1 Introduction

This paper seeks to elucidate recent migration trends and dynamics in South Africa as revealed – particularly – by the most recent Census data, collected in South Africa in 2011.

The paper is structured in four substantive parts. The first (Section 2) presents our analysis of recent internal migration trends and dynamics from the most recent census data. The approach adopted is, primarily, the TODA (Total-Origin-Destination-Age) representation of migration developed by Andrei Rogers and colleagues. Since, as will be made clear throughout our analysis, we are uncertain as to the quality of the data on migration collected in the Census, we also present an analysis in this section on the comparability of the patterns of migration revealed by responses to the migration question with that derived from data on the change in numbers by province of birth and from reconciling the numbers counted in the census with those counted in the province in the previous census and those derived from similar investigations conducted by us in the past using earlier census data.

Section 3 presents a description of the volume and trend in international migration to and from South Africa between 2001 and 2011, with particular attention being paid to the descriptive characteristics of these migrants in terms of age, sex, population group, countries of origin or destination, and the more pertinent changes in these characteristics over time as indicated by data collected in the 2011 census on the calendar year of entry of enumerated migrants into South Africa.

The penultimate section, Section 4, offers some reflections on the quality of the data on migration as collected in the most recent census and provides warnings and caveats as to the limitations of the data identified. We also consider what alternative sources of data may be of use in further elucidating migrations patterns, trends and dynamics and how these might be used in conjunction with the data used here.

2 Provincial migration

This section investigates the volume and trend in migration into and out of provinces between 2001 and 2011, the period covered by the questions on the movement since the previous census in most recent census in South Africa. However, this question doesn't capture emigration of South Africans from the provinces, so this had to be determined separately.

Total emigration of South Africans between the 2001 and 2011 censuses was approximated from the numbers recorded in the OECD International Migration Database (340,000). This number was apportioned to sex in the same proportion as White population, and

to age in proportion to the numbers of South African-born immigrants to Australia[1] (as estimated by the change in South Africans recorded in the 2001 and 2011 censuses). As there is no information as to provinces of origin of these migrants the numbers leaving were assumed to be in proportion to the numbers of the White population by sex and age in these provinces.

In presenting this analysis, we present results in two distinct ways. First, we make use of the TODA approach to analysing population flow dynamics. This approach, developed by Andrei Rogers and colleagues over many years, draws out the essential patterns of migration by examining the origin-destination and age profiles of migrants. We apply the TODA approach to the data from the 2011 South African census, which provides information on place of enumeration at provincial, district and municipality levels, as well as information on the place of residence for most recent move if this occurred in the decade since the previous census, conducted in 2001. This analysis examines changes in residence at a provincial level (section 2.1), before proceeding to examine changes in residences between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas (section 2.2).

The strength of the TODA representation is that it draws attention to the relative strength and importance of different migration streams; it is less adept at providing information as to whether those revealed migration streams are compatible and consistent with the information on migration streams revealed by a comparison of data from different sources or data collected at different points in time. This is something that is considered further in section 2.3.

2.1 Migration flows – provincial

2.1.1 Provincial migration flows: Aggregate data

A summary of provincial migration flows in South Africa is given in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Table of provincial migration flows, 2001-2011

[1] The only publicly available age distribution of South African-born persons in both censuses. Although it is likely that the age distribution of the migration to these countries differ, particularly depending on whether it is families or individuals who are emigrating, the rate of emigration of South Africans is low and thus the method used to distribute the numbers by sex, age and province of origin will not impact materially on the analysis of migration by province.

	Destination										
Origin	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZ	NW	GT	MP	LP	ExSA	TOTAL
WC		39 108	10 522	5 697	11 491	5 830	54 490	5 152	3 957	65 467	201 712
EC	173 793		7 196	19 491	86 995	33 653	140 193	15 491	11 081	23 181	511 075
NC	19 311	3 386		7 406	5 213	12 404	16 630	3 736	2 113	7 189	77 388
FS	12 933	7 953	7 385		8 469	24 077	78 842	10 856	5 435	18 234	174 185
KZ	27 270	21 484	2 514	11 542		10 742	191 938	30 510	6 999	34 569	337 568
NW	8 210	3 972	17 603	9 800	5 906		102 052	9 792	14 987	20 410	192 731
GT	74 874	39 268	9 606	32 846	55 196	80 885		64 362	55 587	141 270	553 895
MP	8 340	3 625	1 971	4 358	13 688	12 036	112 646		23 871	19 137	199 672
LP	11 255	4 741	2 403	5 730	8 201	27 114	296 517	40 421		10 543	406 925
ExSA	109 404	36 970	7 078	33 627	75 782	78 892	478 072	71 633	100 247		991 705
TOTAL	445 391	160 505	66 279	130 497	270 942	285 633	1 471 380	251 953	224 276	340 000	3 646 856

The essential limitation of these data should be immediately apparent: the migration questions in the census asked respondents if they were living in the same place as they were enumerated in 2011 in 2001. If they had not – i.e. they had moved in the intervening period – respondents were then asked for their immediately preceding place of residence (as well as the year they moved to their current residence). Multiple movements (those who had moved more than once) in the intercensal period, therefore, are not captured. Those who moved in the period but returned to their original location are not recorded as movers at all. For the purpose of this analysis, we also include those movers whose immediate (most recent) move was to or from South Africa since 2001 (this is a little different to the analysis of international migration presented in Section 3, which analyses the characteristics of ALL migrants into and out of South Africa between 2001 and 2011, including those who might have migrated internally after arriving in the intercensal period). The numbers presented below are for males and females combined. Broadly, with the exception of the North West and Mpumalanga provinces the migration patterns of the sexes are very similar. Equivalent tables, cross-classified by population group and sex are presented in an Appendix.

The table indicates that a total of around 3.64 million people moved into or out of the provinces between 2001 and 2011. In addition to being able to see the relative size of migration flows between different provinces, subtracting the total number of migrants to (say) the Western Cape (445 391) from the total number of migrants from the same province (201 712) shows the net number of migrants to that province (243 679). These estimates of provincial net migration, nationally and by population group[2], are shown in Table 2.2. Positive values indicate a net inflow

[2] For purposes of this analysis, those whose population group was enumerated as 'Other' were combined with the African population. This is for three reasons. First, comprising a heterogeneous mix of individuals, the group has no clear identity. Second, the effect of including this group in the largest defined group means that any

of migrants to a province; negative values a net outflow. Thus, Gauteng gained 917 000 migrants while 'outside SA' lost 651 000 people, representing a net gain to South Africa of 651 000 migrants (over 900 000 African, Coloured and Indian immigrants (net of emigrants) in less nearly 270 000 White emigrants (net of immigrants)).

