



HSRC
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On your
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vote!



Desperately seeking engineers
– refer to article on page 4

CONTENTS

contents

Page 2-3	NewsRoundup
Page 4-6	Desperately seeking engineers
Page 7-8	Perchance to teach: aye, there's the rub
Page 9-10	Spare the rod and save the child, most South Africans believe
Page 11-12	The young and the restless: Political apathy and the youth
Page 13-14	Most significant elections since 1994, analysts say
Page 14-15	South Africans are all set and ready to vote
Page 16	Alcohol, movies and adolescents
Page 17-18	Welfare policy for orphans passes the test
Page 19-20	Creating jobs in tough times
Page 21-22	Trouble and chance in the motor industry
Page 23-24	Improving the value of social networks for the poor
Page 25-26	Flawed Zimbabwe deal as good as it gets
Page 27	From HSRC Press

How to contact us

Pretoria

Private Bag X41, Pretoria, South Africa, 0001
Tel: +27 12 302 2000 - Fax: +27 12 302 2001

Cape Town

Private Bag X 9182, Cape Town, South Africa, 8000
Tel: +27 21 466 8000 - Fax: +27 21 466 8001

Durban

Private Bag X 07, Dalbridge, South Africa, 4014
Tel: +27 31 242 5400 - Fax: +27 31 242 5401

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Editor: Ina van der Linde

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Correspondence

Ina van der Linde
Corporate Communications
Private Bag X41, Pretoria, South Africa, 0001
Email: media@hsrc.ac.za
Fax: +27 12 302 2028

View an electronic version on www.hsrc.ac.za

The CEO notes



Defining a narrative for the 2009 election

'Every presidential election has a narrative arc' said Richard Stengel, managing editor of Time magazine when he described the election that led to Mr Barack Obama becoming the first black US president, a historic event of gigantic significance. The question we must ask ourselves is: What is our narrative arc for the 2009 elections in South Africa?

Some of us watched the US election at close range and also from afar. This gave us the opportunity to compare and contrast the lenses through which political pundits saw the campaign for the US elections, with what is taking place in South Africa.

The leading US political think tanks such as the Cato Institute, the Economic Policy Institute, the Heritage Foundation and the Center for American Progress Fund identified themes that defined their presidential elections. They debated the policy issues and invited the public to participate in these debates.

American voters were treated to a menu of policy issues that really mattered to them. They were helped through the election by insightful political analyses and debates on issues from the economic policies, incentives for investing in energy renewal sources and performance based teacher compensation, to health insurance policy options and the nature of change they are likely to bring. There was a plethora of websites showing similarities and differences in policies of different political parties.

Can we say the same of South African think tanks and institutions or even political pundits? For a few I would say yes, but for the majority, I think not. Our institutions and political analysts still need to define this narrative arc in our journey to the 2009 elections.

Our political analysts are expected to investigate, analyse and synthesise the policy issues espoused by different political parties to help voters to make informed choices. It is not their task to feed voters with analyses that often focus on conflicts between party leaders. By focusing on policies rather than conflict-riddled utterances of politicians, the discourse will shift to issues that matter to South Africans; to policies that address poverty, employment, housing, economy, crime, energy, health, HIV and AIDS, education, and taxation.

Another exasperating issue is the obvious bias of some political commentators towards one party or another. They use the media as a forum to articulate their political bias rather than analyse what the parties stand for. By pitting one party's policies against another, voters will get the opportunity to understand how party policies will adversely affect them. How exciting it would be to have a chart that could serve as a constant reminder of the position of each party on various policy issues.

It is to this end that the HSRC and the Native Club are hosting a series of public lectures and discussions on the theme of 'informed choice', inviting the major political parties to share and discuss their political manifestos with political scientists, commentators and the public, thereby defining this narrative arc for the voters.

The first in the series was a discussion on the 2009 election manifesto of the African National Congress, followed with presentations by the United Democratic Movement, the Democratic Alliance, and the Independent Democrats. Still to come are presentations by other political parties in Parliament as well as those outside Parliament.

We would like to invite our thinking public to come and participate with us in these forums to be well-informed once Election Day arrives.

NewsRoundup

Social and human sciences, knowledge that transforms

'The HSRC seeks to reverse the perception of the social sciences as less worthy and less relevant in South Africa's development,' said the organisation's CEO Dr Olive Shisana at the opening of a landmark symposium on *Knowledge and Transformation, Social and Human Sciences in Africa*, that took place at the end of November 2008 in Stellenbosch.

The symposium was jointly hosted by the HSRC, the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS), the National Research Foundation, and various others. Participants included 75 black scholars, of whom 63 were living in Africa or in the diaspora, originating from 15 different countries. Other delegates came from every continent and corner of the globe: from South America and the West Indies, the USA, Europa, Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia, to Russia and the Balkans, Turkey, China and Japan.

Shisana said the HSRC's motto – 'social science that makes a difference' – wishes to convey the reality of the indispensable role of the social sciences in the reconstruction and development policies of our country and society.

'Today, societal development is no longer measured solely in economic/technological terms, but human aspects come to the fore. Through a variety of initiatives, the HSRC has sought to place social science and humanities at the centre of the development agenda and has been restructured to create capacity for public policy analysis and to contribute to policy making.'

The symposium, which took place on 27 and 28 November, was preceded by the joint general assemblies of the ISSC and ICPHS, in preparation for the World Social Science Forum (WSSF), in May this year in Bergen, Norway (for more information <http://www.rokkan.uib.no/wssf/>).

The assemblies concentrated on the production of knowledge by social scientists from Africa and other parts of the world on Africa; and the contributions of human and social science to innovation and development on the continent. This entailed understanding the contexts, conditions and cultures within which knowledge

production occurs; clarity about what is meant by the humanities; addressing the role of human and social science researchers as citizens; and examining the challenges facing and prospects of human and social science.

Around 38 papers were submitted, covering a broad range of themes, including African philosophy, language and African literature in the formation of citizens; gender, social policy and democratic development in Africa; cultural diversity, human rights and social transformation; knowledge for development and innovation in Africa; health, society and the African public space; migration, identity and xenophobia; food security, human settlements and climate change in Africa; and archives, research evidence and public policy.

The full conference report will be available soon. In the meantime, view the programme and papers on www.hsrc.ac.za.



Dr Puleng Lenka Bula, senior lecturer at the Department of Systematic Theology and Theological Ethics, University of South Africa, makes a point during a panel discussion on the topic of African philosophy, language and African literature in the formation of citizens. On her left is Dr Olusanya O. Osha, a senior researcher at the School for Graduate Studies, University of South Africa



Dr Adama Samassekou, executive secretary of the African Academy of Languages, and former Malian statesman, who participated in a panel discussion on the topic of African philosophy, language and African literature in the formation of citizens



Dr Pierre Sane (right), assistant director general of UNESCO, Paris, and Dr Zola Skweyiya, Minister of Social Development, who both participated in the same panel discussion



CEO Dr Olive Shisana (left), shakes hands with Dr Gwen Ramakgopa, mayor of Tshwane, following the signing of the MoU between the two parties in July last year

Financial injection for Tshwane-HSRC projects

The City of Tshwane will inject R14 million into a research agreement with the HSRC over the next three years, following a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the two parties last year.

At a recent meeting, the parties agreed to commit themselves to several projects. These include establishing centres of excellence that will focus on areas of employment; service delivery; HIV prevention and risk reduction; and disease prevention and health promotion.

NEW@HSRC



Dr Jeremiah Chikovore has been appointed a senior research specialist in the Child, Youth and Family Development programme. Before joining the HSRC in October 2008, he was a lecturer in Behavioural and Community Health Sciences, College of Health Sciences at the University of Zimbabwe.



Dr Innocent Matshe has joined the Centre for Poverty, Employment and Growth as an African research fellow. Before joining the HSRC he was the head of the Department of Economics at the University of Zimbabwe.



Dr Njeri Wabiri has been appointed as a chief research manager in the Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance (SAHARA), an African research network in the programme on Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS and Health. Before joining the HSRC she was a specialist analyst at the Financial and Fiscal Commission of South Africa, responsible for modelling of energy import risk.

Call for new directions for AIDS policy for children

The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV/AIDS (JLICA), a two-year, independent alliance of researchers, implementers, policy-makers, activists and people living with HIV, released its final report, *Home truths: Facing the facts on children, AIDS, and poverty*, on 10 February, 2009.

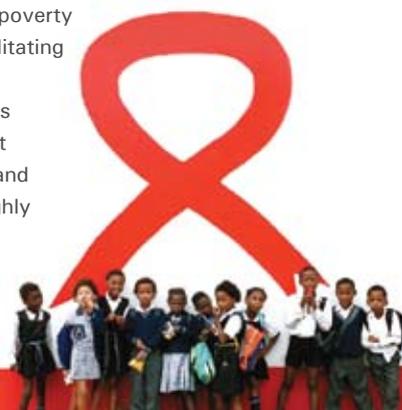
The report contains a comprehensive set of recommendations to reorient and greatly improve the responsiveness and effectiveness of services for the millions of families and children living in dire poverty, and not only those affected by HIV. The HSRC is a core contributor to this work.

In an editorial in the prestigious medical publication, *The Lancet* (Volume 373, Issue 9663) the report is described as 'excellent'. It says: 'The report points out three broad policies that will make an immediate and long-lasting difference to children: support children through immediate or extended families and deliver integrated family-centred services; strengthen community action to support families; and address family poverty through national social protection. Such policies are AIDS-sensitive but not AIDS-directed.'

Among the key findings of the 80-page report are the following:

- Families care best for children and are critical to an effective AIDS response. Yet, families and communities in the most severely affected regions bear some 90% of the financial costs of caring for children, with little or no assistance from governments.
- Despite recent increases in funding, resource levels in hard-hit countries remain far below what is required to deliver comprehensive services for children and families affected by HIV and AIDS on a national scale. The design and implementation of current programmes means that external funding frequently fails to reach local communities.
- Organised community responses in many sub-Saharan African countries are key to protecting children and families from the worst effects of the epidemic. These initiatives have immense value – for example, the contribution of volunteers from faith-based organisations was estimated, in 2006, to be worth over US\$5 billion annually – but they often lack the necessary skills, support, and knowledge to maximise their effectiveness.
- Extreme poverty is a critical barrier to the scale-up of AIDS services. The widespread implementation of relatively low-cost poverty alleviation efforts is essential to reducing the debilitating impact of the epidemic on children and families.
- In the worst affected countries, HIV infection rates are highest among young women and girls. Urgent action is needed to address the social conditions and norms that render women and adolescent girls highly vulnerable to HIV infection.

The full report is available on <http://www.jlica.org>.





Desperately seeking engineers

The severe shortage of engineering professionals in South Africa is putting great pressure on infrastructural growth prior to the 2010 World Cup. New research on the profession and education of engineering professionals found a number of disconcerting trends. **Joan Roodt** and **Mignonne Breier** outline the findings.

South Africa has only 473 engineers per million population while Japan, which co-hosted the World Cup in 2002 along with South Korea, has 3 306 per million. Even compared to other developing countries South Africa is vastly undersupplied.

Employment growth

There has been considerable growth in the number of engineering professionals in employment, but many of these professionals are working in the financial and business services sectors where they are unlikely to be using their technical skills.

Table 1 shows that there was an annual average growth rate of 18.7% in the employment of engineering professionals in the financial sector, compared with very

small growth in the transport, storage and communication sector (1.2%), community, social and personal services (1.7%) and only slightly better growth in mining and quarrying (3.4%), electricity, gas and water supply (3.6%) and wholesale and retail (3.7%). Despite the high demand for engineering skills in construction, employment in this sector grew by only 4.0%.

Table 1: Employment of engineering professionals, by economic sector, 1996 and 2005. Source: Quantec (2007)

Engineers, technologists and technicians per economic sector	1996	2005	% Average annual growth
	n	n	%
Mining and quarrying	1 852	2 510	3.4
Manufacturing	8 792	18 266	8.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	4 243	5 806	3.6
Construction	6 859	9 779	4.0
Wholesale and retail trade	4 423	6 155	3.7
Transport, storage and communication	8 988	9 999	1.2
Finance	4 180	19 576	18.7
Community, social and personal services	5 921	6 861	1.7
Total	45 258	78 952	6.4

What are engineering professionals?

