



FACT SHEET - BY OBJECTIVES

General Facts

- 3 capital cities
- 11 official languages
- A 25% share in Africa's total GDP
- The 27th biggest economy in the world (according to the World Bank)
- The largest port in Africa
- The biggest hospital in the world
- 39 million cell phone users
- A 66% share in Africa's total energy production
- The second-oldest film industry in the world

Gender Equality

- 1 in 4 South African men admit to rape, 75% of whom claim to have carried out their first assault before age 20. In addition, half of those men admit to having raped more than once¹.
- Under the "dop" or tot system, measures of alcohol were part of men's wages, which was as little as 50 rands a week². It was outlawed in the 1960s, but widely practiced until well after the advent of democracy in 1994³. Western Cape farmers who pay their workers with alcohol instead of giving them a monthly wage can be fined up to a R1 million under the Western Cape Liquor Act which was passed in November 2009⁴.
- South Africa has the highest per capita alcohol consumption level in the world⁵.
- South African men often think of gang rape like a game. The leader, who charms the woman and gets her to come with him, is called the "marhasimani." Other men hide under the bed until the first man is finished and has left the room, then they take turns having sex with the woman while pretending to be the first man. "It's not about her, we bought her drinks, you know how drinks are expensive," one man told BBC, disputing the notion of gang rape⁶.
- 86% of black lesbians from the Western Cape said they lived in fear of sexual assault via "corrective" or "curative" rape, in which men rape women to change their sexual orientation⁷.
- Out of 1,500 schoolchildren in the Soweto township, a quarter of all the boys said that 'jackrolling' - a South African term for recreational gang rape - was fun. In addition, more than half the interviewees insisted that when a girl says no to sex she really means yes.⁸



Rape Prevention (Women Empowerment)

- Every 17 seconds, a woman is raped⁹.
- Every 3 minutes, a child is raped¹⁰.
- South Africa has the highest incidence of rape on the globe, with over 50,000 reported cases. Experts estimate that an addition 450,000 cases go unreported, bringing the total tally to over 500,000¹¹.
- On average, approximately 1,300 women (1 in 2) can be expected to be raped every day in South Africa¹².
 - 600 women per day are raped in the United States, a country with 6 times South Africa's population¹³.
- According the BBC, a South African woman has a higher chance of being raped than she does of learning how to read and write¹⁴.

Post-Rape Care

- South Africa is home to the world's largest population of people living with HIV (5.7 million)¹⁵.
- The total number of new HIV infections for 2009 is estimated at 413,000. Of these, an estimated 59,000 will be among children¹⁶.
- For 2009, an estimated 10.6% of the total population is HIV positive. There were 354,000 new infections in mid-2009, plus 59,000 children¹⁷.

Orphan Support

- The country has one of the world's highest rates of HIV infection, with 12.7% of South Africans infected, compared with 0.4% in the United States¹⁸.
- 1.91 million South African children have been orphaned as a result of HIV's devastating impact¹⁹.
- 65% of cases the victim knew the perpetrator, with the proportion rising among younger victims²⁰.
- 40% of rape victims are children²¹.
- 8 out of 10 children orphaned by AIDS lives in sub-saharan Africa²².



Encouraging Financial Independence

- Nearly a quarter of South Africa's population (24.3%) is unemployed and lives on less than US \$1.25 a day. Median income is often as low as \$300 a year²³.
- 50% of the population lives below the poverty line²⁴.

¹ South Africa Medical Research Council, June 2009, "Understanding Men's Health and Use of Violence: Interface of Rape and HIV In South Africa" http://www.mrc.ac.za/gender/violence_hiv.pdf

² The Independent, November 2001, "South Africa shocked as six charged with raping baby girl" <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/south-africa-shocked-as-six-charged-with-rape-baby-girl-616747.html>

³ AllAfrica.com, May 2009, "Coming to Terms With the Tot System's Hangover" <http://allafrica.com/stories/200905251232.html>

⁴ AllAfrica.com, February 2009, "Farmers using 'Dop System' Face Up R1 Million Fine" <http://allafrica.com/stories/200902270722.html>

⁵ Sowetan, May 2009, "'Women hurt by their men' - alcohol leads to abuse" <http://www.sowetan.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=994946>

⁶ BBC, July 2009, "Tackling South Africa's rape epidemic" <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8171874.stm>

⁷ The Guardian UK, March 2009, "Raped and killed for being a lesbian: South Africa ignores 'corrective' attacks" <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/mar/12/eudy-simelane-corrective-rape-south-africa>

⁸ BBC, January 1999, "South Africa's rape shock" <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/258446.stm>

⁹ Gallup, Oct. 2009, "Rape Troubles Nearly All in South Africa" <http://www.gallup.com/poll/123800/rape-troubles-nearly-south-africa.aspx>

¹⁰ Solidarity Helping Hand, June 2009, "Report" <http://www.helpinghandfund.co.za/?p=1550>

¹¹ BBC, June 2009, "South Africa rape crisis" http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/news/2009/07/090728_sa_rape_nh_sl.shtml

¹² Gallup, Oct. 2009, "Rape Troubles Nearly All in South Africa" <http://www.gallup.com/poll/123800/rape-troubles-nearly-south-africa.aspx>



¹³ Violence against Women, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Justice, 1994

¹⁴ BBC News, April 2002, "Rape--Silent War on South African Women" <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/1909220.stm>

¹⁵ UNAIDS Fact Sheet 2009, Sub-Saharan Africa.

¹⁶ Statistics South Africa, July 2009, "Mid-year population estimates" <http://www.statssa.gov.za/PublicationsHTML/P03022009/html/P03022009.html>

¹⁷ ¹⁷ Statistics South Africa, July 2009, "Mid-year population estimates" <http://www.statssa.gov.za/PublicationsHTML/P03022009/html/P03022009.html>

¹⁸ AVERT, 2007, "Rape Orphans" <http://www.avert.org/aidsorphans.htm>

¹⁹ ¹⁹ Statistics South Africa, July 2009, "Mid-year population estimates" <http://www.statssa.gov.za/PublicationsHTML/P03022009/html/P03022009.html>

²⁰ Sowetan, May 2009, "'Women hurt by their men' - alcohol leads to abuse" <http://www.sowetan.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=994946>

²¹ Sowetan, May 2009, "'Women hurt by their men' - alcohol leads to abuse" <http://www.sowetan.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=994946>

²² AVERT, 2007, "Rape Orphans" <http://www.avert.org/aidsorphans.htm>

²³ Statistics of South Africa, February 2010, "Quarterly Labour Force Survey (Quarter 4 of 4)" <http://www.statssa.gov.za/PublicationsHTML/P02114thQuarter2009/html/P02114thQuarter2009.html>

²⁴ CIA, 2010, "The World Factbook" <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2046.html>