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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The information presented in this report is generated from the Population and Housing Census, 2022 (Census 2022). This report is agricultural statistics released at household level. The first report, Census 2011: Agricultural households, was published in 2013 and was generated from the Population Census 2011.

This report forms part of a series of publications generated from the Population and Housing Census, 2022.

1.2 Importance of agricultural statistics

This report profiles Census 2022 results on households' involvement in agriculture and provides useful insights on agricultural activity at household level. The statistics will equip policy makers to optimise agriculture as a driver of food security, job creation and rural development, as envisaged in the National Development Plan. The information collected on households' involvement in agriculture is also used to identify all households involved in agriculture in the country, in order to develop a frame for smallholder and subsistence agriculture. The Census 2022 main questionnaire was used as a tool to identify households involved in agricultural activity.

The questions were structured as follows:

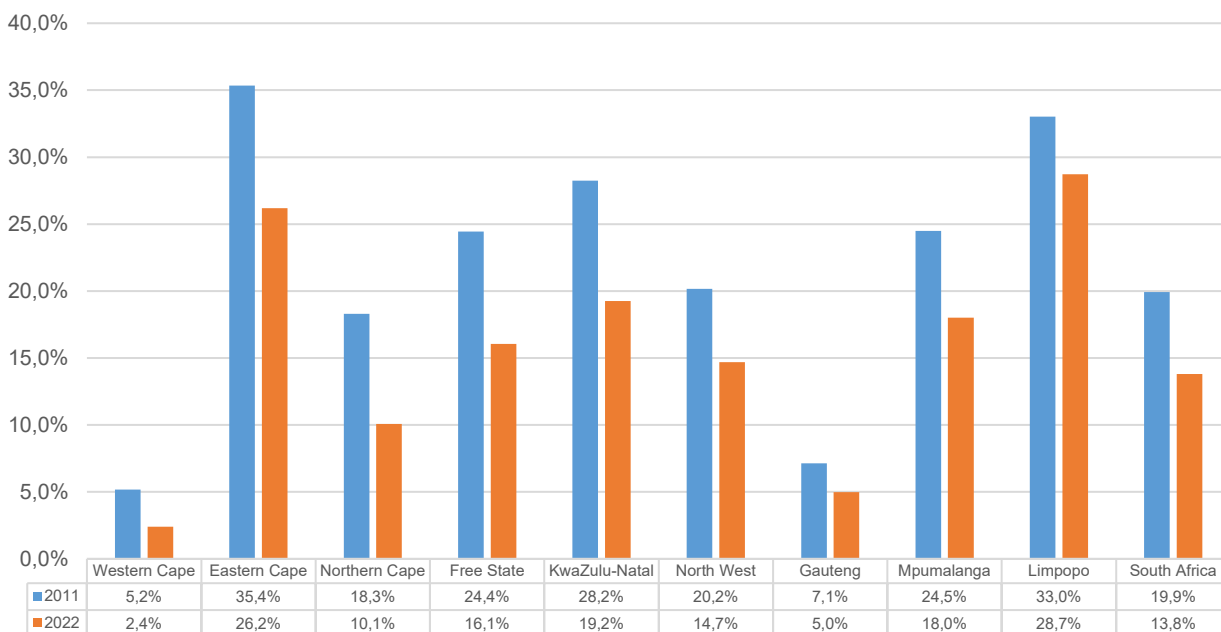
- main agricultural activity;
- quantity of livestock/poultry the household owned as on census night;
- main purpose of involvement in agricultural activities; and
- place and size of agricultural activities.



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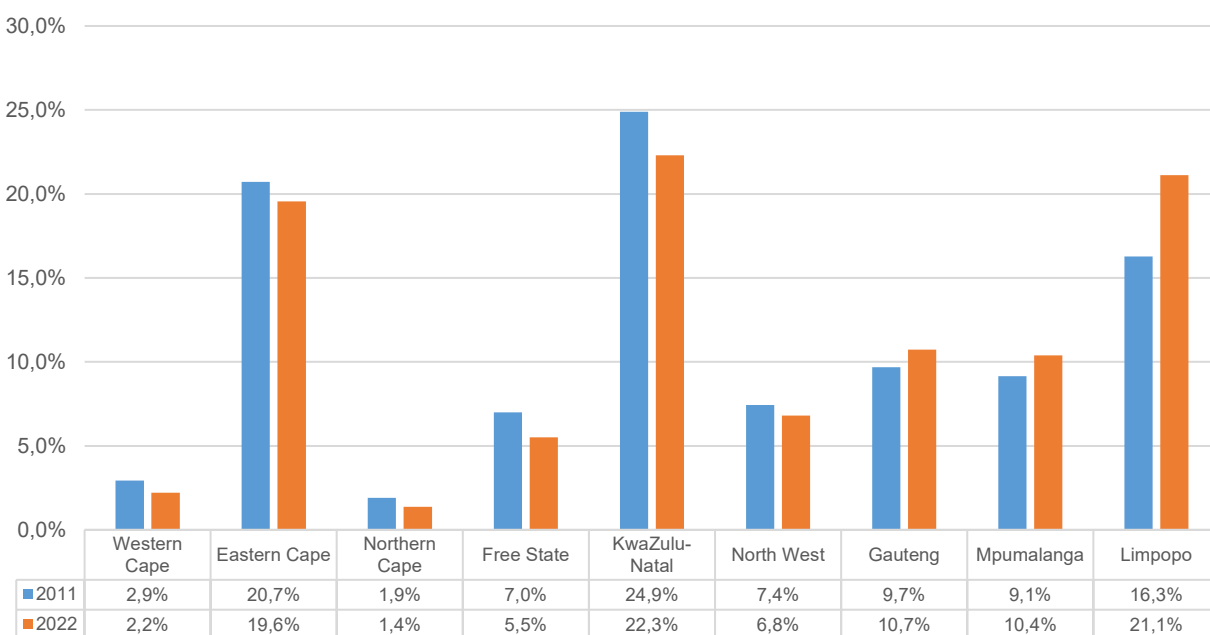
2. Results

Figure 2.1 – Agricultural households as a percentage of total households within each province (percentage)



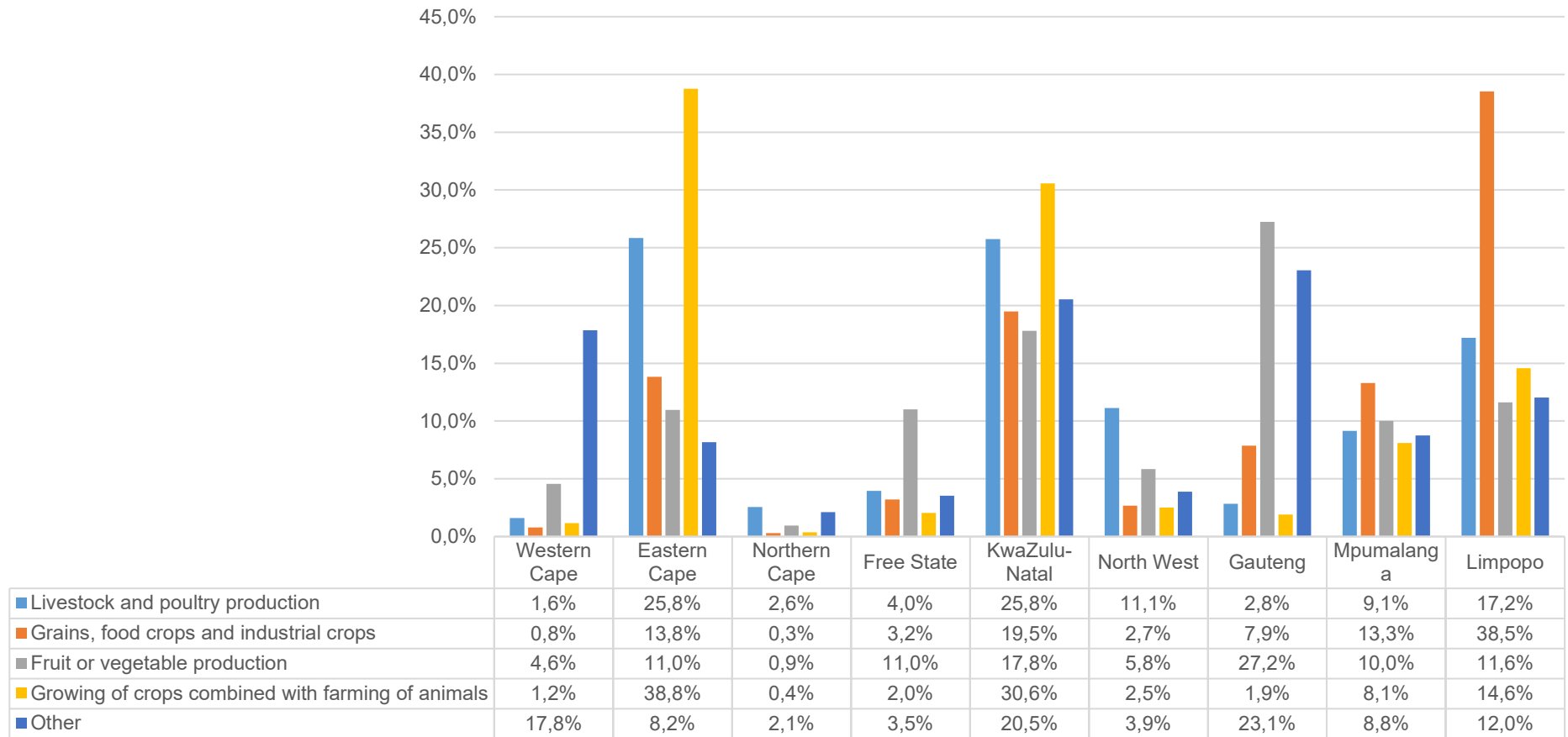
Nationally, in 2022, 13,8% (2 463 429) of all households were agricultural households compared with 19,9% (2 879 590) in 2011. The main provinces that contributed to the decrease were KwaZulu-Natal (-167 726 agricultural households), Eastern Cape (-114 846 agricultural households) and Free State (-65 522 agricultural households). The highest proportion of households that were engaged in agriculture in 2022 was 28,7% in Limpopo, down from 33,0% in 2011. This was followed by 26,2% in Eastern Cape (35,4% in 2011) and 19,2% in KwaZulu-Natal (28,2% in 2011). Western Cape and Gauteng recorded the lowest participation rates in 2022, with 2,4% (5,2% in 2011) and 5,0% (7,1% in 2011) respectively – see Figure 2.1 and Table 3.1.

Figure 2.2 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households (percentage)



In 2022, most agricultural households were in KwaZulu-Natal (22,3%, down from 24,9% in 2011), followed by Limpopo (21,1%, up from 16,3% in 2011) and Eastern Cape (19,6%, down from 20,7% in 2011). The least agricultural households were in Northern Cape (1,4%, down from 1,9% in 2011), followed by Western Cape (2,2%, down from 2,9% in 2011) and Free State (5,5%, down from 7,0% in 2011) – see Figure 2.2 and Table 3.1.

Figure 2.3 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households involved in specific activities (percentage), 2022



Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal accounted for the same proportion (25,8%) of the country’s households involved in livestock and poultry production farming in 2022. Eastern Cape accounted for 38,8% of all households involved in growing of crops combined with farming of animals, followed by KwaZulu-Natal (30,6%) – see Figure 2.3 and Table 3.4.

Figure 2.4 – Distribution of agricultural households by place of agricultural activity within each province (percentage), 2022

