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# **GCRO DATA BRIEF: No.1 of 2012**

**Key findings from Statistics South Africa's 2011 National Census for  
Gauteng**

**Produced by the  
Gauteng City Region Observatory (GCRO)**  
A partnership of the University of the Witwatersrand, University  
of Johannesburg, and the Gauteng Provincial Government

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## Introduction

The census results, released yesterday, are summarized in this GCRO Data Brief. In many respects, what is surprising about the results ... is how unsurprising they are. The recent GCRO Quality of Life survey findings are close to identical to the Census in virtually all areas (we were down on informal dwellings, but not much more). That in no way detracts from the critical importance for government and the academy of accurate census data, which confirm our massive population size and growth, our challenges over managing future densities in a sustainable manner, and the need to develop sustainable human settlements. The census also highlights successes in educating more and more Gauteng residents – those with no formal education have dropped from one in ten in 1996 to one in twenty-five in 2011 while those with post-matric qualifications doubled in the same period. For the Gauteng City-Region to grow, we need a highly educated and skilled workforce, earning well, living well, and actively engaged with government and their own communities. The data below suggest how far we have come towards realizing this – and, inevitably, simultaneously tells us how far we have still to travel to realise our ideal of an inclusive, equitable and sustainable city-region.

## 1. Population (number)

Population	1996	2001	2011	Forward projection to 2020 at current growth
Gauteng	7 624 893	9 388 855	12 272 263	15 617 283
South Africa	40 583 572	44 819 777	51 770 560	58 943 337

### Key findings

Gauteng now has a population of 12,3 million people. This is an increase of almost 2,9 million people over the period 2001-2011. In both 1996 and 2001 KwaZulu Natal was the largest province, with 9,6 million people ten years ago. Today Gauteng is the largest, with over two million more people than KZN.

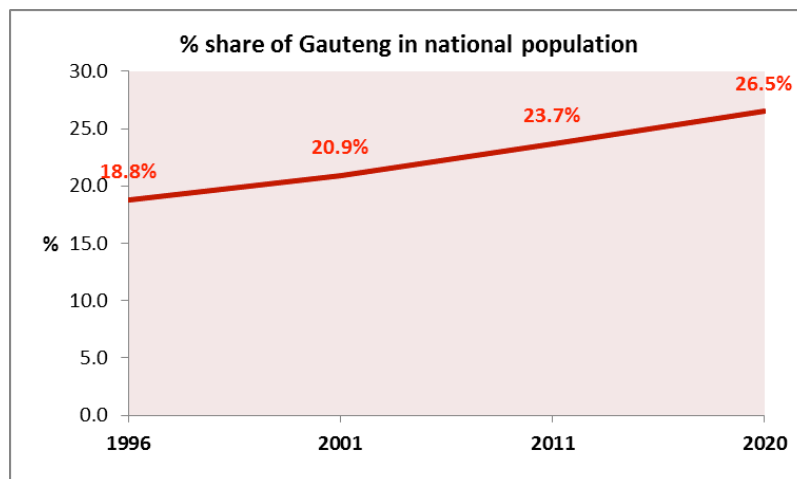
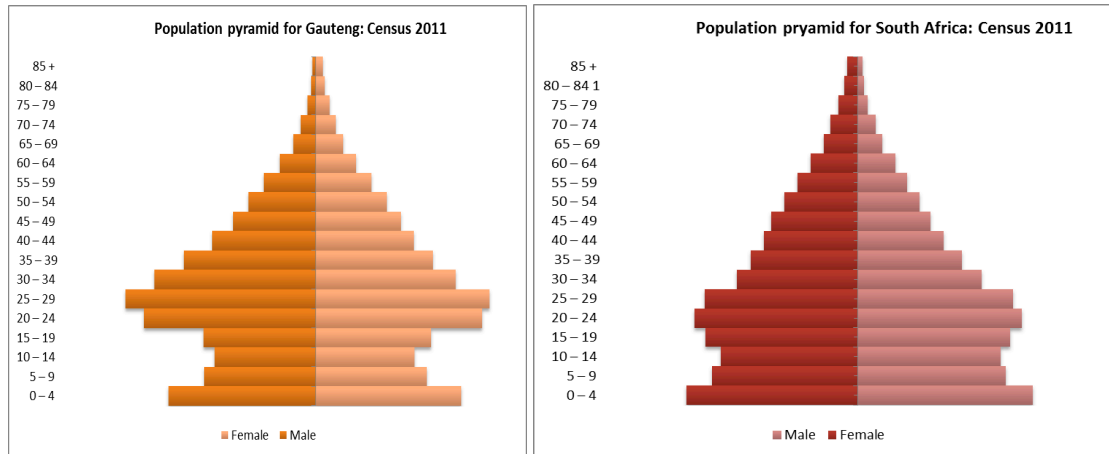


