

South Africa

KEY FACTS

Official name: Republic of South Africa

Head of State: President Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma (ANZ) (from 9 May 2009)

Head of government: President Jacob Zuma (ANZ) (from 7 May 2009)

Ruling party: African National Congress (ANC) (since 1994; re-elected 22 Apr 2009)

Area: 1,127,200 square km

Population: 50.59 million (2011)*

Capital: Cape Town (legislative); Johannesburg (financial); Pretoria (to be renamed Tshwane) (administrative); Bloemfontein (judicial)

Official language: Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Sesotho, Northern Sotho, SiSwati, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, Zulu.

Currency: Rand (R) = 100 cents

Exchange rate: R9.81 per US\$ (Jul 2013)

GDP per capita: US\$7,507 (2012)*

GDP real growth: 2.55% (2012)*

GDP: US\$384.32 billion (2012)*

Labour force: 18.08 million (2012)*

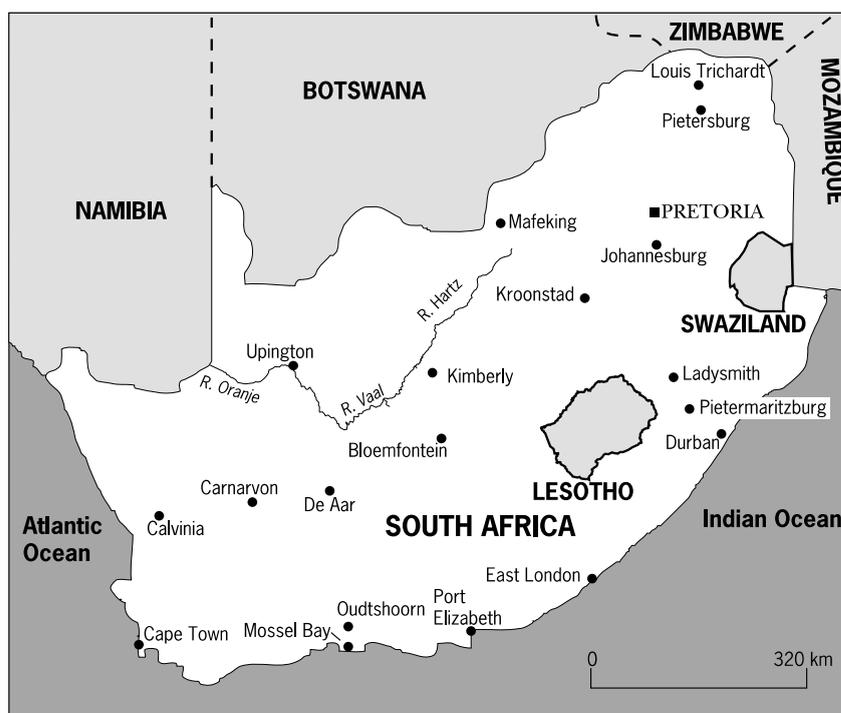
Unemployment: 25.20% (2012)*

Inflation: 5.65% (2012)*

Balance of trade: -US\$9.14 billion (2012)*

Annual FDI: US\$5.72 billion (2011)

* estimated figure



In October 2013 the African National Congress's (ANC) rather cosy grip on political power in South Africa suddenly looked a little less secure. President Jacob Zuma is also leader of the ANC, but at the age of 71 is perceived to lack the necessary vitality to lead the party in the elections due in 2014. In mid-2013, back on to the nation's political centre stage walked a rather improbable challenger in the shape of Julius Malema, the 32 year-old founder of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF). The EFF had only been founded in July 2013 following Mr Malema's expulsion from the ANC in April. Given the challenge he posed – potentially – to the ANC leadership it was surprising that as a former president of the ANC Youth League (a position once held by Nelson Mandela) Mr Malema had risen to prominence with his support for President Zuma, who once described him as 'the future leader' of South Africa. A populist to the core, Mr Malema's reported heroes were (surprise?) the late Hugo Chávez, the populist president of

Venezuela and (surprise again?) Fidel Castro. One commentator asked where he kept his obligatory portrait of Che Guevara.

April in Pretoria

Mr Malema had certainly not lost any time after his expulsion from the ANC. He launched the EFF in mid-October at Marikana, the place where 34 striking miners were shot by police in 2012. The canny choice of venue was characteristic of Mr Malema's ability to grab the political headlines. On a number of issues he was preaching to the converted; South Africa's youth unemployment, at over 50 per cent, is frighteningly high and represents a major weakness for the ANC. South Africa's next general elections are scheduled for April 2014; some two million new voters will join the electorate to vote for the first time, an obvious and easy target for Mr Malema's Chávez style populism. Mr Malema's biggest challenge will be the political apathy that seems to be endemic in South Africa's youth. According to the

London *Economist*, quoting South Africa's Electoral Commission, less than ten per cent of 18–19 year olds are registered to vote. Only half of those aged 20–29 appear on the electoral roll. A far cry from South Africa's first free elections in 1994 when the turnout was 86.87 per cent. Even in the 2009 elections, turnout was still a respectable 77.3 per cent. Mr Malema's electoral success will depend on the extent to which he could draw support not only from disillusioned ANC supporters, but also from supporters of the opposition Democratic Alliance (DA) who regarded him as an ANC turncoat.

The Politics of Paranoia?

An article in South Africa's web based *Daily Maverick* entitled the *Politics of Paranoia, SA Style* by J Brooks Spector noted that the EFF's core argument was 'the continuing exploitation of a poor majority by a resilient power structure that brought together money and political potency and continued to hold the vast majority of the nation's productive land and virtually all other economic resources – and is in league with foreign economic agents.' The *Daily Maverick* considered that 'The potent thing about this view is that there are quite obviously important elements of this picture that are perfectly true'. Most neutral observers could probably see that the national economy remained fundamentally adrift from the needs of the majority subsisting at its lower levels. The EFF's own declaration of intent explained the new party's perspective: 'The EFF is a South African movement with a progressive internationalist outlook, which seeks to engage with global progressive movements. The EFF draws inspiration from the broad Marxist-Leninist tradition and Fanonian (sic) schools of thought in their analyses of the state, imperialism, culture and class contradictions in every society.' The statement went on to claim that the EFF provided 'clear and cogent alternatives to the current neo-colonial economic system, which in many countries keep the oppressed under colonial domination and subject to imperialist exploitation. We believe that the best contribution we can make in the international struggle against global imperialism is to rid our country of imperialist domination.' It did not require too much imagination to agree with the EFF's argument that the rewards of South Africa's economy remained fundamentally directed away from the majority that existed precariously on the economy's margins. The EFF promised 'Massive protected industrial development to create millions of sustainable jobs, including the introduction of minimum

wages in order to close the wage gap between the rich and the poor, close the apartheid wage gap and promote rapid career paths for Africans in the workplace.' The EFF leader certainly had the gift of the gab, a turn for a neat phrase or two and the ability to put his finger on the raw nerves that touched South Africa's poor. Although Mr Malema seemed, in late 2013, to be on something of an electoral roll, he was facing fraud charges that carried an automatic gaol sentence; his immediate appeal might be severely dented were he to be found guilty. A BBC report observed that 'Mr Malema is exploiting the killings (at Marikana) to reinforce his image as the champion of poor black South Africans, although he also has some support in black business circles.' One Johannesburg-based political analyst, William Gumede, noted how Mr Malema 'moves with ease between the two groups, *toyi-toying* (a black South African was dance)... at rallies in shack settlements, before slipping away to leafy suburbs for all-night parties with the nouveau-rich.' Most commentators were unsure of whether the 'baby-faced' Mr Malema would get his act together in time for the elections. Just as much uncertainty surrounded the origins and extent of his political funding.

The economy slows

If the Malema challenge wasn't enough to worry about, the state of the economy certainly was. Mid-2013 figures suggested that annual gross domestic

product (GDP) was growing at a much slower rate than had first been expected, failing even to make the 1 per cent mark. Official forecasts had been for a 2.8 per cent growth rate in 2013. A report published by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Paris based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) pointed out the embarrassing fact that South Africa had fallen to 48 position out of the 52 African countries surveyed in terms of economic outlook. According to the World Bank, South Africa's growth had already slowed from 3.5 per cent in 2011 to 2.5 per cent in 2012 (with the annualised fourth quarter growth for 2012 coming in at only 1.2 per cent), primarily reflecting the sluggish external environment and domestic labour strife. Eight out of the 10 major sub-sectors (agriculture and construction being the two exceptions) saw a decline in growth, with a decline of 4.3 per cent in mining value added being the most damaging. The decline in mining also adversely affected manufacturing activity (especially metal products) where output growth was contained to a modest 2.2 per cent, down from 3.6 per cent in the previous year. On the demand side, the global economic slowdown kept exports growth to 1.1 per cent, while household consumption growth slowed down considerably (from 4.8 per cent in 2011 to 3.4 per cent in 2012) as consumer confidence weakened on account of

KEY INDICATORS		South Africa				
	Unit	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Population	m	48.68	*49.32	*49.99	*50.59	*50.59
Gross domestic product (GDP)	US\$bn	276.80	287.20	357.30	408.10	*384.32
GDP per capita	US\$	5,685	5,824	7,158	8,066	*7,507
GDP real growth	%	3.6	-1.5	2.9	3.1	*2.5
Inflation	%	11.5	7.1	4.3	5.0	*5.7
Unemployment	%	22.9	23.9	24.9	25.4	*25.2
Industrial output	% change	1.0	-7.2	5.0	0.0	0.0
Agricultural output	% change	18.8	-3.2	5.0	0.0	0.0
Coal output	mtoe	141.1	140.9	143.0	143.8	146.6
Exports (fob) (goods)	US\$m	86,118.0	66,542.0	85,700.0	102,857.6	*93,480.5
Imports (fob) (goods)	US\$m	90,566.0	66,009.0	81,862.0	100,402.9	*102,624.9
Balance of trade	US\$m	-4,448.0	534.0	3,838.0	2,454.7	*-9,144.5
Current account	US\$m	-19,593.0	-11,295.0	-10,117.0	-13,682.7	*-24,068.0
Total reserves minus gold	US\$m	30,584.0	35,237.0	38,175.0	43,611.0	*43,995.0
Foreign exchange	US\$m	30,238.0	32,432.0	35,419.0	40,749.0	*41,183.0
Exchange rate	per US\$	8.26	8.47	7.32	6.89	8.69
* estimated figure						

heightened unemployment, global economic uncertainties and a weakened rand.