Table 2.2 Net migration by province and population group, 2001-2011

	All	African	Coloured	Indian	White
WC	243 679	220 313	10 707	4 408	8 250
EC	-350 570	-311 119	-7 667	778	-32 561
NC	-11 110	6 235	-4 061	479	-13 763
FS	-43 687	-14 019	693	2 586	-32 947
KZ	-66 626	1 473	-2 919	-26 850	-38 329
NW	92 902	99 469	337	4 023	-10 928
GT	917 486	985 974	10 898	50 600	-129 987
MP	52 281	52 018	1 310	4 656	-5 705
LP	-182 649	-168 880	-1 741	1 645	-13 674
ExSA	-651 705	-871 466	-7 558	-42 325	269 643

Nationally, the major destination provinces, unsurprisingly, are Gauteng and the Western Cape, with smaller gains in the North-West and Mpumalanga. The country as a whole gained 651 000 international migrants, the Eastern Cape (-351 000) and Limpopo (-183 000) were the biggest losers in terms of net-migration. Interestingly while Gauteng received by far the highest number of in-migrants it was also the province with the highest number of out-migrants.

Rather different patterns of net migration are evident by population group. As might be expected the pattern of African provincial net migration is very similar to the national pattern. Coloured net migration gains were shared almost equally between the Western Cape and Gauteng, with the Eastern Cape and outside South Africa being the two sources of migrants. Indian net migration occurred almost exclusively to Gauteng, with the biggest sources being KwaZulu-Natal and overseas countries. Substantial white emigration is evident in the data. 270 000 White South Africans are estimated to have left the country (the majority of them from Gauteng), but with, partly by assumption, all provinces other than the Western Cape experiencing net emigration.

2.1.2 Provincial migration flows: Age patterns of migration

There are widely divergent age patterns of provincial migration in the country by population group. Figure 2.1 shows the distribution of migrants by age and population group. For African and Indian migrants, migration is heavily concentrated between the ages of 15 and 39. This pattern pertains for both sexes (not shown). By contrast, the age pattern of Coloured and White

distortion arising will be minimised. Third, as will be shown in Section 3, a significant proportion of those classified as 'Other' are international migrants from other African countries.

(in particular) migration shows a much lower proportion of migration in that age range, with more substantial migration at older ages, especially for Whites, indicative of greater retirement-related mobility in this group.

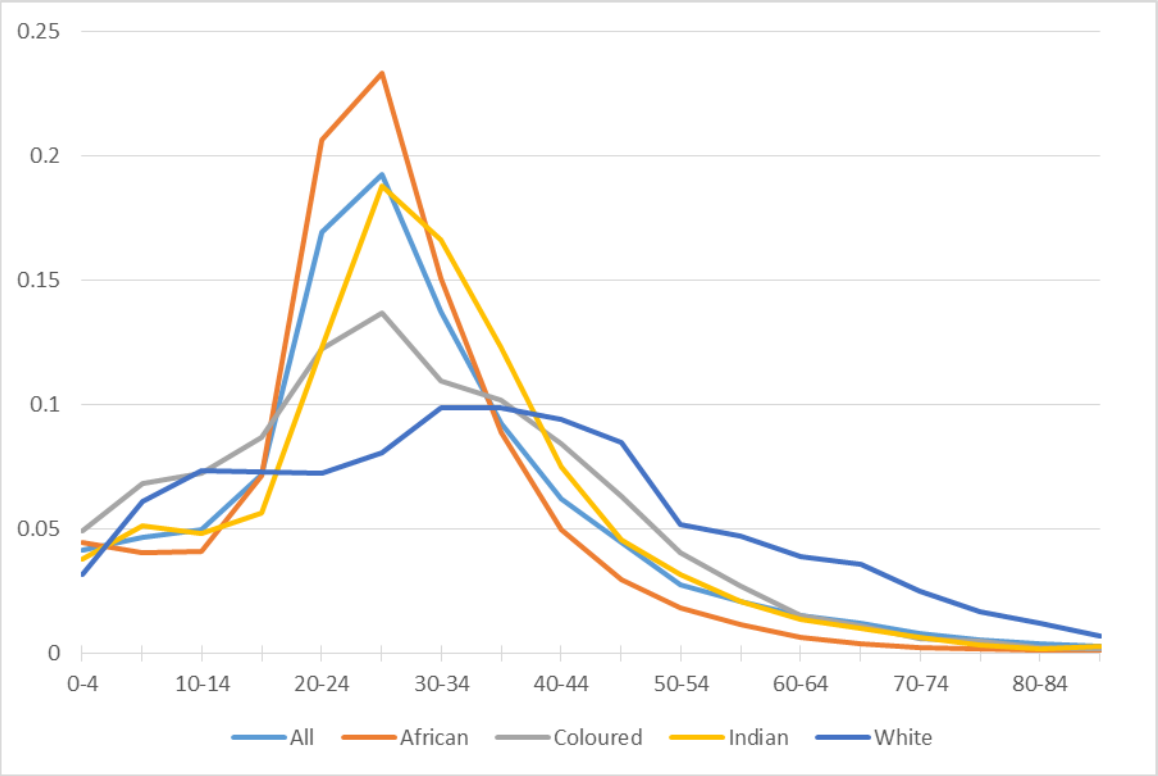

Figure 2.1 Age distribution of migration by population group (both sexes)

2.1.3 Migration systems

A further advantage of the TODA approach is that it allows migration systems to be identified by comparing the scale of migration observed between pairs of provinces relative to that which would pertain if patterns of migration between provinces reflected simply their relative propensity to attract or lose migrants (i.e. the ratio of the number of migrants from one province to another to the expected number given the proportions of total migrants leaving the province of origin and the proportion arriving in the province of destination). These relative propensities can be considered in the same fashion as odds ratios: a relative propensity close to 1 indicates that migration from A to B is in line with what would be expected if migration were essentially independent of the provinces of origin and destination. Relative propensities greater than 1 indicate that migration is more extensive than would be predicted if independent of origin and destination; and vice versa). Hence, dominant migration streams can be identified by the largest relative propensities indicated.

