



SOUTH AFRICA



**HSRC**  
Human Sciences  
Research Council

# ELECTION INDICATORS REPORT

# 2021

# GAUTENG



*Report Prepared for*

**Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC)  
National Office**

Election House, Riverside Office Park,  
1303 Heuwel Avenue, Centurion

*By*

**Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)**

Developmental, Capable and Ethical State (DCES)  
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This report is the first in a developed ‘Elections Indicators Report’ series, which is the culmination of a five-year project that builds on the longstanding research partnership between the Commission and the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)



**Simon Mamabolo**  
Chief Electoral Officer  
Electoral Commission of South Africa

The Electoral Commission conducts research and supports researchers in the area of electoral democracy and politics. The research products or reports influence the planning and electoral projects continuously. It is therefore that from time to time, we all have a duty to pause and reflect on our work with a view to enhancing what we are doing well and changing course wherever we need to. To this effect, the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) has published an important tool to enable such reflection: The Elections Indicators Report. We believe this report will contribute to the necessary, collective effort of all in our country to deepen and grow our electoral democracy.

This report is the first in a developed ‘Elections Indicators Report’ series, which is the culmination of a five-year project that builds on the longstanding research partnership between the Commission and the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC). The Commission prides itself on being an evidence-based election management body that places a strong emphasis on high-quality research to inform its operational planning. This new series is a reflection of this commitment.

The project focuses on obtaining an understanding of the views, preferences, evaluative and behavioural

predispositions of the South African voting public on election days, the young and the old: rural and urban with gender sensitivity and spread.

Apart from a national report, nine provincial reports have been prepared to better understand sub-national variation in trends and how these compare to the national picture. This report on Gauteng contains key indicators which are important guidelines upon which the Commission will base its work in the fulfilment of its constitutional obligation to deliver quality, free and fair elections. The report is useful to political parties and election contestants to influence and direct their campaigns. The report is equally useful for researchers and opinion makers in the political environment.

The four main sources for this report, and for those that will follow in the series, are:

- ***The IEC Voter Participation Surveys.***
- ***The IEC Election Satisfaction Surveys.***
- ***The HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) series.***
- ***The IEC statistics on voter registration and electoral results.***

This first Elections Indicators Report is produced

soon after the publication of a global report by the Electoral Integrity Project on electoral democracy and electoral integrity, which strongly affirmed the work of the Electoral Commission. According to the Electoral Integrity Global Report 2019-2021 assessment, which provides an update on the quality of elections around the world, South Africa has the 2nd highest electoral integrity in Africa. Election management is regarded as one of the best ways in which electoral integrity can be advanced, and these findings are a powerful tribute to the quality of the work done by the Commission.

The Commission is greatly encouraged by the finding, contained in this Elections Indicators Report, that the Commission continues to be one of the most trusted institutions in South Africa. However, we remain concerned at the overall decline in levels of trust. We note that, when trust in other social and political institutions diminishes, confidence in the Electoral Commission is influenced by how people feel about the performance of those they have elected to political structures and who lead government. If satisfaction with political parties and government declines, institutional trust will follow the downward trend and faith in democratic elections will be undermined.

The Commission is pleased that the focus of the Elections Indicators Report goes beyond the dynamics of the election day. Importantly, it includes a range of measures from the pre-election period that provides a sense of the pre-electoral mood, to views and experiences of registration procedures, the campaign period, and the immediate aftermath following the election day.

South Africans love and are loyal to our country, with many stating that they would rather be citizens of South Africa than of any other nation in the world. What should concern all of us is that, despite this national pride, the number of citizens unhappy with the functioning of democracy exceeds those who are satisfied with our democracy. This dissatisfaction is driven by widespread discontent with government performance. This is reflected particularly in the

findings on the evaluations of the performance of local municipalities. The report shows that South Africans are generally unhappy with, among others, the services offered by municipalities.

It is concerning that many South Africans have concerns about the effectiveness of their vote. The Elections Indicators Report shows that in 2021 less than half of South Africans believe in the power of the vote and that the votes cast on election day makes a difference. Similarly, many South Africans voice concern about the degree to which elected representatives are responsive to their needs. However, 61% of South Africans believe in the duty to vote nationally, and this tendency remains common to most provinces. The Electoral Commission pledges to continue sustained efforts to encourage all eligible voters to join the 26.2-million who are registered on the voters roll.

While we continue to identify further opportunities for improvement, we are pleased to note that voters in this province found the registration process easy and that our voter education campaigns were effective. Voters also had good experiences at voting stations and were generally happy with the quality of services rendered by the Commission's officials. Almost all in the province expressed faith in the arrangements at voting stations to ensure the secrecy of their vote. The vast majority were also happy with the ballot paper used.

These are important foundations on which we will build and strive to improve.

This report contains vital information that is important, not only for the Electoral Commission, but for all in South Africa. Accordingly, the Commission invites South Africans to read the report and to use it, as we will, to guide our efforts to strengthen our democracy.

The Commission expresses its gratitude to the HRSC for an excellent body of work and to South Africans for participating in the surveys.

**Simon Mamabolo**

**Chief Electoral Officer**

**Electoral Commission of South Africa**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report represents the first in a newly developed Election Indicators Report series, which is the culmination of a two-year data curation project. It builds on a longstanding research partnership between the Electoral Commission of South Africa and the Human Sciences Research Council, focusing on understanding the views, preferences, evaluative and behavioural predispositions of the South African adult public as well as the voting public on Election Days.

This study and report were prepared by a Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) team led by Benjamin Roberts, Jarè Struwig and Steven L. Gordon, and also comprising Joleen Steyn-Kotze, Samela Mtyingizane, Ngqapheli Mchunu, Thobeka Zondi, Mercy Ngungu and Kombi Sausi.

The work was carried out under the general direction of Narnia Bohler-Muller, the Divisional Executive of the HSRC's Developmental, Capable and Ethical State (DCES) Research Programme.

The team would like to acknowledge the generous support of the managing team at the Electoral Commission of South Africa. Special mention needs to be made of Shameme Manjoo and her successor, Moagisi Sibanda, as well as Dr Thabo Rapoo for their guidance, advice, support and input throughout the study. Electoral Commissioner, Dr Nomsa Masuku, is also to be thanked for her insight. The comments received from various members of the Commission's executive leadership at different stages of the research process are also gratefully acknowledged, in particular Mr Mawethu Mosery.

We would like to express our profound appreciation to the thousands of South Africans who have generously given their time to participate in the Voter Participation Survey and Election Satisfaction Survey series since the late 1990s. The opinions, preferences and experiences that were shared with our interviewing teams has made, and continues to make, and invaluable contribution to electoral planning and management in the country, as well as our understanding of the Electorate and how it is changing over time. The HSRC's provincial supervisors and data collectors were instrumental in ensuring that high quality information was collected.

A debt of gratitude is also due to the HSRC's administrative team, consisting of Busisiwe Mamba, Koshen Govender, Deshanie Reddy and Tanya Shanker, as well as to Keneilwe Dikobe of the Commission, for all their assistance.

**Dr Benjamin Roberts and Jarè Struwig**  
**South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) Coordinators**  
**Human Sciences Research Council**



# CONTENTS

<b>FOREWORD</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1 ASSESSING ELECTORAL INTEGRITY IN SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>9</b>
1.1 Introducing the report series	9
1.2 Conceptual framework	10
1.3 Guide to indicators and their interpretation	13
<b>2 PRE-ELECTION PHASE</b>	<b>15</b>
2.1 Support for the political system	15
2.1.1 National Pride	15
2.1.2 Demand for democracy: Support for democratic ideals	16
2.1.3 Supply of democracy: Satisfaction with the functioning of democracy	17
2.1.4 Supply of democracy: Country going in the right direction	18
2.1.5 Supply of democracy: Evaluation of performance against democratic ideals	19
2.1.6 Satisfaction with municipal performance	20
2.2. Public trust in political and social institutions	21
2.2.1. Trust in the Electoral Commission	21
2.2.2 Trust in National Government	22
2.2.3 Trust in Provincial Government	23
2.2.4 Trust in Local Government	24
2.2.5 Trust in Parliament	25
2.2.6 Trust in Courts	26
2.2.7 Trust in Political Parties	27
2.2.8 Trust in Traditional Authorities/Leaders	28
2.2.9 Confidence in Political Leaders	29
2.2.10 Trust in Religious Institutions	30

# CONTENTS CONTINUED



2.3	Electoral predispositions: Psychological involvement in electoral politics	31
2.3.1	Political interest	31
2.3.2	Politics easy to understand	32
2.3.3	Belief in the power of one's vote	33
2.3.4	Views on the conduct of politicians and its effect on the meaning of voting	34
2.3.5	Duty to vote	35
2.3.6	Voting intention	36
2.3.7	Administrative barriers leading to non-voting behaviour	37
2.3.8	Voter registration patterns	38
2.3.9	Ease of registration	39
2.3.10	Duration of registration process	40
<b>3</b>	<b>CAMPAIGN PERIOD</b>	<b>42</b>
3.1.	Campaign integrity	42
3.1.1	Political party tolerance during campaigning	44
3.2	Voter education	45
3.2.1	Sources of information on voting	45
3.2.2	Preferred source of information on voting	46
3.2.3	Demand for information on voting	47
3.2.4	Number of Civic and Democracy Education (CDE) events	48
3.2.5	Perceived effectiveness of voter education campaigns	49
<b>4</b>	<b>ELECTION DAY</b>	<b>51</b>
4.1	Voting station evaluations	51
4.1.1	Time to get to voting station	51
4.1.2	Queuing time at voting stations	52
4.1.3	Safety and security	53



4.1.4	Accessibility of voting station to persons with disabilities/the elderly	54
4.1.5	Quality of service rendered by IEC officials	55
4.2	Voting procedure	56
4.2.1	Assessment of electoral procedures	56
4.2.2	Assessment of procedural accommodation of the elderly	57
4.2.3	Assessment of procedural accommodation of persons with disabilities	58
4.2.4	Assessment of procedural accommodation of blind and visually impaired voters	59
4.2.5	Assessing the secrecy of the vote at voting stations	60
4.2.6	Ballot paper usability and satisfaction	61
4.3	Coercion	62
4.4	Election turnout	63
4.4.1	Total votes cast, valid votes and spoilt votes in National and Provincial Elections (national vote)	63
4.4.2	Total votes cast, valid votes and spoilt votes in Local Government Elections (provincial summary, ward plus proportional representation votes)	64
4.4.3	Spoilt ballots	65
4.4.4	Turnout in National and Provincial Elections as a percentage of registered voters	66
4.4.5	Turnout in Local Government Elections as a percentage of registered voters	67
<b>5</b>	<b>POST-ELECTION</b>	<b>69</b>
5.1	Evaluation of the elections as free and fair	69
5.2	Vote count	70
<b>6</b>	<b>ELECTORAL REFORM</b>	<b>72</b>
6.1	Electoral outcomes - best possible government	72
6.2	Electronic voting	73
6.2.1	Perceived effectiveness of electronic voting	73
6.2.2	Concerns of possible fraud associated with electronic voting	74
	<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>75</b>



**PART**

**A**

**ASSESSING  
ELECTORAL INTEGRITY IN  
SOUTH AFRICA**

# 1. ASSESSING ELECTORAL INTEGRITY IN SOUTH AFRICA

## 1.1 Introducing the report series

Elections in South Africa follow a five-year cycle, with national/provincial elections held together and municipal/local government elections held two years later. The Electoral Commission of South Africa has been involved in all South African elections and has successfully managed six national/provincial elections (1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019) and six municipal/local government elections (1995, 2000, 2006, 2011, 2016 and 2021). According to the South African Constitution (Act 108 of 1996) and the Electoral Commission Act (1996), the central roles of the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) are to strengthen constitutional democracy and promote democratic electoral processes in the country. An important element of this mandate is to encourage voter participation. To this end, the Commission places great focus on increasing voter registration and turnout by investing in civic education and outreach programmes to encourage citizens to register and ultimately vote.

Since the late 1990s, the Electoral Commission of South Africa has partnered with the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), a statutory research institute, to undertake a programme of electoral research. This focuses on generating survey-based as well as qualitative insight to inform operational planning and outreach. In order to better understand the Electorate and maximise the reach and impact of outreach efforts, the Electoral Commission follows a specific framework of survey-based research on electoral matters. This framework of surveying includes a pre-election survey, the Voter Participation Survey (VPS), and an Election Day survey, the Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS). Both surveys are nationally representative series which have been conducted in a similar format for national and provincial, as well as municipal elections for more than a decade. Additional *ad hoc* research studies have been conducted, focusing on internal surveying of electoral staff on issues such as gender mainstreaming and the institutional vision, as well as research into ballot paper design, usability and spoiling.

This partnership between the Electoral Commission and the HSRC has generated datasets that relate to

the socio-political dynamics of voter turnout, voter behaviour and voter participation in South Africa. A challenge associated with these longitudinal projects is that voluminous amounts of data are generated, but are often treated as stand-alone projects and not merged to form longitudinal data series that can be used to readily identify trends and emerging patterns, as well as benchmark performance. Another challenge pertains to the risk that the technology used to analyse, manage and store data is at high risk of becoming obsolete over time, rendering existing data unusable.

In order to address these challenges, the Electoral Commission contracted the HSRC to undertake a project entitled: *Trends in Voter Participation and Election Satisfaction in South Africa: Curating, Mining and Analysing Successive Electoral Commission Surveys conducted by the HSRC*. The project entailed locating data from previous rounds of the Voter Participation Survey and Election Satisfaction Survey and analysing them in order to provide a longitudinal perspective of changing electoral attitudes, experiences and behaviour, as well as democratic values in South Africa. A secondary objective of this project is to embark on a data curation exercise in order to preserve the Electoral Commission datasets for future use. This will ensure that these datasets do not become obsolete and will also enable the Commission to grant data access to external researchers or stakeholders.

This report is the output of the first objective and the result of the tracing, combining and mining of Voter Participation Surveys (VPS) as well as Election Satisfaction Surveys (ESS) and analysing the combined datasets in order to give a longitudinal perspective of changing democratic values and behaviour in South Africa. Select indicators are presented in this volume, which represent the first in a planned statistical publication series on electoral indicators. Our hope is to produce a series that will serve as a key reference for those interested in gaining insight into emerging trends on key aspects of electoral performance and voter predispositions.

## 1.2 Conceptual framework

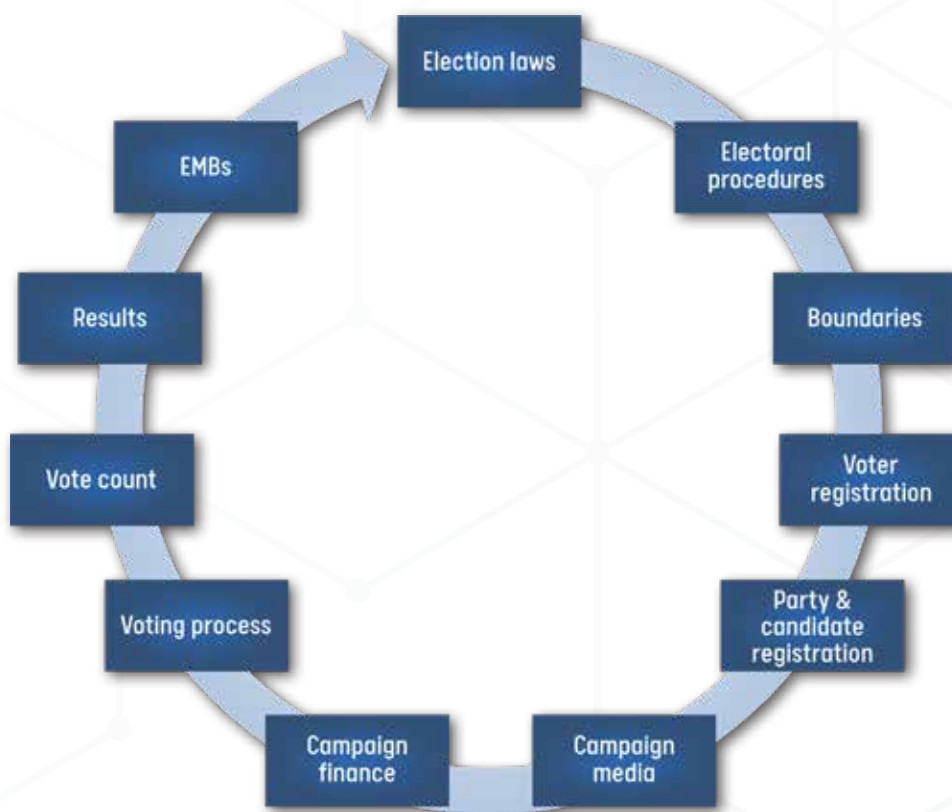
In planning this report series, we drew on three strands of the conceptual literature relating to models of political support, electoral integrity and election management. We briefly outline some of the ideas and components of these models, particularly those that had an influence on the decisions regarding the structure, content and scope of what ultimately appears in the reports.

### Electoral integrity

The last decade has witnessed a rapid growth in interest in the concept of ‘electoral integrity’ and an associated demand for policy-relevant research, evaluating different election management structures

and processes – with the aim of measuring and assessing the quality of elections over time (Norris et al., 2013). This priority has emanated, in part, from a range of challenges facing ongoing efforts to deepen and consolidate liberal democracies around the world. This includes claims of democratic ‘deficits’, ‘recession’ and ‘reversals’, a rise in authoritarian populism, instances of electoral malpractice, and declining patterns of electoral participation (LeDuc et al., 2002; Plattner, 2015; Diamond, 2015, 2020; Levitsky & Way, 2015; Foa & Mounk, 2016). This agenda is founded on a recognition that elections serve as the lifeblood of liberal democracy, by promoting policy debate, electing representatives, and determining the composition of legislatures.

Figure 1: The electoral cycle used to guide the Electoral Integrity Project’s Perceptions of Electoral Integrity (PEI) research



Source: Electoral Integrity Project, Perceptions of Electoral Integrity (PEI) (Norris et al. 2014)

Electoral integrity can be understood in different ways. Some have tended to conceptualise it negatively by focusing on problems experienced in specific electoral contests, such as manipulation, fraud and malpractice (Schedler, 2002, 2013; Birch, 2010, 2011). Other accounts have adopted a positive approach to understanding integrity by concentrating more on whether elections are free and fair, credible,

competitive and democratic in character (Elklit & Reynolds, 2005; Munck, 2009; Norris, 2017). The Electoral Integrity Project (EIP, established 2012)<sup>1</sup> has argued for a definitional approach that draws on a positive, human rights framing of electoral integrity, which may be understood as the degree to which any given election meets “international conventions and global norms governing the appropriate conduct

1 More details on the EIP can be found at: <https://www.electoralintegrityproject.com>

of elections, applying universally to all countries worldwide throughout the electoral cycle” (Norris, 2013: 564; 2014, 2017, 2019). Accordingly, election integrity is achieved when electoral procedures meet established norms and standards at each of the different stages in the full election cycle. The latter covers the pre-election period, the campaigning phase, the election day itself, as well as the immediate post-election period.

It is this positive perspective and broader periodisation of the electoral cycle that are of significance for the present report series. The examination of election-related indicators in the South African case extends beyond measures that exclusively focus on the dynamics of election day itself. We also include a range of measures on the pre-election period in particular, to provide a sense of the pre-electoral mood, views and experiences of registration procedures, the campaign period, and the immediate aftermath of the election.

### Election management and popular confidence in the electoral process

Measuring and monitoring levels of public confidence in electoral processes are central to determining the integrity of elections. The legitimacy of the electoral process is widely considered as essential for the establishment, sustainability and consolidation of well-functioning democracies (Goodwin-Gill, 1998; Elklit & Reynolds, 2005). Research has suggested that in country contexts where the bonds of trust have eroded and citizens express doubt that elections are free and fair, the consequence may be diminishing turnout levels among voters and even public protest action as an extreme response to such discontent (Bratton & van de Walle, 1997; Elklit & Reynolds, 2002; Schedler, 2006; Birch, 2008).

This leads us to the salient institutional role of Election Management Bodies (EMBs) in administering elections and promoting voter education (Maphunye, 2019). The quality of elections and the way they are delivered by EMBs are thought to influence confidence in the electoral process and, by extension, processes of democratic consolidation (James et al., 2019). From an organisational perspective, election management is regarded as one of the ways in which electoral integrity can be advanced. This is based on an understanding that the institutional design features of an EMB will indelibly shape electoral performance and outcomes (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Envisaged causal linkages between EMB design, performance and outcomes



Source: James et al. (2019), p.302

Before the turn of the century, many well-established survey infrastructures did not include indicators examining perceptions of the legitimacy and procedural fairness of elections. This has begun to change, with many comparative and national surveys starting to routinely include at least some measures to gauge popular legitimacy. In the South African case, the Electoral Commission has since its inception been concerned about the public voice and evaluations of different aspects of electoral administration. The indicators presented in the report draw from Commissioned survey research by the EMB, and touch on various aspects of public confidence in electoral

processes and assessments of preparations and performance in relation to elections in the country. While measurement tools have been developed in recent years that draw on expert opinion on electoral design, readiness and outcomes, some in conjunction with public opinion research, the focus of our report series is on the voices of the adult public and voters, more specifically on election day assessments. This does not preclude these views being compared at a later stage with expert opinion using common indicators, but for the present we limit ourselves to better understanding popular confidence in electoral processes.

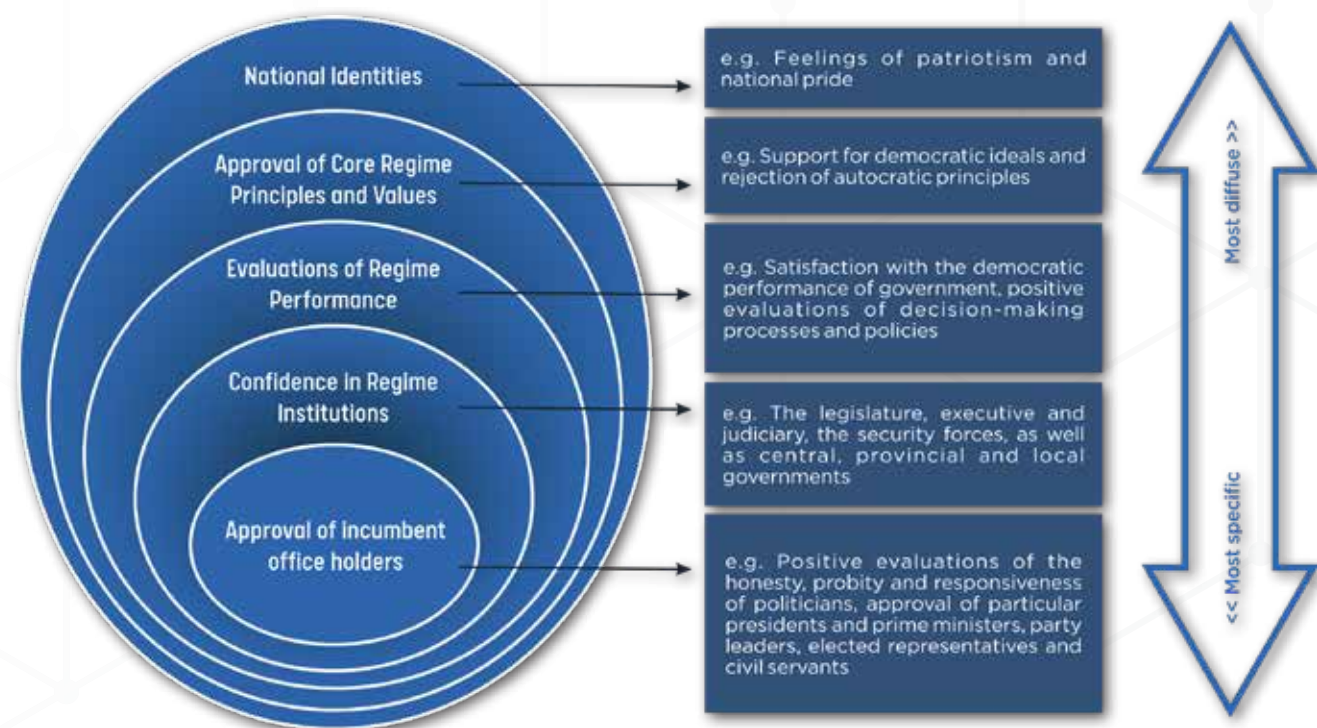
## Political support

To adequately capture political system support and general regime approval among the public, we make use of a conceptual framework developed by Norris (2011) that draws primarily on the work of David Easton (1975). Accordingly, indicators of political support are clustered into a multi-dimensional framework consisting of five components, ranging from the most generalised to the most specific. These components are: (i) national identities; (ii) approval of regime principles and values; (iii) evaluations of regime performance; (iv) confidence in regime institutions; and (v) approval of incumbent office-holders. Figure 3 depicts how these components are structured, moving from the most diffuse towards the most specific.

The first component identified by Norris, namely national identities, represents the most general set of attitudes towards belonging or attachment to the state. Common survey-based measures

and indicators for this dimension include national pride, patriotism and feelings of national identity. The second dimension of support - approval of regime principles and values - addresses support for fundamental democratic principles and values. The third dimension is evaluations of regime performance and is conceived as the views of citizens towards the democratic performance of the government, as well as assessments of decision-making processes, policies and policy outcomes. Fourthly, confidence in regime institutions refers to trust in public sector institutions. Norris (2011) views the following as public institutions: the government legislature, the executive, the judiciary and courts, the security forces, the different tiers of government (national, provincial, local) and the civil service, in addition to political parties. The press and trade unions can also be included here. The last level of support is the approval of incumbent office-holders, which entails public attitudes towards the president, ministers, party leaders and elected representatives.

