
Emfuleni population and labour force

Current status and trends

4.1 Introduction

In this chapter, Emfuleni is analysed in terms of its demographics (such as population size, historical growth patterns, household size, dependency ratios, home ownership and literacy) and its labour force. The methods used for the measurement of unemployment are discussed and several profiles are portrayed (employment and unemployment, trends in employed and unemployed, occupational profiles, income and expenditure profiles).

4.2 Demographic profile

Any change in the economy of a region will have an effect on its population in terms of employment opportunities, income (remuneration), expenditure patterns, the level of poverty and social services. The demographic, educational, employment, income and expenditure profiles of Emfuleni are analysed and portrayed in the following paragraphs.

Population size

In the past there were various estimates regarding the size of the population in Emfuleni. WEFA (2000) estimated the 1999 population for the former Eastern Vaal Metropolitan Substructure (EVMS) and Western Vaal Metropolitan Substructure (WVMS), which together form Emfuleni, at 924,314 persons. The figure of 950,657 for the year 2000, based on the WEFA estimates, was commonly used in Emfuleni in the absence of anything else. However, it appears that this was an overestimation and that the new municipal boundaries for Emfuleni, as determined by the Municipal Demarcation Board, also resulted in a change of the population numbers. Based on the 1996

Census, the Municipal Demarcation Board estimated the population for Emfuleni at 597,948 for the year 1996 (Municipal Demarcation Board 2001). Statistics South Africa, in its latest release, estimates the population within the new municipal boundaries at 658,422 for October 2001 (Stats SA 2003a). The figures released by Statistics South Africa will be used throughout this thesis and population estimates will be based on this figure. The Emfuleni suburbs and population numbers are given in Table 4.1 below.

TABLE 4.1 THE EMFULENI SUBURBS AND POPULATION (2001)

Boipatong.....	16,868	Sebokeng.....	222,044
Bophelong.....	37,779	Sharpeville.....	41,031
Evaton.....	143,152	Tshepiso.....	22,952
Rural areas.....	4,378	Vanderbijlpark	80,201
Orange Farm (Stretford).....	16,727	Vereeniging	73,288

• Source: Stats SA 2003a.

Historic growth patterns

The general view seems to be that Emfuleni has experienced a rather high average annual population growth rate in the 1990s when compared to the national growth rate. The reason for this was that there was a high immigration into the area from the rural areas of people seeking employment in an urban and industrial environment. According to population figures supplied by WEFA (1996), the population of the former WVMS grew at about 2.6 percent per annum from 1990 to 1996; the population of the former EVMS grew at about 3.3 percent in the same period of time, which means an average growth rate for the whole area of about 2.85 percent per annum. The national rate (1991 – 1996) was calculated at 2.2 percent, which was regarded as the natural population growth rate (Stats SA 2000:6).

Based on the population estimates of Stats SA (2003a) for Emfuleni, the population of Emfuleni grew at an average annual growth rate of 1.95% between 1996 and 2001, compared to 2.0% nationally (Calculated from Stats SA 2003b:6). The relatively lower rate between 1996 and 2001 when compared to 1991 – 1996 could possibly be explained as follows: between

1991 and 1996, as a result of the scrapping of the Group Areas Act and other restrictive Apartheid laws, many people moved from the former homelands to the urban areas. The economic decline in Emfuleni and the high unemployment rate probably made it a less attractive area to settle after 1996. The growth rate for Gauteng was estimated at 3.75% for the period between 1996 and 2001 (calculated from Stats SA 2003b:6), implying that people would rather move to other areas of the Gauteng province, or even move from Emfuleni to other parts of the province.

Household size

The total number of households in Emfuleni is 187,044 (Stats SA 2003a). The average household size in Emfuleni is calculated at 3.52, compared to the national figure of 3.8 persons per household. Gauteng has the lowest average household size of all the provinces, with 3.2 persons per household (calculated from Stats SA 2003a).

The national average size of a black household is 3.9 persons, compared to 2.8 for an average white household. The average size of a household in the Former Black Townships (FBT) of Emfuleni is 3.6, compared to 3.2 in the Former White Towns (FWT).

Dependency ratio

Dependency ratios are calculated by dividing the total number of non-income earners by the total number of income earners. Based on the household survey by Slabbert and Mokoena (1999), the dependency ratio in Emfuleni was determined at 3.41. Based on the data provided by Stats SA (2003a), the dependency ratio for Emfuleni is determined at 3.29 for 2001. The dependency ratio in Emfuleni increased from about 2.77 in 1994 to 3.41 in 1999 as a result of the increase in unemployment (Slabbert & Slabbert 2002a:20). This means that in 1999 more persons on average depended economically on each earning person. This is a 35.9% increase over a 9 year period and it means that in 1999, the income earners had to sustain 35.9% more dependents than in 1991. It seems that the dependency ratio declined slightly towards 2001.