The World Bank noted that growth in fixed capital formation had picked up by almost two percentage points, as accelerated investment spending by state-owned enterprises and the government overcame continued mild increases in private investment. Growth was projected to pick up only slightly to 2.7 per cent in 2013. The post-2008 economic slowdown had exacerbated the structural problems of exclusion and modest trend growth, with an especially severe impact on employment. The unemployment rate, already extremely high at about 21.9 per cent in 2008, had since risen to 24.9 per cent, with the number of employed workers falling by one quarter million. The unemployment rate remains high relative to the pre-crisis level, even though real GDP had exceeded its pre-crisis peak since 2010. Youth unemployment (15–24 years) stood at 50 per cent. Sixty per cent of the unemployed had less than secondary school education and two-thirds had been unemployed for over a year, highlighting the underlying structural problem of low skill levels to suit a dynamic economy. In 2009 President Zuma had rashly promised the creation of 500,000 new jobs by the end of the year. Easily said, but not so easily done. By the end of the year the tally was a net 395,000 jobs lost.

Thanks to its solid record of fiscal prudence, South Africa had entered the 2008 economic crisis in a sound budgetary position, enabling an aggressive counter-cyclical fiscal and monetary policy response. Fiscal space generated by several years of budgetary discipline, together with South Africa's deep and liquid capital markets and access to global capital markets, allowed the government to undertake a substantial fiscal expansion to offset weak private sector demand. The emphasis was on scaling up infrastructure and social sector spending, despite a significant slowdown in revenue collection. As a result, the budget balance moved from a surplus over 2005/06–2007/08 to a deficit equivalent to 6.5 per cent of GDP in 2009/10 and came in at 5.2 per cent of GDP in 2012/13. Fiscal balances were projected to improve gradually over the medium term, predicated upon revenues picking up with sustained economic recovery and moderation of current expenditure growth. Net public debt is projected to peak at slightly over 40 per cent of GDP in the 2015/16 fiscal year as the fiscal

deficit falls to 3.1 per cent of GDP towards the end of the period.

The government's economic policies and priorities are outlined in the 2030 National Development Plan (NDP). The two main strategic goals framed by the NDP 2030 vision are to double GDP by 2030 and eliminate poverty and reduce inequality. Three priorities are identified by the NDP for achieving these objectives; raising employment through faster economic growth, improving the quality of education, skills development and innovation and building the capacity of the state to play a developmental, transformative role. However, South Africa remains a dual economy with one of the highest inequality rates in the world, its inequality and exclusion potentially playing into the hands of the EFF. The advanced, modern urban economy coexists in sharp contrast with the socio-economic poverty of disadvantaged townships, informal settlements and rural areas. Land distribution is one of the most unequal in the world, with 55,000 white farmers owning 85 per cent of the agricultural land. Despite South Africa's sophisticated financial sector, financial services do not adequately reach the poorer segments of the economy – only around 28 per cent of adult South Africans have access to credit – stifling entrepreneurship and growth.

GDP growth in South Africa has averaged 3.2 per cent a year since 1995, or 1.6 per cent in per capita terms. This, however, has proven insufficient to absorb the wave of new entrants to the labour market ushered in by the dismantling of apartheid barriers, resulting in a persistently stubborn high unemployment rate. The potential for faster growth has been held back by industrial concentration, skill shortages, labour market rigidities, chronically low savings and investment rates and spatial barriers from the former apartheid system. As the dichotomous urban structure is likely to remain in the foreseeable future, focused policy attention is needed both to invigorate the hitherto flailing township and rural economies and, over time, to enable their steady convergence with the advanced economy.

But a poverty rate in excess of 30 per cent and pockets of poverty that remain deeply entrenched, mostly among the black population, which constitutes 80 per cent of the overall population and accounts for over 90 per cent of the people living in poverty, does not make good reading. Women are disproportionately affected by poverty: female-headed households have a 50 per cent higher

poverty rate than male-headed households, with rural women suffering more than their urban counterparts. South Africa's educational outcomes in terms of reading and basic maths scores (modest compared to, say, Kenya or Tanzania) do not augur well for the development of a skilled labour force in the long run.

Life expectancy, after falling dramatically from 62 years in 1992 to 53 years in 2010, recovered to 60 years in 2012. The recent recovery has been in large part due to the rapid expansion of the anti-retroviral treatment programmes to fight HIV/Aids. And it is supported by declines in both adult and infant mortality. The adult mortality rate, however, is still three times higher in South Africa than in middle-income countries with similar income per capita. Infant mortality rates have also fallen from 73 per 1,000 live births in 2006 to 42 per 1,000 live births in 2012, but still remain higher than in peer countries. The poor are particularly vulnerable and high HIV and Aids infection rates, as well as TB infections, have severely strained the health system, contributing to the poor health indicators. The unresolved set of complex economic challenges has locked South Africa into a low-level equilibrium of low growth, persistent poverty and widespread exclusion and unemployment. The structural changes needed to break-out of this state will have to come from investment in employment-intensive growth, tackling the unemployment and education challenges together and improving the policy co-ordination and implementation capacity of the state. Shifting South Africa's developmental trajectory to a new frontier and inclusive growth will require the active participation of all citizens. Although many of the required policy actions are known to the policy-makers, implementation of these has been hampered by a lack of broad political consensus and the 'deficit in trust between business, labour and government'. This need for a new trajectory of growth is also underscored by the recent sovereign rating downgrade by several international ratings agencies, which raises concerns about the government's ability to maintain stability and resolve internal conflicts.

BRIC...S

In 2011 South Africa had managed, just, to get itself included in the acronymic BRICS club, adding an 'S' to the four existing members Brazil, Russia, China and India. The 'just' of its inclusion reflected the simple fact that between the smallest

of the other four, India, in terms of GDP and South Africa there was a long, long distance, both real and perceived. According to the World Bank, India's 2011 GDP was US\$1,676 billion, South Africa's 2011 GDP was less than a quarter of India's, at US\$408.24 billion. In terms of population, India also struggled to get on the scale. Russia, the smallest of the BRICS countries in terms of population, with (only!) 142 million in 2011, was still almost three times greater than that of South Africa, at 51 million. In 2012 South Africa's economy was the largest in Africa, by a whisker, as Nigeria came up on the rails and looked like overtaking South Africa by 2016.

According to the London *Economist*, as recently as 1995 South Africa accounted for almost half of sub-Saharan GDP. At the end of 2011, the figure had slipped to a third. In its 2012 *South African Economic Outlook*, the AfDB noted that South Africa's economic growth increased marginally in 2011 but was projected to slow in 2012, mainly as a result of domestic structural weaknesses and the fragile global economic recovery. It was expected to recover in 2013, subject to global recovery and to an orderly resolution of the Euro-zone fiscal crisis. Average annual inflation rose in 2011 and in the view of the AfDB would continue to do so before stabilising in 2013. Private consumption was also expected to slow in 2012 but accelerate in 2013. Public consumption would moderate whereas investment was on the rise.

Risk assessment

Politics	Fair
Economy	Fair
Regional stability	Good

COUNTRY PROFILE

Historical profile

1652 The Dutch East India Company set up a supply station which became Cape Town, supplying sailing ships to and from the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia).
 1795 Britain took control of the Cape.
 1806 The Cape Colony became British and settlement began in 1820.
 1835 Mass treks by Afrikaners (Boers) moved inland, fighting the Ndebele and Zulus.
 1899–1902 After many battles, the Boer War was eventually won by the British. With the signing of the Treaty of Vereeniging on 31 May 1902, all Boers became British subjects.
 1910 The Union of South Africa was established from the former British colonies of Cape and Natal and the Boer republics

of Transvaal and Orange Free State. South Africa became a self-governing dominion led by former Boer generals.
 1912 The Native National Congress, the precursor to the African National Congress (ANC), was founded.
 1913 The Land Act was introduced to prevent blacks, except those in Cape Province, from buying land outside reserves. Whites were given 87 per cent of the land, blacks the remaining 13 per cent.
 1914 The National Party was founded.
 1919 South West Africa (Namibia), formerly a German colony, came under South African administration.
 1948 Apartheid (separateness) laws, excluding non-whites from political and economic influence, were applied by successive National Party governments.
 1950 The population was classified by race. The Group Areas Act was passed to segregate blacks and whites. The South African Communist Party (SACP) was banned. The ANC responded with a campaign of civil disobedience led by Nelson Mandela.
 1960 Apartheid laws were brutally enforced; the most notorious incident was the Sharpeville massacre. The ANC became the main black political organisation opposing the government and consequently was banned.
 1961 South Africa was declared a republic and left the Commonwealth. Mandela launched the ANC's military wing which began a campaign of disruption and sabotage.
 1964 Nelson Mandela, leader of the ANC, was jailed for life. The UN imposed sanctions against South Africa.
 1976 More than 600 people were killed in the Soweto uprising.
 1983 An interim constitution established power-sharing of three population groups (whites, Asians and mixed race (coloured)), effectively excluding participation of blacks.
 1989 P W Botha (prime minister from 1978–83 and president from 1983–89) was replaced by F W de Klerk; he began a reform programme that started the dismantling of apartheid.
 1990 Nelson Mandela was released from prison on 11 February. The ban on the ANC was lifted. Namibia was granted independence.
 1991 The last apartheid laws were repealed. Fighting broke out between the ANC and the Zulu Inkatha movement.
 1993 A non-racial constitution was formulated through a multi-racial negotiating forum. A transitional Government of National Unity (GNU) was established replacing the three-chamber, racially-based, parliament. Oliver Tambo,

long-time anti-apartheid campaigner and former leader of the ANC died.
 1994 In the first non-racial, fully democratic elections, the ANC won a majority of seats in parliament and Nelson Mandela became president. South Africa successfully reapplied for Commonwealth membership and took up its seat in the UN General Assembly for the first time in 20 years. South Africa's new flag was unveiled in April.
 1996 The new constitution was adopted. A Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was set up. Those that perpetrated and suffered human rights abuse were allowed to record their experiences for mutual recognition.
 1997 Nelson Mandela resigned as president of the ANC.
 1998 The TRC branded apartheid a crime against humanity and held the ANC accountable for numerous human rights abuses. South Africa intervened militarily in Lesotho to prevent civil war breaking out in the kingdom.
 1999 Nelson Mandela resigned as president and Thabo Mbeki was elected as his successor by the National Assembly. The ANC increased its share of the election vote and formed a coalition government with the mainly Zulu Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).
 2000 The Democratic Party, the New National Party (NNP) and the Federal Alliance merged to form the Democratic Alliance (DA), which won a quarter of the vote in local elections.
 2001 South Africa began importing generic HIV/Aids drugs after 39 multi-national pharmaceutical companies stopped legal action. The High Court ruled that pregnant women must be given anti-retroviral drugs to prevent HIV transmission to their infants.
 2002 The name of Northern Province was changed to Limpopo Province. The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) became the African Union (AU) with President Mbeki as the first chairman.
 2003 Walter Sisulu, a key veteran figure in the anti-apartheid struggle, died.
 2004 The ruling ANC won a landslide victory and Thabo Mbeki was elected unopposed for a second term as president. Black economic empowerment (BEE) legislation was enacted; its objectives are to address economic inequalities such as the imbalance in ethnic ownership and lack of black opportunity and aspirations, caused by decades of apartheid. The legislation is binding on all public companies and government entities.
 2005 Mbeki dismissed his deputy, Jacob Zuma, who was charged with corruption. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka was named as his successor.

