



Western Cape
Government
FOR YOU



#KnowYourMunicipality: The 2023 Socio-Economic Profile

Overberg District Municipality



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Overberg District: At a Glance

Demographics

Population Estimates, 2022; Actual households, 2022



Population
359 446



Households
134 798

Education

2022



Matric Pass Rate **83.9%**
Learner Retention Rate **71.9%**
Learner-Teacher Ratio **29.6**

Poverty

2022



Gini Coefficient **0.61**
Poverty Head Count Ratio (UBPL) **60.0%**

Health

2022/23



Primary Health Care Facilities
19
(excl. mobile/satellite clinics)

Immunisation Rate
80.0%

Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100 000 live births)
0.0

Teenage Pregnancies – Delivery rate to women U/19
13.1%

Safety and Security

Actual number of reported cases in 2022/23



Residential Burglaries
2 353

DUI
731

Drug-related Crimes
4 052

Murder
158

Sexual Offences
357

Access to Basic Service Delivery

Percentage of households with access to basic services, 2022

Water

98.8%



Refuse Removal

84.9%



Electricity

95.6%



Sanitation

94.1%



Housing

87.5%



Road Safety

2021/22

Fatal Crashes **47**
Road User Fatalities **70**

Labour

2022

Unemployment Rate (narrow definition)
14.9%



Socio-economic Risks

Risk 1 High & increasing crime rate
Risk 2 Low learner retention
Risk 3 High poverty levels

Largest 3 Sectors

Contribution to GDP, 2021

Finance, insurance, real estate and business services

25.0%



Wholesale & retail trade, catering and accommodation

17.6%



Manufacturing

14.1%



This publication is produced by the Provincial Treasury for each of the Western Cape municipalities on an annual basis. These socio-economic profiles provide each municipality with up-to-date socio-economic data as well as analysis pertaining to the municipal area, to assist in planning, budgeting and the prioritisation of municipal services.

The profiles include information on recent trends in GDP and labour market performance, demographics, education and health outcomes. It further unpacks per capita income, inequality and poverty, access to housing and basic services as well as crime levels. A new addition to the profile is the inclusion of risk and vulnerability indicators related to climate change which is critical to development.

Valuable insight can be gained as to the developmental challenges faced by communities residing within a specific geographical area. While some developmental challenges are not within the municipality's mandate to address, these profiles also provide spatial information for other spheres of Government in order to improve the quality of lives of people within each municipal area.

This profile uses data primarily sourced from Statistics South Africa, administrative data from sector departments, the Municipal Review and Outlook (MERO), Global Insight Regional Explorer and Quantec. The data sourced from sector departments are the most recent that is available. The Statistics South Africa 2022 Census contains the latest survey data available at municipal level.

The format of the profile allows for easy readability with the data being displayed in infographics, followed by the relevant trend analyses.

The information contained in this profile highlights information for the Overberg District Municipality, including the local municipalities within the region, as well as in relation to the broader Western Cape.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Current Population

359 446 2022

Estimated Population

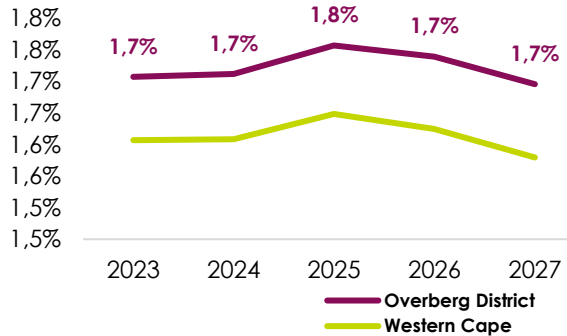
391 056 2027



Estimated Average Annual Population Growth Rate 2022 - 2027

1.7%

Estimated Population Growth



Gender and Age Dynamics



Female 50.8% | Male 49.2%

372²⁰²³

366²⁰²⁴

Fertility Index

47²⁰²³

47²⁰²⁴

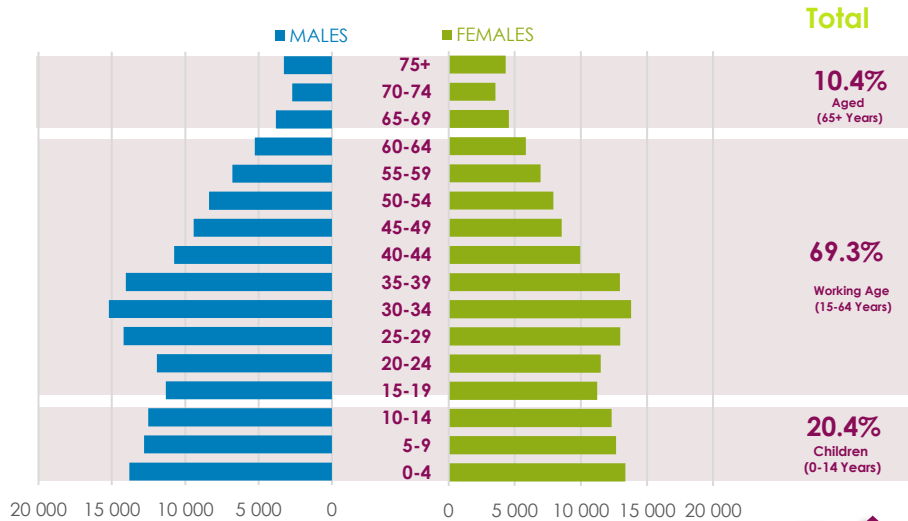
Dependency Ratio

29.1²⁰²³

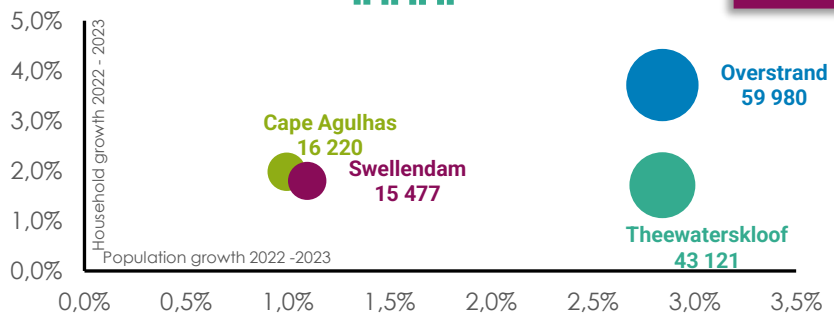
29.6²⁰²⁴

Ageing Index

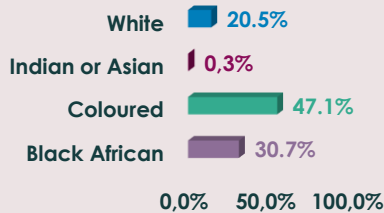
Population by Age 2022



Population and Household Growth 2022



Racial Split



Level of Urbanisation 2021



Urban proportion of the population increased from 65.4% in 2001 to 76.8% in 2021.



25.6 people/km²

2023

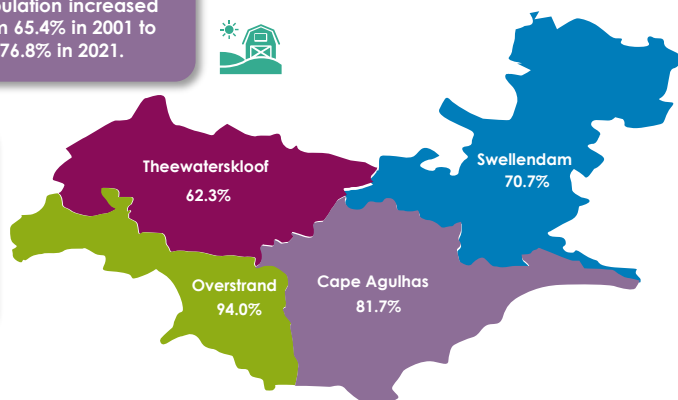
26.1 people/km²

2024

26.5 people/km²

2025

Theewaterskloof local municipality urbanization increased 15.9% from 2001-2021, highest % per LM in the Province.



Population and Household Growth

Bredasdorp, located in the Cape Agulhas area, serves as the Overberg District's administrative center. The District has a population of 359 446 in 2022, with Theewaterskloof and Overstrand having the larger, and Cape Agulhas and Swellendam having the lower populations within the region. Average population growth in this region is estimated at a moderate 1.7 per cent between 2022 and 2027.

Gender, Age and Race Dynamics

A closer look at the gender makeup of Overberg District reveals a marginally greater representation of females (50.8 per cent) compared to males (49.2 per cent). The age distribution reveals a high proportion of people in the working-age category (69.3 per cent), with smaller groups of children (20.4 per cent) and the elderly (10.4 per cent). The proportion of the working-age population appears relatively stable, as the dependency ratio remains unchanged between 2023 and 2024.

Examining the racial composition of the population provides valuable insights. It underscores the significance of inclusive policies and social unity in the pursuit of a more equitable society. Within the District, it is evident that the population is primarily composed of coloured persons (47.1 per cent), followed by significant percentages of black African (30.7 per cent) and white (20.5 per cent) populations.

Level of Urbanisation

Urbanisation reflects a country or region's economic and social transformation, with people moving to cities in search of better opportunities. Between 2001 and 2021, the Overberg witnessed a gradual increase in urbanisation, with the urban population rising from 65.4 per cent to 76.8 per cent. Grabouw emerged as the largest urban settlement in the region, followed by Zwelihle, Swellendam, Hermanus, Bredasdorp and Caledon. Notably, the most significant urban growth in the region was experienced by Zwelihle (in the Overstrand area).

While it presents economic potential and improved living conditions for many, it also poses challenges related to inequality, infrastructure development, and governance that require careful attention and planning.

