

# WESGRO

cape town & western cape  
research



## Mauritius: Country Fact Sheet

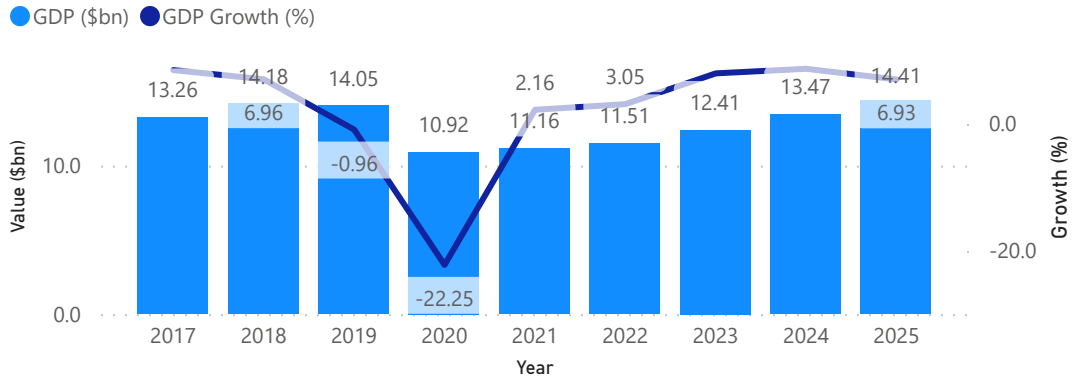
### March 2023

Cape Town and the Western Cape – A Leading Regional Economy

# 1) Economic Overview - Mauritius

Ongoing pandemic-related factors caused the Mauritian economy to contract by 22.25% in 2020, as shown in Figure 1. However, the country's economy recovered swiftly in 2021 recording a y-o-y growth of 2.16% to reach a total GDP value of USD11.16bn, up from USD10.92bn in 2021. This growth was driven by a strong performance in the tourism, construction, and financial services sectors. Looking ahead, the World Bank (2022) anticipates that the Mauritian economy will recover, with a forecasted annual average growth rate of 6.63%, which translates to an estimated USD13.02bn during the period 2022-2025.

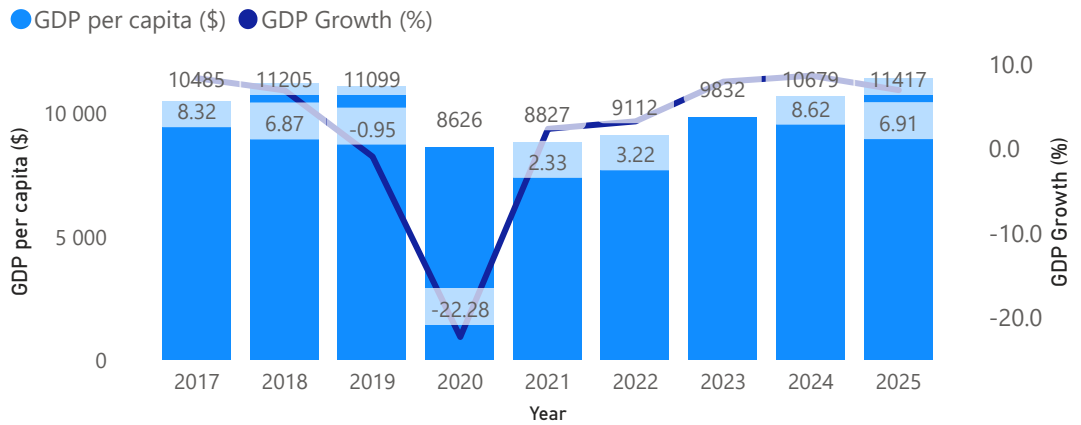
Figure 1: Mauritius' GDP, 2017-2025f



Source: Euromonitor, 2023

Figure 2 shows that the GDP per capita in Mauritius was around USD10,485.01 in 2017, and it has increased overall since then. In 2020, it fell to USD8,625.91 due to the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2021, GDP per capita recovered to an estimated USD8,827.24. This recovery may have been facilitated by a successful national vaccination drive. Against a backdrop of increases in the prices of food and fuel, the GDP per capita is expected to grow at an average annual rate of 6.67% per annum in 2022-2025 to reach a GDP per capita value of USD11,416.52 by 2025.

Figure 2: Mauritius' GDP per capita, 2017-2025f



Source: Euromonitor, 2023

The Mauritian economy is largely comprised of the services sector, which collectively accounted for around 75% of the total Gross Value Added (GVA) in 2022. Figure 3 demonstrates that, with the financial intermediation, real estate, renting and business services sector accounting for 26.15% of Mauritius' GVA in 2022. The wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, personal and household goods; hotels and restaurants; and transport, storage and communications sector contributed the second highest share (25.92%) to the economy. Looking forward, economic growth is expected to be driven by the services sector. Mauritius aspires to become a high-income country in the current decade. The authorities have laid out a development strategy centered on spurring innovation through skills development, technological upgrading, and improving the Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) infrastructure. However, achieving these long-term goals requires macroeconomic stability, reducing risks from declining growth, surging debt, and rising inflation.

Figure 3: Mauritius' Sector Contribution to Gross Value Added (%), 2022



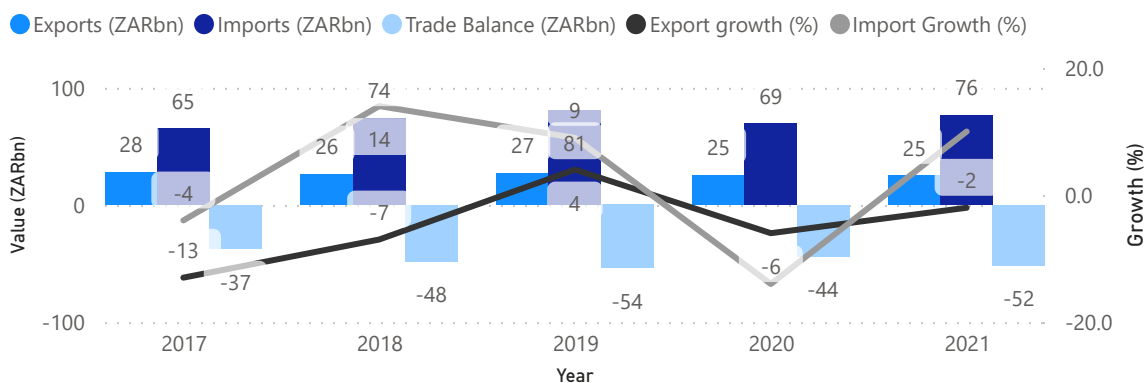
Source: Euromonitor, 2023

## 2) Trade

### 2.1) Mauritius' Global Merchandise Trade

Figure 4 shows that Mauritius maintained a trade deficit over the last five years. Total merchandise export proceeds for 2021 were valued at ZAR24.87bn, representing a decline of 1.8% in relation to the 2020 figure. However, imports grew at an average of 10.22% per annum – reaching a value of ZAR76.45bn in 2021 in comparison to the ZAR69.36bn attained in the previous year. Notably, in 2020, both exports and imports decreased because of the global crisis triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Figure 4: Mauritius' Global Trade, 2017-2021

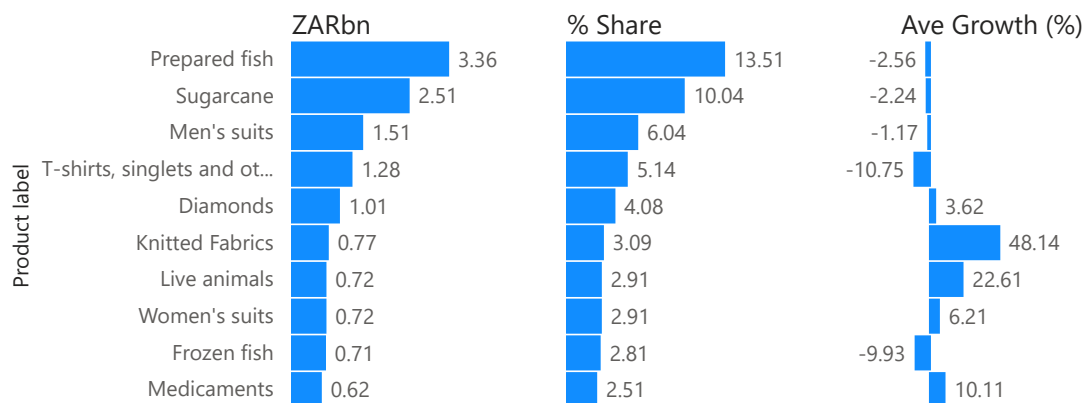


Source: Trademap, 2022

Prepared or preserved fish, as the country's largest export, accounted for 13.51% share of exports from Mauritius, at an export value of ZAR3.36bn in 2021. This can be seen in Figure 5. Sugar cane, and men's suits were the second and third top exports, valued at ZAR2.51m and ZAR1.51m respectively.

Four of the top 10 export products are in the textiles industry. Interestingly, knitted fabrics had the highest five-year annual average growth rate of 48.14%.

