

CELEBRATING AFRICA DAY

HOW TO USE

1. Select an African region on this map.
2. Choose a country you wish to view.
3. Tap the navigation buttons below each page to explore Africa.



GOVERNMENT



ECONOMY



DEMOGRAPHICS



HEALTH CARE



DID YOU KNOW?



Best viewed on a PC using Adobe Acrobat Reader. Click to download for your device or visit <https://get.adobe.com/reader> (some functionality may be restricted on mobile devices).

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* Geographic delineations are purely for navigation purposes.



* Geographic delineations are purely for navigation purposes.



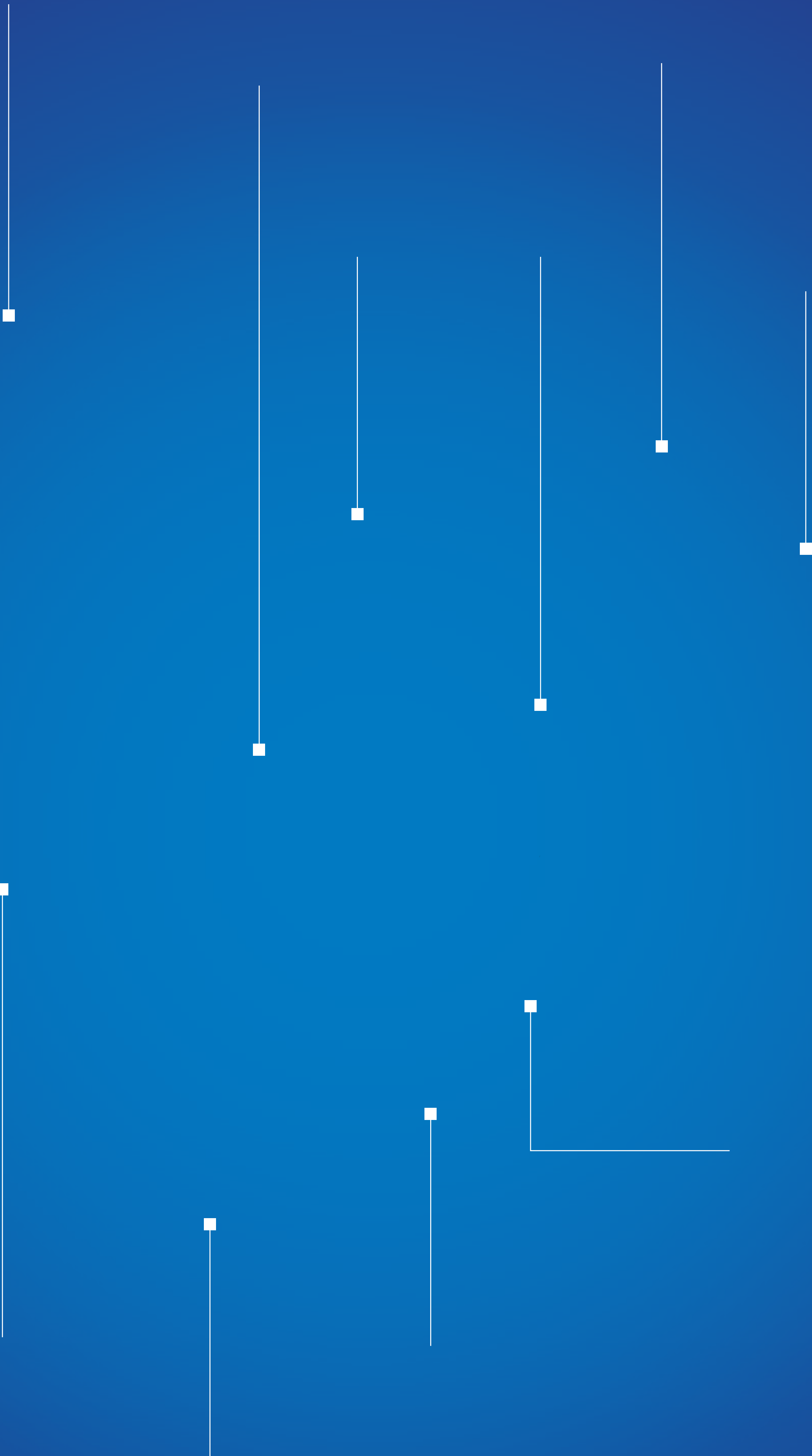
* Geographic delineations are purely for navigation purposes.



* Geographic delineations are purely for navigation purposes.

*** Geographic delineations are purely for navigation purposes.**

EAST AFRICA



* Geographic delineations are purely for navigation purposes.

MATRIX GROUP



The Sum of Us

WHO IS MATRIX GROUP?

Matrix Communications Group (Pty) Ltd is an Integrated Marketing and Communications holding company with a footprint in Pretoria, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban in South Africa with collaborations with agencies in Kenya and Nigeria. The group has interests in several specialist marketing agencies in research, strategy, public relations, corporate communications, creative, media strategy, media planning and buying, video production and business turnaround.

People are at the heart of what we do and this is evident in the specialist agencies we've acquired over the last nine months. The specialist companies focus on research, shopper marketing, media, digital, production, and most recently a creative agency, SoulProviders Collective. The group's strategy has been to set up a vertically driven, fully integrated marketing and communications offering for clients.

Our strength and ability is built on respect for self, and for each other, and this allows us to connect on a human level. Our new tagline 'The sum of us' talks to the essence of the real and authentic relationships we have built with our teams and current partners. The team is committed to building one another up and this will enable us to elegantly achieve purpose-built solutions for our partners. We listen, understand and engage.

The group's medium-term goal is to set up a future-fit business ready to position itself as a pan-African business. To achieve this, the group has partnered with Isaac Nkama, a renowned and respected foresight strategist and professional futurist, to establish a consultancy called Africa Foresight Consulting, and Zindi, a group of African data scientists who will help make sense of the numbers.



WWW.MATRIXGROUP.CO.ZA



GOOD GOVERNANCE AFRICA



WHY DOES GOOD GOVERNANCE AFRICA EXIST?

We aim to improve governance performance across the continent; to inform and persuade the policy community that transparency and accountability are the basic building blocks of successful development; to strengthen the rule of law; and to build an active citizenry that institutionalises constraints on executive power. Why? Because improved governance results in better economic, social and environmental performance, which leads to greater wellbeing for all citizens.



WHAT DOES GOOD GOVERNANCE AFRICA DO?

We conduct high-quality research to complement the building of more inclusive political settlements across the continent. Our research is demand-driven and provides an evidence base for building practicable policies that enhance productive and allocative efficiency. We are passionate about solving the challenges of environmental degradation, climate change, and mass youth unemployment, which combine to undermine human security and ecological integrity.



WHAT DOES GOOD GOVERNANCE AFRICA BELIEVE?

We believe that building inclusive political settlements will help to overcome the collective action failures that lead to human rights abuses, corruption and undermining the rule of law; that African countries have an opportunity to leapfrog their industrialised counterparts through pursuing development models that promote green industrialisation and enhance ecological integrity simultaneously; and that we can play an integral role in realising these objectives.

EXPLORE WHAT WE OFFER BELOW

AFRICA IN FACT
JOURNAL

AFRICA DIGITAL
DATABANK

GOVERNANCE
REPORTS

WATCH OUR
WEBINARS

DISCLAIMERS
AND CREDITS



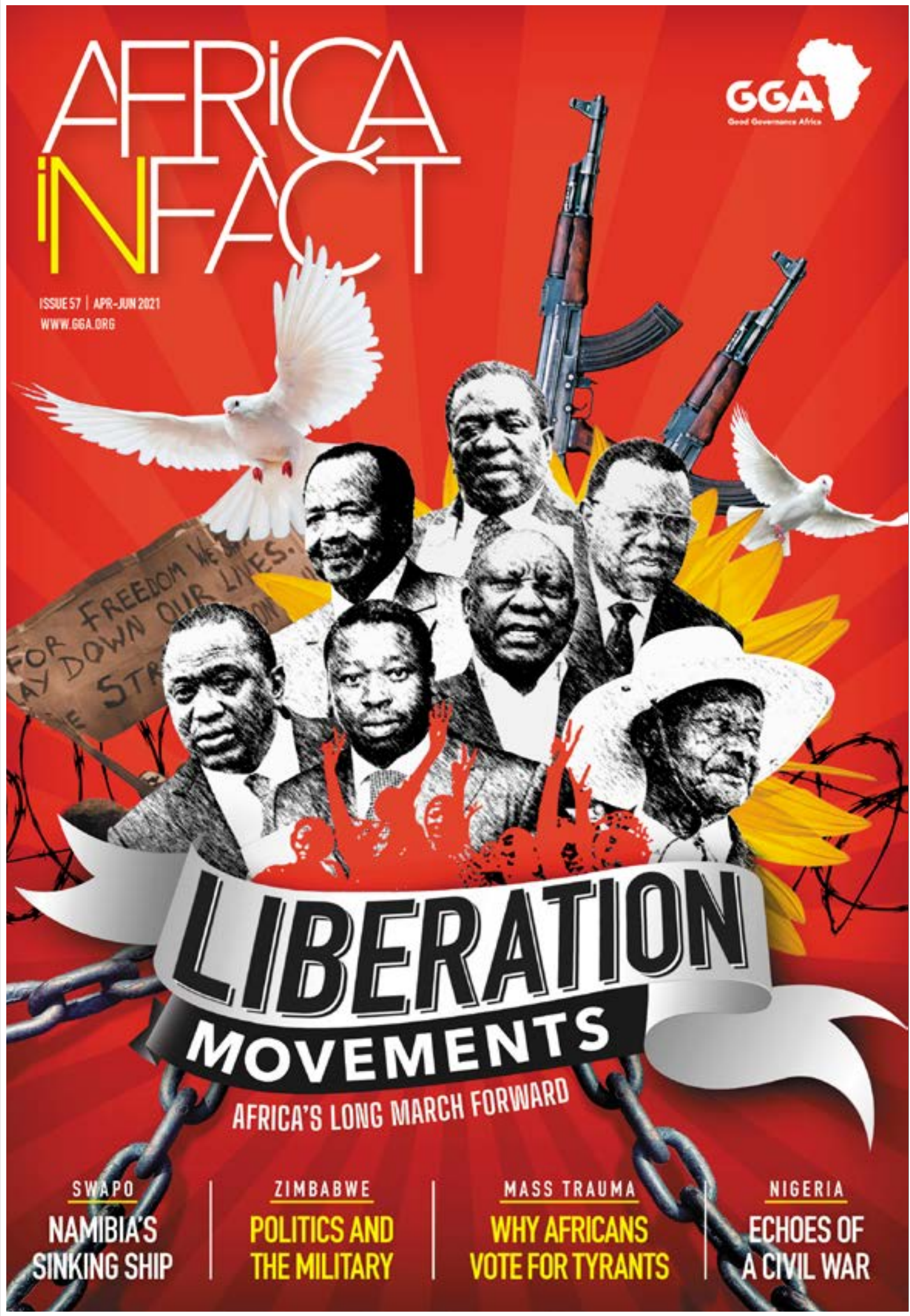
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GOOD GOVERNANCE AFRICA
CENTRES AND COVERAGE

IN PROUD
ASSOCIATION WITH:



AFRICA IN FACT



TAP TO
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ONLINE

WHAT PROBLEM DO WE SOLVE WITH AFRICA IN FACT?

Africa in Fact is a quarterly magazine published by Good Governance Africa (GGA), a non-profit organisation founded in 2012 to promote good governance and the rule of law across the continent.

WHAT IS THE PRODUCT?

Africa in Fact, which is available in three digital formats on GGA's website, was initially conceptualised as a hybrid publication, designed to provide readers with the authoritative, fact-based content of a traditional peer-reviewed journal combined with the readability of more mainstream quality magazines that cover contemporary socio-economic and political issues.

AFRICA IN FACT – SO WHAT?

Each edition of *Africa in Fact* is themed; recent examples include an examination of the media in Africa, health, the environment, the illicit arms trade, and women and gender. Providing a theme for each edition allows us to cover a particular topic from many different angles, offering a unique combination of accessible analyses and on-the ground reporting. All our content is also designed to offer a fact-based departure for readers seeking to find out more about the state of governance in Africa today.

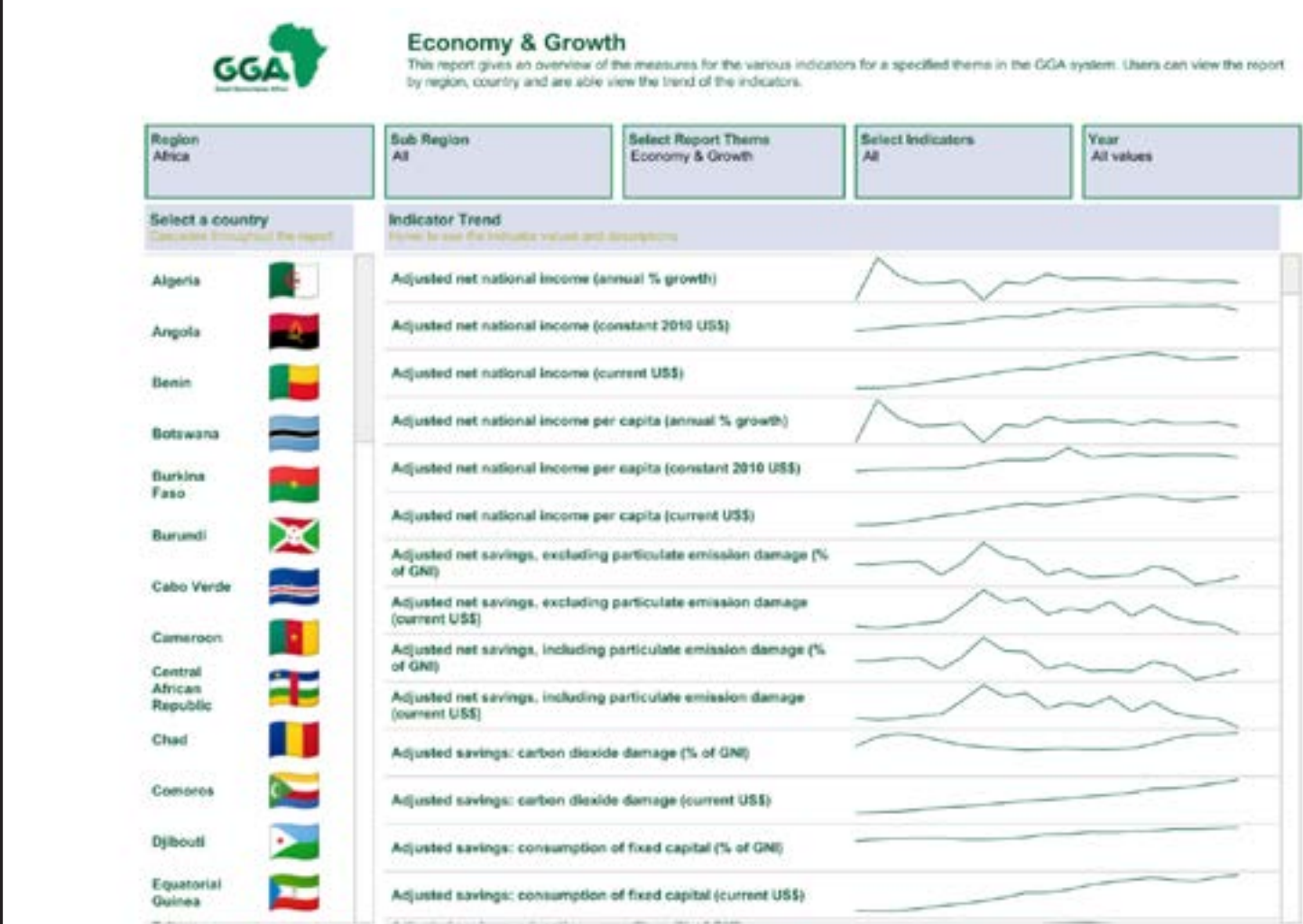
EXAMPLE OF ITS CAPABILITIES?

Africa in Fact particularly prides itself in providing world-class, quality journalism commissioned from some of the most authoritative thought leaders, analysts and journalists from across the African continent and beyond, expressed in a digital product format, interactive PDF format, and a blended digital analysis and data format.



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AFRICA DIGITAL DATABANK



WHAT PROBLEM DO WE SOLVE WITH THE AFRICA DIGITAL DATABANK?

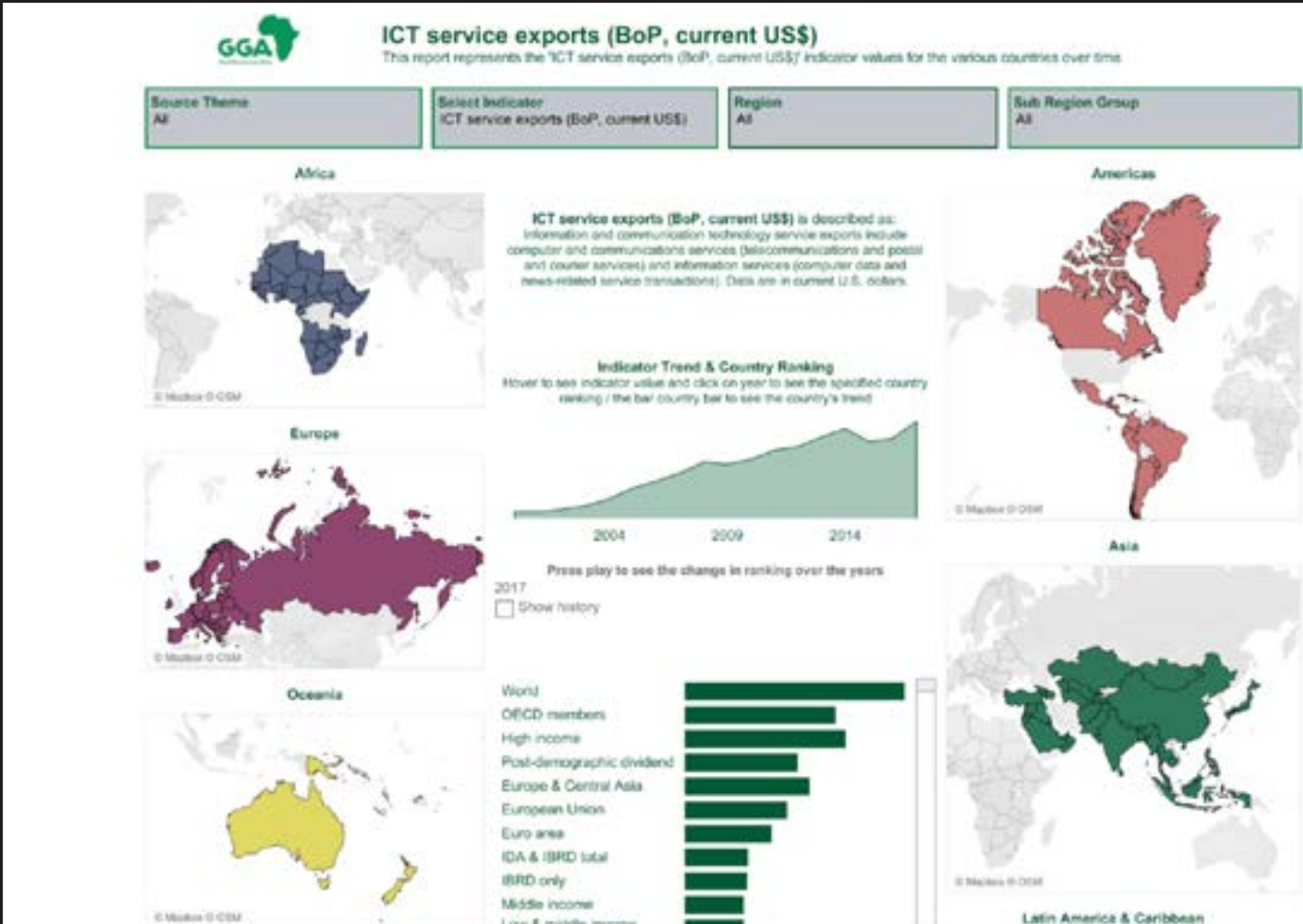
Instead of having to retrieve, clean and restructure data from disparate sources, we offer a single, integrated bank of clean data sourced from multiple datasets. Using our product will save researchers time and money. Regression analysis to provide the most parsimonious explanations for relationships between variables of interest is no longer a sweat but a joy. If you're after efficiency, you've come to the right place.

WHAT IS THE PRODUCT?

In short, we at GGA have developed a searchable DATABANK product that ingests disparate data into one databank with API functionality and metadata coding. The big idea is to **SAVE TIME** by accessing one integrated databank that solves the problems of **EFFICIENCY** and **CENTRALITY** of reference and analytic execution.

AFRICA DIGITAL DATABANK – SO WHAT?

The Africa Digital Databank amplifies its value in the **FUNCTIONALITY** and **SEAMLESS** user interfaces that persuade our customers to generally consult with the GGA Insights and Analytics team. This team is designed to unearth the insights relevant to your business requirements. In other words, we offer data-driven, bespoke visualisations and business intelligence alongside subscription access to the ADD itself.



EXAMPLE OF ITS CAPABILITIES?

All DATA displayed in all formats in the GGA Africa Day 2021 interactive map demonstrate the capabilities of the GGA Africa Digital Databank.



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THE GOVERNANCE REPORT



THE GOVERNANCE REPORT



The state of local governance in South Africa

As South Africa prepares for the upcoming Local Government Elections on the 27th of October 2021, the contested nature of local government will be highlighted. The next few months will provide the electorate with an opportunity to assess governance effectiveness at the most local level, where it matters most.

SOUTH AFRICA

WHAT PROBLEM DO WE SOLVE WITH THE GOVERNANCE REPORT?

The Governance Report offers a platform for frequent insight, debate and a pleasant appetiser to resources that are distributed to who, where, how and when on the African continent.

WHAT IS THE PRODUCT?

The product comprises long-form pieces looking at governance and/or lack thereof; it encourages users to participate in webinars, and intense analyses where users are able to engage with the topic and the author.

THE GOVERNANCE REPORT – SO WHAT?

Frequent analyses, insight and debate-stirring content is a reason for daily attraction of audiences that range from political analysts, academics to ambassadorial staff and C-Suite executive decision makers.

EXAMPLE OF ITS CAPABILITIES?

The salient country reports are contributed by The Governance Report platform, providing an accurate view of the continent. It also provides the opportunity for independent authors to contribute, engage and offer a contextual perspective on governance.

WICKED CONVERSATIONS



REVERSING THE RESOURCE CURSE

TAP TO
READ ALL
THE ARTICLES
ONLINE



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GGA WEBINARS





FACING REALITY:
THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF THE
REFORM AGENDA AND NEED
FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON ZIMBABWE
PUBLIC WEBINAR

TUE 30 MARCH | 15H00 - 17H00 CAT





WEBINAR
SAVE THE DATE
21 January 2021

Good Governance Africa invites you to join us for a web
'Mining in Fragile Jurisdiction'

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

GGA WEBINARS

Good Governance Africa holds regular webinars on a range of issues relevant to the continent, such as governance and policy development, natural resources, climate change and human rights and national security.



Stephen Buchanan-Clarke
Head of GGA's Human Securities
and Climate Change Programmes



**TAP TO
WATCH OUR
WEBINARS
ONLINE**



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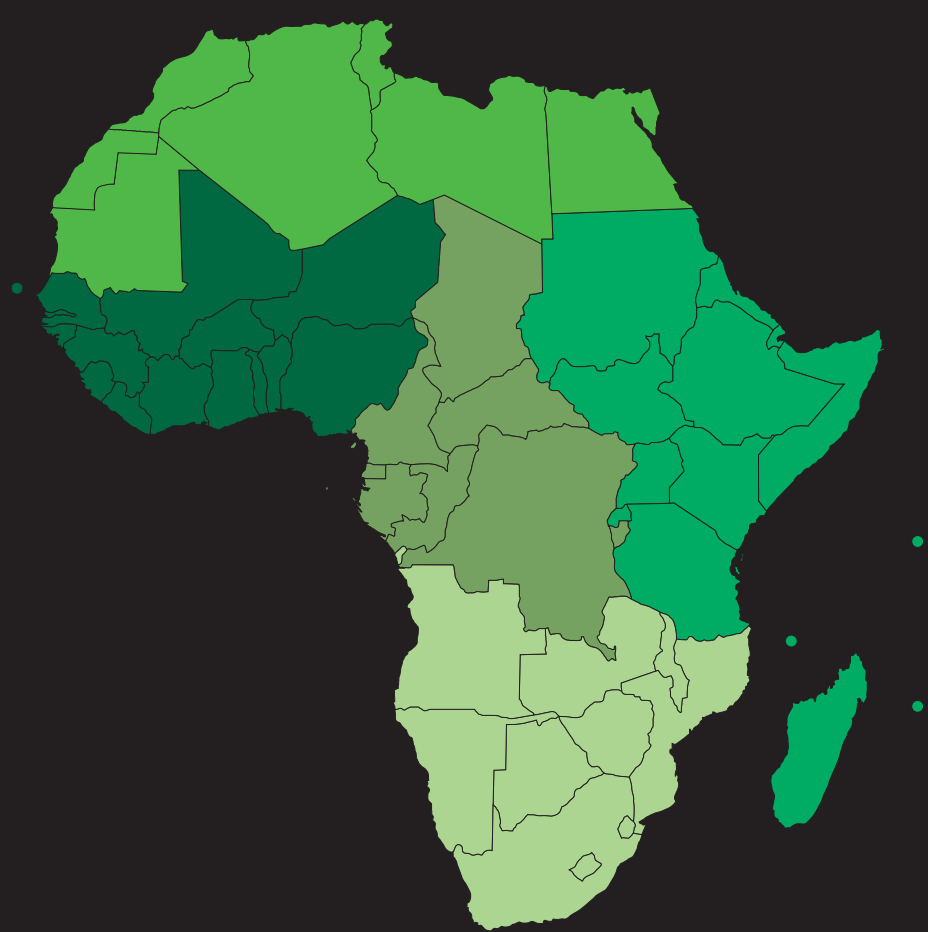
DISCLAIMERS AND CREDITS

DOES THE MAP REPRESENT THOSE DEFINED BY THE 55 AFRICA UNION MEMBER STATES?

No, the geographic delineations used on the maps in this document are purely for navigation purposes and do not represent the 55 Africa Union (AU) Member States of the African continent.

The AU Member States are divided into five geographic regions, which were defined by the OAU in 1976 (CM/Res.464QCXVI).

The following list shows all members states grouped by region, in abbreviated alphabetical order.



CENTRAL AFRICA	EASTERN AFRICA	NORTHERN AFRICA	SOUTHERN AFRICA	WESTERN AFRICA
Burundi Cameroon Central African Republic Chad Congo Republic DR Congo Equatorial Guinea Gabon São Tomé and Príncipe	Comoros Djibouti Eritrea Ethiopia Kenya Madagascar Mauritius Rwanda Seychelles Somalia South Sudan Sudan Tanzania Uganda	Algeria Egypt Libya Mauritania Morocco Tunisia Western Sahara	Angola Botswana Eswatini Lesotho Malawi Mozambique Namibia South Africa Zambia Zimbabwe	Benin Burkina Faso Cabo Verde Côte d'Ivoire Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Liberia Mali Niger Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone The Gambia Togo

DISCLAIMER

All information in this document was collated primarily from the list of sources below, and was checked for accuracy, to the best of our ability, by the time of publication deadline on 19 May 2021.

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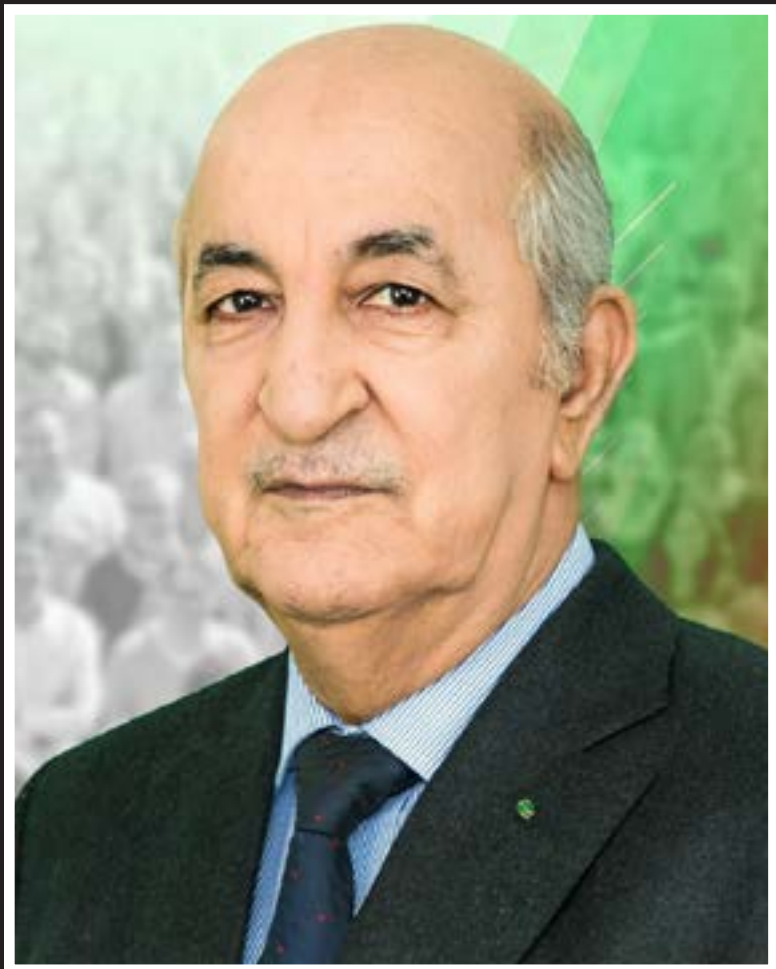
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ALGERIA

Algeria is the largest country in North Africa, stretching from the Mediterranean coast and extending southwards into the Sahara Desert. It covers nearly 2.4 million km², four times the size of France. About 90% of Algerians live along the northern coastline. Algeria an integral part of the Maghreb and the larger Arab world, but the country is also home to the Amazigh (Berber) population, which constitutes about one quarter of the population and is concentrated in the mainly mountainous areas of Kabylia. Algeria’s history spans thousands of years; it was once ruled by the Roman Empire, Byzantine, Germanic vandal societies and the Turkish Ottoman Empire. After a century of rule by France, Algeria became independent in 1962 and Arabic became the official language. The official Algerian currency is the Dinar.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Abdelmadjid Tebboune

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Algiers

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

114

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

2



MAIN LANGUAGES

Algerian Arabic
and Berber

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary semi-presidential constitutional republic



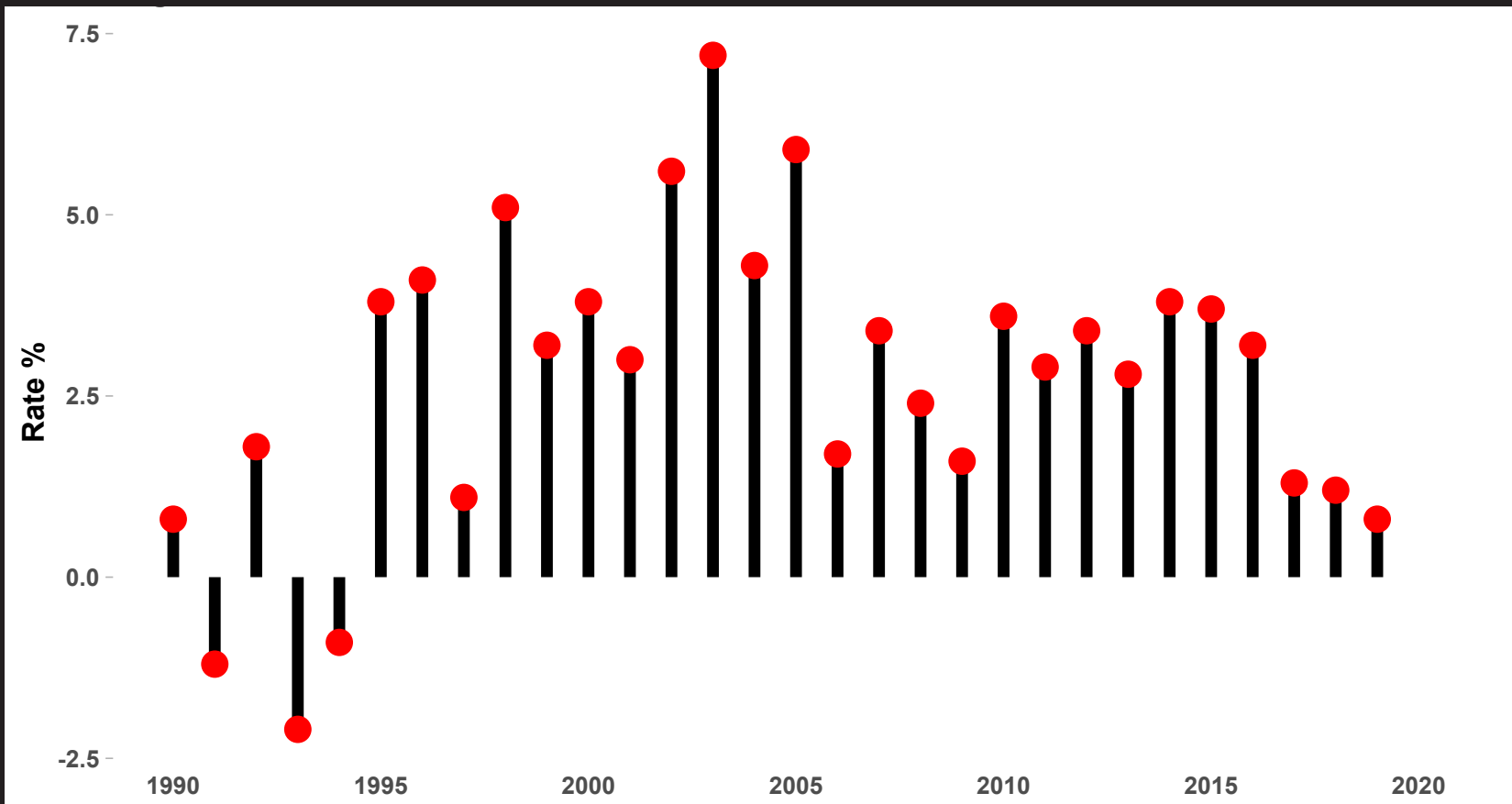
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
National Liberation Front



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Islamist Movement of Society
for Peace

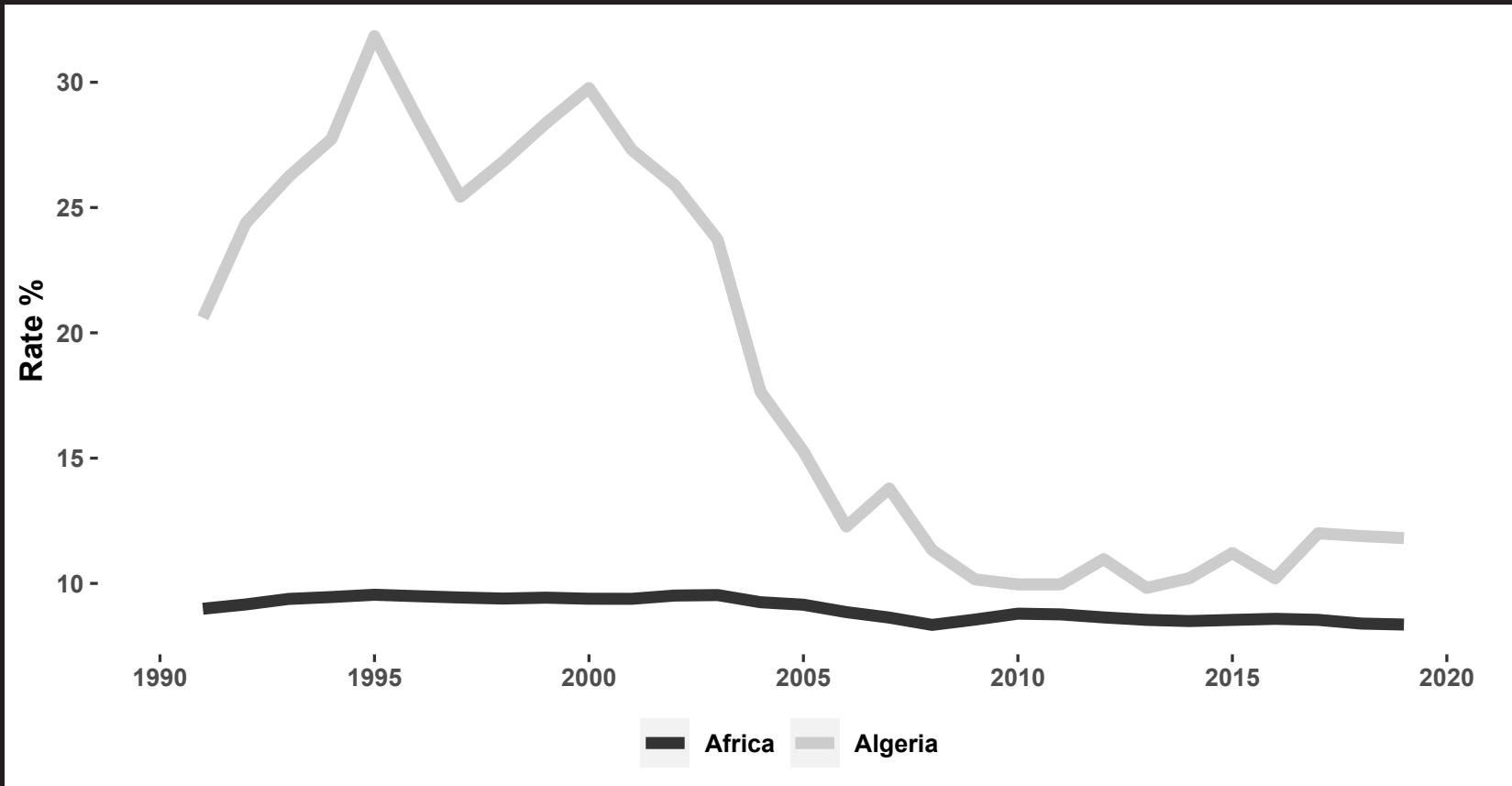
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



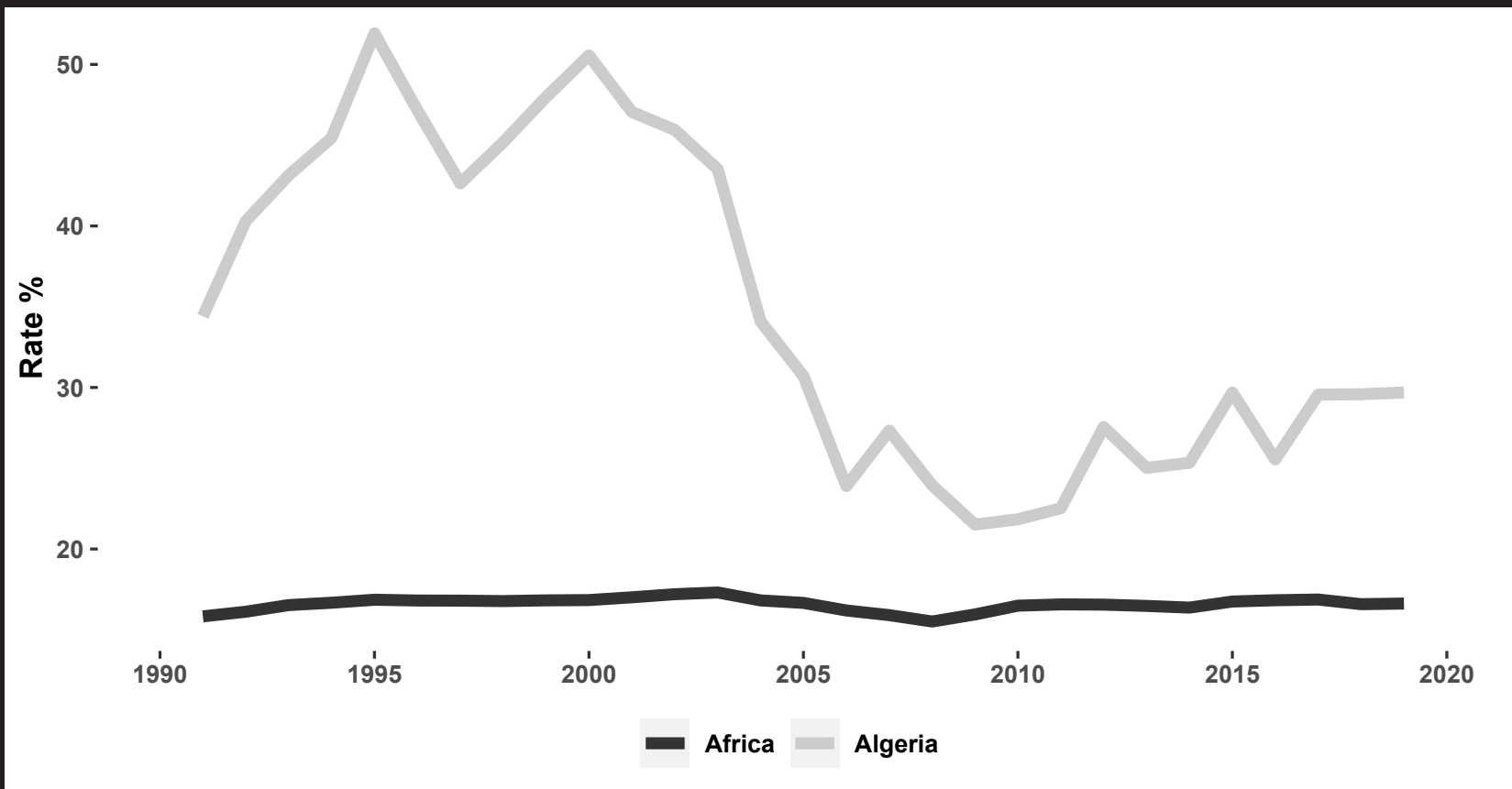
After a brief period of erratic economic growth in the early 1990s, Algeria has seen continuous growth since 1995.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



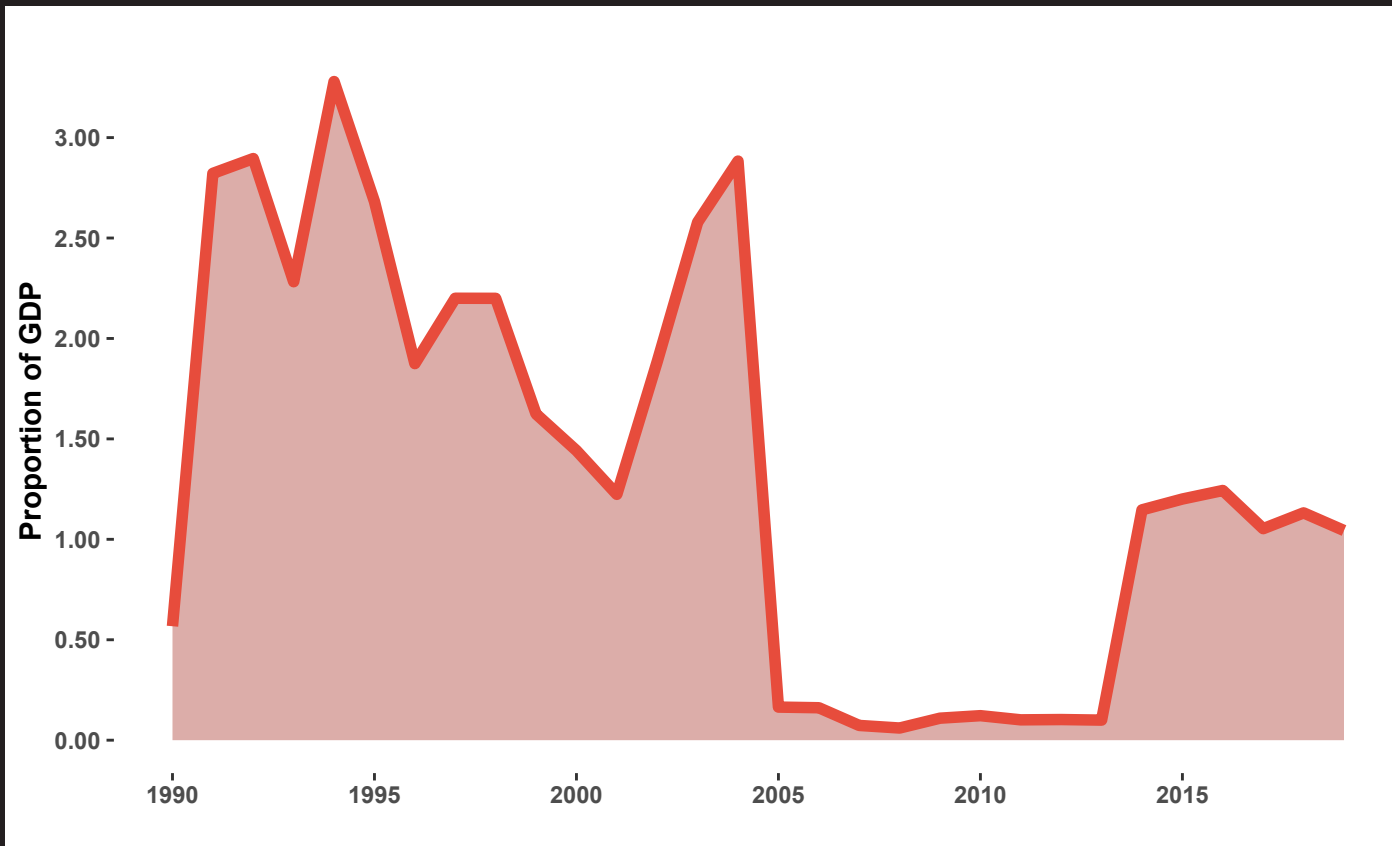
The consistent economic growth that Algeria has experienced has contributed to a rapid decline in the unemployment rate over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Consistent economic growth has contributed to a rapid decline in youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$1.785 billion

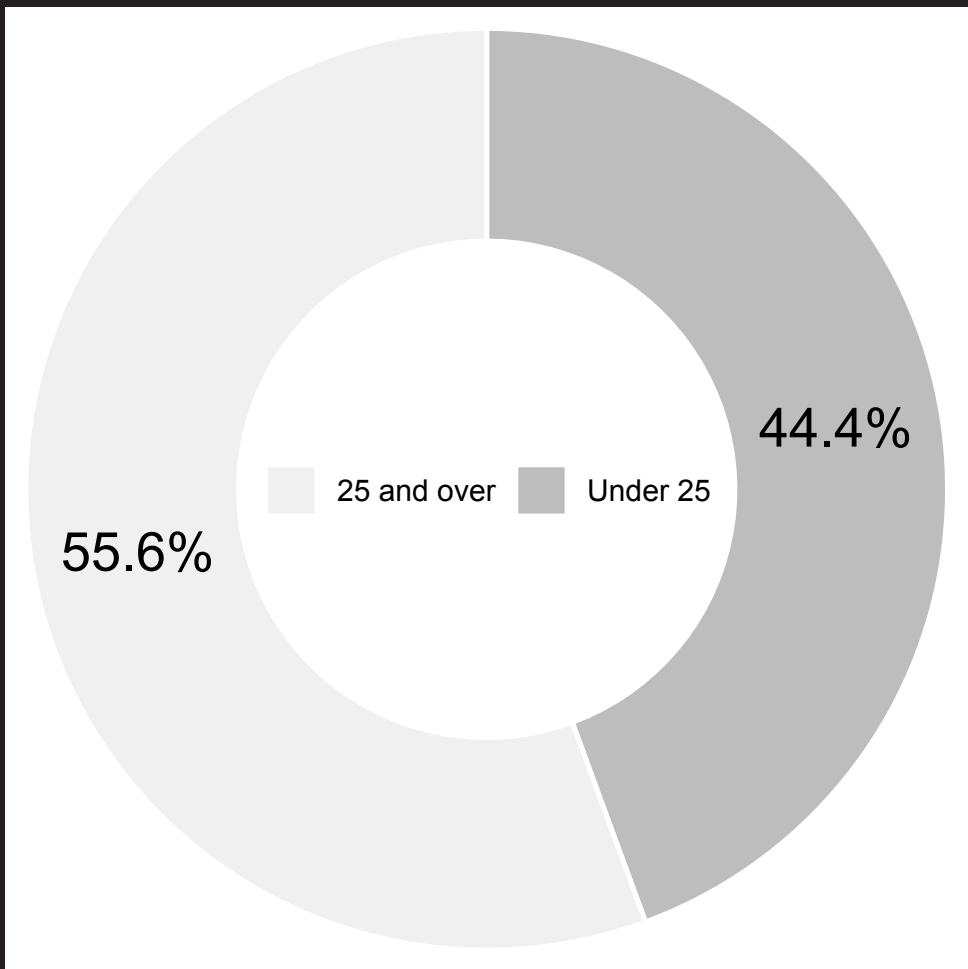
which represents

1.04% of GDP

Algeria has become less reliant on remittances received over time.

DEMOGRAPHICS

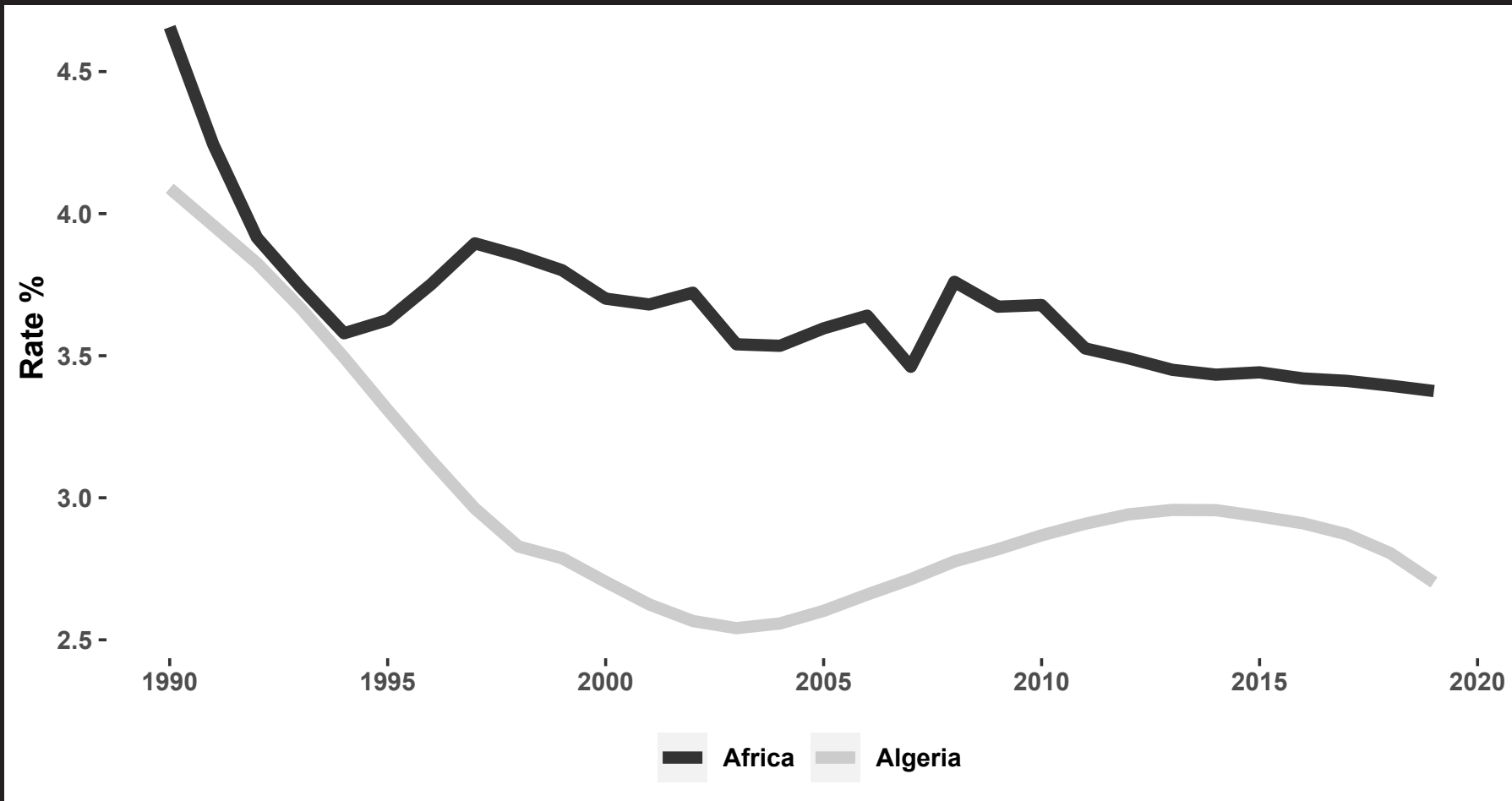
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



43.1 million

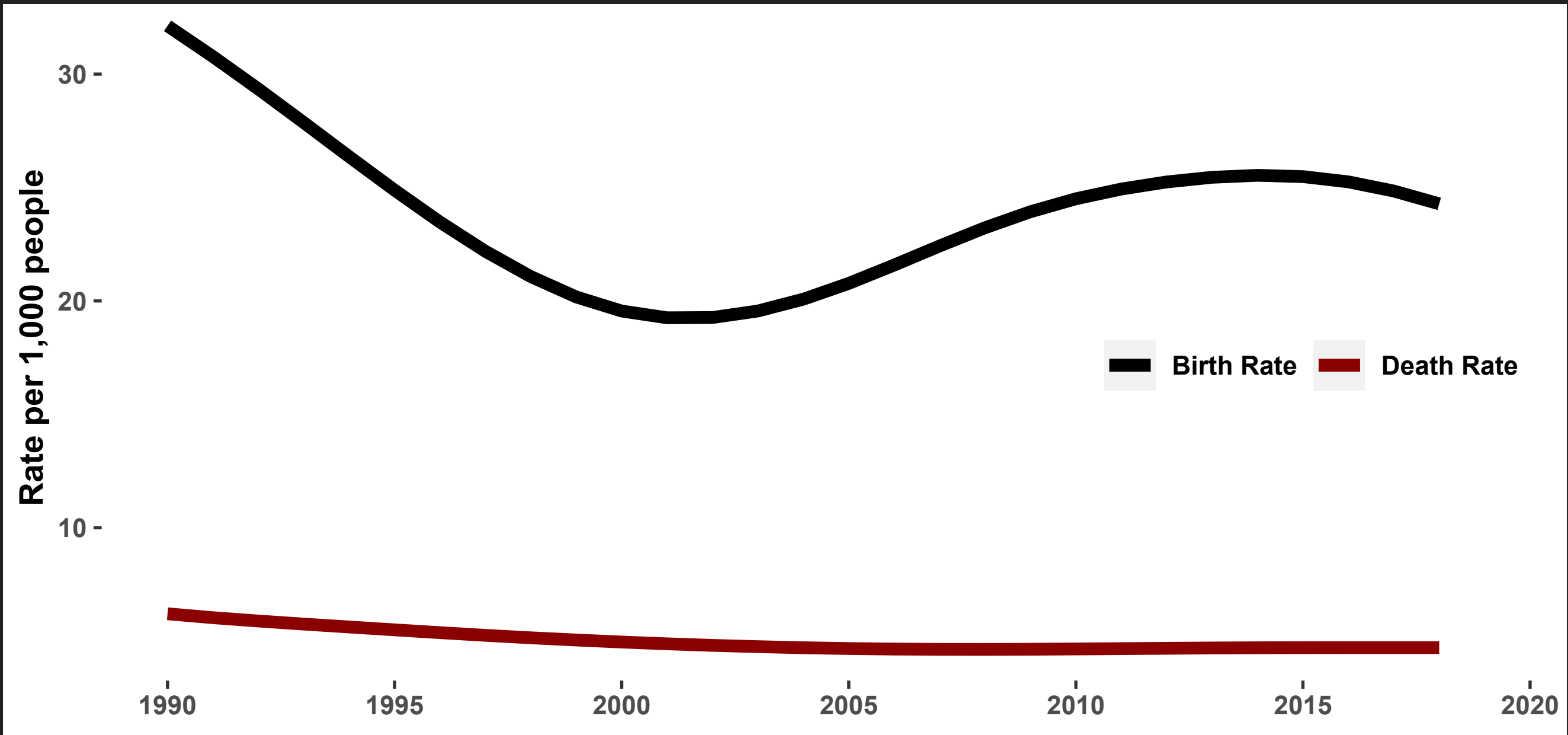
The country has more people over-25 than under-25. Algeria is one of only nine African countries where this is the case.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



While still an urbanising country, Algeria is doing so at a much slower rate compared to the African average.

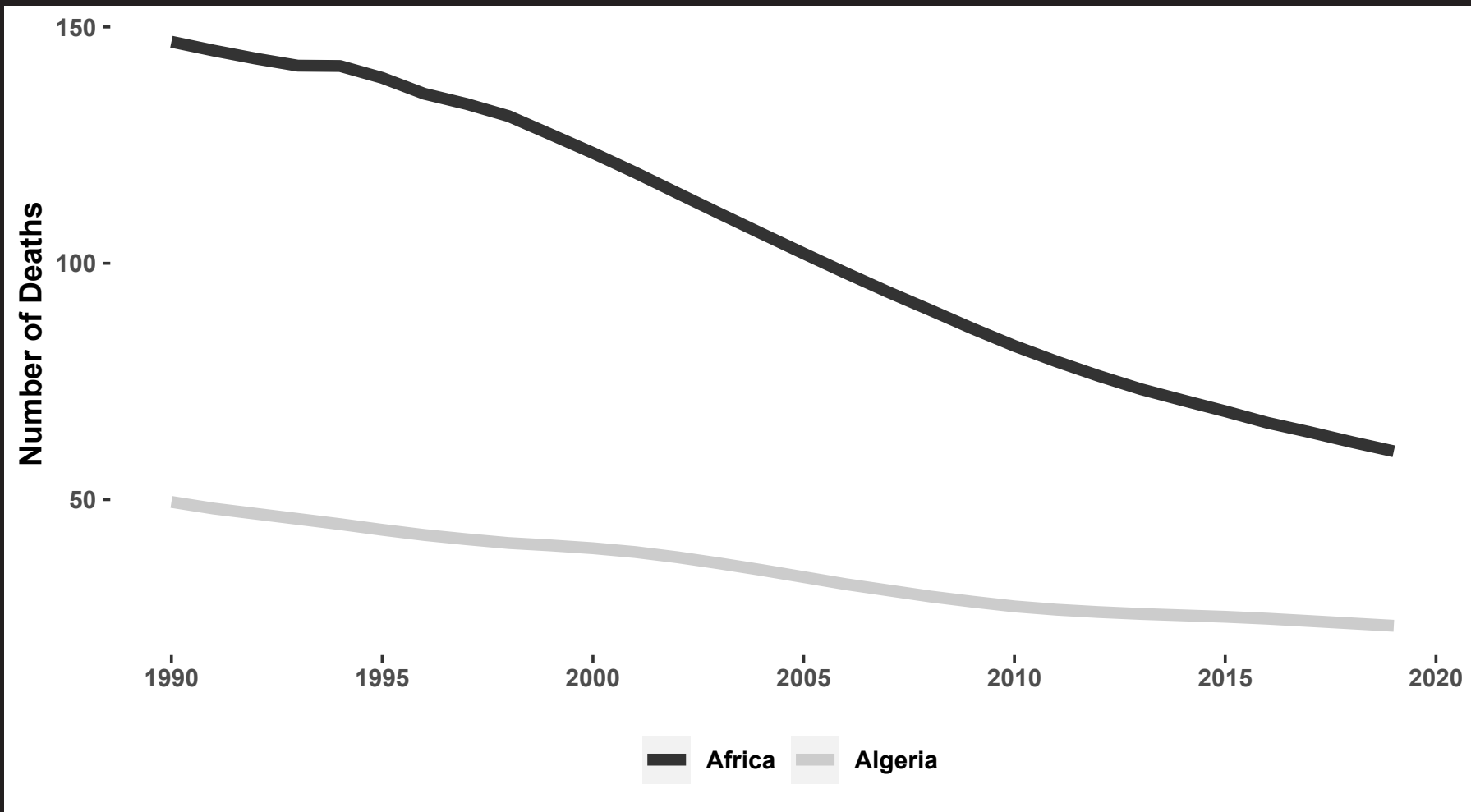
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Algeria has one of the lowest death rates on the continent. This, coupled with a fluctuating birth rate, has contributed to steady population growth.

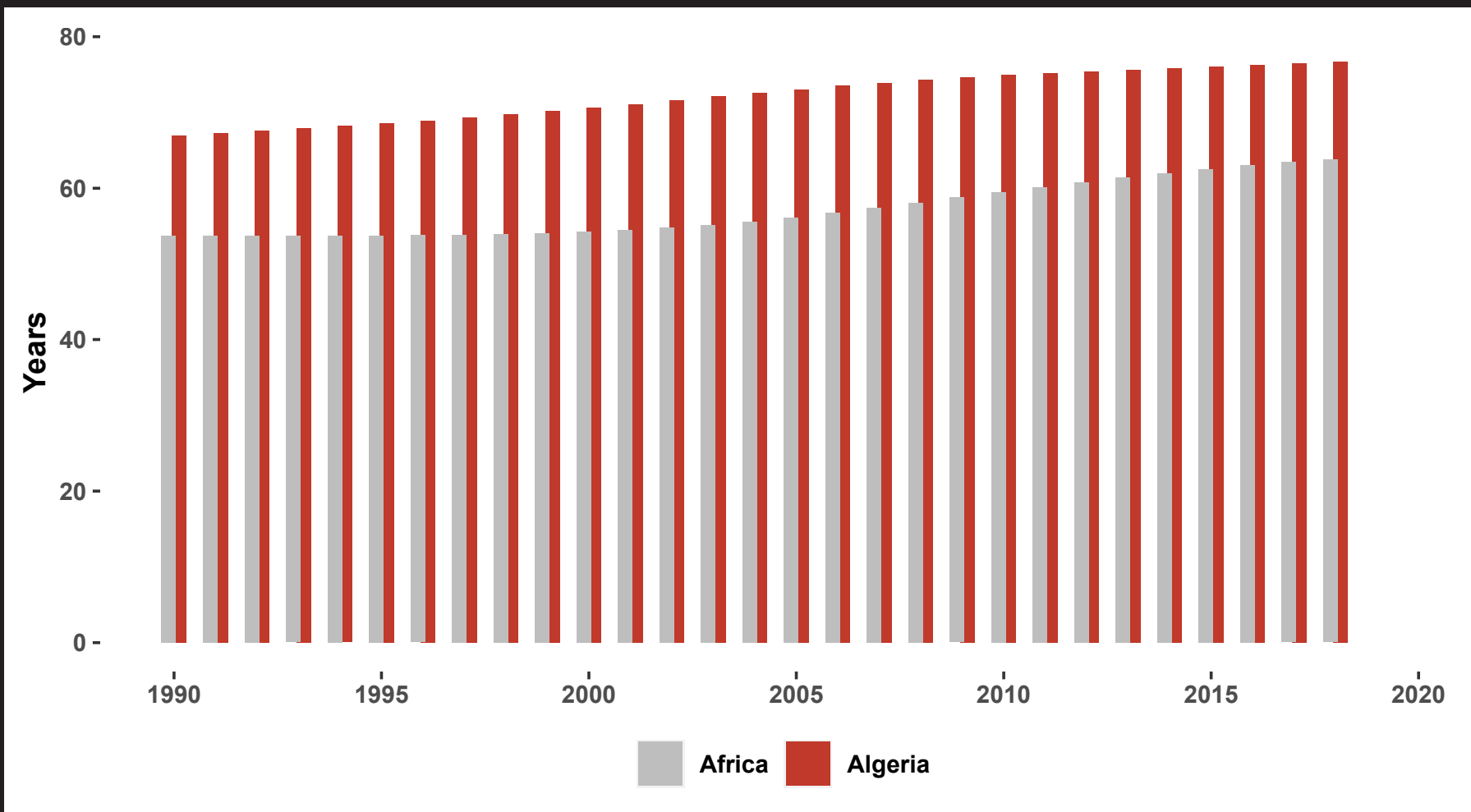
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



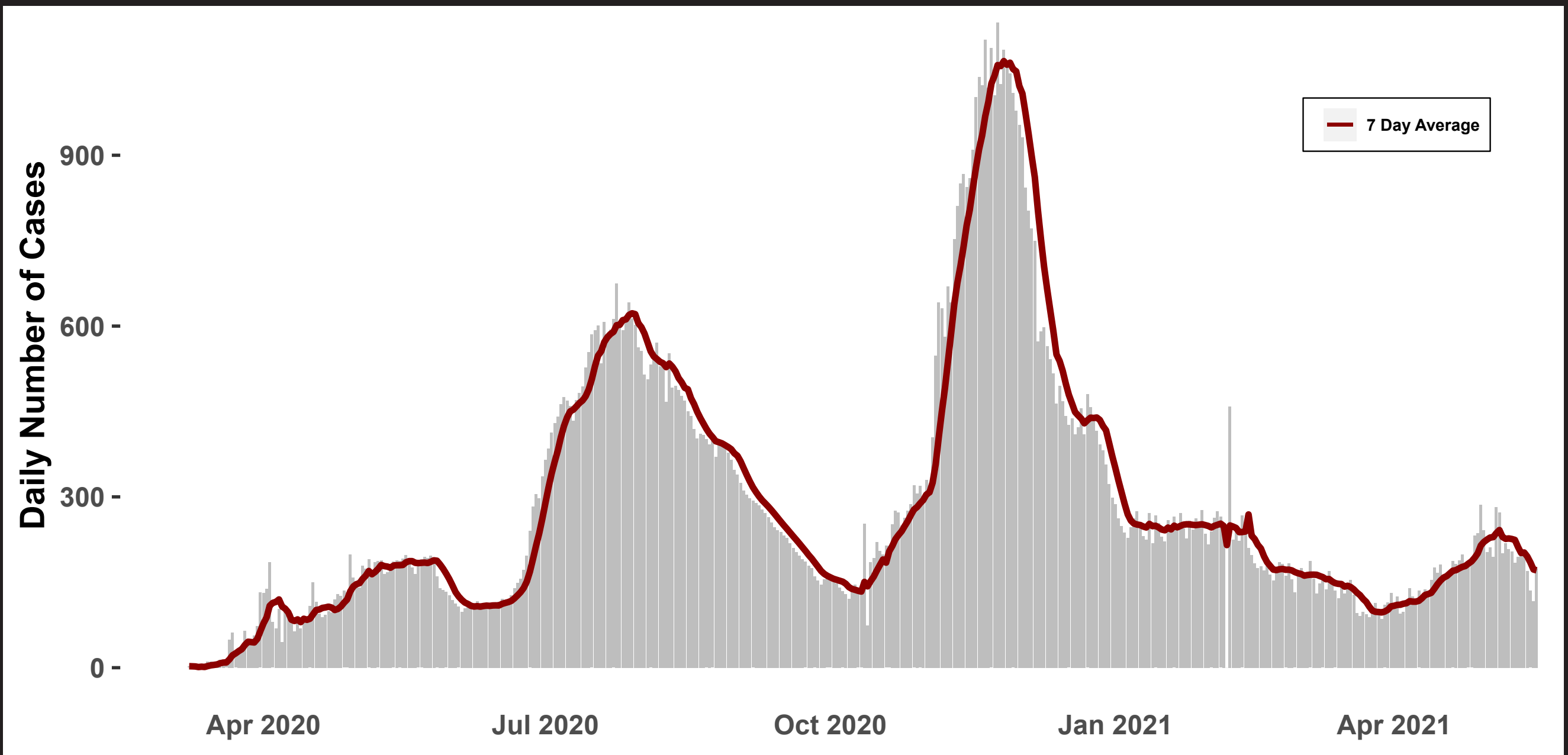
Algeria’s child mortality rate is much lower than the African average and has continued to decline over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Algeria has one of the highest life expectancies across Africa and is therefore well above the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Algeria has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in July/September and November/December 2020.

DID YOU KNOW?



Almost 90% of Algeria is covered by the Sahara Desert.



Albert Camus

Famous Algerian people include two Nobel Prize winners. Albert Camus won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1957 and Claude Cohen-Tannoudji won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1997.



Claude Cohen-Tannoudji



Unlike most Islamic nations, women’s status and position is much higher in Algeria.



ANGOLA

Angola is the seventh-largest country in Africa, bordered by Namibia to the south, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the north, and Zambia to the east. It covers an area of 1,247 million km². Angola is the largest of the Portuguese-speaking African states, and Portuguese influences have been felt for more than 500 years; Portuguese was used by indigenous Angolan groups as far back as 1491. An anti-colonial struggle that began in 1961 finally led to independence in 1975. The official currency in Angola is the kwanza. Apart from isolated bands of Khoisan such as the !Kung (a San group) in the remote south-east, all Angolans speak Bantu languages of the Niger-Congo language family. Angola’s population is overwhelmingly Christian. The enclave of Cabinda, which is separated from the rest of Angola by the DRC, is oil-rich but is plagued by poverty and conflicts with rebel separatist groups.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

NOVEMBER

11

SINCE 1975



CAPITAL CITY

Luanda

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

148

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

47



MAIN LANGUAGES

Portuguese is the main official language, but there are also 46 mostly Bantu languages

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary Democratic Republic with a presidential-parliamentary system



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA)

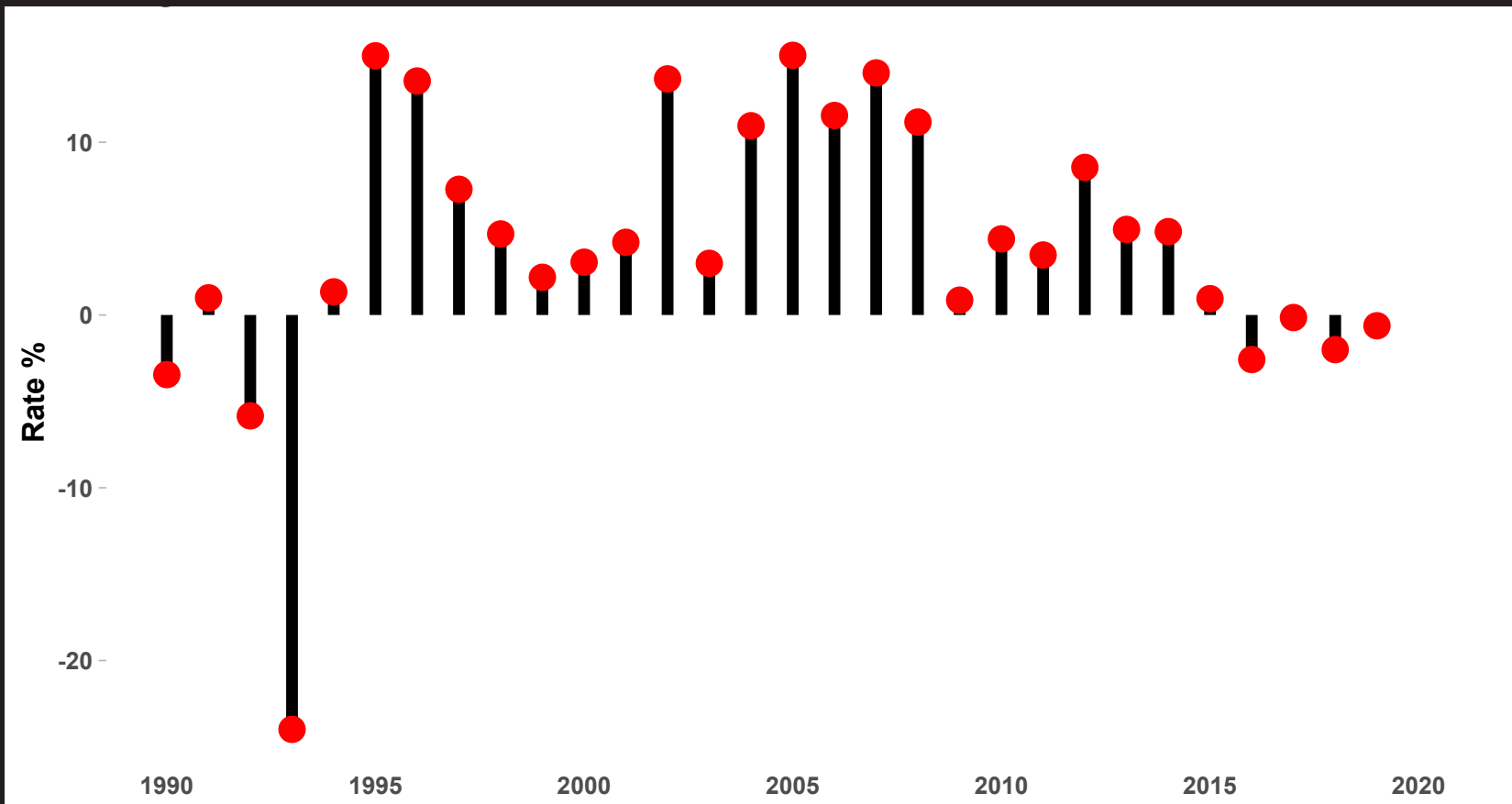


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA)

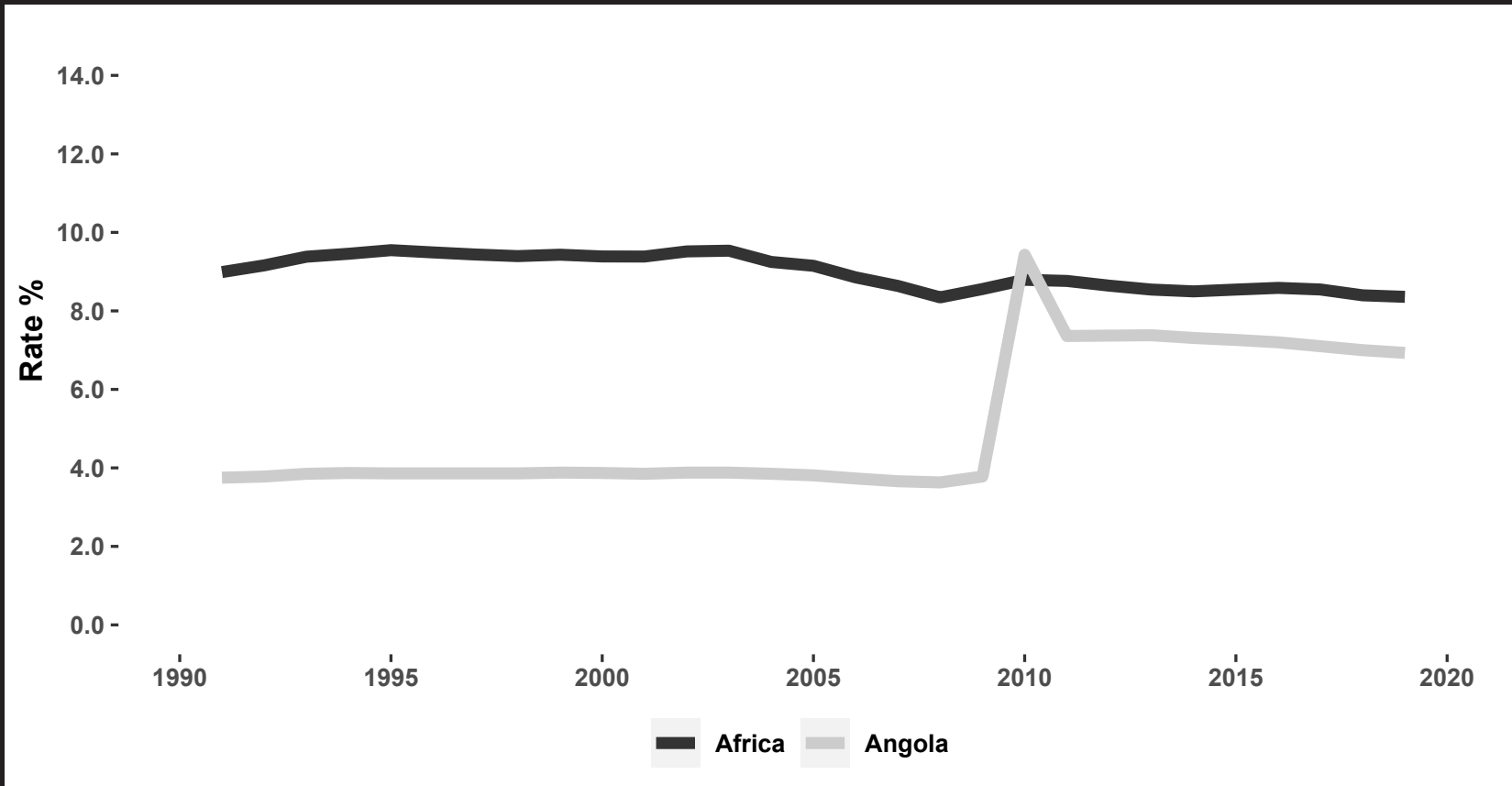
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



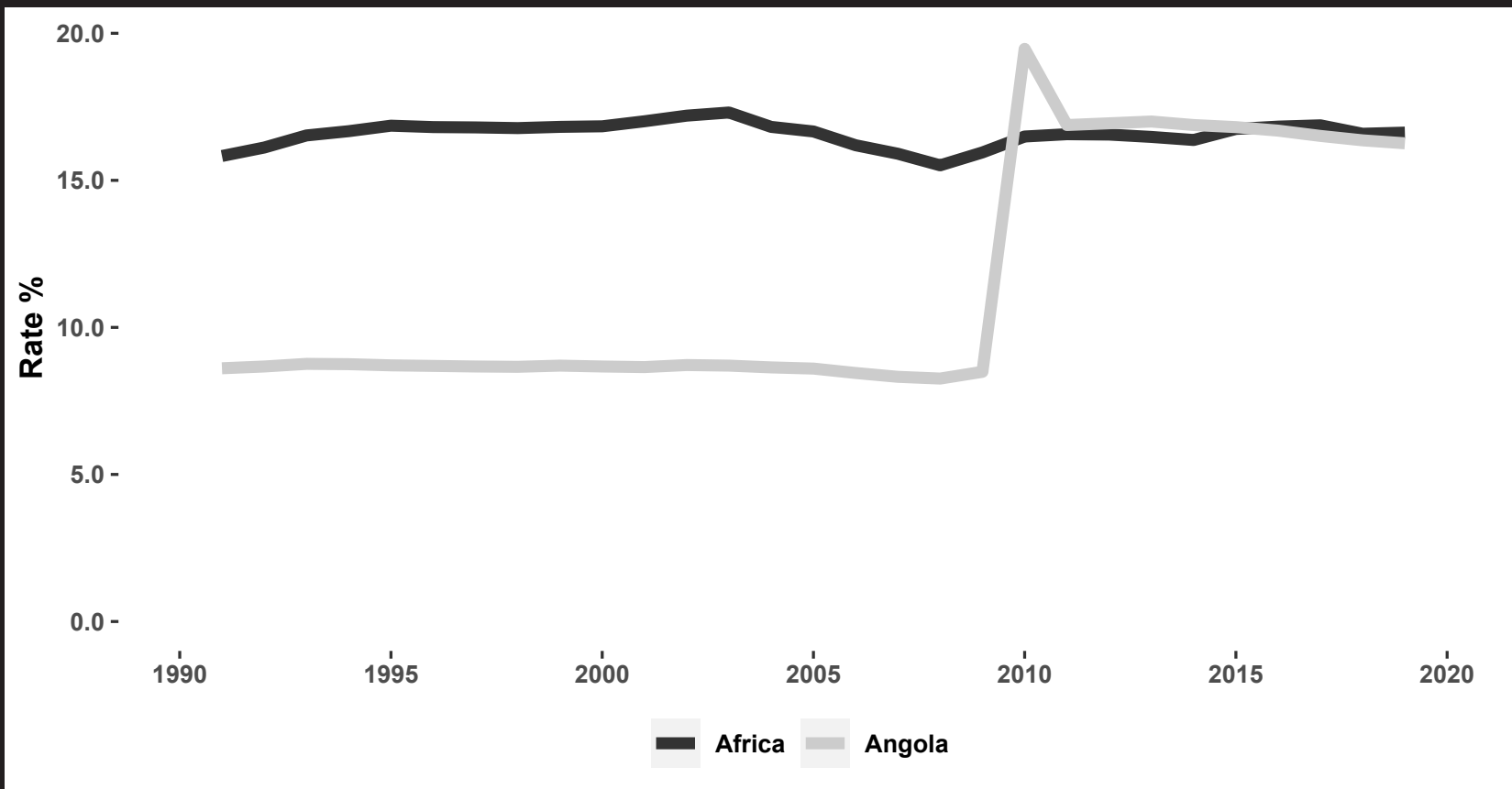
Angola experienced consistent economic growth between 1995 and 2014. However, since 2015 Angola's economy, which is heavily dependent on oil production, has been in recession.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



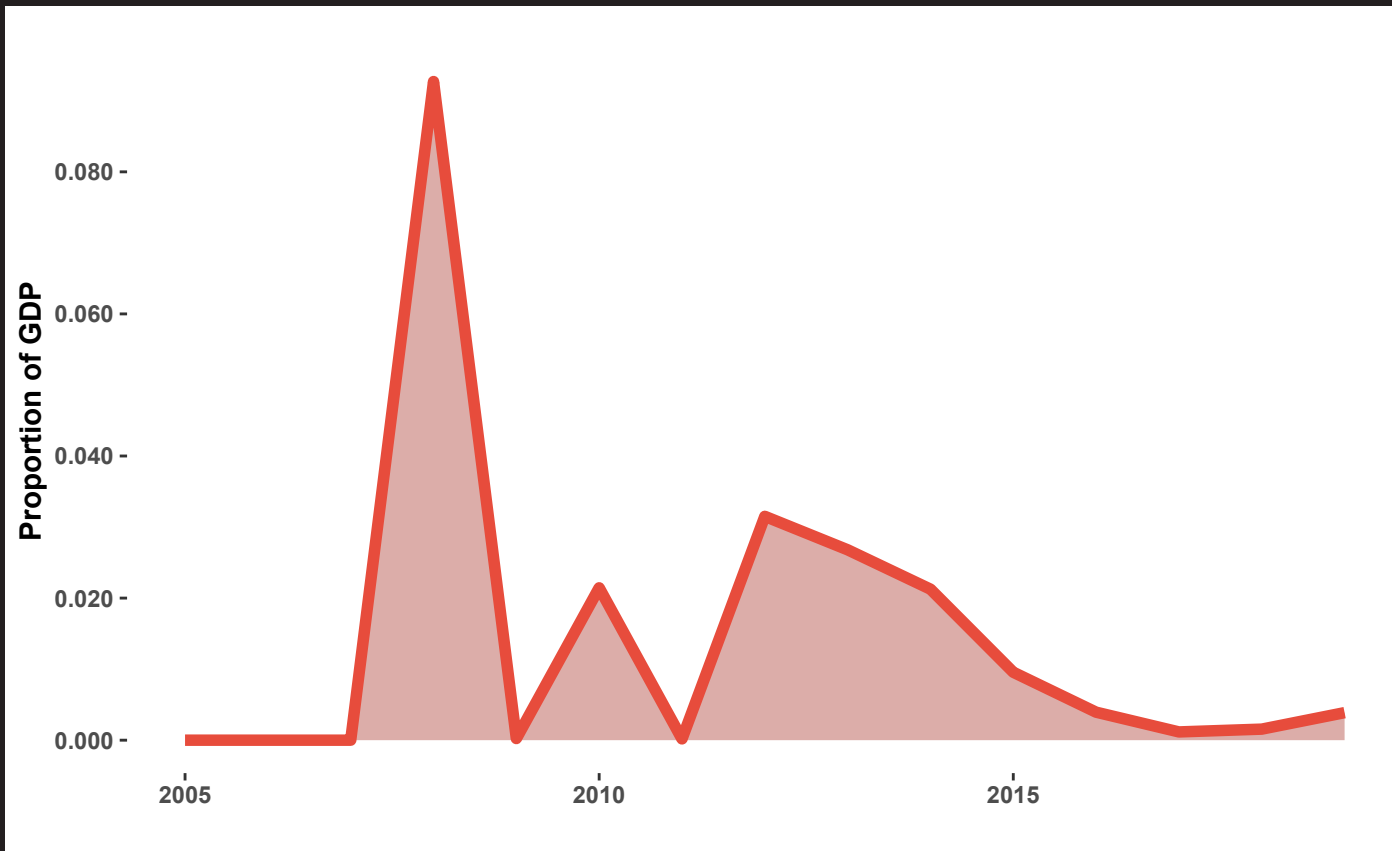
Angola's unemployment rate was consistently lower than the African average between 1990 and 2007. Since the global financial crisis of 2008, however, there has been a large increase in Angola's unemployment rate.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Angola's youth unemployment (between the ages of 15 to 24 years) has risen substantially bringing it much closer to the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$3.44 million

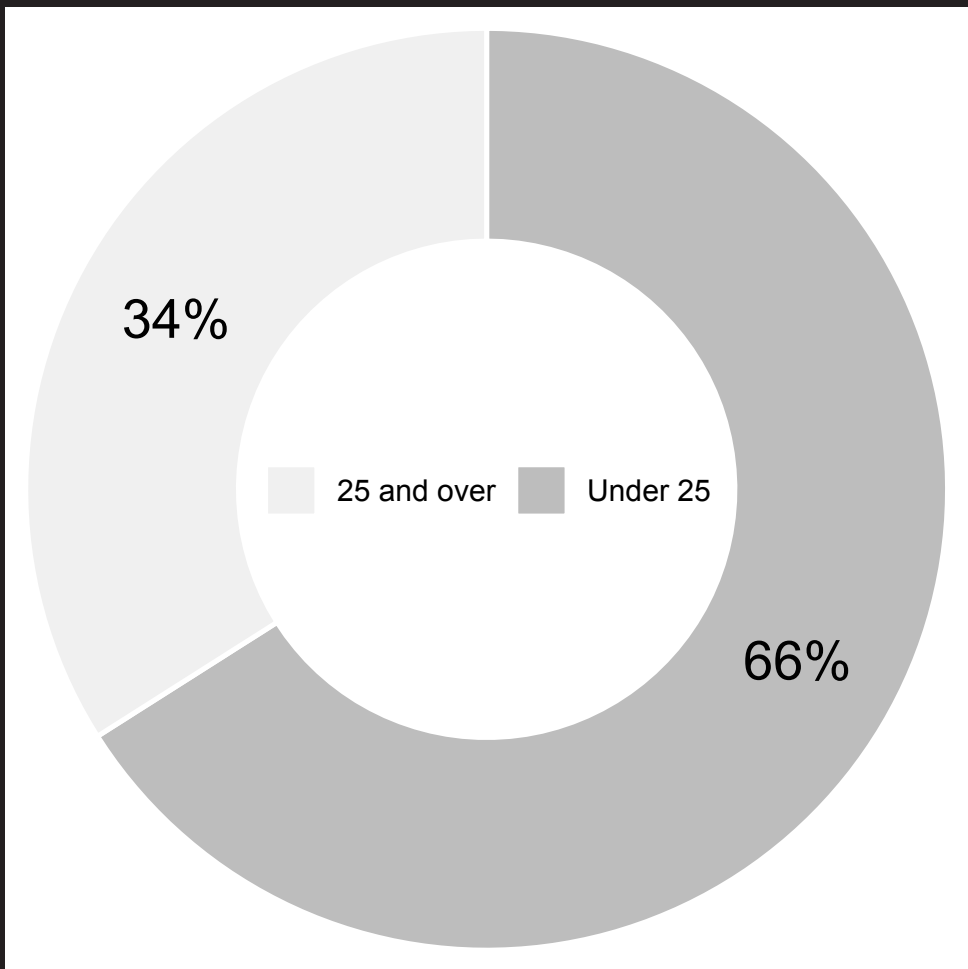
which represents

0.004% of GDP

Angola is one of the African countries that is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

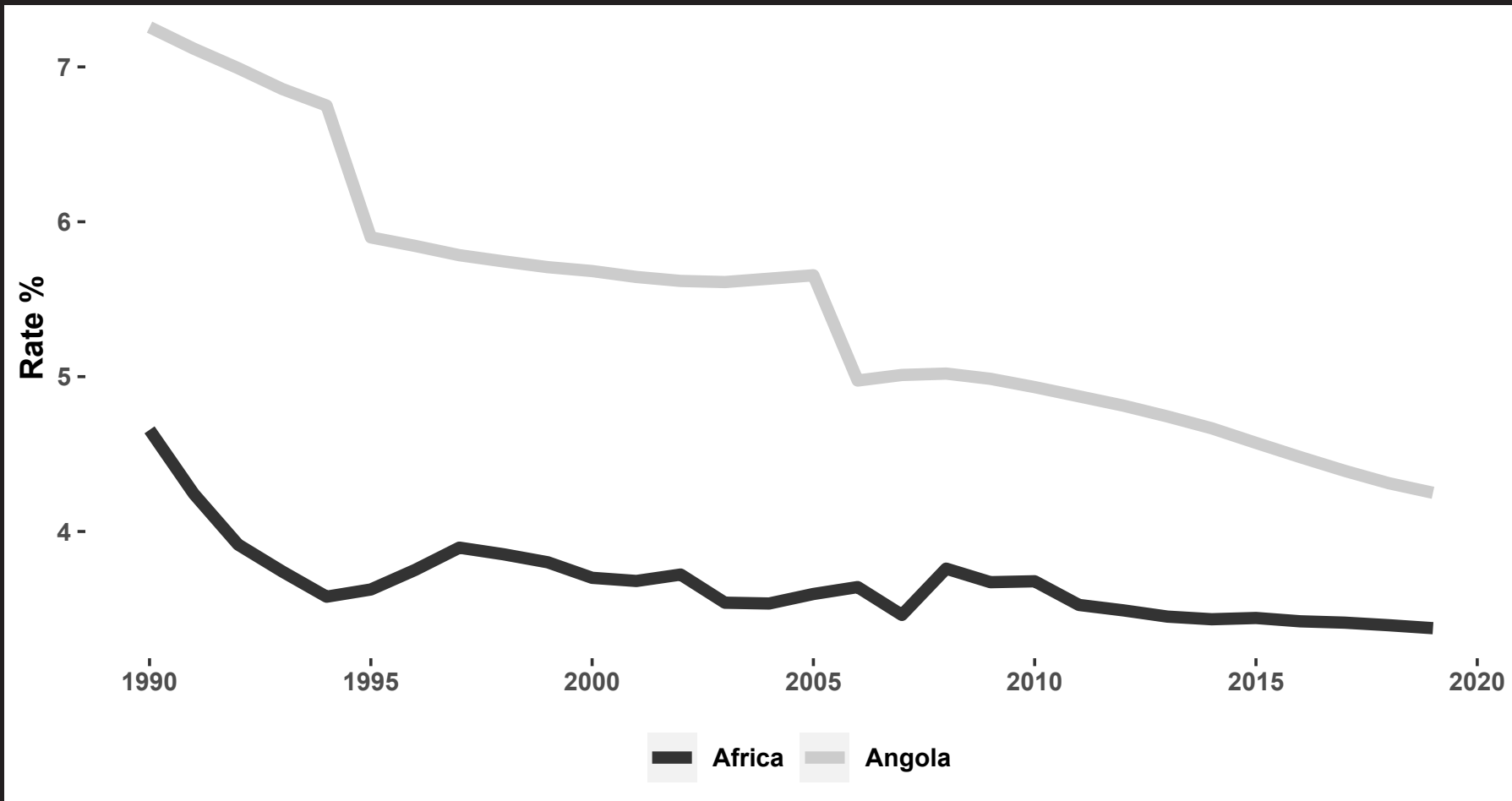
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



31.8 million

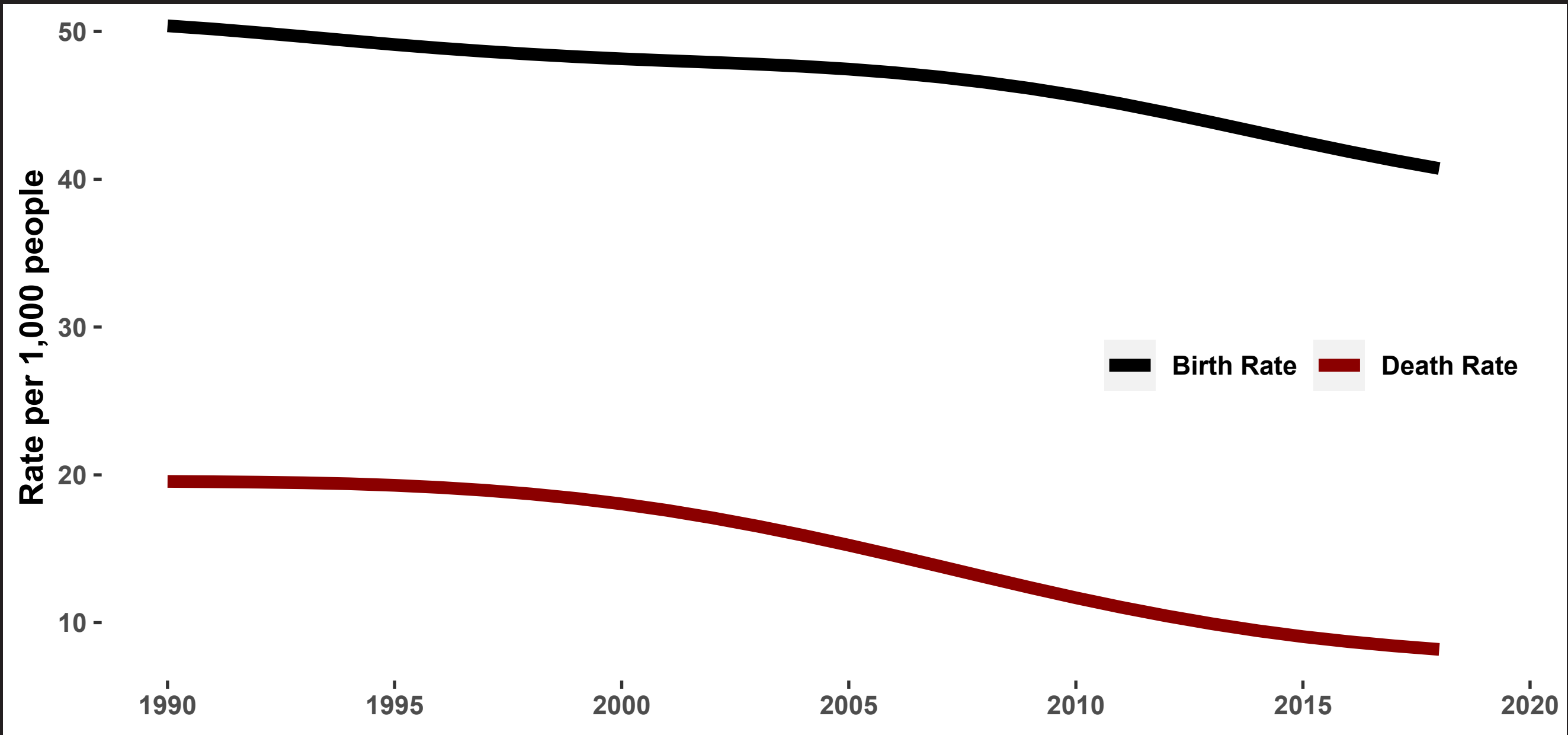
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Angola’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Angola has experienced a slowdown in its urbanisation rate in more recent years (since 2005), the country’s rate of urbanisation is still faster than the continental average.

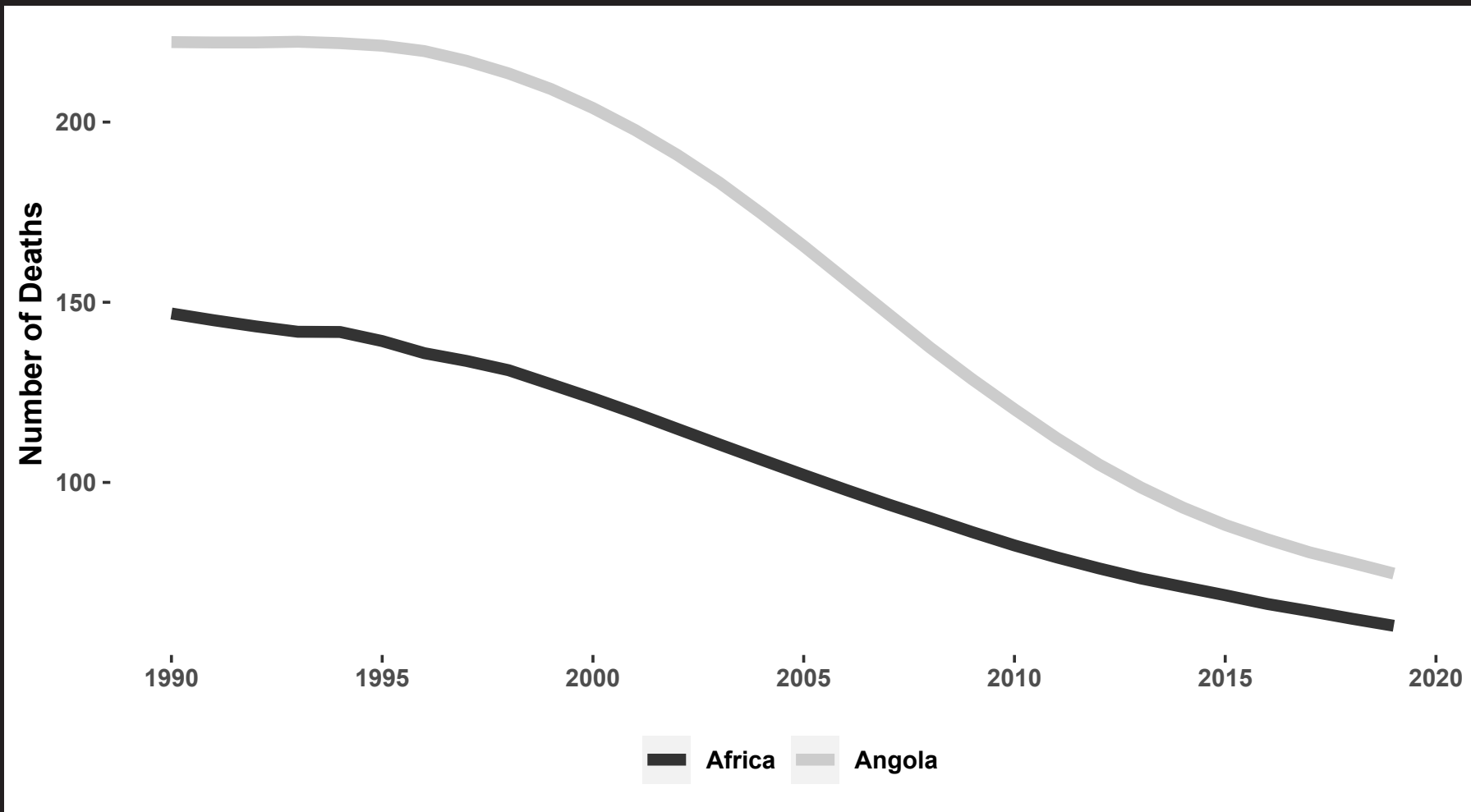
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Angola has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate, which is more than double its death rate.

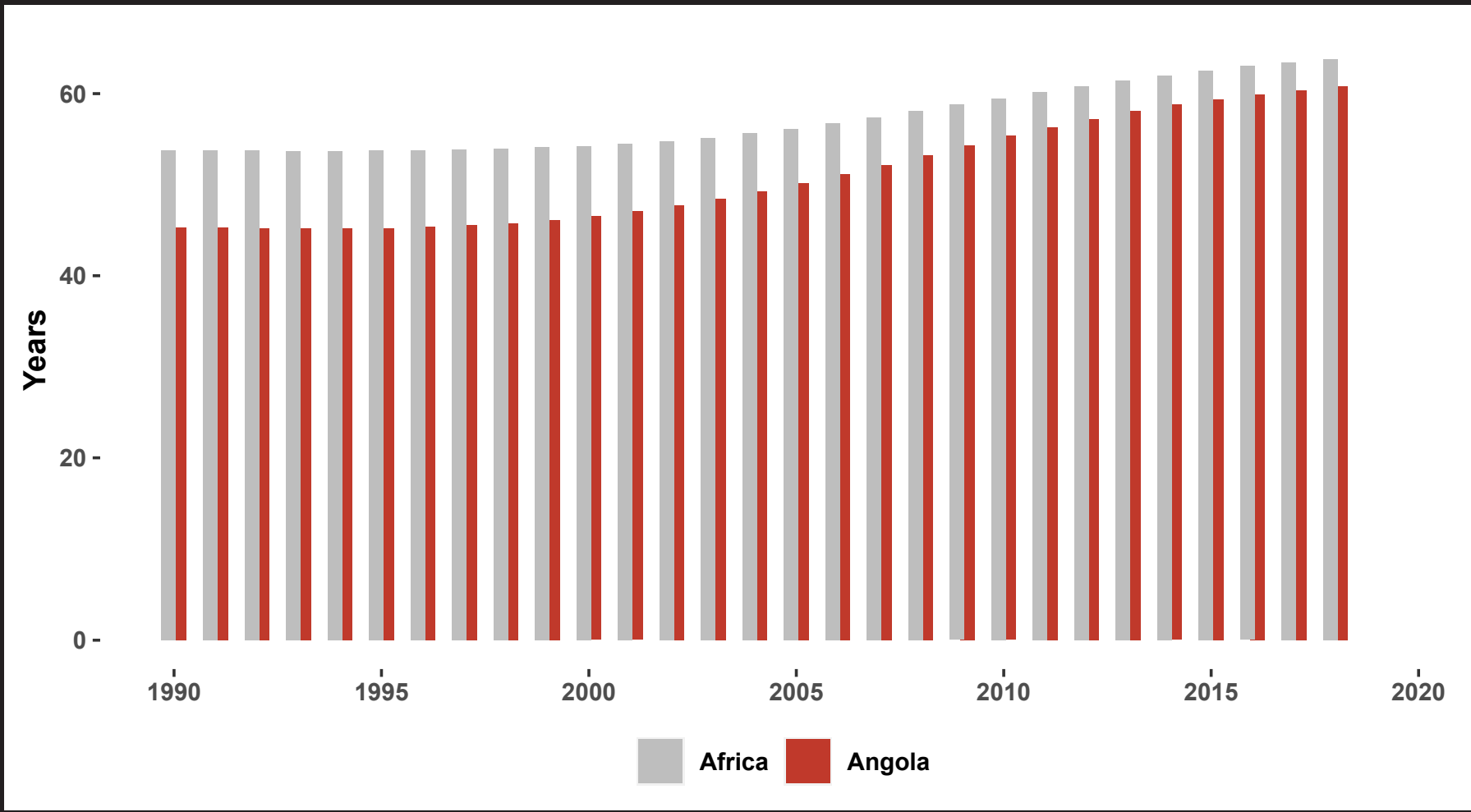
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



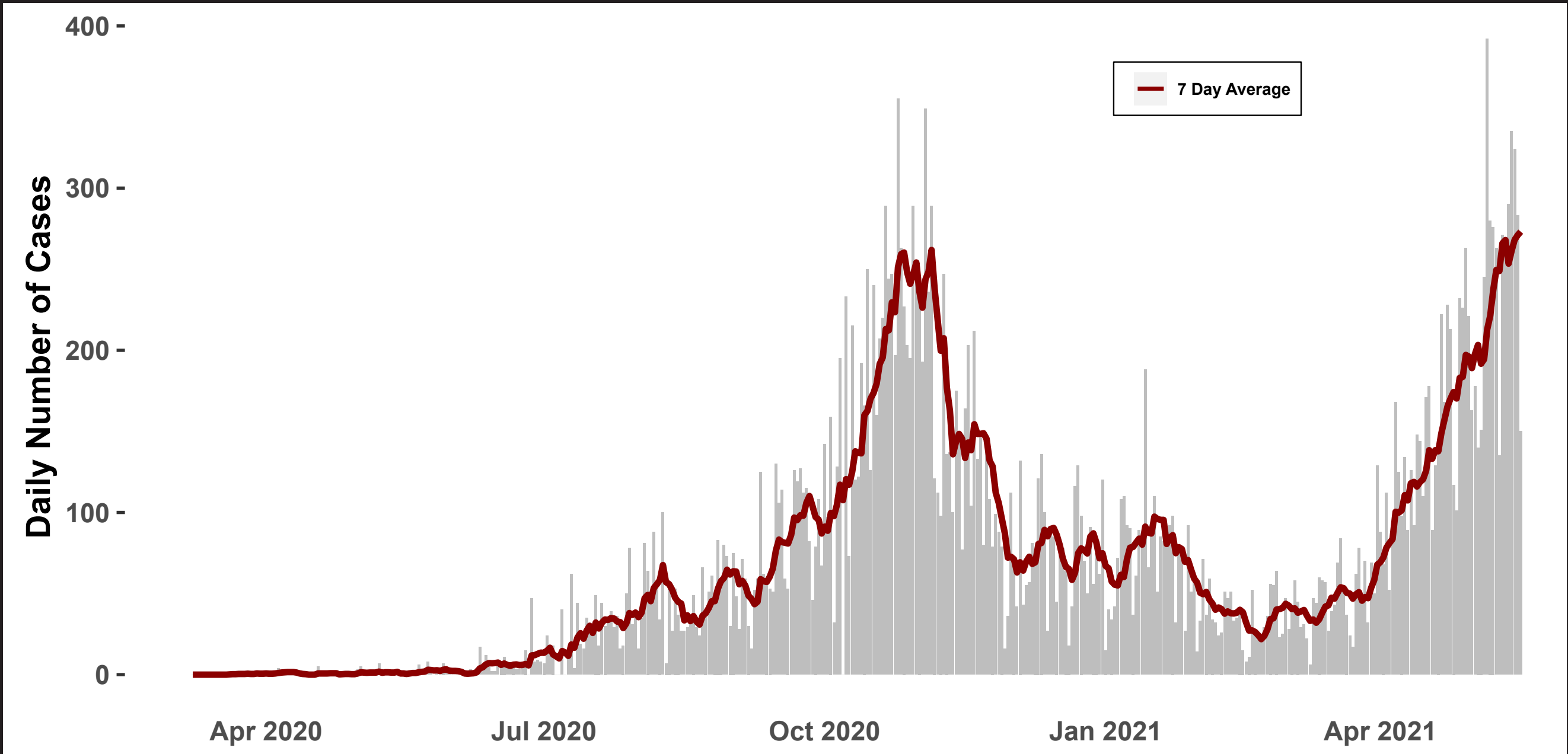
Although Angola’s child mortality rate is higher than the African average, the country has experienced rapid decline in child mortality – especially since 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Although Angola’s life expectancy is still lower than the African average, the rate of improvement in the country’s life expectancy has been faster than the rest of the continent.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Angola has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in November 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

André Pereira on Flickr.com



Luanda has been ranked as one of the world's most expensive cities for expatriate employees to live in.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



During the 17th and 18th centuries, Angola was a significant Portuguese slave-trading base. Between 1580 and 1680 more than a million slaves were transported to Brazil.

Thomas Quine on Flickr.com

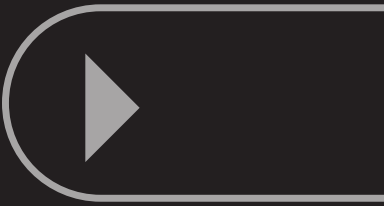
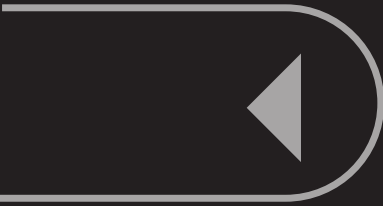


The giant sable antelope, endemic to Angola, was thought to be extinct since 1982. However, the antelope was 'rediscovered' in 2006 but remains endangered.



BENIN

Benin is the narrow, French-speaking West African country between Togo on the west and Nigeria on the east. Benin covers an area of 114,763 km². Most of its population lives on the southern coastline of the Bight of Benin, part of the Gulf of Guinea. From the 17th to the 19th century, the Kingdom of Dahomey was the main political entity in the region, which was referred to as the Slave Coast due to the large number of enslaved people who were shipped to the New World during the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. After slavery was abolished, France took over Benin and renamed it French Dahomey. In 1960, Dahomey gained full independence from France, and on 30 November, 1975, it was renamed Benin. Home to about 42 African ethnic groups, the largest group of which is the Fon, followed by the Yoruba groups, the Aja, the Bariba, the Ayizo, the Fulani and the Gun. Religions include Muslim, Roman Catholic and other Christian denominations. Benin is exceptionally rich in bio-cultural diversity. The official currency is the CFA franc.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Patrice Guillaume
Athanase Talon

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY

Porto-Novo

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

158

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

55



MAIN LANGUAGES

French, followed by
Fon, Bariba, Yoruba
and Dendi

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Multiparty republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Progressive Union

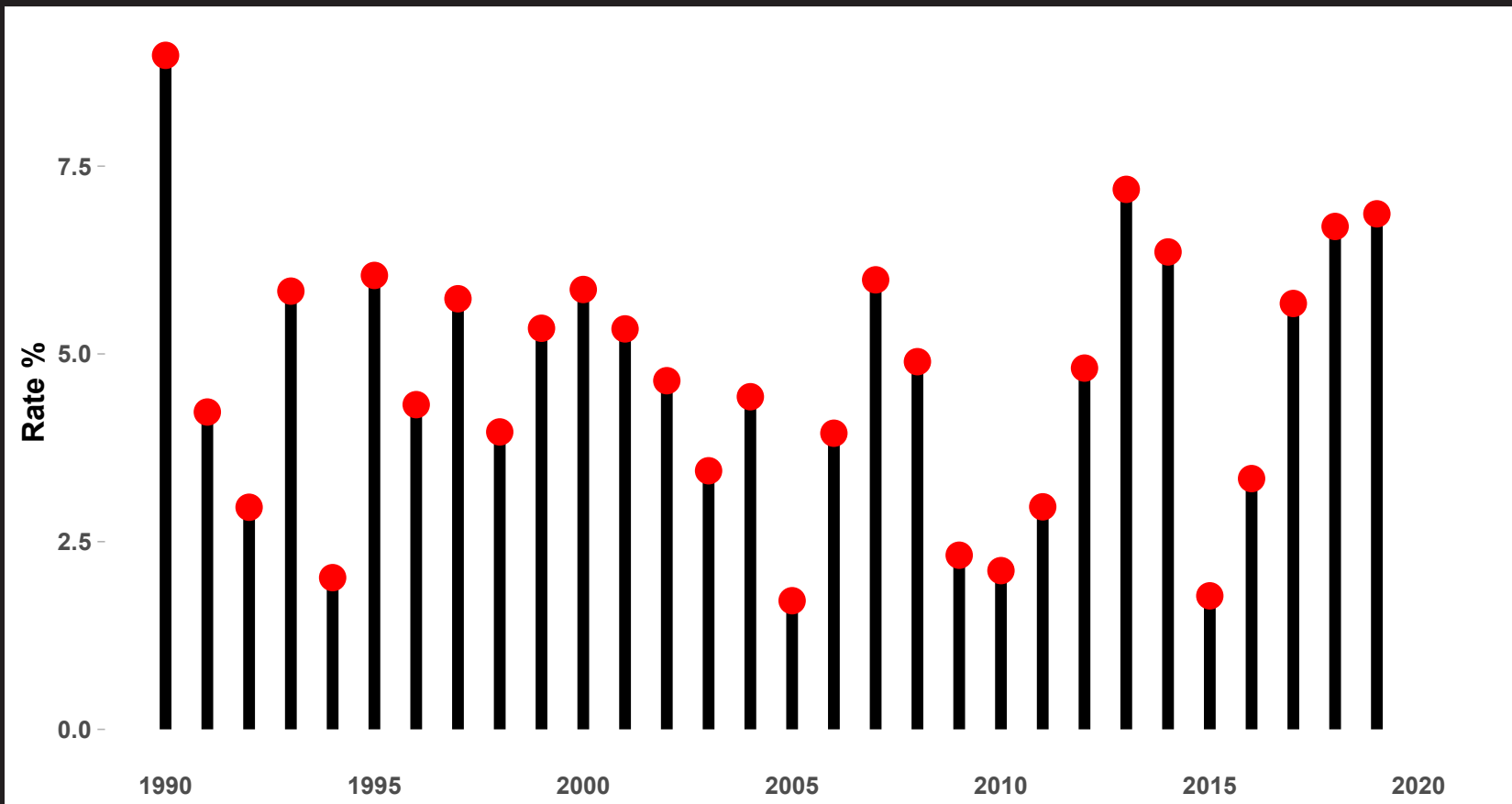


RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Republican Bloc

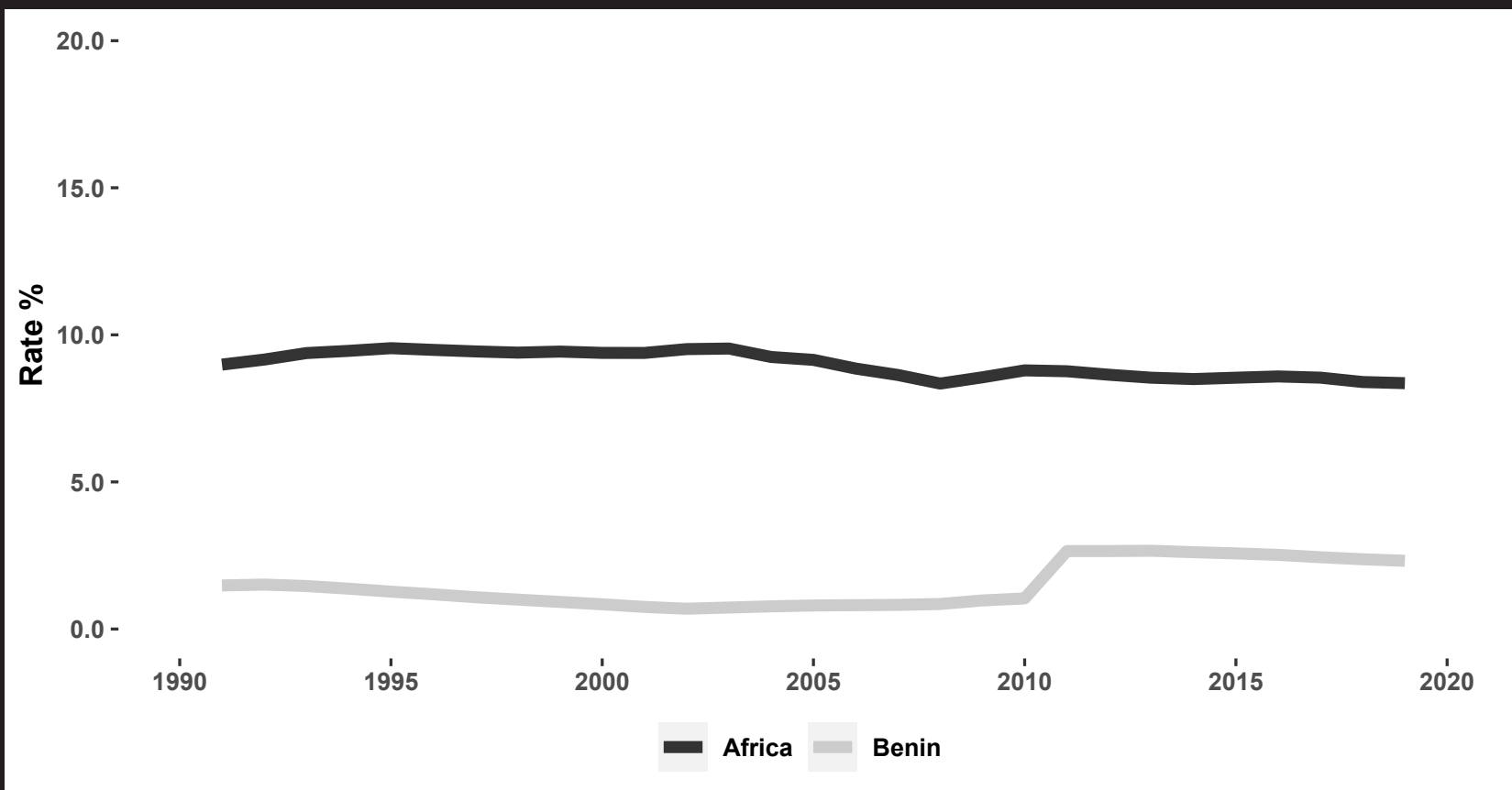
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



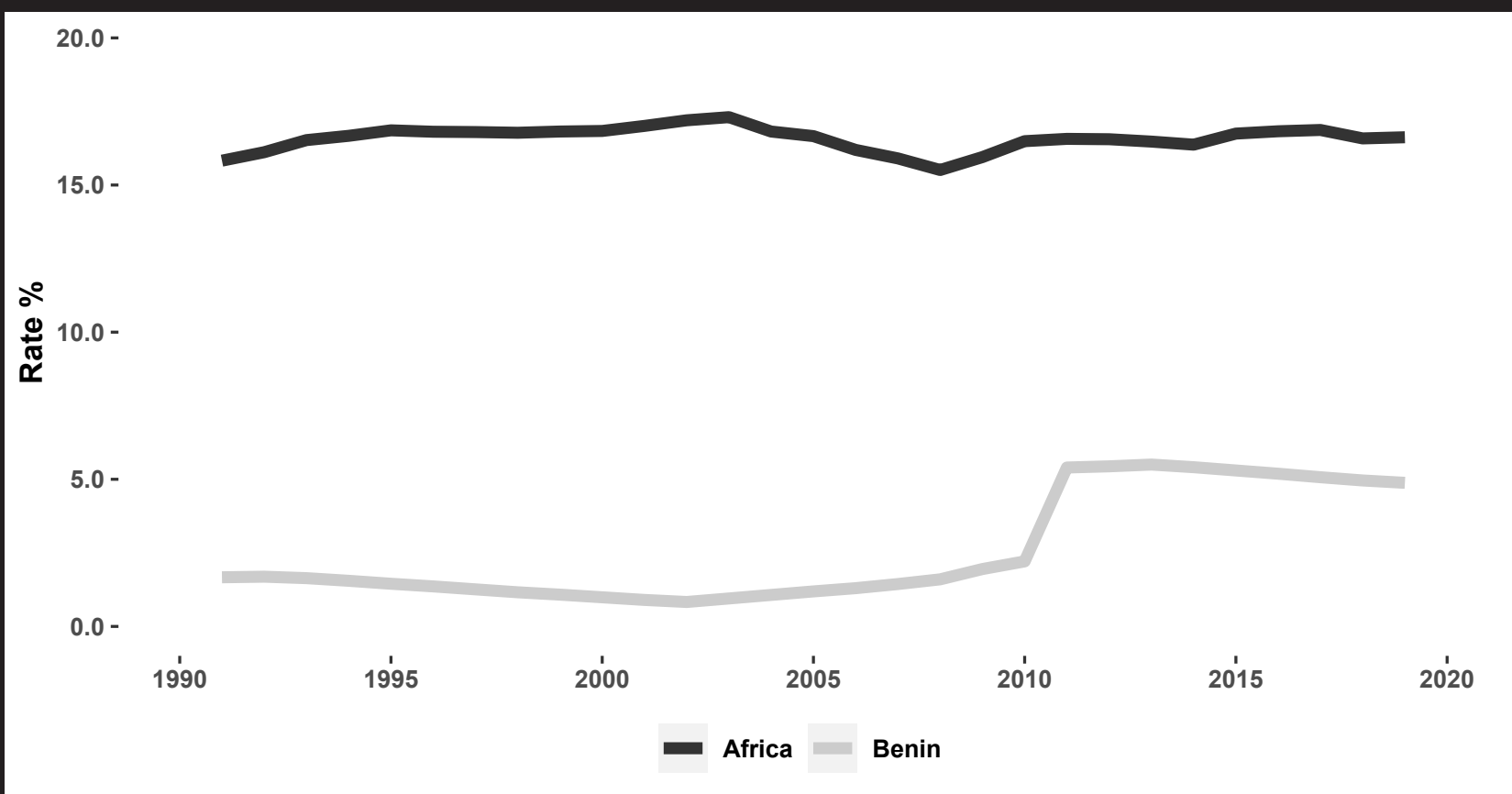
Benin has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



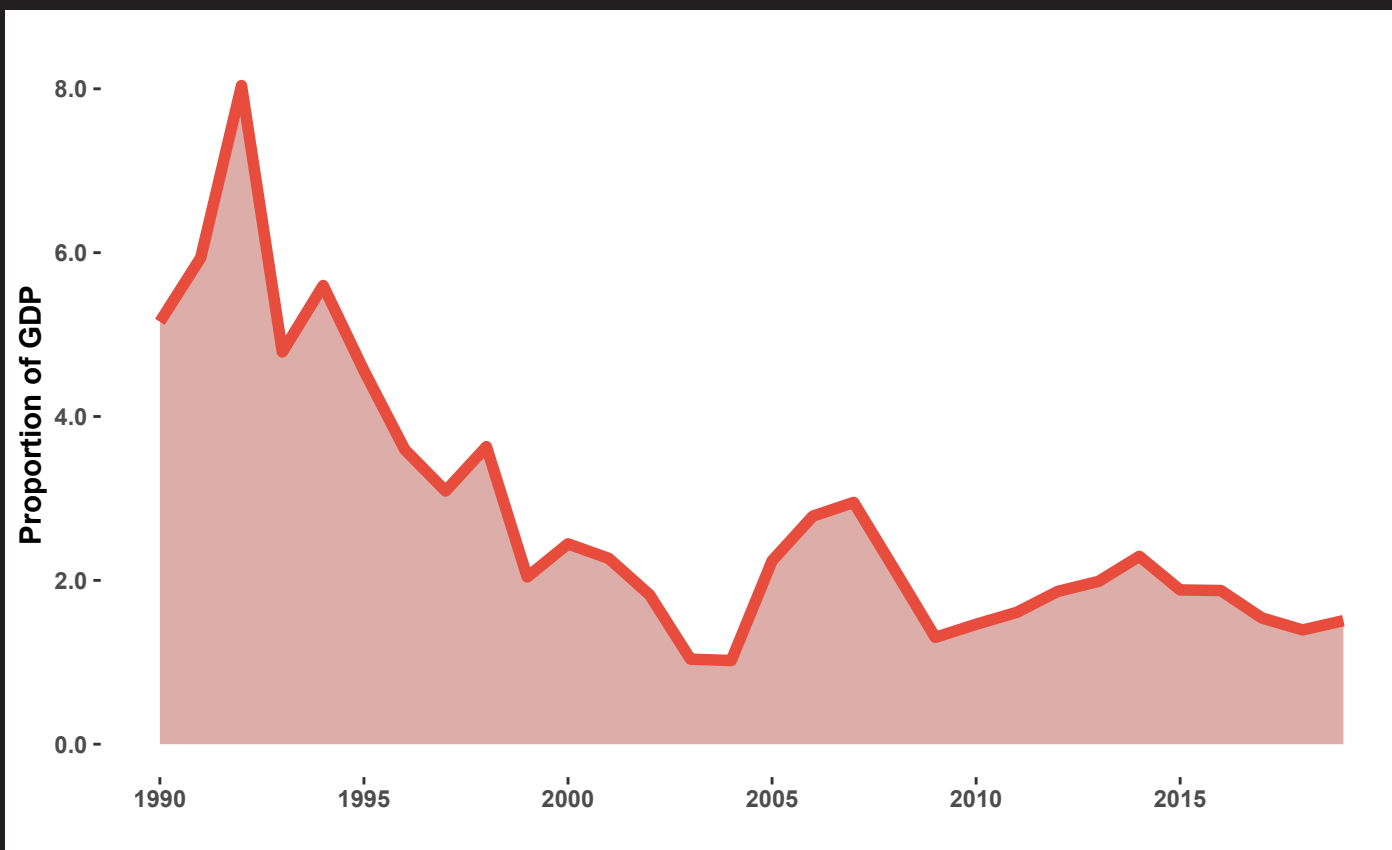
Benin has had an unemployment rate that is consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rate has been lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$216 million

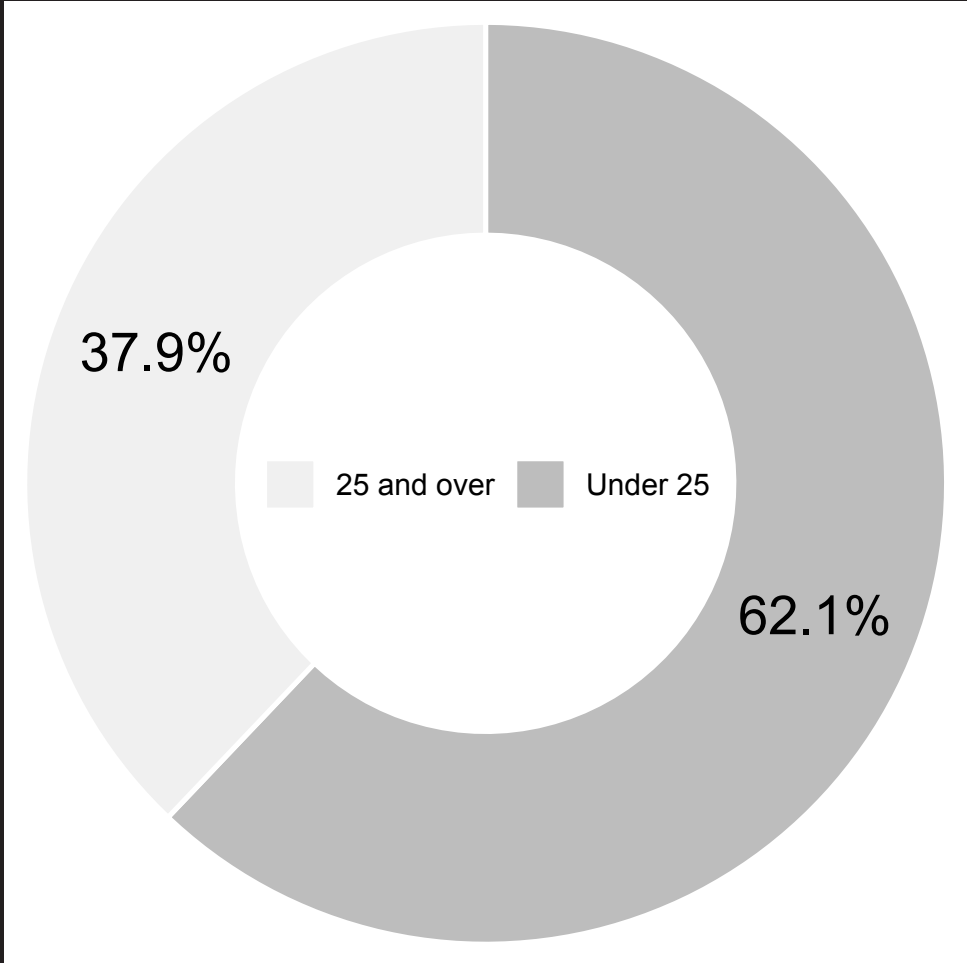
which represents

1.51% of GDP

Benin has become less reliant on remittances received over time.

DEMOGRAPHICS

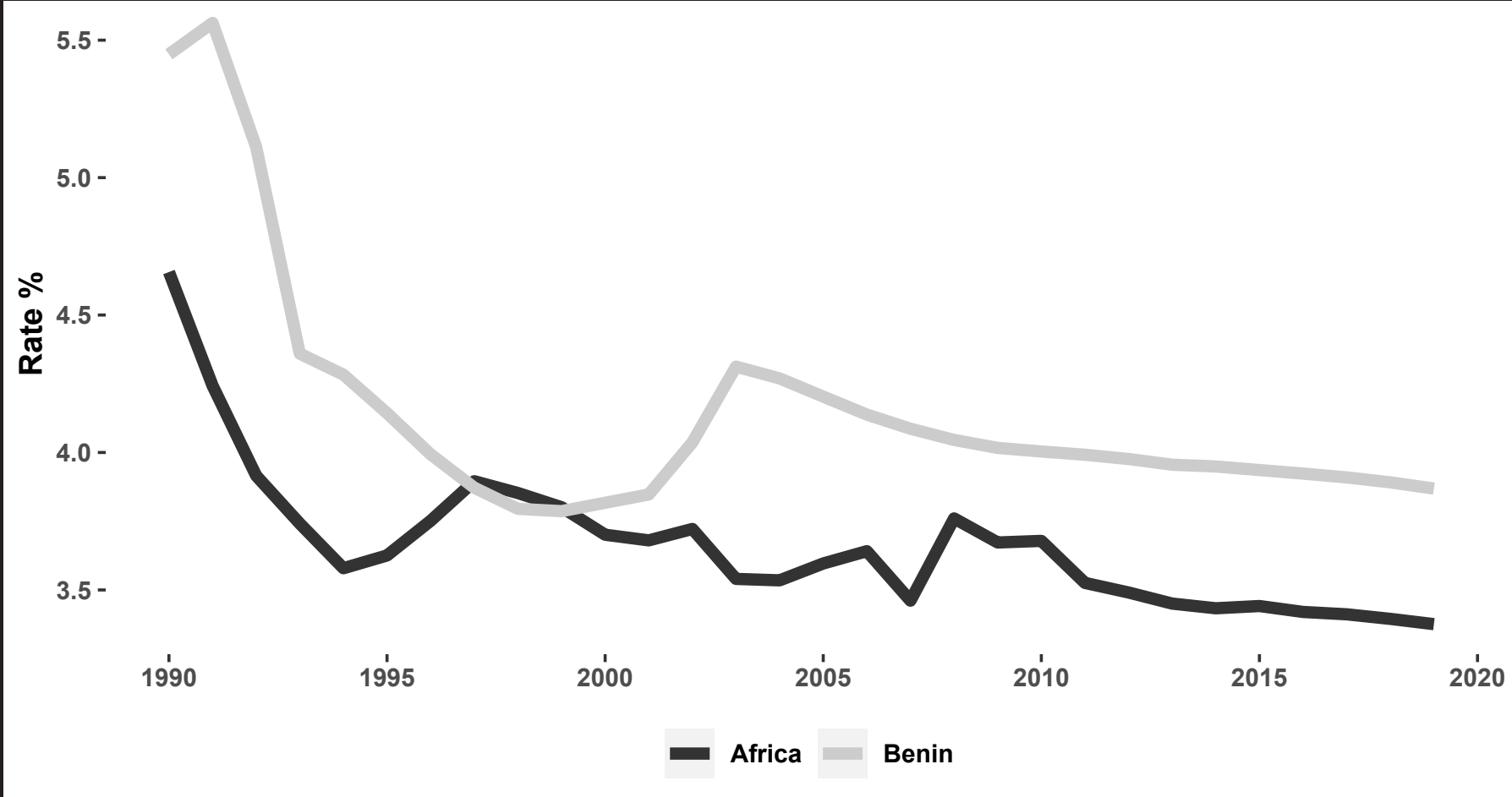
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



11.8 million

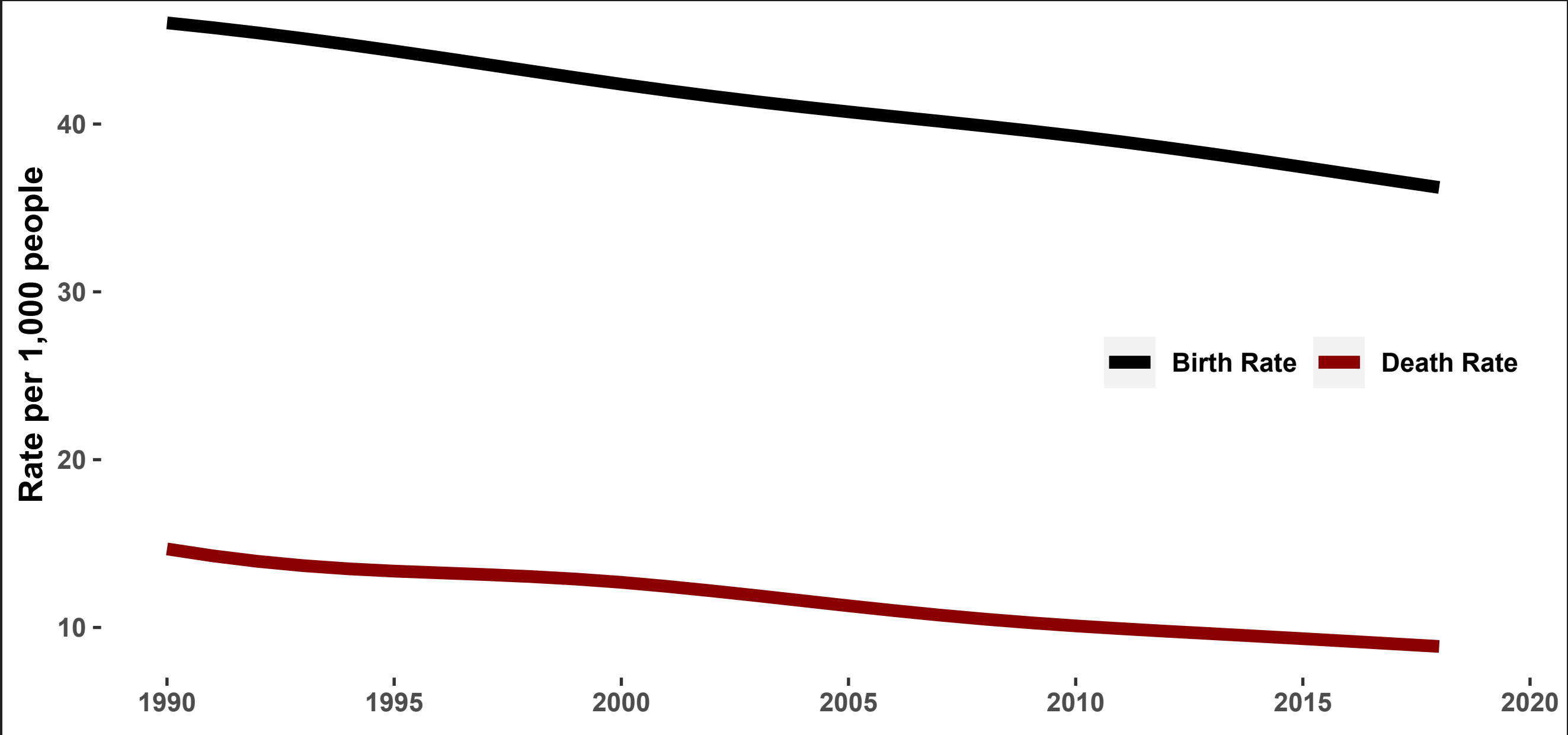
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Benin’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Benin has experienced a slowdown in its urbanisation rate in more recent years, the rate of urbanisation is still faster than the continental average.