Figure 1: Trend in the share of Gauteng population to national

In 1996 Gauteng contributed 18,8% of the South African population, in 2001 20,9%, and as at 2011 23,7%. At over 12 million people Gauteng is close in size to metropolitan Los Angeles, which the OECD estimates to have some 12,9 million people in an area of 14 764 km<sup>2</sup>, and metropolitan Paris with 11,7 million people in a region of 12 012 km<sup>2</sup>. Projecting forward at current annual average growth rates, Gauteng may have as many 15,6 million people by 2020, at which point it will house 26,5% of the country's population.



**Figure 2:** Population pyramid for Gauteng vs national

While the population structure for Gauteng mirrors that of national in the sense of having a youthful population, there is a distinctive feature showing a lower number for the 10-14 age group. This reflects the high numbers of people migrating to Gauteng in their late teens and twenties.

## 2. Population density (number of people per km<sup>2</sup>)

Population density	1996	2001	2011	Projection to 2020 at current growth rate
<b>Gauteng</b>	419	516	675	859
<b>South Africa</b>	33	37	42	48

### Key findings

Gauteng, the smallest of the country's provinces, has a land area of 18 178 square kilometers. This gave it an average population density in 2011 of 675 persons per km<sup>2</sup>, compared to just 42 per km<sup>2</sup> for the country as a whole. This means it now has a population density roughly equivalent to the average across all 90 metropolitan regions in the OECD MetroDatabase (672 per km<sup>2</sup>), and similar to cities such as Barcelona, Brussels and Copenhagen. Projecting forward at current growth rates it will have 859 km<sup>2</sup>, which will give it a density on par with current Los Angeles and New York. Not only is the population trend high for Gauteng compared to national, but it is actually on an upward trend and this may mean more pressure on service delivery.

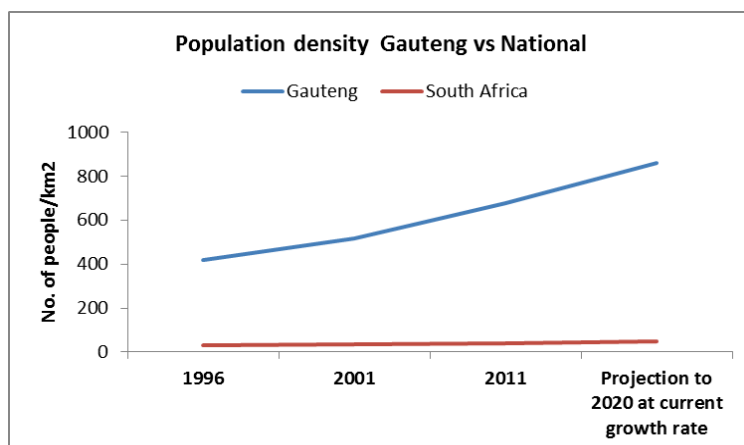


Figure 3: Population densities, Gauteng vs national

### 3. Average annual population growth rate (%)

Population growth rate	1996-2001	2001-2011
Gauteng	4,3%	2,7%
South Africa	2,0%	1,5%

#### Key findings

Between 1996 and 2001 the average annual growth rate for the province was 4,3%. This has decreased to 2,7% between 2001 and 2011, but is still almost double the average annual growth rate of South Africa as a whole. Gauteng grew significantly faster than any other province, with growth in provinces such as the Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and Free State now flat.

