



DISTRIBUTION OF CHICKENS IN SOUTH AFRICA

**FOR THE PERIOD: July 2023 to September 2023
(3Q2023)**

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1. Provincial distribution of egg and broiler industry birds in South Africa

The provincial distribution of chicken farms, in terms of the broiler and egg industries, is given in Table 1. These figures were recorded during the course of the avian influenza (AI) survey, where producers provide data on actual bird numbers in addition to laboratory test results. Silverpath Consulting continually endeavours to collect updated information from producers.

Table 1: Provincial distribution of chickens in South Africa						
Province	Broiler industry		Egg industry		Total	
	birds	%	birds	%	birds	%
E. Cape	7 884 715	6.0	1 181 629	3.7	9 066 344	5.6
Free State	15 111 830	11.6	5 109 143	16.1	20 220 973	12.5
Gauteng	13 531 290	10.4	7 980 261	25.1	21 511 551	13.2
KwaZulu-Natal	11 201 144	8.6	3 884 772	12.2	15 085 916	9.3
Limpopo	4 441 744	3.4	2 358 075	7.4	6 799 819	4.2
Mpumalanga	29 744 352	22.8	1 976 351	6.2	31 720 703	19.5
North West	31 984 162	24.5	4 012 742	12.6	35 996 904	22.2
N. Cape	266 500	0.2	96 300	0.3	362 800	0.2
W. Cape	16 366 079	12.5	5 220 540	16.4	21 586 619	13.3
Total	130 531 816	100.0	31 819 813	100.0	162 351 629	100.0

Figure 1 gives the total number of chickens per province, as per the above table. The province of North West is home to the largest number of birds, followed by Mpumalanga. The provincial distributions of broiler and egg industry chickens are given in Figures 2 and 3 respectively.

