

life

in South Africa

REASONS FOR**hope**



South African Institute of Race Relations

The power of ideas

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2 Clamart Road, Richmond

Johannesburg, 2092 South Africa

P O Box 291722, Melville, Johannesburg, 2109 South Africa

Telephone: (011) 482-7221

Fax: (011) 482-7690

E-mail: info@irr.org.za

www.irr.org.za

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Author: John Bostock

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LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA: REASONS FOR HOPE

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LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA: REASONS FOR HOPE

This report is about the things that have gone right in South Africa. It features a selection of the socio-economic successes we have achieved as a country and the many ways in which life has become better.

Some people will think it an odd time to release such a report. The context is one in which the economy is not performing strongly. Too many people are unemployed. There is a great deal of corruption. Violent protests are commonplace. Questions are being asked about the future of South Africa's democracy.

But amidst the turmoil, IRR analysts see the story of a young democracy that has made a vast amount of progress in fields ranging from the economy and employment to living standards, poverty, education, healthcare and crime. This is not captured by screaming newspaper headlines but by the substantive progress we have made as a country since the end of apartheid. It is a story of hope amid change.

Not for a moment does this report discount the many serious problems our country faces. Rather, it tries to introduce some perspective and show that South Africans have much to be hopeful for despite current difficulties. Most importantly, we should not lose sight of the gains the country has made, lest we become too pessimistic and cynical about our future and fail to build on the solid foundations that have been laid over the past two decades.

There is definitely a lot of good achieved over the past twenty years.

The IRR expresses its gratitude to the trustees of the Millennium Trust for investing in this project.

Part 1

SOUTH AFRICA'S ECONOMY

The table below shows the change in South Africa's GDP performance since 1994. Compared to the negative growth rates of much of the 1980s and the first three years of the 1990s, South Africa staged a GDP growth recovery after 1994. Economic growth rates have averaged around 3% of GDP and exceeded 5% of GDP between 2004 and 2007. In 2015, the South African economy was 85% bigger in real terms (ignoring changes in price levels) than it was in 1994. In 2015 real per capita GDP was 33% higher than in 1994.

1.1 The economy, 1994–2015

YEAR	GDP ^a GROWTH ^b	REAL GDP ^a PER CAPITA ^c	REAL TOTAL GDP ^a RBN
1994	3,2%	42 386	1 652
1995	3,1%	42 849	1 704
1996	4,3%	43 267	1 777
1997	2,6%	44 193	1 824
1998	0,5%	44 420	1 834
1999	2,4%	43 720	1 877
2000	4,2%	43 826	1 955
2001	2,7%	44 735	2 008
2002	3,7%	45 075	2 082
2003	2,9%	45 798	2 143
2004	4,6%	46 287	2 241
2005	5,3%	47 605	2 359
2006	5,6%	49 335	2 491
2007	5,4%	51 331	2 625
2008	3,2%	53 334	2 709
2009	1,5%	54 322	2 667
2010	3,0%	52 838	2 748
2011	3,3%	53 823	2 838
2012	2,2%	54 968	2 901
2013	2,3%	55 543	2 968
2014	1,6%	56 147	3 017
2015	1,3%	56 343	3 055

Source: SARB, time series data, www.resbank.co.za, accessed 4 July 2016

a The gross domestic product (GDP) is the total value of all 'final' goods and services, that were produced within the borders of the country, during a year.

b At constant 2010 prices.

c GDP per head is total GDP divided by the total population.

1.2 Disposable income performance

The table below shows the change in disposable income per head of households since 1994. This is defined as income that households receive after taxes have been paid. It is income that households can use to spend on whatever items they choose. The figures below take inflation into account, meaning that any increases in disposable income per capita of households reflect a real improvement in the income levels of South African households. In 2015, such income levels were 42% higher than they were in 1994.

DISPOSABLE INCOME PER CAPITA OF HOUSEHOLDS ^a , 1994–2015		
Year	R	Change
1994	23 686	0,2
1995	24 308	2,6
1996	24 950	2,6
1997	25 239	1,2
1998	25 008	-0,9
1999	24 862	-0,6
2000	25 315	1,8
2001	25 533	0,9
2002	25 930	1,6
2003	26 128	0,8
2004	27 238	4,2
2005	28 368	4,2
2006	30 103	6,1
2007	31 460	4,5
2008	31 772	1,0
2009	30 730	-3,3
2010	31 503	2,5
2011	32 579	3,4
2012	33 173	1,8
2013	33 355	0,5
2014	33 383	0,1
2015	33 660	0,8

Source: SARB, times series data, accessed, 17 October 2016

a At constant 2010 prices.

