



E. Cape Youth Commission Research Plan Workshop

Wednesday, 23 August 2006



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

CLASS

Emerging Voices

A Report on Education in
South African Rural Communities

SAHSA

in South Africa

Status of Youth Report in South Africa

Linda Richter (PhD)

Christina Panday (MEd)

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

The Status of Youth Report

- Young population bulge is unprecedented
- On a par with the Unsubordinated Youth Fund
- Literature & statistical review
- National survey of 18-35 year olds
- Trends analysis

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Thematic Areas

- Education & skills development
- Economic participation
- Health & well-being
- Social integration & civic engagement

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Education and Skills Development

- Massive expansion in education enrolment
 - Black youth's enrolment
 - 154% increase in secondary enrolment between 1985 & 2000
 - 3+ fold increase in higher education enrolment between 1988 & 2000
- Increasing gender parity
- But huge inequality & inefficiency remain

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Education and race, 2002

Level of education (%)	African	Coloured	Indian	White
None	3.2	2.3	0.3	0.2
Primary	18.8	23.3	1.6	0.6
Secondary	46.5	41.3	20.6	17.3
Matric	24.6	26.9	61.3	52.7
Tertiary	6.9	6.1	15.9	28.3

Education and gender, 2001

Level of education (%)	Male	Female
No schooling	8.0	9.1
Some Secondary	36.1	36.4
Matric	29.9	29.7
Tertiary	8.4	9.4

Inefficiency and Lost Potential

- Half million drop out between Q1-11/ yr
- On average, 19.2 years to reach Q12
- 170 000 matric candidates fail/yr
- 1 million youth leave school each year
- Only 29% with a matric
- A second chance for 721 000 youth per/yr without secondary education?

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Why?

- Aspirations and motivation are high
- Money is the biggest problem
 - 38% could not afford further study
 - 20% needed to be independent
 - 9% working in order to save to study
- Poor families

