

STANDARD OF LIVING

EMPLOYMENT

Being employed and able to earn a living is essential for people to experience satisfaction with their quality of life. The survey showed that unemployment is a matter of great concern for the citizens of Durban, as 42% of the workforce were unable to find work in 2004. The way that unemployment impacts on the society as a whole can be seen throughout this report.



EDUCATION: EVERYBODY NEEDS IT

In order to get jobs, especially well-paid professional jobs, people need to be well educated.

3.3 % of the population has a University degree

28.2% of the population has a Matric Certificate

17.9 % of the population has a Grade 10 or Grade 11 education.

This means that very few people have the education to be employed in well-paid skilled jobs.

WHY ARE SO MANY PEOPLE UNEMPLOYED?

THIS IS WHAT PEOPLE THINK:

- Many people are coming into the city from the rural areas looking for work.
- People say that the big problem is that there are not that many jobs available.
- Unskilled and semi-skilled labourers as well as higher skilled persons can't get work because big bosses are cutting costs.
- The rate of economic growth with job creation is not fast enough.
- People have not had the training and experience necessary to be able to offer themselves in the workplace with confidence.
- Many unemployed people do not have easy access to telephones, facsimiles and transport.
- Household duties take up time so that there is no time to look for work

GENDER ISSUES IN THE WORK PLACE

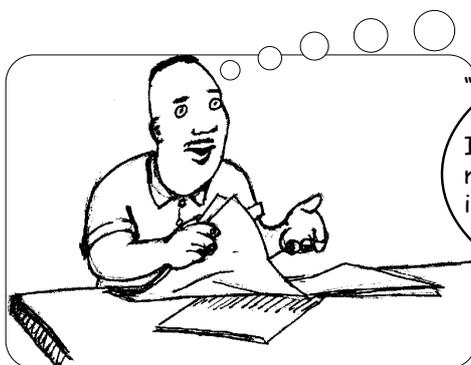
When looking at job equity a high percentage of eThekweni residents do not believe that men and women have the equal work opportunities.

In 2003 53.4% felt that women and men do not have the same work opportunities
 In 2004 66.8 % felt that women and men do not have the same work opportunities
 This shows that there is still gender prejudice in the field of employment in eThekweni.
 It was interesting to note that men and women responded to the issue differently.
 70.6% of women believe that women and men do not have equal work opportunities
 60.6 % of men agree.



"Not many people come to the Department of Labour when they are looking for jobs. They rely on their communities to help them. We need to make more people aware that we are here to help them find jobs..."

"I wait on the side of the road and hope that someone will pick me up and give me work, even if it is just for today. I don't mind doing anything...gardening, mixing concrete, carrying furniture, anything.
 Then I can buy food for my family..."

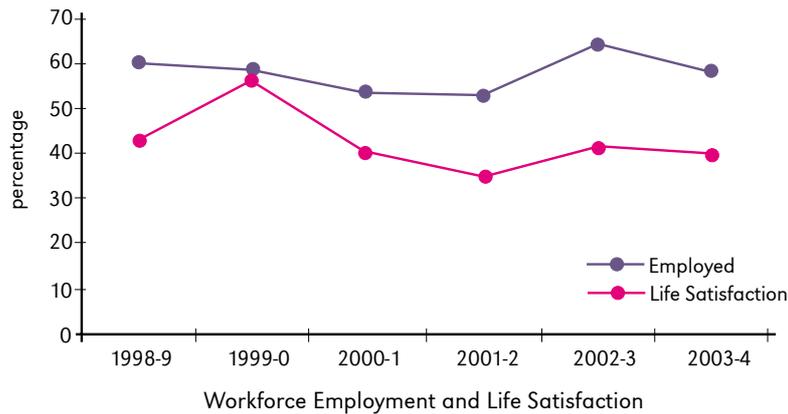


"I haven't worked for more than five years. I keep on looking for jobs, I ask my family and friends to tell me if they hear of anything. I also look in the newspapers...."



ARE YOU HAPPY AT WORK?

White	Asian	Coloured	African
92%	80.2 %	50.5 %	41.5 %

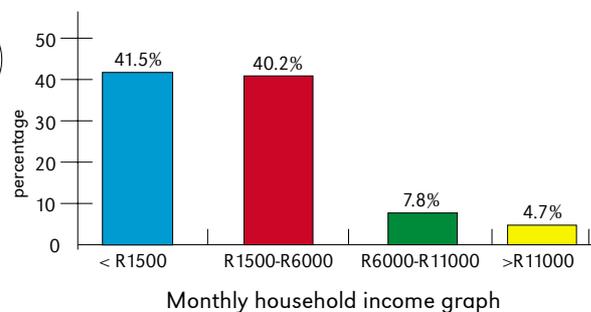


This chart shows a strong relationship between life satisfaction and employment levels. As more people work so are more people satisfied with life and if unemployment increases there will be more people who are not satisfied with life.