Home ownership

By 1993, most of the people living in Emfuleni, especially those located in the former townships, were renting the structure in which they stayed. The type of dwellings in the township areas then ranged from formal dwellings (44.7 percent), to informal dwellings (49.7 percent) and outbuildings (5.6 percent) (Urban Econ 1998:47). This situation, however, changed drastically with the options opened up to buy houses, as well as the construction of the RDP houses. By 2001, 70.5% of the houses in Emfuleni were made of brick and situated on a separate stand. Flats and cluster houses comprised 10.3%. The rest (2.8%) are other kinds of structures (caravans, traditional huts, etc.). Informal housing comprised 16.4% in 2001, compared to 23.3% in 1996 (calculated from data supplied by the Municipal Demarcation Board 2001, 2003). This implies that the number of households staying in informal houses declined from 49.7% to 16.4% since 1993.

About 56.5% of the households in Emfuleni own their houses or flats and 23.9% rent their houses or flats (calculated from data provided by the Municipal Demarcation Board 2003).

The construction of middle- and higher-income houses, however, declined to a low level as a result of an increased supply of houses, resulting from especially White, Asian and Coloured home owners leaving Emfuleni. In the period 1991-1996, the growth rate for the White population group was -3.5 percent. The growth rate for Asians was -8.0 percent and that of the Coloured population group -5.7 percent (Bloch & Dorfling 2000:12). Most of these left from middle- and higher-income areas. Between 1996 and 2001, the trend changed to such an extent that the growth rates were as follows: Blacks, 2.6%; Coloured, 3%; Asian 4.5% and Whites -1.5% (calculated from data provided by the Municipal Demarcation Board 2001 & Stats SA 2003a).

Literacy

By the year 1999, 19.8 percent of the Emfuleni population (including the population below 5 years of age) had no education (Slabbert & Mokoena 1999). According to the Municipal Demarcation Board (2001), this figure was

22.5% for the year 1996. The comparable figure for 1991 was 23 percent. The national figure for 1991 was 30.6 percent. By the year 2000, 67.7 percent of the population in Emfuleni had an educational level of grade 3 or higher. A total of 22.8 percent of Emfuleni population had grade 10 or a higher qualification by the year 2000. The figure for those with a grade 10 or higher qualification in 1991 was about 19 percent (while it was 16 percent for the country as a whole in 1991) (Slabbert & Slabbert 2002b:5). On the whole it can be concluded that the level of literacy in Emfuleni is slightly higher than in the whole of South Africa.

Levin & Sofisa (1993:32) use standard 3 (Grade 5, i.e. 5 years of schooling) as the cut-off point for literacy levels. If this measure is used (only out-of-school population is considered, i.e. excluding children), then 10.6% of the poor population is illiterate (having qualifications less than Grade 5).

4.3 The labour force

4.3.1 Profile of the unemployed

Methods for the measurement of unemployment

Various methods are used to measure unemployment. The following three are more or less standard methods (Slabbert & Levin 1997).

a. The census method

This method is used for measuring the economic status of the entire population. However, censuses take place only periodically and even then only a limited number of questions pertaining to employment can be included.

b. Registration method

This method provides for the unemployed to register at placement offices - in South Africa, these are offices of the Department of Labour. Registration is compulsory to qualify for unemployment benefits. In South Africa, some categories of civil servants, domestic workers, farm workers, casual and seasonal workers, those earning more than the ceiling income and those whose period of benefit (6 months) has run out, are excluded from the fund.

Many persons, therefore, have no reason to register. Registered unemployment figures published by the Department of Labour in South Africa consequently do not show the level of unemployment accurately, particularly not for Blacks.

c. Sample surveys

Surveys are undertaken on a sample basis to obtain the data required to calculate unemployment rates for specific groups of people. In earlier years, the Central Statistical Services conducted surveys on a monthly basis for Blacks, Coloureds and Asians. It was called the Current Population Survey (CPS). However, since the figures obtained for Blacks were found to be inaccurate, their results have not been published since April 1990 (Barker 1992:83). In 1994, the CPS was terminated and the October Household Survey was introduced. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) has conducted October Household Surveys (OHS) since 1996. It is an annual survey, based on a probability sample of a large number of households. It covers a range of development and poverty indicators, including unemployment (official and expanded), according to the definitions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

Because of the lack of reliable sources of information on a regional basis, surveys were conducted in the Vaal by the Employment Research Unit (ERU) and the Vaal Research Group (VRG) in the years 1988, 1991, 1994, 1999 and 2003 to determine the unemployment and poverty rate (Levin & Slabbert 1988, 1989; Slabbert & Levin 1990, 1992a, 1992b, 1992c, 1992d; Slabbert *et al.* 1994a, 1994b, 1994c; Slabbert, van Wyk, Coetzee & Levin 1995; Slabbert, Coetzee & Levin 1995; Slabbert 1997, 1999, 2001a, 2001b, 2001c; Slabbert & Dorfling 2001; Slabbert & Slabbert 2002a, 2002b; Slabbert & Mokoena 1999; Slabbert 2003). The method used to determine the unemployment rate in Emfuleni is explained below.

