



free and fair

2006 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS REPORT

Elections Report

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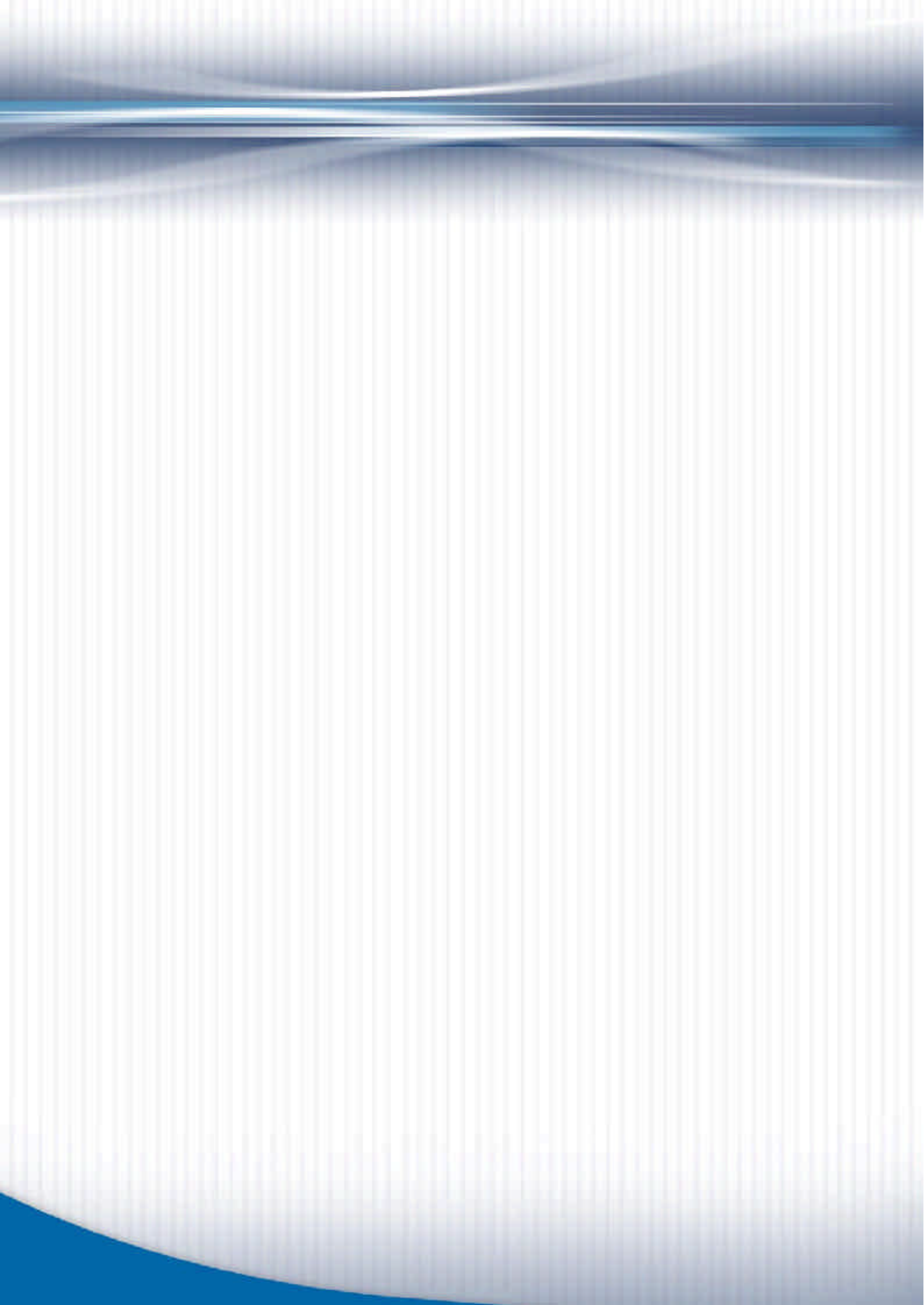
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CHAPTER ONE

FOREWORD



FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The 2006 municipal elections took place during the year in which South Africa celebrated the 10th anniversary of the new Constitution. These elections provided South Africans with another opportunity to exercise their fundamental political right enshrined in the Constitution, namely the right to vote.

These elections saw a noticeable improvement in both the voters' and political parties' understanding of the electoral system. More than 21 million voters appeared on the voters' roll. Ninety-seven political parties and 45 189 candidates participated. Of these, 23 691 were party ward candidates, 663 were independent candidates, and 21 498 were party list candidates.

A common trend internationally is a low and declining voter turnout for municipal elections. South African voters continued to defy this trend: there was a higher voter turnout this time than in the 2000 municipal elections.

The members of the Commission express their appreciation to all voters, candidates, parties and supporters who participated in the elections and did so in a democratic spirit that rendered the elections free and fair.

We are also very grateful for the support from national and provincial government departments and municipal administrations. We also thank the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for emergency and other logistical support and the South African Police Service (SAPS) for securing voting stations.

The success of the 2006 municipal elections projected a positive image of our country, especially at a time when the African Peer Review process of NEPAD was to be implemented. South Africans proved that democracy has become inculcated in our way of life.

The positive role played by political parties and candidates cannot be overemphasised. The partnership that we have developed with political parties has been a major catalyst in the success of our electoral democracy.



The members of the Commission acknowledge with appreciation the dedication of its staff, in particular during the months of high activity and the long hours that were required to prepare for and run these elections. Throughout the Electoral Commission's existence, its staff has always given more than can reasonably be expected of them, delivered better than can be required of them and never missed an election date. Many thanks are due to the thousands of volunteers who worked at the voting stations. We also thank the community-based organisations, faith-based organisations, traditional leaders and others that participated in our programmes.

In terms of section 143 of the Electoral Commission Act, No 51 of 1996, the Electoral Commission hereby publishes its report on the municipal elections held on 1 March 2006, satisfied that these elections were free and fair.

Dr Brigalia Bam
Chairperson

CHAPTER TWO

OVERVIEW



OVERVIEW BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

The 2006 municipal elections represented important milestones in the development of South Africa's constitutional democracy. The first democratic elections of 1994 were held with little background information on the voting population and in the absence of a voters' roll. While those elections are etched in the public imagination because of long queues of patient voters, every effort was made 12 years later to ensure as smooth and quick a voting process as possible.

Preparations for these elections started long before the actual Election Day and were based on evaluations of previous elections. In addition, the Electoral Commission contracted the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) to conduct an extensive survey of voter participation. The results of the survey were largely positive and indicated a high level of satisfaction among South Africans about the democratic processes that are in place and with the work of the Electoral Commission in general.

Between the last municipal elections in 2000 and those reviewed in this report, the number of registered voters increased from 18 476 516 to 21 054 957. This increase was the result of ongoing registration but also of specific, targeted registration and two weekends for general registration. In an effort to improve access to voting stations, the number of voting districts was increased from 14 988 to 18 873.

In addition to improved infrastructural arrangements, the Electoral Commission utilised the full technology complement at its disposal to assist participants in the electoral process. Much of the work of information technology professionals takes place behind the scenes. However, this work impacts on a spectrum of activities, from delimitation of voting districts and candidate nominations to the results system.

One of the points highlighted in the HSRC survey was the need to target young people more actively in order to encourage them to participate in elections. The Electoral Commission proactively identified youth as a

target group in its media and communications campaigns, both for the registration campaigns and for Election Day. We are pleased that these campaigns not only won a number of awards, but also contributed to a relatively high turnout of voters in the age group between 18 and 39.

The number of parties and candidates who participated in the 2006 municipal elections increased compared to previous municipal elections.

Something that is particularly satisfying is that the proportion of female candidates has increased from 28,5% in 2000 to 34,8% in 2006. However, there is still room for improvement and the Electoral Commission is actively involved in efforts to encourage greater participation of women in the electoral process. The Electoral Commission considers this aspect important in view of the fact that women are the majority in the country and account for almost 55% of registered voters.

The municipal elections held on 1 March 2006 proceeded smoothly, except for isolated incidents where bad weather conditions presented

logistical challenges. In the end, the weather did not deter voters who were determined to cast their ballots. Without exception, international and domestic observers declared the elections to be free, fair and credible.

Due to thorough planning and hard work, the election results were processed in record time and the Electoral Commission could publish the results within the period prescribed by law.

During preparation of this report, the Electoral Commission was already hard at work in evaluating the recent elections in order to learn lessons for the successful management of forthcoming democratic elections.

Adv Pansy Tlakula
Chief Electoral Officer



CHAPTER THREE

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK



LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The 2006 municipal elections were administered in terms of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 27 of 2000, read with the Electoral Regulations issued by the Electoral Commission. Note was taken of the recommendations following the 2000 elections and a legislative review process started by presenting various workshops and meetings to discuss possible changes to existing legislation. This process involved taking account of observer reports and comments received from civil society and political parties. It culminated in the Electoral Commission's adopting certain amendments to the Electoral Regulations.

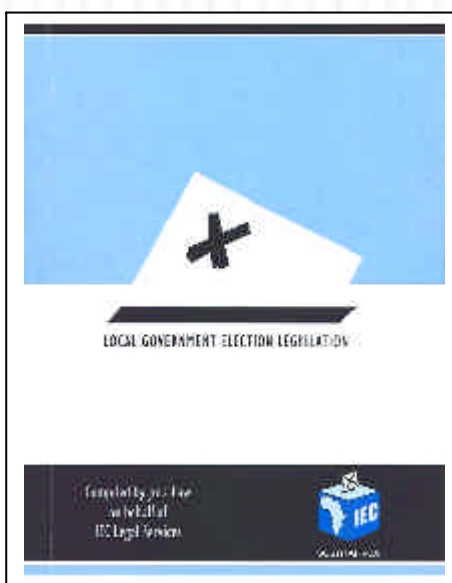
These amendments included making provision for marking the identity document of each voter with the official stamp before a ballot paper is handed over. Another change provided that only an original receipt in the identity document issued to a person when he or she applied for registration as a voter constituted proof that the person had submitted such an application. Another provision prohibited the carrying or display of arms and dangerous weapons inside the boundaries of voting stations. A declaration of secrecy to be signed by election officers was also prescribed. These amendments were published in Government Notice R. 848 of 23 August 2005.

On 6 January 2006, the Minister of Provincial and Local Government published a notice proclaiming 1 March 2006 as the election date. The Minister had earlier on given advance notice of the proposed date. A draft election timetable was drawn up and the National Party Liaison Committee consulted. The election timetable was influenced by the election date as well as the legal and logistical requirements to ensure successful delivery of the elections. The election timetable was published in Government Gazette No 28386 dated 6 January 2006.

The timetable makes provision for cut-off dates for inter alia certification of the voters' roll, the submission

of candidate lists as well as compliance and objection requirements in that regard, publication of the addresses of voting stations and the routes of mobile voting stations.

The Electoral Commission published a notice on voting hours for the elections on 1 March 2006 to be from 07:00 until 19:00.



The Electoral Commission decided on the facilities of the Tshwane Events Centre for the location of the national results and operations centre (ROC). This centre was equipped with faxes and computer work stations, and offices and facilities were also provided for political party representatives and the media.

During the elections, 2 058 enquiries and/or complaints were received and dealt with at the ROC. All complaints were investigated and mostly resolved with the co-operation of the Electoral Commission's provincial electoral officers and the parties concerned.

The Electoral Commission received 75 formal objections in terms of Section 65 of the Local Government Municipal Electoral Act, 2000. Of these, two were upheld.

In the period before and after the election, 24 applications involving the Electoral Commission and other parties were lodged in the Electoral Court and High Court or the Constitutional Court, resulting in judgment being given against the Electoral Commission in two of the cases. Although the volume of litigation was much higher than in previous elections, it may be indicative of the state of maturity of the democracy and a better understanding by political parties and candidates of their rights in terms of the applicable legislation. It also served to entrench the principle that participants in an election either accept the results or challenge them in a court of law.

CHAPTER FOUR

DELIMITATION



DELIMITATION

The Electoral Act of 1998 requires the Electoral Commission to compile and maintain a national common voters' roll. Voters are required to register to vote in the voting district (VD) in which they are "ordinarily resident" (ie the place to which a voter returns after a period of temporary absence). Each VD is serviced by one voting station. Voters have to register and vote in the VD where they live. On voting day, voters will only find their names on the unique VD portion of the national common voters' roll at their voting station. Voters are required to register in their VD of ordinary residence for three main reasons:

- To ensure that voters have convenient access to voting stations and do not have to wait in long queues.
- To ensure that voters do not vote more than once in an election.
- To assist the Electoral Commission with efficient administrative planning for elections.

The national common voters' roll used in the 2006 municipal elections had initially been compiled for the 1999 elections. This voters' roll had 18 172 751 registered voters in 14 650 voting districts. In the 2000 municipal elections, the national common voters' roll contained 18 476 516 voters registered in 14 988 voting districts.

The registered voters increased by 303 765 between 1999 and 2000 and the voting districts by 338. The 2004 national and provincial elections were administered with a common voters' roll of 20 674 926 voters in 16 966 voting districts. The number of registered voters increased to 21 054 957, and the number of voting

districts to 18 873 in preparation for the 2006 municipal elections.

In preparing for the 2006 municipal elections, the following key strategic objectives were observed to improve the accuracy and quality of the voters' roll:

- To ensure that the voting districts used in the 2004 national and provincial elections were geographically aligned to the Municipal Demarcation Board's re-delimited wards and municipal boundaries. The re-delimitation of voting district boundaries took place in accordance with both recent population and settlement pattern changes and patterns of voter registration. The aim was twofold: to improve voter access to voting stations, and to ensure that voters found their names on the voters' roll for the VD where they lived.
- To improve voter convenience and access to registration and voting stations. This took place

through a continuous registration process, as well as a number of targeted communication and ID campaigns and registration weekends to create awareness of the election process.

- To ensure that voters would find their names on the correct segments of the voters' roll on voting day. To achieve this, a project

was launched to further develop a national address directory (NAD) containing (geo-referenced) physical addresses of voters, as the accuracy of the voters' roll becomes especially important in municipal elections with ward constituencies.



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4.1 RE-DEMARCATON OF MUNICIPAL AND WARD BOUNDARIES

The Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) changed both the number and the geography of the municipal wards used for the 2000 elections, mainly due to the increase in the number of registered voters (see table below). The number of wards increased from 3 754 in 2000 to 3 895 (an increase of 4%) in 2006.

In the re-delimitation of wards prior to voter registration for the 2006 municipal elections, the MDB split some of the Electoral Commission's voting districts (VDs). This had implications for registered voters in that they might find themselves in an incorrect ward segment.

Voters who were affected by the splitting of VDs in the re-delimitation process were required to register again in the correct wards and VD segments. Fortunately,

fewer VDs were split ahead of the 2006 elections (800) than ahead of the 2000 elections (1 754).

In addition to changing ward boundaries prior to the 2006 elections, the MDB had also altered the outer boundaries of some municipalities. Some 400 such changes were made between the 2000 and 2006 elections. Many of these were minor technical boundary alignments but others involved, for example, farms being moved between municipalities. The MDB also re-determined the boundaries of 16 former cross-border municipalities straddling provincial boundaries.

The Electoral Commission had to ensure that voting district boundaries were re-aligned to the new outer municipal and ward boundaries.