INCOME

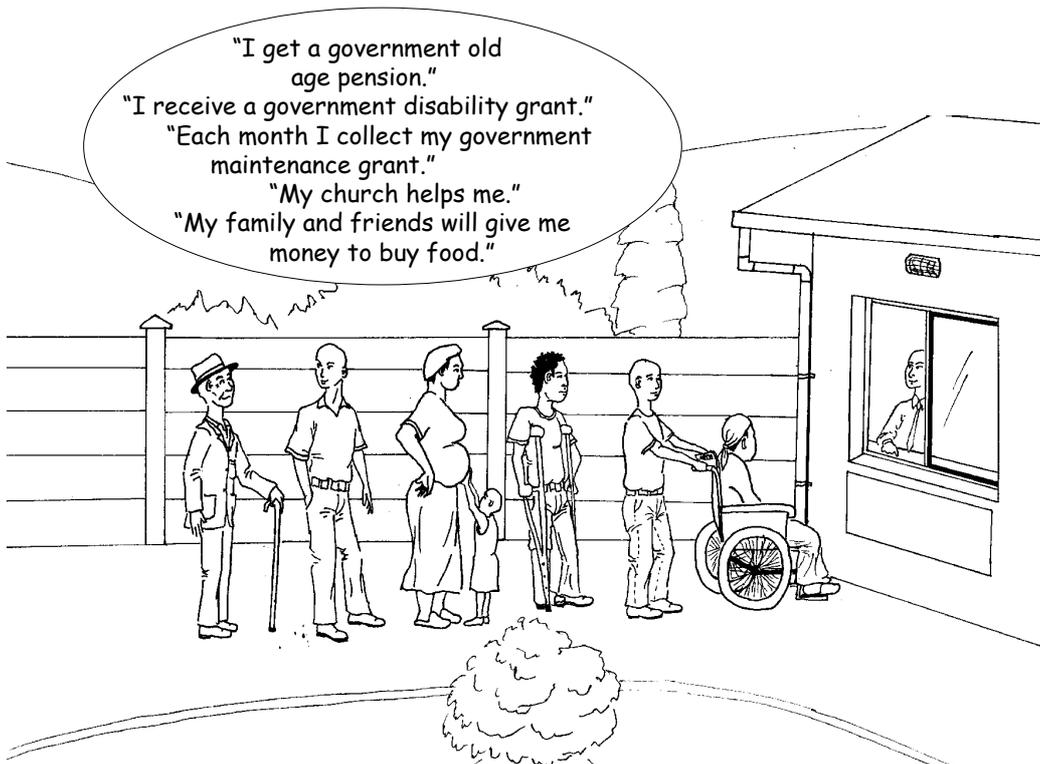
HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Having a job and enough money to support their families makes a big difference to the way people feel about the quality of their lives. As Durban residents have indicated that their family life is of vital importance to their happiness, we can safely say that it causes a great deal of distress when residents are unable to provide for the people they love and for whom they are responsible.



INCOME ASSISTANCE

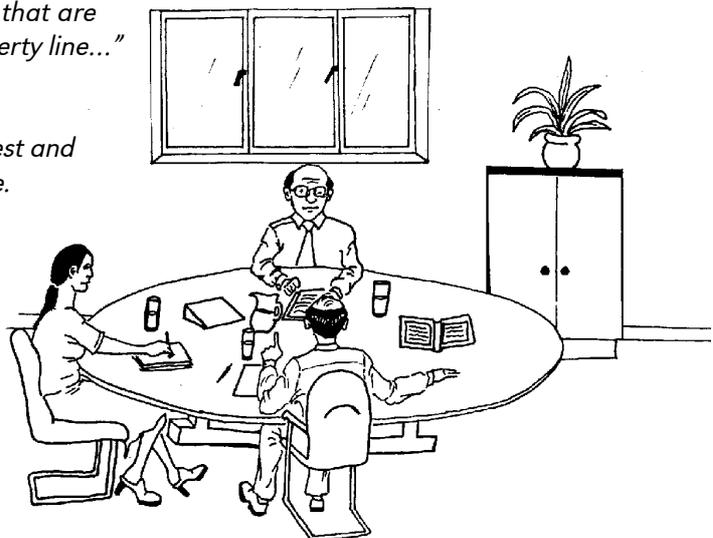
Many households receive income assistance.