Definition of unemployment

Statistics South Africa uses the following definition of unemployment as its official definition (Stats SA 2000:10):

The unemployed are those people within the economically active population who:

- a) did not work during the seven days prior to the interview;*
- b) want to work and are available to start within a week of the interview; and*
- c) have taken active steps to look for work or to start some form of self-employment in the four weeks prior to the interview.*

These general criteria are translated into statistically meaningful criteria, namely:

- the population of potential working age (i.e. 15 years and older);
- the economically non-active (i.e. those who prefer not to or who cannot work – for instance housewives, persons 65 years and older, the disabled etc);
- the economically active population (all those who are fit to work, wish to work, have no employment and are ready for and actively looking for work, plus the employed and self-employed).

The unemployment rate (Ur) then, is calculated according to the standard equation:

$$\frac{\text{number of unemployed}}{\text{Economically active population (EAP)}} \times \frac{100}{1} = Ur$$

In developed countries, this definition is relatively simple to apply. The criteria for measuring unemployment are clear and definite, i.e. a person is out of work, and is actively looking for a job by means of a listing at a placement or other government office. However, in developing countries circumstances are very different, and it is not always clear whether or not a person is seeking employment. In South Africa, some unemployed persons become discouraged and therefore refrain from taking active steps to seek employment.

In the surveys conducted by the Employment Research Unit (ERU) and the Vaal Research Group (VRG), only one criterion was taken as an indication of

seeking work, namely if a person "has the desire to work and to take up employment or self-employment". The question asked was simply: "Do you want to work?" When the standard Stats SA definition is used, but its strict criteria are relaxed - as was done in the surveys - it is referred to as an expanded definition of unemployment. The expanded definition includes (a) and (b) but not (c) in the definition listed on the previous page (Stats SA, 2000: xv).

Stats SA's definition for employment which defines 'employed' as those who performed work for pay, profit or family gain in the seven days prior to the Household Survey interview, or who were absent from work during these seven days, but had some form of paid work to which they can return (Stats SA 2000:xv) was also simplified. The question was simply asked: "Do you work for a business, for yourself or for your family?" Working for a business was regarded as formal employment. Self-employment and family employment were taken as working in the informal sector.

The labour force

Table 4.2 shows the population data for Emfuleni as derived from data provided by the Municipal Demarcation Board (2003).

TABLE 4.2 LABOUR FORCE OF EMFULENI

Activity	Numbers 2001	Comparison of Percentages		
		Survey data 1999	Census 2001	Survey data 2003
POPULATION	658,422	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Less:				
PERSONS 0-14 YEARS & 65+ YEARS OF AGE & THE DISABLED & ECONOMICALLY NON-ACTIVE POPULATION	344,732	53.4%	52.4%	54.2%
ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE	313,690	46.6%	47.6%	45.8%
Employed	153,655	22.7%	23.3%	21.0%
Unemployed	160,035	23.9%	24.3%	24.8%

- Source: Calculated from Municipal Demarcation Board 2003; Slabbert & Mokoena 1999; Slabbert 2003.

The unemployment rate in Emfuleni is determined at 51.0 percent for 2001.

The 1999 and 2003 calculations from survey data (Slabbert & Mokoena 1999; Slabbert 2003) are compared in Table 4.2.

Using the standard equation as defined above, the **unemployment rate** (Ur) (expanded definition) is calculated at **51%** from the 2001 Census data (Municipal Demarcation Board 2003) as follows:

$$\frac{\text{number of unemployed}}{\text{Economically active population (EAP)}} \times \frac{100}{1} = Ur$$

$$\frac{160,035}{313,790} \times \frac{100}{1} = 51.0\%$$

The unemployment rate for Emfuleni is higher than that of all municipalities in Gauteng, as well as the Northern Free State (Stats SA 2003a). The national figure for the year 2001 was estimated at 41.5% for 2001 (BER 2001).

The rate determined for Emfuleni from the 1999 survey data was 51.3% and 54.1% from the 2003 survey data.

A problem affecting the accuracy of the unemployment rate is the multiplying effect. This is the effect of high levels of unemployment on involuntary unemployment. For instance: a mother and grown-up daughter from the same family are unemployed and both express a desire to take up employment. However, if one of them is successful in obtaining employment, the other will no longer be available for employment. It is not possible to correct or adjust the results for the impact of this multiplying effect (Slabbert 2001c:5).

Since 1991, the Emfuleni economy has registered only a marginal employment growth in certain sectors, and a negative growth in other sectors. The net effect has been a loss of employment opportunities. This corresponds with the national labour scenario which also experienced a decline in job opportunities in this period (BER 2001).

Table 4.3 and Figure 4.1 show the trends in unemployment in the Vaal's Former Black Townships (FBT) from 1991 until 2003. As the majority of the unemployed (about 90%) reside in the Former Black Townships, it is assumed that the trends for Emfuleni as a whole will follow the same pattern (though the actual figures for Emfuleni as a whole will be lower).

