

Introduction

This poster explores the constancy and change in post-apartheid South Africa. Through this visual analysis, it will be highlighted that the most important source of constancy and change in the country has been the resource endowments. The discovery of diamonds gave way to prevalent mining industry, a key part of South Africa's economy. The mining industry has been crucial in propagating a system of institutional racism and racial segregation, a system that has disenfranchised black South Africans, which has long-lasting social and political effects on contemporary South Africa that are also covered in the poster.

LOCATION, ENDOWMENT AND POPULATION

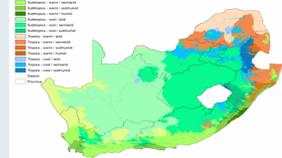
I.I Location



South Africa is a country found at the southern coast of Africa. It borders 6 countries: Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Eswatini and Lesotho, which is surrounded by South Africa. The country spans over 1,221,037 km², with the coastline stretching over 2,798 km.

The country's climate is semi-arid and subtropical along the eastern coast. South Africa's agroecology aligns very closely with the land use in the country. 79.4% of the land in South Africa is utilised in agriculture with 69.2% being permanent pasture. This is evident in the graphs opposite wherein the warm subtropical areas are utilised as grazing land for sheep.

South Africa has three capital cities: executive Pretoria, judicial Bloemfontein and legislative Cape Town. The World Bank classifies South Africa as a newly industrialized economy and the second largest economy in Africa. The country is classified as a middle power in international affairs, with significant regional influence, and is a member of the Commonwealth and G20.



COLONIAL ECONOMY AND INSTITUTIONS

II.I Colonial Land Conquest and Division

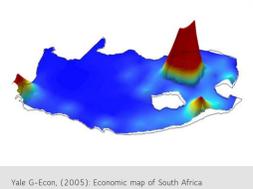


The British formally established their rule over the previously Dutch Cape Colony in 1814, triggering large-scale settlement of Europeans in the area. Following the abolition of slavery in 1834, which the British settlers tried to enforce, the Boer population moved further in-land in what is known as the Great Trek and established two independent states, Transvaal and the Orange Free State. Apart from the conflict between the British and Boer settler population, both areas were riddled with continuous warfare against Zulu, Xhosa, and Pedi people until the end of the 19th century. The British were especially interested in the area due to the discovery of gold and diamonds and other minerals that they aimed to export.

Ultimately, the conflict with the Boers resulted in the South African War at the turn of the century, leading to the official defeat of the Boer population by the British and incorporation of their territory into the colony. South Africa was then granted independence under dominion status in 1910, and later became fully sovereign from the UK in 1931. However, throughout the apartheid period of 1948-1994 South Africa was ruled by a white-minority government under the Afrikaner National Party regime, which can be considered an extension of the colonial period.

ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY

III.I Spatial Inequality



South Africa is classified as a middle-income emerging market and is a member of the BRICS pack of emerging economies. The strength of South Africa's economic development is derived from their wealth of natural resources.

There are six economically significant cities within South Africa: Johannesburg, Pretoria, East Rand, Durban, Cape Town, and Port Elizabeth; the former three being in very close proximity to one another. Economic activity is concentrated around Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban which is home to Durban Harbour. These areas of significant economic activity tend to be located around mines and transport route which aided in the trade of these commodities - a constant throughout South Africa's history.

Urban areas in South Africa have changed throughout the years as more economic opportunities became available but the homelands have remained. Why is this? This stark rural urban divide is further widened by the immense differences in economic activity and investment on the governmental level which reinforces these inequities. The ethnic fragmentation created by successive apartheid governments aimed to limit the centralisation of native African populations in order to prevent dissent however this necessitated the formation of a dual system for many public services which further crippled the economy of South Africa. (Berry, 1993) In forcing the native populations to the homelands (the reserves) South Africa was once again reinforcing Amin's theories of South Africa functioning as a labour reserve.

The country's infamous policy of "grand" apartheid and the "Group Areas Act" forcibly reduced the growth and prosperity of the localities of South Africa at high economic expense. We see this reflected in the relative poverty map above. The inconsistent growth and inequitable development of the South African state was determined by commerce and extraction (primarily of precious stones, minerals and metals) and upheld by environment and society.

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

IV.I Post-apartheid politics

Today race prevails as a politically salient component of South Africa. During apartheid it was the most fundamental life determinant in relation to educational type and quality, employment prospects, who one could marry, where one could physically be and the political rights one possessed. Though apartheid formally ended in 1994, race remains highly politicized as the legacies of apartheid permeate the country. One's life prospects are still heavily influenced on their race; this is shifting gradually as more black South Africans become a larger share of the middle and upper socioeconomic classes. However, as wealth continues to de-racialize poverty does not, with almost all poor people in South Africa are black.

Table 1 displays the differential income of Black and white South Africans during and post-apartheid. Where black South Africans are significantly worse off than their white counterparts with a 55.5% gap between the two groups in 2008.

