

CHAPTER 2

Scoping the need for post-school education

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Introduction

Although huge improvements have been made in improving participation in basic education and FET, there are large numbers of youths who annually leave school without opportunities to continue their education and training and end up unemployed. Following the institutional merger process, higher education in South Africa mainly consists of a university system with a very small private college sector (some FET colleges offer a limited number of programmes at HE level). The effect of the present institutional landscape is that for the youth who leave school before completing Grade 12, and for those who pass Grade 12 without university exemption, there are very limited educational opportunities to further their education.

While considerable progress has been made in collecting and analysing learner/ student data for the school and public HE sectors, there is no coherent dataset for out-of-school youth (in terms of the numbers of those who are engaged in different kinds of activities). Before any systematic intervention can be planned, a clearer picture of the scope of the problem must be determined.

It was decided that for purposes of this study the 2007 Community Survey would provide the most recent and comprehensive data set from which the scope of the problem could be determined.

The 2007 Community Survey collected data on: population size, composition and distribution, migration, fertility and mortality, disability and social grants, school attendance and educational attainment, labour force and income (StatsSA 2007). A total of 274 348 dwelling units were randomly sampled. The survey attained a response rate of 93.9%, taking into account the non-response rates at the enumerator areas, dwelling unit and household levels (StatsSA 2007).

The data analyses in the following sections were done on the unit records of the metadata of the 2007 Community Survey which was obtained on CD-ROM from Statistics South

Africa. The results were obtained from the writers' independent processing of the data. On recommendation from the DoE, it was decided to analyse the 18–24 age cohort, since this is the age cohort referred to by UNESCO in terms of participation in post-school education. A total population of 6 758 366 for 2007 was identified as between 18 and 24 years old. These records were analysed to determine the number and percentage of persons not attending an educational institution and not employed.

The aim of this particular study is to establish the profile of the 18–24 age cohort of the South African population in terms of educational attendance, level of education obtained, employment status, occupation, level of unemployment, and reasons for not working. Towards the conclusion of the analysis an estimate is made of the number of persons within this age cohort who were actually not attending educational institutions, who were not employed at a level appropriate for their level of education, and who were not prevented from working or attending education as a result of severe disability. This results in the quantification of the number of persons in need of post-school education.

Data were also obtained from the DoE to reflect on enrolment distribution in the various education sectors, enrolment in FET colleges and the participation rate in HE. An analysis of the data provided by the DoE was made to establish what percentage of school leavers enrol in the HE sector in the year following the completion of their secondary education.

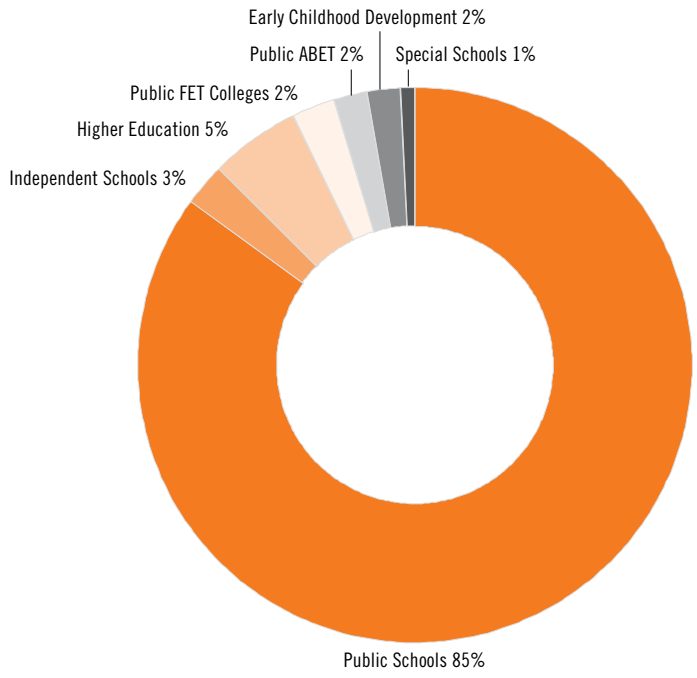
Enrolments in the South African education system (2007)

The distribution of learners within the South African education system based on the 2007 enrolments is shown in Figure 2.1. A total of 14 167 086 learner enrolments were recorded by the DoE in 2007. The distribution within the various sectors of the education system was as follows: 12 048 821 (85.0%) in public schools; 352 396 (2.5%) in independent schools; 761 087 (5.4%) in HE institutions; 320 679 (2.3%) in public FET colleges; 292 734 (2.1%) in public ABET centres; 289 312 (2.0%) in early childhood development; and 102 057 (0.7%) in special schools.

The 2007 enrolments per FET college, per province and per type of student enrolment is provided in Table 2.1 (note that these numbers do not exactly match the total noted above due to the fact that the census dates of the enrolment numbers differ).

An analysis of the percentage of successful secondary education students that enrol in public HE institutions the year after they finish school is shown in Table 2.2 and Figure 2.2. On average, only about 20% continue immediately with HE studies the year after finishing school.

Figure 2.1
Enrolments in the South African education system (2007)



Source: DoE (2007; 2009)

Table 2.1
Number of FET training learners enrolled in FET colleges (2007)

Province	College	N1 students	NC (V) students	Non-DoE programme students*	Report 191 students**	Report 550 programme students	Total
Eastern Cape	Buffalo City Public FET College	46	305	2 531	6 057		8 939
	Eastcape Midlands College		193	1 662	4 348		6 203
	Ikhala Public FET College		150		1 951		2 101
	King Hintsa College		157	190	825		1 172
	Lovedale Public FET College		143	627	1 188		1 958
	Port Elizabeth Public FET College	317	502	992	8 575	716	11 102
	Total		363	1 450	6 002	22 944	716
Free State	Flavius Mareka FET College		110	630	4 043		4,783
	Goldfields FET College	9	111	342	4 370		4 832
	Maluti – Bethlehem		28	30	1 229		1 287
	Maluti FET College		298	699	4 596	346	5 939
	Motheo FET College		120		6 358		6 478
	Total		9	667	1 701	20 596	346

Province	College	N1 students	NC (V) students	Non-DoE programme students*	Report 191 students**	Report 550 programme students	Total
Gauteng	Central Johannesburg College		341	90	13 904		14 335
	Ekurhuleni East College		564	267	6 755		7 586
	Ekurhuleni West College	6	807	930	9 231	334	11 308
	Sedibeng College		229	79	6 280		6 588
	South-West Gauteng College	42	707	415	7 724	10	8 898
	Tshwane North College	51	242	152	5 702	341	6 488
	Tshwane South College for FET	113	971	5 338	22 745	300	29 467
	Western College for FET	39	149	1 016	4 543		5 747
Total		251	4 010	8 287	76 884	985	90 417
KwaZulu-Natal	Coastal KZN College	2 081	422	1 590	13 320		17 413
	Elangeni College for FET	56	308	1 310	1 176	19	2 869
	Majuba FET College	624	119	1 012	2 372		4 127
	Mnambi FET College	52	29	340	326		747
	Mthashana FET College		180		2 869	141	3 190
	Thekwini FET College	578	147	1 244	9 059	155	11 183
	Umfolozu College	88	247	1 328	9 893		11 556
	Umgungundlovu FET College		89		8 233		8 322
Total		3 479	1 541	6 824	47 248	315	59 407
Limpopo	Capricorn College		642	213	1 952		2 807
	Lephalale FET College		138		3 217		3 355
	Letaba FET College		38		331	29	398
	Mopani South-East FET College	200	600	25	2 994		3 819
	Sekhukhune FET College	32	265	393	3 561		4 251
	Waterberg FET College		96	601	3 058	88	3 843
	Total		232	1 779	1 232	15 113	117
Mpumalanga	Ehlanzeni FET College		165	117	915		1 197
	Gert Sibande FET College	31	261		3 037		3 329
	Nkangala FET College		39		8 716		8 755
	Total		31	465	117	12 668	
Northern Cape	Northern Cape Rural FET College	545	314	777	4 272		5 908
	Northern Cape Urban FET College		160	307	3 941		4 408
	Total	545	474	1 084	8 213		10 316
North-West Province	Jouberton		74	275	611		960
	Orbit FET College	51	512	366	4 690		5 619
	Taletso FET College		121	474	3 245	85	3 925
	Vuselela FET College	260	128	1 255	9 141	328	11 112
	Total	311	835	2 370	17 687	413	21 616
Western Cape	Boland College		176	2 716	5 727	628	9 247
	College of Cape Town	281	1 169	2 816	5 051	164	9 481
	Northlink College			962	1 209		2 171
	South Cape FET College	48	215	494	1 365		2 122
	West Coast College		339	28	1 455		1 822
	Total	329	1 899	7 016	14 807	792	24 843
National (Total)		5 550	13 120	34 633	236 160	3 684	293 147

Source: DoE (2007)

Notes:

- 'N1 students' refers to students in the former curriculum which has been replaced by (NC) V programmes. They are thus pipeline students of the programmes that are being phased out.
- NC (V) = new National Certificate Vocational students
- Non-DoE programme students are not funded and not examined by the DoE.
- Report 191 students are National Senior Certificate students.