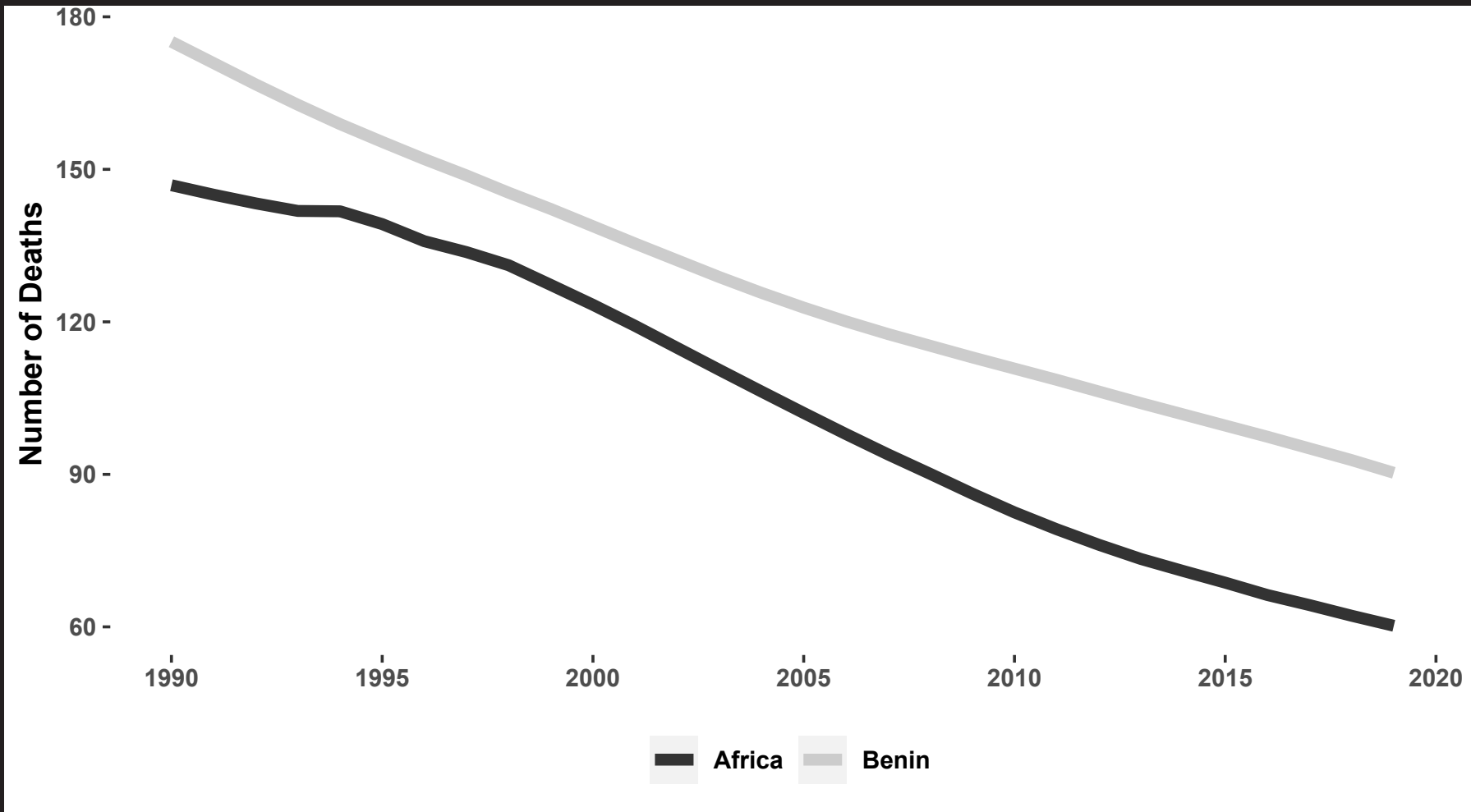
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Benin has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

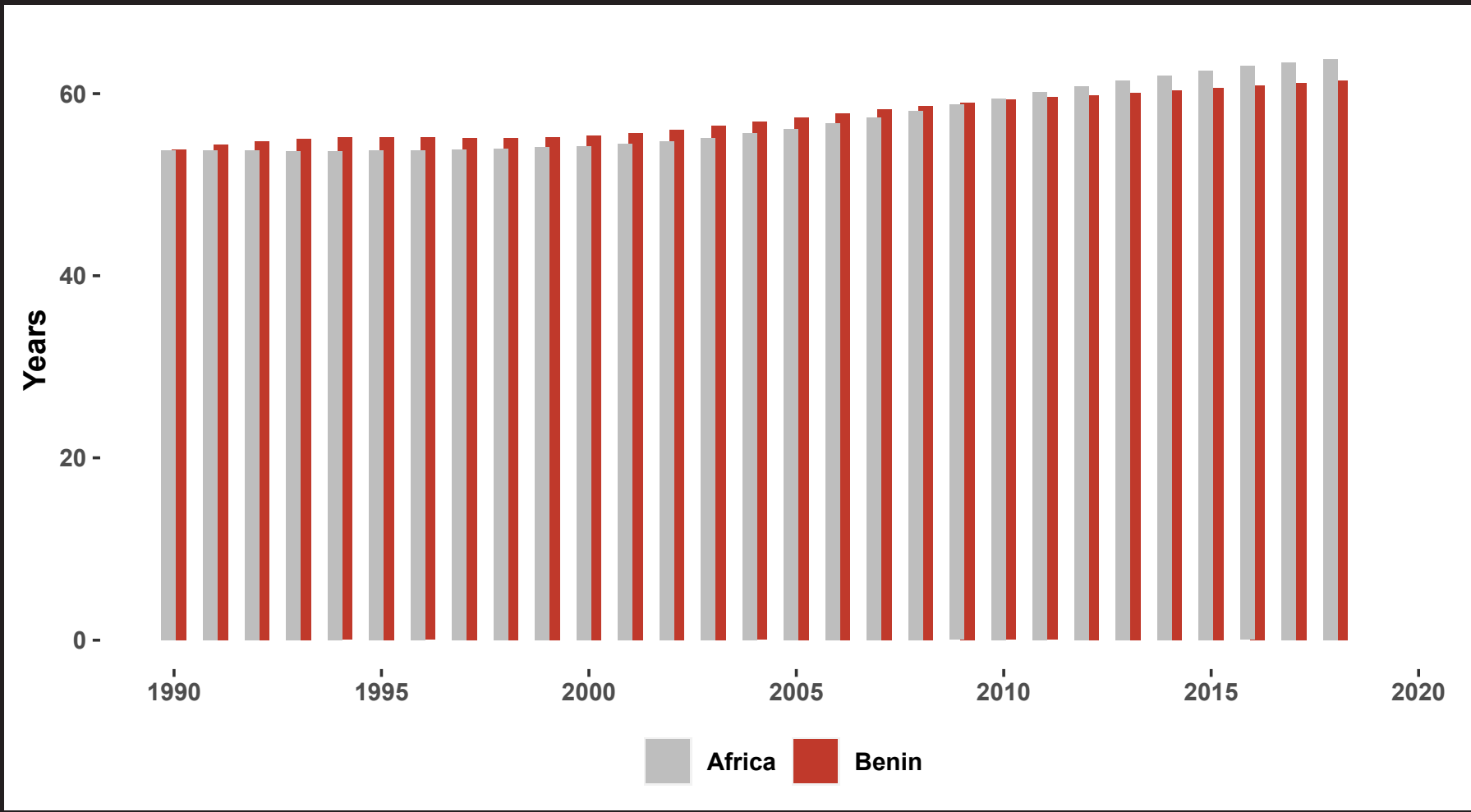
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



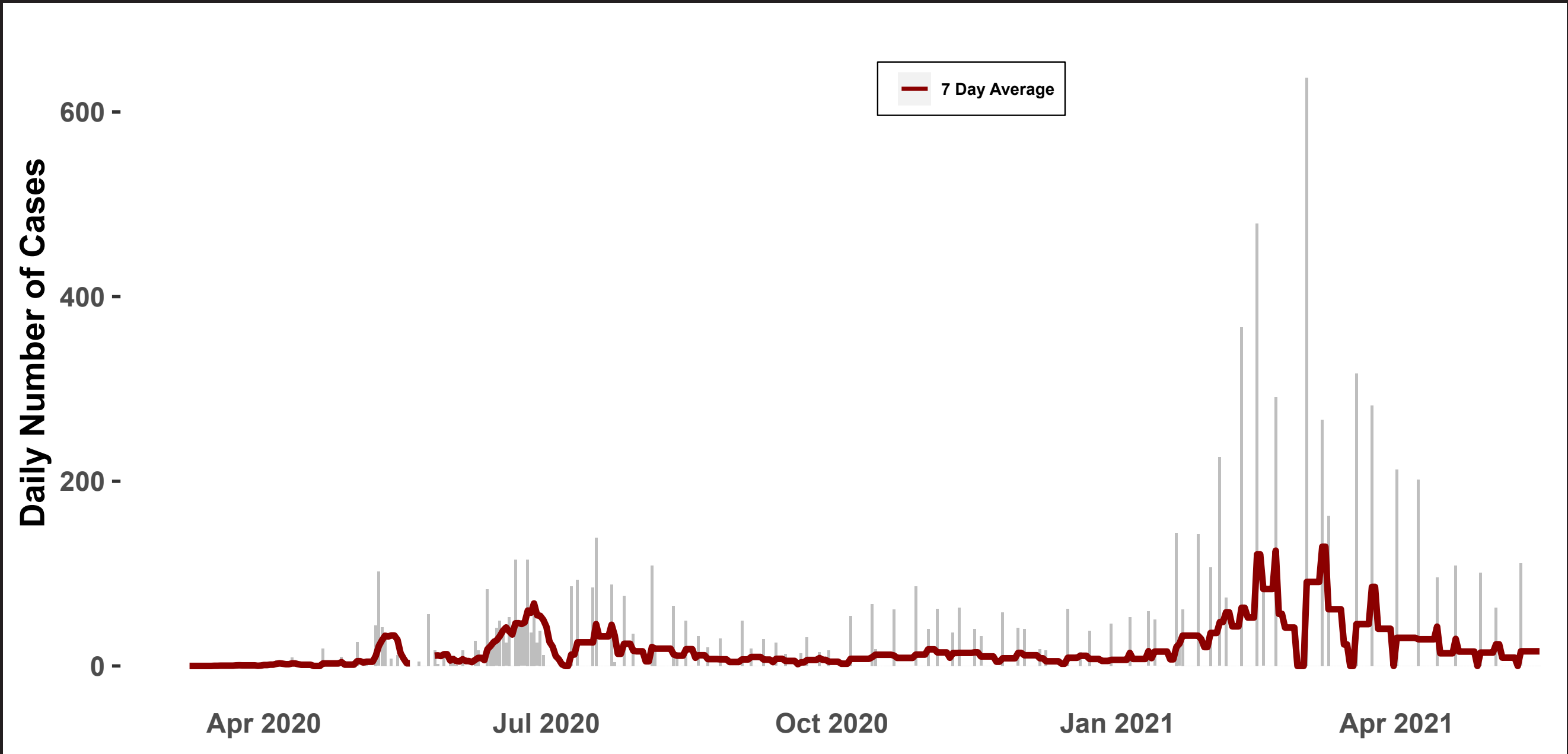
Although Benin’s child mortality rate is higher than the African average, it has experienced rapid declines in child mortality since 1990.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Benin’s life expectancy has tracked very closely to the African average over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



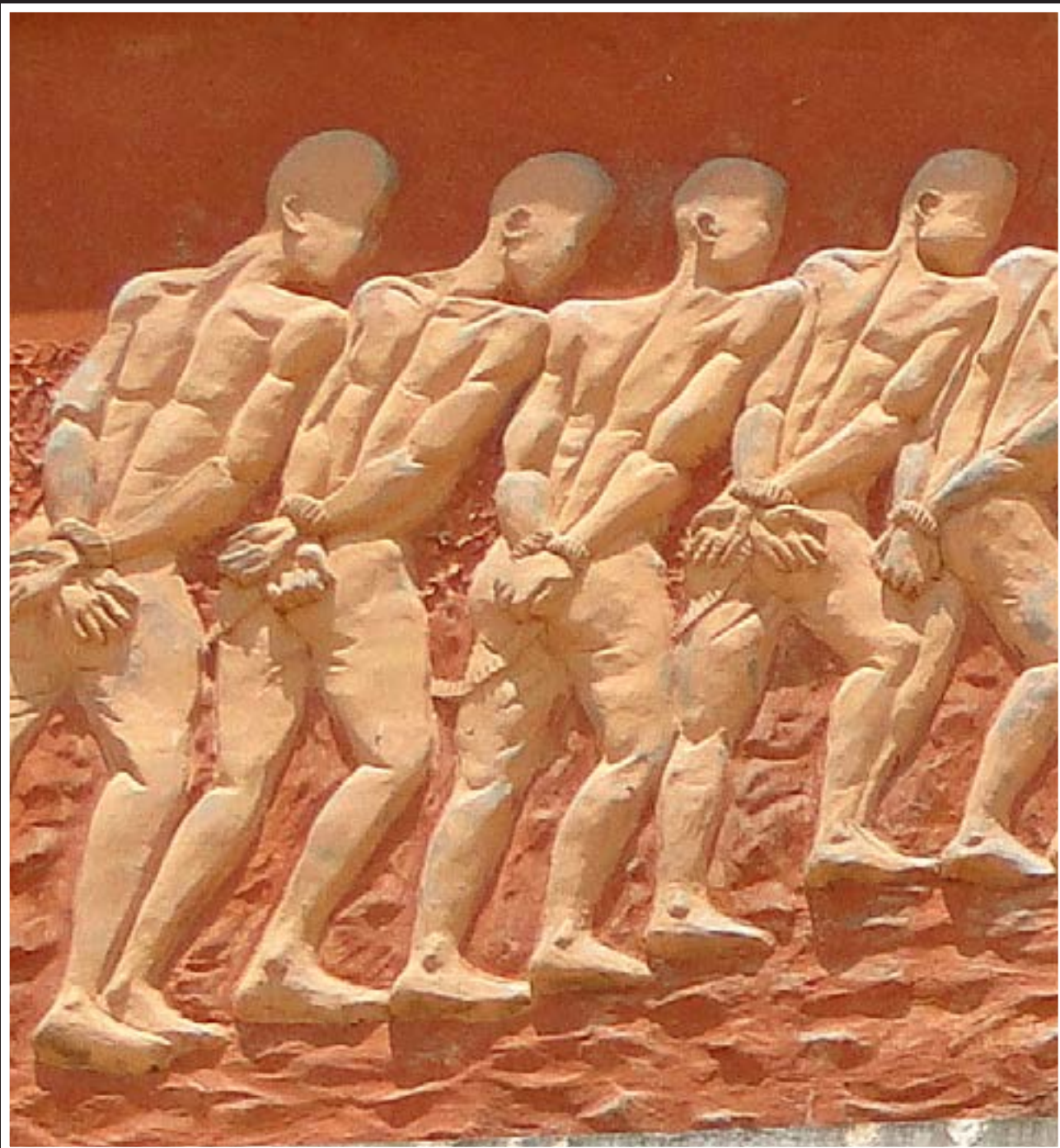
Benin hasn’t experienced any true Covid-19 waves.

DID YOU KNOW?



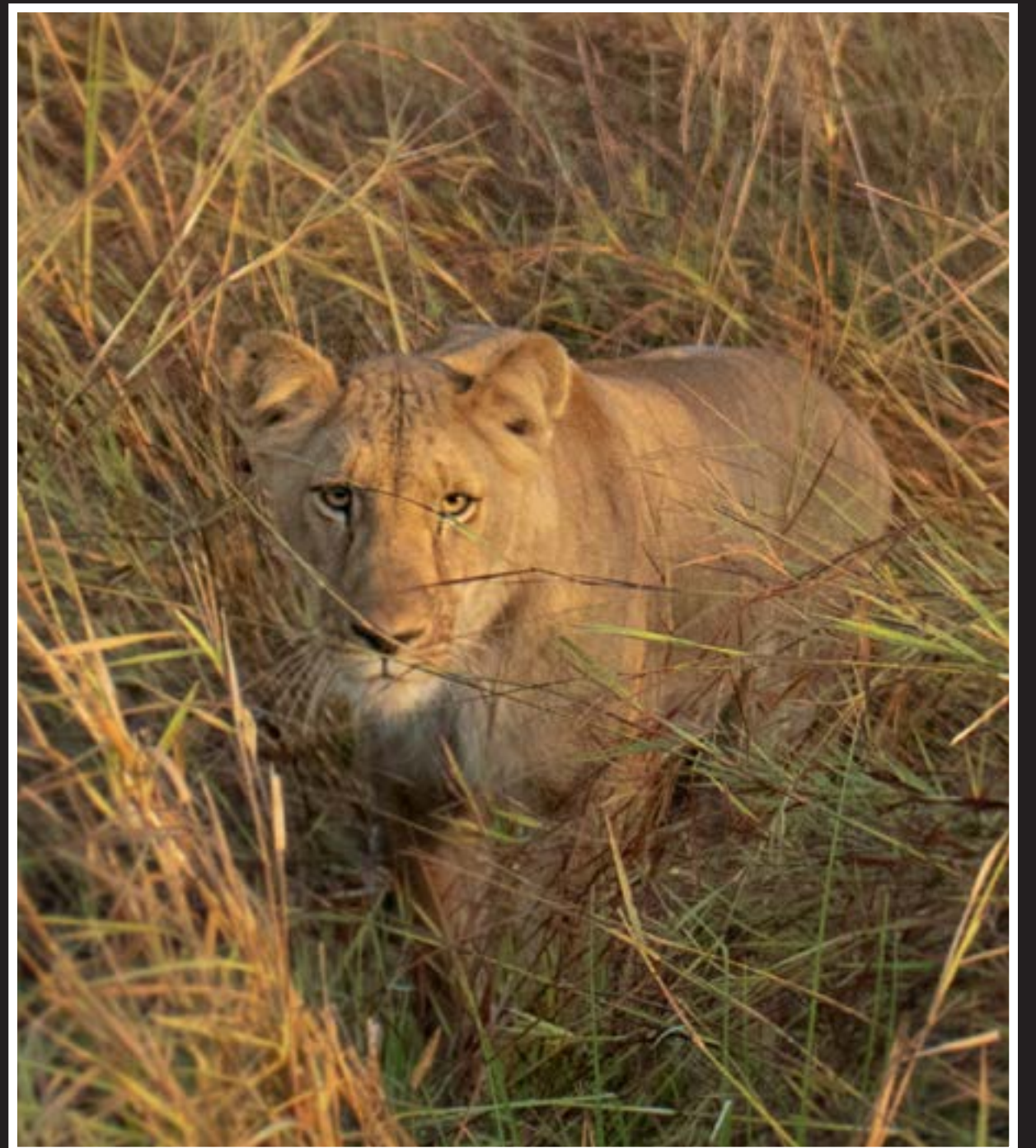
David Stanley on Flickr.com

Voodoo originated in Benin, where National Voodoo Day is celebrated annually on 10 January.



Adam Jones on Flickr.com

Benin's southern coast used to be known as the Slave Coast, a departure point for slaves where for more than 100 years, an average of 10,000 slaves a year were shipped to the Americas.



Raini Svensson on Flickr.com

Benin, along with Burkina Faso and Niger, is home to the largest intact eco-system in West Africa, the Pendjari National Park. The UNESCO-listed park also 'harbours the only viable population of lions in the region'.



BOTSWANA

Botswana is a roughly triangular country in the centre of southern Africa, bordered by Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. It covers an area of 582,000 km². The landscape in Botswana is mostly flat, covered for the most part by the Kalahari Desert. Before its independence in 1966, Botswana was a British protectorate known as Bechuanaland, named after its dominant ethnic group, the Tswana (“Bechuana” in older variant orthography). The official currency is the Pula. Since independence, Botswana has gained international stature as a peaceful and increasingly prosperous democratic state. The country is well known for having some of the best wilderness and wildlife areas on the continent.

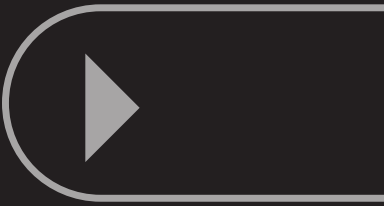
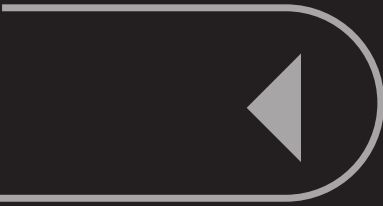
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

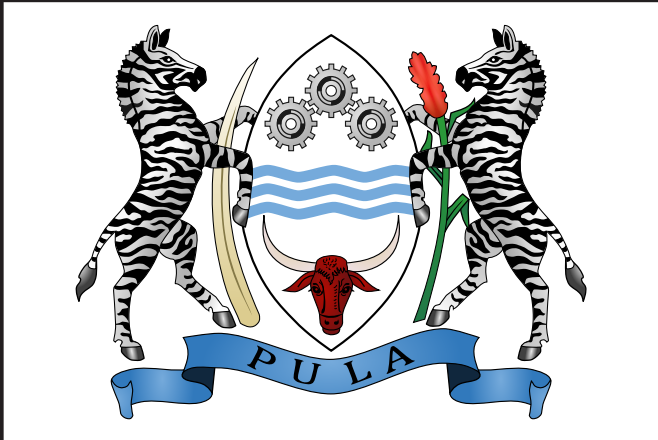


HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Mokgweetsi Masisi

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Gaborone

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

100

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

20+



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and
SeTswana

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Multiparty republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Botswana Democratic Party

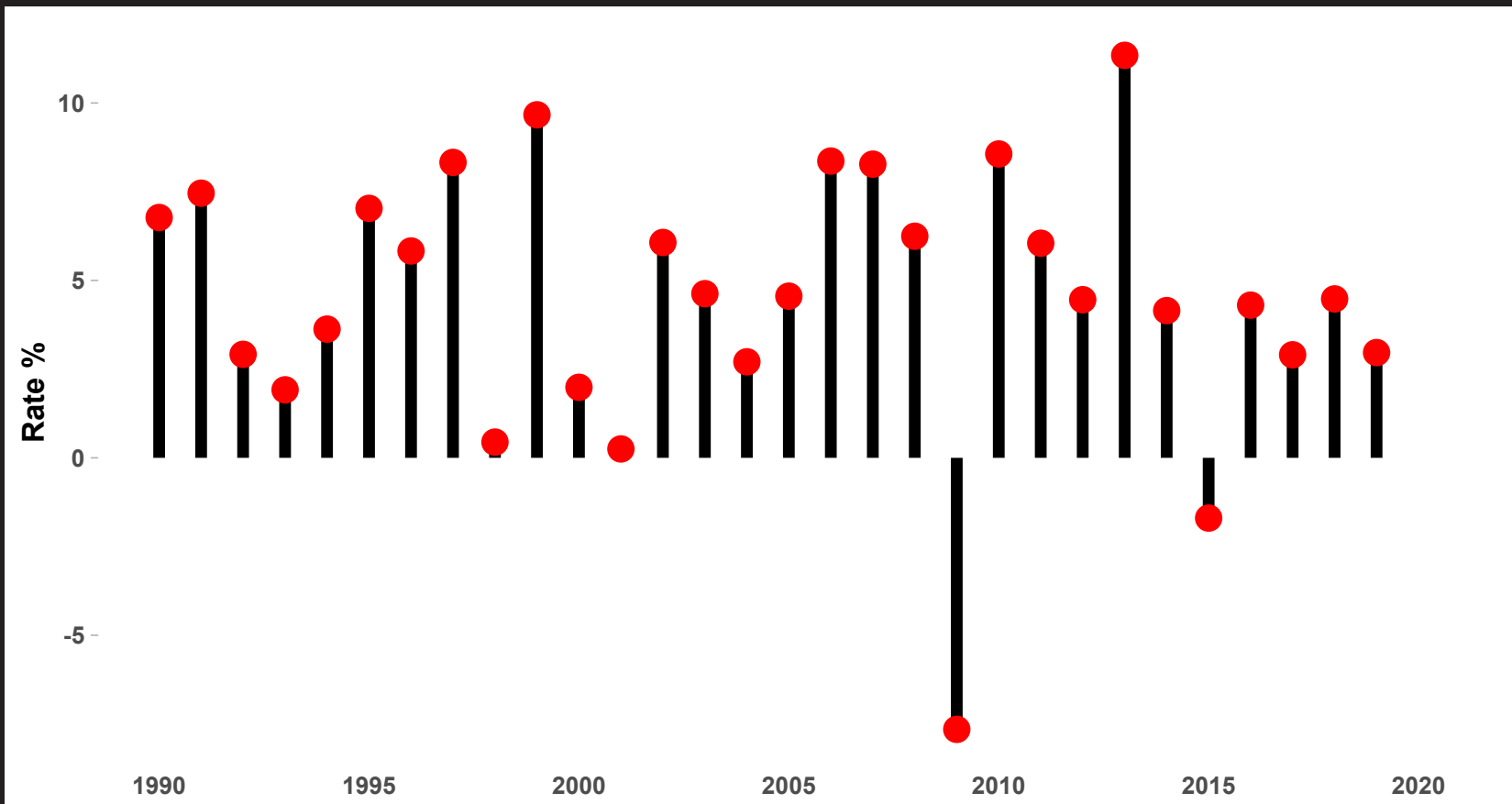


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Botswana National Front

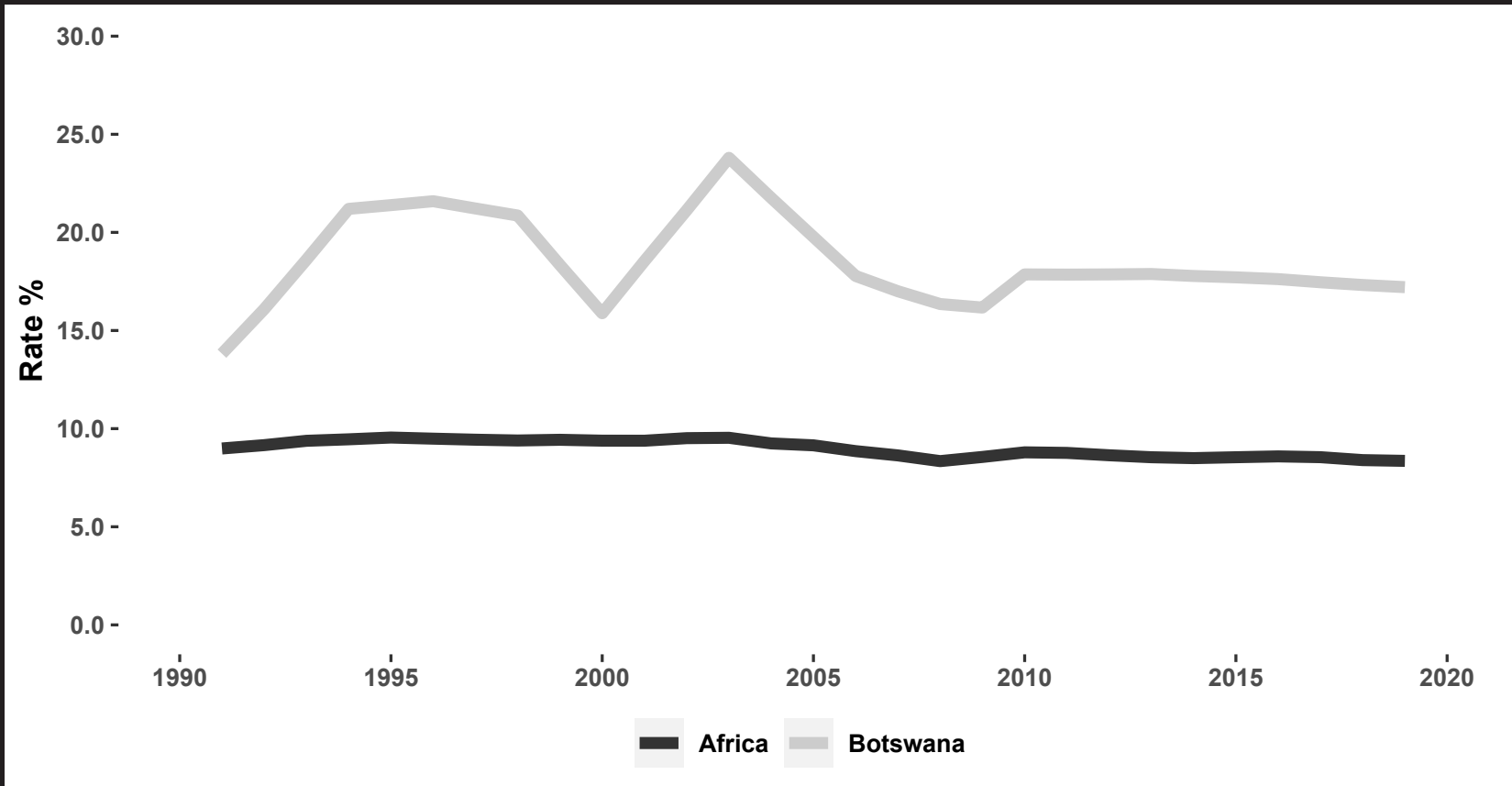
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



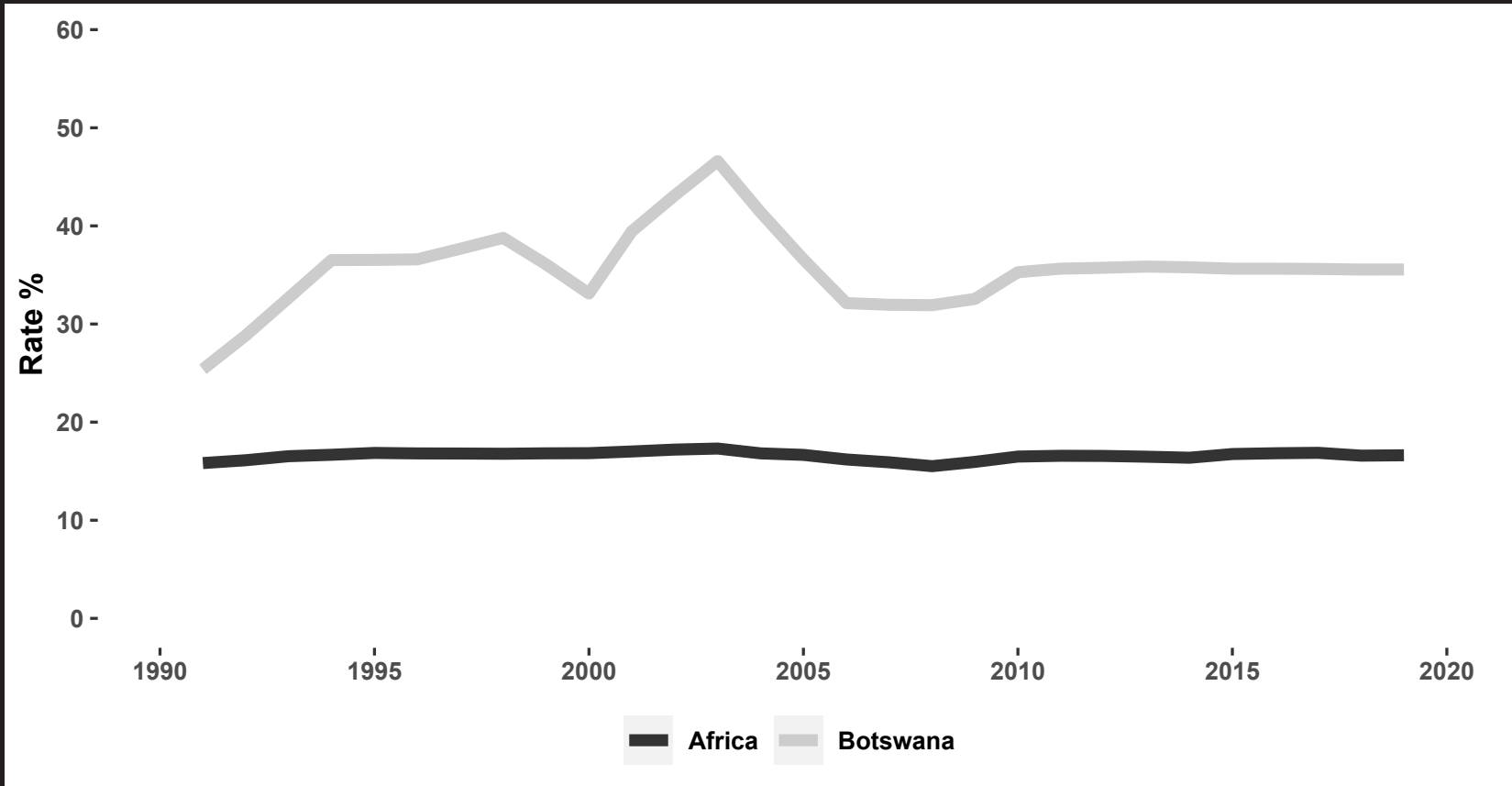
Apart from a deep recession during the 2008 global financial crisis and a smaller recession in 2015, Botswana has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



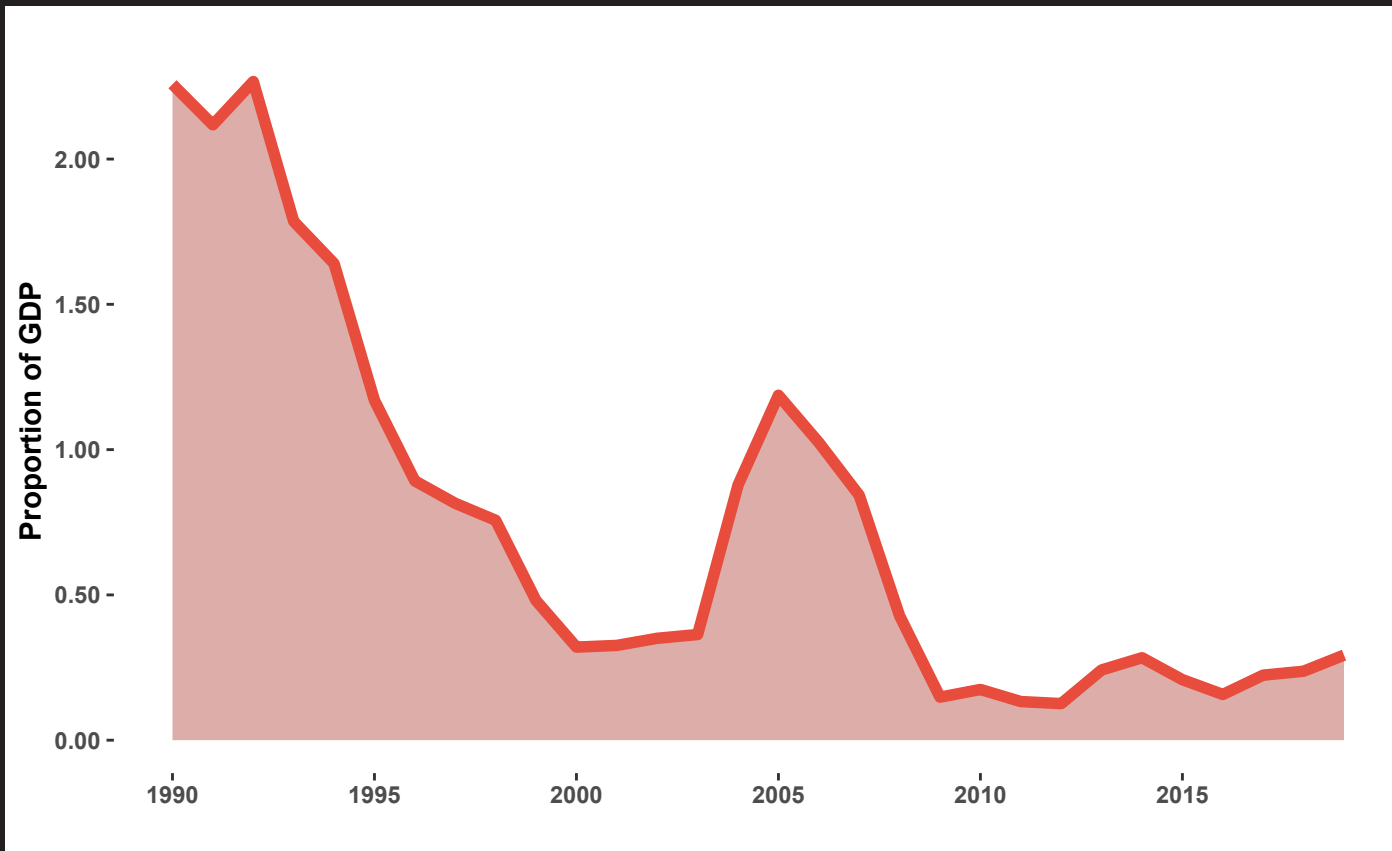
Botswana’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Botswana’s youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) has steadily risen compared to the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$53.7 million

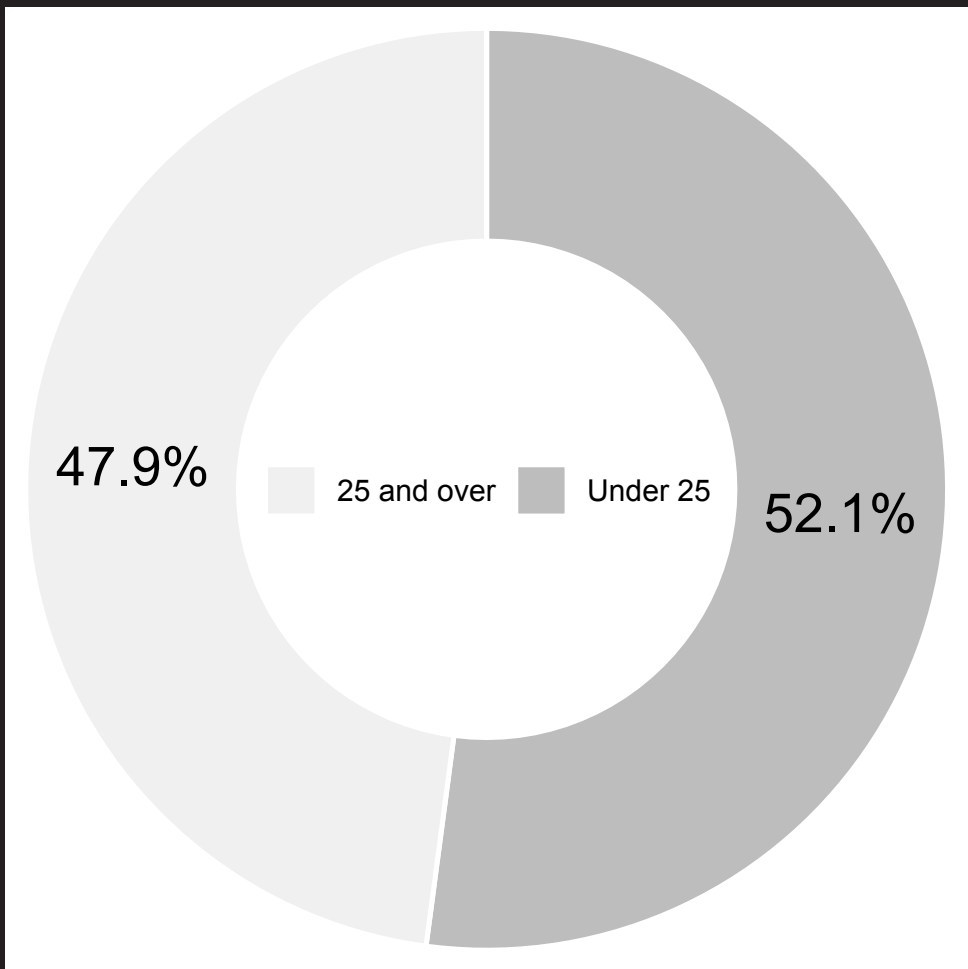
which represents

0.29% of GDP

Botswana is one of the African countries that is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

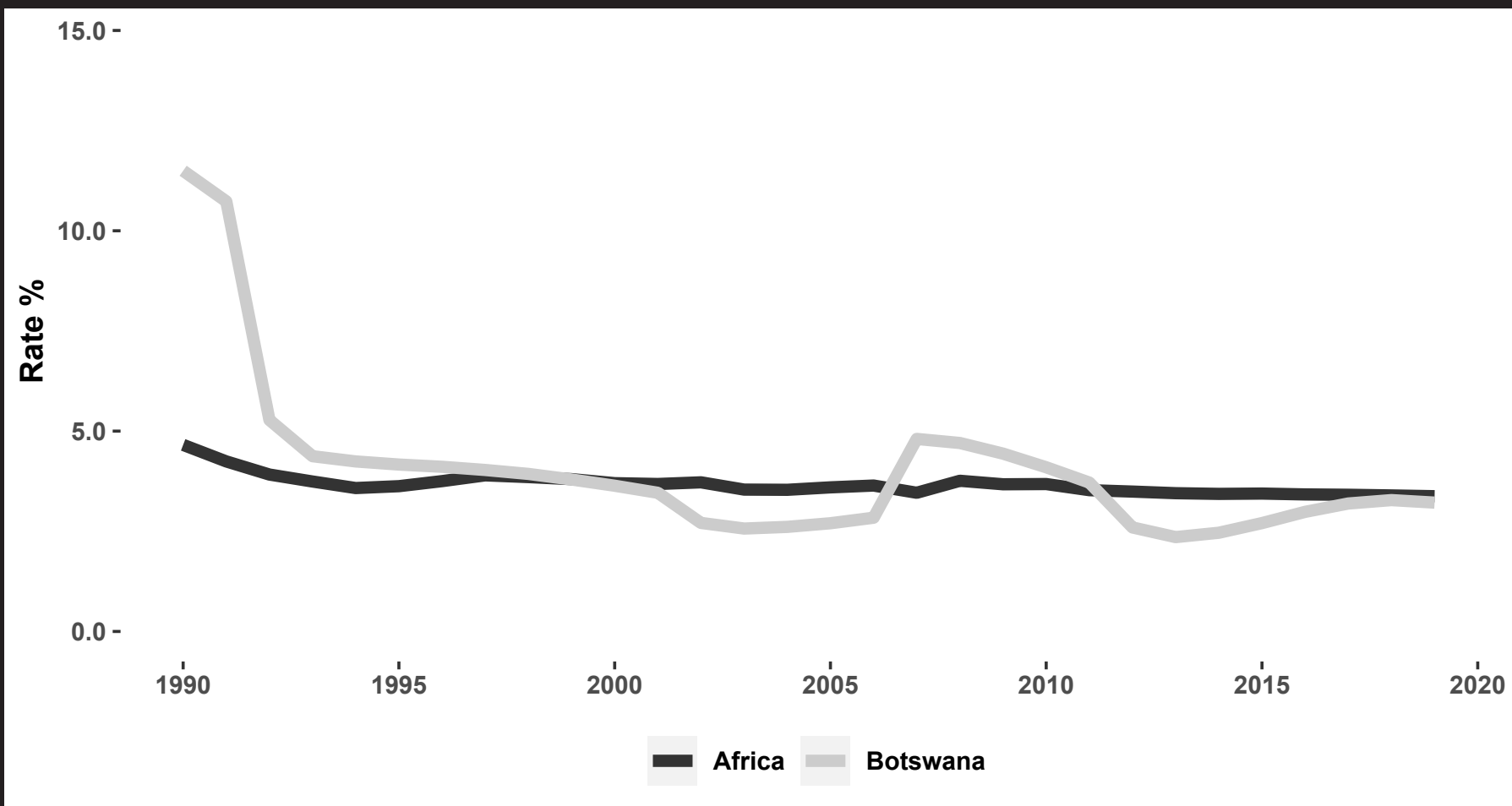
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



2.3 million

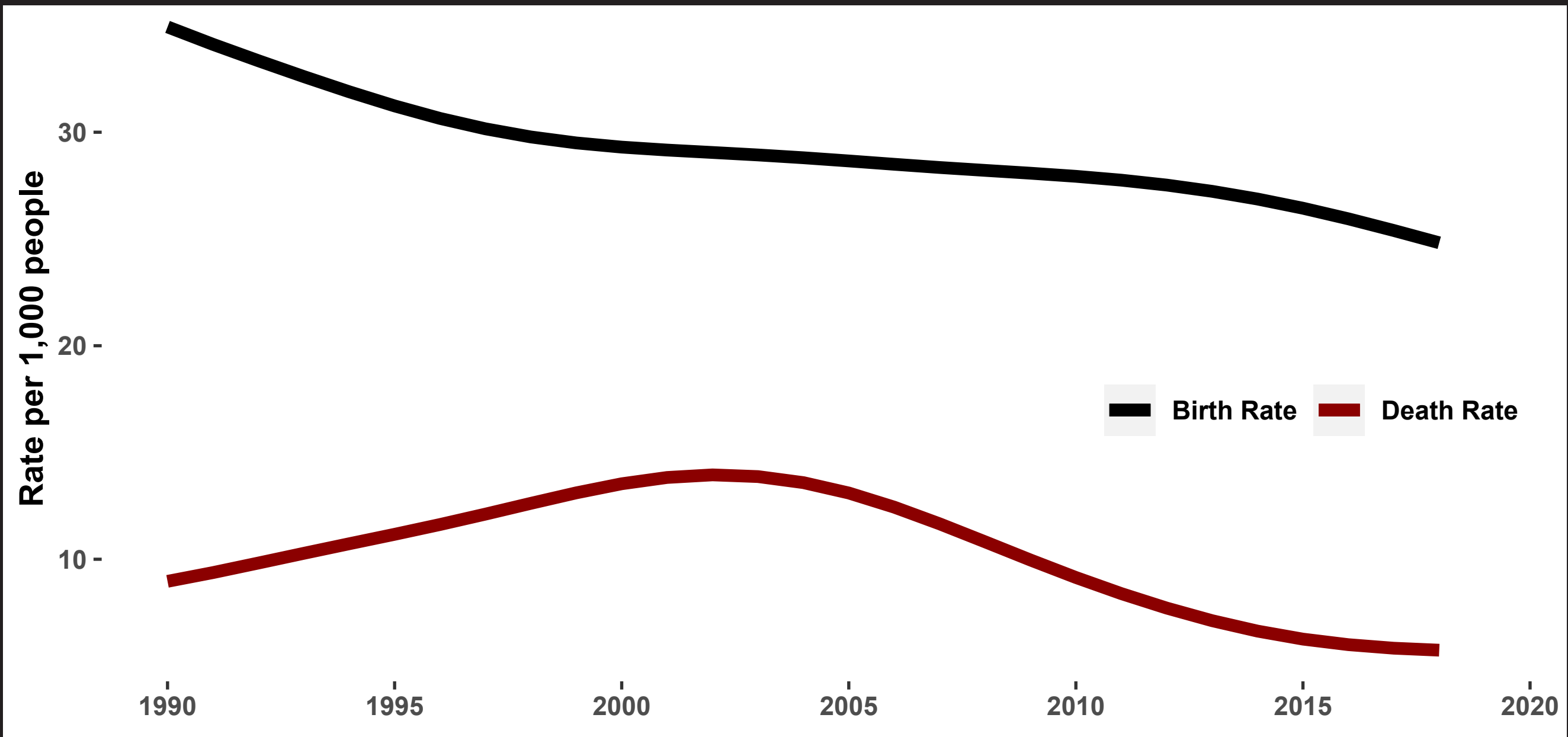
Although Botswana’s under-25 population is greater than its over-25 population, the difference in proportion is much closer in Botswana than in most African countries.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Botswana experienced rapid urbanisation in the early 1990s but since then its urbanisation rate has tracked very closely to the African average.

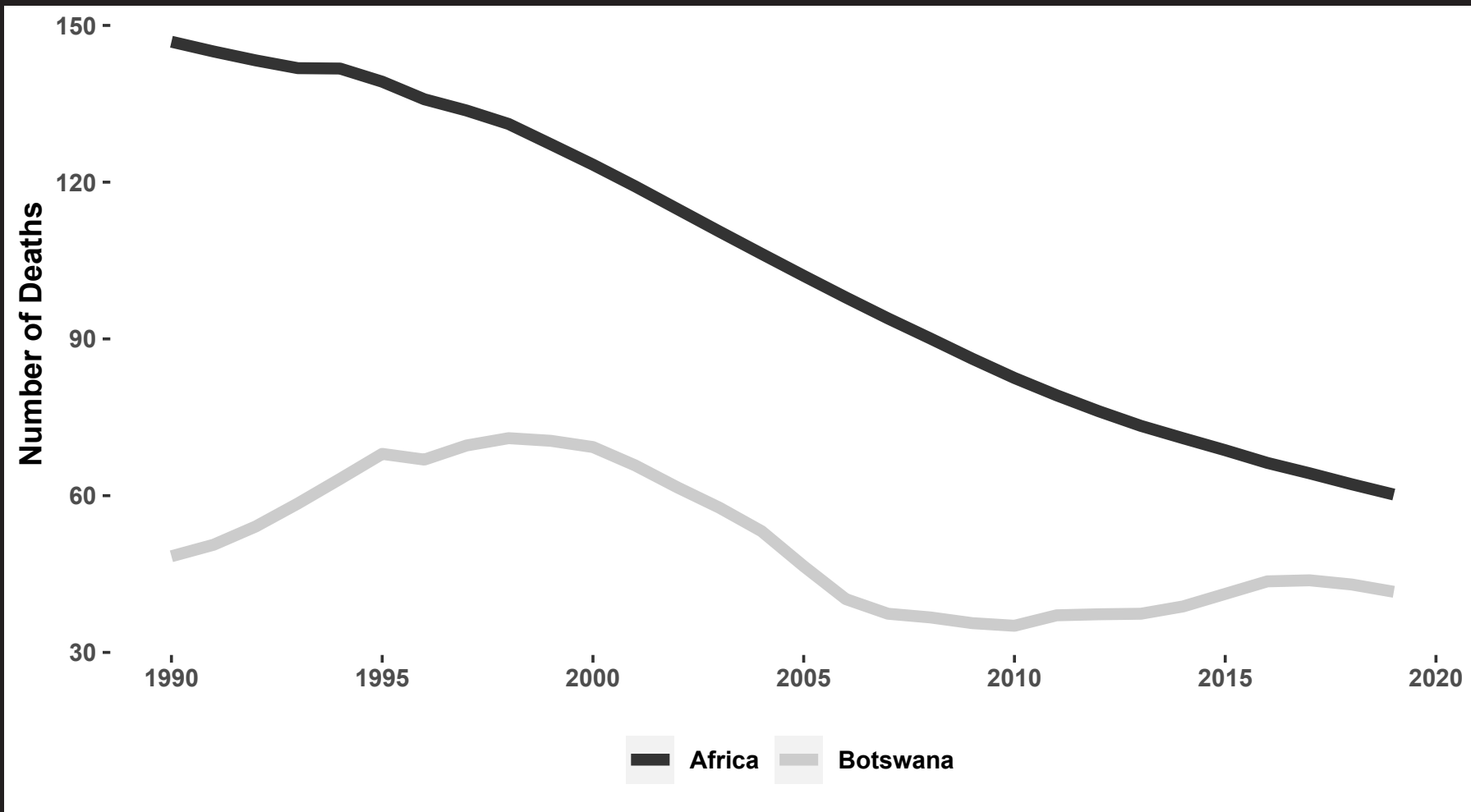
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Although there has been a steady decline in Botswana’s birth rate over the past 30 years, the death rate saw an increase during the peak of the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the late 1990s/early 2000s. Thus, the population growth slowed rapidly during this period.

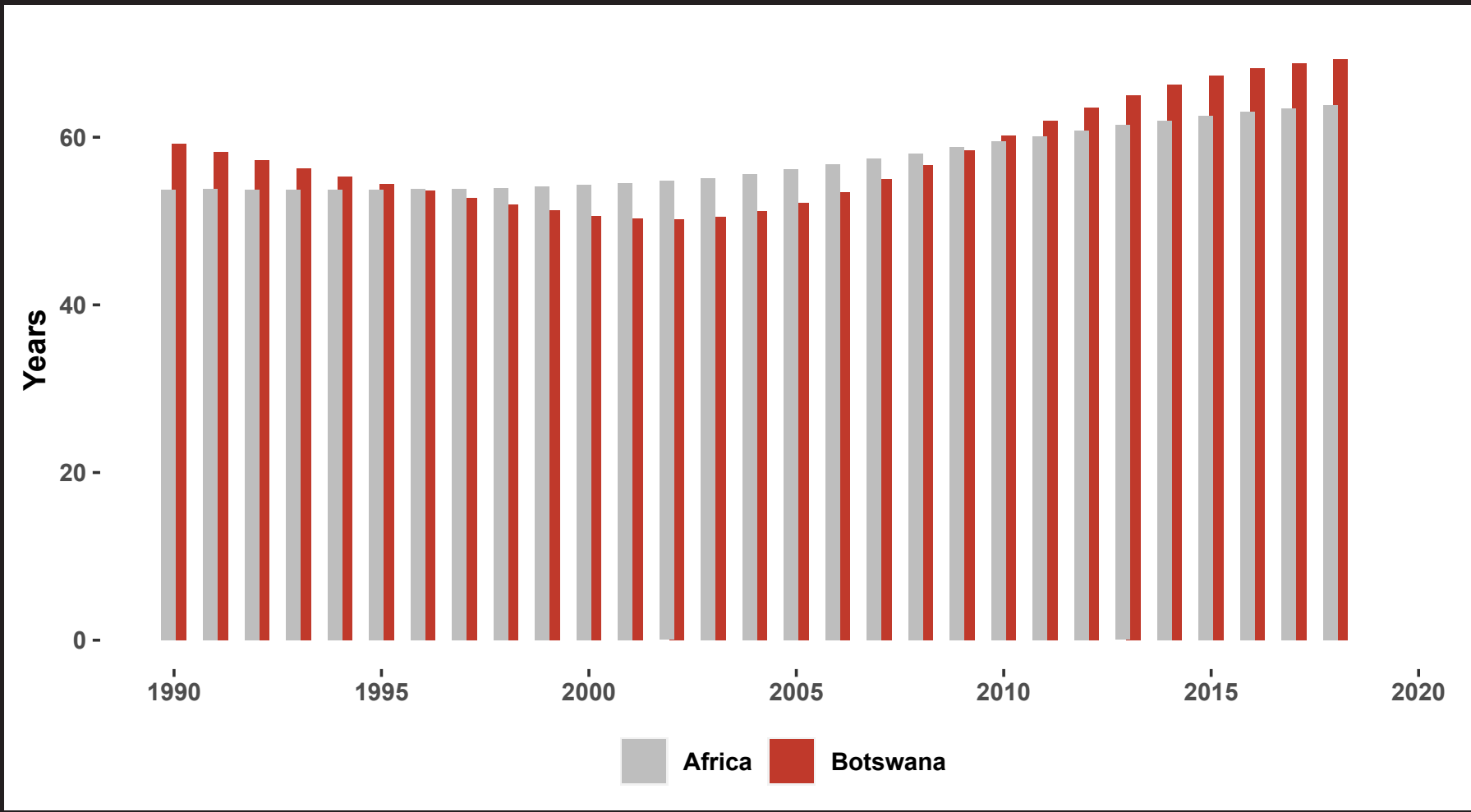
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



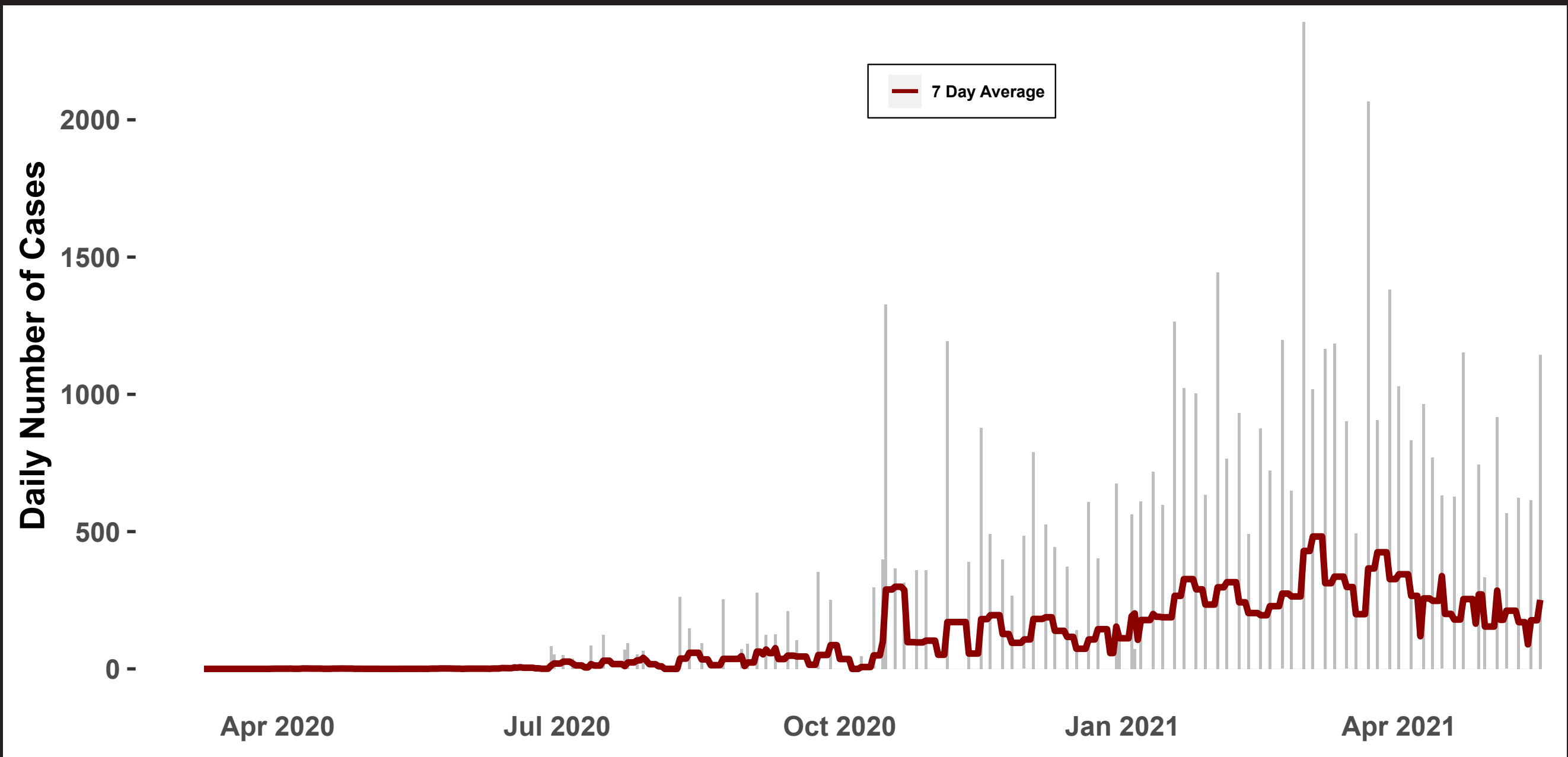
Although Botswana’s child mortality rate has been consistently lower than the African average, the HIV/AIDS epidemic meant that there was an uncharacteristic rise in the child mortality rate between 1990 and 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Botswana’s life expectancy at the turn of the 21st century declined due to the severity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Since 2005, life expectancy in Botswana has started to increase and by 2010 was once again above the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Botswana hasn’t experienced any true Covid-19 waves.

DID YOU KNOW?

Surreal Name Given on Flickr.com



Botswana is one of the world’s largest producers of diamonds.

Alessandro on Flickr.com



Botswana is home to the densest elephant population in the world, to be found mostly in Chobe National Park.

Mario Micklisch on Flickr.com

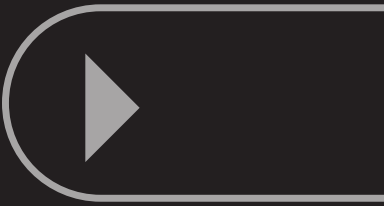
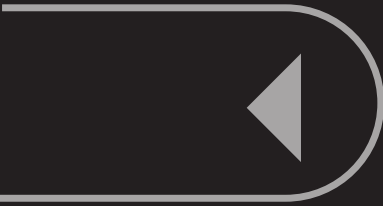


Botswana is home to the San Bushmen, the oldest inhabitants of southern Africa, where they have lived for at least 20,000 years.



BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa, bordered by Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana and the Ivory Coast. It covers around 274,200 km². The capital is Ouagadougou, and the official currency is the CFA franc. Until 1984, the country was called the Republic of Upper Volta, which was established in 1958 as a self-governing colony within the French community. It gained independence in 1960 with Maurice Yaméogo as president. The country was renamed Burkina Faso on 4 August, 1984, by President Thomas Sankara. The citizens of Burkino Faso are known as Burkinabé or Burkinabè. The economy of Burkina Faso is based primarily on subsistence farming and the raising of livestock.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Roch Marc
Christian Kaboré

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

DECEMBER

11

SINCE 1958



CAPITAL CITY

Ouagadougou

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

182

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

70



MAIN LANGUAGES

French, followed
by Mossi

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Semi-presidential, multiparty republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

People's Movement for Progress

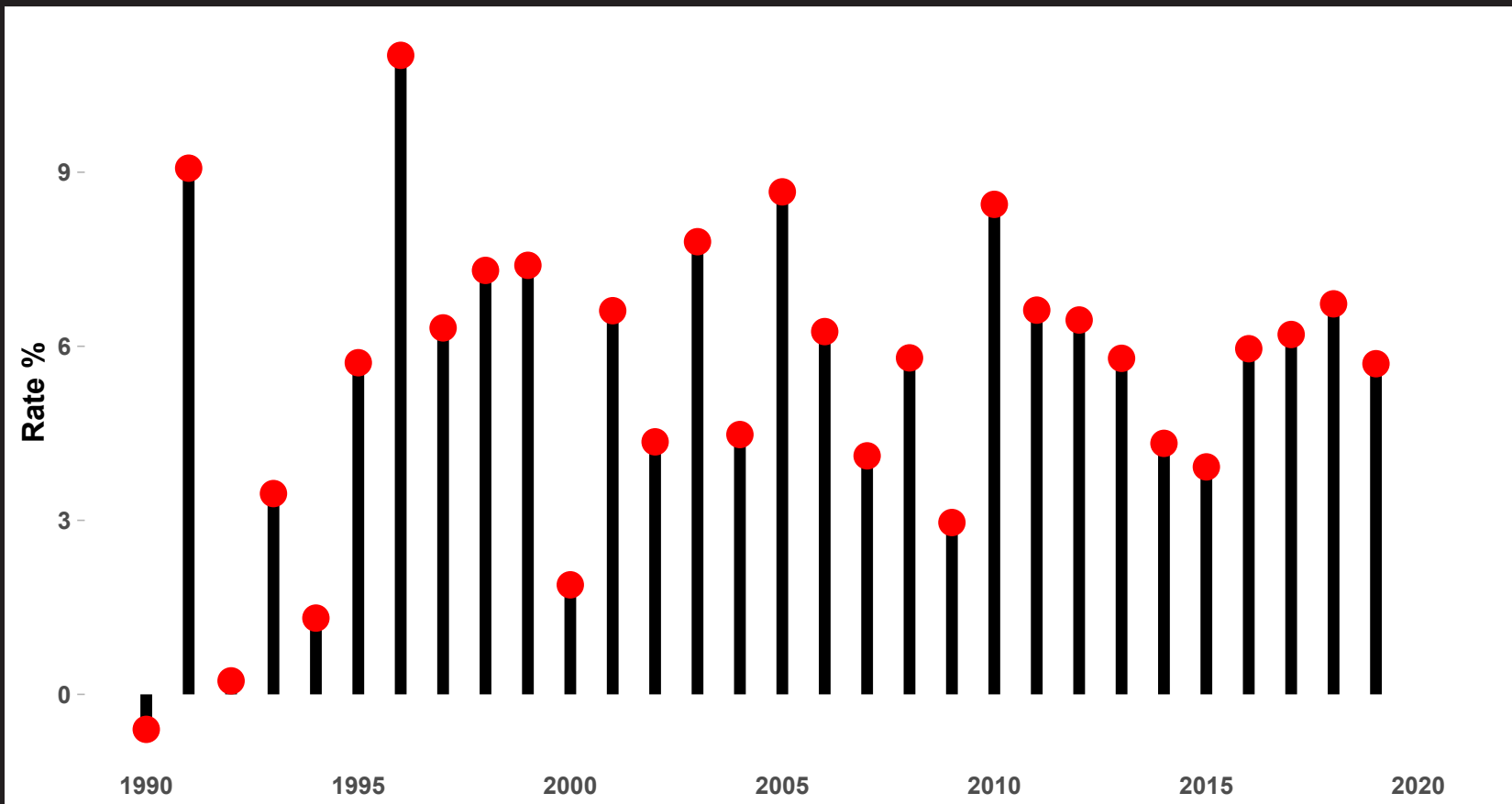


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Union for Progress and Change

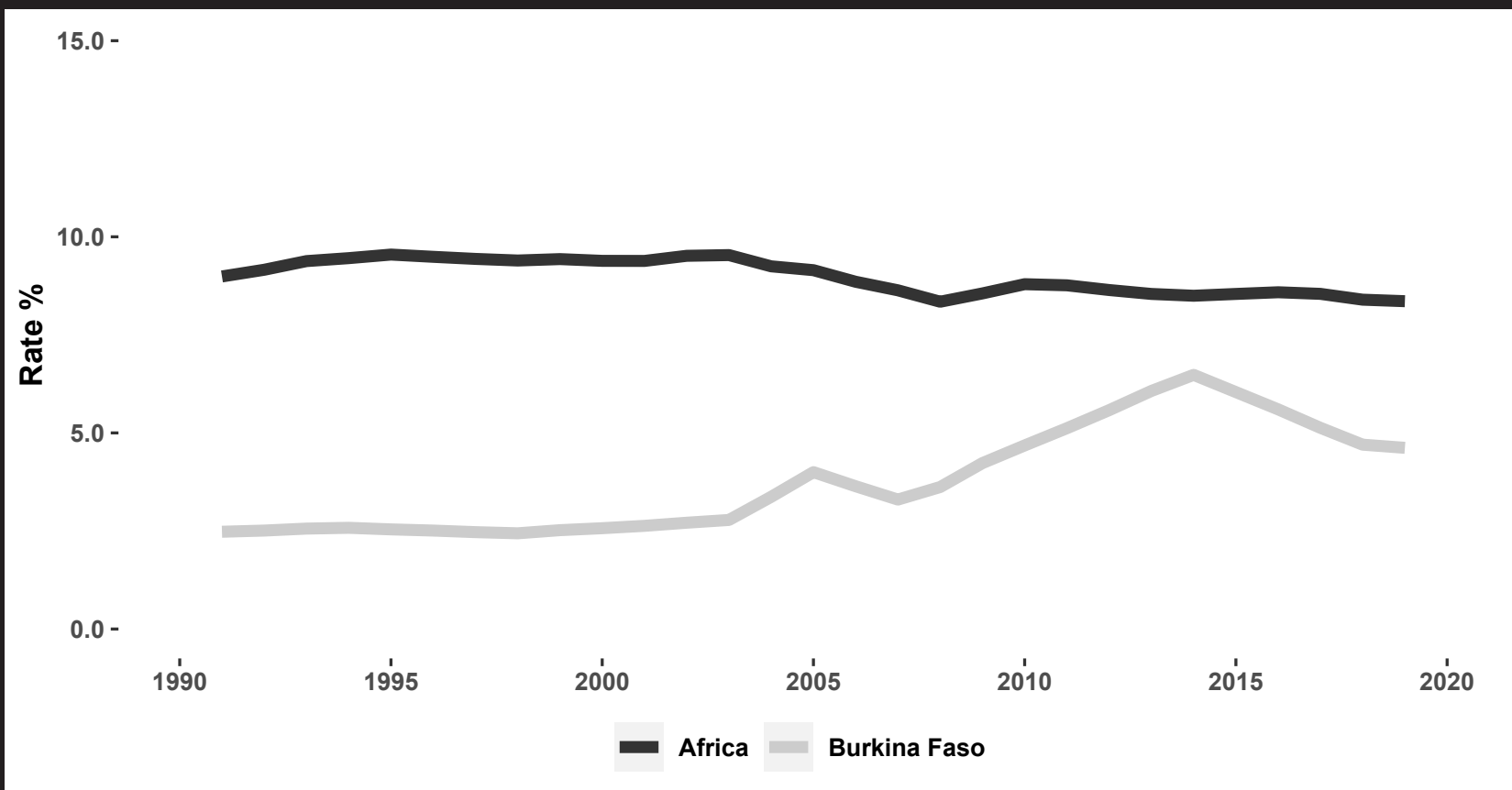
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



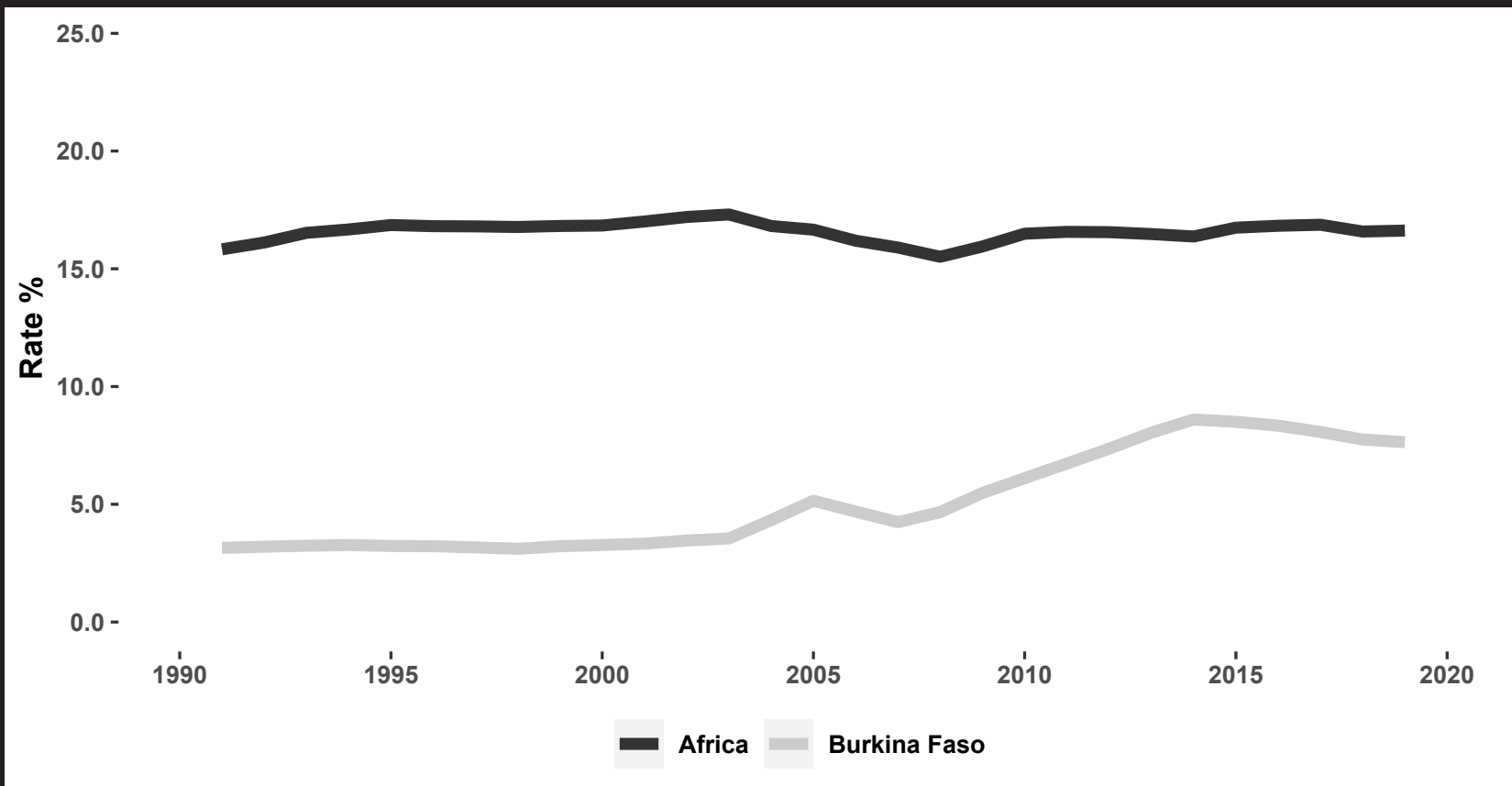
Burkina Faso has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



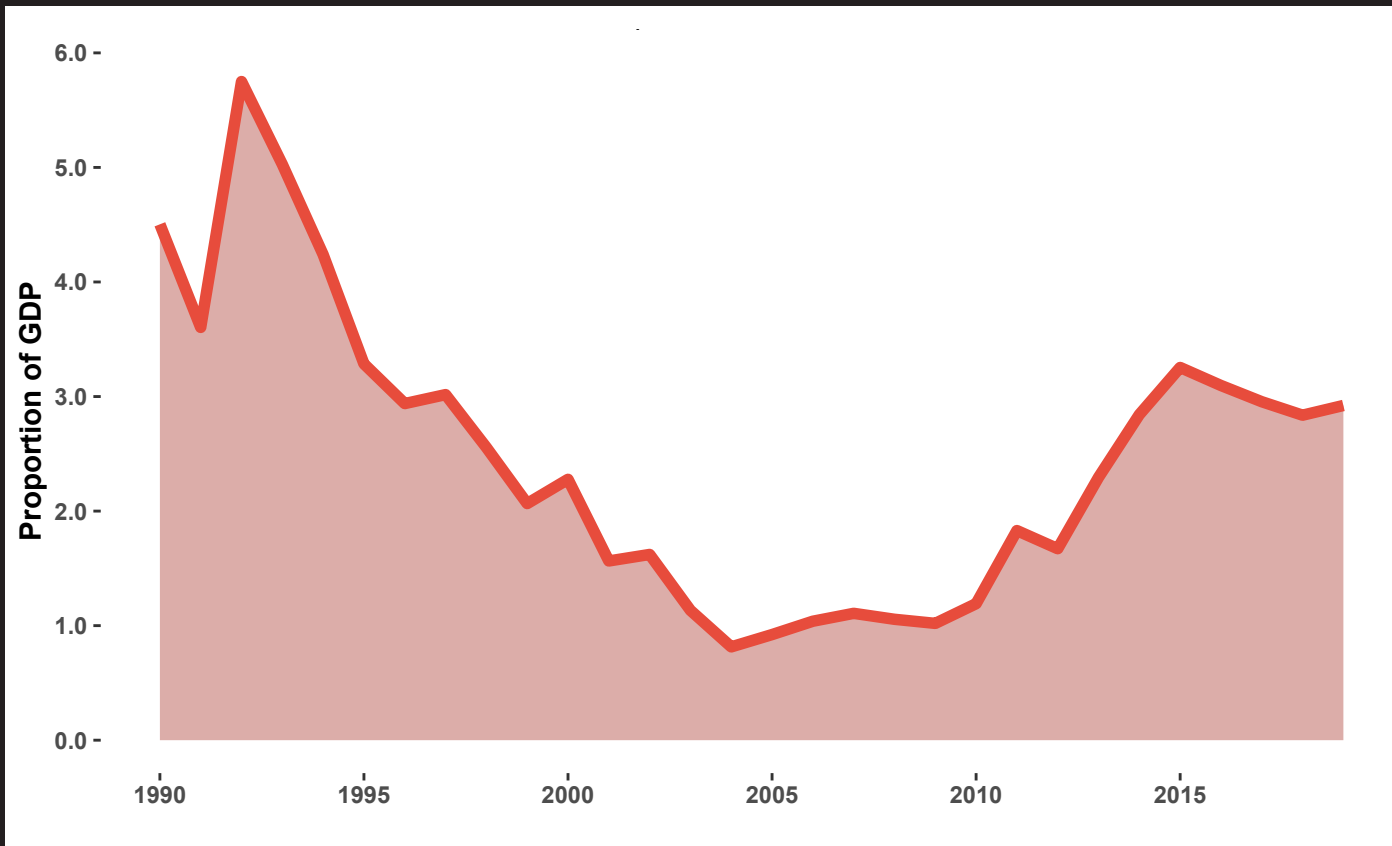
Burkina Faso has experienced an increase in its unemployment rate in recent years but still has an unemployment rate below the continental average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) has risen in recent years but it is still below the continental average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$467 million

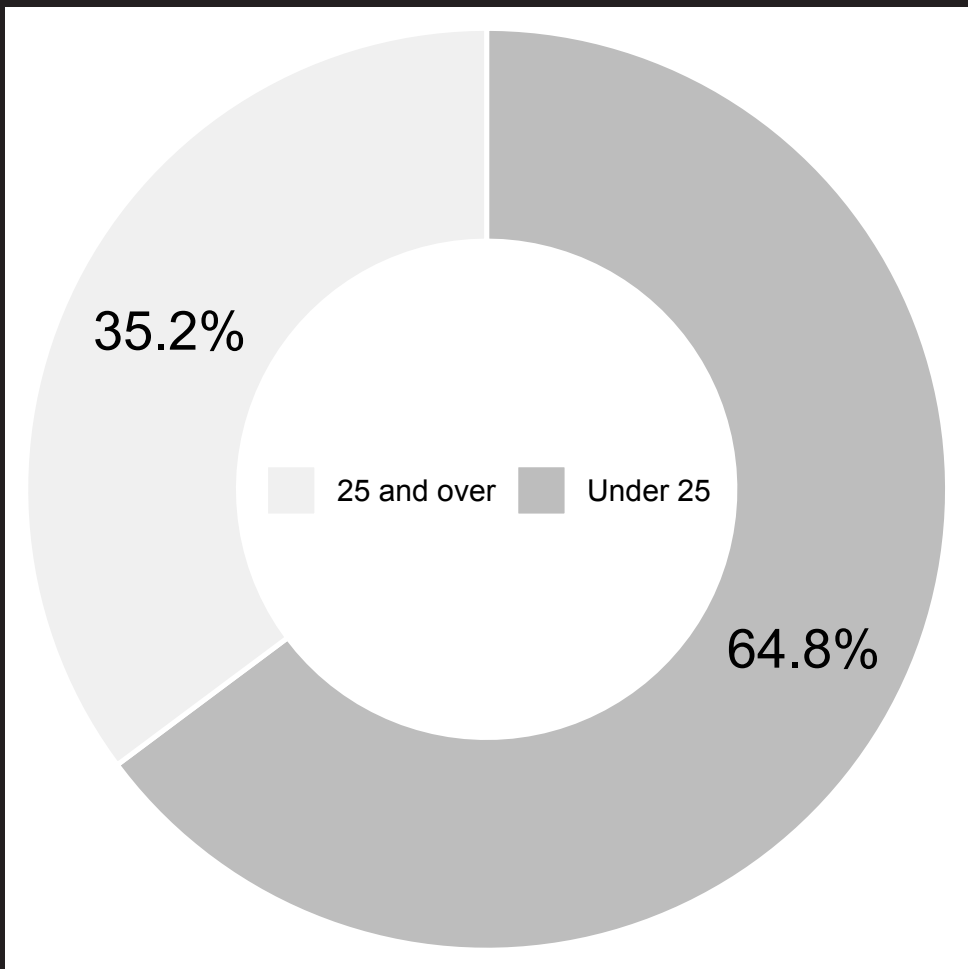
which represents

2.92% of GDP

Burkina Faso has become less reliant on remittances received over time.

DEMOGRAPHICS

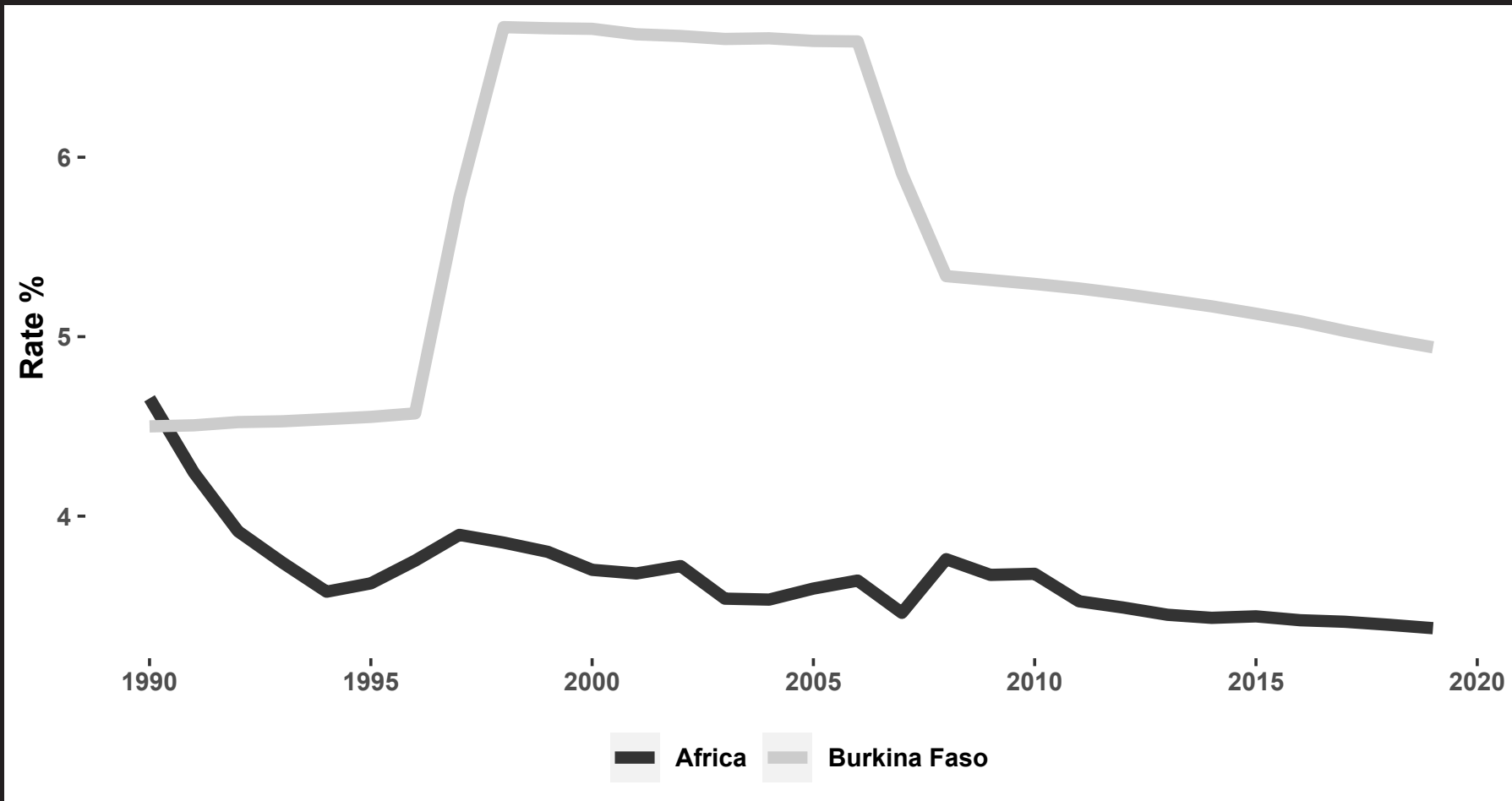
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



20.3 million

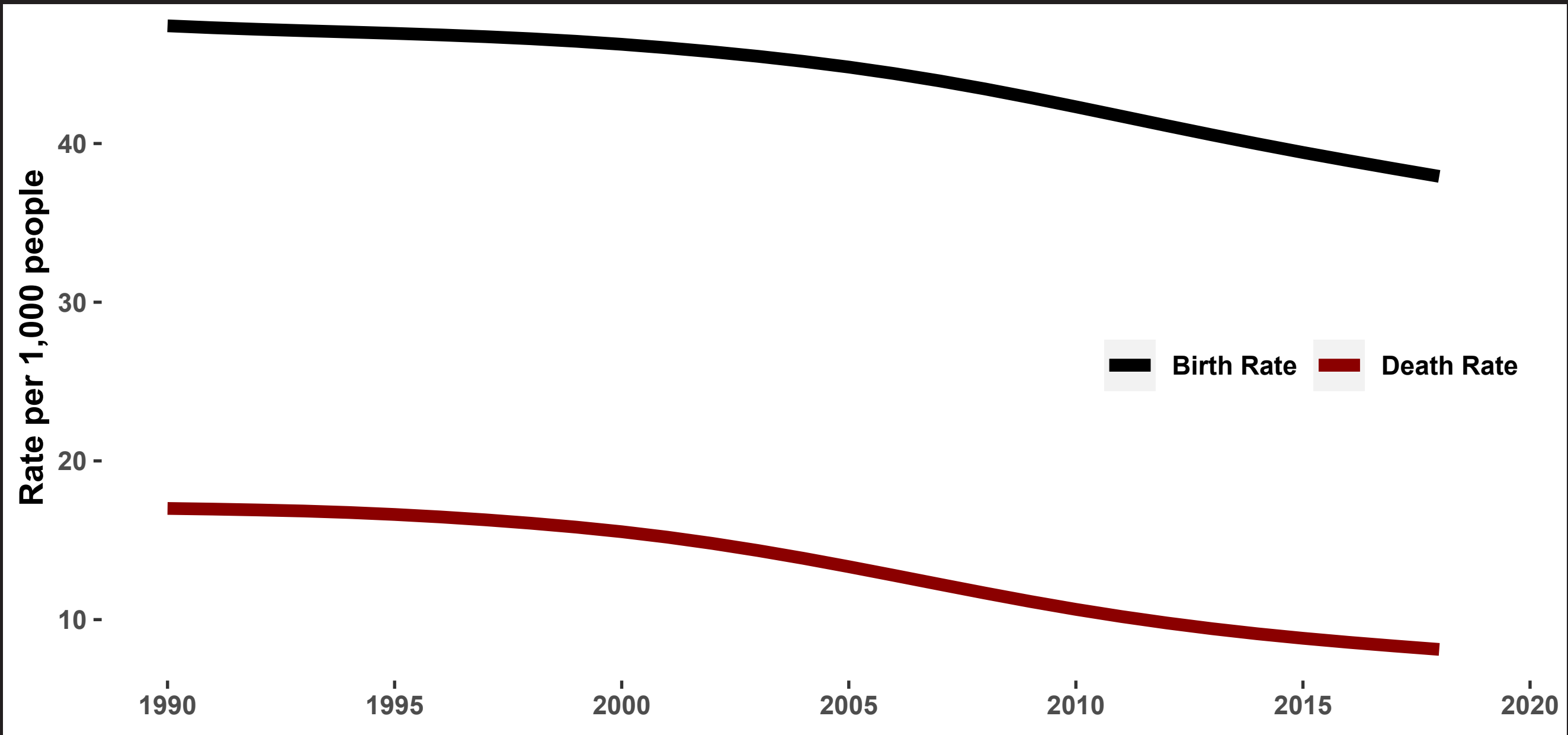
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Burkina Faso’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Burkina Faso has experienced a slowdown in its urbanisation rate in recent years (after a peak between 1997 and 2006), its rate of urbanisation is still faster than the continental average.

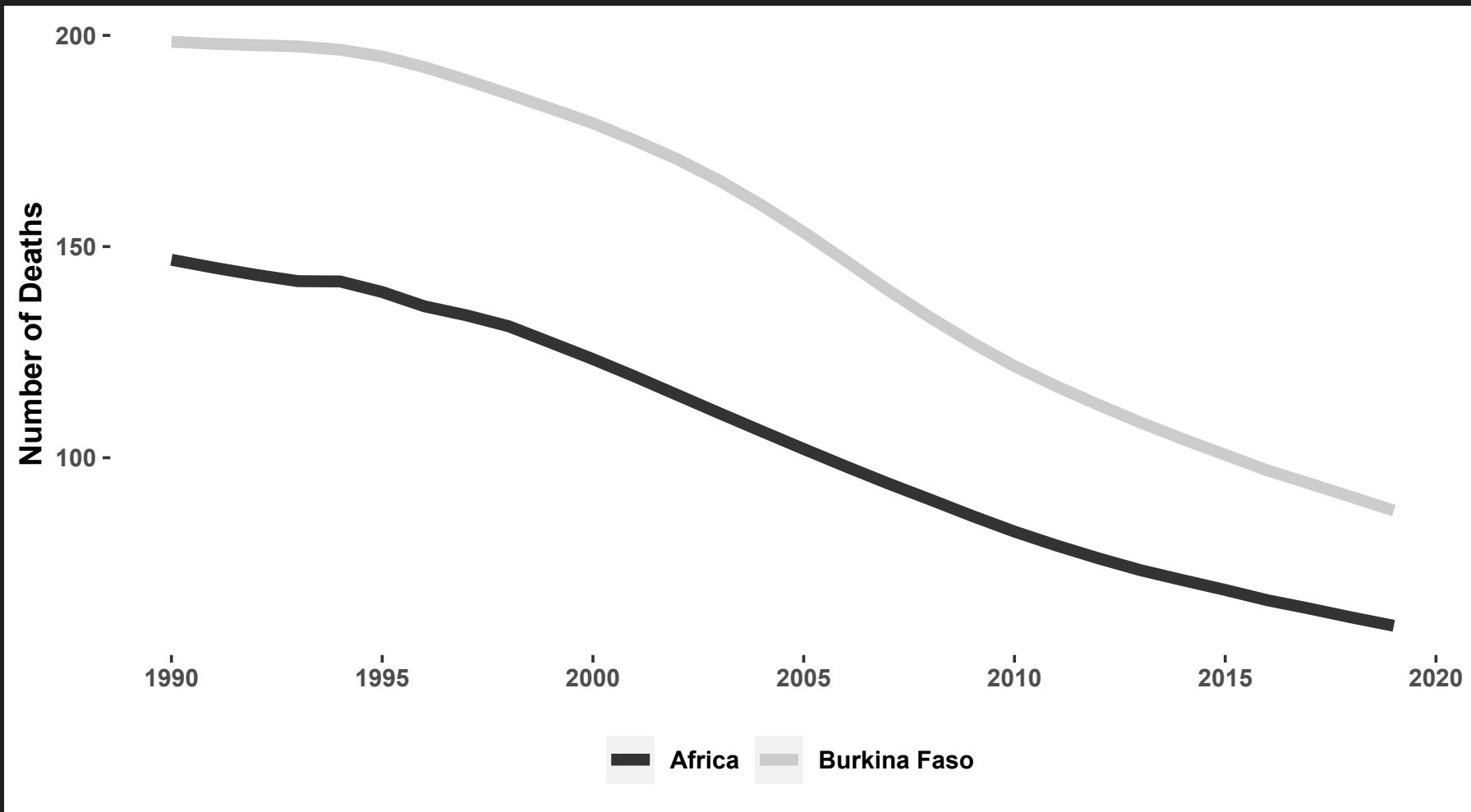
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Burkina Faso has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

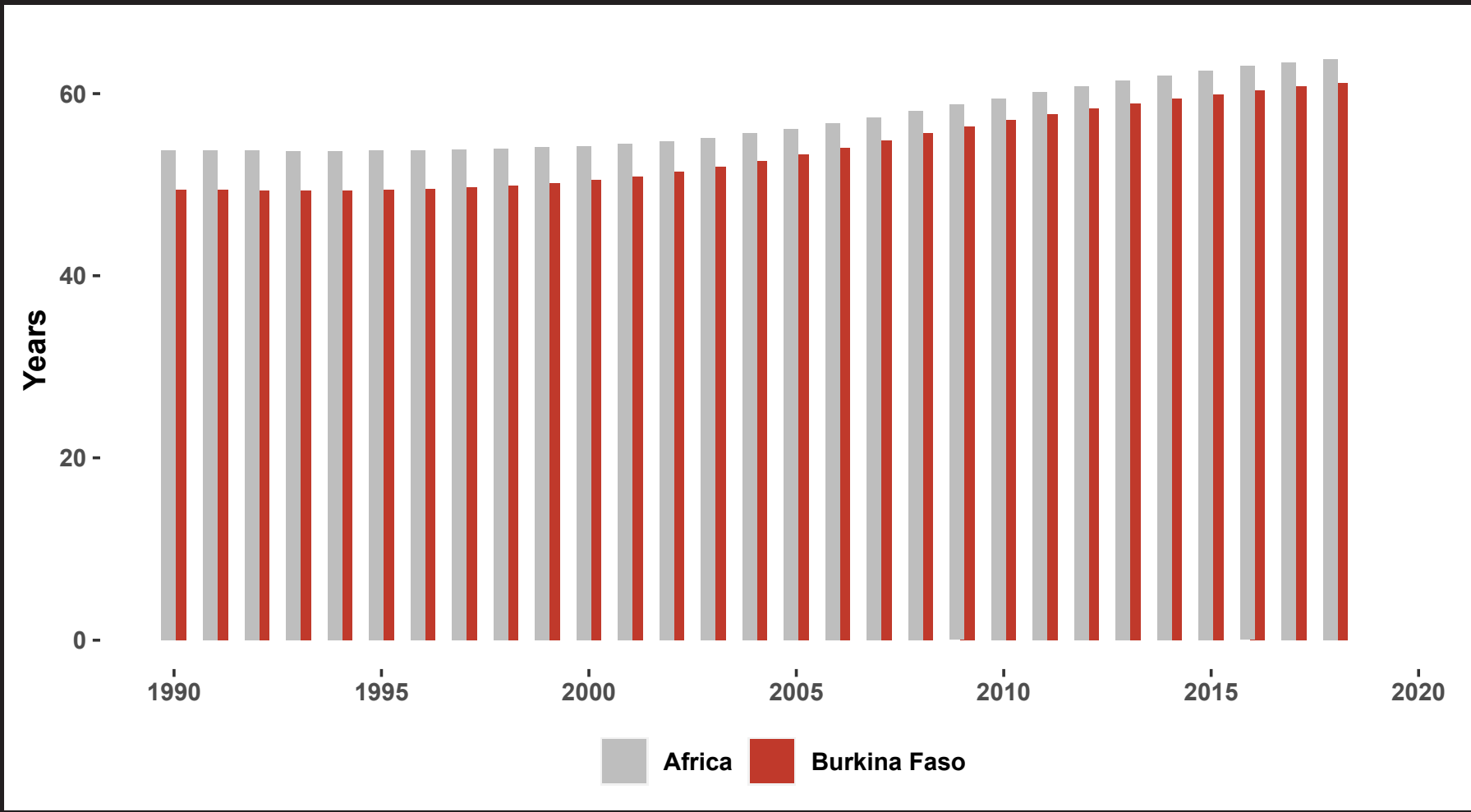
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



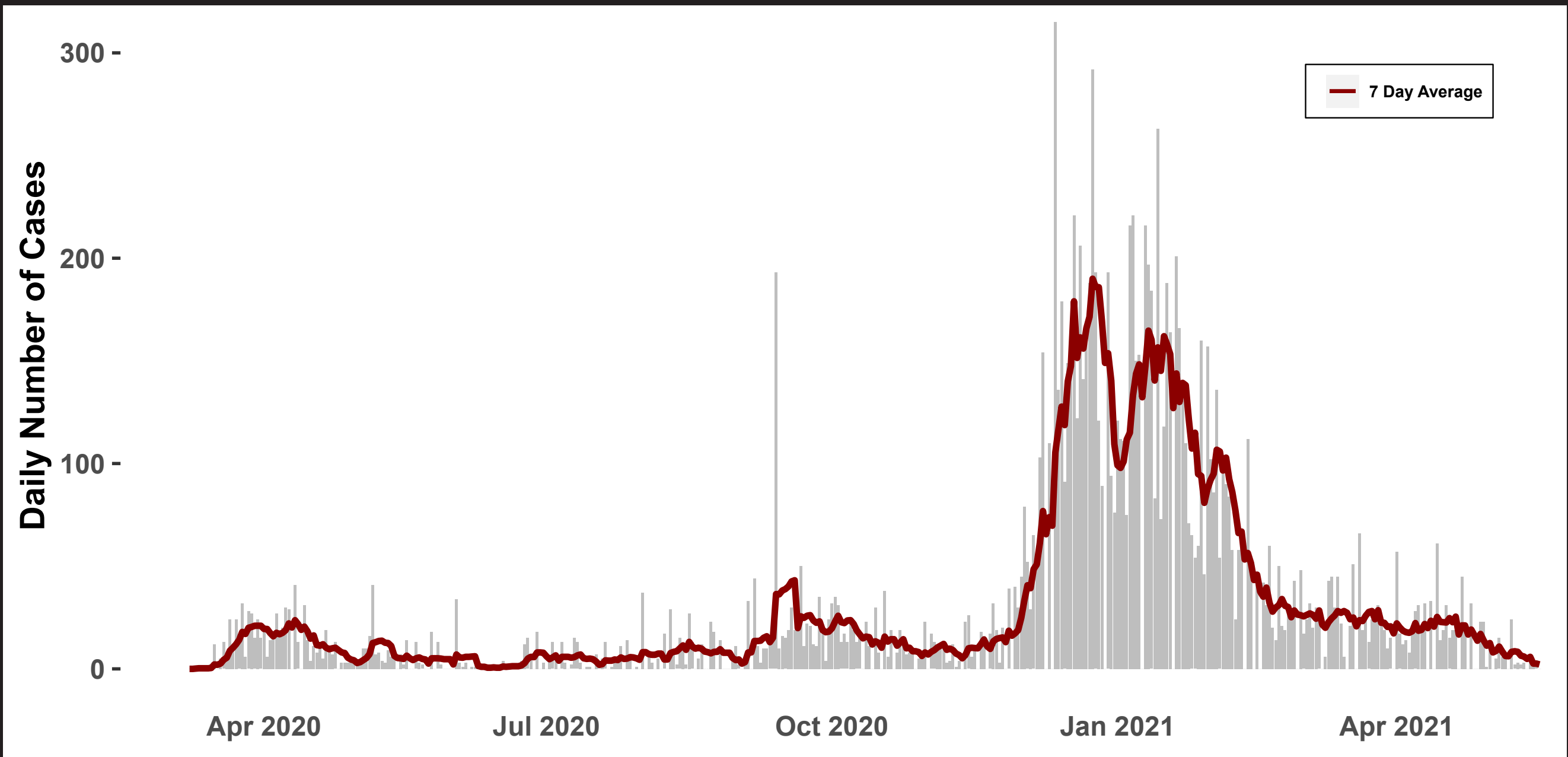
Although Burkina Faso’s child mortality rate is higher than the African average, it has experienced rapid declines in child mortality – especially since 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Although Burkino Faso’s life expectancy is still lower than the African average, the rate of improvement in life expectancy has been faster than the rest of the continent.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Burkina Faso has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in January/March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Alexander Joe / AFP



Thomas Sankara, who ruled Burkina Faso for four years from 1983, is known as the “African Che Guevara” due to his radical left-wing policies and mysterious death in 1987. An accomplished guitarist, he wrote the national anthem.

Göran Höglund on Flickr.com



The median age in Burkina Faso is just 17, making it among the 10 youngest countries in the world.

Melody Warford on Flickr.com



Burkina Faso means “Land of Incorruptible People”



BURUNDI

Burundi is a landlocked country in east-central Africa, bounded by Rwanda, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo. A historic kingdom, Burundi is one of the few countries in Africa whose borders were not determined by the colonial powers. The vast majority of Burundi's population is Hutu, traditionally a farming people. Power, however, has long rested with the Tutsi minority, which historically has controlled the army and most of the economy, particularly the lucrative international export of coffee. Ethnic conflict between the Hutu and Tutsi has plagued the country since it gained independence from Belgium in 1962, at a great cost to human life and property. In January 2019, the parliament of Burundi voted to move the capital city from Bujumbura to Gitega, a move aimed at promoting infrastructural development. The official currency is the Burundian franc.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Évariste Ndayishimiye



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Gitega

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

185

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

3



MAIN LANGUAGES

Kirundi, Swahili and French

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Presidential representative democratic republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Conseil National Pour la Défense de la Démocratie–Forces pour la Défense de la Démocratie (CNDD-FDD)

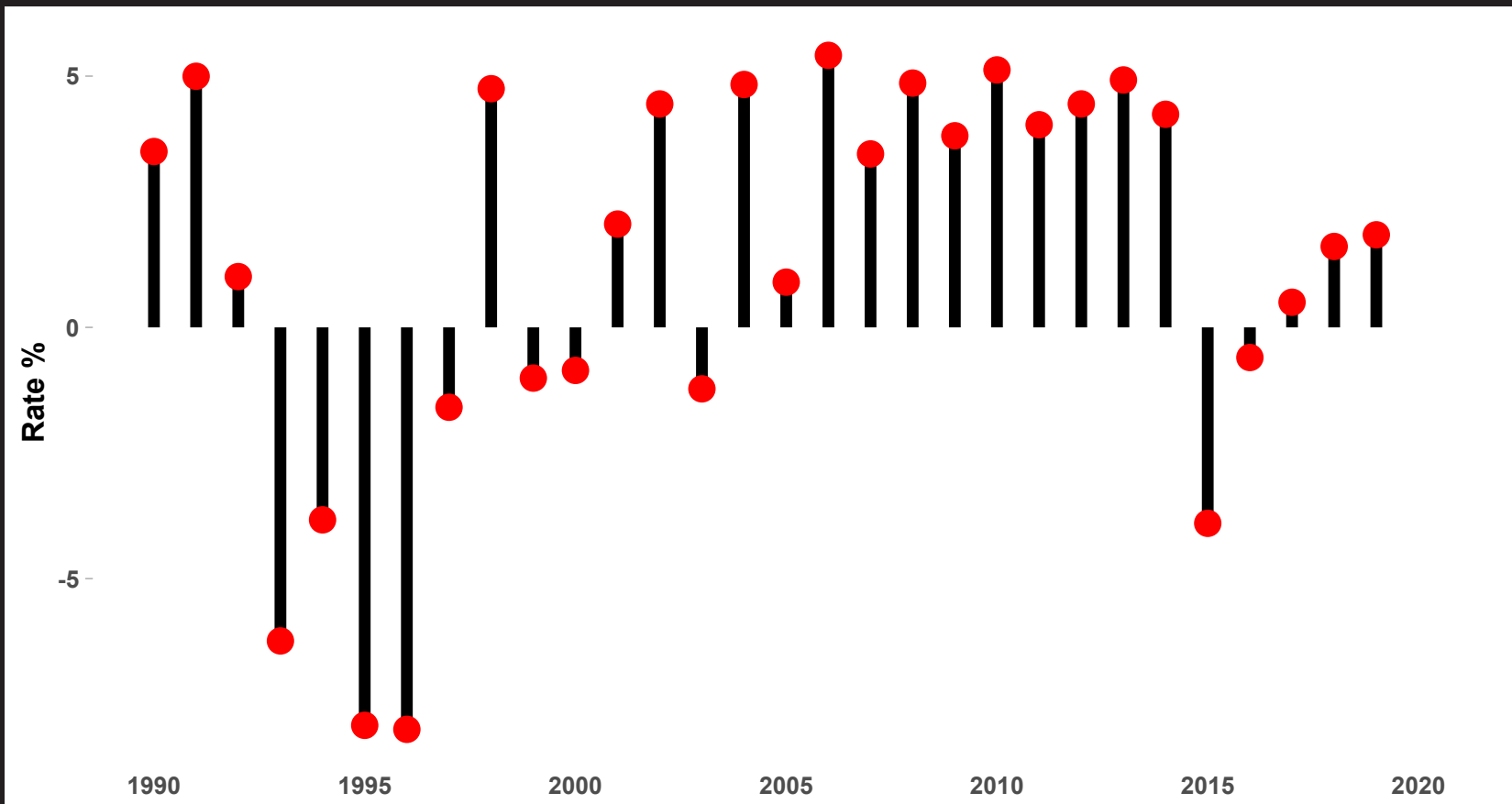


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

National Congress for Liberty

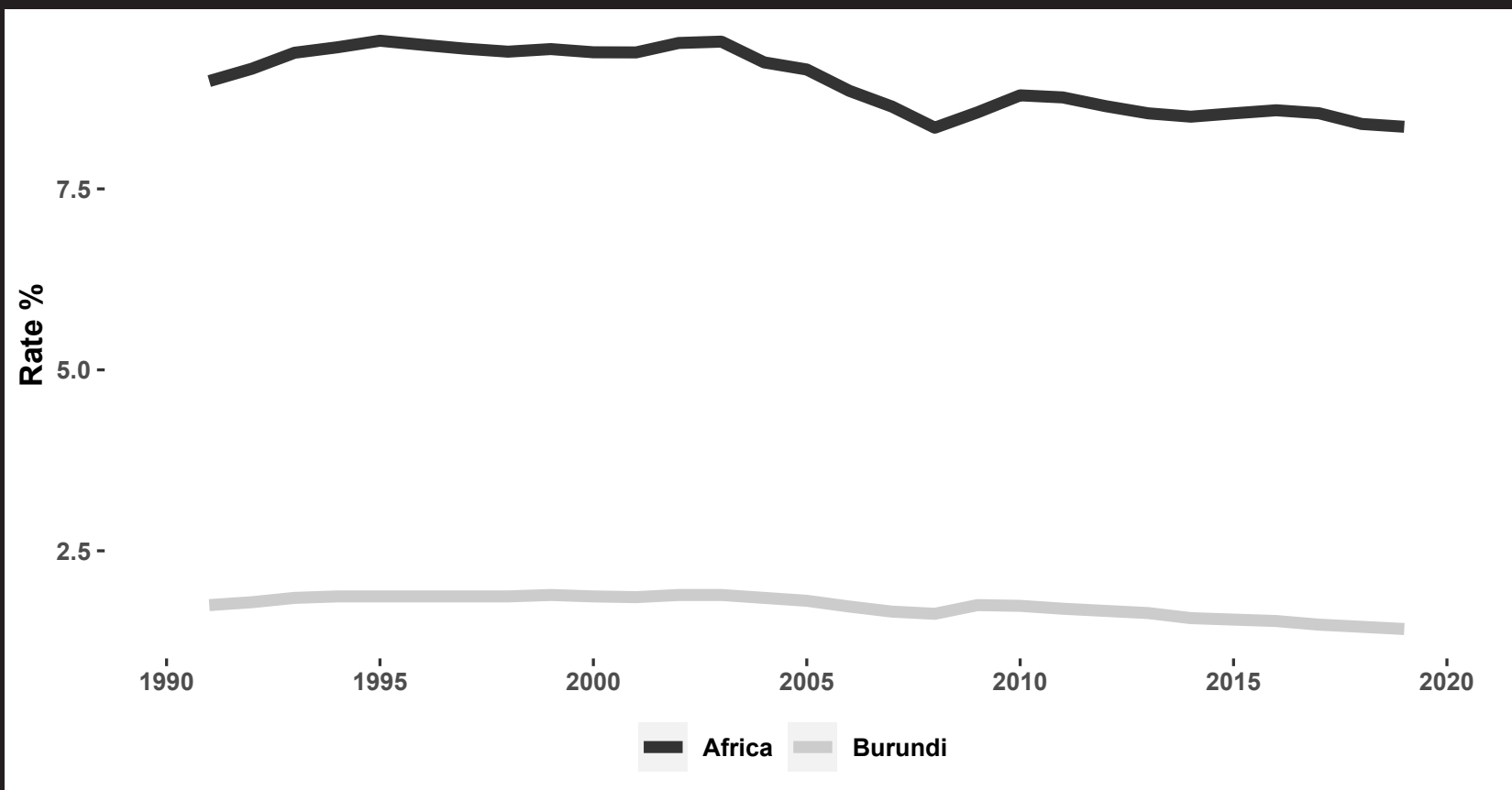
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



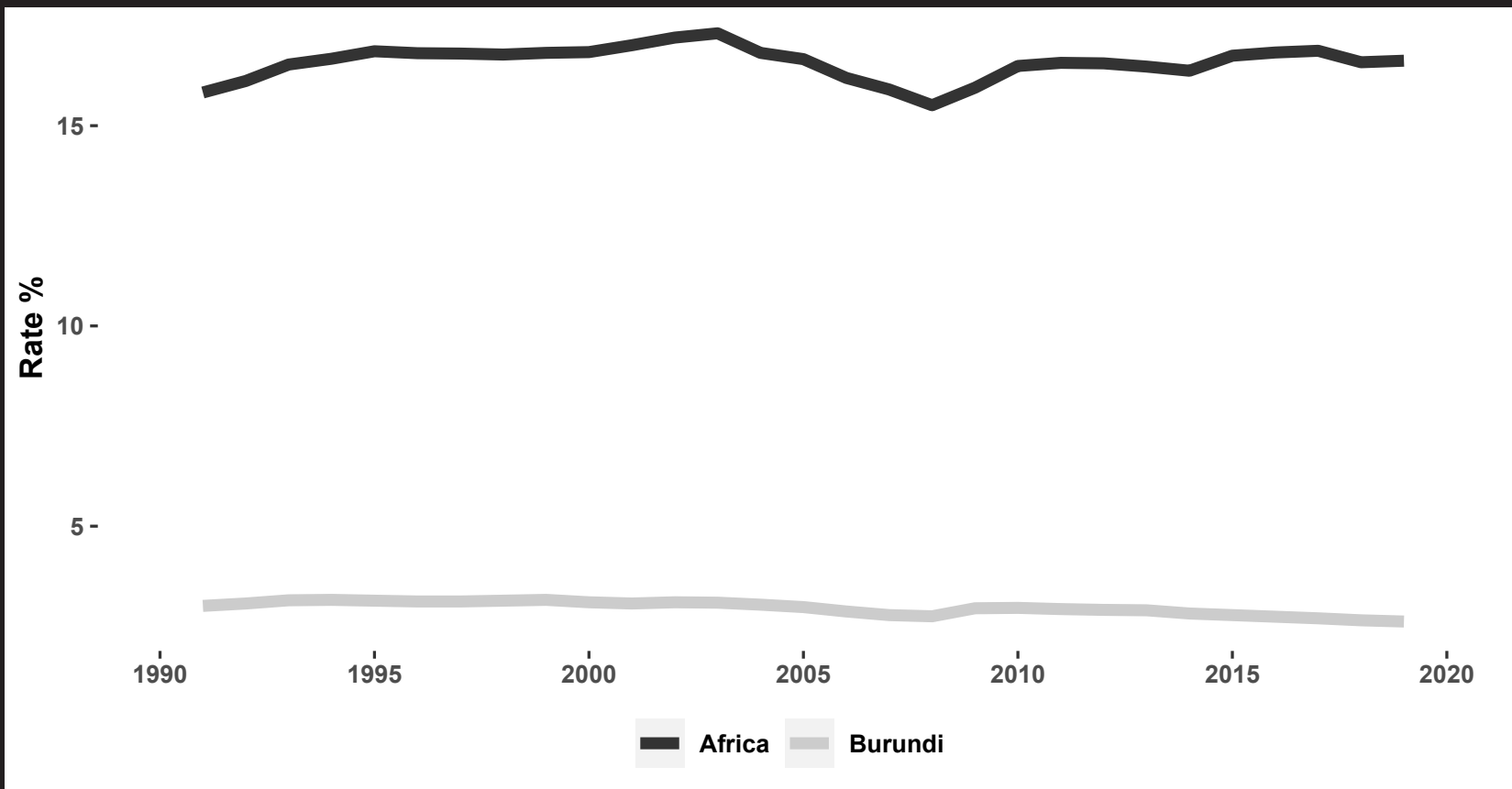
Burundi’s agriculture-reliant economy has experienced erratic economic growth over the past 30 years, especially during the civil war (1993 and 2005).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



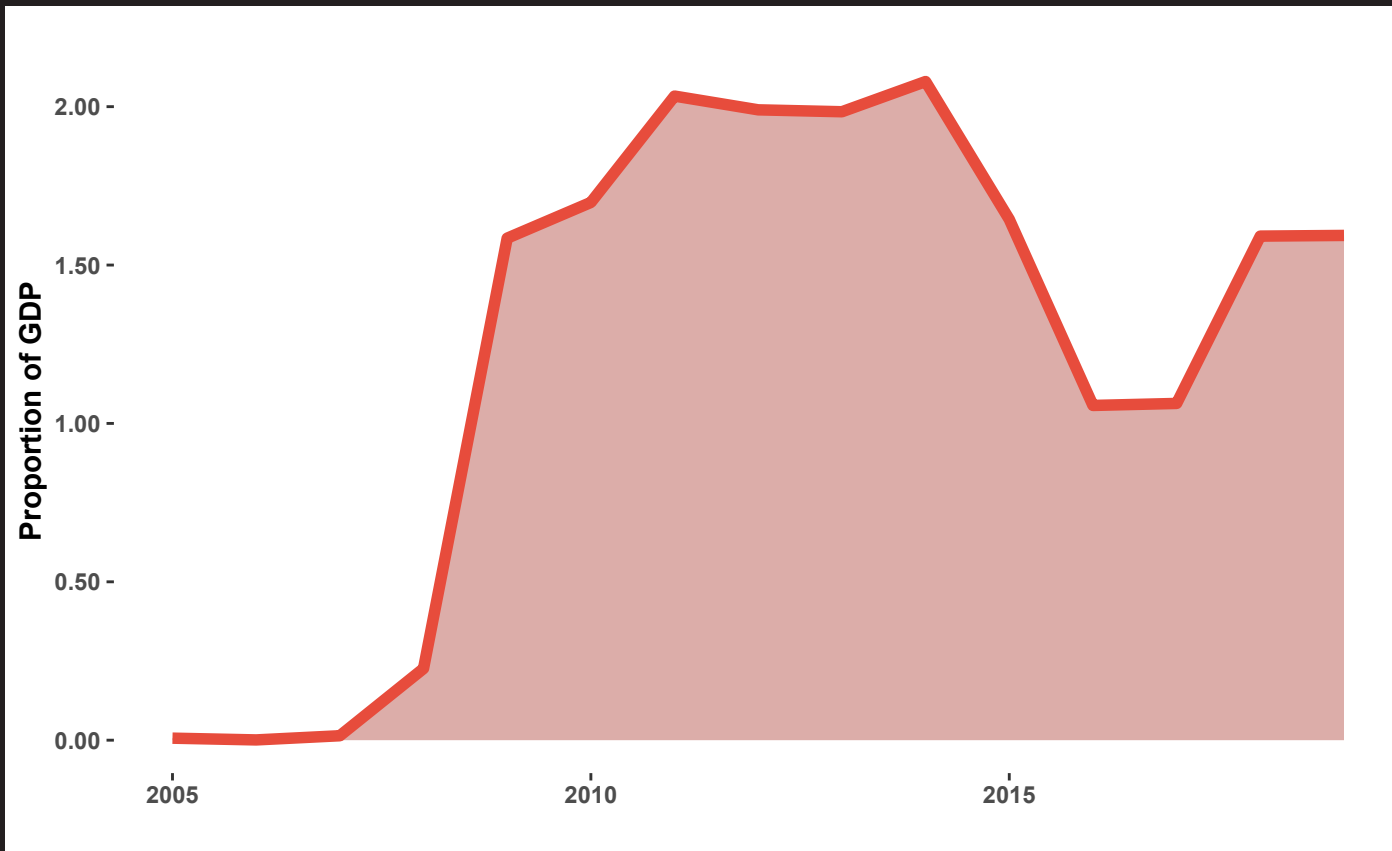
Burundi has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Burundi has had one of the lowest youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$48 million

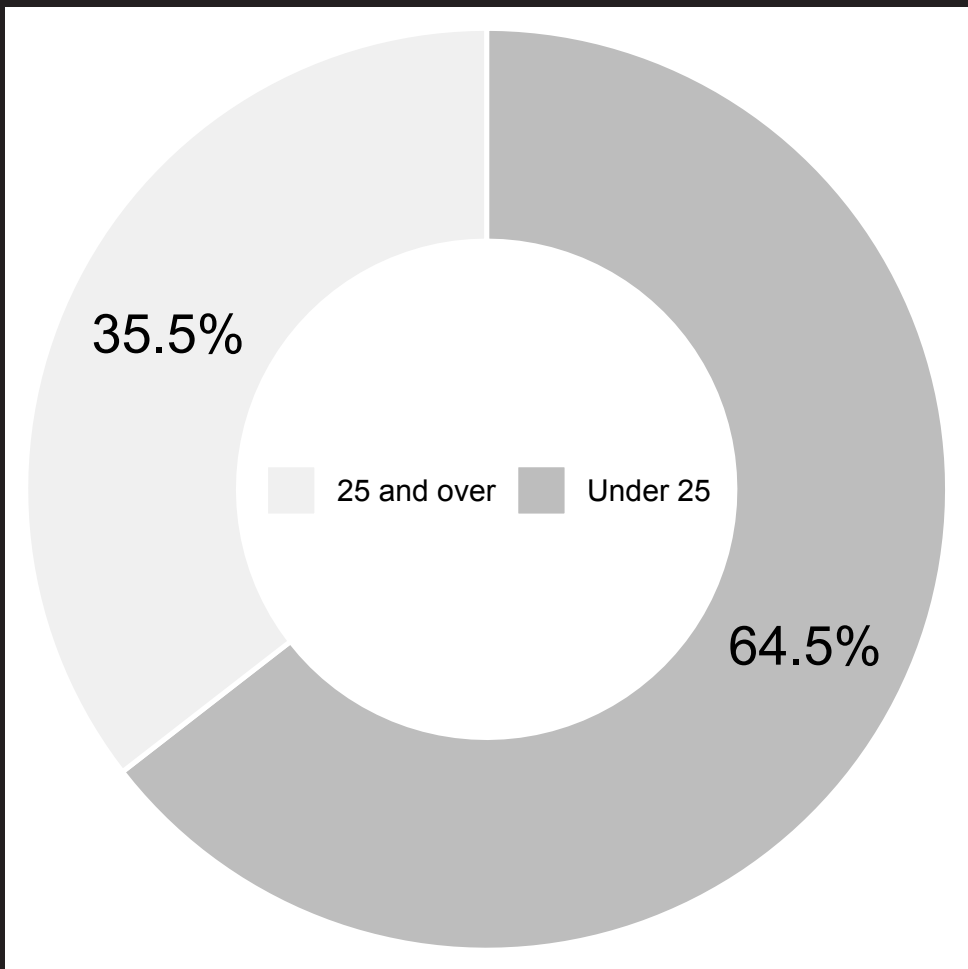
which represents

1.59% of GDP

Since 2010 the proportion of remittances received has consistently accounted for between 1 and 2% of GDP

DEMOGRAPHICS

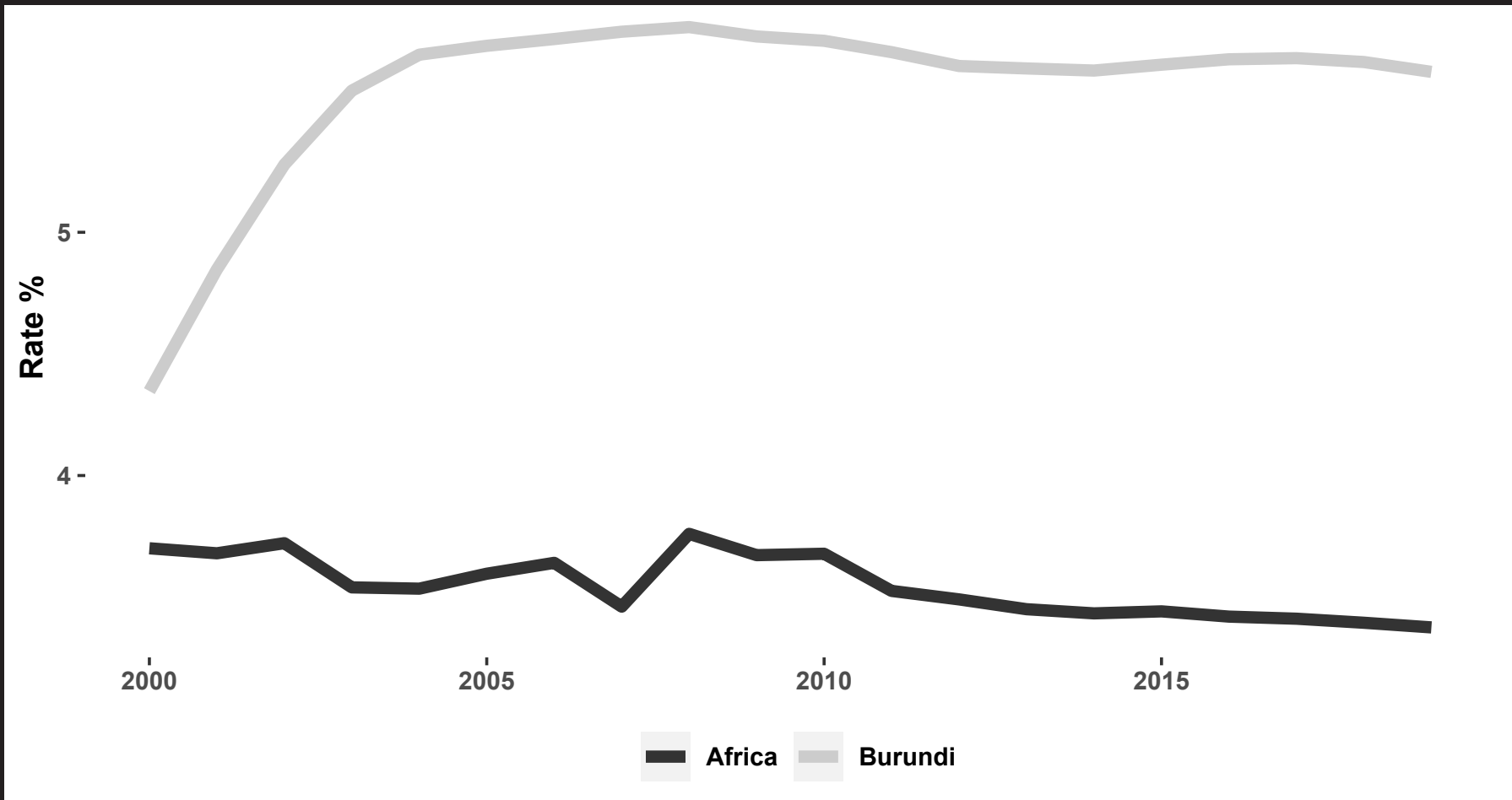
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



11.5 million

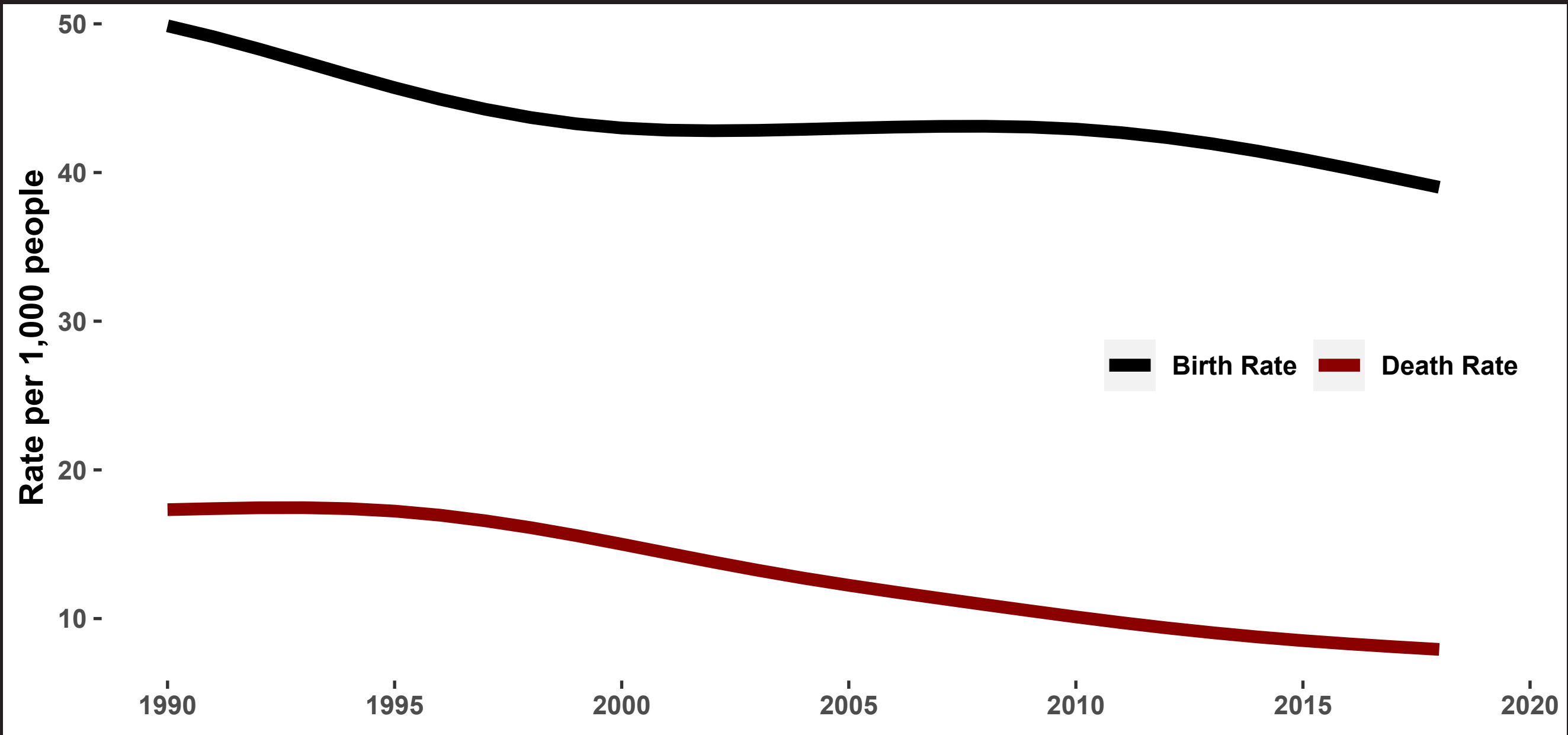
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Burundi’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Burundi has urbanised at a consistently faster rate than the rest of the continent.

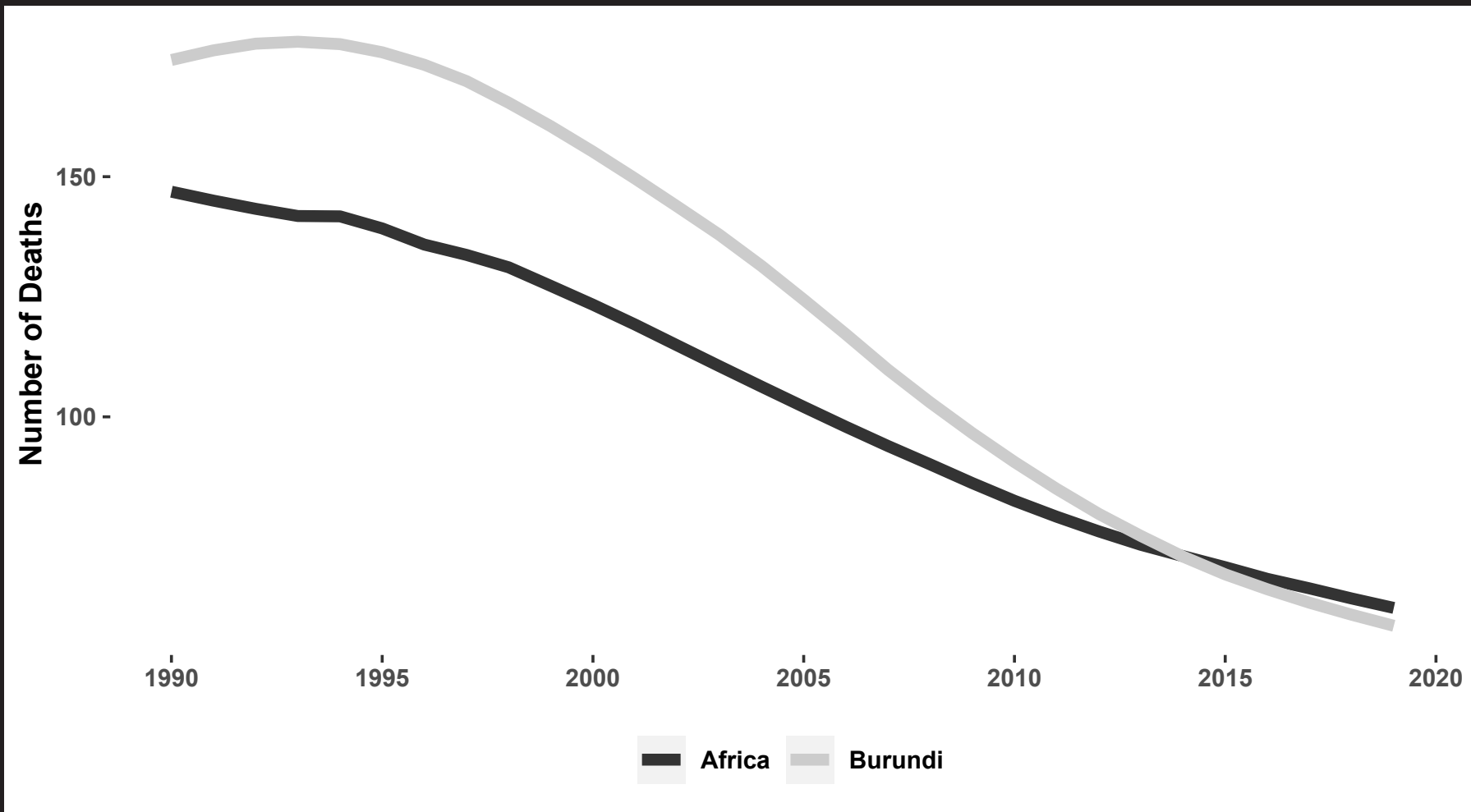
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Burundi has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

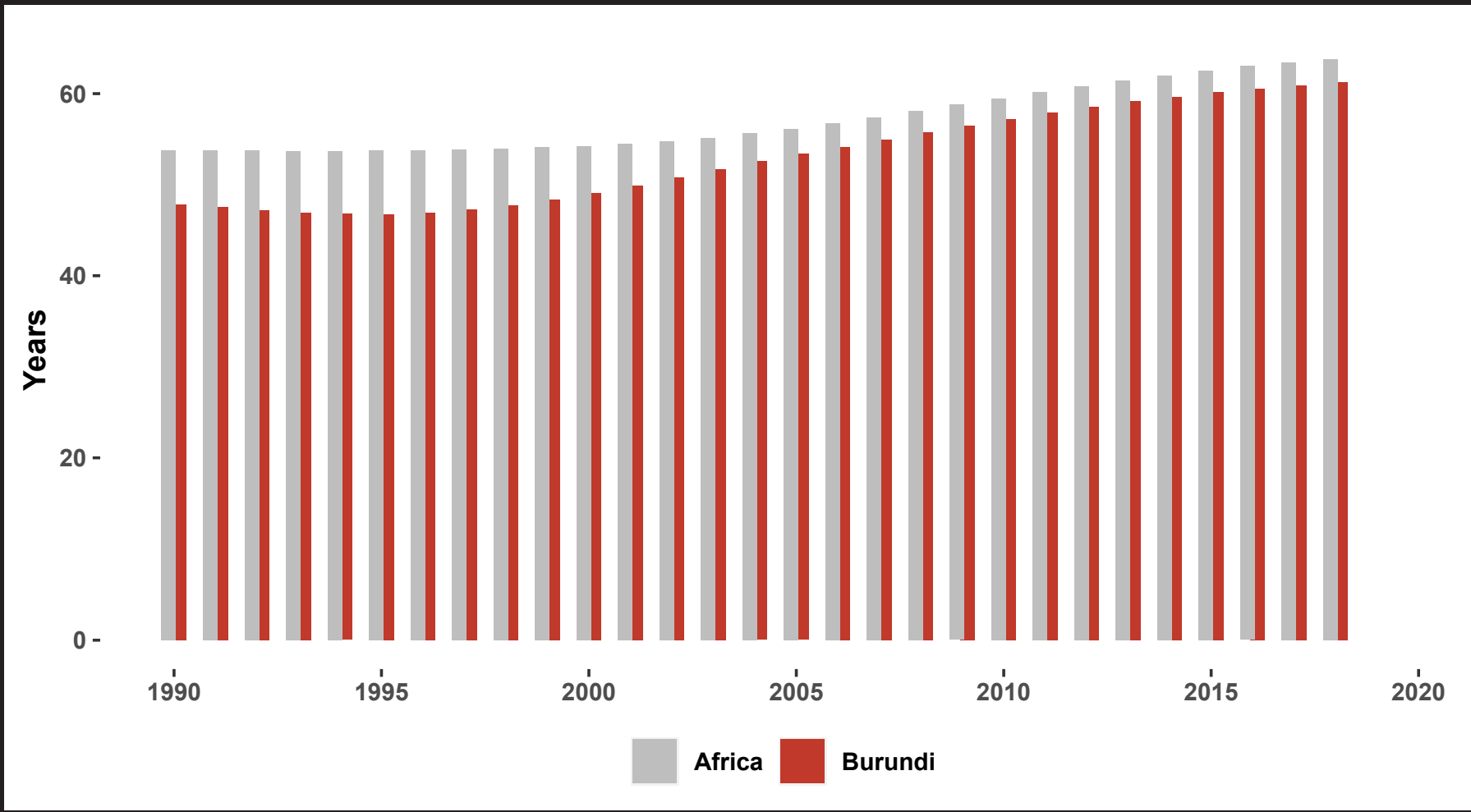
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



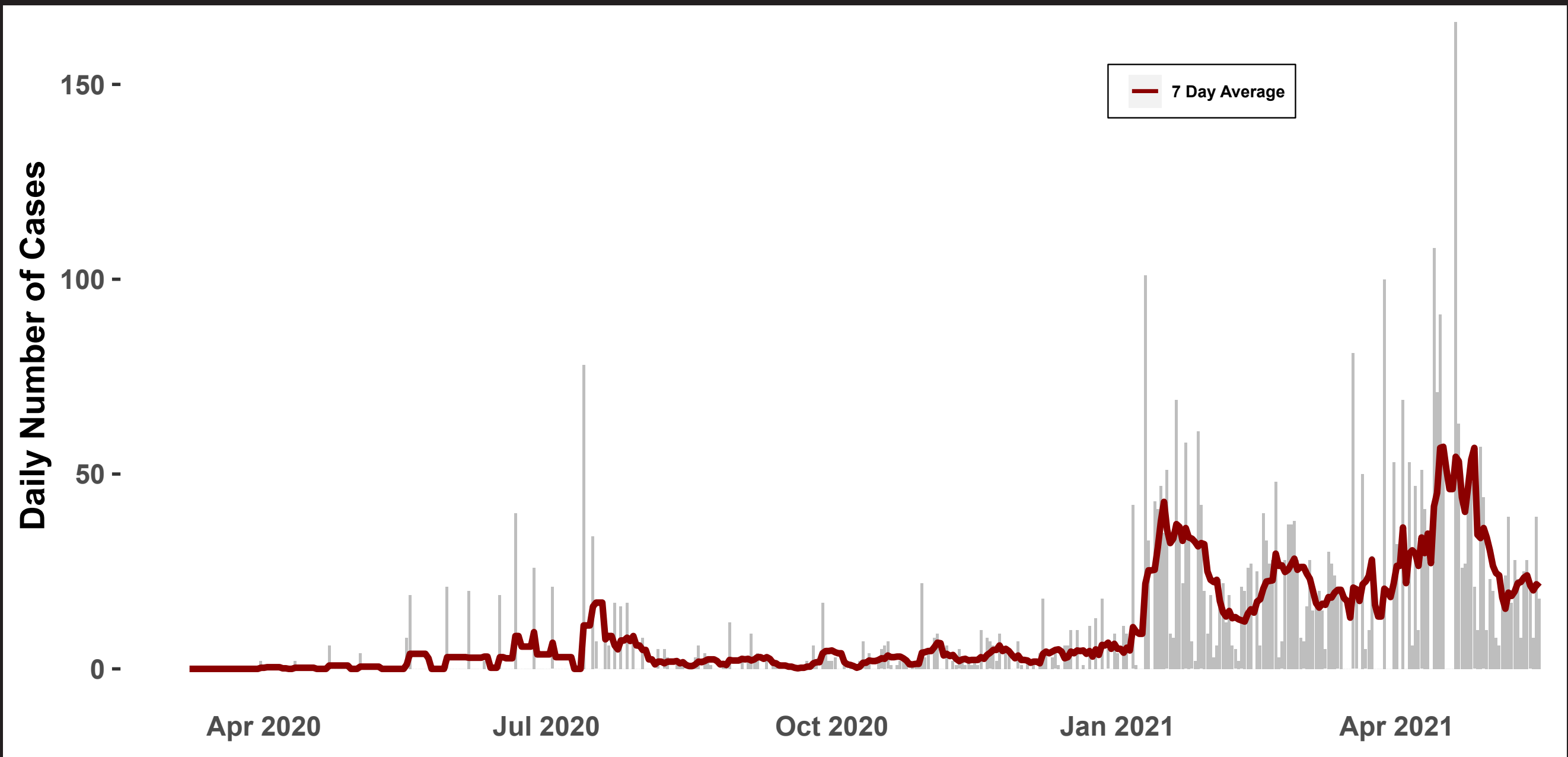
Burundi’s child mortality rate currently tracks very closely to the African average. This is the result of a rapid decline in child mortality between 2000 and 2010.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Although Burundi’s life expectancy is still lower than the African average, the rate of improvement in the country’s life expectancy has been faster than the rest of the continent.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Burundi has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred between February and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid on Flickr.com



Burundi is considered one of the 10 poorest nations in the world. Due to poverty, the country suffers from severe malnutrition.

