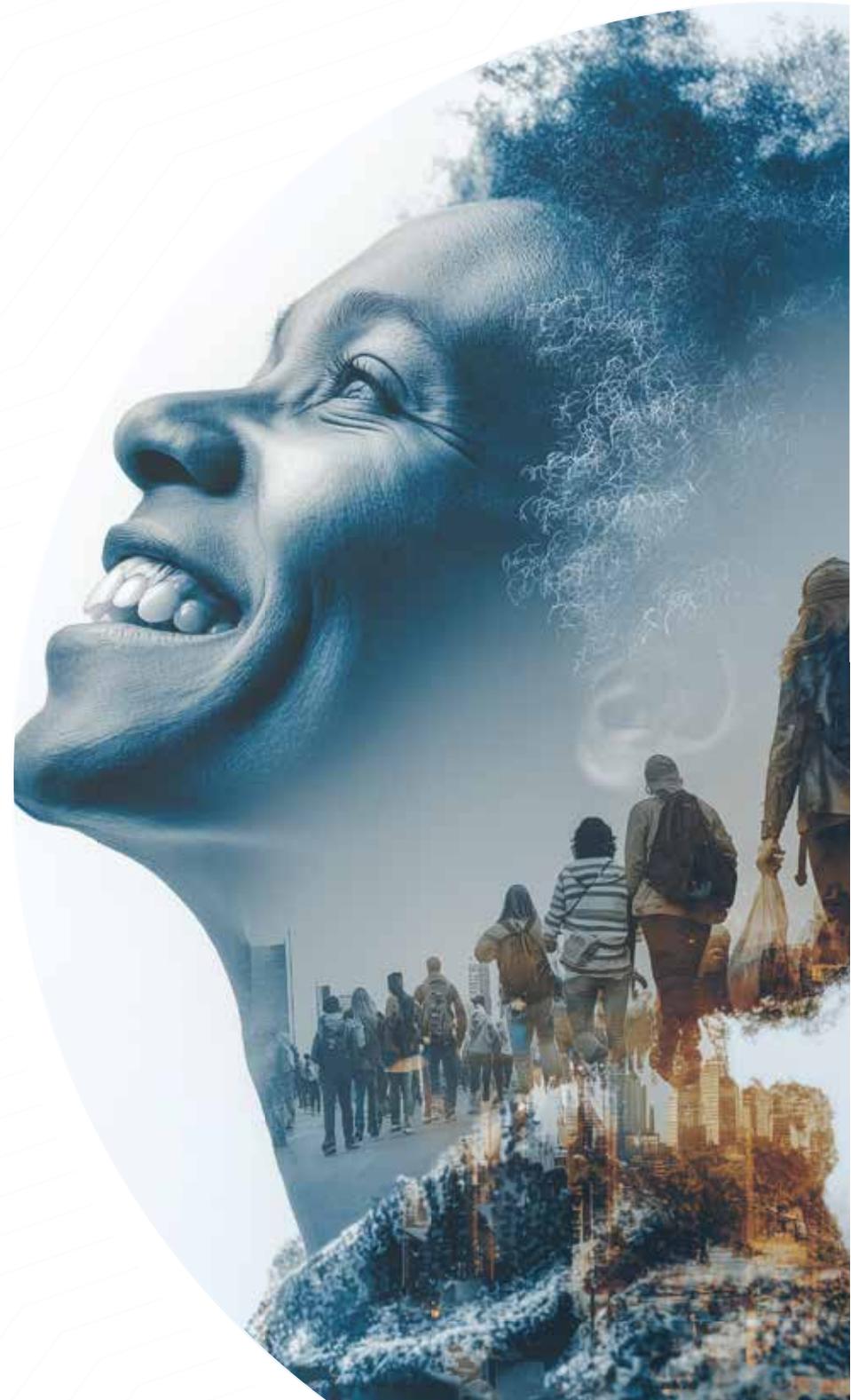




2025

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Annual Report



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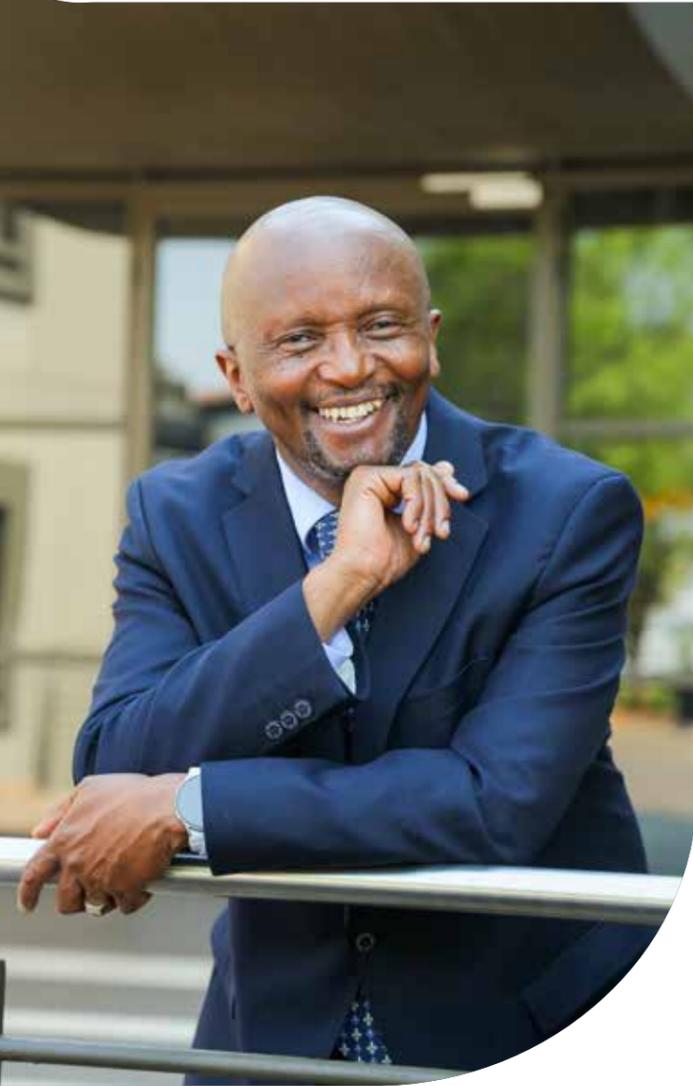
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Foreword by the Chairperson

In the annals of democratic governance, few responsibilities carry the profound weight of safeguarding the electoral process. The Electoral Commission approaches this sacred trust with unwavering reverence, recognising that within its mandate lies nothing less than the preservation of the nation's democratic soul.

Guardians of democratic excellence

The financial year 2024/25 has been one of consolidation, reflection, and renewed purpose for the Electoral Commission. In the aftermath of the transformative 2024 National and Provincial Elections (NPE 2024), the Electoral Commission has focused its efforts on strengthening the foundations of South African democracy while preparing for future electoral challenges with characteristic diligence and foresight.

The Electoral Commission's work extends far beyond the spectacle of major elections. It encompasses the quiet, meticulous labour of voter registration, the patient cultivation of civic education, the rigorous maintenance of electoral systems, and the constant vigilance required to preserve public trust. Each activity, whether conducted in the glare of public attention or in the measured silence of administrative halls, contributes to the grand tapestry of democratic participation.

Resilience and trust

During the year under review, the Electoral Commission has undertaken comprehensive reviews of its systems and processes, drawing valuable lessons from recent electoral experiences. The institution has strengthened its technological infrastructure, refined its logistical capabilities, and enhanced its communication strategies to better serve the South African electorate.

The ongoing work of voter education has taken on renewed urgency, particularly in reaching communities that remain on the periphery of democratic participation. The Electoral Commission recognises that democracy thrives not merely through the mechanics of voting, but through the cultivation of an informed, engaged citizenry that understands both its rights and responsibilities within the constitutional framework.

Municipal by-elections throughout the year have provided opportunities to test refined processes and demonstrate the Electoral Commission's commitment to continuous improvement. Each electoral event, regardless of scale, receives the same meticulous attention to detail that characterises the institution's approach to national contests.

Confronting contemporary challenges

The digital age presents both unprecedented opportunities and formidable challenges for electoral administration. The Electoral Commission has devoted considerable resources to understanding and countering the spread of misinformation while harnessing technology's potential to enhance electoral accessibility and transparency.

Collaboration with civil society organisations, academic institutions, and international partners has enriched the Electoral Commission's capacity to address these evolving challenges. The Electoral Commission recognises that the preservation of democratic integrity requires collective effort, transcending partisan boundaries and institutional silos.

The Electoral Commission has also intensified its engagement with youth constituencies, recognising that the future of South African democracy depends upon the active participation of emerging generations. Through innovative outreach programmes and digital engagement strategies, the institution works tirelessly to bridge the gap between young South Africans and their democratic heritage.

Institutional excellence and global recognition

The Electoral Commission of South Africa continues to distinguish itself on the international stage, sharing expertise with fellow electoral management bodies across the continent and beyond. This exchange of knowledge serves not only to strengthen global democratic practices but also to enrich the Electoral Commission's own understanding of contemporary electoral challenges. The institution's commitment to transparency and accountability remains unwavering. Every resource entrusted to the Electoral



Commission is managed with scrupulous care, every decision is made with careful consideration of its democratic implications, and every action is guided by the principles of integrity that have become synonymous with the institution's reputation.

A vision for democratic renewal

As South Africa's democracy matures, the Electoral Commission recognises its role in fostering not merely electoral participation, but democratic renewal. This involves nurturing a culture of civic engagement that extends beyond electoral cycles, encouraging constructive political discourse, and supporting the development of the Electoral Commission's capability to serve the nation's evolving needs.

The Electoral Commission's work contributes to a larger project of national development, one in which democratic participation becomes the cornerstone of social progress and economic advancement. The Electoral Commission understands that credible elections are not an end in themselves, but rather the foundation upon which all other democratic achievements must be built.

Acknowledging collective responsibility

The Electoral Commission's successes belong not to the institution alone, but to all South Africans who continue to place their faith in democratic processes. Political parties and independent candidates that compete with dignity, voters who participate with commitment, civil society organisations that provide oversight with integrity, and media institutions that report with accuracy – all contribute to the ecosystem of democratic excellence that the Electoral Commission is privileged to serve.

The challenges facing South African democracy are neither unique nor insurmountable. They require sustained attention, collaborative effort, and unwavering commitment to constitutional principles. The Electoral Commission approaches these challenges with the confidence born of experience and the humility that comes with understanding the magnitude of the task at hand.

A sacred covenant

The Electoral Commission's Annual Report represents more than an administrative obligation; it constitutes a sacred covenant between the Electoral Commission and the South African people. Every page reflects the institution's dedication to transparency, every statistic demonstrates accountability, and every initiative reveals the profound respect with which the Electoral Commission approaches its constitutional mandate.

The Electoral Commission of South Africa does not merely conduct elections – it cultivates democracy. It does not simply count votes – it weighs the hopes and aspirations of a nation. In this noble endeavour, the institution finds both its greatest challenge and its most profound purpose. Regrettably, since 21 June 2024, Commissioner Dr. Masuku has not participated in commission decision-making processes due to circumstances beyond our control.

As we look toward the future, the Electoral Commission remains steadfast in its commitment to excellence, transparent in its operations, and reverent in its approach to the democratic process. The trust placed in this institution by the people of South Africa is neither taken for granted nor treated lightly. It is cherished, protected, and honoured through every action taken in service of the nation's democratic ideals.



Chairperson
Mosotho Simon Moepya
31 July 2025



Chief Electoral Officer's Overview

The Electoral Commission has not only administered elections at home with resilience, efficiency, and excellence, but has also maintained its position as a respected global leader in electoral management throughout the 2024/25 financial year.

Consolidating excellence after historic elections

The institutional consolidation and strategic advancement of the Electoral Commission were hallmarks of this financial year. Following the complexity and scale of NPE 2024, the organisation has dedicated considerable effort to strengthening operational systems while expanding its capacity to meet future challenges.

The lessons drawn from managing over 14,000 candidates competing for 830 seats, printing 90 million ballot papers within three weeks, and coordinating more than 200,000 staff across 23,000 voting stations have informed every aspect of the Electoral Commission's work this year. These experiences have not merely been catalogued – they have been transformed into operational improvements that enhance the institution's readiness for future electoral events.

Throughout the 2024/25 financial year, municipal by-elections provided valuable testing grounds for refined processes and updated systems. Each contest, regardless of size, has received the same meticulous attention that characterises the Electoral Commission's approach to national elections. The organisation has used these opportunities to pilot new technologies, test communication strategies, and validate the effectiveness of recent improvements.

Technological innovation and system resilience

The Electoral Commission has made substantial investments in technological infrastructure during the 2024/25 financial year. Cloud computing capabilities have been integrated into core operations, while artificial intelligence applications have been carefully introduced where they demonstrably improve efficiency without compromising security or transparency.

The Results Operations Centre systems are in the process of undergoing significant modernisation. New high-tech equipment will ensure that information reaches the South African public with greater accuracy, speed, and accessibility than ever before. These upgrades address the system delays that occasionally

sparked concern during previous elections, reinforcing the Electoral Commission's commitment to real-time transparency.

Innovation, however, remains guided by a fundamental principle: technology must deepen public trust, not undermine it. Every technological advancement undergoes rigorous testing and validation before implementation. The Electoral Commission recognises that in electoral administration, perception matters as much as performance.

Strengthening democratic participation

Civic education has received renewed emphasis throughout the 2024/25 financial year. The Electoral Commission has expanded its outreach programmes, particularly targeting young South Africans and communities that remain on the periphery of democratic participation. New digital engagement strategies complement traditional methods, ensuring that educational efforts reach citizens where digital engagement is most accessible.

The fight against disinformation and misinformation continues to demand significant resources and attention. Working closely with civil society organisations, academic institutions, and international partners, the Electoral Commission has developed more sophisticated approaches to identifying and countering false narratives. This collaborative effort recognises that preserving electoral integrity requires collective action across all sectors of society.

Voter registration drives conducted throughout the year have yielded encouraging results, though participation patterns remain uneven across different demographic groups. The Electoral Commission continues to refine its strategies for reaching underrepresented communities while maintaining the accessibility and reliability of registration processes.

Operational excellence and capacity building

Staff development has been a priority focus during the period under review. The Electoral Commission has expanded its training programmes, introduced new professional development opportunities, and strengthened systems for knowledge and staff retention across the organisation. These investments ensure that the institutional memory and expertise gained from recent electoral experiences are preserved and built upon.

Logistics capacity has been systematically enhanced following comprehensive reviews of supply chain management, equipment deployment, and resource allocation processes. The goal is not simply to manage larger operations, but to do so with greater efficiency and reduced risk of service delivery challenges.

Dispute resolution mechanisms have been streamlined and strengthened. The Electoral Commission now processes complaints more quickly while maintaining thoroughness and fairness. This improvement directly impacts public confidence, as citizens see their concerns addressed with appropriate urgency and transparency.

The Electoral Commission has maintained active leadership roles within global electoral management bodies. Professional development initiatives for electoral officials worldwide have been expanded, while regional partnerships through organisations such as the Association of African Electoral Authorities have been deepened. These relationships provide mutual benefits, enriching the Electoral Commission's own understanding of contemporary electoral challenges while sharing South African expertise internationally.

This global engagement serves multiple purposes. It positions South Africa as a continental leader in democratic governance while exposing the Electoral Commission to innovative practices and emerging challenges from other jurisdictions.

Financial stewardship and accountability

Resource management has remained exemplary throughout the 2024/25 financial year. Every rand entrusted to the Electoral Commission has been allocated with careful consideration of operational needs and public accountability. Transparent procurement processes, rigorous financial controls, and comprehensive reporting ensure that public funds are used effectively and efficiently.

The office of the Auditor-General South Africa has issued the Electoral Commission with a clean audit report for the 2024/25 financial year. This feat was achieved for the fifth year in a

row. I would like to extend my gratitude to all staff members for their tireless efforts in the management of public funds.

The Electoral Commission's approach to financial stewardship extends beyond compliance with regulations. It reflects a deeper commitment to public trust and recognition that credible elections require not only operational excellence, but also unquestionable integrity in resource management.

Looking forward: Preparation and innovation

As the 2024/25 financial year draws to a close, the Electoral Commission's focus increasingly turns to future preparedness. Systems are being continuously refined, staff capabilities are being expanded, and strategic partnerships are being strengthened. The organisation approaches this work with confidence born of experience and humility born of understanding the evolving nature of electoral challenges.

The Electoral Commission recognises that democracy is not self-executing. It requires constant attention, continuous improvement, and unwavering dedication to constitutional principles. Each day brings opportunities to strengthen democratic institutions and deepen public trust in electoral processes.

New technologies will be evaluated and, where appropriate, integrated into operations. Communication strategies will be refined to better serve an increasingly digital citizenry. Civic education programmes will be expanded to reach more South Africans with more effective messages about democratic participation.

A foundation built on trust

The ultimate measure of the Electoral Commission's success remains the trust of South Africans. International recognition, while gratifying, cannot substitute for the confidence of the nation's citizens. Every policy decision, every operational improvement, and every strategic initiative is evaluated against this fundamental criterion.

The NPE 2024 elections demonstrated that South Africans, despite frustrations and challenges, remain deeply invested in their democratic rights. Queues formed across all provinces on election day. Citizens waited patiently to exercise their franchise. This commitment provides both inspiration and responsibility for the Electoral Commission's ongoing work.

Gratitude extends to the thousands of electoral staff members whose professionalism and dedication make credible elections possible.

Many work long hours under difficult conditions, motivated by nothing more than commitment to democratic service. Their resilience forms the bedrock of the Electoral Commission's operational success.

Recognition also belongs to the political parties and candidates who contest elections within established rules, the civil society organisations that provide oversight with integrity, and the media institutions that report electoral processes with accuracy and fairness. Democracy succeeds through collective effort, not institutional action alone.

Commitment to continuous excellence

The Electoral Commission does not merely conduct elections – it nurtures democratic culture. It does not simply count votes – it safeguards the constitutional promise that every citizen's voice can be heard through the ballot box. This responsibility shapes every aspect of the organisation's work.

As we move beyond 2025, the Electoral Commission remains steadfast in its commitment to operational excellence, transparent in its processes, and responsive to the evolving needs of South African democracy. The trust placed in this institution by the people of South Africa is neither taken for granted nor treated casually. It is earned through consistent performance, protected through transparent practices, and honoured through unwavering dedication to constitutional principles.



Chief Electoral Officer
Phatudi Simon Mamabolo
31 July 2025

2024/25 Highlights

Revenue	R2.6 Billion	Average age	47
Expenditure	R3.1 Billion	Training intervention	406 employees
Assets	R2.1 Billion	Interns	56
Liabilities	R575 Million	Staff turnover	8%
Voting district	23,292	Registered voters	27.66 Million 55.26% women 44.74% men
Municipal by-elections	136	Audit outcome	5th Clean
Performance targets	92% 12/13 Target achieved	Stakeholder engagement during school democracy week	407,358 learners reached
Permanent staff members	943	National and Provincial Elections 2024	29 May 2024

Statement of Responsibility and Confirmation of Accuracy

To the best of my knowledge and belief, I confirm the following about this annual report:

- All information and amounts disclosed in this annual report are consistent with the annual financial statements audited by the Auditor-General South Africa.
- The annual report is complete, accurate, and free from any omissions.
- The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines on annual reports as issued by the National Treasury.
- The Annual Financial Statements (Part E) have been prepared in accordance with the effective standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) applicable to the Electoral Commission.
- The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of the annual financial statements and for the judgments made in this information.
- The Accounting Officer is responsible for establishing and implementing a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the integrity and reliability of performance information, human resources information, and annual financial statements.
- The external auditors (Auditor-General South Africa) are engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

In our opinion, the annual report fairly reflects the operations, performance information, human resources information, and financial affairs of the Electoral Commission for the financial year

Chairperson
Mosotho Simon Moepya
31 July 2025

Chief Electoral Officer
Phatudi Simon Mamabolo
31 July 2025



NPE 2024
Elections Report



Feedback on
Annual Report



A

King Protea – Represents the nation’s diversity and resilience, central to the democratic project of building national unity.

WHO WE ARE



Strategic Overview

VISION →

To be a pre-eminent leader in electoral democracy.

MISSION →

The Electoral Commission is an independent constitutional body that manages the free and fair elections of legislative bodies and institutions through the participation of citizens, political parties, and civil society in deepening electoral democracy.

IMPACT STATEMENT →

Manage free and fair elections of public representatives into legislative bodies to strengthen electoral democracy.

Strategic outcome-oriented goals

The strategic outcome-oriented goals of the Electoral Commission are as follows:

- Strengthening governance, institutional excellence, professionalism, and enabling business processes at all levels of the organisation
- Achieving pre-eminence in the area of managing elections and referenda, including the strengthening of a cooperative relationship with political parties
- Strengthening electoral democracy.

VALUES

To enable the Electoral Commission to serve the needs of stakeholders, including the electorate, political parties, the media, and permanent and temporary staff members, the organisation subscribes to the following values:

Impartiality
to act free of favour

Integrity
the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles

Accountability
to take responsibility for one’s actions

Transparency
to invite trust by revealing that one has nothing to hide

Responsiveness
the quality of reacting quickly and positively.



Legislative and Other Mandates

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution that falls under Schedule 1 of the Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999) (PFMA).

Constitutional mandate

In terms of Section 190 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996), the Electoral Commission must do the following:

- Manage the elections of national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies in accordance with national legislation.
- Ensure that those elections are free and fair.
- Declare the results of those elections within a period that must be prescribed by national legislation and that is as short as reasonably possible.

Legislative mandates

The duties and functions of the Electoral Commission are outlined in Section 5 of the Electoral Commission Act 51 of 1996, and are as follows:

- Manage any election
- Ensure that any election is free and fair.
- Promote conditions that are conducive to free and fair elections.
- Promote knowledge of sound and democratic electoral processes.
- Compile and maintain a voters' roll by means of a system of registering eligible voters by using data that is available from government sources and information furnished by voters.
- Compile and maintain a register of parties.
- Establish and maintain liaison and cooperation with parties
- Undertake and promote research into electoral matters
- Develop and promote electoral expertise and technology in all spheres of government.
- Continuously review electoral legislation and proposed electoral legislation, and make recommendations in connection therewith.
- Promote voter education
- Promote cooperation with and between persons, institutions, governments, and administrations for the achievement of its objectives.
- Declare the results of elections for national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies within seven days after such elections.

- Adjudicate disputes that may arise from the organisation, administration or conducting of elections and which are of an administrative nature.
- Appoint appropriate public administrations in any sphere of government to conduct elections when necessary.

The duties and functions of the Electoral Commission regarding national and provincial elections are also outlined in the Electoral Act 73 of 1998. This Act includes, among other things, the requirements for registration as a voter and compilation of the voters' roll. In addition, the Act provides for the administration of elections, election timetables, procedures for voting, counting and determining results, the accreditation of observers, and voter education. Several regulations have been published in terms of the Electoral Act.

The Municipal Electoral Act 24 of 2000 deals with the specific nature of municipal elections. The Act provides for the administration of parties and candidates and all related voting and counting issues. As in the case of the Electoral Act, appropriate regulations have been published in support of the provisions of this Act.

The Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998 governs the establishment, management, and functions of various municipalities, as well as the electoral system for local government, which includes seat calculation formulae (the conversion of votes into seats). This legislation is required to conclude the results process for municipal elections.

Policy mandates

The Electoral Commission undertakes its work within the Republic of South Africa independently. However, the government of South Africa often requests that the Electoral Commission assist it with the implementation of foreign policy by providing electoral assistance to other countries. When this happens, funding is sought and obtained from the Department of International Relations and Cooperation.



The Commission

Mosotho Moepya

Chairperson

AGE

59

APPOINTED:

November 2018

Appointed as Chairperson:

October 2022



COMMITTEES:



Janet Love

Vice-Chairperson

AGE

67

APPOINTED:

October 2023



COMMITTEES:



Glen Mashinini

Commissioner

AGE

64

APPOINTED:

August 2022



COMMITTEES:



Judge Dhaya Pillay

Commissioner

AGE

67

APPOINTED:

November 2018



COMMITTEES:



Dr Nomsa Masuku

Commissioner

AGE

63

APPOINTED:

November 2018



ABSENT

Committees

- Finance, Risk and Compliance
- Election Management Committee
- Governance and Ethics Committee
- Human Resources Governance Committee
- Research, Publications and Knowledge Management Committee
- Outreach, Communication and International Relations Committee
- Political Funding Committee



Executive Management

CEO



Sy Mamabolo
Chief Electoral Officer

AGE
54

APPOINTED:
October 2017

EXCO

Masego Sheburi
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer:
Electoral Operations

AGE
53

APPOINTED:
September 2018



George Mahlangu
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer:
Political Funding

AGE
56

APPOINTED:
July 2019



Dawn Mbatha CA (SA)
Chief Financial Officer

AGE
42

APPOINTED:
December 2020



Akhtari Henning
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer:
Corporate Service

AGE
50

APPOINTED:
April 2018



Mawethu Mosery
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer:
Outreach

AGE
64

APPOINTED:
February 2022



EXCO
Gender average



Senior Managers

Rekha Raath
General Manager Legal Services



AGE
54
APPOINTED:
May 2015

COMMITTEES: ● ●

Bonolo Gopane
General Manager Human Resources, Skills development



AGE
59
APPOINTED:
October 2008

COMMITTEES: ●

EXCO

Libisi Maphanga
Chief Information Officer



AGE
64
APPOINTED:
November 2000

COMMITTEES: ● ● ●

Granville Abrahams
General Manager Electoral Operations



AGE
61
APPOINTED:
2011

COMMITTEES: ●

Moagisi Letlhaku
General Manager Civic Education, Research and Knowledge



AGE
42
APPOINTED:
February 2021

COMMITTEES: ● ●

Marius Steyn
General Manager Logistics and Infrastructure



AGE
63
APPOINTED:
July 2022

COMMITTEES: ●

Committees

- Finance, Risk and Compliance
- Election Management Committee
- Governance and Ethics Committee
- Human Resources Governance Committee
- Research, Publications and Knowledge Management Committee
- Outreach, Communication and International Relations Committee
- Political Funding Committee

Senior Manager Gender average

 Women
50%

 Men
50%



Provincial Electoral Officers: Guardians of Democracy

Provincial Electoral Officers (PEOs) serve as the vital link between the Electoral Commission's constitutional mandate and the successful delivery of free and fair elections. They translate strategic objectives into operational excellence while building institutional credibility and public confidence in South Africa's democratic processes.

Provincial Electoral Officers (PEOs)

<p>Kayakazi Magudumana Provincial Electoral Officer Eastern Cape</p> <p>AGE 55</p> <p>APPOINTED: March 2018</p> 	<p>Jabulani Tshabalala Provincial Electoral Officer Free State</p> <p>AGE 59</p> <p>APPOINTED: May 2015</p> 	<p>Thabo Masemula Provincial Electoral Officer Gauteng</p> <p>AGE 53</p> <p>APPOINTED: October 2019</p> 
Offices: 40	Offices: 20	Offices: 38
Permanent employees: 161	Permanent employees: 56	Permanent employees: 76
Expenditure: R 285,583,905	Expenditure: R 120,332,455	Expenditure: R 200,756,290

<p>Ntombifuthi Masinga Provincial Electoral Officer Kwa Zulu Natal</p> <p>AGE 56</p> <p>APPOINTED: August 2022</p> 	<p>Bonolo Modise Provincial Electoral Officer Northern Cape</p> <p>AGE 55</p> <p>APPOINTED: December 2010</p> 	<p>Nkaro Mateta Provincial Electoral Officer Limpopo</p> <p>AGE 62</p> <p>APPOINTED: April 2007</p> 
Offices: 52	Offices: 27	Offices: 26
Permanent employees: 142	Permanent employees: 64	Permanent employees: 91
Expenditure: R 301,870,890	Expenditure: R 110,384,270	Expenditure: R 189,415,643



<p>Dr Tumeloentle Thiba Provincial Electoral Officer North West</p> <p>AGE 64</p> <p>APPOINTED: January 2008</p> 	<p>Michael Hendrickse Provincial Electoral Officer Western Cape</p> <p>AGE 62</p> <p>APPOINTED: February 2021</p> 	<p>Gugu Langa Provincial Officer Mpumalanga</p> <p>AGE 55</p> <p>APPOINTED: April 2021</p> 
Offices: 19	Offices: 30	Offices: 18
Permanent employees: 66	Permanent employees: 73	Permanent employees: 60
Expenditure: R 125,208,270	Expenditure: R 155,322,101	Expenditure: R 131,834,553

Strategic leadership and governance

Provincial Electoral Officers provide strategic leadership that shapes electoral policy, drives voter engagement initiatives, and establishes the foundation of public trust essential for a healthy democracy. They ensure operations align with the Electoral Commission's broader mission while maintaining the highest standards of governance, integrity, and legal compliance.

As ambassadors of the institution, Provincial Electoral Officers foster legitimacy in electoral outcomes and strengthen democratic stability across provincial communities. Their influence extends beyond mere administration – they actively champion democratic values while enhancing civic participation and accountability through data-informed decision-making.

Operational excellence and risk management

Positioned at the forefront of electoral delivery, Provincial Electoral Officers bring comprehensive vision that influences both the mechanics of elections and civic engagement standards. They oversee planning, administration, and integrity of the electoral process – operating independently of political influence while ensuring regulatory compliance and applying robust risk management to protect institutional reputation.

Provincial Electoral Officers ensure the electoral process remains inclusive, responsive, and dynamic, reflecting the diverse voices of the electorate through principled leadership grounded in fairness, transparency, and accessibility.

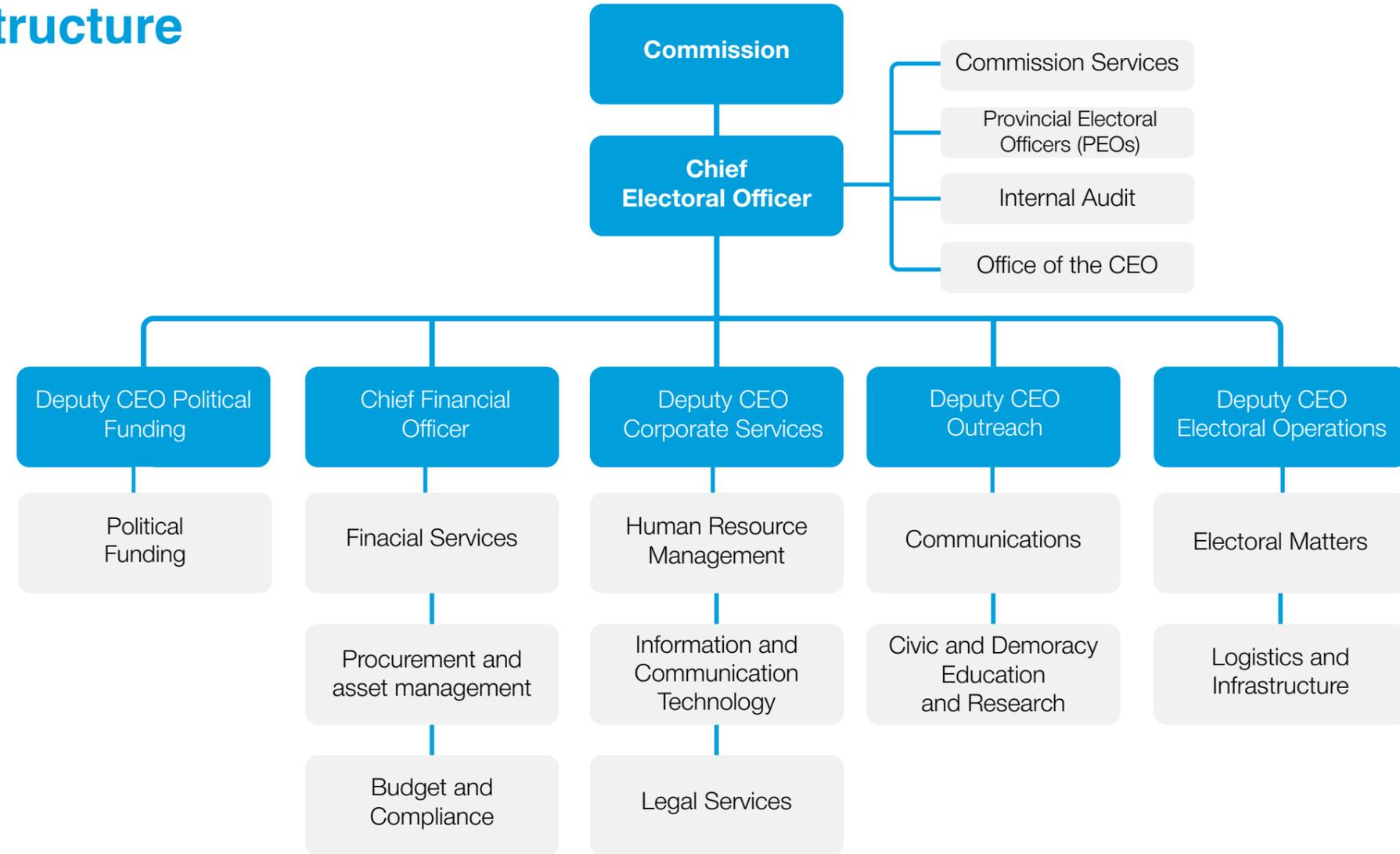
Core responsibilities

- **As guardians of electoral integrity:** Safeguard the integrity of the electoral process
- **As neutral leaders:** Operate independently and without political bias
- **As operational experts:** Oversee planning and execution of all election aspects
- **As stakeholder managers:** Work collaboratively with all parties to ensure transparency and communication
- **As crisis managers:** Ensure resilience and rapid response during challenges
- **As public educators:** Ensure citizens understand electoral processes and their rights
- **As accountable stewards:** Operate transparently and remain accountable to the Republic.

MANCO

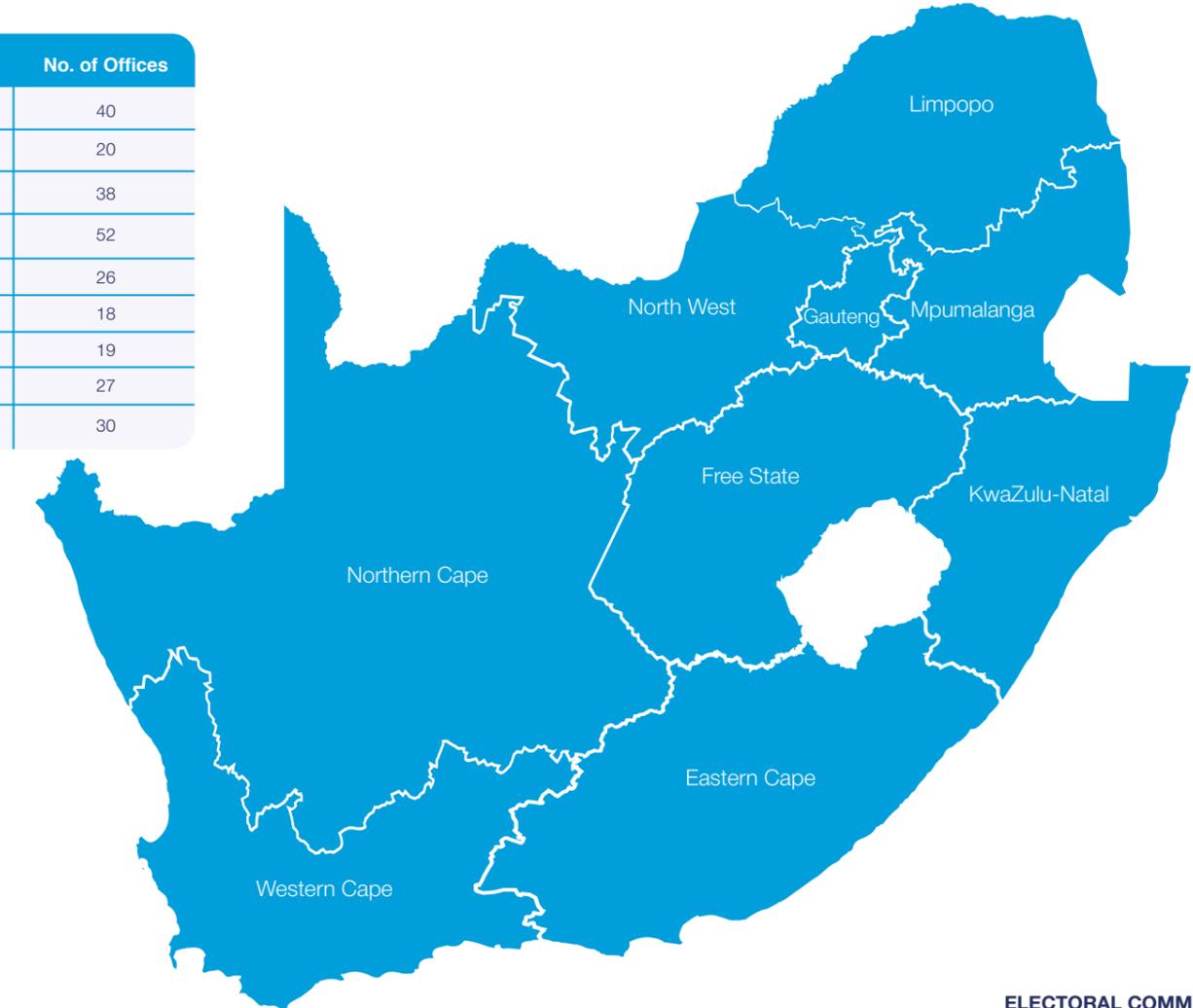


Organisational Structure



Our National Footprint

Province	Voting Station	No. of Offices
Eastern Cape	4 868	40
Free State	1 586	20
Gauteng	2 797	38
KwaZulu-Natal	4 974	52
Limpopo	3 216	26
Mpumalanga	1 811	18
North West	1 738	19
Northern Cape	730	27
Western Cape	1 572	30





Electoral Commission's International Leadership Role

The Electoral Commission completed its two-year tenure as the Chairperson of Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), in October 2024. WEBThe Association of World Election Bodies is composed of 121 members from 111 countries.

America

1. National Electoral Directorate of Argentina(DINE)
2. Electoral and Boundaries Commission of Barbados
3. Superior Electoral Court of Brazil (TSE)
4. National Civil Registry of the Republic of Colombia (RNEC)
5. Supreme Electoral Court of Costa Rica(TSE)
6. Central Electoral Board of the Dominican Republic(JCE)
7. National Electoral Council of Ecuador(CNE)
8. Supreme Electoral Tribunal of El Salvador(TSE)
9. Guyana Elections Commission
10. Electoral Commission of Jamaica
11. Supreme Electoral Council of Nicaragua(CSE)
12. Superior Court of Electoral Justice of Paraguay
13. National Registry of Identification and Civil Status of Peru(RENIEC)
14. State Commission on Elections of Puerto Rico
15. Independent Electoral Council of Suriname
16. National Electoral Council of Venezuela(CNE)
17. Parliamentary Registration Department of the Bahamas
18. Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Bolivia(OEP)
19. Elections Canada
20. National Electoral Council of the Republic of Colombia (CNE)
21. Electoral Office of Dominica
22. Tribunal Superior Electoral of the Dominican Republic(TSE)
23. Election Disputes Tribunal of Ecuador(TCE)
24. Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Guatemala(TSE)
25. Provisional Electoral Council of Haiti(CEP)
26. National Electoral Institute of Mexico(INE)
27. Electoral Tribunal of Panama(TE)
28. National Jury of Elections of Peru(JNE)
29. National Office of Electoral Processes of Peru(ONPE)
30. Electoral Department of Saint Lucia
31. Elections and Boundaries Commission of Trinidad and Tobago

Africa

1. National Electoral Commission of Angola(CNE)
2. Independent National Electoral Commission of Burkina Faso
3. Elections Cameroon
4. Independent National Electoral Commission of Djibouti(CENI)
5. National Election Authority of Egypt
6. Autonomous and Permanent National Electoral Commission of Gabon(CENAP)
7. Electoral Commission of Ghana
8. Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission of Kenya
9. National Elections Commission of Liberia
10. Independent National Electoral Commission of Madagascar(CENI)
11. Independent National Electoral Commission of Mali(CENI)
12. Office of the Electoral Commissioner of Mauritius
13. Independent National Electoral Commission of Nigeria
14. National Electoral Commission of Sao Tome and Principe(CEN)
15. Political Parties Registration Commission of Sierra Leone
16. National Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (NIEBC) of Somalia
17. National Elections Commission of South Sudan
18. Independent High Authority for Elections of Tunisia
19. Zanzibar Election Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania
20. Electoral Commission of Zambia
21. Autonomous National Electoral Commission of Benin(CENA)
22. Independent National Electoral Commission of Burundi(CENI)
23. Independent Electoral Commission of Cote d'Ivoire(CEI)
24. Independent National Electoral Commission of the Democratic Republic of Congo(CENI)
25. National Election Board of Ethiopia
26. Independent Electoral Commission of Gambia
27. Independent National Electoral Commission of Guinea
28. Independent Electoral Commission of Lesotho
29. High National Elections Commission of Libya
30. Malawi Electoral Commission
31. Directorate General of Territorial Communities of Mali
32. National Election Commission of Mozambique(CNE)
33. National Electoral Commission of Rwanda
34. National Autonomous Electoral Commission of Senegal(CENA)
35. Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone
36. Electoral Commission of South Africa(IEC)
37. Independent National Electoral Commission of Togo
38. Electoral Commission of Uganda
39. Independent National Electoral Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania

Oceania

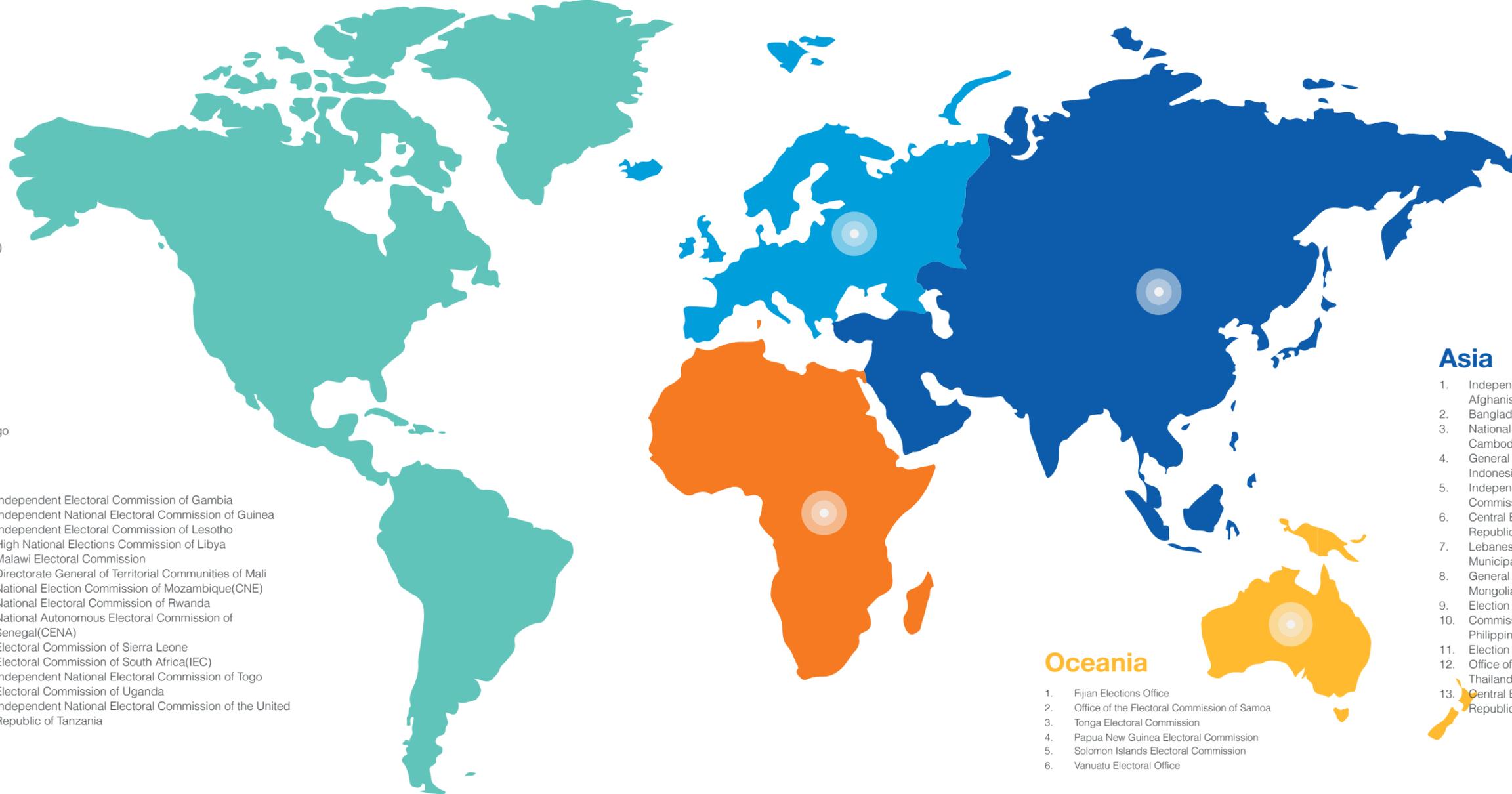
1. Fijian Elections Office
2. Office of the Electoral Commission of Samoa
3. Tonga Electoral Commission
4. Papua New Guinea Electoral Commission
5. Solomon Islands Electoral Commission
6. Vanuatu Electoral Office

Europe

1. Central Election Commission of Albania
2. Central Election Commission of the Republic of Belarus
3. Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria
4. Central Election Commission of Georgia
5. Central Election Commission of Kosovo
6. Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova
7. National Electoral Commission of Poland
8. Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania
9. Republic Election Commission of Serbia
10. Central Election Commission of Ukraine
11. Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Armenia
12. Central Election Commission Bosnia and Herzegovina
13. Constitutional Council of France
14. National Election Office of Hungary
15. Central Election Commission of Latvia
16. State Election Commission of Montenegro (Temporary)
17. National Electoral Commission of Portugal(CNE)
18. Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation
19. Supreme Election Council of the Republic of Türkiye

Asia

1. Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh Election Commission
3. National Election Committee of Cambodia
4. General Elections Commission of Indonesia
5. Independent High Electoral Commission of Iraq
6. Central Election Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan
7. Lebanese Ministry of Interior and Municipalities of Lebanon
8. General Election Commission of Mongolia
9. Election Commission of Pakistan
10. Commission on Elections of the Philippines
11. Election Commission of Sri Lanka
12. Office of the Election Commission of Thailand
13. Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan
14. Independent Electoral Complaints Commission of Afghanistan
15. Election Commission of Bhutan
16. Election Commission of India
17. General Election Supervisory Agency of Indonesia
18. Independent Election Commission of Jordan (temporary)
19. Central Commission for Elections and Referenda of Kyrgyzstan
20. Elections Commission of the Republic of Maldives
21. Union Election Commission of Myanmar
22. Central Elections Commission of Palestine
23. National Election Commission of the Republic of Korea
24. Central Election Commission of Taiwan
25. National Elections Commission of Timor Leste(CNE)
26. Supreme Committee for Elections and Referendum of Yemen





B

Kingfisher Bird – Embodies agility and alertness, reflecting the responsiveness required in a thriving democracy.

OUR OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Auditor-General’s Report: Predetermined Objectives

The Auditor-General South Africa (AGSA) performs the necessary audit procedures on the performance information to provide limited assurance engagement in the form of an audit assessment. The audit assessment of the performance against predetermined objectives is included in the Auditor-General South Africa's Audit Report under the heading 'Predetermined objectives' in the 'Report on other legal and regulatory requirements' section. Refer to page 168 of the Auditor-General South Africa's report, published as Part E: Annual Financial Statements.

Situational Analysis

Social, political, and economic environment

The intricate tapestry of social, political, and economic forces in South Africa continually reshapes and changes state, public, private, and constitutional institutions with profound and far-reaching consequences.

Over the past three decades, South Africa has undergone a remarkable transformation in its electoral landscape, marked by significant legislative changes aimed at fostering democracy, inclusivity, and fairness in the electoral process. These legislative developments have not only shaped the country's electoral architecture but have also played a pivotal role in consolidating its democratic institutions. As we reflect on this journey, it is imperative to examine the key laws enacted since the dawn of democracy in 1994 and their profound impact on South Africa's electoral framework.

Electoral act of 1993

The Electoral Act of 1993 laid the groundwork for South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994. This landmark legislation established the legal framework for the Electoral Commission and outlines the procedures for conducting free and fair elections. The Act emphasises the principles of universal suffrage, proportional representation, and the protection of voting rights for all citizens, regardless of race, creed, or gender.

Constitution of the republic of south africa of 1996

Enacted in 1996, the Constitution of South Africa serves as the supreme law of the land and provides the foundational principles for the country's electoral system. It enshrines the right to vote as a fundamental human right and establishes the Electoral Commission as an independent body responsible for overseeing

all aspects of the electoral process. The Constitution also guarantees the independence of the judiciary and plays a crucial role in adjudicating electoral disputes and upholding the rule of law.

Electoral act 73 of 1998

The Electoral Act of 1998, together with the Electoral Commission Act 51 of 1996, form the foundation of our electoral democracy, as established by the 1996 Constitution. The Electoral Commission Act outlines the functions of the Electoral Commission, the process of appointing Commissioners, and establishes the role of the Electoral Court. Finally, the Electoral Act also establishes the office of the Chief Electoral Officer and the administrative team of the CEO. The Electoral Act outlines all election processes (including the details of the electoral system of the Republic), establishes the voters' roll and how it is maintained and updated, and outlines candidate nomination and voting station processes.

Electoral laws amendment act of 2003

The Electoral Laws Amendment Act of 2003 introduced several amendments to the Electoral Act of 1993, aimed at enhancing the integrity and efficiency of the electoral process. This legislation strengthened provisions related to voter registration, party registration, and the resolution of electoral disputes. The Act also introduced measures to combat electoral fraud and ensure transparency in electoral administration.

Electoral amendment act of 2016

In response to emerging challenges and evolving electoral dynamics, the South African Parliament passed the Electoral Amendment Act of 2016. This legislation introduced the collection of voter addresses on the voters' roll and its alignment with the voting station segment. The Act also expanded the role of the Electoral Court in adjudicating electoral disputes and provided additional safeguards to protect the integrity of the electoral system.

Political funding act of 2018

One of the most significant developments in recent years has been the enactment of the Political Funding Act of 2018. This groundbreaking legislation aims to regulate private funding of political parties and promote transparency and accountability in the political process. The Act requires political parties to disclose their sources of funding and prohibits certain categories of donations, such as those from foreign governments or entities with vested interests.

Electoral amendment act of 2023

On 17 April 2023, the President signed into law the Electoral Amendment Act 1 of 2023. The Act amends South Africa's Electoral Act of 1998 to allow independent candidates to contest provincial and national elections, thus giving effect to a Constitutional Court judgment handed down in June 2020. The Act also requires the Minister of Home Affairs to establish an Electoral Reform Consultation Panel to make non-binding recommendations on future electoral reforms.

This legislation was a significant milestone in the evolution of South Africa's democracy and is viewed as a development that can only enrich and sustain our growing constitutional democracy.

Electoral matters amendment bill

The Electoral Matters Amendment Bill amends the Political Party Funding Act 2018 to regulate the public and private funding of independent candidates and independent representatives, including those from both the public and private sectors. The Bill makes consequential amendments to the Electoral Act of 1998, the Electoral Commission Act of 1996, and other relevant legislation arising from the introduction of independent candidates and independent representatives in the National Assembly and provincial legislatures. In this context, the new legislation provides for independent representatives to receive funds from the Multi-Party Democracy Fund, which the Electoral Commission also administers.

While the fiscus resource the Represented Political Parties Fund, the Multi-Party Democracy Fund aims to raise and distribute donated funds from the private sector to represented political parties. The fund now includes independent candidates. The past 30 years have witnessed a remarkable evolution in South Africa's electoral law, driven by a commitment to democratic principles and the promotion of free and fair elections. From the establishment of the Electoral Commission to the enactment of key legislative reforms, the country has made significant strides in strengthening its electoral framework and safeguarding the rights of its citizens. As we look to the future, it is essential to build on these achievements.

The Electoral Commission pulled out all the stops to prepare for NPE 2024, the first to be held under the provisions of the Electoral Amendment Act. In these elections, voters would be presented with the greatest degree of electoral choice, as the voters would be given three ballots instead of the traditional two.

Throughout the passage of the Electoral Amendment Act through Parliament, the Electoral Commission provided information and clarity where required, and explained the policy position on the electoral system as it existed before Parliament to help various stakeholders interpret and understand it.

Once it was passed into law, the Electoral Commission mounted a massive civic education campaign to help South Africans understand the provisions of the new Act as well as its impact on NPE 2024. The Electoral Commission held a series of 'Media in Elections' training workshops for the media across provinces, helping the media to understand how the new Act would impact NPE 2024.

The period under review also witnessed an unprecedented deluge of ward by-elections, a stark symptom of the profound instability gripping municipalities in the throes of hung councils and coalition arrangements.

Amidst this volatile landscape, a groundswell of political parties and independent candidates clamoured to register for electoral contests, signalling tectonic shifts detailed elsewhere in this report.

There remained the challenge of encouraging voter participation in the country's democratic processes. As a consequence of low voter turnout in the 2021 general elections, the Electoral Commission initiated research with young voters who had no intention to vote. Fieldwork and feedback were delivered in the year under review. The finding was a confirmation of disillusioned voters. There were young voters seeking more information on the value of the vote and the process of participation to make their decisions. This outcome influenced and formed the basis of our media campaign and voter education.

Seeking to catalyse dialogue and objective analysis around waning voter participation, the Electoral Commission embarked on a nationwide research seminar roadshow. At these critical forums, the Electoral Commission's insights converged with academic findings to unveil a seemingly uninterested South African electorate.

The global development of geopolitics remained a matter of interest during this period. Notably, our country is among those that will see over a billion people participating in general elections this year, highlighting the challenges posed by the use of digital platforms and social media in elections and the stark challenges of misinformation and disinformation. South Africa became a beneficiary of the global agreement, with technology companies undertaking a commitment to managing their platforms to prevent abuse and misuse during the elections.

Organisational environment

The Electoral Commission comprises five members appointed by the President after a Parliamentary process and recommendations by the National Assembly.

In December 2024, the Electoral Commission completed the second year of its tenure as the chair of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), the largest association of election management bodies in the world. The Association has 118 members from 108 countries. The Electoral Commission's leadership role at the Association of World Election Bodies attests to the crucial role that South Africa plays in the development and enhancement of proficient electoral management across the world.

The Electoral Commission remains proud of its important role in nurturing and deepening electoral democracy across Africa.

On the labour relations front, the Electoral Commission continues

to enjoy a healthy relationship with the National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union, with whom we have signed a three-year (2022–2024) wage agreement. The wage agreement is due to be renegotiated for the period from 2025 onwards.

Economic environment

The 2024/25 financial year presented a challenging yet stabilising economic environment. Globally, steady GDP growth of 3.1% continued in 2024, with 3.2% projected for 2025, while inflation declined from 6.8% in 2023 to 5.9% in 2024. Domestically, inflation moderated to 4.5% while GDP expanded by 0.1%. Declining interest rates and rising real wages supported household consumption. The Minister of Finance highlighted significant fiscal pressures, with tax revenue under pressure and the budget deficit projected at 4.7% of GDP, requiring careful cost containment measures. Despite persistent structural constraints, improved business confidence created cautious optimism for institutional sustainability and funding resilience.

Strategic Outcome – Oriented Goals

Programme	Outcome	Number of targets	Number achieved/ exceeded	Number not achieved	Percentage achievement
Programme 1: Administration	Goal 1: Strengthening governance, institutional excellence, professionalism and enabling business processes at all levels of the organisation	3	3	0	100%
Programme 2: Electoral Operations	Goal 2: Achieving pre-eminence in the area of managing elections and referendums, including the strengthening of a cooperative relationship with political parties	2	1	1	50%
Programme 3: Outreach	Goal 3: Strengthening electoral democracy	5	5	0	100%
Programme 4: Party Funding	Goal 4: Contributing to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding	3	3	0	100%
TOTAL		13	12	1	92%



Programme 1: Corporate Services

Building Systems for Greater Efficiency

Operational excellence in practice

Information and Communication Technology has evolved from a support function to the foundational layer upon which all Electoral Commission operations now rest. During the period under review, substantial progress has been made in modernising systems for recruitment, training, and voter services while addressing the structural challenges that emerged during the NPE 2024 electoral cycle.