Engineers hold a four-year BSc (Eng) or BEng from a university; technologists hold a Bachelor of Technology (BTech) from a university of technology; and technicians hold a National Diploma from a university of technology. The term 'engineering professional' is used to refer to this collective group, while the term 'engineer' refers only to those holding the four-year university degree.

Racial transformation

There has been growth in the proportions of black engineering professionals in employment but, with the exception of coloured professionals, it has been less substantial than the growth in the proportion of black graduates.

Employment trends

Figure 1 shows the following changes in the proportions of engineers and technologists in employment: the proportion of black engineers and technologists increased by about one half, while the proportion of coloureds more than doubled, and that of Indians increased more than five fold. The share of white engineers and technologists dropped less than one fifth.

Percentage of average 1996-1999 (OHS) Percentage of average 2000-2005 (LFS)

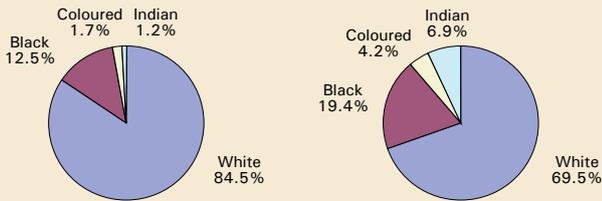


Figure 1: Race profiles of engineers and technologists in employment, average for 1996-1999 (Occupational Health and Safety) and average for 2000-2005 (Labour Force Survey)

Figure 2 shows changes in the proportions of technicians in employment: the proportion of blacks increased by three quarters and that of coloureds by about one quarter. The Indian share dropped by 30% and the white share by 18%.

Percentage of average 1996-1999 (OHS) Percentage of average 2000-2005 (LFS)

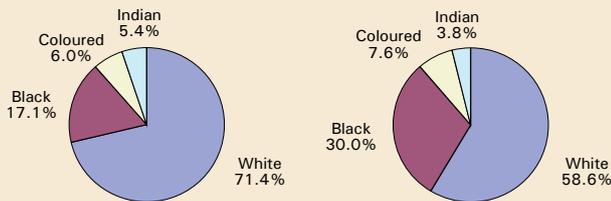


Figure 2: Race profiles of technicians in employment, average for 1996-1999 (OHS) and average for 2000-2005 (LFS)

Table 2: Engineering professional graduates, by race, 1996 and 2005

	1996		2005		% change 1996-2005	% Average annual growth
	n	%	n	%		
Engineering graduates						
Black	126	9.4	363	24.7	188.1	12.5
Coloured	55	4.1	44	3.0	-20	-2.45
Indian	126	9.4	173	11.8	37.3	3.59
White	1 035	77.2	887	60.5	-14.3	-1.7
Total	1 341	100	1 467	100	9.4	1.00
Technologist graduates						
Black	126	15.5	604	53.5	379.4	19.01
Coloured	44	5.4	71	6.3	61.4	5.53
Indian	52	6.4	72	6.4	38.5	3.72
White	591	72.7	383	33.9	-35.2	-4.71
Total	813	100	1 130	100	39	3.73
Technician graduates						
Black	707	30.3	2 033	69.9	187.6	12.45
Coloured	227	9.7	174	6.0	-23.3	-2.95
Indian	135	5.8	153	5.3	13.3	1.34
White	1 260	54.1	551	18.9	-56.3	-8.78
Total	2 330	100	2 910	100	24.9	2.50
Graduates all engineering professionals						
Black	959	21.4	3 000	54.5	212.8	13.51
Coloured	326	7.3	288	5.2	-11.7	-1.35
Indian	313	7.0	398	7.2	27.2	2.69
White	2 886	64.4	1 820	33.1	-36.9	-4.99
Total	4 483	100	5 506	100	22.8	2.31

Source: DoE (1996 and 2005)

Graduation trends

Table 2 shows trends in the production of engineering professionals: slow growth overall (only 22.8% more graduates overall in 2005 than in 1996, with a growth rate of 2.3%) but substantial changes in the racial profile. In this period there were substantial increases in the number of Indian graduates, very large increases in black graduates and decreases in the numbers of white and coloured graduates, except in the case of technologists where coloured graduates increased by 61%. Although the white decline is consistent with educational equity policies, the low and decreasing numbers of coloured graduates is a matter of concern.

Figure 3 illustrates the changing racial proportions of engineer and technologist graduates: the proportion of whites dropped by about one third, while the proportion of blacks more than tripled. There was a 13% increase in the proportion of Indians and a 4% decrease in the proportion of coloured graduates.

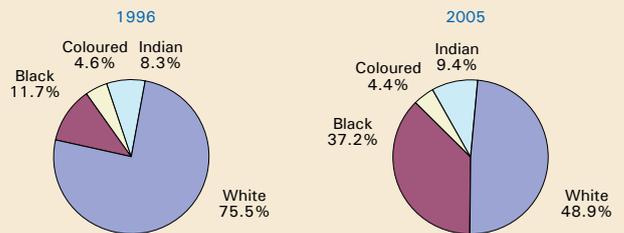


Figure 3: Race profiles of engineer and technologist graduations, 1996 and 2005. Source: DoE (1996 and 2005)

Figure 4 illustrates the changing racial proportions of engineering technician graduates: again, white proportions dropped more than one third, black proportions more than doubled, the Indian share dropped 9% and the coloured share more than a third.

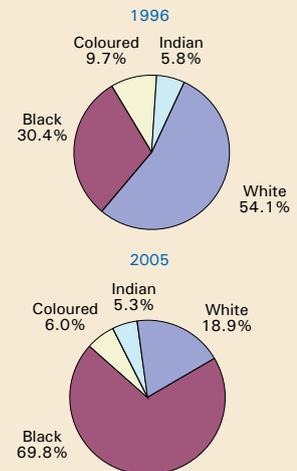


Figure 4: Race profiles of technician graduations, 1996 and 2005. Source: DoE (1996 and 2005)

In general, when compared with the changes in the racial profile of engineering employment, the changes in graduate profile indicate much higher levels of transformation in the student profile than in the profession itself.

Gender transformation

The increasing number and proportions of female graduates is not matched in the profession, where proportions of female engineering professionals have declined.

Although there has been a small average annual growth of 0.04% in the number of all female engineering professionals (engineers, technologists and technicians) over the 1996-2005 period, the proportion of females decreased from 11.7% in the 1996-1999 period to 8.6% in the 2000-2005 period, as Figure 5 shows.

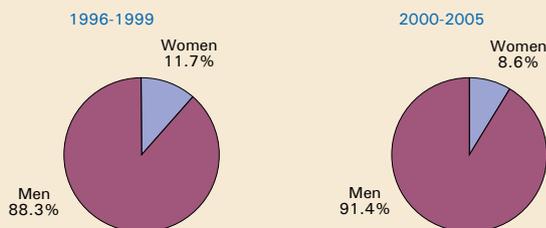


Figure 5: Gender profiles of engineering professionals (engineers, technologists and technicians), average for 1996-1999 (OHS) and average for 2000-2005 (LFS)

Female engineers and technologists increased, with a small average annual growth of 0.8% (from 4 632 in 1996 to 4 971 in 2005), but the proportion of female to male engineers and technologists decreased from 23.2% (4 632) females and 79% (15 258) males in 1996 to only 14.9% (4 971) females and 85.1% (28 375) males in 2005.

Female technicians decreased, with an average annual growth of minus 1.2% over the 1996 to 2005 period and the proportion of female to male technicians decreased from 10.6% (3 064) females and 89.4% (25 765) males in 1996 to only 4.9% (2 751) females and 95% (52 695) males in 2005.

Graduation trends

In the period 1996 to 2005 the number of female engineering graduates (engineers, technologists and technicians) grew significantly, with an average annual growth of 15.4% versus the 0.4% average annual growth in male engineering graduates.

The number of female technologist graduates had the highest average annual growth rate of 19.9% over this period.

Figure 6 indicates changing proportions of engineer and technologist graduates: In contrast with the decline in the female proportions in employment, the proportion of female graduates more than doubled.

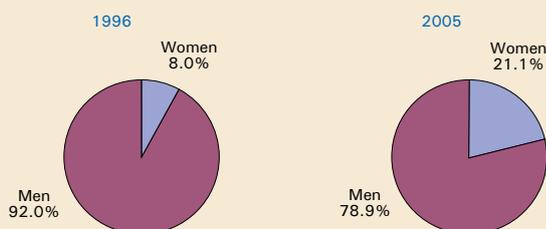


Figure 6: Gender profiles of engineer and technologist graduates, 1996 and 2005. Source: DoE (1996 and 2005)

Figure 7 shows changes in the proportions of technician graduates. In contrast with the decrease in the proportion of females in employment, the proportion of female graduates more than tripled.

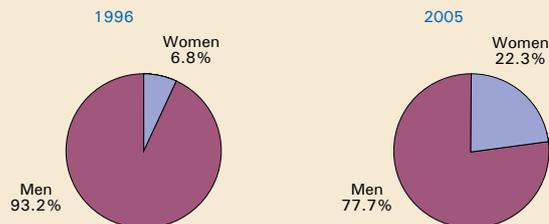


Figure 7: Gender profiles of technician graduates, 1996 and 2005
Source: DoE (1996 and 2005)

Shortages

The growth in employment of professionals in this country shows the strong demand for their services. The fact that there are still repeated claims of shortages in certain key fields, such as civil engineering, indicates that the educational institutions are not managing to produce sufficient graduates and/or the graduates are not being employed in these fields.

There are numerous reasons for the slow rate of growth in the production of engineering graduates. Given the equity targets, it is a matter of great concern that there is still a very small pool of black matriculants who qualify for entrance to an engineering programme. Throughput rates are low: about 60% in university engineering programmes, 55% for technologists and 40% for technicians.

In the engineering professions themselves a key issue is the lack of experienced professionals to mentor new graduates, widely attributed to transformation policies which have led to the departure of many experienced white professionals. Many have left the country as there is a great demand for engineering skills internationally. In 2005, 74% of engineers and technologists and 71% of technicians were under the age of 40; 13% of technologists and 20% of technicians were aged between 40 and 49 and only 13% of engineers and technologists and 9% of technicians were above 50. This has a major impact on the transfer of skills, many of which can only be acquired tacitly and on-the-job from experienced mentors.

The way forward

If South Africa is to keep pace with demand for engineering professionals in certain key fields without becoming reliant on foreign workers, the education institutions must produce more graduates and the profession must retain sufficient experienced professionals to mentor newcomers. There is a need for investigation into the mismatch between the race and gender profile of graduates and those of employed engineering professionals. Particular attention should be paid to the declining numbers of coloured graduates and the declining proportions of females in engineering employment, despite their increasing participation in engineering education.

Ms Joan Roodt is a chief researcher and Dr Mignonne Breier a chief research specialist in the research programme on Education, Science and Skills Development.

This article is based on a research report, Engineers in a developing country: the profession and education of engineering professionals in South Africa by Renette du Toit and Joan Roodt, available on www.hsrcpress.co.za.



Perchance to teach: aye, there's the rub

What do matriculants plan to do with their lives after school? And why does it matter? A recent study of a group of 2005 matrics shows that the majority of grade 12 learners planned to continue with their studies, but that only 3% of learners planned to study education, **Michael Cosser** found.

The study surveyed 20 659 grade 12 learners in 362 schools spanning the entire public schooling spectrum in South Africa.

More than seven out of ten grade 12 respondents (72%), the study shows, wanted to continue their studies, a fifth (20%) wanted to work, 7% wanted to travel overseas, and 1% were not interested in any of these activities one year from the survey date.

The aspiration of black and Indian/Asian learners to study (74% and 73% respectively) was far higher than that of whites and coloureds (both 64%). White learner aspiration to travel abroad, on the other hand, was far higher (at 14%) than that of any other group, whereas only 6% of black learners wanted to go overseas. And while three-quarters of female learners saw themselves studying, only 69% of male learners expected to be studying. The

corollary is that a higher percentage of male (24%) than of female (18%) learners saw themselves working one year from the survey date.

Which institutions for further studies?

Of those who planned to study further after grade 12, three out of five learners wanted to enter a higher education institution, a quarter a Further Education and Training (FET) college, 9% a nursing college, and 3% each a private FET institution and an agricultural college.