2006 Zuma was acquitted of rape charges and reinstated as ANC deputy president. The corruption charges against him were dismissed. Johannesburg International Airport's name was changed to OR Tambo International Airport.

2007 Jacob Zuma was elected leader of the ANC.

2008 The High Court ruled that Chinese South Africans would be re-classified as 'black' people so that they could benefit from government policies to help those previously disadvantaged under the old apartheid system. The controversial land reform bill was postponed. Following the statement by the judge in the failed trial of Jacob Zuma for corruption in 2005 that the prosecution had been politically motivated parliament forced President Mbeki to resign. Several senior cabinet members also resigned. Parliament voted for Kgalema Motlanthe (ANC) as president; Motlanthe served the remainder of Mbeki's presidential term.

2009 The High Court ruled that South African citizens living abroad should be allowed to vote in general elections, allowing around two million expatriates to participate in the country's political life. In parliamentary elections, the ANC won 65.9 per cent of the vote, a fall of 33 seats and less than the two-thirds majority needed to change the constitution without parliamentary support. The DA won 16.7 per cent and gained control of the Western Cape Province. The newly created Congress of the People (Cope), led by former president Mbeki, won 7.4 per cent. ANC leader, Jacob Zuma, was elected as president.

2010 The unemployment rate was recorded at over 24 per cent. Eugene Terre Blanche, the ultra-right-wing supremacist, was killed by two of his employees, aged 15 and 21 years old. In a landmark trial, South Africa's former chief of police, Jackie Selebi, was found guilty of corruption and sentenced to 15 years in jail. Nobel peace laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu retired from public life. In a move that President Zuma said would 'correct the wrongs of the past' the government announced that it planned to abolish six of the 13 traditional rulers' offices, as the incumbents died. A number of traditional leaders had been created during the apartheid era, at the expense of the original monarchs; this was seen as a move to divide the people. They had little real power, but were semi-important cultural figures. The Zulu and Xhosa kings will remain. The Independent Democrats (ID) party announced it would merge with the DA, in preparation of fighting the next general elections (due in 2014).

2011 The special dispensation that allowed Zimbabweans to cross into South Africa during the political disturbances in

2009 to stay in South Africa was due to end in mid-2011. In February, President Zuma was invited to attend the summit of the Brics (Brazil, Russia, India, China) group of emerging economies, to strengthen the African ties to the economic organisation. South Africa became a member of the re-named Brics in April. In September, President Zuma set up a commission to investigate allegations against members of the ANC, including Zuma himself, of corruption during a 1990s multi-billion US\$ arms deal to buy European military equipment. A national census was undertaken on 9 October; final results will be published in March 2013. In November, Julius Malema (seen by many as a future leader of the ANC), was suspended from the party until 2016, having been accused of bringing the ANC into disrepute when he proposed the overthrow of the sovereign government of Botswana. In November, parliament passed the Protection of State Information Bill (known as the Secrecy Bill), despite widespread criticism that it would outlaw whistle-blowing and investigative journalism. The government said it would safeguard state secrets and national security.

2012 The ANC celebrated 100 years since its inception on 6 January 1912. The leaders of the Brics countries met in Delhi on 29 March to discuss their position regarding the control the US and Europe has on the World Bank and the IMF. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (India) said 'The Brics countries have agreed to examine in greater detail a proposal to set up a South-South development bank, funded and managed by the Brics and other developing countries.' On 1 March, Julius Malema was expelled from the ANC for 'sowing divisions' within the party. On 15 July Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma (former wife of President Zuma) won the 2013 chairmanship of the AU (the first woman to win the position) with 37 votes (out of 54). The first results of the 2011 census recorded a population of 51,770,560, of which 41,000,938 defined themselves as black. Following months of industrial agitation and an ultimatum to disarm, on 16 August the police opened fire on protesting miners, striking at the Marikana platinum mine, killing 46 miners and injuring 78 others. On 27 August the mine was closed and did not reopen until 20 September when a pay rise of 22 per cent was agreed. An inquiry into the violence at the Marikana mine began work on 1 October.

2013 94-year-old Nelson Mandela was taken into a Pretoria hospital on 7 June, suffering from a recurrent lung infection. Although he was initially reported as 'stable'

on 23 June the government announced that his condition was 'critical'. A new political party, Agang (Build, in Sepedi language), was launched on 22 June, led by Mamphela Ramphele, a former World Bank managing director and partner of Steve Biko. Former archbishop Desmond Tutu appealed to the Mandela family not to besmirch the name of Mandela and to end the feud that had escalated between various members. In a cabinet reshuffle on 9 July President Zuma said was a 'strategy to improve the delivery of government services', housing minister Tokyo Sexwale, a veteran of the fight against apartheid, was sacked. He was reportedly behind a move in 2012 to remove Mr Zuma from the presidency. Former ANC Youth League leader, Julius Malema, launched a political group called the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) in July. Mr Malema has accused the president of not doing enough to help the poor black voters who had helped to elect him and hopes that disaffected Youth League members will join the EFF. King Buyelekhaya Dalindyebo of Nelson Mandela's Thembu ethnic group defected from the ANC to the DA in July. The king has reportedly said that he would stop smoking marijuana when Mr Zuma stops being corrupt. It is unclear whether he has much support, and since he has a criminal record it is also felt that his membership may backfire on the DA. Nelson Mandela turned 95 on 18 July. He remained 'critical' but stable in hospital until 2 September when he was taken to his home in Johannesburg, where a critical care facility had been arranged. Around 80,000 miners began a strike for higher pay on 3 September. The NUM rejected a 6 per cent offer, asking for 10 per cent. The strike ended on 8 September after the miners accepted a marginally improved offer of 8 per cent. A new political party, the Economic Freedom Fighters, was registered by Julius Mulema in July. He said that he would contest the next elections in 2014, and that his policies would include the redistribution of land and nationalising the mines, as well as provide free, quality education, healthcare and sanitation.

Political structure Constitution

The constitution was implemented in February 1997.

South Africa consists of a central government and nine provincial governments. The head of a province is called a premier.

The right to regional autonomy is enshrined in the constitution, subject to the principles of the national constitution.

Electoral system: list-system proportional representation based on universal adult suffrage, aged over 18.

The High Court ruled in February 2009 that South African citizens living abroad should be allowed to vote in general elections. The decision was referred to the Constitutional Court for confirmation, which if passed would allow around two million expatriates to participate in the country's political life.

Independence date

31 May 1961

Form of state

Federal republic

The executive

Executive powers are vested in the president, who is both Head of State and head of government, and is elected by the National Assembly for no more than two, five-year terms.

The president, must appoint all but two cabinet members from National Assembly members.

National legislature

The bicameral legislature consists of the National Assembly with 400 members, elected by proportional representation with seats apportioned according to the share of the vote.

The National Council of Provinces (NCOP) reviews and aligns national legislation that affects the provinces. Each of the nine provinces has a delegation of 10 members (six permanent and four special) headed by the premier of the province.

Permanent delegates are members of parliament (MPs); special delegates are provincial legates, who may be recalled by their provinces at any time. Ten representatives of organised local governments also serve but may not vote.

Both institutions serve for five-year terms.

Legal system

Based on Roman-Dutch law and the constitution.

An anti-prejudice law was passed in 2000.

Last elections

6 May 2009 (presidential); 22 April 2009 (parliamentary)

Results: Presidential: Jacob Zuma (ANC) was elected by the National Assembly unopposed.

Parliamentary: ANC won 69.69 per cent (264 seats, out of up to 400), Democratic Alliance (DA) 16.7 per cent (67), Congress of the People (Cope) 7.42 per cent (30), Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) 4.55 per cent (18); nine other political parties each won less than 1 per cent of the vote and the remaining seats. Turnout was 77.3 per cent.

Next elections

2014 (presidential and parliamentary)

Political parties

Ruling party

African National Congress (ANC) (since 1994; re-elected 22 Apr 2009)

Main opposition party

Democratic Alliance (DA). In August 2010 the DA announced it would unite with the Independent Democrats (ID). ID municipal officials will join the DA after the 2011 local elections; provincial and national legislators will join after the 2014 general election.

Population

50.59 million (2011)*

According to the 2011 census, the racial mix of South Africa was 41,000,938 defined themselves as black, 5,586,838 defined themselves as white and 1,286,930 defined themselves as Indian or Asian.

The median age for all South Africans was 25 years, but for black South Africans it was 21 years.

Last census: 9 October 2011:

51,770,560 (preliminary results)

Population density: 35 inhabitants per square km. Urban population 62 per cent (2010 Unicef).

Annual growth rate: 1.5 per cent, 1990–2010 (Unicef).

Ethnic make-up

Black (75 per cent), white (13 per cent), coloured (9 per cent), Asian (3 per cent).

Religions

Christian (68 per cent), Islam (2 per cent), Hindu 1.5 per cent, indigenous beliefs and animist 28.5 per cent.

Education

Public expenditure on education amounts to 5.5 per cent of GDP.