Thomas Woodtli on Flickr.com

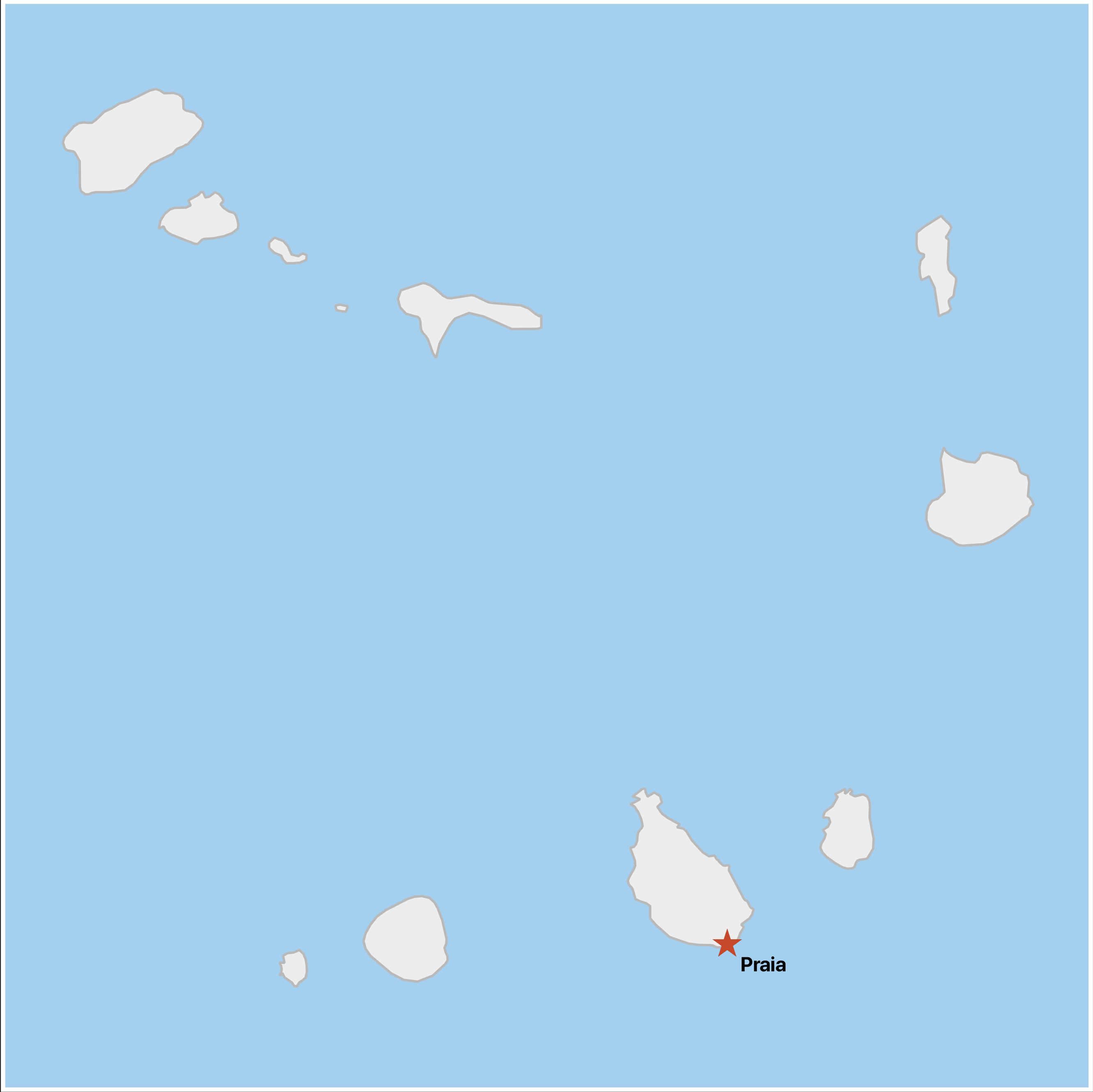


The original inhabitants of Burundi were the Twa, a Pygmy people who now make up only 1% of the population.

Thomas Woodtli on Flickr.com



Most Burundians live in rural areas and have no access to a mobile network.



CABO VERDE

Cabo Verde, also called Cape Verde, comprises 10 islands that lie 620 km off the west coast of Africa. The islands combined cover a land area of 4,033 km². The islands were discovered and colonised by the Portuguese in the 15th century; Cape Verde subsequently became a trading centre for African slaves and later an important coaling and resupply stop for whaling and transatlantic shipping. The largest city and the capital is Praia, on Santiago island, and the largest port, with its deepwater harbour, is on São Vicente. Spoken languages are Portuguese (official) and Kabuverdianu (a Portuguese based Cape Verdean Creole). About 95% of the population are Christian. Cape Verde continues to exhibit one of Africa’s most stable democratic governments. The official currency is the Cape Verdean escudo.

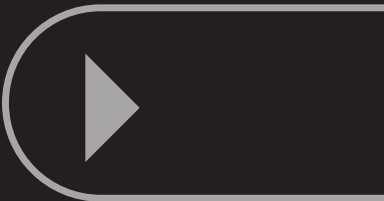
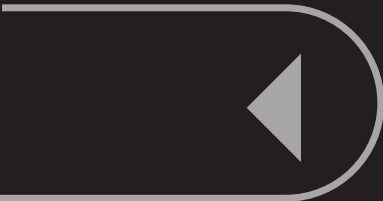
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?

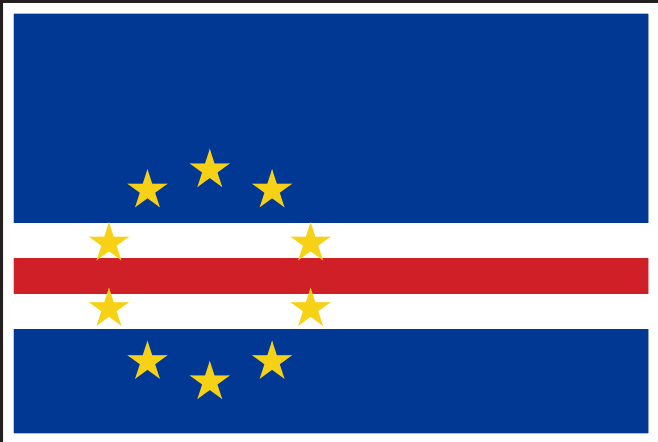


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Jorge Carlos Fonseca

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Praia

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

126

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

2



MAIN LANGUAGES

Portuguese and
Cape Verdean Creole

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Semi-presidential representative democratic republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Movement for Democracy (MpD)

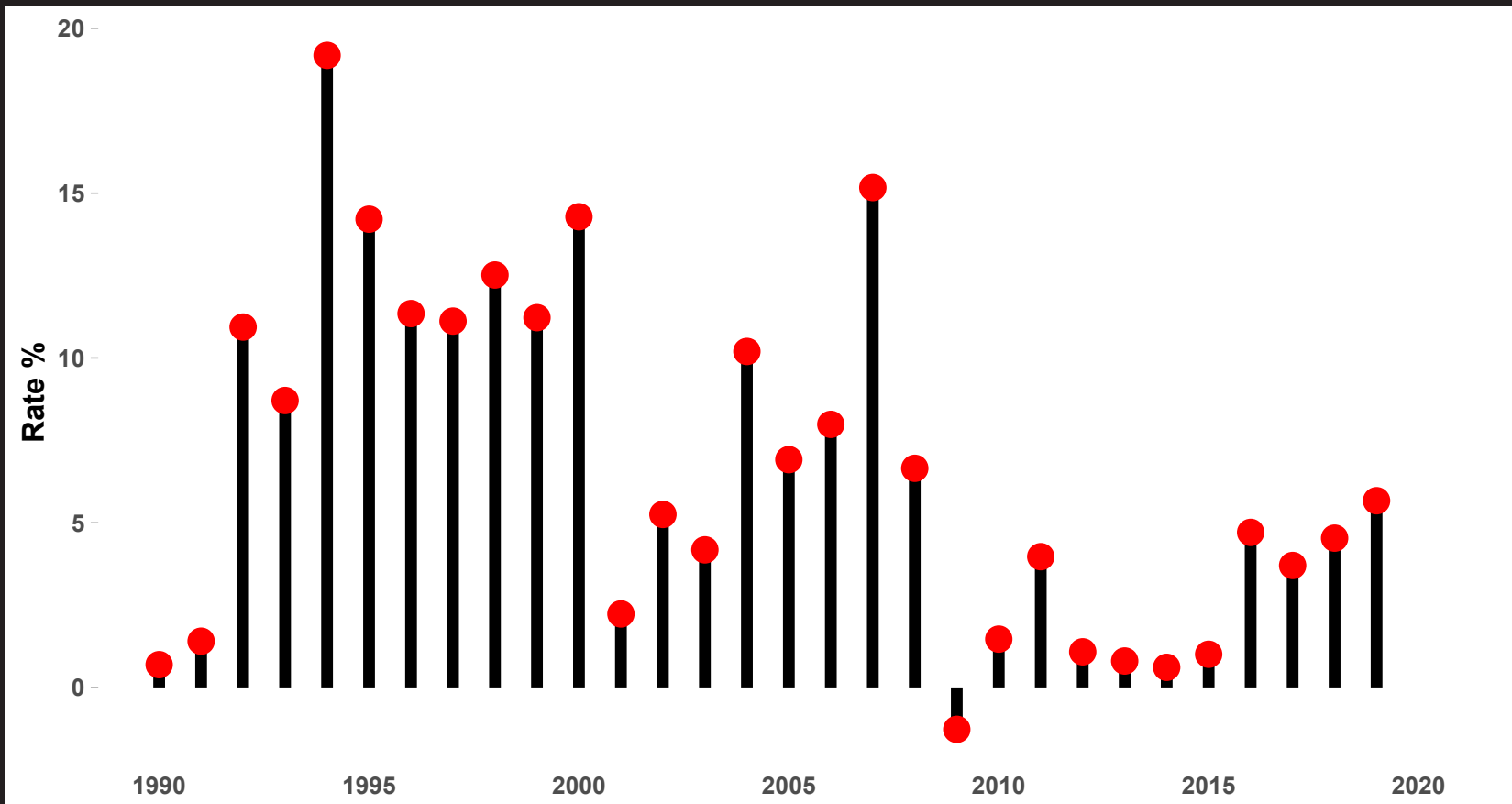


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

African Party for the
Independence of Cape Verde

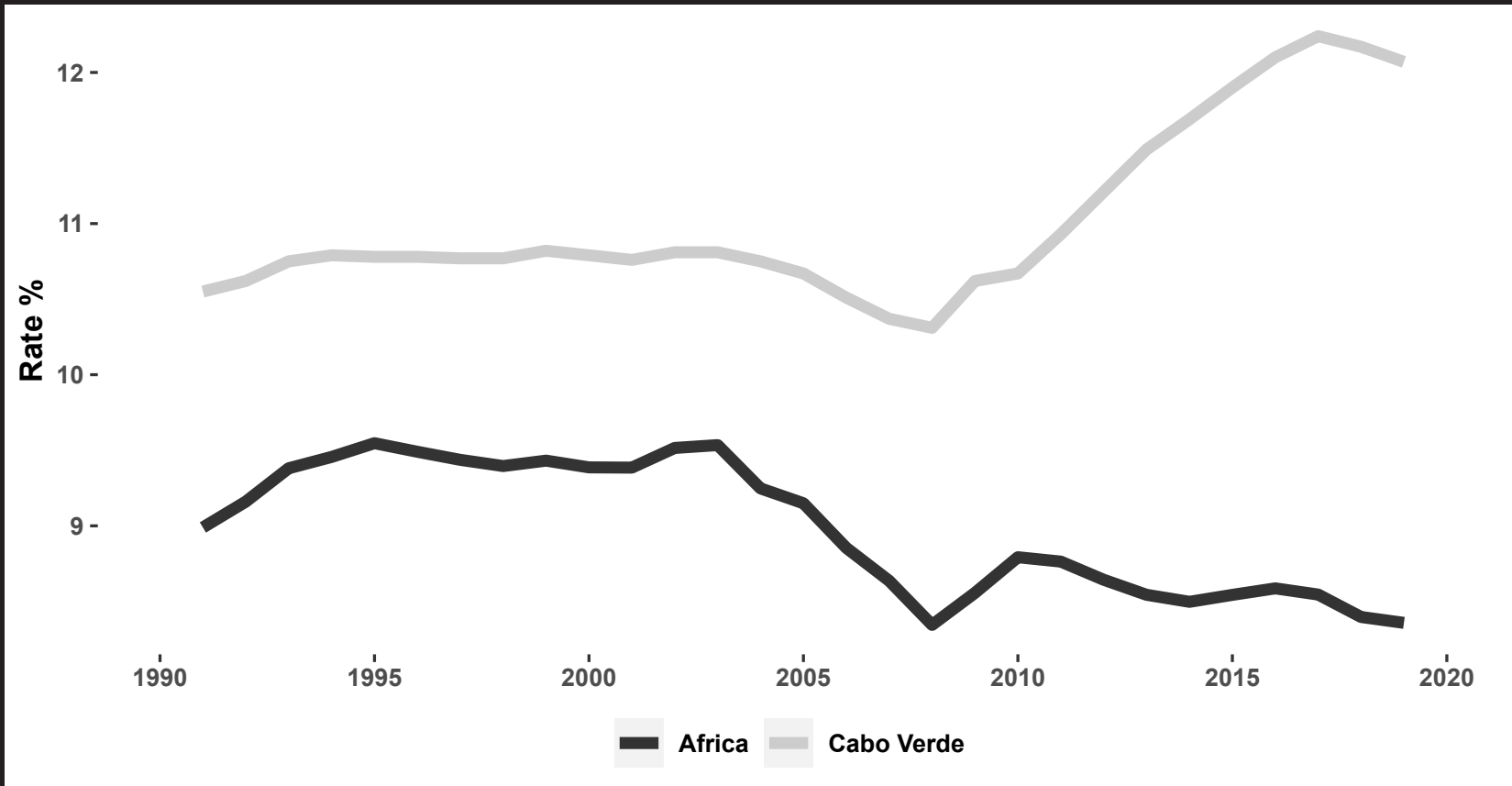
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



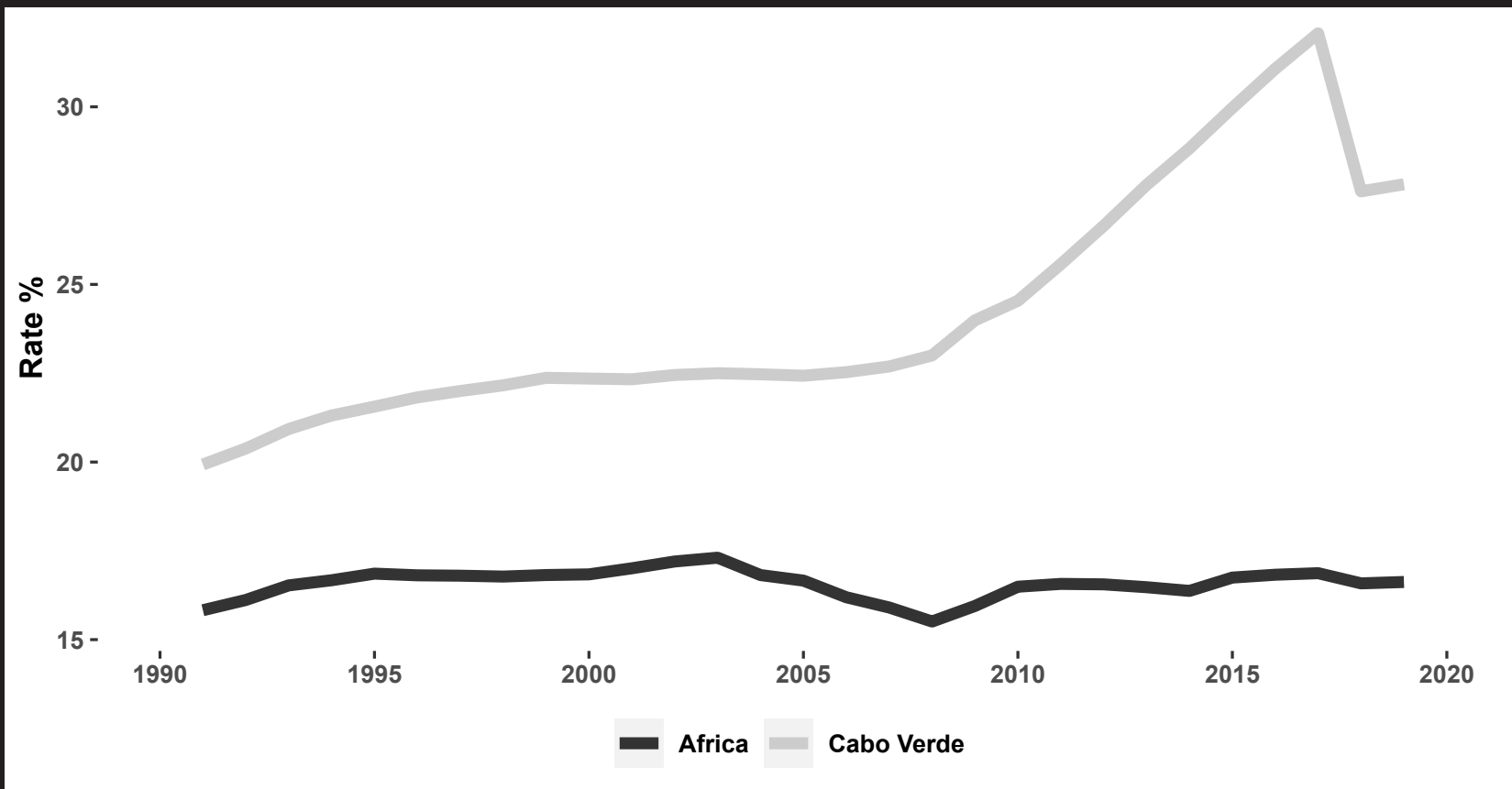
Compared to other African countries, Cabo Verde is much more reliant on tourism – particularly from European countries. As a result, Cabo Verde was heavily affected by sluggish growth rates European countries experienced in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



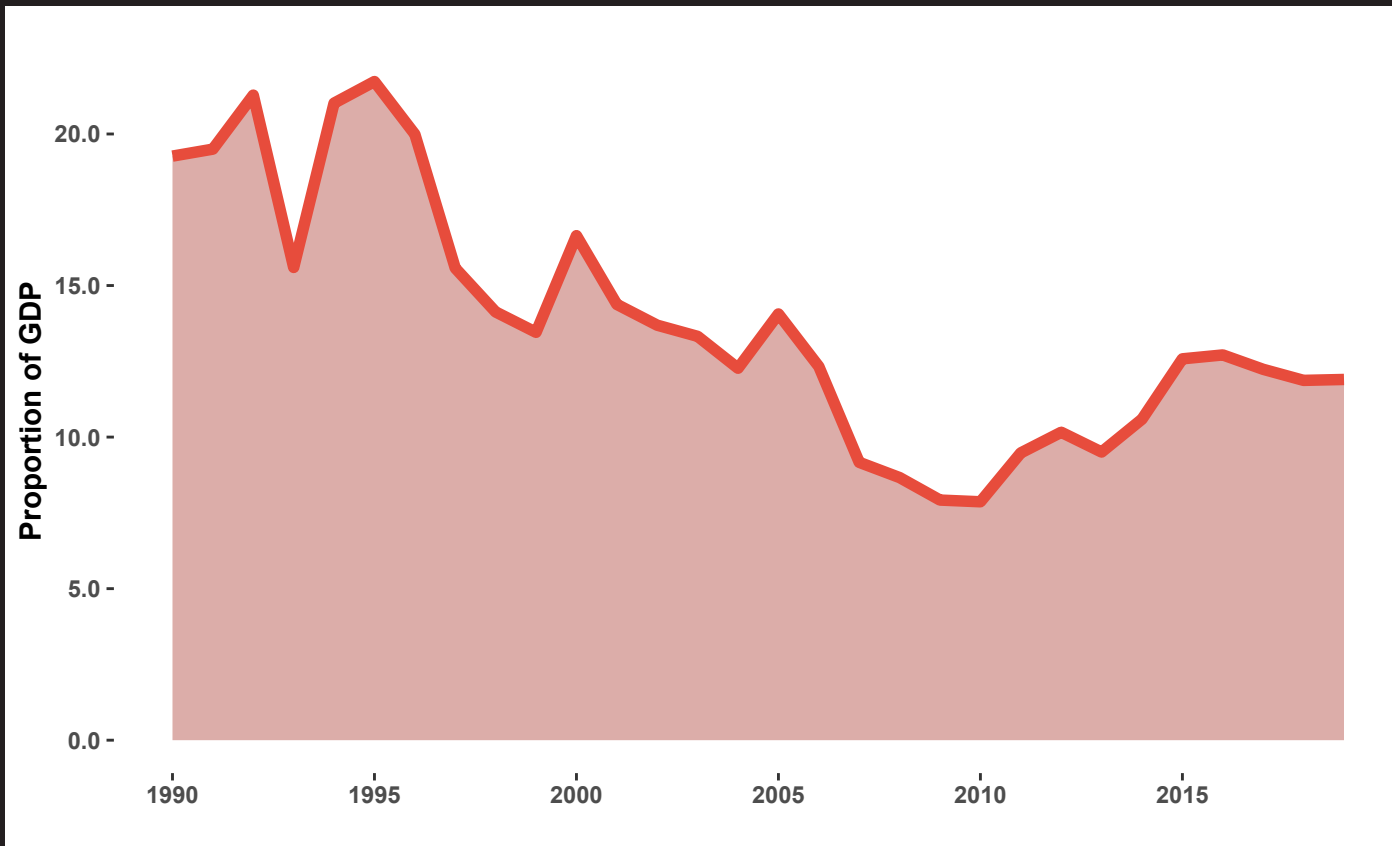
Cabo Verde has had a consistently higher unemployment rate compared to the rest of the continent. This has particularly been the case since 2010, due to a stagnant economy.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rate in Cabo Verde is higher compared to the rest of the continent, particularly since 2010, due to a stagnant economy.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$235 million

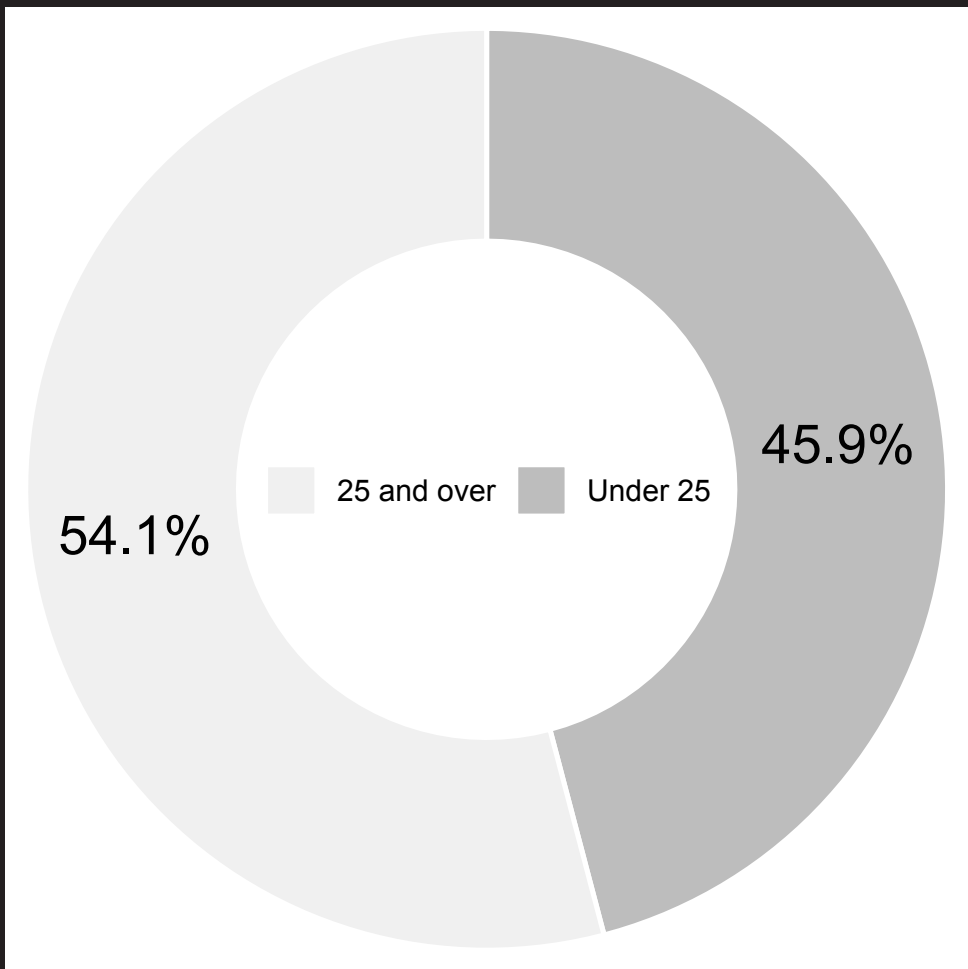
which represents

11.9% of GDP

Cabo Verde is one of the countries most reliant on remittances which often comprise more than 10% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

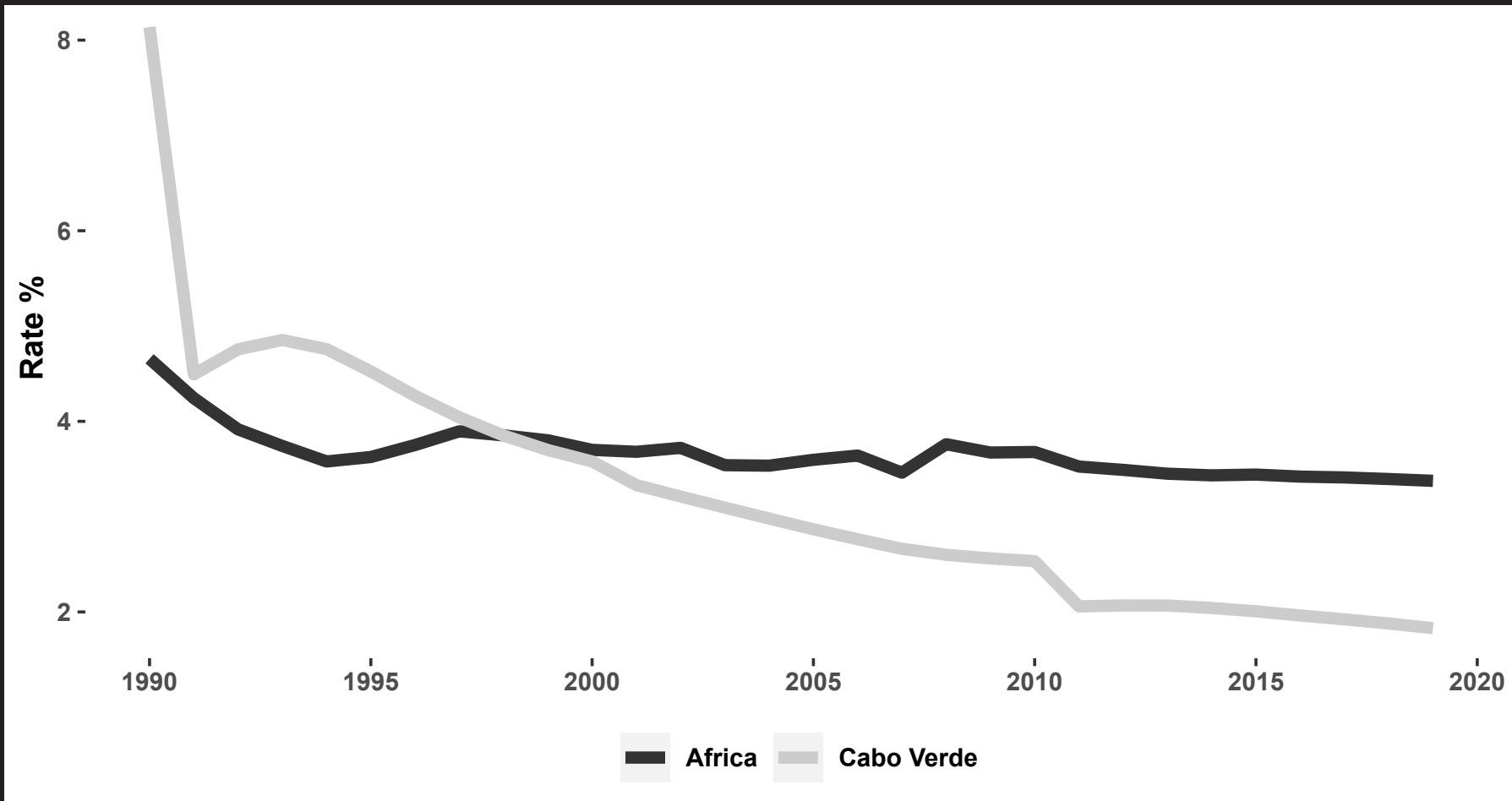
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



549 000

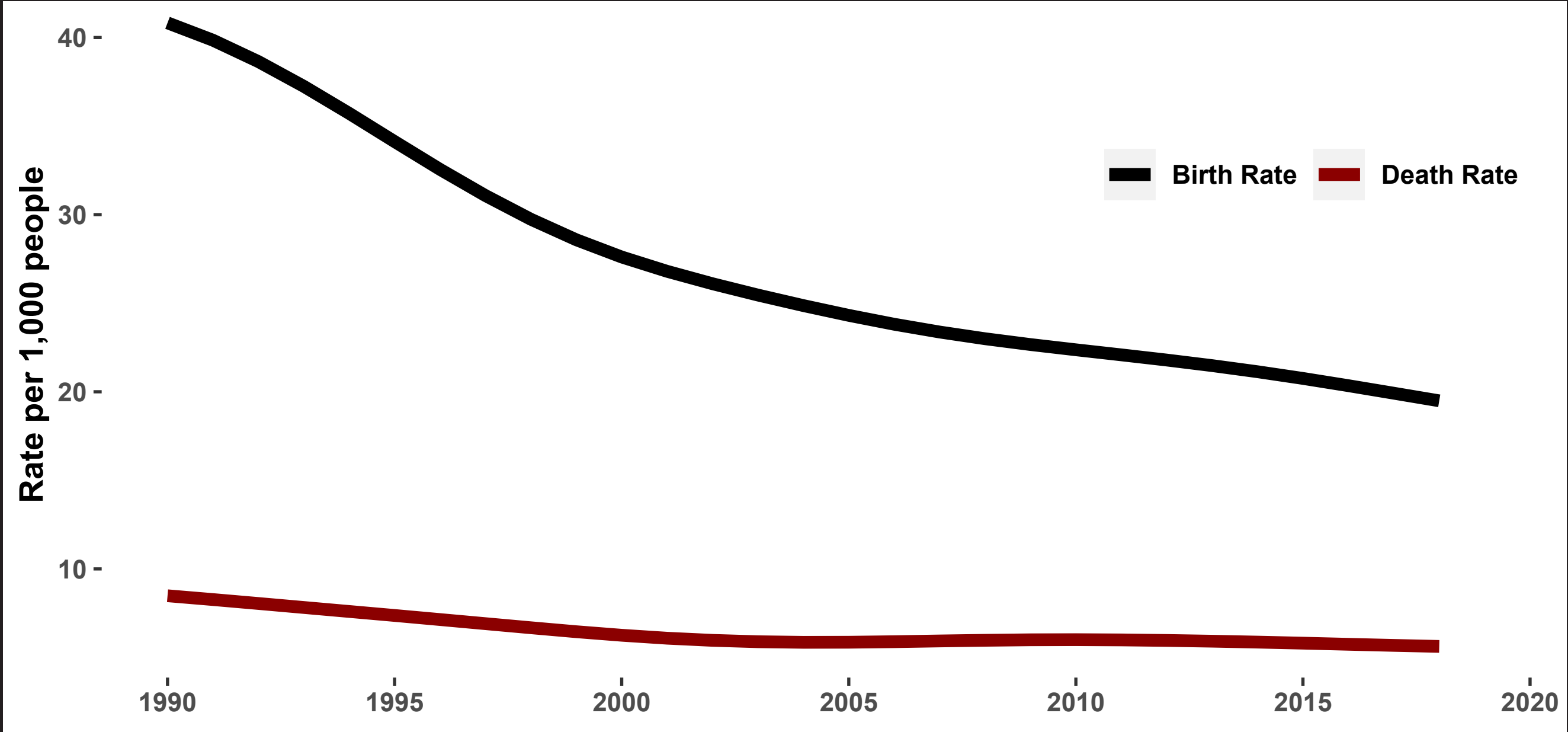
Cabo Verde is one of only nine African countries where there are more people over-25 than that age. It is also one of the least populous countries on the continent.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 2000 Cabo Verde has urbanised at a much slower rate than the continental average.

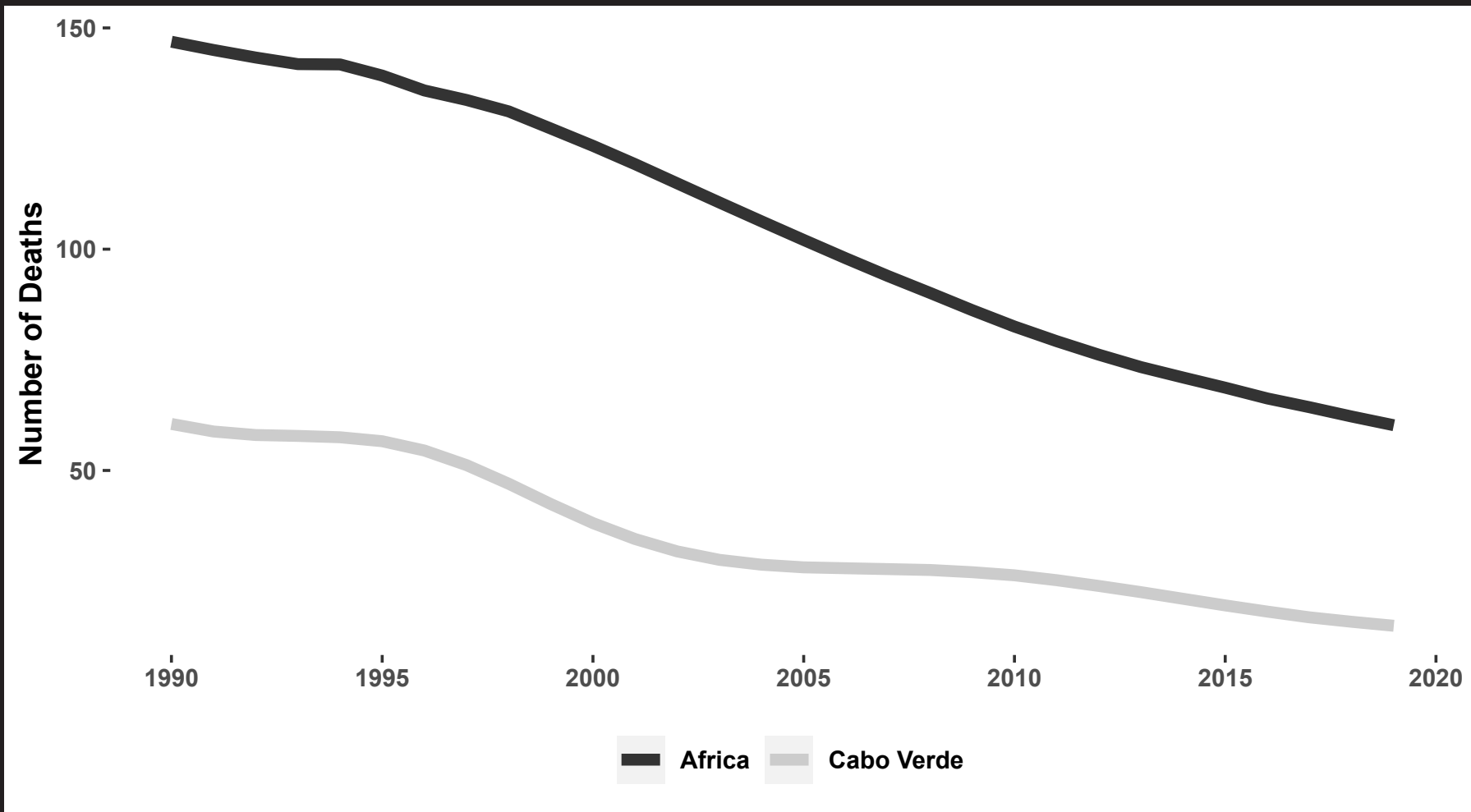
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The rate of population growth in Cabo Verde has slowed down in recent years because the birth rate has declined at a much quicker rate than has the death rate.

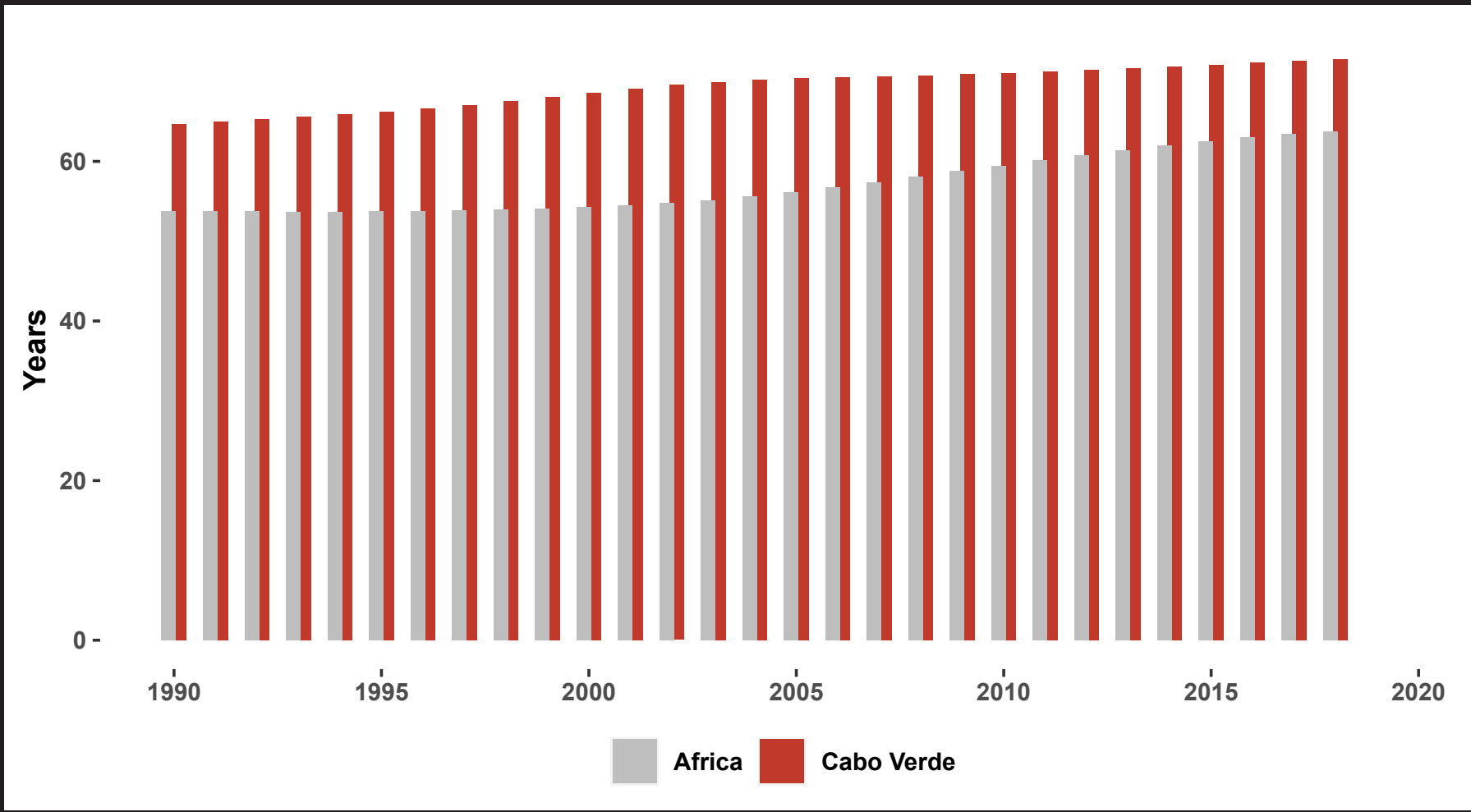
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



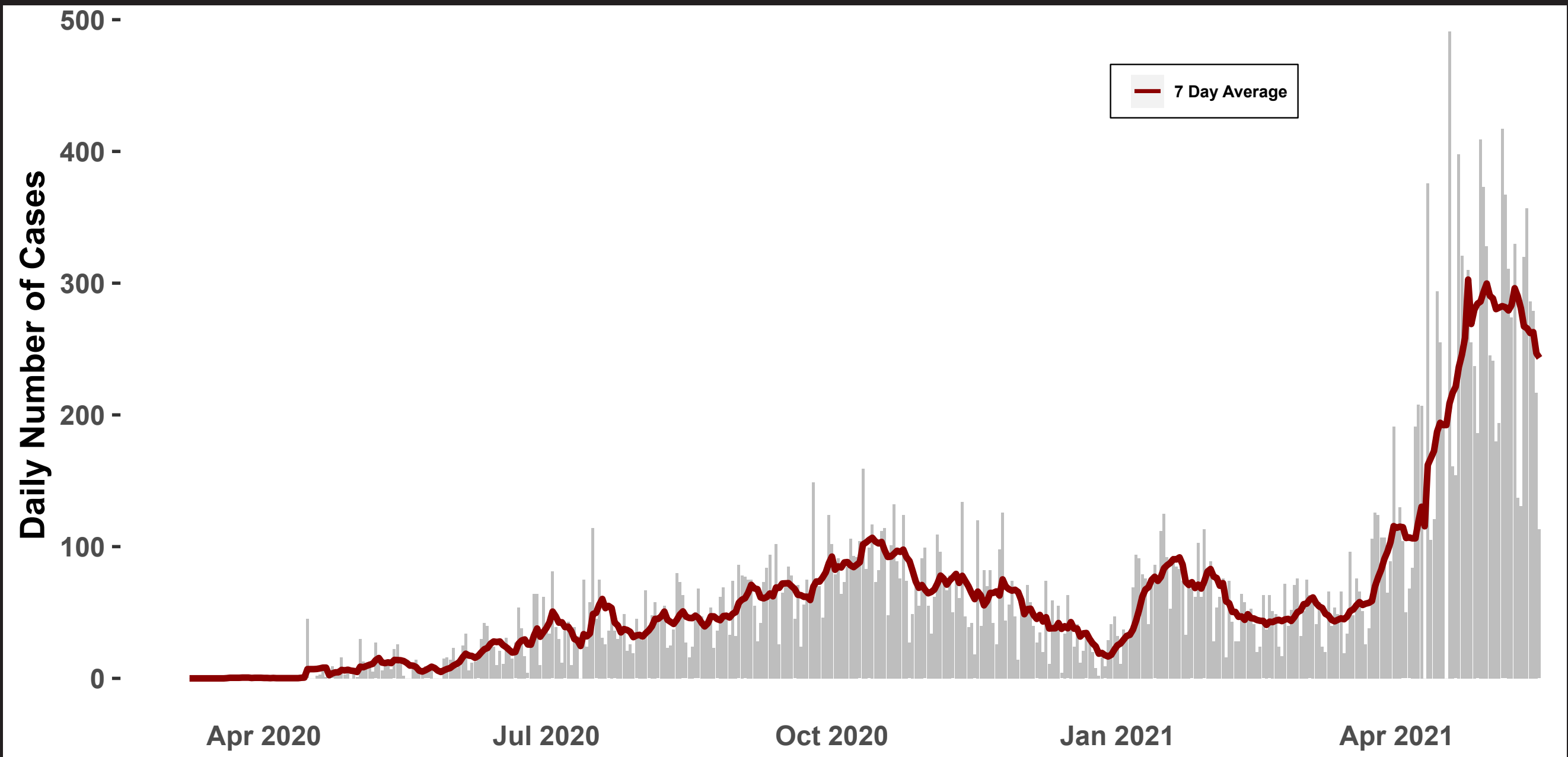
Cabo Verde’s child mortality rate is much lower than the African average and has continued to decline over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Cabo Verde has one of the highest life expectancies across the continent and is, therefore, well above the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



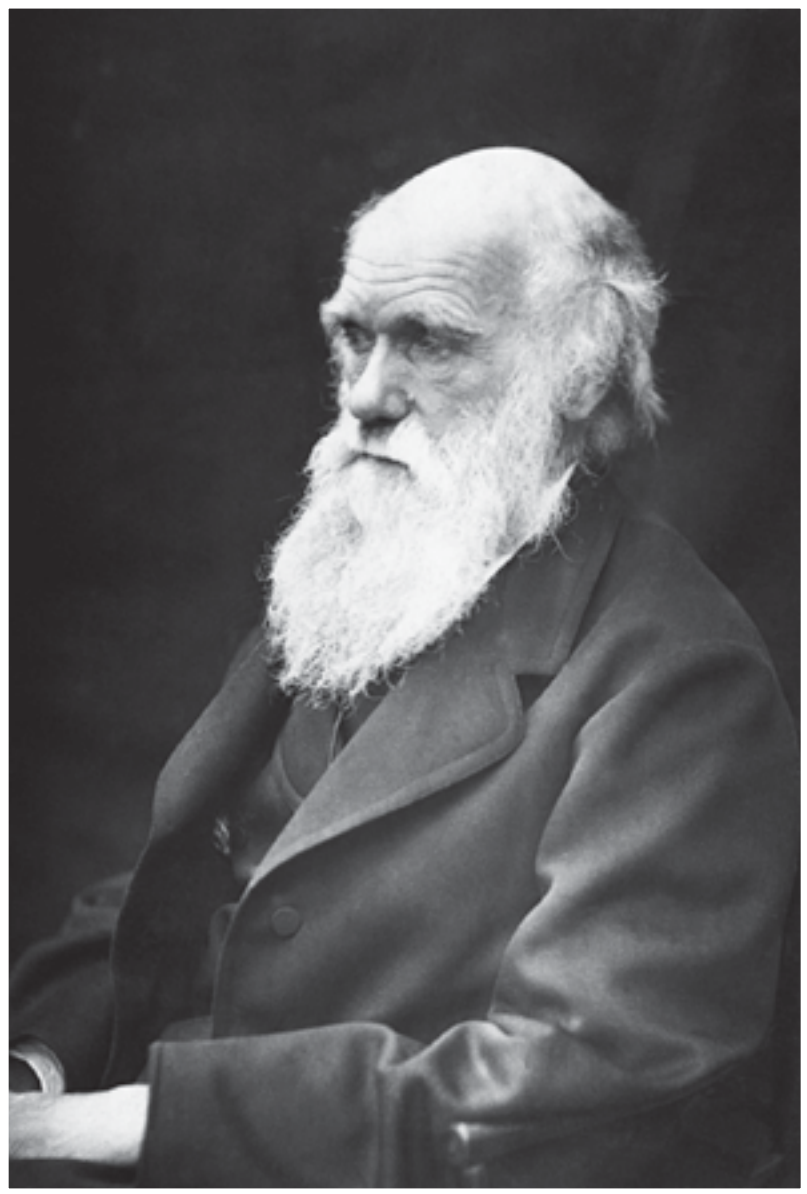
Cabo Verde’s one main Covid-19 wave started in March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Caroline Granycome on Flickr.com



Nine of the 10 islands of the archipelago are inhabited.



Sebastiano del Piombo at the Metropolitan Museum of Art



Unknown artist at the National Museum of Ancient Art



Famous visitors (left to right): Charles Darwin once visited Cape Verde. Christopher Columbus visited the island of Boa Vista in 1498. And Vasco da Gama visited Santiago in 1497.

Caroline Granycome on Flickr.com



Repeated famine and epidemics have played a crucial role in deaths and emigration of the local people. As a result, the country's overall population has fluctuated significantly.



CAMEROON

Cameroon lies at the junction of West and Central Africa. Its ethnically diverse population is among the most urban in western Africa. Much of present-day Cameroon was ruled by powerful chiefdoms before becoming a German colony in 1884 known as Kamerun. After World War I, the territory was divided between France and the United Kingdom as League of Nations mandates. French Cameroon became independent in 1960 as the Republic of Cameroon. A year later, the southern portion of neighbouring British Cameroon voted to merge with the new country to form the Federal Republic of Cameroon. In 1972, the federal system was abolished and the country was renamed the Unitary Republic of Cameroon. The official currency is the CFA franc.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Paul Biya

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Yaoundé

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

153

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

260



MAIN LANGUAGES

French and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



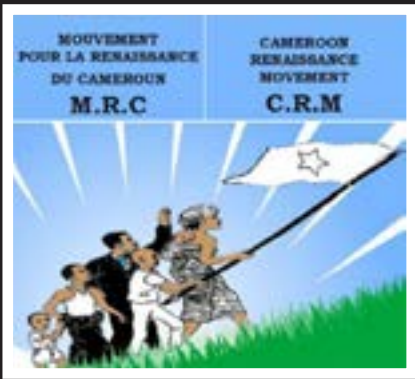
SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Rassemblement démocratique du Peuple Camerounais (RDPC)

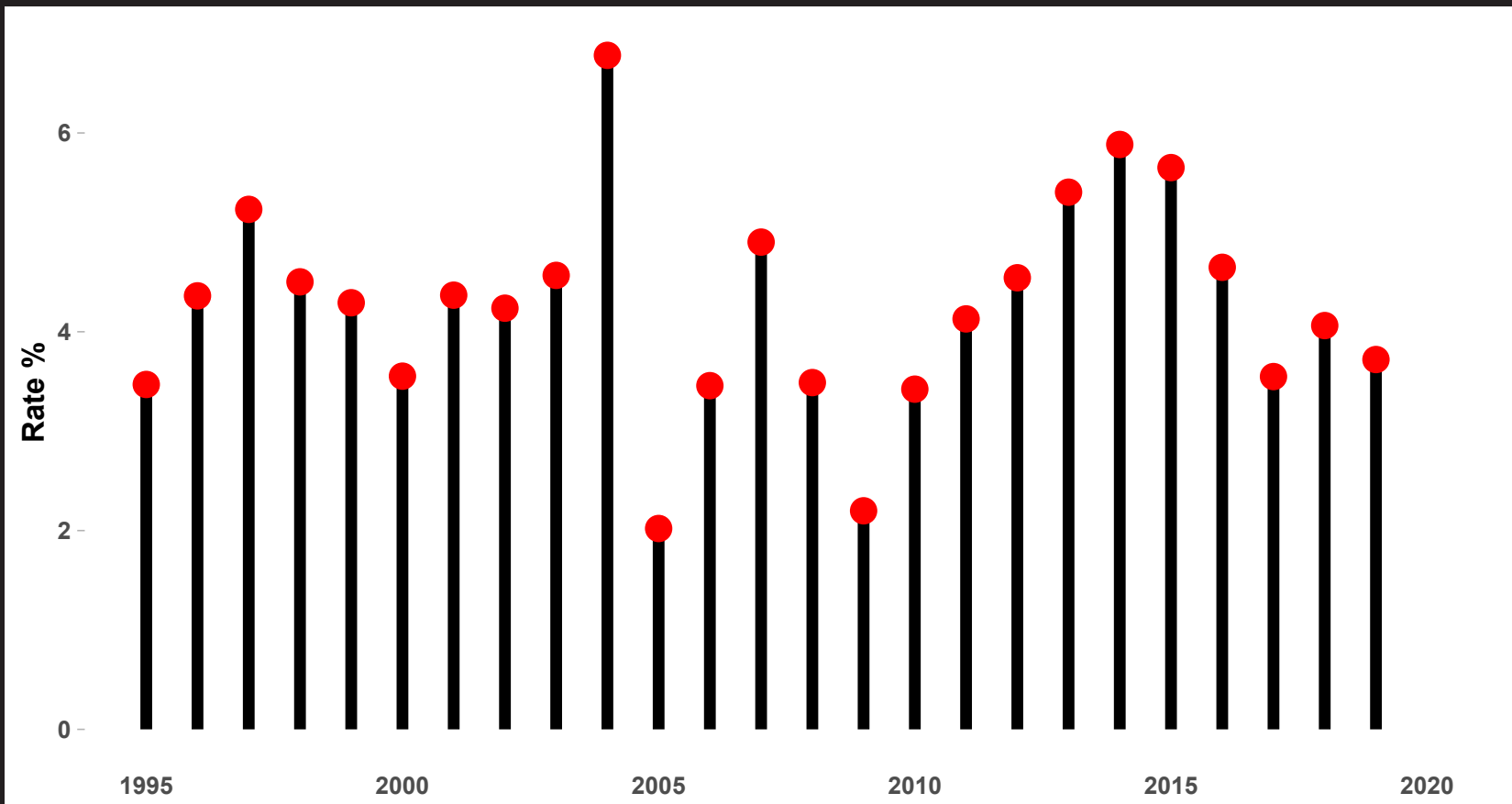


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Renaissance Movement (MRC)

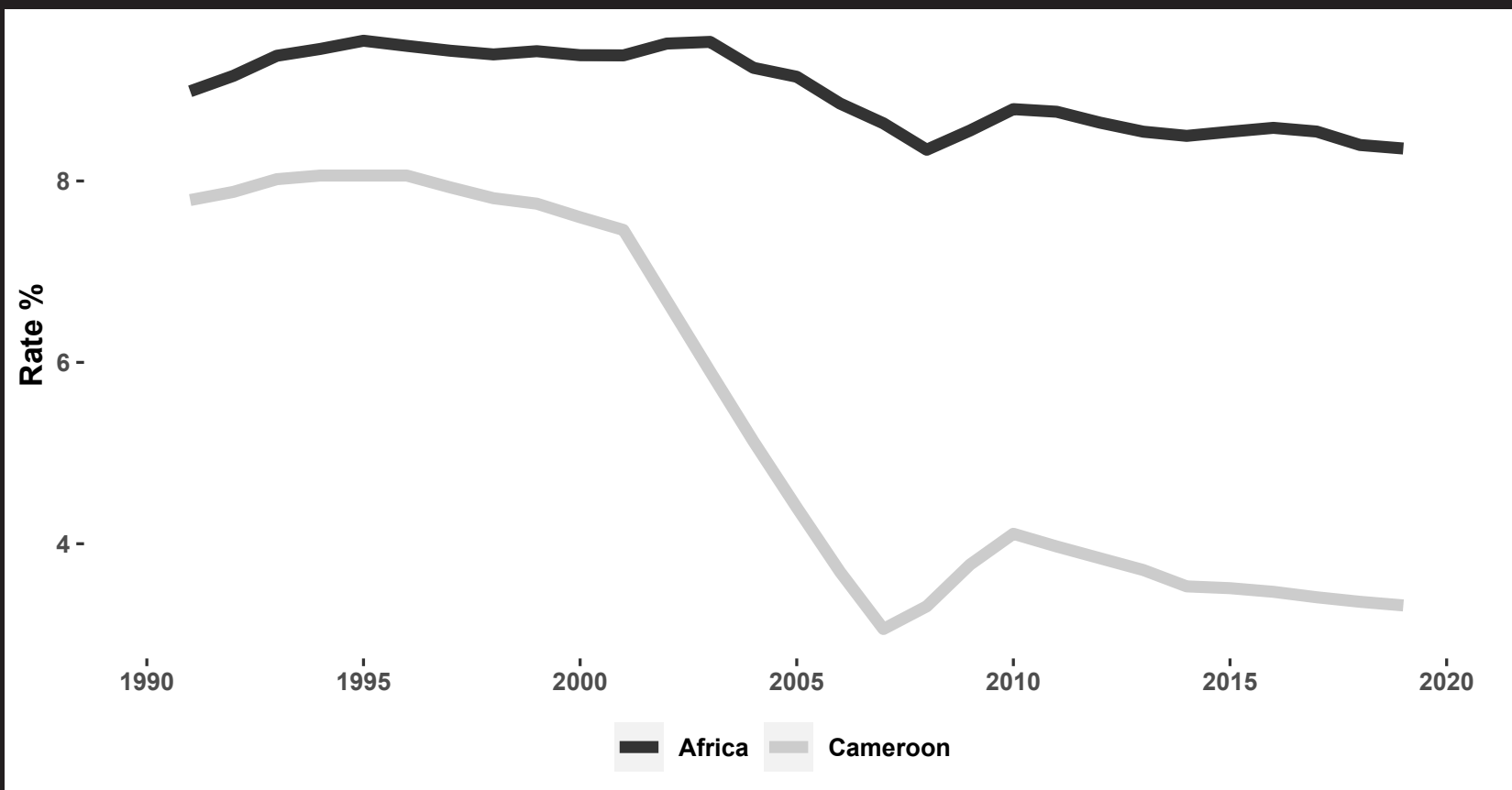
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



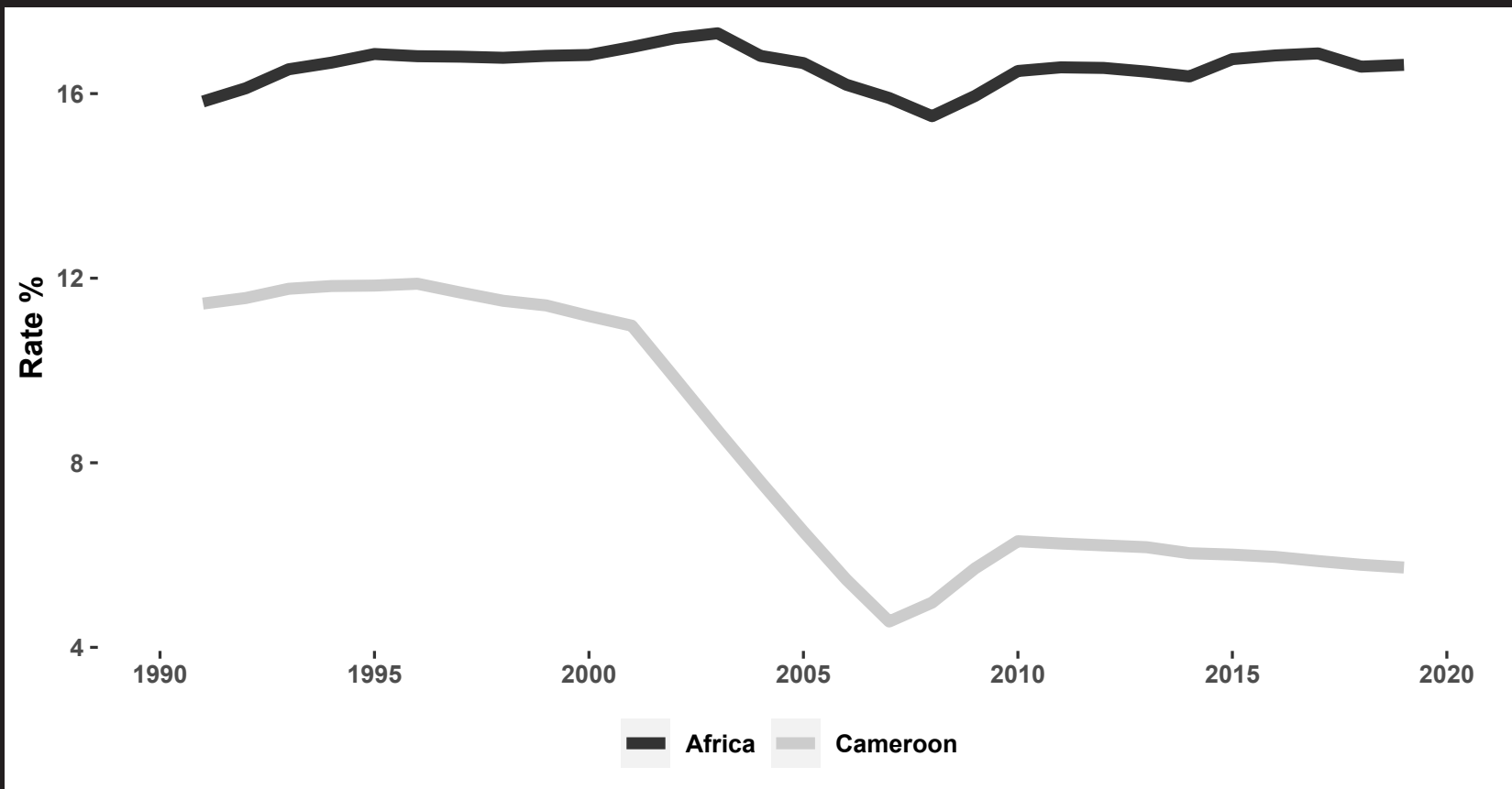
Cameroon has seen continuous economic growth over the past 25 years.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



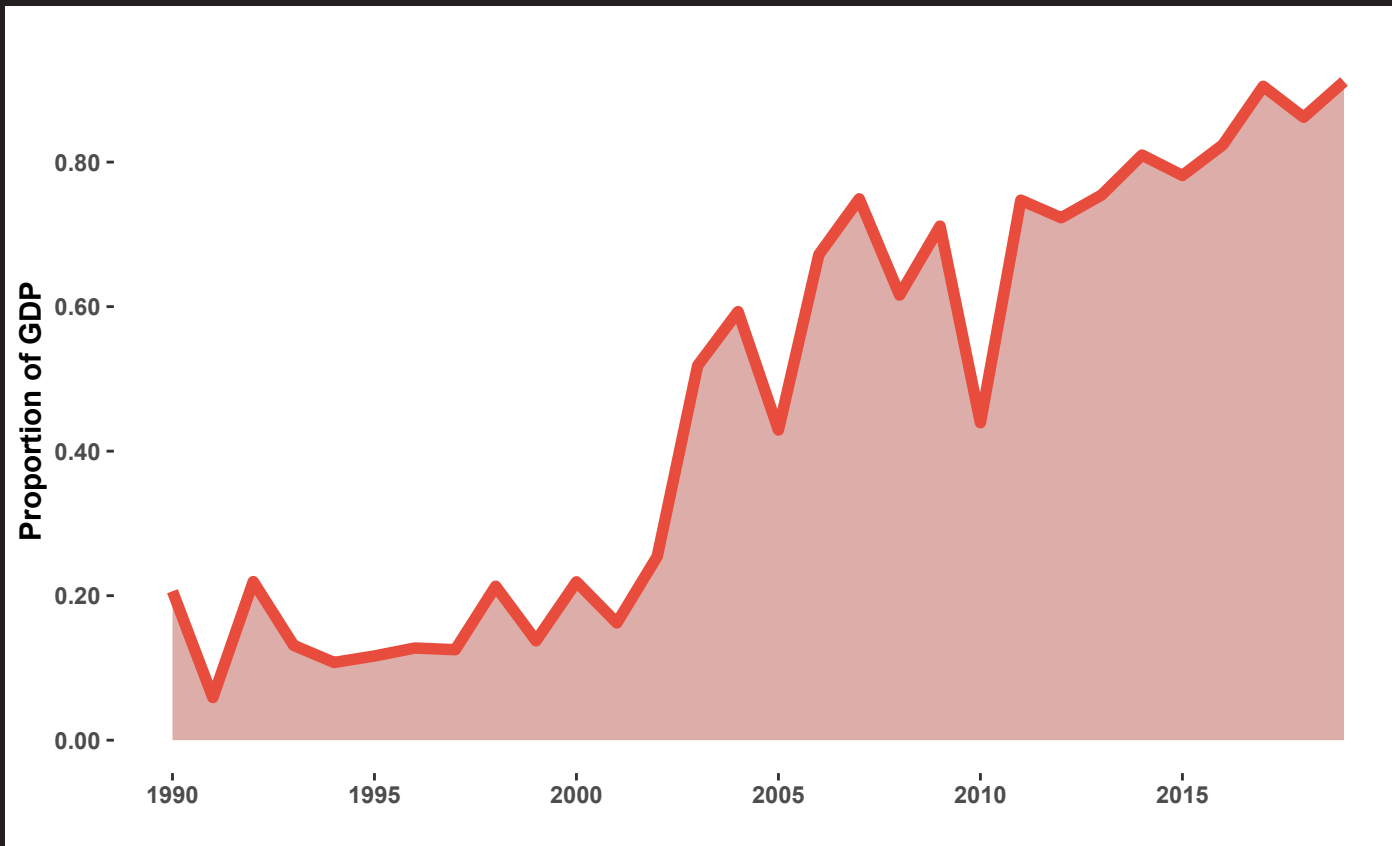
Cameroon’s unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years – especially since 2005.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Cameroon’s youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) has been lower than the African average over the past 30 years – especially since 2005.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$356 million

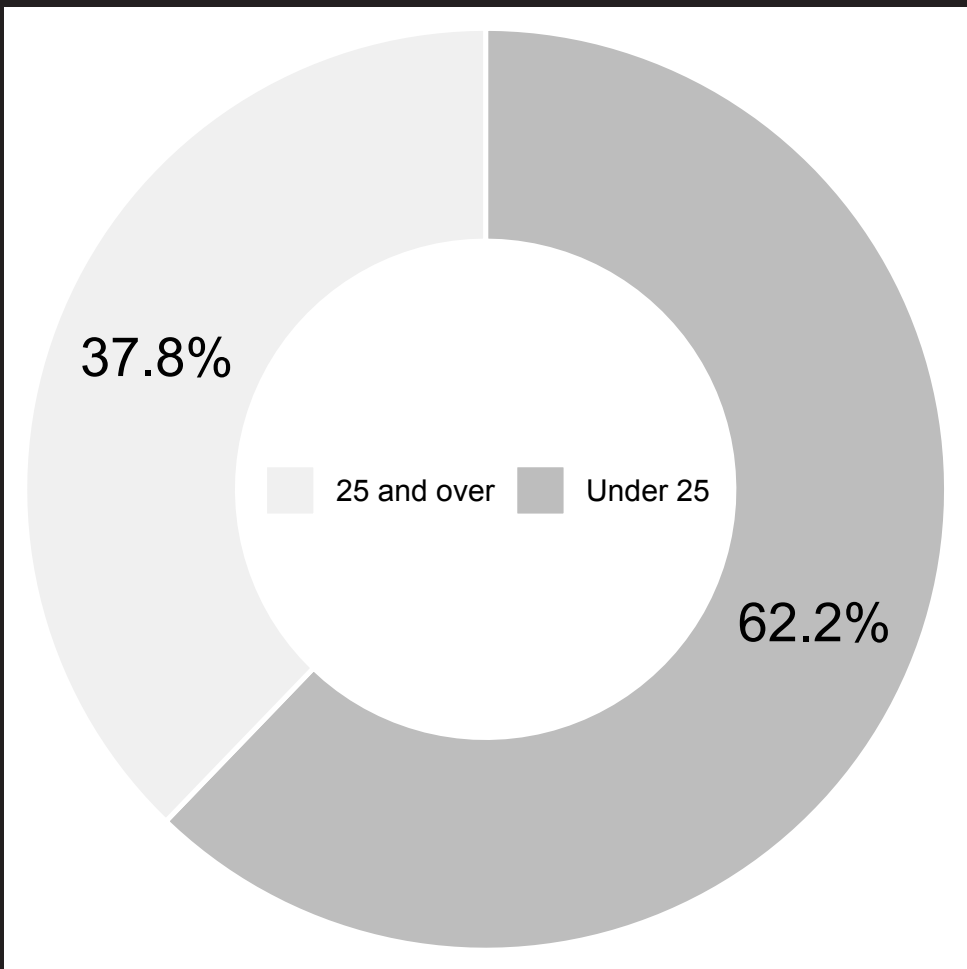
which represents

0.91% of GDP

Since 1990 the proportion of remittances received has consistently accounted for between 0 and 1% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

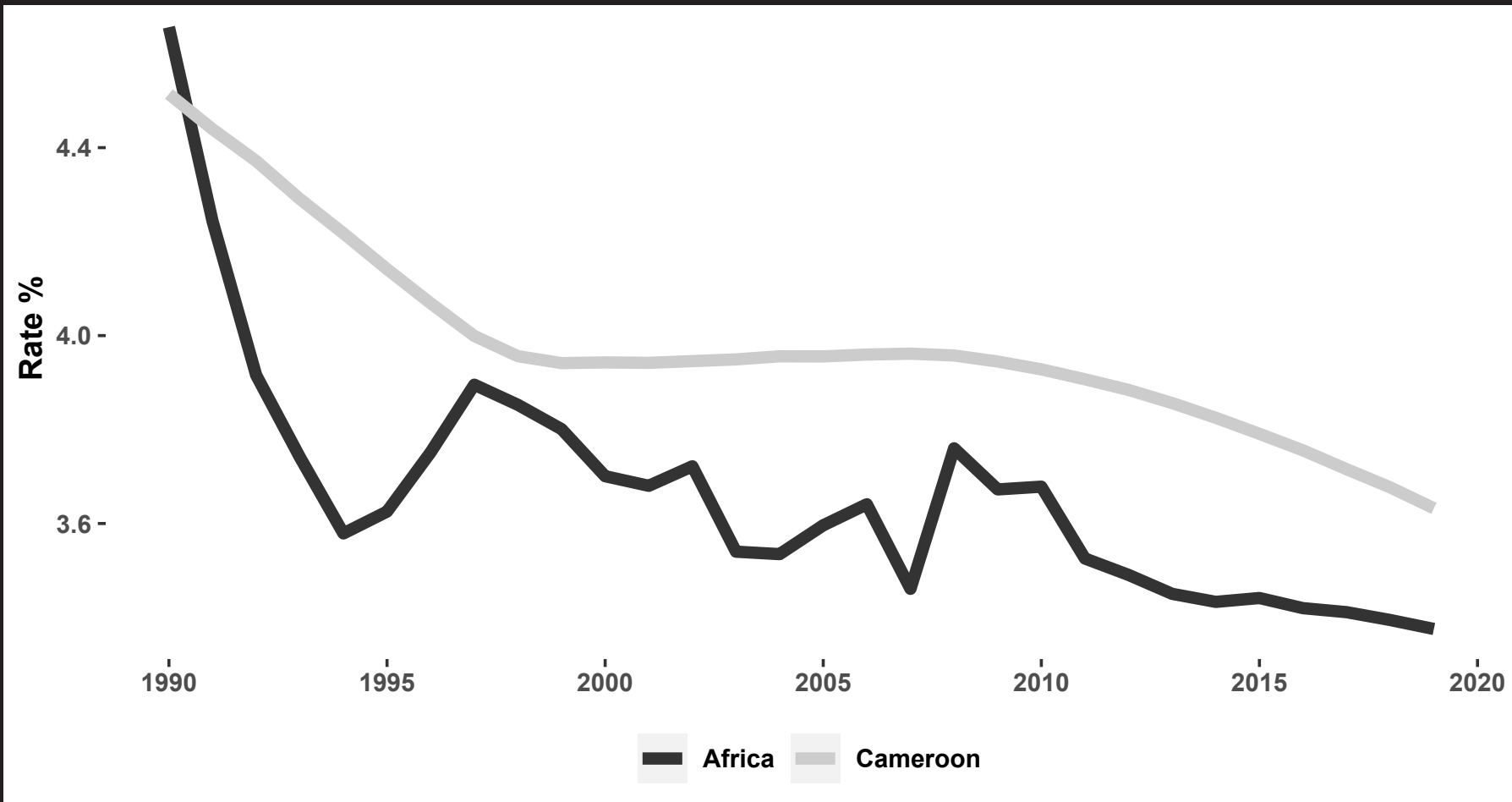
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



25.9 million

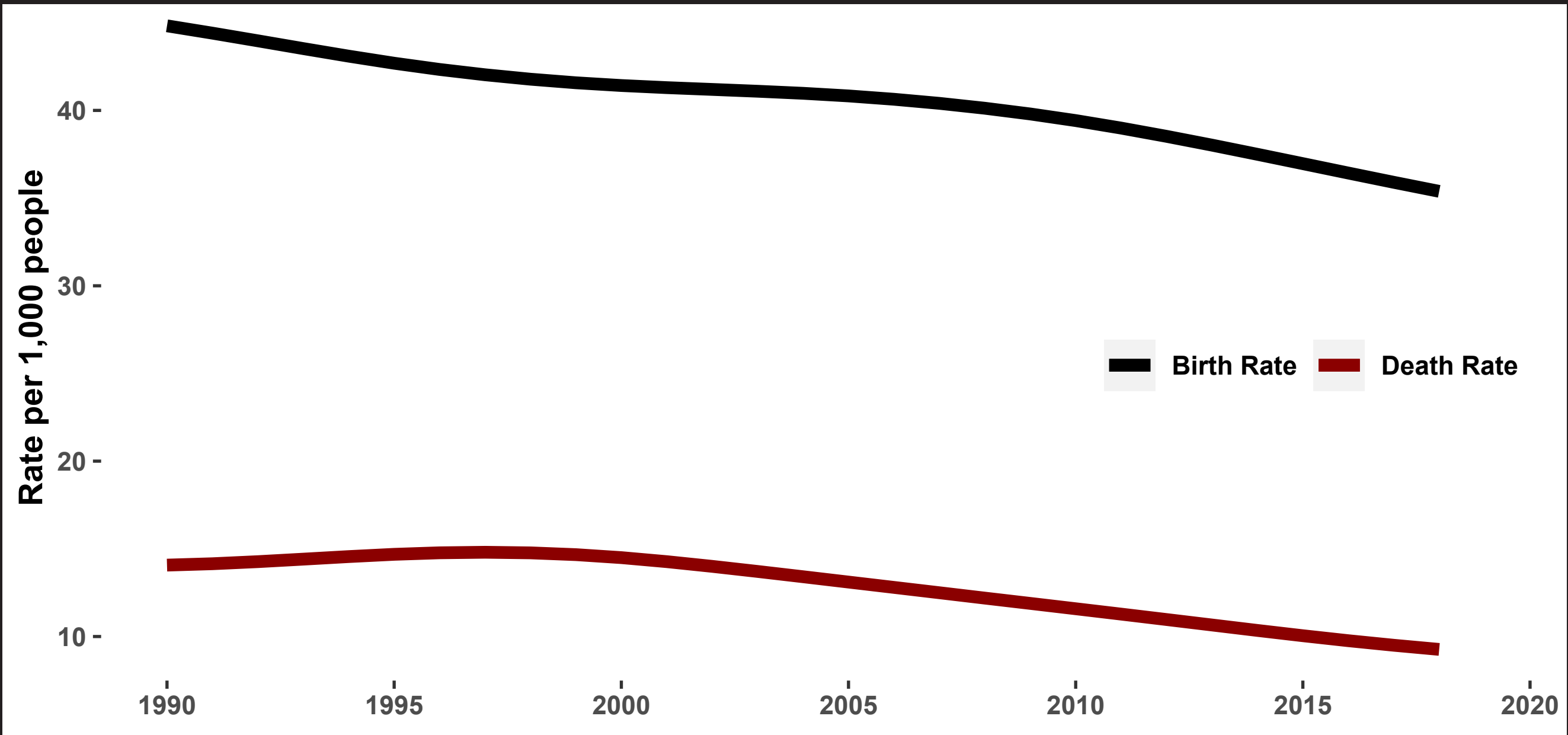
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Cameroon’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Cameroon has urbanised at a consistently faster rate than the rest of the continent.

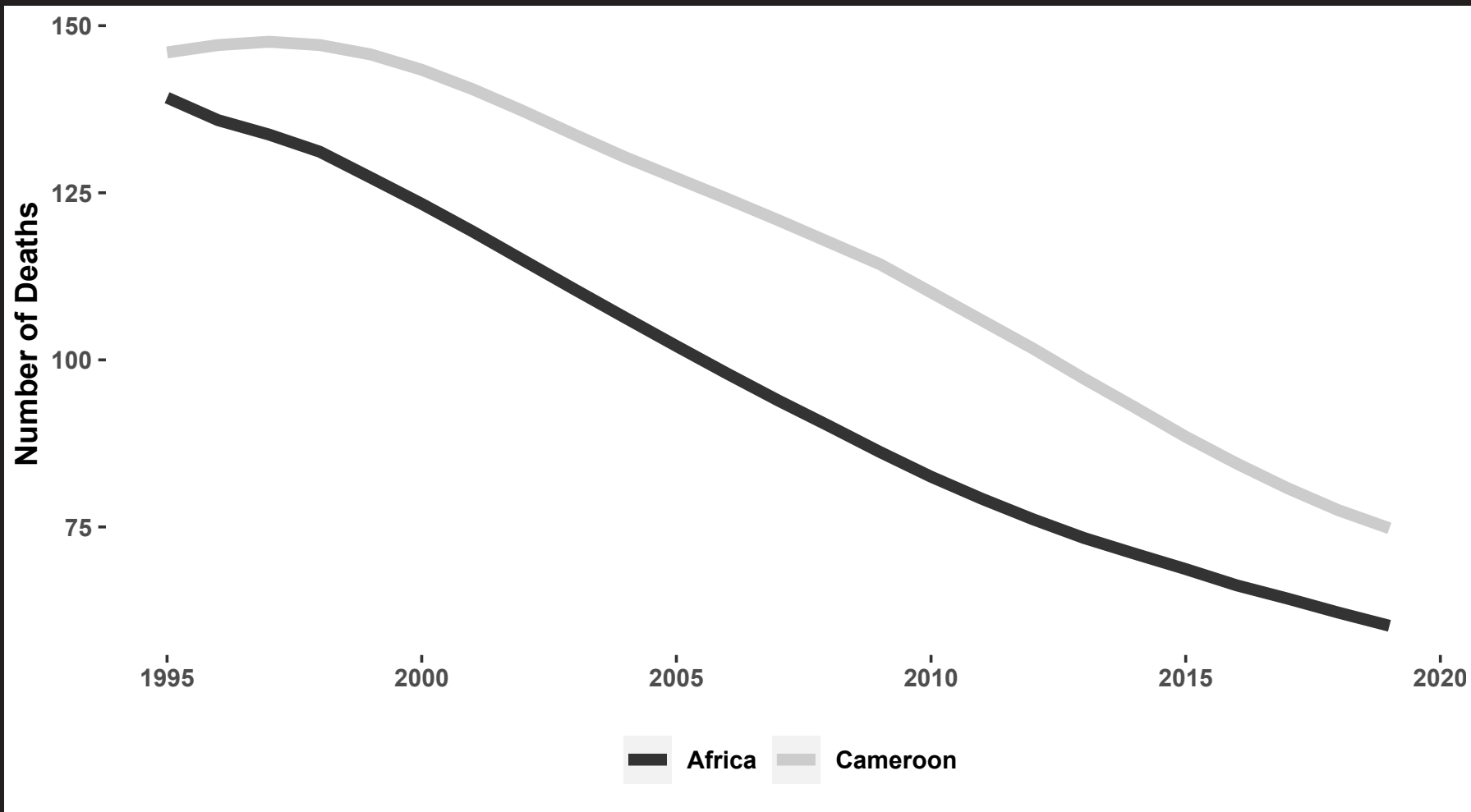
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Cameroon has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is three times greater than its death rate.

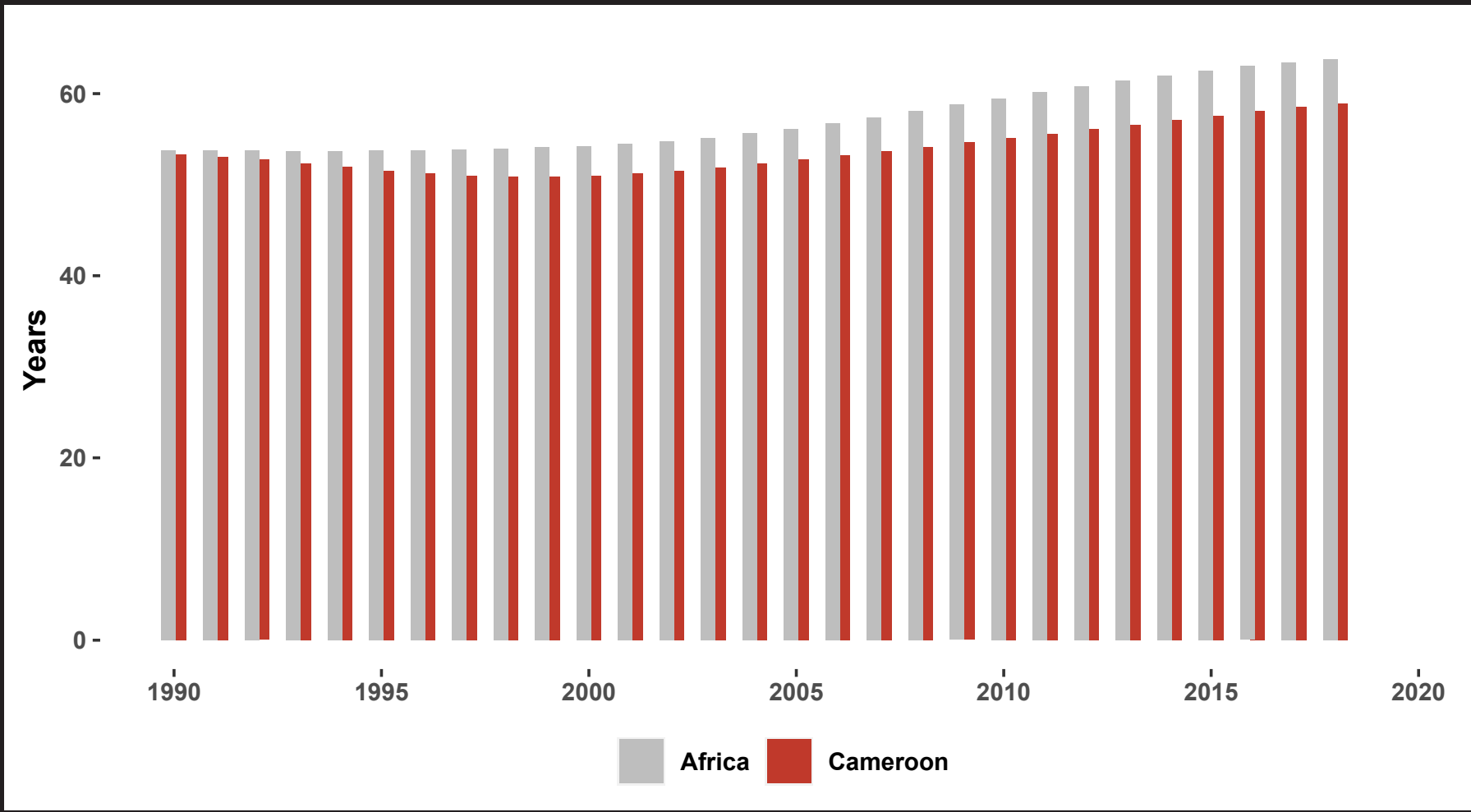
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



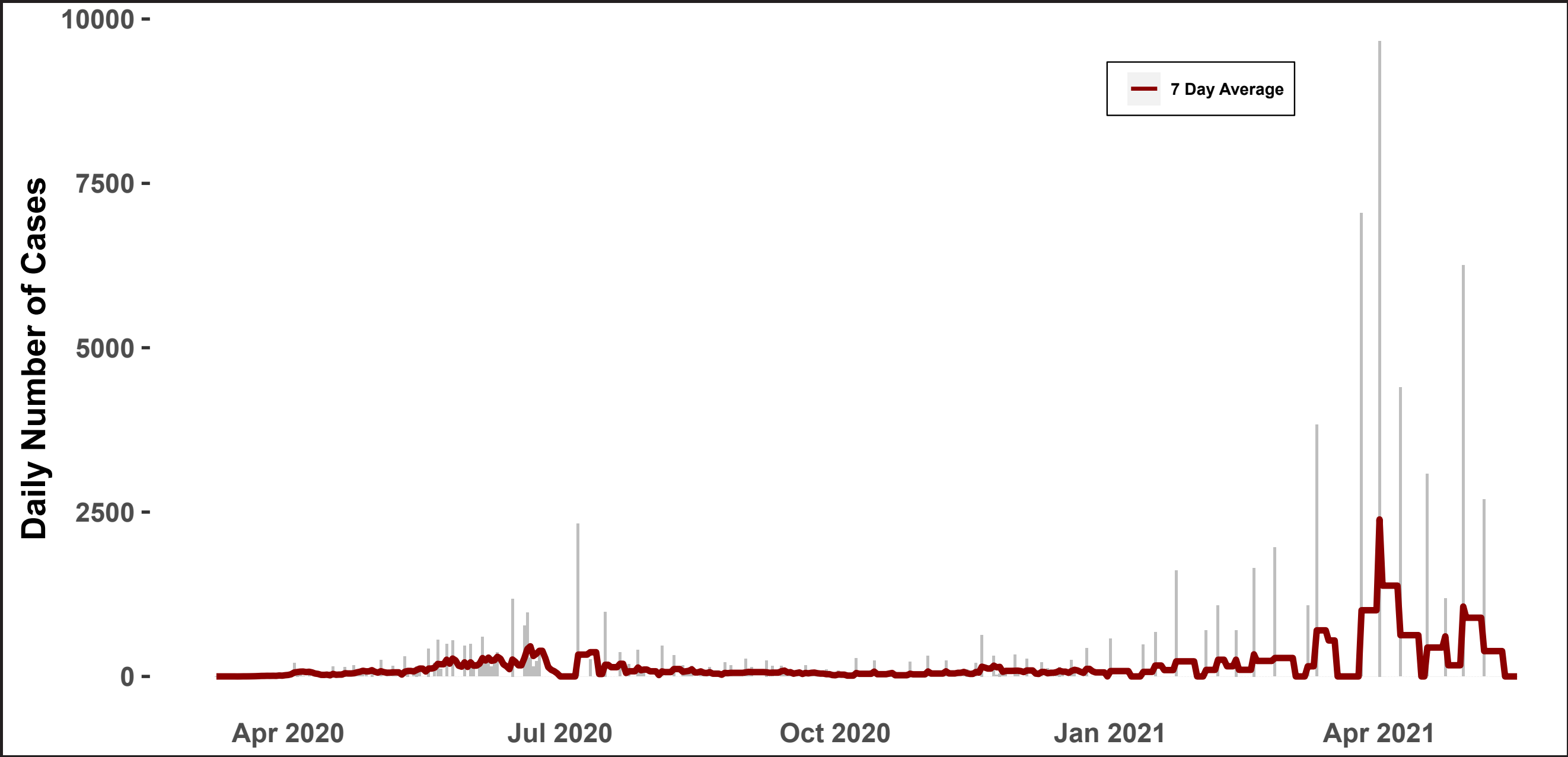
Although Cameroon’s child mortality rate is higher than the African average, it has experienced rapid declines in child mortality – especially since 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Compared to other African countries, life expectancy in Cameroon has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Cameroon hasn’t experienced any true Covid-19 waves.

DID YOU KNOW?

Krishna Naudin on Flickr.com



Because of the geographical and cultural diversity of the country, it is often referred to as “Africa in miniature” and as “the hinge of Africa”.

Jasmine Halki on Flickr.com



The legal age for boys to marry is 18, while that for girls is 15 years.

Aseret Zardep on Flickr.com

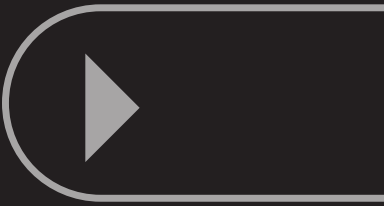
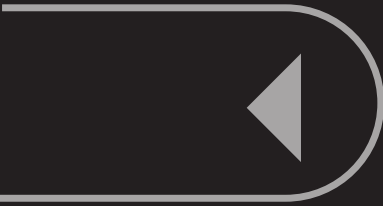


Cameroon has one of three waterfalls in Africa that empty directly into the ocean. The Lobé Waterfalls, in the beach town of Kribi, flow into the sea.



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Central African Republic (CAR), a landlocked country in the centre of Africa, is bordered by Chad, Sudan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo and Cameroon. It covers 622 984 km². CAR is home to more than 80 different ethnic groups. CAR gained independence from France in 1960, and has since seen numerous coup d'états, rebellions and brutal regimes. By the 1990s calls for democracy led to the first multi-party democratic elections in 1993. The CAR bush war began in 2004 and, despite a peace treaty in 2007 and another in 2011, civil war resumed in 2012, perpetuating the country's poor human rights record. CAR is one of the poorest countries in Africa, despite significant mineral deposits and other resources, such as uranium reserves, crude oil, gold, diamonds, cobalt, lumber and hydropower, with roughly 90% of the population living without proper access to food, sanitation and decent housing. The official currency is the CFA franc.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Faustin-Archange Touadéra



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Bangui

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

188

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

72



MAIN LANGUAGES

French and Sangho

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Semi-presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

United Hearts Movement

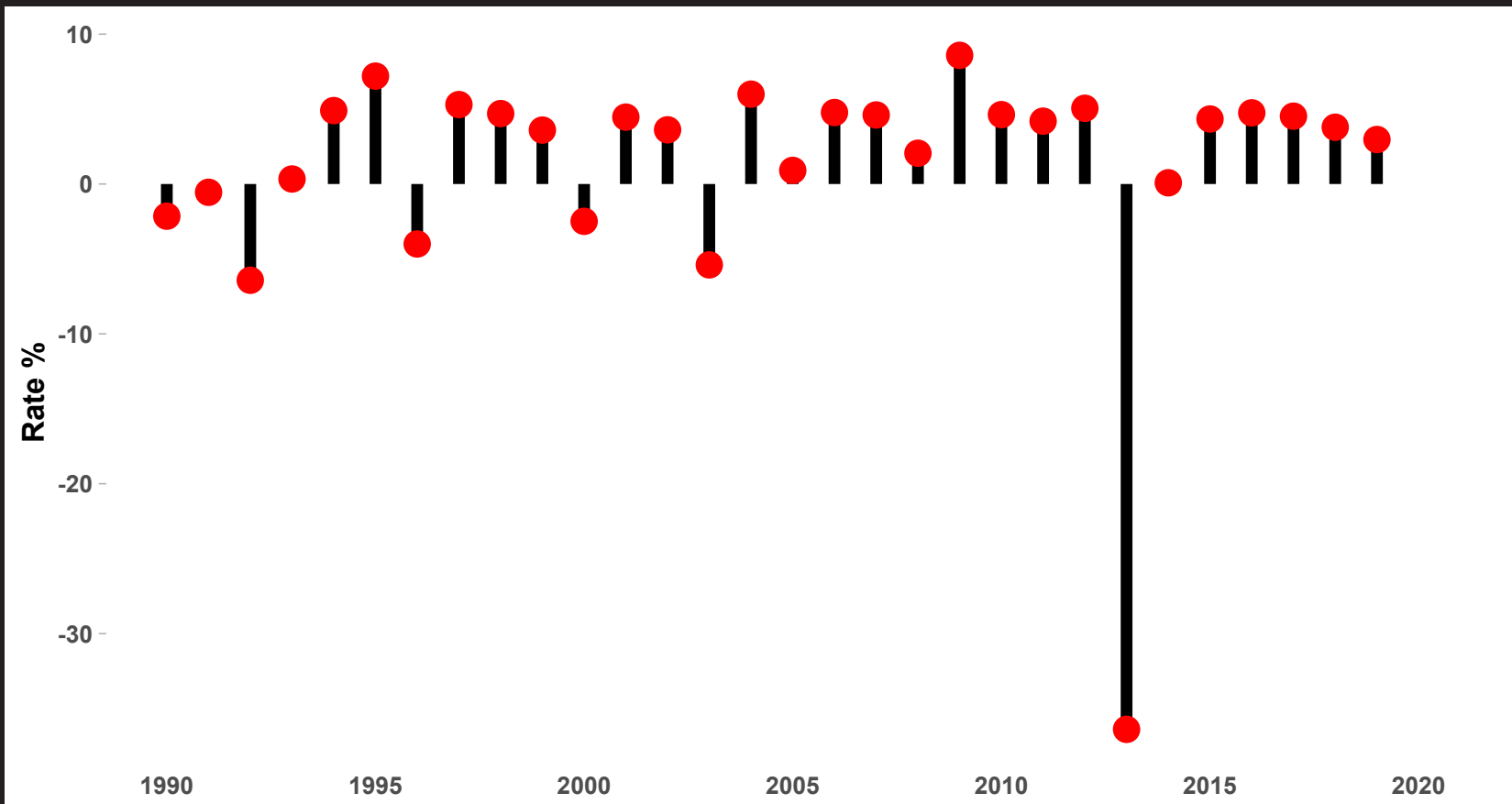


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Coalition of the Democratic Opposition (Cod2020)

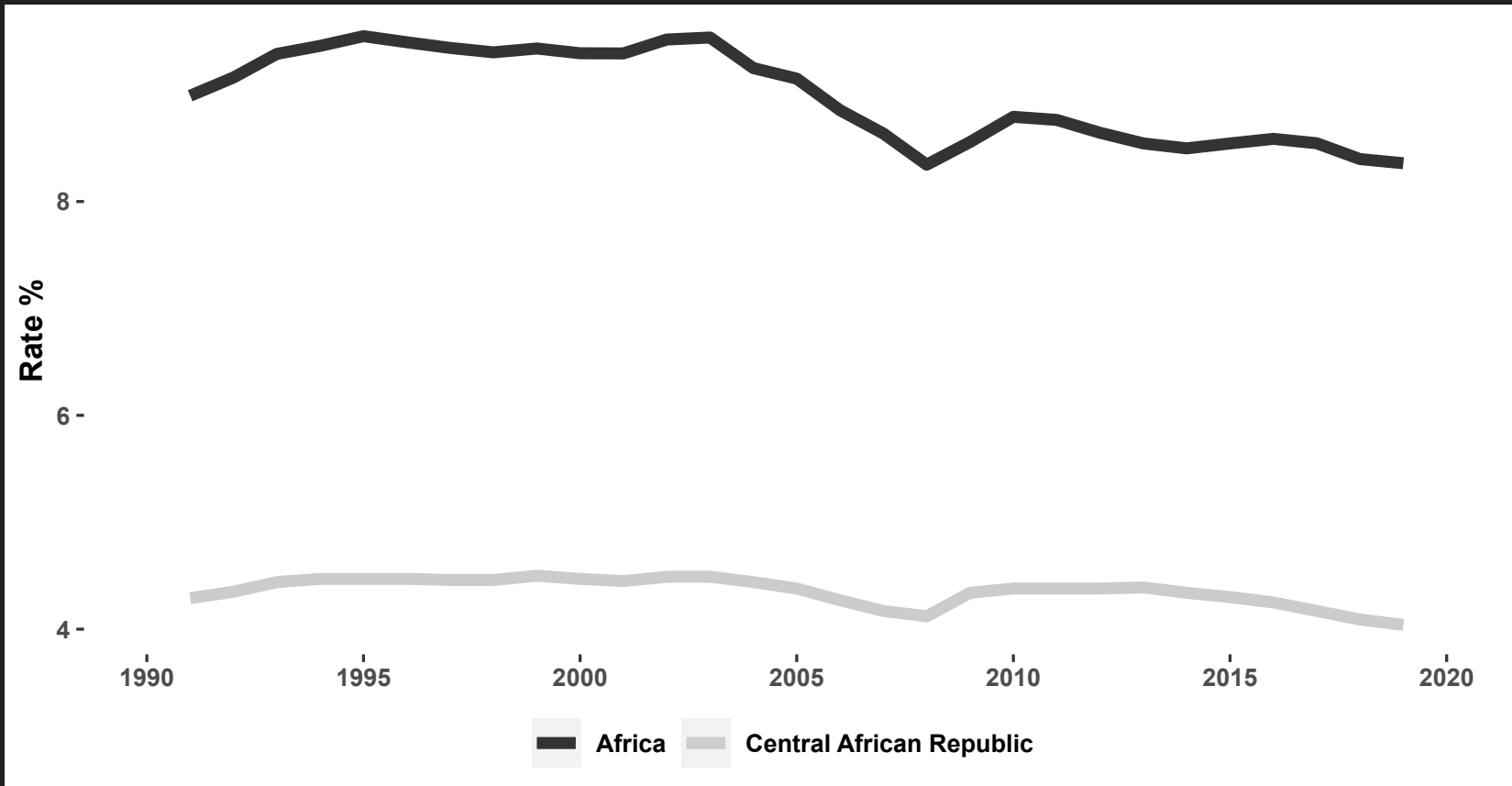
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



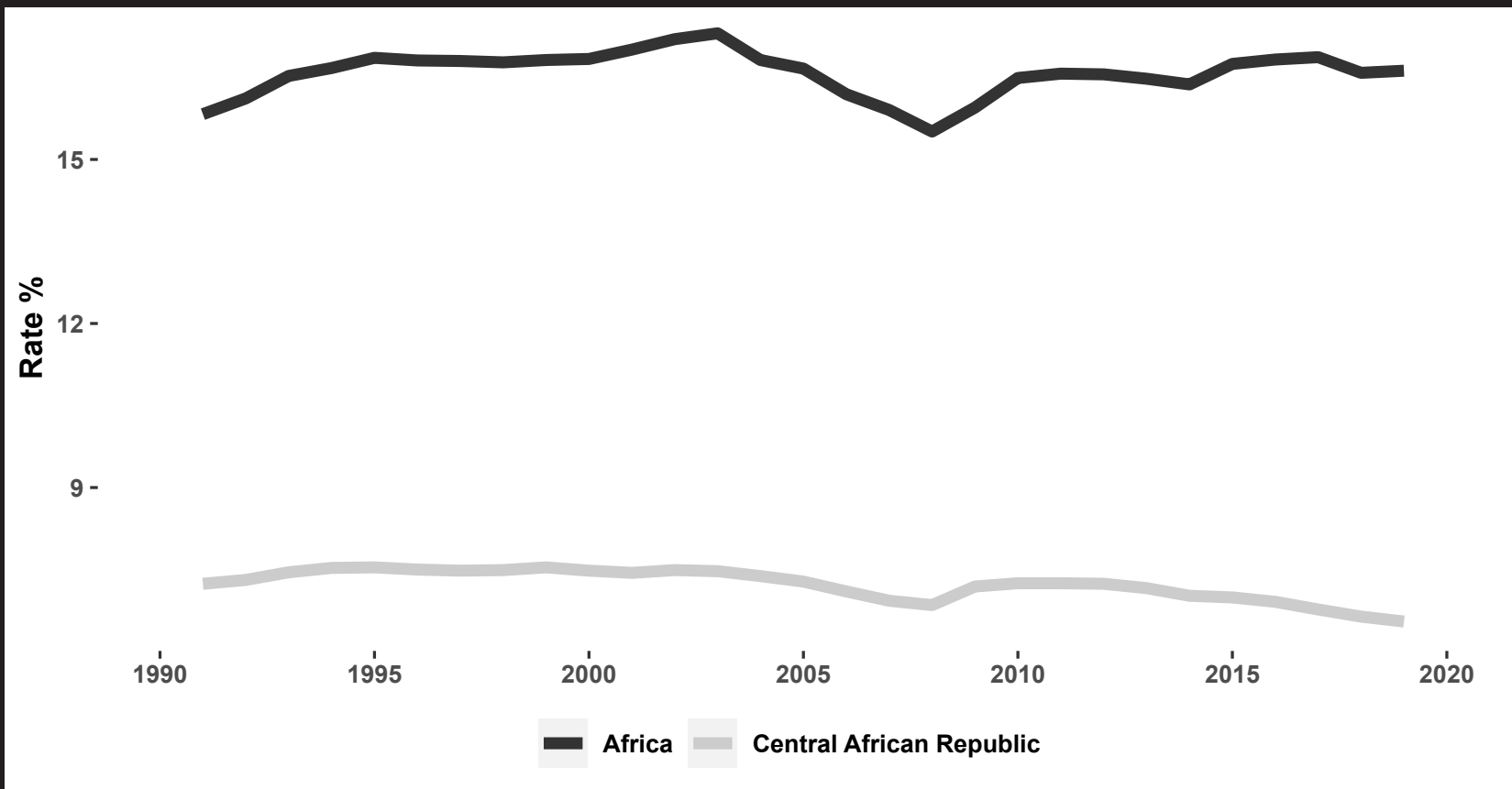
Economic growth in the Central African Republic has been erratic over the past 30 years. In recent years, this issue has been exacerbated by the CAR civil war. At the peak of the civil war in 2013, CAR recorded a growth rate of -36%, one of the largest economic contractions the continent has seen over the past 30 years.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



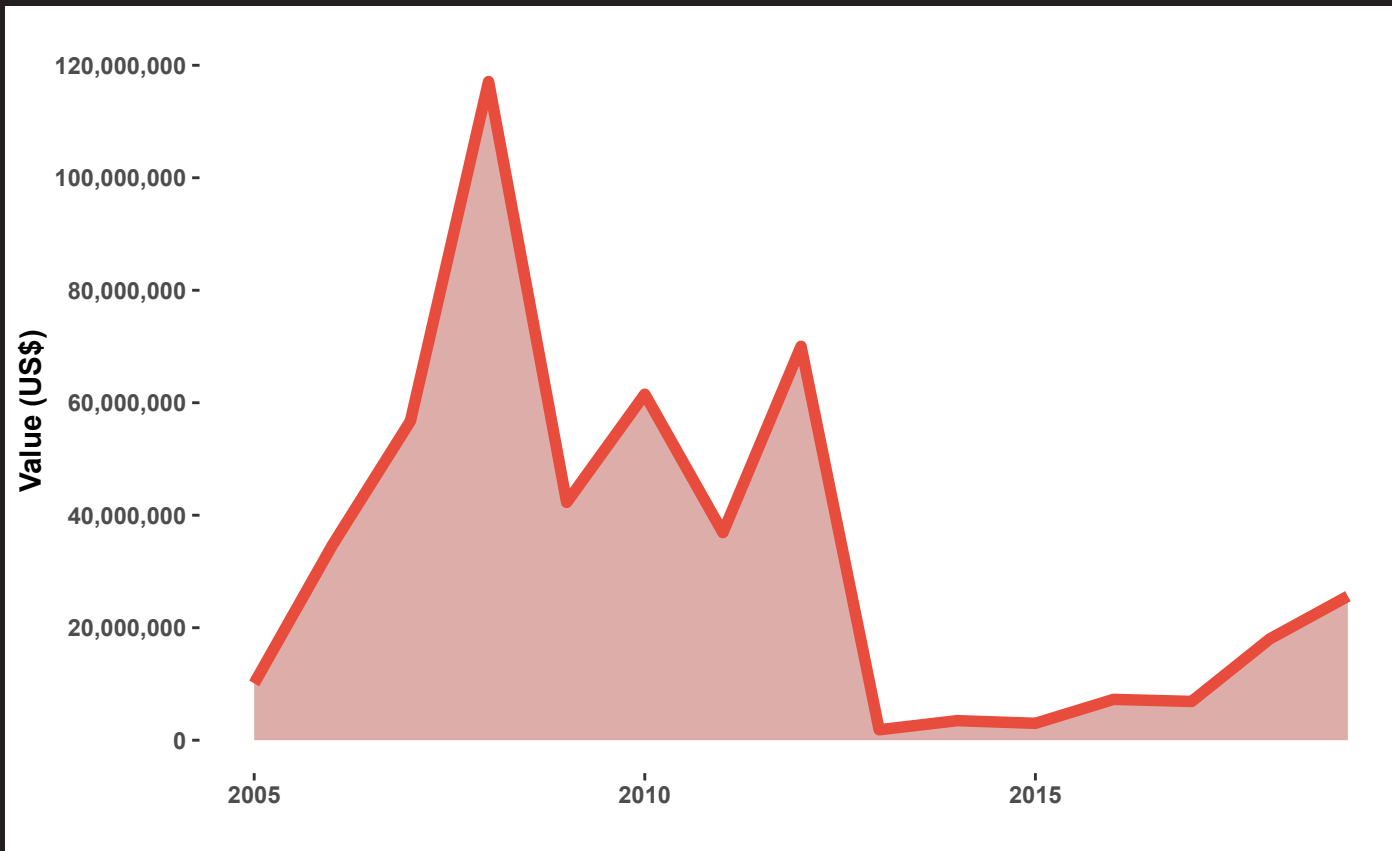
The Central African Republic has had an unemployment rate that is consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



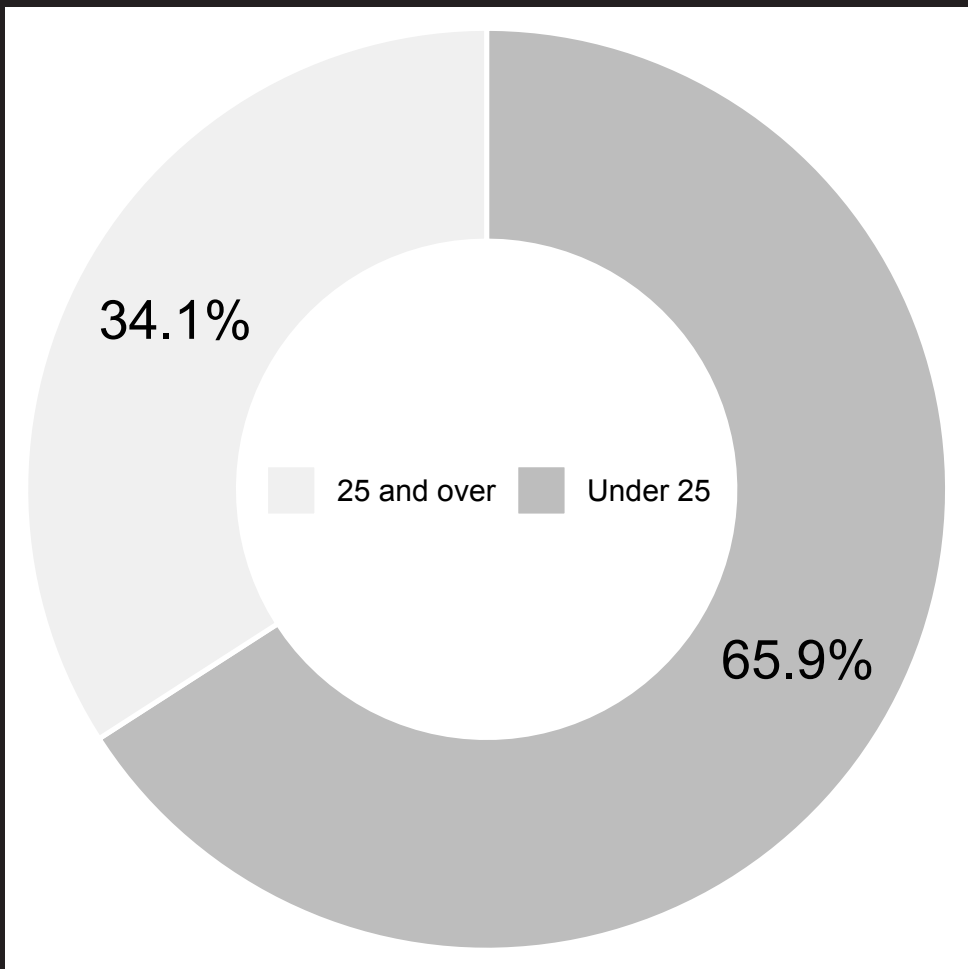
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$25.6 million

Since the commencement of the civil war in 2012, there has been very little FDI inflow into CAR. The amount for 2018 was nearly five times smaller than it was a decade earlier.

DEMOGRAPHICS

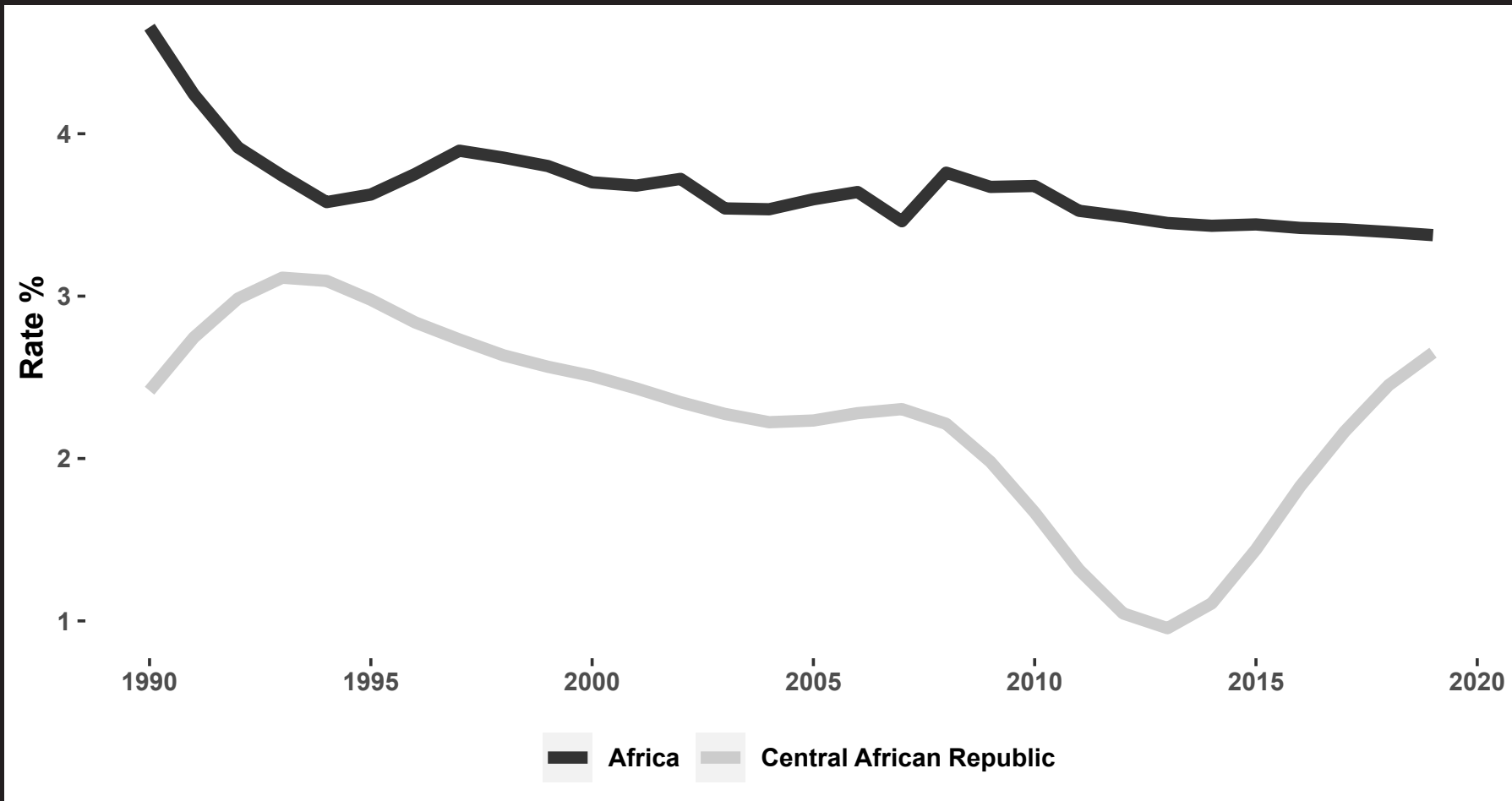
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



4.7 million

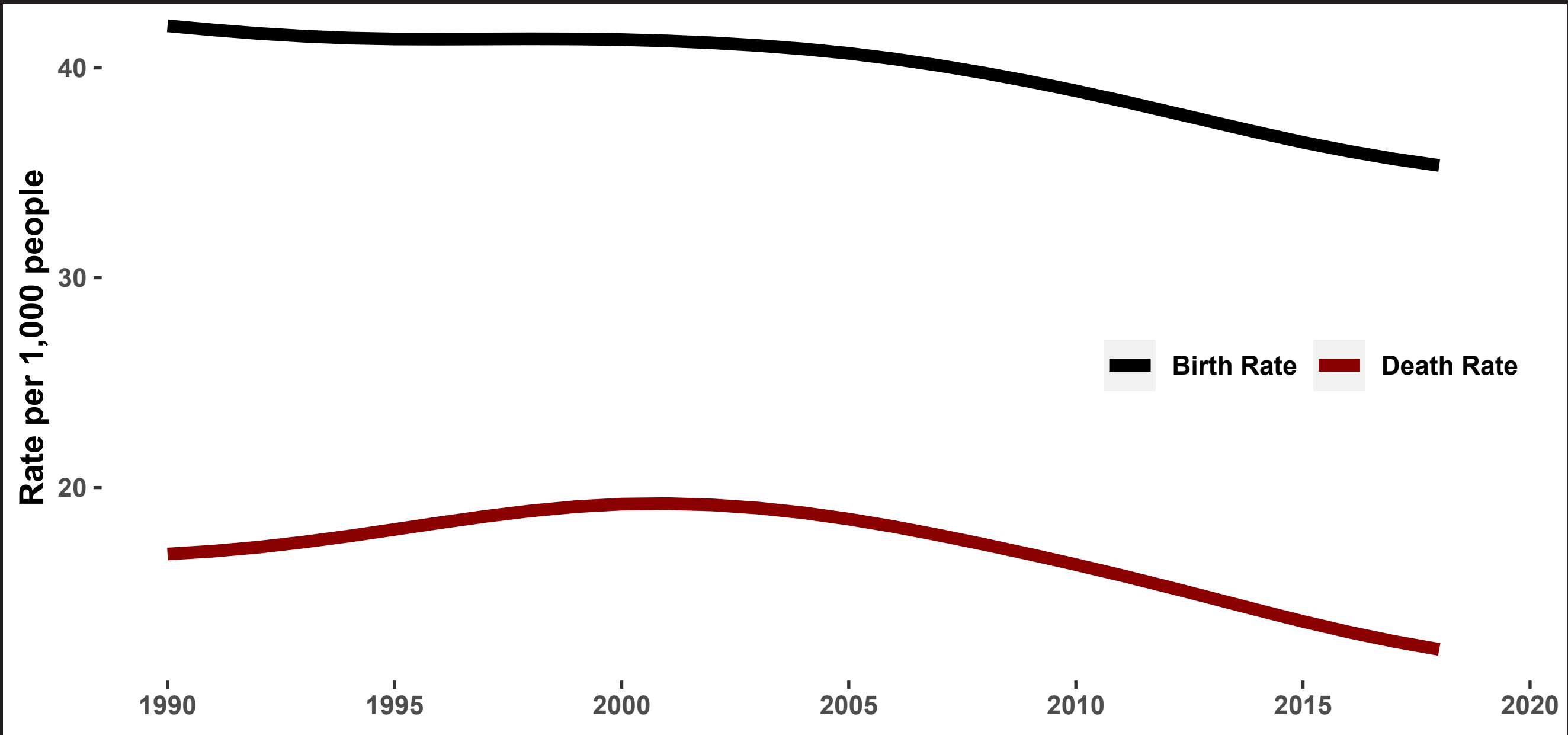
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of the Central African Republic’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1990, the Central African Republic has urbanised at a much slower rate than the continental average.

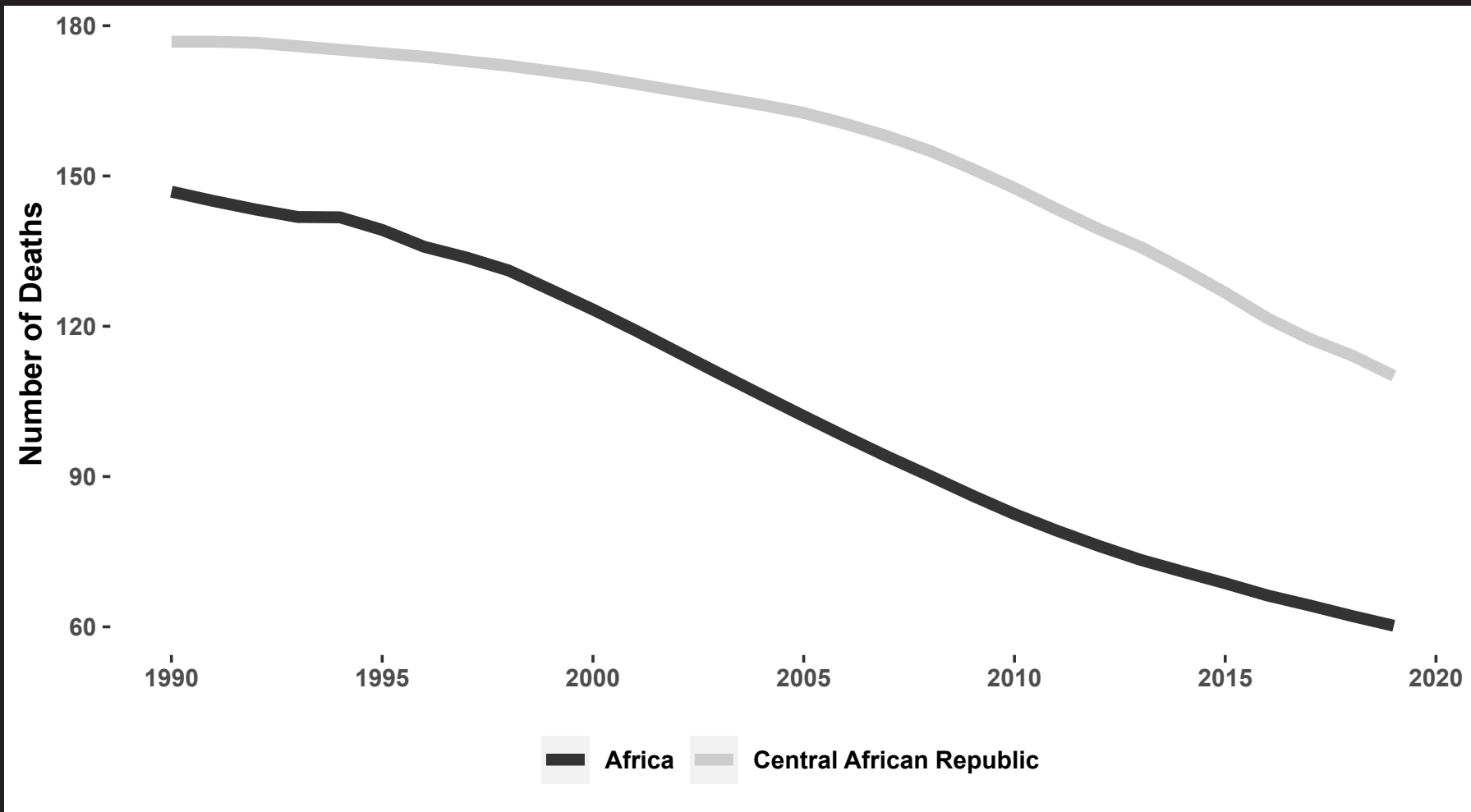
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The Central African Republic has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is roughly double its death rate.

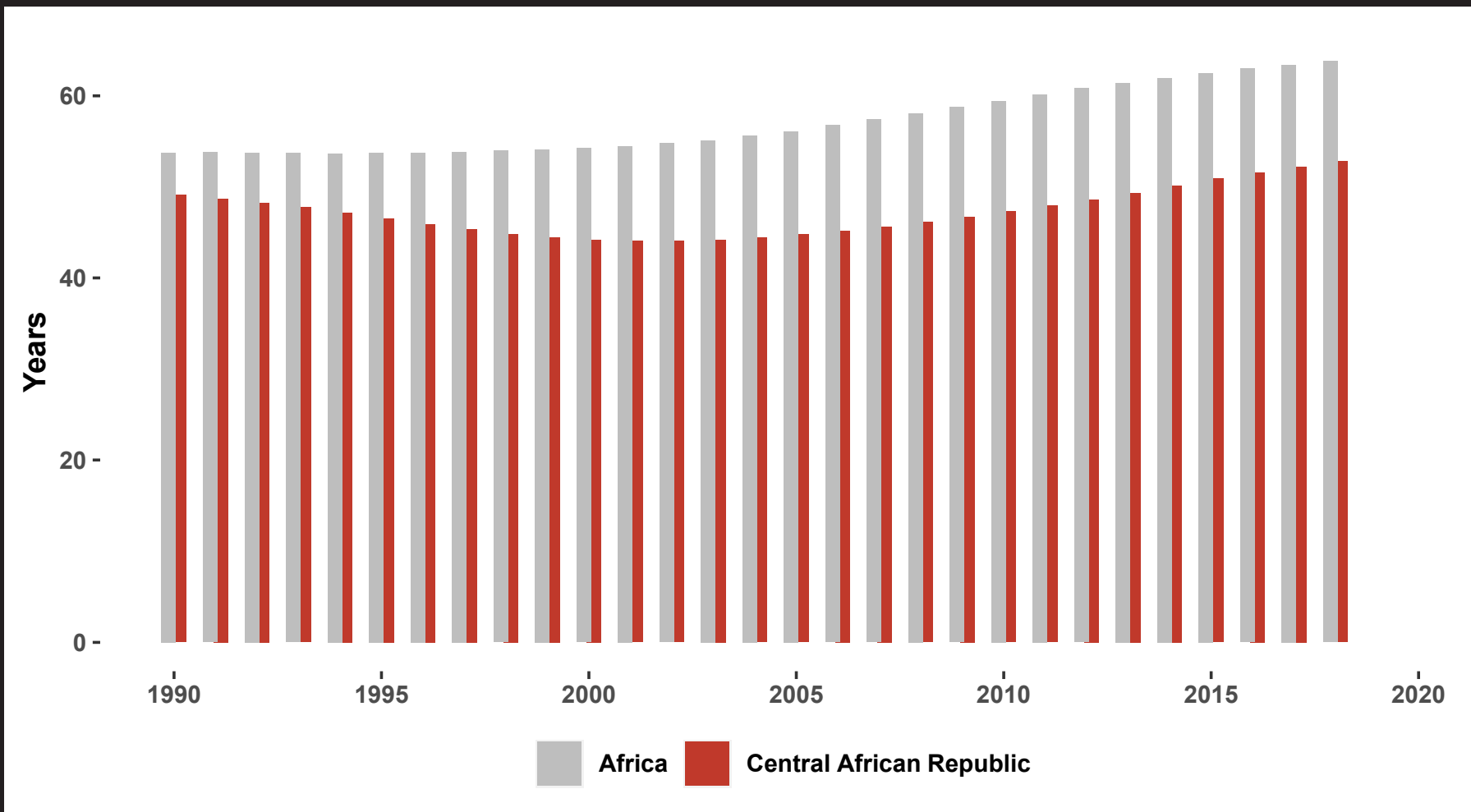
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



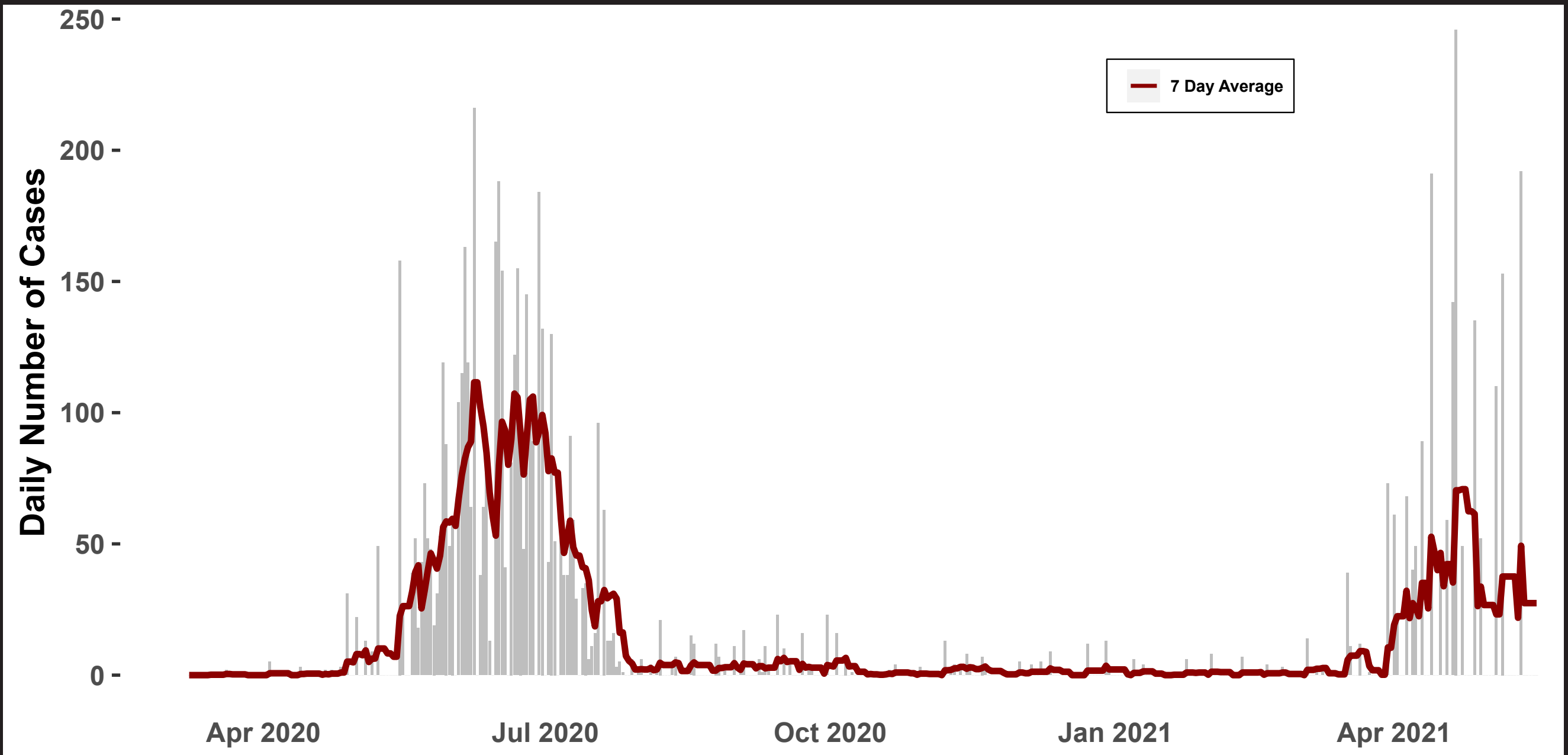
Although child mortality has been on the decline in the Central African Republic over the past 30 years, this is occurring at a much slower rate than in the rest of the continent. In fact, CAR currently has one of the highest child mortality rates in Africa.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Compared to other African countries, life expectancy in the Central African Republic has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



The Central African Republic has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in June/July 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Hdptcar on Flickr.com

Child marriages are permitted in CAR. There is no strict age restrictions in terms of marriage.



Afrika Force on Flickr.com

The hot climate of the country favours the growth of tobacco, coffee, cotton, peanuts, millet, maize, sesame, plantain and tapioca.



Ryanvanhuyssteen

CAR, rich in fauna and flora, is home to several endemic species, including the Oubangui Mouse, the Skink (a snake-like reptile), the Sangha Forest Robin and the Sternfield River Frog.



