

The bright lights of city regions – Assumptions, realities and implications of changing population dynamics: Zooming in on the Gauteng city region

Amy Pieterse

CSIR, Built Environment

Contents

- Introduction and background
- Issues and findings related to perceptions about migration and urbanisation
 - Age cohorts and population movement
 - Urban poverty
 - Inter-municipal migration
- Other considerations
 - Changes in household size
 - Circular migration
 - Absorbing newcomers
- Conclusion

Introduction and background

- The 4 city regions of SA accommodate 42% of the population and generate 57% of the formal economy.
- Gauteng city region is an attractive destination for migrants.
- High levels of mobility and different forms of mobility.
- Migration can put pressure on government infrastructure but it also provide people with access to opportunities.
- Crucial to understand population dynamics and for planning and government to respond appropriately.
- The CSIR settlement typology allows us to differentiate between the different settlement types

Introduction and background

Providing a nuanced understanding of migration, urbanisation and urban growth in city regions by looking at 3 key issues based on perceptions:

1: In accordance to perceptions that young work seekers are attracted by the bright lights and explore opportunities in cities, the percentage of entrants into the job market increased significantly since 1996.

2: Contrary to perceptions about poverty as largely a rural issue, South Africa is seeing an 'urbanisation of poverty' with the result that urban areas now shoulder a larger number of poor people (in absolute terms) more than rural settlements in aggregate. Metropolitan areas/city region areas in particular are experiencing an urbanisation of poverty.

3: Contrary to urbanisation often being cast as a 'problem' of rural-urban migration, it is evident that a large portion of migration happens between metropolitan areas.

Issues and findings related to perceptions about migration and urbanisation

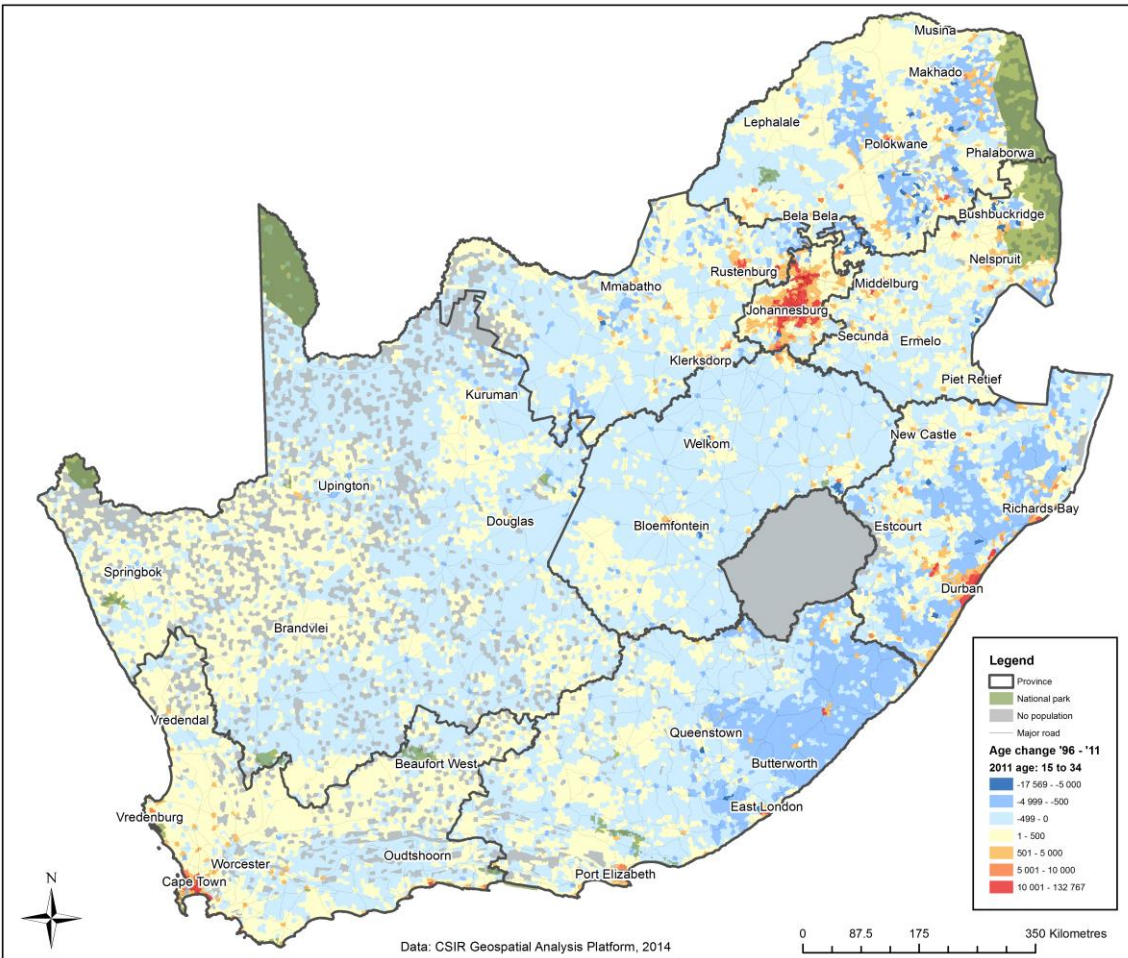
Using age cohorts to explore population movement and change: *Methodology*

