



Western Cape
Government
FOR YOU



#KnowYourMunicipality: The 2022 Socio-Economic Profile

Bitou Municipality



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Bitou Municipality: At a Glance

Demographics

Population Estimates, 2022; Actual households, 2021



Population

71 253



Households

13 303

Education

2021



Matric Pass Rate 79.5%
Learner Retention Rate 66.1%
Learner-Teacher Ratio 32.4

Poverty

2021



Gini Coefficient 0.67
Poverty Head count Ratio 53.87

Health

2021/22



Primary Health Care Facilities

5

Immunisation Rate

49.7%

Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 100 000 live births)

0.0

Teenage Pregnancies - Delivery rate to women U/18

0.0%

Safety and Security

Actual number of reported cases in 2021/22



Residential Burglaries

428

DUI

58

Drug-related Crimes

298

Murder

19

Sexual Offences

78

Access to Basic Service Delivery

Percentage of households with access to basic services, 2021



Water

98.1%

Refuse Removal

80.5%



Electricity

96.4%



Sanitation

98.8%



Housing

73.8%



Road Safety

2021/22

Fatal Crashes 7

Road User Fatalities 7

Labour

2021

Unemployment Rate (narrow definition)

32.0%



Socio-economic Risks

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

Largest 3 Sectors

Contribution to GDP, 2020

Finance, insurance, real estate and business services

32.0%

Wholesale & retail trade, catering and accommodation

17.0%

General Government

11.3%

INTRODUCTION

Provincial Treasury produces socio-economic profiles for each of the Western Cape municipalities on an annual basis. These profiles provide the Western Cape municipalities with data and analyses pertaining to their municipal area, which may 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.

The indicators reflect the socio-economic reality of municipalities. As such, 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 2011 Census and 2016 Community Survey 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 Bitou Municipality in relation to the broader Garden Route District.











GDPR PERFORMANCE

Sectoral Overview

In 2020, the economy of Bitou was valued at R4.231 billion (current prices) and employed 17 949 people. Historical trends between 2016 and 2020 indicate that the municipal area's economy contracted at -1.0 per cent. The 2020 recession made a substantial dent in the average growth rate over the period, but load shedding and the drought within the Province also played a major role in prior years.

Estimates for 2021 however indicate a marked recovery in growth (4.5 per cent) from the effects of the COVID-19 related restrictions to economic activity in 2020. It was largely driven by growth in the agriculture, forestry and fishing (8.2 per cent), community, social & personal services (7.7 per cent) and manufacturing (7.5 per cent) sectors. The mining and quarrying (-15.7 per cent) and construction (-0.4 per cent) were the only sectors that experienced further economic decline after the easing of restrictions.

Despite the economic recovery experienced in 2021, the economy continued to shed jobs, with an estimated 682 net jobs lost. This was largely driven by job losses in the agriculture, forestry & fishing (-44 jobs), construction (-44 jobs) and wholesale & retail trade catering & accommodation (-40 jobs) sectors, reflecting that employment creation is lagging the improved GDP. Only the general government and community, social and personal services sectors was able to create jobs during the year.

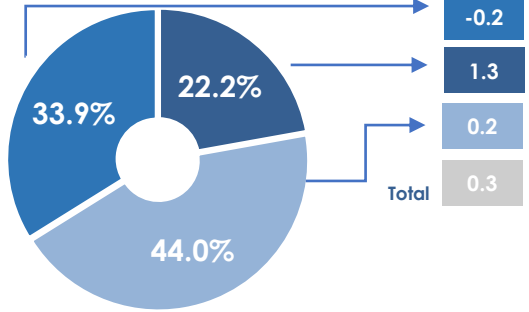
R million (2020)		Trend (2016 – 2020)	Real GDPR growth 2021e
Primary Sector R229.8 (5.5%)		1.3	7.6
R221.3 million (5.3%) Agriculture, forestry & fishing		1.4	8.2
R8.5 million (0.2%) Mining & quarrying		-0.2	-15.7
Secondary Sector R766.9 (18.2%)		-3.4	3.4
R378.2 million (8.6%) Manufacturing		-0.9	7.5
R34.6 million (0.8%) Electricity, gas & water		-2.5	3.4
R354.0 million (8.8%) Construction		-5.4	-0.4
Tertiary Sector R3 234.4 (76.3%)		-0.5	4.5
R766.9 million (17.0%) Wholesale & retail trade, catering & accommodation		-3.6	7.2
R230.3 million (5.7%) Transport, storage & communication		-8.0	2.0
R1 329.5 million (32.0%) Finance, insurance, real estate & business services		1.2	2.3
R463.8 million (11.3%) General government		3.0	5.9
R443.8 million (10.3%) Community, social & personal services		1.1	7.7
R4 231.1 (100%) Total Bitou		-1.0	4.5

