



Western Cape  
Government

FOR **YOU**



**#KnowYourMunicipality: The 2023 Socio-Economic Profile  
Prince Albert Municipality**



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# Prince Albert: At a Glance

## Demographics

Census, 2022; Actual households, 2022



Population  
**17 836**



Households  
**4 760**

## Education

2022



Matric Pass Rate **94.4%**  
Learner Retention Rate **68.4%**  
Learner-Teacher Ratio **31.9**

## Poverty

2021



Gini Coefficient **0.58**  
Poverty Head Count Ratio (UBPL) **67.0%**

## Health

2022/23



Primary Health  
Care Facilities

**2**

(excl. mobile/satellite  
clinics)

Immunisation  
Rate

**113.8%**

Maternal Mortality Ratio  
(per 100 000 live births)

**0.0**

Teenage Pregnancies –  
Delivery rate to women  
U/19

**15.4%**

## Safety and Security

Actual number of reported cases in 2022/23



Residential  
Burglaries

**84**

DUI

**31**

Drug-related  
Crimes

**97**

Murder

**2**

Sexual Offences

**17**

## Access to Basic Service Delivery

Percentage of households with access to basic services, 2021

Water

**88.3%**



Refuse Removal

**90.4%**



Electricity

**97.0%**



Sanitation

**96.7%**



Housing

**98.1%**



## Labour

2021

Unemployment Rate  
(narrow definition)

**20.8%**



## Socio-economic Risks

Risk 1 Job losses  
Risk 2 Low learner retention  
Risk 3 Low skills base (Labour)

## Largest 3 Sectors

Contribution to GDP, 2021

Agriculture

**19.3%**



General Government

**20.9%**



Community and Social Services

**21.3%**



# INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

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

The information contained in this profile highlights information for the Prince Albert Municipality in relation to the broader Central Karoo District

# DEMOGRAPHICS

Population 17 836 2022



Number of households



4 760 2023

Estimated Population

19 048

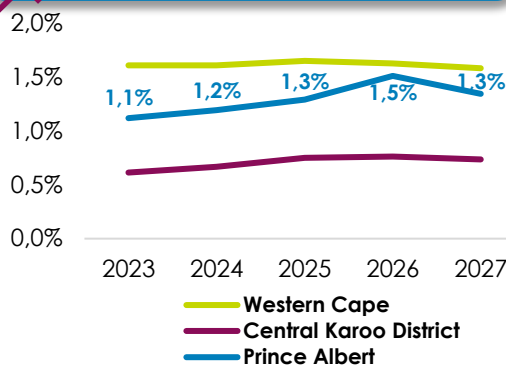
2027

Estimated  
Average Annual  
Population  
Growth Rate  
2023 - 2027

1.3%



Estimated Population Growth



## Gender and Age Dynamics



Female  
52.0%

Male  
48.0%

374 2023

372 2024

Fertility Index

54.2 2022

56.9 2023

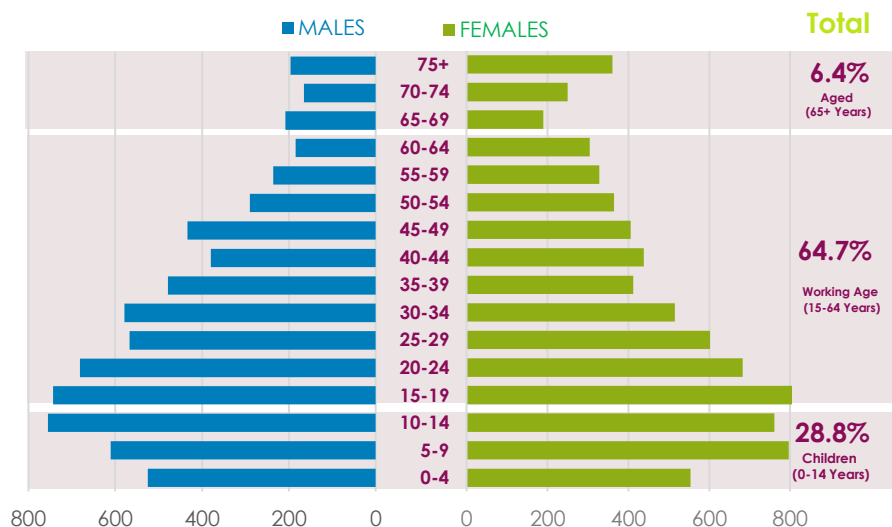
Dependency Ratio

35.4 2023

36.5 2024

Ageing Index

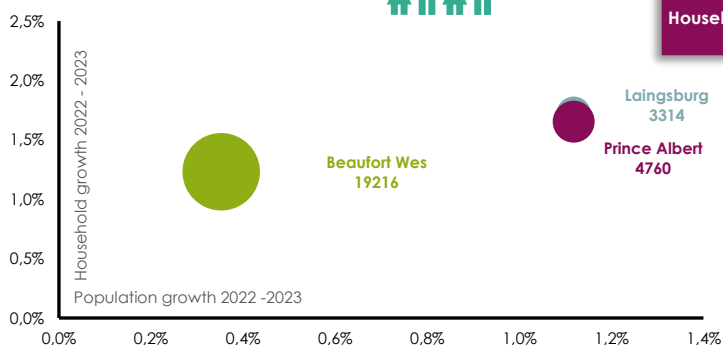
## Population by Age 2022



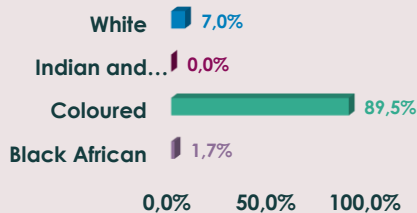
## Population and Household Growth 2022



3.7  
Household Size



## Racial Split



## Level of Urbanisation 2021



1.8  
people/km²

2023

1.9  
people/km²

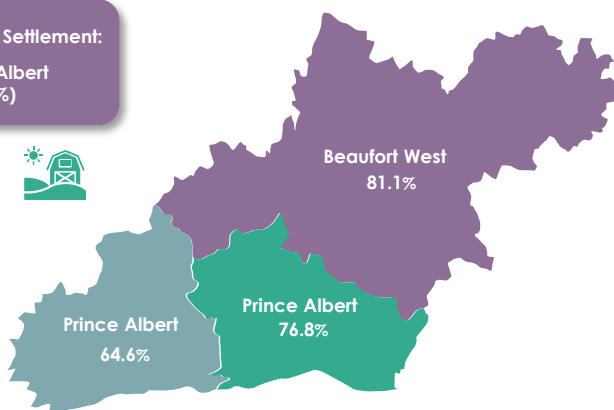
2024

1.9  
people/km²

2023

Largest Urban Settlement:  
Prince Albert  
(51%)

Urban/Rural change:  
Largest increase in  
Klaarstroom (6.2%) &  
decrease in rural  
area (6.9%)  
Density change:  
Highest & Largest  
increase in  
Bitterwater



## Population and Household Growth

At first glance, the expanse of the Prince Albert municipal area is a vast and arid landscape, its sweeping horizons stretching far and wide. Closer inspection, however, shows the area to be home to lucerne fields, olive groves, almond trees, peach orchards and grapevines. In fact, farming is the lifeblood of Prince Albert, imbuing the open expanses with vitality and purpose. The town of Prince Albert, nestled among the foothills of the Swartberg mountains, is the epicentre of economic activity in this municipal area.

Prince Albert municipal area with an estimated population of 17 836 as per the latest Census 2022 data is estimated to have grown by 3.1 per cent between 2011 and 2022. The municipal area is estimated to have relatively rapid population growth rate and is forecast to grow by an average annual rate of 1.3 per cent between 2022 and 2027, above the district forecasted growth of 0.7 per cent. However, these increases are from a small base. Notably, household numbers have also shown an upward trend when compared to the figures recorded in 2011. Despite the growth in population and households, it's noteworthy that the household size has remained consistent between the Census figures of 2011 and 2022. This implies that while there is an increase in the number of households, the average size of each household has not undergone significant changes over this period.

## Gender, Age and Race Dynamics

The infographic provides an overview of the municipal area's population distribution across different age groups, presented as a dependency ratio, indicating the workforce (ages 15-64) versus dependents (children and seniors). Demographic insights are vital for economic planning, highlighting potential challenges in resource allocation and social welfare programs.

A thorough examination of the demographic structure within the municipal area highlights that a substantial 64.7 per cent of the population falls within the economically active age group, spanning from 15 to 64 years. The second-largest demographic segment is constituted by children, accounting for 28.8 per cent of the population, while the aged, those above 65, make up a modest 6.4 per cent of the total population.

The population structure reveals a notable improvement in the dependency ratio, which stands at 54.2 per cent in 2022. This marks a positive shift from the 2011 dependency ratio of 56.2 per cent. The improvement in the dependency ratio is attributed to the growth observed in the working-age cohort, coupled with a decline in both the children and aged segments within the municipal area during 2022. This demographic trend signifies a positive trajectory in terms of the Municipality's evolving age distribution, signaling a potential boost in the productivity and economic contributions of the working-age population.

Understanding of the racial demographics is vital for formulating targeted policies, fostering social cohesion, and addressing disparities, ensuring a more equitable and inclusive economic development trajectory in the region. The racial split within the Prince Albert municipal area echoes that the population is predominately Coloured; the coloured racial group accounted for almost 90 per cent of the population. This is followed by the white racial group at 7.0 per cent and Black Africans accounted only for 1.7 per cent; while Indians and other represent zero per cent of the population.



