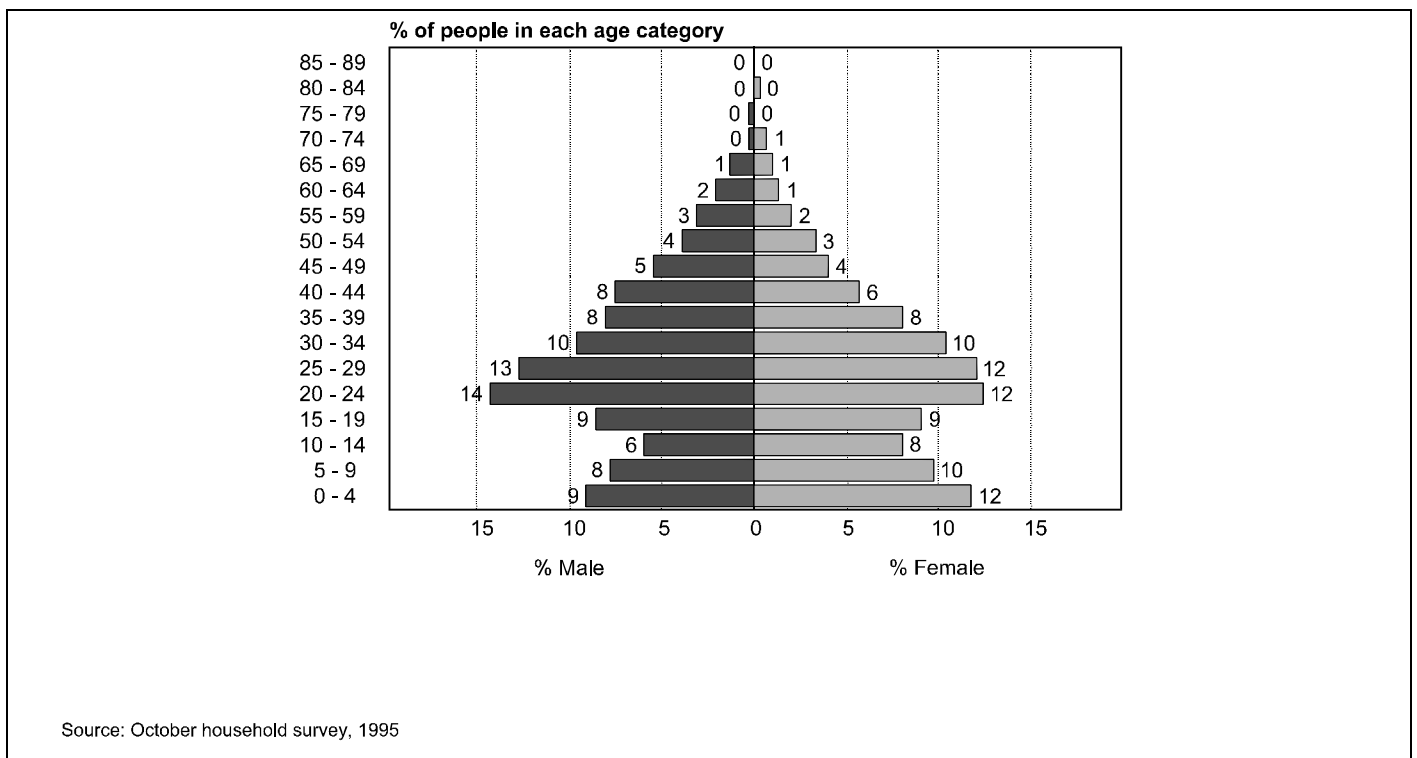


Figure 3: Among Africans, age of the population of Western Cape by gender

The sex ratio for all age groups between 20 to 64 among Africans is consistently higher than would normally be expected. The fact that more males than females are found in all the age groups between 20 and 64 indicates that another factor, such as migration in search of work, may be playing a role in this distribution. The decline in the proportion of males after the ages of 64 may indicate a higher mortality pattern than for females, as expected, or it could indicate that African males tend to return to their places of origin after turning 64.

The age structure for coloureds in Western Cape is very similar to that of coloureds in the whole of South Africa. This is to be expected, given that a large proportion of the coloured population resides in Western Cape. Figure 4 indicates that a transitional profile of age distribution is emerging, somewhere between developing and developed countries. Approximately the same proportion (1 in 9) are aged 0 to 4 years, compared to those aged 5 to 9, 10 to 14, 15 to 19, 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 years. After the age of 35, this proportion starts to decrease, and after the age of 40 it decreases sharply with increasing age. For example, 7% of all coloured males are aged between 35 to 39 years, dropping steeply to 4% for the age category 45 to 49 years and then to 2% for the age category 60 to 64 years.

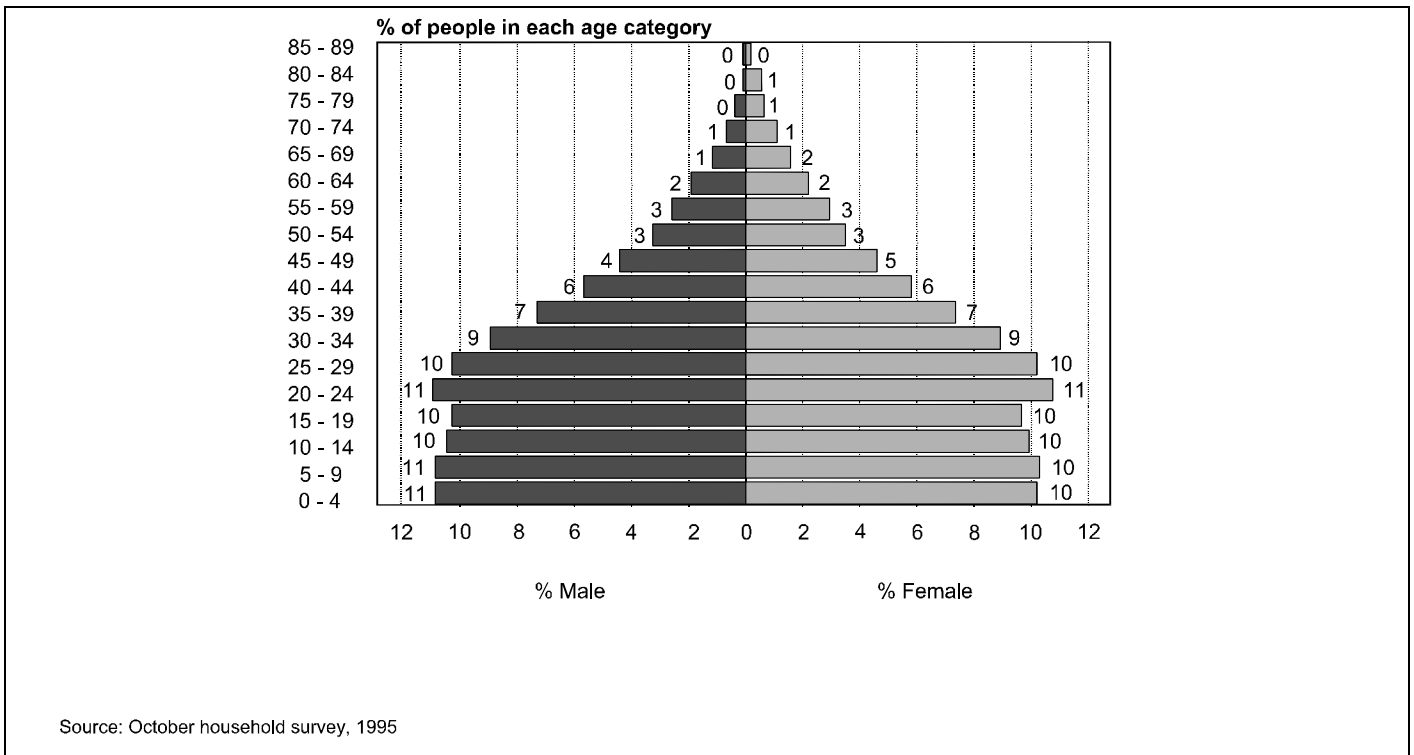


Figure 4: Among coloureds, age of the population of Western Cape by gender

Among whites, the picture of age distribution by gender, as illustrated in Figure 5, is typical of developed countries in the post-transitional phase. There are proportionately fewer infants, pre-school children and children of school going age, compared to the other races, while the proportion of older people is greater. Approximately 16% of white males and 19% white females in Western Cape are aged 60 years or more.

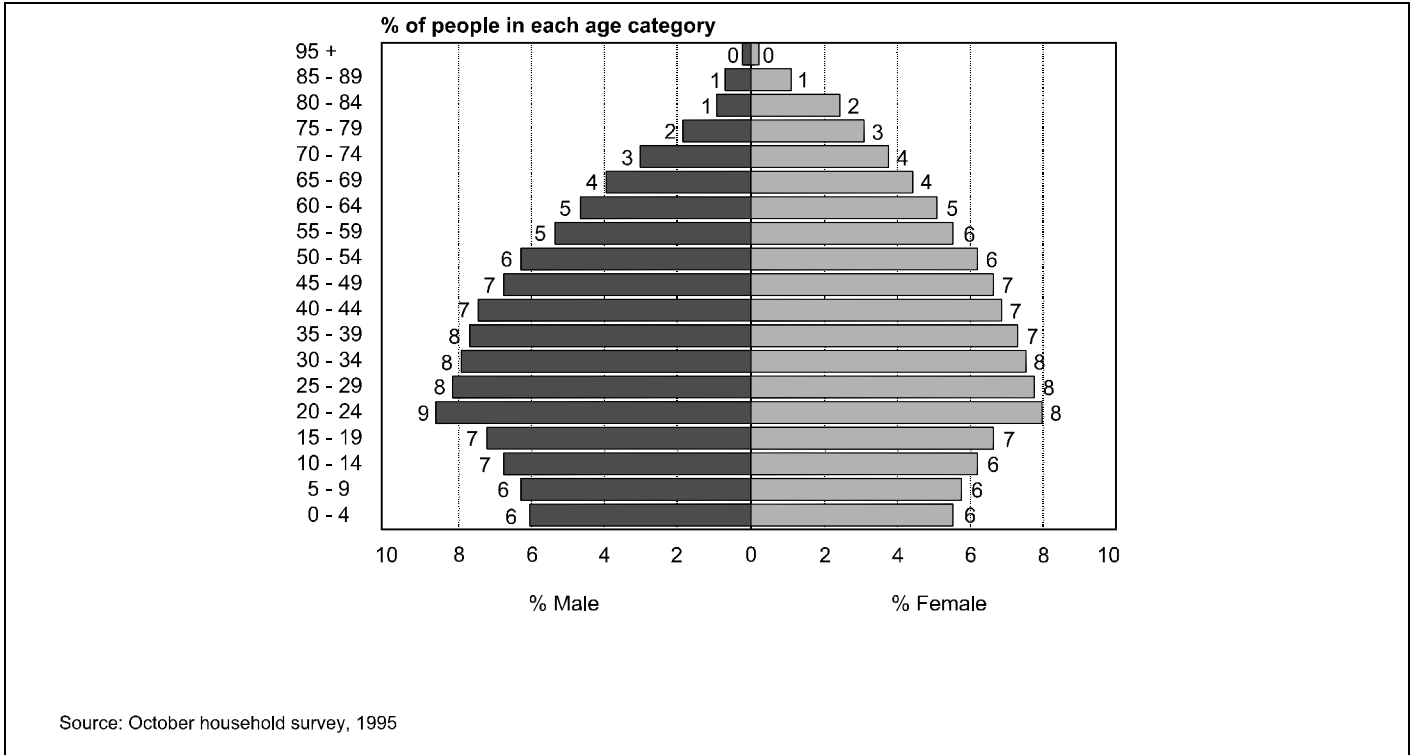


Figure 5: Among whites, age of the population of Western Cape by gender

Overall, Western Cape has the highest human development index compared to South Africa's other provinces. This is an index of life expectancy, level of education and income, and is used to determine quality of life (see Foundation for Research and Development, 1995:6).

Figure 6 examines the population distribution within four broad age categories. The proportionately younger coloured and African population and the proportionately older white population is particularly clear in this figure.

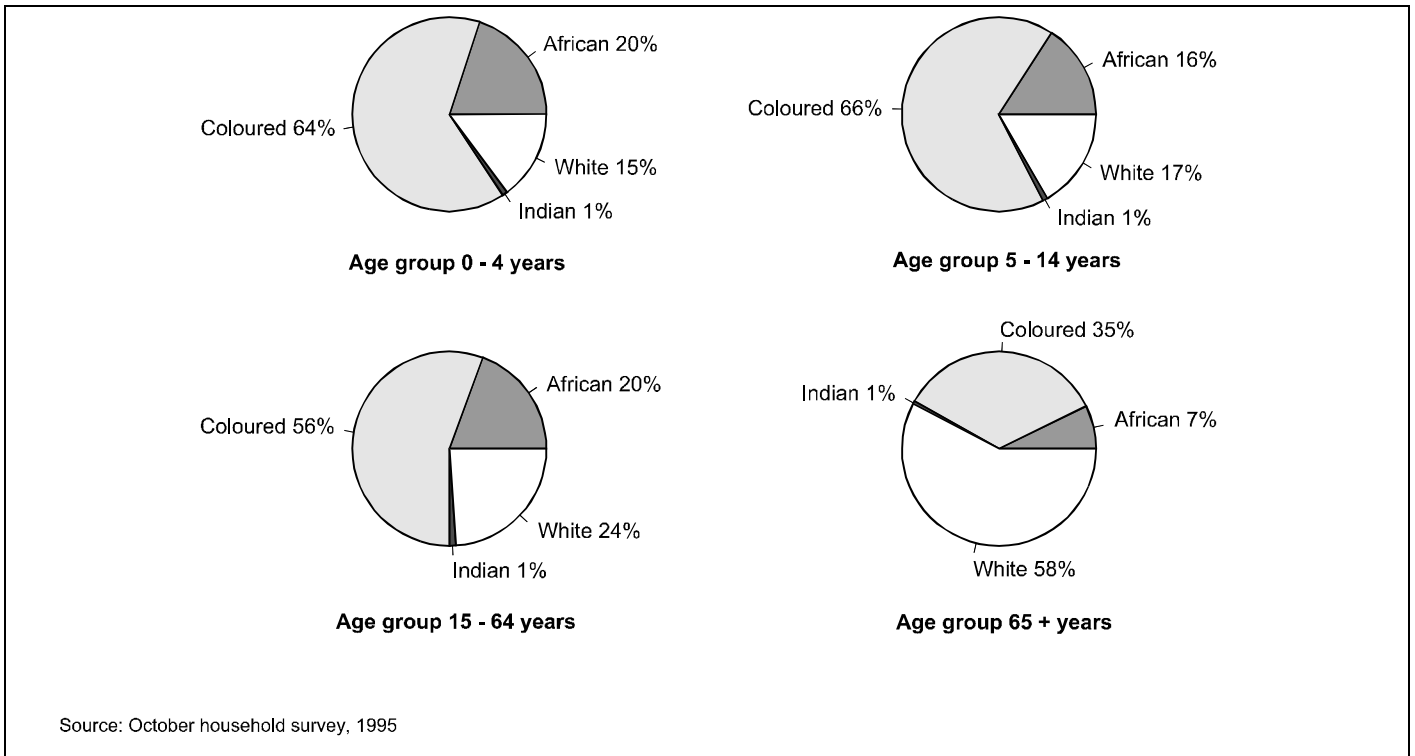


Figure 6: Population of Western Cape by age and population group

Figure 6 indicates that almost two-thirds (64%) of all people aged 0-4 years in Western Cape are coloured, increasing slightly to 66% among those aged 5-14 years, decreasing to 56% among those aged 15-64 and then decreasing even more to 35% in the 65+ age group. While only 15% of people in the age category 0-4 years are white, members of this population group constitute the greatest proportion (58%) of people aged 65 years or more.

Education in Western Cape

In the past, access to education was not equally available to all South Africans. As a consequence, educational attainment varies, not only by population group, but also by gender.

