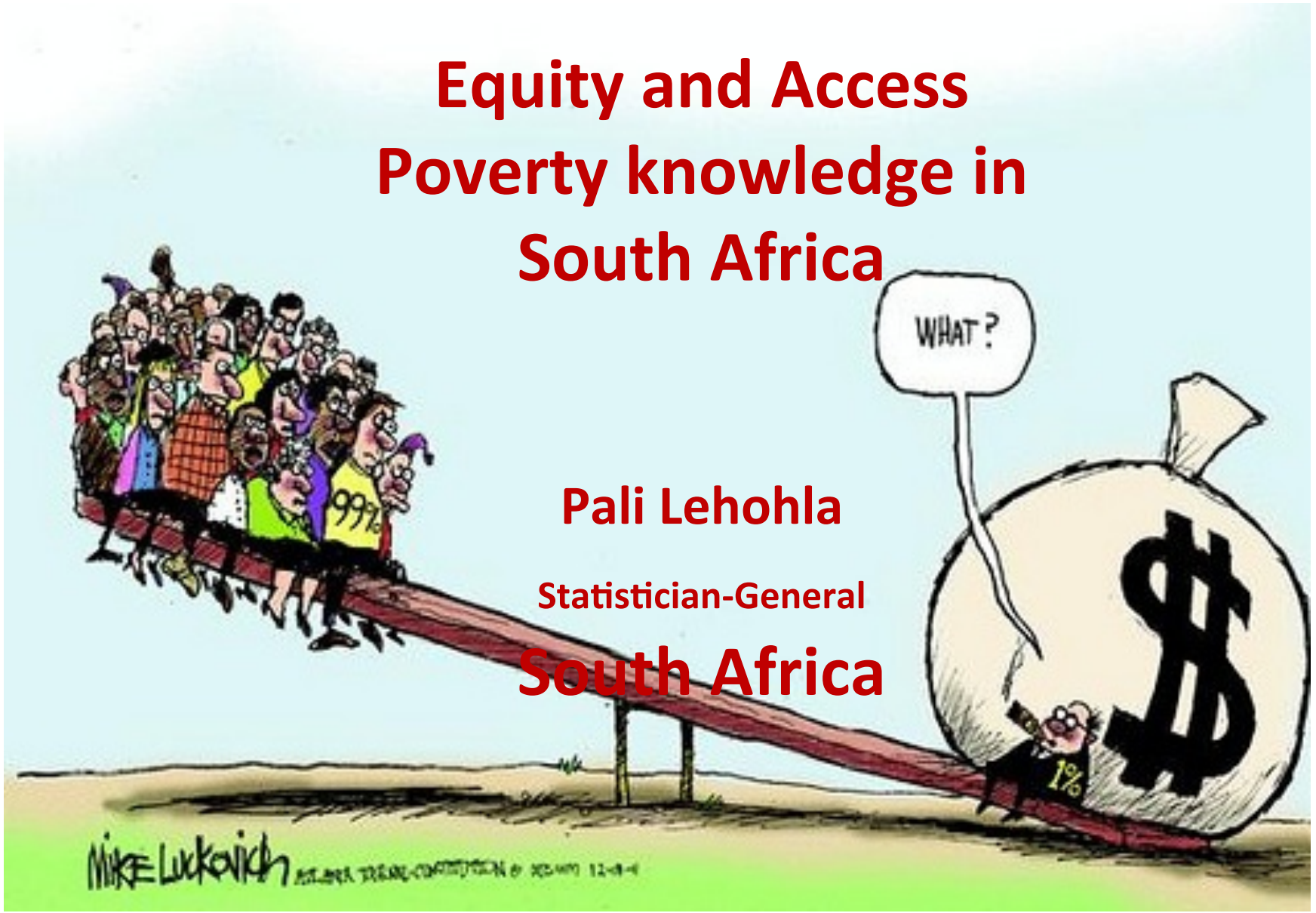
Equity and Access
Poverty knowledge in South Africa



Pali Lehohla

Statistician-General

South Africa

Use of Statistics to frame Inequality in South Africa

Why Multidimensional Poverty Indices (MPI) approach is good for South Africa National Development Plan (NDP)

Uses and Misuses of Statistics

- **Bills of Mortality from late 16th century**

- **The Lady with the Lamp Florence Nightingale-**
  - **Crimean war and discovery of antibiotics 1854**

- **Sally Clarke and Meadows Law the case of SIDS –**
  - **one death is a tragedy, two are suspicious and three are murder 1996**

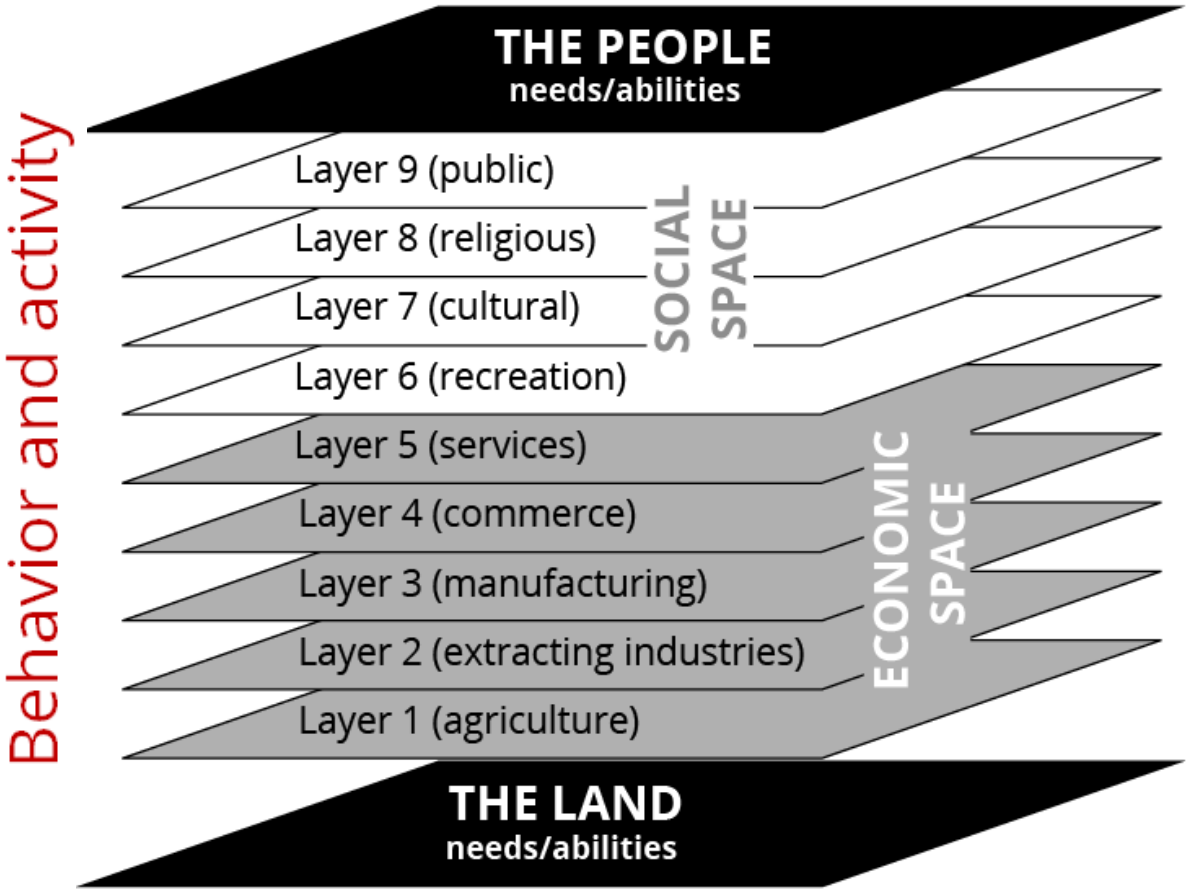
One death is a tragedy one million is a statistic Joseph Stalin