CHAD

Chad is a landlocked country spanning north-central Africa, bordered by Libya, Sudan, the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger. It covers an area of 1,284,000 km², and is mostly desert. Chad was part of the French colonial empire from 1900 until it gained independence in 1960. Chad’s post-independence history has been marked by instability and violence, stemming mostly from tension between the mainly Arab-Muslim north and the predominantly Christian and animist south. Traditionally, Chad’s economy has been based on farming and livestock, but in the past decade the economy has changed dramatically from the oil boom, and the completion in 2003 of a \$4 bn pipeline linking its oilfields to terminals on the Atlantic coast. Besides oil, there are also significant deposits of gold, marble, and sodium carbonate. Lake Chad is the largest body of water in the Sahel and a major centre of economic activity for the region. The official currency is the CFA franc.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Mahamat Idriss Déby



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
N'Djamena

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

187

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

120+



MAIN LANGUAGES

French and Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



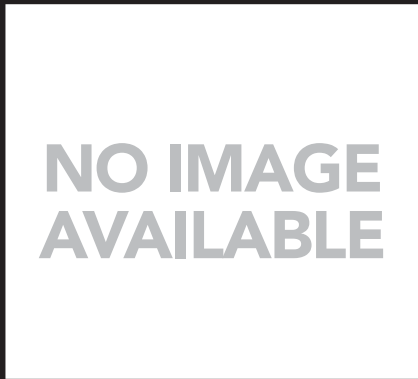
SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Patriotic Salvation Movement (MPS)

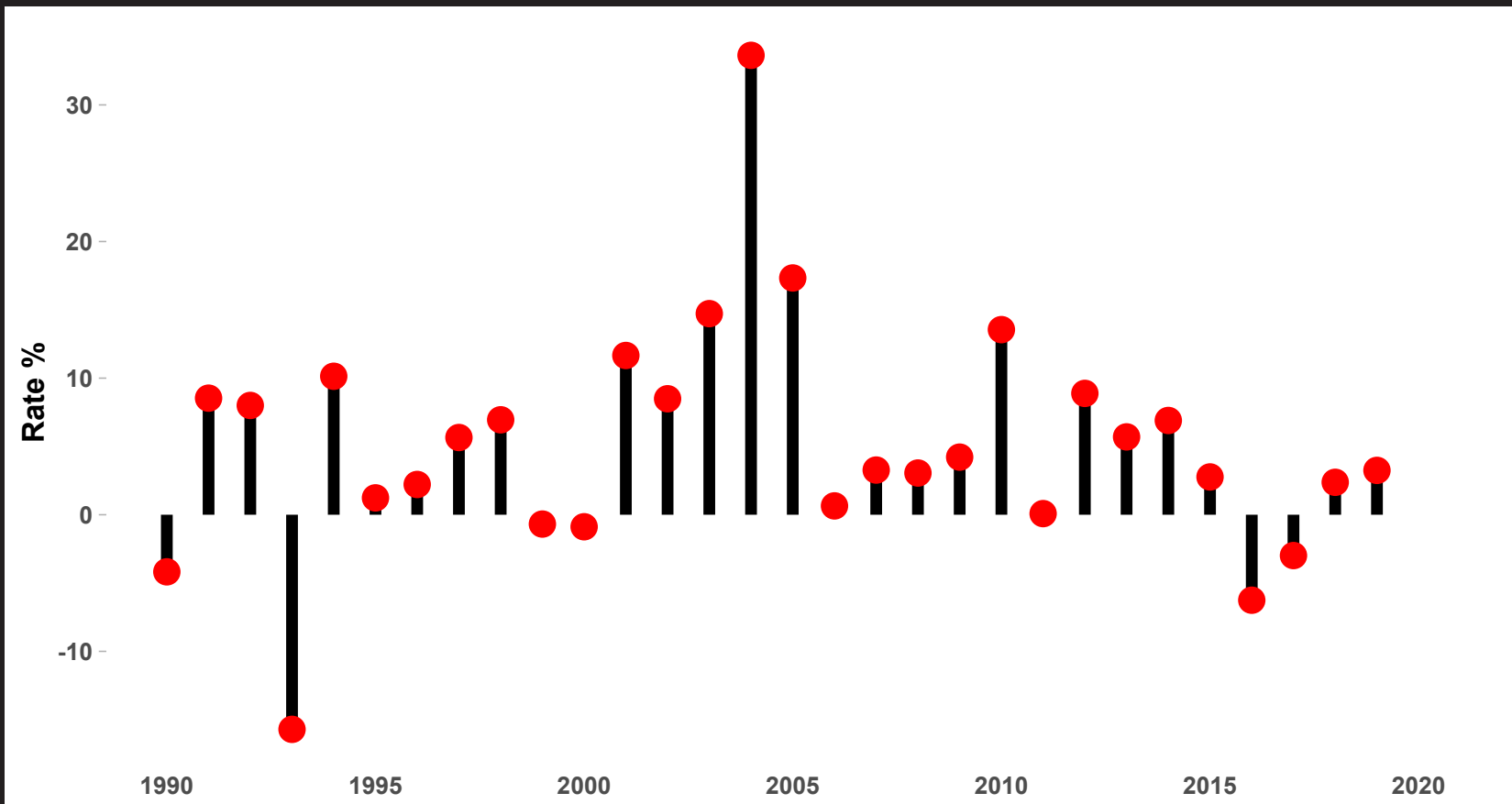


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Independent Socialist Party of Chad (PSIT)

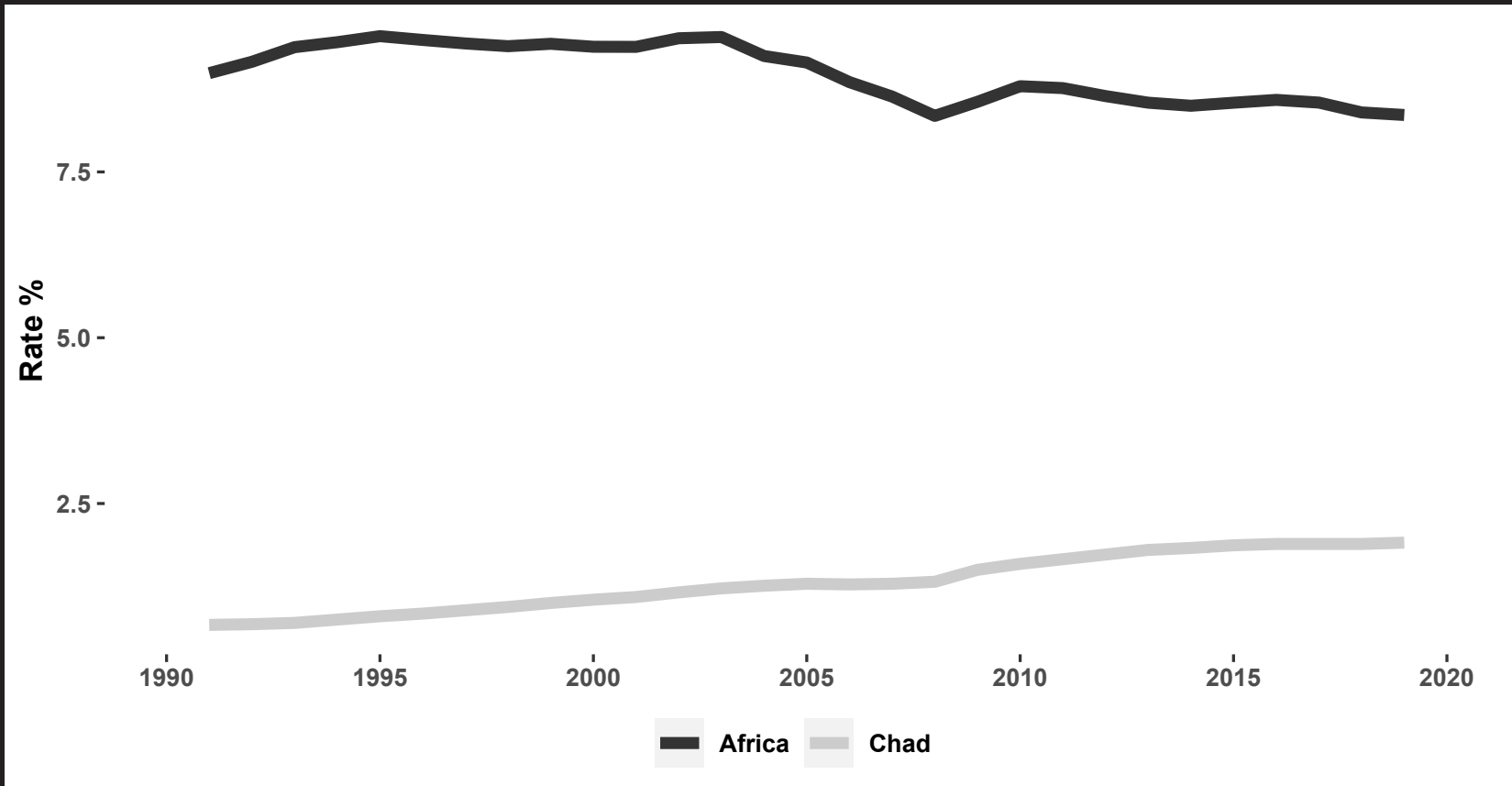
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



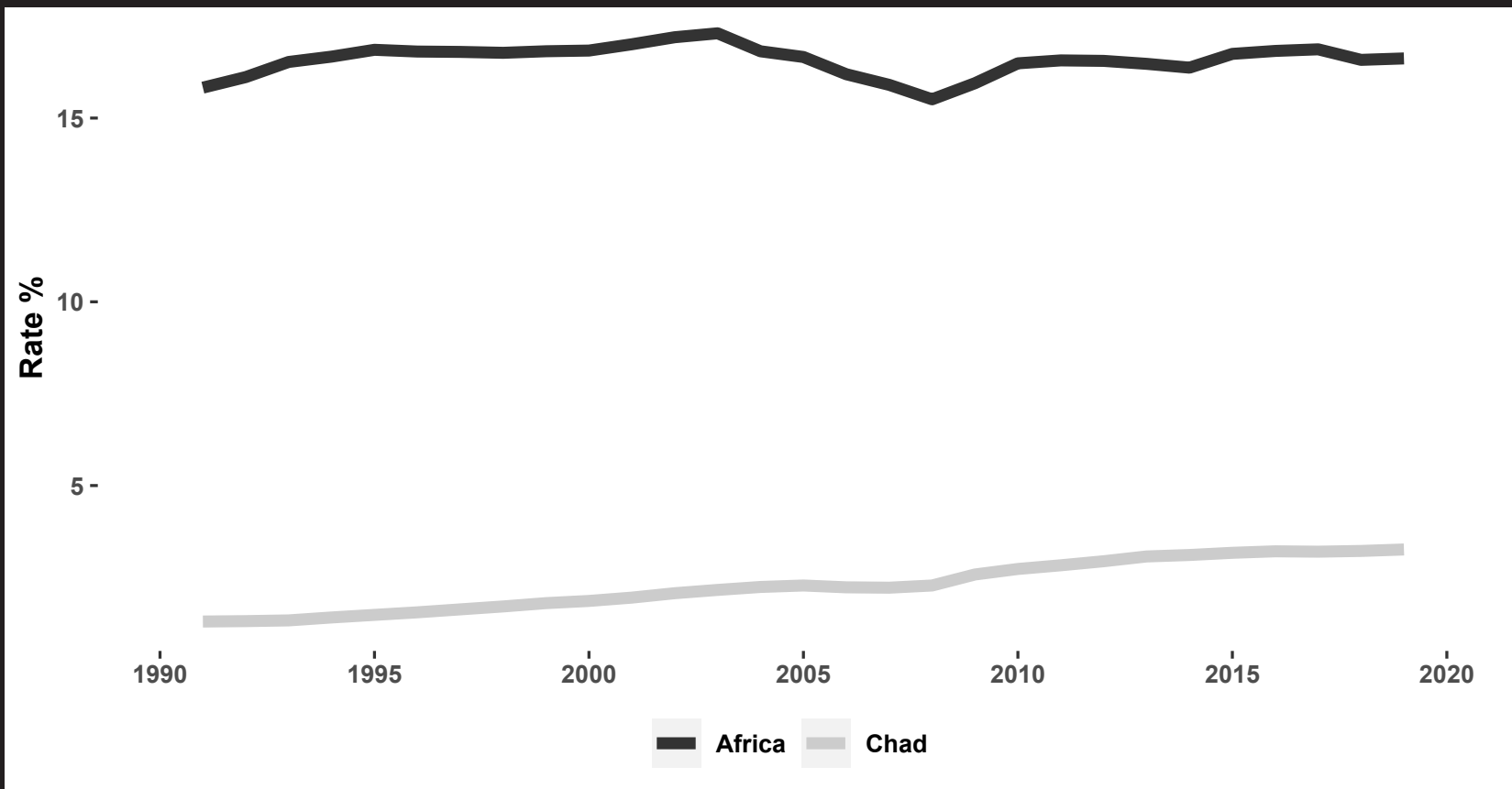
Chad’s economy is primarily reliant on oil production, which has experienced erratic growth over the past three decades. This was most evident in 2004 when Chad recorded an extremely high growth rate of 33% motivated by the start of oil production within the Doba basin.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



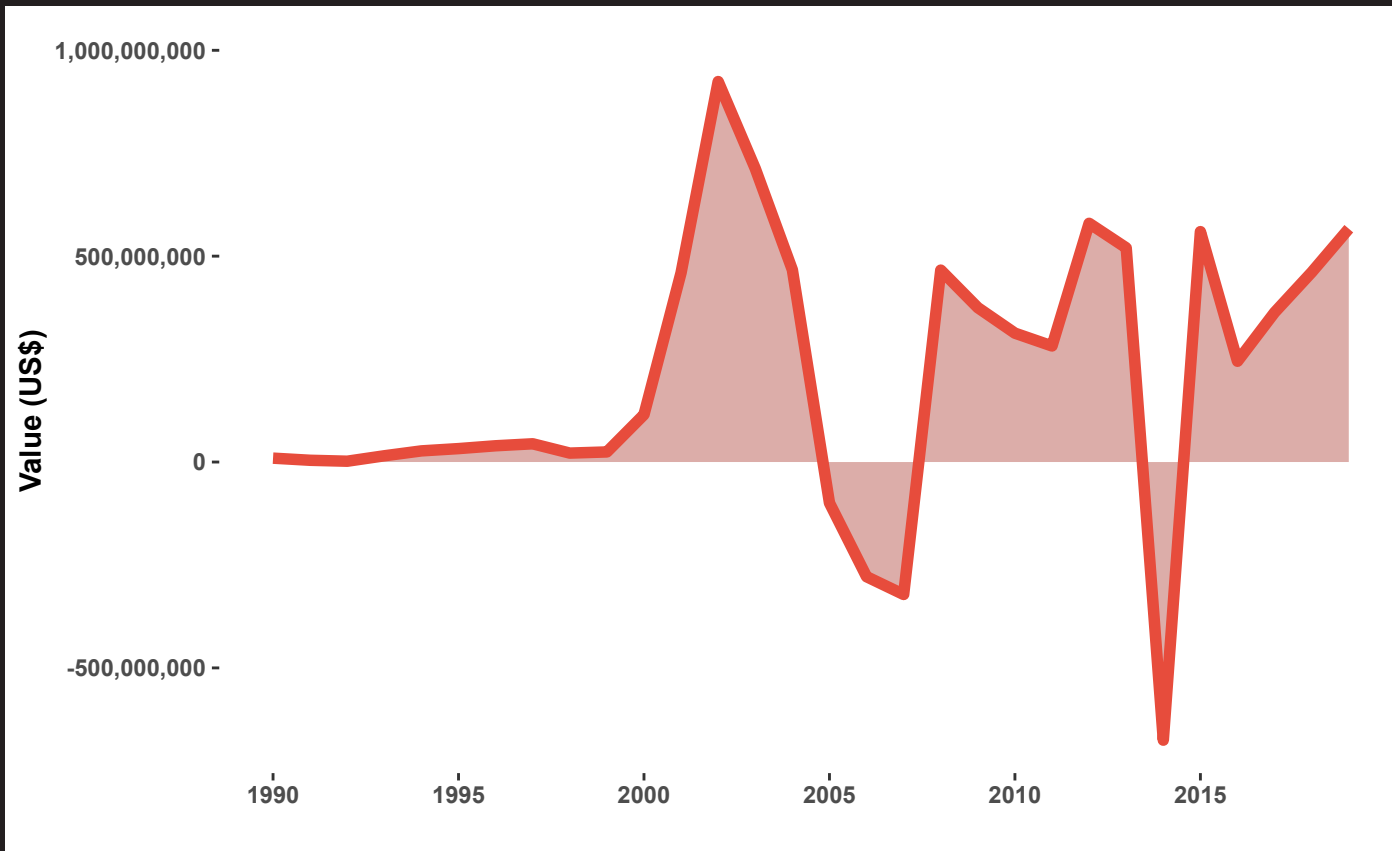
Chad has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Chad has has seen one of the lowest youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



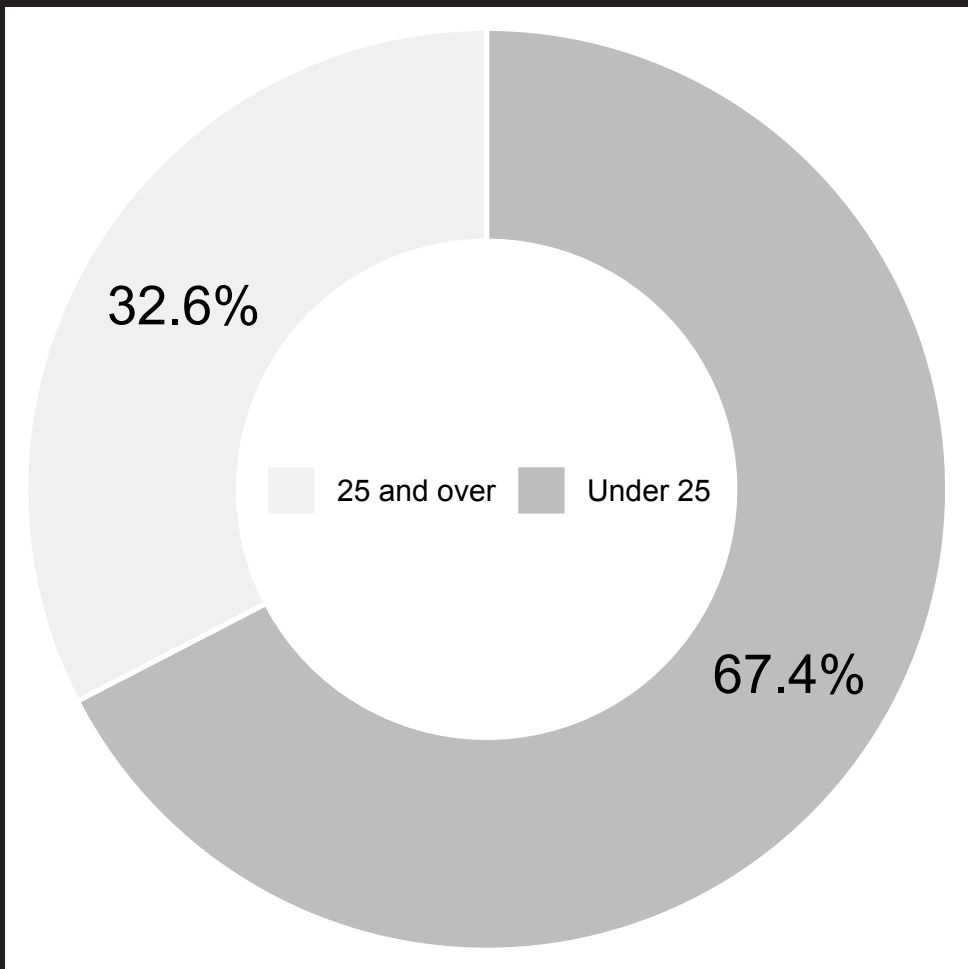
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$567 million

The inflow of FDI in Chad has also been erratic in recent years with the amount often fluctuating in relation to the state of oil production.

DEMOGRAPHICS

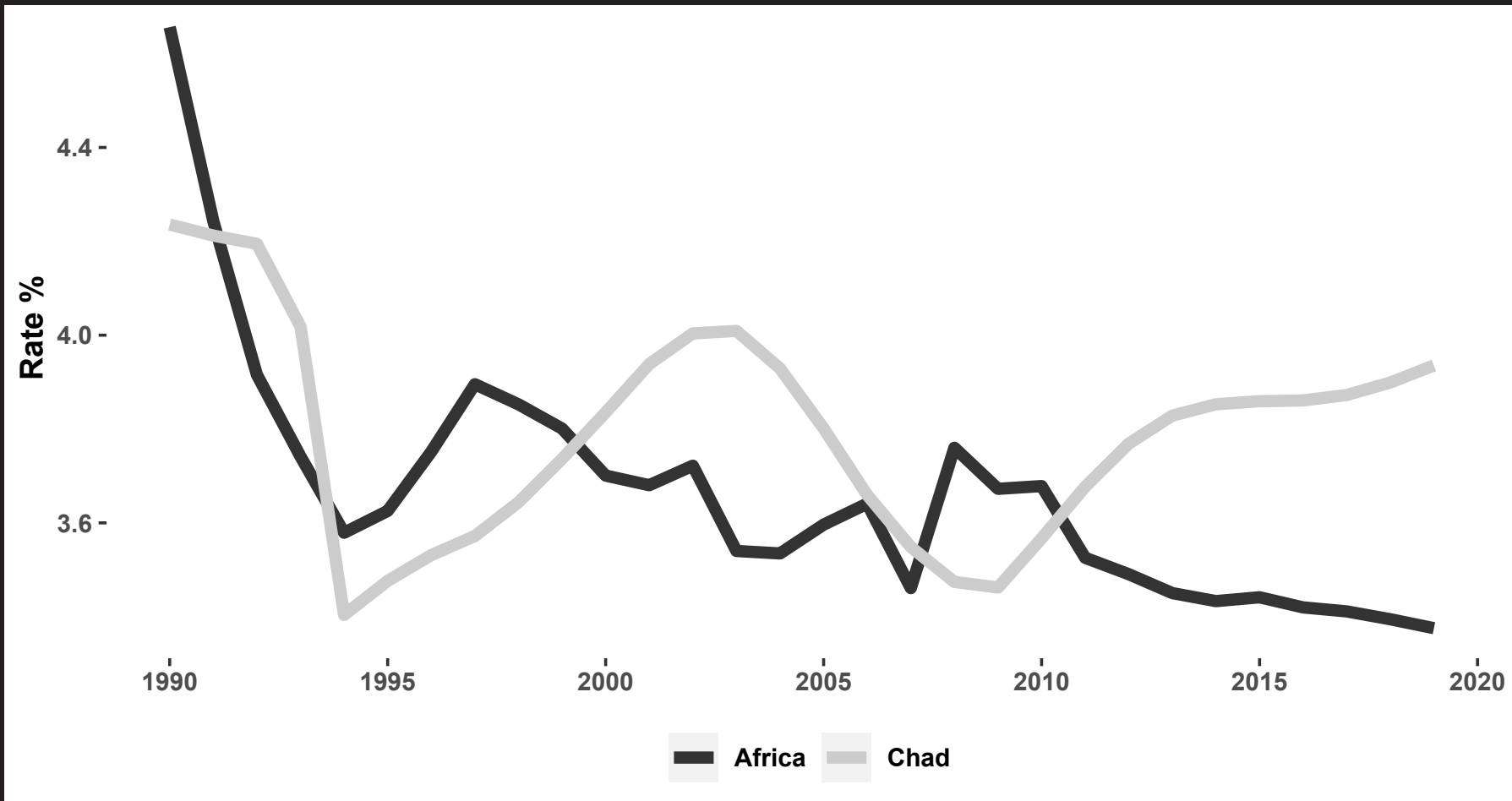
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



15.9 million

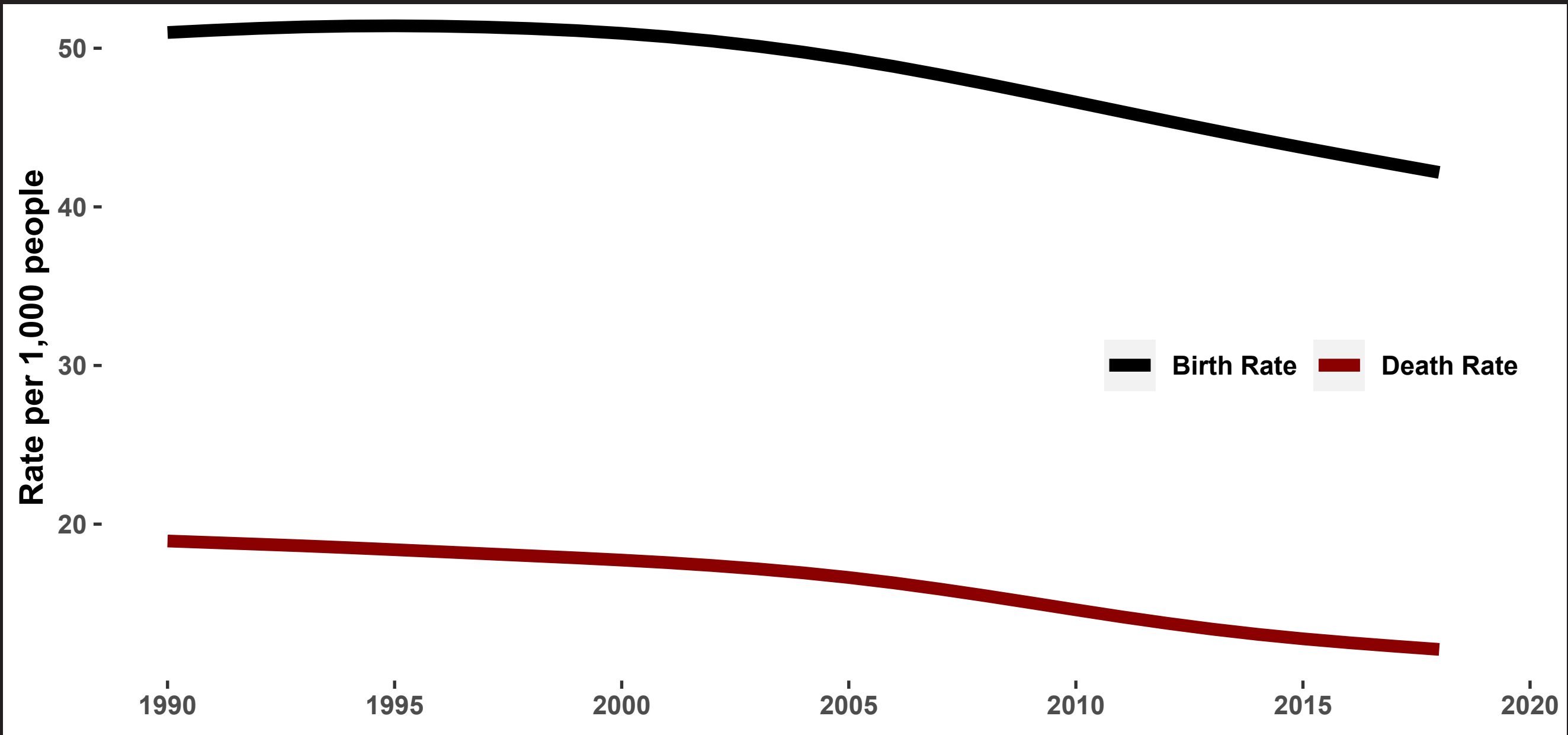
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Chad’s population is under-25 years old. Chad is one of five African countries where the under-25 population is more than double the over-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



The urbanisation rate in Chad has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past 30 years.

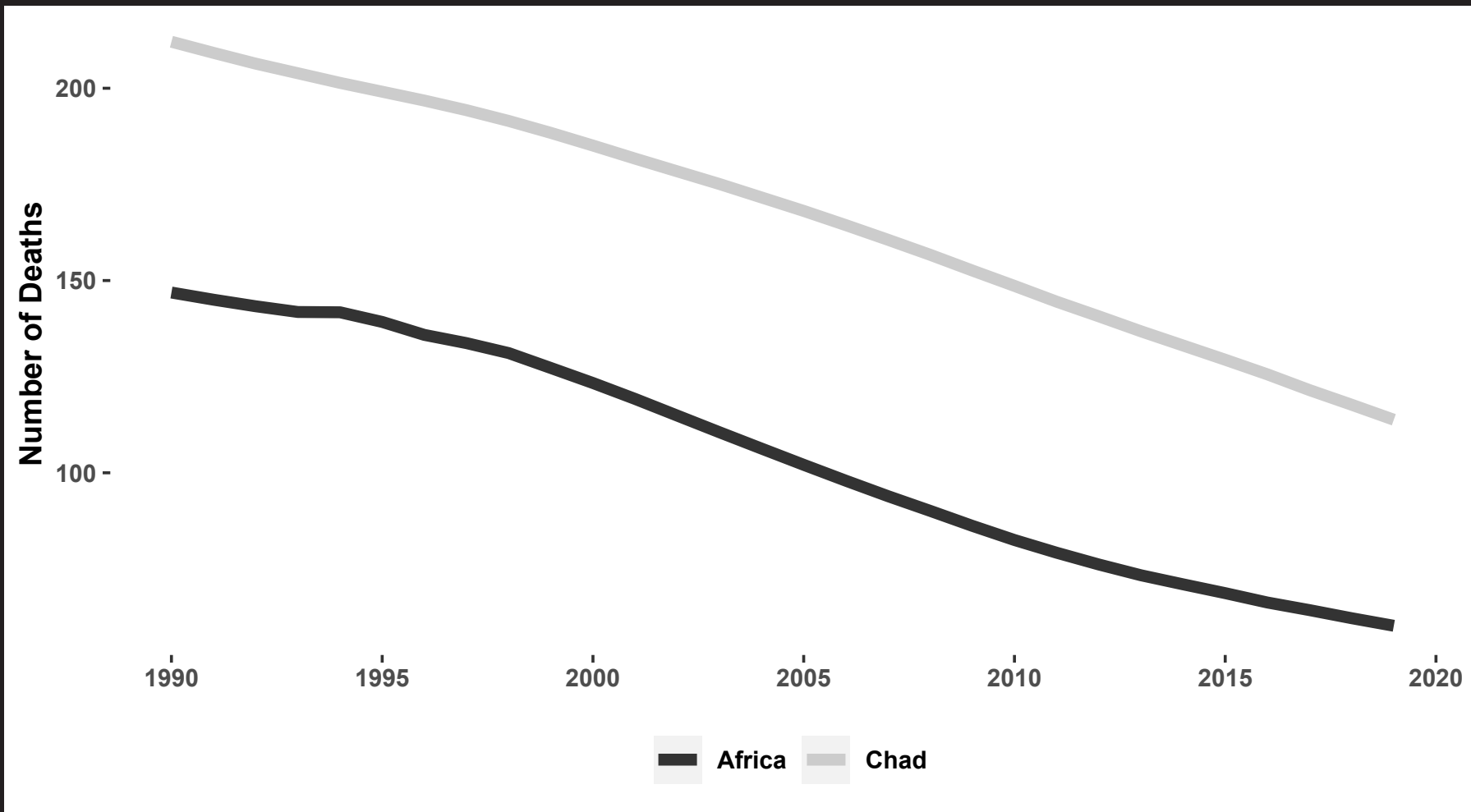
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Chad has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is roughly thrice its death rate.

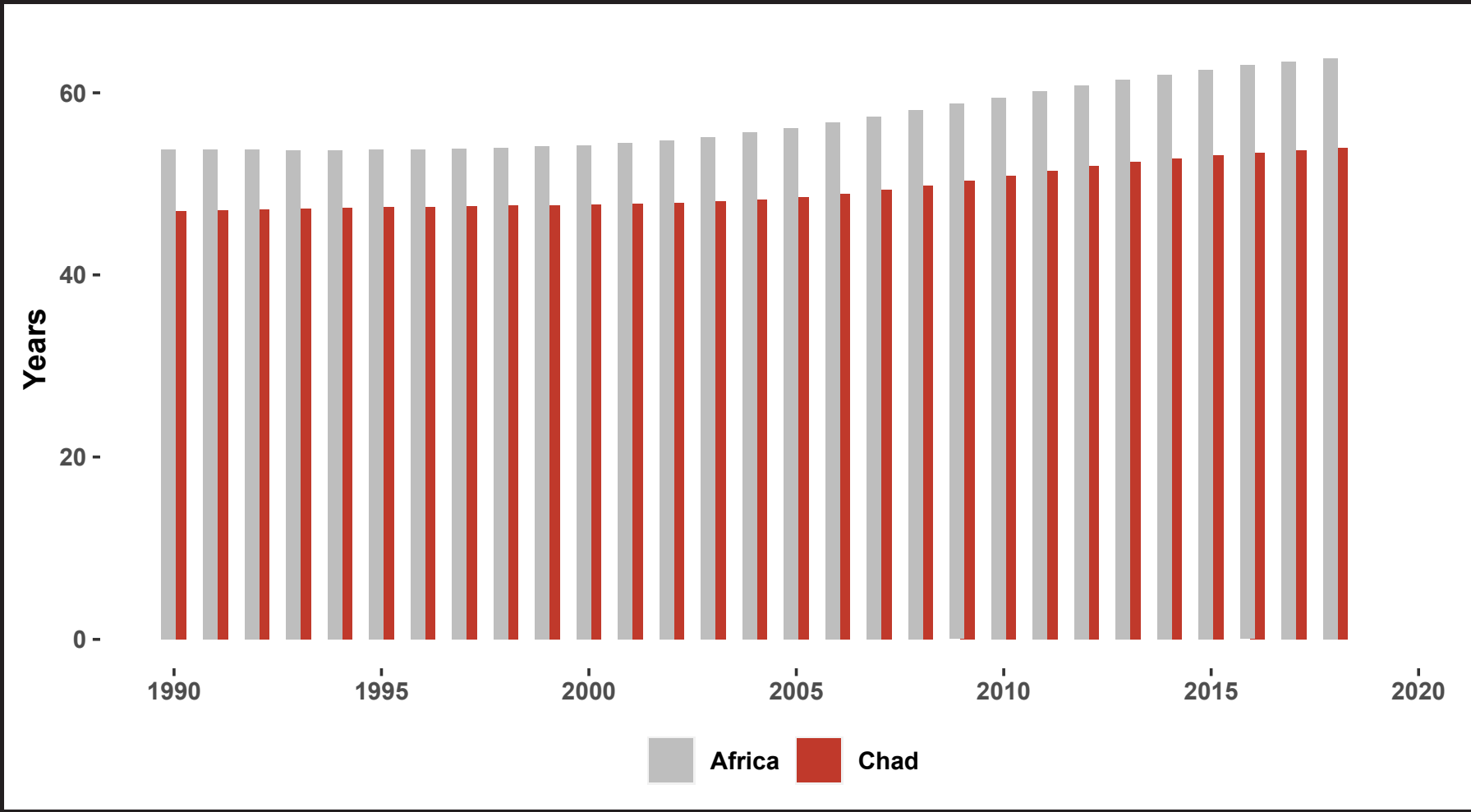
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



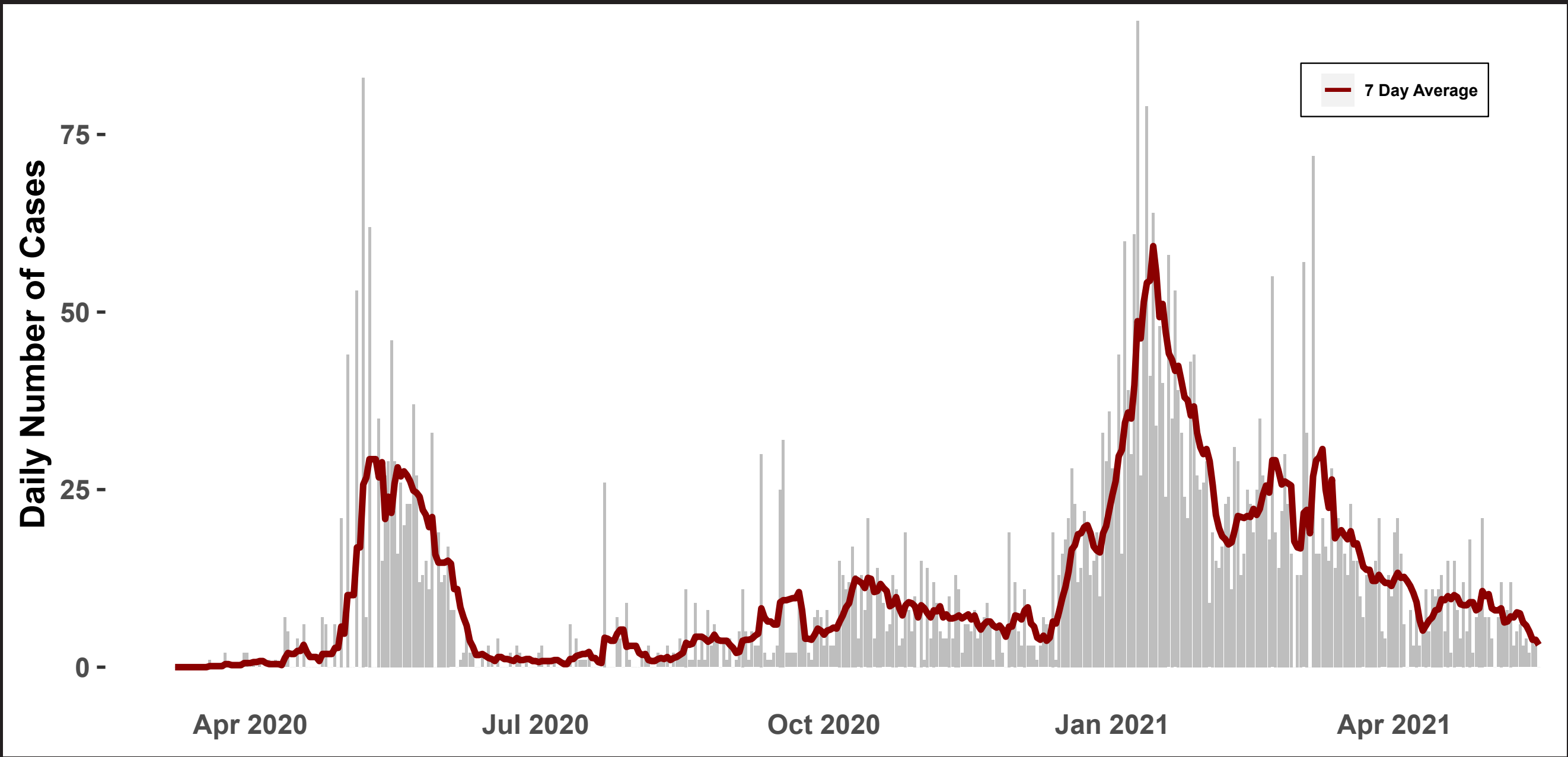
Although child mortality has been on the decline in Chad over the past 30 years, this is occurring at a much slower rate than in the rest of the continent. In fact, Chad currently has one of the highest child mortality rates in Africa.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Compared to other African countries, life expectancy in Chad has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Chad has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in May/June 2020 and Jan/Feb/March 2021.

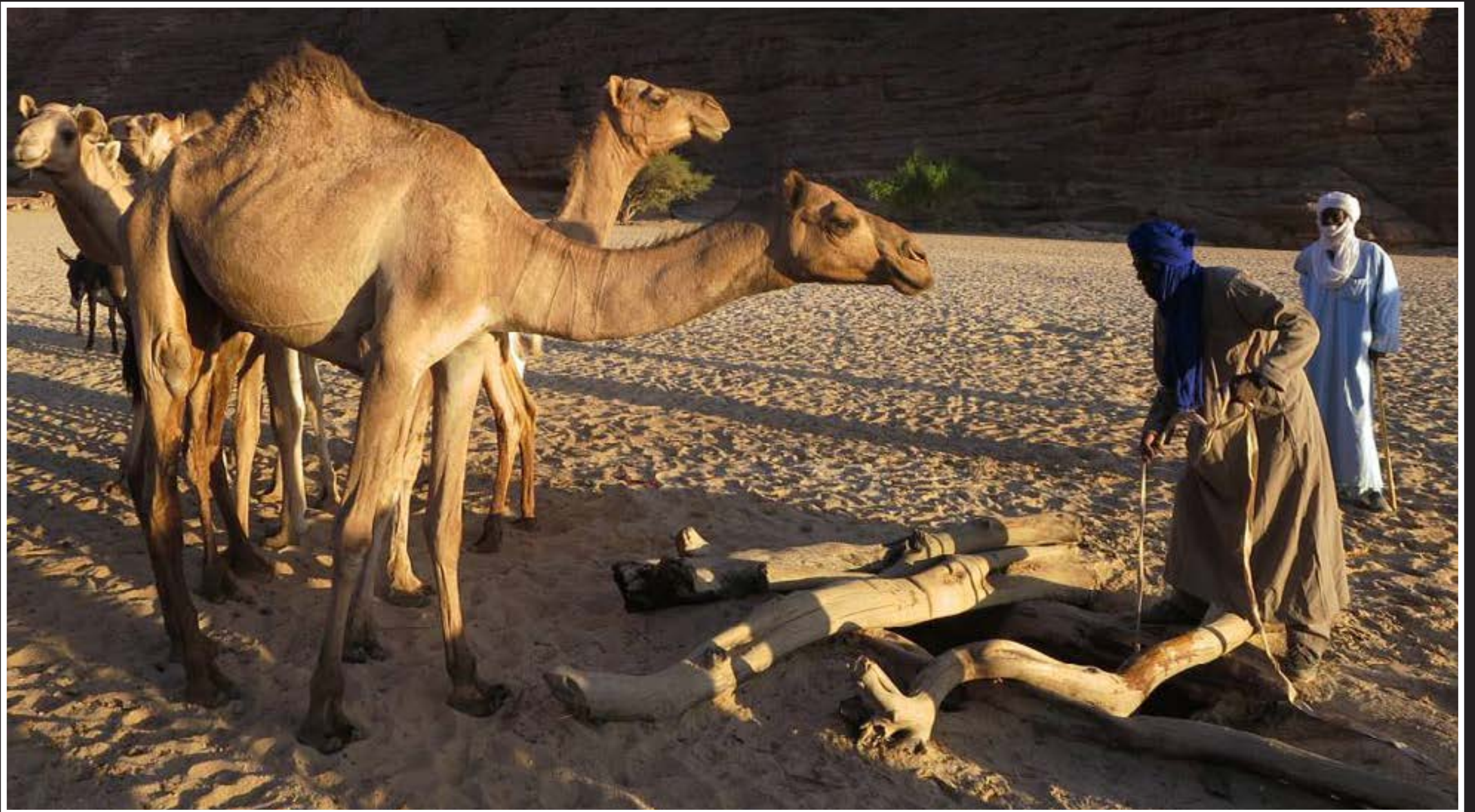
DID YOU KNOW?

David Stanley on Flickr.com



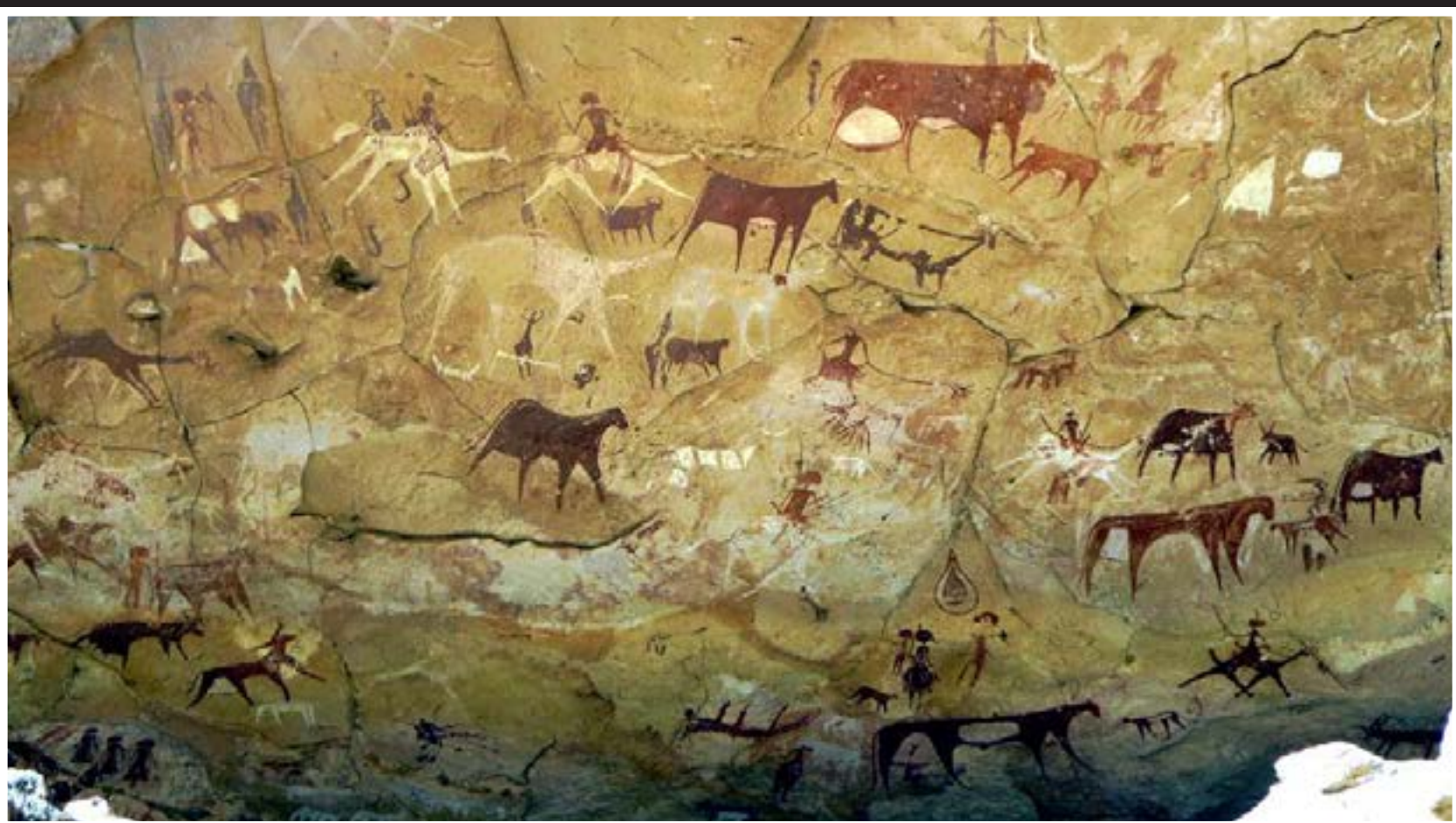
Chad is about the size of Spain, Kansas, and France combined.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



The Tibesti mountains, home to the Toubou tribe, are also home to some of the best camel racing in the world.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Chad is known as “The Babel Tower of the World” because of its cultural diversity. It has more than 200 ethnic groups and more than 100 languages.



COMOROS

The Comoros is an island country in the Indian Ocean, at the northern end of the Mozambique Channel off the east coast of Africa. It shares maritime borders with Madagascar and Mayotte, Tanzania, Mozambique, and the Seychelles to the north-east. It covers an area of 1,861 km², excluding the contested island of Mayotte. Comoros was first settled by Bantu speakers from East Africa, Arabs, and Austronesians. It then became part of the French colonial empire during the 19th century, before its independence in 1975. Since then, it has experienced more than 20 coups or attempted coups, with various heads of state assassinated. The islands of the Comoros archipelago were formed by volcanic activity. Mount Karthala, an active shield volcano located on Ngazidja, is the country's highest point, at 2,361 metres. It contains the Comoros' largest patch of rainforest, which is disappearing. The official currency is the Comorian franc.

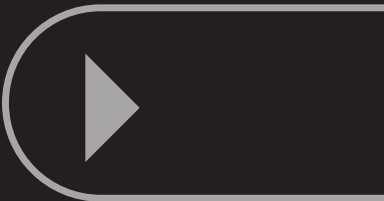
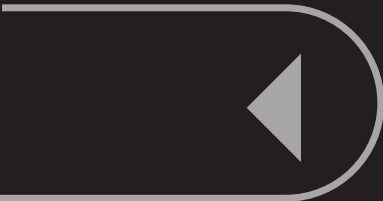
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Azali Assoumani



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

JULY

6

SINCE 1975



CAPITAL CITY
Moroni

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

156

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

3



MAIN LANGUAGES
Comorian, French and Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES

NEXT DATE

2024

VOTE

SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE
Federal republic



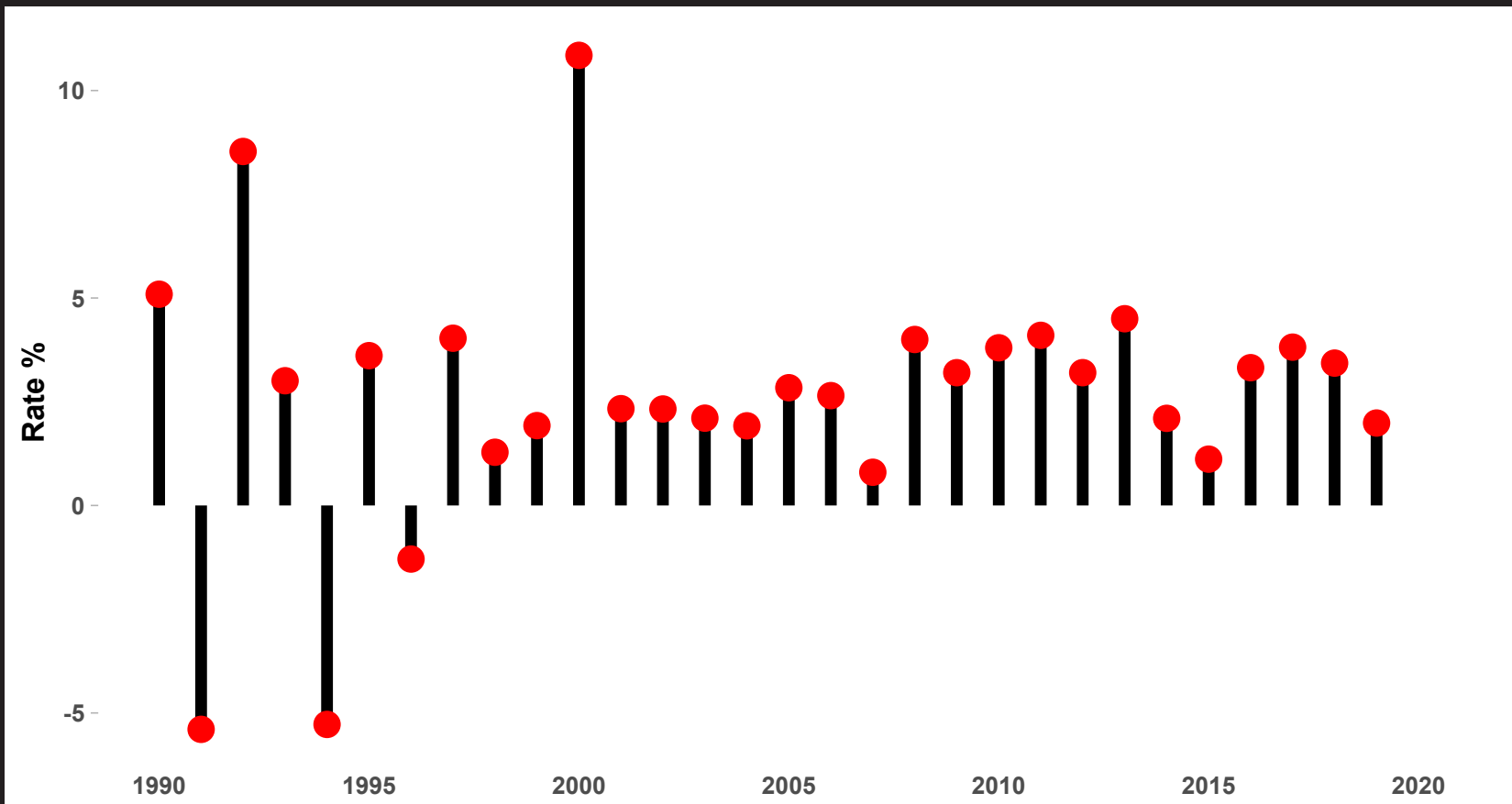
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Convention for the Renewal of the Comores



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Comorian Union for Progress

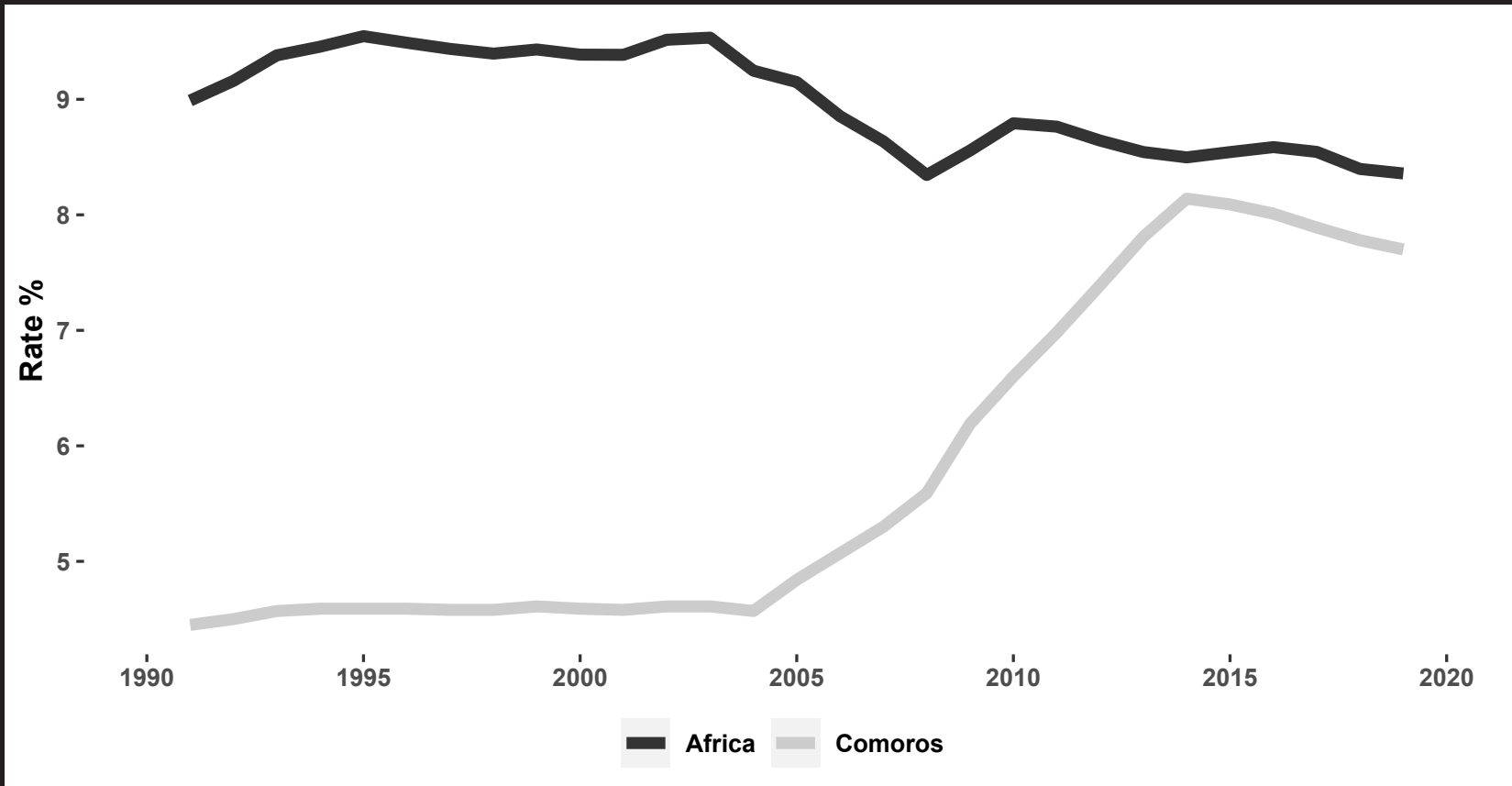
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



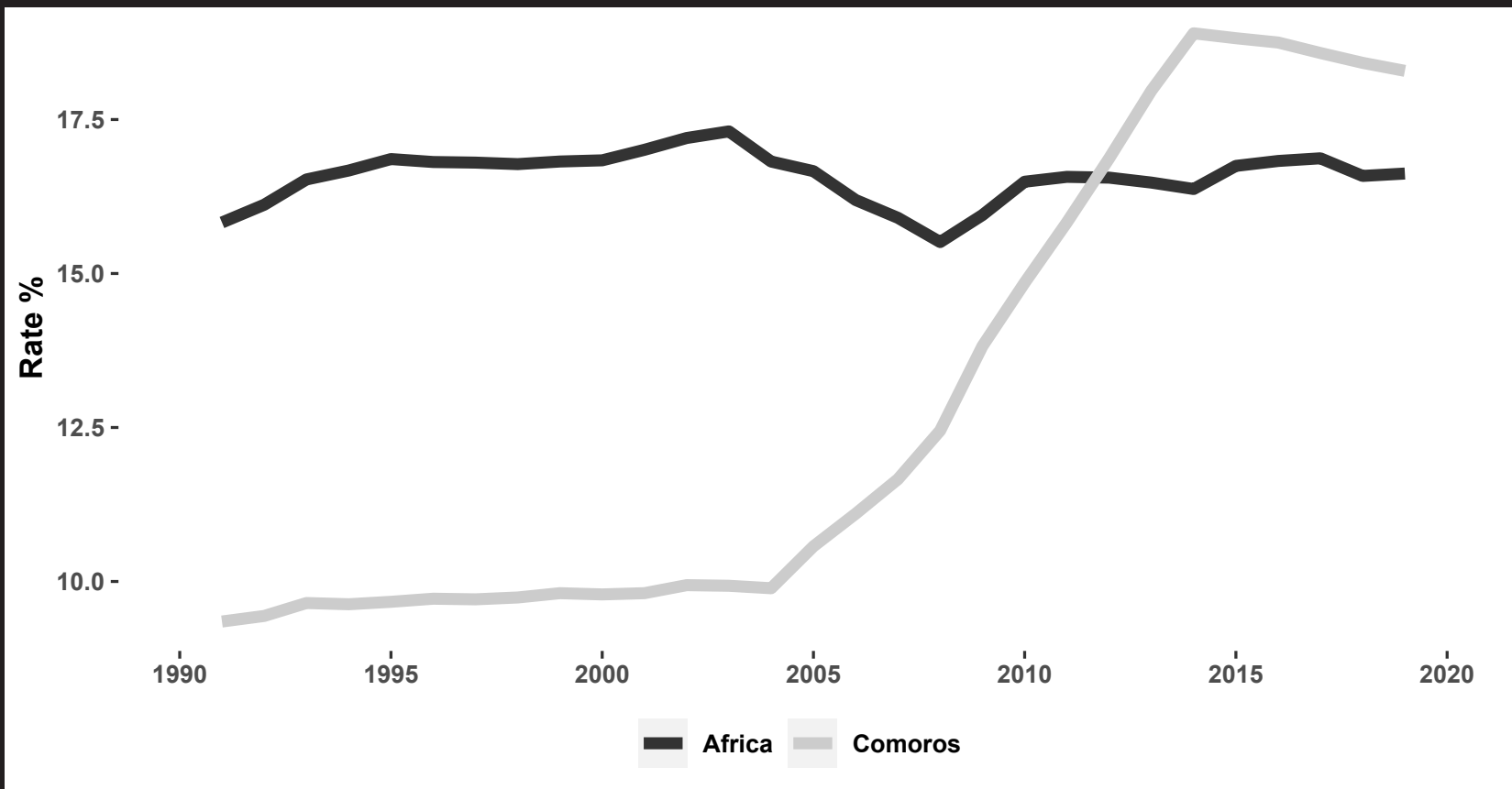
After a brief period of erratic economic growth in the early 1990s, Comoros has seen continuous growth since 1997.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



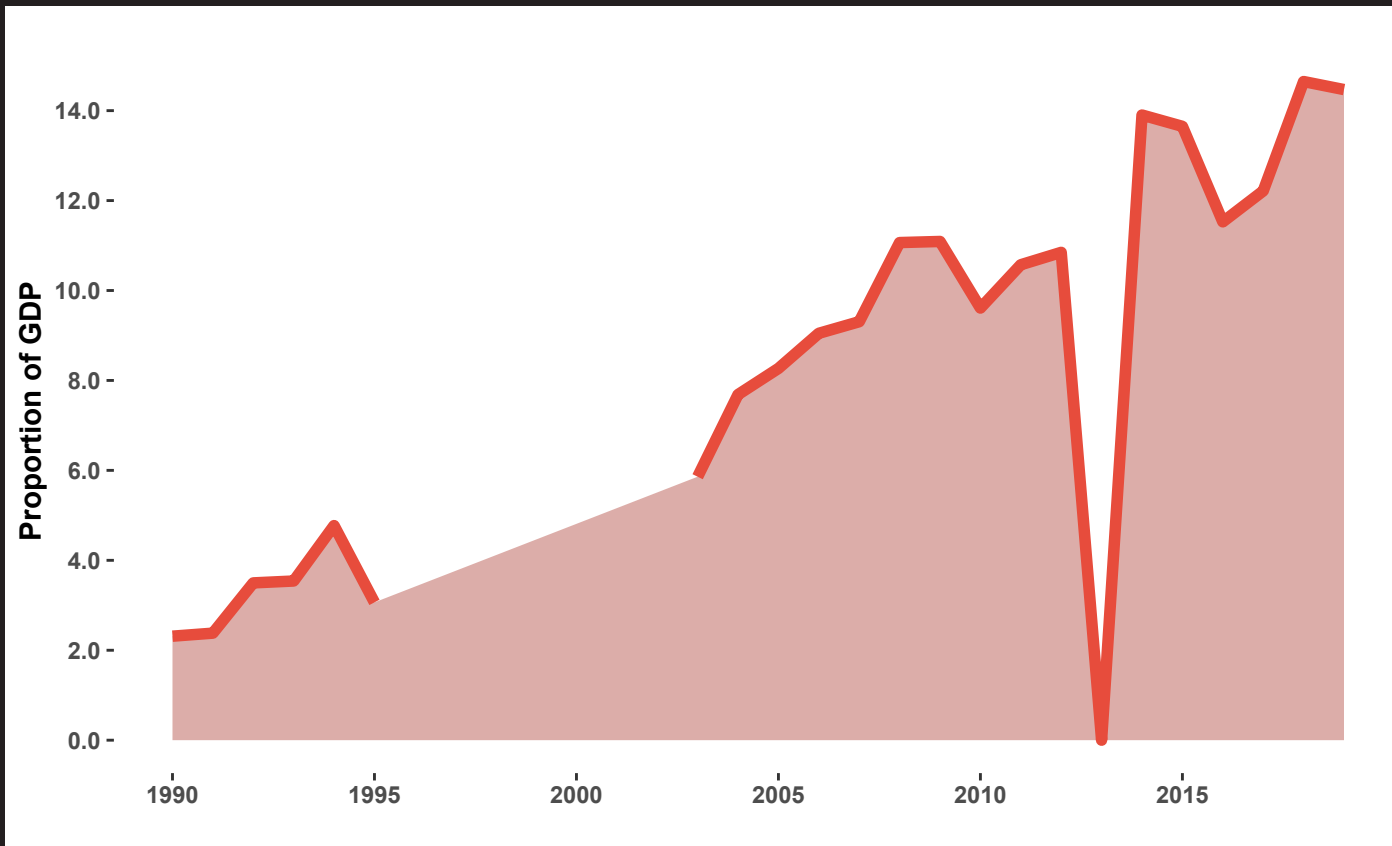
Between 1990 and 2005, Comoros had a much lower unemployment rate relative to the rest of the continent. However, since 2005, unemployment has been tracking much more closely with the continental average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The Comoros has seen a much lower youth unemployment rate (ages 15 to 24) relative to the rest of the continent. However, since 2005, this youth unemployment has been tracking much more closely with the continental average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$169 million

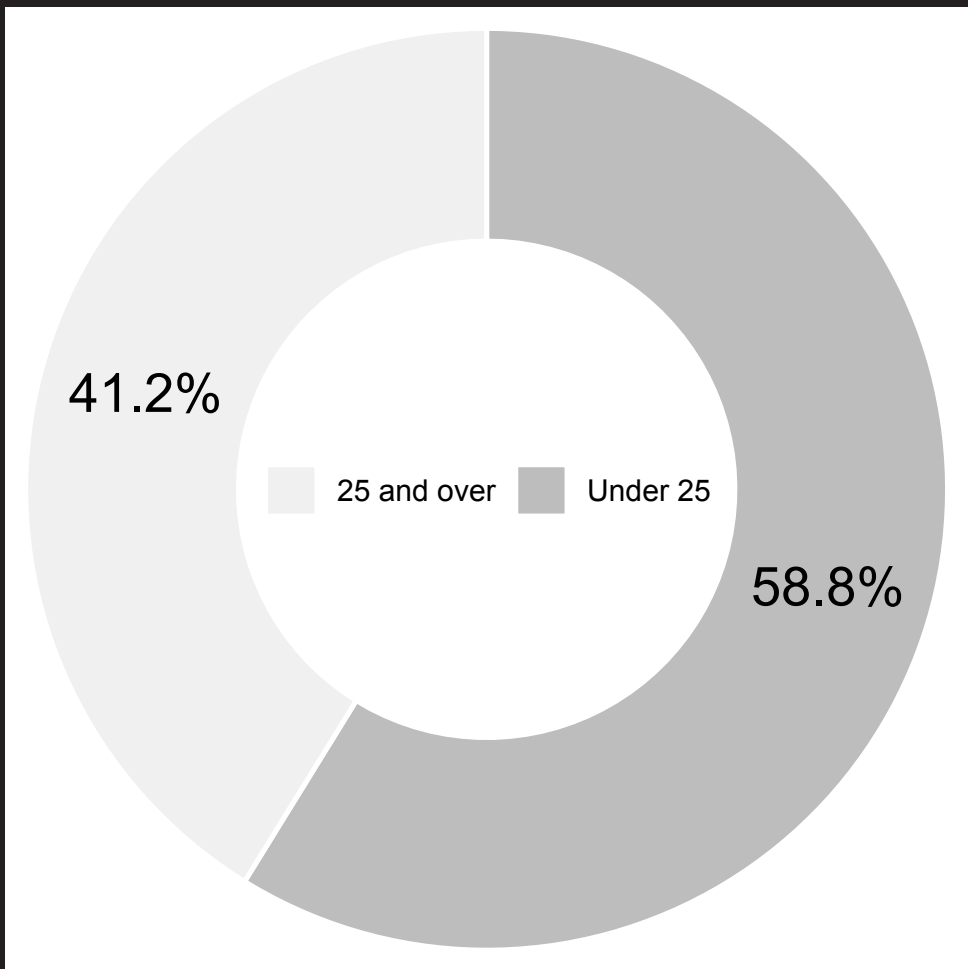
which represents

14.47% of GDP

Since 2015 the Comoros has become increasingly reliant on remittances, which regularly exceed 10% of GDP

DEMOGRAPHICS

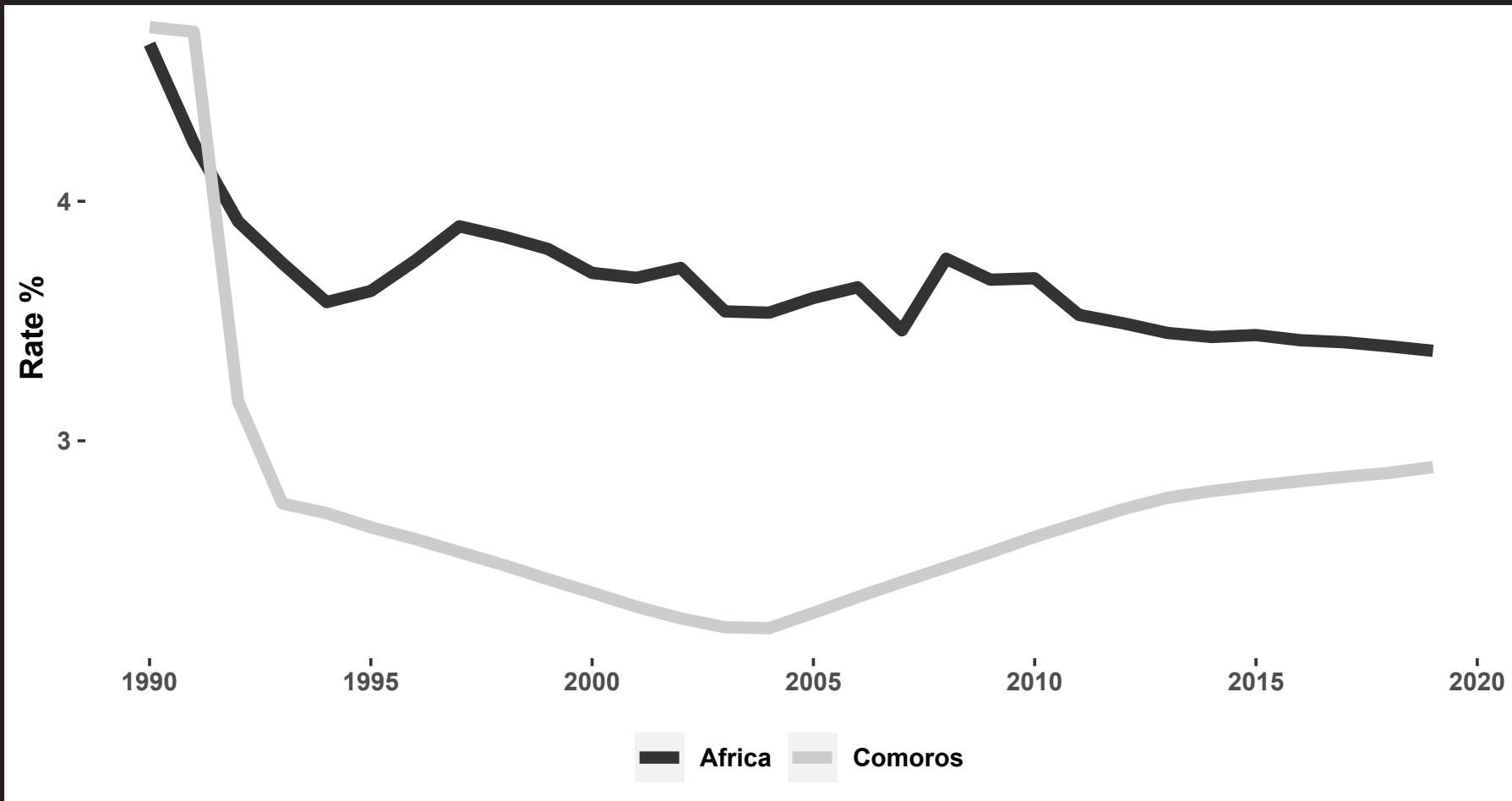
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



851 000

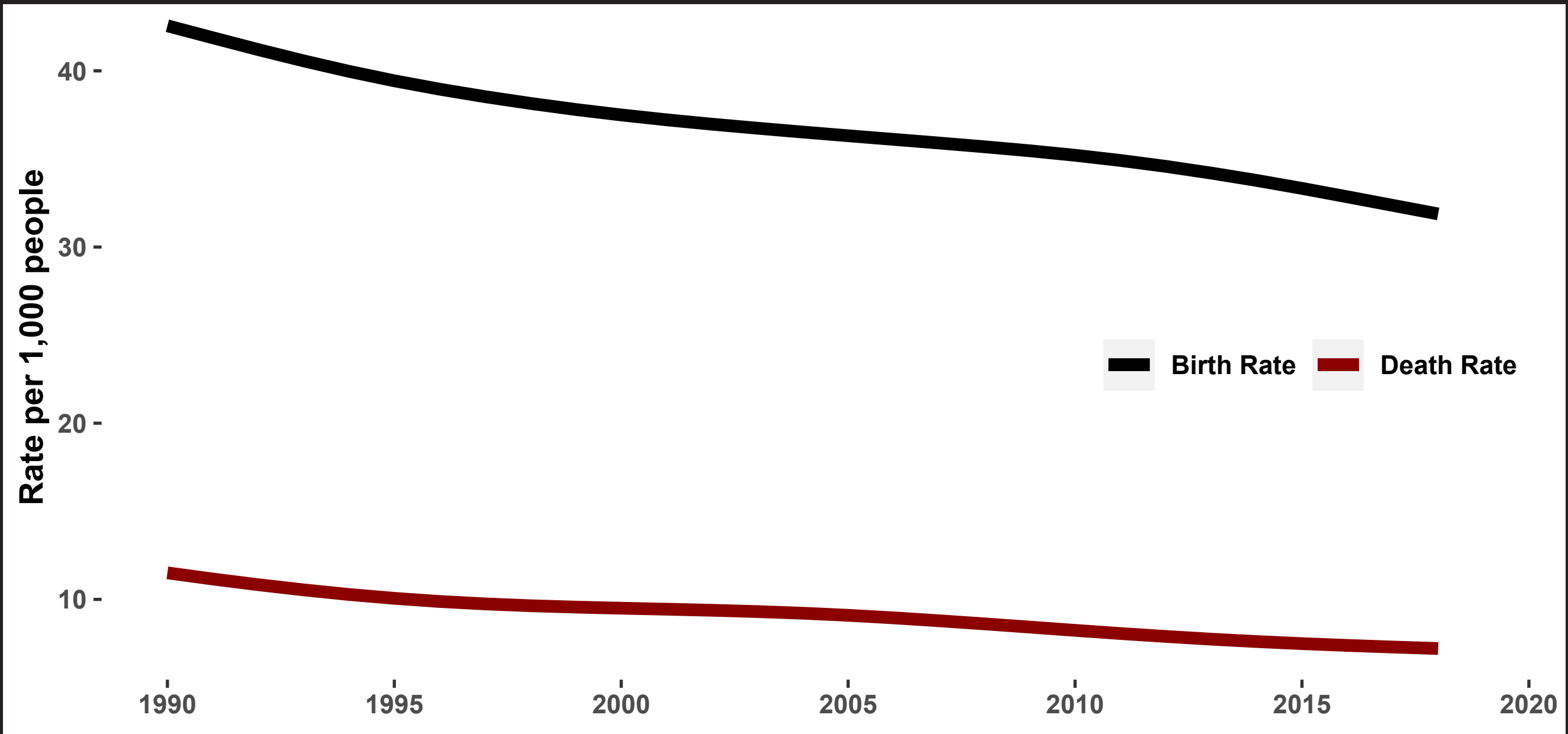
Comoros is one of the least populated countries in Africa, but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1995, Comoros has urbanised at a much slower rate than the continental average.

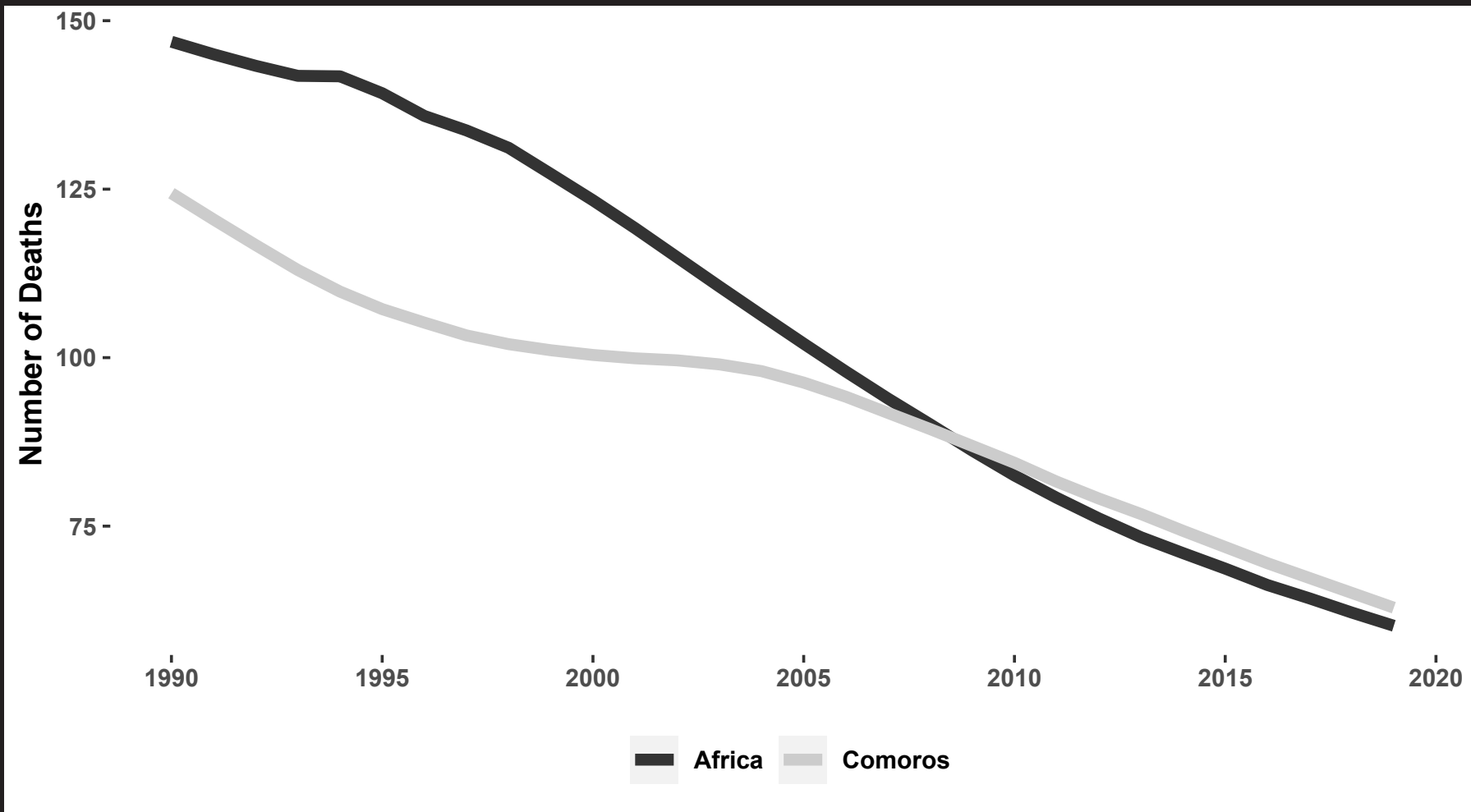
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Comoros has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

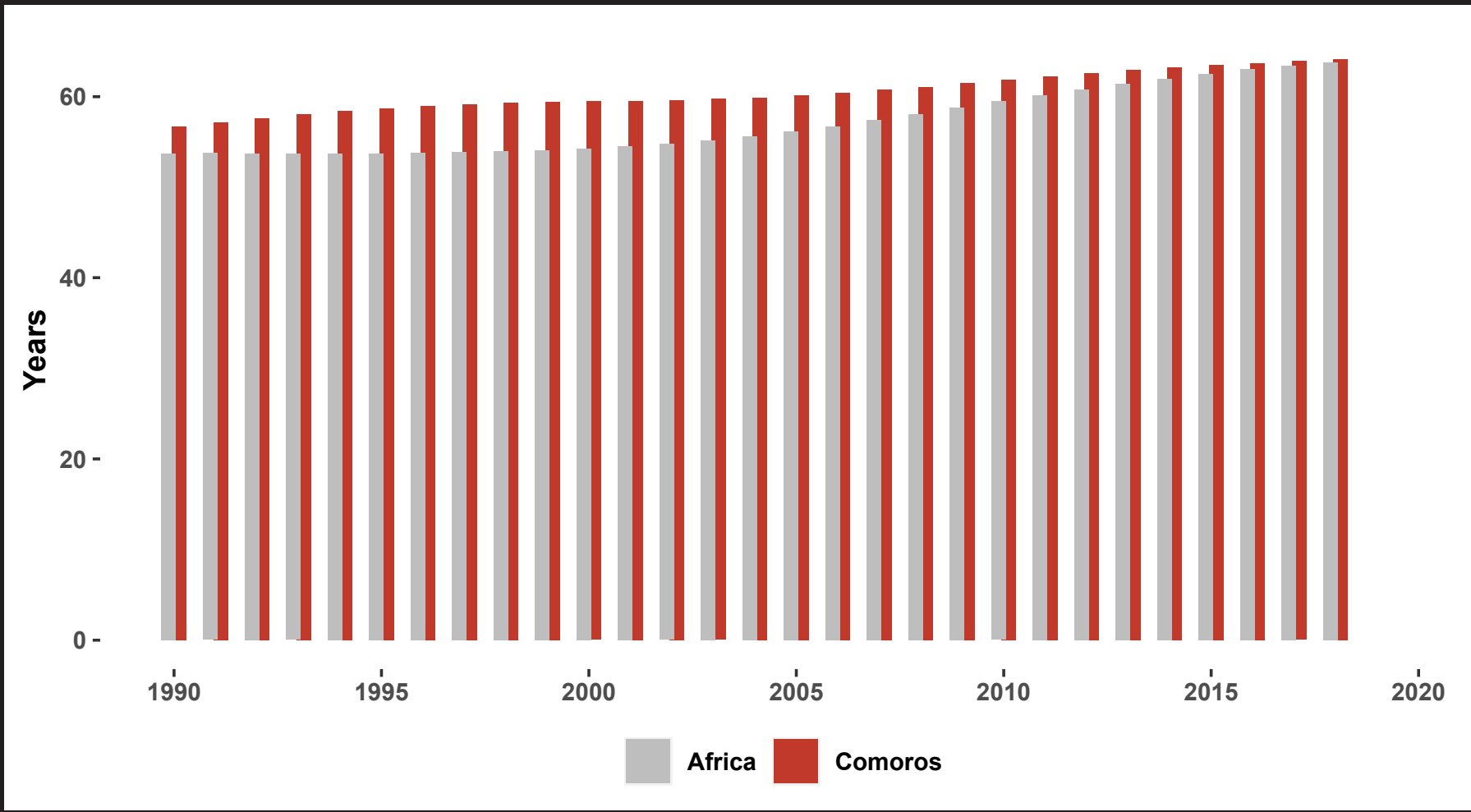
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



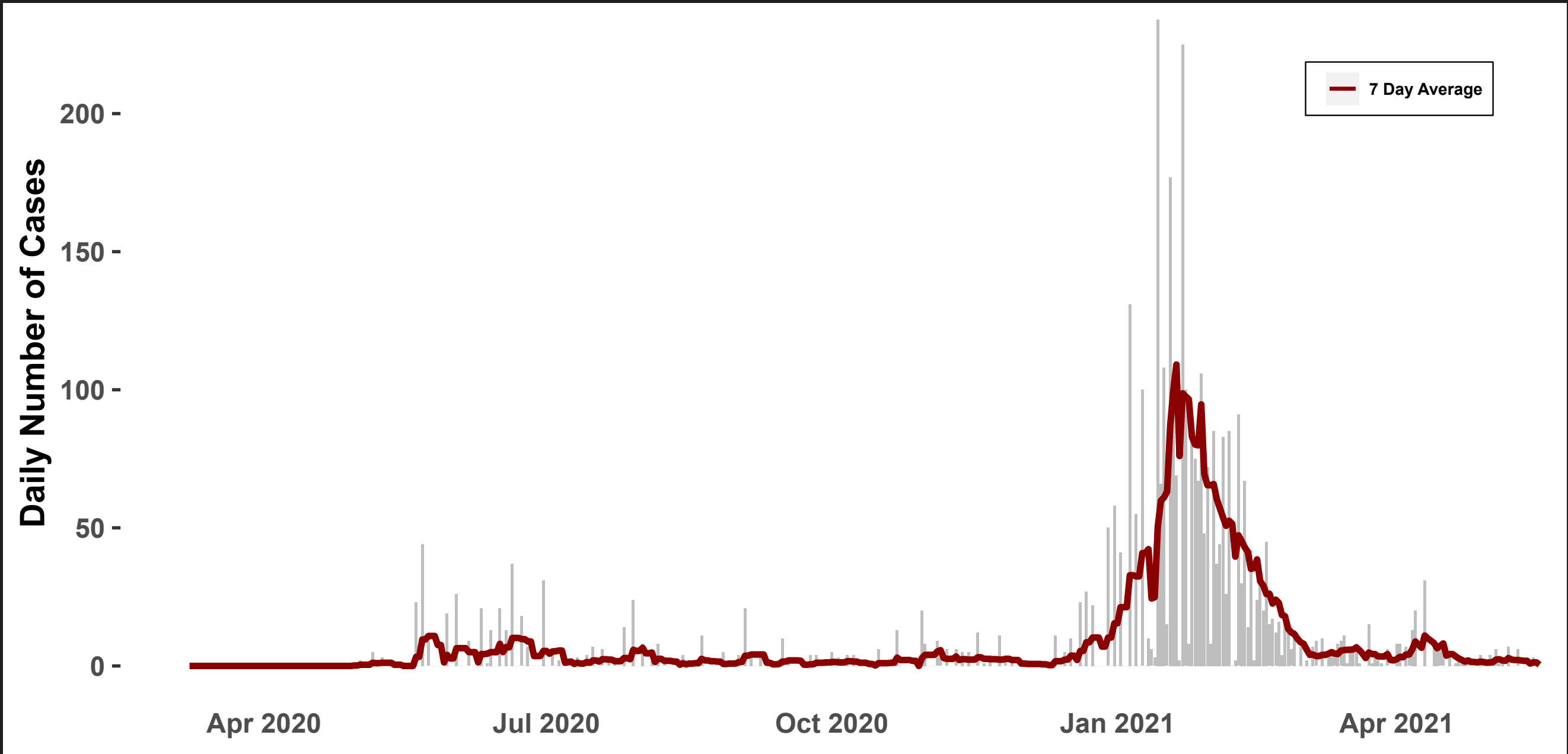
Although child mortality has been on the decline in Comoros over the past 30 years, this is occurring at a much slower rate than in the rest of Africa.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Compared to other African countries, life expectancy in Comoros has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Comoros has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Woodlouse on Flickr.com



The name of the country comes from the Arabic word for ‘moon’, which sounds like ‘*qamar*’. The moon is also depicted on the Comoros flag.

阿橋 HQ on Flickr.com



The ylang-ylang or perfume tree is endemic to the Comoros. Yang-Ylang is used to produce essential oils and perfume.

David Stanley on Flickr.com

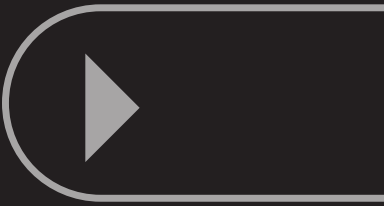
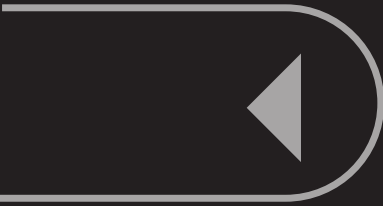


The main industries are fishing, tourism and perfume distillation.



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Côte d'Ivoire, also known as Ivory Coast, is on the south coast of West Africa. It borders Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana and the Gulf of Guinea. Before its colonisation by Europeans, Ivory Coast was home to several states. The area became a protectorate of France in 1843 and was consolidated as a French colony in 1893 amid the European scramble for Africa. It achieved independence in 1960. An armed rebellion in 2002 split the nation in two. Despite its instability, close ties to France since independence, the development of cocoa production for export, and foreign investment has made Cote d'Ivoire one of the most prosperous of the West African states. Ivory Coast is also popular with holidaymakers for its golden beaches, fading French colonial heritage and traditional Senufo cultural experiences. The official currency is the CFA franc.

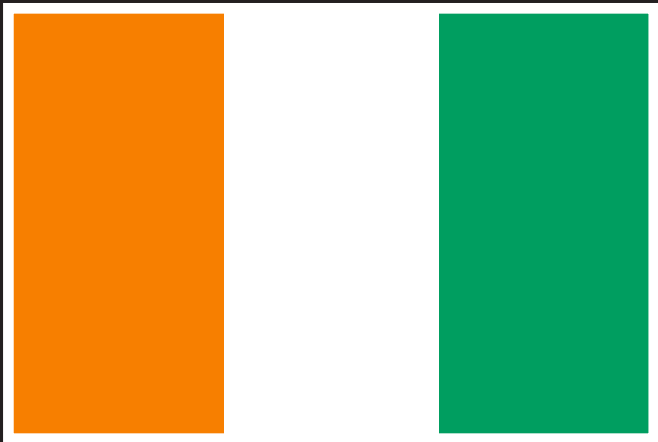


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Alassane Ouattara

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Yamoussoukro

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

162

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

78



MAIN LANGUAGES

French

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Democratic republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Rassemblement des houpouëtistes pour la démocratie et la paix (RHDP)

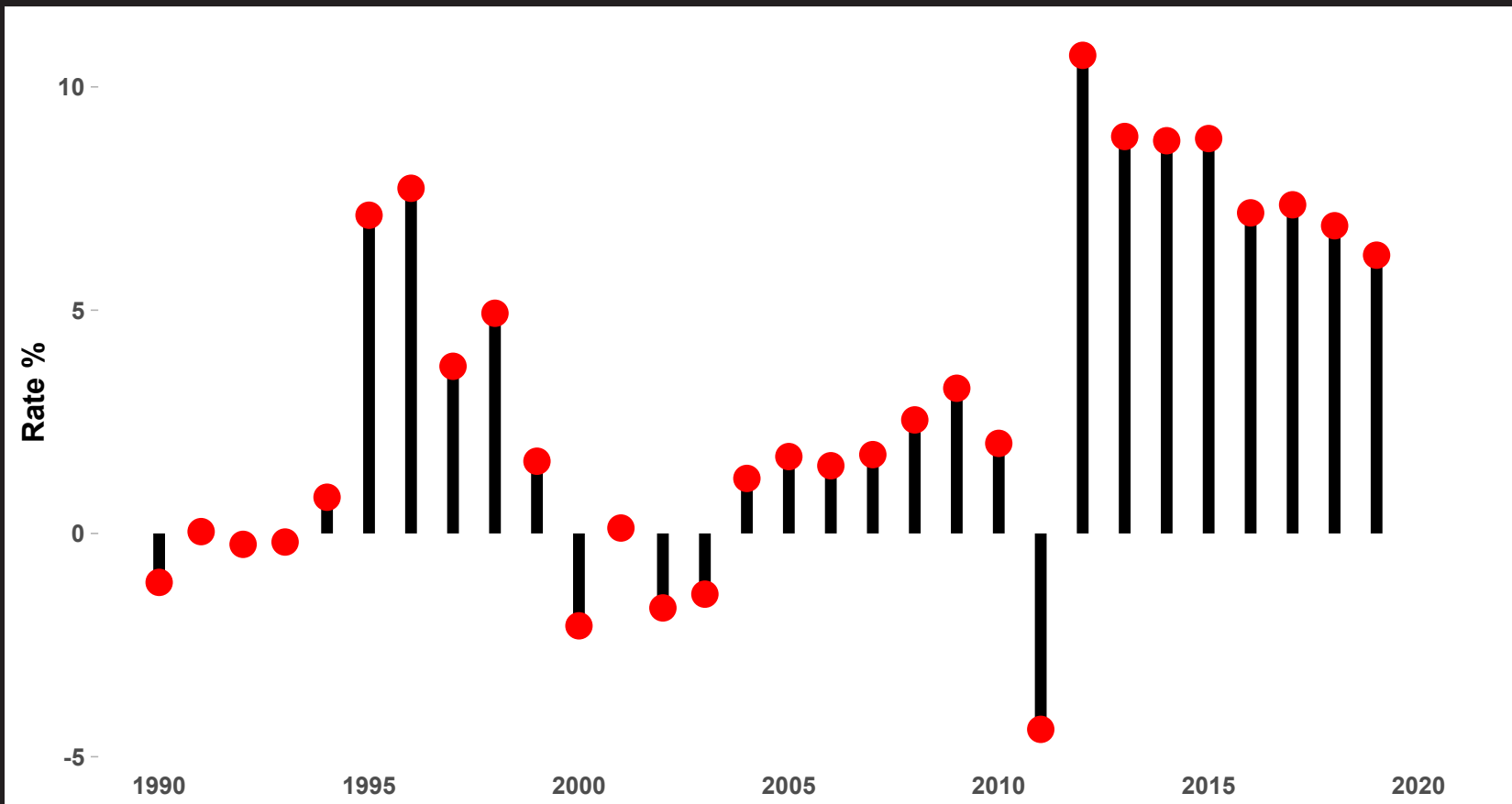


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Democratic Party of Cote d'Ivoire (PDCI)

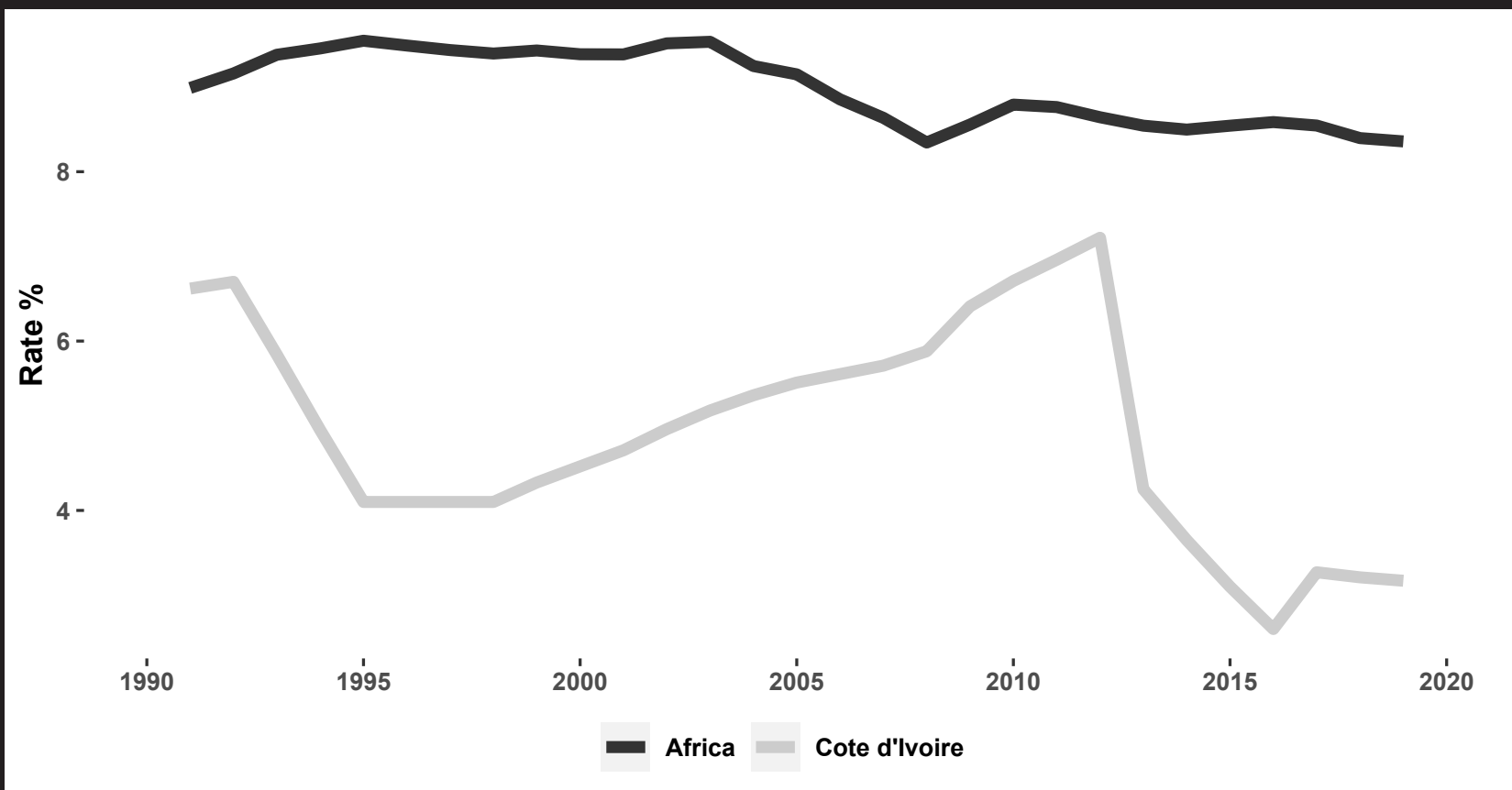
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



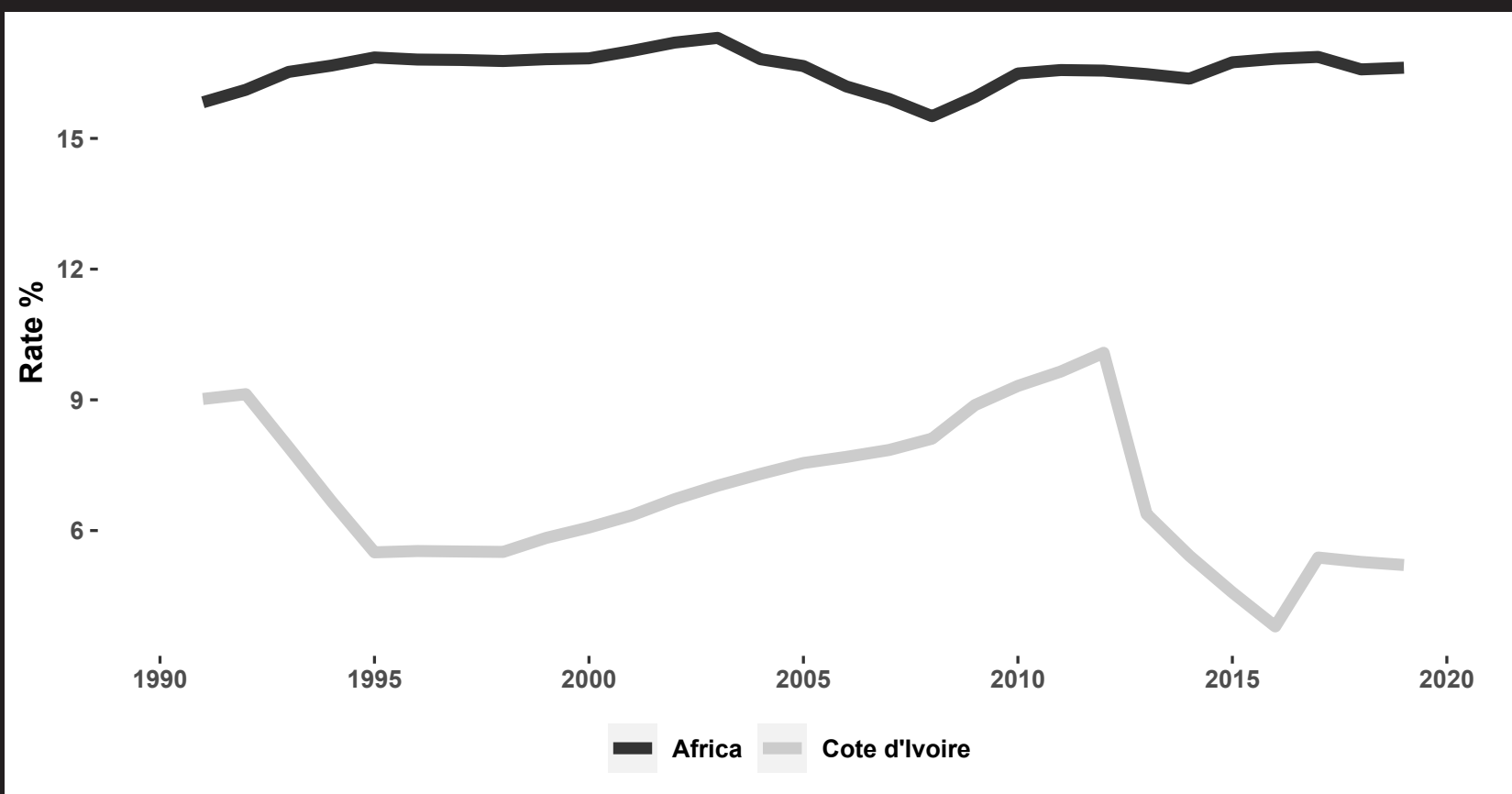
Following a 20-year period of erratic economic growth, Cote D'Ivoire's economy has consistently expanded since 2012, which was the first year after the second Ivorian civil war ended.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



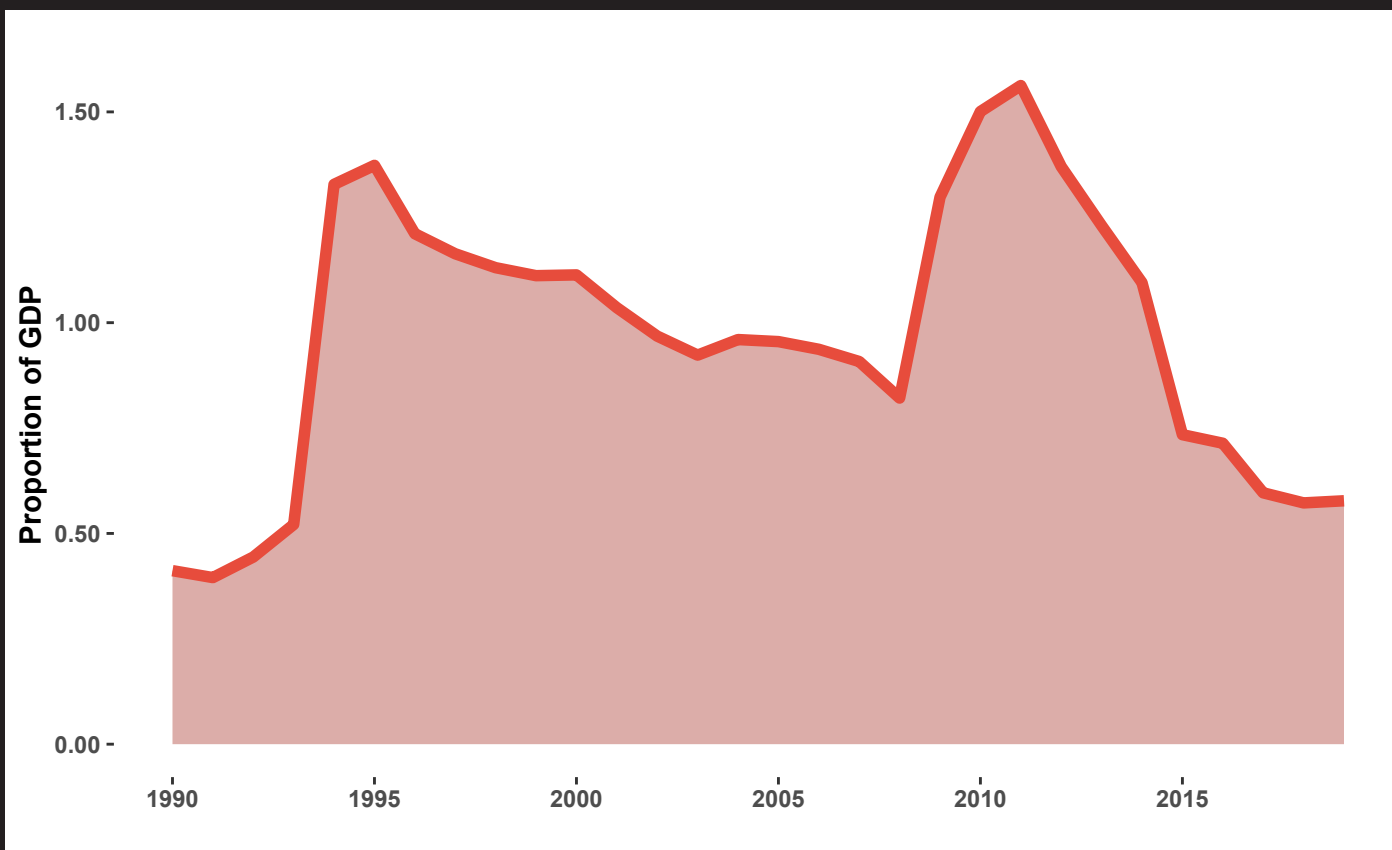
Cote D'Ivoire has had an unemployment rate consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Over the past 30 years, the youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rate has been consistently lower than the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$338 million

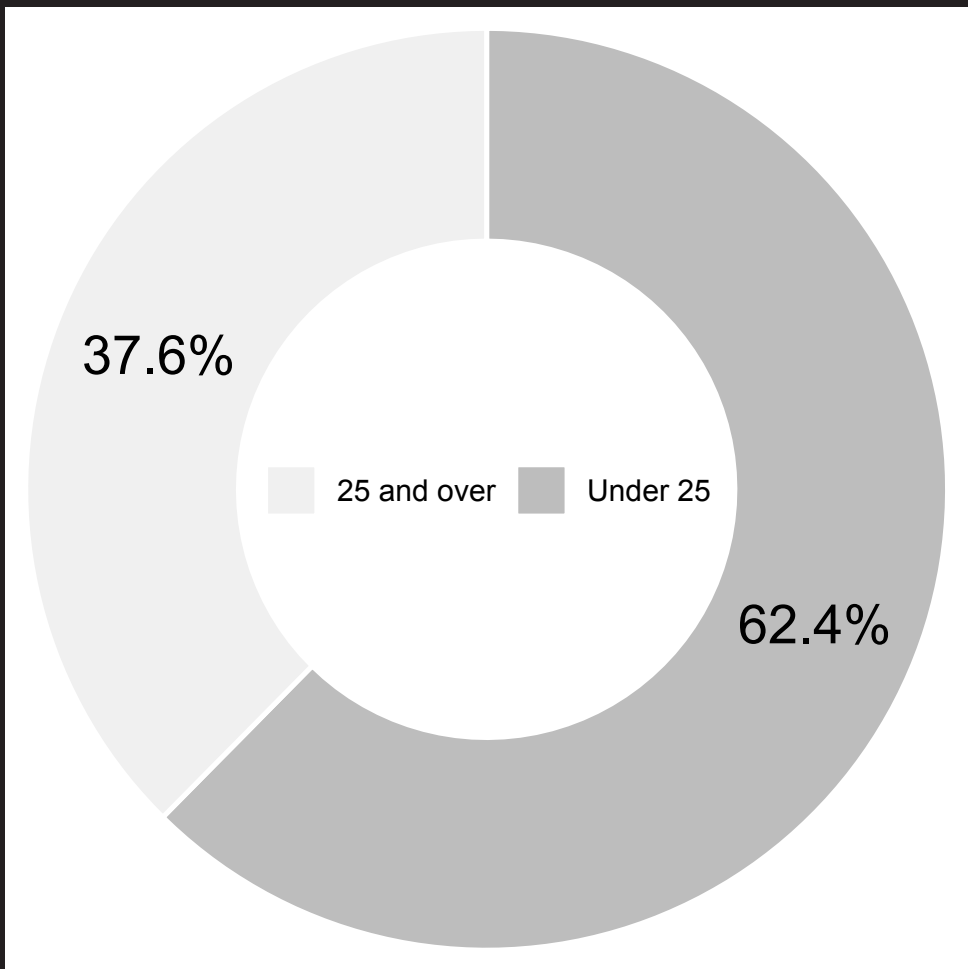
which represents

0.57% of GDP

Since 1995 the proportion of remittances received has consistently accounted for between 0.5 and 1.5% of GDP

DEMOGRAPHICS

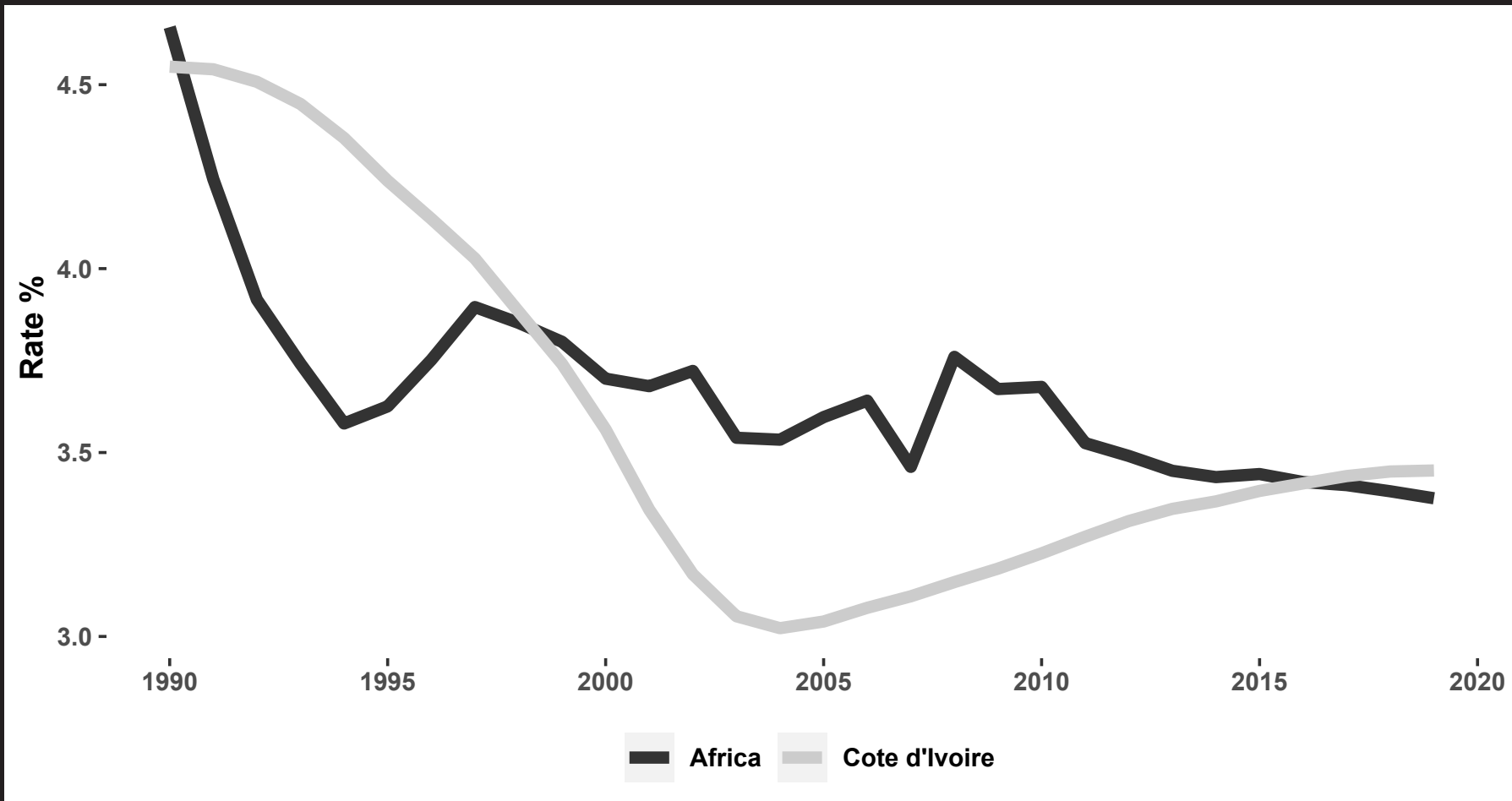
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



25.7 million

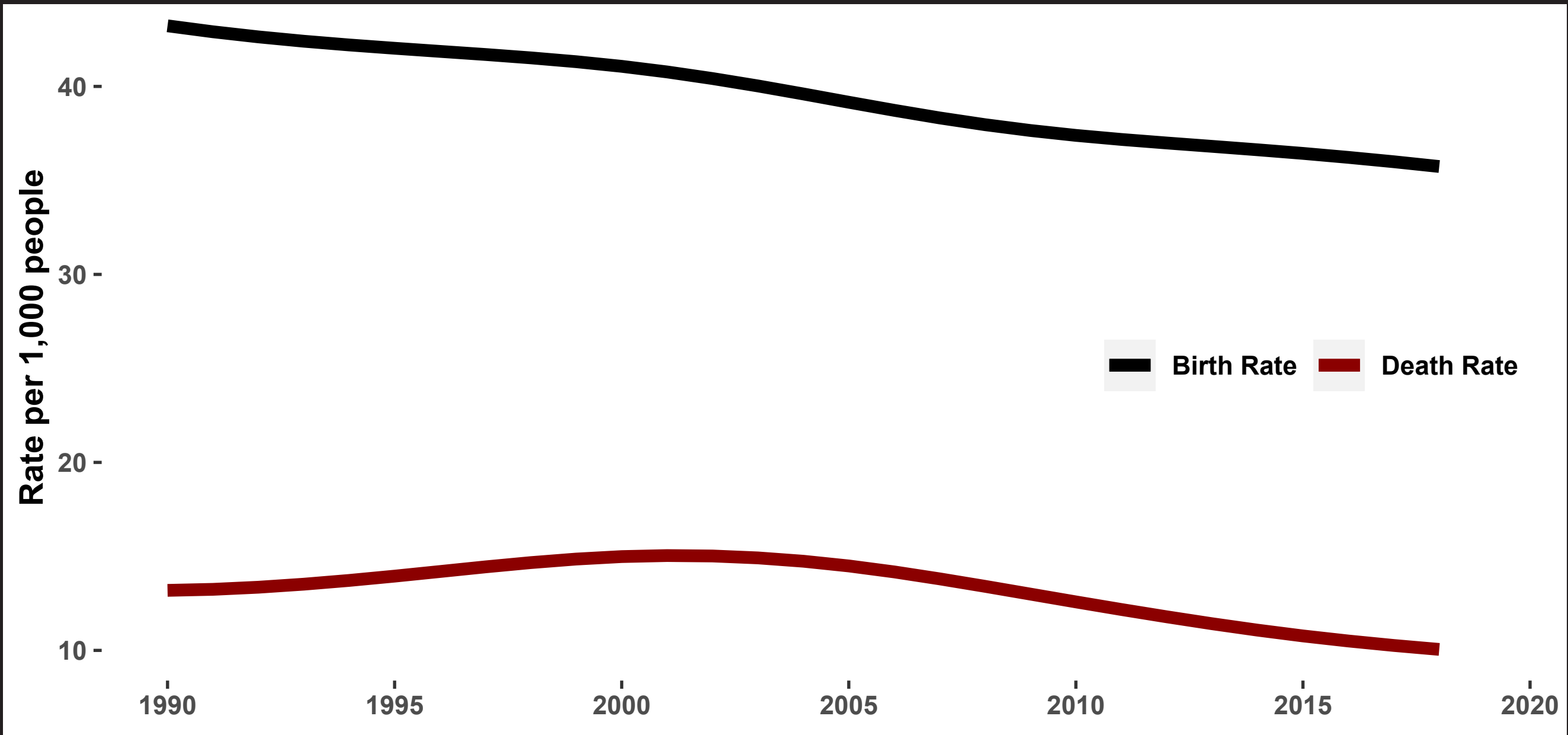
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Cote D'Ivoire's population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



The urbanisation rate in Cote D'Ivoire has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past 30 years.

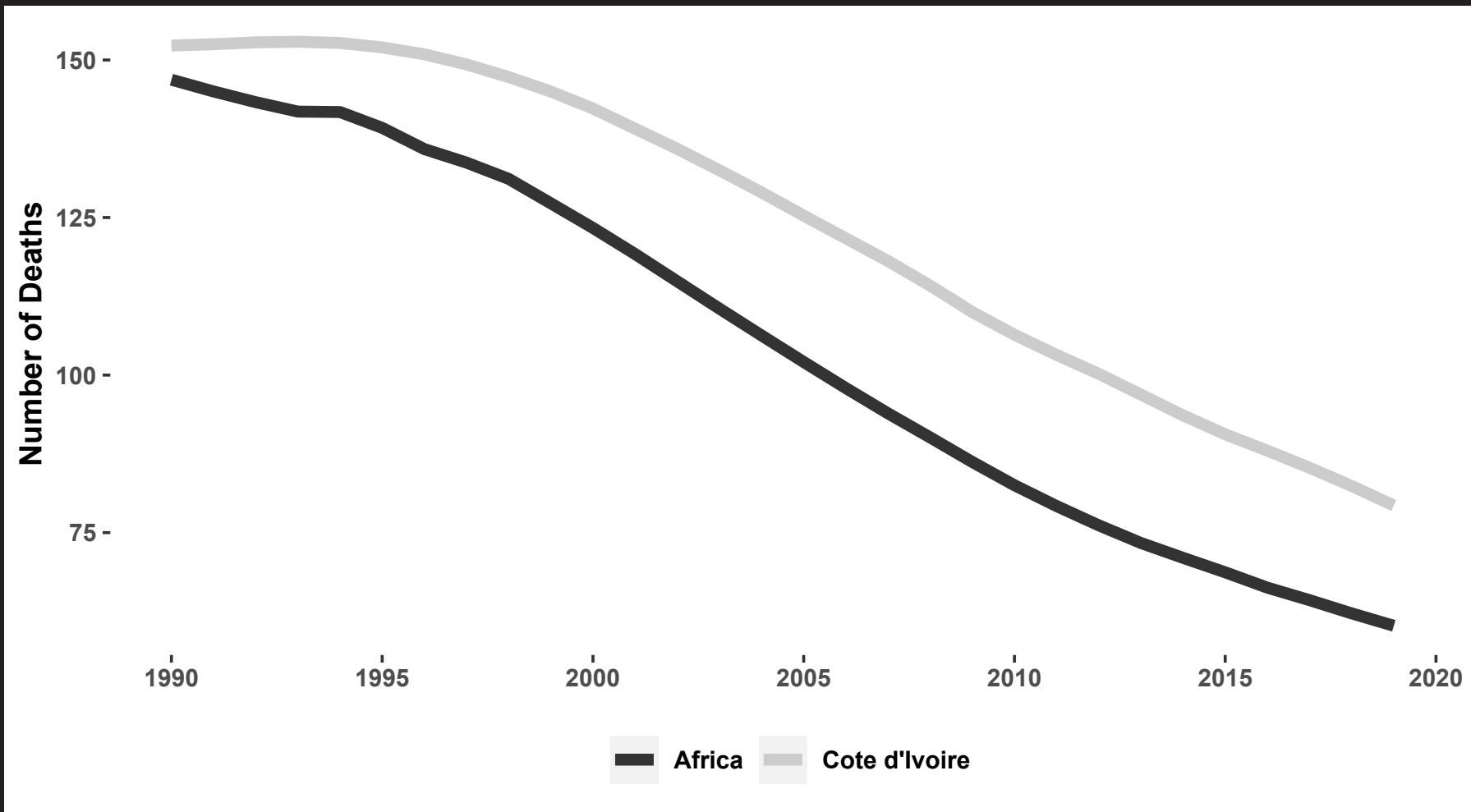
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Cote D'Ivoire has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

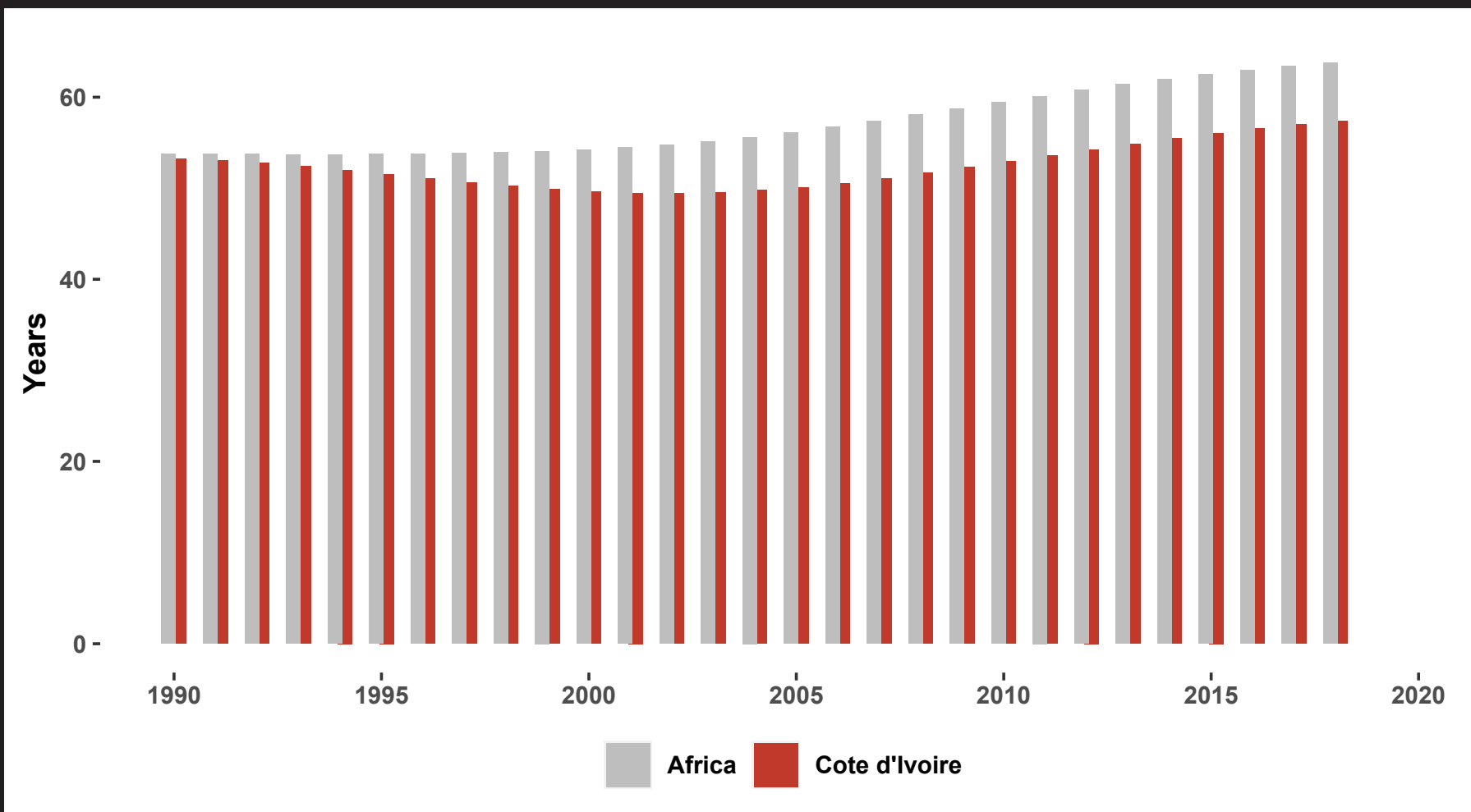
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



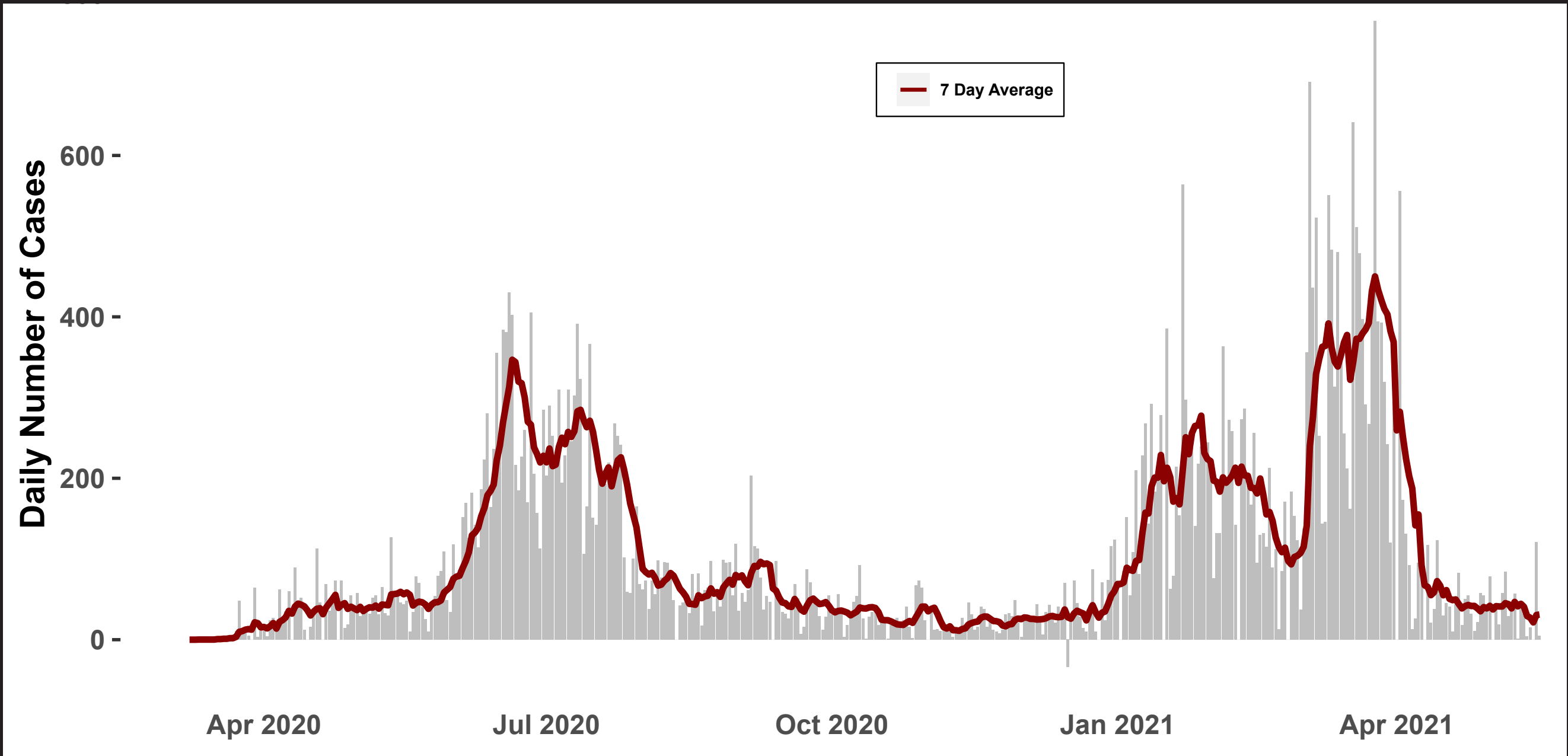
Although Cote D'Ivoire's child mortality rate is higher than the African average, Cote D'Ivoire has experienced rapid declines in child mortality – especially since 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Compared to other African countries, life expectancy in Cote D'Ivoire has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Cote D'Ivoire has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in June/August 2020 and Feb/April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Umstwit on Flickr.com

Ivory Coast is the world's largest producer of cocoa beans, a key ingredient in chocolate.



Felix Krohn on Flickr.com

Ivory coast houses the largest church in the world. The Basilica of Our Lady of Peace of Yamoussoukro, finished in 1990, surpasses even St Peter's Basilica in size.



Andrew Moore on Flickr.com

Abidjan is the city with the third-biggest French speaking population anywhere in the world. It is also the fourth most populous city in Africa, with about 4.7million people living there.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in central Africa, is the second-largest country on the continent after Algeria, covering a surface area equivalent to that of western Europe. Neighbouring countries include Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. The capital, Kinshasa, is located on the Congo River about 515 km from its mouth. Belgian colonisation of DRC began in 1885 when King Leopold II founded and ruled the Congo Free State. DRC achieved independence from Belgium in 1960 . The country is extremely rich in natural resources but has suffered from political instability, a lack of infrastructure, corruption, and centuries of both commercial and colonial extraction and exploitation, with little widespread development. The official currency is the Congolese franc.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Félix Tshisekedi

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Kinshasa

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

175

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF
LANGUAGES SPOKEN

200+



MAIN LANGUAGES

French, Kituba, Lingala, Swahili and Tshiluba.

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Federal republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Common Front for Congo (FCC) coalition

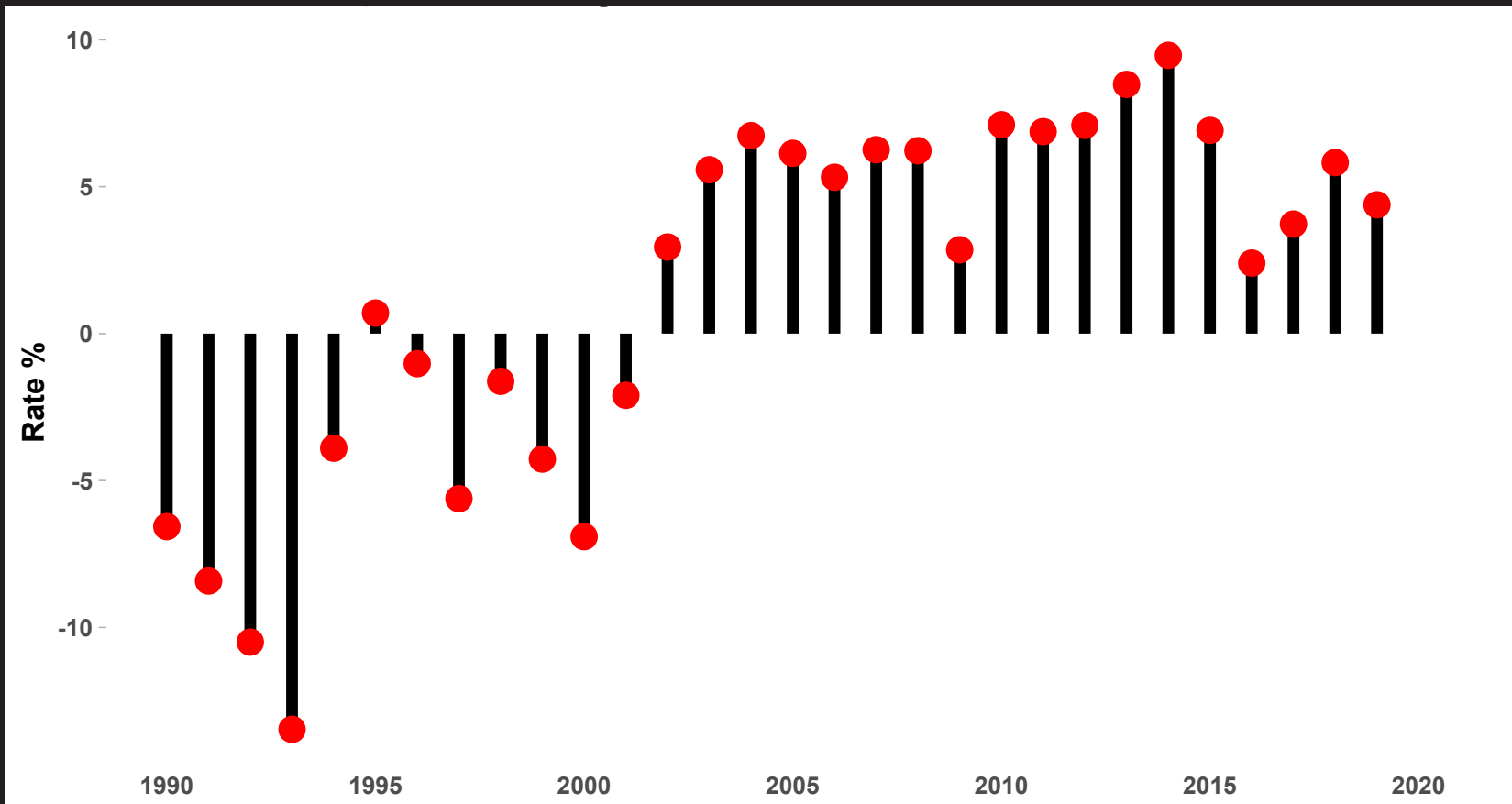


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS)

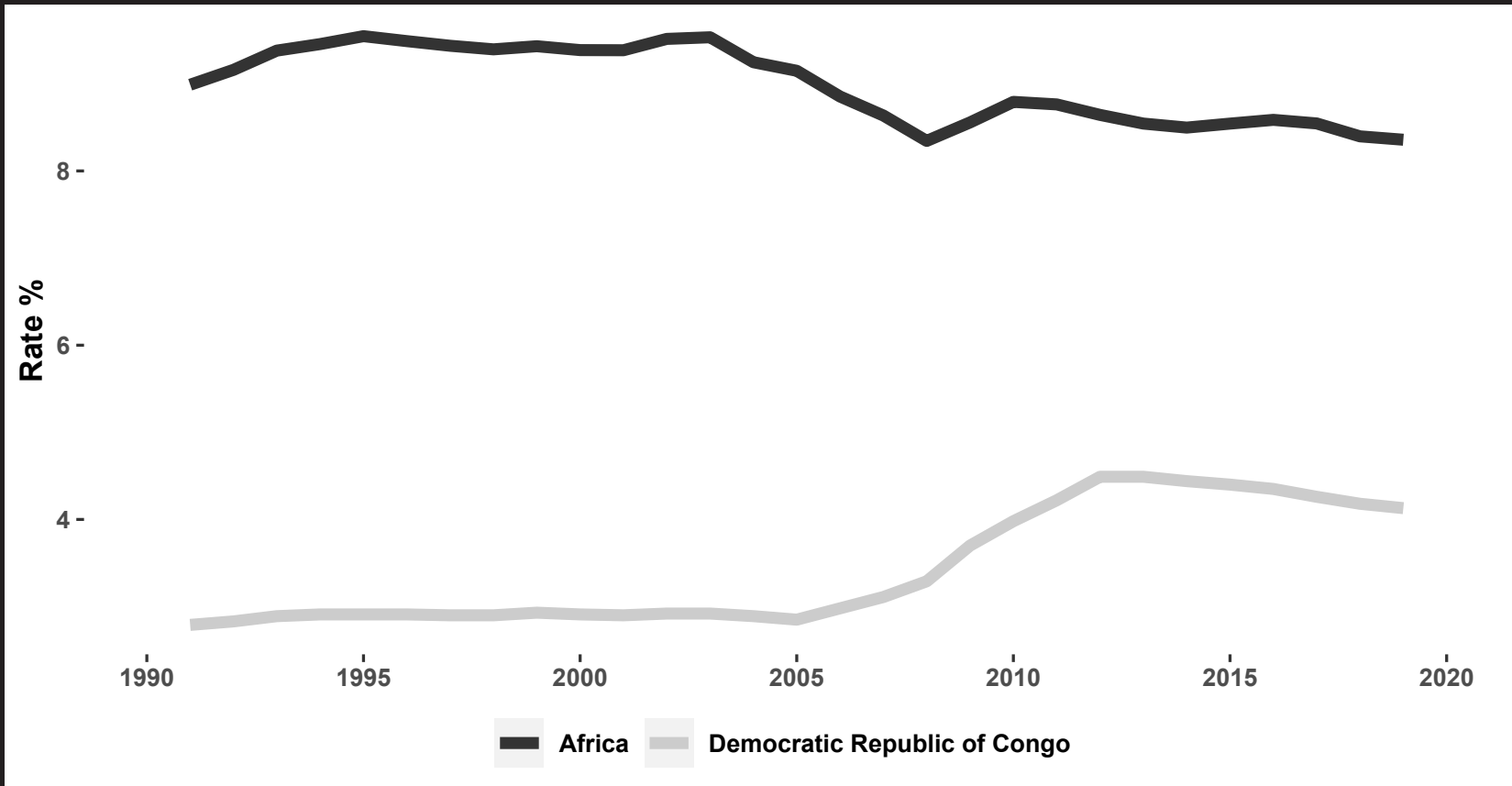
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



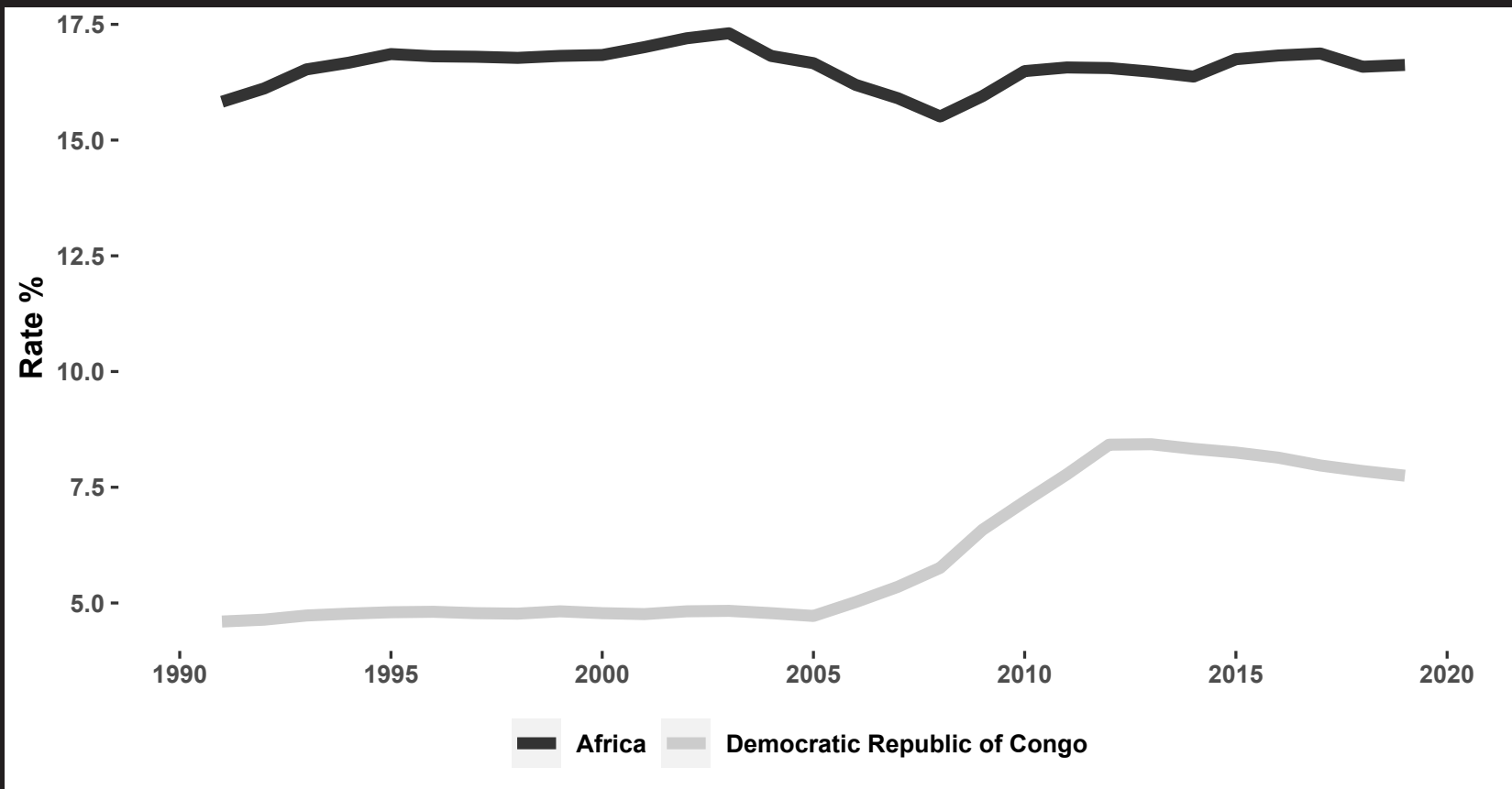
Due to several civil conflicts, the DRC experienced consistent economic contractions throughout the 1990s. Since the signing of peace accords towards the end of the second Congo war (2002), the DRC has maintained continuous economic growth.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



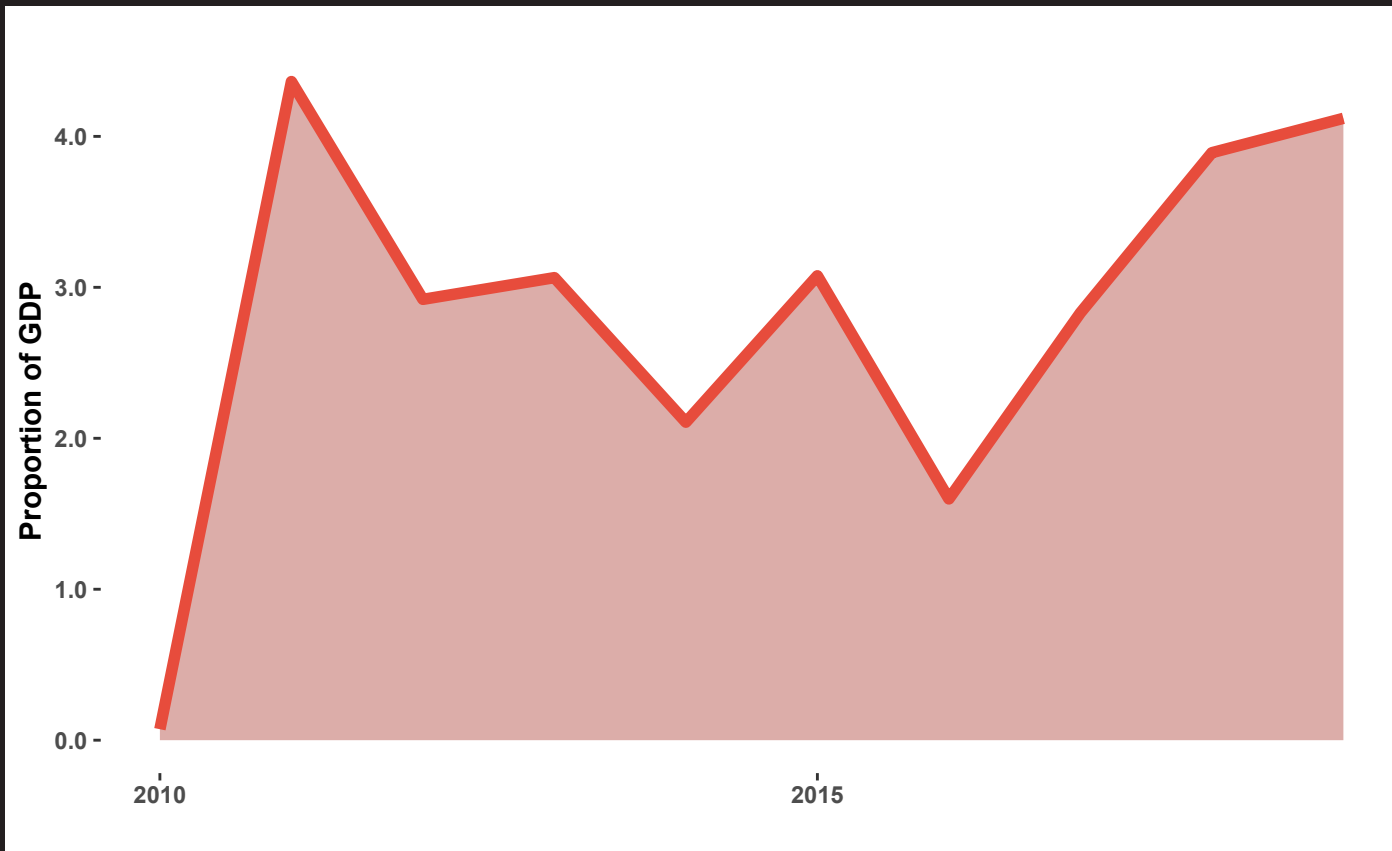
The DRC has had an unemployment rate consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Over the past 30 years, the youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rate has been consistently lower than the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$2.08 billion

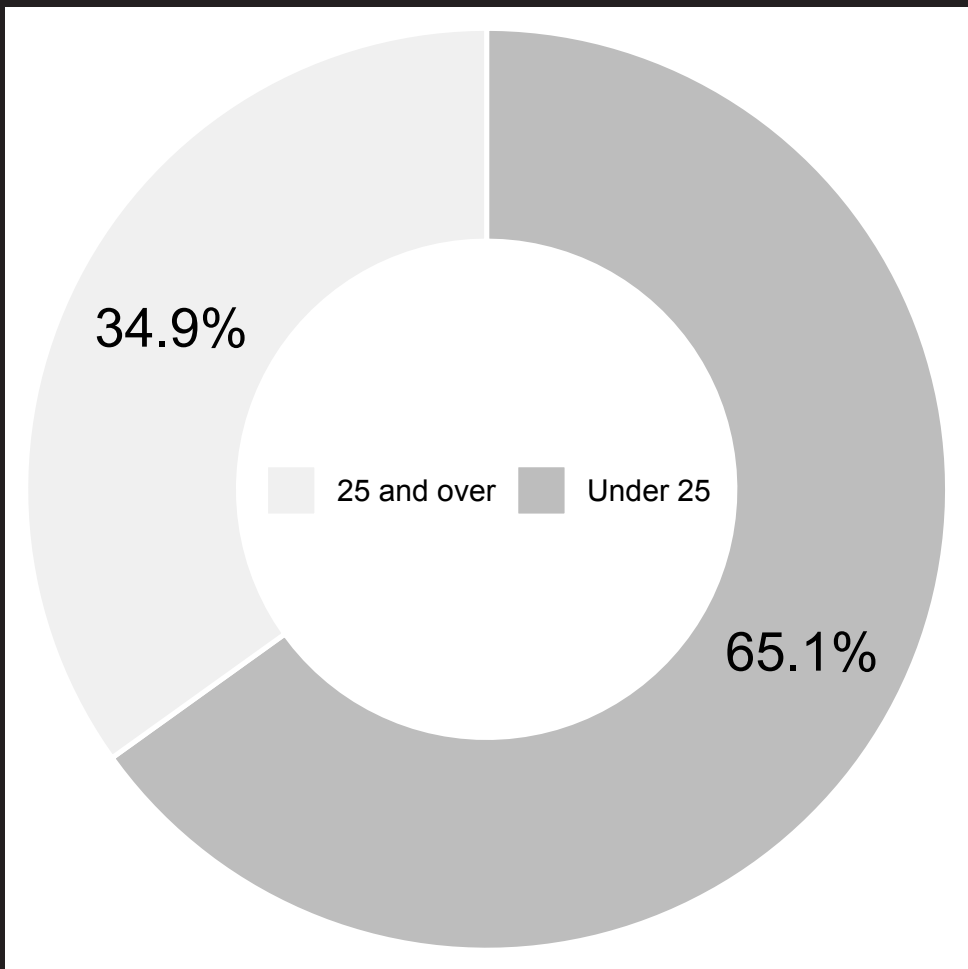
which represents

4.12% of GDP

Over the past decade the proportion of remittances received has consistently accounted for between 1.5 and 4.5% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

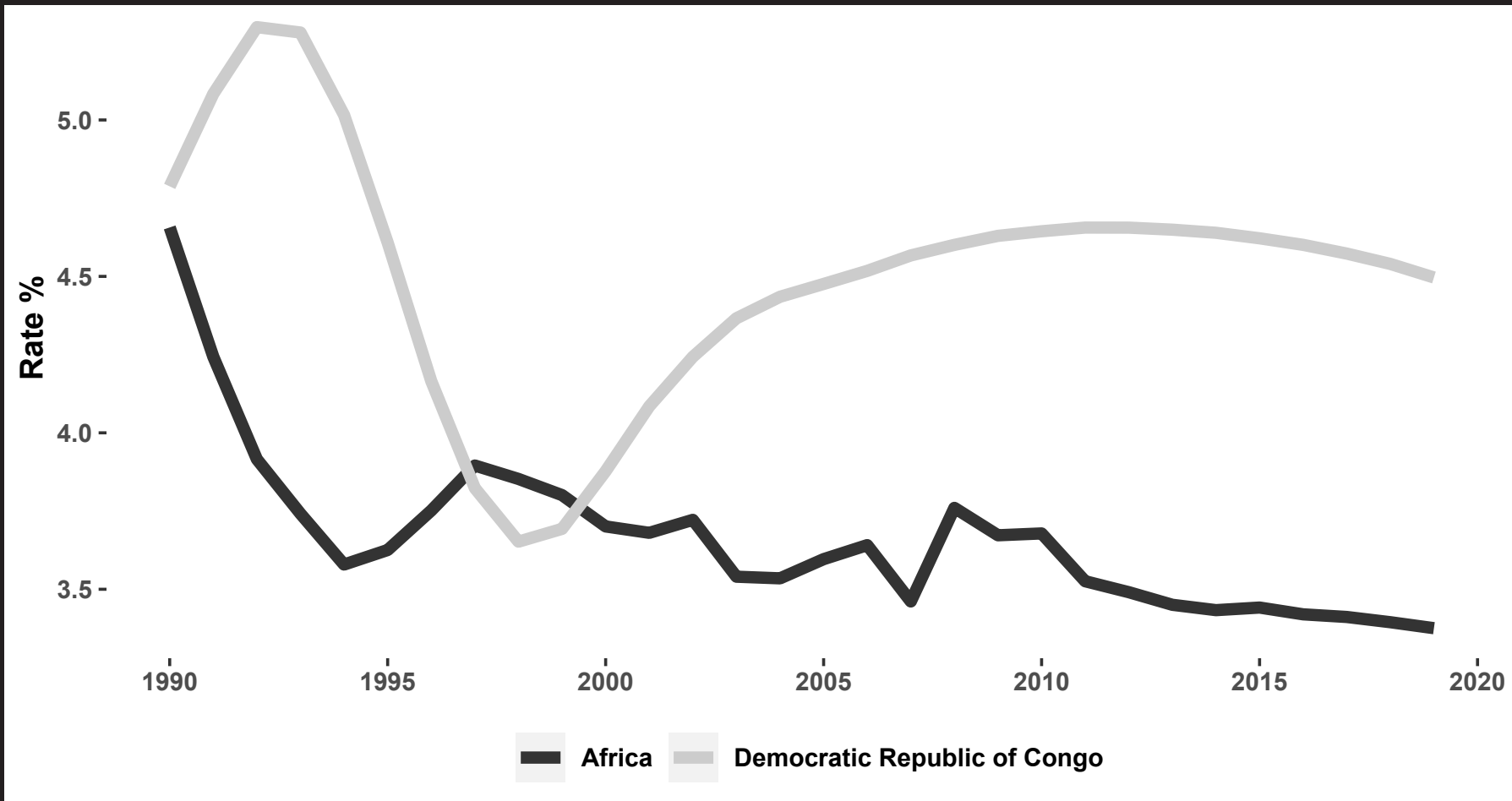
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



86.8 million

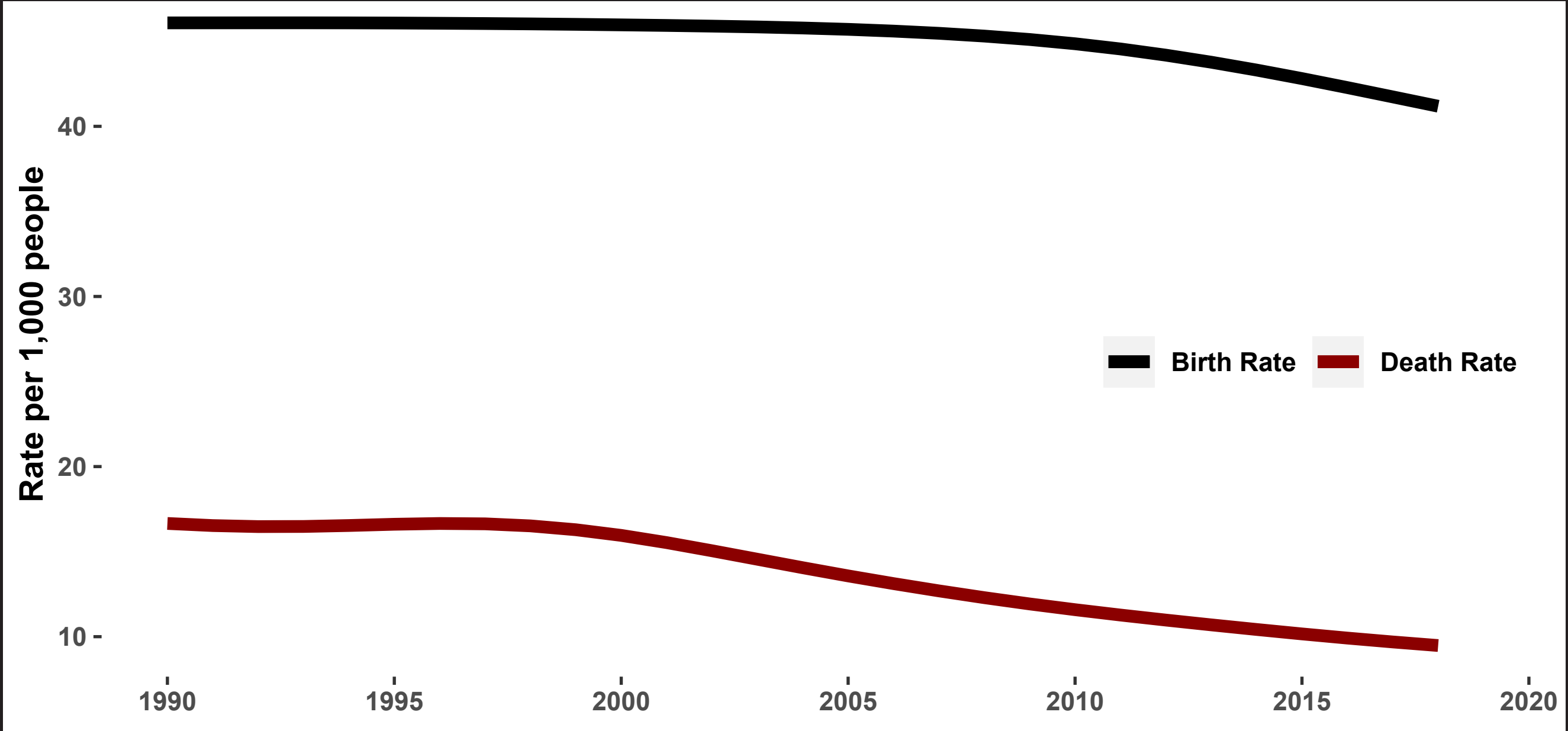
The DRC is one of the most populated countries in Africa and it conforms to the continental trend of having the vast majority of its population under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 2000, the DRC has urbanised at a faster rate than the continental average.