1.3 Inflation

The table below shows the change in South Africa's main inflation rate since 1994. Rates of inflation have fallen. In 1994, prices in South Africa were rising at a rate of 9% per year. In 2015, they were rising at just over half that rate (4.6% per year). The decline in the inflation rate over the period means that the purchasing value of R1 has been decreasing at a slower rate than before. High and persistent inflation can devastate living standards.

INFLATION RATES, 1994–2015	
Year	Headline inflation ^a
1994	9,0%
1995	8,7%
1996	7,4%
1997	8,6%
1998	6,9%
1999	5,1%
2000	5,3%
2001	5,7%
2002	9,2%
2003	5,8%
2004	1,4%
2005	3,4%
2006	4,7%
2007	7,1%
2008	11,5%
2009	7,1%
2010	4,3%
2011	5,0%
2012	5,6%
2013	5,7%
2014	6,1%
2015	4,6%

Source: Stats SA, *Consumer Price Index* June 2015, Statistical release P0141, 20 July 2016; SARB, www.resbank.co.za, time series data, accessed 16 August 2016; Survey 2016, p108

1.4 Budget outcomes over the past 25 years

SOUTH AFRICA'S BUDGET DEFICIT/SURPLUS (ACTUAL AND PROJECTED) AS A PROPORTION OF GDP, 1992/93–2015/16	
Year	Deficit/Surplus
1992/93	-7.1%
1993/94	-5.4%
1994/95	-4.5%
1995/96	-5.0%
1996/97	-4.8%
1997/98	-3.6%
1998/99	-2.7%
1999/2000	-2.1%
2000/01	-1.9%
2001/02	-1.4%
2002/03	-1.0%
2003/04	-2.2%
2004/05	-1.4%
2005/06	-0.3%
2006/07	0.7%
2007/08	0.9%
2008/09	-0.7%
2009/10	-5.1%
2010/11	-4.0%
2011/12	-4.8%
2012/13	-5.3%
2013/14	-4.6%
2014/15	-4.6%
2015/16	-3.9%

The table shows that South Africa's budget deficit has steadily declined since 1994. The budget deficit reflects government spending that exceeds tax revenue. In the 1992/93 financial year, the budget deficit was 7.1% of GDP. Budget surpluses were recorded in 2006/07 and 2007/08 – a remarkable achievement for an emerging market. In the 2015/16 financial year the deficit was 3.9% of GDP – an improvement on that of the early 1990s when South Africa was experiencing several years of slowing economic growth.

Source: SARB, time series data, accessed 4 March 2016; National Treasury, *Budget Review 2016*, 24 February 2016, Table 3.2, p31

a Fiscal year ending 31 March. 1992/93- 2014/15 SARB data, 2015/16 MTBPS 2015 data.

1.5 Government debt financing costs over the past 25 years

YIELDS ON 10-YEAR GOVERNMENT BONDS ^a 1992/93–2018/19	
Year	Yields on government bonds
1992/93	14,9%
1993/94	12,3%
1994/95	16,8%
1995/96	14,6%
1996/97	16,2%
1997/98	14,1%
1998/99	16,4%
1999/2000	14,0%
2000/01	12,9%
2001/02	11,6%
2002/03	10,4%
2003/04	9,2%
2004/05	8,4%
2005/06	7,6%
2006/07	7,8%
2007/08	8,3%
2008/09	7,8%
2009/10	9,0%
2010/11	8,4%
2011/12	8,5%
2012/13	7,4%
2013/14	8,3%
2014/15	7,8%
<i>2015/16^b</i>	<i>8,1%</i>
<i>2016/17^b</i>	<i>8,7%</i>
<i>2017/18^b</i>	<i>8,8%</i>
<i>2018/19^b</i>	<i>8,8%</i>

The table shows the change in the yields on 10-year South African government bonds since 1992/93. Government bond yields reflect the risk foreign and domestic investors attach to financing a country's debt. For example, if they perceive that the South African government will be less able to pay its debts than previously, then bond yields will increase. On the other hand, if they expect that the South African government will be better able to pay its debts, then bond yields will decrease. Since 1992/93, there has been a clear decline in 10-year government bond yields. This means that the South African government has been able to access capital (to invest in infrastructure development, for example) more cheaply than was the case in the 1990s.