The quest for a higher education is not surprising: the demands of the information age, in which human capital is the new wealth, require school-leavers to equip themselves for higher-skilled employment than the mere attainment of a Grade 12 certificate can do. Whether the higher education aspirations of the 2005 cohort were realised, however, is doubtful; on average, only 14% of grade 12 learners (about 65,000 learners) in any given year go on to higher education.

“There are signs that the aspiration to proceed to higher education is waning”

Waning ambitions to enter higher education

But there are signs that aspiration to proceed to higher education is waning. Black learner interest in entering higher education was significantly lower in 2005 (56%) than in 2001 (86%) – indicating a major shift in the thinking of the largest youth cohort (by race) in the country. Similarly, white learner interest in going to university has declined, albeit less dramatically – from 82% in 2001 to 75% in 2005. Socio-economic status and academic performance at school are key predictors of aspiration to proceed to higher education, underscoring the point that social upliftment in combination with better schooling is the key to higher learning.

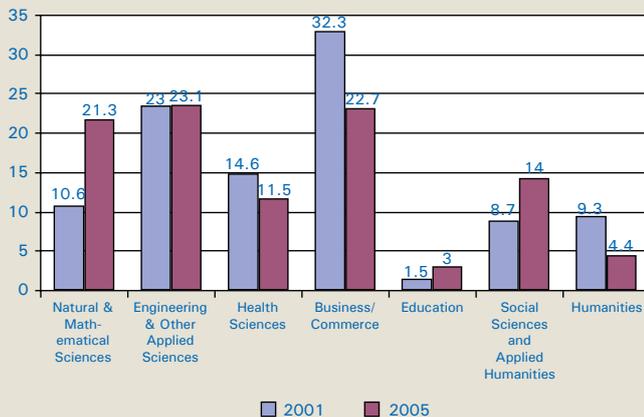


Figure 1: Higher education programme preferences, 2001 and 2005

Most popular study areas

Business and Commerce is the programme to which the highest percentage (23%) of would-be university students aspired in 2005, followed by Engineering (17%), Computer Science (14%), Health Sciences (12%), and Law (7%). At the broadest level of analysis, the ratio of Humanities to Business and Commerce to Science, Engineering and Technology preferences was 21% : 23% : 56%.

Interestingly, the study reveals biases in black and white learner programme preferences. Black learners opted predominantly for study in numeracy-intensive fields (the sciences other than the social sciences and the humanities), whites opting predominantly for study in the literacy-intensive fields (human and social sciences).

This is ironic in the light of the poorer performance at school of black learners than white learners in numeracy-oriented subjects. It is also potentially compromising, from a retention perspective, for higher education institutions where such preferences translate into enrolments.

The study shows too that engineering and the health sciences, from an aspirational perspective at any rate, remain highly gendered: women prefer the latter, notwithstanding the option of women enrolling for nursing qualifications in nursing colleges. These biases have implications, among other things, for income distribution between the sexes with engineering and nursing at opposite ends of the salary scale spectrum.

Concern over little interest in teaching

The low interest in studying education is of particular concern, from three perspectives:

- White learner aspiration to study education is significantly higher than black learner aspiration to do so. This replicates the disjunction between white and black learner preference for studying education observed in a 2001 HSRC study of

student choice behaviour, and would seem therefore to herald a trend. Were learner aspirations to be realised in enrolments, this development would be worrying in a national context of dire need for well-qualified teachers in rural areas, which are unlikely to be serviced by white education graduates.

- The study shows a possible disjunction between graduation in an education programme and uptake in the teaching profession. This disjunction has resource implications for faculties/schools of education whose aim is to produce teachers for the schooling system. Were this disjunction to be realised, more emphasis would need to be placed on career guidance and screening to ensure that faculties/schools of education do not become transit stations for undecided students or an easy means to qualifications for employment in other fields. In this regard the linking of the award of bursaries to service contracts, outlined in the National Policy Framework for Teacher Education and Development in South Africa, is to be welcomed.
- The majority of black learners indicated in the 2005 survey that they would prefer to qualify to teach in a secondary school or in special education rather than in a primary school. Were these preferences to be realised in enrolment decisions, there would be major implications for Foundation Phase teaching, especially in the mother tongue.

The study shows that a slightly larger percentage of survey respondents in 2005 (3%) than in 2001 (1.5%) wanted to study education – which may or may not have led to their enrolment in teacher education programmes and their subsequent uptake in the teaching profession. While this increase is encouraging, the low base off which an improvement has been registered indicates that teaching remains low on the professional agenda of school-leavers.

The mounting of the Fundza Lushaka bursary scheme for prospective education students may promote increased enrolments, but it is unlikely to attract students in large numbers, particularly given the diminished status of the teaching profession in relation to the high-status professions to which learners have been shown to aspire in the study. Student enrolments in education will also depend on the number of places available in education faculties/schools.

“Far more emphasis will need to be placed on recruitment of aspirant students *at school and community levels*”

What the low aspiration for enrolment in education programmes does indicate is that far more emphasis will need to be placed on recruitment of aspirant students into such programmes *at school and community levels*. Teaching needs to be sold to learners. Ironically, however, it is unlikely to be bought by pupils who are themselves the products of inferior teaching role-models. This self-perpetuation points out the need for more research into what university faculties are doing in this regard, what they can do better and with what kind of support.

Michael Cosser is a chief research specialist in the programme on Education, Science and Skills Development. The full report, Studying Ambitions. Pathways from grade 12 and the factors that shape them, can be downloaded for free or ordered from www.hsrcpress.co.za



Spare the rod and save the child, most South Africans believe

A study to investigate changes in attitudes towards methods of disciplining school pupils among South Africans aged 16 years and older, by **Mbithi wa Kivilu** and **Muchiri Wandai**, was drawn from the annual SASAS between 2003 and 2006. The study also included other influences, such as religion, gender, and race on these attitudes.

The upsurge of violence in schools led to this study on what South Africans think about the methods used in schools for disciplining learners. The data gathered over four years included the following five methods of disciplining learners in South African schools:

- 1) Reasoning or discussion with learner
- 2) Corporal punishment by the teacher or principal
- 3) Physical labour in school
- 4) Detention after school hours
- 5) Additional learning tasks

These methods can be placed in two groups: firstly, methods that have the potential to cause pain or discomfort such as 'corporal punishment', 'physical labour like sweeping', and 'keeping learners after school hours'; and secondly, those methods that do not cause physical discomfort, such as 'reasoning/discussion' and 'giving additional learning tasks'.

Respondents were required to respond to six statements on discipline on a scale ranging from 'strongly agree' to 'do not know'. In the following analysis, level 6 'do not know', was excluded.

Appealing to reason

The sample comprised of 4 980 respondents in 2003, 5 583 in 2004, 2 850 in 2005 and 2 904 in 2006.

Overall, 'reasoning/discussion' (91%) and 'giving additional learning tasks' (81%) were the two methods of disciplining learners that were supported by the largest proportion of respondents. On the other hand 'physical labour like sweeping' was the least supported, with only one out of every three respondents (33%)

indicating support. The use of 'corporal punishment by either a teacher or school principal' and 'keeping learners after school' received equal support (51% each). The results are presented in Figure 1.

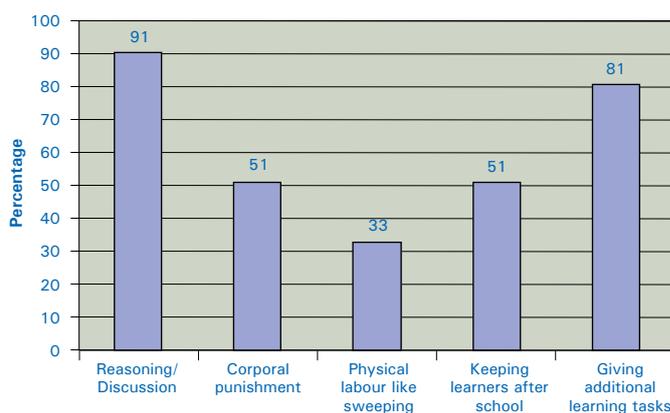


Figure 1: Percentage response to discipline method

Despite the ban many teachers continue to use corporal punishment for lack of alternative methods. R. Morell (2001) explains that 'among the reasons for the continued use of corporal punishment is the failure to specify alternative mechanisms for discipline, the rebelliousness of students, ongoing belief in the efficacy of authoritarian teaching and management styles among teachers, and very large classes that make it difficult to deploy alternative forms of discipline'.

Although 'reasoning/discussion' and 'giving of additional learning tasks' were the most preferred methods of disciplining learners, there was a gradual decrease in the proportion that supported the former, while there was an increase in the proportion that supported 'giving of additional learning tasks' from 2003 to 2006. Support for corporal punishment remained unchanged while that for 'physical labour like sweeping' and 'keeping learners after school hours' decreased over the years. These results were confirmed using Binary Logistic Regression. Details of the results are shown in Figure 2.

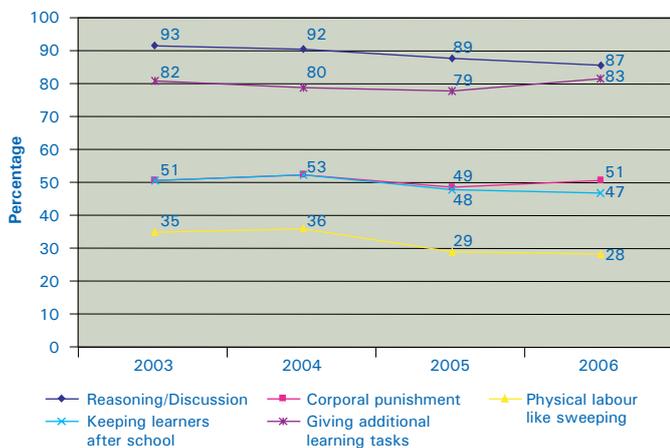


Figure 2: Percentage response to discipline method by year

Western Cape respondents in favour of discipline

Some significant differences in attitude toward the various methods appeared across the provinces. Apart from the 'reasoning/discussion' method, respondents from the Western Cape tended to show the highest support for all the methods. The highest proportion (slightly over 60%) of the respondents in Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Free State and Northern Cape supported the use of corporal punishment. On the other hand, this method received the least support (about 42%) in Limpopo and North West. It would be interesting to investigate why respondents from KwaZulu-Natal showed the least support for 'physical labour like sweeping' and 'keeping learners after school hours'. Details of these results are provided in Figure 3.

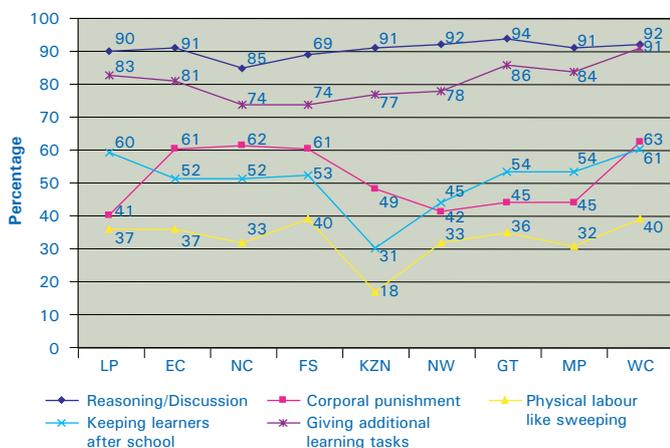


Figure 3: Percentage response to discipline method by province

Discipline methods differ by race

Compared to the other race groups, whites were least likely to

support the use of 'reasoning/discussion', while Indians/Asians were four times more likely than whites to do so. A closer look at the analysis by race indicates that the response distributions for whites and coloureds are somewhat similar, as are those for blacks and Asians/Indians.

In relative terms, whites and coloureds tended to lend more support to methods that cause pain and discomfort, than did Indians/Asians and black respondents. For example, about 72% of whites and 62% of coloureds supported the use of 'corporal punishment' while only 35% of Indians/Asians and 48% of black respondents supported its use. Indians/Asians were also least likely, compared to whites, to support 'keeping learners after school hours' and 'physical labour like sweeping'. Coloureds were most likely to support 'keeping learners after school hours' and 'physical labour like sweeping' while black respondents were least likely to support 'giving of additional learning tasks'. These results are presented in Figure 4.