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Economic Participation

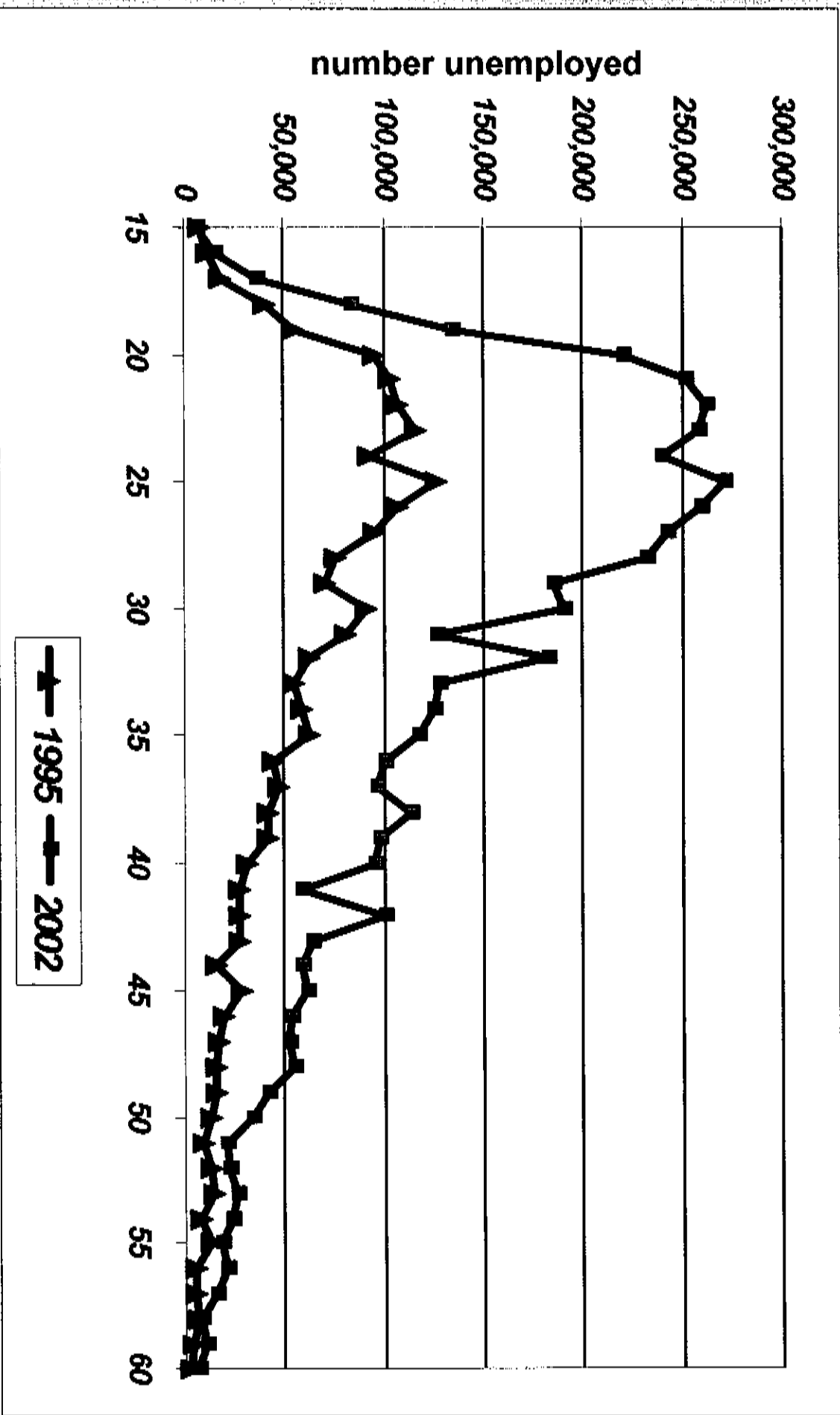
- Unemployment has a distinct youth bulge
 - 71.4% between 15-34 years of age
 - 2/3 of young people are unemployed
- Low educated, Black, women & rural youth are worst affected
- Insecure employment
- Low levels of self-employment