LABOUR MARKET PERFORMANCE



Formal employment 2020

Skill Level Contribution 2020



■ Skilled ■ Semi-skilled ■ Low-skilled

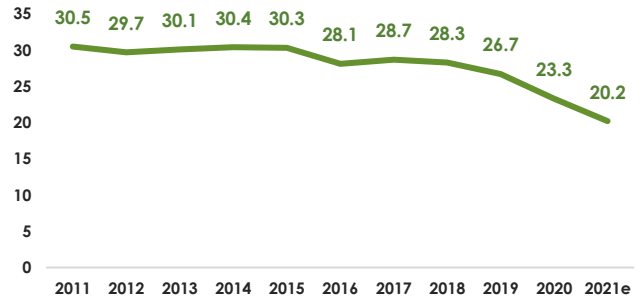
Average growth (%) 2016-2020

Skilled	-0.2
Semi-skilled	1.3
Low-skilled	0.2
Total	0.3

	Number of jobs 2020	Number of jobs 2021
Skilled	3 052	3 074
Semi-skilled	6 056	6 008
Low-skilled	4 665	4 694
Total	13 773	13 776

Informal employment

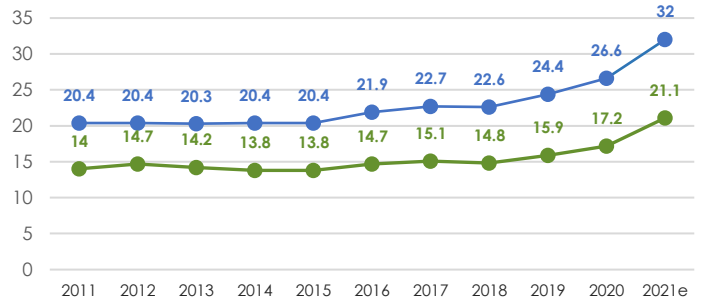
% of Total Employment



	2019	2020	2021e
Number of jobs	5 286	4 176	3 491

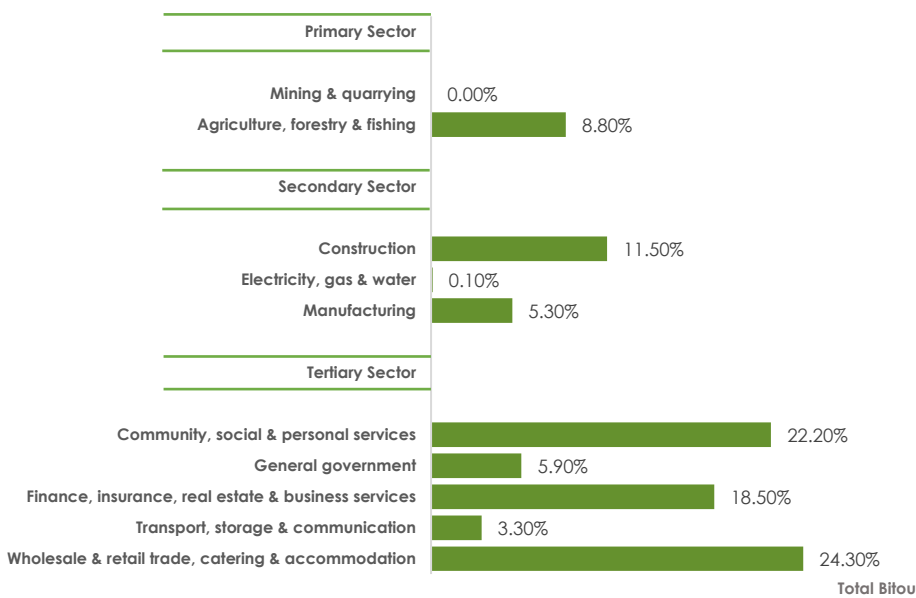


Unemployment rate 2011 - 2021



● Bitou ● Garden Route District

Sectoral employment contribution 2020



Employment

Average annual change 2016/2020	Number of jobs 2020	Net change 2021
-1	5	-
-44	1 586	-33

-44	2 066	-149
-0	18	-1
-21	952	-41

-39	3 985	23
22	1 059	19
27	3 322	-116
-37	589	-72
-40	4 367	-312
Total Bitou	17 949	-682

Labour Market Performance

Formal and Informal Employment

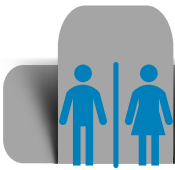
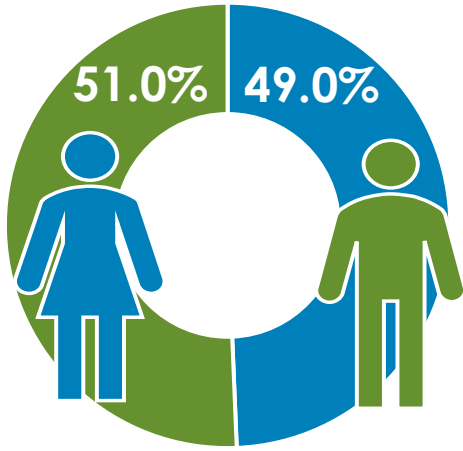
It is estimated that Bitou's total employed will in 2021 amount to 17 952 workers, of which 13 776 (76.7 per cent) are employed in the formal sector and 4 176 (23.2 per cent) are informally employed. Employment in the formal sector had an annual average increase of only 0.3 per cent from 2016 to 2020 while the informal sector suffered an annual average decline of 1.9 per cent over this period. The informal economy was responsible for the majority 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 semi-skilled (44 per cent) and low-skilled (33.9 per cent) workers. The skilled category only contributed 22.2 per cent to total formal employment. The skilled and semi-skilled categories grew at a pace of 1.3 per cent and 0.2 per cent per annum respectively from 2016 to 2020 and notably outpaced low-skilled employment which shed 0.2 per cent of jobs per annum. The growth in the skilled categories reflects the increasing market demand for skilled labour and the need for skills development initiatives, especially with the growing tertiary sector in the Bitou municipal area.

