It’s all in the numbers: data on infants and young children in South Africa
Constitution (Act No. 108 of 1996) ...affords all South Africans certain basic socio-economic rights such as the right to have access to healthcare services; social security; sufficient food and water; adequate housing and a safe environment.

Over and above these rights, additional protection afforded to children includes the right to basic nutrition, shelter, basic healthcare services, social services and protection from abuse and neglect.
Children

'individuals under the age of 18 years'
Children (0-4) comprised 9.8% of total population in 2014.
Geographic location & living arrangements...
Of the 5.3 million Children aged 0-4, the majority resided in the most populous provinces.
Children aged 0-4

43.2% live in Rural and 56.8% in Urban areas
Gender and geographic location children aged 0-4

Gender and location:
- **43.6%** (RURAL) for men
- **56.4%** (URBAN) for men
- **42.8%** (RURAL) for women
- **57.2%** (URBAN) for women
3.7% of all children aged 0-4 lost one or both parents.
Living arrangements children aged 0-4

- With both parents: 36.3%
- With father: 2.7%
- With mother: 48.1%
- With neither: 12.9%
Economic circumstances...
33.5% of children aged 5 and lower live in low income households (Quintal 1). More than half of them live in KZN, LP and EC.

- Northern Cape: 2.1%
- Limpopo: 15.6%
- Eastern Cape: 16.7%
- KwaZulu-Natal: 22.4%
Children ≤ 5 years and population living in low income households (Quintile 1 & 2) within provinces

- Families with children aged 5 or less
- Families with adults only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>WC</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>NC</th>
<th>FS</th>
<th>KZN</th>
<th>NW</th>
<th>GP</th>
<th>MP</th>
<th>LP</th>
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<td>41.2</td>
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<td>70.8</td>
<td>65.9</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>60.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Likelihood of boys and girls aged 0-4 living in a low income household

36.4%

38.3%
1,4 million
Children aged 0-4 live in households with no employed family member
Percent children aged 0-4 within province with no employed household member in household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>42.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>LP</td>
<td>39.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>KZN</td>
<td>34.3</td>
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<td>NC</td>
<td>31.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>30.3</td>
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<td>WC</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
60.1% of children aged 0-4 accessed child support grants in 2014, up from 31% in 2003.
Reported hunger during the past year

13,1% of children aged ≤ 17 live in households where hunger was experienced during the past year.
29.6% of children aged ≤17 lived in households with inadequate or severely inadequate access to food.
Food access over time

- 2010: 67.2% Adequate, 32.8% Inadequate
- 2011: 71.9% Adequate, 28.1% Inadequate
- 2012: 69.4% Adequate, 30.6% Inadequate
- 2013: 69.9% Adequate, 30.1% Inadequate
- 2014: 70.4% Adequate, 29.6% Inadequate

Categories:
- Adequate: Green
- Inadequate: Orange
- Severely Inadequate: Red

ECD Knowledge Building Seminar 25-26 November 2015
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Provincial distribution of children with inadequate or severely inadequate access to food (% within province)
Education...
71.9% of children aged 0-4 are exposed to some form of early childhood development

80.4% of children aged 2-4 are exposed to some form of early childhood development
Provincial distribution of children aged 0-4 exposed to early childhood development (% within province)
Provincial distribution of children aged 2-4 exposed to early childhood development (% within province)
How children aged 0-4 spend their day

- At home with someone aged < 18: 0.1
- Other: 0.5
- At someone else's dwelling: 1.1
- Attending Grade R: 2.7
- At home with another adult: 6.5
- Attending Pre-School/Nursery: 9.2
- With Day-mother/Gogo: 16.0
- At Creche/Educare centre: 21.3
- At home with parent, foster parent, etc.: 42.7
Provincial distribution of children aged 0-4 staying at home with parent, foster parent, guardian (% within province)
Type of educational institution attended by children aged 0-6

- Pre-school
- School
- Not in education

Age 0: 100.0 (Pre-school)
Age 1: 100.0 (Pre-school)
Age 2: 40.0 (Pre-school), 20.0 (School), 40.0 (Not in education)
Age 3: 50.0 (Pre-school), 30.0 (School), 20.0 (Not in education)
Age 4: 60.0 (Pre-school), 40.0 (School), 0.0 (Not in education)
Age 5: 70.0 (Pre-school), 30.0 (School), 0.0 (Not in education)
Age 6: 80.0 (Pre-school), 20.0 (School), 0.0 (Not in education)
Children aged 5 and 6 attending a school where food is provided as part of the school feeding scheme
Children who are 5 and 6 eat the food provided as part of the school feeding scheme.
Percentage of learners aged 5-6 who experienced corporal punishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KZN</td>
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<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>25.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WC</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health ...
14.8% of children aged 0-4 are covered by medical aid
General health status of children aged 0-4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>% 0-4 children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>40.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>26.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>30.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mortality rates

Source: Mid-Year population estimates 2015
The three leading underlying causes of death for infants

Neonatal (0-28 days)
- Respiratory and cardiovascular disorders: 35%
- Other disorders originating in the perinatal period: 13%
- Disorders related to length of gestation and fetal growth: 12%

Post-neonatal (29 days to 11 months)
- Intestinal infectious diseases: 22%
- Influenza and pneumonia: 15%
- Malnutrition: 5%

Less than 1 year
- Respiratory and cardiovascular disorders specific to the perinatal period: 14%
- Intestinal infectious diseases: 14%
- Influenza and pneumonia: 9%

Source: Causes of deaths data 2013
The three leading underlying causes of death for children

1-4 years
N= 9,101

- Intestinal infectious diseases: 17%
- Influenza and pneumonia: 10%
- Malnutrition: 7%

Under 5 years
N = 35,094

- Intestinal infectious diseases: 15%
- Respiratory and cardiovascular disorders: 11%
- Influenza and pneumonia: 9%

Source: Causes of deaths data 2013
Trends in neonatal deaths by 2013 top three underlying causes

- Respiratory & cardiovascular disorders specific to perinatal period
- Disorders related to length of gestation and fetal growth
- Other disorders originating in the perinatal period

Trends in post neonatal deaths by 2013 top three underlying causes

- Intestinal infectious diseases
- Intestinal infectious diseases
- Influenza and pneumonia
998 children died of HIV disease in 2013. This represents 2.2% of all child deaths.
Housing...
Type of dwelling occupied by children aged 5 and less

- **Formal**: 80.6%
- **Informal**: 8.8%
- **Traditional**: 10.2%
- **Other**: 80.6%
Tenure status

Households with children 5 or less:
- Own: 72.1%
- Rent: 15.3%
- Other: 11.5%

All Households:
- Own: 68.2%
- Rent: 24.4%
- Other: 6.7%
Basic Services...
70.8% Piped water in house/yard

57.3% Flush toilet

88.3% Connected to mains

55.3% Refuse removed by municipality

14.5% Use solid fuels for cooking
97,7% of children aged \( \leq 5 \) live in households with telephone access.

41,2% of children aged \( \leq 5 \) live in households where at least one member uses the internet.
Conclusion

• Orphanhood is largely paternal
• Fathers play limited role in their children life (61% do not live with their fathers)
• Children are disproportionately affected by poverty compared to others
• There is also a close relationship between children in households with income poverty and no adult employed
• Although exposure to ECD is reportedly large attendance to educational institutions by children 0-4 is limited
• Among 4 years old, 64% attend some sort of school
• There is a decline in both child and infant mortality rates nearly by 42% in 13 years