## The Human Sex ratio (SR)

The human sex ratio indicates a lower male to female ratio; with males accounting for 48.0 per cent of the population versus females at 52.0 per cent resulting in a sex ratio of 92.3 males per 100 females in 2022. There has been a consistent decrease in the sex ratio within the Prince Albert municipal area; this ratio decreased from a more equitable distribution of both males and females at 97.8 males per 100 females in 2011. The sex ratios in all three municipalities in the Central Karoo region have shown a decline. A lower sex ratio can be influenced by various factors such as migration patterns, socioeconomic conditions, or specific demographics within the population.

## Level of Urbanisation

The Prince Albert municipal area is the second largest in the District in terms of population. Urbanisation is estimated to have increased from 69.9 per cent in 2001 to 76.8 per cent in 2021 (a rise of 6.9 percentage points). Notably, urban areas experienced considerably more population growth than rural areas. The town of Prince Albert accommodates approximately half the municipal population (51.5 per cent). The shift towards urbanisation in this municipal area can be attributed to growth in the urban population shares in Bitterwater, Leeu-Gamka and Klaarstroom.

## Population density

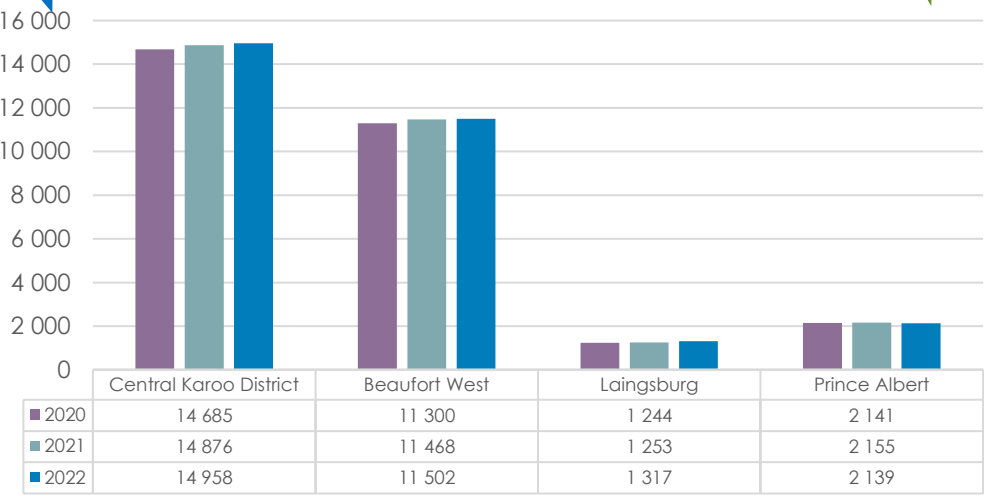
Amidst rapid urbanisation across the Western Cape, population density figures will aid public sector decision makers to mitigate environmental, individual health and service delivery risks. The Prince Albert municipal area covers an area of 8,153 square kilometres. The municipal area is sparsely populated, with a population density of only 1.8 person per square kilometre.

- Prince Albert 1.8 people/ km<sup>2</sup>
- Laingsburg 1.1 people/ km<sup>2</sup>
- Beaufort West 2.4 people/km<sup>2</sup>
- Central Karoo District 2 people/km<sup>2</sup>

# EDUCATION



## Learner enrolment



■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022



## Educational facilities 2022

4

Number of schools

100%

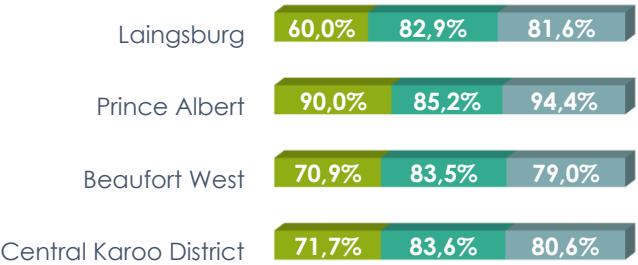
Proportion of no-fee schools

Number of schools with libraries

4



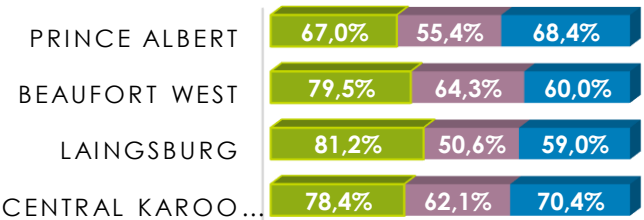
## Education outcomes



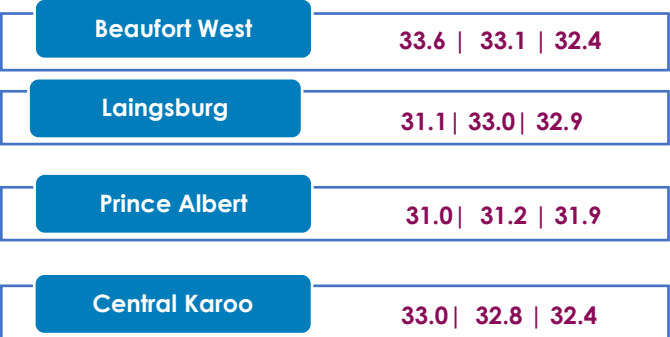
■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022

## Learner retention 2020 - 2022

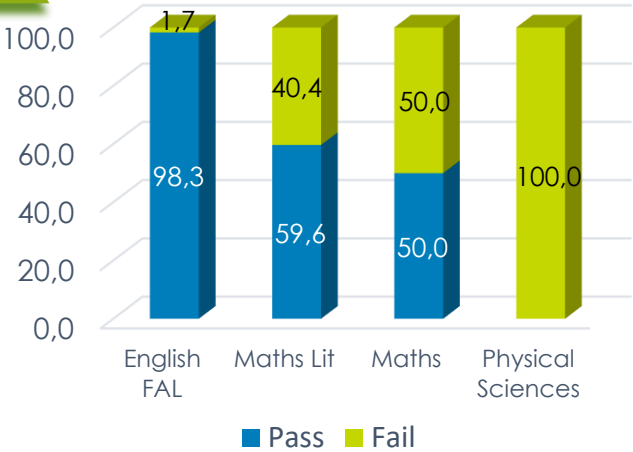
■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022



## Learner-Teacher Ratio 2020- 2022



## Subject Outcomes





Education is on one of the primary resources of change, its role is to help people acquire knowledge and skills, which can, in turn be used to acquire jobs. Education indicators include learner enrolment, learner retention, teacher ratios and matric pass rates, etc. These indicators provide important information for policy formation and evaluation and are used in funding formulas to distribute public funds to the education sector.

## **Learner enrolment and Educational facilities.**

A total of 2 155 learners were enrolled in 2021 in the municipal area; this number increased to 2 139 in 2022 reflecting an increase in enrolment of 0.7 per cent between 2021 and 2022. These learners were enrolled in the 4 public schools. Entirely all the four schools are categorized as no fee school as per the education policy, implying that these schools have the right not to charge school fees. All 4 public schools in the area have library facilities; school libraries can help students to find and use information and serves as a storehouse of information related to textbooks and beyond.

## **Learner teacher ratio**

Learner teacher ratios are indicative of the capacity of schools to accommodate more learners. Learner-teacher ratio upper limits of 40:1 in ordinary primary schools and 35:1 in ordinary high schools are set by the Department of Education. Low learner-teacher ratios are associated with more interaction between teachers and learners which could contribute to better quality education. According to the 2021 Schools Realities Publications, the learner teacher ratio is high for government only paid teachers meaning that teachers paid by government are faced with larger numbers of learners per teacher.

The learner teacher ratio recorded an increase with almost 32 learners per teacher in 2022; indicative of increases in learner enrolments in the municipal area.

## **Learner Retention**

The learner retention rate measures the proportion of learners in Grade 12 who were in Grade 10 two years prior. Learner retention rates were severely affected by the impact of COVID-19 in 2020 when learner retention rates dropping from 67.0 per cent to 55.4 per cent as learners did not return to the schooling system after COVID-19. In 2022, Prince Albert municipal area showed an improvement in learner retention rates with 68.4 per cent of the learners retained in the education system.

Despite the recovery, almost 30 per cent of learners did not successfully complete their studies or were not retained in the education system. These learners leave the schooling system without the necessary skills to adequately contribute to the economy. Learner drop-out rates have implications for other social ills such as teenage pregnancies and drug use. Measures to address school drop-out rates can include expanding learner opportunities in technical and vocational streams, implementing early intervention that motivates learners to stay at school and increased support to learners at risk of dropping out, implementing behavioral programmes and psychological support to learners.

## **Education outcomes (Matric Pass Rates) and subject outcomes**

Education remains one of the key avenues through which the state is involved in the economy. The Prince Albert area experienced fluctuations in education outcomes, recording a decline of 4.8 percentage points between 2020 and 2021, then reached a peak of 94.4 per cent in 2022. This number should be read in conjunction with the learner retention rates; as a large number of students dropped out of the education system which will have an impact on the future prospect of finding jobs, which will further worsen the youth unemployment rate.

Unfavourable outcomes have been recorded for Physical Science with 100 per cent fail, on the other hand, Mathematics pass rate and Mathematics literacy pass rates were recorded lower at 50 per cent and 59.6 per cent, respectively.