The organisation's geospatial dataset now encompasses nearly 30 million voters, providing unprecedented precision in electoral planning and resource allocation. Online candidate nominations and payment systems have been expanded and refined, reducing administrative burden while improving transparency and accountability. Election security systems have been continuously strengthened, successfully defending against thousands of attempted cyberattacks from across the globe.

Challenges experienced during NPE2 024 prompted comprehensive governance reforms.

Security and risk management

Electoral security systems operate across multiple dimensions, from physical protection of materials, people and facilities to cybersecurity defence of digital systems. Throughout 2024/25, the Electoral Commission has strengthened its security partnerships, particularly with the South African Police Service, to ensure comprehensive protection for electoral operations.



**Akhtari
Henning**

“Corporate Services may often be perceived as secondary, but in reality forms the institutional heartbeat of the Electoral Commission. Information technology, Support services, Legal Services and human resources provide the backbone that supports every aspect of electoral administration.”

Command structures have been refined to provide clearer accountability and faster response capabilities. Specialised security personnel now protect high-risk facilities, while zero-tolerance policies for threats against electoral staff were strictly enforced. These measures recognise that electoral credibility depends on system integrity, safety, and the confidence of those who administer democratic processes.

Cybersecurity capabilities continue to expand as digital threats become more sophisticated. The small, centralised team responsible for this function has been augmented with specialist capabilities and enhanced monitoring tools. Regular penetration testing and vulnerability assessments ensure that defences remain effective against evolving threats.

Human resources excellence

The recruitment and training of more than 200,000 temporary electoral staff represent one of the Electoral Commission's most complex operational challenges. Comprehensive reforms have been implemented to improve both the selection and preparation of temporary staff.

Training programmes now emphasise crisis management, conflict resolution, and adaptive leadership alongside technical procedures. This broader skill development recognises that electoral staff often face unexpected challenges requiring judgement and initiative rather than mere procedural compliance.

Recruitment strategies have been refined to achieve a better balance between experience and energy. While younger staff bring enthusiasm and adaptability, seasoned professionals provide the supervisory experience essential for managing complex situations. This balanced approach improves both operational effectiveness and staff confidence.

Digital systems manage recruitment and payment processes, reducing administrative burden while improving accuracy and transparency. This also ensures faster payment processing which results in improved staff satisfaction and retention.

Support services

The scale of Electoral Commission operations becomes clear when considering support requirements: bankin details of over 250,00 people need to be capture within less than one month so that their stipends can be paid on time.

Accommodation, transport, and catering arrangements for tens of thousands of personnel require coordination that rivals major commercial enterprises. These services have been streamlined through improved planning, enhanced supplier relationships, and better integration with primary electoral operations.

Quality standards have been raised while costs have been contained through more rigorous procurement processes and performance management.

Innovation and continuous improvement

The Electoral Commission's approach to innovation balances technological advancement with operational reliability. Cloud solutions are being progressively implemented, where they demonstrably improve service delivery without compromising security. Artificial intelligence applications are being carefully evaluated for their potential to enhance efficiency while maintaining human oversight of critical decisions.

e-Learning modules have expanded training capabilities while reducing costs and improving consistency. Online registration and electronic recruitment systems have streamlined processes while providing better record keeping and accountability. These innovations reflect a systematic approach to improvement rather than technology adoption for its own sake.

Managing scrutiny and building trust

Operating under intense political and legal scrutiny requires exceptional standards of transparency and accountability. Frivolous litigation and strategic legal challenges designed to undermine confidence in electoral democracy are countered through clear communication, rapid error correction, and proactive public engagement.

The response to criticism focuses on factual accuracy, procedural correctness, and institutional learning rather than defensive reaction. When mistakes occur, they are acknowledged quickly and corrected thoroughly. This approach builds long-term credibility even when short-term criticism may be uncomfortable.

Future preparedness

As preparation begins for the 2026/27 Local Government Elections, the corporate services department approaches its responsibilities with enhanced capabilities and refined procedures. Investment in permanent staffing continues, reducing external dependencies while building institutional memory and

accountability.

Professional development programmes are being expanded to ensure that the Electoral Commission's human resources capabilities match the complexity of its operational requirements. Technology infrastructure is being systematically upgraded to handle increasing demands while maintaining the security and reliability essential for public confidence.

Corporate Services recognises that electoral credibility ultimately depends on institutional resilience: systems robust enough to handle technological demands, people committed enough to serve with integrity, and processes transparent enough to maintain public trust. Strengthening these foundations ensures that the Electoral Commission can continue delivering free, fair, and credible elections in the service of South African democracy.



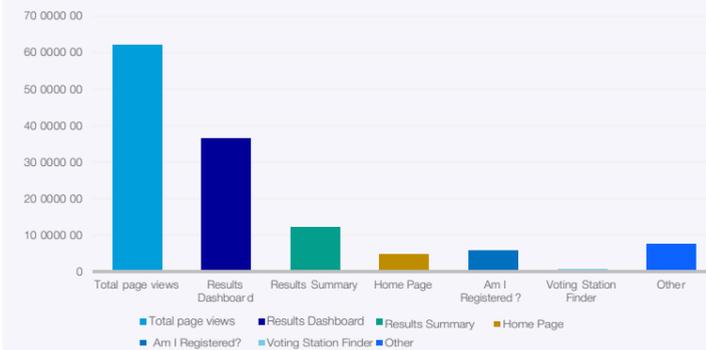
ICT Report

Support Pillars

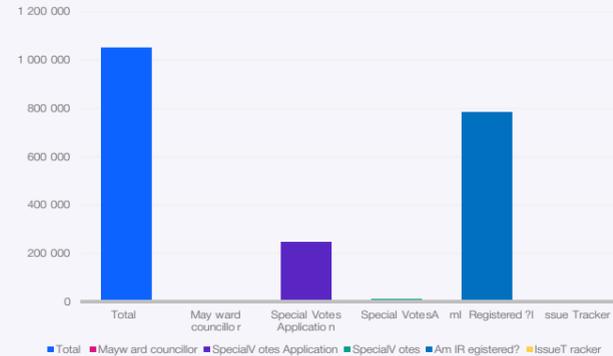


Npe 2024 ICT Highlights

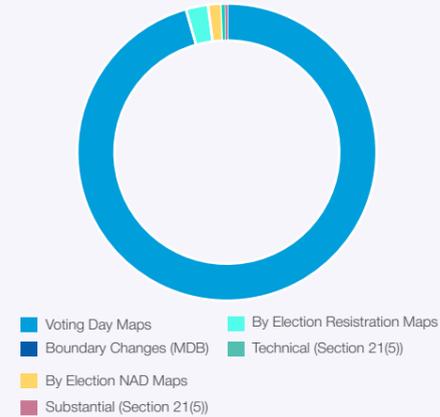
Website Engagement (27 May – 2 June 2024)



SMS self-service & enquiries (27 May – 2 June 2024)



GIS & Mapping Outputs



Voter Management Devices (Vmds)



Issue:
Only 56%
demographic data captured (fixed with multi-threading).

Devices Supported
40,000
Voter management devices with new SIM cards.

ICT Report

IT Operations Projects

- ✓ Connectivity at 10 ROCs and 56 results capturing sites
- ✓ Website hosting moved back in-house
- ✓ Privileged access management (PAM) upgrade
- ✓ APN migration + SIM swap (40,000 devices)
- ✓ Mobile device management (MDM) rollout
- ✓ e-Learning system upgrade (Moodle 4.5)
- ✓ Virtual PABX + VoIP rollout
- ✓ 100+ network switch upgrades
- ✓ Data migration (XIO → NetApp storage area network (SAN))
- ✓ Security awareness: 9 training modules
- ✓ Technology refresh

ICT Modernisation

Highlights:

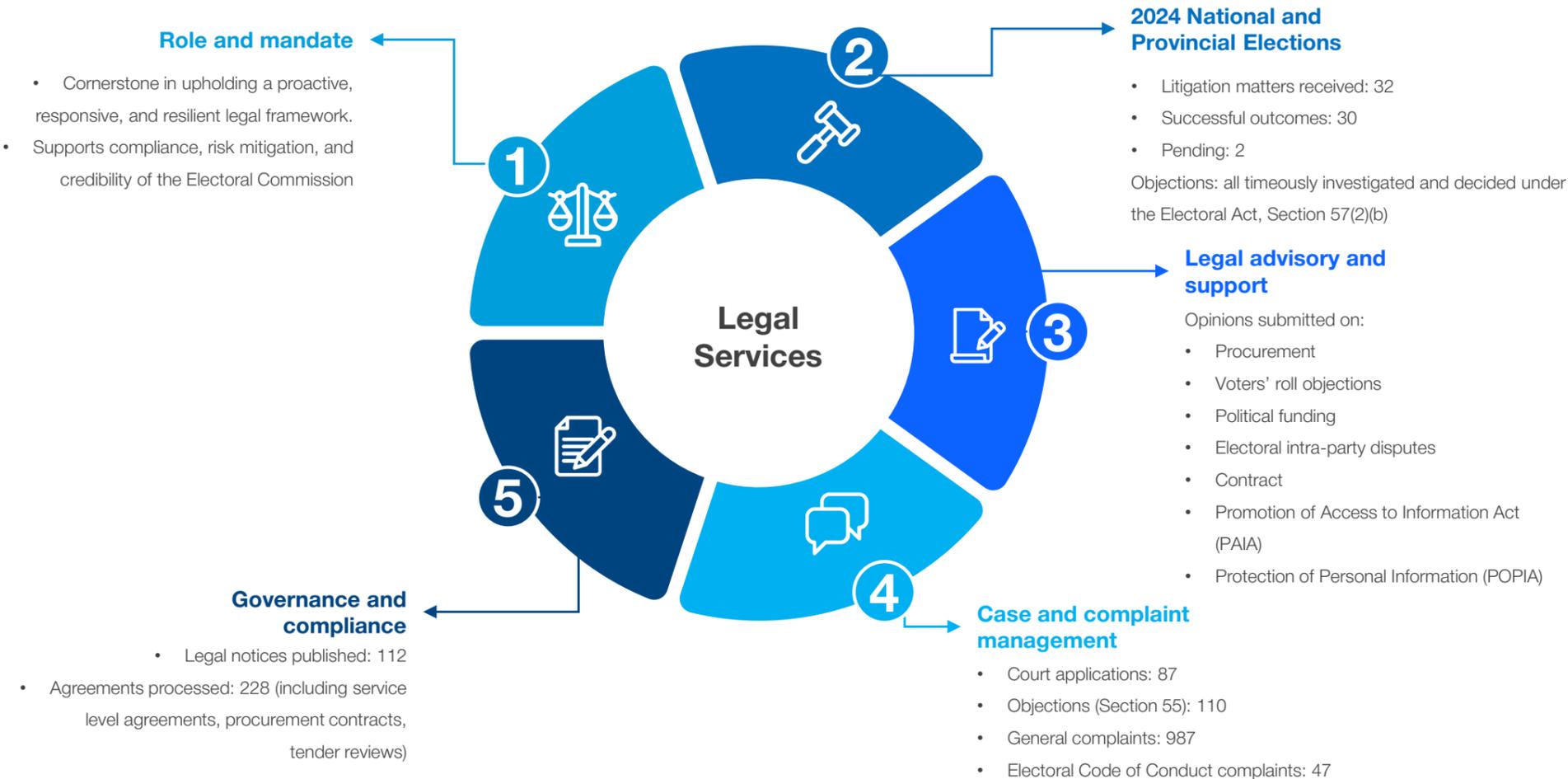
- 1 Proof of Concept with Microsoft: Data warehousing and AI chatbots
- 2 Rollout of M365 E5 (Teams, SharePoint, OneDrive + EntraID & Defender)
- 3 PowerApps/SharePoint solutions (timesheet tool, org calendar, data request tools)
- 4 Asset Verification Mobile App integrated with SAP
- 5 New scanning solution for results and contracts

General ICT Maintenance

Activities



Legal Services – Electoral Commission



Programme 1: Introduction

Programme 1: Administration supports the achievement of the Strategic Outcome-Oriented Goal 1: Strategic Management, which provides for the overall strategic management of the Electoral Commission, as well as centralised support services. This programme focuses on strengthening governance by refining institutional governance arrangements (including the Electoral Commission's committees and structures), exercising oversight, monitoring, evaluation, and support. The programme encompasses Electoral Commission Services, Internal Audits, Human Resource Development, Financial Management, Supply Chain Management, and Information and Communication Technology.

Commissioners provide oversight of the organisation's activities and facilitate the promotion of conditions for peaceful, free, and fair elections.

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer monitors the implementation of, and adherence to, the Electoral Commission's strategic priorities, as well as organisational policies as articulated in the organisational scorecard.

Corporate Services focuses on strengthening institutional excellence and professionalism at all levels of the organisation, building institutional capacity, expanding human capital development, adhering to performance standards, becoming people-centred, managing human resources well, maintaining sound industrial relations, and building institutional memory.

This programme enables business processes and systems regarding legal services, information and communication technology (ICT), human resources management, and facilities management to support the core business of the Electoral Commission efficiently and effectively.



Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objective 1.1

Exercise oversight (monitoring, evaluation, and leadership) to ensure the effective implementation of the Electoral Commission's core mandate, strategic goals and objectives, aligned with the corresponding budget allocation

Strategic Objective 1.2

Exercise oversight (monitoring, evaluation, and support), the provisioning of assurance and risk management services

Strategic Objective 1.3

Build institutional capacity to enable the Electoral Commission to deliver on its constitutional mandate

Strategic Objective 1.4

Manage financial resources efficiently to protect the public image of the Electoral Commission as an accountable

Strategic Objective 1.5

Provide and maintain a stable, secure, and scalable ICT environment that meets the functional needs of the Electoral Commission to ensure the credibility of electronic electoral

Table 1: Strategic objectives, key performance indicators, planned targets, and actual achievements

No.	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / Actual performance 2022/23	Audited / Actual performance 2023/24	Planned annual 2024/25	Actual achievement 2024/25	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2024/25	Reasons for deviations
1.1.1	Strengthened institutional effectiveness	Exercise leadership and governance, monitoring, and evaluation to ensure the effective implementation of the Electoral Commission's core mandate, strategic outcomes and outputs, aligned with the corresponding budget allocations and risk mitigation	Number of quarterly strategic risk registers reviewed by the ERMIC per annum	4	4	4	4	0	Target achieved

No.	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / Actual performance 2022/23	Audited / Actual performance 2023/24	Planned annual 2024/25	Actual achievement 2024/25	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2024/25	Reasons for deviations
1.1.2		Provide a cutting-edge, stable, secure ICT environment that meets all functional needs of the Electoral Commission and supports innovative business processes	Percentage network and application systems availability measured in hours (system-generated report available)	91,816% of (2,042 hours achieved)	92,483% (2,039,587 hours achieved)	90% of (2,205 hours achieved)	96,021% (2,135,722) hours achieved)	6.021% (151,222 hours achieved)	Target achieved and exceeded Due to a combination of the increased focus and attention to network monitoring. In addition, the operating environment improved when load-shedding stopped.
1.1.3		Recruit and retain a permanent staff complement to meet operational requirements, as well as constitutional obligations	Number of funded positions filled per annum	906 of 1,113 posts filled by 31 March 2023	91.36% (952 posts filled by 31 March 2024)	90% of funded posts filled (938 posts) filled by 31 March	90.5% of funded posts filled (943 posts) filled by 31 March	0.5% (5 posts)	Target achieved The organisation had to ensure sufficient capacitation as 2024/25 was an election year, as well as being prepared for the forthcoming local.
1.1.4		Effectively manage financial resources in compliance with legislation	Obtain a clean audit outcome from the annual external audit process	Obtained a clean audit opinion	Obtained a clean audit opinion	Obtain a clean audit	Obtained a clean audit opinion	None	Target achieved



Human Resources Development

Ensuring the provision of the required human capacity for the organisation to meet its strategic objectives remained one of the key priorities of the HR Management department. By the end of the reporting period, a total of 943 positions had been filled, exceeding the target of 938 funded positions. A total of 47 new employees were appointed; however, this was offset by a high number of terminations, most of which were due to normal retirement.

HR also observed an increase in the number of employees who retire and those who resign to avoid disciplinary processes.

The average age of the employees in the organisation is 47, which is similar to that of the previous year. As part of talent management and succession planning, a strategy for filling crucial senior positions was developed. The objective of this strategy was to ensure effective and expeditious filling of four senior management services (SMS) positions, which will be vacated by four retiring senior management services members in the next 18 months.

Employees generally stay longer in the Electoral Commission due to growth opportunities, which can be seen in the increased number of retirees. Some of the factors that contributed to the low staff turnover include growth and development opportunities, such as employee promotion, training, and development interventions.

Employee training and development remain a crucial component of human resources management, ensuring that employees have the necessary technical skills, knowledge, and attributes. A total of 406 interventions were offered to permanent employees, surpassing the 305 target set at the beginning of the reporting period.

The last leg of the multi-year wage agreement, which expired on 31 March 2025, was implemented on 1 April 2024. The union submitted its wage demands on time, and negotiations

commenced in December 2024, culminating in the conclusion of a new three-year wage agreement on 14 March 2025. In a bid to strengthen the functioning of the Electoral Commission Bargaining Forum, regular meetings were held.

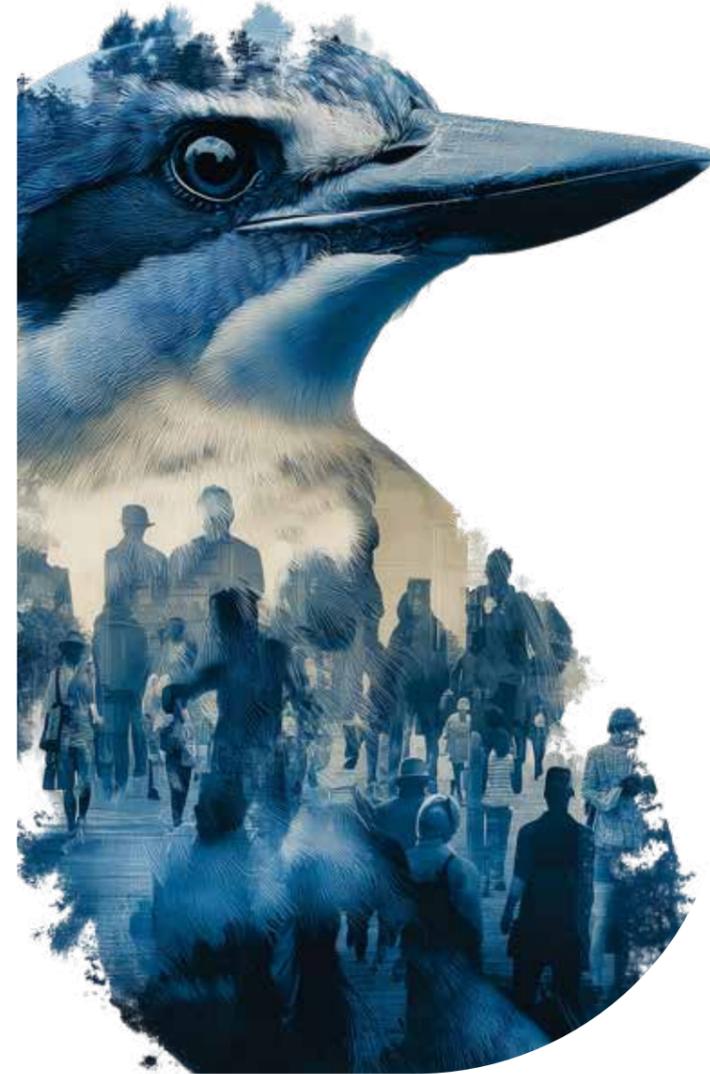
Two employees were suspended, and their cases were among the ten disciplinary hearings held during the reporting period. Eight of the ten cases were concluded by 31 March 2025.

At the beginning of the reporting period, there were eight active cases at the CCMA and six new cases were referred during the year, by either the recognised trade union and/or employees. The referrals resulted in a total of 14 cases at the CCMA. At the end of the reporting period, seven (50%) of these cases were finalised, while seven (50%) are still pending finalisation. Of the seven cases finalised, four were found in favour of the Electoral Commission, the employee withdrew one, and the last two were outside CCMA's jurisdiction.

The development of standard procedures for dealing with misconduct by fixed-term staff, including these procedures in staff training and support from the Labour Relations office, all lead to a reduction in the number of cases referred to the CCMA.

The Electoral Commission continues to play a significant role in providing much-needed work experience to unemployed graduates nationwide. To that end, 56 graduate interns were employed and exposed to various areas within the Electoral Commission. Four of the 56 were offered permanent employment by various companies toward the end of their internship programme. Following the acquisition of the relevant experience and knowledge, one intern was appointed permanently and nine were appointed on fixed-term contracts in various divisions within the Electoral Commission.

A student intern was afforded the opportunity to gain practical experience in the logistics division, a prerequisite for achieving a qualification.



The Electoral Commission remains committed to compliance with the provisions of the Employment Equity Act and its associated regulations, which include, among others, identifying barriers, developing the Employment Equity Plan, and submitting the Employment Equity Annual Report to the Department of Labour. The compliance was achieved by working with the various divisions in the organisation, including the Employment Equity Committee, to monitor the implementation of the initiatives as set out in the plan. The employment equity members attended progressive awareness sessions facilitated by the Department of Labour on the new developments related to the legislative amendments.

The new Employment Equity Annual Report was submitted to the Department of Labour in January 2025. HR representatives attended three employment equity sessions coordinated by the Department of Employment and Labour. The adherence to the numerical targets during the recruitment process has improved. In preparation for the implementation of the new employment equity sectoral targets and to empower HR team members, four members of the Employment Equity Committee attended the 2025 Sector Target consultation session.

In ensuring compliance with the department's performance management and development policy, employees at all levels signed the performance agreements and concluded the performance evaluations. The provincial and departmental pre-performance moderation sessions, which culminated in the national moderation session, were held in the first quarter of the reporting period. The performance management development system training and refresher sessions were conducted. The standardisation of scorecards for various positions and the development of scorecards for the new Regional Corporate Service position received attention.

In the build-up to and during the elections, the Electoral Commission's organogram expands to ensure that sufficient capacity is provided for the delivery of elections. To this end, the expansion staff and electoral support staff members were appointed on fixed-term contracts for the purpose of registration and elections. The new role of counting officer was introduced in NPE 2024, thus leading to the appointment of over 280,000 electoral support staff members.

The recruitment and payment plans were developed to ensure standardisation of the recruitment and payment processes.

With the use of the voter management devices for capturing staff attendance at the voting stations, the organisation continued to realise significant improvements in the turnaround time for paying electoral staff. In terms of legislative requirements, electoral staff members were again paid via an official payroll to ensure the correct statutory deductions were made per person, and payment was made via electronic transfer into verified bank accounts. Payment via the payroll resulted in the majority of electoral support staff being paid approximately one month after the event.

Public Finance Management Act compliance

The Public Finance Management Act of 1999 is the primary legislation governing public finance management in South Africa. The Act delineates standards for expenditure, accounting, and reporting for public entities. Its scope is generally limited to entities of national and provincial governments and to regulate financial management in the national government and provincial governments; to ensure that all revenue, expenditure, assets and liabilities of those governments are managed efficiently and effectively; to provide for the responsibilities of persons entrusted with financial management in those governments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

Table 2: Irregular expenditure

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Opening balance	59,075,012	70,397,523
Add: Irregular expenditure confirmed	10,533,423	3,265,858
Less: Irregular expenditure condoned	-	-
Less: Irregular expenditure not condoned and removed	(41,495,455)	(14,588,369)
Less: Irregular expenditure recoverable	-	-
Less: Irregular expenditure not recovered and written off	-	-
Closing balance	28,112,980	59,075,012
a) Reconciling notes to the annual financial statement disclosure		
Irregular expenditure that was under assessment in 2023/24	-	-
Irregular expenditure that relates to 2023/24 and was identified in 2024/25	-	-
Irregular expenditure for the current year	7,256,318	3,265,858
TOTAL	7,256,318	3,265,858
b) Details of current and previous year irregular expenditure (under assessment, determination, and investigation)		
Irregular expenditure under assessment		
Irregular expenditure under determination	10,533,423	3,265,858
Irregular expenditure under investigation	-	-
TOTAL	10,533,423	3,265,858

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
c) Details of current and previous year irregular expenditure condoned		
Irregular expenditure condoned		-
d) Details of current and previous year irregular expenditure removed – (not condoned)		
Irregular expenditure is not condoned and was removed	(41,455,455)	(14,588,369)
f) Details of current and previous year irregular expenditure written off (irrecoverable)		
Irregular expenditure written off		(14,588,369)
g) Details of non-compliance where an institution is involved in an inter-institutional arrangement (where the Electoral Commission is not responsible for non-compliance)		
None		
TOTAL	-	-
Details of current and previous year disciplinary or criminal steps taken as a result of irregular expenditure		
Human resources processes were followed in addressing consequence management in cases where an official was responsible. This was done in line with the Electoral Commission's disciplinary policy and procedures.		

Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure

Table 3

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Opening balance	1,674,783	1,675,035
Add: Fruitless and wasteful expenditure confirmed	357,906	9,951
Less: Fruitless and wasteful expenditure written off	–	(10,202)
Less: Irregular expenditure not condoned and removed	2,032,689	1,674,783
Closing balance		
Reconciling notes		
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure under assessment in 2022	-	-
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure that relates to 2022 is identified in 2023	-	-
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure for the current year	357,906	9,951
TOTAL	357,906	9,951
Details of current and previous year's fruitless and wasteful expenditures (under assessment, determination, and investigation)		
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure under assessment		
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure under determination		
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure under investigation	357,906	9,951
TOTAL	357,906	9,951
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure recovered	-	(10,202)
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure written	-	-
Details of current and previous year disciplinary or criminal steps taken as a result of fruitless and wasteful expenditure		



Supply Chain Management

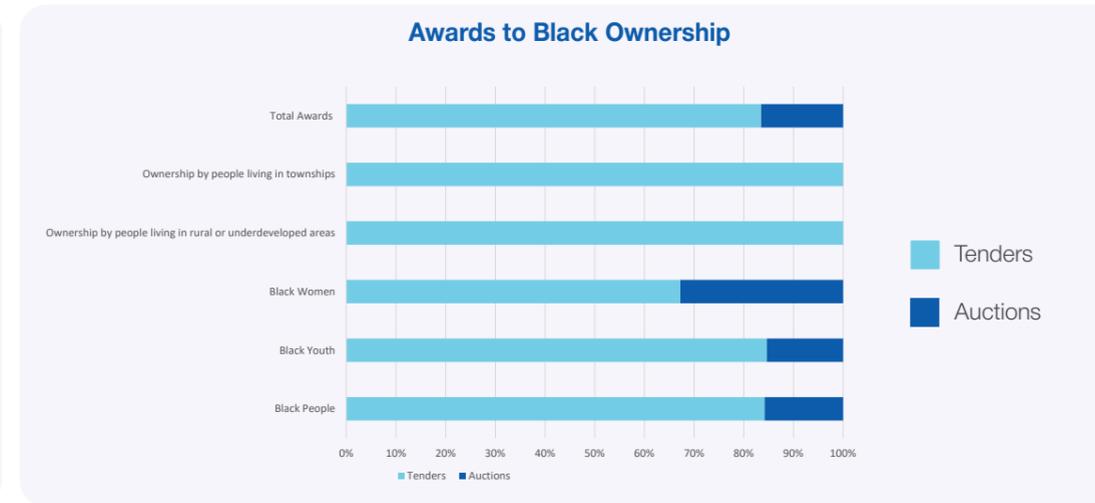
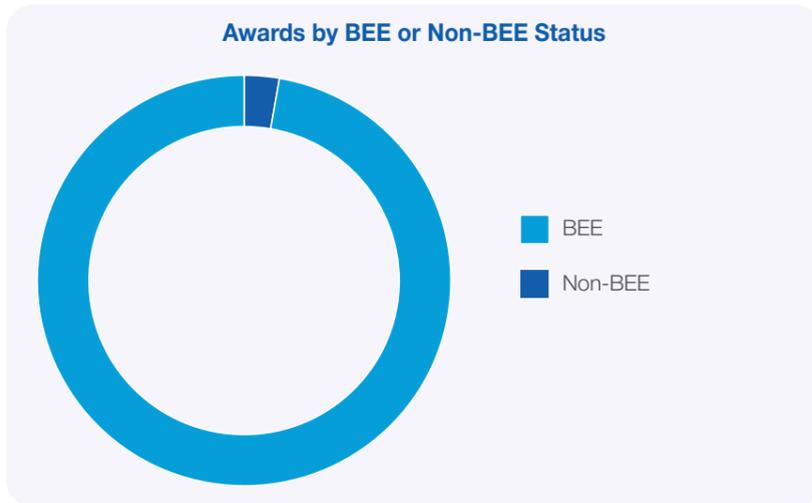
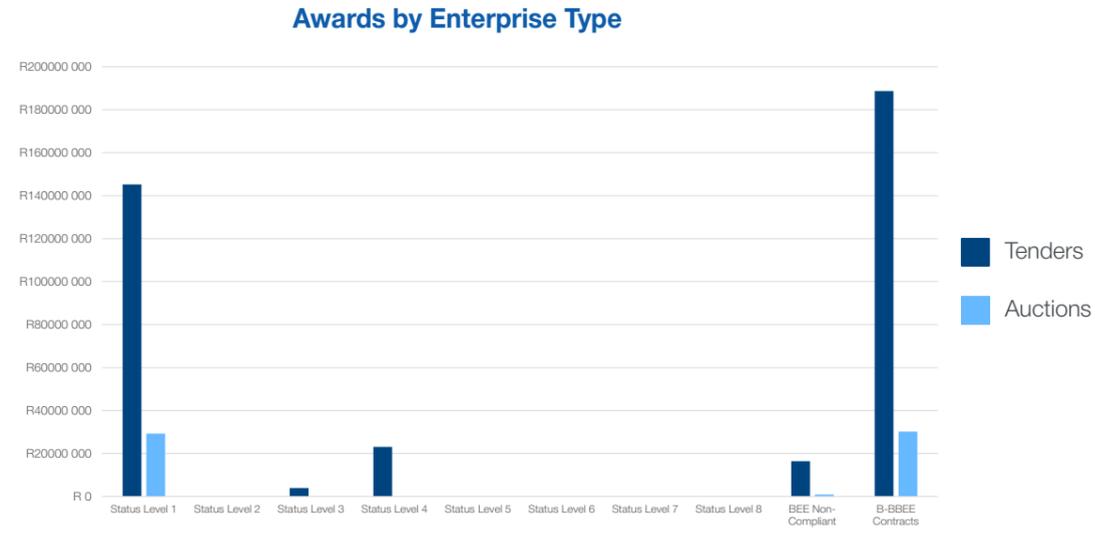
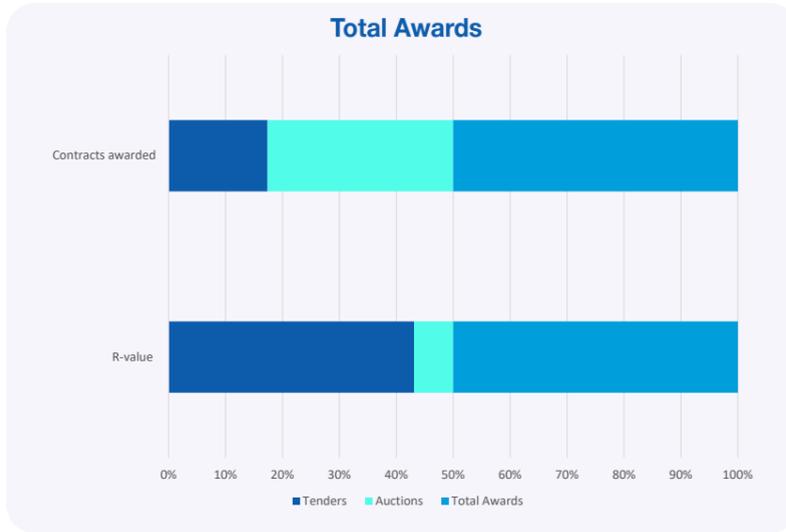
The Electoral Commission remains committed to full compliance with the Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999) (PFMA) and Treasury Regulations. In addition, it continually seeks to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its supply chain management (SCM) processes. In pursuit of these objectives, the following key activities were undertaken during the 2024/25 financial year:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In alignment with Section 217 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, the Electoral Commission: Continued to implement, upgrade, and deploy procurement systems that are fair, equitable, transparent, competitive, and cost-effective. 2. Ensured the continued effectiveness and efficiency of the Electoral Commission's electronic supply chain management systems. 3. Maintained regular engagement with all relevant stakeholders on policy-related matters. 4. Ensured that supply chain management processes and procedures remained current and aligned with best practices and regulatory updates. 5. Proactively identified challenges and opportunities to enhance the supply chain management framework and operational requirements. 6. Sustained the effective use of electronic supply chain systems, including SAP, eProcurement, and the internal supply chain management system. 7. Concluded various tenders in accordance with approved procurement procedures and compliance standards. 8. Managed compliance with National Treasury reporting obligations, including the preparation and timely submission of procurement plans and quarterly expenditure reports aligned with the approved procurement plan. 9. Conducted continuous monitoring of the Electoral | <p>Commission's procurement plan to ensure alignment with organisational objectives.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Implemented robust and transparent strategies within the bid evaluation processes to uphold integrity and competitiveness. 11. Ensured the ongoing integration of the Electoral Commission's procurement systems with National Treasury platforms, particularly the Central Supplier Database (CSD). 12. Ensured continuous updating of the Electoral Commission's supply chain management systems and processes in line with National Treasury directives and instructions. 13. Maintained ongoing monitoring of the application of the Preferential Procurement Regulations of 2022 across all procurement activities undertaken by the Electoral Commission. 14. During the 2024/25 financial year, contracts with an estimated total value of R188, 712,308 were concluded through a competitive bidding (tender) process. 15. Of these contracts, 91% were awarded to B-BBE compliant companies, while 9% were awarded to non-BEE companies. 16. Contracts to the value of R155,819,189. (60%) were awarded through tenders to Black-owned businesses. |
|--|--|



17. Other categories of Black ownership which were awarded contracts are as follows
 - 15% were to companies owned by Black women
 - 10% were to businesses located in townships
 - 7% were to businesses owned by Black youth
 - 8% were to companies based in rural areas.
 18. The Electoral Commission remains committed to empowering small businesses, with a significant proportion of contracts awarded through competitive bidding allocated to exempt micro enterprises (EMEs) entities with an annual turnover of up to R10 million. These awards totalled R140,177,236.
 19. The next highest category in terms of procurement spend was qualified small enterprises (QSEs), which received contracts totalling R34,076,725, representing 18% of the total tender value. These are companies with an annual turnover of between R10 million and R50 million.
 20. Generic enterprises, classified as having an annual turnover exceeding R50 million, received contracts valued at R14,458,346, accounting for 8% of total tenders awarded.
 21. The Electoral Commission continues to make effective use of its eProcurement system, which remains a cornerstone of its digital procurement processes.
 22. In the 2024/25 financial year, contracts totalling R30,213,667.49 were concluded through the eProcurement platform using the competitive bidding process.
 23. The eProcurement system continues to enhance operational efficiency and transparency, particularly in the bidding phase, reinforcing trust and accountability.
 24. The eProcurement system's effective use throughout the 2024/25 financial year underscores the Electoral Commission's commitment to leveraging technology for improved procurement governance.
 25. With this system, the Electoral Commission again empowered exempt micro-enterprises with a total of 42% (R12,756,815.37), followed by the generic companies with 35% (R10,555,133.73) and qualified small enterprises at 23% (R9,901,718.39).
 26. Contracts awarded through eProcurement system for BEE companies were 97% (R29,273,637.90), whereas the non-BEE companies counted for 3%.
 27. Companies owned by Black people were awarded 57% (R29,260,667.49), followed by Black women at 37% (R19,285,764.47), and Black youth at 6%.
 28. The total of all contracts awarded using the eProcurement system below a threshold value of R1 million amounted to R18,455,247.34, whereas the contracts awarded through the Request for Quotations facility, which also has a threshold of R1 million, amounted to R32.7 million
 29. The Electoral Commission approved deviations for goods and/or services with estimated values exceeding R1 million, totalling approximately R88,712,650. These deviations primarily relate to software procurement, training services, local office accommodations, subscriptions, and other related expenses.
- Additionally, deviations for requirements estimated at less than R1 million amounted to just under R5.7 million.

2024/25 Awarded Tenders



Appointments through Contract Variations / Extensions for 2024 to 2025

Table 4

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
1	Sundays River Valley Local Office (Eastern Cape)	Pottiepot (Pty)Ltd	4600001747	The tender to lease office accommodation for the Sundays River Valley Local Office in the Eastern Cape was advertised and closed on 10 August 2023. The tender did not yield any positive outcome as no bid submissions were received in response to the tender. As per the outcome of the tender process, an additional ten month extension for the period 1 November 2023 to 31 August 2024 was approved to ensure operational stability for the local office until such time as a new procurement process can be initiated and concluded. Given the delay around this process, the service provider was approached in July 2024 for further extension of the lease agreement with a view to allowing the tender process to be concluded. The extension was for a period of six (6) months (1 September 2024 to 28 February 2025).	R1,974,142	R391,674	R179 844	2024/08/31	2024/09/01	2025/02/28
2	Ramotshere Moiloa Local Office (North West)	A Theodossi	4600001734	The tender to lease office accommodation for Ramotshere Moiloa/ Zeerust local Office in North West was advertised on the 05 July 2023 and was cancelled due to the validity period. The contract was extended for a period of six	R1,536,983	R268,922	R 590,400	2024/07/31	2024/08/01	2026/07/31

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
				months (August 2023 to 31 January 2024) in order to kick-start the new procurement processes. Another extension was granted because the Electoral Commission did not want the tender to fail again and for that reason, ample time was allocated. The contract was extended for a further period while the procurement process was being dealt with.						
3	Matlosana Regional Local Office (North West)	Dangor Medical Centre T/A Jade Square	4600001700	The tender to lease office accommodation for Matlosana/ Klerksdorp local office in North West was advertised on the 05 July 2023 and was cancelled due to fact that the recommended bidder failed due diligence stage. The contract was extended for a period of twelve (12) months (July 2024 to 30 June 2025), while the procurement process is underway.	R4,090,351	R817,560	R815,044	2024/06/30	2024/07/01	2025/06/30
4	Gauteng Provincial Office Accommodation	Gemgrow Properties (Pty) Ltd	4600002244	The tender to lease office accommodation for Gauteng provincial office was advertised on the 23 April 2023. The tender was evaluated on 22 June 2023; however, none of the bidders complied with the technical requirements of the bid. Subsequently, the evaluation committee proposed re-advertisement of the tender and Executive Committee (EXCO) endorsed the proposal.	R10,035,550	R1,397,587	R931,725	2024/09/30	2024/10/01	2025/01/31

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
				The tender was re-advertised on 14 July 2023 and closed on 14 August 2023. The Bid Evaluation Committee session was held on 8 September 2023. Based on the outcome of the bid evaluation process, the tender or office accommodation for the Gauteng provincial office was awarded to O Gutta Investments (Pty) Ltd. Prior to the due diligence audit, the Electoral Commission received an email from O Gutta Investments (Pty) Ltd notifying the Electoral Commission that the office space offered was no longer available. A due diligence audit was undertaken on the second recommended bidder, Migeroni Enterprises (Pty) Ltd on 5 October 2023. Migeroni Enterprises (Pty) Ltd complied with all technical requirements and the due diligence audit.						
				On 17 October 2023, the Electoral Commission was informed by Migeroni Enterprises (Pty) Ltd that the office space offered was no longer available hence a request for re-advertisement. A new bid was advertised and closed on 15 March 2024. Therefore, the current contract was extended from 01/10/2024 to 31/01/2025 to allow for the conclusion of the bid adjudication process.						

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
5	SAP ERP Professional and Support Services	Accenture South Africa (Pty)Ltd	4600002787	<p>The extension sought was necessitated by the following considerations;</p> <p>a) NPE 2024 was scheduled to be held at any time between April and August 2024. The end of this contract was within months of possible election dates.</p> <p>b) The election preparatory processes had already moved into heightened activity period, with the elections launched earlier on 24 October 2023, the first Voter Registration weekend scheduled for 18-19 November 2023, and second registration weekend tentatively scheduled for early February 2024.</p> <p>c) Continuity of support personnel was critical to ensure systems stability that is supported by personnel who know all the systems and business process.</p> <p>d) The scheduled end of the contract was in the middle of heightened elections programme and the prospects of changing contracts including support personnel in the middle of the heightened election delivery process would have created a huge risk of discontinuity and service disruptions.</p> <p>e) Termination of these contracts may have resulted in changes to new service providers with new personnel would have require time to familiarize themselves with the Electoral Commission's ICT architecture, systems and processes time support, and maintenance are critical.</p>	R80,000,000	R18,943,554	N/A	23/10/18	24/04/01	25/03/31
		Nambiti Technologies(Pty) Ltd	4600002788							
		Baraka IT Solutions (Pty)Ltd	4600002789							
		Zimele ERP IT Services (Pty)Ltd	4600002790							
6	GIS Professional Services	Computer Foundation (Pty) Ltd	4600002782	<p>c) Continuity of support personnel was critical to ensure systems stability that is supported by personnel who know all the systems and business process.</p> <p>d) The scheduled end of the contract was in the middle of heightened elections programme and the prospects of changing contracts including support personnel in the middle of the heightened election delivery process would have created a huge risk of discontinuity and service disruptions.</p> <p>e) Termination of these contracts may have resulted in changes to new service providers with new personnel would have require time to familiarize themselves with the Electoral Commission's ICT architecture, systems and processes time support, and maintenance are critical.</p>	R60,000,000	R17,674,955	N/A	2023/11/18	2024/04/01	2025/01/31
		GeoAfrica Technologies (Pty) Ltd	4600002786							
		ComputeK Networks (Pty) Ltd	460000278							
7	ICT Professional and Support Services:	Accenture (South Africa) (Pty) Ltd	4600002775	<p>e) Termination of these contracts may have resulted in changes to new service providers with new personnel would have require time to familiarize themselves with the Electoral Commission's ICT architecture, systems and processes time support, and maintenance are critical.</p>	R320,000,000	R128,581,250	N/A	2023/11/18	2024/04/01	2025/03/31
		Baraka IT Solutions (Pty) Ltd	4600002776							
		ComputeK Networks (Pty) Ltd	4600002777							
		Exponent (Pty) Ltd	4600002778							
		Datacentrix (Pty) Ltd	4600002779							
		Zakheni ICT (Pty) Ltd	4600002780							
Nambiti Technologies (Pty) Ltd	4600002781									

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
8	Witzenberg Local Office (Western Cape Province)	Momotheka Trade 1183 CC	4600001878	On 23 July 2024, the Witzenberg Local Office in Western Cape requested to embark on a competitive bidding process to procure new office accommodation. It was proposed that an extension of six months from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025 be considered to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R1,515,783	R300,657	R179,844	2024/10/16	2025/01/01	2025/06/30
9	Kouga Local Office (Eastern Cape)	Humansdorp Hoostraat (Pty)	4600001810	The tender to lease office accommodation for Kouga Local Office in Eastern Cape closed on 17 January 2025. An extension of ten months from 1 January to 31 October 2025 was considered to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R959,648	R268,922	R206,880	2024/11/20	2025/01/01	2025/10/31
10	Inkwanca Local Office (Eastern Cape)	ZM Property Development and Financial Solution CC	4600002287	On 19 June 2024, Inkwanca local Office in Eastern Cape requested to embark on a competitive bidding process to procure new office accommodation. It was proposed that an extension of 10 months from 1 March 2025 to 31 December 2025 be considered to allow for the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R1,915,256	R298,056	N/A	2024/11/20	2025/03/01	2025/12/31
11	Sunday Local Office Accommodation (Eastern Cape) Accommodation	Pottiepote Pty (Ltd)	4600001747	A tender IEC/EC-02/2023 was advertised, however the outcome of the tendering process did not yield any positive results hence a request to extent a contract was facilitated in order to re-run a new process.	R1,974,142	R312,329	R571,619	2024/11/20	2025/03/01	2025/12/31

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
				It was proposed that an extension of ten months from 01 March 2025 to 31 December 2025 be considered to allow for the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.						
12	City of Mbombela Local Office Accommodation (Mpumalanga)	Liberty Moon Investments 76 (Pty) Ltd	4600001737	On 16 August 2024, City of Mbombela Local Office in Mpumalanga requested to embark on a competitive bidding process to procure new office accommodation. It was proposed that an extension of four months from 1 March 2025 to 30 June 2025 be considered to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R6,792,073	R244,012	R1,342,066	2020/12/04	2025/03/01	2025/06/30
13	Emthanjeni (De Aar) Local Office (Northern Cape)	Henry Robins Rich	460001975	On 2 September 2024, Emthanjeni Local Office in Northern Cape requested to embark on a competitive bidding process to procure new office accommodation. It was proposed that an extension of six (6) months from 01 January 2025 to 30 June 2025 be considered in order to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R3,045,798	R254,686	R330,761	2025/12/17	2025/01/01	2025/06/30
14	Maquassi Hills Local Office (North West)	Algane Property Development CC	4600001803	A tender IEC/NW-04/2023 was advertised however the outcome of the tendering process did not yield any positive results hence a request to extent a contract was facilitated in order to re-run a new process.	R1,051,136	R198,077	R198,688	2024/11/22	2024/12/01	2025/11/30

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
				An extension 12 Months from 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025 was granted to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.						
15	Commercial Fleet Insurance	Simah Risk Advisors (Pty) Ltd	4600003000	When tender IEC/SS-02/2024 process was on the final stage of award however, it was proposed that an extension of three Months from 01 November 2024 to 31 January 2025 be considered to allow for the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R7,514,487	R746,046	R2,368,767	2024/10/28	2024/11/01	2025/01/31
16	Mafube Local Office (Free State)	Come Bosheff Attorneys	4600002833	A tender IEC/LG-02/2024 process was on the final stage of award however, it was proposed that an extension of eight months from 1 November 2024 to 30 June 2025 be considered to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R5,204,851	R800,000	R1,234,000	2024/10/17	2024/11/01	2025/06/30
17	Breede Valley WC025 Local office - (Western Cape Province)	Helgard Muller Terblanche	4600001825	On 9 September 2024, Breede Valley Local Office in Western Cape requested to embark on a competitive bidding process to procure new office accommodation. It was proposed that an extension of six (6) months from 01 April 2025 to 30 September 2025 be considered in order to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R1,375,071	R113,866	R305,833	2025-03-25	2025-04-01	2025-09-30

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
18	Ubuntu Victoria West NC071 Local Office - (Northern Cape)	Calvyn Vlok (Pty) Ltd	4600002191	The tender IEC/NC-06/2024 for Ubuntu Local Office in Northern Cape was advertised however the procurement process had not yet been finalised, when a new tender with improved bid specification was advertised. An extension of nine months from 1 February to 31 October 2025 was considered and approved in order to allow for the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R1,113,188	R137,929	R89,564	2025/01/31	2025/01/31	2025/10/31
19	Warehouse Facility Buffalo Pass East London (Eastern cape)	Hemipac Investments (Pty) Ltd	4600002216	A tender IEC/LG-06/2024 was advertised however the outcome of the tender process did not yield any positive results. A new tender with improved bid specification was advertised. An extension for a period of six months from 01 April to 30 September 2025 to be considered to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the warehouse facility.	R23,490,524	R425,022	R425,022	2025/03/31	2025/04/01	2025/09/30
20	Mantsopa FS196 Local Office (Free State)	Pieter Frederick Schutte	4600002316	A tender IEC/FS-04/2024 was advertised however the outcome of the tender process did not yield any positive results, therefore an extension of 24 months from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2027 was considered to allow for the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R1,759,283	R538,175	N/A	2025/03/31	2025/04/01	2027/03/31
21	Elundini Local Office (Eastern Cape)	Ganta Trading Enterprise (Pty) Ltd	4600001992	The tender IEC/EC-01/2024 for Elundini Local Office Eastern Cape was advertised however the evaluation was still underway hence a contract extension. An extension of four months from 1 March 2025 to 30 June 2025 was approved to allow for the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability at the local office.	R2,640,360	R151,389	R227,084	2025-02-14	2025-03-01	2025-06-30

No.	Project Description	Name of Supplier	Contract Number	Reason for Extension	Actual Value/ Estimated Original Contract Value	Value of Contract Extension	Value of Previous Extensions	Award Date	Contract Start Date	Contract Expiry Date
22	Limpopo Security Services	Modise Security Services (Pty) Ltd	4600002895	The security tender for Limpopo Provincial Office and warehouse was advertised on 20 September 2024 and closed on 30 October 2024. Upon the tender closure, large volumes of competitive tender submissions were received and as a result, the evaluation process took longer than expected to complete. An extension for a period of two months from 1 March 2025 to 30 April 2025 was approved to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability in the province.	R2,721,013	R152,144	R380,360	2025/01/04	2025/03/01	2025/04/30
23	Gauteng Security Services	Fidelity Security (Pty) Ltd	4600002904	The security tender for Gauteng Provincial Office and warehouse was advertised on 20 September 2024 and closed on 30 October 2024. Upon the tender closure, large volumes of competitive tender submissions were received and as a result the evaluations processes took longer than expected to complete. For the purposes of the continuation of the security services at the offices, an extension for a period of two months from 1 March 2025 to 30 April 2025 was considered to allow the procurement process to be finalised whilst ensuring operational stability in the province.	R3,148,803	R152,144	R380,360	25/02/2025	2025/03/01	2025/04/30



Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

ICT strategic intent and focus

Information and Communication Technology continues to play a crucial role in supporting the strategic, tactical and operational business processes of the Electoral Commission. The following continuous support services are at the core of the Electoral Commission's ICT capability, which provide the foundation for all other ICT activities:

- Ensuring alignment of ICT with business needs and strategic objectives
- Stable applications to support and enable all business processes
- Closely integrated systems aimed at ensuring a seamless flow of information across the different systems;
- A stable and secure ICT infrastructure, a stable network at both wide area network (WAN) and local area network (LAN) levels and at the data centre
- Scalable network and background server capacity, with the required capability of supporting increased election activity and network traffic
- The management of risks, disaster recovery and business continuity processes
- Integrated online self-service facilities for citizen engagement through internet based solutions using the websites, mobile applications, Short Messaging Services (SMS) and social media
- Ensuring that the Electoral Commission can take advantage of and fully utilise all available and relevant technologies in the ICT industry
- Stable and effective open data platforms – providing an integrated technology enabled platform for key stakeholders to access election data through API in real-time
- Secure platform with controlled and restricted access and intrusion prevention mechanisms in place.

Specific projects are undertaken in accordance with changing and evolving business requirements in the various areas. During preparation for elections, the number of projects escalates and additional resources are employed to service the additional workload.

In addition, a number of maintenance and business support processes are executed in order to effectively support all relevant business processes in the Electoral Commission.

The financial year 2024/2025 was an election year, election day was less than 2 months when the year started. That is at the conclusion of the 2023/24 financial period, preparations for the National and Provincial Elections (NPE 2024) had already commenced and almost at peak, the year started after proclamation and after close of submissions for candidate nominations. The plans for the year are detailed below along with the maintenance projects.

Key Drivers of the Annual Operational Plan and Programme

During the financial year, the ICT department's operational plan focused on the following key drivers and organisational imperatives:

- Delivery of the 2024 national and provincial elections (NPE 2024).
- Rollback and close-out of NPE 2024 projects.
- NPE 2024 elections debriefings
- Planning and preparations for LGE 2026
- Remediation of issues raised during debriefing.
- Modernisation and general service improvement processes.
- Routine operational and maintenance support processes, key among which are risk management, cyber security, business continuity planning, etc.

Annual performance statistics

These tables highlight the top five performances as indicators of the extent to which online automated self-services were consumed across the reporting period and some highlights of the NPE 2024 demands, with comparative figures for the election period. The election period is defined as the period from Special Voting Day to the announcement of elections results, that is between **27 May and 2 June 2024**,

Annual website page views

Website page-views (the metric that counts how many times a specific page on a website has been loaded or reloaded in a user's browser, a page view occurs every time a page's content is fetched and displayed by a browser)

a) Top five page views for the financial year

Public websites page views		
Annual Top 5 Pages (1 April 2024 to 31 Mar 2025)		
	Website Pages	Number of Page -views
1	NPE 2024 Results Dashbaord	38 932 422
2	Results Summary page	10 508 592
3	Electoral Commission Home page	7 699 046
4	MyIEC	13 130 106
5	Am I registered?	10 471 748
6	Other	19 782 951
	TOTAL	100 524 865

b) Top five page views for the election period

Public websites page views		
Top 5 Pages – Election Period (27 May and 2 June 2024)		
	Website Pages	Number of page views
1	NPE 2024 Results Dashbaord	36,457,084
2	Results Summary page	12,034,787
3	Electoral Commission Home page	4,721,006
4	Am I registered?	5,653,620
5	Voting Station Finder	683,451
6	Other	7,564,545
	TOTAL	64,124,618

Short Codes SMS Self-Services

a) Short codes SMS self-service for the year.

SMS Enquiries From the Public			
Election Period (27 May – 2 June 2024)			
	SMS Services	Short Codes	Number of SMS's
1	My Ward Councillor	32,245	2,581
2	Special Votes Application	32,249	244,505
3	Special Votes	32,711	8,598
4	Am I Registered	32,810	448,424
5	Issue Tracker	32,819	644
TOTAL:			704,752

b) Number of SMS enquiries received over the election period

SMS Enquiries From the Public			
Election Period (27 May – 2 June 2024)			
	SMS Services	Short Codes	Number of SMS's
1	My Ward Councillor	32,245	1,380
2	Special Votes Application	32,249	3,843
3	Special Votes	32,711	3,339
4	Am I Registered	32,810	336,403
5	Issue Tracker	32,819	560
TOTAL			345,525

Number of API Calls Received

Application programming interface API calls are direct calls to access Electoral Commission data in real-time processing from third-party and stakeholders' systems and websites. These include calls from the websites of political parties, media house, non-governmental organisations, etc. who build systems to access and display Electoral Commissions data directly from Electoral Commission databases.

a) Number of API calls received over the year.

API Calls from External Sources		
Top 5 Annual (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)		
	API Callers (Media, Political Parties, etc.)	Number of API Calls
1	IM 2	26,557,818
2	Group Editors	17,133,953
3	SABC	10,663,848
4	Daily Maverick	8,560,944
5	Citizen	5,252,456
6	Other	15,697,608
TOTAL:		83,866,627

b) Number of API calls received over the election period

API Calls from External Sources		
Top 6 API Callers – Election Period (27 May – 2 June 2024)		
	API Callers (Media, Political Parties, etc.)	Number of API Calls
1	Group Editors	8,513,265
2	IOL	4,816,731
3	MySmartCity	1,235,397
4	Daily Maverick	918,029
5	ENCA	898,392
6	SABC	888,116
7	Other	2,561,790
TOTAL:		19,831,720

The following week, 3 to 9 June 2024, the average hits were still very high as evident from the information below:



Spatial reporting: Atlas of Results

Like previous years, an Atlas of Results will be published containing different geographical representations of the election results.