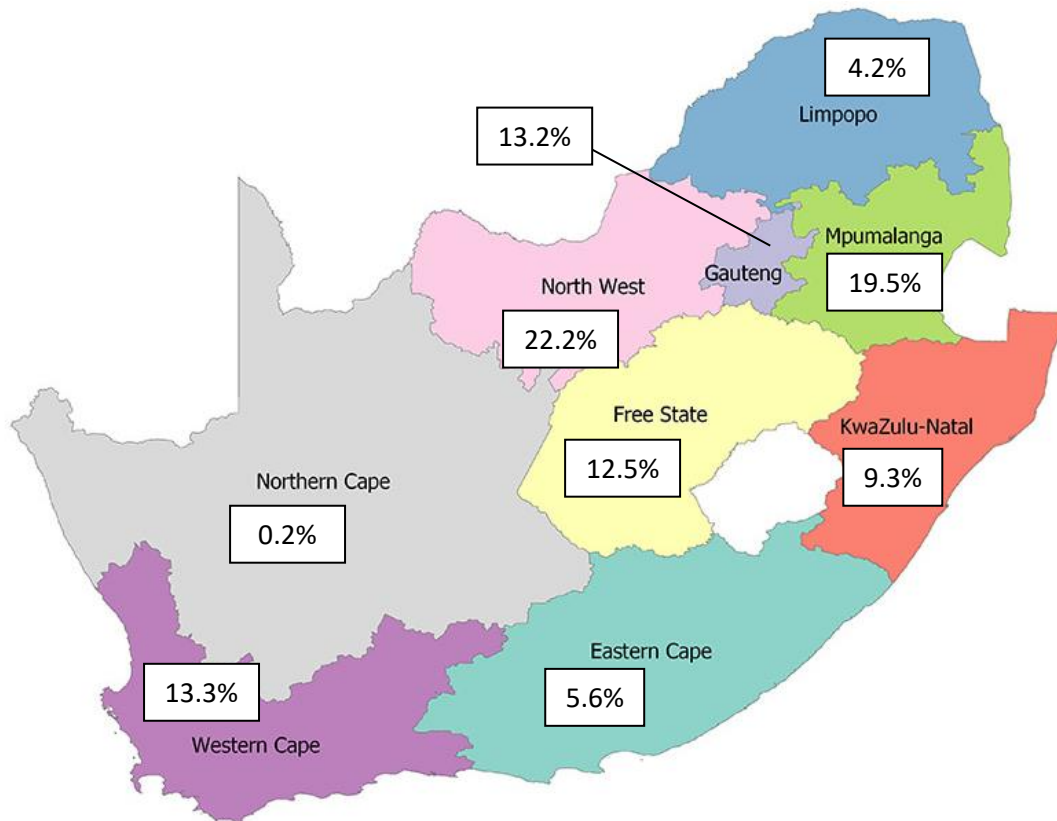


Figure 1: Provincial distribution of the national chicken flock

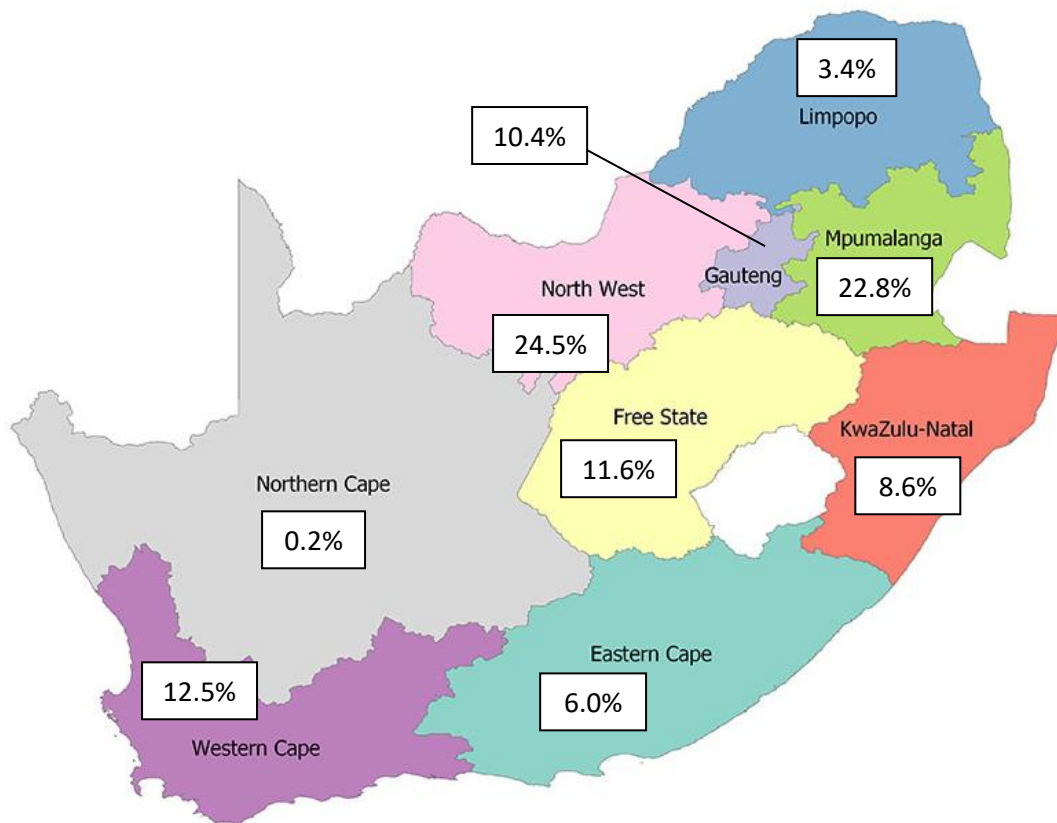


Figure 2: Provincial distribution of the broiler industry flock

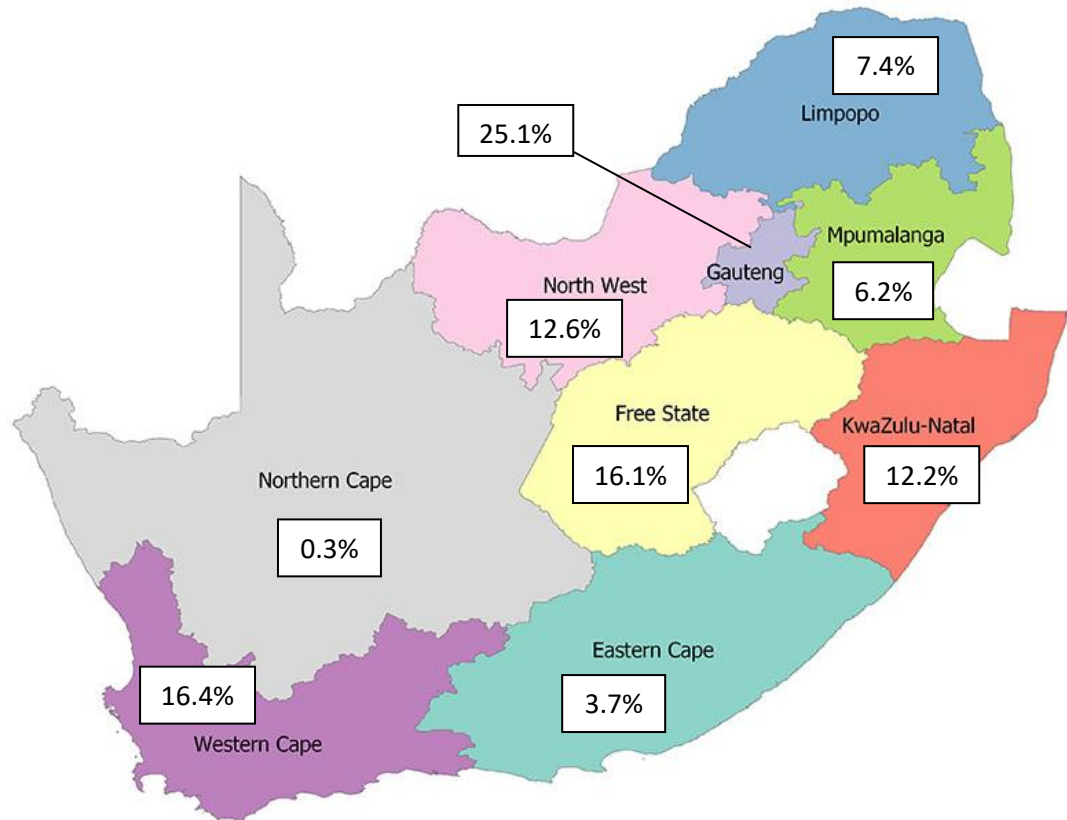


Figure 3: Provincial distribution of the egg industry flock

2. The number, type and distribution of poultry farms in South Africa

The number of farms on the AI database is given in Table 2. It also shows the birds numbers for the different farm types according to information supplied by producers.

Table 2: Number of farms on the AI database		
Broiler industry	Farms	Birds
GGP and grandparent farms	28	755 885
Parent rearing farms	54	3 307 575
Broiler breeder farms	137	7 543 353
Broiler rearing farms	514	118 925 003
TOTAL	733	130 531 816
Egg industry		
Grandparent farms	5	57 326
Parent rearing farms	3	271 024
Layer breeder farms	22	498 635
Pullet rearing farms	35	7 758 409
Layer farms (egg producing)	208	23 234 419
TOTAL	273	31 819 813
Broiler and egg industries	1 006	162 351 629

The nationwide distribution of broiler and egg sector farms in the AI database is shown in Figures 4 and 5 respectively. The pie charts show the percentage of farms and birds in each province. North West has 22% of the farms and 25% of the broiler sector birds. It is closely followed by Mpumalanga. Gauteng has the highest percentages of egg sector farms (25%) and birds (26%).