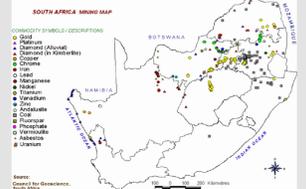
This has been attributed to a range of factors including the higher number of children per household and dependent adults in black households. Additionally, low education outcomes for the head of households have contributed to the big gap. The gap also reflects the over-representation of Africans in rural areas and the poorest provinces a continued result of apartheid.

	Lower poverty line		Upper poverty line	
	NIDS, 2008 FGT(0)	PSLSD, 1993 % Diff.	NIDS, 2008 FGT(0)	PSLSD, 1993 % Diff.
Whites	1.5	1.7	6.7	4.3
Africans	57.0	71.0	76.6	86.6
Differential (Diff.)	55.5	69.3	69.9	82.3

Source: (Gardn,2011)

II.II Mineral Endowment

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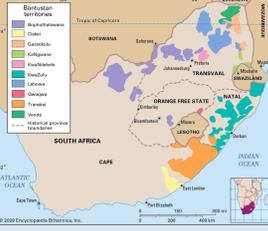


The mining industry plays a significant role in South Africa's economy, accounting for 29.7% of South Africa's GDP according to the World Bank (2017). Major diamond mines in Kimberley, Dutoitspan, and Bultfontein were controlled by Rhodes' British South Africa Company, which also defined the expansion of the industry to Johannesburg after the discovery of gold. Mining primarily relies on indigenous African labour for unskilled work, especially as historically only settlers could work in managerial positions and black movement around mines was controlled through pass laws. The mining industry is a major driver of labour movement in South Africa, with many indigenous workers having to move to urban outskirts of mining towns for work. These mining migrants, according to Mamdani (2018), are economically and socially marginalized, contributing to the deeply entrenched inequalities in the country. Lastly, the mining industry served as a major source of funding and investment into infrastructure, both historically and in contemporary context, with most railroads being built to connect mines to ports to facilitate exports.



II.II Racial Segregation and Apartheid

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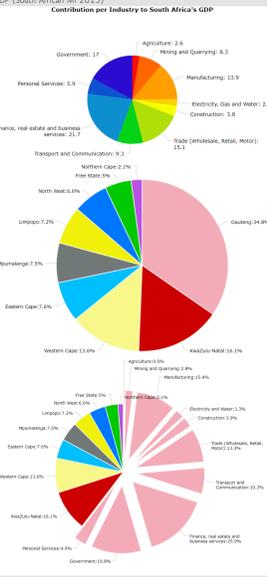


Racial segregation is still a major legacy of colonial South Africa, with racial discrimination being institutionalized during the diamond and gold rush eras and fully formalized in 1948 as Apartheid. All previous pass laws and land division institutions tightened, with non-white population fully confined to reserves, spreading over less than 13% of the total land, and only allowed in cities for employment. Due to the limited economic opportunities in homelands, many natives were forced to migrate to mining towns, leading to the creation of illegal settlements in the outskirts of many cities. This in turn triggered often violent removals of natives, like the one in Sophiatown resulting in many families' homes being destroyed. Thus, resources were driving economic and political constancy as the economy relied on migrant labor to produce mining exports, justifying segregation.

Following the creation of separate amenities in the 1950s, including healthcare, education, and other services, based on race, the already unequal living conditions of the Native population were further exacerbated. This had disastrous effects on the economy as the government needed to provide funding for two (and in some cases even more) separate healthcare and education systems. This combined with economic sanctions imposed by global superpowers led to the bankruptcy of the state. The system created to exploit resources self-destructed as the exports were unable to support its costs anymore.

III.II Sectoral Economy – Services

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South Africa has moved from a primary and secondary economy in the mid-twentieth century to an economy dominated mainly by the tertiary sector with this sector currently accounting for over 22% of the nation's GDP. The tertiary sector refers to the service sector, including industries like financial institutions. This illustrates the gradual shift towards a service led economy a hallmark of economic development.

South Africa is an immensely significant player in the financial sector especially in the African context. This aspect of the sectoral economy is able to function and continue to grow in the manner that it has done because of the country's large natural endowment and also surplus reserves of gold, diamonds and other precious minerals and metals. The speculative nature of this sector builds upon the founding of modern South Africa and utilises the material wealth of the nation as collateral.

South Africa is not only a settler economy, the products of South Africa's mining industry were not volatile commodities as they were luxury and rare goods. So this source constancy allowed South Africa to change and diversify their economy over time without fear of economic collapse or external overdependence. However, not all were able to benefit for the capital generated by the industry.