Social science that makes a difference

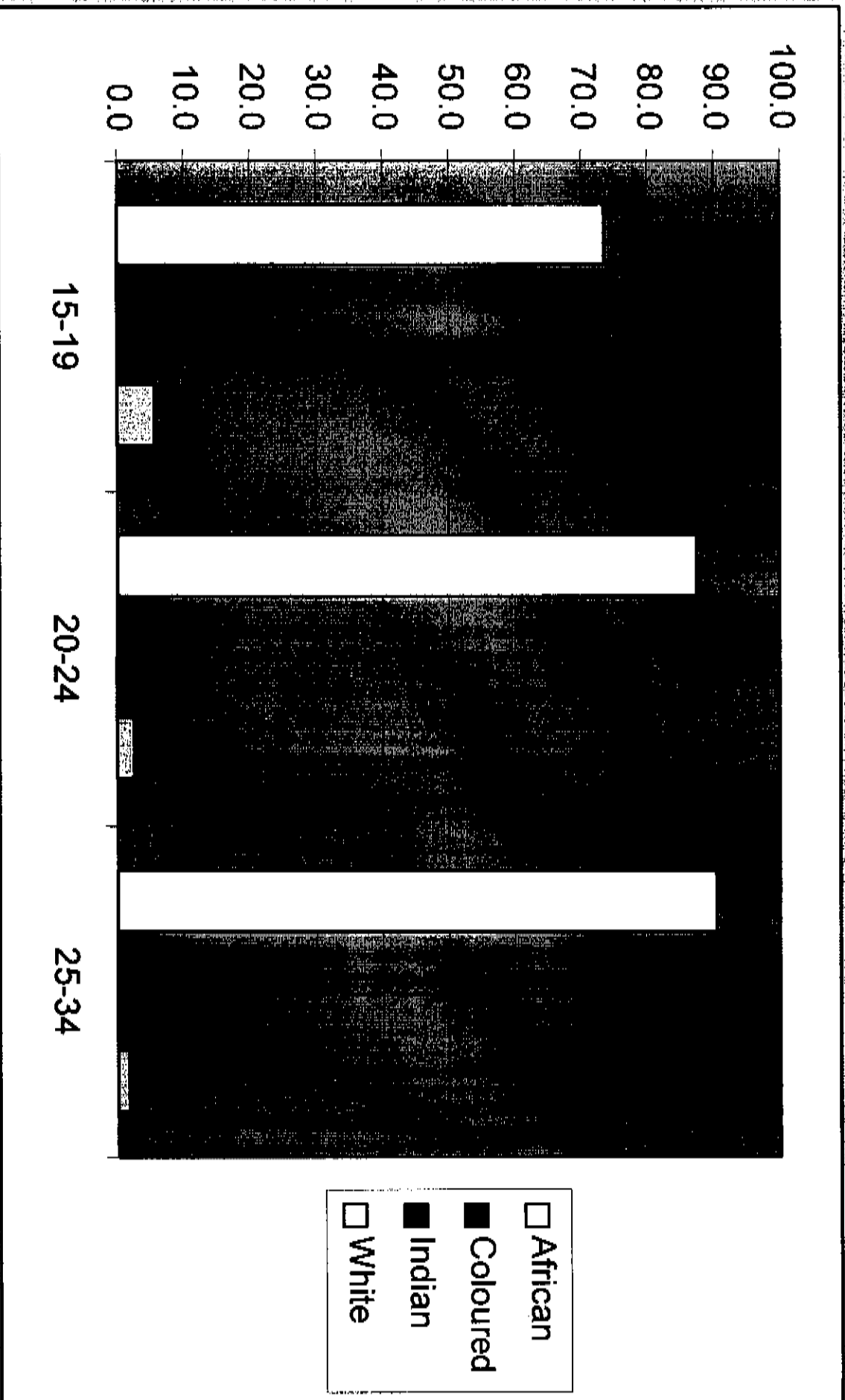


HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

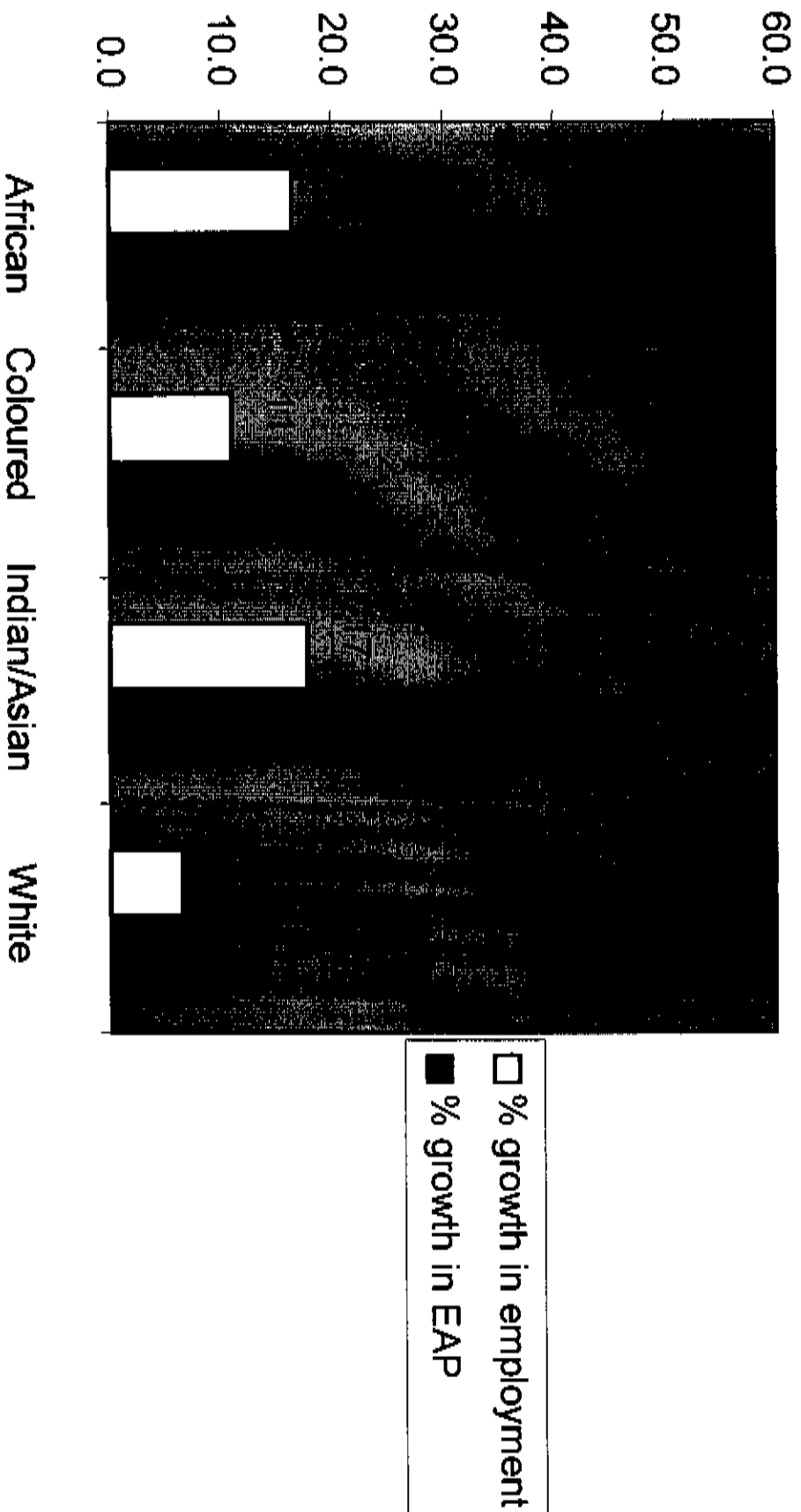
Numbers unemployed, by age



