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# Executive Direct

## Message from the Executive Director of the Foundation for Human Rights, Ms Yasmin Sooka

The Foundation for Human Rights (FHR) is proud to share the results of the biggest attitudinal survey carried out across South Africa on awareness, access and attitude to human rights, democracy and the Constitution, under the Socio-economic Justice for All (SEJA) Programme. The SEJA programme is implemented in partnership with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD) and funded by the European Union (EU) through Sector Budget Support.

This survey is substantial in scale, with 24 897 interviews having been conducted across all the provinces covering more than 4 165 sites. The last survey of this kind, was carried out by the Foundation in 2011 and in which 4 200 respondents were interviewed across 22 sites.

This survey found that overall levels of awareness of the constitution have increased from 47% in 2011 to 51% today. More startling however, is that less than half of South African women have heard of the Constitution. When it comes to human rights only 40% of the population were satisfied with the state of human rights, with most of those who were dissatisfied reporting that Equality was the human right that was the least respected in the country.

Shockingly, one of the conclusions of the survey is that almost half of adults in South Africa claimed having no access to the internet. This is worst in rural areas where 61% of respondents had no connectivity. Not surprisingly then over 35% of South Africans rely on community leaders only 41% relying on the mainstream media lack of access to the internet will have the rest of the world is speaking about artificial intelligence, most South Africans

**Planning for the future requires empirical knowledge of the situation on the ground**

or community meetings for local news, with (i.e. television, radio or newspapers).” The devastating consequences for most. While a fourth technological revolution and will be left behind.”

Six out of every 10 South Africans are those most dissatisfied not unsurprisingly being those who live in poor conditions, i.e. informal housing. In this group almost three quarters are unhappy with the way our democracy works, compared with a satisfaction rate of about 50% amongst better off people.

Most people questioned, felt that our electoral system is still working well but that Parliament is unaccountable with 65% of respondents interviewed expressing dissatisfaction. This suggests that people feel that their vote still counts, but once elected, Members of Parliament (MPs) fail to properly represent their interests.

Human Rights in South Africa remain at risk as long as we are not able to guarantee dignity to our people - this entails a decent standard of living, food security and employment and a society free of violence. As many tell us, they cannot eat the constitution.

Planning for the future requires empirical knowledge of the situation on the ground which the Baseline Survey provides. Applied properly, the findings of the Baseline Survey will provide government and stakeholders with a framework to develop appropriate strategic interventions which will enable marginalised and vulnerable groups to realise their socio-economic rights. The findings of the survey demonstrate that the struggle for justice in South Africa is far from over. There is no doubt that more needs to be done around raising awareness of the rights guaranteed in the Constitution and the realisation of socio-economic rights to achieve the promise of dignity as set out in the Constitution.

## Foreword from the Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Mr John Jeffery

Professor Wangari Maathai, the Kenyan environmental political activist and first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize, remarked that: Human rights are not things that are put on the table for people to enjoy. These are things you fight for and then you protect.

This insight is very true of our own country, given that our history has been an ongoing struggle for freedom and human rights.

Today, we need to protect and promote those hard-won freedoms and human rights.

Part of doing so means strengthening efforts to transform the justice system through developing and implementing policies that bring about improved access to justice, and making people aware of their rights.

As much as our Constitution has been lauded across the globe as highly progressive and transformative, a progressive Constitution alone will not realise rights if the people living within our country do not understand what it entails.

It is imperative for us to ensure that every person within our borders knows and understands the Constitution. Many people in South Africa are poor and live in rural areas of the country and are often the most vulnerable, with women, children, people with disabilities, the elderly and lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons being exposed to violence and related harm.

Whilst efforts have been made by the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, in collaboration with civil society organisations, to educate people about their rights and responsibilities, much still remains to be done. The Foundation for Human Rights is a valued partner in our efforts.

**A progressive Constitution alone will not realise rights if the people living within our country do not understand what it entails.**

**John Jeffery**  
Deputy Minister of  
Justice and Constitutional  
Development



# INTRODUCTION

The Foundation for Human Rights (FHR) is working with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD) to promote human rights awareness and democratic values through the Socio-Economic Justice for All Programme (SEJA). The SEJA programme is supported by the European Union.

The SEJA programme presented an ideal opportunity to conduct a baseline survey that would provide comprehensive empirical data on the knowledge and understanding of constitutional rights awareness among South Africans. The survey is the largest of its kind in South Africa, reaching almost 25 000 households. The survey provides reliable empirical data that allows us to understand the nature, location and depth of the problems experienced by members of marginalised groups such as black female women living in rural areas, the aged and the youth in regard to understanding and asserting their constitutional rights.

We believe that the survey will remain a source of valuable information, and that researchers, activists and other stakeholders will use the data to explore in greater detail some of the issues raised in this report.

The less knowledge people have of their rights, the less access they have to them. The finding that only 47% of females as opposed to 55% of males have knowledge of the Constitution and Bill of Rights does not portend well in light of the massive inequalities presently existing. This shows that the skewed discriminatory patterns of the past along gender

# METHODOLOGY

A questionnaire was developed based on previous studies, continental research initiatives such as the Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA), and extensive consultation with government departments, Chapter 9 institutions and civil society organisations. It was translated into all official languages so that the people to be interviewed could decide on which language they wanted to be interviewed in.

This was followed by extensive engagement with Stats SA to align the survey with SHaSA, particularly the modules on “Democratic Governance” and “Peace and Security”, as well as the General Household and the Victims of Crime Surveys. The reports about public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions, and related issues in more than 35 countries in Africa produced by Afrobarometer, were taken into consideration. Various Demographic Health and Quality of Life Surveys, the European Social Survey, and a survey of the Gauteng adult population on constitutional legitimacy in South Africa undertaken by the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC) were also examined.

A questionnaire was developed and subjected to an iterative and extensive process of consultation with stakeholders that included the DoJ&CD, StatsSA, the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation in the Office of the Presidency, various Chapter 9 Institutions, particularly the Commission for Gender Equality (CGE) and the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), as well as civil society organisations such as Section 27, Socio-Economic Rights Institute, Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute, and the Black Sash.

After a tender process, Citizen Surveys was contracted to design and draw a sample, recruit and train a team to conduct the fieldwork and provide a dataset on completion of the fieldwork. The sample for the SEJA Baseline Survey is known

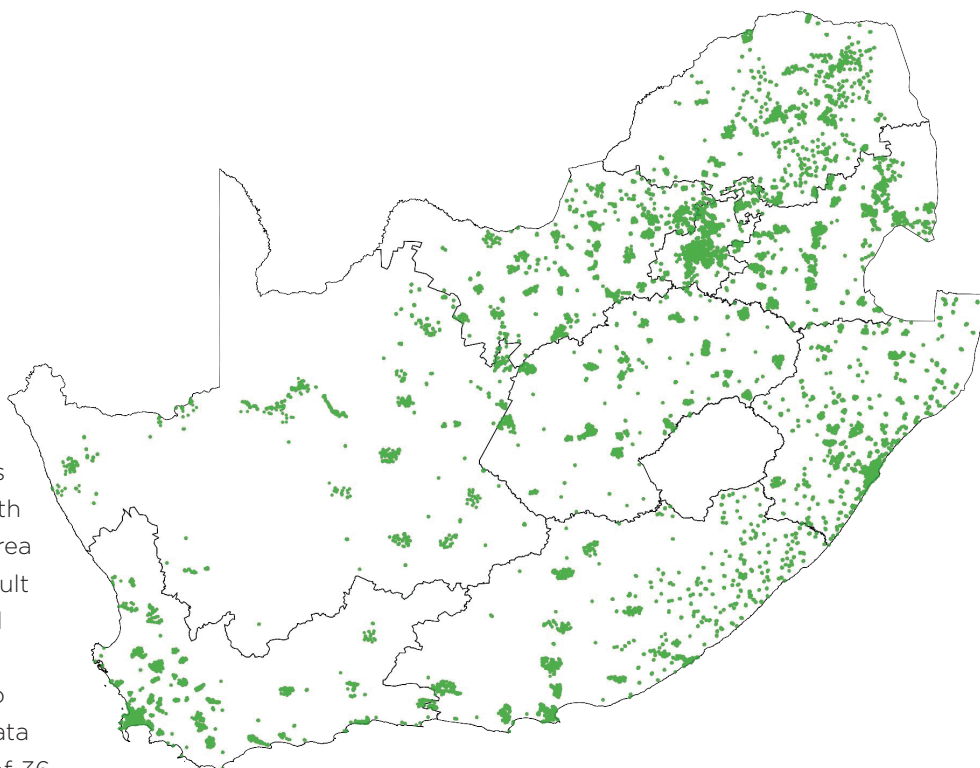
and racial classification continue to persist with black females still bearing the brunt of this inequality.