- Census 1996 & 2011

CSIR cohort description	Entrants	Young adult seekers	Adult strivers	Middle age grinders	Transitions	Retired	Vulner-able
1996	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
2011	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+

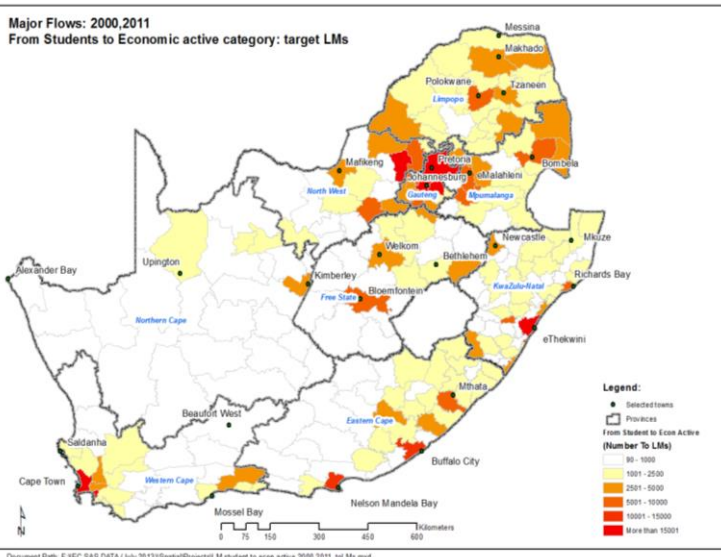
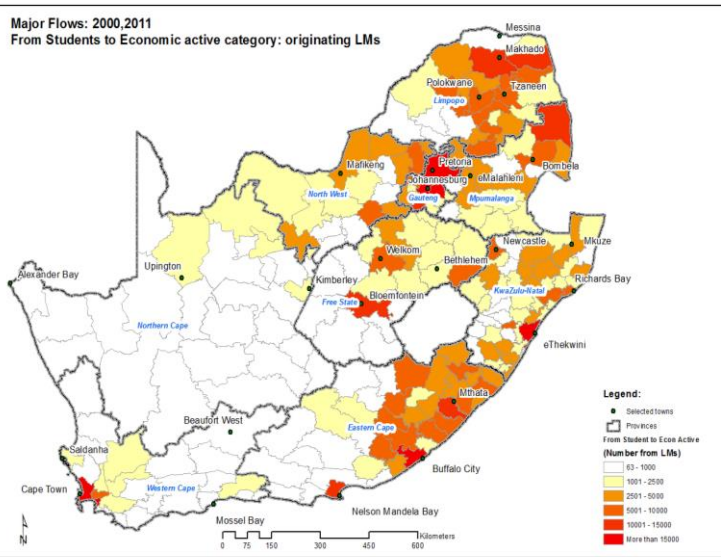
- IEC 2000 & 2011
 - Gender, birth year and voting district.
 - Local municipality of origin and destination.
 - Using an area proportioning approach the areas were apportioned to the 2011 voting districts.
 - Randomisation procedure to determine most appropriate 2011 voting district for each registered voter.
 - Only registered voters, sample of 23.7 million

Age cohorts and population movement



- 15 to 34 year olds increased significantly in the city regions, particularly the Gauteng city region.
- Decrease across most parts, especially rural Limpopo, KwaZulu Natal and Eastern Cape.
- This trend continues in the 35 to 64 cohort, but far less dramatic change.