Table 2.2

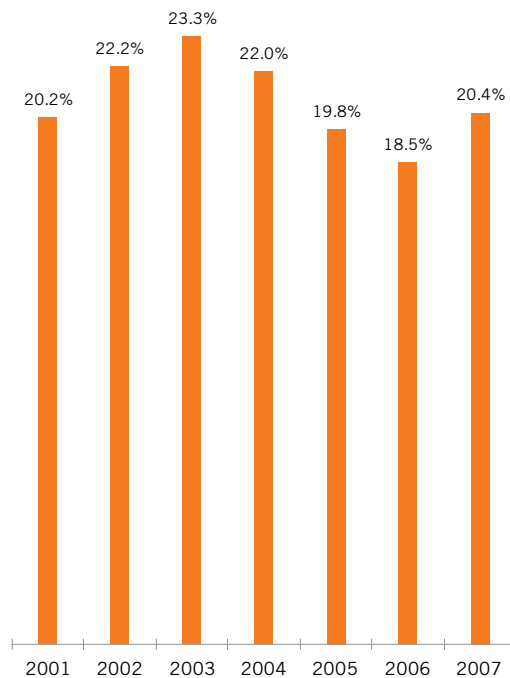
First-time entering undergraduate students in public higher education, by previous year activity (2000–2007)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Public higher education: first-time entering, undergraduate, by previous activity								
Secondary school student	48 618	55 762	60 313	70 031	69 503	64 429	63 523	70 963
Technical college student	1 617	1 485	1 197	1 315	1 370	937	769	880
Total	50 235	57 247	61 510	71 346	70 873	65 366	64 292	71 843
Secondary school data								
Total Grade 12 learners	549 203	488 352	486 786	475 069	505 392	538 909	568 930	625 809
Matric pass without exemption	214 668	209 499	230 726	240 482	245 600	260 653	265 673	282 763
Matric pass with exemption	68 626	67 707	75 048	82 010	85 117	86 531	85 830	85 454

Source: DoE (2007); DoE (2008)

Figure 2.2

Successful Grade 12 learners enrolling in public HE the year after completing school



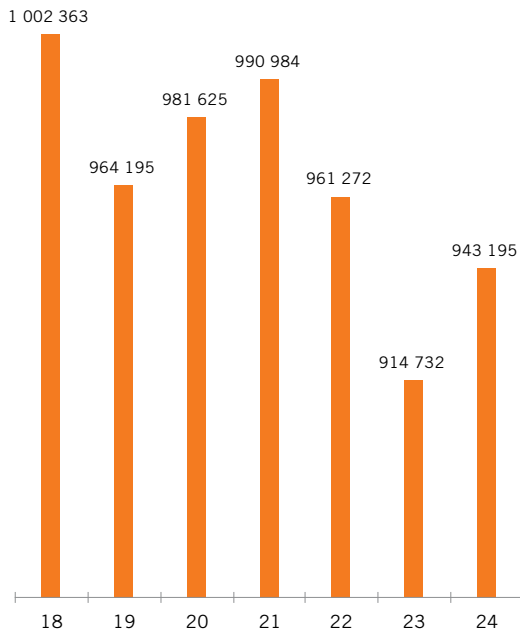
Source: DoE (2007)

In the next sections the available recent census data sets are analysed to determine the size of the potential number of the youth in need of a second-chance education.

Biographic information on the 18–24 age cohort

According to the 2007 Community Survey (StatsSA 2007), there were 6 758 366 persons within the 18 to 24 age cohort in South Africa 2007. The distribution according to age is shown in Figure 2.3 below. This group represented 13.9% of the total South African population.

Figure 2.3
Total persons in the 18–24 age cohort per age group



Source: StatsSA (2007a)

The distribution of the 18–24 age cohort according to population group is given in Table 2.3 below.

Table 2.3
Distribution of the 18–24 age cohort according to population group

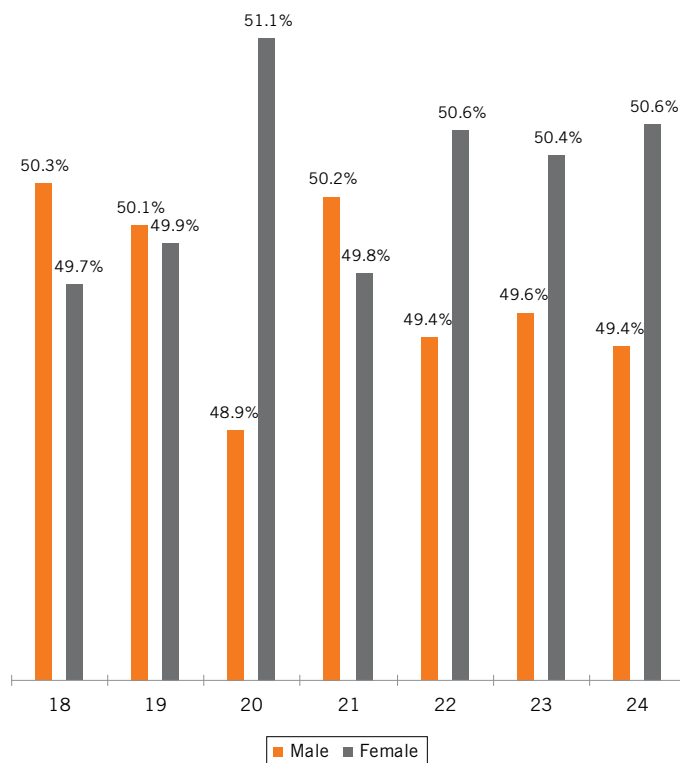
Age	African (%)	Coloured (%)	Indian/Asian (%)	White (%)	Total (%)
18	82.8	8.5	2.2	6.5	100.0
19	82.6	8.1	2.2	7.0	100.0
20	83.0	8.5	2.4	6.2	100.0
21	81.7	8.7	2.3	7.3	100.0
22	81.0	8.6	2.8	7.6	100.0
23	81.2	9.0	2.7	7.0	100.0
24	82.0	8.6	2.6	6.7	100.0
Total	82.1	8.6	2.5	6.9	100.0

Source: StatsSA (2007)

The percentage breakdown of population groups for the total population were: African 79%, coloured 9%, Indian or Asian 2.6%, and white 9.6%. The marked difference in the percentage distribution according to population group of this age group can be attributed to the low fertility rates of Indians or Asians and whites. This indicates an ageing Indian or Asian and white population with declining births, which is confirmed by the lower than average percentages of these population groups within the younger age cohorts.

The gender profile of the 18–24 age cohort is shown in Figure 2.4. There were more or less equal numbers of males and females in the 18–24 age cohort.

Figure 2.4
Gender distribution of the 18–24 age cohort



Source: StatsSA (2007)

Attendance at educational institutions: 18–24 age cohort

Table 2.4 provides the results of an analysis on the cohort to determine the number of persons attending educational institutions.

