

**United Nations Statistics Division: Demographic Yearbook  
Questionnaire on Population Estimates  
Part 2: Metadata**

Reporting country: [South Africa](#)  
Reporting year: 2017

**1. Coverage of data**

In order to clarify the exact composition of the population for which estimates were given in this questionnaire, please indicate below the disposition of each group listed. Please also specify the years to which description refers to.

Population group	Estimated total population for the following years <a href="#">2002-2016</a>		
	Included	Excluded	Not applicable
(a) Nomads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Persons living in remote areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located outside the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(d) Merchant seamen and fishermen resident in the country but at sea at the time of the census (including those who have no place of residence other than their quarters aboard ship)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(e) Civilian residents temporarily in another country as seasonal workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(f) Civilian residents who cross a frontier daily to work in another country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(g) Civilian residents other than those in (c), (e), and (f) working in another country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(h) Civilian residents other than those in (c)-(g), temporarily absent from the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Foreign military, naval and diplomatic personnel and their families located in the country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(j) Civilian aliens temporarily in the country as seasonal workers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(k) Civilian aliens who cross a frontier daily to work in another country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(l) Civilian aliens other than those in (i), (j), and (k) working in another country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(m) Civilian aliens other than those in (i)-(l), temporarily in country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(n) Transients on ships in harbour at the time of the census	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 2. Method of estimation

### 2.1 Total population

Estimates of total population for a country as a whole may be constructed by a variety of means. Please indicate by a check mark the method used in constructing the latest population estimate for 2016 (date) indicating the source of "base data" and the "method of time adjustment".

#### 2.1.1 Base Data

- (1) Continuous population register
- (2) Complete census taken [ ] (date)
  - i) population actually enumerated
  - ii) population adjusted to take account of [ ] % underenumeration
- (3) Sample survey taken [ ] (date)
- (4) Partial census taken or partial registration 1985 (date)  
(Please describe: [ ])
- (5) Non-censal count of [ ] (date)  
(Please describe method: [ ])
- (6) Conjectural estimate derived by means other than counting  
(Please describe method: [ ])

#### 2.1.2 Method of time adjustment

- (1) Base data secured annually through population register
- (2) Applying statistics of births and deaths (natural increase), and migration
  - (i) Registered vital statistics
  - (ii) Vital statistics adjusted for incompleteness
- (3) Applying statistics of births and deaths (natural increase), but no account taken of migration
  - (i) Registered vital statistics
  - (ii) Vital statistics adjusted for incompleteness

- (4) Extrapolating mathematically from censuses taken [redacted] (date 1), [redacted] (date 2) and [redacted] (date 3). Please give formula: [redacted]
- (5) Applying an assumed rate of increase, not derived by mathematical extrapolation or interpolation but based on: [Census data, Vital registration data adjusted for completeness](#)
- (i) Assumption with respect to mortality, fertility, migration
  - (ii) Assumption with respect to mortality, fertility, but no account taken of migration
  - (iii) Other assumed rate
- Please provide the rate used, and describe how it was obtained: [redacted]
- (6) No time adjustment (base figure held constant)
- (7) Other (Please explain: [redacted])

## 2.2 Population by age and sex

Estimates of population according to age and sex are assumed to be constructed on the same base data as are the total estimates. However, certain additional factors may affect age distributions estimated from census enumerations or from sample surveys. Please indicate below the adjustment(s) made in the basic age distribution used to construct estimates shown in Tables 2 and 4.

### 2.2.1 Adjustments in base

- (1) No adjustments – the calculations are based on population actually enumerated at various ages or estimated from survey results.
- (2) Enumerated population or population estimated from survey results adjusted to take account of under enumeration at various ages.
- (3) Base age distribution is "smoothed", i.e., adjusted to remove effects of digit preference in age reporting.

### 2.2.2 Method of time adjustment

Distribution of estimated population according to age and sex may also be made by same methods as used to obtain the projection of the total figure, or it may be derived by distributing the estimate according to the percentage of population in each age-sex group at time of census.

Please indicate below the method used in constructing the age-sex distribution of the latest estimate shown in Table 2.

- (1) Applying actual or assumed natural increase and migration

- (2) Applying actual or assumed natural increase alone
- (3) Distributing the total estimate according to percentage of population in each age-sex group at time of census or sample survey
- (4) By other means (Please describe: )

### 2.2.3 Disposition of unknown age

If frequency in unknown age category of tables 2 and 4 is zero, please indicate below whether, in the preparation of the estimates:

- (1) An age has been assigned to persons for whom age did not appear in the census or sample survey.
- (2) Frequency in unknown age category has been distributed proportionately among known ages.
- (3) The frequency of unknown age appearing in the census or survey was zero.

### 2.3 Urban and rural population, and the population of cities

Please indicate below the method used in making post-censal estimates of urban and rural, and of city population.

	Urban/rural population	City population
(1) Continuous population registers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) Surveys, other than a census	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3) Extrapolation of percentage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) Observed rate of growth, assumed to continue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(5) By other means (Please describe: Cohort Component Method)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3. Bibliography of Demographic Statistics

Please list publications that contain results of your latest population census or survey, and current statistics on population estimates:



- StatsSA (2015) Report-03-01-63 - Census 2011: Fertility in South Africa. StatsSA. December 2015
- StatsSA (2015). Report-03-01-79 - Census 2011: Migration Dynamics in South Africa StatsSA. December 2015
- StatsSA (2015) Report-03-01-67 - Census 2011: Population Dynamics in South Africa. StatsSA. December 2015
- StatsSA (2015) Report-03-01-62 - Census 2011: Estimation of Mortality in South Africa. StatsSA. December 2015
- StatsSA (2016) Report P0302 Mid-year estimates, 2016. StatsSa.