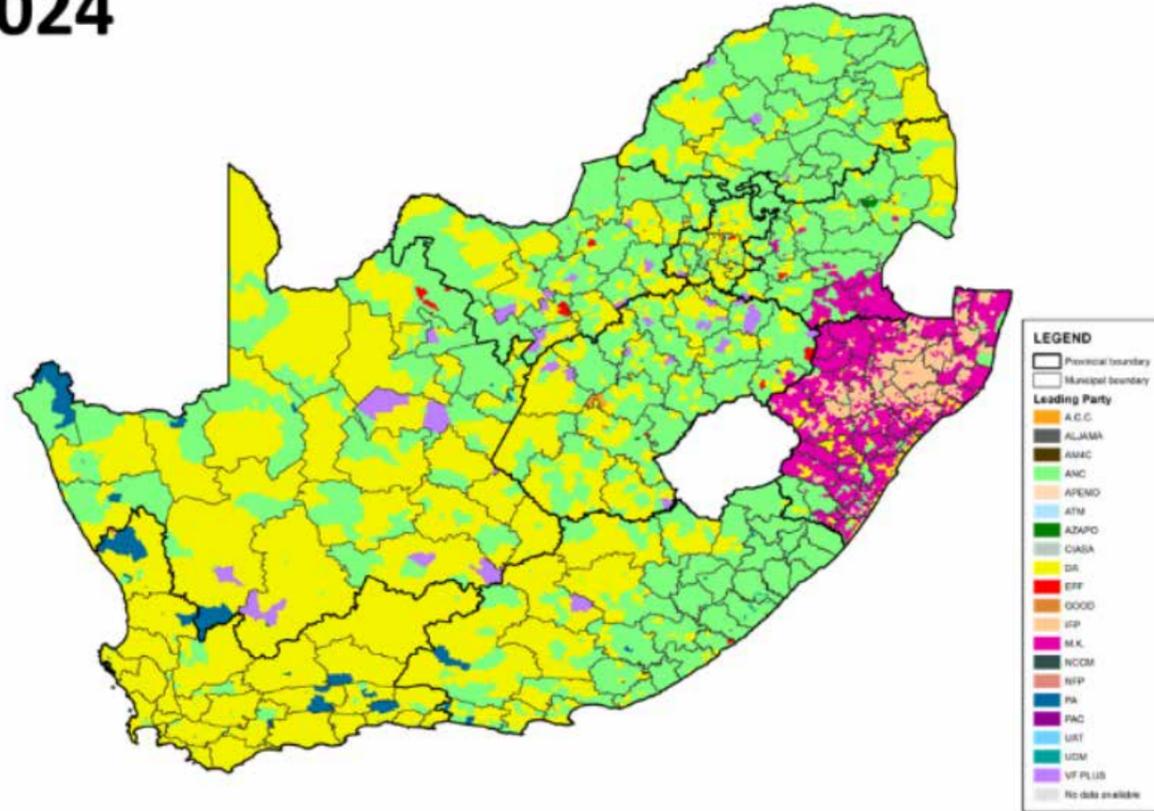
The atlas features themes such as voting district delimitation (e.g., geography of new voting districts), voter registration (e.g. total number of registrations by municipality), voters' roll (e.g., voters' roll age and gender analyses), political party results (e.g., leading party, party support, lead/lag analysis and party support variance) and voter participation (e.g., voter participation by age, gender, and time).

The atlas is a unique publication in the electoral domain worldwide. It condenses masses of information into and is the definitive publication used by political parties to analyse their electoral performance (i.e., challenges and opportunities across the country) and future electoral strategy. It provides different stakeholders with trend analysis and is an authoritative source for political analysts, political scientists and postgraduate students.

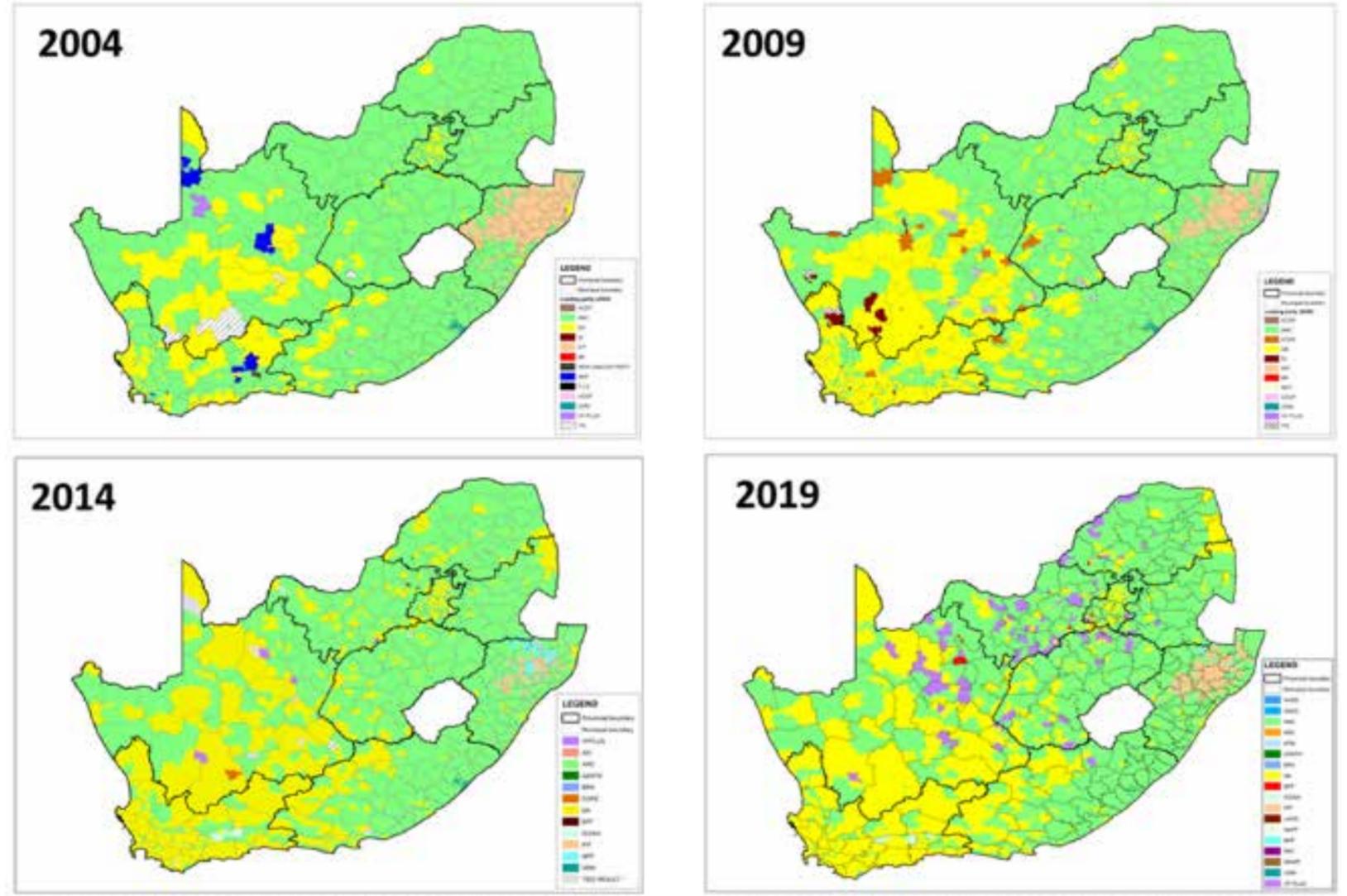
Below is the leading party map for NPE 2024, followed by a map containing the same information for the previous election years, i.e., 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019. The changes in the political landscape can clearly be seen.

Leading party map NPE 2024 by voting district

2024



Leading Party Maps 2004 – 2019 By Voting District



Preparations for local government elections 2026/27

With a view to supporting the local municipal elections towards the end of 2026/27, preparations have commenced.

Geographic information systems (GIS)

Data maintenance and quality assurance – the GIS department performed quality assurance and maintenance on several datasets received from external and internal suppliers such as the Chief Surveyor General's office, Department of Education, Department of Correctional Services, SAPS and the voting stations which is shown on the hard copy and digital maps.

Map production

Various sets of A3 registration maps were produced and sent to the municipal areas:

- Voting day maps: 23 292
- By-election registration maps: 582
- By-election NAD maps: 354

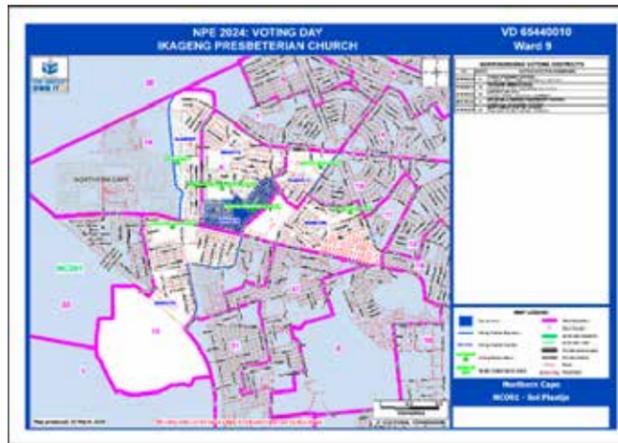
An A3 voting day map depicts the geographic area encompassed by a voting district and display voting stations in neighbouring voting districts. These maps are used on election day to identify the voting district where the voter management device is being used and link the voting district number to all transactions from the voter management device applications.

By-election A3 registration maps are used in a similar way, with the focus on the voting district itself.

A0/1 by-election NAD maps display the spatial data and addresses at a ward level with voting district boundaries and stations inside the ward.

Below are examples of the various maps:

Voting Day Map



By-Election Registration Map



By-Election NAD Map



Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB)

Demarcations (DEMS) – as a continuation of the process which started the previous financial year, the geographic information systems (GIS) received outer municipal boundary changes from the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) in two categories.

- Section 21(5)* technical boundary changes – 77 boundary alignments
- Section 21(5)* substantial boundary changes – 61 boundary changes

* Local government: Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998

These changes follow specific processes, with GIS determining the number of registered voters involved in the proposed changes and then performing the necessary changes after consultation with Electoral Matters.

The Municipal Demarcation Board will deliver the new ward boundaries in the 2025/26 financial year and the process of aligning the voting districts will commence.

GIS API and in-house mapping – enhancements were applied to the GIS mapping API to add enhanced security and updated geographical features. The address search services were also enhanced for use in the Online Registration service and other systems.

Geocoding and quality assurance – performed on voters' roll addresses in the wards in preparation for by-elections and GIS assisted with queries arising from voters' roll objections.

Electoral applications

The following key development projects have been initiated since June 2024:

Voter management devices with applications have been in use since the municipal elections in 2021 as listed in the following bullet list. While the initial development (due to uncertainty about the final operating system of the devices) was done on a cross-browser platform (Xamarin), the two voter applications (1 and 2 below) were rewritten into native Android to leverage some of the advantages before NPE 2024. A project has commenced to rewrite the other applications (3 – 6) into native Android.

By the end of the financial year, three (3) applications were still in progress, namely, Staff Attendance, Ballot Paper Tracking and Outreach Management.

- Registration** – to capture an address or place of residence during registration and to verify the address against ward boundaries.
- Voters' roll** – to mark voters as having voted on the central voters' roll and update voter turnout figures on an internal system.
- Staff attendance** – to record staff at voting stations and feed information to the internal system for payment.
- Ballot paper tracking** – to track ballot papers from production to the voting station, and
- Voting station monitoring** – to easily report on whether stations are open or closed.
- Outreach management** – to capture and track outreach events in the field.

During election day, the voters' roll application encountered some performance issues which lead to only 56% of the demographic data being harvested from the field operations. The issue was because only a single processing thread was used. This was rectified by **introducing multi-threading** in the voters' roll application and the Voter Registration application– both carrying high transaction volumes.

Development of a new and upgraded **online Party Registration System** (in progress) using new technology (Blazor and .NET Core framework) which will enable parties to submit applications online and for the internal review and approval processes to be streamlined. The project is expected to be completed in the next financial year.

Enhancements to the **Online Administration Console** of the Online Voter Registration system to enhance security and streamline the onboarding of users on all the public-facing applications. The project is expected to be completed in the next financial year.

An Asset verification mobile application with integration into SAP was developed for the Asset Management department and is used on hand-held devices to make the process of checking and tracking assets faster and more effective. The project was completed in May 2025 and the application is in use.

A **new scanning solution** is being introduced to handle the scanning of various documents such as results slips, voting station contracts and staff contracts. The new solution features centralised processing which will relieve some of the bottlenecks previously experienced. The project is expected to complete in the next financial year.

IT Operations Projects

The following activities/projects have been undertaken during the financial year:

Project name	Project Description
<i>National and Provincial Elections 2024</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Set up and activated connectivity and systems at ten Results Operations Centres (ROC), 56 results capturing sites and decommissioned thereafter. Upgraded network connectivity infrastructure and data-centre processing capacity to support election capacity demands and downgraded thereafter. Provided quality assurance to the voter management device maintenance project. Supported voter management device readiness processes, which included downloading big data items such as offline maps, electoral staff, etc. in preparation for elections.
<i>Decommissioning of the website hosting</i>	Public-facing applications were returned from the external hosting site to the national data centre.
<i>Privileged access management (PAM)</i>	Upgraded the privileged access management version and added more functionality and continue to do performance tuning and enhancements
<i>Infrastructure and application monitoring</i>	Implemented additional infrastructure and application monitoring tools.
<i>APN implementation</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Changed APN Service providers and implemented the new access point name (APN). The original APN services contract ended at the end of June 2024 and a new contract started on 1 July 2024. Set up supporting infrastructure and replaced SIM cards of all 40,000 voter management devices and 1,000 laptops for laptop users with new SIM cards from the new service provider.
<i>Mobile device management solution</i>	Tested and commenced implementation of the on-premises mobile device management (MDM) solution.
<i>e-Learning system upgrade</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Upgraded the e-learning system software to Moodle 4.5.x LTS (long-term support). Stabilised the environment to deal with increased load by adding redundancy, separating database servers, and load balancing servers.
<i>Virtual PABX rollout</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented the disaster recovery instance for high availability and business continuity purposes. Continued with the rollout of the virtual telephone system to all offices across the country.

Project name	Project Description
<i>Microsoft M365 E5 security enhancement</i>	Investigated Purview, Defender for Office and EntraID. The implementation started during the financial year and will be completed in the next financial year.
<i>Network upgrade</i>	Replaced over 100 old switches and hubs with new manageable switches in the regions.
<i>Veritas NetBackup upgrade</i>	Upgraded Veritas NetBackup to version 10.3.0.1.
<i>Migrate data from XIO to NetApp</i>	Completed the migration of data from the old XIO storage area network (SAN) to the new NetApp SAN and decommissioned the XIO SAN.
<i>Security awareness training</i>	Activated at least nine security awareness training courses on the e-learning platform and socialised the training within the organisation.
<i>Technology refresh</i>	<p>Began the project to upgrade the following IT components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Windows 10 to Windows 11 Microsoft SQL Server 2016 to SQL Server 2022 Microsoft Windows Server 2016 to Windows Server 2022 Microsoft Office 2016 to M365 E5 Microsoft Exchange 2016 to Exchange 2019
<i>DXI 4800 Tape System upgrade</i>	Upgraded the tape system to Quantum DXI 4800
<i>Veritas Enterprise Vault upgrade</i>	Upgraded the archiving software to version 15.0
<i>Security information and event management SIEM version upgrade</i>	Reviewed security information and event management solution and implemented some enhancements and performance tuning
<i>Voter management device maintenance support</i>	Provided quality assurance and support to the voter management device maintenance project



ICT modernisation

The Electoral Commission began a journey to modernise its application landscape in keeping with available technologies. The following were achieved during the financial year:

- a. A proof of Concept (PoC) project has been undertaken with Microsoft to investigate the use of modern data architecture (for data warehousing) and artificial intelligence, providing information in self-service mode to voters (bots).
- b. M365 E5 Security Features implementation - the Electoral Commission started implementing Microsoft Modern Work with the M365 E5 licences. This refers to a suite of integrated cloud-based technologies such as Microsoft Teams, SharePoint and One Drive along with security features such as EntraID and Defender for Office. The goal is to improve productivity, secure collaboration and adapt to evolving work environments.

Leveraging PowerApps and SharePoint several office modernisation tools have been started and/or completed, for example, a new internal timesheet tool (in use), an organizational calendar as well as data request and change request tools.

General ICT maintenance activities

By-elections support includes

- a. Support pre-by-elections voter registration activities, addressing capture support and investigations, generating ballot papers and certified voters' rolls for by-elections. On by-election day, support is provided for the capturing of results and scanning of results slips. The support is concluded with the generation of payment files and reimbursements.
- b. Receive ad hoc data requests: from outside parties and disseminate to the relevant line function departments for information pertaining to various election statistics. Once approved, this information is investigated, interpreted and consolidated by the appropriate ICT team, depending on the nature of the request.

- c. Investigate system investigations and impact analyse regarding new systems, potential changes or enhancements required by line function departments: After discussions and/or investigations, compile project charters for line functions to capture their requirements and provide the basis for further action.
- d. Maintain application programming interface (API) and provide access management for both internal systems and external stakeholders.
- e. Maintain SAP stack and perform SAP governance, risk, and compliance (GRC) support pack upgrade.
- f. Make daily system checks in all environments to ensure that all systems are available and stable before the start of business, including servers, switches, storage area network (SAN), devices, and provincial uninterruptible power supplies.
- g. Perform business continuity and disaster recovery mitigation processes, which include the provision of high availability, fail-over facilities and regular backups as prescribed in the disaster recovery policy.
- h. Perform weekly cyber security management – Performed weekly security and vulnerability and reviewing the ICT infrastructure, which includes malicious code and virus propagation, operating system vulnerabilities and exploits, user activity monitoring, network analysis and monitoring, daily audit, and operational tasks.
- i. Maintaining network performance continuously to ensure all LAN and WAN connectivity and availability to provide high availability and adequate capacity.
- j. Maintain a disaster recovery site for all business-critical systems.
- k. Perform monthly maintenance weekends, patches and updates are deployed and systems are refreshed.
- l. Monitor risk management – and review the risk environment and ensure that all identified risks are sufficiently mitigated and managed.



Legal Services

Legal Services has continued to serve as a cornerstone in upholding a proactive, responsive, and resilient legal framework that underpins the Electoral Commission's constitutional mandate. Over the course of the year, Legal Services delivered comprehensive legal advisory and support services across a broad spectrum of operational and strategic activities. This work was instrumental in ensuring legal compliance, mitigating institutional risk, and preserving the integrity and credibility of the Electoral Commission.

Among its core responsibilities, Legal Services managed litigation and investigated objections arising from NPE 2024. It is noteworthy that all objections were timeously investigated and decided by the Electoral Commission, and the results were declared in accordance with section 57(2)(b) of the Electoral Act. During the NPE 2024 period, Legal Services received 32 litigation matters. The Electoral Commission was successful in 30 of those matters. There are two matters that are still pending before the courts. Legal Services provided strategic legal counsel and played a crucial role in facilitating effective management of electoral disputes and litigation. Furthermore, legally sound opinions were submitted on a range of issues, procurement, voters' roll objections, political funding, electoral disputes, intra-party disputes, litigation, contracts, issues arising from the request for access to information in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act No 2 of 2000 and the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013. During the reporting period, Legal Services processed 87 court applications, 110 objections in terms of Section 55 of the Electoral Act, 987 general complaints, and 47 complaints relating to alleged contraventions of the Electoral Code of Conduct.

In addition to its litigation and advisory functions, Legal Services published 112 legal notices in various gazettes and contributed to procurement and contract governance. Legal Services supported the tender evaluation process and undertook the drafting and review of service-level agreements, thereby ensuring that contractual arrangements were legally sound, clearly articulated, and aligned with institutional objectives. A total of 228 agreements were processed during this period.



Programme 2: Electoral Operations

Transparency in electoral operations

Operational excellence in practice

The year under review has been characterised by systematic consolidation and strategic enhancement of the Electoral Commission's electoral operations. Building upon the comprehensive lessons learned from NPE 2024, the electoral operations have focused on strengthening the institutional foundations that underpin credible democratic processes.

Municipal by-elections throughout the 2024/25 financial year have served as valuable laboratories for testing refined procedures and validating system improvements. Each contest has provided opportunities to implement enhanced protocols for voting station efficiency, queue management and, logistics coordination. These smaller-scale operations have proven that the adjustments made following the experiences of NPE 2024 are both effective and sustainable.

The complexity of administering the nomination process that included over 14,000 candidates, printing 90 million ballot papers, and coordinating more than 200,000 staff across 23,000 voting stations during the previous electoral cycle informed every operational decision made this year. The introduction of double-column ballots to accommodate lengthier ballots owing to the increased number of contestants, while initially daunting, has become a capability that enhances electoral inclusivity without burdening the voter.



**Masego
Sheburi**

“Elections are not merely administrative exercises; they are moments where the dignity and voice of every voter find expression.

Protecting that experience, through efficient operations and transparent results, remains the fundamental responsibility of this department.”


14,000
Candidates


23,000
voting stations



Enhancing voter experience

Addressing the challenges experienced at certain high density voting stations during NPE 2024 has remained a priority throughout the period under review. The department has implemented comprehensive improvements to the queue management systems, enhanced voter support protocols, and strengthened accessibility provisions for elderly and disabled voters.

Technology deployment has been carefully calibrated to improve rather than complicate the voting experience.

Logistics innovation and resilience

Supply chain management has undergone a comprehensive review and improvement in 2025. Digital tracking tools now monitor the movement of sensitive materials from printing facilities to voting stations, providing unprecedented visibility into logistics operations. Backup transportation options have been expanded and thoroughly tested, ensuring that delivery disruptions do not compromise electoral timelines.

Partnerships with service providers have been strengthened through more rigorous performance standards and enhanced accountability mechanisms. The department recognises that electoral credibility depends not only on internal capabilities but also on the reliability of external partners who support critical operations.

Warehouse security and materials management have been enhanced following comprehensive risk assessments. New protocols ensure that sensitive electoral materials remain secure throughout the supply chain while maintaining the accessibility required for efficient distribution.

Preparing for future challenges

As preparations begin for the 2026/27 Local Government Elections, three strategic priorities guide electoral operations to reduce voter confusion while maintaining security and verification

capabilities: ballot innovation, enhanced digital tools, and clearer visual presentation.

Logistical resilience involves integrating digital monitoring, backup systems, and stronger partnerships into every aspect of supply chain management. The goal is not merely to handle expected volumes but to maintain service delivery even when unexpected challenges arise.

Results modernisation encompasses deeper use of appropriate technology and enhanced technical infrastructure at results centres. These improvements will deliver both greater speed and improved credibility, meeting public expectations for timely and accurate information.

Enhancing the electoral scheme by sponsoring amendments to provision of the law dealing with objections to the voters' roll. The purpose is to safeguard the participation of voters in free and fair elections without imperilling the outcomes. Similarly, work is underway to supplement the Electoral Code of Conduct to make it fit for purpose for new challenges brought about by harmful use of new media and artificial intelligence in elections.

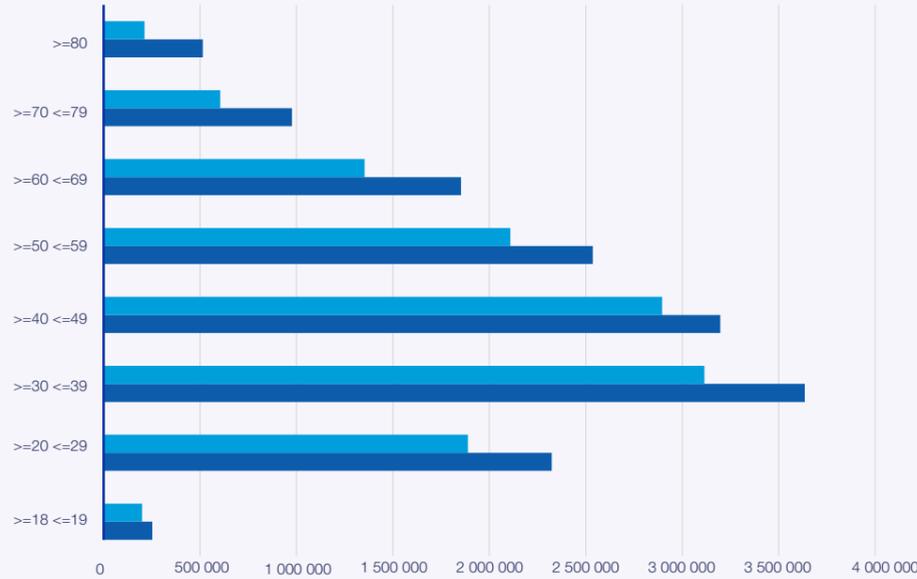
The Electoral Commission approaches these challenges with confidence built on experience and humility born of understanding the evolving nature of electoral administration. Every improvement is tested, every innovation is validated, and every change is implemented with full consideration of its impact on voter experience and public trust.

Voters' Roll and Registration Oversight

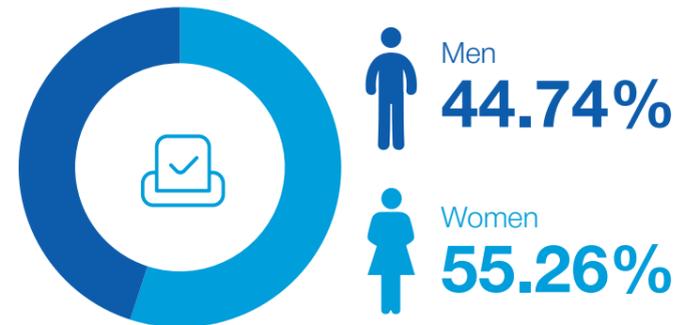
Changes to the voters' roll: March 2024 to March 2025



Changes to the voters' roll: March 2024 to March 2025

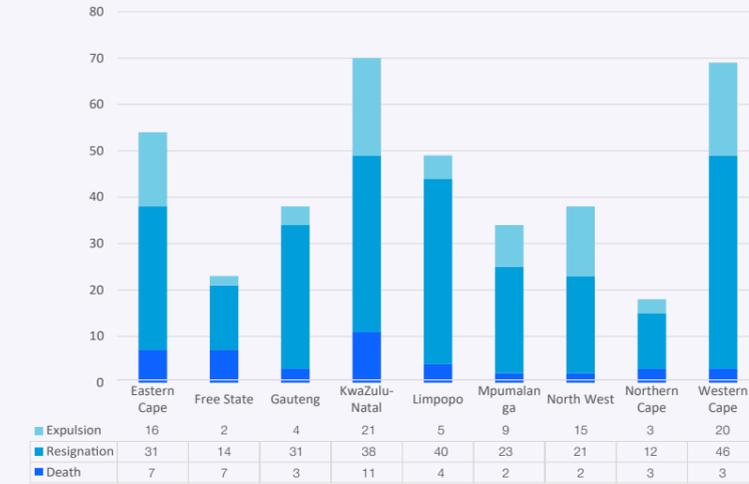


Registered voters by gender (percentage)

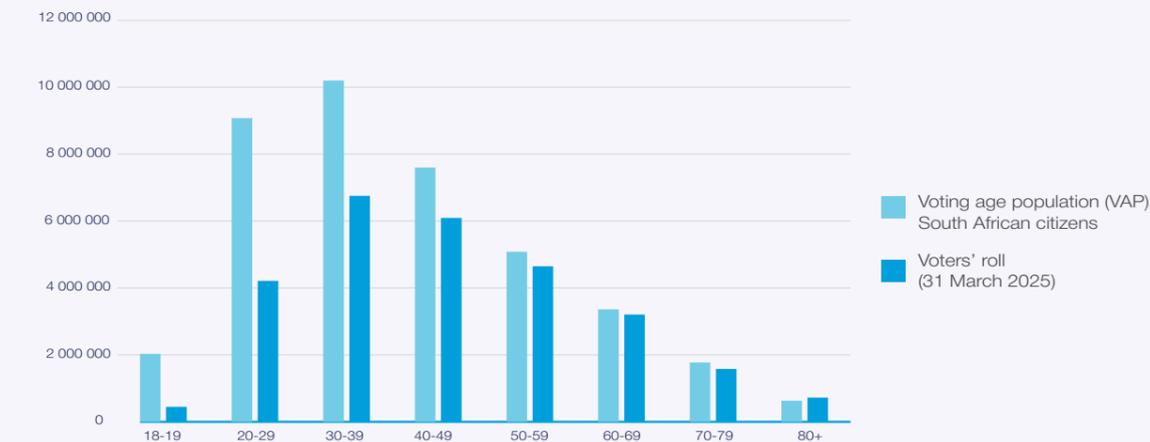


Voters' Roll and Registration Oversight

Comparison of proportional representation councillor replacement per province since 2021



Registered voters against age-eligible citizens at the end of March 2025



Proportional Representation Councillors



- 31 March 2021: 351
- 31 March 2022: 377
- 31 March 2023: 322
- 31 March 2024: 361
- 31 March 2025: 393



Programme 2: Introduction

Programme 2 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-Oriented Goal 2: Electoral Operations Management, which provides the strategic management for Programme 2. It encompasses Electoral Matters, as well as Electoral Logistics and Infrastructure.

Electoral Matters facilitates the participation of voters in regular free and fair elections, using sustainable systems, people and processes. Activities include the delimitation of voting district boundaries, the compilation and maintenance of the national voters' roll, and the planning and coordination of activities during registration weekends, on Voting Day and on special voting days, as well as for home visits. The counting of votes, collation of results and seat calculations are the eventual activities of the department.

Political Liaison facilitates the participation of parties in regular, free and fair elections.

Electoral Logistics and Infrastructure provides logistics, warehousing and distribution services, plus infrastructure, including voting stations and municipal electoral offices, and ensures the provisioning of electoral materials and equipment as specified in the bill of materials (BOM) for electoral projects.



Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objective 2.1

Manage free and fair elections in accordance with the applicable electoral timetables to ensure the efficient and credible execution of the mandate of the Electoral Commission.

Strategic Objective 2.2

Maintain an accurate national common voters' roll to ensure the credibility of elections.

Table 5: Strategic objectives, key performance indicators, planned targets, and actual achievements

No.	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / Actual performance 2022/23	Audited / Actual performance 2023/24	Planned annual 2024/25	Actual achievement 2024/25	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2024/25	Reasons for deviations
2.1	Free and fair elections delivered	Manage free and fair elections in accordance with the applicable electoral timetables to ensure the efficient and credible execution of the mandate of the Electoral Commission.	Percentage of elections set aside	0% of elections set aside	0% of elections set aside	0% of elections set aside	0% of elections set aside	0% of elections set aside	Target achieved
2.2		Maintain a credible national voters' roll with cutting-edge technology.	Number of registered voters as at 31 March each year	26,048,668	27,780,942	27,780,942	27,662,777	(118,165)	Target not achieved In between elections, the voters roll experiences a net decline owing to changes in the status of voters, e.g., deceased, loss of citizenship etc. In the reporting period, the rate of new entrants on the voters roll was not sufficient to offset the losses.

Electoral Matters

Electoral Matters facilitates the participation of voters in regular free and fair elections, using sustainable systems, people and processes. Activities include the delimitation of voting district boundaries, the compilation and maintenance of the national voters' roll, and the planning and coordination of activities during registration weekends, on Voting Day and on special voting days, and for home visits. The counting of votes, collation of results and seat calculations are the eventual activities of the department

Voting district delimitation

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

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

The delimitation of voting districts was reviewed ahead of voter registration for NPE 2024. The total number of voting districts for NPE 2024 increased by 144 voting districts (or by 0,6%) compared with the previous year. The marginal increase in the number of voting districts was due to the emphasis on operating voting stations in high-density areas as voting centres (with several sub-stations), rather than creating additional voting districts (which may disrupt the registration of voters).

Throughout the reporting period, the voting districts remained unchanged from those used in the previous

year's elections.

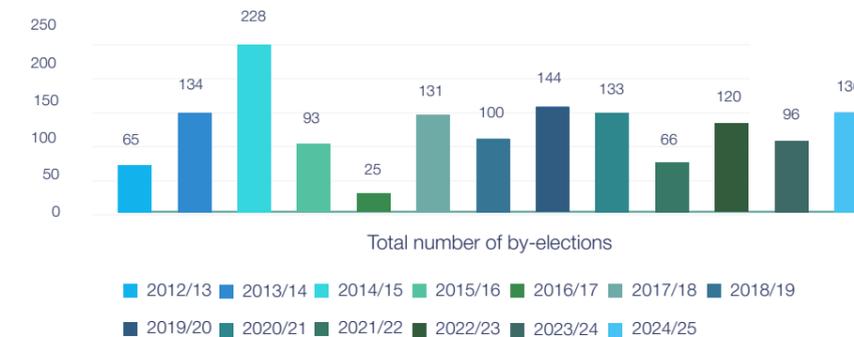
While the Electoral Commission is responsible for the delimitation of voting district boundaries as a means to maintain the national voters' roll, the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) is responsible for demarcating (outer) municipal boundaries and delimiting ward boundaries.

The Municipal Demarcation Board re-determined the (outer) municipal boundaries of 61 municipalities. The Electoral Commission was then responsible for assessing whether these redetermined municipal boundaries materially impacted the representation of voters in the relevant municipal councils and for publishing its view in the relevant provincial government gazettes by early May 2024.

In preparation for the upcoming general elections, the Electoral Commission will align voting district boundaries to newly delimited ward boundaries received from the Municipal Demarcation Board. Additionally, a review of the Electoral Commission's voting district network will be conducted to ensure compliance with established delimitation guidelines.

By-elections

A total of 136 by-elections were conducted during the year to fill municipal vacancies. The vacancies comprised 113 ward vacancies, 11 proportional representation vacancies, and 12 ward vacancies following the dissolution of the Thabazimbi local council. The table below provides a historical overview of the number of by-elections held each year since the 2009/10 financial year.



The 136 by-elections conducted in 2024/25 show an increase compared with the 96 in the previous period of 2023/24. Two of the reasons for the increase are due to dissolved council by-elections and ward councillors taking up seats in the National Assembly and provincial legislature. Over the past 16 years, the average number of by-elections per year has stood at 113. The 136 by-elections during 2024/25 are thus higher than the 16-year average.

Ward vacancies are required by law to be filled within 90 days of the date on which the vacancy occurs. All 136 ward vacancies were filled within 90 days in 2024/25.

Reason for by-election	Number (and percentage) of by-elections
Resignation of councillor	68 (50%)
Death of councillor	36 (26%)
Expulsion/termination of councillor by MEC	2 (1%)
Expulsion/termination of membership from party of councillor	7 (5%)
Dissolved councils	23 (17%)
TOTAL	136

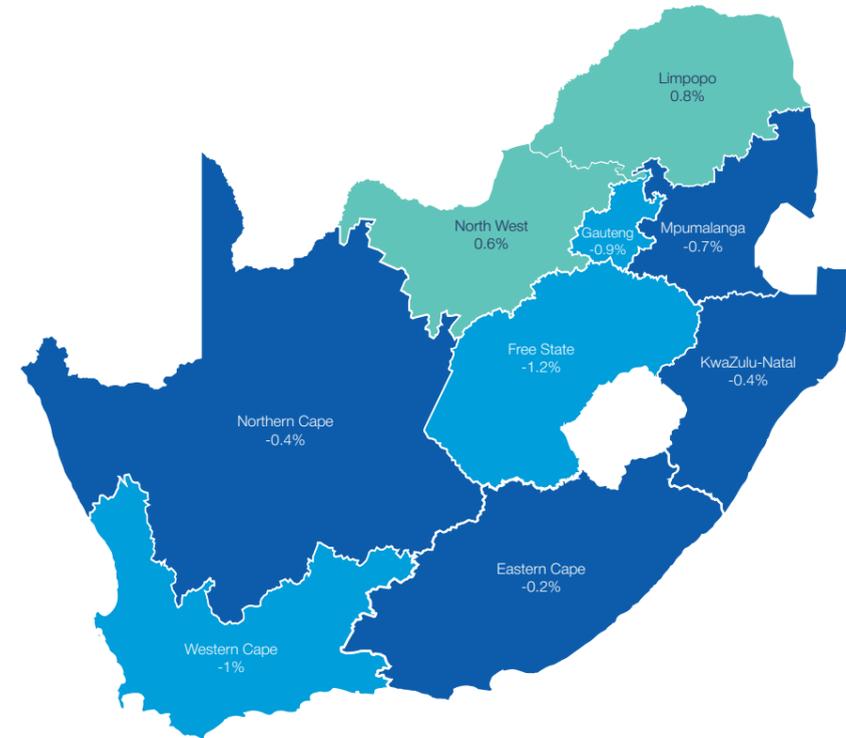
Voters' Roll and Registration

Statistics

A voters' roll is the cornerstone for free and fair elections. The Electoral Commission is enjoined to compile and maintain a national common voters' roll through a process of registering eligible persons. The Electoral Commission facilitates the compilation of the voters' roll because the right to vote includes the responsibility on the part of citizens to register as voters. The Electoral Commission undertakes a programme of registering new voters, affording platforms to already registered voters to inspect and update their details, and conducting quality assurance processes on the entire voters' roll in line with that obligation.

Table 6: Changes to the voters' roll: March 2024 to March 2025

Province	2025/03/31	2024/03/12	Change	% Change
Eastern Cape	3,432,466	3,439,320	-6,854	-0.2%
Free State	1,439,968	1,456,927	-16,959	-1.2%
Gauteng	6,484,093	6,541,978	-57,885	-0.9%
KwaZulu-Natal	5,716,556	5,738,249	-21,693	-0.4%
Limpopo	2,801,089	2,779,657	21,432	0.8%
Mpumalanga	2,011,609	2,025,070	-13,461	-0.7%
North West	1,779,635	1,768,576	11,059	0.6%
Northern Cape	654,073	656,826	-2,753	-0.4%
Western Cape	3,284,476	3,317,072	-32,596	-1.0%
Out of country	58,812	58,802	10	0.0%
TOTAL	27,662,777	27,782,477	-119,700	-0.4%

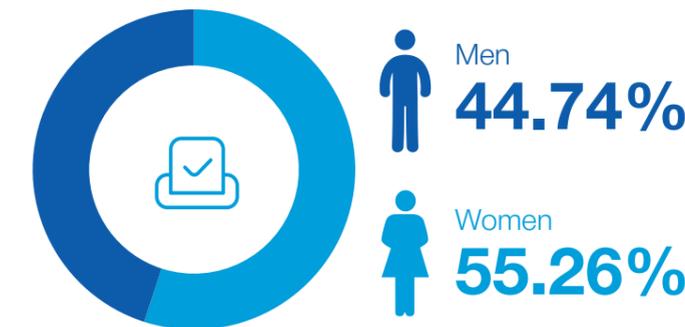


The map above depicts a general decline in voter turnout, except for the North West and Limpopo, which are the only regions with a greenish colour. The voters' roll contains 27,662,777 voters. The trend of there being more voters who are women than men persists. Female voters constitute 55.26 % of the 27,662,777 voters on the roll at the end of the reporting period. Table 2 provides a breakdown of the registered voters by province and by gender for the reporting period.

Table 7: Registered voters by province and gender as at the end of March

Province	Female	% of province total	Male	% of province total	Total	% of total
Eastern Cape	1,947,931	56.75%	1,484,551	43.25%	3,432,482	12.41%
Free State	799,669	55.53%	640,306	44.47%	1,439,975	5.21%
Gauteng	3,424,704	52.82%	3,059,358	47.18%	6,484,062	23.44%
KwaZulu-Natal	3,229,212	56.49%	2,487,312	43.51%	5,716,524	20.67%
Limpopo	1,634,881	58.37%	1,166,212	41.63%	2,801,093	10.13%
Mpumalanga	1,102,834	54.82%	908,758	45.18%	2,011,592	7.27%
North West	942,940	52.99%	836,689	47.01%	1,779,629	6.43%
Northern Cape	350,591	53.60%	303,540	46.40%	654,131	2.36%
Western Cape	1,823,503	55.52%	1,460,974	44.48%	3,284,477	11.87%
Out of country	31,187	53.03%	27,625	46.97%	58,812	0.21%
TOTAL	15,287,452	55.26%	12,375,325	44.74%	27,662,777	

Registered voters by gender (percentage)



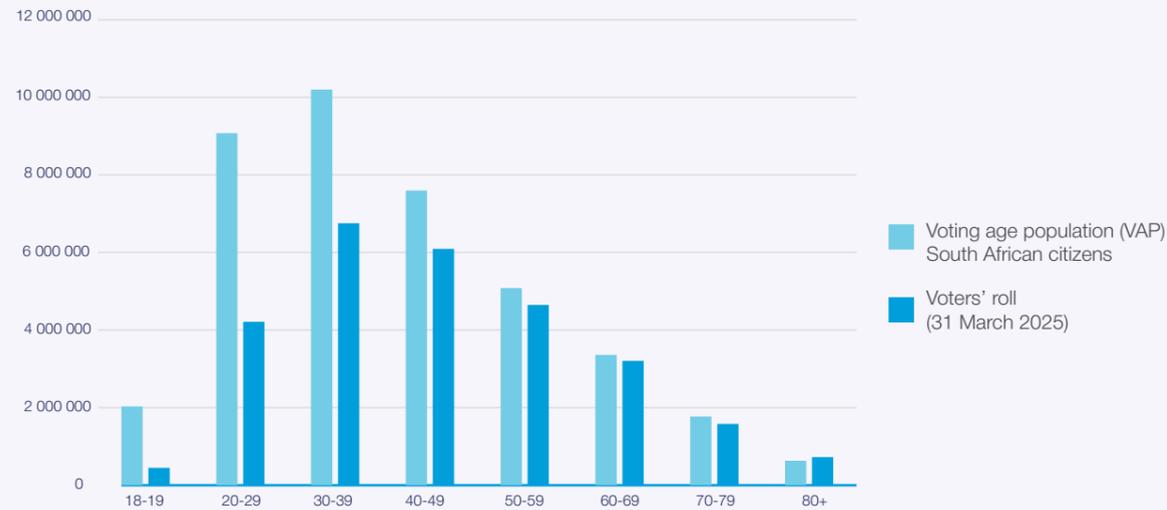
Voting age population

Section 6(1A) of the Electoral Act prescribes the registration age as 16 and the voting age as 18. This means the legal voting age in South Africa is 18 years. According to the census figures, the total number of people eligible to vote is 39,753,087, compared to those currently on the voters' roll, which stands at 27,662,777. This means the Electoral Commission has achieved 69.59% against a voting-age population of 39,753,087.

The challenge remains the underrepresentation of voters in the 18–19-year age cohort. Of the estimated two million citizens in that age band, only 22% or 500,000 are registered voters.

Table 8: Registered voters against age-eligible citizens at the end of March 2025

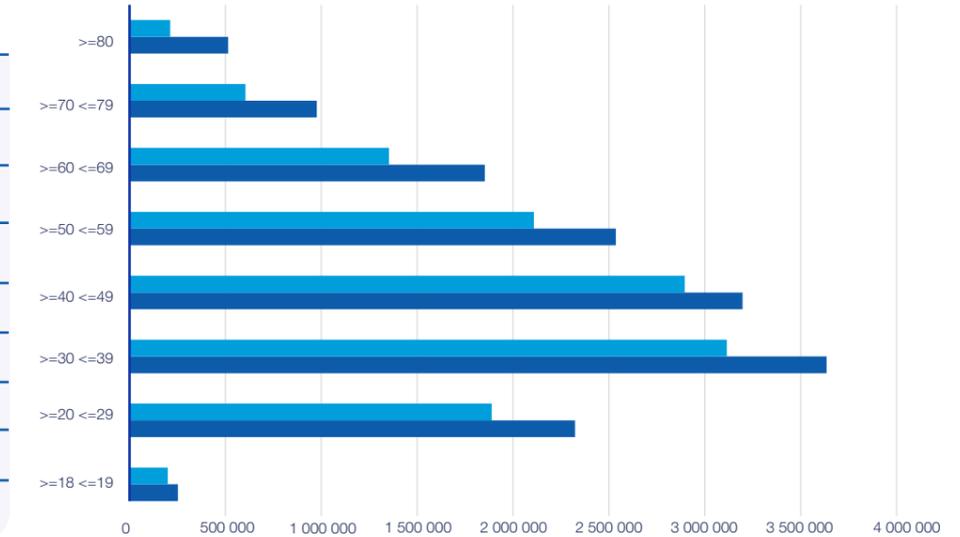
Age group	Voting age population (VAP) South African citizens	Voters' roll (31 March 2025)	% voter registration
18-19	2,032,272	451,074	22.20%
20-29	9,073,863	4,211,541	46.41%
30-39	10,198,809	6,750,427	66.19%
40-49	7,596,640	6,092,551	80.20%
50-59	5,083,116	4,645,376	91.39%
60-69	3,362,552	3,205,682	95.33%
70-79	1,775,083	1,581,196	89.08%
80+	630,750	724,930	114.93%
TOTAL	39,753,087	27,662,777	69.59%



The trend of older voters constituting the largest proportion of voters on the voters' roll is well entrenched, even as South Africa increasingly becomes a youthful country. The age cohort of 30–39 years enjoys the greatest representation on the voters' roll, followed by the age band of 40-49 years. The Electoral Commission is committed to continuing strategies targeted at the youth with a view to further reducing the under-representation of persons in the 18-29 age category

Table 9: Registered voters by age and gender at the end of March 2025

Age band	Female	Male	Total	% of total
>=18 <=19	252,060	199,014	451,074	1.63%
>=20 <=29	2,323,196	1,888,345	4,211,541	15.22%
>=30 <=39	3,635,615	3,114,812	6,750,427	24.40%
>=40 <=49	3,196,930	2,895,621	6,092,551	22.02%
>=50 <=59	2,536,427	2,108,949	4,645,376	16.79%
>=60 <=69	1,853,031	1,352,651	3,205,682	11.59%
>=70 <=79	976,661	604,535	1,581,196	5.72%
>=80	513,532	211,398	724,930	2.63%
TOTAL	15,287,452	12,375,325	27,662,777	100%



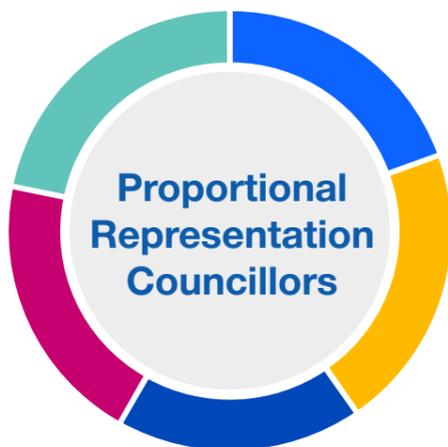
Proportional representation replacements

The Local Government Municipal Structures Act prescribes that a councillor elected on a proportional representation (PR) basis from a party list onto a local council and who ceases to hold office must be replaced from that party's reserve list of candidates. The CEO must declare in writing the person at the top of the party's list of candidates as elected. A party may amend its candidate list within 21 days of the vacancy occurring. The person at the top of the candidate list must be declared elected within 14 days after the expiration of the 21 days. The provinces that accounted for most of the proportional representation replacements are KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape, and Eastern Cape. The province of the Northern Cape accounted for the least number of replaced councillors.

A total of 393 proportional representation councillor replacements were processed during the period covered by this report.

Table 10: Proportional representation councillors

Province	31 March 2021	31 March 2022	31 March 2023	31 March 2024	31 March 2025
Eastern Cape	69	49	45	38	54
Free State	25	38	22	23	23
Gauteng	30	48	52	30	38
KwaZulu-Natal	53	62	57	79	70
Limpopo	33	45	23	57	49
Mpumalanga	47	35	27	20	34
North West	26	21	38	49	38
Northern Cape	22	18	19	17	18
Western Cape	46	61	39	51	69
TOTAL	351	377	322	361	393



31 March 2021	351	31 March 2024	361
31 March 2022	377	31 March 2025	393
31 March 2023	322		

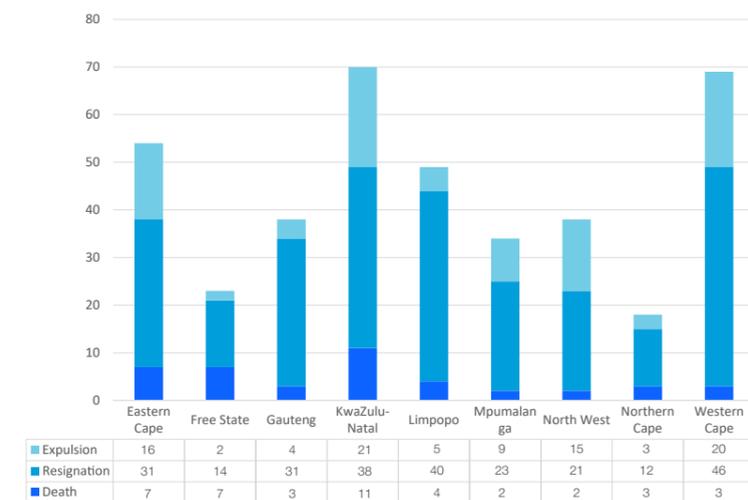


Figure: Comparison of proportional representation councillor replacement per province since 2021

The predominant reason for replacement is resignation at 65% (256 of 393). The rate of councillor representation is consistent with historical trends following the general elections. Historically, there has been a surge in the rate of proportional representation councillor replacement following general elections, as parties move representatives among the three legislative assemblies.

Registration of political parties

The electoral scheme requires a political party to be registered before it can contest elections. The Electoral Commission is the registrar of political parties, and for this reason, maintains a register of all registered political parties. For the period under review, the register reflected 611 political parties, representing an increase of 14% (74) over the 537 reported in the previous period. As can be seen below, provincial registration has seen an 1,000% increase.

Table 11: Political parties registered

Registered parties	2023/24	2024/25	Difference	% Difference
National	322	382	60	19%
Provincial	1	11	10	1,000%
Municipal	214	218	4	2%
TOTAL	537	611	74	14%
Represented parties	167	174	7	4%
Parties represented as a percentage of the total registered	31%	28%		

While the number of registered parties increases with each approaching election, the number of political parties that gain representation as a percentage of the total registered parties in any of the three legislative bodies (National Assembly, provincial legislature, and municipal council) has not increased. Between the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods, there was a 3% decline in the number of represented parties.

Elections Logistics and Infrastructure

Electoral Logistics and Infrastructure provides logistics, warehousing and distribution services, as well as infrastructure, including voting stations and municipal electoral offices, and ensures the provisioning of electoral materials and equipment as specified in the bill of materials (BOM) for electoral projects.

Electronic Support Systems

The Electoral Commission's logistics information system (LIS) is a computerised system that underpins the planning, monitoring, management and control of electoral material in the Electoral Commission. A comprehensive bill of materials (BOM) is created for each electoral event. By registering the bill of materials on the logistics information system, detailed materials requirement plans (MRPs) are generated to facilitate the accurate procurement, distribution, and allocation of electoral materials by province, municipality, and voting district. The information in the logistics information system is accessible internally to all the levels of the organisation (national, provincial, and municipal), thus providing a transparent planning and monitoring process.

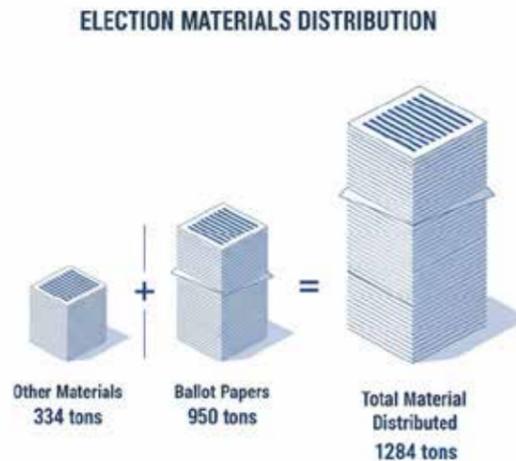
For the printing and distribution of ballot papers, a ballot paper tracking (BPT) system was developed and implemented to track and trace ballot papers from the printing press to the voting station level. The system ensured that the Electoral Commission could account for the ballot papers at all times and provided for a 100% voter turnout where ballot papers were readily available at voting stations for voters to cast their votes.

Logistical support for by-elections

By-elections were supported throughout the year with logistics and materials. The ballot paper generation (BPG) system creates the images of individual ballot papers and result slips for each ward by-election, and these are printed in the correct controlled quantities. The general material supply chain for by-elections was managed, including the procurement, quality control, distribution, and overall monitoring of electoral materials. All inventories were replenished on time and within budget.

Distribution network

The Electoral Commission's logistics distribution network comprises eleven warehouses: two central warehouses (controlled from the National Office), and one warehouse in each of the nine provinces. One of the central warehouses is a dedicated nodal point for the fleet of voter management devices. The voter management devices are maintained centrally and distributed to provincial warehouses in preparation for election events. Minimal permanent resources are maintained to support this distribution network, in the interest of cost containment. Contracted-in resources, such as human capacity and vehicles, are used as and when needed at the appropriate scale. These resources and support activities are scalable to handle the logistical demands of the various election cycles.

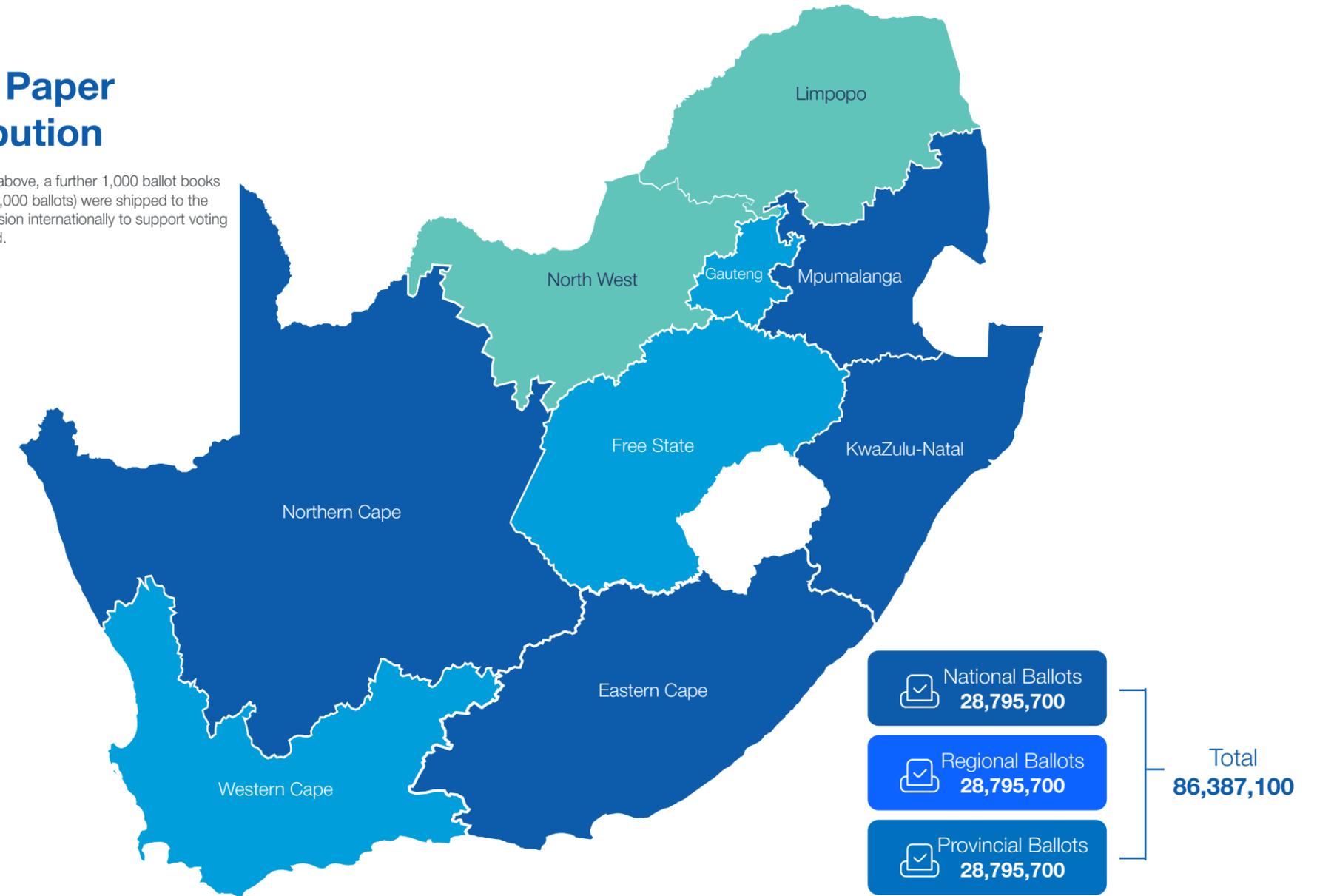


During the period 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, the Electoral Commission conducted NPE 2024. A significant quantity of logistics materials was distributed for this event, with some illustrated by the following weight calculations.

The high number of ballot papers printed for NPE 2024 accounts for the fact that, for the first time, the Electoral Commission had to print three different types of ballot papers. That is a ballot paper for the National Assembly, one for each provincial legislature, as well as one ballot paper per province for regional representation in the National Assembly.

Ballot Paper Distribution

In addition to the above, a further 1,000 ballot books (equivalent to 110,000 ballots) were shipped to the South African Mission internationally to support voting for citizens abroad.





Voting Station Infrastructure

A voting station is a prism through which the voting public formulates perceptions about the performance of the Electoral Commission.

Fixed and permanent structures, especially schools, remained the preferred venues to serve as voting stations. The table below illustrates a slight increase in the number of voting districts, resulting in more voting stations for NPE 2024 compared to the previous elections in 2016.

The use of schools as preferred voting stations increased slightly for NPE 2024. The statistics show a decrease in the number of temporary voting stations in use for NPE 2024.

The number of mobile voting stations deployed over the past elections has remained unchanged.