Primary education begins at age six and lasts for six years. Junior secondary school lasts until age 15 when students may choose between an academic programme lasting a further three years at a senior secondary school or a vocational, technical course lasting two years in technical schools.

Government strategy for national schooling includes higher qualified teachers appointed to poorer schools and equalising school expenditure for all racial groups.

Literacy rate: 86 per cent adult rate; 92 per cent youth rate (15–24) (Unesco 2005).

Compulsory years: Six to 15

Enrolment rate: 133 per cent gross primary enrolment of relevant age group (including repeaters); 95 per cent gross secondary enrolment (World Bank).

Pupils per teacher: 45 in primary schools.

Health

There are major national programmes in operation including the Integrated Nutrition Programme, the Polio and Measles

Immunisation Campaign and Telemedicine (an interactive medical exchange based on information technology).

A R40 million (US\$4.6 million) protocol signed between South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique to control the spread of malaria lays the basis for a common programme of action in these countries.

HIV/Aids

South Africa has one of the highest HIV/Aids infection rates in the world, an estimated 5.6 million people are HIV positive, which has the largest number of individuals living with the virus in a single country. A study of HIV/Aids infection rates, published in 2009, revealed that the rate had levelled off at 10.9 per cent for those aged two-years and older. Typically, those worst effected are women between the ages of 20–34 at 33 per cent HIV-positive. This trend suggests there will be noticeably fewer mid-adult women than men by 2020. By 2009 deaths by Aids-related illness were expected to exceed all other causes of death. The use of condoms has increased sharply. Government policy was changed from April 2010, following an announcement by President Zuma in 2009 in which he said that all babies less than one year old, if tested HIV positive, would be treated with anti-retroviral (ARV) drugs. Around 59,000 infants are born with HIV each year in South Africa. The level of infection in 2009 did not increase although the level of deaths from Aids is expect to rise up to 2014 as long-term patients succumb to the disease.

With a change in government policy since 2008, the number of people receiving ARV medication has doubled to 1.5 million by 2011; another one million will receive ARVs by 2014. In 2011, 10.6 per cent of the population were living with HIV (5.38 million) and there were 2.1 million Aids orphans. Around one-third of all children, an estimated 5.7 million, may lose one or both parents to Aids by 2015. The treatment to prevent mother-to-child transmission had expanded so that in 2011, 95 per cent of infected pregnant women received ARVs, up from 30 per cent in 2007. Free circumcision, which reduces the risk of transmission by up to 60 per cent, according to state health facilities, coupled with a decrease since 2009 in the number of new infections, may indicate that young people are changing their sexual behaviour.

Former president Nelson Mandela publicly announced that his son had died of Aids, in 2005, saying, 'Let us give publicity to HIV/Aids and not hide it, because the only way of making it appear to be a normal illness, just like TB, like cancer, is always to come out and say somebody

has died because of HIV.' In 2004, Inkatha opposition leader, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, had announced that his son had also died of Aids.

South Africa is still in the process of addressing the deprivation wrought on black communities during the apartheid era including, poverty, poor primary healthcare, minimal education and families fractured by migratory work. The South African pharmaceutical company, Aspen, was granted approval by US regulators to manufacture and supply ARV drugs for domestic patients.

HIV prevalence: 21.5 per cent, aged 15–49 years

5.3 million adults and children living with HIV

27.9 per cent pregnant women (attending antenatal services) HIV positive

2.9 million women living with HIV

370,000 Aids deaths (adults and children) in 2003

(UNAids estimates, end 2003)

Life expectancy: 48 years, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Fertility rate/Maternal mortality rate: 2.5 births per woman, 2010 (Unicef)

Birth rate/Death rate: 18.9 births per 1,000 population; 18.4 deaths per 1,000 population (2003).

Population data issued by South Africa's Medical Research Council in March 2004 recorded a 44 per cent increase in adult deaths between 1998–2003, after population growth and improved registration had been factored in; deaths of women 20–49 increased by 168 per cent. It was concluded that this growth was due to Aids.

Child (under 5 years) mortality rate (per 1,000): 45 per 1,000 live births (WHO 2012)

Head of population per physician: 0.77 physicians per 1,000 people, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Welfare

The social assistance programme of the Department of Social Development provides benefits to approximately three million people comprising the elderly, persons with disabilities and children under the age of seven years. The government has emphasised the need to transform expensive institutional services into a more self-reliant approach towards individual and community care. Access to welfare grants is, however, limited. The State Maintenance Grants have been phased out and the availability of services for victims of violence across the country remains equally limited. Lack of an integrated approach towards allocations, capacity to spend and monitor the funds are some of the key problems relating to the distribution of poverty relief funds.

Main cities

Pretoria (Tswane Municipal Municipality is the central area) (capital, estimated population, 1.8 million (m) in 2012), Cape Town (Kapa (in Afrikaans) and iKapa (in Xhosa)) (legislative capital, 3.8m), Durban (eThekweni) (3.7m), Johannesburg (financial capital 2.1m), Soweto (1.9m), Port Elizabeth (1.3m), Pietermaritzburg (1.0m), Benoni (667,952), Welkom (667,288), Boemfontein (judicial capital, 664,821).

Languages spoken

Official language/s

Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Sesotho, Northern Sotho, SiSwati, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa, Zulu.

Media

Two moves in late 2010, a Media Appeals Tribunal being considered by the ANC and a protection of information bill going through parliament, have alarmed the local media. A statement by 37 editors in August 2010 say that the moves will restrict freedom of speech and expression as set out in the constitution. The tribunal will have the power to judge complaints made against print media while the bill would give ministers and officials powers to classify information as secret if they consider it to be 'in the national interest'.

Press

Press freedom is guaranteed by the constitution. The Freedom of Commercial Speech Trust plays an important role in industry self-regulation, forestalling government intervention.

Dailies: Newspapers published in major cities may be available throughout the country as reflect national and local news. News 24 (www.news24.com) is a media organisation that has a number of Afrikaans titles: *Die Burger*, *Volksblad*, *Rapport*, *Jou Geldsaka*, *Sondag*, and *NetAfrikaans* among others.

From Cape Town, in English, *Cape Argus* (www.capeargus.co.za), the *Cape Times* (www.capetimes.co.za), and in Afrikaans *Die Burger* (www.dieburger.com).

From Johannesburg, in English, *The Times* (www.thetimes.co.za), which includes a business section and *Sunday Times*, *Citizen* (www.citizen.co.za), *The Star* (www.thestar.co.za) and *Sowetan* (www.sowetan.co.za). In Chinese *China Express* (www.sa-cnet.com) and *China News* (www.chinanews.co.za).

From Pretoria, in English, *Pretoria News* (www.pretorianews.co.za), *Society News* (www.societynews.co.za) and in Afrikaans *Rekord* (www.rekord.co.za).

From Durban, in English, *Daily News* (www.dailynews.co.za) and *Post* (www.thepost.co.za) (with Indian sections), in Zulu *Isolezwe* (www.isolezwe.co.za) and *Ilanga* (www.ilanganews.co.za).

Weeklies: In English, *Daily Mail & Guardian* (www.mg.co.za), is the leading independent newspaper, *The Sunday Tribune* (www.sundaytribune.co.za), *Sunday Independent* (www.sunday.co.za), *Sunday World* (www.sundayworld.co.za) and *Weekend Post* (www.weekendpost.co.za). In Afrikaans *Landbou Weekblad* (www.landbou.com).

Business: Publications, in English, include *Business Day* (www.businessday.co.za) *Financial Mail*

(<http://free.financialmail.co.za>), *Cape Business News* (www.cbn.co.za), *Business Report* (www.busrep.co.za), *Gauteng Business* (www.news24.com/Gauteng_Business/Home) and in Afrikaans *Sake* (www.news24.com/Sake/Home). *Personal Finance* (www.persfin.co.za) covers financial and investment issues. *Destiny* (www.mydestinymag.com) is a business magazine aimed at women

Broadcasting

The South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) is the state-owned national broadcaster.

Radio: There are numerous commercial radio stations particularly located around cities and large towns. Services are broadcast in various languages particular to local language spoken in the locale. SABC operates 20 regional and national services in 11 languages and an external radio service broadcasting in short wave to the African continent.

Other major commercial stations include SA FM (www.safm.co.za), East Coast Radio (www.ecr.co.za), Jacaranda FM (www.jacarandafm.com), Cape Talk (www.capetalk.co.za) and Radio Algoa (www.radioalgoa.com).

Television: SABC operates three national channels and two pay-to-view channels. Commercial stations with free-to-air television includes e.tv (www.etv.co.za) and pay-to-view M-Net (www.mnet.co.za) showing many internationally made programmes.

During an election period the media is monitored by the Independent Media Commission.

SAPA (South African Press Association)

National news agency: PO Box 7766, Cotswold House, Greenacres Office Park, Cnr Victory & Rustenburg Roads, Victory Park, Johannesburg, 2000 (tel: 782-1600; fax: 782-1587/8; email: comms@sapa.org.za; internet: www.sapa.org.za).