- **David and Kathleen Long and the lotto**
  - **winning more than a million twice in as many years 2015**

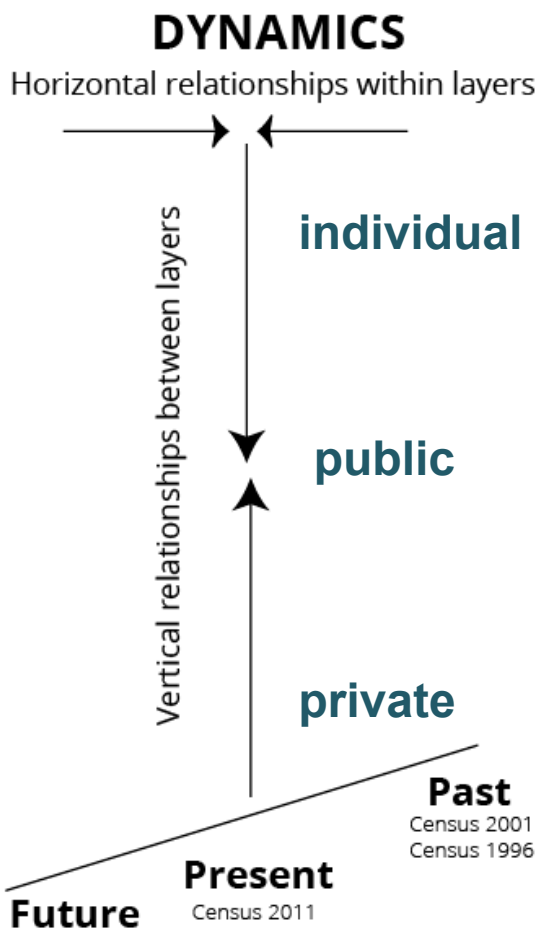
The Hospital deaths and the Phillipino Nurse