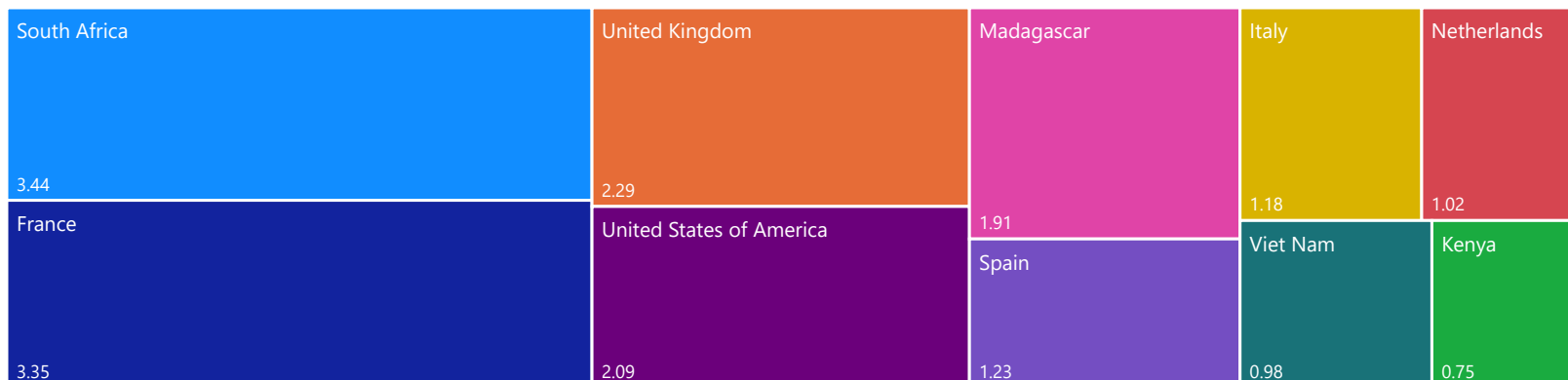
Figure 5: Mauritius' Top Export Products, 2021: (Average Growth: 2017-2021)



Source: Trademap, 2022

South Africa, France and the UK were the three largest destination partners for Mauritius' exports and were responsible for 36.51% of the total exports from the Indian Ocean Island nation in 2021. More particularly, South Africa was its largest export market: goods to the value of ZAR3.44bn (a 10.65% share) were exported there in 2021. The European region remains the country's top destination region with five of the top ten export markets located in Europe. South Africa, Kenya and Madagascar were the only African countries featuring Mauritius' top 10 destination markets.

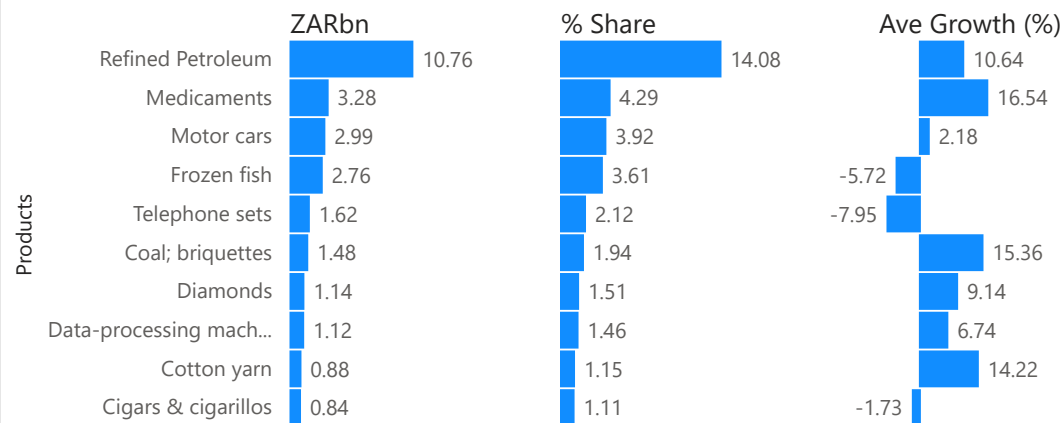
Figure 6: Mauritius' Top Export Markets (ZARbn), 2021



Source: Trademap, 2022

A large proportion of Mauritius' imports in 2021 were refined petroleum oils valued at ZAR10.76bn (14.08%), therapeutic medicaments at ZAR3.28bn (4.29%), and motor cars at ZAR2.99bn (a 3.92% share). The United Arab Emirates was Mauritius' top source market for refined petroleum. The manufacturing sector remains the country's top priority sector when sourcing products externally. The highest growth in import products from 2017 to 2021 was that of therapeutic medicaments, which recorded a 16.54% five-year average growth. This was followed by coal and briquettes (15.36%), and refined petroleum oils (10.64%), respectively.

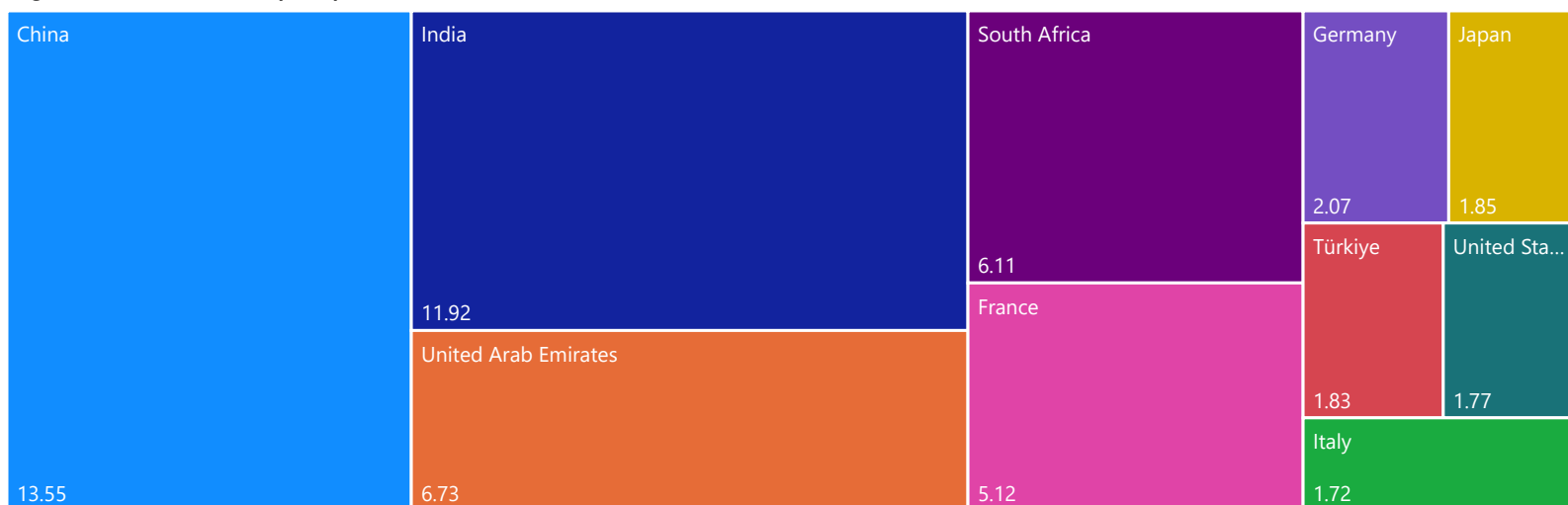
Figure 7: Mauritius Top Import Products, 2021: (Average growth: 2017-2021)



Source: Trademap, 2022

Economic relations between Mauritius and China have intensified over the past 10 years and in recent years, China has become Mauritius' largest import partner, as demonstrated in Figure 8. Imports from the Asian powerhouse reached a total value of ZAR13.55bn in 2021, increasing by nearly 18.03% from 2020. Nuclear reactors, electrical machinery, and articles of iron or steel were among the top three imports from China, accounting for 39.01% of total imports from the country. India followed closely as the country's second largest import market, with imports to Mauritius valued at ZAR11.92bn in 2021. Mineral fuels made up the bulk of imports from India, accounting for a 38.23% share, followed by pharmaceutical products with a share of 17.04%. Notably, three Asian countries featured in the country's top 10 source markets for imports to Mauritius.

Figure 8: Mauritius Top Import Markets (ZARbn), 2021



Source: Trademap, 2022

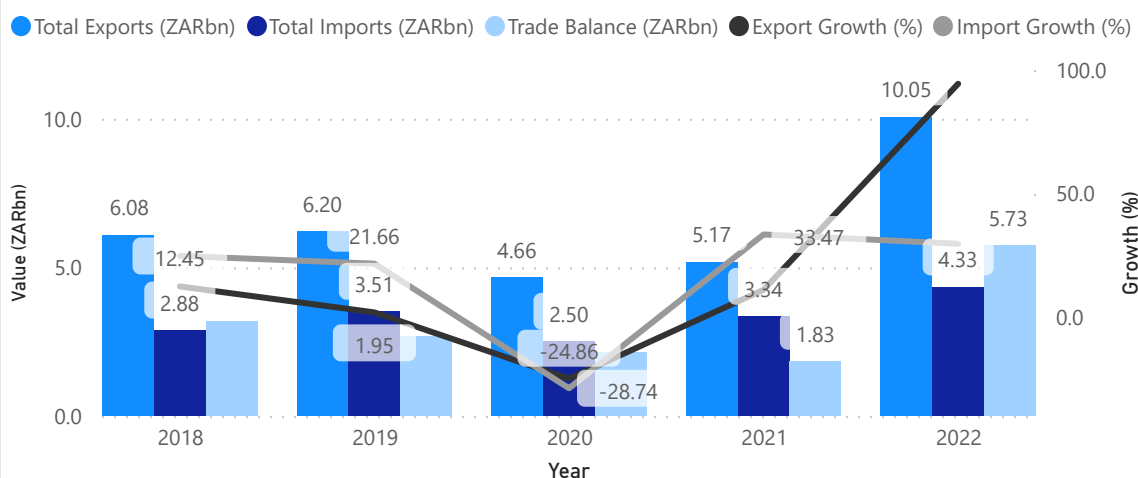
## 2.2) Trade Agreements and developments

Mauritius has been a member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) since its founding in 1995. The WTO is the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The WTO is the only global international organisation dealing with the rules of trade between nations. The WTO's goal is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably, and freely as possible. Mauritius has signed various trade agreements including those allowing for preferential access to key markets such as those in southern Africa through the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the South African Development Community agreements (SADC). Mauritius has also signed some bilateral trade agreements with Pakistan, Türkiye, USA, China, and India. (Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration, and International Trade of Mauritius, 2022). In 2021, Mauritius signed a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) with India. The Agreement ensures that exports of more than 615 products from Mauritius will benefit from tariff liberalisation. In addition, the Mauritian strategy to leverage the opportunities in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a key element of the country's broader strategy that governs the country's relationship with Africa.