1) "A family of four needs at least R1 500 a month to survive. Although there are less people receiving no income at all and there has been a slight increase in people getting between R1 500 and R6 000, there has been no change in the number of households that are really poor or which live below the poverty line..."

2) "The income gap between the poorest and the richest households is still very wide. Most households do not enjoy a high level of quality of life as far as finances go..."

3) "60.7% of the population lives on less than R427 each per month. So we have a lot of very poor people in eThekweni..."



HOUSING

Safety and affordability are the two most important factors when considering satisfaction with housing.

Ownership of a dwelling makes people feel secure and brings a sense of pride to the home.

- People who are satisfied with their homes say that they feel comfortable and safe and that they are able to afford the homes they live in.
- Those who are dissatisfied with their homes feel that they are too small for the number of people living in them; their houses require renovation or were badly built in the first place and are in constant need of repair.

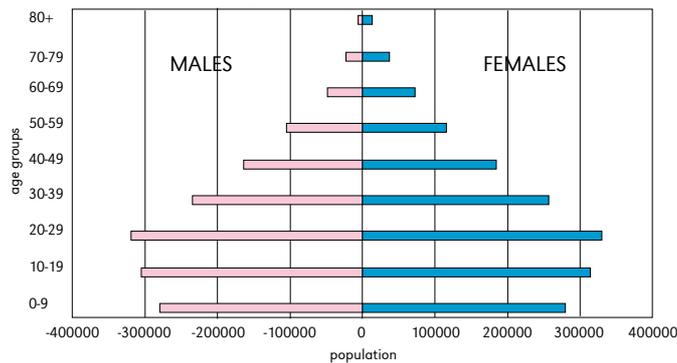
HOUSEHOLD SIZE

QUESTION: What makes a household?

eThekweni Quality of Life Survey defines a household as :

"A household is made up of all those people who have their home at a certain dwelling. They contribute to and share what they have and eat together when they are at home."

eThekweni is made up of 53.1 % females and 46.9 % males.

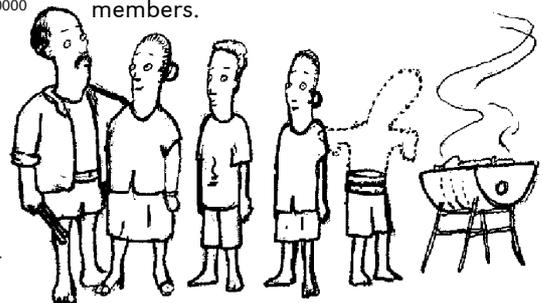


Most households are made up of less than 6 members

The average household is made up of 4.5 members

- 59% of households have 4 or less members
- 34.1% of households have between 5 and 8 members.
- 6.9% of households have more than 9 members.

We can see that those households that have many people and very little money are struggling to make ends meet. These kinds of households are generally found in the informal housing settlements. 98% of those living in such conditions are black.



"There are sometimes 15 people in two rooms. We sleep on mattresses or mats on the floor. When family or clan members come from the farm looking for work they come to us to help them find a place to stay. We are used to it..."
 "Cato Manor resident"

HOUSING SATISFACTION

If we look at the difference in satisfaction as far as housing is concerned we can see that more households are happy with their homes now than two years ago. Households that are satisfied give the following reasons:

- Home ownership
- Comfort
- Safety and security
- Affordability

However, these days there are far more people living in informal settlements than before and these households are not at all satisfied. When people come from the rural areas to the city to look for work, they find it hard to find work and they need somewhere to stay while they are searching. They move in with friends or relatives living in informal dwellings, which are small and crowded. It is mainly black people who live in the informal settlements.

ACCESS TO HOUSEHOLD ASSETS WHO'S GOT WHAT?

TV	77.1 %
radio	73.7%
fridge	73.5 %
stove	65.8 %
phone	63.8 %
piped hot water	53.8 %
washing machine	50.2%
telephone (land-line)	49.1%
computer	41.1 %
car	36.6 %

yah my sis...people likes to jabber. Jus' check how many peeps have cell phones these days! But you won't catch me making a nest in one of those funny plastic trees....!"



