

Section A: Indicator Comparisons by District

I. Socioeconomic Indicators

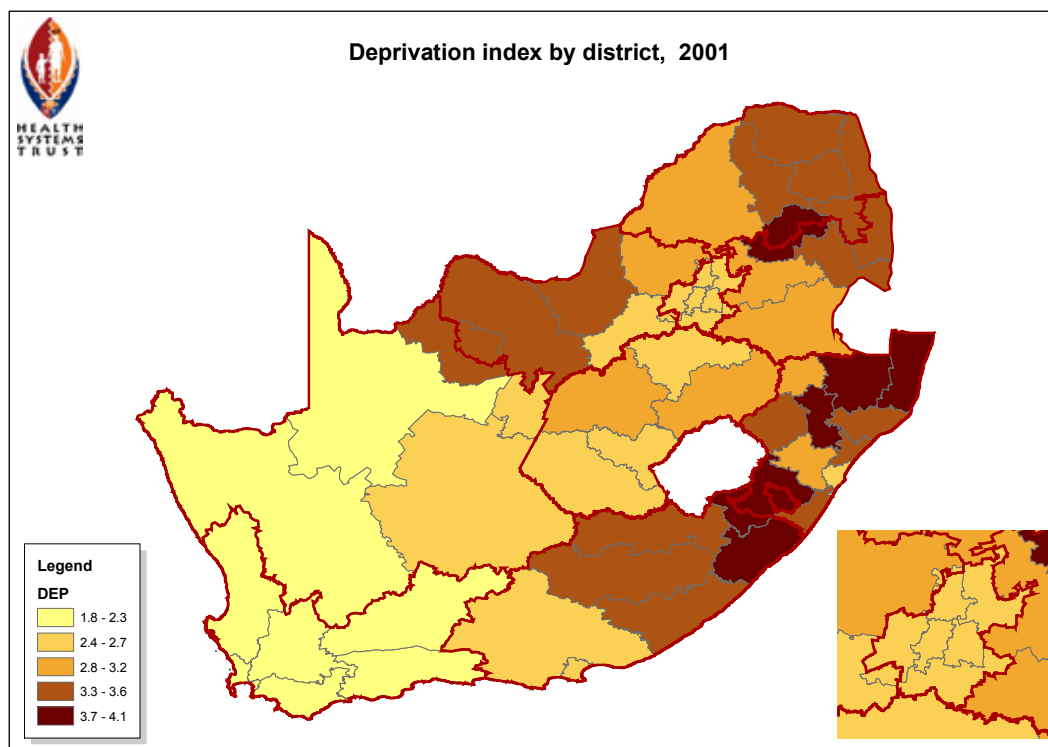
I.1 Deprivation Index

The deprivation index is a measure of material and social deprivation across districts in South Africa. The index is constructed using variables that are indicators of social and material deprivation¹ from the South African 2001 census data. Higher values of the deprivation index denote higher levels of social and material deprivation.

