5. Demographic imperatives

A range of socio-demographic factors impacts on spatial development. The following section gives a short overview of the most important aspects.

5.1 Population density and distribution

The following map shows the population distribution and densities in the municipal area. The impact of topography on population settlement is evident from Map 20.

The population of Mogale City is heavily concentrated to the east in and around the CDB. The largest part of the white population is concentrated north of the M36 while south of the M36 blacks and Asians are concentrated south, separated from the CBD by the mining areas. There are also concentrations of people around Magaliesburg and Tarlton. The increased densities around the N14-R28 crossing and in the Muldersdrift area are also evident.
5.2 Age distribution

Map 21 describes the age distribution per census sub-place.

The following is evident from the age distribution patterns:

- Age characteristics of the population are closely linked to population groups. There are proportionally more pre-primary and primary school aged children in the urban areas than in the rural areas. The highest proportion is in the south in the Kagiso area. This trend is confirmed by the population dynamics addressed later in this report.
- There is a general absence of young adults in the municipal area. The exception is the area around the industrial area to the south west of the CBD.
- There seems to be few elderly people in the municipal area.
- All areas show the majority in the economically active age group.

The key issue to consider from the age distribution of the people is the extent to which the life cycle needs of the different age groups can be met through the spatial planning process.
5.3 Gender distribution

The gender of the heads of households is particularly revealing if it is viewed in conjunction with age distribution and the general male/female ratios in the area.

A surplus male persons in an area is usually a good indication of migrant labour. With the mining activities in the south of the municipal area one should have expected indications that there are more males than females. This is however not the case. There are some exceptions but it is rather in the Muldersdrift and Magaliesburg areas that this tendency is more noticeable. The same applies to the areas immediately to the west of the town.

Male headed households dominate across the municipal area. However, there are substantially more female headed households in the older urban areas and to the south in Kagiso. The extent of male headed households also tends to correlate with general gender distribution patterns. A female headed household has close links to socio-economic conditions. If this is linked to varying household sizes it might point a need for a range of housing types, not only to accommodate life cycle demands but also different demands in terms of family sizes.

Map 22: Gender distribution
Map 23: Gender of the heads of households
5.4 Level of education

The distribution of levels of education confirms the broad socio-economic patterns in the municipal area.

The area shows high levels of people with secondary education. There are very few areas indicating people with no schooling. Low schooling levels are prevalent in Kagiso, the rural areas and areas associated with agricultural holdings. These are the areas linked with higher demands for manual labour. The urban core also shows some people with tertiary educations. This is because of the nature of employment and the strong service orientation of the CBD and adjacent areas.