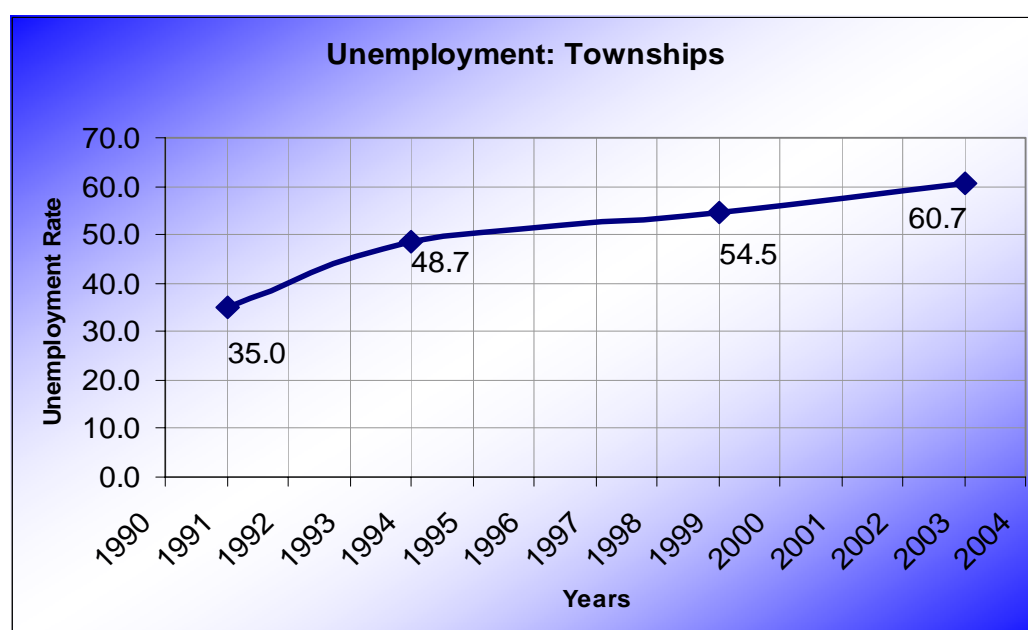
TABLE 4.3 TRENDS IN UNEMPLOYMENT (PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES), VAAL, FORMER BLACK TOWNSHIPS

	1991	1994	1999	2003
Unemployed as % of population	14.5	20.0	24.5	28.0
Unemployment rate	35.0	48.7	54.5	60.7

• Source: Slabbert 1997:75; Slabbert & Mokoena 1999; Slabbert 2003.

The unemployment rate increased especially in the years 1991 – 1994 (after the abolition of the Group Areas Act). From 1991 to 2000, a 56% increase in the unemployment rate was experienced.

FIGURE 4.1 TRENDS IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, VAAL, FBT



• Source: Slabbert 1997:75; Slabbert & Mokoena 1999; Slabbert 2003.

Up to 1996, household and employment surveys were only conducted in the Former Black Townships (FBTs) of the Vaal. Only from 1999 and onwards these surveys were also conducted in the Former White Towns (FWTs) of the Vaal. For the earlier years, the data is only available for the Vaal as a whole. From 1999 and onwards, segregated data is available for Emfuleni and Metsimaholo. For this reason, the trends in the unemployment rate are depicted for the FBTs of the Vaal as a whole. As Emfuleni comprises 85% of the population of the Vaal (Municipal Demarcation Board 2003), and about 90% of all unemployed persons in Emfuleni reside in the FBTs (calculated from data by Municipal Demarcation Board 2003; Slabbert 2003), the unemployment trends in the Vaal as a whole will give a good indication of the trends in Emfuleni.

Surveys conducted by the Employment Research Unit in the Former Black Townships indicate that since 1990, younger people without jobs have been moving into higher age categories, still unable to find employment. About 26 percent of the unemployed have less than five years of formal schooling (Slabbert & Slabbert 2002b:7).

Profile of the employed

The potential labour force, or economically active population (persons in the age between 15 and 64 years, minus the economically non-active population which includes housewives, the disabled and those who prefer not to work) of Emfuleni for the year 2001 is in the order of 47.6 percent of the total population of Emfuleni, or 313,690 persons.

Of the total labour force, 45.9% is employed (2003): 39.9% is employed in the formal sector and 9% is informally employed (Slabbert 2003).

The employment profile in Emfuleni is largely influenced by the economic structure of the area. The area is characterised by specialisation in certain sectors, namely:

- The manufacturing of basic metals and metal products: these activities are responsible for almost 66.4 percent of all

manufacturing employment opportunities (Slabbert & Slabbert 2002b:9), and

- Trade and services activities: the wholesale and retail, community and personal services and other activities, are responsible for about 61.4 percent of tertiary employment (see Table 4.4). (The tertiary sector involves trade, transport, financial services, community and personal services and other services, including private households).