District View

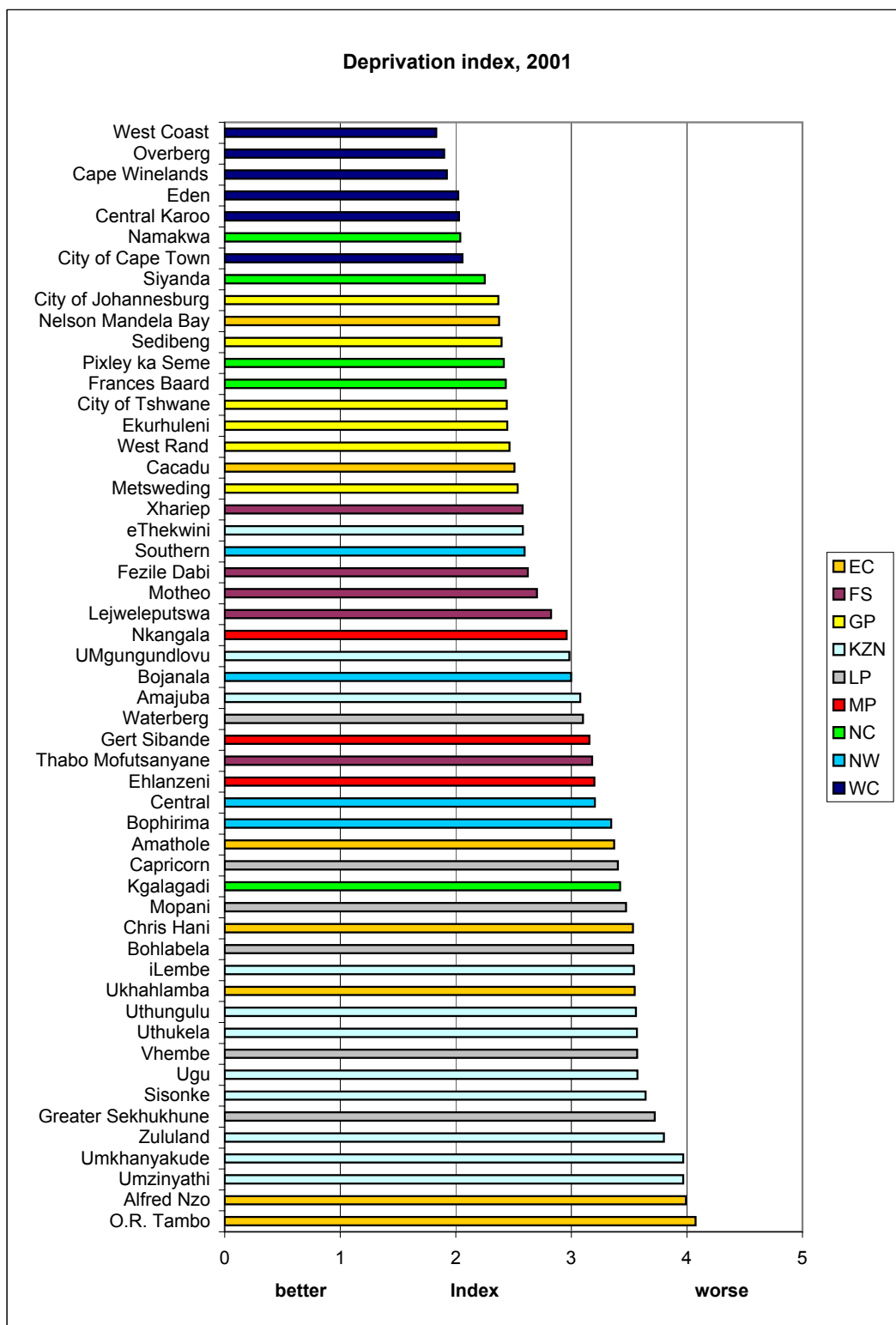
As a measure of socio-economic status, it is particularly helpful in identifying more deprived districts which potentially have a greater need for primary health care services. The graph shows deprivation index values for all districts in South Africa. It is important to note that the deprivation index is calculated relative to all other districts. As can be seen in the graph, the most deprived districts are O.R. Tambo (EC), followed by Alfred Nzo (EC) and Umzinyathi (KZN). Significantly, the five least deprived districts are from the Western Cape.

Map 1: Deprivation index by district in South Africa, 2001



¹ A complete list of variables used to construct the index is listed in the Appendix. In the appendix to this document, the method used in constructing the index is also explained.

Figure 1: Deprivation index scores for districts in South Africa, 2001



Metro Districts

Not surprisingly, metropolitan districts are among the less deprived districts. In terms of ranking from the least deprived to the most deprived districts, metropolitan districts are among the top 20. The least deprived metropolitan district is Cape Town (WC), while the most deprived is eThekweni (KZN).