In the relation to educational achievement, there has been a regression between 2011 and 2022 among individuals with higher education. Merely 6.4 percent of the population currently possesses a higher education qualification, indicating a decline in this crucial aspect. On the contrary, there has been a noteworthy improvement in the segment of the population aged 20 and above who have no formal schooling. This figure has decreased from 9.1 percent in 2011 to a mere 5.0 percent in 2022, signifying a positive trend towards increased access to education for a broader demographic.



Healthcare Facilities



2 Fixed PHC  
Facilities  
3 Mobile  
Clinics



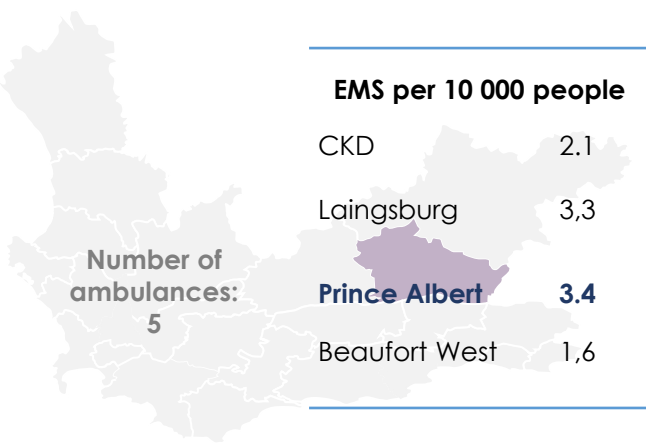
3 ART Clinics/  
Treatment  
Sites  
3 TB Clinics/  
Treatment  
Sites



1 District  
Hospital



Emergency  
Medical Services



Maternal Health

PRINCE ALBERT  
2023:  
Maternal Health  
Indicators

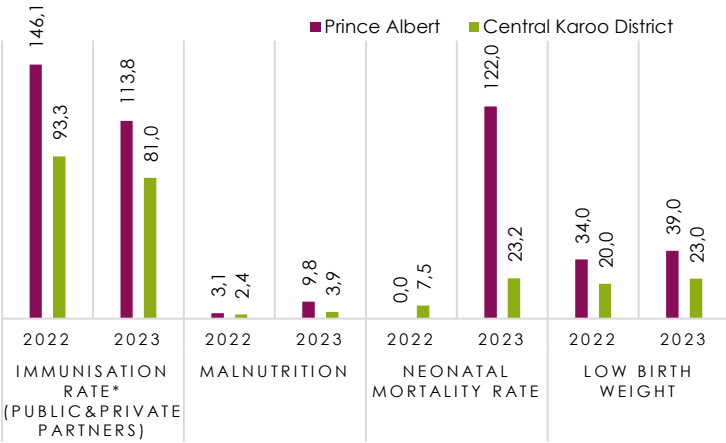
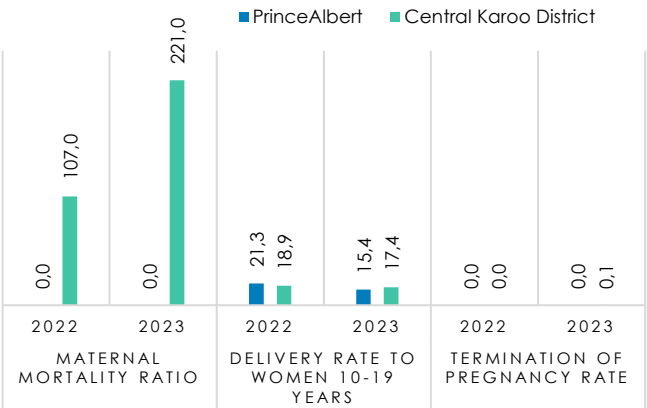
- Maternal deaths in facility : 0
- Deliveries in facility u19 years : 6
- Termination of pregnancy : 0



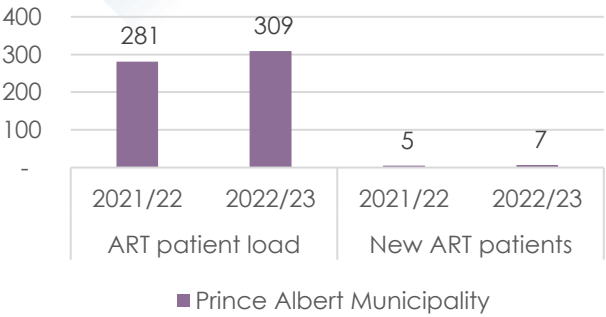
Child Health

PRINCE  
ALBERT 2023:  
Child Health  
Indicators

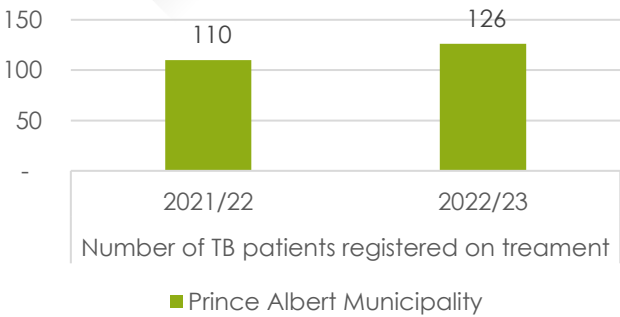
- Live births under 2500g (low birth weight) : 16
- Inpatient deaths 6-28 day : 5
- Immunisation u1 year : 165
- Severe acute malnutrition u5 years : 9



HIV/AIDS



Tuberculosis



Understanding the indicators related to health care access, facilities, emergency services, child and maternal health provides valuable insights into the population's overall wellbeing. By assessing factors such as infant mortality rates and maternal healthcare access, we can gauge the progress in promoting the health and welfare of mothers and children within the region

## Healthcare facilities and Emergency medical services

In 2022, the Prince Albert area was equipped with a total of 2 primary healthcare facilities, 1 regional hospital, and 3 mobile/satellite clinics. Additionally, there were 3 Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) treatment sites and 3 Tuberculosis (TB) clinics, reflecting a comprehensive healthcare infrastructure within the region.

To ensure prompt emergency response and medical assistance, the area was served by 5 ambulances. It is important to note that this translates to 3.4 ambulances per 10 000 people in 2022. This figure specifically pertains to Provincial ambulances and does not account for any services provided by private ambulance providers. However, it's important to assess whether this ratio meets the demand for emergency services and whether there are any geographical or logistical considerations that might impact response times.

## Maternal health

In 2022/23, the Prince Albert municipal area recorded zero deaths at the maternal facility, which translates the maternal ratio of 0.0 per 100 000 deaths compared to the Central Karoo District rate of 221 maternal deaths per 100 000 population.

Teenage pregnancies and subsequent childbirth have been identified as prominent factors contributing to high school drop-out rates among teenage girls. It is imperative to implement interventions aimed at mitigating these issues, with a particular focus on comprehensive family planning initiatives.

In the Prince Albert area, the incidence of teenage pregnancies, defined as the proportion of births to women under 19 years old, stands at 15.4 percent. Although this rate is a matter of concern, it is noteworthy that it is comparatively lower than the average in the Central Karoo District, which is recorded at 17.4 per cent. Continued attention and improvement are essential to curb teenage pregnancies in the area.

Termination of pregnancies associated with unplanned pregnancies is recorded at 0 percent. This indicates that there has been no increase in the termination rate during the reporting period for the municipal area. While this statistic remains unchanged at zero, it emphasises the need for sustained efforts in preventing unplanned pregnancies and underlines the importance of ongoing support and education in this regard.

## Child health

There has been a positive improvement in the immunisation coverage rate for children under the age of one in the municipal area. In the 2022/23 period, the coverage rate decreased to 113.8 per cent from the previous year's rate of 146.1 per cent. Despite this decline, it is noteworthy that the municipal area's immunisation coverage rate remains higher than the Central Karoo District average, which stood at 81.0 percent in 2022. Interestingly, although the municipal area has made strides in enhancing immunisation coverage, the broader Central Karoo District has experienced a decline in its average compared to the preceding year. This highlights the need for continued efforts and targeted interventions to sustain and improve immunisation rates at the district level.

According to World Health Organization child growth is intentionally recognised as an important indicator of nutritional status and health in population. A rise in malnourished children under the age of five years (severe acute malnutrition) is observed from 3.1 per 100 000 population in 2021/22 to 9.8 per 100 000 population in 2022/23.

The Central Karoo District rate also increased from 2.4 per 100 000 population to 3.9 per 100 000 population during the same period. It has been indicated that infants suffer malnutrition because mothers do not breast feed them; this may be the case with mothers who are HIV positive.

The neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1 000 live births before 28 days of life) rose to 122.0 deaths per 1 000 live births between 2021/22 to 2022/23, however, an analysis of the actual numbers reflects 5 reported inpatient deaths between 6 -28 days in the municipal area. Effective interventions such as improved care around the time of birth and vaccination remains critical. In terms of data availability, updated quality and disaggregated data which allow the most vulnerable children to be identified are critical to achieving the goal of ending preventable deaths of children.

In addition, the number of all babies born in health facility that weighed less than 2 500 grams also increased by 14.7 per cent during the reporting period indicating possible challenges with long-term maternal malnutrition and poor health care in pregnancy.