Table 4.4 and Figure 4.2 show the employment profile of Emfuleni. The figure shows a high occurrence of labour involved in manufacturing (32.5 percent), trade (8.9 percent) and service oriented and other activities (34.8 percent). In Annexure B, a detailed explanation is given as to what each economic sector includes.

TABLE 4.4 EMPLOYMENT PROFILE OF EMFULENI (2003)

Economic sector	Employment (number)	Per cent
Agriculture	2,904	1.9
Mining	1,230	0.8
Manufacturing	34,122	22.2
Electricity / Gas / Water	2,367	1.5
Construction	7,812	5.1
Trade	25,717	16.7
Transport	7,277	4.7
Financing	13,228	8.6
Services & Other	29,105	18.9
Tourism & Entertainment	2,176	1.4
Private households	17,124	11.1
Undetermined	10,580	6.9
TOTAL	153,657	100.0

- Source: Municipal Demarcation Board 2003 and Slabbert & Slabbert 2002a:106 for calculations of estimates for Tourism & Entertainment.

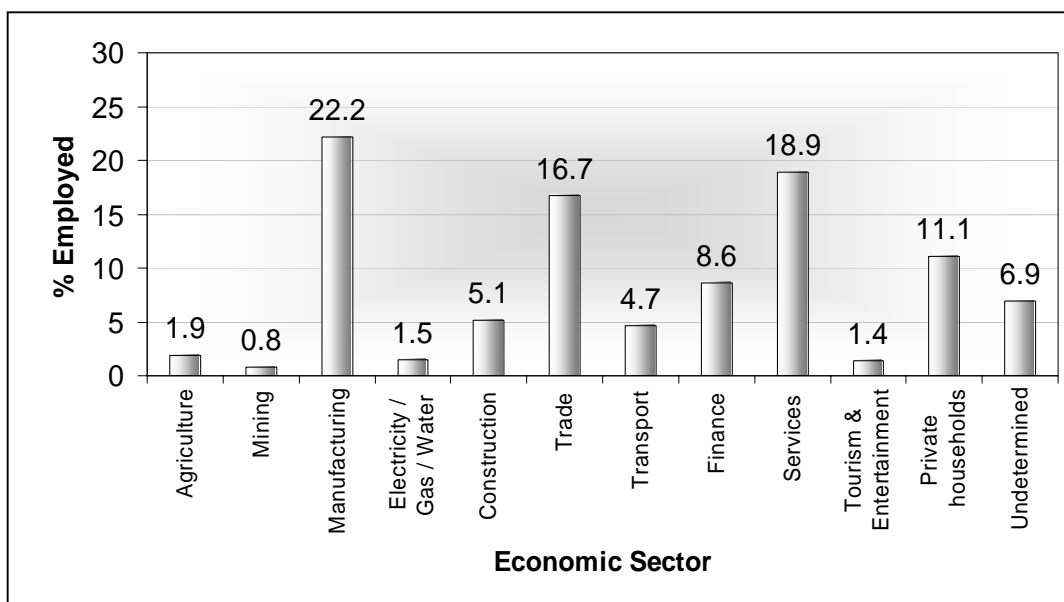


FIGURE 4.2 EMPLOYMENT PROFILE OF EMFULENI (2003)

- Source: Municipal Demarcation Board 2003 and Slabbert & Slabbert 2002a:106 for calculations of estimates for Tourism & Entertainment.

Occupational profile

The occupational profile of Emfuleni is portrayed in Table 4.4 and Figure 4.5 below.

TABLE 4.5 OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE OF THE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION (2001)

OCCUPATION	Percentage	Number
Legislators, senior officials, managers	5.1	7,791
Professionals	6.4	9,817
Technicians & associate professionals	9.6	14,804
Clerks	11.9	18,284
Service workers, shop and market sales workers	11.2	17,275
Skilled agricultural workers	0.7	1,079
Craft and related trade workers	14.3	21,923
Plant and machine operators & assemblers	11.7	18,021
Elementary occupations	24.1	36,990

Undermined	5.0	7,673
TOTAL	100.0	153,654

• Source: Municipal Demarcation Board 2003.

FIGURE 4.3 OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE OF THE ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE



POPULATION (2001)

• Source: Municipal Demarcation Board 2003.

Most (68.5 percent) of the economically active population in Emfuleni are involved in artisan, services, production, elementary and clerically-related occupations. These occupations are typical for a region with a strong industrial base such as the economy of Emfuleni. Almost 11.5 percent are involved in professional, managerial and senior official occupations.

4.4 Income and expenditure

4.4.1 Income

Sources of income per economic sector

Table 4.6 and Figure 4.4 show the monetary and percentage contribution of the different sectors of Emfuleni economy to the total remuneration in Emfuleni for the year 2000.

