

Broad overview of the South African Child Gauge 2008/2009

The *South African Child Gauge* is produced annually by the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town to track South Africa's progress towards realising the rights of children.

The *South African Child Gauge* is divided into three parts:

PART ONE: Children and Law Reform

Part one discusses recent legislative developments affecting children. In this issue there is commentary on the Child Justice Act, the Criminal Law (Sentencing) Amendment Act, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, policy developments in education, the Regulations to the Children's Act (as amended), the Social Service Professions Bill and Regulations to the Social Assistance Act.

See pages 9 – 15.

PART TWO: Meaningful access to basic education

Part two presents a series of nine essays that examine children's right to education and what is required to ensure meaningful access to basic education in South Africa. Essays focus on the right to education, meaningful access, budgetary frameworks and school-fee waivers, children who are out of school, the relationship between poverty and exclusion, partnerships between schools and communities, and what is required to build a strong foundation in numeracy and literacy.

See pages 17 – 65.

PART THREE: Children Count — the numbers

Part three updates a set of key indicators on children's socio-economic rights and comments on the extent to which these rights have been realised. The indicators track the demographics of children, care arrangements, and their access to social assistance, education, health-care services, housing, water, sanitation and electricity. The indicators are a special subset selected from the Children's Institute website www.childrencount.ci.org.za. See pages 67 – 104.

SOUTH AFRICAN

ChildGauge

Edited by Shirley Pendlebury,
Lori Lake and Charmaine Smith

2008/2009



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



children's
institute

child rights in focus
Research • Advocacy • Education