Table 1: Change in the geography of municipal elections: 2000 and 2006

Province	Wards 2000	Wards 2006 (% change)	VDs 2000	VDs 2006 (% change)	Registered voters 2000	Registered voters 2006 (% change)
Eastern Cape	601	636 (6)	3 087	4 368 (41)	2 531 273	2 908 106 (15)
Free State	291	300 (3)	1 061	1 186 (12)	1 225 620	1 318 408 (8)
Gauteng	446	423 (-5)	1 979	2 172 (10)	4 373 977	4 785 955 (9)
KwaZulu-Natal	748	771 (3)	3 336	4 064 (22)	3 501 113	3 964 817 (13)
Mpumalanga	401	365 (-9)	1 023	1 259 (23)	1 419 168	1 546 731 (9)
Northern Cape	173	174 (0,6)	396	621 (57)	451 380	528 657 (17)
Limpopo	437	513 (17)	1 796	2 274 (27)	1 756 799	2 146 048 (22)
North West	327	365 (12)	1 020	1 488 (46)	1 261 732	1 554 864 (23)
Western Cape	330	348 (5)	1 290	1 441 (12)	1 955 454	2 301 371 (18)
Total	3 754	3 895 (4)	14 988	18 873 (26)	18 476 516	21 054 957 (14)

1. For the local government elections (LGE) 2000, the provincial boundaries were transgressed by cross-border municipalities.
2. Cross-border municipalities were abolished ahead of LGE 2006, resulting also in provincial boundary changes.

4.2 RE-DELIMITATION OF VOTING DISTRICTS

A total of 14 650 voting districts (VDs) had been established for the first national common voters' roll used in the 1999 elections. A strategic objective in preparing for the 2006 municipal elections was to improve voter access to voting stations. This resulted in the increase of voting stations from the 14 650 used in 1999 to 18 873 used in 2006, representing a 29% increase from 1999 and a 26% increase from 2000. Improved access to voting stations was particularly

noticeable in the predominantly rural provinces (see table below).

Despite the increase (14%) in the number of registered voters country-wide, from 18,4 million in 2000 to 21 million in 2006, the average number of voters registered at voting stations decreased from 1 232 per station in 2000 to 1 115 per station in 2006. This means that on average voters spent less time standing in queues at voting stations in 2006.

Table 2: Change in geographic distribution of voting districts and voting stations

Province	VDs 1999	VDs 2000 (% change)	VDs 2004 (% change)	VDs 2006 (% change)
Eastern Cape	2 646	3 087	4 115 (33)	4 368 (6)
Free State	1 075	1 061	1 063 (0,2)	1 186 (12)
Gauteng	1 841	1 979	1 956 (-1)	2 172 (11)
KwaZulu-Natal	3 340	3 336	3 556 (7)	4 064 (14)
Mpumalanga	877	1 023	966 (-6)	1 259 (30)
Northern Cape	357	396	347 (-12)	621 (79)
Limpopo	1 954	1 796	2 170 (21)	2 274 (5)
North West	1 252	1 020	1 445 (42)	1 488 (3)
Western Cape	1 308	1 290	1 348 (5)	1 441 (7)
Total	14 650	14 988	16 966 (13)	18 873 (11)

1. For LGE 2000, the provincial boundaries were transgressed by cross-border municipalities.
2. Cross-border municipalities were abolished ahead of LGE 2006, resulting also in provincial boundary changes.

CHAPTER FIVE

NATIONAL COMMON VOTERS' ROLL



NATIONAL COMMON VOTERS' ROLL

5.1 REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

The Electoral Commission implemented the following projects to ensure that a registered voter would find his or her name on the correct segment of the voters' roll for the voting district for which he or she had applied:

- Continuous registration
- Targeted communication and registration
- Electoral Commission and Department of Home Affairs targeted communication and registration, and identity document campaigns
- Two registration weekends

On 11 January 2006, the certified voters' roll for the 2006 municipal elections contained 21 054 957 registered voters - an increase of approximately 380 031 compared to the number of registered voters for the 2004 elections.

5.2 CONTINUOUS REGISTRATION

Voters could and were encouraged to register or update their details on the voters' roll at the Electoral Commission's local offices, mostly housed in municipal buildings, during office hours.

5.3 TARGETED COMMUNICATION AND REGISTRATION (TCR)

The re-delimitation of wards by the MDB placed some registered voters in different municipalities, wards and voting districts (VDs) than those in which they had registered. This had the effect of rendering certain sections of the voters' roll inaccurate. The Electoral Commission also targeted VDs with low registration figures and VDs with concentrations of young people, particularly students at tertiary institutions.

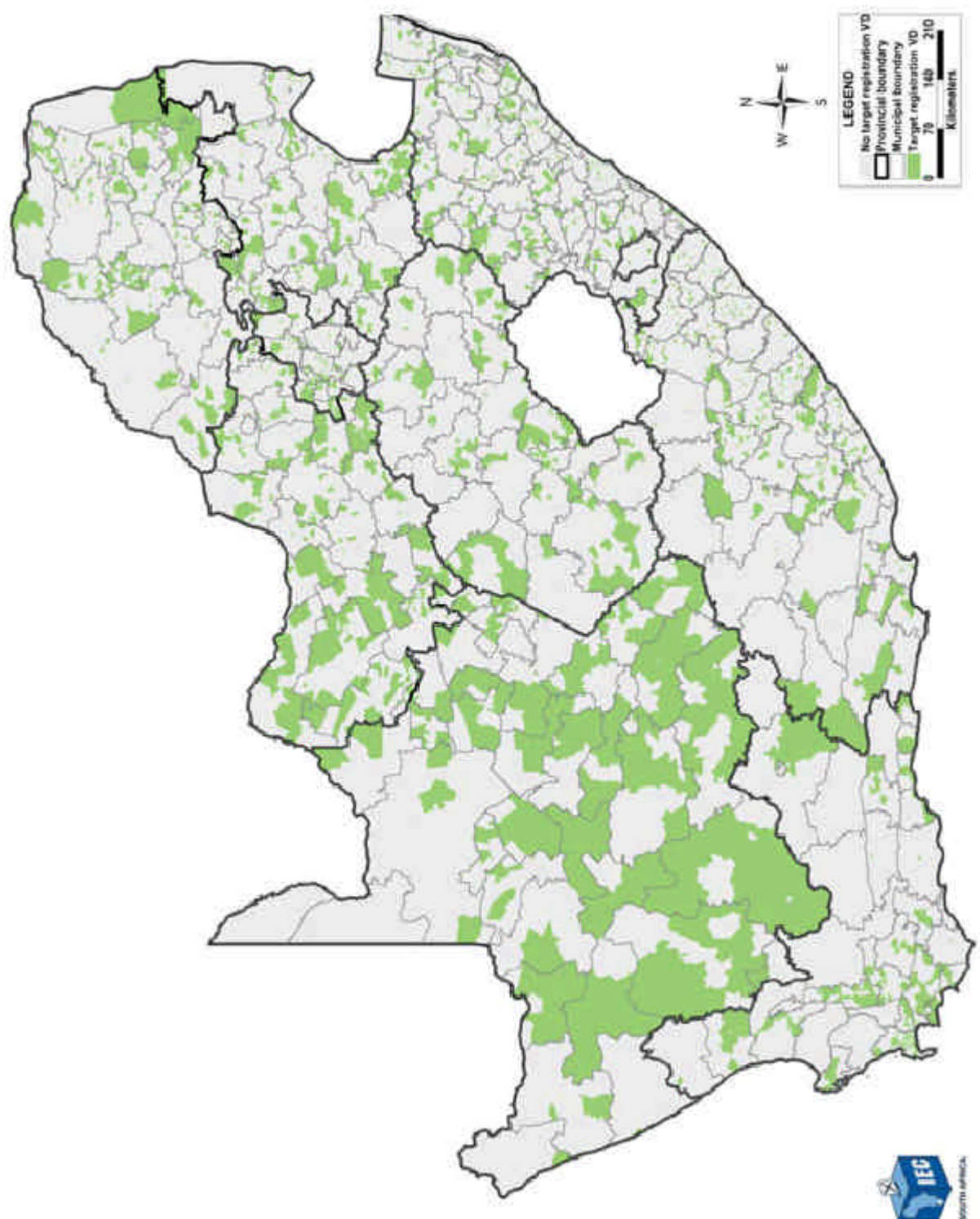
Targeted communication and registration involved leaving information pamphlets where voters were not at home when fieldworkers called. The Electoral Commission conducted the targeted communication and registration project in five phases. This project had three objectives:

- To register voters who appeared in incorrect segments of the voters' roll, mainly due to MDB and the Electoral Commission's own delimitation revision.
- To increase registration in voting districts that showed low registration figures compared to the voting-age population indicated in Census 2001 and youth.
- To remind or notify voters about the registration weekends that took place on 3 September 2005 and on 19 and 20 November 2005.

Table 1: Continuous registration

Province	New registrations	Re-registrations (sameVD)	Relocations (new VD)	Grand total
Eastern Cape	34 208	13 383	31 322	78 913
Free State	11 652	4 841	16 297	32 790
Gauteng	27 855	8 097	25 249	61 201
KwaZulu-Natal	52 124	16 263	51 985	120 372
Limpopo	32 815	10 944	24 798	68 557
Mpumalanga	19 543	7 486	22 706	49 735
North West	24 882	8 327	32 132	65 341
Northern Cape	9 608	3 329	11 627	24 564
Western Cape	32 848	14 829	34 738	82 415
Grand total	245 535	87 499	250 854	583 888

Figure 1: Voting districts identified for targeted registration 2005



The five phases of the Electoral Commission's communication and registration project were as follows:

Phase 1

This phase covered only new VDs and those that had been re-drawn after new wards were created by the MDB or the Electoral Commission's own delimitation revision. The fieldwork was conducted over three days in July 2005.

Phases 2 and 3

Fieldwork was conducted from 7 to 16 October 2005 after evaluation of the work done for phase 1.

Phase 4

Activities during this phase focused on students at tertiary institutions. The fieldwork was undertaken from October to November 2005.

Phase 5

This phase focused on the new and split VDs that were created when cross-border municipalities were eliminated. The fieldwork was conducted in December 2005. See table below for registration figures.

5.4 ELECTORAL COMMISSION AND HOME AFFAIRS TARGETED COMMUNICATION AND ID CAMPAIGNS

This was a joint initiative of the Electoral Commission and the Department of Home Affairs to deliver identity documents (IDs) and register those who were not registered at the time. These pilot campaigns also attempted to investigate alternative registration strategies.

5.5 GENERAL REGISTRATION WEEKENDS

The main strategy to register and update voter details is to open the Electoral Commission's voting stations over the weekend. This is done mainly to address the question of access, to create awareness and focus on election processes.

On 3 September 2005, the Electoral Commission opened its network of 18 832 voting stations to give all eligible South Africans who had not yet registered to vote and those who were registered but had changed their residential addresses the opportunity to register and/or re-register.

A total of 827 616 South Africans responded to the call to register as voters.

Table 2: Phase 5 - Registration statistics

Province	New registrations	Re-registrations (same VD)	Relocations (new VD)	Grand total
Eastern Cape	700	38	282	1 020
Free State	1 006	142	909	2 057
Gauteng	1 615	39	811	2 465
KwaZulu-Natal	852	2 721	2 328	5 901
Limpopo	1 092	68	257	1 417
Mpumalanga	1 492	230	2 069	3 791
North West	2 578	506	4 722	7 806
Northern Cape	199	19	287	505
Western Cape	2 638	703	3 468	6 809
Grand total	12 172	4 466	15 133	31 771

Table 3: 3 September 2005 - Registration summary by age and gender							
Age	New registration		Total	Re-registration (same VD)		Total	Grand Total
	Female	Male		Female	Male		
Ages 16-17	15 048	13 478	28 526	1 376	1 123	2 499	31 755
Ages 18-19	35 083	29 729	64 812	1 802	1 497	3 299	74 352
Ages 20-25	58 779	41 442	100 221	5 094	3 168	8 262	155 947
Ages 26-35	22 580	13 551	36 131	11 242	5 030	16 272	162 968
Ages 36-39	5 172	4 032	9 204	5 134	2 321	7 455	58 978
Ages 40-49	12 612	9 747	22 359	12 811	6 076	18 887	136 830
Ages 50-59	8 928	6 659	15 587	9 676	5 005	14 681	99 229
Ages 60+	7 991	6 648	14 639	12 086	5 954	18 040	107 557
Total	166 193	125 286	291 479	59 221	30 174	89 395	827 616

Table 4: 3 September 2005 - Registration summary by province and gender							
Province	New registration		Total	Re-registration (same VD)		Total	Grand Total
	Female	Male		Female	Male		
Eastern Cape	48 522	32 090	80 612	22 366	10 244	32 610	212 761
Free State	7 058	5 725	12 783	4 046	2 254	6 300	48 113
Gauteng	19 140	17 125	36 265	6 562	4 208	10 770	119 746
KwaZulu-Natal	35 103	25 211	60 314	8 570	4 079	12 649	151 122
Limpopo	14 737	11 669	26 406	4 186	1 946	6 132	63 119
Mpumalanga	11 289	8 616	19 905	3 356	1 678	5 034	63 510
North West	8 808	7 102	15 910	4 731	2 514	7 245	58 133
Northern Cape	4 498	3 790	8 288	1 965	1 201	3 166	27 269
Western Cape	17 038	13 958	30 996	3 439	2 050	5 489	83 843
Grand total	166 193	125 286	291 479	59 221	30 174	89 395	827 616

Figure 2: Registration activity 3 September 2005

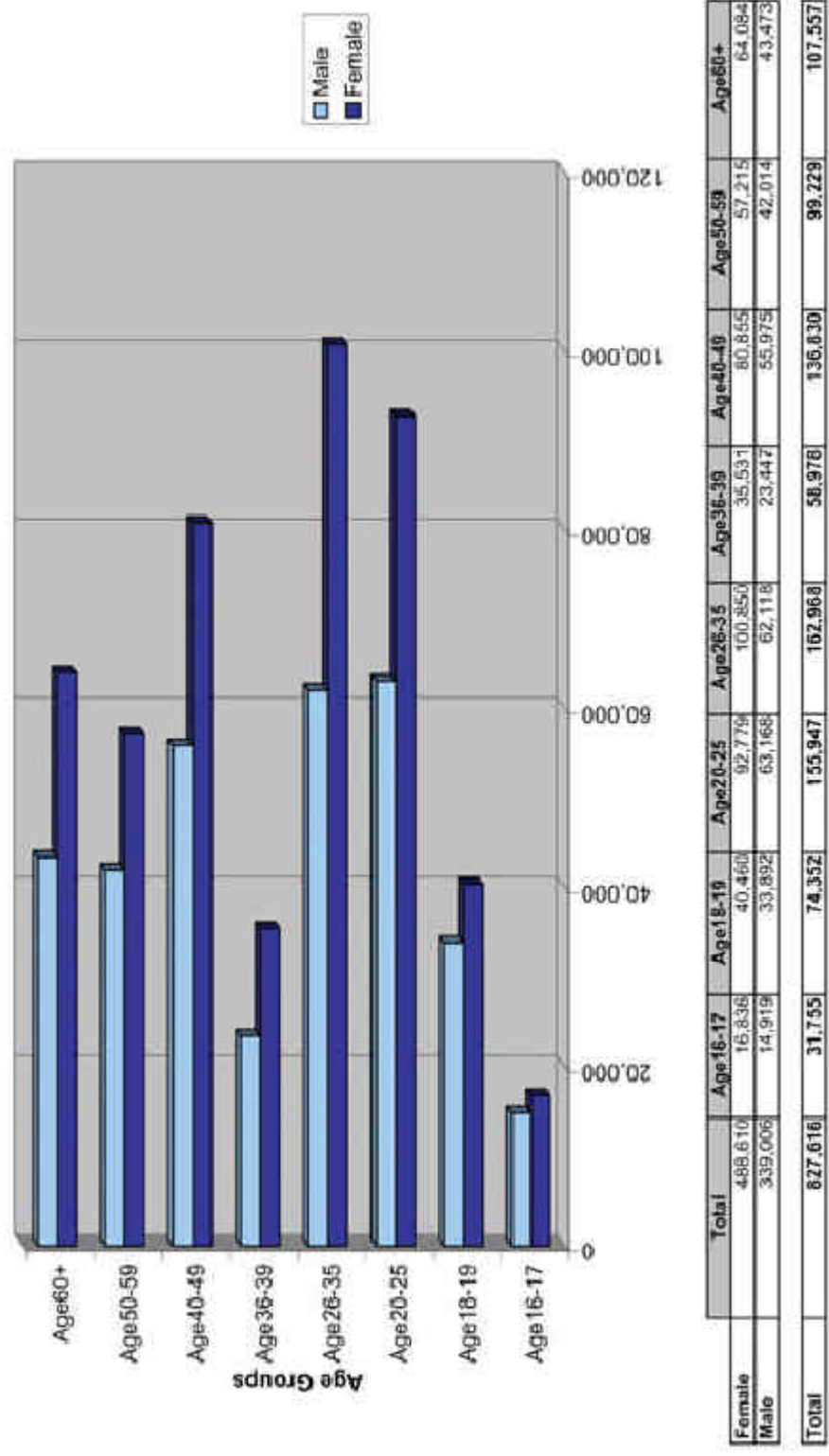


Figure 3: Total registration activity by municipality (new and re-registrations 3 September 2005)