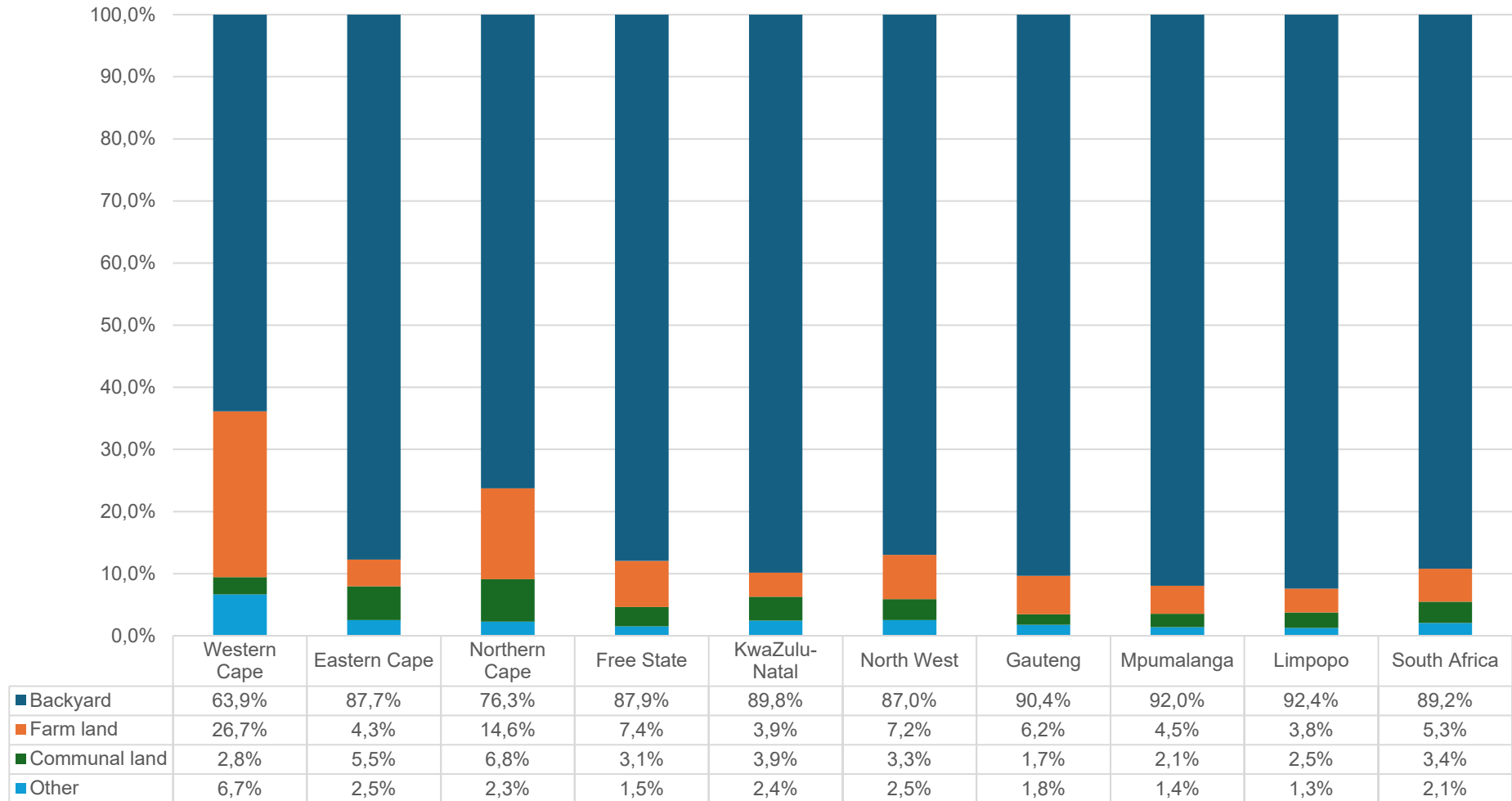
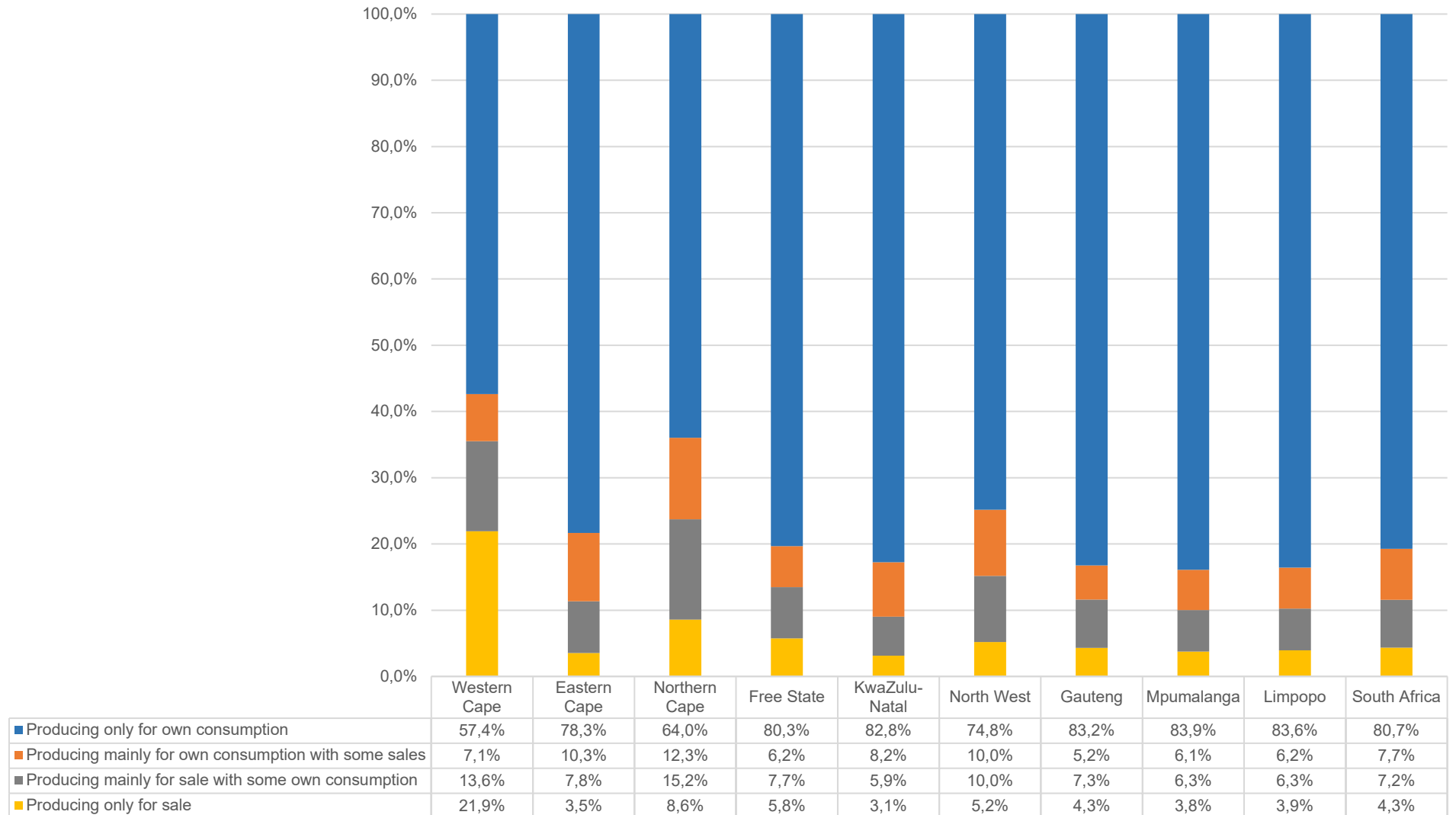


Figure 2.4 and Table 3.6 show that 'backyard' (89,2%) was the leading location of agricultural activity in 2022 nationally. 'Other' locations recorded the lowest percentage at 2,1%. Western Cape had the lowest proportion (63,9%) of households conducting their agricultural activities in a backyard.

Figure 2.5 – Distribution of agricultural households by main purpose of involvement in agricultural activities within each province (percentage), 2022



In South Africa, most of the agricultural households were involved in 'producing only for own consumption' (1 988 825 or 80,7%) and 'producing mainly for own consumption with some sales' (189 371 or 7,7%). Approximately 4,3% or 107 112 of agricultural households were 'producing only for sale' – see Figure 2.5 and Table 3.8.

Figure 2.6 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households engaged in cattle farming (percentage), 2022

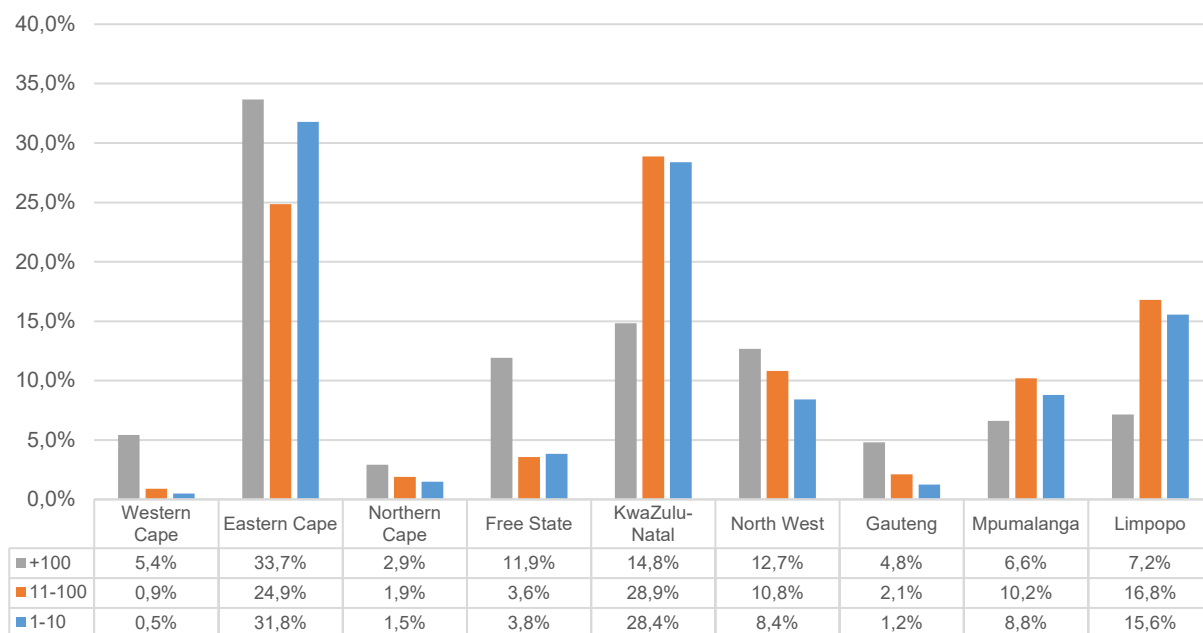


Figure 2.6 and Table 3.13 show that of the country’s agricultural households that farmed 1 to 10 cattle, 31,8% were in Eastern Cape and 28,4% in KwaZulu-Natal. Eastern Cape (33,7% of the country’s total) and KwaZulu-Natal (14,8%) were the leading provinces with agricultural households that farmed more than 100 cattle.

Figure 2.7 – Distribution of agricultural households engaged in cattle farming within each province (percentage), 2022

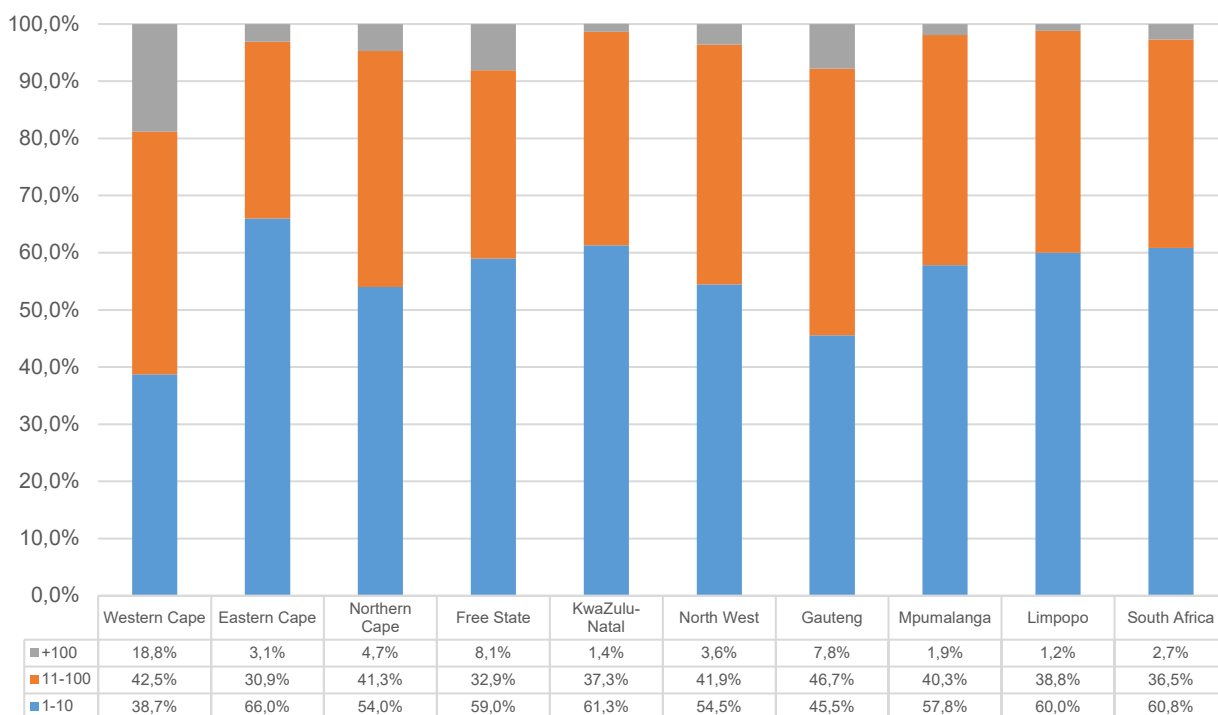
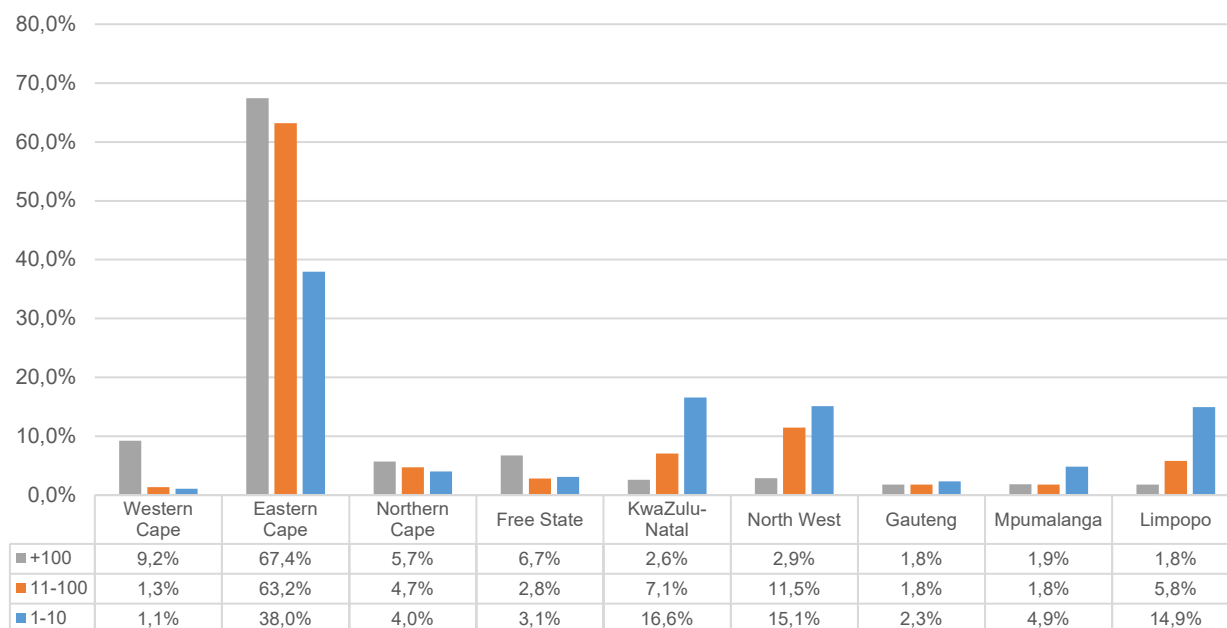


Figure 2.7 and Table 3.13 illustrate that Eastern Cape (66,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (61,3%) had the highest proportion of cattle farming households that had 1 to 10 cattle. Western Cape (18,8%) had the highest proportion of cattle farming households that had more than 100 cattle. Nationally, 60,8% of cattle farming households reported that they had 1 to 10 cattle.

