

# Vulnerable Groups Series ii: The Social Profile of Older Persons, 2011-2015

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#StatsSA

# About this Report

1

Profiles the dynamics of **living circumstances of elderly** persons in South Africa using secondary data from Stats SA.

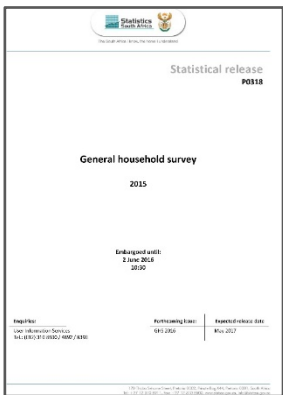
2

Provides insight into socio-economic and demographic **trends of older persons** over a period of 5 years.

3

Informs **policies** for persons aged 60 years and older

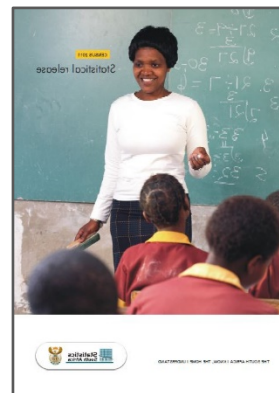
# Data Sources



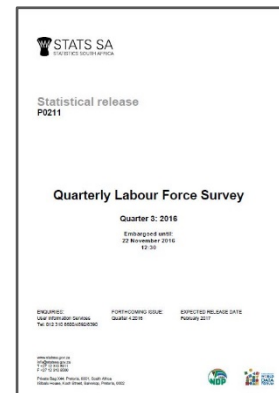
GHS 2011 & 2015



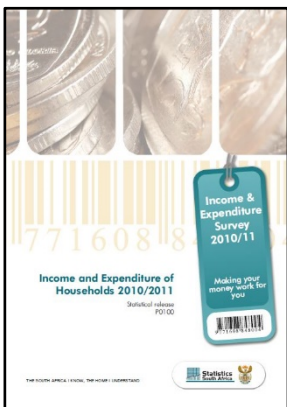
Community Survey 2007 & 2016



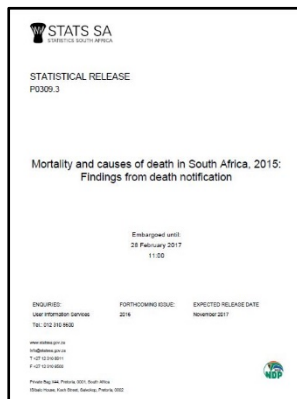
Census 1996, 2001, & 2011



QLFS Q3 : 2011 & Q3 : 2016



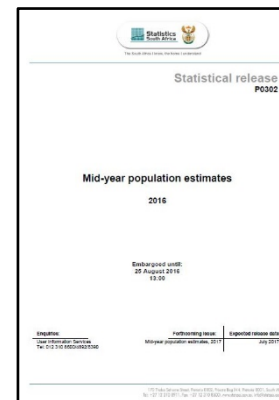
Income and Expenditure 2010/2011



Mortality and Causes of Death



Victims of crime 2014/15



Mid- year Population Estimates 2016

# Demographic Profiles of the Elderly



# Aged Population Growth Over Time

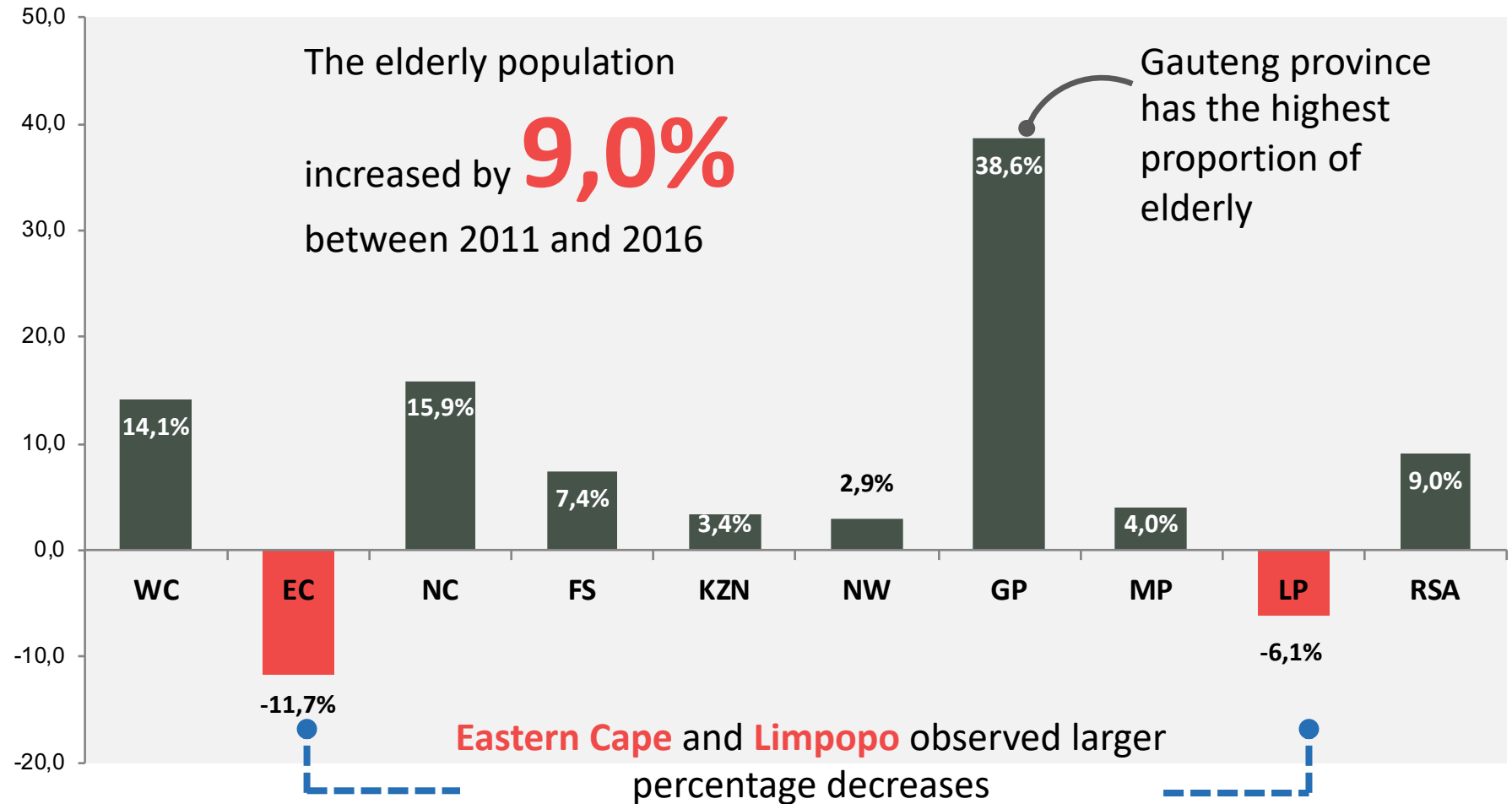
Nationally, the **elderly population increased** over time.

With over **4,5 million** in 2016, the elderly accounted for just over 8% of the South African population.



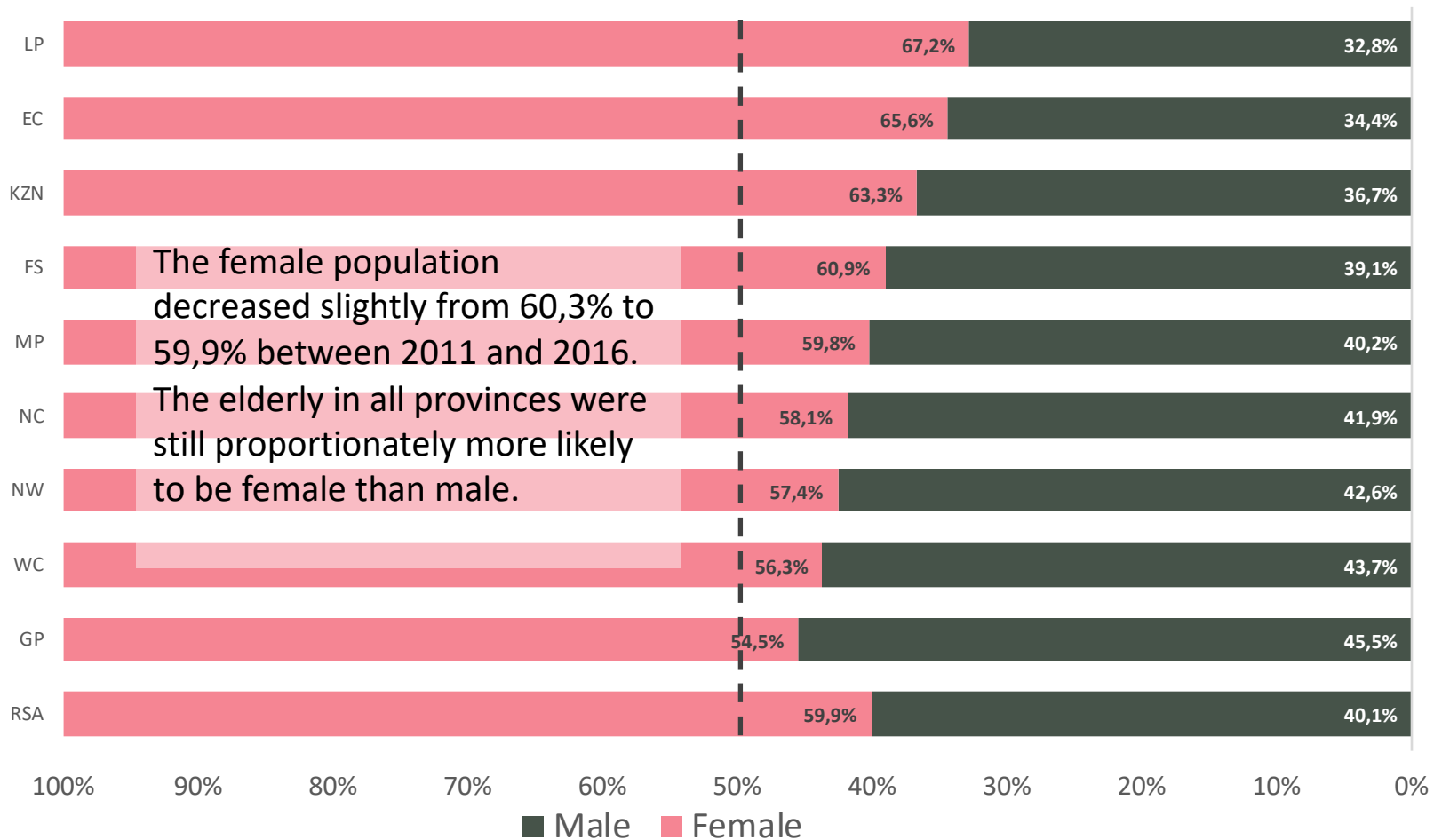
Source: Census 2001, CS 2007, Census 2011, CS 2016