Source: SARB, time series data, accessed 19 November 2015;

National Treasury, *Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement (MTBPS) 2015*, 21 October 2015, Table 3.1, p24

a Calendar years 1992–2018. *BER forecasts for 10-year government bond yields 2015–2018*, October 2015.

b Italicised figures are forecasts.

1.6 Labour market performance

The table below shows the growth in the labour market participation of Africans and of all South Africans. The participation rate measures the proportion of people of working age who are employed or looking for a job. For African people, the rate has improved from 43.1% in 1994 to 56,4% in 2015 or by 30,9%. For all South Africans, the rate has improved from 47,7% to 58,1% or by 21,8%.

LABOUR MARKET PARTICIPATION, 1994–2015		
Year	African	Total
1994	43,1%	47,7%
1995	41,2%	45,5%
1996	39,0%	44,0%
1997	39,5%	43,9%
1998	44,9%	48,8%
1999	47,2%	51,5%
2000	59,2%	61,3%
2001	58,8%	60,8%
2002	57,0%	59,7%
2003	55,3%	58,3%
2004	52,7%	55,7%
2005	53,3%	56,3%
2006	55,4%	57,8%
2007	55,4%	57,7%
2008	57,3%	59,5%
2009	55,4%	57,9%
2010	53,3%	56,1%
2011	53,5%	55,9%
2012	53,6%	55,9%
2013	54,3%	56,6%
2014	55,2%	57,3%
2015	56,4%	58,1%
1994–2015	30,9%	21,8%

Source: Stats SA, *Stats in brief, 2004*, 2004, p67; *Labour Force Survey Historical Revision March Series 2001– 2007*, Statistical release P0210, 28 August 2008; *Quarterly Labour Force Survey Historical revisions of the QLFS 2008 to 2013*, 11 February 2014; *Quarterly Labour Force Survey Quarter 2: 2015*, Statistical release P0211, 29 July 2015, pp4–5

1.7 Employment

The table below shows the changes in African and total employment from 1994 to 2015. Over those years the total number of people with jobs has almost doubled, while the number of African people with jobs has more than doubled.

EMPLOYMENT, 1994–2015		
Year ^a	African	Total
1994	4 980 000	7 971 000
1995	5 124 000	8 069 000
1996	4 535 000	7 590 000
1997	4 580 000	7 548 000
1998	5 922 000	9 390 000
1999	6 668 000	10 369 000
2000	8 124 000	11 880 000
2001	8 680 000	12 494 000
2002	8 161 000	11 995 000
2003	7 815 000	11 666 000
2004	7 945 000	11 823 000
2005	8 572 000	12 503 000
2006	9 271 000	13 237 000
2007	9 362 000	13 236 000
2008	10 363 000	14 584 000
2009	10 119 000	14 357 000
2010	9 700 000	13 809 000
2011	9 868 000	13 922 000
2012	10 297 000	14 330 000
2013	10 623 000	14 692 000
2014	11 072 000	15 094 000
2015	11 625 000	15 657 000
1994–2015	133,4%	96,4%
2014–15	5,0%	3,7%

Source: Stats SA, *Stats in brief, 2004*, 2004, p67; *Labour Force Survey Historical Revision March Series 2001–2007*, Statistical release P0210, 28 August 2008; *Quarterly Labour Force Survey Historical revisions of the QLFS 2008 to 2013*, 11 February 2014; *Quarterly Labour Force Survey Quarter 2: 2015*, Statistical release P0211, 29 July 2015, pp4–5

a Data from 1994 to 1999 based on *October Household Surveys*. Data for 2000 is from the February 2000 *Labour Force Survey*. From 2001 to 2007, the data is based on the *Labour Force Survey Historical Revision March Series*. From 2008 to 2013 the data is based on the *Quarterly Labour Force Survey Historical revisions of the QLFS 2008 to 2013*, and refers to the second quarter. Therefore, only the data from 2008 to 2015 is strictly comparable.

Part 2

Living conditions

2.1 Change in living conditions

The table below demonstrates that South Africa has made significant progress in improving living conditions. The number of households with access to formal housing has increased by 131,3% since 1996. That translates to 1 042 formal houses built every day. When looking at informal housing, for every shack erected after 1994, approximately ten formal houses have been built. The number of households with access to piped water has increased by 110,4% since 1996. This translates to a daily increase of 1 094. The number of households with access to electricity for cooking has increased by 228,5% since 1996. This translates to an average daily change of 1 335. To suggest that service delivery has failed or even that living standards are worse today than was the case during apartheid is just not accurate.