Population Density

In the context of the Overberg region, the overarching population density is recorded at 26 individuals per square kilometer. However, there is a substantial variance in population densities among different local areas within the region. As a quantitative measure used to assess the concentration of residents within a specific geographical area, it plays a pivotal role in understanding the degree of population crowding or dispersion. Overstrand, characterised by rapid population growth, registers the highest population density at 66 people per square kilometer, while Theewaterskloof, the most populous region in the District, maintains a comparatively moderate population density of 39. The Theewaterskloof and Cape Agulhas areas exhibit notably lower densities of 10 individuals per square kilometer, which holds its own significant relevance in urban planning and resource allocation.

Low population density areas are likely to have higher per-person cost for social and economic infrastructure. However, it also offers opportunities for a more relaxed lifestyle, which some individuals and families find appealing. Conversely, higher population density serves as a catalyst for the advancement of efficient infrastructure, including public transport and services, fostering heightened economic activity that may attract businesses and contribute to job creation. However, the drawback lies in the potential strain on resources, encompassing housing and public infrastructure.

EDUCATION: Overberg



Learner enrolment



Educational facilities 2022

82

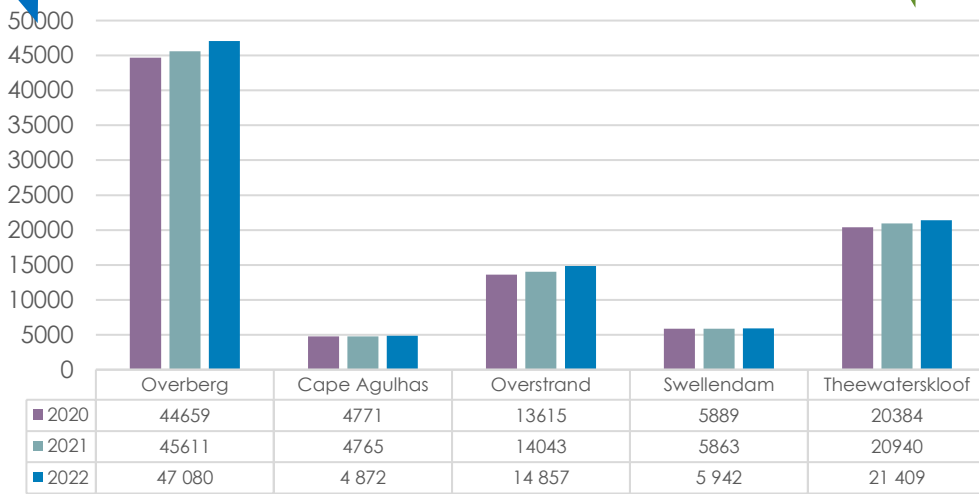
Number of schools

80.5%

Proportion of no-fee schools

Number of schools with libraries

43



■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022

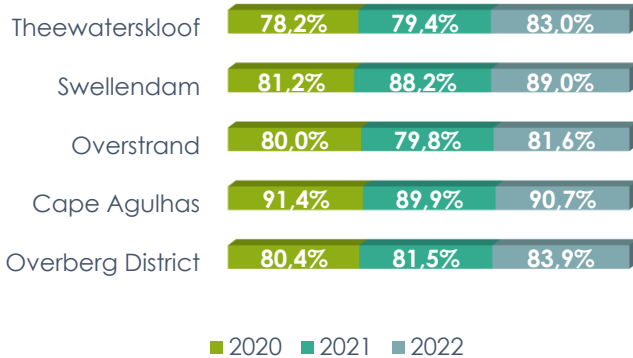


Education outcomes

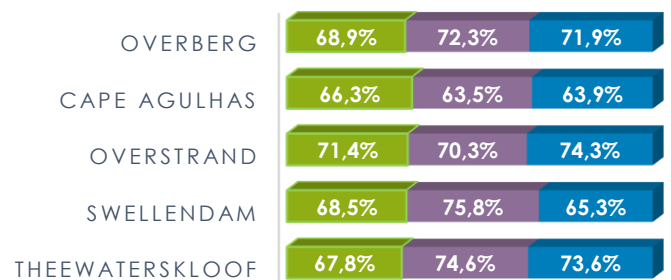


Learner retention 2020 - 2022

■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022



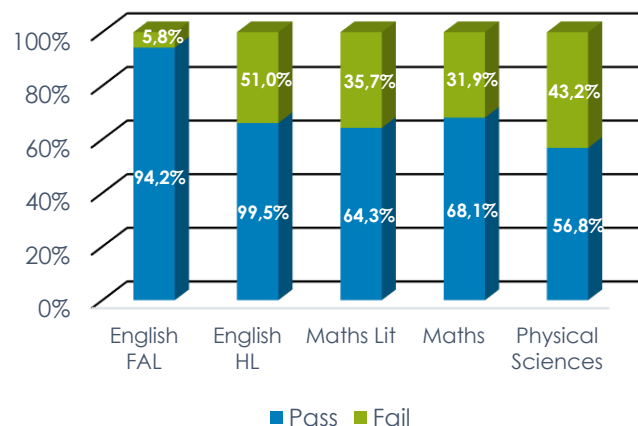
■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022



Learner-Teacher Ratio 2020- 2022



Subject Outcomes



■ Pass ■ Fail

Introduction

School education is vital for personal growth, societal development, and the overall well-being of a community and nation. It shapes the future by nurturing the potential of each individual and providing them with the tools to contribute positively to society.

Education Facilities, Learner-teacher Ratio

In 2022, there were 82 schools in the Overberg District municipal area, of which 80.5 per cent were no fee schools and only 43 had libraries. The No-fee Schools Policy abolishes school fees in the poorest 40 per cent of schools nationally, for learners from Grade R to Grade 9, specifying that schools that do not charge fees will be allocated a larger total of funding per learner from the national budget for the foregone fee revenue. This applies to 66 of the 82 schools in the Overberg area.

The learner-teacher ratio has shown a slight improvement, with an overall decrease from 30.1 in 2020 to 29.6 in 2022. As this ratio impacts teaching directly by indicating the teacher resource available as well as the class sizes and context in which teaching takes place, it implies that schools with relatively higher ratios, such as Overstrand within the Overberg region, may struggle to provide the same quality of education as those with lower ratios, potentially exacerbating educational inequalities.

Learner Enrolment & Retention Rates

Within the region, learner enrolment stood at 47 080 in 2022, slightly more than the 45 611 enrolled in 2021. Growing learner enrollment is a positive sign of increased access to education, greater awareness of its benefits, and often, progress in society within the area. However, it also brings challenges related to infrastructure, resources, and the need for continuous improvements in educational quality to meet the needs of the expanding student population.

While enrolment is crucial, it is also essential to ensure that learners remain within the schooling system in order to complete their schooling. However, the learner retention rate is influenced by a wide array of factors, including economic influences such as unemployment, poverty/very low household income, as well as social concerns such as teenage pregnancies, overcrowded classrooms, student attitudes towards education, as well as other personal circumstances which can make it difficult for learners to focus on education. The grade 10 to 12 retention rate for the Overberg stood at a low 71.9 per cent, signaling significant challenges and concerns. Overstrand emerged with the most favorable rate among the local municipalities, with a retention rate of 74.3 per cent, while Cape Agulhas scored the lowest in the region with 63.9 per cent. Mitigating school dropouts requires a collaborative effort and a commitment to creating a supportive and inclusive educational environment that accommodates the diverse needs of students, tailored to the unique local challenges and circumstances.

Education & Subject Outcomes

The District's matric pass rate has not seen some improvements, increasing from 80.4 per cent in 2020 to 83.9 per cent in 2022. Subject outcomes show relatively good English pass rates, however, with mathematics (64.3 per cent mathematics literacy; 68.1 per cent mathematics) and physical sciences (56.8 per cent) dipping well below the overall pass rate. Good mathematics and science outcomes often serve as prerequisites for pursuing higher education and certain career paths and can therefore directly impact future opportunities and choices.

When examining matric pass rates, it is imperative to consider them together with retention rates, as low retention rates can potentially distort educational outcomes. Observing the results, there is typically a correlation where outcomes appear higher when retention rates are lower. Ensuring the retention of learners is a fundamental aspect of achieving holistic favourable education outcomes.

HEALTH



Healthcare Facilities



19 Fixed PHC Facilities
24 Mobile/Satellite Clinics



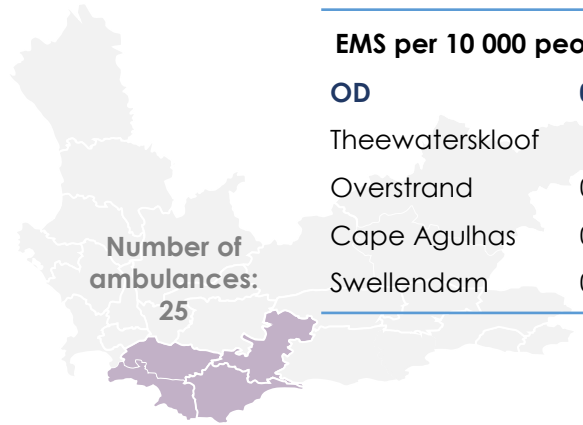
24 ART Clinics/
Treatment Sites
34 TB Clinics/
Treatment Sites