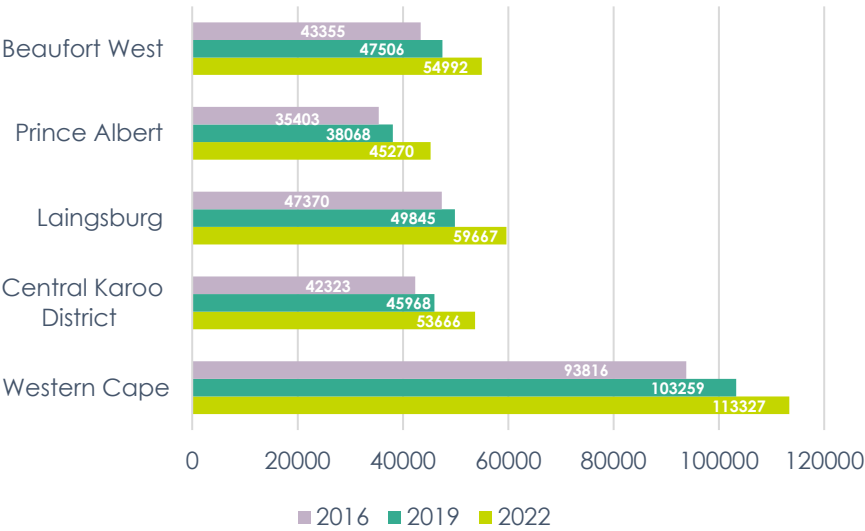
## HIV/AIDS & Tuberculosis

The number of patients registered for antiretroviral treatment (ART) saw a notable increase, rising by 28 patients. This change reflects an almost 10 per cent growth in the number of individuals registered for ART during this timeframe. This positive shift suggests improved access to and utilization of antiretroviral treatment, which is crucial for managing HIV/AIDS.

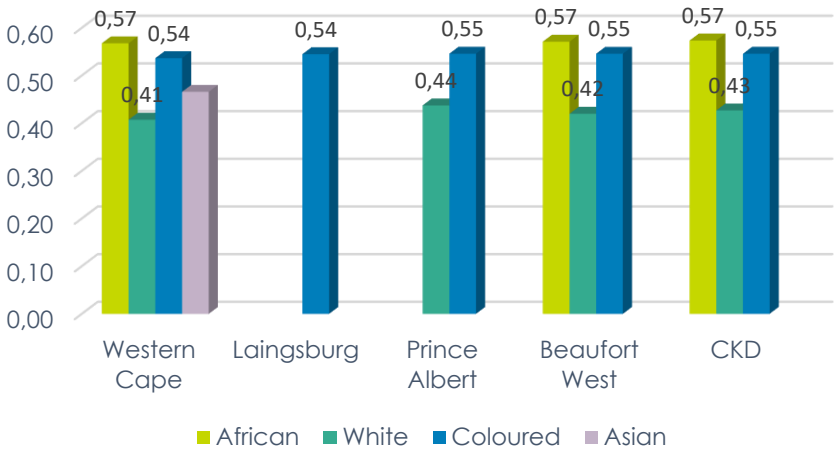
Similarly, there was a significant increase in the number of patients receiving TB (tuberculosis) treatment. The figure rose by 14.5 percent, bringing the total number of registered patients to 126 in 2022/23. This upswing implies a proactive approach to identifying and treating individuals with tuberculosis in the community, contributing to better public health outcomes.

POVERTY

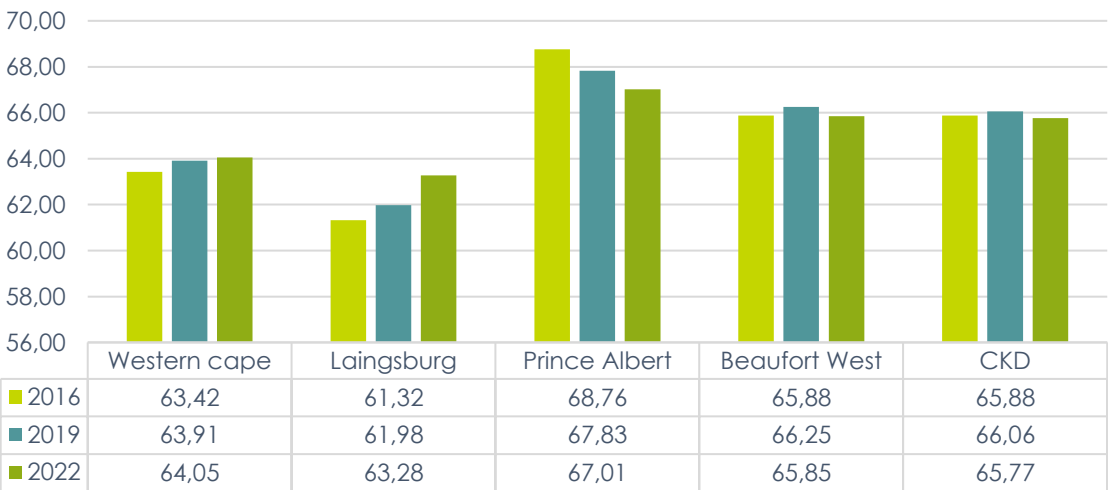
GDP per capita



Income Inequality



Poverty Line



## GDPR Per Capita

GDPR per capita measures the total economic output of a region relative to the size of the population living there. The GDPR per capita is useful for comparing living standards across regions and growth in GDPR per capita is considered a summary indicator of economic development in a particular area.

An increase in GDPR per capita, i.e., GDPR per person, is experienced only if the economic growth rate exceeds the population growth rate. The Prince Albert's municipal area, being the smallest economy in the District recorded the lowest GDPR per capita at R45 270 and is below the district GDPR per capita and considerably below the Provincial level of R113 327 in 2022. This means that people in Prince Albert have lower standards of living than the Provincial average.

It should be noted that GDPR per capita expanded in the Prince Albert municipal area over the 3-year period. This positive performance could be ascribed to the strength of the local agriculture sector, which enabled economic expansion in a context of slow population growth. Prince Albert municipal area, recorded GDPR per capita growth of 21.4 per cent in 2022, a significant increase relative to its performance in 2021.

## Income Inequality

South Africa suffers among the highest levels of inequality in the world when measured by the commonly used Gini index. Inequality manifests itself through a skewed income distribution, unequal access to opportunities, and regional disparities.

The National Development Plan (NDP) has set a target of reducing income inequality in South Africa from a Gini coefficient of 0.7 in 2010 to 0.6 by 2030. The Prince Albert municipal area's income inequality has improved from 0.59 to 0.58 in 2022, making it the second-highest of the three municipal areas in the CKD during the reference period. Prince Albert's Gini coefficient remains lower than the Provincial income inequality level of 0.60 in 2022. Insufficient economic diversification is central to the lack of high-paying jobs in Prince Albert. This is particularly apparent in the towns of Leeu-Gamka and Klaarstroom, which have the lowest median incomes in the CKD. These low incomes are accompanied by significant income inequality. A substantial proportion of individuals earn even less than the average median income contributing to a disparity in living standards.

In terms of racial groups, Income disparities are noticeable in the Coloured racial group with a Gini coefficient of 0.55 in 2022; followed by the white racial group with a more equal distribution of wealth with a Gini coefficient 0.44 in 2022. These two groups together contributed 97 per cent of the population of Prince Albert Municipal area in 2022. Other racial group income inequality levels were not significant due to their population contribution and disaggregated data availability.