Figure 2.8 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households engaged in sheep farming (percentage), 2022



Eastern Cape was the leading province regarding sheep farming in agricultural households – see Figure 2.8 and Table 3.15. More than one-third (38,0%) of the country’s agricultural households that farmed 1 to 10 sheep were in Eastern Cape. In addition, Eastern Cape accounted for 63,2% of all agricultural households that farmed 11 to 100 sheep as well as 67,4% of those that farmed over 100 sheep.

Figure 2.9 – Distribution of agricultural households engaged in sheep farming within each province (percentage), 2022

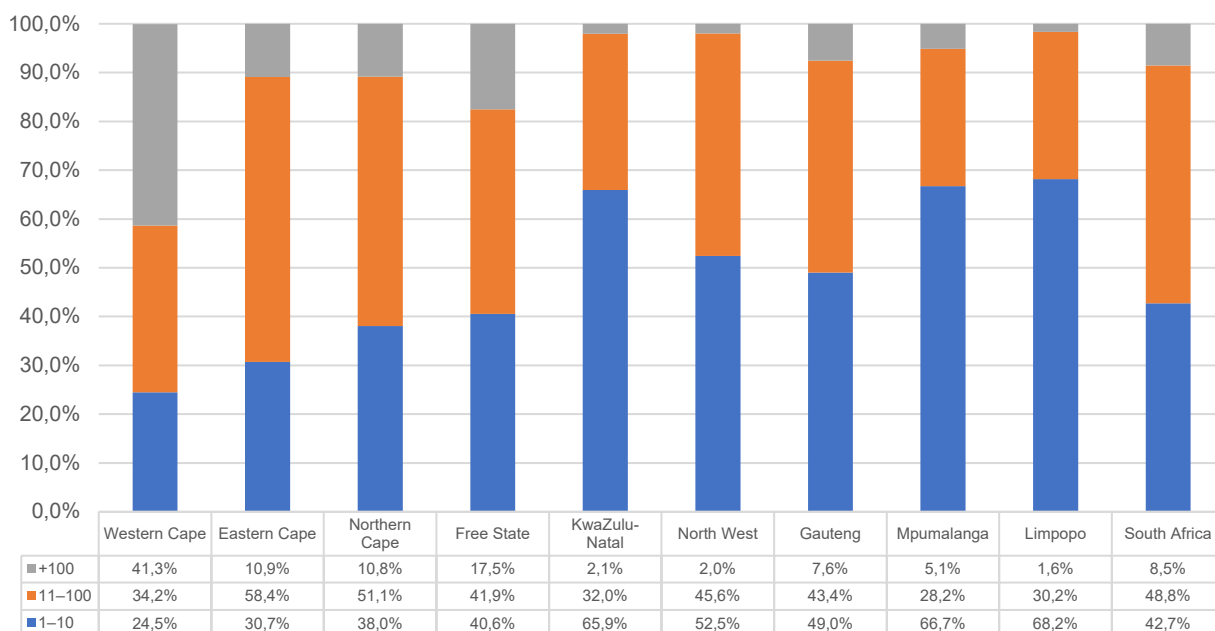
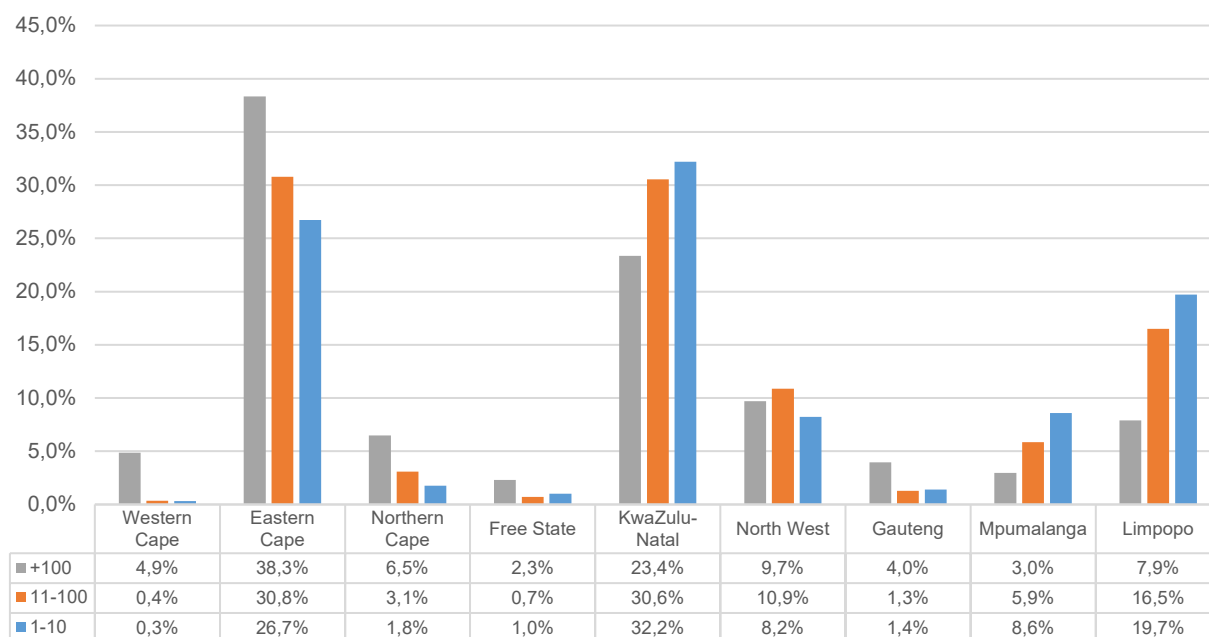


Figure 2.9 and Table 3.15 demonstrate that at provincial level, Limpopo (68,2%) and Mpumalanga (66,7%) had the largest percentages of sheep farming households that had 1 to 10 sheep. Eastern Cape and Northern Cape had the largest percentages of sheep farming households that had 11 to 100 sheep with 58,4% and 51,1% respectively. Western Cape (41,4%) had the highest proportion of sheep farming households that had more than 100 sheep. Nationally, the proportion of sheep farming households that had 11 to 100 sheep was 48,8%.

Figure 2.10 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households engaged in goat farming (percentage), 2022



KwaZulu-Natal (32,2% of the country’s total) and Eastern Cape (26,7%) accounted for the largest percentages of agricultural households that farmed 1 to 10 goats – see Figure 2.10 and Table 3.17. These two provinces also accounted for the largest percentages of agricultural households that farmed 11 or more goats in the country.

Figure 2.11 – Distribution of agricultural households engaged in goat farming within each province (percentage), 2022

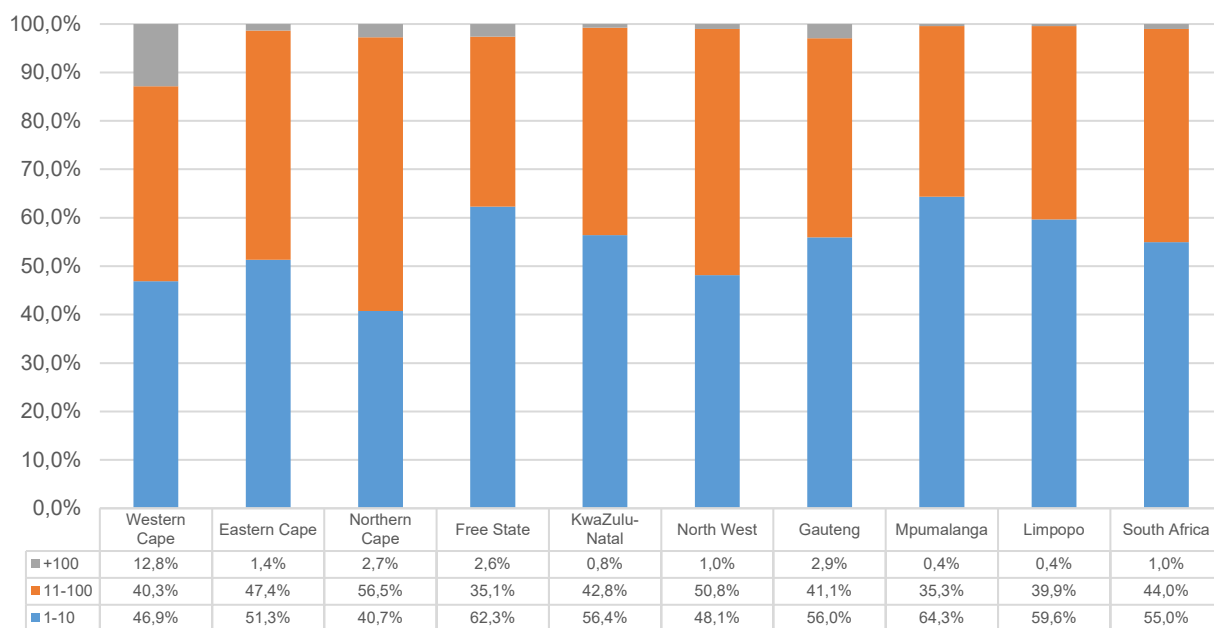
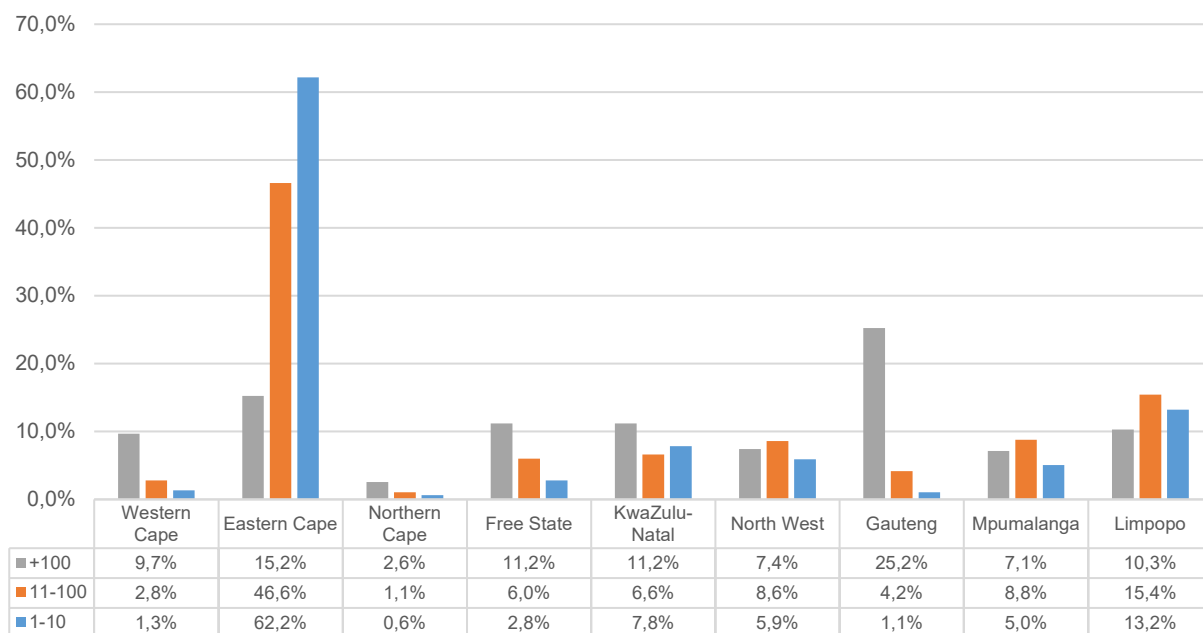


Figure 2.11 and Table 3.17 show that Mpumalanga (64,3%) and Free State (62,3%) recorded the highest proportions of goat farming households that farmed 1 to 10 goats.

Figure 2.12 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households engaged in pig farming (percentage), 2022



Eastern Cape (62,2% of the country’s total) had the largest percentage of agricultural households that farmed 1 to 10 pigs – see Figure 2.12 and Table 3.19. The province also had the largest percentage (46,6%) of agricultural households that farmed 11 to 100 pigs in the country.