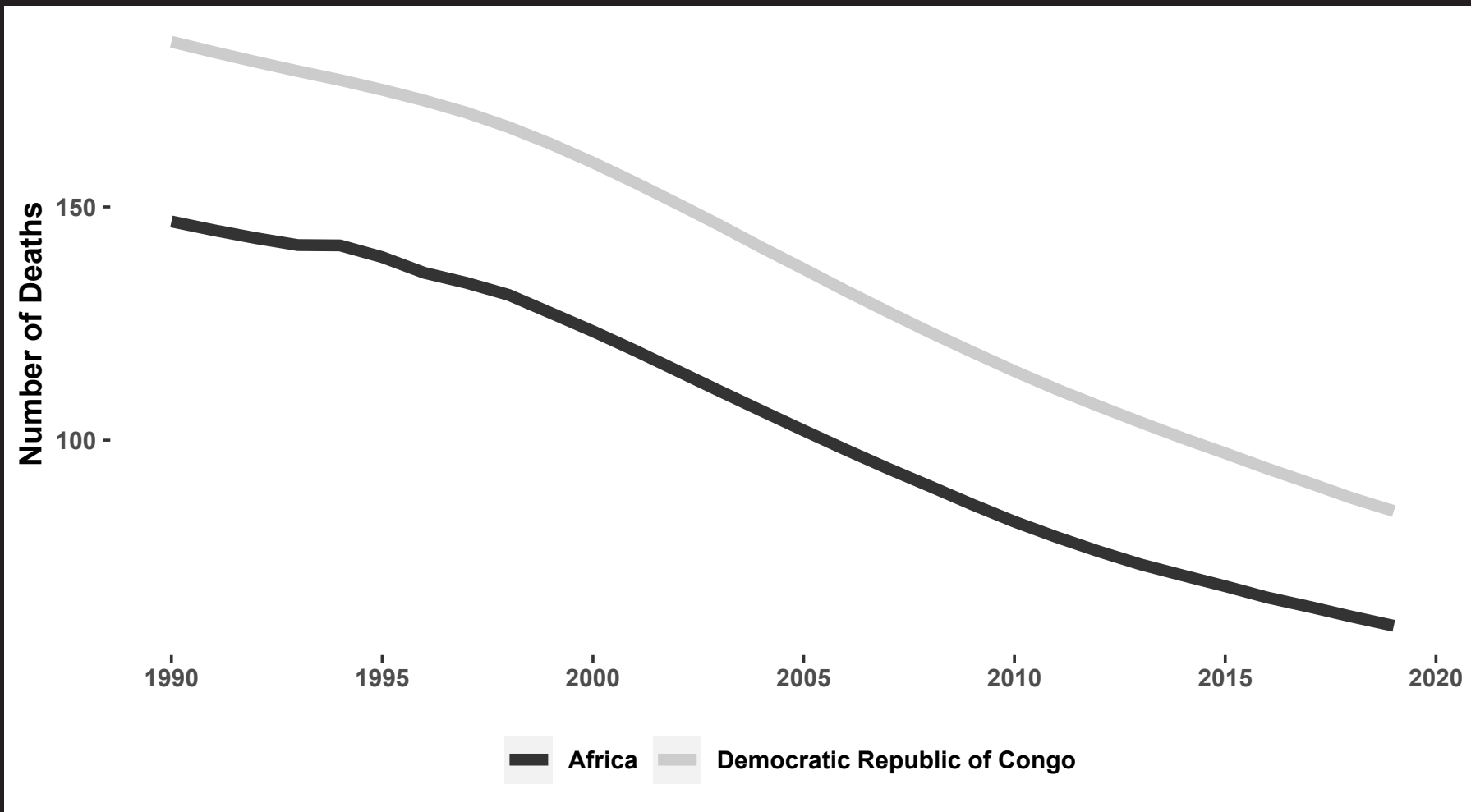
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The DRC has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is nearly triple its death rate.

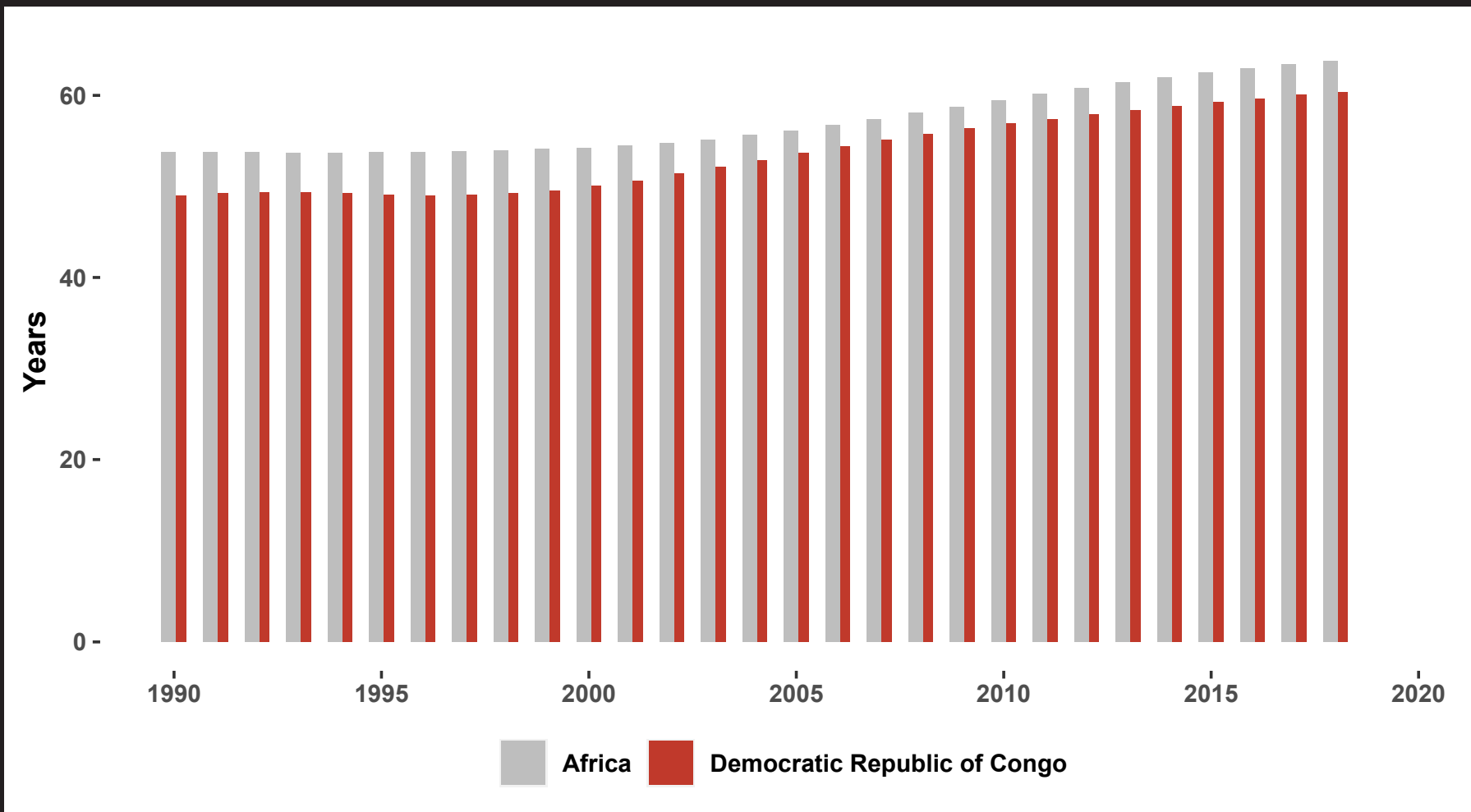
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



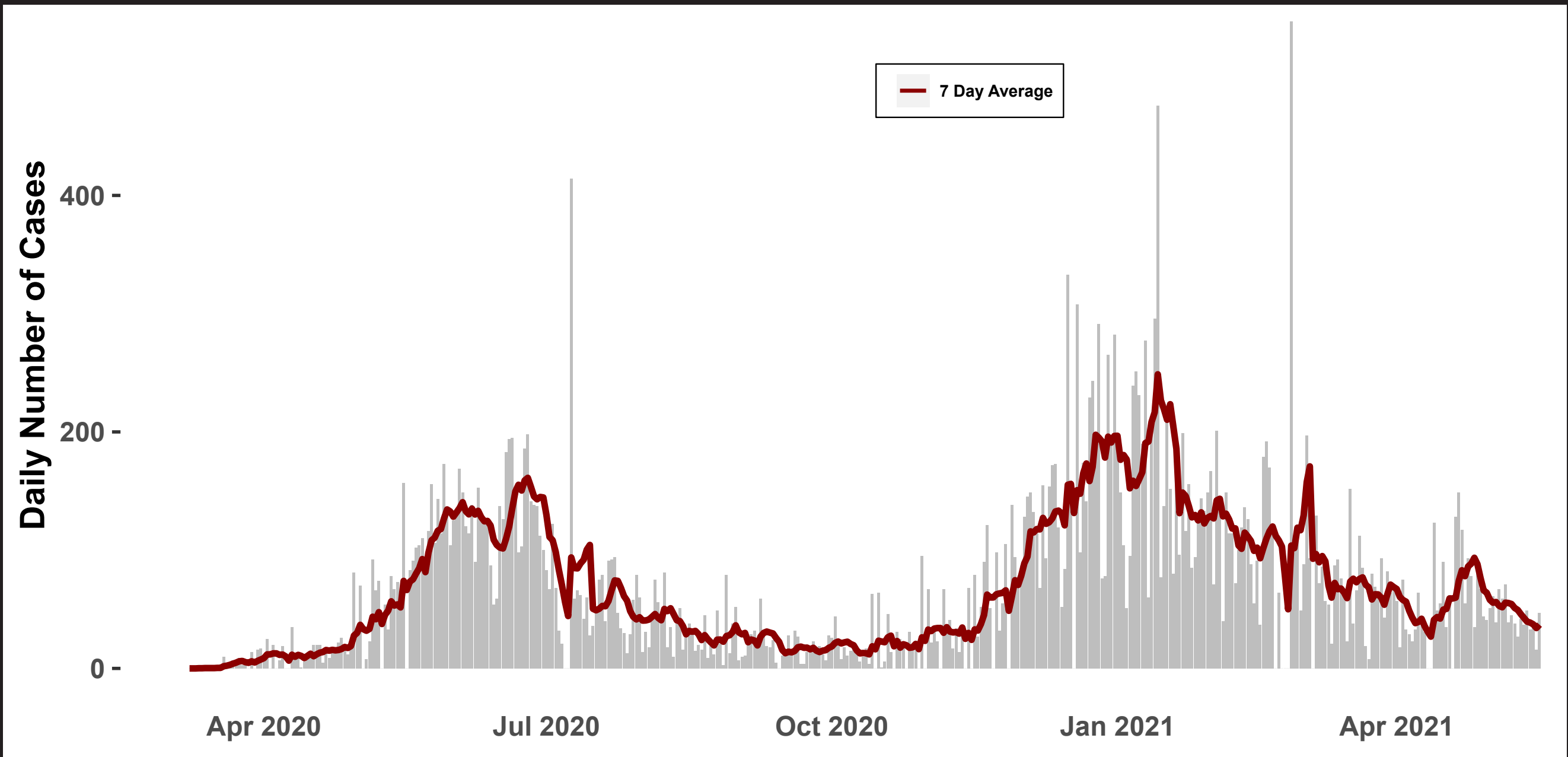
Although the DRC’s child mortality rate is higher than the African average, the DRC has experienced rapid declines in child mortality over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Although the DRC’s life expectancy is still lower than the African average, the rate of improvement in the DRC’s life expectancy has been faster than the rest of the continent.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



The DRC has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in June/July 2020 and Jan-April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

MONUSCO Photos on Flickr.com



Kinshasa is the world’s second-largest French speaking city.

MONUSCO Photos on Flickr.com



Music is a major export. In the 90s Congolese music was almost the only music listened to by the entire continent.

MONUSCO Photos on Flickr.com



The oldest national park in Africa is the Congo’s Virunga National Park, home to the rare mountain gorilla. The concentration of this species here is second to none in the world.



DJIBOUTI

Djibouti is in the Horn of Africa, bordered by Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. It is strategically located near some of the world’s busiest shipping lanes, controlling access to the Red Sea and Indian Ocean. In antiquity, the territory, together with Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somaliland was part of the Land of Punt (or *Ta Netjeru*, meaning “God’s Land”), an ancient Egyptian kingdom. Formerly known as French Somaliland (1896–1967) and the French Territory of the Afars and Issas (1967–77), the country took Djibouti as its name when it gained independence from France in 1977. Djibouti’s capital, Djibouti city, is known for its 19th-century architecture and port at the entrance to the Red Sea. The official currency is the Djiboutian franc.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Ismail Omar Guelleh



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Djibouti (city)

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

166

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

4



MAIN LANGUAGES

French and Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



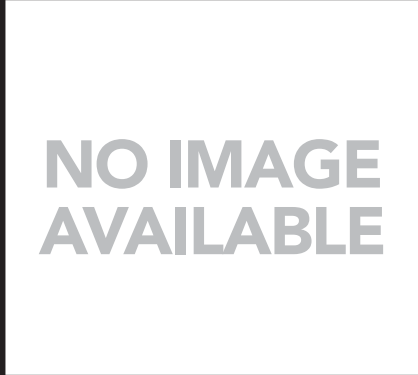
SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

People's Rally for Progress

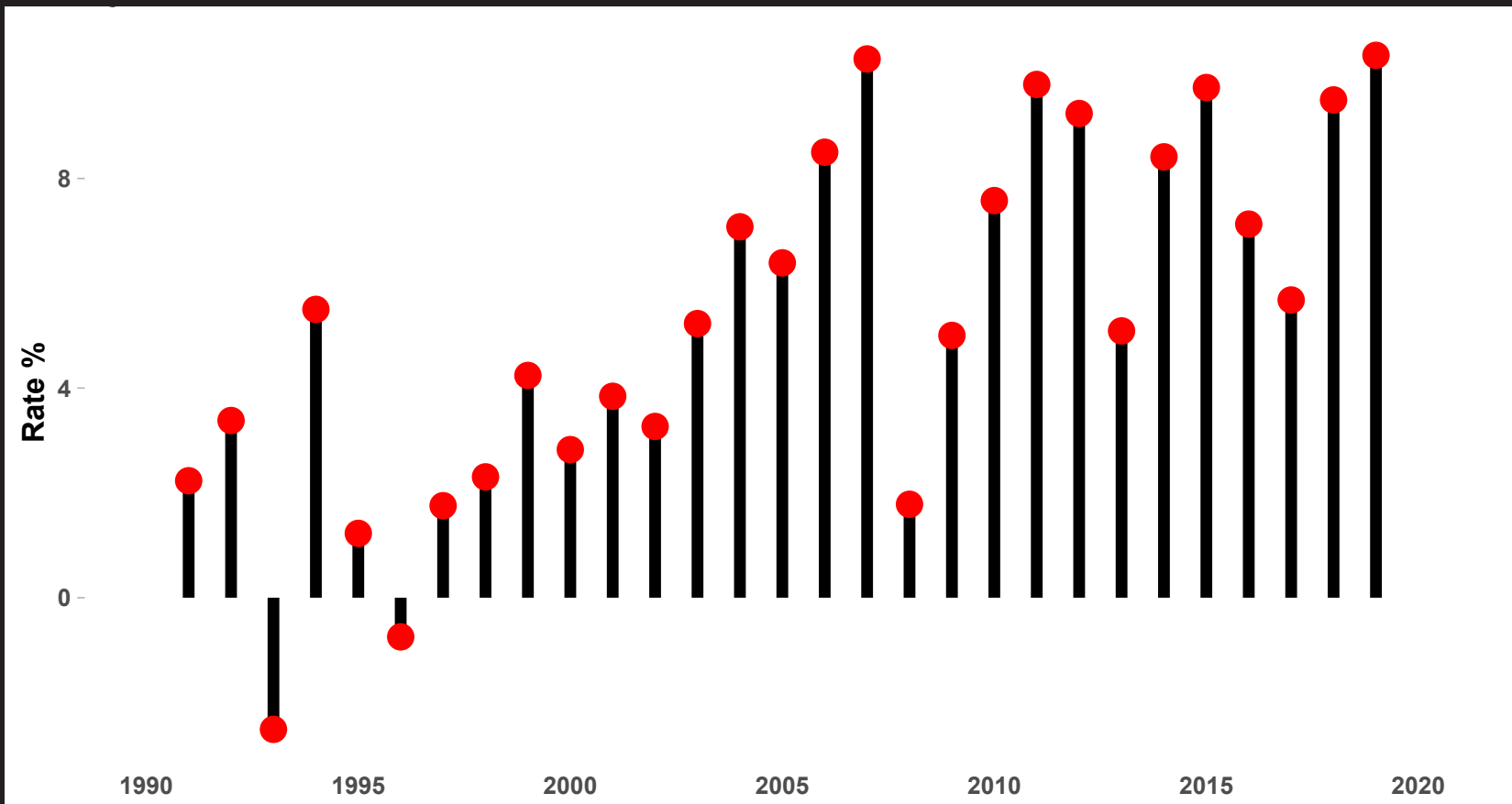


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Movement for Democratic Renewal and Development

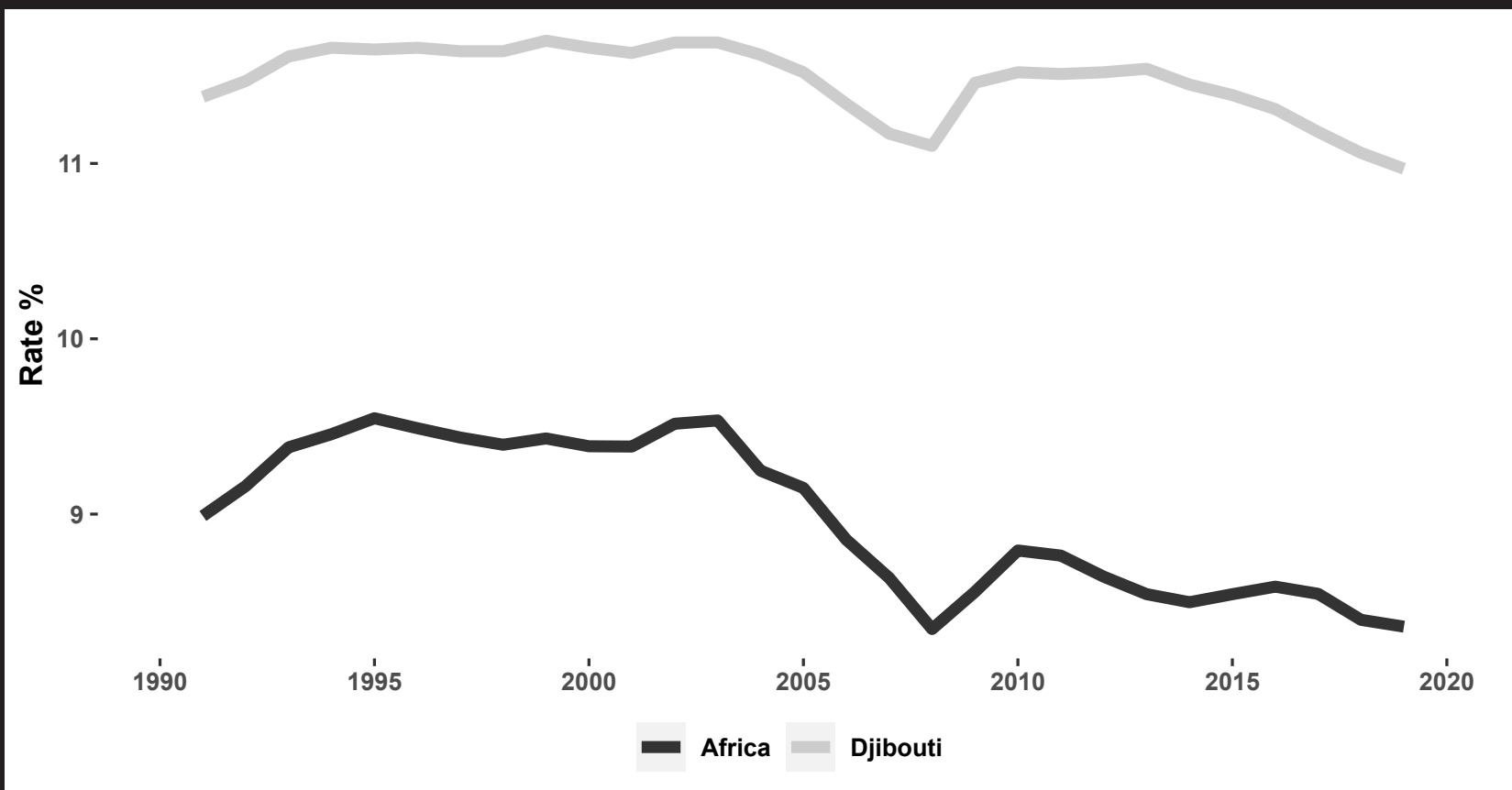
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



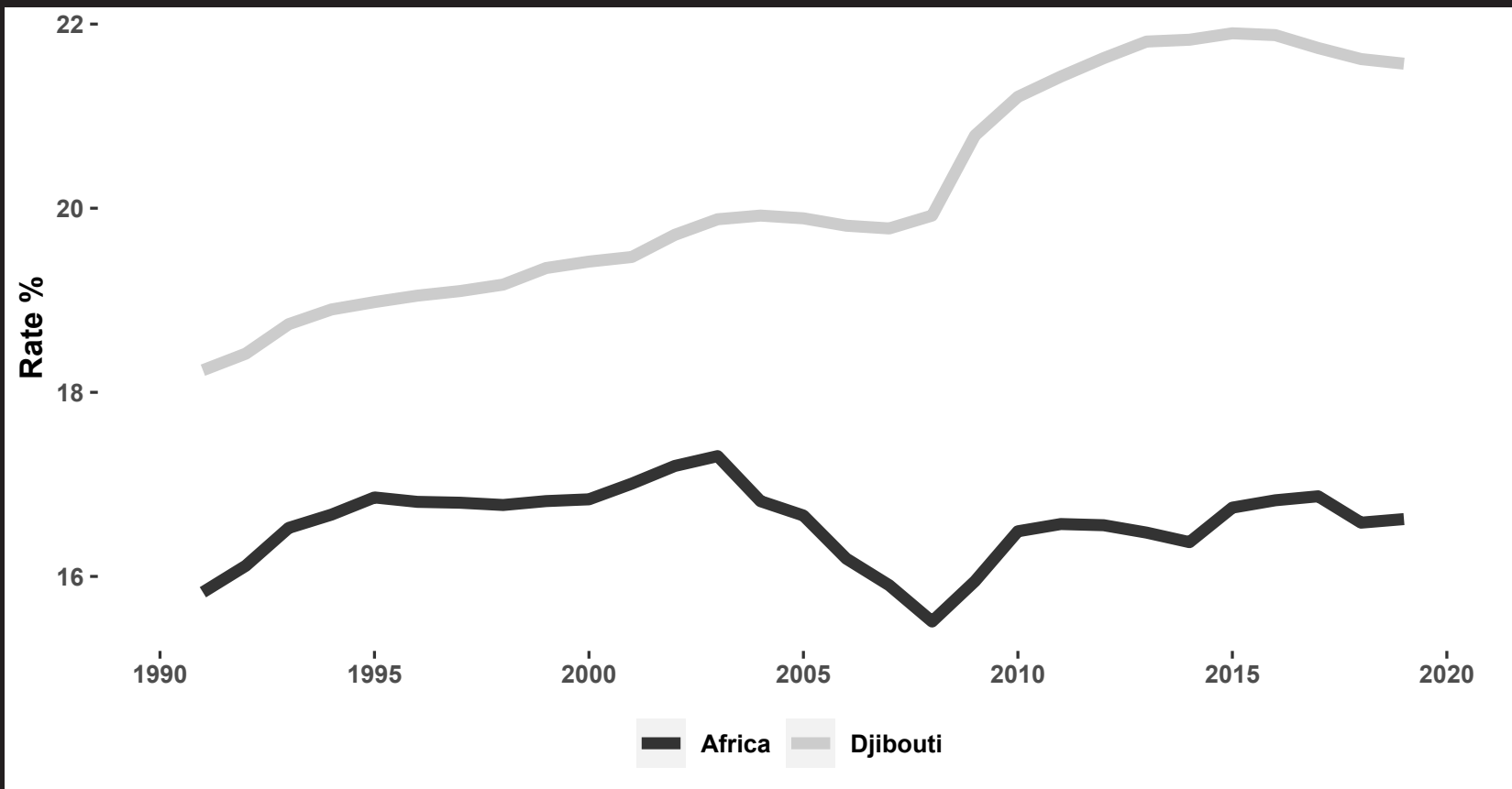
After a brief period of erratic economic growth in the early 1990s, Djibouti has seen continuous growth since 1997.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



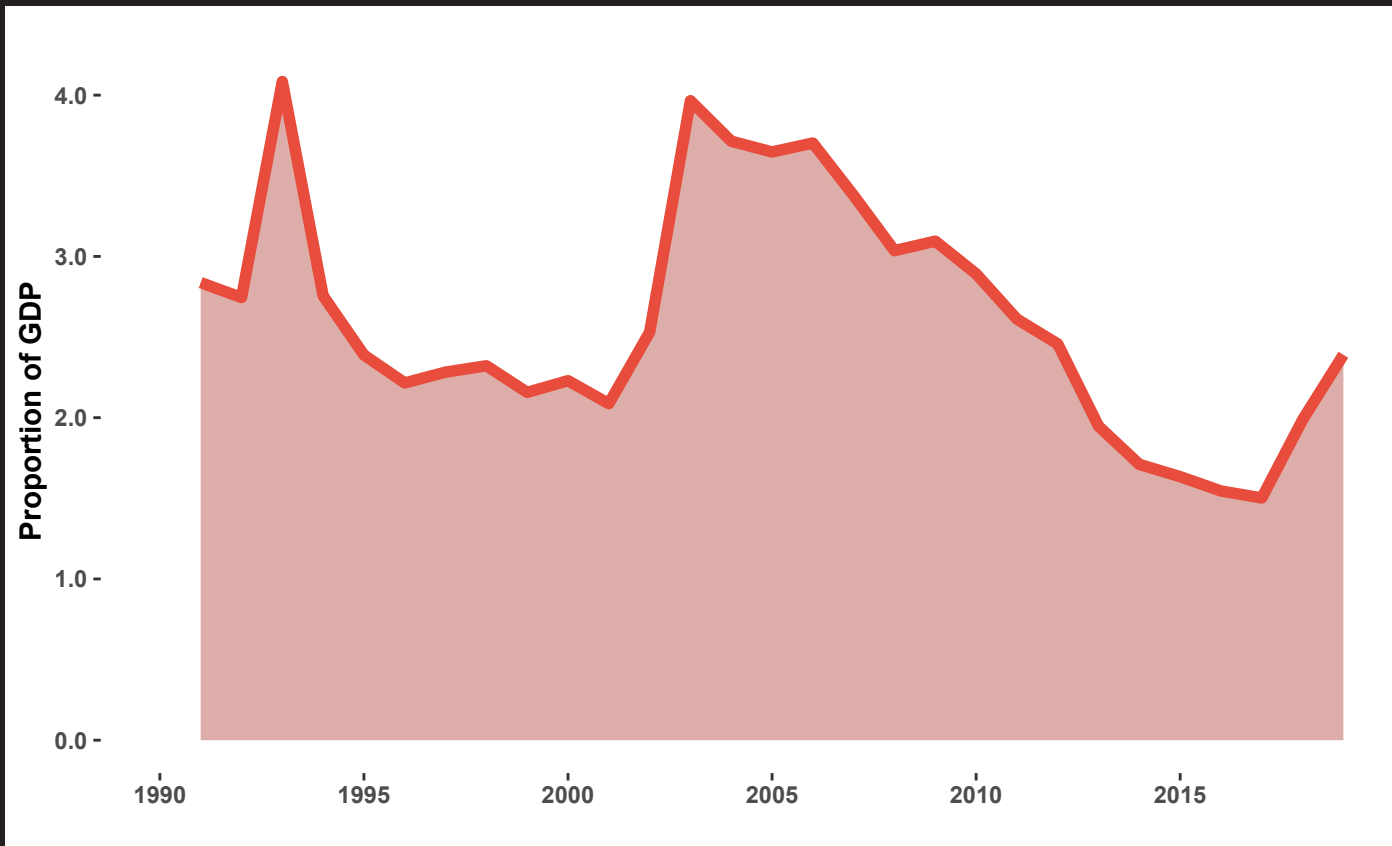
Djibouti has had an unemployment rate consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) has risen consistently compared to the African average over the past 30 years – particularly since 2008.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$79.46 million

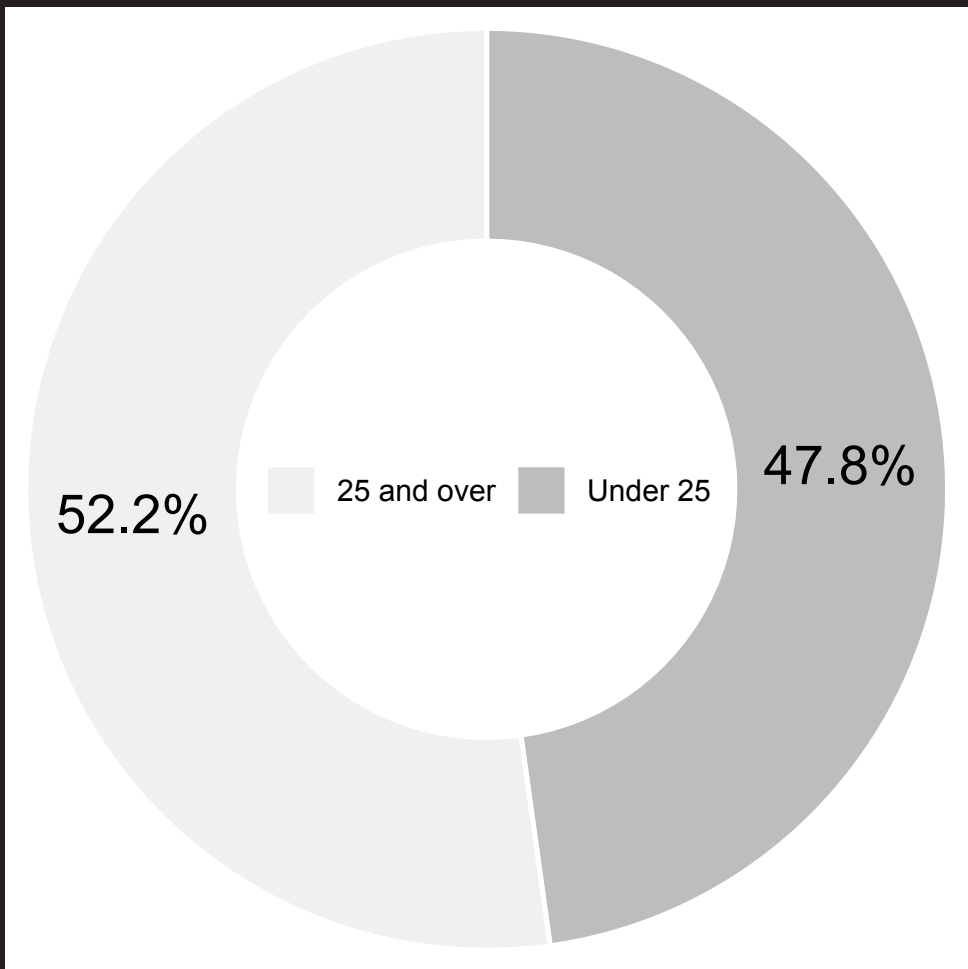
which represents

2.39% of GDP

Over the past 30 years the proportion of remittances received has consistently accounted for between 1.5 and 4% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

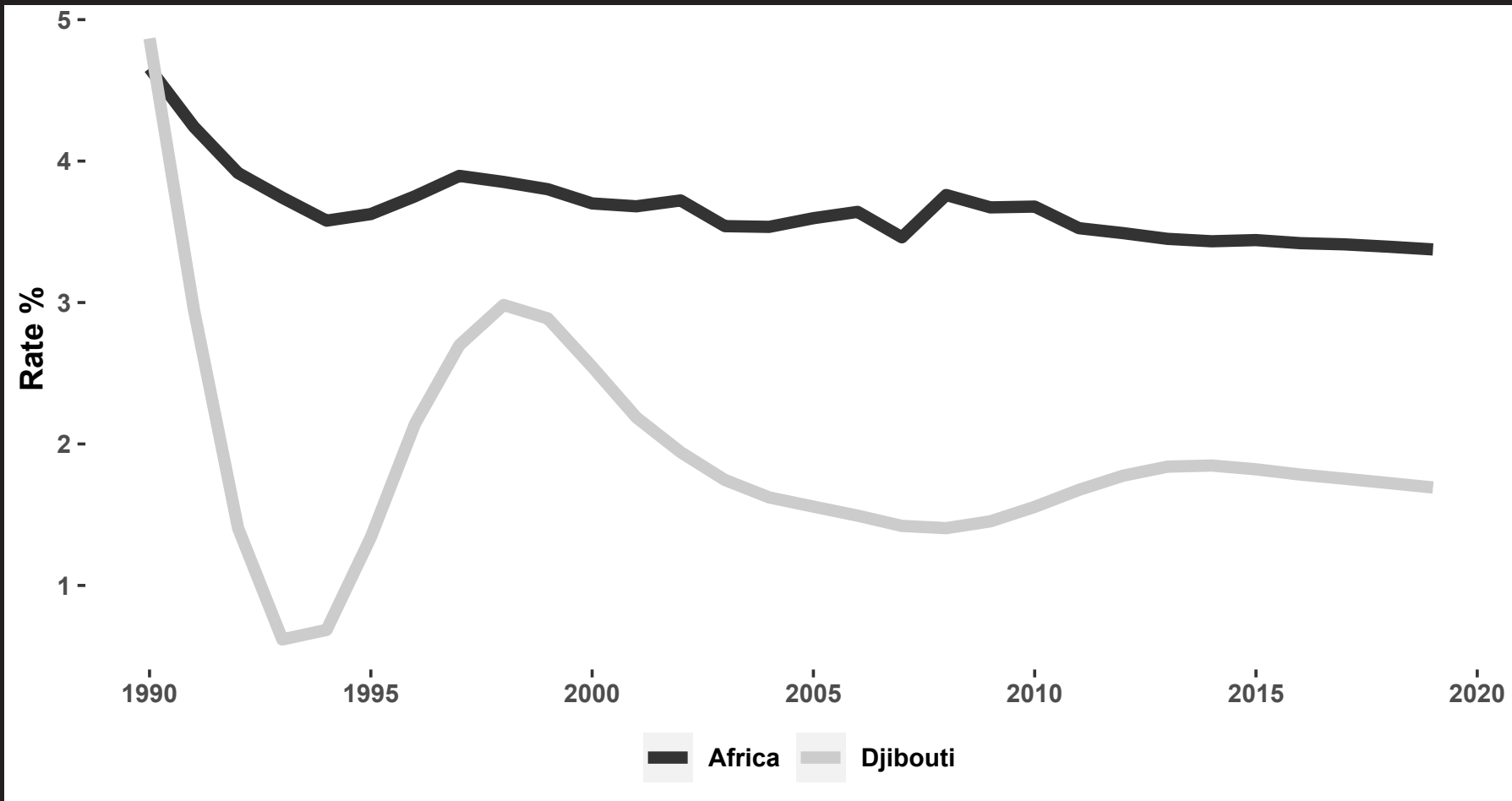
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



973 000

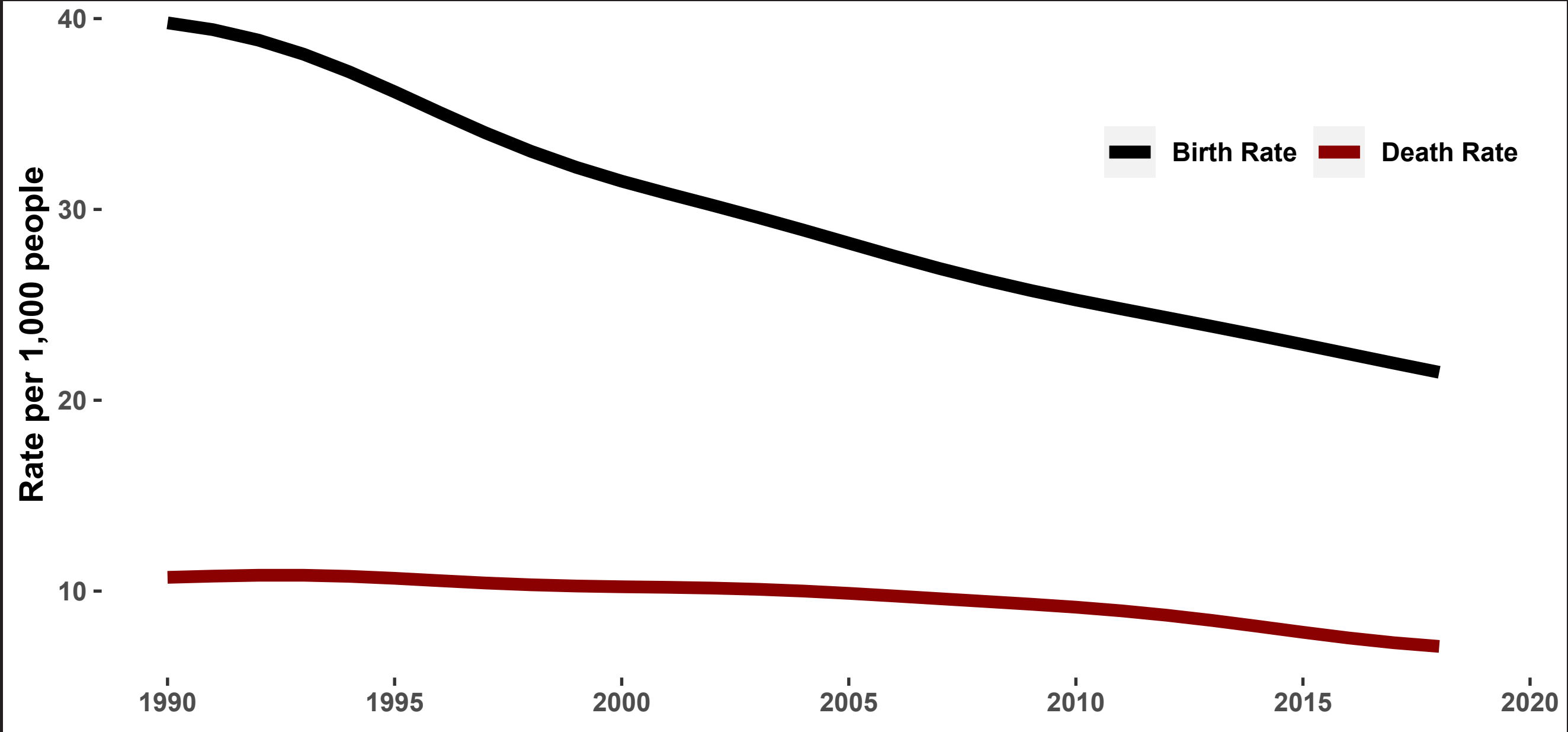
Djibouti is one of only nine African countries where there are more people over-25 than under-25. It is also one of the least populous countries on the continent.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 2000, Djibouti has urbanised at a consistently slower rate than the continental average.

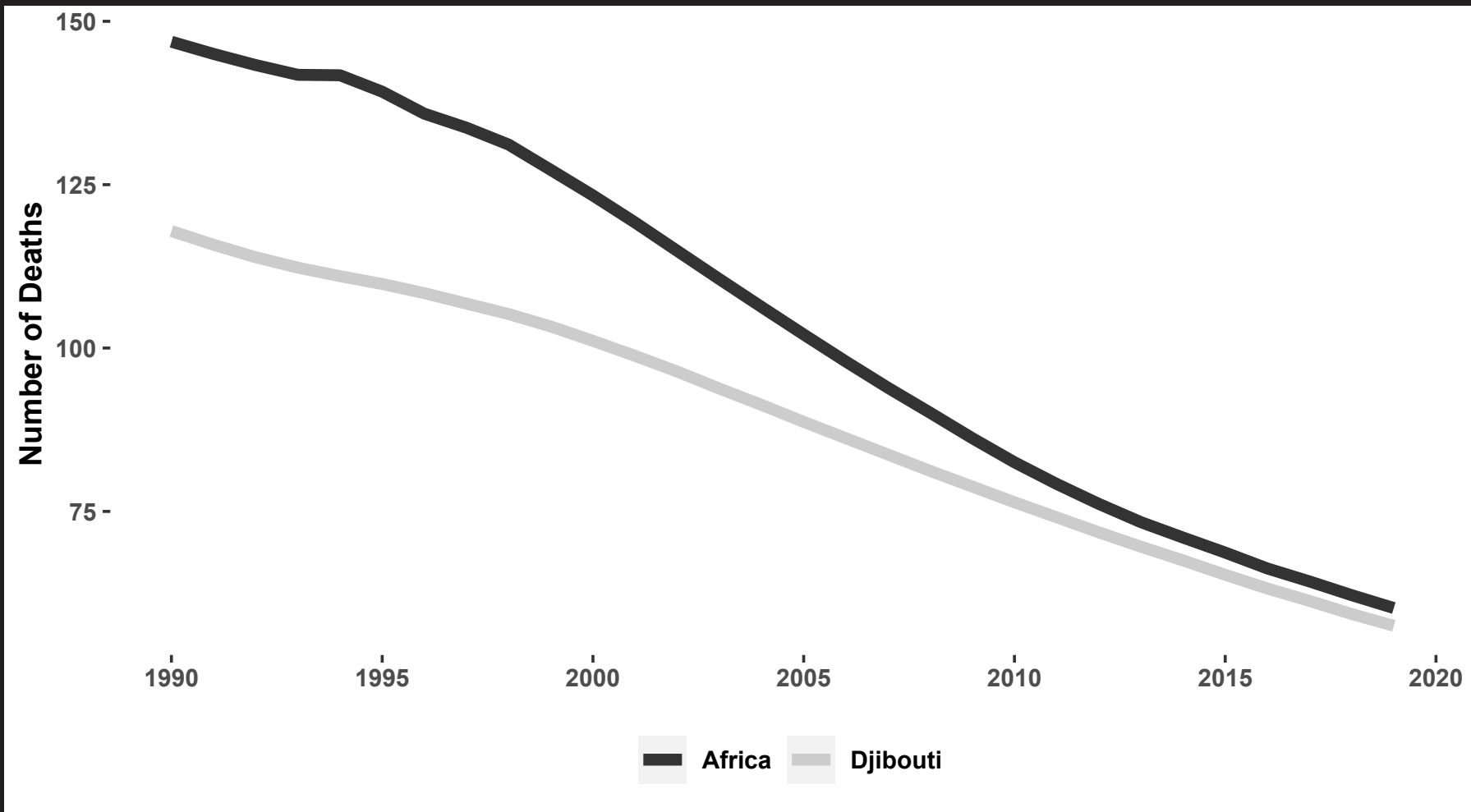
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The population growth rate in Djibouti has slowed down in recent years because the country's birth rate has been decreasing at a much faster pace than its death rate.

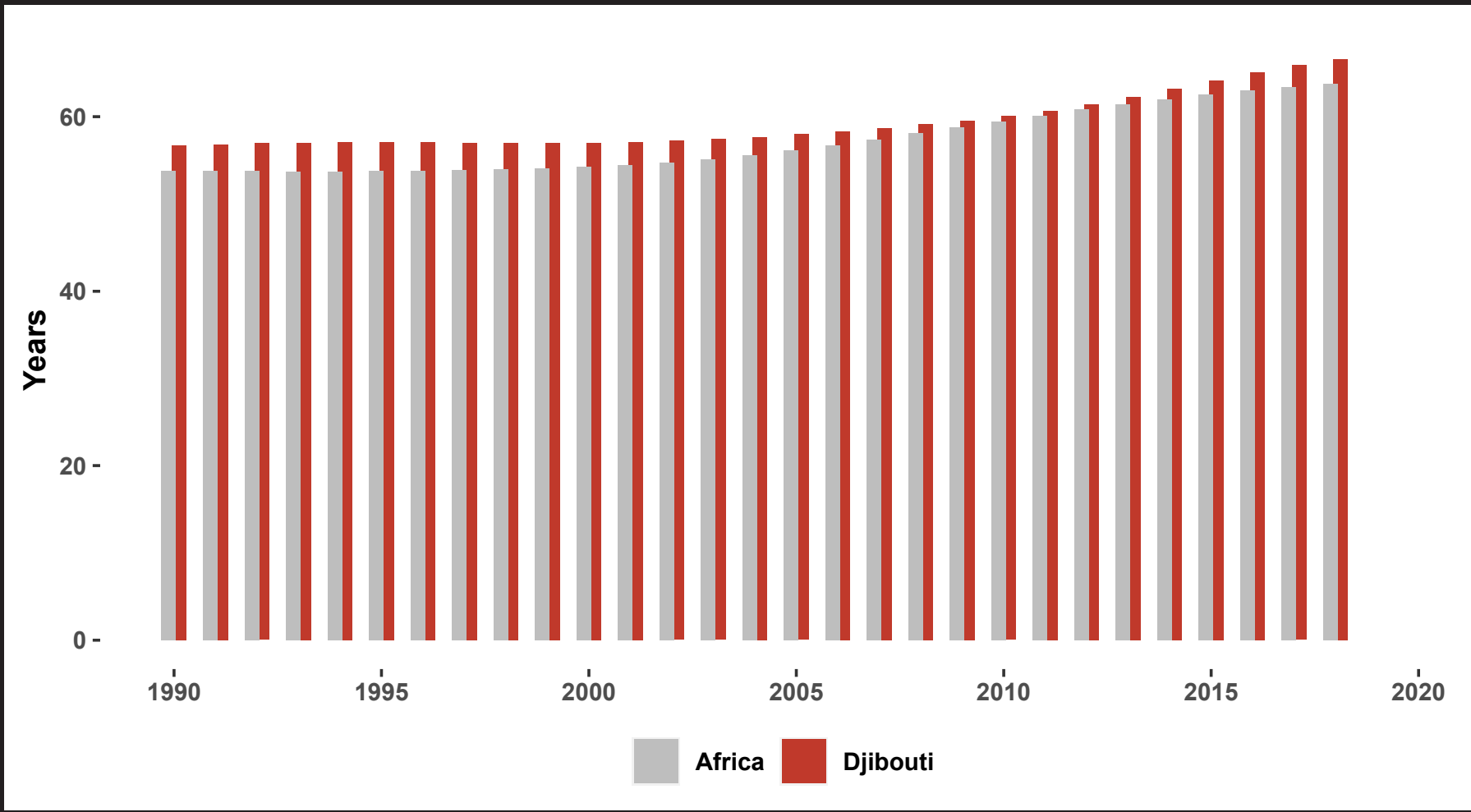
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



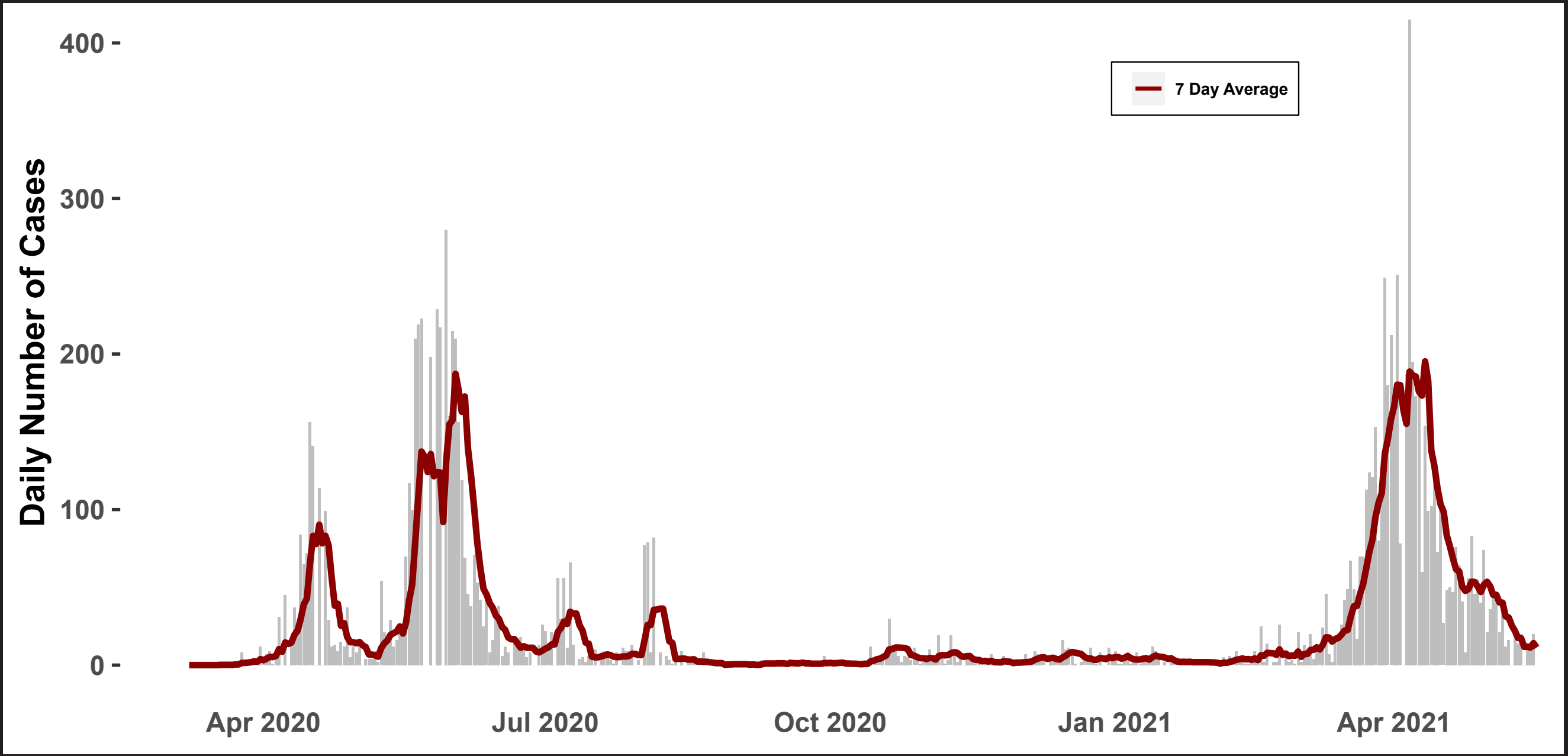
Djibouti's child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Djibouti has maintained a life expectancy that is slightly higher than the African average throughout the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Djibouti has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in May/June 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Francisco Anzola on Flickr.com



Djibouti is the third-smallest country in Africa after Eswatini and The Gambia.

kakna's world on Flickr.com



Lac Assal, a crater lake in the centre of Djibouti, is 10 times saltier than the sea. In fact, it's the second saltiest body of water in the world after Don Juan Pond in Antarctica.

CIAT on Flickr.com



The addictive narcotic khat is widely chewed by Djiboutians. The leaf is imported in bulk from Ethiopia and Kenya and gives the user a mild amphetamine-like high.



EGYPT

Egypt, in north-east Africa, dates to the time of the pharaohs. Millennia-old monuments sit along the fertile Nile River valley, including Giza’s colossal pyramids and Great Sphinx as well as Luxor’s hieroglyph-lined Karnak temple and the tombs of the Valley of the Kings. The capital, Cairo, is home to Ottoman landmarks like the Muhammad Ali Mosque and the Egyptian Museum. After Alexander the Great conquered the region in 323 BC, urban Egypt became an integral part of the Hellenistic world. Modern Egypt dates back to 1922, when it gained independence from the British empire as a monarchy. The monarchy was toppled in a coup in 1952 and in 1953 Egypt was declared a republic. Throughout the second half of the 20th century, Egypt endured social and religious strife and political instability, fighting several armed conflicts with Israel in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973, and occupying the Gaza Strip intermittently until 1967. Islam is the official religion of Egypt and Arabic is its official language. The official currency is the Egyptian pound.

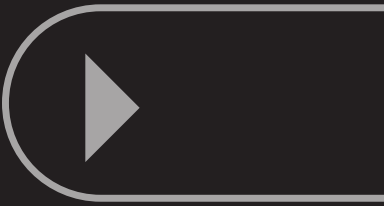
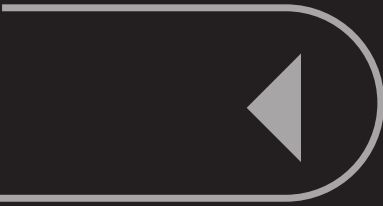
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

JUNE

18

SINCE 1953



CAPITAL CITY
Cairo

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

116

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

16



MAIN LANGUAGES
Egyptian Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



NEXT DATE

2024

VOTE

SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE
Semi-presidential republic

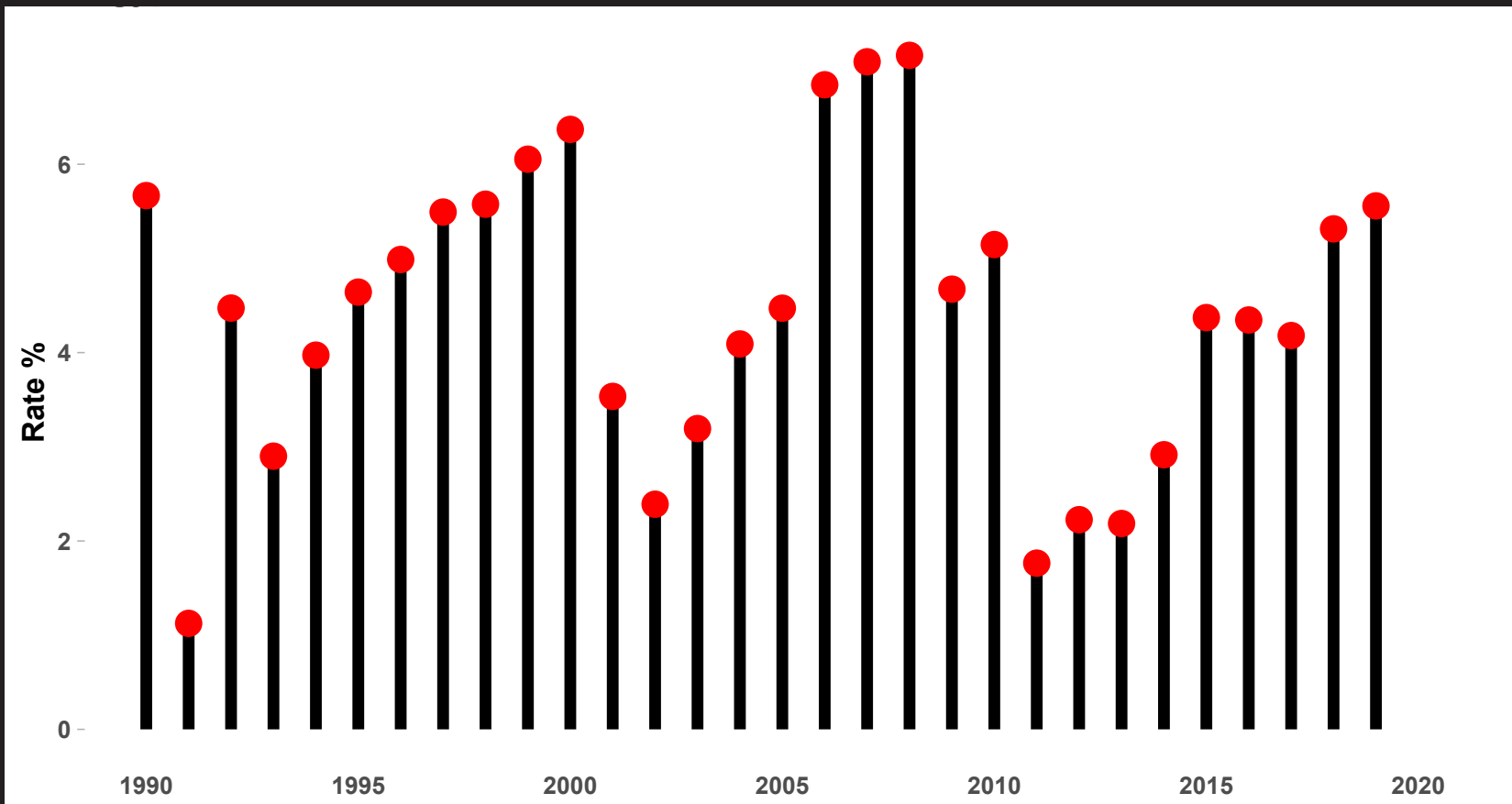


RULING POLITICAL PARTY
For the Love of Egypt (coalition)

MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
None

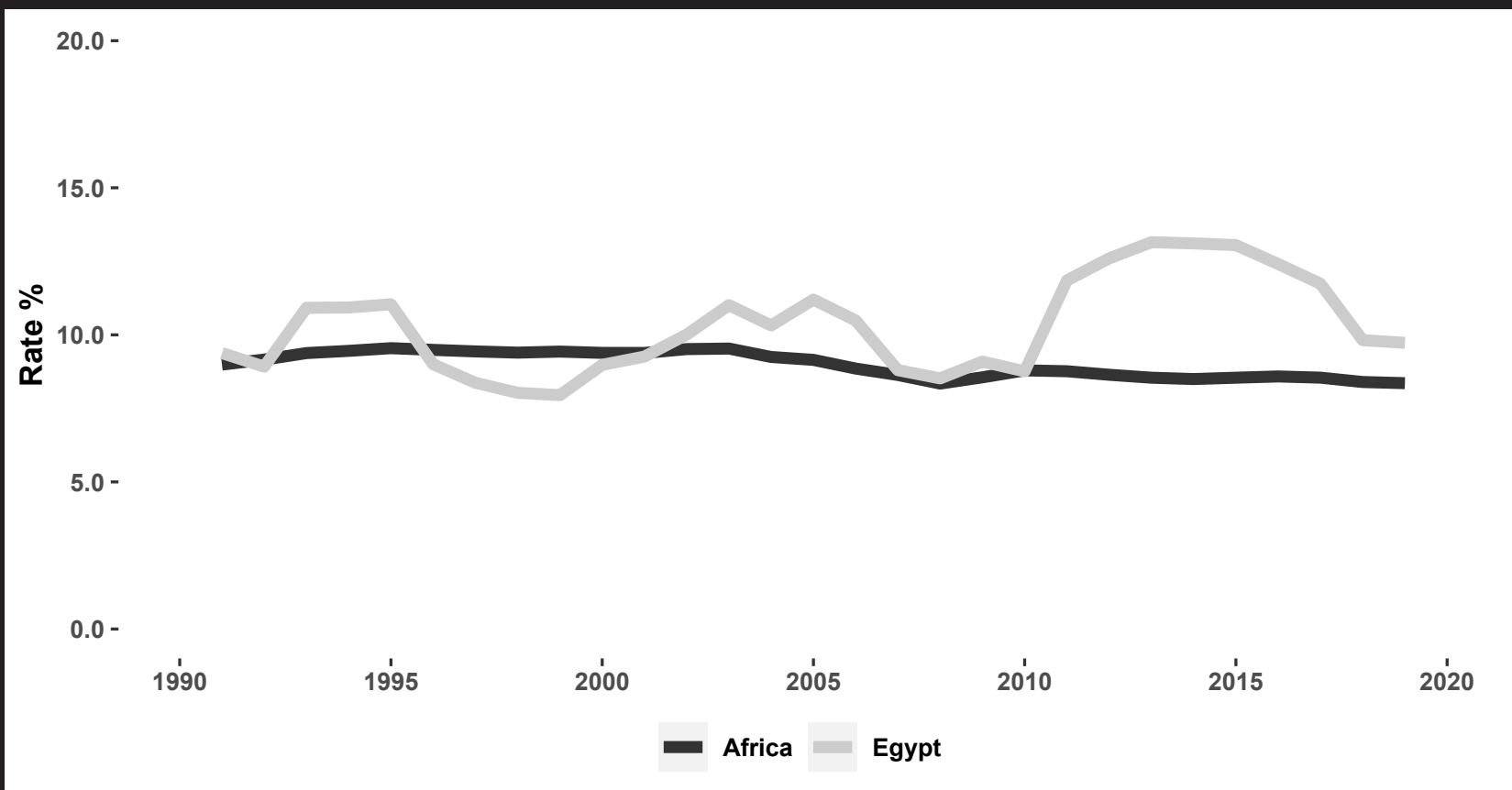
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



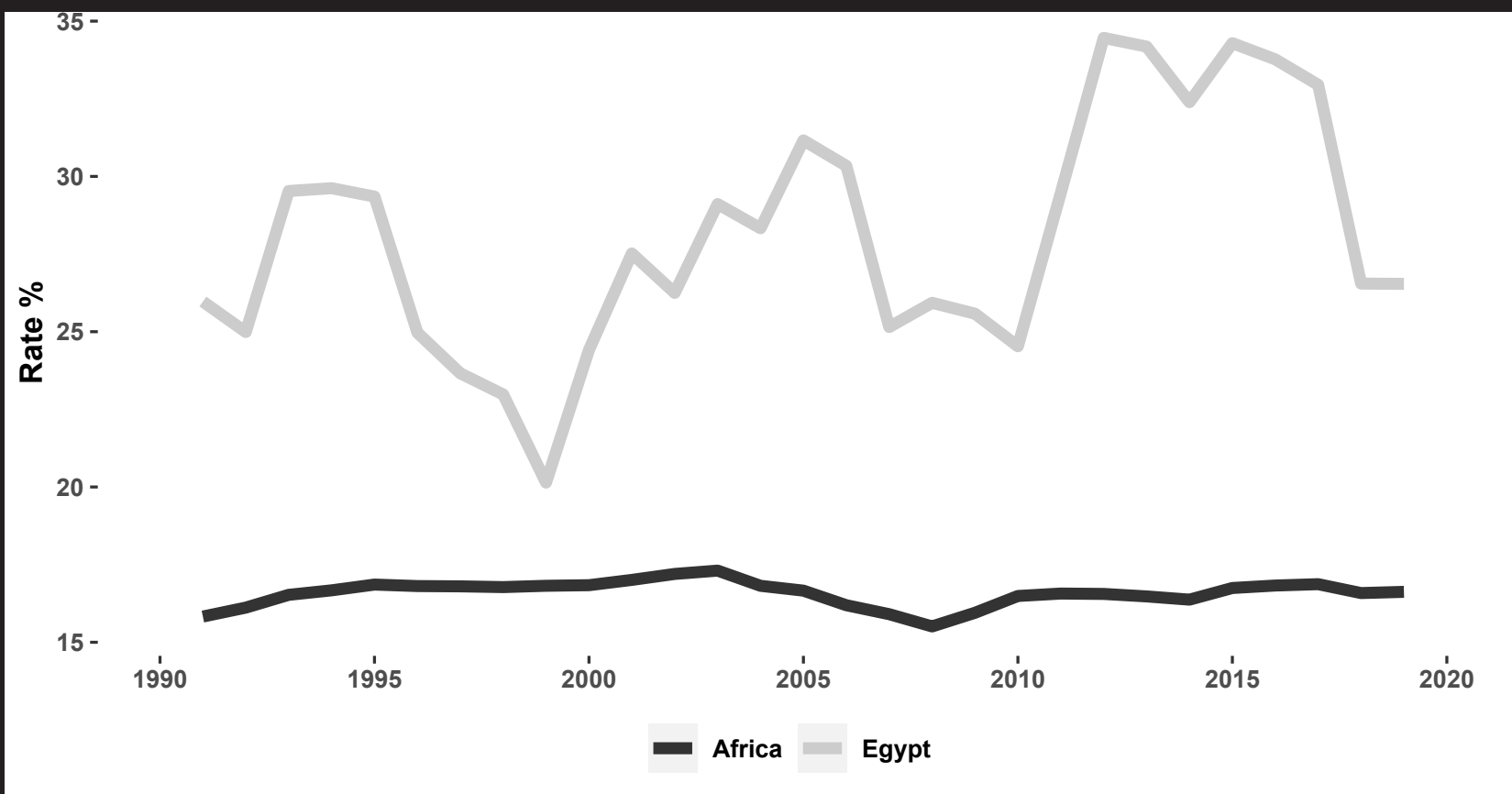
Egypt has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



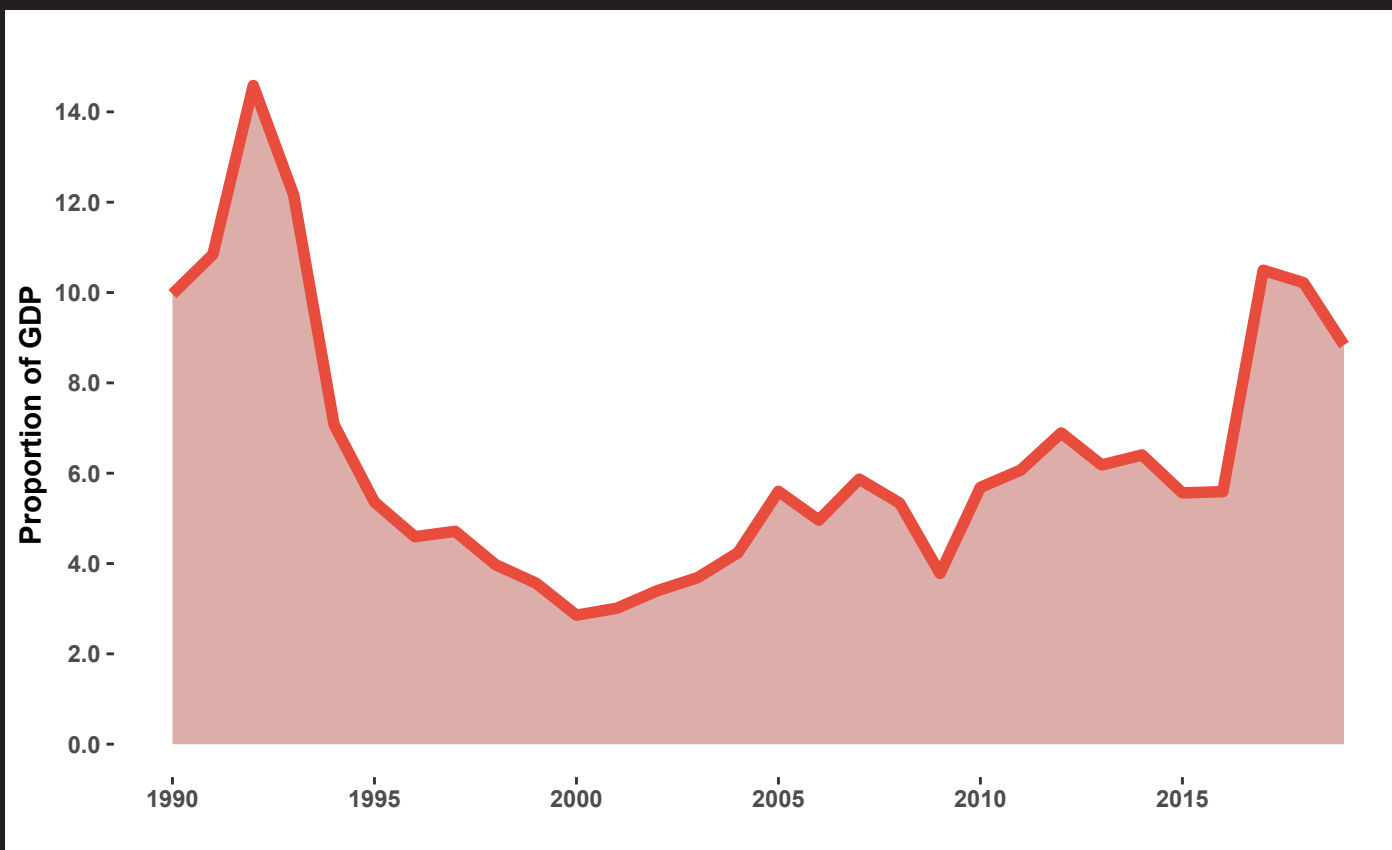
Egypt’s unemployment rate has tracked very closely to the African average throughout the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rate that is consistently higher than the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$26.78 billion

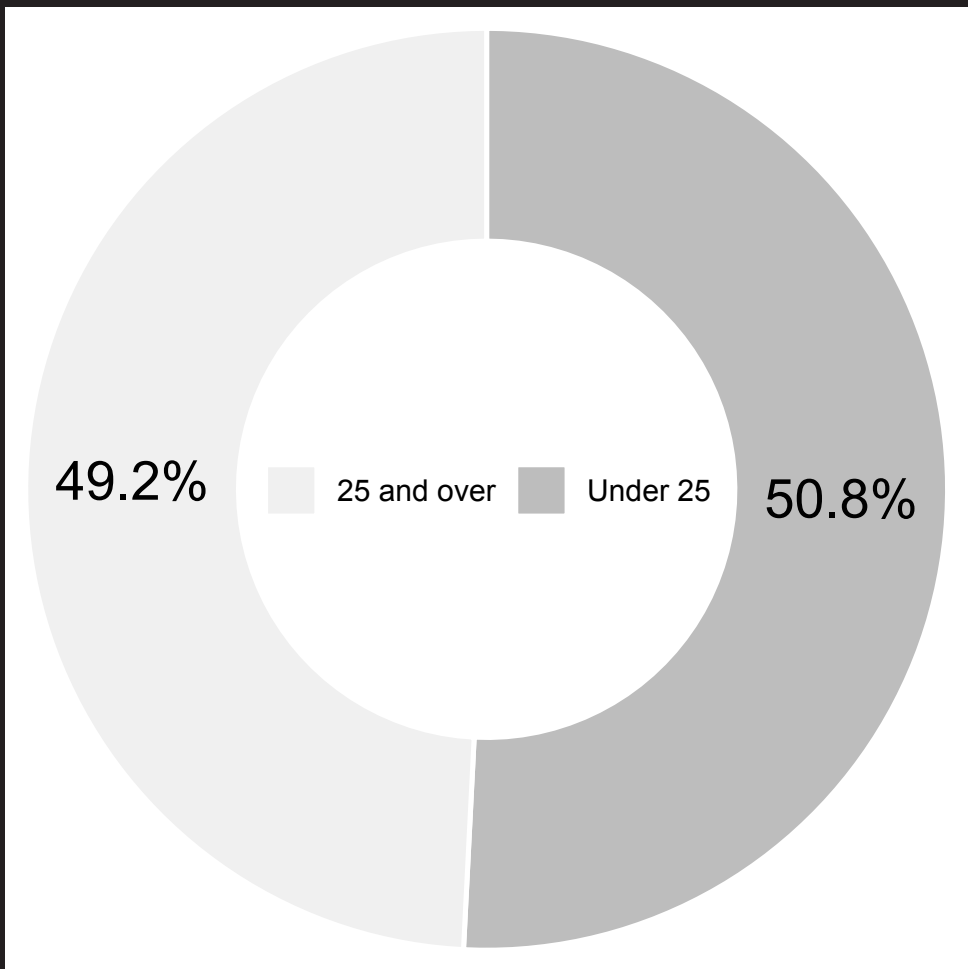
which represents

8.84% of GDP

Considering the size of its population and economy, Egypt is one of the African countries which receives the largest amount of remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

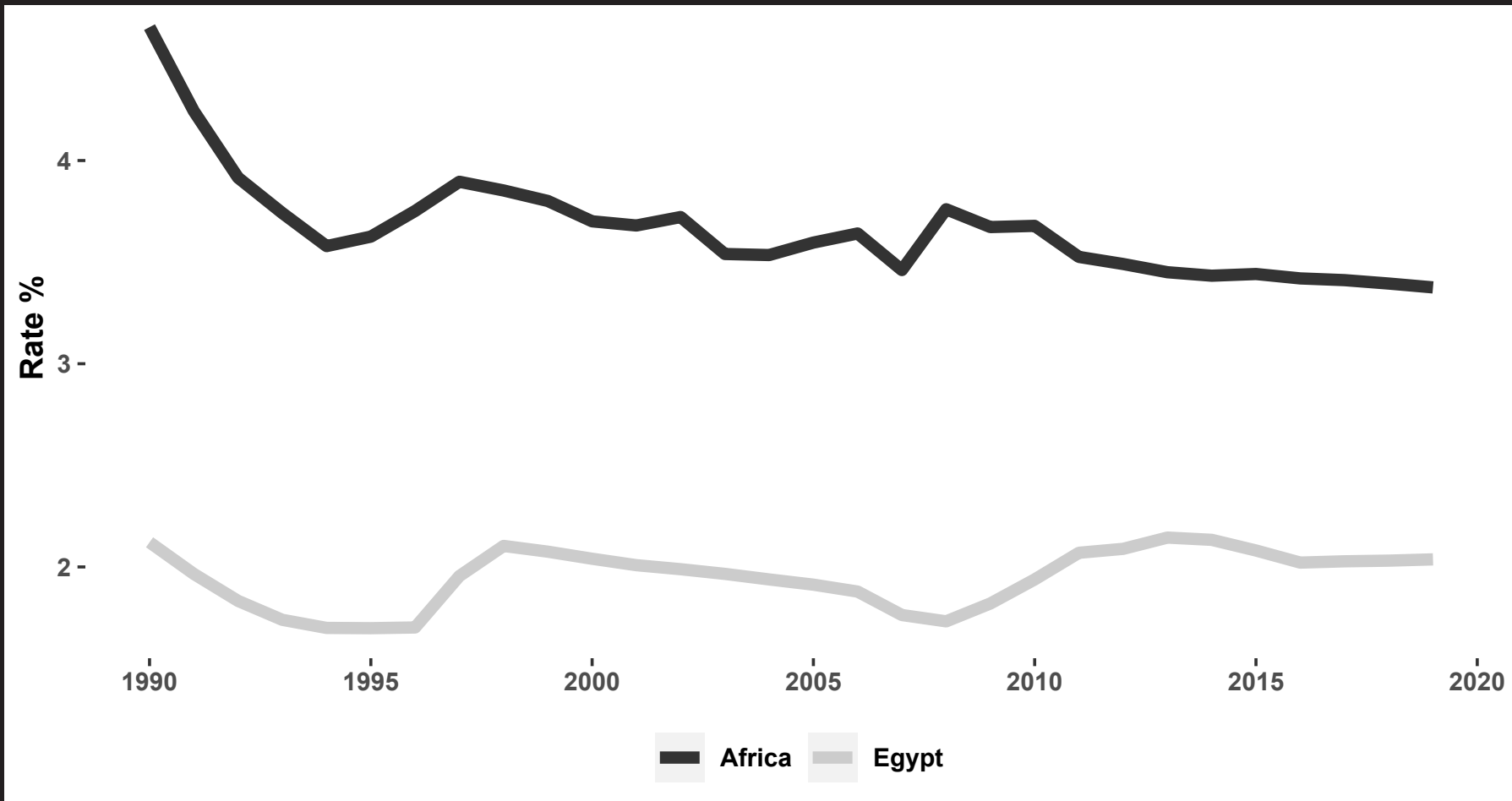
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



100.4 million

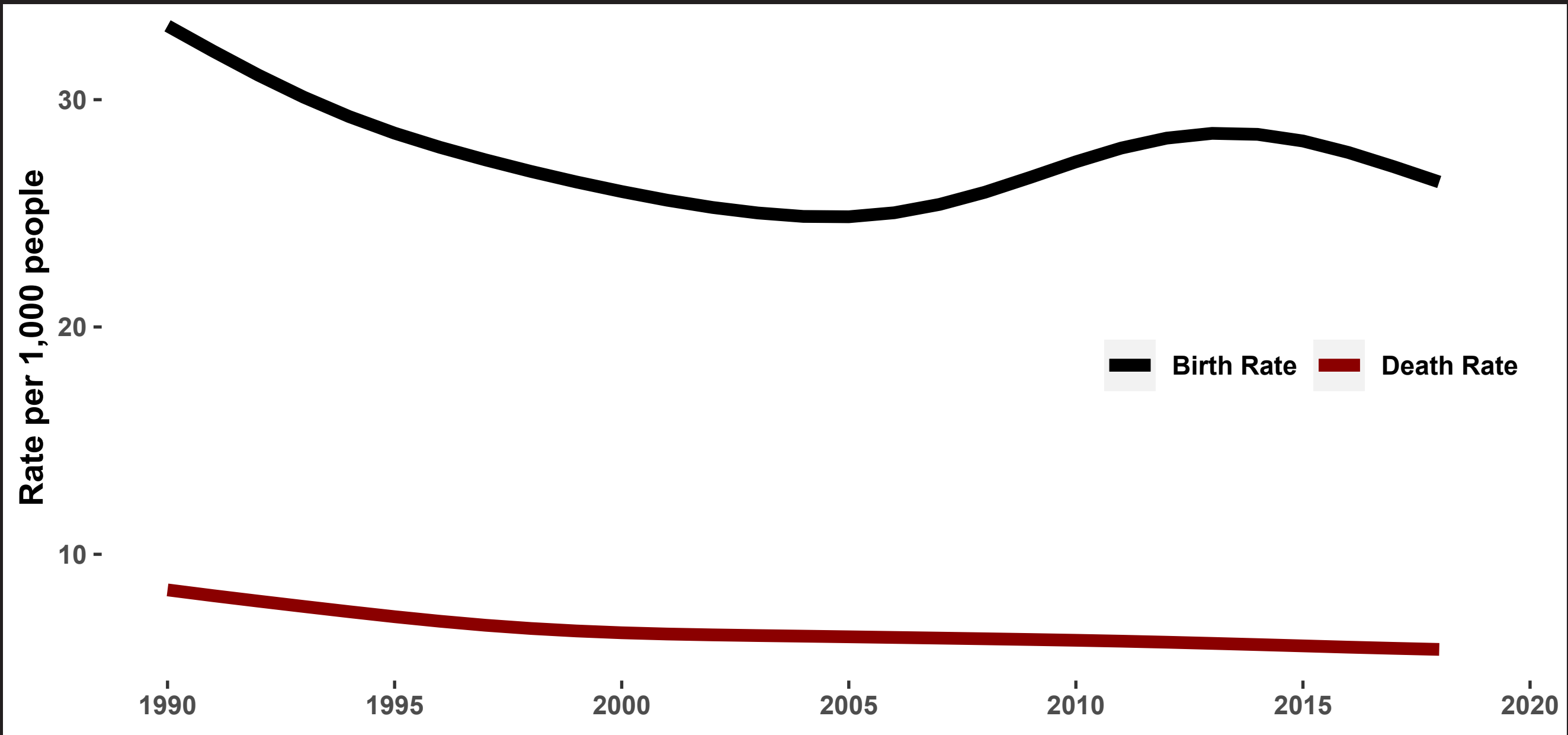
Egypt is one of the most populous countries in Africa and its under-25 population is only slightly greater than its over-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1990, Egypt has urbanised at a consistently slower rate than the continental average.

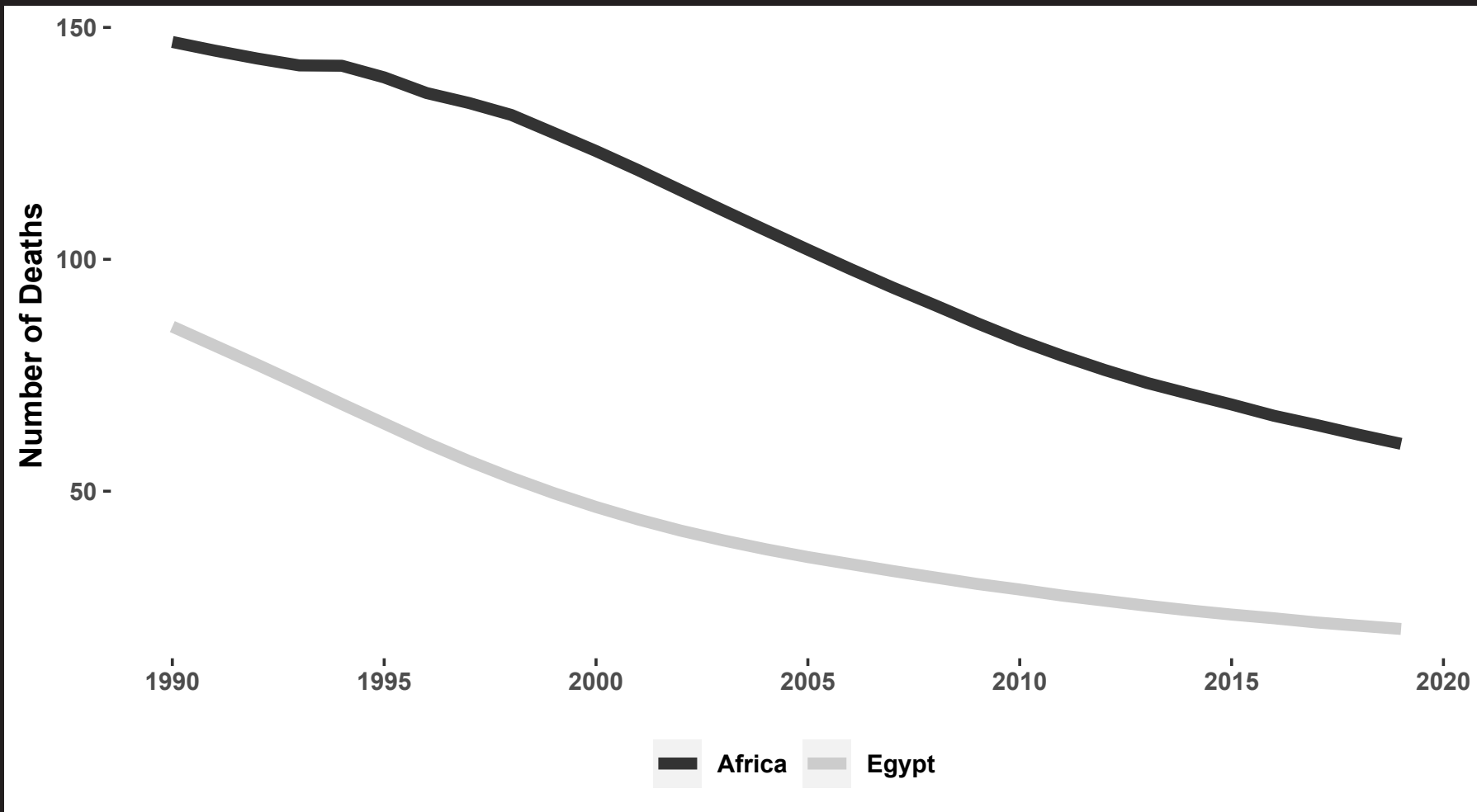
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Egypt has one of the lowest death rates on the continent. This, coupled with a fluctuating birth rate, has contributed to steady population growth.

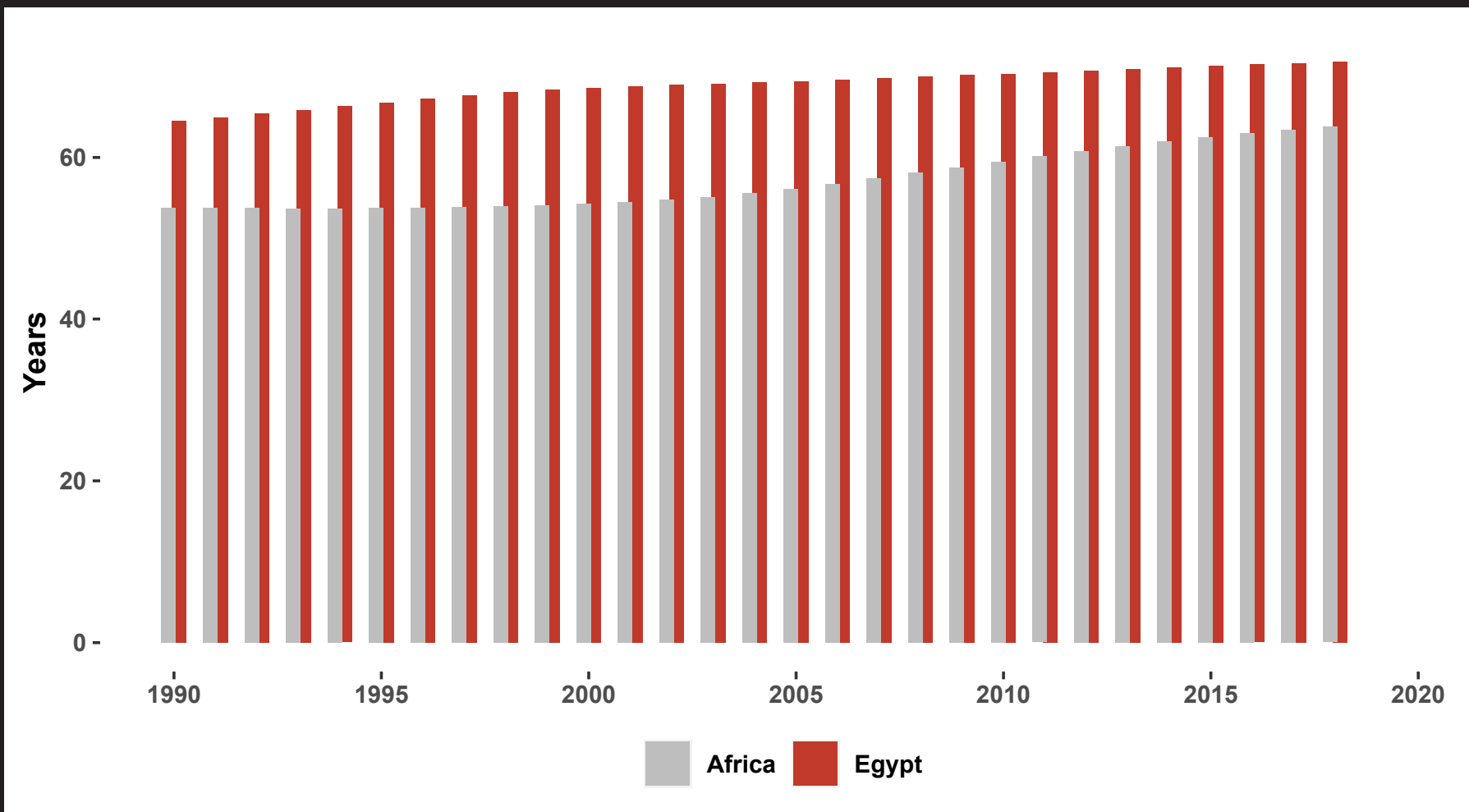
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



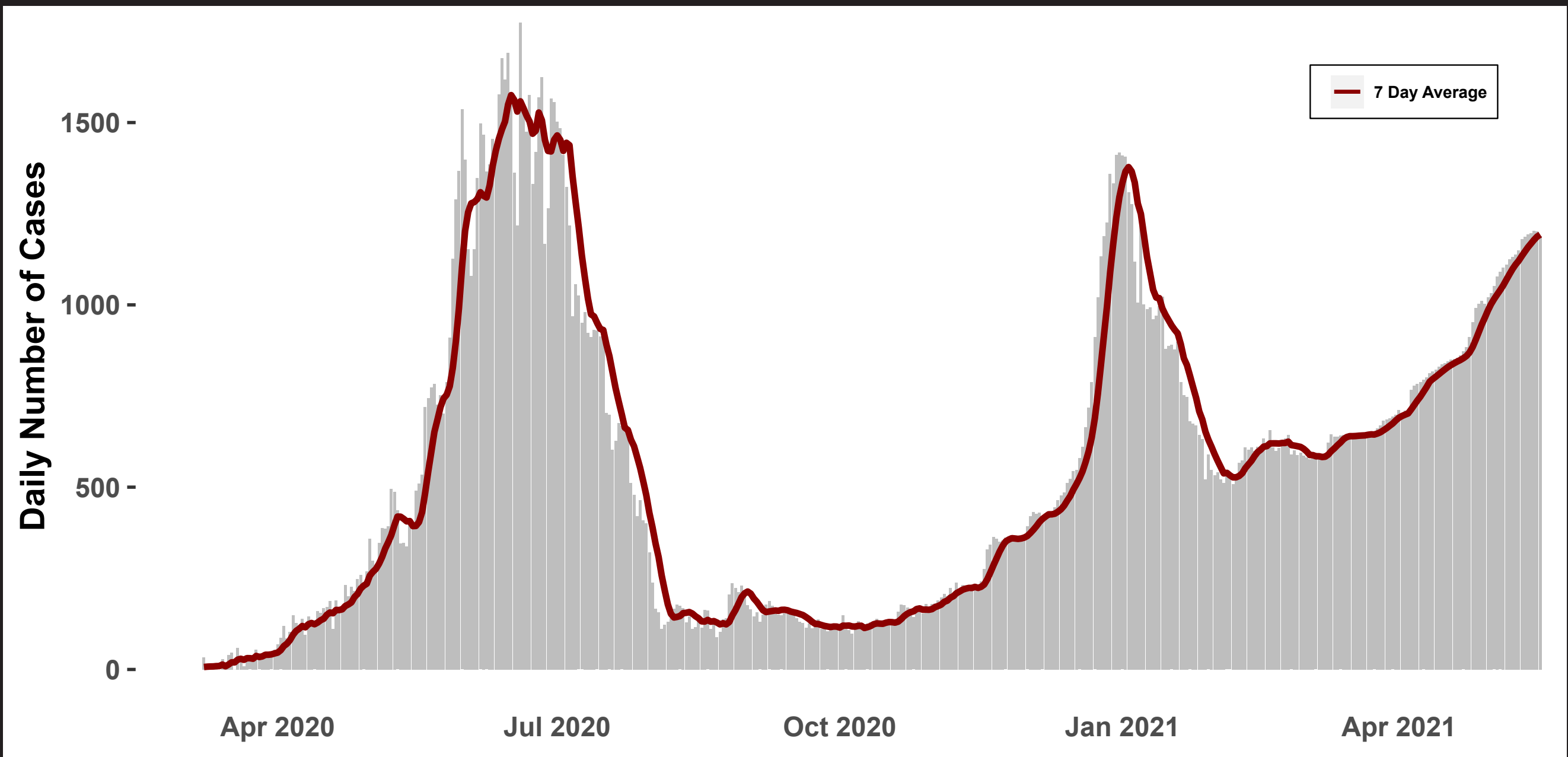
Egypt’s child mortality rate is much lower than the African average and has continued to decline over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Egypt has one of the highest life expectancies across the continent and is therefore well above the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Egypt has had a Covid-19 wave, which occurred in June/August 2020 and an extented wave since December 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Warren LeMay on Flickr.com



The ancient Egyptians were kept busy by building pyramids.
So far, more than 130 pyramids have been found.

Katka a Ondra on Flickr.com



Egyptian men and women wore make-up. It protected their skin from the sun but, they also believed it had healing powers.

Nic McPhee on Flickr.com



Cats were very important and special in Egypt. They were considered sacred.



EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Equatorial Guinea is on the west coast of central Africa, bordering the Bight of Biafra (Atlantic Ocean) between Cameroon and Gabon, and sharing maritime borders with Nigeria and São Tomé and Príncipe. It is formerly the colony of Spanish Guinea. After becoming independent from Spain in 1968, Equatorial Guinea was ruled by President Francisco Macías Nguema until he was overthrown in a coup in 1979 by his nephew, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, who has served as the country’s president since then. Both presidents have been widely characterised as dictators, and the country has one of the worst human rights records in the world. Since the mid-1990s, Equatorial Guinea has become one of sub-Saharan Africa’s largest oil producers. The official currency is the CFA franc.

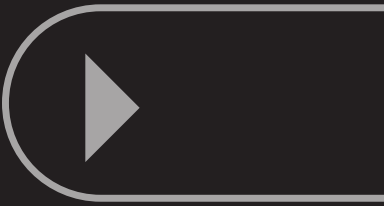
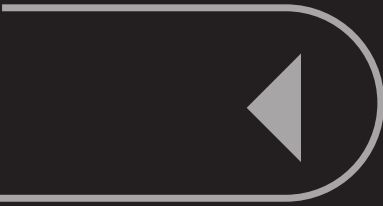
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Teodoro Obiang
Nguema Mbasogo

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY

Malabo

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

145

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

3



MAIN LANGUAGES

Spanish, French
and Portuguese

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



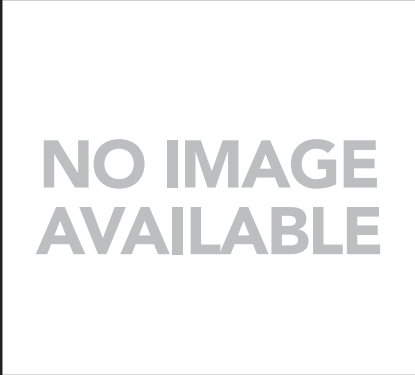
SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Multiparty constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Democratic Party of
Equatorial Guinea

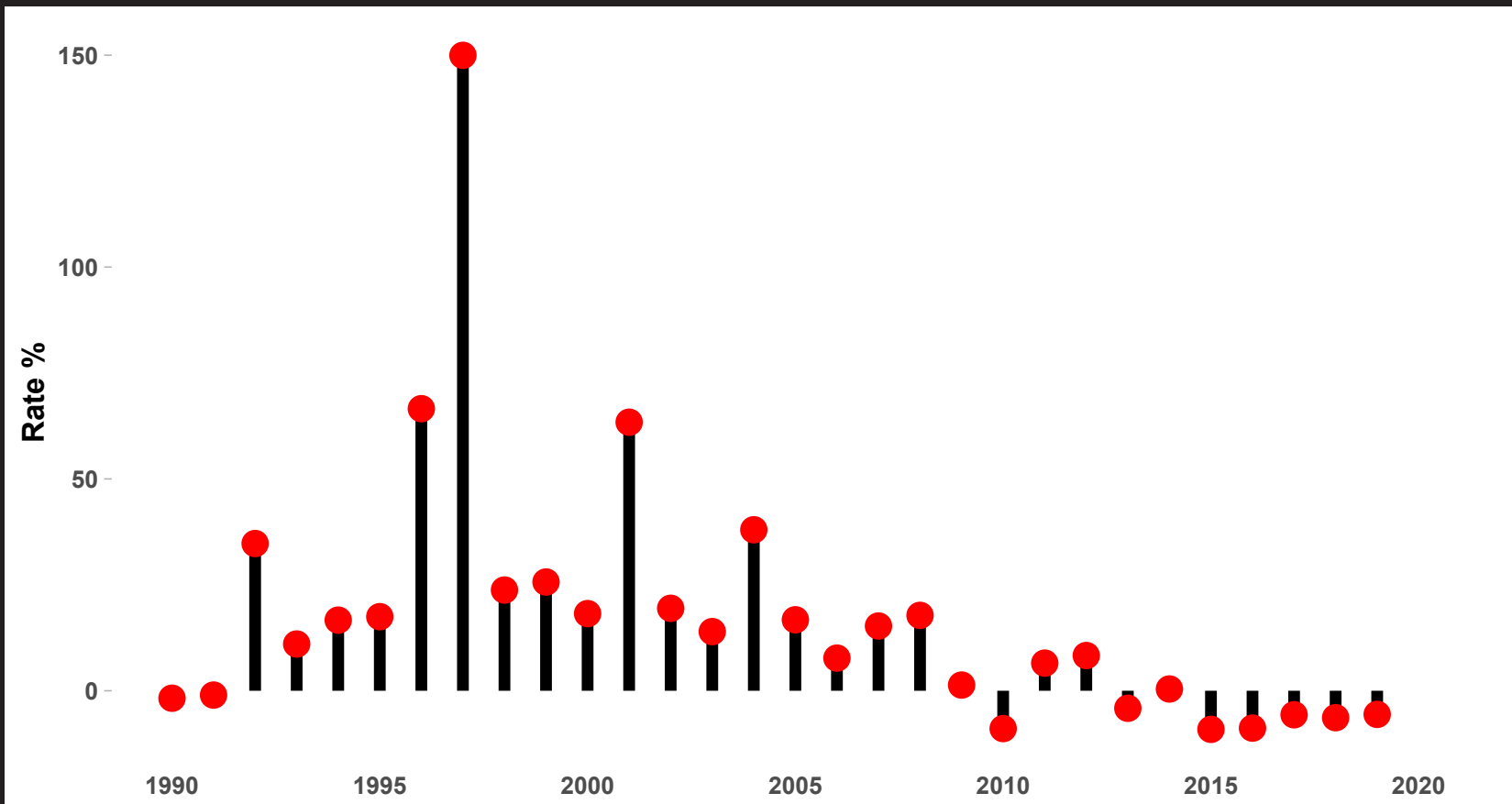


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Citizens for Innovation

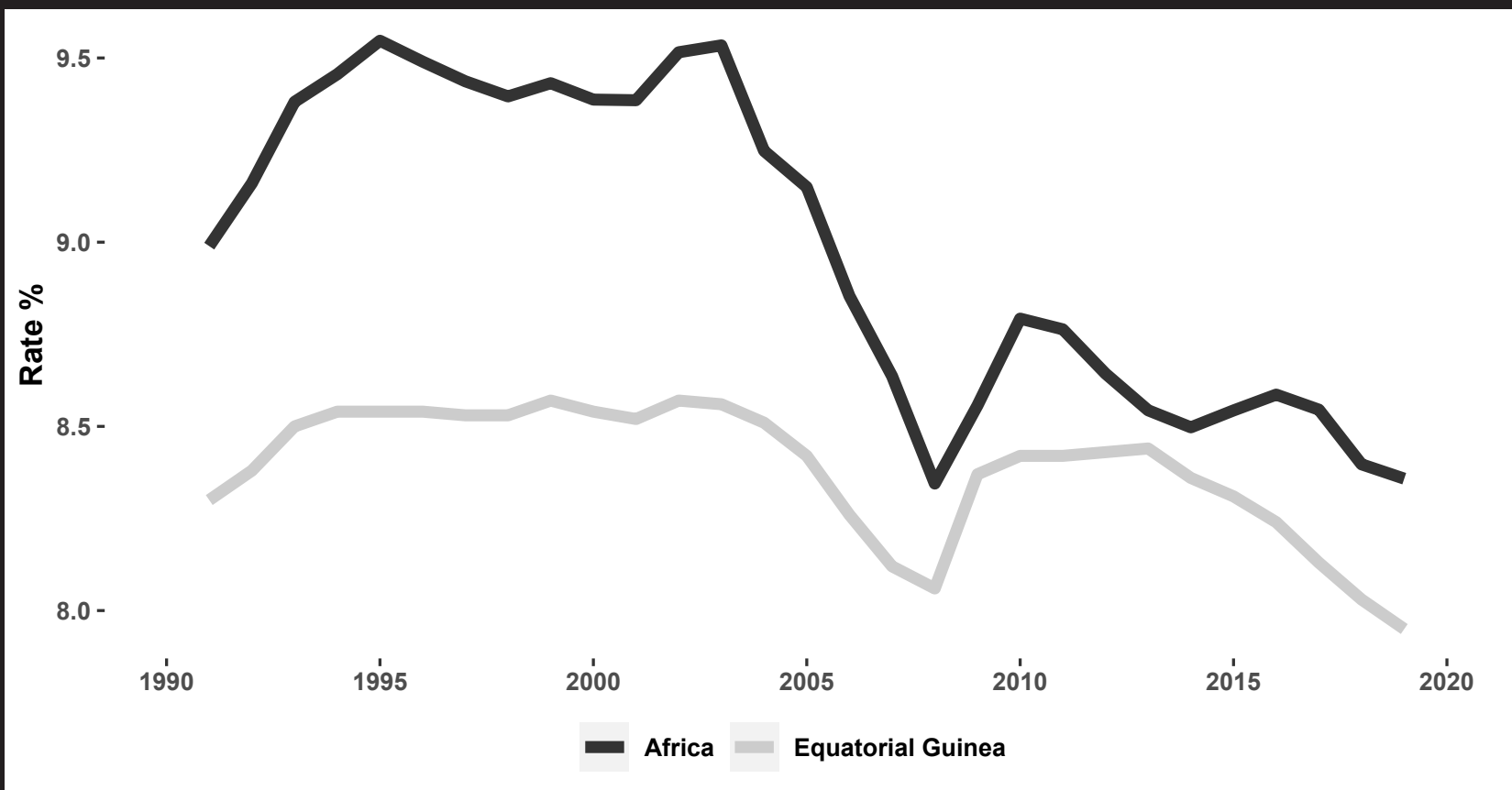
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



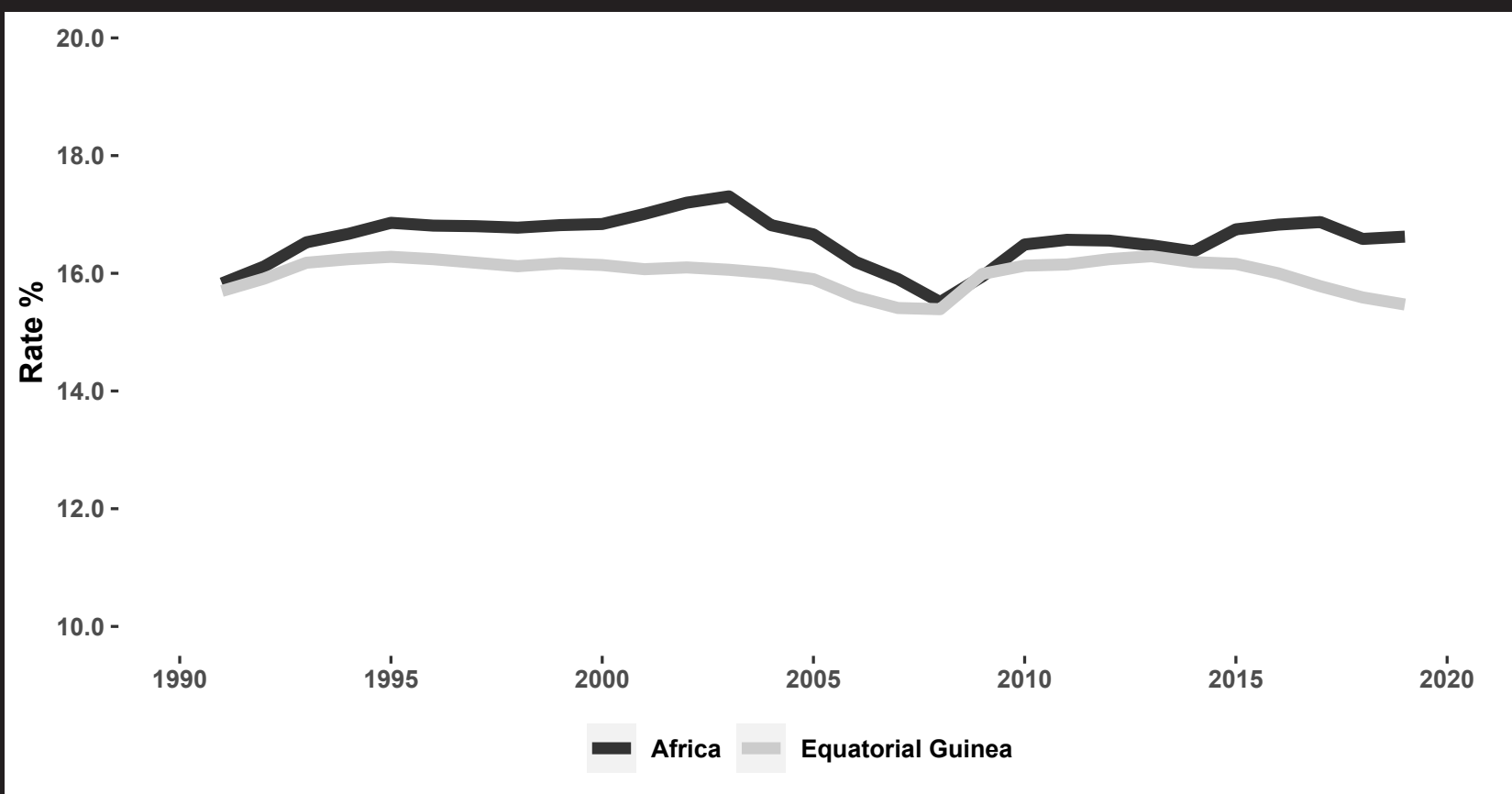
Equatorial Guinea is one of the world’s countries most reliant on oil production. The result has been extremely erratic economic patterns of growth over the past 30 years. In 1997, Equatorial Guinea’s economy grew by nearly 150%, one of the highest annual economic growth rates in recorded history.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



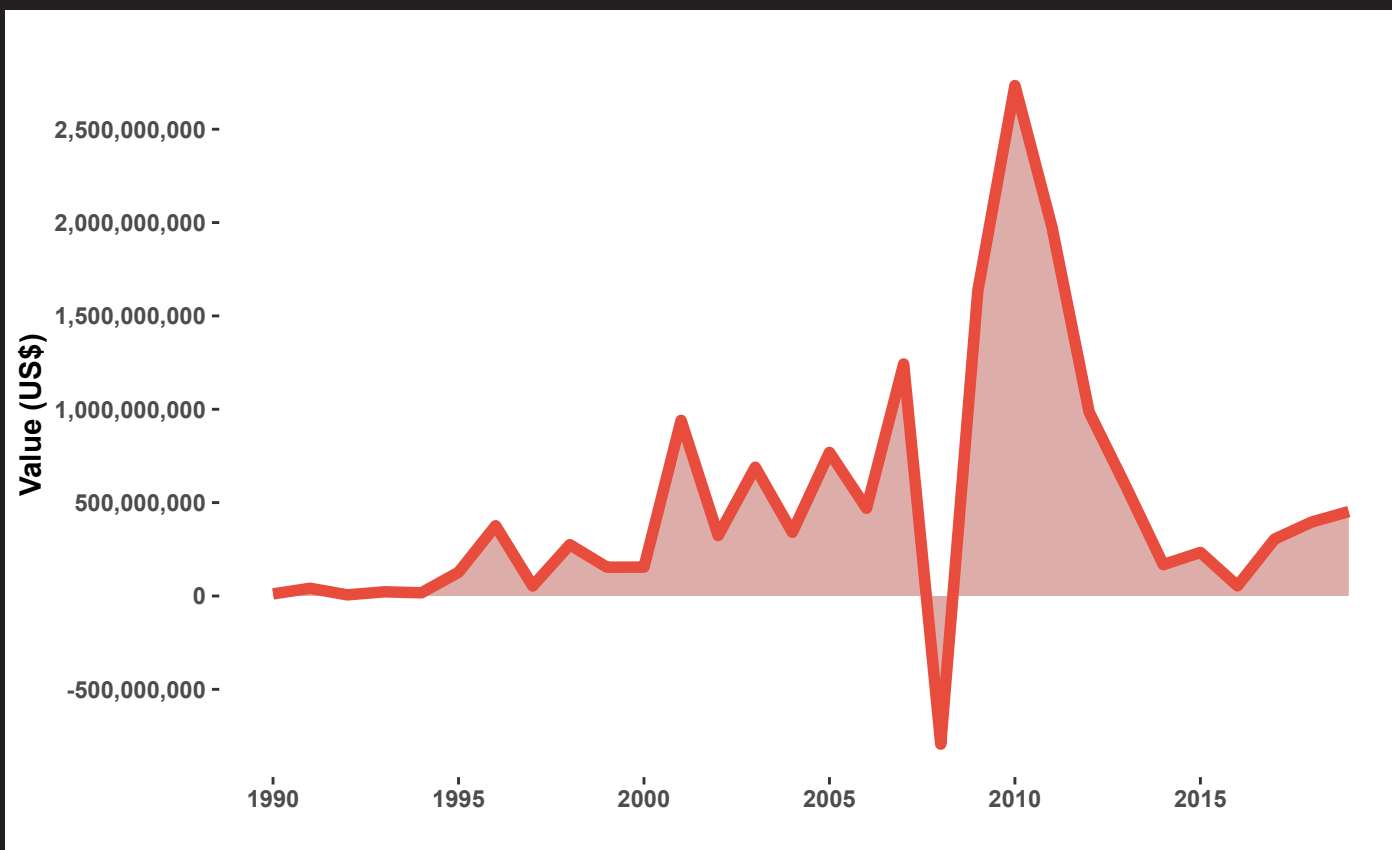
Equatorial Guinea’s unemployment rate has tracked very closely to the African average throughout the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Equatorial Guinea’s youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rate has tracked very closely to the African average throughout the past 30 years.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



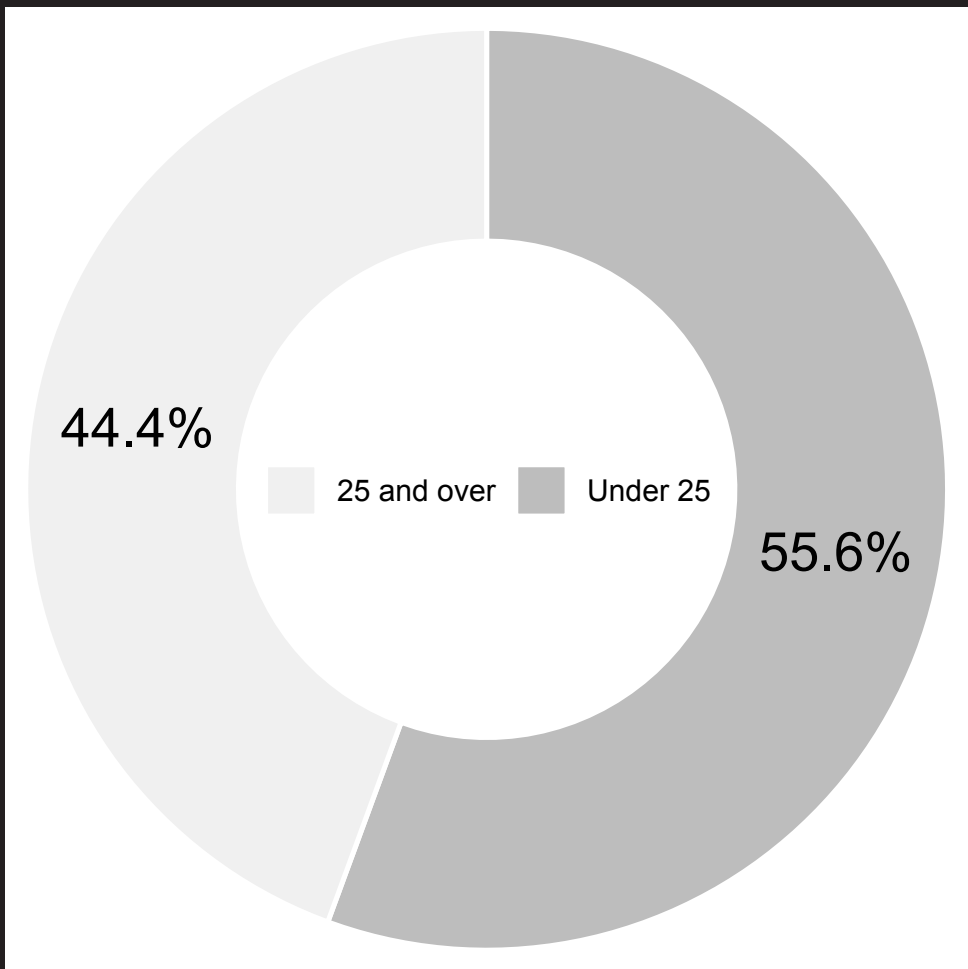
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$452.3 million

The inflow of FDI in Equatorial Guinea has also been erratic in recent years, with the amount often fluctuating in relation to the state of the oil industry.

DEMOGRAPHICS

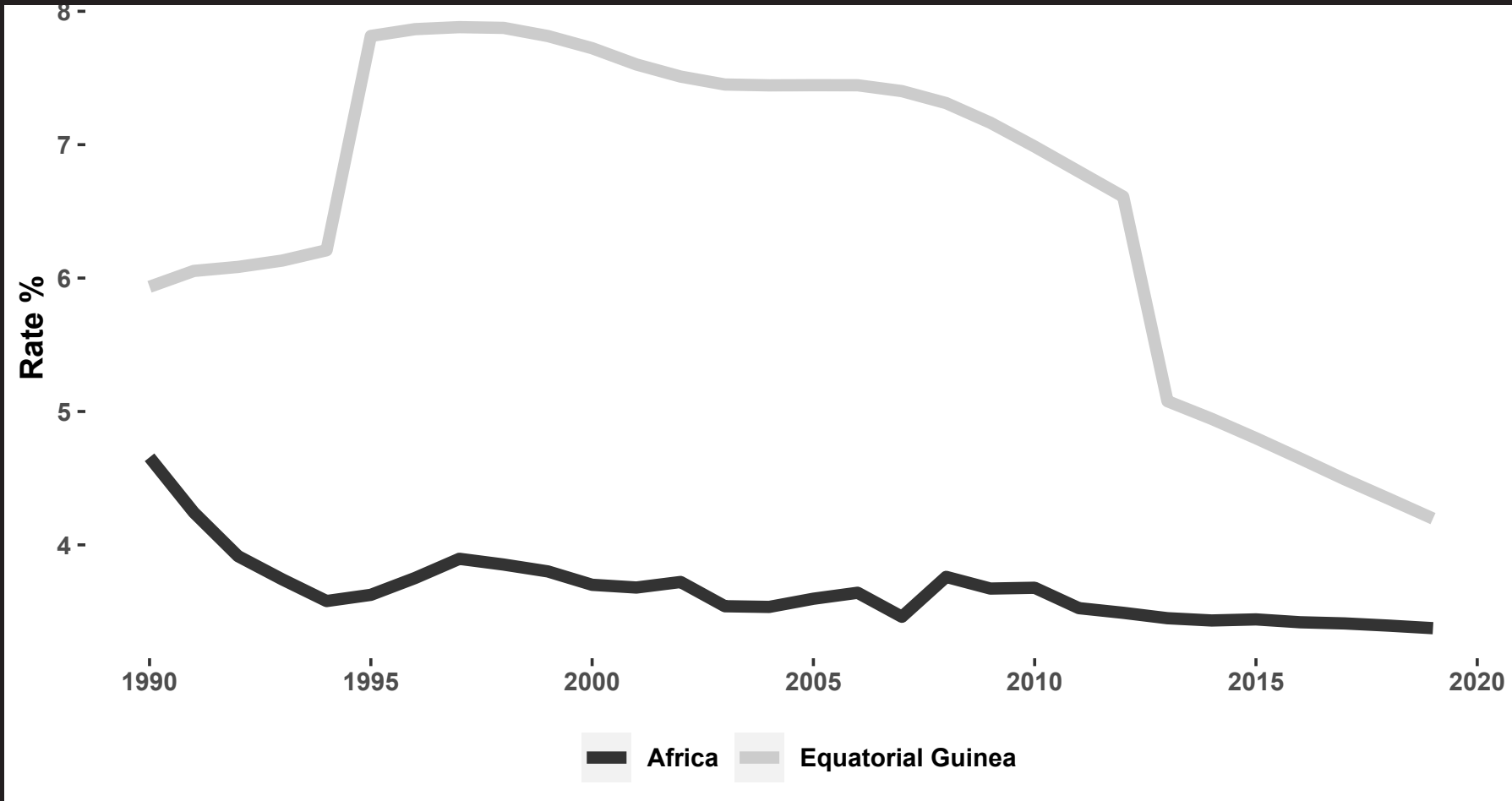
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



1.36 million

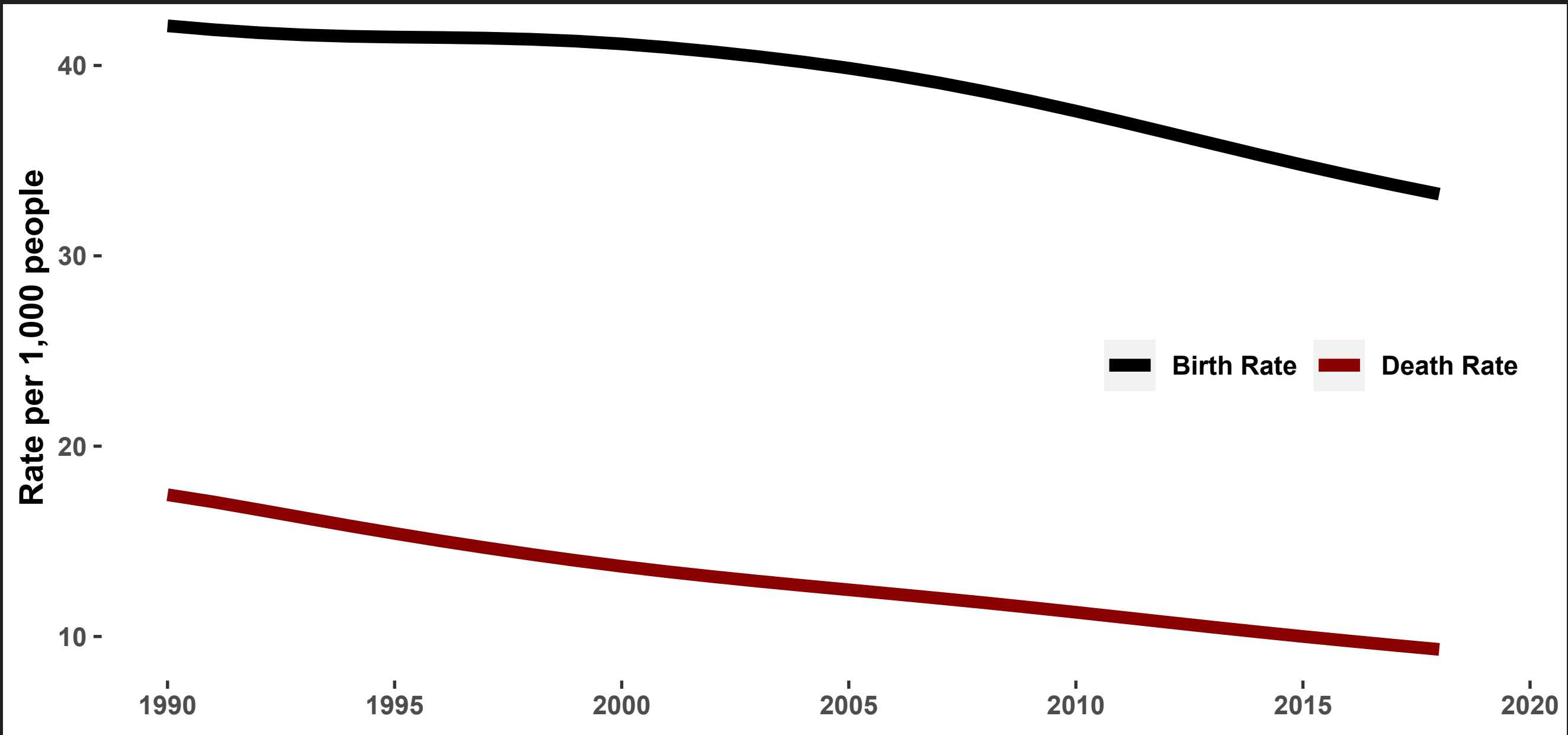
Equatorial Guinea is one of the least populated countries in Africa, but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Equatorial Guinea has experienced a slowdown in urbanisation in recent years (since 2010), its rate of urbanisation is still faster than the continental average.