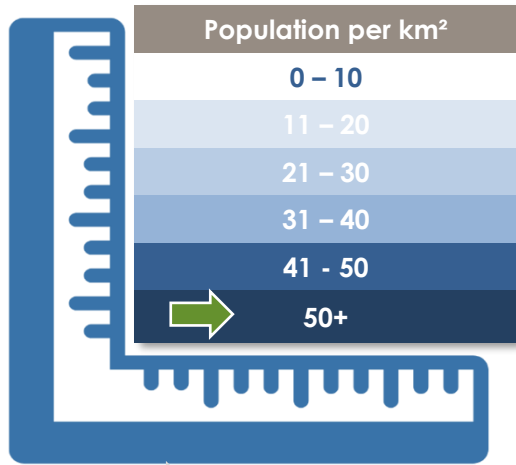
Unemployment

Bitou (estimated at 32.0 per cent in 2021) has the highest unemployment rate in the Garden Route District. It is significantly higher than the Garden Route District (21.1 per cent) and the Western Cape (25.1 per cent) unemployment rates. Unemployment has been on an upward trend from 2016 (21.9 per cent) to 2021 (32.0 per cent) largely driven by the job losses as a result of the drought, loadshedding and economic recession over this period. The not economically active population has also increased from 2020 to 2021 as job losses and an insufficient supply of jobs have led to an increasing number of discouraged work-seekers. Unfortunately, most job losses affected low skilled and informal workers who are more vulnerable to living in poverty during times of economic decline.

DEMOGRAPHICS



Number of males per 100 females



2022 2023 2024 2025 2026

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Garden Route District	92.0	92.6	92.7	92.8	92.9
Kannaland	87.3	87.6	87.4	87.1	87.0
Hessequa	88.7	89.0	88.9	88.9	89.3
Mossel Bay	90.6	90.9	90.8	90.7	90.0
George	93.6	94.3	94.5	94.7	94.8
Oudtshoorn	88.6	89.2	89.3	89.4	89.2
Bitou	95.9	96.6	96.8	97.0	98.1
Knysna	93.4	94.0	94.1	94.2	94.2

Current Population 2022
71 253

Estimated Population 2026
79 879



Household size

2022 2.9
2023 2.9
2024 2.9
2025 2.8
2026 2.8



Population growth



2022 2023 2024 2025 2026

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Bitou	6.1	3.5	3.1	3.1	2.0
Garden Route District	1.8	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9
Western Cape	2.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6

Age cohorts



Children: 0 - 14 Years



Working Age: 15-64 Years



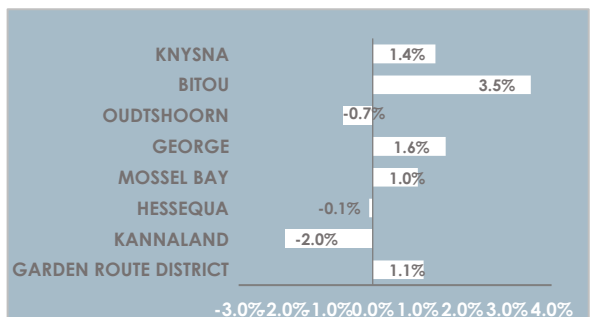
Aged 65+ Years



Dependency Ratio

	Children: 0 - 14 Years	Working Age: 15-64 Years	Aged 65+ Years	Dependency Ratio
2022	18 328	48 131	4 794	48.0
2024	19 623	51 399	4 996	47.9
2026	20 923	53 737	5 219	48.6
	3.4%	2.8%	2.1%	

Population growth 2022 - 2026



Demographics

Population

The population of Bitou Municipality is at 71 253 people in 2022, the third smallest municipal area after Hessequa and Kannaland within the Garden Route District. This total is expected to grow to 79 879 by 2026, equating to an average annual growth rate of 2.9 per cent over the period, which could pose serious challenges for the Bitou area's service delivery.

Sex Ratio

The overall sex ratio (SR) depicts the number of males per 100 females in the population. The data indicates that there are less males than females in the Bitou municipal area with a ratio of 49.0 per cent (males) to 51.0 per cent (females). The SR for Bitou increases slightly year on year towards 2025 which could be attributed to a wide range of factors such as an increase female mortality rates as well as the potential inflow of working males to the area.

Age Cohorts

Between 2022 and 2026, the largest population growth projection was recorded in the 0 - 14 aged cohort which grew at an annual average rate of 3.4 per cent. This is an indication that the Bitou area is experiencing rapid population growth which will increase the demand for service delivery. These groupings are expressed as a dependency ratio which indicates those who are part of the workforce (Age 15 – 64) and those who are dependent on them (children or senior citizens). A higher dependency ratio implies greater pressure on social systems and the delivery of basic services. Growth in this age group is reflective of high fertility rates. A further 1 per cent growth per annum in the aged category will result in an overall increase in the dependency ratio towards 2026. The Bitou municipal area's dependency ratio declined from 48 per cent in 2022 and is expected to decline 47.9 per cent in 2024 and increase to 48.6 in 2026.