Figure 2.13 – Distribution of agricultural households engaged in pig farming within each province (percentage), 2022

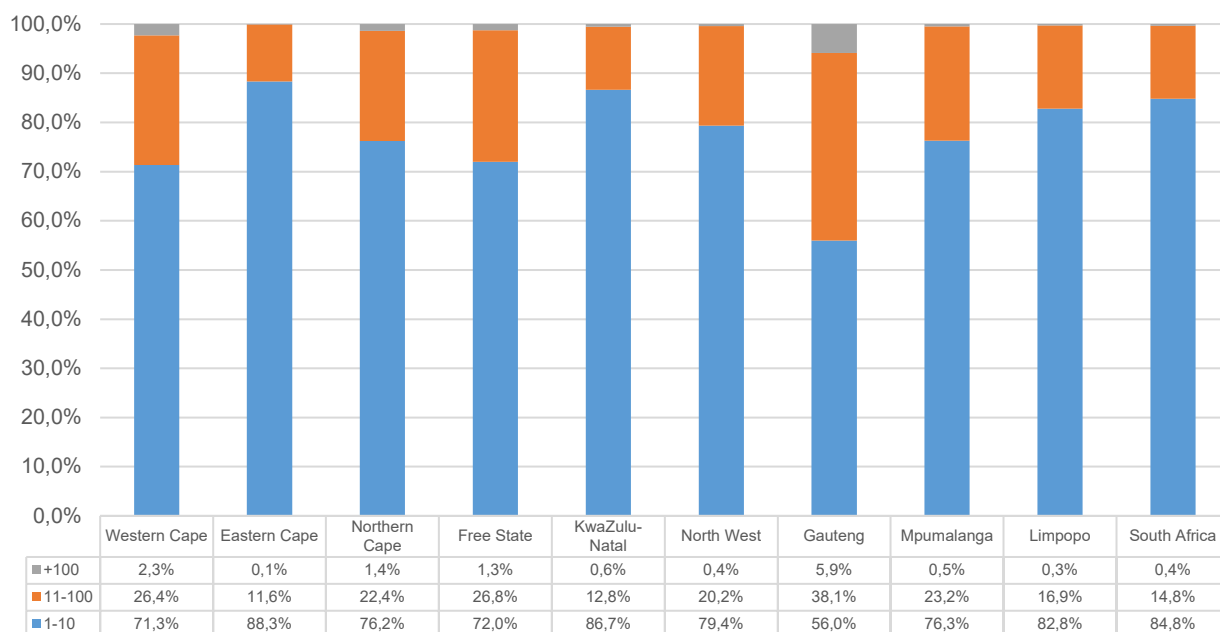
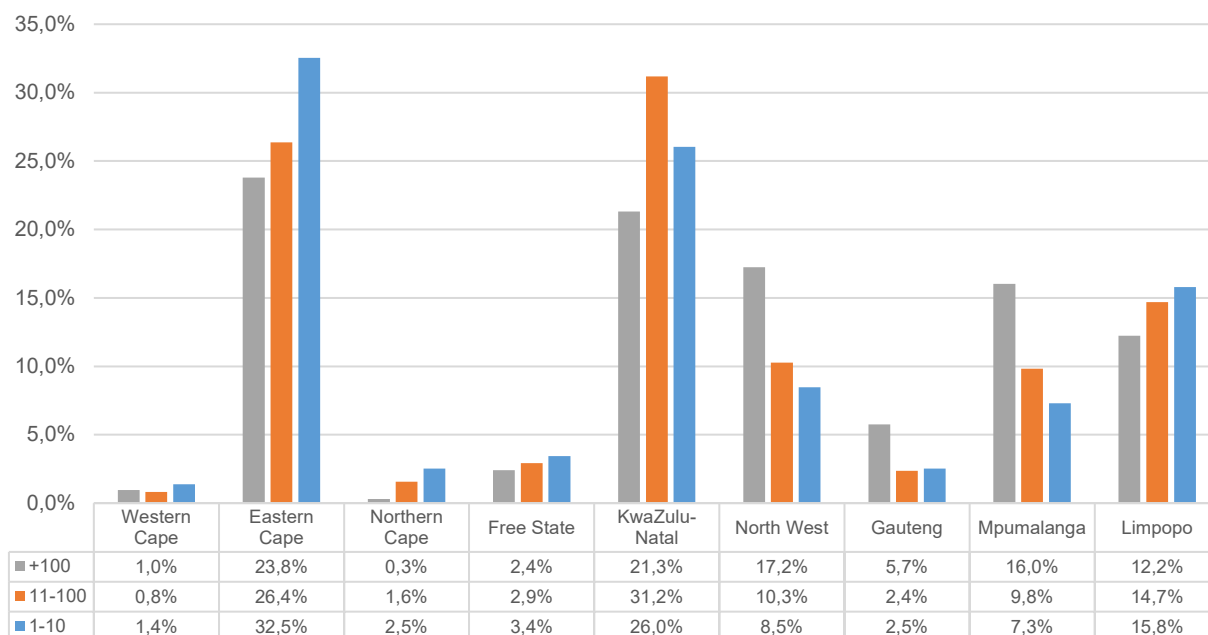


Figure 2.13 and Table 3.19 show that among agricultural households that farmed pigs, most (84,8%) households had 1 to 10 pigs. Eastern Cape (88,3%), KwaZulu-Natal (86,7%) and Limpopo (82,8%) recorded the largest proportions of pig farming households that farmed 1 to 10 pigs.

Figure 2.14 – Provincial distribution of agricultural households engaged in chicken farming (percentage), 2022



Eastern Cape (32,5% of the country’s total) and KwaZulu-Natal (26,0%) had the highest percentage of agricultural households that farmed 1 to 10 chickens – see Figure 2.14 and Table 3.21. These provinces also had the highest percentage of agricultural households that farmed 11 or more chickens in the country.

Figure 2.15 – Distribution of agricultural households engaged in chicken farming within each province (percentage), 2022

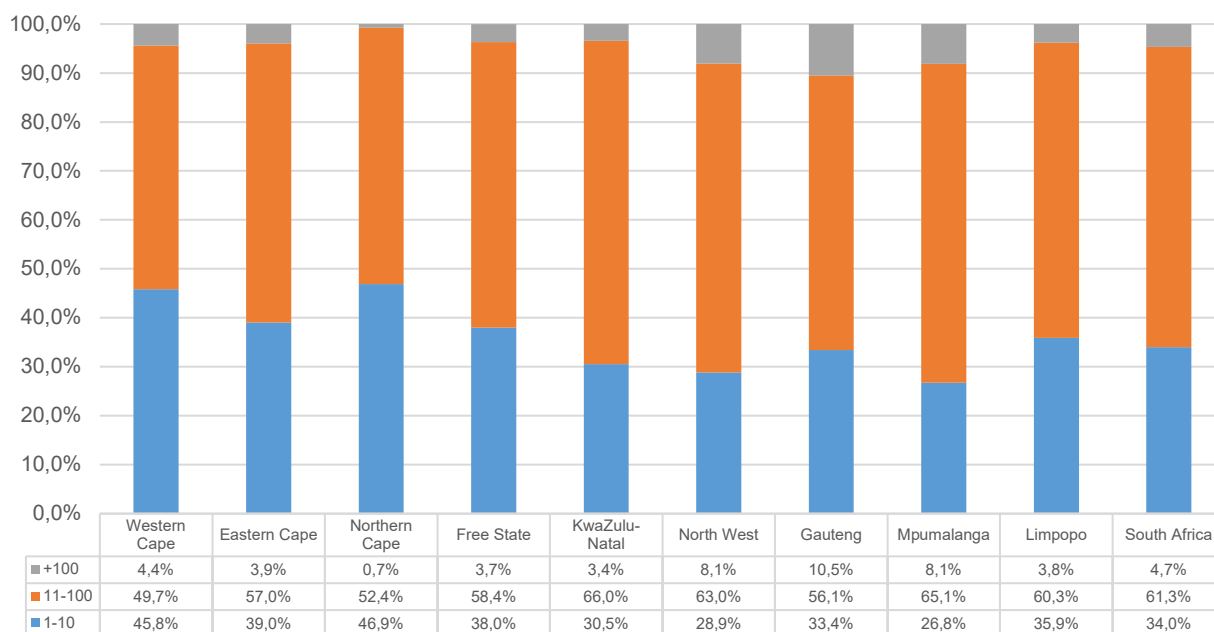
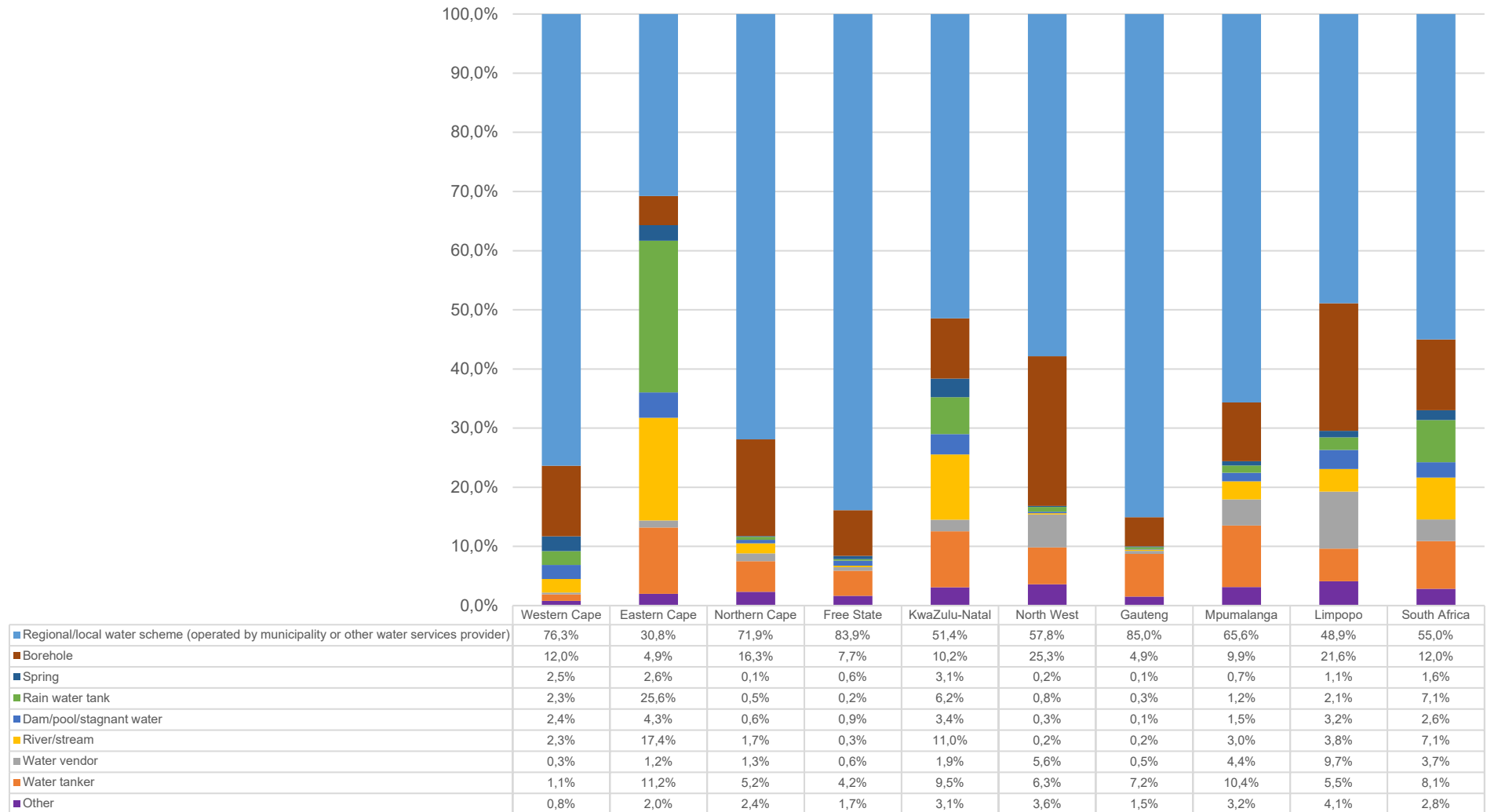


Figure 2.15 and Table 3.21 show that Northern Cape (46,9%) and Western Cape (45,8%) recorded the highest proportions of chicken farming households that farmed 1 to 10 chickens. For households that farmed 11 to 100 chickens, KwaZulu-Natal (66,0%) and Mpumalanga (65,1%) recorded the highest proportions.

Figure 2.16 – Distribution of agricultural households by main source of drinking water within each province (percentage), 2022



As shown in Figure 2.16 and Table 3.28, 55,0% of agricultural households received water from a 'regional/local water scheme (operated by municipality or other water services provider)'. In individual provinces, Eastern Cape (30,8%) and Limpopo (48,9%) had the lowest proportions of agricultural households receiving water from a 'regional/local water scheme (operated by municipality or other water services provider)'.