Table 12: Proportional representation councillors

Voting stations	LGE 2016	NPE 2019	LGE 2021	NPE 2024	Status at 2025/03/31
Total voting districts	22 612	22,924	23,148	23,292	23,292
Permanent/Schools	14 572	14,375	14,626	14,655	14,565
Temporary voting districts	1 228	48	1,125	936	931
Mobiles	32	29	30	30	30

The Electoral Commission continues to drive a concerted effort to reduce the use of temporary voting facilities, as these have security and other implications for election administration and also create a negative experience for the voting public.

The use of temporary facilities has been reduced over successive electoral cycles, except for LGE 2021, when a marginal increase was recorded, primarily due to the withdrawal of permanent facilities by some landlords over COVID-19-related concerns. However, during NPE 2024, the overall number of temporary voting facilities dropped by 16.8% compared to LGE 2021.

Table 13: Percentage change in the use of temporary voting facilities per province

Province	LGE 2016	NPE 2019	LGE 2021	NPE 2024	Status as at end March 2025	% Status at end March 2025
Eastern Cape	161	119	118	93	93	21,19%
Free State	189	148	179	184	184	-2,79%
Gauteng	327	295	271	193	193	28,78%
KwaZulu-Natal	133	116	154	128	127	17,53%
Limpopo	145	138	152	151	154	-1,32%
Mpumalanga	82	65	73	66	67	8,22%
North West	115	126	134	84	78	41,79%
Northern Cape	26	4	7	9	9	-28,57%
Western Cape	50	35	37	28	26	29,73%
TOTAL	1,228	1,046	1,125	936	931	17,24%

Regular facility surveys of the voting station network are conducted nationwide to stay informed about key infrastructural developments. Continued emphasis is given to improving the quality of data available on the Electoral Commission's voting station database, which is used to inform infrastructure initiatives and programmes.

Each of the 23,292 voting stations is inspected in advance of an electoral event to confirm the availability of key infrastructure and facilities, including electricity, telecommunications, water, sanitation, furniture, and disability-friendly access.

Table 14: Voting station facilities and amenities as at March 2025

Facilities	LGE 2016	NPE 2019	LGE 2021	NPE 2024	Status end 2025-03-31	
Without electricity	3,003	2,699	2,055	2,002	2,099	4,85%
Without water	3,140	3,010	2,237	2,239	2,357	5,27%
Without sanitation	2,127	2,173	1,642	1,467	1,574	7,29%
Without cellular network coverage	93	76	62	62	62	0,00%

Schools remain the majority of venues for election delivery. To stabilise and improve the voting station network, the Electoral Commission has formed long-term strategic partnerships with public and private bodies, including the Department of Basic Education, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation, Eskom, and the global system for mobile communications (GSM) network operators. Initiatives involving these partners aim to improve the infrastructure at voting stations by prioritising them for infrastructure enhancements and upgrades.

Table 15: Local office footprint statistics as at March 2025

Province	Total number of local offices (including sub-offices)	Commercial offices	Municipal offices free rental	Municipal offices rental payable	Prefabricated office (vacant land free rental)	Prefabricated office (vacant land rental payable)
Eastern Cape	40	35	1	1	0	3
Free State	23	7	16	0	0	0
Gauteng	37	5	26	10	3	0
KwaZulu-Natal	48	9	0	24	4	9
Limpopo	24	8	4	4	2	7
Mpumalanga	21	9	10	0	2	0
North West	19	9	0	5	2	3
Northern Cape	27	16	0	6	1	4
Western Cape	30	22	3	5	0	0
TOTAL	269	120	54	55	14	26

The figures above represent the following regarding the Electoral Commission's local office dispensation:

20.1%
Municipal buildings (free rental)

20.4%
Municipal buildings (rental payable)

14.9%
Prefabricated offices

44.6%
Commercial buildings

The current reliance on municipal properties for Electoral Commission offices accounts for approximately 43%. Increasingly, municipal councils are no longer extending office accommodation to the Electoral Commission, given their own operational requirements. This is demonstrated by a 26% increase in commercial offices between 2010 and 2024. In 2010, commercial leases represented about 28% of the network of local offices. At the end of 2025, the figure stood at about 45%. The trend is intractable and is expected to persist in the medium term. By 2024, the use of prefabricated office units also increased by 8%.



Programme 3: Outreach

Outreach and Public Engagement: Building Trust Through Communication

The foundation of democratic engagement

The outreach function occupies a central position in sustaining South Africa's democratic framework. While technical aspects of electoral management often receive primary attention, communication and civic education serve as the essential bridge between institutional capability and citizen participation. Through these channels, South Africans develop understanding, build trust, and engage meaningfully with democratic processes.

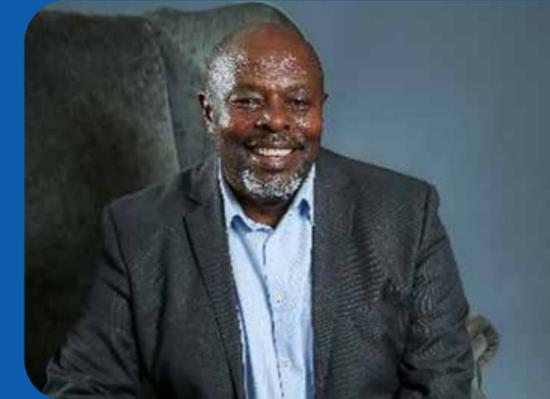
During the period under review, the outreach department has focused on consolidating lessons learned from the transformative NPE 2024 electoral cycle while building sustained engagement beyond election periods. This approach recognises that democratic participation requires continuous cultivation rather than episodic activation around electoral events. Outreach's mandate encompasses both immediate communication needs and long-term civic education objectives. This dual responsibility requires careful balance: addressing urgent information requirements while maintaining broader educational programmes that strengthen democratic culture over time.

Strategic communication architecture

The Electoral Commission's stakeholder landscape encompasses multiple audiences with distinct needs and communication preferences. Citizens remain the primary focus, but political parties, government departments, civil society organisations, private sector partners, and media outlets each require tailored engagement strategies.

Media relationships continue to be paramount, as traditional outlets remain the most trusted information sources for many

South Africans. Research consistently demonstrates that radio and television maintain superior credibility and accessibility compared to newer platforms, particularly in rural and economically disadvantaged communities where data costs and infrastructure limitations constrain digital access.



Mawethu Mosery

“Citizens represent not a monolithic audience but rather a complex mosaic of diverse groups across geographic regions, socio-economic strata, languages, and levels of access. Effective communication therefore requires segmentation, targeting, and tailoring across multiple platforms and channels.”

Research excellence in forming strategic decision-making

Evidence-based approaches underpin all outreach activities through the Electoral Commission's comprehensive research programme. The department maintains both long-term longitudinal studies and responsive short-term research to ensure that communication strategies and educational programmes are grounded in reliable citizen insights.

Two flagship national surveys form the backbone of this research strategy. The Voter Participation Surveys and Election Satisfaction Surveys, conducted in collaboration with the Human Sciences Research Council since the mid-2000s, provide invaluable trend data across multiple electoral cycles. These studies track changing citizen attitudes, participation patterns, and satisfaction levels, enabling the Electoral Commission to adapt its approaches to evolving democratic needs. Short-term research studies address emerging priorities and urgent imperatives as they arise. Recent investigations have examined electronic voting technology, ballot paper design effectiveness, party funding awareness, municipal by-election turnout patterns, and the impact of digital transformation on electoral processes. These targeted studies provide timely insights for operational improvements and strategic adjustments.

Research outputs serve multiple purposes: informing policy formulation, guiding strategic decision-making, enhancing electoral process management, and identifying best practices across the Electoral Commission's mandate areas. Findings are made publicly available to contribute to broader democratic discourse while ensuring that institutional learning translates into improved service delivery.

Communication and innovation

The Electoral Commission has refined its dual approach of informing and educating citizens throughout 2025. Informational communication ensures awareness of procedural changes and administrative updates. Educational communication equips citizens with the knowledge necessary for meaningful democratic participation.

Digital platforms have assumed increasing importance for reaching younger demographics, while traditional media maintains superior credibility in many communities. This multi-channel approach recognises diverse citizen preferences while ensuring message consistency across platforms.

Civic and democracy education excellence

The Schools Democracy Programme, delivered in partnership with the Department of Basic Education, continues to serve as a cornerstone of long-term democratic development. Classroom activities, competitive programmes, and Freedom Month activations have become integral to the educational calendar, ensuring that democratic values are embedded in formal learning environments.

Tertiary education engagement has expanded through campus activations, student leadership collaborations, and academic partnerships. The development of postgraduate courses and diplomas in election management and jurisprudence with leading universities demonstrates the Electoral Commission's commitment to building professional capacity while fostering deeper democratic understanding.

These educational initiatives extend beyond basic awareness to cultivate sophisticated democratic knowledge while strengthening long-term democratic culture. Research capabilities systematically inform both communication strategies and educational programme development, ensuring evidence-based approaches guide all outreach activities.

Addressing contemporary challenges and future innovation

Misinformation presents ongoing challenges requiring comprehensive responses that combine technological solutions with community partnerships and proactive content creation. Voter registration plateaus at approximately 85% of eligible citizens often represent intentional disengagement rather than access barriers,

requiring communication strategies that address apathy and mistrust.

Mobile voter education initiatives and artificial intelligence applications are being evaluated to enhance reach and efficiency while maintaining authentic human engagement. Year-round messaging strategies expand citizen engagement between electoral cycles, recognising that democratic participation requires sustained cultivation.

The Electoral Commission has achieved significant successes despite resource constraints, including nearly two million online voter registrations and widespread awareness of complex electoral changes. However, success is measured by citizen empowerment and democratic engagement rather than mere information dissemination.

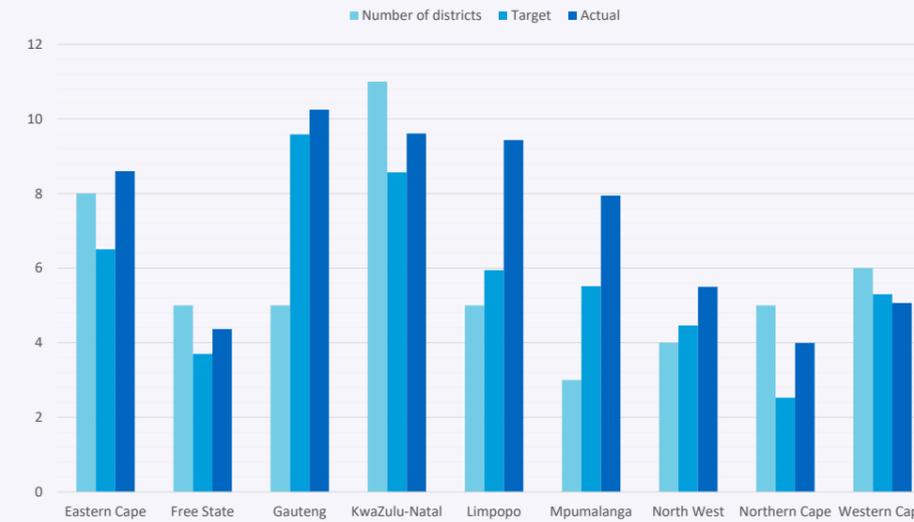
Sustaining democratic culture

The outreach function represents a fundamental pillar of democratic governance, ensuring that citizens understand their rights and feel empowered to exercise them meaningfully. Through evidence-based communication strategies and comprehensive civic education, the department builds trust through consistent transparency and genuine engagement with citizen concerns.

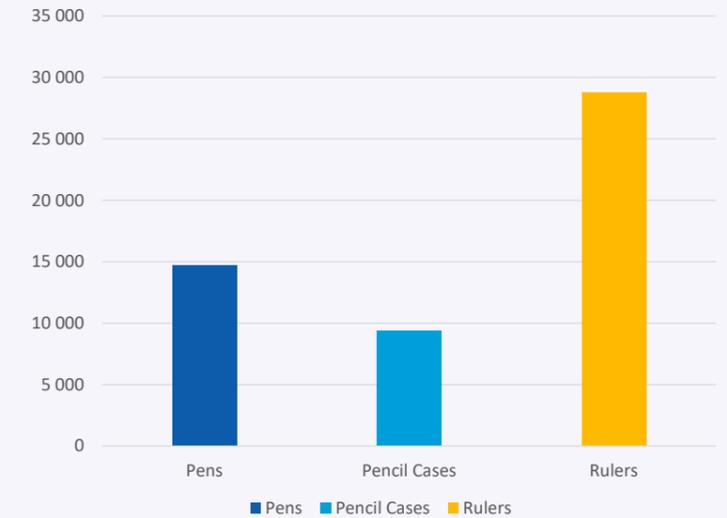
Looking forward, the outreach department will continue expanding its reach while deepening its impact through research-informed approaches. Face-to-face engagement remains irreplaceable for building trust, but strategic innovation offers new opportunities to serve citizens more effectively. The ultimate goal extends beyond electoral participation to encompass broader democratic culture that strengthens South Africa's constitutional democracy

Outreach Metrics

Table: Community outreach and mobilisation events



Advocacy materials



Top 10 interactions by query subject





Strategic Objectives

Programme 3 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-Oriented Goal 3: Outreach, which encompasses civic, and democracy education, stakeholder engagement, research and knowledge management, and communications and media relations.

Civic and electoral democracy education informs and educates the public about electoral democracy, thereby strengthening participation in electoral processes.

Stakeholder engagement aims to establish and maintain open and fruitful relationships with key stakeholders both internationally and nationally to promote collaboration and partnerships in support of shared objectives.

Research and knowledge management collects, collates, and analyses available data to inform organisational planning and other strategic decision-making processes. This includes tracking emerging trends (perceptions and attitudes) in the social context, which assists the Electoral Commission in planning and determining its response. It

Strategic Objective 3.1 → Encourage the electorate's engagement with and participation in electoral processes to facilitate the right to vote as enshrined in the Constitution.

Strategic Objective 3.2 → Achieve a low rate of spoiled ballots as a measure of the effectiveness of civic and democracy programmes.

considers the latest developments in democratic election administration. Knowledge management also performs an important archiving function within the organisation.

Communication and media relations actively support the Electoral Commission's efforts to strengthen electoral democracy and ensure free and fair elections through strategic communication with all stakeholders, including registered and eligible voters, political parties and candidates, the media, and other key stakeholder groups. Communication and media relations aim to ensure a high level of knowledge and understanding of the electoral democracy process and the ongoing work of the Electoral Commission to enhance participation and understanding, thereby protecting the Electoral Commission's reputation

Strategic Objective 3.3 → Enhance the Electoral Commission's reputation as a credible and trustworthy electoral management body.

Strategic Objective 3.4 → Provide thought leadership in the field of electoral management and related fields as per Vision 2018 to strengthen electoral democracy.

Table 16: Strategic objectives, key performance indicators, planned targets, and actual achievements

No.	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / Actual performance 2022/23	Audited / Actual performance 2023/24	Planned annual 2024/25	Actual achievement 2024/25	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2024/25	Reasons for deviations
3.1.1	Informed and engaged citizens and stakeholders in electoral democracy	Provide research and thought leadership to strengthen electoral democracy	The number of research initiatives achieved per annum	2	3	3	4	1	Target achieved and exceeded An additional research initiative on Political Party Funding was undertaken due to the latest environmental change.
3.1.2			The number of thought leadership interactions achieved per annum	11	10	10	10	0	Target achieved
3.1.3		Actively promote and foster awareness and participation in electoral processes through civic and democracy education programmes	The number of civic and democracy education events held per annum	49,687	203,996	50,000	64,752	14,752	Target achieved and exceeded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The election civic education contributed to the first quarter actual achievement. The fourth quarter achievement was driven by the tertiary institutions and Schools Democracy Programme. The contracts of Democracy Education Facilitators were extended ahead of 2024 NPE.

No.	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / Actual performance 2022/23	Audited / Actual performance 2023/24	Planned annual 2024/25	Actual achievement 2024/25	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2024/25	Reasons for deviations
3.1.4		Interact with domestic, regional, and international stakeholders to build an understanding of the Electoral Commission's role in delivering credible elections	Number of meetings the Electoral Commission holds with key stakeholders per annum	110	148	75	117	42	Target achieved and exceeded The environment of NPE 2024 increased the need for stakeholder engagements. This was further enhanced by post elections engagements.
3.1.5		Advance and promote electoral processes through communication campaigns on diverse platforms to sustain visibility across the electoral cycle	Recorded reach across multimedia communications platforms (digital, television, print, radio and out-of-home) included recorded number of placements of messages on media platforms	26,817,157 Facebook impressions 1,778,140 X ad reach 299,349 YouTube ad views 2,613,978 Google AdWords 2,341,861 SMS sent 12,114,802 callbacks 11,915,000 TV viewers 22,652,000 radio listeners 914,000 readers 15 billboards 18,000 street pole posters 856 TV screens in buses 2 bus backs	644,173,053	Reach 900 million impressions via communication activities on multimedia platforms	1,220,418,172	320,418,172	Target achieved and exceeded Increased need for voter information to the electorate and on election outcomes. The focus was mainly on three ballots, voting outside your voting district and the e-voting seminar, which increased the reach.



Civic and Democracy Education

Civic education is an ongoing programme. In the 2024/25 financial year, the Civic and Democracy Education, Research, and Knowledge Management (CDERKM) department intensified efforts to promote civic education, democratic participation, and knowledge generation in support of the Electoral Commission's mandate. This was a milestone year marked by the delivery of NPE 2024, requiring significant mobilisation across the country, supported and directed by the research conducted. Through extensive outreach and strategic partnerships, the department exceeded key targets, reaching over 64,000 communities, 400,000 learners, and more than 60,000 tertiary students.

Key highlights highlights of the civic education programme include:

- Exceeding the national outreach events target by 30%, with 64,752 verified civic and democracy education events
- Reaching 407,358 learners through the Schools Democracy Programme (SDP)
- Engaging over 60,000 tertiary students and registering 5,812 new voters
- Broadcasting voter education content to over 148 community radio stations and multiple TV platforms
- Launching impactful research, including the Voter Participation Study, Election Satisfaction Survey, and a Green Paper on Electronic Voting
- The civic and democracy education report details the breadth of civic and democracy education activities, the strategic media partnerships leveraged, and the knowledge products developed to support informed participation in South Africa's democratic processes.

Civic and democracy education overview

Civic and democracy education (CDE) is a foundational element of the Electoral Commission's work in fostering informed, engaged, and active citizen participation. Civic and democracy education encompasses educational outreach in schools, tertiary institutions, communities, digital platforms, and online platforms (such as chatbots), often-in collaboration with stakeholders including tech companies, government departments, Chapter 9 institutions, and civil society.

Civic and democracy education aims to deepen democratic understanding, enhance electoral participation, and promote free and fair elections on an ongoing basis, positioning elections as continuous democratic engagements.

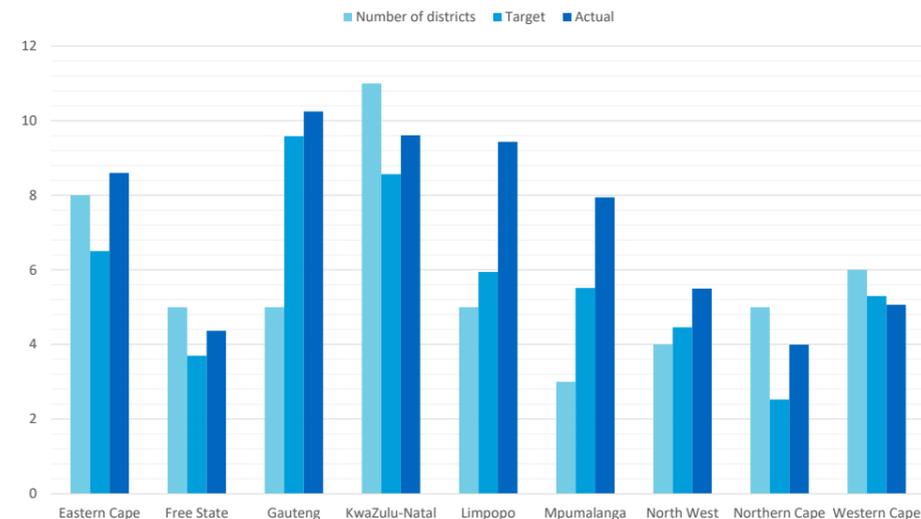
Community outreach and mobilisation

As NPE 2024 was held on 29 May 2024, civic and democracy education activities continued during the months of April and May 2024. Most of the civic and democracy education events during these two months focused on ballot education, which involves explaining how to vote, the number and type of ballot papers, and seat allocation after the release of election results.

The department set an annual target of 50,000 civic education events for 2024/25. Through the efforts of provincial teams of Municipal Outreach Coordinators (MOCs) and Democracy Education Facilitators (DEFs), 64,752 events were recorded in the Outreach Management System (OMS), surpassing the target by 30%. The distribution of the annual target to the provinces takes into account the general population, the youth population, the number of schools, the number of voting districts, and the number of registered and eligible voters per province. The province that contributed the highest number of events is Gauteng (followed by KwaZulu-Natal), in line with Gauteng's high population size.

Table 17: Community outreach and mobilisation events

Province	Number of districts	Target	Actual
Eastern Cape	8	6,505	8,600
Free State	5	3,700	4,365
Gauteng	5	9,585	10,245
KwaZulu-Natal	11	8,565	9,608
Limpopo	5	5,945	9,431
Mpumalanga	3	5,515	7,943
North West	4	4,460	5,499
Northern Cape	5	2,525	3,995
Western Cape	6	5,300	5,066
TOTAL	52	50,000	64,752



Municipal Outreach Coordinators (MOCs) and Democracy Education Facilitators (DEFs)

The recruitment and presence of Municipal Outreach Coordinators and Democracy Education Facilitators as part of the NPE 2024 expansion staff enabled intensified efforts during the delivery of civic and democracy education. During the April to June 2024 period, before their exit, they focused on ballot education and seat allocation. In preparation for the election, all Municipal Outreach Coordinators and Democracy Education Facilitators were provided with civic and democracy education training, as well as refresher training, to enhance their delivery. It was essential that voters understood the voting process, the number of ballots they would receive, how to mark a ballot correctly to avoid spoiled votes, and how seats were allocated to elected representatives based on the election outcome. Teaching aids included sample ballot papers for demonstrating how to correctly mark a ballot during the community civic and democracy education events.

- The training covered the following topics:
- Free and fair elections
 - Special votes
 - Code of conduct
 - Three ballots
 - Voting process How to vote in NPEs national and provincial elections
 - Counting
 - Declaration of results and seat allocation.

Municipal Outreach Coordinators and Democracy Education Facilitators provided face-to-face interventions that many communities still appreciate and prefer compared to other civic and democracy education engagements on various platforms.

Radio talk shows are the second most preferred mechanism of civic education, which the Electoral Commission uses through community radio stations.

Schools democracy programme

Youth registration and participation remained a key focus in the year under review. Recognising that many young citizens qualify to register and vote while still in school, the Schools Democracy Programme remains a significant platform for promoting early civic participation. The programme is implemented in partnership with the Department of Basic Education, formalised through a memorandum of understanding dating back to 2013.

In 2024, the Schools Democracy Programme focused heavily on ballot education in April, as this period followed the closure of the voters' roll. However, before that, a concerted learner registration drive took place in January and February 2024. Learners were also introduced to the voting process and the importance of

Programme launches and stakeholder engagement

High-profile Schools Democracy Programme launch events were held on 18 April in Alexandra and 22 April in Soweto (Gauteng), attended by senior government officials and Electoral Commission leadership. A third national launch took place in Mpumalanga. These events drew participation from:

- Minister and Deputy Minister of Basic Education
- Electoral Commission Vice Chairperson and General Manager of CDERKM
- Provincial and national education and electoral officials.

The Alexandra event on 18 April was attended by the CEO, Provincial Electoral Officer from Gauteng, civic and democracy education, and the communication teams from the national and Gauteng provincial offices. The Soweto event on 22 April was attended by the Vice Chairperson, Commissioner Janet Love, and civic and democracy education and Electoral Commission staff. Both events were attended by the Minister of Basic Education Angie Motshekga, the MEC for Education in Gauteng, and the National and Gauteng province Department of Basic Education officials. The other National Launch, held on 22 April in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga, was attended by Deputy Minister Dr Reginah Mhaule, and the Electoral Commission was represented by General Manager CDERKM Moagisi Sibanda.

Key achievements include:

- **Provincial reach and participation:** This programme reached many schools across multiple provinces, with North West, Mpumalanga, and Gauteng achieving substantial engagement. For instance, Gauteng conducted events in over 500 schools, reaching 113,452 learners, while Mpumalanga conducted events in 482 schools, reaching 109,809 learners.
- **Youth engagement and enthusiasm:** Learners expressed a heightened interest in democracy and civic duty, evidenced by their enthusiastic participation in mock elections and other democratic exercises. This enthusiasm was particularly evident in regions like Gauteng, where learners actively participated and saw themselves as future voters.

Table 18: Programme launches and stakeholder engagement

Province	Number of schools reached	Number of learners reached
Eastern Cape	228	17,812
Free State	890	22,843
Gauteng	597	113,452
KwaZulu-Natal	301	4,458
Limpopo	506	68,118
Mpumalanga	482	109,809
North West	285	1,546
Northern Cape	253	46,492
Western Cape	472	22,828
TOTAL	4,014	407,358

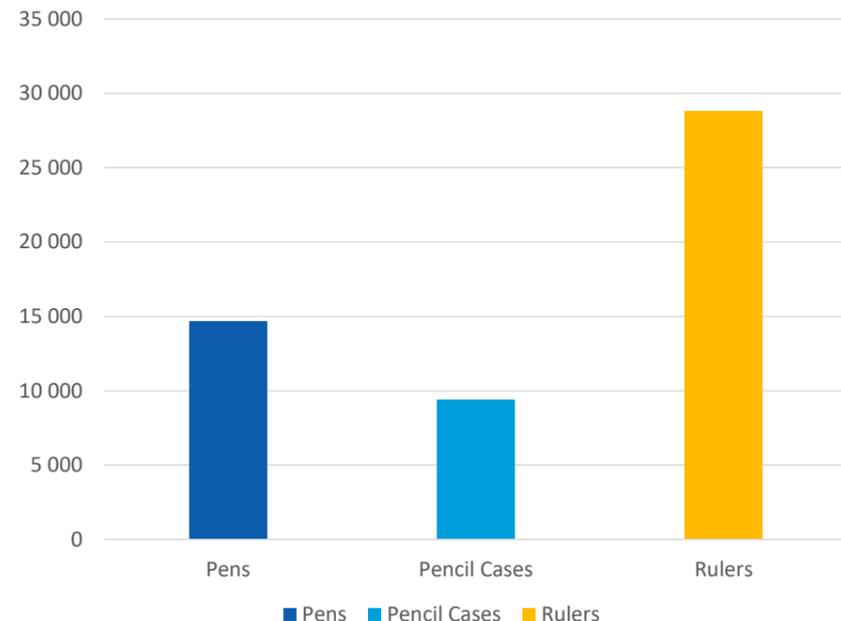
- **Community and educational support:** Strong partnerships with provincial education departments facilitated programme delivery. This support enabled coordinated efforts, particularly in setting event dates and securing participation from school leadership.
- **Alignment with educational curriculum:** The Schools Democracy Programme content is closely aligned with the Life Orientation curriculum, further embedding civic education within students' academic experiences and ensuring relevance to their studies.

Advocacy materials

The distribution of advocacy materials at the beginning of April 2024 was purposefully aligned with the focus month for the Schools Democracy Programme, which is in April, greatly increasing learner participation in the programme and improving their overall engagement throughout the implementation period. All advocacy materials included an online voter registration QR code and a WhatsApp number to promote online voter registration and the use of the Electoral Commission WhatsApp chatbot among learners. The allocation of these materials across provinces,

Table 19: Advocacy materials

Province	Pens	Pencil cases	Rulers
Eastern Cape	1,600	1,000	3,200
Free State	2,900	1,800	5,600
Gauteng	1,300	800	2,600
KwaZulu-Natal	2,900	1,800	5,600
Limpopo	2,000	1,200	3,800
Mpumalanga	1,000	700	2,000
North West	1,000	700	2,000
Northern Cape	1,000	700	2,000
Western Cape	1,000	700	2,000
TOTAL	14,700	9,400	28,800



Tertiary institutions programme

The primary objective of the Tertiary Institutions Campaign (TIC) is to foster a culture of democracy and active citizenship among young individuals, specifically targeting students at tertiary institutions to enhance their engagement and participation in elections. The campaign aims to achieve the following goals:

- Promote a civic culture of ongoing engagements and exchange of ideas within institutions of higher learning through targeted civic and democracy education programmes
- Engage students' views about electoral democracy and the impact of participation thereof through debates
- Promote online voter registration to students within institutions of higher learning across the Republic.
- Conduct on-campus voter registration with voter management devices
- Empower the students' electorate with information to participate meaningfully in democratic and electoral processes
- Provide a platform for students to share their research findings on topics related to the Electoral Commission mandate.

For the 2024 academic year, the campaign coincided with the 2024 general elections and the commemoration of 30 years of democracy, which formed part of this campaign's themes to mobilise students to register to vote and participate in elections. Throughout the review period, the campaign aimed to enhance voter registration and participation in student representative council (SRC) elections, as well as national, provincial, and local government elections. The campaign targeted all 26 public universities, over 50 technical vocational education and training (TVET) colleges, as well as numerous private colleges and universities across South Africa.

Civic and democracy education and voter registration initiatives were carried out on campus from February to September 2024 through face-to-face interactions and multimedia platforms to engage the student population throughout the campaign period via various activations, including voter registration kiosks for first-time voters. Given the need to encourage youth participation in the 2024 general elections, we partnered with the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Higher Education to conduct a series of Voter Education Dialogues in technical vocational education and training colleges nationwide.

Table 20: Activations National summary

Date	TVET College	Campus	Province
11 April 2024	uMgungundlovu TVET College	UMgungundlovu	KwaZulu-Natal
18 April 2024	Western TVET College (Westcol)	Carletonville	Gauteng
2 May 2024	Motheo TVET College	Bloemfontein	Free State
6 May 2024	Vhembe TVET College	Thohoyandou	Limpopo
8 May 2024	Nkangala TVET College	Emalaheni	Mpumalanga
9 May 2024	Gert Sibande TVET College	Ermelo	Mpumalanga
14 May 2024	Orbit TVET College	Rustenburg	North West
15 May 2024	Tshwane North TVET College	Pretoria	Gauteng
16 May 2024	Wits University	Auckland Park	Gauteng

The Voter Education Dialogues successfully engaged over 2,000 students through various contact sessions. This strategic collaboration culminated on 16 May 2024, at Wits University, featuring a panel that included representatives from the Electoral Commission, Gauteng Premier Mmakgabo Ramathodi, Deputy Minister of Higher Education Panyaza Lesufi, Phuti Manamela, and TVET Colleges Governor's Council Member Nonceba Mhlauli. The overall performance of the campaign reached more than 40,000 students, with Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal leading in both the number of students reached and registered. Of the total 5,812 registered voters, over 2,500 were registered in KwaZulu-Natal. Limpopo province reached a total of 756 students.

In the lead-up to the May elections, the campaign was promoted across various campus-based media platforms, including 24 community radio stations and eight campus television platforms. It also leveraged social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, X, TikTok, and YouTube, which are used by all 26 public universities nationwide. Notably, the campaign was featured on 136 screens across eight campuses, with an impressive 528 broadcasts each day at 66 flights per campus per day. In total, the campaign was aired 79,662 times.

SABC Education Partnership

SABC Education was an important partner in the delivery of civic and democracy education for NPE 2024. Once again, SABC Education used its 13 public service radio stations to promote NPE 2024. Radio remained a key means of communication for reaching and educating citizens.

The 13 radio stations have a combined listenership of more than 20 million, with Ukhozi FM having 7 million and Umhlobo Wenene 4.5 million listeners. The 13 radio stations dedicated two programmes per week to civic issues, namely Civic Education and Youth Ke Yona. The programmes reach different types of audiences as they broadcast on different days and times. The programmes, which were co-scripted by the Electoral Commission and SABC, covered information on the three ballots, special votes, and how and where to cast your vote.

SABC had two Daily Thetha programmes during the period, which were dedicated to NPE 2024. The first programme was held in April, explaining the three ballots and election integrity. The programme aimed to educate voters on what to expect at voting stations on Election Day. The second programme, which also carried live broadcasts from voting stations on Election Day, focused on the experiences of voters and the preparedness of the Electoral Commission. The SABC again provided educational content on its social media platforms, using Facebook, X, YouTube, and popular podcast platforms.

Election factsheets and posters

A total of 7,230 size A1 NPE 2024 sample ballot posters were printed, laminated, and distributed to provinces to support balloting education. Additionally, 200,000 full-colour factsheets for the three ballots and 100,000 for voting in NPE 2024 were printed and distributed to provinces to enhance face-to-face voter education initiatives within communities.

Table 21: Digital civic and democracy education materials

Items	Social media toolkit	Animations	Audio
Topics	Elections 2024	Elections 2024	Elections 2024
	Requirements to contest the national and provincial elections	NPE 2024 Candidate Nomination	NPE 2024 Candidate Nomination
	Three ballots	Three ballots	Three ballots
	Seat allocation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Ballot to Parliament National Proportional Ballot Provincial Legislature Seat 	Regional Ballot to Parliament Seat allocation	Regional Ballot to Parliament Seat allocation
		National Proportional Ballot Seat allocation	National Proportional Ballot Seat allocation
		Provincial Legislature Seat allocation	Provincial Legislature Seat allocation

Other NPE 2024 Civic and Democracy Education Programmes and Campaigns

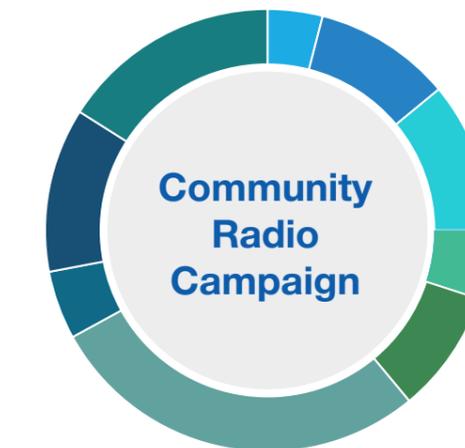
NPE 2024 three-ballot community radio campaign

In order to effectively prepare the electorate for the upcoming Election Day, we arranged 30-minute interview segments featuring representatives from the Electoral Commission. These thoughtfully scheduled slots were broadcast across various community radio stations, creating an accessible platform for voters to receive crucial information and insights through direct engagement with Electoral Commission officials in local languages.

Table 22: NPE 2024 three-ballot community radio

Platform	Community radio station	
Activity: 30 Interview slots with Electoral Commission officials guided by a script prepared by the National Office		
Number of stations: 148 nationwide		
30-Apr-24	29-May-24	Multiple themes
30-Apr-24	03-May-24	Special votes, Section 24A and overseas voting
06-May-24	11-May-24	Three ballots unpacked
13-May-24	17-May-24	Section 24A and three ballots unpacked
20-May-24	25-May-24	Special votes, Section 24A and election day voting processes
25-May-24	29-May-24	Three ballots unpacked, and who will be at the voting station and their roles (voting station stakeholders)
27-May-24	29-May-24	Special votes and voting day procedures
30-May-24	07-Jun-24	Election result and legislature seat allocation

This campaign successfully engaged a total of 4.7 million listeners. The regions of KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng, Eastern Cape, and Western Cape stood out, each contributing a significant share to this remarkable audience reach, showcasing the diverse interests and vibrant demographics of these areas.



Northern Cape	4%	Free State	5%	Limpopo	5%
Mpumalanga	10%	North West	9%	Eastern Cape	12%
Western Cape	11%	Kwa-Zulu Natal	28%	Gauteng	16%

Table 23: 50-second three-ballot animation video on TV

Platform		Paid TV
Activity: Placement of the 50-second three-ballot animation video		
Channels: SABC1, 2 & 3; e.tv; Newzroom Afrika; eNCA; and SABC News channels		
Number of spots: 285		
Period: 15–29 May 2024		
TV channels	Sports	
SABC 1	6	
SABC 2	14	
SABC 3	7	
e.tv	8	
Newzroom Afrika	50	
eNCA	80	
SABC News channels	120	
TOTAL	285	

Two fact sheets, 'Youth Vote Matters' and 'Vote in the 2024 Elections', were printed in bulk to support community outreach and mobilisation programmes for NPE 2024 voter participation.

Table 24: Youth Vote Matters' and Vote in the 2024 Elections' fact sheets printed

Province	Number of regions	Quantity per province
Eastern Cape	8	240,000
Free State	5	150,000
Gauteng	5	150,000
KwaZulu-Natal	11	330,000
Limpopo	5	150,000
Mpumalanga	3	90,000
North West	4	120,000
Northern Cape	5	150,000
Western Cape	6	180,000
TOTAL	52	1,560,000

Electoral Commission on WhatsApp

On Election Day, 29 May, we connected with 203,790 active users and closed 18,728 chats. The chatbot was upgraded with the 'check your voter registration details' facility and linked to the call centre for real-time communication with an agent, which significantly increased active users during elections. In the lead-up to Election Day, we sent out push messages to remind users about key electoral activities and participation requirements.

- Special Votes and Election Day: 25 May 2024
- Section 24A Application: 17 May 2024
- Special Votes Applications: 2 May 2024

A total of six call centre agents were assigned to the bot to manage chats during the elections, resulting in an average of 13,450 chats per day. The overall analytics for the election month were as follows:

Table 25: 'Youth Vote Matters' and 'Vote in the 2024 Elections' fact sheets printed

Item	Analytics
Total users	203.79K
Active users	203.79K
Messages	3.41 million messages sent
	1.95 million messages received

Research And Knowledge Management

Guided by research

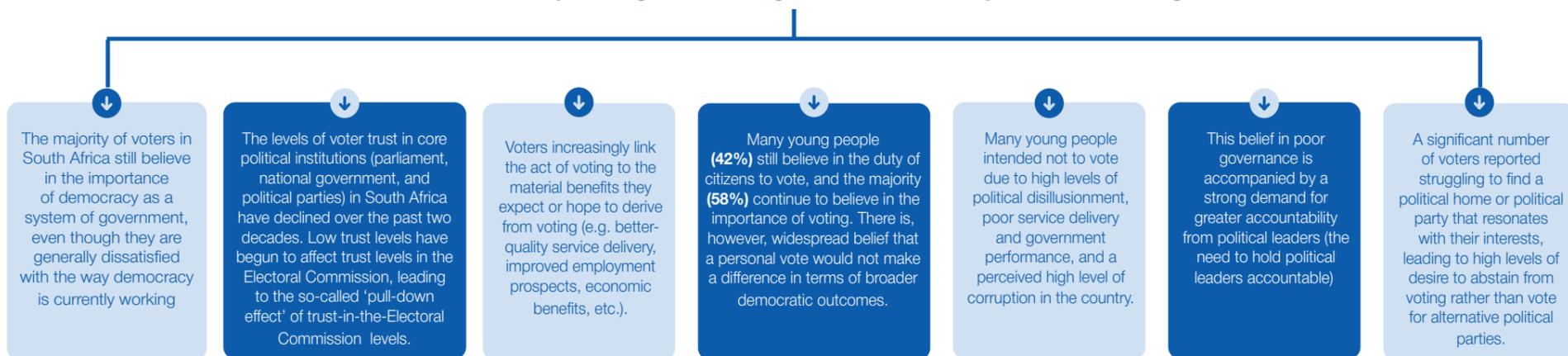
During this reporting period, the Electoral Commission completed its national research programme, which primarily consisted of a set of research studies and a Thought Leadership Seminar Programme. These programme activities are outlined below, with key highlights provided for each.

Research studies

Voter participation survey (vps)

The Voter Participation Survey is carried out ahead of each general election. The purpose is to gauge and assess the perceptions and dispositions of the electorate on key aspects of the country's democracy that have the potential to influence their willingness to vote on Election Day. These include public perceptions of the functioning and performance of the country's democratic institutions (i.e., national, provincial, and local structures of government), political parties, political leadership, the soundness of the country's economy, evaluations of service delivery, and other relevant factors.

Some of the key findings that emerged from that survey are the following:



Although this survey was conducted in 2023, six months ahead of NPE 2024, it was finalised in the 2024/25 financial year. Its findings were used to inform the Electoral Commission's election management planning, including the Electoral Commission's electoral public messaging.

Election satisfaction survey (ESS)

An Election Satisfaction Survey was conducted in all nine provinces on 29 May during NPE 2024. The aim was not only to assess the experiences of voters on the day of the election, but also to gauge their perceptions and evaluation of the Electoral Commission operational performance and efficiency in managing the elections.

Some of the following key findings were noted from the ESS survey:

- Results indicate that voters overwhelmingly believed NPE 2024 was free and fair (91%), and they positively rated the conduct of officials at voting stations, with 84% rating Electoral Commission electoral officials at voting stations as 'helpful'.
- Trust in the Electoral Commission was high (84%), and almost all voters (95%) felt that they were safe casting their ballots in secrecy.
- The majority of voters felt that the Electoral Commission adequately considered the needs of vulnerable groups (e.g., the elderly and people with disabilities).
- Queuing time at voting stations was rated poorly compared to what was seen in more recent elections, and this had a bearing on electoral evaluations of the voters. Those who queued the longest were likely to give poor ratings on the various aspects of the voting, including the performance of the Electoral Commission officials at the voting stations.
- Additionally, support for electronic voting increased in proportion to the amount of time voters spent waiting in the queues.
- The majority (66%) of those who voted on Election Day rated the Electoral Commission's voter education campaign as 'very effective', with a further 24% rating it as 'somewhat effective'.

Electronic voting green paper study

The aim of the Electronic Voting Green Paper Study was to compile and produce a public policy discussion document on electronic voting in South Africa. It followed the previous Electoral Commission's research studies on electronic voting and related

technologies. This study aimed to advance this work by producing a policy discussion document for the Electoral Commission to facilitate nationwide public policy discussions on the feasibility and desirability of electronic voting technologies in South Africa.

The objective of the nationwide public policy discussions surrounding the document is to serve as the basis for broad-based public consultation processes and lead to the drafting of a national green paper on electronic voting. In turn, the policy discussions will serve as input for a political decision-making process regarding whether or not South Africa should consider introducing electronic voting for its elections in the future.

The completed policy discussion document was launched and presented at the Electoral Commission's Conference and Exhibition on E-Voting Technologies in South Africa, held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre between 10 and 12 March 2025.

The discussion document defines electronic voting as "the casting, counting and tabulating of votes using electronic systems in polling stations in national or provincial [...] multi-party elections and referendums". Electronic voting also includes transmission of votes or tabulated results via telephones, private computer networks or the internet. The policy discussion document identifies two major types of electronic voting:

- Internet or online voting is the type of voting whereby voting takes place without the need for a traditional or conventional physical voting station, and involves a voter logging in to the internet and casting a vote using a computer, smartphone or other technological device from any physical location.
- Poll-site voting is the traditional or conventional voting process whereby a voter presents in person, at a physical voting station, where technological devices are used to verify or authenticate a voter's identity based on available biometric data before voting takes place using available voting technology at a voting station.

The study explored the experiences of numerous countries that are currently using poll-site e-voting systems and technologies (e.g., India, Brazil, Venezuela, Philippines, Bhutan, Nepal, and

Fiji), and those countries that tried and abandoned poll-site e-voting technologies (e.g. Namibia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Netherlands, and Peru). Only one country (Estonia) tried, and is still using the internet for online voting. The study identified the United States of America as using a combination of both methods for its elections in various states. The study found that countries adopt e-voting technologies due to several factors and considerations, including improving efficiency, increasing accessibility, enhancing voter turnout, ensuring electoral integrity, and managing large population sizes. For countries that initially adopted and then abandoned electronic voting technologies, the following factors and reasons usually apply: legal challenges, voter mistrust, cybersecurity issues, and technical or infrastructure challenges.

As part of this study, a survey was conducted among members of the public. It showed that, although there was significant public enthusiasm for e-voting among South Africans in general, there was also a notable lack of knowledge and understanding among the public regarding what e-voting entails. Members of the public also expressed concerns about issues such as cybersecurity and data integrity, and conveyed a desire for more information and education on e-voting.

During the conference on e-voting technologies convened by the Electoral Commission in Cape Town, between 10 and 12 March 2025, the following key issues were highlighted as important for any decision-making when considering e-voting technologies for South Africa in the future:

- **Stakeholder engagement:** Engagement is crucial, particularly in building trust and ensuring buy-in from political leaders, civil society, and the public.
- **Important to create context-specific solutions:** e-Voting systems should be tailored to the country's unique challenges and opportunities, rather than relying on a one-size-fits-all approach.
- **Infrastructure readiness:** Reliable internet connectivity, cybersecurity measures, and secure data centres must be established before the effective implementation of e-voting.
- **Legal and regulatory preparedness:** Reforms of election laws and regulations should be implemented before the introduction of e-voting to ensure legal clarity in the adoption of e-voting technologies and systems.
- **Comprehensive testing and piloting:** It is necessary to implement a rigorous pilot programme and simulations to evaluate the effectiveness of the system and the technology and to address potential weaknesses.
- **Inclusion and accessibility:** e-Voting technology must be accessible to all voters, taking into account disparities in literacy, disability, and digital access across different regions.
- **Risk management:** It is important to prioritise cybersecurity and infrastructure security to prevent external threats and safeguard the integrity of the electoral process.
- **Realistic expectations:** e-Voting can enhance efficiency, however, it does not necessarily guarantee increased voter turnout, particularly among young voters.
- **Administrative efficiency:** Existing inefficiencies in the current electoral process should be addressed before implementing new technologies to ensure seamless integration.
- **Long-term capacity building:** Provide adequate training and knowledge-sharing among Electoral Commission officials and electoral staff to ensure effective operation of the e-voting technology.

Political party funding study

During the third quarter of the financial year under review, the Electoral Commission, through the Party Funding Unit, identified the need for an additional ad hoc research study to be conducted. This additional study aimed to examine several important issues related to the Electoral Commission's implementation of the Party Funding Act, as well as monitoring compliance with the Act by political parties and independents. This study was undertaken and completed by the end of the financial year.

The research study investigated key questions relating to the overall funding of political parties and independents in South Africa, as well as examining the Electoral Commission's obligations under the Act. Among the issues the study sought to focus on is the tension that arises from the two potentially contradictory functions that the Electoral Commission is obligated to undertake in its implementation of this Act: its functions as an election management body versus its functions of regulating political and campaign financing through enforcement of compliance with the Political Funding Act.

Several further issues and questions were examined in this study:

- The implications, especially the potential risks, of direct private funding of political parties and independents, versus the value that the direct private funding adds to the country's electoral democracy.
- How can the private funding of political parties in South Africa be most effectively monitored?
- Should the investigative function of the Electoral Commission in implementing the Party Funding Act be reassigned to another more specialised institution, such as the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC)?
- What type of capacity does the Electoral Commission require to be able to reliably ensure compliance with the Act by political parties and all other stakeholders?
- Test public and stakeholder attitudes towards the Multi-Party Democracy Fund (i.e., what are the reasons that the fund is less preferred compared to direct funding of political parties and independents?).

- Explore the pros and cons of the income-based approach versus the expenditure-based approach in monitoring threshold disclosures by political parties in South Africa.

A research report and two policy briefing papers were compiled as part of this study. The report will also become the subject of a symposium to be convened by the Electoral Commission in the new financial year, where key stakeholders (political parties, funders, financial institutions, civil society organisations, academics, and researchers, etc.) will discuss the findings of the study and their implications for the way forward in the implementation of the Act and compliance with its provisions.

Thought leadership seminar programme

The Electoral Commission also implemented its annual Thought Leadership Seminar Programme during this reporting period. Each of the nine provinces and the National Office convened thought leadership seminars on various topics. The table below lists the various topics for the thought leadership seminars conducted by the nine provinces and the National Office, along with the broader thematic areas represented by these topics.

It is noted that two broad categories or themes were dominant during the Thought Leadership Seminar Programme in this reporting period: Electoral systems reform (with a focus on electronic voting technologies) and post-election reflections on NPE 2024.

Table 26: 'Youth Vote Matters' and 'Vote in the 2024 Elections' fact sheets printed

National Office /Province	Topic	Thematic area
National Office	Electronic voting for South Africa: feasibility, sustainability, and policy considerations	Electoral systems reform
Limpopo	Technology in elections and its implications for youth participation	Electoral systems reform
Northern Cape	South Africa's election results tabulation: A comprehensive overview	Electoral systems reform
Mpumalanga	The South African electoral system at 30 years	Electoral systems reform
North West	The people have spoken: Critical reflections of the 2024 elections	NPE24 post-election reflections
Eastern Cape	The power of the vote: The South African landscape 2024	NPE24 post-election reflections
KwaZulu-Natal	Reflections on NPE 2024 and casting our eyes to LGE 2026	NPE24 post-election reflections
Gauteng	Women representation in the South African political landscape	Gender representation
Free State	Factors determining voters' participation in South African elections	Voter participation
Western Cape	Political funding	Political party and campaign financing

Knowledge centres

The Electoral Commission runs an efficient and functional Knowledge Centre, which is responsible for providing various services to internal stakeholders, including an in-house library, a records management (archive) section, a reproduction services section and a messenger and postal services section. The centre also works closely with the government's National Archives records management unit.

Annually, all documented information is filed and preserved according to relevant legislation, in the form of the Constitution of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996), National Archives and Record Service of South Africa Act 43 of 1996, Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPIA), Promotion of Access to Information Act Act 2 of 2000 (PAIA), the Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 25 of 2002, and other legislation.

The Records Management section continued to archive both electronic and hard-copy records, supporting both staff and researchers by providing them with the information they required. During 2024/25, the section continued with a countrywide records management campaign to ensure all Electoral Commission records are archived in terms of legislation and to ensure staff contribute to the institutional memory of the organisation.

The Electoral Commission's in-house library is a knowledge repository for published learning material related to democracy, and free and fair elections, as well as to the core functions and programmes of the Electoral Commission. The library supported staff who used its services by providing them with reference materials, books, publications, and journals, as well as electronic resources. The organisation subscribes to the notion of lifelong learning and having relevant information that is readily available.

Successful exhibitions were designed and hosted by the knowledge centres at various events, which included:

- [National Code of Conduct Signing Ceremony, April 2024](#)
- [National Results Operations Centre, May/June 2024](#)
- [Induction of Members of Parliament, July 2024](#)
- [e-Voting Seminar, March 2025.](#)

Communications

The 2024/25 financial year presented both extraordinary challenges and notable achievements for the Electoral Commission communication and media relations function as it navigated a significant national election period.

During these pivotal times, the Electoral Commission's ability to communicate clearly, accurately, and timeously with citizens and stakeholders proved essential to maintaining public confidence in electoral processes. Transparent communication during the election period not only supported an informed electorate but also strengthened the legitimacy of South Africa's democratic elections and its institutions.

The Electoral Commission mandate extends far beyond election periods. This report highlights how continuous engagement with South Africans throughout the year has built lasting awareness of crucial democratic processes, including voter registration, by-elections, and civic education initiatives. Through consistent outreach, the Electoral Commission has fostered an ongoing conversation about democratic participation that resonates in communities nationwide.

The period of reporting has also marked a significant chapter in South Africa's electoral evolution as the Electoral Commission advanced the national dialogue on electronic voting possibilities. Communication efforts have facilitated informed public discourse on this important topic, balancing technological innovation with considerations of accessibility, security, and trust.

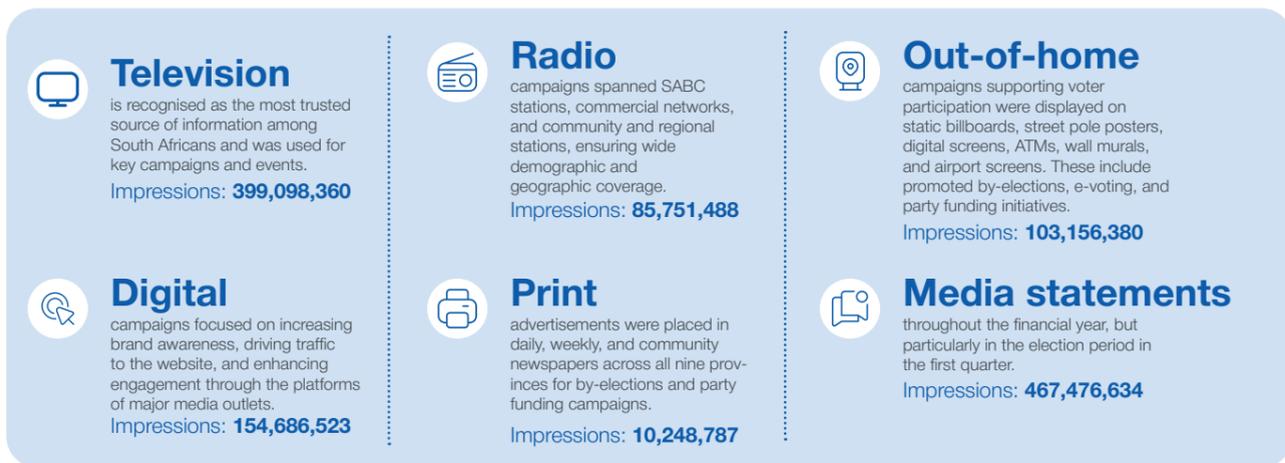
The following pages detail the strategies, communication activities, achievements, challenges, and lessons learned as the Electoral Commission continues to strengthen South Africa's democratic journey through effective communication.

Overall campaign highlights

The Electoral Commission reached and exceeded its annual target of 900 million reach impressions across all communication media, achieving 1,220,418,172 impressions. The period under review coincided with NPE 2024, during which the Electoral Commission launched balloting education and voting campaigns that significantly contributed to its communication reach during the first and last quarters of the year.

The scheduled election campaigns and key events, such as civic and voter education, voter registration, by-elections, three-ballot education, promotion of political funding through the Multi-Party Democracy Fund, and an electronic voting policy public discussion greatly enhanced the ability to reach a wider audience.

Through strategic media campaigns, key events, and consistent engagement with the media, public, and stakeholders, the Electoral Commission ensured that electoral information reached a wide and diverse audience across the country. These efforts contributed to enhanced democratic participation and greater public trust in the electoral process. These national campaigns flighted between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025 with the following platform-specific reach.



Total impressions
1,220,418,172

NPE 2024 campaign: Your Democracy, Own It!

The Electoral Commission's comprehensive communications campaign for NPE 2024, with the slogan Your democracy, own it!, was an initiative aimed at empowering citizens to participate actively in the democratic process.

The theme is intended to remind the youth that they were born into a democratic country where their opinions matter and where they can take charge of issues that affect their future.

Furthermore, the slogan aims to convince citizens, especially the youth, to take charge, reminding them that this democracy belongs to them and inviting them to take ownership of it as responsible citizens.

During the financial year, the campaign championed the election days both in and outside the country in May 2024. Critically, the campaign also focused on creating awareness among citizens about the changes brought about by the Electoral Amendment Act, including the requirement that voters cast their votes at the voting station where they are registered, and that they would be voting on three ballots, not just two as was previously done.

The campaign used a multi-channel approach to reach a wide audience, leveraging traditional media and digital and social media platforms. Through engaging television, radio, digital, out-of-home and social advertisements, posters, and interactive workshops, the Electoral Commission reached and encouraged all eligible voters to cast their ballots on Election Day.

Key election events hosted

NPE 2024 National Electoral Code of Conduct and ballot paper draw event

The NPE 2024 National Electoral Code of Conduct event took place on 4 April 2024. The event is a special ceremony in which contestants publicly pledge to adhere to the Electoral Code of Conduct. The event was attended by 500 guests, including representatives from all major political parties, Chapter 9 institutions, the diplomatic corps, businesses, government departments, the judiciary, the media, and NGOs. The signing of the pledge and the ballot paper draw took place, and the event was live-streamed.

NPE 2024 results announcement and gala dinner

The results announcement and gala dinner for NPE 2024 were held on 2 June 2024 at Gallagher Convention Centre Halls 4 and 5, in Midrand, Gauteng. The results announcement was broadcast live across all major local television networks and on the Electoral Commission social media channels, Facebook, YouTube, and X.

Handover of the public representative lists to the chief justice

On 5 June 2024, the Electoral Commission officially handed over the lists of members of Parliament and provincial legislatures to the Chief Justice at the Constitutional Court in Johannesburg, Gauteng. This event marked the formal conclusion of NPE 2024.

Artificial intelligence (AI) workshop

On 25 and 26 November 2024, the Electoral Commission hosted a workshop titled 'AI in the Age of Disinformation: Challenges and Opportunities for South African Democracy' for election officials and other stakeholders. The event was organised to understand how artificial intelligence can be used both to spread positive information and to combat the spread of disinformation.

