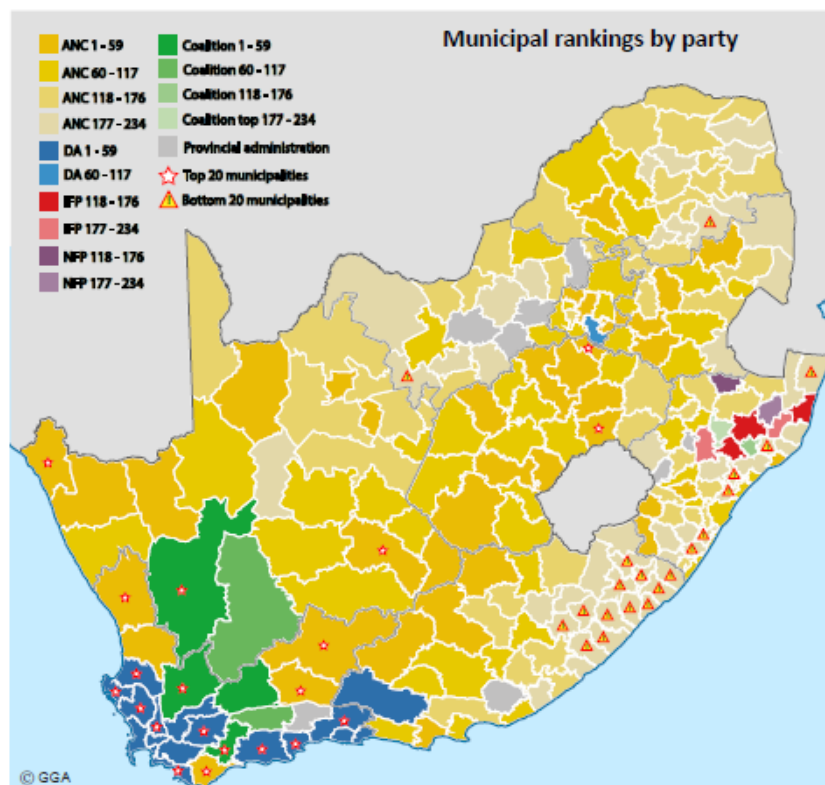# Local Elections 2011 – Factsheet

In 2011, the ANC retained its dominant position resulting with a large majority of municipalities under its rule. However, these elections marked a progression for the DA and other smaller parties.
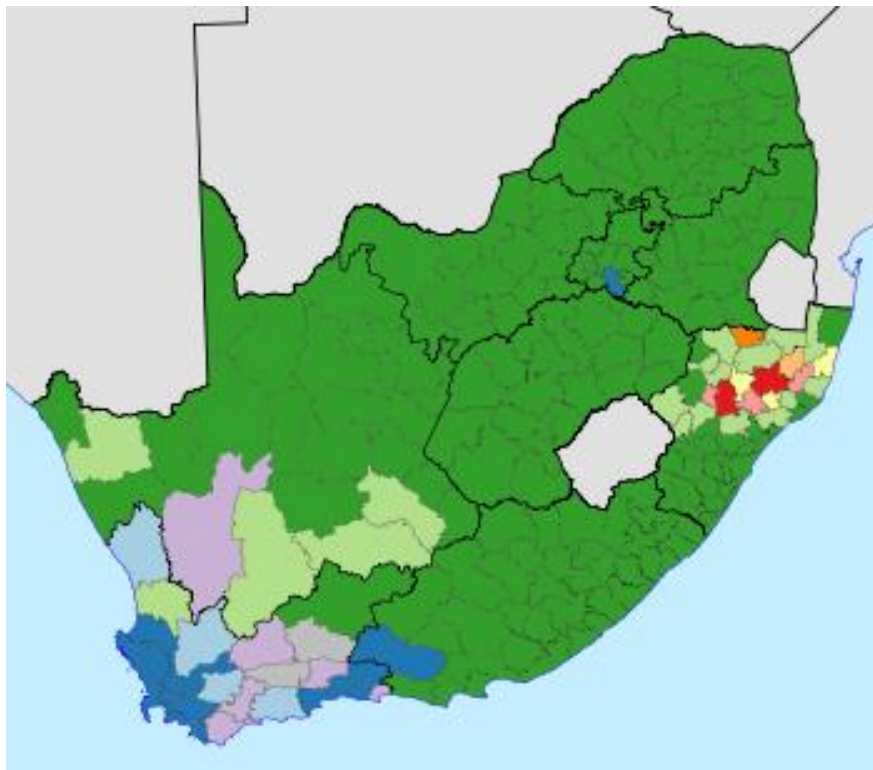
It is worth noting that the 2011 elections also meant that South African democracy is growing stronger, notably because it showed that an international trend where elections, and particularly, local government elections progressively produce lower voter turnouts is inapplicable to the young democracy.

The voter turnout for this election was predicted to be higher than the previous election in 2006. 23.65 million people were registered to vote (with more than five million people eligible to vote not being registered), while the actual turnout of voters was 13.66 million people representing a 57.64% turnout, making it the highest voter turnout ever since the first municipal election in 2000 . The percentage of spoilt votes was 1.89%.