Figure 2.17 – Distribution of agricultural households by type of toilet within each province (percentage), 2022

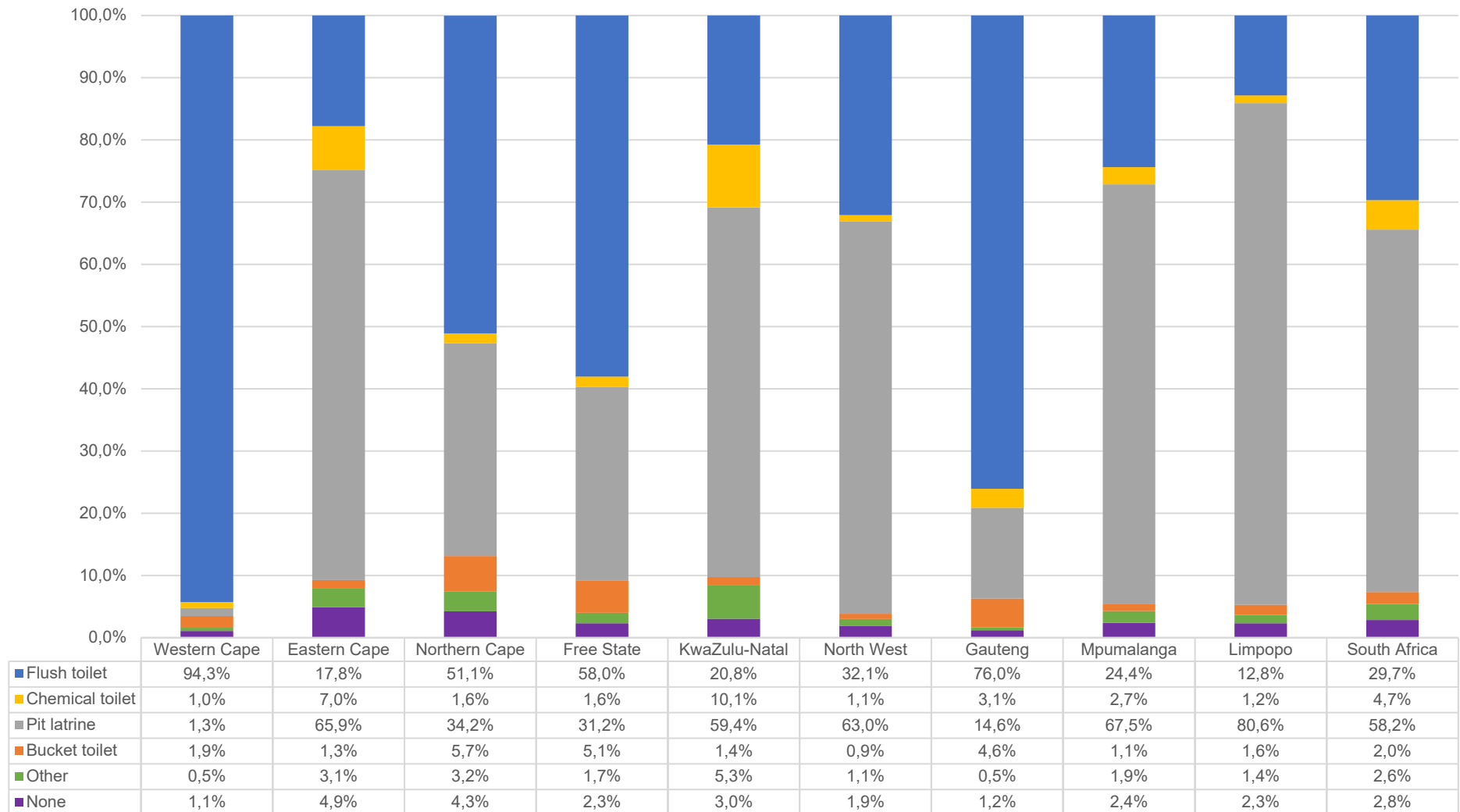


Figure 2.17 and Table 3.29 illustrate that the majority of agricultural households in the country used pit latrines (58,2%), followed by those who used flush toilets (29,7%). In individual provinces, Limpopo (80,6%), Mpumalanga (67,5%), Eastern Cape (65,9%) and North West (63,0%) had the highest proportions of agricultural households using pit latrines.

Figure 2.18 – Distribution of agricultural households by type of energy mainly used for lighting within each province (percentage), 2022

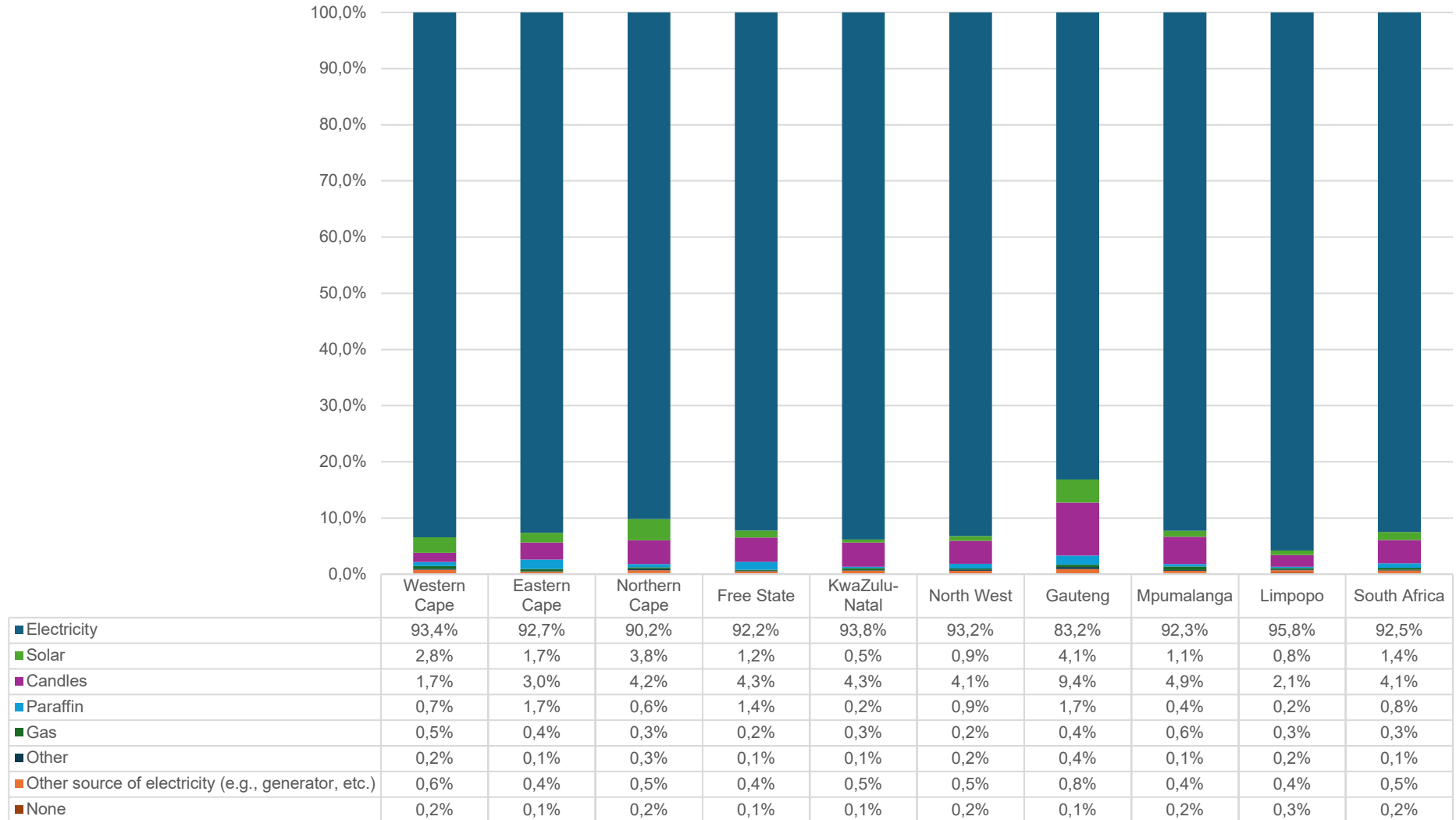


Figure 2.18 and Table 3.30 show that in all provinces, electricity was the main source of energy for lighting in agricultural households. Nationally, 92,5% of agricultural households used electricity as the main source of energy for lighting, followed by those which used candles (4,1%) and solar (1,4%).

Figure 2.19 – Distribution of agricultural households by type of energy mainly used for cooking within each province (percentage), 2022

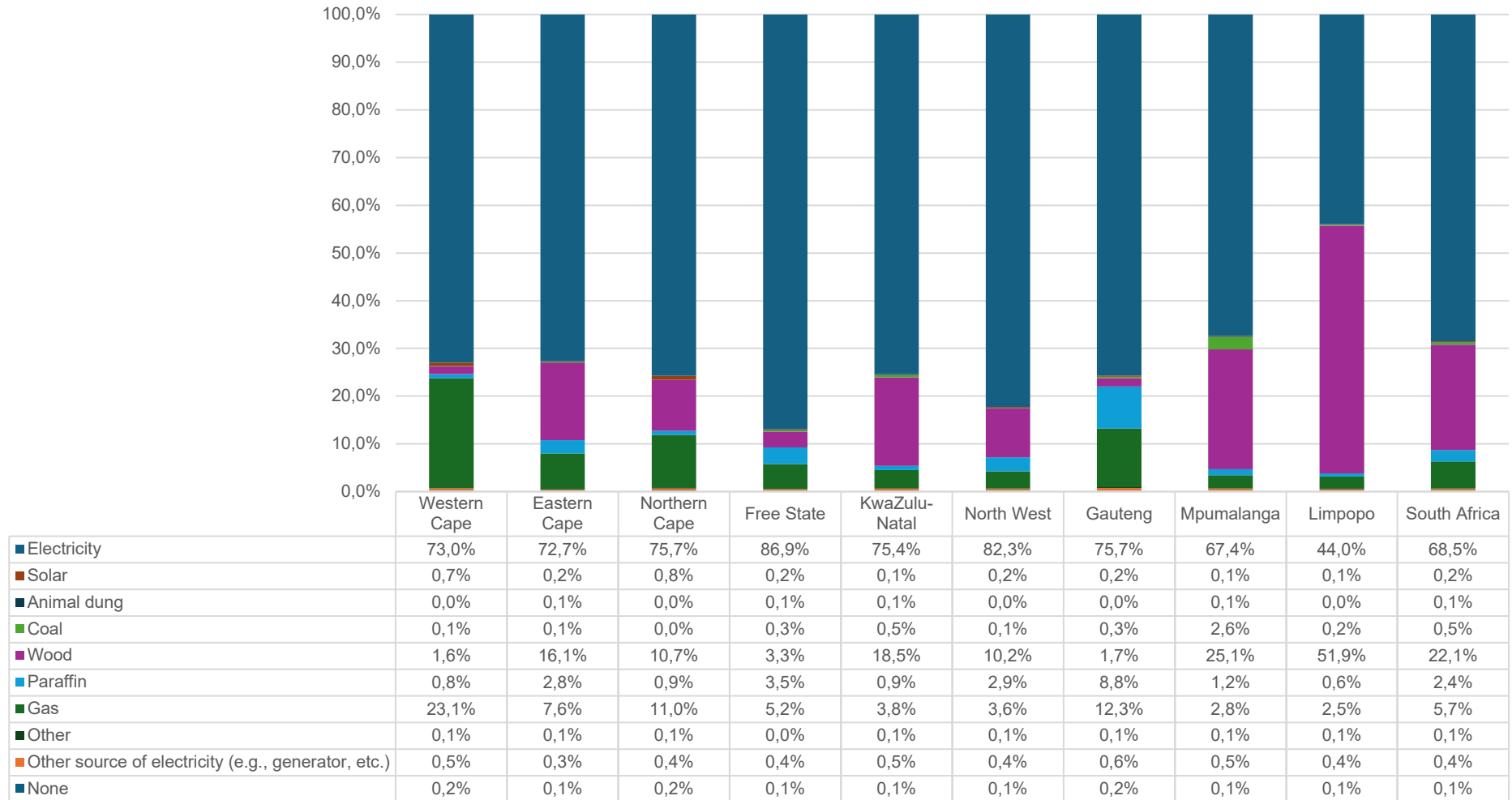


Figure 2.19 and Table 3.31 shows that in all provinces (except Limpopo), electricity was the main source of energy for cooking in agricultural households. In Limpopo, wood was the main source of energy for cooking in agricultural households (51,9%). Nationally, 68,5% and 22,1% of agricultural households used electricity and wood respectively as the main sources of energy for cooking.

Figure 2.20 – Percentage distribution of agricultural households by sex and age of the household head, 2011 and 2022