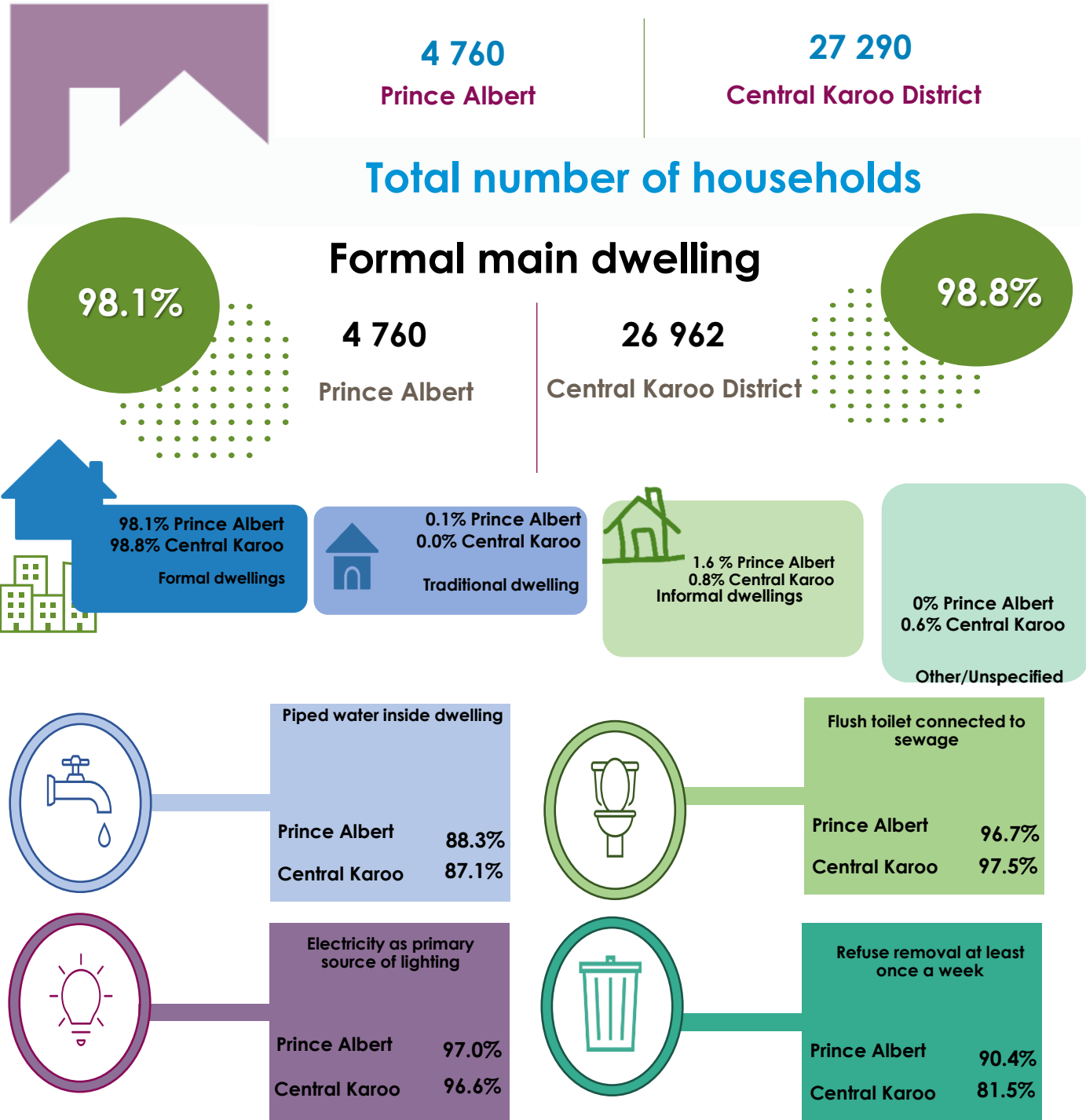
## Poverty Line

The Upper Bound Poverty Line (UBPL) head count ratio is the proportion of the population living below the UBPL i.e., that cannot afford to purchase adequate levels of food and non-food items. The UBPL in South Africa is R1 417 (in April 2022 prices) per person per month.

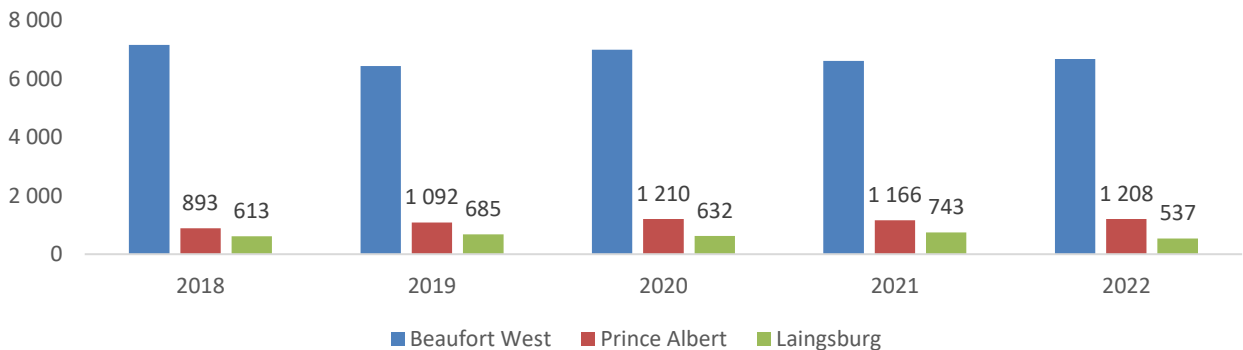
Poverty affects the social development of communities through lower life expectancy, malnutrition and food insecurity, higher exposure to crime and substance abuse, lower educational attainment and poor living conditions. In 2022, poverty was higher in Prince Albert compared to the district average with 67.8 per cent of the population falling below the UBPL. This figure improved by 0.7 percentage points to 67.0 per cent as recorded in 2022.



# BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY



## Indigent Households Central Karoo Municipalities



The Constitution stipulates that every citizen has the right to access to adequate housing and that the state must take reasonable legislative and other measures within its available resources to achieve the progressive realisation of this right. Access to housing also includes access to services such as potable water, basic sanitation, safe energy sources and refuse removal services, to ensure that households enjoy a decent standard of living.

This section considers to what extent this has been achieved by reflecting on the latest available information from the Statistics South Africa 2022 Census data.

## Housing and Household Services

The 2022 Census estimates that there are 4 760 households in the Prince Albert municipal area, of which 98.1 per cent had access to formal housing. A total of 1.6 per cent of the households resides in informal dwellings and a further 0.1 per cent resides in traditional dwellings. The government faces challenges in providing essential services and housing support without a corresponding economic base. Housing projects in Matjiesfontein and Prince Albert aim to address these needs in the medium term.

Households in the Prince Albert municipal area enjoyed high level of access to electricity for lighting at 97.0 per cent, access to flush toilet connected to sewage at 96.7 per cent. Refuse removed at least once a week by the local authority was also high at 90.4 per cent and above the district average of 81.5 per cent. Piped water inside dwelling is recorded at 88.3 per cent and a further 11.2 per cent of the households have water inside the yard.

## Free Basic Services

Municipalities also provide a package of free basic services to households who are financially vulnerable and struggle to pay for services. A household is classified as indigent if the family earns a combined income that is less than the threshold specified in the indigent policy of a municipal area. This threshold is set at R3 500 for the Prince Albert Municipality in 2022.

The indigent household numbers in the Prince Albert municipal area show an upward trend between 2018 to 2022. The number of indigent households increased to 1 208 (25.4 per cent of the total number of households) in 2022.

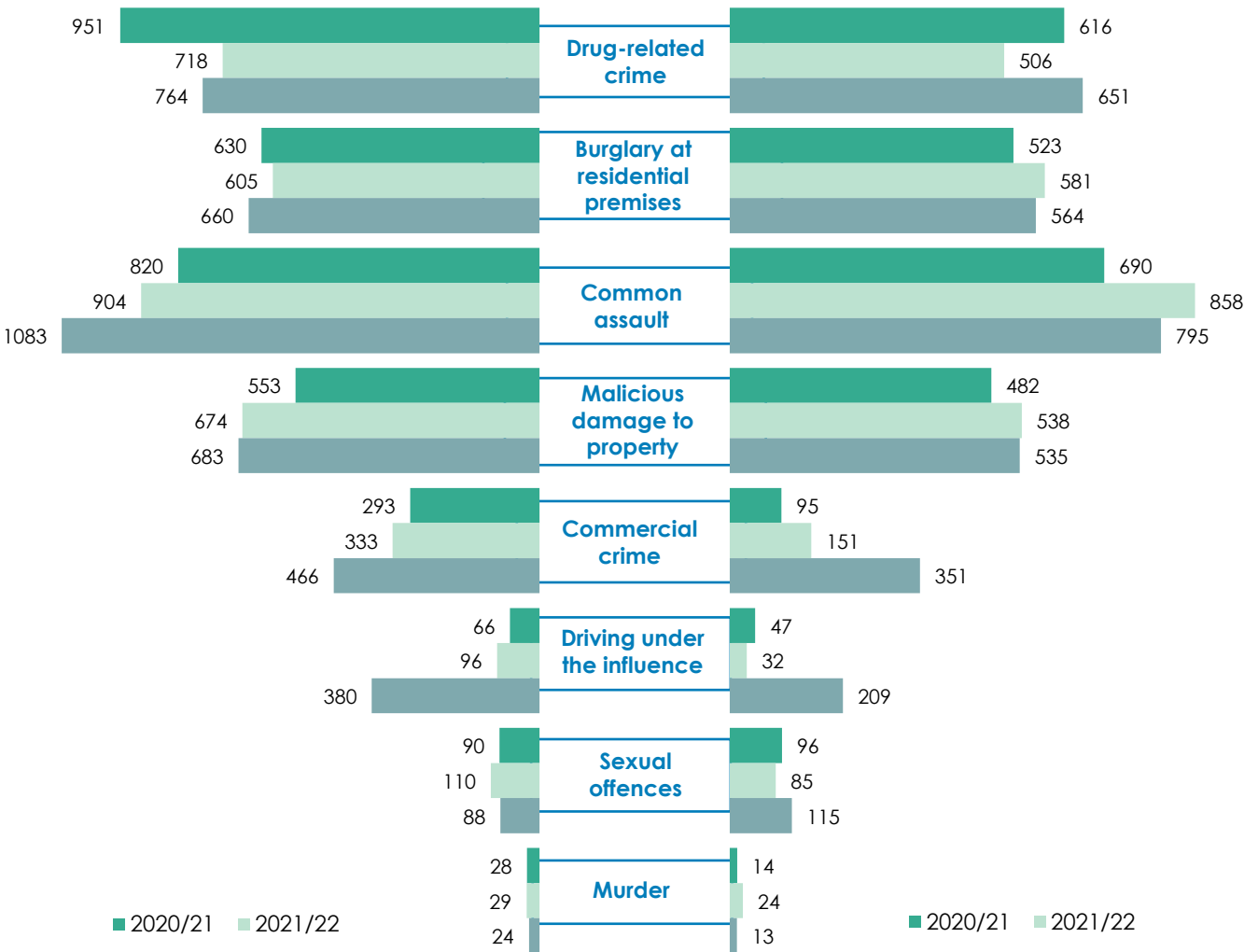
# SAFETY AND SECURITY

## CENTRAL KAROO

**7 722** Total reported  
crime per 100 000 people in the  
Central Karoo District in 2022/23

## PRINCE ALBERT

**6 325** Total reported  
crime per 100 000 people in  
Prince Albert in 2022/23



## Murder

Violent crime like murder within the Prince Albert municipal area improved in 2022/23, with 2 murders reported compared to 4 murders reported in 2021/22. It is noteworthy that despite the fluctuations, the murder rate in Prince Albert, when calculated per 100 000 people, is lower than the murder rate in the broader Central Karoo region for the reporting period. This indicates that, in relative terms, the incidence of murder in Prince Albert is comparatively lower than the surrounding area.