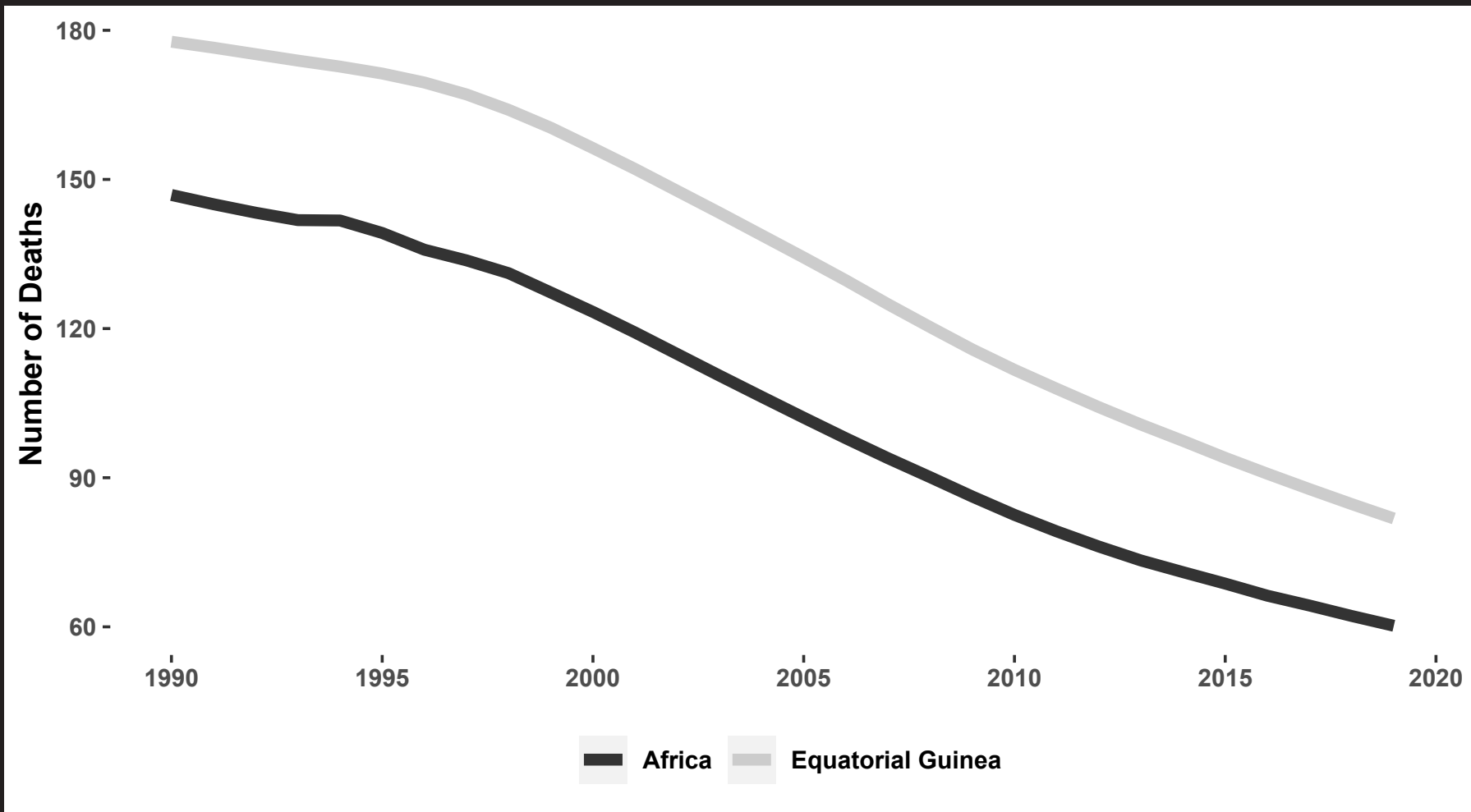
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Equatorial Guinea has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

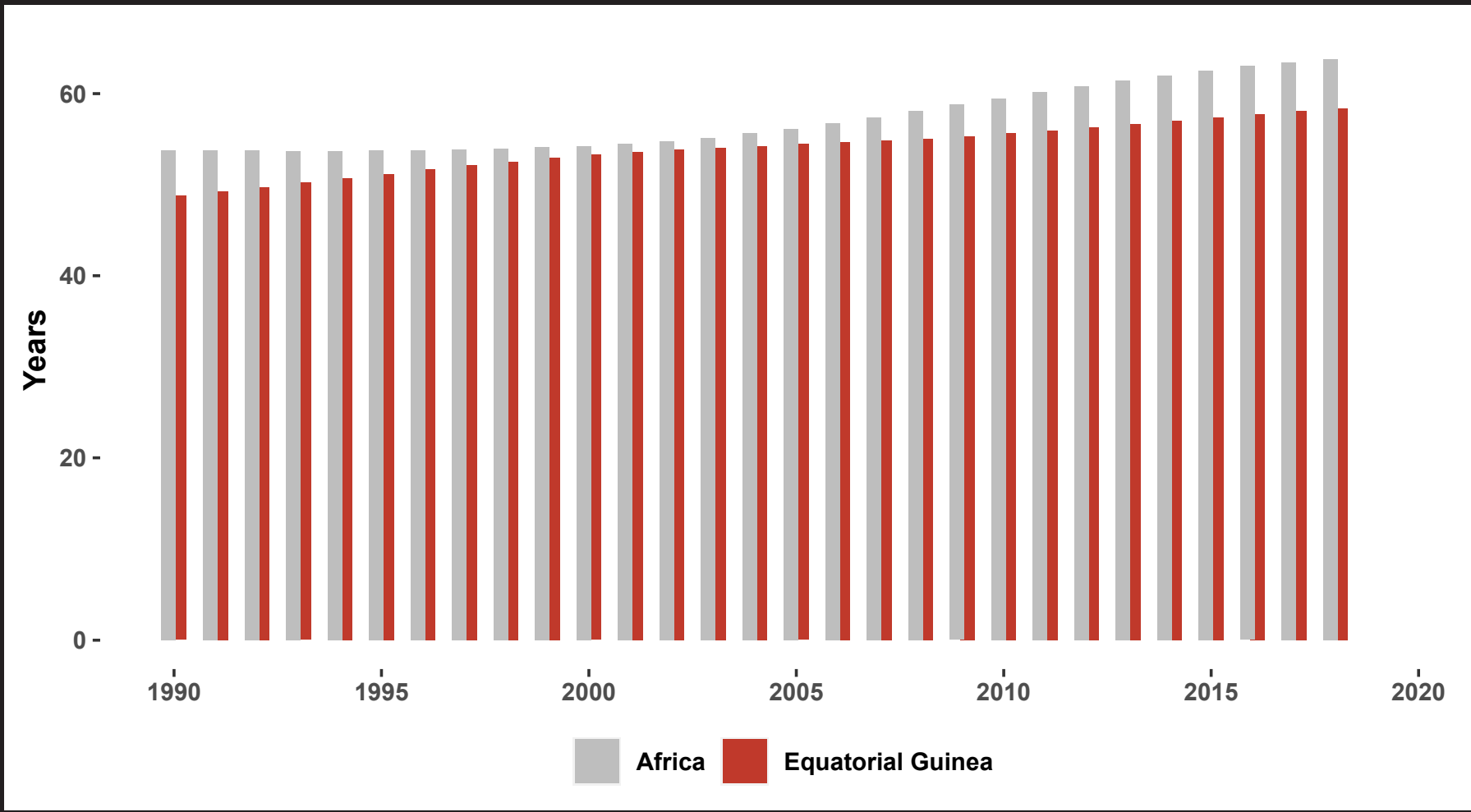
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



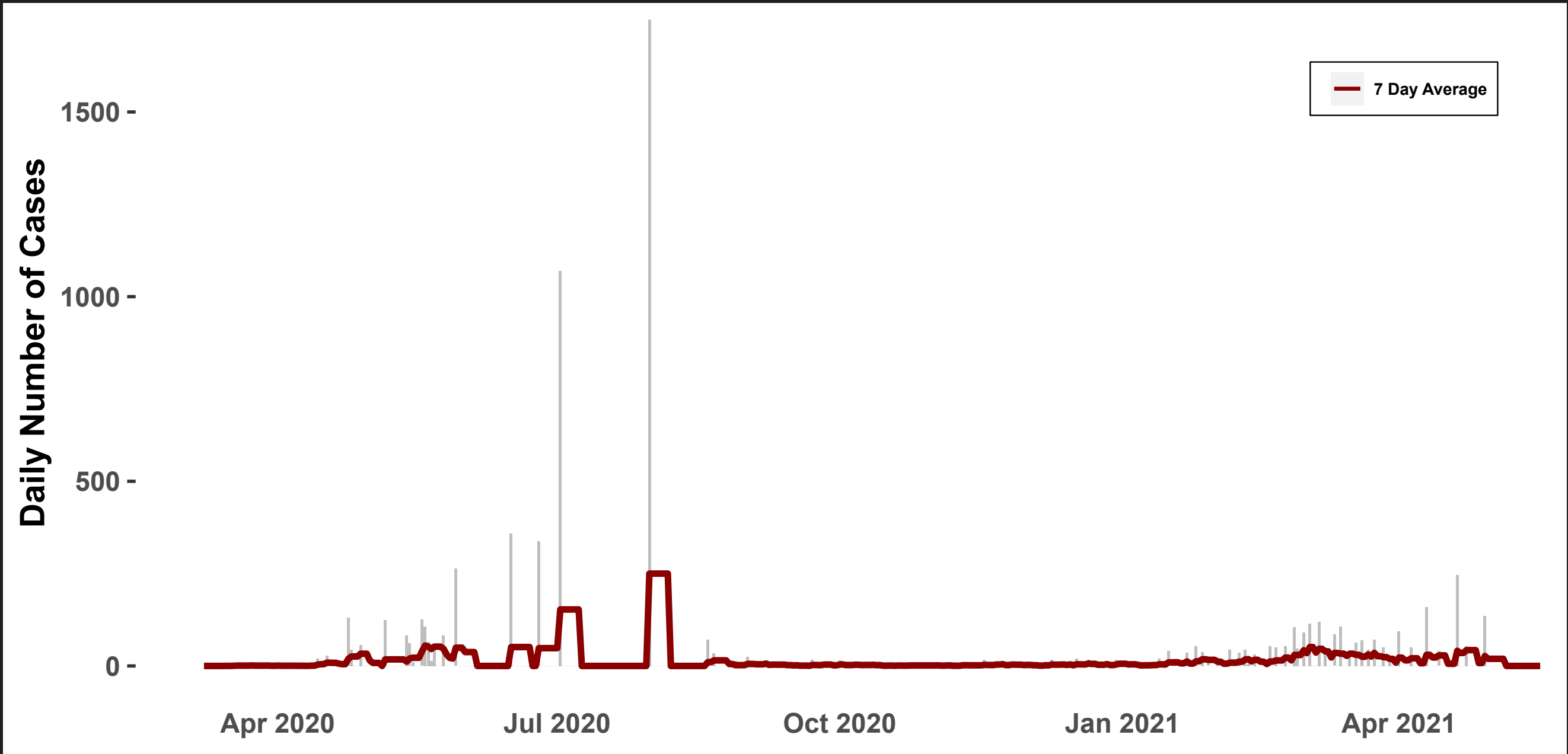
Although Equatorial Guinea’s child mortality rate is higher than the African average, it has experienced rapid declines in child mortality – especially since 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Equatorial Guinea has steadily increased over the past three decades, but is still lower than the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Equatorial Guinea hasn’t experienced any true Covid-19 waves.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wapster on Flickr.com



Equatorial Guinea boasts the highest adult literacy rate in sub-Saharan Africa, with an average literacy rate of 95%, according to UNESCO.

Embassy of Equatorial Guinea on Flickr.com



Considered one of Africa's richest countries, Equatorial Guinea is home to huge minerals and oil reserves. However, the country's elites pocket most of the profits.

Pablo Manriquez on Flickr.com



Equatorial Guinea is the only African nation to have Spanish as an official language.



ERITREA

Eritrea is in eastern Africa in the Horn of Africa, bordered by Ethiopia, Sudan and Djibouti. The north-eastern and eastern parts of Eritrea have an extensive coastline along the Red Sea. Eritrea is a multi-ethnic country, with most people adhering to Christianity or Islam. It is a former Italian colony, which became part of a federation with Ethiopia in 1947. In 1952 Ethiopia annexed Eritrea, until 1993 when Eritrea became independent. The country retained the Ethiopian currency, the Birr, after independence. Mining and oil industries are key elements in Eritrea’s economy, although a large share of the population – nearly 80% – is engaged in subsistence agriculture.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Isaias Afwerki



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Asmara

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

180

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

9



MAIN LANGUAGES

Tigrinya, Tigre, Afar, Beja, Bilen, Kunama, Nara and Saho

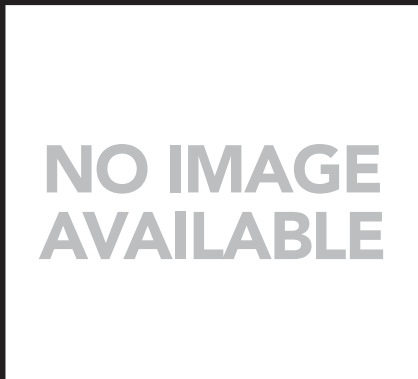
UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



There have not been national elections since independence in 1993

SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary one-party republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

People's Front for Democracy and Justice

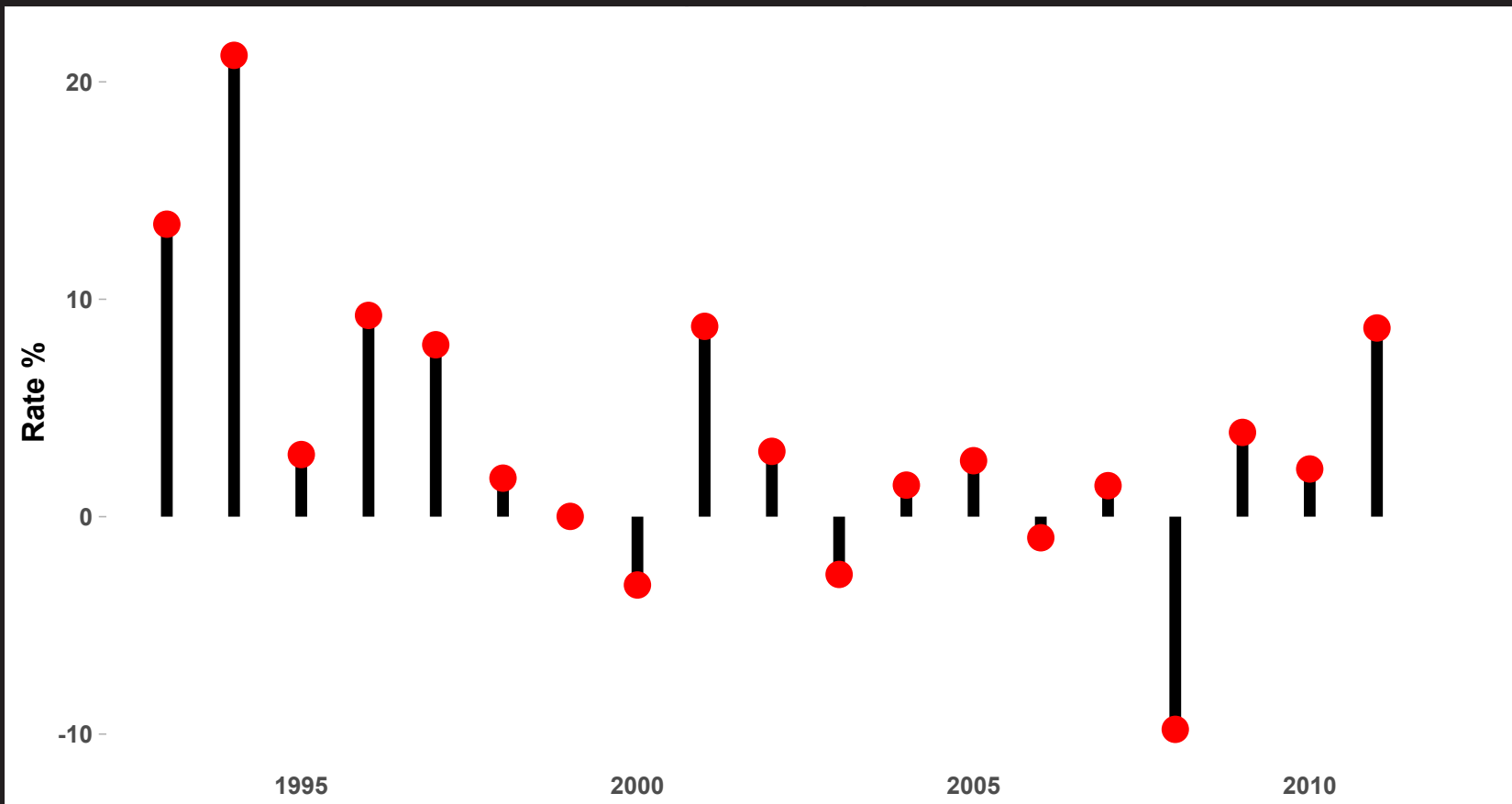


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Eritrean National Salvation Front (illegal)

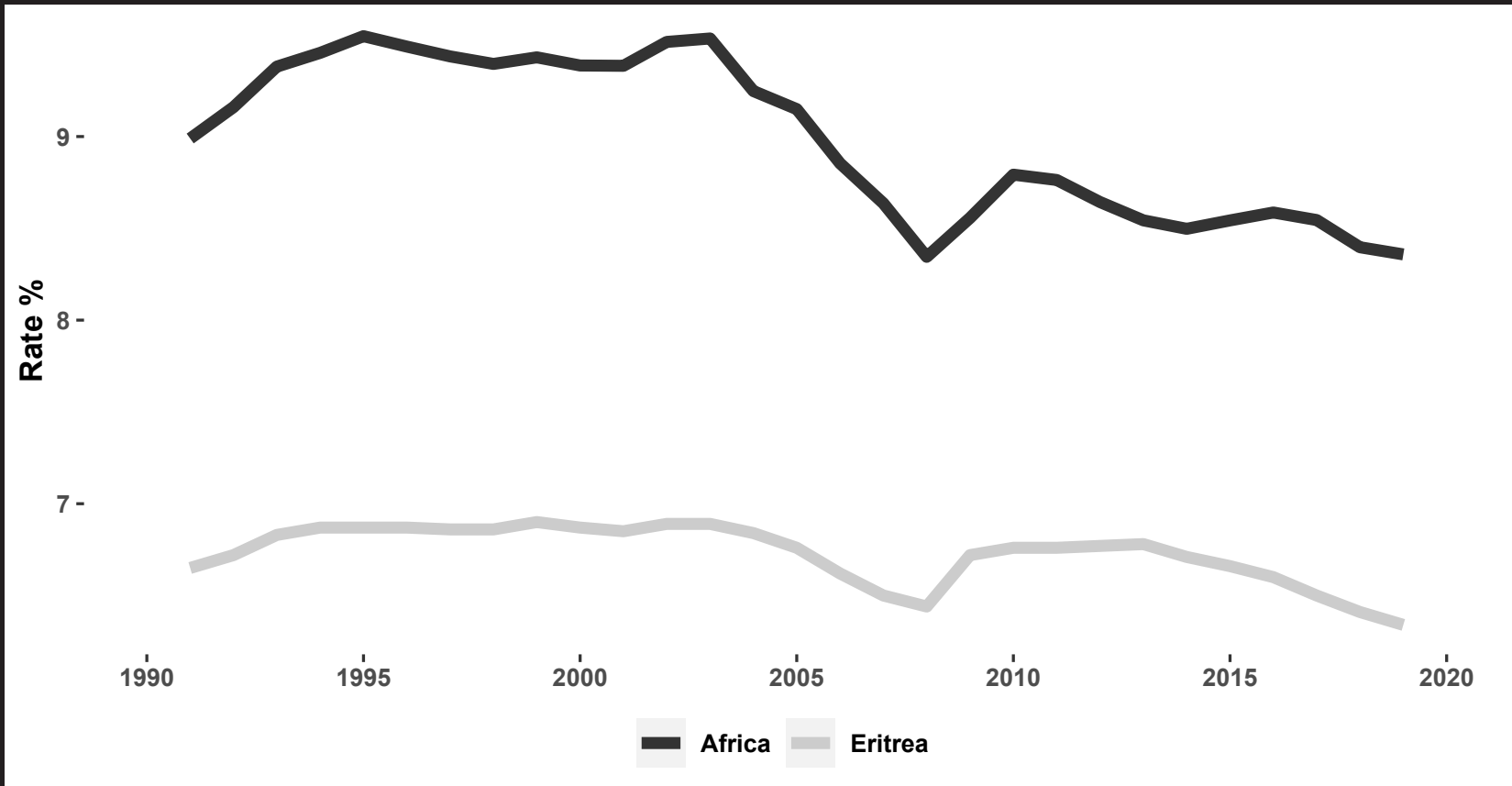
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



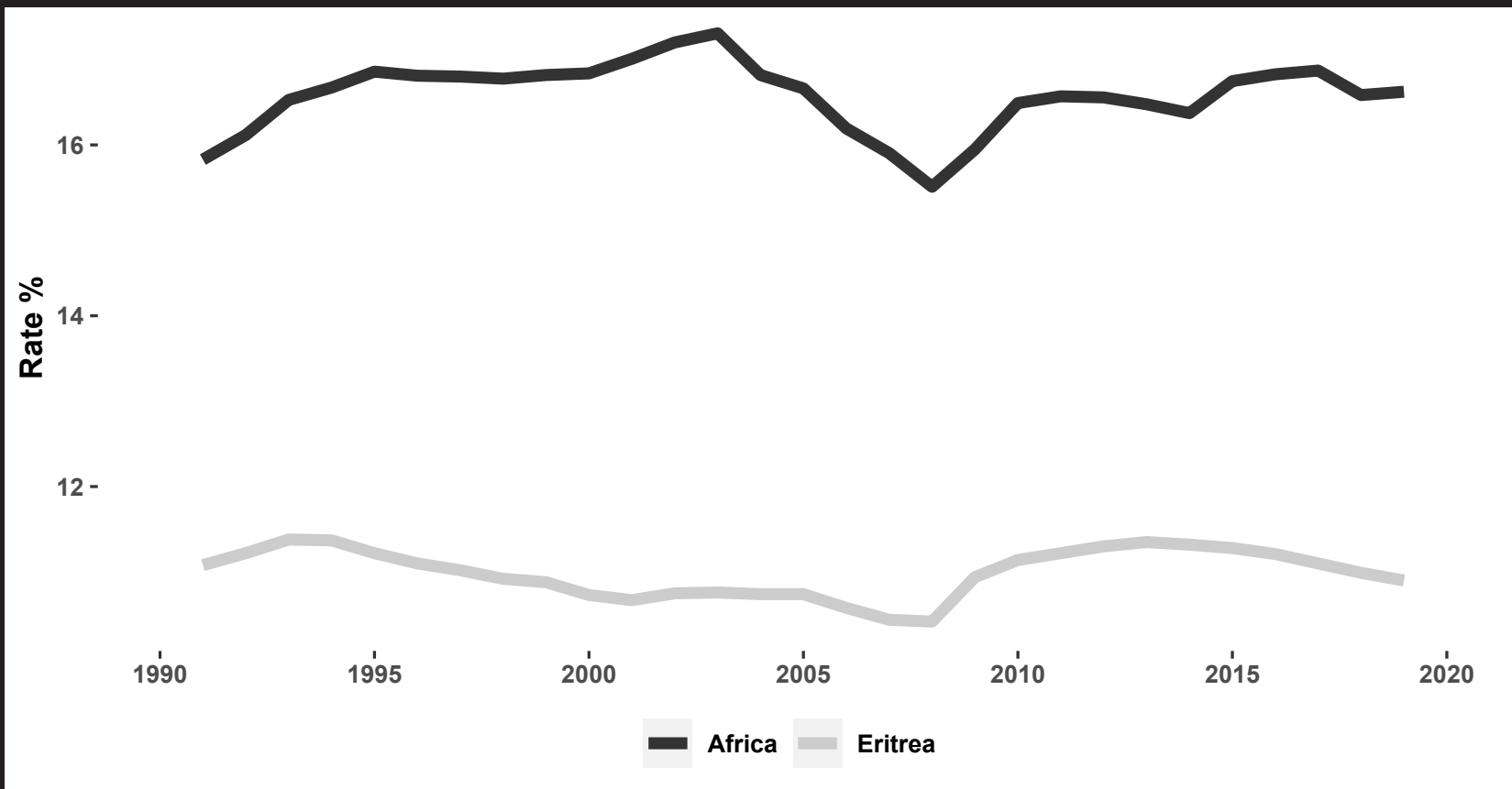
Between 1993 and 2011 Eritrea experienced erratic economic growth. Since 2011, however, there has been no GDP data available.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



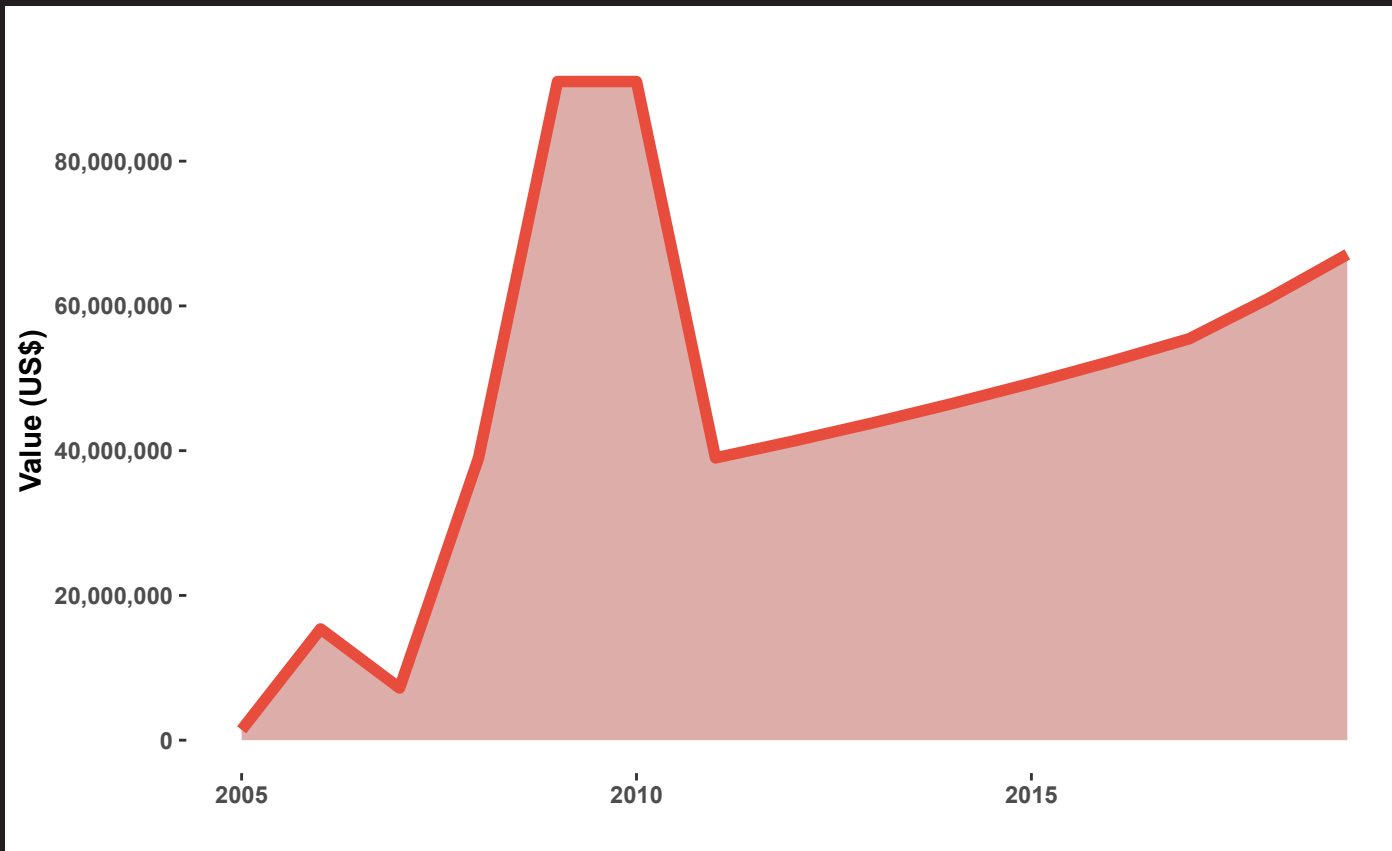
Eritrea has had an unemployment rate consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



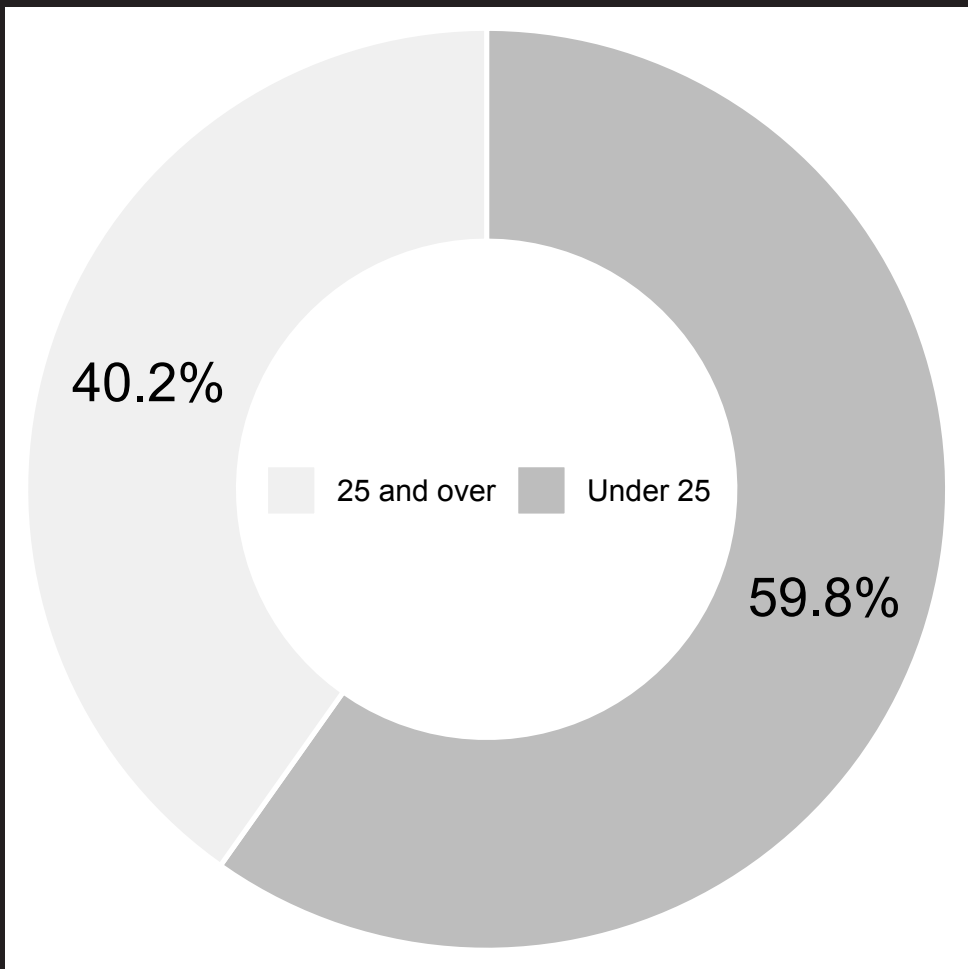
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$67.2 million

Over the last decade Eritrea has had FDI inflows that have consistently ranged between US\$ 40 million and US\$ 100 million.

DEMOGRAPHICS

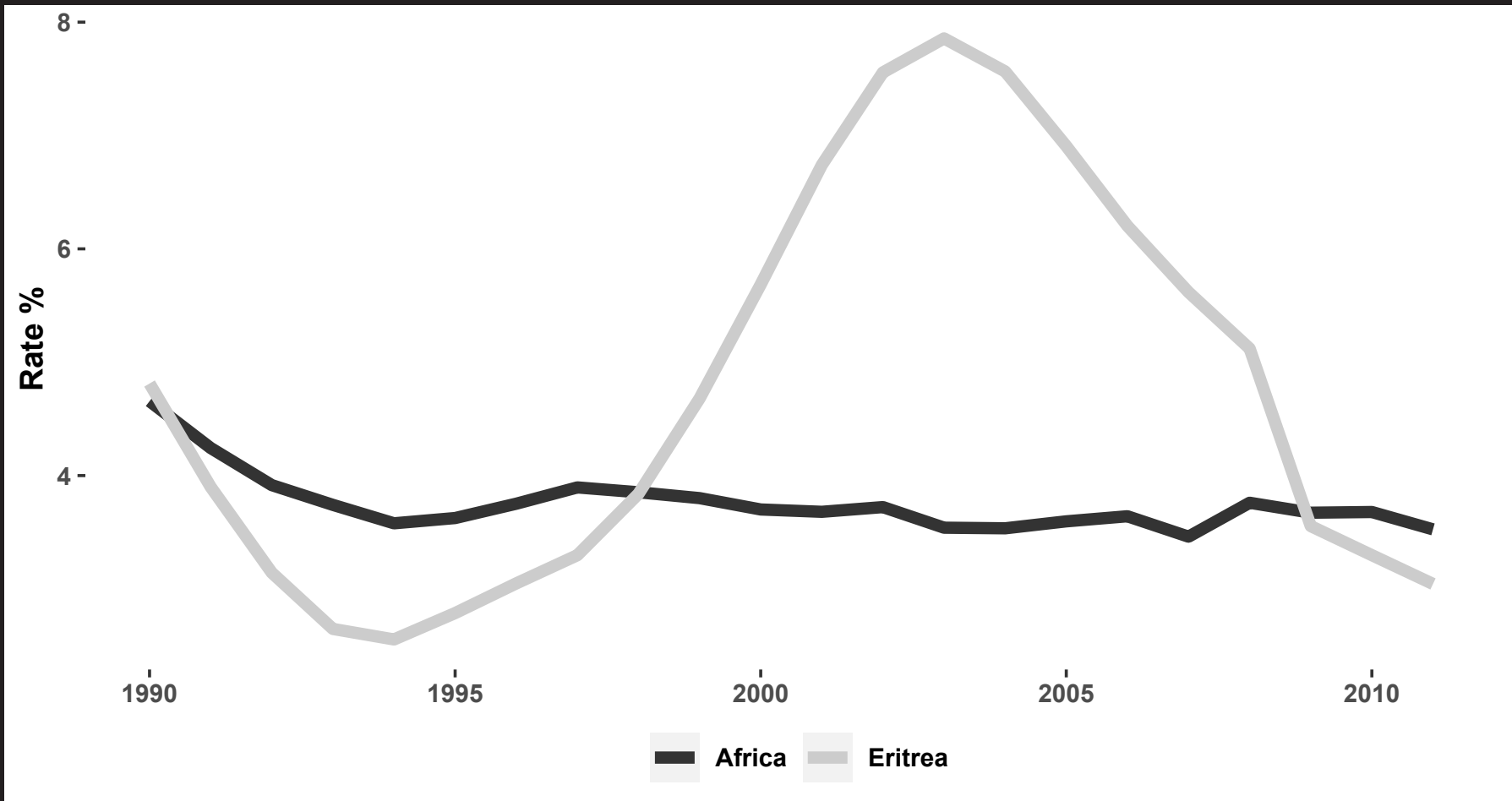
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



3.5 million

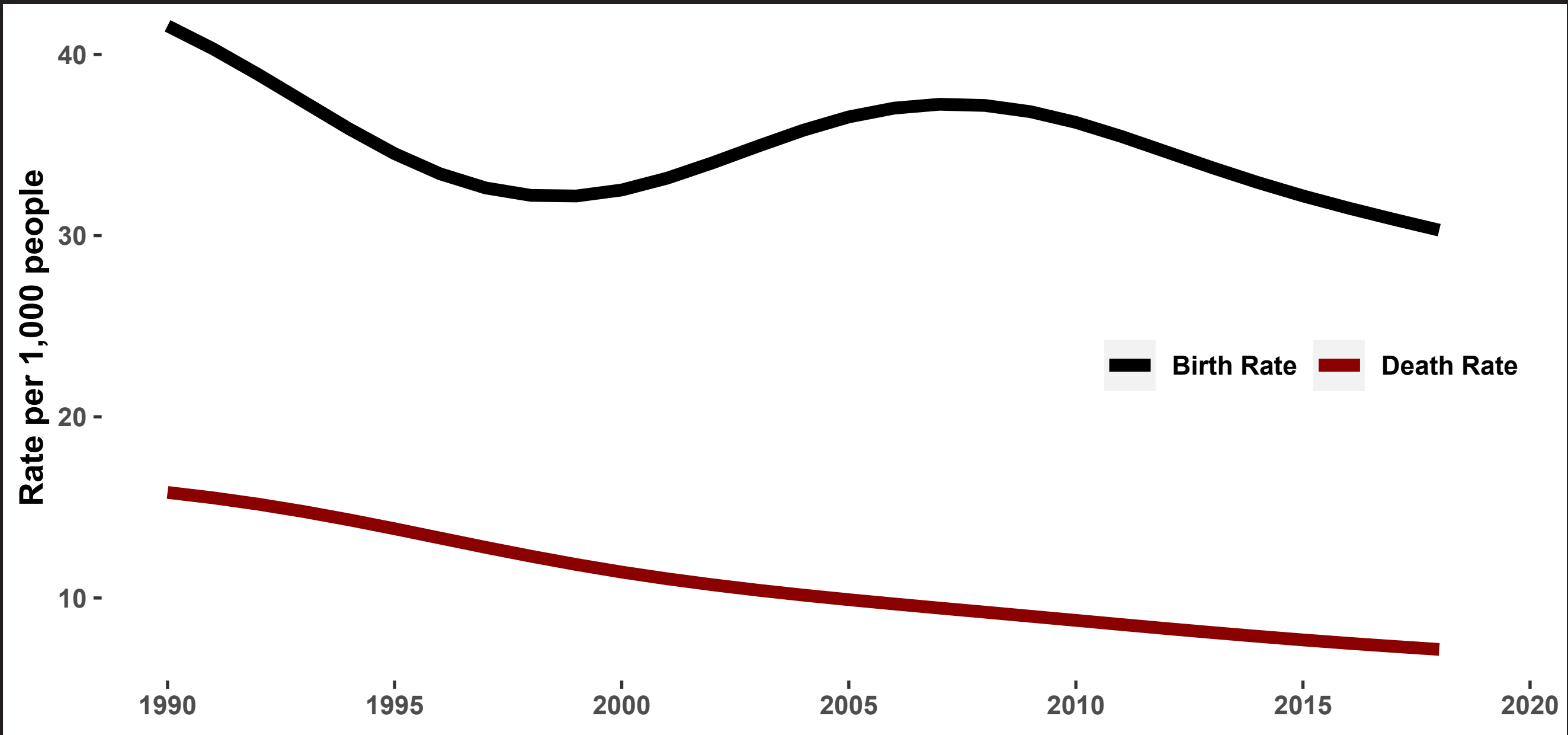
In line with continental trends, the majority of Eritrea’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Between 1993 and 2011 Eritrea experienced fluctuating urbanisation rates. However, since 2011 there has been no urbanisation data available.

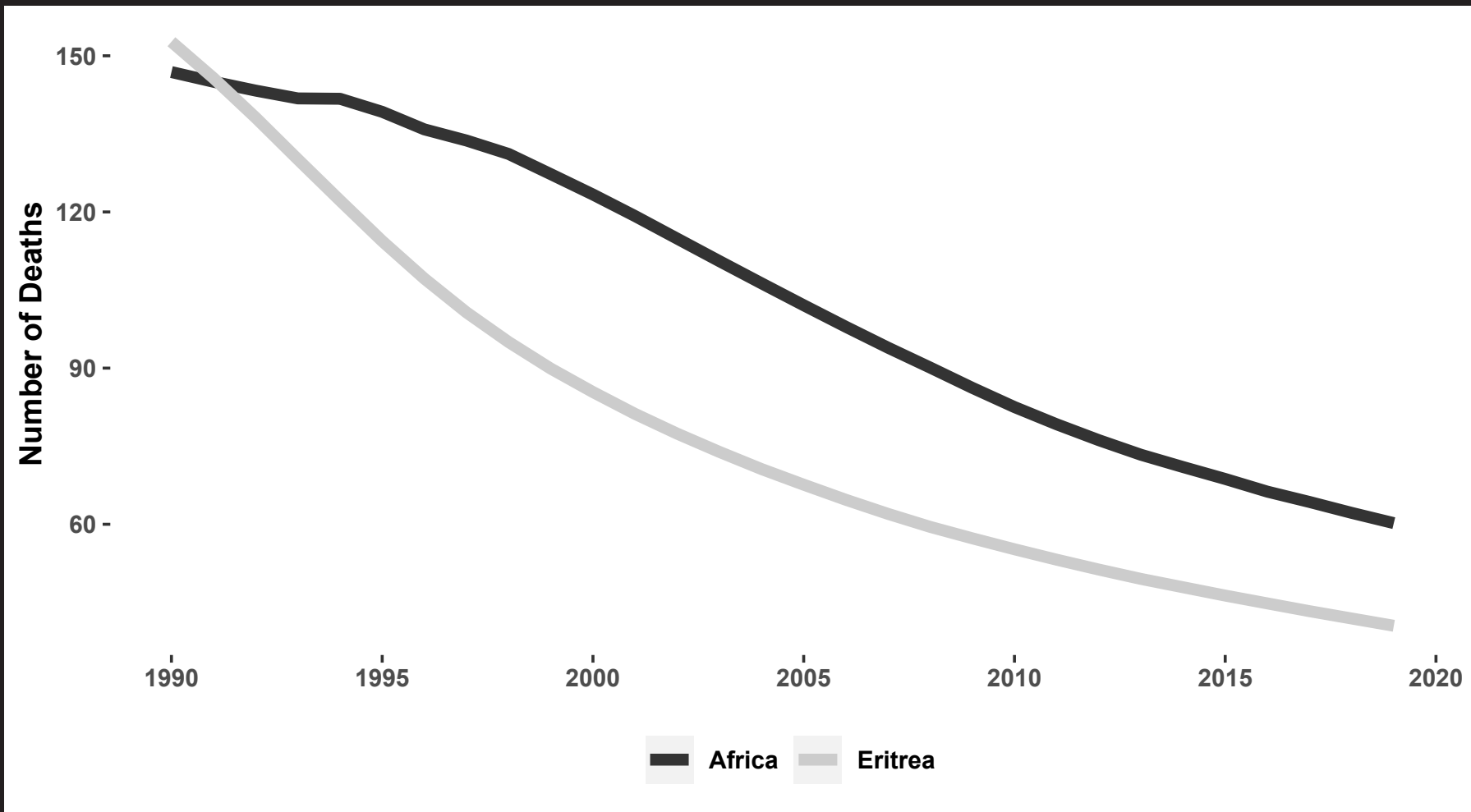
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Eritrea’s death rate has steadily declined since 1990. This, coupled with a fluctuating birth rate, has contributed to consistent population growth.

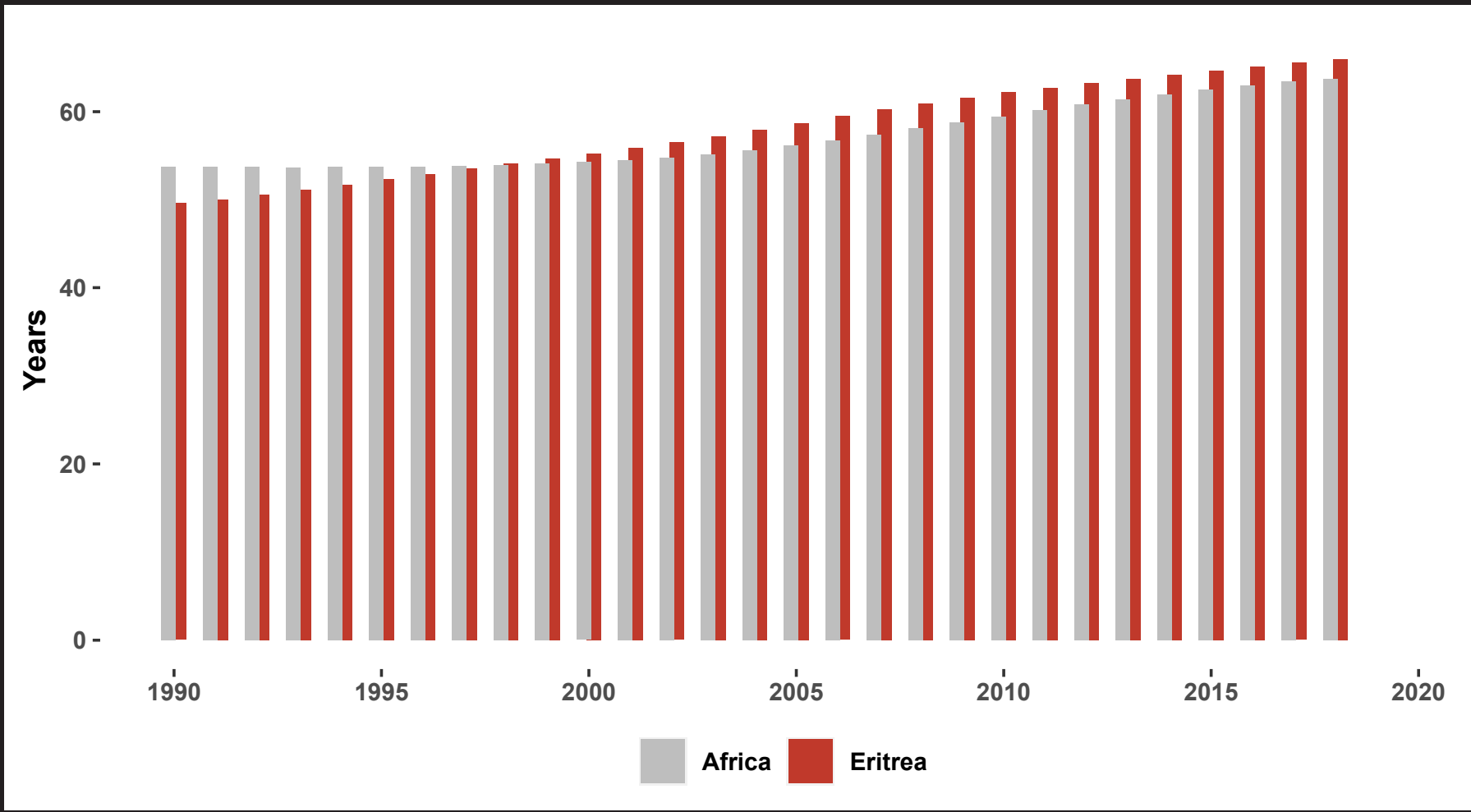
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



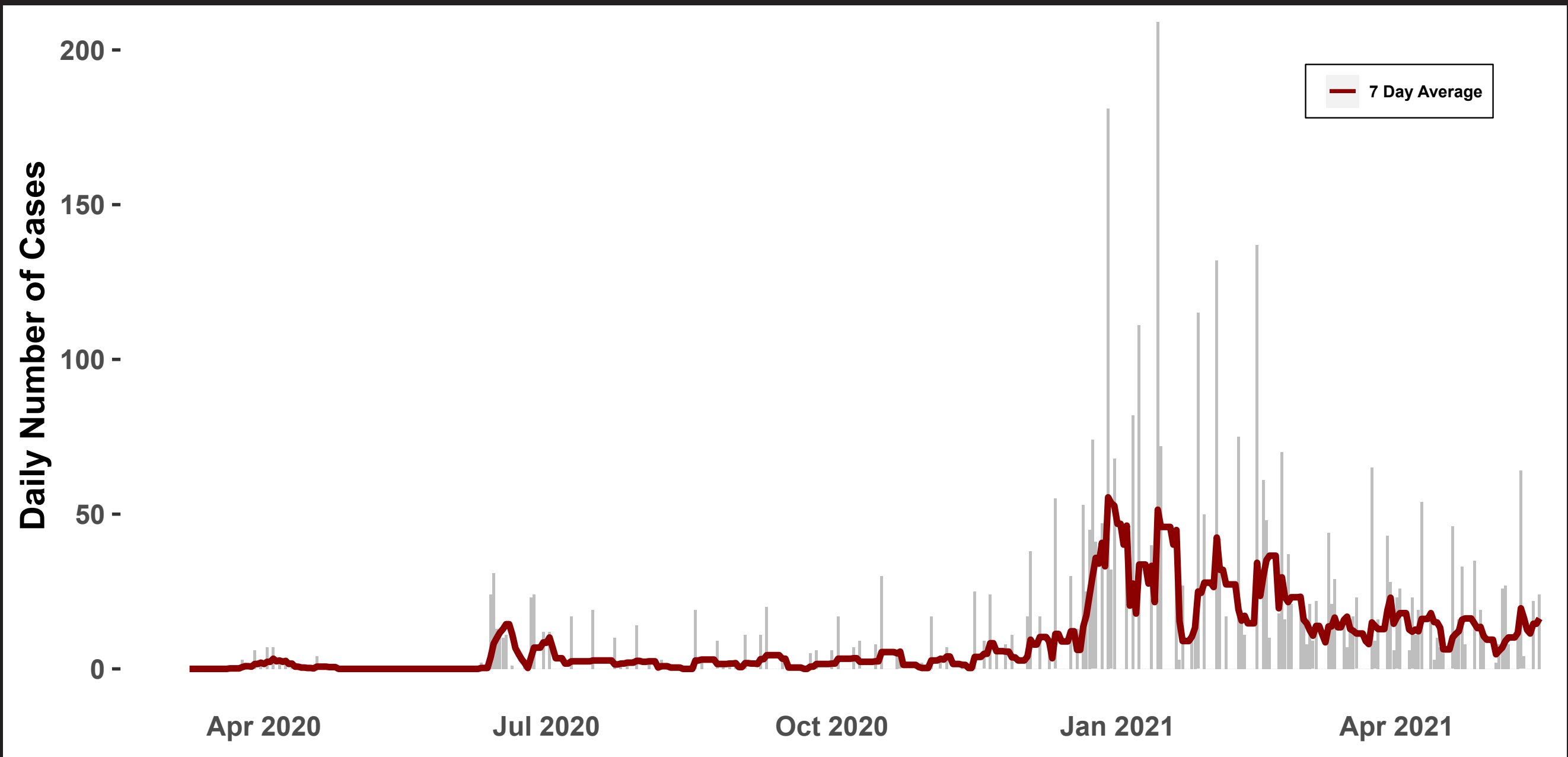
Eritrea’s child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Eritrea has been increasing at a faster rate relative to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Eritrea hasn’t experienced any true Covid-19 waves.

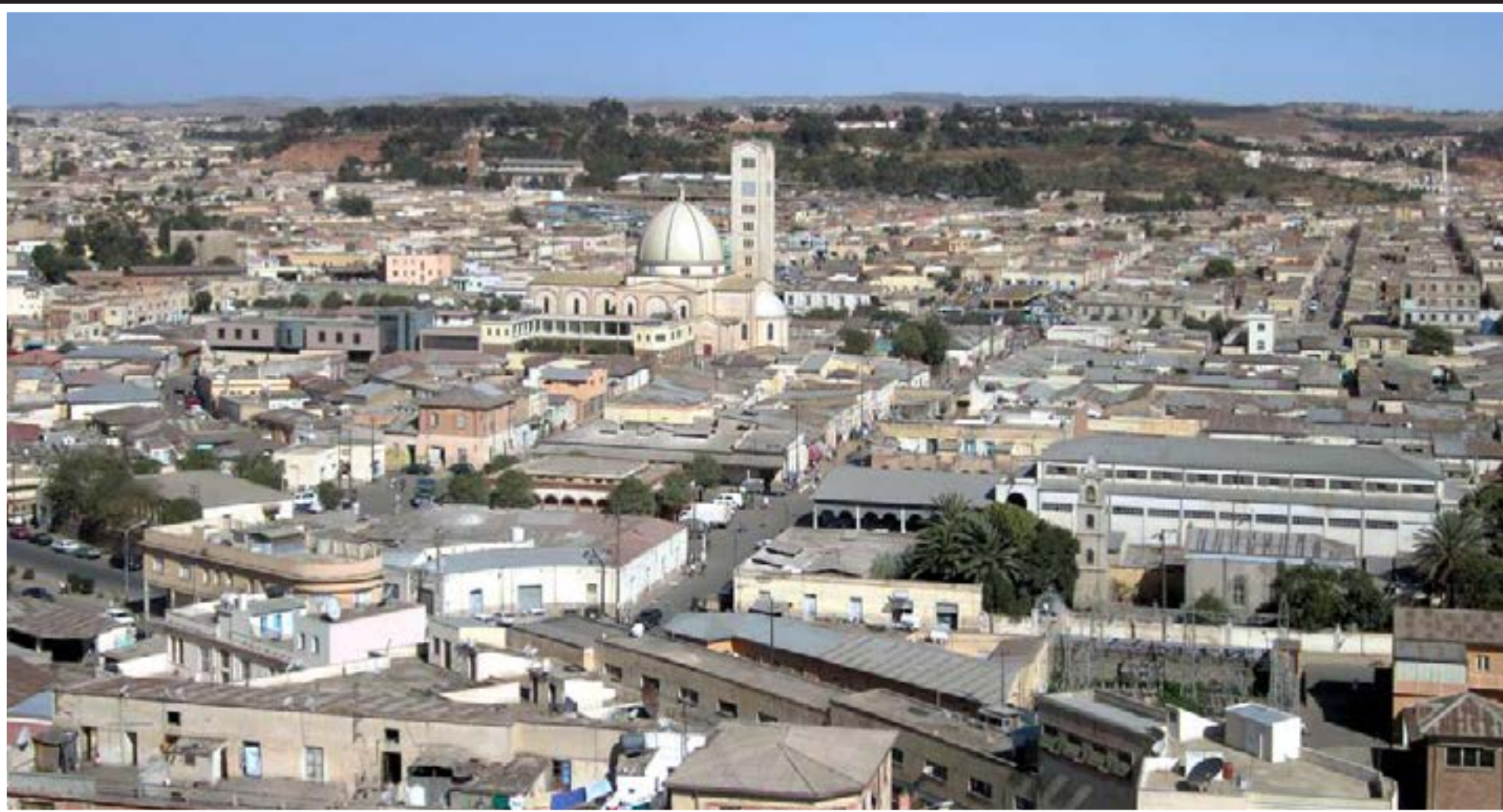
DID YOU KNOW?

Charles Roffey on Flickr.com



Eritrea is the most censored country in the world, according to the non-profit, organisation The Committee to Protect Journalists.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Asmara is referred to as “New Rome” because a considerable percentage of the older buildings in Asmara have Italian architecture.

Clay Gilliland on Flickr.com



Eritrea was part of the ancient kingdom of Aksum, an ancient territory that, at its peak, also included northern Ethiopia, much of eastern Sudan and southern Yemen. The kingdom existed between 100AD and 940AD.



eSWATINI

eSwatini, officially the Kingdom of eSwatini (and still commonly known in English as Swaziland) is a landlocked country in southern Africa. It is bordered by Mozambique and South Africa. In 1903, after the British victory in the Second Boer War, eSwatini became a British protectorate known as the Swaziland Protectorate. Much of its early administration was carried out from South Africa, until 1906 when the Transvaal colony was granted self-government. Swaziland was a protected state until independence in 1968. eSwatini is one of the smallest countries in Africa; despite this, its climate and topography are diverse, ranging from a cool and mountainous highveld to a hot and dry lowveld. eSwatini borders the Kruger National Park, and many of the park’s animals can be seen in its wildlife reserves. The official currency is the Swazi lilangeni.

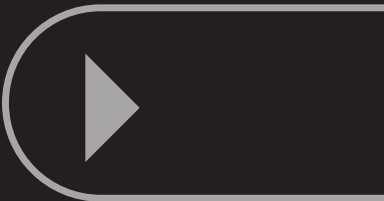
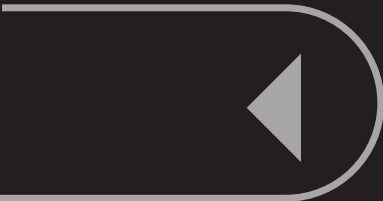
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



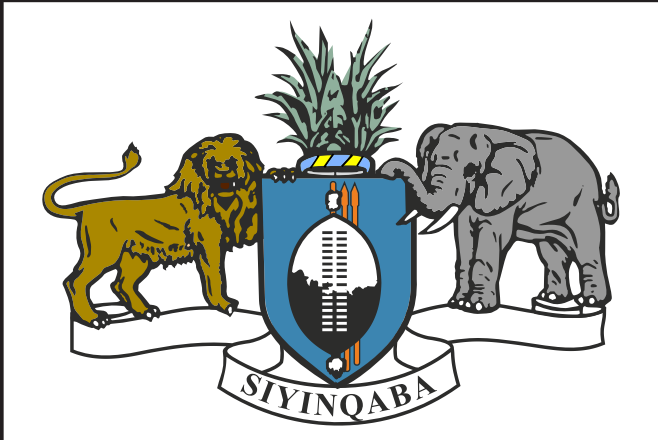
POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



MONARCH
King Mswati III



COAT OF ARMS



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku

CAPITAL CITY

Mbabane



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

138

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

8



MAIN LANGUAGES

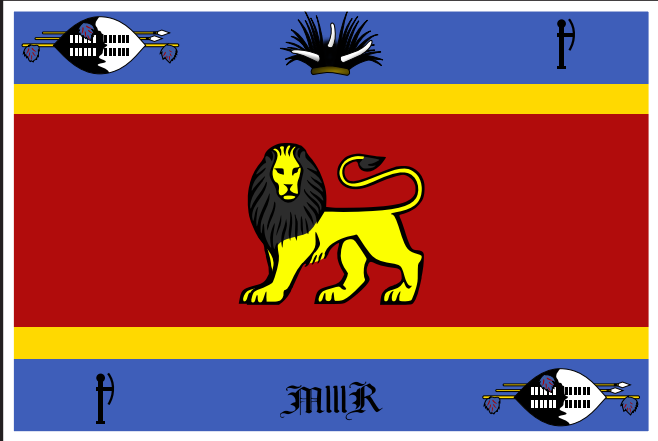
Swati and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary absolute monarchy

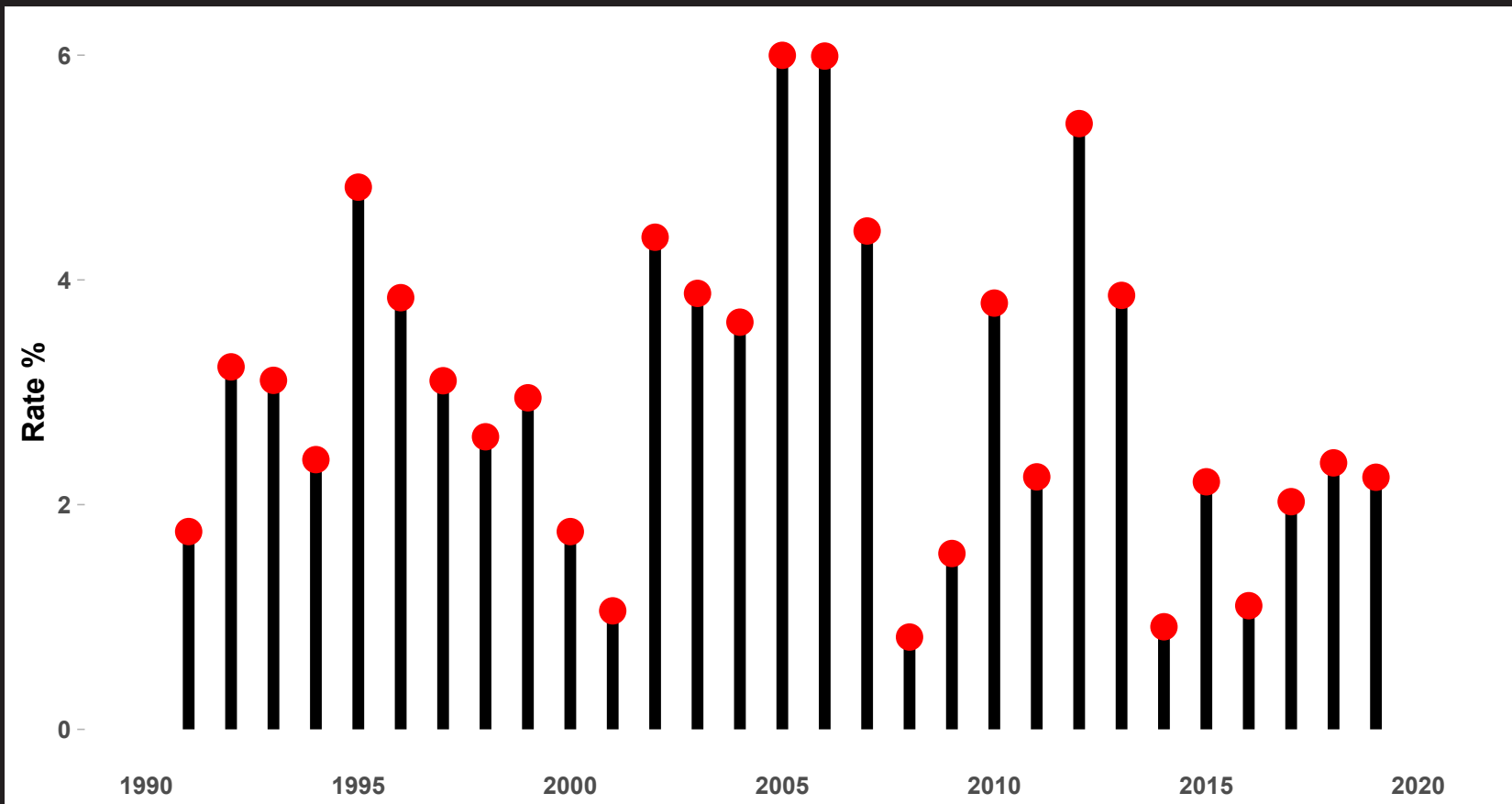


RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Political parties are not mentioned in eSwatini's constitution and are of negligible influence since the country is an absolute monarchy

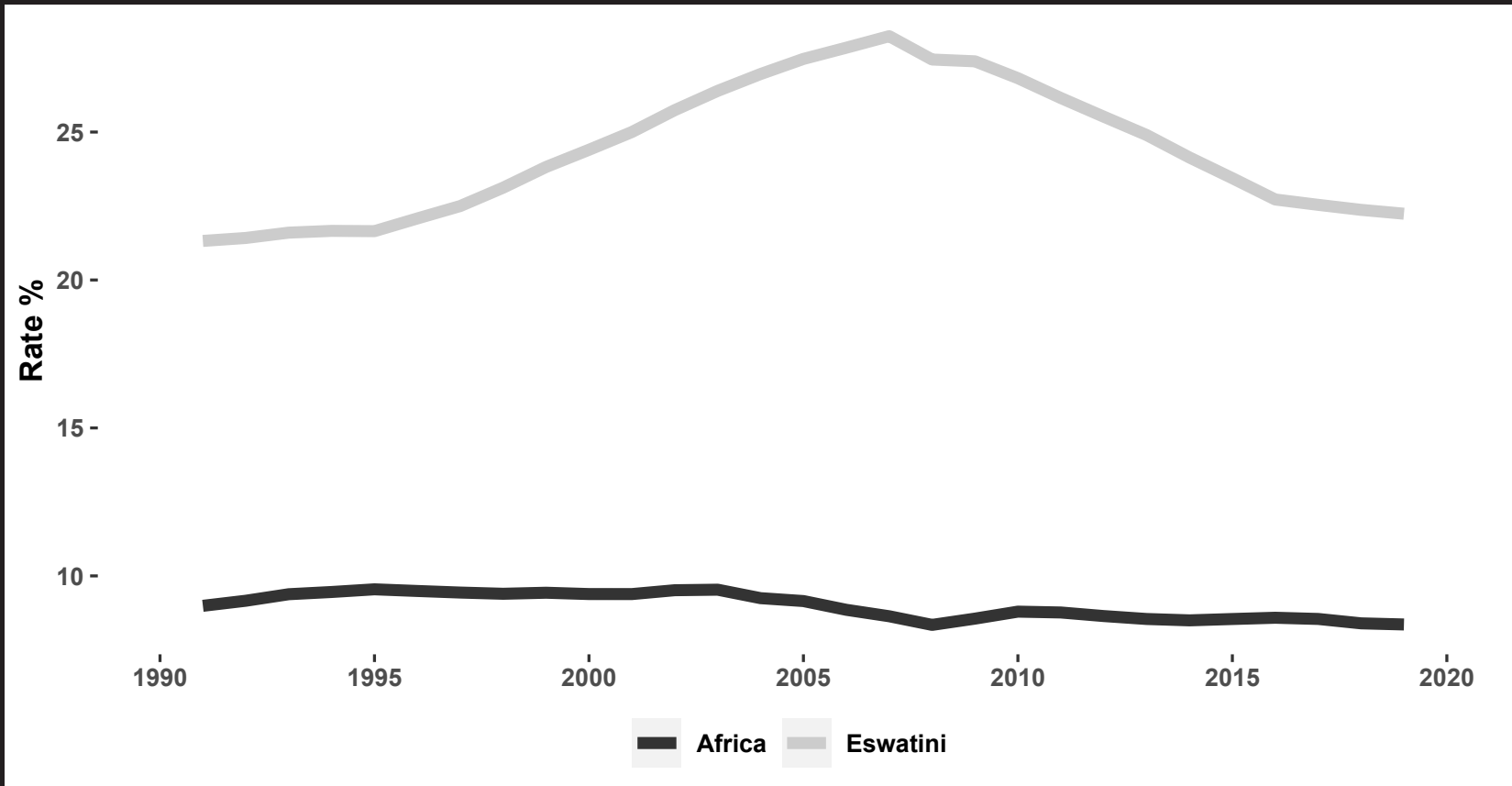
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



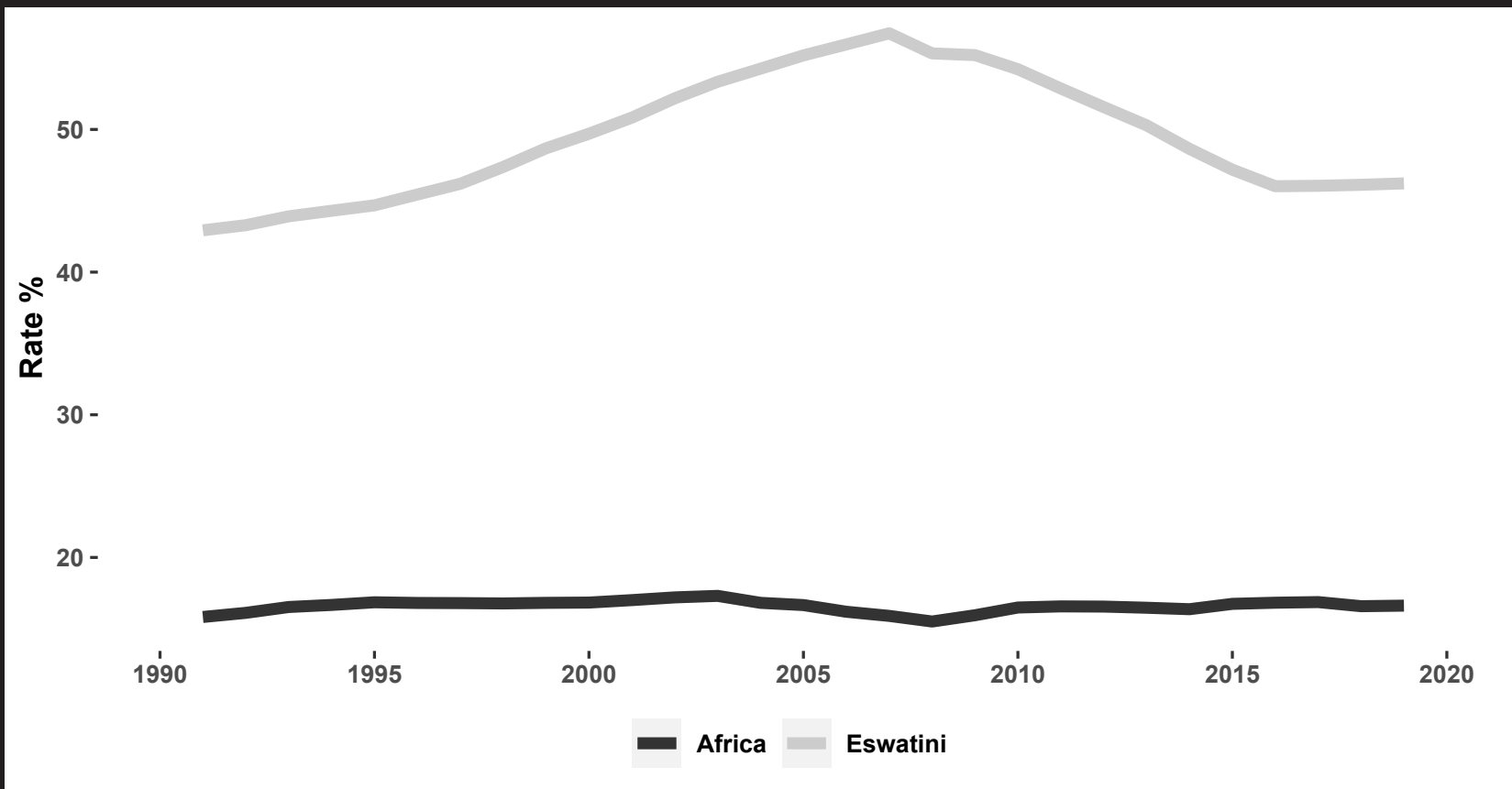
eSwatini has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



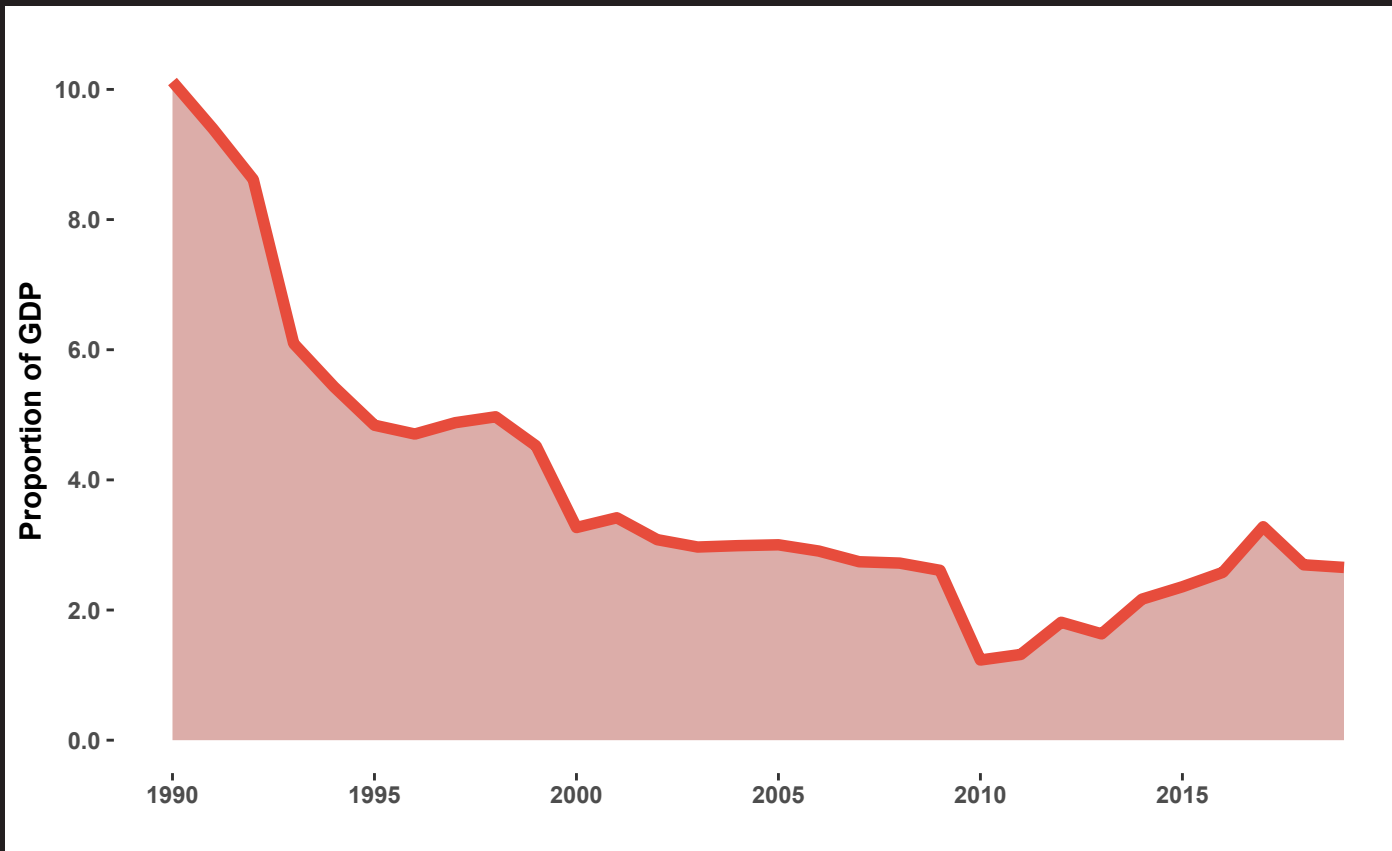
eSwatini’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



eSwatini’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$118 million

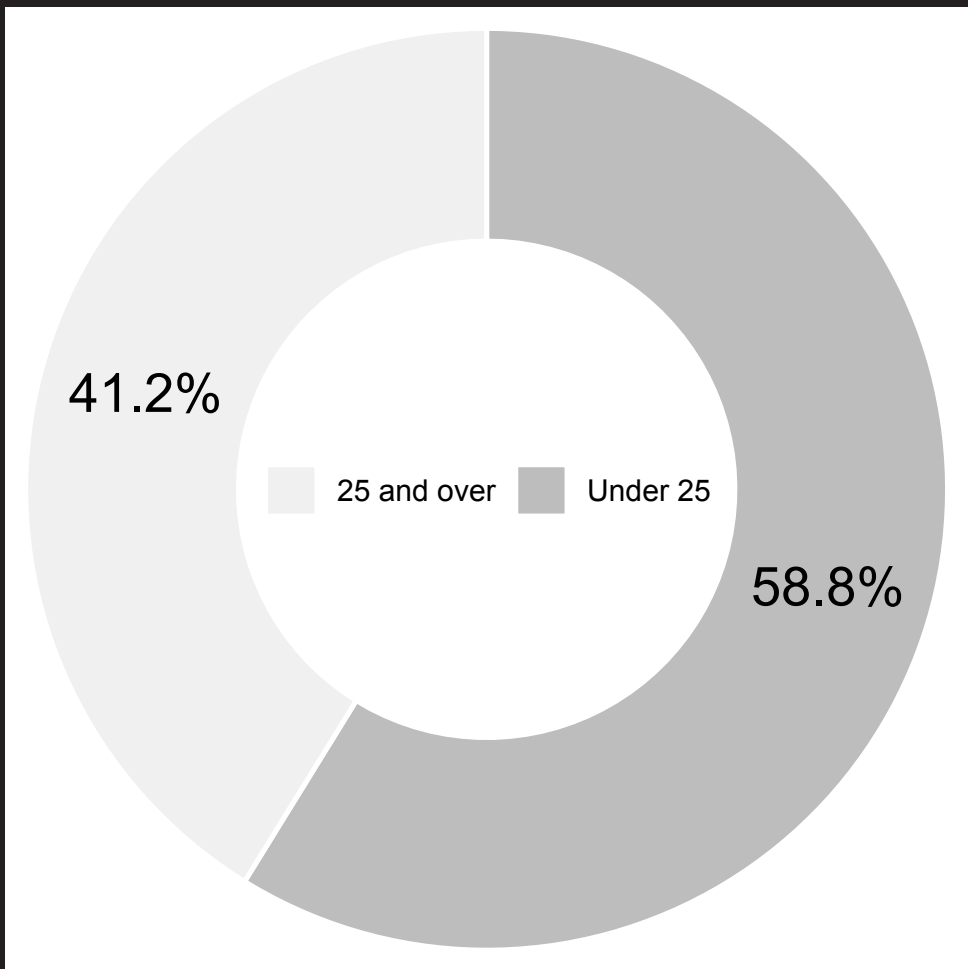
which represents

2.65% of GDP

eSwatini has become less reliant on remittances received over time.

DEMOGRAPHICS

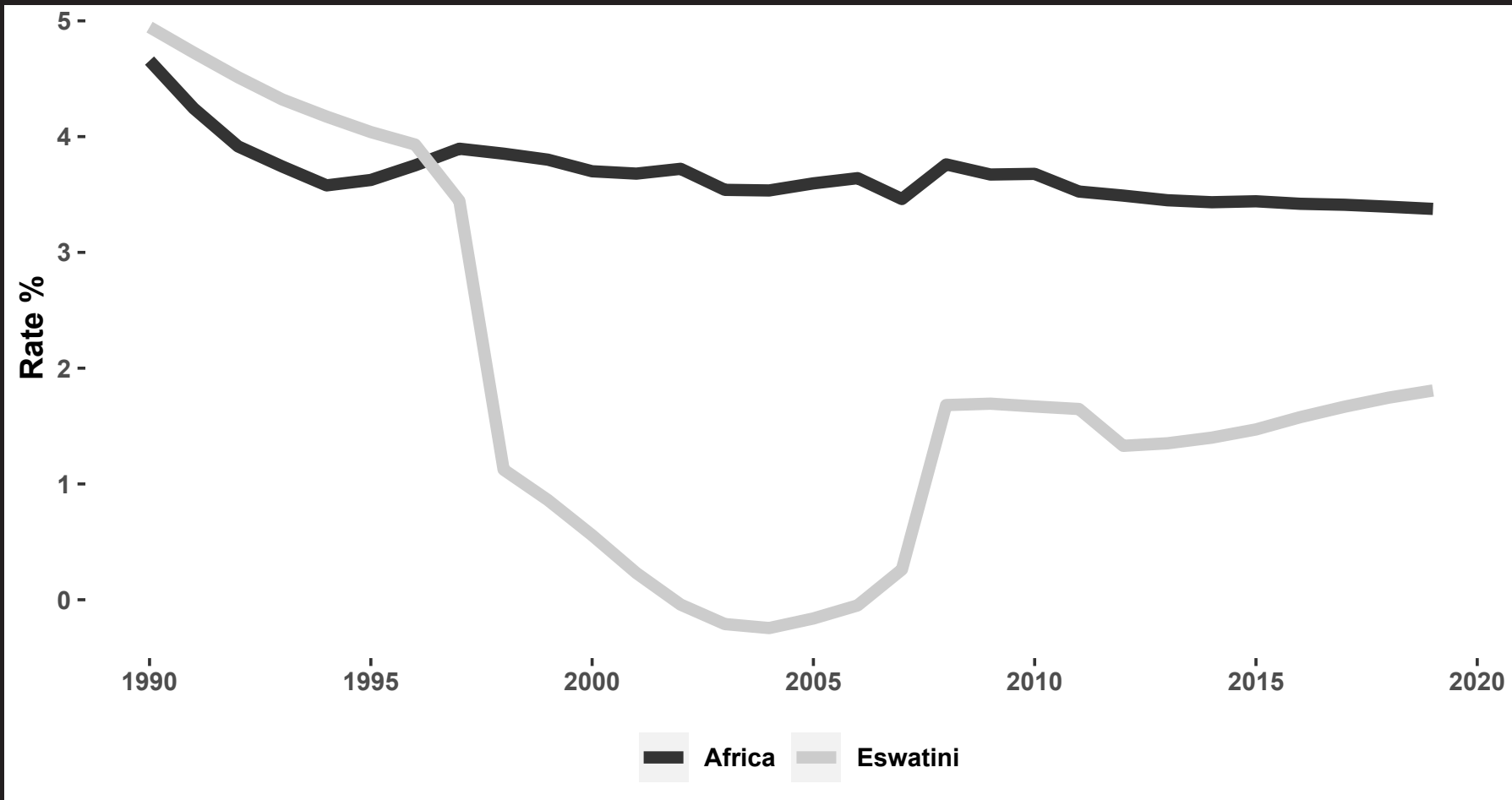
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



1.15 million

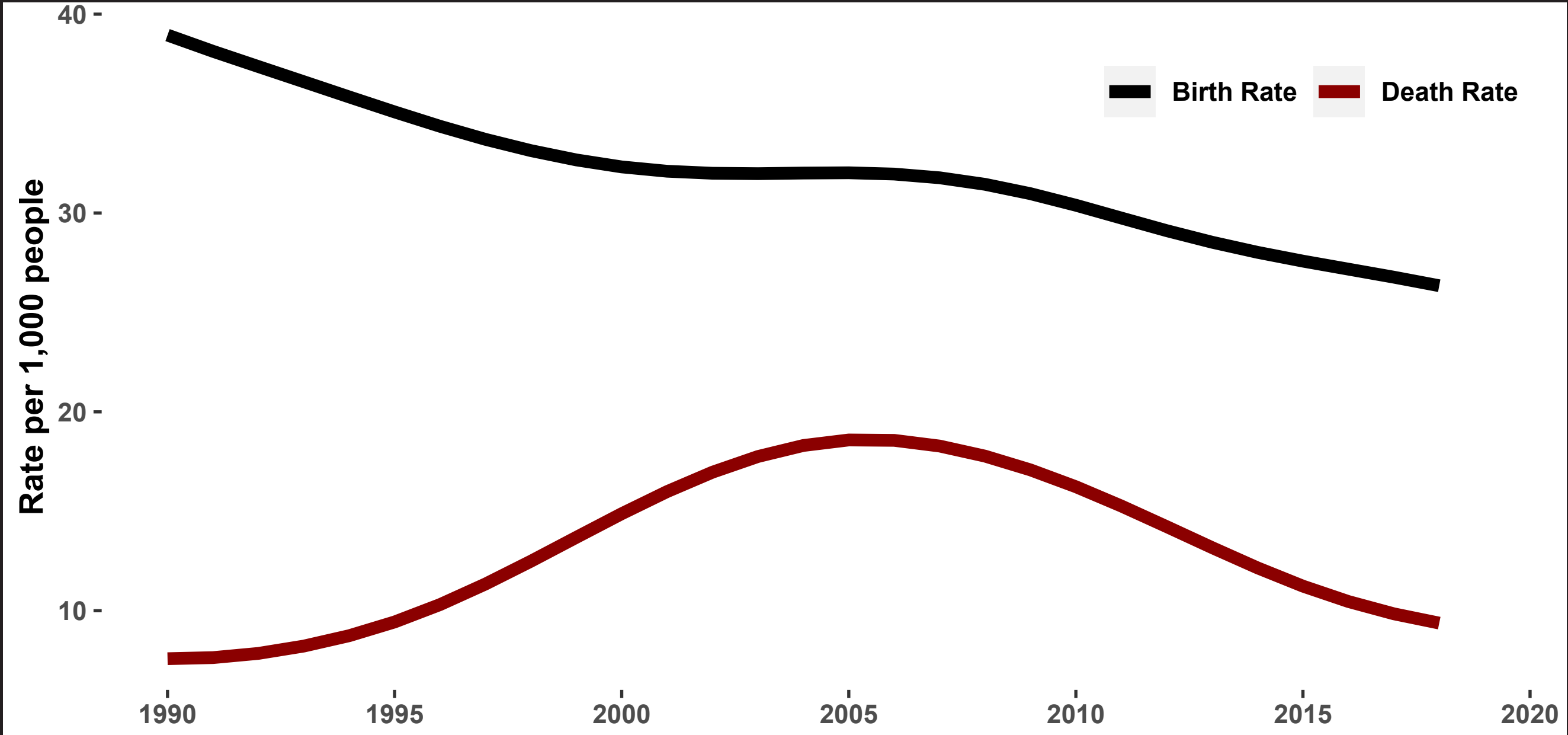
eSwatini is one of the least populated countries in Africa, but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 2000 eSwatini has urbanised at a consistently slower rate than the continental average.

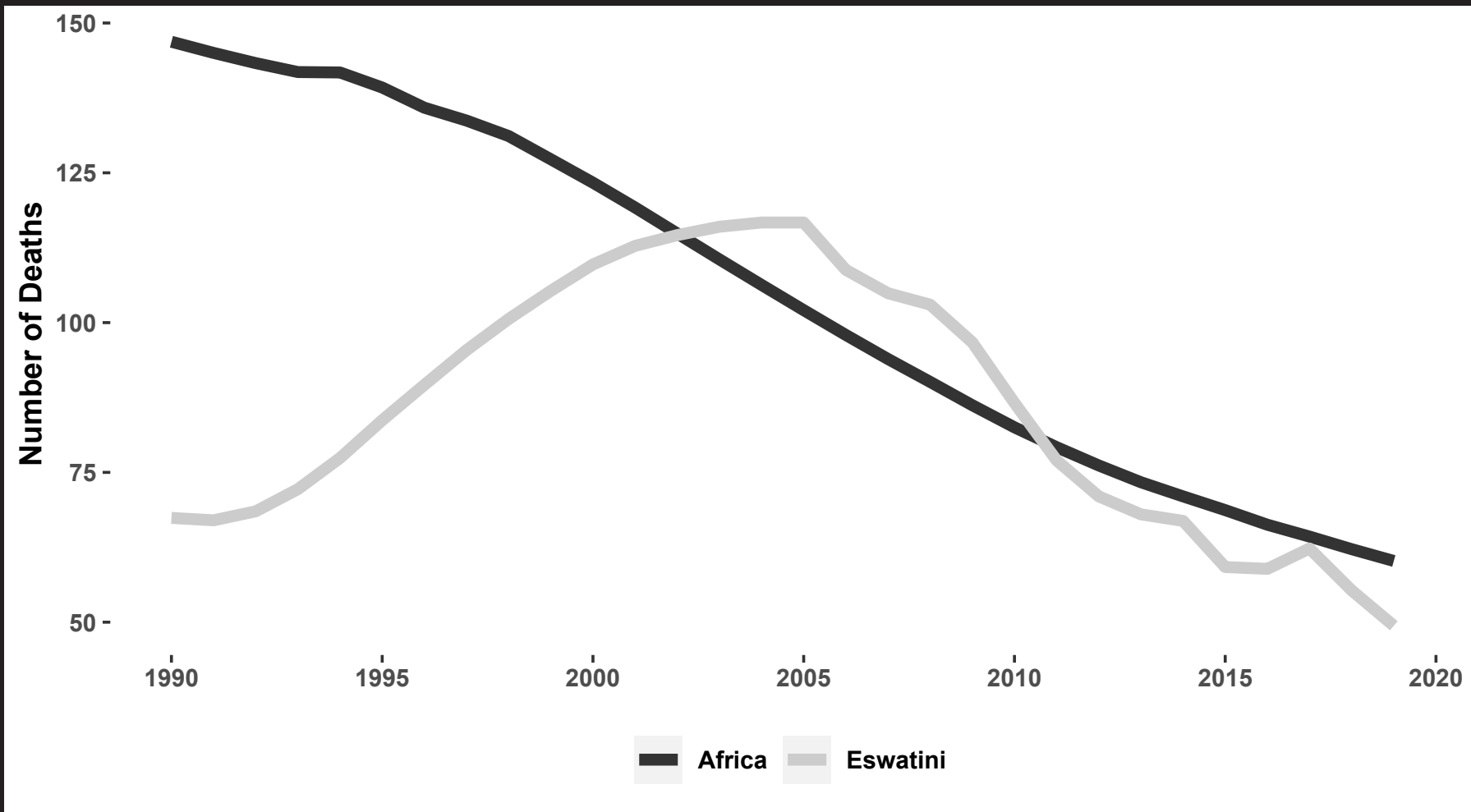
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Although there has been a steady decline in eSwatini’s birth rate over the past 30 years, the death rate ncreased during the peak of the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the 2000s. This meant that population growth slowed rapidly during this period – although it has recovered slightly in the interim years.

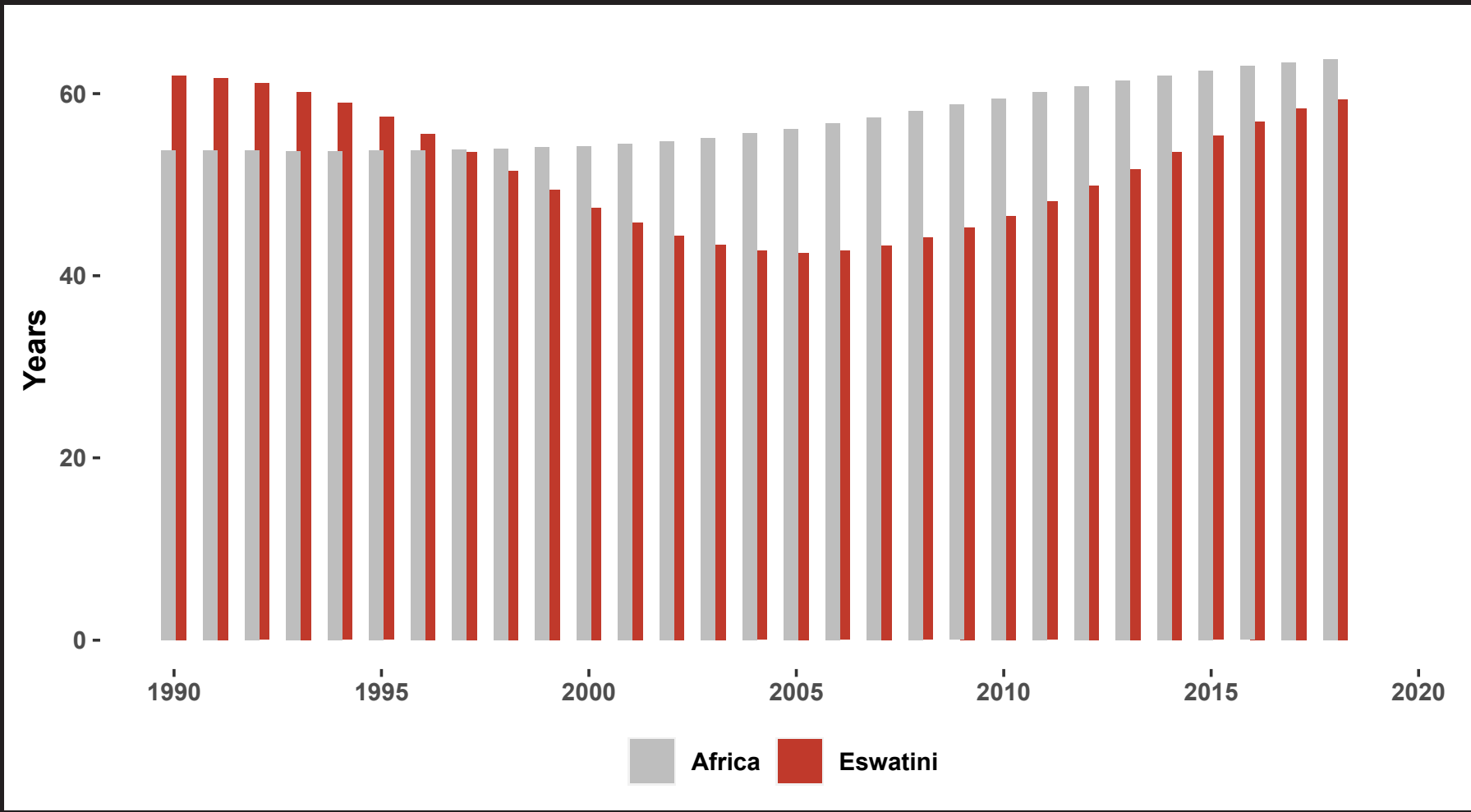
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



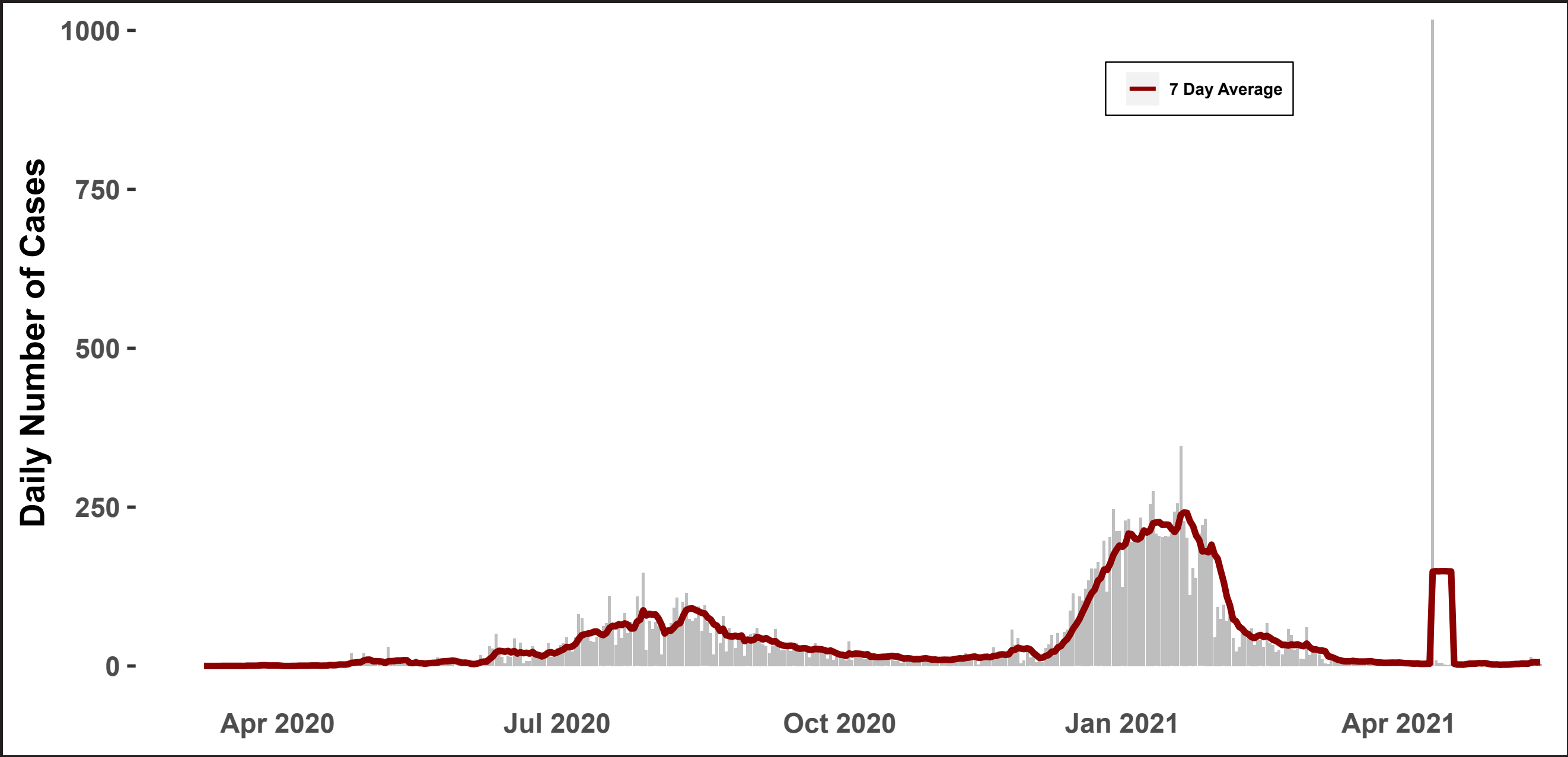
The HIV/AIDS epidemic meant that there was an uncharacteristic rise in the child mortality rate between 1990 and 2005 when compared to the rest of Africa.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



eSwatini's life expectancy at the turn of the 21st century experienced a decline due to the severity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Since 2005, life expectancy in eSwatini has started to increase again, but it has yet to recover to levels seen before the start of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



eSwatini has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in January/February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Retlaw Snellac Photography on Flickr.com



eSwatini's kings are polygamous. Mswati III has 15 wives and his father, Sobhuza II (the longest reigning monarch in history), had 70.

Safa Hovinen on Flickr.com



Swaziland was the country's colonial name, which it kept for the first 50 years of independence. However, in April 2018, King Mswati III decided to resurrect the country's Swati name, eSwatini.

Emilien Lebourgeois on Flickr.com



Dance is key to the Swazis' cultural identity and every single member of the community is expected to participate during cultural celebrations.



ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia, the largest and most populated country in the Horn of Africa, is a rugged, landlocked country split by the Great Rift Valley and bordered by Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. Ethiopia is one of the world’s oldest countries; its territorial extent has varied over the millennia. Ethiopia was occupied by Italy between 1936 and 1941. In 1995, two years after the 1993 secessionist war with Eritrea ended, Ethiopia became independent. With archaeological finds dating back more than three million years, it’s a place of ancient culture. Among its important sites are Lalibela with its rock-cut Christian churches from the 12th–13th centuries. Aksum has the ruins of an ancient city with obelisks, tombs, castles and Our Lady Mary of Zion church. Ethiopia is a multilingual nation, with around 80 ethnolinguistic groups, the four largest of which are the Oromo, Amhara, Somali and Tigrayans. The official currency is the Ethiopian birr.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Abiy Ahmed



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Addis Ababa

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

173

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

86



MAIN LANGUAGES

Amharic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Multi-party parliament



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front

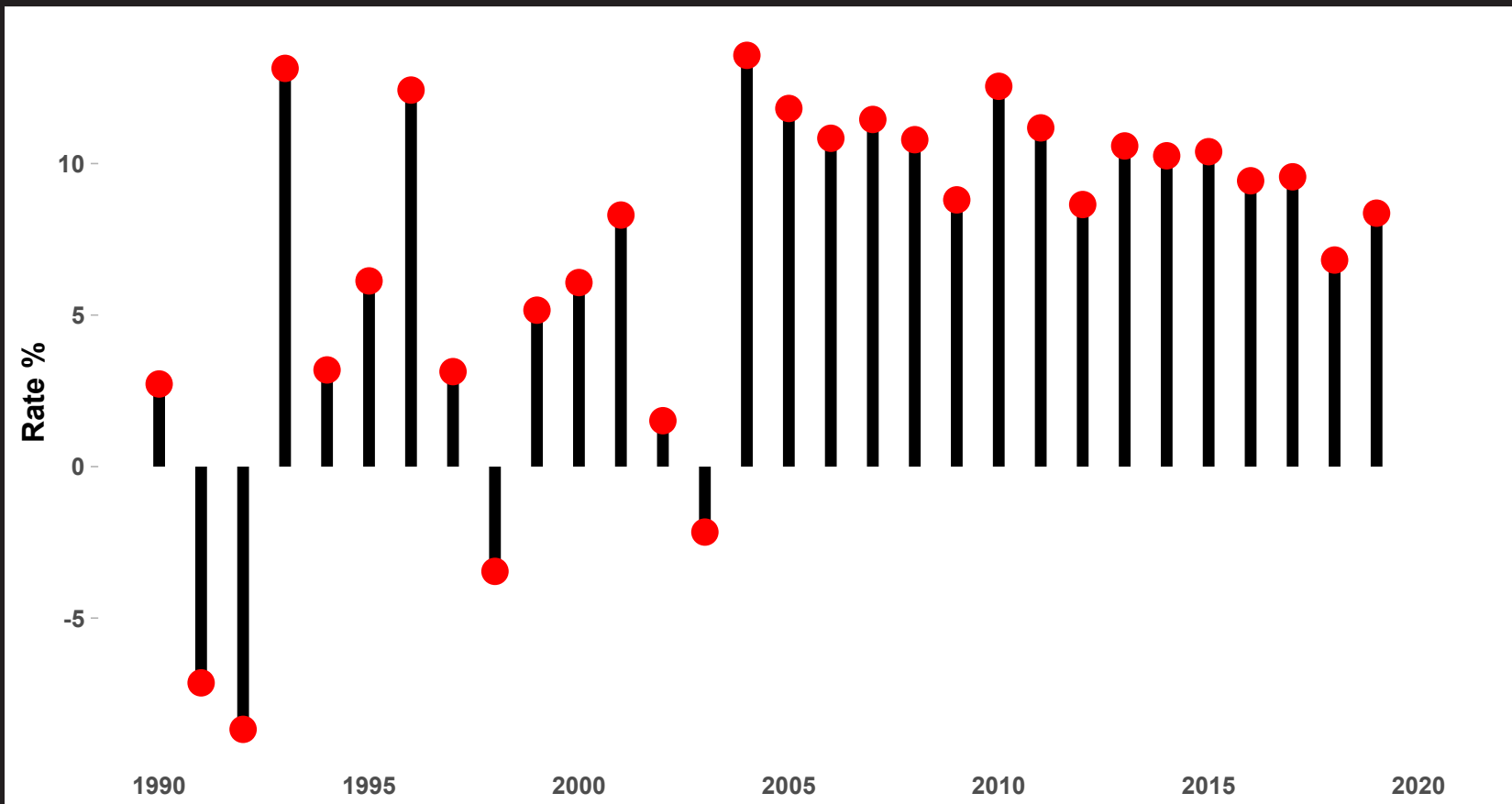


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Joint Council of Political Parties (opposition groups)

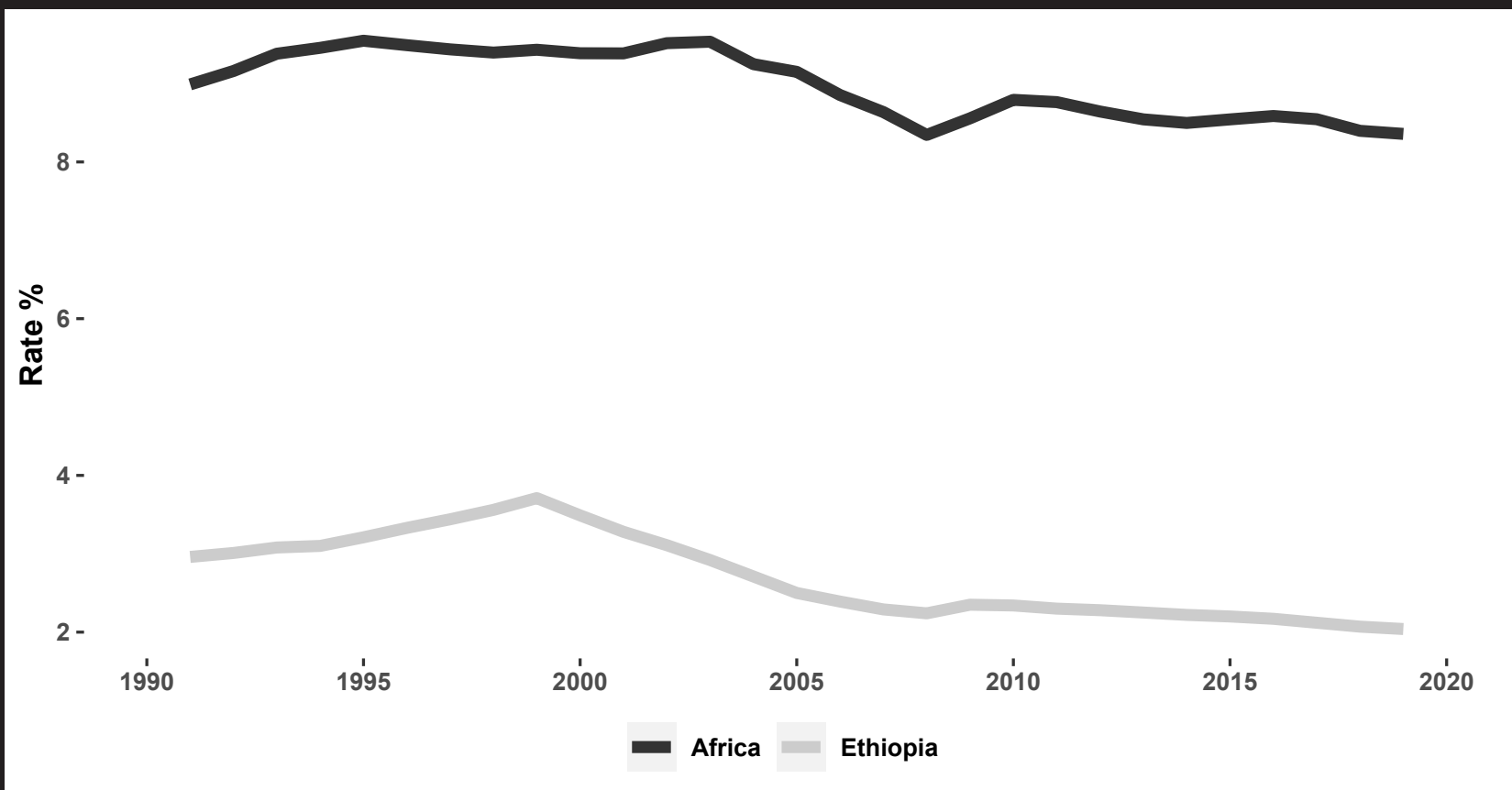
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



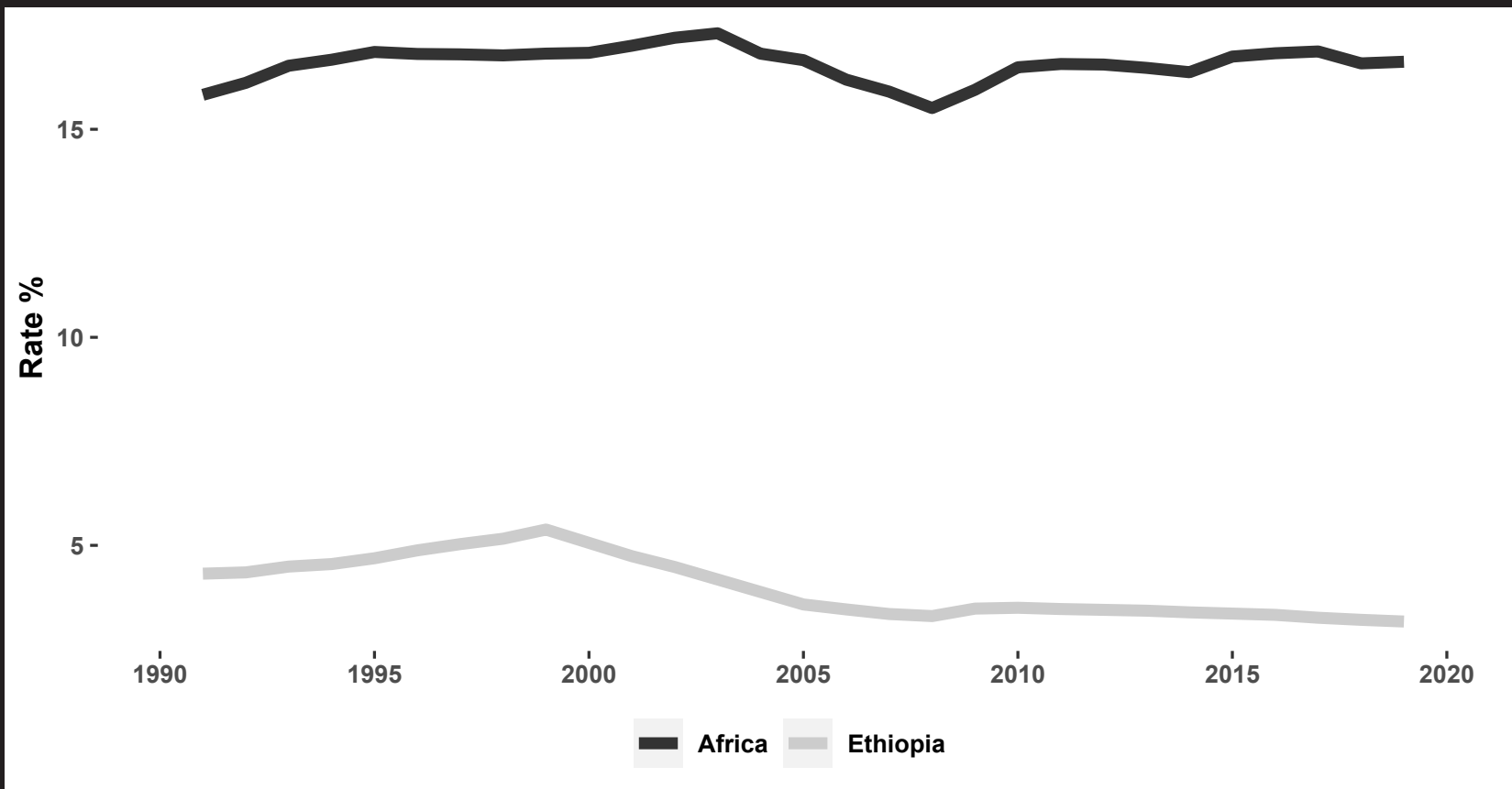
Between 1990 and 2003 Ethiopia experienced erratic economic growth. However, since 2004 Ethiopia has consistently experienced annual economic growth rates of more than 5%.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



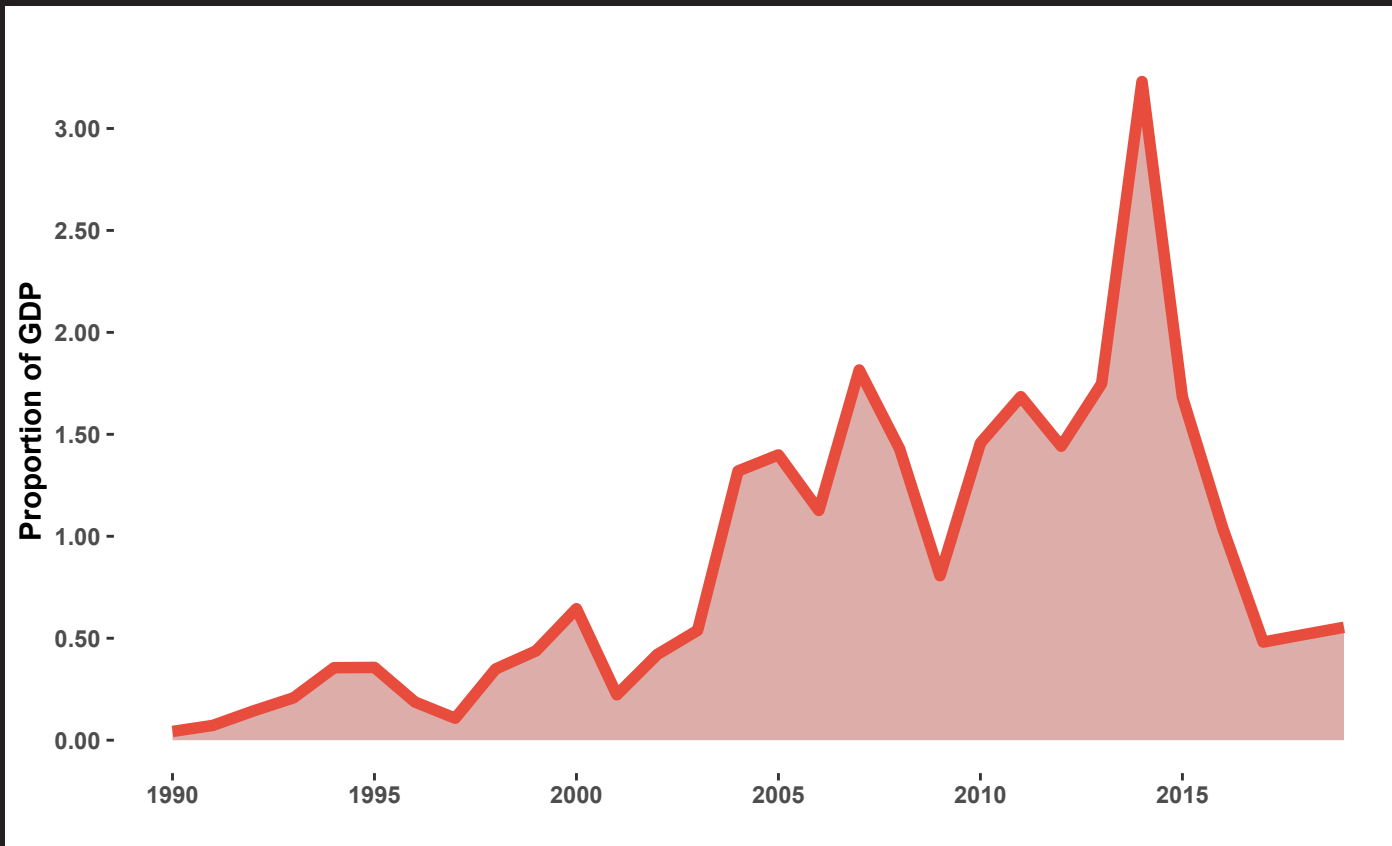
Ethiopia has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Ethiopia has had one of the lowest youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$531 million

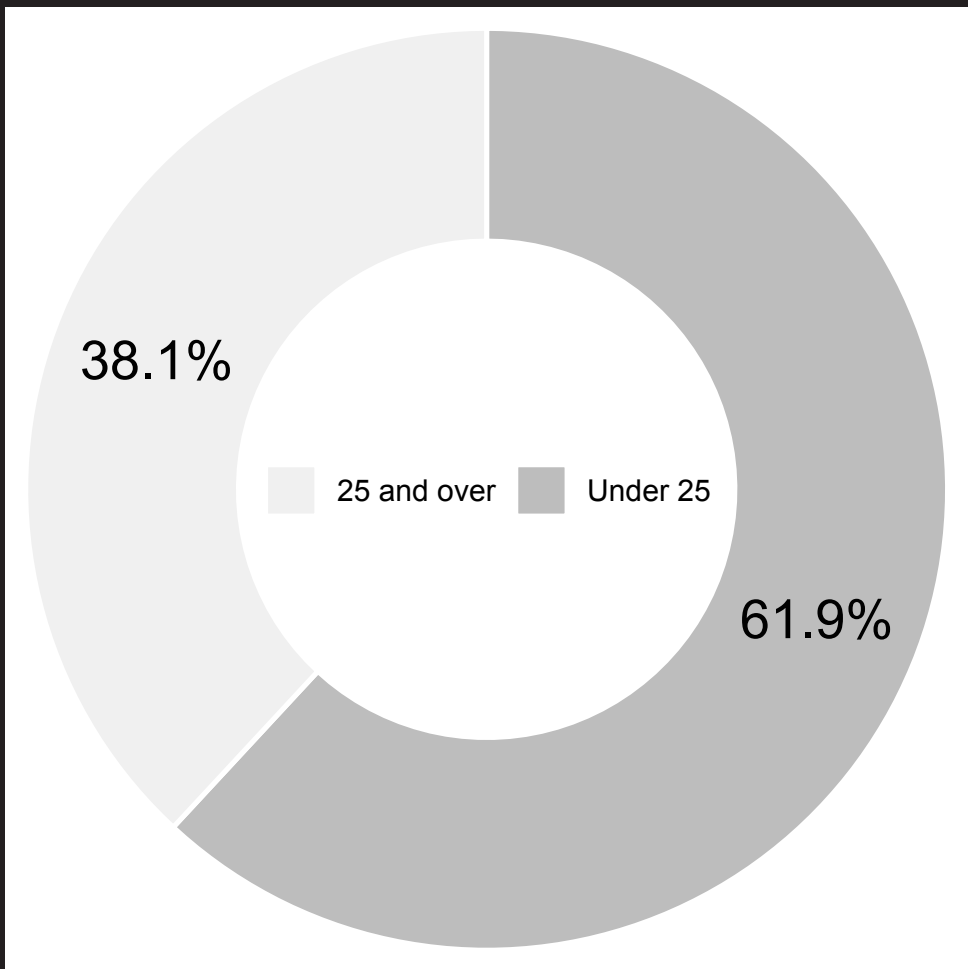
which represents

0.55% of GDP

Ethiopia has become less reliant on remittances since 2015.

DEMOGRAPHICS

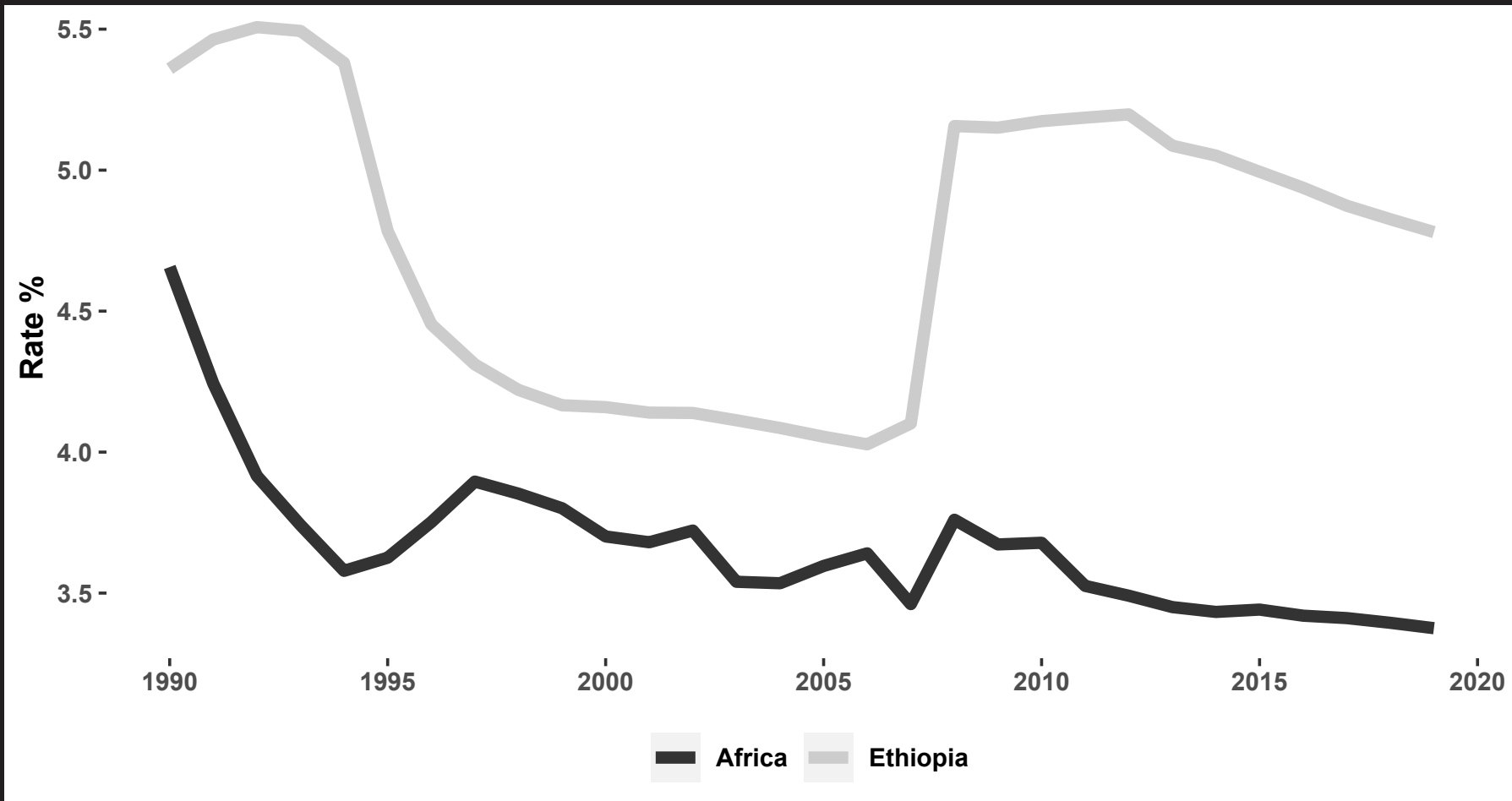
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



112.1 million

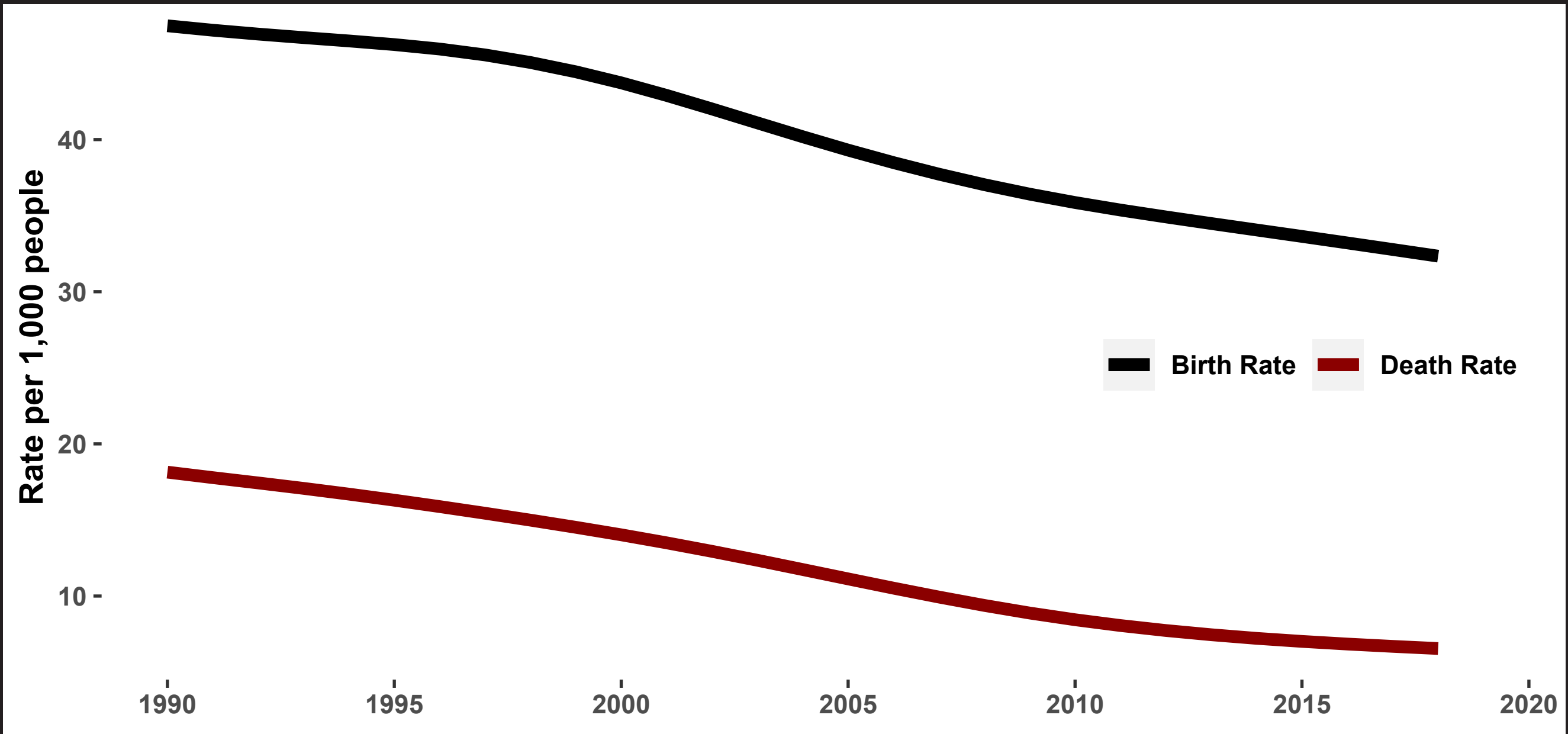
Ethiopia is one of the most populated countries in Africa and it conforms to the continental trend of having the vast majority of its population under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1990, Ethiopia has urbanised at a consistently faster rate than the continental average.

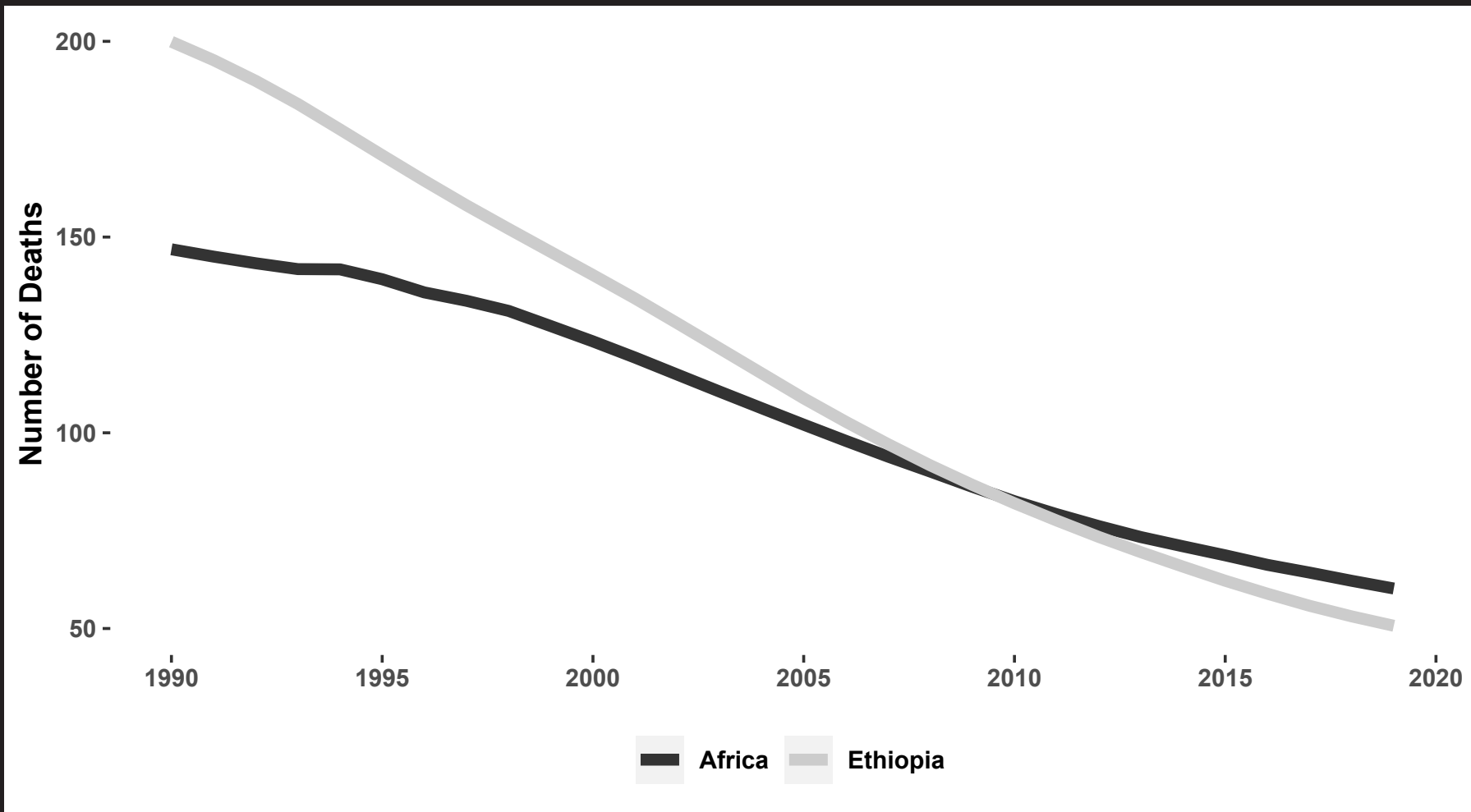
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Ethiopia has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is approximately double its death rate.

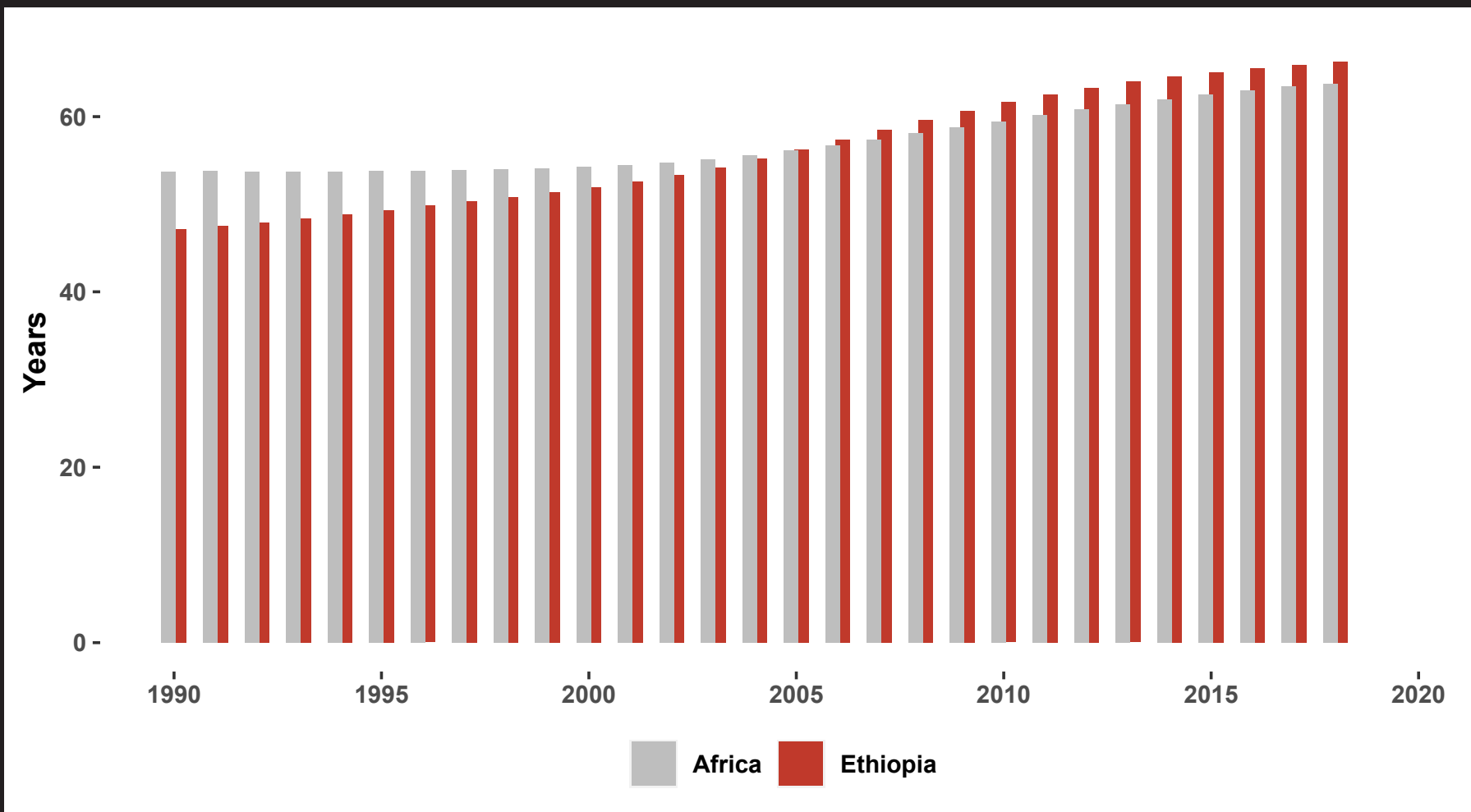
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



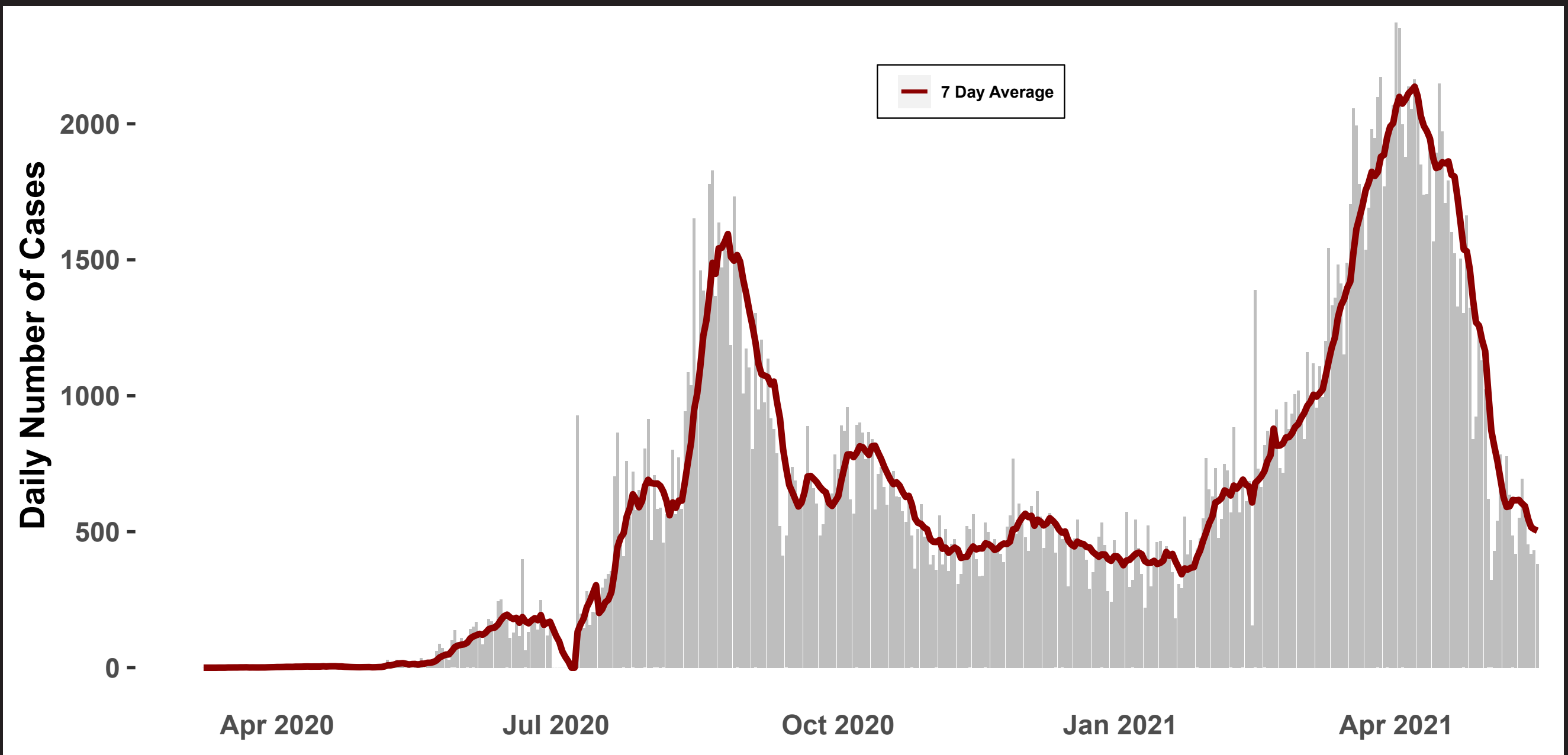
Child mortality in Ethiopia has been declining at a faster rate compared to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Ethiopia has been increasing at a faster rate than to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Ethiopia has had two Covid-19 waves, one of which occurred in August/September 2020 and a second wave in February/April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Some of the oldest skeletal evidence for anatomically modern humans has been found in Ethiopia.



Ethiopia and Eritrea follow the Ethiopian calendar – which is approximately seven years and three months behind the Gregorian – and write with the ancient Ge’ez script, one of the oldest alphabets still in use in the world.



Ethiopia is the only African country never to have been brought under colonial control.