## 2.3) Bilateral Trade: South Africa and Mauritius

South Africa's exports to Mauritius have risen sharply overall in recent years, albeit with fluctuation, increasing from ZAR6.08bn in 2018 and ZAR10.05bn in 2022 as evident in Figure 9 alongside. South Africa's export receipts increased by 94.42% y-o-y in 2022, reaching a value of ZAR10.05bn from the ZAR5.17bn earned in 2021. This made Mauritius South Africa's 30th largest export market in 2022. Imports from Mauritius to South Africa grew by 29.7%, from ZAR3.34bn in 2021 to ZAR4.33bn in 2022, with Mauritius ranking as South Africa's 54th largest import market in 2022. South Africa has recorded a consistent trade surplus with Mauritius over the past five years.

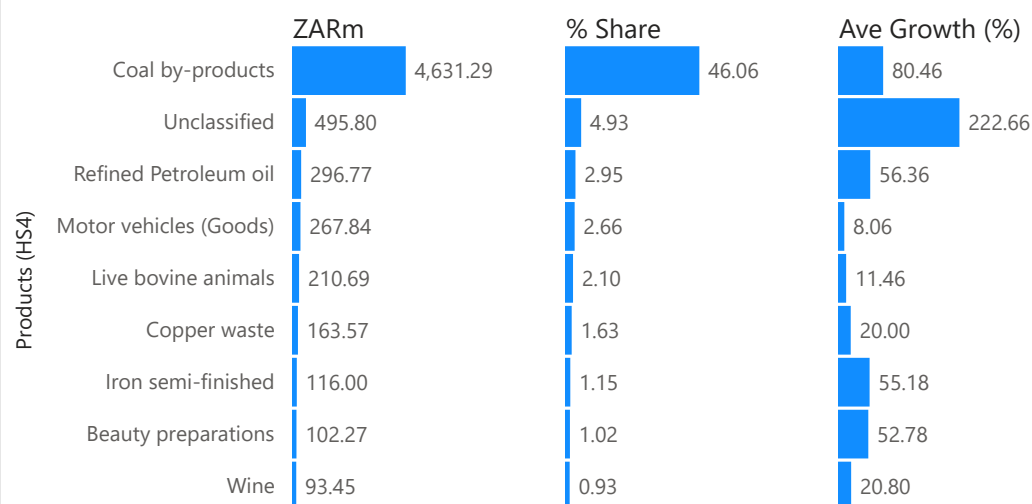
Figure 9: SA's Trade with Mauritius, 2018-2022



Source: Quantec, 2023

At a value of ZAR4,631.29bn coal by-products were South Africa's top export category to Mauritius in 2021. Unclassified products and refined petroleum oil, valued at ZAR495.8m and ZAR296.77m respectively, followed. Interestingly, the export of unclassified products showed robust growth, increasing at a rate of 222.66% per annum from 2018 to 2022. This was followed by a 80.46% five-year average growth in coal by-products. With coal occupying the greatest share (46.06%) of South African exports to Mauritius, it should be noted that in light of the country's transition to green energy, a reduction in exports of this commodity in future is a possibility.

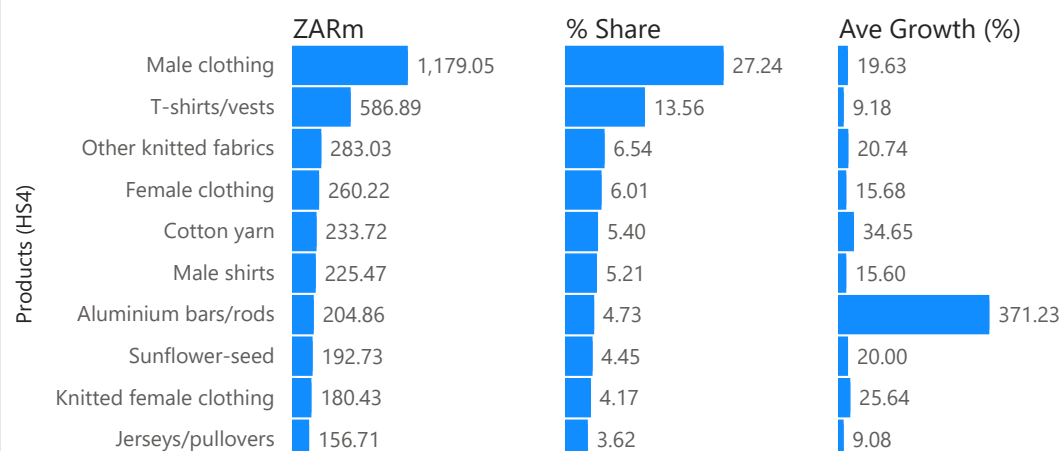
Figure 10: SA's Top Exports to Mauritius, 2022: (Average Growth: 2018-2022)



Source: Quantec, 2023

Figure 11 indicates that eight of South Africa's top 10 imports from Mauritius were textile products. With the comparative advantage that Mauritius has in the textiles sector, it is more profitable for South African to import textiles from the island nation. Having said that, male clothing, valued at ZAR1.17bn, were South Africa's top import from Mauritius. Imports of T-shirts, vests and the like (valued at ZAR586.89m) and other knitted fabrics (ZAR283.03m) were the second and third top imports. Imports of aluminum bars and rods grew at an impressive rate of a 371.23% per annum from 2018 to 2022.

Figure 11: SA's Top Imports from Mauritius, 2022: (Average Growth: 2018-2022)



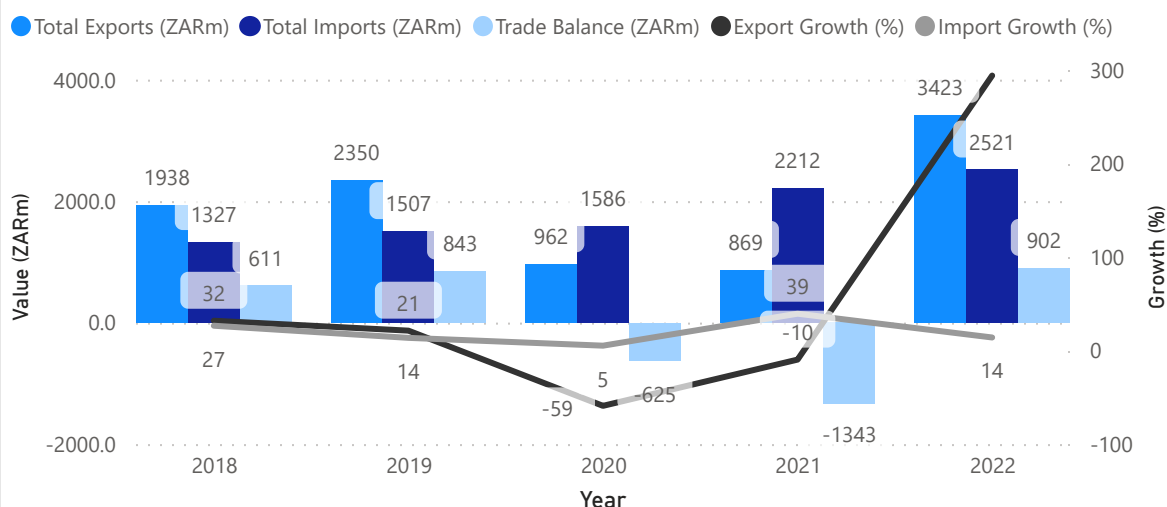
Source: Quantec, 2023



## 2.4) Bilateral Trade: Western Cape and Mauritius

Mauritius was the Western Cape's 17th largest export partner in 2022, with exports to the country growing at a rate of 55.70% per annum from 2018 to 2022. This robust growth was largely due to a spike in Western Cape exports (particularly the export of coal by-product) to Mauritius in 2022, where total exports grew by 294.03% y-o-y, from ZAR868.77m earned in 2021 to ZAR3.42bn in 2022 - resulting in a recovery of the trade balance from a deficit of ZAR1.35bn in 2021 to a surplus of ZAR901.9m in 2022. Regarding imports, Mauritius was the Western Cape's 25th largest import market in 2022, showing an average growth rate of 19.76% per annum from 2018 to 2022.

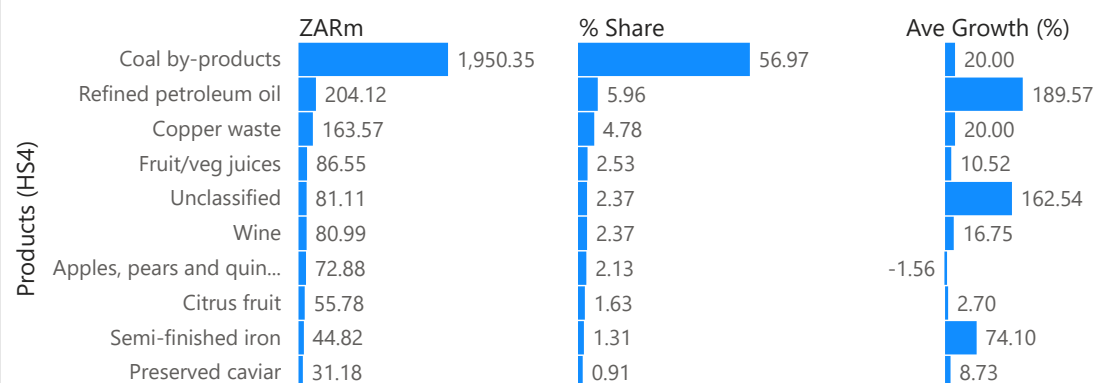
Figure 12: WC's Trade with Mauritius, 2018-2022



Source: Quantec, 2023

As can be observed in Figure 13, five of the Western Cape's top ten exports to Mauritius were from the agribusiness sector. However, coal by-products such as briquettes was the Western Cape's largest export to Mauritius at a value of ZAR1.95bn, accounting for a share of 56.97% of exports to Mauritius in 2022. Refined petroleum oils and copper waste accounted for 5.96% and 4.78% of exports from the Western Cape to Mauritius in 2022. Notably, exports of refined petroleum oils increased at an average annual rate of 189.57% from 2018 to 2022, mainly due to a spike in Mauritius' demand for Western Cape's refined petroleum in 2018 and 2019.