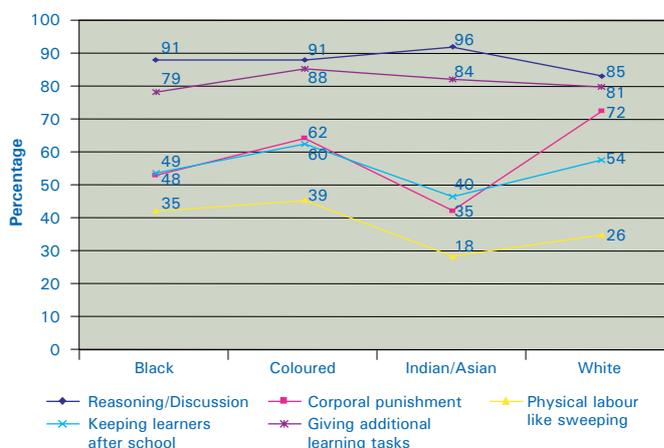


Figure 4: Percentage response to discipline method by race

There were also statistically significant differences in attitudes towards the use of corporal punishment by gender and religious affiliation. Females, and respondents who did not consider themselves to belong to any religion, were less likely than their compatriots to support the use of this method. Females were also found to be less likely than males to support the use of 'keeping learners after school hours' and 'giving of additional learning tasks'.

Conclusion

Overall, the results showed that although support for 'reasoning/discussion' as a method of discipline in schools declined from 2003 to 2006, it was still rated highly compared with the other disciplinary methods. 'Reasoning/discussion' and 'giving of additional learning tasks' were preferred to the other three methods of discipline, that is, higher proportions of respondents supported these two methods than the others.

Corporal punishment received more support than the other two methods that are construed to cause pain or discomfort, and 'physical labour like sweeping' received the least support. The impact of corporal punishment on learners includes the eliciting of negative emotions but little is known about the impact of the other methods in promoting desirable change in behaviour.

Dr Mbithi wa Kivilu is head of Socio-Economic Surveys and Muchiri Wandai is a post-graduate student in Biostatistics in Public Health, University of Pretoria.

The young and the restless: Political apathy and the youth

Are the youth disconnecting from conventional politics, apathetic, individualistic and disinterested, as is often speculated? As the 2009 general election draws nearer, the debate is about whether young people will be turning up at the ballot box. Using SASAS data, **Ben Roberts** and **Thabo Letsoalo** examine the political attitudes of young people relative to their older contemporaries.

Interest in politics is commonly included in attitudinal surveys as a means of assessing levels of engagement and concern with politics and current affairs. It has been found to strongly influence voting behaviour in mature democracies.

Between 2003 and 2006, the percentage of South Africans who reported that they discussed politics frequently ('very often' or 'often') increased slightly from 14% to 20%. Over this interval, political discussion rose across all age groups (Figure 1). In both 2003 and 2006, the 16-24 year-old age group appears slightly less likely to talk often about politics than middle-aged citizens aged 30-59 years, and instead more closely approximate the levels of interest demonstrated by the oldest generation aged 60 years and above.

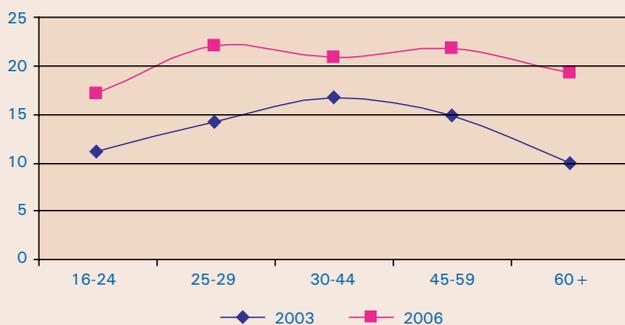


Figure 1: Percentage discussing politics ('very often' or 'often'), 2003 and 2006 (16 years +)
Source: HSRC SASAS 2008



In 2008, respondents were asked directly how interested they are in politics. On aggregate, 37% of South Africans aged 16 and older indicated that they were 'very' or 'quite' interested in politics (Figure 2). Although political interest seemed lower among youth (16-29 year-olds) and the oldest generation (60+), it did not differ significantly from middle-aged South Africans.

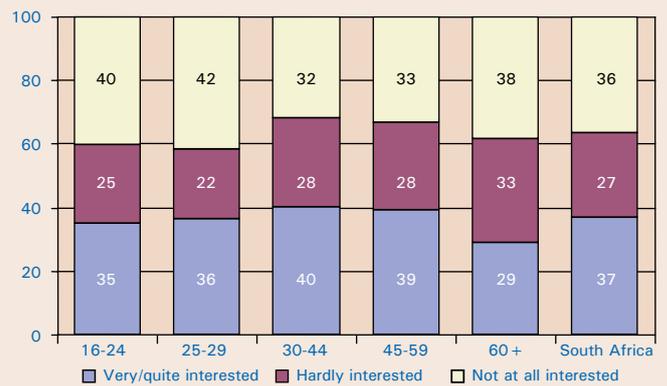


Figure 2: Interest in politics, by age group, 2008 (16 years +)
Source: HSRC SASAS 2008

Men and women in the 16-29-year-old age group show equal levels of interest in politics. By contrast, middle-aged (30-59) and older men (60+) are significantly more politically interested than their female counterparts. With regard to political discussion, men in all three age groups are significantly more likely to talk about politics than women.

This suggests that there may have been a convergence between generations in the gender gap in political interest, though the same does not appear true in respect of political discussion. Differences in political interest between black and other population groups across the three age groups were not discernible.

On the importance of voting

To understand whether today's young people are distinctive in their views about voting in general elections, respondents were asked about the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with the statement that it 'makes no difference' whether they vote or not. In 2008, 58% of South Africans disagreed that voting in general elections does not make a difference.

There are relatively small fluctuations in attitude across age groups, ranging from 54% among those in their late twenties (25-29 years) to a high of 61% for 16-24 year-olds. However, none

of the observed differences between the different age groups are statistically significant. This signifies that youth are just as likely as middle-aged and older citizens to believe in the power of the vote.

Respondents were also asked to specify their level of agreement with the statement that it is the 'duty of all citizens to vote'. The sense of civic duty to vote is deeply entrenched, with 80% of South Africans over 16 years subscribing to this viewpoint in late 2008.

Signs of political disengagement among young people are again not evident. Variation by age group ranged in a narrow band from 78% among 25-29 year-olds to 85% for 45-59 year-olds. While 45-59 year-olds (the so-called 'Young Lions') are more likely to believe in the civic duty to vote than those aged between 25-44 years, the youngest (16-24 year-olds) and oldest (60+) age groups are not characteristically different from each other or from middle-aged citizens.

Intention to vote

As for the level of intention to vote, in late 2008 63% of those 18 years and older were able to indicate who they would support if a general election was to be held the next day, 14% was undecided and 12% would not vote (Figure 3).

Those in their late teens and early twenties (18-24 years) appear less inclined to know who they would vote for (59%) relative to the average South African of voting age, and more likely to say they would not vote (20%). Conversely, those in their late twenties (25-29 years) appear moderately more certain of who they would vote for.

Irrespective of these traits, the percentage point differences between younger and older age groups are relatively small in most instances. The predominant reasons cited by 18-29 year-olds indicating they will not vote are lack of interest (53%), a failure to register (17%), lack of an I.D. book (16%) and disillusionment with politics (11%).

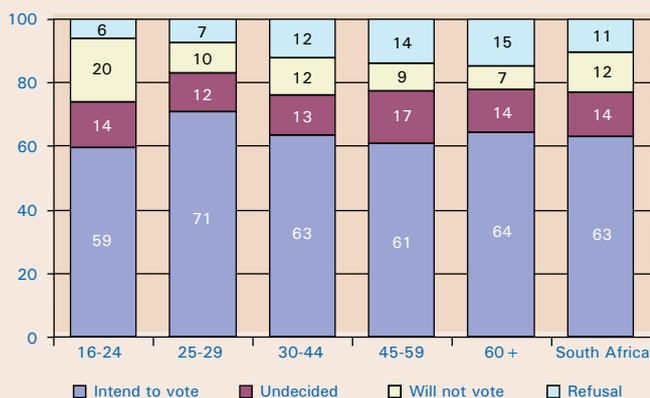


Figure 3: Intention to vote in general elections, by age group, 2008 (18 years+)

Source: HSRC SASAS 2008

Compared to the 2003 SASAS round, the percentage reporting that they would cast their vote at the election has risen marginally from 61% to 63%, and it would appear that young people under 30 years, but especially those aged 25-29 years, are more predisposed towards voting in the 2009 election than in the 2004 election. Those older than 30 years have remained fairly consistent in their intention.

Although age differences in voting intention in late 2008 were not especially pronounced, when one looks at the results by age

and population group, a more striking gradient of difference emerges (Figure 4). The most distinct difference in the intention to vote is between young black respondents aged 18-29 and those similarly aged in other population groups (67% and 43% respectively). This divergent pattern is largely accounted for by the high level of indecision (30%) regarding whether or who to vote for among non-black youth. The generational gap in the intention to vote is also less apparent among black respondents than among other population groups.

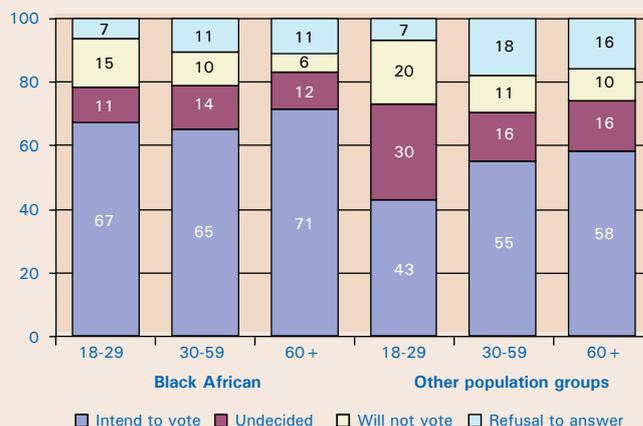


Figure 4: Intention to vote, by age and population group, 2008 (18 years+)

Source: HSRC SASAS 2008

The intention to vote does not equate with actual voting behaviour on Election Day, and previous national elections bear this out, with the low turnout among young people. Relative to the expressed intention to vote in the 2004 election, reported turnout in the 2004 election (based on the 2008 data) was on average 16% higher among those aged 18-24 years, but around 5-10% lower among those older than 25 years. Nonetheless, this should not detract from the encouraging stated interest in the forthcoming national election among youth.

Concluding reflections

Although young people appear less likely to have voted in previous general elections, they claim to have a strong commitment to the democratic process. A sizable majority of young people consider it a duty to vote and smaller but equally notable shares hold the view that voting ultimately makes a difference. Therefore, without even considering non-electoral forms of participation, young South Africans emerge as interested, aware and engaged in political matters to the same extent as their elders. These results pose a convincing challenge to the stereotypical representations depicting youth as 'disengaged' or 'lost'.

Underlying these general findings, there are, however, significant racial differences in attitudes within the younger generation, with black youth expressing more positive attitudes or 'democratic enthusiasm' than other population groups towards voting. This reflects the diversity in the historical background and contemporary situation of young people. It also highlights the need for targeted interventions for various sub-categories of youth to encourage civic and political participation.

Benjamin Roberts is a research specialist and Thabo Letsoalo a Master's intern in the Child, Youth, Family and Social Development (CYFSD) research programme.



Mcebisi Ndletyana



Kwandiwe Kondlo



Most significant elections since 1994, analysts say

The forthcoming elections are almost as significant as the first fully democratic elections of 1994, observe political analysts **Mcebisi Ndletyana** and **Kwandiwe Kondlo**.

The 2009 elections are likely to draw in a new segment of voters, and produce an outcome that may completely change South Africa's political landscape. The elections could also shed some light on the prominence of trans-racial politics in this country, 15 years after the democratic breakthrough.

For starters, the historically dominant African National Congress (ANC) will contest this election in an unusually weak state. The ruling party is vulnerable and its party machinery appears weakened. A symptom that things were not right in the organisation was the failure of the provincial leadership in the Western Cape to register the party for the recent municipal by-elections in the province. The ANC was consequently barred from participating and lost numerous seats to opposition parties.