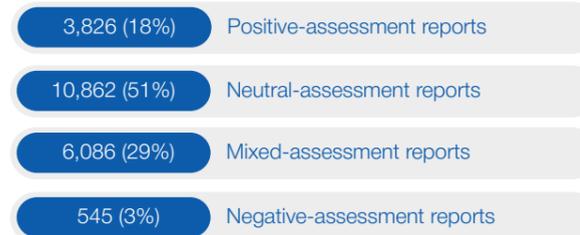
Electronic voting for south africa conference

The Electoral Commission hosted the Electronic Voting for South Africa Conference in Cape Town from 10 to 12 March 2025. The three-day conference was attended by over 200 stakeholders, including delegates from the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), academics and researchers, National Party Liaison Committee (NPLC) members, election management bodies, members of the Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs, Chapter 9 institutions, organisations representing persons with disabilities, civil society, and representatives from business and academia.

Media monitoring

During the year under review, the Electoral Commission ensured that coverage of its activities was widely tracked. Where relevant, it immediately corrected any disinformation.

The Electoral Commission generated 21,319 media mentions during the measurement period, largely from coverage of NPE 2024 press briefings and statements, the e-voting conference, as well as the by-elections that took place during the measurement period. Mentions of the Electoral Commission included:



Media training

The Electoral Commission conducted media training for 24 senior officials and spokespersons to enhance effective communication and support the organisation's continued engagement with stakeholders and the public in the run-up to LGE 2026.

An additional training took place in KwaZulu-Natal, equipping 30 officials with effective communication skills to package and communicate the Electoral Commission value proposition to the public and the media.

Reputation management

In the period under review, the Electoral Commission continued to prioritise proactive reputation management as a strategic pillar of our long-term success. The Electoral Commission implemented proactive and reactive reputation management strategies that included using tools to monitor and respond to posts and feedback across multiple channels, analysing data to track performance, and promoting positive aspects of the brand while promptly and effectively addressing negative feedback.

These tools include media monitoring tracking tools (Newsclip), social media listening (Meltwater), and sentiment analysis. Since April 2024, the Electoral Commission has generated a total of 60 weekly and monthly reports on media monitoring analysis, each containing clear analysis and recommendations.

As a proactive measure, 25 social media campaigns were implemented, addressing key subjects such as online registration, candidate nomination, voting, vote counting, results, seat allocation, objections related to by-elections, and updating addresses to enhance public understanding of essential electoral procedures, thereby significantly boosting public awareness and engagement.

In response to concerns voiced on public platforms, including social media and traditional media, the Electoral Commission created 28 advisory notes and 14 holding statements to address and manage these issues.

Digital and social media

The Electoral Commission expanded its digital footprint across all social media platforms during the 2024/25 period, recording unprecedented engagement rates, particularly during the NPE 2024 election period.

The Electoral Commission's strategic approach to content distribution across social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok, X, and WhatsApp) resulted in reaching diverse demographic groups.

Digital and social media were key channels for communication in the NPE 2024 campaign. The social media campaign featured organic and promoted content on the following platforms: Facebook, Instagram, and X, as well as digital banner advertising on Google and YouTube, and homepage takeovers on South

Africa's major news sites, including News24 and IOL.

The following was the key takeaway of the digital campaign, based on information sourced from a third-party industry representative. The impact of the social media work was beneficial to the Electoral Commission in spreading its reach and impact.

Between April 2024 and March 2025, the Electoral Commission reached the following engagement highlights on social media platforms:

- An engaged Facebook audience with 55,600 new followers to reach 439,011, with 17 million impressions in the period under review (ads and organic). The audience is gender balanced (53.3% men and 46.7% women). More than half of all followers are aged 25–34 and 35–44 years old, and over 93% are based in South Africa.
- A frequently engaged following of 278,700 users on X, gaining 1,500 new followers on this platform. The Electoral Commission content generated 13.8 million impressions throughout the period, achieving an engagement rate of 6.1%. The audience is predominantly men (68.6%), with two thirds aged 24–35 and 35–44 years old, and over 90% based in South Africa.
- The Electoral Commission's presence on Instagram garnered 6.1 million impressions, a nearly 70% increase year-over-year, with 3,100 new followers, bringing the total audience to 22,255. This audience makeup is gender balanced (50.1% women and 49.9% men), aged 25–34 and 35–44, with over 85% from South Africa.
- LinkedIn achieved 2,555,232 impressions, 85% paid-for and the rest organic. The page gained 4,371 new followers during the reporting period, totalling 9,600 followers.

These achievements were affected and undermined by challenges of disinformation and misinformation. The Electoral Commission social media team identified and addressed hundreds of incidents of electoral disinformation and misinformation, working closely with civil society, including Real 411 (Media Monitoring Africa's disinformation reporting platform). The Electoral Commission also collaborated with platforms based on the MoU signed in 2023.

While this multi-platform strategy successfully countered many false narratives about voting procedures and results, the velocity and volume of disinformation, particularly from political actors and their followers, remained a persistent challenge that required constant vigilance and adaptive communication techniques.

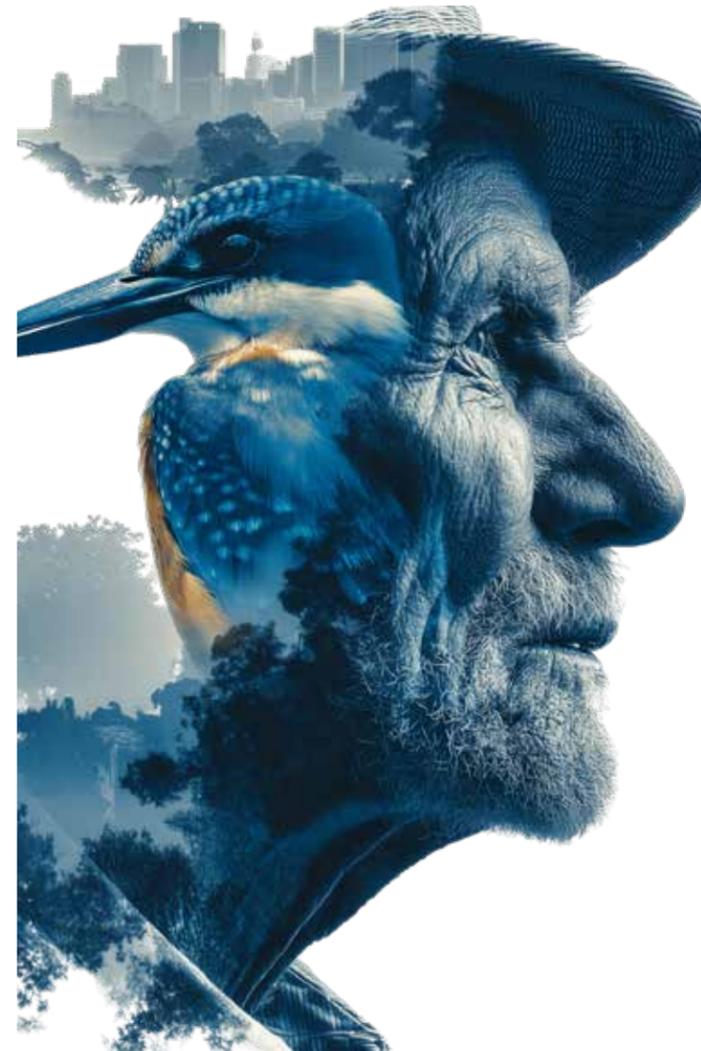
Contact centre operations: integrated citizen support

The Electoral Commission enhanced its contact centre capabilities in 2024/25, transforming this function into a comprehensive, multi-channel support system for voters. Launched in late 2023, the contact centre integrated traditional communication channels with digital platforms to maximise accessibility and responsiveness.

The operation featured 120 trained agents working across voice, email, social media (Facebook, Instagram, and X), and – for the first time – a live chat application on the Electoral Commission websites, which soon surpassed traditional channels in uptake. This strategic integration of social media into the contact centre function particularly improved engagement with young, unregistered voters through platforms they regularly use.

Operational capacity was dynamically scaled to match electoral activity levels, with staffing adjusting from 60 agents during standard periods to full deployment of all 120 agents during peak times such as voting week. Extended hours were implemented during these crucial phases to ensure continuous support for citizens.

Available via the toll-free number 0800 11 8000 and email at info@elections.org.za, the contact centre served as a vital link between the electoral Commission and the electorate throughout the entire electoral cycle, reinforcing the Electoral Commission, commitment to responsive and accessible democratic processes.



Top 10 interactions by query subject





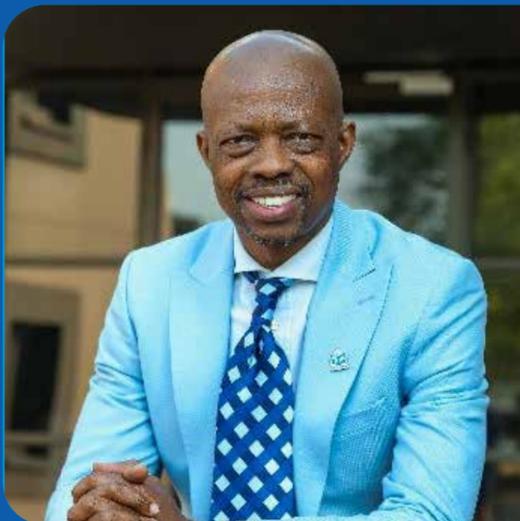
Programme 4: Party Funding A Defining Year for Democratic Transparency

Legislative evolution and adaptation

The year 2024/25 has been marked by the successful implementation of significant legislative changes stemming from the 2024 Electoral Amendment Act. The inclusion of independent candidates in national and provincial elections required comprehensive preparation for a new funding dispensation, even though no independent representative ultimately qualified for public funding following the NPE 2024.

The Electoral Commission's readiness to accommodate independent representatives demonstrated institutional agility and legal compliance under challenging circumstances. Systems and processes were adapted within tight timeframes to ensure that legislative requirements could be met seamlessly. This preparatory work established important precedents for future electoral cycles where independent representatives may secure seats.

Changes to funding allocation formulas emerged from the evolving political landscape. The adjustment from a 33% equitable /67% proportional distribution to 10% equitable/90% proportional arrangement asserted the different operational requirements of political parties as compared to independent representatives. While the Electoral Commission implements rather than endorses such formula changes, this shift demonstrates the dynamic nature of party funding regulation.



**George
Mahlangu**

“Administering political funding represents a young but vital component of South Africa’s democratic architecture. It demands careful balance: strict adherence to law, transparency to the public, fairness to all political actors, and appropriate humility about the Electoral Commission’s role.”

Expanding administrative scope

The increase from 15 to 20 represented political parties following the NPE 2024 significantly expanded the administrative, training and support responsibilities of the political funding unit. These parties operate across different spheres – some with national representation only, others with provincial representation, and several with both – requiring tailored administrative approaches while maintaining consistent standards.

Despite this increased complexity, funding amounts have remained broadly stable at approximately R300-305 million annually. The challenge lies in ensuring equitable and lawful distribution across a larger number of political parties while maintaining the high standards of oversight and accountability that characterise political funding’s work.

Administrative efficiency has been maintained through systematic process improvements and enhanced digital capabilities. Reporting requirements are more streamlined while transparency standards have been strengthened, ensuring that increased administrative burden does not compromise the quality of oversight or public accountability.

Compliance enhancement and simplification

Significant progress has been achieved in addressing compliance burdens for unrepresented political parties. The amendment allowing such parties to meet reporting requirements through affidavits, bank statements and statements rather than costly audited financial statements represents a practical balance between regulatory oversight and operational reality.

This change reduces financial barriers for smaller parties while maintaining system integrity through verification that no prohibited donations have been received. The approach recognises that compliance costs should be proportional to the benefits received from the regulatory framework.

Among represented parties, compliance rates have improved substantially due to the clear linkage between reporting obligations and funding disbursements. While occasional delays in donation reporting or audited statement submission continue to occur, corrective mechanisms are available and generally effective. The dual disclosure system – requiring both parties and donors to report – provides redundancy that strengthens overall transparency.

Transparency and public accountability

Quarterly publication of reported private donations to represented political parties continues to provide voters with essential information about political funding sources. This transparency enables informed electoral choices by ensuring that citizens understand the financial relationships that may influence political decision-making.

Public queries about parties that disclose no donations despite visible campaign activities are addressed through systematic inquiry and follow-up procedures. Annual audited statements provide final verification of donation reporting, while enforcement mechanisms operate within the constraints of existing legal frameworks.

The Electoral Commission’s approach to transparency balances public interest in having access to comprehensive information with practical limitations of current regulatory powers. Where evidence suggests non-compliance, investigations are conducted thoroughly while respecting due process requirements.

Strategic development and future focus

Threekey issues guide the strategic development of thsi work: transparency for voters; effective enforcement and proper resourcing for political contestants in democratic elections. Public awareness and education remain challenging, but simplified communication strategies are being developed for schools, communities, and civic platforms. Research collaboration with the Human Sciences Research Council continues to inform more effective public engagement around strengthening approaches.

The Multi-Party Democracy Fund represents an important mechanism for supporting democratic processes without favouring specific parties. Contributions from corporate partners like Standard Bank, Exxaro and Vodacom demonstrate the potential for this approach, while broader participation remains a priority for future development.

Questions about the appropriate institutional location for investigating political funding transgressions continue to receive attention. The principle of avoiding conflicts between regulatory and adjudicative functions guides consideration of potential reforms while maintaining focus on current responsibilities and legal requirements.

Building democratic knowledge

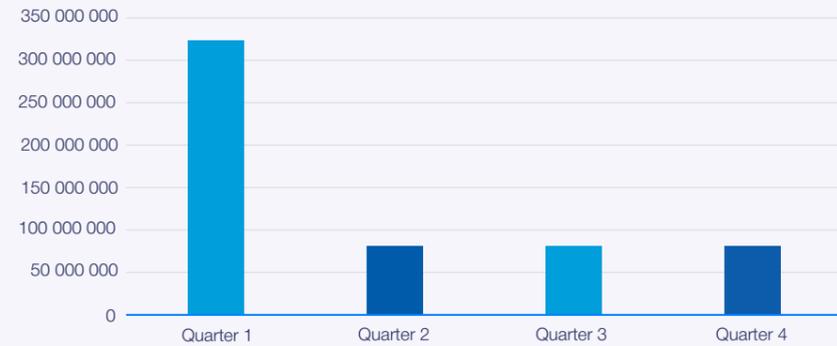
The ultimate purpose of party funding regulation lies in empowering voters through knowledge. South Africans can access clear information about who funds those seeking to represent them, enabling informed choices at the ballot box. This transparency strengthens democratic accountability while encouraging legitimate funding relationships.

The department approaches this responsibility with recognition that effective regulation requires a balance between competing interests and values. Strict legal compliance must be maintained while ensuring fairness to all political actors. Transparency serves public interests while respecting legitimate privacy considerations. Enforcement must be consistent while recognising the constraints of existing legal frameworks.

As the political funding regulatory system matures, its contribution to democratic governance becomes increasingly evident. Voters are better informed, political actors operate within clearer guidelines, and public confidence in electoral processes is strengthened through enhanced transparency. These outcomes justify the careful, balanced approach that characterises political funding’s work and will continue to guide its development.

Political Funding Oversight

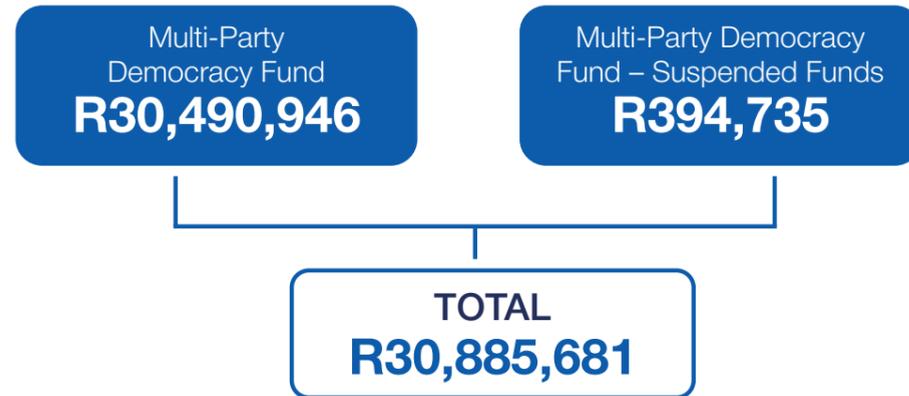
Amounts of disbursement – Political Representatives Fund



Liaison sessions



Amounts of disbursement – Multi-Party Democracy Fund (MPDF)



Programme 4: Political Funding

Programme 4 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-Oriented Goal 4: Party Funding, which provides the strategic management for Programme 4. This programme focuses on the strategic outcome of contributing to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding.

The programme manages party funding and donations in compliance with legislation and strengthens cooperative relationships by providing consultative and liaison platforms between the Electoral Commission and political parties and candidates, using sustainable systems, personnel, and processes.

Strategic Objective 4.1

Party Funding Management

Provides for the administration of the Political Party Funding Unit, promoting regulatory compliance, monitoring, and enforcement in accordance with the Political Party Funding Act of 2018. Ensures engagement and outreach with political parties and proposes research to be undertaken in the political party funding sphere.

Strategic Objective 4.2

Represented Political Party Funding

Manage and distribute funds from the Represented Political Party Fund to represented political parties and monitor spending as required by the Act.

Strategic Objective 4.3

Political Parties Liaising

Provide a platform for consultation and engagement with political parties and independent office bearers on issues related to elections.



Table 27: Strategic objectives, key performance indicators, planned targets, and actual achievements

No.	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / Actual performance 2022/23	Audited / Actual performance 2023/24	Planned annual 2024/25	Actual achievement 2024/25	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2024/25	Reasons for deviations
4.1.1	Contributed to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding	Manage party funding in compliance with relevant legislation	Number of disbursements to represented parties per annum	4	6	4	6	2	Target achieved and exceeded Additional funds were raised from the Multi-Party Democracy Fund and distributed to represented political parties from private sources. Additionally, the 2023/24 second adjustments to the Appropriation Bill, enacted during the first quarter of the current financial year, resulted in a second disbursement in the same quarter.
4.1.2		Provide consultative and cooperative liaison platforms between the Electoral commission, and stakeholders and potential contributors to promote funding of multi-party democracy	Number of liaison sessions held with stakeholders to strengthen awareness and compliance with the Party Funding Act	18	22	10	20	10	Target achieved and exceeded Due to an increased requirement for liaison sessions in the lead-up to NPE 2024, as well as an increased need for liaison sessions per province as a result of the recent amendments to the Political Funding Act
4.1.3		Manage party funding in compliance with relevant legislation	Number of publications of declarations by political parties and private donors	4	4	4	4	0	Target achieved





Political Funding

Number of disbursements to represented Political parties

The Political Funding Act 6 of 2018, as amended by the Electoral Matters Amendment Act 14 of 2024, repealed the Public Funding of Represented Political Parties Act 103 of 1997. The Act retains the Political Representatives Fund (PRF), previously the Represented Political Party Fund (RPPF), originally established in 1997. The aim of the fund is to provide funding for independent representatives and political parties represented in the national and provincial legislatures. Funds for the Political Representatives Fund are provided annually through a parliamentary allocation and are distributed to represented political parties and independent representatives on a quarterly basis.

In addition to the retention of the Political Representatives Fund, the Act provided for the establishment of a Multi-Party Democracy Fund (MPDF) to raise and distribute contributed funds from private sources to represented political parties and independent representatives. The Electoral Commission is mandated to administer this fund, including accepting contributions from corporate and individual contributors and distributing these in much the same way as it does with the Political Representatives Fund.

The period under review saw a decrease in the total amount allocated to the Political Representatives Fund, from R350,345,000 in the 2023/24

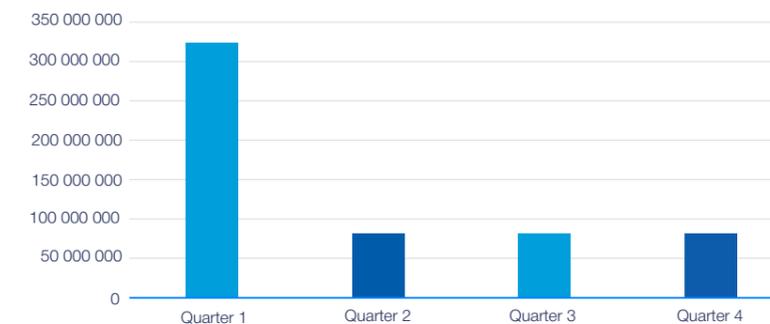
financial year to R322,077,000 in the 2024/25 financial year. Of this total allocation, four disbursements, totalling R324,583,603, inclusive of earned interest of R2,515,758, were made to represented political parties that were compliant with the legislation. The other disbursements made for the reporting year totalled R42,295,633, consisting of withheld or suspended funds from the previous financial year due to non-compliance with the Act.

Furthermore, during the reporting period, an additional amount of R200,000,000 was distributed. This amount was appropriated to fund political party operations and was appropriated through Act 18 of 2024: Second Adjustments Appropriation (2023/24 financial year). No third-party appointment (TPA) was issued by the South African Revenue Services (SARS) against any of the represented parties. This may have been as a result of the amendments to the Political Funding Act, which expressly precluded the attachment of funds in the Political Representatives Fund by any creditor of any political party or independent representative. The amendments further proscribed the application of Section 179 of the Tax Administration Act (Act 28 of 2011) to money held by the Electoral Commission in the funds.

Therefore, the total amount of funds disbursed to compliant represented political parties from the Political Representatives Fund during this period was R566,879,237.

Table 28: Amounts of disbursement – Political Representatives Fund

Fund	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Political Representatives Fund	R81,145,901	R81,145,901	R81,145,901	R81,145,901	R324,583,602
Political Representatives Fund	R200,000,000	R0	R0	R0	R200,000,000
TOTALS	R281,145,901	R81,145,901	R81,145,901	R81,145,901	R524,583,604



Allocations totalling R30,885,681 were made from the Multi-Party Democracy Fund during this period. Of this amount, a total of R394,735 relates to allocations withheld or suspended in terms of the Act due to non-compliance in the previous financial year.

Table 29: Amounts of disbursement – Multi-Party Democracy Fund (MPDF)

Fund	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Multi-Party Democracy Fund	R4,990,594	R25,500,352	R0	R0	R30,490,946
Multi-Party Democracy Fund – Suspended Funds	R394,735	R0	R0	R0	R394,735
TOTALS	R5,385,329	R25,500,352	R0	R0	R30,885,681

Details of liaison sessions

A substantial number of 21 liaison sessions were held during the period under review, exceeding the planned number by 10 sessions. The focus of the meetings was primarily on the Political Funding Act, with the focus of providing stakeholders with training on the Act and its general requirements for political parties, donors, and contributors. The sessions also provided feedback to political parties on the review of audited financial statements submitted to the Electoral Commission in accordance with Section 12 of the Act.

Table 30: Liason sessions

Liaison session	Annual Target 2023/24	Quarter 1		Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4		Total	
		Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
National Party Liaison Committee (NPLC) and other stakeholders (e.g. SANEF, My Vote Counts)	10	2	5	2	3	3	3	3	10	10	21

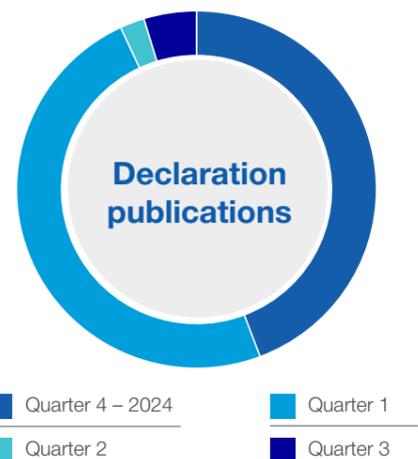
Declaration and publication of donations

The Political Funding Act requires political parties to make quarterly disclosures to the IEC of all donations received above R100,000, whether monetary, in-kind, or both. The Act also requires donors to disclose all donations exceeding R100,000 to the Electoral Commission within 30 days of making the donation. The Electoral Commission is required to monitor and publish the declarations on its website quarterly.

During the reporting period, the Electoral Commission published four disclosure reports, one for the previous financial year. The fourth disclosure report for the reporting year will be issued during May 2025. This is because declarations are, in terms of the regulations, published two months after the end of the quarter. The table below shows details of all the declaration reports.

Table 31: Dates of declaration publications

Declarations report	Date	Number of political party declarations	Amount
Quarter 4 – 2024	16 May 2024	14	R172,069,959.39
Quarter 1	28 August 2024	13	R189,850,829.12
Quarter 2	28 November 2024	3	R8,554,212.69
Quarter 3	28 February 2025	4	R18,364,505.19
Quarter 4	To be published in May 2025		



Observations over the period have demonstrated that the number of parties receiving and declaring private donations has increased over the years since the Act was promulgated. During the reporting year, the following 15 parties have reported receiving donations above the set threshold:

- (AL) Able Leadership
- (EFF) Economic Freedom Fighters
- (ActionSA) ActionSA
- (DA) Democratic Alliance
- (ANC) African National Congress
- (CSN) Change Starts Now
- (Atm) African Transformation Movement
- (BOSA) Build One South Africa
- (VF Plus) Freedom Front Plus
- (PA) Patriotic Alliance
- (ISANCO) Independent South African National Civic Organisation
- (RISE) Rise Mzansi
- (IFP) Inkatha Freedom Party
- (SARA) South African Rainbow Alliance
- (UDM) United Democratic Movement

Donations made directly to political parties are an indication of donors' recognition of the need to contribute to the development and furtherance of the ideals of multi-party democracy. It was therefore not extraordinary that the reporting year witnessed noteworthy contributions towards the Multi-Party Democracy Fund. During this period, contributions to the fund reached a total of R28,001,674.

The Electoral Commission is further required to submit a report to Parliament annually containing the audited financial statements of the Political Representatives Fund and the Multi-Party Democracy Fund, the audited annual financial statements extracts from the represented political parties and independent representatives (when they are present), and all the declarations submitted by registered political parties and published on the website. These will be reported in greater detail in the Political Funding Annual Report.



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African Rhino – Highlights the responsibility to safeguard what is precious, as South Africa safeguards its constitutional democracy.

GOVERNANCE

Introduction

Corporate governance encompasses the processes and systems by which institutions are directed, controlled, and held accountable. In addition to legislative requirements based on the Electoral Commission Act, corporate governance principles, as well as the Public Finance Management Act and its various regulations, are applied in the governance of the institution. Parliament, the executive authority, the commissioners, the Audit Committee, and the CEO of the Electoral Commission are responsible for various aspects of corporate governance.

Portfolio committees

The Electoral Commission reports directly to Parliament and interacts primarily with the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs in the National Assembly and with the Select Committee on Security and Justice in the National Council of Provinces. The Portfolio Committee and the Select Committee are multi-party committees established in terms of the Rules of Parliament. An extraordinary number of interactions with the committees occurred during the year under review. The interactions were mainly due to the consideration of legislative amendments in preparation for NPE 2024.

Table 1: Portfolio Committee sessions

Date	Session
26 April 2024	Oversight Visit by the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs
10 July 2024	Briefing by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA), the Border Management Authority (BMA), the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and the Government Printing Works (GPW) on the Annual Performance Plans and budgets for the 2024/25 financial year.
10 October 2024	Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs oversight visit to the Electoral Commission
3 December 2024	Deliberations by the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on Party Funding disclosure thresholds and donations limits to political parties
11 March 2025	Deliberations by the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on Party Funding disclosure thresholds and donations limits to political parties



Executive Authority

In terms of Treasury Regulation 1.1 of the Public Finance Management Act, the executive authority of the Electoral Commission is the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission. The Accounting Officer, who is the CEO, submits quarterly reports on performance against strategic objectives to the executive authority. These reports are discussed at meetings of the Electoral Commission, as well as through the management process of the Electoral Commission. Issues raised at these meetings are considered when implementing plans for the remainder of the year.

Electoral commission

The membership of the Electoral Commission is provided for in terms of Section 6 of the Electoral Commission Act. The Electoral Commission meetings and the members of the Electoral Commission who attended are reflected in the table below.

Table 2: Electoral Commission

Name	Date appointed	Number of meetings
Mosotho Moepya	24 November 2018	10
Janet Love	11 October 2023	10
Dr Nomsa Masuku	24 November 2018	2
Glen Mashinini	20 August 2023	8
Judge Dhaya Pillay	24 November 2018	10

Commission committees

To exercise its oversight responsibilities, the Electoral Commission established Electoral Commission Committees. The committees are an interface between the Electoral Commission and the administration, and deal with matters that require Electoral Commission consideration and approval, including recommendations.

Each committee is chaired by a member of the Electoral Commission and also comprises the Chief Electoral Officer, Deputy Chief Electoral Officers and project owners. The committees and their meeting frequency are as follows:

- Elections Management Committee: Commissioner Mosotho Moepya (monthly)
- Governance and Ethics Committee Commissioner Mosotho Moepya (quarterly)
- Finance, Risk and Compliance Committee: Commissioner Glen Mashinini (monthly)
- Human Resources Governance Committee: Commissioner Glen Mashinini (monthly)
- Outreach, Communications and International Relations Committee Commissioner Dhaya Pillay (monthly)
- Research, Publications and Knowledge Management Committee: Commissioner Dhaya Pillay (twice yearly)
- Party Funding: Commissioner Janet Love (monthly).

Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management Committee is pleased to present its report for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

Committee responsibilities

The primary responsibility of the Committee is to provide oversight over the organisation's risk management processes to ensure that they are effective and efficient, thereby assisting the Chief Electoral Officer in discharging his responsibility in terms of the Public Finance Management Act.

The Risk Management Committee confirms it has adopted formal terms of reference, has regulated its affairs in accordance with these terms of reference and has discharged its responsibilities as contained therein.

Committee membership and meetings

The Risk Management Committee comprises the following members:

- Independent external Chairperson
- Chief Electoral Officer
- Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Electoral Operations
- Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Outreach
- Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Corporate Services
- Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Political Funding
- Chief Financial Officer
- Chief Information Officer
- Two Provincial Electoral Officers
- Chief Risk & Compliance Officer (Secretariat)
- The Chief Audit Executive is a standing invitee

Suleman Badat was appointed as the independent external Chairperson of the Risk Management Committee with effect from November 2024 for a three-year period. He holds CA(SA) and CD (SA) qualifications. The term of the former independent external Chairperson ended on 31 July 2024.

The Risk Management Committee held four quarterly meetings during the year under review. Meeting attendance is set out in the table below.

Name of Member	Position	Meetings Attended	Apologies	Total
Ian van Niekerk	Former external independent Chairperson	2	X	2
Suleman Badat	External independent Chairperson	2	X	2

Key focus areas

In discharging its responsibilities as set out in the Risk Management Committee's terms of reference, the following were key focus areas for the year under review:

- Reviewed operational risk registers, strategic risk register, reports, and fraud risks on a quarterly basis.
- Considered updates on a quarterly basis, provided by management on events that occurred and emerging risks that could impact the organisation's risk profile.
- Approved the risk management maturity improvement roadmap.
- Monitored the implementation of the annual risk management and fraud prevention plans.
- Monitored plans to enhance the capacity of the risk management division.
- Considered and approved updates to the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.
- Reviewed and updated the Committee's Terms of Reference.
- Approved the compliance risk universe.



Suleman Badat
Chairperson of the Executive Risk Management Committee
31 July 2025

Risk management

The Electoral Commission of South Africa remains committed to entrenching robust risk management practices that support the achievement of its constitutional mandate and strategic objectives. Risk management is not viewed as a compliance exercise but as an integral component of decision-making and day-to-day operations. The Electoral Commission continues to implement a structured and disciplined approach to risk management, grounded in the Risk Management Framework, which is aligned with the ISO 31000 standards. The framework provides clear guidance on risk identification, assessment, mitigation, and reporting processes, and is supported by a defined governance structure.

Over the past financial year, the Electoral Commission undertook a comprehensive review of its strategic risk profile, refining the organisation's top ten risks to better reflect the evolving electoral landscape. These risks were continuously monitored and reported on to enable proactive mitigation and support informed, risk-based decision-making at all levels. The organisation also held targeted risk awareness sessions and workshops to embed risk understanding and promote a shared responsibility culture across all levels of staff. A strong risk culture underpins the Electoral Commission's risk management philosophy.

During the reporting period, notable strides were made in implementing and reporting on the Electoral Commission's approved risk appetite and tolerance levels, in line with ISO 31000 principles. Risk appetite articulates the nature and level of risk the Electoral Commission is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives, while risk tolerance defines the acceptable deviation from these levels. These thresholds have been embedded into strategic planning and reporting frameworks to strengthen accountability and informed risk-taking. Furthermore, initiatives such as ethics and integrity programmes, including the annual declaration of interests, continued to promote transparency, good governance, and ethical conduct within the organisation.

The Electoral Commission remains vigilant in preventing and managing fraud and unethical behaviour. During the year, a fraud risk assessment was conducted to identify key fraud exposure areas, and mitigation plans were updated accordingly. Fraud prevention campaigns and ethics awareness initiatives were rolled out across the organisation to reinforce a zero-tolerance approach to fraud. The whistle-blowing facility remains active

and accessible, supported by regular communication with staff regarding their responsibilities and protections. In strengthening its compliance posture, the Electoral Commission finalised the development of a Compliance Universe, providing a structured view of applicable legislative and regulatory obligations and enhancing compliance monitoring efforts across the institution.

The Electoral Commission's Compliance Universe is a centralised register of all applicable legislative, regulatory, and policy obligations. It helps management and staff understand and monitor compliance responsibilities, improve accountability, reduce compliance risk, and support informed decision-making. The Compliance Universe also serves as a key reference for training, audits, and performance reviews, strengthening organisational governance and assurance.

The Enterprise Risk Management Committee (ERMC) convened quarterly, providing strategic oversight and direction, while risk champions across business units ensured that risks were appropriately managed within their operational contexts.

Internal audit

Section 38 of the Public Finance Management Act requires the Accounting Officer to ensure, among other things, that the Electoral Commission has and maintains a system of internal audit under the control and direction of an audit committee. Accordingly, the purpose, authority, and responsibility of the internal audit function is defined in its charter, approved by the audit committee (which is consistent with the Global Internal Audit Standards set by the International Internal Audit Standards Board), and overseen by the International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF) oversight council and other requirements stipulated in Treasury Regulation 3 of the Public Finance Management Act. As required, the Chief Audit Executive reports functionally to the statutory Audit Committee and administratively to the Accounting Officer.

In accordance with these Public Finance Management Act requirements, the Electoral Commission has appointed a Chief Audit Executive to ensure the execution of its internal audit strategy and the annual risk-based operational plan through the co-sourcing model adopted by the Electoral Commission. The Chief Audit Executive is assisted in-house by one technical resource and a data specialist. Together, they constitute the in-house internal audit capacity. The co-sourcing arrangement allows the Chief Audit Executive to retain responsibility for the internal audit process, while relying on the panel members for the professional execution of audits and the use of specialised skills in specialist audit projects, using its in-house methodologies, technologies, and tools, all aligned with the new Global Internal Audit Standards.

During the 2025 audit cycle, the Internal Audit Department enhanced its methodology to align with the new Global Internal Audit Standards and successfully upgraded its tool to reflect this alignment. The tool was rolled out in September 2024. It is envisaged that the internal audit team will embark on internal audit roadshows across all provinces in the next financial year to enhance understanding and engagement with the internal audit functions across the organisation, educating its stakeholders about the role of internal audits, reframing its standing in statute and demonstrating its value as a partner to the organisation. This engagement will furthermore highlight the Internal Audit Department's successes and foster a culture of open communication and dialogue.

During this audit cycle, the Audit Committee approved 16 audit projects for which 24 audit reports were conceptualised. Two of these audit projects were approved as advisory reviews, while the other 14 projects were approved as assurance reviews. During the year, the Internal Audit Department requested a rollover of three projects. To this end, 12 of the approved audit projects, equating to 20 audit reports in the 2024/25 operational plan, were completed and issued, with one project remaining incomplete. The project was held back and could not be executed as planned; hence, it remained incomplete and was carried over to the following years.

Table 3: The status of the 2024/25 annual internal audit operations

Audit projects: 2025				
Total approved projects	Roll-over reports	Total after approval rollover	Completed	Carried forward
16	3	13	12	1
Expected reports: 2025				
Total reports	Roll-over reports	Total after approval rollover	Completed	Carried forward
24	4	20	19	1
% completion			95%	5%

The responsibility for forensic investigations is assigned to the Labour Relations Unit of the Human Resources Department. Therefore, all internal audit projects undertaken for the year ended March 31 2025, excluded any forensic audits or investigations. The Chief Audit Executive's annual opinion of satisfaction was derived by aggregating the ratings of each internal audit report issued for 2024/25.



Internal Audit and Audit Committee

The Electoral Commission uses a co-sourced model of internal auditing under the direction of the Chief Audit Executive, who reports functionally to the statutory Audit Committee and administratively to the Chief Electoral Officer.

The Audit Committee operates within its written terms of reference to timeously execute its responsibilities. The Audit Committee convened for eight meetings during the year. Details of the individual members of the Audit Committee and attendance at meetings during 2024/25 are as follows:

Table 4: Audit Committee members

Name of member (all external)	Qualifications	Date appointed	Attended	Apologies	Total attended	Retired
C.D. Boltman (Chairperson)	MBA	Jun-17	4	n/a	4	31-Jul-24
Dr M.E.C. Moleki	PhD	Mar-18	4	n/a	4	31-Jul-24
S.P. Mzizi	CA(SA)	Aug-18	4	n/a	4	31-Jul-24
I.I. van Niekerk	CA(SA)	May-21	4	n/a	4	31-Jul-24
D.L.T. Dondur (Chairpeson)	CA(SA), MBA	Oct-24	8	n/a	4	
Adv S.T. Kholong	MBL; LLB; BA Hon Law;	Feb-22	4	n/a	8	
M.A.E. Amod	MBA	Oct-24	4	n/a	4	
C.L. Mavuso	MA Labour	Oct-24	4	n/a	4	
Dr T.G. Sethibe	PhD	Oct-24	4	n/a	4	

The Chief Audit Executive and members of the internal audit activity, the Accounting Officer, all the Deputy Chief Electoral Officers, the Chief Information Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Risk Officer and officials of the Office of the Auditor-General, have attended general sessions of the Audit Committee sittings. The Audit Committee also held individual, confidential discussions with some of these officials as needed.

In addition, the Audit Committee, in accordance with Treasury Regulation 3.1.15, also shares information on oversight matters with the Executive Authority, which is the Chief Risk Officer.



Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee (AC) of the Electoral Commission of South Africa is pleased to present its report for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

Audit committee responsibility

The Audit Committee hereby reports that it has been established in terms of Section 77 of the Public Finance Management Act as amended and has complied with its responsibilities arising from Treasury Regulation 3.1.2. The Audit Committee also confirms that it has adopted the approved formal terms of reference contained in its charter, has regulated its affairs in compliance with this charter and has discharged all its responsibilities as contained therein.

Effectiveness of internal control

The systems of internal control are designed to provide effective assurance that: assets are safeguarded; liabilities and working capital are efficiently managed; operations are efficient and effective and that policies, laws, and regulations are complied with.

Within the framework of the organisation's quarterly reporting cycle, the Audit Committee provided oversight over the business operations by reviewing management as well as the Internal Audit reporting emanating from the approved risk-based Annual Audit Plan.

The Audit Committee notes significant improvement in the systems of internal control within the organisation over the period under review. Further internal control environment enhancements could be achieved by resolving the external audit findings as soon as reasonably possible. Some of these areas of improvement include policy administration and improvements in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) governance.

Annual performance plan

The Audit Committee considered the performance reports on a quarterly basis. The Audit Committee recommended the adoption

of the 2024/2025 annual performance report of the Electoral Commission by the Chief Electoral Officer to the Commission.

For the period under review, the Audit Committee is pleased to note significant improvement in the system of internal controls pertaining to reporting on the Annual Performance Plan.

Risk management function

In addition to the information on the management of risk reflected in Part C of the Annual Report, the Audit Committee acknowledges the improvements in the administration and controls around the Risk Management Function. The Audit Committee furthermore acknowledges the appointment of an independent Enterprise Risk Management Committee ((ERMC) Chairperson by the Commission, which appointment is welcomed. The Audit Committee will continue to monitor the maturing of this function within the organisation.

Quality of management reports

The Audit Committee has reviewed and is generally satisfied with the quality of management reports tabled at its quarterly meetings. In addition the Audit Committee appreciates the support provided by management to provide further clarification in a timely manner on areas of query raised within the Audit Committee engagement.

Legislative and regulatory compliance

The Audit Committee acknowledges the effectiveness in the system of internal controls related to management of compliance with applicable laws and regulations as applied to support functions, and is particularly pleased to note compliance with laws and regulations related to the core business of the organisation.





Internal audit function

The Audit Committee is satisfied that the Internal Audit Function effectively discharged its responsibilities during the reporting period. The Audit Committee is pleased to note that the Internal Audit Function has been able to improve its effectiveness by establishing systems, processes, and methodologies to sustain quality outcomes going forward. The Audit Committee commends the Internal Audit Function's drive to use technology to modernise its function and to move towards data-driven solutions when auditing its stakeholders.

Finance management function

The Audit Committee acknowledges with satisfaction that the Finance Management Function has adequately discharged its responsibilities and delivered quality financial statements. In addition, the Audit Committee notes the positive tone set by management to ensure remediation of control weaknesses identified through the reporting period.

Information and communication technology function

The Audit Committee reviewed the progress with respect to ICT Governance in line with the organisation's ICT Policy Framework. The Audit Committee is of the opinion that further improvements are required in this area's as affirmed by the Auditor General of South Africa [AGSA] Information Systems Audit [ISA] recommendations.

Audited annual financial statements

The Audit Committee has:

- reviewed and discussed with management the Management Report from the AGSA;
- reviewed the appropriateness of the accounting policies and practices
- Reviewed and discussed with management the audited annual financial statements and recommended its approval by the Accounting Officer.

The Audit Committee accepts the audit report and final management report of the Auditor-General South Africa.

Appreciation

The Audit Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the Executive Authority, the Accounting Officer and Executive Management Team for assisting the Audit Committee to execute its statutory duties throughout the period under review.

The Audit Committee commends management on achieving a clean audit opinion for the period 2024/25 in its quest of delivering on the organisation's constitutional mandate.



Doris Dondur
Chairperson of the Audit Committee
31 July 2025





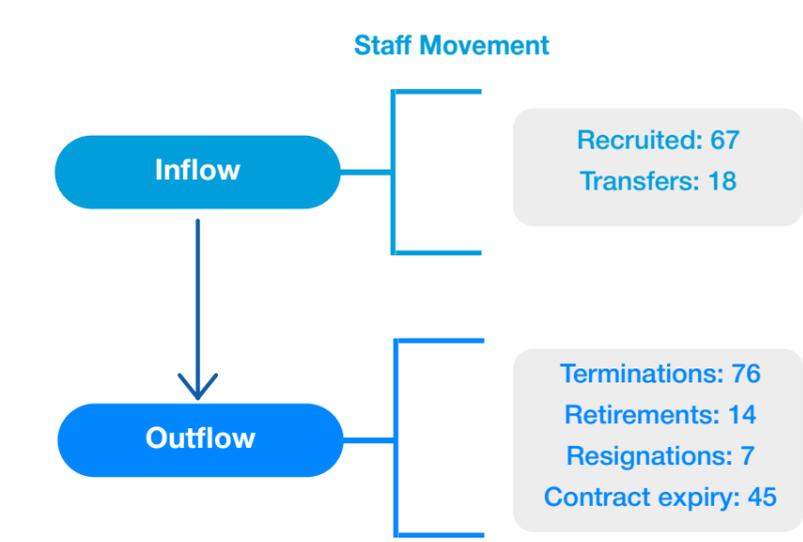
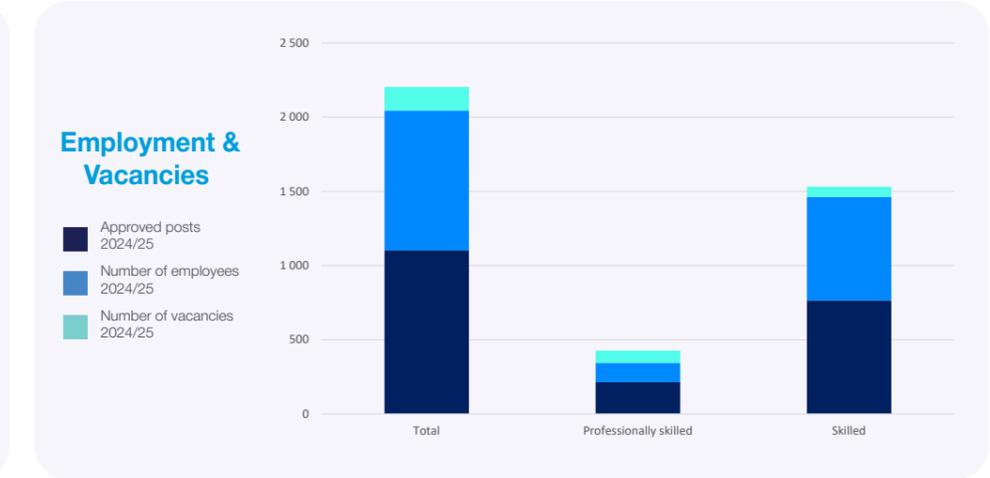
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Baobab Tree – Symbolises rootedness, endurance and community, much like our foundational principles of democracy.

OUR PEOPLE



Human Resources Oversight Statistics (2024/25)

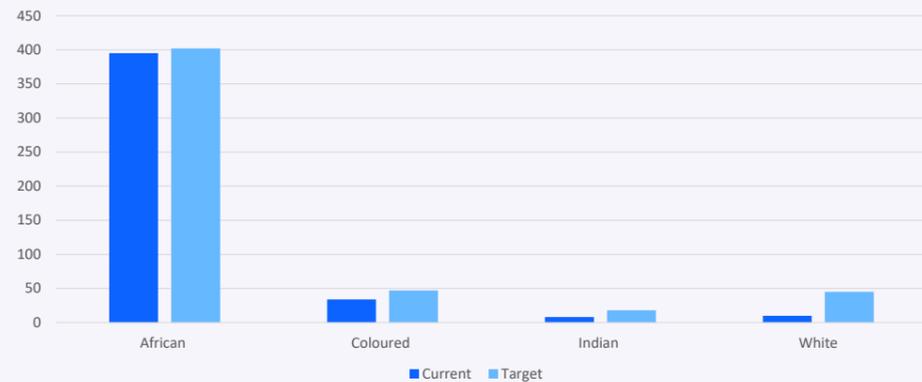


Human Resources Oversight Statistics (2024/25)

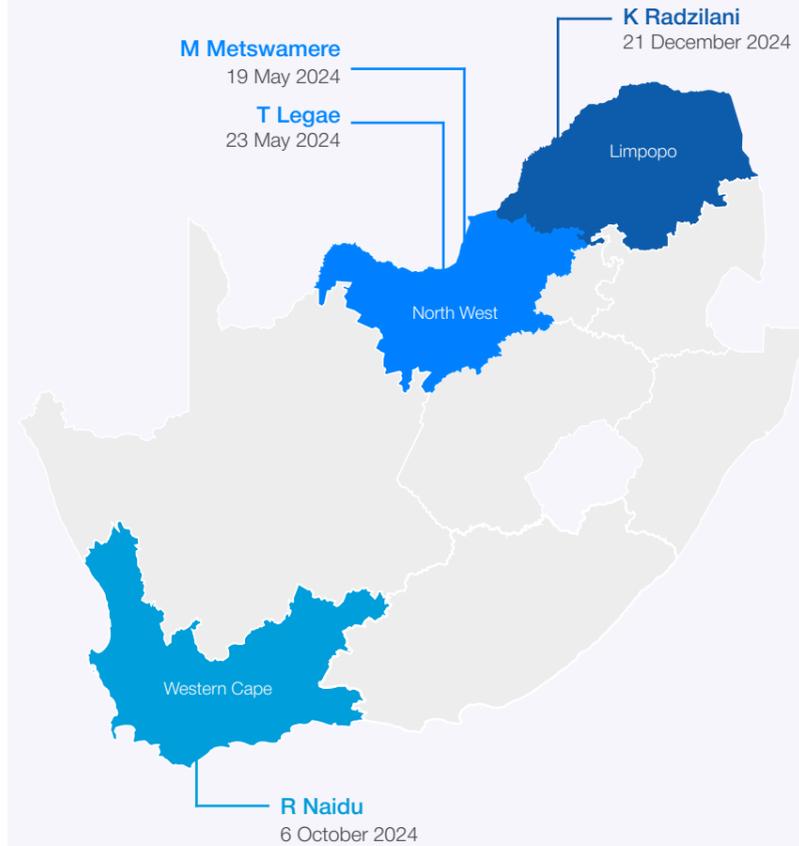


- Section 191(1) [191(5)(a)]: Dismissal related to misconduct
- Section 186(2)(a): Unfair conduct – promotion, demotion, probation, training, or benefits
- Section 73A (Basic Conditions of Employment Act) – claims for failure to pay any amount owing (not national minimum wage agreement)
- Section 6 (EEA) – prohibition of unfair discrimination – arbitrary grounds
- Section 6 (EEA) – sexual harassment

Employment Equity



In Loving Memory



Introduction

Ensuring the provision of required human capacity to meet strategic objectives remained a key priority for the Human Resources (HR) department. By year-end, 943 positions were filled, exceeding the target of 938 funded positions. While 47 new employees were appointed, this was offset by high terminations, predominantly due to normal retirement.

The HR Department observed an increase in employees retiring and those resigning while facing disciplinary action.

The average employee age remains 47, unchanged from the previous year. As part of talent management and succession planning, a strategy was developed to fill critical senior positions. This strategy aims to ensure the effective and expeditious filling of four senior management positions that will become vacant when four senior members retire within the next 18 months.

Employees generally remain longer with the Electoral Commission due to growth opportunities, evidenced by increased retiree numbers. Low staff turnover is attributed to growth and development opportunities, including promotions and training interventions.

Employee training and development remain critical to ensuring staff possess the required technical skills, knowledge and attributes. Some 406 training and development interventions were offered to permanent employees, surpassing the target of 305.

The final phase of the multi-year wage agreement expiring on 31 March 2025 was implemented on 1 April 2024. The union submitted wage demands on time, and negotiations commenced in December 2024, concluding in a new three-year agreement on 14 March 2025. To strengthen the Electoral Commission Bargaining Forum, regular meetings were held.

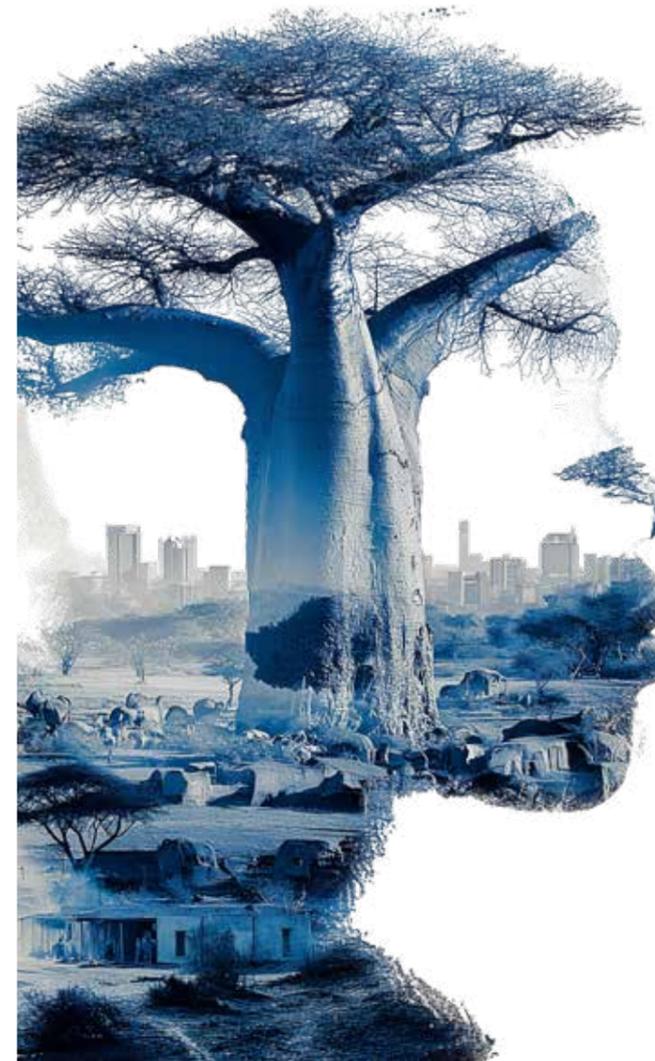
Two employees were suspended during the year. Ten disciplinary hearings were held, with eight concluded by 31 March 2025.

Initially, there were eight active Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) cases, with six new referrals during the year from either the recognised trade union and/or employees, bringing the total to 14. By year-end, seven cases were finalised while seven remain pending. Of those finalised, four were found in favour of the Electoral Commission, one was withdrawn by the employee, and two fell outside the CCMA's jurisdiction.

Developing standard procedures for addressing misconduct by fixed-term staff, incorporating these procedures into staff training, and providing support from the Labour Relations office led to fewer CCMA referrals.

The Electoral Commission continues to provide valuable work experience to unemployed graduates across the country. Consequently, 56 graduate interns were employed and exposed to various organisational areas. Four secured permanent employment with external companies towards the end of their internship. Following their experience, one intern received permanent appointment and nine obtained fixed-term contracts in various divisions. One student intern gained practical experience in the Logistics division, fulfilling a qualification prerequisite.

The Electoral Commission remains committed to compliance with the Employment Equity Act and associated regulations. This includes identifying barriers, developing the Employment Equity (EE) Plan, and submitting the EE Annual Report to the Department of Labour. This was achieved through collaboration with various divisions and the EE Committee to monitor the implementation of planned initiatives. EE Committee members attended progressive awareness sessions facilitated by the Department of Labour on new legislative amendments.





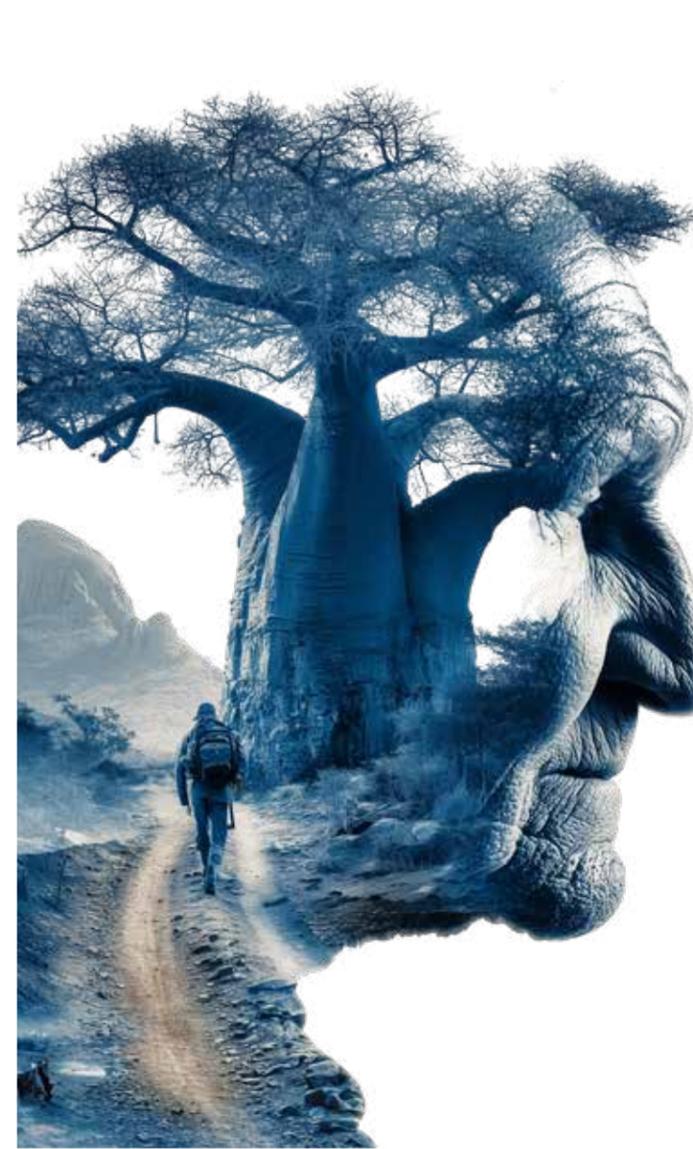
The new EE Annual Report was submitted to the Department of Labour in January 2025. HR representatives attended three EE sessions coordinated by the Department of Employment and Labour. Adherence to numerical targets during recruitment has improved. In preparation for implementing new employment equity sectoral targets and to empower the HR team, four EE Committee members attended the 2025 Sector Target consultation session.