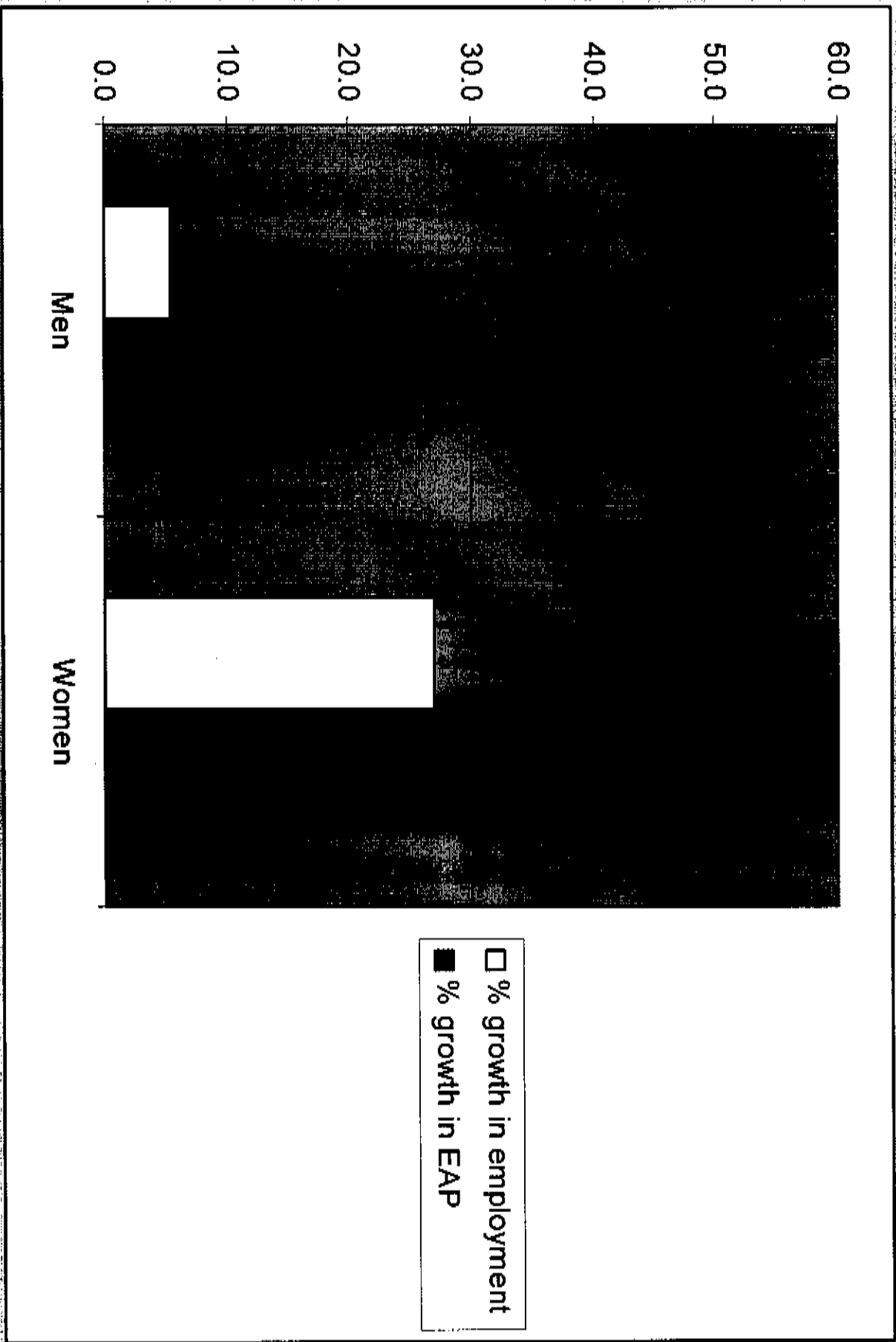
Unemployment by race & age, 2002



More education, not enough work



Especially for women



Prospects of Employment

- Extent & quality of education
- Educational institutions responsible by employers
- Relevance of education to employers
- Skills gaps
- Relevant information on careers
- Finance for FET or HET studies
- Access to social networks – 34% first job