As an example, Table 2.3 shows the derived relative migration propensities for African males derived from the 2011 census data. The final column shows the proportional distribution

of migrants' origin (e.g. 2.5 per cent of all migrants comes from the Western Cape) while the final row shows the proportional distribution of migrants' destination (e.g. 11.2 per cent of all migrants go to the Western Cape). Based on the observed numbers of migrants and these proportions, the number of migrants from the Western Cape to the Eastern Cape is 9.4 times more than one would expect if migration was independent of origin and destination. Migration in the opposite direction is 3.1 times higher than expected. This pair suggests (as one would intuit) that there is a particularly strong migration system connecting these two provinces. Other strong migration systems are those between the Northern Cape and North West; the Free State and the Northern Cape; and Gauteng and Limpopo. Unsurprisingly, these are all adjacent provinces. By contrast, the migration system of African males between Limpopo and the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape Free State and KwaZulu-Natal is very weak.

Table 2.3 Relative migration propensities, African Males, 2001-2011

	Destination									
Origin	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZ	NW	GT	MP	LP	Propn
WC		9.443	1.790	0.806	0.964	0.475	0.714	0.371	0.423	0.025
EC	3.083		0.709	1.046	2.325	0.901	0.603	0.434	0.364	0.154
NC	1.056	1.197		2.797	1.183	2.762	0.639	0.606	0.423	0.012
FS	0.448	0.929	2.733		0.599	1.791	1.166	0.944	0.407	0.039
KZ	0.514	1.561	0.531	1.007		0.463	1.388	1.444	0.387	0.079
NW	0.287	0.605	7.712	1.474	0.334		1.261	0.618	1.258	0.047
GT	0.887	2.298	1.301	2.326	1.314	2.647		2.164	2.142	0.093
MP	0.240	0.430	0.529	0.620	0.786	0.718	1.406		1.856	0.050
LP	0.186	0.223	0.276	0.393	0.249	0.724	1.653	1.286		0.135
ExSA	0.877	0.815	0.411	0.920	1.010	0.903	1.019	0.990	1.456	0.365
Propn	0.112	0.045	0.017	0.035	0.078	0.095	0.460	0.079	0.079	1

This analysis can be extended to an analysis of provincial migration by age. We can plot the relative migration propensities by age, origin and destination to paint a clearer picture of migration dynamics. Figure 2.2 shows these plots for African males. The upper panel shows the migration propensities classified by province of origin and age relative to that expected on the basis of the proportions of the total migrants by age (Figure 2.1); the lower panel by province of destination and age. In the upper panel, we can see that migrants originating in the Western Cape and Gauteng are higher than expected at young ages; particularly low at working ages between ages 15 and 30, before rising to be much higher than would be expected at ages around retirement (i.e. 60-69 or slightly older at time of the census). This suggests that young adult males resident in the Western Cape are less likely to migrate when they are just becoming economically

active, and more likely to migrate as very young children (probably as part of a family), or (much more likely) close to retirement. This needs to be understood in terms of the overall age distribution shown in Figure 2.1, where the bulk of the migration occurs in the 20-39 age range.

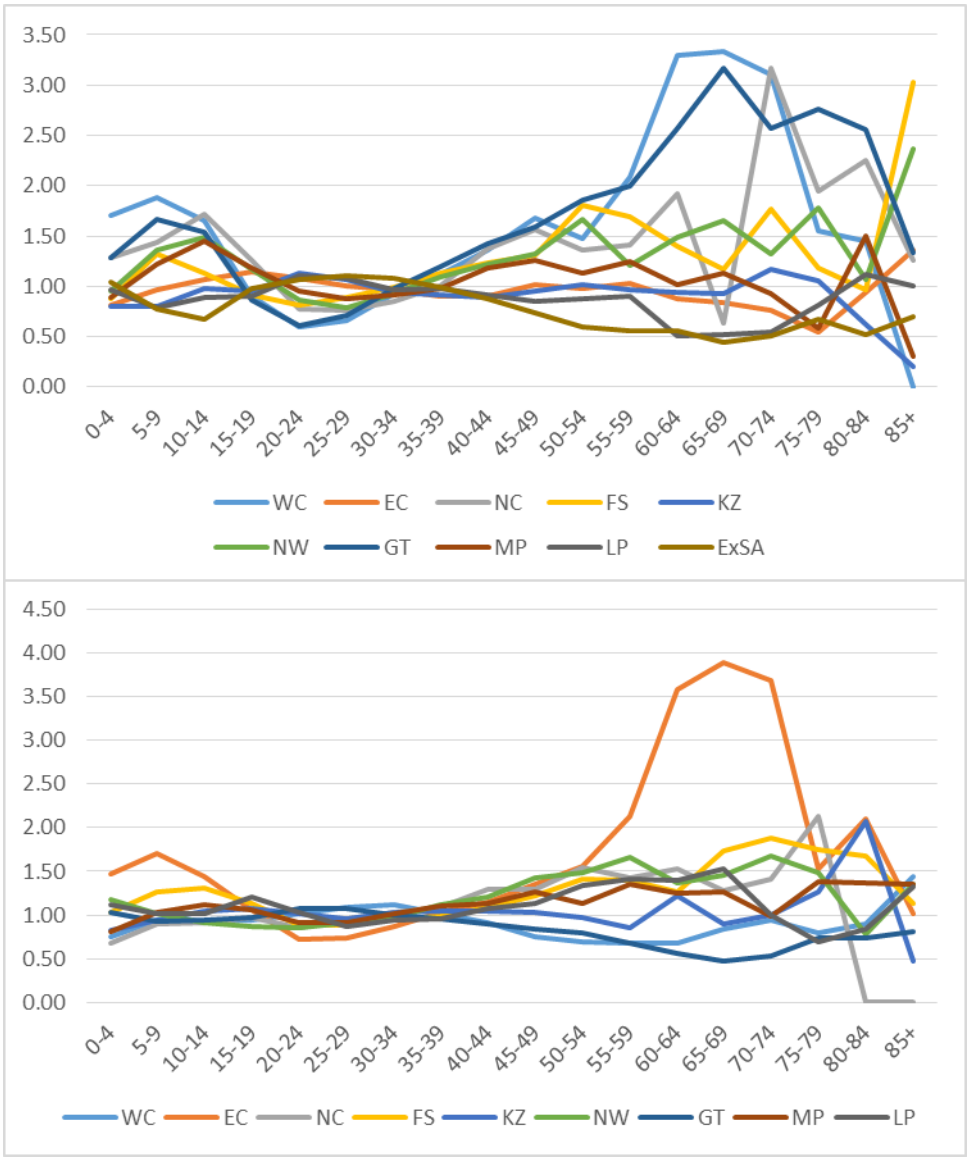

Figure 2.2 Relative migration propensities for African males, by origin (upper panel) and destination (lower panel)

The lower panel shows, in stark contrast, that when viewed by where migrants go (their destination), fewer than expected elderly African men move to the Western Cape or Gauteng, while migration back to the Eastern Cape is overwhelmingly concentrated among men between ages 55 and 70.