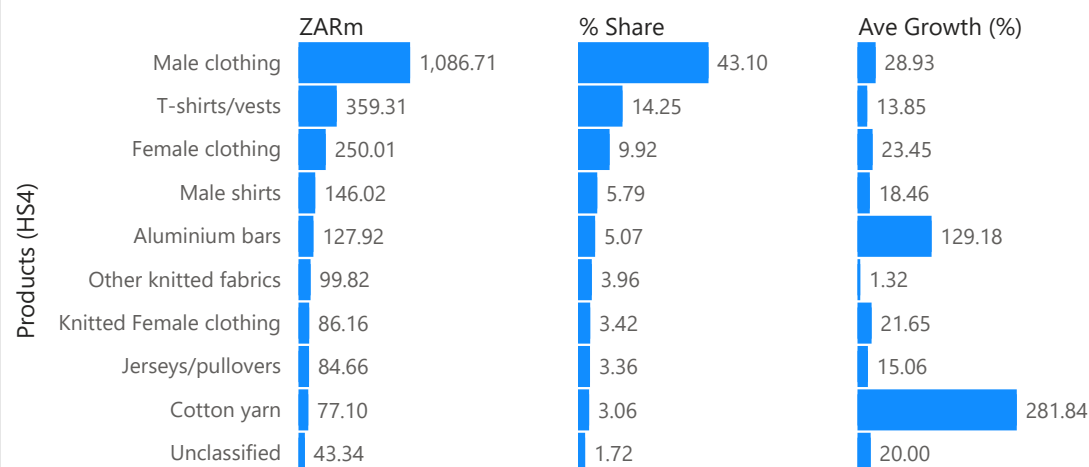
Figure 13: WC's Top Exports to Mauritius, 2022: (Average Growth : 2018-2022)



Source: Quantec, 2023

Male clothing was the largest import from Mauritius to the Western Cape in 2022. As seen in Figure 14, at a value of ZAR1.09bn, this sector accounted for 43.1% of the total value in imports in that year. T-shirts and vests were the second largest import category (ZAR359.31m), while female clothing (ZAR250.01m) took third place. The province's top 10 imports from Mauritius were heavily concentrated in the textiles and apparel sector (an 80% share) due to the competitive prices offered by the Mauritian economy. Interestingly, the import of cotton yarn from Mauritius grew at a five-year annual average rate of 281.84%. The import of aluminum bars and rods also increased over the five-year period, showing an annual growth rate of 129.18% per annum.

Figure 14: WC's Top Imports from Mauritius, 2022: (Average Growth: 2018-2022)



Source: Quantec, 2023

## 3) Foreign Direct Investment

### 3.1) FDI in Mauritius

Mauritius remains an attractive investment destination and is the fifth largest destination for FDI in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), after the Bahamas, Jamaica, Maldives, and Barbados. In keeping with the rest of the world, the number of FDI projects dropped from six in 2021 to five in 2022, as Figure 15 demonstrates. On the capital expenditure (capex) front, total capex recorded remained relatively low in 2022 at a value of ZAR1.13bn some 1.80% y-o-y lower than the ZAR1.16bn recorded in 2021.

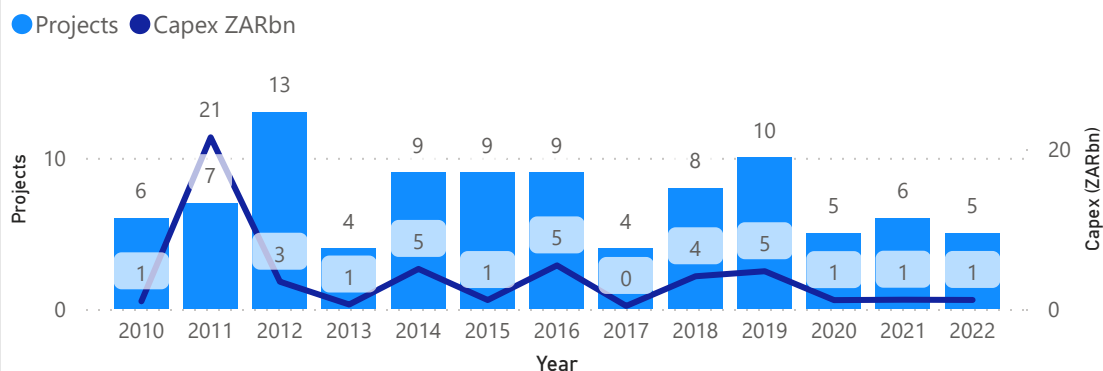
Mauritius aims to become an investment hub located midway between Africa and Asia. In recent years, the country's economic diplomacy has sought to create and strengthen partnerships with emerging countries like India and Türkiye.

In Figure 16, one can observe that South Africa was the top source market for FDI in Mauritius from 2010 to 2022, having invested in 19 projects worth an estimated ZAR18.97bn. The United States and the United Kingdom were the second and third largest source markets with each recording 14 and 13 projects worth ZAR13.85bn and ZAR2.4bn respectively. Four of the top 10 source markets for FDI into Mauritius were from Europe. In addition to the government's incentives for investments like special economic zones and tax incentives, the country offers investors a stable economic and political environment and a solid judicial system.

Following the economic crisis triggered by the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of projects invested in real estate, which generally accounts for most FDI, contracted. However, when measured by capex, real estate received the most FDI worth ZAR14.11bn. This was followed by the software & IT services, and transportation sectors at ZAR9.88bn and ZAR5.25bn respectively.

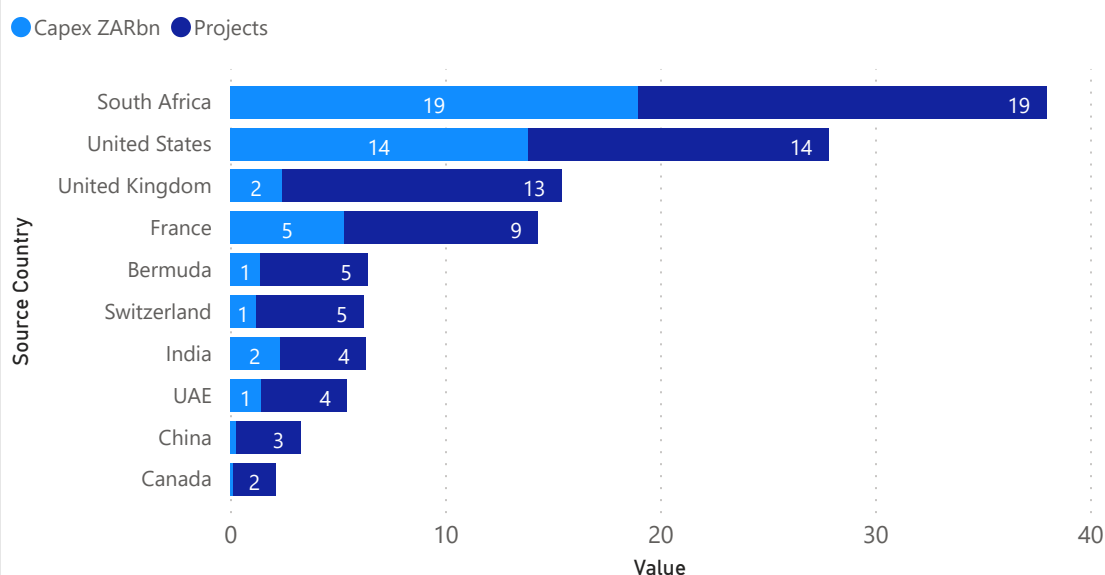
Looking at the number of projects in different sectors, the financial services sector benefited the most with 21 projects. This was followed by the software and IT services sector (17 projects).

Figure 15: FDI in Mauritius, 2010-2022



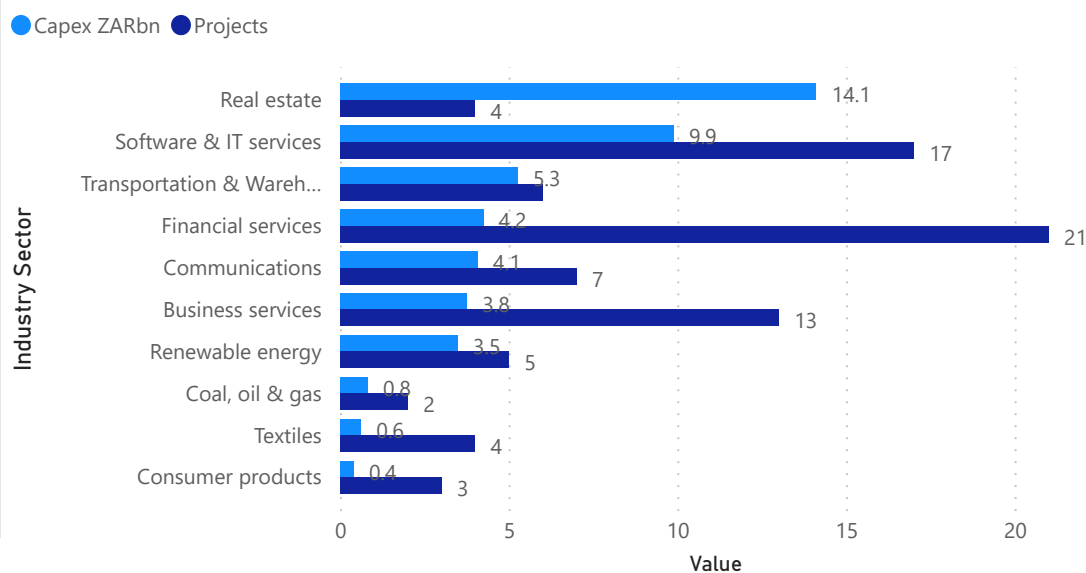
Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Figure 16: FDI in Mauritius by Source Markets, 2010-2021



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Figure 17: FDI in Mauritius according to Sector, 2010-2022

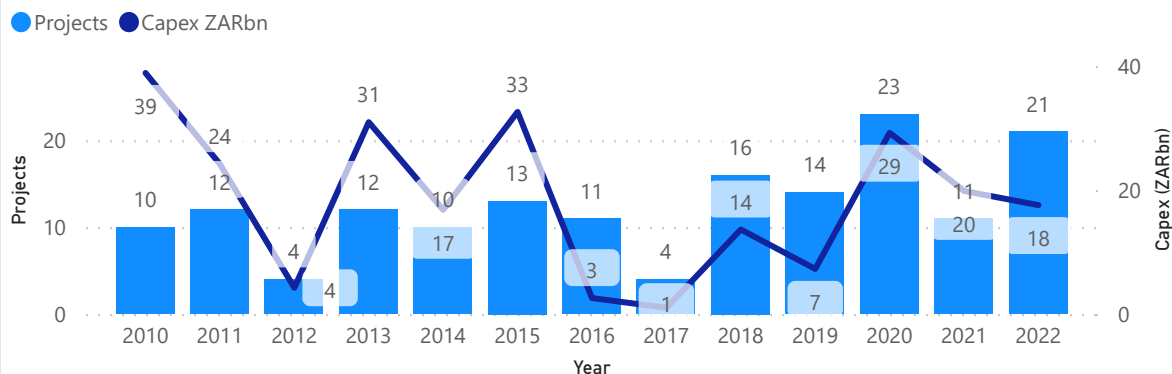


Source: FDI Markets, 2023

### 3.2) Global Outward Foreign Direct Investment (OFDI) From Mauritius

The Mauritian government has imposed no restrictions on capital outflows. However, in the past decade, various global phenomena have caused a worldwide decline in general demand. This can be seen in Figure 18, which shows that the country's total Outward Foreign Direct Investment (OFDI) in terms of capex fluctuated between ZAR38.87bn in 2010 to ZAR17.57bn in 2022. The country invested in 169 projects globally at a total capex value of ZAR238.83bn, which generated 11 795 jobs worldwide over the period analysed.

