

South Africa : A Brief Overview



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Final year of Cyberdefense major

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1 Introduction

The aim of this document is to give the reader a big picture of South Africa, from recent history to its modern-day business practices. This study also address cultural aspects and daily life in the country. I completed this writing by borrowing and reading “La nouvelle Afrique du Sud” [1]. With it’s content and it’s illustrations, this french written book helped me to broaden my understanding of this region of the world.

Have a good read :)

This is also my attempt at learning [L^AT_EX](#). Coupled with [Pandoc](#), this allowed me to streamline the writing of reports, by keeping the form and the substance separate, going from [Markdown](#) to this layed out pdf file.



Figure 1: a 1885 topographic map of the African continent

2 Contemporary History

I decided to start from the 19th century, because I think it helps to better understand the contemporary society of South Africa, and its values.

2.1 British Colonisation

Great Britain occupied Cape Town between 1795 and 1803 to prevent it from falling under the control of the French First Republic [2]. Following the end of the Napoleonic Wars, it was formally ceded to Great Britain and became **part of the British Empire**. British emigration to South Africa began around 1818, subsequently culminating in the arrival of the 1820 Settlers¹. The new colonists were induced to settle for a variety of reasons, namely to increase the size of the European workforce and to bolster frontier regions against Xhosa people incursions.

In the first two decades of the 19th century, **the Zulu people grew in power** and expanded their territory under their leader, Shaka. Shaka's warfare indirectly led to the Mfecane period, in which 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 people were killed and the inland plateau was devastated and depopulated in the early 1820s [3]. Later, an offshoot of the Zulu, the Matabele people created a larger empire that included large parts of the highveld under their king Mzilikazi.

During the early 1800s, **many Dutch settlers departed from the Cape Colony**, where they had been subjected to British control, in a series of migrant groups who came to be known as Voortrekkers, meaning "pathfinders" or "pioneers". They migrated to the future Natal, Free State, and Transvaal regions. Also called **the Boers**, they founded the Boer Republics: the South African Republic, the Natalia Republic, and the Orange Free State.

The discovery of diamonds in 1867 and gold in 1884 in the interior started the Mineral Revolution and increased economic growth and immigration [4]. **This intensified British efforts to gain control over the indigenous peoples**. The struggle to control these important economic resources was a factor in relations between Europeans and the indigenous population and also between the Boers and the British.

On 16 May 1876, President Thomas François Burgers of the South African Republic declared war against Sekhukhune, king of the Bapedi people [5]. Sekhukhune managed to defeat the Transvaal army on 1 August 1876. Another attack by the Lydenburg Volunteer Corps was also repulsed. On 16 February 1877, the two parties signed a peace treaty. The Boers inability to subdue Sekhukhune and his people **led to the British annexation of the South African Republic** on 12 April 1877. In 1878 and 1879 three British attacks were successfully repelled until Garnet Wolseley defeated Sekhukhune in November 1879.

The Anglo-Zulu War was fought in 1879 between the United Kingdom and the Zulu Kingdom. The Zulu nation defeated the British at the Battle of Isandlwana. Eventually, though, the war was lost, resulting in the **termination of the Zulu nation's independence**.

¹The 1820 Settlers were several groups of British colonists from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

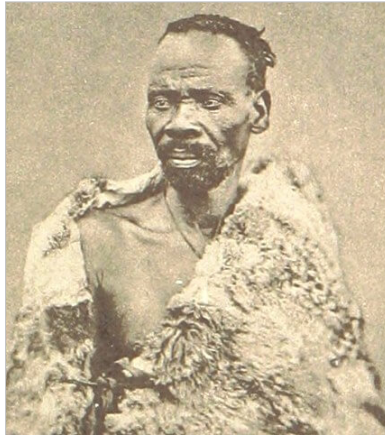


Figure 2: Sekhukhune I, King of the Bapedi people from 1861 to 1882

2.2 Boer Wars

The First Boer War (1880–1881) was a **rebellion of Boers against the British rule** in the Transvaal, that re-established their independence. During this war, the Boer Republics successfully resisted British encroachments using **guerrilla warfare** tactics, which were well-suited to local conditions. The British returned with greater numbers, more experience, and new strategy in the Second Boer War (1899–1902) but suffered heavy casualties through attrition; nonetheless, they were ultimately successful. Over 27,000 Boer women and children died in the British concentration camps.