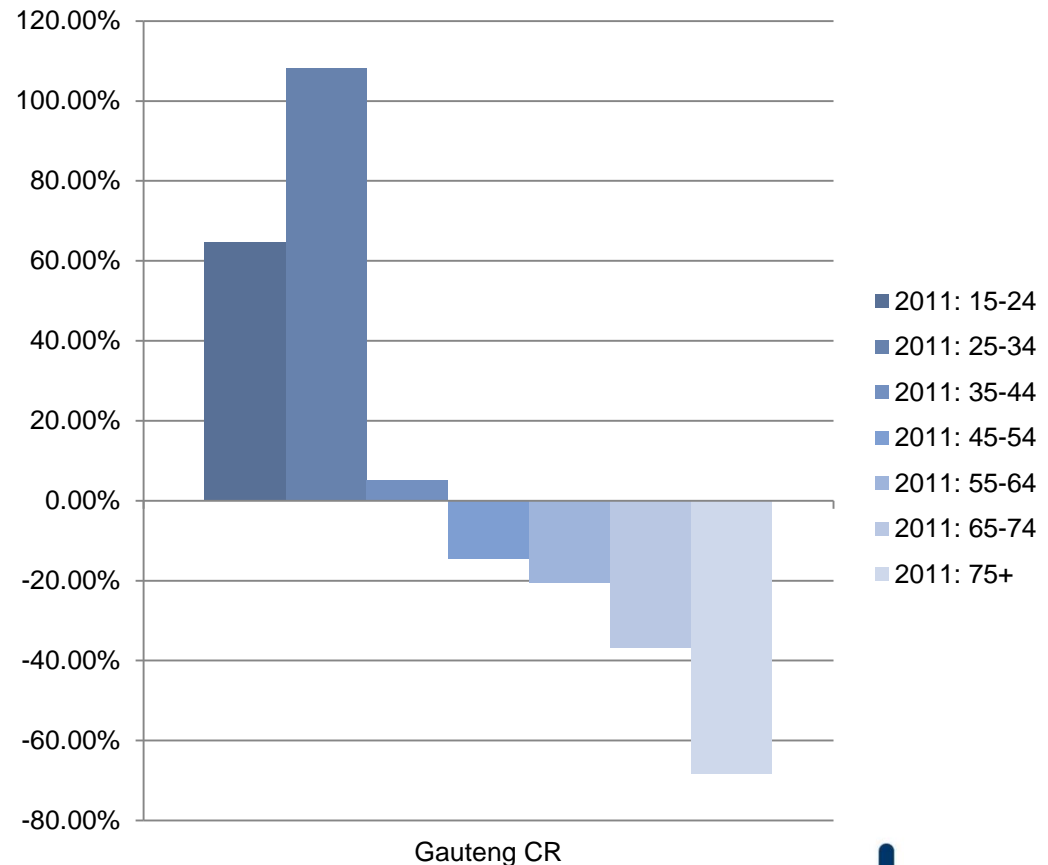
Age cohorts and population movement



- The student group (18 – 24 years) originate mainly from Limpopo, the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and the city regions.
- Rural municipalities as places of origin.
- They are attracted to the city regions and large employment centres when becoming economically active (25 – 54 years).
- City regions are important role players as places of both origin and destination for migrants.

Age cohorts and population movement

- Young adult seekers increased by over 100% in 15 years
- Persons over 50 years declined significantly
- Gauteng city region attracts the youth
- Gauteng has the lowest proportion of persons over 65