**Figure 3: Conceptual overview of indicators of political system support**



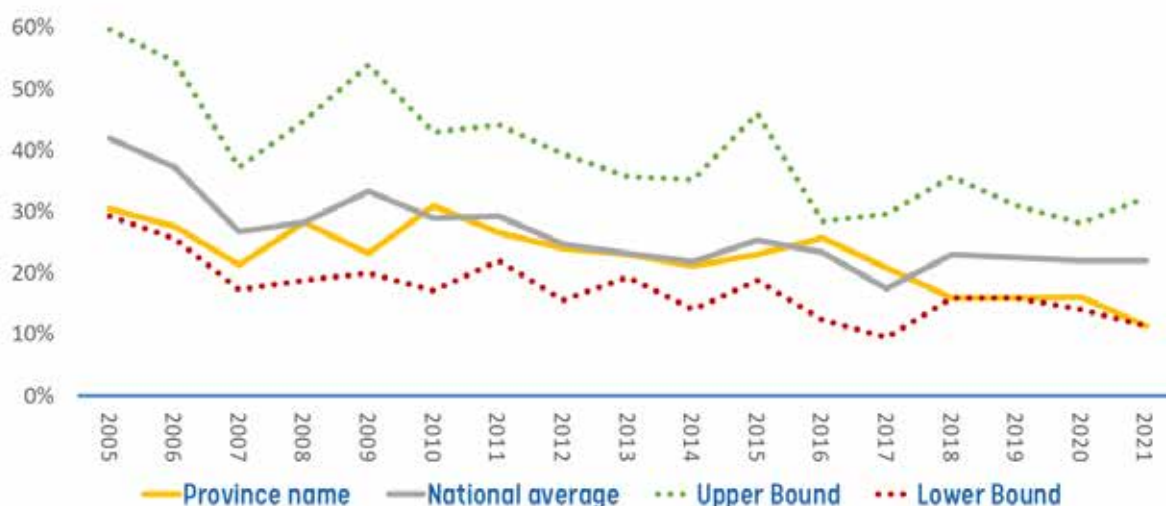
Source: Norris (2011:24) Democratic Deficit: Critical Citizens Revisited

### 1.3 Guide to indicators and their interpretation

The set of electoral indicators that presented in this report have been presented using a particular visual format that requires a brief explanation.

#### Trends in province of focus compared to national trends

In the example graph below, the trend line corresponding to the province of focus in the report is highlighted in a bold yellow colour. For comparative purposes, the national average on the indicator is presented in a dark grey colour. This is important for determining whether the province fares better or worse in any given survey year than the average for the country. This allows for quick inferences to be drawn on provincial performance in this specific area of evaluation.



#### Determining performance in province of focus relative to other provinces

Displaying the trends of each of the nine provinces as well as the national average over multiple survey years on a single graph would be impractical, since many of the lines would intersect, making it difficult to interpret. However, it is crucially important that we understand how the province of focus fares relative to other provinces, as well as the relative spread in provincial responses to the indicator in question. As such, we have inserted two additional lines in the graph, as follows:

- **Upper bound:** This is the highest provincial value on the measure in the specified survey year. Due to fluctuations in public evaluations, it should be noted that the highest value in each year will not necessarily correspond to the same province over time.
- **Lower bound:** This is the lowest provincial value on the measure in the specified survey year. Again, it is important to note that the lowest value in each year will not necessarily correspond

to the same province over time, due to variations in assessment among the public over time.

#### Table of statistics

For those wanting the exact numbers associated with each data point in the graph, we have provided a table of statistics. This displays the provincial average, the national average, and the upper and lower bound figures. In addition, the province’s rank position in each survey year is provided, with one indicating that the province has the highest value of all nine provinces, and nine the lowest relative value.

#### Data sources

Four principal sources have been used: the IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) series, which is representative of citizens aged 16 years and older; the IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) series, which is a representative sample of the voting public on Election Day; the HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) series, which is representative of the adult public older than 15 years; and official IEC statistics on registration and electoral results.



**PART**

**B**

**PRE-ELECTION  
PHASE**



## 2. PRE-ELECTION PHASE

### 2.1 Support for the political system

#### 2.1.1 National Pride

##### GOAL

To determine the general sense of belonging or attachment to the nation-state. This relates to general bonds of political support, as expressed through feelings of national pride. It underpins the priority of promoting social cohesion and national identity in the country

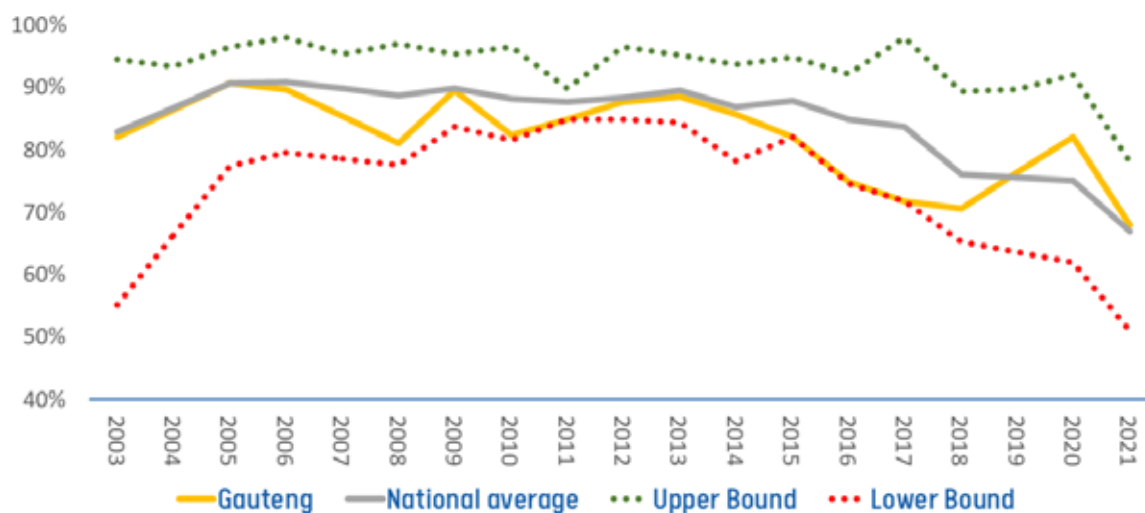
##### QUESTION

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "I would rather be a citizen of South Africa than of any other country in the world." (% agree/strongly agree)

##### ANALYSIS

As is the case nationally, Gauteng residents are generally loyal to their country and exhibit relative high levels of attachment to the state. Between 2003 and 2015, more than four-fifths on average agreed that they would rather be a citizen of the country than any other nation. In line with the national trend, pride in Gauteng dropped after 2015, falling from 82% in 2015 to 71% in 2018. In 2021 we note a significant decline in national pride among the Gauteng electorate, with 68% indicating that they would rather be a citizen of South Africa than any other country. This is a 14-percentage point decline from 2020, when 82% of Gauteng residents held national pride. Relative to other provinces, national pride in Gauteng has been relatively low over time, ranging between a fifth and ninth, and ranking second lowest overall across the full period. The only exception to this trend was in 2020, when an upswing in pride resulted in the province being ranked second.

**NATIONAL PRIDE: "I would rather be a citizen of South Africa than of any other country in the world", 2003-2021 (% agreeing)**



%	2003	2005	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	82	91	90	81	89	82	85	88	88	86	82	75	72	71	82	68	82
National Avg.	83	91	91	89	90	88	88	88	90	87	88	85	84	76	75	67	84
Upper Bound	94	96	98	97	95	97	90	96	95	94	95	92	98	89	92	78	89
Lower Bound	55	77	80	78	87	82	85	85	84	78	84	75	72	65	62	51	76
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	6	7	8	7	7	9	7	5	6	9	8	9	8	2	6	8

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.1.2 Demand for democracy: Support for democratic ideals

### GOAL

Evaluation of the importance of elements of democracy. This provides a sense of the demand for democracy by examining the salience attached to democratic ideals

### QUESTION

For each of the six components of democracy, respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they believed each was important (mean score, 0-10 importance scale, where 0=not important and 10=very important)

- ...that elections are free and fair?
- ...that politicians listen to people before making decisions?
- ...that ruling parties are punished in elections when they have done a bad job?
- ...that citizens are able to take part in peaceful and legal protest action to express their dissatisfaction?
- ...that everyone is free to express their political views openly, even if they are extreme?
- ...that opposition parties are free to criticise the government?

### ANALYSIS

In Gauteng, the importance attached to the six dimensions of democratic ideals remained fairly high, with average scores ranging between 6.1 and 8.0 on a 0-10 scale. The highest rated ideal has been 'freedom of expression', followed by 'free and fair elections'. In 2016, there was an observed increase in importance attached to all six ideals, but a downward trend in terms of ranking of ideals is evident post-2016. The observed trend is similar to the national average in the post-2016 period. Gauteng, however, ranks consistently high relative to other provinces in the post-2016 period, remaining in the top five for the six dimensions of democratic ideals.

#### DEMAND FOR DEMOCRACY: Importance attached to different democratic values or ideals, 2013-2021 (mean scores based on a 0-10 importance scale)

Mean score, 0-10 scale	Ideal 1 Participation in Protest				Ideal 2 Freedom of Expression				Ideal 3 Viable Opposition			
	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021
Gauteng	7.8	8.3	7.2	6.9	6.5	7.8	7.1	6.8	6.5	7.4	6.9	6.6
National Avg.	8.2	8.1	7.2	6.7	7.4	7.5	7.0	6.4	7.4	7.4	6.9	6.4
Upper Bound	8.8	8.7	8.0	7.4	8.7	8.2	7.6	7.4	8.5	8.4	7.5	7.6
Lower Bound	7.3	6.7	5.5	5.6	6.5	5.4	4.5	5.0	6.5	5.5	5.3	5.0
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	7	4	5	3	9	3	4	3	9	5	4	4

Mean score, 0-10 scale	Ideal 4 Participation in Protest				Ideal 5 Freedom of Expression				Ideal 6 Viable Opposition			
	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021
Gauteng	7.0	7.9	7.0	6.6	7.8	8.0	7.2	7.8	6.1	7.9	7.1	6.4
National Avg.	7.6	7.5	6.9	6.4	7.8	7.6	6.9	7.5	7.0	7.4	6.8	6.4
Upper Bound	8.5	8.2	7.5	7.6	8.8	8.2	7.5	8.4	7.9	8.6	7.6	7.4
Lower Bound	6.7	6.5	5.9	5.1	7.1	6.5	5.6	6.1	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.2
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	3	4	4	5	3	2	3	9	2	2	4

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2013-2021

## 2.1.3 Supply of democracy: Satisfaction with the functioning of democracy

### GOAL

Determine support for the way the country's political system is functioning

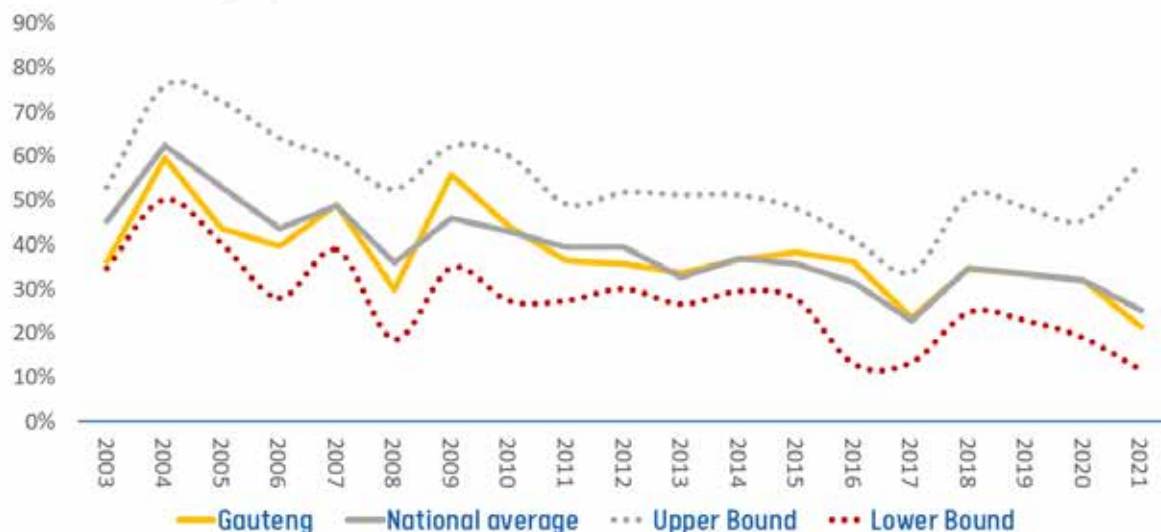
### QUESTION

How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in South Africa? (% satisfied / very satisfied)

### ANALYSIS

There has been a general decline in satisfaction with the functioning of democracy among Gauteng residents since 2004, largely mirroring national trends. There was a favourable upswing in 2009 with 56% of citizens expressing satisfaction with the functioning of democracy in the country. This development, however, was relatively short-lived and a decline again occurred between 2010 and 2013, followed by a fluctuating tendency between 2014 and 2018. In 2017, satisfaction reached a low point of 23%, though there was a slight recovery by late 2018, when satisfaction rose to 34%. By 2021, however, satisfaction with democracy declined to 21%. Relative to other provinces, Gauteng residents tend to be critical of the way democracy is working, ranking on average fifth when compared to other parts of the country.

**SUPPLY OF DEMOCRACY: Satisfaction with the way democracy is working in South Africa, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	36	60	44	40	49	30	56	44	36	36	34	37	38	36	23	34	...	32	21	38
National Avg.	45	62	53	44	49	36	46	43	39	39	33	37	36	31	23	35	...	32	25	39
Upper Bound	53	76	72	64	60	52	62	60	49	52	51	51	48	41	34	51	...	45	58	51
Lower Bound	35	50	40	28	39	18	35	27	27	30	26	29	28	13	13	25	...	19	12	34
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	5	8	6	5	8	3	5	8	7	3	5	3	3	5	3	...	5	6	5

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.1.4 Supply of democracy: Country going in the right direction

### GOAL

Determine support for the country's current trajectory

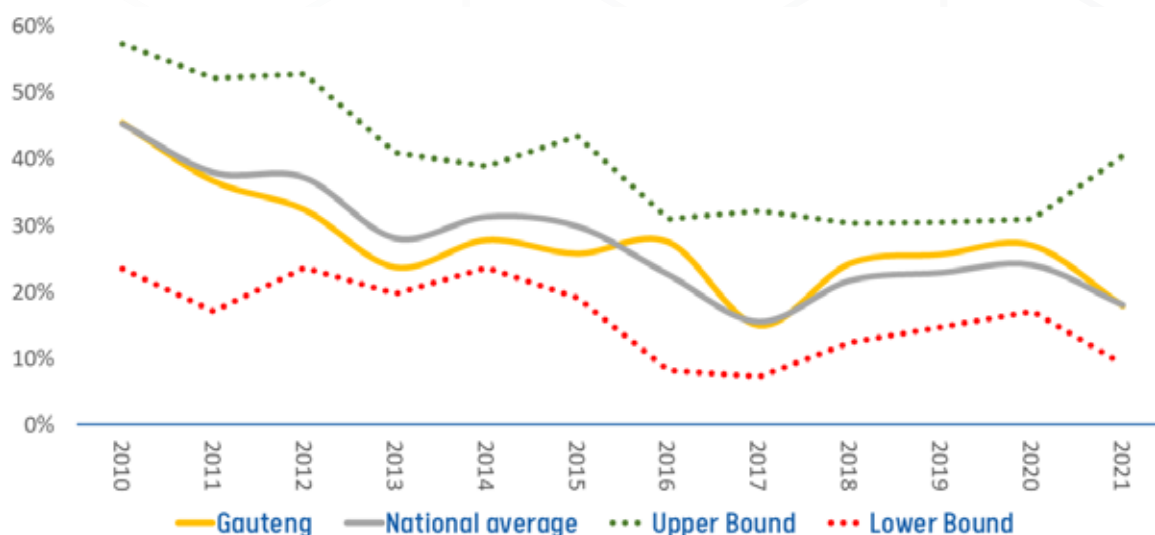
### QUESTION

How satisfied are you with the way democracy is working in South Africa? (% satisfied)

### ANALYSIS

In late 2010, 45% of the adult population of Gauteng indicated that the nation was heading in the right direction. However, a downward trend is observed with shares declining from 37% to 24% in the 2011 to 2013 period. Despite fluctuations in this outlook in recent years, there has been a sustained general downward pattern during the decade, reaching a low point of 15% by late 2017. The trend in the Gauteng province reflects the national tendency of reduced confidence in the country's direction. Gauteng, however, did display a slight improvement between 2017 and 2020 that can be observed countrywide. However, a decrease is observed in 2021, reaching 18%. The average provincial ranking across this period was sixth when compared to other provinces. Gauteng residents remained circumspect with the provincial average reflecting the national average. Whether this will alter in coming years is something that will need to be monitored closely.

COUNTY GOING IN RIGHT DIRECTION: Percentage who believe the country is going in the right direction, 2010-2021 (%)



%	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	45	37	32	24	28	26	28	15	24	27	18	27
National Avg.	45	38	37	28	31	30	23	15	22	24	18	28
Upper Bound	57	52	53	41	39	43	31	32	30	31	41	37
Lower Bound	24	17	24	20	24	19	8	7	12	17	9	22
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	7	6	6	7	8	3	5	5	3	4	6

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2010-2021

## 2.1.5 Supply of democracy: Evaluation of performance against democratic ideals

### GOAL

Evaluation of elements of democracy. This provides a sense of perceived effectiveness in relation to the progressive realisation of democratic ideals

### QUESTION

For each of the six components of democracy, respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they believed each applied to South Africa today (mean score, 0-10 applicability scale, where 0=does not apply at all; 10=applies completely)

...Elections in South Africa are free and fair.

...Politicians in South Africa listen to people before making decisions.

...Ruling parties in South Africa are punished in elections when they have done a bad job.

...Citizens in South Africa are able to take part in peaceful and legal protest action to express their dissatisfaction.

...In South Africa, everyone is free to express their political views openly, even if they are extreme.

...Opposition parties in South Africa are free to criticise the government.

### ANALYSIS

In Gauteng, the evaluation of the six dimensions of democracy varied, with average scores ranging between 3.5 and 7.4 on a 0-10 scale. On average, 'free and fair elections', received the most favourable rating, followed by the belief that our democracy offers 'viable opposition', allows 'participation in protest' and 'freedom of expression'. Residents of Gauteng were less convinced of 'elected listen to the public' or that there is 'electoral accountability' (parties punished during elections for poor performance). Over the 2013 to 2021 period, evaluations of the supply of five of the six ideals have been less favourable, but unexpectedly a slight increase in rating is evident for 'viable opposition'. This downward trend is concerning and needs to be monitored as it may imply some disillusionment with most aspects of democracy. In terms of provincial ranking, Gauteng generally ranked between fifth and ninth on the 'elected listen to the public', 'electoral accountability', 'free and fair elections' in 2021, but was ranked third highest in relation to 'viable opposition' and 'participation in protest'.

#### SUPPLY OF DEMOCRACY: Evaluations of different democratic values or ideals, 2013-2021 (mean scores based on a 0-10 scale)

Mean score, 0-10 scale	Ideal 1 Free and Fair Elections				Ideal 2 Elected Listen to the Public				Ideal 3 Electoral Accountability			
	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021
Gauteng	7.4	7.3	7.0	5.7	5.3	4.5	3.8	3.5	4.7	4.5	4.6	3.5
National Avg.	7.3	7.3	6.6	5.7	4.6	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.0
Upper Bound	7.8	8.0	7.2	6.7	5.3	5.2	5.2	4.8	5.5	5.2	5.3	5.0
Lower Bound	6.2	6.5	5.1	5.1	3.4	4.1	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.5
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	6	4	5	1	6	6	8	4	6	4	9

Mean score, 0-10 scale	Ideal 4 Participation in Protest				Ideal 5 Freedom of Expression				Ideal 6 Viable Opposition			
	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021	2013	2016	2018	2021
Gauteng	6.6	7.1	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.9	6.4	5.7	6.0	7.4	6.7	6.3
National Avg.	6.1	6.4	6.0	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.1	5.7	6.3	6.8	6.5	6.1
Upper Bound	6.8	7.3	6.5	6.5	6.7	7.7	6.6	6.6	6.8	7.8	6.9	6.9
Lower Bound	5.2	5.2	4.6	4.9	5.5	5.6	5.0	5.3	5.8	5.6	5.9	4.8
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	2	3	3	3	2	3	4	4	7	2	3	3

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2013-2021

## 2.1.6 Satisfaction with municipal performance

### GOAL

Determine levels of satisfaction with municipal performance

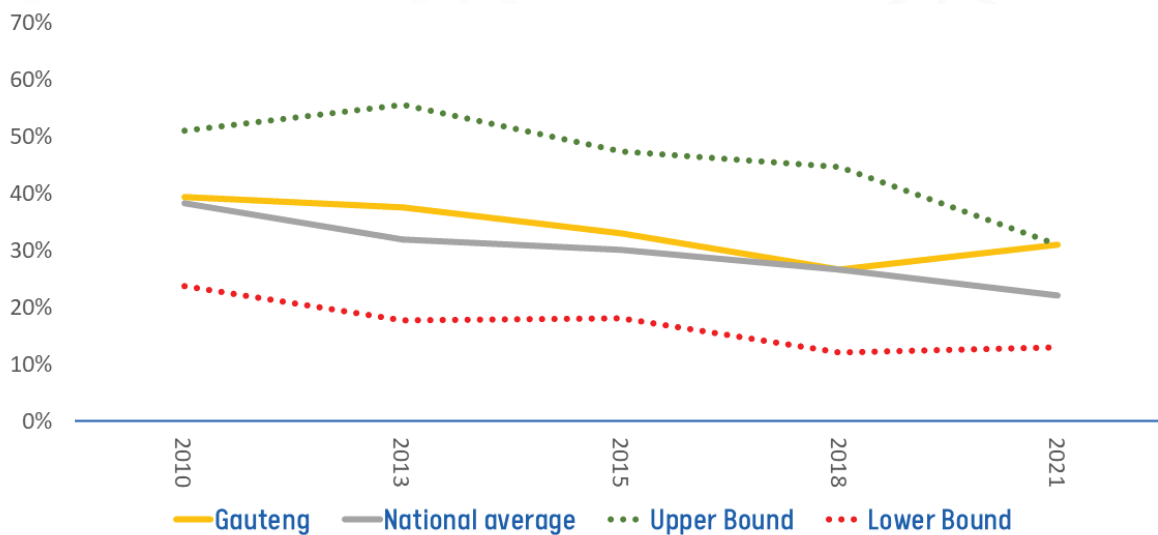
### QUESTION

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way your municipality is performing its job at present? (% satisfied / very satisfied)

### ANALYSIS

In 2010, there was general discontentment with the performance of municipalities among the Gauteng public. A downward trend in public satisfaction with municipal performance is observed over the period. The share that was satisfied with municipal functioning fell from 39% in 2010 to 27% in 2018. Municipal satisfaction is relatively low across all provinces, with a maximum value of 31% in 2021 and lowest at 12% in that survey round. Except for 2018, the Gauteng figures were higher than the South African national average in municipal evaluations. This means that when compared to other provinces, Gauteng residents are less likely to be critical over municipal performance. The rank position of Gauteng was first in 2021 and Gauteng second or third in other years, with the exception of 2010, when it ranked fifth.

### MUNICIPAL SATISFACTION: Satisfaction with municipal performance, 2010-2021 (%)



%	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	39	38	33	27	31	34
National Avg.	38	32	30	27	22	30
Upper Bound	51	56	47	45	31	43
Lower Bound	24	18	18	12	13	19
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	2	2	3	1	2

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2010-2021

## 2.2. Public trust in political and social institutions

### 2.2.1. Trust in the Electoral Commission

#### GOAL

Public confidence in the Electoral Commission

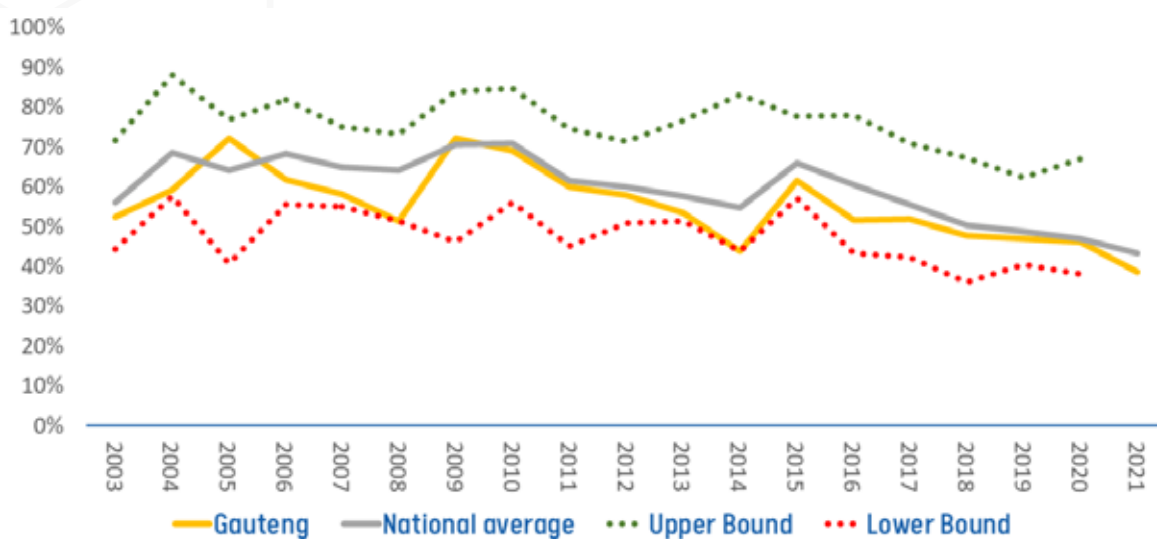
#### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust the Election Commission? (% trust)

#### ANALYSIS

In late 2018, about half (48%) of the Gauteng public expressed trust in the Electoral Commission. By 2021 levels of trust in the IEC declined to 38%. This was the lowest recorded level of trust in the Commission in the province ever recorded. The highest levels of trust (72%) were recorded in 2005 and 2009. In many respects, the fluctuating provincial pattern mirrors the national trend over time. Trust levels in Gauteng were constantly lower than the average trust levels over the 2003 to 2021 period, except for 2005 and 2009. Gauteng, when compared to other provinces, ranked between fifth and ninth in terms of trust in the Commission and over the full period Gauteng ranked sixth. Trust in the Commission is influenced by general views on democracy, but, despite fluctuation, remains one of the most trusted political institutions in the country.