Figure 3: A Boer family traveling by covered wagon circa 1900

2.3 Independence

Within the country, anti-British policies among white South Africans focused on independence. During the Dutch and British colonial years, **racial segregation was mostly informal** [6], though some legislation was enacted to control the settlement and movement of indigenous people, including the *Native Location Act* of 1879 and the system of pass laws.

Eight years after the end of the Second Boer War and after four years of negotiation, the *South Africa Act 1909* of the British Parliament **granted nominal independence**, while creating the Union of South Africa on 31 May 1910. The Union was a dominion that included the former territories of the Cape, Transvaal and Natal colonies, as well as the Orange Free State republic.

The *Natives Land Act* of 1913 **severely restricted the ownership of land by blacks**; at that stage they controlled only seven percent of the country. The amount of land reserved for indigenous peoples was later marginally increased.

In 1931, the union was **fully sovereign from the United Kingdom** with the passage of the *Statute of Westminster*, which abolished the last powers of the Parliament of the United Kingdom to legislate on the country. In 1934, the South African Party and National Party merged to form the United Party, seeking reconciliation between Afrikaners and English-speaking whites. In 1939, the party split over the entry of the Union into World War II as an ally of the United Kingdom, a move which the National Party followers strongly opposed.

In 1948, the National Party was elected to power. It strengthened the racial segregation begun under Dutch and British colonial rule. Taking Canada's *Indian Act* as a framework, the nationalist **government classified all peoples into three races² and developed rights and limitations for each** [7]. The white minority (less than 20%) controlled the vastly larger black majority. The legally institutionalised segregation became known as **apartheid³**. While whites enjoyed the highest standard of living in all of Africa, comparable to First World western nations, the black majority remained disadvantaged by almost every standard, including income, education, housing, and life expectancy.



(a) A human being breaking the law



(b) A human being not breaking the law

Figure 4: Europeans only benches during apartheid

²White, Black and Coloured. Coloureds were those who could not be classified as black or white, like people of Indian ancestry.

³<https://english.stackexchange.com/questions/419129/should-apartheid-be-capitalised>

2.4 Republic of South Africa

On 31 May 1961, the country **became a republic** following a referendum (only open to white voters) which narrowly passed; the British-dominated Natal province largely voted against the proposal. Queen Elizabeth II lost the title Queen of South Africa. Pressured by other Commonwealth of Nations countries, South Africa withdrew from the organisation.

Despite opposition both within and outside the country, the **government legislated for a continuation of apartheid**. The security forces cracked down on internal dissent, and violence became widespread, with anti-apartheid organisations such as the African National Congress (ANC), the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO), and the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) carrying out **guerilla warfare**⁴ and urban sabotage. **Apartheid became increasingly controversial**, and several countries began to boycott business with the South African government because of its racial policies. These measures were later extended to international sanctions and the divestment of holdings by foreign investors [8].

In the late 1970s, South Africa initiated a programme of nuclear weapons development. In the following decade, it produced six deliverable nuclear weapons.

The *Mahlabatini Declaration of Faith*, signed in 1974, enshrined the principles of peaceful transition of power and equality for all, the first of such agreements by black and white political leaders in South Africa. Ultimately, Frederik Willem de Klerk opened bilateral discussions with **Nelson Mandela** in 1993 for a transition of policies and government.

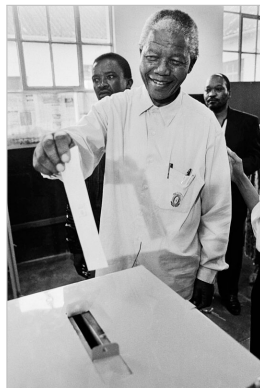


Figure 5: Nelson Mandela casting his vote in the 1994 election

In 1990, the National Party government took the first step towards dismantling discrimination when it lifted the ban on the ANC and other political organisations. It released Nelson Mandela from prison after 27 years serving a sentence for sabotage. A negotiation process followed. With approval from the white electorate in a 1992 referendum, the **government continued negotiations to end apartheid**. South Africa also destroyed its nuclear arsenal and acceded to the *Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty*. South Africa held its first universal elections in 1994, which the ANC won by an overwhelming majority. It has been in power ever since. The country rejoined the Commonwealth of Nations and became a member of the Southern African Development Community.

⁴ Just like the Boers during their first war.