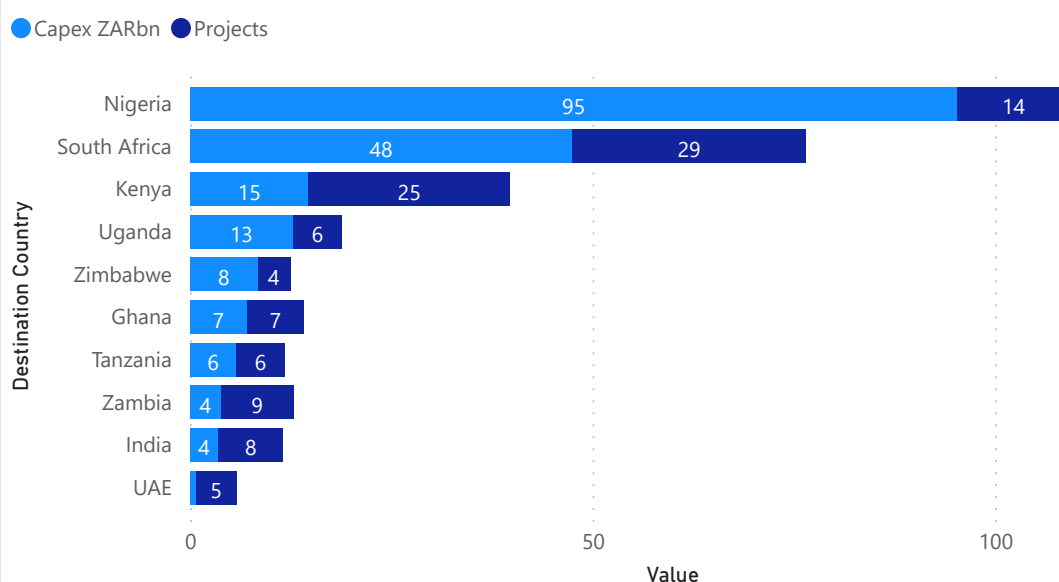
Figure 18: Trends in OFDI from Mauritius, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Due to the small size of the Mauritian economy, the government encourages Mauritian entrepreneurs to invest overseas, particularly in Africa, to expand and grow their businesses. As part of its Africa Strategy, the government of Mauritius established the Mauritius Africa Fund. As can be observed in Figure 19, eight of the top 10 OFDI initiatives from Mauritius landed in African markets. The two largest African economies, Nigeria and South Africa, benefitted the most from Mauritian OFDI during the past 12 years. From 2010 to 2022, a total of 43 projects were invested in, at a combined capex value of ZAR142.86bn, in these two countries. India and the UAE were the only non-African recipients of OFDI from Mauritius during this period.

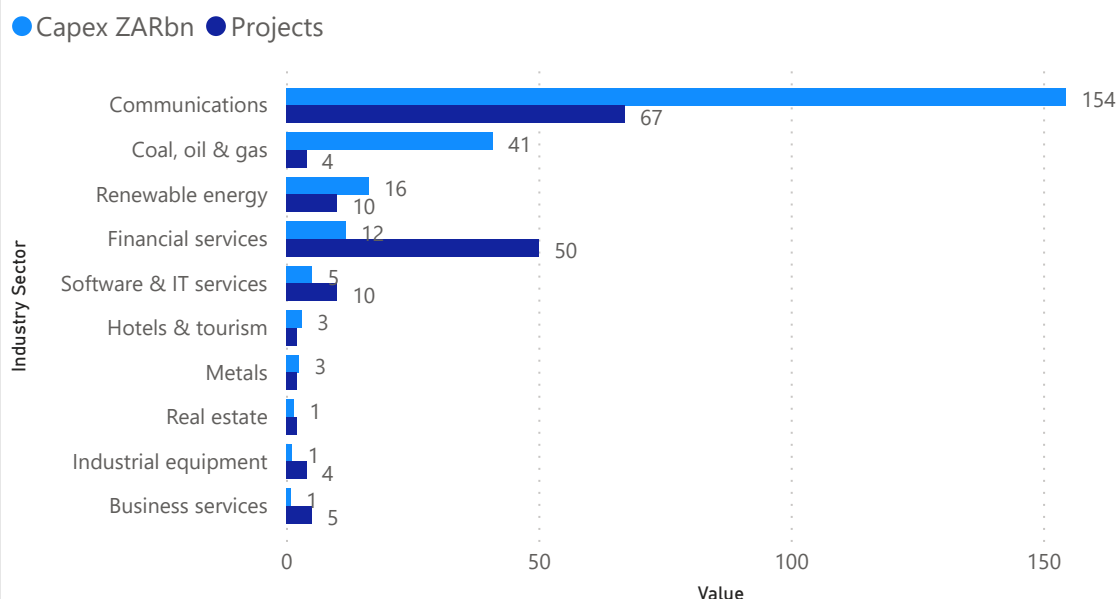
Figure 19: OFDI from Mauritius according to Destination Markets, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

The communications sector was the preferred industry of choice for Mauritian investments abroad. This sector attracted investments worth a capex value of ZAR154.42bn in 67 projects from 2010 to 2022, as shown in Figure 20. Other sectors that benefitted from OFDI from Mauritius were the coal, oil and gas sector, with a value of ZAR40.91bn, and the renewable energy sector with investments to the value of ZAR16.26bn.

Figure 20: OFDI from Mauritius according to Top Sectors, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

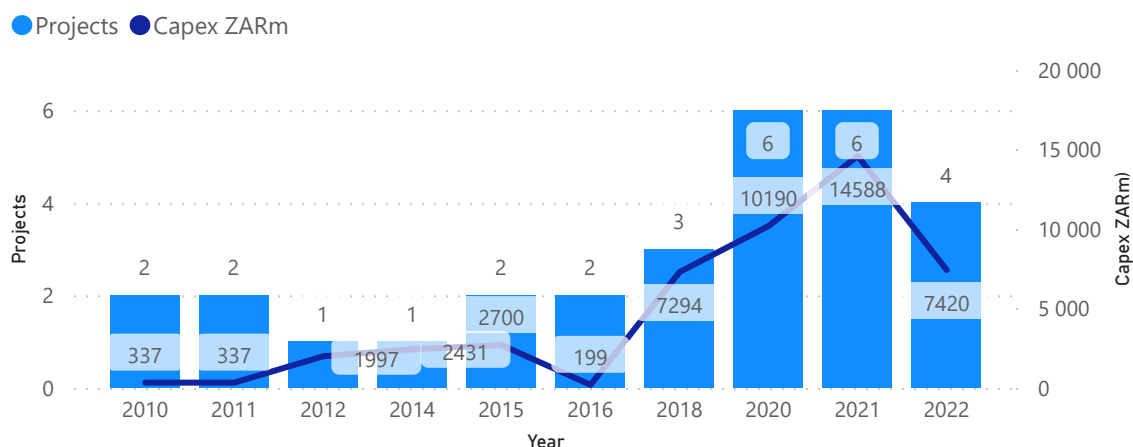


### 3.3) Bilateral FDI: Mauritius' FDI in South Africa

Figure 21 shows that during the last 12 years, Mauritius invested in 29 projects in South Africa, worth a total capex value of ZAR47,495.71m. These generated 1,833 jobs. The country invested in six projects in 2020 and 2021, worth ZAR14,588.34m and ZAR10,190.36m. However, this figure dropped to four projects in 2022, representing a decline of 33.02%.

The surge in FDI from Mauritius in South Africa in 2020 and 2021 was due to the newly signed Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) signed by both countries.

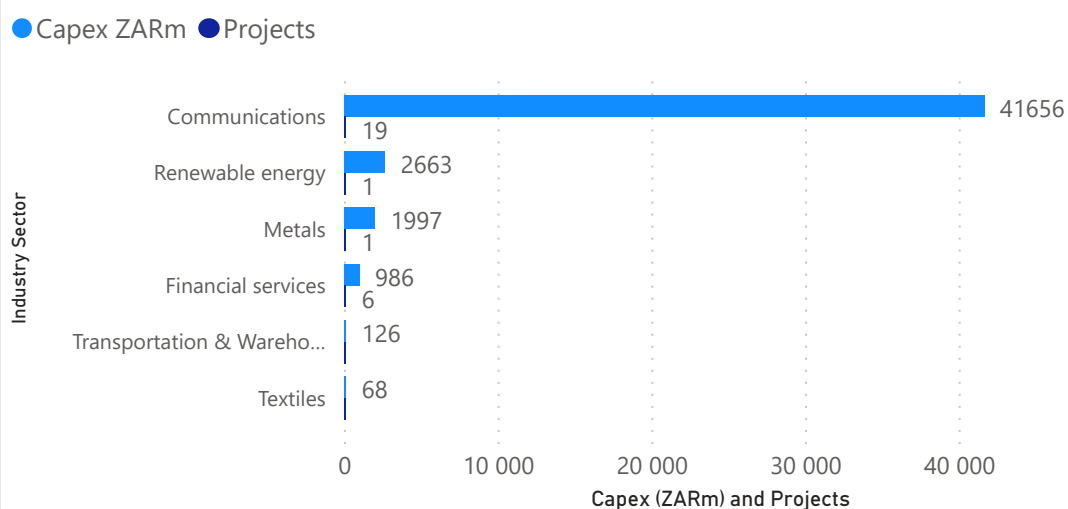
Figure 21: FDI from Mauritius in SA, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

As can be seen in Figure 22, the communications sector in South Africa attracted the most FDI from Mauritius, at a capex value of RZAR41,655.77m. A total of 19 projects in this sector were invested in from 2010 to 2022. Other top sectors benefiting from FDI were renewable energy (ZAR2,633.02m) and metals (ZAR1,997.27m). The financial services industry attracted investments in six projects.