Source: SAPA

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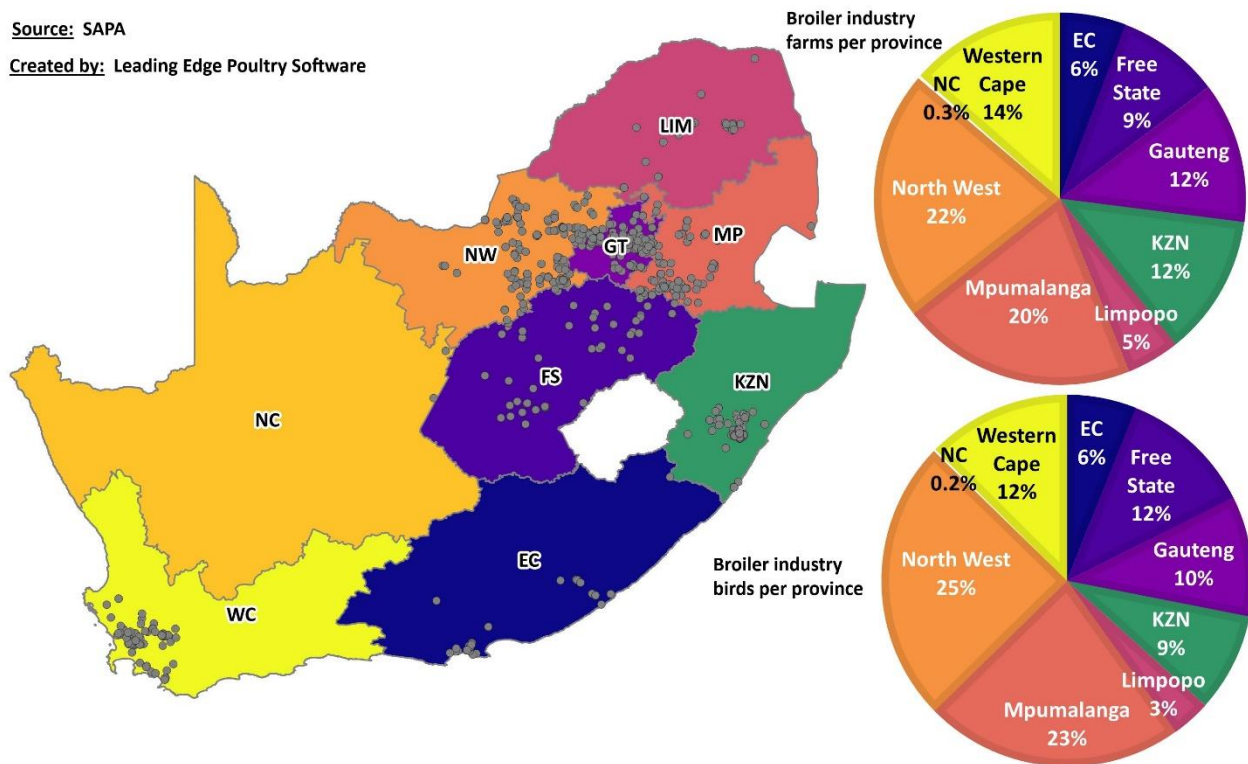