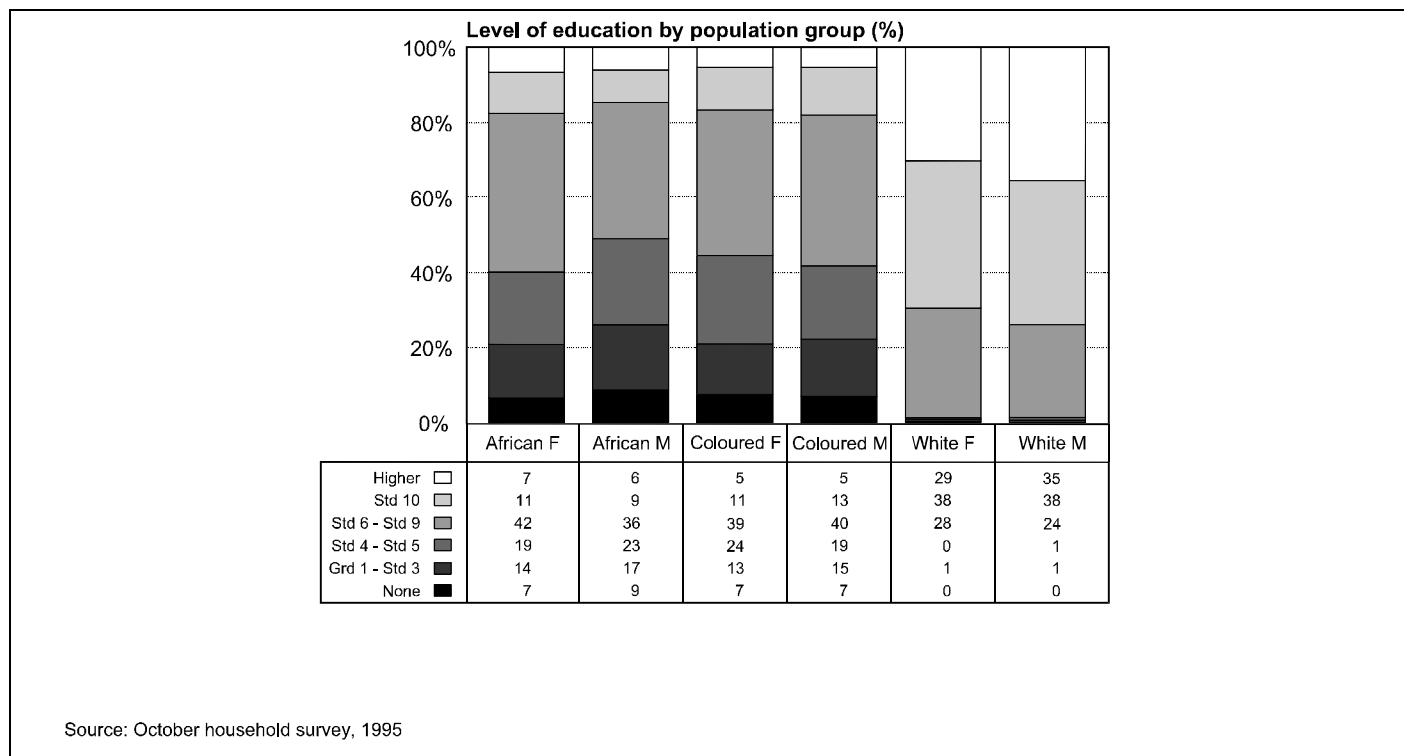


Figure 7: Level of education by population group and gender in Western Cape among those aged 20 years + (N=2 385 000)

Figure 7 indicates that, among those in Western Cape aged 20 years or more, one in 11 African males (9%) and one in every 14 African females (7%) have received no education at all. Almost half of African males (45%) and more than half of African females (53%) have attained at least some secondary school education (excluding those with a tertiary education).

Almost one in 14 (7%) of African females, and 6% of African males, have attained a post-school qualification, while only a small proportion of coloured females and males (5% each) have attained an educational level higher than matric. However, at least half of coloured females and males (50% and 53% respectively) have received at least some secondary education (excluding those with a tertiary education).

These relatively high educational levels in Western Cape, particularly for Africans, are in sharp contrast to the rest of South Africa, where one in every five (20%) African women and one in every seven (14%) African males have received no education at all (Hirschowitz and Orkin, 1996:12).

White males have the highest educational attainments in Western Cape. Almost three-quarters of white males (73%) and two-thirds of white females (67%) have an educational level of Standard 10 or higher. Almost one in three white males and females (35% and 29%, respectively) have attained a post-school qualification.

Employment and unemployment in Western Cape

The economically active population

The term 'economically active' refers to all those who are available for work and includes both employed and unemployed people. Those who are not available for work – those under the age of 15 years, students, scholars, housewives or homemakers, retired people, pensioners, disabled people and others who are permanently unable to work, for example – are excluded from this definition of the economically active population. Worldwide, they are generally regarded as being outside of the labour market.

In October 1995, 73% of the population in Western Cape was estimated to be in the age category 15 years or older. Of these, approximately 36% reported that they were not economically active, with about 64% saying that they were. The proportion of economically active people reported in Western Cape (64%) is relatively high, compared to the economically active population (55%) of those aged 15 years or more in the entire country.

Of those economically active people in Western Cape, 81% indicated that they were gainfully employed, either in the formal or informal sector, while 19% said that they were unemployed.

The unemployed

At least two definitions of unemployment are used in South Africa – the *strict* and the *expanded* definition. Both include people who are aged 15 years and older, who are not employed but are available for work. But a requirement for the strict definition is that a given individual has taken specific steps to seek employment in the four weeks prior to a given point in time – in this case, the interview for the OHS. The second or expanded definition focuses on the *desire* to work, irrespective of whether or not the person has taken active steps to find work.

According to the 1995 October household survey, 13% of the population in Western Cape was found to be unemployed using the strict definition, while 19% of the economically active population was found to be unemployed when using the expanded definition.

Unemployment is lower in Western Cape than it is in the rest of the country. In South Africa as a whole, 17% of the population are found to be unemployed when using the strict definition, and 29% are unemployed using the expanded one. This may indicate that there are more work opportunities in Western Cape than elsewhere in the country. It may also indicate that transport to a place of job seeking is more accessible and cheaper in Western Cape than it is in other provinces, especially those with a greater proportion of population living in non-urban areas.

According to Figure 8, half the people (50%) in Western Cape who are unemployed have not had any previous jobs. In addition, a high proportion of those unemployed were previously in elementary occupations such as domestic work and gardening (23%), while a very small proportion of people who are presently unemployed used to be in the managerial, professional and artisan and craft occupations (1% each).

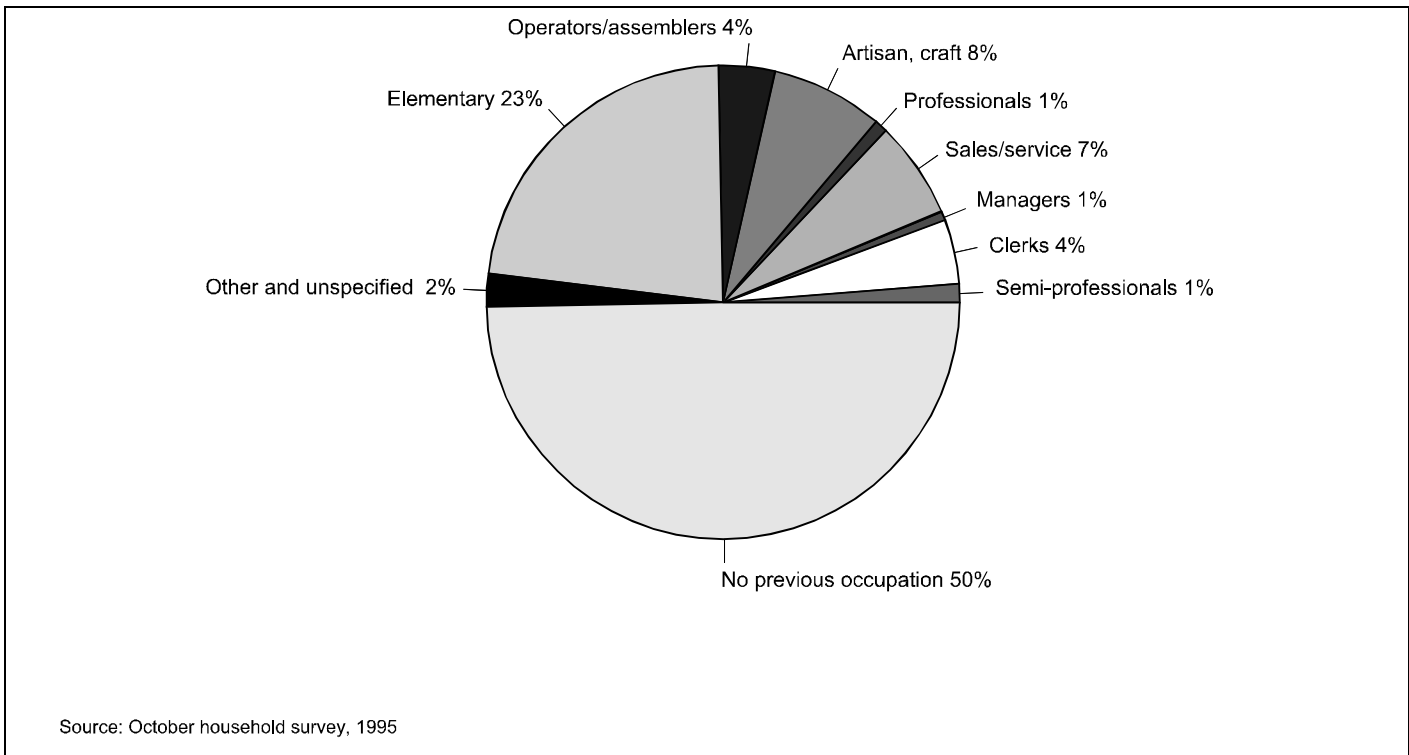


Figure 8: Unemployment in Western Cape by previous occupation, population group and gender

Differences by both population group and gender are found in Western Cape unemployment patterns. Figure 9 indicates that 45% of African women in Western Cape were unemployed according to the expanded definition, compared to 32% when using the strict definition, while the equivalent figures for African men were 23% and 17%, respectively. In a similar fashion, 14% of white women were counted as unemployed when using the expanded definition compared to 8% when using the strict definition (respective figures for white men were 3% and 2%).

According to a report on poverty in South Africa (RDP, 1995:4), poverty has a strong gender dimension, with female-headed households having a 50% higher poverty rate than male-headed households.

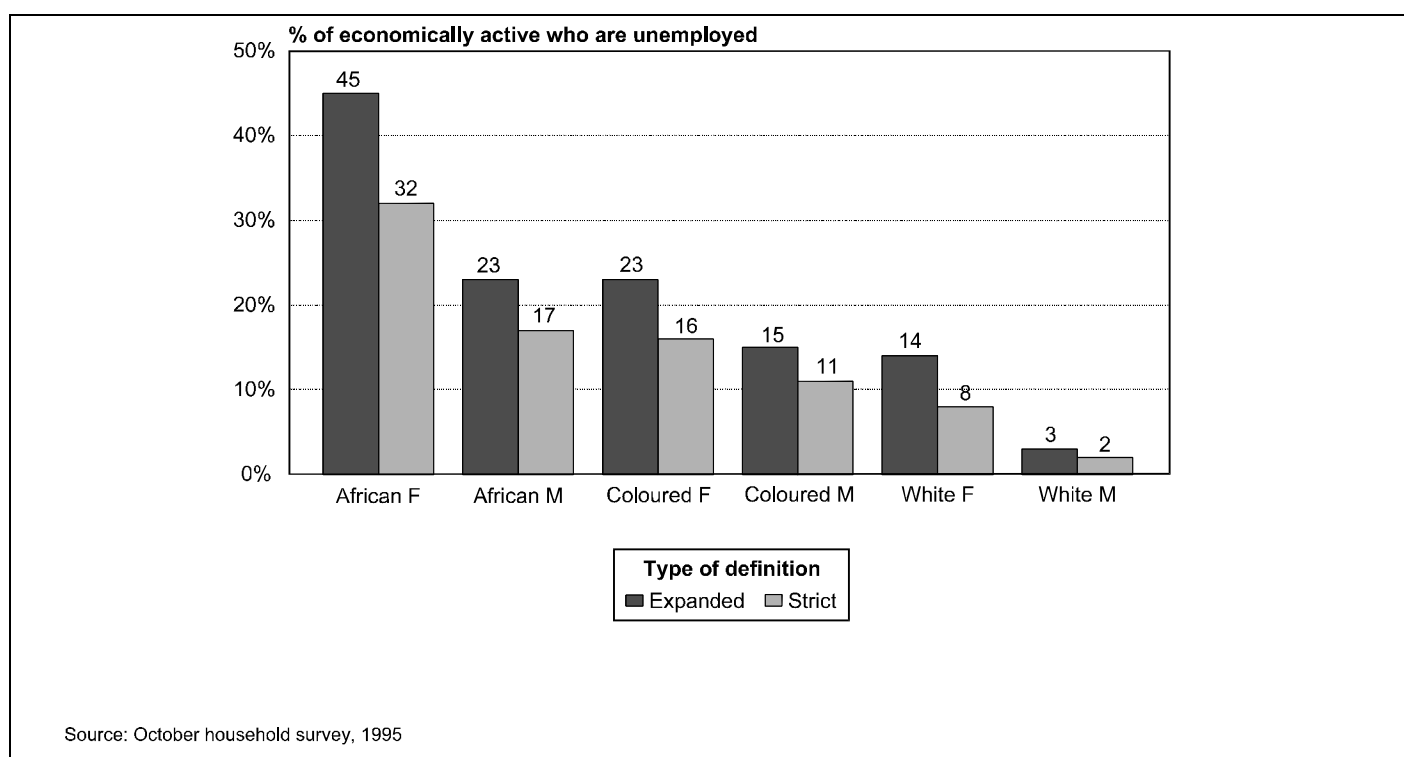


Figure 9: Unemployment rates in Western Cape by population group and gender: strict definition compared with expanded definition

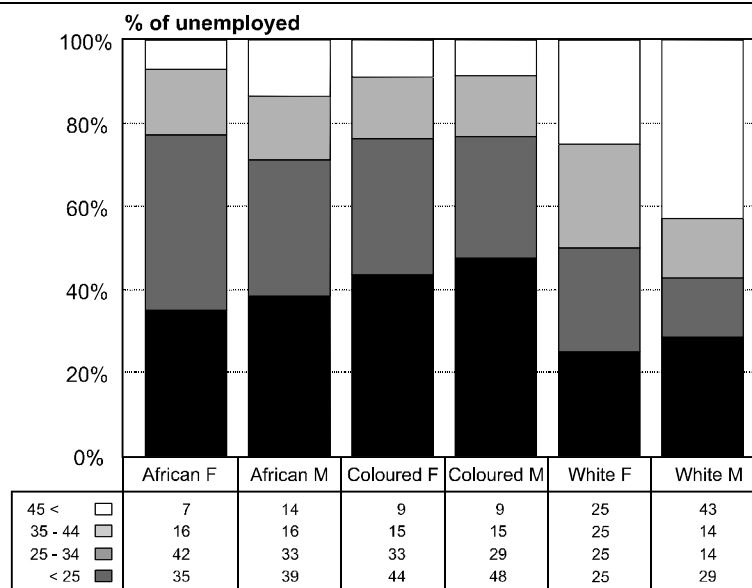
It has been widely recognised that the strict definition of unemployment is too limited in the present South African context, where employment opportunities are extremely limited, and many unemployed people have ceased to seek work actively. Transport and other costs involved in job seeking, often with negative results, have discouraged people from seeking work.

In other words, there are people who would readily accept work, but who have given up seeking it, because it is often too costly to do so. The World Bank calls these people ‘the discouraged’ unemployed. This applies mainly to women, particularly those in rural areas, where employment or income-generating activities are scarce, and transport is expensive. The influence of these factors in Western Cape is reduced, however, because of the high level of urbanisation.

The CSS has decided to use the expanded definition in quantifying unemployment, ie the proportion of people in the economically active population who are not in paid employment or self-employment at any given point in time, but who are available for work or for other income-generating activities, and who want to be employed or self-employed. The following discussion is consequently based on the expanded definition of unemployment.

Compared to the other provinces, the proportions of both unemployed males (14%) and females (25%) are low in Western Cape. The highest unemployment rates are in Eastern Cape (36% of economically active males) and Northern Province (52% of economically active females).

Figure 10 examines the distribution of the unemployed by population groups and gender within four broad age categories in Western Cape. This graph indicates that, overall, a relatively large proportion of the unemployed is found in the age category of 24 years or less. This applies particularly to African males (39%), coloured females (44%) and coloured males (48%). However, a large proportion of unemployed African females (42%) is aged between 25 and 34 years. With regard to whites, unemployment among women is found across the whole spectrum of age groups, while amongst males the largest proportion of unemployment (43%) occurs amongst those aged 45 years or more.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 10: Distribution of the unemployed in Western Cape by age, population group and gender

Although unemployment in the various provinces of South Africa tends to be higher in the non-urban areas, this picture is reversed in Western Cape. In the national report for the 1995 OHS (Hirschowitz and Orkin, 1996:17), the overall unemployment rate in non-urban areas of Western Cape is reported as being 10%, the lowest in the whole of South Africa. But there are proportionately few people living in non-urban areas in Western Cape, and the sample size was small. These results should, therefore, be treated with caution.

Unemployment in the urban areas of Western Cape is 22%, considerably lower than that of provinces such as Northern Cape (35%), Eastern Cape (34%), Free State (32%) and Mpumalanga (30%).