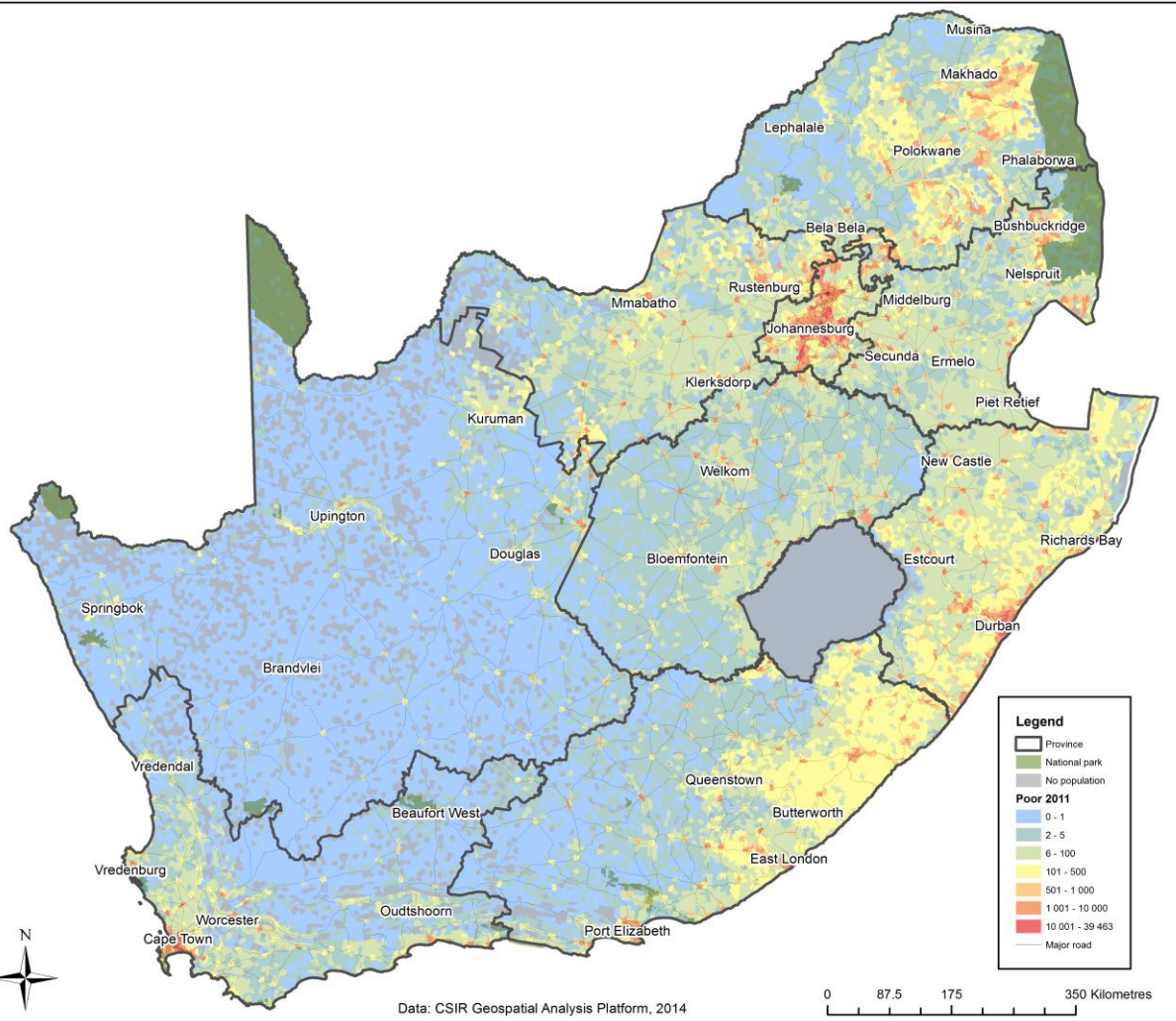


Issues and findings related to perceptions about migration and urbanisation

Exploring shifts in urban poverty: *Methodology*

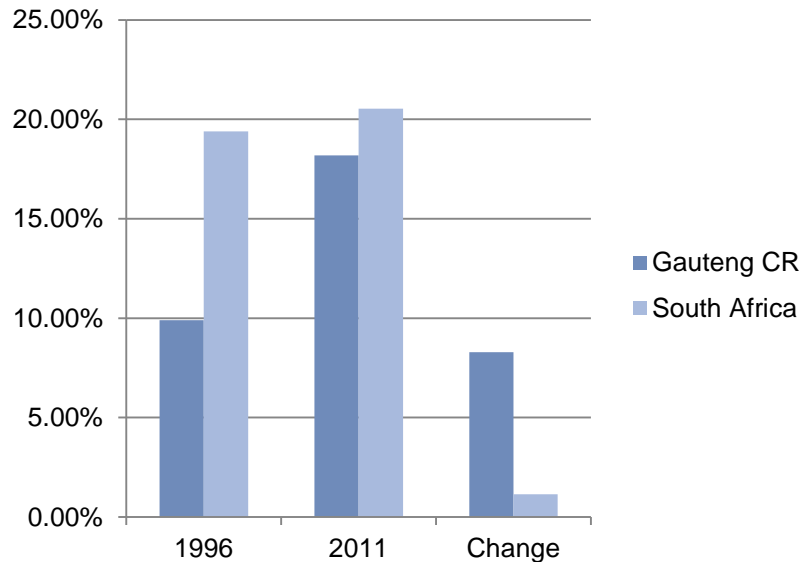
- Poverty measure established and aligned with the CSIR settlement typology to illustrate poverty spatially.
- BMR household income level classification used and adapted to 2011 census income categories using CPI from 1996 to 2011
- The first category in the 2011 census data is R0 – R48 000 per household per annum. This category and a proportional number of households from the R48 000 to R96000 category was added together to bring this in line with the BMR cut off of R54 355.
- Cut off of R53 477 household income per annum for Poor category determined by inflating values of R24 000 (1996).
- The same proportional allocation method as described above was used to add the additional amount of households to the category in order to bring it in line with the BMR categories.

