



# South Africa

**President:** Jacob Zuma

**Parliament website:**  
www.parliament.gov.za

**Capital city:** Pretoria



## Highlights

- Growth in household disposable income has accelerated, reaching 5.8% in 2010.
- Inflation has been contained, at 5% in 2011.
- Unemployment improved little over the decade, affecting a quarter of the workforce, with some 59% of these being long-term unemployed.
- The employment rate of women was 34.6%, compared with 47.4% for men, and OECD figures of 56.7% and 73%.
- Tertiary graduation rates were around 4%, compared with 30% for OECD countries.
- Almost 10% of households have access to internet.
- Life expectancy declined slightly to 52.1 in 2010.

### ECONOMY

	2001	2011 <sup>3</sup>
Gross domestic product (US\$ bln, PPPs)	310.6	524.0 <sup>2</sup>
GDP per capita (US\$)	6 897	10 498 <sup>2</sup>
Real GDP growth (annual %)	2.7	2.8 <sup>2</sup>
Household disposable income (annual growth %)	2.8	5.8 <sup>2</sup>
Budget balance (% of GDP)	-2.0	..
Public debt (% of GDP)	..	..
Current account balance (% of GDP)	0.3	..
Inflation rate: all items (annual %)	5.7	5.0
Unit labour cost (annual growth %)	..	..
Long-term interest rates (%)	11.41	8.52
Public expenditure on health (% of GDP)	3.5	3.9 <sup>2</sup>
Private expenditure on health (% of GDP)	5.3	5.0 <sup>2</sup>
Public expenditure on education (% of GDP)	..	4.8 <sup>1</sup>
Private expenditure on education (% of GDP)	..	..

### NEW SOURCES OF GROWTH

Renewable energy (% of energy supply)	11.6	..
Primary energy supply (Mtoe)	112.4	..
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fuel combustion (mln tonnes)	282	347 <sup>2</sup>
R&D expenditure (US\$ mln, 2005 prices, PPPs)	2 536	..
Tertiary graduation rates (% of population)	..	4.3 <sup>2</sup>
Households with internet access (%)	..	9.8

1. 2009 data 2. 2010 data 3. Unless otherwise indicated

### GLOBALISATION

	2001	2011 <sup>3</sup>
Imports of goods and services (% of GDP)	26.1	..
Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	30.1	..
Net official development assistance (% of GNI)	..	..
Foreign-born population (% of population)	..	3.7 <sup>2</sup>
Migration for work (% of total migration)	..	..
Outward FDI stocks (US\$ bln)	..	..
Inward FDI stocks (US\$ bln)	..	..

### SOCIETY

Population (thousands)	45 390	50 133 <sup>2</sup>
Life expectancy at birth (years)	53.8	52.1 <sup>2</sup>
Population, 65 and over (% of population)	3.8	4.8
Employment rates: men (%)	50.7	47.4
Employment rates: women (%)	38.1	34.6
Self-employment rates (% of employed)	..	..
Unemployment rates (%)	26.2	24.9
Long-term unemployment (% of unemployed)	68.4	58.8
Income inequality, rank out of 34 (1: least unequal)	..	..
Average hours actually worked (per year)	..	..
Taxes on average worker (all-in, % of labour cost)	..	..
Road fatalities (per mln inhabitants)	253	..