### 4. Breakdown by race (%)

Population by race	South Africa Census 2011	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
African	79,2%	77,4%	77,4%
Coloured	8,9%	3,5%	3,4%
Indian/Asian	2,5%	2,9%	3,3%
White	8,9%	15,6%	15,9%
Other	0,5%	0,7%	NA
Total	100%	100%	100%

#### Key findings

Compared to the national profile of population by race, Gauteng stands out as having a smaller percentage of 'coloured' residents, at 3,5% versus 8,9%, and a larger percentage of whites, at 15,6% versus 8,9% for the country as a whole. The GCRO's 2011 Quality of Life Survey, conducted at the same time as the census, and weighted to size of population per municipality and ward (i.e not to a predetermined race breakdown) gets an *almost identical result* to Census 2011, with 77,4% African, 3,4% 'coloured', 3,3% Indian/Asian, and 15,9% white.

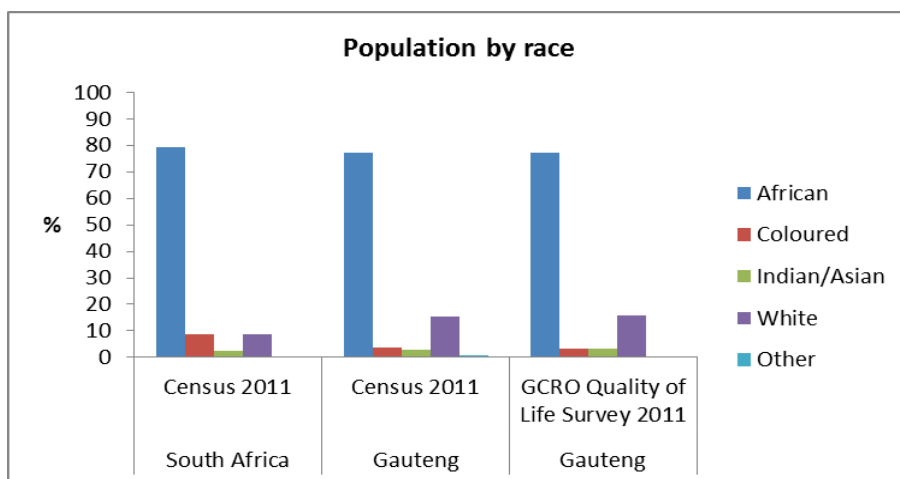


Figure 4: Population comparison by race

## 5. Number of households

Number of household	1996	2001	2011	Projection to 2020 at current growth rate
Gauteng	Not available	2 735 168	3 909 022	5 390 683
South Africa	Not available	11 202 705	14 450 161	18 170 526

### Key findings

The number of households is arguably more important than population because it gives a more accurate sense of the number of units that government needs to provide with shelter and service infrastructure connections. According to Census 2011 Gauteng has 3,9 million households. This represents a growth of almost 1,2 million households between 2001 and 2011, an average annual growth rate of 3,6% (in general all large cities and urban regions see faster household growth rates than population growth rates). In 2001, Gauteng had 24,4% of the total households nationally and by 2011 this had grown to 27,1%, more than the province's share of national population. At current growth rates Gauteng will have some 5,4 million households by 2020, representing a doubling of household numbers over the two decades from 2001.

## 6. Average household size (number)

Average household size	1996	2001	2011	Projection to 2020 at current growth rate	GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
Gauteng	Not available	3,4	3,1	2,9	4,8
South Africa	Not available	4,0	3,6	3,2	NA

### Key findings

The average household size in Gauteng continues to come down. It was 3,4 persons per household in 2001, is 3,1 currently, and is likely to decline further to 2,9 by 2020 on the basis of current growth rates. Gauteng has much smaller average household size than the country as a whole, which is probably a reflection of a larger number of single person households typical of more urban areas. GCRO's 2011 QoL Survey records average household size per respondent at 4,8. While this is a quite different result from the census it is important to note that this figure is derived from asking respondents to estimate

the number of people in their household, which is a very different method from dividing the total population by the total number of households.

## 7. Percentage of those 20 years and older by highest level of education achieved

	Gauteng Census 1996	Gauteng Census 2001	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
<b>None</b>	9,7%	8,7%	3,7%	2,8%
<b>Primary only</b>	18,3%	17,1%	10,8%	13,5%
<b>Secondary incomplete</b>	39,3%	34,2%	33,0%	32,9%
<b>Matric</b>	22,8%	27,7%	34,4%	30,8%
<b>More</b>	9,9%	12,3%	18,1%	20,0%
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%

### Key findings

There has been a considerable improvement in education levels in Gauteng over the last decade and a half. In 1996, 9,7% of residents 20 years and older had no education in 1996. This had declined to just 3,7% in 2011. By contrast, 9,9% had a post matric higher-education qualification in 1996. By 2011 this had almost doubled to 18,1%. The figures from the census are roughly consistent with that from GCRO's 2011 QoL Survey.

