

Inequalities in Emerging Economies: What Role for Social Policies?

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Summary of South African Study

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www.oecd.org/els/social/inequality/emergingeconomies



South Africa 1993-2008 (Empirical Snapshot)

	Economic Growth	Inequality	Headcount Poverty	Participation Rate	Unemp Rate	Wage Inequality	Social Grants
	%	Gini	\$2/day line	%	%	D9/D1	% HHs no employed with grants
1993	1.2	0.67	0.34	49.1	13.6	19.67	17.5
2008	3.7	0.7	0.3	55.2	23.4	38.68	25



South Africa 1993-2008 (Policy Snapshot)

- A number of **labour market policies** have been implemented
 - Labour Regulations\Unemployment Insurance\Public works
 - Not successful at current scale
 - Wage Subsidies (Being thought about)
- A number of **social assistance grants** have been implemented
 - State Old Age Pension\Child Support Grant are the biggest
 - Successful at current scale but is pressure to do even more