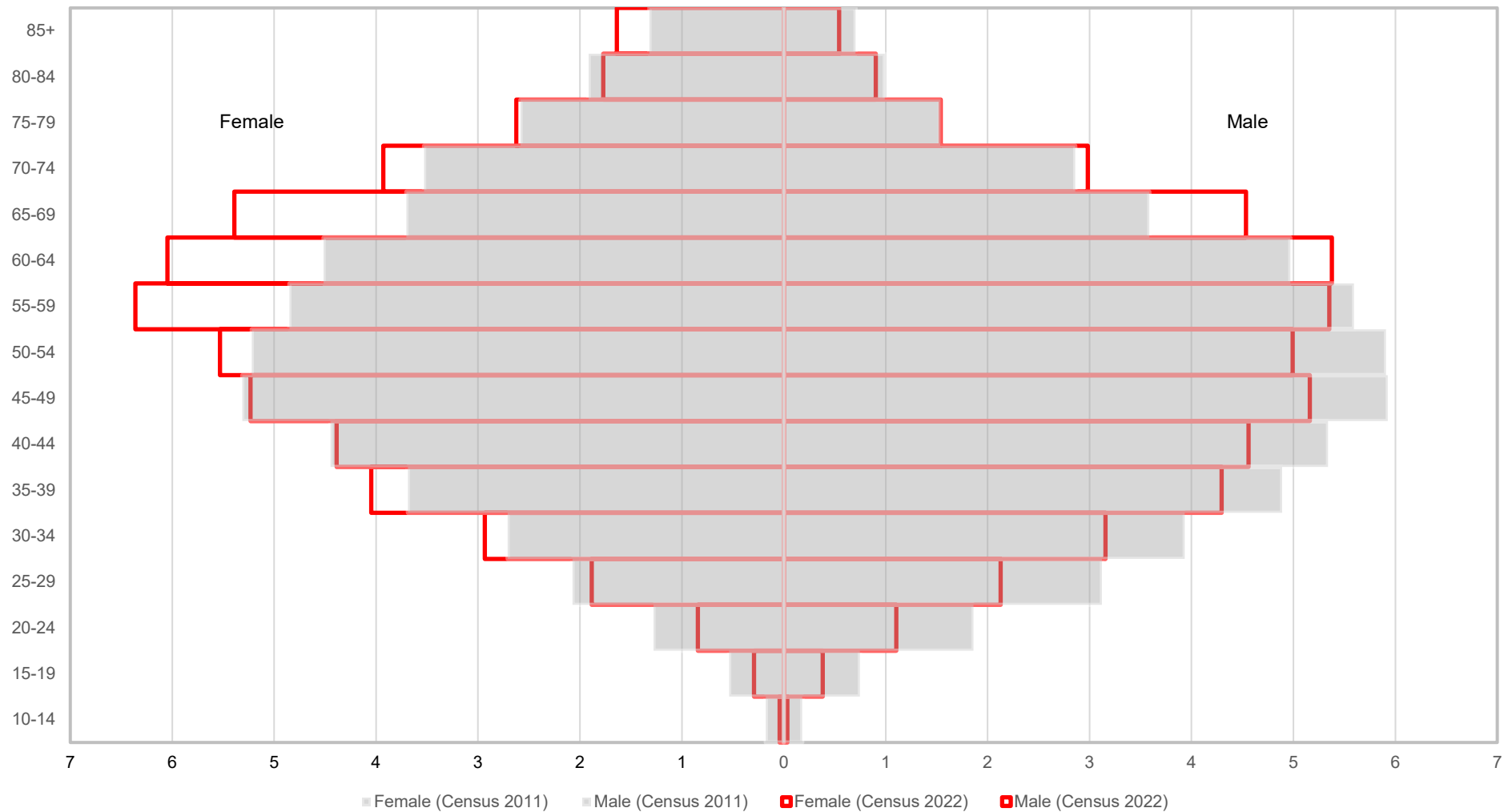
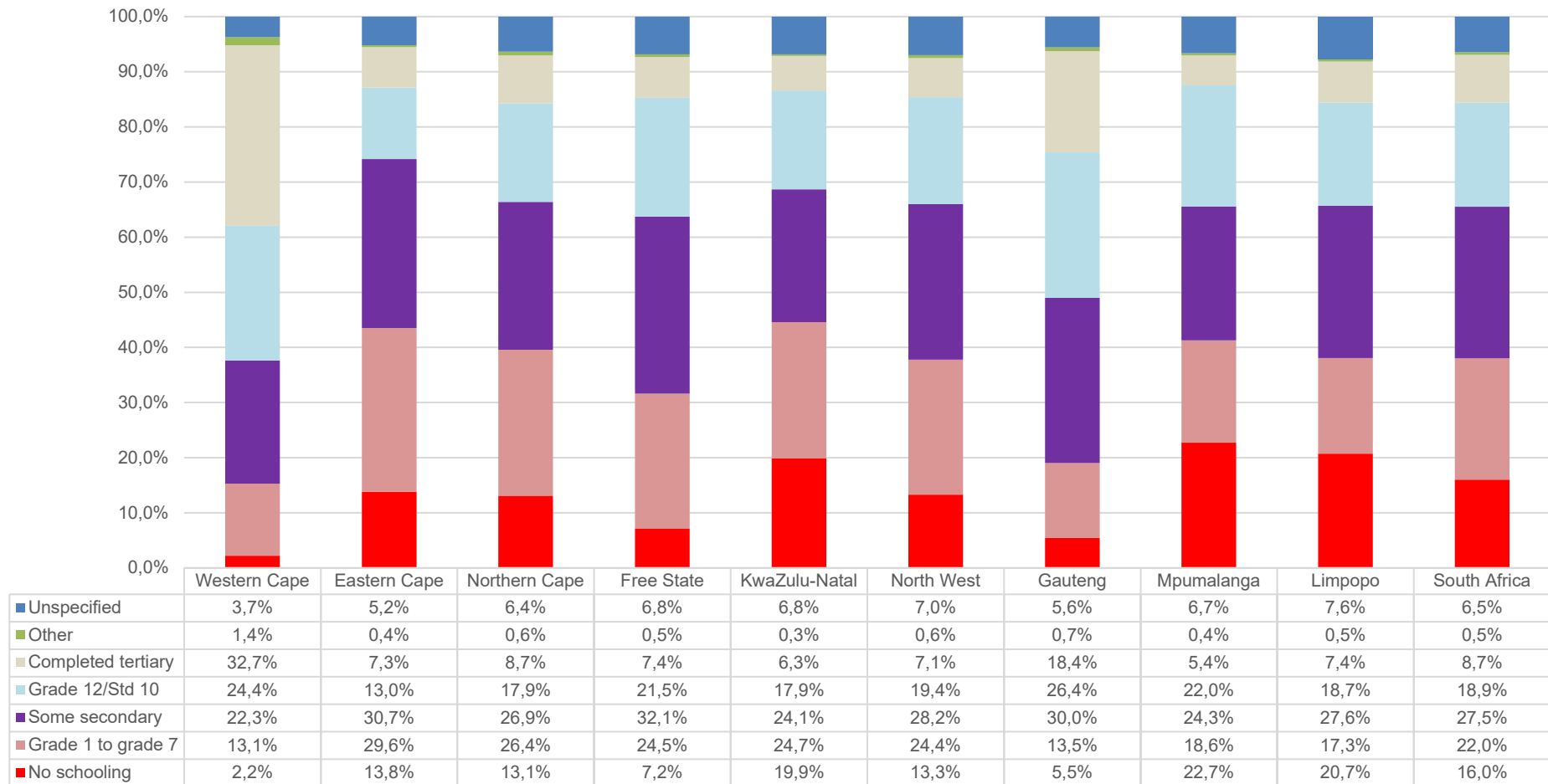


Figure 2.20 shows the distribution of the household head by sex and age in 2011 and 2022. There were more female heading agricultural households (52,9%) in 2022 compared with 2011 (47,9%). In 2022, the age group 55-59 years at 6,4%, reported the highest participation of female headed households in agriculture in 2022. In 2011, the age group 45-49 years (5,3%) reported the highest proportion of female headed agricultural households (essentially the same cohort 11 years later).

Figure 2.21 – Distribution of agricultural households by education level of the household head within each province (percentage), 2022



In 2022, the largest proportion of agricultural household heads (27,5%) reported ‘some secondary’ education as their highest education level, followed by ‘grade1 to grade 7’ (22,0%) – see Figure 2.21 and Table 3.37. Agricultural household heads with ‘grade 12/std 10’ and ‘no schooling’ education levels constituted 18,9% and 16,0% respectively. Only 8,7% of agricultural household heads had a completed tertiary education qualification. Western Cape reported the lowest proportion (2,2%) of agricultural household heads with ‘no schooling’ and the highest proportion (32,7%) with a completed tertiary education qualification.

3. List of agricultural households tables

Table 3.1 – Number of households, 2011 and 2022

Province	Agricultural households		Non-agricultural households		Total number of households	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	84 567	54 644	1 549 357	2 209 388	1 633 924	2 264 032
Eastern Cape	596 570	481 724	1 090 774	1 357 236	1 687 344	1 838 960
Northern Cape	55 151	33 650	246 249	299 904	301 400	333 554
Free State	201 284	135 762	622 001	709 488	823 285	845 250
KwaZulu-Natal	716 994	549 268	1 822 342	2 304 472	2 539 336	2 853 740
North West	214 045	167 578	847 953	973 714	1 061 998	1 141 292
Gauteng	279 095	264 554	3 629 731	5 054 111	3 908 826	5 318 665
Mpumalanga	263 389	256 117	812 076	1 165 604	1 075 465	1 421 721
Limpopo	468 495	520 132	949 591	1 291 432	1 418 086	1 811 564
South Africa	2 879 590	2 463 429	11 570 074	15 365 349	14 449 664	17 828 778

Table 3.2 – Number of agricultural households by population group, 2011 and 2022

Province	Black African		Coloured		Indian or Asian		White	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	22 575	13 053	34 882	16 738	523	1 185	25 546	22 680
Eastern Cape	574 114	444 727	9 560	14 773	725	2 283	11 627	19 550
Northern Cape	30 076	21 154	17 137	7 745	190	184	7 013	4 182
Free State	183 829	124 317	3 409	2 894	303	368	13 503	8 079
KwaZulu-Natal	685 238	519 282	3 211	8 749	12 096	6 315	15 579	14 717
North West	196 272	150 944	2 317	4 252	417	958	14 639	11 282
Gauteng	221 145	222 626	5 256	8 603	4 948	4 664	46 566	28 215
Mpumalanga	252 060	241 309	838	6 936	533	1 385	9 693	6 304
Limpopo	460 484	496 633	469	9 521	469	1 705	6 699	12 016
South Africa	2 625 793	2 234 045	77 079	80 211	20 204	19 047	150 865	127 025

Note: The figures exclude the 'other' population group.

Table 3.3 – Number of agricultural households by sex of household head

Province	Female		Male	
	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	23 176	18 376	61 391	36 268
Eastern Cape	325 173	269 794	271 397	211 930
Northern Cape	18 760	12 988	36 391	20 662
Free State	82 895	64 938	118 389	70 824
KwaZulu-Natal	388 295	322 255	328 699	227 013
North West	82 652	77 030	131 393	90 548
Gauteng	93 879	115 498	185 216	149 056
Mpumalanga	117 935	133 627	145 454	122 490
Limpopo	245 322	289 860	223 173	230 272
South Africa	1 378 087	1 304 366	1 501 503	1 159 063

Table 3.4 – Number of agricultural households by activity and province, 2022

Province	Livestock and poultry production	Grains, food crops and industrial crops	Fruit or vegetable production	Growing of crops combined with farming of animals	Other	Total number of households
Western Cape	15 313	5 194	30 137	2 093	1 907	54 644
Eastern Cape	247 902	89 962	72 569	70 417	874	481 724
Northern Cape	24 607	1 877	6 250	689	227	33 650
Free State	37 939	20 942	72 803	3 699	379	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	247 043	126 727	117 789	55 514	2 195	549 268
North West	106 649	17 325	38 613	4 575	416	167 578
Gauteng	27 207	51 187	180 233	3 464	2 463	264 554
Mpumalanga	87 732	86 419	66 296	14 734	936	256 117
Limpopo	164 976	250 463	76 923	26 483	1 287	520 132
South Africa	959 368	650 096	661 613	181 668	10 684	2 463 429

Table 3.5 – Number of agricultural households by activity and population group, 2022

Population group	Livestock and poultry production	Grains, food crops and industrial crops	Fruit or vegetable production	Growing of crops combined with farming of animals	Other	Total number of households
Black African	875 619	615 673	566 650	170 972	5 131	2 234 045
Coloured	30 824	13 113	31 928	3 141	1 205	80 211
Indian or Asian	3 629	4 025	10 409	456	528	19 047
White	48 529	16 595	51 150	6 988	3 763	127 025
South Africa	958 601	649 406	660 137	181 557	10 627	2 460 328

Note: The figures exclude the 'other' population group.

Table 3.6 – Number of agricultural households by place of agricultural activity and province, 2022

Province	Backyard	Farm land	Communal land	Other	Total number of households
Western Cape	34 880	14 579	1 528	3 637	54 624
Eastern Cape	422 542	20 603	26 329	12 085	481 559
Northern Cape	25 657	4 910	2 296	770	33 633
Free State	119 389	10 070	4 228	2 061	135 748
KwaZulu-Natal	493 403	21 195	21 181	13 370	549 149
North West	145 700	11 984	5 610	4 239	167 533
Gauteng	238 999	16 364	4 432	4 686	264 481
Mpumalanga	235 486	11 498	5 502	3 592	256 078
Limpopo	480 680	19 902	12 907	6 567	520 056
South Africa	2 196 736	131 105	84 013	51 007	2 462 861

Note: The figures exclude 'unspecified' place of agricultural activity.

Table 3.7 – Number of agricultural households by place of agricultural activity and population group, 2022

Population group	Backyard	Farm land	Communal land	Other	Total number of households
Black African	2 043 626	72 079	76 115	41 739	2 233 559
Coloured	68 372	6 324	3 019	2 464	80 179
Indian or Asian	16 163	1 655	524	701	19 043
White	66 241	50 534	4 252	5 953	126 980
South Africa	2 194 402	130 592	83 910	50 857	2 459 761

Note: The figures exclude the 'other' population group and 'unspecified' place of agricultural activity.

Table 3.8 – Number of agricultural households by main purpose of involvement in agricultural activities and province, 2022

Province	Producing only for sale	Producing mainly for sale with some own consumption	Producing mainly for own consumption with some sales	Producing only for own consumption	Total number of households
Western Cape	11 972	7 432	3 884	31 352	54 640
Eastern Cape	17 067	37 574	49 785	377 247	481 673
Northern Cape	2 886	5 101	4 131	21 521	33 639
Free State	7 817	10 509	8 387	109 035	135 748
KwaZulu-Natal	17 171	32 485	45 053	454 524	549 233
North West	8 725	16 686	16 742	125 412	167 565
Gauteng	11 391	19 278	13 641	220 210	264 520
Mpumalanga	9 637	16 015	15 552	214 901	256 105
Limpopo	20 446	32 827	32 196	434 623	520 092
South Africa	107 112	177 907	189 371	1 988 825	2 463 215

Note: The figures exclude 'unspecified' main purpose of involvement in agricultural activities.

Table 3.9 – Number of agricultural households by main purpose of involvement in agricultural activities and population group, 2022

Population group	Producing only for sale	Producing mainly for sale with some own consumption	Producing mainly for own consumption with some sales	Producing only for own consumption	Total number of households
Black African	64 232	143 974	171 354	1 854 308	2 233 868
Coloured	4 839	7 286	6 082	61 990	80 197
Indian or Asian	1 452	1 620	1 370	14 605	19 047
White	36 230	24 650	10 335	55 787	127 002
South Africa	106 753	177 530	189 141	1 986 690	2 460 114

Note: The figures exclude the 'other' population group and 'unspecified' main purpose of involvement in agricultural activities.