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Threats

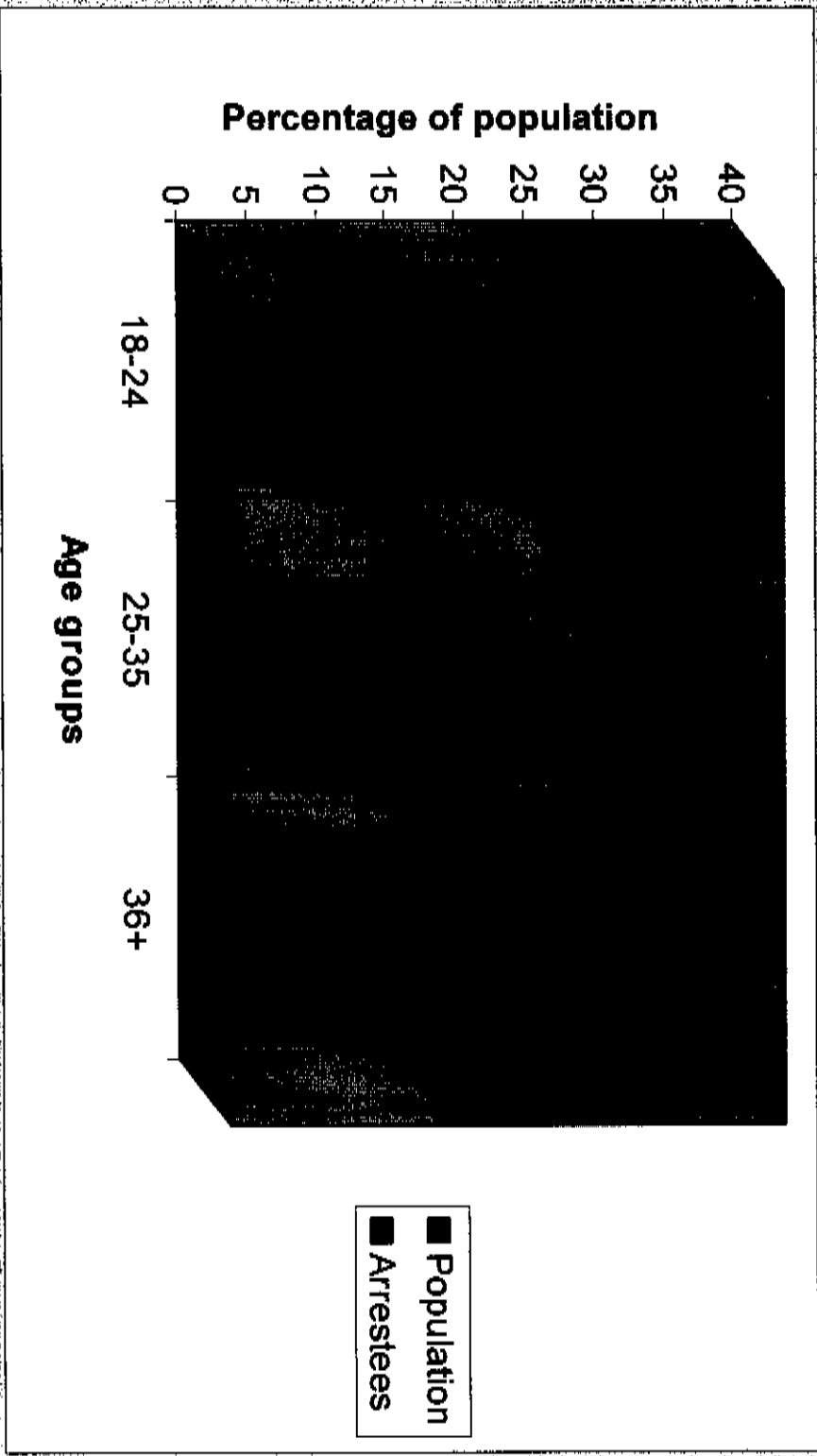
- Lose home
 - become part of the "non-secure housing"
- Lack of education & participation in formal structures
 - entrench inter-generational poverty
- Crime
- Health
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Substance use
 - Mental ill-health

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Crime – victims & perpetrators