The largest percentage (40.5 percent) of remuneration is paid by the manufacturing sector, while the second largest (28.6 percent) is paid by the

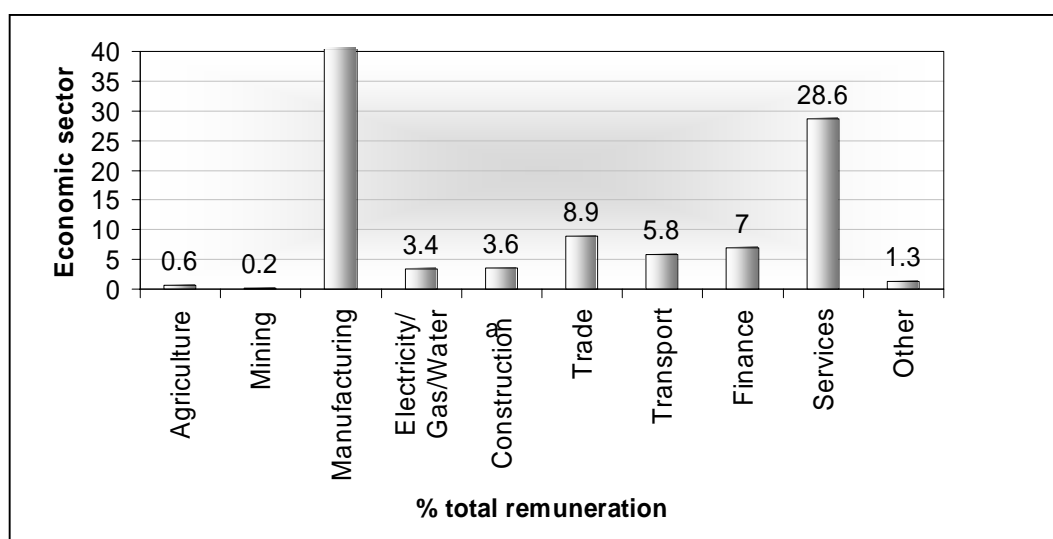
services and other sector; and the third largest (8.9 percent) is paid by the trade sector. The highest average monthly wages are paid by the transport and electricity, gas and water sector, and the third highest by the manufacturing sector.

TABLE 4.6 TOTAL REMUNERATION PER SECTOR FOR EMFULENI (2000)

Sector of the economy	Total annual remuneration R'000	Percentage	Average wage per worker per month (R)
Agriculture	48,544	0.6	833
Mining	15,587	0.2	4,190
Manufacturing	3,097,875	40.5	5,126
Electricity/ Gas/Water	258,875	3.4	6,049
Construction	277,456	3.6	2,713
Trade	681,741	8.9	4,103
Transport	445,061	5.8	6,137
Financing	536,875	7.0	3,955
Services & Other	2,186,839	28.6	3,383
Other, not Defined	102,593	1.3	3,929
TOTAL	7,652,295	100.0	4,115

• Source : WEFA 1999 (updated & adapted with survey data, Slabbert & Mokoena 1999).

FIGURE 4.4 TOTAL REMUNERATION PER SECTOR FOR EMFULENI (2000)



• Source : WEFA 1999 (updated & adapted with survey data, Slabbert & Mokoena 1999).

Average monthly income

The average household income for 2003 in Emfuleni was estimated at R3,400 per household per month (Slabbert 2003). For 1999, this figure was estimated at R3,083 per month (Slabbert & Mokoena 1999). The average formal wage per worker was R4,115 per worker per month for 2000 (Table 4.4). The average wage per formal sector worker increased substantially during the 1990s. The reduced number of workers in Emfuleni therefore earn higher nominal wages on average. A reason for this higher average wage per worker can be labour union actions, resulting in higher wages for their members. However, as firms are cutting back on labour, fewer workers have employment in Emfuleni. The result of this is that a rather skewed distribution in personal income exists in Emfuleni, showing that a relatively large group of the community earned a relatively small portion of the total income in 2000 (Slabbert & Mokoena 1999 updated):

- About 80 percent of the less-affluent households earn 40 percent of the total income in Emfuleni;
- About 20 percent of the more affluent households earn 60 percent of the total income in Emfuleni.