To ensure compliance with the department's performance management and development policy, employees at all levels signed performance agreements and concluded performance evaluations. Provincial and departmental pre-performance moderation sessions, culminating in the national moderation session, were held in the first quarter. Performance management development system training and refresher sessions were also conducted. The standardisation of scorecards for various positions and the development of scorecards for the new Regional Corporate Service position received attention.

During elections, the Electoral Commission's organogram expands to provide sufficient capacity for election delivery. Therefore, expansion staff and electoral staff members were appointed on fixed-term contracts for registration and elections. A new Counting Officer role was introduced in the 2024 NPE, leading to over 280,000 electoral staff appointments in total.

Recruitment and payment plans were developed to standardise recruitment and payment processes.

With the voter management device (VMD) capturing staff attendance at voting stations, the organisation achieved significant improvement in electoral staff payment turnaround times. In accordance with legislative requirements, electoral staff were paid via official payroll to determine correct statutory deductions per person, with payment made via electronic transfer into verified bank accounts. Consequently, most registration staff were paid approximately one month after the event.



Human Resources Oversight Statistics

A summary of expenditure on remuneration by occupational band during the year under review is illustrated in the table below.

Table 1: Personnel cost according to salary

Level	Personnel expenditure (R'000)	Percentage of personnel expenditure to total personnel cost (R'000)	Number of employees (R'000)	Average personnel cost per employee (R'000)
Commissioners	11,424,713.20	1.20%	5	2,284,942.64,
Top management	21,129,880.50	2.22%	5	3,134,784.80,
Senior management	90,693,529.97	9.55%	47	2,045,733.76,
Middle management	172,004,470.75	18.10%	135	1,291,232.99,
Professionals	521,705,155.75	54.91%	651	801,390.41,
Skilled	21,469,923.30	2.26%	58	461,808.44,
Semi-skilled	83,931,818.33	8.83%	8,690	8,780.77,
Very low skilled	27,798,198.15	2.93%	7,071	3,931.30,
TOTAL	950,157,689.95	100%	16,662	10,032,605.10,

Table 2: Employment and vacancies according to rank

Occupational band	Number of employees 2024/25	Approved posts 2024/25	Number of vacancies 2024/25	Percentage of total vacancies
Top management	5	5	0	0.00%
Senior management	42	50	8	5.03%
Professionally skilled	130	214	83	52.20%
Skilled	698	765	68	42.77%
Semi-skilled	30	30	0	0.00%
Very low skilled	38	38	0	0.00%
TOTAL	943	1,102	159	100.00%

Employment and vacancies by structure

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Office of the CEO	CEO	1	1	0
	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	2	2	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Administrative Officer (new)	1	0	1
	New posts (Assistant Manager)	3	1	2
Electoral Commission Services	Manager	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	New post	1	0	1
Chief Executive: Political Funding	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	1	1
	Assistant Manager	1	0	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Administrative Officer	4	1	3
	Assistant Administrative Officer	0	0	0
DCEO: Corporate Services	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
Support Services	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	2	0	2
	Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	2	2	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	11	11	0

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
ICT Operations	General Manager – CIO	1	1	0
	Manager	4	1	3
	Deputy Manager	15	1	14
	Assistant Manager	45	2	43
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Administrative Officer	8	4	4
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
Human Resource Management	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	3	3	0
	Deputy Manager	6	5	1
	Assistant Manager	3	0	3
	Senior Administrative Officer	4	3	1
	Administrative Officer	4	3	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
Legal Services	Senior/Administrative Clerk	2	2	0
	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	0	1
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	0	1
DCEO: Electoral Operations	Administrative Clerk	0	0	0
	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Communications	General Manager	1	0	1
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	3	2	1
	Assistant Manager	2	1	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	0	0	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	0	0	0
		General Manager	1	1
Civic Education, Research, and Knowledge Management	Manager	2	1	1
	Deputy Manager	3	2	1
	Assistant Manager	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Photocopy Operator	1	1	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	5	5	0
		General Manager – CFO	1	1
Financial Management	Manager	3	2	1
	Deputy Manager	9	4	5
	Assistant Manager	5	1	4
	Senior Administrative Officer	11	5	6
	Assistant Administrative Officer	0	1	-1
	Administrative Officer	20	18	2
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	2	6	-4

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial Electoral Office: Eastern Cape	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	12	12	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	21	21	0
	Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	86	81	5
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	8	8	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	Cleaner	26	25	1
Provincial Electoral Office: Free State	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	9	9	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	15	12	3
	Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	29	24	5
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	6	4	2
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	1	1

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial Electoral Office: Gauteng	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	9	8	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	15	12	3
	Administrative Officer	3	2	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	48	44	4
	Assistant Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	4	1
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	Cleaner	2	2	0
Provincial Electoral Office: KwaZulu -Natal	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	15	15	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	27	26	1
	Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	86	82	4
	Assistant Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	11	10	1
	Administrative Clerk	0	0	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial Electoral Office: Limpopo	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	9	9	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	15	14	1
	Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	57	57	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	5	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
Provincial Electoral Office: Mpumalanga	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	7	7	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	11	11	0
	Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	33	32	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Senior Administrative Clerk	3	3	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial Electoral Office: Northern Cape	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	9	8	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	15	15	0
	Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	26	28	-2
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	5	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
Provincial Electoral Office: North West	Assistant Manager	8	7	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	13	12	1
	Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	32	27	5
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	4	3	1
	Administrative Clerk	0	0	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	Cleaner	10	10	0

Table 3: Employment and vacancies organogram

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial Electoral Office: Western Cape	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	10	9	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	17	17	0
	Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	38	34	4
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Senior Administrative Clerk	6	5	1
	Administrative Clerk	0	0	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
TOTAL		1,102	943	159

Note: Negative figures reflect staff permanently absorbed on the organogram in terms of the relevant legislation but carried over the establishment, as well as staff appointed on a fixed -term basis against vacancies

Note: New posts indicated but not evaluated yet.



Employment Changes

Most terminations were as a result of resignations and retirements, as indicated in Table: Reasons for staff leaving. Most terminations occurred in the skilled salary band, which accounts for the majority of positions in the Electoral Commission. As illustrated in the table below, the Electoral Commission appointed 67 employees in the period under review, and there were 76 terminations. Most of the terminations cases were due to retirement, followed by resignations and contract expiry. The number of employees retiring was much higher this year, with 14 cases of retirement, which was an increase of five.

Table 4: Staff movement during the period under review

Salary band	Employment at the beginning of the period	Recruited	Promoted	Transfer	Demoted	Terminated	Employment at the end of the period
Top management	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Senior management	42	4	0	0	0	1	45
Professional qualified	132	4	4	0	0	7	129
Skilled	665	54	31	18	0	67	694
Semi-skilled	27	3	0	0	0	0	30
Unskilled	39	2	0	0	0	1	40
TOTAL	952	67	35	18	0	76	943

Table 5: Reasons for staff leaving

Reason	Number	Percentage of the total number of staff terminations
Death	4	5.26%
Resignation	7	9.21%
Dismissal	3	3.95%
Retirement	14	18.42%
Ill-health	3	3.95%
Expiry of contract	45	59%
Other	0	0%
TOTAL	76	100%

Table 6: Staff movement according to rank

	Recruited	Promoted	Demoted	Termination
CEO				
Deputy CEO				
Senior Manager/Provincial Electoral Officer	1			
Manager	3			1
Deputy Manager	2			2
Assistant Manager	2	4		5
Senior Administrative Officer	4	18		5
Administrative Officer	21	12		16
Assistant Administrative Officer	2	1		0
Senior/Administrative Clerk	27			46
Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver/Handyman	3			
Cleaner	2			1
TOTAL	67	35	0	76



Table 7: Staff terminations for 2022/23 to 2024/25

Year	Number of terminations	Percentage
2022/23	33	4.19%
2023/24	39	4.09%
2024/25	76	8.06%

Table 8: Wellness sessions held from 2022/23 to 2024/25

Year	Number of sessions
2022/23	11
2023/24	8
2024/25	32

The average number of sick leave days taken and the associated costs are reflected below, along with comparative figures for the previous two financial years.

Table 9: Sick leave absenteeism from 2022/23 to 2024/25

Year	Total number of sick leave days taken	Estimated cost	Number of employees who took 15 consecutive days or more
2022/23	4,863	R13,249,481,04	33
2023/24	3,678	R10,189,656,32	23
2024/25	3,983	R11,539,139,20	20

Table 10: Special sick leave absenteeism from 2022/23 to 2024/25

Year	Total number of special sick leave days taken	Estimated cost	Number of employees who took special sick leave
2022/23	873	R2,244,366.08	21
2023/24	799	R2,123,218.73	18
2024/25	359	R1,078,972.39	8

Table 11: Average sick leave taken according to rank for 2024/25

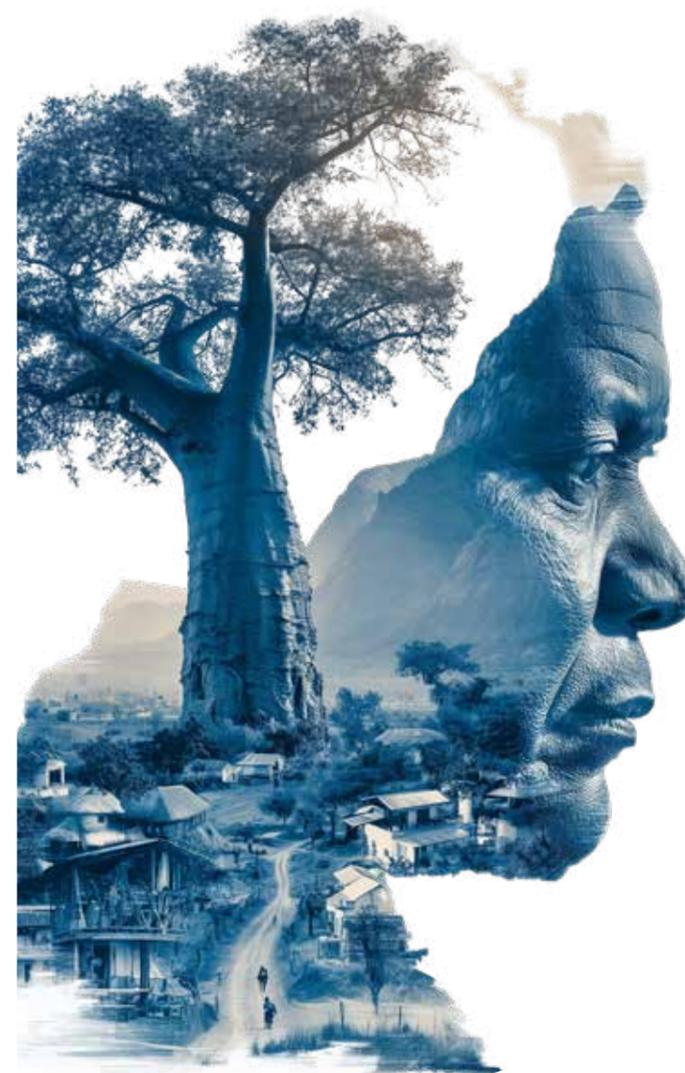
Rank/Level	Average days
CEO	0
Deputy CEO	7.5
Senior Manager	5.62
Manager	6
Deputy Manager	6.67
Assistant Manager	5.91
Senior Administrative Officer	6.88
Administrative Officer	7.28
Assistant Administrative Officer	7.75
Senior/Administrative Clerk	4.82
Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	5.15
Cleaner	6.18

Table 12: Employee deaths during the period under review

Office	Name	Date of death
North West	M Metswamere	19 May 2024
North West	T Legae	23 May 2024
Western Cape	R Naidu	6 October 2024
Limpopoo	K Radzilani	21 December 2024

Table 13: Average age of the deceased for 2022/23 to 2024/25

Year	Number of deaths	The average age of the deceased
2022/23	5	47.0
2023/24	3	48.33
2024/25	4	47.0



Labour Relations

At the beginning of the reporting period, there were eight active cases at the CCMA and six new cases were referred during the course of the year by either the recognised trade union and/or employees. The referrals resulted in a total of 14 cases at the CCMA. At the end of the reporting period, seven (50%) of these cases were finalised, while seven (50%) are still pending finalisation. Of the seven cases finalised, four were found in favour of the Electoral Commission, the employee withdrew one, and the last two fell outside the jurisdiction of the CCMA.

Table 14: CCMA disputes referred in 2024/25

Nature of disputes	Number of employees
Section 191(1) [191(5)(a)]: Dismissal related to misconduct	4
Section 186(2)(a): Unfair conduct– promotion, demotion, probation, training, or benefits	5
Section 73A (Basic Conditions of Employment Act)- claims for failure to pay any amount owing (not national minimum wage agreement)	1
Section 6 (EEA)- prohibition of unfair discrimination- arbitrary grounds	1
Section 6 (EEA)- sexual harassment	3
TOTAL	14

Table 15: Disputes referred to the CCMA for 2022/23 to 2024/25

Nature of disputes	Number of cases
2022/23	13
2023/24	17
2024/25	14



Employment Equity

The Electoral Commission remains committed to complying with the Employment Equity Act (Act 55 of 1998). A new two-year plan was developed for the period from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2025. The organisation continues to fill vacancies in line with numerical goals, targets, and representivity at each level.

Table 16: Employment equity targets among male staff members for 2024/25

Level	Male							
	African		Coloured		Indian		White	
	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target
Top management	4	2	0	1	0	1	0	1
Senior management	16	16	3	3	0	2	1	3
Professional qualified	69	62	4	6	5	4	4	6
Skilled	294	315	26	36	2	11	3	34
Semi-skilled	11	7	1	1	1	0	2	1
Unskilled	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	395	402	34	47	8	18	10	45



Table 17: Employment equity targets among female staff members for 2024/25

Level	Female							
	African		Coloured		Indian		White	
	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target
Top management	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
Senior management	16	13	0	2	2	1	2	3
Professional qualified	28	53	4	6	1	3	13	14
Skilled	302	318	37	42	6	5	16	25
Semi-skilled	10	9	1	0	0	0	1	0
Unskilled	35	35	2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	391	429	44	51	10	10	32	43

Table 18: Employment equity numerical goals: 2018 to 2025

Period	Male				Female			
	African	Coloured	Indian	White	African	Coloured	Indian	White
Numerical goals (until the end of September 2018)	524	77	27	79	500	67	18	71
Numerical goals (until the end of September 2023)	402	48	18	46	429	52	10	43
Numerical goals (until the end of September 2024)	402	47	18	45	429	51	10	43



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Table Mountain – A world-renowned natural wonder, standing tall as a beacon of freedom and a symbol of South Africa’s democratic journey.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Report of Chief Financial Officer

Financial Management

The Electoral Commission’s financial management practices have continued the exemplary standards established over previous years. The institution’s proud record of receiving clean audit opinions from the Auditor-General South Africa over five consecutive years demonstrates consistent excellence in financial governance and public resource management.

This achievement becomes particularly significant when considered against the backdrop of the over-R3-billion cost of delivering NPE 2024 – the most resource-intensive electoral cycle in South African democratic history. Managing expenditure of this magnitude while maintaining strict compliance with the Public Finance Management Act required exceptional discipline and systematic internal controls.

The Electoral Commission’s financial credibility rests not merely on compliance with regulatory requirements, but on proactive management practices that exceed minimum standards. Rigorous internal controls, comprehensive monitoring systems, continuous training and disciplined reporting ensure that every rand entrusted to the Electoral Commission serves its intended purpose while maintaining full transparency and accountability.

Strategic budget management

The adoption of project-based budgeting approaches, similar to zero-based budgeting principles, has enhanced resource allocation precision while improving accountability for outcomes. This methodology ensures that every budget line item is justified against operational requirements and strategic objectives, rather than relying on historical precedent.

Budget planning for the period under review reflected lessons learned from managing the unprecedented complexity of NPE 2024. Resource requirements for maintaining and strengthening electoral infrastructure have been carefully balanced against operational needs and long-term institutional sustainability.



Dawn Mbatha CA(SA)

“The Electoral Commission does not merely deliver elections – it delivers them with integrity, accountability, and unwavering respect for the public purse. Democracy is the heartbeat of the nation entrusted to the Electoral Commission of South Africa”.



Compliance excellence

Supply chain management has received particular attention, given the crucial importance of procurement processes to electoral credibility. Enhanced transparency measures, increased stringent contract oversight, and improved supplier performance management have been implemented while maintaining the efficiency required for electoral operations.

The procurement of election-critical goods and services continued to represent the most heavily scrutinised aspect of financial management. Tight timelines, logistical constraints, and substantial material volumes create inherent risks that require sophisticated mitigation strategies. Transparency measures have been reinforced, contract oversight has been strengthened, and supply chain official capacity has been enhanced.

Risk mitigation management strategies have been systematically expanded to address the evolving challenges associated with electoral administration. Digital procurement systems are being progressively implemented to drive transparency while reducing administrative delays. Investment in supply chain personnel skills and integrity provides additional protection against potential irregularities.

Future financial strategy

As preparation begins for the 2026/2027 Local Government Elections, budget planning must accommodate rising electoral costs, while maintaining the efficiency and accountability standards that characterise the Electoral Commission's operations. Technology investments offer opportunities to improve both service delivery and cost effectiveness, but require careful evaluation to ensure value for money.

Expanding digital capabilities in procurement, payment systems, and financial monitoring will enhance both transparency and operational efficiency. These investments must be balanced against other institutional priorities while ensuring that technological advancement serves rather than complicates core financial management objectives. The Chief Financial Officer's role extends beyond traditional accounting functions to encompass strategic financial leadership that enables rather than constrains democratic service delivery. NPE 2024 demonstrated that with appropriate vigilance, strategic foresight, and systematic innovation, the Electoral Commission can responsibly manage the financial requirements of safeguarding electoral democratic processes.

Institutional financial health

The Electoral Commission's success in financial management reflects broader institutional strengths in governance, planning, and execution. Clean audit outcomes is as a result of compliance with prescripts, attention to detail, proactive risk management, and genuine commitment to public accountability.

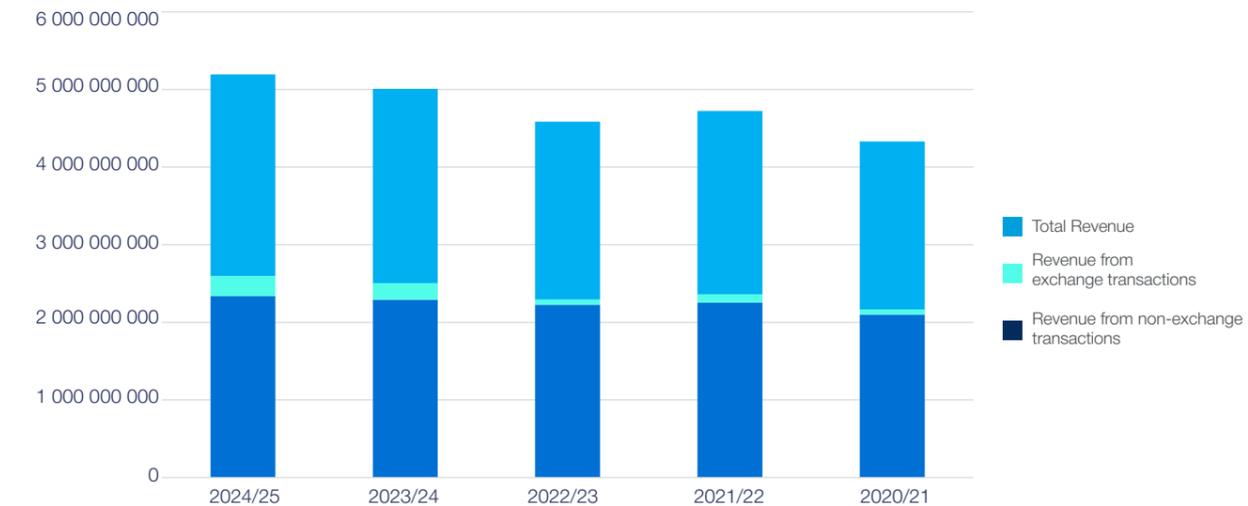
This financial credibility provides the foundation for public trust in electoral processes. Citizens can be confident that resources dedicated to democratic governance are managed with appropriate care and directed towards their intended purposes. Political parties and independent candidates can participate in electoral processes knowing that administrative systems operate with integrity and transparency.

Looking forward, the Electoral Commission's financial management will continue to evolve in response to changing operational requirements and technological opportunities. However, the fundamental principles – integrity, accountability, transparency, and efficiency – that have produced five consecutive clean audits will remain constant.

Five-Year Key Financial Performance

	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Election Cycle	NPE	2 REG	NON-ELEC	1REG/LGE	1 REG
Audit Outcome	CLEAN AUDIT				
Revenue from non -exchange transactions	2,336,804,774	2,291,276,062	2,223,912,231	2,256,616,035	2,100,748,078
Revenue from exchange transactions	260,703,869	213,622,064	68,661,883	105,709,715	64,277,498
Total revenue	2,597,508,643	2,504,898,126	2,292,574,114	2,362,325,750	2,165,025,576
Total Expenditure	3,123,170,083	2,606,772,336	1,473,872,701	2,608,645,381	1,194,519,256
Surplus(deficit) for the year	(525,661,440)	(101,874,210)	818,701,413	(246,319,631)	970,506,320

Total Reveune



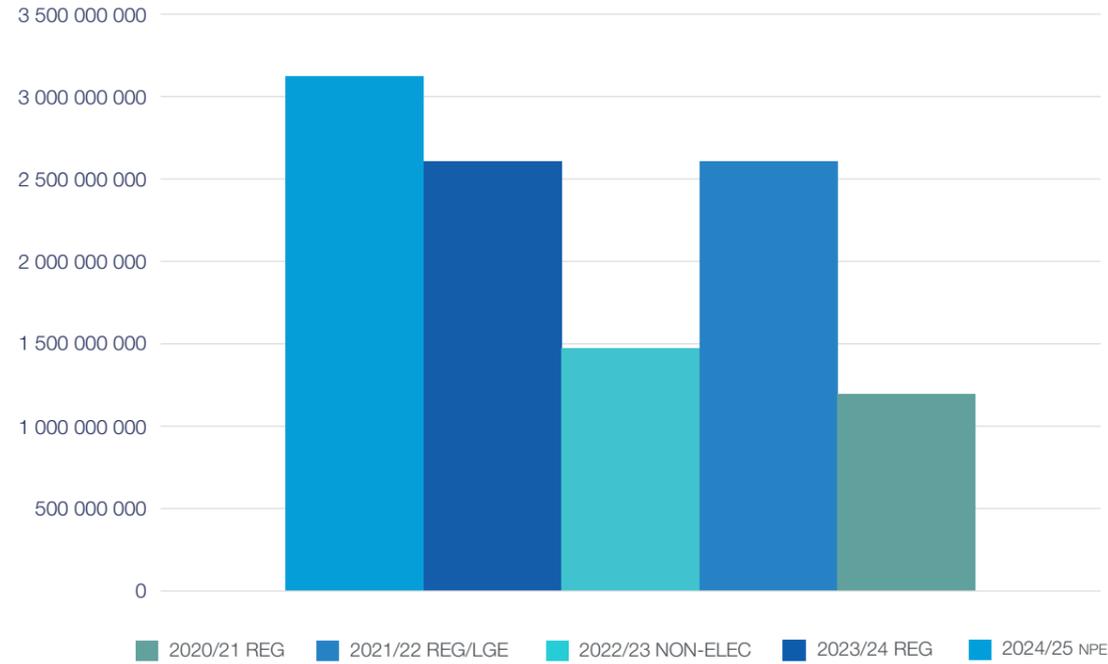
Revenue 5 year Analysis

The Electoral Commission receives core funding through Parliamentary allocation under Vote 5, delivered on a straight-line basis to support effective electoral planning. Over the past five years, Parliamentary allocations have grown at an average rate of 6% annually, while total revenue increased by 11% primarily due to SABC sponsorships during election periods.

National Treasury's straight-lining approach has enhanced our long-term planning capabilities, enabling adequate preparation for elections and strategic asset replacements. The current year deficit has been covered in teh prior year's savings in the accumulated surplus.



Total Expenditure



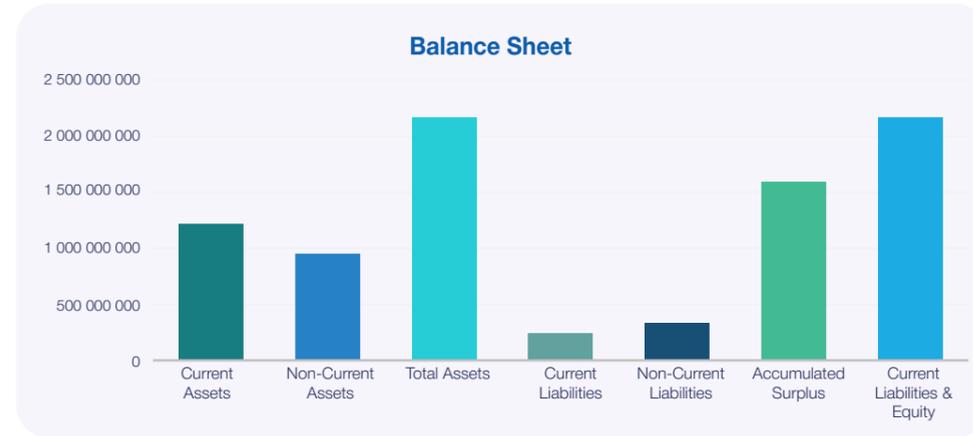
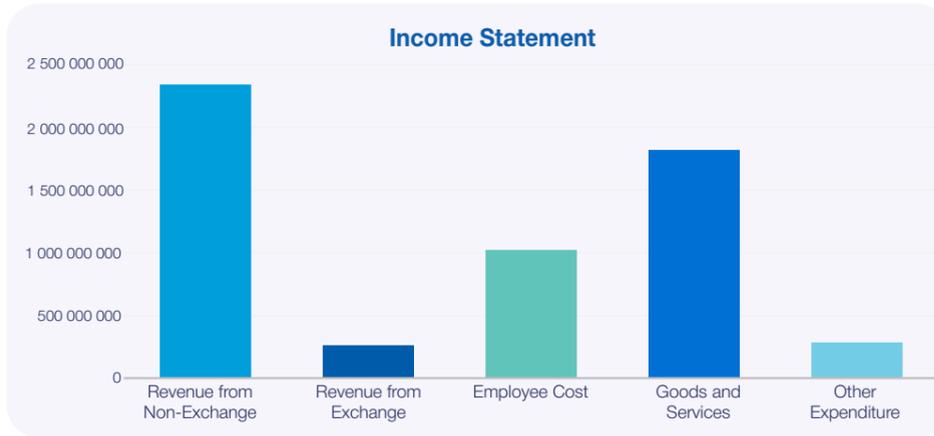
Expenditure 5 year Analysis

Total expenditure increased by an average of 44% over the review period, reflecting the rising costs of electoral administration in South Africa's maturing democracy. Key cost drivers include operational complexity, legislative changes, and enhanced service delivery requirements.

The Commission has successfully mitigated funding pressures through strategic savings realized during non-election years and operational efficiency improvements.

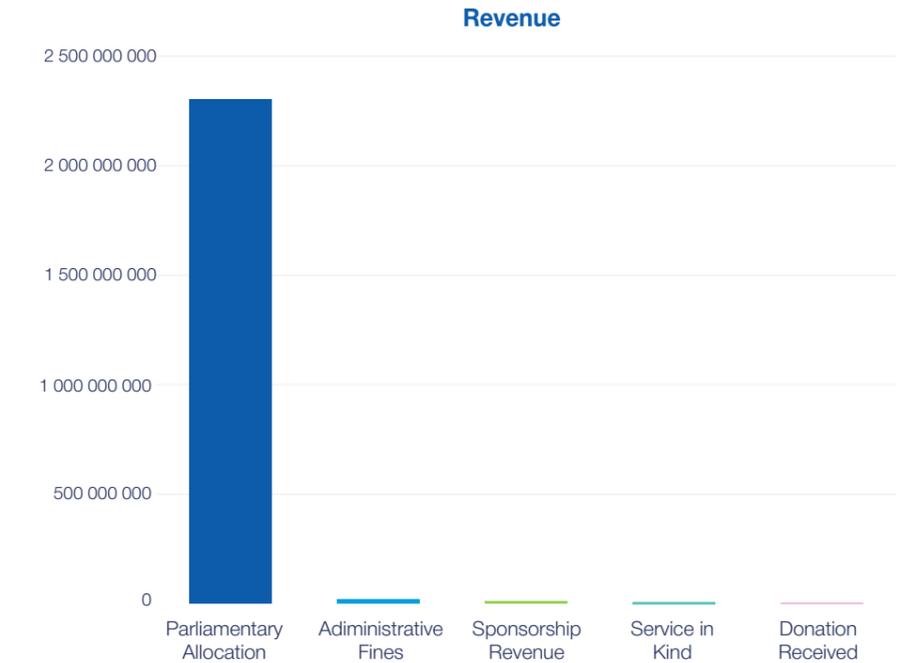
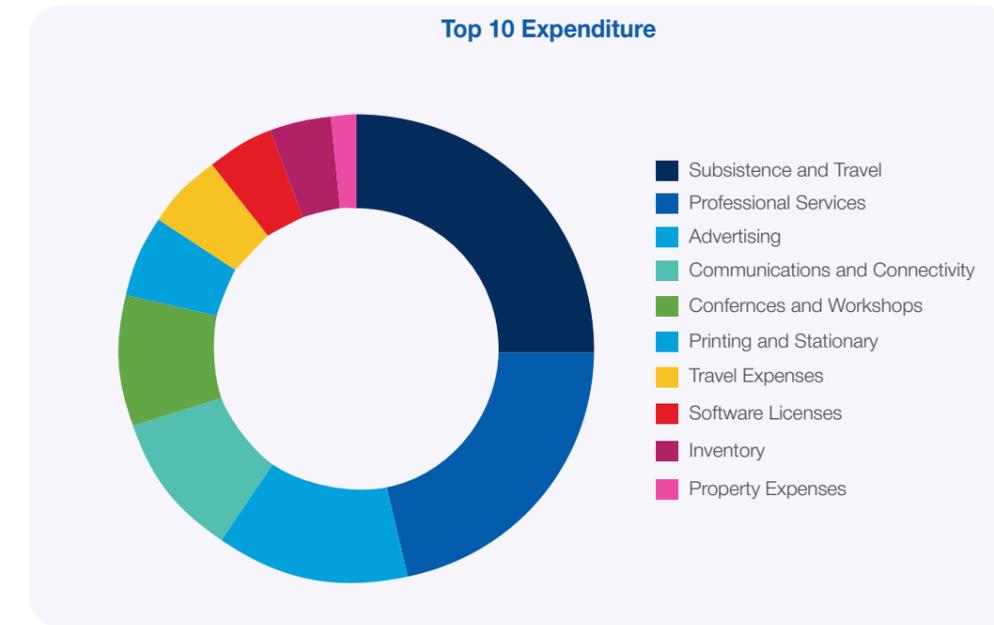
Financial Management Performance

Revenue 2 597 508 643 Change from last year 4%	Expenditure 3 123 064 508 Change from last year 20%	Deficit for the year 521 661 440 Change from last year 20%	Target Clean Audit
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Category	Value (ZAR)	Change from last year
Net cash flow from operating activities	436 411 235	2%
Cash flow from investing activities	42 263 614	24%
Cash flow at the end of the year	1 147 378 316	-29%

Financial Management Performance



2024/2025	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	Kwa Zulu Natal	Limpopo	Mpumalanga	North West	Northern Cape	Western Cape
Expenditure	1 484 621 283	17 734 997	285 583 905	120 332 455	200 756 290	301 870 890	189 415 643	131 834 533	125 208 270	110 384 121	155 322 101
No. of Offices	2	0	40	20	38	52	26	18	19	27	30
No. of Permanent Employees	128	5	161	56	76	142	91	60	66	64	73



Report of the Auditor-General to Parliament on the Electoral Commission

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

- I have audited the financial statements of the Electoral Commission set out on pages 179 to 247, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2025, statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, cash flow statement and comparison of actual and budgeted expenditure for the year then ended, as well as notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.
- In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Electoral Commission as at 31 March 2025 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) and the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999) (PFMA).

Emphasis of matters

- I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Prior period error

- As disclosed in note 34 to the financial statements, the corresponding figures for 31 March 2024 were restated as a result of an error in the financial statements of the constitutional institution at, and for the year ended, 31 March 2025.

Basis for opinion

- I conducted my audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the responsibilities of the auditor-general for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.
- I am independent of the constitutional institution in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA code) as well as other ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit in South Africa. I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA code.
- I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other matters

- I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matters.

Unaudited disclosures

- The information set out in appendix A and B does not form part of the financial statements and is presented as additional information. I have not audited this information and, accordingly, I do not express an opinion on it.

Responsibilities of the accounting officer for the financial statements

- The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the GRAP and the requirements of the PFMA and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- In preparing the financial statements, the accounting officer is responsible for assessing the constitutional institution's ability to continue as a going concern; disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the appropriate governance structure either intends to liquidate the constitutional institution or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsibilities of the auditor-general for the audit of the financial statements

- My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.
- A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is included in the annexure to this auditor's report. This description, which is located at page xx, forms part of my auditor's report.

Report on the audit of the annual performance report

- In accordance with the Public Audit Act 25 of 2004 (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I must audit and report on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance against predetermined objectives for the selected programmes presented in the annual performance report. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation of the annual performance report.
- I selected the following programmes presented in the annual performance report for the year ended 31 March 2025 for auditing. I selected programmes that measure the constitutional institution's performance on its primary mandated functions and that is of significant national, community or public interest.

Programme	Page numbers	Purpose
Programme 2: Electoral operations	76	This programme focuses on the strategic outcome of managing and delivering free and fair elections by striving for excellence at voting station level; ensuring accessibility and suitability of voting facilities and processes; managing results; maximising electoral justice for all stakeholders in the electoral process; enhancing the credibility of the voters' roll; ensuring compliance with legal prescripts; and continuously improving the legislative framework
Programme 3: Outreach	93 - 94	This programme focuses on the strategic outcome of informing and engaging citizens and stakeholders in electoral democracy. It fosters participation in electoral democracy by providing civic and democracy education on a continuous basis; voter and balloting education as may be required by each election; strategic and thought leadership on matters pertaining to electoral democracy; broadening our research agenda and issuing publications; increasing visibility through proactive consultation, effective communication, and presence among our stakeholders and communities; facilitating platforms for political dialogue; cultivating an environment conducive for the holding of free and fair elections; and constantly engaging the media.
Programme 4: Funding and Liaison	116	This programme focuses on the strategic outcome of contributing to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding. The programme manages party funding and donations in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with legislation, and Strengthens cooperative relationships by providing consultative and liaison platforms between the Electoral Commission and political parties, independent candidates and representatives, using systems, people and processes that are sustainable.

16. I evaluated the reported performance information for the selected programmes against the criteria developed from the performance management and reporting framework, as defined in the general notice. When an annual performance report is prepared using these criteria, it provides useful and reliable information and insights to users on the constitutional institution's planning and delivery on its mandate and objectives.

17. I performed procedures to test whether:

- the indicators used for planning and reporting on performance can be linked directly to the constitutional institution's mandate and the achievement of its planned objectives
- all the indicators relevant for measuring the constitutional institution's performance against its primary mandated and prioritised functions and planned objectives are included
- the indicators are well defined to ensure that they are easy to understand and can be applied consistently, as well as verifiable so that I can confirm the methods and processes to be used for measuring achievements
- the targets can be linked directly to the achievement of the indicators and are specific, time bound and measurable to ensure that it is easy to understand what should be delivered and by when, the required level of performance as well as how performance will be evaluated
- the indicators and targets reported on in the annual performance report are the same as those committed to in the approved initial or revised planning documents
- the reported performance information is presented in the annual performance report in the prescribed manner and is comparable and understandable.
- there is adequate supporting evidence for the achievements reported and for the reasons provided for any over- or underachievement of targets.

18. I performed the procedures for the purpose of reporting material findings only; and not to express an assurance opinion or conclusion.

19. I did not identify any material findings on the reported performance information for the selected programmes.

Other matters

20. I draw attention to the matters below.

Achievement of planned targets

21. The annual performance report includes information on reported achievements against planned targets and provides explanations for over or under achievements.

Report On Compliance With Legislation

22. In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I must audit and report on compliance with applicable legislation relating to financial matters, financial management and other related matters. The accounting officer is responsible for the constitutional institution's compliance with legislation.

23. I performed procedures to test compliance with selected requirements in key legislation in accordance with the findings engagement methodology of the Auditor-General of South Africa (AGSA). This engagement is not an assurance engagement. Accordingly, I do not express an assurance opinion or conclusion.

24. Through an established AGSA process, I selected requirements in key legislation for compliance testing that are relevant to the financial and performance management of the constitutional institutional, clear to allow consistent measurement and evaluation, while also sufficiently detailed and readily available to report in an understandable manner. The selected legislative requirements are included in the annexure to this auditor's report.

25. I did not identify any material non-compliance with the selected legislative requirements.

Other Information In The Annual Report

26. The accounting officer is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information does not include the financial statements, the auditor's report and those selected programmes presented in the annual performance report that have been specifically reported on in this auditor's report.

27. My opinion on the financial statements and my reports on the audit of the annual performance report and compliance with legislation do not cover the other information included in the annual report and I do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion on it.

28. My responsibility is to read this other information and, in doing so, consider whether it is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the selected programmes presented in the annual performance report or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

29. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive and read this information, if I conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request that the other information be corrected. If the other information is not corrected, I may have to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report as appropriate. However, if it is corrected this will not be necessary.

Internal Control Deficiencies

30. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with applicable legislation; however, my objective was not to express any form of assurance on it.

31. I did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control.

Auditor-General

Pretoria

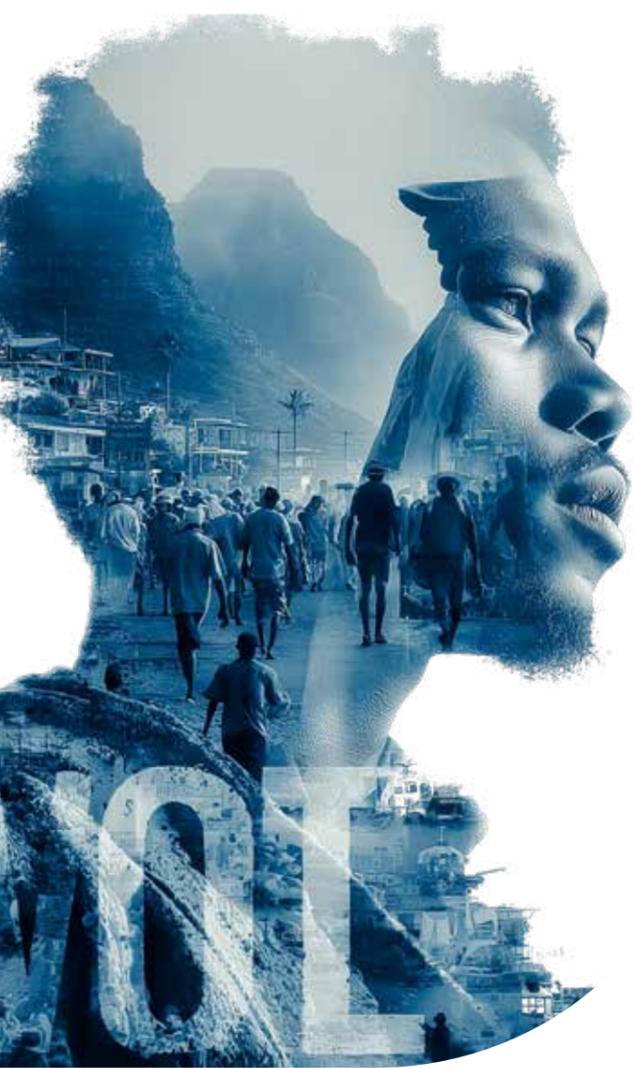
31 July 2025



AUDITOR-GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

Auditing to build public confidence





Report Of The Auditor-General To Parliament On The Electoral Commission

Annexure to the auditor's report

The annexure includes the following:

- The auditor-general's responsibility for the audit
- The selected legislative requirements for compliance testing

Auditor-general's responsibility for the audit

Professional judgement and professional scepticism

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout my audit of the financial statements and the procedures performed on reported performance information for selected programmes and on the constitutional institution's compliance with selected requirements in key legislation.

Financial statements

In addition to my responsibility for the audit of the financial statements as described in this auditor's report, I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the constitutional institution's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related

disclosures made

- conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements. I also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the constitutional institution to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements about the material uncertainty or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion on the financial statements. My conclusions are based on the information available to me at the date of this auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause a constitutional entity to cease operating as a going concern
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and determine whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation

Communication with those charged with governance

I communicate with the accounting officer regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I also provide the accounting officer with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence and, where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.



Compliance with legislation – selected legislative requirements

The selected legislative requirements are as follows:

Legislation	Sections or Regulations
Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999) (PFMA)	Section 38(1)(b) Section 38(1)(c)(ii) Section 38(1)(d) Section 38(1)(h)(iii) Section 40(1)(a) Section 40(1)(c)(i) Section 40(1)(b) Section 40(3)(a) Section 44 Section 45(b) Section 57(b)
Treasury Regulations (TR), 2005, issued in terms of the PFMA	TR 4.1.1 TR 4.1.3 TR 5.1.1 TR 5.2.1 TR 5.2.3(a) TR 5.2.3(d) TR 5.2.4 TR 5.3.1 TR 8.1.1 TR 8.2.1 TR 8.2.2 TR 8.2.3 TR 9.1.1 TR 9.1.4

Compliance with legislation – selected legislative requirements

Legislation	Sections or Regulations
	TR 10.1.1(a) TR 10.1.2 TR 12.5.1 TR 15.10.1.2(c) TR 16A3.2 TR 16A3.2(a) TR 16A6.1 TR 16A6.2(a) & (b) TR 16A6.3 (a) and (b) TR 16A6.3(c) TR 16A6.3(e) TR 16A6.3(a) (i) TR 16A6.4 TR 16A6.5 TR 16A6.6 TR 16A.7.3 TR 16A.7.6 TR 16A.7.7 TR 16A8.3 TR 16A8.4 TR 16A9.1(b)(ii) TR 16A9.1(d) TR 16A9.1(e) TR 16A9.1(f) TR 16A9.2(a)(ii) TR 17.1.1 TR 18.2 TR 19.8.4

Legislation	Sections or Regulations
National Treasury (NT) Practice Note 4 of 2009-10	Practice Note 7 of 2009/10 Practice Note 7 of 2009/10 par 4.1.2 Practice Note 5 of 2009/10 par. 3.3 NT Instruction 4A of 2016/17 par 6y NT Instruction 07 of 2017/18 par 4.3 Instruction No. 10 of 2020-21 NTI 01 of 2021-22 par. 4.1
National Treasury instruction notes	N 4 of 2015/16 par. 3.4 IN 4A of 2016/17 IN 11 of 2020/21 par. 3.1 IN 11 of 2020/21 par. 3.4 (b) and 3.9 IN 5 of 2020/21 par 5.3 Second amendment NT Instruction No 5 of 2020/21 par 1 and Erratum NT Instruction note No 5 of 2020/21 par 2 NT Instruction No 5 of 2020/21 par 4.8 NT Instruction No 5 of 2020/21 par 4.9
The Framework for the Managing of Programme Performance Information (FMPPi), issued by NT.	chapter 3.2 chapter 3.3 Chapter 5
The Revised Framework for Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans (Revised FSAPP) (2020), issued by NT.	Section 4.4.3 and 4.4.4
Circulars and guidance issued by the NT, Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA), Department of Cooperative Governance and supported by the Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation regarding the planning, management, monitoring and reporting of performance against predetermined objectives.	SBD 6.2 issued in 2015/16
Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999) (PFMA) Instruction notes	SCM Instruction Note 02 of 2021-22 par 3.2.1 PFMA SCM instruction note 03 of 2021/22 par 4.1. PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 definition PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 par. 4.2 (b)

Legislation	Sections or Regulations
Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999) (PFMA) Instruction notes	SCM instruction note 2 of 2021/22 par. 3.2.1 SCM instruction note 2 of 2021/22 par. 3.2.4 PFMA SCM Instruction No. 3 of 2021/22 par. 7.2 SCM Instruction 3 of 2016 SCM Instruction Note 02 of 2021-22 par 3.3.1 PFMA SCM instruction note 03 of 2021/22 par 4.1 PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 definition PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 par. 4.2 (b) PFMA Instruction Note 3 of 2021/22 par. 4.3 and 4.4 PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 par. 4.3 PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 par. 4.4 (c) PFMA instruction note no.3 of 2021/22 par. 4.4.(d)
Preferential Procurement reg 2022	Preferential Procurement reg {2017} 4(1) & 4(2) Preferential Procurement reg {2017} 5(1) & 5(3) Preferential Procurement reg 2017 5(6) Preferential Procurement reg 2017 5(7) Preferential Procurement reg {2017} 6(8), Preferential Procurement reg {2017} 7(8), 2017 Preferential Procurement reg 8(2) 2017 Preferential Procurement reg 8(5) Preferential Procurement reg {2017} 9(1) Preferential Procurement reg {2017}10(1) & (2) Preferential Procurement reg {2017}11(1) Preferential Procurement reg 2017 (under functionality) 2022 Preferential Procurement reg 4(4)
PPPFA	PPPFA (definition "acceptable tender") PPPFA section 2(1)(a) and (b) PPPFA 2(1)(a); PPPFA 2(1)(f)



Electoral Commission Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Electoral Commission

Report of the Accounting Officer for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Electoral Commission

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution established in terms of section 181(1)(f) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) to strengthen constitutional democracy in South Africa. The Electoral Commission is publicly funded and accountable to Parliament, yet independent of government. Its core function is the impartial management of free and fair elections in all spheres of government.

The Accounting Officer has the pleasure of presenting this report, which forms part of the audited annual financial statements of the Electoral Commission for the period ended 31 March 2025. This report and the annual financial statements comply with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999 (PFMA), the Electoral Commission Act and Act 51 of 1996 and Political Party Funding Act 6 of 2018.

The Chief Electoral Officer is the Accounting Officer in terms of section 36(2)(b) of the PFMA read together with section 12(2)(b) of the Electoral Commission Act.

Nature of business

The nature of the Electoral Commission's business is to manage the elections of national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies in accordance with national legislation, to ensure that those elections are free and fair, and to declare the results of those elections within a period that is prescribed by national legislation and that is as short as reasonably possible.

The Electoral Commission also has a mandate to promote knowledge of sound and democratic electoral processes.

Registration details

The registered head office of the Electoral Commission is Election House, Riverside Office Park, 1303 Heuwel Avenue, Centurion, Gauteng.

The Electoral Commission has offices in 9 Provinces and in 257 local municipalities.

Bankers

Standard Bank of South Africa

Auditors

Auditor-General of South Africa

Financial highlights

The Electoral Commission received R2,302,221,000 for the period under review by way of parliamentary allocation, in kind lease revenue of R2,890,940, donation received of R999,994, administrative penalties of R17,930,000, sponsorship revenue of R12,762,840 and sundry revenue of R260,703,869 comprising mainly of interest earned, and elections related revenue bringing the Electoral Commission's total revenue to R2,597,508,643.

All funds have been accounted for and are disclosed in the annual financial statements.

Tariffs

Treasury Regulations 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 state that the Accounting Officer of an institution must review, at least annually when finalising the budget, all fees, charges or the rates, scales or tariffs of fees and charges that are not fixed or cannot be fixed by any law and that relate to revenue accruing to a revenue fund. The Accounting Officer must obtain approval from the relevant treasury for the proposed tariff structure. Tariffs were reviewed and, in an effort to enhance the activities of political parties and members of the general public, the Electoral Commission has determined the following prices, the basis of which was approved by National Treasury.

Maps are provided to political parties and members of the general public only when the Electoral Commission is able to do so without negatively impacting on its own mapping requirements and activities.

Electoral Commission

Report of the Accounting Officer for the year ended 31 March 2025

Prices of map products not statutorily provided for

Size	Electronic image in PDF	Printed copies	Lamination price
A4	R10.00	R15.00	R60.00 per film run irrespective of the number of A4 pages
A3	n/a	n/a	R60.00 per film run irrespective of the number of A3 pages
A2	R60.00	R75.00	R60.00 per film run irrespective of the number of A2 pages
A1	R105.00	R120.00	R60.00
A0	R160.00	R180.00	R120.00

The Commission has prescribed the following party registration fees

Political Party Registration Fees

Registration level	Fee	Comment
National Level	R5,000	This would allow a registered political party to contest any election in the country. This would include elections for the national assembly, provincial legislatures, district, metropolitan and local councils anywhere in the Republic.
Provincial Level	R3,000	This would allow a registered political party to contest any election within a particular province. This would include elections for the provincial legislature, district, metropolitan and local councils in that particular province .
District Level	R2,000	This would allow a registered political party to contest any elections within a particular district municipality and all local municipalities in the district.
Metropolitan Level	R2,000	This would allow a registered political party to contest any election in particular metropolitan municipality

Registered parties intending to contest elections are required to submit lists of candidates in accordance with the requirements of section 27 of the Electoral Act, Act 73 of 1998 (the Act), and the requirements set out in Schedule 1A of the Act.

Independent Candidates intending to contest these elections should be nominated in accordance with the requirements of section 31A and 31B of the Electoral Act, Act 73 of 1998.

The following election deposit were required to be submitted to contest the National and Provincial Elections for Party Nominations and Independent Candidates.

Electoral Commission

Report of the Accounting Officer for the year ended 31 March 2025

Parties and Independents to contest NPE 2024

Election type	Contestant	NPE 2024 Deposit
Compensatory Election and All Regional Elections	Party	R300,000
Compensatory Election and at least one Regional Election	Party	R200,000 Plus R25,000 per Regional Election
Provincial Legislature	Party	R50,000 per Legislature Election
Total should a party contest all elections and lists	Party	R750,000
Regional list of the National Assembly	Independent	R20,000 per regional list contested
Provincial Legislature	Independent	R15,000 for a Legislature in a province in which the independent candidate is registered

The election deposit which are prescribed for Local Government Elections are prescribed as follows;

Parties contesting – PR lists

Election Type	Contestant	LGE Deposit
A Metropolitan Municipality – per list	Party	R3500
Local Municipality with wards – per list	Party	R2000
Local Municipality without wards and in a District Municipality – per list	Party	R1000
Ward Candidates		
Independent Ward Candidate and parties not contesting by way of a party list	Party / Independent	R1000

Electoral Commission

Report of the Accounting Officer for the year ended 31 March 2025

In addition, the following services are provided via our website free of any charge:

- Am I registered to vote?
- Voting station finder,
- Election and by-election results data,
- Registration status, level and contact details of Electoral Commission local offices,
- Online Address Capture,
- Online Candidate Nomination System,
- Special vote application and,
- Online voter registration (for voters inside and outside South Africa),
- Political Party Funding system,
- Online Observer Application system,
- eRecruitment.

Material losses through criminal conduct, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure

Section 40(3)(b) of the PFMA requires the Electoral Commission to include in the annual report particulars of any material losses through criminal conduct, any irregular expenditure, and fruitless and wasteful expenditure that occurred during the financial year.

The Electoral Commission has sound supply chain management practices, supported by a procurement policy, standard operating procedures and a fully functional Compliance Unit. Irregular expenditure of R10,533,423 was incurred and is reflected in Note 30 of the annual financial statements. Condonation letters have been sent to National Treasury for consideration while other transactions are still under investigation.

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure amounting to R357,906 was incurred in the current financial reporting period and is reflected in Note 30 of the annual financial statements. The fruitless and wasteful expenditure mostly relates to interest paid on overdue accounts and other expenditure meeting the definition of fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The expenditure will be investigated to determine whether it will be economical to recover. Steps have been taken to prevent recurrence.

Corporate governance

Various sections of the PFMA place responsibility on the Accounting Officer to ensure that the organisation complies with all applicable legislation. Any non-compliance with legislation is reported to the Executive Committee (EXCO) and the Commission.

The Accounting Officer has the responsibility for establishing a framework of internal controls including the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements, thus ensuring that the financial statements are free from material misstatement. The control measures are also designed to provide cost-effective assurance that assets are safeguarded, and that liabilities and working capital are efficiently managed. Internal controls operated effectively during the year, where necessary, continued enhancements are effected.

The Accounting Officer is also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records and an effective system of risk management.

The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Electoral Commission's annual financial statements. These statements comprise the following:

- Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2025,
- Statement of Financial Performance for the period ended 31 March 2025,
- Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the period ended 31 March 2025,
- Cash Flow Statement for the financial period ended 31 March 2025,
- Comparison of actual and budgeted expenditure for the period ended 31 March 2025; and
- Accounting policies and notes to the annual financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP), issued by the Accounting Standards Board. The

Auditor-General is responsible for reporting on whether the annual financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

Going concern

The Electoral Commission is funded by National Treasury via a vote of Department of Home Affairs and funding is secured over a three-year cycle in terms of the medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF). The financial statements have thus been prepared on the going-concern basis.

Other Matters

National and Provincial Elections

The Electoral Commission held National and Provincial Elections on the 29th of May 2024. The elections were declared free and fair.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provided electoral assistance support to the Electoral Commission ahead of the National and Provincial Elections 2024, courtesy of the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

The support focused on the following three areas:

- Conflict Management:** Training of conflict panellists, Regional Coordinators, regional Area Managers and Provincial Coordinators.
- Disinformation:** Acquisition of technology infrastructure, recruiting skilled personnel including data analysts and scientists, training of Electoral Commission's staff and members of the media, and conducting public outreach.
- Election observation:** development of observer manual and pocket brochure, production of audio-visual products, training of domestic observers, briefing of international observers

Electronic Voting Green Paper Study

The Electoral Commission held and presented a Conference and Exhibition on E-Voting Technologies in South Africa in Cape Town, on the 10th – 12th March 2025.

The Human Science Research Council (HSRC) was commissioned to compile and produce a discussion document on electronic voting in South Africa. It followed previous Electoral Commission's research studies on electronic voting and related technologies. This study sought to take this work forward and produce a policy discussion document to be used by the Electoral Commission to lead nation-wide public policy discussions on the feasibility and desirability of electronic voting technologies in South Africa.

National and International Exhibitors were invited to showcase various e-voting technology. They had to pay an exhibition fee. The amounts received are disclosed in this report.

Events after balance sheet date

None

Approval of annual financial statements

The annual financial statements of the Electoral Commission set out on pages 185 to 251 have been approved by the Accounting Officer.



Chief Electoral Officer
Phatudi Simon Mamabolo
31 July 2025

Political Funding Symposium

The Electoral Commission will be hosting a Symposium on Political Funding in South Africa between the 18th and 19th of June 2025. The aim is to promote a deeper understanding of the dynamics, challenges and opportunities related to political financing in South Africa, including the desire to enhance political funding regulation and management.

The symposium further seeks to highlight the critical issues of financial influence in politics, transparency in funding, accountability, and the need for reforms to ensure fair and transparent political funding in South Africa. Measures and methods for effective implementation and enforcement of the Political Funding Act and regulations will be debated, deliberated upon and proposal made on possible approaches through which political finance regulation can be enhanced in South Africa. These may include policy proposals for consideration by law-makers who may, in turn, initiate legislative amendments where such may be deemed necessary.