Rather than expanding time and resources on guesstimates, the empirical data will allow the DoJ&CD together with support from civil society to make strategic interventions in critical areas to empower marginalised communities and vulnerable groups to improve their lot so that the promise of the constitution becomes a reality in the lives of ordinary people. This report contains the main findings of the SEJA Baseline Survey. It is a high-level assessment of constitutional rights awareness of the attitudes of citizens to the Bill of Rights, and their access to the mechanisms of justice in the country. While the findings of the earlier survey are cause for concern, we should not be disheartened but take courage from the words of the British politician Arthur Henderson, who said:

“Let us not despair but instead survey the position, consider carefully the action we must take and then address ourselves to the common task in a mood of sober resolution and quiet confidence, without haste and without pause.”

**... the skewed discriminatory patterns of the past along gender and racial classification continue to persist with black females still bearing the brunt of this inequality.**

as a multi-stage, stratified random sample of adults living in South Africa. What exactly does this mean? In short, it means that the people to be interviewed were chosen so as, we hope, to be as representative as possible of all South African adults. The selection of the area to visit, the household and the adult in that household to be interviewed were all guided by rigorous survey processes such that we are able to draw useful conclusions from the data about the South African population of 36 million adults, and not only about the sample of cases.



The survey was conducted from October to December 2016 and the final sample consists of 24 897 respondents.

The design of the questionnaire for the survey consisted of a literature review followed by extensive stakeholder consultation to ensure that survey produced a rich, statistically sound data set.

This consisted of a review of an earlier study done by the FHR in 2011 as part of the Access to Justice and Promotion of Constitutional Rights (AJPCR) programme.

# WHO DID WE REACH?

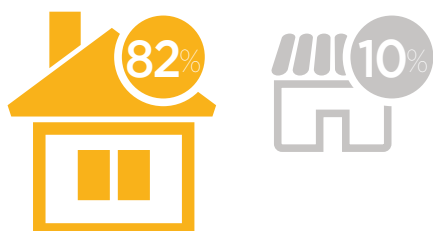
SO **WHO** DID THE SURVEY INTERVIEW, **WHERE** AND **HOW** ARE THEY LIVING AND **HOW SATISFIED** ARE THEY WITH THEIR LIVING CONDITIONS?

## Housing

*The Bill of Rights in the Constitution of South Africa states that everyone has the right to adequate housing.*

While the **vast majority** [82%] of adults live in **formal housing**...

...we still see that **one in ten** [10%] adults live in **informal housing**.



As one would expect, those in **informal housing** were **less satisfied** with their dwelling than those in formal housing.



## Toilets

*With regards to the access people have to toilets, it was found that:*

**Four fifths** [82%] of all adults in South Africa had access to what is termed **improved sanitation**, which includes flush or chemical toilets and ventilated pit latrines.



The **location** of the toilet facility was found to impact on the **level of satisfaction** with the facility.



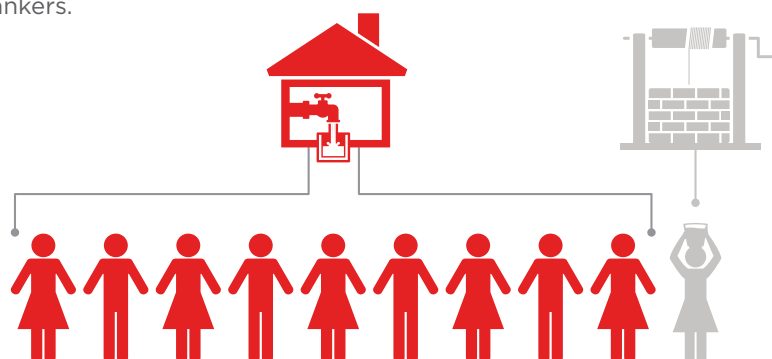
## Water

*Access to sufficient water is also enshrined in the Constitution. The SEJA Baseline Survey found:*

Almost **nine out of every ten** [87%] adults in South Africa had access to **pipled water**, with the **majority** [52%] of adults living in dwellings with **pipled water inside their dwellings**.

However, **one in ten** [10%] adults were accessing water from **non-piped sources outside of their yards** such as streams, rivers, dams, springs, water carriers or tankers.

The **type of water source** people used **strongly affected** their level of satisfaction with their water access.





THESE ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS THAT THE SURVEY SOUGHT TO ANSWER. THE FINDINGS ON LIVING CONDITIONS EMPHASISE BOTH **THE DISTANCE SOUTH AFRICA HAS TRAVELLED** IN TERMS OF EXTENDING ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES TO ITS RESIDENTS AS WELL AS **THE JOURNEY STILL TO BE TRAVELLED** TO ENSURE THIS ACCESS IS UNIVERSAL.

## Electricity

The SEJA Baseline Survey found that the **overwhelming majority** **[92%]** of adults in South Africa were living in households that **used electricity for lighting**.

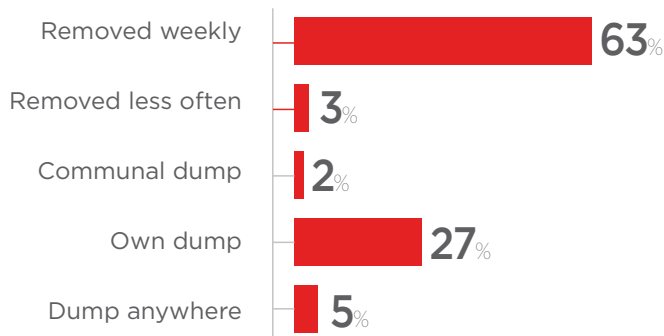


## Refuse disposal

The survey looked at refuse disposal and found that:

Almost **two thirds** **[63%]** of respondents lived in households where their **refuse was collected** at least once a week.

Only **5%** of adults lived in households with **no organised means of refuse disposal** and would dispose of their refuse anywhere in the street or veld.



The **levels of dissatisfaction** with refuse disposal were particularly high for those respondents living in **rural areas** as they were mainly responsible for their own means of disposal.

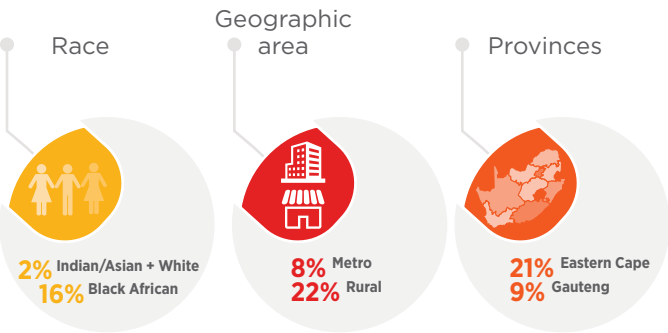


## Lived poverty index

In order to create a composite index of poverty, known as the lived poverty index (developed by Afrobarometer), respondents were asked a series of questions about how frequently their household goes without basic necessities during the course of a year.

The survey found that **15%** of adults could be termed “extremely poor” according to the index, as they were always or often deprived of these basic necessities.