Household sizes

Household size refers to the number of people per household. The average size of households decreases from 2.9 in 2021 to 2.8 in 2026. Contributing factors to a decline in household size could include, but are not limited to, lower fertility rates, occurrences of divorce, ageing population, cultural patterns surrounding intergenerational co-residence, as well as socio-economic factors that shape trends in employment, education and housing markets.

Population density

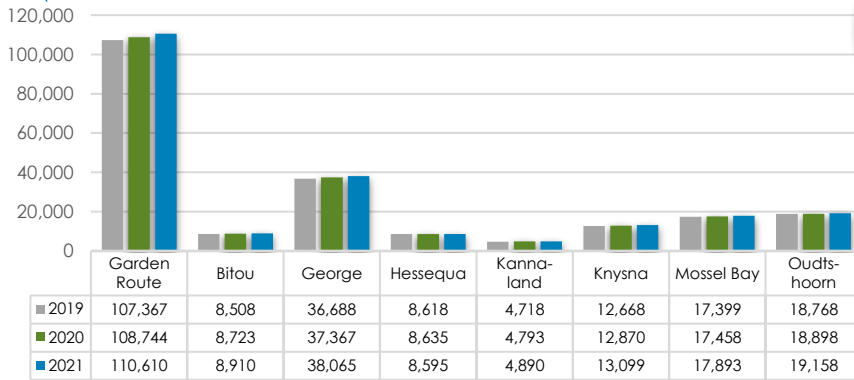
Amidst rapid urbanisation across the Western Cape, population density figures will aid public sector decision makers to mitigate environmental, individual health and service delivery risks. In 2022, the population density of the Bitou municipal area was 72 persons per square kilometre. In order of highest to lowest, the various municipalities in the Garden Route District compare as follows:

● Bitou	72 people/km ²
● Knysna	69 people/km ²
● Mossel Bay	48 people/km ²
● George	43 people/km ²
● Garden Route	27 people/km ²
● Oudtshoorn	25 people/km ²
● Hessequa	9 people/km ²
● Kannaland	5 people/km ²

EDUCATION



Learner enrolment



Educational facilities 2021

11

Number of schools

81.8%

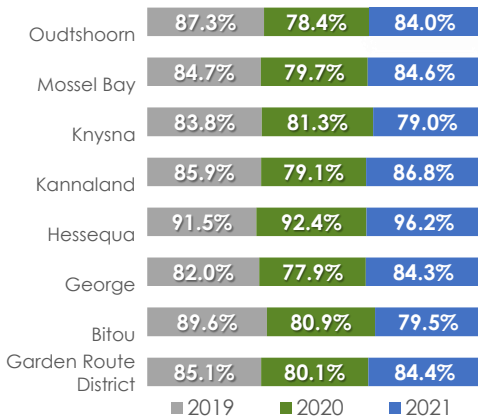
Proportion of no-fee schools

Number of schools with libraries

7



Education outcomes

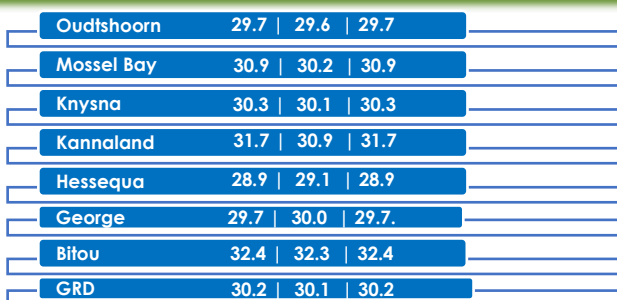


Learner retention 2019 - 2021

	2019	2020	2021
Garden Route District	62.9%	67.6%	72.0%
Oudtshoorn	59.4%	69.1%	73.6%
Mossel Bay	73.7%	69.0%	77.8%
Knysna	51.2%	55.0%	62.5%
Kannaland	57.1%	54.8%	58.4%
Hessequa	62.0%	69.4%	72.2%
George	66.8%	72.0%	75.3%
Bitou	52.4%	65.3%	66.1%



Learner-Teacher Ratio 2019 - 2021



Education

Access to education

Education is 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, start businesses and produce goods and services.

Learner enrolment

A total of 8 508 learners were enrolled in 2019 in the Bitou municipal area and this number increased to 8 910 in 2021, which implies annual growth of 1.6 per cent over this period. This may have negative implications for the quality of learning in classrooms if it is not met with an increase in the number of teachers.

Education Infrastructure

There are 11 schools within the Bitou municipal area, of which 81.8 per cent are no fee schools. This is positive to note as 24 per cent of learners in 2021 indicated that they dropped out of school because they could not afford it (GHS, 2021). Furthermore, of the 11 schools, 7 were equipped with libraries. The availability of library facilities within schools contribute towards narrowing the academic attainment gap by allowing students access to information which is in turn directly linked to improved education outcomes.

No additional schools will be built in the Bitou municipal area from 2022/23 to 2024/25 (MTEF).

Learner teacher ratio

The recommended learner teacher ratio in South African schools is 35:1-40:1, however this is not the case for most schools in the Western Cape. 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 remained unchanged between 2019 and 2021 at 32.4 and is below the recommended learner teacher ratio.

