



UNITED NATIONS
9TH GLOBAL FORUM
ON GENDER STATISTICS
29–31 AUGUST 2023
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



stats sa

Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Ninth United Nations Global Forum on Gender Statistics Statistics South Africa and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

Johannesburg, South Africa, 29 to 31 August 2023

Venue: Sandton Convention Centre

Welcome to the Global Forum on Gender Statistics

1. Background

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in collaboration with Statistics South Africa, is organising the 9th United Nations Global Forum on Gender Statistics in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 29-31 August 2023. This will be held under the *Global Gender Statistics Programme* and guidance of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS).

2. Objectives of the forum

The Forum will be an opportunity:

- (a) to discuss ways to improve data and evidence on the growing challenges and opportunities offered by the care economy and its impact on gender equality;
- (b) to strategies on how to make the best of existing data, including mainstreaming a gender lens into existing data processes; and
- (c) to take stock and learn from good practices in gender statistics and data management from the African region.

3. Theme of the forum

Measuring what we value – gender statistics for an informed care economy.

4. Topics to be covered

Programme for the 9th United Nations Global Forum on Gender Statistics will be organised in sessions around “Thematic areas”, as follows:

- I. Gender equality and the care economy
- II. Unpaid work and time use
- III. Gender mainstreaming efforts of the National Statistics System
- IV. Violence against women and girls
- V. Innovations to close gender data gaps
- VI. Use of gender data -From data to evidence-based policy
- VII. Gender statistics and data management in Africa
- VIII. Legal identity and gender equality

The programme is available on the 9th Global Forum on Gender Statistics website:

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/genderstat-forum-9/program.html>

5. Side events

The list of side events will be available on the Forum website, including the programme, location, and other details. Side events will be held in person at the Forum venue in Sandton. Side events held at the Venue are restricted to approved participants only.



6. Forum venue

The forum will be held at Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa.



Sandton Convention Centre is one of South Africa's most prestigious and technologically advanced business and conference centres. The centre regularly hosts world-class conventions, exhibitions, meetings and events. Situated on Maude Street and less than a five-minute walk from Sandton City Shopping Centre, the 12-storey Sandton Convention Centre offers more than 22 000m² of events space and is driven by a team of experts.

Sandton Convention Centre has a 24-hour general building security and control room where closed-circuit television (CCTV) is monitored, in addition to sophisticated alarm systems. Security staff have an excellent knowledge of the centre, evacuation routes and procedures, along with leading security solutions. Sandton Convention Centre aims to ensure a secure environment for convention delegates and function guests with appropriate and effective security measures in place.



7. Registration for Forum

Time: 8.30 – 9.00

Description:

Please bring a photo identification and make your way to the lobby of the Bill Gallagher Room, where the organising team will deliver your name badge. This may take a while, so you are encouraged to arrive at the Sandton Convention Centre well ahead of time.



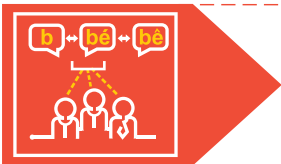
8. Persons with disabilities

Ample parking bays are located close to the entrance. There are ramps for wheelchairs, specially designed bathroom facilities and strobe lights for the hearing-impaired in the event of a fire. Lift controls are fitted with braille.



9. Refreshment breaks

Tea and coffee will be served daily in the Exhibition area. Additional refreshments can be purchased at the restaurants and coffee shops identified within 15min walk from the centre.



10. Simultaneous interpretation

Interpretation will be provided in English, French and Portuguese.



11. Wi-Fi hotspots

Wi-Fi hotspots are located throughout Sandton Convention Centre.



12. Address:

161 Maude Street, Sandton, Gauteng, South Africa

GPS coordinates: $26^{\circ} 06'21.7''S$ | $28^{\circ} 03'12.1''E$

<https://www.southernsun.com/sandton-convention-centre-scc>



13. Hotels

Please be advised that it will be your or your organisation's responsibility to make arrangements for the participants' accommodation. The cost of the accommodations will also need to be covered by your organisation. We have taken the liberty of identifying a few hotels that are conveniently located within a two-kilometre radius of the Forum venue, which we hope you will find helpful in making your arrangements. For your convenience, please find below a list of suggested hotels (refer to Table 1).