- **Sentenced for three but eleven more apparent 2015**

Human activities in space



BIG DATA WORLD

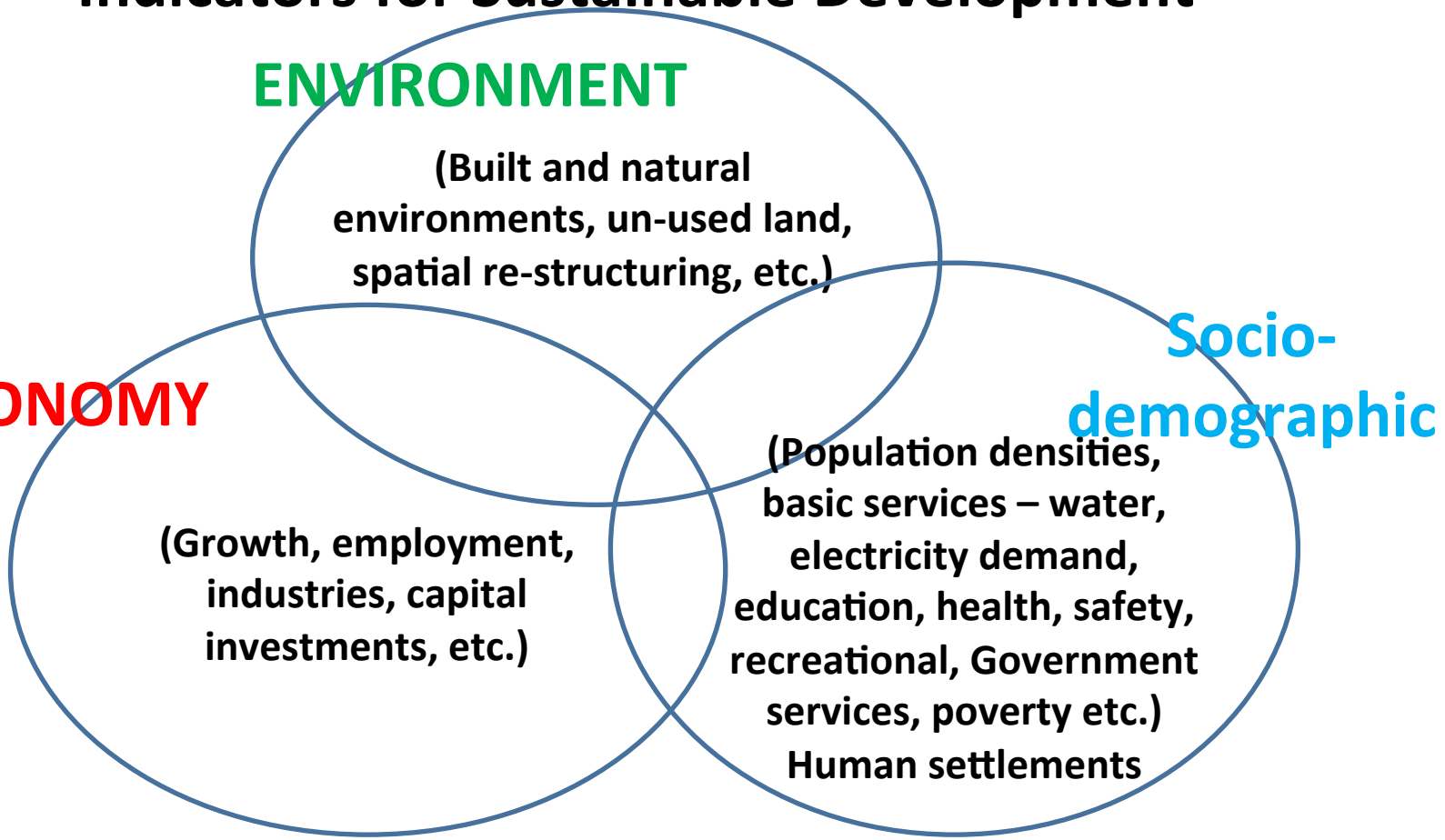


geography = over space and place

data = template of evidence

Indicators for Sustainable Development

Intersection of natural capital Economy and Society

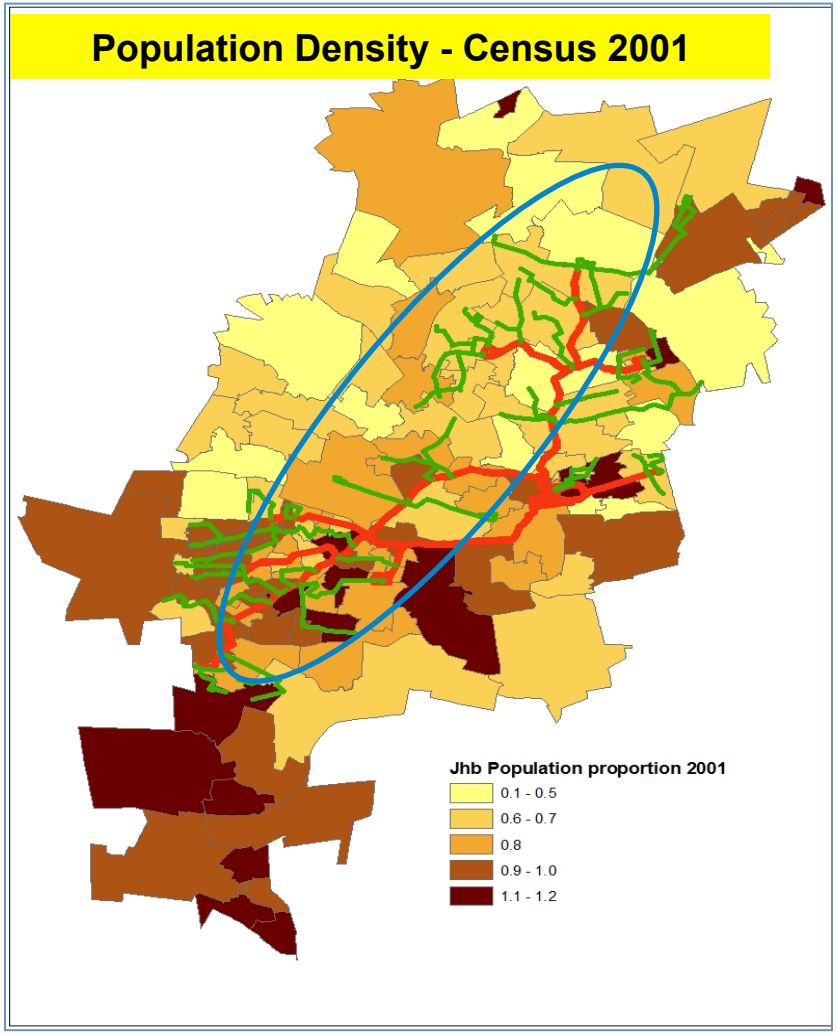


- Requires measuring 'bottom-up' within the place/ neighbourhood/ community/ wards
- Requires strong institutions (local municipalities, districts, cities & provinces)

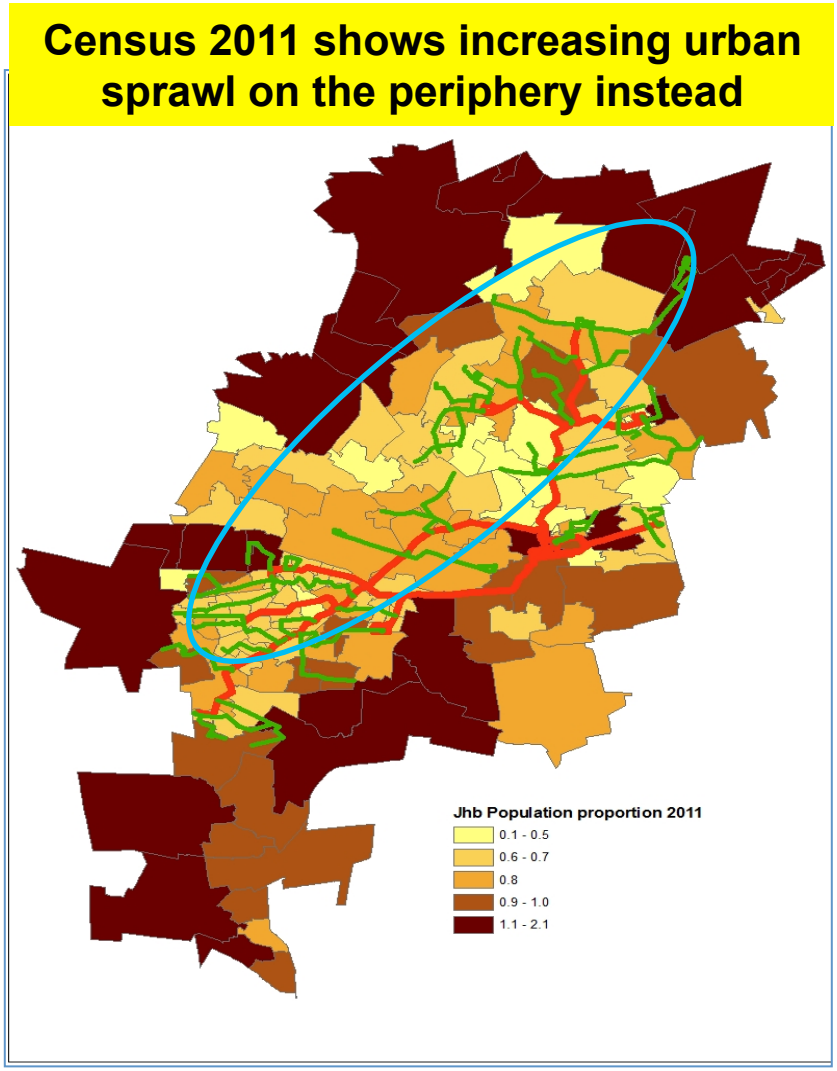
Geography as a dimension: Human Settlements policy

The 2011 settlement patterns illustrate that policy intentions and public action are at variance with densification on the margins

Population Density - Census 2001



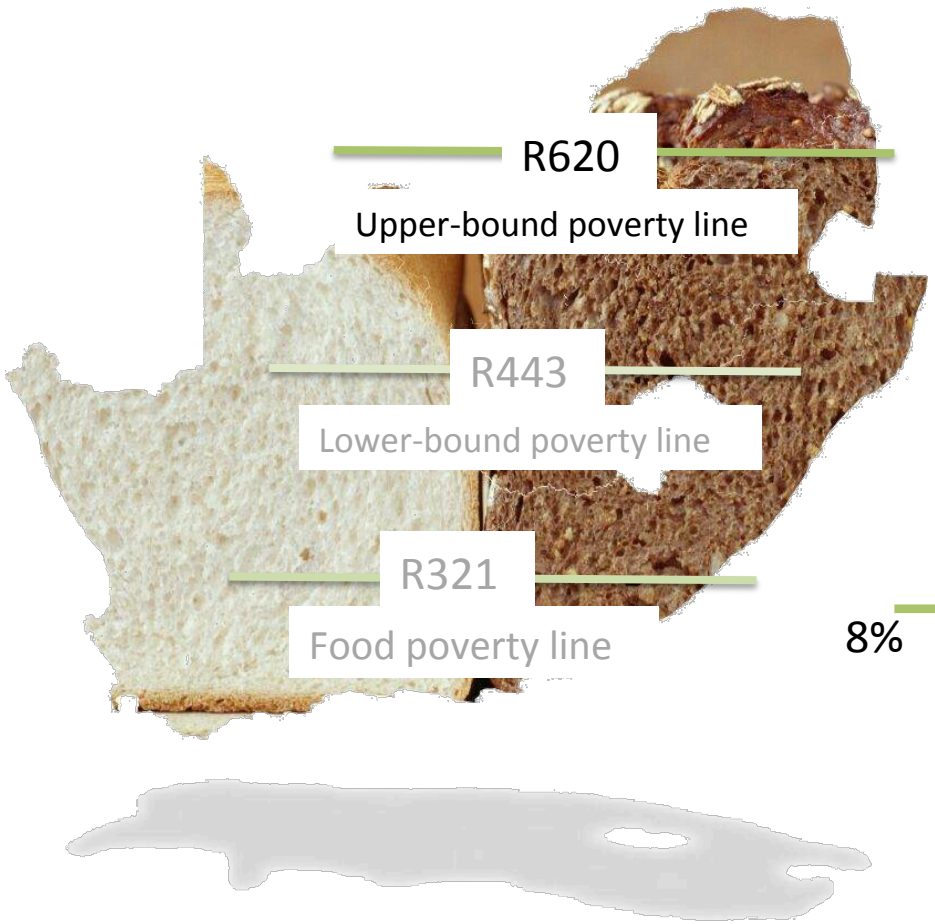
Census 2011 shows increasing urban sprawl on the periphery instead