Sources of household income

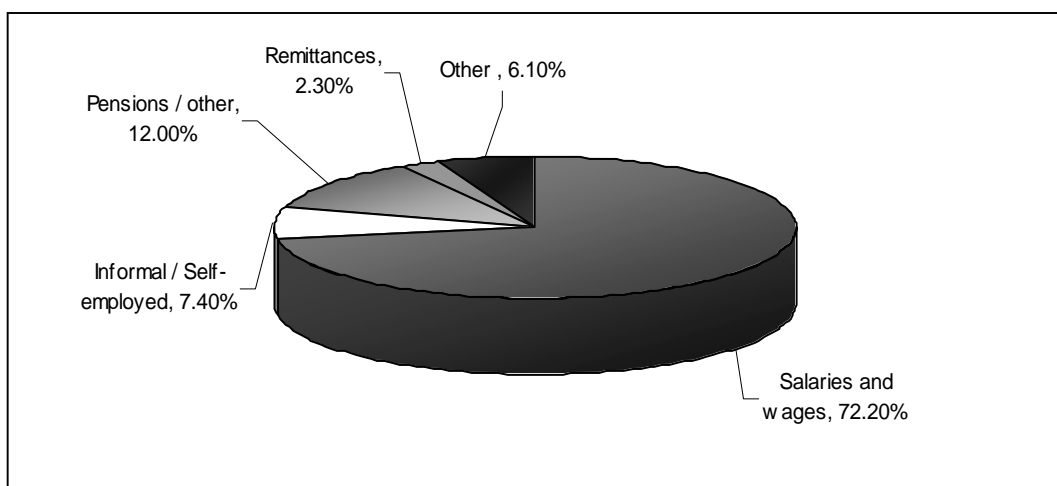
Table 4.7 and Figure 4.5 show the sources of household income in Emfuleni. Salaries and wages contribute 72.2 percent to the average household income; informal activities 7.4 percent; pensions 12.0 percent; remittances 2.3 percent and other incomes, including grants, gifts from family, subsidies and income from interest, 6.1 percent. The percentage income from salaries and wages (formal income) decreased from 75.4% in 1999 (Slabbert & Mokoena 1999) to 72.2% in 2003, indicating a greater dependence for the average household on other sources of income.

TABLE 4.7 SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN EMFULENI (2003)

Source of household income	Percentage
Salaries and wages	72.2%
Informal / Self-employed	7.4%
Pensions	12.0%
Remittances	2.3%
Other	6.1%
TOTAL	100.0%

• Source: Slabbert 2003.

FIGURE 4.5 SOURCES OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN EMFULENI (2003)



• Source: Slabbert 2003.