LIVING CONDITIONS BY HOUSING TYPE, 1996 AND 2016					
Indicator	1996	2016	Change (number)	Change (proportion)	Average daily change
Total number of dwellings/ households	9 059 606	16 921 183	7 861 577	86,8%	1 077
Formal ^a	5 794 399	13 404 199	7 609 800	131,3%	1 042
Informal ^b	1 453 018	2 193 968	740 950	51,0%	102
Access to piped water ^c	7 234 023	15 218 753	7 984 730	110,4%	1 094
Access to flush or chemical lavatories ^d	4 552 854	11 436 619	6 883 765	151,2%	943
Use of electricity for lighting	5 220 826	15 262 235	10 041 409	192,3%	1 376
Use of electricity for cooking	4 265 305	14 012 036	9 746 731	228,5%	1 335
Use of electricity for heating	4 030 850	6 370 000	2 339 150	58,0%	320

Source: Stats SA, *Community Survey 2016*, 30 June 2016, pp19, 59, 61, 66, 70, 74, 79,81; *Census 2001: Primary tables South Africa, Census 1996 and 2001 compared, 2004*, pp79–98

a Formal refers to house/brick structure on separate stand or yard, flat in block of flats.

b Informal refers to dwelling/shack in backyard or not in backyard.

c This includes piped water in dwelling, on-site/yard, at a neighbour's tap, or at a communal tap/access point outside yard.

d This includes in dwelling, on-site, and off-site access; also includes flush lavatories connected to a sewage system and those connected to septic tanks.

2.2 Change in living conditions over time

Living Standards Measures (LSMs) track living standards over time. LSM data places South Africans under ten categories – LSM 1 represents the lowest standard of living and LSM 10 represents the highest. The data in the table below shows that in 2001, 38.8% of South Africans fell into LSM categories 1 to 3. By contrast in 2015, only 10% of South Africans fell into those three lower categories. That represents a proportionate decline of 74,2%. People leaving these LSM categories moved into higher ones. The proportion of people in LSM categories 4 to 7 has increased by 49,2% since 2001. In 2001, 16,3% of South Africans were placed in LSM categories 8 to 10. By 2015, that proportion had increased to 25%. That represents a proportionate increase of 53,4%.

LSM CHANGES OVER TIME 2001–15				
Year	1–3	4–7	8–10	Total ^a
2001	38,8%	44,9%	16,3%	100,0%
2002	38,2%	45,2%	16,6%	100,0%
2003	37,0%	46,5%	16,5%	100,0%
2004	35,8%	48,0%	16,0%	100,0%
2005	32,8%	50,0%	17,1%	100,0%
2006	32,9%	50,6%	18,4%	100,0%
2007	27,7%	52,8%	19,6%	100,0%
2008	21,5%	57,4%	21,1%	100,0%
2009	18,7%	14,3%	22,6%	100,0%
2010	15,1%	58,7%	23,4%	100,0%
2011	12,2%	63,5%	23,5%	100,0%
2012	14,0%	64,0%	23,0%	100,0%
2013	11,0%	64,0%	25,0%	100,0%
2014	10,0%	65,0%	25,0%	100,0%
2015	10,0%	67,0%	25,0%	100,0%
2001–15^b	-74,20%	49,20%	53,40%	-

Source: SAARF, AMPS 2012, July 2013; Eighty20, *XtracT* based on AMPS 2012B, Jan 2012–Dec 2012 data; Eighty20, *XtracT* based on AMPS 2015, *Individual January 2015–December 2015* data

a Figures should add up horizontally but may not, owing to rounding.

b IRR calculations.

2.3 The middle class

The IRR has conducted a lot of research on South Africa's middle class. One of the measures we use to estimate the size of the middle class is motor vehicle registrations. The table below shows that the number of registered motor cars (excluding commercial vehicles) has increased from 3 851 048 in 1999 to 6 905 939 in 2016 or by 79,3%. This trend broadly reflects other estimates about the increasing size of South Africa's middle class.