2.2 Migration flows – metros

It is possible to disaggregate this approach still further. With the data collected in the 2011 census, one can separate out migration to and from the four major metropolitan areas of the

country (Cape Town; the Gauteng metros combined; Durban; and Port Elizabeth) from their host provinces. Thus, one can investigate the extent to which migration to or from the Western Cape is between the Cape Town metro and the rest of the Western Cape; and whether this is more significant than (say) migration from the non-metro Eastern Cape.

Owing to the number of extra dimensions involved (one works with 14 regions – including the international 'region', rather than 10, implying almost doubling the number of cells of data that need to be populated), both graphic and tabular representation becomes problematic. Furthermore, the data are not directly comparable with those presented earlier, owing in no small measure to the high proportion of migrants' data missing district of origin, which was coded separately from the provinces of origin and destination. Greater emphasis should therefore be placed on the relative magnitude of migration streams, rather than the specific numbers. Nevertheless, patterns of migration, when one identifies the metros separately, show interesting and distinctive patterns (Table 2.4).

Table 2.4 Net migration by province and metro, 2001-2011

	All	African	Coloured	Indian	White
WC_exclCT	122 853	73 178	20 716	941	28 018
EC_exclNMB	-217 530	-205 564	209	1 488	-13 663
NC	-6 185	8 625	-3 500	592	-11 902
FS	-40 079	-11 314	545	2 861	-32 172
KZ_exclDBN	-38 814	-24 682	-997	-4 111	-9 024
NW	97 182	103 541	524	4 230	-11 112
GT_exclMetros	67 115	102 384	-1 487	-364	-33 417
MP	58 190	58 010	1 333	4 593	-5 745
LP	-131 775	-123 362	-536	2 509	-10 387
CT	110 635	139 840	-10 833	3 661	-22 032
NMB	-108 569	-82 690	-7 255	-657	-17 967
DBN	-18 176	31 663	-1 614	-20 505	-27 720
GTMetro	756 857	801 837	10 451	47 088	-102 519
Ex-SA	-651 705	-871 466	-7 558	-42 325	269 643

Net migration is (not surprisingly) most significant to the Gauteng metro areas. However, in the Western Cape, the implication of these data is that migration to Cape Town is more significant that to non-metro Western Cape for Africans alone. For the remainder more significant migration is occurring to the non-metro areas of the Western Cape than to the metropolitan areas – particularly in the Coloured and White migration, where in each case the

metro area suffered a net loss of migrants while the non-metro areas of the province were net gainers.

2.3 *Comparison of migration flows across time, from different data sources, and using population reconstruction methods*

Unfortunately comparison of the estimates of the migration flows to estimates derived from both census reconstruction (i.e. the net number of in-migrants required to produce the numbers counted in the 2011 census from the numbers counted in 2001 taking into account the numbers of deaths expected in the period – Census R) and from the change in numbers recorded as having been born outside each of the provinces, less the emigrants of South African-born from the province (Pob-E), as shown in Figure 2.3, suggests that information captured by the question on movement since 2001 is not very reliable.

In order to be able to interpret the panels in Figure 2.3 it is important to appreciate that the estimates derived from the reconciliation of the census counts, and to a lesser extent the change in numbers born outside each province/the country, are dependent on the accuracy of the census counts. Thus, the apparently high number of in-migrants aged 10-14 at the 2011 census is much more likely due to an undercount of children aged 0-4 in 2001. To a lesser extent the same might apply to the next age group as well. Likewise the apparently high in-migration for ages 45+ probably reflects either an undercount of adults aged 30+ in 2001 or an over-estimate of adults aged 45+ in 2011, or both.

However, even reducing the estimates aged 15+ for possible census count problems and ignoring the differences in children, there are still problems. Nationally and in some provinces (Western Cape (WC), Eastern Cape (EC), Gauteng (GT), Limpopo (LM) and to some extent North West (NW)) the difference is largely one of magnitude, with the estimates from the migration questions underestimating the true extent of net migration. To some extent this is to be expected (since the migration question only captures the most recent move) but the extent of the difference is quite surprising (33% to 50% of the true level). For the other provinces either the differences is greater (Free State (FS)) or the differences are difficult to interpret (Northern Cape (NC), KwaZulu-Natal (KZ) and Mpumalanga (MP)) and may be confounded by changes in provincial boundaries between the two censuses.