Municipal rankings by party

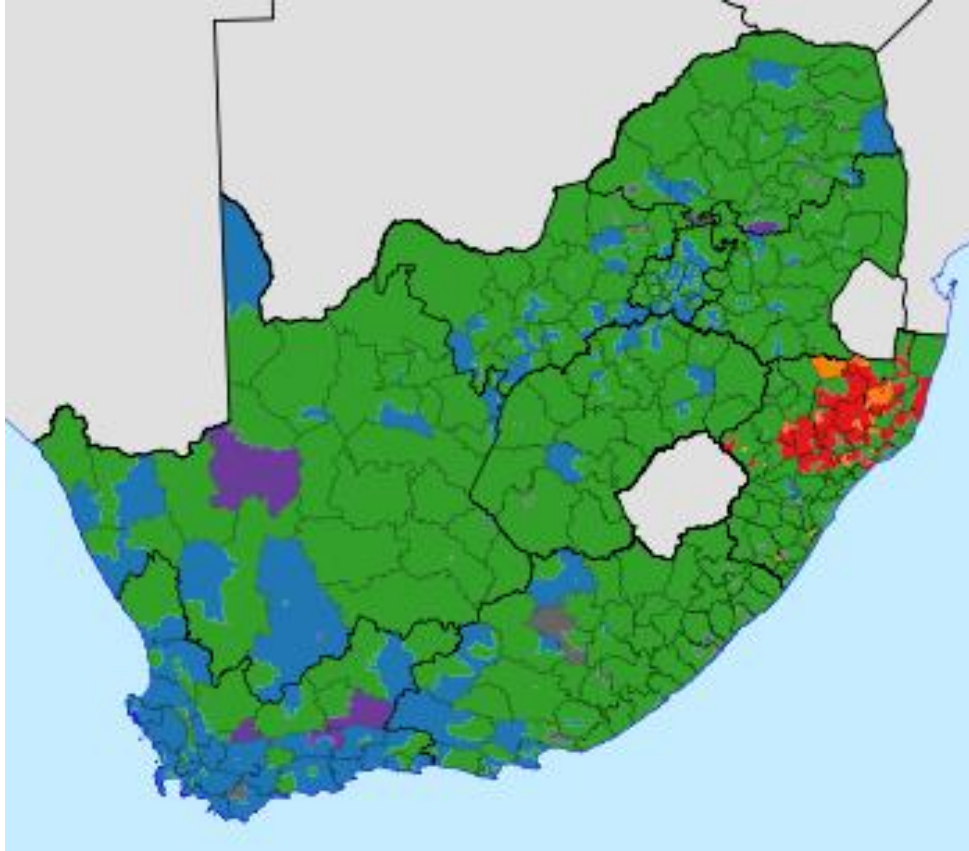| Legend	
ANC 1 - 59	Coalition 1 - 59
ANC 60 - 117	Coalition 60 - 117
ANC 118 - 176	Coalition 118 - 176
ANC 177 - 234	Coalition top 177 - 234
DA 1 - 59	Provincial administration
DA 60 - 117	☆ Top 20 municipalities
IFP 118 - 176	⚠ Bottom 20 municipalities
IFP 177 - 234	
NFP 118 - 176	
NFP 177 - 234	

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Main features:

- Intra political party conflicts which in other areas have escalated into violence and resulted in death.
- People who associate local government positions with access to power and distribution of patronage.
- High rate of unemployment, resulting in high contestations for councillorship positions.
- Increase in service delivery protests some of which are politically motivated.
- Leadership deficiency.
- Capable and competent people being sidelined or refusing to take a lead,
- Increase level of intolerance amongst political parties.
- The credibility of the IEC being put on the test.

Map showing the outcome of the election in the metropolitan and local municipalities

ANC outright winner	NFP outright winner
ANC largest party	NFP largest party
DA outright winner	ANC, DA tied
DA largest party	ANC, IFP tied
IFP outright winner	Other party largest
IFP largest party	

Map showing the party of the elected councillor in each ward.

- ANC
- DA
- IFP
- NFP
- Other party
- Independent

The 2011 election results reflected South Africa's "apartheid, racial and semi-colonial economy and society", the National Union of Metalworkers of SA said just after the release of the results. Certain scholars indeed argued that the DA now concentrates the majority of the "white vote" but also a large part of the "Indian" and "coloured" votes. The Unions, perennial ANC supports, have thus claimed that the main opposition party now unites capitalist interests of all racial groups.

In the KZN, where the IFP had the highest number of municipalities after the 2006 local government elections, the 2011 elections meant a decline and increasing collaborative trends between the ANC and the NFP, the IFP breakaway party which further weakened the party of Prince Buthelezi.

The official results issued by the electoral commission:

Party	Councils	Seats	Won % Support
ANC	198	5 633	62%
DA	18	1 555	23.9%
IFP	5	352	3.6%
COPE	0	236	2.1%
NFP	2	224	2.4%
Other Parties	2	140	2.0%
UDM	0	65	0.6%
Independents	0	45	1.1%
PAC	0	40	0.4%
ACDP	0	40	0.6%
VF PLUS	0	38	0.5%
APC	0	28	0.3%
UCDP	0	25	0.2%
AZAPO	0	15	0.2%
TOTAL	225	8 436	100

Local government Elections 2000, 2006, 2011 and 2016

PARTY NAME	PROVINCE	2000	2006	2011	2016
ANC	Eastern Cape	74.49%	81,74%	73.44%	
	Gauteng	59,79%	62,47%	60.21%	
	KwaZulu Natal	33,83%	38,47%	56.57 %	
	Western Cape	40.29%	40,25%	34.07%	
DA	Eastern Cape	10.46%	7.64%	14.26%	
	Gauteng	31.27%	26.39%	33.04%	
	KwaZulu Natal	13.63%	8,418%	10,75%	
	Western Cape	50.60%	39,3%	57.08%	
IFP	Eastern Cape	0.43%	0.07%	0.0%	
	Gauteng	2.28%	1.98%	0.95%	
	KwaZulu Natal	48.91%	38,379%	17.33%	
	Western Cape	0.17%	0.094%	0.07%	
EFF					