Urban poverty

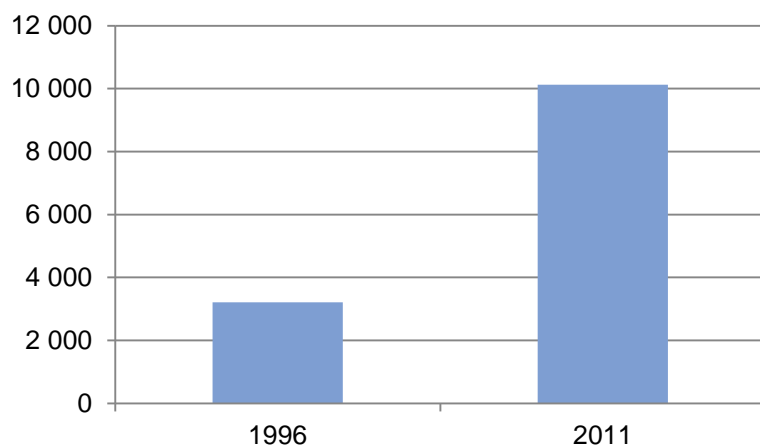


- Poverty increased nationally from 1996 to 2011.
- Orange and red indicates high poverty concentrations in space.
- This concentration is evident in the city regions as well as some densely populated rural centres.

Urban poverty



- The proportion of households living in poverty is higher for SA than in the Gauteng city region.
- Small national increase.
- The proportional increase within the city region has been significant.
- The number of households living in poverty tripled within the city region between 1996 and 2011.



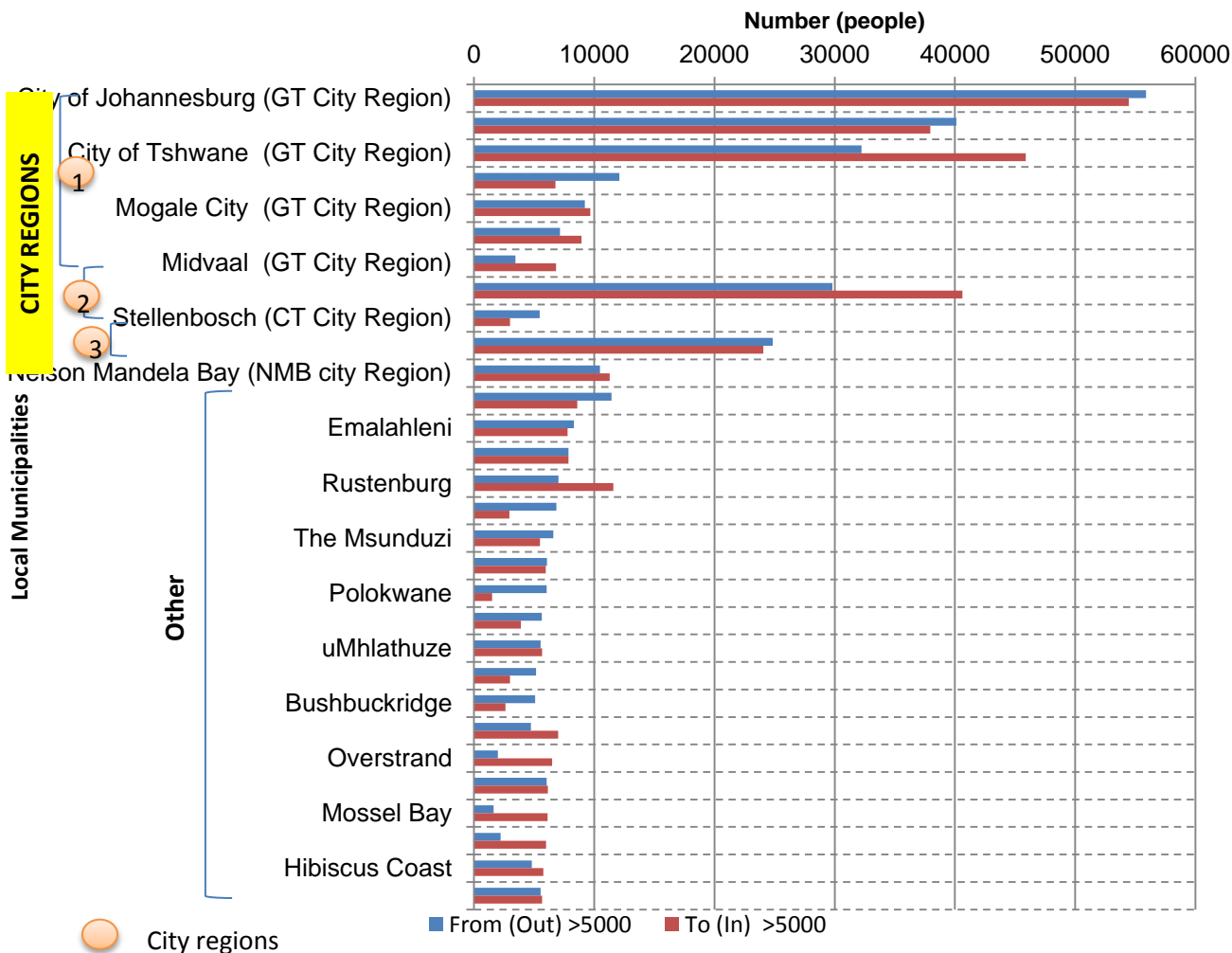
Issues and findings related to perceptions about migration and urbanisation