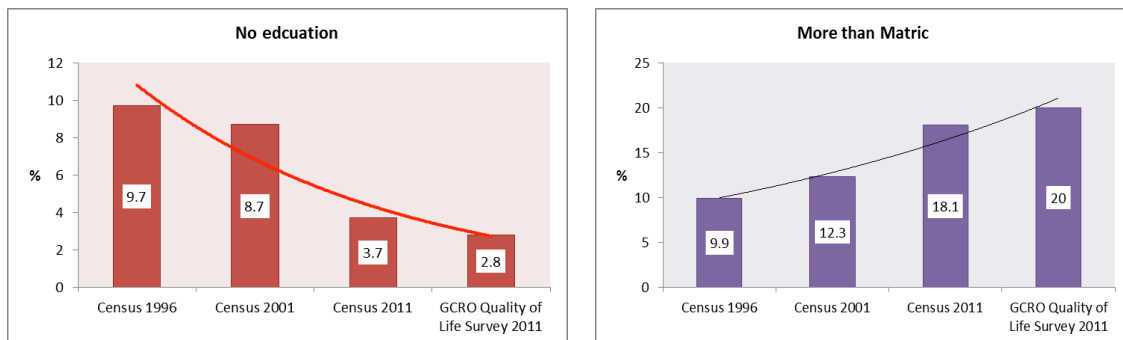


Figure 5: Trends in level of education (No education and More than Matric)

## 8. Percentage of households in formal / informal housing

Formal vs informal household	Gauteng Census 1996	Gauteng Census 2001	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
<b>Formal</b>	74,8%	74,4%	79,8%	87,7%
<b>Informal &amp; traditional</b>	24,8%	25,2%	19,3%	12,2%
<b>Other</b>	0,3%	0,3%	0,9%	0,1%
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%

### Key findings

Census 2011 shows a considerable improvement over 2001 in the percentage of households in formal shelter, with some 80% of Gauteng households now formally housed and 19,3% in informal or traditional dwellings (7,8% in backyard shacks, 11,1% in informal settlements, and 0,4 in traditional

dwellings). By comparison, GCRO's Quality of Life Survey shows a more positive result. This is probably largely due to the fact that sample surveys will have more difficult access to some settlements and dwellings, especially backyard dwellings, than the census.

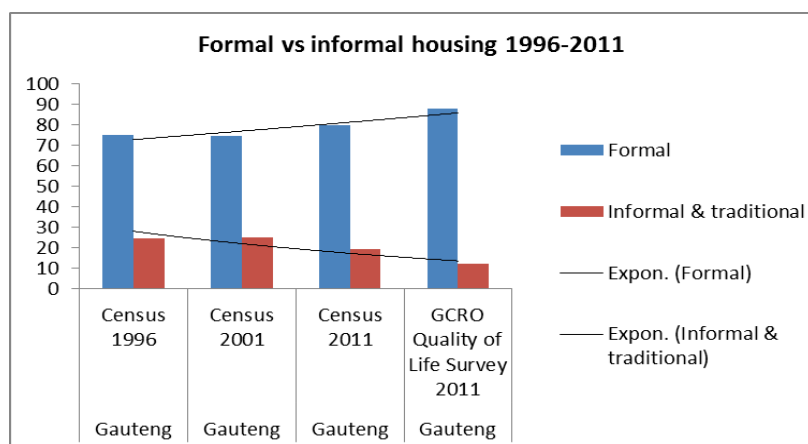


Figure 6: Trends in housing (formal and informal)

## 9. Percentage of households with piped water in dwelling or yard

Access/no access to piped water	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
Piped water inside dwelling / yard	89,4%	91,7%
Piped water outside yard	8,8%	5,3%
No access to piped water	1,8%	1,3%
Other	n/a	1,7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Key finding

The Census suggests that access to piped water, whether in dwelling or yard, or through a community stand pipe, has improved steadily between 1996 and 2011. It now stands at 98,2% in Gauteng, roughly equivalent to the GCRO QoL 2011 result of 97,0%. 89,4% have access to piped water inside their dwelling or yard, 8,8% have piped water outside their yard, and only 1,8% have no access to piped water and have to rely on boreholes, streams, water tankers and so on.