4 District Hospitals



Emergency Medical Services



Maternal Health

OVERBERG DISTRICT 2023:
Maternal Health Indicators

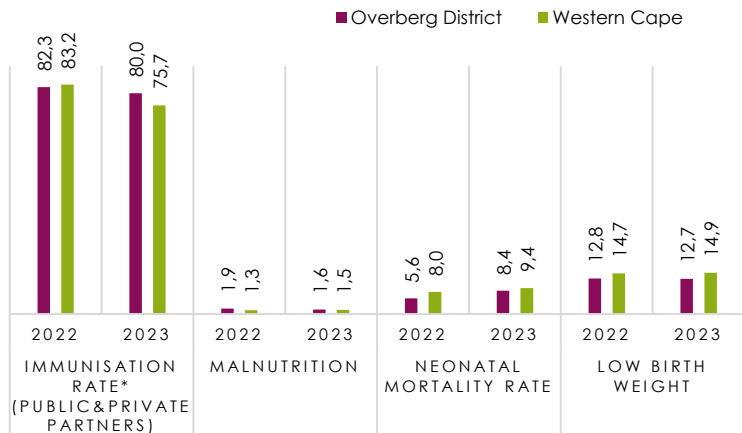
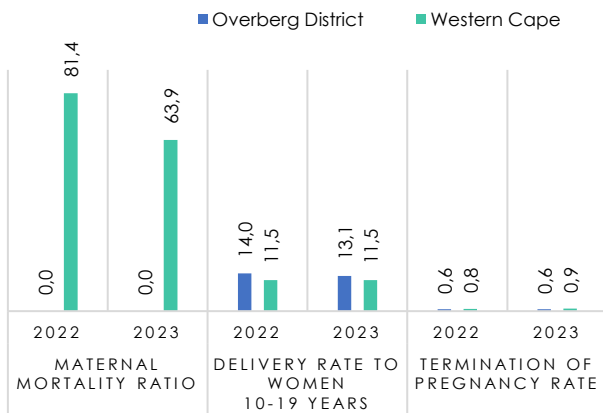
- Maternal deaths in facility : 0
- Deliveries in facility u19 years : 554
- Termination of pregnancy : 514



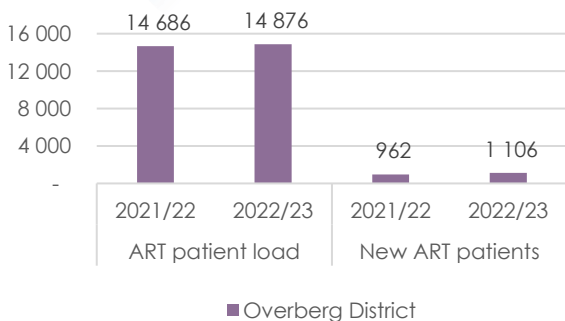
Child Health

OVERBERG DISTRICT 2023:
Child Health Indicators

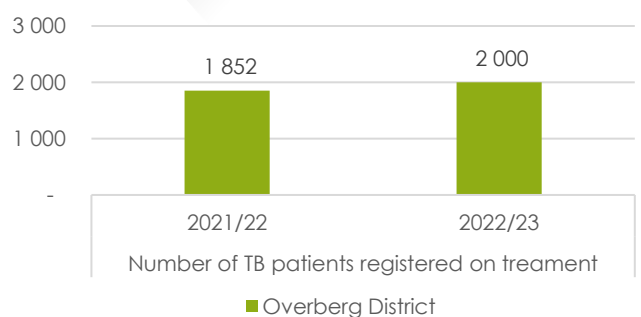
- Live births under 2500g (low birth weight) : 531
- Inpatient deaths 6-28 day : 35
- Immunisation u1 year : 4 267
- Severe acute malnutrition u5 years : 42



HIV/AIDS



Tuberculosis



Healthcare Facilities & Emergency Medical Services

South Africa's healthcare system is a mix of public and private providers, and its health facilities are an essential component of ensuring access to healthcare services for the country's diverse population. Government plays a pivotal role in providing healthcare services through the public sector, while the private sector offers additional options for those who can afford it. The public healthcare system follows a referral system, where patients receive primary care at clinics and are referred to district or provincial hospitals for more specialised care when needed. Across the Overberg area, there are a total of 19 fixed primary health care facilities and 24 mobile/satellite clinics. In addition, there are also 24 anti-retroviral therapy (ART) and 34 tuberculosis (TB) clinics/ treatment sites as well as 4 district hospitals situated in Bredasdorp, Caledon, Swellendam and Hermanus.

As an integral part of the healthcare system, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) bridges the gap between an emergency and the delivery of medical care in a hospital setting. Timely and effective EMS response can significantly impact the survival and recovery. However, it is important to note that EMS encompasses a range of services, personnel, and resources designed to provide immediate medical assistance, transportation to healthcare facilities, and pre-hospital care to individuals facing critical health crises. Considered within this context, operational ambulances are a significant, but not the only component within medical emergency situations. The District has a total of 25 ambulances servicing the area, which translates into 0.8 ambulances per 10 000 people in 2022/23. It is worth noting that this number only refers to Provincial ambulances and excludes private service providers.

Maternal Health

Maternal health refers to the well-being of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, which includes the first six weeks after giving birth. It encompasses physical, mental, and social aspects of health related to pregnancy and childbirth. A few maternal health indicators are considered here. In the context of the Overberg region, there were no reported maternal deaths in the 2021/22 as well as 2022/23 period (maternal mortality rate of zero). During the period spanning from 2021/22 to 2022/23, there was a decrease in the proportion of deliveries to women 10-19 years, falling from 14.0 per cent to 13.1 per cent. The latter figure translates into a total of 554 births to these young women. At the same time, the termination of pregnancy rate remained unchanged, bringing the total number of termination of pregnancies performed for 2022/23 to 514.

Child Health

Regarding child health, the immunisation rate in the Overberg declined slightly from 82.3 per cent in 2021/22 to 80.0 per cent in 2022/23, however, this rate still remains below the optimal level. Severe child malnutrition remained low, with only one such case confirmed for 2022/23, also indicating a drop in the number of undernourished children under the age of five per 100 000 population, decreasing from 1.9 in 2021/22 to 1.6. This rate varies across the local areas, reaching a high of 3.0 per 100 000 people in the Theewaterskloof area (a total of 31 severely malnourished children) with a low of 0.3 in the Theewaterskloof and Cape Agulhas areas. The low-birth-weight indicator for the region presented a slight improvement in the percentage of babies born in facilities under 2 500g), from 12.8 per cent in 2021/22 to 12.7 per cent in 2022/23. Similarly, the neonatal mortality rate (per 1 000 live births) registered a deterioration, from 5.6 in 2021/22 to 8.4 in 2022/23 – this translates into a total of 35 deaths before reaching 28 days.

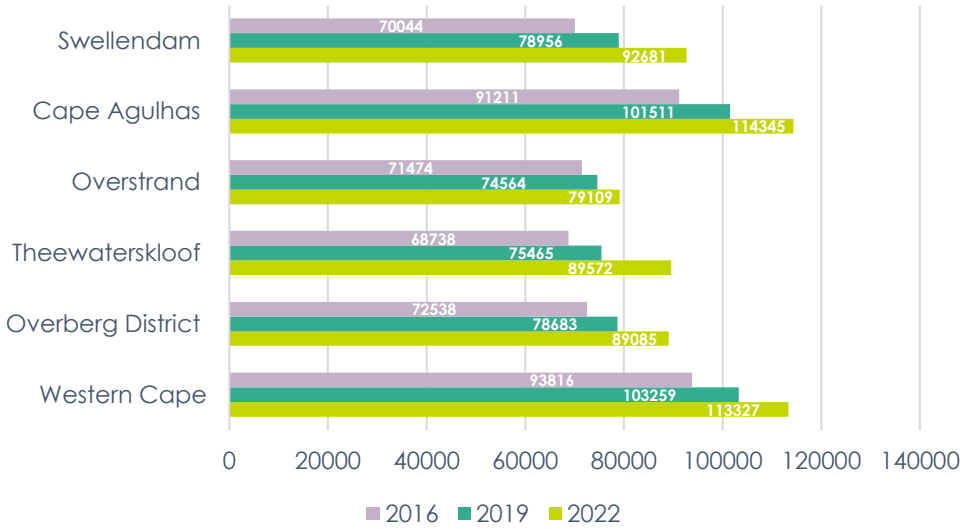
HIV/AIDS & Tuberculosis

Within the region, there has been an expansion in the total number of patients enrolled in antiretroviral treatment, marking an increase of 190 patients. This figure has risen from 14 686 in 2021/22 to 14 876 in 2022/23. Similarly, there has been an uptick in the number of new patients commencing antiretroviral treatment, with 1 106 new patients in 2022/23, as compared to 962 in the preceding year. Similarly, growth in TB patients registered on treatment was experienced, increasing from 1 852 in 2021/22 to 2 000 in 2022/23. These patterns indicate a growing demand for antiretroviral treatment and TB services, potentially carrying economic implications for the allocation and management of healthcare resources in the region.