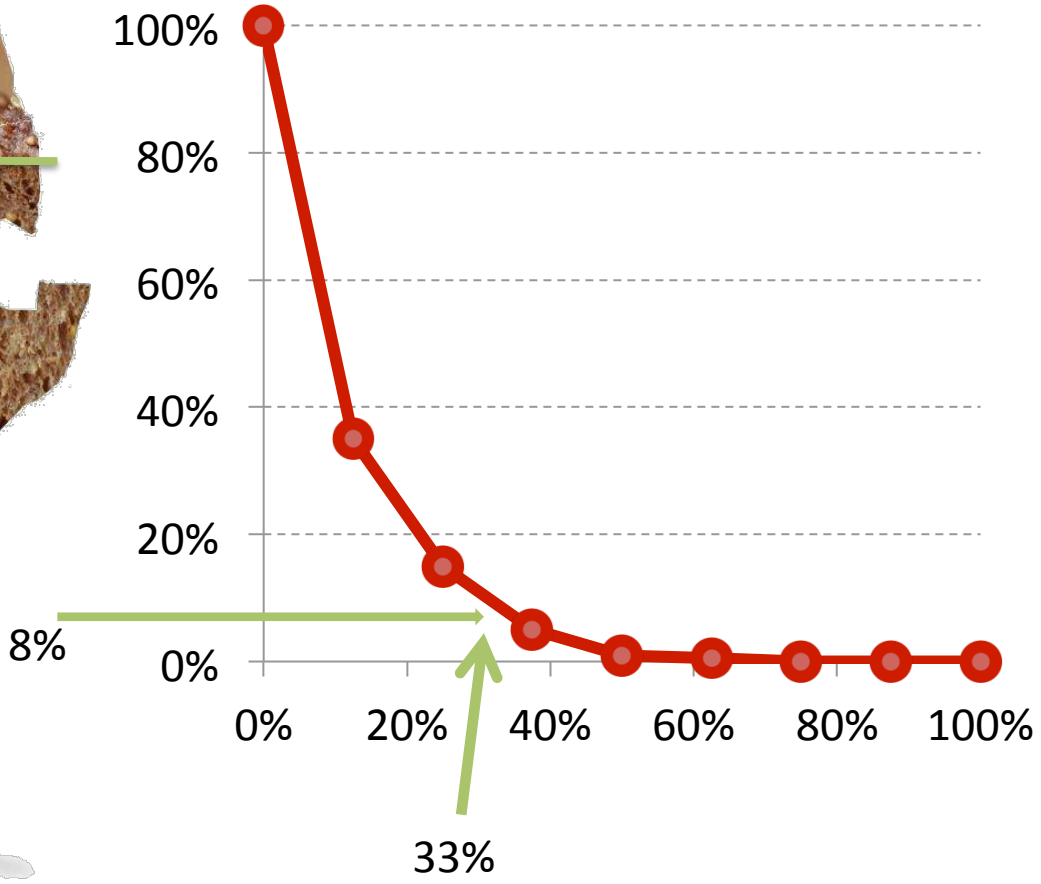


Spatio-Cultural and Temporal Dimensions of Measurement

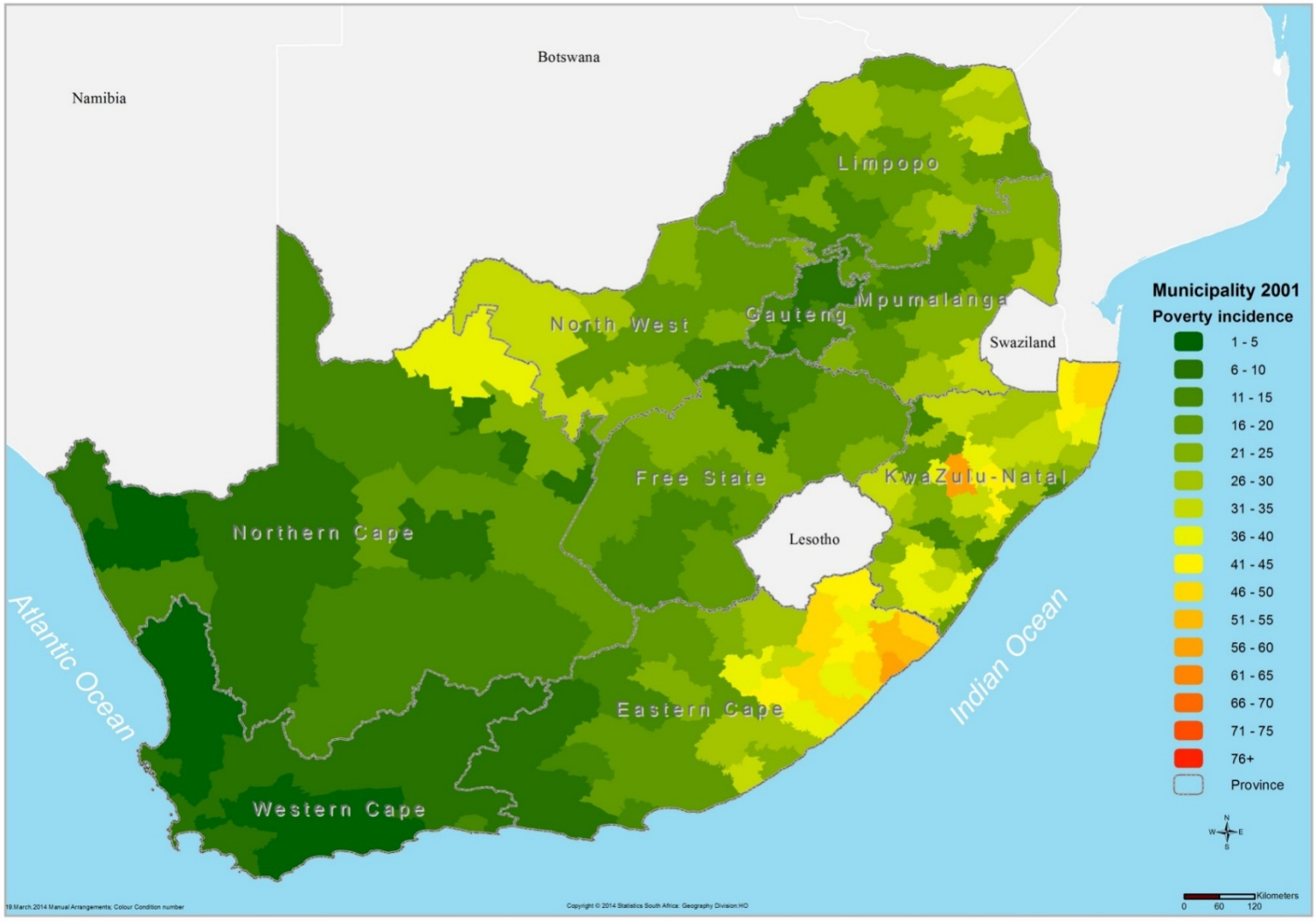
Trends in terms of age

Measuring poverty

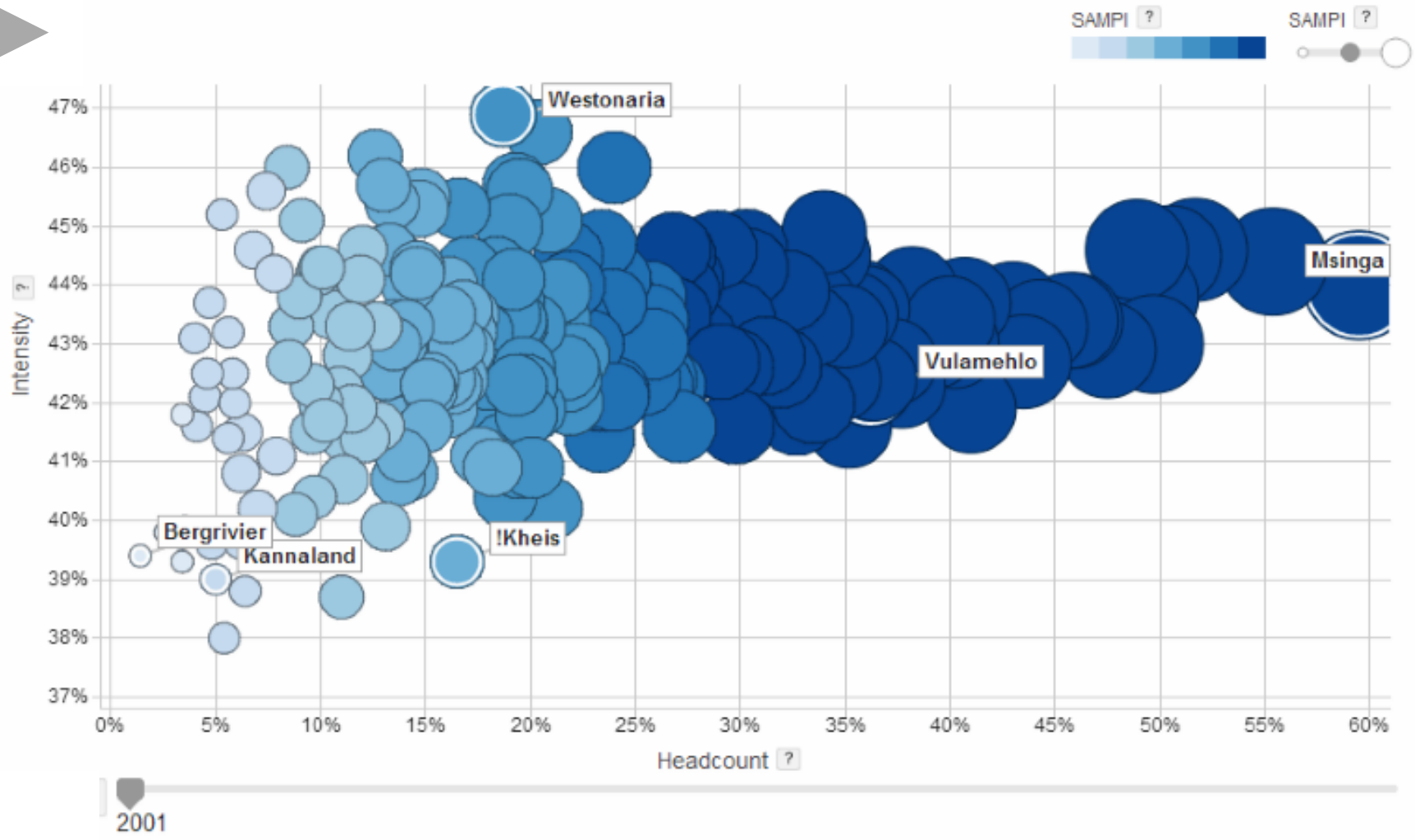