The employed

The type of work done by employed people in Western Cape varies by race and gender. Figure 11 shows that, amongst employed Africans, 49% of males and 57% of females work in elementary occupations such as cleaning, garbage collection and agricultural labour. A larger proportion of African males and females in Western Cape are found in the elementary occupations compared to South Africa as a whole, where the equivalent figures are 34% of African males and 50% of African females.

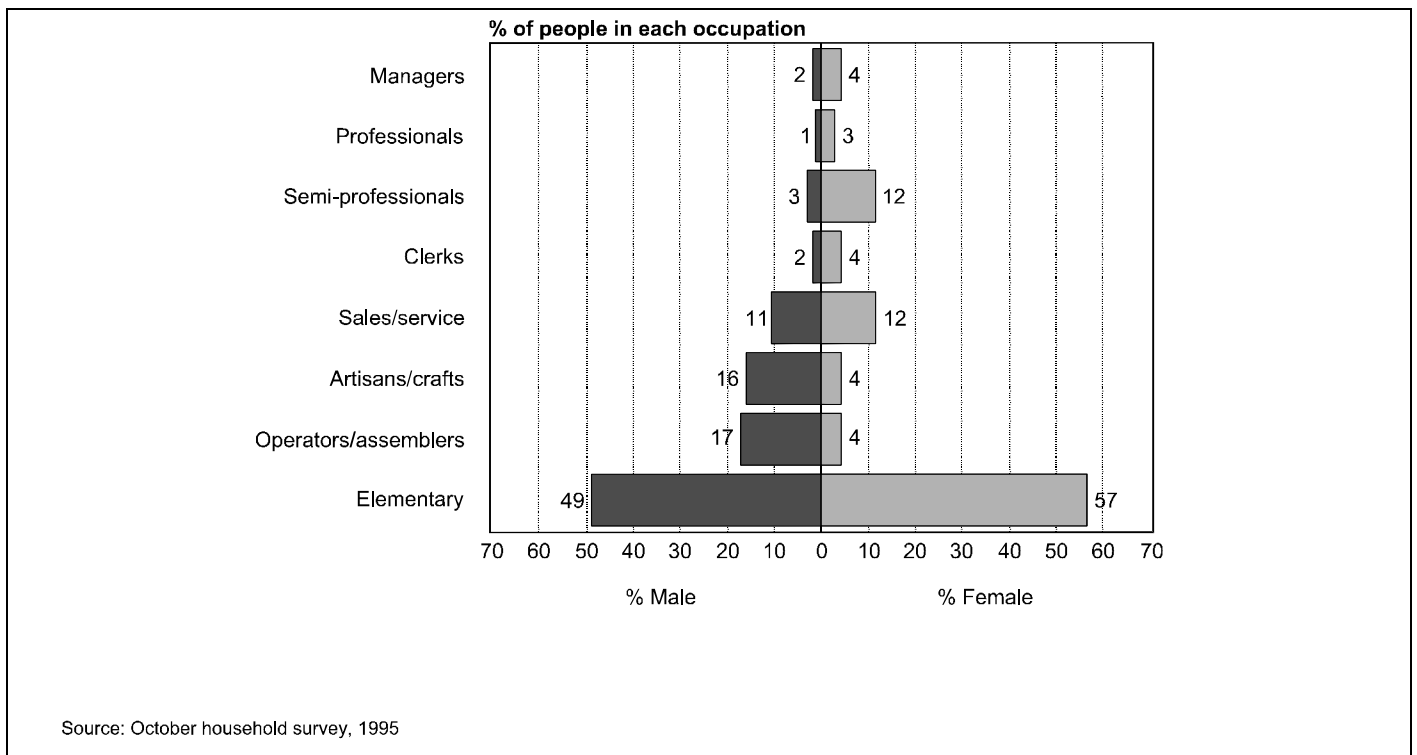


Figure 11: Occupation of employed Africans in Western Cape by gender

A further 17% of African males are in operator, assembler and related occupations, for example working as assembly-line operators. This is relatively similar to the situation in South Africa as a whole, where 20% of African males are classified as operators or assemblers. Almost one in eight (12%) African females in Western Cape are in

semi-professional occupations, such as nursing assistance, and one in eight (12%) African females are in the sales or service professions. Fewer than 2% of males and surprisingly, 4% of African females, are in managerial posts. Fewer African females are working in the semi-professional category in Western Cape than in South Africa as a whole, where almost one in five (19%) are found in semi-professional occupations.

Figure 12 shows that, in common with Africans, a large proportion of employed coloured males (39%) and females (48%) work in the elementary occupations in Western Cape. There is a movement among males to more skilled artisan and craft jobs (22%), similar to the overall South African situation where 23% of all coloured males are found in the artisan or craft jobs. A relatively large proportion of coloured females is found in the sales or service professions (15%), followed closely by clerical occupations (12%). An extremely small proportion of coloured workers (2% of males and 1% of females) is in managerial posts. Overall, these proportions resemble the South African picture, where 16% of coloured females is found in sales or service professions, 16% in clerical occupations and 3% of males and 1% of females in managerial posts.

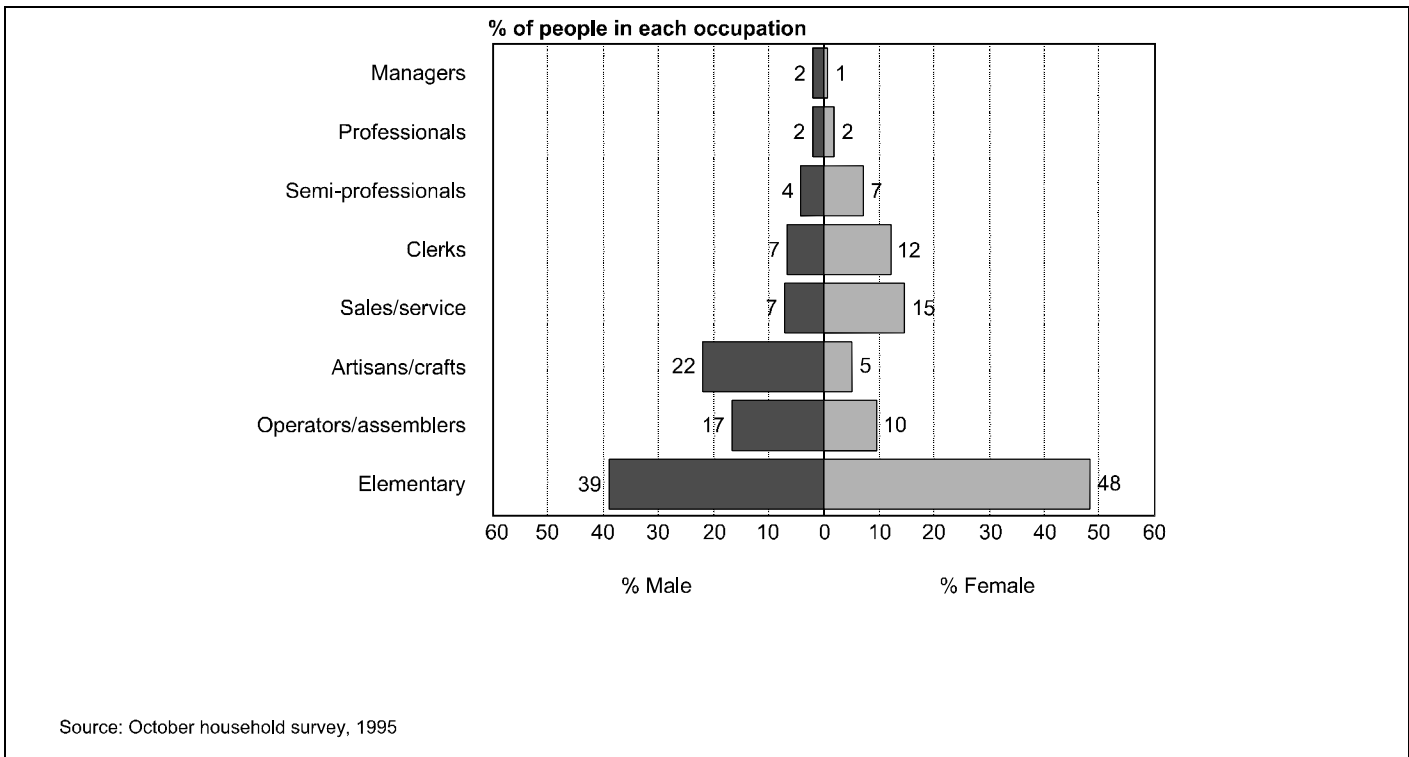


Figure 12: Occupation of employed coloureds in Western Cape by gender

Whites in Western Cape, particularly white males, tend to be in occupations requiring higher levels of skill. Figure 13 indicates that the occupations of white males tend to cluster in three categories. In blue collar jobs, they are more likely to be found in the top echelon of occupations requiring longer-term training, namely those of artisans and craftsmen (25%), rather than in the elementary occupations (2%). In the white collar environment they are most likely to be found in the top echelon, namely managerial positions (22%). Furthermore, quite a large proportion of white males is found in semi-professional and technical positions (16%), such as engineering technicians requiring a post-school technical qualification. White females are predominantly found in clerical occupations (43%), followed by semi-professional occupations (18%). A large proportion of white females is found in managerial occupations (10%). The same proportion of males (10%) and females (10%) is found in professions such as teaching, law and medicine, where high levels of skill are required.

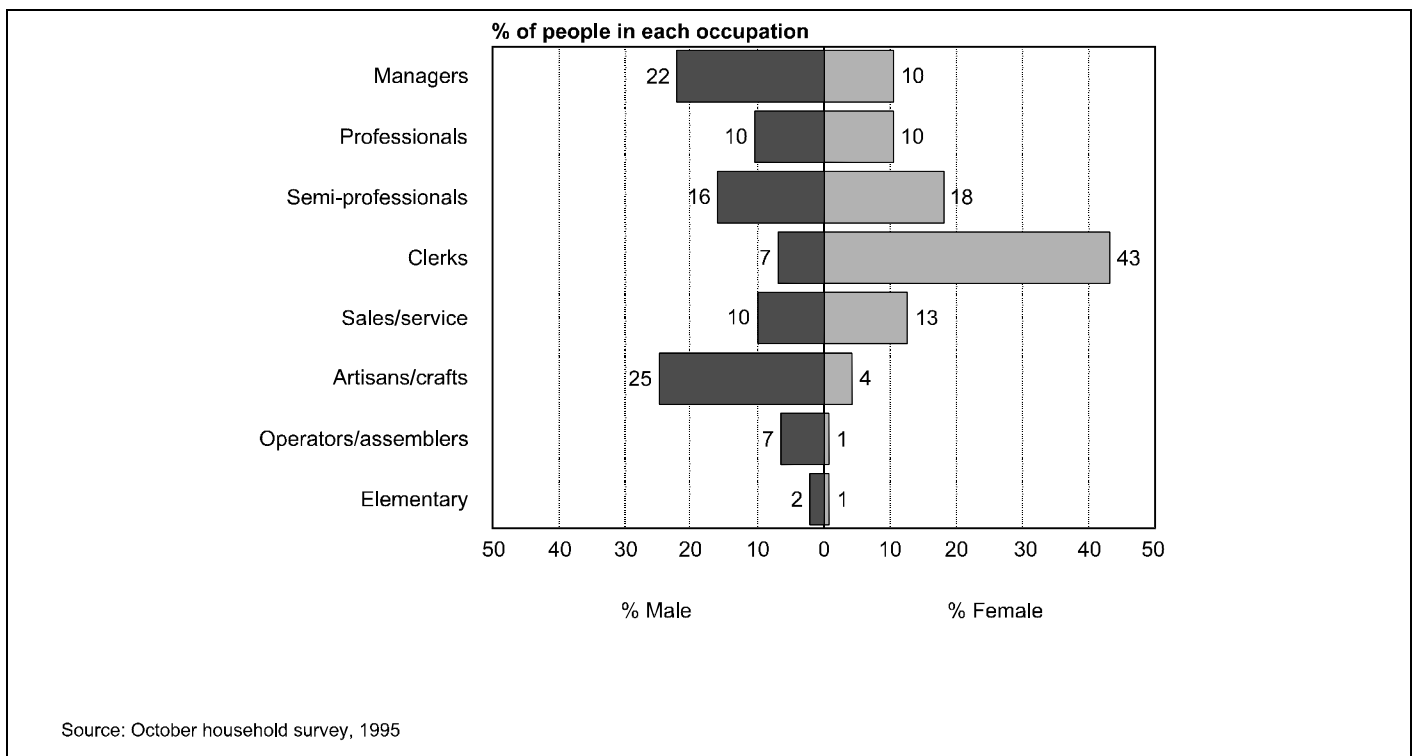


Figure 13: Occupation of employed whites in Western Cape by gender

The situation sketched above for whites in Western Cape is very similar to that of South Africa as a whole. Males in white collar positions in South Africa as a whole are likely to be found in management positions (19%), while blue collar workers are likely to be found in the artisan and craft professions (29%). Almost the same proportion of white males is found in the semi-professional categories (17%). Almost half of employed white women in South Africa are found in clerical positions (47%), similar to the picture in Western Cape (43%).

Economic sector

Figure 14 indicates that a quarter of those employed in Western Cape (25%) work in the personal services sector, 20% work in the manufacturing sector, 18% work in the trade, catering and accommodation sector, and 16% work in the agricultural sector. This suggests that many more jobs are available in Western Cape tertiary industries than in the primary and secondary sectors.

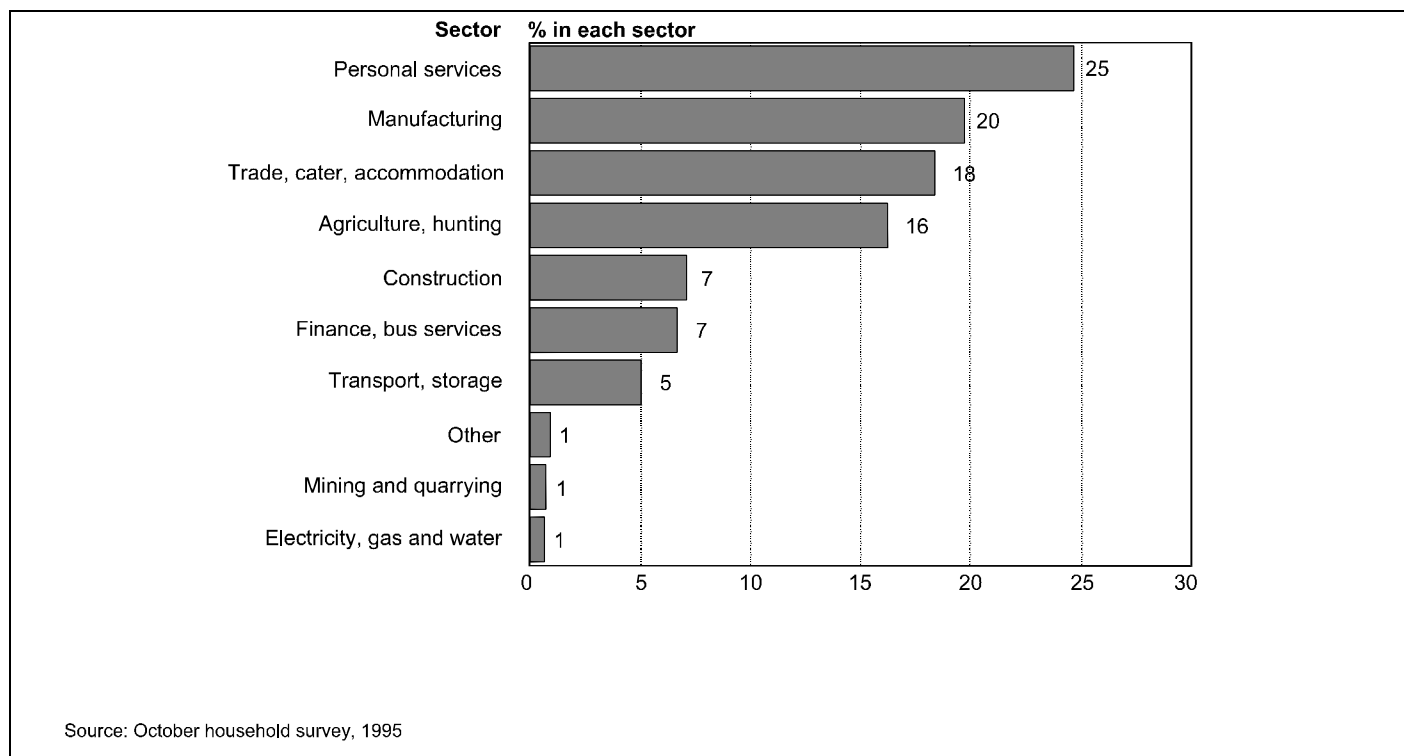


Figure 14: Economic sector of employer among all those who are working in Western Cape

This picture differs very slightly to that of South Africa as a whole, where almost a third (31%) work in the personal services sector, followed by 17% in the trade, catering and accommodation sector, 15% in the manufacturing sector and 13% in the agricultural sector.