**CONFIDENCE IN THE COMMISSION: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust the Electoral Commission, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	52	59	72	62	58	51	72	69	60	58	53	44	61	52	52	48	46	38	56
National Avg.	56	69	64	68	65	64	71	71	61	60	58	55	66	60	55	50	47	43	60
Upper Bound	72	88	77	82	75	73	84	85	75	71	77	83	78	78	71	67	67	65	72
Lower Bound	44	58	41	55	55	51	46	56	45	51	51	44	57	45	51	36	38	27	54
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	7	4	6	8	9	5	4	6	6	7	9	6	7	6	7	5	6	6

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.2.2 Trust in National Government

### GOAL

Public confidence in National Government

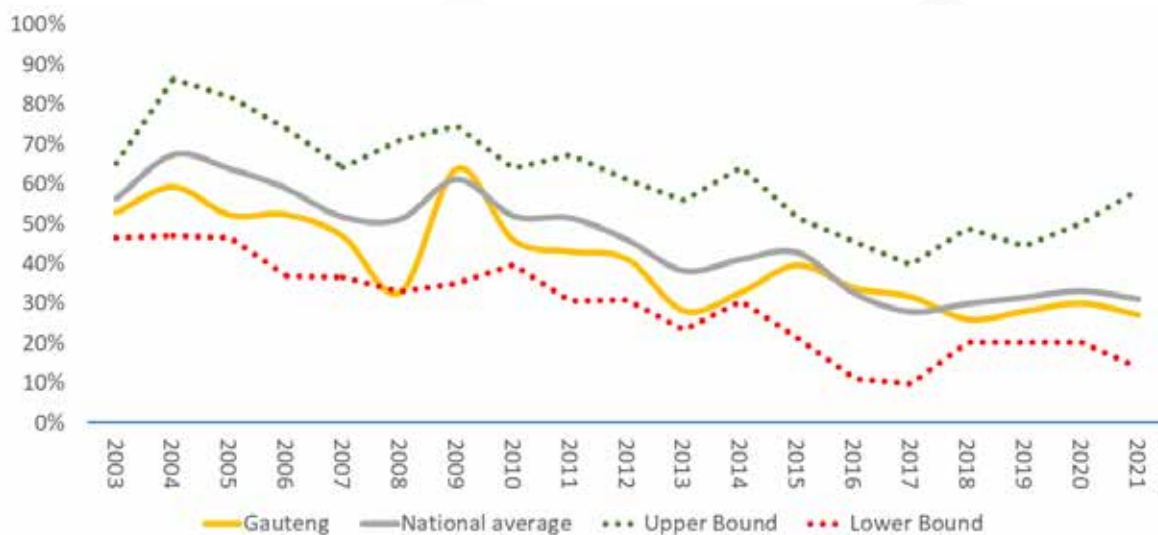
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust National Government? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

Between 2004 and 2008, Gauteng residents were less trusting of national government than average, with levels of trust dropping from 59% in 2004 to 33% in 2008. This was followed by a more positive, but short-lived period in 2009, with a peak of 64% after the election of Jacob Zuma as President. As of 2010 until 2014 there has been a steady weakening of trust in national government, with a short-lived improvement in 2015. A low point was reached in 2018, when only 26% of Gauteng residents voiced trust. This represented a decline of 38 percentage points since 2009 when trust was at its peak. There has been a slight recovery of trust between 2019 and 2021. Over the full period the province ranked eighth on average when compared to other parts of the country.

**CONFIDENCE IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust National Government, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	53	59	52	52	47	33	64	46	43	41	28	33	40	34	32	26	30	27	40
National Avg.	56	67	64	59	52	51	61	52	51	46	38	41	43	32	28	30	33	31	46
Upper Bound	65	86	82	74	64	71	73	64	67	61	56	64	51	45	40	49	50	58	56
Lower Bound	46	47	46	37	37	33	35	40	30	31	23	30	21	11	10	20	20	14	32
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	8	7	7	8	9	6	7	8	6	8	7	7	5	4	7	7	6	8

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021



## 2.2.3 Trust in Provincial Government

### GOAL

Public confidence in provincial government

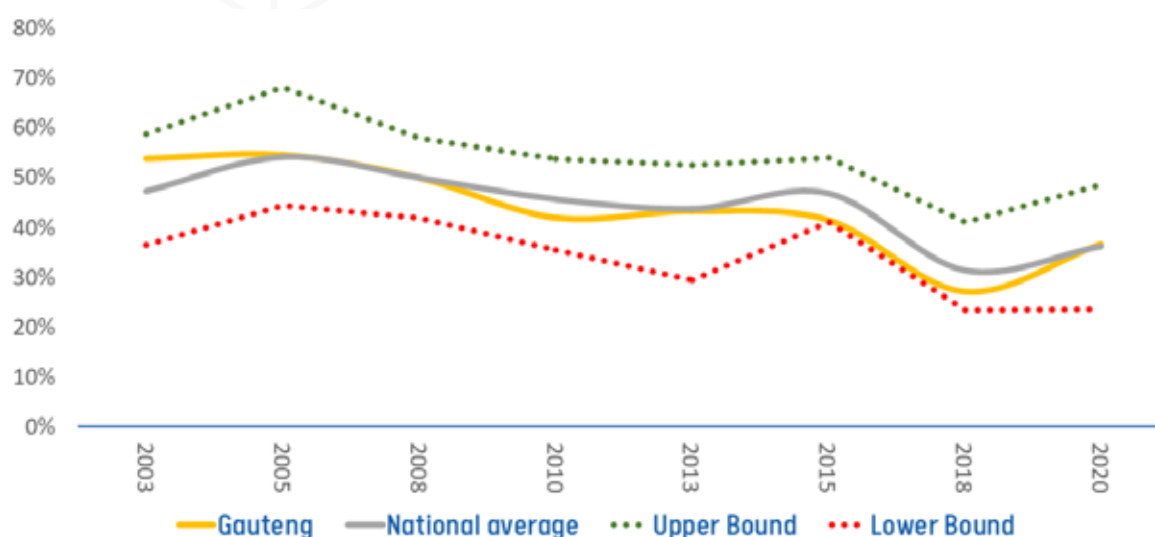
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust provincial government? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

In most SASAS rounds, Gauteng residents were fairly unhappy with the performance of their provincial government, averaging 44% across the 2003 to 2020 period. Confidence in this sphere of government was rather declining over the 2005 to 2018 period with a modest upward tendency in 2013. In 2018, confidence in provincial government was at its lowest (27%) level. However, public confidence experienced a mild upswing in 2020 and was 37% in that survey round. Trust in provincial government in Gauteng ranked seventh on average, ranking between third to eighth in all years of observation.

**CONFIDENCE IN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust provincial government, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2005	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2020	Average
Gauteng	54	55	50	42	43	42	27	37	44
National Avg.	47	54	50	46	44	47	31	36	44
Upper Bound	59	68	58	54	53	54	41	49	51
Lower Bound	37	44	42	36	29	41	23	24	37
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	5	3	6	5	8	7	5	7

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.2.4 Trust in Local Government

### GOAL

Public confidence in provincial government

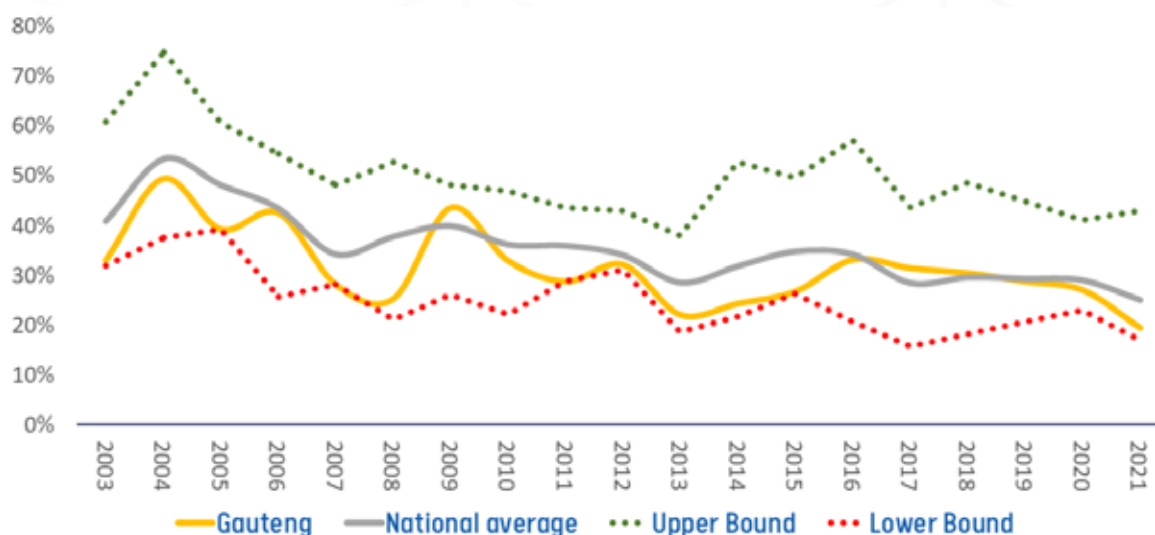
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust Local Government? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

Trust in local government is below that of other spheres of government, averaging 31% across the 2003 to 2021 period in Gauteng. Trust in local government in Gauteng shows fluctuance occurred in the province between 2010 and 2018. During this period, the level of confidence fell by three percentage points. For the bulk of the period under consideration, Gauteng residents were below the national average in terms of trust. In 2013, trust in Gauteng was lowest, but improved over the 2016 to 2018 period. Confidence in local government was 30% in 2018. We note a significant decline in trust in local government in Gauteng to 19% in 2021. The provincial ranking of Gauteng was eighth on average over the full period. The only years where this placement moved into the top five were in 2009, as well as 2016 to 2020.

**CONFIDENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust local government, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	33	49	39	43	28	25	44	33	29	32	22	24	27	33	31	30	27	19	31
National Avg.	41	53	48	43	34	38	40	36	36	34	29	32	35	34	28	30	29	25	36
Upper Bound	61	75	61	55	48	53	48	47	44	43	38	53	50	57	44	49	41	43	44
Lower Bound	32	37	39	26	28	21	26	22	29	31	19	22	26	21	18	18	23	17	30
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	7	9	5	9	8	2	4	9	6	7	8	8	3	3	3	4	7	8

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.2.5 Trust in Parliament

### GOAL

Public confidence in parliament

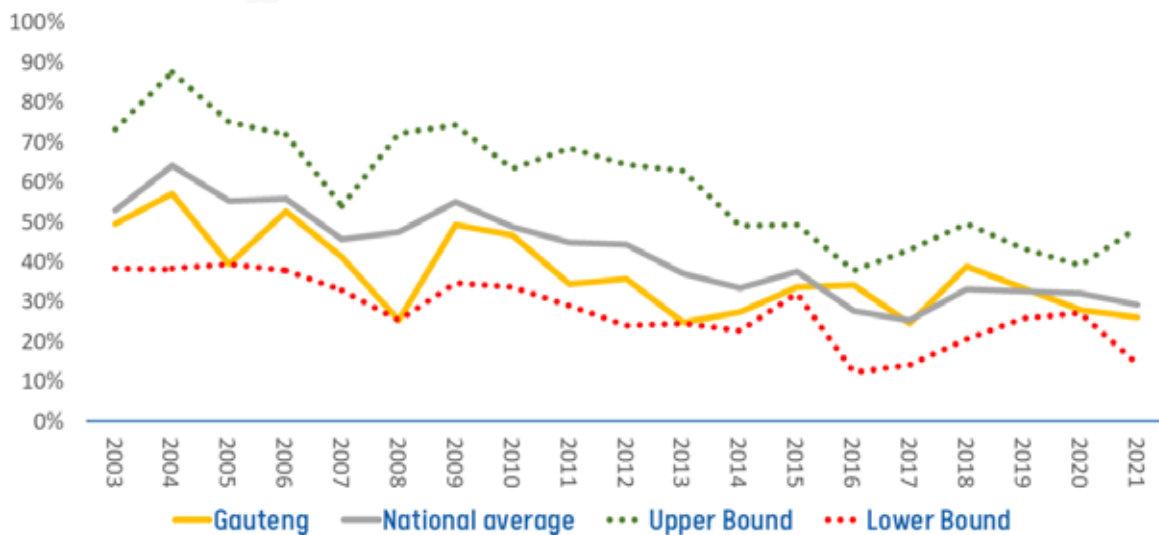
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust parliament? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

The data for Gauteng reveal that trust in Parliament fluctuated over the 2003 to 2021 period. Trust in this institution has been deteriorating. Over the decade between 2008 and 2018, the level of confidence in national parliament increased by 14 percentage points (from 25% to 39%). For the most part, the pattern in Gauteng mirrors the national decline that has occurred in trust in Parliament over the entire time (2003 to 2021). In terms of provincial differences in trust levels, Gauteng was ranked as seventh out of the nine provinces on average across the 2003 to 2021 period, with an average of 37% trust in Parliament.

**CONFIDENCE IN PARLIAMENT: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust parliament, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	50	57	39	53	41	25	49	47	34	36	25	27	34	34	24	39	28	26	37
National Avg.	53	64	55	56	46	48	55	49	45	44	37	33	38	28	25	33	32	29	42
Upper Bound	73	88	75	72	54	72	74	59	68	64	63	49	49	38	43	49	39	49	54
Lower Bound	38	38	39	38	33	39	35	34	29	24	24	23	32	12	14	21	27	14	30
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	8	6	8	7	2	6	3	5	4	7	5	5	6	4	7	7	9	7

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.2.6 Trust in Courts

### GOAL

Public confidence in the courts

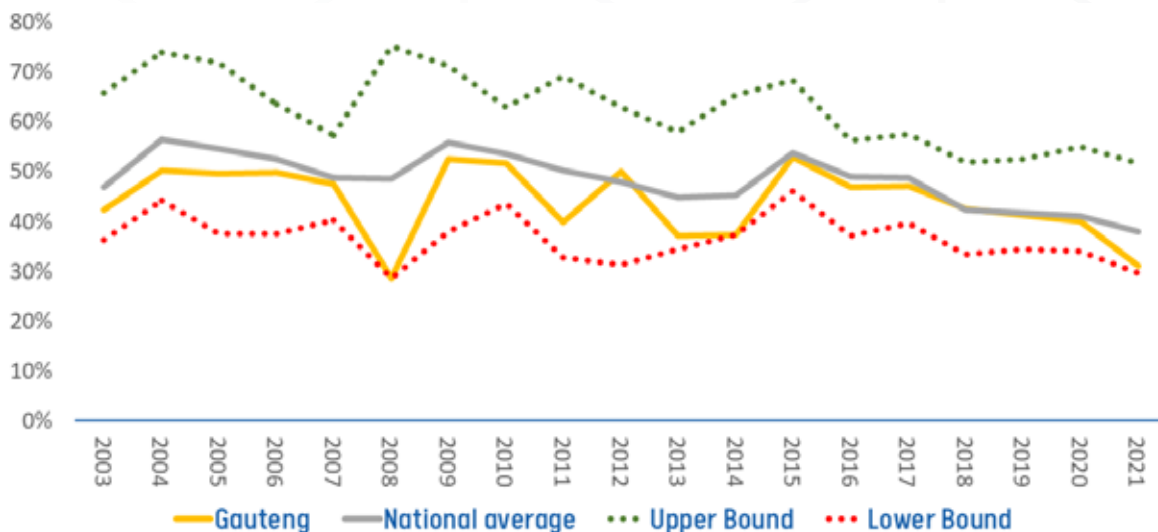
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust the courts? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

Over the 2003 to 2021 period, trust in the courts remained (more or less) similar to the national average. At the beginning of the period under examination, 42% of Gauteng residents trusted the courts and the province was ranked seventh, implying lower than average trust in juridical courts. From 2003 to 2009 there was a general increase in trust with trust levels improving by 11 percentage points. This trend was however reversed after 2012 and trust fell by 13 percentage points to a low of 37% in 2014. Between 2014 and 2015 trust increased again to 53% after which it decreased again, but at a slower pace. Gauteng was ranked among the provinces with the lowest trust levels but featured in the top half in 2018 and 2020. In 2021, Gauteng's trust in the courts declined by nine percent, reaching its second lowest of trust in the courts since 2008. Overall, the provincial ranking of Gauteng was eighth over the full period.

**CONFIDENCE IN COURTS: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust the courts, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	42	50	50	50	48	29	53	52	40	50	37	37	53	47	47	43	41	40	31	44
National Avg.	47	56	55	52	49	49	56	54	50	48	45	45	54	49	49	42	...	41	38	48
Upper Bound	66	74	72	59	57	75	71	63	69	63	58	66	68	56	58	52	...	55	52	57
Lower Bound	36	44	38	37	40	29	38	47	33	31	34	37	46	37	40	33	...	34	30	43
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	7	7	7	6	5	9	6	5	8	4	8	9	4	6	6	4	...	3	8	8

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.2.7 Trust in Political Parties

### GOAL

Public confidence in political parties

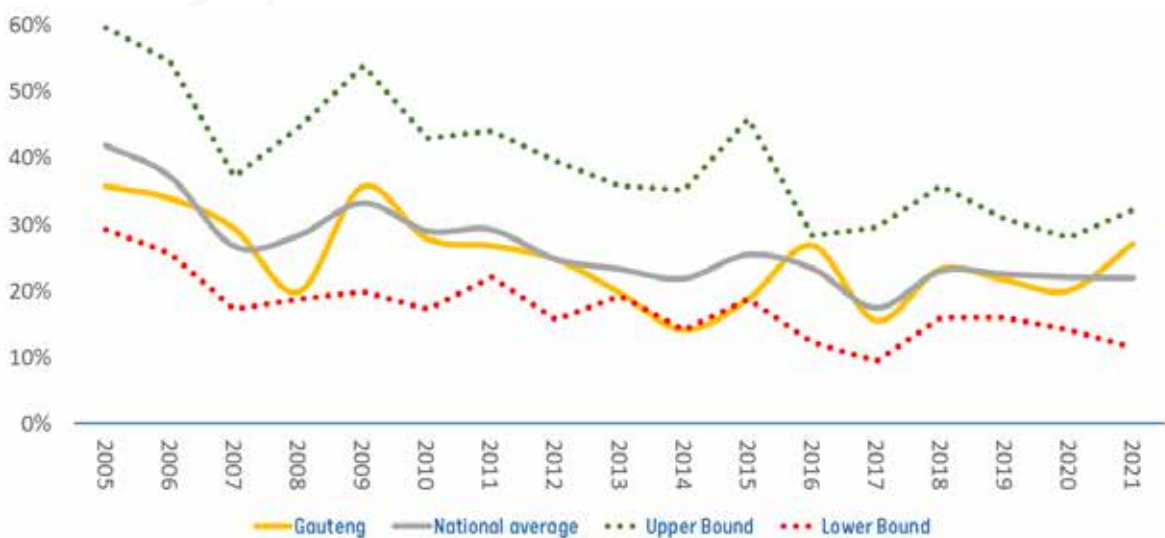
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust political parties? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

The data for Gauteng reveals that trust in political parties has remained low over the period, averaging 25% across the 2003 to 2021 period. A decrease in trust in political parties was noticed for most of the period under assessment, but specifically in 2008, 2010, and 2017. Gauteng residents were mostly slightly less trusting than the national average, with the exception of 2007, 2009, 2016 and 2021. In terms of provincial ranking, Gauteng ranked fifth on average. Gauteng ranked fourth in 2007, 2009 and 2018. Between 2015 and 2016, Gauteng's ranking changed from last compared to other provinces, to second best in 2016. Thereafter Gauteng's ranking declined again. In 2021 trust in political parties recovered somewhat to 27%, bringing Gauteng to third overall in relation to other provinces in that year.

**CONFIDENCE IN POLITICAL PARTIES: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust political parties, 2005-2021 (%)**



%	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	36	34	29	20	36	28	27	25	20	14	19	27	15	23	20	27	25
National Avg.	42	37	27	28	33	29	29	25	23	22	25	23	17	23	22	22	27
Upper Bound	60	52	37	45	54	43	44	39	36	35	46	28	30	36	28	32	37
Lower Bound	29	26	17	19	20	17	22	16	19	14	13	15	9	16	14	11	21
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	6	4	8	4	5	6	5	8	9	9	2	7	4	6	3	5

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2005-2021

## 2.2.8 Trust in Traditional Authorities/Leaders

### GOAL

Public confidence in traditional authorities/leaders

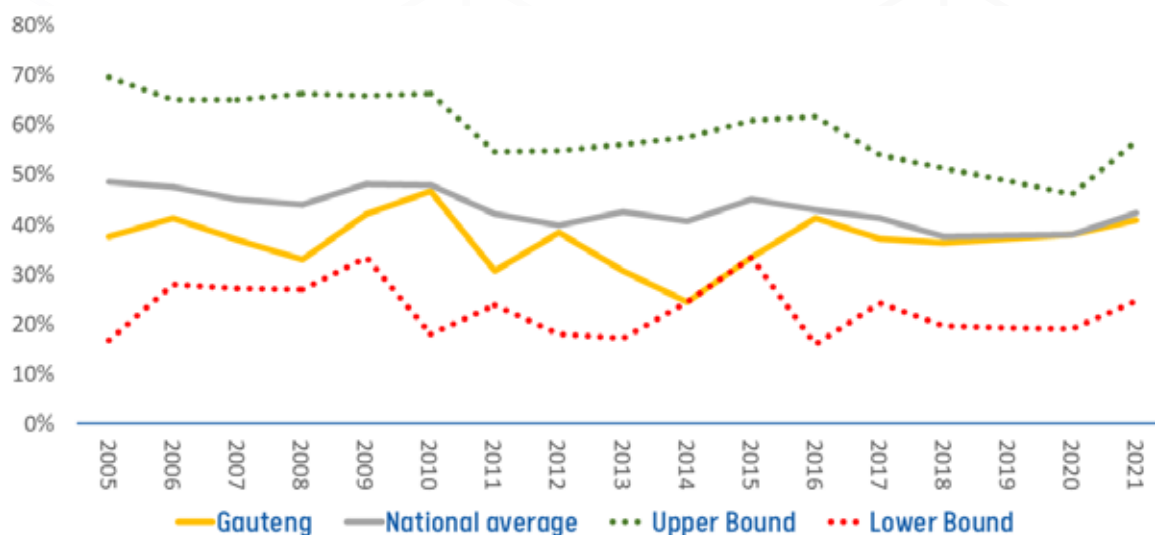
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust traditional authorities/leaders? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

From Gauteng's data, it is evident that faith in traditional authorities was relatively low and remained consistent during the 2005 to 2009 period. In 2010 trust in traditional authorities/leaders grew substantially and in that year 47% of the province's public trusted traditional leaders. In the next eight years, however, public confidence in this vital civic institution decreased. For most of the period under assessment, Gauteng residents were far less trusting of traditional authorities/leader than the national average. In 2021, we note an increase to 41% in trust in traditional authorities. In terms of provincial ranking, on average, Gauteng ranked seventh in the bottom half during the entire period, with the exception of 2020 where the province ranked third.

**CONFIDENCE IN TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES/LEADERS: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust traditional authorities/leaders, 2005-2021 (%)**



%	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	37	41	37	33	42	47	31	38	31	24	33	41	37	36	38	41	37
National Avg.	49	48	45	44	48	48	42	40	42	41	45	43	41	38	38	42	43
Upper Bound	70	65	65	66	66	66	55	55	56	57	61	62	54	51	46	57	55
Lower Bound	17	28	27	27	33	18	24	18	17	24	33	16	24	20	19	25	27
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	7	7	7	7	6	4	7	6	8	9	9	6	5	5	3	5	7

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2005-2021

## 2.2.9 Confidence in Political Leaders

### GOAL

Determine support for the country's political leadership

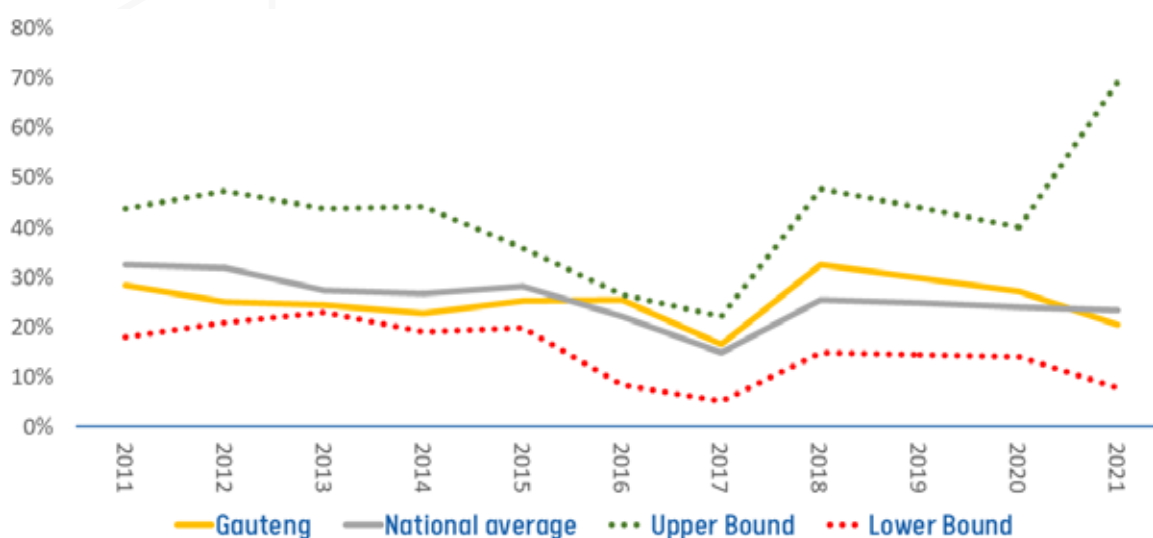
### QUESTION

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the current political leaders in South Africa? (% satisfied / very satisfied)

### ANALYSIS

Gauteng residents were, at the start of the period, not satisfied with political leaders and only 28% of the population trusted leaders in 2011. Over the period we observe a further general decline in public confidence in political leadership in Gauteng. Satisfaction with political leadership in Gauteng was the highest in 2018 at 32%. This demonstrates the general sense of discontent with the political status quo observed throughout the period. This decline reached its lowest point in 2021, where only 20% of the provincial population was satisfied with political leaders in that SASAS round. Gauteng was placed fifth, out of the nine provinces, as the least trusting in that year. In that incidence the gap between the provincial and national averages was three percentage points. In terms of provincial ranking, on average, Gauteng ranked fourth in the period from 2011 to 2021.