There were **SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES** on the lived poverty index across:

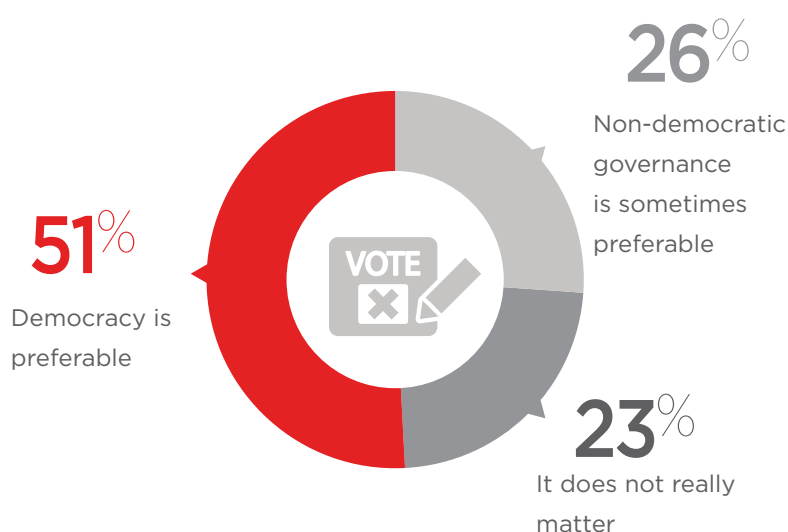


Often experience deprivation of basic necessities

# DEMOCRACY

## How do you feel about democracy?

Respondents were asked to identify which statement best described how they felt about democracy.



Half **[51%]** of our respondents thought that democracy was the most preferable form of government.

A quarter **[26%]** stated that, in some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable.

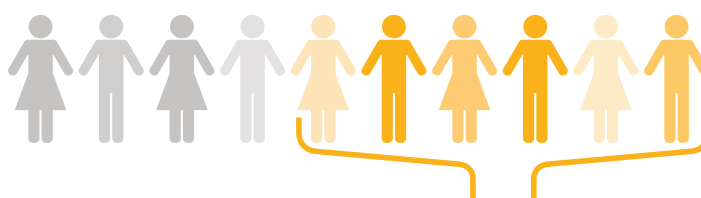
The remaining quarter **[23%]** felt that it did not really matter what kind of government we have in South Africa.

## How satisfied are you with the way that democracy works in South Africa

When asked how satisfied they were with the way that democracy works in South Africa:

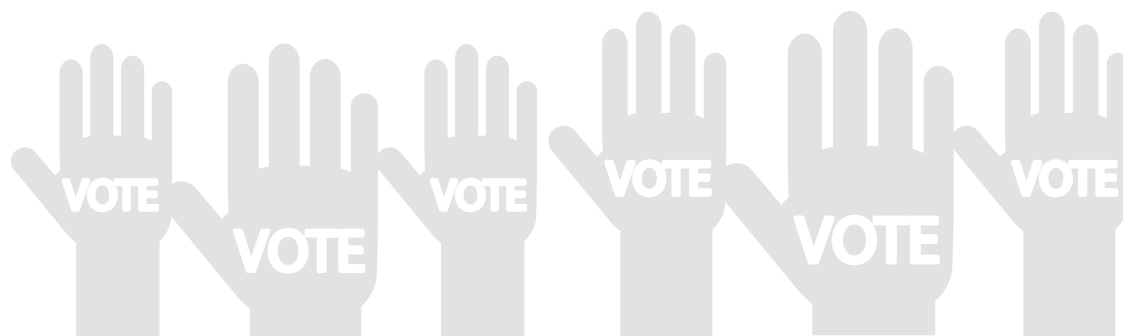
Three out of ten **[30%]** adults in South Africa claimed not to be satisfied at all.

A similar proportion **[29%]** stating that they were only slightly satisfied.



Taken together, this means that almost **6 out of every 10** adults were not satisfied with the way democracy works in the country. Levels of satisfaction varied across **race** and across different **dwelling types**.





## Levels of satisfaction

To try and explore this further, we asked people about their level of satisfaction with the following elements of democracy in South Africa:

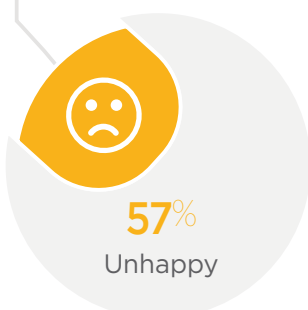
- How the rights in the Constitution are upheld
- The independence of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA)
- The system we have for elections and voting
- The accountability of members of parliament

While **the majority of respondents were satisfied with the system for elections**, this was the only element in which the satisfied were in the majority.

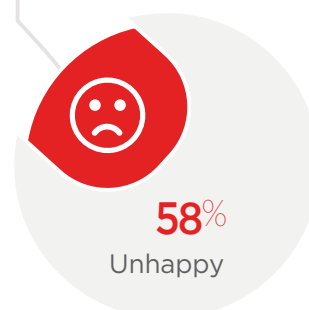
Approximately **six out of every ten adults** were unhappy with the way in which the **rights in our Constitution are upheld** and the **independence of the NPA**. The level of dissatisfaction was highest on the **accountability of members of parliament [MPs]**.



How the **rights in the Constitution** are upheld



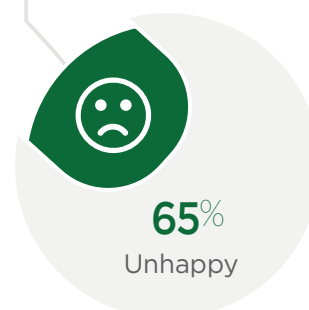
The independence of the **National Prosecuting Authority**



The system we have for **elections and voting**



The accountability of **members of parliament**





# HUMAN RIGHTS

## How are human rights are respected?

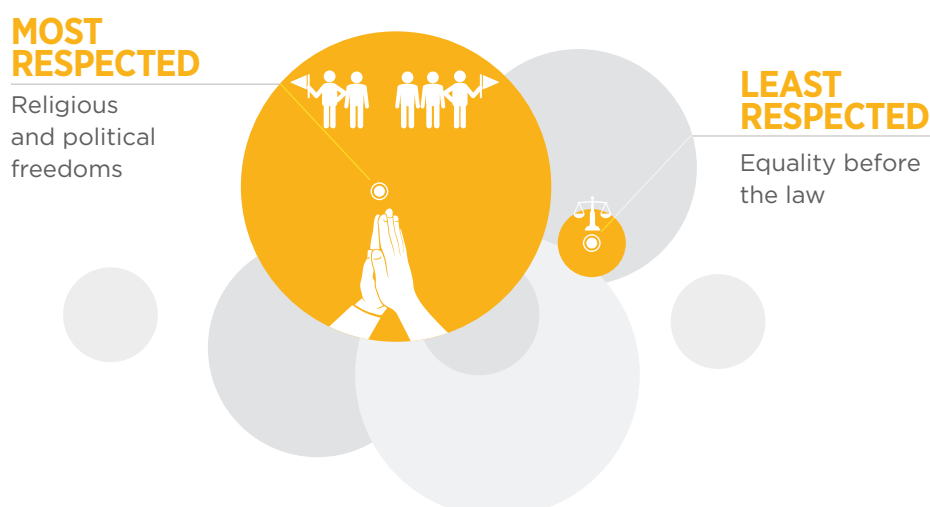


Respondents were asked how satisfied they were with **the way that human rights are respected** in South Africa. The **majority were not satisfied**, with more than a quarter **[28%]** saying that they were **not at all satisfied** and a similar proportion **[29%]** saying that they were only **slightly satisfied**. Levels of satisfaction varied across **race** and **dwelling types**.

## Respect for human rights

*Democracy is often associated with a variety of human rights ranging from freedom of expression, where people are free to say what they think, to freedom of association, where people may join any organisation they wish without interference from government.*

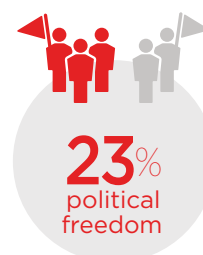
Respondents were asked to rate the extent to which these rights were respected in South Africa today. **Religious and political freedoms** were seen to be **most** commonly respected, while **equality before the law** was **least** respected.





## Most commonly respected human rights

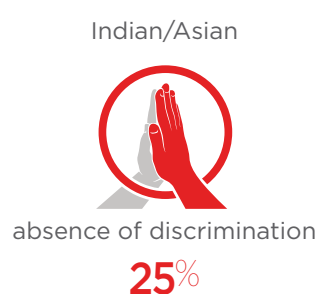
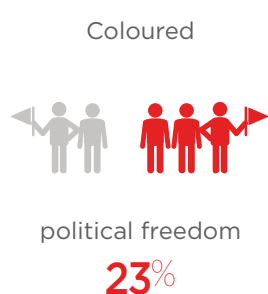
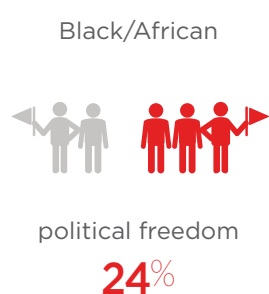
Having asked respondents about the extent to which they thought each individual human right was respected in South Africa, they were then asked which two rights they thought were most important to them. More than half [56%] of all respondents indicated that **freedom of expression was most important** to them, followed by **equality before the law** [26%] and **political freedom** [23%].



### FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION + EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW

The **top two** human rights commonly cited by all races.

For black Africans [24%] and coloureds [23%], the **third most common human right** cited was political freedom while for Indian/Asian respondents it was absence of discrimination [25%] and for white respondents it was freedom of the press [24%].



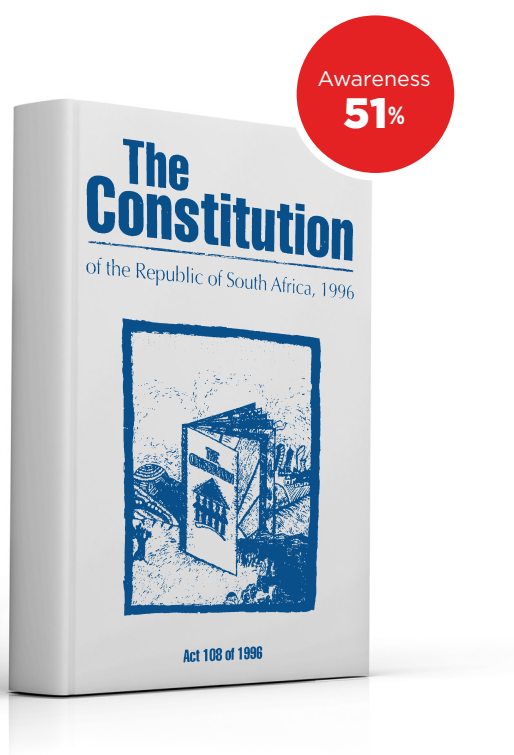
# CONSTITUTIONAL AWARENESS

## Constitution/Bill of Rights

*In order to compare the results of this survey with the findings of an earlier survey conducted by FHR, respondents were asked if they had heard of the Constitution of South Africa and if they had heard of the Bill of Rights in Chapter 2 of the Constitution.*




While the earlier survey found that **46%** of respondents had heard of either the Constitution and/or the Bill of Rights, the SEJA Baseline Survey found that:

**MORE THAN HALF**  
OF RESPONDENTS  
HAD HEARD OF  
**THE CONSTITUTION** AND/OR  
THE BILL OF RIGHTS



### HEARD OF EITHER THE **CONSTITUTION** AND/OR THE **BILL OF RIGHTS**

Levels of awareness differed across **sex, race and age cohorts**.

Male	55%	 Sex cohort
Female	47%	
Black African	48%	 Race cohort
Coloured	56%	
Indian/Asian	61%	
White	68%	
18-19	57%	 Age cohort
20-29	54%	
30-39	50%	
40-49	52%	
50-59	50%	
60-69	43%	
70+	40%	

There were also very different levels of awareness **across the provinces**.

The survey showed that as **poverty levels** increased, so the awareness levels of the Constitution or Bill of Rights decreased.













## Chapter 9 institutions

Respondents were asked if they were aware of any institutions established in terms of the Constitution of South Africa in order to protect and promote human rights.

They were then asked to name as many of these institutions as they could. The low levels of awareness when respondents were not prompted saw a significant jump in awareness when they were prompted.

	IEC%	PP%	SAHRC%	CGE%	CRL%	AG%
						
<b>SEX</b>						
 Male	73	64	58	54	43	35
 Female	69	56	53	49	39	29
<b>RACE</b>						
Black African	71	58	53	50	39	28
Coloured	64	56	54	45	36	33
Indian/Asian	79	73	67	66	52	50
White	77	75	76	69	58	60

Respondents were asked which Chapter 9 institution they thought was **most important**. Interestingly, as this was not a prompted question:

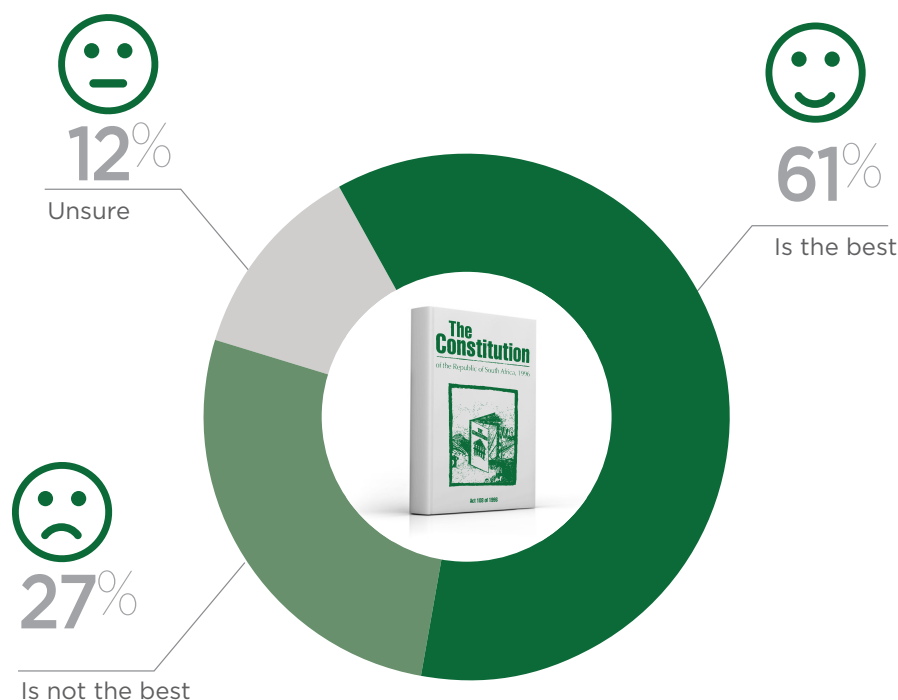


MORE THAN  
**1 in 5 [22%]**  
 RESPONDENTS STATED  
 THAT ALL OF THEM WERE  
**EQUALLY IMPORTANT.**

# ATTITUDES TO THE CONSTITUTION

## Is our constitution the best that we could have?

Respondents who had heard of the Constitution were asked if they thought that the Constitution was the best that South Africa could have. Six out of every ten [61%] respondents who had heard of the Constitution thought that it was the best that South Africa could have, while a quarter [27%] did not think that it was. Approximately one in ten [12%] were unsure.



### Reasons why our constitution is the best that we could have?

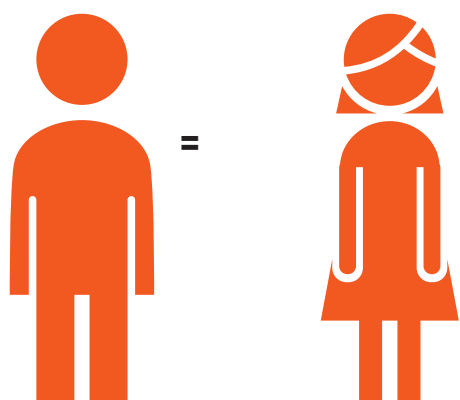
Those who thought it was the best that South Africa could have, pointed to the existence of a **“legal framework that provides for the rights and duties of all citizens”** and that **“we are all equal now”** as the main reasons for their positive attitude to the Constitution.

### Reasons why our constitution is not the best that we could have?

The main reasons cited by those who thought that the Constitution was not the best South Africa could have included **“we are not able to exercise our rights”**, that the Constitution **“does not protect all races”** or that “the Constitution does not protect us against government corruption”.