Table 2.4
Attendance at educational institutions (18–24 age cohort)

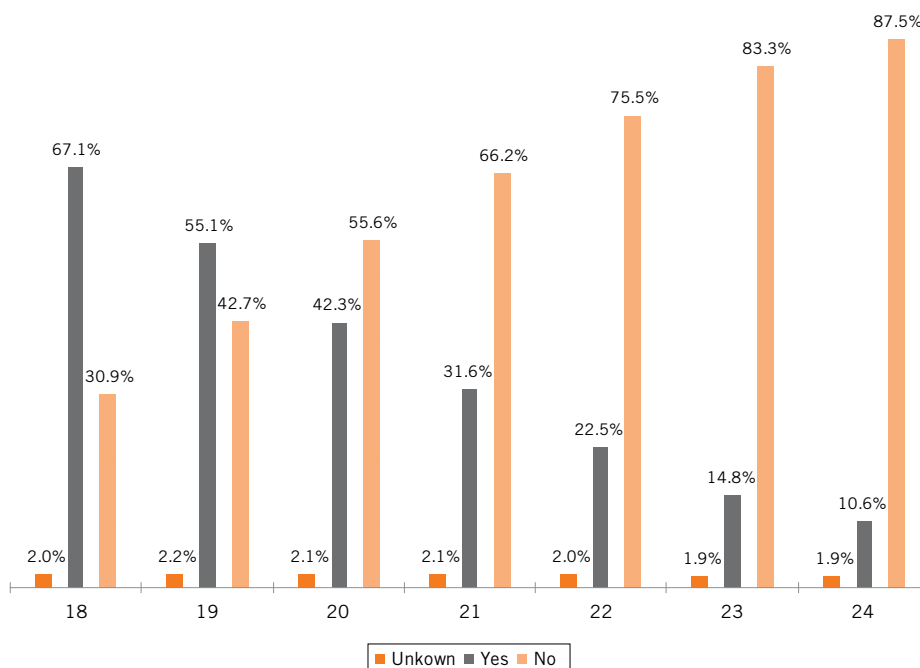
Age	Unknown	Yes	No	Total
18	20 387	672 281	309 696	1 002 363
19	21 352	531 296	411 547	964 195
20	20 951	415 072	545 602	981 625
21	20 984	313 610	656 391	990 984
22	19 589	216 212	725 471	961 272
23	17 761	135 203	761 768	914 732
24	17 684	99 875	825 635	943 195
Total	138 708	2 383 548	4 236 110	6 758 366

Source: StatsSA (2007)

From the analysis it can be noted that 4 236 110 persons out of 6 758 366 were not attending an education institution. This represents 62.7% of all 18–24-year-olds. The percentage of the 18–24 age cohort that were attending an education institution was 35.3%; whilst with 2.0% of the population it was unknown whether or not they were attending an education institution. This points to the large numbers of individuals no longer attending education programmes.

Figure 2.5 shows the percentages of the 18–24 age cohort of the population attending an educational institution by age. As expected, the highest percentages attending an educational institution were the 18- and 19-year-olds, with percentages attending being 67.1% and 55.1% respectively. This percentage decreased rapidly for each age group from 42.3% of 20-year-olds to only 10.6% of 24-year-olds.

Figure 2.5
Percentage of the 18–24 age cohort attending an educational institution



Source: StatsSA (2007)

Type of educational institution attended: 18–24 age cohort

Tables 2.5 and 2.6 provide information on the type of educational institution attended by the 18–24 age cohort in cases where they were attending one.

It is of great importance to note that of the total 18–24-year-old population group, 0.2% were still enrolled in primary education, and 24.5% were still enrolled in secondary schools; whilst 5.4% were enrolled in universities, 4% in colleges and the remaining 1.2% in ABET and other (unspecified) institutions. A total of 35.3% of the total 18–24 age cohort were attending an education institution.

Table 2.5

Number of 18–24 age cohort attending an educational institution by type of institution according to age

Age	Primary school	Secondary school	College	University	ABET	Other*	Grand Total
18	276	584 949	35 368	41 728		9 960	672 281
19	187	411 040	47 990	62 831	114	9 135	531 296
20	116	267 244	54 580	67 352	50	25 731	415 072
21	364	178 835	45 548	69 901	57	18 904	313 610
22	3 433	112 211	37 260	56 632	131	6 545	216 212
23	4 067	62 003	26 492	37 458		5 183	135 203
24	2 578	42 734	21 216	29 279	59	4 008	99 875
Total	11 022	1 659 017	268 453	365 181	410	79 465	2 383 548

Source: StatsSA (2007)

* It is not clear how the StatsSA Community Survey defined 'Other'. It is assumed that this would typically be training provided by non-government or private institutions.

Table 2.6

Percentages of the 18–24 age cohort attending an educational institution by type of institution according to age (as a percentage of the total population per age group)

Age	Primary school (%)	Secondary school (%)	College (%)	University (%)	ABET (%)	Other (%)	Total attending an educational institution (%)	Total population in age cohort (%)
18	0.0	58.4	3.5	4.2	0.0	1.0	67.1	100.0
19	0.0	42.6	5.0	6.5	0.0	0.9	55.1	100.0
20	0.0	27.2	5.6	6.9	0.0	2.6	42.3	100.0
21	0.0	18.0	4.6	7.1	0.0	1.9	31.6	100.0
22	0.4	11.7	3.9	5.9	0.0	0.7	22.5	100.0
23	0.4	6.8	2.9	4.1	0.0	0.6	14.8	100.0
24	0.3	4.5	2.2	3.1	0.0	0.4	10.6	100.0
Total	0.2	24.5	4.0	5.4	0.0	1.2	35.3	100.0

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.7

University enrolments for the 18–24 age cohort (2000–2007)

Age	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
18	43 328	50 194	53 364	57 830	59 636	56 550	55 744	59 802
19	50 319	56 492	63 413	69 173	73 094	73 624	71 927	74 865
20	50 724	55 436	60 226	68 349	72 904	75 757	77 392	78 725
21	45 330	48 916	53 096	57 219	63 450	66 814	69 470	73 459
22	37 284	38 832	41 814	45 540	47 843	51 695	54 538	56 641
23	30 793	31 229	32 460	35 370	37 592	37 814	40 986	43 152
24	25 393	26 010	26 067	27 719	32 624	29 565	30 144	33 113
Total 18–24	283 171	307 109	330 440	361 200	387 143	391 819	400 201	419 757
Total all ages	578 134	627 277	667 182	705 255	744 478	735 073	741 380	760 889

Source: DoE (2008)

Table 2.7 shows the age enrolment data as recorded by the DoE for the years 2000 to 2007. The DoE recorded 419 757 persons of ages 18 to 24 that were enrolled in public universities. They thus recorded 14.9% more enrolments compared to the 2007 Community Survey. It could also be that the difference was recorded under 'College' in the 2007 Community Survey. Taking into consideration that the 2007 Community Survey is a sample survey, the correlation between the two datasets is relatively high. If the UNESCO definition of Gross Higher Education Participation rate is used, the participation rate in higher education in 2007 can be calculated as follows (based on the DoE's headcount enrolment data and the population numbers of the 2007 Community Survey):