# Provincial Growth Patterns Amongst Older Persons



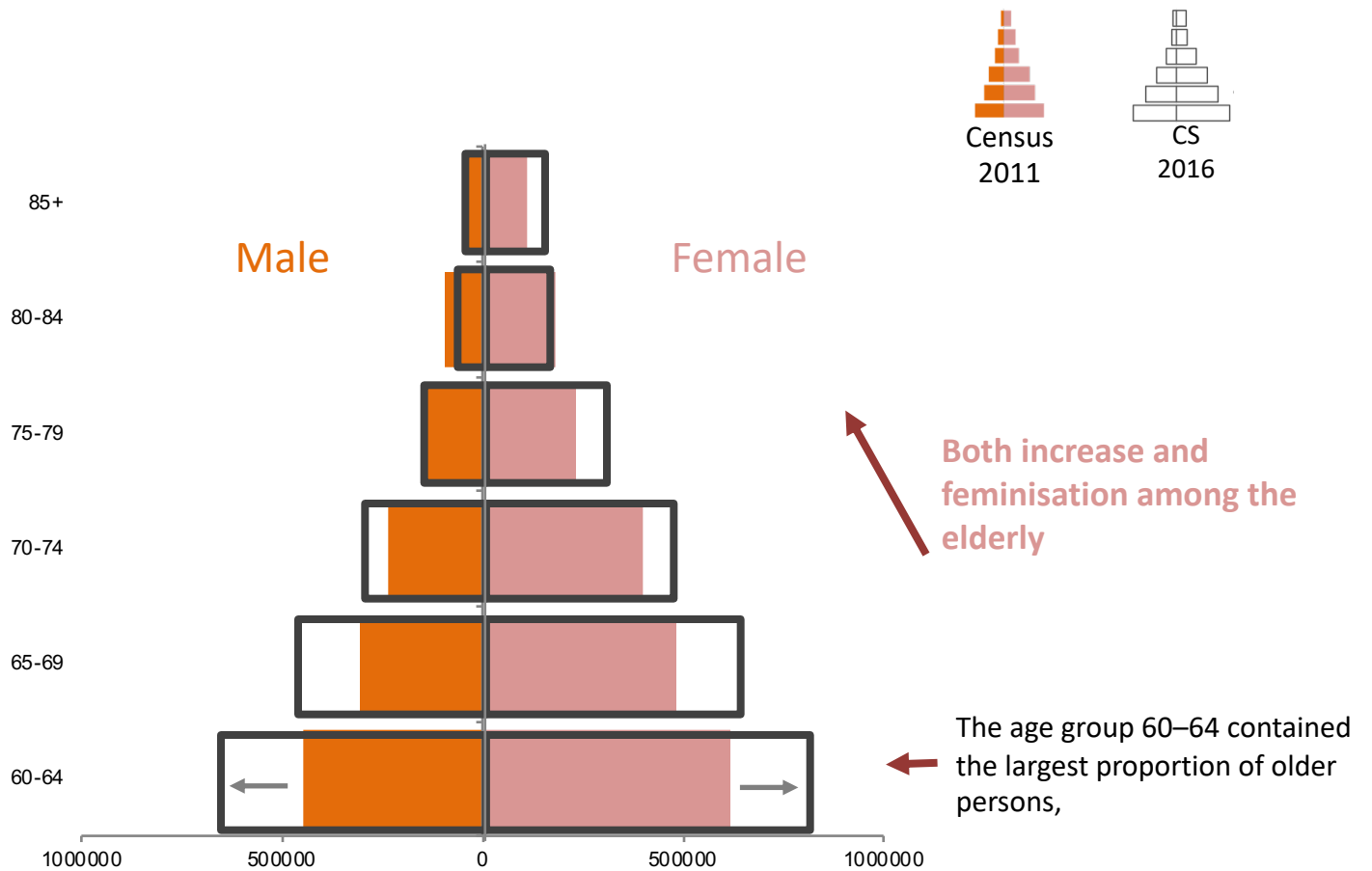
Source: Census 2011, CS2016

# Percentage distribution of older persons by province and gender, 2016



Source: CS 2016

# Age Structure



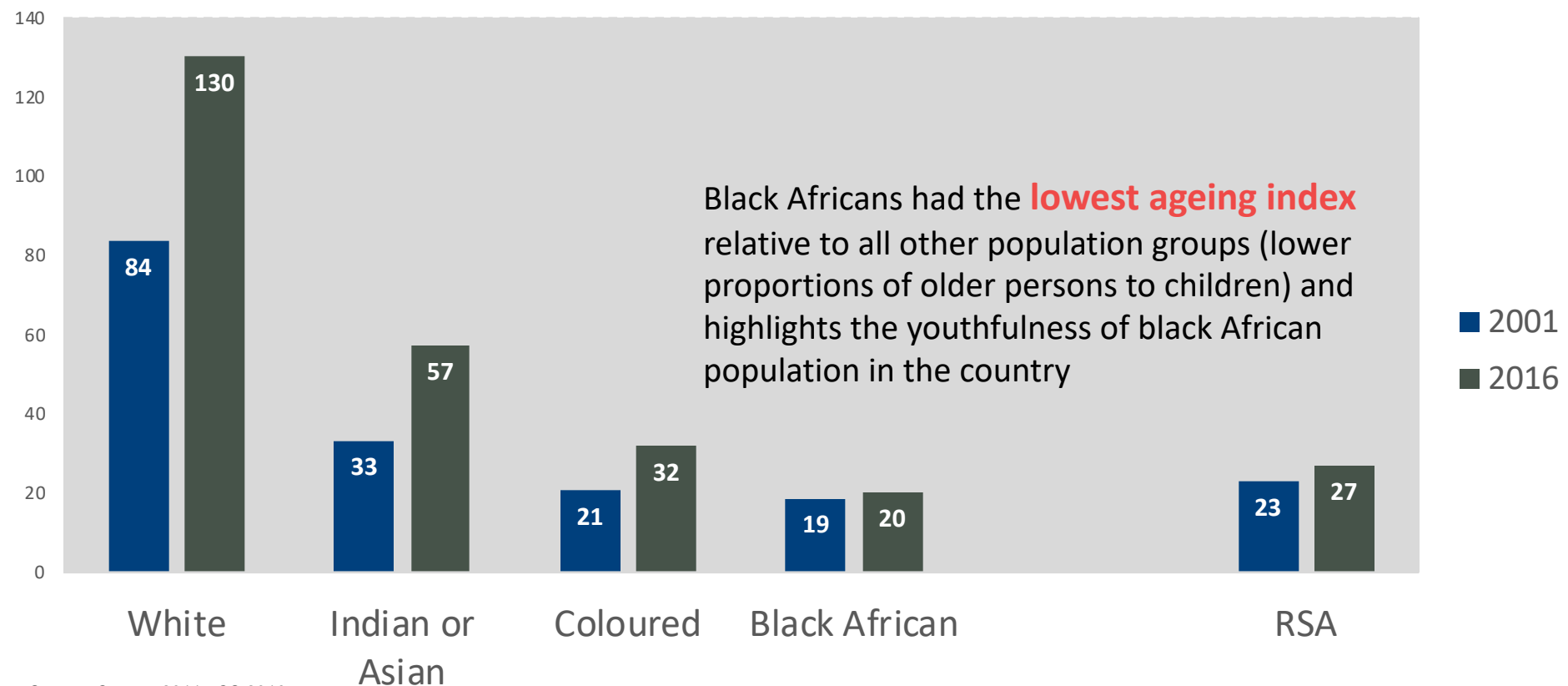


# Ageing Index

The **ageing index** is calculated as the number of persons 60 years old or over per hundred persons under age 15

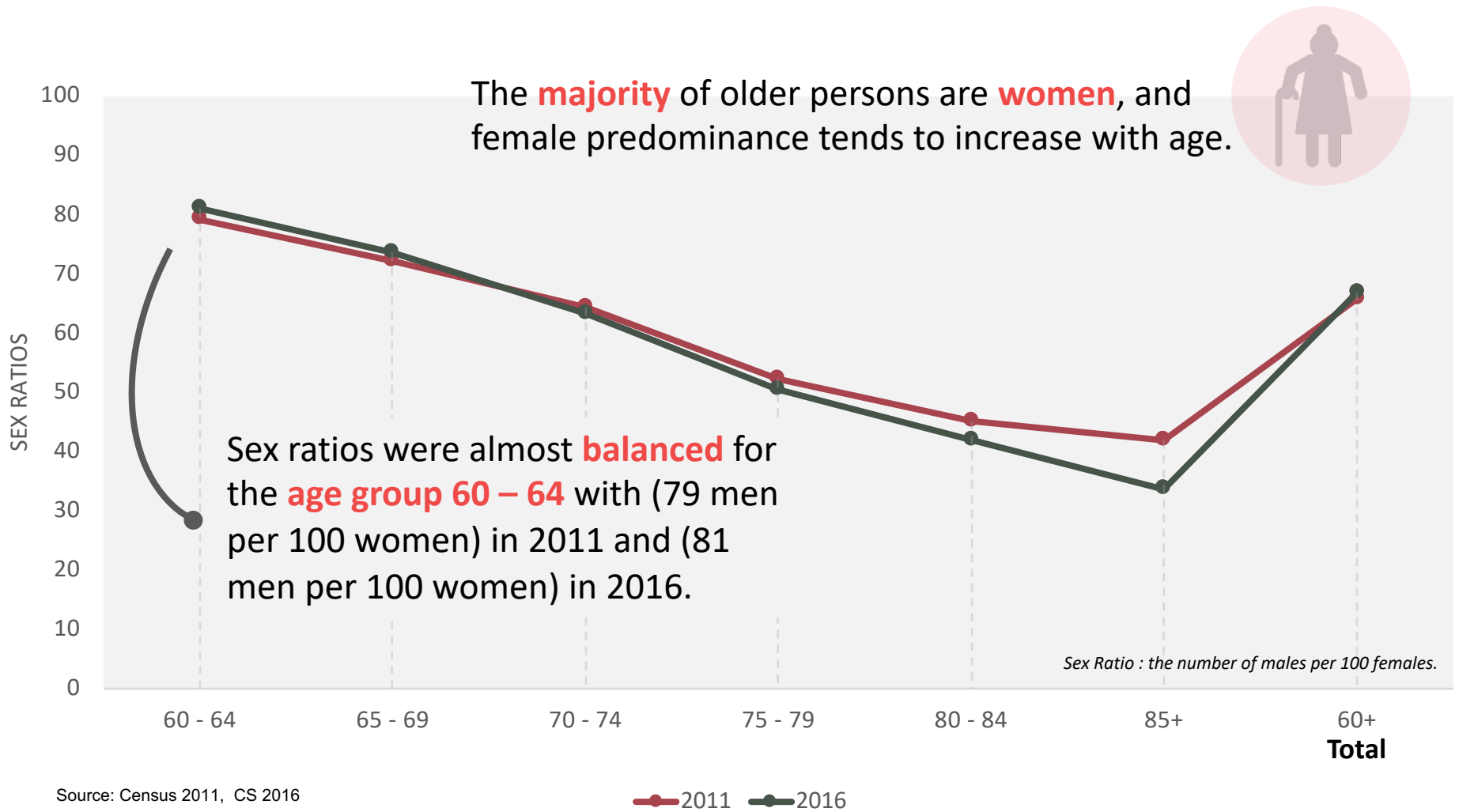
# Ageing Index by Population Group

Between 2001 and 2016, the ageing index amongst the white population group **increased** from **84** to **130**



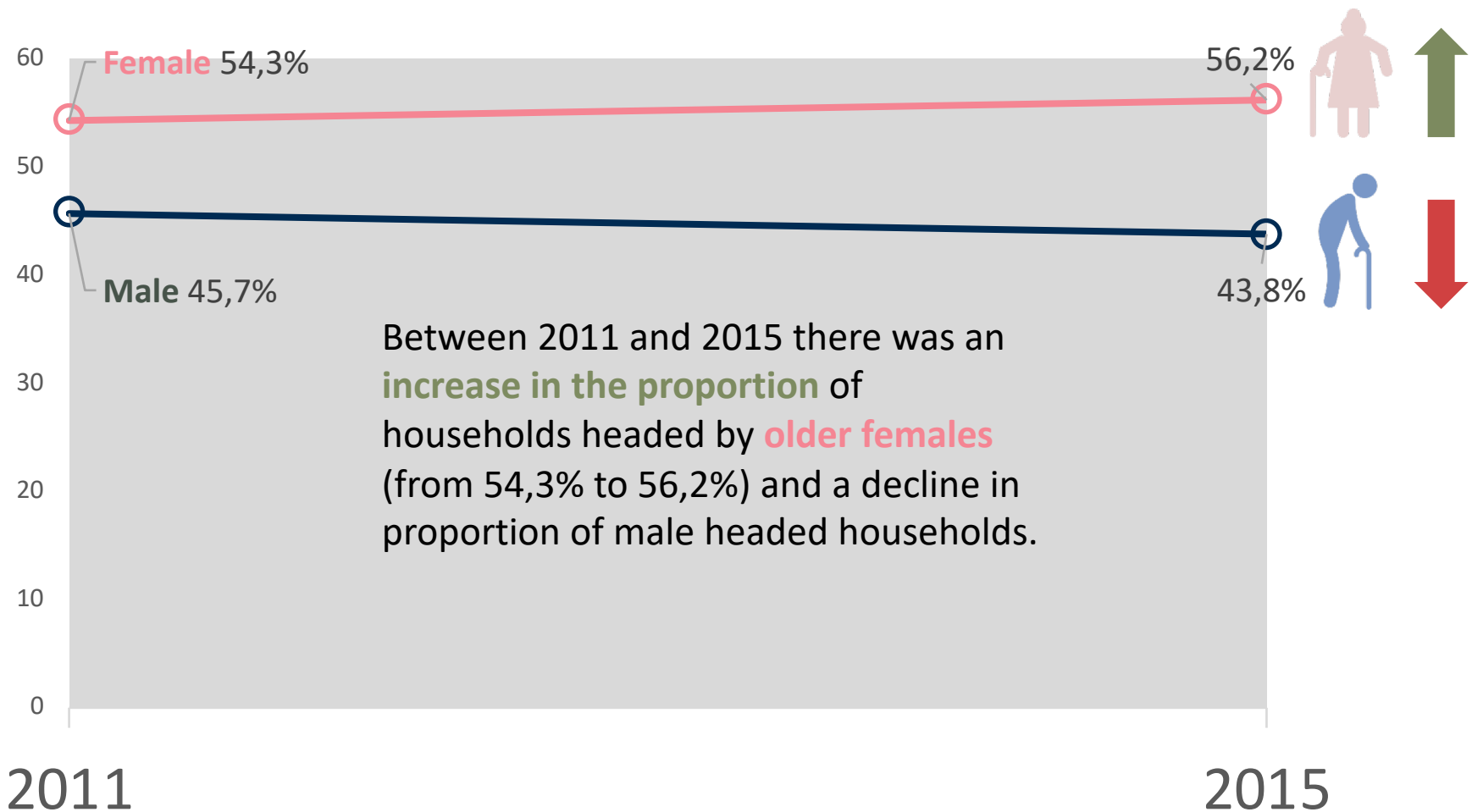
Source: Census 2011, CS 2016

# Sex Ratios by Age Group



# Characteristics Of Households

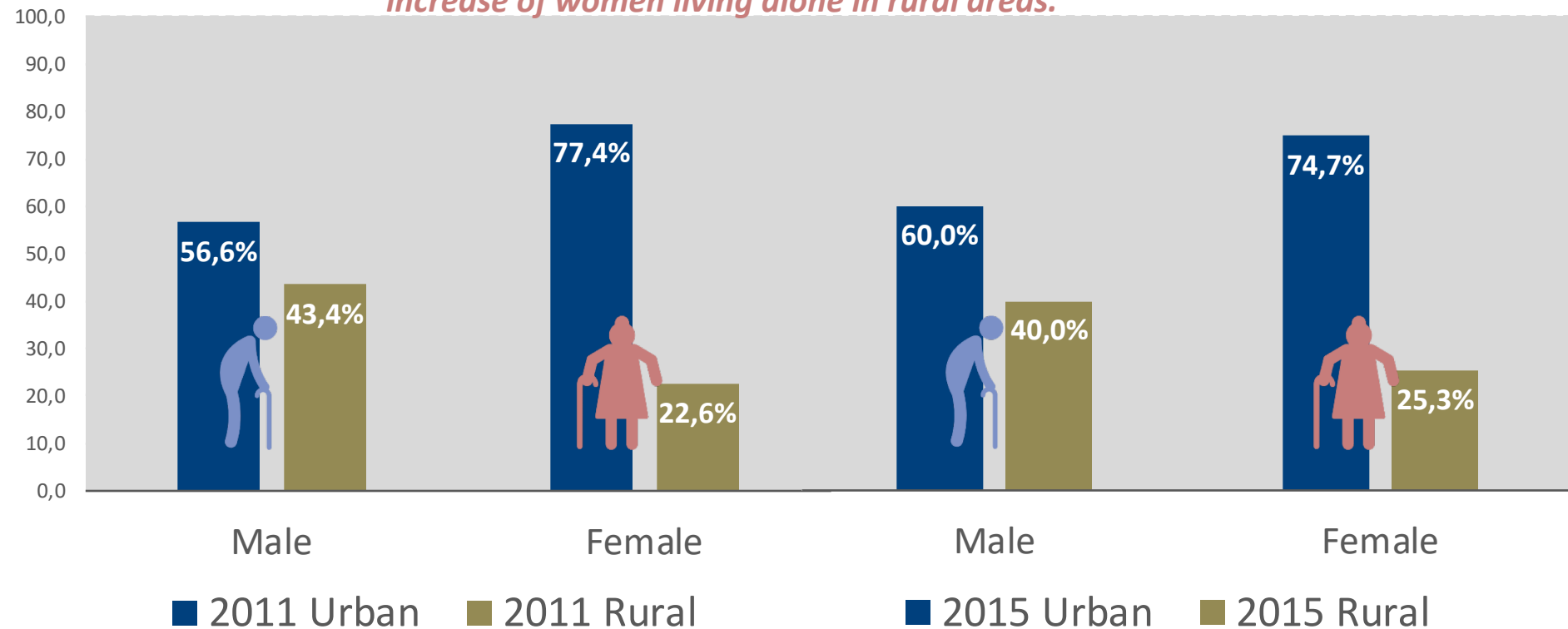
# Proportions of Elderly Headed Households



# Proportions of Elderly Headed Households

**Most elderly who are living alone, live in *urban areas* regardless of gender.**

Between 2011 and 2015, there was a slight increase in the percentage of men living alone in urban areas and an *increase of women living alone in rural areas.*



Source: GHS 2011 & 2015

# Elderly Living Alone



*A higher proportion of females were living independently/alone* in at least eight of the nine provinces in 2011 and seven of the nine provinces in 2015.