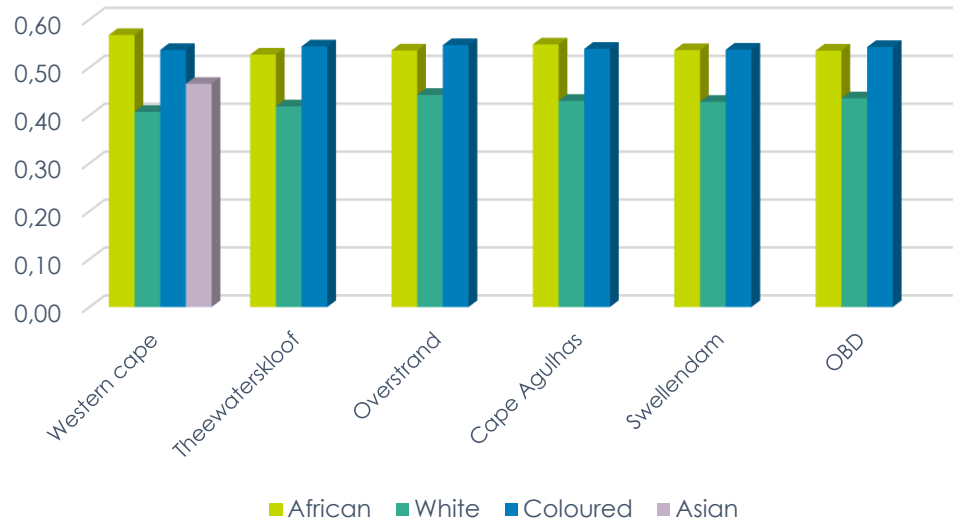
POVERTY



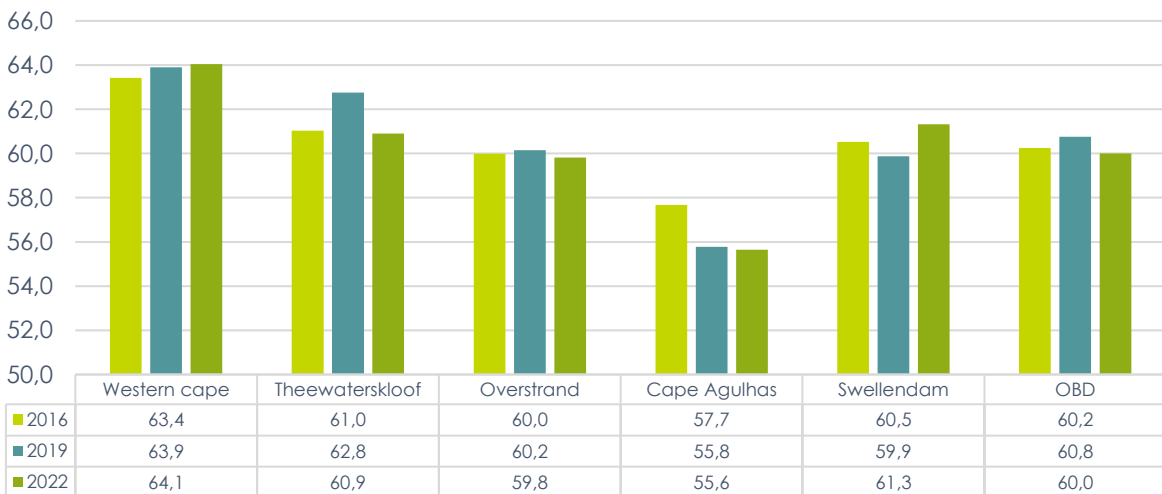
GDP per capita



Income Inequality



Poverty Line



GDPR Per Capita

An increase in the real regional Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita, which measures the GDP per person, occurs when the rate of real economic growth surpasses the rate of population growth. In 2022, the District had a per capita GDPR of R89 085 in comparison with the Province's R113 327. Within the District, the local municipal areas varied greatly, from a high of R114 345 in the Cape Agulhas area to a low of R79 109 in the Overstrand. While real GDP per capita reflects changes in the overall well-being of the population, it is important to note that not everyone in an economy will earn the same income as indicated by the real GDP per capita measure.

While a high GDP per capita is generally desirable, it is essential to consider its distribution and the well-being of all segments of the population. Addressing income disparities, promoting inclusive growth, and addressing sustainability concerns are critical in higher per capita GDP regions.

Income Inequality

South Africa grapples with some of the highest levels of inequality globally, as evidenced by the widely used Gini index. This inequality is manifested through an uneven distribution of income, disparities in access to opportunities, and regional economic differences. The National Development Plan (NDP) has established an ambitious goal of reducing income inequality in South Africa, aiming to lower the Gini coefficient from 0.7 in 2010 to 0.6 by 2030.

While Overberg's Gini coefficient has steadily increased from 0.59 in 2015 to 0.63 in 2021, likely brought on by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy and employment, it exhibited a decrease to 0.61 in 2022, closing the gap on the target set by the National Development Plan (NDP) for 2030. This reduction suggests some advancement towards achieving the NDP's income inequality reduction goal and may have various socio-economic impacts, including potential improvements in social equity, economic stability and well-being.

Poverty Line

Poverty affects the social development of communities through lower life expectancy, malnutrition and food insecurity, higher exposure to crime and substance abuse, lower educational attainment and poor living conditions. Different measures of poverty are used as indicators assess and quantify the extent of poverty within a population or region. They provide insights into the economic well-being and living conditions of individuals or households. The Upper Bound Poverty Line (UBPL) head count ratio is one such measure, quantifying the proportion of the population living below the UBPL that cannot afford to purchase adequate levels of food and non-food items. The UBPL in South Africa is R1 227 (in April 2019 prices) per person per month.

In 2022, 60.0 per cent of Overberg District population fell below this UBPL. This figure improved marginally from the 60.2 per cent and 60.8 per cent recorded for the periods 2016 and 2019 respectively. Within the region, Swellendam (61.3 per cent in 2021) represents the highest proportion of people living in poverty, followed closely by Theewaterskloof (60.9 per cent) and Overstrand (59.8 per cent). Cape Agulhas at the lowest proportion of its population living in poverty in the region. For this particular indicator, the District fares better Province, which experience a slightly higher level of poverty (64.1 per cent).

BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY

134 798
Overberg District

2 264 032
Western Cape

Total number of households

Formal main dwelling

87.5%

117 986

Overberg District

1 991 644

Western Cape

88.0%

87.5% Overberg
88.0% Western Cape

Formal dwelling

0.7% Overberg
0.7% Western Cape

Traditional dwelling



11.5% Overberg
11.1% Western Cape

Informal dwelling

0.3% Overberg
0.3% Western Cape

Other/Unspecified



Piped water inside dwelling/ yard or community stand

Overberg 98.8%
Western Cape 99.1%



Flush/chemical toilet

Overberg 94.1%
Western Cape 95.1%



Electricity for lighting

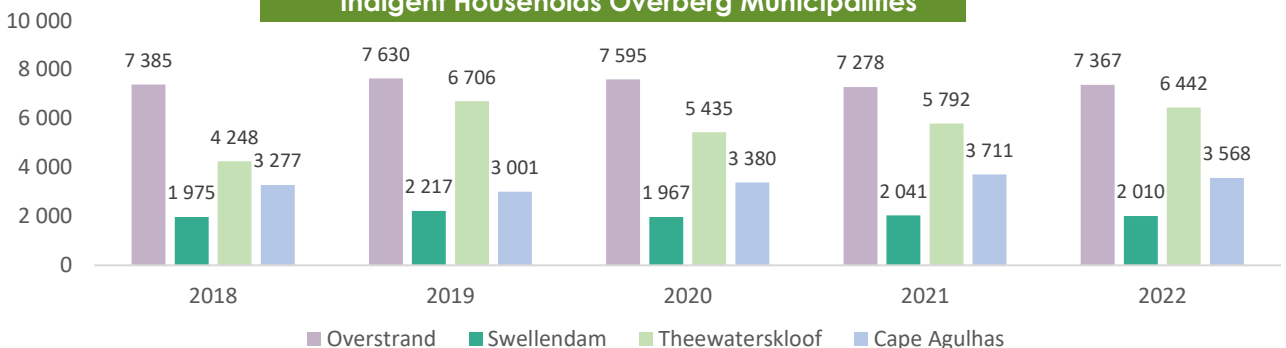
Overberg 95.6%
Western Cape 96.5%



Refuse removal at least once a week

Overberg 84.9%
Western Cape 88.7%

Indigent Households Overberg Municipalities



In accordance with the constitutional framework, it is mandated that every citizen has the right to access adequate housing, with the onus on the state to enact reasonable legislative measures and other relevant actions within the confines of its available resources, aiming for the progressive realisation of this right. This right extends to encompass not only housing but also includes access to essential services such as clean water, basic sanitation, reliable energy sources, and efficient waste disposal services, thereby ensuring that households can maintain a decent standard of living.

This segment of the analysis seeks to evaluate the extent to which these constitutional objectives have been attained, relying on the most recent data provided by Quantec Research for the 2022. The latest official statistics was collected by Statistics South Africa for the 2022 Census. Additionally, data pertaining to indigent households has been sourced from the Department of Local Government.

Housing and Household Services

Among the 134 798 households residing in the Overberg District area, a noteworthy 87.5 per cent enjoyed access to formal housing, marginally below that of the Province, which stood at 88.0 per cent. Furthermore, the region demonstrated a slightly higher proportion of informal dwellings, accounting for only 11.5 per cent of the total, in contrast to the Province's 11.1 per cent. Informal housing poses a specific challenge in Theewaterskloof, accounting for 18.7 per cent of the total households in this region.

The Overberg area exhibited notably greater service access levels compared to formal housing access, with striking statistics such as access to piped water within the dwelling or yard, which reached 98.8 per cent. Access to flush or chemical toilets was prevalent among 94.1 per cent of households, access to electricity for lighting was accessible to 95.6 per cent of households. However, the regular removal of refuse by local authorities occurred in 84.9 per cent of households, less than the proportion of formal households.

The Overberg region displays a level of formal housing provision and service accessibility comparable to the Province as a whole.

Free Basic Services

In the context of Free Basic Services, municipalities offer a suite of essential services to households facing financial vulnerability and challenges in affording such services. While there were to be fluctuations in indigent household totals over the 2018 to 2022 period, most of the local municipalities registered a higher total by 2022.

The prevailing adverse economic conditions exerted additional pressure on household incomes, thereby likely amplifying the demand for free basic services.