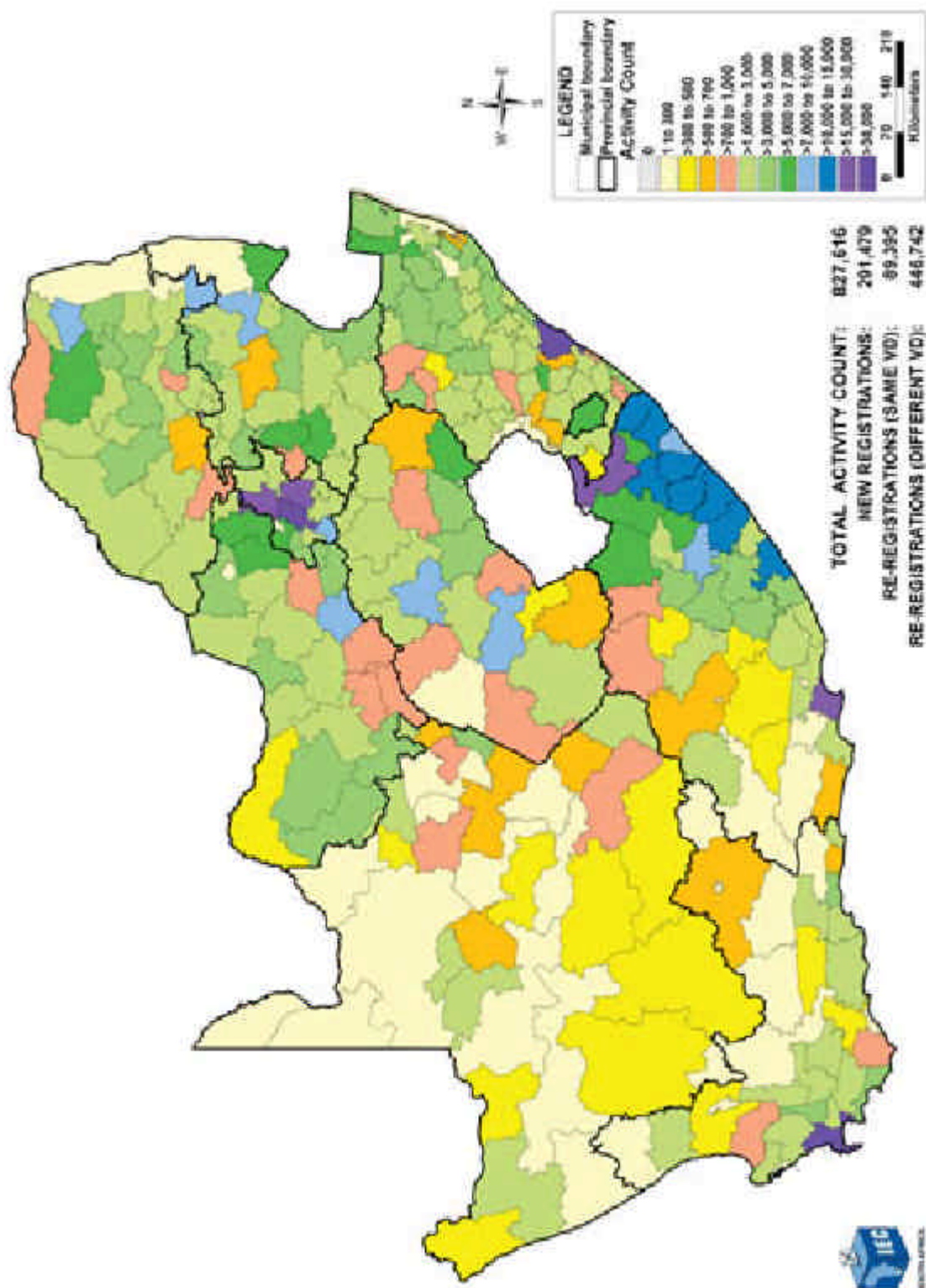
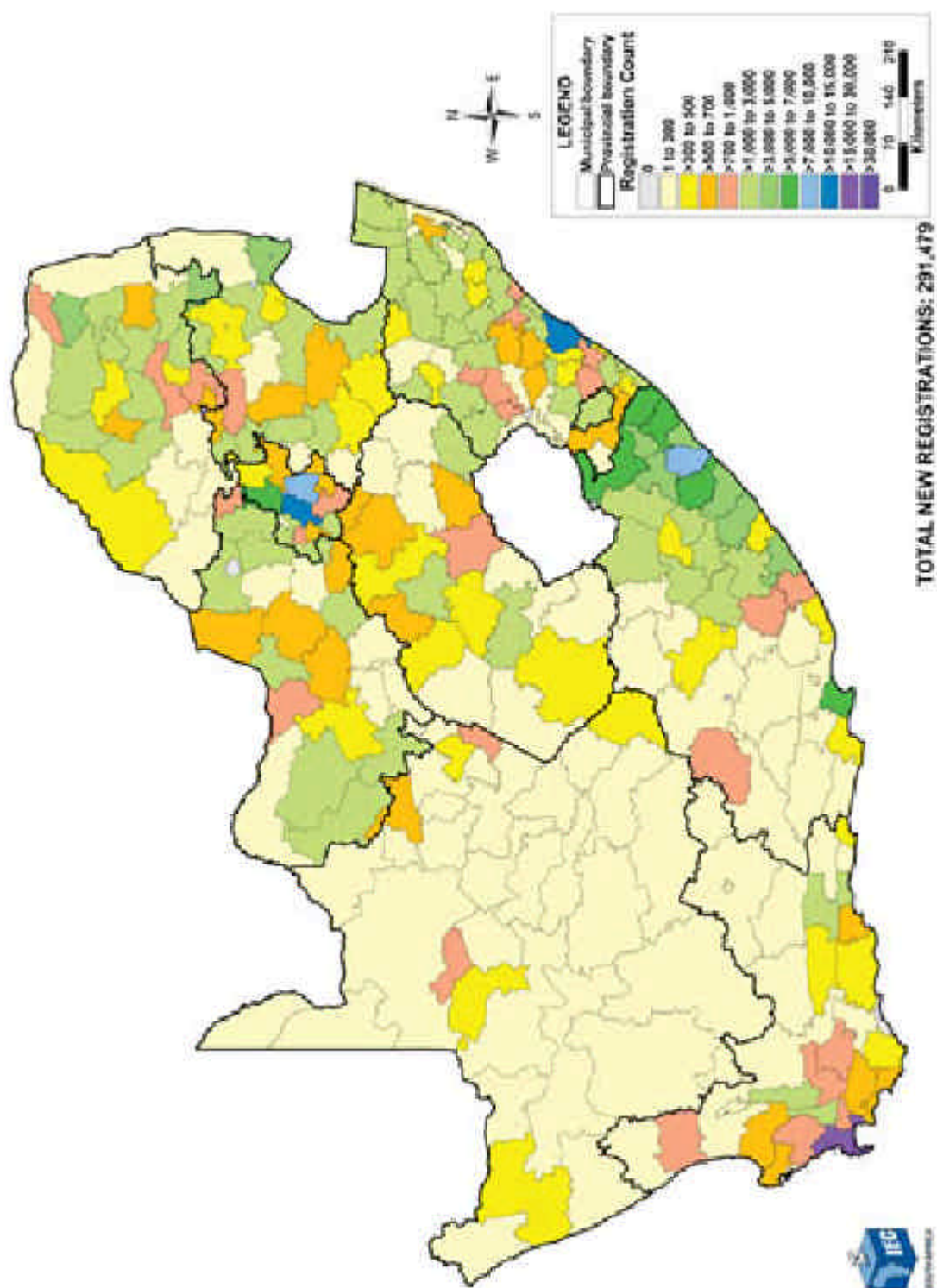


Figure 4: Number of new registration applications received by municipality (3 September 2005)



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On 19 and 20 November 2005, the Electoral Commission again opened all 18 861 voting stations for registration purposes. A total of 1 068 569 South Africans made use of this opportunity.

Figure 5: Registration activity 19/20 November 2005

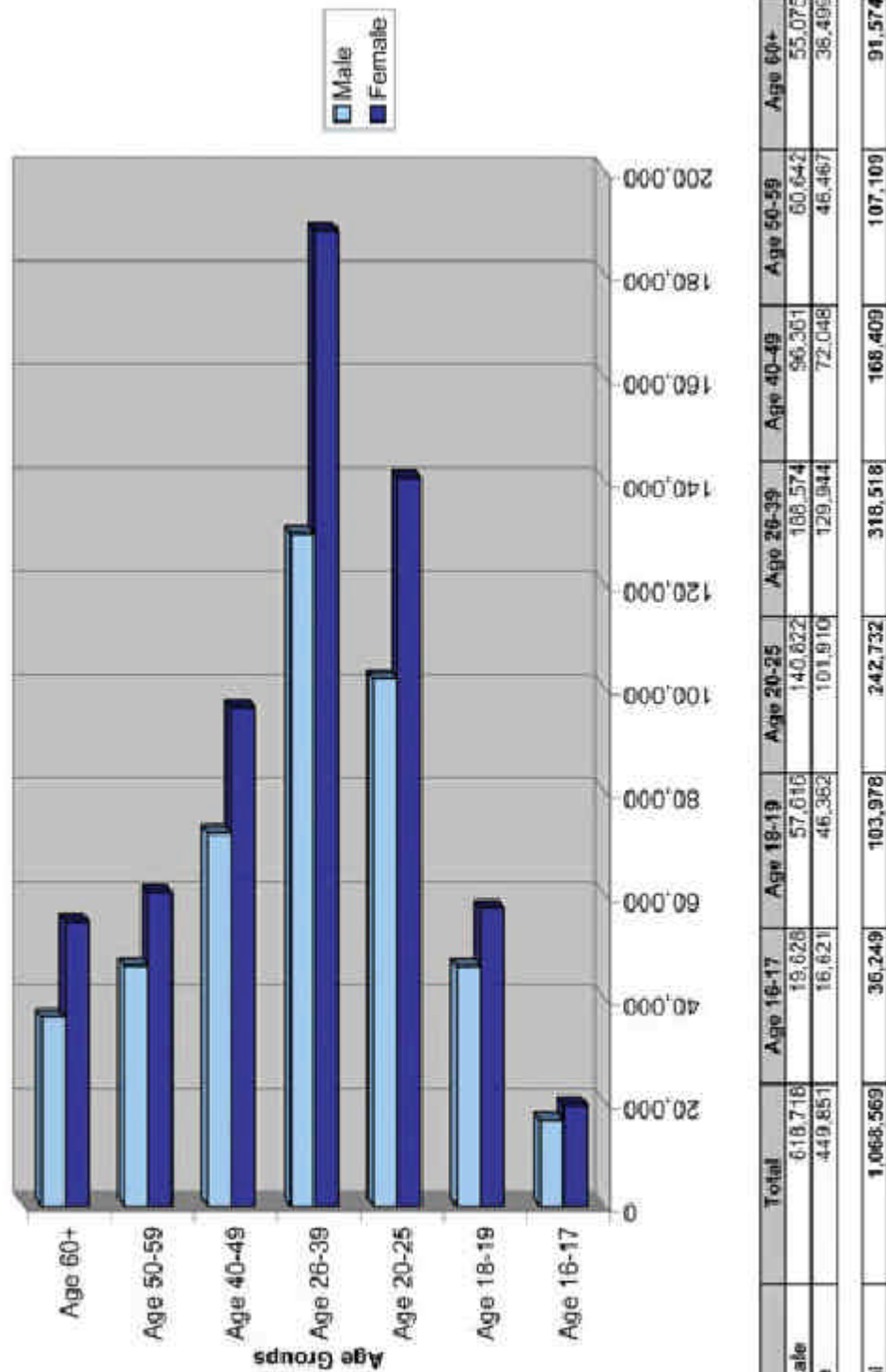


Figure 6: Total registration activity by municipality (new and re-registrations 19/20 November 2005)