Exploring shifts in inter-municipal migration: *Methodology*

- Data from the IEC was applied as this indicated origin and destination information and the data period represents change between 2001 and 2011.
- Only the highest flows were selected and a flow data model was used.
- Origin- and destination matrices were constructed and flow lines generated.
- Only major net migration trends indicated.
- Primary use is to identify trends.

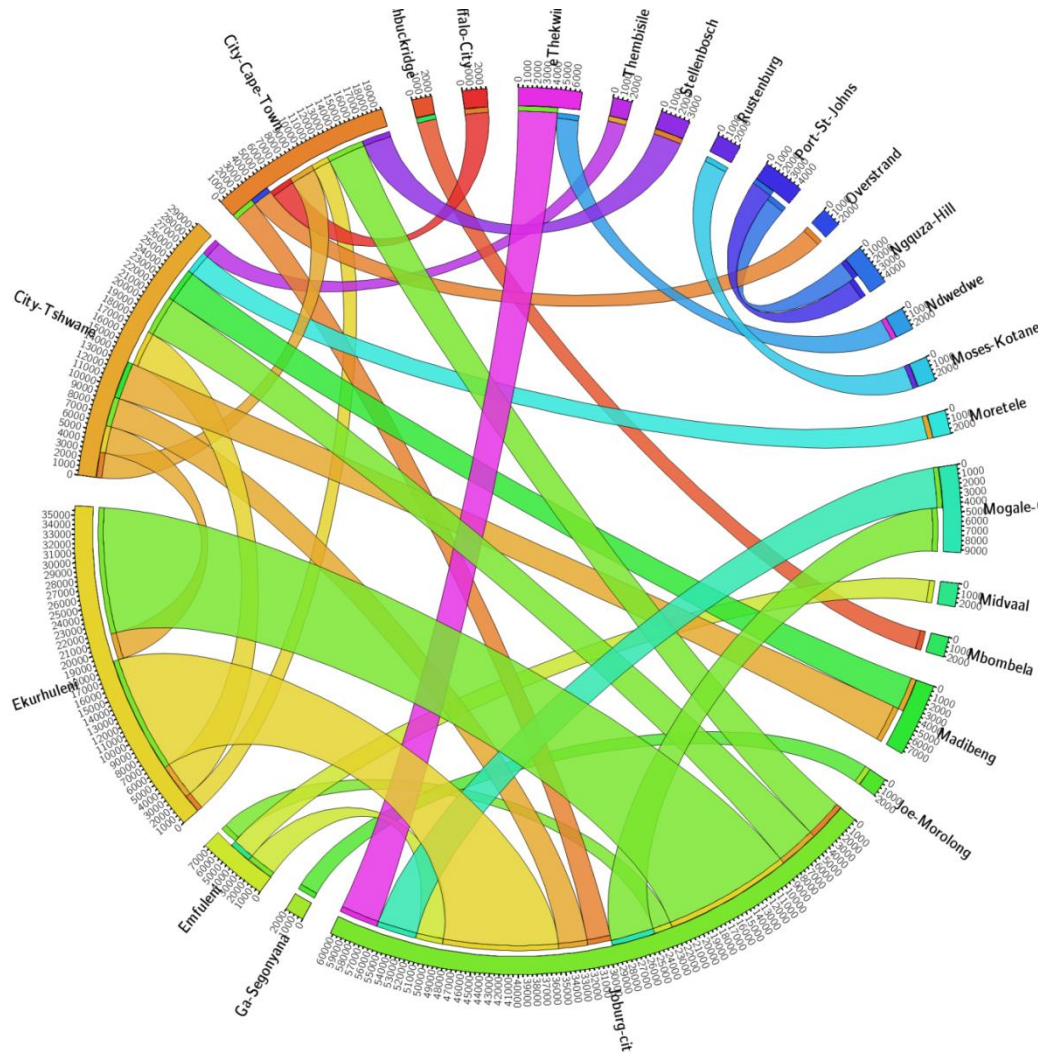
Inter-municipal migration

Municipalities with > 5000 (origin or destination)