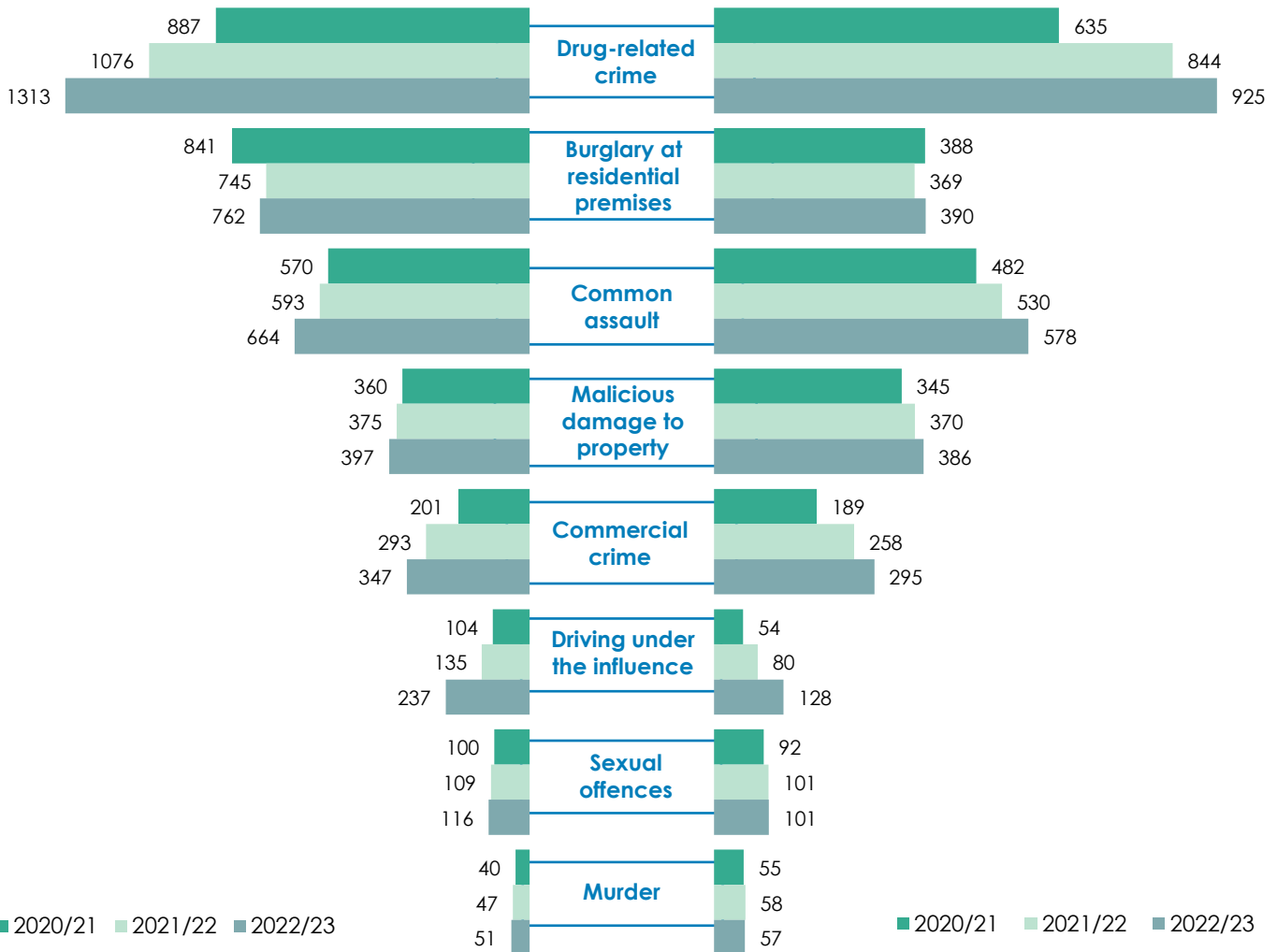
SAFETY AND SECURITY

OVERBERG

6 385 Total reported
crime per 100 000 people in the
Overberg District in 2022/23

WESTERN CAPE

5 439 Total reported
crime per 100 000 people in
Western Cape in 2022/23



Drug-related
crime
3267 (2021/22)
4052 (2022/23)

Murder
142 (2021/22)
158 (2022/23)

Sexual
offences
330 (2021/22)
357 (2022/23)

Driving under
the influence
409 (2021/22)
731 (2022/23)



Residential
burglaries
2262 (2021/22)
2353 (2022/23)

Common assault
1802 (2021/22)
2050 (2022/23)

Damage to
property
1140 (2021/22)
1226 (2022/23)

Commercial
crime
889 (2021/22)
1070 (2022/23)

Murder

Recognising the impact of criminal activities is of great importance, given that these consequences range from loss of life and personal trauma to broader societal repercussions. The implications also extend to economic aspects, as well as the overall safety and well-being of communities within the region.

In the Overberg area, there was an increase in the incidence of murder, from 142 in 2021/22 to 158 in 2022/23, leading to an increase in the murder rate (per 100 000 people) from 47 to 51. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that the murder rate per 100 000 people in the Overberg area remains below the Province's rate of 57 for the 2022/23 year, highlighting relative differences in the incidence of this serious crime within the broader Province. Within the region, the severity ranges from a high rate of 62 per 100 000 people in Theewaterskloof, to a low of 25 in Cape Agulhas.

Sexual Offences

The incidence of sexual offenses in the area also exhibited some growth, with the total number rising from 330 in 2021/22 to 357 in 2022/23. This upward trend witnessed in the Overberg, resulted in the increase of the sexual offenses rate per 100 000 people increasing from 109 to 116 over the period. For the same period, the Province remained unchanged at 101. Within the regional context, the rate ranges from a high of 172 in Swellendam to a low of 93 in Theewaterskloof.

Drug-related Offences

The occurrence and rate of drug-related crimes persist in its upward trajectory, with the region registering a rate of 1 313 per 100 000 persons in 2022/23. This surpassed the Province's rate of 925 in 2022/23. The increase in District's rate signifies a concern in the surge related drug related offences underscoring the need for a focused response. Although rates surged throughout the region, it was particularly high in the Overstrand (1 788) and Cape Agulhas (1 536) areas.

Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

Despite efforts to improve road safety, reckless driving and the drunk driving remain some of the leading causes of road accidents in South Africa. There has been a significant and concerning rise in cases (per 100 000 people) driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the Overberg region, from 135 in 2021/22 to 237 in 2022/23. This rate has escalated in the broader Province, from 80 to 128 for the same period. In the Overberg, this translates to the actual number of incidences increasing from 409 to 731 between 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Residential Burglaries

The rate of burglaries at residential premises in the Overberg has also experienced a mild increase from 745 in 2021/22 to 762 in 2022/23. Again, the Overstrand and Cape Agulhas areas experienced the highest rates within the region, at 937 and 1 209 respectively for 2022/23.

Damage to Property

There was a slight increase in reported cases of damages to property, increasing from 375 incidents in 2021/22 to 397 in 2022/23. The rate is slightly above the Provinces 386 per 100 000 people in 2022/23. High rates are experienced across the District, however particularly higher rates are experienced in the Swellendam (467) area. The high rates in the region could be indicative of potential challenges in maintaining public infrastructure and private properties, which are crucial for a conducive business environment.

Commercial Crime

The continued presence and increase in reported cases of commercial crime, from 889 incidents in 2021/22 to 1 070 in 2022/23 highlights a continued concern for the economic environment. Commercial crimes, including fraud, and cybercrimes, have significant implications for businesses and investors. A rise suggests a greater incidence of fraudulent activities, which can lead to financial losses for businesses, damage business reputations and erode investor trust. These crimes often result in legal battles and increased costs related to cybersecurity measures and fraud prevention efforts, diverting resources away from productive investments. The commercial crime rate was particularly pronounced within the Overstrand area.

