



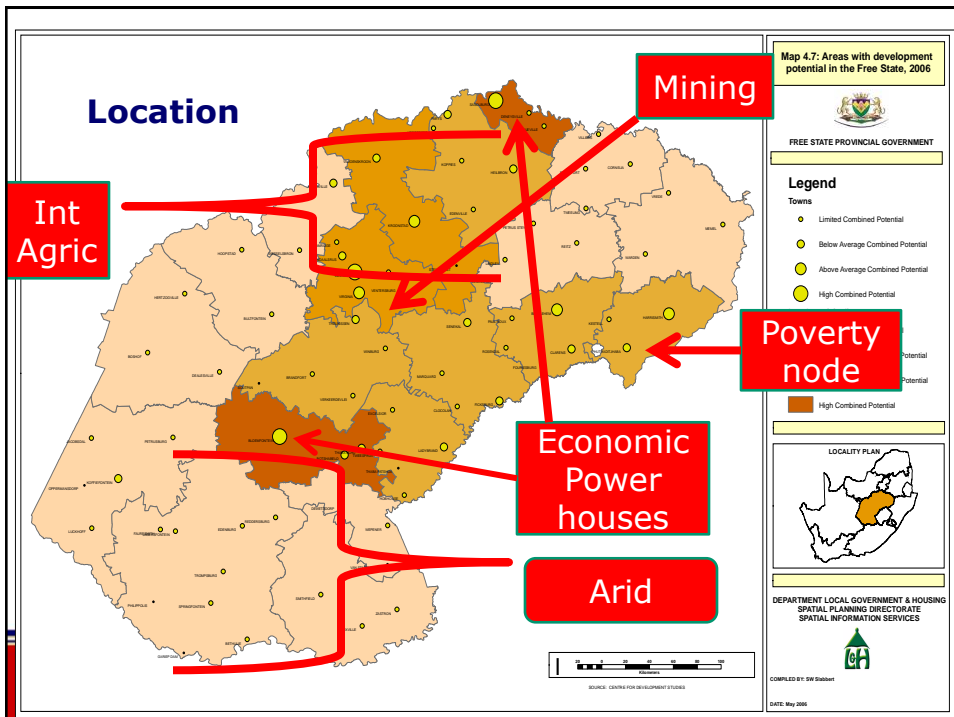
Faculty of Economic & Management Sciences
 Fakulteit Ekonomiese & Bestuurswetenskappe

FREE STATE PROFILE (South Africa)

Prepared in association with the Free State Provincial government



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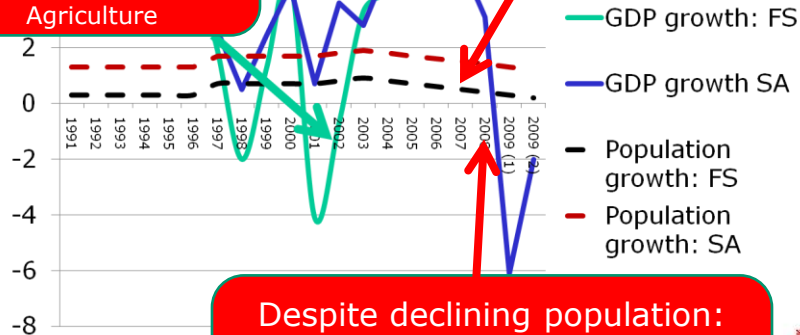


Population and economic growth

Lower economic growth:

- Decline in mining
- Decrease in the importance of Agriculture

Gap in pop growth?
Decline in mining;
Outmigration ;



Despite declining population:
large-scale rural to urban
migration; outmigration from
previous apartheid reserves

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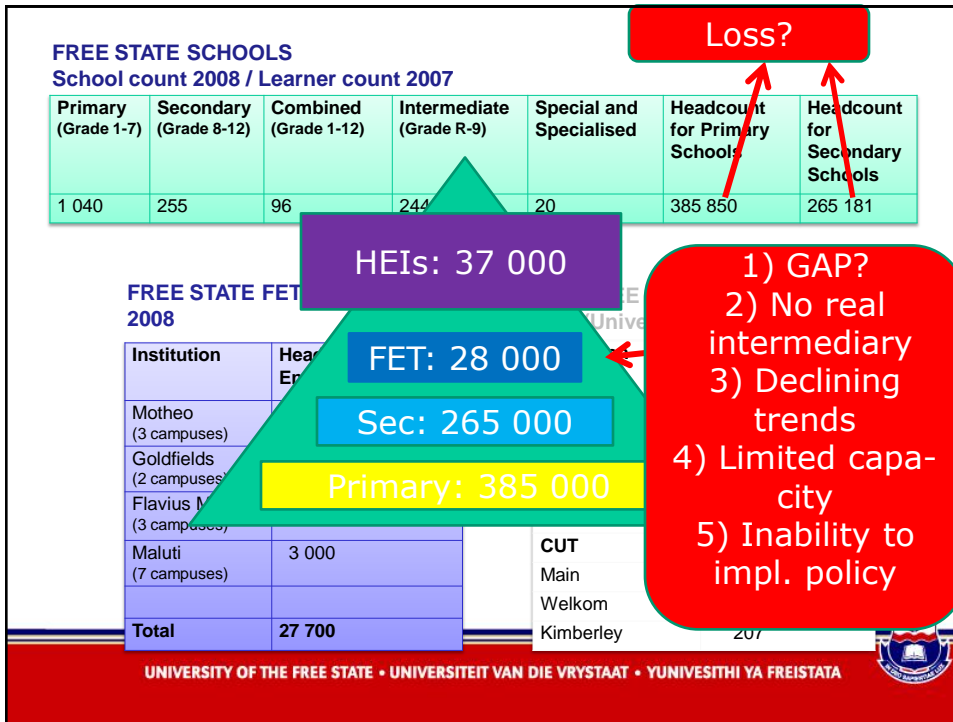


Main economic trends and development

- Two economic power houses
- Historical importance of mining and agriculture
- Never had an extensive manufacturing base
- Move towards tertiary economic activity
- People living in poverty: 55.5 (FS) vs 49.7 (SA) +
- Unemployment: 30.6% (FS) vs 26.5 (SA) (2005) +
- HDI: 0.55 (FS) vs 0.59 (SA) -
- Gini C: 0.64 (FS and SA) +

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Expectations from the region

- Development of a regional partnership
- UFS to use to strategise its regional engagement
- How can regions benefit from universities?
- Update Free State Provincial Growth and development strategy