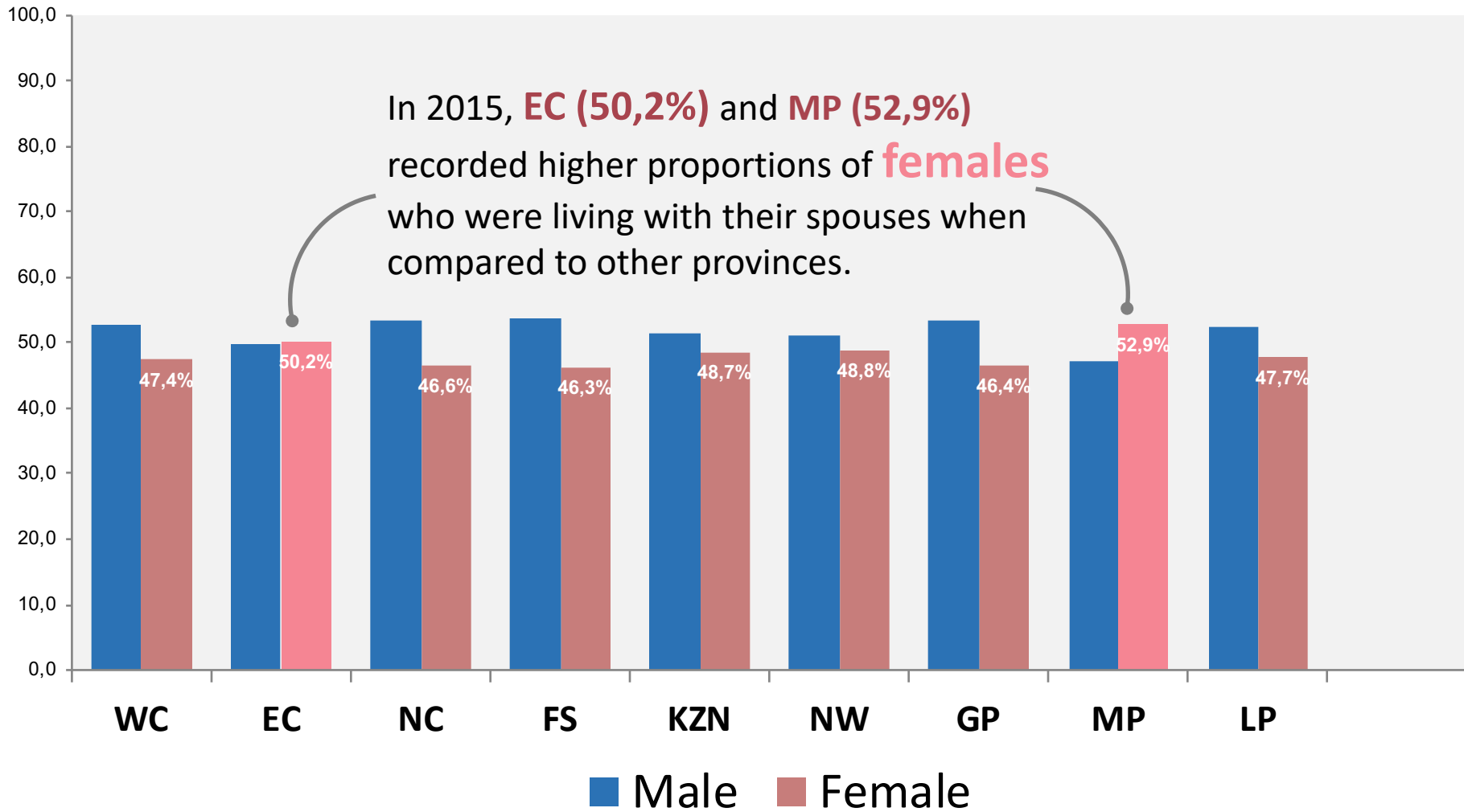
Western Cape province recorded the highest proportions of females who were living alone

in 2015 at

**63,4%**, a drop of

17,2 percentage points, from 80,6% in 2011

# Elderly Living With Spouses



Source: GHS 2015



# How do we define household structure?

A **single household** is a one-person household.



**Nuclear households** are defined as 'households consisting of household heads, their spouses and offspring'



**Extended household** would include other relatives in addition to the nucleus.



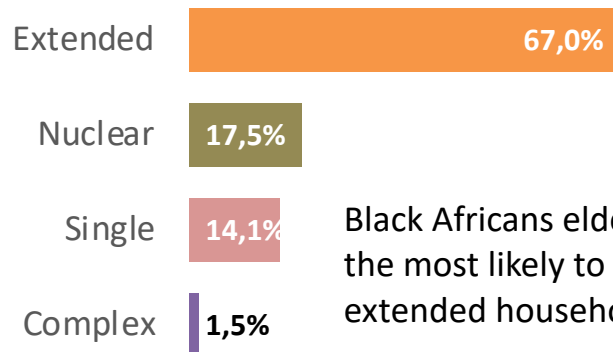
**Complex households** are all households with members who are not related to the household head.



*United Nations Statistics Division – Demographic and Social Statistics: <http://unstats.un.org>*

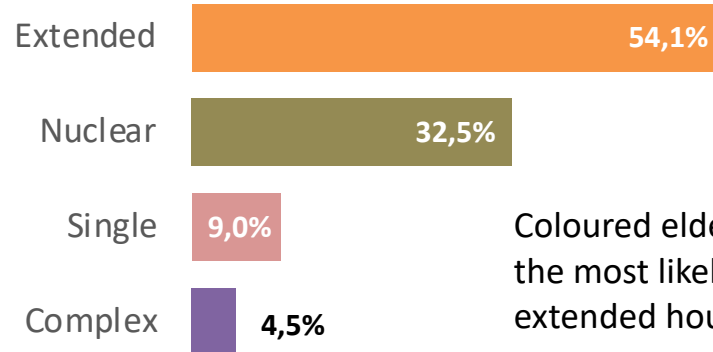
# Elderly Household Structure

## Black/African



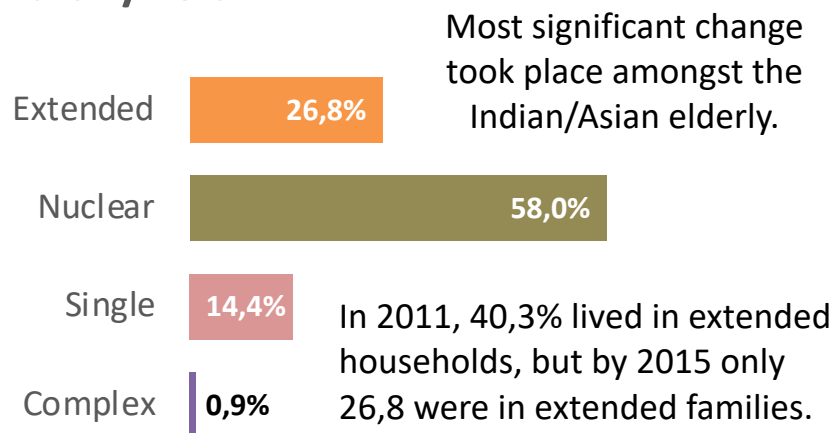
Black Africans elderly were the most likely to live in extended households.

## Coloured



Coloured elderly were the most likely to live in extended households.

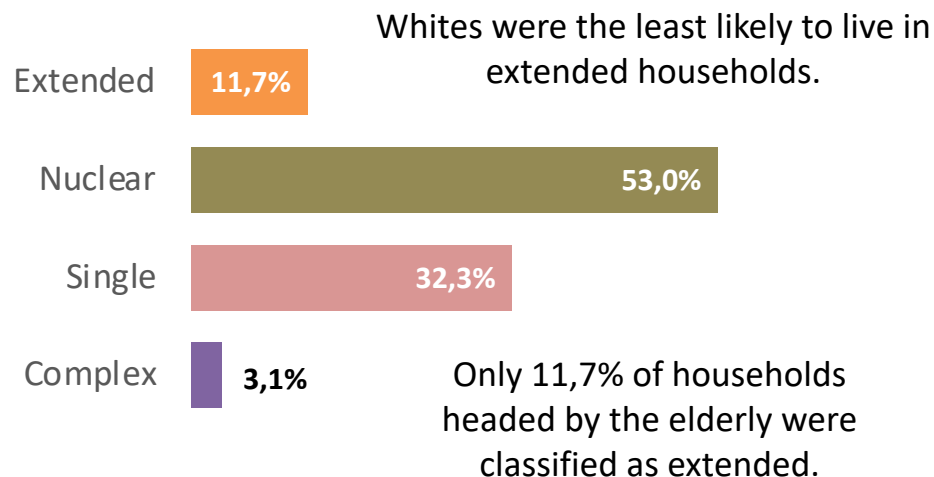
## Indian/Asian



Most significant change took place amongst the Indian/Asian elderly.

In 2011, 40,3% lived in extended households, but by 2015 only 26,8 were in extended families.

## White



Whites were the least likely to live in extended households.

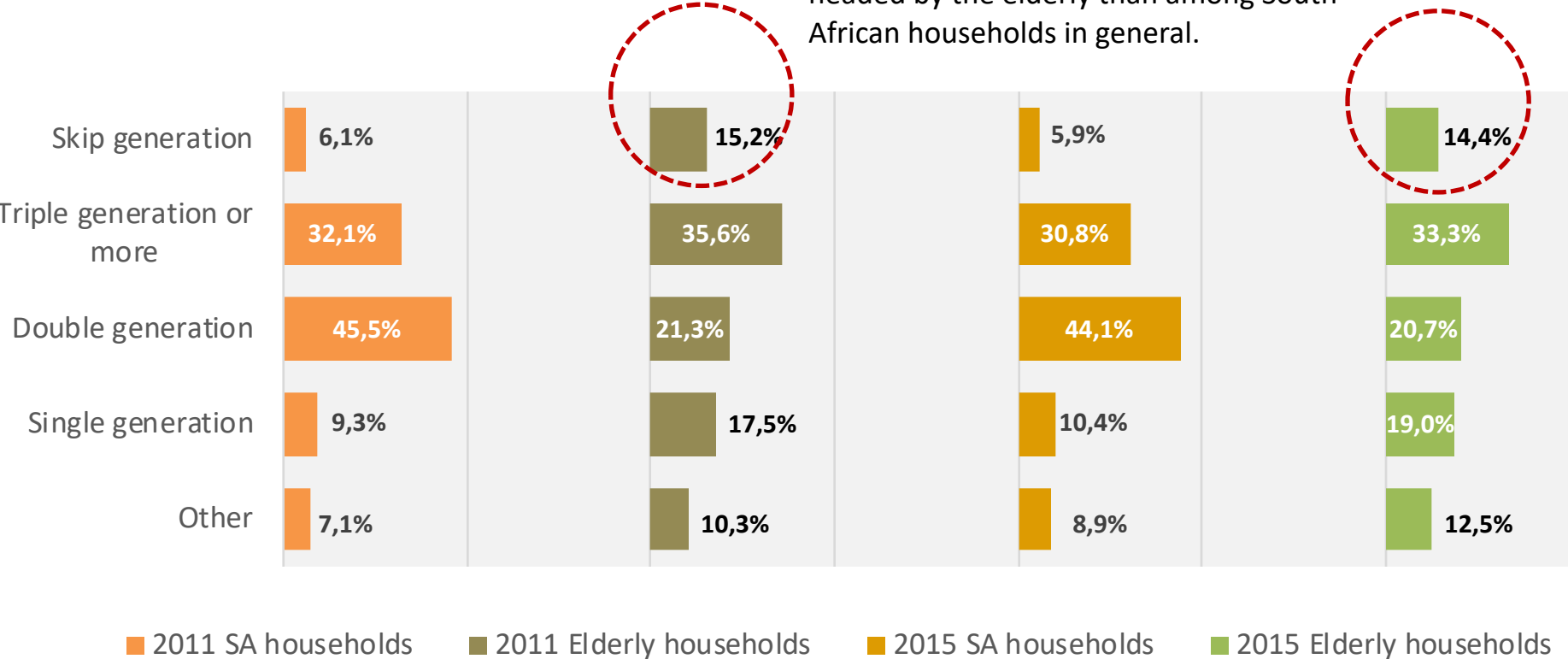
Only 11,7% of households headed by the elderly were classified as extended.

Source: GHS 2015

# Intergenerational Household Types

Percentage distribution of older persons across intergenerational households

\* **Skip generation** households were **more prevalent** (above 10%) amongst households headed by the elderly than among South African households in general.



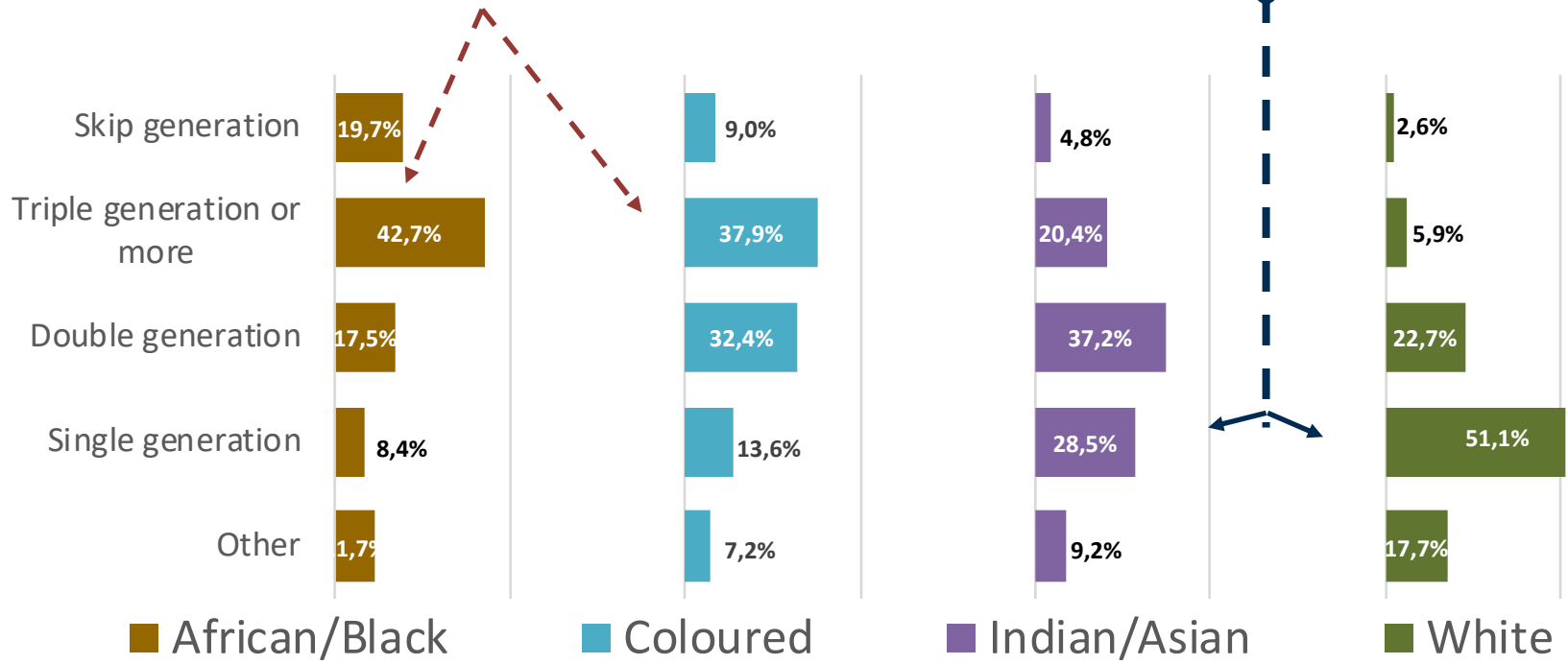
Source: GHS 2011 & 2015

\* *Skipped generation* : when a generation is skipped or not present in a household