Mapping the poverty headcount by municipality – 2001-2011 (SAMPI)



Poverty headcount by municipality – 2001-2011 (SAMPI)



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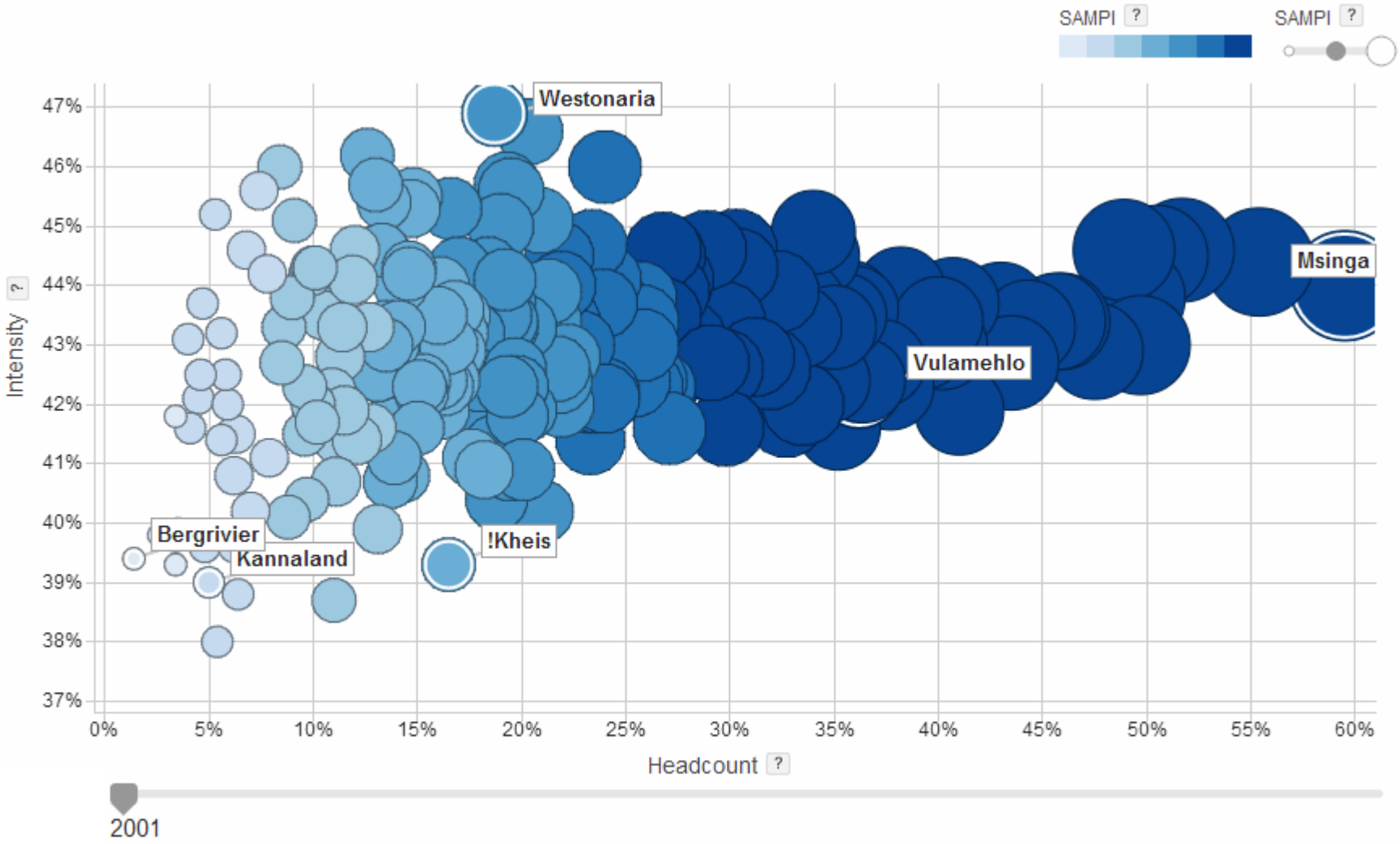