Learner Retention

The learner retention rate measures the proportion of learners in Grade 12 who were in Grade 10 two years prior. Learner retention rate can be affected by low socio-economic background, student attitudes towards education, critical thinking skills, study skills and other personal circumstances that can make it difficult for the learner to focus on education. Overcrowded classrooms are also blamed as being one of the reasons for high learner drop out rates.

Although learner retention rate in the Bitou municipal area improved gradually from 52.4 per cent in 2019 to 66.1 per cent in 2021, more than a third of the learners dropped out of school, emigrated out of the municipal area or failed a grade between Grade 10 and Grade 12.

Education outcomes (Matric Pass Rates)

Education remains one of the key avenues through which the state is involved in the economy. In preparing individuals for future engagement in the labour market, policy choices and decisions in the sphere of education play a critical role in determining the extent to which future economic and poverty reduction plans can be realised. Bitou's matric pass rate deteriorated from 89.6 per cent in 2019 to 79.5 per cent in 2021; recording the second lowest matric pass rate in the Garden Route District.

HEALTH

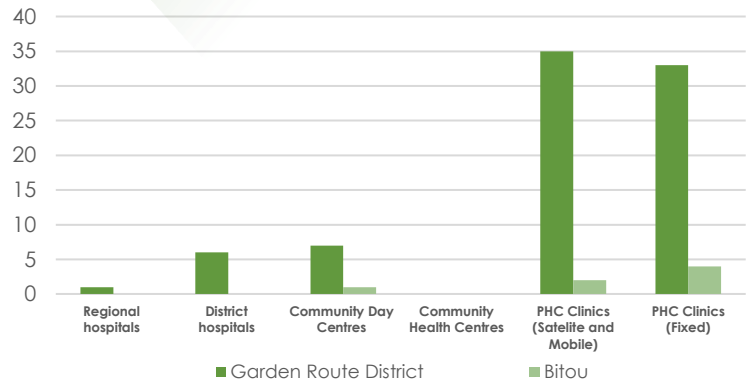


HIV/AIDS

Area	Total Registered patients receiving ART		Number of new ART patients	
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22
Bitou	3 502	3 677	240	229
Garden Route District	26 996	27 825	2 068	2 120



Healthcare facilities



Maternal health

Area	Maternal Mortality Rate		Delivery rate to women under 20 years		Termination of pregnancy rate	
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22
Bitou	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Garden Route District	121.5	56.8	14.7	15.4	0.5	0.5



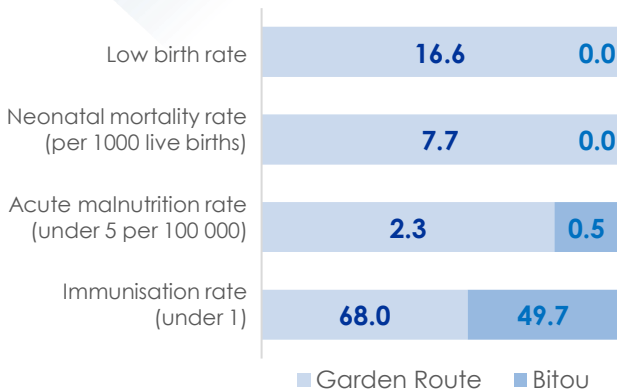
Emergency medical services

2021

Health Indicator	Bitou	Garden Route District
EMS Operational Ambulances	4	28
No. of operational ambulances per 10 000 people	0.6	0.4

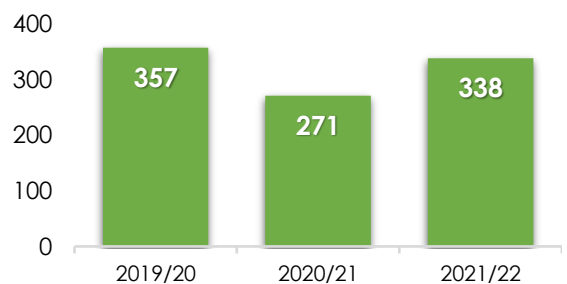


Child health



Tuberculosis

Number of patients



Health

Healthcare facilities

In 2021, the Bitou municipal area had 5 primary healthcare facilities, comprising of 4 fixed clinics and 1 community day centre. In addition, there are 2 mobile/satellite clinics, 7 ART treatment sites and 7 TB clinics. There are no district or regional hospitals in the municipal area. Bitou has 7 out of the 82 (8.5 per cent) healthcare facilities within the Garden Route region.

HIV/AIDS & Tuberculosis

The number of registered patients receiving antiretroviral treatment (ART) in the Bitou municipal area increased by 229 patients in 2021/22, down from an increase of 240 in the previous year. In total, 3 677 registered patients received antiretroviral treatment in the Bitou municipal area in 2021/22. There has been an average annual decline of 2.7 per cent between 2019/20 (357) and 2021/22 (338) in the number of registered patients receiving TB treatment in the Bitou municipal area.

Child health

The immunisation coverage rate for children under the age of one in the Bitou municipal area declined slightly from 54.9 per cent in 2020/21 to 49.7 per cent in 2021/22 and is significantly lower than the overall Garden Route District rate of 68 per cent. The number of malnourished children under five years of age (severe acute malnutrition) per 100 000 people in the municipal area increased notably from 0.3 in 2020/21 to 0.5 in 2021/22. The Garden Route District rate declined from 1.6 to 2.3. The neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1 000 live births before 28 days of life) for the Bitou municipal area remained at 0.0 between 2020/21 and 2021/22 and is the lowest in the District. The low-birth-weight rate, which is the total babies born in a facility in the municipal area weighing less than 2 500 grams remained the lowest across the District at 0.0 between 2020/21 and 2021/22.