- Largest inter municipal flows occur between the city regions.
- Municipalities that make up the Gauteng city region reflect both high in- and out-migration between 2001 and 2011.
- High levels of mobility

Inter-municipal migration

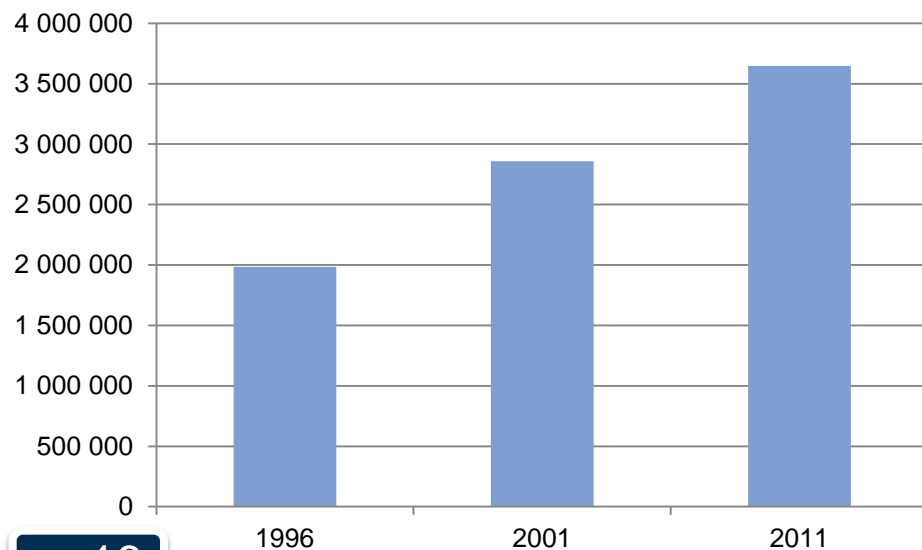
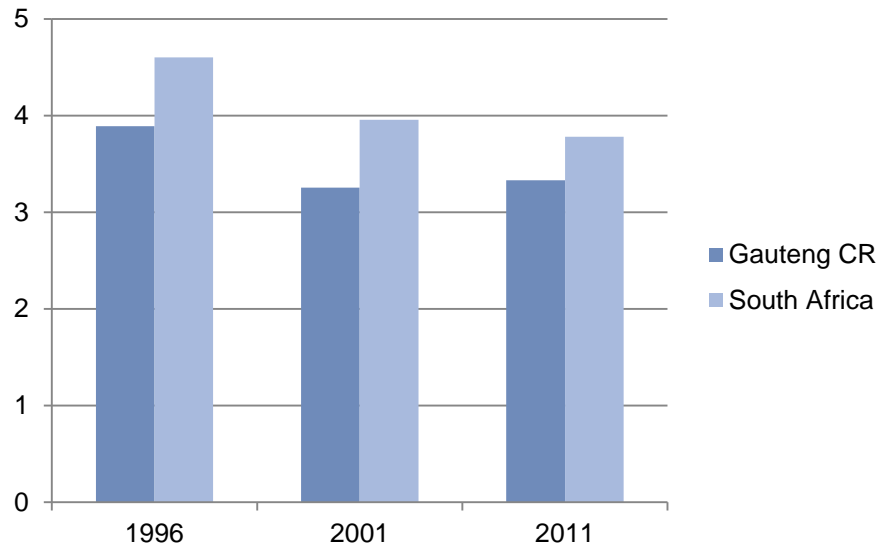


- Circularly composited view of municipalities with flows exceeding 2000 people between 2001 and 2011.
- Significant migration between Cape Town, Tshwane, Ekurhuleni and Johannesburg.
- High levels of both inter- and intra- city region mobility.

Other considerations

- In addition to the issues discussed, there are other important issues and noticeable trends that need to be considered.
- These are:
 - i. Changes in household size,
 - ii. Circular migration, and
 - iii. The ability of the city region to absorb and cope with in-moving migrants.
- Data does not provide a very clear picture on these issues but important questions are raised.
- Possibility and need for further research is raised.