ANC riddled by factions

Elsewhere, the ruling party either faces what appears to be a formidable challenge from the newly formed Congress of the People (COPE), or it is riddled by factions. The Eastern Cape, the historical base of the ANC, promises to be a highly contested territory between the two parties. COPE's recent rally in Port Elizabeth, where it launched its election manifesto, attracted the level of crowd that is often seen at ANC rallies, a testimony to its popularity in the province.

Factionalism in the North West, Northern Cape and Free

State Provinces has inhibited proper functioning of the ANC's organisational structures, often leading to postponement of provincial conferences, and seeing fellow comrades squaring up against each other in court over organisational matters, for example, Vax Mayekiso vs. the provincial leadership in the Free State.

It is still not clear whether those left in the ANC's various provincial leadership echelons will cohere around the party's electoral strategy and enthusiastically mobilise the electorate for the party, or whether some senior leaders may yet still defect to COPE. At the time of writing, for instance, a senior provincial leader and education MEC in the Free State, Casca Mokitlane, announced his defection to COPE. Unending defections impair the cohesiveness of the party and portray a party in disarray, something that does not inspire confidence among voters as it distracts from the ANC's electoral message.

Unpopular actions and defections

COPE's entry into South Africa's political life has suddenly made the electoral outcome much less predictable than before. Its immediate resonance with a significant number of people – marked by about 420 000 signed-up members in less than three months of being formed – makes the party a potentially serious contender in the coming elections. How COPE performs will influence voters' behaviour and their attachment to parties.

What most observers are keen to see is whether the exodus of leaders from the ANC to COPE will replicate itself among voters. Will voters follow their favourite leaders into COPE, or does the ANC have an enduring, independent appeal among its followers, one that is not easily tarnished by the mud thrown at it by the defectors? Either way, COPE's electoral fortune or misfortune will indicate the extent to which ANC voters are willing to hold the ruling party liable for its recent unpopular actions – such as firing of premiers, recalling the president and disbanding the crime-busting Scorpions – or reward it for improvements it has effected in their own individual lives, despite the policy mishaps.

Equally important to see will be how COPE fares among white voters. COPE apparently dominates conversation around the dinner tables in white suburbia. White voters, keen to see a strong challenge to the dominant ANC, may be attracted by COPE's potential for growth among black voters, its moderate language and its inviting gestures towards the white community. An example of the party's gesture towards whites is the appointment of whites in leadership positions and the openness towards reviewing affirmative action. COPE's attraction to white voters opens up the possibility of ushering in trans-racial politics South Africa.

DA and trans-racial politics

Similarly, the Democratic Alliance's performance will offer a verdict on the likelihood of trans-racial politics. The party's new leader and mayor of Cape Town, Helen Zille, has been visible in the city's black townships and among the first to arrive at any public tragic scene offering sympathetic words and official assistance. And she even speaks the dominant township language, isi-Xhosa. Hers has been a drastically different leadership style to her predecessor, Tony Leon, under whom the DA remained synonymous with preserving white privilege. Whether Zille's enthusiastic courting of black voters pays off or not, will show once the electoral returns come in.

Voter turn-out

Voter turn-out will also determine the parties' electoral fortunes. Normally a higher turn-out benefits the opposition, especially if the electorate is widely discontent with the status quo (also read article on page 12). New voters, either first time or formerly inactive voters, are unlikely to be enticed to the polls by a poorly performing incumbent. They need to have a reason to come out to the polls and that often means something new about the electoral process.

But the novelty of this election is two-fold: COPE, and the ANC's decidedly leftist turn. At this stage it is not readily clear who will benefit from a higher turn-out (more than 76.73% in 2004). Both these dynamics have a potential to attract new voters into the electoral process. COPE, on the one hand, may appeal to first-time voters and formerly inactive white voters looking for an alternative to the ruling party, whilst, on the other hand, poor and unemployed voters may derive encouragement from ANC's promises of decent jobs, more social grants and from the generally leftist rhetoric of the post-Polokwane leadership.

The precise margins of the results may be unclear now, but it is quite certain that they will usher in a different political landscape to the one South Africans have become accustomed to in the last few years.

Dr Mcebisi Ndletyana, is a senior research specialist in the research programme on Democracy and Governance, and Dr Kwandiwe Kondlo is the executive director of the same programme. Both serve on the SABC's election panel for the forthcoming elections.



South Africans are all set and ready to vote

In a study commissioned by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) to investigate how voters perceive the electoral process, **Mbithi wa Kivilu** and **Yul Derek Davids**, found that over 73% of those interviewed were registered and the majority found the registration process easy and efficient.

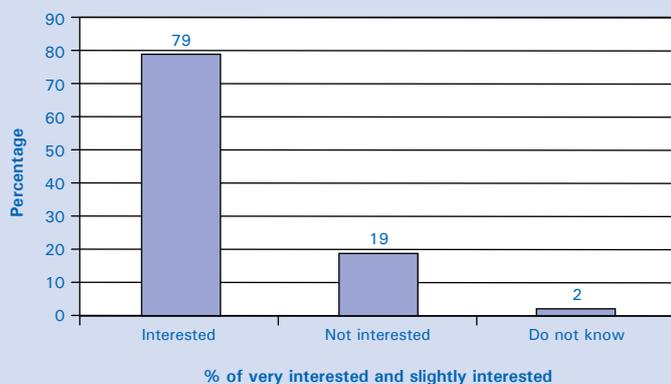
The study was composed of three components: a desktop review of existing literature on elections; focus group discussions with special groups (such as traditional leaders, the youth and people with disability among others); and a national survey of a representative sample of 4 000 South Africans aged 18 years and older. The questionnaire was administered face-to-face to the selected respondents in their preferred language. To ensure that the data gathered was of high quality, a team of 11 field supervisors and 118 fieldworkers was trained and supervised by HSRC researchers.

The results of the three components of the study are useful to the IEC in a number of ways:

- Provide empirical evidence of strengths and weaknesses of the electoral process;
- Could be used as supportive/supplementary information and communication campaigns;
- Useful tool for supporting official IEC documents, public speeches and planning;
- Utility value to internal units/departments of the IEC
- Post-election tool for further analysis and investigation
- Part of information package for stakeholders such as election observers

ID documents and registration

Over 97% of those interviewed had the green bar-coded identification document, but 8% of young people aged 18-24, did not have an ID document. Of those, 97% indicated that they intended applying.



How interested are you in the national and provincial elections? (N = 3876)

Asked whether they were registered, 73% said yes, with Northern Cape (82%) and the Eastern Cape (81%) reporting the highest proportion of registered voters.

Of those interviewed, the overwhelming majority (97%) found it easy to register and were provided with proof of registration. About 20% said that registration took 5-10 minutes, and 16% spent more than 30 minutes on the process.

Who will vote?

About 79% were interested in the national and provincial elections with Gauteng and Limpopo registering the highest proportions while KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape had the lowest.

Asked if they would vote if national and provincial elections were held tomorrow, 81% agreed. However, North West (73%)

and KwaZulu-Natal (76%) had relatively lower proportions than the other provinces. The likelihood of voting increased with increase in age. Whites were more likely to vote than any other race group. About 30% felt they would be encourage to vote 'if the queues were shorter' and 'if they felt their vote would make a difference in the outcome of the elections'.

Asked what they would do in the next elections if the party they voted for did not meet their expectations, 41% indicated that they would 'give their party another chance' while 30% would 'vote for another party'. If they felt they could not vote for the party of their choice, whites and Asian/Indians (50%) would vote for another party while black respondents (48%) would abstain from voting.

If the party you voted for did not meet your expectations will you, the next time there is an election? (N = 3857)

Action to take	Percent
Give that party another chance	41
Vote for another party	30
Not vote at all	19
Wait for an explanation and then decide	5

Asked why they would vote, 75% said because their vote makes a difference while 81% felt it was their duty as citizens to do so.

Gender: who makes better politicians?

There were gender differences on perception about voting. Asked who they would vote for, 32% of males compared to 23% of females said they would never vote for a woman. About 15% of males compared to 26% of females indicated that women make better politicians than men. On whether women should get more involved in politics to solve problems that concern them, 55% of males compared to 69% of females agreed.

Performance of the IEC

It was generally agreed by 84% of respondents that schools should play a leading role in educating the youth about elections.

With regard to sufficiency of information provided by the IEC, 53% indicated they had enough information about services provided by the IEC while 60% had enough about how to vote. Two out of three people felt the timing of information about national and provincial elections should be a few weeks before the elections.

Over 72% were pleased with the performance of the IEC during the previous elections and over 80% were satisfied with the most recent voting experience. Over 90% were satisfied with the service offered by the IEC officials in terms of language used, friendliness and efficiency. Generally the election procedures were considered free and fair by 89% of the respondents.

Six out of ten people were aware of the IEC Voter Education campaigns/programmes but more attention should be focused on Western Cape, rural areas, and among the youth (18-24 years old) where the proportions were low.

Dr Mbithi wa Kivulu is head of Socio-Economic Surveys and Yul Derek Davids is a research manager in Knowledge Systems.

Alcohol, movies and adolescents



The proposed amendment to the National Roads Traffic Regulations banning alcohol advertising is a step in the right direction. A growing body of research shows a strong association between alcohol advertising and drinking among youth. These relationships are often complex, but one thing is clear: the media has the propensity to foster positive attitudes to alcohol use as trendy and appealing, says **Arvin Bhana**.

A timely study by Sonya Dal Cin *et al.* from the University of Michigan, provides a clear example of the role that contemporary movies and advertising play in creating (and perhaps sustaining) positive attitudes towards the consumption of alcohol and tobacco use. The survey revealed that 83% of popular contemporary movies, watched by youngsters of between 10 – 14 years old, depicted drinking. This relationship was most clearly demonstrated in the case of African-American youth. Of particular interest was the extent to which alcohol depicted in movies with a PG13 rating was often indistinguishable from R rated movies, suggesting the widespread normative standards of alcohol use within Western contexts.

“ 83% of popular contemporary movies, watched by youngsters of between 10 – 14 years old, depict drinking ”

Environment and alcohol

However, there is a need to gain an understanding of how advertising of drinking in movies interacts with the dynamics of the lived contexts of African-American youth to create a normative context. For instance, if the social environment in which children grow up condones alcohol use, would the individual be more likely to respond favourably to alcohol advertising? It is often difficult to distinguish between cause and effect in work of a cross-sectional nature.

Alcohol and receptiveness

An examination of perceptions of sexual risk and substance abuse attributed the tendency among the youth to be more receptive to alcohol and drug use to the tolerance of deviant behaviour that exists within communities that lack social cohesion due to poverty,

unemployment and crime. It is unclear how the media in South Africa fosters such associations.

Even though the youthful movie-going audience is much smaller in developing countries, what seem to be common are attempts by the media to create a positive association between alcohol use and iconic lifestyles. Alcohol advertising is likely to be attractive; not only because its use is associated with 'good times' but also because it suggests a desirable lifestyle, particularly where there are significant environmental stresses such as poverty, violence, discrimination and unemployment.

Advertisements and lifestyle

Certainly, when smoking advertisements were common in South Africa, an attempt was made to associate smoking and brand awareness with fun and glamorous lifestyles in which attractive young people were depicted enjoying themselves in exotic locations.

The work by Dal Cin *et al.* clearly shows the significant role played by the movie industry in creating positive attitudes to alcohol use. They correctly identify the urgency of determining what the effects of these movies are in similar groups of adolescents worldwide and their call for understanding psychosocial processes that may underlie any causal effect becomes an extremely important research goal for which to strive.

“ Advertisements create a positive association between alcohol use and iconic lifestyles ”

*This article is based on a commentary published in *Addiction* 103, 1933–1938. Professor Arvin Bhana is the deputy executive director of the research programme on Child, Youth, Family and Social Development.*



Welfare policy for orphans passes the test

The literature suggests that there is a crisis of care for children who are orphaned by AIDS. **Tsiliso Tamasane** and **Judith Head** investigated extended family care for orphans and other vulnerable children among 8 163 children in a semi-rural local municipality in the Free State. Here they report their findings.

There are two major concerns in the care of orphans: there might not be anybody in the extended family to readily provide care; and if the bulk of the care is provided by grandparents, they may be too old to parent effectively which could compromise the quality of care received.

What is the evidence? Extended family care for orphans and other vulnerable children was investigated in the context of pervasive poverty and a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in a semi-rural local municipality in the Free State. The investigation explored whether the application of current welfare policies, especially with regard to social assistance, recognises or facilitates extended family care for orphans. A household census was conducted that included 8 163 children residing in this municipality.