**CONFIDENCE IN POLITICAL LEADERS: Proportion of the public who are satisfied or very satisfied with political leaders, 2011-2021 (%)**



%	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	28	25	24	23	25	25	16	32	27	20	25
National Avg.	33	32	27	27	28	22	15	25	24	23	26
Upper Bound	44	47	44	44	36	26	22	48	40	69	39
Lower Bound	18	21	23	19	20	8	5	15	14	8	20
Rank (1-high; 9-low)	7	8	8	6	7	3	6	3	3	5	4

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2011-2021

## 2.2.10 Trust in Religious Institutions

### GOAL

Public confidence in religious institutions

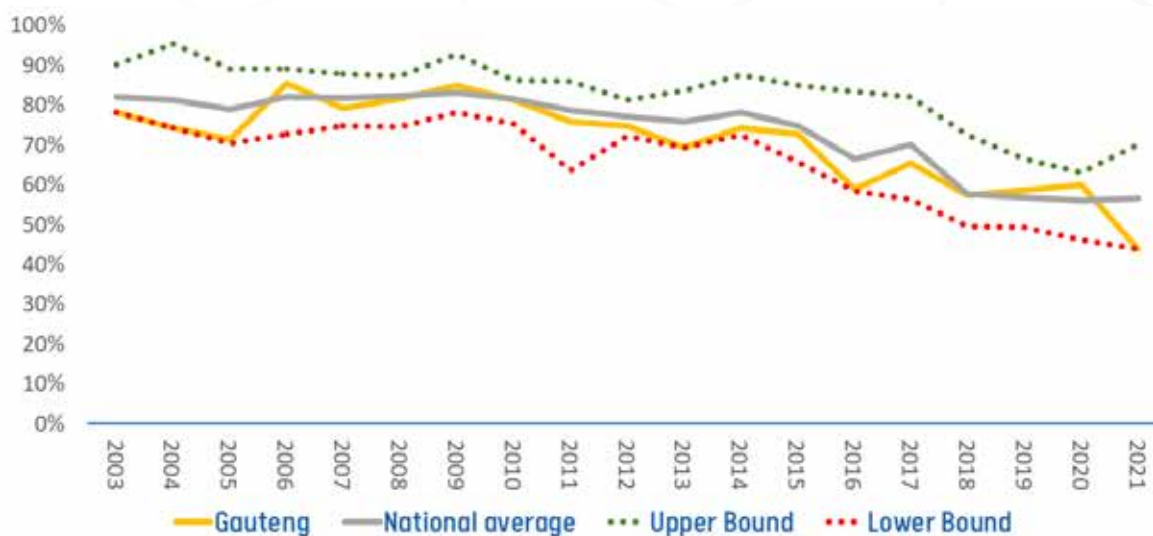
### QUESTION

To what extent do you trust or distrust religious institutions? (% trust / strongly trust)

### ANALYSIS

Gauteng residents were rather trusting of religious institutions for most of the period under deliberation. In 2008, 2009 and 2010 more than 80% of the provincial public expressed trust in religious institutions. After 2012, a general downswing in provincial levels of trust in spiritual organisations is noted. Over this period, evaluations of religious bodies and establishments declined by 31-percentage points (from 75% in 2012 to 44% in 2021). For most of this period, Gauteng residents were less trusting than the national average. In terms of provincial ranking, Gauteng on average ranked ninth and ranked in the bottom five from 2003 to 2007, as well as from 2011 to 2017 (except for 2015) and in 2021. A general observation that is worth mentioning is that disgruntlement with political institutions seems to have spilled over to other socio-cultural institutions and has even impacted religious institutions, which have historically been highly trusted institutions.

**CONFIDENCE IN RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS: Proportion of the public who trust or strongly trust religious organisations, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	78	74	71	85	79	82	85	81	76	75	69	74	73	59	65	57	60	44	71
National Avg.	82	81	79	82	82	82	83	81	79	77	76	78	75	66	70	58	56	56	74
Upper Bound	90	96	89	89	88	87	93	86	86	81	84	87	85	83	82	72	63	70	78
Lower Bound	78	74	70	73	75	74	78	75	64	72	69	72	66	58	56	50	46	44	71
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	9	9	8	5	8	4	3	3	6	8	9	8	5	8	7	4	4	9	9

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021



## 2.3 Electoral predispositions: Psychological involvement in electoral politics

### 2.3.1 Political interest

#### GOAL

Determine public interest in South African electoral politics

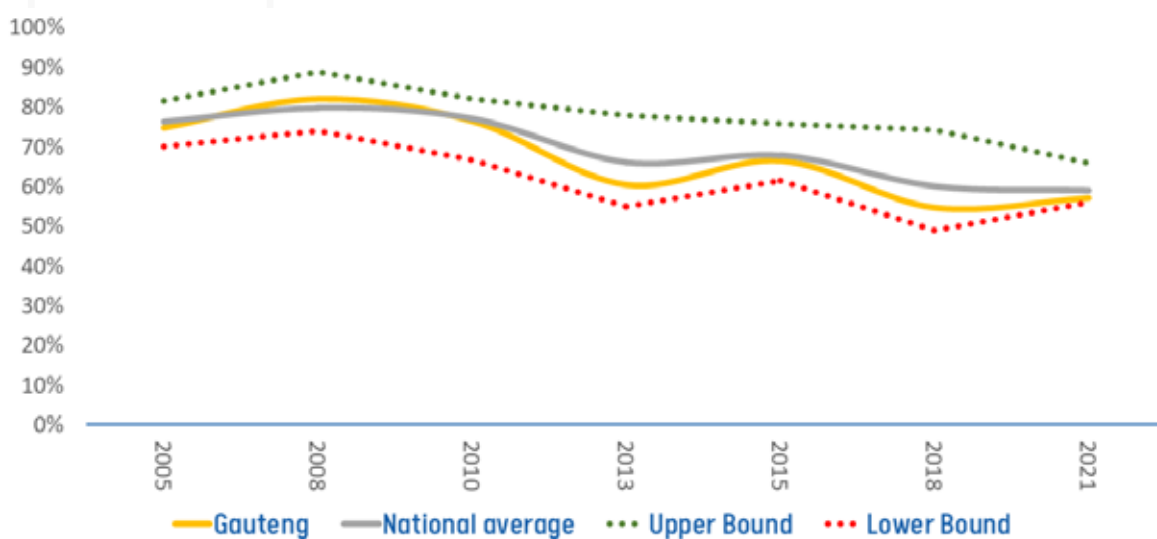
#### QUESTION

In general, how interested are you in government elections? (% very or quite interested)

#### ANALYSIS

It is apparent that a significant majority of Gauteng residents reported an interest in elections. In 2008 slightly more than four-fifths indicated a fair level of interest in government elections. Looking at how levels of interest have changed over time, we find that this picture has remained relatively stable between 2005 and 2010, but thereafter there has been a steady decline in interest. The share indicating that they were interested in government elections fell from 82% in 2008 to 57% in 2021. This change in attitudes seems to imply a dramatic decrease in political interest. The results for Gauteng generally mirror the national results, but with a higher-than-average decline in interest in 2018. The gap between the provincial and national averages was five percentage points in that SASAS round. In terms of provincial ranking, Gauteng on average ranked seventh over the period. Of particular note is that in 2008 this province ranked second highest in terms of interest, but in 2021 Gauteng ranked sixth.

**POLITICAL INTEREST: Proportion of the public who was either very or quite interested in government elections, 2005-2021 (%)**



	2005	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	75	82	76	60	66	55	57	67
National Avg.	76	80	77	66	68	60	59	69
Upper Bound	82	89	82	78	76	74	66	74
Lower Bound	70	74	67	55	61	49	56	67
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	2	5	8	5	7	6	7

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS), 2005-2021

## 2.3.2 Politics easy to understand

### GOAL

Determine how easy the public finds it to understand politics in the country. This relates to the concept of internal political efficacy, which addresses the belief that one can understand politics and therefore participate in politics

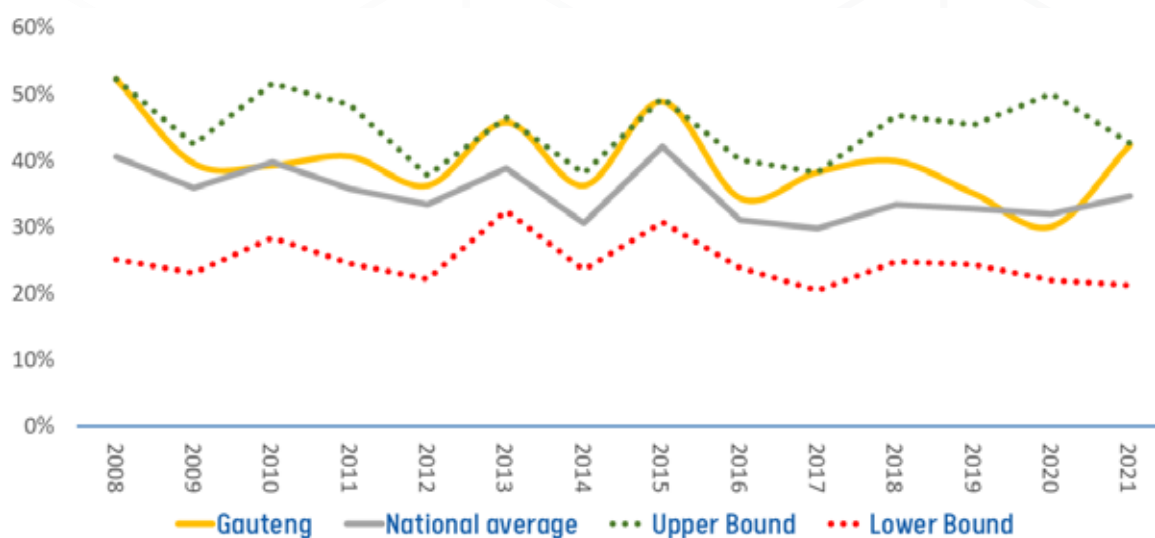
### QUESTION

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about voting? 'Politics is too complicated for me to understand.' (% never or seldom find it too complicated)

### ANALYSIS

Gauteng residents generally tend to think that politics is not that easy to understand but understand politics better than the national average. From the graph below, 40% of the residents, on average, think that politics is easy to understand. The provincial public scored above the national average, except for the 2010 and 2020 periods. Levels of interprovincial variance observed on this indicator averaged 12 percentage points between 2008 and 2021. The provincial ranking of Gauteng was second on average over the full period. The only years where this placement moved to a lower ranking (sixth) was in 2010. The province shows that the public generally finds politics easy to understand, especially compared to most other provinces.

**INTERNAL POLITICAL EFFICACY: Proportion of the public who think that politics is relatively easy to understand, 2008-2021 (%)**



%	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	52	39	39	41	36	46	36	49	34	38	40	30	42	40
National Avg.	41	36	40	36	33	39	30	42	31	30	33	32	35	35
Upper Bound	52	42	52	48	38	46	38	49	40	38	47	50	43	41
Lower Bound	25	23	28	24	22	32	23	31	24	20	25	22	21	29
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	2	6	3	2	2	2	2	3	1	4	7	2	2

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2008-2021

## 2.3.3 Belief in the power of one's vote

### GOAL

Determine internal political efficacy

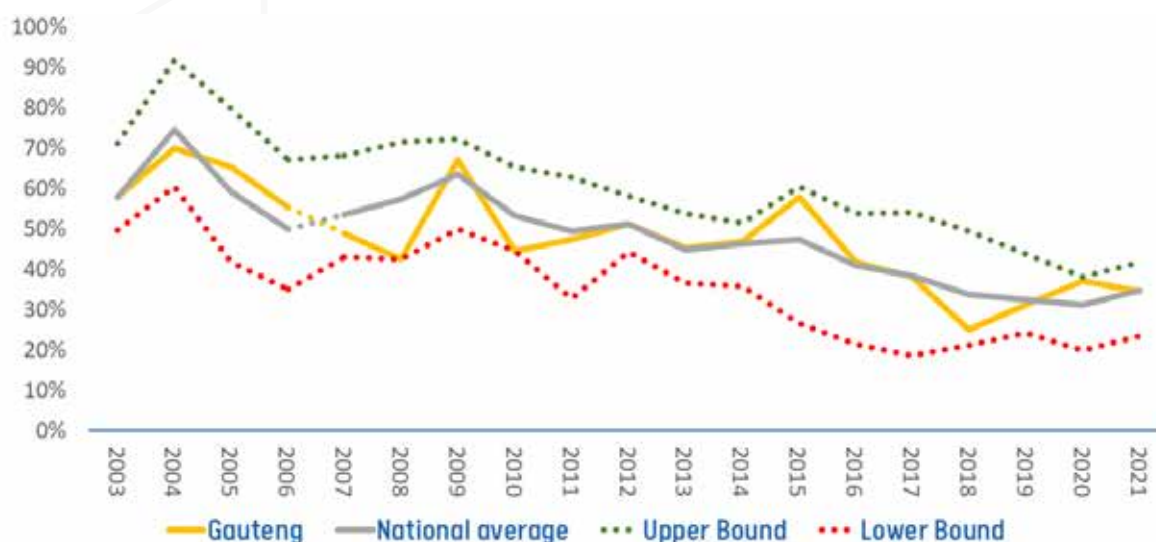
### QUESTION

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about voting? 'Whether I vote or not makes no difference.' (% disagree / strongly disagree)

### ANALYSIS

From 2003 to 2006, as well as in 2009, 2012 and 2015 more than half of the residents of Gauteng believed in their power to change the system. From 2010 onwards, there has mostly been a steady erosion in the belief in the power of one's vote. Between 2009 and 2013, the sense of internal political efficacy fell from 67% to 45%, stabilising briefly between 2013 and 2015, after which it fell sharply to a low of 37% in 2020 and 34% in 2021. The 2021 figure still remains approximately nine percentage points above the 25% observed in 2018. If one examines the pattern of upper and lower provincial bounds over time, it is apparent that interprovincial disparities on this measure fell during the period. The interprovincial disparity in 2021 was only 19 percentage points, down from 34 points in 2015. Overall, Gauteng ranks fifth when it comes to the number of respondents who believed that their vote could make a difference.

**INTERNAL POLITICAL EFFICACY: Proportion of the public who disagreed with the statement: "whether or not I vote makes no difference", 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	58	70	65	55	42	67	45	47	51	45	47	58	42	38	25	37	34	48
National Avg.	58	74	59	50	57	63	53	49	51	45	46	47	41	38	34	31	35	48
Upper Bound	71	92	80	67	71	72	65	63	58	54	51	60	54	54	49	38	42	58
Lower Bound	50	60	42	35	42	50	45	33	44	37	36	26	21	19	21	20	23	43
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	7	2	3	9	3	9	6	6	4	5	2	5	5	8	2	5	5

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.3.4 Views on the conduct of politicians and its effect on the meaning of voting

### GOAL

Determine external political efficacy

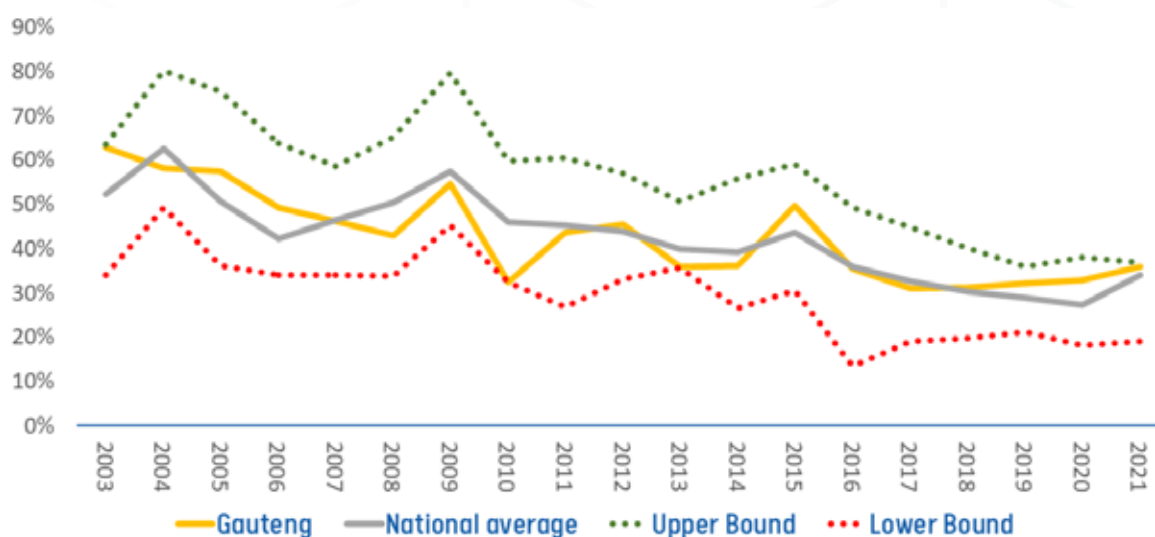
### QUESTION

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about voting: Voting is meaningless because no politician can be trusted? (% disagree or strongly disagree)

### ANALYSIS

In 2003 63% of the adult population in Gauteng disagreed that voting lacked meaning due to lost confidence in the performance of politicians. Between 2004 and 2009 attitudes on this issue remained relatively stable. For most of this period, provincial residents were generally less likely to view voting as meaningless than the average South African citizen. Between 2014 to 2021 there was a significant fluctuation in the number of respondents who shared these sentiments. Nevertheless, there were evident decreases subsequently. As with internal political efficacy, the upper and lower provincial bounds also show a distinct downward tendency over time, suggesting that the national pattern is mirrored at the provincial level. Gauteng ranked fourth overall on this measure but was placed as second in 2021.

**EXTERNAL POLITICAL EFFICACY: Proportion of the public who disagreed with the statement: "Voting is meaningless because no politician can be trusted", 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	63	58	58	49	43	55	32	44	46	36	36	50	35	31	31	33	36	43
National Avg.	52	63	51	42	51	57	46	45	44	40	39	44	36	33	30	27	34	43
Upper Bound	64	80	75	64	65	80	60	60	57	51	56	59	49	45	40	38	37	51
Lower Bound	34	49	36	34	34	45	32	27	33	36	27	30	13	19	20	18	19	39
Rank (1-high; 9-low)	2	6	3	3	8	5	9	6	5	8	8	3	6	5	3	3	2	4

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.3.5 Duty to vote

### GOAL

Determine the public belief in the civic duty to participate in elections

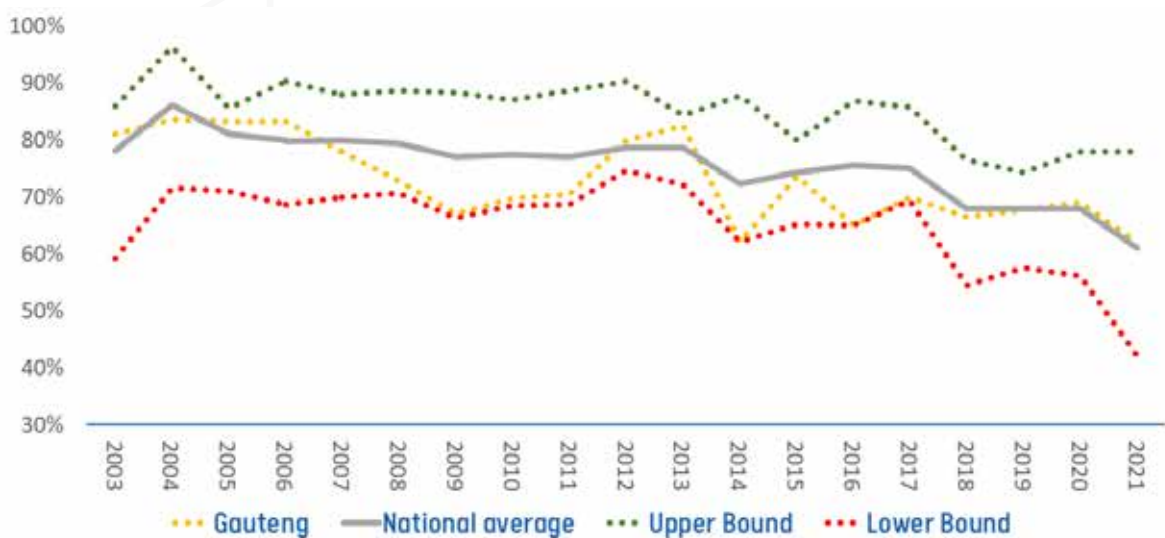
### QUESTION

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about voting? 'It is the duty of all citizens to vote.' (% agree or strongly agree)

### ANALYSIS

In 2003, the belief in the duty to vote among Gauteng residents was robust. Between 2003 to 2007, the average number of Gauteng respondents who believed in the duty to vote was comfortably over three-quarters. However, there was a steady decrease in the subsequent years and in 2009, with slightly over two-thirds (67%) of the respondents expressing their belief in the duty to vote. It was also for the very first time that the province had scored under 70% on this indicator. It increased sharply again between 2010 to 2013 and in 2013, 83% of the Gauteng adult population expressed their belief in the duty to vote. However, in the election year of 2021, it decreased from 69% in the previous year to 62%. On average, Gauteng ranked seventh overall in the observed level of duty to vote over the full period.

**DUTY TO VOTE: Proportion of the public who agreed with the statement: "It is the duty of all citizens to vote", 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	81	84	83	83	78	73	67	70	71	80	83	62	74	65	70	66	69	62	73
National Avg.	78	86	81	80	80	80	77	77	77	79	79	72	74	76	75	68	68	61	76
Upper Bound	86	96	86	90	90	86	88	87	89	90	84	84	80	87	86	76	78	78	81
Lower Bound	62	76	71	69	70	71	66	68	76	75	72	62	65	65	69	54	56	42	70
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	6	3	5	6	7	8	8	6	5	2	9	6	9	8	6	4	5	7

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.3.6 Voting intention

### GOAL

Evaluate the voting intention of the general population

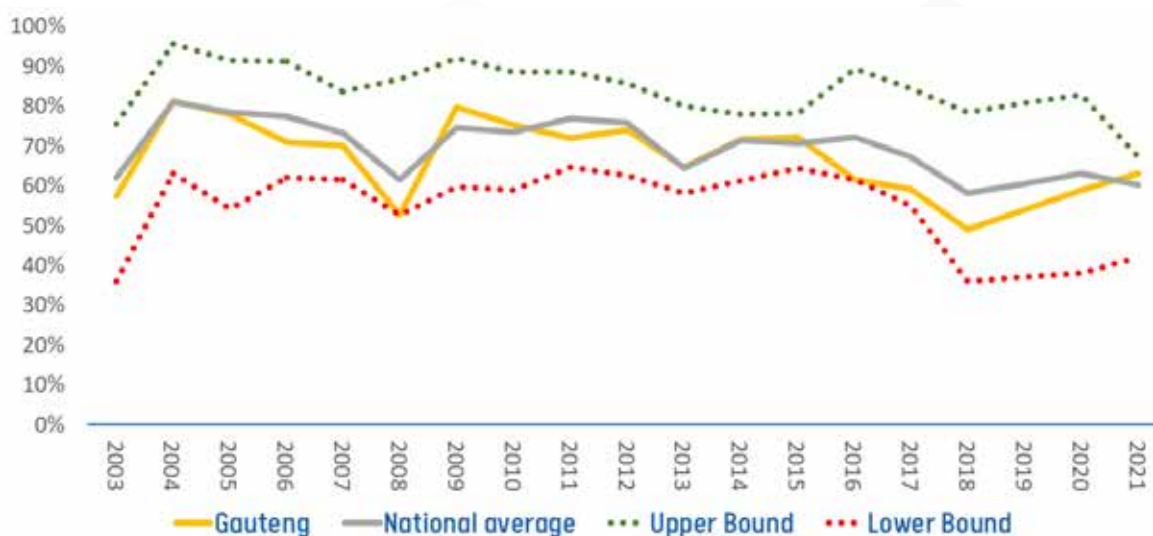
### QUESTION

If a government election was held tomorrow, would you vote? (% who would vote)

### ANALYSIS

In each round of the SASAS survey between 2003 and 2021, respondents were asked whether or not they would vote if a government election was to be held the following day. In 2003, over half (57%) of the public stated that they would turn out to vote if such elections were held tomorrow. This improved significantly in the subsequent years as it hovered around the 75% to 80% region between 2004 to 2007. During the full period, the disparity between the upper and lower provincial bounds fluctuated significantly, with larger than average provincial variation in 2003 to 2006, 2008 to 2010 and 2018 to 2020. For the most part, the province of Gauteng was averaging slightly lower than the national average. In addition, Gauteng was ranked eighth overall when asked about whether or not they would vote if there was an election tomorrow.

**VOTING INTENTION: Proportion of the public who would vote if a government election was held tomorrow, 2003-2021 [%]**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	57	81	78	71	70	53	80	75	72	74	65	72	72	61	59	49	59	63	67
National Avg.	62	81	78	77	73	62	74	74	77	76	64	71	71	72	67	58	63	60	70
Upper Bound	76	96	92	91	84	87	92	89	87	86	80	78	78	89	84	68	83	67	79
Lower Bound	36	63	54	62	61	53	60	59	65	62	58	61	64	61	55	36	38	42	61
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	7	6	4	8	8	9	5	5	7	7	5	4	4	9	6	8	6	2	8

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.3.7 Planned abstention due to administrative barriers

### GOAL

Examining the share planning to abstain in elections due to administrative barriers

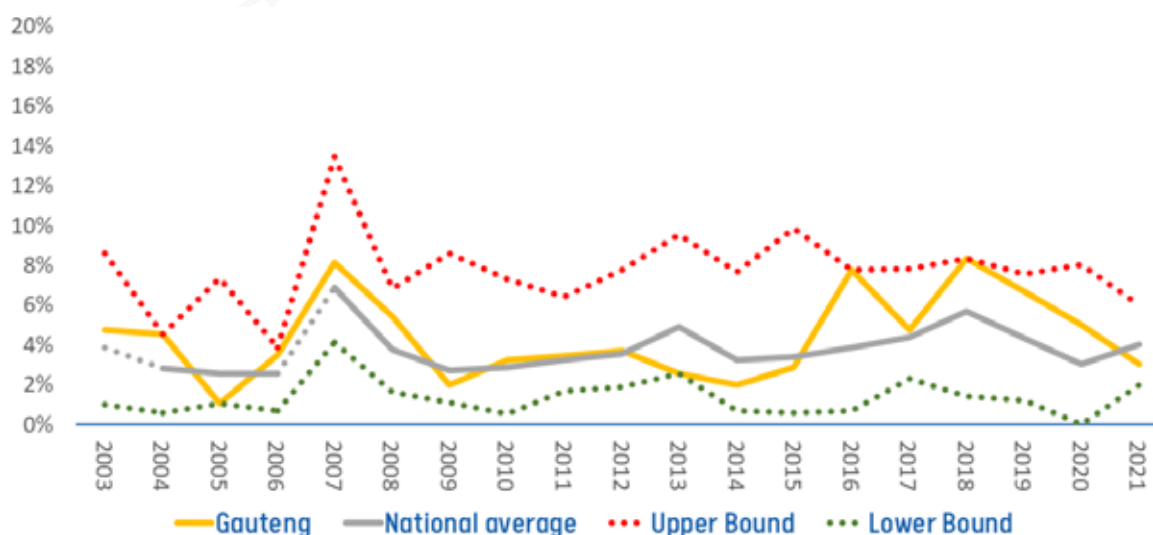
### QUESTION

What is your main reason for thinking that you would not vote if an election were held tomorrow? (% mentioning administrative barriers, averaged across voting age population)

### ANALYSIS

Planned abstention due to administrative barriers accounts for a considerable share of voting intentions in Gauteng. In 2003, the number of respondents who cited administrative barriers, including not being able to register as a reason for potentially abstaining from voting, stood at five percent. It fluctuates over the subsequent years from 2004 to 2015. In 2018 we see an increase to eight percent and in 2021, this figured had decreased to three percent. Gauteng ranks eighth overall on the number of respondents who may be likely to abstain from voting due to administrative barriers, which means that administrative issues have to be closely monitored in the province because they may be a key reason as to why respondents end up not voting.

