

Durbanville

Durbanville is a sprawling farming and migrant worker community full of stark contrasts in health, housing and income. In the areas directly around the clinic the majority of people have middle to high incomes. This stands in direct contrast to migrant areas like Fisantekraal in the outskirts of Durbanville. In this part, the majority of households are in the low income band. Previously only shacks were found in the area, this Xhosa and Coloured community finally received some Government housing in 2000, yet many are still housed in informal dwellings. The population consists largely of people from the Eastern Cape, the residents have very high TB rates, children orphaned from HIV and AIDS, a high student drop out and non-attendance rates and overcrowding with anywhere from 10-15 people per dwelling.

Durbanville Clinic

Built in 1998, this dual city clinic and provincial day hospital sees more than 150 clients for TB and HIV testing and counseling, sexual and general health problems, family planning, hypertension, diabetes and paediatric care each day. With a medical staff of six nursing sisters, a full time day hospital doctor and a clinic TB doctor once a week, Durbanville clinic does its best to handle the increasing amount of TB, HIV, hypertension and diabetes patients common in the area.

About 70 people are tested for HIV per month at the clinic, and about 20 of them test positive at the clinic. Nearly every pregnant mother that visits the clinic also is tested for HIV (about 50 per month). To date the PMTCT (Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission) program is successful with steadily decreasing numbers of HIV positive children.