MOTORISED VEHICLES REGISTERED BY YEAR-END, DECEMBER 1999–2016		
Year	Motor cars	Total
1999	3 851 048	5 992 056
2000	3 913 470	6 074 201
2001	3 977 255	6 159 679
2002	4 041 828	6 245 392
2003	4 154 593	6 417 484
2004	4 307 943	6 677 239
2005	4 574 972	7 128 791
2006	4 890 206	7 653 044
2007 ^a	4 992 401	7 823 313
2008 ^a	5 224 652	8 245 589
2009	5 411 093	8 600 031
2010 ^a	5 472 090	8 686 032
2011 ^a	5 675 488	8 926 548
2012 ^a	5 928 532	9 266 775
2013 ^a	6 202 323	9 649 303
2014 ^a	6 461 553	10 010 643
2015 ^a	6 707 175	10 350 835
2016 ^a	6 905 939	10 669 410
1999–2016	79,3%	78,1%
Vehicles per 100 people in 2016	12,6	19,4

Source: Electronic National Administration Traffic Information System (eNaTis), www.enatis.com, accessed 10 October 2016; RTMC, *Road Traffic Report-March 2008*, April 2008, pp10–11; *Road Traffic Report for the Calendar Year 2009*, 2010,p9; *Road Traffic Report 31 March 2011*, August 2011, p71

a Figures are for March financial year ends.

2.4 Extreme poverty

The table below shows the change in levels of extreme poverty in South Africa. In 2002, more than half of Africans were considered to be living in extreme poverty, according to the IRR's extreme poverty measure. By 2015, that had decreased to 19.8% – representing a real decline of 62% in African poverty levels. Poverty levels for coloured, Indian and white South Africans have also declined.

IRR EXTREME POVERTY LINE (IRR-EPL) BY RACE IN SOUTH AFRICA ^a , 2002–15					
Year	African	Coloured ^b	Indian/Asian ^b	White ^b	Other ^b
2002	51.8%	–	–	–	15.2%
2003	48.7%	–	–	–	13.3%
2004	47.2%	–	–	–	9.4%
2005	46.2%	–	–	–	10.2%
2006	46.2%	–	–	–	11.5%
2007	42.0%	–	–	–	10.0%
2008	32.9%	–	–	–	8.6%
2009	35.5%	14.3%	7.0%	3.5%	–
2010	34.6%	14.2%	7.2%	4.2%	–
2011	31.4%	12.5%	4.1%	3.3%	–
2012	22.5%	7.3%	3.2%	2.2%	–
2013	21.3%	6.7%	2.5%	3.0%	–
2014	20.7%	6.6%	1.4%	2.9%	–
2015	19.8%	5.6%	3.1%	2.9%	–

Source: IRR calculations from data provided by Stats SA *General Household Survey 2002–2015*, accessed 24 October 2016

a The IRR has developed two poverty lines. The first is the Extreme Poverty Line (EPL) which was developed using data on households without access to piped water and spending levels of below R1 200 per month. The second is the Moderate Poverty Line (MPL), which was developed using data on households without access to piped water in their homes and spending levels of below R2 500 per month. There is a debate about whether poverty should be measured in financial terms or living conditions. The IRR approach is to develop hybrid models. The IRR has not adjusted the extreme poverty income level for changes in the cost of living. The R1 200 line has stayed constant throughout the period under review.

b In 2009, Stats SA changed its statistical methodology to break down the “Other” category to include Indians, coloureds and whites as individual categories. Prior to 2009, “Other” referred to Indians, coloureds and whites collectively.

Part 3

EDUCATION

The table below shows the increase in the number of black South Africans passing Grade 12 since 1955 – and the proportion of sitting candidates who passed their exams. Black South Africans passing Grade 12 have increased from just 259 in 1955 to 369 903 in 2015.

3.1 Long-term performance of South Africa's school system

BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN MATRIC PASSES, 1955–2015		
Year	Number that passed	Proportion that passed
1955	259	43,5%
1960	128	17,9%
1965	827	61,8%
1970	1 856	65,2%
1975	5 400	63,9%
1980	15 935	53,2%
1985	38 923	47,0%
1990	109 938	43,0%
1994	201 284	49,0%
2003	229 871	67,4%
2010	280 986	62,9%
2015	369 903	67,4%
1955–2015	142,720%	54,9%

Source: Answer to a parliamentary question by the minister of education to Mr GG Boinamo MP (DA), internal question paper 04-2008; 1994/95 Survey; Institute for Futures Research, *Performance of the South African School System*, July 2005, p3; DBE, email communication, 17 August 2016

3.2 Post-school education outcomes

The table below shows the increase in the proportion of South Africans aged 20 and older who have completed some form of post-school education. Post-school education refers to any education level above Grade 12. In 2002, just 3.7% of South Africans had such a qualification. This proportion more than doubled to reach 8.3% by 2015.

