



SOUTH AFRICAN *politics*

"It is rare in a journalistic life that one gets to sit a few yards from a president as he announces his resignation and then, within the same 24 hours, stand in the presence of his successor as he is sworn in. More so when it happens without a shot being fired or vast crowds taking to the streets. But South Africa has always been a nation to surprise. And to infuriate. And to inspire."

Fergal Keane (BBC Africa Editor)

Key political milestones in SA's history (timeline)

- 1910 - First self-governance (Union of South Africa)
- 1948 - Apartheid (racial segregation) formalised and extended
- 1961 - South Africa becomes a republic
- 1966 - UN General Assembly identifies apartheid as a "crime against humanity"
- 1974 - South Africa suspended from the UN
- 1990 - Nelson Mandela released from prison (after 27 years)
- 1991 - Multi-party talks
- 1994 - First democratic elections, Nelson Mandela first president of democratic South Africa
- 1994 - South Africa re-admitted to the UN
- 1996 - New Constitution adopted
- 1998 - Truth and Reconciliation Commission report issued
- 1999 - ANC wins general elections and Thabo Mbeki becomes president
- 2000 - Opposition party Democratic Alliance formed
- 2004 - ANC wins election with almost 70% of votes and Mbeki begins second term
- 2005 - Mbeki fires his deputy, Jacob Zuma, over corruption charges
- 2007 - Jacob Zuma elected chairman of the ANC

Key political milestones in SA's history (timeline continues)

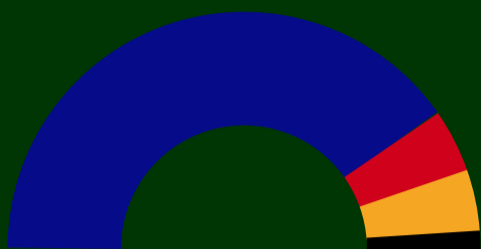
- 2008 - Judge throws out corruption case against Zuma, President Mbeki resigns over allegations of interference in corruption case against Zuma, ANC deputy leader Kgalema Motlanthe appointed as president
- 2008 - New party, Congress of the People (COPE), launched
- 2009 - Parliament elects Jacob Zuma as president, economy goes into recession for first time in 17 years
- 2013 - Nelson Mandela (95) dies, Zuma heavily criticised for R 246 million (\$20 million) upgrade to his private home, Nkandla
- 2014 - Ruling ANC party wins majority in general elections and Zuma begins a second term, Cyril Ramaphosa appointed Deputy President of South Africa under Zuma
- 2016 - Supreme Court rules Zuma violated constitution for not repaying public money used to improve private residence
- 2017 - Zuma survives eighth motion of no-confidence, Cyril Ramaphosa elected as ANC president
- 2018 - Zuma resigns, Cyril Ramaphosa becomes new president of South Africa in February



COUNTRY OVERVIEW

01

Population
54,841,552

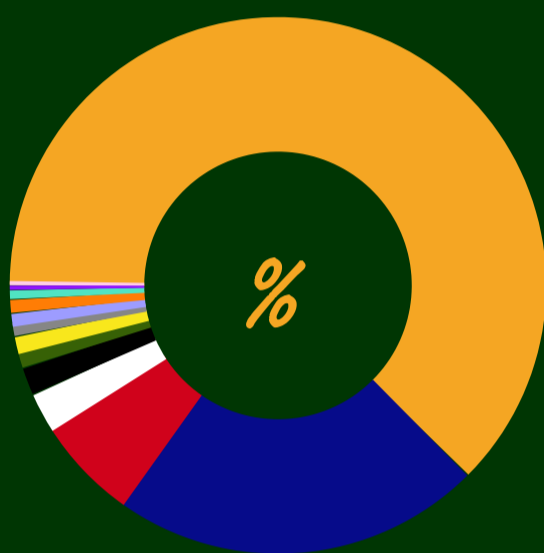


Black African 80.2%
Coloured 8.8%
White 8.4%
Indian/Asian 2.5%

SOURCE: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sf.html>

02

Major party representation in current parliament



ANC 62.25%
DA 22.25%
EFF 6.25%
IFP 2.50%
NFP 1.50%
UDM 1.00%
FFPlus 1.00%
COPE 0.75%
ACDP 0.75%
AIC 0.75%
AGANG 0.50%
PAC 0.25%
APC 0.25%

SOURCE: <http://www.sabcnews.com/sabcnews/parliament-in-numbers/> Parliament in numbers (3 February 2017, 5:01 PM) | News Publisher | @sabcnews

03

Number of political parties currently represented in parliament **13**

SOURCE: <https://pmg.org.za/page/political-party-representation> (2014)

04

South African heads of state

prior to 1994 and since 1994

1910 - 1984: Prime Ministers **8**
1984 - 1994: Presidents **2**
1994 - present: Presidents **5**

SOURCE: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_heads_of_state_of_South_Africa

05

SA Constitution

Enacted in October 1996

3 key items included:

freedom of speech



democratic accountability



independent judiciary



06

New President

Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa

Age: 65 years
Family: Married to Tshepo Motsepe, 4 children
Education: BProc (law degree)
Years as Deputy President of South Africa: 3
Estimated net worth: R 6.4 billion
(12th richest South African according to Forbes, 2015)

Ethnicity: Venda (only 1.7% of the SA population) grew up in Soweto

1970s: Vendas were poorest and least-educated black group in South Africa. Major drive made by government of Chief Mphahlele (despite lack of sufficient funds) with emphasis on excellence and hard work.

Today: Vendas are among most distinguished black South Africans in terms of education.



Pledged to fight corruption and revive SA's ailing economy (struggling with 28% unemployment)