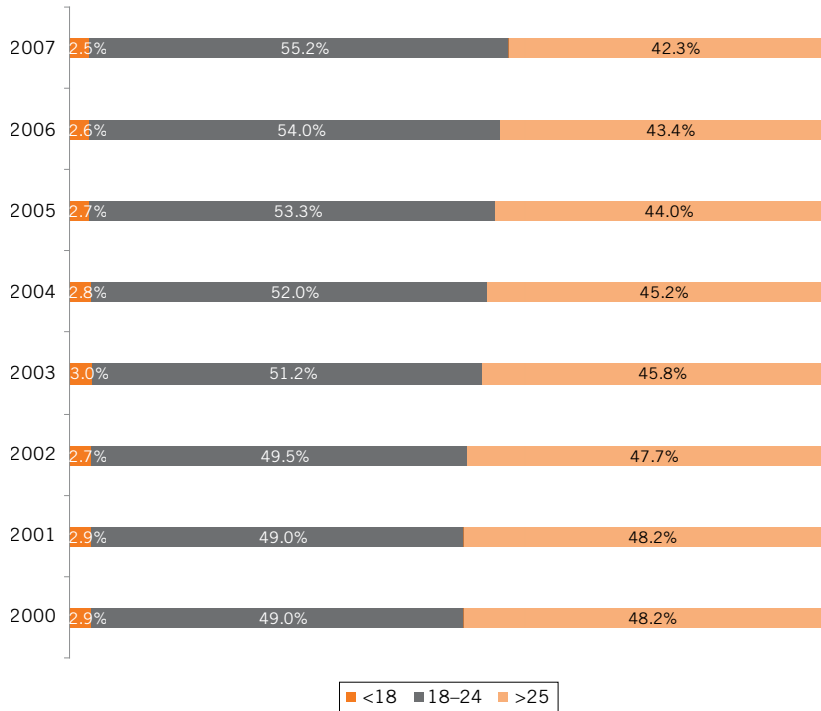
Gross higher education participation rate = (Total headcount enrolments of all ages/Total population in the 20–24 age cohort) x 100% = (760 889/4 791 808) x 100% = 15.9%

Figure 2.6 shows the age distribution of enrolled university students as recorded by the DoE. It shows that although the 18–24 age cohort has been increasing as a percentage of the total enrolments – from 49.0% in 2000, to 55.2% in 2007 – there is a substantial percentage of university students that are older than 24. The percentage of students older than 24 in 2007 accounted for 42.3% of all student headcount enrolments.

Attendance at educational institution by gender: 18–24 age cohort

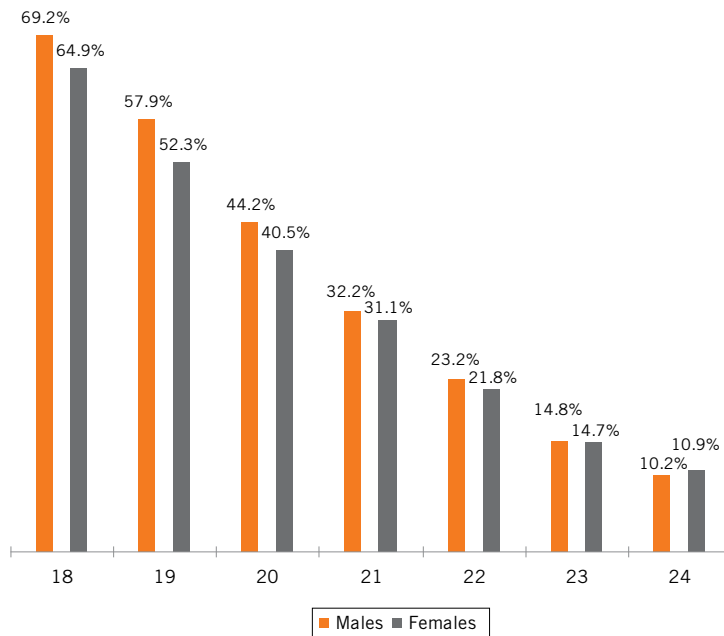
Figure 2.7 shows the percentages of males and females of the 18–24 age cohort that were attending an educational institution. It is evident from the data that higher percentages of the total male population remained in education for all of the age groups, except for the 24-year age group where a higher percentage of the total female population was still enrolled in an educational institution.

Figure 2.6
University students according to age intervals (2000–2007)



Source: DoE (2008)

Figure 2.7
Attendance at educational institution, by gender and age (18–24 age cohort)



Source: StatsSA (2007)

Employment status and occupations of the 18–24 age cohort

Since the main aim of this analysis is to determine the number of the 18–24 age cohort that are in need of a second education opportunity, it is useful to establish the number of the population that were in an educational institution as well as the number that were employed. The difference between the total population in the age group and the number of the population that were either attending an educational institution or that were employed begins to give us an idea of the number that could be targeted for a second-chance education opportunity. Further refinements would be to determine what numbers of the population could not be employed or would not benefit from mainstream education due to very poor health or severe disability. It would also be informative to analyse the industry as well as occupation of individuals that were employed to establish how many of them were employed in low-level skill occupations – which could be an indication of persons who could also be in need of immediate further education opportunities. The latter needs to be correlated with the existing level of education of individuals to determine whether they were employed at levels below their expected level of employment.

Table 2.8:
Employment status of the 18–24 age cohort (number)

Age	Employment status				Total
	Employed	Unemployed	Not economically active	Unspecified and no reply	
18	77 468	136 149	747 892	40 855	1 002 363
19	112 454	184 161	628 263	39 318	964 195
20	159 047	249 445	534 998	38 135	981 625
21	205 943	296 313	451 573	37 156	990 984
22	251 139	312 202	362 648	35 283	961 272
23	290 833	313 241	277 884	32 773	914 732
24	342 179	323 437	244 751	32 826	943 195
Total	1 439 063	1 814 947	3 248 010	256 346	6 758 366

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.9
Employment status of the 18–24 age cohort (percentage)

Age	Employment status				Total (%)
	Employed (%)	Unemployed (%)	Not economically active (%)	Unspecified and no reply (%)	
18	7.7	13.6	74.6	4.1	100.0
19	11.7	19.1	65.2	4.1	100.0
20	16.2	25.4	54.5	3.9	100.0
21	20.8	29.9	45.6	3.7	100.0
22	26.1	32.5	37.7	3.7	100.0
23	31.8	34.2	30.4	3.6	100.0
24	36.3	34.3	25.9	3.5	100.0
Total	21.3	26.9	48.1	3.8	100.0

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.10
Occupations of employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort (number)

Occupation	Age							Total
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Legislators, senior officials and managers	1 825	4 362	6 142	10 867	13 252	15 851	19 296	71 595
Professionals	2 920	4 310	9 025	12 450	20 012	23 146	29 442	101 306
Technicians and associate professionals	2 440	5 647	7 145	11 144	14 736	17 042	21 941	80 095
Clerks	5 528	10 655	17 167	21 534	27 023	30 359	36 424	148 691
Service workers, shop and market sales workers	6 082	11 280	17 033	22 184	25 899	30 623	37 879	150 981
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	6 286	6 974	7 816	10 598	10 800	11 014	12 665	66 152
Craft and related trades workers	7 334	12 953	19 065	25 771	31 751	35 940	43 883	176 697
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1 858	3 720	6 232	9 441	13 639	17 515	21 713	74 117
Elementary occupations	14 187	19 825	28 023	35 781	38 676	49 306	57 887	243 684
Occupations unspecified and not elsewhere classified	29 007	32 728	41 399	46 173	55 350	60 037	61 051	325 746
Total	77 468	112 454	159 047	205 943	251 139	290 833	342 179	1 439 063

Source: StatsSA (2007)

The analysis of the employment status of the total 18–24 age cohort given in Tables 2.8 and 2.9 shows that the employment status of 256 346 (3.8%) persons was unknown, 1 439 063 (21.3%) persons were employed, 1 814 947 (26.9%) were unemployed, and 3 248 010 (48.1%) were not economically active.

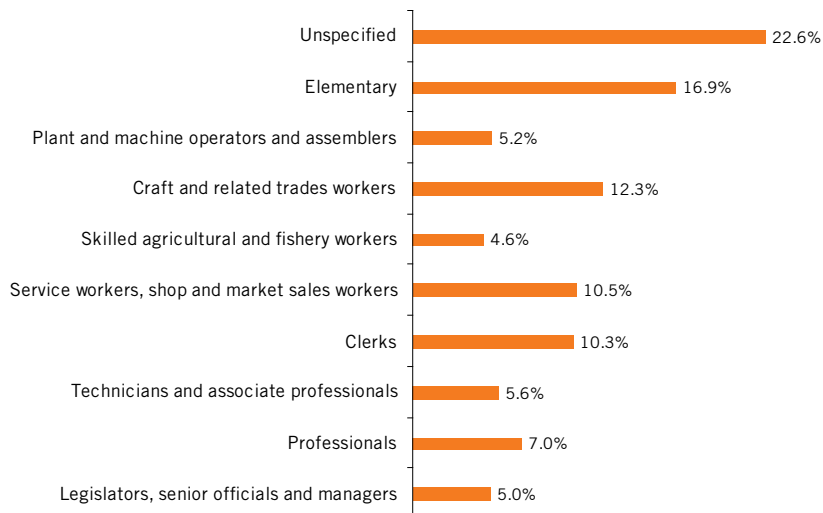
Tables 2.10 and 2.11 list the occupations of employed persons in 18–24 cohort by age. Although a large percentage of the occupations are classified as unspecified or as not classified elsewhere (22.6%), a large percentage was also employed in elementary occupations (16.9%). A more important question that arises is whether the employed persons were employed at a level appropriate for their level of education. A further analysis was done by tabulating the occupation of the employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort by their level of education. The results are given in Table 2.12.