Hotels	Meters/kilometres and time to Sandton Convention Centre	Links
Sandton Towers	400m / 3 mins	https://www.southernsun.com/sandton-towers
Sandton Sun Hotel	400m / 3 mins	https://www.southernsun.com/sandton-sun-hotel
Garden Court Sandton City	160m / 1 min	https://www.southernsun.com/garden-court-sandton-city
Radisson Blu Hotel	900m / 5 mins	https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-johannesburg-sandton
Southern Sun Sandton	950m / 5 mins	https://www.southernsun.com/southern-sun-sandton
Michelangelo Hotel	550m / 4 mins	http://www.michelangelo.co.za/
Maslow Hotel	1,3km / 6 mins	https://www.suninternational.com/maslow/
Hilton Hotel	1,3km / 6 mins	https://www.hilton.com/en/locations/south-africa/



14. Transport

Transportation to and from Oliver Reginald (OR) Tambo International airport will be organised by Stats SA. Participants are encouraged to send their itinerary details including arrival and departure times, and accommodation in advance to Mr. William Tshabalala at WilliamT@statssa.gov.za and copy Mr. Mahlomola Martin Lefupana at mahlomolal@statssa.gov.za and Michael Van Huysteen at MichaelVH@statssa.gov.za.

It is, therefore, essential that participants send the details to facilitate the process. There will be vehicles available to transport participants from the airport to their hotels, from the hotels to the meeting place and vice versa.



15. Visa requirement

Requirements for visitor visas differ from country to country and the requirements are subject to change. For more information on which countries are currently exempt, please check: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries>

As each application is treated as an individual case, you should make enquiries with your nearest South African mission or consulate abroad or any office of the Department of Home Affairs to see whether or not you are required to apply for a visa. Remember that there is a fee charged for issuing a visa, and you should check the cost with the office and if it is updated annually. The fee is payable in different currencies in different countries. For more information, please check: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/applying-for-sa-visa>

Visas are not issued at South African ports of entry, and airline officials are obliged to insist on visas before allowing passengers to board. If you arrive without a visa, immigration officials are obliged to put you on a flight back to your home country. <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/applying-for-sa-visa>

The South African online eVisa service provides a convenient and secure option to process an eVisa application with the South African Department of Home Affairs. The service provides direct interaction with the department that is responsible for lawfully processing and granting eVisas to travellers entering South Africa. For more information, please check <https://ehome.dha.gov.za/epermit/home>



16. Embassies & Missions:

To view a list of South African Embassies, Consulates, and Diplomatic Missions please visit the following website: <https://www.dirco.gov.za/>



17. Airport

<https://ortambo-airport.com/index.html>

OR Tambo International Airport is the busiest airport in Africa. It is situated in the Kempton Park district of Johannesburg, 23 km northwest of the city centre and 46 km south of Pretoria city centre. Formerly Jan Smuts Airport, it has been renamed in honour of the late and former African National Congress (ANC) President, Oliver Reginald Tambo, who was more commonly referred to as OR Tambo.

Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town have modern airports with facilities to match. Apart from shops and restaurants, International arrival halls have banks and foreign exchange outlets. . All airports offer wireless internet (Wi-Fi) access throughout the building or designated 'hot spots' where coverage exists. Wi-Fi facilities are available at the International and Domestic Terminals at OR Tambo International Airport.



18. Emergency medical services (EMS)

Please kindly note that highly trained EMS personnel will be in attendance throughout the Forum and Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) meeting, ready to respond to any emergencies that may arise swiftly.