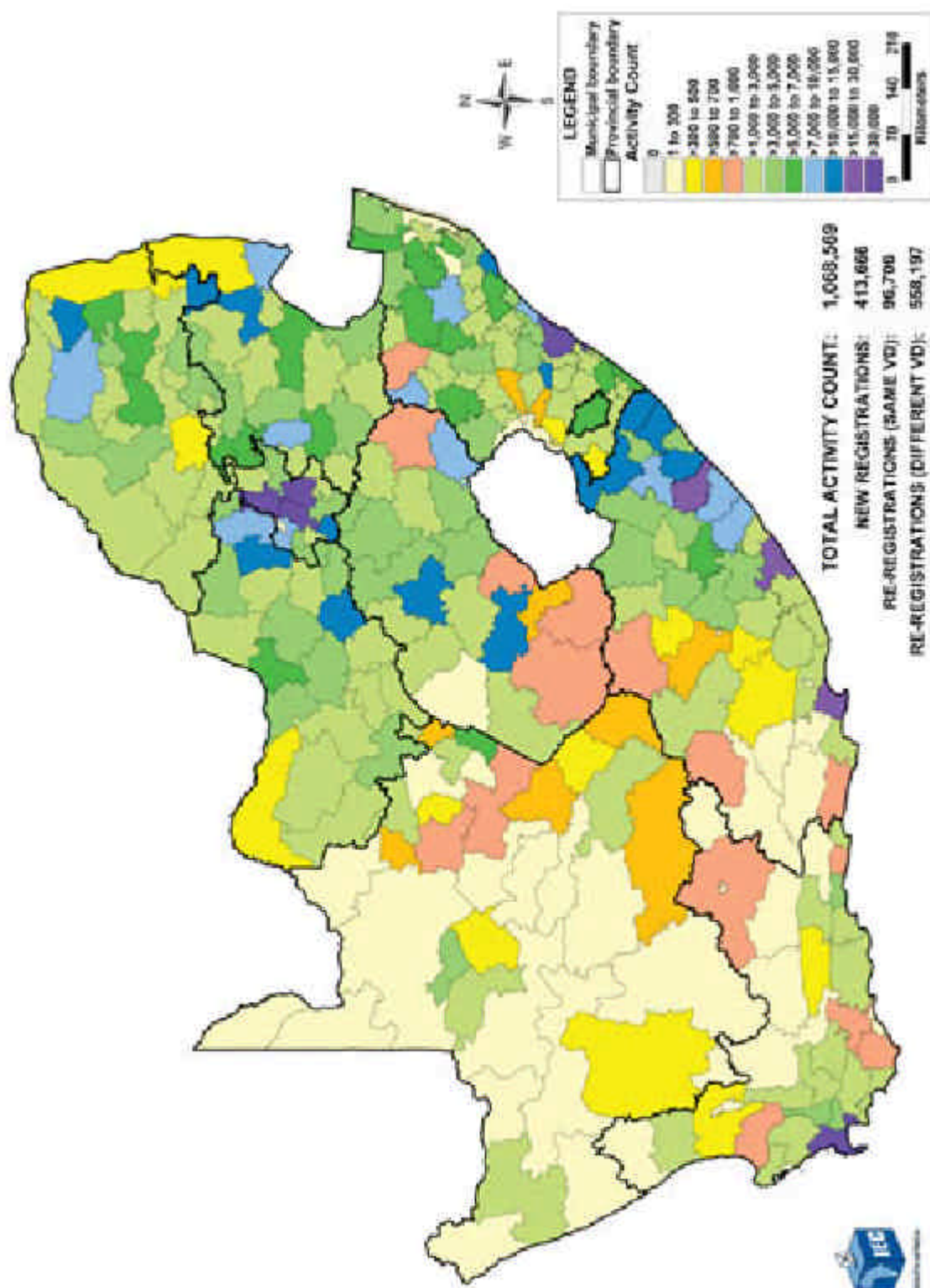
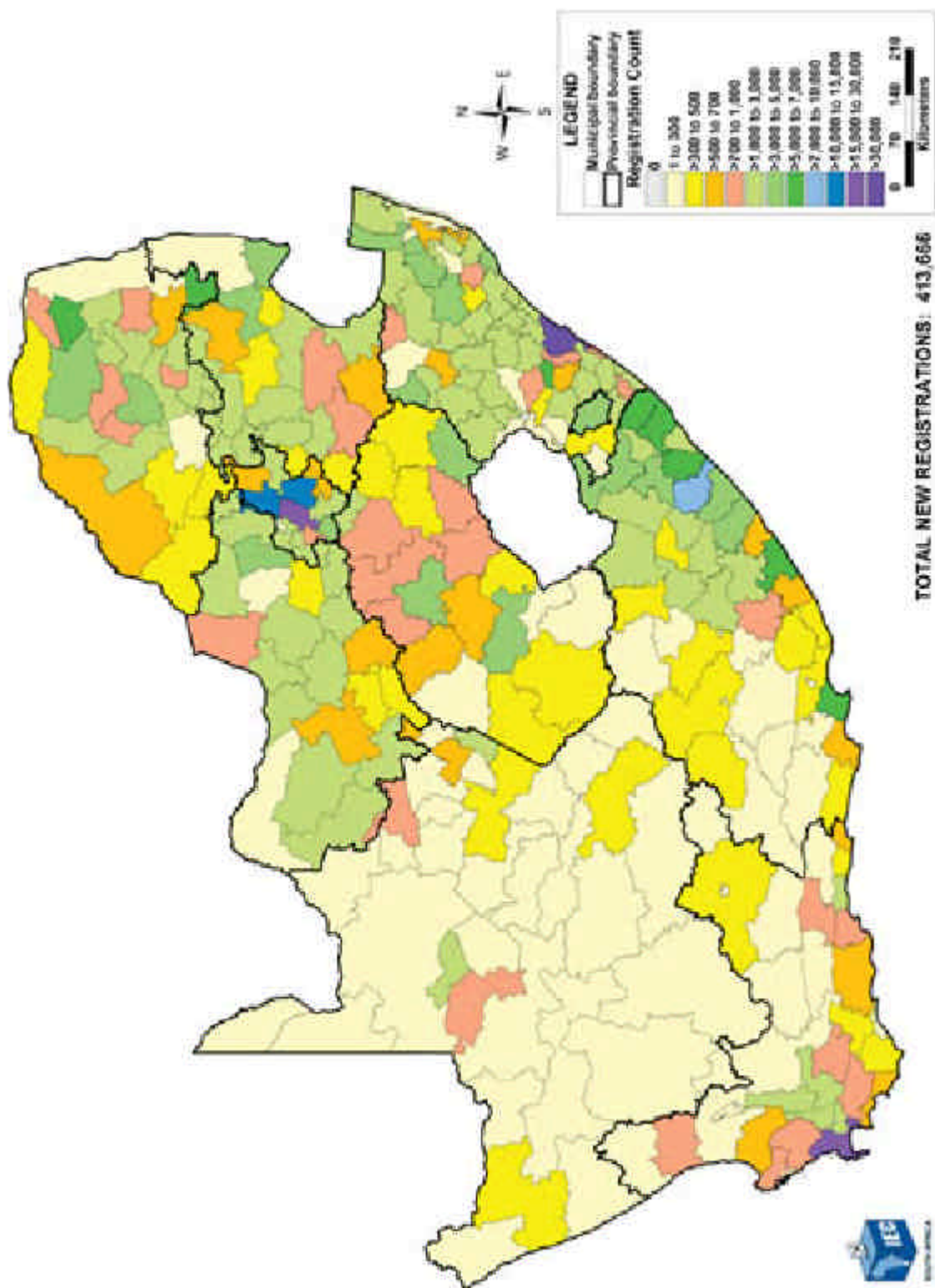


Figure 7: Number of new registration applications received by municipality (19/20 November 2005)



5.6 CERTIFICATION OF THE VOTERS' ROLL

The voters' roll for the 2006 municipal elections was certified by the Chief Electoral Officer on 11 January 2006. It contained the names of 21 054 957 voters.

5.7 ANALYSIS OF REGISTRATION FIGURES

Province	Female	Male	Grand total
Eastern Cape	1 688 300	1 219 806	2 908 106
Free State	713 547	604 861	1 318 408
Gauteng	2 436 941	2 349 014	4 785 955
KwaZulu-Natal	2 269 304	1 695 513	3 964 817
Limpopo	1 297 013	849 035	2 146 048
Mpumalanga	841 114	705 617	1 546 731
North West	806 875	747 989	1 554 864
Northern Cape	283 358	245 299	528 657
Western Cape	1 237 666	1 063 705	2 301 371
Grand total	11 574 118	9 480 839	21 054 957

Province	18-19	20-25	26-35	36-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80	Grand total
Eastern Cape	87 387	410 702	683 176	233 920	554 399	394 849	282 310	183 322	78 041	2 908 106
Free State	25 202	176 124	343 633	126 052	275 839	183 142	104 801	58 818	24 797	1 318 408
Gauteng	51 364	529 693	1 399 500	521 009	1 071 011	671 282	329 604	152 238	60 254	4 785 955
KwaZulu-Natal	82 678	546 008	1 088 304	356 413	769 753	541 488	321 411	186 264	72 498	3 964 817
Limpopo	57 677	351 391	567 500	177 637	375 393	248 582	178 489	125 578	63 801	2 146 048
Mpumalanga	38 052	236 730	428 799	147 486	305 492	192 001	108 830	61 398	27 943	1 546 731
North West	30 555	204 982	413 482	147 537	327 623	206 509	123 938	68 025	32 213	1 554 864
Northern Cape	12 317	72 327	137 484	49 261	106 575	73 595	44 101	23 489	9 508	528 657
Western Cape	31 398	255 145	638 305	235 744	487 124	321 781	192 412	101 460	38 002	2 301 371
Grand total	416 630	2 783 102	5 700 183	1 995 059	4 273 209	2 833 229	1 685 896	960 592	407 057	21 054 957

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Table 7: Registered voters by rural/urban breakdown

Province	Rural	Urban	Grand total
Eastern Cape	1 633 765	1 274 341	2 908 106
Free State	212 481	1 105 927	1 318 408
Gauteng	341 734	4 444 221	4 785 955
KwaZulu-Natal	1 978 384	1 986 433	3 964 817
Limpopo	1 656 661	489 387	2 146 048
Mpumalanga	581 513	965 218	1 546 731
North West	883 202	671 662	1 554 864
Northern Cape	174 811	353 846	528 657
Western Cape	173 298	2 128 073	2 301 371
Grand total	7 635 849	13 419 108	21 054 957

Table 8: Comparison between voters' roll figures for different elections

Province	Jun 1999	Dec 2000	Apr 2004	Mar 2006
Eastern Cape	2 454 543	2 531 273	2 849 486	2 908 106
Free State	1 225 730	1 225 620	1 321 195	1 318 408
Gauteng	4 154 087	4 373 977	4 650 594	4 785 955
KwaZulu-Natal	3 443 978	3 501 113	3 819 864	3 964 817
Limpopo	1 847 766	1 756 799	2 187 912	2 146 048
Mpumalanga	1 277 783	1 419 168	1 442 472	1 546 731
North West	1 527 672	1 261 732	1 749 529	1 554 864
Northern Cape	377 173	451 380	433 591	528 657
Western Cape	1 864 019	1 955 454	2 220 283	2 301 371
Grand total	18 172 751	18 476 516	20 674 926	21 054 957

1. For LGE 2000, the provincial boundaries were transgressed by cross-border municipalities.
2. Cross-border municipalities were abolished ahead of LGE 2006, resulting also in provincial boundary changes.

CHAPTER SIX

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Preparations for the 2006 municipal elections commenced immediately after the 2004 national and provincial elections. The IT environment has stabilised over the past years and plays an integral part in support and enabling services to the Electoral Commission. Lessons learnt, changing business needs and advances in technology led to a number of key changes in the environment. The core services provided by IT remain the following:

- A stable and consistent supporting IT infrastructure, a stable network at both wide area network (WAN) and local area network (LAN) levels, as well as at results operations centres.
- Sufficient network and background server capacity, with the required capability to support increased election activity and network traffic.
- Sufficient technical human resources capacity to support all systems and business processes.
- Ensuring that the Electoral Commission could take advantage of and fully utilise all available and relevant technologies in the information and communications industry.
- Offering a guarantee of readiness to inspire confidence in the preparatory process.
- Management of risks, disaster recovery and business continuity processes.
- Stable application systems to support and enable all business processes.
- Upgrading of service level agreements internally and externally in line with the challenges of delivering the elections.

The success of IT services in the elections centred on sufficient infrastructure capacity, geographic information systems (GIS) and effective and efficient application systems.

6.1 IT INFRASTRUCTURE

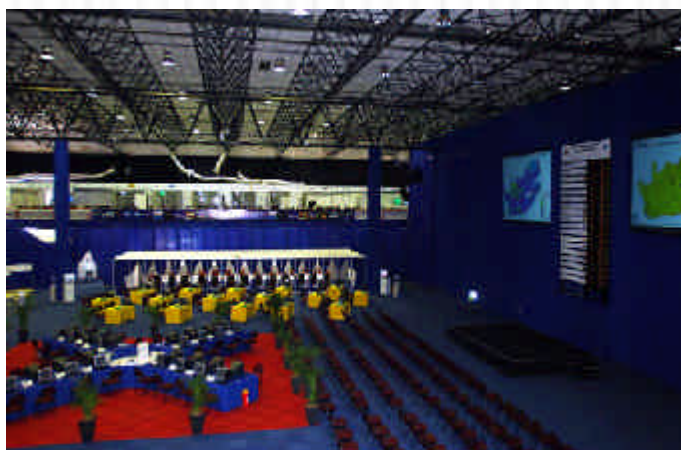
The architecture of the Electoral Commission's infrastructure is designed to allow flexibility and scalability at all levels, fully aligned with the nature of the organisation's business. Since 2004, all servers have been upgraded to Windows 2003 and all desktops to Windows XP/SP2, thus ensuring stability, consistency and reliability throughout the enterprise.

The major part of election readiness was capacity management, i.e. knowing where the additional capacity would be required, deploying in time and ensuring availability. Pre-planning and lessons learnt from three previous elections enabled the IT operations team to

ameliorate past inadequacies and thus put in place the most stable, secure and reliable infrastructure thus far created. Close cooperation with Telkom and the dedication of its technical teams simplified the process.

With respect to infrastructure, the following was achieved:

- Extending capacity to short message services (SMS) and computerised integrated voice responses (IVR), which made it possible for the Electoral Commission to provide public information services at all times, including responses to frequently asked questions, registration details, and voting station opening and closing confirmations (365 000 SMSs received).
- Installing land lines to 90 of the biggest municipal offices and quadrupling the bandwidth available for the remaining 180 municipal offices to eradicate bottlenecks and enable the speedy throughput of results. More than 70% of the results were captured via Telkom land lines.
- In line with increased capacity requirements, extending the wide area network to support a national results and operations centre (ROC), various provincial results centres and two metro results and capturing centres. In addition, a number of critical sites had their bandwidth increased to allow for the high volume of traffic.



- Keeping the network 100% stable throughout the period (WAN and LAN), enabling results to be captured in record time.
- Ensuring sufficient network and background server capacity, with the required capability of supporting increased election activity and network traffic. This included hosting the public website at internet service provider offices and providing ample server capacity to handle thousands of hits per hour once results started pouring in.
- Acquiring and installing additional work stations in areas where equipment shortages were identified, particularly in the Eastern Cape and Mpumalanga. Similarly, additional sub-Municipal Electoral Offices were opened and equipped with computer equipment and connectivity enabled.

6.2 RISK MANAGEMENT

All infrastructure planning and deployments enhanced business continuity and incorporated disaster recovery plans to mitigate potential risks.

An alternative connection to Telkom's frame relay network was created for head office to enable the Electoral Commission to connect from a different site and different switches. Also introduced were alternate Telkom routes to the national operations centre and to a backup site to cover the possibility of line failure and thus ensure system availability at all times.

Each server deployment included parallel load-balanced redundant equipment. Multiple database and internet information servers (IIS) were needed for the capturing of results and to provide feeds to the national operations centre. A peak of 670 users connected to the results system was recorded.

In view of the attraction of hackers to the Electoral Commission's website and continuous and increased virus activities in the months leading up to the elections, vulnerability became a focus area. The operations team was reinforced with specialist security consultants to provide increased detection and monitoring expertise on a 24-hour basis.

The architecture, operating systems and network connectivity were vigorously audited and tested by specialist external consultants and through dry running by our own staff to ensure integrity and security as well as sufficient capacity for peaks.

6.3 APPLICATION SYSTEMS

6.3.1 Delimitation

A key component in compiling one national common voters' roll is the delimitation, and re-delimitation when necessary, of voting districts. Geographic information systems (GIS) technology is used to maintain and update voting district boundaries and also to incorporate and monitor the effects of municipal and ward boundary changes. High-end map production facilities and work stations ensure that the required maps are printed and distributed within extremely tight time frames. The voting stations operations system (VSO) was used to capture and maintain voting station information with exact locations obtained from global positioning satellite (GPS) units. The lateness of the external process in dealing with the elimination of cross-border municipalities led to a re-delimitation and re-registration of voters only days before closure of the voters' roll.

6.3.2 Voter registration and voters' roll

Producing segments of the national common voters' roll for each municipality was a key challenge and one of the IT team's most important delivery deadlines. Collecting, processing and generally maintaining information for 21 million voters represent a major effort.