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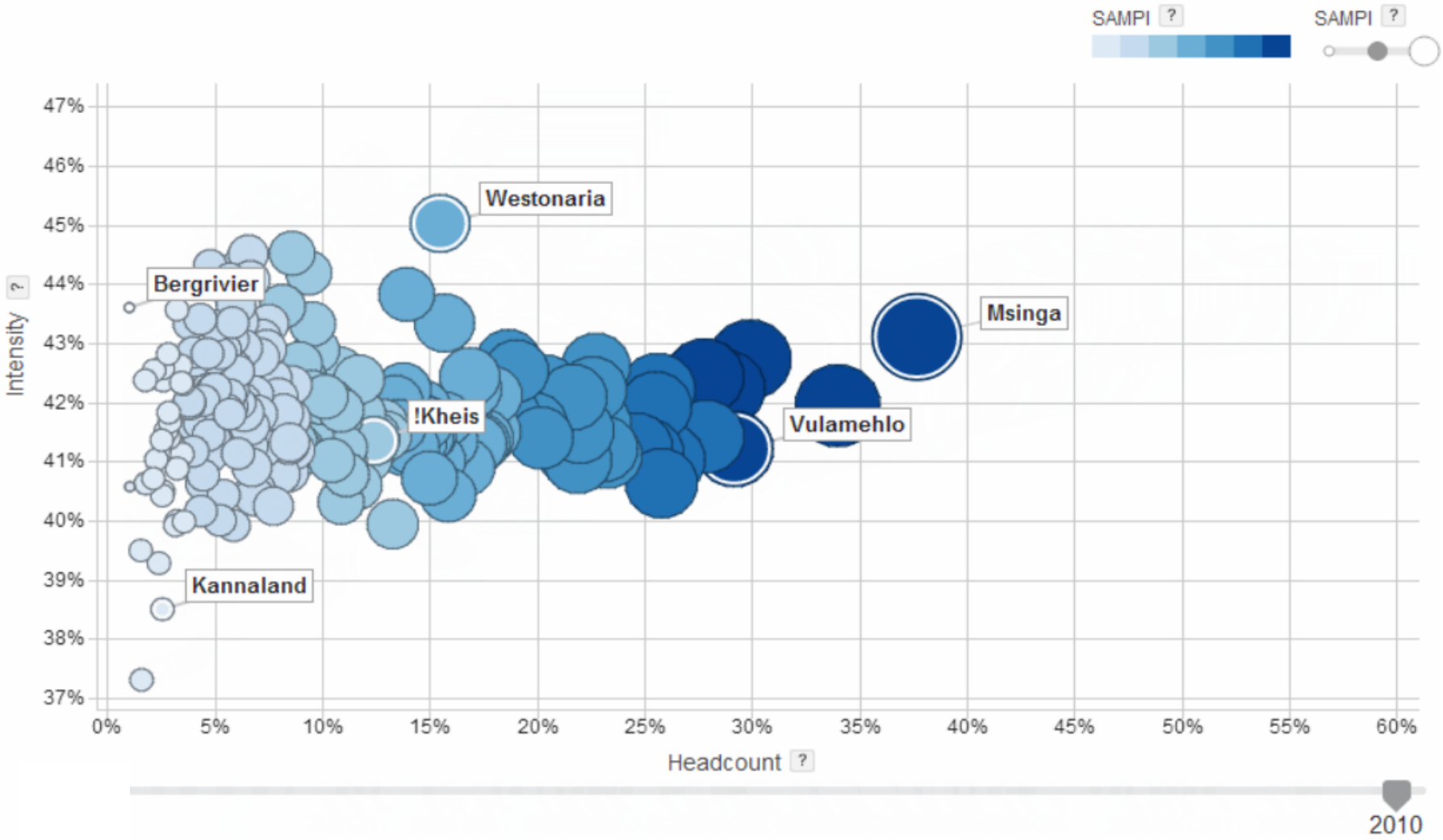
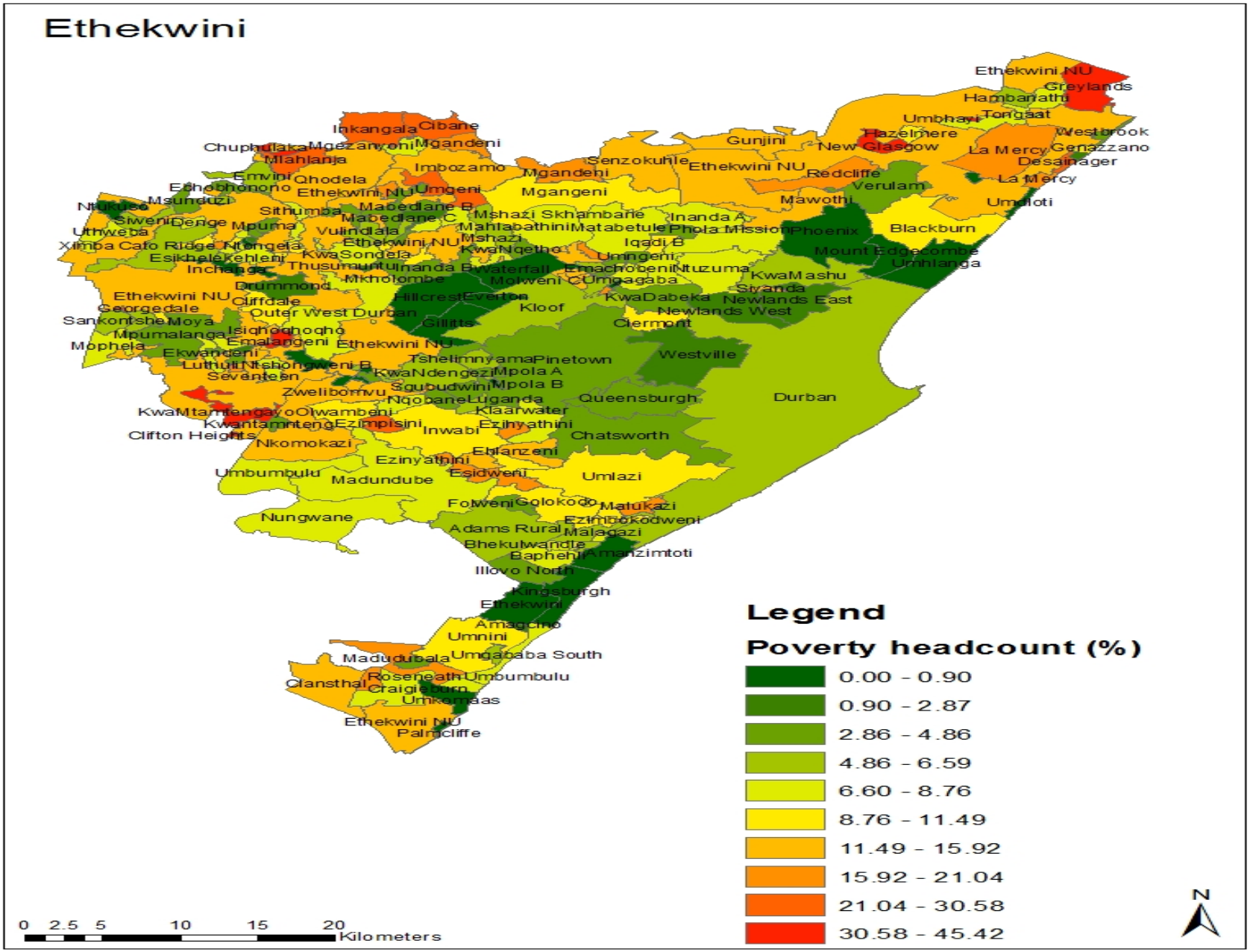
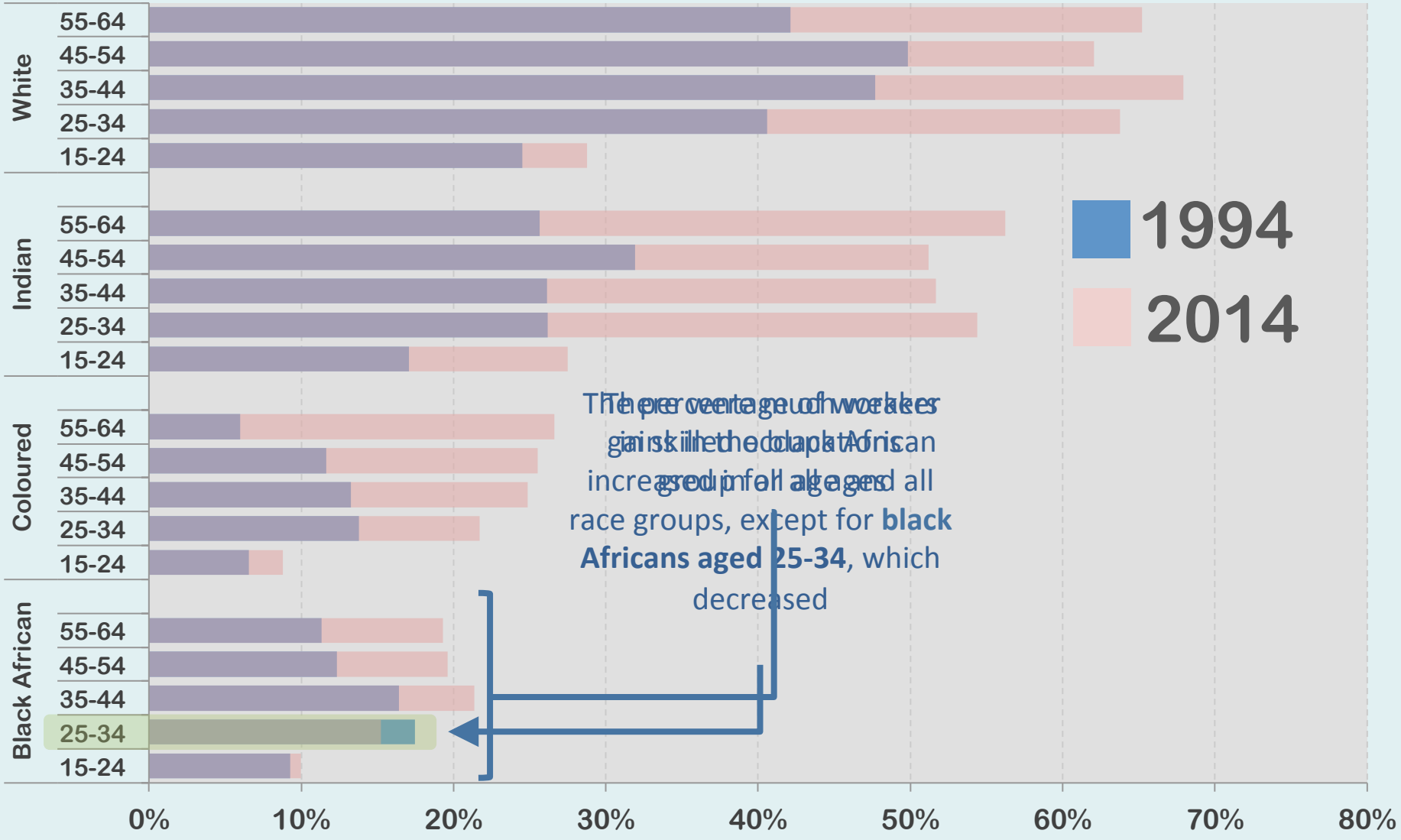