GDPR PERFORMANCE



GDPR Contribution 2021

Overberg District
R25,480 bn
3.3% of Western Cape GDP

Theewaterskloof
R10,218 bn
40.1%

Swellendam
R3,378 bn
13.3%

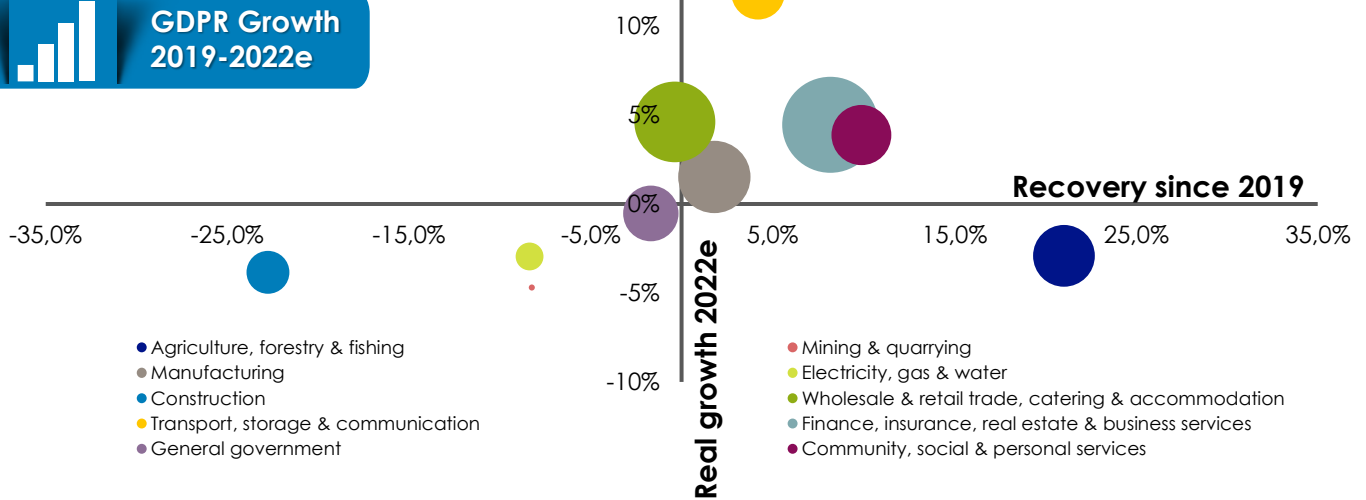
Overstrand
R8,086 bn
31.7%

Cape Agulhas
R3,799 bn
14.9%

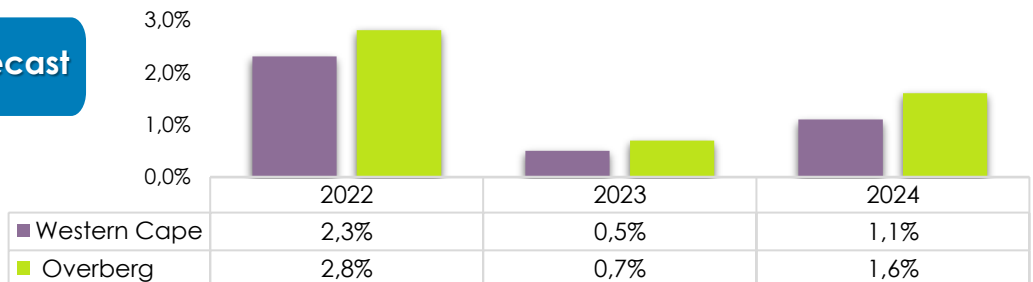
Sectoral contribution to GDPR 2021



GDPR Growth 2019-2022e



GDPR forecast

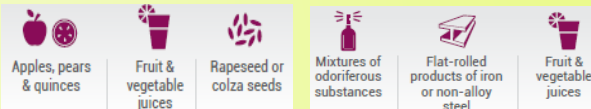


International Trade, 2022

Imports
R1.6 billion

Exports
R4.3 billion

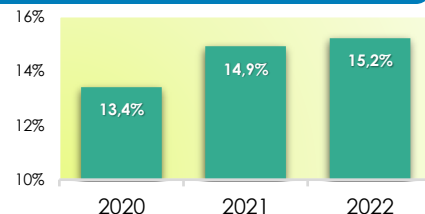
Top exported products



Top imported products



Tourism spend % of GDP



GDPR Performance

The OD is defined by sweeping farmlands and a coastline renowned for the southernmost tip of the African continent. Bredasdorp is the administrative hub of the OD. Complementing this pivotal hub are the other smaller but bustling towns within the OD. Grabouw is celebrated for its orchards and expansive vineyards, Caledon offers mineral rich hot springs, while Hermanus has become known as the capital of whale watching in South Africa, beckoning local and foreign tourists alike. Several sectors' performances underpin the District's economic prospects, with international trade, tourism and private and public sector investments serving as catalysts for new economic opportunities, job creation and the overall wellbeing of local communities, which are all discussed in this section.

With a GDPR of R25.5 billion in 2021, estimated to have increased to R27.5 billion in 2022, the economy of the OD has successfully rebounded to pre-pandemic levels. The GDPR growth rate stood at an estimated 2.8 per cent in 2022, a sign of normalisation after the steep decline of 3.5 per cent in 2020 and the impressive expansion of 4.3 per cent in 2021. As the most urbanised municipal areas in the OD, Theewaterskloof and Overstrand play a pivotal role in driving the GDPR performance of the District, contributing an estimated 1.2 percentage points and 0.8 of a percentage point, respectively, to overall GDPR growth in 2022. The more rural Swellendam municipal area contributed 0.5 of a percentage point to GDPR growth. Despite having a larger economy than the Swellendam municipal area, Cape Agulhas contributed the least to the overall performance (0.4 of a percentage point).

Because of the extensive range of farming activities in the District, the agriculture and trade sectors contribute significantly to employment in the OD. However, the finance sector, with a contribution of R6.4 billion (25.0 per cent) in 2021, dominates the economy in terms of GDPR and was the leading source of economic growth in 2022. Within the finance sector of the OD, professional business services add the most value. Local industry leaders include Acorn Agri & Food1 and Bernhardt Konsultante. Other professional services such as accounting and bookkeeping, and activities relating to the law, real estate and marketing also contribute to the finance sector's performance. Enterprises specialising in these services are largely concentrated in Hermanus and Caledon and, to a lesser extent, in Grabouw, Bredasdorp and Swellendam. These services ensure an efficient and effective business environment.

Following the finance sector in terms of GDPR contribution are the trade and manufacturing sectors, which contributed R4.5 billion (17.6 per cent) and R3.6 billion (14.1 per cent), respectively, in 2021. Despite growing at an estimated 4.6 per cent in 2022, the trade sector has yet to recover fully from the 12.4 per cent slump recorded in 2020. Rising inflation and fuel prices have dampened consumer spending, significantly affecting the GDPR contributions from the retail and domestic tourist industries. The impact of reduced household purchasing power can be seen in formal job losses within the short-term accommodation sector, for instance, which shed 291 posts in 2022. Restaurant and mobile food service activities shed 159 jobs in the same year.

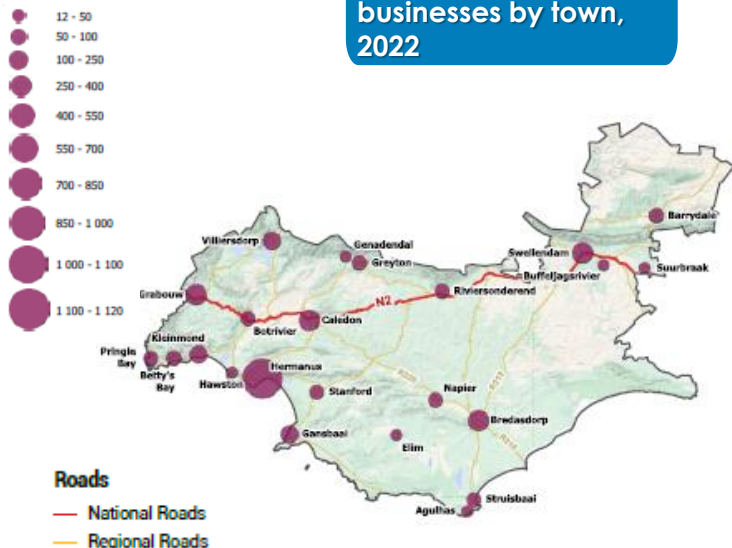
Except for the electricity, gas and water, construction and mining sectors, most sectors of the OD economy have rebounded from the severe downturn recorded in 2020. The GDPR of the construction sector has been on a downward trend since 2017, and the fact that projects came to a standstill in 2020 was a severe blow to the industry. The sector's GDPR declined by a further 3.8 per cent and the sector shed 74 formal jobs in 2022, primarily because of sharp increases in input prices fueled by the weak performance of the South African economy. Furthermore, the high interest rate affected investments in new buildings and other construction works. International factors such as the Ukraine-Russia conflict further constrained the sector by putting pressure on steel prices. However, informal jobs in the sector are steadily increasing.

GDPR Forecast

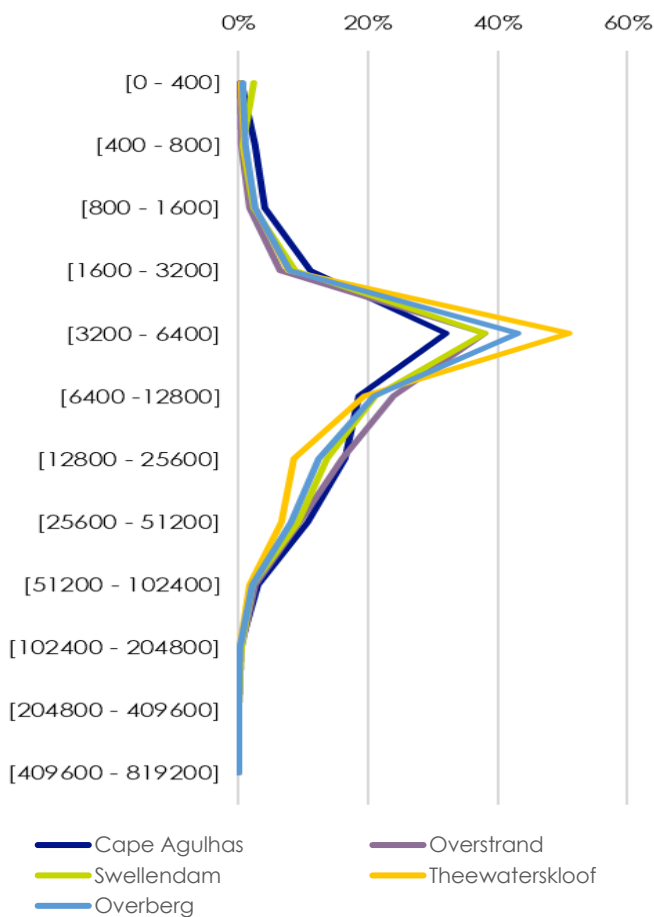
The economic prospects for the Overberg region appear somewhat restrained in comparison to 2022, with estimated GDPR growth of 0.7 per cent expected in 2023. Nevertheless, there is anticipation of an improvement with projected growth of 1.6 per cent in 2024.