Table 2.11
Occupations of employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort (percentage)

Occupation	Age (%)							Total
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Legislators, senior officials and managers	2.4	3.9	3.9	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.0
Professionals	3.8	3.8	5.7	6.0	8.0	8.0	8.6	7.0
Technicians and associate professionals	3.1	5.0	4.5	5.4	5.9	5.9	6.4	5.6
Clerks	7.1	9.5	10.8	10.5	10.8	10.4	10.6	10.3
Service workers, shop and market sales workers	7.9	10.0	10.7	10.8	10.3	10.5	11.1	10.5
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	8.1	6.2	4.9	5.1	4.3	3.8	3.7	4.6
Craft and related trades workers	9.5	11.5	12.0	12.5	12.6	12.4	12.8	12.3
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2.4	3.3	3.9	4.6	5.4	6.0	6.3	5.2
Elementary occupations	18.3	17.6	17.6	17.4	15.4	17.0	16.9	16.9
Occupations unspecified and not elsewhere classified	37.4	29.1	26.0	22.4	22.0	20.6	17.8	22.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Figure 2.8
Occupations of the employed 18–24 age cohort



Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.12

Number of persons from the 18–24 age cohort with a Grade 12, Standard 10 or higher qualification employed in elementary occupations

Level of qualification	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Total	% of total 18–24 age cohort
Grade 10/Std 8/NTCI	1 893	2 918	4 141	5 094	5 880	5 918	7 760	33 604	0.5
Grade 11/Std 9/NTCII	1 394	1 784	2 095	3 385	3 662	5 351	7 466	25 136	0.4
Attended Grade 12 but did not complete it	329	1 000	2 069	2 414	3 006	4 166	5 501	18 485	0.3
Grade 12/Std 10/NTCIII (without university exemption)	1 135	2 441	4 760	5 412	7 401	10 470	9 869	41 489	0.6
Grade 12/Std 10 (with university exemption)	94	303	638	1 381	1 165	987	2 107	6 674	0.1
Certificate with < Std 10/Gr 12	60	362	411	592	544	1 513	1 444	4 926	0.1
Diploma with < Std 10/Gr 12	27		62	44	77	130	312	653	0.0
Certificate with Std 10/Gr 12	119	112	353	380	447	869	656	2 935	0.0
Diploma with Std 10/Gr 12			101	47	233	141	271	793	0.0
Bachelors degree						136	64	200	0.0
BTech									0.0
Postgraduate diploma				22			99	121	0.0
Honours degree						57		57	0.0
Higher degree (Masters/PHD)									0.0
Total	5 050	8 919	14 631	18 770	22 415	29 739	35 550	135 073	2.0

Source: StatsSA (2007)

The data analysis in Table 2.12 shows that 57 848 persons in the 18–24 age cohort that had a Grade 12, Standard 10 or equivalent/higher qualification were employed in elementary occupations. Of these, 48 163 (0.7% of the total 18–24 age cohort) were persons with a Grade 12, Standard 10 or equivalent qualification as their highest level of education. These persons are also a target group for second-chance education opportunity. A further 80 953 (1.3% of total 18–24 age cohort) persons had a Grade 10, Standard 8 or equivalent qualification and were also employed in elementary occupations. A total of 4 106 persons in the 18–24 age group had a higher education qualification but were employed in elementary occupations.

Industries in which employed persons in 18–24 age cohort are working

A large percentage of employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort (20.3%) did not specify the industry in which they worked (see Tables 2.13 and 2.14). Some of the possible reasons for this could be that: they were employed mostly in the informal sector; they were performing casual labour for a variety of different types of work; or they did not know in which industry to classify their particular employment. Those that indicated the industry in which they were employed worked mostly in the wholesale and retail trade (17.4%), followed by manufacturing (13.8%) and financial, insurance, real estate and business services (10.8%).

Table 2.13

Industries in which employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort were working (number)

Industry	Age							Total
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Other and not adequately defined	6 527	10 070	11 577	14 668	15 619	22 026	26 538	107 024
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	7 584	10 105	13 449	17 520	19 155	19 844	23 666	111 322
Mining and quarrying	518	1 585	2 448	4 200	5 534	8 218	10 662	33 164
Manufacturing	7 732	13 032	21 192	26 323	38 131	40 777	50 771	197 958
Electricity, gas and water supply	479	471	1 101	1 362	1 450	2 275	2 729	9 868
Construction	4 403	8 058	10 623	14 941	17 954	21 176	25 289	102 444
Wholesale and retail trade	11 792	19 678	30 861	38 934	42 862	49 019	57 515	250 659
Transport, storage and communication	1 519	2 906	4 591	6 788	8 151	9 926	11 532	45 413
Financial, insurance, real estate and business services	4 295	9 153	13 186	20 898	28 998	36 162	43 416	156 110
Community, social and personal services	4 065	7 097	12 057	19 981	24 263	28 886	36 658	133 008
Unspecified	28 555	30 299	37 961	40 328	49 022	52 524	53 404	292 093
Total	77 468	112 454	159 047	205 943	251 139	290 833	342 179	1 439 063

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.14

Industries in which employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort were working (percentage)

Industry	Age (%)							Total
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
Other and not adequately defined	8.4	9.0	7.3	7.1	6.2	7.6	7.8	7.4
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	9.8	9.0	8.5	8.5	7.6	6.8	6.9	7.7
Mining and quarrying	0.7	1.4	1.5	2.0	2.2	2.8	3.1	2.3
Manufacturing	10.0	11.6	13.3	12.8	15.2	14.0	14.8	13.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7
Construction	5.7	7.2	6.7	7.3	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.1
Wholesale and retail trade	15.2	17.5	19.4	18.9	17.1	16.9	16.8	17.4
Transport, storage and communication	2.0	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.2
Financial, insurance, real estate and business services	5.5	8.1	8.3	10.1	11.5	12.4	12.7	10.8
Community, social and personal services	5.2	6.3	7.6	9.7	9.7	9.9	10.7	9.2
Unspecified	36.9	26.9	23.9	19.6	19.5	18.1	15.6	20.3
Grand Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution, not employed and not severely disabled

The main purpose of this analysis is to determine the number of persons in the 18–24 age cohort who are in need of a second-chance education. In order to attain this result, the following persons were excluded from the age group cohort:

- All students and scholars (persons attending an education institution).
- All employed people.
- All persons who could not work or attend mainstream education because of poor health or severe disability.

The remainder was then counted as the targeted group.

Table 2.15 reflects an analysis of the number of persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution, not employed and not severely disabled. In each age group substantial numbers fall into this category. A total of 2 812 471 persons out of the total population in this age group fall in this category, representing 41.6% of the 18–24 age cohort. As expected, the percentage increases as the age increases. Figure 2.9 shows that of the 18-year-olds, this category represented 24.0% – increasing to more than 40% by age 20 and then increasing to more than 50% from age 23 onwards.