Electoral Commission

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2025

	Note	31 March 2025 R	*Rastated 31 March 2024 R
Assets			
Current assets			
		1,218,008,989	1,758,108,921*
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,147,378,316	1,626,053,165
Receivables from exchange transactions	5	53,092,536	76,792,970*
Receivables from non-exchange transactions	6	683,370	-
Short-term portion of operating lease	12	-	4,036,519
Inventories	7	16,854,767	51,226,267
Non-current assets			
		952,449,563	1,013,500,178*
Property, plant, and equipment	8	666,050,969	732,252,330
Heritage assets	9	1,671,010	1,670,857
Intangible assets	10	274,144,768	269,206,522
Receivables from exchange transactions	5	10,582,816	10,370,469*
Total assets		2,170,458,552	2,771,609,099
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
		240,165,540	373,659,187*
Trade and other payables from exchange transactions	11	84,889,761	191,176,956*
Short-term portion of operating lease	12	2,476,654	-
Employee benefit	13	152,799,125	182,482,231*
Non-current liabilities			
		334,899,163	276,894,624*
Operating lease liability	12	13,829,524	22,673,489
Employee benefit	13	321,069,639	254,221,135*
Total liabilities		575,064,703	650,553,811
Net assets			
		1,595,393,849	2,121,055,288*
Accumulated surplus			
Total liabilities and net assets		2,170,458,552	2,771,609,099

Electoral Commission

Statement of Financial Performance for year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	31 March 2025 R	*Restated 31 March 2024 R
Revenue			
Revenue from non-exchange transactions			
Parliamentary allocation	14	2,336,804,774	2,291,276,062
Fair value gain		2,302,221,000	2,232,334,000
Donation received		-	29,491,750
Foreign and local aid assistance		999,994	-
Sponsorship revenue		-	9,197,100
Administrative fines		12,762,840	15,000,000
Service in kind		17,930,000	-
		2,890,940	5,253,212
Revenue from exchange transactions			
Political party registration fees	15	260,703,869	213,622,064
Elections related revenue		111,000	393,000
Interest earned*		129,707,368	51,744,932
Other operating revenue	15.1	130,047,291	161,165,813
		838,210	318,319
Total revenue		2,597,508,643	2,504,898,126
Expenditure			
Employee-related costs	16	(3,123,064,508)	(2,606,889,467)*
Goods and services	17	(1,021,300,489)	(1,113,097,718)*
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	18	(1,815,668,581)	(1,242,279,041)
Audit fees	19	(104,420,994)	(99,777,626)
Lease rental costs	20	(10,094,624)	(7,677,043)
Finance costs	21	(122,182,172)	(113,437,632)
Debt impairment	22	(31,748,770)	(29,708,386)*
		(17,648,878)	(912,021)
Total expenditure		(3,123,064,508)	(2,606,889,467)*
(Deficit) / Surplus on disposal of assets	23	(105,575)	117,131
(Deficit) for the year		(525,661,440)	(101,874,210)*

Electoral Commission

Statement of Changes in Net Assets for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	*Restated Accumulated surplus R	*Restated Total net assets R
Balance at 1 April 2023 as reported	34	2,288,439,237	2,288,439,237
Prior period error		(65,509,738)*	(65,509,738)*
Restated balance as at 01 April 2023		2,222,929,499*	2,222,929,499*
Restated deficit for the period		(101,874,210)*	(101,874,210)*
Balance at 1 April 2024		2,121,055,289*	2,121,055,289*
Deficit for the period		(525,661,440)	(525,661,440)
Balance at 31 March 2025		1,595,393,849	1,595,393,849



Electoral Commission

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

		31 March 2025 R	*Rastated 31 March 2024 R
Cash flows from operating activities	Note		
Cash receipts from customers		2,430,063,729	2,394,071,870
Parliamentary allocation received		2,302,221,000	2,232,334,000
Sponsorship revenue		1,558,282	-
Interest earned		125,375,338	151,848,515
Foreign and local aid assistance		-	9,197,100
Receipts from sale of goods and services		909,109	692,255
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		(2,866,474,964)	(2,305,402,095)
Cash payments to employees		(978,541,672)	(945,862,442)*
Interest payments		-	(8)
Cash payments to suppliers		(1,887,933,292)	(1,359,539,645)*
Net cash flows from operating activities	24	(436,411,235)	88,669,775
Cash flows from investing activities		(42,263,614)	(202,132,836)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	8	(32,552,991)	(145,296,731)
Purchase of intangible assets	10	(10,095,517)	(59,635,214)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	8	384,894	2,799,109
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(478,674,849)	(113,463,061)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,626,053,165	1,739,516,226
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	4	1,147,378,316	1,626,053,165

Electoral Commission

Comparison of Actual and Budgeted expenditure for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	31 March 2025 R Adjusted Budget (as per 2025 published ENE)	31 March 2025 R Actual as per the Statement of Financial Performance	31 March 2025 R Variance
Revenue	31			
Revenue from non-exchange transactions		2,304,343,000	2,336,804,774	(32,461,774)
Parliamentary allocation		2,302,221,000	2,302,221,000	-
Sponsorship revenue		1,122,000	12,762,840	(11,640,840)
Administrative fines		-	17,930,000	(17,930,000)
Donation received		1,000,000	999,994	6
Service in kind		-	2,890,940	(2,890,940)
Revenue from exchange transactions		110,468,000	260,703,869	(150,235,869)
Political party registration fees		39,000	111,000	(72,000)
Investment revenue		110,000,000	130,047,291	(20,047,291)
Elections related revenue		-	129,707,368	(129,707,368)
Other operating revenue		429,000	838,210	(409,210)
Total revenue		2,414,811,000	2,597,508,643	(182,697,643)
Expenditure	31	(3,192,264,891)	(3,123,064,508)	(69,200,383)
Employee-related costs		(1,122,423,859)	(1,021,300,490)	(101,123,369)
Goods and services		(1,968,477,465)	(1,997,343,024)	28,865,559
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		(101,363,567)	(104,420,994)	3,057,427
Total expenditure		(3,192,264,891)	(3,123,064,508)	(69,200,383)
Deficit on disposal of assets		(120,981)	(105,575)	(15,406)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(777,574,872)	(525,661,440)	(251,913,432)



Electoral Commission

Accounting Policies for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

1. Presentation of annual financial statements

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting and are in accordance with historical cost convention unless otherwise specified. A summary of the significant accounting policies, which have been consistently applied, except where an exemption or transitional provision has been granted, are disclosed below.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the effective Standards of GRAP, including any interpretations and directives issued by the Accounting Standard Board (ASB). The financial statements encompass the reporting period as specified in the Public Finance Management Act 1999 (PFMA).

Going-concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going-concern basis. In undertaking the going concern assessment for the foreseeable future, the Accounting Officer has considered and evaluated the following:

- Financial performance and projections;
- Current economic factors;
- Funding considerations;
- Solvency and liquidity considerations;
- Economic regulation risks;
- Current litigation matters;
- Contingent liabilities and
- Post balance sheet events;

The key features of this assessment are summarised as follows:

Electoral Commission Financial Performance

Electoral Commission's performance for the period ended 31 March 2025 improved in certain areas compared to the prior year with an increase in revenue from exchange increasing by 18% as result of

an increase in elections related revenue from SABC. Parliamentary allocations increased by 3% for the current year.

Funding considerations

The Electoral Commission is funded by the state. The Electoral Commission expects continued funding from the state to enable execution of its mandate. The fiscus is constrained and this has resulted in budget cuts over the MTEF cycle. In response to the cuts the Electoral Commission has reprioritised funds between projects and there has been consultation with National Treasury for a guaranteed retention of surplus to fund the core business.

On the 4th of September 2024 National Treasury approved the retention of cash surplus for 2023/24 financial year. All the projects for the current financial year were fully funded. The liquidity position remains stable. As at 31 March 2025 the Commission had a stable liquidity as reflected in cash and cash equivalents.

Litigation, contingent liabilities, and post balance sheet events

The Accounting Officer evaluated all significant matters, including ongoing legal proceedings and contingent liabilities with any developments during the reporting period and assessed their impact on the liquidity and solvency. The Electoral Commission does not expect a negative impact on its solvency.

Conclusion on Going-Concern Assumption

After performing the assessment and considering all associated risks, the Accounting Officer believe that there are currently no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions which may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern and thus the Electoral Commission will be a going concern in the foreseeable future. For this reason, we continue to adopt the going concern assumption in preparing the financial statements of Electoral Commission

Comparative figures

When the presentation or classification of items in the annual financial statements is amended, prior period comparative amounts are restated, unless a Standard of GRAP does not require the restatements of comparative information. The nature and reason for the reclassification are disclosed. Where material accounting errors have been identified in the current year, the correction is made retrospectively as far as is practicable, and the prior year comparatives are restated accordingly. Where there has been a change in accounting policy in the current year, the adjustment is made retrospectively as far as is practicable, and the prior year comparatives are restated accordingly.

Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in South African rand, which is the Electoral Commission's functional currency. All information has been rounded off to the nearest rand.

Budgetary information

The financial statements for the Electoral Commission are prepared on the accrual basis, using a classification based on the nature of expenses in the Statement of Financial Performance as per published in the ENE. The budget is approved on the accrual basis. Reasons for variances between actual and budgeted amounts are provided for in note 30. A difference above R15.6 million is considered to be material.

Offsetting

Assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses have not been offset, except when offsetting is permitted or required by a Standard of GRAP.

New standards, amendments to existing standards adopted

Topic	Effective date	Adoption arrangement
GRAP 1: Presentation of Financial Statements	Initial application 1 April 2023	Early adoption of entire Standard
GRAP 104: Financial Instruments	01 April 2025	Early adoption of entire Standard

1.1 Significant judgments and sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts

represented in the annual financial statements and related disclosures. Use of available information and the application of judgment are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future could differ from these estimates, which may be material to the annual financial statements.

Significant estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected. Significant judgments include the following:

Allowance for impairment of receivables

The Electoral Commission assesses its trade receivables and other receivables for impairment at each reporting date. In determining whether an impairment loss should be recorded in surplus or deficit, the Electoral Commission makes judgments as to whether there is observable data indicating a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows from a financial asset. The impairment for receivables is calculated on a portfolio basis and all debts over three months old, where payments are not being received, are impaired.

Impairment and useful live review of property plant and equipment and intangible assets.

The Electoral Commission determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation / amortisation charges for property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets. This estimate is based on the condition and use of the individual assets in order to determine the remaining period over which the asset can and will be used. The impairment of assets is estimated in line with accounting policy 1.17 below.

Provisions

The Electoral Commission assesses its provisions at each reporting date in determining whether an adjustment should be recorded in surplus or deficit.

Post-employment benefit -Employee benefit

A defined benefit plan is a plan that defines an amount of benefit that an employee will receive on retirement. Electoral Commission pays a lump sums benefit to employees who retires at age 60 to a maximum age of 65.

The defined benefit liability is the aggregate of the present value of the defined benefit obligation and unrecognised actuarial

gains and losses, reduced by unrecognised past service costs and interest cost. The plan is unfunded. The defined benefit obligation is calculated using the projected unit credit method, incorporating actuarial assumptions and a discount rate based on the government bond rate. Valuations of these obligations are carried out by independent qualified actuaries regularly, as may be required for fair presentation.

Remeasurements of the net defined liability (assets)

Remeasurements of the net defined liability (assets) comprise:

- Actuarial gains and losses;
- The net return on plan assets, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined liability (assets); and
- Any change in the net effect of the asset ceiling, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset).

1.2 Statutory receivables

Statutory receivables consist of administrative fines ordered by the Electoral Court on the political parties who failed to submit audited financial statements and statements as per s18(1) and (2) of the Political Funding Act 6 of 2018.

The statutory receivables are recognised when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the asset flow the Electoral Commission.

Initial Measurement

The assets acquired through a non-exchange transaction are initially measured at their fair value as of the date of acquisition.

Statutory receivables are measured at their fair value.

Subsequent Measurement

Statutory receivables are measured using the cost method less any impairment losses.

Derecognition

The Electoral Commission derecognises statutory receivables or a part thereof when the rights to the cash flows for the receivables are settled or waived.

1.3 Financial instruments

The Electoral Commission's financial assets comprise receivables from exchange transactions, and cash and cash equivalents. Financial assets are categorised, according to their nature, as either financial assets at fair value, financial assets at amortised cost or financial assets at cost.

The Electoral Commission's financial liabilities comprise trade and other payables from exchange transactions. The subsequent measurement of financial assets and liabilities depends on this categorisation.

Initial recognition

Financial assets and liabilities are only recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when the Electoral Commission becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The Electoral Commission recognises financial assets using trade date accounting.

Measurement

When a financial asset or financial liability is initially recognised, the Electoral Commission measures it at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset or a financial liability not subsequently measured at fair value, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability. Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets and liabilities are measured as described below.

Receivables from exchange transactions

Receivables from exchange transactions originated by the Electoral Commission classified as financial assets are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that an impairment loss has occurred. If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, for example, a default on payment arrangements or a delinquent debtor, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate.

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of

an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance. Interest income continues to be accrued on the reduced carrying amount based on the original effective interest rate of the asset. If, in a subsequent year, the amount of the estimated impairment loss increases or decreases because of an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is increased or reduced by adjusting the allowance account, and the amount of the gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments, readily convertible into known amounts of cash that are held with registered banking institutions with maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

For purposes of the Cash Flow Statement, as well as the Statement of Financial Position, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and other short-term investments. Cash and cash equivalents are measured at amortised cost.

Trade and other payables from exchange transactions

Trade and other payables from exchange transactions are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method.

The Electoral Commission's trade and other payables from exchange transactions relate to amounts owed to suppliers.

Derecognition of financial instruments

Financial assets are derecognised when the Electoral Commission loses control of the contractual rights that comprise the financial assets. The Electoral Commission loses control if the right to benefits specified in the contract are realised, the rights expire or the Electoral Commission surrenders those rights.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Offsetting

A financial asset and a financial liability shall be offset and the net amount presented in the Statement of Financial Position when and only when the Electoral Commission:

- currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts; and

- intends to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

1.4 Inventories

Inventories are initially measured at cost. Inventories shall be recognised as an asset if, and only if:

- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the line item will flow to the entity; and
- the cost of the inventories can be measured reliably.

Electoral and Promotional items

Electoral and promotional items stock are subsequently measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost where they are held for distribution at no charge. The cost of inventories is based on the weighted average principle, and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the inventories and other costs incurred in bringing them to their existing location and condition.

Consumable Stores

Consumable stores are subsequently measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated value in use in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion. Net realisable value for consumables is assumed to approximate the cost price due to the relatively short period that these assets are held in stock.

When inventories are sold, exchanged or distributed, the carrying amount of those inventories is recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised. If there is no related revenue, the expense is recognised when the goods are distributed, or related service is rendered.

The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value or current replacement cost and all losses of inventories shall be recognised as an expense in the period the write-down or loss occurs.

The amount of any reversal of any write down of inventories, arising from an increase in net realisable value or current replacement cost, shall be recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

1.5 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets that are held for use in the production or supply of goods and services or for administrative purposes, and are expected to be used during more than one financial period.

An item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Electoral Commission and the cost can be measured reliably. Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Elements of cost include the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located, and the obligation which the Electoral Commission incurs either when the item is acquired or as a consequence of having used the item during a particular period for purposes other than to produce inventories during that period.

Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost shall be measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Property, plant and equipment are stated in the Statement of Financial Position at cost less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. These assets are depreciated on the straight-line basis at rates that will result in each asset being written off over its useful life. When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

The estimate of the useful life of an asset is a matter of judgement, based on the Electoral Commission's experience with similar assets. The expected useful lives assigned to the assets in their respective asset classes upon initial recognition are reviewed on an annual basis.

The estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment upon initial recognition are as follows:

Class	Estimated useful life in years
Mobile structures	5 to 30 years
Furniture and fittings	8 to 15 years
Motor vehicles	5 to 15 years
Office equipment	5 to 10 years
Computer equipment	3 to 20 years
Voter Management devices	10 years
Scanners	10 years
Cell phones	3 years
Appliances	5 to 10 years
Leasehold Improvement	lower of lease term or useful life

Notwithstanding the above estimates, the useful life of each newly acquired asset is considered on capitalisation of the asset and should it seemingly differ with the above guidelines then a more reliable useful life is assigned.

In assessing the useful life of an asset, the following factors may be considered, namely:

- The period that the Electoral Commission expects to gain service potential from the asset.
- The ability to re-deploy the asset within the Electoral Commission over time.
- Whether the asset has been acquired for a specific project or purpose.
- The past experience of similar assets in use and the appropriateness of this given the technology embedded in the asset.
- Any assessment performed by an independent advisor on the condition of the asset or its expected life expectancy.
- The opinion of the user or relevant expert about the asset's "useful life".
- The repairs and maintenance practice of the Electoral Commission in assessing the useful life of an asset.

Each part of an item of property, plant and equipment with a cost that is significant in relation to the total cost of the item is depreciated separately. Depreciation is recognised in surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment.

Leasehold Improvement

Leasehold improvements are capitalised, as the Electoral Commission controls the assets for the period of the lease. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the assets' useful lives.

The Electoral Commission reviews the useful lives, residual values and depreciation methods of items of property, plant and equipment at least annually. Where expectations differ from previous estimates, the change(s) are accounted for as a change in accounting estimate. The review of assets' useful lives may, or may not, result in useful lives that differ with the estimates per asset class assigned upon initial recognition.

Subsequent costs

The cost of replacing part of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the part will flow to the Electoral Commission and its cost can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in surplus or deficit as incurred.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the assets) is included in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year it is recognised.

Electoral Commission

Accounting Policies for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

1.6 Heritage assets

Heritage assets are assets that have a cultural, environmental, historical, natural, scientific, technological or artistic significance and are held indefinitely for the benefit of present and future generations.

A heritage asset is recognised as an asset if, and only if:

- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the Electoral Commission; and
- the cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably.

A heritage asset that qualifies for recognition as an asset shall be measured at its cost. Where a heritage asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost shall be measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

The cost of a purchased heritage asset comprises:

- its purchase price, including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates; and
- any costs directly attributable to bringing the heritage asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Directly attributable expenditure includes, for example, costs initially incurred to acquire and assess the state of the heritage asset, costs to restore it, costs initially incurred to remove it or restore the site where it was located, professional fees, property transfer taxes, initial delivery and handling costs, installation and assembly costs, and other transaction costs.

After recognition as an asset, a heritage asset is not depreciated and is carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

The Electoral Commission will assess at each reporting date whether there is an indication that heritage assets may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the Electoral Commission shall estimate the recoverable amount or the recoverable service amount of the heritage asset. In assessing whether there is

an indication that an asset may be impaired, the Electoral Commission shall consider, as a minimum, the following indications:

External sources of information

- during the period, a heritage asset's market value has declined significantly more than would be expected as a result of the passage of time or normal use.
- the absence of an active market for a revalued heritage asset.

Internal sources of information

- evidence is available of physical damage or deterioration of a heritage asset.
- a decision to halt the construction of the heritage asset before it is complete or in a usable form.

Compensation from third parties for heritage assets that have been impaired, lost or given up shall be included in surplus or deficit when the compensation becomes receivable.

Transfers from heritage assets shall be made when, and only when, the particular asset no longer meets the definition of a heritage asset.

The carrying amount of a heritage asset shall be derecognised:

- on disposal, or
- when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising from derecognition of a heritage asset shall be determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the heritage asset. Such difference is recognised in surplus or deficit when the heritage asset is derecognised.

Information about assets that might be regarded as a heritage asset, but which, on initial recognition, do not meet the recognition criteria of heritage assets because they cannot be reliably measured are disclosed in the notes to the financial

1.7 Intangible assets

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance.

An intangible asset shall be measured initially at cost. Where an intangible asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its initial cost at the date of acquisition shall be measured at its fair value as at that date.

The cost of an intangible asset comprises:

- its purchase price, including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates; and
- any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Directly attributable expenditure includes, for example, professional fees, initial delivery and handling costs, installation and assembly costs, and other transaction costs.

Acquired intangible assets

Intangible assets are recognised when it is probable that future economic benefits specifically attributable to the assets will flow to the Electoral Commission and the cost of the intangible assets can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortised on a straight-line basis over their useful lives.

Class	Estimated useful life in years
Computer software	3 – 10 years

Electoral Commission

Accounting Policies for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

The amortisation period and the amortisation method for intangible assets are reviewed at the end of each reporting period. The amortisation charge for each period shall be recognised in surplus or deficit unless this or another Standard permits or requires it to be included in the carrying amount of another asset.

Internally generated intangible assets

Internally generated intangible assets arising from the development phase of internal projects are recognised when:

- the Electoral Commission has an intention to complete and use the intangible asset, and adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development are available;
- the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits or service potential; and
- the Electoral Commission is able to measure the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset reliably during its development.

Internally generated intangible assets have an indefinite useful life and as a result are not amortised. Management has done an assessment relating to the useful life of internally generated intangible software and applications, and came to the conclusion that they have an indefinite useful life. This is mainly due to the fact that there is no foreseeable limit to the period over which our internally generated applications are expected to provide service potential to the Commission. The Commission has developed the applications to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of its core mandate. The intention is to enhance these applications over time in delivering the services as intended indefinitely.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful life and those that are still under work in progress are tested annually for impairment. Internally generated brands, mastheads, publishing titles, mobile apps, customer lists and items similar in substance are not recognised as intangible assets.

Intangible assets not ready for use are not amortised.

The carrying amount of an intangible asset shall be derecognised:

- on disposal, or
- when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

1.8 Revenue from exchange transactions

Revenue from exchange transactions refers to revenue that accrued to the Electoral Commission directly in return for services rendered or goods sold, the value of which approximates the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

When goods or services are exchanged or swapped for goods or services that are of a similar nature and value, the exchange is not regarded as a transaction that generates revenue. When goods are sold or services rendered in exchange for dissimilar goods or services, the exchange is regarded as a transaction that generates revenue. The revenue is measured at the fair value of the goods or services received, adjusted by the amount of any cash or cash equivalents transferred. When the fair value of the goods or services received cannot be measured reliably, the revenue is measured at the fair value of the goods or services given up, adjusted by the amount of any cash or cash equivalents transferred.

Political party registration

Political party registration fees is revenue on application fee by new political parties and is recognised as revenue on receipt.

Investment revenue

Investment revenue comprises interest income on invested funds. Interest income is recognised on a time-proportion basis using the effective interest method.

Election Revenue

Electoral Commission may enter into non-monetary transactions (barter agreements) whereby goods or services are exchanged for other goods or services without the exchange of monetary consideration.

Revenue and the corresponding expenditure arising from barter

transactions are recognised only when:

- The goods or services received and provided are dissimilar in nature;
- The fair value of the goods or services exchanged can be measured reliably; and
- The entity has transferred to the counterparty the significant risks and rewards of ownership or rendered the agreed services.

Sponsorship

Where sponsorship is provided without the sponsor receiving directly measurable economic benefits in return, the transaction is treated as a non-exchange transaction. Revenue is recognised when:

The resources are probable to be received,

The amount can be measured reliably, and

There are no conditions attached that require return of funds or specific future performance (or those conditions have been satisfied).

Revenue is recognised at the fair value of the sponsorship received, which may include cash or in-kind contributions (e.g., donated goods or services).

Electoral Commission

Accounting Policies for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

1.9 Revenue from non-exchange transactions

Revenue from non-exchange transactions refers to transactions where the Electoral Commission receives revenue from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange. Revenue from non-exchange transactions includes parliamentary allocations, sponsorship income and voting stations lease rentals received at no cost from service providers.

Parliamentary Allocation

Parliamentary allocations and sponsorship income are recognised when there is reasonable assurance that the Electoral Commission will comply with the conditions attached to them, and the allocation will be received.

Revenue is recognised when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Electoral Commission and these benefits can be measured reliably. Revenue is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents the amounts receivable for services provided in the normal course of business.

Service in kind

The Electoral Commission receives voting stations for National and Provincial Elections, Local Government Elections and by-elections at no cost.

Recognition

An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction recognised as an asset is recognised as revenue, except to the extent that a liability is also recognised in respect of the same inflow.

Measurement

Revenue from a non-exchange transaction is measured at the amount of the increase in net assets recognised by the Electoral Commission. When, as a result of a non-exchange transaction, the Electoral Commission recognises an asset, it also recognises revenue equivalent to the amount of the asset measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition, unless it is also required to recognise a liability. Where a liability is required to be recognised, it will be measured as the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date, and the amount of the increase in net assets, if any, recognised as revenue. When a liability is subsequently reduced, because the taxable event occurs or a condition is satisfied, the amount of the reduction in the liability is recognised as revenue.

1.10 The effects of changes in foreign exchange rates

A foreign currency transaction is recorded on initial recognition in the functional currency, by applying to the foreign currency amount the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction.

Monetary items (i.e. cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables from exchange transactions, and trade and other payables from exchange transactions) are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items (i.e. property, plant and equipment) are translated using the exchange rate either at the date that the transaction occurred (when these items are carried at historical cost) or when fair value is determined (when these items are carried at revalued amounts).

Foreign currency differences arising from settlement or translation of monetary items are included in surplus or deficit, whereas any differences on translation of non-monetary items are included either in net assets (where any gains or losses on those items are recognised in net assets) or surplus or deficit.

1.11 Finance cost

Finance cost comprises the following:

- Interest expense on overdue accounts from service providers;
- Exchange loss (gain)

All finance costs are recognised in surplus or deficit using the effective interest method.

1.12 Foreign and Local aid assistance

In terms of foreign and local aid assistance requirements contained in financial agreements with benefactors, unexpended foreign and local aid assistance ring-fenced for specific projects are reflected as current liabilities in circumstances where such funds are repayable to donors in the event of the funds not being utilised on the specific project.

Unexpended foreign and local aid assistance funds that are not required to be repaid and that relate to completed projects are treated as operating revenue in the year that the projects are deemed completed.

1.13 Taxation

No provision is made for taxation as the Electoral Commission is exempt for tax in terms of Section 10(1)(cA) of the Income Tax Act. The Electoral Commission is not registered for value-added tax (VAT).

1.14 Segment Reporting

A segment is an activity of an organisation:

- that generates economic benefits or service potential (including economic benefits or service potential relating to transactions between activities of the same organisation);
- whose results are regularly reviewed by management to make decisions about resources to be allocated to that activity and in assessing its performance; and
- for which annual financial information is available.

Electoral Commission

Accounting Policies for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

The Electoral Commission is organised in geographical areas, has National office and a unit Party Funding, 9 provincial Offices, 10 warehouses and 272 Local offices. All services to voters and potential voters are delivered at all provincial and local offices. National Office is responsible for strategic and support services. For reporting purposes, the segment is a province which includes provincial offices, warehouses and local offices of that province and Party Funding unit. Head Office is treated as a separate segment.

The amount of each segment item reported is the measure reported to management for the purposes of making decisions about allocating resources to the segment and assessing its performance.

1.15 Operating leases as the lessee

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. A lease is classified as an operating lease if it does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The difference between the amounts recognised as an expense and the contractual payments are recognised as an operating lease asset or liability.

Free leases

- Voting stations – The Electoral Commission use the facilities rent-free mostly from municipalities and schools. An average of all voting stations payment made in a financial year is used to determine the rent free portion. Revenue is then recognised in the statement of financial performance.
- Leases – The Electoral Commission entered into free leases with various municipalities across the country. The cost cannot be reliably measured so we don't disclose amounts.

1.16 Employee benefit cost

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are measured on an undiscounted basis and are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the reporting period that the related service is delivered.

Post-employment benefits – defined benefit plans

The Electoral Commission pays a lump sum benefit to employees who retire at age 60 to a maximum age of 65, employees who are discharged as a result of injury on duty, appointment by the President or Premier, incapacity due to own accord, and incapacity not due to own accord and employees who are discharged as a result of ill health in terms of regulation 8A. The funds are accounted for at year-end. The expected costs of these benefits are accrued over the period of employment.

Independent qualified actuaries carry out valuations of these obligations. The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefits plan is determined using the projected unit credit method.

Actuarial gains and losses during the valuation period, arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Retirement benefits – defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the Electoral Commission pays fixed contributions into a separate entity (the Government Employees' Pension Fund) and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts.

As a condition of service all employees are members of Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPPF).

Accrual for leave pay

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognised when they accrue to employees. An accrual based on the salary, after taking

into account the estimated leave to be forfeited, is raised as a result of services rendered by employees up to the reporting date.

Long Service awards

Long service awards are paid to employees who have reached 10, 15, 20 and 30 years of service with the Electoral Commission. The following predetermined rules for service, as set out below.

Years of service	Effective date
10 years	14 days of vacation leave that may be taken or redeemed.
15 years	21 days' of vacation leave that may be taken or redeemed; and 2 weeks' salary
20 years	28 days' of vacation leave that may be taken or redeemed; and 3 weeks' salary
20 years	28 days' of vacation leave that may be taken or redeemed; and 3 weeks' salary

Recognition beyond 30 years will be considered by the Electoral Commission on a case by case basis when it becomes relevant.

The award for service period reached for 5 and 10 years will not be applicable to any employee appointed after the date of 1 October 2018.

1.17 Impairment of assets

Non-cash generating assets

Non-cash-generating assets are assets other than cash-generating assets. The Electoral Commission assesses at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required. The Electoral Commission estimates the asset's recoverable service amount. An asset's recoverable service amount is the higher of a non-cash generating asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. If the recoverable service amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable service amount. That reduction is an impairment loss recorded in the Statement of Financial Performance.

The value in use of non-cash generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential. Fair value less costs to sell is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's-length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties, less the costs of disposal. The Electoral Commission assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for an asset may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the Electoral Commission estimates the recoverable service amount of that asset. An impairment loss recognised in prior periods for an asset is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable service amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. If this is the case, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to its recoverable service amount. The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of depreciation or amortisation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods. Such a reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

1.18 Irregular, Fruitless and wasteful expenditure

Irregular expenditure as defined in section 1 of the PFMA is expenditure other than unauthorised expenditure, incurred in contravention of or that is not in accordance with a requirement of any applicable legislation.

All expenditure relating to fruitless and wasteful expenditure is recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year that the expenditure was incurred. The expenditure is classified in accordance with the nature of the expense, the corresponding revenue and debtor is also recognised when the expense is incurred.

Fruitless expenditure means expenditure which was made in vain and would have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised.

All irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure is investigated. In instances where fraud, corruption or criminal activities have been identified the necessary disciplinary procedures are implemented and civil and criminal cases will be made as appropriate. In other instances, the controls are reviewed, and improved where necessary, and training interventions conducted.

Irregular expenditure which has not been condoned by National Treasury or the relevant authority, then will be removed from the irregular expenditure register by the Accounting Officer if all the requirements of paragraph 58 of the Irregular Expenditure Framework have been met.

Any irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred and details thereof disclosed in the note.

All debts written off must be disclosed in financial statements, indicating the policy in terms of which the debt was written off.

1.19 Provisions, commitments and contingencies

Provisions

A provision is a liability where the timing or amount of the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential is uncertain.

A provision is recognised when:

- the Electoral Commission has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount of a provision shall be the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the present obligation. The discount rate shall reflect current market assessments of the time value of money and risks specific to the liability.

The amount of a provision is the best estimate of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date.

Provisions are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate. Provisions are reversed if it is no longer probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation. Where discounting is used, the carrying amount of a provision increases in each period to reflect the passage of time. This increase is recognised as an interest expense.

A provision is only used for expenditures for which the provision was originally recognised.

Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses and derecognised once the liability is realised.

Commitments

A commitment is an agreement between two or more parties that is binding on those parties to the degree that to renege on the agreement will be costly.

Commitments represent orders issued to suppliers that have been approved, but where no delivery has taken place as at year-end and contractual commitments.

Commitments are not recognised as liabilities or assets in the Statement of Financial Position but are included in the disclosure notes in the following cases.

- approved and contracted commitments;
- where the expenditure has been approved and the contract has been awarded at the reporting date (EXCO awards); and
- where disclosure is required by a specific standard of GRAP.
- Purchase orders created on the 31st of March where the service will be rendered at a future date.
- contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets.

Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events, the existence of which will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events that are beyond the control of the Electoral Commission.

Alternatively, a contingent liability is a present obligation that arises from past events, but which is not recognised because:

- it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation; or
- the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Contingent liabilities are included in the disclosure note, unless the possibility of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential is remote.

The contingent liability is removed from the schedule once the matter is closed by way of court case and/or mutual agreement.

Contingent assets

Contingent assets arise from unplanned or other unexpected events that are not wholly within the control of the Electoral Commission and give rise to the possibility of an inflow of economic benefits or service potential to the Electoral Commission. Material contingent assets are disclosed.

1.20 Related parties

A related party is a person or an entity with the ability to control or jointly control the other party, or exercise significant influence over the other party, or vice versa, or an entity that is subject to common control, or joint control.

Management are those persons responsible for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the group, including those charged with the governance of the group in accordance with legislation, in instances where they are required to perform such functions

The Commission is exempt from disclosure requirements in relation to related party transactions if that transaction occurs within normal supplier and/or client/recipient relationships on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those which it is reasonable to expect the group to have adopted if dealing with that individual entity or person in the same circumstances and terms and conditions are within the normal operating parameters established by that reporting entity's legal mandate.

Where the Commission is exempt from the disclosures in accordance with the above, the group discloses narrative information about the nature of the transactions and the related outstanding balances, to enable users of the entity's financial statements to understand the effect of related party transactions on its group annual financial statements.

Electoral Commission

Accounting Policies for the Period Ended 31 March 2025

2. Effect of new Standards and Interpretations of GRAP

The following Standards and Interpretations of GRAP have been approved, but are not yet effective:

Topic	Effective date	Impact
GRAP 1: Presentation of Financial Statements	Initial application 1 April 2023	The standard is currently being applied Under 1 of the accounting policy.
GRAP 103: Heritage Assets	To be determined	May not early adopt – Minister must still determine effective date
GRAP 104: Financial Instruments	1 April 2025	The standard is currently being applied Under 1.3 of the accounting policy
GRAP 105: Transfer of Functions Between Entities Under Common Control	To be determined	Not applicable to the Electoral Commission
GRAP 106: Transfer of Functions Between Entities Under Common Control	To be determined	Not applicable to the Electoral Commission
GRAP 107: Mergers	To be determined	Not applicable to the Electoral Commission

The adoption of this Standards of GRAP, when it becomes effective, is not expected to have a significant impact on the financial statements because it is currently being applied.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

3. Financial assets and liabilities by category

Financial assets recognised at amortised cost	Note	31 March 2025 R	*Restated 31 March 2024 R
Accrued interest	5	4,220,517	8,775,168
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,147,378,316	1,626,053,165
Cash collateral provided: property rentals	5	10,582,816	10,370,469*
Sundry receivables*	5	307,116	18,650,689*
		1,162,488,765	1,663,849,491

*The sundry receivables balance excludes an amount of R4,613,866 (2024: R1,900,000) relating to a barter agreement with SABC.

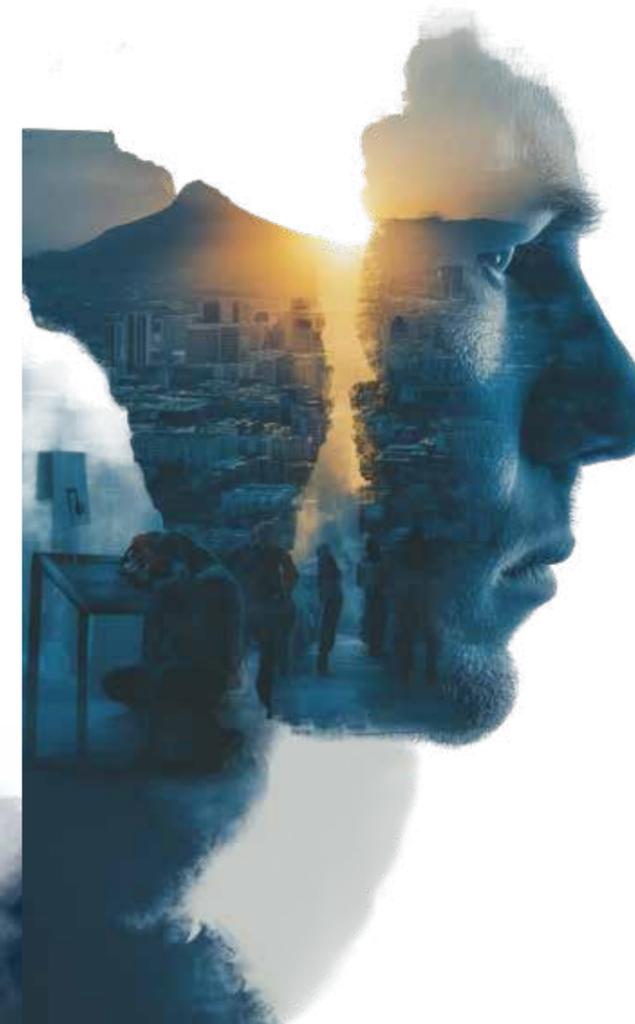
Financial liabilities recognised at amortised cost

Trade and other payables	11	84,889,761	191,176,956*
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4. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand	291,620	311,167
Bank balances	76,662,840	76,093,927
Short-term notice deposits	1,070,423,856	1,549,648,071
	1,147,378,316	1,626,053,165

No restrictions have been placed on the use of cash and cash equivalents for the operations of the Electoral Commission



Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

5. Receivables from exchange transactions*

Current	Note	31 March 2025 R	*Restated 31 March 2024 R
Accrued interest		4,220,517	8,775,168
Prepayments	5.1	43,951,037	47,467,113
		4,920,982	20,550,689*
Sundry receivables*		6,477,323	21,983,774
Less: Impairment allowance		(1,556,341)	(1,433,085)*
		53,092,536	76,792,970

*Included in the sundry receivables balance is the amount of R4,613,866 (2024: R1,900,000) remaining relating to a barter agreement with SABC and these amounts are not impaired.

Non-Current

Cash collateral – Property rental	10,960,623	10,698,854
Less: Impairment allowance	(377,807)	(328,385)
	10,582,816	10,370,469

Cash collateral represents deposits paid to landlords for office accommodation for the operations of the Electoral Commission. The amounts are carried at cost and are only recovered when the lease expires.

“Trade and other receivables from exchange transactions” name was renamed to “Receivables from exchange transactions” to better reflects the nature of the transactions. The Electoral Commission does not trade, the nature of the transactions is mostly ex-employees.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Receivables past due, but not impaired

As at 31 March 2025, all debt that was past due was impaired, as well as prior year.

Receivables impaired

As of 31 March 2025, receivables of R1,934,148 (2024: R1,761,470) were impaired and provided for. Factors taken into account when considering impairment included the age of the debt and the likelihood of recovery.

The ageing of impaired debts is as follows:

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
0 – 30 days past due	10,374	38,275
31–120 days past due	37,948	202,652
121–365 days past due	-	530,649
More than 365 days past due	1,885,826	989,894
	1,934,148	1,761,470

Reconciliation of allowance for impairment of receivables

Opening balance	1,346,138	1,346,138
Recoveries	(36,454)	(13,257)
Allowance for impairment	624,464	428,589
	1,934,148	1,761,470

The creation and release of the provision for impaired receivables have been included in operating expenses.

Receivables pledged as security.

The Electoral Commission has not pledged any receivables as collateral.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

5.1 Prepayments

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Administrative expenses	260,172	31,550
Deposit for election venues	-	4,797,050
Software licences	43,330,115	42,255,594
Subscription and membership	360,750	382,919
	43,951,037	47,467,113

All the above prepayments will be realised in the next 12 months and the significant portion relates to software licences which are annual subscriptions and payable in advance in terms of the contract.

6. Receivables from non-exchange transactions

Administrative fines	17,863,031	-
Less: Impairment allowance	(17,179,661)	-
	683,370	-

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

The administrative Fines relate to the fines imposed on the political parties who contravened section 12(2) of the Political Funding Act 6 of 2018.

Receivables past due, but not impaired

As at 31 March 2025, all debt that was past due was impaired, as well as prior year.

Receivables impaired

In March 2025, receivables of R17,179,661 (2024: zero) were impaired and provided for. Factors considered impairment are as follows:

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Invalid Emails	3,491,282	-
Represented Political Parties	16,145	-
No Response	12,875,273	-
Other Responses	433,706	-
Indicated no funding	363,255	-
Totals	17,179,661	-

Reconciliation of allowance for impairment of receivables from non-exchange transactions

Opening balance	-	-
Allowance for impairment	17,179,661	-
	17,179,661	-

The creation and release of the provision for impaired receivables have been included in operating expenses.

Receivables pledged as security.

The Electoral Commission has not pledged any receivables as collateral.

7. Inventories

Consumable stores	876,687	870,759
Electoral stock	15,978,080	50,355,508
	16,854,767	51,226,267

Electoral stock / Supplies acquired were used during monthly by-elections and NPE 2024 including overseas voting. Prior year relates to registration weekend 1 and 2 including overseas registration. These includes items such as ballot boxes, voting compartments, demarcation tapes and by-elections security items etc.

Inventories are not pledged as security.



Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

8. Property, plant and equipment (all figures in rands)

	31 March 2025			31 March 2024		
	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying amount	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying amount
Appliances	5,832,637	(4,713,868)	1,118,769	5,379,299	(4,549,822)	829,477
Cell phones	8,131	(6,199)	1,932	8,131	(5,302)	2,829
Computer equipment	317,668,582	(196,841,116)	120,827,466	318,400,096	(177,068,919)	141,331,177
Furniture and fittings	102,643,368	(68,140,309)	34,503,059	98,147,907	(63,314,009)	34,833,898
Leasehold improvements	16,852,314	(6,043,700)	10,808,614	10,437,404	(3,538,927)	6,898,477
Motor vehicles	154,653,138	(40,987,319)	113,665,819	139,535,121	(34,940,824)	104,594,297
Office equipment	76,708,636	(53,820,716)	22,887,920	72,271,400	(48,630,388)	23,641,012
Mobile structures	31,174,601	(10,499,775)	20,674,826	31,174,601	(7,135,406)	24,039,195
Voter management devices	544,533,104	(202,970,540)	341,562,564	544,638,074	(148,587,801)	396,050,273
Scanners	-	-	-	180,706,473	(180,674,778)	31,695
Total	1,250,074,511	(584,023,541)	666,050,969	1,400,698,506	(668,446,176)	732,252,330

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment – 31 March 2025

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Impairment Reversal	Depreciation	Impairment Loss	Closing balance
Appliances	829,477	462,440	-	-	(167,618)	(5,530)	1,118,769
Cell phones	2,829	-	-	-	(897)	-	1,932
Computer equipment	141,331,177	1,817,640	(244,090)	-	(21,890,061)	(187,200)	120,827,466
Furniture and fittings	34,833,898	4,823,919	(12,515)	-	(4,885,718)	(256,525)	34,503,059
Leasehold improvements	6,898,477	6,414,911	-	-	(2,501,774)	(3,000)	10,808,614
Motor vehicles	104,594,297	15,418,244	(126,299)	-	(6,220,423)	-	113,665,819
Office equipment	23,641,012	4,615,831	(6,505)	-	(5,274,279)	(88,139)	22,887,920
Mobile structures	24,039,195	-	-	-	(2,505,184)	(859,185)	20,674,826
Voter management devices	396,050,273	-	(69,521)	33,503	(54,451,691)	-	341,562,564
Scanners	31,695	-	(31,695)	-	-	-	-
Total	732,252,330	33,552,985	(490,625)	33,503	(97,897,645)	(1,399,579)	666,050,969

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

- There are no restrictions on title and disposal of property, plant and equipment. Property, plant and equipment are not allowed to be pledged as securities for liabilities. The asset condition and technological obsolescence were taken into consideration when determining whether the asset should be impaired. Repairs and Maintenance relating to property plant and equipment is R18,755,488 (2024: R18,934,694).
- The Electoral Commission contracted Maintenance and Support Services plan for R25,971,200 for the Voter Management Device over two years commencing on the second anniversary of the final delivery. The contract with the service provider is expiring 31 March 2026. R16,048,701 has been spent to date. The available balance is R9,922,499.
- Included in the additions for the current year is additions which are non-cash which was donated by Investec as disclosed in note 14.

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment – 31 March 2024

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	WIP	Depreciation	Impairment Loss	Closing balance
Appliances	764,982	200,667	-	-	(135,509)	(663)	829,477
Cell phones	3,726	-	-	-	(897)	-	2,829
Computer equipment	77,597,052	89,609,491	(163,468)	-	(18,016,702)	(7,695,196)	141,331,177
Furniture and fittings	35,844,309	3,853,672	(1)	-	(4,689,822)	(174,260)	34,833,898
Leasehold improvements	1,789,903	6,264,181	(6)	-	(1,155,601)	-	6,898,477
Motor vehicles	59,663,958	51,643,096	(2,228,166)	-	(4,446,175)	(38,416)	104,594,297
Office equipment	13,582,233	11,673,256	(17,184)	2,301,982	(3,886,808)	(12,467)	23,641,012
Mobile structures	16,716,415	9,242,136	-	-	(1,919,356)	-	24,039,195
Voter management devices	450,834,248	-	(273,153)	-	(54,477,319)	(33,503)	396,050,273
Scanners	31,695	-	-	-	-	-	31,695
Total	656,828,521	172,486,499	(2,681,978)	2,301,982	(88,728,189)	(7,954,505)	732,252,330

- Included in the additions for 2024 is a fair value gain as disclosed in note 14 that arose when assets were acquired through a non-exchange transaction and the cost was recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition. The non-exchange was because of the service provider for the maintenance of Storage Area Network (SAN) being unable to perform on its contractual obligation to maintain the existing equipment. As part of remedial measure, the service provider replaced the existing equipment to the Electoral Commission with new upgraded equipment at no cost resulting in the recognition of equipment at fair value. This line forms part of property, plant and equipment.
- Refer to note 26 for prior year capital commitments.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

9. Heritage assets (all figures in rands)

	31 March 2025			31 March 2024		
	Cost	Accumulated impairment losses	Carrying amount	Cost	Accumulated impairment losses	Carrying amount
Artwork	1,676,537	(5,527)	1,671,010	1,676,384	(5,527)	1,670,857

Reconciliation of heritage assets – 31 March 2025

	Opening balance	Additions	Impairment loss	Closing balance
Artwork	1,670,857	153	-	1,671,010

Reconciliation of heritage assets – 31 March 2024

	Opening balance	Additions	Impairment loss	Closing balance
Artwork	1,671,143	-	(286)	1,670,857

Asset conditions were considered when determining whether the asset should be impaired. There are no restrictions on title and disposal of heritage assets. Heritage assets are not pledged as securities for liabilities.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

10. Intangible assets (all figures in rands)

	31 March 2025			31 March 2024		
	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying Amount	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying Amount
Computer software	98,075,512	(80,289,289)	17,786,223	95,480,463	(75,132,016)	20,348,447
Internally generated software	256,358,545	-	256,358,545	248,858,075	-	248,858,075
	354,434,057	(80,289,289)	274,144,768	344,338,538	(75,132,016)	269,206,522

Reconciliation of intangible assets – 31 March 2025

	Opening balance	Additions	WIP	Amortisation	Closing balance
Computer software	20,348,447	2,595,049	-	(5,157,273)	17,786,223
Internally generated software	248,858,075	1,138,210	6,362,260	-	256,358,545
	269,206,522	3,733,259	6,362,260	(5,157,273)	274,144,768

Reconciliation of intangible assets – 31 March 2024

	Opening balance	Additions	WIP	Amortisation	Closing balance
Computer software	6,877,342	16,565,750	-	(3,094,645)	20,348,447
Internally generated software	205,788,613	20,566,788	22,502,674	-	248,858,075
	212,665,955	37,132,538	22,502,674	(3,094,645)	269,206,522

Intangible assets are not pledged as securities for liabilities.

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Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

11. Trade and other payables from exchange transactions

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Trade payables	50,453,239	144,346,366
Deposits received	20,297,901	35,430,576
EFTs not cleared for payment at year-end*	14,138,621	11,400,014
	84,889,761	191,176,956

* Refers to amounts paid on the last day of the financial year that do not reflect on the bank statement

12. Operating lease liability

Operating lease straight lining

Due within 12 months	2,476,654	(4,036,519)
Due after 12 months	13,829,524	22,673,489
	16,306,178	18,636,970
Total minimum lease payments		
Not later than one year	67,223,729	91,637,650
Later than one year and not later than five years	162,604,800	124,579,550
Later than five years	94,886,721	64,116,906
	324,715,250	280,334,106

The minimum lease payments reflected above relate to building lease commitments in respect of contracts that were in place and active as at 31 March 2025 only. Other contractual commitments, including new leases that were not active at 31 March 2025 are included under Note 26.

Operating lease payments represent rentals payable by the Electoral Commission, including the National Office, 9 provincial offices, 10 warehouses and 272 local electoral offices (2024: 272). No contingent rent is payable. New contracts entered into have an average term of five to seven years and escalate at an average of 8% per annum. The Commission has leased 64 (2024: 64) local offices from various municipalities across the country at no cost to the Commission.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

13. Employee Benefit

	31 March 2025 R	*Rastated 31 March 2024 R
13.1 Lump-sum retirement benefit		
Post-retirement benefits: Lump-sum retirement	286,918,327	219,793,000
The liability is reconciled as follows:		
Balance at the beginning of the year	219,793,000	203,033,000
Current service costs	14,739,572	12,792,000
Payments	(13,494,552)	(14,463,848)
Interest	26,262,424	24,439,000
Balance at the end of the year	247,300,444	225,800,152
Remeasurements	39,617,883	(6,007,152)
- Demographic assumptions	18,467,433	(9,891,000)*
- Financial assumptions	21,150,449	3,883,848*
Balance at the end of the year	286,918,327	219,793,000
Non-current portion	266,339,874	206,440,000
Current portion	20,578,452	13,353,000
13.2 Long Service Award		
Long Service Award Benefits	62,275,061	56,376,833*
The liability is reconciled as follows:		
Balance at the beginning of the year	56,376,833	66,134,516*
Current service costs	4,353,481	5,206,855*
Payments	(8,857,660)	(19,601,445)*
Interest	5,469,190	5,261,684*
Balance at the end of the year	57,341,844	57,001,610*
Remeasurements	4,933,217	(624,777)*
- Demographic assumptions	403,706	1,890,959*
- Financial assumptions	4,529,510	(2,515,736)*
Balance at the end of the year	62,275,061	56,376,833*
Non-current portion	54,729,765	47,781,135*
Current portion	7,545,296	8,595,698*

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31 March 2025 R	*Restated 31 March 2024 R
The current portion of employee benefit is reconciled as follows		
Lumpsums retirement	20,578,452	13,353,000*
Long service award	7,545,296	8,595,698*
Payroll payables	31,375,485	46,739,692*
Leave provision	93,299,892	113,793,841*
Total	152,799,125	182,482,231*
The non-current portion of employee benefit is reconciled as follows		
Lumpsums retirement	266,339,874	206,440,000*
Long service award	54,729,765	47,781,135*
Total	321,069,639	254,221,135*

13.3 Plan Assets

Lump-sum retirement benefit:

A cash benefit is given to employees when retiring between the ages of 60 and 65. The Electoral Commission will pay the employee an amount equal to 15 days salary for every completed period of 12 months that the employee has been in service of the Electoral Commission.

The liability amount was calculated as the expected amount payable to an employee on each age between 60 and 65 and

then discounting the expected benefit value to the valuation date.

Long Service Award:

Long service benefits are awarded as additional vacation leave days, granted upon achieving specified number of consecutive years of service. In recognition for extended service, employees also receive a payment equivalent to three weeks' salary.

The accrued liability is calculated based on the principle that each employee's long service benefit accumulates uniformly throughout their working life, up to the point when the benefit becomes

payable. The expected accrued benefits are discounted to the valuation date.

The actuarial valuations were performed by independent actuarial consultants using the projected unit credit method. The valuations will be performed on an annual basis.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

The valuation is based on the following principal actuarial assumptions:

Lump-sum retirement benefit:

Discount rate ¹	9.42%	13.24%
Expected retirement age	60 to 65	60 to 65
Number of employees	924	912
CPI	4.71%	7.71%
Salary Inflation rate ²	4.71%	7.71%
Net effective discount rate	4.49%	5.13%

Long service award:

Discount rate ¹	9.42%	10.83%
Expected retirement age	60 to 65	60 to 65
CPI	4.88%	6.10%
Salary Inflation rate ²	4.88%	6.10%
Net effective discount rate	4.53%	4.46%

1. Discount rate

The discount rate that reflects the time value of money is best approximated by reference to market yields at the reporting date on government bonds. Where there is no deep market in government bonds with a sufficiently long maturity to match the estimated maturity of all the benefit payments, an entity uses current market rates of the appropriate term to discount shorter term payments and estimates the discount rate for longer maturities by extrapolating current market rates along the yield curve.

We use the nominal and real zero curves as at 31 March 2025 supplied by the JSE to determine our discount rates and CPI assumptions. We obtained the implied duration of the liability and matched this with the point on the yield curve to obtain the Discount Rate and CPI assumptions.

2. Salary Inflation rate

We have derived the underlying future rate of consumer price index inflation (CPI inflation) from the relationship between the (yield curve based) Conventional Bond Rate and the (yield curve based) Inflation-linked Bond rate. Our assumed rate of salary inflation was set to equal the assumed value of CPI. This assumed rate of salary inflation represents the long-term inflation figure which corresponds to the Electoral Commission's liability profile and implied duration.

The salaries used in the valuation include an assumed increase of 6% on 1 April 2025, 6% on 1 April 2026 and 5.5% on 1 April 2027.

13.4 Sensitivity analysis

Withdrawal rate

Deviations from the assumed level of withdrawal experience of the eligible employees will have a large impact on the actual cost to the Electoral Commission. If the actual rates of withdrawal turn out to be higher than the rates assumed in the valuation basis, then the cost to the Electoral Commission in the form of benefits will reduce and vice versa. Illustrated below is the effect of higher and lower withdrawal rates by increasing and decreasing the withdrawal rates by 20%.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

The effect is as follows:

Lump - sum retirement benefit:

2025

	- 20% Withdrawal rate	Valuation Assumption	+20% Withdrawal rate
Withdrawal rate			
Total accrued liability	293,188,931	286,918,327	281,019,950
Current service cost	17,870,570	17,368,219	16,905,998
Interest cost	28,496,026	27,781,230	27,112,118

2024

	- 20% Withdrawal rate	Valuation Assumption	+20% Withdrawal rate
Withdrawal rate			
Total accrued liability	224,528,000	219,793,000	215,309,000
Current service cost	13,820,000	13,438,000	13,084,000
Interest cost	29,751,000	29,099,000	28,482,000

Long Service Award:*

2025

	- 20% Withdrawal rate	Valuation Assumption	+20% Withdrawal rate
Withdrawal rate			
Total accrued liability	64,193,737	62,275,061	60,477,665
Current service cost	4,809,083	4,615,699	4,439,029
Interest cost	5,677,579	5,482,810	5,301,461

2024

	- 20% Withdrawal rate	Valuation Assumption	+20% Withdrawal rate
Withdrawal rate			
Total accrued liability	58,170,840	56,376,833	54,699,874
Current service cost	4,476,996	4,353,481	4,131,231
Interest cost	5,673,994	5,469,190	5,278,875

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

13.5 Benefit increase rate

The cost of the lump-sum retirement benefit is dependent on the increase in the benefits amounts paid to employees. The rate at which these benefits increase will thus have a direct effect on the liability of future employees.

The effect of a 1% p.a. change in the benefit increase assumption as shown below.

Lump-sum retirement benefit:

2025

Benefit increase rate

Total accrued liability	262,038,328	286,918,327	314,841,682
Current service cost	15,719,763	17,368,219	19,241,984
Interest cost	25,429,531	27,781,230	31,056,774

2024

Benefit increase rate

Total accrued liability	201,644,000	219,793,000	240,164,000
Current service cost	12,214,000	13,438,000	14,829,000
Interest cost	26,616,000	29,099,000	31,888,000

Long Service Award:*

2025

Benefit increase rate

Total accrued liability	58,911,647	62,275,061	65,880,765
Current service cost	4,336,602	4,615,699	4,919,236
Interest cost	5,153,213	5,482,810	5,838,168

2024

Benefit increase rate

Total accrued liability	53,336,309	56,376,833	59,642,099
Current service cost	4,040,156	4,353,481	4,574,840
Interest cost	5,134,296	5,469,190	5,830,941

	-1% Normal salary inflation	Valuation Assumption	+1% Normal salary inflation
Total accrued liability	262,038,328	286,918,327	314,841,682
Current service cost	15,719,763	17,368,219	19,241,984
Interest cost	25,429,531	27,781,230	31,056,774

	-1% Normal salary inflation	Valuation Assumption	+1% Normal salary inflation
Total accrued liability	201,644,000	219,793,000	240,164,000
Current service cost	12,214,000	13,438,000	14,829,000
Interest cost	26,616,000	29,099,000	31,888,000

	-1% Normal salary inflation	Valuation Assumption	+1% Normal salary inflation
Total accrued liability	58,911,647	62,275,061	65,880,765
Current service cost	4,336,602	4,615,699	4,919,236
Interest cost	5,153,213	5,482,810	5,838,168

	-1% Normal salary inflation	Valuation Assumption	+1% Normal salary inflation
Total accrued liability	53,336,309	56,376,833	59,642,099
Current service cost	4,040,156	4,353,481	4,574,840
Interest cost	5,134,296	5,469,190	5,830,941

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Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

13.6 Discount rate

The valuation of the liabilities is dependent on the discount rate rates assumed in the calculation of the discounted liabilities. As such a deviation in the actual interest rates from those assumed in the valuation basis will have an impact on the present value of the accrued liability.