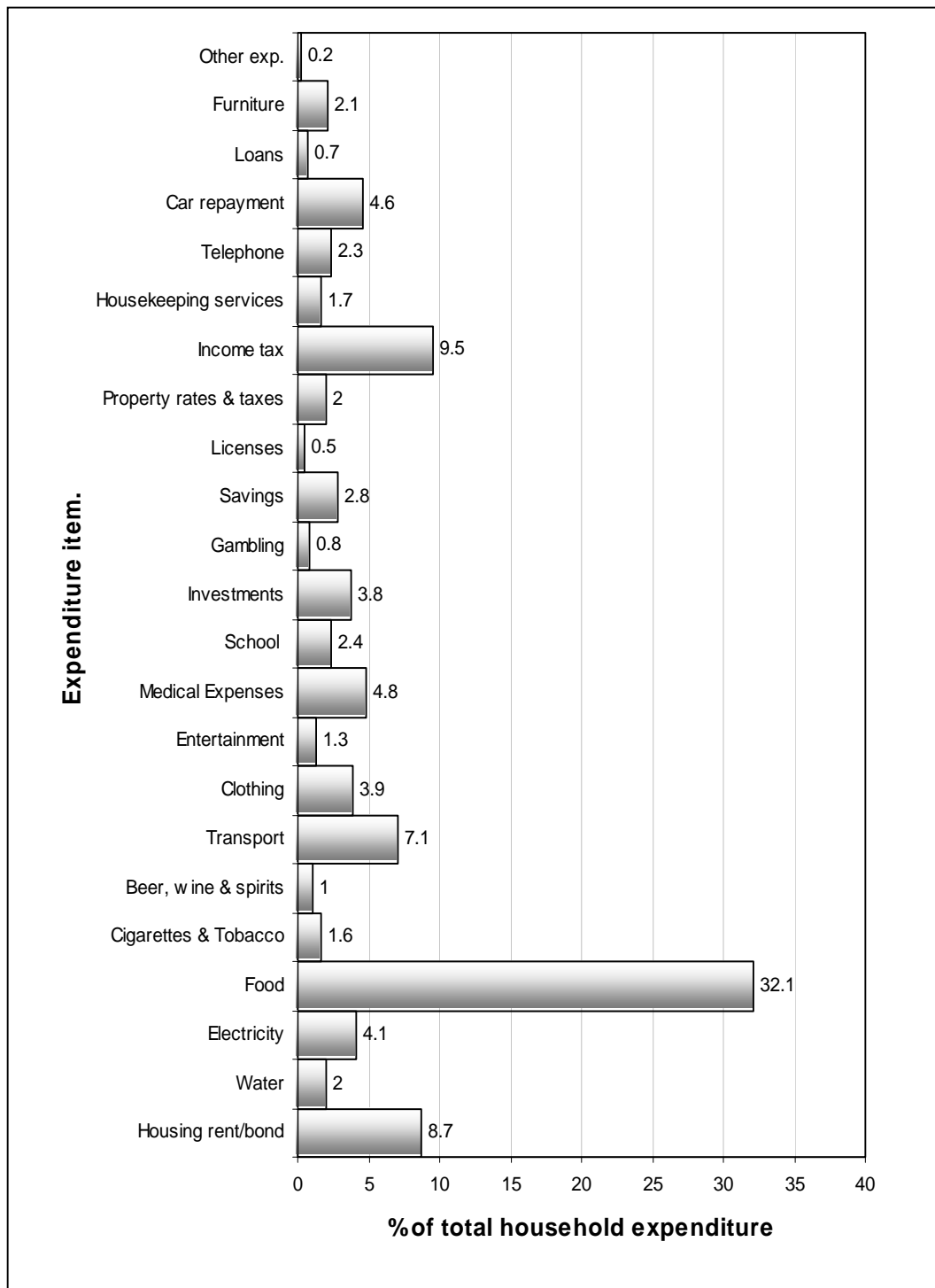
4.4.2 Expenditure

The expenditure profile for households living in Emfuleni is shown in Table 4.8 and Figure 4.6. An estimated 32.1 per cent of household expenditure is on average allocated for food, including cleaning materials and other groceries; thus this is the most important expenditure item. Other important expenditure items are housing (8.7 percent), transport (7.1 percent), water and electricity (6.1 percent), clothing (3.9 percent), and car and loan repayments (5.3 percent).

In 1994, the average expenditure on food and cleaning materials was 26.1% for the FBTs (Slabbert 1997:118). As the households in the FBTs are usually poorer than those in the FWTs, this figure would have been even lower for Emfuleni as a whole in 1994.

Ghai (1977:32) states that in most poor countries expenditure on food is dominant and a large percentage of a poor household's income is spent on food. Therefore, the increasing percentage of an average household's expenditure on food and cleaning materials points to an increasing degree of poverty.

FIGURE 4.6 EXPENDITURE PROFILE OF HOUSEHOLDS IN EMFULENI (2003)



• Source: Slabbert 2003.

TABLE 4.8 EXPENDITURE PROFILE OF HOUSEHOLDS IN EMFULENI (2003)

Expenditure item	% of total household expenditure
Housing rent/bond	8.7
Water	2.0
Electricity	4.1
Food & cleaning materials	32.1
Cigarettes & Tobacco	1.6
Beer, wine & spirits	1.0
Transport	7.1
Clothing	3.9
Entertainment	1.3
Medical Expenses	4.8
School	2.4
Investments	3.8
Gambling	0.8
Savings	2.8
Licenses	0.5
Property rates & taxes	2.0
Income tax	9.5
Housekeeping services	1.7
Telephone	2.3
Car repayment	4.6
Loans	0.7
Furniture	2.1
Other exp.	0.2
TOTAL	100.0

• Source: Slabbert 2003.

4.5 Summary and conclusion

The current status and trends in terms of Emfuleni's population (numbers and growth), the labour force (employment and unemployment), and income and expenditure were determined in order to provide base figures and percentages for the calculation of future projections.

The population of Emfuleni was determined to be 658,422 for 2001. Of this number, 23.3% reside in the Former White Towns and 76.7% in the Former Black Townships. From 1990 to 1996, Emfuleni experienced a relatively high

population growth rate at 2.85% per annum. This relatively high rate can be attributed to the influx of people from the rural areas after the scrapping of the Group Areas Act and other restrictive Apartheid legislation. However, the rate slowed down to 1.95% per annum in the period 1995 – 2001. This was slightly lower than the national average growth rate of 2.0% per annum.

The average household size in Emfuleni was determined at 3.52 persons per household, compared to the national average of 3.8. The average for Gauteng was 3.2 persons per household.

The dependency ratio which indicates the average number of persons which are dependent on the income of one earner was determined at 3.29 in 2001 for Emfuleni. In 1994, the dependency ratio for Emfuleni was determined at 2.77. This is a clear indication that in 2001 more persons were, on average, economically dependent on each earner. This tendency also gives an indication of the increase in unemployment in Emfuleni.

The literacy level in Emfuleni is slightly higher than in the rest of South Africa.

The unemployment rate in Emfuleni was determined at 51.0% in 2001 and 54.1% in 2003. This rate is higher than that of all other municipalities in Gauteng, as well as those in the Northern Free State. Since 1991, the Emfuleni economy has registered only a marginal growth in employment in certain sectors of the economy, and a negative growth in other sectors. The net effect, however, has been a loss of employment opportunities. This effect, combined with an above average population growth in the 1991-1996 period, has resulted in an increase in the unemployment rate. In the Former Black Townships, the unemployment rate has increased by 73.4% from 1991 to 2003.

The largest percentage of remuneration is derived from the manufacturing sector; the second largest by the services & other sector and the third largest by the trade sector. This corresponds with the employment percentages in these sectors.

The average household income in Emfuleni for 2003 was determined to be R3,400, compared to R3,083 in 1999. The average monthly wage per formal sector worker in 1999 was determined to be R4,115. Salaries and wages on average contributed 72.2% to household income in Emfuleni in 2003. This percentage decreased slightly from 75.4% in 1999, indicating a greater dependence on other sources of income for the average household. In 2003 32.1% of household income on average was spent on food, cleaning materials and other groceries. In 1994 the expenditures was 26.1% on similar items for households in the townships. The increased expenditure towards 2003, therefore, clearly indicates an increase in poverty in Emfuleni.