Continuous updating of the voters' roll is supported by a voter registration system (VRS), a facility for uploading and processing registration files docked at municipal electoral offices. Although registration is an ongoing process, general country-wide registration events result in significantly increased activity with tens of thousands of files being transferred and uploaded in a matter of days. Drawing on past experience, the team re-designed the file transfer and upload processes to leverage new technology and minimise the manual intervention previously required. The team made use of Microsoft message queue technology (MSMQ), which provides automatic and guaranteed delivery. The team also changed the upload process technology (threaded.Net) to speed up the processing of registration files.

During the two national registration drives, the system automatically, and in record time, transported 52 614 files from 230 locations without human intervention and no bandwidth limitations. The upload process timeline was reduced from five to three days.

6.3.3 Party registration, candidate nomination and ballot papers

Once the voters' roll had been closed, the registration of contesting parties and the candidate nomination process commenced.

The municipal electoral officers (MEOs) had very tight time frames within which to capture all candidates on the candidate nomination system (CNS). All validation documents had to be submitted and payments made by parties and independent candidates before a specific cut-off date to ensure sufficient time for head office to verify final lists and to generate/print ballot papers. In 2006, to speed up this generation process, the team engineered a solution using MS SQL Reporting Services (data-driven subscriptions) to allow for the generation of 4 152 ballot paper templates in pdf format for distribution to 23 printers country-wide. These templates were autoprinted at head office for an extensive quality assurance process to validate the templates against draft ballot papers signed off during party liaison meetings. The value of the new solution became even more apparent when, five days before the elections, the City of Cape Town ballot templates had to be regenerated and transferred to the metro in a couple of hours.



6.3.4 Electoral staff system

The electoral staff system (ESS) is used to capture personal and banking details as well as attendance of training and actual events. This system enables the Electoral Commission to manage the contracts and payment of additional staff required for general registration events (56 557 individuals per weekend) and for the elections (170 192 individuals).

Extensive enhancements were introduced to facilitate the recording and management of replacement staff and to incorporate financial directives (ie UIF and tax) into payment calculations.

6.3.5 Results system

Municipal elections are quite complex to interpret programmatically due to various election types. Depending on the nature of a municipality, a voter may have up to three ballots at a voting station. With 18 873 voting stations, this means that more than 52 000 result slips have to be captured before seat calculations can be run, and before seats can be allocated to political parties and independent candidates. The results are captured and audited at the municipal offices and saved on the central database via the WAN.

In view of the success of the national and provincial election (NPE) results system (built using the Microsoft.Net framework), it was decided to re-write the municipal results system using this technology to incorporate and re-use some of the NPE core functionality.

In addition to the technology change, the following functional enhancements were included in the system:

- Improved checks and validations to minimise user capture errors.
- Parameter-driven exception thresholds with built-in calculations to raise exceptions as soon as thresholds were exceeded. (For example, an exception was raised when a political party received a much higher vote on a ward ballot than on the proportional representation ballot, and vice versa.)
- Tracking and resolving exceptions raised by the system through a task list facility at provincial or national level.
- Automated edit windows for more efficient correction of audited capture errors.

The development team selected Microsoft SQL Reporting Services as the reporting architecture for the elections as these reports were easier to develop, could be loaded in less time, could be exported/rendered in any format, had built-in caching functionality to minimise bandwidth issues, and had no end-user licensing implications as it ships free with an MS SQL 2000 licence.

After two well-represented dry runs, it was evident that the system could handle the volumes during the results capturing process and that it would be up to the capturers and auditors to complete the process as quickly as possible. This proved to be the case as 95% of the results were captured within the first 48 hours. Of the more than 52 000 results that were captured, only 500 were returned by auditors for recapturing. As a result of automatic exceptions and capture errors, 1 714 edit windows were requested and resolved.

Over the results period, 109 825 reports were requested by internal users and 259 188 by the public. On average, users had to wait 1,88 seconds to view a report. Over 2 Gb worth of reports were downloaded at an average size of 18 Kb per report. The most popular report was for the capturing status per municipality, which was requested 9 140 times and took 760 milliseconds on average to generate.

The issue tracker and voting station monitoring systems provided additional administrative support during the elections.

6.3.6 Additional channels for service delivery

A number of services were made available to the public:

- Web-based facilities (“Am I registered?”, “Where do I vote?” as well as comprehensive election results).
- A call centre for the verification of voter registration details as well as a voting station finder application to help voters identify the correct voting station for registration.
- Mobile technology (SMS) and ATM facilities for checking registration details.
- Maps published in community newspapers, showing the location and address details of voting stations.

6.4 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

The primary responsibility of the GIS team is to support delimitation (and hence the voters’ roll) and be the spatial custodians of voting districts and voting stations. Many additional supporting data sets are maintained and these include aerial photographs, cadastral information, topographic information, GPS information and NAD data.

During delimitation, a number of data sets (ward and municipal boundaries) were received from the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB). Each data set was subjected to extensive checks, comparisons and impact analyses before voting districts were amended and working maps (A1 or A0) were produced for comment by local party liaison structures.

Municipal orientation maps were produced and were not only used at municipal offices, but published in local newspapers as well to help voters find their voting stations. Bar-coded voting district maps (for registration) and voting station orientation maps (showing neighbouring voting districts and stations) were produced for use during general registration events. Approximately 210 000 maps were produced in preparation for the municipal elections.

Spatial management reporting maps were once again widely used to track projects, analyse processes and display information in a vivid visual format. Maps were, for example, used to depict voter registration patterns after general registration events, to track staff appointments, determine distribution strategies for zip-zips and notify users of voting stations locations.

Spatial information was also made available on the intranet (desktop GIS), ranging from electronic spatial management reports to facilities for checking whether voting station coordinates were inside or outside the intended voting district. The mapping facility was used extensively to display results and progress maps at the ten results centres. GIS also provided a number of applications and data sets to support the additional services to the public.

6.5 RESULTS AND OPERATIONS CENTRES

A 12 000 m² national results and operations centre (ROC) was established at the Tshwane Events Centre to allow the Electoral Commission, political parties and the media to monitor all processes. Deploying over 350 rented work stations and needing 17 km of cabling and 4 km of fibre optic cabling, users were able to access the latest result reports from the ROC application and database servers whilst always having their e-mail available.

A successful addition was an internet café for the media to communicate with their outside agencies via a separate network to the World Wide Web.

The following results centres were created either outside existing network connectivity points (the wide area network (WAN) had to be extended to these locations) or at provincial offices of the Electoral Commission:

Eastern Cape	City Hall in East London
Free State	Provincial Office
Gauteng	Hall 8 at NASREC, Johannesburg
KwaZulu-Natal	Durban Exhibition Centre
Limpopo	A converted section of a warehouse
Mpumalanga	National Parks Board, Nelspruit
North West	Provincial Office
Northern Cape	Provincial Office
Western Cape	Provincial Office

Where outside locations were used, the infrastructure had to be built in the provincial offices and moved to the new locations within six weeks. Telkom supplied data lines for computer links to the central servers in Pretoria, met SABC requirements for a mixture of facilities and supplied PABX and voice infrastructure (in the larger centres upwards of 100 lines). Public areas were available at all the sites where members of the public could visit and see the processes at work. Projectors displayed both national and local feeds. At each site the SABC had its own studios for local interest items and transmissions as events unfolded.

CHAPTER SEVEN

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS



COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

7.1 COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS

7.1.1 Registration campaigns

The Electoral Commission's communication campaigns aim to raise awareness of elections and election-related activities. Registration weekends, preceded by four-week awareness and information campaigns, are held to prepare voters for upcoming elections.

Different messages targeted the following audiences:

- The youth were urged to register to vote.
- Voters who had moved since the last elections were reminded to re-register.
- People who had already registered were asked to check and confirm their registration status.

Communication was aimed at all voters, but specifically geared to attract as many young voters as possible. The theme and jingle for the elections, *The Power of X*, was for example, chosen for its expected appeal to young people.

7.1.2 Election campaign

Since there is no special voting in municipal elections, the election communication campaign targeted voting day only.

Messages were chosen to inform the electorate about the purpose of municipal elections as much as to encourage them to participate. These messages were repeated in all the media.

7.2 COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING TOOLS

A well-balanced campaign was conducted and included advertising above and below the line as well as public relations.

The Electoral Commission also entered into agreements with certain media organisations for one-on-one value-added time. This effectively produced double the advertising space at half the normal cost.

7.2.1 Electronic media

Audio and audio-visual

Since most of the target audience did not have access to television, more advertising was done on radio. Messages were transmitted in eleven languages via SABC, commercial and community radio stations.

In contrast with the registration campaigns for which professional artists were used in commercials, celebrities appealed to the voting public to vote.

Both SABC TV and e-TV were used for advertising and to create awareness about various electoral processes and activities.

Public website

The public website enabled voters to check their voter registration status online, helped them to locate their correct registration stations, and informed them about registration and voting processes and related requirements. The website also served as a single source of information on registration statistics and media updates that were issued from time to time.

The website received roughly 7,5 million hits after the launch of the election campaign in June 2005 until the end of March 2006.

Mobile technology

Using the SMS facility to provide the voting public with voter registration details again proved to be a huge success. Voters would SMS their identity numbers to a particular number, whereupon they would receive an SMS in return with information on their voter status and where they were registered to vote.

From 1 May 2005 up to and including voting day in 2006, 490 342 voters checked their voter registration status via SMS.

ATM technology

The Electoral Commission entered into a partnership with a South African banking institution so that all voters (whether they were clients of the bank or not) could access their registration details at any one of this bank's ATMs.



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The service was available from shortly before the second voter registration opportunity until the elections.

Between November 2005 and March 2006, 27 463 voters made use of this facility.

7.2.2 Print media

Newspapers

Partnerships were concluded with Capro, Independent Newspapers, Media24 and National Advertising Bureau (NAB) for the first registration opportunity. These media were to publish maps in their community papers with the highest circulation to provide information on voting stations and registration hours.

Classic advertisements were placed in all community papers for the second registration and election campaigns. Classic advertisements were also carried in all commercial newspapers for all three campaigns country-wide.

Outdoor media

Extensive use was made of a variety of billboards in urban and rural areas country-wide. These included wall murals and different sized billboards next to busy roads, on railway station platforms, at tertiary institutions and television screens at taxi ranks.

Messages were written to inform, remind or persuade the voting public and were chosen to support the rest of the campaign.

A total of 570 000 and 477 000 A1 posters were printed for the first and second weekend registration campaigns respectively. These posters were mounted along busy routes and in other strategic places.

Leaflets and information brochures

More than eight million leaflets and brochures were printed and distributed during the three campaigns.

7.2.3 Community outreach projects

These programmes were introduced to interact with the voting public through road shows, audio trailers, television and information outlets at taxi ranks as well as in organised business and civil society.

7.3 PUBLIC CALL CENTRE

The Electoral Commission operated a toll-free public call centre from the end of June 2005 to the end of March 2006 to provide information to registered and potential voters on the municipal elections as well as the results as they became available online.

Operators were available to assist callers with their queries in all eleven official languages. A total of 385 000 calls were dealt with.



Integrated voice response (IVR) system

An automated, computerised voice response system that was acquired for the previous election was used again to support business processes throughout the voter registration and election periods.

The IVR enabled the call centre to deal with high volumes of calls and to provide highly accurate information. Of the 385 000 calls that were received, 95% were answered in less than 20 seconds against an industry benchmark of 80%.

CHAPTER EIGHT

ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



ELECTORAL DEMOCRACY DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

Electoral democracy development and education (EDDE) activities for the 2006 municipal elections were divided into the following projects:

1. Voter education in schools
2. Education for people with special needs
3. Education on democracy through:
 - stakeholder management and outreach projects
 - mass education programmes
4. Multimedia education

These activities focused on the elections.

8.1 PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Electoral Commission contracted the Deaf Federation of South Africa (DEAFSA) to provide electoral democracy development, voter education and balloting education for the deaf sector. The organisation provided its own trainers and field workers drawn from this sector across all nine provinces.



The predominant mode of delivery was in workshop format. The coordinator in each province was responsible for evaluation of the project and the rest of the team served as facilitators.

The Electoral Commission also collaborated with organisations such as Blind SA to provide voter education to that sector and to clarify the assistance to be provided to blind voters at voting stations.

Part of the voter education campaign also dealt with making voting accessible to people with disabilities. In this regard, the Electoral Commission procured voting booths that allowed access to people in wheelchairs.

As far as possible, the Electoral Commission contracted voting stations, taking into account accessibility for the disabled.

8.2 DEMOCRACY EDUCATION

8.2.1 Stakeholder management and outreach

The Electoral Commission considers continuous management of its relations with stakeholders as a fundamental aspect of its outreach to communities and as essential to ensure a good working relationship for its mass education campaigns, even when there are no elections in the offing.

Meetings, workshops and public gatherings were held with clearly identified national, provincial and local constituencies. Partnerships were forged with stakeholders such as faith-based and civil society organisations to inculcate knowledge of electoral democracy. A conference on the topic of women and their participation in politics was hosted in December 2005. Women's organisations and political parties were invited, and the parties were challenged to ensure the equitable representation of women as candidates in the municipal elections.

National meetings were held with representatives of traditional authorities, trade unions and youth formations. These stakeholder meetings were replicated at provincial and local levels. In order to ensure that electoral education and voter participation also extended to persons living on farms, a consultative meeting was held with representatives from the farming sector during which a memorandum of understanding was signed by all participants.

8.2.2 Mass education

In preparation for the local government election, mass education was divided into three phases. Phase 1 covered general principles of democracy and electoral systems.

Table 1: Interventions

Provinces	Planned (Phase 1)	Percentage reached	Planned (Phase 2)	Percentage reached	Planned (Phase 3)	Percentage reached	Percentage completion
Eastern Cape	64 000	94	64 000	111	12 800	71	82
Free State	2 790	54,9	5 585	75	5 580	51	60,3
Gauteng	2 520	100	5 040	69	5 040	45	71,4
KwaZulu-Natal	6 000	80	6 000	75	6 000	78	77,7
Limpopo	837	101,5	1 390	87	2 780	76	88,2
Mpumalanga	4 998	58	19 198	42	19 198	74	58
Northern Cape	850	100	11 000	85	7 062	53	79,4
North West	5 730	64	11 460	51	11 460	69	61,4
Western Cape	2 300	100	2 300	100	2 800	105	101,7

Phase 2 covered the need for all eligible citizens to register and to vote. In phase 3, implemented in the run-up to 1 March 2006, voters were informed about what to expect in a voting station, different types of ballot papers and how to cast their votes.

For delivery within this framework, fieldworkers, supervised by field coordinators, were employed and civil society organisations were contracted. Some 1 753 municipal field coordinators and fieldworkers were engaged.

Fieldworkers piggy-backed on activities such as community meetings, church meetings and commuters gathering at taxi ranks. Factories were visited, but attendances were poor, probably because lunch breaks had to be used. Civil society and traditional authorities assisted in the normal course of their own interaction with communities. Table 1 above sets out the number of interventions planned and the number that actually took place.

Five million two hundred thousand balloting education booklets were produced and distributed in eleven languages. The different types of ballot papers to be used were explained.

The provincial offices developed province-specific information pamphlets. Large posters showing the layout

of voting stations and sample ballot papers were displayed in different municipalities.

8.3 MULTIMEDIA

In terms of an agreement with the SABC, the Electoral Commission was given access to the broadcaster's social involvement programmes. One of the television programmes accessed was Shift, an interactive programme during which Electoral Commission personnel responded to questions, issues and comments from the public.