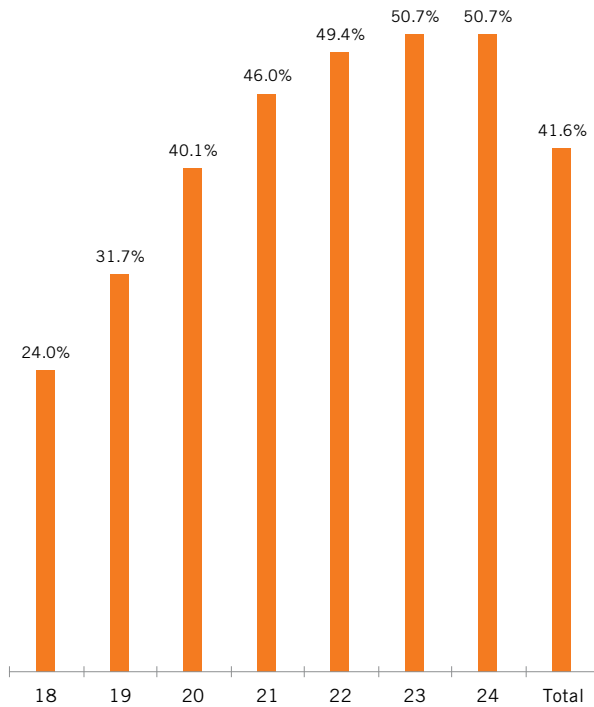
Table 2.15
Persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution, not employed and not severely disabled

Age	Total population	Number not in education, not employed and not severely disabled	Percentage of population in age group not in education, not employed and not severely disabled
18	1 002 363	241 056	24.0%
19	964 195	305 333	31.7%
20	981 625	393 441	40.1%
21	990 984	455 434	46.0%
22	961 272	474 501	49.4%
23	914 732	464 119	50.7%
24	943 195	478 587	50.7%
Total	6 758 366	2 812 471	41.6%

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Figure 2.9

Percentage of 18–24 age cohort not in education, not employed and not severely disabled



Source: StatsSA (2007)

* Note that the percentage is calculated as a percentage of the total population in each age group.

Table 2.16 shows the gender distribution of the number of persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution, not employed and not severely disabled. In Table 2.17 these persons are expressed as a percentage of the total male and total female population in this age cohort respectively. In all the age groups substantially higher percentages of females were not attending an education institution or were not employed. It is thus evident that the female population of the 18–24 age cohort was much more disadvantaged when it came to continuing their education or in gaining employment.

Table 2.16

Gender distribution of the 18–24 age cohort not in education, not employed and not severely disabled (number)

Age	Males not in education, not employed and not severely disabled	Total males	Females not in education, not employed and not severely disabled	Total females
18	101 400	504 032	139 656	498 331
19	129 480	482 601	175 854	481 594
20	167 673	480 044	225 768	501 581
21	204 561	497 614	250 873	493 370
22	205 159	475 050	269 341	486 222
23	198 999	453 320	265 120	461 412
24	200 472	465 739	278 115	477 456
Total	1 207 744	3 358 400	1 604 727	3 399 967

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.17

Gender distribution of the 18–24 age cohort not in education, not employed and not severely disabled (as percentages of total male and female population in age groups respectively)

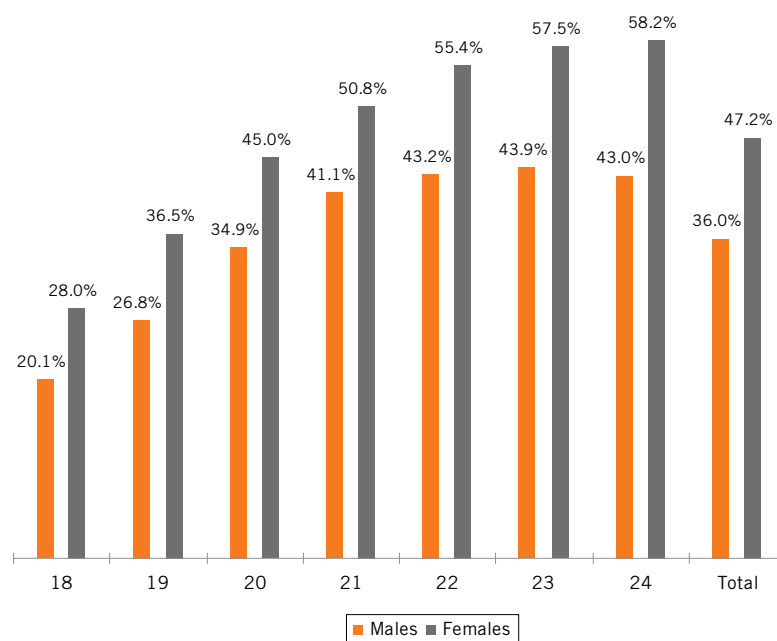
Age	Males not in education, not employed and not severely disabled (%)	Total males (%)	Females not in education, not employed and not severely disabled (%)	Total females (%)
18	20.1	100.0	28.0	100.0
19	26.8	100.0	36.5	100.0
20	34.9	100.0	45.0	100.0
21	41.1	100.0	50.8	100.0
22	43.2	100.0	55.4	100.0
23	43.9	100.0	57.5	100.0
24	43.0	100.0	58.2	100.0
Total	36.0	100.0	47.2	100.0

Source: 2007 Community Survey, Statistics South Africa

* Note that the percentage of males and females has been calculated as a percentage of the total males and females respectively.

Figure 2.10

Gender distribution of the 18–24 cohort not in education, not employed and not severely disabled (as percentage of the total male and female population in each age group)



Source: StatsSA (2007)

* Note that the percentage of males and females has been calculated as a percentage of the total males and females respectively.

The distribution of the persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution, not employed and not severely disabled according to population group is provided in Table 2.18. This category of persons is depicted in Figure 2.11 as percentages of the total African, coloured, Indian or Asian, and white population within the age cohort.

There were very high percentages of persons of the various population groups between the ages of 18 and 24 not attending an educational institution, not employed and that were severely disabled. For all these ages the highest percentage on average was amongst the African population (44.2%), followed by the coloured population (41.3%). The respective percentages for the Indian or Asian population and the white population for this category were 30.7% and 14.8%. In the 18–24 age cohort the African and coloured population groups were particularly disadvantaged regarding attending education and being employed, followed by the Indian or Asian population groups. Much lower percentages of the white population of this age cohort were not attending an educational institution or were not employed.

Table 2.18

Population distribution of the 18–24 age cohort not in education, not employed and not severely disabled (as percentages of total African, coloured, Indian or Asian, and white population respectively)

Age	African		Coloured		Indian or Asian		White	
	Not employed, not in education, not severely disabled		Not employed, not in education, not severely disabled		Not employed, not in education, not severely disabled		Not employed, not in education, not severely disabled	
18	188 943	22.8%	33 035	38.9%	7 813	35.3%	11 266	17.3%
19	253 721	31.9%	33 666	42.9%	6 914	31.9%	11 033	16.3%
20	340 289	41.8%	38 057	45.8%	6 709	29.0%	8 386	13.7%
21	399 418	49.3%	37 325	43.1%	8 027	34.9%	10 663	14.8%
22	422 468	54.3%	34 206	41.2%	7 574	28.6%	10 253	14.0%
23	414 153	55.8%	33 052	40.1%	7 029	28.0%	9 885	15.4%
24	433 958	56.1%	30 215	37.3%	6 915	27.9%	7 499	11.8%
Total	2 452 949	44.2%	239 556	41.3%	50 980	30.7%	68 986	14.8%