Figure 22: FDI from Mauritius in SA according to Sectors, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Figure 23 shows the top 10 Mauritian companies (by capex) that have invested in South Africa from 2010 to 2022. African Data Centres invested in eight projects in South Africa's communications sector, at a capex value of ZAR19,451.12m and generated 561 jobs. Other Mauritian companies investing in SA were Open Access Data Centres (four projects at a value of ZAR9,725.56m) and Liquid Intelligent Technologies (four projects at a value of ZAR7,616.31m).

Figure 23: Mauritian Companies Investing in SA, 2010-2022

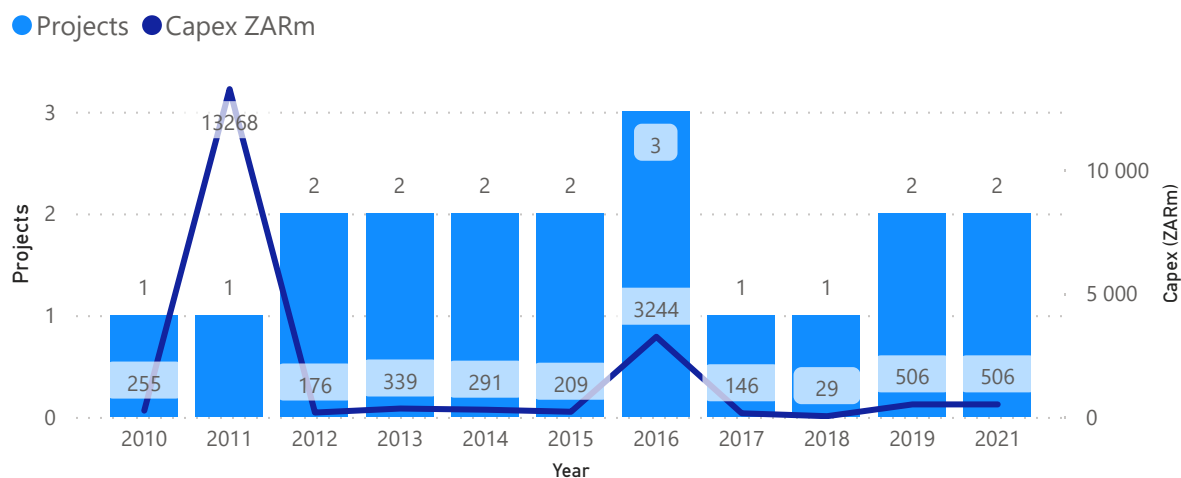
Company name	#Projects	Capex ZARm	Total jobs	Primary sector
Africa Data Centres	8	19 451.12	561	Communications
Open Access Data Centres (OADC)	4	9 725.56	281	Communications
Liquid Intelligent Technologies (Liquid Telecom)	5	7 616.31	216	Communications
DPA Africa Asset-Co	1	2 663.02	21	Financial services
Liquid Telecom South Africa	1	2 431.39	71	Communications
Mauritius Telecom (MT)	1	2 431.39	71	Communications
AfrAsia Bank	4	674.96	84	Financial services
Reinsurance Solutions Group	1	165.67	81	Financial services
Cim Financial Services	1	145.73	22	Renewable energy
Hyvec Group	1	67.53	51	Textiles
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>45 372.68</b>	<b>1459</b>	

Source: FDI Markets, 2023

### 3.4) Bilateral FDI: South Africa's FDI in Mauritius

FDI from South Africa in Mauritius reached its peak in 2011, when a capex value of ZAR13,267.57m was invested, as shown in Figure 24. This was caused by an influx of South African investments in the real estate sector in Mauritius. However, FDI from South Africa hit rock bottom (apart from a slight increase in 2016 due to changes in Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) and stricter regulations for foreign investors in the real estate sector. This was exacerbated by a global decline in investor confidence in the real estate sector.

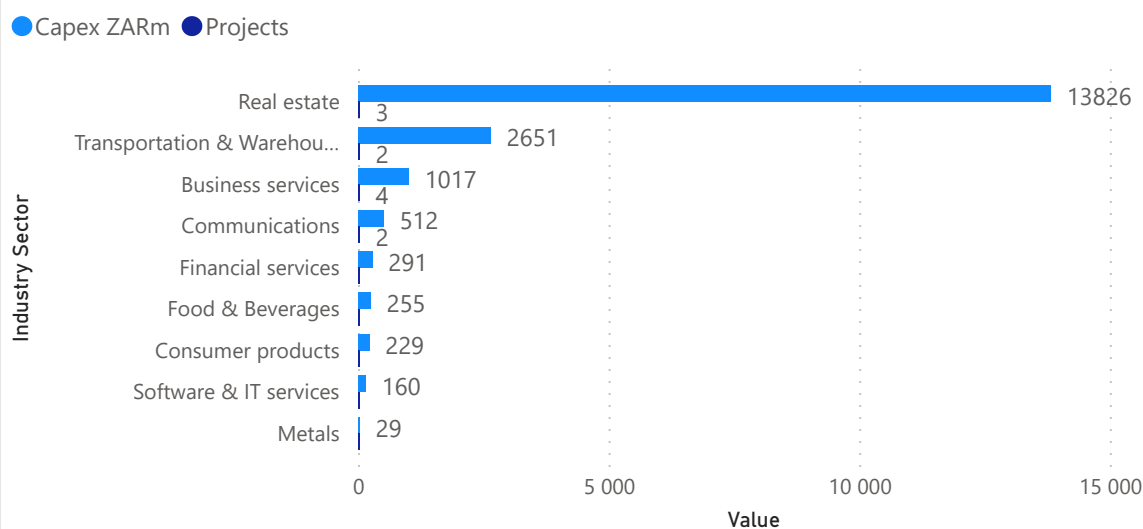
Figure 24: FDI from SA in Mauritius, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

As noted above, figure 25 shows that the real estate sector in Mauritius attracted the most FDI from South Africa, at a capex value of ZAR13,825.94m from 2010 to 2022. The transport sector benefited from FDI worth ZAR2,650.75m, and the business services sector attracted investments worth ZAR1,017.04m. The financial services, communications, food & beverages and consumer products sectors also attracted FDI from South Africa.

Figure 25: FDI from SA in Mauritius according to Sector, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Figure 26 lists the South African companies that have invested in Mauritius over the last 12 years. Atterbury Property Developments invested in one capital-intensive project in the real estate sector, at a capex value of ZAR13,267.57m. Other companies listed here, such as Bowmans (Bowman Gilfillan) and Eclipse Communications also made significant investments in Mauritius.

Figure 26: SA Companies Investing in Mauritius, 2010-2022

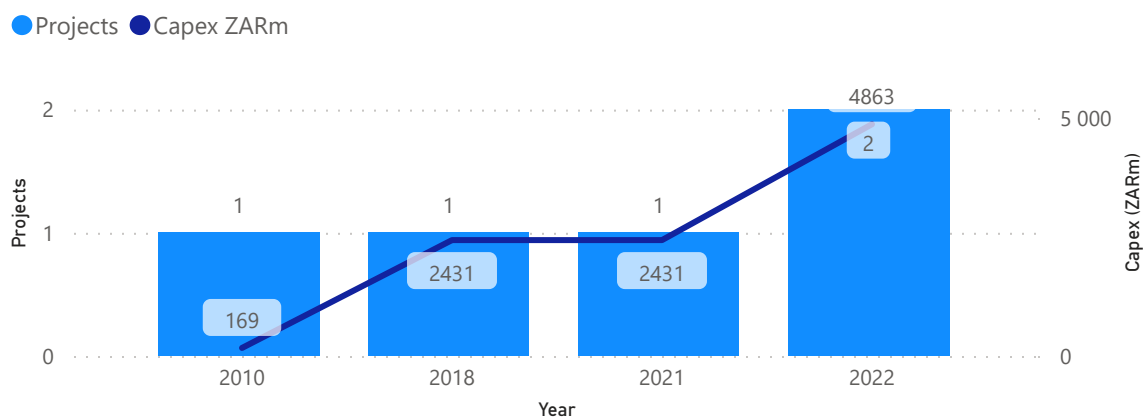
Company name	#Projects	Capex ZARm	Total jobs	Primary sector
Atterbury Property Developments	1	13 267.57	875	Real estate
Bowmans (Bowman Gilfillan)	1	426.45	30	Business services
Eclipse Communications	1	426.45	30	Communications
Broll Property Group	1	279.19	18	Real estate
Carrick Wealth	1	145.73	21	Financial services
Black Rhino	1	125.79	20	Transportation & Warehousing
Don't Waste Services	1	104.31	15	Business services
Comztek	1	72.13	36	Communications
Edward Nathan Sonnenbergs (ENS)	1	59.83	30	Business services
African Medallion Group (AMG)	1	29.15	8	Metals
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>1083</b>	

Source: FDI Markets, 2023

### 3.5) Bilateral FDI: Mauritius' FDI in the Western Cape (WC)

Figure 27 shows that from 2010 to 2022, Mauritius invested in five projects in the Western Cape at a value of ZAR9,894.30m, which generated 301 jobs. FDI from Mauritius reached a peak in 2022 when ZAR4,862.78m was invested in two projects.