What did we find?

Over one third of the children (34%) (2 723) had lost one or both parents (see), with almost 1 in 5 (19%) having lost a father and 8% having lost both parents. These figures are slightly higher than the provincial and district level for the same period, as recorded in the General Household Survey of 2003.

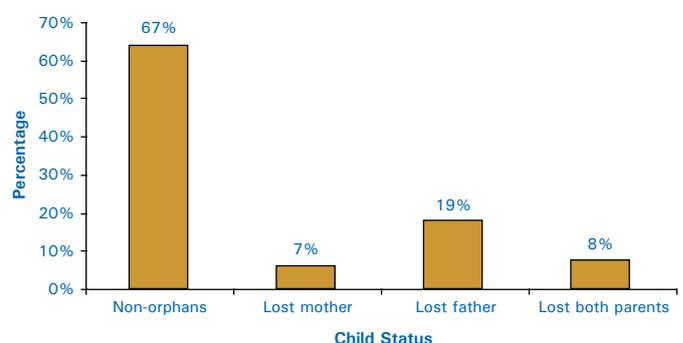


Figure 1: Children status

While it has been suggested in the literature that orphans face a crisis of care, due mainly to the declining role of extended families, the investigation found that orphaned children were in fact more likely to be cared for by their extended families than by anyone else, despite high levels of poverty in the area. Of those who had lost both parents, 87% lived in households headed by members



of their extended family. Overall, nearly half (49%) of the children who were not orphans also lived with members of their extended family. This finding suggests that the majority of orphan carers had been 'caring' for these children before their parents had passed away – underlining the significant role of extended family members in caring for children as a joint responsibility.

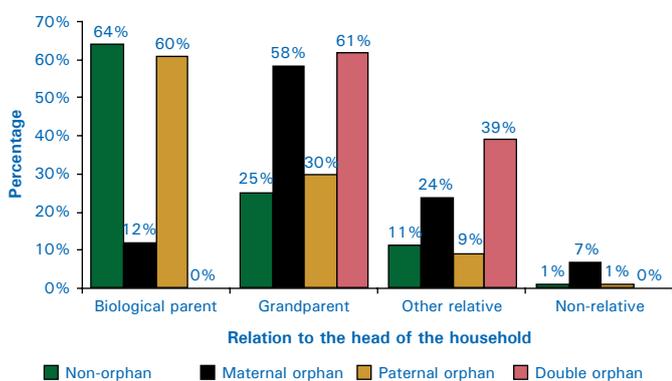


Figure 2: Relationship between orphaned and non-orphaned children and their carers (2003)

Figure 2 shows that the bulk of extended family care responsibility lies with grandparents. Given concerns about the ability of older persons to provide adequate physical care of orphans, the study looked at school attendance and meals intake to explore the competency of grandparents as carers. The results show that there are no significant differences between orphans who were cared for by grandparents versus other carers. illustrates that roughly the same number of children that were cared for by grandparents were attending school as children cared for by other carers.

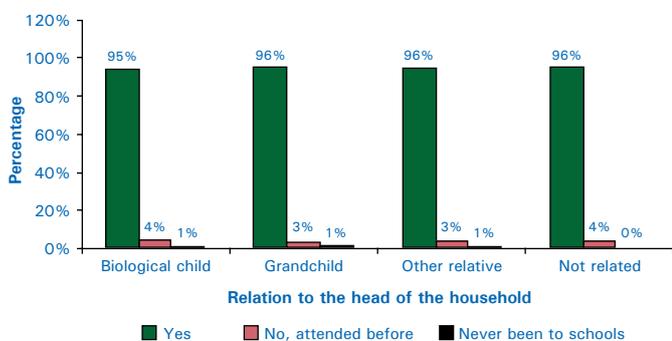


Figure 3: School attendance by orphans aged 7 and older, and younger than 18 years according to their relationship to the head of household

There were no noticeable differences (statistically) in terms of food intake between orphans cared for by grandparents and other carers, as illustrates.

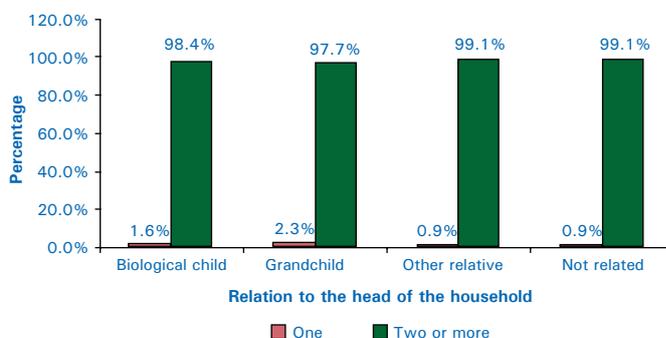


Figure 4: Meals per day according to relationship with the head of the household

Poverty, measured in terms of household income, showed that two-thirds (67%) of the residents in the sample area earned less than R1 000 per month, with orphans and non-orphans equally affected (Table 1). In fact, more households accommodating children who had lost both parents (35%) were earning more money than households that were accommodating non-orphans (30%) – that is, poorer households tended to be those accommodating non-orphans; households accommodating orphans tended to be better off.

Table 1: Monthly household income in sample community (2003)*

Household income category	Children's orphan status			
	Non-orphans N (%)	Lost mother N (%)	Lost father N (%)	Lost both parents N (%)
R1-R1 000	3 358 (66.8)	302 (63.4)	971 (68.9)	371 (63.3)
R1 001-R3 000	1 487 (29.6)	160 (33.6)	421 (29.9)	204 (34.8)
R3 001-R5 000	110 (2.2)	4 (0.8)	12 (0.9)	9 (1.5)
R5 001-R10 000	37 (0.7)	8 (1.7)	4 (0.3)	0 (0.0)
R10 001 >	33 (0.7)	2 (0.4)	1 (0.1)	2 (0.3)
Total	5 025 (100)	476 (100)	1 409 (100)	586 (100)

While orphanhood is one of the screening tools used to determine whether or not welfare assistance (in the shape of a foster care grant) should be provided to a household, the study shows that poverty is equally endemic with non-orphans, if not more so.

Poverty measures are effective

Using school attendance and meals intake as proxies for poverty, this study shows that the South African welfare system provides a relatively effective poverty alleviation measure, especially for orphans. There is, however, a need to extend these benefits to non-orphans as well.

Mr Tsiliso Tamasane is a PhD intern in the research programme on Child, Youth, Family and Social Development, and Dr Judith Head is a senior lecturer at the Department of Sociology, University of Cape Town.



Miriam Altman

Creating jobs in tough times

The global economic downturn poses serious challenges to South Africa's hopes of halving unemployment between 2004 and 2014, a target most recently reaffirmed in the ANC election manifesto, released in January, says **Miriam Altman**.

The news lately has been depressing, with extremely low growth forecasts and large scale retrenchments. Just as the SA economy seemed to be getting on track, the global economy imploded. But the prospects are not as bleak as they might seem. Growth between 2004 and 2014 could still average 4% per annum, and if so, the Human Sciences Research Council Employment Scenarios show that halving unemployment could still be achieved with special interventions.

What does this meltdown mean for halving unemployment? The answer is not found in figures for a quarter or two, or even a year or two, but over a decade and beyond. Already, the economy has grown by an average of 5% annually between 2004 and 2007. Employment has grown by an average of 450,000 net new jobs per annum, and unemployment has fallen from 26% to 23%. While we should be concerned that forecasts for 2008/9 and 2009/10 are now falling to around 1.5%, average growth over the decade from 2004 to 2014 could still be around 4%, if the economy starts to pick up again from 2010/11.

This is a possibility identified in one of three HSRC Employment Scenarios in which special interventions would be needed to keep 1.5 million people in work in any one year. These would be generated through public works, community works and special employment programmes. Certainly, this is achievable.

Was the employment growth path sustainable?

It had started to look as if the economy's response to the existing suite of policies could be enough to achieve the Asgi-SA target. But not all believed that the growth and employment path was sufficiently sustainable. While the formal sector has increasingly been the main source of new employment, this has mostly been in low paid, relatively precarious service jobs. Many of these sectors, like retail or personal services, rely substantially on the expansion of other, more dynamic, globally traded sectors like mining, manufacturing, tourism, IT or finance. The overwhelming growth of non-traded services in SA might have indicated that this source of employment would have soon played out, even in the absence of a global meltdown. So, were we edging up from 5% to 6% growth, or perhaps just having a good few years, with the prospect of growth falling back from 5% to 4%?

In the next couple of years, jobs will be lost in mining, manufacturing and especially services such as retail and hospitality. Most new employment will be found in government generated





construction projects and the public sector. These opportunities may generate less than 150 000 net new jobs in 2008/9 and in 2009/10, with more substantial recovery from 2010/11.

What might raise the rate of market based job creation?

If there is a major shortfall, government should be committed to stepping in. But public works jobs are not sustainable, and require continuous state funding. It is imperative that dynamic growth inducing sectors be stimulated. These are sectors that are globally integrated, have deep supply chains, retail networks, and enable substantial employment linkages. Examples include transport, capital equipment, high value agriculture and mining related industries. There should also be substantial potential in many globally traded service sectors where SA has demonstrated capability such as civil construction, mining services, finance, or business services.

The Asgi-SA agenda has already identified some of the key interventions needed, and it is imperative that these are fully implemented over the next period of government. A higher path that improves the growth and employment generating capability of the economy could be created by improving the quality and competitiveness of network infrastructure. New industries rely on world class network infrastructure like telecommunications, transport, energy and water. This requires greater commitment to delivery, shareholder investment and effective regulation.

These interventions would not necessarily help create jobs over the next 2 or 3 years, but would certainly set the economy on a more labour absorbing path into the future. SA would be better prepared for the global recovery period so that economic and employment growth rates are higher than they would otherwise be from 2010.

What can be done now?

Identifying ways of protecting unnecessary job loss in viable businesses are certainly worth investigating. Government's continued commitment to its construction projects will be essential. Within these projects, there will be substantial opportunity to stimulate local private sector investments.

There is another angle to these challenges. Each year about 500 000 to 700 000 school leavers enter the labour market. They have a 50% chance of finding a job before the age of 24. This is even more severe for black school leavers. If this is the situation during a growth acceleration period, then the next few years will not be happy ones for most young people. Every year, hundreds of thousands of school leavers are added to the pool of long-term unemployed. This is surely one of SA's greatest social and economic challenges. What can be done over the next few years? Firstly, it would be a good idea to incentivise young people to keep studying - that is, to stay out of the labour market and to add to their skills. Secondly, special employment programmes should target 18 to 24 year olds. How so? Amongst other ideas, what about offering jobs to matric graduates to mentor grade 11s and 12s. Who knows better how to pass matric, and communicate that knowledge, than a recent graduate?

SA began its democratic life with an unacceptably high level of unemployment, poverty and inequality. This severely impacts on the ability of the majority to meaningfully participate. We need to stick to ambitious targets on the path to full employment, by all means possible.

Dr Miriam Altman heads up the Centre for Poverty, Employment and Growth.

Trouble and chance in the motor industry



The word 'crisis', when written in Chinese, is composed of two characters: one representing danger and the other representing opportunity. Whereas the South African automotive manufacturing industry is staggering under the impact of the global economic crisis that has nearly bankrupted the world's largest automotive companies, there might also be some opportunities, **Michael Gastrow** believes.

Automotive manufacturing, consisting of assemblers and their supply base of component manufacturers, accounts for 7% of national GDP and 13.5% of exports. Any crisis in this sector will have major effects on the South African economy.

The executive director of the National Association of Automotive Component and Allied Manufacturers (NAACAM) recently estimated that 10 000 jobs have already been lost as a result of the downturn. Thousands more are threatened, and many manufacturers are working short-time. Production volumes are down by 35%, while at the same time financing has become more difficult to obtain, resulting in a shakedown that will re-shape the local industry.

New knowledge the key to success

NAACAM has called on the government to provide financial support to help the sector through the crisis, but this is a short-term solution. The question of long-term viability is related not to the current financial crunch, but to market changes and global competitiveness.