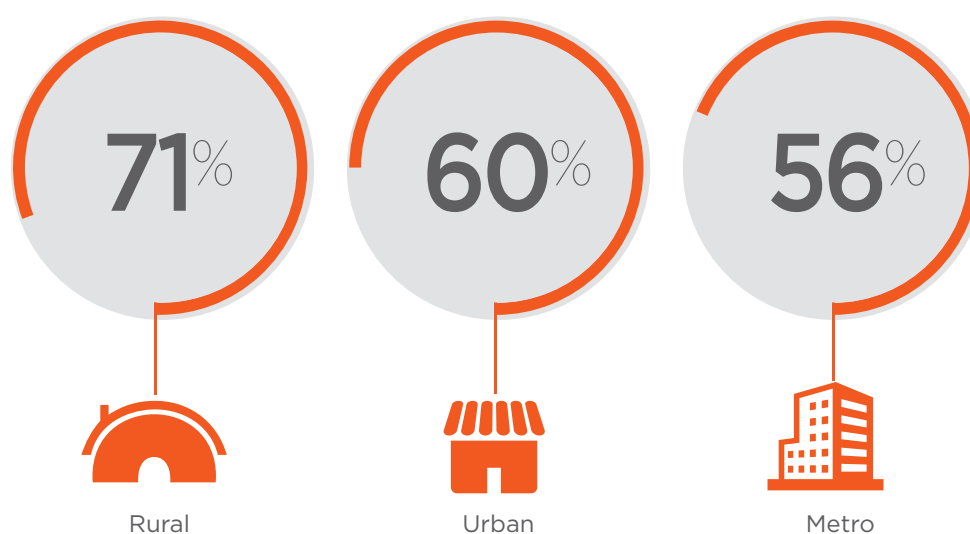


## Who holds these attitudes?



While **male** and **female** respondents were equally likely to think that the Constitution was the best South Africa could have, there were **differences** across the different **race groups** and **age cohorts**.

Respondents from the rural areas were the most positive about the Constitution with seven out of every ten **[71%]** respondents living in rural areas who had heard of the Constitution thought that it was the best that South Africa could have. This was true for **60%** of urban respondents and **56%** of those from metropolitan areas. There were also differences across the provinces.



Looking at the attitudes to the Constitution across the **lived poverty index**, the survey found that **as the poverty status of respondents improved, so did their positive attitude to the Constitution.**





# KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONSTITUTION

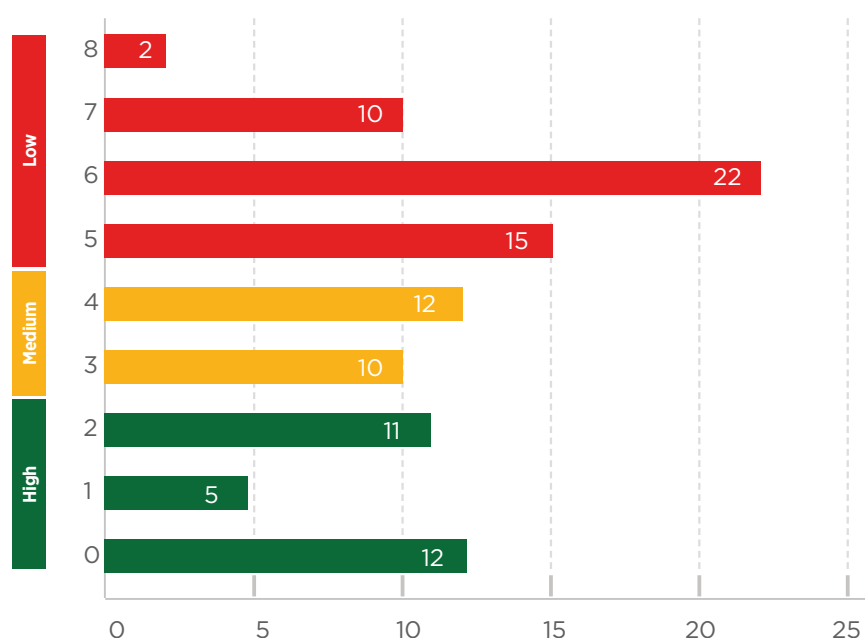
## Levels of knowledge about the Constitution

True or False

To try and gauge levels of constitutional knowledge, respondents were asked to indicate whether the following series of eight statements were true or false:

Are the following series of eight statements were true or false:	
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Constitutional Court may stop a law passed by parliament if the law goes against the Constitution
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Public Protector makes laws for South Africans
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Constitution says I have a right to adequate housing
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	It is too expensive for ordinary people to go to the Constitutional Court to protect their rights
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	A province can pass its own constitution if it does not conflict with the national constitution
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Constitution recognises the customary laws of the African people
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Constitutions says I have a right to sufficient food
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	The Bill of Rights is a chapter in the Constitution which details the rights of all people in our country

## Knowledge level scores



A score was then calculated for each respondent to reflect their overall knowledge and the scores were then categorised into:

### Low

[0 to 3 correct],

### Medium

[4 to 5 correct] and

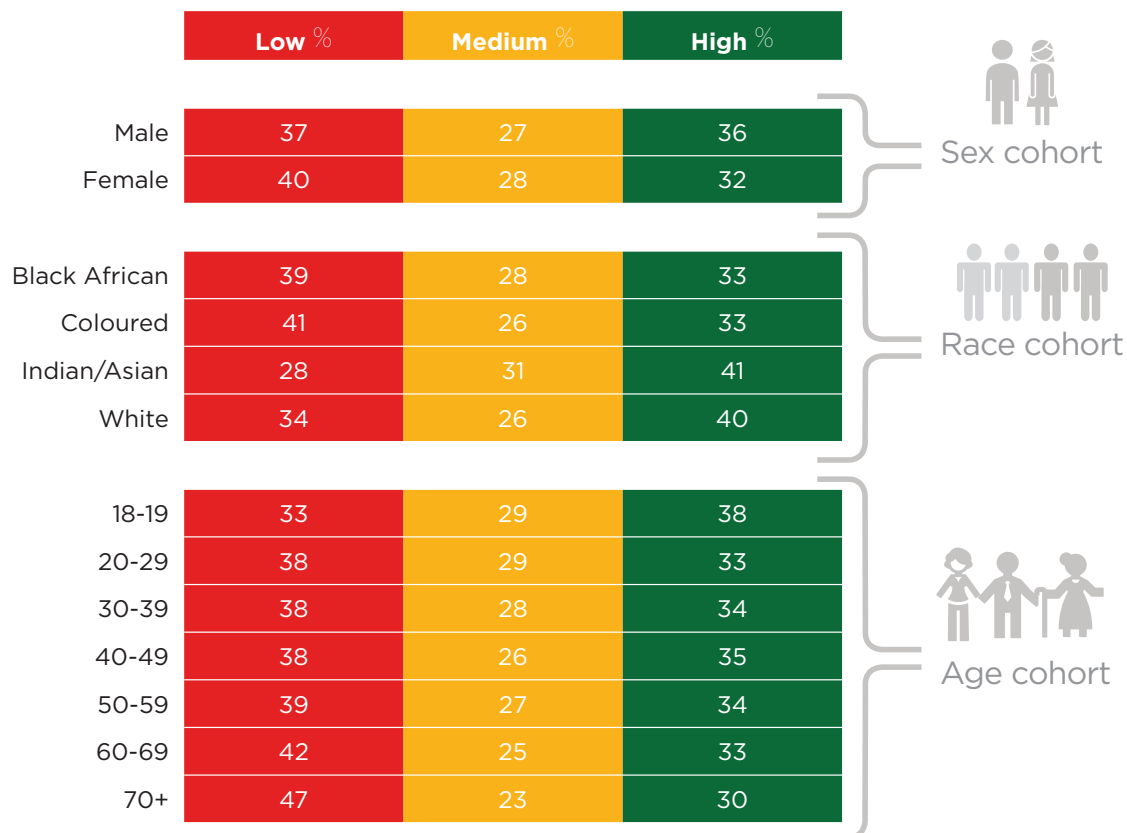
### High

[6 to 8 correct]

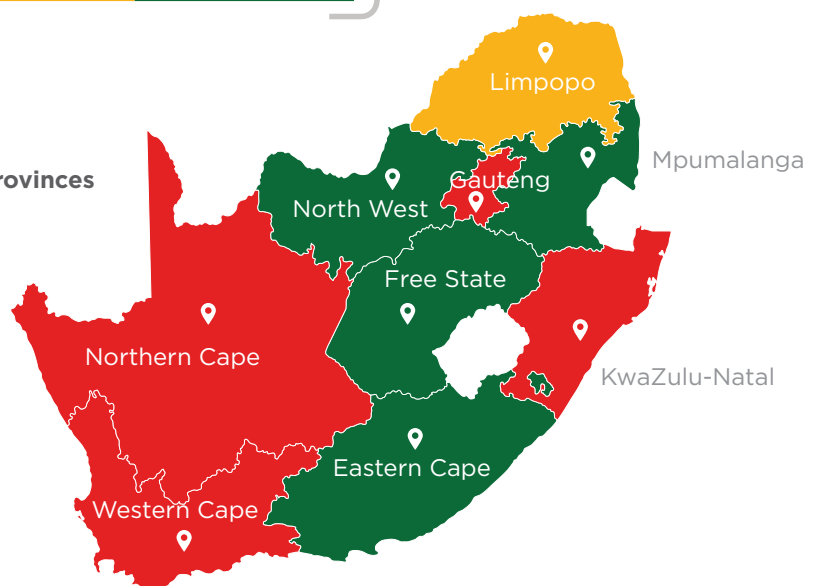


# Who holds these levels of knowledge?

Levels of knowledge were **similar across male and female** respondents but were seen to **differ across race and age** groups.