2.4.1 Post-Apartheid Era

In post-apartheid South Africa, unemployment remained high. While many blacks have risen to middle or upper classes, the overall unemployment rate of black people worsened between 1994 and 2003 by official metrics, but declined significantly using expanded definitions. Poverty among whites, which was previously rare, increased. In addition, the current government has struggled to achieve the monetary and fiscal discipline to ensure both redistribution of wealth and economic growth. The United Nations human development index of South Africa fell from 1995 to 2005, while it was steadily rising until the mid-1990s, before recovering its 1995 peak in 2013. This is in large part attributable to the South African **HIV/AIDS pandemic** which saw South African life expectancy fall from a high point of 62.25 years in 1992 to a low of 52.57 in 2005, and the failure of the government to take steps to address the pandemic in its early years.

In a 2006 survey, the South African Migration Project concluded that **South Africans are more opposed to immigration than any other national group** [9]. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees in 2008 reported over 200,000 refugees applied for asylum in South Africa, almost four times as many as the year before. These people were mainly from Zimbabwe, though many also come from Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somalia. Competition over jobs, business opportunities, public services and housing has led to tension between refugees and host communities. While xenophobia in South Africa is still a problem, recent violence has not been as widespread as initially feared. Nevertheless, as South Africa continues to grapple with racial issues, one of the proposed solutions has been to pass legislation, such as the pending *Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill*, to uphold South Africa's ban on racism and commitment to equality.

The 2010 FIFA World Cup took place in South Africa from 11 June to 11 July 2010. The matches were played in 10 stadiums in nine host cities around the country, with the opening and final played at the Soccer City stadium in South Africa's largest city, Johannesburg.



Figure 6: Supporters watching the 2010 FIFA World Cup, with vuvuzelas

3 Daily Life

3.1 Languages Spoken

South Africa has about **34 historically established languages** [10]. Thirty are living languages, and four are extinct Khoesian languages.

For centuries, South Africa's official languages were European (Dutch, English, Afrikaans). African languages, spoken by at least 80% of the people, were ignored. In 1996 South Africa's new Constitution gave official protection to all major languages [11].

South Africa's Constitution recognises **11 official languages**. Ordered by share of speaker, they include :

English name	Endonym	Number of speakers	Share of population
Zulu	isiZulu	11 587 374	22.7 %
Xhosa	isiXhosa	8 154 258	16.0 %
Afrikaans	Afrikaans	6 855 082	13.5 %
English	English	4 892 623	9.6 %
Northern Sotho	Sesotho sa Leboa	4 618 576	9.1 %
Tswana	Setswana	4 067 248	8.0 %
Sesotho	Sesotho	3 849 563	7.6 %
Tsonga	Xitsonga	2 277 148	4.5 %
Swati	siSwati	1 297 046	2.5 %
Venda	Tshivenda	1 209 388	2.4 %
Ndebele	isiNdebele	1 090 223	2.1 %

Figure 7: South Africa's 11 official languages, as of 2011 census

Zulu is South Africa's biggest language, spoken by almost a quarter (23%) of the population.

English is an urban language of public life, widely used in the media, business and government. Out of the 4.9 million South Africans who speak English as a first language, a third (33%) are white, a quarter (24%) are black, 22% are Indian and 19% are coloured South Africans. English is widely used as a second language and common language of communication, mainly in the cities.

Afrikaans is a version of Dutch that evolved out of a South Holland dialect brought here in the 1600s. Over the centuries it has picked up many influences from African languages, as well as from European colonial languages such as English, French and German. More than half (50.2%) of Afrikaans speakers are coloured, 40% are white, 9% black and just 1% Indian.

South Africa's nine African official languages all fall into the Southern Bantu-Makua subfamily, part of the broad and branching Niger-Congo family of languages. The languages arrived here

during the great expansion of Bantu-speaking people from West Africa eastwards and southwards into the rest of the continent. The expansion began in around 3000 BCE and was largely complete by 1000 CE. Like all languages in the Niger-Congo family they are tonal languages, in which either a high or low tone gives a word a different meaning.

Because of the numerous languages spoken by the population, South Africans are a **code-switching** people. This means that they tend to use more than one language in a single conversation. A rough estimate based on Census 2001 first-language data and a 2002 study of second-languages speakers is that **the average South African speaks 2.84 languages**. Obviously, many people are limited to one, and many others able to use three, four or more languages.

English and Afrikaans speaking people (mostly coloured, indian and white South Africans) tend not to have much ability in African languages, but are fairly fluent in each other's language. On the other hand, multilingualism is common among black South Africans.