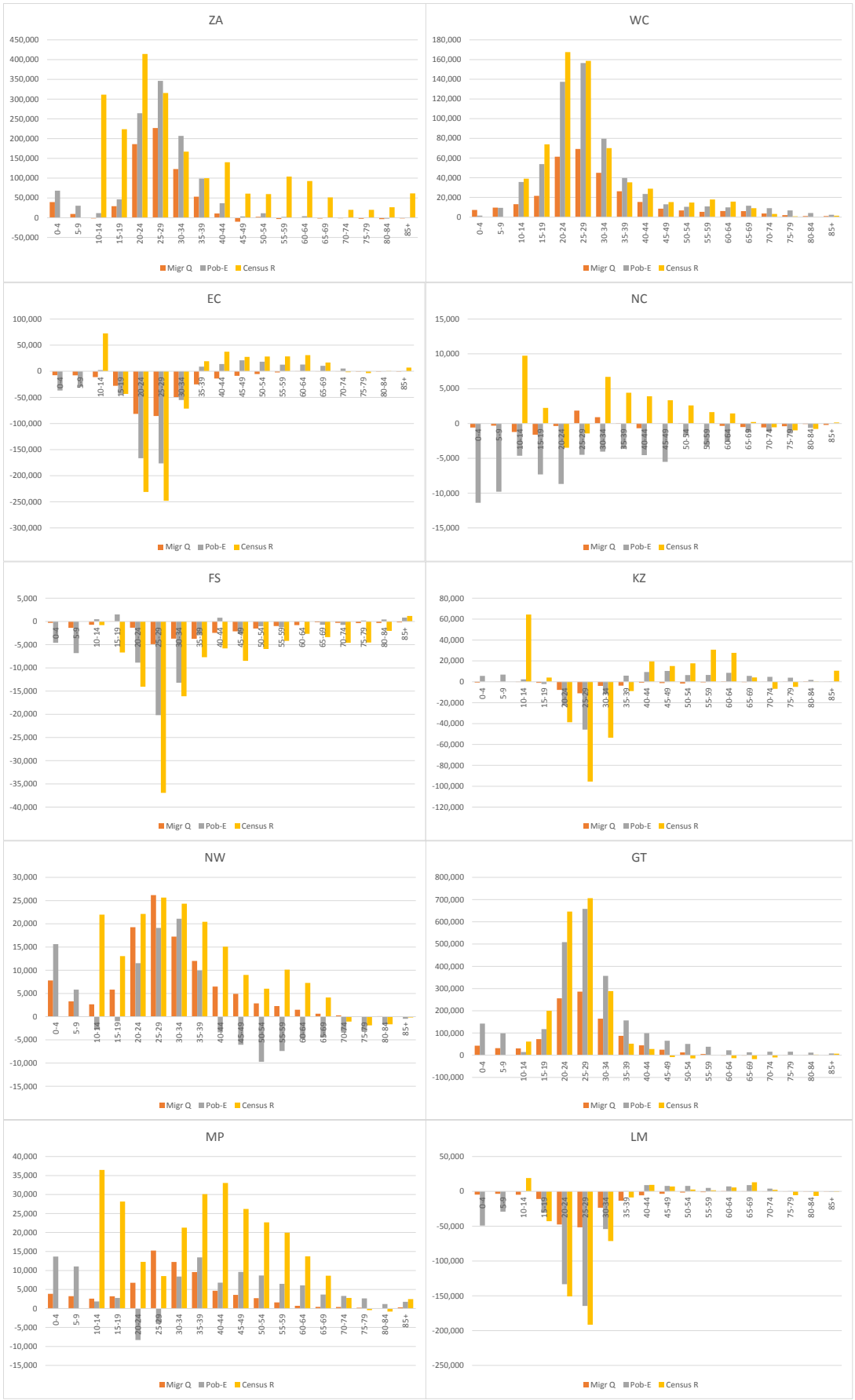

Figure 2.3 Comparison of the net number of migrants 2001-2011 nationally and by province

As far as children born between 2001 and 2011 (i.e. age under 10 at the time of the 2011 census) it would appear that the migration question again probably understates the number of migrants. Responses to question of whether a person born since the 2001 census had moved suggest that only around 333 000 had moved yet a comparison of province of birth with province where counted suggest that the number who had changed provinces was over 1 million.

The understatement of internal migration in general by responses to the migration questions in the 2011 census is further emphasised by comparison of the total numbers of migrants over earlier five year periods. While a total of 2.3 million internal migrants between 2001 and 2011 were identified by the migration questions in the 2011 census there were around 2 million between 1996 and 2001 identified in the 2001 census and another 2 million between 2001 and 2006 identified in the 2007 Community Survey.

As far as comparison to the patterns of migration in the past is concerned there is a strong similarity in the age distribution of overall internal migration for each of the population groups (African group shown in Figure 2.4), with the biggest difference appearing in the African population group, which if the data from the 2011 census migration question is correct appears to suggest that there has been a shift in peak migration from 20-24 to 25-29 combined with a fall in the proportion of migration below age 20. However, given that the data from the Community Survey suggests a different pattern for the period 2001-2006, such a dramatic shift seems unlikely.

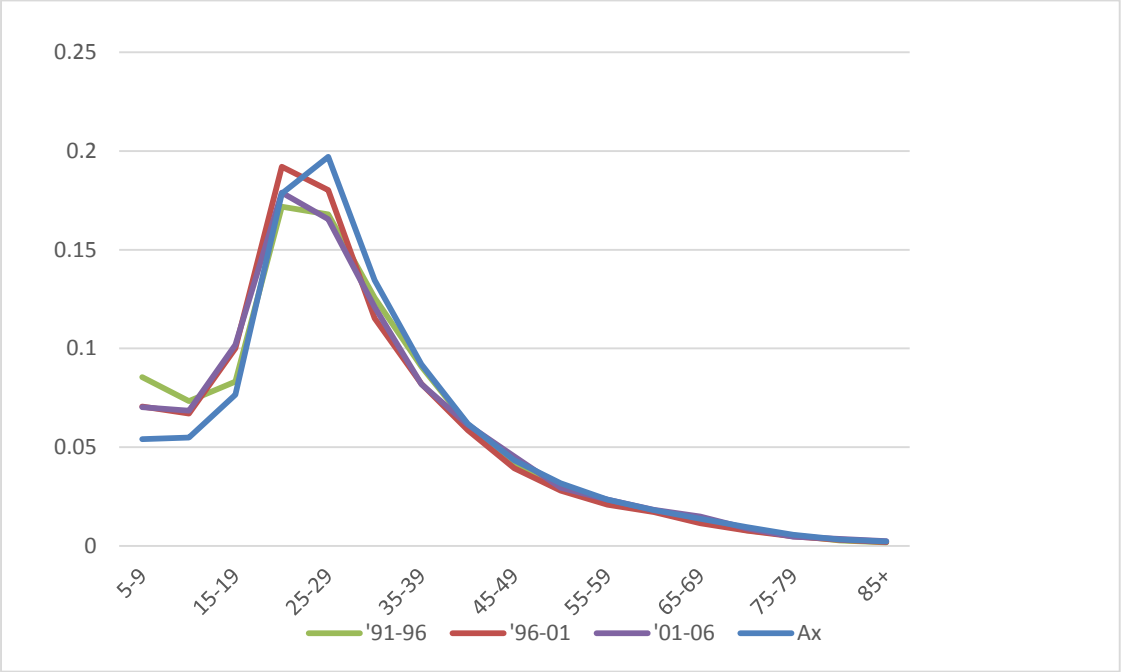

Figure 2.4 Age distribution of migration for ages 5 and over between censuses/surveys (both sexes)

Figure 2.5 compares the relative age patterns of provincial out and in migration to those between the previous two censuses. Once again there is quite a strong broad similarity of patterns particularly for the strongly sending and receiving provinces. This suggests that the migration streams and systems and their causes are pretty well established in South Africa.