Hospitals	Meters/kilometres and time to Sandton Convention Centre	Links
Mediclinic Sandton	6,4 km / 8 mins	https://www.mediclinic.co.za/en/sandton/home.html
Intercare Sandton	3,6 km / 6 mins	https://www.intercare.co.za/facilities/intercare-sandton?service=day-hospitals
Netcare Sunninghill Hospital	9,4m / 14 min	https://www.netcare.co.za/netcare-hospitals
Life Fourways Hospital	14,4 km / 14,4 mins	https://www.lifehealthcare.co.za/hospitals/gauteng/johannesburg/life-fourways-hospital/



19. Measurement related to yellow fever

There is no risk of yellow fever in South Africa. A yellow fever vaccination certificate is mandatory in order to enter South Africa for delegates from yellow fever-endemic areas, any country where yellow fever is being transmitted, or for those who have passed through these areas in the last 72 hours. Delegates are required to be vaccinated at least ten (10) days prior to entry into South Africa. Any traveler not meeting this requirement can be refused entry to South Africa. Unvaccinated travelers presenting a medical waiver signed by a licensed health care provider are generally allowed entry.

Countries for which a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for entry into South Africa are:

- Angola, Argentina,
- Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi,
- Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Guinea-Bissau, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo,
- Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, French Guyana,
- Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana,
- Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria,
- Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda,
- Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Suriname,
- Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, and Venezuela.

<https://www.southafrica.net/gl/en/travel/article/yellow-fever-entry-requirements>



20. COVID-19 restrictions

On 22 June 2022, the Government of South Africa announced that all remaining COVID-19 regulations have been repealed. Therefore, you no longer need to show proof that you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.



21. Transport options

A range of transport options are available to get you wherever you want to be. These include:

Gautrain – <https://www.gautrain.co.za/> Gautrain has provided a rapid rail link, running north to south, between Johannesburg and Pretoria, and west to east between Sandton and the OR Tambo International Airport. Stations on the North-South line include Johannesburg's Park Station (underground), Rosebank (underground), Sandton (underground), Marlboro (above-ground and raised), Midrand, Pretoria Station and Hatfield (above-ground). There is also a line from the O.R. Tambo International Airport (above-ground and raised) travelling to Sandton via Rhodesfield (raised) and Marlboro.

Sandton station is located on the corner of West Street and Rivonia Road. The system connects to OR Tambo International Airport and an inter-city commuter service from Pretoria through Rosebank to Johannesburg Park Station. The Gautrain system operates with two train services:

1 – Airport Service

Links Sandton to O.R. Tambo International Airport at R206 per single trip. All airport trains go via the Sandton station.

2 – The Commuter Service

Links all stations except for the airport at various costs.

Gaubus- Sandton's Gaubus network is very extensive, with direct routes to Fourways, Gallo Manor, Randburg and Rivonia. People can also connect busses and travel to many parts of Centurion, Marlboro, Parktown, Rosebank and Pretoria using the service.

Integrated Rapid Transport System (Rea Vaya) – City of Johannesburg's sophisticated bus transport system. The routes cover the southern and northern suburbs, with the main route running from Soweto to Sandton and Rosebank and the feeder and complementary routes covering most of Johannesburg.

<https://www.reavaya.org.za/>

Taxi, Bus or Coach - Metered taxis, luxury air-conditioned coaches and shuttle buses regularly run between the airport, hotels, city centre and most major tourist destinations.

Roads- Sandton has an extensive road network that allows you to get around. The main freeway to get into the city is the M1 freeway through the M60 offramp at Marlboro Drive, the M40 at Grayston Drive, N1 from Northern Suburbs and the M30 at Corlett Drive.

On Foot - The centralised and compact nature of the Sandton city means that walking is often the transport mode of choice for visitors.

Uber – Primarily works through an application that can be downloaded on Google Android phones and Apple iPhones. The easy-to-use app allows travellers to select their location and track the driver's progress to the commuter's point of call. The app also allows commuters to connect to their bank accounts, meaning there is no need to carry cash, as the cab costs are debited directly.



22. Business & trading hours

In general, business and shopping hours are from 09h00 to 17h00 on weekdays. However, most shopping malls operate with extended hours and are open seven days a week. Banking hours are generally from 08h30 to 15h00 on weekdays and 08h30 to 11h00 on Saturdays. Most banks are closed on Sundays.