Economy

The South African economy is modern, diverse and open, with well-developed sectors in mining, agriculture, manufacturing and services. The economy is largely based on the country's abundant mineral and energy resources. Manufacturing is

underpinned by the mining sector while gold and diamonds dominate exports. Foreign investors are attracted by the country's robust infrastructure, with developed transport, water and electricity networks. Dams have been built on the rivers and provide water for irrigation, industrial and household use. The professional services are well developed while the stock exchange is ranked as world class. However, there is an imbalance in society with the top 20 per cent holding over 60 per cent of the country's wealth, and an underclass of poor, often unemployed people who live in townships, where the bottom 20 per cent hold less than 4.0 per cent of the country's wealth. The uneven distribution of wealth in South Africa is a result of its historically segregated society and although there has been a concerted effort to produce a more equitable structure the economy is still split largely between the affluent white minority and the poorer black majority. Whites still own large tracts of fertile land and direct most of the industry and service sectors – the ANC-led government has tried to address this through the Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) law that requires not only black employment but also their fostering and promotion within companies and organisations. The lack of training during the apartheid period has led to a lack of black managers and executives. Many major employers now have courses or back scholarships to redress the situation. Another aspect of BEE is black ownership of shares in companies, which has led to some criticism that only cronies of the ruling ANC are benefiting. In 2011, the UN Human Development Index (HDI) ranked South Africa 123 (out of 187) for national development in health, education and income. In 2010, 42.3 per cent of the population experienced at least one indicator of poverty, while 17.4 per cent lived on the equivalent of US\$1.25 per day. Remittances from migrant workers amounted to US\$1.1 billion (0.2 per cent of GDP) in 2010 and were estimated to have reached US\$1.3 billion in 2011. GDP growth was 5.5 per cent in 2007, falling to 3.6 per cent in 2008 during the global economic crisis and in 2009 the economy entered recession with growth of -1.5 per cent, following a strong slowdown in the manufacturing and mining sectors. The economy picked up, along with global trade, in 2010, so that GDP growth climbed to 2.9 per cent and was estimated to have increased to 3.1 per cent in 2011. Inflation had been rising since 2004 from a low 1.4 per cent to 7.1 per cent in 2007 and peaking at 11.5 per cent in 2008, due to high global oil prices and

higher food prices. As demand slowed, the inflation rate fell back to 7.2 per cent in 2009 and further down to 4.3 per cent in 2010. Unemployment, at a time of rising participation was falling in 2007, to 22.3 per cent (down from 22.6 per cent in 2006), but as the global economic crisis caused a credit squeeze and failing businesses, unemployment rose to 23.9 per cent in 2009, and 24.9 per cent in 2010, of which the unemployment rate was 25.3 per cent in the last half of the year. In the fourth quarter of 2010, 4,396,000 people were registered unemployed. The service sector constitutes over 65 per cent of GDP, agriculture less than 5.0 per cent and industry over 30 per cent, of which manufacturing accounts for around 15 per cent. South Africa's tourism sector has expanded considerably since the end of the apartheid era but it still has a way to go before reaching its full potential. The government has many social problems to tackle and has increased spending on public services including a commitment to provide antiretroviral (ARV) treatment to all those who require it. In 2011, 10.6 per cent of the population were living with HIV (5.38 million) and there were 2.1 million Aids orphans. By 2011, 1.5 million HIV-positive people and 95 per cent of infected pregnant women were receiving ARVs. In February 2012, De Beers, the world's largest diamond mining company announced that its trading division had had its second highest ever sales, amounting to US\$6.5 billion, a rise of 27 per cent on the 2010 level, due to what it called 'exceptional consumer demand growth'. The company's 2011 pre-tax profits were up by 48 per cent, at US\$1.27 billion. China was the principal purchaser of De Beers' branded jewellery, with new stores opening up in Beijing, Tianjin, Dalian and a second store in Hong Kong.

External trade
South Africa is a member of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the objectives of which include reducing trade barriers, achieving regional development and economic growth and evolving common systems and institutions. Its currency, the rand, is also legal tender throughout the Common Monetary Area (CMA) (Swaziland, Lesotho and Namibia). With its immense mineral wealth, South Africa is the world's leading exporter of gold and platinum. It is also one of the leading world producers of diamonds, wine, railroad rolling stock, mining equipment and synthetic fuels. Exports provide almost 50 per cent of GDP and world commodity prices strongly affect the balance of trade.

In April 2009 international donors pledged US\$1 billion to upgrade transport links across eastern and southern Africa, in an initiative to carry goods to market cheaper and faster. Not only will roads and rail links be improved, but also time-consuming official procedures will be streamlined for efficiency.

Imports

Principal imports are machinery and equipment, vehicles, petroleum and natural gas, chemicals, scientific instruments and foodstuffs.

Main sources: China (14.4 per cent of total in 2012), Germany (10.1 per cent), Saudi Arabia (7.7 per cent).

Exports

Principal exports are gold (around 20 per cent of total), diamonds, metals and metal products, minerals, machinery and equipment. Other major exports are granite, asbestos, iron, manganese, chrome and titanium ore.

Main destinations: China (11.6 per cent of total in 2012), US (8.7 per cent), Japan (6.2 per cent).

Agriculture

The original Natives Land Act of 1913 restricted black people from buying or renting land in 'white South Africa', leading to the forced removals of black people. With the end of apartheid in 1994, the ANC government promised to return 30 per cent of this land to its previous owners by 2014. However, by 2013 only 7.5 per cent of the land had been returned. Lack of skill transference and capital to sustain the farms has proved a problem.

South African agricultural is open to market forces and farmers take responsibility for production decisions, and pricing and distribution. The country has achieved self-sufficiency in staple grains, such as maize and wheat, and basic foodstuffs such as fresh milk and other dairy products, meat, vegetables and fruit. The sector employs over 10 per cent of the workforce.

LandCare is a key community support programme in the National Department of Agriculture which aims to promote sustainable land management practices and prevent land degradation in rural areas. The government policy of forging partnerships to stimulate black empowerment is growing within the agricultural sector. Nevertheless land reforms to enable black farmers access to quality land has been slow. The controversial land reform bill was postponed in 2008. Government says that it still wants to redistribute around a third of white owned farmland by 2014. South Africa has about 33 per cent of the southern hemisphere's deciduous fruit market in Europe. After minerals and metals, deciduous fruit is the country's largest

export industry. The wine industry yields significant indirect benefits for the economy as a major employer and exporter. However, growth and competitiveness in the wine and tobacco industries is likely to be hampered by higher excise duty. Oilseed production for bio-diesel offers a unique opportunity to facilitate such partnerships.

The general policy towards fisheries has been the protection of marine ecology and the promotion and sustained utilisation of the sea and its resources.

South Africa is largely self-sufficient in white fish and has a substantial export surplus and is self-sufficient in canned fish. Some 10 per cent of the abalone yield and 25 per cent of rock lobster is marketed locally and the rest is exported, mainly to the Far East. Cultivation of oysters and mussels is growing steadily and the possibility of cultivating abalone is being researched.

Of domestic fishmeal demand of 260,000 tonnes per year (tpy), 60,000tpy is locally produced and the rest is imported.

Fishing quotas for foreign vessels are issued in terms of formal bilateral fisheries agreements. Of all the quota fish caught in South Africa's exclusive fishing zone (200 nautical miles offshore), foreign catches make up only 2.4 per cent. The figure does not include non-quota species such as tuna. Foreign boats are allocated quotas for hake, horse mackerel and squid.

In a meeting of African ministers in Namibia, held on 2 July 2009, members discussed illegal and unregulated fishing, which is estimated to cost Africa US\$1 billion per annum in lost revenue and the threat to stocks and local artisan fishing. Following the annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), held on Cheju Island, South Korea, all members agreed to a 20 per cent cut in the roughly 17,000 tonnes in 2009 bluefin tuna catches from 2010. Scientists had warned that without a cut fish stocks could crash as numbers had become dangerously low.

About 7 per cent of the total land area is forested, with forest cover estimated at 8.9 million hectares (ha). About 27 per cent of the total land area is wooded. The country has extensive forest plantations and a large network of more than 200 protected areas covering nearly 5 per cent of the forest areas, including around 20 national parks. Deforestation accounts for around 1 per cent per annum or the equivalent of 8,000ha of forest cover. Government policy has focussed on making South Africa self-sufficient in wood and wood products, taking into account

the country's limited water supply and scarcity of suitable habitats. Industrial roundwood is produced in large quantities. The forestry industry is dependent on resources available from plantations and produces a wide range of wood and paper products. Although it produces and exports pulp and paper, significant volumes of paper are also imported.

Industry and manufacturing

South Africa is one of Africa's most industrialised countries and enjoys a strong resource base. Most of the raw materials and semi-manufactured goods required by industry are available from local sources. Only clothing and textiles, furniture (hardwoods), chemicals and transport equipment (components) still rely to a lesser extent on imports of raw materials or intermediate goods. Output is dominated by engineering and metal products, especially steel, and it has become a world leader in manufacturing railway rolling stock, mining equipment and other machinery. Major steel companies include Iscor and Highveld Steel.

Other major growth areas are automobile production and the chemical industry. Although food and tobacco processing remain of great importance, their share of total output has fallen significantly. Food products, iron and steel and transport equipment together account for about a third of total gross manufacturing output. Other manufactures include paper and paper products, fabricated metal products, electrical and non-electrical machinery.

Industrial production accounted for 31.8 per cent of GDP, in 2004, of which 20 per cent was manufacturing; overall, services accounted for 64.9 per cent. All showed a growth increase of 3.2 per cent, 2.6 per cent and 4.1 per cent respectively.

Tourism

South African offers a full range of holiday destinations and activities, combining European standards of accommodation with an economic price tag that has encouraged an increasing number of visitors from Bric and other emerging market countries. There are eight sites included on Unesco's World Heritage List, including a prehistoric site, two cultural landscapes and Robbin Island as well as several natural sites including the Drakensberg Park.

Travel and tourism contributed an average 9.6 per cent of GDP over 2007–10, which fell to 8.5 per cent in 2011. The industry provide employment to 10.2 per cent of the workforce (1.4 million jobs), however in 2011 this had fallen to 9 per cent (1.2 million jobs).

Visitor numbers fell steadily from nine million in 2007 to eight million by 2010. There are four different inter-city rail services, which offer a variety of travel experiences, with sleeping berths for longer journeys, plus suburban trains and rail services to neighbouring countries.

Environment

In February 2008 South Africa announced that for the first time in 13 years it would begin a cull of elephants in a measure to control their numbers and reduce the impact that large herds have on the natural environment, other wildlife and human crops and habitation.

Mining

South Africa is the world's foremost producer and exporter of gold and platinum, and a significant exporter of diamonds, iron ore, asbestos, manganese ore, vanadium, ferro-chromium, chrome ore and granite.

International commodities traded in US dollars have all been affected by the rise in the rand since 2003 and most mining companies have experienced a drop in profits due to the disparity of expenses incurred in other currencies.

A leading aluminium manufacturer, Alcan, has plans to build a smelter at Coega, near Port Elizabeth. Originally production would have reached 600,000 tonnes annually, however, in September 2005 plans were halted while a feasibility study was undertaken to facilitate a 900,000 tonnes processing plant. A smelter is expected to be operational by 2008.

The government has begun plans to introduce a state diamond trader company and producers such as UK-based, diamond company De Beers (founded in South Africa and the world's leading diamond trading company) would be required to forward a percentage of rough diamonds intended for export to the new Diamond Exchange and Export Centre (DEEC) for cutting and polishing by local craftsmen.

Diamonds, which had been exempt, are expected to be subject to a new export tax of 15 per cent following legislation due in 2006.