Interestingly enough, the name of the most popular desktop Linux distribution, is the Zulu and Xhosa word **Ubuntu**. It can be translated as "humanity" or "kindness" and denotes the quality attributed to an individual.

3.2 Cost of Living

The official money in South Africa is the South African rand, which is also shown using the currency code **ZAR** or **R**. The exchange rate is [approximately 17R for 1€](#).

The cost of living in South Africa is higher than one might expect thanks to an emerging economy and the strengthening of the South African rand. The general cost of living in South African cities is considerably cheaper than the majority of major cities around the world. For instance, eating out and entertainment can be as much as 50% lower in South Africa than they are in Europe.

According to the statistics gathered on [numbeo.com](#), on average, **life in South Africa is 50% cheaper than in France**.

3.2.1 Dining out

In general, a lunchtime meal will cost no more than R115. Fast foods such as a McDonald's value meal is under R75 and sandwiches are around R43. Evening meals in an inexpensive mid-range restaurant will cost on average between R215 and R500.

It is possible to enjoy a gourmet four-course meal for around R575–R650 per person. Wine is also inexpensive and good quality in most restaurants, but it is a custom to allow diners to bring their own bottle and charge a corkage fee of around R40.

When dining out :

- a meal in an inexpensive restaurant is 50% cheaper : 120R \approx 7€
- a three-course meal for 2 people in a mid-range restaurant is 35% cheaper : 550R \approx 32€
- a fast food meal is 60% cheaper : 50R \approx 3.50€

3.2.2 Groceries

Prices for general foodstuffs in South Africa is quite affordable for expats that earn a reasonable salary. The average grocery bill for essentials is estimated to be around R2,300–2,900.

Because most fruit, vegetables, and meat are sourced locally, prices are kept low. Luxury items and imported foods, including potatoes, are priced slightly higher and can increase the cost of your shopping bill.

When doing the groceries :

- 1 kg of rice is 30% cheaper : 22R \approx 1.30€
- 1 kg of chicken fillet is 60% cheaper : 72R \approx 4.30€
- a loaf of fresh white bread is 42% cheaper : 14R \approx 0.80€
- 1 kg of apple is 47% cheaper : 24R \approx 1.40€

3.2.3 Childcare and education

Parents that work full-time have plenty of childcare options in South Africa. The most cost-effective method is to hire a nanny. They charge between R5,500–R13,000 per month depending on their age, experience and where you live. Some nannies, or night nurses, can also take care of your child overnight for R320–R430, which is less expensive than a babysitter that charges between R50–70 an hour.

It should be noted that many schools in South Africa allow you to choose how often your child attends school: half day, full day or for three-quarters of the day. This structure also affects costs. South Africa only has 23 public universities and the cost of an education in the country is considerably higher than many European countries. However, students should also factor in general living costs, which are considerably lower in South Africa than in Europe or North America.

Universities fees in Cape Town in 2019 range from R51,000 per year to R82,000, depending on the course. International students also need to pay a flat course fee of R37,800.

3.2.4 Utilities (water, gas, electricity)

Utilities in South Africa cost around R1,200 per month. Utility costs cover water, electricity, gas, and waste disposal.

Broadband and television costs are comparable to most European countries. Basic broadband packages in South Africa start at around R600 but can be as much as R1,500. Television licenses in South Africa are R270 for the first year and must be paid in full. After the first year, you can pay monthly at a rate of R26.

3.2.5 Public transport

South African public transportation is remarkably affordable, although most people use taxis. The average monthly cost for transport is as low as R500–R650 for buses and trains. Public transportation is fairly limited in South African cities.

The average cost for a one-way journey is R16. Taxis are also inexpensive and range between R60 and R120 for short journeys. You have to phone ahead and order taxis ahead of schedule, though: taxis cannot just be flagged down in the street.

3.3 Housing

Property prices in South Africa are significantly lower than most European countries, North America, Australia, and much of Asia. Furthermore, foreigners are free to purchase property in South Africa with limited restrictions. The only condition is that property must be endorsed as non-resident even if you are living in the country full-time, as non-residents have to pay capital gains tax when they sell the property.

As of the end of 2018, house prices in South Africa remained well below the highs seen a decade earlier, with below-inflation growth of 3.7% year-on-year. First-time buyer properties in most areas can be purchased for well below R1,500,000.

Renting a house in South Africa is also very affordable for expats living in the suburbs, but it is a different story in the city center. You can find a three-bedroom house with a front and back garden for around R6,500–R15,000, whereas an equivalent apartment in the city is R7,000–R25,000.