Access to piped water	Gauteng Census 1996	Gauteng Census 2001	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
<b>Gauteng</b>	96,2%	97,1%	98,2%	97,0%
<b>South Africa</b>	80,3%	84,5%	91,2%	

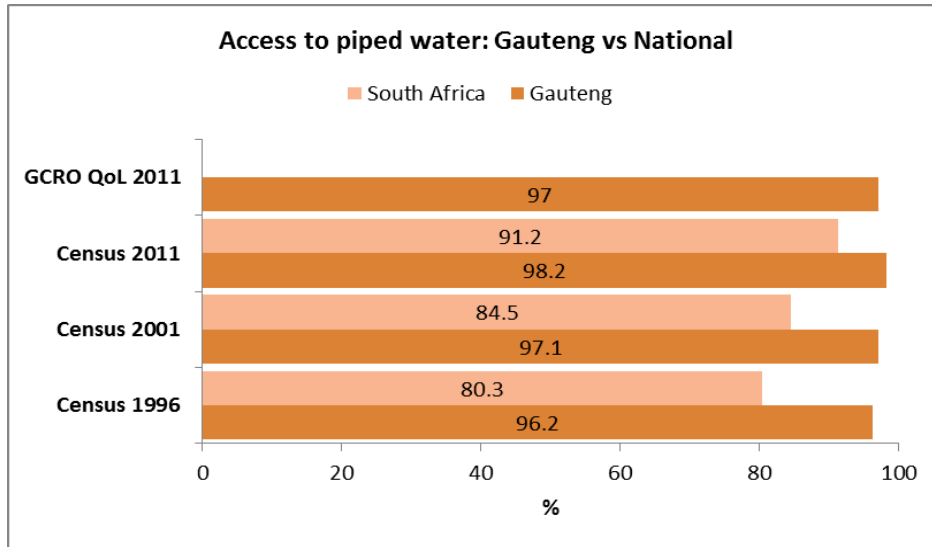


Figure 7: Access to piped water (Gauteng vs national)

## 10. Household access to type of toilet

Access to toilet facility	Gauteng Census 1996	Gauteng Census 2001	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
Access to a flush toilet	95,2%	94,2%	96,3%	96,2%
Bucket toilet	2,4%	2,2%	1,8%	2,4%
No toilet	2,4%	3,6%	1,9%	1,4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

### Key finding

The proportion of households with access to a decent toilet facility has increased over the period 1996-2011, with 96,3% now having a flush toilet connected to a waterborne sewerage system, a septic tank, or a form of improved pit latrine. The GCRO 2011 Quality of Life Survey shows near identical results, with 1,4% having no toilet, access only to a neighbour's toilet or other, 2,4% with a bucket system, and 96,2% with some kind of improved toilet facility.



