

Demographic data

An approach based on dasymetric mapping principles was used in order to calculate population distribution. The Spot Building Count (produced by the CSIR and ESKOM in 2008) is a geo-referenced building frame developed using Spot 5 satellite imagery. The inventory concerned contains all classifiable building structures within the borders of South Africa. According to this classification, each point inherited a weight representing the potential contribution (household size) of the point in question. The following factors were taken into consideration in order to undertake the classification:

- residential areas which have not changed since the last census;
- new urban growth areas;
- informal areas;
- commercial and industrial areas;
- rural areas (agricultural, nature reserves and other sparsely populated areas).

The analysis results were produced for the whole of South Africa. The results of this process were tested against detailed population updates of the City of Cape Town and eThekweni.