Poverty can be spatially represented and thereby allowing better targeting

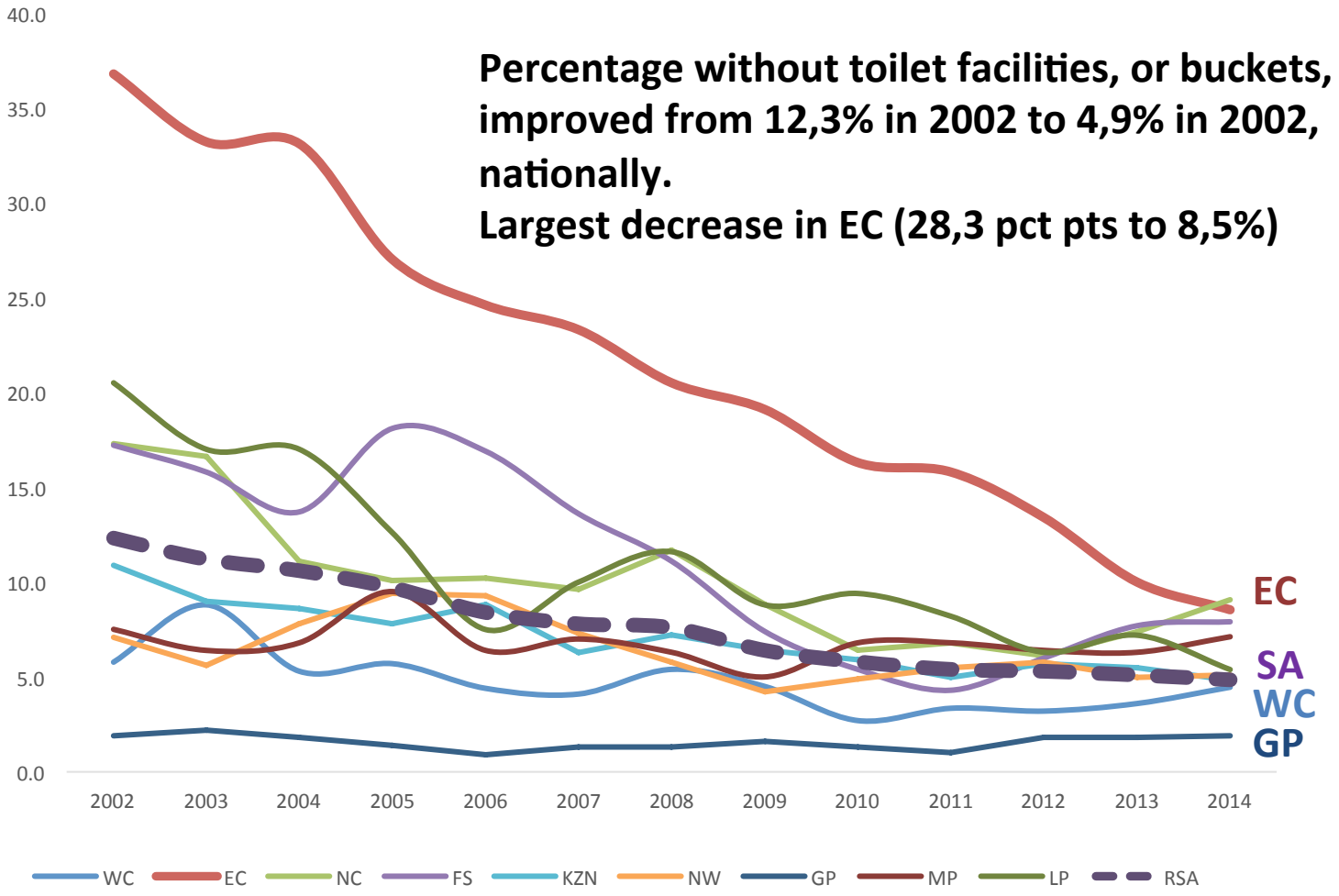


Percentage of workers in each age group who are skilled (managers, professionals, technicians)