**ADMINISTRATIVE BARRIERS: Proportion of the public who would not vote due to administrative barriers if government elections were held tomorrow, 2003-2021 (%)**



%	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2020	2021	Average
Gauteng	5	5	1	3	8	5	2	3	4	3	2	3	8	5	8	5	3	3
National Avg.	4	3	3	3	7	4	3	3	4	5	3	3	4	4	6	3	4	4
Upper Bound	1	1	1	1	4	2	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	1	8	6	5
Lower Bound	9	5	7	4	13	7	9	7	8	10	8	10	8	8	8	0	2	3
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	1	9	3	3	2	6	3	5	9	7	4	1	6	1	2	7	8

Data Source: HSRC South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS), 2003-2021

## 2.3.8 Voter registration patterns

### GOAL

Ensure that eligible voters are registered

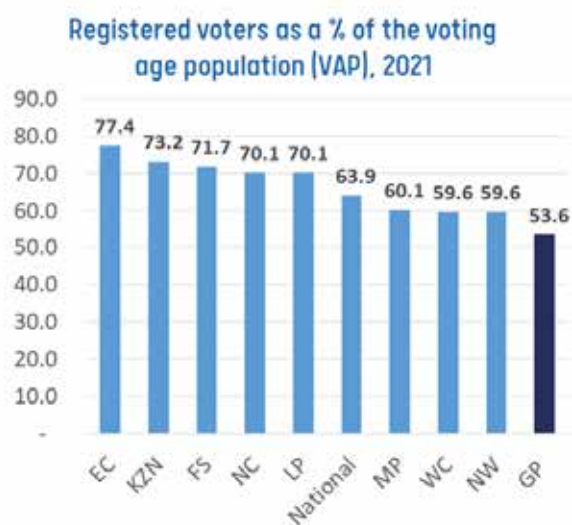
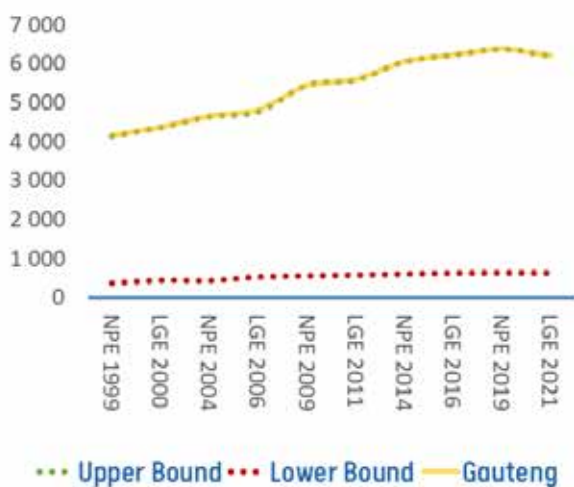
### QUESTION

Number of South Africans that are registered to vote in National and Provincial Elections; percentage of voting age population that is registered.

### ANALYSIS

In 1999, 4.1 million eligible voters were registered to vote in the National and Provincial Elections in Gauteng. Over successive elections, through sustained efforts by the Commission, an additional 1.9 million voters were added to the provincial Voter's Roll over the decade between 2004 and 2014. Given the province's demography, it is not surprising that Gauteng consistently has the largest number of registered voters. . In 2019, the share of the voting age population (VAP) in the province that was registered was 67.1%, which is 9.5 percentage points lower than the national average (74.6%). In 2021 the share of the VAP was 53.6%, lower than the previous year, as well as the 2021 national average of 63.9%. The provincial figure was also substantially lower than other provinces with large numbers of eligible voters, such as the Eastern Cape, where 77.4% of the VAP is registered, as well as KwaZulu Natal, where 73.2% of the VAP is registered. In coming years, voter registration drives in the province will need to try and reduce the share that remains unregistered, while also ensuring that young, first-time voters are encouraged to register.

**REGISTRATION PATTERNS: Number of registered voters, 1999-2021 (in thousands), and percentage of the voting age population that was registered in 2021**



	1999	2000	2004	2006	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	2021 as a % of voting age population
Gauteng	4 154	4 373	4 651	4 786	5 462	5 593	6 064	6 235	6 381	6 196	53.6
National Avg.	18 173	18 478	20 675	21 055	23 182	23 654	25 383	26 333	26 750	26 205	63.9
Upper Bound	4 154	4 373	4 651	4 786	5 462	5 593	6 064	6 235	6 381	6 196	77.4
Lower Bound	377	443	434	529	555	572	601	621	626	623	53.6

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official registration statistics, 1999-2021



## 2.3.9 Perceived ease of the registration process

### GOAL

Ease of registration

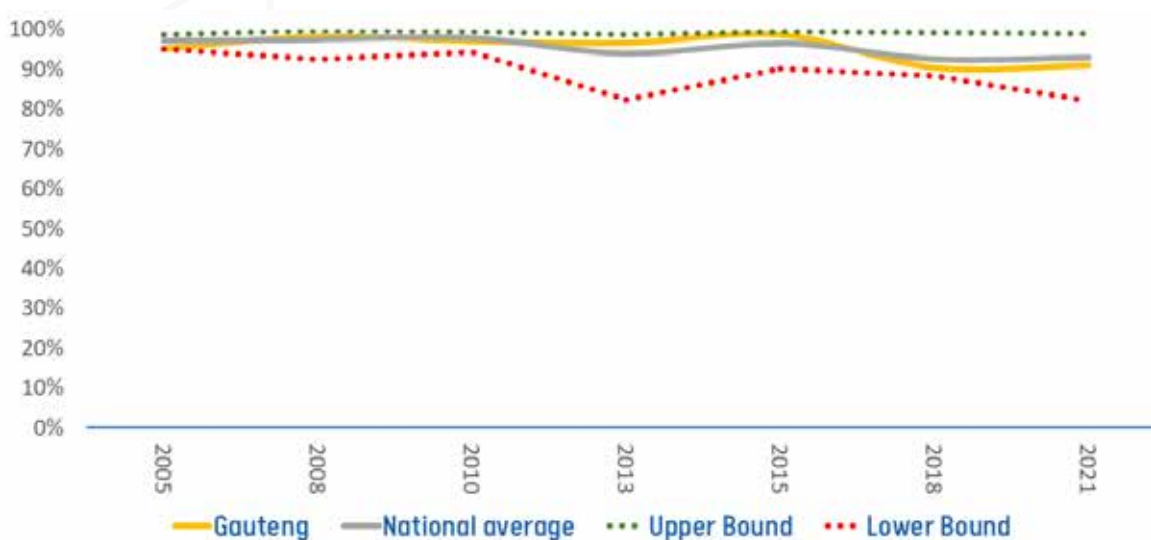
### QUESTION

How easy or difficult did you find it to register as a voter? (% easy or very easy)

### ANALYSIS

In 2005, 95% of the Gauteng respondents felt that registering to vote was easy. However, this was lower than most provinces, and as a result, the province ranked ninth on the question of how easy or difficult it was to vote. In 2008, that figure increased to 98% and the province of Gauteng jumped from ninth to third place in the overall rating in the province for that year. In 2015, Gauteng ranked second in the country before slipping to seventh place in 2021. Gauteng ranks sixth overall over the 2005 to 2021 period regarding the ease of registration. Despite these fluctuations, the view that the registration process is straightforward is widespread, and commonly observed across all provinces.

**EASE OF REGISTRATION: Perceived ease of the registration process, 2005-2021 (% finding it 'easy' or 'very easy')**



	2005	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	95	98	97	97	99	90	91	95
National Avg.	97	97	98	94	97	93	93	96
Upper Bound	99	100	99	99	100	99	99	97
Lower Bound	95	92	94	82	90	88	82	94
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	9	3	5	5	2	7	7	6

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2005-2021

## 2.3.10 Duration of registration process

### GOAL

Determine the time taken to register as a voter

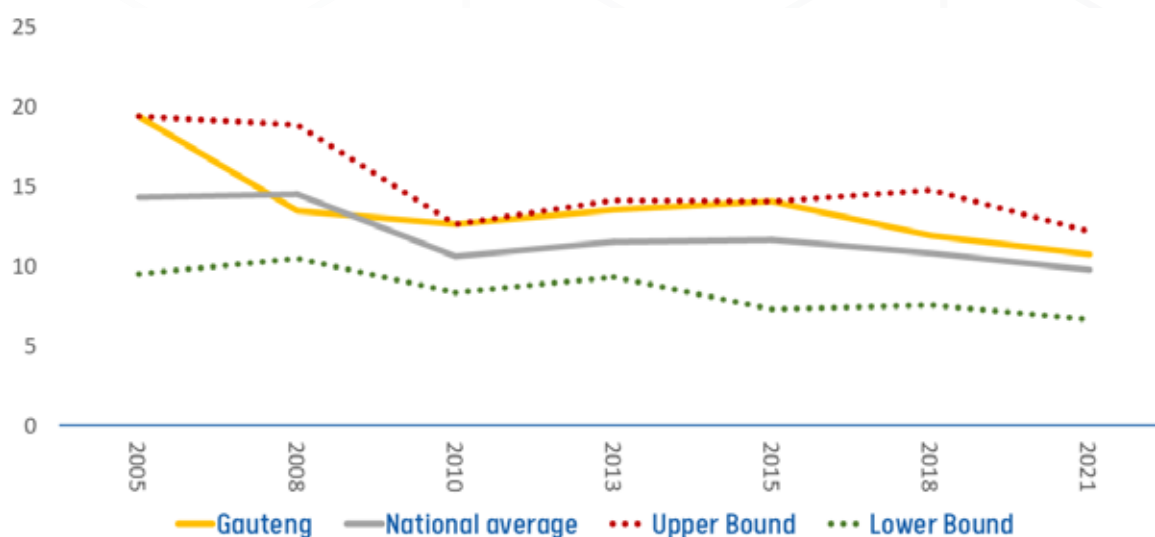
### QUESTION

How many minutes did it take you to register to vote? (average number of minutes)

### ANALYSIS

The average length of time to register in Gauteng was a tad long, averaging 19 minutes in 2005, seven minutes more than the national average which was 12 minutes. Since then, the average time, relative to other provinces has remained longer. From 2005 to 2021, the average time to register improved from 19 minutes to 11 minutes. In most survey rounds, the discrepancy between the upper and lower provincial bounds was not large. The average difference between the two was just four minutes on average across all survey rounds. In 2018, by comparison, the difference between the upper and lower bounds was eight minutes and in 2021 the gap between the upper and lower bounds was five minutes. The province of Gauteng ranked eighth when it came to average time which was 14 minutes, which is two minutes longer than the national average of 12 minutes.

**TIME TAKEN TO REGISTER: Average number of minutes that it took citizens to register to vote, 2005-2021**



	2005	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	19	13	13	14	14	12	11	14
National Avg.	16	17	11	13	12	12	10	12
Upper Bound	23	22	14	16	15	16	12	14
Lower Bound	10	12	9	10	7	8	7	10
Rank (1-high; 9-low)	8	3	8	7	8	7	6	8

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2005-2021



**PART**

**C**

**CAMPAIGN  
PERIOD**

# 3. CAMPAIGN PERIOD

## 3.1. Campaign integrity

### GOAL

Determine public views on the integrity of aspects of the election campaign period

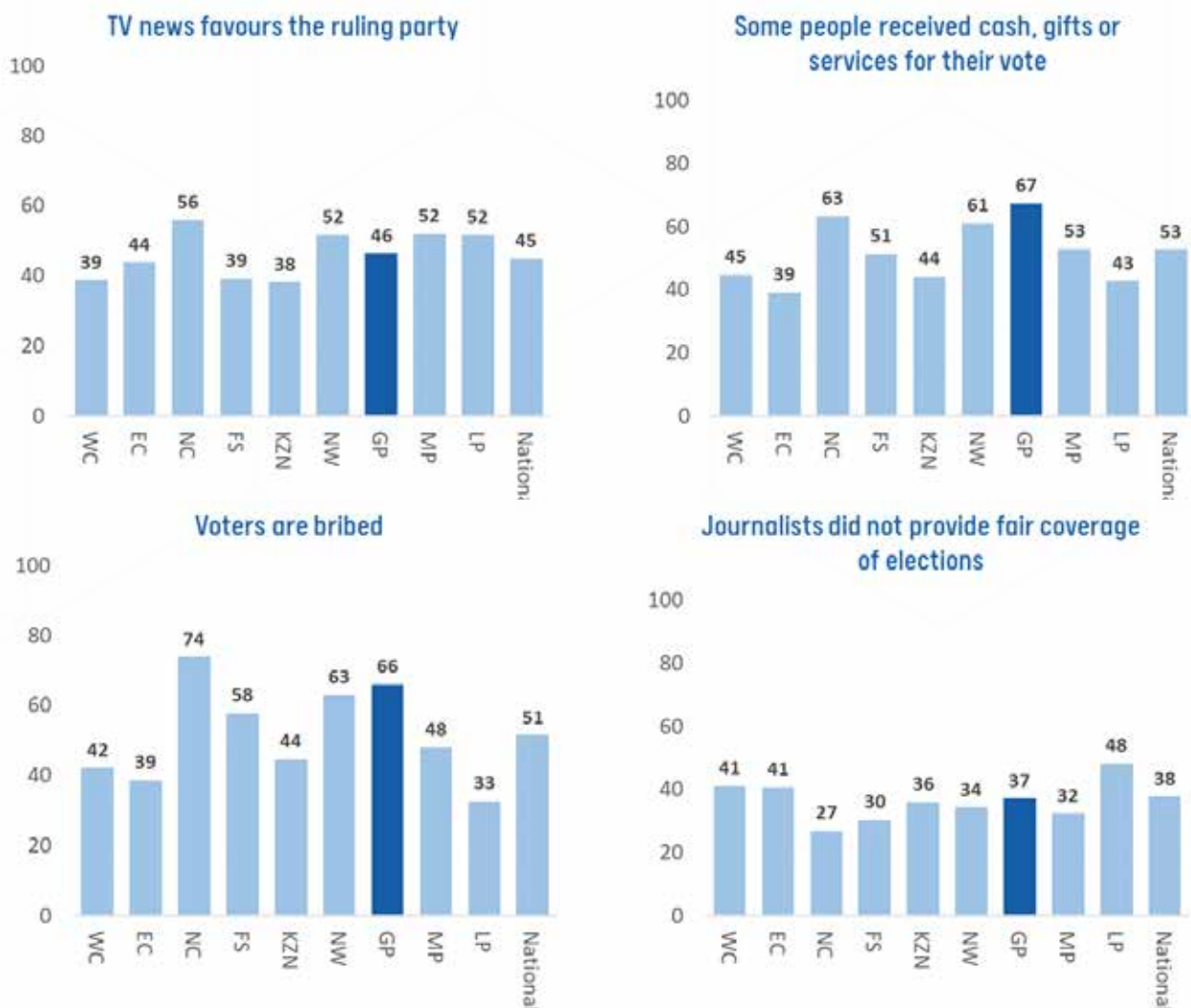
### QUESTION

In your view, how often do the following things occur in this country's elections? (i) TV news favours the ruling party; (ii) some people received cash, gifts or services in exchange for their vote; (iii) voters are bribed; (iv) journalists did not provide fair coverage of elections; (v) rich people buy elections; (vi) voters are not offered a genuine choice at the ballot box. (% very or fairly often)

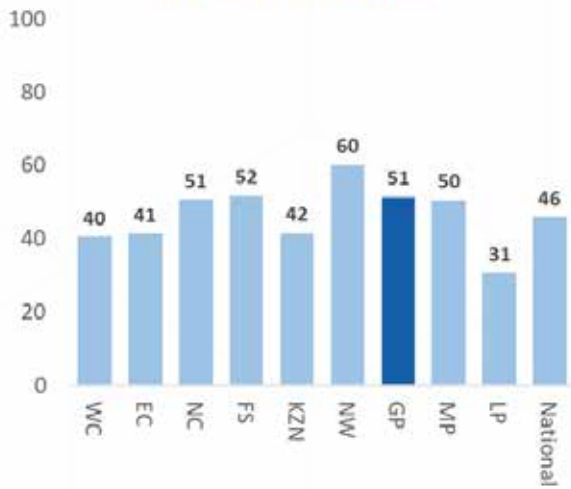
### ANALYSIS

In 2021, people in Gauteng displayed elevated levels of cynicism with regard to the integrity of electoral campaigns. Forty-six percent of the adult population believed that TV news favoured the ruling party, while 37% thought that journalists did not provide fair coverage of elections. Corruption concerns were evident, with 67% of the provincial public saying people were receiving cash, gifts or services in exchange for their vote, 66% stated that voters were being bribed, and 51% believed that wealthy elites were influencing elections. Roughly a quarter (23%) of citizens in Gauteng felt that voters are not offered a genuine choice at the ballot box.

**CAMPAIGN INTEGRITY: Percentage saying different electoral occurrences happen very or fairly often in the country, 2021 (%)**



Rich people buy elections



Voters are not offered a genuine choice at the ballot box



	TV news favours the ruling party	Some people received cash, gifts or services for their vote	Voters are bribed	Journalists did <u>not</u> provide fair coverage	Rich people buy elections	Voters are <u>not</u> offered a genuine choice
Gauteng	46	67	66	37	51	23
National Avg.	45	53	51	38	46	26
Upper Bound	56	67	74	48	60	39
Lower Bound	38	39	33	27	31	12
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	1	2	4	3	6

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2021



### 3.1.1 Political party tolerance during campaigning

#### GOAL

Establish whether the voting public felt that political parties and candidates demonstrated tolerance during the campaign period

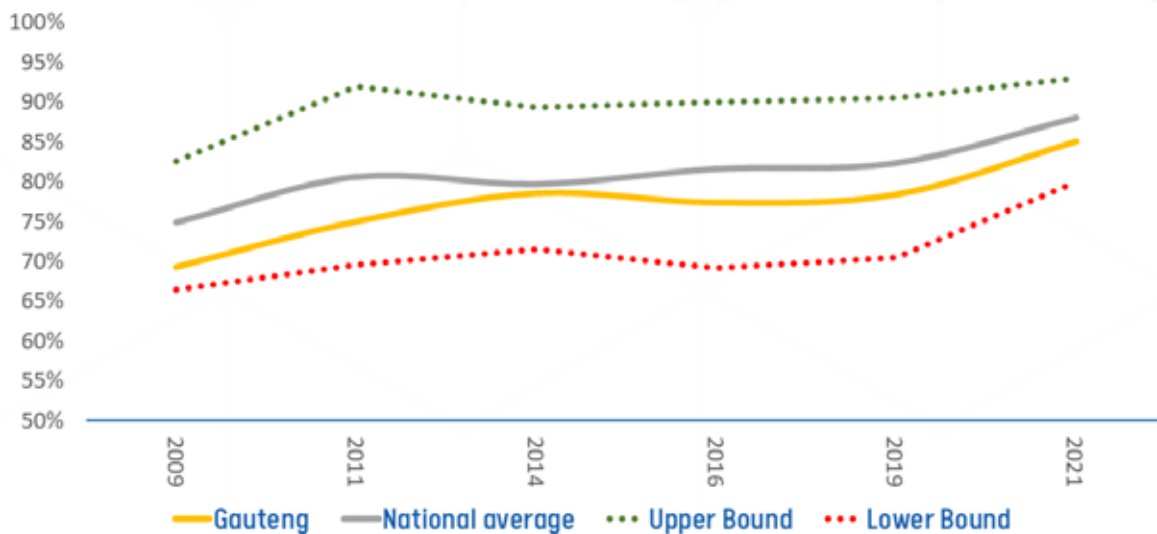
#### QUESTION

Do you think that political parties/independent candidates were tolerant of one another during campaigns for these elections? (% very / somewhat tolerant)

#### ANALYSIS

In 2009, 69% of voters in the Gauteng indicated that political parties and independent candidates demonstrated general tolerance during the campaigning period ahead of elections. This positive assessment of party and candidate conduct is reflected in subsequent electoral contexts in 2011, 2014, 2016 and 2019, ranging between 75% and 79% over this period. This proportion was at 85% in 2021, this is an indication of an increased public satisfaction regarding tolerance among political parties and candidates. Over the six elections, satisfaction is at a total average of 77%. Evaluations of tolerance by the Gauteng voting public are impressive, however rank comparisons with other provinces are relatively low with a rank average of nine (the lowest) over the full period. Voters in the province were generally more positive but the poor ranking may be accredited to other provinces improving their assessment of party tolerance, rather than a significant decline taking place in Gauteng.

**POLITICAL PARTY TOLERANCE: Percentage of voters that believed political parties / independent candidates displayed tolerance during the campaigning period, 2009-2021 (% tolerant)**



	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	69	75	79	77	78	85	77
National Avg.	75	81	80	82	82	88	81
Upper Bound	83	92	89	90	91	93	86
Lower Bound	66	70	71	69	70	80	77
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	8	5	7	8	6	9

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (VPS) 2009-2021

## 3.2 Voter education

### 3.2.1 Sources of information on voting

#### GOAL

Determine the main voting information sources used by the public

#### QUESTION

Where do you usually get information about voting? (Multiple response - percentage mentioning each information source)

#### ANALYSIS

In accessing information about voting, the pattern observed among the voting age public over the period 2008 to 2021 is broadly consistent. In 2021, broadcast media was the most popular source of information in Gauteng, with 67% of voters relying on television and 29% on radio. Television was more popular in the province relative to the national average, while radio as an information source was slightly lower than the national average of 33%. Newspapers were more common in the province than the national average, with 26% using this print media in 2021. Posters were mentioned by only 12% of the Gauteng public in 2021. Despite its contemporary popularity, social media was mentioned by only a small proportion (13%) in Gauteng in 2021, as well as informal social networks (11%). Citizens in Gauteng were nonetheless more likely to list social media as a source than those living in most other parts of the country. This source of information ranked first compared to other provinces.

**VOTING INFORMATION SOURCES: Percentage of voting age public that used different information sources about voting, 2008-2021 (% mentioning each source)**

	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Total
<b>Television</b>							
Gauteng	58%	49%	31%	62%	57%	67%	54%
National Average	47%	50%	43%	48%	57%	59%	51%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	4	9	1	5	2	3
<b>Radio</b>							
Gauteng	42%	30%	15%	15%	34%	29%	27%
National Average	39%	36%	30%	30%	39%	33%	35%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	6	9	9	6	7	8
<b>Newspaper</b>							
Gauteng	45%	30%	14%	14%	26%	26%	26%
National Average	34%	31%	24%	24%	28%	23%	27%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	3	9	9	5	2	5
<b>Poster</b>							
Gauteng	17%	24%	11%	11%	19%	12%	16%
National Average	19%	24%	22%	22%	22%	17%	21%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	7	3	9	9	6	6	9
<b>Informal social networks</b>							
Gauteng	17%	12%	3%	3%	21%	11%	11%
National Average	12%	15%	12%	12%	16%	8%	12%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	2	5	9	9	4	3	6
<b>Social media</b>							
Gauteng	4%	3%	2%	7%	2%	13%	5%
National Average	2%	2%	2%	6%	4%	7%	4%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	2	2	3	7	1	1

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2008-2021

## 3.2.2 Preferred source of information on voting

### GOAL

Determine the preferred sources of information on voting

### QUESTION

What would be your preferred channel to get information on voting? (Single response)

### ANALYSIS

In 2021, when asked about a preferred channel of electoral information, 59% of the Gauteng public opted for television. Television was also the most popular source nationally. The average provincial ranking across this period was first out of the nine provinces, but this fell to third in 2021, suggesting that the province is showing signs of change on this issue. Regardless of the observed signs of change over the period, Gauteng still ranked highest on average when compared to other parts of the country. Radio was also found to be a comparatively popular preferred channel in the province, although this information source ranked lowest in 2021 as well as on average. Considering the 2008 to 2021 period as a whole, posters and newspapers were preferred by five percent, while informal social networks were mentioned as a preferred source of voting information by a mere three percent. There was a sharp increase in social media as a preferred source of information, with 13% of the residents of Gauteng preferring to use this information source. There was a 12% increase in this preferred source from 2018, where only one percent stated this as a preferred channel of information in that year. Social media ranked first in Gauteng in 2021 and third on average.