Knowledge levels were also seen to **vary across provinces** and across the **poverty status** of individuals.



# CONNECTEDNESS AND COMMUNITY LIFE

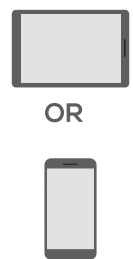
## Internet access

Respondents were asked about their personal use of the internet and where this use took place.

Approximately half **[48%]** of adults claimed to access the internet anywhere through a **cell phone** or **tablet**.



**48%**  
USE THESE TO ACCESS  
THE INTERNET



Other common ways to access the internet were through visiting an **internet café** **[17%]** or through using a public **wifi hotspot** **[15%]**.

At the other end of the scale:



**46%**

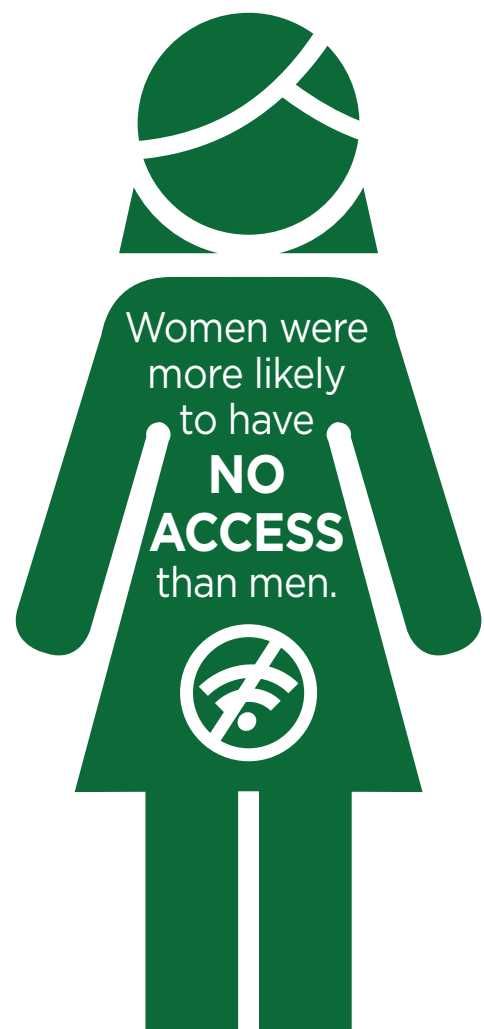
Almost **half of all adults** in South Africa claimed to have no access to the internet.

There were differences across **race** and **geographic area**.



**61%**

**Rural dwellers** were the most likely to have no internet access.



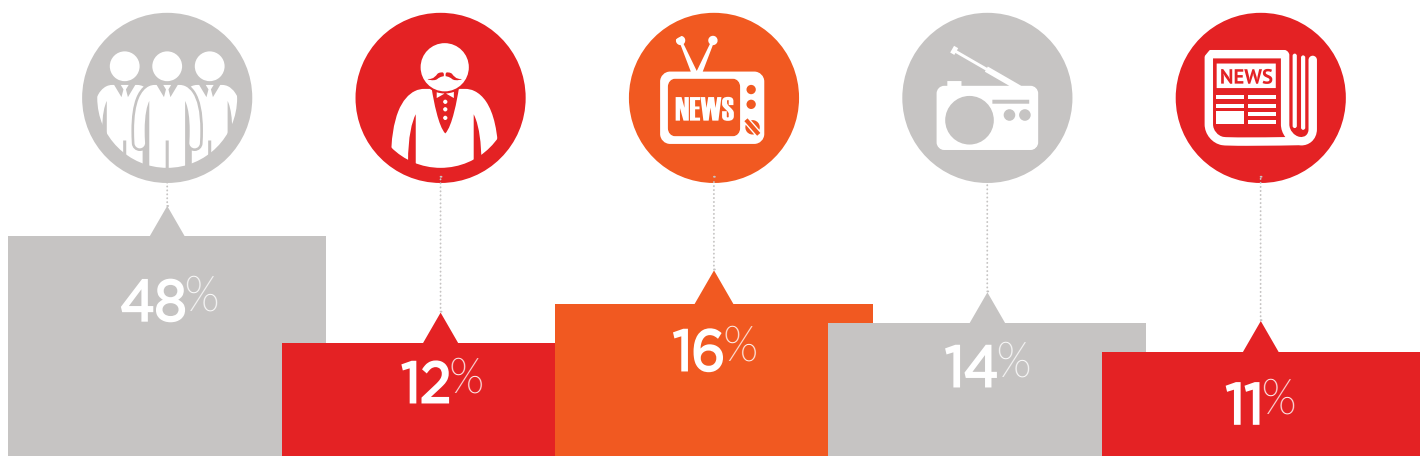
Women were more likely to have  
**NO ACCESS**  
than men.





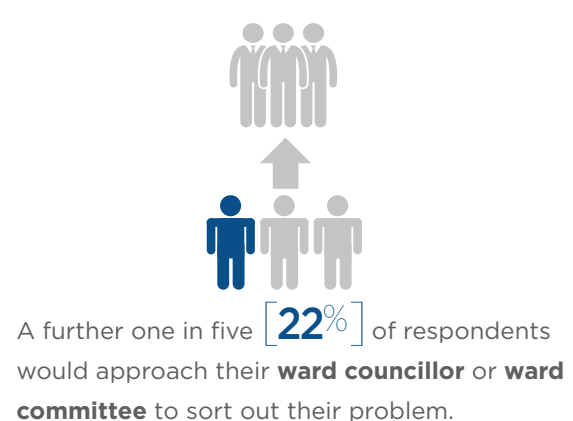
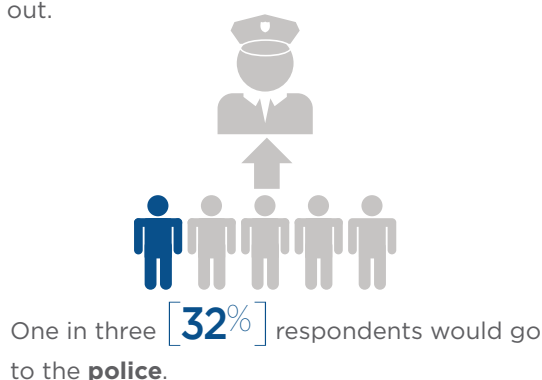
## Sources of information

We wanted to find out where people generally hear about what is happening in their community (meaning the area where they live). A quarter [23%] of all respondents indicated that they heard about happenings in their community from a **community meeting**, with **community leaders** [12%] also singled out as an important source of information. Other common sources were the mainstream media – **television** [16%], **radio** [14%] and **newspapers** [11%] – as well as word of mouth from family, friends or colleagues.



## Who do you go to to sort out a problem?

Respondents were asked if they had a problem in the area in which they lived, who they would first talk to in order to sort it out.



There were also marked **differences across geographic areas**.

# DISCRIMINATION

## Do you experience discrimination?

Approximately **one in ten** [9%] respondents indicated that they had suffered discrimination in the past year.