The SABC and community radio stations were used to publicise democratic ideals and principles.

Entrenching democracy through interaction with the citizenry is a challenging endeavour that requires coordinated activities by all institutions and people with missions in this respect.

It is hoped that the mass education projects, together with activities and projects in multimedia, the disability sector as well as continued interaction with stakeholders, contributed not only to voters exercising their right to vote but also to voters making informed choices. The number of spoilt ballots has remained fairly constant over successive elections, with a slight decrease in the national average between 2000 and 2006.

Table 2: Comparison of spoilt ballot papers in 2000 and 2006

Provinces	2000 Municipal Elections	2006 Municipal Elections
Eastern Cape	2,94	2,57
Free State	2,34	2,78
Gauteng	1,96	1,63
KwaZulu-Natal	2,25	2,03
Mpumalanga	2,93	2,97
Northern Cape	3,19	2,46
Limpopo	2,24	2,02
North West	2,80	3,36
Western Cape	1,50	1,68
National average	2,36	2,27

Challenges remain to ensure that electoral democracy education continues unabated. In this regard it is the Electoral Commission's belief that democracy education is the joint responsibility of a range of institutions and partners. Every South African should understand the rights and responsibilities of citizens living in a democratic society.

CHAPTER NINE

POLITICAL PARTIES



POLITICAL PARTIES

9.1. CANDIDATE NOMINATION PROCESS

In terms of the election timetable, 19 January 2006 was the cut-off date for parties to submit notices of intention to contest an election and for the nomination of ward candidates. Ward candidates not nominated by a party are referred to as independent candidates. Ninety-seven parties and 663 independent candidates participated.

The procedures, requirements and cut-off time for the nomination of candidates and notices of contestation were well publicised to ensure understanding of legislative requirements and administrative processes. This information was deemed critical, especially for political parties contesting elections for the first time.

Given our municipal electoral system, parties could contest elections in:

- all municipalities;
- selected municipalities;
- one or more municipalities and selected wards; or
- one or more wards in a single municipality.

9.2 PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTIONS

On the date of proclamation, there were 155 registered political parties of whom only 62 were registered for particular municipalities. Of these, 58 (of whom 18 were registered for particular municipalities) did not participate in the elections.

9.2.1 Number of municipalities in different categories

Metropolitan municipalities	6
Local municipalities	231
District councils	46

If a party intended to participate in the elections country-wide, the total amount for the deposit was R519 000. Political parties could submit their payments for the elections centrally and subsequently submit the municipal lists to the different municipalities. Deposits were refunded to a party that participated in a municipal election if that party obtained one seat, and to independents if they obtained at least 10% of the votes that were cast. When a deposit was not refundable, it was forfeited to the National Revenue Fund.

A total of 45 189 PR and ward candidates participated in the elections. Of these, 663 were independent ward candidates. Of a total of 3 895 ward seats, 11 were uncontested.

Nine hundred and thirty-two candidates were disqualified due to them -

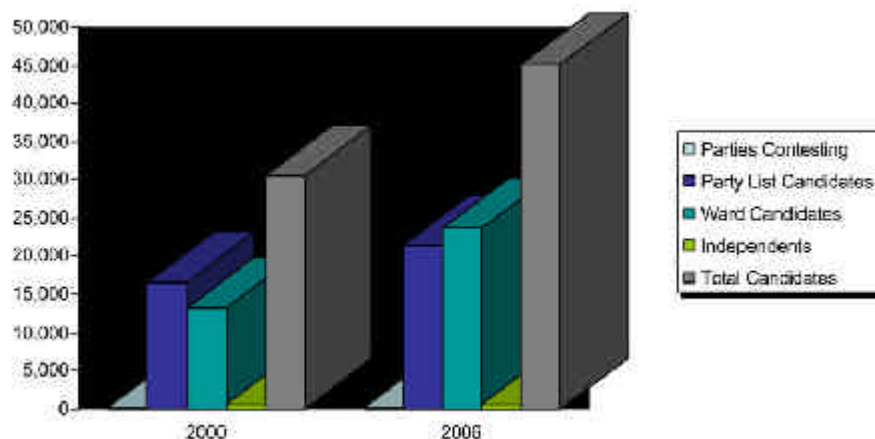
- not being on the voters roll;
- not being on the segment of the voters' roll for the municipality they wanted to contest; or
- not submitting the prescribed documents and or/deposit.

There was an overall increase in the number of candidates who participated in 2006 compared to the 2000 elections. The number of independents was slightly lower in 2006 (see the table below).

Table 1: Candidates participating in the elections: 2000 and 2006

Candidates	2000	2006
Contesting parties	79	97
Party list candidates	16 156	21 498
Ward candidates (incl independents)	13 925	23 691
Independents	689	663
Total candidates	30 081	45 189

Figure 1: A graphic presentation of the participation in the elections: 2000 and 2006



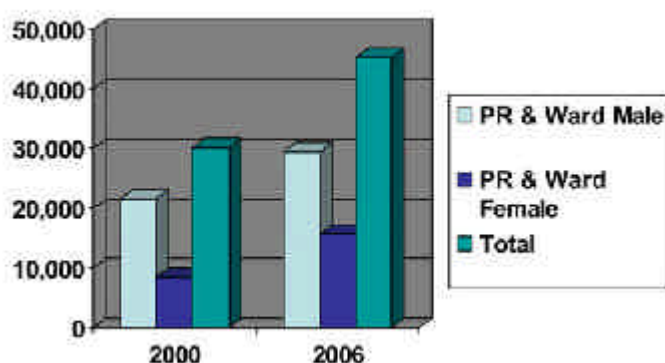
9.2.2 Gender breakdown

Participation of women as candidates for the 2006 municipal elections increased by at least 6,3%. In the 2000 municipal elections, 28,5% female candidates participated. In 2006, 34,8% of the candidates were women.

Table 2: Gender participation: 2000 and 2006

Gender participation	2000	2006
Male	21 519	29 471
Female	8 562	15 718
Total candidates	30 081	45 189

Figure 2: Graphic presentation of gender participation: 2000 and 2006



9.2.3 Age breakdown

The participation of youth in the political system is an important indicator of the vibrancy of a democracy. Besides the large number of young people that participated in the elections as voters, there was also an increase in the number of youth candidates. In the municipal elections of 2000, the total number of young people between the ages of 18 and 35 who participated as candidates in that election was 9 939. This increased to 13 168 for the 2006 municipal elections. This indicates that the youth have taken an interest in elections and being a part of the decision-making processes in the country.

9.2.4 Deposits

Deposits required from parties and ward candidates who wished to participate:

Parties

Metro	R3 000
Local municipality with wards	R2 000
Local municipality without wards	R1 000
District council	R1 000

Ward candidates

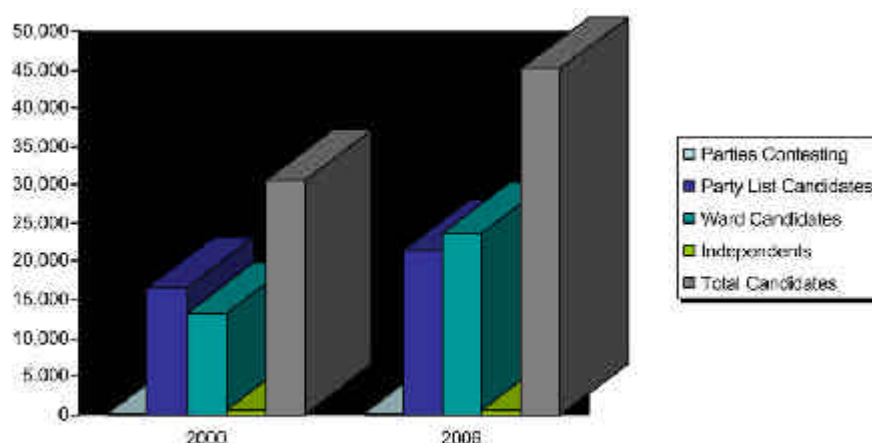
Party candidate if the party is not contesting	
Proportional Representation election	R500
Independent candidate	R500

9.3 LIAISON WITH PARTIES

The Electoral Commission liaises with parties through regular meetings of Party Liaison Committees (PLCs) that are established in terms of the Regulations on Party Liaison Committees, R. 824 of 19 June 1998. These committees operate at the national, provincial and local levels. Every registered party is entitled to representation on the different committees, depending on its representation in the various legislatures.

Once an election is proclaimed, all contesting parties are also represented on the appropriate committees.

Figure 3: Graphic presentation of deposits required: 2000 and 2006



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The PLCs serve as an important link between the contestants themselves and between them and the Electoral Commission, and provide a forum for sharing information. Local PLCs provide opportunities for inputs on matters such as voting district boundaries and the location of voting stations. The names of prospective presiding officers are also made known at local PLC level when parties are given an opportunity to object to such candidates.

During preparations for the municipal elections, public information material on candidate nominations and the registration of parties was made available to Electoral Commission offices nationally. Workshops were conducted with PLC members at all levels to clarify the requirements for candidate nomination, the code of conduct, and activities on Election Day.

CHAPTER TEN

OBSERVERS



OBSERVERS

Observers play a very important role in an election. They ensure the credibility of the electoral processes. In South Africa, observers are accredited in terms of section 41(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 27 of 2000, and the Regulations on the Accreditation of Observers.

10.1 INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS

The following organisations were invited to send observers:

- Southern African Development Community Electoral Commissions Forum (SADC ECF)
- Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF)
- The Commonwealth
- Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA)
- The European Union (EU)
- The African Union (AU)

Of these organisations, only the SADC ECF accepted the invitation. Other organisations said that as South Africa has run past elections successfully, there was no need to send observers to these elections. They indicated that they would rather use their resources to support other emerging democracies elsewhere on the continent.

10.2 DOMESTIC OBSERVERS

On 15 January 2006, the Electoral Commission issued an advertisement in the main regional and national newspapers for suitable candidates to apply as observers. The closing date for applications was 15 February 2006. A total of 95 applications was received, and 54 were accredited. The biggest teams of observers were those of the KwaZulu-Natal Democracy and Education Forum and the South African Civil Society Organisations Coalition (SACSOC) who sent 2 000 and 1 200 observers respectively. A total of 4 000 individuals were deployed nationally.

All accredited observers were issued with accreditation certificates and unique, reflective armbands for ease of identification.

Both the international and domestic observers stated that the 2006 elections were free, fair and credible.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

VOTING



VOTING

11.1 MEO DEVELOPMENT

The Electoral Commission has 237 local representatives known as Municipal Electoral Officers (MEOs). These representatives are located within the various municipalities around the country. Each MEO is responsible for one municipal area. MEOs are normally senior employees of municipalities who were identified to help the Electoral Commission with election-related work on a part-time basis. In a few cases, however, MEOs who were not employed by municipalities were appointed on a full-time basis. MEOs in municipal employment are paid an honorarium to compensate them for the extra work they do for the Electoral Commission. MEOs require support staff to assist them in the day-to-day management of elections and election-related projects and for this purpose the Electoral Commission approved the appointment of 472 electoral project coordinators.

During the period under review and during preparation for the 2006 local government elections, the MEO support staff structure was expanded by 599 area project coordinators, 94 sub-MEOs, 77 assistant MEOs, and 46 district council MEOs. They were appointed in terms of fixed short-term contracts to assist with the increase in election-related activities and projects. A further 3 938 area managers were appointed for a short period leading up to the elections to help coordinate logistical tasks. All efforts were made to ensure that MEO offices were equipped with basic office infrastructure, that offices were adequately funded, and that financial and staff policies and procedures were in place.

11.2 VOTING STATION INFRASTRUCTURE

11.2.1 Voting stations

Since the 2004 general elections, the number of voting stations were increased from 16 966 to 18 873, thus making voting stations more accessible to voters.

In order to maintain a stable network of voting stations across the country, a large number of venues used in 2004 were also used for registration and voting in 2006. Using the same venue consistently was found to give voters a stable point of reference, enabling them to recognise and associate a single venue in a particular voting district with electoral activities. Standardised lease agreements were concluded with all landlords to secure these voting station venues.



Preference was given to permanent/fixed buildings. In areas where no suitable buildings existed, sites were identified for the erection of temporary voting stations - typically a tent on a vacant piece of land. A total of 899 temporary structures were used, representing approximately 5% of the total number of venues.

In those voting districts where single, fixed voting stations would have been inadequate due to the vastness of the area or a widely scattered population, mobile voting stations were used. A mobile voting station travels through a voting district on a pre-determined route and stops at pre-determined points and pre-determined and publicly advertised times. This is an effective way of bringing a voting station within reach of voters in remote areas with limited resources. A total of 82 mobile voting stations were used - less than 1% of the total number of voting stations. Ongoing efforts are made to reduce the number of temporary and mobile stations to the absolute minimum.

11.2.2 Breakdown of voting stations

Of the 18 873 voting stations that were used, 94% were permanent, 5% were temporary and 1% mobile. The 94% permanent voting stations consisted of the following types of venues:

- 67% schools
- 11% community halls/other halls
- 5% churches or places of worship/church halls
- 1% tribal offices, halls and courts
- Less than 1% each of a wide variety of venues such as hospitals, clinics, old age homes, farms, sports clubs, hostels, libraries, mines, museums, police stations, post offices, private houses and garages.

11.2.3 Voting station stability analysis

An analysis showed that the stability of voting stations (ie repeated use of the same venue) is relatively high (between registration and Election Day), but with a marked decrease in stability between the two elections of 2004 and 2006. The stability rate between the registration events of 2005 and Election Day on 1 March 2006 is estimated to be in the region of 90%, whilst a stability rate of only 52% was recorded between the 2004 and the 2006 elections. This may in part be explained by the increased number of voting districts as well as demarcation changes and their impact on voting districts, wards and municipal boundaries.

11.2.4 Facilities at voting stations

One primary consideration when identifying and selecting suitable voting stations is the presence of key facilities such as electricity, water, toilets and telecommunication equipment.

During the 18 months preceding the municipal elections, various government departments (such as Education, Water Affairs, Minerals and Energy) and municipalities assisted with the upgrading of facilities at permanent venues. Although some progress was made, 28% of the voting stations were without electricity, 14% without toilets and 20% without water on Election Day.

Telecommunications equipment is a key facility during elections. Every voting station had to have voice communication facilities with local, provincial and national electoral structures.

Since 2004, cell phones have become the primary method of telecommunication at voting stations. Only 398 voting stations did not have access to a cell phone network from inside the venue. Most of these voting stations were, however, located in close proximity of a coverage area, enabling cell phone use from some point in the immediate vicinity of the venue. Radio communication equipment had to be made available to only a small number of voting stations in remote areas.

11.3 TRAINING OF VOTING STAFF

The training of officers for the 2006 municipal elections was divided between two events, namely the registration of voters and the election itself. In line with the Electoral Commission's mandate and vision, the strategic intent of the organisation's learning blueprint for the 2006 elections was to develop a structured approach and tools that would facilitate the effective delivery of learning and support to all stakeholders in order to ensure competence and confidence in delivering successful free and fair elections.

The Electoral Commission training concept for the 2006 municipal elections and for future elections was based on its training experience since 1994, international best practices and the national skills development strategy for centres of excellence.

The Electoral Commission recognised that its work is of a highly specialised nature and that all learning in this regard is worthy of recognition as a unique body of knowledge. The Centre for Elections Learning was consequently launched on 26 July 2005, with the vision, "To create internationally qualified election administrators who are an asset to the nation, to the continent and to the world". The first goal of the Centre was to deliver credible free and fair municipal elections in 2006.