# Household Generational Type Among the Elderly

**Triple or more** generation households were mostly common amongst **black African** and **coloured** population groups

Elderly from Indian/Asian and white population groups were most likely to live in **\*single-generation households**

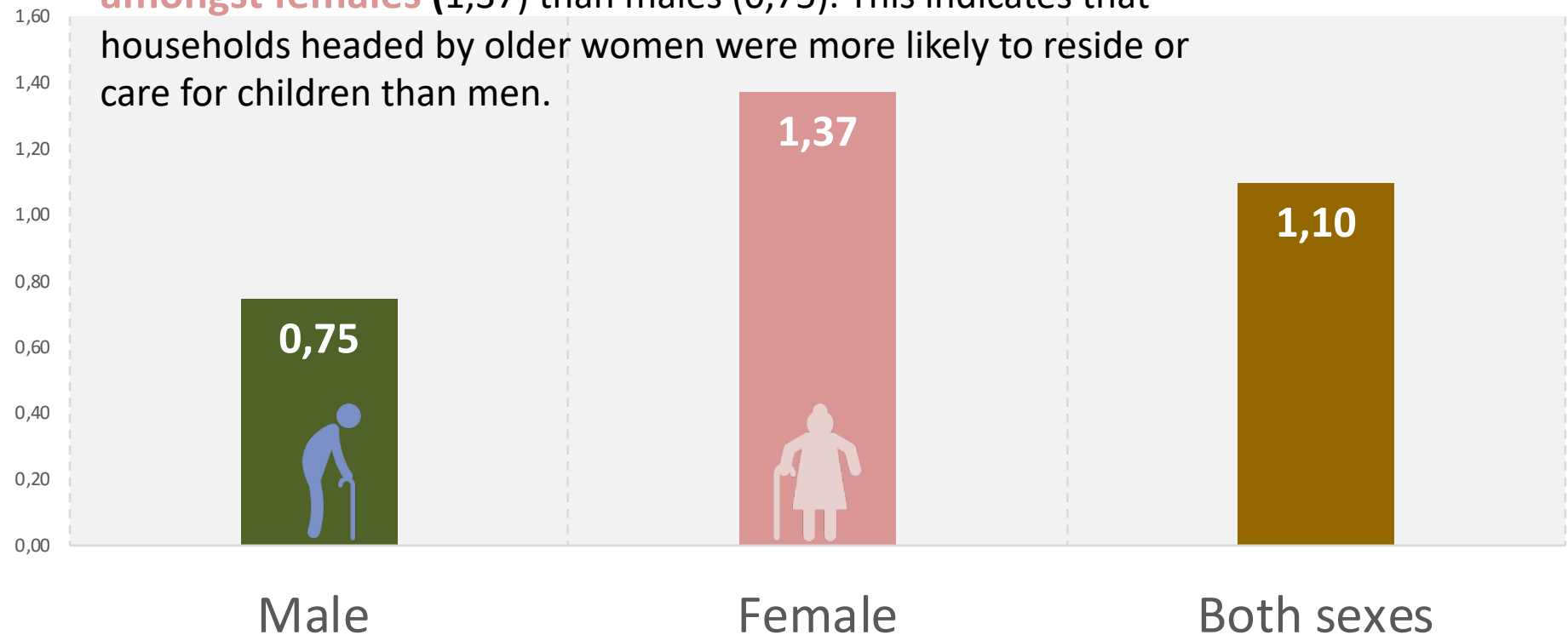


\* A one-(or single) generation household : consists of people of the same age group: a married or cohabiting couple, a single person, siblings, or roommates

Source: GHS 2011 & 2015

# Ratio of children to older persons, in households headed by the elderly by sex, 2015

Nationally, the ratio of children to older persons was visibly **higher amongst females** (1,37) than males (0,75). This indicates that households headed by older women were more likely to reside or care for children than men.

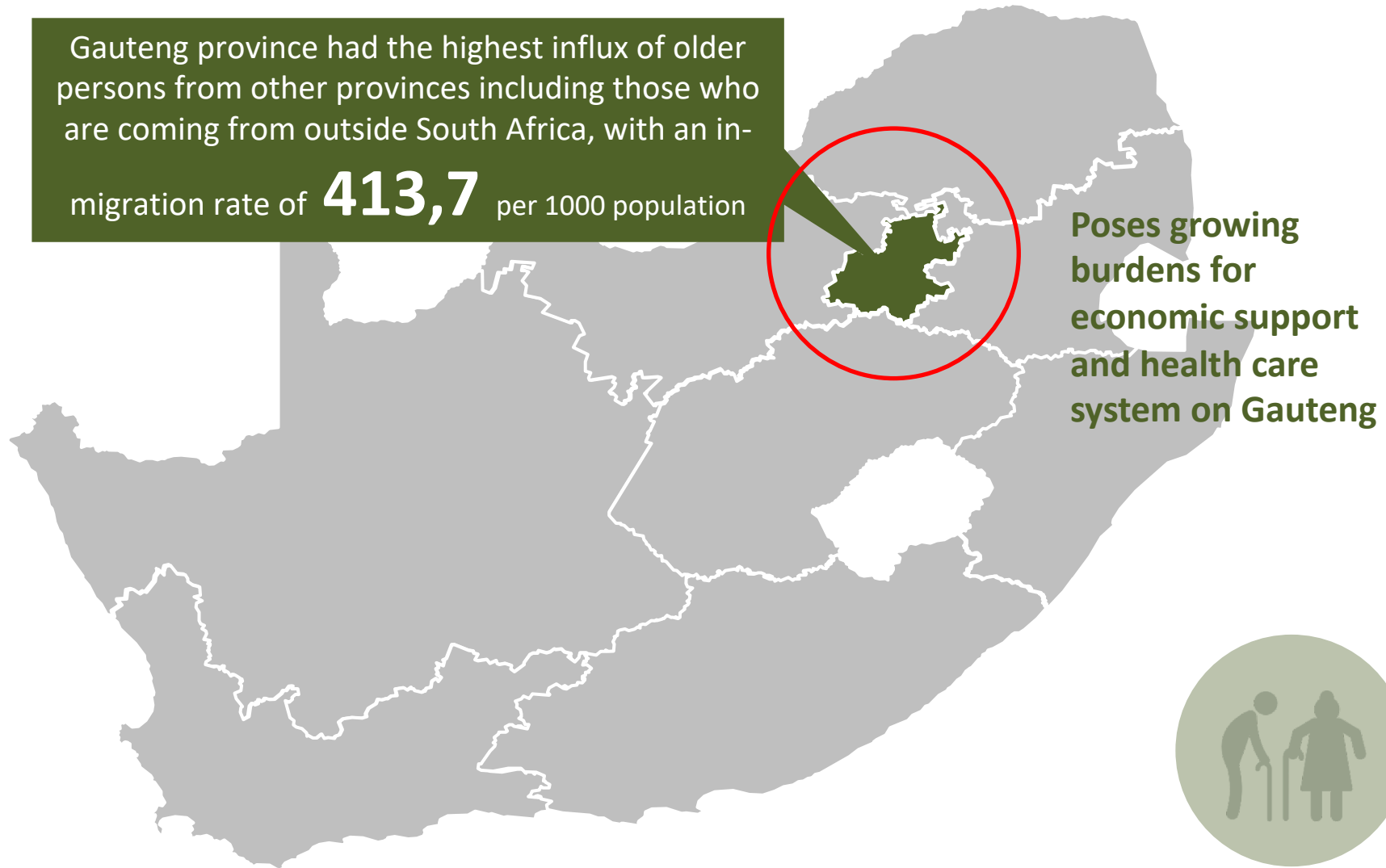


Source: GHS 2015

# Migration Patterns

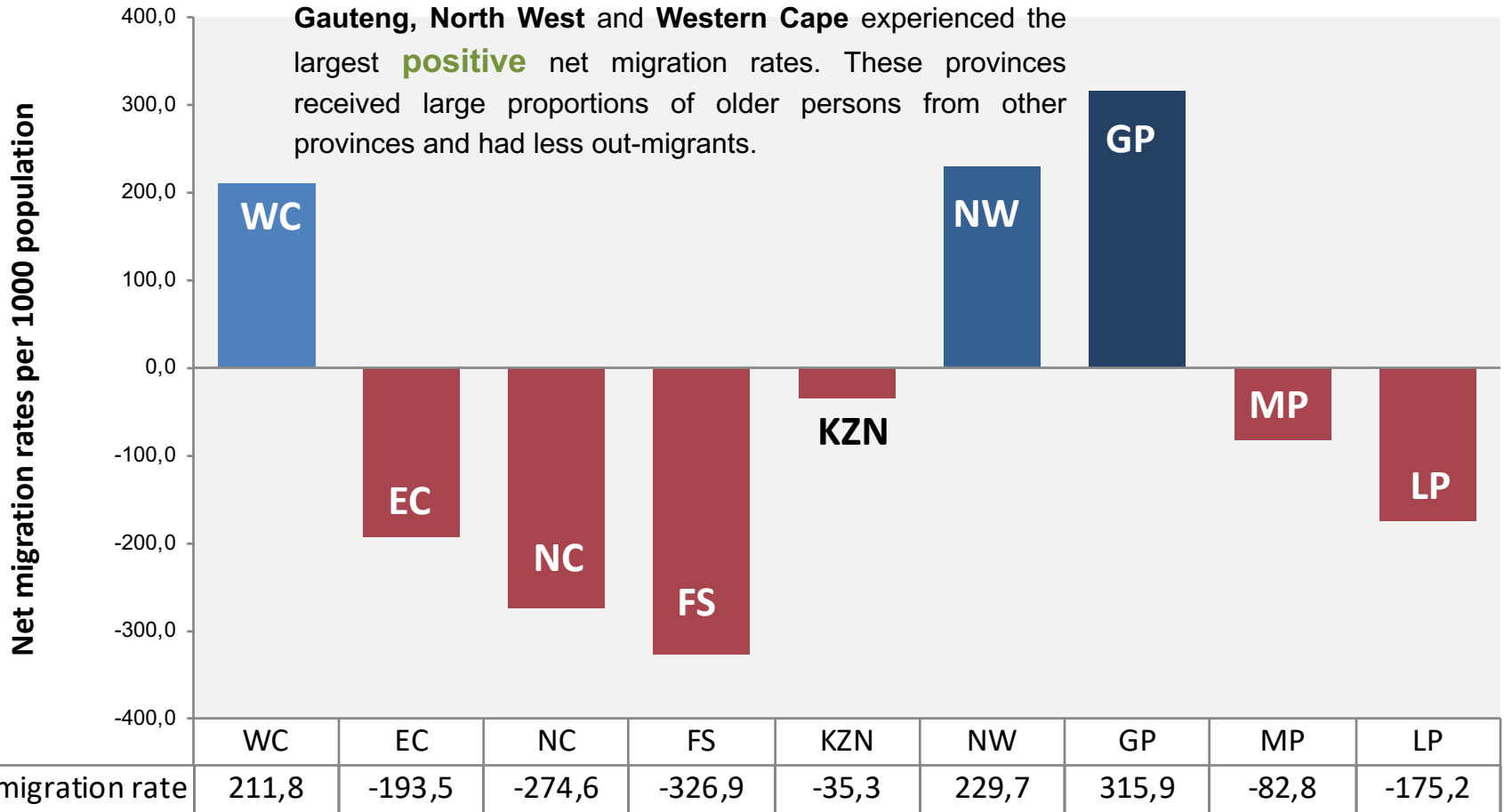
# Migration Rates

Gauteng province had the highest influx of older persons from other provinces including those who are coming from outside South Africa, with an in-migration rate of **413,7** per 1000 population



Source: CS 2016

# Net Migration Rates



Source : CS 2016



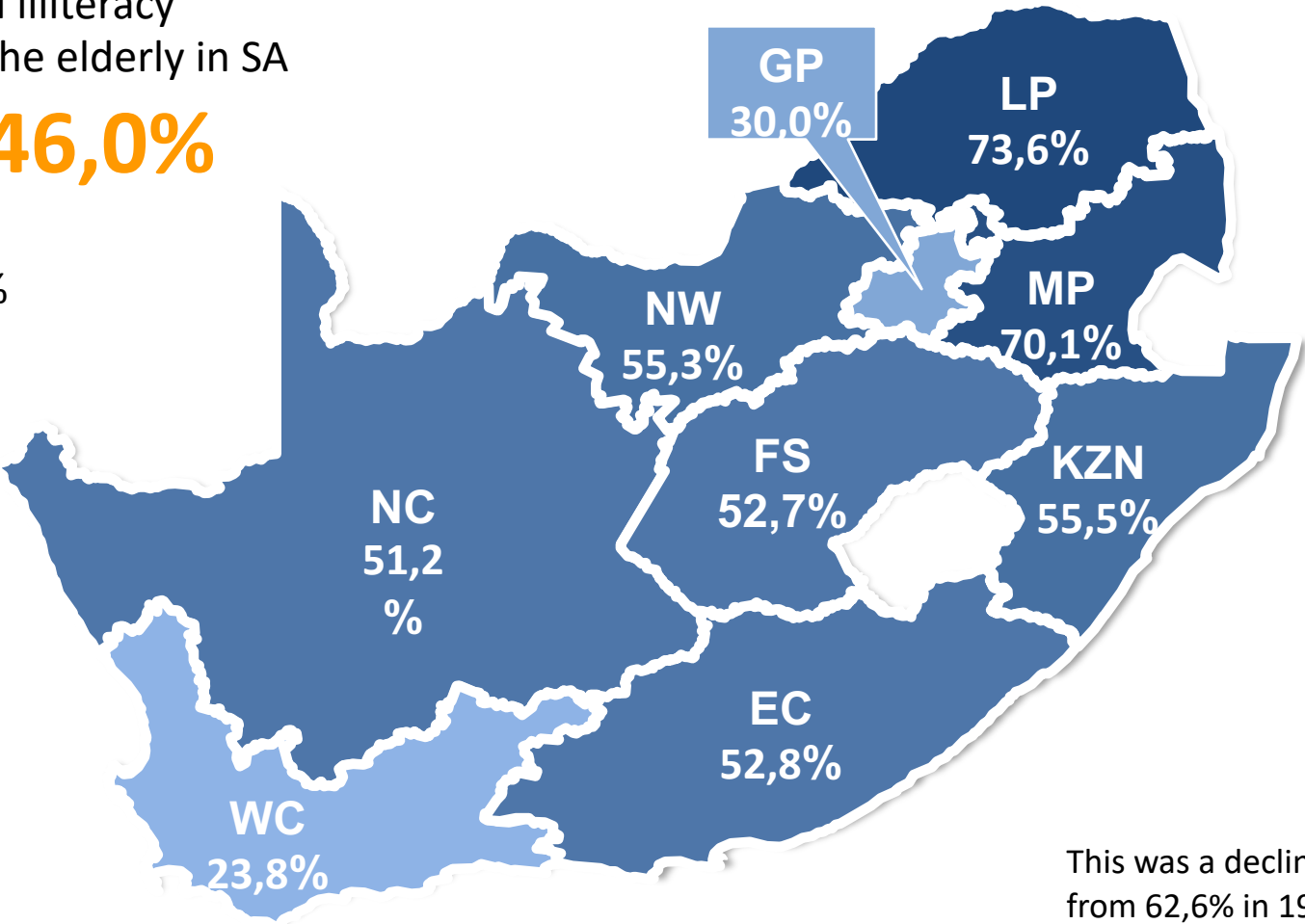
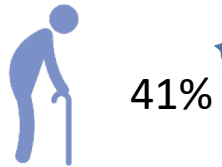
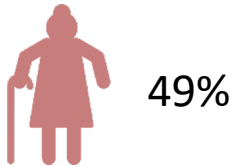