According to the Development Bank of Southern Africa (1995:48), employment growth in Western Cape is not concentrated in a specific sector, but spans the agricultural, construction, commercial and financial sectors.

The informal sector

The informal sector in Western Cape is a small but growing source of employment. Approximately 12% of economically active people who are working in Western Cape are in the informal sector; of these, 83% are working for own account. Coloureds, particularly coloured women, predominate in this sector, as shown in Figure 15. A large proportion (74%) of African workers working for own account in the informal sector consists of women. Domestic workers are included here as informal workers for own account.

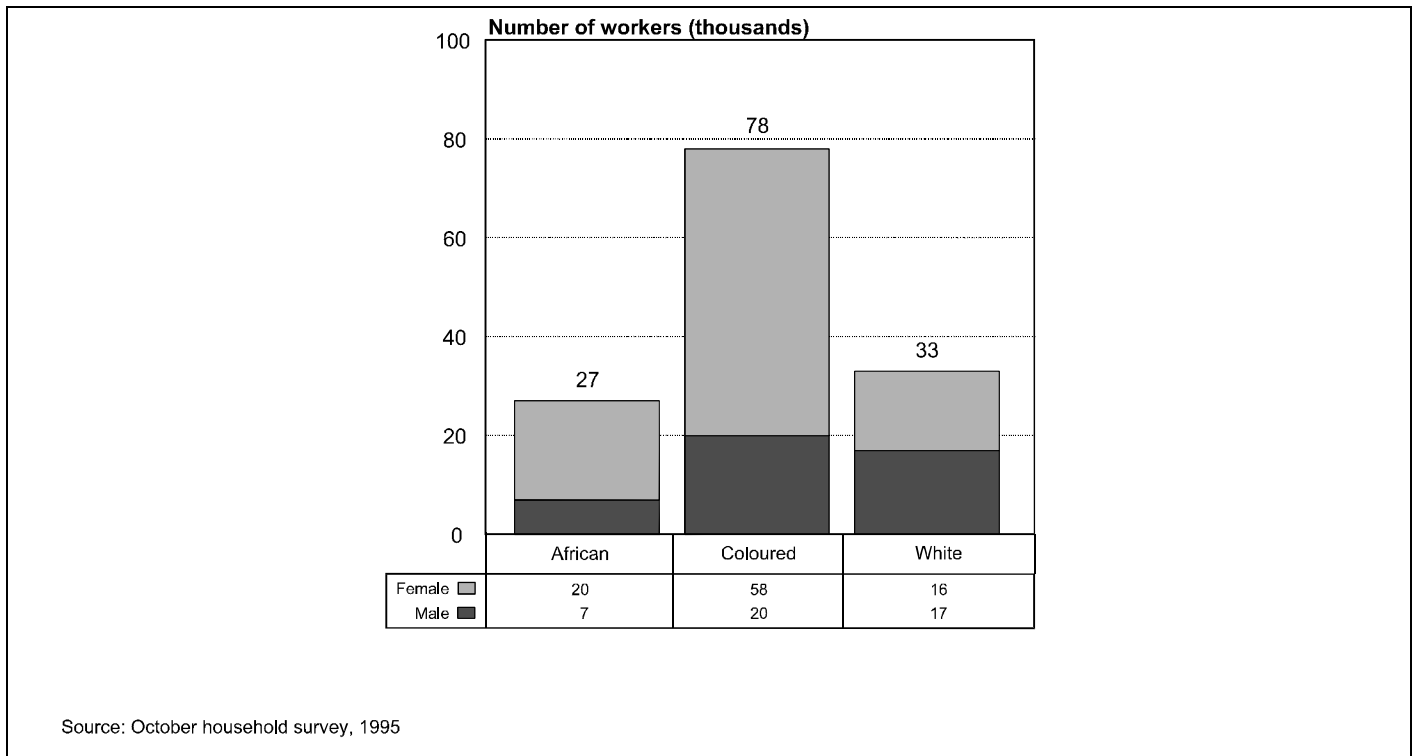


Figure 15: Workers for own account in the informal sector of Western Cape by gender and population group

Figure 16 shows that more than three-quarters of females (76%) in the informal sector work in elementary occupations such as street vending, domestic work and scavenging. Males, however, are more-evenly spread through a range of occupations, of which artisan and craft activities (building, house-painting and carpentry, for example) are the largest (41%), followed by elementary occupations (22%). This resembles the situation in South Africa as a whole, where 82% of females are found in elementary informal occupations, and 37% of males who work in the informal sector for own account undertake artisan and craft activities.

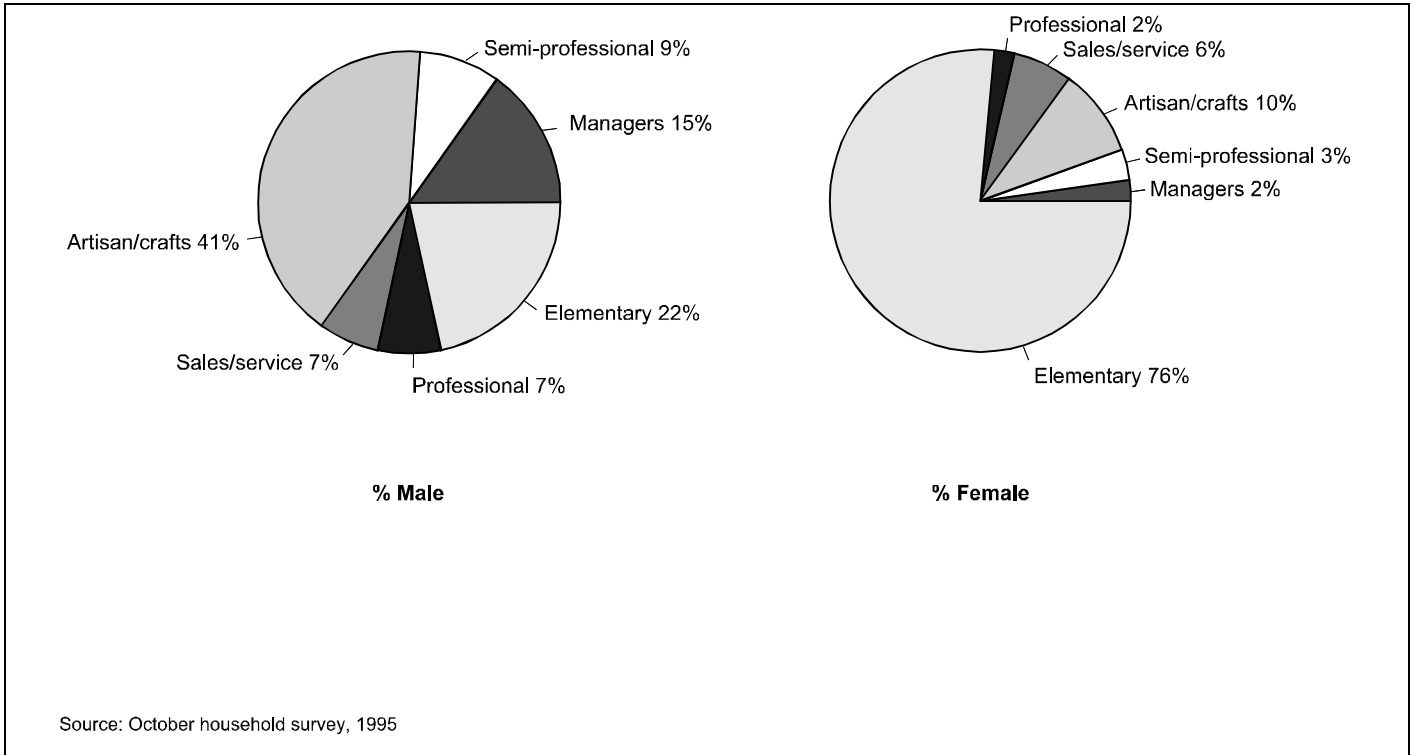


Figure 16: Workers for own account in the informal sector of Western Cape by occupation and gender

In Western Cape, more than three-quarters of women for own account workers in the informal sector (77%) are found in the personal services sector, while just over four in every ten men (43%) are found in the trade, catering and accommodation sector (Figure 17). Relatively few males (9%) and females (10%) are in informal manufacturing businesses.

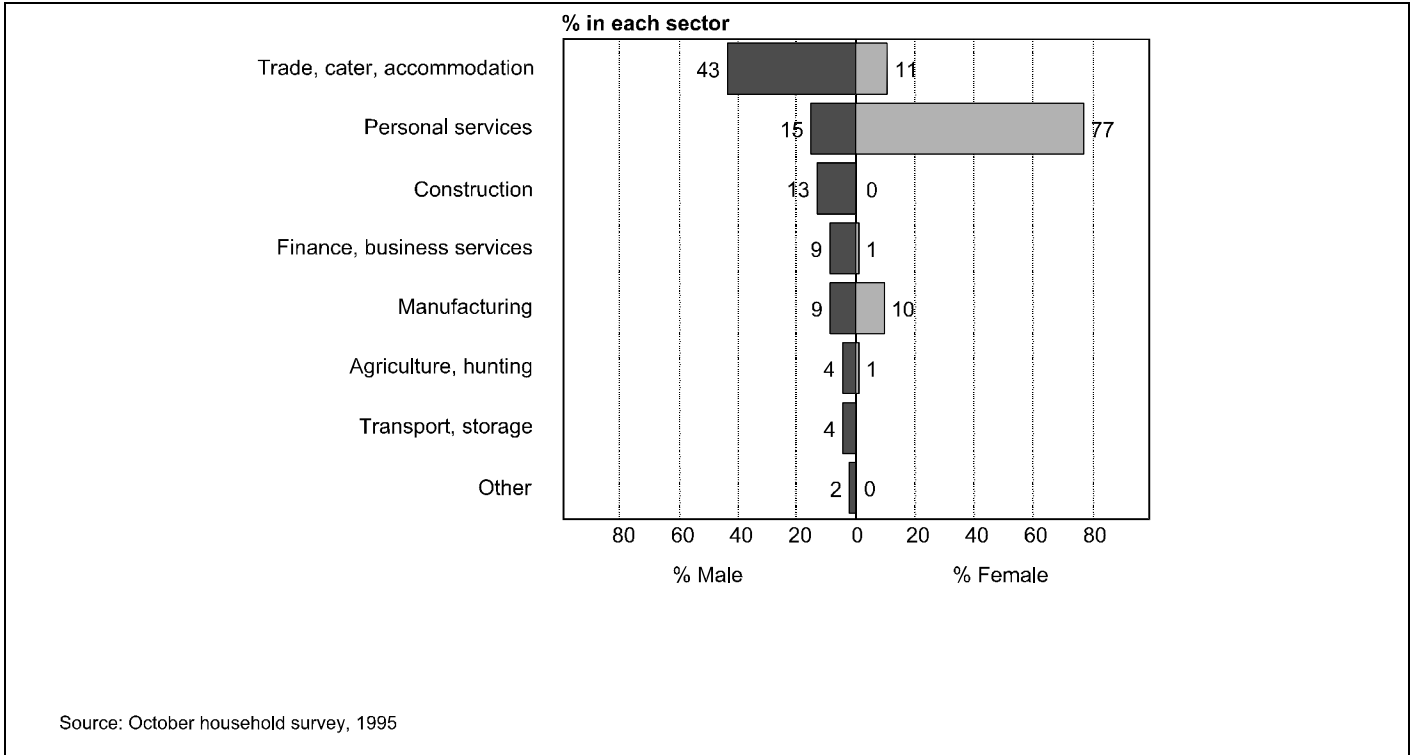


Figure 17: Workers for own account in the informal sector of Western Cape by economic sector and gender

The occupational spread by economic sector and gender in the informal sector of South Africa as a whole shares characteristics similar to Western Cape. Nationally, 77% of women in this sector are found in personal services, while four in every ten men (40%) are found in trade, catering and accommodation and 9% in small-scale informal manufacturing.

Section 3

The main findings regarding households

Types of dwelling in which households live

Coloureds, who form the largest proportion of the population in Western Cape, constitute 45% of all households, followed by white (35%) and African households (20%). Some 85% of these households are in urban areas.

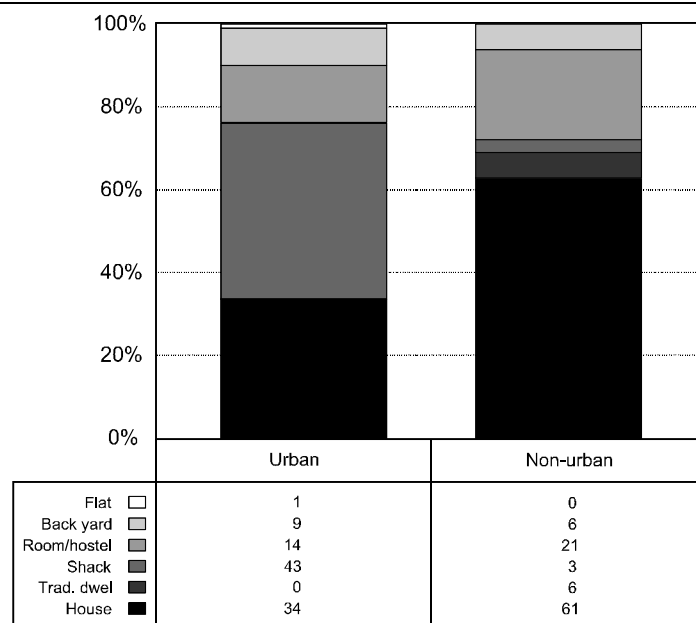
Indian households account for a negligible proportion (1%) of all households in the province. This section, therefore, focuses only on households among the coloured, white and African population groups.

The vast majority of dwellings in Western Cape (87%) are formal brick structures such as houses, flats or backyard rooms; 9% are shacks and 3% are single rooms, hostels or compounds. Fewer than 1% are traditional dwellings. Nationally, almost three-quarters of households (73%) are formal brick structures, 14% are traditional dwellings, 7% are shacks and 5% are hostels, compounds or single rooms in a building.

This indicates that, compared to the national picture, a large proportion of the population of Western Cape is housed in formal dwellings and shacks, and these tend to be concentrated in urban areas.

The distribution of dwellings varies by population group. The vast majority of African households (83%) are found in urban areas, while only 17% are in non-urban areas. Figure 18 indicates that, among Africans in urban areas, 43% of households live in formal brick structures, a further 43% live in shacks and 14% in single rooms, compounds and hostels. In non-urban areas, 67% of African households live in formal brick structures and 6% in traditional dwellings, while single rooms, hostels, compounds and dwellings on farms make up 21% of the total number of dwellings in non-urban areas. The remaining 3% consists of informal shacks in backyards.

In urban areas nationally, 74% of African households live in formal brick structures, 15% live in shacks, 2% in traditional dwellings and 8% in hostels and compounds. Of the dwellings occupied by African households in non-urban areas, 49% are formal brick structures, 5% are shacks, 38% are traditional dwellings, and 7% are hostels, compounds or single rooms.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 18: Type of dwelling in which African households live in Western Cape

Among coloureds in Western Cape, 78% of the dwellings are found in urban areas. Figure 19 shows that as many as 95% of urban dwellings in which coloured households live are formal brick structures, while the remaining 4% are shacks. Of the 22% of coloured households found in non-urban areas, 91% live in formal brick structures (houses and flats), 1% in traditional dwellings, 2% in shacks and a further 2% in hostels, compounds or single rooms.

This Western Cape profile is very similar to the national position, where most coloured households (79%) are found in urban areas. Of these, 95% live in formal brick structures and 4% in shacks. Nationally, 88% of the dwellings in which coloured households live in non-urban areas are formal brick structures, 3% are traditional dwellings, 4% are shacks, 3% are hostels, compounds and single rooms, and 2% involve other types of dwellings.