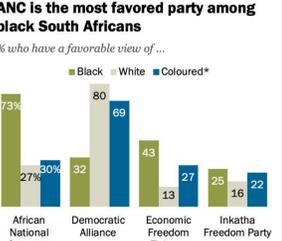
The Spatial Development Initiative (SDI) programme was developed and introduced between 1995-96 as an integral component of reforming the post-apartheid economy. (Rogerson, 2002) With the SDIs, the new government sought to promote financial investment, industrial manufacturing and other economic activities along a number of selected transit lines. These transit lines fell along the same policies of the apartheid government. This could perhaps be due to Mandela wanting to improve the economic activity of marginalised groups whilst not losing investment secondary to capital flight. These policies improved the nation's

IV. II Electoral Politics

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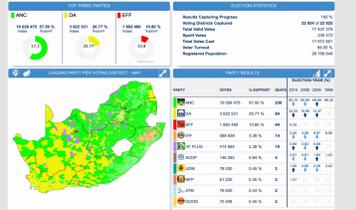
Since the end of apartheid, the African National Congress (ANC), has been the dominant force in South African Politics winning all four of the last elections with large majorities (62%, 66%, 69%, and 66% respectively). In the nation, party support is aligned along the racial cleavage in the country (Ferree, 2006). Where black South Africans were already organized into racial blocs, this was the case from the first national election with the common struggle against the apartheid regime. At this juncture, the party established political capital and organization have been able to strategically use it in holding on to power.

Black South Africans make up more than 80% of the country's population and of that, over 90% have voted from either the ANC or the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP, who garner a majority of their support from the KwaZulu Natal province. Racial voting similarly happens among white South Africans for other parties with the Democratic Alliance taking the stronghold of support. With constantly high voter turnout around 77% and free and fair elections, the electoral patterns in South Africa have become quite predictable.



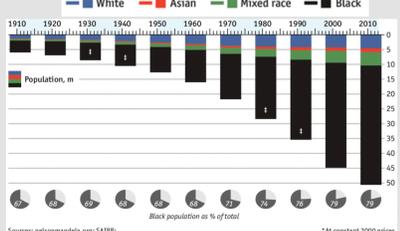
ANC is the most favored party among black South Africans

Party	Black	White	Coloured*
African National Congress	73%	27%	30%
Democratic Alliance	32%	80%	69%
Economic Freedom Fighters	43%	13%	27%
Inkatha Freedom Party	26%	22%	16%



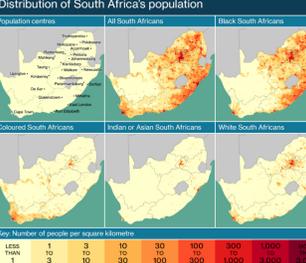
I.III Population

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The population of South Africa has increased from 35m in 1994 to 57.8m in 2019, with largest growth found among the black population. South Africa's ethnolinguistic diversity is a significant part of its political, economic and cultural history. In the last 100 years the black population has always been the majority but consistently owned the least proportion of land and accounts for the largest proportion of population living in poverty.

South African population is largely concentrated in urban areas, especially in provinces like KwaZulu-Natal, Free State, and Transvaal. There are 3 major urban centers - Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban. There is a large divide in population distribution along ethnic lines, with white population concentrating in cities and black population being largely rural still, primarily due to legacies of apartheid. Nonetheless, there is a growing migration trend to urban centers, primarily those located near mines and ports, as these provide more economic opportunities for unskilled workers.

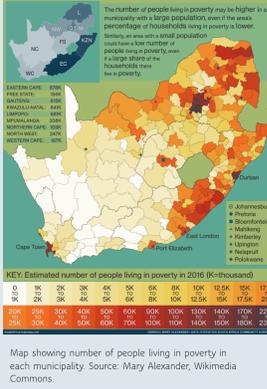


Distribution of South Africa's population

Population centres	All South Africans	Black South Africans
Johannesburg	10,000,000	8,000,000
Cape Town	5,000,000	4,000,000
Durban	4,000,000	3,000,000

II.III Homelands

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Following the implementation of the Group Areas Act in 1950, indigenous Africans were only allowed to reside in designated ethnic homelands. Africans were forcibly removed from urban areas (white cities) unless they had a work permit and relocated to a homeland. These homelands became a main source of spatial and racial inequality. Cooper (2002) calls these areas "dumping grounds" that lacked proper resources to support African families. Homelands became over-populated, with minimal access to healthcare and education, and most importantly, the land was quickly over-grazed, which negatively affected incomes. According to Lovo (2014), owning land had a direct impact on welfare, but because of the limited area designated for each homeland, families that arrived later were often left landless and were stuck in a poverty cycle. This had long-lasting legacies, as contemporary poverty levels highly correlate old homeland areas. In later periods, the government tried to create a sort of indirect rule in the homelands by appointing "tribal chiefs". This, however, led to ethnic tensions in the homelands. These tensions heightened especially in KwaZulu-Natal, where the Zulu population rose up in support of the monarchy leading to the creation of Inkatha Freedom Party after independence.

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