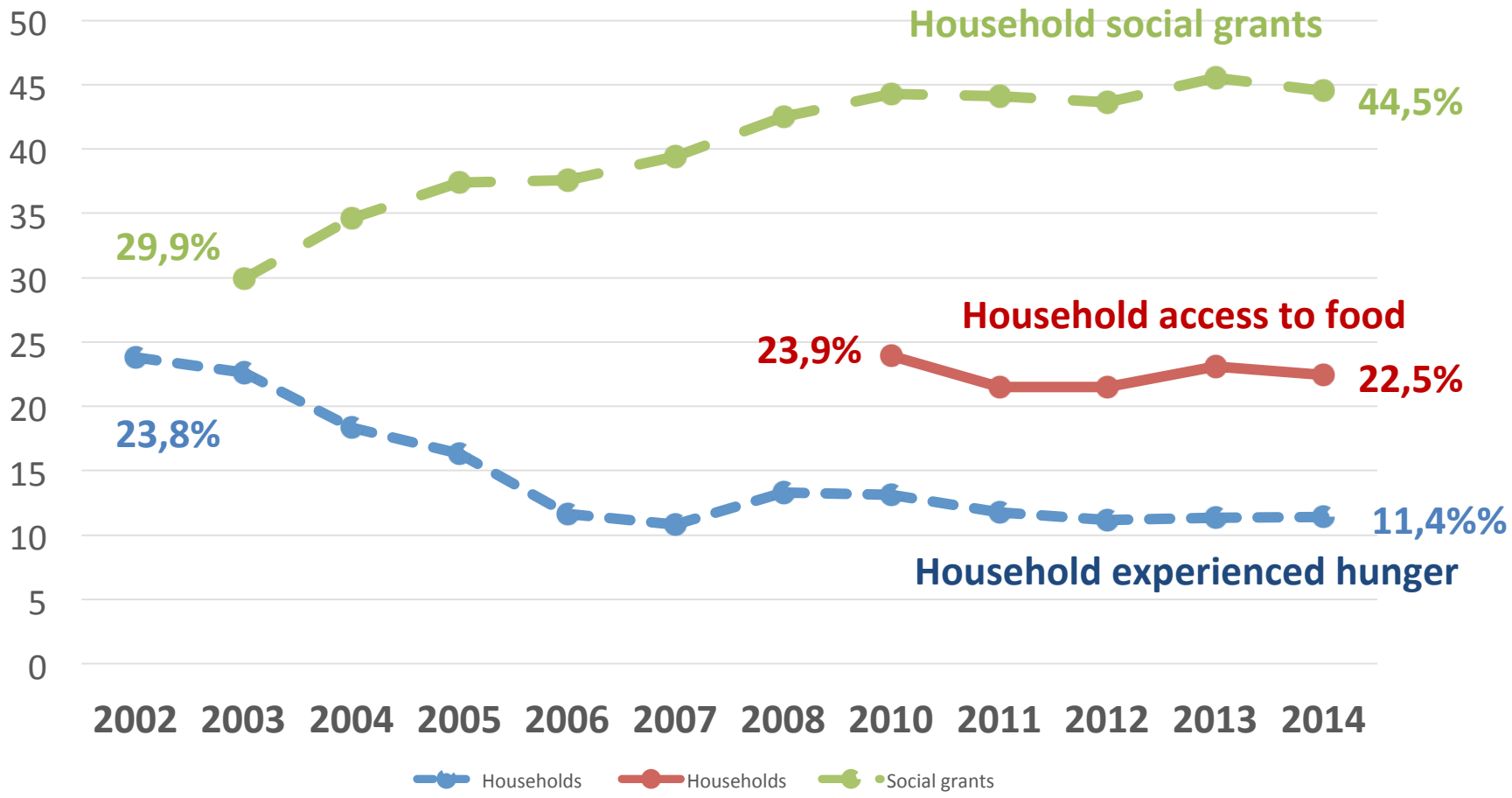


Percentage of households that have no toilet facility or were using a bucket toilet per province

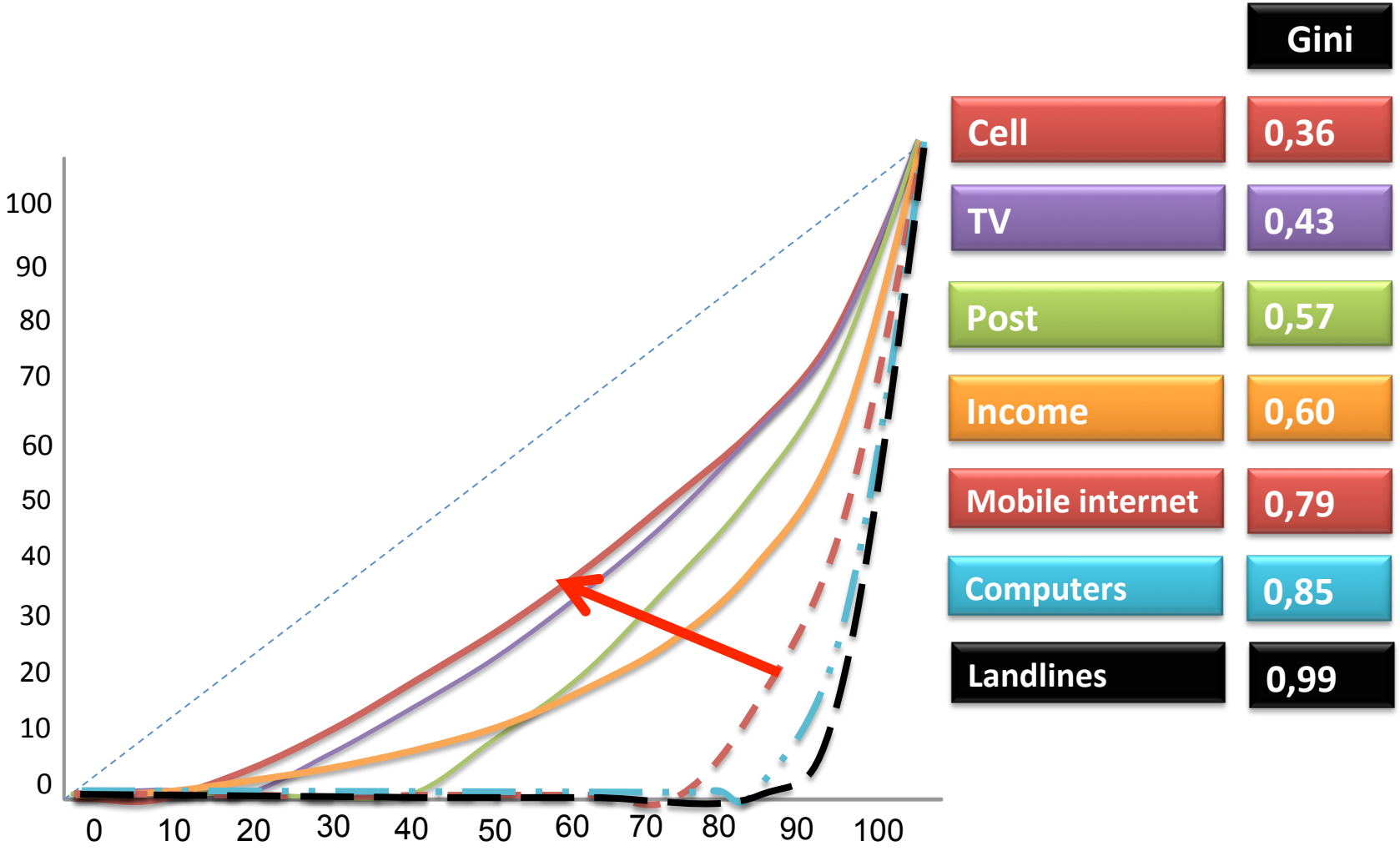
Percentage without toilet facilities, or buckets, improved from 12,3% in 2002 to 4,9% in 2002, nationally.
Largest decrease in EC (28,3 pct pts to 8,5%)



Estimated percentage of households vulnerable to hunger in South Africa vs Percentage of Households who have benefited from Social grants



Lorenz curves and Gini Coefficient.



	Gini
Cell	0,36
TV	0,43
Post	0,57
Income	0,60
Mobile internet	0,79
Computers	0,85
Landlines	0,99

Challenge is the courage to move access to broadband for low cost internet access and use

Poverty drivers in South Africa are multidimensional

Trends in terms of age and Race as a driver of poverty

Uses and Misuses of Statistics

One death is a tragedy one million is a statistic Joseph Stalin