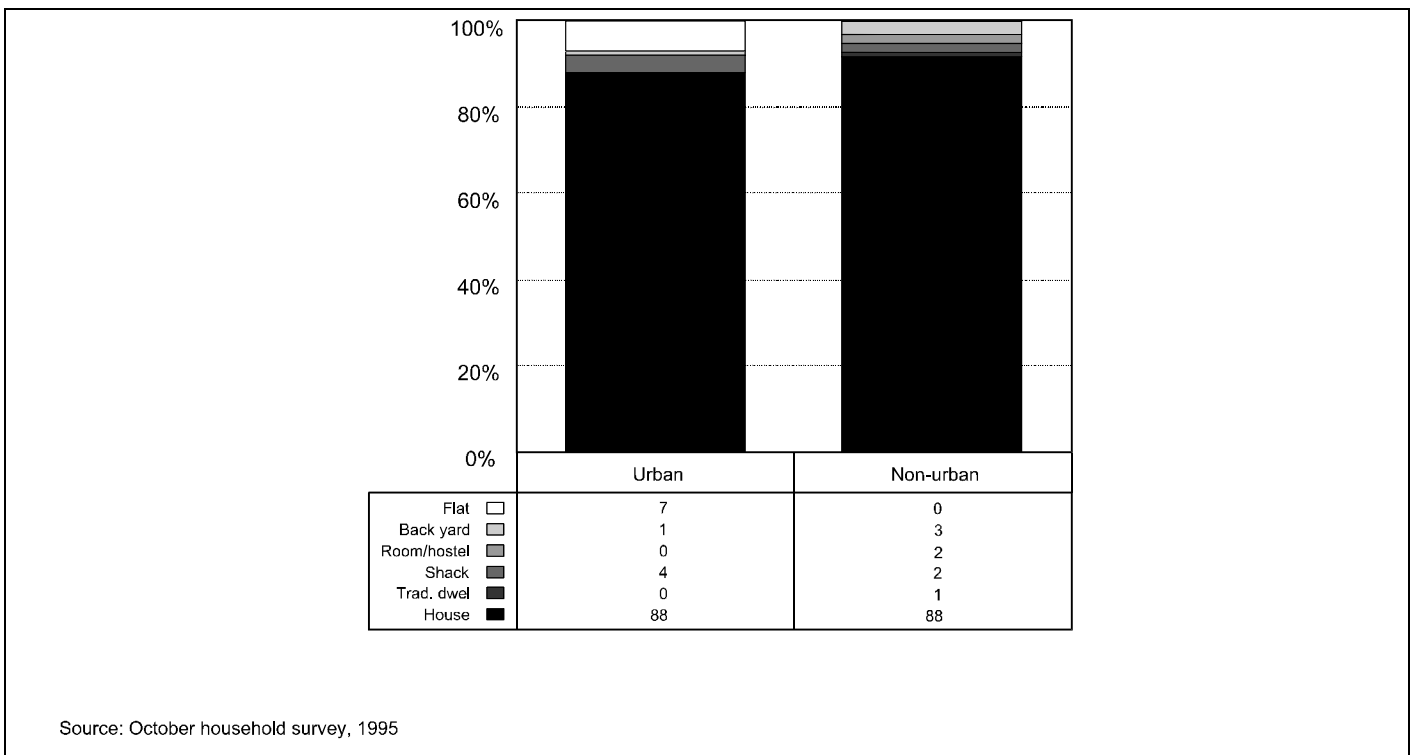
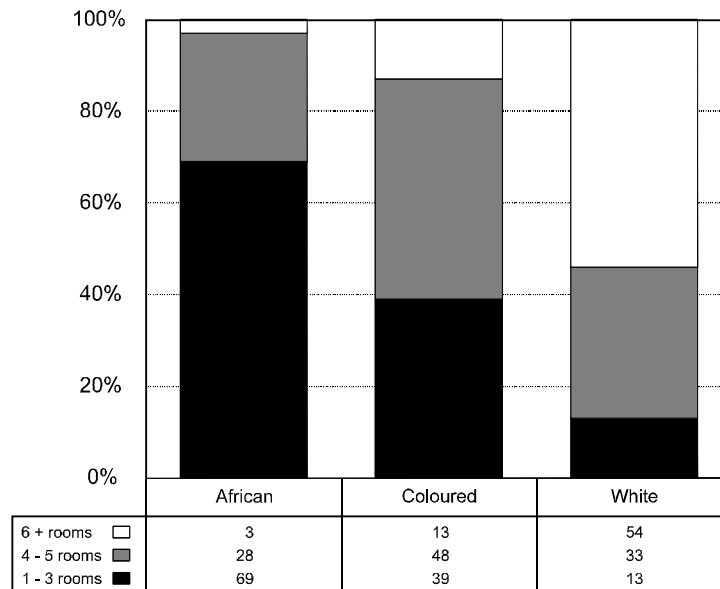


Figure 19: Type of dwelling in which coloured households live in Western Cape

White households in Western Cape follow a similar pattern to the national distribution, where 91% of the households live in urban areas. Nationally, almost all white households in urban areas live in formal brick structures (more than 99%). Of the 9% of white households found in non-urban areas, 98% live in formal brick structures and 1% in single rooms. Among white households in Western Cape, 93% of dwellings are found in urban areas, with almost 100% of them being formal brick structures (including flats, townhouses and backyard rooms). Of the 7% found in non-urban areas, 96% are formal brick structures, with the remaining 4% being single rooms in brick buildings.

Coloured households in Western Cape, on average, live in larger dwellings than African households, but white households, on average, live in the largest dwellings of all population groups in the province. Figure 20 indicates that 69% of African households live in dwellings with 1 to 3 rooms, while 48% of coloured households live in dwellings with 4 to 5 rooms and 54% of whites live in dwellings consisting of 6 or more rooms. Nationally, only 40% of Africans live in dwellings with 1-3 rooms, and this suggests that dwellings in which African households live in Western Cape are relatively small, compared to the country as a whole.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 20: Size of dwelling by population group of head of household in Western Cape

While white households in Western Cape tend to live in dwellings larger than other population groups, they are more likely to contain fewer people. Figure 21 indicates that, on average, white households in both urban and non-urban areas consist of three people, while African households average four people in urban areas and three people in non-urban areas. Coloured households contain an average of five people in urban areas and four people in non-urban areas.

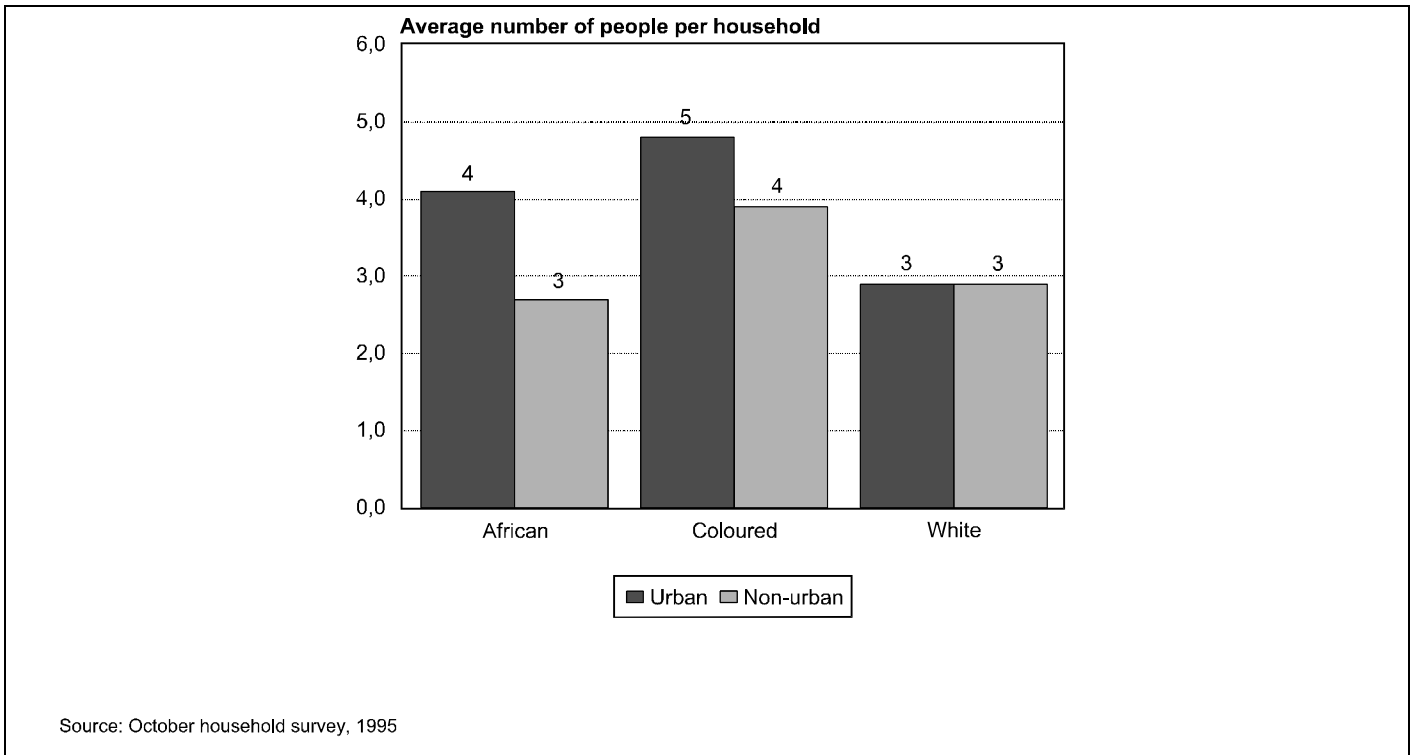


Figure 21: Average household size by race in urban and non-urban areas in Western Cape

The distribution of households by size in Western Cape is quite different to the national distribution for Africans, where there are, on average, five people per household in non-urban areas and four in urban areas.

Nationally, white households in both urban and non-urban areas consist of three people on average, while coloured households average five people in urban areas and four people in non-urban areas. This is the same picture presented in Western Cape.

Access to facilities and services

Shack dwellers are less likely to have access to electricity, tap water in the dwelling and flush toilets than non-shack dwellers. Nationally, there are proportionately fewer shack dwellers than there are in Western Cape, and this smaller proportion allows for better access to facilities in urban areas.

In Western Cape, however, the large proportion of African households living in shacks (43%) impacts on access to facilities and services such as electricity, water and sanitation. Such access varies not only by population group, but also by urban and non-urban location.

Surprisingly, African households in non-urban areas in Western Cape have better access to facilities such as piped tap water in the dwelling, electricity and sanitation than their counterparts in urban areas. This is presumably because of the comparatively large proportion of African households in urban areas living in shacks, where they have limited or no access to these facilities.

Access to electricity

Access to electricity for cooking in Western Cape shows an uneven distribution by population group. More than 90% of white households use electricity for cooking compared to 79% of coloured and 54% of African households. However, this situation is not very different from the national picture, where 99% of white, 75% of coloured and 42% of African households have access to electricity for the purpose of cooking.

Figures 22 and 23 indicate that the use of electricity is similar for cooking and heating. Proportionately fewer (about half) African households than white (almost all) in both urban and non-urban areas use electricity for both cooking and heating. However, there are marked differences in the usage of electricity for these purposes in urban and non-urban coloured households. For example, 86% of coloured households in urban areas use electricity for cooking, compared to 53% in non-urban areas.

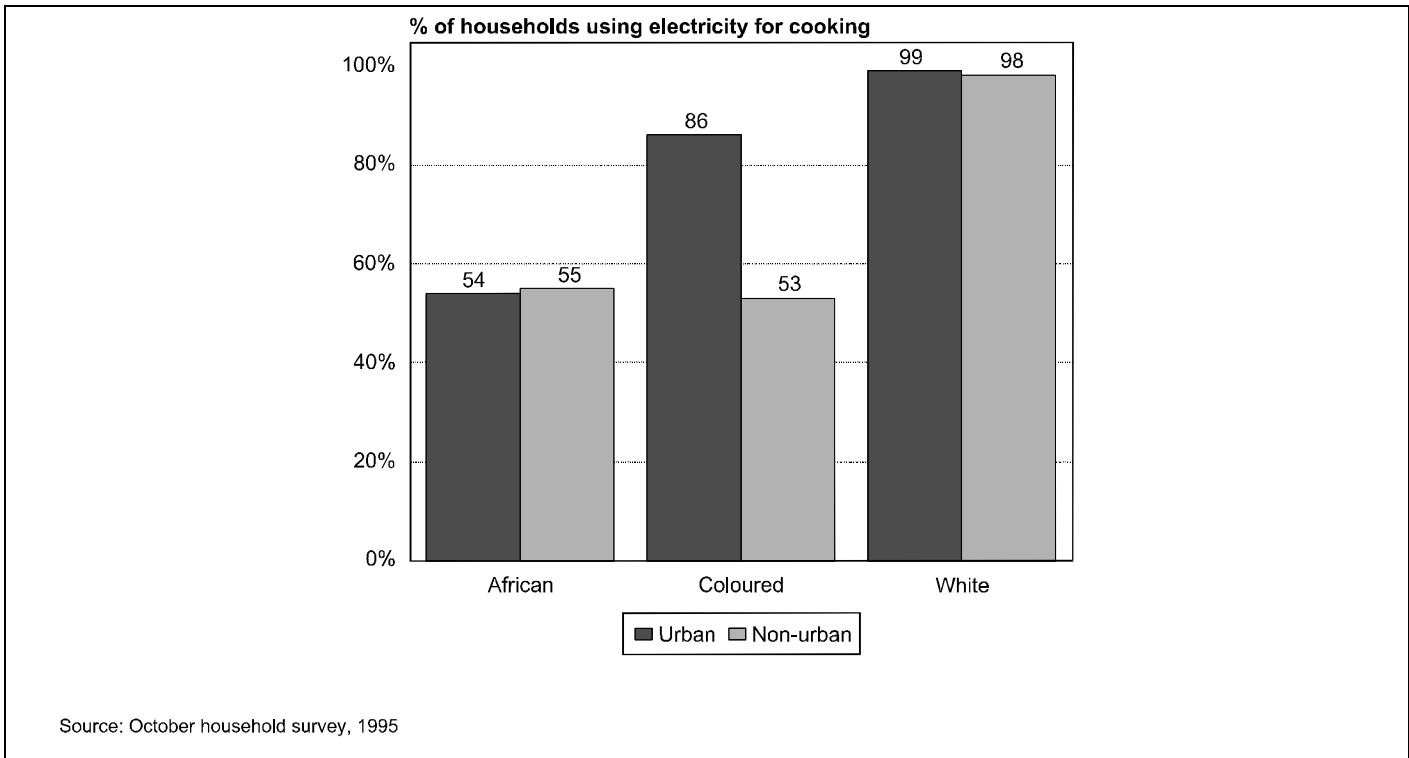


Figure 22: The distribution of electricity for cooking in urban and non-urban areas in Western Cape by population group

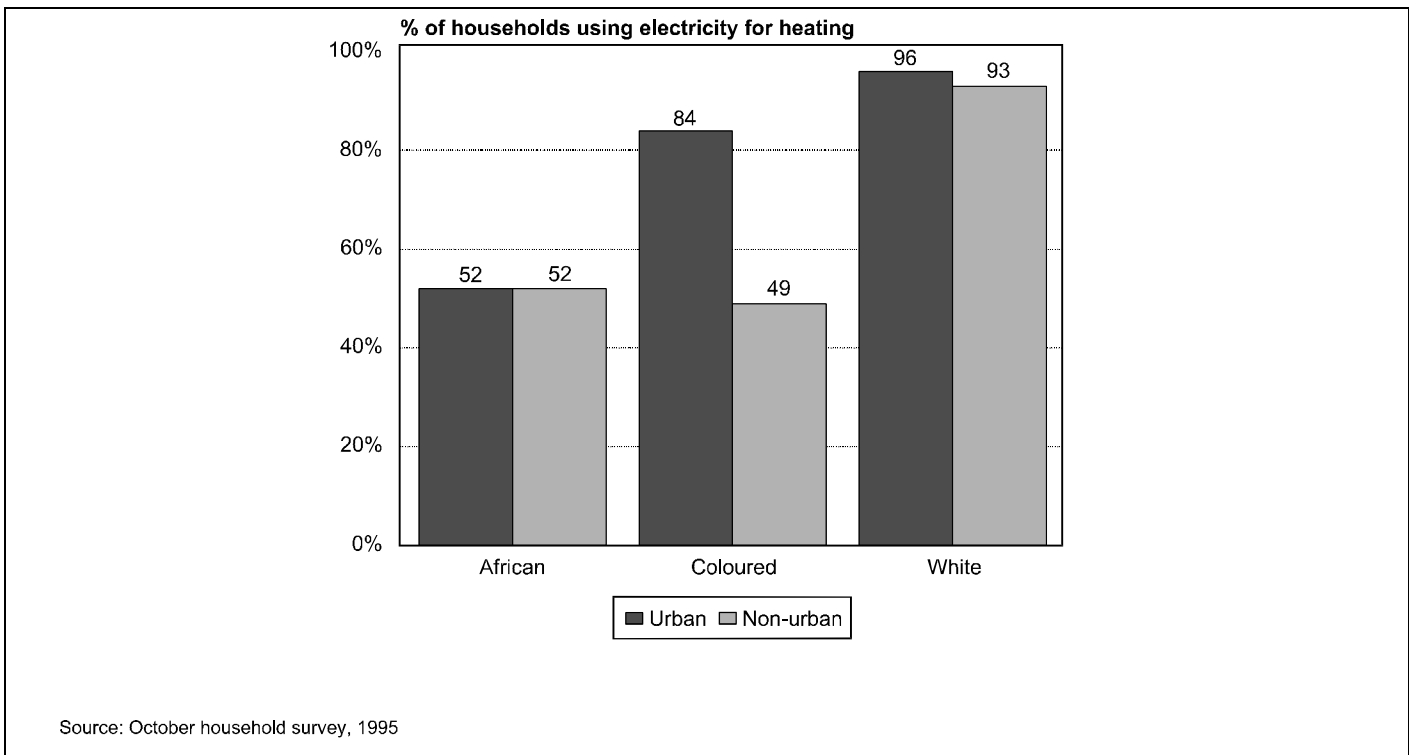


Figure 23: The distribution of electricity for heating in the urban and non-urban areas in Western Cape by population group

Proportionately more households in Western Cape use electricity for lighting than for cooking or heating. Figure 24 indicates that all white households have access to electricity for lighting purposes while only 88% of coloured households and 73% of African households have access to the same facility. Among coloured households, the percentage of households using electricity for lighting decreases from 93% in urban areas to 71% in non-urban areas; for African households it increases from 71% in urban households to 82% in non-urban households. This relatively lower percentage of urban African households with access to electricity for lighting purposes is probably the result of the large proportion of shack dwellings in these areas.