3.4 Transport System

South Africa's Department of Transport oversees most transportation methods in the country, from trains to taxis. The country is home to 23,193 kilometers of railway tracks that carry 530 million passengers per year, **the largest and busiest railway network in Africa**. Many cities are rolling out bus rapid transit routes to improve travel times and safety levels. Metered taxis and ride-hailing apps are also popular options in urban areas, particularly after sunset.

There is no one singular entity providing bus service across South African cities; each municipality generally has its own bus company. South African cities also have another kind of bus: the minibus taxi. The vehicles are often subpar, drivers often drive aggressively, and payment is cash only. Still,

minibus taxis are the most used form of public transportation in South Africa. What minibus taxis lack in roadworthiness they make up for with cost (many fares are under R20), route diversity (Cape Town alone has well over 600 routes), frequency (you won't wait for longer than a couple of minutes), and speed (drivers aren't shy).

Considering the limited number of train routes in South Africa, long-distance coaches remain one of the best options for crossing the country; they're also the ideal choice if you're travelling to a smaller municipality.

South Africa is a large country with fairly lengthy intercity travel times by road or rail. For example, traveling from Cape Town to Johannesburg takes 18 hours by bus, 30 hours by train, or just two hours by air. As a result, domestic air travel remains a reliable transportation option for getting around South Africa. The country's flag carrier is **South African Airways**.

The busiest airports of the country are the following :

1. Johannesburg OR Tambo International Airport **JNB**
2. Cape Town International Airport **CPT**
3. Durban King Shaka International Airport **DUR**
4. Port Elizabeth International Airport **PLZ**
5. East London Airport **ELS**

Out of 141 countries, The quality of transport infrastructures in South Africa is as follows :

- ranked 51 for roads
- ranked 69 for railroads
- ranked 55 for ports
- ranked 30 for air transport

3.5 Healthcare

The healthcare system is at odds in South Africa. Despite a recent wave of government reforms, healthcare for most South Africans is unaffordable. Yet it is highly advisable for expats to take out private healthcare for the entire family.

The cost of private health insurance varies considerably. On average, healthcare insurance ranges between R1,100 and R2,200 per month for a family of four.

When you take out health insurance, read the policy carefully to determine what it covers. Avoid companies that reserve the right to cancel a policy if you have a critical illness or reach a certain age. Most insurance policies only cover you for five years.

The social security system in South Africa is complex. Payments cover pension, sickness, maternity, old age care, war veterans, disability, and death. The current rate stands at 2% and is paid

by employers. However, workers have the option to take out their own pension plan to save for retirement.

Drawing social security is means-tested, based on the duration of time that you worked in South Africa and the amount paid in relation to your earnings.

4 Working in the Country

4.1 Salaries

A person working in South Africa typically earns around **31,100 ZAR** per month ($\approx 1,778\text{€}$). Salaries range **from 7,880 ZAR** (lowest average) **to 139,000 ZAR** (highest average, actual maximum salary is higher). The average hourly wage (pay per hour) in South Africa is **180 ZAR** [12]. This means that the average person in South Africa earns approximately 180 ZAR ($\approx 10\text{€}$) for every worked hour. The minimum wage is **21,69 ZAR** per hour [13].

The **median** salary is **29,900 ZAR** per month, which means that half of the population are earning less than 29,900 ZAR while the other half are earning more than 29,900 ZAR. Closely related to the median are two values: the 25th and the 75th percentiles. 25% of the population are earning less than **17,000 ZAR** while 75% of them are earning more than **17,000 ZAR**. Also from the diagram, 75% of the population are earning less than **81,100 ZAR** while 25% are earning more than **81,100 ZAR**.

Male employees in South Africa earn **8%** more than their female counterparts on average across all sectors [12]. Employees in South Africa are likely to observe a salary increase of approximately **8%** every 18 months.

More precise figures based on surveys are available at <https://www.averagesalarysurvey.com/south-africa>.

4.2 Working contract

Foreigners cannot get a working permit to enter South Africa unless they sign a work contract. There are different kinds of working contracts [14] :

- **Permanent Employment** : This kind of contract must follow a process. First, the prospect employee is given a written offer. Second, the employee accepts the offer in writing. Then, the contract is entered.
- **Fixed Term Employment** : This is a Permanent Employment Contract with a start and end date. In this contract, the employer can decide if certain benefits (pension, provident fund, medical aid, group life assurance facility, etc) are applicable.