#### PREFERRED INFORMATION SOURCE: Most preferred source of information about voting among the voting age public, 2008-2021 (%)

	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Total
<b>Television</b>							
Gauteng	66%	62%	63%	69%	54%	59%	62%
National Average	57%	57%	58%	60%	53%	55%	57%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	2	2	2	1	5	3	1
<b>Radio</b>							
Gauteng	9%	6%	13%	5%	15%	7%	9%
National Average	21%	15%	13%	12%	15%	14%	15%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	8	6	8	4	9	9
<b>Newspaper</b>							
Gauteng	6%	6%	5%	5%	2%	8%	5%
National Average	8%	7%	6%	5%	5%	6%	6%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	4	5	5	9	2	7
<b>Poster</b>							
Gauteng	3%	7%	4%	3%	9%	2%	5%
National Average	3%	7%	8%	5%	8%	5%	6%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	2	8	6	4	8	8
<b>Informal social networks</b>							
Gauteng	1%	1%	0%	5%	8%	3%	3%
National Average	2%	2%	4%	5%	5%	3%	3%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	6	9	4	2	2	7
<b>Social media</b>							
Gauteng	2%	2%	4%	4%	1%	13%	4%
National Average	1%	1%	2%	4%	5%	8%	3%
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	2	2	5	9	1	3

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2008-2021



### 3.2.3 Demand for information on voting

#### GOAL

Establish demand for more information on voting

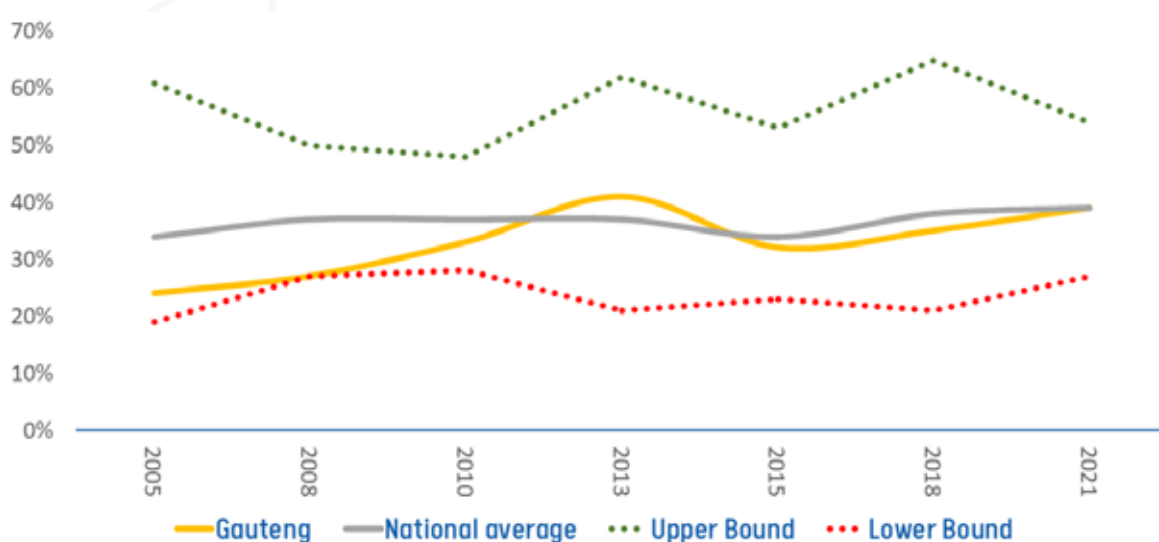
#### QUESTION

Do you think you have too little or too much information on how to vote? (% Too little / far too little information)

#### ANALYSIS

Among the voting age public in Gauteng, 24% expressed a desire for more information on voting in 2005. This constantly increased until it reached 41% in 2013, after which it dropped again to reach 32% in 2015. A steady recovery is evident in 2018 and 2021 reaching 35% and 39%, respectively. Although the trend is unstable over the period, it nonetheless suggests that there is a stable demand for electoral information in the province. The demand may be increasing. In 2013 the province was above the national average. Relative to other provinces, Gauteng was ranked between seventh and ninth in the 2005 to 2010 period, and between fourth and sixth in the 2013 to 2021 period. In coming years, the Commission will have to focus its civic and democracy education (CDE) efforts on responding to this rapid increase in demand for electoral information in this province since the year 2005.

**DEMAND FOR VOTING INFORMATION: Reported demand for more information on voting, 2005-2021 (% stating that they receive 'too little' or 'far too little' voting information)**



	2005	2008	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	24	27	33	41	32	35	39	33
National Avg.	34	37	37	37	34	38	39	37
Upper Bound	61	50	48	62	53	65	54	51
Lower Bound	19	27	28	21	23	21	27	31
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	9	7	4	6	5	5	6

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2005-2021

### 3.2.4 Number of Civic and Democracy Education (CDE) events

#### GOAL

To determine the number of CDE events per 100, 000 of the voting age population

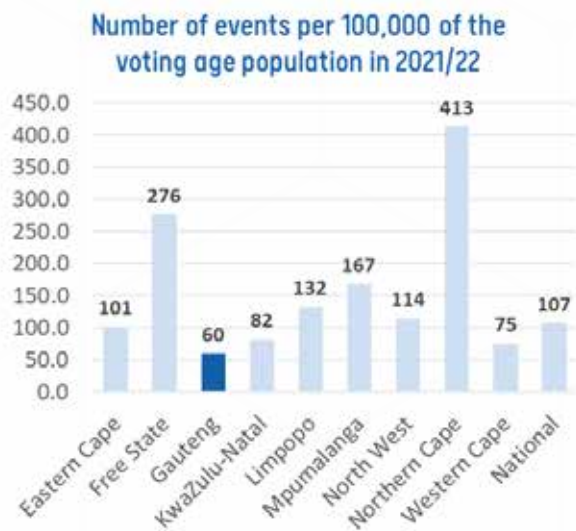
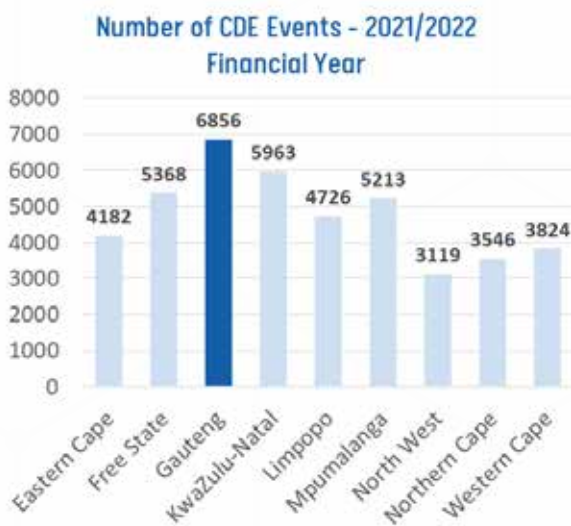
#### QUESTION

How many CDE events were offered in each province in 2019/2020-2021/2022

#### ANALYSIS

In Gauteng, most CDE events were held over the entire period from 2018 to 2021 (in absolute numbers) when compared to other provinces. However, in order to compare the reach of these events across provinces, it is advisable to take into account the size of the voting age population (VAP) per province. In doing so, it is evident that the voting age population in 2021/2022 in Gauteng has the lowest ratio (60 events per 100,000 of the voting age population) of all provinces, well below the national average of 107 events per 100,000. Due to economies of scale, the ratio is more likely to be higher in smaller provinces, such as the Northern Cape, but the population size of a province is a variable that needs to be considered when planning CDE events. More specifically, consideration should be given to increasing the number of events in more densely populated provinces such as Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal to ensure that reach and impact are achieved more uniformly across provinces.

**NUMBER OF CDE EVENTS: Absolute number of CDE events, and number of events per 100,000 of the voting age population for the 2021/2022 year**



	Number of CDE events				Number of events per 100,000 of the voting age population (VAP)			
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Eastern Cape	11022	4175	1132	4182	280.5	101.2	27.2	101.5
Free State	5768	2262	1497	5368	297.7	118.7	76.9	276.0
Gauteng	11272	5774	2714	6856	107.4	52.8	24.2	59.9
KwaZulu Natal	15275	4108	2218	5963	212.5	57.6	30.7	81.8
Limpopo	9179	3719	2068	4726	263.2	101.2	58.1	132.3
Mpumalanga	9232	2336	294	5213	323.0	78.4	9.6	167.4
North West	6114	3000	1716	3119	769.3	113.6	63.3	113.8
Northern Cape	6142	2343	1022	3546	240.8	280.5	119.7	413.4
Western Cape	8383	3009	375	3824	182.1	62.0	7.5	75.4
<b>National</b>	<b>82 388</b>	<b>30 726</b>	<b>13 036</b>	<b>42 797</b>	<b>217.7</b>	<b>78.6</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>106.6</b>

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official statistics 2018/19 - 2021/22

### 3.2.5 Perceived effectiveness of voter education campaigns

#### GOAL

Appraising the effectiveness of voter education campaigns

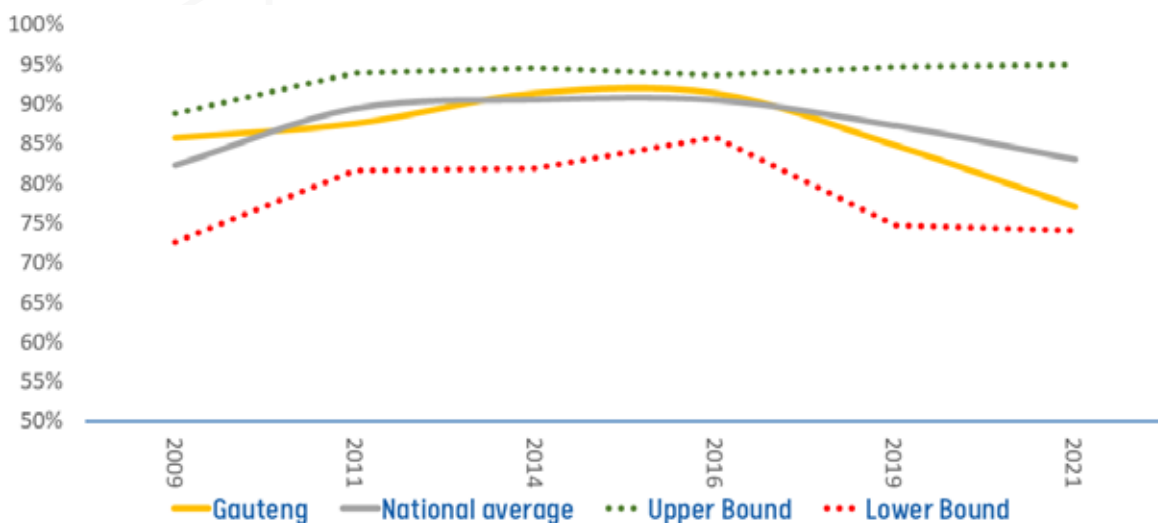
#### QUESTION

How effective was the IEC’s voter education campaign for these elections? (% very effective, somewhat effective).

#### ANALYSIS

In 2009 slightly more than three-fifths (86%) of voters in Gauteng believed that the Commission’s voter education campaigns were effective. Attitudes on this indicator improved by two percentage points in 2011, reaching 88% in the province. Similar views were expressed in the 2014 to 2016 by 91% of citizens. The share that believed the Commission’s voter education campaigns were effective dropped to 85% in 2019; and then fell again to 77% in 2021. There were minor differences over the 2009 to 2019 period, but a notable decline in 2021. The rank position of Gauteng relative to other provinces over the full period is second last (eighth), however this significantly low rank should consider the negligible variances between provinces such as size of the population.

**CAMPAIGN EFFECTIVENESS: Percentage of voters who thought that the IEC’s voter education campaign for elections was effective, 2009-2021 (% effective)**



	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	86	88	91	91	85	77	86
National Avg.	82	89	91	90	87	83	88
Upper Bound	89	94	95	94	95	95	90
Lower Bound	73	82	82	86	75	74	87
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	8	4	5	7	8	8

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2009-2021

**PART**

**D**

**ELECTION DAY**

## 4. ELECTION DAY

### 4.1 Voting station evaluations

#### 4.1.1 Time to get to voting station

##### GOAL

Determine the average time taken to get to voting stations

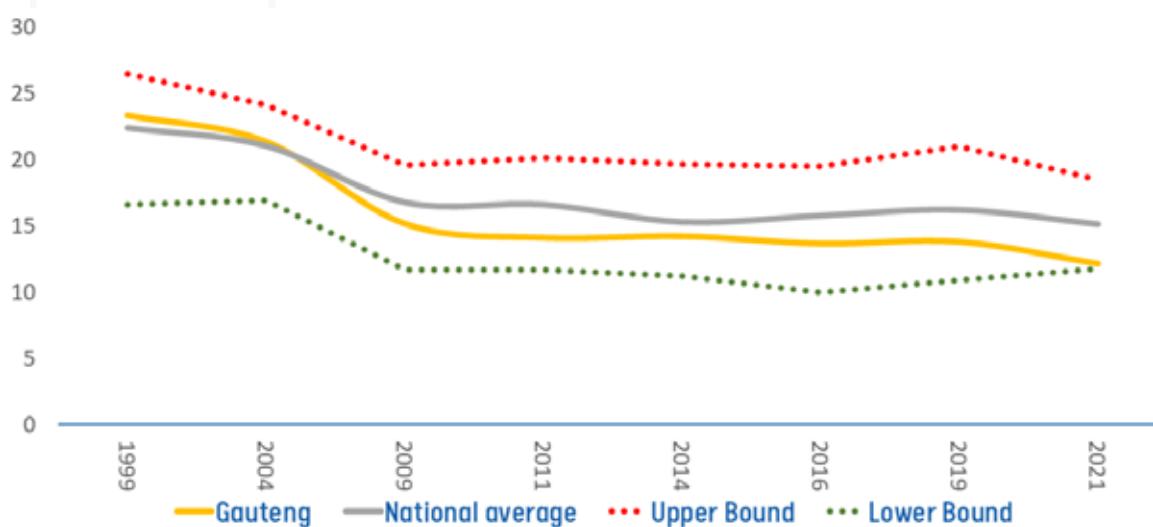
##### QUESTION

How long did it take you to get to the voting station? (average number of minutes)

##### ANALYSIS

The average time it took for voters nationally to get to their voting station was 15 minutes during the 1999 to 2021 period. Over the same period, the average time it took for voters in Gauteng to get to their voting station was 16 minutes, one minute less than the national average. The time taken to reach one's voting station in the province has remained fairly stable over time, and, with the exception of 1999, has consistently been faster than the national average. Given this, it is not surprising to find that Gauteng ranks high on this indicator, implying that voters in Gauteng take less time to get to their voting station than other provinces. Apart from three rounds (i.e., 1999, 2004 and 2014), Gauteng has placed in the top three on this indicator.

**TIME TO GET TO THE VOTING STATION: Average number of minutes that it took citizens to get to the voting station, 1999-2021**



	1999	2000	2004	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	23	19	21	...	14	14	14	14	12	16
National Avg.	22	21	21	...	17	17	15	16	16	15
Upper Bound	27	24	24	...	20	20	20	20	21	18
Lower Bound	17	16	17	...	12	12	11	10	11	12
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	2	5	3	3	5	3	3	2	3

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 1999-2021

## 4.1.2 Queuing time at voting stations

### GOAL

Determine the average queuing time at voting stations

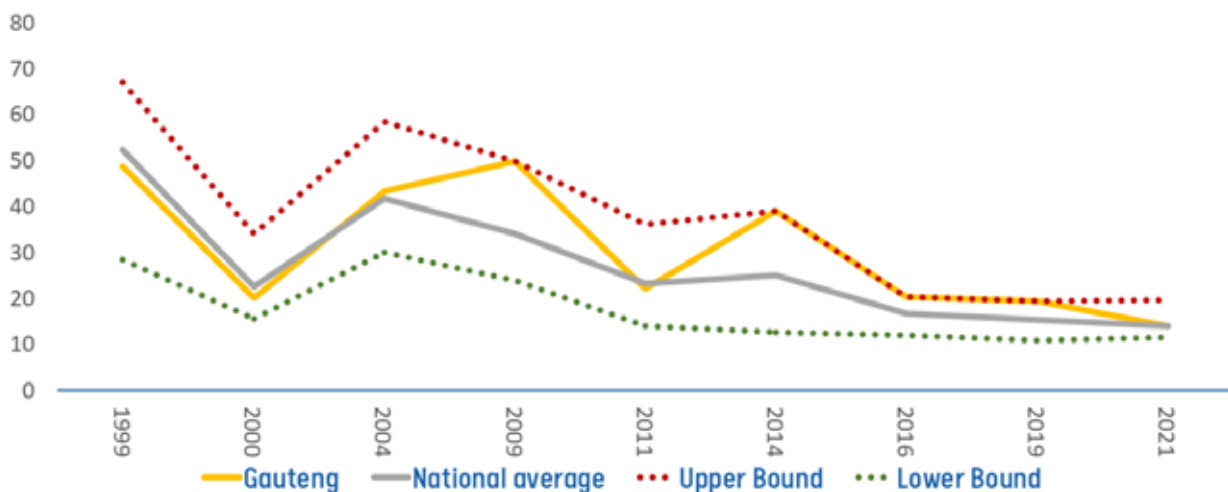
### QUESTION

How long did you queue before voting? (average number of minutes)

### ANALYSIS

Between 1999 and 2021, the average length of time voters spent queuing in Gauteng was 31 minutes, which is virtually equivalent to the national average of 27 minutes. The average queuing time in Gauteng has steadily declined since 1999, when it took 49 minutes. By 2019, the mean time declined to only 19 minutes and this fell again to 14 minutes in 2021. These improvements are likely to mainly reflect gains in the efficiency of electoral operations, although declining turnout figures in the 2019 and 2021 elections might be beginning to play a role too, with fewer voters turning out to cast their votes. The average interprovincial variation observed on this measure was 12 minutes for the 1999 to 2021 period. However, the interprovincial disparity was eight minutes in 2021. Despite progress made in the province, Gauteng still ranks last (ninth) on average on this indicator.

**TIME TAKEN TO QUEUE: Average number of minutes that it took citizens to queue, 1999-2021**



	1999	2000	2004	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	49	20	43	50	22	39	20	19	14	31
National Avg.	52	23	42	34	23	25	17	15	14	27
Upper Bound	67	34	58	50	36	39	20	19	20	31
Lower Bound	29	16	30	24	14	13	12	11	12	19
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	2	6	9	5	9	9	9	7	9

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 1999-2021

### 4.1.3 Safety and security

#### GOAL

Determine the perceived effectiveness of safety and security measures at voting stations

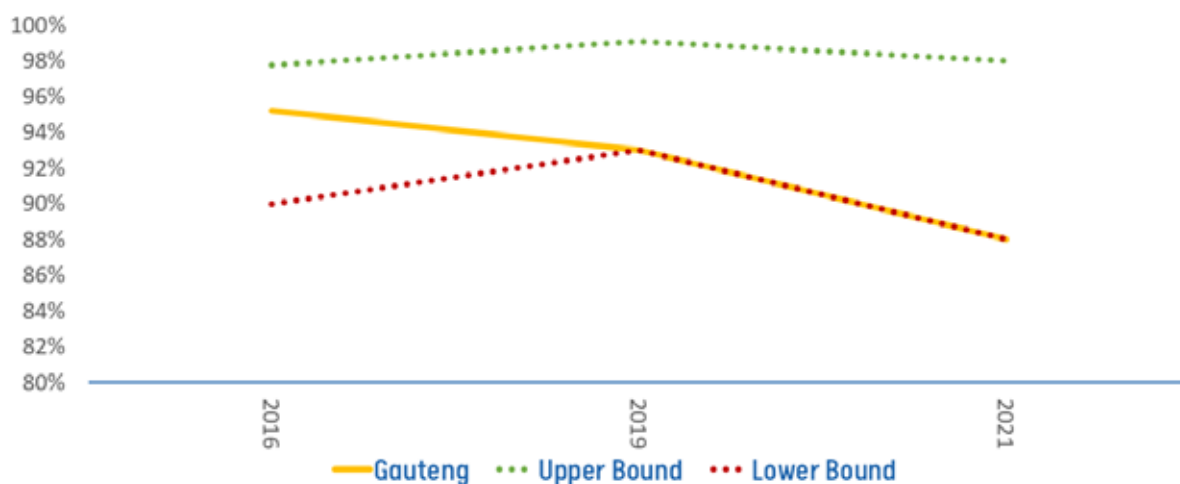
#### QUESTION

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the safety and security provided at the voting station? (% satisfied / very satisfied)

#### ANALYSIS

On average, voters appear broadly satisfied with the safety and security provided at voting stations. In 2016, 95% of voters in Gauteng expressed satisfaction with the safety and security at their voting stations and this decreased to 93% in 2019 and 88% in 2021. Despite this positive rating, it is important to note that, relative to other provinces, Gauteng in 2016 ranked fairly low on this indicator at sixth place before improving to third place in 2019 and 2021. The province had a fairly low ranking across the three survey rounds and was ranked ninth overall. Therefore, despite the high level of satisfaction and the decrease observed from 2016 to 2021, the comparative findings indicate that Gauteng is one of the provinces where more attention could be devoted to the issue of safety and security.

**SAFETY AND SECURITY AT VOTING STATION: Satisfaction with the safety and security at the voting station, 2016-2021 (%)**



	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	95	93	88	92
National Avg.	95	96	93	95
Upper Bound	98	99	98	98
Lower Bound	90	93	88	92
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	9	9	9

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2016-2019

## 4.1.4 Accessibility of voting station to persons with disabilities/the elderly

### GOAL

Determine accessibility of voter stations to persons with disabilities and/or the elderly

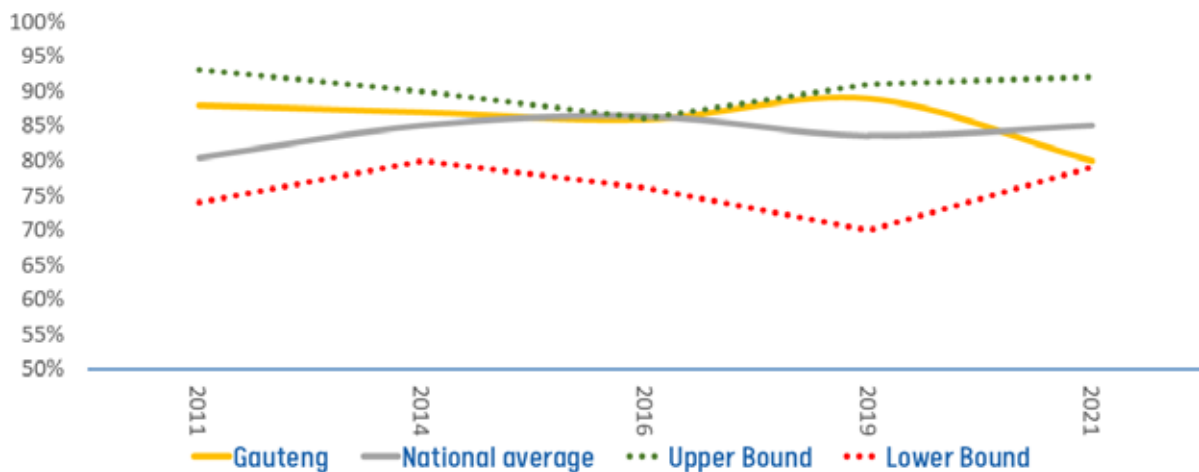
### QUESTION

How easily accessible was the voting station to persons with disabilities or the elderly? (% accessible / very accessible)

### ANALYSIS

The proportion of Gauteng voters who felt that voting stations were accessible to persons with disabilities and or the elderly was high in all survey rounds. We can observe a stability in satisfaction on this issue between 2011 and 2019 with attitudes changing little during this period. There was a decrease in satisfaction in 2021, suggesting that voters have become less satisfied with the accessibility provided to the disabled and elderly. In that survey round, 80% of voters said that they were satisfied, and the province ranked eighth in 2021. Fairly low interprovincial variations were noted on this measure for this period with the exception of 2019 and 2021. In those survey rounds there were a 19-percentage point difference between the upper and lower bounds.

#### ACCESSIBILITY OF VOTING STATIONS FOR THE DISABLED/ELDERLY: Percentage who believed that the voting station was accessible to persons with disabilities or the elderly, 2011-2021 (% accessible)



	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	88	87	86	89	80	86
National Avg.	85	85	83	85	85	85
Upper Bound	93	90	86	91	92	89
Lower Bound	74	80	76	70	79	77
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	5	1	3	8	4

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2011-2021



## 4.1.5 Quality of service rendered by IEC officials

### GOAL

Determine the perceived quality of service rendered by IEC officials at voting stations

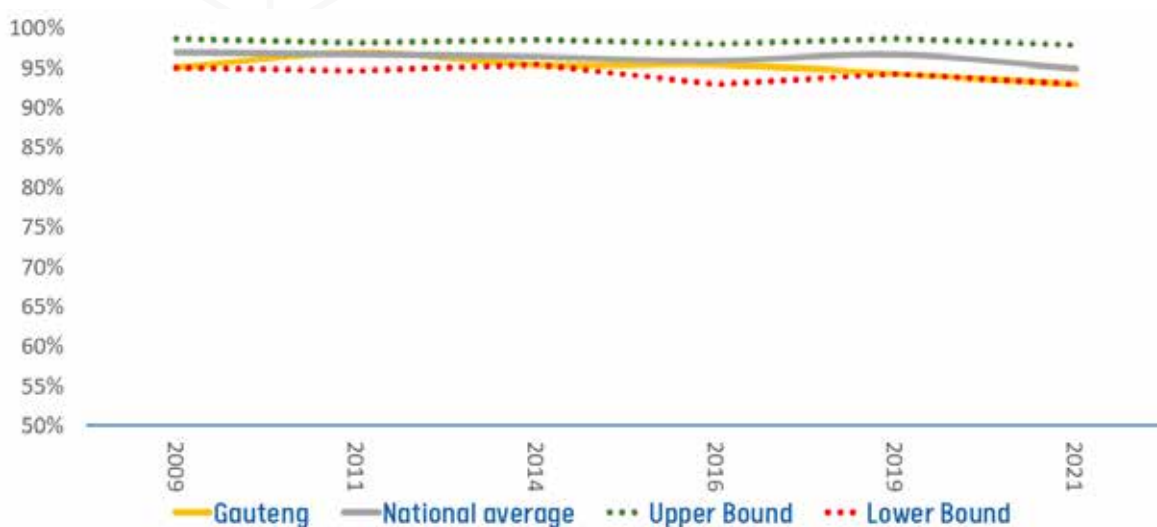
### QUESTION

Are you satisfied with the quality of service that the IEC officials provided to voters? (% satisfied / very satisfied)

### ANALYSIS

Among voters, almost common satisfaction was recorded regarding the quality of services provided by IEC to voters on Election Day in five successive elections held between 2009 and 2021. In Gauteng, satisfaction levels fluctuated in a very narrow band between 93% and 97%, mirroring the national average. Despite this positive assessment, Gauteng ranked low relative to other provinces in almost all years. However, in 2016 it ranked in the bottom five provinces. The high national trend is largely a reflection of the high satisfaction levels recorded across all provinces over time, rather than significantly poorer performance of Gauteng relative to other provincial contexts.