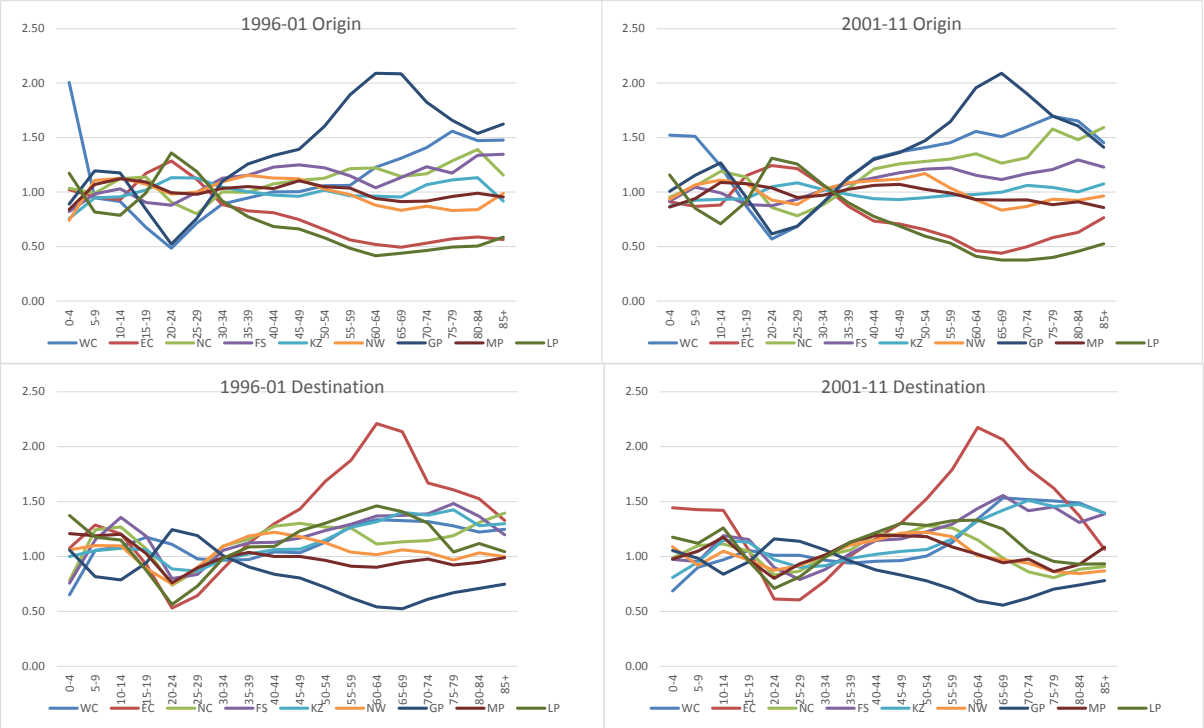

Figure 2.5 Relative migration propensities for African males, by origin (upper panels) and destination (lower panels) for 1996-01 (left panels) and 2001-11 (right panels)

3 International migrants

This section describes the characteristics of international migrants to and from South Africa. We present the analysis in three sections. First, we look at where international immigrants come from. Second, we investigate the age, sex and population group characteristics of those immigrants. Finally, we describe how estimated the numbers of international emigrants from South Africa.

3.1 Sex, population group and age distributions of recent immigrants

We define international immigrants as people enumerated in the census, but whose place of birth was recorded as being outside South Africa. The census records 2.17 million such people as having been born outside of South Africa. Many of these would be immigrants from many

decades ago, so our focus is on the 1.32 million people enumerated as being born outside of South Africa and who immigrated between 2001 and 2011.

The sex distribution of recent immigrants is heavily skewed towards males. More than 60 per cent of all recent immigrants are male, with 154 male recent immigrants for every 100 female recent immigrants. This sex ratio is particularly distorted at the prime working ages (Figure 3.1). The sex ratio peaks at ages 30-34, and then declines. Among young children the sex ratio is close to 100, a reflection of children migrating with parents.

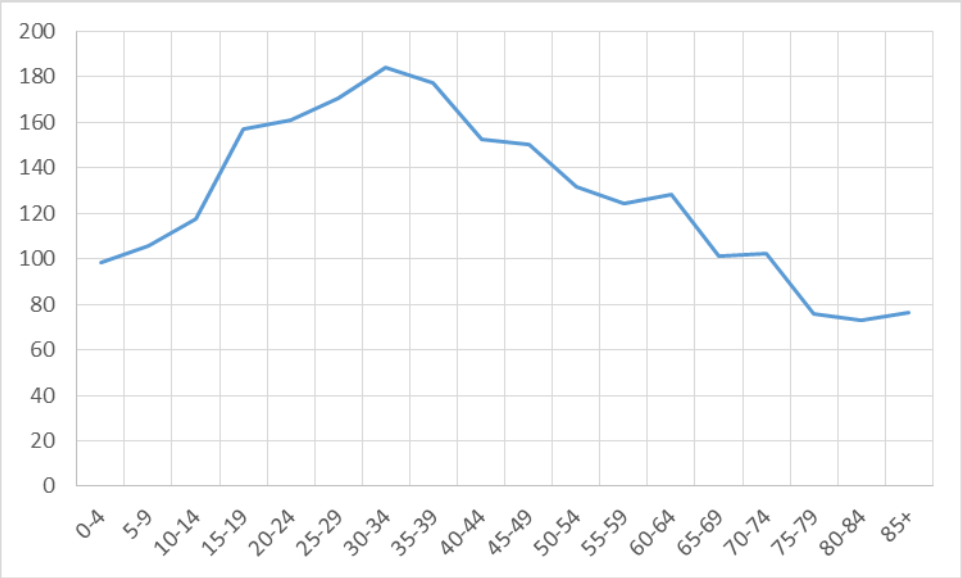

Figure 3.1 Sex ratio (males per 100 females) of recent immigrants, by age at migration

Table 3.1 shows the number and proportional distribution of recent immigrants by population group and sex.

Table 3.1 Recent immigrants, by population group and sex

	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Other	Total
Male	644 082	4 913	44 754	31 723	74 742	800 214
Female	438 202	3 703	15 670	32 117	28 992	518 685
Total	1 082 284	8 616	60 424	63 840	103 734	1 318 898
% of total	82%	1%	5%	5%	8%	100%
Sex ratio	147	133	286	99	258	154

Nine out of every ten recent immigrants are classified as African or "Other". Sex ratios of recent Indian immigrants and those enumerated as "Other" are particularly skewed towards males, while the numbers of recent male and female White immigrants are almost equal suggesting, perhaps, a higher proportion of family migration.

From the information collected on year of arrival in South Africa and current age at the time of the census, an approximate age distribution of migrants, by their age at the time of arrival, can be derived. Somewhat surprisingly, there would appear to be no material differences in the distributions of age at migration between men and women in each population group, although there are some important differences in the age profiles of different population groups. As can be seen from Figure 3.2, the distributions of ages at immigration for those classified as African, Indian and "Other" are essentially similar. For Coloured and White immigrants, a much larger proportion of immigrants are young children, indicating these immigrants tend to arrive with their families, perhaps because they are more likely to be allowed to immigrate through formal channels. There is a particularly noticeable long tail in the age distribution of White immigrants, suggesting fairly substantial immigration among the soon-to-be or recently retired population.