- **Temporary Employment** : This is a Fixed Term Contract in which either party can terminate the contract, provided that it presents a written notice of intention a month before.
- **Project Employment** : The Project Employment Contract is yet another kind of Fixed Term Contract. Instead of a finishing date, the employee's contract lasts for as long as the project needs to be completed (it is worded along the lines "the worker shall start on [date] and shall end upon completion of the project").

4.3 Work/Life balance

The maximum normal working time for an employee is **45 hours per week** [15]. This does not mean that the employee must work 45 hours per week normal time. The amount of normal time worked is **a matter of contractual agreement** between employer and employee. Some employees for instance only work a 40 hour week. The statutory limitation of 45 hours per week means that the employee may not work more than 45 hours per week normal time. Employees who earn above the determined threshold amount must negotiate the normal amount of working hours per day or per week with the employer. The employee may therefore be expected to work more than 45 hours per week.

South African workers get **21 days of annual leave** [16]. Except on termination of employment, employers may not pay workers instead of granting leave.

South Africa has **12 public holidays** as determined by the *Public Holidays Act* [17]. The Act determines whenever any public holiday falls on a Sunday, the Monday following on it shall be a public holiday.

4.4 Taxes

If you have been living and working in South Africa for more than 183 days, you are eligible to pay personal income tax on your personal income. This includes a monthly salary and income you receive from overseas capital such as rent.

Tax calculations in South Africa are complex. Each tax bracket has to pay a set taxable rate and then a percentage of earnings over the amount set by each tax bracket. Tax rates in South Africa range from 18% to 45% depending as follows :

- Up to R195,850: 18% of taxable income
- R195,851–R305,850: 26% (R35,253 plus 26% of taxable income above R195,850)
- R305,851–R423,300: 31% (R63,853 plus 31% of taxable income above R305,850)
- R423,301–R555,600: 36% (R100,263 plus 36% of taxable income above R423,300)
- R555,601–R708,310: 39% (R147,891 plus 39% of taxable income above R555,600)
- R708,311+: 41% (R207,448 plus 41% of taxable income above R708,310)

- R1,500,001+: 45% (R532,041 plus 45% of taxable income above R1,500,000)

4.5 Business Practices

4.5.1 Greetings and communication

In general, when meeting someone for the first time, South Africans use *Mr* or *Mrs*, except in the academic sector where professional titles are important. When addressing a woman, it is advised to avoid using the term *Miss*. First names are often used but it is advised to wait until you are invited to do so.

The most common greeting is a handshake accompanied with eye contact and a smile. It is important to **greet everyone respectfully and immediately upon seeing them**. This is especially important in rural villages of South Africa, where it is respectful to greet everyone you pass by. People may greet with a hug if they know each other well. People from rural villages may use two hands to shake/greet. When shaking hands with a person of the opposite gender, men usually wait for women to extend their hand first.

4.5.2 Time perception

White and Asian South Africans tend to value punctuality more highly than black and mixed-race South Africans, who are more likely to follow 'African time'. South Africans have a more flexible attitude towards time, they often use the phrases 'now-now' or 'just now'. To do something 'now-now' is to do something shortly, whereas 'just now' means to do something in the near future, but not immediately.

4.5.3 Hierarchy

The South African economy is dominated by large corporations with a relatively underdeveloped small and medium enterprise sector. Consequently, **the traditional South African organizational structure is a pyramid**, consisting of many layers with a strong vertical inclination. However, due to global management trends of the recent past structures have been flattening. Decentralized decision-making and more responsibility at the lower organizational levels are the results of the globalization process.

4.5.4 Appointments

The initial meeting is often used to establish a personal connection and a relationship of trust. **In-person meetings are preferred**, rather than telephone or Skype appointments. During discussions, it is common to have small talk before proceeding to business matters.

Even if business attire is becoming more casual in many companies, you are expected to be conservative: dark coloured business suits for men and business suits or dresses for women. When business meetings are held on a social basis, it is possible to dress more casually, while remaining quite formal.

4.5.5 Negotiation

The most important aspect of South African business culture is building stable personal relationships because the majority of South Africans want to trust the person they are dealing with. Direct confrontation is rare. Most South Africans do not appreciate haggling over profit and expenses. Instead, they aim at creating a win-win situation for the mutual benefit of all parties involved.

More information is available at <https://culturalatlas.sbs.com.au/south-african-culture>.

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