Rural Nodes

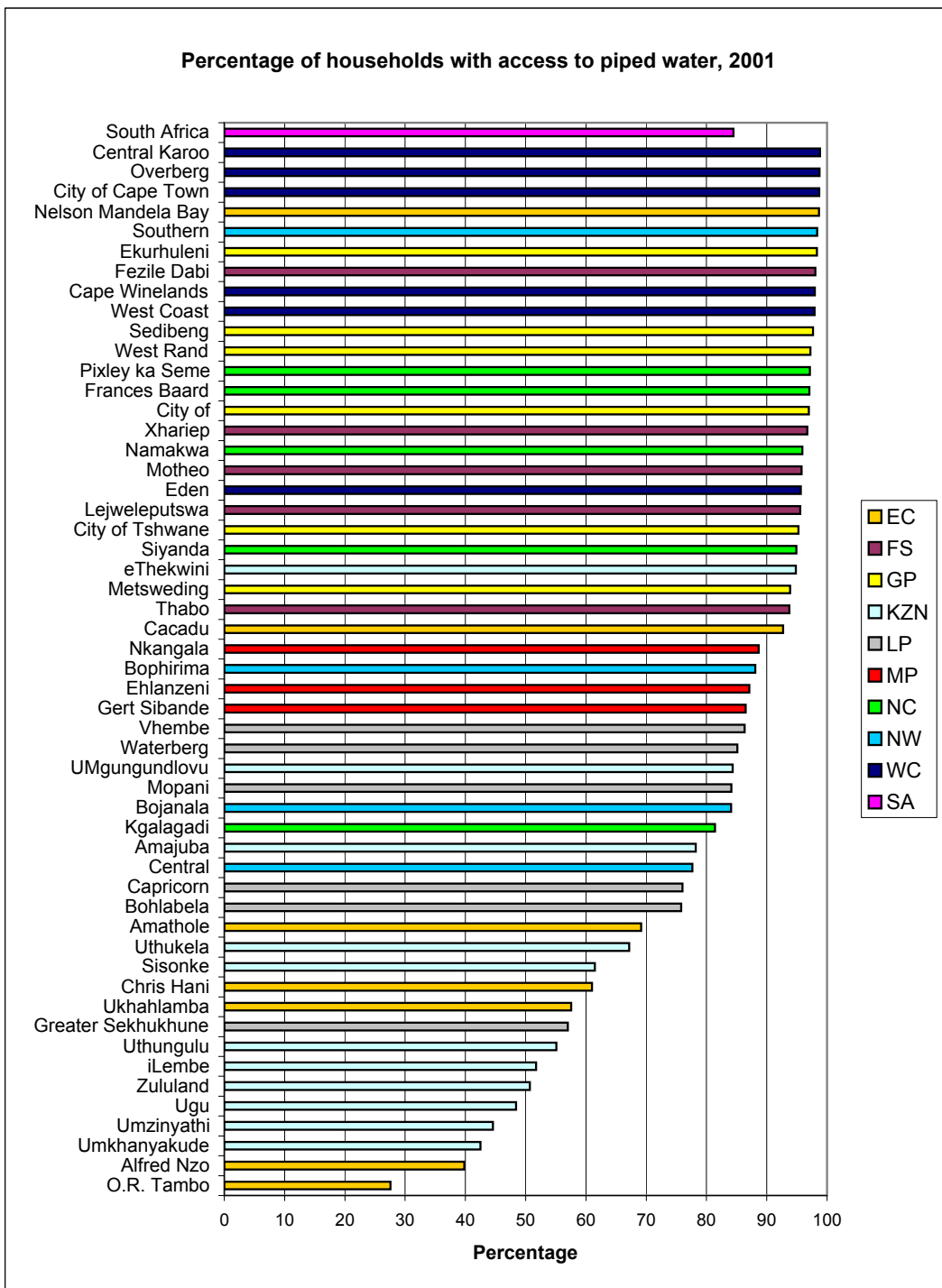
Districts that make up the ISRDP sites are concentrated among the most deprived districts. The six worst off districts are all ISRDP sites. What is surprising is that one of the ISRDP sites (Central Karoo) in the Western Cape is among the top five least deprived districts. The most deprived of the ISRDP sites is O.R. Tambo (EC), while the least deprived of the ISRDP sites is Central Karoo (WC).