Turning to another source of energy in Western Cape, we find that 10% of African households in urban areas use candles for lighting, compared to 17% of non-urban households. And paraffin is used by 18% of urban African households.

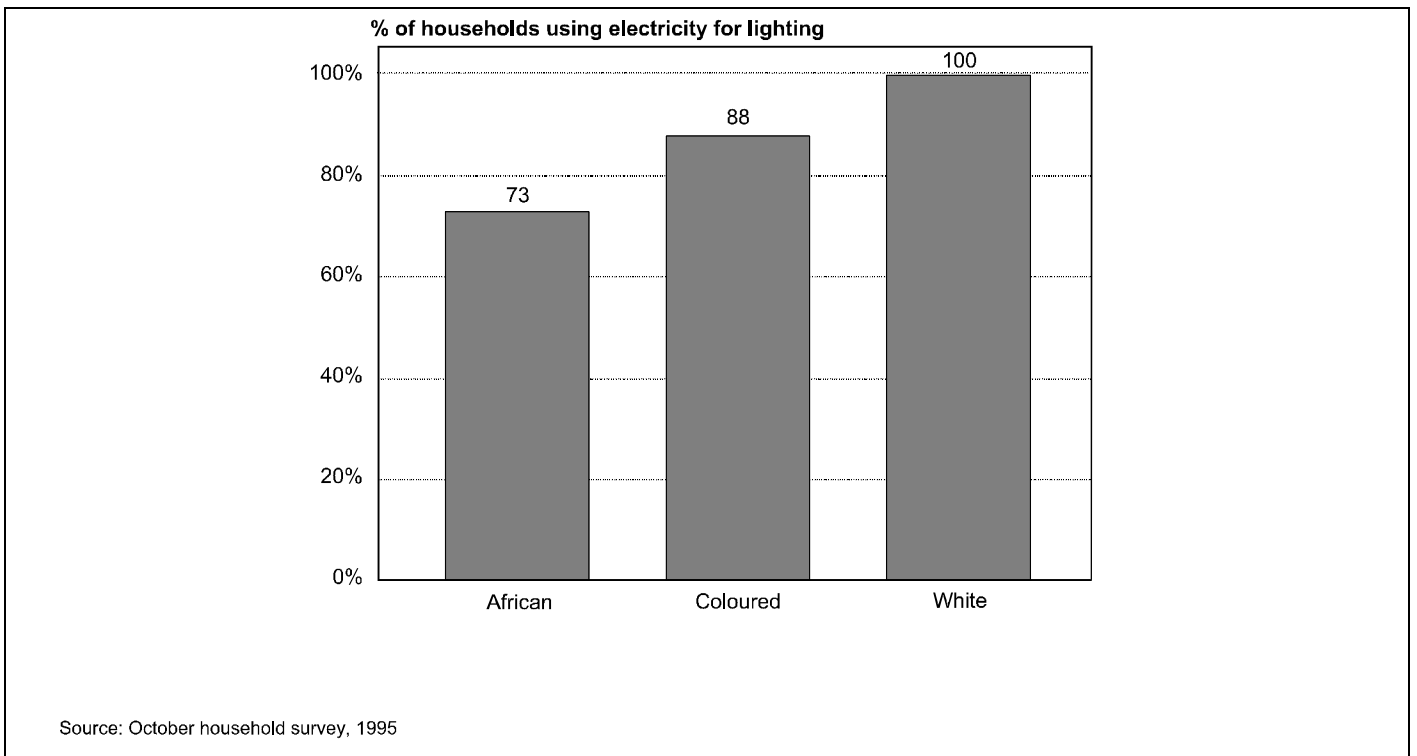


Figure 24: The distribution of electricity for lighting in Western Cape by population group

Domestic use of wood among African and coloured households in non-urban areas

It has already been shown that, among African households, there are no marked differences in the usage of electricity for cooking and heating between urban and non-urban areas. However differences exist between these types of areas as far as usage of wood for heating and cooking is concerned. Figure 25 indicates that, in non-urban areas, 36% of African households use wood for heating while 20% of the households use wood for cooking. A much lower proportion of African households use wood for heating (9%) and cooking (4%) in urban areas.

As far as coloured households are concerned, Figure 25 indicates that, in non-urban areas, wood is used for heating in 46% of households and for cooking in 43% of households. In urban areas the percentages are 10% and 6% respectively.

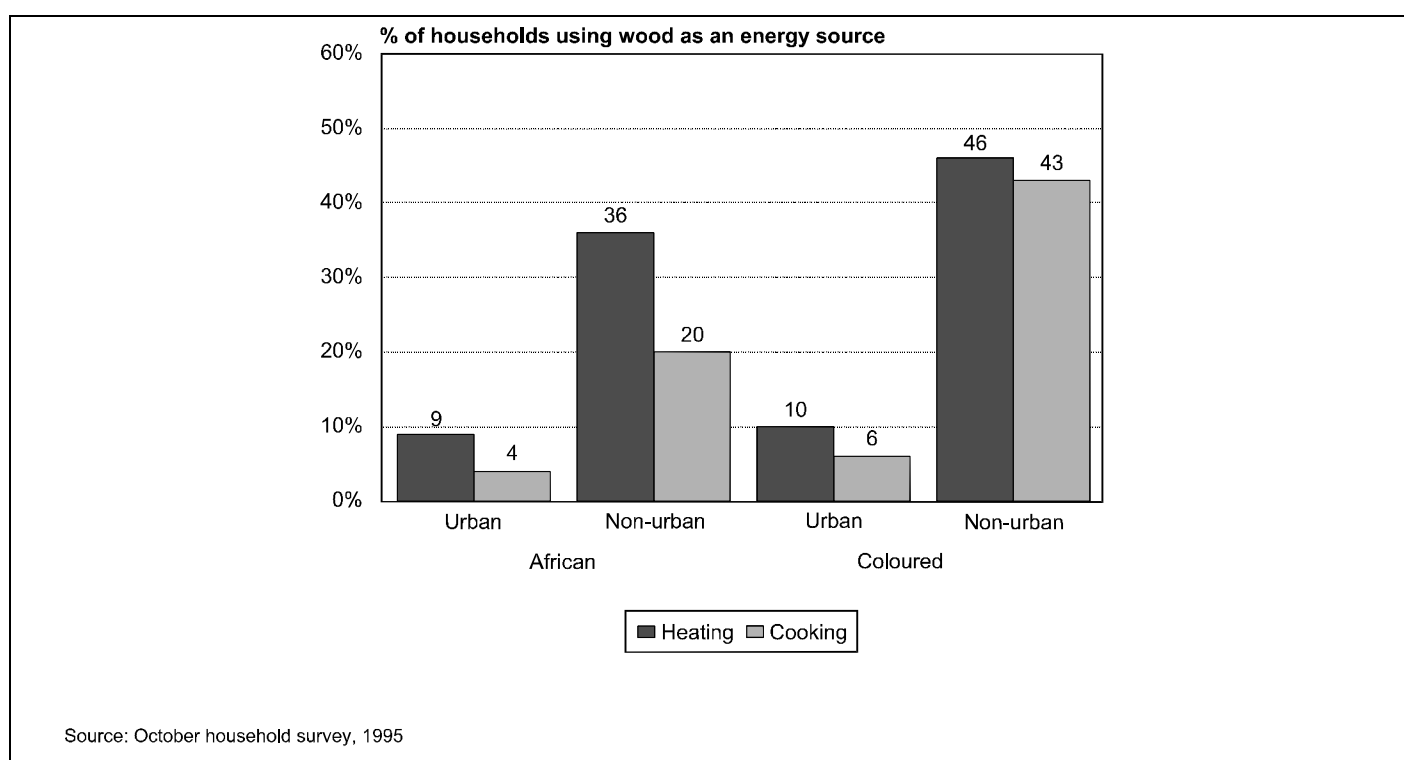


Figure 25: Use of wood for domestic purposes in urban and non-urban African and coloured households in Western Cape

The picture in Western Cape differs from the national profile. In South Africa as a whole, 57% of non-urban African households use wood for heating, and 55% use it for cooking. Five percent of urban households use the same source of energy for heating with 4% using it for cooking. Coloured households in Western Cape, however, also display a similar pattern to the national profile, where 50% of non-urban households use wood for heating and 46% for cooking; while 9% of urban households use wood for heating, with only 6% using it for cooking.

As shown in Figure 26, the main source of wood for African and coloured households in Western Cape that use this energy source is the *veld* (39% of Africans and 45% of coloureds) or from merchants (19% and 32% respectively). Relatively few obtain it from a woodlot (6% of Africans and 4% of coloureds), indigenous forests (10% and 8% respectively) and homeyard trees (12% and 11% respectively).

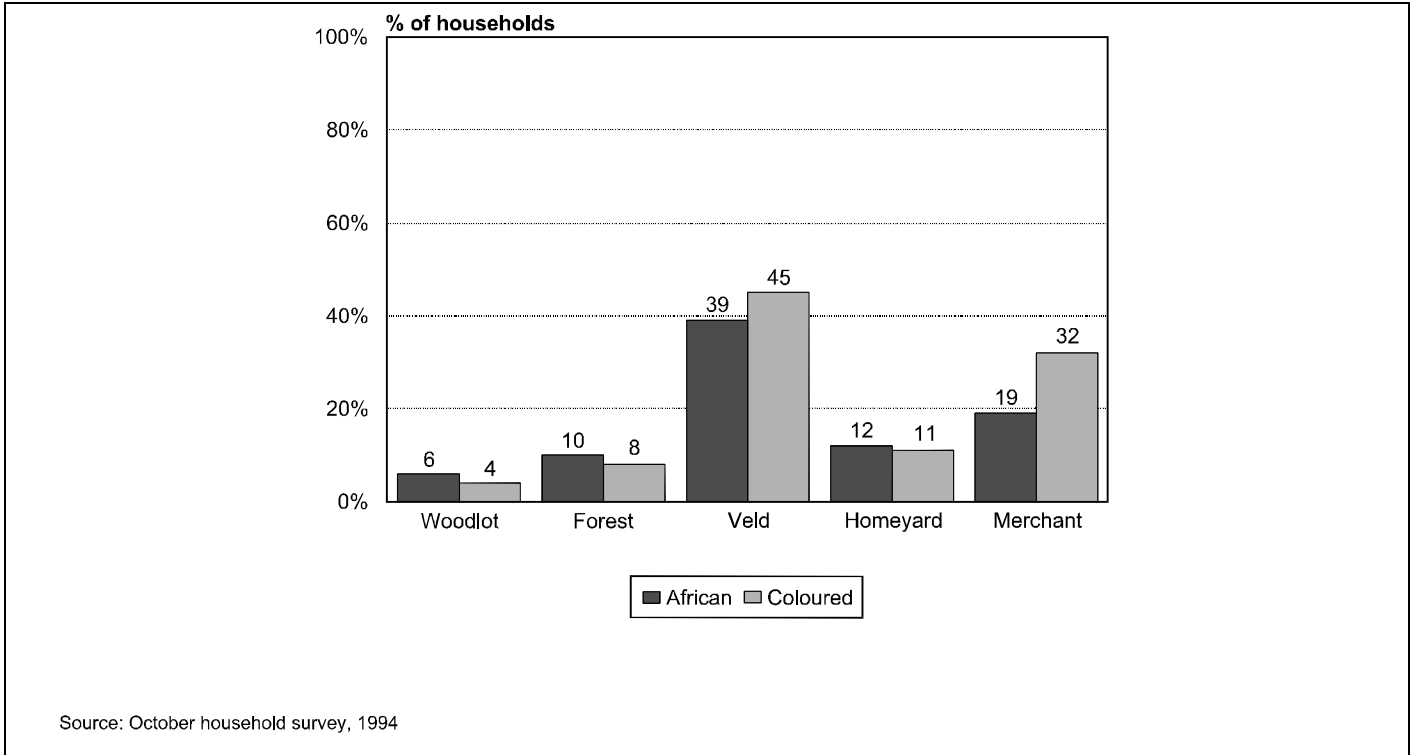


Figure 26: Source of wood for domestic use among African and coloured households in Western Cape

Of those households which collect wood, members in 3% of African and 23% of coloured households travel distances of a kilometre or more in non-urban areas to undertake this task. None of the African households pay for wood collected, while 3% of coloured households always have to pay. Eighty-seven percent of African households using wood report that the supply is ‘always adequate’ for household purposes, while 79% of coloured households report the supply to be ‘always adequate’.

Approximately equal proportions of African and coloured households nationally (61% and 60% respectively) do not pay for the wood while 19% and 33% respectively always pay for their wood supply. Countrywide, 41% of African households always have adequate wood supply compared to 70% of coloured households.

Water for drinking

In South Africa as a whole, only 33% of African households compared to 72% of coloured and 97% of white households have running tap water inside the dwelling. In Western Cape, only 37% of African households, compared to 77% of coloured and 99% of white households, have access to running tap water inside the dwelling for drinking purposes.

Among African and coloured households in Western Cape, the difference between urban and non-urban areas regarding type of water source used for drinking purposes is noteworthy. Figure 27 indicates that, in urban areas, 36% of African households have a tap inside the dwelling while a further 42% have a tap on site. In non-urban areas, however, the percentage of African households having a tap inside the dwelling rises to 44% while the proportion having a tap on site drops to 32%. One in every five non-urban African households obtains water from a rainwater tank. Relatively few (5%) non-urban households obtain water from a river, stream or dam.

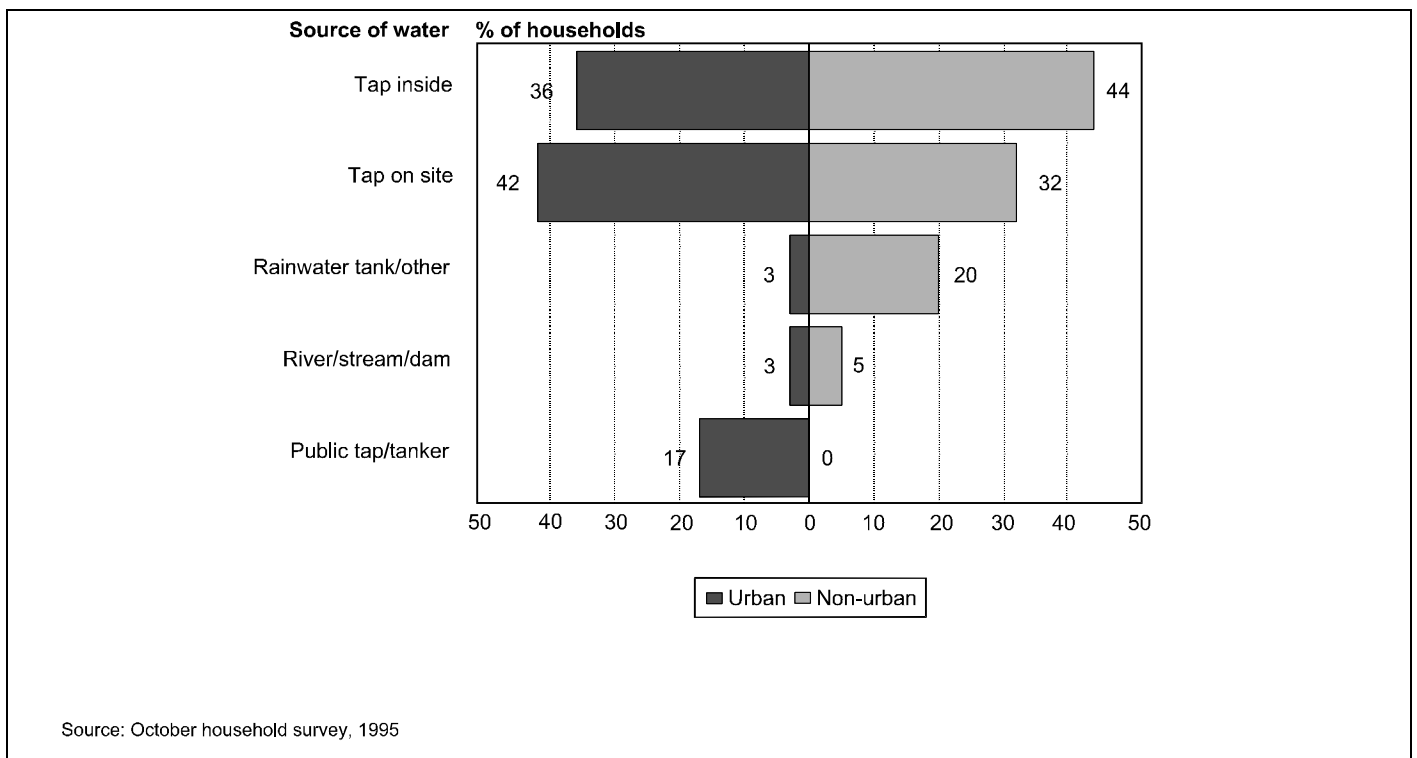


Figure 27: Source of water for urban and non-urban African households in Western Cape

The percentage of coloured households having a tap inside the dwelling is 53% in non-urban areas and 83% in urban areas, while those having a tap on site is 26% (non-urban) and 16% (urban). Figure 28 indicates that almost one in ten coloured households (9%) in non-urban areas obtain water either from a river, stream, dam, well or spring. Proportionately few households (1%) obtain water from a borehole.