23. Weather in Johannesburg

Participants will be visiting South Africa during last month of winter, August. In Sandton, the average high temperature in August slightly increases from an enjoyable 17,9°C (64,2°F) in July to a pleasant 21,3°C (70,3°F). The average low temperature in Sandton is 8,6°C (47,5°F). It generally feels mildly cool with a gentle breeze. With that in mind, most people would dress warmly. The average relative humidity in August is 37%. In South Africa, during August, the rain falls for 1,8 days and regularly aggregates up to 2mm (0,08") of precipitation. In August, the average length of the day is 11h and 14min. On the first day of August in Sandton, sunrise is at 06:46, and sunset is at 17:41. On the last day of the month, sunrise is at 06:21, and sunset is at 17:54 SAST.



24. Currency

The South African currency is known as the Rand (ZAR). Bank notes are available in denominations of R10, R20, R50, R100 and R200. Silver coins are available in denominations of R1, R2 and R5. Brass coins are available in denominations of 10c, 20c and 50c. All major credit cards (Visa, Master card, American Express and Diners Club) and travellers' cheques are widely accepted in and around South Africa.



25. Value Added Tax (VAT)

VAT is set at 15% and should be included in the retail price displayed on goods and services. Refunds on VAT paid for goods taken out of the country may be claimed by visitors. VAT refund administration offices can be found at all major international departure points, and visitors will be required to provide the original VAT documentation with their claim. Please note that VAT refunds exclude services rendered or goods consumed.



26. Electricity

In South Africa, the power sockets are of type C, M and N. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. For more information, please refer to the following link:

<https://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plug-voltage-by-country/south-africa>.



27. Water

Water in Johannesburg has been treated to be free from harmful microorganisms and chemical contaminants making it safe to drink straight from the tap.



28. Time Difference

South African Standard Time (SAST) is the time zone used by all of South Africa as well as Eswatini and Lesotho. The zone is two hours ahead of UTC (UTC+02:00) and is the same as Central Africa Time.



29. Tipping

Tipping, normally at 10% of the total bill, is accepted in most restaurants. For groups of 10 or more a service charge is normally included in the bill and an additional tip is at the discretion of the group depending on their service experience at the restaurant. Tipping of hotel staff is the discretion of the guest.



30. Shopping, entertainment and dining

One of the main attractions in Sandton is Sandton City, which ranks among the largest shopping centres in Africa. Together with Nelson Mandela Square, the centre, with some 144,000 m² of shopping space, is one of the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. Much of Johannesburg's business tourism is centred at Sandton, which has various 5-star hotels under the Southern Sun, Hilton, Radisson and Protea brands.

Sandton City, home to over 300 of the world's most in-demand brands. It is a shopping centre tailored to the preferences of many. From an eco-fashionable Food District, a family-focussed Fun District, to a chandelier draped Diamond Walk which is home to many global luxury brands.

Each year Sandton City is frequented by millions of locals and tourists alike, those with a flare to experience the best of South African retail. Together with Nelson Mandela Square, the centre, with some 144,000 m² of shopping space, is one of the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.



31. General safety and security

South Africa is a diverse and beautiful country with a lot to offer tourists, including stunning landscapes, wildlife, and cultural experiences. However, it is important to note that like any destination, South Africa has certain safety considerations that travellers should be aware of.

The heart of Sandton remains a vibrant and interesting neighbourhood to walk around, with plenty to see, from public art to soaring architecture and tree-lined streets with cafes, retail shops, and restaurants. It is one of the most pedestrian-friendly areas in Johannesburg. A total of 250 surveillance cameras have been installed, with artificial intelligence (AI) license plate recognition capabilities. Night Guard is also added for a tactical response if the camera monitoring team alerts them of a suspicious vehicle passing through the CCTV system. The heart of Sandton also boasts 30 visitor-facing public safety ambassadors – fondly referred to as the 'Men in Red' – deployed at high-traffic pedestrian areas. Moreover, there will be a noticeable presence of law enforcement officers in the vicinity of the venue throughout the duration of the forum.



32. Host contact details

Statistics South Africa
ISibalo House, 75 Koch Street
Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
+27 (12) 310 8600

If you have any questions regarding the 9th Global Forum on Gender Statistics, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Desiree Manamela (E-mail: DesireeM@statssa.gov.za) and Mr. Solly Molayi (E-mail: SollyMol@statssa.gov.za).