Research in this area usually focuses on production competitiveness: asking how efficiently firms can achieve low price, high quality, and short lead times. But in a world that is experiencing an information revolution and a rise in the importance of knowledge-based economies, the knowledge-generation capabilities of an industry are becoming as important as production capabilities. Long-term success is tied to the ability to produce new knowledge, innovate, and exploit new niches and opportunities.

Cashing in on the export market

Recent research has shed some light on this aspect of South Africa's automotive sector. Until recently the sector experienced a bumper decade, which supported substantial investment in research and development (R&D) by assemblers: between 1999 and 2005 production at assemblers increased by 69%, breaking through the 500 000 unit barrier for the first time.

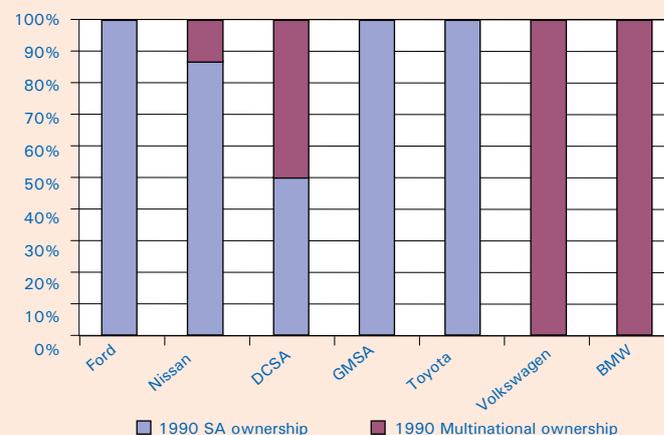
A buoyant local economy stimulated production for the domestic market by 30% during this period, despite a high rate of import penetration. But the main driver of growth was an increase in production for export, which by 2005 was at 12 times its 1996 level. Capital investment by assemblers also grew from R1.5 billion in 1999 to R6.3 billion in 2005.

Investment allocated to R&D and engineering rose accordingly,

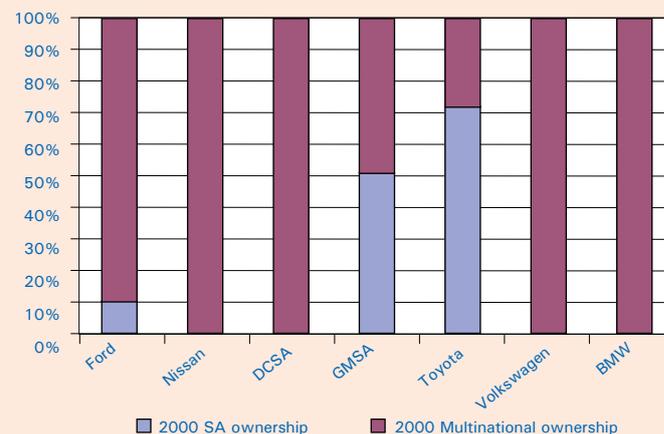
from R115 million in 1999 to R399 million in 2006. Thus, in the five years up to 2006, over R19 billion was invested by automotive assemblers, of which R2 billion was allocated to R&D and engineering.

Local industry bought by foreign investors

The investment is reflective of a fundamental change in the ownership of South Africa's automotive sector that took place during the 1990s. Prompted by a stable political and economic climate, foreign investors bought up the local industry, effectively transferring ownership into international hands.



SA Assembler ownership: 1990



SA Assembler ownership: 2000

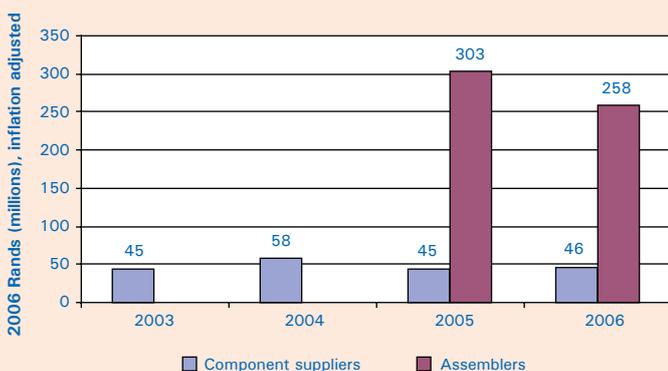
Source: Barnes, 2000

The ownership profile of the South African supply base to these assemblers also changed. Between 1997 and 2003 sourcing from multinational subsidiaries increased from 26% to 37.5% of the supply base. However, rather than support local R&D, this change placed pressure on it. During the same period the use of local firms with local technologies declined from 25.8% to only 10%. South African technology and R&D were thus effectively being squeezed out of the local supply base.

There were many factors influencing this. Firstly, global over-capacity had resulted in large-scale mergers and acquisitions, consolidating the number of assemblers and major suppliers and concentrating their R&D into a few major centres, mostly in the EU, USA and Japan. Global sourcing agreements between assemblers and suppliers became more common, which meant that multinational component suppliers took increasing responsibility for design and R&D. As a result, R&D came to be performed by fewer, larger, multinational firms, protected by high barriers to entry. These factors created conditions for a long-term decline in the use of locally adapted technologies and local R&D activity to support this.

South African automotive sector under pressure

The National Research and Development Survey and the database of the South African Automotive Benchmarking Club make it possible to measure these changes. The National R&D Survey is a statutory national survey of R&D performers, including South Africa's automotive assemblers. The Benchmarking Club records the R&D activity of automotive component manufacturers, some of whom are too small to be effectively covered by the national survey. The findings from these sources show that R&D in the South African automotive sector is under pressure:



Automotive research and development expenditure: Assemblers and component suppliers: 2003 - 2006
Sources: CeSTII, B&M Analysts

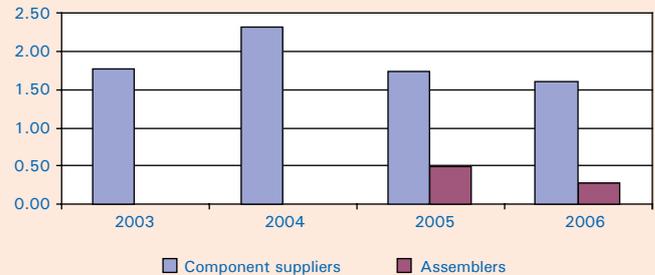
Assemblers represent the core of the industry's R&D capabilities, spending approximately R300 million on R&D in 2005 and R258 million in 2006. Component manufacturers that are members of the national benchmarking club have consistently spent a total of only around R45 million on R&D.

Interviews with assemblers revealed that these are mostly niche areas of R&D. Some assemblers have been designated as global lead engineers for specific models. Older models that remain in production provide a consistent demand for development, for example, the Citi Golf and Corsa Lite. Other important areas include hot weather testing, component testing and adaptation to local

conditions. Interviews also revealed that the major constraint on R&D is skills-related, particularly the national shortage of suitably qualified and experienced engineers.

Level of R&D intensity

Another measure which can be drawn from these data is that of R&D intensity, which can be measured by R&D expenditure as a proportion of turnover.



R&D intensity: R&D expenditure as a % of turnover
Source: CeSTII, B&M Analysts

While absolute levels of R&D are relatively stable, R&D intensity has declined among both assemblers and component manufacturers. So, even as the industry has grown, its knowledge generation capabilities have not. This suggests that the industry is becoming a production centre with a decreasing proportion of knowledge-intensive and knowledge-generating activity.

Light at the end of the tunnel

What are the implications of these findings? Firstly, the overall picture is in line with existing views of automotive R&D in South Africa - the structural environment points towards a long-term decline. However, all is not doom and gloom: substantial R&D activity remains, largely among assemblers, who have identified a set of niche areas in which there is still a comparative advantage for R&D.

What does all this mean in times of financial and economic crisis? Financial support from government may help the sector through the immediate crisis, but support for skills development and niche R&D investment will do more to bolster long-term success. The strengthening of these pockets of R&D is likely to strengthen the knowledge economy of the sector as a whole, moving it higher up the knowledge value chain, increasing the level of higher value-adding activities and making it a more attractive destination for foreign capital.

Policy makers therefore need to identify factors which support these critical areas. Macroeconomic factors include the availability of engineering skills and the regulatory environment (such as the Motor Industry Development Plan and the National R&D tax incentive). At a company level factors that influence R&D competitiveness include technological maturity, ownership, market focus, and skills development capacities, among others. While the crisis may cause a temporary contraction in the sector, it also reveals comparative advantage, allows the fittest to survive, and creates a space where old structures can be changed to become more effective.

Michael Gastrow is a senior researcher in the programme on Education, Science and Skills Development. This article is based on Gastrow, M. (2008). 'An overview of Research and Development Activities in the South African Automotive Industry.' Journal of New Generation Sciences. Vol. 6 No. 1 p1-15.



Improving the value of social networks for the poor

Even if often disregarded, the poor do have social networks – those intricate associations of people drawn together by family, work or hobby, believed to provide social support, influence and engagement, as well as access to resources and material goods. In this article, **Jonathan Carter** explores how the networks of the poor could be better utilised.

A draft anti-poverty strategy, released by the Policy Co-ordination and Advisory Services (PCAS) in 2008, suggested that 'interventions should also be about improving the utility of social networks of the poor, their social capital.'

PCAS emphasises the effects of important social cohesion, social capital and social networks, without providing succinct definitions of these terms. It is not clear how interventions of the state should improve their utility.

An ecological perspective on social networks

This article uses an ecological perspective to focus on social networks and proposes possible approaches to improving the use

of the social networks of the poor.

We all manage multiple identities and use past experiences to filter out what we perceive in our surrounding contexts. What we perceive determines how we act. When we interact with each other, we exchange knowledge. This knowledge changes our perceptions and therefore how we act. In turn, these interactions have an impact on our environment. So, with each interaction, we change and our context changes, all in non-linear ways.

Trust is a critical ingredient in social systems. We interact with people we trust and that trust is strengthened, or weakened, through experiences gained from repeated interactions.

This means that the observable behaviour of social systems, for example, organisations and communities, are patterns of behaviour

that emerge from the interaction of identities, evoked or created in the particular moment and context, using experiences to filter out information to make decisions.

The importance of purpose

In this perspective, the structure of social networks is not as important as the purpose that attracts identities to interact with each other.

The networks of Al Qaeda, for example, are identities driven together by a common desire to retaliate against what they see as unfair action of Western powers. The Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, which has harnessed solidarity in poor communities by drawing networks of women together to access loans, is another example. By relying on the solidarity that exists between these women, the bank achieves a repayment rate of over 98% to more than 7.5 million women.

Both these examples - the desire to retaliate and the loans - attract people who identify with the goals of the network to interact with each other. That interaction relies on trust between network members, and as trust involves emotional investment, we can only invest energy in a limited number of trusted links. Therefore trust creates the boundaries to the strength of attractors, which limits the possible size of healthy social networks.

Three conditions for healthy networks

Government can 'improve the utility of social networks' through interventions that replicate three conditions that gave rise to healthy networks. These conditions are: members *self-select* their network members so they can choose people they trust; they create *attractors*; and they define *boundaries*.

“ We interact with people we trust and that trust is strengthened, or weakened, through experiences gained from repeated interactions ”

Two NGOs in the Western Cape are recreating these conditions effectively. The first stimulates two early childhood development (ECD) forums. The members are attracted to the monthly forum meeting to collect a voucher they redeem at Pick n Pay. At the meeting, they show their invoices to prove the previous month's voucher was properly spent before they get another voucher. Participation is self selected. The voucher is the attractor and the community size acts as a natural boundary. As is the case with Grameen Bank, accountability is strictly enforced.

The second NGO stimulates HIV/AIDS self-help groups. The groups meet once a month to discuss their treatment and living with HIV. At the end of the meeting, the members receive a food parcel. The food parcel is the formal attractor, the size of the areas where they meet creates default boundaries and participation is self-selected.

Neither of these projects happened by chance and both have adapted to lessons learnt as they have gone along. But both projects attract identities that participate voluntarily. As their participation is voluntary, levels of trust are high. The real benefits for participants are the discussions they participate in, which also act as informal



attractors. These trust-based interactions result in the sharing of context-relevant knowledge that builds the responsive capacity of the group members.

“ Norms and standards cannot be used to manufacture trust - officials with the right ethos are required to create the human interface between government and the networks ”

Government can replicate this stimulation of networks by providing appropriate attractors, defining network boundaries (keeping groups small) and allowing for self-selection.