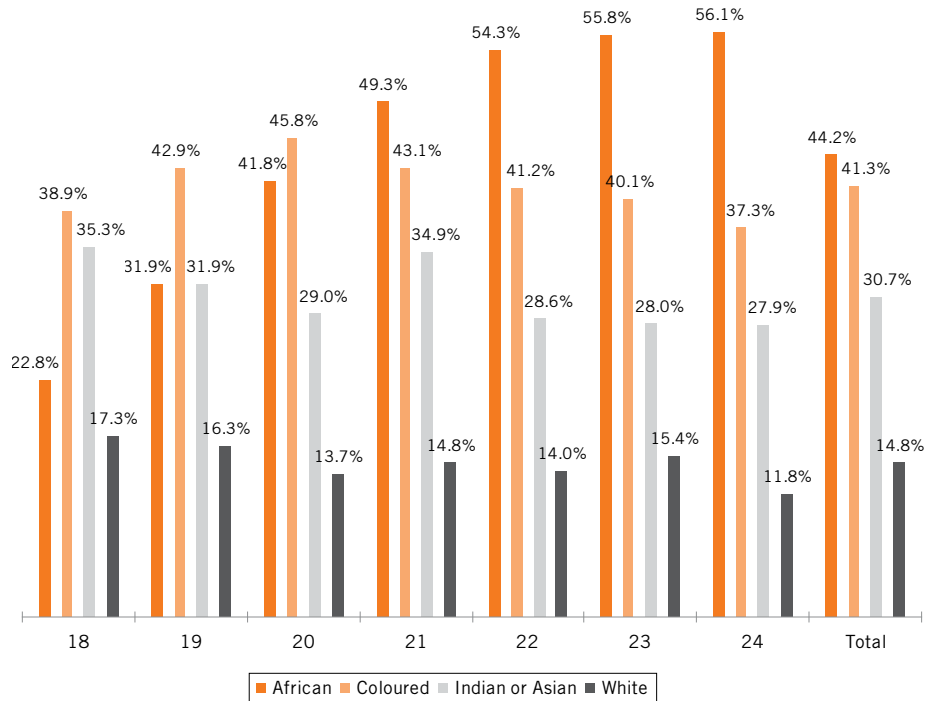
Source: StatsSA (2007)

Persons who were unemployed and who were not attending an educational institution who could work or attend an education institution according to level of education attained

The level of education of the targeted portion of the 18–24 age cohort identified in the previous section is discussed in this section. In Tables 2.19 and 2.20 the results of an analysis to determine how many persons in the 18–24 age cohort who were unemployed and who were not attending an education institution could possibly work or attend an education institution. The results were tabled according to the attained level of education of the persons. This provides an idea of the potential student population eligible for a second-chance education opportunity.

Figure 2.11

Percentages of the 18–24 age cohort not attending an education institution, not working and not severely disabled according to population group*



Source: StatsSA (2007)

* Note that the percentage of each population group has been calculated as a percentage of the total for each population group respectively.

If one only considers persons that obtained at least Grade 12/Standard 10 or an NTCIII and who had not yet obtained any further higher education degrees, diplomas or certificates, a total of 696 992 persons would have been the target group for a second-chance education opportunity. This represented 10.4% of the total 18–24 age cohort. There were also 990 794 persons with a Grade 10/Standard 8 or higher – but less than Grade 12/Standard 10, which are also in need of an urgent intervention for the improvement of their qualifications. This group represented 14.7% of the total 18 to 24 age cohort.

Table 2.19

Number of persons unemployed and not attending an educational institution who could possibly work or attend an educational institution according to level of education attained

Level of qualification	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Total
Unspecified	2 595	2 457	3 786	4 762	4 998	4 054	4 699	27 351
Primary or less	61 056	64 285	70 496	78 564	73 575	75 261	77 425	500 662
Secondary education less than Grade 10 or Std 8	51 192	59 643	73 194	79 050	83 367	81 502	80 649	508 597
Grade 10/Std 8 or higher but less than Grade 12/ Std 10	65 228	94 608	132 158	164 596	176 733	174 325	183 146	990 794
Grade 12/Std 10/NTCIII (without university exemption)	47 447	65 190	89 292	99 797	100 711	96 139	100 080	598 657
Grade 12/Std 10 (with university exemption)	10 226	13 526	14 778	14 259	16 910	13 869	14 766	98 335
Certificate with Std 10/Gr 12	2 732	4 025	6 299	8 157	9 672	8 340	7 811	47 035
Diploma with Std 10/Gr 12	388	1 151	2 464	3 461	6 103	5 733	5 995	25 294
Bachelors degree	188	322	430	1 774	1 460	2 831	2 347	9 352
BTech	6	126	192	312	78	654	414	1 780
Post graduate diploma			244	405	400	581	867	2 498
Honours degree			60	220	383	694	337	1 695
Higher degree (Masters/PHD)			48	77	110	135	50	420
Total	241 056	305 333	393 441	455 434	474 501	464 119	478 587	2 812 471

Source: StatsSA (2007)

Table 2.20

Percentage of persons unemployed and not attending an educational institution who could possibly work or attend an educational institution according to level of education attained (as percentage of total persons in the 18–24 age group)*

	18 (%)	19 (%)	20 (%)	21 (%)	22 (%)	23 (%)	24 (%)	Total
Unspecified	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
Primary or less	6.1	6.7	7.2	7.9	7.7	8.2	8.2	7.4
Secondary education less than Grade 10 or Std 8	5.1	6.2	7.5	8.0	8.7	8.9	8.6	7.5
Grade 10/Std 8 or higher but less than Grade 12/ Std 10	6.5	9.8	13.5	16.6	18.4	19.1	19.4	14.7
Grade 12/Std 10/NTCIII (without university exemption)	4.7	6.8	9.1	10.1	10.5	10.5	10.6	8.9
Grade 12/Std 10 (with university exemption)	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.5
Certificate with Std 10/Gr 12	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7
Diploma with Std 10/Gr 12	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4
Bachelors degree	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
BTech	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Post graduate diploma			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Honours degree			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Higher degree (Masters/PHD)			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	24.0	31.7	40.1	46.0	49.4	50.7	50.7	41.6

Source: StatsSA (2007)

* Note that the percentages have been expressed as a percentage of the total 18 to 24 population.

Summary and conclusion

Based on the analysis of the 2007 Community Survey metadata unit records, the following findings were made with regard to the persons of the 18–24 age cohort:

- There were 6 758 366 persons within the 18–24 age cohort in 2007, representing 13.9% of the total South African population.
- The population group distribution of the 18–24 age cohort was as follows: 82.1% African, 8.6% coloured, 2.5% Indian or Asian, and 6.9% white. This compared to the population distribution of the total South African population, which was: 79% African, 9% coloured, 2.6% Indian or Asian, and 9.6% white. Approximately equal percentages of the 18–24 age cohort were male (47.7%) and female (50.3%).
- Out of the total population of 6 758 366 of 18–24-year-olds, 4 236 110 (62.7%) persons were not attending an educational institution, 2 383 548 (35.3%) were attending an educational institution, whilst 138 708 (2.0%) did not indicate whether or not they were attending an educational institution.
- An analysis of the age profiles of the persons attending an educational institution revealed that most of them were 18 (67.1% of all 18-year-olds) or 19 (55.1% of all 19-year-olds) years old. This percentage decreased rapidly for each age group – from 42.3% for 20-year-olds to only 10.6% of 24-year-olds.
- An analysis of the type of educational institution attended showed that of the total 18–24-year-old population group, 0.2% were still enrolled in primary education and a large percentage (24.5%) were still enrolled in secondary schools; whilst 5.4% were enrolled in universities, 4% in colleges and the remaining 1.2% in ABET and other (unspecified) institutions.
- An analysis of the percentages of males and females of the 18–24 age cohort that were attending an educational institution showed that higher percentages of the total male population remained in education for all of the age groups, except for the 24-year age group where a higher percentage of the total female population was still enrolled in an educational institution.
- An analysis of the occupations of the employed persons from the 18–24 age cohort shows that a large percentage of the persons' occupations were classified as unspecified or as not classified elsewhere (22.6%), whilst a large percentage was employed in elementary occupations (16.9%). A more important question that arises is whether the employed persons were employed at a level appropriate to their level of education.
- The analysis of the employment status of the total 18–24 age cohort shows that the employment status of 256 346 (3.8%) persons was unknown, 1 439 063 (21.3%) persons were employed, 1 814 947 (26.9%) were unemployed, and 3 248 010 (48.1%) were not economically active.
- The tabulation of occupations of employed people revealed that a large percentage was employed in elementary occupations (16.9%). The large percentage of the persons' occupations that is classified as unspecified or as not classified elsewhere (22.6%) could be a further indication of employment in elementary occupations.