Table 3.10 – Number of livestock by type and province on 2 February 2022

Province	Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Chickens
Western Cape	672 257	2 311 221	213 404	203 457	2 988 688
Eastern Cape	3 913 602	10 237 266	2 415 292	484 368	6 401 158
Northern Cape	241 906	1 222 727	287 359	31 924	488 011
Free State	1 011 757	1 440 964	348 912	179 827	1 888 054
KwaZulu-Natal	2 604 077	577 895	1 881 318	209 657	7 767 408
North West	1 141 010	550 344	451 707	141 949	5 591 672
Gauteng	483 591	291 271	171 027	296 701	5 211 709
Mpumalanga	1 105 270	436 112	308 045	182 726	3 142 860
Limpopo	1 158 976	592 758	862 580	262 530	4 752 754
South Africa	12 332 446	17 660 558	6 939 644	1 993 139	38 232 314

Table 3.11 – Number of livestock by type and population group on 2 February 2022

Population group of household head	Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Chickens
Black African	4 361 129	4 482 096	4 897 657	1 052 055	18 950 901
Coloured	170 420	458 024	190 534	66 421	1 208 204
Indian or Asian	72 865	174 860	39 915	13 783	160 005
White	7 700 505	12 472 228	1 789 748	855 312	17 588 245
South Africa	12 304 919	17 587 208	6 917 854	1 987 571	37 907 355

Note: The figures exclude the 'other' population group.

Table 3.12 – Number of livestock by type and sex of household head on 2 February 2022

Sex of household head	Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Chickens
Male	9 376 503	14 682 755	4 287 463	1 260 907	28 093 733
Female	2 955 943	2 977 803	2 652 181	732 232	10 138 581
South Africa	12 332 446	17 660 558	6 939 644	1 993 139	38 232 314

Table 3.13 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of cattle farmed, 2011 and 2022

Province	1–10		11–100		+100		Total	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	2 487	1 701	2 186	1 864	1 258	824	5 931	4 389
Eastern Cape	172 512	109 358	25 908	51 276	2 122	5 104	200 542	165 738
Northern Cape	6 356	5 082	3 513	3 884	977	444	10 846	9 410
Free State	21 952	13 194	6 354	7 365	2 282	1 807	30 588	22 366
KwaZulu-Natal	136 724	97 675	31 017	59 552	1 792	2 248	169 533	159 475
North West	35 543	28 967	13 755	22 306	2 401	1 922	51 699	53 195
Gauteng	4 518	4 267	2 922	4 371	789	728	8 229	9 366
Mpumalanga	33 088	30 206	10 565	21 026	1 074	1 002	44 727	52 234
Limpopo	69 090	53 547	21 713	34 639	759	1 085	91 562	89 271
South Africa	482 270	343 997	117 933	206 283	13 454	15 164	613 657	565 444

Table 3.14 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of cattle farmed, 2022

Province	1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40	41–50	51–60	61–70	71–80	81–90	91–100	+100	Total
Western Cape	1 701	631	335	165	251	112	76	71	37	186	824	4 389
Eastern Cape	109 358	30 153	9 995	4 442	2 615	1 366	746	619	258	1 082	5 104	165 738
Northern Cape	5 082	1 847	828	317	347	154	95	123	33	140	444	9 410
Free State	13 194	3 640	1 329	541	674	321	102	140	75	543	1 807	22 366
KwaZulu-Natal	97 675	35 990	12 404	4 826	2 955	1 554	668	408	291	456	2 248	159 475
North West	28 967	11 504	4 812	1 931	1 643	712	437	482	156	629	1 922	53 195
Gauteng	4 267	2 040	831	389	415	192	148	117	31	208	728	9 366
Mpumalanga	30 206	11 475	4 545	2 082	1 323	623	315	211	108	344	1 002	52 234
Limpopo	53 547	20 143	7 991	2 941	1 768	746	410	213	224	203	1 085	89 271
South Africa	343 997	117 423	43 070	17 634	11 991	5 780	2 997	2 384	1 213	3 791	15 164	565 444

Table 3.15 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of sheep farmed, 2011 and 2022

Province	1–10		11–100		+100		Total	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	1 676	1 332	1 738	1 861	2 845	2 252	6 259	5 445
Eastern Cape	62 596	46 488	55 972	88 325	4 535	16 463	123 103	151 276
Northern Cape	5 041	4 893	4 530	6 573	3 287	1 395	12 858	12 861
Free State	3 529	3 810	3 031	3 932	2 154	1 646	8 714	9 388
KwaZulu-Natal	15 887	20 320	5 608	9 871	891	633	22 386	30 824
North West	10 736	18 508	6 441	16 073	930	700	18 107	35 281
Gauteng	2 224	2 854	1 661	2 524	465	441	4 350	5 819
Mpumalanga	3 327	5 945	1 591	2 509	475	456	5 393	8 910
Limpopo	10 031	18 300	3 531	8 105	300	436	13 862	26 841
South Africa	115 047	122 450	84 103	139 773	15 882	24 422	215 032	286 645

Table 3.16 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of sheep farmed, 2022

Province	1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40	41–50	51–60	61–70	71–80	81–90	91–100	+100	Total
Western Cape	1 332	598	301	228	232	114	77	83	28	200	2 252	5 445
Eastern Cape	46 488	30 803	17 424	11 084	8 902	6 403	4 439	3 436	2 779	3 055	16 463	151 276
Northern Cape	4 893	2 636	1 448	808	595	385	194	161	71	275	1 395	12 861
Free State	3 810	1 594	749	359	438	160	134	76	81	341	1 646	9 388
KwaZulu-Natal	20 320	5 664	2 018	745	547	349	164	118	107	159	633	30 824
North West	18 508	8 110	3 143	1 761	1 189	837	280	228	138	387	700	35 281
Gauteng	2 854	1 127	597	192	254	86	61	84	33	90	441	5 819
Mpumalanga	5 945	1 426	390	138	245	82	51	53	41	83	456	8 910
Limpopo	18 300	5 159	1 728	430	404	171	53	28	67	65	436	26 841
South Africa	122 450	57 117	27 798	15 745	12 806	8 587	5 453	4 267	3 345	4 655	24 422	286 645

Table 3.17 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of goats farmed, 2011 and 2022

Province	1–10		11–100		+100		Total	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	1 188	1 048	737	901	460	287	2 385	2 236
Eastern Cape	109 953	85 661	39 012	79 073	1 176	2 260	150 141	166 994
Northern Cape	7 564	5 697	5 809	7 903	673	382	14 046	13 982
Free State	2 123	3 239	1 164	1 826	202	135	3 489	5 200
KwaZulu-Natal	101 684	103 249	28 219	78 439	530	1 378	130 433	183 066
North West	19 979	26 411	7 186	27 887	317	572	27 482	54 870
Gauteng	2 884	4 457	1 409	3 275	303	233	4 596	7 965
Mpumalanga	15 698	27 489	3 118	15 062	99	176	18 915	42 727
Limpopo	64 598	63 242	12 740	42 331	237	467	77 575	106 040
South Africa	325 671	320 493	99 394	256 697	3 997	5 890	429 062	583 080

Table 3.18 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of goats farmed, 2022

Province	1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40	41–50	51–60	61–70	71–80	81–90	91–100	+100	Total
Western Cape	1 048	403	176	74	97	38	15	28	14	56	287	2 236
Eastern Cape	85 661	40 497	16 937	9 000	5 107	2 811	1 816	1 087	922	896	2 260	166 994
Northern Cape	5 697	3 499	1 784	905	680	354	250	192	103	136	382	13 982
Free State	3 239	1 015	392	161	142	42	19	18	11	26	135	5 200
KwaZulu-Natal	103 249	42 729	17 335	8 177	4 234	2 580	1 564	920	537	363	1 378	183 066
North West	26 411	13 417	6 083	3 469	1 988	1 279	468	506	323	354	572	54 870
Gauteng	4 457	1 733	616	382	234	113	39	50	48	60	233	7 965
Mpumalanga	27 489	9 143	3 280	1 080	875	270	215	105	60	34	176	42 727
Limpopo	63 242	24 424	9 578	4 222	1 889	1 043	507	314	184	170	467	106 040
South Africa	320 493	136 860	56 181	27 470	15 246	8 530	4 893	3 220	2 202	2 095	5 890	583 080

Table 3.19 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of pigs farmed, 2011 and 2022

Province	1–10		11–100		+100		Total	
	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022	2011	2022
Western Cape	2 601	3 010	590	1 112	159	98	3 350	4 220
Eastern Cape	56 800	141 079	2 333	18 502	444	154	59 577	159 735
Northern Cape	1 200	1 423	312	418	58	26	1 570	1 867
Free State	4 651	6 396	979	2 379	114	113	5 744	8 888
KwaZulu-Natal	7 927	17 747	1 288	2 618	559	113	9 774	20 478
North West	6 109	13 394	1 248	3 410	286	75	7 643	16 879
Gauteng	1 959	2 426	653	1 653	378	255	2 990	4 334
Mpumalanga	5 747	11 449	834	3 482	152	72	6 733	15 003
Limpopo	13 592	29 996	1 479	6 119	222	104	15 293	36 219
South Africa	100 586	226 920	9 716	39 693	2 372	1 010	112 674	267 623

Table 3.20 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of pigs farmed, 2022

Province	1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40	41–50	51–60	61–70	71–80	81–90	91–100	+100	Total
Western Cape	3 010	596	230	72	89	55	24	21	6	19	98	4 220
Eastern Cape	141 079	13 017	3 261	1 098	568	301	27	29	67	134	154	159 735
Northern Cape	1 423	276	84	25	14	11	1	3	1	3	26	1 867
Free State	6 396	1 438	442	179	165	64	33	29	9	20	113	8 888
KwaZulu-Natal	17 747	1 733	476	129	102	66	31	27	17	37	113	20 478
North West	13 394	2 309	556	211	118	109	22	25	11	49	75	16 879
Gauteng	2 426	732	343	150	161	92	57	63	15	40	255	4 334
Mpumalanga	11 449	2 418	608	165	123	39	49	26	31	23	72	15 003
Limpopo	29 996	4 188	1 276	281	128	139	25	29	24	29	104	36 219
South Africa	226 920	26 707	7 276	2 310	1 468	876	269	252	181	354	1 010	267 623

Table 3.21 – Number of agricultural households grouped by number of chickens farmed, 2022

Province	1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40	41–50	51–60	61–70	71–80	81–90	91–100	+100	Total
Western Cape	4 348	2 545	1 045	360	377	110	69	63	16	133	418	9 484
Eastern Cape	102 952	69 080	33 043	17 028	11 097	7 186	4 822	3 121	2 838	2 245	10 378	263 790
Northern Cape	8 011	4 587	1 868	908	674	315	218	121	130	128	127	17 087
Free State	10 861	7 475	3 830	1 789	1 370	868	426	327	239	373	1 053	28 611
KwaZulu-Natal	82 355	81 354	39 774	19 629	13 691	8 142	5 387	3 927	3 049	3 124	9 296	269 728
North West	26 815	21 833	12 024	7 102	5 535	3 887	2 822	2 176	1 407	1 780	7 523	92 904
Gauteng	8 022	5 520	2 711	1 401	1 446	616	551	316	233	665	2 509	23 990
Mpumalanga	23 057	22 342	11 567	6 693	5 162	3 456	2 309	1 774	1 404	1 361	6 995	86 120
Limpopo	49 947	36 935	18 368	10 138	6 662	4 285	2 371	1 575	1 043	2 525	5 337	139 186
South Africa	316 368	251 671	124 230	65 048	46 014	28 865	18 975	13 400	10 359	12 334	43 636	930 900

Table 3.22 – Number of households involved in fishing (marine & freshwater) and aquaculture (marine & freshwater) by sex of household head, 2022

Province	Female	Male	Total
Western Cape	403	1 030	1 433
Eastern Cape	164	186	350
Northern Cape	31	140	171
Free State	51	126	177
KwaZulu-Natal	265	624	889
North West	33	116	149
Gauteng	242	704	946
Mpumalanga	135	203	338
Limpopo	129	230	359
South Africa	1 453	3 359	4 812

Table 3.23 – Number of households involved in forestry and logging by sex of household head, 2022

Province	Female	Male	Total
Western Cape	157	318	475
Eastern Cape	256	267	523
Northern Cape	29	27	56
Free State	104	97	201
KwaZulu-Natal	514	793	1 307
North West	108	157	265
Gauteng	619	899	1 518
Mpumalanga	218	379	597
Limpopo	440	489	929
South Africa	2 445	3 426	5 871

Table 3.24 – Number of households involved in fruit or vegetable production by sex of household head, 2022

Province	Female	Male	Total
Western Cape	11 704	18 433	30 137
Eastern Cape	40 830	31 739	72 569
Northern Cape	2 804	3 446	6 250
Free State	39 101	33 702	72 803
KwaZulu-Natal	69 405	48 384	117 789
North West	18 611	20 002	38 613
Gauteng	81 691	98 542	180 233
Mpumalanga	34 954	31 342	66 296
Limpopo	41 972	34 951	76 923
South Africa	341 072	320 541	661 613

Table 3.25 – Number of households involved in grains, food crops and industrial crops by sex of household head, 2022

Province	Female	Male	Total
Western Cape	1 776	3 418	5 194
Eastern Cape	55 838	34 124	89 962
Northern Cape	747	1 130	1 877
Free State	10 814	10 128	20 942
KwaZulu-Natal	79 043	47 684	126 727
North West	7 786	9 539	17 325
Gauteng	22 787	28 400	51 187
Mpumalanga	49 269	37 150	86 419
Limpopo	149 813	100 650	250 463
South Africa	377 873	272 223	650 096

Table 3.26 – Number of households involved in growing of crops combined with farming of animals by sex of household head, 2022

Province	Female	Male	Total
Western Cape	511	1 582	2 093
Eastern Cape	40 726	29 691	70 417
Northern Cape	257	432	689
Free State	1 400	2 299	3 699
KwaZulu-Natal	31 537	23 977	55 514
North West	1 863	2 712	4 575
Gauteng	1 232	2 232	3 464
Mpumalanga	7 416	7 318	14 734
Limpopo	13 870	12 613	26 483
South Africa	98 812	82 856	181 668