# Education

# Functional Illiteracy in the Elderly, by Province, 2016

Functional illiteracy amongst the elderly in SA

stood at **46,0%**

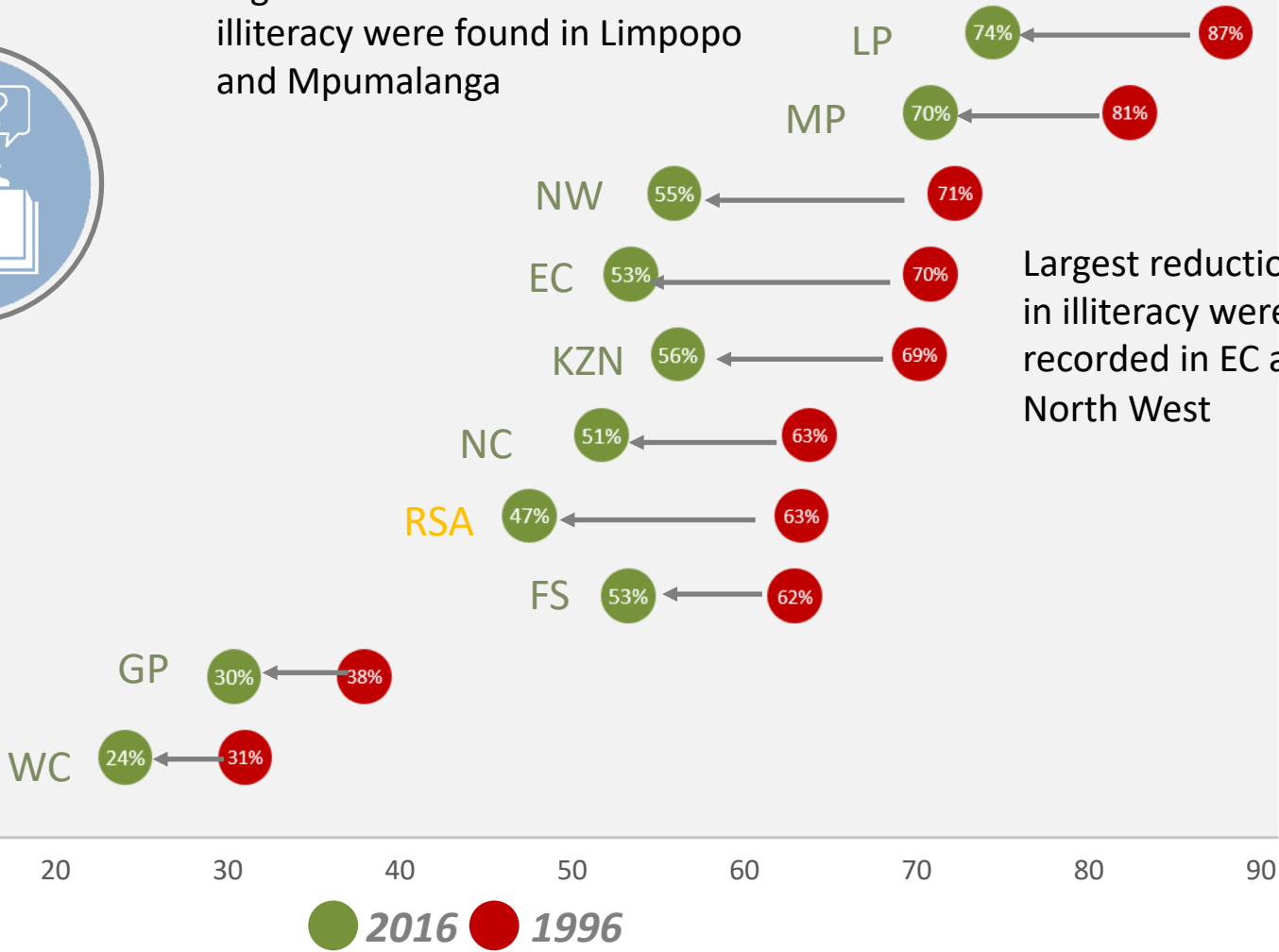


This was a decline from 62,6% in 1996

# Decrease in Functional Illiteracy in the Elderly, by Province, 1996 - 2016

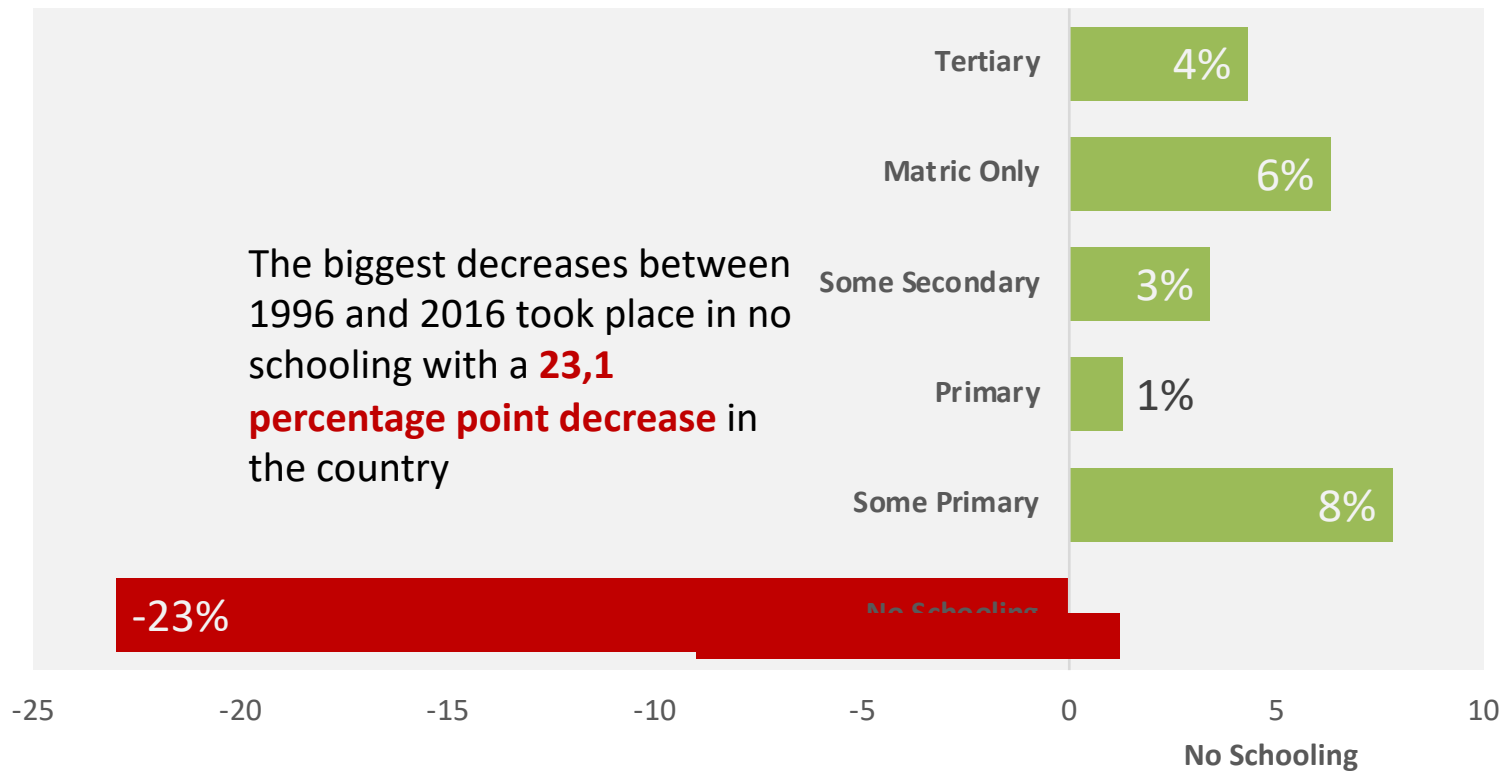


Highest rates of functional illiteracy were found in Limpopo and Mpumalanga



Largest reductions in illiteracy were recorded in EC and North West

# Percentage Point Changes in Highest Educational Attainment of the Elderly



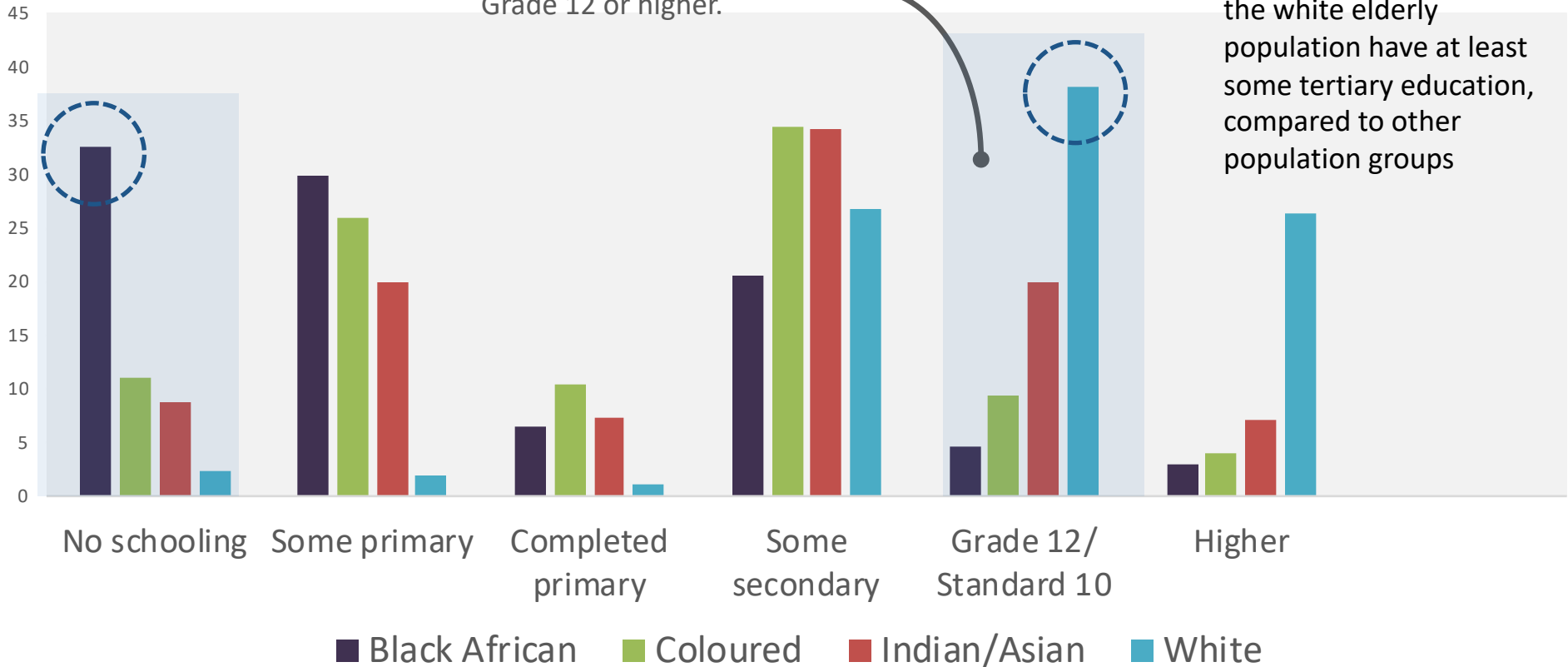
Older people with no schooling ↓ by **7 percentage points** for men and women (2011-2016)

# Highest Level of Education in the Elderly, 2016

**Black Africans are more likely to have no education or some primary as their highest educational attainment.**

The Black African population group continues to have the lowest percentage of elderly (7,6%) with Grade 12 or higher.