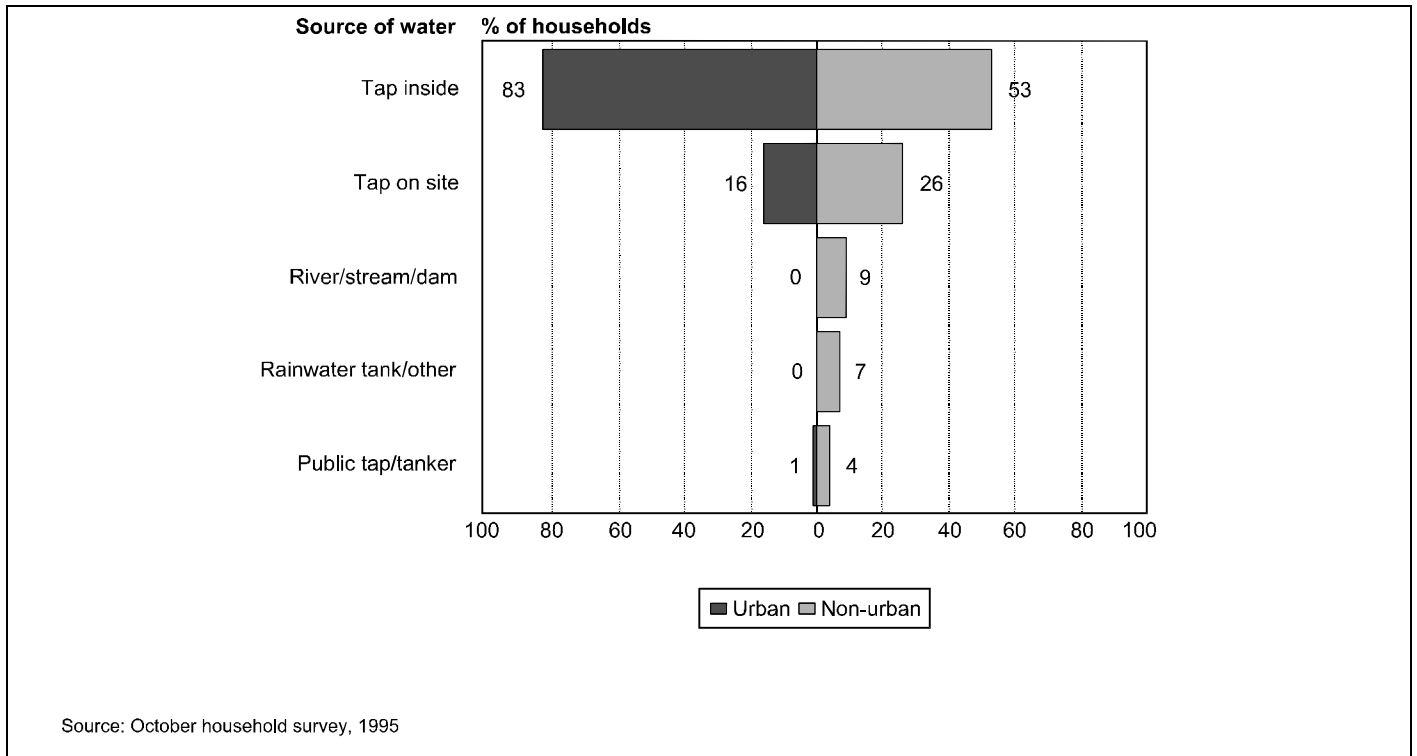


Figure 28: Source of water for urban and non-urban coloured households in Western Cape

The provincial picture for coloured and African households in urban areas compares badly with the national profile. Countrywide, 56% of urban African households have tap water inside the dwelling and 34% have tap water on site. In non-urban areas in Western Cape, however, the picture for African households is better than the national one. Nationally, 12% of non-urban households have tap water inside the dwelling and 21% have tap water on site. Almost one in every three (28%) African households in non-urban areas nationally obtain water from a river, stream, dam or well, and almost one in six (16%) obtain water from a borehole.

For coloured households nationally, 80% of urban households have tap water inside the dwelling, 17% have tap water on site, while for non-urban households the figures are 44% and 32% respectively. Nine percent of non-urban households nationally obtain water from a river, stream, dam or well, while 5% obtain it from a public tap or tanker. Three percent of urban households obtain it from these sources.

Fetching water from a distant source

More than 90% of all households in Western Cape which have to fetch water from a source which is not on site travel a distance of less than two hundred metres (94% of Africans and 95% of coloureds).

Paying for water

Only 57% of African and 77% of coloured households always pay for their water. Sixty-nine percent of African households always have an adequate water supply compared to 86% of coloured and 96% of white households. In South Africa as a whole, only 43% of African households compared to 78% of coloured and 89% of white households always pay for their water supply; and 67% of African households compared to 87% of coloured and 96% of white households always have an adequate water supply.

Sanitation

In Western Cape, flush toilets inside the dwelling are found in almost all white (98%) households, but in only 68% of coloured households and 30% of African households. Instead, 34% of African households have flush toilets on site, 8% have a pit latrine, another 8% use a bucket or a chemical toilet on site, while 19% have toilet facilities off-site. A very small percentage of households has no sanitation facilities at all (2% of Africans and 2% of coloureds).

National figures indicate that flush toilets in the dwelling are found in almost all white (98%) households and in almost two-thirds (64%) of coloured ones. But only 22% of African households have flush toilets inside the dwelling. Eighteen percent of African and 15% of coloured households have flush toilets on site, 35% and 6% respectively use a pit latrine, another 7% and 10% respectively use a bucket or chemical toilet on site, while 7% and 2% respectively have sanitation facilities off site. Africans in the country have the highest proportion of households with no sanitation facilities at all, (11%), while 3% of coloured households experience the same problem.

Access to sanitation facilities among coloured and African households in Western Cape also follows the urban/non-urban divide. Figure 29 indicates that 74% of urban coloured households have a toilet inside the dwelling as compared to 48% in non-urban areas. Twenty-four percent of non-urban households make use of pit latrines compared to 1% of those living in urban areas. This picture is not very different from the national one, where 70% of urban coloured households have flush toilets in the dwelling, compared to 38% of those living in non-urban areas. In addition 17% of urban households have flush toilets on site as against 8% of non-urban households. Nationally, 27% of non-urban households use pit latrines on site compared to only 1% of urban ones.

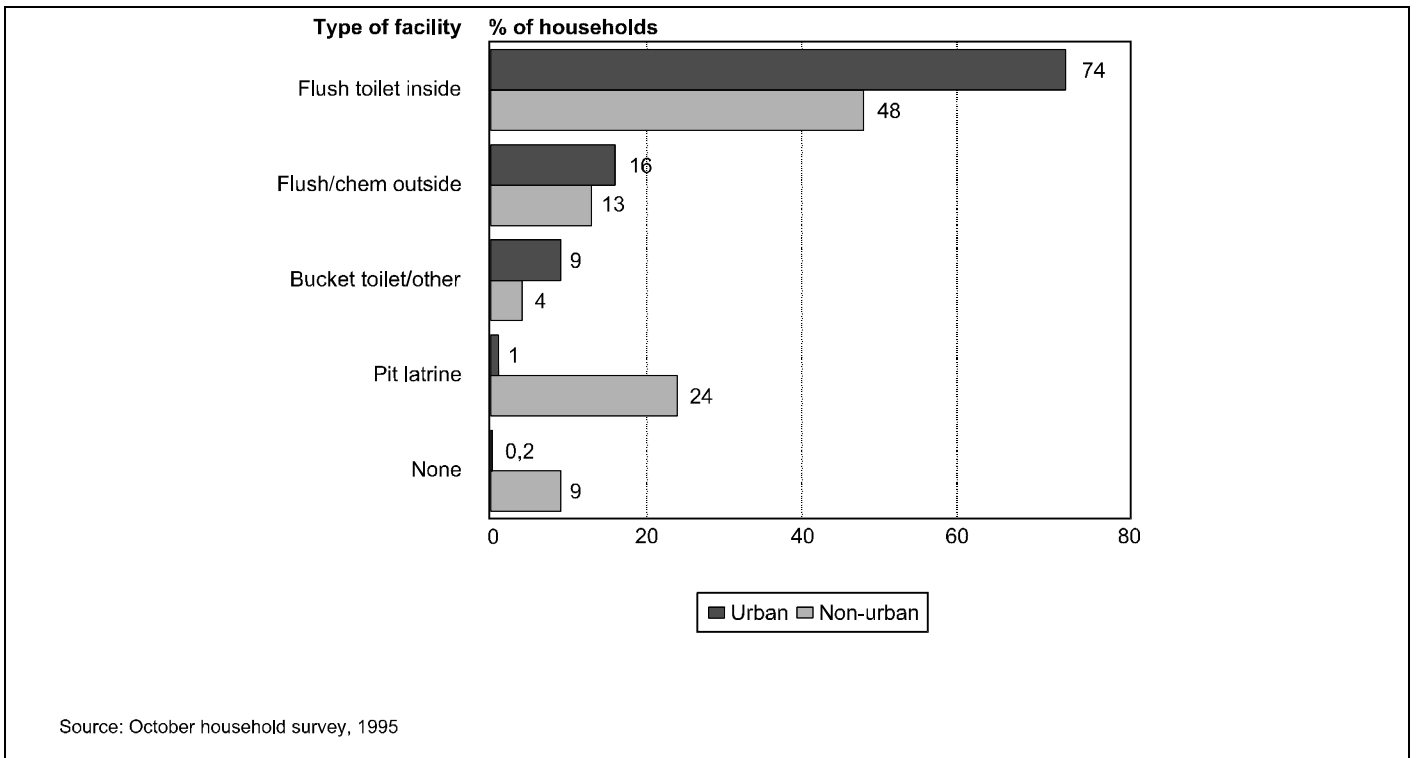


Figure 29: Type of sanitation used among coloured households in Western Cape

Figure 30 shows that, in Western Cape, 30% of African households in urban areas have flush toilets inside the dwelling compared to 31% of households in non-urban areas. In non-urban areas, 29% make use of a pit latrine, either on site or off site, while in urban areas only 5% make use of this type of facility. One in 20 (5%) African non-urban households in Western Cape use a bucket toilet or other toilet facility.

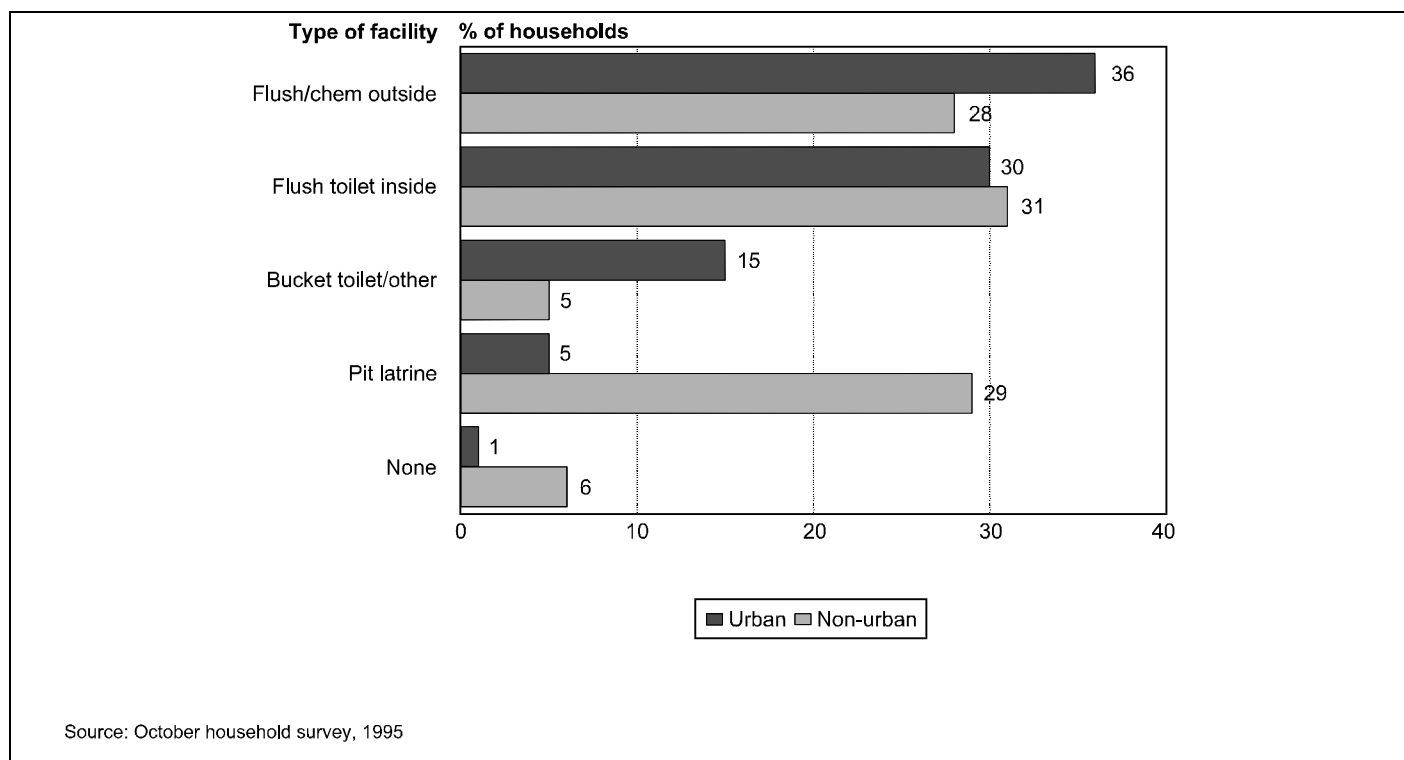


Figure 30: Type of sanitation used among African households in Western Cape

The national picture for Africans is very different from the provincial one: nationally, urban households have better access to flush toilets inside the dwelling, but this is reversed in Western Cape.

In South Africa as a whole, 42% of urban African households have flush toilets inside the dwelling compared to 5% of non-urban households; 67% of non-urban households make use of a pit latrine either off site or on site, compared to only 9% of urban households who use this type of facility. Chemical or bucket toilets are used by 11% of urban households, compared to 3% in non-urban areas.

In Western Cape, most non-African households (98% of white and 92% of coloured households) do not share sanitation facilities with anyone, while 60% of African households share these facilities. Forty-five percent of those African households which share facilities, have to share with ten or more other households. A much lower proportion of African households nationally (21%) have to share sanitation facilities, while 98% of white and 91% of coloured households do not share facilities. Twenty-six percent of those African households which have to share nationally, share with ten or more households.

Telephones

A large proportion of white (83%) households in Western Cape have telephones in the dwelling compared to 40% of coloured and 17% of African households (Figure 31). Ten percent of African households in Western Cape have to travel a distance of more than a kilometre to get to the nearest telephone

The use of cellular phones was very uncommon in Western Cape in 1995, with less than 1% of households making use of these.