The Electoral Commission subsequently established five foundation blocks for the Centre's training operations:

- A learning model made up of five levels: on-boarding, self-directed learning (E-learning), instructor-led training (bootcamps), on-the-job-training, evaluation and certification
- A certified and registered curriculum
- Well-trained and competent trainers
- Effective and user-friendly training materials
- A set of performance measures

The Electoral Commission decided to invest in its own staff, ie mainly electoral project coordinators (EPCs) and area project coordinators (APCs). In view of the sizes and varied needs of the nine provinces, close to 350 trainers would be needed for the more than 37 000 presiding and deputy presiding officers. The idea to invest in internal capacity was born out of the need to build an internal pool of trainers who could regularly be commissioned to fulfil training needs at different levels in the organisation.

The following are major innovations in this approach:

- Acknowledging experience of elections as a specific skill
Tapping into past experience to define the detailed registration and election processes
- Using technology for mass learning (E-learning and SumTotal LMS)
- The bootcamp approach, which served as major reinforcement as well as a passion-building and highly informative event
- Assessment of trainers over time (developing systematic portfolios of evidence)
- Performance-driven training (applying predetermined performance measures) via the Centre for Elections Learning



The overall assessment of this new training model is that it is a major improvement on previous models for past elections. The overall performance of presiding officers during the voting and the counting processes, as well as the time taken to count ballots and then process and announce the results, should reflect a significant improvement on previous performance.

11.4 LOGISTICS

Electoral logistics consume a significant portion of the Electoral Commission's election budget. This includes, for example, the procurement and distribution of election materials and equipment from national down to voting station level.

The Logistics Department maintains an ongoing commitment to reducing costs and improving processes, and each electoral cycle is closely reviewed to seek

opportunities for improvement. Lessons thus learned from the 2004 elections were applied in planning for the 2006 municipal elections.

Logistic operations for the 2006 municipal elections were planned with care and precision, well in advance of the events. The detailed planning began immediately after conclusion of the 2004 election cycle.

The following key strategic objectives were reviewed and confirmed for the municipal elections in 2006:

- A cost-effective logistics regime, achieved through prescribed procurement processes and devolving the procurement of certain items to local and provincial levels, combined with economies of scale at national level, as appropriate.
- A quality service achieved through accurate material specifications, service-level agreements with suppliers, and effective quality assurance measures.
- Warehousing network stability.
- A streamlined bill of materials (BOM) for each electoral activity to reduce waste and ensure fit-for-purpose provisioning.
- A distribution network that is largely informed by local requirements, achieved through the involvement of provincial offices in planning resources and routes.

Logistics management during the election period entailed planning, organising and controlling electoral materials, equipment and inventory from the points of origin (suppliers) to the points of final use (voting stations). The entire logistics plan encompassed the following key criteria:

- forecasting (materials requirement planning);
- procurement (identification, specification and purchase);
- warehousing and storage (processes and procedures);
- inventory control (warehouse stock management);
- supplier management (production quality and schedules);
- distribution planning;

- distribution communication (track and trace);
- voting station provisioning (tables, chairs, etc);
- customer service (delivery of election materials to MEOs and presiding officers);
- stock returns (roll-back); and
- salvage, recycling and disposal of redundant items.

11.4.1 Bill of material (BOM)

The BOM for each electoral event is produced with due regard to the provisions of the relevant electoral legislation and regulations and the specific needs of user departments, maintaining a careful balance between cost and need.

The final BOM for issue to presiding officers on Election Day contained 35 items.

11.4.2 Materials requirement planning (MRP)

Three key factors were taken into account for the planning of materials requirements:

- number of voting stations and streams;
- number of election staff per voting station, including party agents and observers; and
- number of voters per voting station.

The main planning tool for logistics is the Electoral Commission's unique electronic logistics information system (LIS). This system permits scenario planning based on a combination of factors (eg the number of registered voters per voting district, individual voting station characteristics, and the desired range of electoral materials). The LIS information is accessible to all levels of the organisation - national, provincial, and municipal - at a level of details per voting station.

11.5 BALLOT PAPER AND OTHER SECURITY MATERIAL

11.5.1 Ballot papers

The ballot papers for 2006 were all produced in South Africa by 23 printing companies across the country.

These printers were appointed by means of an open tender process initiated in May 2005. Standard 80 gsm paper was used. Three hundred and fifty tons of paper was used to produce 63 million ballot papers. The Printing Federation of South Africa (PIFSA) provided expert technical assistance to the Electoral Commission. The project management of the ballot production process was provided by specialist companies appointed for the purpose.

The ballot papers were delivered directly to the Electoral Commission's municipal storage sites, under secure conditions.

The ballot papers were matched to the four municipal categories:

- Category A: Metropolitan councils (6)
- Category B: Local councils (231)
- Category C: District councils (46)
- Category D: District management areas (20)

Depending on the category, voters were handed two or three different ballot papers. A differently coloured ballot paper was used for each category to assist in identification.

The ballot papers were printed in black, containing the name, emblem and abbreviated name of the party (in the case of a party vote). In the case of ward candidates, the ballot carried the name of the candidate, his or her party logo and abbreviation. In the case of independent candidates, the ballot carried a head-and-shoulders photograph and the abbreviation "IND". The ballot papers were not numbered but were supplied in padded books of 100 to enhance accuracy of counting.

In all, 4 152 ballot paper permutations were produced. The table on the following page provides a breakdown of ballot paper per ballot type and colour.

Due to the complexity of the ballot architecture for municipal elections (there were 4 152 different ballots), it was not possible to provide templates that would aid blind persons during voting.

Table 1: Analysis of ballot papers

Ballot type	Total combinations	Ballot paper colour
Metro PR	6	Yellow
Local council PR	231	Yellow
District management area PR	20	Pink
District council PR	46	Green
Ward candidate nomination	3 895	White
Total	4 152	

11.5.2 Security material

As required by section 50 of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 27 of 2000, the Electoral Commission determined the manner in which a voter's hand was to be marked and in which the ballot paper was to be marked. Security materials were then designed and produced for this purpose. Additional security measures were provided.

Marking ink

Suitable marking ink was procured in order to ensure the security and integrity of the election. Care was taken to ensure that the composition of the ink was not injurious to health. Application was by means of a special pen that eliminated previous concerns about spillage and unsightly marks.

Other security materials

In order to uniquely mark each ballot paper used at a particular voting station, 63 500 unique security stamps were designed. The unique design was based on a secret algorithm which allowed verification of the stamps on site. The stamps were randomly allocated to voting stations, providing a system that eliminated the risk of falsified ballot papers. Other security items included 350 000 ballot box seals and 20 000 rolls of security tape to seal the ballot boxes.

Security material was handled separately from the mainstream of deliveries to voting stations. This allowed the Electoral Commission to allocate enhanced and focused security to the packaging, storage and transport of these items. A dedicated service provider was contracted to provide this security service across the country, in close collaboration with security forces. All operations involving security items were carried out under strict control and constant security surveillance, independent of service providers. The Electoral Commission believes that all the necessary mechanisms

were provided for a secure and fraud-free election at each voting station.

11.5.3 Voting material

The Electoral Commission successfully pursued a strategy of simplifying and reducing the number of items that had to be delivered to voting stations. The final bill of materials (BOM) for issue to presiding officers on Election Day contained 28 items - reduced from over 80 in 1999.

The 18 873 voting stations were divided into approximately 41 670 voting streams. The following materials were used on Election Day:

- 63 000 000 ballot papers
- 81 000 ballot boxes
- 42 500 stationery packs
- 342 000 identification stickers for staff
- 81 000 voting compartments
- 37 700 banners
- 18 873 segments of the voter's roll - 1,6 million pages

Cardboard furniture and ballot boxes were again used in the voting stations. This material is relatively inexpensive to produce, economical to transport, and does not require high-volume storage after the election. Cartage and storage costs are dramatically reduced compared to other types of material. Moreover, cardboard can be recycled after use.

Following interaction between the Electoral Commission and representatives of persons with disabilities, a special voting compartment was designed to accommodate voters confined to wheelchairs. This unit provided a wider entry space and a lower writing surface. Such a special voting compartment was available at every voting station.

11.6 PROCUREMENT

The procurement of electoral materials was an extensive exercise.

The Electoral Commission adopted a combination of centralised and local procurement options, based on economies of scale, distribution costs and availability. Generic (bulk) material was generally purchased centrally, whereas smaller consumables were procured locally.

The Electoral Commission's e-Procurement system - VotaQuotes - was used extensively and intensively. This system offers a transparent, free and fair method of competitive bidding for suppliers, and yields good results overall.

It is inherent to the nature of election deadlines that suppliers often face tight delivery schedules for very large quantities of material. Logistics adopted a strategy of supplier management by means of service level-agreements (SLAs) in terms of which the supplier is treated as a partner. This strategy yielded excellent results. Supplier performance was generally of a high standard, and no electoral materials were late.



11.7 DISTRIBUTION

The Electoral Commission has established a complex but well-defined distribution network between its suppliers and the 11 provincial warehouses (two each in North West and the Northern Cape) plus a central national warehouse. A secondary network was established to service the 237 municipal sites.

A long-term service provider was contracted to provide the necessary vehicles and resources for transporting materials between sites, and to support the Electoral Commission with various warehouse services (eg forklifts) since the organisation does not own trucks or heavy equipment.

Distribution costs were substantially reduced by having suppliers deliver materials directly to provincial warehouses in appropriate quantities. Handling costs for the Electoral Commission were minimised by careful design of parcels and packages. As far as possible, items were pre-packed at the point of production for direct use at the voting station.

Distribution from the municipal level to the voting stations was carried out by the MEOs, using the most practical and cost-effective means of transport available in each area.

11.7.1 Printing and distribution of the voters' roll

High-speed digital printing is essential to meeting delivery dates within short lead times after voter information has been fixed. A complete copy of the voters' roll consisted of approximately 1,6 million A4 pages.

The voters' roll is compiled per voting district and in fact comprises 18 873 unique, individual segments. Each segment

requires physical checking and quality control in the production process. Distribution must ensure that the correct segment is delivered to the correct voting station.

Voters' rolls were produced as follows:

1. Registration weekend (inspection) voters' rolls

One copy was printed for each of the two national registration weekends. This voters' roll was used at the voting stations for public inspection.

2. Political party or candidate voters' rolls

Eight complete copies were printed. Various additional municipal segments were printed for selected areas where political party activity was high. These voters' rolls were segmented and distributed to the political parties who contested the elections.

3. Final voters' roll

One copy was printed. The final voters' roll was used at the voting stations on Election Day.

Although these copies were printed at different times, it is important to note that each copy represented a unique list of voters and therefore had to be carefully controlled and checked to ensure integrity of the contents. In addition, physical production quality checks were required. Both these aspects were included in the service-level agreements with the printers.

11.7.2 Rollback of electoral materials

Upon completion of the election process, all electoral materials and valuable equipment were returned to the Electoral Commission's provincial warehouses. Transport for this process was contracted. The sealed ballot boxes containing the used ballot papers were included in this rollback, and securely stored for the prescribed period. Municipal storage sites were closed or downscaled as soon as the materials had been shipped out.

11.8 ELECTION DAY

On 1 March 2006, the voters went to the polls to cast their votes on two or three ballot papers, depending on their location. Voters in the metropolitan areas cast their votes on two ballots, whereas voters in the non-metropolitan areas cast their votes on three ballots. The different types of ballot papers is due to the mixed member proportional (MMP) electoral system that applies to local government elections (combining the popular proportional representation (PR) and first-past-the-post systems).

The different types of elections were related to wards in local councils and metro councils and proportional representation for metro councils, local councils, district management areas and district councils. The unique ballot type for each ward and each election for proportional representation meant that more than 4 000 unique ballots were used on Election Day.

Calculating turnout from the great number of ballots available is not an easy task. There were 21 054 957 voters registered for the election, translating to roughly 55 653 781 votes if 100% of voters turned up to vote on all the different types of ballots. However, only

26 938 560 votes were cast, resulting in a 48,40% turnout. This turnout compares favourably with the percentage (48,07%) recorded for the 2000 elections. The turnout is generally in keeping with international trends that show a lower turnout for municipal elections than for national or provincial elections.

From 07:00 on the morning of 1 March 2006, registered voters could take proof of their identity to the voting station where they were registered and have their names marked off on the voters' roll. The left thumb would then be marked with indelible ink. Voters would receive ballot papers and cast their votes in secret.

The voting stations were open from 07:00 until 19:00. Voters who were standing in the queue at 19:00 would be allowed to vote. Voting hours for the 2006 elections had been specially amended as the voting day had ended at 21:00 in earlier years. The change in voting hours was introduced after careful monitoring of voting patterns and consultation with political parties.

During voting hours, the presiding officers could report turnout in the course of the day via telephone (78,5%) or via the cell phone SMS facility (21,5%). The process was facilitated by 170 192 electoral staff across the country. Voting across the country proceeded very well, although flooding in the North West Province created major problems.

Electoral staff had to undergo intensive training that started roughly one month before Election Day. The training was in many cases delivered over a two-day period.

Having learnt from past experience that the quality of the trainers was integral to the process, roughly 300 trainers attended a development programme over an eight-month period. The programme used a blended learning model of e-learning methodology to orientate the trainers, and face-to-face training to develop skills and assess knowledge. In view of this combined focus on training and election competencies, the trainers were well equipped to conduct comprehensive training in a participatory and responsive manner. All the training took place under the umbrella of the Electoral Commission's Centre for Elections Learning, a training centre dedicated to improving the development and performance of election management in the country.

2006 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS REPORT

Innovation during the elections helped to improve election management and enhance voter experience. Three key management aspects were applied during the 2006 elections:

- Setting performance indicators for voting station operations.
- Using an Election Diary.
- Utilising a programmable bar-code scanner unit (PBSU) at voting stations. (This PBSU was developed in 1998 at the time of the first registration drive to compile the country's first national common voters' roll.)

In consultation with provincial and municipal election officials, voting station processes were mapped and performance indicators developed for the various operational phases.

A tool was needed to monitor performance at the voting stations. An Election Diary was developed for this purpose, as well as to track decisions. The diary served as an operational reminder of processes and procedures to be followed, and made it possible to review

performance against objectives. The diary proved its usefulness as an operational document and will be part of future operations at voting stations.

Finding the names of voters on the voters' roll was identified as a bottleneck. A copy of the voters' roll for a particular voting district was pre-loaded onto the PBSU machine and voters' identity documents were verified as they came to vote. Voters whose names could not be found would be redirected to a neighbouring voting station, or the national call centre would be contacted to ascertain voter details. The PBSU machine proved to be a success at most stations, improving the flow of voters through a station, especially those that had in excess of 3 000 voters.

Legislation allows that voters who possessed valid proof that they had applied for registration, could complete a form (known as MEC 7), and if satisfied, the presiding officer would allow the person to vote. A total of 146 535 voters cast their vote in this manner, constituting 1,44% of all those who voted. Some voters would arrive at voting stations and find that their names did not appear on those segments of the voters' roll.

CHAPTER TWELVE

COUNTING AND RESULTS



COUNTING AND RESULTS

The votes were counted at the voting stations where they were cast. Political parties and observers witnessed the entire counting process. Counting commenced as soon as possible and continued until all the ballots had been counted. Counting followed the international norm of reconciliation prior to the actual assignment of votes to candidates or parties.

