ABSTRACT

The South Africa Schools Act requires every child to ‘‘attend school from the first school day of the year in which such learner reaches the age of seven years until the last day of the year in which such learner reaches the age of 15 years or the ninth grade, whichever comes first’’ (Republic of South Africa, 1996).

A number of broad but interrelated factors may account for children not being in school: disability; family structure; children living in households that are eligible for social grants but are not receiving them; and geographic and racial characteristics. To be poor in South Africa may mean exclusion from the mainstream of the economy, but it does not necessarily mean exclusion from access to basic state services like enrolment in schooling or social grants. Children not attending are not only likely to be living in households that are excluded from participation in themainstreameconomy, but are also on the fringes of state services; they may also be on the fringes of households. The paper concludes with recommendations for further research to identify reasons why children in these vulnerable subpopulations are less likely to be enrolled.

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<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0738059310000647>

See also:

<http://www.create-rpc.org/pdf_documents/Who%20is%20out%20of%20School%20Evidence%20from%20the%20Community%20Survey%202007%20South%20Africa.pdf>