1.2 Access to Water

Access to water measures the percentage of households in each district that have access to piped water. The data is from the 2001 South African census. Access to water is used as a single-variable indicator of socio-economic status. Just as the deprivation index, it also gives an indication of relative need for basic services such as primary health care.

District View Districts of lower socio-economic status (low percentage of households with access to piped water) are potentially in greater need for primary health care. The graph below shows the percentage of households within each district that have access to piped water. In 2001, 85% of households in South Africa had access to piped water.

Figure 2: Percentage of households with access to piped water, 2001



District View

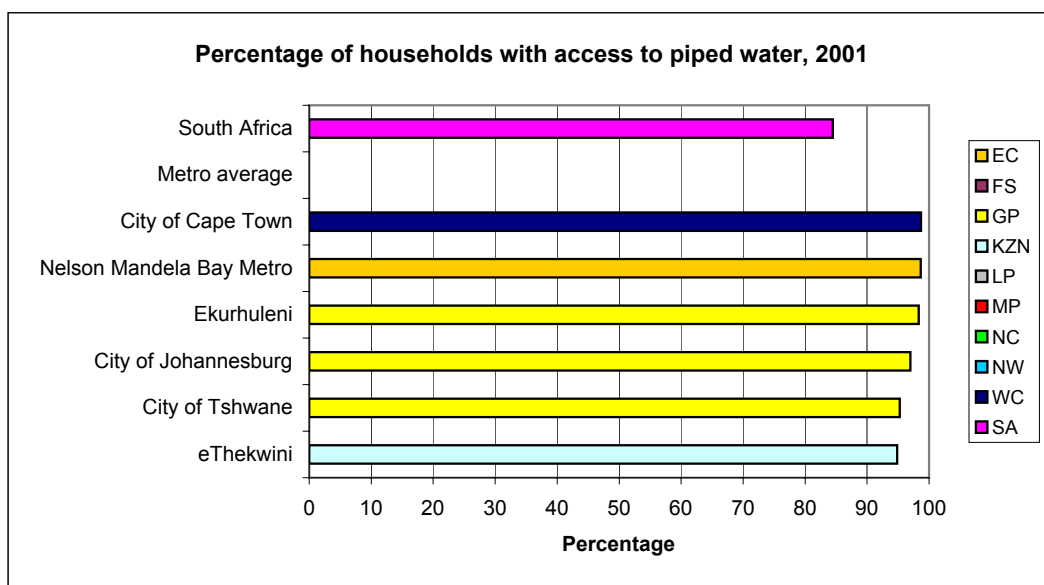
There is a wide variation in access to water across districts. Districts with the highest percent of households with access to piped water had a percentage value of 99%. These districts are Central Karoo (WC), Overberg (WC), Cape Town (WC) and Nelson Mandela (EC). The district with the lowest access to water was O.R. Tambo (EC). Only 28% of the households in O.R. Tambo had access to piped water. According to the deprivation index, O.R. Tambo is the most deprived district in South Africa.

A cursory glance at the ranking of access to water and the deprivation index reveals a close relationship between the two. A total of six out of the ten least deprived districts (based on deprivation index) are among the ten districts that have the highest percent of households with access to piped water. Also seven of the ten most deprived districts are among the ten districts that have the lowest percent of households with access to piped water.

Metro View

The graph below illustrates the percentage of households in metropolitan districts with access to piped water. All the metro areas have well over 90% of households with access to piped water.

Figure 3: Percentage of households with access to piped water in metro districts, 2001



Rural Nodes

Figure 4 shows the percentage of households within ISRDP sites that have access to piped water. Out of the 13 districts, 11 of them have percentages below the overall percentage for South Africa. The two districts with percentages of households with access to piped water that are higher than the overall South African percentage are Central Karoo (WC) with 99% and T Mofutsanyane (FS) with 94%. The district with the lowest percentage of households with access to water is O.R. Tambo (EC), with 28%. Five of the ISRDP districts have percentages less than 50%. These figures are an indication that renewed effort is required to provide basic services to these areas.

Figure 4: Percentage of households in the rural nodes with access to piped water, 2001