Once counting was completed, the counting officials announced the results at their stations. All the election material, ballot boxes and results were then returned to the Municipal Electoral Officer (MEO) under police escort. Roughly 260 MEO offices checked the results for obvious calculation errors. The results were then captured onto a computerised system and verified by independent auditors.

Three auditing service providers were appointed to supervise the verification process, namely the SAB&T Consortium (who also performed a national coordinating function), Sithole SS (Pty) Ltd, and Sekela Consulting, EOH and KPMG (Joint Venture). On Election Day, 620 auditors were deployed across the country to ensure that the results captured on the computer corresponded with the signed versions from the voting stations.

Election officials, political parties and observers could access the system from various results and operations centres at national and provincial locations.

The results system was designed to perform a number of validations or checks to ensure that no incorrect data

were captured. After the 2004 national and provincial elections, a target was set to certify election results within two days. Roughly 1,5 times more results were captured for the 2006 elections than in 2004. However, with improved efficiencies, the Electoral Commission successfully completed the capturing process within 50 hours (ie 17 hours less than in 2004).

A decrease in spoilt ballots was noted (2,27% compared to 2,36% in 2000).

The Electoral Commission published the results in the Government Gazette on 8 March 2006, declaring the designated councillors elected.

Of the 3 895 ward seats, only 34 were won by independents while the other 99,1% of the wards were dominated by political parties. Eight municipalities across the country (in KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape) had hung councils.

The Speaker of a Municipal Council becomes crucial in a hung council as he or she has a casting vote in terms of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act (Act 117 of 1998) on decisions and questions before council on which there are an equal number of votes. The Speaker is elected at the first meeting of the Council, and if no person is elected due to a tie between two candidates, then the Act provides for a deadlock-breaking mechanism to facilitate the election of the Speaker.

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Table 1: Councils and leading parties with ties

Province	Municipality	Party*	Total party seats
KwaZulu-Natal	DC25 - Amajuba [North Umzimyathi]	IFP	4
KwaZulu-Natal	DC25 - Amajuba [North Umzimyathi]	ANC	4
KwaZulu-Natal	KZ253 - Utrecht [Utrecht]	IFP	3
KwaZulu-Natal	KZ253 - Utrecht [Utrecht]	ANC	3
Western Cape	DC1 - West Coast [West Coast DC]	ANC	4
Western Cape	DC1 - West Coast [West Coast DC]	DA	4
Western Cape	WC013 - Bergrivier [Velddrif]	ANC	6
Western Cape	WC013 - Bergrivier [Velddrif]	DA	6
Western Cape	DC4 - Eden [South Cape DC]	DA	5
Western Cape	DC4 - Eden [South Cape DC]	ANC	5
Western Cape	WC051 - Laingsburg [Laingsburg]	ANC	2
Western Cape	WC051 - Laingsburg [Laingsburg]	DA	2
Western Cape	WC051 - Laingsburg [Laingsburg]	LGP	2
Western Cape	WC052 - Prince Albert [Prins Albert]	ANC	3
Western Cape	WC052 - Prince Albert [Prins Albert]	DA	3
Western Cape	WC053 - Beaufort West [Beaufort West]	ANC	5
Western Cape	WC053 - Beaufort West [Beaufort West]	ICOSA	5

* Parties:

IFP: Inkatha Freedom Party

ANC: African National Congress

DA: Democratic Alliance/Demokratiese Alliansie

LGP: Laingsburg Gemeenskapsparty

ICOSA: Independent Civic Organisation of South Africa

In 31 councils, no clear majorities were gained and coalitions were formed (eg the City of Cape Town).

Table 2: Council without a majority	Number of parties
EC 128 - Nxuba [Adelaide]	4
KZ212 - Umdoni [Scottburgh]	5
KZ226 - Mkhambathini [Camperdown]	3
KZ241 - Endumeni [Dundee]	3
KZ252 - Newcastle [Newcastle]	8
KZ253 - Utrecht [Utrecht]	3
KZ254 - Dannhauser [Durnacol]	5
KZ275 - Mtubatuba [Mtubatuba]	3
KZ282 - uMhlathuze [Richards Bay]	6
KZ293 - Ndwedwe [Ndwedwe]	4
CPT - City of Cape Town [Cape Town]	10
WC011 - Matzikama [Vredenda]	3
WC012 - Cederberg [Citrusdal]	3
WC013 - Bergrivier [Velddrif]	3
WC014 - Saldanha Bay [West Coast Peninsula]	7
WC022 - Witzenberg [Ceres]	5
WC023 - Drakenstein [Paarl]	7
WC024 - Stellenbosch [Stellenbosch]	6
WC025 - Breede Valley [Worcester]	6
WC026 - Breede River /Winelands [Robertson]	5
WC031 - Theewaterskloof [Caledon]	5
WC033 - Cape Agulhas [Bredasdorp]	3
WC034 - Swellendam [Barrydale/Swellendam]	4
WC041 - Kannaland [Ladismith]	4
WC043 - Mossel Bay [Mossel Bay]	5
WC044 - George [George]	5
WC045 - Oudtshoorn [Oudtshoorn]	4
WC048 - Knysna [Knysna]	5
WC051 - Laingsburg [Laingsburg]	3
WC052 - Prince Albert [Prins Albert]	2
WC053 - Beaufort West [Beaufort West]	4

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According to a gender breakdown of the 8 350 elected council seats (excluding DC 60%), 5 036 men (60%) and 3 314 women (40%) were elected, an improvement compared to the 2000 results when 72% men and 28% women were elected as council members.

The election of district councils took place partly on the same day as the general municipal elections and

partly afterwards, but within the 14-day time window allowed after publication of the election results on 7 March 2006. Voters could elect only 40% of the district councillors on Election Day by way of a proportional representation ballot paper. The remaining seats were filled by representatives elected from and by the local council. In fact, the municipal elections were not complete until this process had run its course.

Table 3: Analysis of council seats according to gender

Province	Male PR*	Ward	Total	Female PR*	Ward	Total	Grand total
Eastern Cape	348	236	584	395	400	795	1 379
Free State	141	113	254	193	187	380	634
Gauteng	201	190	391	253	233	486	877
KwaZulu-Natal	341	143	484	539	628	1 167	1 651
Limpopo	254	235	489	339	278	617	1 106
Mpumalanga	186	152	338	237	213	450	788
North West	183	167	350	240	198	438	788
Northern Cape	87	92	179	118	82	200	379
Western Cape	148	97	245	252	251	503	748
Total	1 889	1 425	3 314	2 566	2 470	5 036	8 350

* PR: Proportional representation

ANNEXURE 1 - ELECTION TIMETABLE

NOTICE 22 OF 2006
GG No 28386 of 6 January 2006

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ELECTION TIMETABLE FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS TO BE HELD ON 1 MARCH 2006

The Electoral Commission hereby gives notice that it has in terms of section 11 of the Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act, 2000 (Act No. 27 of 2000), compiled the timetable set out below for all elections of municipal councils to be held on 1 March 2006. The first column contains the relevant section of the Act, the second column a concise description of the action referred to, the third column the date by which the action must be completed and the fourth column the time (if any) on that day by which the action must be completed.

Section	Action	Date	Time
6(2)	The Chief Electoral Officer must certify the segments of the voters' roll for the voting districts to be used in the election and make those segments available for inspection.	11 January 2006	
14(1)	A party must submit to the Commission's local representative a notice of its intention to contest the election, a party list and the prescribed deposit.	19 January 2006	17h00
17(1)	The nomination of ward candidates must be submitted to the Commission's local representative together with the documents and deposit (if any) referred to in subsection (2).	19 January 2006	17h00
14(4)(b)	A party that omitted to attach to its party list all the required documents must be allowed to submit the outstanding documents to the office of the Commission's local representative.	24 January 2006	17h00
15(1)	The Commission must compile a list of the parties contesting the election, certify the party list for that election and keep copies of those lists available at the office of the Commission's local representative.	30 January 2006	
18(1)	The Commission must compile for each ward to be contested a list of the candidates contesting that ward, certify those lists for the election and keep copies of those lists available at the office of the Commission's local representative.	30 January 2006	
19(5)	The Commission must give notice that copies of a list of voting stations and their addresses will be available for inspection at the office of the Commission's local representative.	8 February 2006	
22(1)	The Commission must give notice of the route, including the locations and estimated times of stopping, of mobile voting stations to be used.	8 February 2006	
15(3)18(1)(d)	The Commission must issue a certificate to each person whose name appears on a party list and to each ward candidate contesting the election.	13 February 2006	

ANNEXURE 2

NATIONAL OPERATIONS CENTRE – FACTS

Hall size	12,000 sq/m on two levels
Carpeting	11,000 sq/m
Carpet tiles used	44000 tiles
Telephones	Approximately 300
Network cabling	Approximately 2km of data and network cabling
Number of offices	120
Number of PC work stations	338
Number of television units	30
Radio stations	9
National television channels	2
Television organisations	SABC and e-TV
Air-conditioning units	10 x 200 BTU units
Security staff deployed on site	85 security guards
Guests invited to the launch	550
Electrical power points	900
UPS units utilized	8
Backup power generators	4 x 400KVa mobile generators
Staffing during operational period	550 per shift
Meals served	4625
Lights installed	180
Projectors	Concert type 2x (8500lux)
Projection screens	2x (5mx4m)
Cell phone coverage	Additional capacity was created by Vodacom, Cell C and MTN
Telephony	Mobile Telkom exchange was installed
Television	SABC and e-TV used mobile satellite dishes through outside broadcasting units

ANNEXURE 3

GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS





ATM	Automatic teller machine
BOM	Bill of materials
CAPRO	Central Advertising Public Relations Office
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CEO	Chief Electoral Officer
Commissioners	Members of the Commission
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DCEO	Deputy Chief Electoral Officer
DRP	Distribution Requirement Plans
EDDE	Electoral Democracy Development and Education
Electoral Commission	Administration
EPC	Electoral Project Co-ordinator
FBO	Faith-Based Organisation
GIS	Geographical Information System
GPS	Global Positioning Satellite
ID	Identity document (s)
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission
IPM	Institute of People Management
IT	Information Technology
IVR	Integrated Voice Response
LAN	Local area network
LGE	Local Government Elections
LIS	Logistics Information Systems
LPLC	Local Party Liaison Committee
MEO	Municipal Electoral Officer
MRP	Material requirement planning
NA	National Assembly
NAB	Newspaper Advertising Bureau
NAD	National address directory
NCOP	National Council of Provinces
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NOC	National Operations Centre
PEO	Provincial Electoral Officer
PIFSA	Printing Federation of South Africa
PLC	Party Liaison Committee
PR	Proportional Representation
RAD	Rapid Application Development
ROC	Results Operation Centre
RVS	Results Verification System
SABC	South Africa Broadcasting Corporation
SAHRC	South African Human Rights Commission
SANDF	South African National Defence Force
SAQA	South African Qualification Authority
SQL	Structured Query Language
TEC	Transitional Executive Council
VD	Voting District
VRS	Voting registration system
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
VSM	Voting station monitoring
WAN	Wide area network

ANNEXURE 4 - BALLOT PAPERS

NP354: POLOKWANE WARD 93504018 WARD CANDIDATE VOTE

Make your mark next to the candidate of your choice.
Etsa letshwao pele mokhathwa wa kgetho ya hao.
Yenza ughawu lakho esikhaleni lesidvute kwemuntu lomkhethisako.
Endla nifungo ekuseni na mohlawurwa lewu u n'wi hlakuleka.
Dira letshwao gauti le ntlhopeng yo o mo ratang.
Yenza ughawu lakho eduze ko mkhethwa omuthandayo.

Plaas u merk langs die kandidaat van u keuse.
Dira letswao la gago go lebana le nkgetheng yo o mo kgethago.
Kha vha ile luswayo tsini na nkhetsho wvho.
Yenza ughawu hwakho ecaleni kwalowo umkhethayo.
Yenza ughawu hwakho ecaleni kwalowo umkhethayo.

MABYANA, SEKABATA JOHANNES		ANC	
MAGONGWA, MANOKO STANLEY		AZAPO	
MAPONYA, MAMPHAGO CATHRINE		ACDP	
MOETI, KGABO FRANS		DA	

DC48: WEST RAND DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AREA: GTDMA48 DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AREA PARTY VOTE

Make your mark next to the party you choose.
Etsa letshwao pele mokgato o o e kgethang.
Yenza ughawu walo esikhaleni esidvute kwangona oikhethisako.
Endla nifungo ekuseni ka vando leli u n'wi hlakuleka.
Dira letshwao go letsegana le leswao la gago.
Yenza ughawu lakho eduze kwangona oikhethisako.

Plaas u merk langs die party van u keuse.
Dira letswao la gago go lebana le phatlha yoo o e kgethago.
Kha vha ile luswayo phatlha ha drangona le vha khetha.
Yenza ughawu hwakho ecaleni kwangona oikhethayo.
Yenza ughawu hwakho ecaleni kwangona oikhethayo.

VRYHEIDSFRONT PLUS		VF	
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS		ANC	
DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE/DEMOKRATIESE ALLIANSIE		DA	
INDEPENDENT DEMOCRATS		ID	

NELSON MANDELA METROPOLITAN COUNCIL PARTY VOTE

Make your mark next to the party you choose.

Etha letshwa gale mkgadla oo o a kgethang.

Yenza uphawu ocoleni kweicandiso zakhethekile.

Emela mfungho othetha ka vande leti u n hlakutaka.

Baya letshwa qn lebagane le lekolole la gaga.

Yenza uphawu lakhe eduse ntl'angano ayikhetheke.








Please u mark kanga die party wat u kies.

Etsa letshwa le gaga go libana le phatlal gabo a a kgethang.

Kha etha le luswaga phanda ha ditsangano tina xha khetha.

Yenza uphawu hwetha ecoleni kweigaga yho ulikhetheke.

Deetha uphawu rekhethelel' estenduse kweidit'angano ayikhetheke.

DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE/DEMOKRATIESE ALLIANSIE	 DA	<input type="checkbox"/>
INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY	 IFP	<input type="checkbox"/>
PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA	 PAC	<input type="checkbox"/>
UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT	 UDM	<input type="checkbox"/>
AFRICAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY	 ACDP	<input type="checkbox"/>
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	 ANC	<input type="checkbox"/>
AFRICAN TRANSFORMATION EFFICIENCY AND AFFIRMATIVE MOVEMENT	 A-Team	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ballot Paper ID 1 Green's Print DM- 632 7002

DC35: CENTRAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY DISTRICT COUNCIL PARTY VOTE

Make your mark next to the party you choose.

Etsoa letsohoana pele mmeqelle ebe o kgethang.

Yenza uphawu opheleli kwethuleni oikhethako.

Endle isifungile ethoko ka vanile leni u si fihlwa ka.

Beya letsohoana go tloganela le leleke la gaga.

Yenza uphawu laho adula ntsingana oikhethako.








Please a mark beside the party you a choose.

Dina letsoho la gaga go tloganela le phetoli yea o e kgethang.

Kha vha ha konyo yenda ha diangana mo vha khath.

Yenza uphawu hotho apeler tlogela oikhethako.

Ovha uphawu eakhutani eadula kwethuleni oikhethako.

DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE/DEMOKRATIESE ALLIANSIE	 DA	<input type="text"/>
PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA	 PAC	<input type="text"/>
UNITED DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT	 UDM	<input type="text"/>
AFRICAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY	 ACDP	<input type="text"/>
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	 ANC	<input type="text"/>
ALLIANSIE NOORD	 AN	<input type="text"/>
AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION	 AZAPO	<input type="text"/>

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