LABOUR MARKET PERFORMANCE

Number of businesses by town, 2022

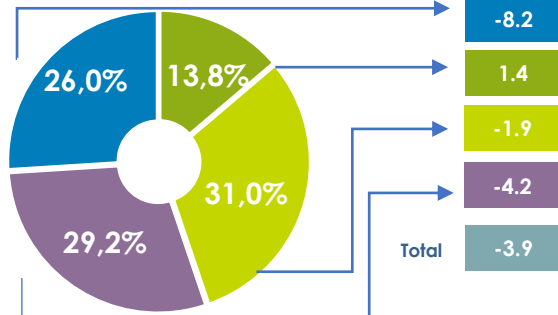


Wage Distribution per municipal area, 2022



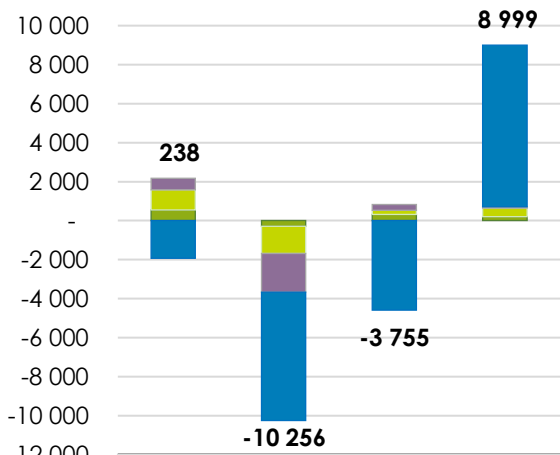
Skill Level % Contribution, 2022

Recovery in Employment (%) 2019-2022



Total Persons Employed 2022	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Low-skilled	Informal
	17 147	38 396	36 263	32 236

Net employment per sector, 2019-2022



	2019	2020	2021	2022e
Total	238	-10 256	-3 755	8 999
Informal	-1 933	-6 590	-4 586	8 280
Low skilled	592	-1 973	294	75
Semi-skilled	1 028	-1 398	213	443
Skilled	551	-295	324	201

Top 5 Sectors

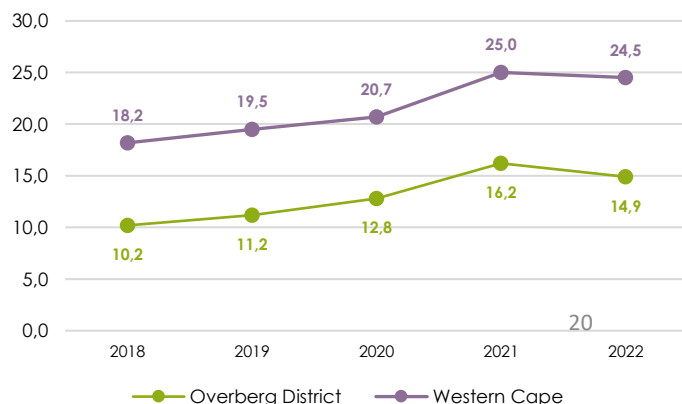


Sector

Sector	No. of FTE Jobs
Growing of perennial crops	18 862
Administration of the state and the economic and social policy of the community	5 548
Support activities to agriculture and post-harvest crop activities	4 033
Mixed farming	3 622
Aquaculture	1 539



Unemployment rate 2018-2022



Labour Market Performance

There was an increase in the number of individuals returning to the OD job market, reflected in the 2.9 percentage point increase in the labour force participation rate recorded in 2022. The economy absorbed some work seekers, as seen by the 3.3 percentage point increase in the labour absorption rate. Continuing this positive trend, 8 999 jobs were created in 2022, resulting in a 1.3 percentage point decline in the unemployment rate. However, jobs have not fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels, remaining at similar levels to those registered in 2015. The sectors that shed the most jobs between 2020 and 2021 included the trade, agriculture and personal services sectors. The agriculture sector continually shed jobs between 2016 and 2021 despite benefiting from high commodity prices in 2020 and 2021. Informal employment contributed substantially to the positive labour market outcomes of the OD in 2022, accounting for 26.0 per cent of overall employment in this year. Most new employment in the District stemmed from informal job creation in the agriculture and trade sectors, highlighting the critical role of informal employment in providing job opportunities in the OD.

Cultivating perennial crops, including fruit, nuts and citrus, was the leading source of job creation in the formal sector of the OD. Moreover, this area of crop production is also the leading source of exports from the region, with the top exported products in 2022 being apples, pears and quinces to the value of R817.5 million. The increase in jobs pertaining to farming activities other than pome fruit signals agricultural diversification. While pome fruit production has to date employed the largest workforce, the subsector is currently shedding jobs. Growth of the agriculture sector holds substantial potential for job creation in the OD and for promoting local trade opportunities. It would also expand the agricultural value chain and boost local agro-processing.

Skills Distribution

Most of the 124 042 workers in the area are semi-skilled and low-skilled workers (31.0 and 29.2 per cent, respectively). There was also a significant number (32 236) of informal workers (26.0 per cent). When evaluating the period of recovery from 2019 to 2022, it is evident that only the skilled workforce segment exhibited positive growth, at a rate of 1.4 per cent. In stark contrast, the informal sector experienced a substantial decline in employment, contracting by 8.2 per cent, followed by relatively smaller contractions in the low-skilled (4.2 per cent) and semi-skilled (1.9 per cent) workforce. These trends signify shifts in the employment landscape and carry economic implications for the region.

Wage Distribution

In 2022, the financial landscape of the OD varied for full-time employees. Agricultural labour yielded earnings ranging between R3 200 to R6 400 per month, indicating limited disposable income of local households. However, Cape Agulhas and Overstrand shone, registering higher proportions of working-age individuals earning more substantial incomes. The OD's employment sector blends traditional industries such as agriculture, with service-oriented industries, such as public administration, personal services, and restaurant and accommodation services. The Overstrand area dominates tourism industry employment, with Cape Agulhas excelling in administrative and professional services. In contrast, the agricultural industry provides for those residing in the Theewaterskloof and Swellendam municipal areas.

Bredasdorp, the administrative hub, is the driving force behind the District's prosperity, with thriving business and tourism sectors. Here, workers earned an above-average median income (R8 123) in 2022. Those earning between R12 800 and R25 600 per month accounted for 16.6 per cent of workers, while 10.8 per cent earned between R25 600 and R51 200 monthly. Many skilled professionals are employed in government departments, contributing to the area's economic strength. In L'Agulhas, the median income was R14 742 a month, a testament to the town's economic progress facilitated by its thriving tourism and service sectors. In Theewaterskloof, towns such as Genadendal and Caledon followed closely behind L'Agulhas, with median monthly incomes of R11 236 and R8 501, respectively. These towns demonstrate substantial agricultural activities, but their economies are diversified, with government service centres in Caledon. On the other hand, towns like Greyton, surrounded by farmlands and primarily focusing on agriculture, had a significantly smaller median monthly income of R3 905. As the District's preferred tourist destination, Overstrand attracted many visitors. The municipal area has seen numerous job opportunities created in the hospitality and tourism sectors. This led to relatively higher median incomes in 2022 in towns like Betty's Bay (R8 291 monthly), Hermanus (R7 326) and Pringle Bay (R7 000). Additionally, Overstrand had the highest number of taxpayers, accounting for 46.2 per cent in the OD in 2021. By contrast, the Swellendam municipal area embraced its rural landscape, relying heavily on agriculture and small businesses to drive employment and wages. The Swellendam municipal area had the lowest number of taxpayers in the OD region in both 2020 and 2021 because of its small population, while also having the second-lowest proportion of total employed people in the OD after Theewaterskloof, which was reflected in the lower median incomes of smaller towns such as Barrydale (R4 501 per month) and Buffeljagsrivier (R4 435), where workers are earning incomes around the minimum wage. The economies of these towns are centred on farming activities such as growing pome fruit, stone fruit, grapes and citrus.

RISK AND VULNERABILITY FACTORS



VULNERABILITY*

Local municipalities are ranked according to their vulnerability relative to all 25 municipalities in the province (Rank). A higher ranking (out of 25) indicates the municipality is comparatively worse off.

An additional score (out of 10) is provided for vulnerability factors relative to all 213 municipalities in the country (Score).

Municipality	Socio-Economic		Economic		Physical		Environmental	
	The indicator shows the vulnerability of households living in the municipality with regards to the household's age composition, education and health status, access to basic services, and safety and security (2011 baseline)		Vulnerability of the municipality to external shocks is based on the economic diversity, size of the economy, labour force, GDP growth rate and the income inequality present in the municipality (2011 baseline)		Physical vulnerability addresses the physical fabric and connectedness of the settlements in the municipality. The more remote and/or structurally vulnerable, the higher the physical vulnerability score		Env. vulnerability represents the conflict between preserving natural environment & growth pressures associated with population growth, urbanisation, and econ development. It measures air quality, env. governance, & the competition between the ecology and urban encroachment	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
Cape Agulhas	6	1.44	1	1.00	21	5.97	7	4.27
Swellendam	11	1.71	2	1.02	15	5.57	14	5.09
Overstrand	8	1.54	22	4.07	23	6.39	18	5.30
Theewaterskloof	22	2.83	15	3.34	14	5.56	20	6.23



HAZARDS*

Overall Population Growth Pressure:
Medium growth pressure generally, but high pressure in Overstrand *

Five of the Top 10 Risks in the Overberg are environmental in nature (Provincial Disaster Risk Register)

Overberg's identified Hydro-meteorological Hazards to settlements as observed by the CSIR (The Greenbook *)

1. Electricity Disruption	
2. Structural Fire	Moderate potential increase in exposure of settlements to wildfires
3. Flooding	Moderate increase in extreme rain days for the mountainous areas in the northwest, coupled with Moderate increase in exposure to flooding in some settlements.
4. Wildfires	Area is prone to likelihood of wildfires, with Moderate potential increase in exposure to wildfires
5. Human Disease	
6. Animal Disease	
7. Hazmat	
8. Strong Wind	
9. Water Pollution	
10. Civil Unrest	

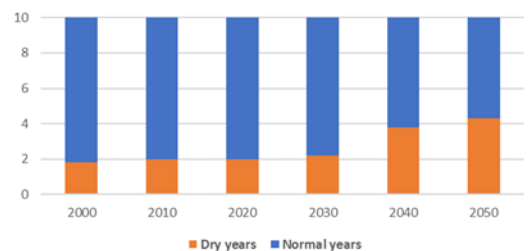
Overberg no. of dry years per decade[†]

	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
Dry years	1.8	2	2	2.2	3.8	4.3
Wet years	8.2	8	8	7.8	6.2	5.7