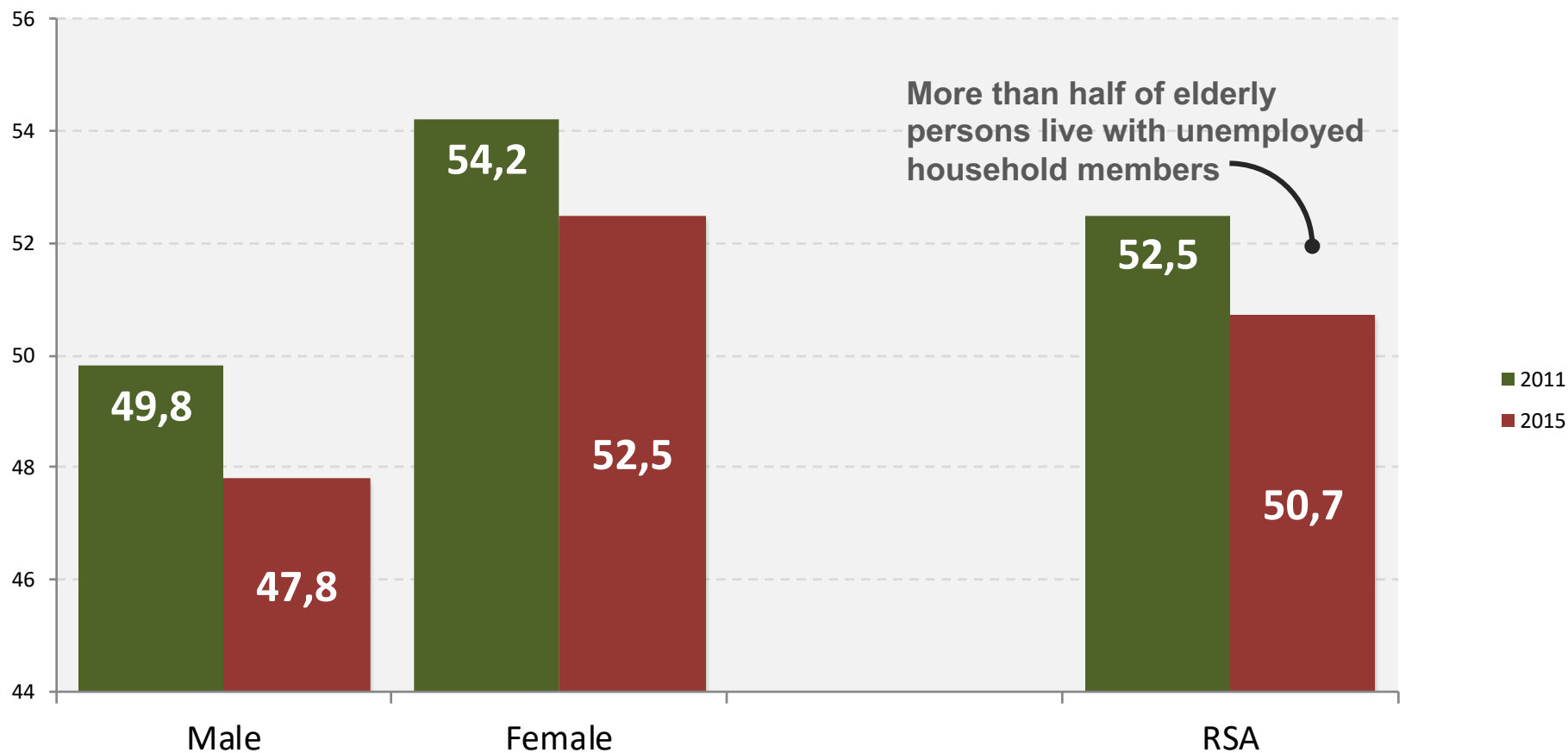
More than a quarter of the white elderly population have at least some tertiary education, compared to other population groups





# Income generation, employment and poverty levels

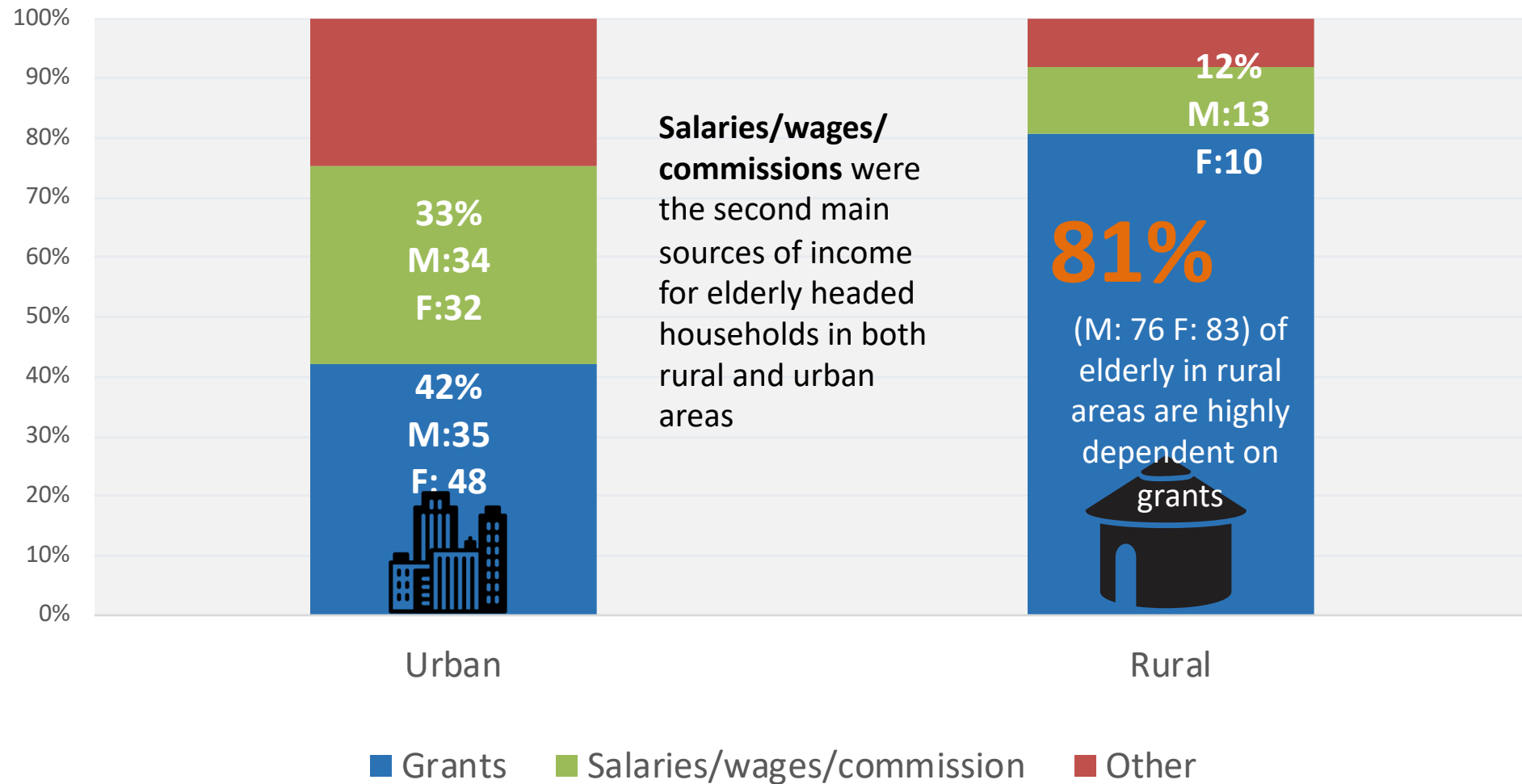
# Elderly living without an employed household member



Source: GHS 2011 & 2015

# Sources of Income

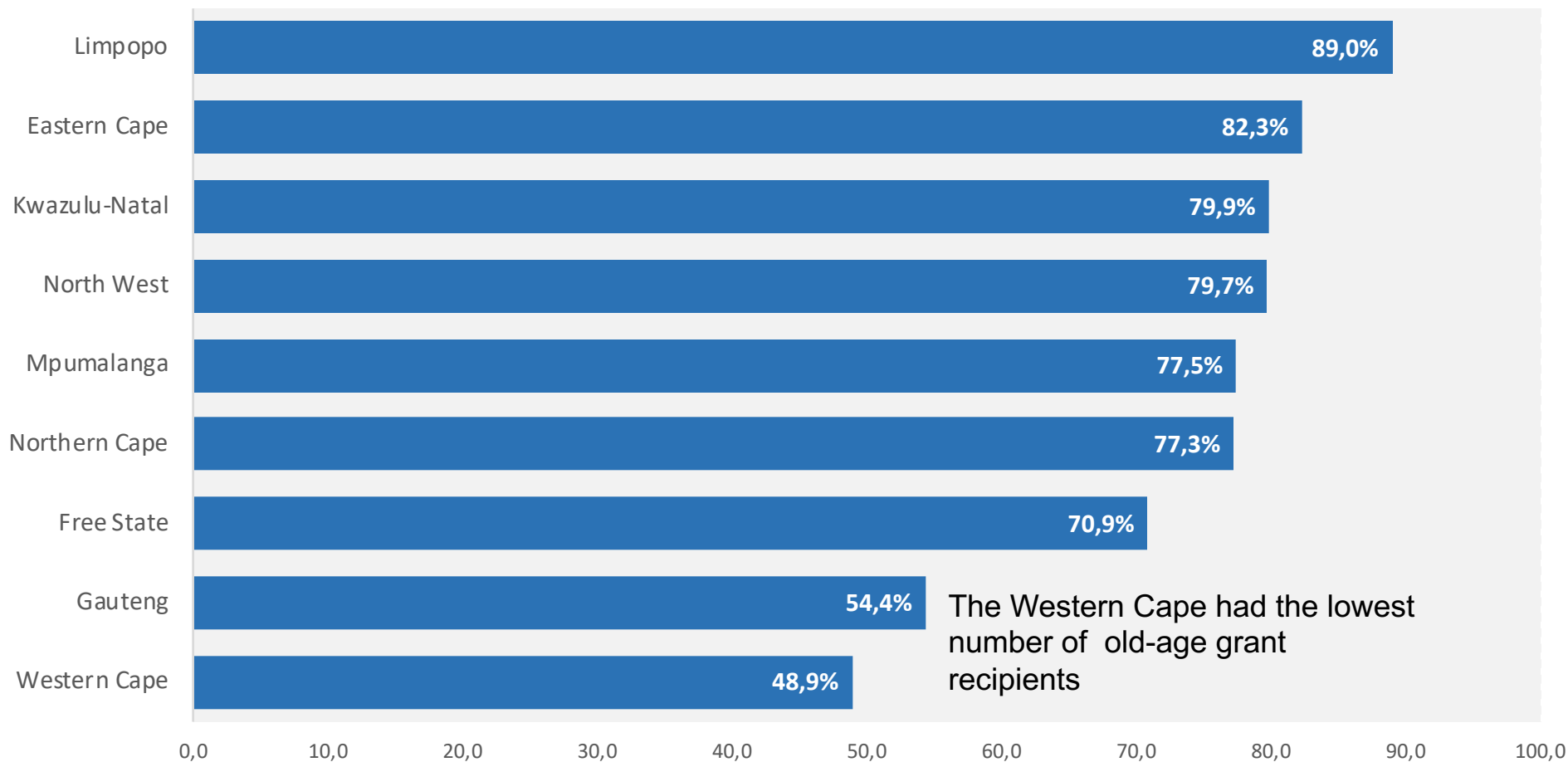
In 2015 there were **3,1 million** old age grant recipients