## Sexual Offences

South Africa has unfortunately earned the classification of having one of the highest rape statistics globally. Within the Prince Albert municipal area, reported sexual offense cases surged from 12 cases in 2021/22 to 17 cases in 2022/23, reflecting a substantial increase of 41.6 per cent during this reporting period.

However, when evaluating sexual offenses per 100 000 people, the analysis reveals fluctuations between 2020/21 and 2022/23. While reported cases declined in 2021/22, there was a subsequent increase in 2022/23. Crucially, sexual offenses are inseparable from the broader context of gender-based violence. Women and children, unfortunately, remain vulnerable victims of rape and sexual assault, leading to severe consequences such as unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, and the propagation of HIV/AIDS.

## Drug-related Offences

The prevalence of drug-related crime in the Prince Albert area worsened, escalating from 74 reported cases in 2021/22 to 97 cases in 2022/23, constituting a significant increase of 31.1 per cent in reported cases. Nevertheless, when considering drug-related offenses per 100 000 people, the broader Central Karoo region has a greater challenge with substance abuse than is prevalent in the municipal area.

## Driving under the influence (DUI)

The number of cases of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the Prince Albert area regressed from 5 cases in 2021 to 31 actual cases in 2022/23. This translates into a rate of 209 cases per 100 000 people in 2022/23, which is below the District's average of 380 cases per 100 000 people.

## Residential Burglaries and damage to properties

Prince Albert municipal area has a lower rate of property related crime when compared to the District. It witnessed a slight decline from 85 burglaries in 2021/22 to 84 burglaries in 2022/23, while malicious damage to property remained stagnant at 79 cases over the reporting period. Understanding and monitoring such trends are crucial for assessing community safety, law enforcement effectiveness, and potential areas for preventive measures or interventions.

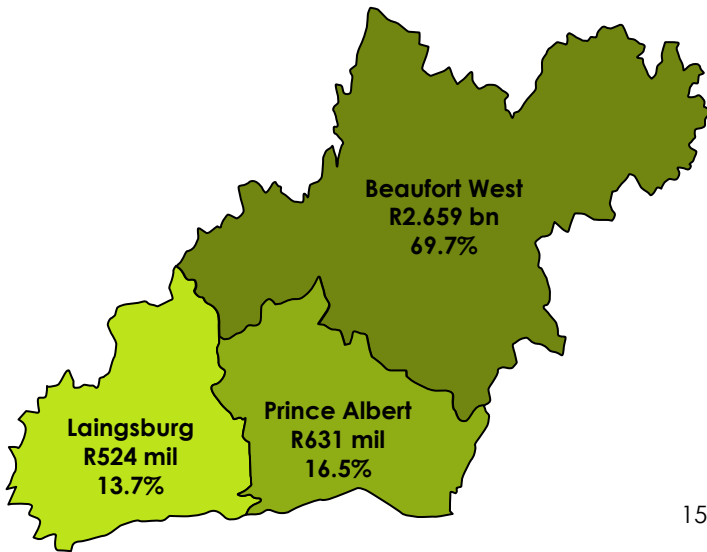
## Commercial Crime

There is a notable increase in reported cases of commercial crime from 22 incidents in 2021/22 to 52 in 2022/23, highlighting a growing concern for the economic landscape within the municipal area.

# GDPR PERFORMANCE



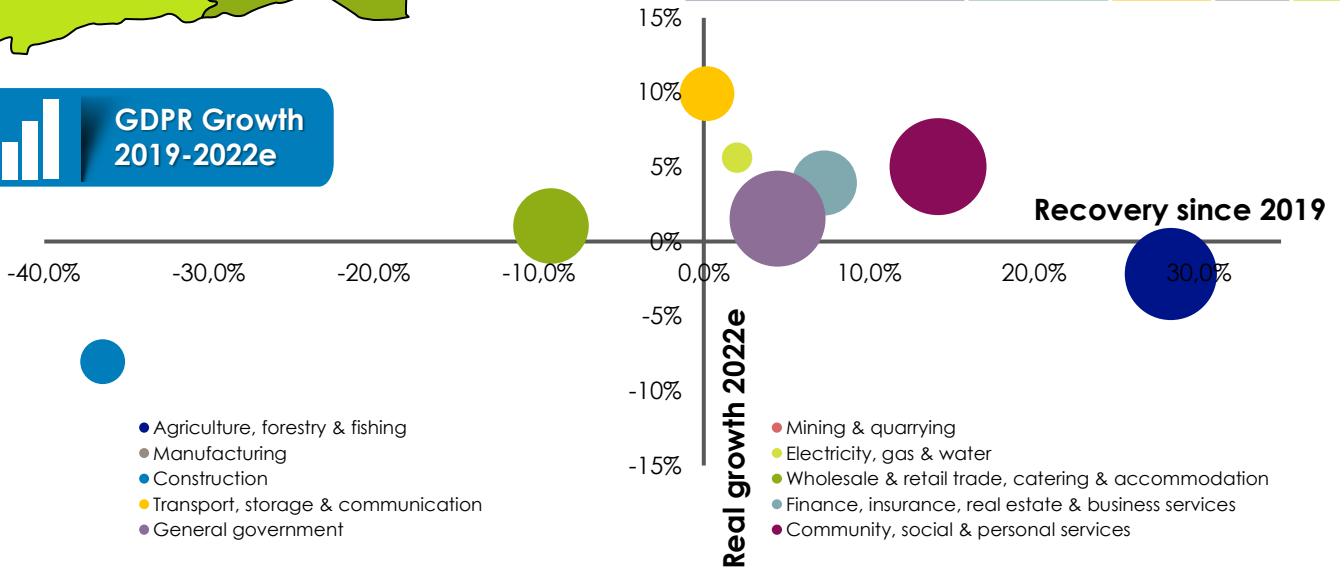
## GDPR Contribution 2021



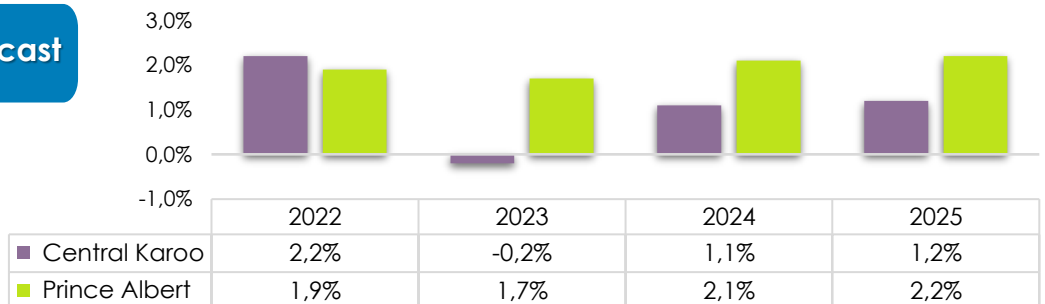
## Sectoral contribution to GDPR 2021



## GDPR Growth 2019-2022e



## GDPR forecast



## International Trade, 2022

**Imports**  
R2.4 million

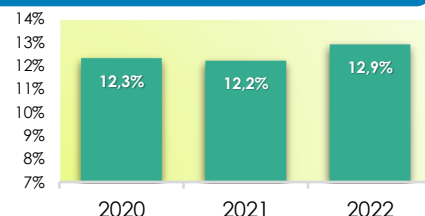
**Exports**  
R101.3 million

**Top exported products**

**Top imported products**



## Tourism spend % of GDP



## GDPR Performance

The small economy of the Prince Albert municipal area (with a GDPR of R630.6 million in 2021) was buoyed by the strong performance of the agriculture sector in 2020 and 2021. The Prince Albert economy contributed 16.5 per cent to the Central Karoo District economy in 2021.

The Prince Albert municipal area's economy is reliant on the general government, agriculture and community services sectors, which collectively contributed 61.5 per cent of GDPR of 2021. This reliance makes the economy vulnerable to exogenous shocks in these three sectors.

The trade sector, which includes tourist spending, contributed 12.9 per cent of GDPR in 2021 (R81.7 million). Tourism provides a welcome source of income in Prince Albert, especially through using local accommodation and dining at local restaurants. The growth of the municipal area was also driven by performances in the transport and finance sectors in 2021. Most sectors have recovered their losses of 2020, although the construction and retail sectors have yet to match the GDPR they recorded in 2019. This is a reminder that the economic environment remains challenging for households and businesses, amongst which investment confidence has generally been low.

Further contractions are expected in the agriculture, trade and transport sectors. Nonetheless, GDPR growth is forecast to increase by 1.7 per cent in 2023 and a further 2.1 per cent in 2024, largely due to anticipated growth in the tertiary sector. If suitably skilled local workers can secure employment in growing industries, these growth trends may result in a noticeable change in the wellbeing of Prince Albert communities.