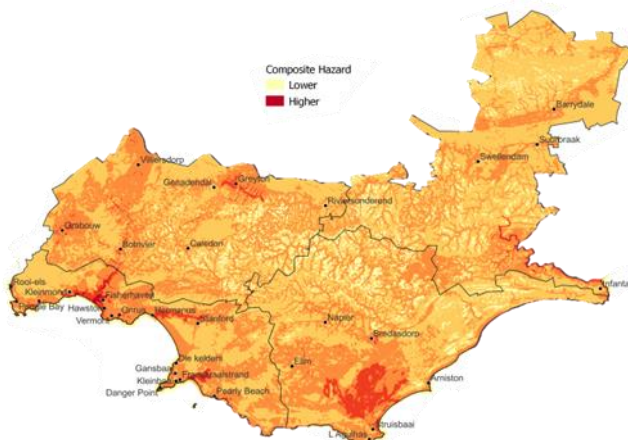
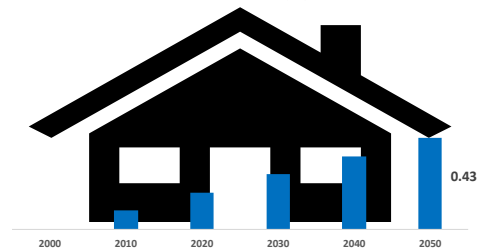
Temperature change (2050 compared to historic)[†]

Mean temperature increase	1.1 °C higher
Additional days per year with daily maximum temperature above 30 °C	8-16 days

Dry years per decade



Sea Level Rise (m)



* Le Roux, A., van Niekerk, W., Arnold, K., Pieterse, A., Ludick, C., Forsyth, G., Le Maitre, D., Lötter, D., du Plessis, P. & Mans, G. 2019. Green Book Risk Profile Tool. Pretoria: CSIR. Available at: riskprofiles.greenbook.co.za

[†] Jack, C., Van Aardenne, L., Wolski, P., Pinto, I., Quagrain, K. & Kloppers, P. 2022. SmartAgri: Updated Climate Change Trends and Projections for the Western Cape. Cape Town: University of Cape Town. Available at <https://www.elsenburg.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SmartAgri-Climate-Change.pdf>

Sea-level rise and Storm Surges

Although we expect fewer storm systems to reach the Western Cape in future, increased sea temperatures could mean increased storm activity and slightly stronger winds. At the same time the thermal expansion of the oceans will result in 0.25m – 0.75m of sea level rise by 2050, with associated swash run up of roughly 3.0m – 3.5m above the mean sea level (excluding tidal influence). Sandy shores are most affected – some areas in the Overberg have seen beaches retreat landward at a rate of 2m per year. This directly affects infrastructure and detracts from the amenity value of the coastline.

Drought

According to the CSIR Green Book, drought tendencies are present in the inland areas of Overberg. Currently 2 years per decade are at risk of drought, and this will increase to 4.3 out of every 10 years by 2050. Water, and related sanitation services, is a key ingredient for socioeconomic development, food security and healthy ecosystems, and is vital for reducing the burden of disease and improving the health, welfare and productivity of populations. A deteriorating water catchment system, through ecosystem loss (transformation or land use change) and alien infestation, or watercourse and wetland modification, will lead to lower inputs into the water supply systems, and a lower overall water security due to lower natural retention and lower quality of water. During extended drought periods, even end users far from major source areas are likely to experience shortages as the overall system runs low.

Temperatures

Average temperature has been increasing since the 1900s. Projections indicate that Overberg can expect an additional 8-16 hot days per year by 2050, which will affect food security, exposure to extreme heat, health and water quality.

Vegetation Fires

Although critical for a healthy ecosystem, fire is a significant threat to human lives, food security, socio-economic activities and livelihoods, as well as infrastructure and other assets. Furthermore, in many areas land has been converted from natural vegetation to other land-cover types - some of which significantly modify the fuel loads (e.g. the establishment of forest plantations and the spread of several introduced tree species such as pines, hakea, wattles and eucalypts). Fires in vegetation with high fuel loads increase soil erosion and run-off, which negatively affects ecosystem services and increases the impact of floods, among other factors. Where severe fires have occurred due to high fuel loads, resulting soil erosion leads to the sedimentation of rivers and dams and therefore declining water quality (and increased water treatment costs).

Floods

Floods result in millions or billions of Rands' damage to built structures or lost productivity, the loss of livelihoods and in some cases the loss of lives. A 2016 report calculated that four severe weather events between 2011 and 2014 caused more than R1.6 billion worth of damage in the Western Cape, and in the recent September 2023 severe weather event, flood-related infrastructure damage alone amounted to R2 billion. Flooding is also one of the main disaster risks affected by climate change. Changes in rainfall volume, intensity and timing will alter flood risk profiles, and necessitate a constant reconsideration of risks and risk reduction measures.

The OD is defined by sweeping farmlands and a coastline renowned for the southernmost tip of the African continent. Nestled between the Cape Metro, the CWD and the GRD, the OD has a population of 359 446, constituting 4.8 per cent of the Western Cape's population. The region's population growth is modest, with anticipated annual growth of 1.7 per cent between 2022 and 2027.

This District is divided into four local municipal areas. From the apple and pear orchards of Theewaterskloof and the coastal allure of the Overstrand, to the canola and wheat fields of Cape Agulhas and Swellendam, the attractions here are as diverse as they are captivating, allowing for a wide range of economic opportunities. Bredasdorp is the administrative hub of the OD. Complementing this pivotal hub are the other smaller but bustling towns of the OD. Grabouw is celebrated for its orchards and expansive vineyards, Caledon offers mineral rich hot springs, while Hermanus has become known as the capital of whale watching in South Africa, beckoning local and foreign tourists alike.

In the economic context, the region demonstrated growth in employment and Regional Gross Domestic Product (GDPR) in 2022, with key contributions from the finance, trade and services sectors. The informal sector played a significant role in employment outcomes. The economic outlook of the District is bolstered by the performances of various sectors, with international trade, tourism and private and public sector investments serving as catalysts for new economic opportunities, job creation and the overall wellbeing of local communities.

Education in the Overberg area faces challenges, as evidenced by the low grade 10 to 12 retention rate of 71.9 per cent, underscoring the need for collaborative efforts to mitigate school dropouts and create a more supportive and inclusive educational environment tailored to local circumstances. While the matric pass rate improved to 83.9 per cent in 2022, there are concerns regarding subject outcomes, particularly in mathematics and physical sciences, which can impact future opportunities and career choices.

In terms of well-being, the District's per capita GDPR which reflects overall welfare, ranged from a low of R79 109 in Overstrand to a high of R114 345 in Cape Agulhas, with an overall District GDPR of R89 085. This is lower when compared to the Province's R113 327. However, it is essential to recognise that not all residents share equally in this prosperity, as 60.0 per cent of the population falls below the Upper Bound Poverty Line (UBPL). With regard to criminal activity, there was an increase in all areas as noted above, including murder, common assault, sexual offences and malicious damage to property. The surge in drug-related offenses in 2022/23, persists as a concern. Commercial crime incidents also increased, posing challenges for businesses and investors.

Overall, addressing these multifaceted challenges and opportunities requires coordinated efforts from various stakeholders to ensure the well-being and sustainability of the Overberg District area.

1. Demographics

- Population: *Census 2022*
- Sex ratio: *Census 2022*
- Age cohorts: *Census 2022*
- Racial split: *Census 2022*
- Number of households: *Census 2022*
- Household size: *Census 2022*
- Urbanisation: *Department of Social Development, 2023*
- Population density: *Department of Social Development, 2023*

2. Education

- Learner enrolment: *Western Cape Education Department, 2021; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Learner-teacher ratio: *Western Cape Education Department, 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Learner retention: *Western Cape Education Department, 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Educational facilities: *Western Cape Education Department, 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- No-fee schools: *Western Cape Education Department, 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Schools with libraries: *Western Cape Education Department, 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Educational outcomes: *Western Cape Education Department, 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*

3. Health

- Healthcare facilities: *Department of Health and Wellness, 2023*
- Emergency medical services: *Department of Health and Wellness, 2023*
- HIV/AIDS: *Department of Health and Wellness, 2023*
- Tuberculosis: *Department of Health and Wellness, 2023*
- Child health: *Department of Health and Wellness, 2023*
- Maternal health: *Department of Health and Wellness, 2023*

4. Poverty

- GDP per capita: *Statistics South Africa, 2023*
- Income Inequality (Gini-coefficient): *Quantec Research, 2023*
- Human Development (Human Development Index): *Quantec Research, 2023*

5. Basic services

- Households: *Census, 2022*
- Access to housing: *Census, 2022*
- Access to water: *Census, 2022*
- Access to electricity: *Census, 2022*
- Access to sanitation: *Census, 2022*
- Access to refuse removal: *Census, 2022*
- Free Basic Services: *Department of Local Government, 2022*

6. Safety and security

- Murder: *South African Police Service (SAPS), 2023, own calculations*
- Sexual offences: *South African Police Service (SAPS), 2023, own calculations*
- Drug-related crimes: *South African Police Service (SAPS), 2023, own calculations*
- Driving under the influence: *South African Police Service (SAPS), 2023, own calculations*
- Residential burglaries: *South African Police Service (SAPS), 2020, 2023 calculations*

7. GDPR Performance

- GDPR Sector Performance: *Quantec Research, 2023*
- GDPR Forecasts: *Quantec Research, 2023*
- International Trade: *Quantec Research, 2023*
- Tourism spend: *S&P Global, 2023*

8. Labour Market Performance

- Wage distribution: *Nell, A. Visagie, J. Spatial Tax Panel 2014-2022 [dataset]. Version 3. National Treasury - Cities Support Programme and Human Sciences Research Council [producer and distributor], 2023.*
- Formal Employment: *Nell, A. Visagie, J. Spatial Tax Panel 2014-2022 [dataset]. Version 3. National Treasury - Cities Support Programme and Human Sciences Research Council [producer and distributor], 2023.*
- Trends in labour force skills: *Quantec Research, 2023*
- Unemployment rates: *Quantec Research, 2023*