Not all households have these assets. Just looking at the TV and the car let us see which race groups have the highest ownership

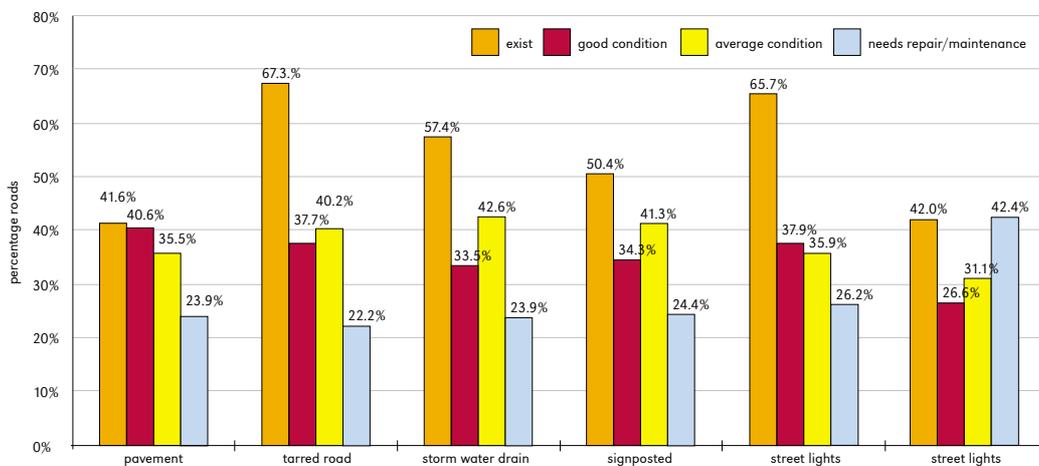
TV	Black 66%	Car	Black 13%
	Asian 92%		Asian 57%
	Coloured 74%		Coloured 37%
	White 94%		White 82%.

TRANSPORT ON THE ROAD

Residents were asked to state their satisfaction with the roads nearest to their houses. The aspects of roads that were looked at included:

- Tarred roads
- Storm water drains
- Pavements
- Street lights
- Signposts
- Grass verges

Residents were also questioned on the condition of these aspects. The following graph gives the results:



Existence and condition of Road Features

Generally residents said that roads were or average to good condition.

More than 60% of the roads are tarred although 22% of them need maintenance.

65% of the roads had street lights with a third of that requiring attention

Only 41 % of the roads have pavements

Grass verges were a matter of concern as not only do only 42,05 % of road have grass verges but, according to the survey 42.05 % of verges are in need of attention!



GETTING AROUND DURBAN

For the many people who do not own a car, and who live too far from their work to walk all the way, public transport is the only means of getting around. Trains, metro buses, private bus and mini- bus taxis are used, with a number of people using a combination to get to and from their places of work.



"I get up at 4am and wash my body, then I walk to the bus stop which takes fifteen minutes from my home. I take one bus to Berea Station then I catch a (mini) taxi to near where I work, then I walk ten minutes. It is the same on the way back and I get home at 5.30 pm. In winter it is already dark. At Inanda bus stop there are often thieves and I have to carry my money on my body." Inanda resident



"I never use Public Transport. It is really difficult to get around Durban unless you have a car because the Public Transport is so inefficient. It is also unsafe, with the mini-bus drivers being wild and the mini-buses are often in shocking condition. You take your life into your hands when you travel on those things..." Seaview Resident



"Every time the price of petrol goes up, the fares go up. It costs me R18 a day to get to work, which is a quarter of my daily wage. The taxi driver will not leave until the taxi is full and sometimes I wait for half an hour to get on the road..." Clermont resident

Most of the people who rely on public transport travel by mini bus taxi because they are convenient and go to almost all the places in the eThekweni area. 77.5 % of the people who use public transport travel by mini-bus taxi with 56.6 % of the users feeling satisfied. The downside is



"I finish work late as I work at a restaurant in a hotel down town. There are no taxis after 7 pm. I often have to stay at my place of work until early morning to be able to get home...." Newlands East resident

that Mini bus taxis are often in bad condition and some are driven at great speed. There is a 50 % satisfaction with Metro and private buses.

The fastest means of public transport with respect to time taken to get to work appears to be by train. However, only 15.3% of public transport users are making use of the train services. There is a reasonably high level of satisfaction, with 66.1% satisfied.

Those using trains are likely to be people who live close to the railway stations and who get off at stations not too far from their place of work. For most people trains are not viable due to the stations being out of the way and the infrequency of the trains.