Institutional arrangements for accountability

It is also critical that the accountability mechanism is embedded in the attractor. However, this needs to be supported by the right institutional arrangements, which are the following:

- It requires an involved government. An involved government understands the informal and unwritten rules of the networks and can balance this informality with formal bureaucratic processes that are necessary to ensure accountability and equity. In the case of the ECD forums, accounting for the vouchers is a formal process which does not choke the casualness required to stimulate interaction and discussion.
- Government officials must allow appropriate leadership to emerge. The 'production' of a social network is the interaction between network members and through this interaction issues, and the appropriate response to these issues, will emerge. This interaction can be stimulated, but not directed or controlled.
- Acceptance of the government in its role will come from the bottom up. The government must be trusted by networks and this trust is earned by demonstrating its trustworthiness. This takes time.

The above implies that government needs to interact directly with a large number of small networks through competent government officials who each have a service ethos. Norms and standards cannot be used to manufacture trust and therefore a large number of officials with the right ethos are required to create the human interface between government and the networks. If implemented properly, this interface can achieve far reaching positive impacts, which, as PCAS points out, will follow a trajectory of its own.

Mr Jonathan Carter is a senior research manager in the Policy Analysis Unit.



Flawed Zimbabwe deal as good as it gets

The recent SADC-initiated political deal between Zanu-PF and the two MDC parties, which paved the way for forming an inclusive government in Zimbabwe, has enticed mixed reactions inside and outside the country.

James Muzondidya explores the deal and explains why the umbilical cord between Zimbabwe and southern Africa will remain intact.

Some view the deal as an important breakthrough, giving Zimbabweans the much needed breathing space and the chance to rebuild their shattered lives and reconstruct their decaying infrastructure. In this regard, the deal gives Zimbabweans hope.

Critics of the deal, on the other hand, have correctly argued that the deal is not only skewed in favour of Zanu-PF but that it is also ambiguous on a number of crucial issues and thus difficult to implement. A good example of the latter is the SADC recommendation that the ministry of Home Affairs be co-managed by both Zanu-PF and MDC on a rotational basis - an implementation nightmare which is bound to cause further tensions between the two parties.

Zanu-PF's absolute power has been diluted through this deal, but it still leaves Zanu-PF in firm control of government through

its control of the executive presidency, senior civil servants like partisan judges, police commissioners, intelligence and army chiefs, ambassadors and permanent secretaries (directors general) - even in those ministries which are going to be under MDC ministers.

“ Zanu-PF's control of the machinery of government is guaranteed through the control of ministries that drive both economic production and distribution of resources ”

More significantly, Zanu-PF's control of the machinery of government is guaranteed through the control of ministries that drive both economic production and distribution of resources, such as the Ministries of Agriculture, Mining, Industry and Tourism.



While the MDC will control the Ministry of Finance, its ability to direct economic policy will be dependent on the co-operation of Zanu-PF, which still controls the productive sectors of the domestic economy through its control of the ministries, as mentioned above.

If one adds to that Zanu-PF's control over the machinery of justice and coercion through both its allocation of ministries and its hold over the senior civil servants responsible for administering of justice and force, it is clear that Zanu-PF emerged the biggest winner in this SADC deal. The question which begs to be answered is why SADC endorsed such an unfair agreement.

Constraints and dynamics that shaped the deal

The easy answer to this question is that SADC endorsed this unfair deal because of its sympathies to the post-liberation government of Zanu-PF and its antipathy towards the post-liberation MDC which it regards as an ally of hegemonic Western governments. But the more elaborate explanation for SADC's failure to act on Zimbabwe lies in Zanu-PF intransigence in terms of the geopolitics and economics of the SADC region.

While critics of SADC in general, and South Africa in particular, have condemned SADC and South Africa for failing to use their economic leverage to force an obstinate Zanu-PF to compromise, there are serious constraints and dynamics shaping SADC's involvement in the problematic case of Zimbabwe. SADC's strategic and geopolitical considerations, rather than politics, have shaped the body's actions towards Zimbabwe.

For instance, critics of 'quiet diplomacy' locally and abroad have advocated an economic blockade on Zimbabwe to force political change. Such a blockade would have a devastating overall effect on not just Zimbabweans, increasingly dependent on South African imports over the last few years, but also on the South African economy and society.

“ South Africa is reliant on Zimbabwe's transport networks for the penetration of its capital into the region ”

Economic blockade detrimental to SA

There are also other complications arising from such a blockade. Contrary to populist assumptions about South Africa's leveraging powers over Zimbabwe, South Africa's ability to impose an economic blockade on Zimbabwe is complicated, ironically, by the existence of strong economic links between the two countries, dating back to the very early days of colonialism. These economic ties, strengthened in the 1960s when the world imposed economic sanctions on Rhodesia, and the Rhodesian regime was forced to depend exclusively on South Africa for access to the outside world, gave rise to a difficult love-hate relationship between the two countries.

This love-hate relationship, mainly based on an economic and strategic dependence between the two countries, has always been unavoidable, but difficult to manage. Even after Zimbabwe's independence in 1980 and with South Africa still under apartheid, the two countries could not cut each other loose completely despite becoming fierce political enemies.

Although the ongoing developments in Zimbabwe make the strategic partnership a liability, Zimbabwe continues to be important to South African regional geopolitical and economic interests and this, in a way, reduces South Africa's leveraging ability.

Until recently, Zimbabwe remained one of South Africa's most important trading partners in Africa and globally. Despite the economic crisis in Zimbabwe, trade between the two countries has remained brisk. There is a lot of informal trade that has been taking place across South Africa's borders with Zimbabwe since the beginning of the economic and political crisis in that country.

There is a significant South African business presence in Zimbabwe and South Africa has, since 2000, replaced Britain as the biggest investor in Zimbabwe. A number of South Africa's large companies, such as Zimplats, Anglo Platinum, Vhumbanani and Hullet, have operations in Zimbabwe.

“ Until recently, Zimbabwe remained one of South Africa's most important trading partners globally ”

Transport networks to Africa

Even more importantly, South Africa is heavily reliant on Zimbabwe's transport networks for the penetration of its capital into the region. Its capital has specifically grown in the countries of Mozambique, Zambia and the DRC and has also successfully competed with the historically dominant British and American capital.

Zimbabwe is the major transit point for SADC, facilitating the movement of South African goods into the interior of the southern African region and beyond. It is also the transit point for goods and resources coming into South Africa from the interior, including South Africa's power imports from Mozambique.

There are many other traditional economic links forged over years, which leave Zimbabwe so close to South Africa's national, regional and international interests that South Africa cannot just turn off the tap without experiencing the ripple effects. And nor will other SADC countries, such as Zambia, the DRC and Malawi.

The lack of nuanced understanding of the nature and impact of South Africa's economic and geopolitical relationship with Zimbabwe has hampered the development of effective intervention strategies to resolve the political and economic crises in Zimbabwe.

Dr James Muzondidya is an African research fellow in the Democracy and Governance programme. He is working on a project focusing on South Africa's economic and political relations with Zimbabwe.

From HSRC Press

Opportunities and Challenges for Teacher Education Curriculum in South Africa

Edited by Glenda Kruss

Driven by centralised state processes, externally mandated and regulated, the restructuring of teacher education curriculum and institutions in South Africa has radically changed the teacher education landscape. How universities mediate, contest and resist the resulting pressures has differed, according to their historical legacy, their specific trajectories of restructuring, and their leadership dynamics. This monograph traces the micro-level responses of teacher educators at five universities experiencing the impact of the restructuring processes with varying degrees of intensity, and selected as representative of the system as a whole.

2008 / 280pp / 978-07969-2238-0 / R 195.00 / Soft cover

Studying Ambitions: Pathways from grade 12 and the factors that shape them

Michael Cosser

Broadly concerned with grade 12 learner aspirations for the future, this monograph hones in on the aspiration to study education and to enter the teaching profession. The National Policy Framework for Teacher Education and Development in South Africa highlights this as a crucial area for further research – a need which this study attempts to address. *Studying Ambitions* investigates the responses of 20 659 grade 12 learners in a range of schools across all nine provinces, to a 2005 survey of learner aspirations and the factors that influenced them. Comparing the findings with those of a similar survey conducted in 2001, the study confirms a hunger for further learning against a backdrop of predominantly poor academic performance and low socio-economic status. Teaching, the findings show, remains highly unattractive in comparison with other fields and professions. This presents a major challenge in the quest to develop a strong supply of well-qualified teachers for our schools.

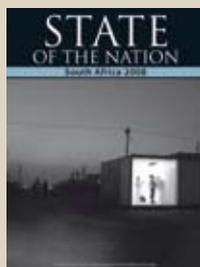
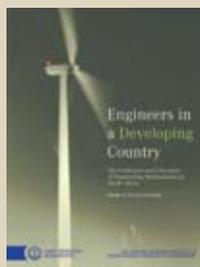
2008 / 152pp / 978-07969-2243-4 / R 120.00 / Soft cover

South-South Cooperation in Education & Development

Edited by Linda Chisholm & Gita Steiner-Khamsi

How real is South-South transfer? What does it mean in practice? Why has it become an issue? This volume, the first academic book to deal specifically with South-South cooperation in relation to education, shifts the discussion away from the promotional material of international development agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), to critically look at why so many agencies and researchers in development studies herald South-South transfer as a new type of international technical assistance that propels a more symmetrical relationship between the lenders and the borrowers of educational reforms or projects. While the volume draws on the wider literature on South-South cooperation from the history, political science, development studies and sociology disciplines, the authors contribute to the existing literature in education and development, the policy borrowing and the lending literature, by adding new perspectives.

2009 / 312pp / 978-07969-2251-9 / R 275.00 / Soft cover



Main results of the South African Innovation Survey 2005: A survey undertaken on behalf of DST by CeSTII

William Blankley and Cheryl Moses

Innovation is widely acknowledged as being key to economic growth and progress, particularly as innovation by business enterprises is vital in ensuring their future success and competitiveness in an increasingly competitive global market. This report presents the main findings of the South African Innovation Survey 2005, covering the period 2002–2004, and carried out according to international methodology and a core questionnaire provided for the Fourth Round of the Community Innovation Survey (CIS4) for European Union countries, as provided by Eurostat. This is the first time that it has been possible to objectively compare innovation survey data for South Africa with the results of similar surveys in developed countries. Readers will find the results contained in this volume encouraging as they reveal just how innovative and competitive South African business enterprises appear to be.

2009 / 200pp / 978-07969-2240-3 / R 110.00 / Soft cover

Engineers in a Developing Country: The Profession and Education of Engineering Professionals in South Africa

Rènette du Toit & Joan Roodt

Economic growth in South Africa depends on engineering capacity to provide state-of-the-art, safe infrastructure for service delivery. At the same time the new democracy needs to address transformation. This monograph explores current capacity to address these challenges. *Engineers in a Developing Country* provides a demographic analysis of employment trends across the public and private sectors of the economy, and investigates the demand for engineers, technologists and technicians in the workforce. A comprehensive analysis of the educational context for engineering professionals focuses on enrolment, graduation and throughput trends in all engineering disciplines at universities and universities of technology, and reveals that although there have been positive innovations in education and training strategies in recent years, many issues, especially at secondary school level, remain a challenge. Moreover, women in engineering is a particular focus of this study, which devotes a chapter to examining the factors that influence their choice of career, the barriers they experience in the labour market and strategies for encouraging women into the profession.

2009 / 116pp / 978-07969-2262-5 / R 140.00 / Soft cover

State of the Nation: South Africa 2008

Edited by Peter Kagwanja & Kwandiwe Kondlo

State of the Nation: South Africa 2008 is the fifth volume in the annual series published by the HSRC Press. This volume features a range of pertinent and captivating contemporary viewpoints on South African politics, society, economy and international relations. As with earlier editions, commentary is drawn from the ranks of academics, political analysts, civil society and the research community. The diverse contributions form a comprehensive collection that, as always, reflects a finger kept firmly on the South African pulse. Issues featured in this edition include: Black consciousness in contemporary South African politics; Modernising the African National Congress; The developmental state in South Africa; Globalisation and transformation of the South African Merchant Navy; Landlords, tenants and social power in the backyards of a South African city; The state of military relations between South Africa and Zimbabwe and, South Africa in the UN Security Council.

2009 / 400pp / 978-07969-2199-4 / R 180.00 / Soft cover