Maternal health

The Bitou municipal area recorded the lowest number of maternal deaths (0.0 per 100 000 live births) and teenage pregnancies (0 per cent) in the Garden Route district between 2020/21 and 2021/22. The termination of pregnancy rate (0.1 per cent of the female population between 15 and 55 years if age) remained unchanged across this period.

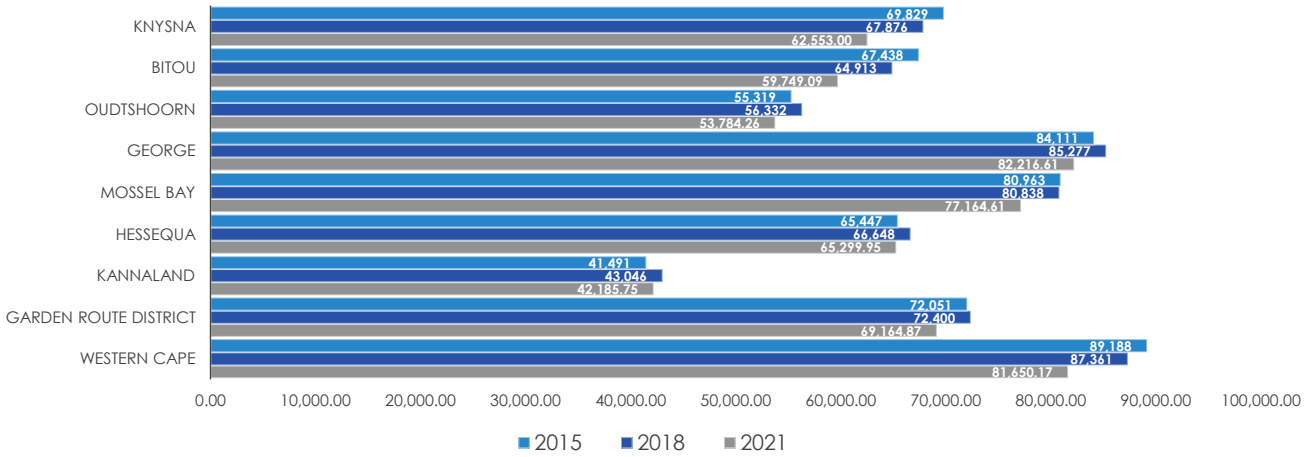
Emergency medical services

The provision of more operational ambulances can provide greater coverage of emergency medical services. The Bitou municipal area had a total of 4 ambulances in 2021 compared to 28 ambulances for the Garden Route District over the same period. The number of ambulances per 10 000 people are 0.6 for Bitou compared 0.4 for the Garden Route over 2021. This number only refers to Provincial ambulances and excludes all private service providers.