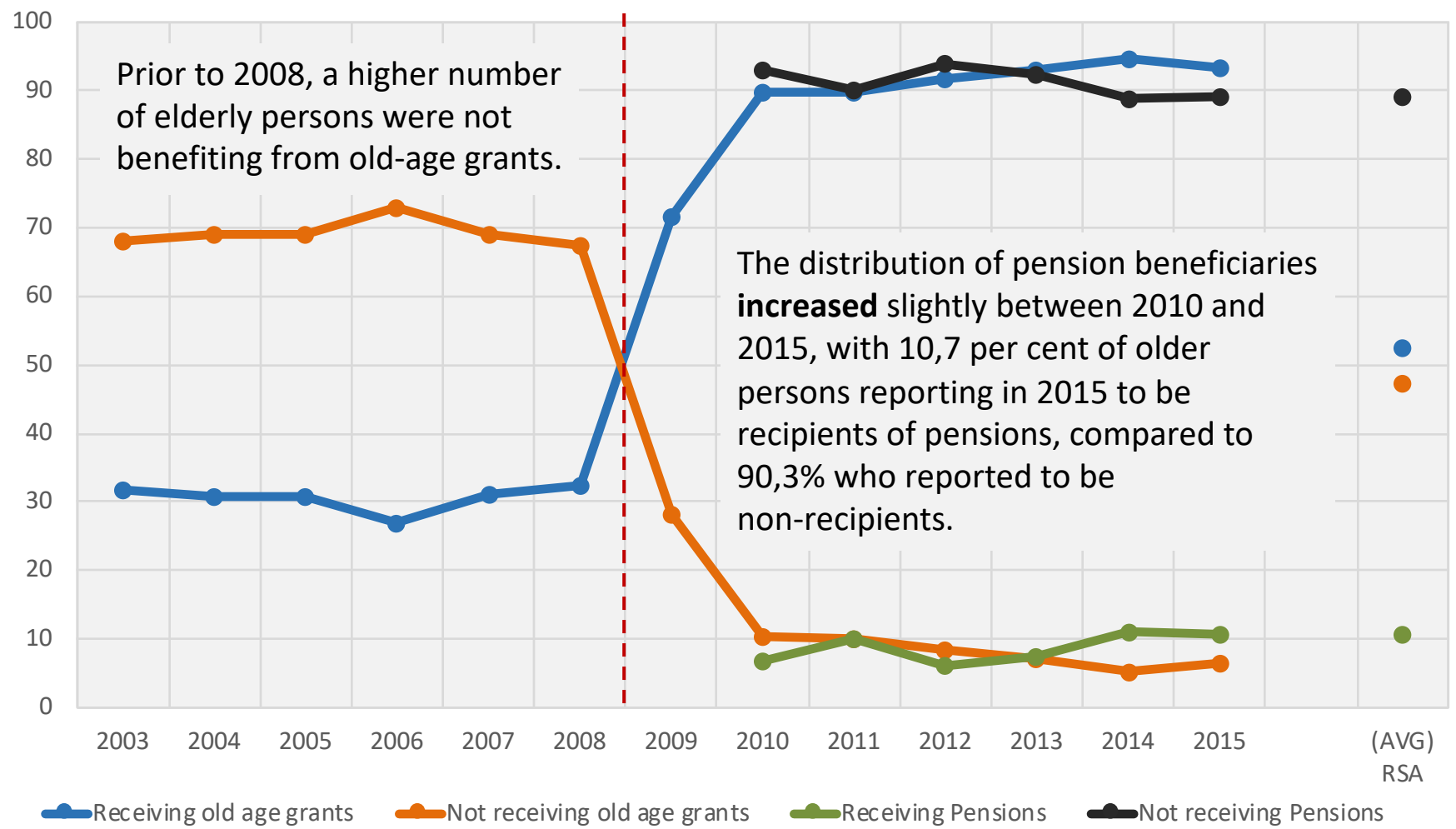


# Access to Grants by Province, 2015

**Nationally, 70% (M:63% and F: 76%) of the elderly, receive an old-age grant**



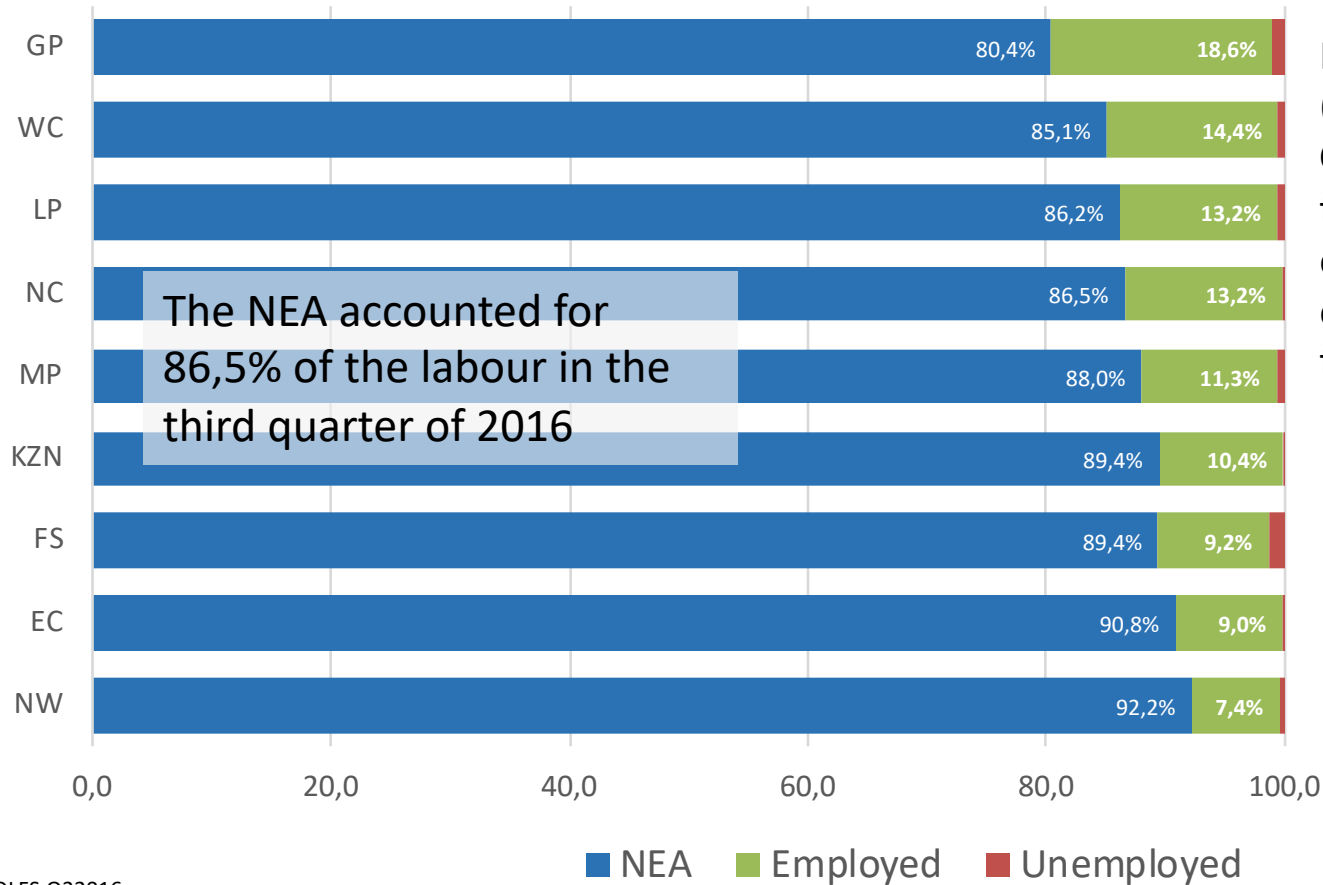
# Distribution of old-age grant and pension coverage over time for persons 60 years and older, 2003 and 2015



Source: GHS 2003-2015

# Labour market components for older persons by province, 2016

The labour force, which comprises the employed and unemployed, accounted for less than 15% of the market share



In 2016, **Gauteng** (18,6%) and **Western Cape** (14,4%), recorded the highest percentages of elderly persons in employment compared to other provinces.

The NEA accounted for 86,5% of the labour in the third quarter of 2016

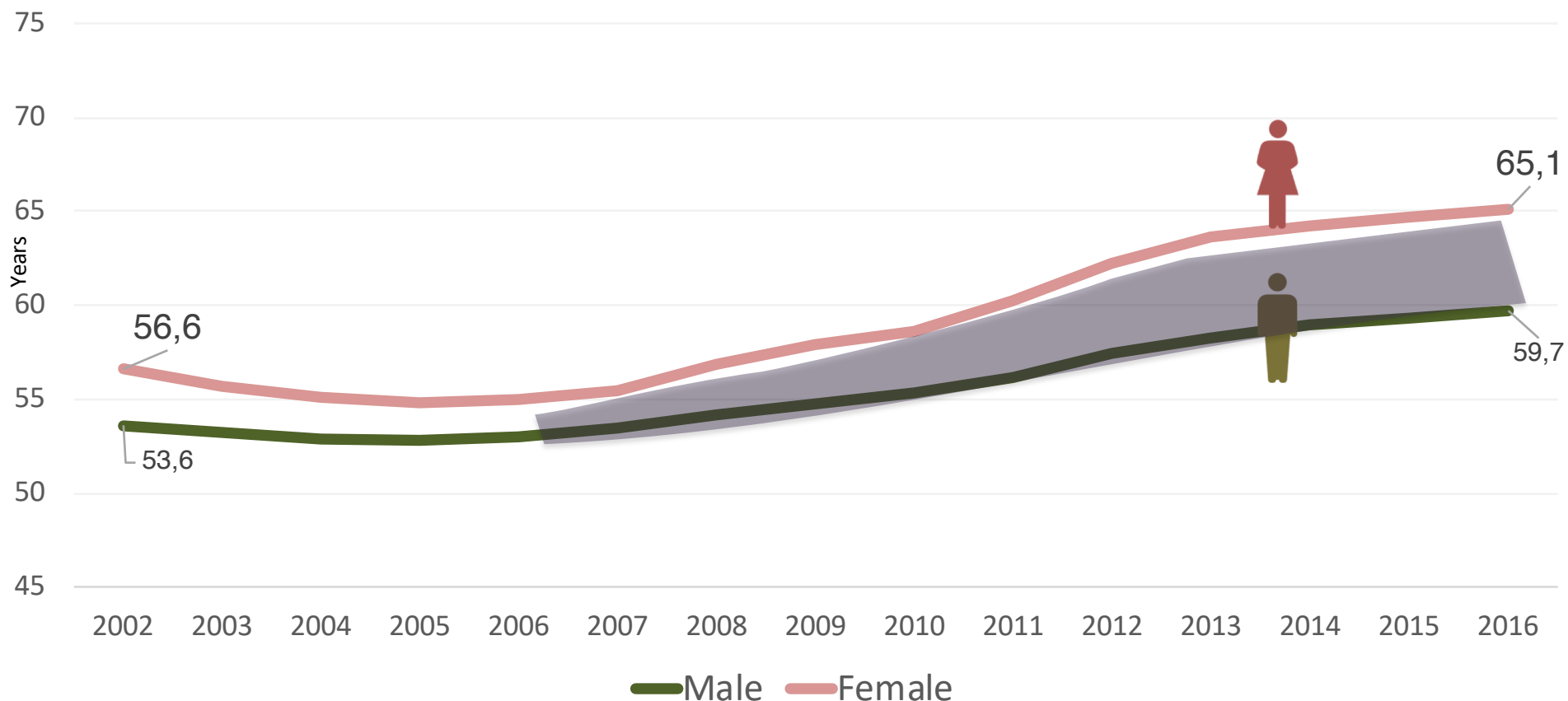
Source: QLFS.Q32016



# Life Expectancy, Health Status and Mortality

# Life expectancy at birth, of males and females, 2002 to 2016

## Life expectancy by sex

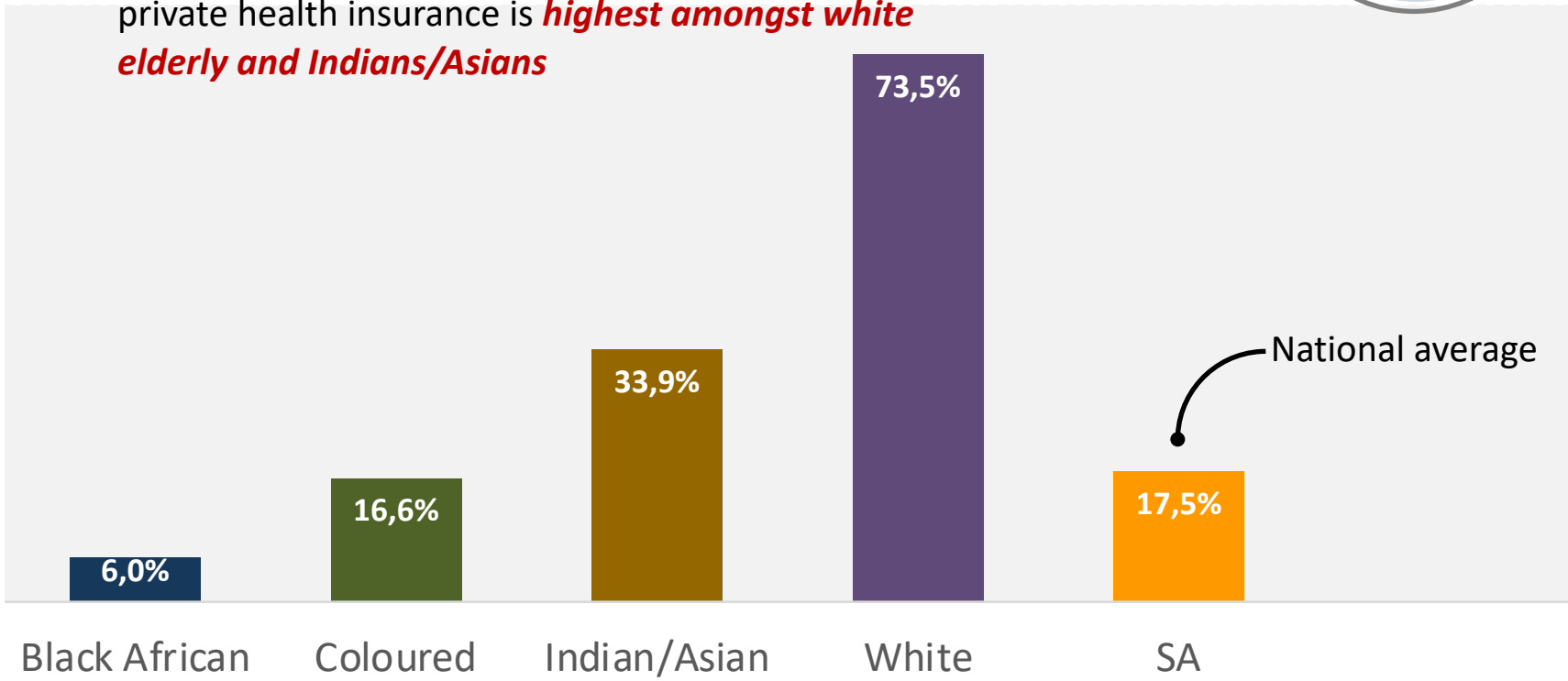


Source: Statistics South Africa, P0302, Mid-year population estimates 2016

# Membership of a Medical Aid Scheme by Population Group

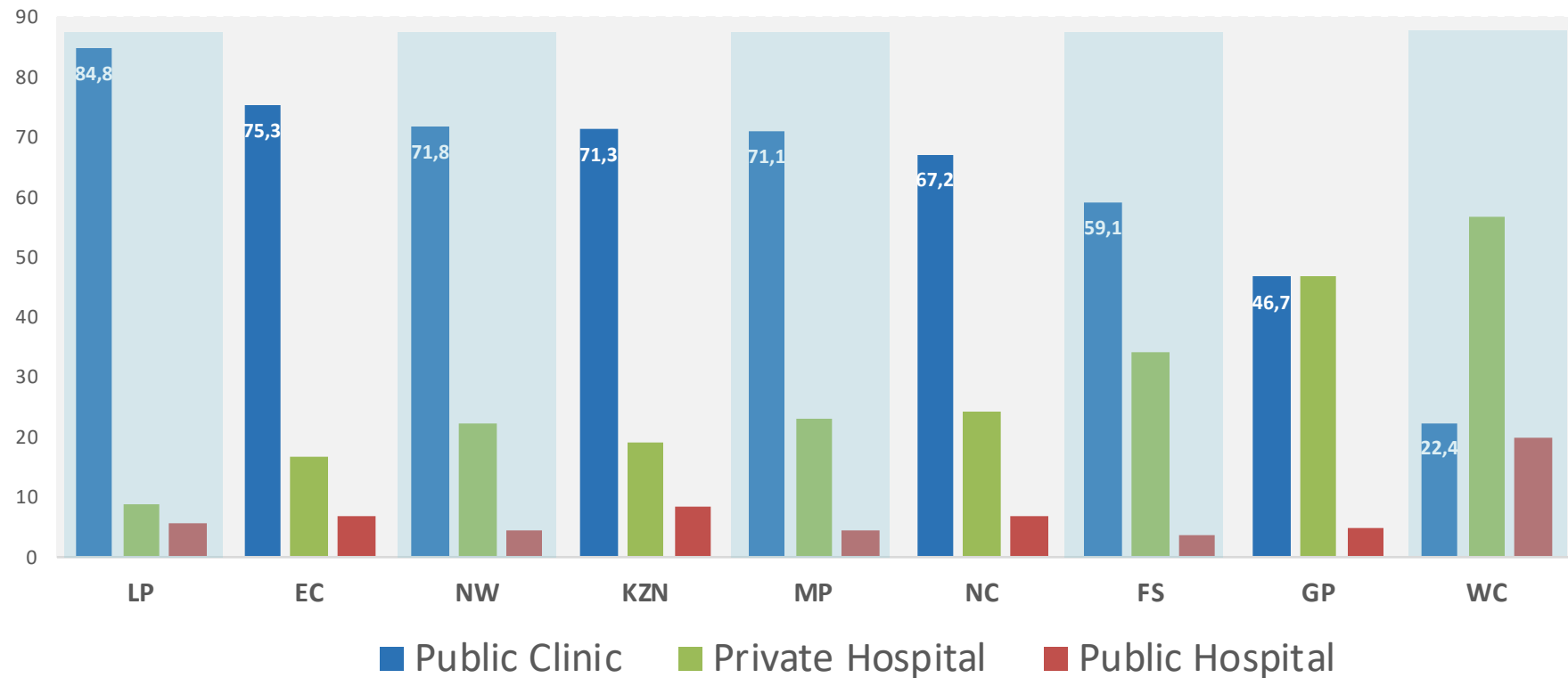


Persons 60 years and older who are covered by a medical aid or medical benefit scheme or other private health insurance is **highest amongst white elderly and Indians/Asians**



# Type of health facilities normally used by household heads aged 60 years and older, by province, 2015

*The majority of elderly in all provinces, except Western Cape and Gauteng, make use of **public clinics** for their health care needs.*



# Most Common Medical Conditions Amongst the Elderly

*All three of these diseases are more common amongst females than males*



37,9 % – **High blood pressure** – 50%

4,4 % – **Diabetes** – 16,6%

7,1% – **Arthritis** – 18%





# Top 5 Causes of Death of the Elderly

1	Natural causes	97,0%
2	Circulatory System	29,7%
3	Disease of the respiratory system	14,9%
4	Neoplasms	12,3%
5	Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	11,3%