## Trade Balance

The Prince Albert Municipal area recorded a positive trade balance of R98.9 million in 2022. The imports and exports of Prince Albert reflect the centrality of agriculture in this area, which encompasses small wine farms, livestock farmers and dairies. Operating at the heart of Prince Albert, Gay's Dairy Guernsey produces cheeses as well as milk and yoghurt products that have won awards internationally. Prince Albert recorded mollusc exports of R24.8 million in 2022, making molluscs the leading export product of the municipal area for the year. Sweetened or concentrated milk and cream (R16.6 million) and milk and cream (R16.2 million) were also major export products from the Prince Albert municipal area.

## Tourism Spend

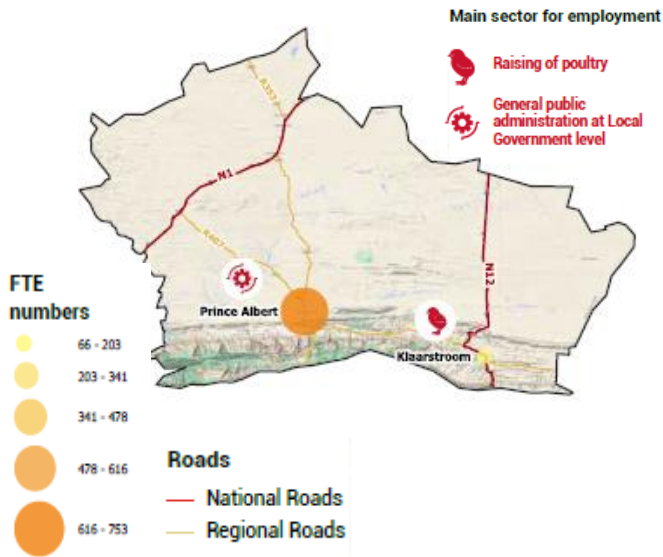
The Prince Albert Municipal area is considered as the jewel of the Central Karoo. The area lies at the foot of the Swartberg; It showcases beautifully preserved Victorian, Karoo, Cape Dutch and uniquely gabled buildings. The area has a vast opportunity to offer to those visiting the area including beautiful accommodation, beautiful scenery and activities.

The Tourism sector accounted for 12.9 per cent of GDPR in 2022 implying a change of 0.7 percentage points compared to the 12.2 per cent contribution in 2021. To further develop tourism in the municipal area and ensure that the industry is sustainable over the long term, it is essential that strategies be put in place to attract visitors during off-peak periods.



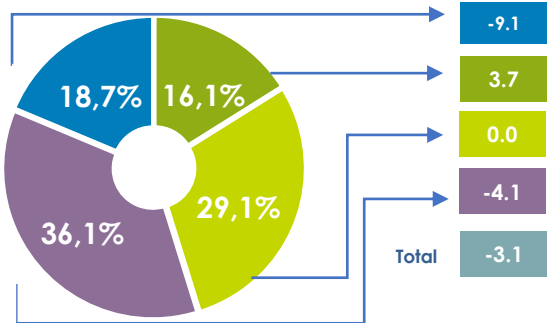
# LABOUR MARKET PERFORMANCE

## Formal Employment by Town, 2022



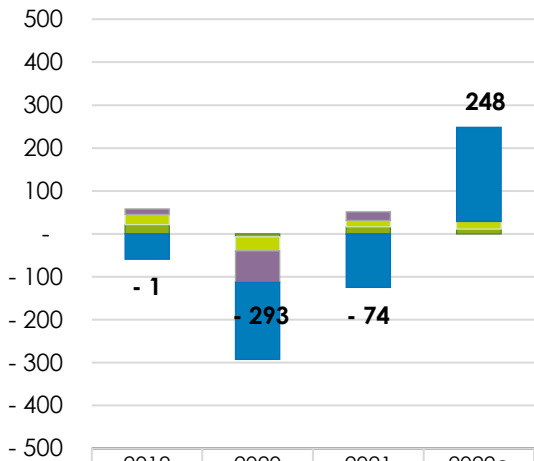
## Skill Level % Contribution, 2022

Recovery in Employment (%) 2019-2022



Total Persons Employed 2022	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Low-skilled	Informal
	5 66	1 024	1 247	863

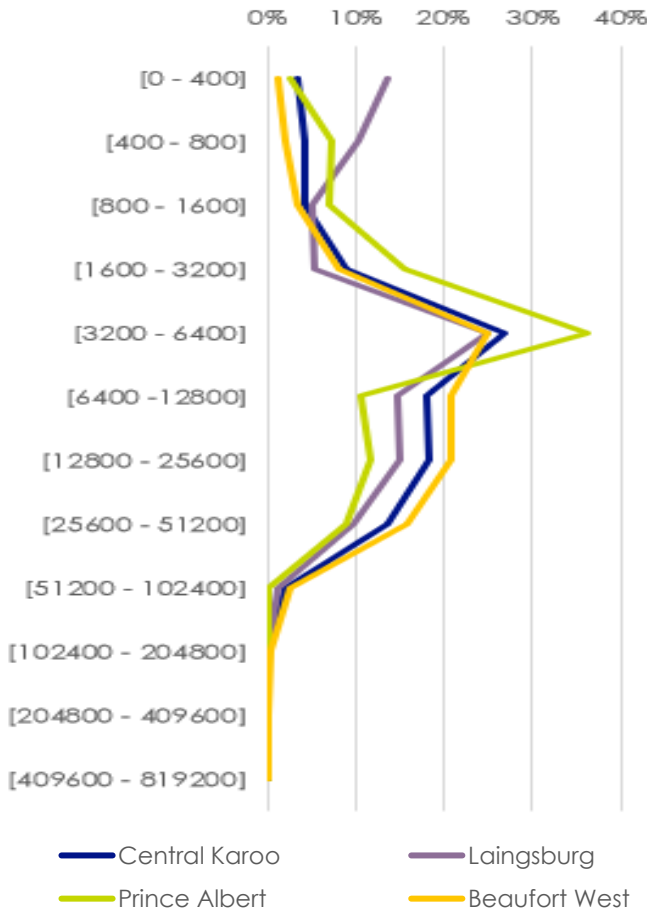
## Net employment per sector, 2019-2022



	2019	2020	2021	2022e
Total	- 1	- 293	- 74	248
Informal	- 59	- 180	- 125	219
Low skilled	13	- 73	20	-
Semi-skilled	24	- 33	15	18
Skilled	21	- 7	16	11



## Wage Distribution per municipal area, 2022



## Top 5 Sectors



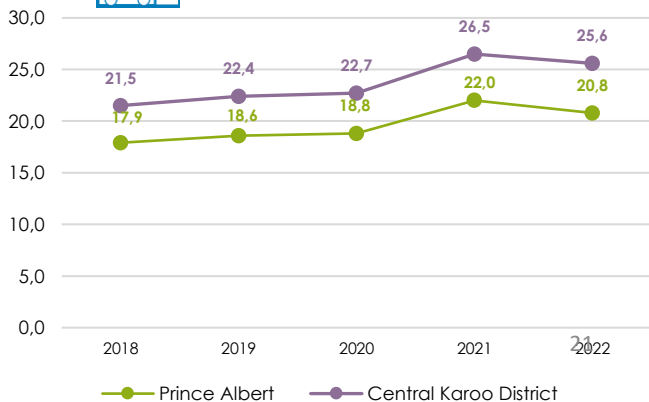
### Sector

Administration of the state and the economic and social policy of the community  
Growing of perennial crops  
Animal production  
Mixed farming  
Short term accommodation activities

**No. of FTE Jobs**  
324  
86  
77  
74  
70



## Unemployment rate 2018-2022



## Labour Market Performance

A lack of diversification in the local economy is reflected in troubling labour market indicators. The municipal area is characterised by high levels of economically inactive people (46.7 per cent) and a low labour force participation rate (53.3 per cent), making poverty a reality for many households. In 2022, both the economic inactive and the labour participation is expected to improve as the economy recover further from the impact of COVID-19.

In 2021, job losses were evident in the informal employment with 125 job losses. The low skilled and semi-skilled sectors, however, showed recovery from the 2020 job losses. A welcome reprieve from the job losses recorded in 2020 and 2021 was experienced in 2022, when the economy grew by an estimated 1.9 per cent and the number of jobs increased by 248. This was mainly due to an expanding informal economy which is estimated to have created 219 net employment opportunities in 2022.

At the same time, the unemployment rate (the second lowest in the CKD) fell to 20.8 per cent from 22.0 per cent recorded in 2021. This was primarily due to a substantial increase in the number of informal jobs within agriculture and retail and community services.

## Skills Distribution

It is estimated that Prince Albert total employed amounted to 3 451 workers in 2022, of which 2 837 (81.3 per cent) are employed in the formal sector and 863 (18.7 per cent) are informally employed. The informal economy was responsible for most of the job losses in 2021. This is a concern as the informal economy should be able to act as a buffer during times of economic recession.

Most of the formally employed consisted of low skilled (36.1 per cent), followed by semi-skilled (29.1 per cent) workers and the skilled workers contributed the least at 16.1 per cent to the workforce. The skilled work force, however, grew by 3.7 per cent outpacing the semi-skilled which remained stagnant and the low skilled category which contracted by 4.1 per cent between 2019- 2022. The growth in the skilled category reflects the increasing market demand for skilled labour and the need for skills development initiatives.