**QUALITY OF IEC SERVICE: Satisfaction with quality of service rendered by IEC officials, 2009-2021 (%)**



	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	95	97	95	95	94	93	95
National Avg.	97	97	96	96	97	95	96
Upper Bound	99	98	99	98	99	98	98
Lower Bound	95	95	95	93	94	93	95
Rank (1-high; 9-low)	9	6	9	5	9	8	9

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2009-2021

## 4.2 Voting procedure

### 4.2.1 Assessment of electoral procedures

#### GOAL

Assessing how the voting procedure was perceived

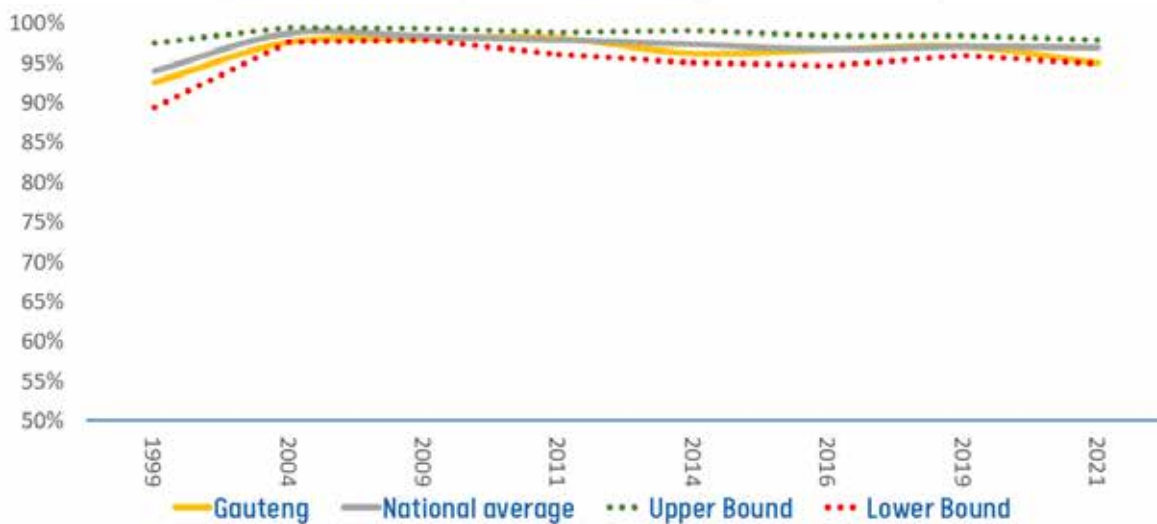
#### QUESTION

Was the voting procedure inside the voting station easy or difficult to understand? (% easy / very easy to understand)

#### ANALYSIS

When examining public opinion on the user experience of voting procedures in Gauteng between 1999 and 2021, a largely positive picture emerges. Over this period, the vast majority (96%) of voters in the province found the voting procedures inside the voting station easy to understand. We find a broadly consistent pattern of results across National and Provincial as well as Local Government elections, with the share indicating that the voting procedures were “easy”, ranging between 93% and 98%. Over the full period, Gauteng has 96% of its public confirming the simplicity of voting procedures inside voting stations. Nonetheless, the province still ranked last. This is not a reflection of poor results from the province, but an indication that the national public satisfaction is relatively high in all other provinces.

**ELECTORAL PROCEDURAL ASSESSMENT: Proportion of voters who believed that the voting procedure inside the voting station was easy to understand, 1999-2021 (% easy / very easy to understand)**



	1999	2000	2004	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	93	94	98	98	98	96	97	97	95	96
National Avg.	94	94	99	98	98	97	97	97	97	97
Upper Bound	98	98	99	99	99	99	98	99	98	98
Lower Bound	89	92	98	98	96	95	95	96	95	96
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	7	5	9	8	4	8	6	6	8	9

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 1999-2021

## 4.2.2 Assessment of procedural accommodation of the elderly

### GOAL

Assessing whether the voting procedure accommodated the elderly

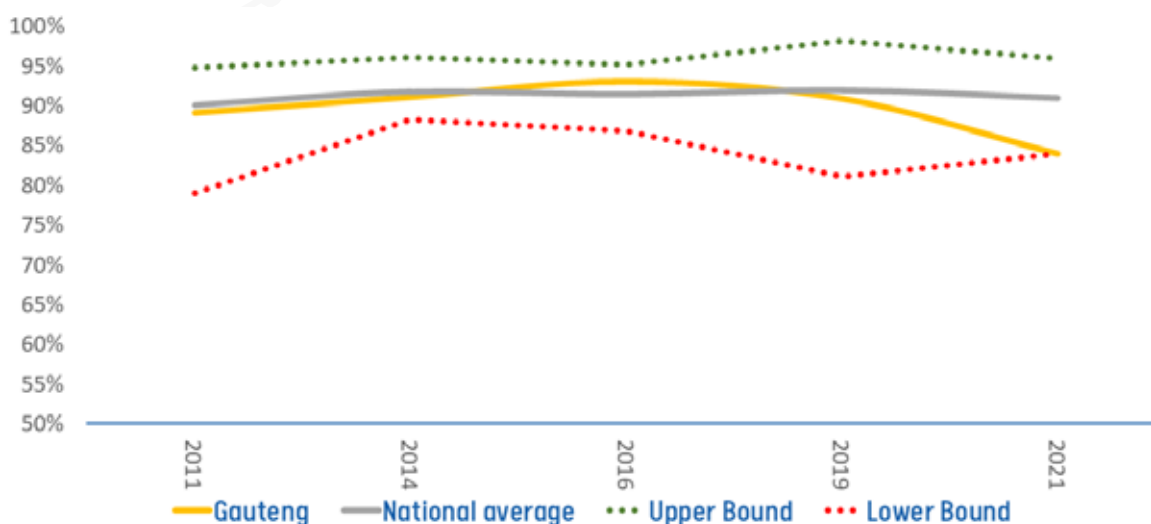
### QUESTION

To what extent did the voting procedure at this voting station consider the needs of the elderly? (% to a great / some extent)

### ANALYSIS

In 2011, 89% of voters in Gauteng thought that voting stations accommodated the needs of the elderly. This improved to 91% in 2014. These results are very similar in successive survey rounds, and only negligible differences were observed over this period. On aggregate over the 2011 to 2021 period, 90% of voters in the province felt that the voting procedures considered the needs of the elderly. There has only been modest variation between provinces in the share believing that the needs of the elderly had been accommodated. The provincial rank position of Gauteng on this indicator has been fairly unstable before settling on seventh place overall.

#### ELDERLY PROCEDURAL ACCOMMODATION: Percentage of voters who thought that the voting procedure at the voting station considered the needs of the elderly, 2011-2021 (% to a great/ some extent)



	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	89	91	93	91	84	90
National Avg.	90	92	91	92	91	91
Upper Bound	95	96	95	98	96	94
Lower Bound	79	88	87	81	84	84
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	7	3	6	9	7

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2011-2021

## 4.2.3 Assessment of procedural accommodation of persons with disabilities

### GOAL

Assessing whether the voting procedure accommodated the needs of persons with disabilities

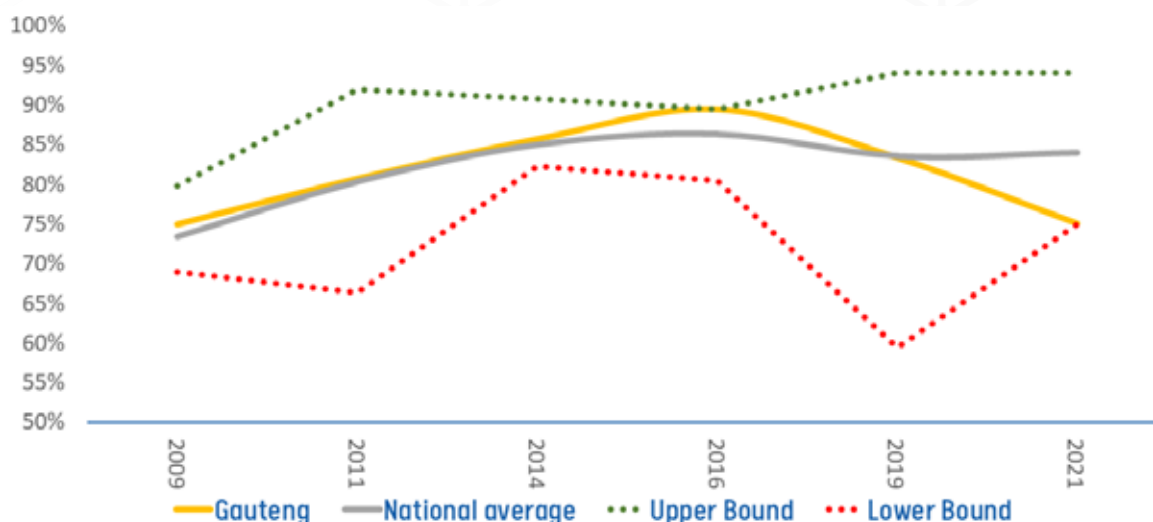
### QUESTION

To what extent did the voting procedure at this voting station consider the needs of persons with disabilities? (% to a great / some extent)

### ANALYSIS

Seventy-five percent of voters in Gauteng said that the voting stations accommodated the needs of persons with disabilities in 2009. These results improved by over a tenth (11%) to 86% in 2014. During this period, Gauteng's provincial average was higher than the national average. Gauteng's upward trajectory continued in 2016 whereby 90% of the respondents felt that the voting stations accommodated the needs of persons with disabilities. Overall, most voters (82%) in Gauteng were satisfied that the needs of persons with disabilities were accommodated, although the province ranked seventh on this indicator when compared to other provinces.

#### PROCEDURAL ACCOMMODATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Percentage of voters who thought that the voting procedure at the voting station considered the needs of persons with disabilities, 2009-2021 (% to a great/ some extent)



	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	75	81	86	90	83	75	82
National Avg.	73	80	85	86	84	84	82
Upper Bound	80	92	91	90	94	94	85
Lower Bound	69	66	82	80	59	75	76
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	6	5	1	6	9	7

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2009-2021

## 4.2.4 Assessment of procedural accommodation of blind and visually impaired voters

### GOAL

Assessing whether the voting procedure accommodated the needs of visually impaired voters

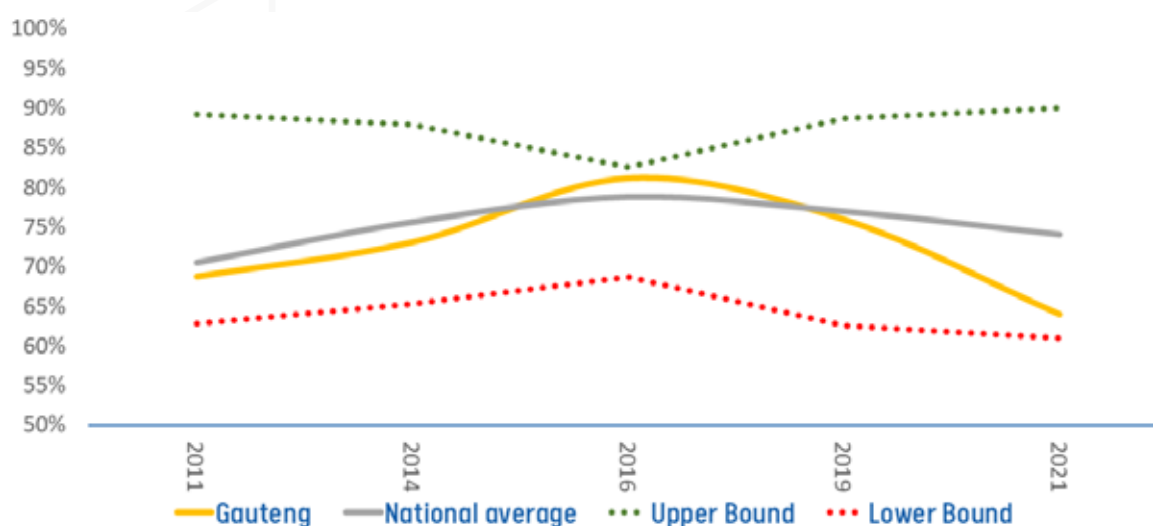
### QUESTION

To what extent did the voting procedure at this voting station consider the needs of the partially sighted or blind? (% to a great / some extent)

### ANALYSIS

In 2011, slightly over two-thirds (69%) of the Gauteng voters believed that the voting stations had put in place procedures that considered the needs of blind and visually impaired people. Relative to other provinces, this was low and Gauteng also scored below the national average of 70% for that year. In 2014, nearly three-quarters (73%) of the Gauteng respondents expressed satisfaction with the measures put in place by voting stations to accommodate the needs of the blind and visually impaired. Although an improvement from 2011, it was still low relative to other provinces and Gauteng ranked eighth in the national provincial rankings. Despite an improvement in 2016, where the figure climbed to 81%, the province of Gauteng remained low in ranking and as a result ranked eighth on average from 2011 to 2021.

**PROCEDURAL ACCOMMODATION OF BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED VOTERS: Percentage of voters who thought that the voting procedures at the voting station considered the needs of partially sighted or blind voters, 2011-2021 (% to a great/ some extent)**



	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	69	73	81	76	64	73
National Avg.	70	76	79	77	74	75
Upper Bound	89	88	83	89	90	83
Lower Bound	63	65	69	63	61	65
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	6	8	2	6	8	8

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2011-2021

## 4.2.5 Assessing the secrecy of the vote at voting stations

### GOAL

Assessing whether voters were satisfied that the voting station procedures ensured the secrecy of their vote

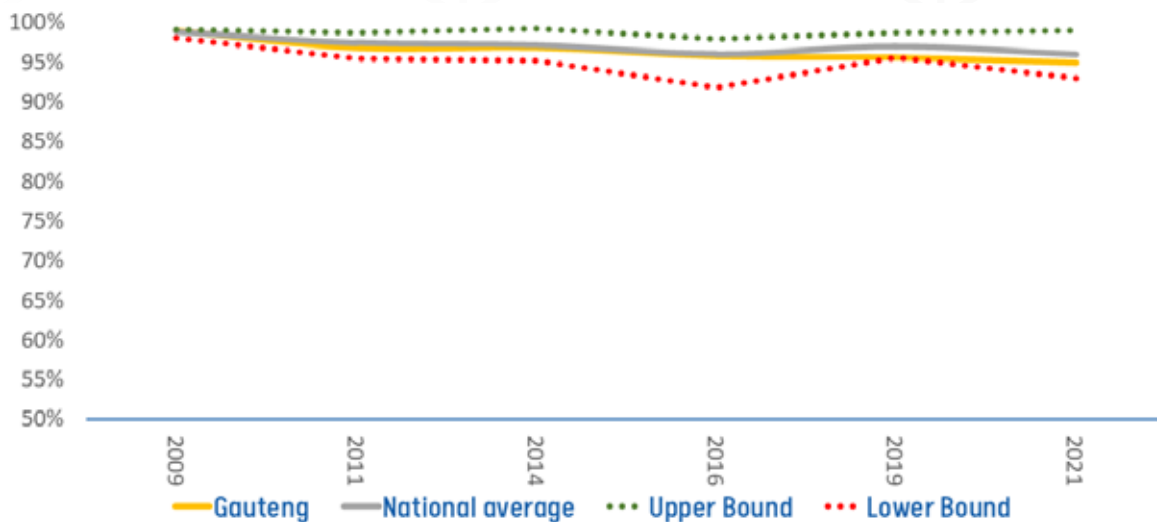
### QUESTION

Are you satisfied that your vote in this voting station was secret? (% very satisfied / satisfied)

### ANALYSIS

In 2011, there was universal agreement among Gauteng voters that voting stations had done enough to ensure the secrecy of their vote. With 99%, the province ranked third overall for this measure. However, there has been a clear decline between the period of 2011 to 2019 and the provincial average has decreased to 96%. As a result, the province ranked last on this measure in that year. In 2021 the provincial average was down to 95%, but Gauteng ranked higher in fourth position. Overall, Gauteng ranked sixth on average from 2009 to 2021.

**SATISFIED WITH SECRECY OF VOTE: Percentage of voters who were satisfied with the measures to ensure the secrecy of their vote at their voting station, 2009-2021 (%)**



	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	99	99	97	96	96	95	97
National Avg.	99	97	97	96	97	96	97
Upper Bound	99	99	99	98	99	99	98
Lower Bound	98	96	95	92	96	93	93
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	6	6	7	9	4	6

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2009-2021

## 4.2.6. Ballot paper usability and satisfaction

### GOAL

Overall satisfaction with ballot paper used in the 2019 national and provincial elections

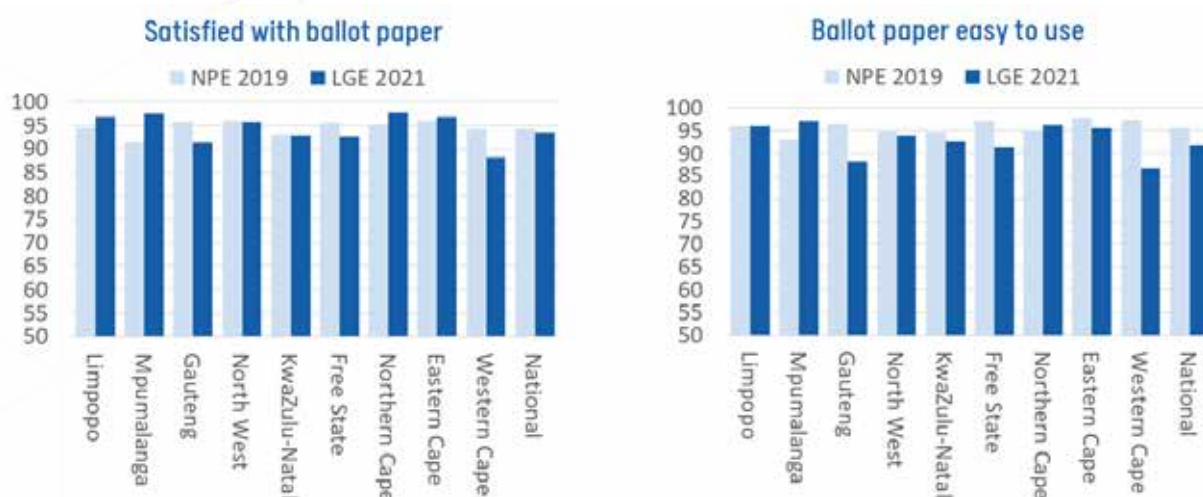
### QUESTION

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the ballot papers used in this election? (% very satisfied / satisfied)  
How easy or difficult was it to find your party of choice on the ballot papers? (% very easy/ easy)

### ANALYSIS

In 2019, the majority (96%) of voters in Gauteng voiced satisfaction with the ballot paper used in the national and provincial elections as well as its usability. This is consistent with what we see at national level; voters were overall fairly pleased with the ballot papers' design. The province however ranked third in satisfaction and fourth in usability. In 2021 the public was fairly pleased with the ballot and its usability; however the level of satisfaction and ranking had declined after 2019. Satisfaction was at 91% and usability at 88% in 2021 with national rankings of eighth in both variables. There was a distinct decline in ballot paper satisfaction and usability in Gauteng during this period.

**BALLOT PAPER SATISFACTION: Percentage of voters who were satisfied with the overall design of ballot papers and their usability, 2019-2021 (%)**



	Overall satisfaction with ballot paper		Ballot paper usability	
	2019	2021	2019	2021
Gauteng	96	91	96	88
National Avg.	94	93	95	92
Upper Bound	96	98	98	97
Lower Bound	94	97	96	87

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2019-2021

## 4.3 Coercion

### GOAL

Determining experiences of political coercion at the voting station

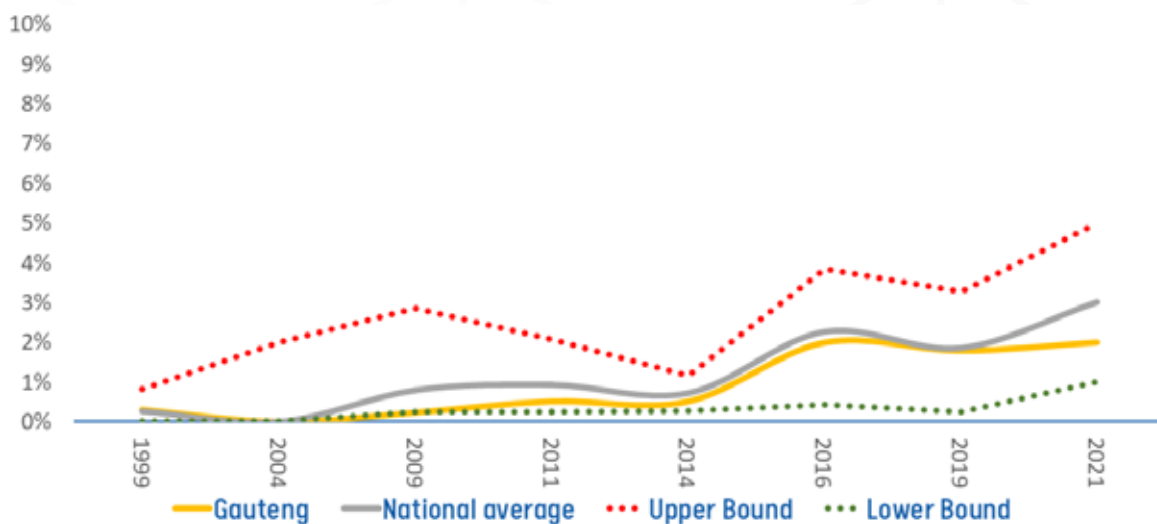
### QUESTION

Did anyone try to force you to vote for a certain political party or independent candidate at the voting station (while outside or inside)?

### ANALYSIS

Overall, it is evident that political coercion in Gauteng is not a common occurrence. It remains rare and was only reported by one percent of the public in the 1999 to 2021 period. As of 1999 to 2004 as well as 2019, there was no report of political coercion of any form. Over the other survey years reports were either one percent or two percent at the most, nonetheless the reports are significantly low. On the whole, only a two-percentage point divergence was recorded between the upper and lower provincial bounds, implying a low level of interprovincial variation in reported coercion. Judged against previous survey rounds, the disparity between the upper and lower bounds was quite large in 2000, 2016, 2019 and 2021. By and large ranking of the province is not the highest, but is at sixth nationally. This simply indicates that nationally there is not an issue of political coercion by candidates of political parties.

**POLITICAL COERCION: Proportion of voters who said that they had experienced political coercion at the voting station (outside or inside), 1999-2021 (% experienced)**



	1999	2000	2004	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	2	1
National Avg.	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	3	1
Upper Bound	1	4	2	3	2	1	4	3	5	2
Lower Bound	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	6	2	9	5	6	5	4	4	6

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 1999-2021



## 4.4 Election turnout

### 4.4.1. Total votes cast, valid votes and spoilt votes in National and Provincial Elections (national vote)

	EC	FS	GP	KZN	MP	NC	LP	NW	WC	Out of country	Total
<b>1999 National Election</b>											
Total votes cast	2 222 394	1 115 326	3 744 958	3 011 732	1 157 229	335 177	1 691 609	1 333 858	1 616 179	...	16 228 462
Valid votes	2 188 184	1 094 776	3 704 449	2 958 963	1 132 517	327 950	1 660 849	1 307 532	1 601 922	...	15 977 142
Spoilt votes	34 210	20 550	40 509	52 769	24 712	7 227	30 760	26 326	14 257	...	251 320
% spoilt	1.5	1.8	1.1	1.8	2.1	2.2	1.8	2.0	0.9	...	1.5
<b>2004 National Election</b>											
Total votes cast	2 310 226	1 042 120	3 553 098	2 807 885	1 157 963	329 707	1 686 757	1 353 963	1 621 839	...	15 863 558
Valid votes	2 277 391	1 022 044	3 504 363	2 765 203	1 134 092	323 201	1 657 596	1 323 761	1 605 020	...	15 612 671
Spoilt votes	32 835	20 076	48 735	42 682	23 871	6 506	29 161	30 202	16 819	...	250 887
% spoilt	1.4	1.9	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.2	1.0	...	1.6
<b>2009 National Election</b>											
Total votes cast	2 344 098	1 069 127	4 391 699	3 574 326	1 363 836	421 490	1 570 592	1 135 701	2 049 097	...	17 919 966
Valid votes	2 309 643	1 051 858	4 345 613	3 527 234	1 343 253	414 502	1 547 636	1 113 411	2 027 579	...	17 680 729
Spoilt votes	34 455	17 269	46 086	47 092	20 583	6 988	22 956	22 290	21 518	...	239 237
% spoilt	1.5	1.6	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.5	2.0	1.1	...	1.3
<b>2014 National Election</b>											
Total votes cast	2 278 555	1 051 027	4 638 981	3 935 771	1 408 269	443 714	1 543 986	1 147 786	2 188 236	18 446	18 654 771
Valid votes	2 243 497	1 034 337	4 592 219	3 874 833	1 385 407	436 065	1 523 169	1 126 691	2 168 147	18 132	18 402 497
Spoilt votes	35 058	16 690	46 762	60 938	22 862	7 649	20 817	21 095	20 089	314	252 274
% spoilt	1.5	1.6	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.8	0.9	1.7	1.4
<b>2019 National Election</b>											
Total votes cast	2 052 818	919 549	4 580 285	3 715 985	1 290 908	417 248	1 530 837	1 012 250	2 133 062	19 909	17 672 851
Valid votes	2 020 527	907 212	4 537 402	3 652 577	1 271 979	410 842	1 510 568	994 220	2 112 170	19 882	17 437 379
Spoilt votes	32 291	12 337	42 883	63 408	18 929	6 406	20 269	18 030	20 892	27	235 472
% spoilt	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.0	0.1	1.3

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official election results, national and provincial elections 1999-2019

#### 4.4.2 Total votes cast, valid votes and spoilt votes in Local Government Elections (provincial summary, ward plus proportional representation votes)

	EC	FS	GP	KZN	MP	NC	LP	NW	WC	Total
<b>2000 Local Government Elections</b>										
Total votes cast	2 782 038	1 203 821	3 779 947	3 258 711	1 260 857	507 471	1 475 846	1 125 276	2 240 990	17 634 957
Valid votes	2 713 773	1 176 898	3 710 595	3 188 189	1 224 228	493 674	1 444 308	1 094 270	2 209 911	17 255 846
Spoilt votes	68 265	26 923	69 352	70 522	36 629	13 797	31 538	31 006	31 079	379 111
% spoilt	2,5	2,2	1,8	2,2	2,9	2,7	2,1	2,8	1,4	2,1
<b>2006 Local Government Elections</b>										
Total votes cast	3 237 836	1 245 605	4 035 819	3 945 826	1 432 103	558 645	1 920 089	1 419 621	2 352 316	20 147 860
Valid votes	3 159 626	1 213 162	3 971 580	3 867 456	1 393 452	545 594	1 883 661	1 374 183	2 313 646	19 722 360
Spoilt votes	78 210	32 443	64 239	78 370	38 651	13 051	36 428	45 438	38 670	425 500
% spoilt	2,4	2,6	1,6	2,0	2,7	2,3	1,9	3,2	1,6	2,1
<b>2011 Local Government Elections</b>										
Total votes cast	3 600 649	1 528 612	6 214 394	5 707 689	1 914 850	724 878	2 337 728	1 677 863	3 475 194	27 181 857
Valid votes	3 517 267	1 500 732	6 127 020	5 607 192	1 880 599	711 431	2 293 052	1 637 592	3 436 613	26 711 498
Spoilt votes	83 382	27 880	87 374	100 497	34 251	13 447	44 676	40 271	38 581	470 359
% spoilt	2,3	1,8	1,4	1,8	1,8	1,9	1,9	2,4	1,1	1,7
<b>2016 Local Government Elections</b>										
Total votes cast	3 748 448	1 649 073	7 196 467	6 622 974	2 149 917	758 390	2 565 627	1 823 458	3 881 005	30 395 359
Valid votes	3 667 247	1 616 890	7 095 642	6 487 321	2 114 364	746 162	2 525 600	1 780 478	3 829 967	29 863 671
Spoilt votes	81 201	32 183	100 825	135 653	35 553	12 228	40 027	42 980	51 038	531 688
% spoilt	2,2	2,0	1,4	2,0	1,7	1,6	1,6	2,4	1,3	1,7
<b>2021 Local Government Elections</b>										
Total votes cast	3 017 803	1 278 484	5 385 382	5 224 937	1 615 109	663 326	2 288 999	1 404 152	3 015 332	23 893 524
Valid votes	2 951 848	1 254 836	5 311 565	5 118 308	1 583 282	650 123	2 247 577	1 369 308	2 981 077	23 467 924
Spoilt votes	65 955	23 648	73 817	106 629	31 827	13 203	41 422	34 844	34 255	425 600
% spoilt	2,2	1,8	1,4	2,0	2,0	2,0	1,8	2,5	1,1	1,8