## Where is discrimination experienced?

Those respondents who reported being discriminated against were then asked where this discrimination took place. A third [32%] of all respondents who had suffered discrimination said that this took place in a **public place by a person unknown** to them. The second most common place where the discrimination took place was **at work** [30%], followed by **at home** [25%].



32%

Public Place



30%

Work



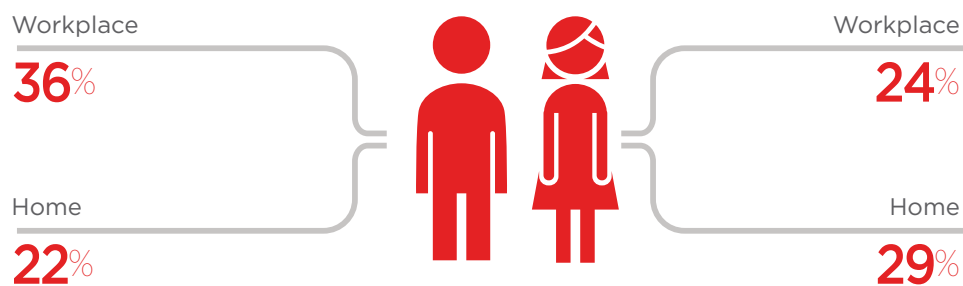
25%

Home



## Who experiences discrimination?

**Male** respondents who had been discriminated against were far more likely **[36%]** than their female counterparts **[24%]** to have experienced this **discrimination at the workplace**. **Female** respondents were more likely **[29%]** than their male counterparts **[22%]** to have experienced discrimination **at home**.



27%

## Reasons for discrimination

Respondents were asked to speculate why they thought the discrimination had taken place. Almost half **[45%]** of those who had experienced discrimination cited their **race** as the main reason for that discrimination, while a further quarter **[27%]** cited their **language** as being the factor behind the discrimination.



45%

# SEX AND SEXUALITY

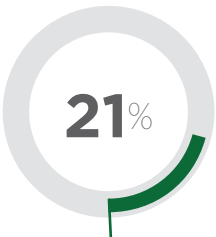
Respondents were asked about their level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:

SA/A/D/SD

Do you strongly agree/agree/disagree/strongly disagree with the following statements:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Women are just as capable as men to be the head of a company
<input type="checkbox"/>	A married woman is allowed to refuse to have sex with her husband
<input type="checkbox"/>	The primary role for caring for children should fall upon women
<input type="checkbox"/>	A man is justified in hitting or beating his partner if she annoys him

*Women are just as capable as men to be the head of a company*

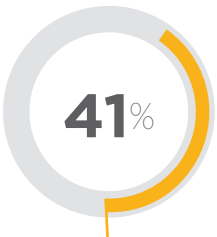


Disagreed/strongly disagreed

One in five **[21%]** respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement that women are just as capable as men to be the head of a company. Male **[23%]** and female **[20%]** respondents were similarly likely to disagree with the statement.

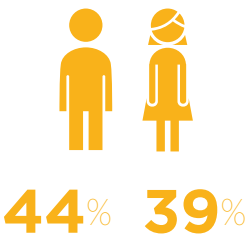


*A married woman is allowed to refuse to have sex with her husband*



Disagreed/strongly disagreed

In response to the statement that married women are allowed to refuse to have sex with their husbands, a worrying two fifths **[41%]** of all respondents disagreed with this statement. Again the differences between male **[44%]** and female **[39%]** were not that stark.

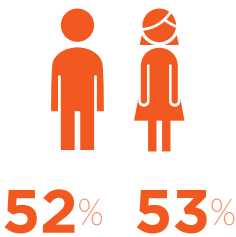


*The primary role for caring for children should fall upon women*



Disagreed/strongly disagreed

Although the majority **[53%]** of respondents disagreed that the primary role of caring for children should fall upon women, there was little difference between the proportion of men **[52%]** and women **[53%]** disagreeing on this.



*A man is justified in hitting his partner if she annoys him*



Disagreed/strongly disagreed

While the vast majority **[84%]** of respondents did not think that a man is justified in hitting or beating his partner if she annoys him, there are still approximately one in six **[16%]** South African adults who think that a man is justified.





Respondents were asked about their level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:

SA/A/D/SD

Do you strongly agree/agree/disagree/strongly disagree with the following statements:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | People in South Africa are free to choose and express their sexual orientation without fear or judgement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Being gay or lesbian is against the values of my community   |

## Freedom to choose and express sexual orientation without fear or judgement

Two thirds **[68%]** of all respondents **agreed** or **strongly agreed** that people in South Africa are free to choose and express their sexual orientation without fear or judgement. There were no significant differences across different sexes, races or age cohorts.



## Being gay or lesbian is against the values of my community

Almost three quarters **[74%]** of respondents **disagreed** or **strongly disagreed** that being gay or lesbian was against the values of their community. This finding was consistent across race, sex, the different age cohorts, as well as the different dwelling and geographic types.



# SOCIAL COHESION AND THE NOTION OF 'OTHERS'

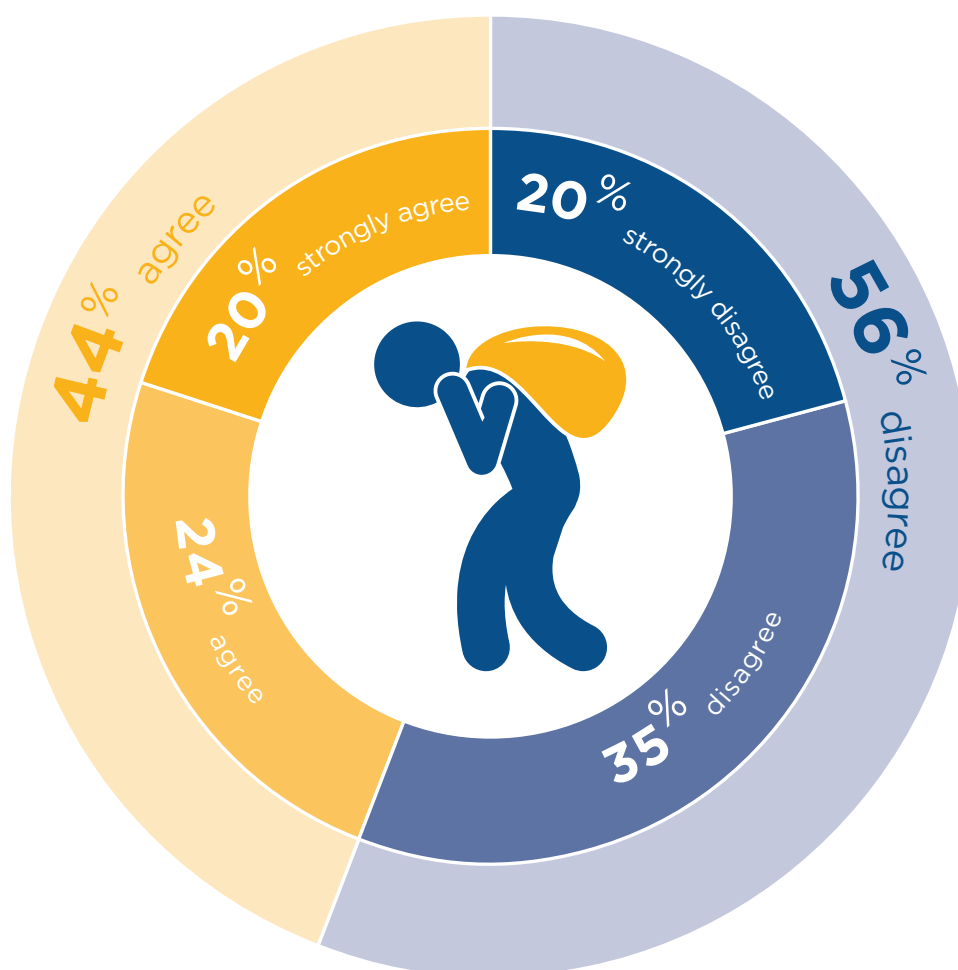
## Xenophobia

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed that

“Foreigners should not be allowed to live in South Africa because they take jobs and benefits away from South Africans”.

One in five adults in South Africa either **strongly agreed** [20%] or **strongly disagreed** [21%] with the statement.