Changes in household size

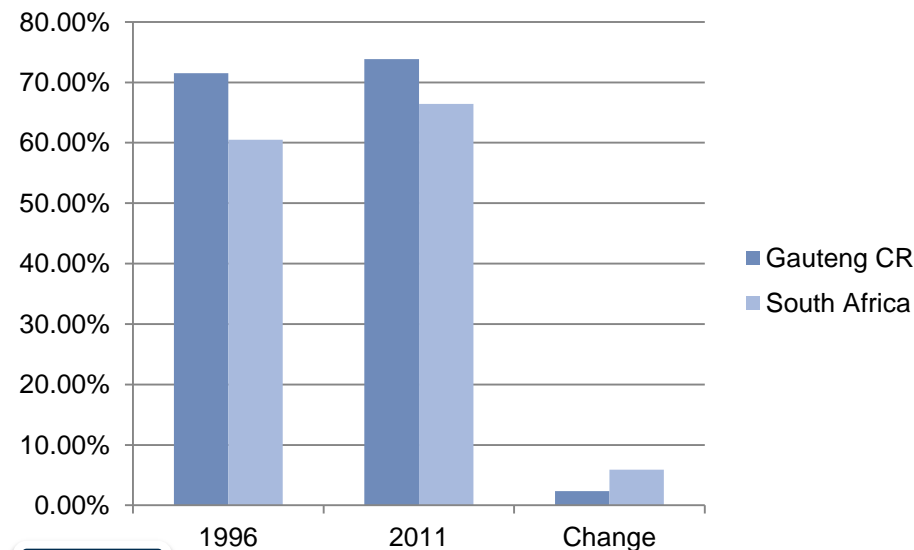
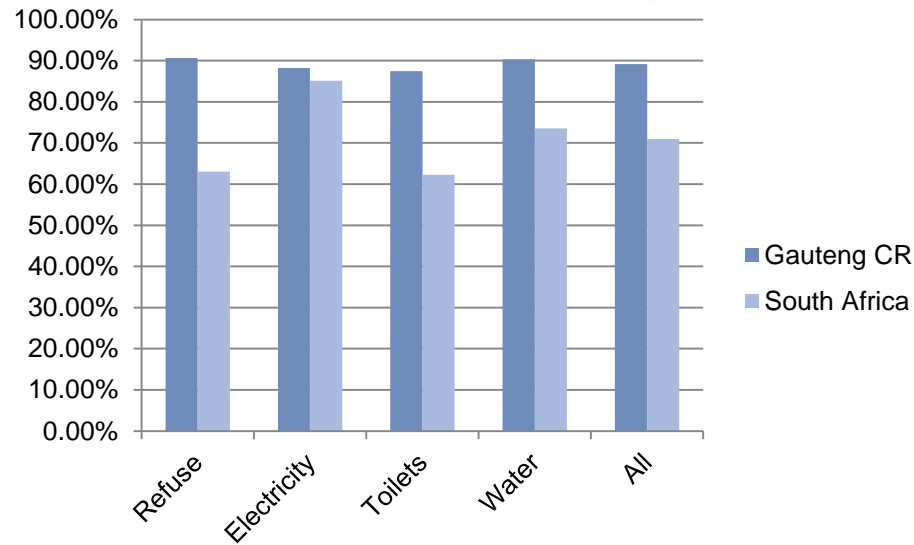


- Average household size has decreased slightly for the city region as well as SA, but it is smaller within the city region.
- Average household size seem to have stabilised in the city region.
- Households are increasing at a rate of almost double that of population growth.
- Implications for housing and housing typology, form of ownership and infrastructure.

Circular migration

- Post-apartheid assumption that circular migration would decline and data needs were neglected since the late 1990s.
- Relationship between household of origin and destination crucial to distinguishing between permanent and circular migration.
- Increase in single persons households in the city region could be linked to circular migration.
- Access to urban land markets is difficult for migrants and could affect the temporal aspect of migration.
- Small proportion of retired persons = return migration?
- Form of migration influences health, infrastructure and households and a comprehensive understanding thereof is important for assembling evidence for planning.

Absorbing newcomers



- Influx of young and economically active people.
- Need access to services and employment.
- Measure access to good services for the city region.
- Household service needs are being met but backlogs are possibly not being addressed.
- Level of employment is higher for the city region than for SA but there has been a very small increase between 1996 and 2011.

Conclusion

- Attractiveness of the city region for young work seekers.
- Urbanisation of poverty occurring at a large scale in the Gauteng city region.
- Urban-urban migration significant and not only rural-urban.
- High levels of mobility with an unlikely stable population.
- Stability of labour market is important.
- Responsibility falls on the city region to be able to maintain its status as a 'Great Place' by providing access to the opportunities migrants have come in search of.

Thank you

Amy Pieterse, Elsona van Huyssteen,
Johan Maritz, Gerbrand Mans &
Willemien van Niekerk

apieterse@csir.co.za

Work: 012 841 4220

Cell: 083 652 1645