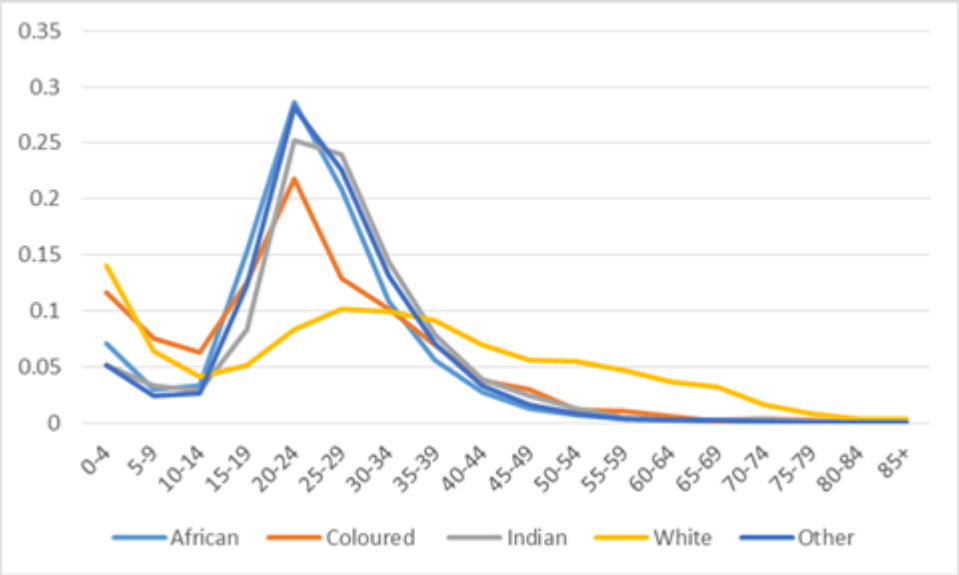

Figure 3.2 Distribution of age at migration of recent immigrants, by population group

3.2 Origins of international immigrants

The classification of these 1.319 million relatively recent immigrants by region of country of birth and enumerated population group is shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2 Classification of recent international immigrants by region of country of birth and population group

	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Other	Total	
SADC	909 146	4 938	2 712	15 271	45 398	977 465	74.1%
Rest of Africa	87 773	925	5 122	1 325	28 825	123 971	9.4%
Europe	6 163	312	860	25 995	3 451	36 781	2.8%
Asia	3 381	717	45 809	2 550	16 350	68 808	5.2%
N America	335	59	78	3 027	236	3 735	0.3%
Lat Am & Carrib	332	147	117	1 373	971	2 940	0.2%
Oceania	472	86	148	1 157	175	2 038	0.2%
Not Spec	74 681	1 432	5 579	13 142	8 328	103 161	7.8%
Total	1 082 284	8 616	60 424	63 840	103 734	1 318 898	
	82.1%	0.7%	4.6%	4.8%	7.9%		

Although country of birth was not specified for a significant proportion (7.8 per cent) of immigrants (particularly White and Coloured), almost three quarters of all recent immigrants were born in SADC countries. A further 9.4 per cent were born in other African countries, while over 70 per cent of those classified as "Other" were born in Africa. These proportions are shown in Figure 3.3.

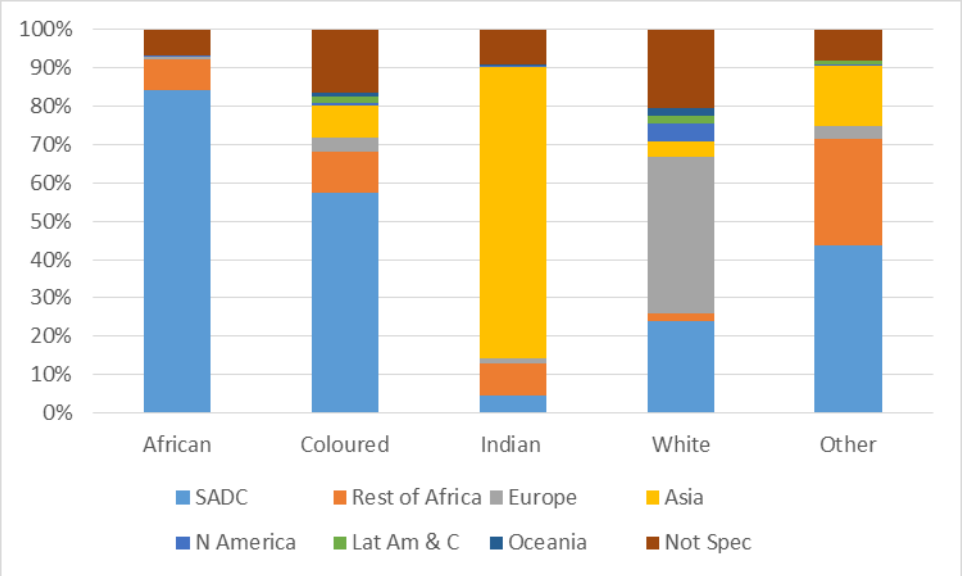

Figure 3.3 Proportional distribution of recent immigrants' region of birth by population group

The ten most significant specific countries of origin, by reported population group and sex, are presented in Table 3.3.

Table 3.3 Top 10 countries of birth of recent immigrants, by population group and sex

	Males					Females				
	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Other	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Other
1	ZW (43.0)	ZW (22.3)	BD (25.1)	-- (18.7)	ZW (21.3)	ZW (48.9)	ZW (26.8)	IN (41.2)	-- (22.5)	ZW (38.1)
2	MZ (20.0)	-- (15.0)	IN (24.0)	UK (18.2)	ET (12.4)	MZ (16.0)	-- (18.8)	CN (10.8)	ZW (14.8)	MZ (9.5)
3	MW (7.5)	NM (6.8)	PK (17.9)	ZW (13.6)	SM (12.1)	LS (12.1)	NM (13.3)	-- (9.5)	UK (11.8)	-- (8.3)
4	LS (7.0)	MW (6.4)	-- (9.1)	DE (7.2)	-- (7.9)	-- (7.5)	MZ (7.2)	PK (8.5)	DE (8.0)	CN (7.4)
5	-- (6.5)	MZ (5.0)	ET (5.0)	NM (4.5)	BD (7.7)	MW (3.0)	CG (4)	ZW (2.9)	NM (4.3)	SO (4.7)
6	NI (2.4)	PK (3.2)	CN (4.6)	US (4.0)	MZ (7.4)	SZ (2.1)	MW (3.4)	BD (2.7)	US (3.3)	MW (4.0)
7	CF (1.7)	EG (3.1)	SO (3.0)	FR (3.1)	MW (6.3)	CF (1.8)	CF (2.2)	TH (1.9)	FR (2.9)	CF (3.8)
8	CG (1.7)	CG (3.1)	ZW (1.2)	NL (2.8)	CN (3.8)	CG (1.6)	LS (2.0)	JP (1.8)	NL (2.6)	ET (2.4)
9	ET (1.6)	SO (2.8)	UK (0.8)	BE (1.5)	PK (3.4)	NI (1.1)	SZ (1.8)	KS (1.6)	ZM (1.5)	LS (1.8)
10	SZ (1.6)	BD (2.4)	EG (0.7)	ZM (1.4)	CF (2.2)	ZM (1.0)	ZM (1.6)	TW (1.5)	PL (1.3)	CG (1.5)
Total	93.0	70.2	91.5	75.0	84.5	95.2	81.1	82.5	73.1	81.5