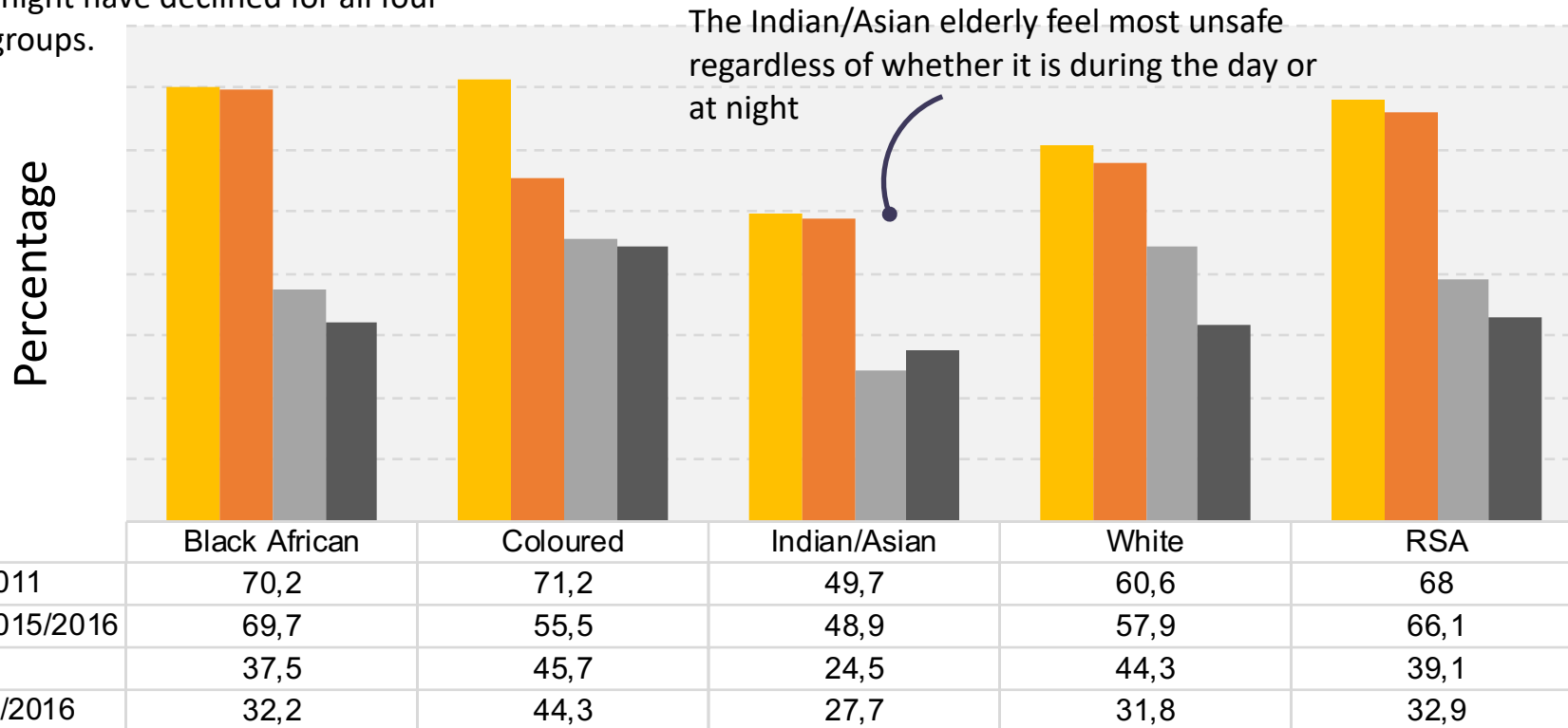


# Crime and Victimization

# Safety of the Elderly

## Percentage distribution of household heads aged 60 years and older who feel safe walking during the day and at night in the area where they live by population group, 2011 and 2015/16

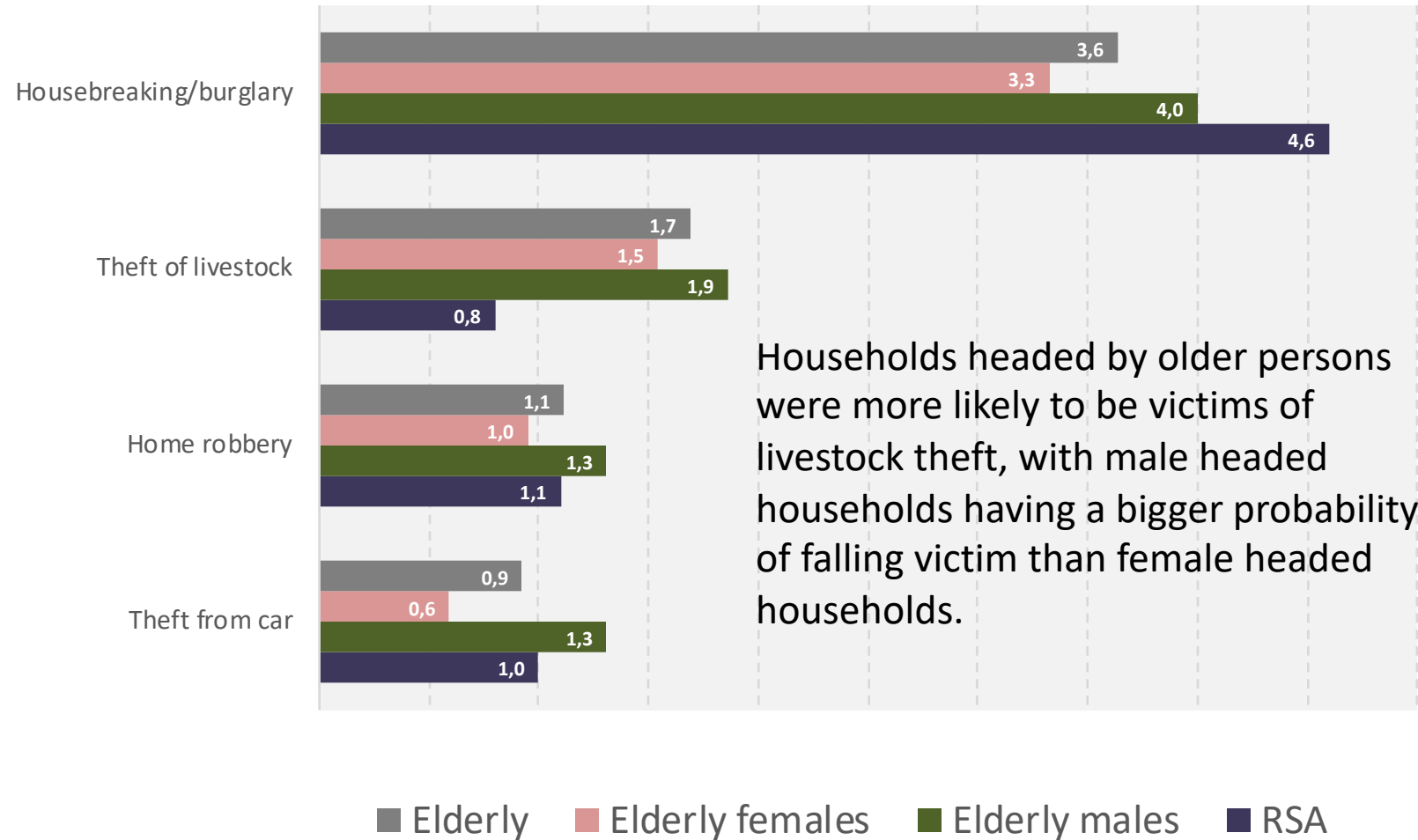
During the past 5 years, feelings of safety during the day and night have declined for all four population groups.



Source: VOCS 2011, 2015/2016

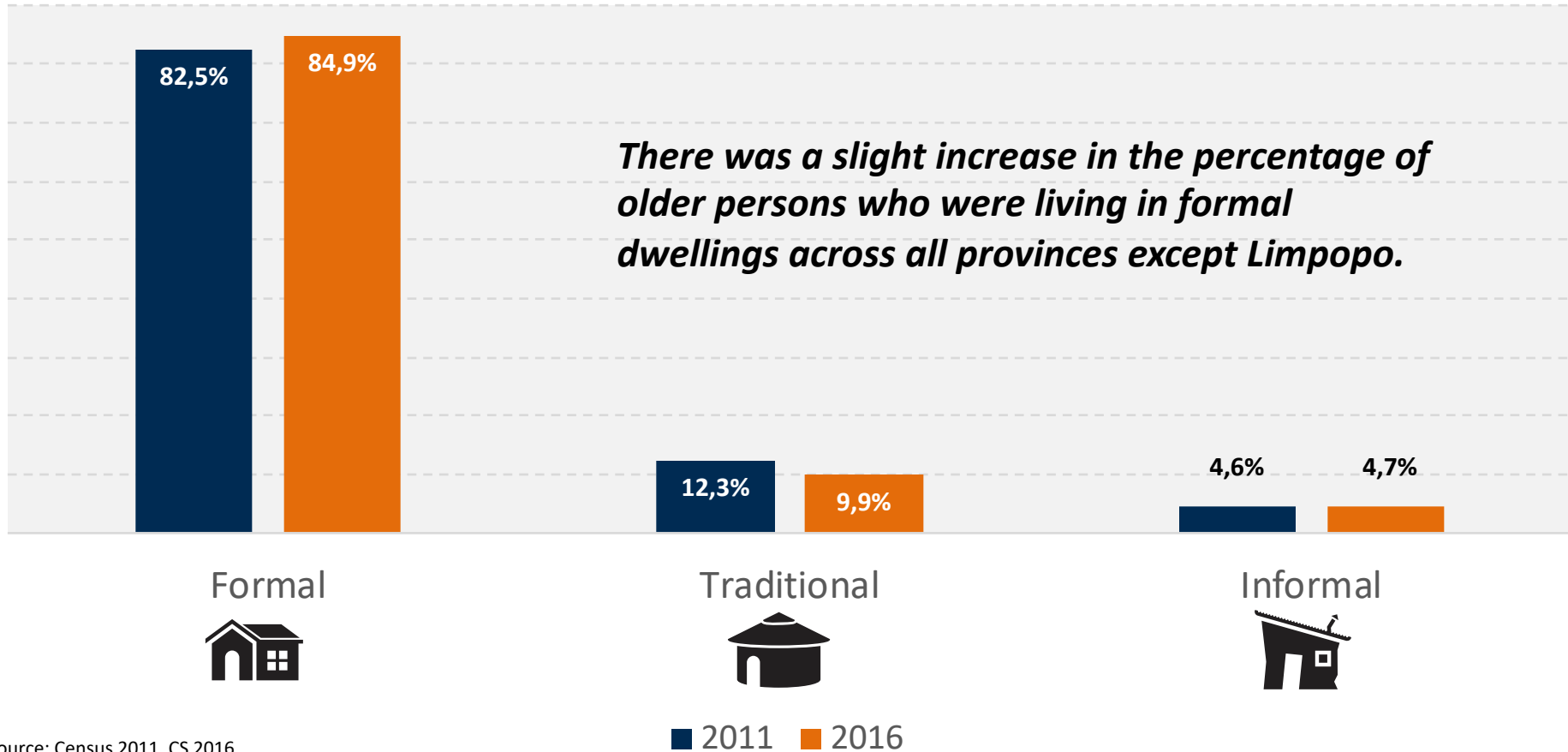
# Victimisation

*Households headed by the elderly had a similar likelihood than households in general to be the victims of home robbery*



# Household Basic Services

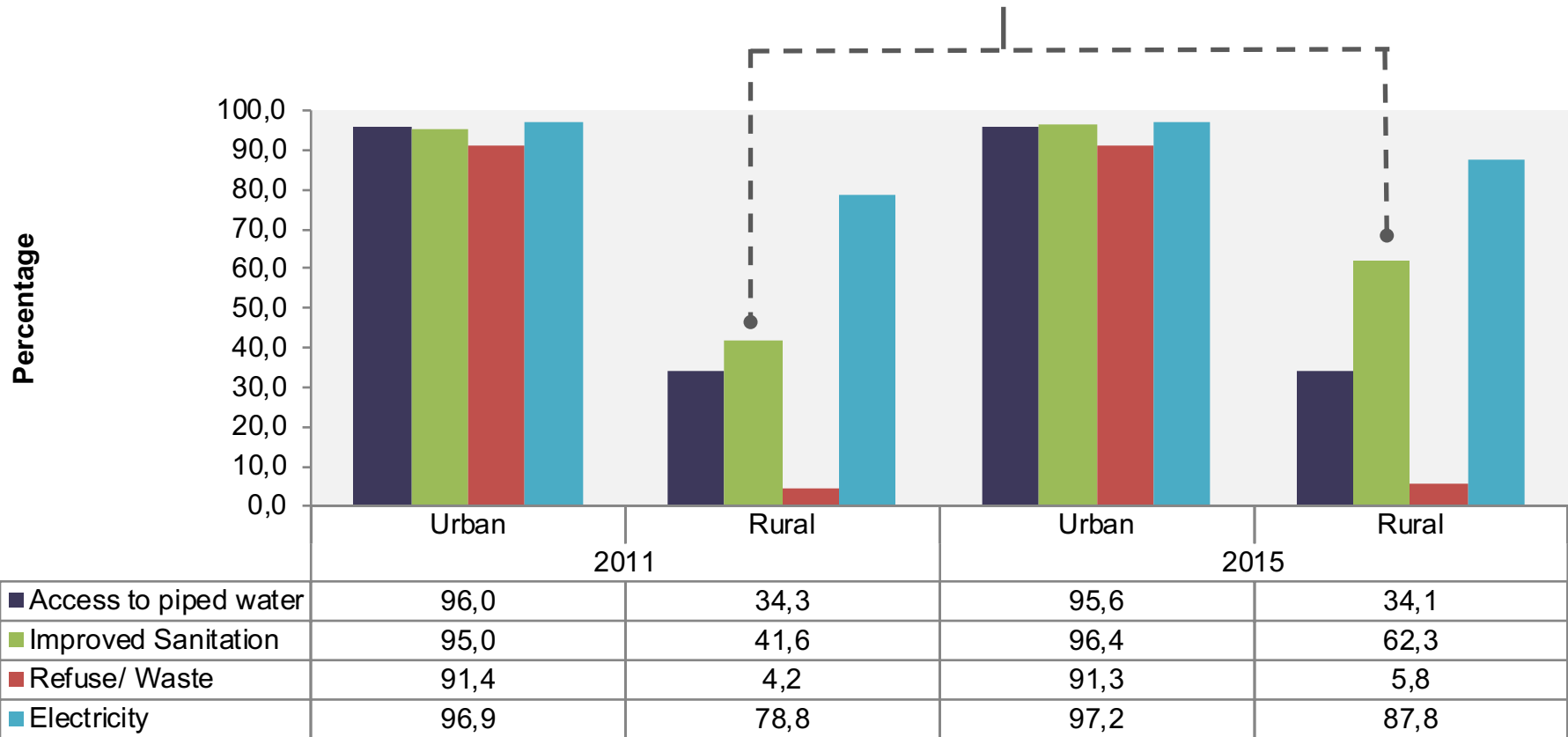
# Dwelling type of households headed by persons aged 60 years and older, 2011 and 2016.



Source: Census 2011, CS 2016

# Percentage distribution of persons aged 60 years and older by access to basic service and geography type, 2011 and 2015

The percentage of older persons who had access to improved sanitation increased in rural areas by **21,1** percentage points.



Source: GHS 2011, GHS 2015

# Thank You

<http://www.statssa.gov.za/>