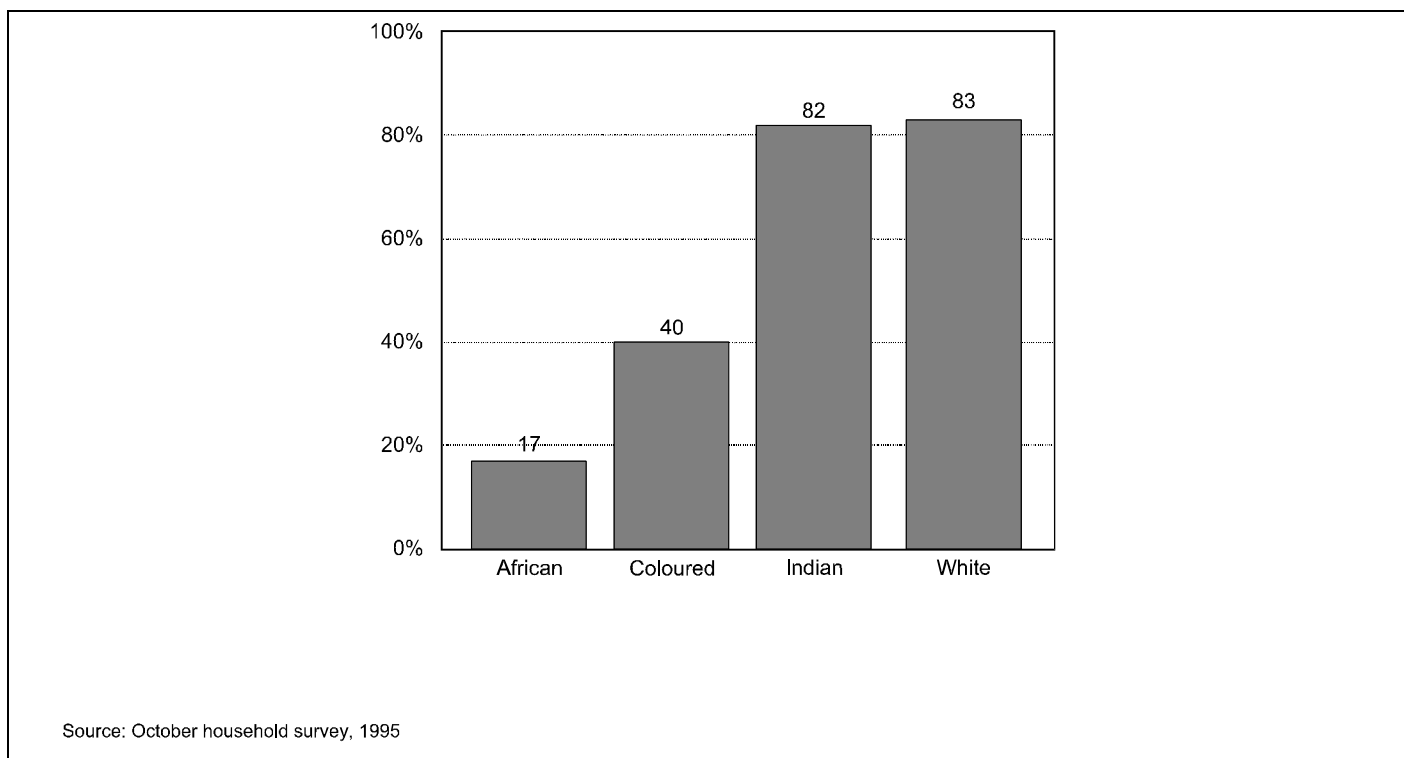
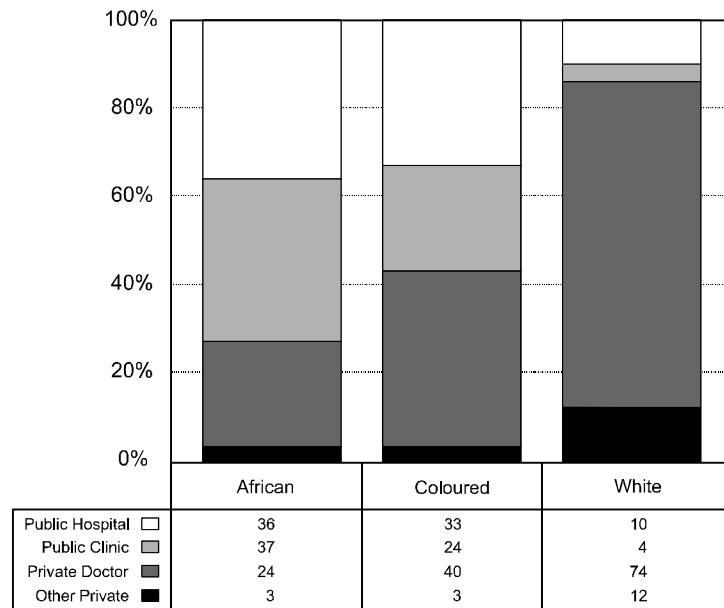


Figure 31: Access to telephones in the dwelling by population group in Western Cape

Access to health-care facilities

The public sector caters for the health requirements of most African and coloured households in Western Cape. The majority of African households (73%), and over half of coloured households (57%), make use of public health-care facilities when they need them, while the vast majority of white households (86%) tend to use the private sector.

Figure 32 indicates that 36% of African households go to a public hospital and 37% to a public clinic/doctor compared to 33% and 24% respectively of coloured households. Seventy-four percent of white households make use of a private doctor or specialist.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 32: Source of health-care for households in Western Cape by population group

About a third of African (31%) and coloured (30%) households have to travel a distance of five kilometres or more to get to a nearest health-care service, while one in every five (21%) of white households have to travel that distance or more.

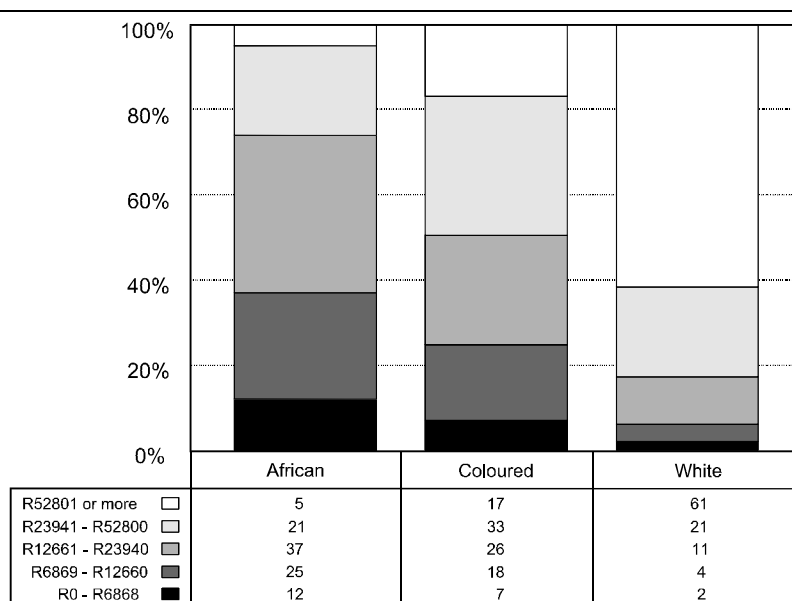
In South Africa as a whole, 81% of African households make use of public health-care facilities (41% go to a public clinic and 40% to a public hospital), compared to 51% of coloured households (26% go to a public clinic and 35% to a public hospital). Two-thirds of white households (66%), on the other hand, make use of private doctors and a further 14% makes use of other private facilities when they require health-care. Only one in five make use of public facilities.

Forty-two percent of African households nationally have to travel distances of five kilometres or more to get to the nearest health-care facility, compared to 29% of coloured and 28% of white households.

Household income

The household incomes discussed in this section are based on data contained in the income and expenditure survey (IES), not the OHS. However, the linking of the OHS and the IES data sets made it possible to explore further the relationships between income and expenditure of households and other household variables. For example, proportionately more white households found in the higher income quintiles have better access to facilities than households in the other population groups, especially African and coloured households. There are proportionately more African households in the lower income quintiles. These households have less access to electricity, water and sanitation facilities.

Figure 33 is based on the division of annual incomes into national quintiles (five approximately equal groups), and then applying these national proportions to Western Cape. It indicates that African households are the poorest in the province: 12% have incomes between R0 and R6 868 per annum, compared with only 7% of coloured and 2% of white households. Looking at the top quintile of R52 801 or higher, we find 61% of white households is in this category, compared with 17% of coloured and 5% of African households. The fact that Africans tend to be the poorest in the province also holds true for the country as a whole. Nationally, Africans are worse off than they are in Western Cape, since 23% of African households have incomes between R0 and R6 839 per annum, compared with only 12% of coloured and 2% of white households. Looking at the top quintile, 64% of white households are in this category nationally, compared with 16% of coloured and 9% of African households.

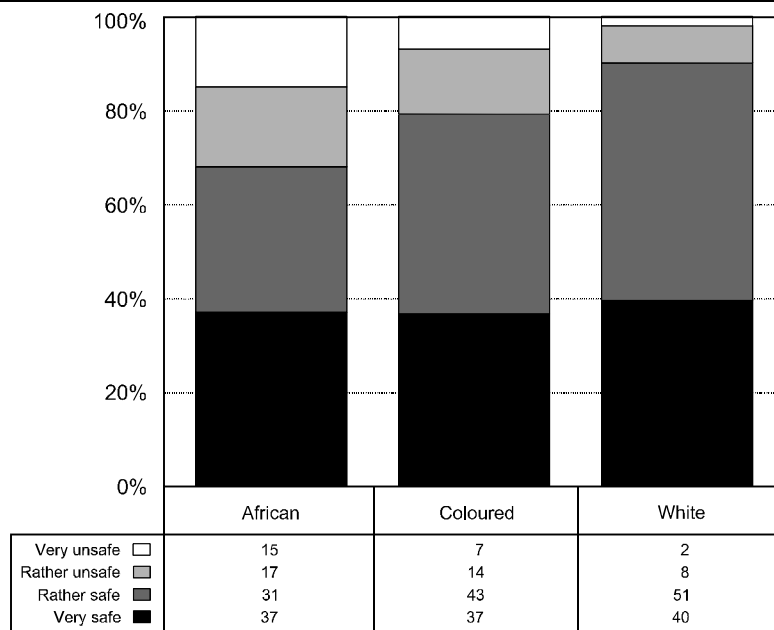


Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 33: Percentage of households in Western Cape in each annual income quintile by population group

Feelings of safety and security

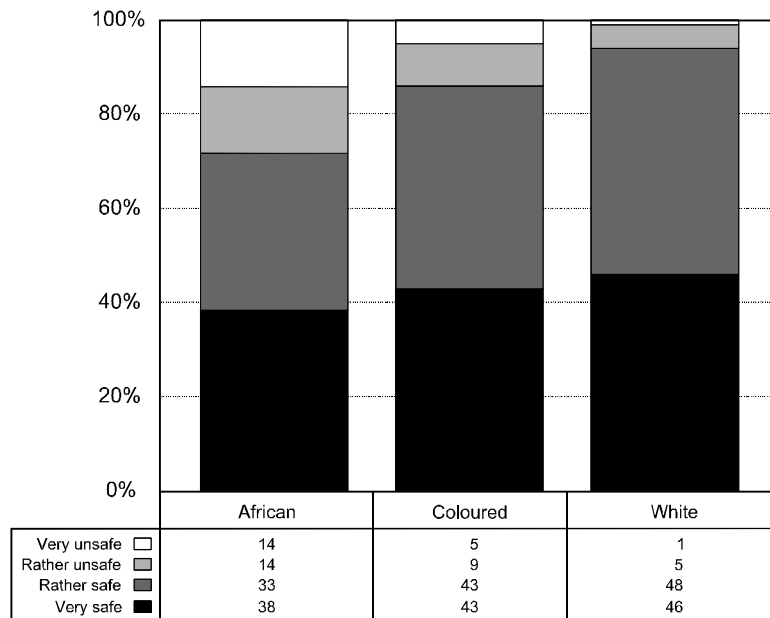
Contrary to popular perceptions, the vast majority of people tend to feel very safe or rather safe in their neighbourhoods in Western Cape. Figure 34 indicates that as many as 40% of white, 37% of African and 37% of coloured households feel very safe in their neighbourhoods. At the other extreme, a much higher proportion of African households (15%) compared to other population groups (7% of coloured, 4% of Indian and 2% of white households) feel very unsafe in their neighbourhoods. The figures for the country as a whole indicate that 45% of African, 41% of coloured and 32% of white households feel very safe in their neighbourhoods.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 34: Feeling safe in one's neighbourhood by race of head of household in Western Cape

Figure 35 shows that a larger proportion of Africans than coloureds or whites feel unsafe in their homes. One in every seven African households (14%) feels very unsafe in their own homes compared to 5% of coloured and 1% of white households. This situation has not changed much compared to the previous year: over 70% of households in all four population groups (77% of African, 75% of coloured, 71% of Indian and 77% of white households) reported that they felt as safe in their homes as they had a year before.



Source: October household survey, 1995

Figure 35: Feeling safe in one's own home by race of head of household in Western Cape

In South Africa as a whole, slightly more coloured and white households feel very unsafe in their homes compared to Western Cape. Nationally, three percent of white and 6% of coloured households feel very unsafe in their own homes compared to 6% of African households.

Section 4

Disability in Western Cape

Similar to the trend found in the country as a whole, approximately one in every 20 (5%) people in Western Cape are reported as being disabled. Because of the proportions involved, percentages are given to one decimal place, rather than rounded off.

- 2,0 % of the population in Western Cape has a visual disability;
- 0,6% of the population has a hearing or speech disability;
- 1,4% of the population has a physical disability; and
- 0,5 of the population has a mental disability.

These percentages may be an undercount, because of the possible stigma attached to certain types of disabilities. Furthermore, the extent of the disability found in a survey such as the OHS is based on perceptions of respondents, and cannot be verified by medical records.

Relatively similar proportions of males and females, Africans, coloureds, Indians and whites, and those living in urban and non-urban areas (approximately 5% in each case) are reported as being disabled.

From the results set out in Table 1, it is clear that a higher proportion of the population in Western Cape suffers from what is reported as a visual disability. As it is probable that no social stigma is associated with visual disability, it is possible that visual disability may be better reported than other disabilities.

Table 1: Rate of disabilities by population group and gender in Western Cape

	African		Coloured		White	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Sight	2,4	2,3	1,4	1,6	3,7	2,2
Hearing	0,5	0,5	0,5	0,8	0,5	1,0
Physical	0,9	1,6	1,0	1,9	1,3	1,5
Mental	0,6	0,9	0,4	0,8	0,5	0,1

Table 2 shows that a slight increase can be observed in the rate of visual disability for African males (1,5%), African females (1%) and coloured males (0,8%) in non-urban compared to urban areas in Western Cape. This could be because a larger proportion of older people live in non-urban areas; because levels of poverty and malnutrition are higher; and/or because access to facilities for preventive treatment is more difficult than in urban areas.

Table 2: Rate of visual disabilities in urban and non-urban areas by population group and gender in Western Cape

	African		Coloured		White	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Urban	2,4	2,1	1,4	1,4	3,7	2,2
Non-urban	3,4	3,6	1,4	2,2	3,2	2,0

Nationally, a larger proportion of poorer people develop disabilities at an earlier age than more-affluent people. The same pattern is found in Western Cape.

Section 5

Conclusion

The 1995 OHS brought a number of aspects of life in South Africa into sharp focus, including racial and gender disparities, and large differences in life circumstances along the urban/non-urban divide. Western Cape reflects some of the same racial and gender disparities, but to a lesser extent than elsewhere in the country. This is explained, at least in part, by the higher rate of urbanisation, better access to facilities such as education, and a higher rate of employment.

Inequalities between population groups in Western Cape are clear. As new policies are introduced to lessen or remove these inequalities, the situation will require careful monitoring to measure the extent of change.

Although the age and gender structure for Africans and coloureds in Western Cape is in the transitional phase of development, the sharp decline in the proportion of people in the age groups older than 45 could indicate lower life expectancy, due to more difficult life circumstances. Another interesting observation is that proportionately fewer African boys between the age 0 to 4 years (4%) are found in the non-urban areas than in the urban areas (10%), while proportionately more girls in this age group are found in the non-urban (15%) than in urban areas (12%). The picture for coloureds and whites in the same age group does not show vast discrepancies between gender.

People in all population groups in Western Cape tend to be more concentrated in urban areas. As many as 85% of households are found in these areas, while only 15% found in non-urban areas.

African and coloured households in both urban and non-urban areas in Western Cape are likely to have less access to facilities such as electricity, piped tap water in dwellings, flush toilets and telephones than white households.

Relatively low unemployment in Western Cape does not necessarily mean the absence of poverty. Most people may be gainfully employed, but for very meagre returns. In Bangladesh, for example – one of the poorest countries in the world – unemployment is measured at 2% (Hirschowitz and Orkin, 1996:39).

The most significant findings for Western Cape can be summarised as follows:

- The population distribution for Western Cape (predominantly coloured) differs from the population distribution nationally (predominantly African).
- A large proportion of Africans live in shacks in informal settlements.
- Relatively few African children of school-going age are living in Western Cape.
- Among Africans, a large proportion of young adults is found. Rates of unemployment among these young Africans are high.

- A large proportion of Africans and coloureds are found in elementary occupations.
- African households are the poorest in the province.
- Access to facilities, while better than in the rest of the country, remain inadequate.

In general the socio-economic profile of Western Cape is better than that of the country as a whole, but inequality persists between population groups, between men and women, and between urban and non-urban households.

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