At least 40 per cent of the world's total recoverable gold reserves are in South Africa. Precious metals' producers will also be required to refine more of their output locally to provide more metals for South African design and manufacturing.

The mining sector only accounts for 6 per cent of GDP and South Africa sees value added diamond and gold processing as a source of added revenue and employment. The mining sector employs 6 per cent of the country's labour force and

contributes up to one-third of the export revenue.

Hydrocarbons

Proven oil reserves were 15 million barrels in 2007, while consumption was 555,000 barrels per day (bpd) which was almost entirely supplied by imports. Most comes from the Middle East, chiefly Iran and Saudi Arabia. To reduce a dependency on this region South Africa has agreements with Angola, Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria for oil supplies, which will either be consumed locally or refined for export to regional southern Africa, East Africa and the Indian sub-continent.

The Petroleum, Oil and Gas Corporation of South Africa (PetroSA) is responsible for managing the country's petroleum industry's commercial assets. South Africa has Africa's second largest refinery system (after Egypt), with a capacity of over 500,000bpd, producing high-octane petroleum, distillates, kerosene and alcohols. In April 2009 a contract was signed for 19 electric motor-driven pumps and pumping stations along a 525km pipeline to transport diesel, petrol and jet fuel from Durban to the inland Guateng region with construction to begin in 2010.

There has been much investment in synthetic fuels and South Africa is the world's largest producer of oil from coal. Around 36 per cent of South Africa's liquid fuels are synthetic produced by the Sasol company from a mix of low-grade coal and small quantities of natural gas, sourced either locally or from Mozambique. Proven natural gas reserves were 9 billion cubic metres in 2008. Production is estimated at around 1.4 billion cubic metres per annum, all of which is consumed locally in synthetic fuel production.

There were proven reserves of 30.2 billion tonnes of coal in 2010, and is South Africa's primary fuel. This is 3.8 per cent of the world's total and South Africa is a major exporter globally. Coal provides a significant source of foreign exchange. Most of South Africa's reserves are bituminous, with 45 per cent ash content and only one per cent sulphur content. Around 70 per cent of the recoverable reserves are located in three fields – Waterberg, Witbank and Highveld. Production levels were around 134.6 million tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) with 88.7 million toe consumed domestically.

Energy

Total installed generating capacity was 40.4 gigawatts (GW) in 2007, almost 60 per cent of the total electricity generated on the continent of Africa. Energy provides around 15 per cent of GDP. South Africa exports electricity to Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

The self-financing state energy company, Eskom, has an installed generating capacity of about 38.4GW and produces around 95 per cent of the country's total electricity with the balance made up by mines, industry and municipalities with their own small stations. It is responsible for generation, distribution and sales of electricity. However only a third of the population has access to the national grid; this has grown since 1990 as 3.5 million homes have been electrified with the aim of 100 per cent access for 2012. It operates 17 coal-fired power stations, two hydroelectric, two pumped storage schemes, two gas turbine stations and the country's only nuclear power plant, at Koeberg. The largest generating stations are in Mpumalanga province, adjacent to vast coal reserves. Eskom is the fourth-largest power company in the world by capacity and is being restructured with a view to eventual privatisation. In early 2008 South Africa experienced severe shortages of electricity as demand outstripped supply. Not only were domestic customers left without energy but neighbouring countries were also cut off from their supply. The government implemented a rapid programme of expansion of the electricity infrastructure by independent power producers, including two new coal-fired power stations due to come on-stream in 2013. The 2,000MW nuclear power station is likely to remain the only nuclear facility for some time, but proposals for a new one are under consideration. Three obsolete power stations will be upgraded and re-opened at a cost of US\$1.96 billion. In 2009 two projects will be completed, the Drakensberg hydro scheme and two open-cycle gas turbines will be built. Renewable energy sources account for around 5 per cent of primary energy needs.

In November 2009 the African Development Bank loaned the energy company Eskom US\$2.77 billion to finance construction of the Medupi power plant. The 4,800MW facility located in Limpopo Province will be the first new power station built by Eskom since the 1980s. The plant is scheduled to be completed by February 2012.

Financial markets

Stock exchange

JSE Securities Exchange (JSE)

Banking and insurance

The financial services sector has changed rapidly since South Africa re-entered the global economy in the 1990s. Domestic banks have restructured and foreign banks compete fiercely in the commercial sector.

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) (central bank) supervises the domestic and

international activities of banks, discount houses and building societies. It issues the country's currency and is the custodian of South Africa's gold and foreign exchange reserves. It is responsible for the implementation of monetary policy which it formulates in conjunction with the finance ministry.

In May 2005, the UK's third largest bank, Barclays, purchased a 60 per cent share in South Africa's third largest, Absa. Bought for R33 billion (US\$5.2 billion) it was the single largest foreign investment deal since apartheid ended.

Central bank

South African Reserve Bank (SARB)

Main financial centre

Johannesburg

Time

GMT plus two hours

Geography

South Africa occupies the southern extremity of the African continent. It is bordered by Namibia to the north-west, by Botswana and Zimbabwe to the north, by Mozambique to the north-east, and by Swaziland to the east; Lesotho is a 30,000 square km country isolated within South Africa's territory.

South Africa's coastline stretches over 2,500km from the Namibian border on the Atlantic coast in the west, around the Cape of Good Hope to the Mozambique border on the Indian Ocean coast in the east. The land along the coast is low-lying but quickly rises to mountainous escarpments that separate it from the high plateau of the interior. The highest region in South Africa is the Drakensberg Mountains in the east, which also straddle the border with Lesotho. Njesuthi is South Africa's tallest peak at 3,408 metres (m), although the Drakensberg's highest mountain is Thabana Ntlenyana (3,482m) in Lesotho.

The Kalahari desert in the north-east border region with Namibia and Botswana stretches for 900,000 square km. Much of the central plane is grassland and veld (savannah) that stretches to the coast in the east and is flanked in the west by highlands.

Hemisphere

Southern

Climate

There are regional variations due to relative elevations. The Cape coastal area is warm and temperate throughout the year with temperature ranges in Cape Town between 13–20 degrees Celsius (C); inland Pretoria and other high veld areas have temperature ranges of 13–22 degrees C and Johannesburg, slightly lower 11–19 degrees C. On the Natal coast humidity can be high during the summer,

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while the winters are drier with temperatures in Durban 17–24 degrees C. The highest temperatures are recorded in the Kalahari desert and the coldest are recorded in the remote Roggeveld Mountains in the west; the Drakensberg Mountains have snow on their peaks in winter.

Entry requirements

Passports

Required by all and must be valid for 30 days beyond date of departure.

Visa

Are not required by nationals listed at www.southafricahouse.com under *Home Affairs* then *Visa exempt countries* then *foreign citizens* then *Visas*, lastly see *Who needs a visa*. All other nationals must apply to the nearest South African consulate, see www.home-affairs.gov.za/forms.asp for a visa application form; visas must be applied for before arrival. A proposed tourist *univisa* (a single visa to visit all 15-member states of SADC: Angola, Botswana, DRC, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) is expected to be in use by 2013. Visitors should check with the appropriate consulates to confirm start of *univisas* and their scope before beginning a tour of southern Africa.

Business travellers should contact a South African consulate for further information. All visitors must have proof of return/onward passage, and may have to show evidence of sufficient funds for the intended stay.

Currency advice/regulations

Import of local currency is limited to R5,000 and export to R500 per person. Import of foreign currency is unlimited but must be declared; export is limited to the amount declared.

Travellers cheques (in major currencies) are widely accepted.

Customs

Personal items are duty-free.

Prohibited imports

Illegal drugs, pornography, firearms, ammunition, flick-knives and explosives. Meat, dairy products and processed cheeses.

Plants and plant materials, honey, margarine and vegetable oils require an import permit.

Health (for visitors)

Mandatory precautions

Yellow fever vaccination certificate required if travelling from infected areas, (certificates are not valid until 10 days after immunisation).

Advisable precautions

Vaccinations are necessary for typhoid and hepatitis A and B; vaccination for

hepatitis A is advisable. To avoid the risk of bilharzia, only use well-maintained, chlorinated swimming pools. Malaria exists throughout the year in certain areas of northern Transvaal, eastern low veld and northern Natal; prophylaxis should be taken for visits to these areas. Water precautions should be taken in rural areas. HIV/Aids is prevalent.

Hotels

A wide choice is available in main commercial centres. It is advisable to make reservations well in advance, especially during December and January, March and April.

Credit cards

Major credit and charge cards are widely accepted. ATMs are widely available.

Public holidays (national)

Fixed dates

1 Jan (New Year's Day), 21 Mar (Human Rights Day), 27 Apr (Freedom Day), 1 May (Worker's Day), 16 Jun (Youth Day), 9 Aug (National Women's Day), 24 Sep (Heritage Day), 16 Dec (Reconciliation Day), 25 Dec (Christmas Day), 26 Dec (Day of Goodwill).

Holidays that fall on Sunday are taken on Monday.

Variable dates

Good Friday, Family Day (on Easter Monday) (Mar/Apr)

Working hours

Banking

Mon–Fri: 0830–1530; Sat: 0830–1100. Some banks have extended hours.

Business

Mon–Fri: 0730/0830–1600/1700. Some businesses have extended hours.

Government

Mon–Fri: 0730/0830–1600/1700.

Shops

Mon–Fri: 0830–1700; Sat: 0830–1300. Certain shops are open on Sundays.

Telecommunications

Mobile/cell phones

There are GSM roaming facilities available, with coverage throughout most of the country.

Electricity supply

Usually 220/230V AC, but 220/250V in Port Elizabeth and 250V in Pretoria.

Social customs/useful tips

There are no particular taboos, but visitors should be mindful that in certain parts of the country strong racist attitudes still prevail. It is best not to get involved in political discussions.

Visitors should not photograph security institutions.

Security

Visitors should avoid visiting black townships without guidance from reliable local

residents and without a trustworthy companion. Certain townships in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging region and around the Cape Town, Durban and Pietermaritzburg regions should be avoided unless a visit is absolutely necessary – notably Thokoza, Sebokeng, Alexandra, Boipatong, Katlehong, Langa, Mitchell's Plain, Gugulethu, Khayelitsha, Crossroads, KwaMashu and Mpumulanga.