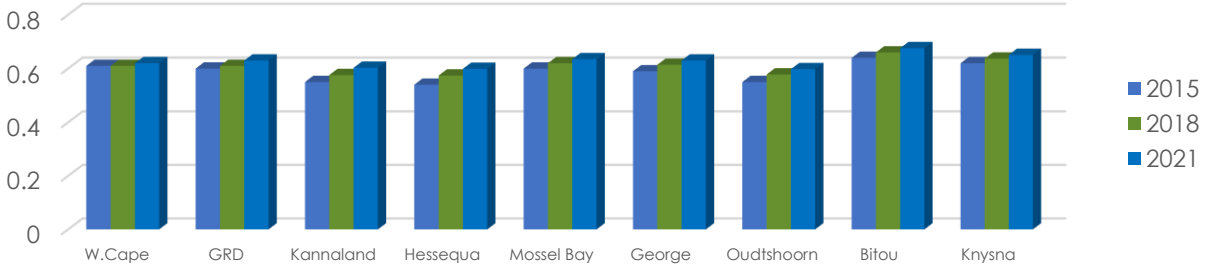
POVERTY



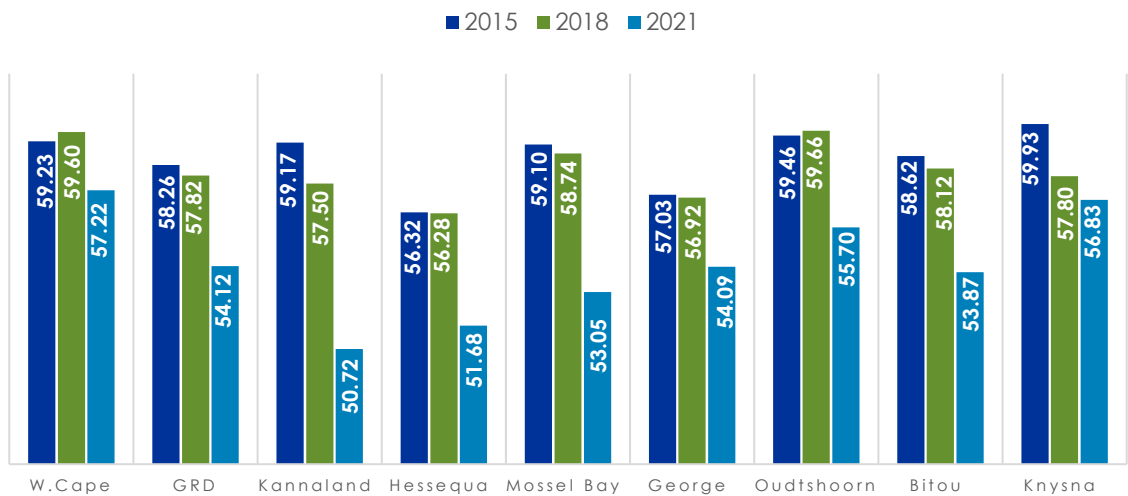
GDP per capita



Income inequality



Poverty Line



Poverty

GDPR Per Capita

An increase in GDPR per capita, i.e., GDPR per person, is experienced only if the economic growth rate exceeds the population growth rate. At R59 749 in 2021, Bitou Municipality's real GDPR per capita is below that of the Garden Route District (R69 165) and the Western Cape's figure of R81 650 for the same period. The Bitou municipal area's GDPR per capita has declined gradually from R67 438 in 2015 to R64 913 in 2018 and further to R59 749 in 2021, which is a result of rapid population growth as well as the recessionary economic environment caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Income Inequality

South Africa suffers among the highest levels of inequality in the world when measured by the commonly used Gini coefficient 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. Income inequality has increased in the Garden Route District from 2015 (0.6) to 2021 (0.63). These disparities in income are certain to worsen across the ensuing MTREF given the potential aftereffects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Bitou has displayed a similar trend to that of the District's trajectory with inequality levels worsening from 0.64 in 2015 to 0.68 in 2021.

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 227 (in April 2019 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. The NDP aims to eliminate poverty by 2030.

In 2021, 53.8 per cent of Bitou's population fell below the UBPL. This figure improved marginally from 58.6 per cent in 2015 followed by 58.1 per cent in 2018. Bitou is the fourth lowest in terms of proportion of people living in poverty in the Garden Route District after Mossel Bay (53.0 per cent), Hessequa (51.6 per cent) and Kannaland (50.7).

BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY

Total number of households

18 022

Bitou

176 706

Garden Route District

Formal main dwelling

13 303

Bitou

149 079

Garden Route District

73.8%

84.4%

70.1% Bitou
76.6% Garden Route

House/brick structure on separate stand/yard

0.1% Bitou
0.1% Garden Route

Traditional dwelling

3.0% Bitou
6.3% Garden Route

Flat/simplex/duplex/triplex or room/flat on shared property

1.1% Bitou
0.6% Garden Route

Other/Unspecified

0.8% Bitou
1.5% Garden Route

House/flat/room in backyard

9.6% Bitou
6.0% Garden Route

Informal dwelling in backyard

15.4% Bitou
8.9% Garden Route

Informal dwelling not in backyard



Piped water inside dwelling/yard or communal/neighbor's tap

Bitou	98.1%
Garden Route	97.7%



Electricity (incl. generator) as primary source of lighting

Bitou	96.4%
Garden Route	94.5%



Flush/chemical toilet

Bitou	98.8%
Garden Route	96.9%



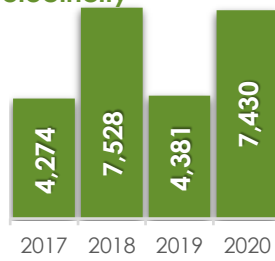
Refuse removal at least once a week

Bitou	80.5%
Garden Route	88.5%

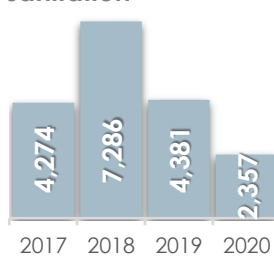
Free basic water



Free basic electricity



Free basic sanitation



Free basic refuse removal



Basic Service Delivery

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 Quantec Research for 2021. The latest official statistics was collected by Statistics South Africa for the 2016 Community Survey; the 2021 Census will provide the updated official statistics. The information on free basic services is obtained from Statistics South Africa's Non-Financial Census of Municipalities survey findings.

Housing and Household Services

With a total of 18 022 households in the Bitou municipal area, 73.8 per cent had access to formal housing. This is lower than the Garden Route District average of 84.4 per cent. The area also had a higher proportion of informal dwellings, a total of 25 per cent compared with the District's total of 14.9 per cent.

Service access levels within the municipal area were considerably higher than the access to formal housing, with access to piped water inside dwelling/yard or communal/neighbour's tap at 98.1 per cent, access to a flush or chemical toilet at 98.8 per cent, access to electricity (including a generator) for lighting at 96.4 per cent and the removal of refuse at least weekly by local authority at 80.5 per cent of households. These access levels were above the District figures for electricity, water and sanitation, but refuse removal services was lower than that of the District (88.5 per cent).

Free Basic Services

Municipalities also provide a package of free basic services to households who are financially vulnerable and struggle to pay for services. The number of households receiving free basic services in the Bitou municipal area has declined sharply in 2020, except for free basic electricity, which increased between 2019 and 2020. The stressed economic conditions is expected to exert additional pressure on household income, which will likely increase the demand for free basic services and in turn the number of indigent households. However, this is area specific and dependent on the qualifying criteria which is used.