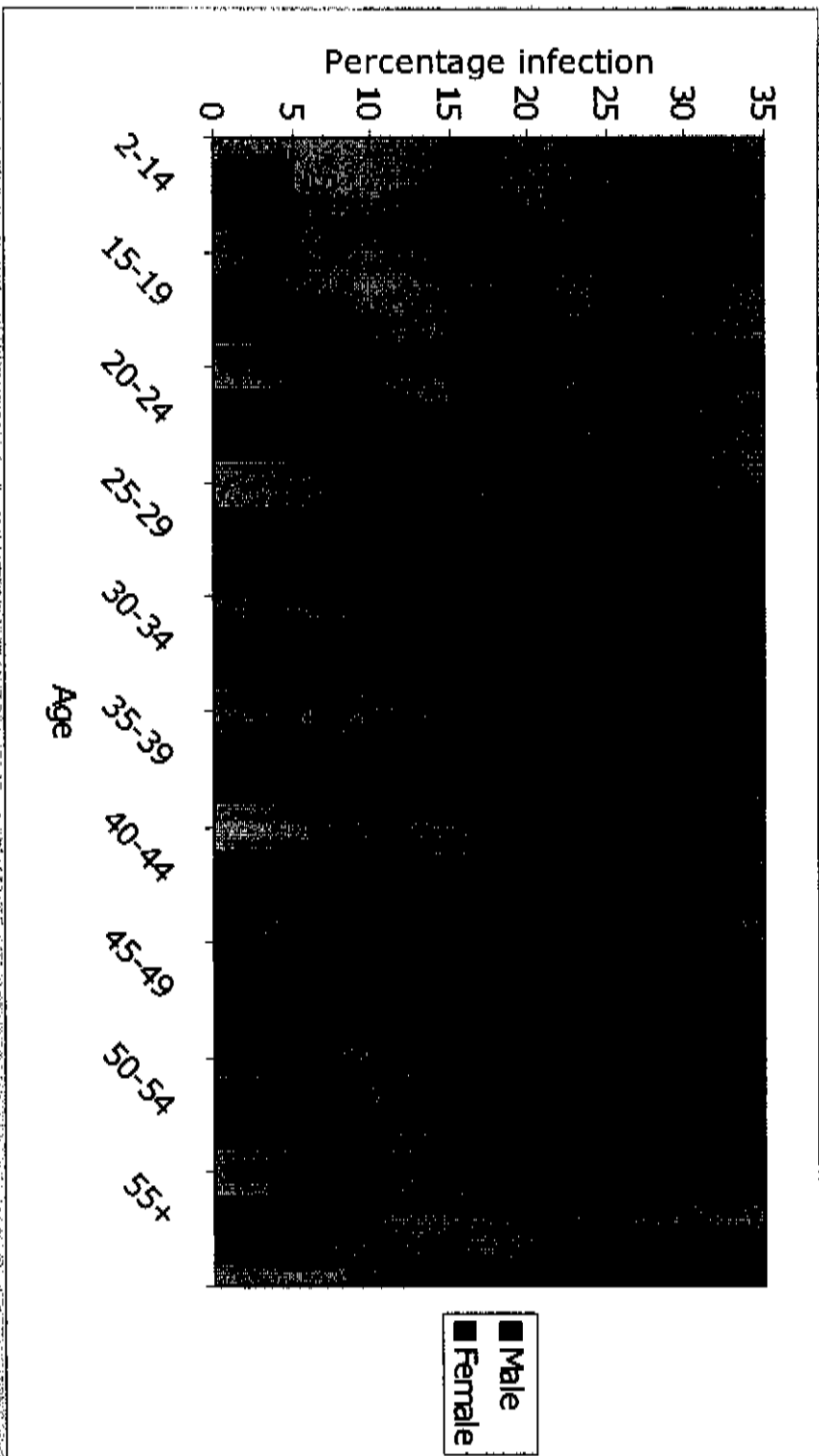


Social science just makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

HIV Prevalence by gender & age



Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Smoking by race & gender

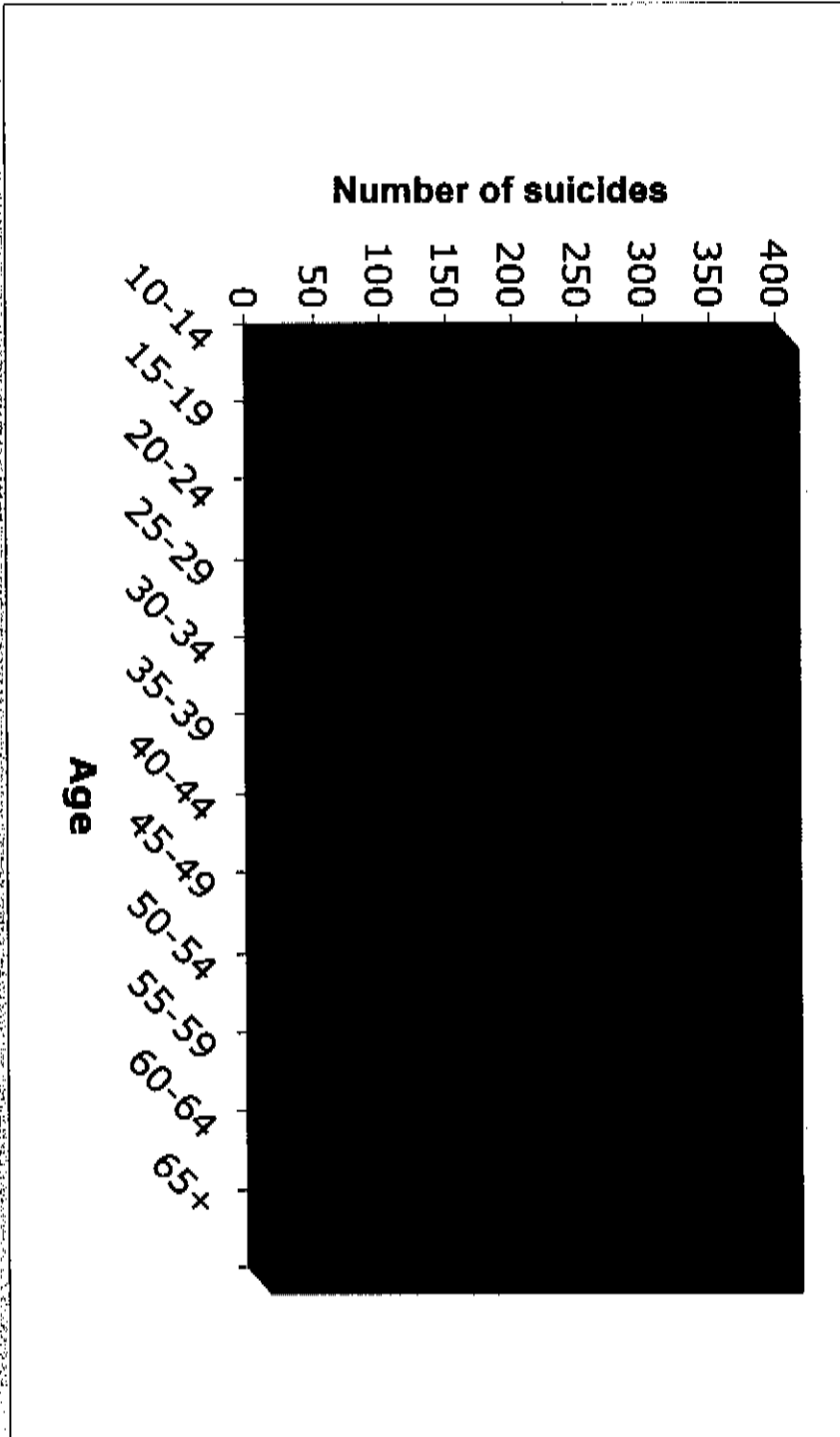
Population group	Male	Female	Total by race
African	25.9%	7.9%	19.0%
Coloured	34.2%	30.8%	30.6%
Indian	47.5%	19.4%	33.0%
White	45.2%	47.8%	46.6%
Total by gender	35.0%	14.2%	29.6%

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Suicide, by age



Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Education is key

- Human rights and capacity
- Economic participation
- Inter-generational poverty
- Health threats
- Demographic dividend – economic growth

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Research Areas

- **1st Chances**
 - **access**
 - **retention & completion**
 - **quality**
- **2nd Chances**
 - **understand drop-out**
 - **life trajectory - out-of-school youth**
 - **youth in prison**
- **Employment for basic needs**

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Research Areas

- Strengthening families
- HIV/AIDS
 - back to basics
 - how to reach hard-to-reach groups
- Emerging epidemics
 - obesity, substance use

Social science that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council

Research Areas

- What does participation mean for young people?
- capitalise on youth solidarity
- encourage early participation
- faith activities as an access point

Social science that makes a difference

Funders

- Corporates in South Africa that fund youth

Social sciences that makes a difference



HSRC
Human Sciences
Research Council