

UNEMPLOYMENT AND INCOME DISTRIBUTION IN A "HOMELAND" AREA

The findings given below come from research that was done in the Pilanesberg area of Bophutatswana. This area is one of the best off homeland areas. It is close to industrial growth points, to the platinum mines, to Sun City, and to the Bophutatswana government administration and services. That means that people living in the Pilanesberg area have access to jobs and transport.

Nevertheless,

- more than 40% of people who would be able to work in a job are unemployed.
- The income in the area is very unequal:
10% of households get 33% of the cash income in the area
50% of households get 17% of the cash income in the area
- 55% of households live below the minimum living level (that is, below the level of what a family needs to survive in the short term, not including clothing, transport, etc.)
- 75% of households live below the effective living level (that is, below the level that is calculated at 50% more than the minimum living level and includes money for transport, clothing, etc.)
- The main reasons why people lost their jobs and became unemployed were illness and ill health caused by poverty and malnutrition.
- 40% of the people who lost their jobs are between 20 and 29 years old.