Figure 4: Geographical location of broiler industry farms

Source: SAPA

Created by: Leading Edge Poultry Software

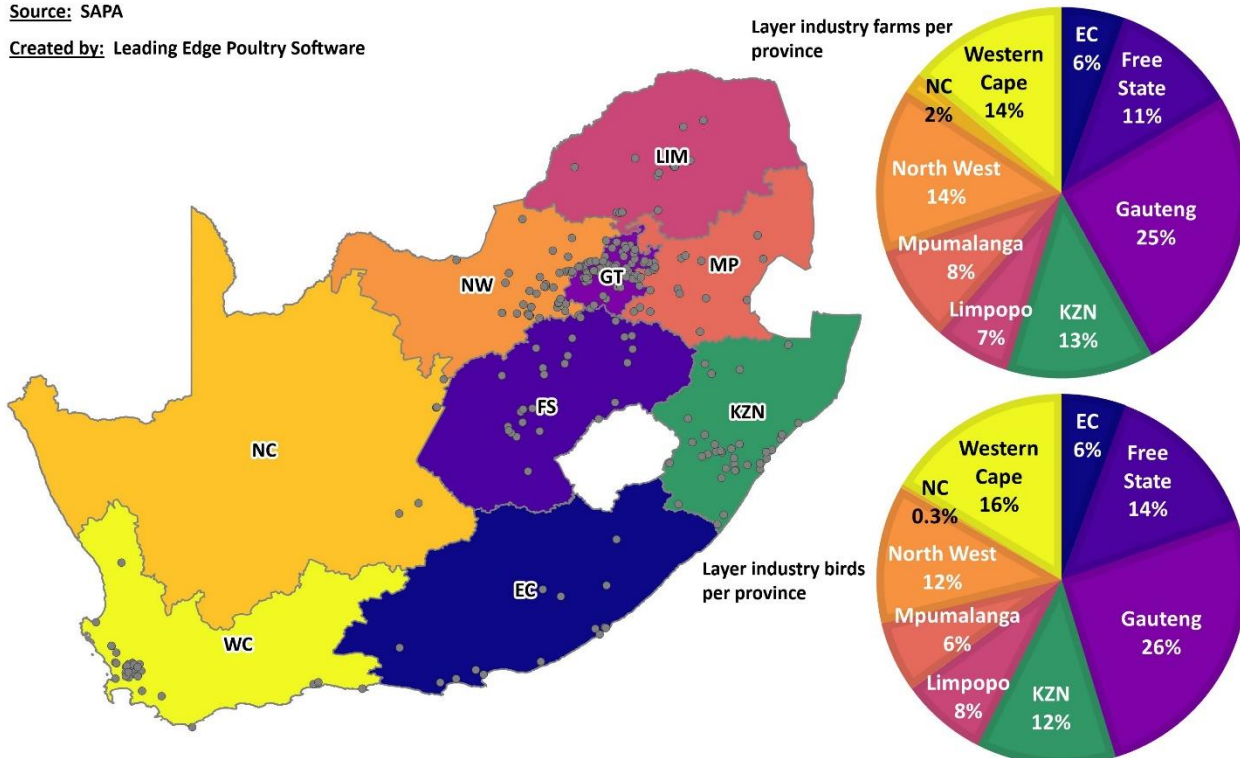


Figure 5: Geographical location of egg industry farms

Figures 6 and 7 show the local municipal density of the broiler and egg sector farms respectively. The local municipal districts containing the highest number of broiler industry farms are Victor Khanye (47) and Lekwa (42) in Mpumalanga and Mkhambathini (39) in KwaZulu-Natal. The highest density of egg industry farms is found in the local municipal districts of City of Tshwane (21) and Mogale City (18), both in Gauteng.