The effect of a 1% p.a. change in the discount rates is as shown below.

Lump - sum retirement benefit:

2025

Discount rate	1% - Discount rates	Valuation Assumption	+1% Discount rates
Total accrued liability	312,553,373	286,918,327	264,312,948
Current service cost	19,095,042	17,368,219	15,863,743
Interest cost	27,311,341	27,781,230	28,074,476

2024

Discount rate	1% - Discount rates	Valuation Assumption	+1% Discount rates
Total accrued liability	239,998,589	219,793,000	202,004,745
Current service cost	15,067,453	13,682,673	12,477,000
Interest cost	24,345,766	24,379,280	24,312,657

Long Service Award:

2025

Discount rate	1% - Discount rates	Valuation Assumption	+1% Discount rates
Total accrued liability	65,485,775	62,275,061	59,318,902
Current service cost	4,888,573	4,615,699	4,367,963
Interest cost	5,142,444	5,482,810	5,783,259

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Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Maturity Analysis

Expected payment

2025

Lumpsums retirement
Long service award

1-12 months

Later than 12 Months

22,532,406	266,339,874
8,395,416	54,729,765
30,927,822	321,069,639

2024

Lumpsums retirement
Long service award

13,353,000	206,440,000*
8,595,698	47,781,135*
21,948,698	254,221,135*

Effect on future cash flows for both benefits

The entity currently funds the defined benefit plans from ongoing operations. The actuarial estimate of the expected total contributions for the next reporting period is R30,927,822, with the lump sum retirement benefit contributing R22,532,406 and the Long Service Award contributing R8,395,416. The implied duration of the liability was actuarially calculated as 9.2 years for the Lump Sum Retirement Benefit and 5.4 for the Long Service Award. These figures won't decrease by one every year since the relative sizes of cashflows at different durations does not stay the same year on year. This is due to new entrants to the scheme, which introduces cashflows at longer durations. When employees retire, their shorter duration cashflows decrease over time if no new entrants join the scheme. The figure won't however decrease by 1 every year and will decrease steadily until the last liability is paid which could be in more than 30 years for the younger employees.



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Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

14. Revenue from non-exchange transactions

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Parliamentary allocation	2,302,221,000	2,232,334,000
Donation received ¹	999,994	-
Fair value gain ²	-	29,491,750
Service in kind ³	2,890,940	5,253,212
Foreign and local aid assistance ⁴	-	9,197,100
Administrative fines ⁵	17,930,000	-
Sponsorship Revenue ⁶	12,762,840	15,000,000
	2,336,804,774	2,291,276,062

1. This relates to a donation of devices received from Investec to assist with queue management during NPE 2024. This line forms part of property, plant and equipment.

2. Fair value gain - Arose when assets were acquired through a non-exchange transaction and the cost was recognised at fair value as at the date of acquisition. The non-exchange was because of the service provider for the maintenance of Storage Area Network (SAN) being unable to perform on its contractual obligation to maintain the existing equipment. As part of remedial measure, the service provider replaced the existing equipment to the Electoral Commission with new upgraded equipment at no cost resulting in the recognition of equipment at fair value.

3. Lease revenue represents savings on voting stations offered at no cost by service providers during monthly by-elections and NPE. This line item was renamed to "lease revenue" to "service in kind"

4. Electoral Commission entered into a project with African Renaissance and International Cooperation Fund (ARF) for, development of principles and guidelines for the use of Digital and Social Media in Elections in Africa. ARF is related Party to the Commission.

5. Administrative fines relate to penalties levied on political parties who have contravened section 12(2) of the Political Party Funding Act

6. R1.5 million relates to a sponsorship of KZN PEO Results Operation Centre by Kwa-Zulu Natal Provincial Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs. Cogta is a related party to the Electoral Commission. R11,262,840 relates to a sponsorship received from UNPD to assist with Conflict management, Disinformation and Election observation projects during NPE 2024.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

15. Revenue from exchange transactions

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Political party registration fees	111,000	393,000
Interest earned ¹	130,047,291	161,165,813
Elections related revenue ³	129,707,368	51,744,932
Other operating revenue	15.1 838,210	318,319
	260,703,869	213,622,064

1. Interest earned represents funds received on cash and cash equivalents. These investments are held with Standard bank. The increase is a result of higher interest rate of return and higher bank balance.

2. Investment Income name was changed to Interest earned to better reflects the nature of the transactions which is interest earned on surplus funds from Standard Bank, it also includes interest charged on debtors.

3. The Electoral Commission entered into barter agreements with the South African Broadcasting Authority (SABC) for promotional and content produced by the Commission in support of the campaigns for NPE 2024.

15.1 Other operating revenue

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Sale of Voter's roll ¹	32,950	116,800
Commissions earned	2,135	1,987
Short message services (sms)	168,033	124,343
Bad debt recovered	36,454	13,257
Fruitless & Wasteful expenditure	548	-
Other operating income ²	598,090	61,932
	838,210	318,319

1. Elections-related revenue was renamed "Sale of Voter's Roll"

2. Included in other income is an amount of R404,516 exhibition fees for E-voting conference held in March 2025 in Cape town

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Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

16. Employee-related costs

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Wages and salaries	855,693,726	961,981,711
Allowances	21,624,537	23,003,148
Employer contributions to defined contribution benefit plan (GEPF)	51,757,665	48,813,205
Employer contributions: other	31,164,306	28,373,490
Leave accrual	(3,550,778)	37,345,985
Employee benefit*	63,644,153	11,991,703*
Relocation costs	966,880	1,584,642
Deployment Cost	-	3,834
	1,021,300,489	1,113,097,718*

* Lumpsums retirement was renamed "employee benefit" to include Long service award.

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Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

17. Goods and services

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Advertising	220,582,510	156,506,922
Bank charges	3,186,742	2,167,129
Catering	1,369,816	2,078,340
Communications and connectivity	167,764,111	100,847,565
Conferences and workshops	154,871,624	69,119,626
Consumables	21,456,666	20,104,345
Insurance	6,242,568	3,188,994
Inventory	71,237,811	37,558,817
Printing and stationery	93,720,361	50,153,183
Professional services	358,657,981	299,567,128
Property expenses – other	30,541,651	27,570,904
Property expenses - voting station rentals	21,425,031	40,487,140
Rentals equipment	22,118,656	11,890,457
Software licenses	74,309,127	75,592,550
Storage and distribution costs	29,388,459	18,864,266
Study expenditure	2,083,633	2,127,251
Repairs and Maintenance	18,755,488	18,934,695
Subscriptions and membership fees	2,384,506	2,157,535
Subsistence and travel	426,641,228	190,343,601
Voting station staff	399,693,495	156,794,275
Other permanent and fixed term staff	26,947,733	33,549,326
Sundry expenditure	79,130	18,150
Travel expenses	88,851,482	113,000,443
	1,815,668,581	1,242,279,041



Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

18. Depreciation, amortisation, and impairment

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Amortisation	5,157,273	3,094,645
Depreciation	97,897,645	88,728,190
Increase in impairment allowance – property, plant and equipment	1,399,579	7,954,505
decrease in impairment allowance – property, plant and equipment	(33,503)	-
Increase in impairment allowance – Heritage Assets	-	286
	104,420,994	99,777,626

19. Audit fees

Auditor-General	10,094,624	7,677,043
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20. Lease rental costs

Lease rental costs	122,182,172	113,437,632
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The lease rental cost is the rentals paid for national, provincial, local municipal offices and warehouses.

21. Finance costs

	31 March 2025 R	*Restated 31 March 2024 R
Interest paid on late payments to suppliers	-	8
Exchange loss	17,156	7,694
Interest cost	31,731,614	29,700,684*
	31,748,770	29,708,386*

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

22. Debt impairment

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Write-offs	780	48,299
Debt impairment – sundry receivables	468,437	863,722
Debt impairment – statutory receivables	17,179,661	-
	17,648,878	912,021

23. (Deficit) / Surplus on disposal of Non-current assets

(Deficit) / Surplus on disposal of Non-current assets	(105,575)	117,131
Composition of deficit from sale of non-current assets		
Disposal of Non-current assets	(490,625)	(439,539)
Proceeds from sale of non-current assets	385,050	556,670
(Deficit) / Surplus on disposal of non-current assets	(105,575)	117,131

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

24. Cash generated from operations

	31 March 2025 R	*Restated 31 March 2024 R
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year	(525,661,440)	(101,874,210)*
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation, amortisation, and impairment	18 104,420,994	99,777,626
Surplus (deficit) on disposal of assets	23 105,575	(117,131)
Movements in operating lease liability and accruals	(2,330,792)	(5,242,416)
Movements in Lump-sums benefit	73,023,555	73,136,833*
Debt Impairment	17,648,878	912,021
Foreign exchange	17,156	7,694
Interest cost	31,731,614	29,700,684
Donation received	(999,994)	-
Fair value gain	-	(29,491,750)
Service in kind	(2,890,940)	(5,253,212)
Prior period error	-	(65,509,738)*
<i>Changes in working capital:</i>		
(Decrease)/ Increase in inventories	34,371,500	(15,063,742)
(Decrease)/ Increase in receivables from exchange transactions	23,018,870	(28,783,469)
Increase in statutory receivables	(17,863,031)	-
Increase (Decrease) in trade and other payables from exchange transactions	(170,986,024)	136,470,585
	(436,411,235)	88,669,775

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

25. Commitments

Commitments for capital expenditure

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Commitments for capital expenditure		
Approved but not contracted	-	-
Contracted	-	4,093,820
Total capital commitments	-	4,093,820
Not later than one year	-	4,093,820
Total capital commitments	-	4,093,820
Commitments for operational expenditure		
Contracted	153,913,269	160,876,648
Approved but not contracted	91,214,779	192,597,440
Total operational expenditure commitments	245,128,048	353,474,088
Not later than one year	99,735,886	126,949,653
Later than one year and not later than five years	47,954,922	32,648,815
Later than five years	6,222,461	1,278,180
Approved but not contracted	91,214,779	192,597,440
Total operational expenditure commitments	245,128,048	353,474,088

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Total expenditure commitments	245,128,048	357,567,908

Commitments disclosed take into consideration the escalation clauses as per the contractual agreements. The operating lease commitments in respect of contracts on which payments had been made during the year have been disclosed in the operating lease liability note (Note 12)

26. Contingent Liabilities

Legal	37,226,663	9,917,061
Other	5,659,575	8,546,799
Total contingencies	42,886,238	18,463,860

Legal contingencies relate to civil claims against the Electoral Commission. Staff contingencies relates to cases currently under consideration in terms of internal policies, by the CCMA or with the courts. The likelihood of these succeeding is difficult to determine. Other relates to lease contractual dispute with the landlord engagements are ongoing to find amicable solutions.

Other – relates to relates to billing discrepancies on service rendered with various service providers. The Electoral Commission and the service providers are still in discussion to resolve the discrepancies. The amount due and payable by both parties will be confirmed once the discussion is concluded by both parties and an agreement reached.

Retention of Surplus

The Electoral Commission has retained a surplus arising from its operations as at the reporting date. In accordance with National Instruction No 12 of 2020/21, the retention of such

surplus requires formal approval from the National Treasury, and this is beyond Electoral Commission control.

Historical precedents indicate that the National Treasury has consistently approved similar retention requests by the Electoral Commission. Consequently, based on past experience, the likelihood of non-approval is assessed as highly unlikely. However, the legal requirement for explicit approval introduces an element of uncertainty, necessitating disclosure of this contingency in line with GRAP 19.

The quantum of the contingent liability is contingent on the finalisation of the annual audit by the Auditor-General of South Africa on the 31 July 2025. The audit process will determine the surplus balance eligible for retention. Until the audit is finalised, the accurate amount remains provisional and may be adjusted for material misstatements or reclassifications identified during the audit.

No provision has been recognised in these financial statements, as the probability of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is deemed remote. In compliance with GRAP 19.27, the contingent liability is disclosed to ensure transparency regarding the conditions and uncertainties associated with the surplus retention.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

27. Contingent Assets

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Fruitless expenditure	357,906	-
Total contingencies	357,906	-

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure this relates duplicate payments made to a service provider. A compliance review of payments made to this specific service provider was initiated. The disclosed amount is the outcome of the review.

28. Financial instrument risk management

Financial risk management

The Electoral Commission's activities have limited exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk. Risk management is carried out by the Executive Risk Management Committee under policies approved by the Commission.

The Electoral Commission has developed a comprehensive risk strategy in terms of PFMA 38.1(a)(i) in order to monitor and control these risks. The risk management process relating to each of these risks is discussed under the headings below.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Electoral Commission will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Electoral Commission manages liquidity risk through an on-going review of future commitments and credit facilities. The Electoral Commission has adequate cash balances at its disposal and will meet short and long term obligations, thus limiting liquidity risk. Budgets and cash flow forecasts are prepared annually to ensure liquidity risks are monitored and controlled. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash through proper management of working capital, capital expenditure and cash. Due to the dynamic nature of its underlying operations, the Electoral Commission aims to maintain sufficient funding through a robust Medium-term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) budgeting process.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

The following are the contractual maturities of financial liabilities and Financial Assets:

	Carrying amounts	1–12 months	2–5 years	Later than 5 years
2025				
Trade and other payables	84,889,760	84,889,760	-	-
Receivables	15,110,449	4,527,633	10,582,816	-
Cash and cash equivalents	1,147,378,316	1,147,378,316	-	-
2024				
Trade and other payables	191,176,956	191,176,956	-	-
Receivables	37,796,326	27,097,472	10,370,469	-
Cash and cash equivalents	1,626,053,165	1,626,053,165	-	-

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Electoral Commission if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The Electoral Commission is mainly exposed to credit risk from Receivables as well as cash and cash equivalents, deposits with banks and financial institutions.

Credit risk

Financial Assets subject to credit risk:

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Cash and cash equivalents	1,147,378,316	1,626,053,165
Receivables	15,110,449	37,796,326

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Cash and cash equivalents

With respect to credit risk arising from cash and cash equivalents, cash is placed with authorised financial institutions. Financial assets that potentially subject the Electoral Commission to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and short-term deposits placed with Standard Bank an authorised financial service provider that has the following national short-term credit ratings:

Standard Bank credit rating

Rating Agencies	March 2025 Rating	March 2024 Rating
Fitch	BB- Stable	BB- Stable
Moody's	Ba2-Stable	Ba2 Stable
Standard and Poor	BB-Stable	BB Stable

Receivables

The carrying amounts of the financial assets represent the maximum credit exposure at the reporting date. However, the Electoral Commission credit risk is limited as a significant portion is for sponsorship amounting to R15 000 000 which was settled after year-end. The balance of credit risk is managed by Electoral Commissions internal process.

The maximum exposure to credit risk for trade receivables at the reporting date by category is:

Cash collateral provided (Note 5)	10,960,623	10,698,854
Accrued interest	4,220,517	8,775,168
Sundry receivables – employees and suppliers (Note 5)	1,863,457	20,083,774
Less: Impairment allowance	(1,934,148)	(1,761,470)
	15,110,449	37,796,326

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Age analysis of Receivables

The ageing of trade receivables net of the allowance for credit losses at the reporting date is as follows:

2025	Not past due	31 - 60 Days	61 - 90 Days	91 - 120 Days	More than 120 Days	Total
Sundry receivables	307,116	-	-	-	-	307,116
Accrued interest	4,220,517	-	-	-	-	4,220,517
Cash collateral provided	10,582,816	-	-	-	-	10,582,816
Total	15,110,449	-	-	-	-	15,110,449

2024	Not past due	31 - 60 Days	61 - 90 Days	91 - 120 Days	More than 120 Days	Total
Sundry receivables	18,612,414	38,275	-	-	-	18,650,689
Accrued interest	8,775,168	-	-	-	-	8,775,168
Cash collateral provided	10,370,469	-	-	-	-	10,370,469
Total	37,758,051	38,275	-	-	-	37,796,326

An amount of R1,934,148 (2024: R1,761,470) has been provided for as impairment and is included in the amounts disclosed above. This provision relates to identified debtors that were considered doubtful and were not likely to be received.

Market Risk

Interest Rate Risk

As the Electoral Commission has no significant interest-bearing assets, the Electoral Commission's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

The Electoral Commission is exposed to interest rate changes in respect of returns on its investments with financial institutions and interest payable on finance leases contracted with outside parties. The Electoral Commission's exposure to interest risk managed by investing, on a short-term basis, in the current accounts.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Sensitivity analysis

Interest	March 2025		
%	+50bps	Current	- 50bps
7.15%	72,200	72,562	72,925
8.85%	3,744,880	3,763,699	3,782,517
	3,817,080	3,836,261	3,855,442

Interest	March 2024		
%	+50bps	Current	- 50bps
7.90%	85,991	86,423	86,855
8.95%	44,404,260	44,627,397	44,850,534
8.47%	7,349,649	7,386,582	7,423,515
	51,839,900	52,100,402	52,360,904

Currency Risk,

Foreign currency arises where payments need to be made in foreign denominated currencies exposing the Electoral Commission to exchange rate fluctuations. The objective is to mitigate foreign currency risk by bringing certainty to future currency payments by hedging it to the rand, thereby insulating the Electoral Commission statement of financial performance against exchange rate fluctuations. It is the Electoral Commission's preference to enter into rand-based agreements to mitigate foreign currency risks. Where this is not possible, the Electoral Commission will hedge any currency exposure as soon as the agreements become firm and ascertainable.

Hedge accounting is going to be applied to all exposures greater than USD500,000 to minimise volatility in the statement of financial performance, the performance will be monitored monthly by EXCO, and the Finance, Risk and Compliance Committee.

Price risk

The Electoral Commission is not exposed to equity price risks arising from equity investments as the Commission does not trade in these investments.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Cash flow

Cash flow risk from operating activities happens when the amount of cash Electoral Commission receives or expected to receive from operations is less than all expenditures.

Electoral Commission is allocated funds from the fiscus to meet its Constitutional Mandate. Electoral Commission has controls in place that manages its cash flow risk by aligning the monthly parliamentary allocation to its estimated monthly activity levels. Electoral Commission required to submit the budget report versus actual report to National Treasury on the quarterly basis. Due to uncertainty of the new administration and potential policy changes which might affect budget cuts by National Treasury in the foreseeable future. The expected future cash flow is based on historical data. The basis provides for a stable and verifiable basis for financial reporting and budget allocation.

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Parliamentary allocation	2,302,221,000	2,232,587,000



Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

29. Related parties

Key management compensation

	Salary	Other Benefits	Total 2025	Total 2024
Commissioners				
Mosotho S Moepya – Chairperson	2,837,278	46,800	2,884,078	2,778,188
Janet Love – Vice-Chairperson	2,401,659	46,800	2,448,459	1,250,716
Dr Nomsa Masuku – Commissioner	2,471,340	46,800	2,518,140	2,436,449
Glen Mashinini – Commissioner	2,432,987	46,800	2,479,787	2,334,047
Judge Dhaya Pillay – Commissioner	1,051,349	42,900	1,094,249	481,650
Total	11,194,613	230,100	11,424,713	9,281,050

Commissioners are not members of the Government Employees' Pension Fund (GEPPF).

	Salary	Other benefits	Heightened activity	Total 2025	Total 2024
Executive Salaries					
Sy Mamabolo – Chief Electoral Officer	2,922,776	383,848	367,458	3,674,082	3,532,793
Mawethu Mosery – DCEO: Outreach	2,279,717	321,929	314,347	2,915,993	2,803,538
Masego Sheburi – DCEO: Electoral Operations	2,212,845	312,674	305,227	2,830,746	2,953,849
Akhtari Henning – DCEO: Corporate Services	2,212,845	312,674	305,227	2,830,746	2,744,250
George Mahlangu CE: Party Funding	2,147,922	304,310	296,373	2,748,605	2,604,171
Dawn Mbatha CA(SA) – Chief Financial Officer	2,279,717	321,929	314,347	2,915,993	2,803,538
Libisi Maphanga – Chief Information Officer	2,049,762	292,240	282,986	2,624,988	2,523,875
Total	16,105,584	2,249,604	2,185,965	20,541,153	19,966,014
Total key management compensation	27,300,197	2,479,704	2,185,965	31,965,866	29,247,064

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Balances with other related parties under common control

Related – Party balances

	31 March 2025 R	*Rastated 31 March 2024 R
Payables		
Department of International Relations and Corporations	4,288,748	-
State Information Technology Agency	221,954	-
Auditor-General of South Africa	1,161,894	-
Telkom	5,847,996	-
Government Printing works	21,184	-
Department of Home Affairs	19,549,000	-
Total	31,090,776	-
Receivables		
South African Broadcasting Corporation	4,613,866	1,900,000
Department of International Relations and Corporations	-	2,298,891
CSIR	18,500	-
Telkom	-	15,000,000
Total	4,632,366	19,198,891*

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution established in terms of section 181(1)(f) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) to promote and safeguard representative democracy in South Africa. The Electoral Commission is publicly funded and accountable to Parliament, yet independent of government in carrying out its operational functions. As a Constitutional Institution the Electoral Commission reports to the National Assembly. Accordingly, a related party relationship is implied notwithstanding that all Electoral Commission transactions with government entities are at arm's length and on commercial terms.

The core function of the Electoral Commission is the impartial management of free and fair elections in all spheres of government. The adequate funding of the Electoral Commission through parliamentary appropriation is necessary to ensure that the Commission deliver on its mandate in terms of electoral prescripts.

The parliamentary allocation transferred through the Department of Home Affairs has been disclosed in note 13.

Political Party Funding Act, Act 6 of 2018 provide for the establishment and management of Funds, to fund represented political parties sufficiently. The Electoral Commission and the Funds have the same Accounting Officer and as a result the Funds and the Electoral Commission are related parties.

The Electoral Commission is exempt from all the disclosure in relation to related party transactions if that transaction occurs within:

- normal supplier and/or client/recipient relationships on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those which it is reasonable to expect the entity to have adopted if dealing with that individual entity or person in the same circumstances; and
- terms and conditions within the normal operating parameters established by that reporting entity's legal mandate.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

30. Irregular, Fruitless and wasteful expenditure

	31 March 2025 R	31 March 2024 R
Irregular expenditure	10,533,423	3,265,858
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure	357,906	9,951
Total	10,891,329	3,275,809

30.1 National Treasury issued Instruction NO. 4 of 2022/2023

National Treasury issued Instruction no. 4 of 2022/2023: PFMA Compliance and Reporting Framework. The Instruction is issued in terms of section 76(1)(b), (e) and (f), (2)(e) and (4)(a) and (c) of the PFMA. The Instruction became effective from 03 January 2023.

Instruction no. 4 of 2022/2023 requires revised disclosure and reporting requirements for both irregular expenditure and fruitless and wasteful expenditure when incurred and confirmed.

Details of current and previous year irregular expenditure (under assessment, determination, and investigation) and details of current and previous year fruitless and wasteful expenditure (under assessment, determination, and investigation), are reported in the Annual Report.

The current and comparatives have been adjusted to reflect the requirement of the new instruction in terms of legislative requirement.

30.2 Consequence Management

In instances where fraud, corruption or criminal activities have been identified the necessary disciplinary procedures have been implemented and civil and criminal cases have been

made as appropriate. In other instances, the controls have been reviewed and improved where necessary and training interventions have been or will be conducted. Investigations are ongoing in relation to transactions that have been identified as potentially irregular, and if confirmed as irregular this will be disclosed in the year in which the irregularity is confirmed.

31. Explanation of variances between Budget and Statement of Financial Performance

- Revenue: The increase in revenue mainly relates to donations received, sponsorship income, elections related revenue and administrative fines assistance which are not budgeted for and are therefore not included in the voted budget.
- Employee-related costs: The underspend on employee-related costs is mainly due to permanent staff vacancies not being filled owing to an ongoing labour case related to the implementation of an organisational structure review.
- Goods and Services: The 2024 NPE was not sufficiently funded when the ENE was published and the Commission had to re-prioritise funds from other classifications. The affected classification was later

replenished when the retention of 2023/24 unspent funds was by National Treasury.

- Depreciation, amortisation and impairment: The difference (increase) in the amounts for depreciation, amortisation and impairment is largely as a result of the useful life review and residual value assessments that are conducted annually at financial year-end.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

32. Events after balance sheet date

None

33. Going concern

After performing the assessment and considering all associated risks, the Accounting Officer believe that there are currently no material uncertainties relating to events or conditions which may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern and thus the Electoral Commission will be a going concern in the foreseeable future. For this reason, we continue to adopt the going concern assumption in preparing the financial statements of Electoral Commission.

34. Prior period error

34.1 Long Service

Background

Long service award is a defined employee benefit that vest when an employee reaches a number of years of service in terms of approved policy.

Long service award was incorrectly applied in terms of GRAP 25 in prior years. This resulted in understatement of employee benefit liability and expenditure.

The error has been corrected retrospectively as per below.

	March 2024 R
Statement of Financial Performance	
Decrease in employee cost (service cost)	(R14,394,589)
Increase in Finance cost (interest cost)	R5,261,684
Statement of Financial Position	
Increase in Employee benefit (Long Service awards)	(R56,376,833)
Decrease in retained earnings 01 April 2024	
Impact on opening balance as of 01 April 2024	(R65,509,738)

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

34.2 Employee benefits

Background

This correction of an error is to align to GRAP 25 by including employee benefits to reconcile the amounts to the face of the financial statements. This note was omitted in the prior year. In terms of GRAP 1 entities are required to disclose additional information to support the amounts presented on the face. The "Lumpsums retirement benefit" was renamed "Employee benefit". The impact on retained earnings refer to note 34.2.

	March 2024
The current portion of employee benefit is reconciled as followed	
<i>Current portion</i>	
Lumpsums retirement	13,353,000
Long service award	8,595,698
Payroll payables	46,739,692
Leave provision	113,793,841
Total	182,482,231
The non-current portion of employee benefit is reconciled as followed:	
<i>Non-current portion</i>	
Lumpsums retirement	206,440,000
Long service award	47,781,135
Total	254,221,135

34.3 Changes in the value of the obligation

The Electoral Commission previously disclosed "Changes in present value obligation" for 4 years as per below. The current disclosure requires one comparative year which is adequate for users of financial statements as previously required by the standard. This disclosure was removed from note 13 as it is no longer a GRAP 25 requirement.



Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Changes in the value of the obligation:

	31 March 2024 R	31 March 2023 R	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
Lump-sum retirement benefit	219,793,000	203,033,000	177,070,000	152,022,000

34.4 Employee benefits (discount rate on Lump sums retirement benefit)

The sensitivity analysis for 2024 on discount rate was omitted from prior disclosure in terms of GRAP 25.152

Below is the effect of the change with no impact on retained earnings.

The valuation of the liabilities is dependent on the discount rate rates assumed in the calculation of the discounted liabilities. As such a deviation in the actual interest rates from those assumed in the valuation basis will have an impact on the present value of the accrued liability.

The effect of a 1% p.a. change in the discount rates is as shown below.

Lump-sum retirement benefit:

2024

Discount rate	-1% Discount rates	Valuation Assumption	+1% Discount rates
Total accrued liability	239,998,589	219,793,000	202,004,745
Current service cost	15,067,453	13,682,673	12,477,000
Interest cost	24,345,766	24,379,280	24,312,657



Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

34.5 Reclassification of employee benefits

Background

Leave pay accruals and payroll payables in their nature are employee benefits in terms of GRAP 25. These transactions were incorrectly classified as trade and other payables. The correction as per below with no impact on retained earnings.

March 2024
R

Statement of Financial Position

Current liabilities

Increase in Employee benefit	160,533,533
Decrease in Trade and Other payables	(160,533,533)

Note 13 - Employee Benefit

The lump-sum retirement benefit and the long service award was disclosed in note 13. However, the following the effect of future cash flows - a maturity analysis for expected payments was not being disclosed.

Expected payment	Maturity Analysis	
	1-12 months	Later than 12 Months
	2024	
Lump-sums retirement	13,353,000	206,440,000
Long service award	8,595,698	47,781,135
	21,948,698	254,221,135

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

34.6 Related Parties

Background

In prior year the note (28) did not have totals and the classification of transactions. For fair presentation, the table has been corrected as per below. There is no impact on retained earnings.

Balances with other related parties under common control

Note Related – Party balances

	March 2024 R
Common control	
Receivables	
South African Broadcasting Corporation	1,900,000
Department of International Relations and Corporations	2,298,891
Telkom	15,000,000
Total	19,198,891

34.7 Employee benefit (Remeasurements)

Background

In prior year remeasurements of the liability were not disclosed in terms of GRAP25.149(C). The standard requires the actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions to be disclosed separately from actuarial gains and losses arising from changes in financial assumptions.

	March 2024 R
Lump-sums retirement	
Remeasurements	(6,007,152)
- Demographic assumptions	(9,891,000)
- Financial assumptions	3,883,848

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

34.8 Correction of prior period error: Financial instrument disclosure

Background

Prior period error relates to correction made to note 3 on financial instruments to ensure compliance with the requirement of GRAP 104 – Financial Instruments.

Leave pay accruals and payroll payables were incorrectly considered in the prior year as financial instruments, for disclosure on the nature and extent of risk arising from financial instruments (note 3: financial Assets and Liability by category). In terms of GRAP 104: Financial Instruments, employers' rights and obligations under employee benefit plan, to which GRAP 25: Employee Benefits applies. Leave pay accruals and payroll payables meet the definition of employee benefits and not within the scope of GRAP 104: Financial Instruments.

The impact of restatement on the disclosure for comparative information is as follows;

	31 March 2024 R
Decrease in trade payables	(160,533,533)

34.9 Reclassification of Trade and Other payables

Background

Prior period error relates to correction made to note 11 (Trade and other payables) deposit received were incorrectly classified as "EFTs not cleared for payment at year-end" below is the correction.

	31 March 2024
Increase in Deposit received	R 949,776
Decrease in EFTs not cleared for payment at year-end	(R949,776)

There is no impact on retained earnings.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

35. Segment reporting

Segment Reporting As At 31 March 2025

Statement of Financial Performance												
2024 / 2025	National Office	Political Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	Kwa Zulu Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North - West	Western Cape	Total
REVENUE												
Revenue from non-exchange transactions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inter-segment transfers	664,705,068	12,399,376	283,154,509	122,896,022	198,455,809	299,196,136	128,421,250	194,562,654	111,157,333	128,847,605	158,425,238	2,302,221,000
Service in kind	-	-	181,210	431,095	777,251	631,186	124,102	132,473	107,887	216,623	289,113	2,890,940
Donation received	999,994	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	999,994
Sponsorship	12,762,840	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,762,840
Administrative fines	17,930,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,930,000
Revenue from exchange transfers	260,587,332	-	-	14,420	64,024	38,093	-	-	-	-	-	260,703,869
Total Segment Revenue	956,985,234	12,399,376	283,335,719	123,341,537	199,297,084	299,865,415	128,545,352	194,695,127	111,265,220	129,064,228	158,714,351	2,597,508,643
Employee Cost	(227,622,472)	(6,995,906)	(137,134,864)	(62,086,211)	(81,166,702)	(140,820,993)	(62,358,778)	(64,745,410)	(92,289,704)	(64,963,684)	(79,115,765)	(1,021,300,489)
Goods and Services	(1,089,145,746)	(7,506,096)	(121,914,480)	(51,333,474)	(109,384,618)	(144,964,385)	(57,882,659)	(34,061,720)	(86,088,714)	(51,015,394)	(62,371,295)	(1,815,668,581)
Depreciation and Amortisation	(80,678,004)	(719,091)	(3,851,266)	(1,505,119)	(2,887,868)	(3,962,808)	(1,479,842)	(2,040,647)	(3,275,548)	(1,601,089)	(2,419,712)	(104,420,994)
Audit Fees	(9,580,720)	(513,904)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(10,094,624)
Debt Impairment	(17,648,878)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(17,648,878)
Finance cost	(31,748,770)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(31,748,770)
Lease rental costs	(28,196,693)	-	(22,683,295)	(5,407,651)	(7,317,102)	(12,122,704)	(10,113,274)	(9,536,344)	(7,761,677)	(7,628,103)	(11,415,329)	(122,182,172)
Total Segment Expenses	(1,484,621,283)	(17,734,997)	(285,583,905)	(120,332,455)	(200,756,290)	(301,870,890)	(131,834,553)	(110,384,121)	(189,415,643)	(125,208,270)	(155,322,101)	(3,123,064,508)
(Deficit) on sale of assets	(117,651)	-	(36,590)	(2,631)	124,691	(20,203)	(8,109)	(6,891)	(22,536)	8,050	(23,705)	(105,575)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(527,753,700)	(5,335,621)	(2,284,776)	3,006,451	(1,334,515)	(2,025,678)	(3,297,310)	84,304,115	(78,172,959)	3,864,008	3,368,545	(525,661,440)

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Financial Position												
2024 / 2025	National Office	Political Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	Kwa Zulu Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North - West	Western Cape	Total
Current Assets	1,187,508,355	228,447	3,542,891	3,158,146	3,958,003	4,366,913	2,077,968	3,507,321	3,413,919	3,270,936	2,976,090	1,218,008,989
Cash and cash equivalents	1,127,272,329	228,447	1,895,407	1,988,599	2,823,368	1,911,432	1,287,915	2,550,339	2,562,481	2,689,927	2,168,072	1,147,378,316
Trade and other receivables	51,837,910	-	256,095	102,227	142,807	366,790	145,489	29,951	29,144	112,190	69,933	53,092,536
Statutory receivables	683,370	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	683,370
Inventories	7,714,746	-	1,391,389	1,067,320	991,828	2,088,691	644,564	927,031	822,294	468,819	738,085	16,854,767
Non-current Assets	735,648,564	13,662,347	33,155,399	11,575,795	27,857,276	35,229,603	10,807,071	17,733,261	29,805,501	15,215,557	21,759,189	952,449,563
PPE	466,834,509	1,246,161	31,936,355	11,212,307	27,724,292	34,349,810	10,342,129	17,258,658	29,544,470	14,935,436	20,666,842	666,050,969
Heritage	1,477,628	-	111,665	13,399	25,098	10,723	7,232	-	7,573	15,595	2,097	1,671,010
Intangibles	261,728,582	12,416,186	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	274,144,768
Trade and other receivables	5,607,845	-	1,107,379	350,089	107,886	869,070	457,710	474,603	253,458	264,526	1,090,250	10,582,816
Total assets	1,923,156,919	13,890,794	36,698,290	14,733,941	31,815,279	39,596,516	12,885,039	21,240,582	33,219,420	18,486,493	24,735,279	2,170,458,552
LIABILITIES												
Current Liabilities	118,773,788	6,660,831	11,706,074	16,172,826	12,305,383	10,054,183	13,309,476	9,599,711	11,355,329	22,486,108	7,741,831	240,165,540
Trade payables	75,108,974	-	1,229,848	615,683	1,278,400	1,553,825	415,213	792,364	1,696,949	953,084	1,245,421	84,889,761
Short term of operating lease liability	(1,051,809)	-	15,546	367,559	1,140,933	-	329,281	-	796,033	430,037	449,074	2,476,654
Employee benefit	44,716,623	6,660,831	10,460,680	15,189,584	9,886,050	8,500,358	12,564,982	8,807,347	8,862,347	21,102,987	6,047,336	152,799,125
Non-current liabilities	334,245,987	-	2,176,371	(361,123)	(1,002,803)	356,153	(301,340)	841,604	(656,760)	(338,555)	(60,371)	334,899,163
Operating lease liability	13,176,349	-	2,176,371	(361,123)	(1,002,803)	356,153	(301,340)	841,604	(656,760)	(338,555)	(60,371)	13,829,524
Lump-sums retirement benefit	321,069,639	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	321,069,639
Total liabilities	453,019,775	6,660,831	13,882,445	15,811,703	11,302,580	10,410,336	13,008,136	10,441,315	10,698,569	22,147,553	7,681,460	575,064,703
Accumulated Surplus	1,595,393,849	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,595,393,849
Total Liabilities and net assets	2,048,103,624	6,660,831	13,882,445	15,811,703	11,302,580	10,410,336	13,008,136	10,441,315	10,698,569	22,147,553	7,681,460	2,170,458,552
Permanent	128	5	161	56	76	143	60	64	91	66	74	924
No of Offices	2	0	40	20	38	52	18	27	26	19	30	272

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Segment Reporting As At 31 March 2024*

Statement of Financial Performance												
2023 / 2024	National Office	Political Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	Kwa Zulu Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North-West	Western Cape	Total
REVENUE												
Revenue from non-exchange transactions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inter-segment transfers	723,625,911	17,216,347	261,566,718	114,626,586	158,992,992	284,164,116	118,527,403	174,636,648	113,272,035	118,610,538	147,094,706	2,232,334,000
Service in kind	-	-	351,912	817,538	1,398,021	1,157,472	237,244	233,478	159,102	375,350	523,095	5,253,212
Sponsorship	15,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,000,000
Fair value gain	29,491,750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,491,750
Foreign and local aid assistance	9,197,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,197,100
Revenue from exchange transfers	213,570,579	-	-	9,778	11,268	15,377	990.	3,049	2,271	8,752	-	213,622,064
Total Segment Revenue	990,885,340	17,216,347	261,918,630	115,453,902	160,402,281	285,336,965	118,765,637	174,873,175	113,433,408	118,994,640	147,617,801	2,504,898,126
Employee Cost	(227,833,337)	(8,806,242)	(148,756,090)	(68,799,433)	(95,053,517)	(164,195,078)	(69,453,372)	(68,373,066)	(102,117,142)	(73,548,089)	(86,162,352)	(1,113,097,718)*
Goods and Services	(809,675,606)	(1,012,401)	(79,992,631)	(34,043,638)	(49,174,518)	(85,183,759)	(32,075,379)	(29,328,091)	(54,911,232)	(32,605,263)	(34,276,523)	(1,242,279,041)
Depreciation and Amortisation	(81,700,873)	(532,656)	(3,103,437)	(1,101,609)	(1,943,295)	(3,401,179)	(1,224,459)	(1,585,870)	(2,232,896)	(1,385,274)	(1,566,078)	(99,777,626)
Audit Fees	(7,677,043)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(7,677,043)
Debt Impairment	(912,021)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(912,021)
Finance cost	(29,708,386)*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(29,708,386)*
Operating Lease expense	(22,697,250)	-	(22,187,080)	(4,206,654)	(6,524,419)	(12,998,322)	(9,486,112)	(9,220,881)	(8,442,770)	(6,670,827)	(11,003,317)	(113,437,632)
Total Segment Expenses	(1,180,204,516)	(10,351,299)	(254,039,238)	(108,151,334)	(152,695,749)	(265,778,338)	(112,239,322)	(108,507,908)	(167,704,040)	(114,209,453)	(133,008,270)	(2,606,889,467)
(Deficit) on sale of assets	(20,486)	-	77,338	(75,540)	16,681	(3,038)	(27,389)	52,982	2,095	499	93,989	117,131
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(189,339,662)	6,865,048	7,956,730	7,227,028	7,723,213	19,555,589	6,498,926	66,418,249	(54,268,537)	4,785,686	14,703,520	(101,874,210)*

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Financial Position												
2023 / 2024	National Office	Political Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	Kwa Zulu Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North-West	Western Cape	Total
Current Assets	1,700,681,675*	-	9,184,280	3,420,188	8,135,542	9,573,000	4,361,092	3,994,796	4,879,307	5,069,191	8,809,850	1,758,108,921*
Receivables	71,706,261*	-	1,318,706	-	5,490	246,950	-	9,167	10,017	1,500	3,494,879	76,792,970 *
Cash and cash equivalents	1,614,861,837	-	598,266	31,330	1,401,068	1,297,665	1,499,454	1,658,895	5,207	2,487,250	2,212,193	1,626,053,165
Current short-term portion of lease	1,500,597	-	734,457	147,319	121,607	98,760	207,484	216,217	542,739	280,073	187,266	4,036,519
Inventories	12,612,980	-	6,532,851	3,241,539	6,607,377	7,929,625	2,654,154	2,110,517	4,321,344	2,300,368	2,915,512	51,226,267
Non-current Assets	814,894,320	1,870,547	35,642,108	9,492,486	21,466,203	36,591,797	11,831,546	17,954,760	27,941,720	16,032,746	20,110,330	1,013,828,563
PPE	538,591,426	1,870,547	34,401,217	9,089,792	21,194,466	35,934,295	11,385,499	17,474,787	27,681,818	15,753,888	18,874,595	732,252,330
Heritage	1,478,604	-	111,665	13,399	25,098	10,723	7,232	-	6444	15,595	2,097	1,670,857
Intangibles	269,206,522	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	269,206,522
Receivables	5,289,383*	-	1,129,226	389,295	246,639	646,779	438,815	479,973	253,458	263,263	1,233,638	10,370,469*
Total assets	2,515,247,610	1,870,547	44,826,388	12,912,674	29,601,745	46,164,797	16,192,638	21,949,556	32,821,027	21,101,937	28,920,180	2,771,609,099
LIABILITIES												
Current Liabilities	214,820,095	235,794	21,053,908	13,661,782	19,257,581	26,914,319	10,600,416	16,518,432	21,006,952	13,874,840	15,715,068	373,659,187*
Trade payables	165,350,006	0.00	2,330,848	1,830,015	2,525,131	6,401,870	634,090	3,893,659	4,076,456	2,799,539	1,335,342	191,176,956*
Employee benefit	49,470,089	235,794	18,723,060	11,831,767	16,732,450	20,512,449	9,966,326	12,624,773	16,930,496	11,075,301	14,379,726	182,482,231*
Non-current liabilities	273,024,117	-	1,077,930	294,701	121,571	515,674	401,874	280,188	542,619	235,821	400,129	276,894,624*
Operating lease liability	18,802,982	-	1,077,930	294,701	121,571	515,674	401,874	280,188	542,619	235,821	400,129	22,673,489
Employee benefit	254,221,135*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	254,221,135*
Total liabilities	487,844,212	235,794	22,131,838	13,956,483	19,379,152	27,429,993	11,002,290	16,798,620	21,549,571	14,110,661	16,115,197	650,553,811*
Accumulated Surplus	2,121,055,288	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,121,055,288*
Total Liabilities and net assets	2,608,899,500	235,794	22,131,838	13,956,483	19,379,152	27,429,993	11,002,290	16,798,620	21,549,571	14,110,661	16,115,197	2,771,609,099
Permanent	129	5	158	56	78	128	57	61	93	69	76	910
No of Offices	2	0	40	20	38	52	18	27	26	19	30	272

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

36. Change in estimate

Useful life review – property, plant and equipment

As per the accounting policy, the Electoral Commission reviews the useful lives of all the asset classes at the end of each reporting period. In management's best estimate, there was a change in estimate of the useful lives of the following asset classes and there was a resultant reduction in depreciation in the current period as a result of extension of the relevant useful lives of the assets listed below.

Useful Life Review – PPE	Cost R	Accumulated depreciation R	Net book value R
Appliances			
Before useful life review	5,826,624	(4,711,238)	1,115,386
After useful life review	5,826,624	(4,707,864)	1,118,760
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(3,374)	(3,374)
Furniture and fittings			
Before useful life review	102,339,232	(67,836,883)	34,502,349
After useful life review	102,339,232	(67,836,418)	34,502,814
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(465)	(465)

The change in estimate is due in main to the adjusted increase in useful lives of the individual assets against the initial estimate upon recognition.

Assessment of useful life performed on an annual basis and the impact on future periods will be determined by such assessment.

Electoral Commission

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements for The Year Ended 31 March 2025

The change in estimate is due in main to the adjusted increase in useful lives of the individual assets against the initial estimate upon recognition.

Assessment of useful life performed on an annual basis and the impact on future periods will be determined by such assessment.

Useful Life Review - Intangibles	Cost R	Accumulated amortisation R	Net book value R
Software			
Before useful life review	341,134,618	(80,408,815)	260,725,803
After useful life review	341,134,618	(80,289,289)	260,845,329
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(119,526)	(119,526)



Electoral Commission

Unaudited Detailed Income and Expenditure

APPENDIX A

Figures in Rand	2025	2024
INCOME	2,597,508,643	2,504,898,126
Parliamentary allocation	2,302,221,000	2,232,334,000
Service in kind	2,890,940	5,253,212
Political party registration fees	111,000	393,000
Interest received	130,047,291	161,165,813
Sponsorship income	12,762,840	15,000,000
Fair value gain	-	29,491,750
Donation received	999,994	-
Foreign and local aid assistance	-	9,197,100
Elections related revenue	129,707,368	51,744,932
Administrative fines	17,930,000	-
Other	838,210	318,319
EXPENDITURE	3,123,064,508	2,606,889,469
Personnel expenditure	1,021,300,489	1,113,097,720
Salaries	777,175,884	874,474,799
- Permanent Staff	645,322,314	606,293,678
- Temporary Staff	126,735,372	260,991,597
- Voter education fieldworkers	33,119,427	108,889,069
- Election support	23,355,293	42,808,576
- By-elections	804,480	527,998
- Registration	1,609,870	8,843,330
- Expansion staff	67,846,302	99,922,623
- MEO Agents	5,118,197	7,189,524
Medical aid contributions	59,613,713	55,141,334
Housing benefits and allowances	18,904,129	17,970,990
Remunerative allowances - permanent staff	21,613,487	23,003,148
Leave pay provision	(3,550,778)	37,345,986
Lump sums - retirement	63,644,153	6,784,848
Employer's contributions	82,921,972	77,186,695
Deployment Costs	-	3,834
Long Service Awards	-	19,601,446
Relocation cost	977,930	1,584,642

Electoral Commission

Unaudited Detailed Income and Expenditure

APPENDIX A

Detailed Income and Expenditure Statement (continued)	2025	2024
Figures in Rand	1,916,606,111	1,336,781,981
Administrative expenditure	399,693,495	156,794,275
Electoral staff subsistence	88,851,482	113,000,443
Travel Expenditure	12,398,509	16,468,201
Air transport	51,357,215	66,851,138
Hotel expenditure	5,374,079	3,269,951
Vehicle rental	12,744,084	17,306,855
Fuel	6,977,595	9,104,297
Other	26,947,733	33,549,326
Subsistence and travel	167,764,111	100,847,567
Communications and connectivity	29,388,459	18,864,266
Storage and distribution costs	2,083,632	2,127,251
Study expenditure	2,384,505	2,157,537
Subscriptions and membership fees	220,582,510	156,506,922
Advertising	1,369,816	2,078,340
Catering/entertainment expenses	133,953	240,460
- Democracy Development and Voter Education	518,169	368,539
- Other - Corporate Services	714,988	1,469,342
- Logistics & Electoral Matters	2,705	-
- Party Funding	3,753,414	3,188,994
Insurance	123,314,450	71,822,676
Conferences & workshops	11,318,472	16,481,948
- Democracy Development and Voter Education	13,143,682	5,080,491
- Other - Corporate Services	98,677,554	50,020,810
- Logistics & Electoral Matters	174,742	239,427
- Party Funding	21,456,666	20,104,345
Consumables	71,237,817	37,558,817
Inventory	93,720,359	50,153,183
Printing and stationery	74,309,127	75,592,550
Software licenses	22,118,654	11,890,457
Rented equipment	174,148,855	181,495,676
Rental - land and buildings	122,182,172	113,437,632
Building rentals	30,541,653	27,570,904
Rates and taxes	21,425,031	40,487,140
Voting station rentals	390,215,155	296,864,077
Professional and other services	3,186,742	2,167,129
Bank charges	79,130	18,150
Sundry expenditure	104,420,994	99,777,625
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,094,624	7,677,043
Audit costs	31,748,770	29,708,386
Finance cost	17,648,878	912,020
Debt impairment	21,244,642	18,934,694
Maintenance and repairs	3,123,064,508	2,606,889,469
Total expenditure	(105,575)	117,131
Deficit on disposal/scraping of assets	(525,661,440)	(101,874,212)
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		

Electoral Commission

Departmental Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Departmental expenditure statement

APPENDIX B

Relevant Strategic Objective	Total Expenditure	Personnel expenditure	Administrative expenditure	Consumables	Equipment	Land and Building rentals	Professional and other services
Internal Audit	12,291,680	2,565,299	76,140	11,853	57,219	-	9,581,168
Chief Electoral Officer	10,772,155	6,906,704	2,648,978	135,181	-	-	1,081,291
Commission Services	30,619,803	15,234,934	14,766,550	271,274	-	-	347,045
Financial Services	37,271,838	16,372,877	17,306,283	259,872	-	-	3,332,806
Financial Management	12,725,270	-	987,758	86,105	-	-	11,651,407
Budget & Compliance Verification	5,976,327	5,308,938	630,411	35,483	-	-	1,495
Procurement and Asset Management	17,008,609	14,721,962	565,649	289,164	-	-	1,431,835
Total Chief Electoral Office	126,665,681	61,110,715	36,981,768	1,088,931	57,219	-	27,427,048
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer	4,295,432	3,987,743	299,798	7,891	-	-	-
Legal Services	37,166,480	6,355,346	1,184,996	836,579	-	-	28,789,559
Human Resources	538,425,452	111,461,979	417,530,709	288,060	-	-	9,144,705
HR, Skills Development & Training	2,676,775	2,645,025	31,750	-	-	-	-
Skills Development & Training	66,039,811	12,835,375	50,307,287	1,656,260	-	-	1,240,888
Support Services	128,926,828	13,342,524	18,838,814	582,423	11,793,813	41,576,046	42,793,208
Business Enterprise Systems	106,066,496	5,965,259	79,686	31,436	-	-	99,990,114
Information Communication Technology	114,100,446	3,354,680	208,611	514	101,486,440	-	9,050,201
IT Operations Services	237,040,024	4,264,228	5,322,939	471,167	2,565,730	-	224,415,959
Total for Corporate Services	1,234,737,745	164,212,159	493,804,590	3,874,331	115,845,983	41,576,046	415,424,635
Total for National Office: Administration	1,361,403,426	225,322,874	530,786,358	4,963,262	115,903,203	41,576,046	442,851,683
Deputy Chief Electoral Operations	4,169,452	3,902,424	266,684	344	-	-	-
Delimitation, Voting, Counting, Results & By-elections	134,310,037	8,177,972	77,005,500	2,746,550	17,973	871,666	45,490,376
Electoral Matters	2,929,817	2,645,025	273,420	11,372	-	-	-
Candidate Nomination, Party Liaison, Voters Roll & Registration	24,861,617	13,892,398	4,910,031	185,274	20,228	-	5,853,685
Infrastructure, Courier Services	148,624,108	9,065,087	32,392,070	13,431,987	11,325,227	71,151,734	11,258,004
Logistics & Infrastructure	216,759	-	215,797	962	-	-	-
Logistics	292,927,870	17,898,954	31,605,218	142,909,401	54,451,691	33,485,999	12,576,606
Total for Electoral Operations	608,039,661	55,581,860	146,668,720	159,285,890	65,815,120	105,509,399	75,178,672

Electoral Commission

Departmental Expenditure Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Departmental expenditure statement

APPENDIX B

Relevant Strategic Objective	Total Expenditure	Personnel expenditure	Administrative expenditure	Consumables	Equipment	Land and Building rentals	Professional and other services
Deputy Chief Electoral Outreach	5,925,120	5,724,831	154,074	46,215	-	-	-
Civic Education, Research & Knowledge Management	92,979,519	55,305,541	20,419,874	1,724,995	-	-	15,529,108
Research, Library, Knowledge Management	16,363,212	7,005,429	1,086,632	378,540	-	-	7,892,610
Communication	269,454,451	8,512,196	216,565,235	17,289,251	-	-	27,087,768
Total for Outreach	384,722,300	76,547,997	238,225,815	19,439,002	-	-	50,509,487
Party Funding	16,914,983	9,332,813	5,387,919	98,888	-	-	2,095,363
Total Chief Executive Party Funding	16,914,983	9,332,813	5,387,919	98,888	-	-	2,095,363
Total for National Office: Operations	1,009,676,945	141,462,670	390,282,454	178,823,781	65,815,120	105,509,399	127,783,521
Total for National Office	2,371,080,371	366,785,545	921,068,812	183,787,043	181,718,322	147,085,445	570,635,204
Eastern Cape	131,350,576	118,413,458	8,067,936	317,172	-	3,666,753	885,257
Free State	58,201,282	50,835,926	5,019,253	260,344	1,219	1,758,453	326,087
Gauteng	73,604,254	64,859,658	4,551,920	361,163	-	3,194,145	637,368
Kwazulu -Natal	126,724,801	114,284,519	8,729,403	223,703	-	2,099,323	1,387,853
Mpumalanga	67,028,045	52,471,888	8,276,052	251,925	52,097	5,687,630	288,453
Northern Cape	66,671,158	55,560,864	6,705,617	386,468	5,654	3,283,722	728,833
Limpopo	90,466,135	78,554,644	8,261,718	257,937	-	2,656,971	734,864
North West	61,518,244	52,302,387	6,120,050	277,092	-	2,427,669	391,047
Western Cape	76,525,219	67,231,602	5,202,458	292,000	-	2,964,618	834,541
Total for Regional Offices	752,089,712	654,514,945	60,934,407	2,627,803	58,970	27,739,285	6,214,303
Departmental Expenditure	3,123,170,083	1,021,300,489	982,003,219	186,414,845	181,777,293	174,824,730	576,849,507
Total Income	2,597,508,643						
Deficit for the year	(525,661,440)						
Unutilised surplus at 31 March 2024	2,121,055,288						
Unutilised surplus at 31 March 2025	1,595,393,848						

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym	Description
AD	Active Director
AGSA	Auditor-General South Africa
AIC	African Independent Congress
API	Application programming interface
APN	Access point network
ARC	Audit and Risk Committee
ASB	Accounting Standards Board
AWEB	Association of World Election Bodies
B-BBEE	Broad-based black economic empowerment
BOM	Bill of materials
CAE	Chief Audit Executive
CCMA	Electoral Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration
CDE	Civic and democracy education
CDN	Content delivery network
CEO	Chief Electoral Officer
COSO	Committee of Sponsoring Organisations
Covid-19	Novel Coronavirus 2019
CSD	Central supplier database
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DDoS	Distributed denial of service
Deaf SA	Deaf Federation of South Africa
DNS	Domain name server
DoS	Denial of service
DRP	Disaster Recovery Plan
ECF	Electoral Commission Forum
EE	Employment equity
EMD	Electoral event management
ESS	Election Satisfaction Survey

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym	Description
Electoral Commission	The Electoral Commission was established by Section 3(1) of the Electoral Commission Act (Act 51 of 1996)
EXCO	Executive management
FET	Further education and training
FISD	Forum of Institutions Supporting Democracy
GEPF	Government Employees Pension Fund
GIS	Geographic information systems
GRAP	Generally recognised accounting practice
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
IAF	Internal audit function
ICT	Information and communication technology
International IDEA	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
ISP	Internet service provider
IT	Information technology
IP	Internet protocol
LAN	Local area network
LGE	Local government election
LIS	Logistics information system
MANCO	Management Committee
MDB	Municipal Demarcation Board
MDM	Mobile device management
MEO	Municipal Electoral Office/er
MMA	Media Monitoring Africa
MOC	Municipal Outreach Coordinator
MoU	Memorandum of understanding
MPDF	Multi-Party Democracy Fund
MRP	Materials Requirement Plan
MTEF	Medium-term Expenditure Framework
MVC	My Vote Counts
NAD	National address database

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym	Description
NPE	National and provincial elections
NPLC	National Political Liaison Committee
OCPO	Office of the Chief Procurement Officer
PBSU	Programmable barcode scanning unit
PEO	Provincial Electoral Office/er
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
PLC	Party Liaison Committee
PPE	Personal protective equipment
PPPFA	Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act
PR	Proportional representation
PRF	Political Representatives Fund
PSRMF	Public Sector Risk Management Framework
RFQ	Request for quotation
ROC	Results operations centre
RPPF	Represented Political Parties Fund
SABC	South African Broadcasting Corporation
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SAN	Storage area network
SANCB	South African National Council for the Blind
SANEF	South African National Editors Forum
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SCM	Supply chain management
SDP	Schools Democracy Programme
SIEM	Systems information and events management
SMME	Small, medium and micro enterprises
SMS	Short message service
SOC	Security operations centre

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym	Description
SOP	Standard operating procedure
SRC	Student representative council
TCP	Transmission control protocol
ToR	Terms of reference
TVET	Technical vocational education and training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPS	Uninterrupted power supply
VAT	Value-added tax
VD	Voting district
VMD	Voter management device
VPS	Voter participation survey
VRS	Voter registration system
WAN	Wide area network



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