



PROVINCES

South Africa is divided into nine provinces, each with their own distinctive landscapes, vegetation and climate. They are the Western Cape, the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, the Northern Cape, Free State, North West, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and Limpopo.

PROVINCES

Each province has its own legislature, premier and executive council.

The country has common boundaries with Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe, while Mozambique and Swaziland lie to the north-east. Completely enclosed by South African territory in the south-east is the mountain kingdom of Lesotho.

Western Cape

Capital:	Cape Town
Principal languages:	
Afrikaans	55,3%
isiXhosa	23,7%
English	19,3%
Population:	5 356 900
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	129 370
% of total area:	10,6%

Source: Statistics South Africa



Western Cape

The Western Cape's natural beauty, complemented by its hospitality, cultural diversity, excellent wine and colourful cuisine, make the province one of the world's greatest tourist attractions.

Cape Town, the legislative capital, is one of the world's most beautiful cities and is a must-see for tourists. Other important towns in the province include Worcester and Stellenbosch, known for their winelands; George, renowned for indigenous timber and vegetable produce and for its world-class golf courses; and Oudtshoorn, known for its ostrich products and the celebrated Cango caves.

The province has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, which stands at 19,7% (*Labour Force Survey, 2009*), compared with the national average of 23,2%.

2010 FIFA World Cup™

Cape Town is ready to host the World Cup in 2010. Preparations include:

- Green Point Stadium, which will host eight matches during the tournament, including a quarter-final and a semi-final

- R12 billion of investments in the Cape Town International Airport
- developing the Integrated Rapid Transport System
- developing public viewing areas (PVAs)
- provincial road-infrastructure upgrades
- FIFA's Centre of Hope in Khayelitsha
- building at least six new hotels in the Western Cape
- building overall capacity in delivering health services.

The Final Draw on 4 December 2009 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre attracted a worldwide television viewership of 700 million people.

Eastern Cape

The Eastern Cape, a land of undulating hills, endless sandy beaches, majestic mountain ranges and deep green forests, is the second-largest of the nine provinces. The region ranges from the dry, desolate Great Karoo to the lush forests of the Wild Coast and the Keiskamma Valley, and the mountainous southern Drakensberg region.

The Eastern Cape Provincial Government has approved the Provincial Cooperative Strategy to establish a cooperative development fund in 2009/10. Rural development and agrarian transformation are strategic priorities.

The East London Industrial Development Zone (IDZ) plans to establish a "science" or techno-park, where a culture of innovation and competitiveness of its associated business and knowledge-based institutions will be enhanced.

The Eastern Cape Provincial Government intends to support a number of key interventions to enhance the performance of Coega IDZ, including linkages with a number of logistical interventions in the area.

2010 World Cup

The Eastern Cape is ready to play its part in hosting the 2010 World Cup. By mid-2009, the Provincial Government had invested R50 million in the refurbishment of sports facilities in Buffalo City.

The Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium was completed a year before the 2010 kick-off.

PROVINCES

Eastern Cape

Capital:	Bhisho
Principal languages:	
isiXhosa	83,4%
Afrikaans	9,3%
English	3,6%
Population:	6 648 600
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	169 580
% of total area:	13,9%

Source: Statistics South Africa



The Eastern Cape is becoming more accessible as the Provincial 2010 Public Transport Plan, which links air, road, rail, maritime, taxi and bus operations is being implemented.

The extension of the N2 from Kei Mouth to Port St Johns – the Wild Coast meander – will unlock the tourism potential of the scenic coastline. In addition, the 248-km road will facilitate agricultural and economic productivity and promote access to government services at schools, clinics and police stations.

The R78-million upgrade of the Bhisho Airport was completed in 2008.

In 2009/10, Mthatha Airport was upgraded at a cost of R60 million.

KwaZulu-Natal

KwaZulu-Natal is South Africa's domestic tourism leader. South Africa's garden province boasts a lush subtropical coastline, sweeping savanna in the east, and the magnificent Drakensberg mountains in the west. The warm Indian Ocean washing its beaches makes KwaZulu-Natal one of the country's most popular holiday destinations.

The ports of Durban and Richards Bay are some of the busiest in South Africa. Richards Bay is an important coal-export harbour.

According to Stats SA, the average economic annual growth for KwaZulu-Natal for the period 2004 to 2008 was 4,1%, as compared to 3,65% from 2001 to 2004.