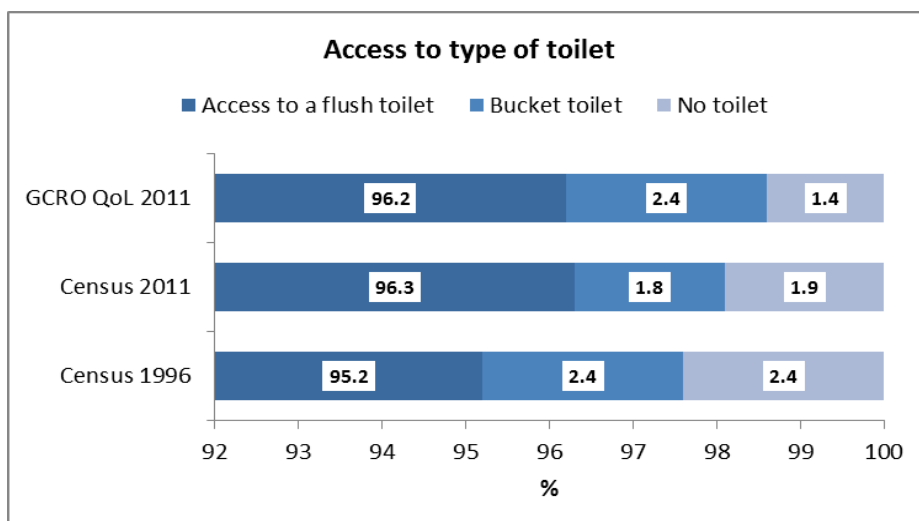


Figure 8: Access to toilet facility

## 11. Percentage of households using electricity for lighting (%)

Use of electricity for lighting	Gauteng Census 1996	Gauteng Census 2001	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
Gauteng	78,7%	80,5%	87,4%	90,3%
South Africa	57,6%	70,2%	84,7%	NA

### Key finding

Use of electricity for lighting had increased steadily since 1996, with a dramatic increase between 2001 and 2011 to 87,4%. In the face of big increases in the number of households this seems very positive. GCRO's 2011 Quality of Life Survey shows a slightly more positive result with 90,3% using electricity for lighting. It is also worth noting a recent GCRO Vignette which shows that of those who say they have an electricity connection not all use electricity for lighting, and instead rely on alternative, often risky fuels, possibly because of the increasing costs of electricity supply.

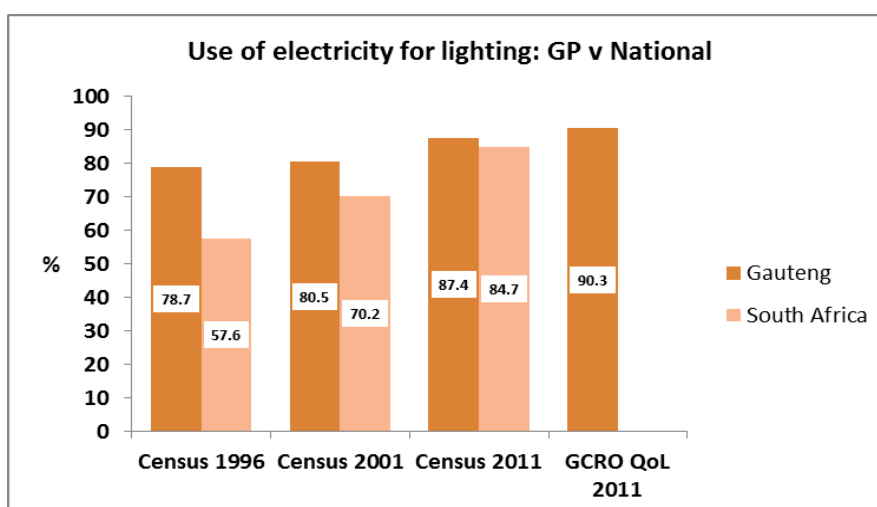


Figure 9: Use of electricity for lighting (Gauteng vs national)

## 12. Access to internet (%)

Access to internet	Gauteng Census 2011	Gauteng GCRO Quality of Life Survey 2011
From home	12,4%	10,8%
From cell phone	17,8%	Separate question in QoL
From work	7,9%	6,6%
From elsewhere	8,4%	4,7%
No access	53,6%	77,9%
	100,0%	100,0%

### Key finding

Census 2011 shows that 53,6% of Gauteng residents had no access to the internet. GCRO's Quality of Life Survey for 2011 shows a much higher proportion with no access, but this is because we asked the question as: "Did you access the internet in the past 4 weeks?", not whether respondents could access if they needed to. We also asked a separate question on whether respondents access the internet from their cell phones, on the assumption that they could also do this at work or home, and it would not be an either / or. Similar to Census 2011, 17% of respondents said they accessed the internet on their cell phones.

## 13. Migration

Origin of migrants	LP	KZN	MP	FS	EC	NW	WC	NC
QoL 2011	29%	19%	13%	12%	12%	9%	3%	3%
Census 2011	31%	17%	12%	9%	13%	10%	5%	2%

### Key finding

Migration statistics show another striking similarity between GCRO's Quality of Life survey and the 2011 Census. The majority of migrants into Gauteng are from Limpopo province followed by KwaZulu Natal and the least are from Western Cape and the Northern Cape.