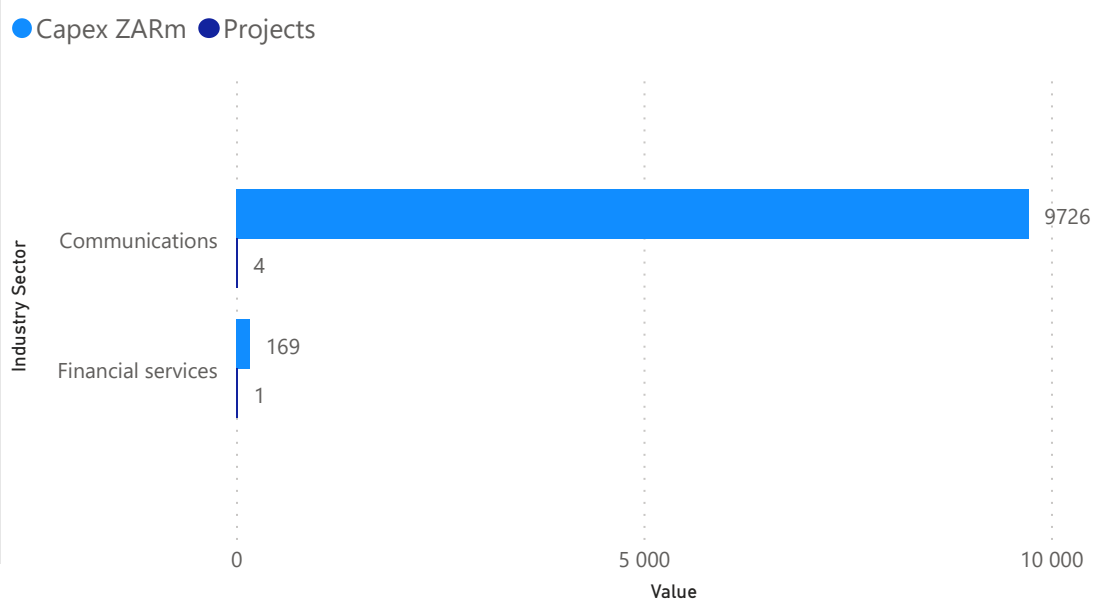
Figure 27: FDI from Mauritius in WC, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

The Western Cape's communications sector was the largest recipient of FDI from Mauritius. Figure 28 shows that a total of ZAR9,726.03m was invested in four projects in this sector. The financial services sector attracted FDI worth ZAR169.03m in one project.

Figure 28: FDI from Mauritius in WC according to Sector, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Figure 29 lists the Mauritian companies that invested in the Western Cape from 2010 to 2022. These were African Data Centres and Open Access Data Centres, each investing in two projects worth ZAR4,862.78m. AfrAsia Bank invested in one project.

Figure 29: Mauritian Companies Investing in WC, 2010-2022

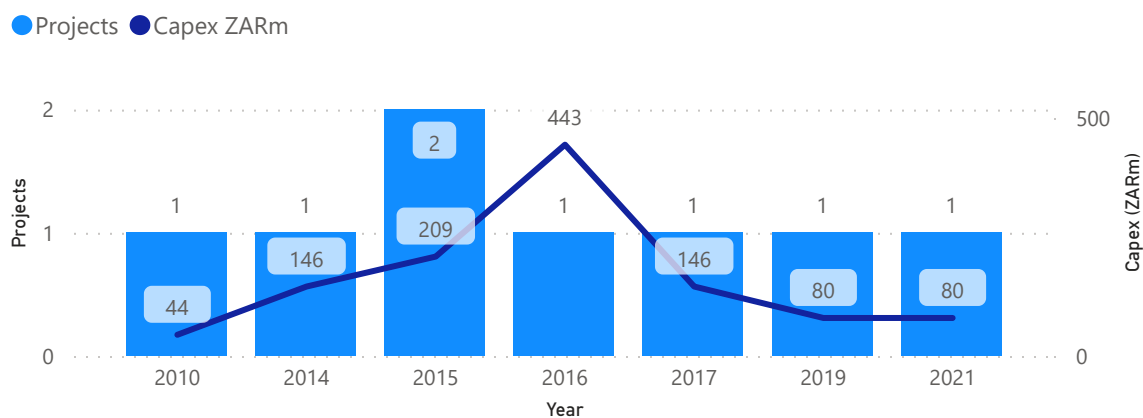
Company name	#Projects	Capex ZARm	Total jobs	Primary sector
Africa Data Centres	2	4 862.78	140	Communications
Open Access Data Centres (OADC)	2	4 862.78	140	Communications
AfrAsia Bank	1	168.74	21	Financial services

Source: FDI Markets, 2023

### 3.6) Bilateral FDI: Western Cape in Mauritius

In Figure 30, one can see that the Western Cape invested in eight projects worth ZAR1,147.44m in Mauritius between 2010 and December 2022. Eight Western Cape companies invested in these projects which generated 701 jobs. A surge in FDI in 2015 and 2016 was aided by Mauritius' well-developed financial services sector and a favourable tax environment which may have attracted investors.

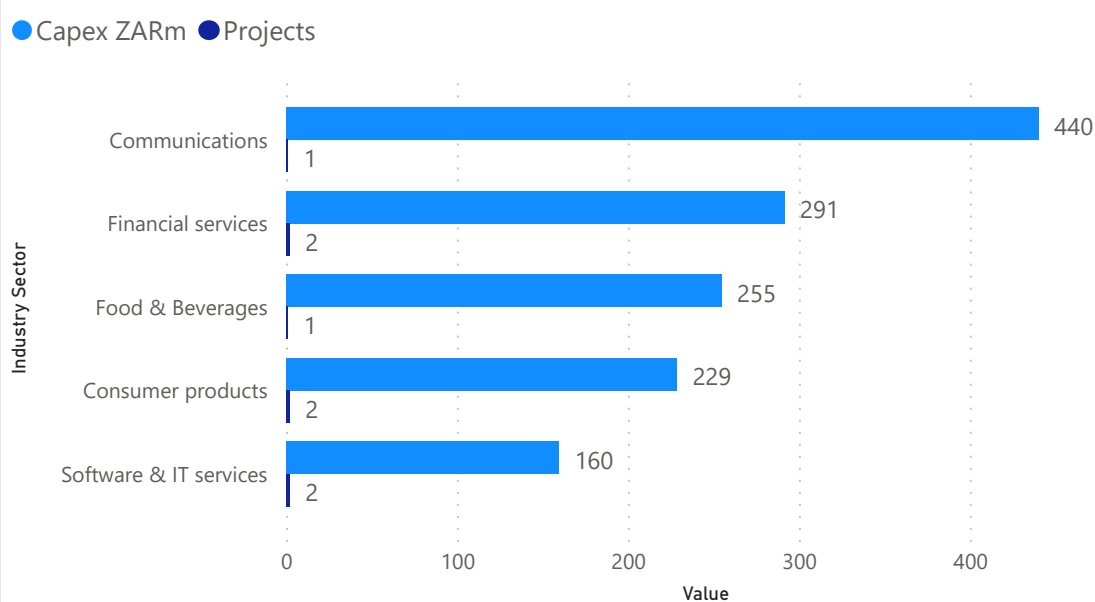
Figure 30: FDI from WC in Mauritius, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Most of the capital expenditure from the Western Cape (ZAR440.26m) was invested in one project in Mauritius' communications sector, as shown in Figure 31. The financial services sector attracted ZAR291.46m in FDI from the Western Cape and the food and beverages sector benefited from ZAR255m in FDI. The Western Cape invested in two projects in each of these sectors: financial services, software and IT services; and consumer products.

Figure 31: FDI from WC in Mauritius according to Sector, 2010-2022



Source: FDI Markets, 2023

Network Unlimited was the top Western Cape investor in Mauritius during this period, as shown in Figure 32. The company invested in one project in the Mauritian communications sector with an associated ZAR440.26m in capex and thereby creating 91 jobs. Pick n' Pay followed similar pattern, investing in one project in the food and beverages sector with a total capex of ZAR254.64m, while Carrick Wealth invested in one project in the financial services sector with a total capex of ZAR145.73m. Other WC companies investing in Mauritius during this period are listed in Figure 32.

Figure 32: WC Companies Investing in Mauritius, 2010-2022

Company name	#Projects	Capex ZARm	Total jobs	Primary sector
Networks Unlimited	1	440.26	91	Communications
Pick n Pay	1	254.64	177	Food & Beverages
Woolworths (South Africa)	1	165.67	318	Consumer products
Carrick Wealth	1	145.73	21	Financial services
Sanlam Private Wealth	1	145.73	21	Financial services
Merlin Software for Vacation Ownership	1	79.77	18	Software & IT services
Peach Payments	1	79.77	18	Software & IT services
HomeChoice	1	62.89	37	Consumer products
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1 374.46</b>	<b>701</b>	

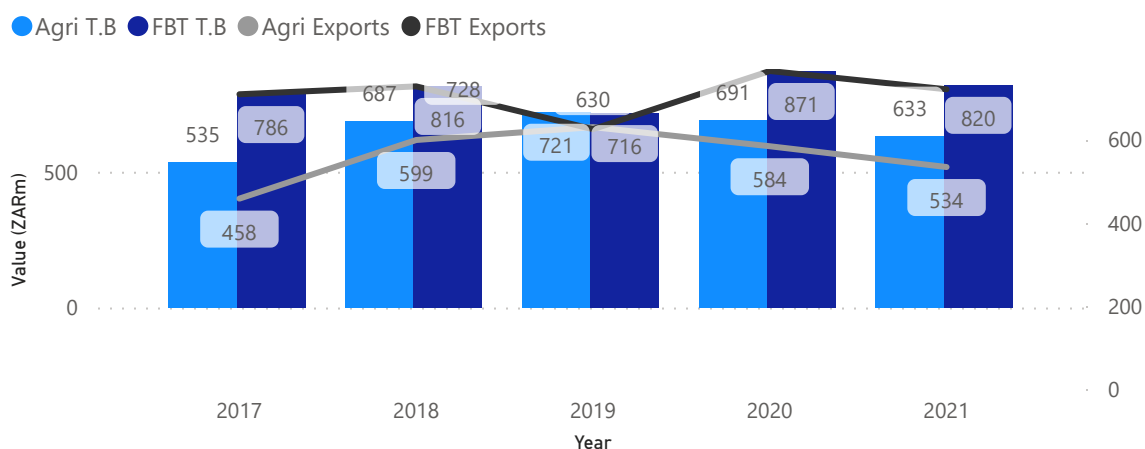
Source: FDI Markets, 2023

## 4) Western Cape's Agribusiness Trade with Mauritius

As Figure 33 indicates, the Western Cape was a net exporter of primary agricultural products, and food, beverages, and tobacco. As the agribusiness hub of South Africa the province recorded a trade surplus of ZAR534.44m in 2021 in the agricultural sector; and a trade surplus in the food, beverages and tobacco sector valued at ZAR702.47m.