GABON

Gabon is on the Atlantic coast of central Africa on the equator, bordered by Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon and the Republic of the Congo. A former French colony, Gabon retains strong ties to France and to the French language and culture. Only two autocratic presidents have ruled Gabon since independence from France in 1960. Abundant petroleum and foreign private investment have helped make Gabon one of the most prosperous countries in sub-Saharan Africa. However, because of inequality in income distribution, a significant proportion of the population remains poor. More than 10% of Gabon's area is protected parkland; there are 13 national parks in the country. Gabon possesses one of the highest urbanisation rates in Africa, with more than four in five Gabonese citizens living in urban areas.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Ali Bongo Ondimba

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

NOVEMBER

28

SINCE 1960



CAPITAL CITY
Libreville

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

119

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

40



MAIN LANGUAGES

French and Fang

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Multi-party parliament



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Gabonese Democratic Party

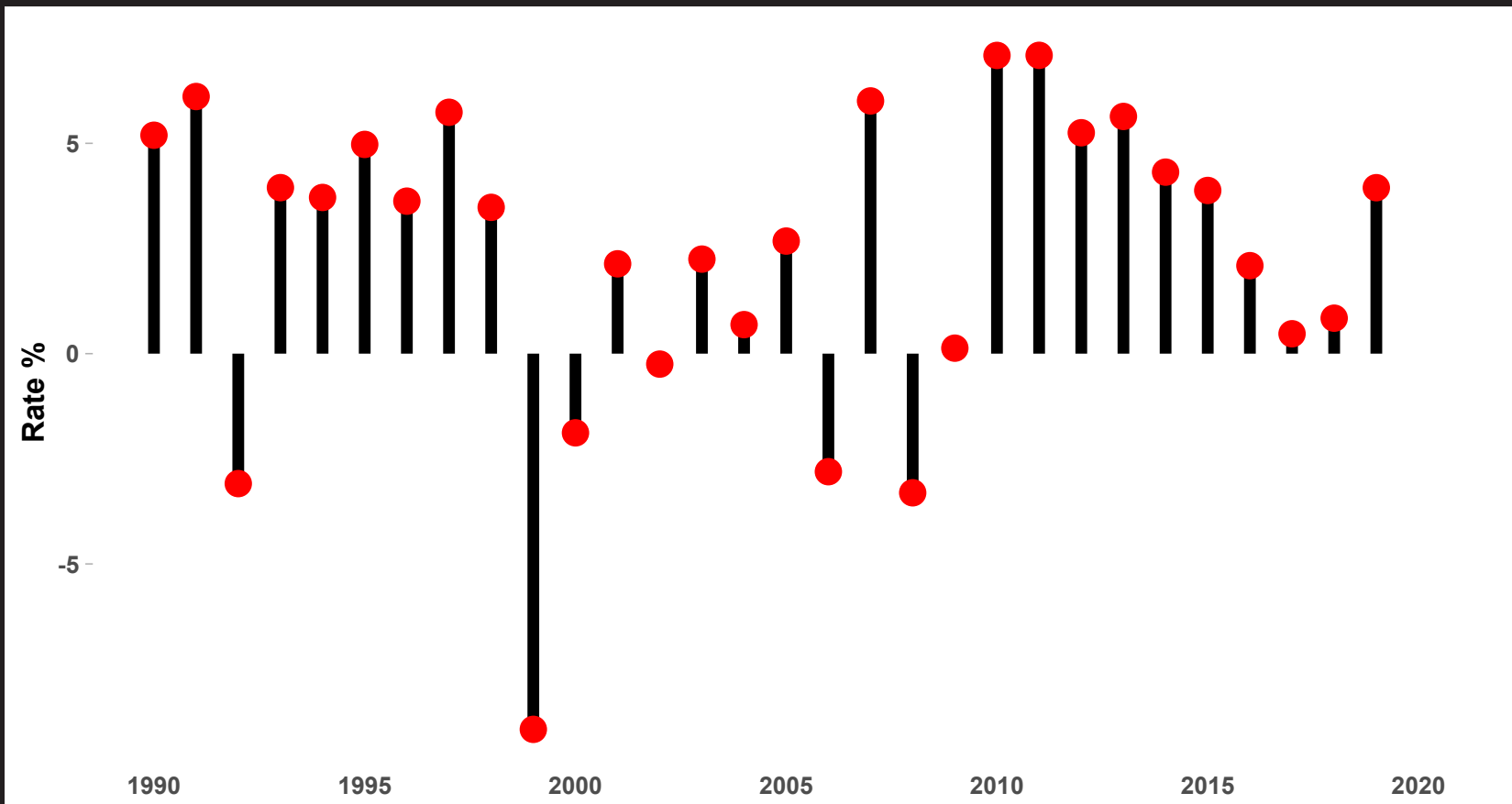


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Coalition of the New Republic

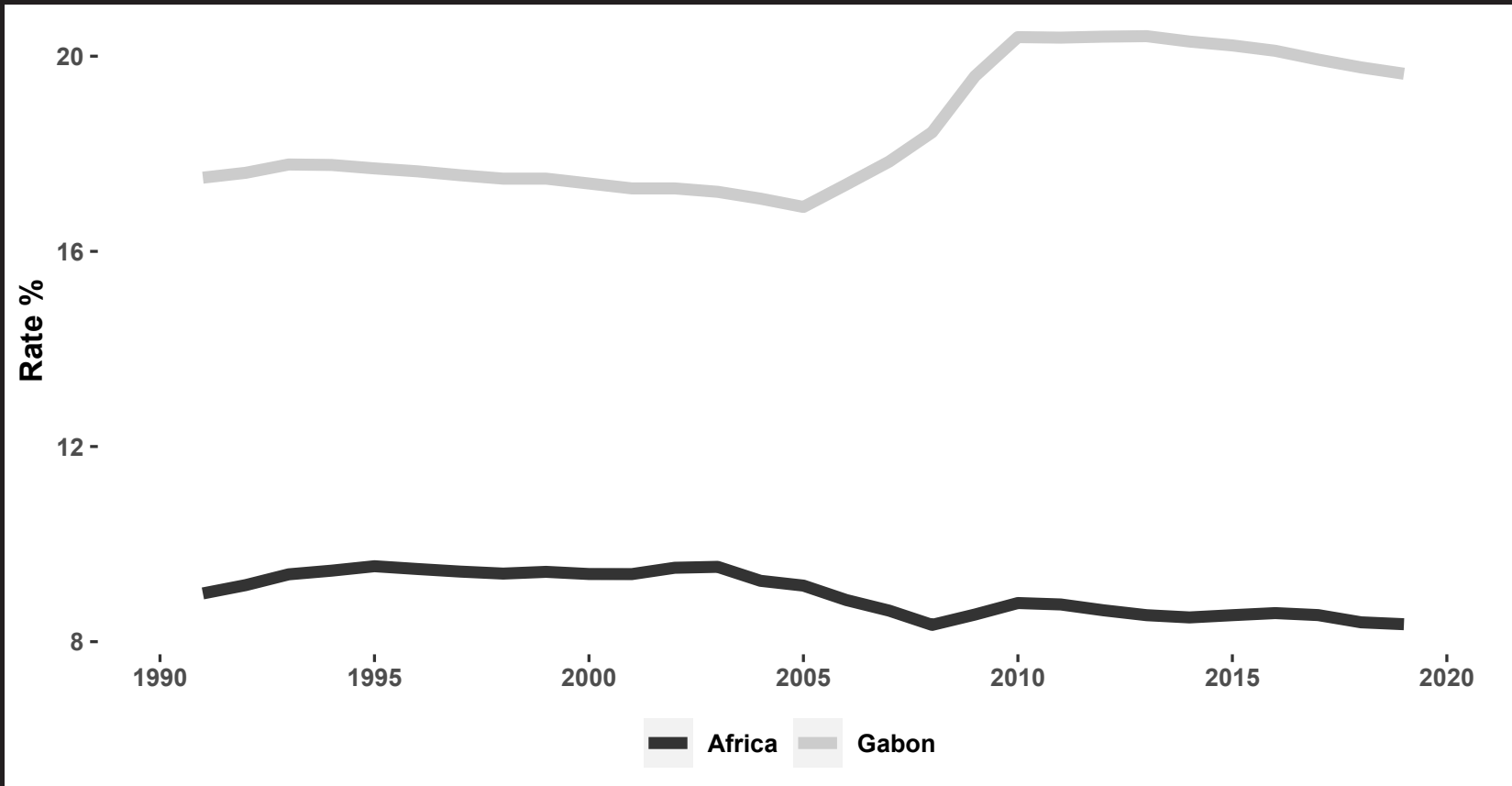
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



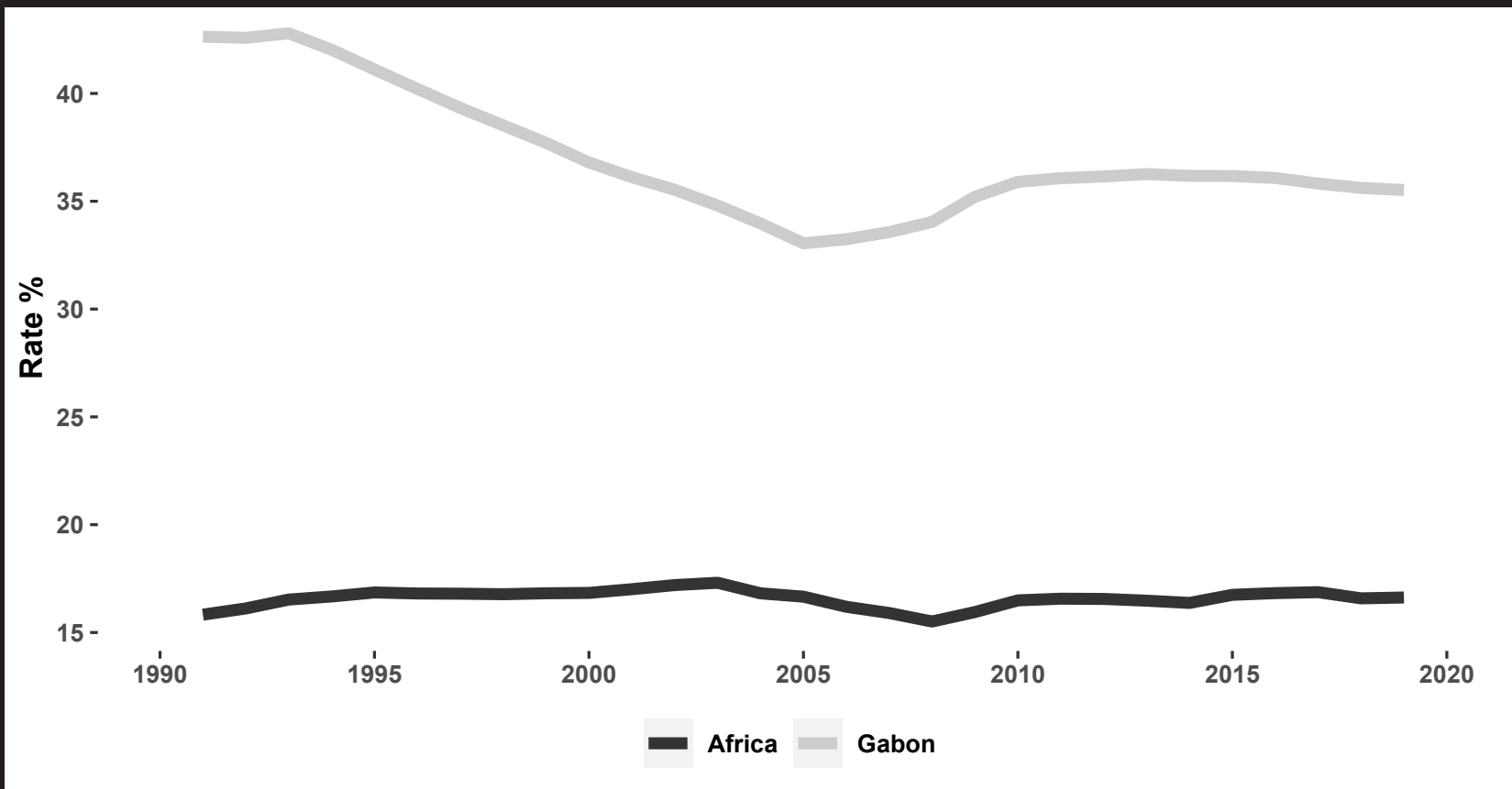
After experiencing erratic growth during the 2000s, since 2010 Gabon’s economy has consistently expanded on an annual basis.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



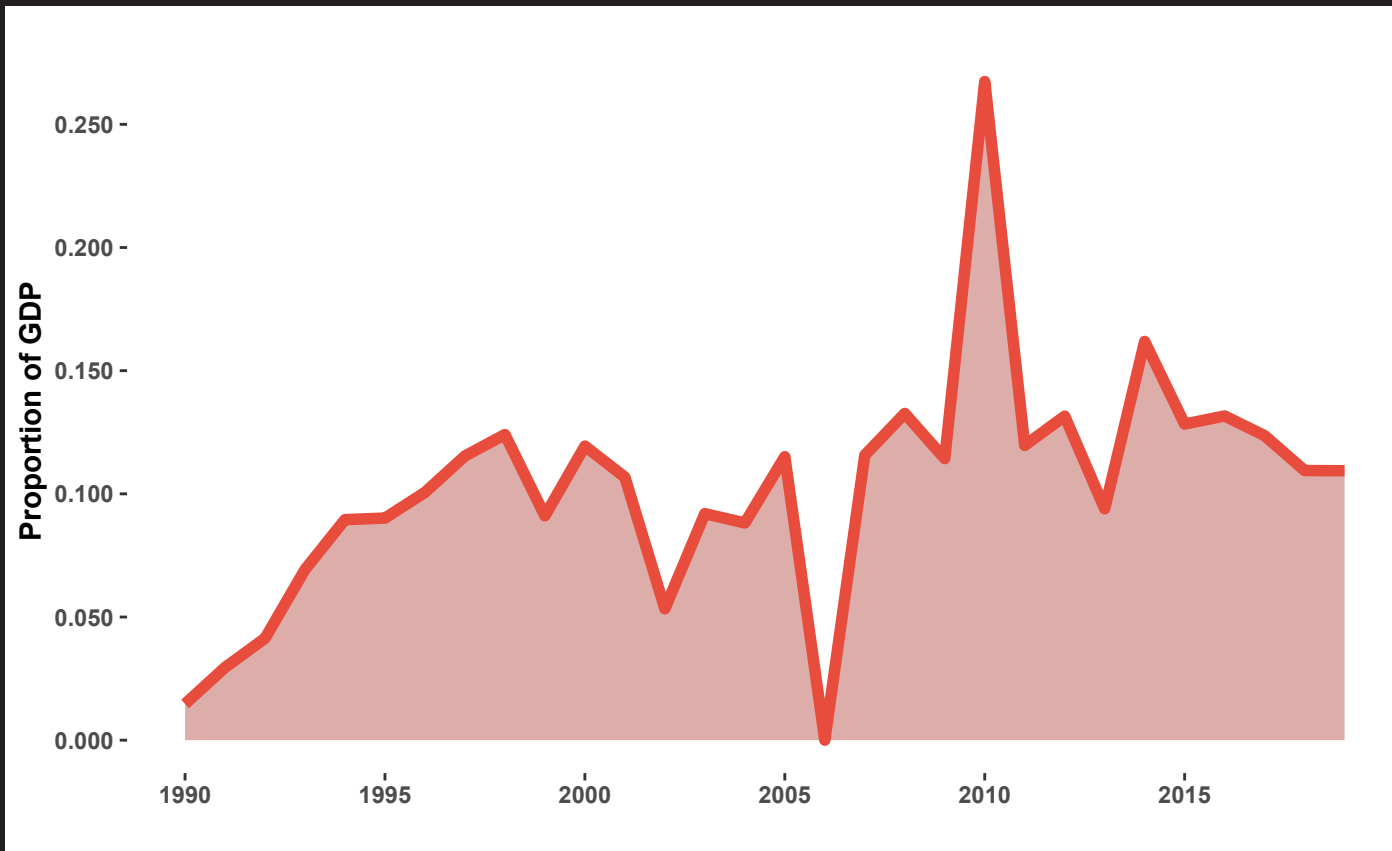
Gabon’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Gabon’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$18.5 million

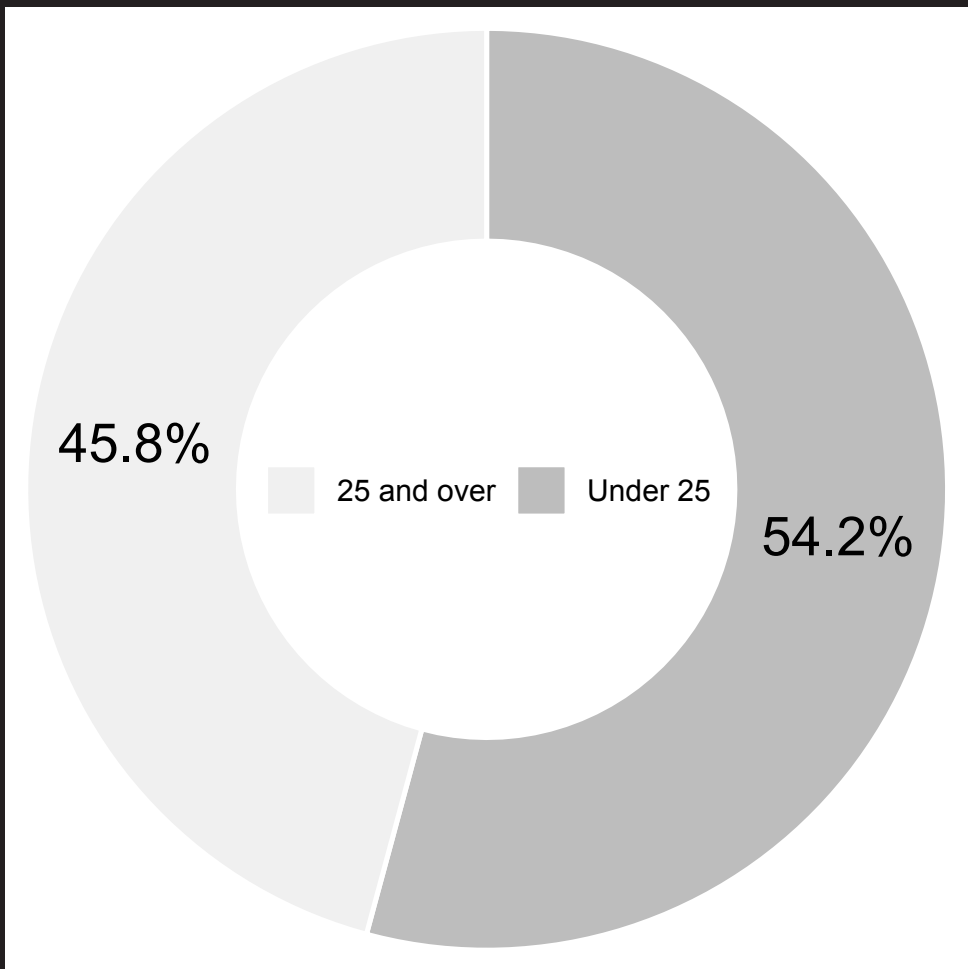
which represents

0.11% of GDP

Gabon is one of the African countries which is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

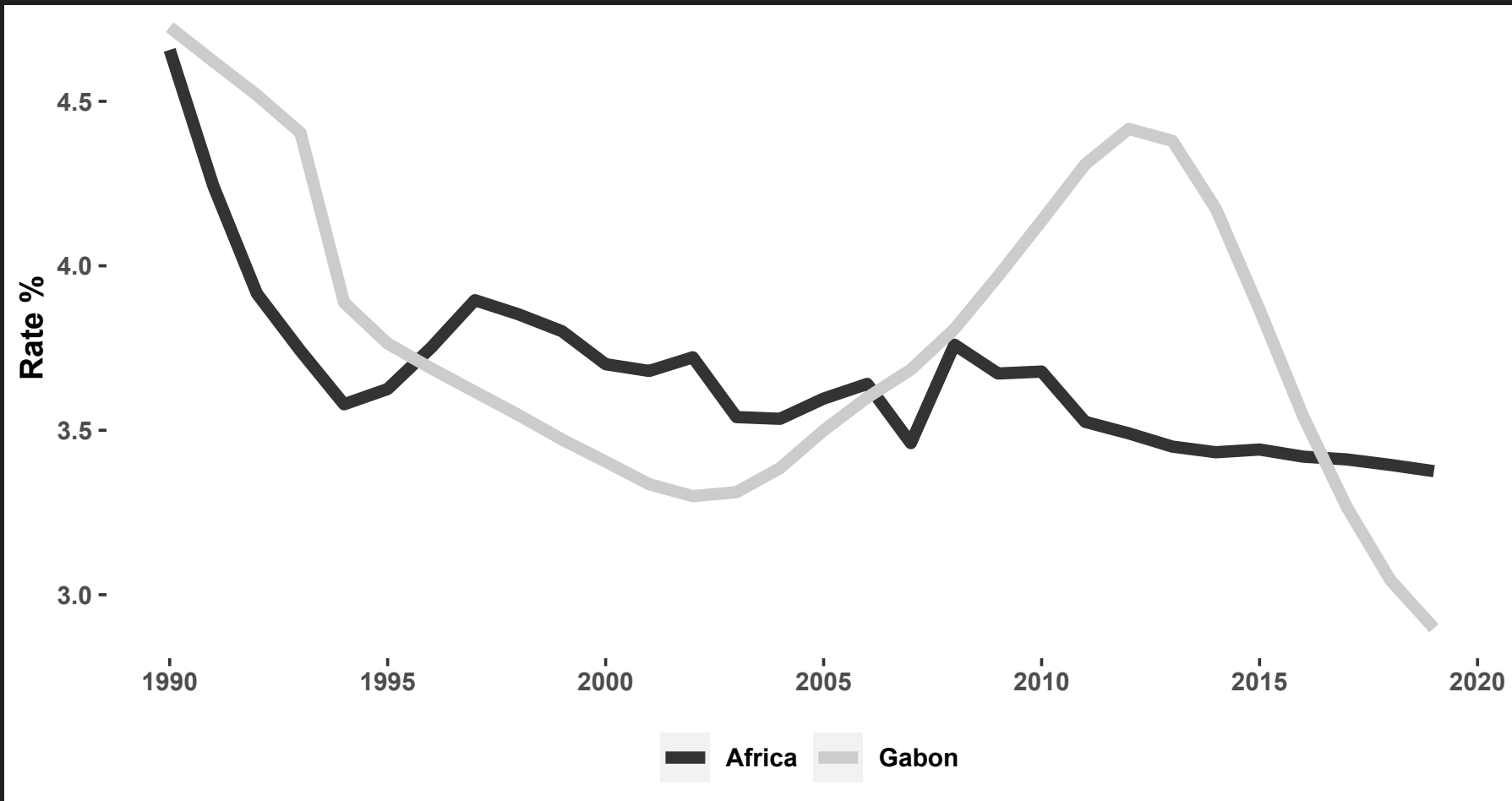
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



2.17 million

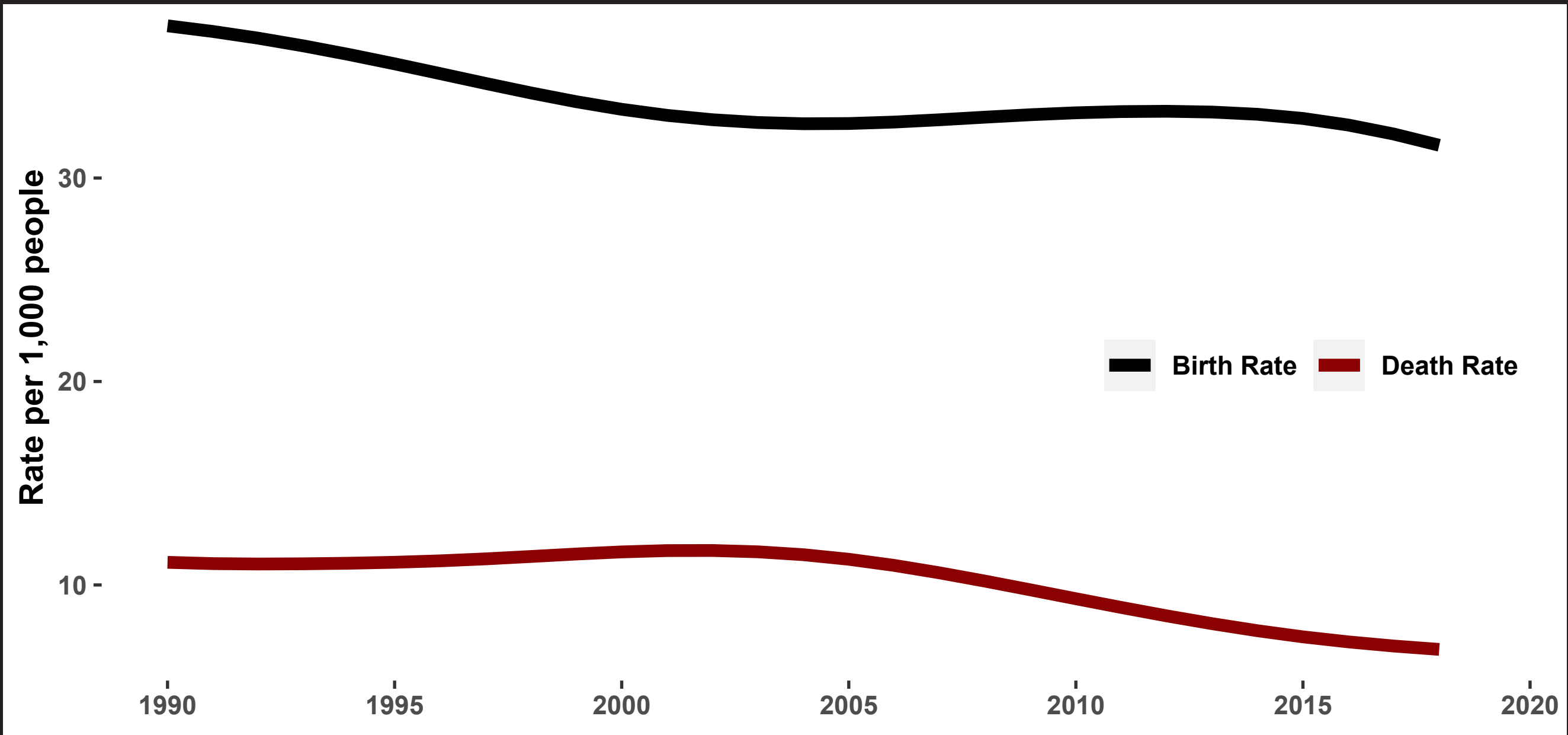
Gabon is one of the least populated countries in Africa, but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



The urbanisation rate in Gabon has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past 30 years.

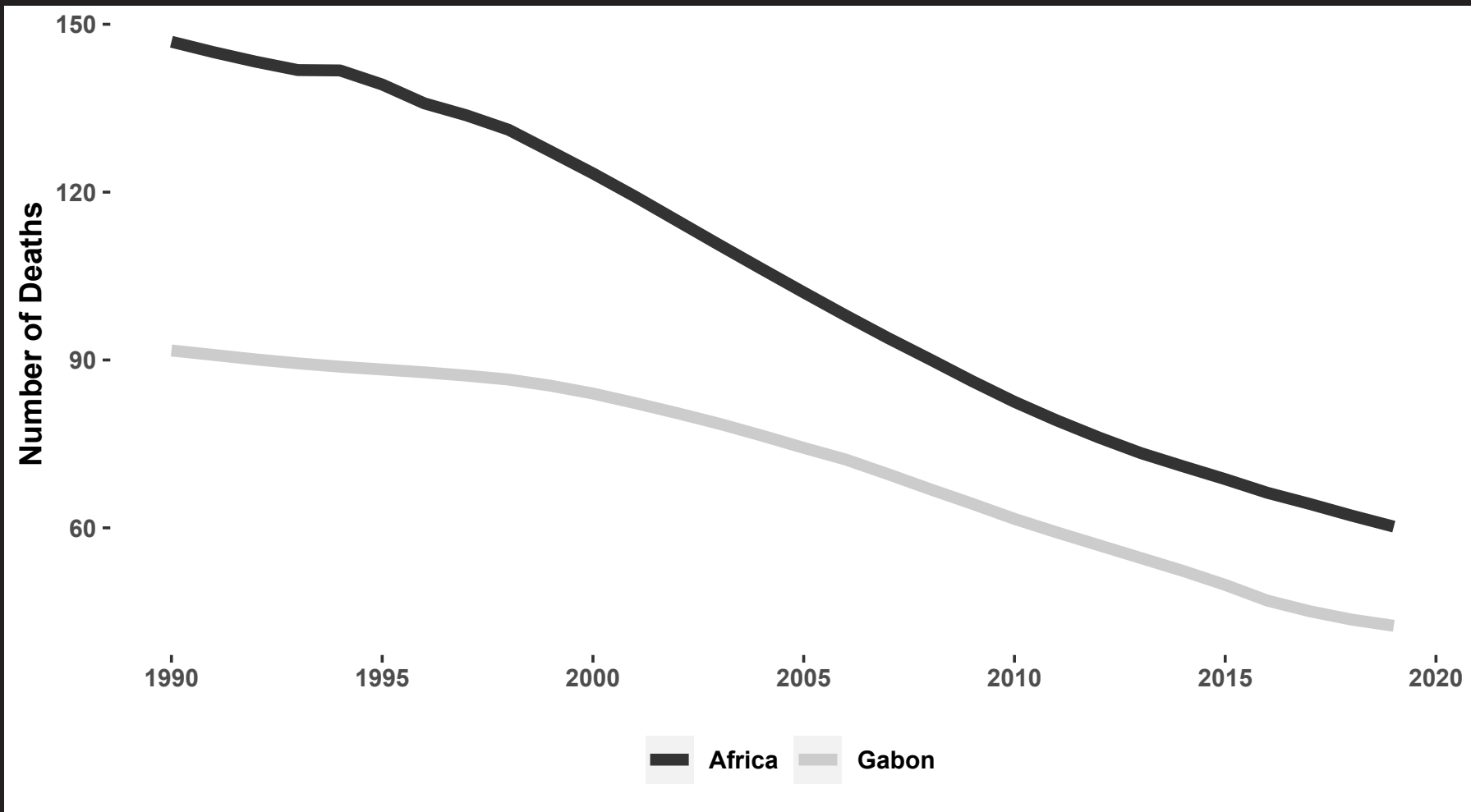
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Gabon has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is approximately double its death rate.

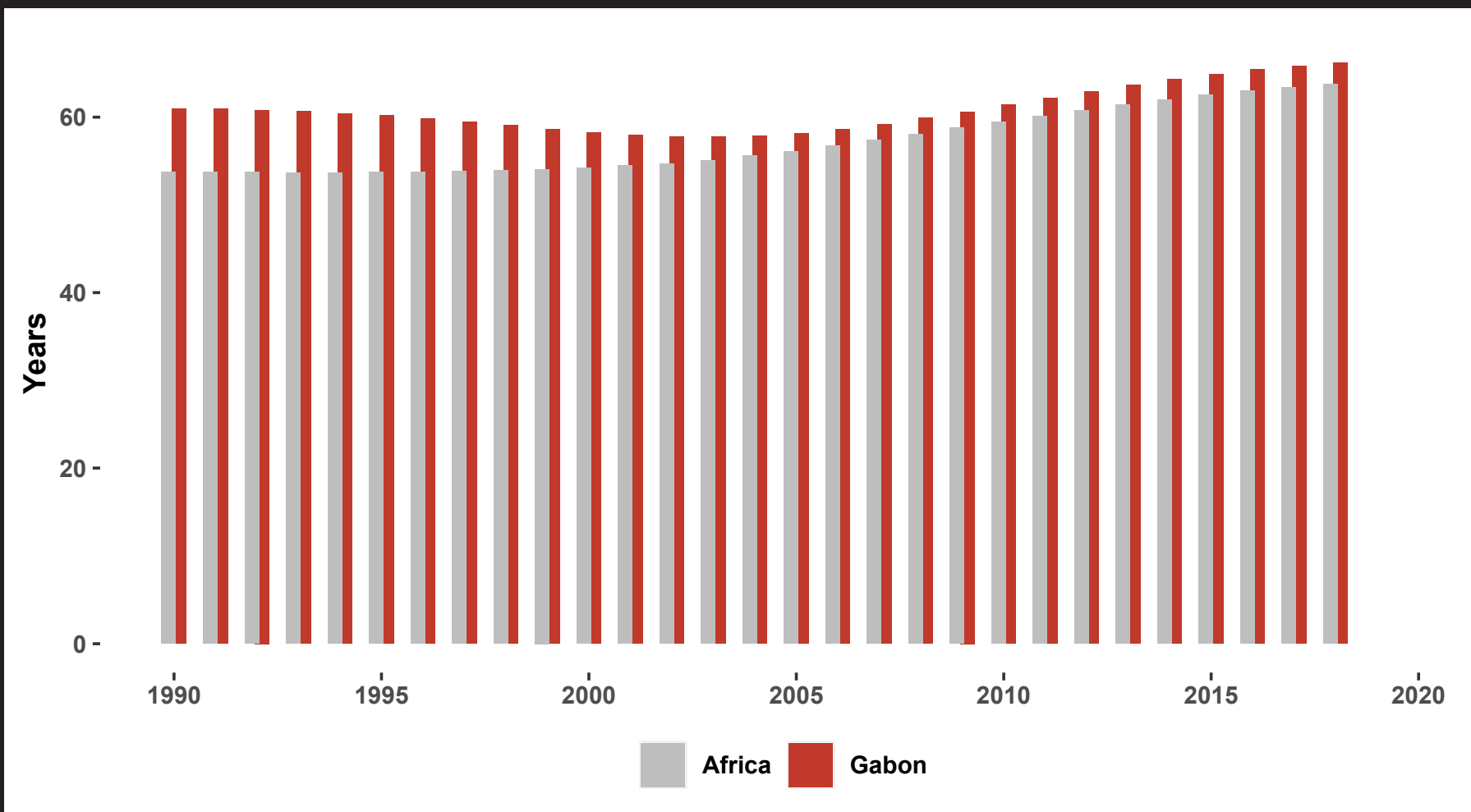
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



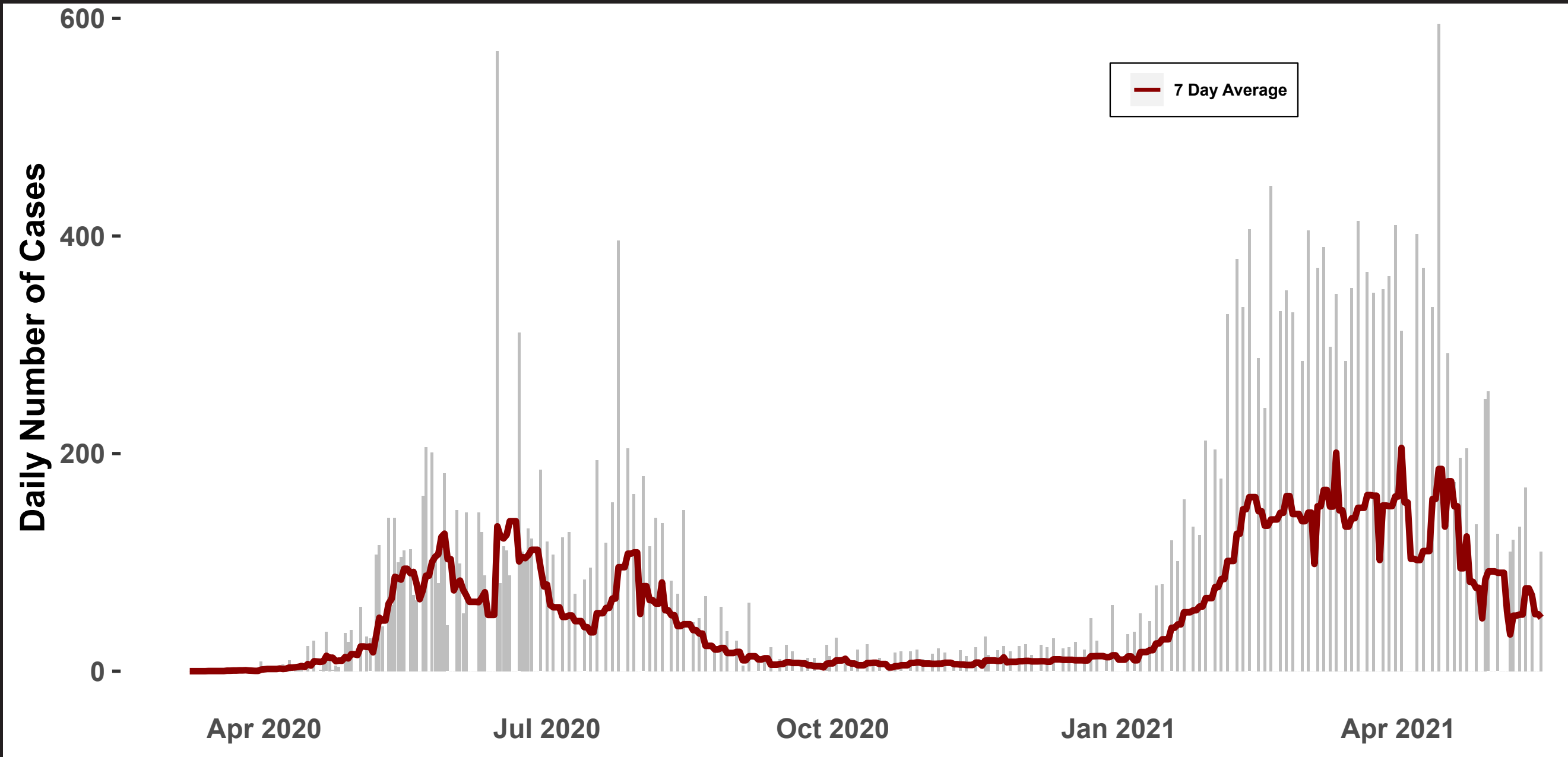
Gabon’s child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Compared to other African countries, life expectancy in Gabon has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

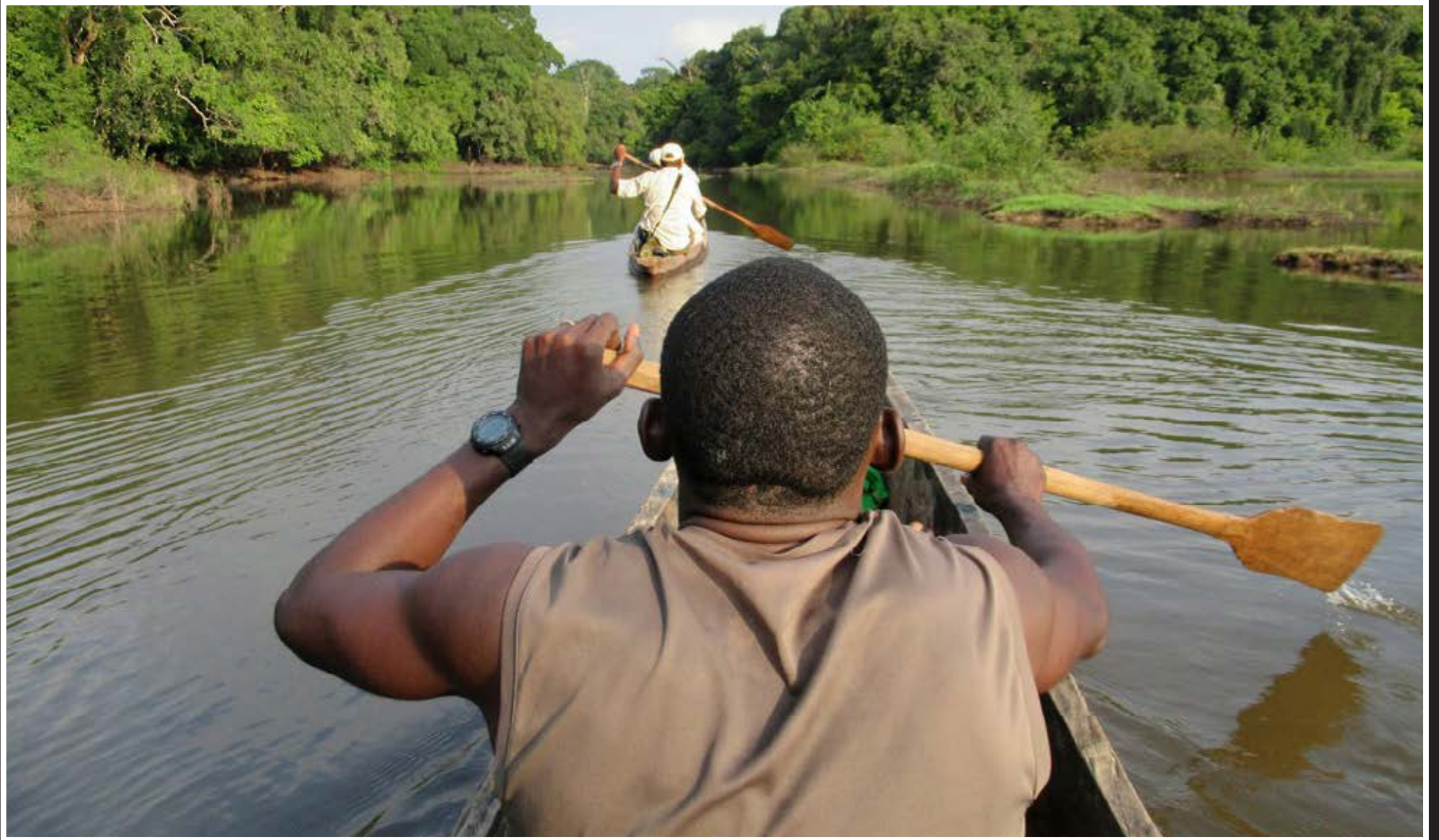
DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Gabon has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in June-August 2020 and February-April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Loango National Park is the jewel in the crown of Gabon's 13 parks and offers one of the world's most exhilarating safari experiences, thanks to its combination of scenery and wildlife.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Gabon depended on timber and manganese until oil was discovered offshore in the early 1970s.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Mask making and ritual face paint are important parts of Gabonese culture, and styles vary dramatically between groups.



GHANA

Ghana is in West Africa, spanning the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean and sharing borders with the Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso and Togo. Beginning in the 15th century, the Portuguese empire, followed by numerous other European powers, contested the area for trading rights, until the British ultimately established control of the coast by the late 19th century. Following more than a century of resistance, what are now Ghana's borders follow the lines of what were four separate British colonial territories: Gold Coast, Ashanti, the Northern Territories and British Togoland. These were unified as an independent dominion within the Commonwealth of Nations on 6 March, 1957. The official currency is the Ghanaian cedi.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Nana Akufo-Addo

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Accra

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

138

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

80



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and Akan

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

New Patriotic Party

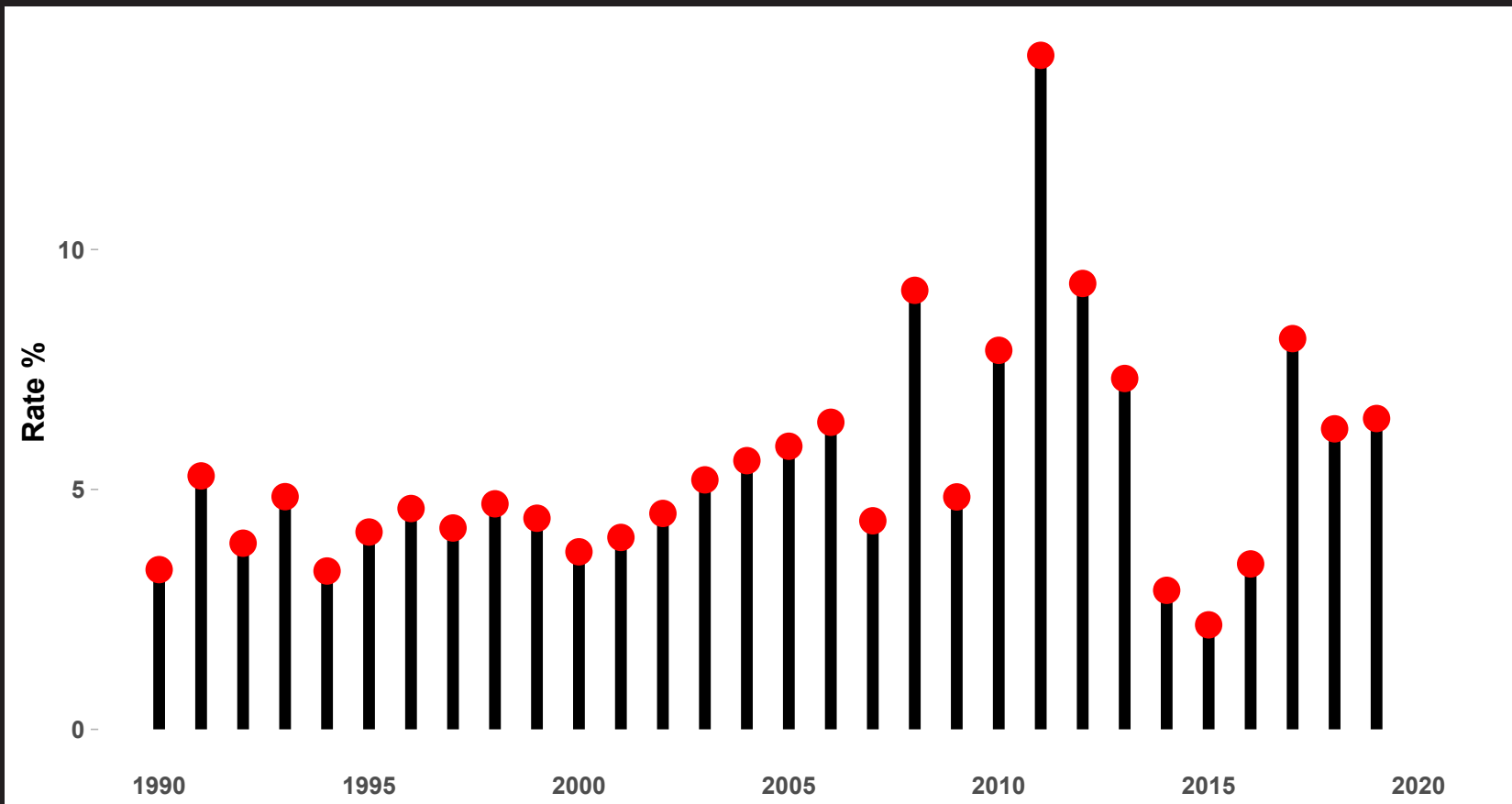


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

National Democratic Congress

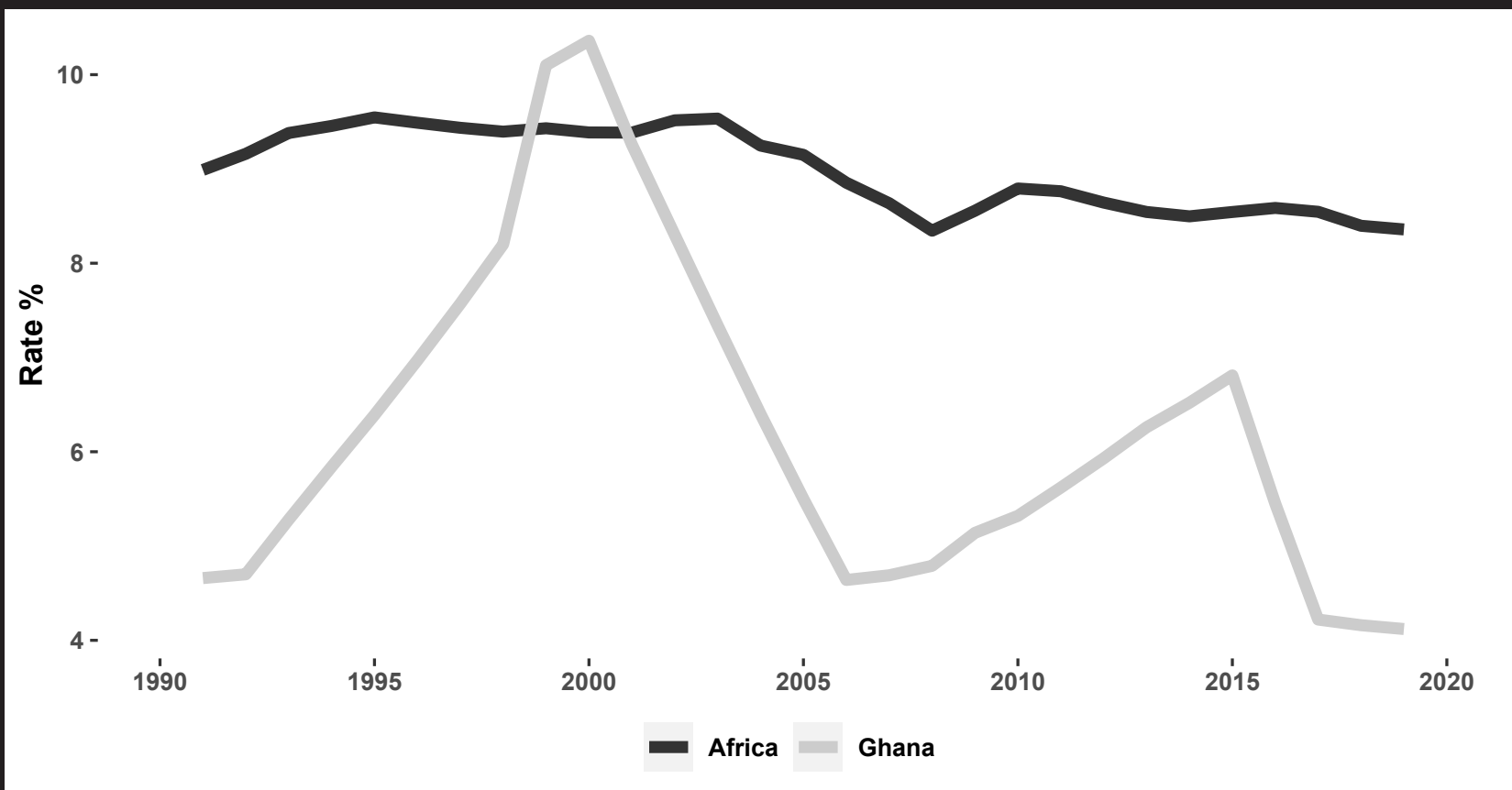
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



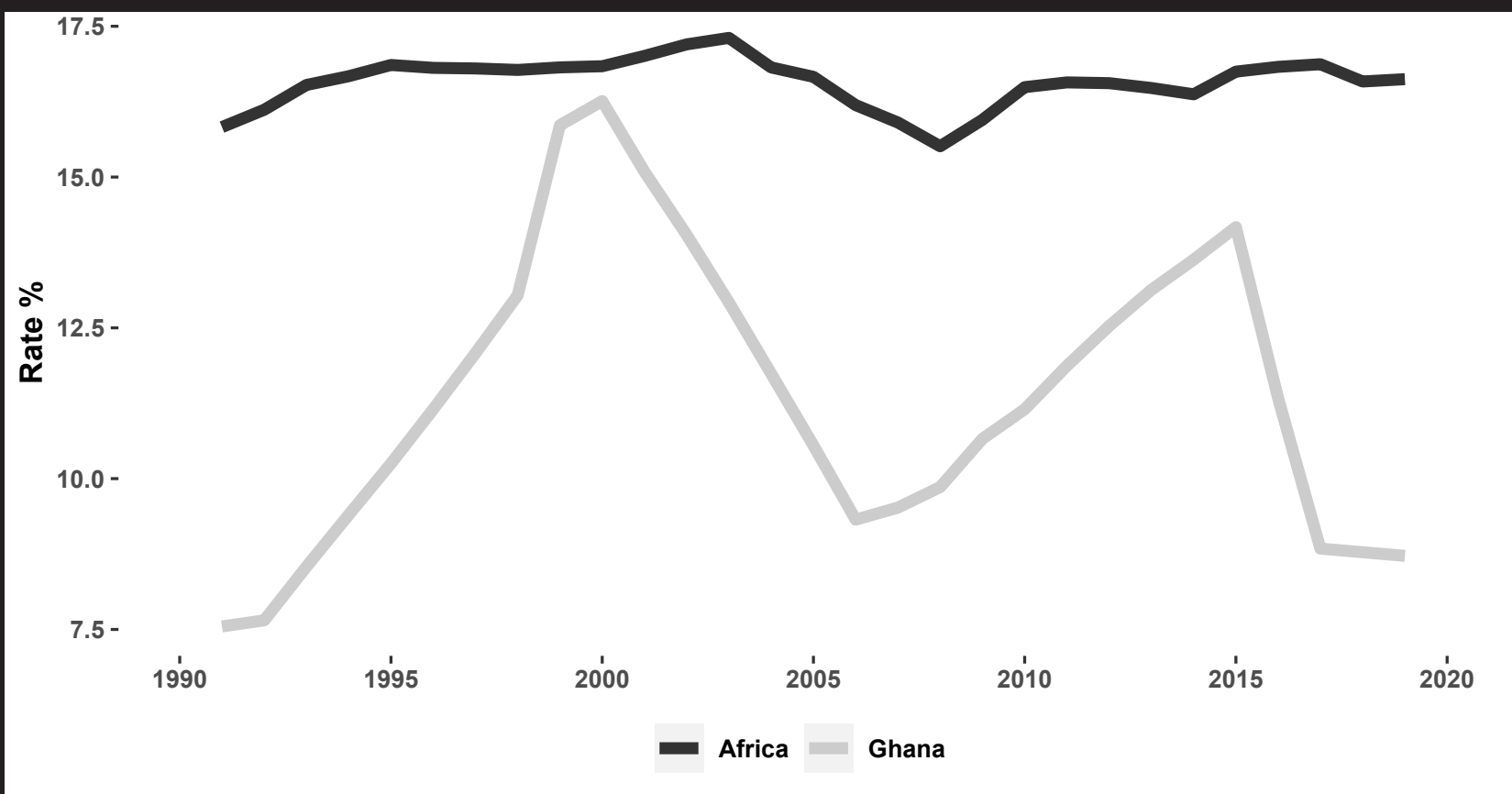
Ghana has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



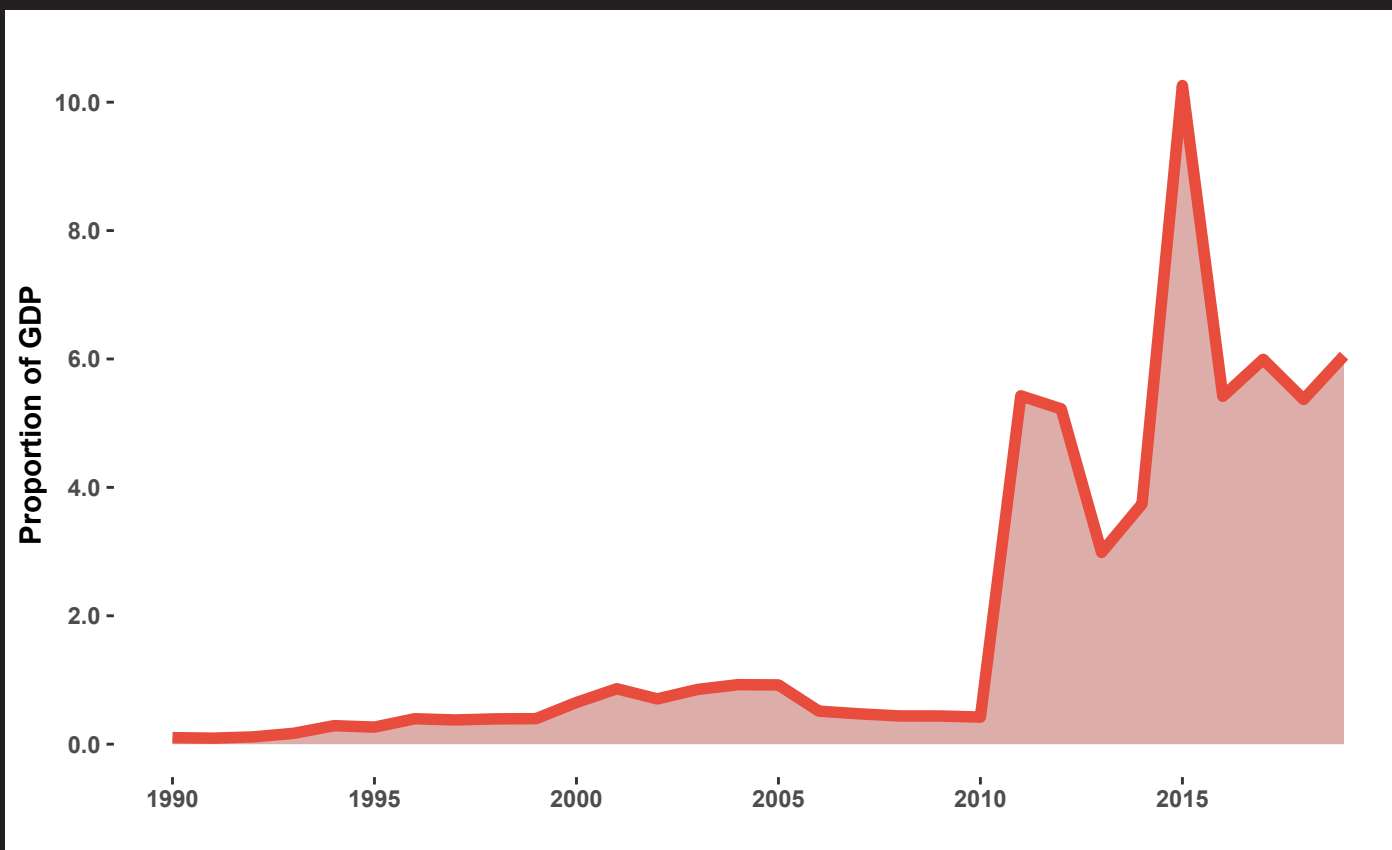
Although Ghana's unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years, Ghana's unemployment rate has fluctuated significantly during this period.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Although Ghana's youth unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years, Ghana's youth unemployment rate has fluctuated significantly during this period.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

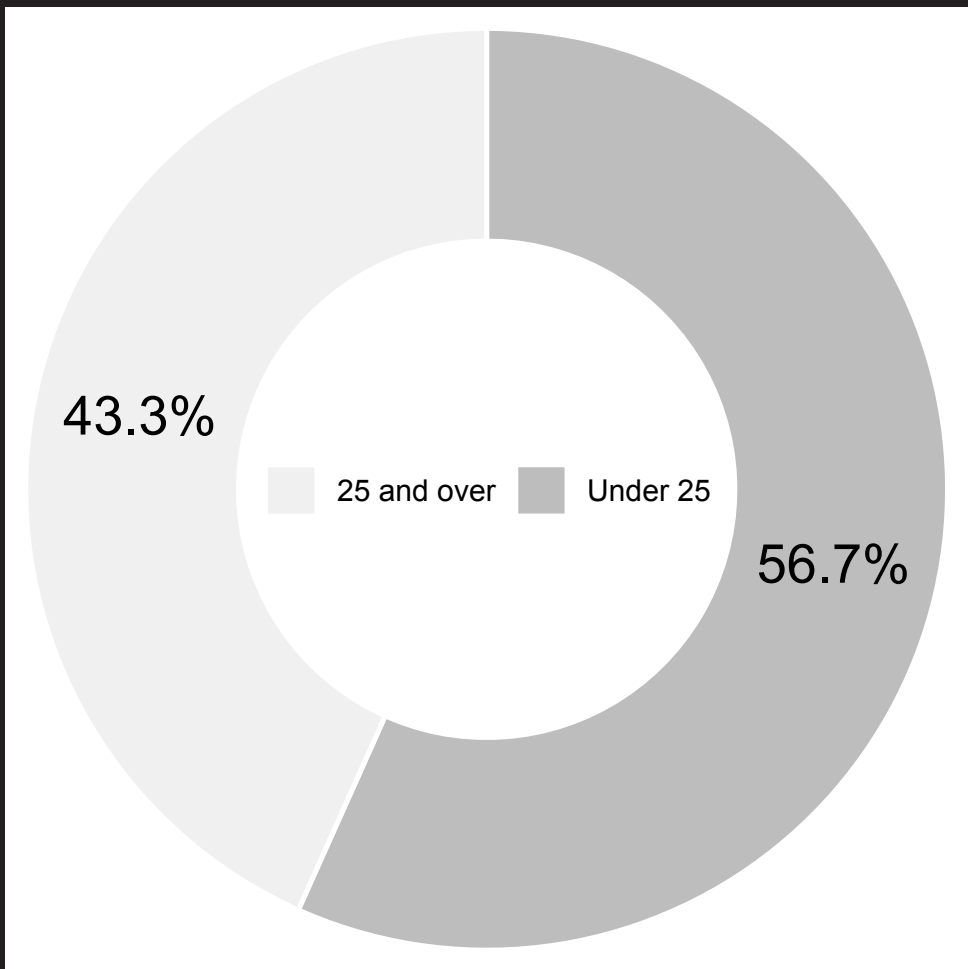
\$4.05 billion
which represents

6.05% of GDP

Since 2010 the Ghanaian economy has become increasingly reliant on remittances received.

DEMOGRAPHICS

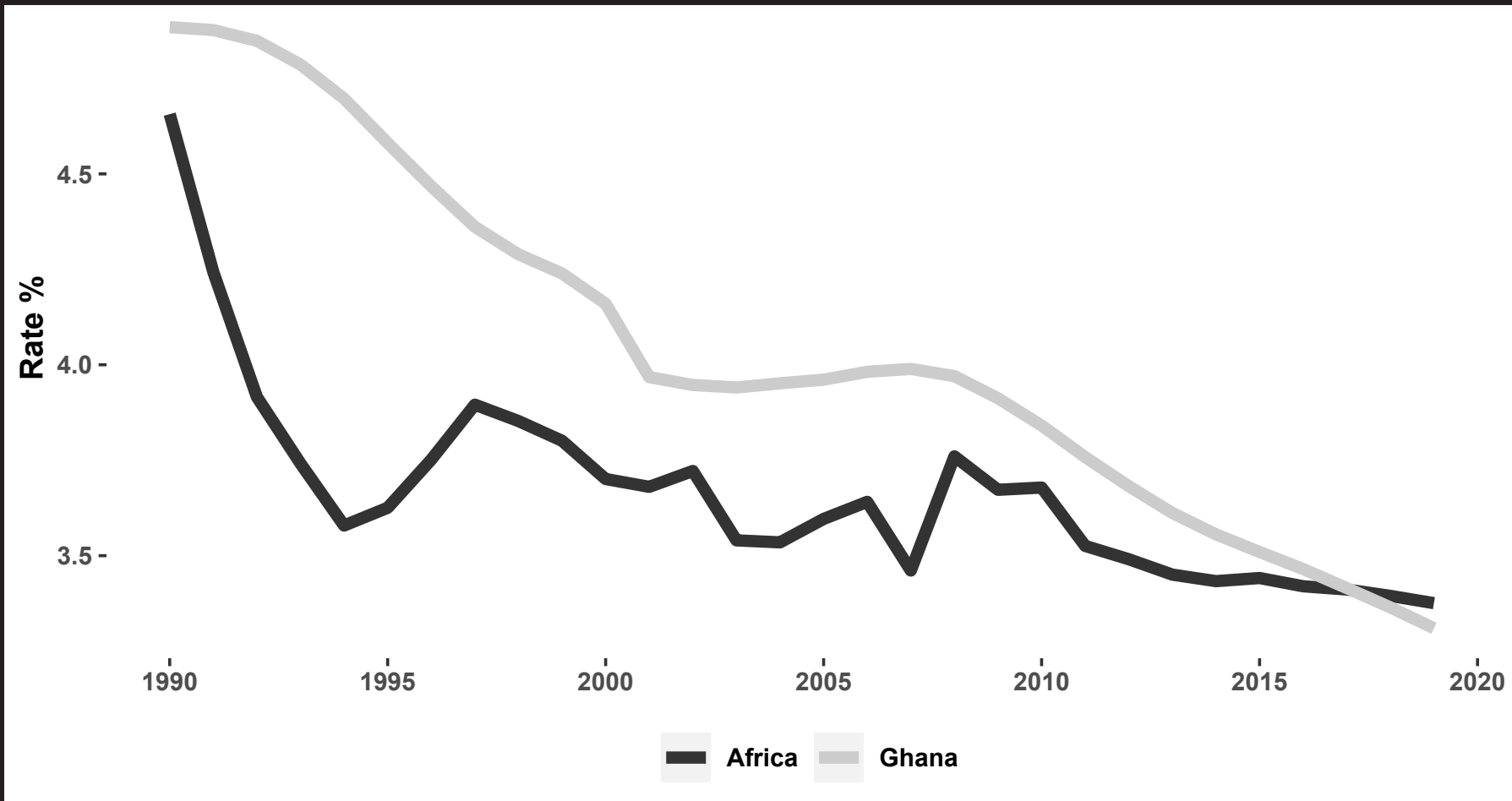
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



30.4 million

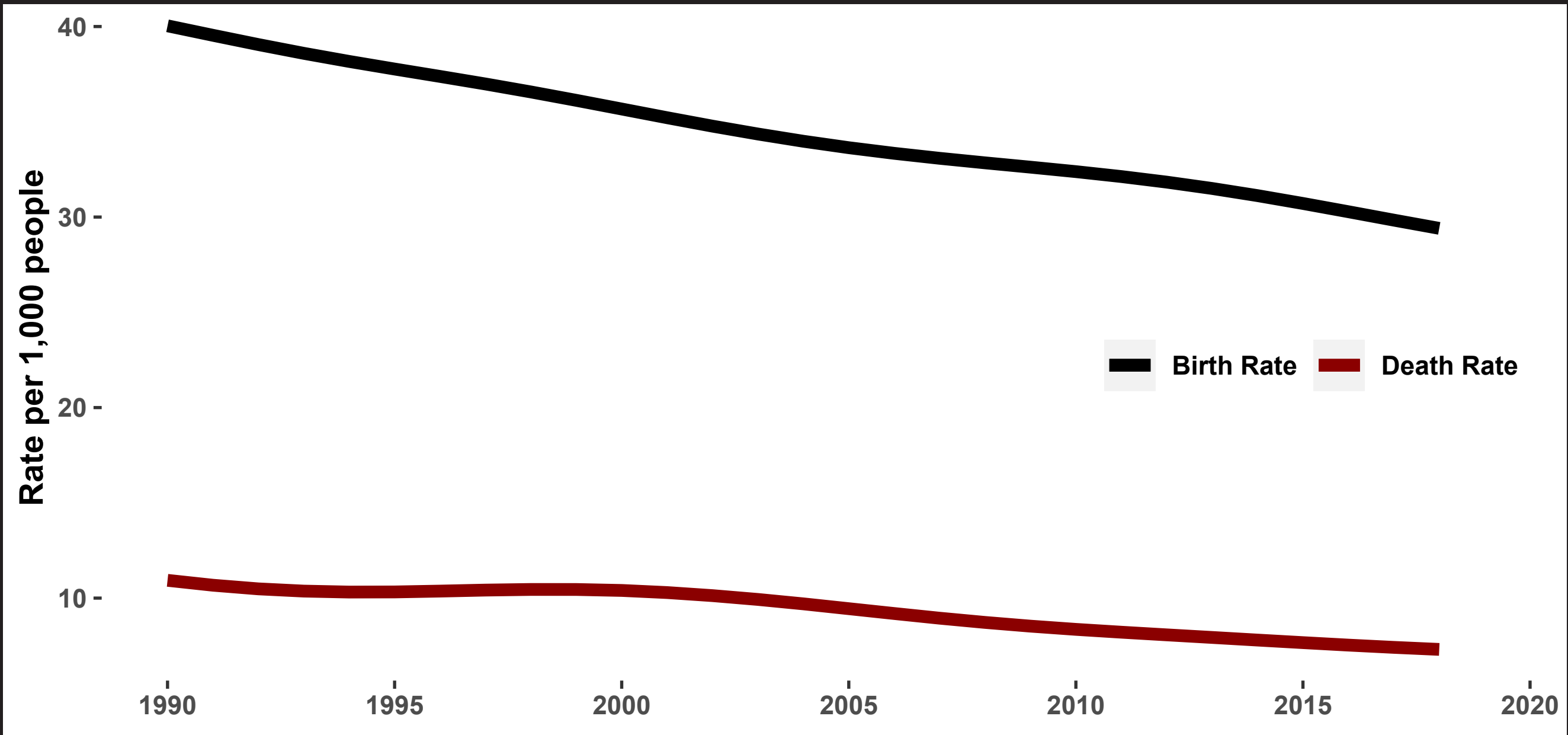
In line with continental trends, the majority of Ghana’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



The urbanisation rate in Ghana has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past 30 years.

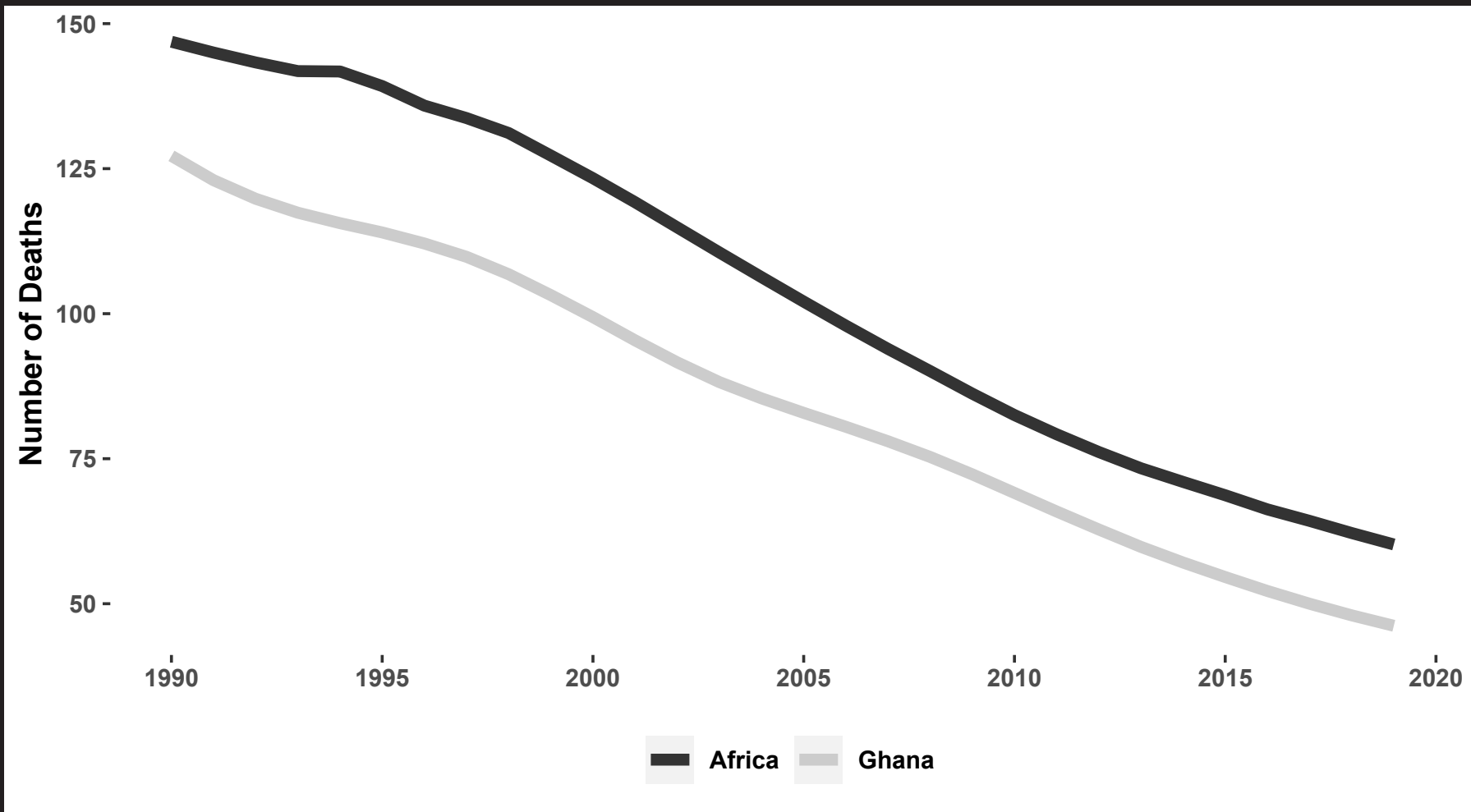
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Ghana has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

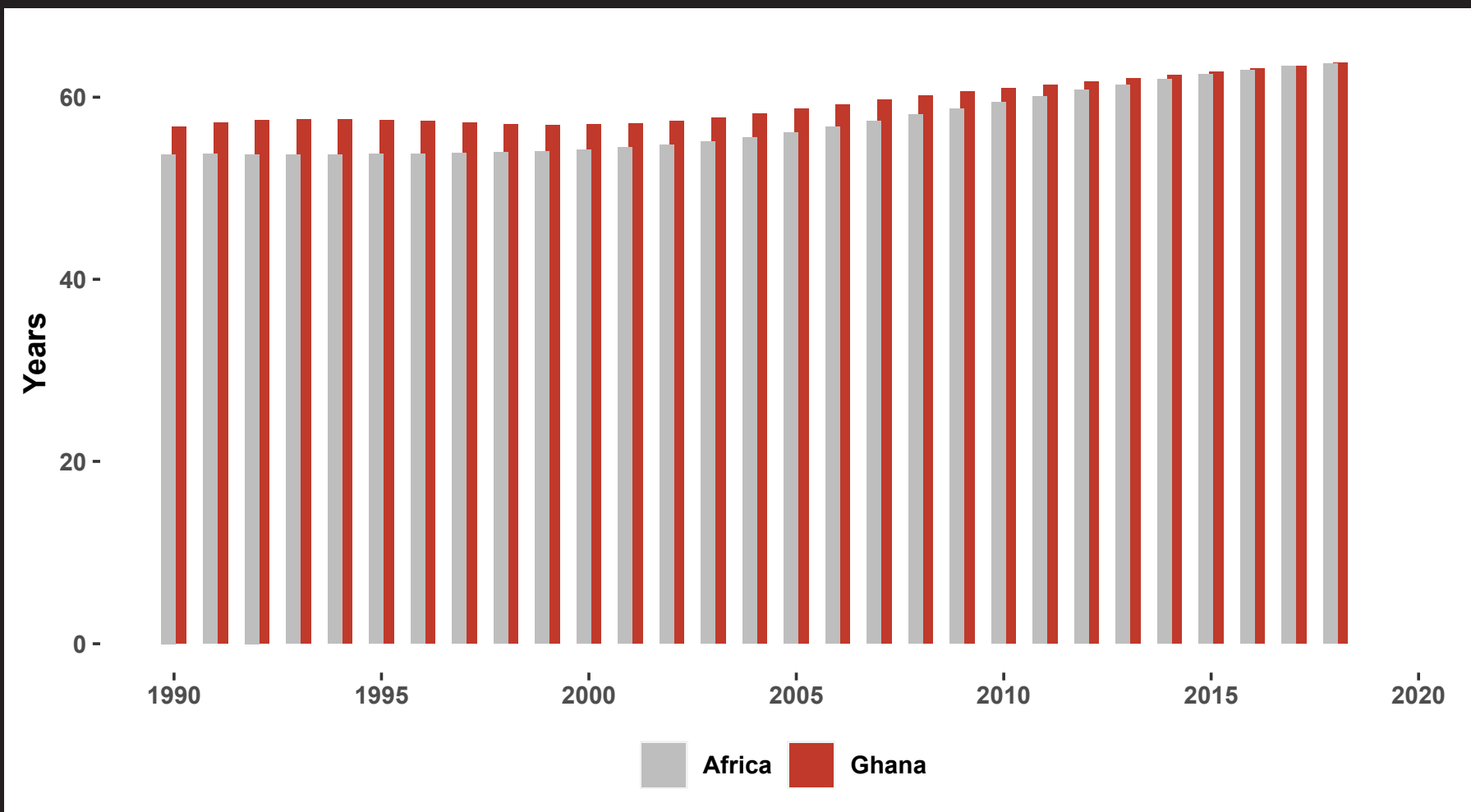
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



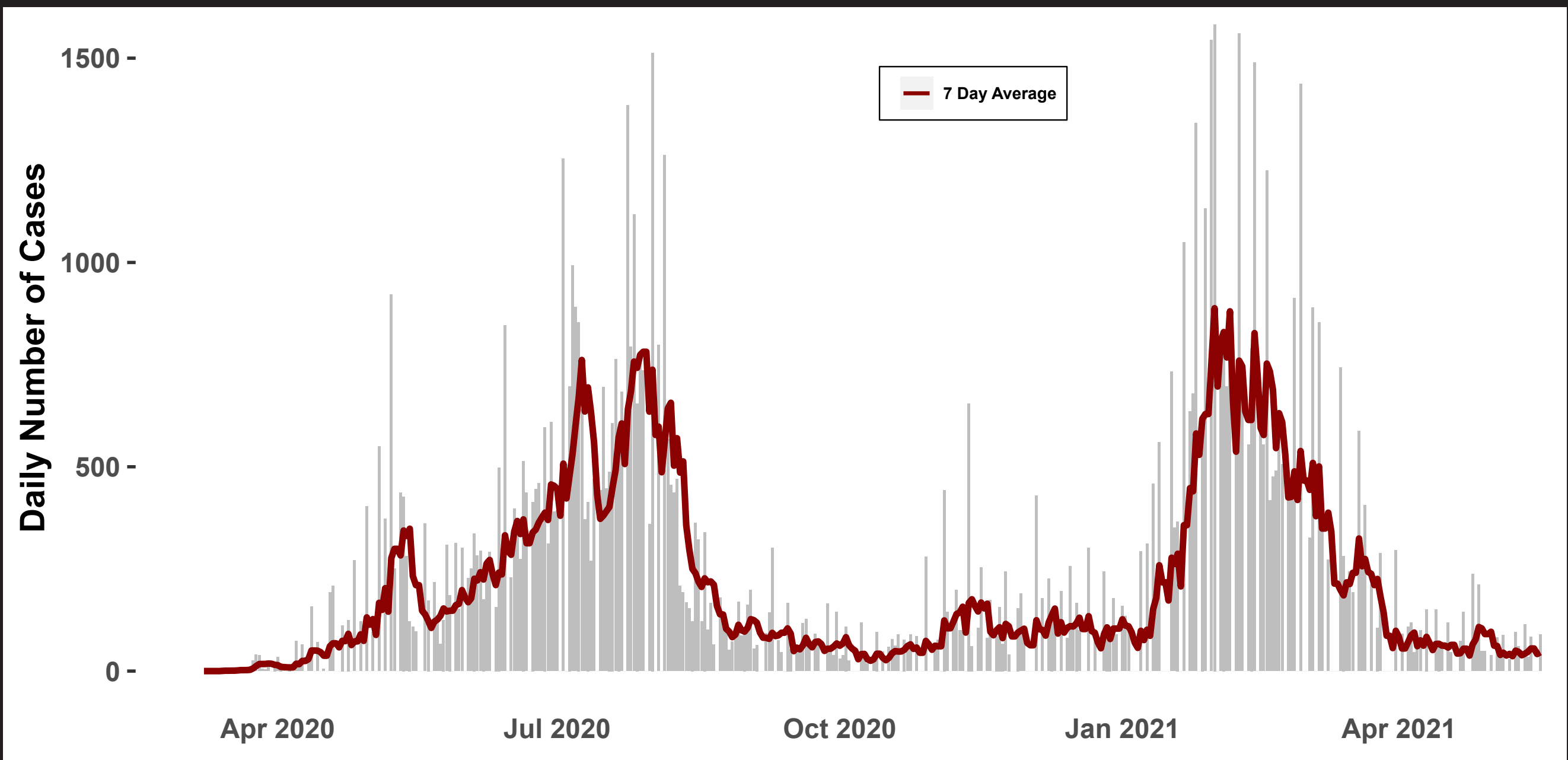
Ghana's child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Ghana has been increasing at a slower rate relative to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Ghana has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in July-August 2020 and February-March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

U.S. Department of Agriculture on Flickr.com



Cocoa is the main agricultural export of Ghana's. It is second only to the Ivory Coast, which also makes Ghana the second-largest cocoa exporter on the planet.

Von Daderot - Eigenes Werk



Ghana is the second-largest producer of gold in Africa. In fact, before 1957, Ghana was commonly known as the Gold Coast because of the availability of gold along the rivers Ankobra and Volta.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



The word "Ghana" has meaning. In the Senegalese Soninke language, Ghana means "Warrior King".



GUINEA

Guinea is a coastal country in West Africa. It stretches north through forested tropical regions and ends at the Sahel. The country that is now Guinea belonged to a series of African empires until France colonised it in the 1890s, and made it part of French West Africa. Guinea declared its independence in 1958. Formerly known as French Guinea, it is sometimes referred to as Guinea-Conakry to distinguish it from other countries with “Guinea” in their name, such as Guinea-Bissau and Equatorial Guinea. Guinea is a predominantly Islamic country, with Muslims representing 85% of the population. Its people belong to 24 ethnic groups. Guinea’s economy is largely dependent on agriculture and mineral production. It is the world’s second largest producer of bauxite, and has rich deposits of diamonds and gold.

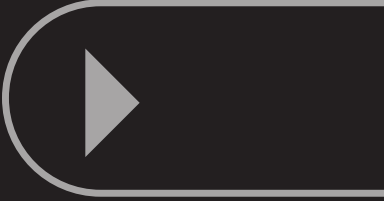
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Alpha Condé

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Conakry

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

178

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

40



MAIN LANGUAGES

French

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Democratic republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Rally of the Guinean People

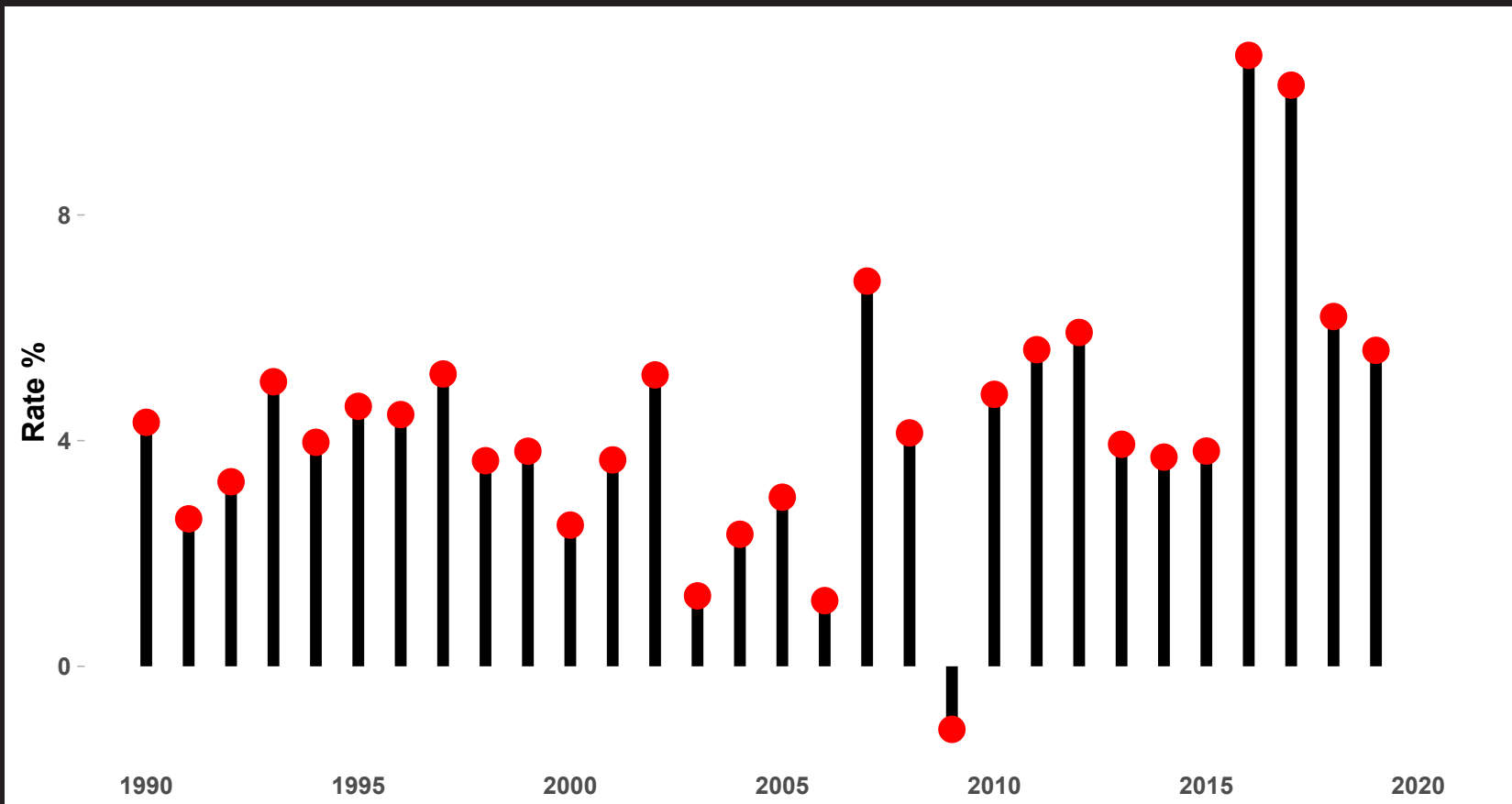


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Union of Democratic Forces of Guinea

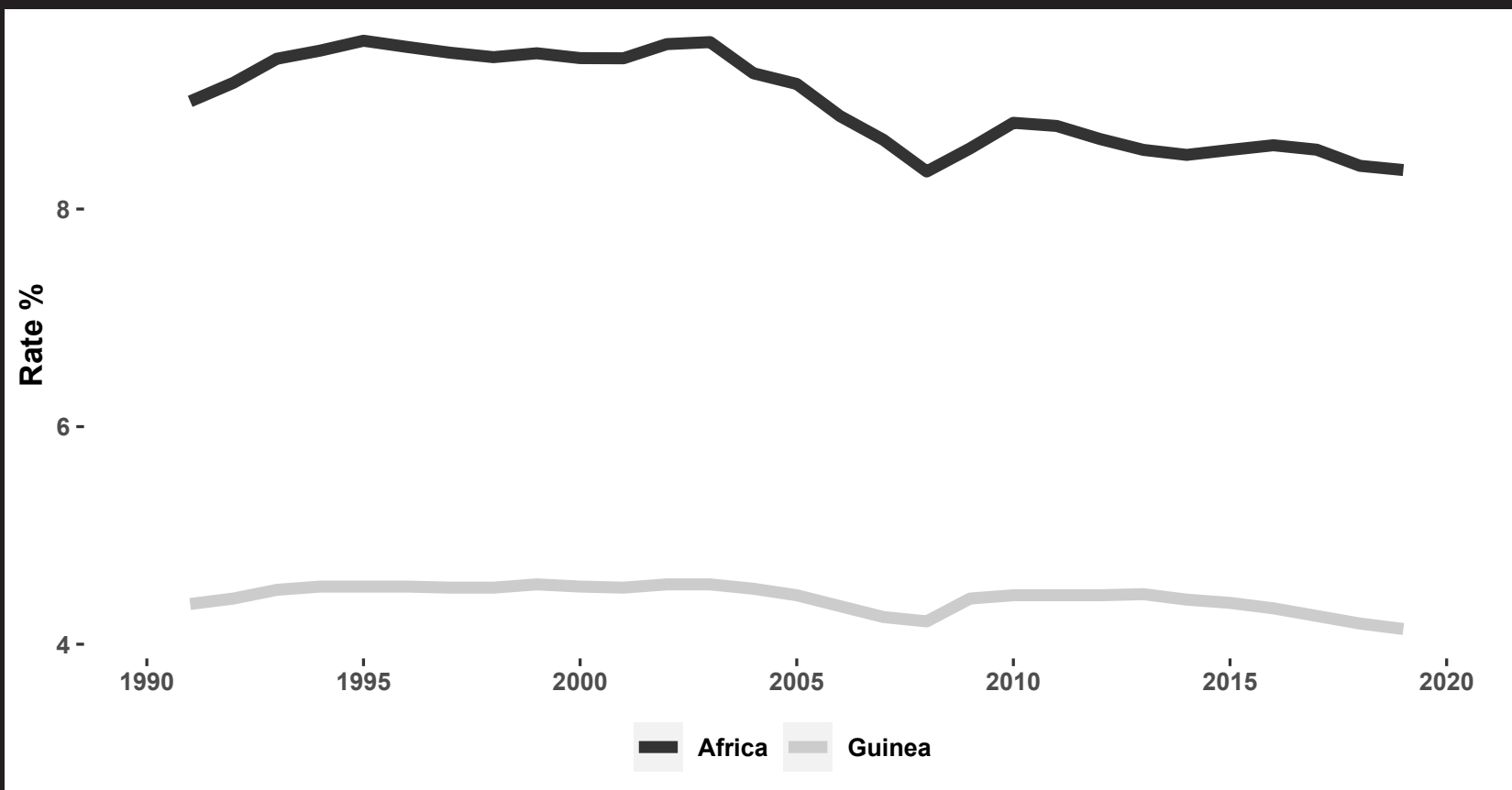
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



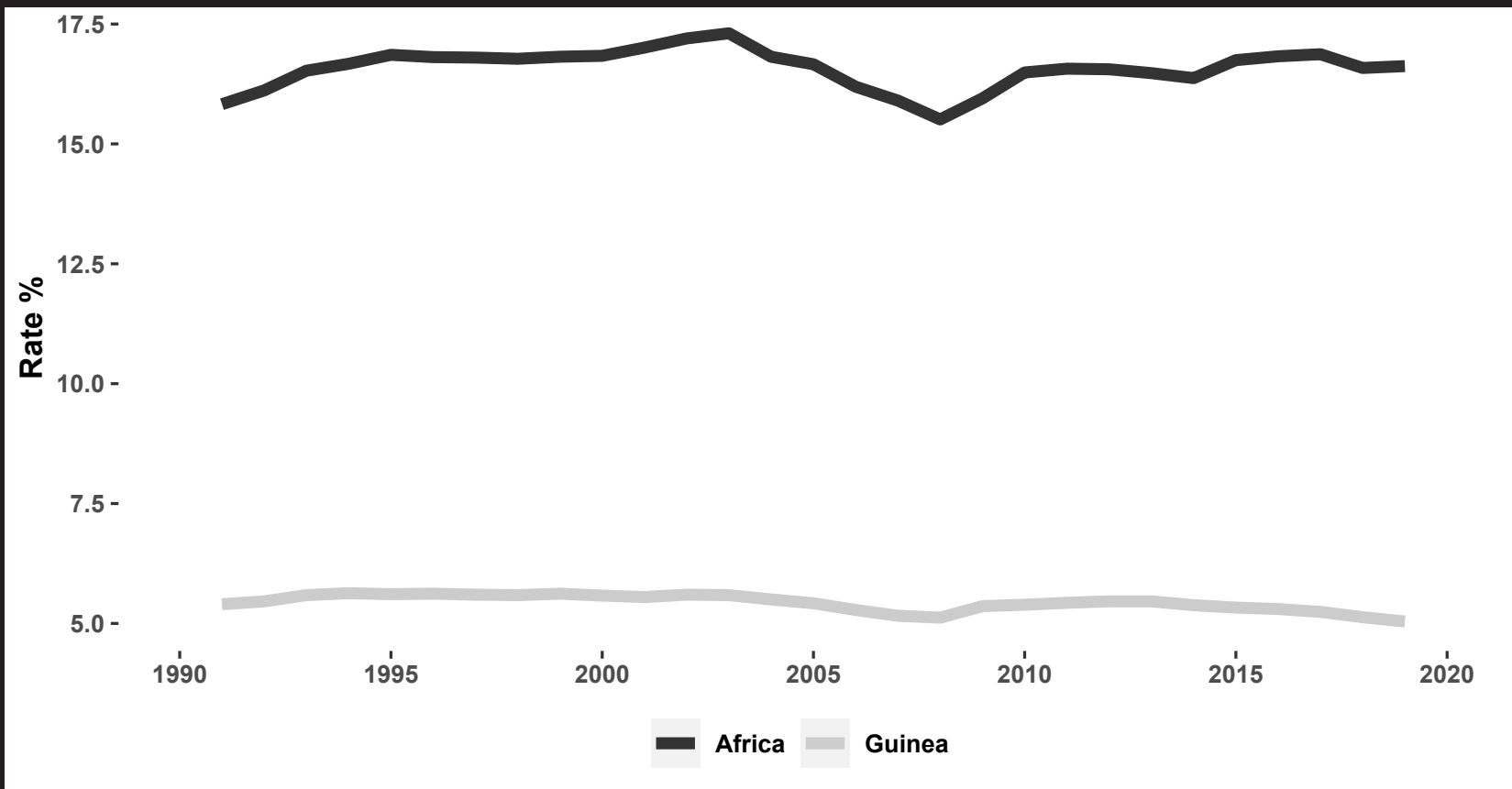
Apart from a brief recession in 2009, Guinea has seen continuous economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



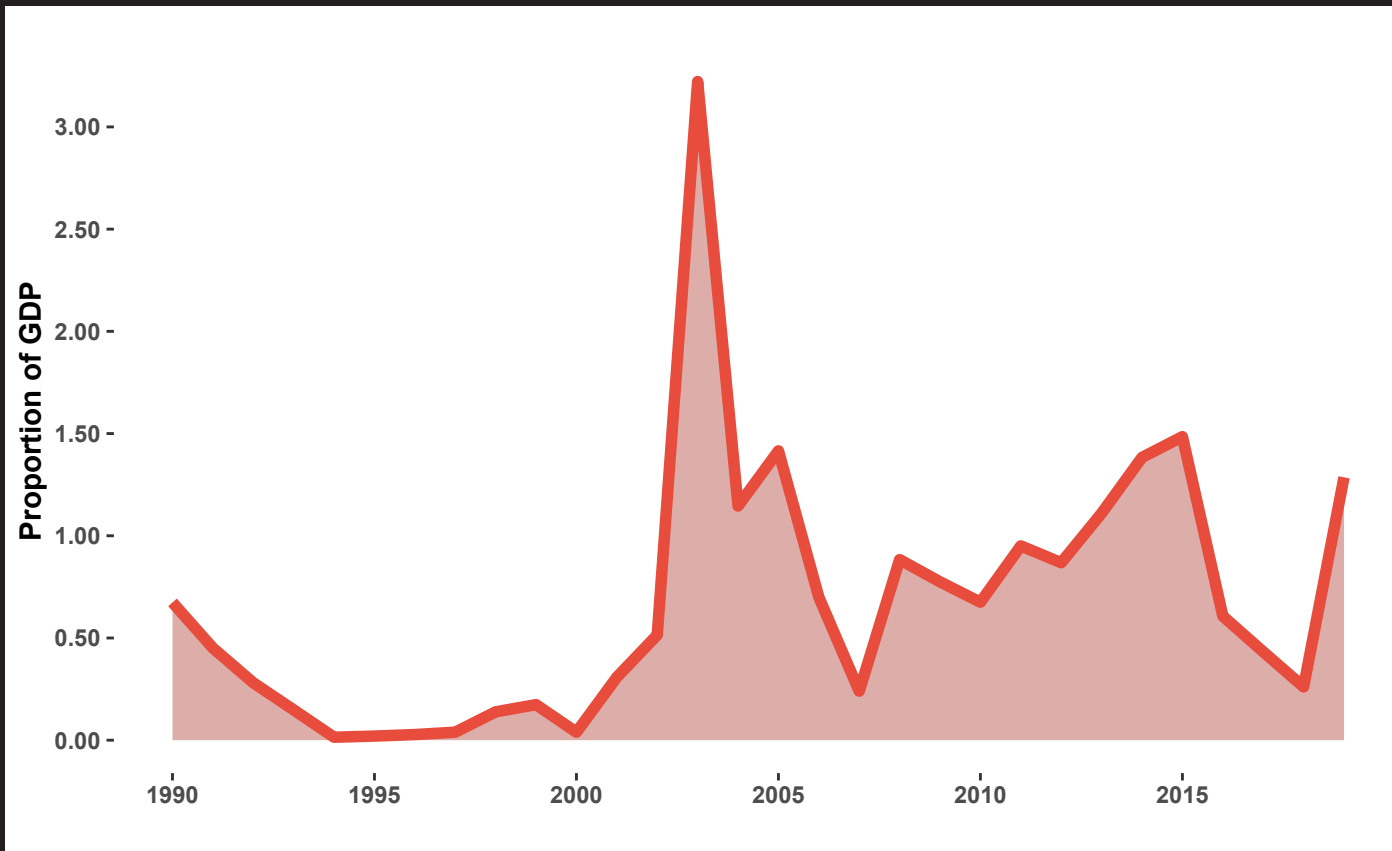
Guinea has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Guinea has consistently had one of the lowest youth unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$158 million

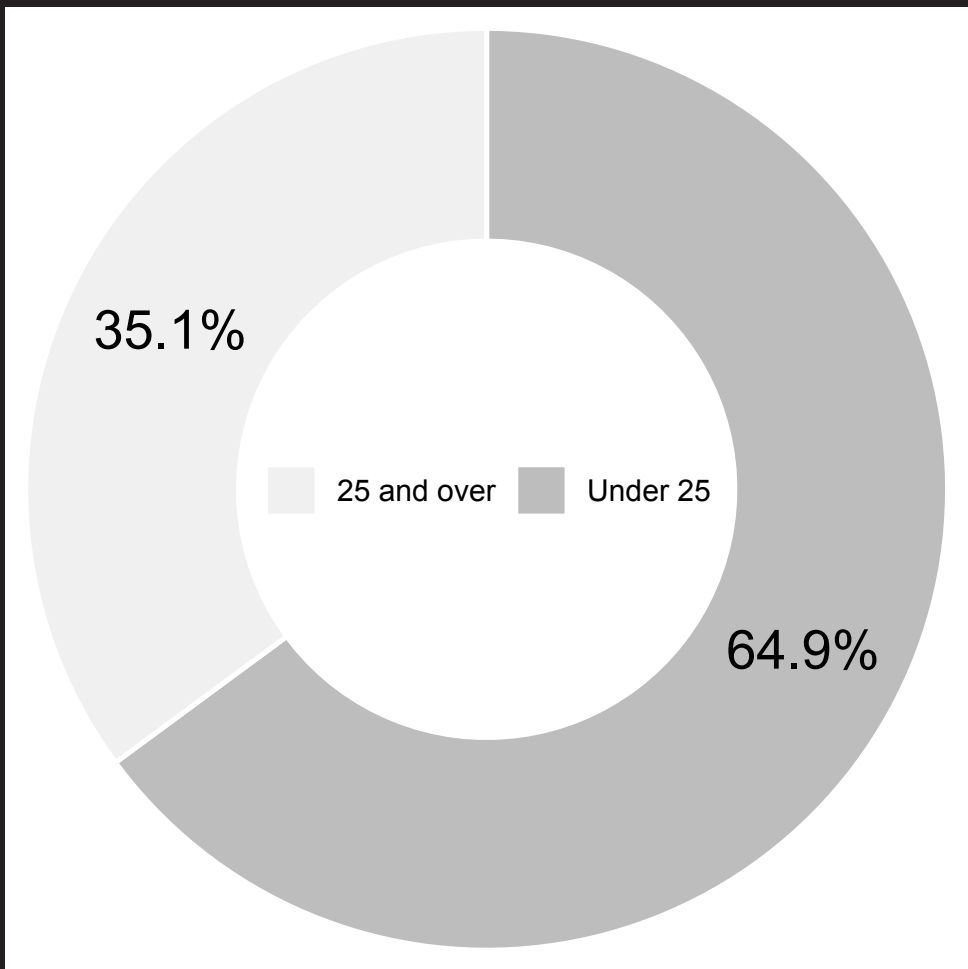
which represents

1.29% of GDP

Since 2005 the proportion of remittances has consistently accounted for between 0 and 1.5% of GDP

DEMOGRAPHICS

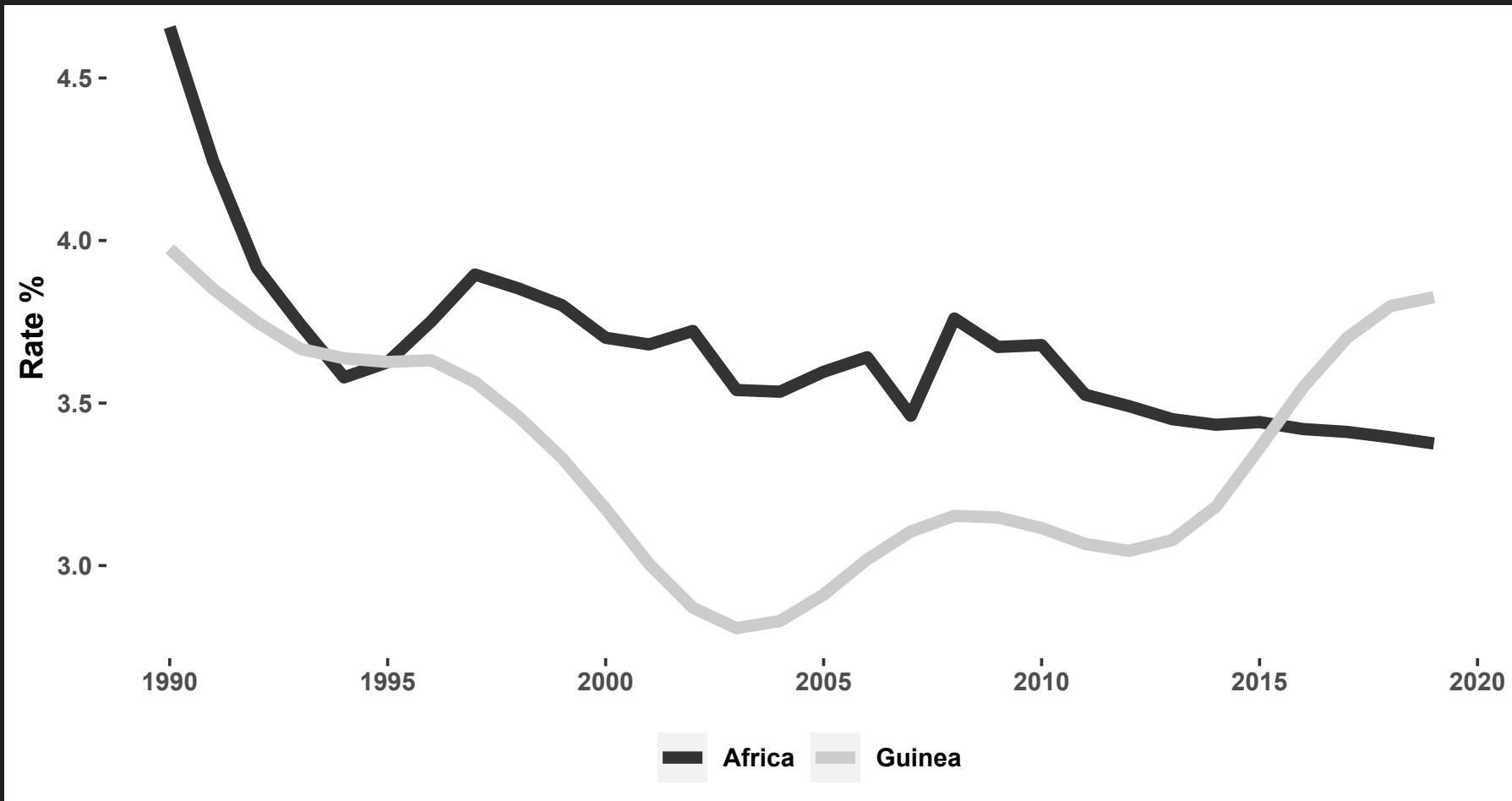
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



12.8 million

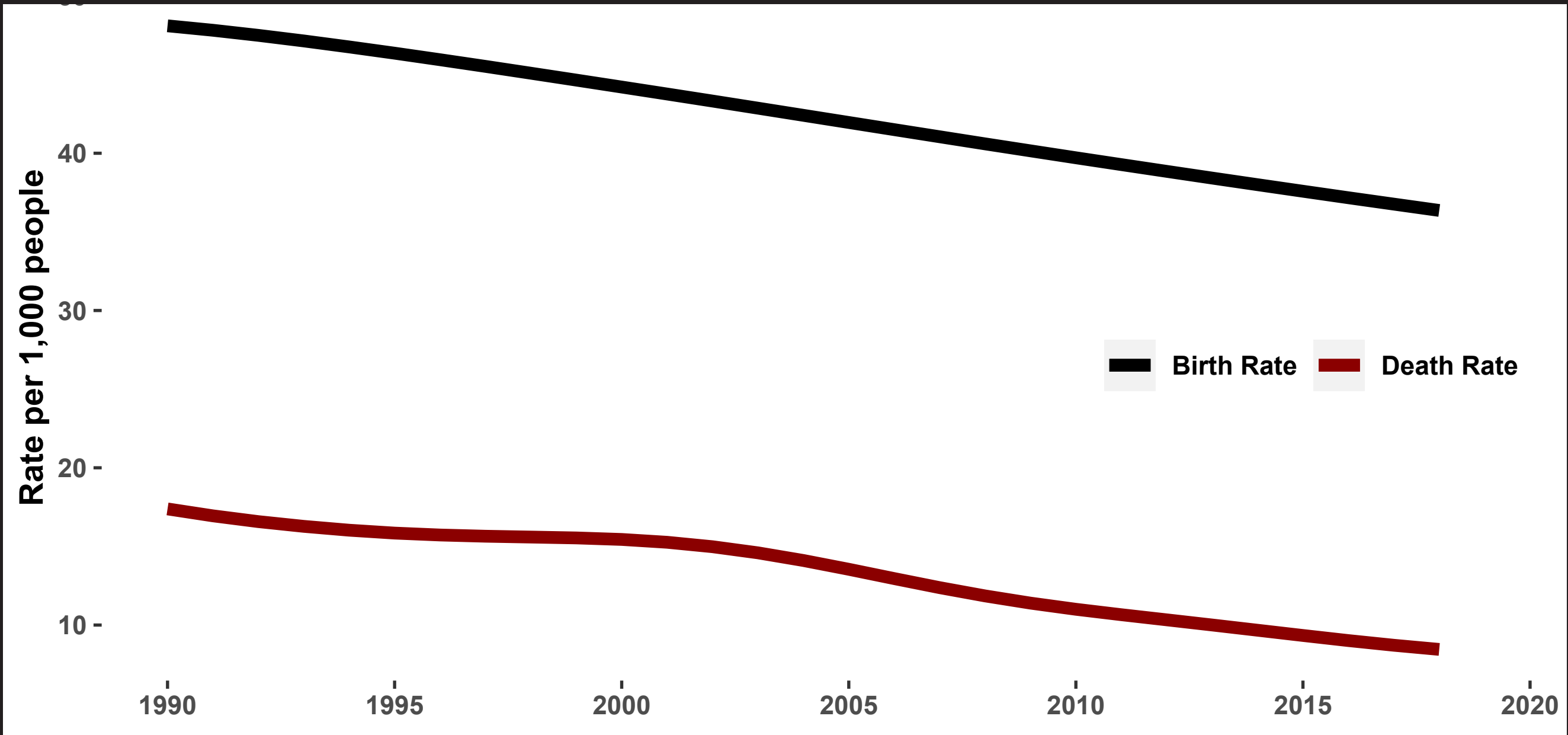
In line with continental trends, the majority of Guinea’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Guinea’s urbanisation rate has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past 30 years.

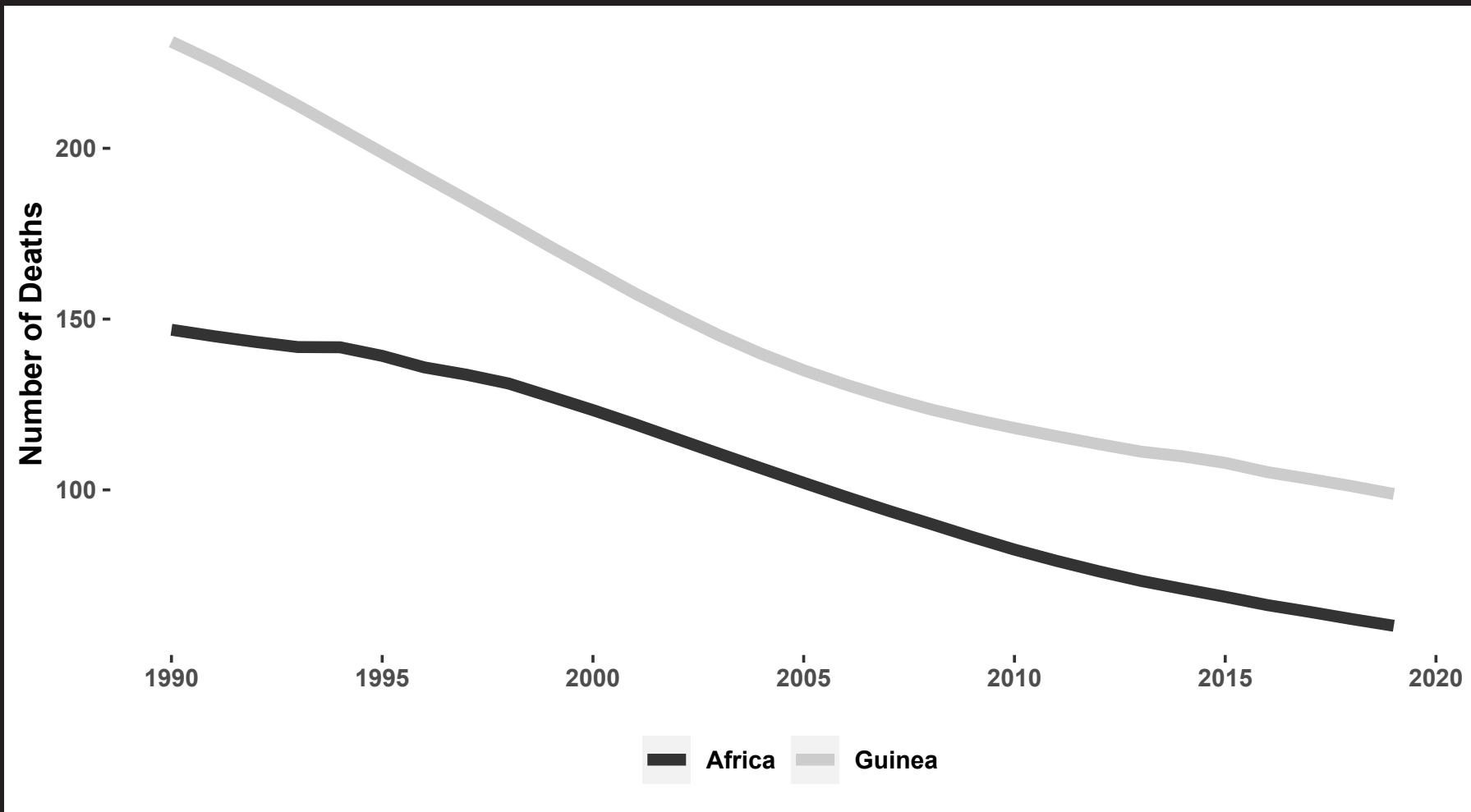
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Guinea has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate, which is more than double its death rate.

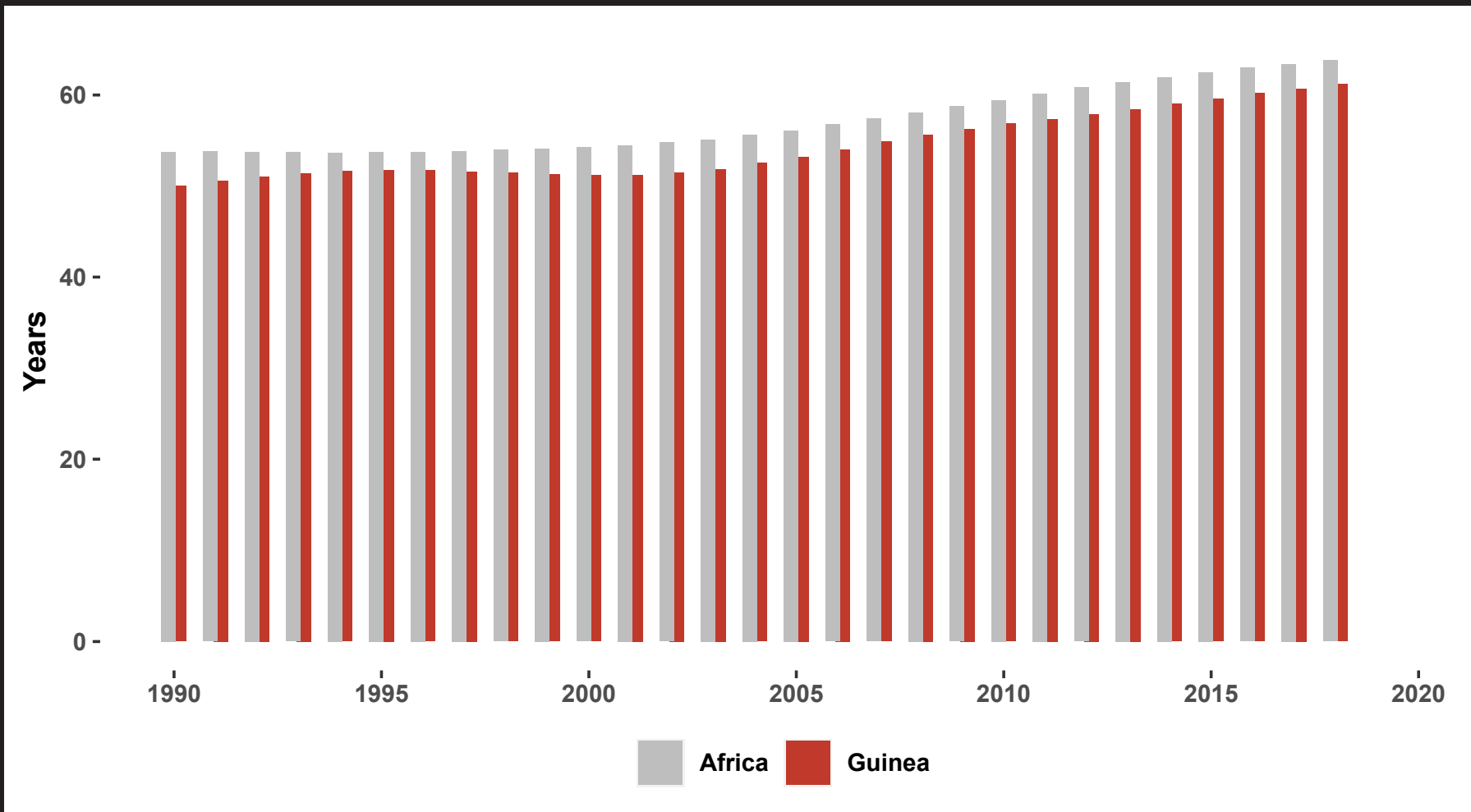
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



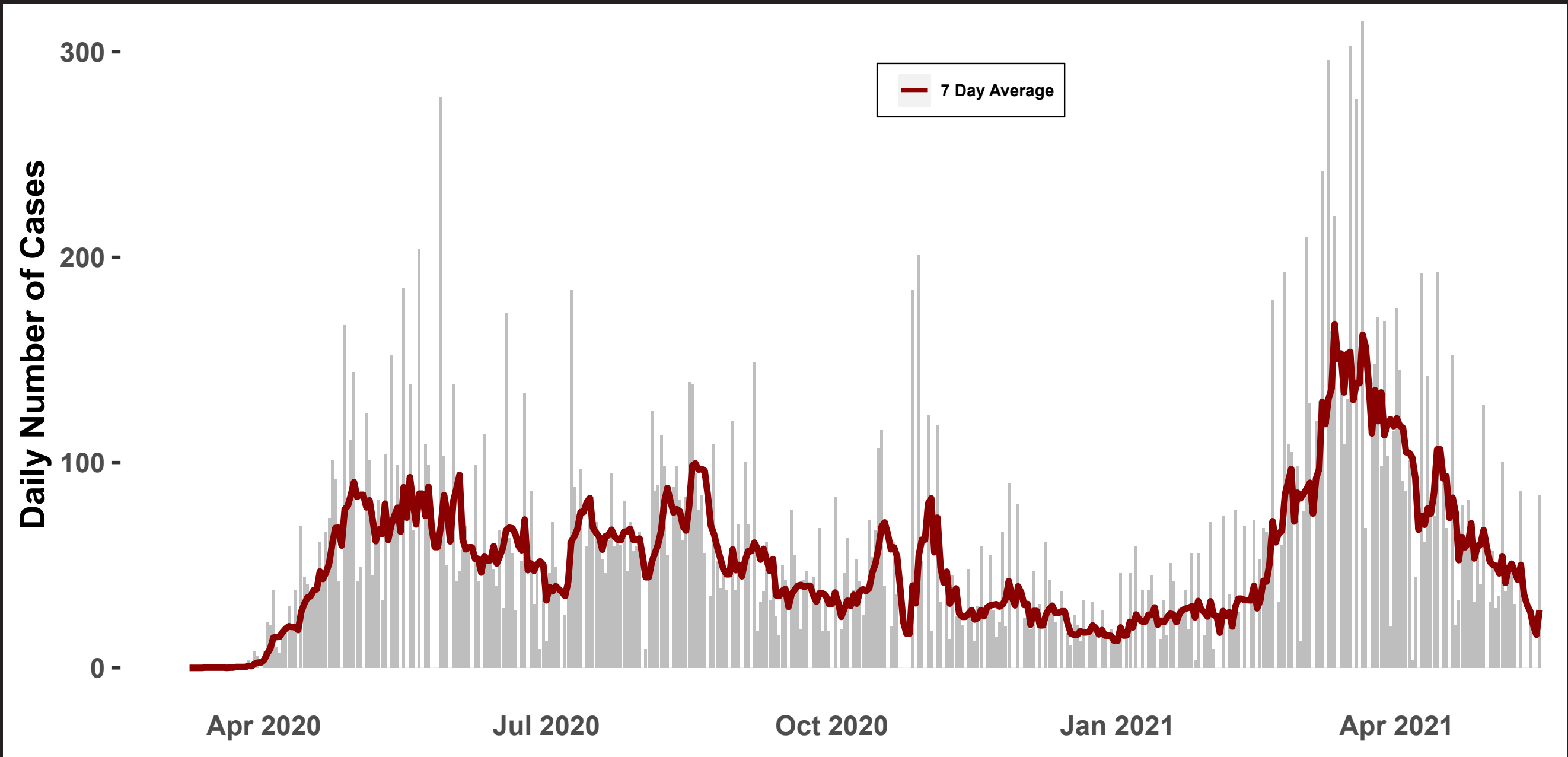
Guinea's child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Guinea has been increasing at a slower rate relative to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



The daily Covid-19 infection rate in Guinea has remained relatively consistent since April 2020 but has steadily increased since March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



UNMEER on Flickr.com

Most religions, cultures, and ethnic groups in Guinea support female genital mutilation, one of the highest rates of FGM in the world.



Daniel Beloumou Olomo / AFP

Football is the most popular sport in Guinea. The national football team is called Syli Nationale, which literally means National Elephants.



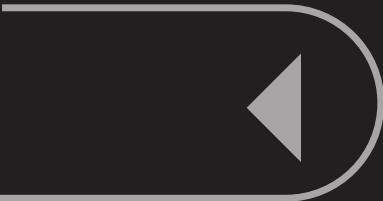
USAID

The majority of Guineans work in the agricultural sector, which employs approximately 75% of the population.



GUINEA-BISSAU

Guinea-Bissau is in West Africa, bordering Senegal and Guinea. Guinea-Bissau was once part of the kingdom of Kaabu, as well as part of the Mali empire. In the 19th century, the country was colonised as Portuguese Guinea. Upon independence, declared in 1973 and recognised in 1974, the name of its capital, Bissau, was added to the country’s name to prevent confusion with Guinea (formerly French Guinea). Guinea-Bissau had a history of political instability since independence, and only one elected president (José Mário Vaz) has successfully served a full five-year term. Only about 2% of the population speaks Portuguese, the official language, as a first language, and 33% speak it as a second language. Creole is the national language and also is considered the language of unity. The official currency is the CFA franc.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Umaro Sissoco Embaló



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

SEPTEMBER

24

SINCE 1973



CAPITAL CITY
Bissau

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

175

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

4



MAIN LANGUAGES
Portuguese Creole

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary semi-presidential republic



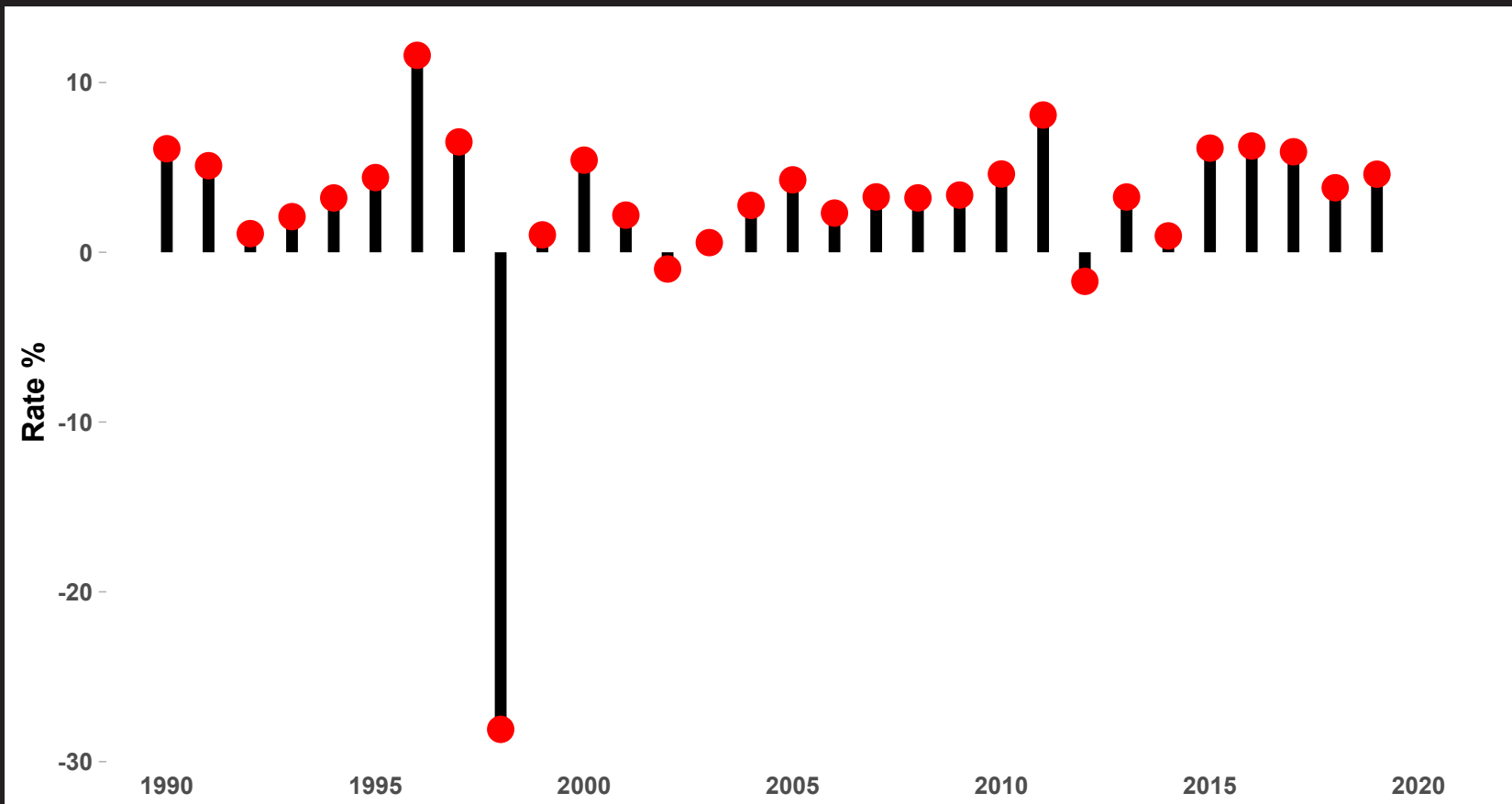
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Madem G15

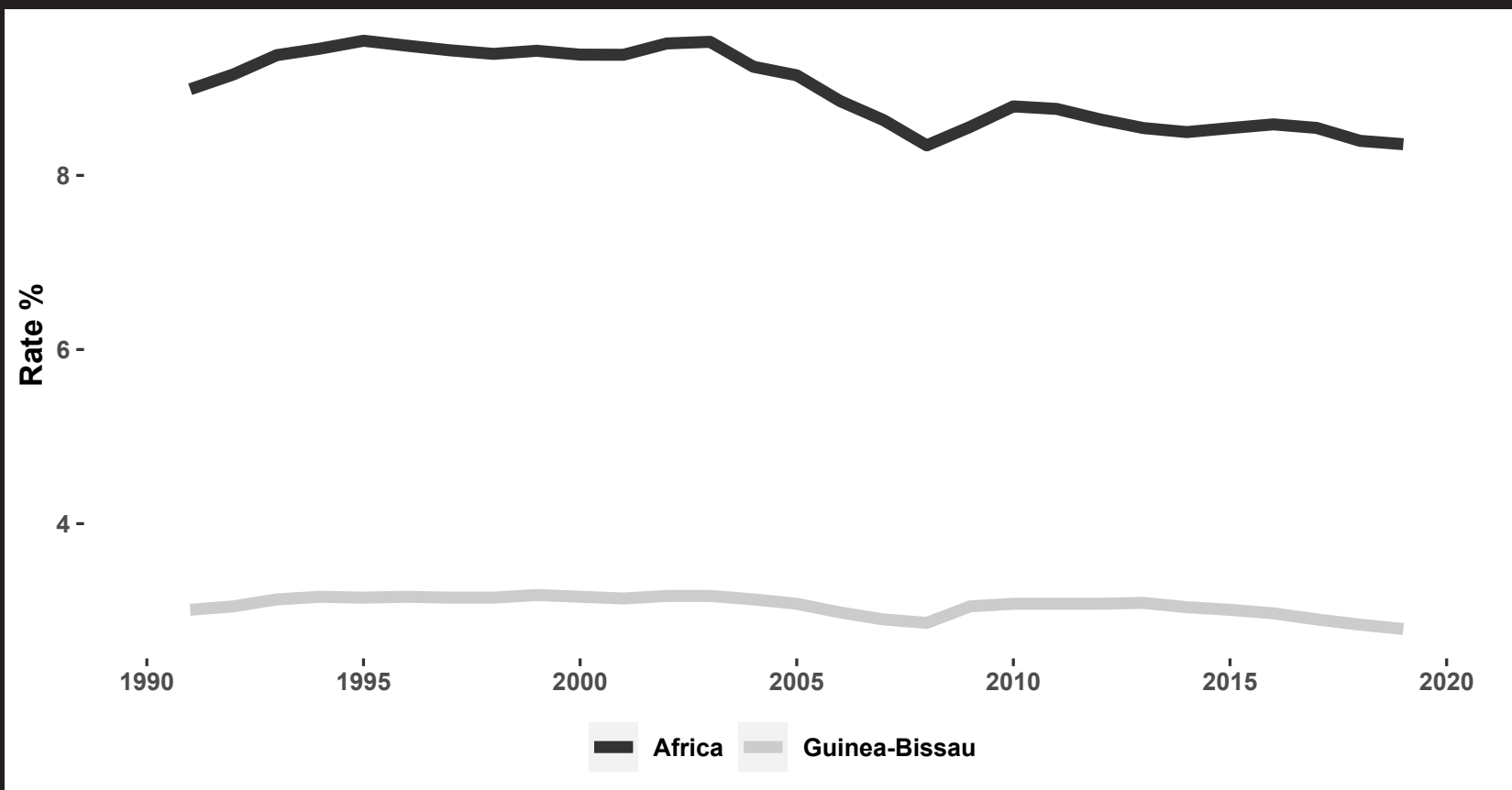
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



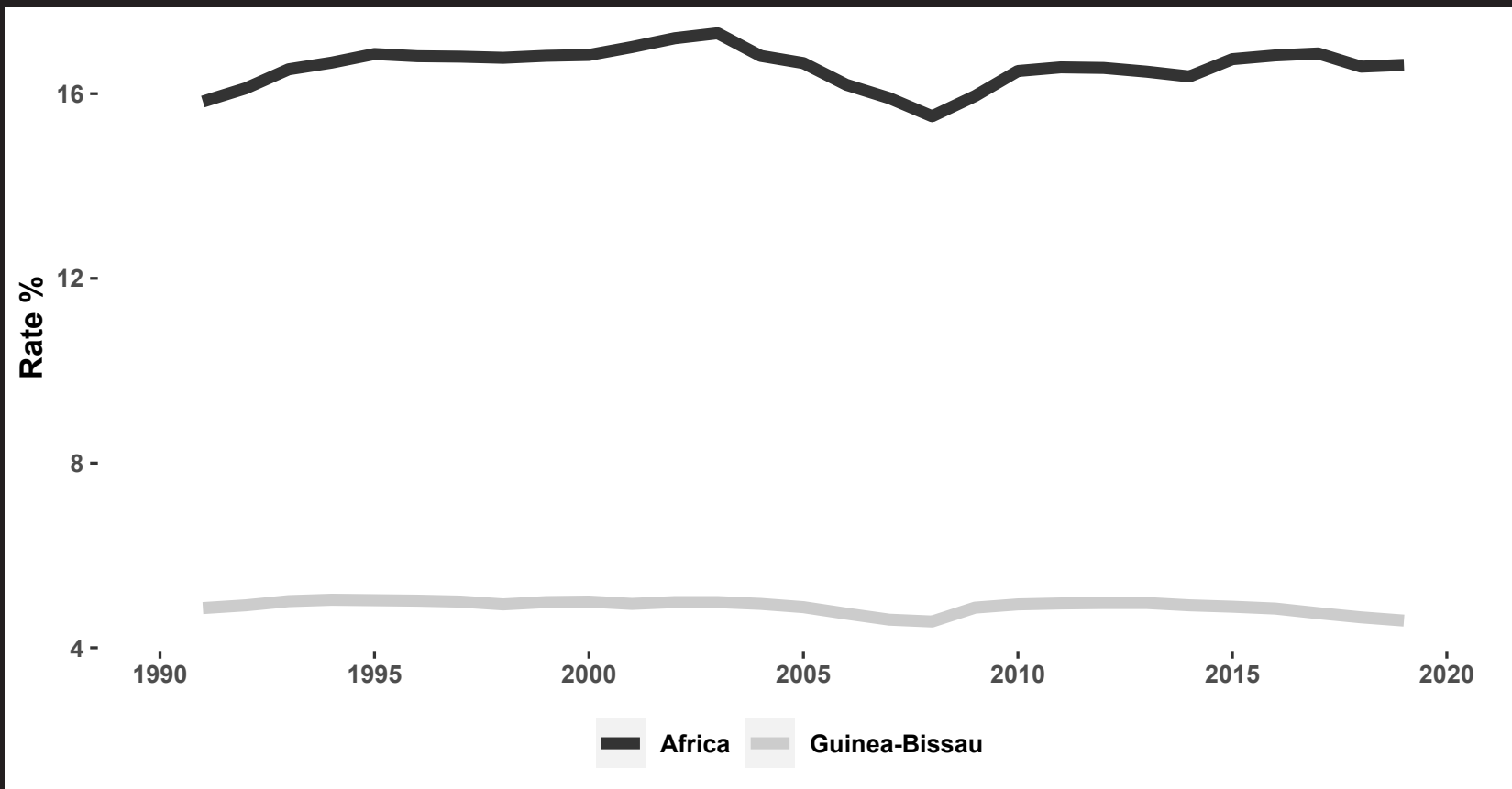
Apart from a severe economic contraction, which occurred in 1998 due to the Guinea-Bissau civil war, Guinea-Bissau has generally seen regular economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



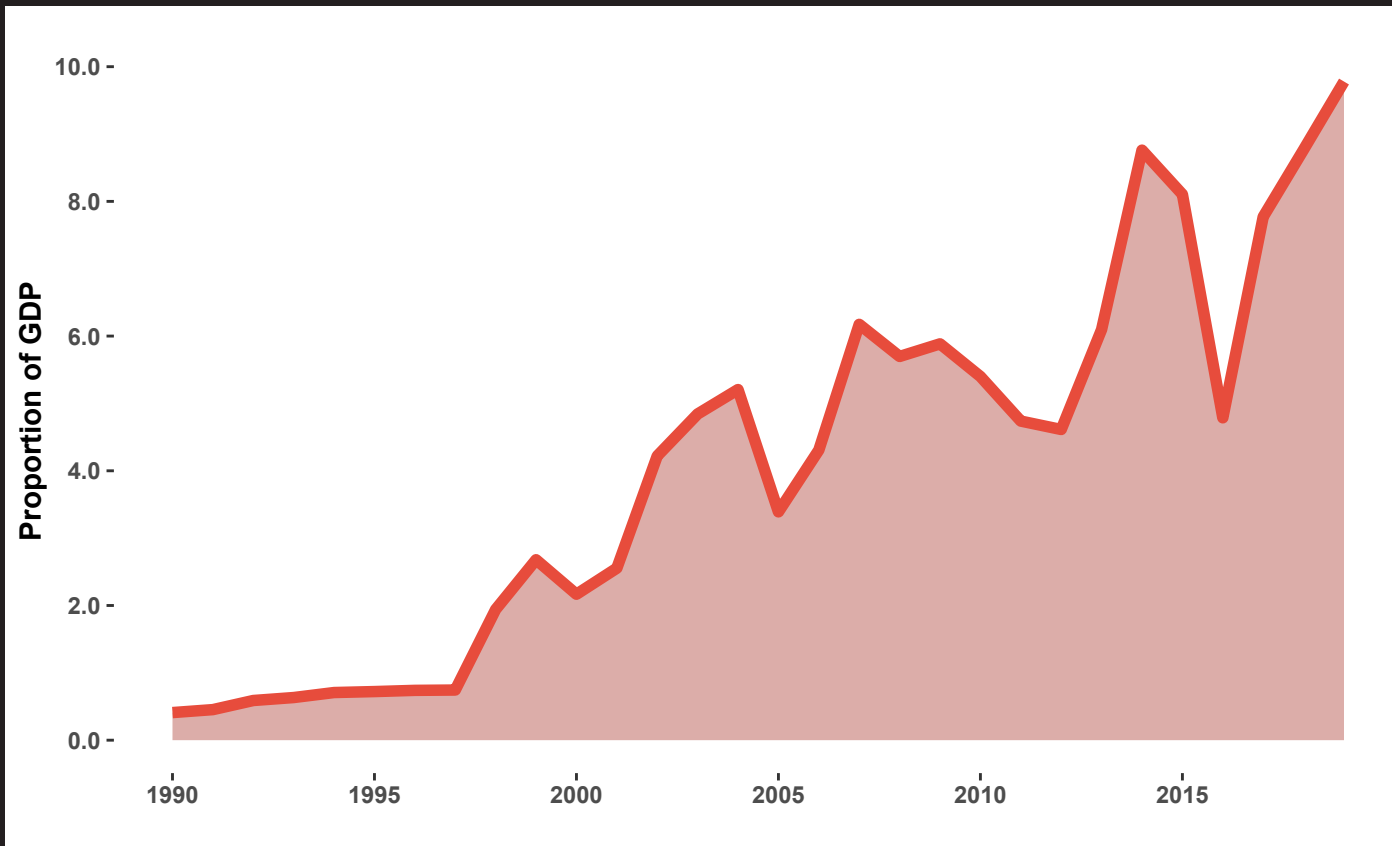
Guinea-Bissau has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Guinea-Bissau has had one of the lowest youth unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$131 million

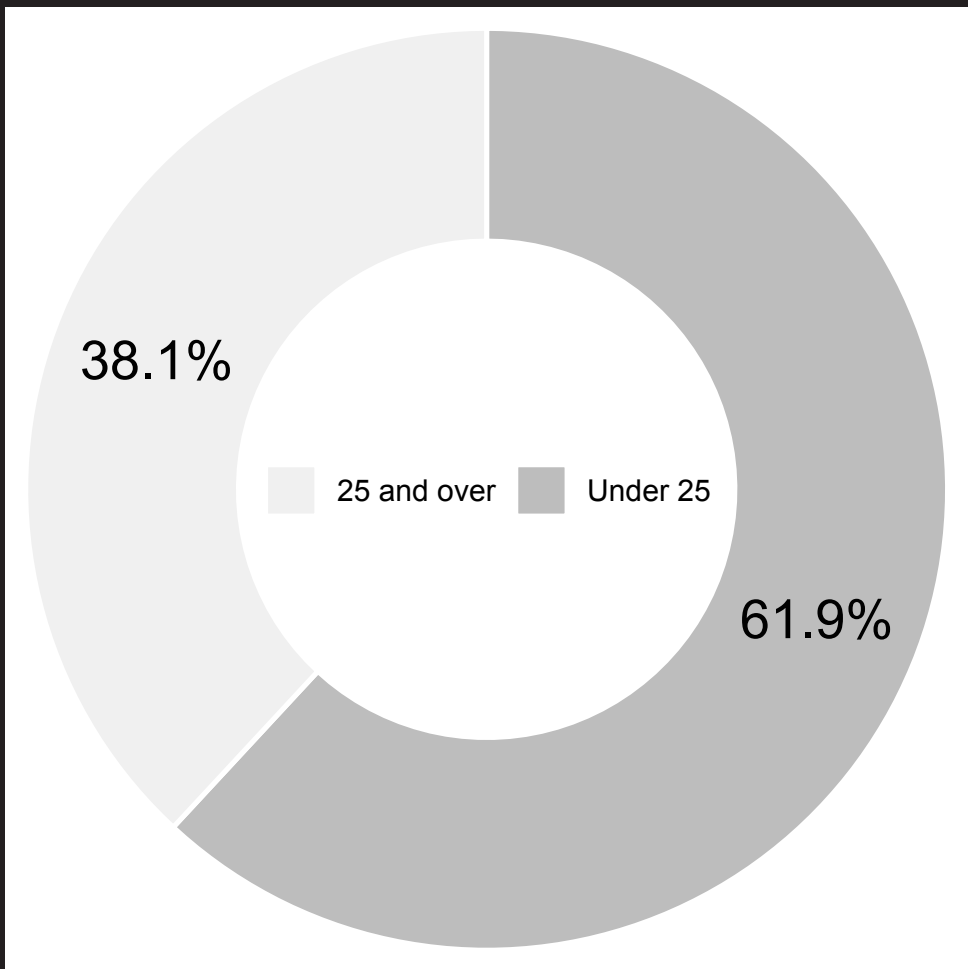
which represents

9.8% of GDP

Guinea-Bissau’s economy has become increasingly reliant on remittances received over the past 30 years.