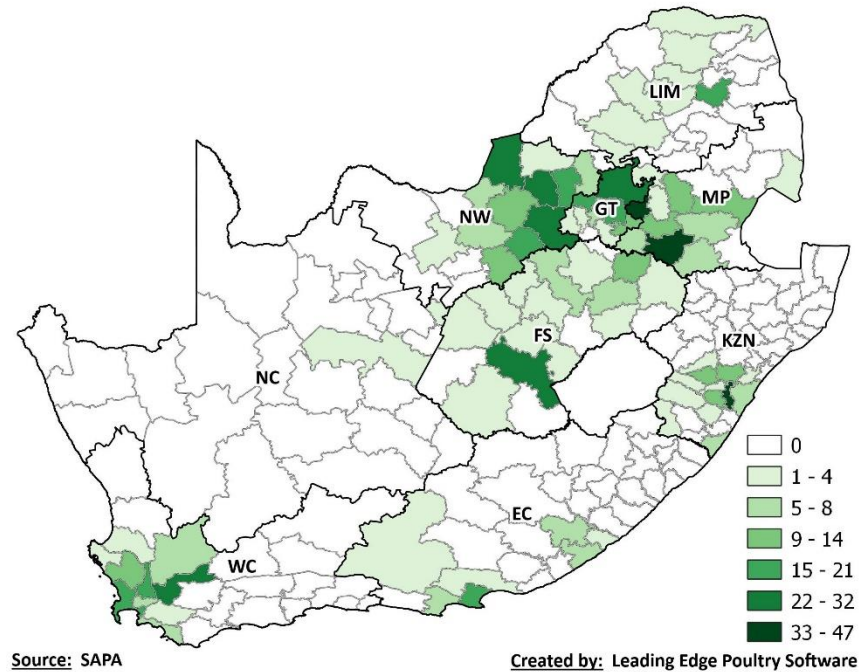


Figure 6: Density of broiler industry farms per local municipality

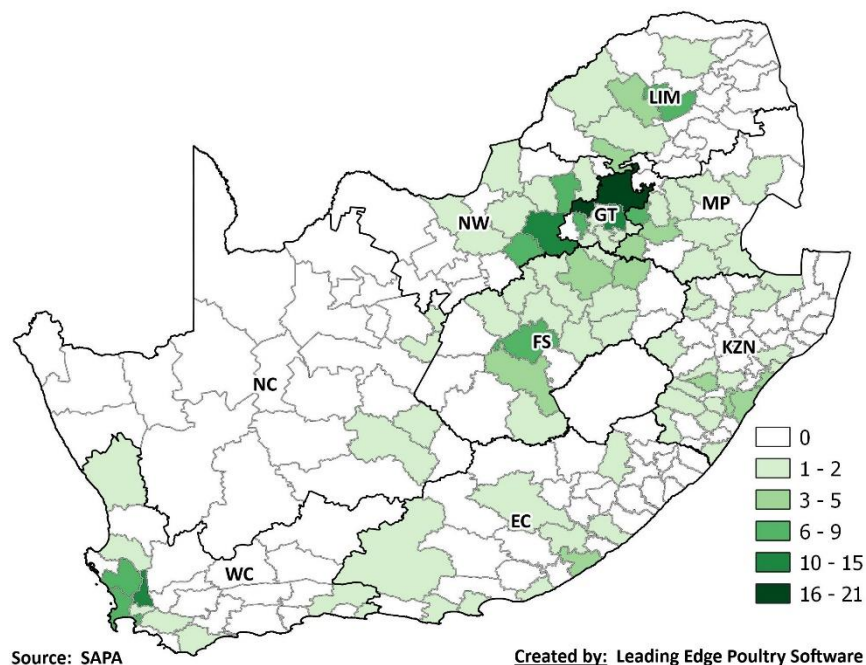


Figure 7: Density of egg industry farms per local municipality

Figures 8 and 9 indicate the density of broiler and egg sector birds per local municipality. A total of 11.18 million birds belonging to the broiler industry are located in the local municipal district of Victor Khanye in

Mpumalanga. A further 8.11 million birds are located in Lekwa, also in Mpumalanga, and 6.81 million in Rustenburg, North West. In the egg industry, the Gauteng local municipality of City of Tshwane has 2.88 million birds. Drakenstein in Western Cape has 2.38 million birds and Mogale City, also in Gauteng, has 2.21 million birds.