Most products that were exported to Mauritius were those in which the province had a comparative advantage, including deciduous fruits and wines.

Figure 33: WC's Agriculture and Food, Beverage and Tobacco (FBT) Trade with Mauritius, 2017-2021

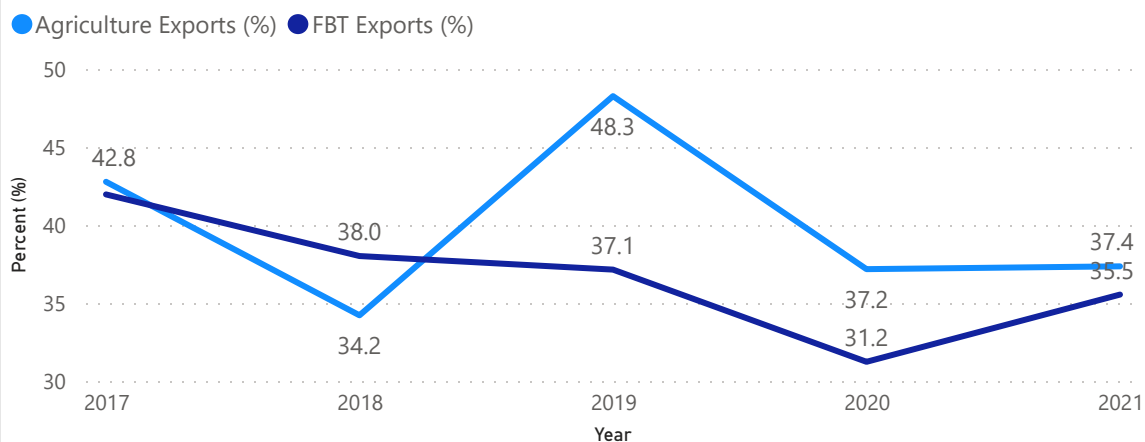


Source: Quantec, 2022

The Western Cape accounted for most of South Africa's agribusiness exports to Mauritius as shown in Figure 34. This represented an average annual share of 39.95% of primary agricultural exports and 36.78% of food, beverage, and tobacco exports over the period 2017 to 2021.

The Western Cape's share of agribusiness exports with Mauritius increased significantly in 2019, when the province accounted for 48.26% of primary agriculture exports (up from 34.21% in 2018). When the agriculture sector combined with the food, beverages, and tobacco sector to form the agribusiness sector, the Western Cape was responsible for a five-year annual average share of 76.73% of the national agribusiness exports to Mauritius.

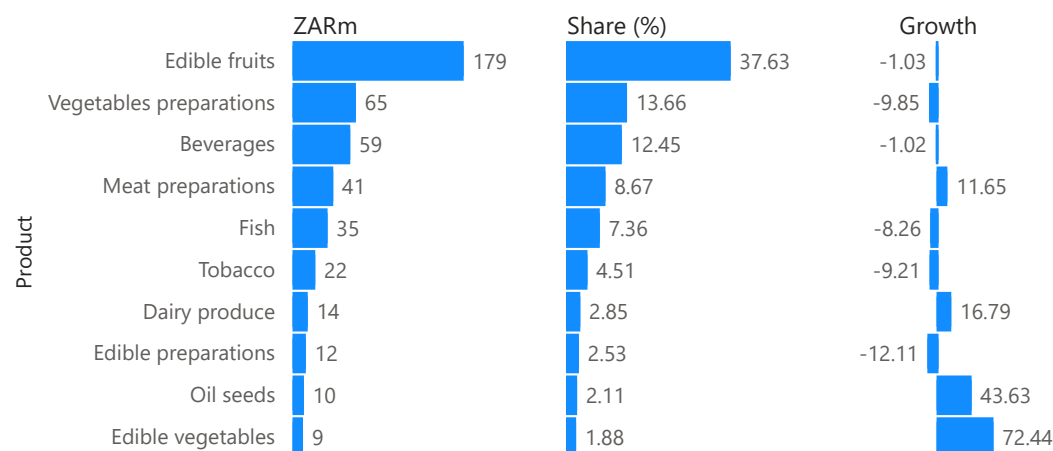
Figure 34: WC's Share of National Agri and Food, Beverage and Tobacco (FBT) exports to Mauritius, 2017-2021



Source: Quantec, 2022

Edible fruits was the largest agricultural export from the Western Cape to Mauritius, which at an export value of ZAR179m accounted for a 37.63% share. Other noteworthy agricultural exports were vegetable preparations (ZAR65m) and beverages (ZAR59m), which grew at an average rate of 13.66% and 12.45% per annum respectively, from 2017 to 2021. Out of the top 10 agricultural exports to Mauritius, edible vegetables grew at the highest average annual rate of 72.44%.

Figure 35: Top Agri Exports from WC to Mauritius, 2021: (Average Growth: 2017-2021)



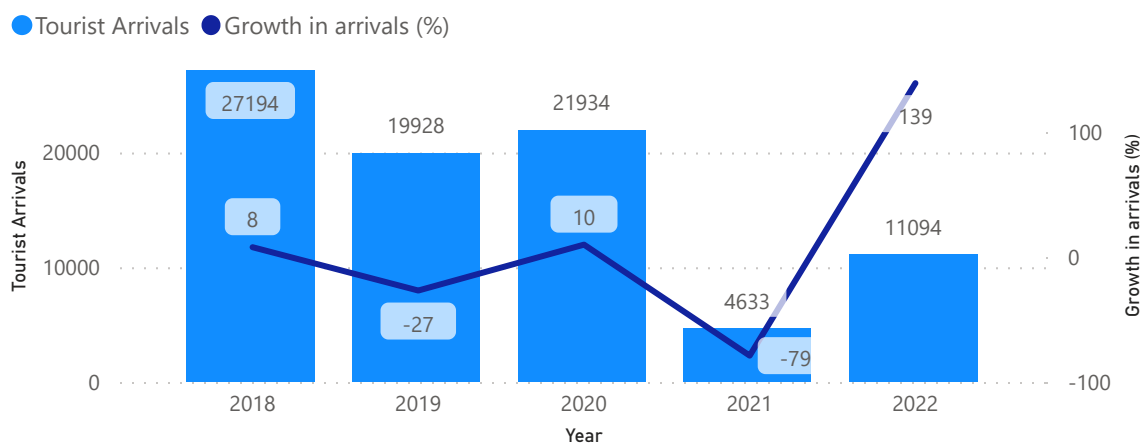
Source: Quantec, 2022



## 5) Tourism: South Africa and Western Cape Tourism Flows with Mauritius

Figure 36 shows that from 2017 to 2021, the greatest number of Mauritian tourists (27,194) visited the country in 2018. In 2019 this figure dropped to 19,928, only to increase by 10% to 21,934 in 2020. Post Covid-19, tourist arrivals increased by 707% in 2022 when just more than 11,000 tourists visited the country.

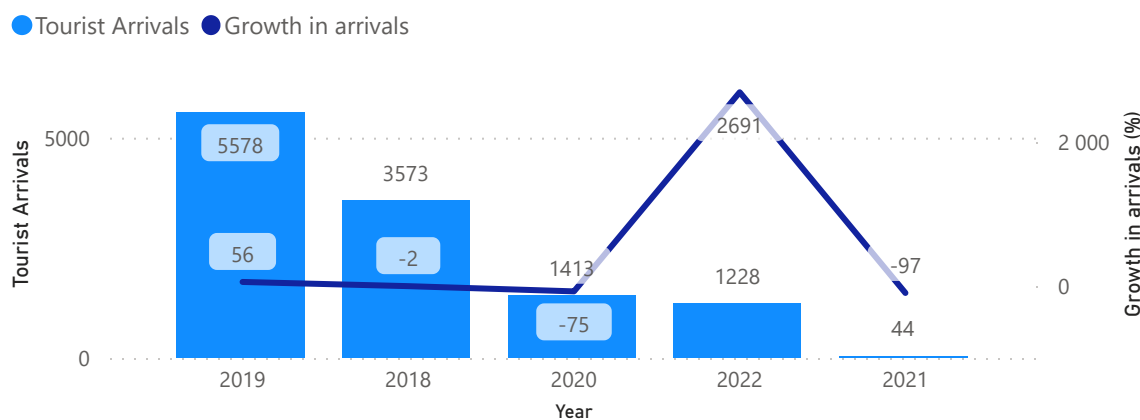
Figure 36: Mauritian Tourist Arrivals to SA, 2017-2022



Source: South African Tourism, 2023

Figure 37 indicates that post-Covid, there has been a strong recovery in the number of Mauritian tourists arriving at Cape Town International Airport (CTIA). In 2022, 1,228 tourists arrived, reflecting a 2,691% increase on the previous year.

Figure 38: Mauritian Passenger Movement Through Cape Town International Airport, 2017-2021



Source: StatsSA, 2022

### DISCLAIMER:

Wesgro has taken every effort to ensure that the information in this publication is accurate. We provide said information without representation or warranty whatsoever, whether expressed or implied. It is the responsibility of users of this publication to satisfy themselves of the accuracy of information contained herein. Wesgro cannot be held responsible for the contents of the publication in any way.

© Wesgro, 2023