

COUNTRY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SOUTH AFRICA

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Introduction

1.1 This Bulletin has been produced by the Country Information and Policy Unit, Immigration and Nationality Directorate, Home Office, to identify information about the General Elections April 2004 in South Africa obtained from a wide variety of recognised sources. It does not contain any Home Office opinion or policy.

1.2 This Bulletin has been prepared for background purposes for those involved in the asylum / human rights determination process. The information it identifies is not exhaustive. It concentrates on the issues most commonly raised in asylum / human rights claims made in the United Kingdom.

1.3 The Bulletin is sourced throughout. It is intended to be used by caseworkers as a signpost to the source material, which has been made available to them. The vast majority of the source material is readily available in the public domain.

1.4 This Bulletin and the accompanying source material are publicly disclosable. Where sources identified in the Bulletin are available in electronic form the relevant link has been included. The date that the relevant link was accessed in preparing the Bulletin is also included. Paper copies of the sources have been distributed to nominated officers in Asylum Caseworking Directorate and all Presenting Officer Units.

South African National and Provincial Elections, 14 April 2004

2.1 The national and provincial elections were held in South Africa on 14 April 2004. [1a] [2] [3a] [3b] [4a] [4c] [4d] [4e] The elections, the third since the end of apartheid, were declared to be 'free and fair' by the 53 observers from the 14-nation Southern African development Community (SADC) [4d] [4f] [5] and the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC). [4c] However, according to a report by News 24 dated 20 April 2004, several of the opposition parties complained of violence and intimidation, and denounced irregularities in the voting during the election. [4g] The report added that the biggest complaint came from the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP). [4g] Nevertheless, a BBC report dated 27 April 2004 stated that the IFP had dropped its protests over election irregularities in the KwaZulu-Natal province. [6c]

2.2 A total of 20,674,926 voters were entitled to vote in the elections in 2004 [1a] including 27,170 prisoners in the country's prisons. [3a] [3b] [4a] [4b] however, the turnout was announced as the lowest of last three democratic elections. [4e]

National Election

2.3 The result of the national election was a landslide victory for the African National Congress (ANC) with 69.68 percent of the votes cast and 279 seats in the 400 seat National Assembly. [1a] [1b] [2] [3b] [4a] [4b] [4c] [4e] [6a] It was the biggest electoral victory for the ANC in ten years of power. [4d] [4e] The main opposition, the Democratic Alliance (DA) only obtained 12.37 percent of the vote and 50 seats in the National Assembly, while the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) was in third place with 6.97 percent and 20 seats. [1a] [1b] [2] [3b] [4a] [4b] [4c] [4e] [6a] The turnout was announced as 76.73 percent of the voters. [4e]

(See [Annex A](#) for the national election results)

Provincial Election

2.4 The ANC also won a landslide victory in the provincial elections with 69.20 percent of the vote and 304 seats in the Provincial Legislatures. [1b] [3b] The DA obtained 12.1 and 51 seats in the Provincial Legislatures and the IFP gained 7.3 percent and 32 seats. [1b] [3b] The turnout for the provincial elections was lower than the national election at 75.1 percent. [3b]

(See [Annex B](#) for the provincial election results)

President Mbeki

President Thabo Mbeki was re-elected for a second five-year term in a unanimous vote on 23 April 2004. [4h] [4i] [6b] The President was sworn in for his final term on 27 April 2004. [4j] [6c]

Annex A

General Election Results, 14 April 2004: National Assembly

Political Party	Initials	No. of Votes	Percentage of Votes	Seats
African National Congress	ANC	10878251	69.68	279
Democratric Alliance / Demokratiese Allainsie	DA	1931201	12.37	50
Inkatha freedom Party	IFP	1088664	6.97	28
United Democratic Movement	UDM	355717	2.28	9
Independent democrats	ID	269765	1.73	7
Nuwe Nasionale Party / New National Party	NNP	257824	1.65	7
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	250272	1.6	6
Vryheidsfront Plus	VF Plus	139465	0.89	4
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	117792	0.75	3
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	113512	0.73	3
Minority Front	MF	55267	0.35	2
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	41776	0.27	2
Christian Democratic Party	CDP	17619	0.11	0
Nationale Aksie	NA	15804	0.10	0
Peace and Justice Congress	PJC	15187	0.10	0
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA	14853	0.10	0
New Labour Party	NLP	13318	0.09	0
United Front	UF	11889	0.08	0
The Employment Movement of South Africa	EMSA	10446	0.07	0
The Organisation Party	TOP	7531	0.05	0
Keep It Straight and Simple	KISS	6514	0.04	0
Total of Valid Votes		15863554	76.73	
Number of Spoilt Votes		250887	1.6	
Total Votes Cast		15612667	98.4	400

Annex B

General Election Results, 14 April 2004: Provincial Legislature

Political Party	Initials	No. of Votes	Percentage of Votes	Seats
African National Congress	ANC	10591064	69.2	304
Democratric Alliance / Demokratiese Allainsie	DA	1846540	12.1	51
Inkatha freedom Party	IFP	1119530	7.3	32
Democratic Movement	UDM	349504	2.3	10
African Christian Democratic Party	ACDP	242924	1.6	8
Nuwe Nasionale Party / New National Party	NNP	275185	1.8	7
Independent democrats	ID	245277	1.6	6
Vryheidsfront Plus	VF Plus	139383	0.9	5
United Christian Democratic Party	UCDP	143515	0.9	3
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania	PAC	110205	0.7	2
Minority Front	MF	71540	0.5	2
Azanian People's Organisation	AZAPO	40321	0.3	0
Nasionale Aksie	NA	13458	0.1	0
The Socialist Party of Azania	SOPA	12994	0.1	0
Christian Democraitaic Party	CDP	12753	0.1	0
Africa Muslim Party	AMP	11019	0.1	0
New Labour Party	NLP	10526	0.1	0
Alliance for Democracy and Prosperity	ADP	9933	0.1	0
Dikwankwetla Party of South Africa	DPSA	9806	0.1	0
Ximoko Party	XP	9587	0.1	0
Peace and Justice Congress	PJC	6486	0.0	0
Sindawonye Progressive Party	SPP	5925	0.0	0
Izwi Lethu Party	ILP	4858	0.0	0
Peace and Development Party	PDP	3943	0.0	0
Green Party of South Africa	GPGP	3317	0.0	0
Royal Loyal Progress	RLP	3141	0.0	0
Cape People's Congress	CPC	2352	0.0	0
Economic Freedom Movement	EFM	1862	0.0	0
Pro-Death Penalty Party	PRO-D	1825	0.0	0
Independent African Movement	IAM	1546	0.0	0
Black People's Convention	BPC	1236	0.0	0
Moderate Independent Party	MIP	953	0.0	0
Universal Party	UP	735	0.0	0
Total of Valid Votes		15516223	75.176.73	
Number of Spoilt Votes		213081	1.4	
Total Votes Cast		15303142	98.6	430

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