- A further analysis was done by tabulating the occupation of the employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort by their level of education. This revealed that 57 848 persons in the 18–24 age cohort that had a Grade 12, Standard 10 or equivalent or higher qualification were employed in elementary occupations. Of these, 48 163 (0.7% of the total 18–24 age cohort) were persons with a Grade 12 or Standard 10 or equivalent qualification as their highest level of education. A further 80 953 (1.3% of total 18–24 age cohort) persons had a Grade 10 or Standard 8 or equivalent qualification and were also employed in elementary occupations.
- Apart from the 20.3% of the employed persons in the 18–24 age cohort (20.3%) who did not specify the industry in which they were working, the remainder that were employed worked mostly in the wholesale and retail trade (17.4%), followed by manufacturing (13.8%), and financial, insurance, real estate and business services (10.8%).
- An analysis to determine the number of persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution and not employed showed that a total of 2 812 471 persons out of the total population in this age group fall into this category, representing 41.6% of the 18–24 age cohort.
- An analysis of the number of persons in the 18–24 age cohort not attending an educational institution or not employed revealed that the female population of the 18–24 age cohort was much more disadvantaged when it comes to continuing education or gaining employment.
- A similar analysis by population group showed that the African and coloured population groups were particularly disadvantaged regarding attending education and being employed, followed by the Indian or Asian population groups. Much lower percentages of the white population of this age cohort were not attending an educational institution or were not employed.
- An analysis to determine how many persons of the 18–24 age cohort were unemployed and not attending an educational institution could possibly work or attend an educational institution, showed that if only persons are considered that had obtained at least Grade 12/Standard 10 or an NTCIII and that had not yet obtained any further higher education degrees/ diplomas or certificates, a total of 696 992 persons would have been the target group for a second-chance education opportunity. This represented 10.4% of the total 18–24 year age cohort. There was also a group of 990 794 with Grade 10 or Standard 8 that were not attending an educational institution and were not employed who were in urgent need for a second-chance education opportunity. This second group forms 14.7% of the total 18–24 age cohort. The main reasons given for not being employed were the fact that persons could not find work or could not find suitable work, or that they had a lack of skills or qualifications for available work.

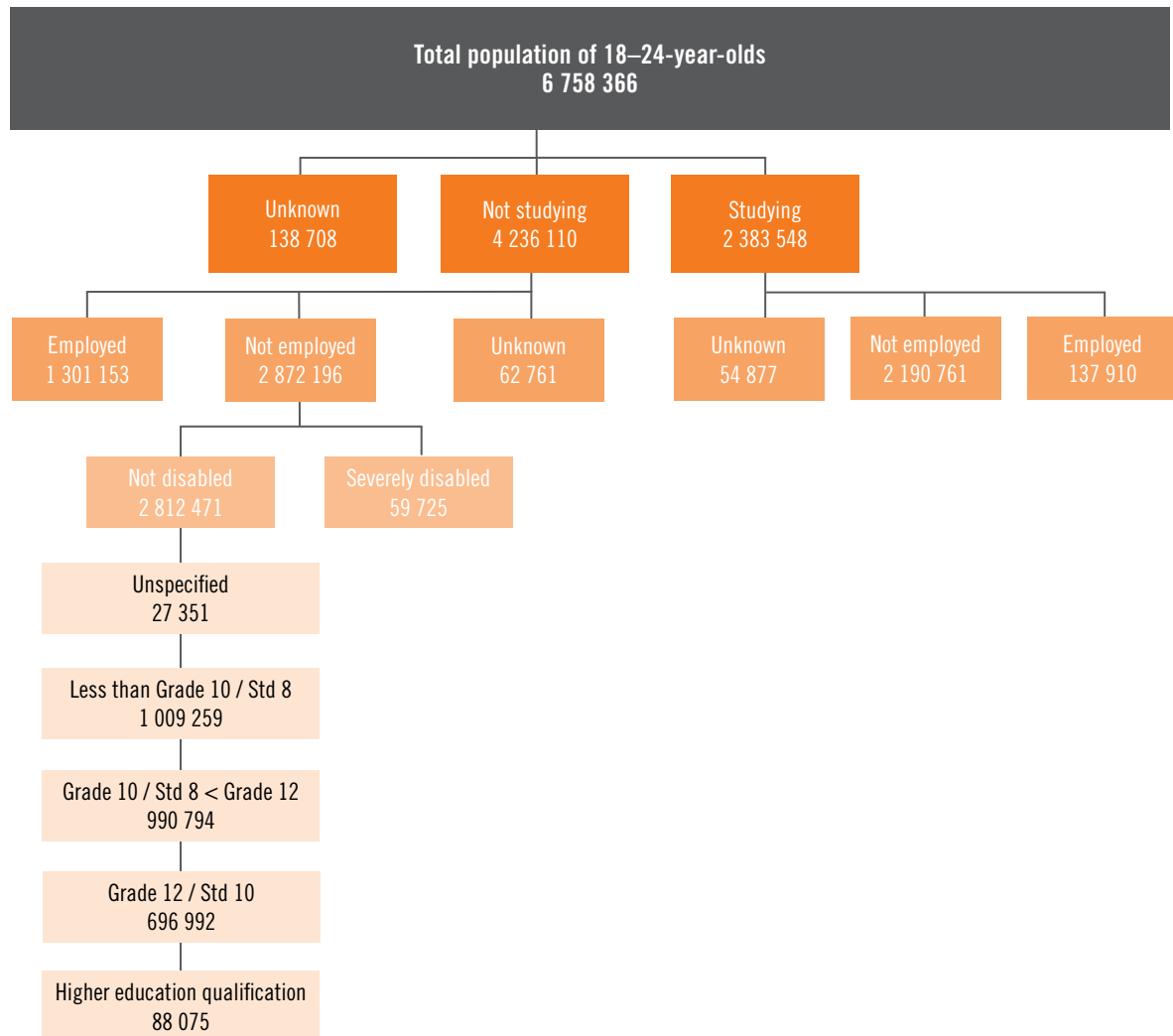
In summary:

- During the post-1994 period the DoE and HEIs made considerable efforts to widen access. For schooling, the study by Crouch (2008) shows the success at the pre-Grade 10 level, and in HE the participation rate increased from close to 12% in 1994/95 to

nearly 16% in 2007. The problem lies in the 18–24-year-old 2 812 471 million NEET group (not in employment, education or training). The finding that 41.6% of the 18–24-year-olds in South Africa are not in education or training, nor are they employed, is not only an educational problem, but constitutes a social and economic disaster.

- The HE participation rate of 20% foreseen in the National Plan on HE will only be achieved by around 2020. This is approximately five to ten years later than the date foreseen in the National Plan for HE (see RSA 2001: 1). If the growth in the HE participation rate from the 15% given in 2001 in the National Plan is taken as point of departure, then participation has only increased by 1% during the period 2001–2007. Such a rate of increase would mean that South Africa would only reach its target of 20% by 2030. Such a slow increase in HE participation will have very negative socio-economic consequences for our country. This implies that specific strategies are required to increase HE study opportunities for young people in South Africa.
- The number of young people who qualify for participation in some form of HE (either certificate/diploma or degree study) but who are not involved in HE and are not employed has been estimated for the first time with a reasonable amount of certainty for the South African context. The figure of nearly 700 000 is far too large if South Africa is to meet its targets of high-level skilled and high-middle-level skilled people required for sustained economic development and the improvement of quality of life for all in our country. The fact that approximately 85% of this figure of nearly 700 000 could continue with HE studies at the certificate or diploma level at universities (probably in the main universities of technology) or with some form of post NQF Level 4 studies at FET colleges, gives a strong indication of the direction which any interventions aimed at increasing HE opportunities should take – i.e. not primarily degree study at traditional universities.
- Disconcerting for the South African government is the fact that the unacceptably high number of young people who could be involved in some form of HE (post-school) study but are not, and are also unemployed, shows that present education and employment strategies aimed at solving this problem have not been effective and will have to be changed or augmented to reverse this trend. Failing to do so will simply render the country's broad economic growth and development agenda untenable. Figure 2.14 is a schematic presentation of the target group in need of post-school education.

Figure 2.14:
Schematic presentation of the 18–24-year-old target group in need of post-school education



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