Table 3.27 – Number of households involved in livestock and poultry production by sex of household head, 2022

Province	Female	Male	Total
Western Cape	3 824	11 489	15 313
Eastern Cape	131 978	115 924	247 902
Northern Cape	9 119	15 488	24 607
Free State	13 468	24 471	37 939
KwaZulu-Natal	141 489	105 554	247 043
North West	48 628	58 021	106 649
Gauteng	8 928	18 279	27 207
Mpumalanga	41 633	46 099	87 732
Limpopo	83 641	81 335	164 976
South Africa	482 708	476 660	959 368

Table 3.28 – Number of agricultural households by main source of water for drinking, 2022

Province	Regional/local water scheme (operated by municipality or other water services provider)	Borehole	Spring	Rain water tank	Dam/pool/stagnant water	River/stream	Water vendor	Water tanker	Other	Total
Western Cape	41 716	6 533	1 359	1 283	1 300	1 256	157	606	434	54 644
Eastern Cape	148 239	23 648	12 660	123 518	20 611	83 813	5 653	53 954	9 628	481 724
Northern Cape	24 197	5 491	47	169	197	580	444	1 733	792	33 650
Free State	113 857	10 496	748	323	1 169	348	804	5 764	2 253	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	282 457	56 086	17 189	34 221	18 920	60 653	10 659	52 085	16 998	549 268
North West	96 930	42 374	294	1 369	439	348	9 308	10 484	6 032	167 578
Gauteng	224 988	13 090	335	902	197	524	1 392	19 128	3 998	264 554
Mpumalanga	168 123	25 431	1 858	3 174	3 742	7 789	11 337	26 565	8 098	256 117
Limpopo	254 356	112 118	5 759	11 089	16 612	19 931	50 224	28 533	21 510	520 132
South Africa	1 354 863	295 267	40 249	176 048	63 187	175 242	89 978	198 852	69 743	2 463 429

Table 3.29 – Number of agricultural households by main type of toilet, 2022

Province	Flush toilet connected to a public sewerage system	Flush toilet connected to a septic tank or conservancy tank	Chemical toilet	Pit latrine/toilet with ventilation pipe (VIP)	Pit latrine/toilet without ventilation pipe	Ecological toilet (e.g., urine diversion, enviroloo, etc.)	Bucket toilet (collected by municipality)	Bucket toilet (emptied by household)	None	Other	Total
Western Cape	41 987	9 528	525	319	382	102	548	471	584	198	54 644
Eastern Cape	71 124	14 578	33 939	219 803	97 666	5 711	1 506	4 687	23 569	9 141	481 724
Northern Cape	13 596	3 587	533	5 725	5 784	531	611	1 303	1 437	543	33 650
Free State	73 273	5 501	2 229	15 920	26 406	1 556	2 961	4 017	3 126	773	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	92 747	21 282	55 375	192 140	134 186	14 459	1 620	5 942	16 664	14 853	549 268
North West	40 093	13 662	1 763	51 229	54 388	903	120	1 316	3 204	900	167 578
Gauteng	189 504	11 686	8 178	8 639	29 932	587	10 107	2 074	3 161	686	264 554
Mpumalanga	53 008	9 459	7 043	50 997	121 890	2 335	384	2 333	6 124	2 544	256 117
Limpopo	41 793	24 964	6 448	161 911	257 511	2 811	1 397	6 867	12 006	4 424	520 132
South Africa	617 125	114 247	116 033	706 683	728 145	28 995	19 254	29 010	69 875	34 062	2 463 429

Table 3.30 – Number of agricultural households by main type of energy used for lighting, 2022

Province	Electricity	Other source of electricity (e.g., generator, etc.)	Gas	Paraffin	Candles	Solar	Other	None	Total
Western Cape	51 048	335	263	387	911	1 506	110	84	54 644
Eastern Cape	446 321	1 709	1 840	8 342	14 553	8 197	362	400	481 724
Northern Cape	30 355	167	85	200	1 422	1 262	91	68	33 650
Free State	125 218	551	245	1 967	5 847	1 677	137	120	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	515 407	2 879	1 848	1 219	23 759	2 920	507	729	549 268
North West	156 174	760	297	1 442	6 823	1 451	361	270	167 578
Gauteng	220 033	2 002	1 050	4 409	24 996	10 751	935	378	264 554
Mpumalanga	236 307	991	1 596	1 088	12 513	2 715	352	555	256 117
Limpopo	498 214	2 149	1 387	1 065	10 799	4 304	794	1 420	520 132
South Africa	2 279 077	11 543	8 611	20 119	101 623	34 783	3 649	4 024	2 463 429

Table 3.31 – Number of agricultural households by main type of energy used for cooking, 2022

Province	Electricity	Other source of electricity (e.g., generator, etc.)	Gas	Paraffin	Wood	Coal	Animal dung	Solar	Other	None	Total
Western Cape	39 874	262	12 609	454	873	47	6	387	41	91	54 644
Eastern Cape	350 164	1 453	36 427	13 450	77 791	346	707	733	249	404	481 724
Northern Cape	25 479	143	3 718	301	3 599	15	3	267	45	80	33 650
Free State	117 926	514	7 068	4 768	4 461	419	103	270	56	177	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	414 302	2 670	20 898	4 873	101 863	2 669	427	294	470	802	549 268
North West	137 886	751	6 050	4 883	17 163	88	73	328	146	210	167 578
Gauteng	200 230	1 632	32 608	23 188	4 608	911	11	557	389	420	264 554
Mpumalanga	172 557	1 153	7 088	3 194	64 279	6 773	222	267	226	358	256 117
Limpopo	228 850	2 091	13 211	3 372	269 909	866	131	604	462	636	520 132
South Africa	1 687 268	10 669	139 677	58 483	544 546	12 134	1 683	3 707	2 084	3 178	2 463 429

Table 3.32 – In the last 12 months, has this household had any water interruptions in piped water supply, even though you paid your bill or bought sufficient pre-paid units?

Province	Yes	No	Do not know	Not applicable	Unspecified	Total
Western Cape	15 198	26 176	314	12 948	8	54 644
Eastern Cape	95 916	51 511	801	333 490	6	481 724
Northern Cape	15 920	8 154	102	9 470	4	33 650
Free State	69 529	43 933	377	21 922	1	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	184 700	95 791	1 930	266 838	9	549 268
North West	66 338	30 099	476	70 659	6	167 578
Gauteng	116 285	107 235	1 408	39 601	25	264 554
Mpumalanga	107 080	60 203	810	87 999	25	256 117
Limpopo	146 086	105 496	2 760	265 781	9	520 132
South Africa	817 052	528 598	8 978	1 108 708	93	2 463 429

Table 3.33 – Did any specific interruptions in piped water supply last longer than two consecutive days?

Province	Yes	No	Do not know	Unspecified	Total
Western Cape	7 310	7 798	89	1	15 198
Eastern Cape	88 215	7 545	152	4	95 916
Northern Cape	13 880	2 023	17	0	15 920
Free State	62 815	6 626	88	0	69 529
KwaZulu-Natal	163 576	20 797	320	7	184 700
North West	61 491	4 738	108	1	66 338
Gauteng	89 922	25 995	357	11	116 285
Mpumalanga	98 612	8 365	101	2	107 080
Limpopo	137 481	8 457	145	3	146 086
South Africa	723 302	92 344	1 377	29	817 052

Table 3.34 – Number of agricultural households by age group of household head and province, 2011

Province	Less than 15	15–34	35–59	+60	Total
Western Cape	79	16 771	48 182	19 535	84 567
Eastern Cape	2 135	78 884	278 676	236 875	596 570
Northern Cape	124	8 530	30 549	15 948	55 151
Free State	240	42 166	108 940	49 938	201 284
KwaZulu-Natal	4 445	103 159	376 514	232 876	716 994
North West	523	31 690	109 881	71 951	214 045
Gauteng	322	66 582	161 172	51 019	279 095
Mpumalanga	909	45 329	136 569	80 582	263 389
Limpopo	1 487	75 081	223 190	168 737	468 495
Total	10 264	468 192	1 473 673	927 461	2 879 590

Table 3.35 – Number of agricultural households by age group of household head and province, 2022

Province	Less than 15	15–34	35–59	+60	Total
Western Cape	33	7 537	30 912	16 162	54 644
Eastern Cape	522	49 791	215 542	215 869	481 724
Northern Cape	15	3 816	17 560	12 259	33 650
Free State	62	21 103	71 905	42 692	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	368	59 549	274 774	214 577	549 268
North West	79	19 854	80 130	67 515	167 578
Gauteng	96	43 418	153 511	67 529	264 554
Mpumalanga	224	38 830	132 876	84 187	256 117
Limpopo	462	69 555	252 574	197 541	520 132
Total	1 861	313 453	1 229 784	918 331	2 463 429

Table 3.36 – Number of agricultural households by education level of household head and province, 2011

Province	No schooling	Grade 1 to grade 7	Some secondary	Grade 12/Std 10	Completed tertiary	Other	Total
Western Cape	4 542	19 584	25 269	18 476	16 162	534	84 567
Eastern Cape	130 546	224 924	163 459	45 963	30 774	904	596 570
Northern Cape	11 013	18 753	13 838	7 480	3 928	139	55 151
Free State	25 868	68 141	61 367	32 616	12 857	435	201 284
KwaZulu-Natal	194 444	230 742	168 173	87 643	34 860	1 132	716 994
North West	46 582	70 836	56 118	27 799	12 321	389	214 045
Gauteng	20 398	52 288	91 403	66 262	47 322	1 422	279 095
Mpumalanga	83 029	67 481	61 712	36 422	14 268	477	263 389
Limpopo	142 911	111 650	124 232	57 193	31 665	844	468 495
Total	659 333	864 399	765 571	379 854	204 157	6 276	2 879 590

Table 3.37 – Number of agricultural households by education level of household head and province, 2022

Province	No schooling	Grade 1 to grade 7	Some secondary	Grade 12/Std 10	Completed tertiary	Other	Unspecified	Total
Western Cape	1 222	7 144	12 209	13 356	17 884	790	2 039	54 644
Eastern Cape	66 717	142 806	147 775	62 553	35 159	1 743	24 971	481 724
Northern Cape	4 412	8 900	9 038	6 009	2 932	217	2 142	33 650
Free State	9 749	33 207	43 562	29 247	10 028	692	9 277	135 762
KwaZulu-Natal	109 310	135 620	132 298	98 430	34 342	1 785	37 483	549 268
North West	22 326	40 969	47 303	32 478	11 904	933	11 665	167 578
Gauteng	14 554	35 826	79 320	69 759	48 590	1 757	14 748	264 554
Mpumalanga	58 160	47 631	62 154	56 248	13 870	978	17 076	256 117
Limpopo	107 823	90 152	143 740	97 430	38 712	2 583	39 692	520 132
Total	394 273	542 255	677 399	465 510	213 421	11 478	159 093	2 463 429

4. Explanatory notes

Background

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has undertaken four population censuses since 1994 as per the Statistics Act No. 6 of 1999. These censuses have generated diverse demographic and socio-economic information at grassroots level that has guided the formulation of policies and interventions aimed at the further development of South African society. The information presented in this report is generated from the Census 2022. The report is agricultural statistics released at household level. The first report, Census 2011: Agricultural Households, was published in 2013 and was generated from Population Census 2011.

Reference period

All households in the survey were asked about the main agricultural activity they were involved in over the last 12 months (between 3 February 2021 and 2 February 2022). In addition, households were asked if they owned/looked after any livestock or poultry as on 2 February 2022.

Objectives of the Census 2022

The goal of the Census 2022 project was to count everyone within the borders of South Africa without omission and duplication.

The key objectives of Census 2022 are:

- determining population size per locality/area, a critical indicator used for resource allocation, measurement of the extent of service delivery, decision making and budgeting, among others;
- providing the current picture in terms of population dynamics of the South African population including demographics and some socio-economic characteristics. The information on population characteristics such as age and sex composition, educational attainment and employment status is pertinent to planning and resource allocation; and
- providing insights on living conditions of South Africans in terms of the number of households and average household sizes and the type of dwelling structures (housing), access to water, availability of essential services and facilities, and access to internet, etc. This information is critical in understanding and addressing development challenges at all levels of geography and communities.

5. Terms and definitions

Agriculture

The growing of crops, the raising of livestock/poultry and the utilisation of forestry and fishery resources.

Agricultural household

A household involved in agriculture.

Census (population census)

The process of counting the number of people at a given point in time in a country, and collecting information about their demographic, social and economic characteristics. After data collection, the process includes the processing, analysis and dissemination of the information collected.

Census night

Night before the census day.

Household

Group of people who live together at least four nights a week, eat together and share resources, or a single person who lives alone

Household head

A person recognised as such by the household, usually the main decision-maker, or the person who owns or rents the dwelling, or the person who is the main breadwinner. The head can be either male or female. If two people are equal decision-makers, the oldest can be named as the household head.

Livestock

Livestock refers to domesticated animals (e.g., cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and excludes poultry) irrespective of the purpose of their breeding.

Mixed farming

An agricultural practice where a farmer or a farming enterprise engages in more than one type of agricultural activity concurrently (e.g., farming of crops, livestock and poultry).

Other agricultural activity

Other agricultural activity includes - forestry, logging, fisheries, etc.

Poultry

The raising of domesticated birds such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, etc., for eggs, meat, skin, feathers and other products.

Reference period

The period of time (day, week, month, or year) for which information is relevant.

Sex

Biological distinction between males and females.

Vegetable production

The growing of crops such as cabbage, spinach, onions and tomatoes for human consumption.