Periodic attacks on visitors to townships have occurred and the crime rate has soared as unemployment and politically-related violence have increased. Street crime is less of a problem in major urban areas, though care must be taken in central Johannesburg at night. Care must also be taken when visiting extreme right-wing strongholds such as Ventersdorp in the Western Transvaal. It is advisable not to carry unnecessary valuables, expensive jewellery and large amounts of money.

Crime in Johannesburg continues to escalate. Do not resist if confronted. Avoid walking in the streets alone after shopping. Use taxis at night and only those booked through a reputable hotel or among those listed in the official Johannesburg guide. Keep car doors locked while you are in the vehicle or when it is parked. If you are driving after dark, keep car doors locked and avoid slowing down.

Getting there

Air

National airline: South African Airways
International airport/s: OR Tambo International Airport (name changed from Johannesburg International (JNB) in October 2006), serves as a hub for flights to other countries in the region. It is 24km from city, duty-free shop, bar, restaurant, bank, post office, shops, car hire; Cape Town International (CPT), 22km east of city, duty-free shop, car hire, bank, bar and restaurant; Durban International (DUR), 16km from city, duty-free shop, car hire, bank, bar and restaurant. Taxis and buses serve all airports.

Other airport/s: Bloemfontein (BFN), 10km east of the city; Port Elizabeth (PLZ), 25km from the city.

Airport tax: None

Surface

Road: Possible from Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Travellers are generally advised to check regulations and conditions regarding entry by road with the Automobile Association of South Africa. The Maputo Corridor project includes a link from the Atlantic coast at Namibia's Walvis Bay across the Kalahari desert to join the South African road network,

linking the western side of southern Africa with the Indian Ocean at Maputo, Mozambique. There is a toll road between Witbank in South Africa and Maputo.

Rail: There are services from Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

Water: Cruise ships call at some Indian Ocean islands.

Main port/s: Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth and East London.

Getting about

National transport

Air: All major cities and towns are linked with regular, scheduled services. South African Airways, InterAir and Airlink fly domestic routes.

Road: Extensive network of tarred roads, including 51,000km linking main centres. There is a further 130,000km of untarred roads – some of the remoter sections can become impassable in wet weather.

Buses: Inter-city services are operated by Greyhound, Citiliner and other private companies. Vehicles are a good standard.

Rail: Network of some 24,000km with good services throughout the country. Reservations for express trains should be made well in advance. Two classes available, but visitors are advised to travel first class. Most long distance mainline trains have restaurant cars and all have sleeping accommodation (*couchettes* operated in both first- and second-class).

Named services include: Blue Train, a luxury service, running three times a week (Pretoria-Johannesburg-Cape Town; with sleeping accommodation, restaurant cars, air-conditioning, suites, staterooms available); Trans Orange, once a week (Durban-Cape Town); Trans Natal, daily (Durban-Johannesburg). The O R Tembo International Airport to central Johannesburg section of the Guatrain was opened on 10 June 2010, just in time for the start of the World Cup. The remaining 50km to Pretoria is scheduled for completion in 2011.

City transport

Taxis: Widely available in all towns. Taxis cannot be hailed in the street but must be booked or called from a rank. Fares within a city depend on distance and time, while longer distance fares are lower and should be agreed in advance. A 10 per cent tip is usual.

Buses, trams & metro: There are extensive bus networks in all main towns. Fares in Cape Town and Johannesburg are zonal, with payment in cash or with ten-ride pre-purchase 'clipcards' from kiosks. In Pretoria there are various pre-purchase ticket systems. In Durban conventional buses vie for passengers with minibuses and combi-taxis (both legal and illegal); also found in other South

African towns. Although cheap and very fast, they should be used with care.

Trains: There are frequent local trains in the Cape Town and Pretoria and Johannesburg urban areas. All trains have first- and second-class accommodation.

Car hire

Self-drive and chauffeur-driven cars are widely available. An international driving licence is required unless visitor's national licence carries the photograph and signature of the holder.

Driving is on the left. Speed limits: built-up areas 60kph; country roads 100kph; declared freeways and some main roads 120kph. Heavy fines for speeding.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The addresses listed below are a selection only. While World of Information makes every endeavour to check these addresses, we cannot guarantee that changes have not been made, especially to telephone numbers and area codes. We would welcome any corrections.

Telephone area codes

The international dialling code (IDD) for South Africa is +27, followed by area code and subscriber's number:

Bloemfontein	51	Ladysmith	361
Cape Town	21	Pietermaritzburg	
	331		
Durban	31	Port Elizabeth	41
Johannesburg	11	Pretoria	12

Chambers of Commerce

American Chamber of Commerce, 60 Fifth Street, PO Box 1132, Houghton 2041, Johannesburg (tel: 788-0265; fax: 880-1632; e-mail: administrator@amcham.co.za).

Bloemfontein Chamber of Business, 37 Kellner Street, PO Box 87, Bloemfontein 9300 (tel: 447-3368; fax: 447-5064; e-mail: bccci@intekom.co.za).

Cape Town Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 19 Louis Gradner Street, PO Box 204, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 402-4300; fax: 402-4302; e-mail: info@capechamber.co.za).

Durban Chamber of Commerce & Industry, 190 Stanger Street, PO Box 1506, Durban 4000 (tel: 335-1000; fax: 332-1288; e-mail: chamber@durbanchamber.co.za).

Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Private Bag 34, Corner Empire Road and Owl Street, Auckland Park 2006, Johannesburg (tel: 726-5300; fax: 782-2000; e-mail: info@jcci.co.za).

Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce and Industry, PO Box 7, Ladysmith 3370 (tel: 631-0541; fax: 637-4407; e-mail: lcci@futurenet.co.za).

Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business, Royal Show Grounds, Commercial Road, PO Box 11734, Dorpspruit 3206, Pietermaritzburg (tel: 345-2747; fax: 394-4151; e-mail: pcb@futurenet.co.za).

Port Elizabeth Regional Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 22 Grahamstown Road, PO Box 2221, North End 6056, Port Elizabeth (tel: 484-4430; fax: 487-1851; e-mail: info@pechamber.org.za).

Pretoria Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 852 Park Street, PO Box 40653, Arcadia 0007, Pretoria (tel: 342-3236; fax: 342-1486; e-mail: pcci@mweb.co.za).

South African Chamber of Business, 24 Sturdee Avenue, PO Box 213, Saxonwold 2132, Johannesburg (tel: 446-3800; fax: 446-3847; e-mail: info@sacob.co.za).

Banking

Absa Bank Ltd, 2nd Floor, ABSA Towers North, 180 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg 2001 (tel: 350-4000; fax: 350-3768).

International Bank of Southern Africa Ltd, 3rd Floor, Sunnyside Ridge Bldg, 32 Princess of Wales Terrace, Parktown, Johannesburg 2193 (tel: 644-3300, 643-6740, 643-6743; fax: 643-1122).

Nedcor Bank Ltd, 135 Rivonia Rd, Sandown, Sandton, Johannesburg 2001 (tel: 294-4444; fax: 295-5555).

South African Bank of Athens Ltd, Bank of Athens Building, 116 Marshall Street, Johannesburg 2001 (tel: 832-1211; fax: 838-1001, 833-7976).

Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd, 5 Simmonds Street, Johannesburg 2001 (tel: 636-9111; fax: 636-3544).

Central bank

South African Reserve Bank, 370 Church Street; PO Box 427, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 313-3911; fax: 313-3197; email: www.reservebank.co.za).

Stock exchange

JSE Securities Exchange (JSE), www.jse.co.za

Bond Exchange of South Africa (BESA), www.bondexchange.co.za

Travel information

Airlink, Bonaero Park, Johannesburg (tel: 961-1700; fax: 395-1076; internet: www.flyairlink.com)

Automobile Association of South Africa, Denis Paxton House, Alladale Road, Kyalami Midrand 1685; PO Box 596, Johannesburg 2000 (tel: 799-1000; fax: 799-1960; e-mail: aasa@aasa.co.za).

Blue Train Reservations, PO Box 2671, Joubert Park 2044 (tel: 334-8459; fax:

334-8464; e-mail: bluetrain@transnet.co.za).

Coach Services: Translux Express, PO Box 2383, Johannesburg 2000 (tel: 774-3333; fax: 774-3318); Greyhound Coach Lines, PO Box 11229, Johannesburg 2000 (tel: 830-1301; fax: 830-1528); Intercap Mainliner, PO Box 618, Bellville 7535 (tel: 386-4400; fax: 386-2488).

Eastern Cape Tourism Board, PO Box 186, Bisho 5605 (tel: 635-2115; fax: 636-4019; e-mail: info@ectourism.co.za).

Free State Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, PO Box 264, Bloemfontein 9300 (tel: 403-3435; fax: 448-8361).

Gauteng Tourism Authority, The Rosebank Mall, Rosebank 2196 (tel: 327-2000; fax: 327-7000; e-mail: tourism@gauteng.net).

Interair South Africa, Private Bag 8, PO JHB Int'l Airport 1627, Johannesburg (tel: 616-0636; fax: 616-0930; email: info@interair.co.za).

KwaZulu-Natal Tourism Authority, PO Box 2516, Durban 4000 (tel: 304-7144; fax: 305-6693; e-mail: info@tourism-kzn.org).

Mpumalanga Tourism Authority, PO Box 679, Nelspruit 1200 (tel: 752-7001; fax: 759-5441; e-mail: mtanlpsa@cis.co.za).

Northern Cape Tourism Board, Private Bag X5017, Kimberley 8300 (tel: 832-2657; fax: 831-2937; e-mail: tourism@northerncape.org.za).

Northern Province Tourism Board, PO Box 1309, Pietersburg 0700 (tel: 288-0099; fax: 288-0094; e-mail: ceo@greatnorth.co.za).

North-West Parks and Tourism Council, PO Box 4488, Mmabatho 2735 (tel: 386-1225; fax: 386-1158; e-mail: nwptb@iafrica.com).

Rovos Rail Reservations, Victoria Hotel, PO Box 2837, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 323-6052; fax: 323-0843).

South African Airways, Private Bag X13, JHB Int'l Airport, 1627; Airways Park, 32 Jones Road, Kempton Park, Johannesburg International Airport (tel: 978-1000; fax: 978-3507; internet: www.flysa.com).

South African National Parks, 643 Leyds Street, Muckleneuk, Pretoria; PO Box 787, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 343-1991; fax: 343-0905; e-mail: reservations@parks-sa.co.za).