PERSONS AGED 20 AND OLDER WHO HAVE COMPLETED POST-SCHOOL EDUCATION ^{ab} BY RACE, 2002 AND 2015			
Race	2002	2015	Change
African	1,7%	5,7%	235,3%
White	17,1%	28,7%	67,8%
Total	3,7%	8,3%	124,3%

Source: Stats SA, *General Household Survey 2002*, Statistical release P0318, 15 December 2003, p4; *General Household Survey 2015*, Statistical release P0318, 27 May 2015, Table 2.2, pp85–86

3.3 South Africa's university population

The table below shows the increase in head-count enrolment at universities in South Africa from 1985 to 2014. Enrolments increased by 281,4% over that period.

HEADCOUNT ENROLMENT AT UNIVERSITIES ^c , 1985–2014	
Year	Universities
1985	211 756
1986	233 625
1990	285 986
1995	385 221
2000	380 168
2005	563 199
2010	739 368
2011	785 988
2012	798 551
2013	824 692
2014	807 663
1985–2014	281,4%

Source: DHET, www.dhet.gov.za, 17 July 2015, accessed 24 October 2016

a IRR calculations.

b Refers to the total proportion of people aged 20 and older in each race group who have completed post-school education. For example in 2015, 5.8% of all Africans aged 20 and above had post-school education i.e. above grade 12 level.

c Refers to the number of students enrolled at an institution as opposed to enrolment figures which refer to the number of students enrolled in different courses.

3.4 A racially diverse university population

The table below shows the change in enrolment by race at universities since 1986. Between 1986 and 2014, the proportion of university students who are African increased from 19.8% to 70.1%

HEAD-ENROLMENT ^{ab} AT UNIVERSITIES BY RACE 1986-2014					
Year	African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Total ^c
1986	19,8%	4,9%	7,9%	64,1%	100,0%
1987	22,7%	6,6%	7,1%	60,3%	100,0%
1988	23,1%	6,8%	6,2%	57,1%	100,0%
1989	27,2%	6,9%	7,1%	56,5%	100,0%
1995	46,6%	5,2%	6,3%	36,4%	100,0%
2000	58,8%	5,3%	6,8%	28,1%	100,0%
2001	57,1%	5,1%	6,5%	26,3%	100,0%
2002	59,2%	5,1%	7,1%	26,6%	100,0%
2003	60,0%	6,1%	7,4%	26,2%	100,0%
2004b	60,9%	6,2%	7,3%	25,3%	100,0%
2005	60,8%	6,3%	7,4%	25,3%	100,0%
2006	60,8%	6,5%	7,4%	24,9%	100,0%
2007	62,7%	6,4%	6,9%	23,7%	100,0%
2008	64,4%	6,5%	6,6%	22,3%	100,0%
2009	65,4%	6,6%	6,4%	21,4%	100,0%
2010	66,7%	6,5%	6,1%	20,0%	100,0%
2011	68,3%	6,3%	5,8%	18,9%	100,0%
2012	69,5%	6,2%	5,5%	18,1%	100,0%
2013	70,1%	6,2%	5,5%	17,5%	100,0%
2014	70,1%	6,3%	5,5%	17,1%	100,0%
1986-2014	254,0%	28,6%	-30,4%	-73,3%	-

Source: DHET, www.dhet.gov.za, Table 2.12 for all institutions to 2nd order CESM (Enrolment 1986-2014) accessed 8 June 2016.

- a Refers to the number of students enrolled at an institution as opposed to enrolment figures, which refer to the number of students enrolled in different courses. Between 1997 and 2003, however, head-count enrolment was greater than enrolment due to institutions submitting head-count figures that included non-formal qualifications. The former Department of Education requested that these institutions correct their databases.
- b IRR calculations.
- c Figures should add up horizontally to 100% but may not, owing to rounding and the inclusion of students whose race is unspecified. For 2004 the former Department of Education changed the manner in which tertiary enrolment and output data was collected and presented. Unisa was defined as 'comprehensive' for being both a university and a university of technology. Thus for 2004, enrolment and output figures for universities and universities of technology are not comparable with figures for previous years. Total tertiary enrolment and output figures remain comparable.