A further third [35%] **disagreed** while the remaining quarter [24%] **agreed**.



This means that the majority [56%] **disagreed** but a significant proportion [44%] **agreed** that **foreigners should not be allowed to live in South Africa**.



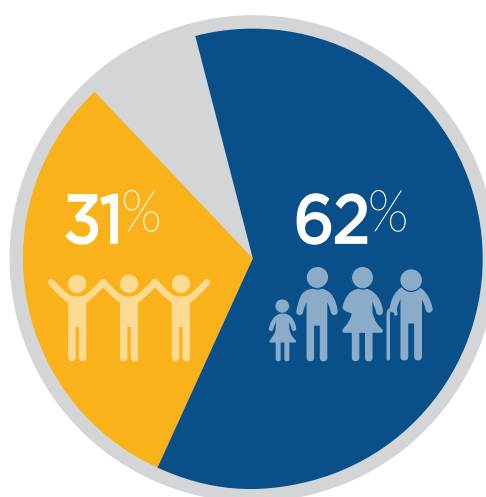
# Levels of trust

Respondents were asked to what extent they trusted the following groups of people:

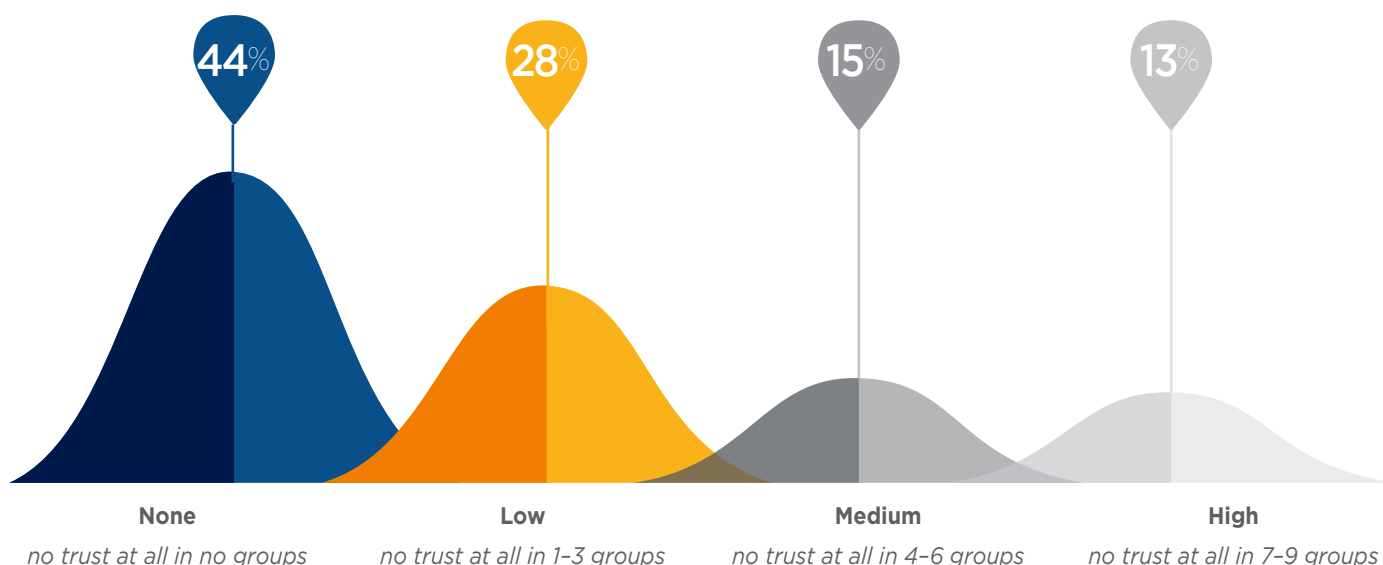
Relatives; neighbours; people from a different race; people with a different language; people with a different religion; people with a different political affiliation; people with a different sexual orientation; people from other African countries who live here; and people from other non-African countries who live here.

As one would expect, the highest levels of trust were shown for one's **relatives** and one's **neighbours**.

Three fifths [62%] of respondents **completely trusted** their **relatives**, while a third [31%] **completely trusted** their **neighbours**.



As a proxy for social cohesion, an overall level of distrust of others was calculated by focusing on **the number of groups in which the respondent had no trust at all**. More than two fifths [44%] of all adults in South Africa did not cite any group in which they had **no trust** at all. A quarter [28%] had no trust at all in **1 to 3 groups**, while similar proportions either had no trust at all in **4 to 6 groups** [15%] or showed high levels of distrust with no trust at all in **7 to 9 groups** [13%].



# APPENDIX:

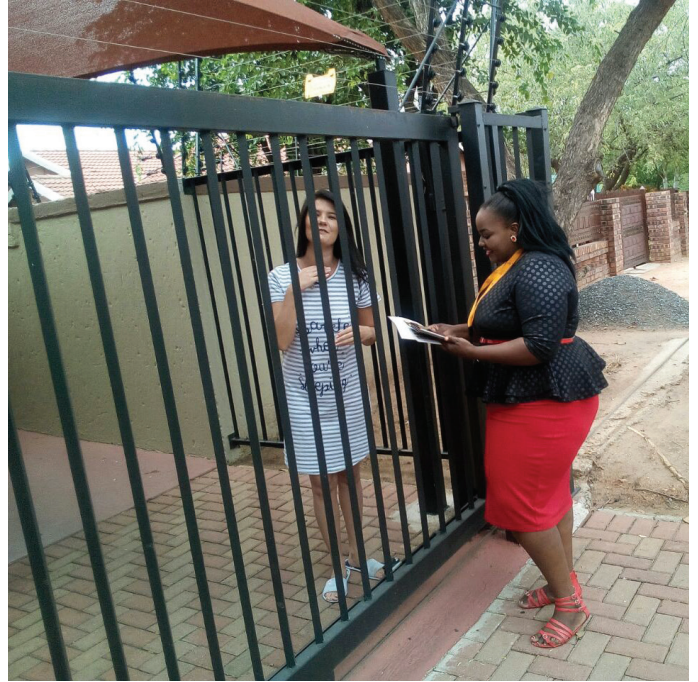
# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

## General

Bill of Rights	Chapter 2 of the Constitution defines the human rights, political and socio-economic, of all who live in South Africa.
Constitution	The overall framework of laws establishing the powers, mechanisms and relationships between public institutions of South Africa: national, regional and local government; government administration, the judiciary, and Parliament, and other public institutions such as the Chapter 9 institutions, listed below.
Chapter 9 institutions	Six independent state institutions established by the Constitution to monitor and safeguard democracy (See below).
Democracy	A system of government that equally represents the rights and interests of all citizens and allows all to participate equally. 'Of the people, for the people, and by the people.'
Department of Justice and Constitutional Department (DoJ & CD)	The government department responsible for the administration of justice by upholding constitutional values
Discrimination	Being treated in a way that infringes or reduces one's personal rights, security or dignity.
Equality before the law	The idea that laws should affect all people equally, and that all should have equal access to legal institutions and processes and have their dignity respected.
Freedom of expression	The right to hold and share opinions, and express personal tastes, and to seek and receive information, without undue interference in a democracy with freedom of the press.
Human rights	Rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status, including the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and others.
Lived poverty index	The lived poverty index was developed to create a composite index of poverty. Respondents were asked a series of questions about how frequently their household goes without basic necessities during the course of a year.
National Prosecuting Authority (NPA)	The prosecuting authority responsible for ensuring justice for victims of crime by prosecuting without fear, favour and prejudice.
Statistics South Africa (StatsSA)	Government department responsible for ascertaining and maintaining national statistics in South Africa.
Xenophobia	Hatred of those perceived to be different or foreign.

## Chapter 9 institutions

Auditor-General (AG)	Reports on the proper use and management of public finances.
Commission for Gender Equality (CGE)	Aims to advance gender equality in South Africa through research, public education and policy.
Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Rights Commission)	Aims to promote and protect the cultural, religious and linguistic rights of all South African communities.
Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)	Organises and monitors free and fair elections of public officials.
Public Protector	A body empowered to investigate and act against corruption and maladministration by government departments or officials.
SA Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)	Promotes and monitors the attainment of human rights in South Africa.



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