KwaZulu-Natal

Capital:	Pietermaritzburg
Principal languages:	
isiZulu	80,9%
English	13,6%
Afrikaans	1,5%
Population:	10 449 300
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	92 100
% of total area:	7,6%

Source: Statistics South Africa



The manufacturing sector is the largest in this province in terms of contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) (21%).

2010 World Cup

KwaZulu-Natal has recently seen the biggest investment in infrastructure programmes in its history. These included:

- the R2,6-billion Moses Mabhida Stadium, which boasts a 350-m arch that spans the stadium
- R259 million that was made available for infrastructure development of stadiums in four district municipalities.

All of Durban's public transport projects, which are being funded by national government to the amount of R1,2 billion, were expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2010.

Durban's King Shaka International Airport was expected to start operating in May 2010, in time for the FIFA World Cup.

Northern Cape

The Northern Cape is noted for its San rock art, diamond diggings, 4X4 safaris and the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. It is a large, dry region of fluctuating temperatures and varying topographies.

The Northern Cape lies to the south of the mighty Orange River, which provides the basis for a healthy agricultural industry. Away from the Orange, the landscape is characterised by vast arid plains with outcroppings of haphazard rock piles.

PROVINCES

Northern Cape

Capital:	Kimberley
Principal languages:	
Afrikaans	68%
Setswana	20,8%
isiXhosa	2,5%
Population:	1 147 600
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	361 830
% of total area:	29,7%

Source: Statistics South Africa



The province is renowned for its spectacular display of spring flowers, which, for a short period every year, attracts thousands of tourists.

Agriculture is one of the mainstay sectors of the Northern Cape's economy and is therefore critical in the overall economic planning.

2010 World Cup

The 2010 Mass Mobilisation Programme was launched in Kimberley in January 2009. The Northern Cape will not be hosting any matches during the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Buses will travel from the province to other venue cities.

PVAs will provide the people of the Northern Cape with the opportunity to participate in the World Cup.

Free State

The Free State, a province of wide horizons and blue skies, farmland, mountains, goldfields and widely dispersed towns, lies in the heart of South Africa. Between the Vaal River in the north and the Orange River in the south, this immense rolling prairie stretches as far as the eye can see.

The capital, Bloemfontein, houses the Supreme Court of Appeal, a leading university and some top schools.

Agriculture has always been considered to be the main sector in the province's economy.

Free State

Capital:	Bloemfontein
Principal languages:	
Sesotho	64,4%
Afrikaans	11,9%
isiXhosa	9,1%
Population:	2 902 400
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	129 480
% of total area:	10,6%

Source: Statistics South Africa



Mining, particularly gold, is the biggest employer, followed by manufacturing. A gold reef of over 400 km stretches across Gauteng and the Free State. The province accounts for 30% of South Africa's total gold production, and contributes significant amounts of silver, bituminous coal and diamonds.

2010 World Cup

The upgraded Free State Stadium in Bloemfontein will host five first-round matches and one second-round match during the World Cup. Refurbishment was completed by November 2008, ahead of the FIFA-required deadline.

Projects included:

- Mangaung activity corridor and establishing the intermodal facility
- finalising funding and business plans for the upgrading of access roads from the N8 to Bloemfontein Airport
- upgrading resorts, water distribution and purification works
- establishing a sports museum
- installing CCTV cameras in Mangaung.

Cooperation with Lesotho and the Northern Cape will extend the economic benefits of the event far beyond the borders of the Free State.

PROVINCES

North West

Capital:	Mafikeng
Principal languages:	
Setswana	65,4%
Afrikaans	7,5%
isiXhosa	5,8%
Population:	3 450 400
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	116 320
% of total area:	9,5%

Source: Statistics South Africa



North West

North West borders Botswana, fringed by the Kalahari Desert in the west, and the Witwatersrand in the east. A province of varied attractions, North West is home to some of South Africa's most visited national parks, the celebrated Sun City and Lost City resorts, picturesque dams and dense bush.

Most economic activity is concentrated in the Southern Region (between Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp), Rustenburg, and the Eastern Region, where more than 83,3% of GDP-R of the province is generated.

Diamonds are also mined here. Manufacturing activities include fabricated metals, food and non-metals.

North West is South Africa's leading producer of white maize. Some of the world's largest cattle herds are found in the area around Vryburg.

North West's manufacturing sector is centred around the municipalities of Brits, Rustenburg, Potchefstroom, Klerksdorp and Mafikeng, which account for more than 50% of total manufacturing production in the province.

