



Education and Skills
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Educational pathways and transitions

In this month's newsletter we focus on the pathways and transitions of South African students through the education system. All of the resources included here seek to understand the various pathways and transitions which are followed by students and the factors which affect them, in order to understand what is happening within our education and labour market systems and identify appropriate interventions for improvement.

Mapping pathways: smooth, staggered or stopped?

Our latest [policy brief](#) is based on the South African Youth Panel Study which followed Grade 9 learners who participated in TIMSS 2011 over four consecutive years, to explore the educational transitions of young people.

The effects of socio-economic status on pathways through university

Dr Michael Cosser [reflects](#) on his PhD thesis which explored student completion and continuity of study at the tertiary education level. Importantly, he looks at the effects of socio-economic status on students' progression through university.

Pathways and performance in South African high schools

An [article](#) published in the South African Journal of Science by Vijay Reddy and others analysed the pathways and performances of high school mathematics students in South Africa. The study used a panel-like data set of Grade 8 students who participated in the 2002 TIMSS and were tracked to Grade 12 examination data sets.

Schooling inequality, higher education and the labour market

The HSRC's Labour Market Intelligence Partnership (LMIP) recently undertook a graduate tracer study of students from two universities in the Eastern Cape province. A LMIP [working paper](#) examines the transitions which students follow from university into the labour market.

INTERESTED IN USING TIMSS DATA FOR YOUR RESEARCH?

If you are interested in working with us on publications based on the TIMSS data,
please [contact us](#).

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