SAFETY AND SECURITY



MURDER		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Actual Number	Bitou	17	11	19
	Garden Route District	206	159	198
Per 100 000	Bitou	27	16	27
	Garden Route District	33	26	32

SEXUAL OFFENCES		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Actual Number	Bitou	97	85	78
	Garden Route District	1 023	873	904
Per 100 000	Bitou	149	126	113
	Garden Route District	166	140	144



DRUG – RELATED OFFENCES		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Actual Number	Bitou	257	261	298
	Garden Route District	5 825	3 926	4 689
Per 100 000	Bitou	394	388	430
	Garden Route District	945	630	748



DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Actual Number	Bitou	86	48	58
	Garden Route District	1 996	899	927
Per 100 000	Bitou	132	71	84
	Garden Route District	324	144	148



Fatal Crashes [Actual]	Bitou	11	8	7
Road user Fatalities [Actual]	Bitou	13	8	7

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Actual Number	Bitou	568	572	428
	Garden Route District	4 893	4 307	3 732
Per 100 000	Bitou	873	850	619
	Garden Route District	794	691	595



Safety and Security

Murder

Murder is defined as the unlawful and intentional killing of another person.

Within the Bitou municipal area, the number of murders increased from 11 in 2020/21 to 19 in 2021/22. Bitou municipal area's murder rate (per 100 000 people) increased from 16 in 2020/21 to 27 in 2021/22 and is below the Garden Route District's murder rate (per 100 000 people) of 32 in 2021/22. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2019) the 2017 global murder rate was 6.1 (per 100 000 people) and is significantly below the reports within both the District and the Municipality.

Sexual Offences

Sexual offences include rape (updated to the new definition of rape to provide for the inclusion of male rape), sex work, pornography, public indecency and human trafficking.

In 2021/22, there were 78 sexual offences in the Bitou area. The incidence of sexual offences (per 100 000 people) in the Bitou municipal area (113) was lower than that of the District (144) in 2021/22. South Africa is amongst the top 5 countries in the world with respect to reports of rape, therefore it is a huge problem that needs to be addressed. A National Strategic Plan on gender-based violence and femicide has been developed in response.

Drug-related Offences

Drug-related crimes refer to the situation where the perpetrator is found to be in possession of, under the influence of, or selling illegal drugs.

Drug-related crime within the Bitou area increased from 261 cases in 2020/21 to 298 cases in 2021/22. When considering the rate per 100 000 people, with 430 drug-related offences per 100 000 people in 2021/22, the Bitou municipal area's rate is below the Garden Route District's 748 per 100 000 population.

Driving under the influence (DUI)

A situation where the driver of a vehicle is found to be over the legal blood alcohol limit.

The number of cases of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in the Bitou area increased from 48 in 2020/21 to 58 in 2021/22. This translates into a rate of 84 per 100 000 people in 2021/22, which is below the Garden Route District's 148 per 100 000 people.

Road user fatalities

Road users that died in or during a crash i.e. drivers, cyclists, passengers, pedestrians.

The number of road user fatalities in the Bitou area declined slightly from 8 in 2020/21 to 7 in 2021/22. While the number of fatal crashes are the same at 8 and 7 for the reference period.

Residential Burglaries

The unlawful entry of a residential structure with the intent to commit a crime, usually a theft.

The number of residential burglaries in the Bitou area declined from 572 in 2020/21 to 428 in 2021/22. Bitou municipal area's rate of 619 residential burglaries per 100 000 population is above the District's 595 for 2021/22.

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- Age cohorts: *Department of Social Development. 2022*
- Number of households: *Department of Social Development. 2022*
- Household size: *Department of Social Development. 2022*
- Population density: *Department of Social Development. 2022*

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- Learner-teacher ratio: *Western Cape Education Department. 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS). 2022*
- Learner retention: *Western Cape Education Department. 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS). 2022*
- Educational facilities: *Western Cape Education Department. 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS). 2022*
- No-fee schools: *Western Cape Education Department. 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS). 2022*
- Schools with libraries: *Western Cape Education Department. 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS). 2022*
- Educational outcomes: *Western Cape Education Department. 2020; Annual Survey of Public and Independent Schools (ASS). 2022*

3. Health

- Healthcare facilities: *Department of Health. 2022*
- Emergency medical services: *Department of Health. 2022*
- HIV/AIDS: *Department of Health. 2022*
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- Child health: *Department of Health. 2022*
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- Income Inequality (Gini-coefficient): *Quantec Research. 2022*
- Upper Bound Poverty Line (UBPL): *Quantec Research. 2022*

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- Households: Quantec Research. 2022
- Access to housing: Quantec Research. 2022
- Access to water: Quantec Research. 2022
- Access to electricity: Quantec Research. 2022
- Access to sanitation: Quantec Research. 2022
- Access to refuse removal: Quantec Research. 2022
- Free Basic Services: *Statistics South Africa. Non-Financial Census of Municipalities 2020*

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- Driving under the influence: *South African Police Service (SAPS). 2022. own calculations*
- Residential burglaries: *South African Police Service (SAPS). 2020. 2022 calculations*
- Road user fatalities: *Department of Transport and Public Works. 2022*

7. Economy

- Sector Performance: *Quantec Research. 2022*
- Employment growth per sector: *Quantec Research. 2022*
- Trends in labour force skills: *Quantec Research. 2022*
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