Note: Country codes follow the GEC classification of country digraphs. Figures in parenthesis show the proportion of all migrants by population group and sex born in that country.
Note: "- -" = country of birth outside of South Africa not stated

Just under two thirds of African men and African women immigrants in the last ten years came from Zimbabwe and Mozambique. In aggregate, of the 1.319 million recent immigrants, just over 40 per cent were born in Zimbabwe, and just under 16 per cent were born in Mozambique.

3.3 Timing of arrival of recent immigrants by region of origin

The timing of the arrival of the 1.319 million recent immigrants indicates that just under half of all recent immigrants apparently arrived in the three years between 2009 and 2011. While to some extent the increase is probably related to the opportunity offered to Zimbabweans to legalise their status and reporting this as their date of entry, the limited increase in the share of recent immigrants each year from the SADC suggests that this isn't the full explanation (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4 Numbers of recent immigrants by year of arrival and region of birth

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
SADC	31 399	30 477	37 112	46 008	61 310	80 665	106 519	134 704	133 436	138 811	177 024
Rest of Africa	4 053	4 385	5 946	7 326	8 571	10 056	10 883	14 477	17 582	19 067	21 624
Europe	2 137	2 126	2 152	2 634	2 665	3 282	3 117	3 392	4 340	4 237	6 700
Asia	2 389	2 172	3 337	4 419	4 546	6 112	5 756	7 027	10 379	12 328	10 343
N America	119	98	132	220	199	221	228	302	495	676	1043
Lat Am & Caribb	81	120	187	98	86	396	278	342	403	443	506
Oceania	89	40	25	209	46	223	275	79	292	390	369
Not Spec	4 524	3 880	5 168	5 525	6 833	8 205	10 291	12 287	14 137	15 066	17 245
TOTAL	44 791	43 299	54 060	66 439	84 255	109 159	137 348	172 609	181 065	191 019	234 855
Propn recent migrants	3.4%	3.3%	4.1%	5.0%	6.4%	8.3%	10.4%	13.1%	13.7%	14.5%	17.8%
Propn SADC	70.1%	70.4%	68.6%	69.2%	72.8%	73.9%	77.6%	78.0%	73.7%	72.7%	75.4%

3.4 Destinations of international immigrants

Table 3.5 shows where recent immigrants were enumerated in South Africa in the 2011 census. More than half of all recent immigrants were enumerated in Gauteng, with a further 11.6 per cent in the Western Cape.

Table 3.5 Province of enumeration of recent immigrants, by population group and sex

	Males					Females						
	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Other	African	Coloured	Indian	White	Other	Total	
WC	57 065	1 826	2 973	11 151	21 940	33 950	1 013	1 498	12 275	9 520	153 212	11.6%
EC	20 158	193	3 105	1 628	7 385	11 842	33	492	1 542	1 862	48 240	3.7%
NC	2 887	139	1 448	163	2 389	1 446	194	73	194	377	9 310	0.7%
FS	18 817	70	3 147	522	2 751	13 626	80	277	412	789	40 491	3.1%
KZ	48 222	252	3 490	3 434	5 707	22 655	261	1 791	3 980	2 038	91 830	7.0%
NW	51 837	165	4 622	714	4 196	31 871	84	646	748	1 002	95 885	7.3%
GT	334 168	1 844	18 176	12 802	22 672	258 286	1 783	8 829	11 251	11 530	681 341	51.7%
MP	44 522	222	4 155	684	3 961	26 059	203	552	1 113	803	82 274	6.2%
LP	66 406	202	3 638	625	3 740	38 467	51	1 512	602	1 073	116 316	8.8%

3.5 Destinations of international emigrants

Ninety percent of the emigration of South Africans emigrate to one of five countries; the UK (152,000), Australia (73,000), New Zealand (38,000), the USA (32,000) and Canada (13,000). Although it is difficult to find data on the age distribution of South African emigrants to these countries other than Australia, it is expected that while most of the migration to Australia and New Zealand will be of couples and young families, that to the other countries will have a much higher proportion of individual migrants.

4 Reflections on data quality and alternative sources of data

4.1 Data quality

4.1.1 Data on international immigration

One of the central issues associated with the data on international migrants that are collected in a census relates to the extent to which the census collects accurate information on these populations. Anecdotal evidence suggests that, particularly in the case of significant migrant streams from neighbouring countries that frequently share ethnic and linguistic characteristics, and in the context of widespread xenophobia, that many legal and illegal immigrants might seek to pass as South Africans rather than foreigners, even in the context of a census where the enumerated populations are assured that their responses will be anonymous and confidential. It is quite possible, therefore, that international immigrants may be significantly under-reported in the census.

We have further concerns with these data. In the initial release of the full results in October 2012, tabulations were placed on Stats SA's website relating to country of birth for the foreign-born that stand in stark contrast to the data made available in the 10 per cent sample. No explanation for the difference was provided and it is not clear how the data were edited to provide the revised figures.

4.1.2 Data on internal migration

We have concerns, to be elaborated on, regarding the consistency of the results on place of previous residence relative to the reconstruction of migration trends using data from previous censuses. This area of inquiry still requires further work.

4.2 Alternative sources of data

The terms of reference requires that we contemplate what other sources of data may be applied to understand migration dynamics in South Africa. Unfortunately, such data are indeed hard to come by. There is the National Income Dynamics Study, a panel of around 30 000 households, that allows individuals to be tracked over time since 2008, but the sample size is small, and its utility for understanding fine-grained migration dynamics is limited.

Very detailed data on micro-scale movements can be obtained from the Demographic Surveillance Sites in Agincourt and the Africa Centre. However these sites struggle to track migrants who leave the surveillance areas, and they suffer from not being nationally representative.

Further material to be added here

5 Conclusions

To be written