2010 World Cup

Rustenburg is the official hosting city in the North West, with the 42 000-seater Royal Bafokeng Stadium as official match venue.

The stadium was also used for the Confederations Cup in June 2009.

Gauteng

Gauteng, (a Sesotho word for “place of gold”) continues to serve as the economic engine room of the country and the subcontinent, responsible for over 34,8% of the country’s GDP, although it is geographically the smallest of the nine provinces.

The main cities are Johannesburg, the biggest city in southern Africa, and Pretoria, the administrative capital of the country.

Manufacturing, financial and business services and logistics make Gauteng the economic powerhouse of southern Africa.

Gauteng has a greater proportion of its labour force in professional, technical, managerial and executive positions than any other province. Johannesburg houses the JSE Limited, the largest securities exchange in Africa.

Hundreds of leading local companies have their head offices here, as do the regional operations of many multinationals.

2010 World Cup

By August 2009, Soccer City, Loftus Versfeld and Ellis Park stadiums’ refurbishment was on track. Johannesburg will host the International Broadcasting Centre and develop a multimillion rand

Gauteng

Capital: Johannesburg

Principal languages:

isiZulu 21,5%

Afrikaans 14,4%

Sesotho 13,1%

English 12,5%

Population: 10 531 300

(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)

Area (km²): 17 010

% of total area: 1,4%

Source: Statistics South Africa



PROVINCES

precinct around Nasrec. Soccer City, near Soweto, Johannesburg, will host the opening and final matches of the 2010 World Cup.

Soccer City will also host the opening and closing ceremonies and the final match. Telecommunications infrastructure is being upgraded to meet international standards as well as local and international demands.

The roads and transport infrastructure is being revamped to ensure quick and easy travelling to the match venues and tourist destinations while OR Tambo International Airport, which is the main port of entry, is ready to welcome and process large numbers of football lovers and tourists.

Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga is aptly called “Paradise Country” and people are drawn to the province by the magnificent scenery, the fauna and flora and the saga of the 1870 gold rush era. Mpumalanga (“Place Where the Sun Rises”) is bordered by Mozambique and Swaziland in the east, and Gauteng in the west.

It is situated mainly on high-plateau grasslands, which roll eastwards for hundreds of kilometres.

Mpumalanga combines mining and heavy industry with the cultivation of citrus, tropical and subtropical fruits and extensive forests. Agriculture in Mpumalanga, which holds 17% of the medium-potential arable land in South Africa, is characterised by

Mpumalanga

Capital:	Nelspruit
Principal languages:	
siSwati	30,8%
isiZulu	26,4%
isiNdebele	12,1%
Population:	3 606 800
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	79 490
% of total area:	6,5%

Source: Statistics South Africa



Limpopo

Capital:	Polokwane
Principal languages:	
Sesotho sa Leboa	52,1%
Xitsonga	22,4%
Tshivenda	15,9%
Population:	5 227 200
<i>(Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2009)</i>	
Area (km ²):	123 910
% of total area:	10,2%

Source: Statistics South Africa



a combination of commercialised farming, subsistence and live-stock farming and emerging crop farming. The southern hemisphere's three biggest power stations are located in the province, supplied by the Witbank coalfields, which are among the most extensive in the world.

2010 World Cup

The Mbombela Stadium, with a capacity of 46 000 seats, will host the first four matches in Nelspruit. In 2008, construction had commenced on the Matsafeni access road, the R40 high-occupancy vehicle lane, and the P166 and N4 interchange site.

Limpopo

In the extreme north of South Africa, Limpopo is a province of dramatic contrasts: bush, mountains, indigenous forests and plantations. The province is linked to the Maputo Development Corridor through the Phalaborwa Spatial Development Initiative, which is a network of rail and road corridors connecting to the major seaports, which will open up Limpopo for trade and investment.

The largest section of the Kruger National Park is situated along the eastern boundary of Limpopo with Mozambique. While exports are mostly primary products, the province is rich in resources, particularly in tourism, agriculture and minerals. Cattle ranching is frequently combined with hunting. Tropical and citrus

PROVINCES

fruits are extensively cultivated while tea, coffee and forestry are important economic contributors.

2010 World Cup

The Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane will host five of the 2010 World Cup matches.

Following a major refurbishment, Polokwane International Airport was re-launched at the end of 2008, and has the capacity to cope with the expected influx of tourists to the region.