3.5 The 1st year university student population

The table below shows the number of first year enrolments at university since 2000. The total number of enrollees has increased from 97 984 in 2000 to 168 356 in 2014.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ENROLLING FOR THEIR FIRST YEAR OF STUDY BY RACE, 2000–14						
Year	African	Coloured	Indian/Asian	White	Other ^b	Total
2000	58 759	6 468	6 942	25 782	33	97 984
2005	84 979	9 542	10 259	30 316	197	135 293
2010	118 533	11 020	8 794	29 524	517	168 388
2011	130 474	11 043	8 516	25 587	485	179 105
2012	127 066	9 882	6 398	25 754	665	169 765
2013	114 794	10 329	7 461	25 128	677	158 389
2014	121 937	10 971	9 375	25 231	842	168 356
2000–14	107.5%	69.6%	35.0%	-2.1%	-	71.8%

Source: DHET, www.dhet.gov.za, *Table 2.7 for all institutions including languages (1986–2014)*, accessed 8 June 2016
N/A – Not available.

3.6 The education of scientists and engineers

The table below shows the increase in the number of graduates in science, engineering and technology (SET) over the period 1994 to 2014. The number of such graduates has increased by more than 100% from 20 610 to 55 574. The proportion of all graduates who graduated with awards in the SET fields has increased from 27.8% to 30%.

GRADUATES IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY (SET), 1994–2014					
Year	Number	Proportion of total graduates	Year	Number	Proportion of total graduates
1994	20,610 ^a	27,8%	2005	33 506	27,9%
1995	20,421 ^a	25,0%	2006	35 542	28,5%
1996	21,726 ^a	25,2%	2007	36 429	28,8%
1997	22,938 ^a	26,0%	2008	39 307	29,1%
1998	22,523 ^a	26,0%	2009	41 511	28,3%
1999	23,310 ^a	25,2%	2010	42 760	32,2%
2000	24 244	26,2%	2011	46 099	31,0%
2001	25 087	25,1%	2012	48 849	29,4%
2002	27 177	26,8%	2013	53 176	29,4%
2003	29 806	28,0%	2014	55 574	30,0%
2004	31 490	26,8%			

Source: The Presidency, *Development Indicators*, 2010, p49; DHET, www.dhet.gov.za, *Table 2.13 for all institutions to 2nd order CESM (Graduates)* accessed 6 June 2016

^b Students whose race was unspecified
^a IRR calculations.

Part 4

HEALTH

4.1 HIV/AIDS

The table below shows the change in the number of new HIV infections from 1999 to 2015. What is immediately apparent is that there has been a substantial decline in the number of new HIV infections over the period – the number has fallen by half.

NEW HIV INFECTIONS, 1999–2015		
Year	New infections	Change
1999	646 806	3,70%
2000	636 716	-1,60%
2001	607 762	-4,50%
2002	573 261	-6,00%
2003	535 984	-6,50%
2004	496 878	-7,30%
2005	460 243	-7,40%
2006	424 512	-7,80%
2007	389 399	-8,30%
2008	361 892	-7,10%
2009	341 494	-5,60%
2010	327 340	-4,10%
2011	324 307	-0,90%
2012	322 298	-0,60%
2013	321 300	-0,30%
2014	321 208	-0,03%
2015	321 497	0,09%

Source: ASSA, ASSA2008 AIDS and Demographic Model, March 2011

4.2 Maternal health

The table below shows the decline in South Africa's still birth rate. The still birth rate is a good indicator of the quality of a country's health system. If the still birth rate is high, it means that pregnant women are not receiving the care they need from midwives and medical professionals. If the rate is declining, pregnant women are probably receiving better care. Over the period 2001 to 2014, South Africa has seen a steady decline in the still birth rate from 27 deaths per 1 000 births to 21 deaths per 1 000 births – a decline of 22.2%.

STILL BIRTH RATE ^a 2001–14	
YEAR	RATE
2001	27
2002	29
2003	27
2004	24
2005	24
2006	24
2007	23
2008	22
2009	23
2010	23
2011	23
2012	22
2013	22
2014	21
2001–14	-22,2%

Source: HST, www.hst.org.za, accessed 1 July 2016

a The still birth rate measures the number of babies born dead out of 1 000

4.3 Registered nurses

Nurses are the foundation of good healthcare systems. The table below shows the increase in the number of registered nurses in South Africa. Over the period 1998 to 2015, there was a 50.4% increase in professional nurses, while the number of enrolled nurses increased by over 100%.