Western Cape Tourism Board, Private Bag X9108, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 426-5639; fax: 426-5640; e-mail: info@capetourism.org).

Ministry of tourism

Ministry of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Fedure Forum Building, 315 Pretorius Street, Pretoria; Private Bag X447, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 310-3611; fax: 322-0082).

National tourist organisation offices

South African Tourism, Bojanala House, 12 Rivonia Road, Illovo 2196 (tel: 778-8000; fax: 778-8001; e-mail: info@southafrica.net; internet site: <http://www.southafrica.net>).

Ministries

NB For the following Ministry addresses: Pretoria (administrative), Cape Town (legislative).

Ministry of Agriculture and Land Affairs, Private Bag X250, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 319-6886; fax: 321-8558); Private Bag X9087, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7690; fax: 465-6550).

Ministry of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, Private Bag X727, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 337-8378; fax: 324-2687); Private Bag X9156, Cape Town 8000; (tel: 465-4850; fax: 461-1425).

Ministry of Communications, Private Bag X882, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 427-8111; fax: 362-6915); Private Bag X9151, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 462-1632; fax: 462-1646).

Ministry of Correctional Services, Private Bag X853, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 323-8803; fax: 323-4111); Private Bag X9131, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 462-2314; fax: 465-4375).

Ministry of Defence, Private Bag X427, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 355-6119; fax: 347-0118); PO Box 47, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 469-6070; fax: 465-5870).

Ministry of Education, Private Bag X603, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 312-5501; fax: 323-5989); Private Bag X9034, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7350; fax: 461-4788).

Ministry of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Private Bag X447, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 310-3611; fax: 322-0082); Private Bag X9154, Capetown 8000 (tel: 465-7240; fax: 465-3216).

Ministry of Finance, Private Bag X115, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 323-8911; fax: 323-3262); PO Box 29, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 464-6100; fax: 461-2934).

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Private Bag X152, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 351-0005; fax: 351-0253); 120 Plein St, Cape Town 8001 (tel: 464-3700; fax: 465-6548).

Ministry of Health, Private Bag X399, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 328-4773; fax: 325-5526); Private Bag X9070, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7407; fax: 465-1575).

Ministry of Home Affairs, Private Bag X741, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 326-8081; fax: 321-6491); Private Bag X9102, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 461-5818; fax: 461-2359).

Ministry of Housing, Private Bag X645, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 421-1311; fax: 341-8513); Private Bag X9029, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7295; fax: 465-3610).

Ministry of Intelligence Services, PO Box 56450, Arcadia 0007 (tel: 338-1800; fax: 323-0718); PO Box 51278, Waterfront 8002 (tel: 401-1800; fax: 461-4644).

Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Development, Private Bag X276, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 323-8581; fax: 321-1708); Private Bag X256, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7506; fax: 465-2783).

Ministry of Labour, Private Bag X499, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 322-6523; fax: 320-1942); Private Bag X9090, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 461-6030; fax: 462-2832).

Ministry of Minerals and Energy, Private Bag X646, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 322-8695; fax: 322-8699); Private Bag X9111, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 462-2310; fax: 461-0859).

Ministry of Provincial and Local Government, Private Bag X802, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 334-0705; fax: 326-4478); Private Bag X9123, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 462-1441; fax: 461-0851).

Ministry of Public Enterprises, Private Bag X15, Hatfield 0028 (tel: 431-1000; fax: 342-7224); Private Bag X9079, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 461-6376; fax: 465-2381).

Ministry of Public Service and Administration, Private Bag X884, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 314-7911; fax: 328-6529); Private Bag X9148, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-5491; fax: 465-5484).

Ministry of Public Works, Private Bag X890, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 324-1510; fax: 325-6380); Private Bag X9155, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 462-4184; fax: 461-6962).

Ministry of Safety and Security, Private Bag X463, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 339-2800; fax: 339-2819); Private Bag X9080, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7400; fax: 461-2073).

Ministry of Social Development, Private Bag X885, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 312-7637; fax: 321-2658); Private Bag X9153, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-4011; fax: 465-4469).

Ministry of Sport and Recreation, Private Bag X869, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 334-3100; fax: 321-8493); Private Bag X9149,

Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-5506; fax: 465-4402).

Ministry of Trade and Industry, Private Bag X274, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 322-7677; fax: 322-7851); Private Bag X9047, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 461-7191; fax: 465-1291).

Ministry of Transport, Private Bag X193, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 309-3131; fax: 328-3194); Private Bag X9129, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 465-7260; fax: 461-6845).

Ministry of Water Affairs and Forestry, Private Bag X313, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 36-8733; fax: 328-4254); Private Bag X9052, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 464-1500; fax: 465-3362).

Office of the President, Private Bag X1000, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 337-5100; fax: 321-8870); Private Bag X1000, Cape Town 8000 (tel: 464-2100; fax: 464-2123).

Other useful addresses

Association of Advertising Agencies (AAA), PO Box 2289, Parklands 2121 (tel: 781-2772; fax: 781-2796; e-mail: aaa@gem.co.za).

Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut (AHI) (Afrikaans Trade Institute), Lynnwood Galleries, 354 Rosemary Street, Lynnwood 0081; PO Box 35100, Menlopark 00101 (tel: 348-5440; fax: 348-8771; e-mail: pta@ahi.co.za).

Association of Marketers (ASOM), 8 Sloane Street, Bryanston, Sandton; PO Box 98859, Sloane Park 2152, Bryanston (tel: 706-1633; fax: 706-4151; e-mail: asom@pixie.co.za).

Board on Tariffs and Trade, Fedlife Forum, Cnr Van der Walt and Pretorius Streets, Private Bag X753, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 322-8244; fax: 322-0149).

British High Commission, 255 Hill Street, Arcadia, Pretoria 0002 (tel: 483-1200; fax: 483-1302); 91 Parliament Street, Cape Town 8001 (tel: 461-7220; fax: 461-0017).

Chamber of Mines of South Africa, PO Box 61809, Marshalltown 2107 (tel: 498-7100; fax: 834-4251).

Chemical & Allied Industries Association, 15th Floor, Metal Box Centre, 25 Owl Street, Auckland Park 2006 (tel: 482-1671; fax: 726-8310).

Clothing Federation of South Africa, 42 van der Linde Street, Bedfordview 2008 (tel: 622-8125; fax: 622-8316).

COEGA Development Corporation, Libra Chambers, Cnr Oakworth Road and Carnarvon Place, Humerail, Port Elizabeth; Private Bag X13130, Humewood, Port Elizabeth 6013 (tel: 507-9111; fax: 585-5445; e-mail: info@coega.co.zu).

Government Communications and Information System (GCIS), 356 Vermeulen Street, Pretoria; Private Bag X745, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 314-2127; 325-2030; e-mail: govcom@gcis.pwv.gov.za; internet site: <http://www.gcis.gov.za>).

ICC Durban (international convention centre), 45 Ordnance Road, Durban 4001; PO Box 155, Durban 4000 (tel: 360-1000; fax: 360-1005; e-mail: mktg@icc.co.za).

Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa, 19 Fredman Drive, Sandton 2146; PO Box 784055, Sandton 2146 (tel: 269-3000; fax: 269-3116; e-mail: callcentre@idc.co.za).

Iscor Limited, Roger Dyason Road, Pretoria West; PO Box 450, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 307-3000; fax: 307-4721; e-mail: webmaster@iscor.com).

JSE Securities Exchange (stock exchange), 1 Exchange Square, 2 Gwen Lane, Sandton, Sandton 2196; Private Bag X991174, Sandton 2146 (tel: 520-7000; fax: 520-8584; e-mail: miscellaneous@jse.co.za).

South African Association for the Conference Industry (SAACI), PO Box, Kloof 3640 (tel: 764-6977; fax: 764-6974; e-mail: sec@saaci.co.za).

South African Business Initiative for Reconstruction and Development, 17th Floor, Metal Box Centre, 25 Owl Street, Auckland Park 2092 (tel: 482-5100; fax: 482-5507).

South African Diamond Board, 5th Floor, SA Diamond Centre, 240 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg 2001 (tel: 334-8980/6; fax: 334-8898; e-mail: mabombol@sadb.co.za).

South African Embassy (USA), 3051 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington, DC (tel: (+1-202) 232-4400; fax: (+1-202) 265-1607; e-mail: safrika@southafrica.net).

South African Foreign Trade Organisation (SAFTO), Export House, 71 Maud Street, Sandton; PO Box 782706, Sandton 2146 (tel: 883-3737; fax: 883-6569; e-mail: safto@apollo.is.co.za).

South African Petroleum Industry Association, Trust Bank Centre, Adderley Street, Cape Town 8001; PO Box 7082, Roggebaai 8012 (tel: 419-8054; fax: 419-8058).

Statistics South Africa, Steyn's Building, 274 Schoeman Street, Pretoria 0002; Private Bag X44, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 310-8911; fax: 322-3374; e-mail: info@statssa.pwv.gov.za; internet site: www.statssa.gov.za/).

Trade and Investment South Africa, Rex Welsh House, Maud Street, Sandown, Sandton 2196; PO Box 782084, Sandton 2146 (tel: 884-2206; fax: 884-3236; e-mail: isa@isa.org.za).

US Embassy, 877 Pretorius Street, Pretoria; PO Box 9536, Pretoria 0001 (tel: 342-1048; fax: 342-2244).

National news agency: PO Box 7766, Cotswold House, Greenacres Office Park, Cnr Victory & Rustenburg Roads, Victory Park, Johannesburg, 2000 (tel: 782-1600; fax: 782-1587/8; email: comms@sapa.org.za; internet: www.sapa.org.za).

Internet sites

African Development Bank: www.afdb.org

Africa Online: www.africaonline.com

AllAfrica.com: <http://allafrica.com>

International Finance Corporation: www.ifc.org/abn

Johannesburg Stock Exchange: www.jse.co.za/

Development Bank of South Africa: www.dbsa.org

Mbendi AfroPaedia (information on companies, countries, industries and stock exchanges in Africa): <http://mbendi.co.za>

Province of the North West Tourist Board: www.tourismnorthwest.co.za/

South African Development Community (SADC): www.sadcreview.com

South African Futures Exchange: www.safex.co.za/

South African yellow pages: www.ipages.co.za/

Trade Web: www.trade.co.za/