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official election results, local government elections 2000-2021

### 4.4.3 Spoilt ballots

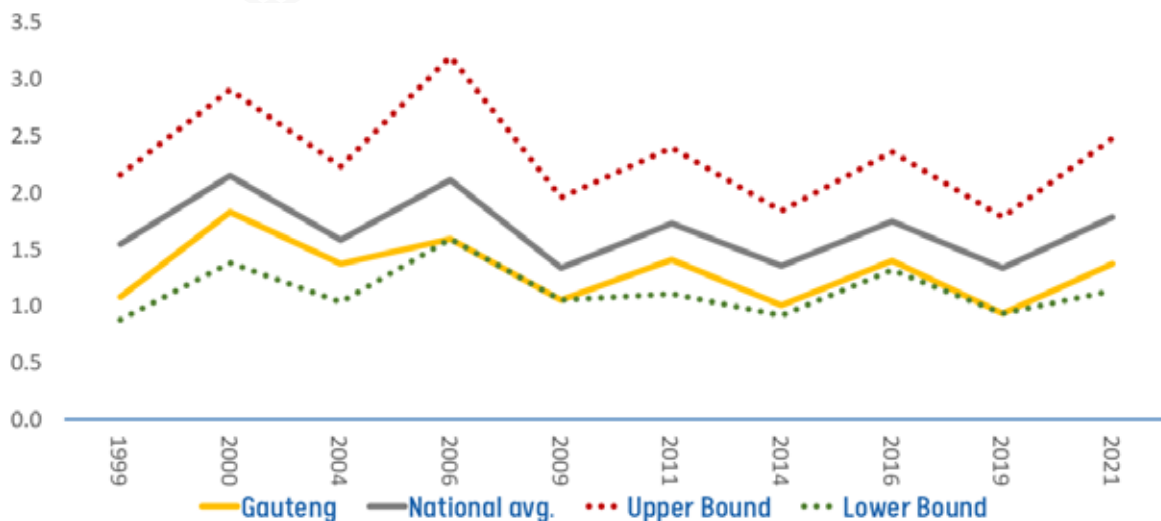
#### GOAL

Determining the share of total votes cast that was spoilt by voters

#### ANALYSIS

Of the total votes cast in National and Provincial Elections as well as Local Government Elections between the year 1999 and 2021, the percentage of ballots that were spoilt in Gauteng averaged 1.3%. The share of spoilt ballots ranged between 0.9% and 1.8% across the full period. Throughout this period, the provincial average has been trending below than the national average. This indicates that the level of spoiling in Gauteng is relatively low. On a national scale, Gauteng ranks second last, regardless of small percentages of spoilt ballots within the province. This is a positive outcome as it is an indication that South African elections are not characterised by spoilt ballot papers. Spoiling may reflect unintentional error in filling in ballot papers on Election Day, as well as a form of deliberate electoral protest. Understanding the character of spoiling will be important in future so that unintentional spoiling could be addressed appropriately through improved ballot paper design and balloting education.

**SPOILT BALLOTS: Percentage of total votes cast that were spoilt by voters on Election Day in National and Provincial Elections and Local Government Elections, 1999-2021 (%)**



	1999	2000	2004	2006	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	1.1	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.3
National Avg.	1.5	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.8	1.7
Upper Bound	2.2	2.9	2.2	3.2	2.0	2.4	1.8	2.4	1.8	2.5	2.3
Lower Bound	0.9	1.4	1.0	1.6	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.1
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	8	8	9	9	8	8	8	9	8	8

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official election results, 1999-2021

## 4.4.4 Turnout in National and Provincial Elections as a percentage of registered voters

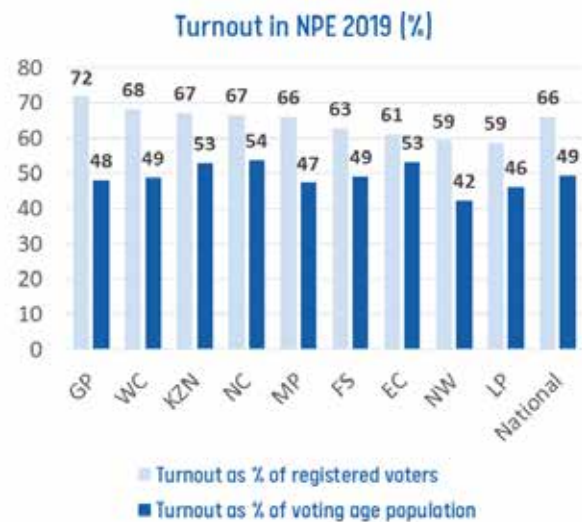
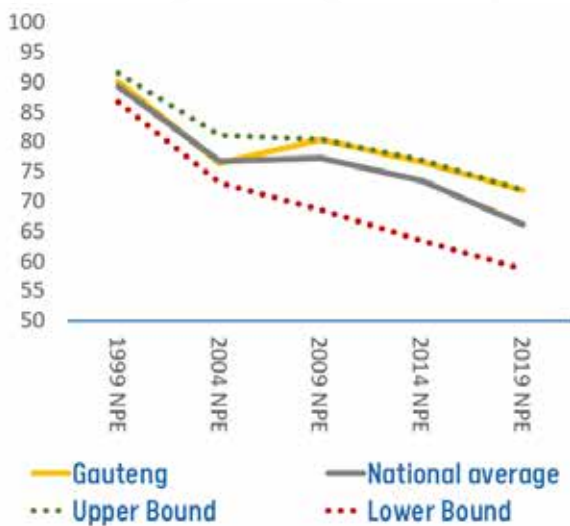
### GOAL

Determining electoral turnout as a percentage of registered voters

### ANALYSIS

Turnout in National and Provincial Elections in Gauteng between 1999 and 2019 has fluctuated over time. In 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019 average turnout was at 90%, 76%, 80%, 77% and 72%, respectively. This province significantly ranked high in voter turnout, although turnout declined in 2004, increased in 2009 and declined again from 2014 to 2019. Compared to other provinces, Gauteng ranks highest on average over the five elections, regardless of the recent decline in turnout. Another factor to consider is that these turnout statistics are expressed as a percentage of registered voters. The figures are lower if one looks at turnout as a percentage of the voting age public. For instance, in 2019, turnout in the province was 48% of the voting age public, which is significantly lower than the 72% of registered voters that turned out.

**ELECTORAL TURNOUT: Percentage of registered voters that turned out to cast their vote on Election Day in National and Provincial Elections, 1999-2019 (%)**



	1999	2004	2009	2014	2019	Average
Gauteng	90	76	80	77	72	79
National Avg.	89	77	77	73	66	77
Upper Bound	92	81	80	77	72	79
Lower Bound	87	73	69	63	59	72
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	5	6	1	2	1	1

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official election results, 1999-2019

## 4.4.5 Turnout in Local Government Elections as a percentage of registered voters

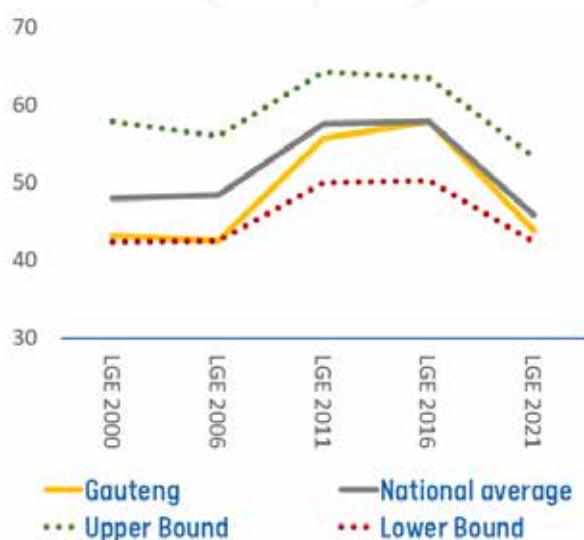
### GOAL

Determining electoral turnout as a percentage of registered voters

### ANALYSIS

Between 2000 and 2016, turnout in local government elections in the province displayed an increasing tendency, rising from 43% in 2000 to 58% in 2016. The turnout of registered voters in the province in the 2021 election declined, reaching a minimum of 44%. Throughout the 2000 to 2021 period, voter turnout has been trending below national averages, with the exception of 2016, where the provincial percentage was equal to or reflected the national average. Overall, the province ranked second last nationally when compared to other provinces. A factor to consider is that these voter turnout statistics are expressed as a percentage of registered voters. The figures are lower if one looks at turnout as a percentage of the voting age public. For instance, in 2021, turnout in the province was 24% of the voting age public, which is significantly lower than the 44% of registered voters that turned out.

**ELECTORAL TURNOUT: Percentage of registered voters that turned out to cast their vote on Election Day in Local Government Elections, 2000-2021 (%)**



	2000	2006	2011	2016	2021	Average
Gauteng	43	42	56	58	44	49
National Avg.	48	48	58	58	46	52
Upper Bound	58	56	64	63	53	58
Lower Bound	42	42	50	50	42	46
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	8	9	6	4	7	7

Data Source: Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) official election results, 1999-2021



**PART**

**E**

**POST-ELECTION**

# 5. POST-ELECTION

## 5.1. Evaluation of the elections as free and fair

### GOAL

Determine the extent to which voters rate the elections as free and fair

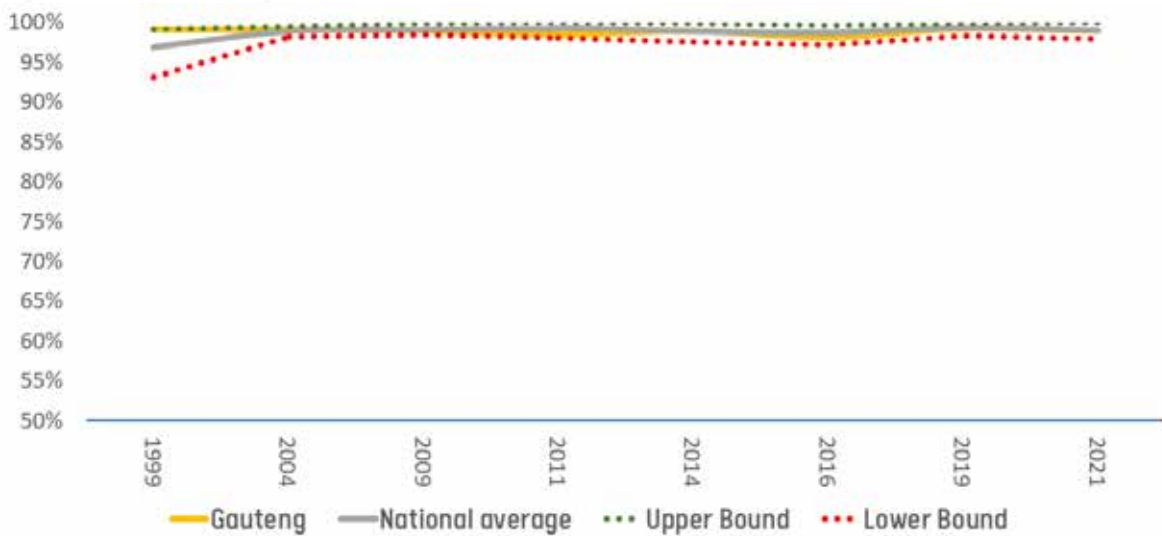
### QUESTION

Do you think that the election procedures were free and fair? (% yes)

### ANALYSIS

Looking at the 2019 and 2021 election survey results, an overwhelming majority of voters in Gauteng (99%) felt that the election procedures were free and fair. This was a resolutely positive result and remains consistent with previous survey rounds. On average over the full 1999 to 2021 period, the share of voters in the province who thought that the voting procedures were both free and fair was 99%. It is clear that voters were satisfied with the election procedures in the context of the nine elections being considered. Overall, the province of Gauteng ranks second on this measure and is among the four provinces who display most satisfaction with voting procedures being free and fair. Given that the levels of satisfaction among voters is at a high level in all provinces, these rank differences reflect subtle percentage point changes rather than sizeable shifts in perspective.

**PERCEPTIONS OF ELECTION FREENESS AND FAIRNESS: Proportion of voters who thought that the voting procedures were free and fair, 1999-2021 (% yes)**



	1999	2000	2004	2009	2011	2014	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	99	99	99	99	99	100	98	99	99	99
National Avg.	97	96	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	98
Upper Bound	99	99	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99
Lower Bound	93	89	98	98	98	98	97	98	98	97
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	5	2	7	8	6	8	7	3	2

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 1999-2021

## 5.2 Vote count

### GOAL

Assess confidence in the accuracy of the vote count

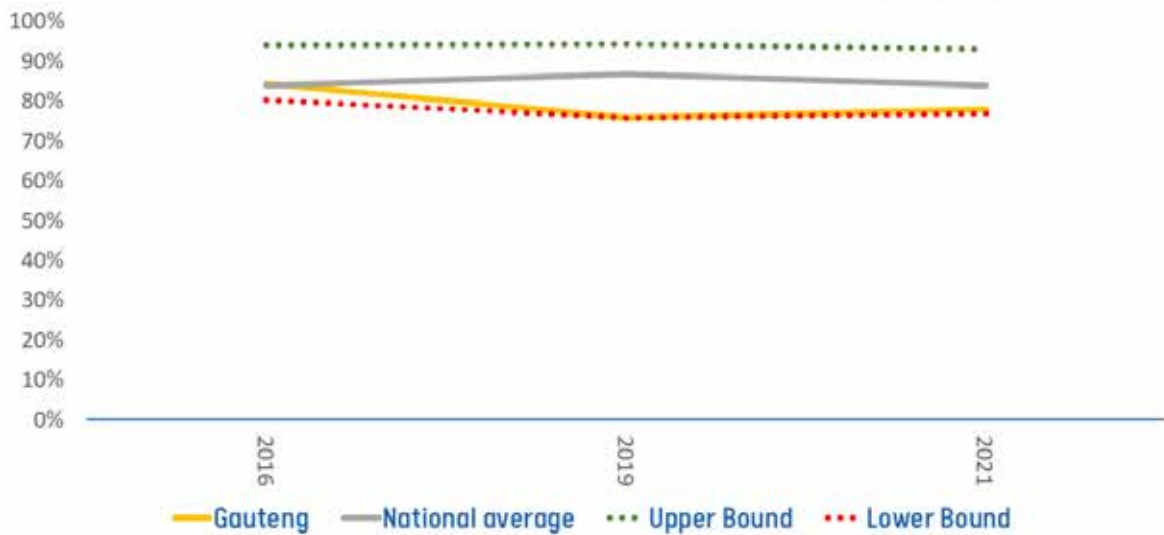
### QUESTION

How confident are you that your vote will be accurately counted? (% completely confident / very confident)

### ANALYSIS

In the 2021 elections, 78% of voters in Gauteng believed that their vote would be accurately counted. While this figure remains high, it is low relative to other provinces and as a result, the province was ranked lowest on this indicator in 2021. The province was six percentage points lower than the national average of 84% in 2021. During the 2016 to 2021 period, the average proportion of voters in the province who had confidence in the count was 88% which is three percentage points higher than the national average 85. Overall, the province of Gauteng ranks third on this indicator.

**CONFIDENCE IN THE ACCURACY OF THE VOTE COUNT: Proportion of voters who thought that the vote would be accurately counted, 2016-2021 (%)**



	2016	2019	2021	Average
Gauteng	84	76	78	79
National Avg.	84	87	84	85
Upper Bound	94	94	93	91
Lower Bound	80	76	77	79
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	4	9	9	9

Data Source: IEC Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) 2016-2021





**PART**

**F**

**ELECTORAL  
REFORM**

# 6. ELECTORAL REFORM

## 6.1. Electoral outcomes - best possible government

### GOAL

Overall satisfaction with the electoral system and support for electoral reform

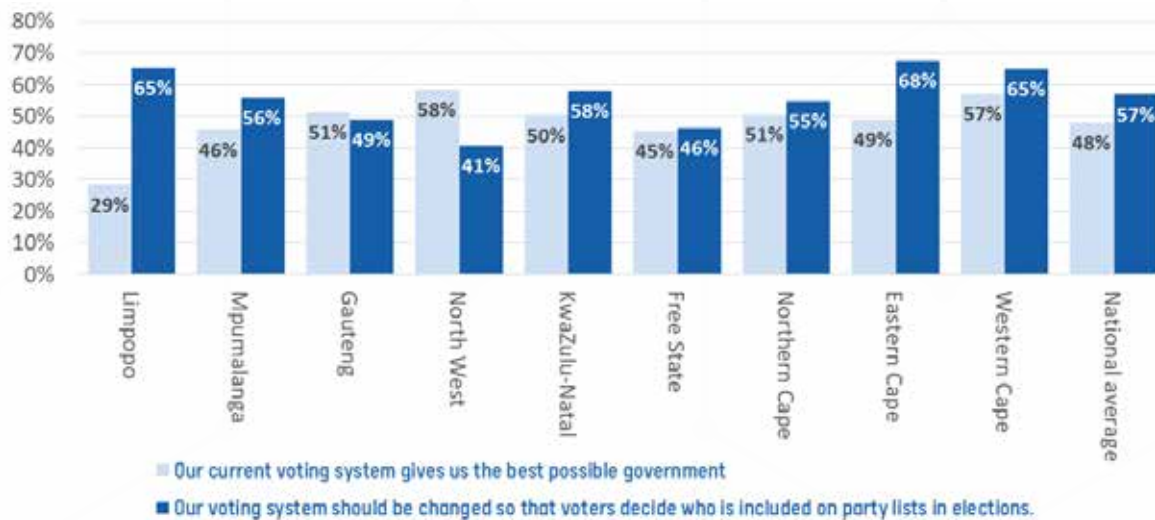
### QUESTION

Our current voting system gives us the best possible government. (% strongly agree/agree)  
 Our voting system should be changed so that voters decide who to include on party lists in elections. (% strongly agree/agree)

### ANALYSIS

In 2019, citizens in Gauteng were generally divided over whether the voting system delivers the best possible government. Slightly more than half (51%) of the public that believed that the current system delivers the best governance. The province ranked third nationally on this variable. Division was also noted when the public was asked if the system should be changed or not with almost half (49%) agreeing with this statement. The province ranked second last nationally when compared to other provinces on this variable. These findings suggest divisions in levels of support for our voting system and perhaps reflects a demand for greater levels of accountability reform in the country.

**SATISFACTION WITH THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM: Percentage of citizens who agree that the voting system provides the best possible government, and believe that the system should be reformed to allow greater voter influence on party list candidates, 2018 (%)**



	Current electoral system provides the best possible government 2019	Voting system should be change so voters decide on party list candidates 2019
Gauteng	51	49
National Avg.	58	57
Upper Bound	58	68
Lower Bound	59	41
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	7

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2018

## 6.2. Electronic voting

### 6.2.1. Perceived effectiveness of electronic voting

#### GOAL

Evaluation of the perceived effectiveness of electronic voting

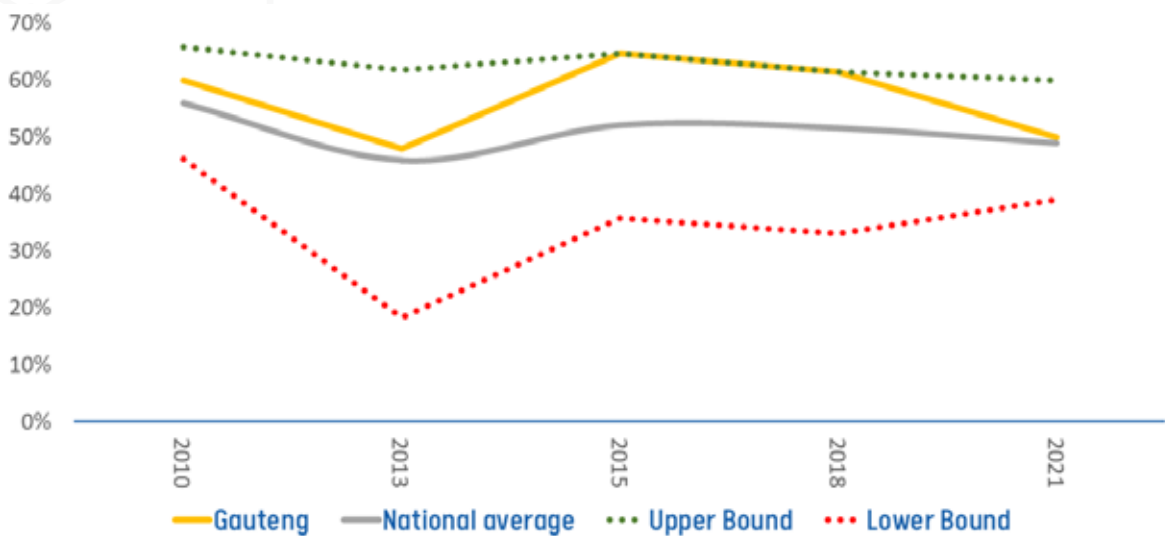
#### QUESTION

Electronic voting will make voting easier and more effective. (% strongly agree/agree)

#### ANALYSIS

The proportions of Gauteng respondents who thought that electronic voting would be easier and more effective than the present system of paper ballots had been fluctuating throughout the period, ranging between 48% and 65% with the province ranking highest in 2015 and 2018. Overall, Gauteng has been trending above national averages throughout the period and this indicates an optimistic belief in the effectiveness of an electronic voting system when compared to most provinces. A fair degree of interprovincial variation was observed on this indicator. There was a 21-percentage point disparity between the upper and lower bounds during 2010 to 2021 period. The Gauteng province ranked fourth in this regard nationally and seventh in 2021.

**EASE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ELECTRONIC VOTING: Proportion of adult citizens who thought that electronic voting would make the system more efficient, 2010-2021 (% agreeing)**



	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	60	48	65	62	50	59
National Avg.	56	46	52	56	49	51
Upper Bound	66	62	65	65	60	59
Lower Bound	46	18	36	30	39	38
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	3	6	1	1	7	4

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2010-2021

## 6.2.2 Concerns of possible fraud associated with electronic voting

### GOAL

Assess concern over possible fraud associated with electronic voting

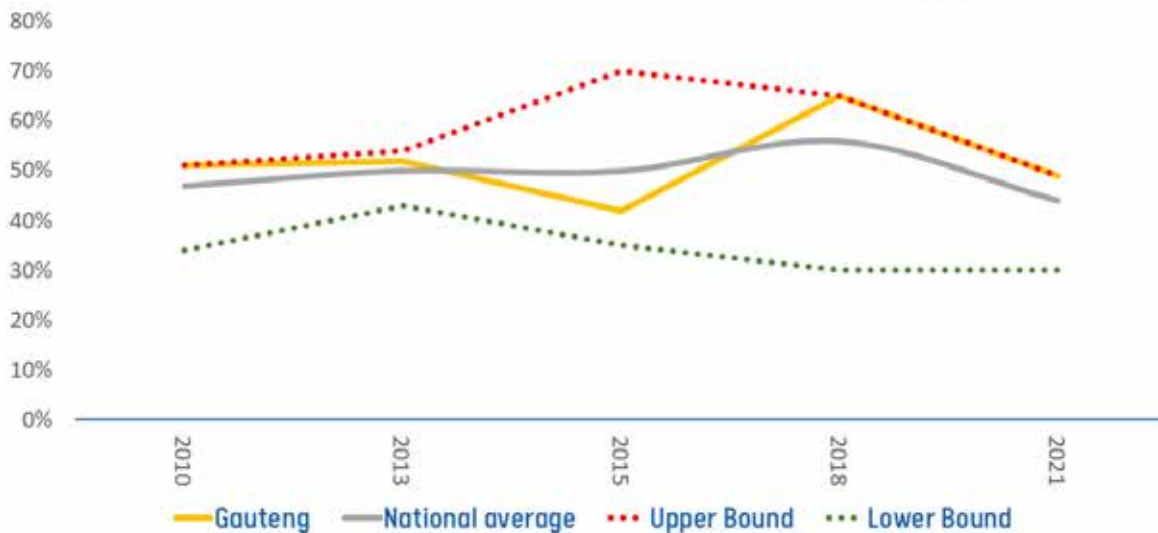
### QUESTION

Electronic voting will introduce more electoral fraud. (% strongly agree / agree)

### ANALYSIS

In 2018, 65% of Gauteng population expressed concerns over potential electronic fraud relative to the current electoral system, this was the highest proportion when compared to other years. In other years, from 2010 to 2021, with the exception of 2018, the proportions were within the 42% to 52% range. The province of Gauteng ranks second highest overall when it comes to the number of citizens who expressed concerns about potential fraud if electronic voting was introduced. These findings suggest that the Electoral Commission would need to convince citizens of the security of any e-voting system that is considered for introduction in future elections.

**ELECTRONIC VOTING AND CONCERN OVER FRAUD: Share of adult citizens who believe that electronic voting would introduce more fraud into the election system, 2010-2021 (% agreeing)**



	2010	2013	2015	2018	2021	Average
Gauteng	51	52	42	65	49	53
National Avg.	47	50	50	50	44	51
Upper Bound	51	54	71	62	49	54
Lower Bound	34	43	35	40	30	37
Rank (1=high; 9=low)	1	2	8	1	1	2

Data Source: IEC Voter Participation Survey (VPS) 2010-2021

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