## Wage Distribution

In 2022, the financial outcomes for full-time employees within the Prince Albert area were varied. Individuals engaged in low-income occupations within the District typically earned between R3 200 and R6 400 a month. This bracket mainly included retail and agricultural workers. Of the workers in this wage bracket, 36.4 per cent; the largest share resided in the Prince Albert municipal area. Additionally, wage ranges are skewed towards lower incomes in this area, which leads to elevated poverty levels among residents. A further 15.5 per cent of the workers earned between R1600-R3 200. However, no workers were recorded in the income bend of R51 000- R102 400 and above.

# RISK AND VULNERABILITY FACTORS



## VULNERABILITY\*

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

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

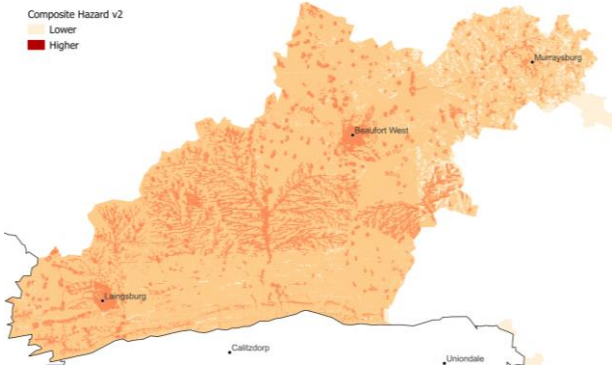
Municipality	Socio-Economic		Economic		Physical		Environmental	
	The indicator shows the vulnerability of households living in the municipality with regards to the household's age composition, education and health status, access to basic services, and safety and security [2011 baseline]		Vulnerability of the municipality to external shocks is based on the economic diversity, size of the economy, labour force, GDP growth rate and the income inequality present in the municipality [2011 baseline]		Physical vulnerability addresses the physical fabric and connectedness of the settlements in the municipality. The more remote and/or structurally vulnerable, the higher the physical vulnerability score		Env. vulnerability represents the conflict between preserving natural environment & growth pressures associated with population growth, urbanisation, and econ development. It measures air quality, env. governance, & the competition between the ecology and urban encroachment	
	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score
Beaufort West	23	2.90	20	3.77	18	5.83	2	2.0
Laingsburg	20	2.56	12	2.96	7	4.73	4	3.26
Prince Albert	25	3.39	19	3.71	4	4.52	3	3.26



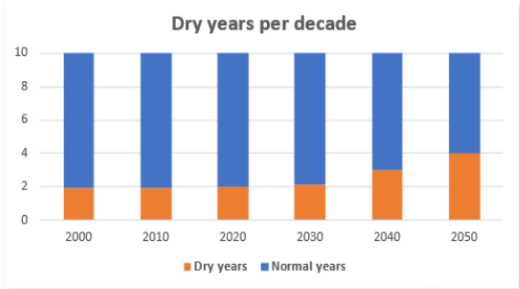
## HAZARDS\*

**Prince Albert Overall Population Growth Pressure:**  
Medium to high growth pressure, albeit from a low base\*

Six of the Top 10 Risks in the Central Karoo are environmental in nature (Provincial Disaster Risk Register)	Prince Albert's identified Hydro-meteorological Hazards to settlements as observed by the CSIR (The Greenbook *)
1. Drought	High potential increase in exposure to drought in an area with existing drought tendencies
2. Human Health Conditions And Diseases	See comments under 'drought' and 'heat waves'
3. Shale Gas Drilling And Extraction	
4. Water Pollution	
5. Floods	Moderate to significant decrease in extreme rainfall days with low potential increase in exposure to flooding
6. Critical Service Disruptions: Waste Management	
7. Heat Waves	Medium potential increase in exposure to heat extremes
8. Structural Fires	Low potential increase of settlements in exposure to wildfires
9. Wildfires	Area prone to risk of wildfires
10. Critical Service Disruptions: Water Security And Supply	High potential increase in exposure to drought in an area with existing drought tendencies



Temperature change (2050 compared to historic)†	
Mean temperature increase (District)	1.4 °C higher
Additional days per year with daily maximum temperature above 30 °C (Prince Albert)	22 days



Central Karoo no. of dry years per decade†						
	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
Dry years	1.9	1.9	2	2.1	3	4
Wet years	8.1	8.1	8	7.9	7	6

\* Le Roux, A., van Niekerk, W., Arnold, K., Pieterse, A., Ludick, C., Forsyth, G., Le Maitre, D., Lötter, D., du Plessis, P. & Mans, G. 2019. Green Book Risk Profile Tool. Pretoria: CSIR. Available at: [riskprofiles.greenbook.co.za](https://riskprofiles.greenbook.co.za)  
† Jack, C., Van Aardenne, L., Wolski, P., Pinto, I., Quagrainie, K. & Kloppers, P. 2022. SmartAgri: Updated Climate Change Trends and Projections for the Western Cape. Cape Town: University of Cape Town. Available at <https://www.elsenburg.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SmartAgri-Climate-Change.pdf>

## Drought

According to the CSIR Green Book, Prince Albert has a high potential exposure to an increase in drought. Currently 1.9 years per decade are at risk of drought, and this will increase to 4 out of every 10 years by 2050.

Water, and related sanitation services, is a key ingredient for socioeconomic development, food security and healthy ecosystems, and is vital for reducing the burden of disease and improving the health, welfare and productivity of populations. A deteriorating water catchment system, through ecosystem loss (transformation or land use change) and alien infestation, or watercourse and wetland modification, will lead to lower inputs into the water supply systems, and a lower overall water security due to lower natural retention and lower quality of water. The higher our dependence on groundwater, the more likely we are to suffer water security issues. During extended drought periods, even end users far from major source areas are likely to experience shortages as the overall system runs low. This was the situation during the 2015-2019 drought in the Western Cape, when eventually the overall water supply scheme ran low due to the multi-year duration of the drought.

## Temperatures

Average temperature has been increasing since the 1900s. Projections indicate that Prince Albert can expect an additional 22 extremely hot days per year by 2050, which will affect food security, exposure to extreme heat, health and water quality.

## Vegetation Fires

Although critical for a healthy ecosystem, fire is a significant threat to human lives, food security, socio-economic activities and livelihoods, as well as infrastructure and other assets. This is especially true at the wildland-urban interface where vegetation fuel loads in proximity to built structures and numerous informal fires add to the likelihood and severity of fire risk. Uncontained fires will also cause damage in rural/agricultural areas where infrastructure, crops and livestock may be lost to extensive firelines.

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

## Floods

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

The Prince Albert municipal area exhibited a positive population growth rate in 2022, expanding by 3.1 per cent from 2011 to 2022. Projections indicate a sustained growth trajectory, with an anticipated average annual increase of 1.3 per cent from 2023 to 2027. Notably, household numbers have also shown an upward trend when compared to the figures recorded in 2011. Despite the growth in population and households, it's noteworthy that the household size has remained consistent between the Census figures of 2011 and 2022. This implies that while there is an increase in the number of households, the average size of each household has not undergone significant changes over this period.

The dependency ratio improved to 54.2 per cent, indicating a growing working-age population, however, the children population is higher compared to other areas, emphasizing the need for school infrastructure and social development initiatives. The sex ratio, however, reflect a worrisome trend with a declining sex ratio of 92.3 males per 100 female's indicative of immigration patterns for men and the resulting increase in female headed households.

The educational situation faces challenges like high drop out rates, though it performs better than neighbouring areas. Implementing programs for vulnerable learners and increasing vocational training institutions could help address these issues.

The Prince Albert municipal area, due to its rural nature and lack of economic diversification, recorded exceptionally low GDP per capita compared to that of the Province and recorded the lowest GDP per capita in the district. The three biggest sectors constituted the agriculture, government and the community and social services sectors. The unemployment rate in the Prince Albert municipal area has shown a consistent upward trend since 2018, reaching a concerning 20.8 per cent in 2022. To foster the well-being and development of the region, it is imperative to address economic challenges through a multifaceted approach. Despite economic challenges, households in Prince Albert enjoy access to high service standards.

The economic cost and social cost of crime cannot be over emphasized as it has an implication for well-being and resource allocation by Government, businesses and citizens. In terms of safety and security, driving under the influence, sexual offences, drug related crimes and commercial crimes were on the rise in 2022/23. To address persistent crime in the municipal area, it is essential to prioritise crime prevention strategies and community policing along with enhanced law enforcement capabilities.

## 1. Demographics

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

## 2. Education

- Learner enrolment: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Learner-teacher ratio: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Learner retention: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Educational facilities: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- No-fee schools: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Schools with libraries: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*
- Educational outcomes: *Western Cape Education Department, 2022; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS), 2023*

## 3. Health

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

## 4. Poverty

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



## 5. Basic services

- Households: Quantec Research, 2023
- Access to housing: Quantec Research, 2023
- Access to water: Quantec Research, 2023
- Access to electricity: Quantec Research, 2023
- Access to sanitation: Quantec Research, 2023
- Access to refuse removal: Quantec Research, 2023
- Free Basic Services: *Statistics South Africa, Non-Financial Census of Municipalities 2020*

## 6. Safety and security

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

## 7. GDPR Performance

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

## 8. Labour Market Performance

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