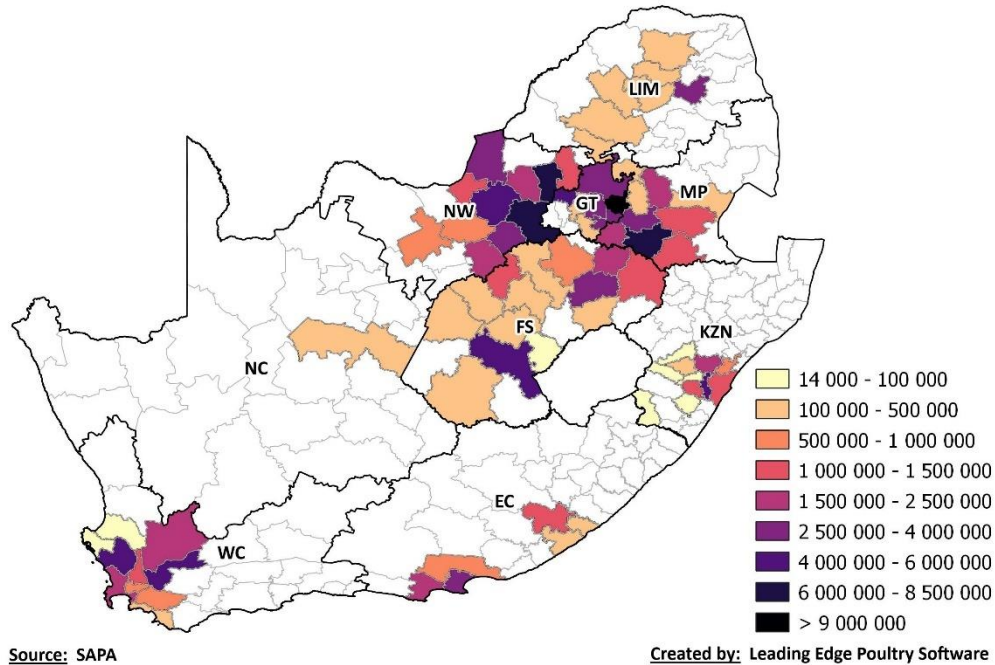


Figure 8: Density of broiler industry birds per local municipality

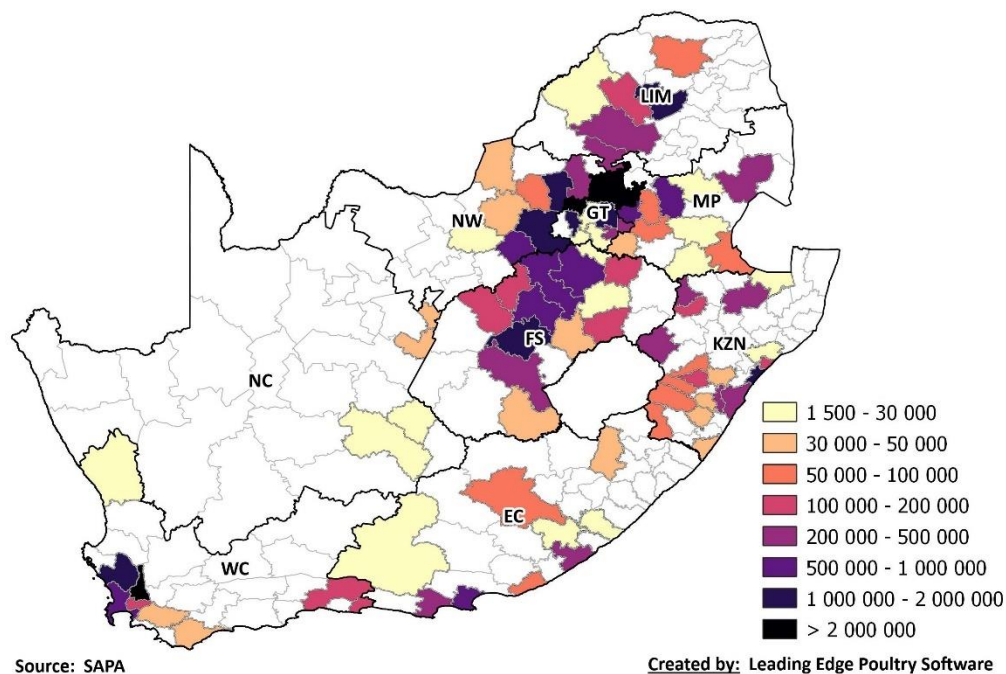


Figure 9: Density of egg industry birds per local municipality

3. Distribution of farms according to bird volumes

Table 3 shows the distribution of farms according to the size of the operation. Tables 4 and 5 provide a breakdown of producers that are registered on the AI database, according to the three categories: subsistence, small commercial and large commercial farmers. The number of subsistence farmers reported here represents those that take part in SAPA's statistical surveys. It is not an accurate representation of the total number in South Africa.

Table 3: Distribution of farms according to bird capacity				
Number of birds		Number of farms		
From	To	Broiler industry	Egg industry	Total
700 001	and more	13	1	14
600 001	700 000	9	3	12
500 001	600 000	16	5	21
400 001	500 000	12	9	21
300 001	400 000	70	11	81
200 001	300 000	155	18	173
100 001	200 000	141	53	194
90 001	100 000	17	4	21
80 001	90 000	18	11	29
70 001	80 000	9	12	21
60 001	70 000	15	9	24
50 001	60 000	8	10	18
40 001	50 000	49	17	66
30 001	40 000	50	21	71
20 001	30 000	15	26	41
15 001	20 000	12	16	28
10 001	15 000	20	11	31
5 001	10 000	6	12	18
1 501	5 000	3	5	8
501	1 500	0	3	3
101	500	0	1	1
1	100	95	15	110
Total		733	273	1006

Table 4: Categorisation of broiler industry farms		
Category	Birds/cycle	No. farms
Subsistence farmers	1 - 1 500	95
Small commercial farmers	1 501 - 40 000	106
Large commercial farmers	40 001 +	532
Total		733

Table 5: Categorisation of egg industry farms		
Category	No. birds	No. farms
Subsistence farmers	1 - 500	16
Small commercial farmers	501 - 50 000	111
Large commercial farmers	50 001 +	146
Total		273

*Data collated by Silverpath Consulting
Report compiled by Leading Edge Poultry Software*

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