ALL REGISTERED NURSES, 1998–2015		
Year	Professional nurses ^a	Enrolled ^b
1998	91 011	32 744
1999	92 390	32 925
2000	93 303	32 399
2001	94 552	32 120
2002	94 948	32 495
2003	96 715	33 575
2004	98 490	35 266
2005	99 534	37 085
2006	101 295	39 305
2007	103 792	40 582
2008	107 978	43 686
2009	111 299	48 078
2010	115 244	52 370
2011	118 262	55 408
2012	124 045	58 722
2013	129 015	63 788
2014	133 127	66 891
2015	136 854	70 300
1998–2015	50,4%	114,7%

Source: HST, www.hst.org.za, accessed 20 May 2016

a Professional nurses registered with the South African Nursing Council. This includes those practising in either the public or the private sector, those working abroad, and those registered but no longer practising. Professional nurses have completed a four-year programme at university or a nursing college and practise comprehensive nursing and midwifery.

b Enrolled nurses registered with the South African Nursing Council. This includes those practising in either the public or the private sector, those working abroad, and those registered but no longer practising. Enrolled nurses have completed a two-year programme at a public or private institution, usually a nursing college. Alternatively, an enrolled nurse has left university after completing only two years of the four-year university programme. Enrolled nurses practise basic nursing.

4.4 Health professionals in the public sector

The table below shows the increase in the number of health professionals working in the public sector over the period 2000 to 2015. Over those years, the number of general practitioners in the public sector has increased by 79,9%, while the number of specialists increased by 28,5%.

PUBLIC SECTOR GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND SPECIALISTS, 2000–15			
Year ^a	General practitioners	Specialists	Total
2000	7 591	3 881	11 472
2001	7 352	3 812	11 164
2002	7 287	3 685	10 972
2003	7 645	3 446	11 091
2005	8 747	3 499	12 246
2006	9 527	3 695	13 222
2007	9 959	4 000	13 959
2008	10 653	4 026	14 679
2009	10 878	4 311	15 189
2010	11 309	4 442	15 751
2011	12 014	4 620	16 634
2012	12 444	4 775	17 219
2013	13 531	4 947	18 478
2014	13 593	4 893	18 486
2015	13 656	4 986	18 642
2000–15	79,9%	28,5%	62,5%

Source: HST, www.hst.org.za, accessed 28 June 2016

a Data for 2004 was not available.

CRIME AND SECURITY

5.1 Murder

The table below shows the decline in the number of murders committed, as well as the murder rate (measured per 100 000 people) since 1994. The murder rate has fallen from a high of 68 per 100 000 in 1995/96 to 34 per 100 000 in 2015/16.

MURDER PER 100 000 OF THE POPULATION, 1994/95–2015/16		
Year	Murder	
	Cases	Rate
1994/95	25 965	67
1995/96	26 877	68
1996/97	25 470	63
1997/98	24 486	60
1998/99	25 127	60
1999/2000	22 604	52,5
2000/01	21 758	50
2001/02	21 405	48
2002/03	21 553	47
2003/04	19 824	43
2004/05	18 793	40
2005/06	18 455	40
2006/07	19 106	41
2007/08	18 400	39
2008/09	18 084	37
2009/10	16 767	34
2010/11	15 893	32
2011/12	15 554	31
2012/13	16 213	31
2013/14	17 023	32
2014/15	17 805	33
2015/16	18 673	34
1994/95–2015/16	–28,1%	–49,3%

Peak year

Source: South African Police Service (SAPS), www.saps.gov.za, accessed 2 September 2016, 29 September 2015, and 19 September 2014

Part 6

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

The list of socio-economic successes set out in this report is far from exhaustive. Rather, it lists examples of just some of the things that have gone right since 1994. This makes the point that as we face the future, we must not lose sight of the fact that life in South Africa today is better than it was twenty years ago. In many areas it is a lot better. Analyses to the contrary are incorrect on the facts. Examples of success can even be found in areas most commonly associated with abject failure – such as in education, poverty, service delivery and crime. Good analyses of South Africa are those that are able to read the good with the bad and tolerate the apparent contradictions to reach conclusions that say: "Yes, we have problems, but we have also made remarkable progress that serves as a foundation upon which we can build a much better country".