DEMOGRAPHICS

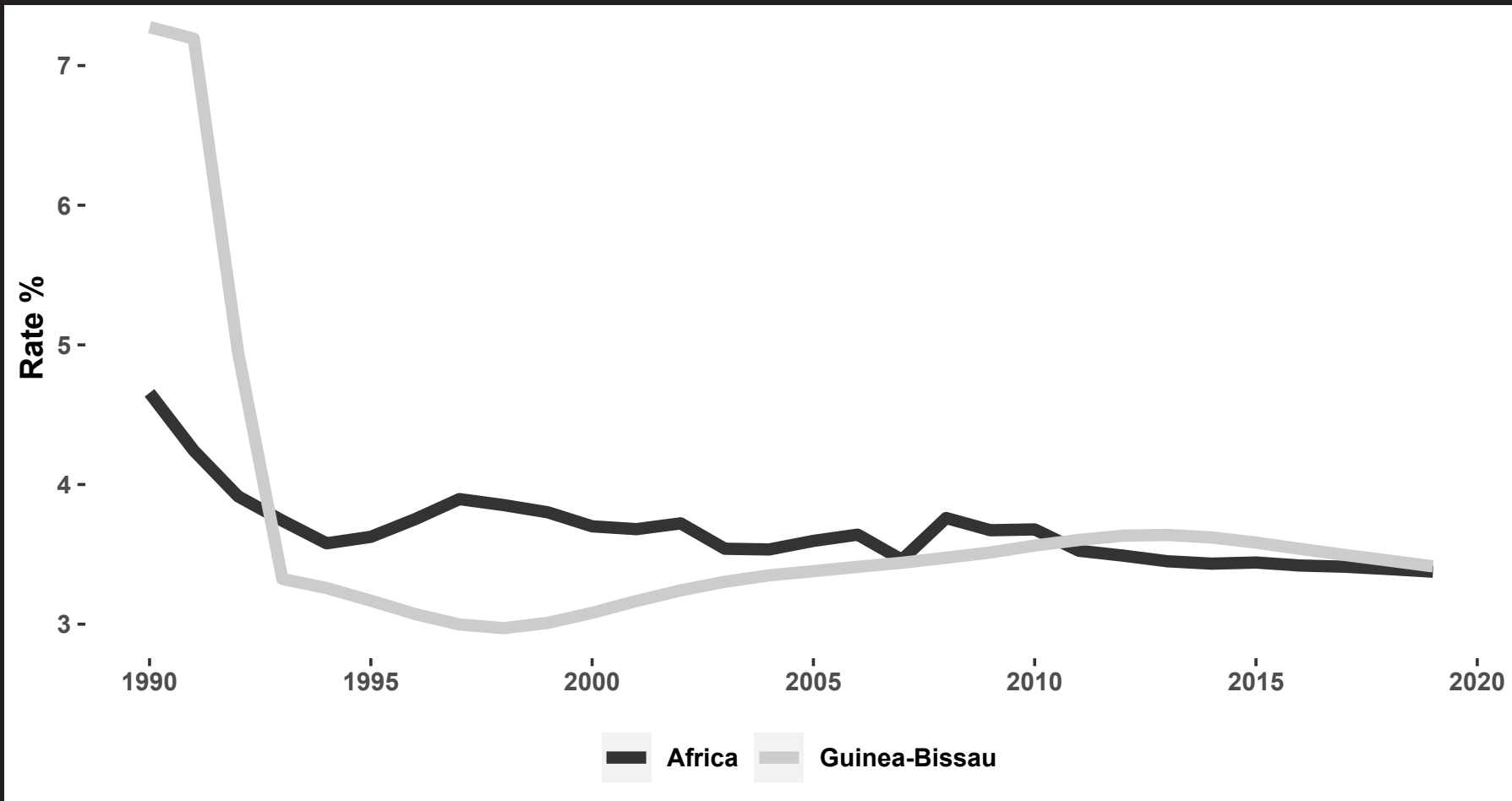
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



1.92 million

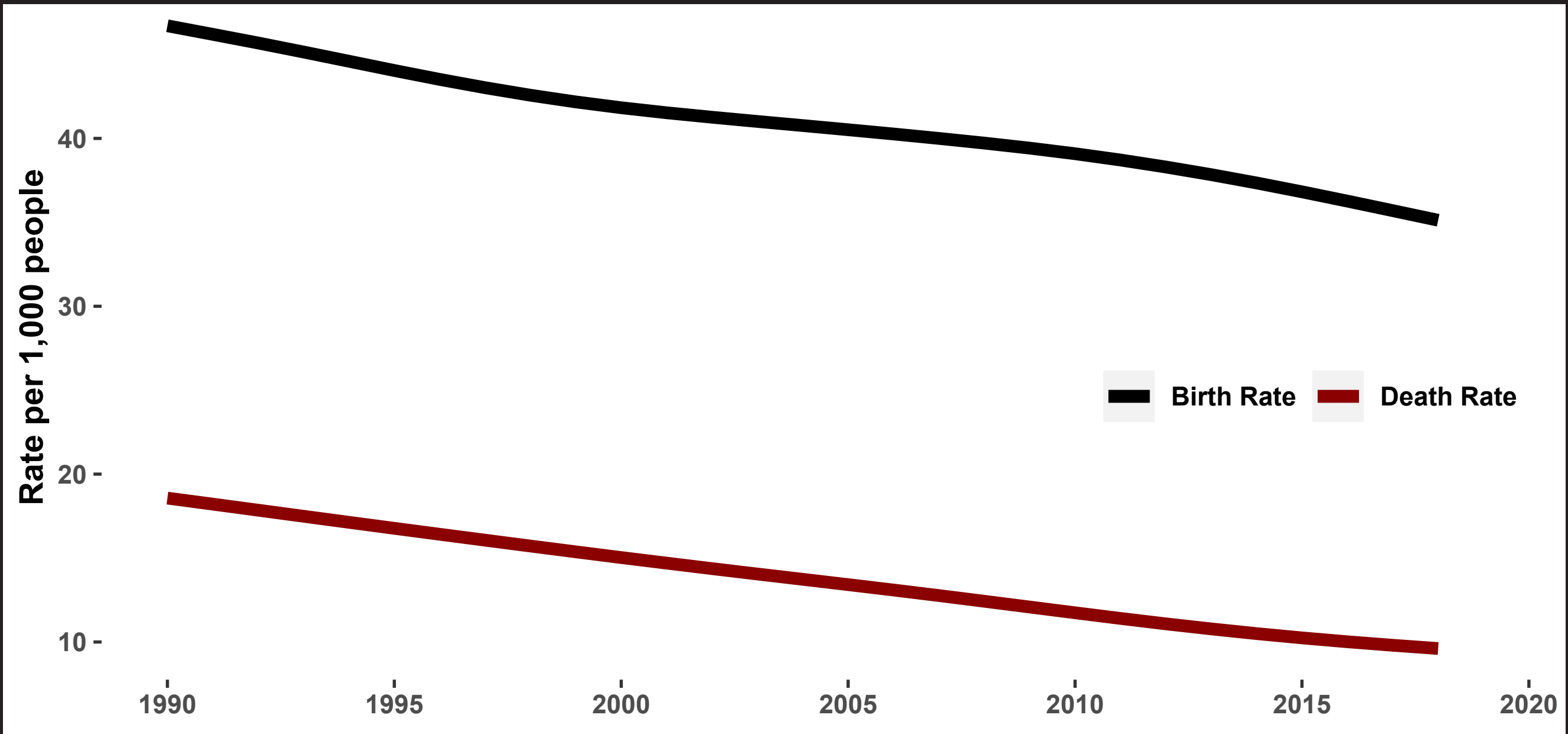
Guinea-Bissau is one of the least populated countries in Africa, but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



The urbanisation rate in Guinea-Bissau has closely tracked the continental average since 2005.

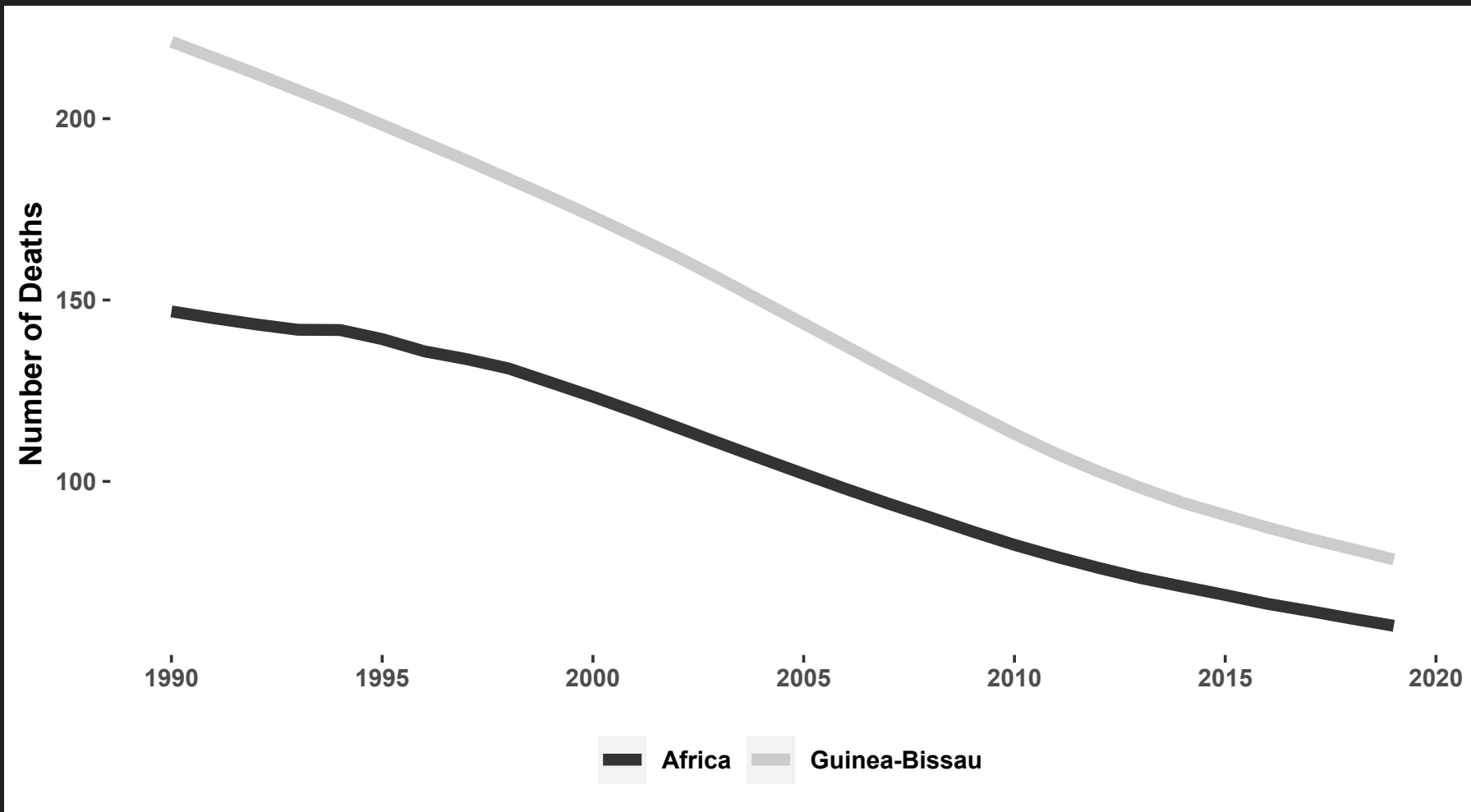
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Guinea-Bissau has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

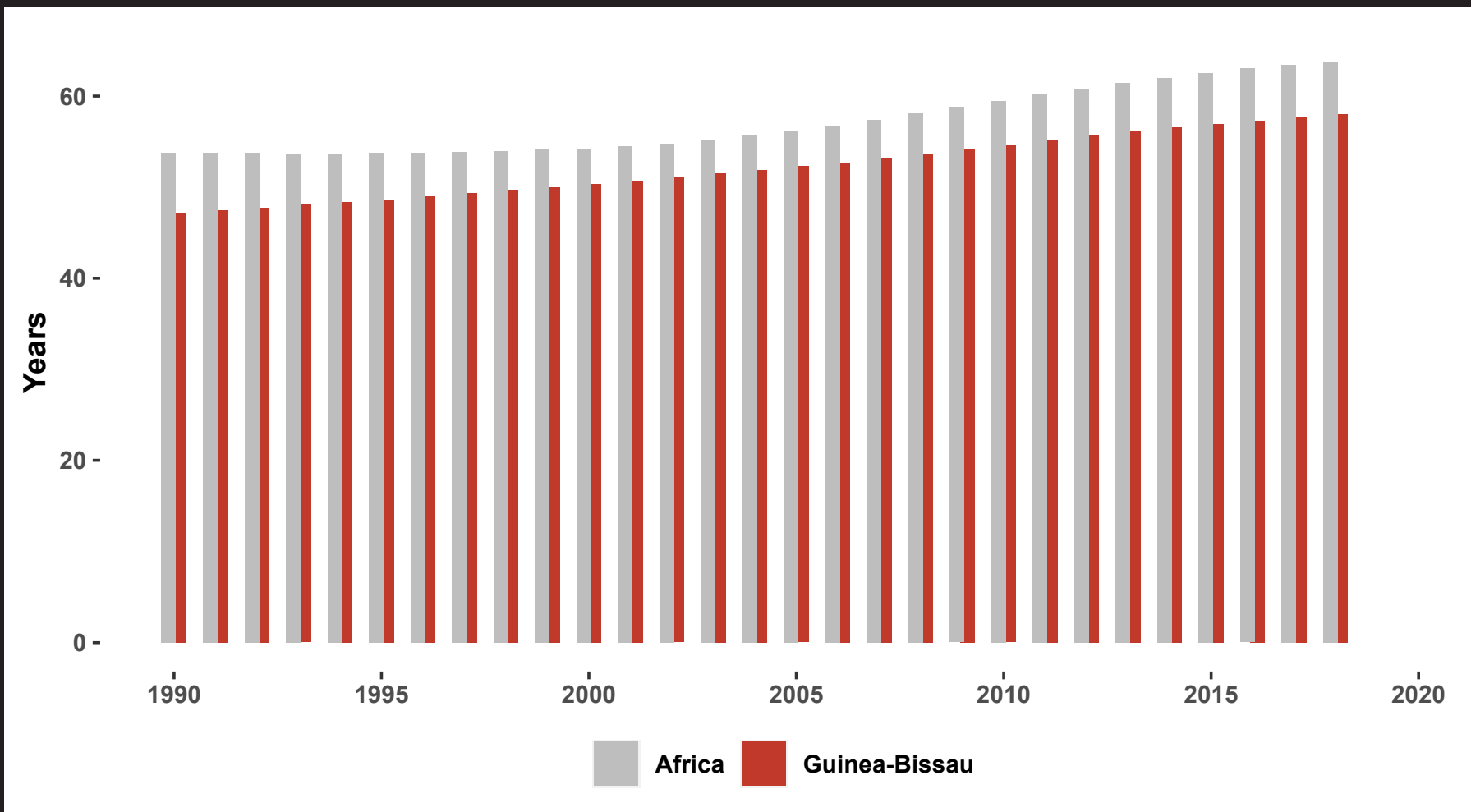
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



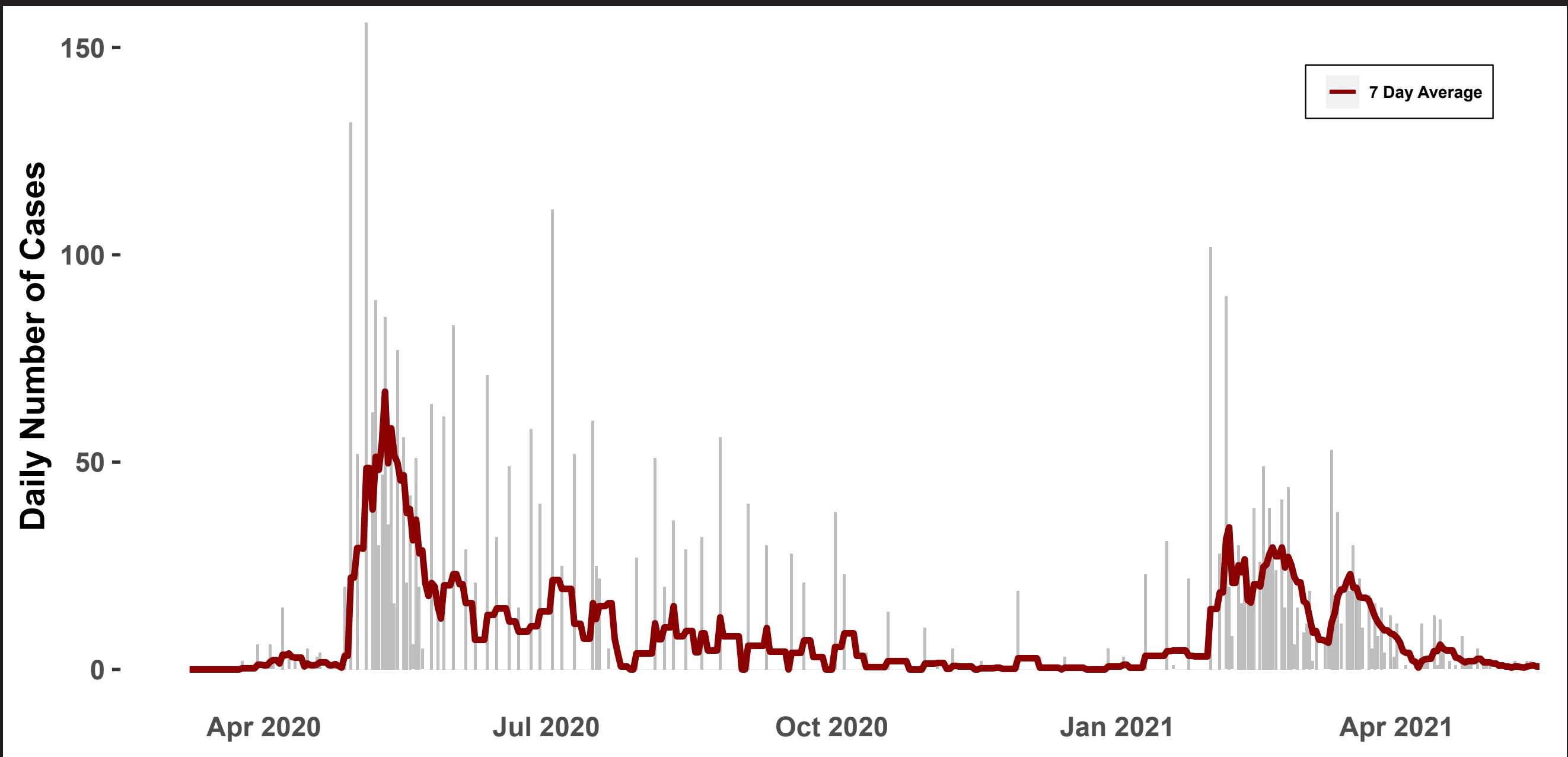
Guinea Bissau’s child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Guinea-Bissau has increased at a slower rate relative to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Guinea-Bissau has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in May 2020 and February-March 2021.

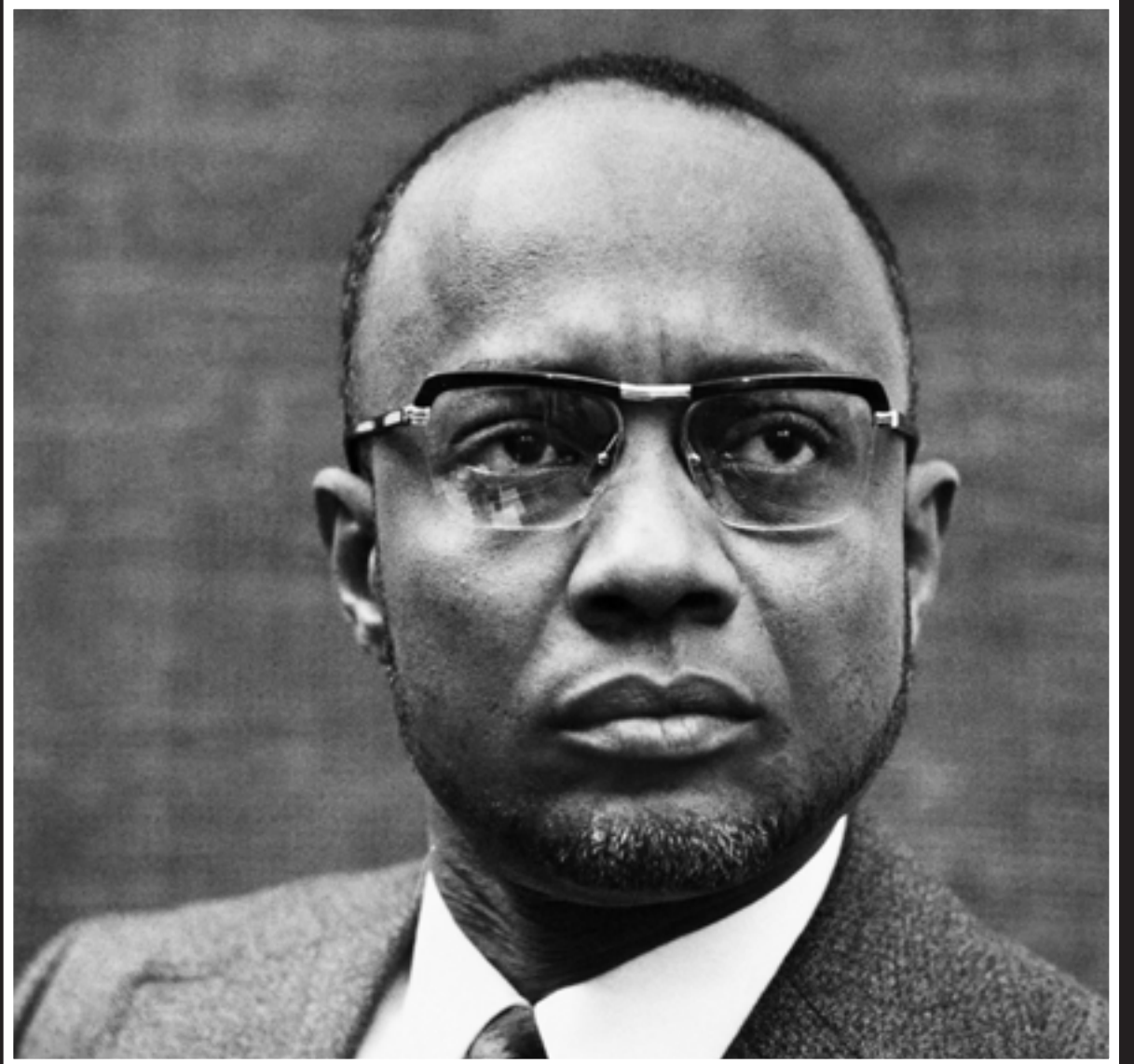
DID YOU KNOW?

Seyllou Diallo / AFP



Gumbé (also known as goombay or gumbay) is the most popular form of music in Guinea-Bissau. It originates from the Caribbean, influenced by the fast tempo *zouk* style.

Lehtikuva / AFP



One of the most important figures in Guinea-Bissau's history is the intellectual, poet, theoretician, diplomat, and political activist Amílcar Cabral.

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center on Flickr.com



The Archipel de Bolama, part of the Guinea-Bissau archipelago of 88 islands, is recognised as one of UNESCO's MAB (Man and Biosphere) biosphere reserves. The area is the natural habitat of thousands of bats residing in abandoned ruins left behind after Portuguese colonisation.



KENYA

Kenya, in eastern Africa, is bordered by South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda and Tanzania. As of 2020, Kenya was the third-largest economy in sub-Saharan Africa after Nigeria and South Africa. Fossils found in Kenya have shown that primates inhabited the area for more than 20 million years. In 1895, the British empire established the East Africa Protectorate, known from 1920 as the Colony of Kenya. After independence in 1963, Kenya was ruled as a de facto one-party state by the Kenya African National Union (KANU), led by Jomo Kenyatta from 1963 to 1978. Agriculture is the largest economic sector: tea and coffee are traditional cash crops, while fresh flowers are a fast-growing export. The service industry is also a major economic driver, particularly tourism, as Kenya is famous for its classic savanna safaris, freshwater lakes and coastal coral reefs.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?

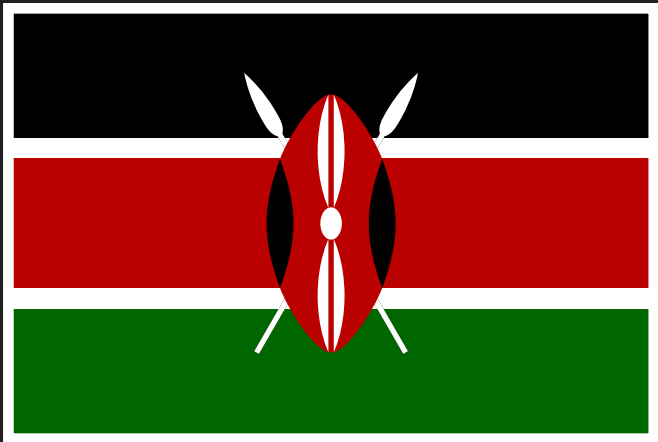


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Uhuru Kenyatta

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Nairobi

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

143

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

68



MAIN LANGUAGES
Swahili and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Presidential representative democratic republic



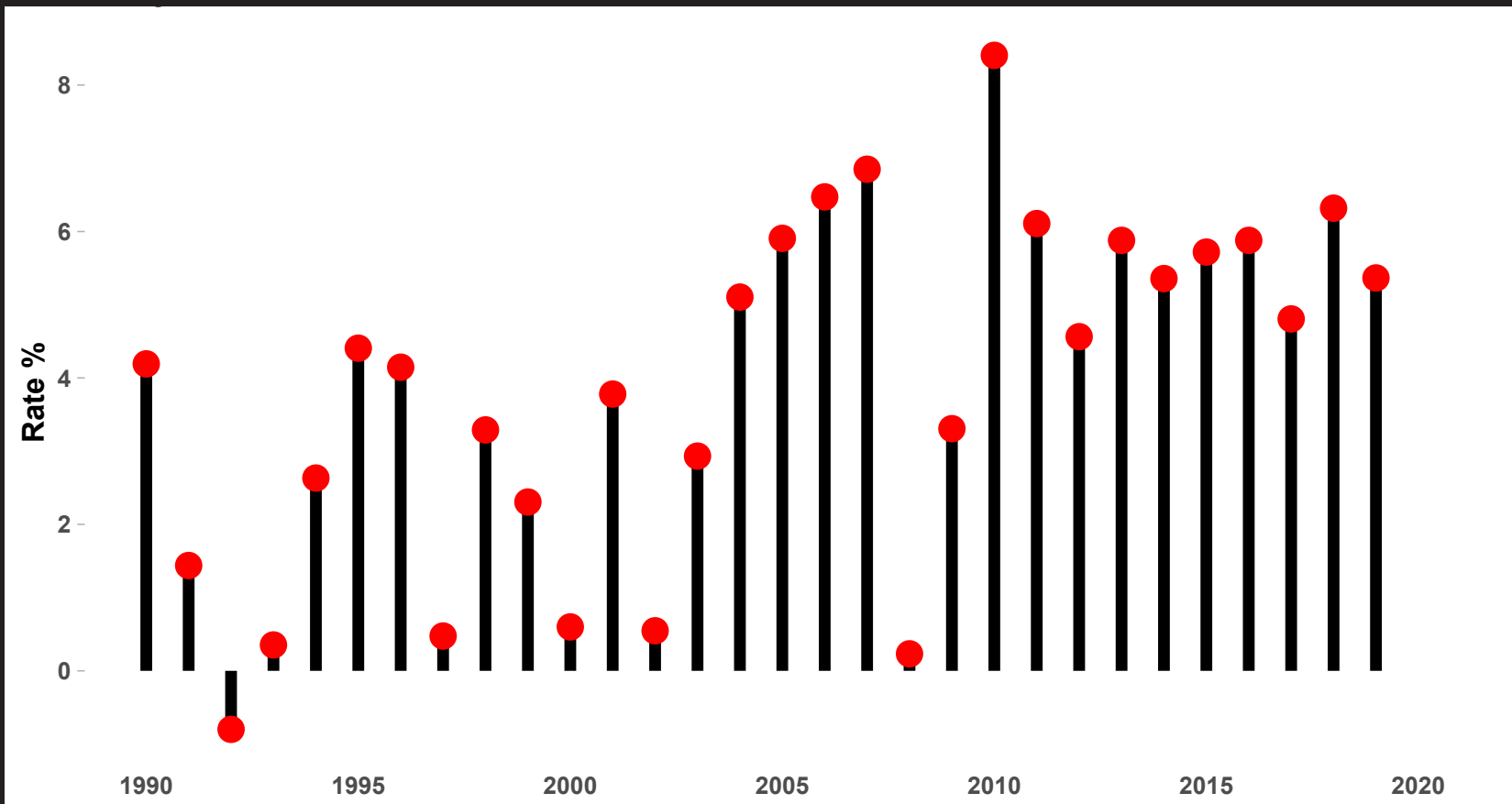
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Jubilee Party



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)

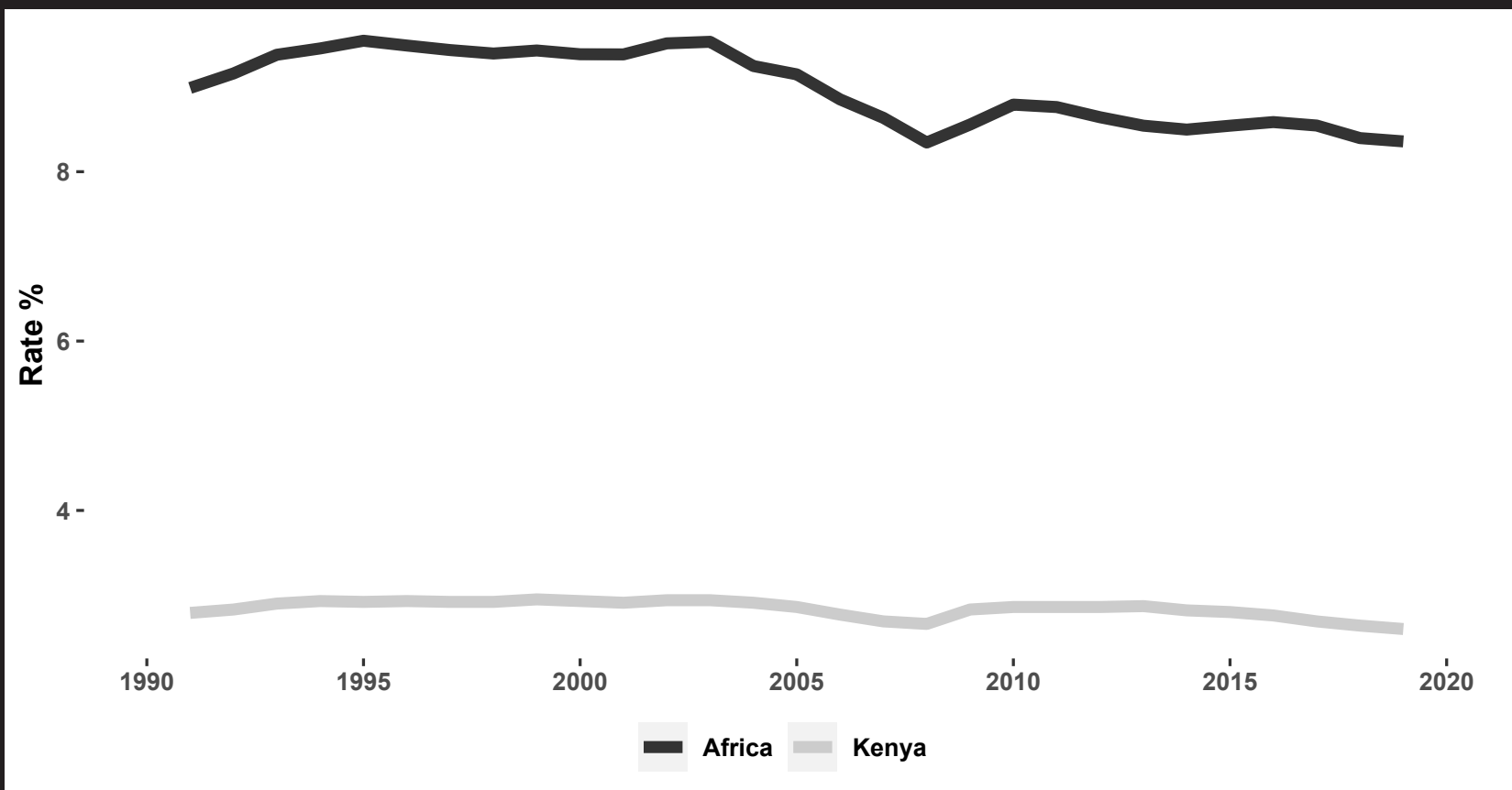
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



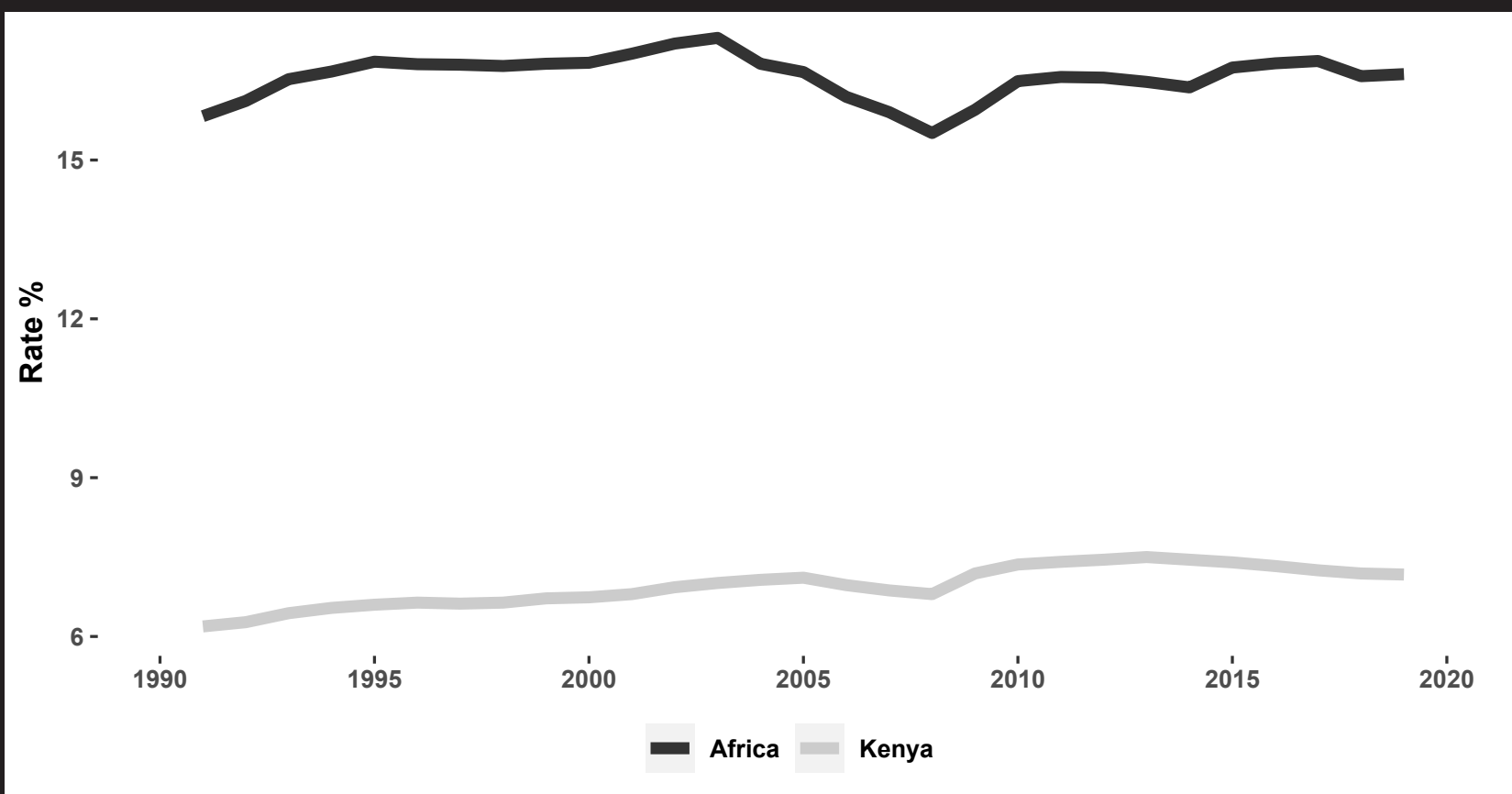
Kenya has seen continuous economic growth since 1993.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



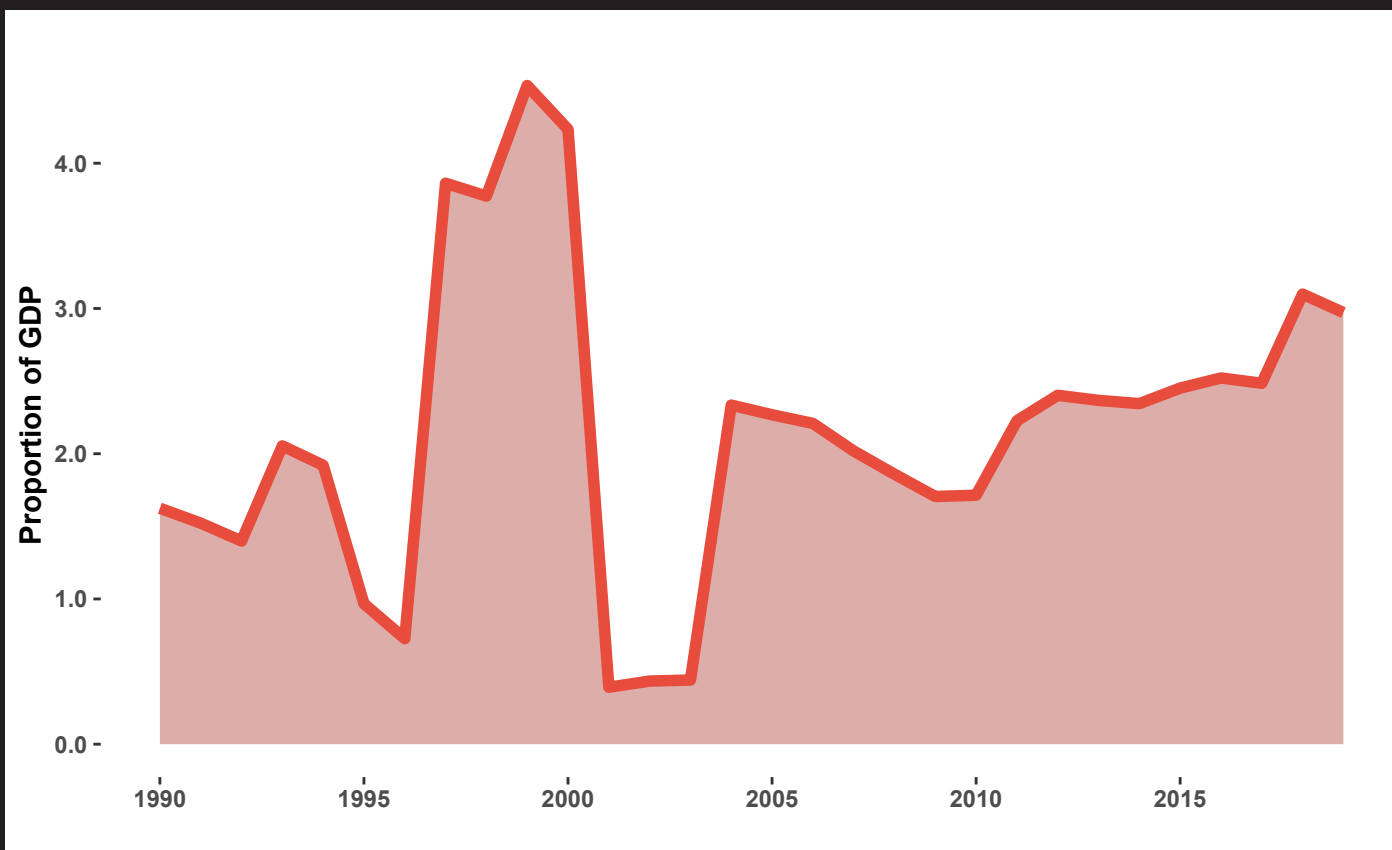
Kenya has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Kenya has consistently had one of the lowest youth unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$6.84 billion

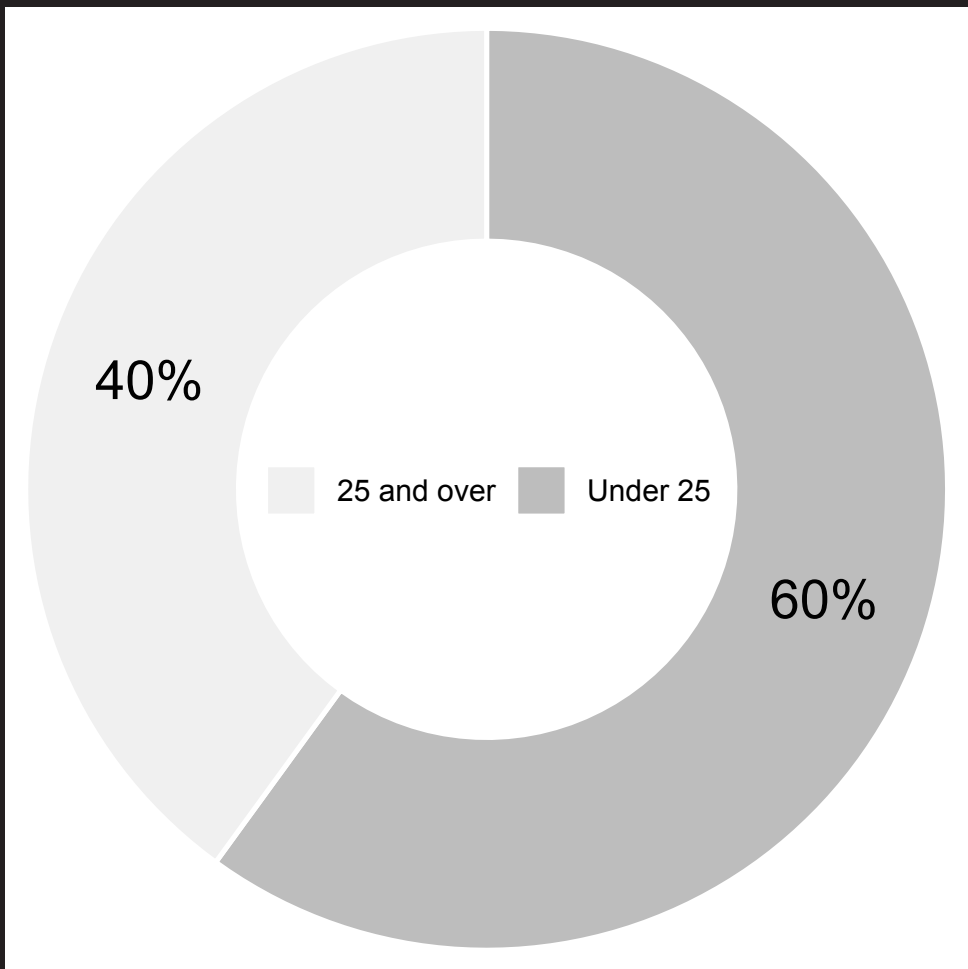
which represents

2.97% of GDP

Since 2005 the proportion of remittances has usually accounted for between 2 and 3% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

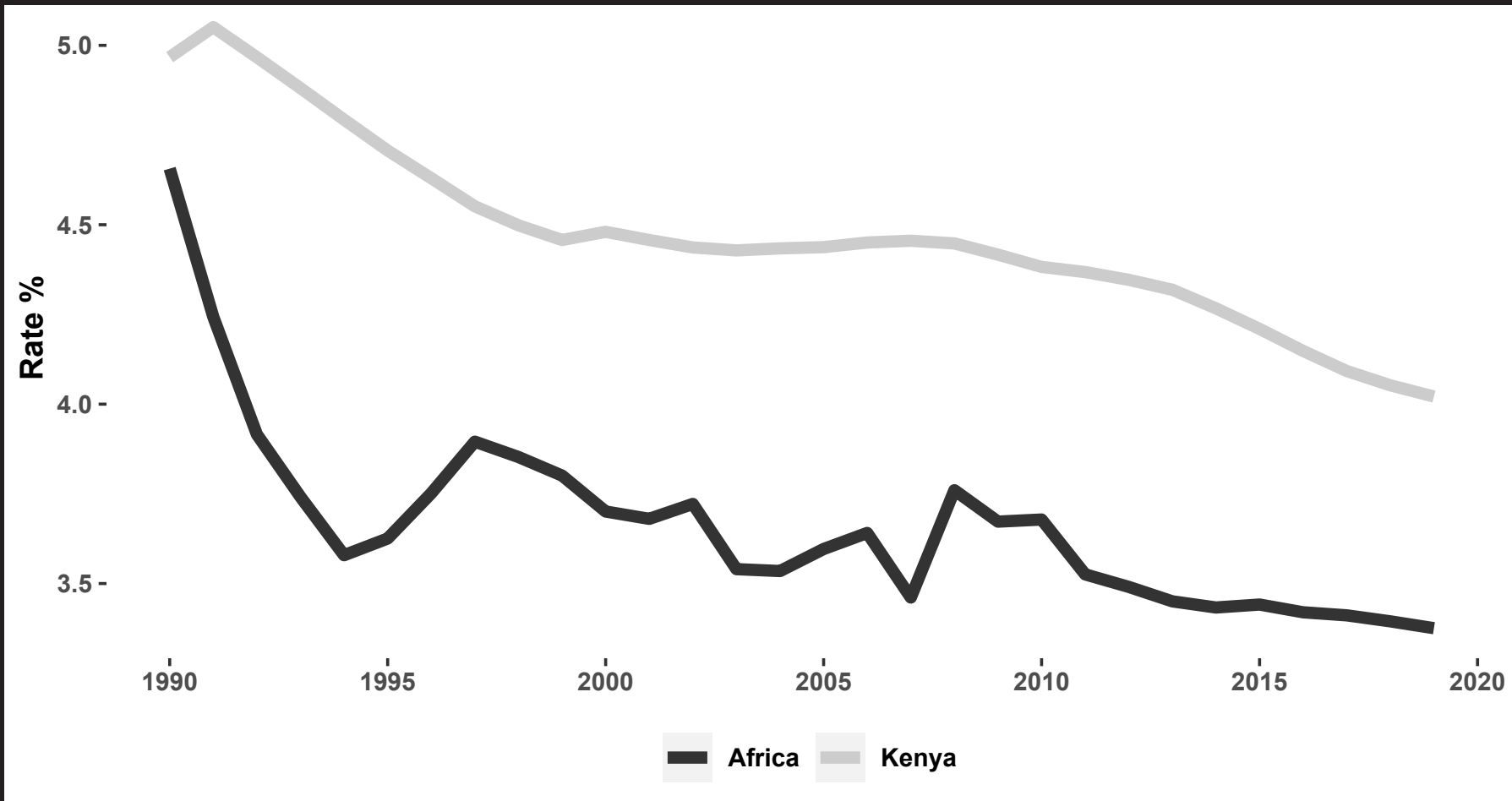
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



52.6 million

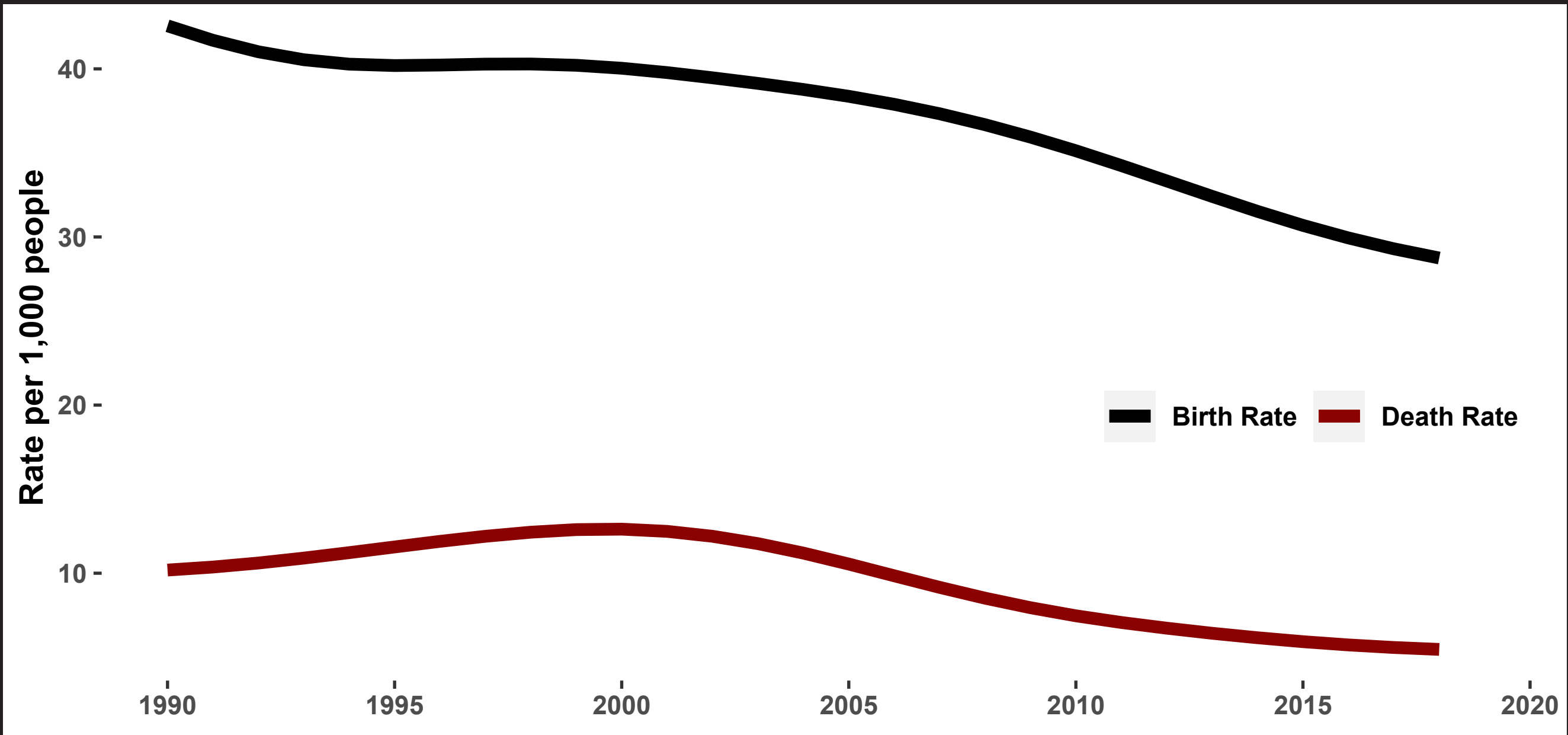
In line with continental trends, the majority of Kenya’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Urbanisation has occurred at a slightly faster rate in Kenya over the past three decades when compared to the continental average.

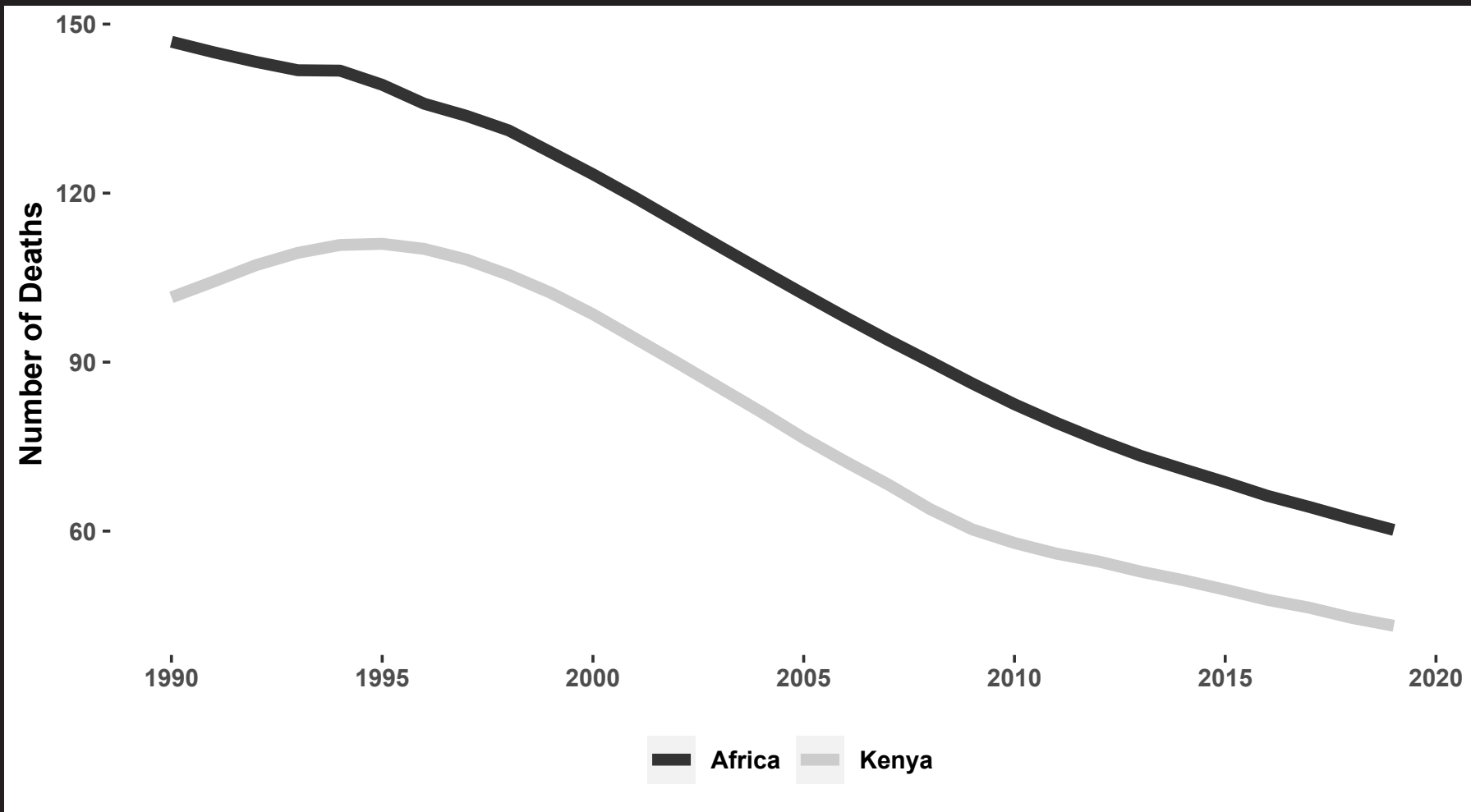
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Kenya has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is approximately double its death rate.

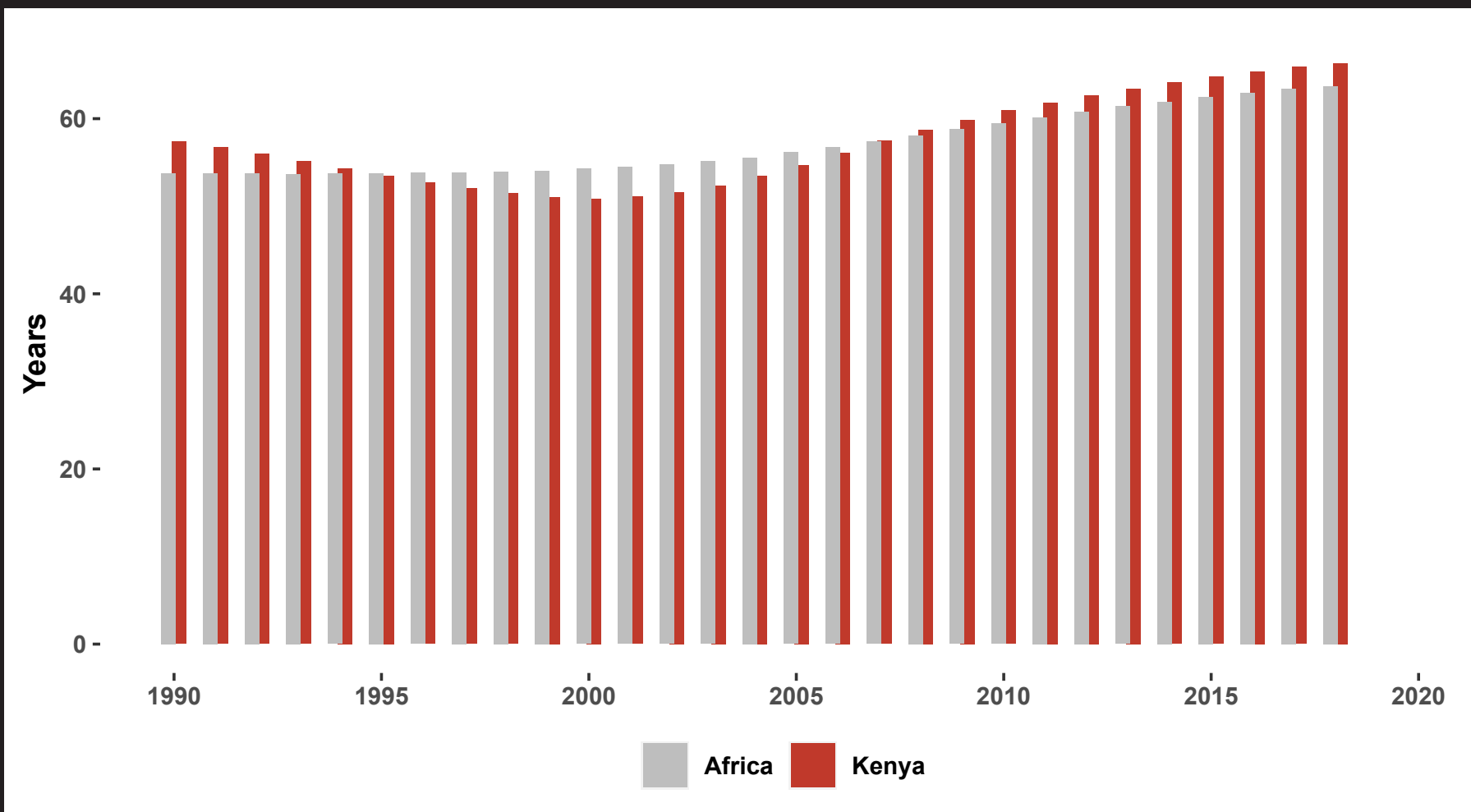
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



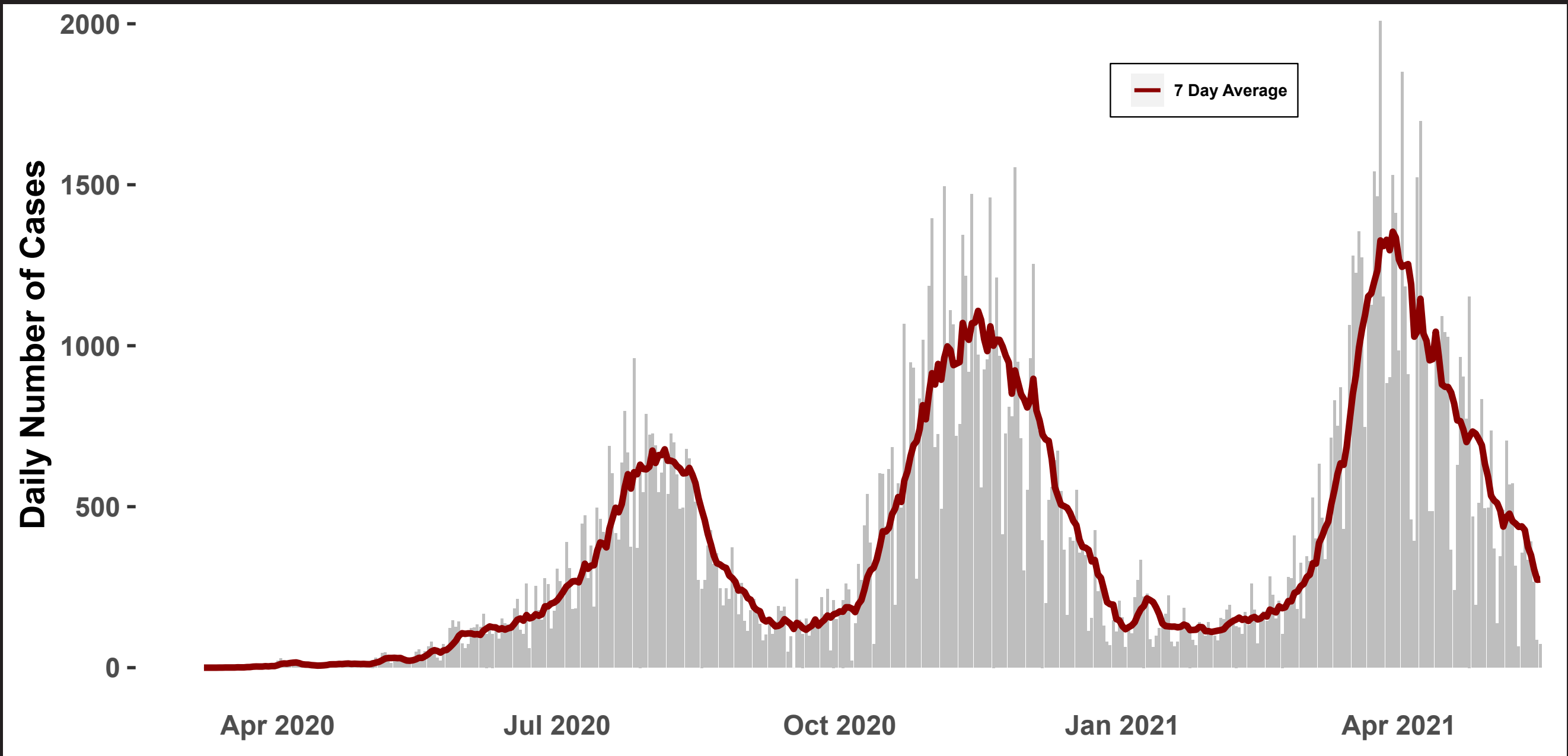
Kenya’s child mortality rate has steadily declined since 1995.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Since 2005, life expectancy in Kenya has been increasing at a faster rate relative to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Kenya has had three main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in August 2020, November-December 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Julian Mason on Flickr.com



The Masai Mara National Reserve is best-known for its great wildebeest migration when every year more than a million wildebeest, zebra and antelope migrate clockwise around the Serengeti-Masai Mara ecosystem.

Ninara on Flickr.com



Kenya's Kalenjin tribe has been dubbed 'the running tribe' for its unbelievable ability to spawn world record-breaking runners.

Erik (HASH) Hersman on Flickr.com



Kenya's Lamu Island, located off the north-east coast, is car-free.

SOUTH AFRICA

Maseru

LESOTHO

Lesotho, officially the Kingdom of Lesotho, is an enclaved country within the borders of South Africa. It is by far the largest of the world's three independent states completely surrounded by the territory of another country, with the Vatican City and San Marino being the other two. Lesotho is a high-altitude country, crisscrossed by a network of rivers and mountain ranges, including the 3,482m-high peak of Thabana Ntlenyana. Since the Neolithic period, the mountain kingdom has been the domain of Khoisan-speaking hunter-gatherers. In the 19th century the Sotho, led by Moshoeshoe I, took control of the region. Lesotho became a British protectorate in 1884, until independence in 1966, but since then its politics have been marred by chronic instability. The official currency is the Lesotho loti.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



MONARCH
King Letsie III



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Moeketsi Majoro

CAPITAL CITY
Maseru



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

165

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

5



MAIN LANGUAGES

Southern Sotho and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Constitutional monarchy



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

All Basotho Convention (ABC)

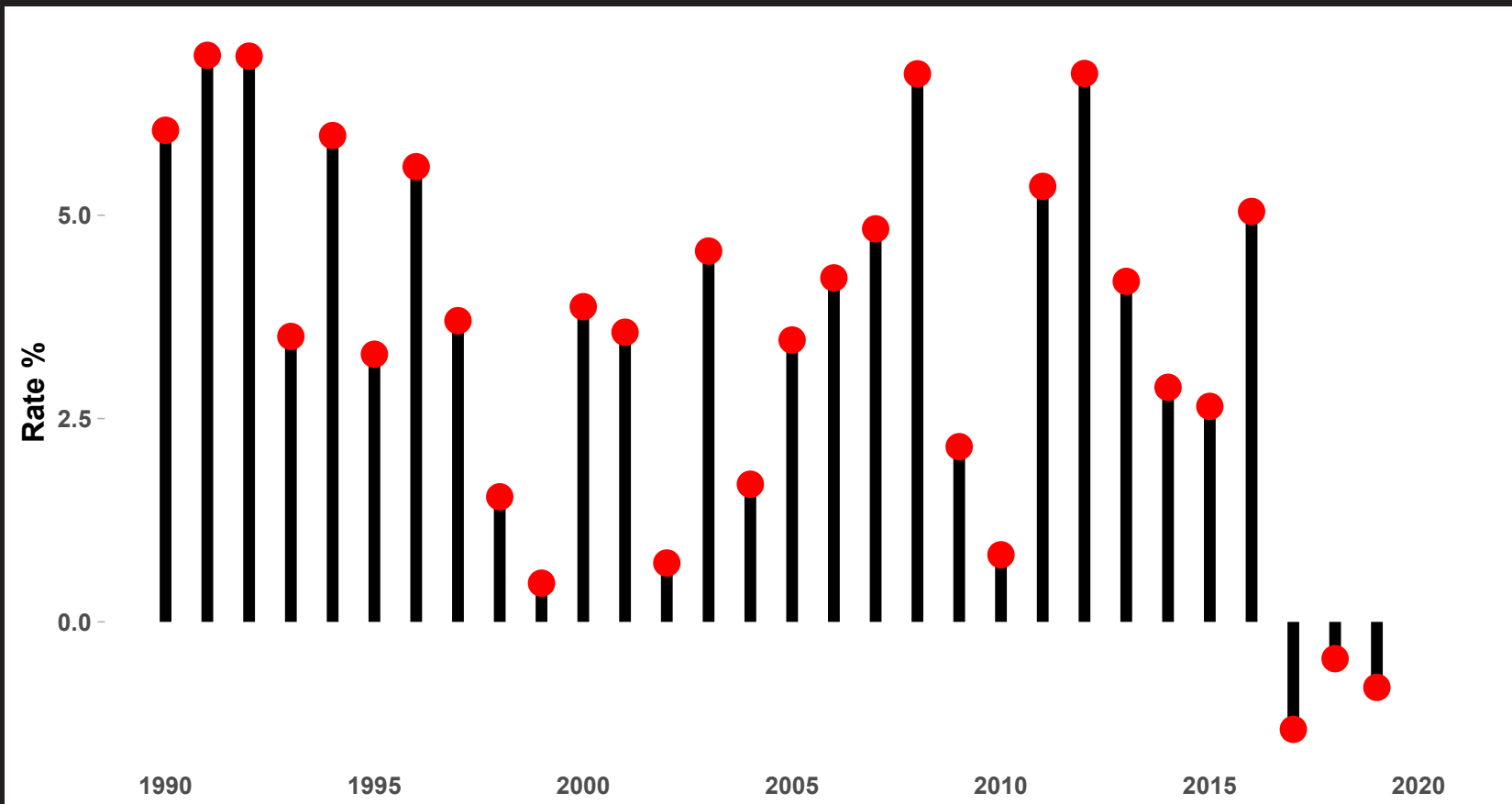


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Democratic Congress (DC)

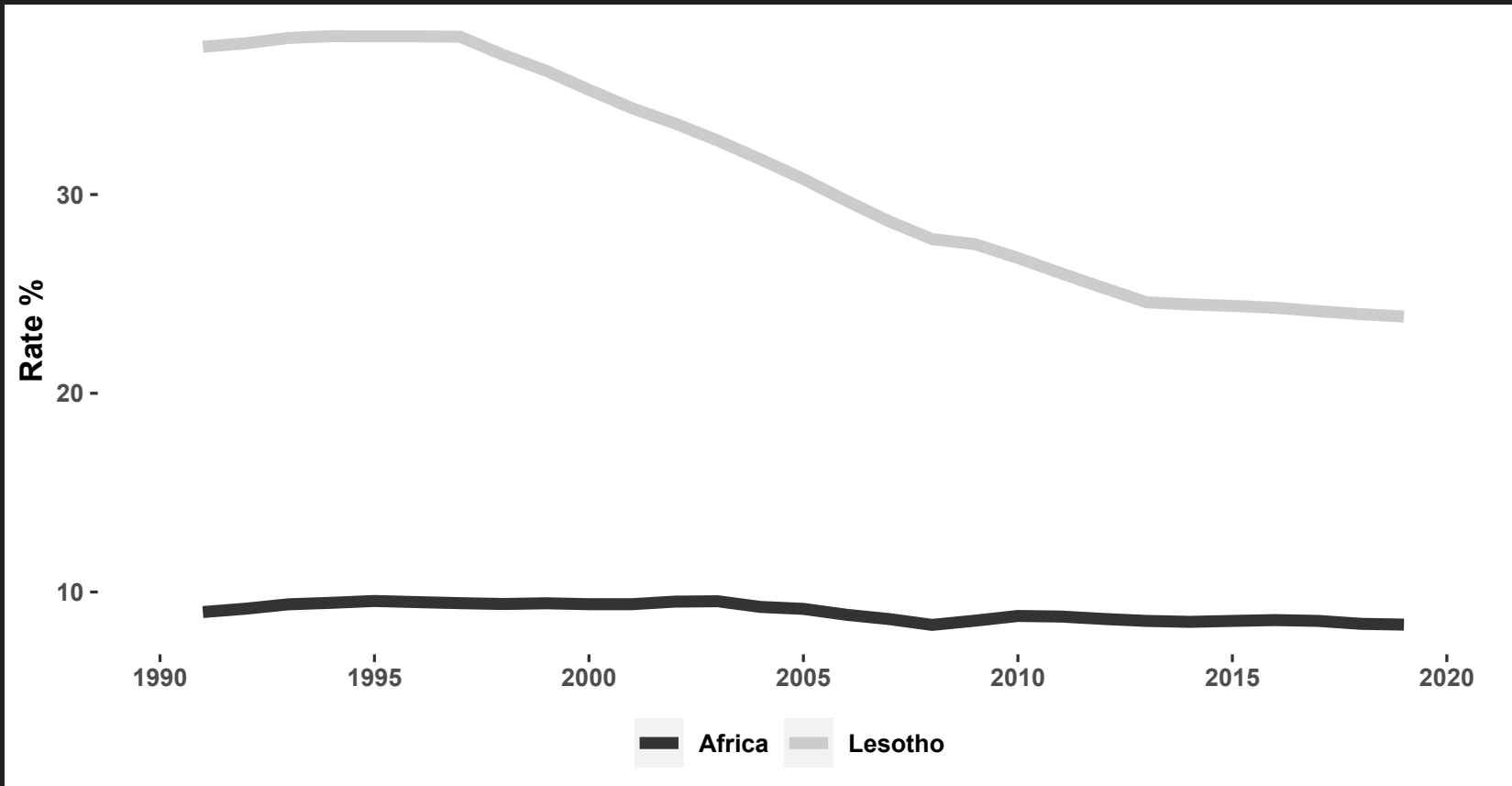
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



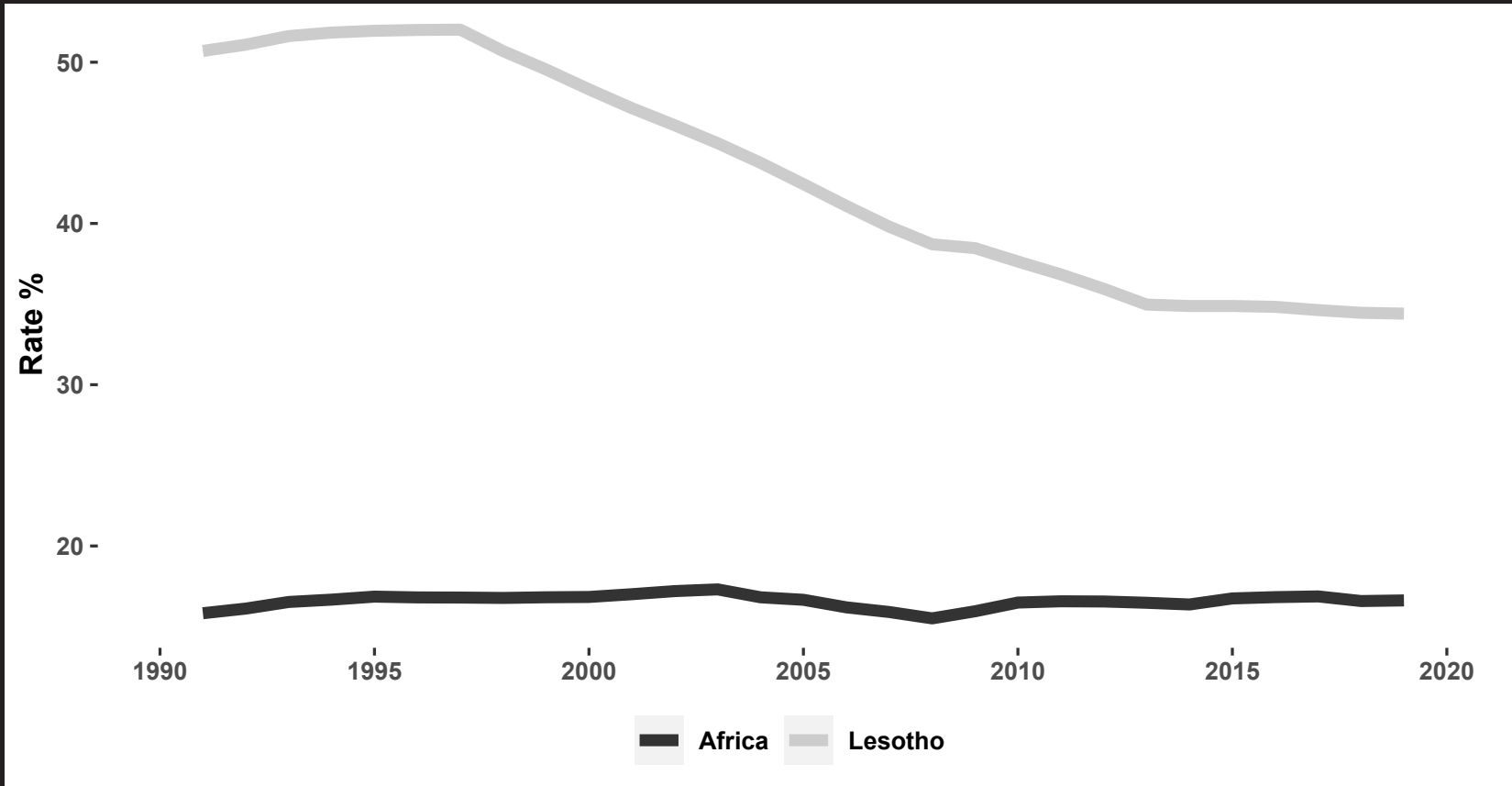
Although Lesotho’s economy experienced continuous expansion between 1990 and 2016, since 2017 the country has been in recession. This is partly a consequence of Lesotho’s reliance on the South African economy, which has also been stagnant in recent years.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



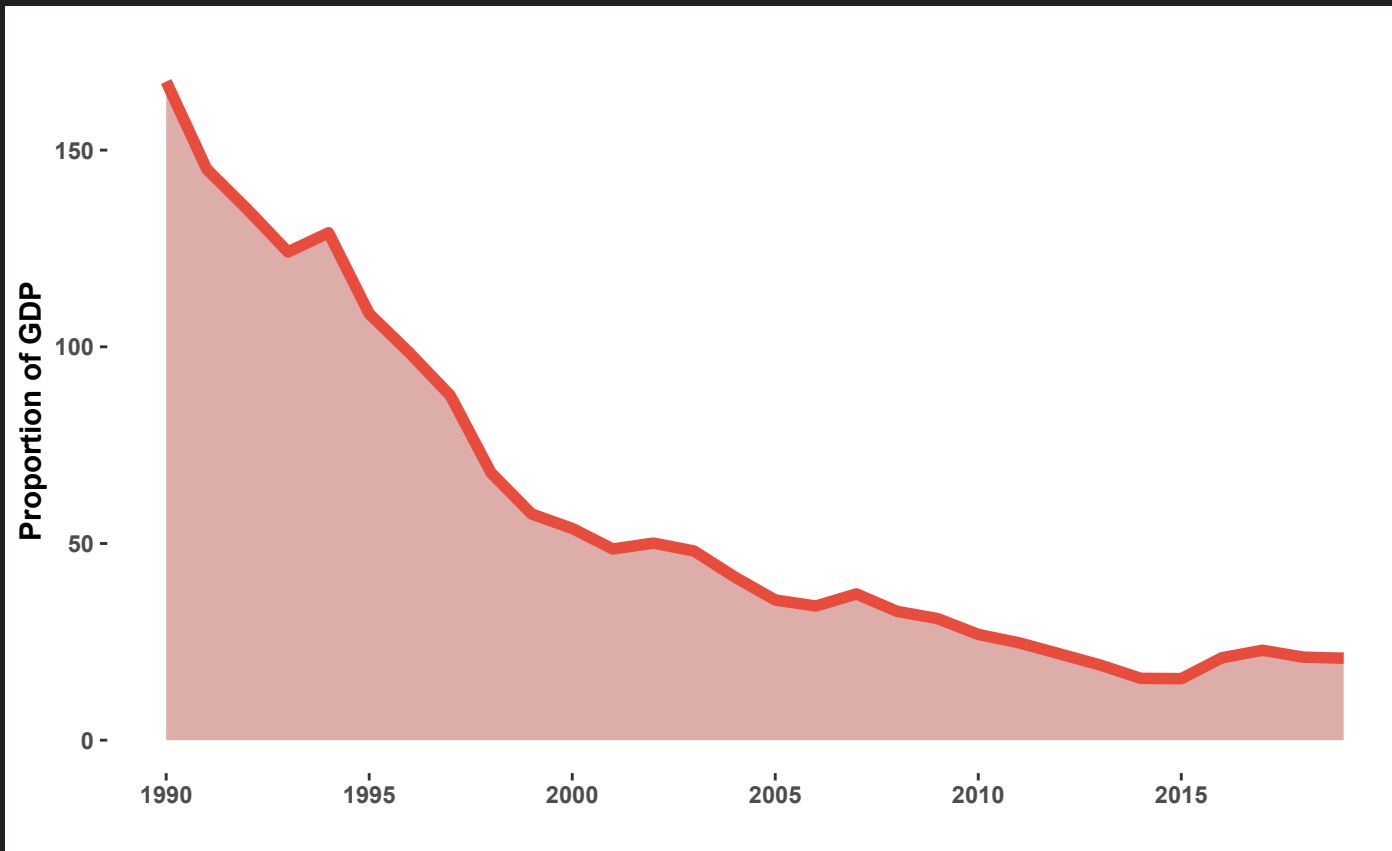
Lesotho’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Lesotho’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$495 million

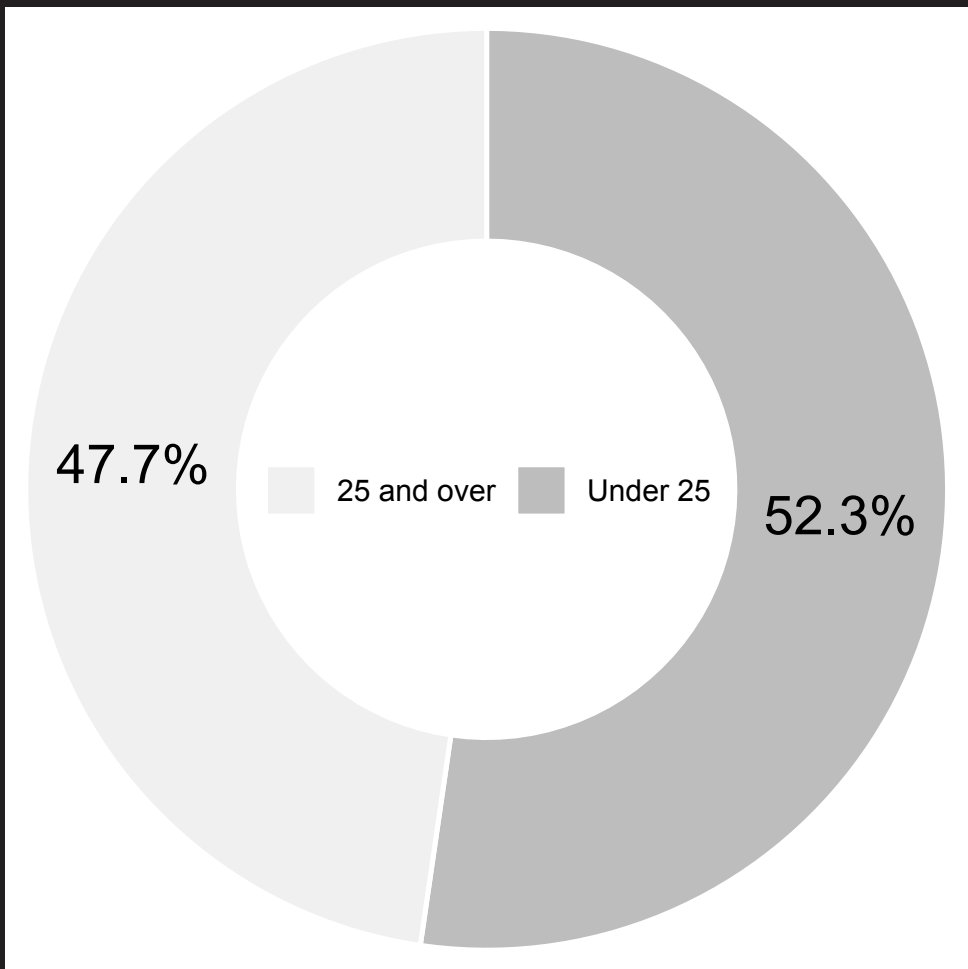
which represents

20.84% of GDP

Although Lesotho’s reliance on remittances has declined over the past 30 years, its economy is the most dependent on them when calculated as a proportion of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

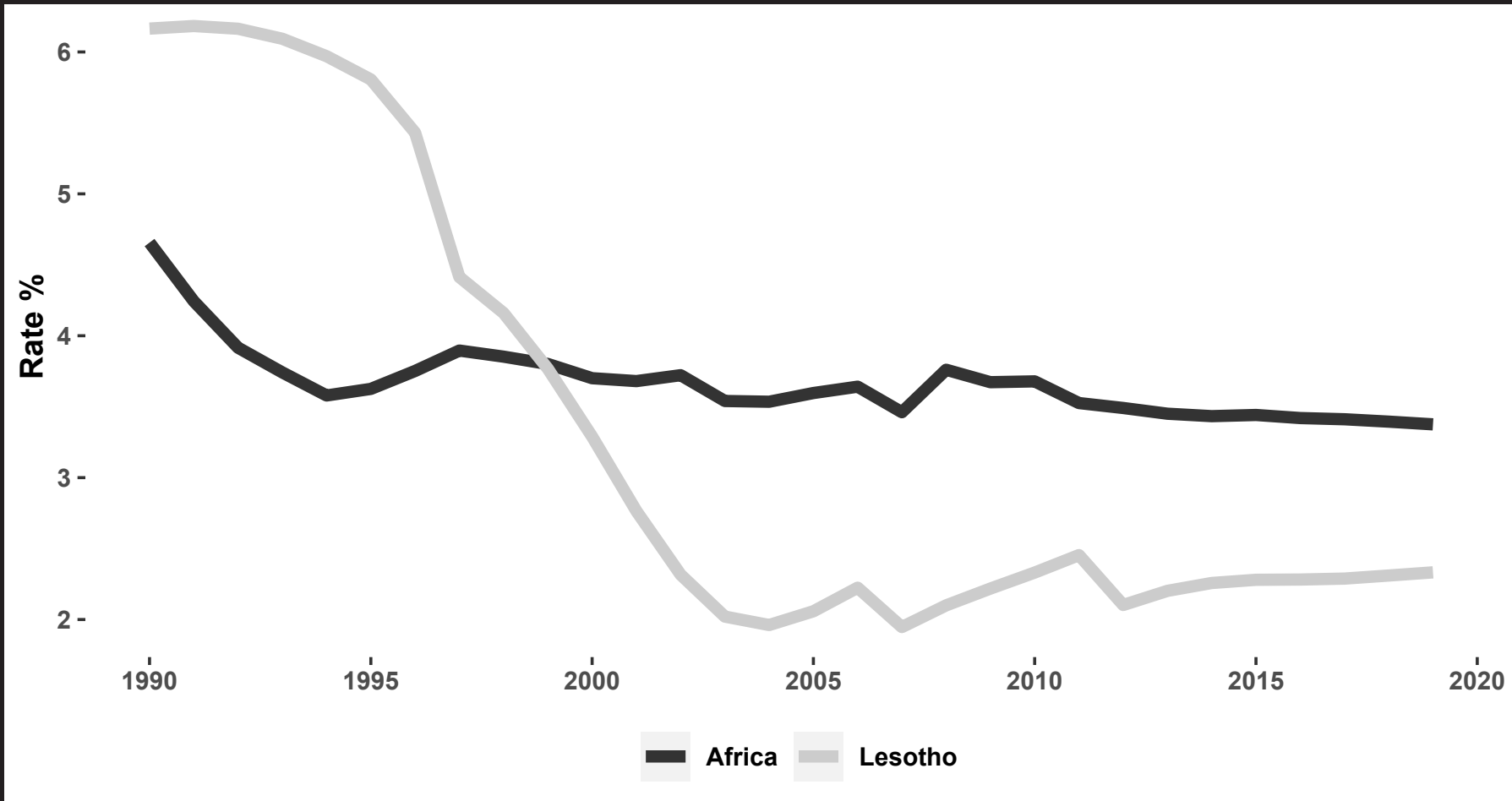
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



2.13 million

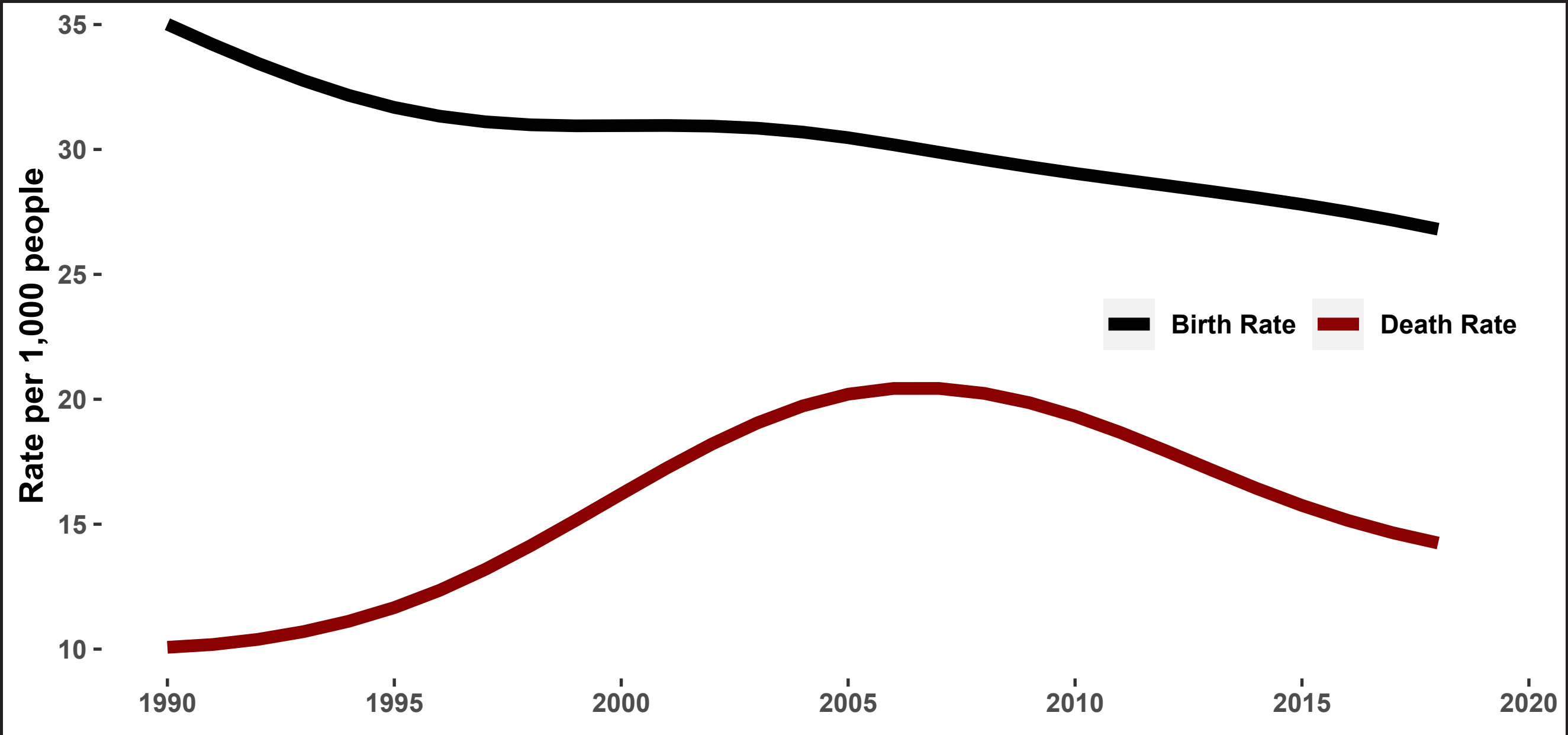
Lesotho is one of the least populated countries in Africa but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Between 1990 and 2000 Lesotho was urbanising at a faster rate than the continental average. However, since 2000 Lesotho has urbanised at a consistently slower rate than the continental average.

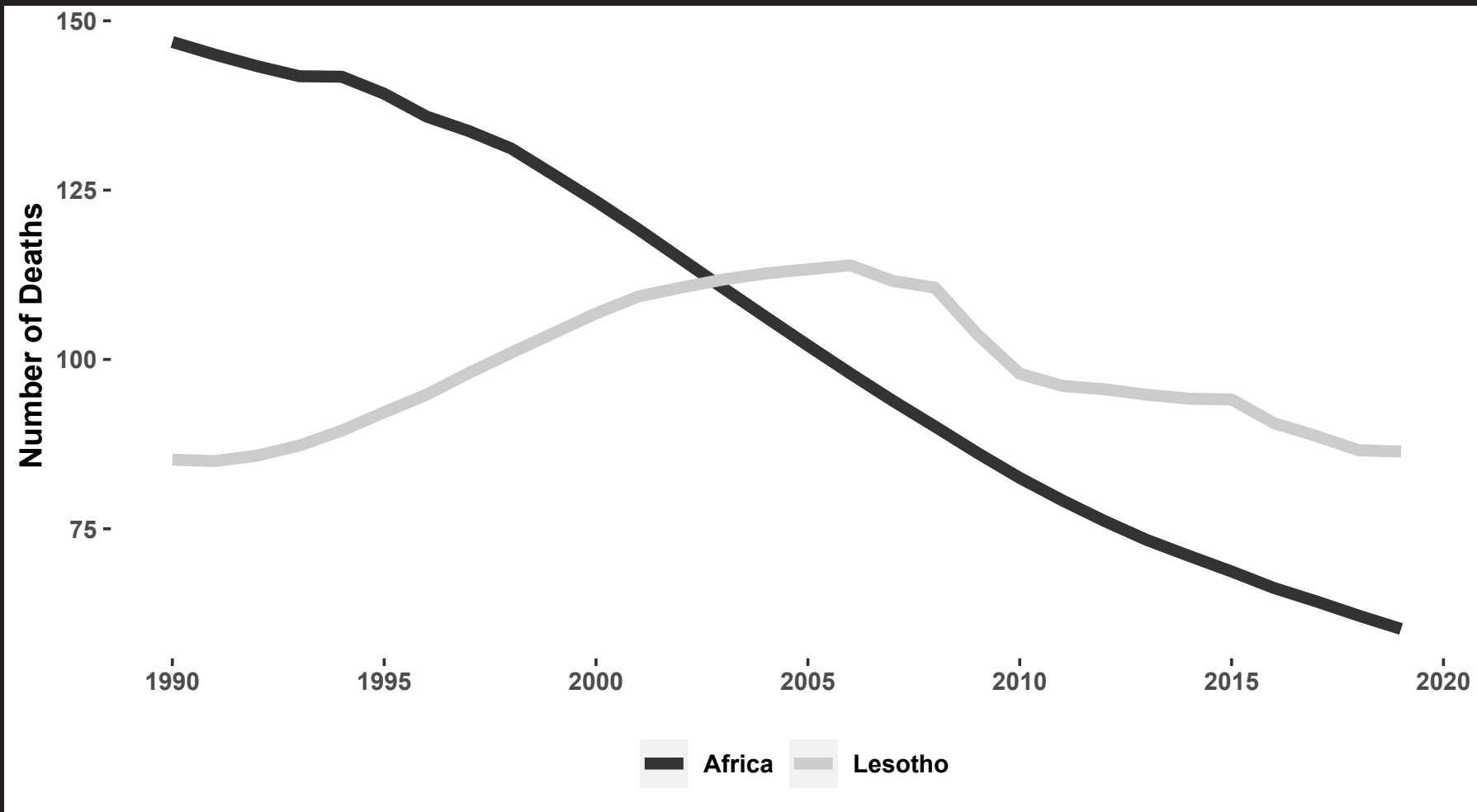
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Although there has been a steady decline in Lesotho’s birth rate over the past 30 years, the death rate in Lesotho saw an increase during the peak of the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the 2000s. This meant that population growth slowed rapidly (even to the point of negative growth between 2002 and 2007) – although this has recovered slightly in the interim years.

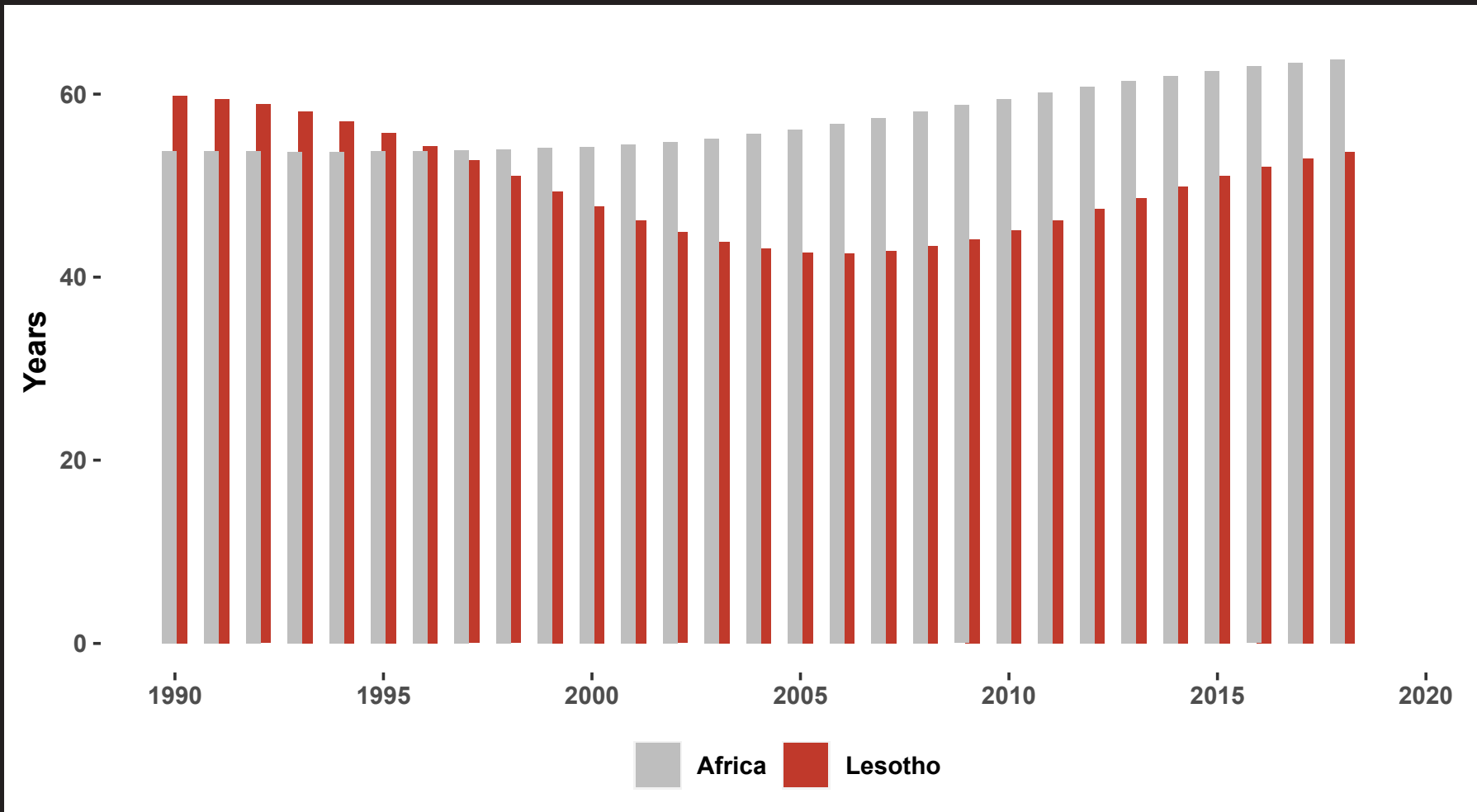
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



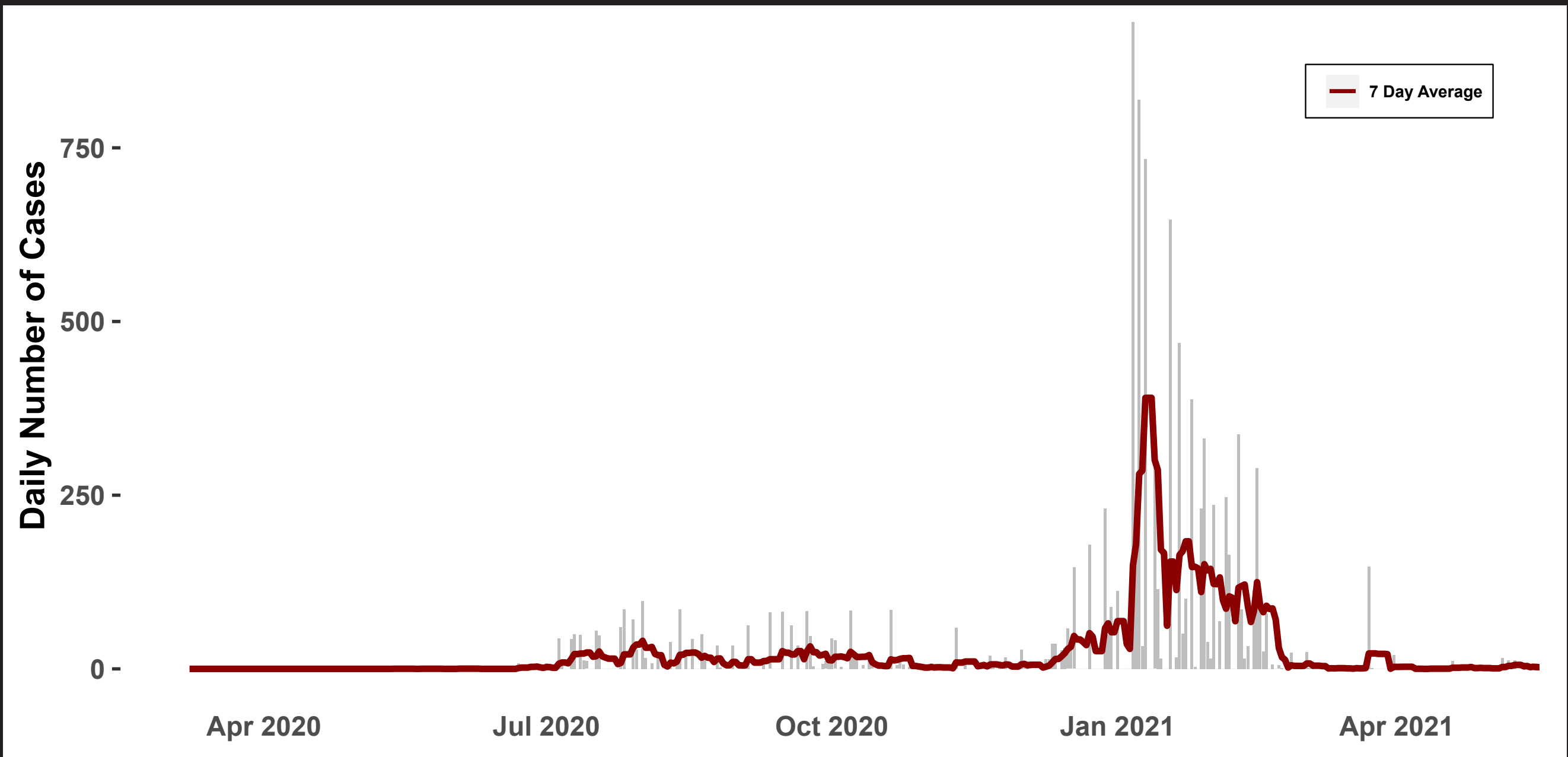
The HIV/AIDS epidemic caused a rise in the child mortality rate between 1990 and 2005 when compared to the rest of Africa. Although child mortality has been falling since 2005, the overall rate in 2019 was still higher than in 1990 – making Lesotho one of the only African countries where the situation has worsened over the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Like many southern African countries, Lesotho's life expectancy at the turn of the 21st century experienced a decline due to the severity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Since 2005, however, life expectancy in Lesotho has begun to increase again but it has yet to recover to the level it was before the start of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Lesotho has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in January/February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Vaiz Ha on Flickr.com



The Sani Pass is one of the world’s most beautiful mountain passes and is actually in no man’s land between the borders of Lesotho and South Africa.

Di.Malealea on Flickr.com



In Lesotho, you can go skiing and snowboarding. Situated in the Maluti mountains, Afriski is a popular ski resort located at more than 10,570 ft.

Di.Malealea on Flickr.com



More than half of the population live in poverty, with many still living in thatched roof huts made from bricks and mud.



LIBERIA

Liberia, on the Atlantic coast, is in West Africa, bordering Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire. Liberia began as a settlement of the American Colonization Society. Between 1822 and the outbreak of the American Civil War in 1861, more than 15,000 freed and free-born people of colour who faced social and legal oppression in the United States, as well as 3,198 Afro-Caribbeans, relocated to Liberia. The settlers carried their culture and traditions with them, thus the Liberian constitution and flag were modelled after those of the US. Liberia's landscape is characterised by flat to rolling coastal plains that contain mangroves and swamps. Major crops are natural rubber, rice, cassava, bananas and palm oil. The official currency is the Liberian dollar.

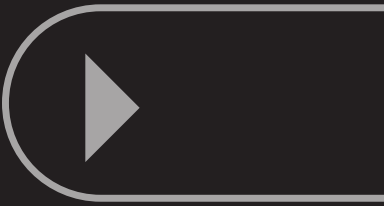
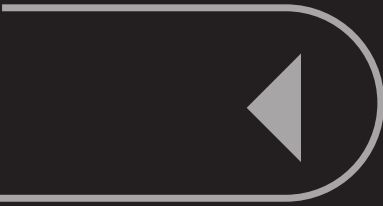
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

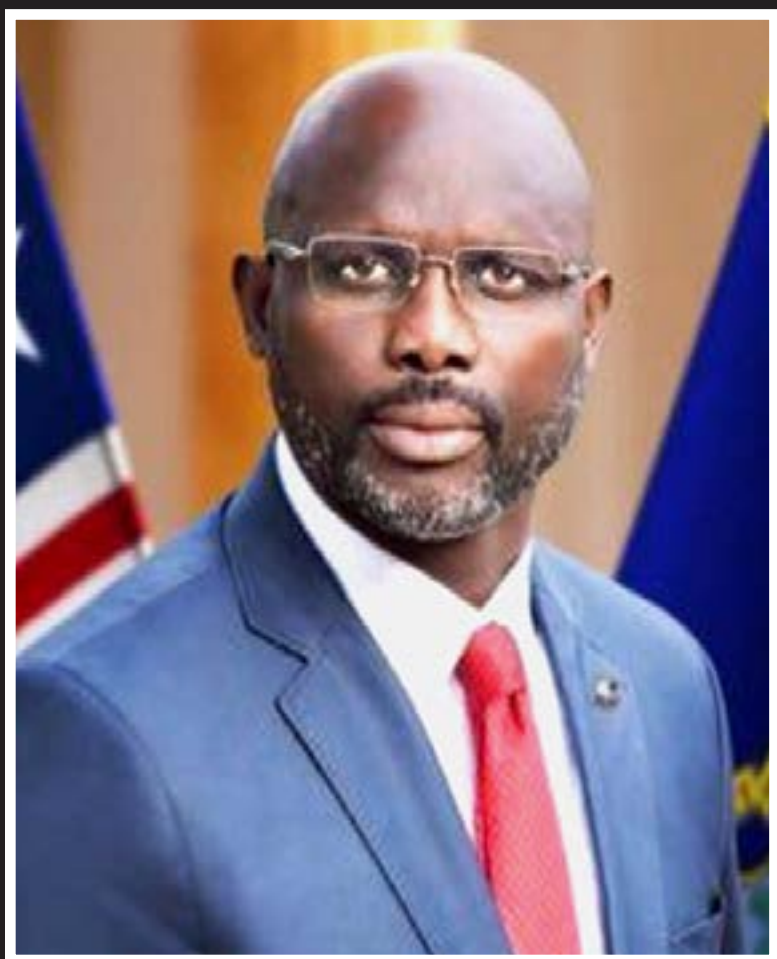
DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?

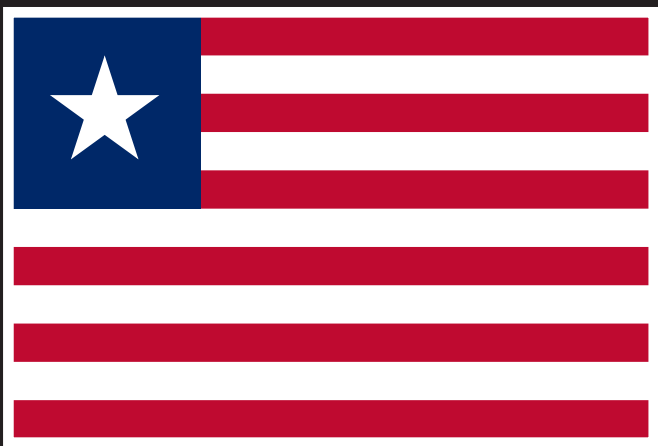


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
George Weah

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Monrovia

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

175

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

20+



MAIN LANGUAGES

English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Unity Party

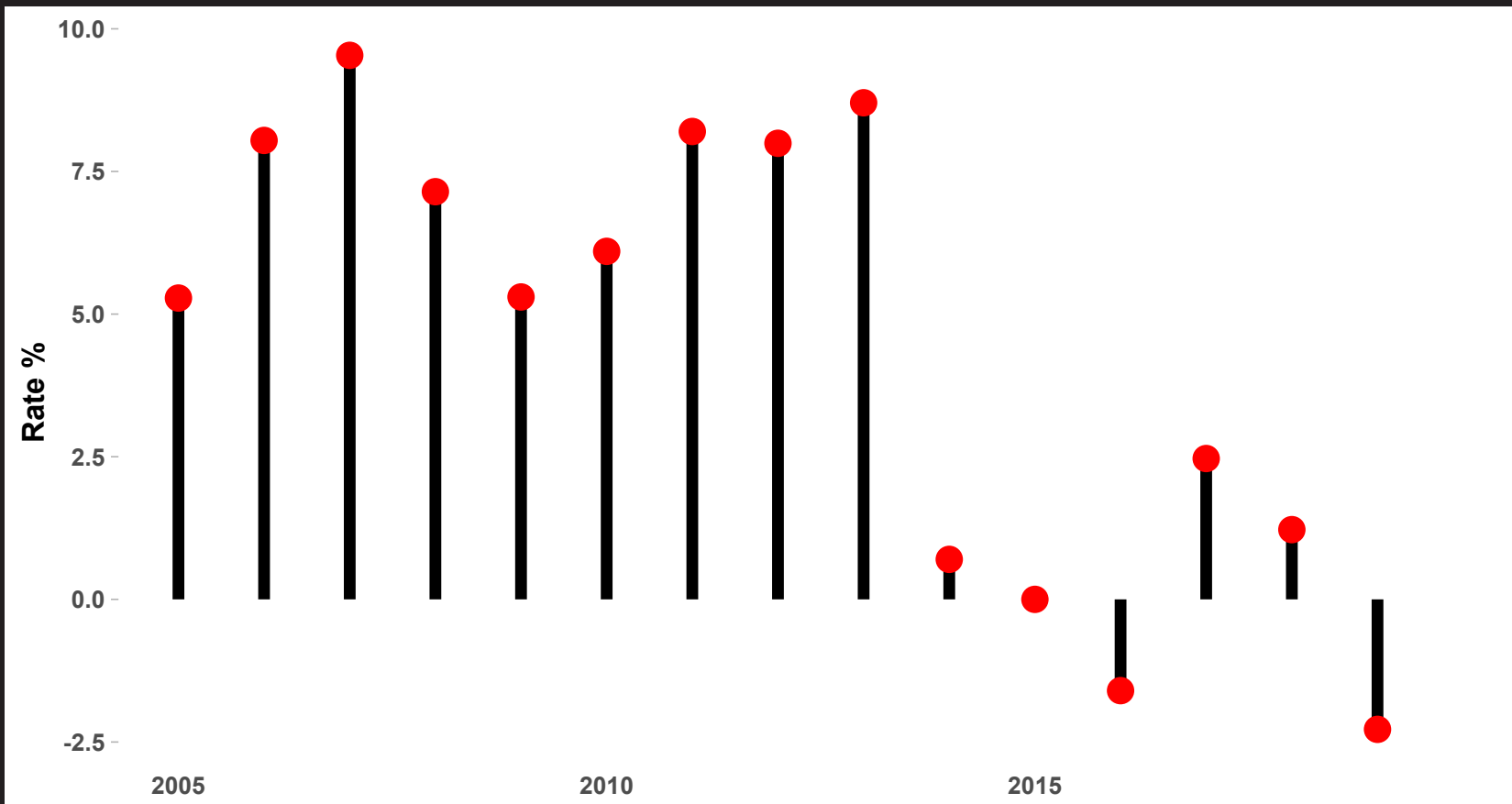


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

True Whig Party

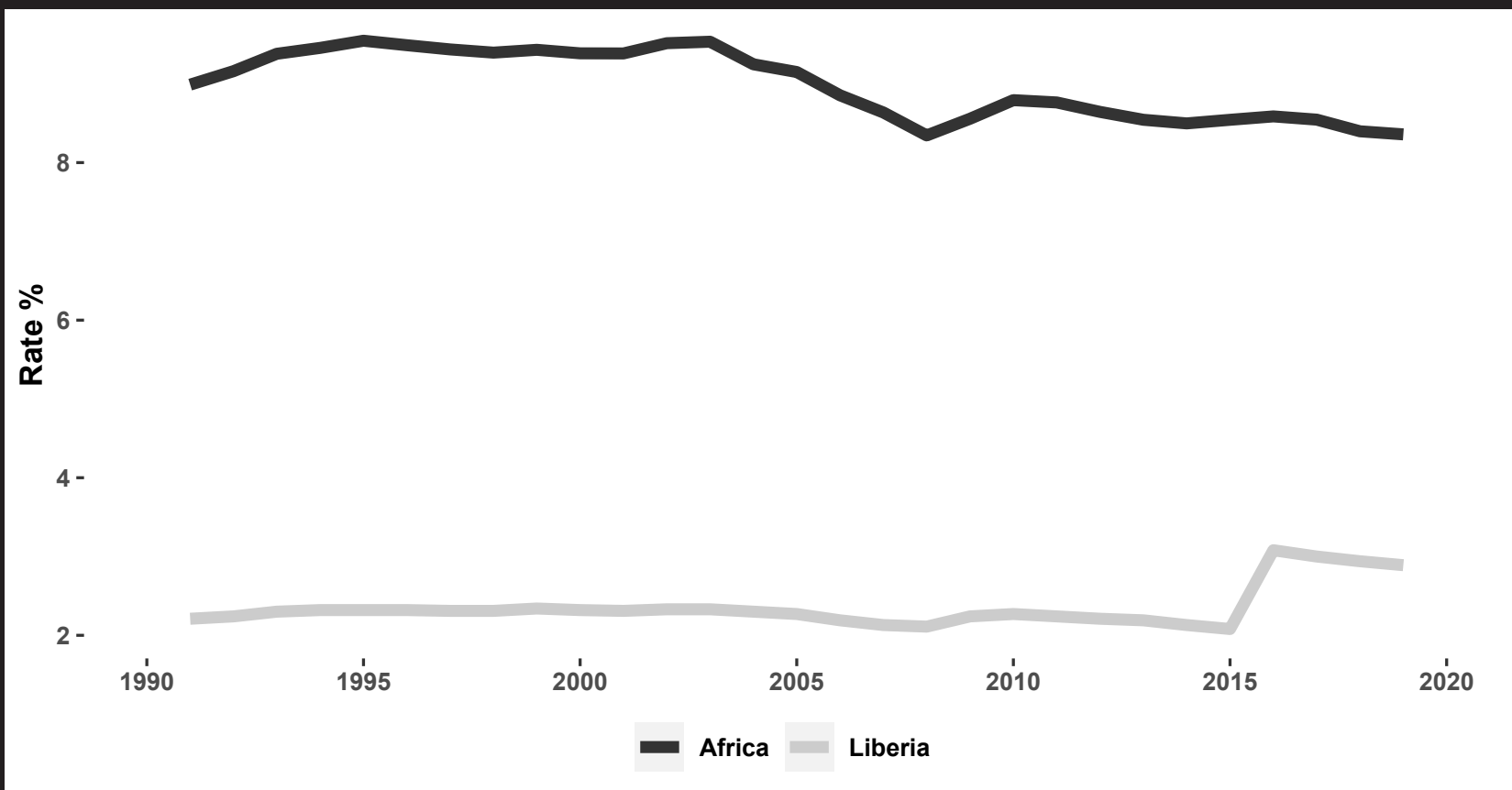
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



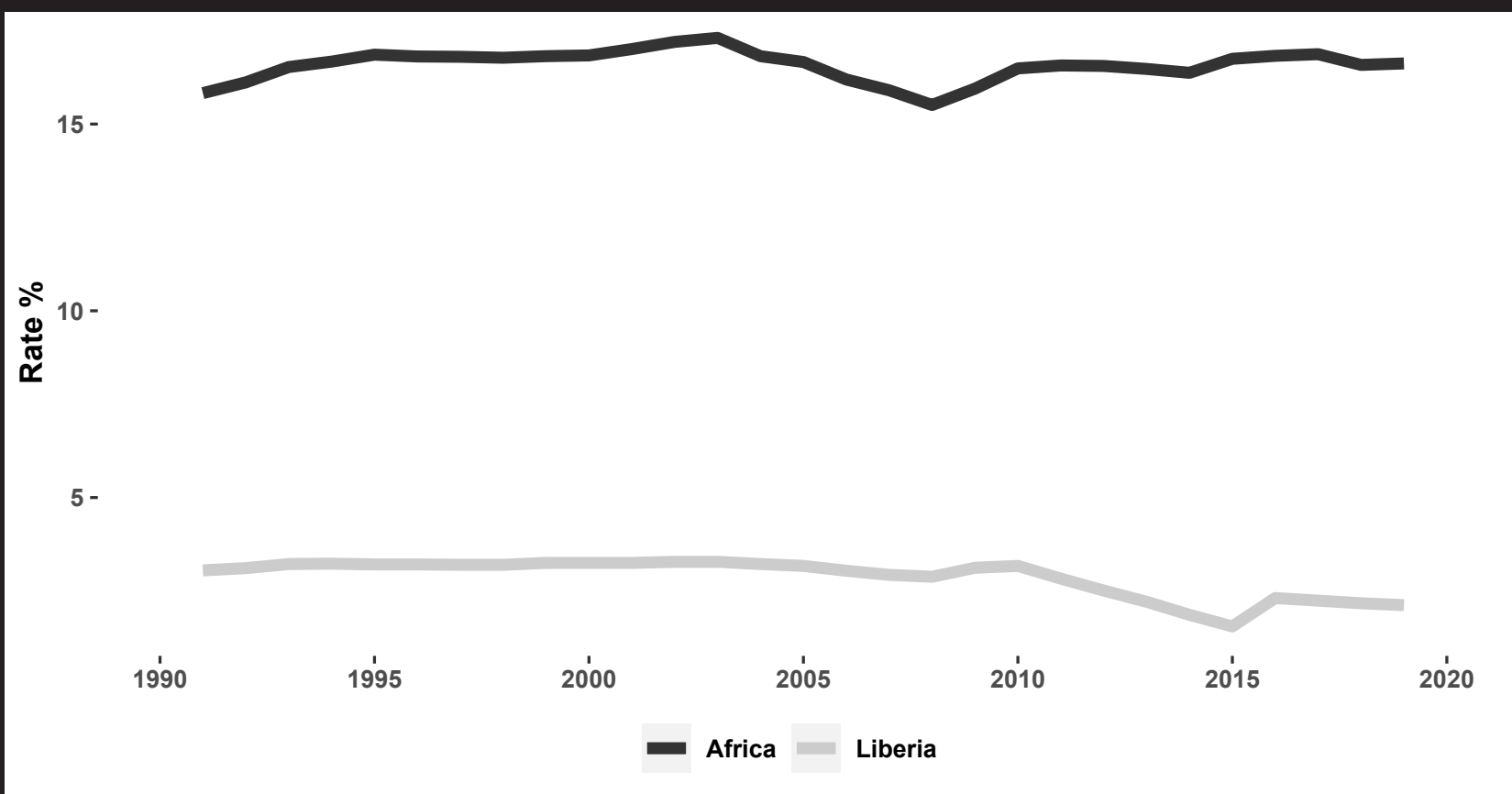
Although Liberia experienced consistent economic growth between 2005 and 2013, since 2014 the pattern has become much more erratic.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



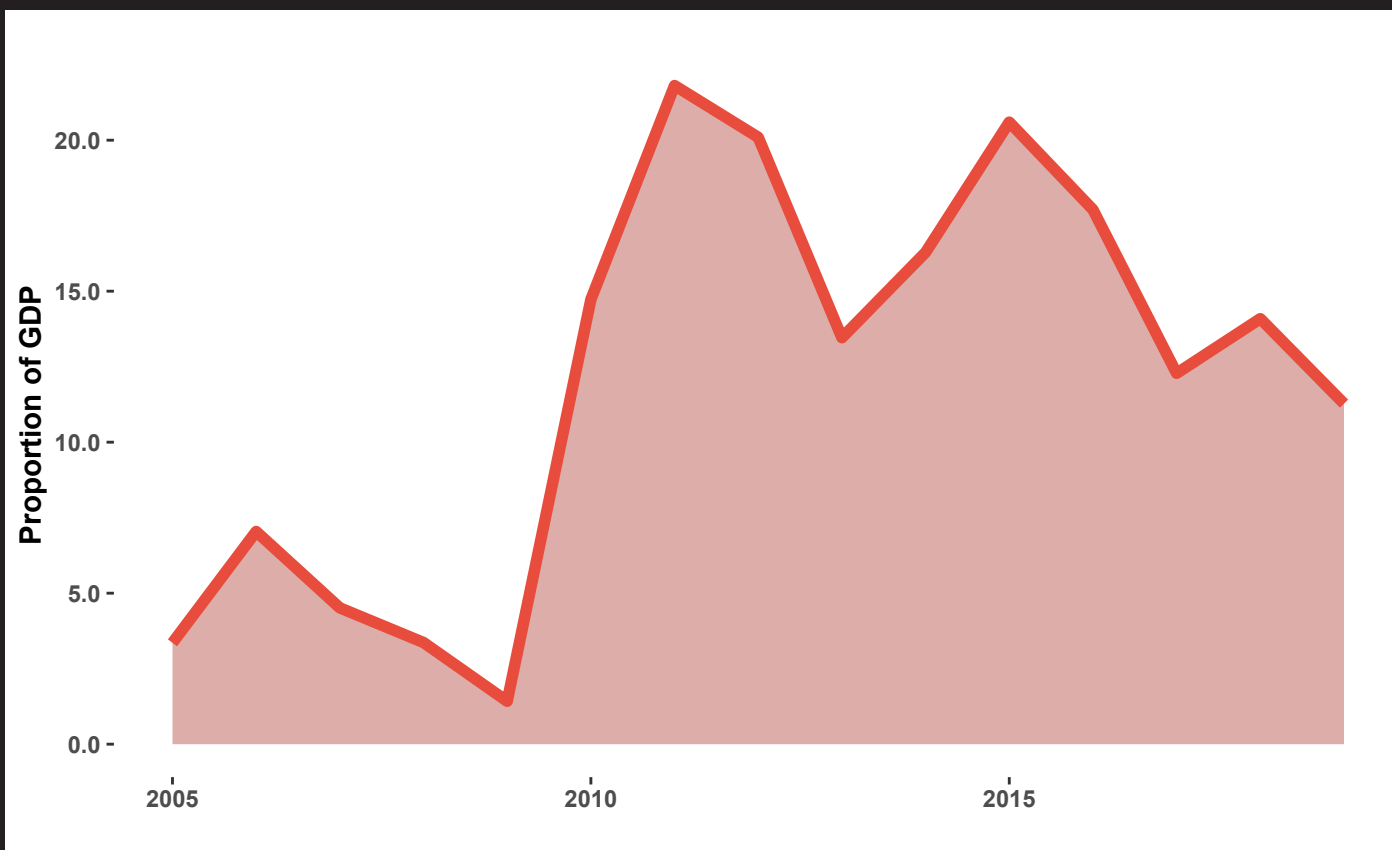
Liberia has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Liberia has consistently had one of the lowest youth unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$346 million

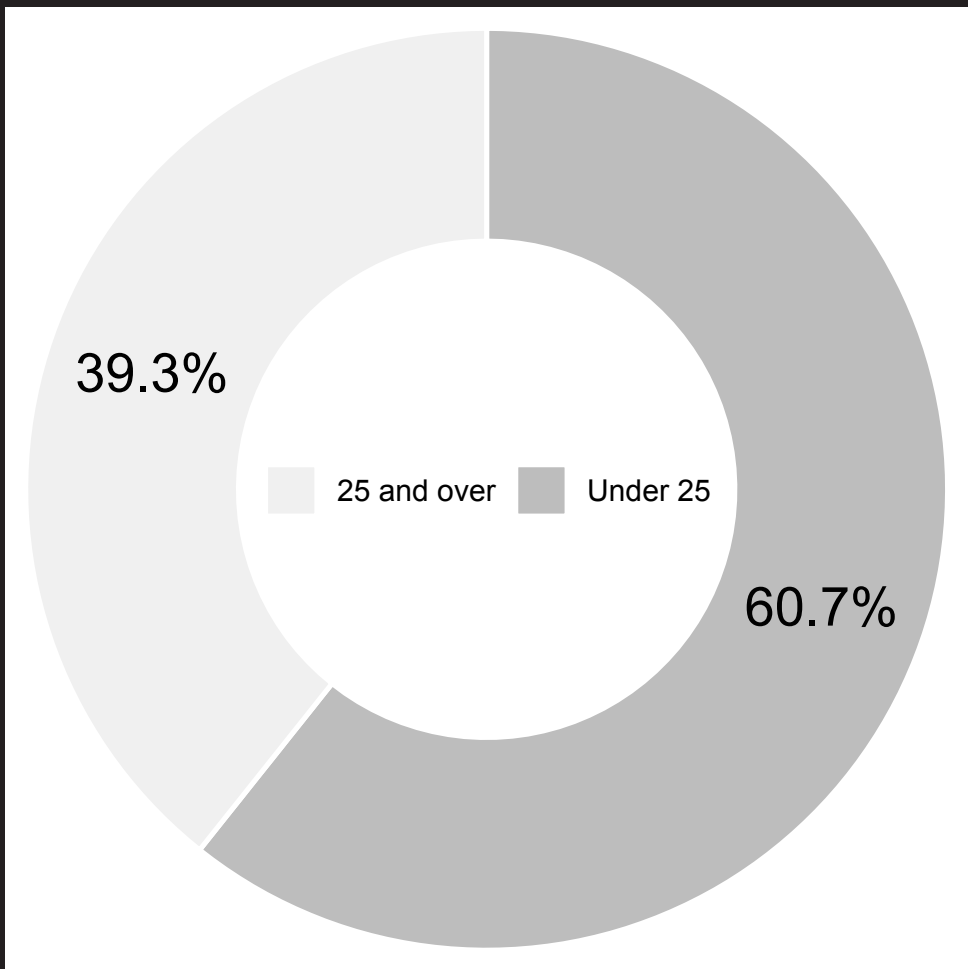
which represents

11.28% of GDP

Since 2010 Liberia has been one of the African countries most reliant on remittances. Often above 10% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

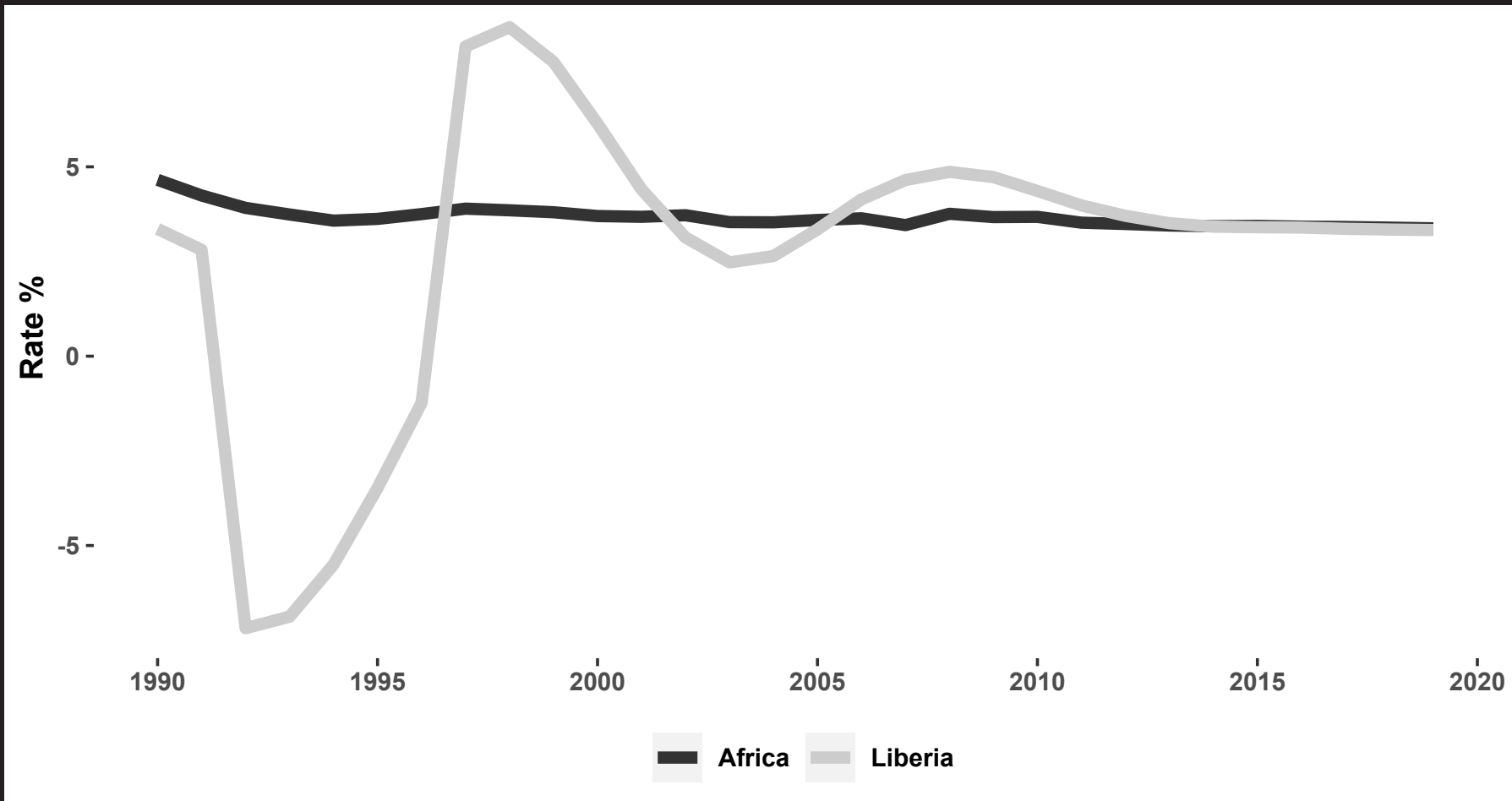
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



4.93 million

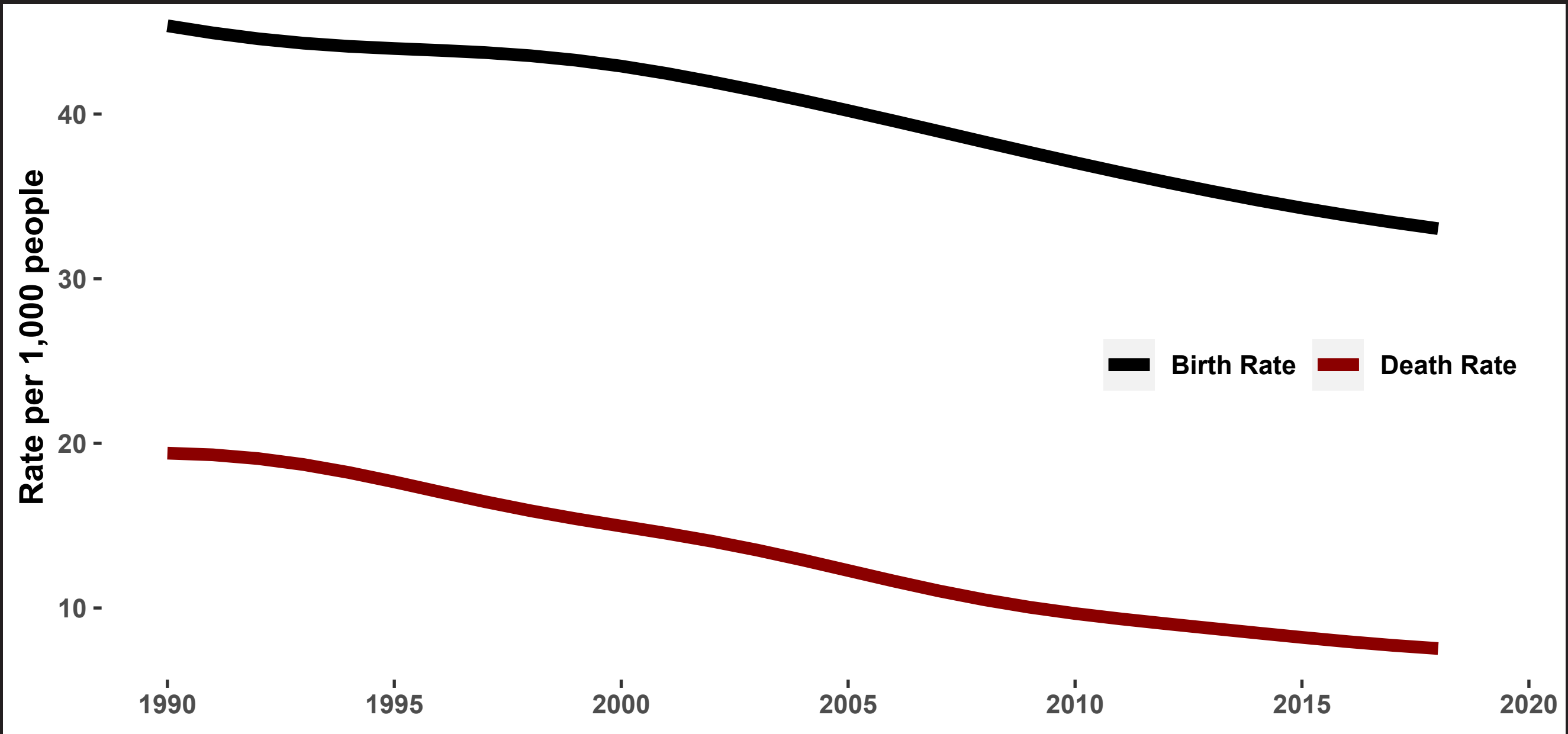
Liberia is one of the least populated countries in Africa but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Due to the Liberian civil war, Liberia experienced erratic urbanisation rates for much of the 1990s – including an extended period of negative urbanisation rates between 1992 and 1996. Since 2000 Liberia’s urbanisation rate has tracked very closely with the African average.

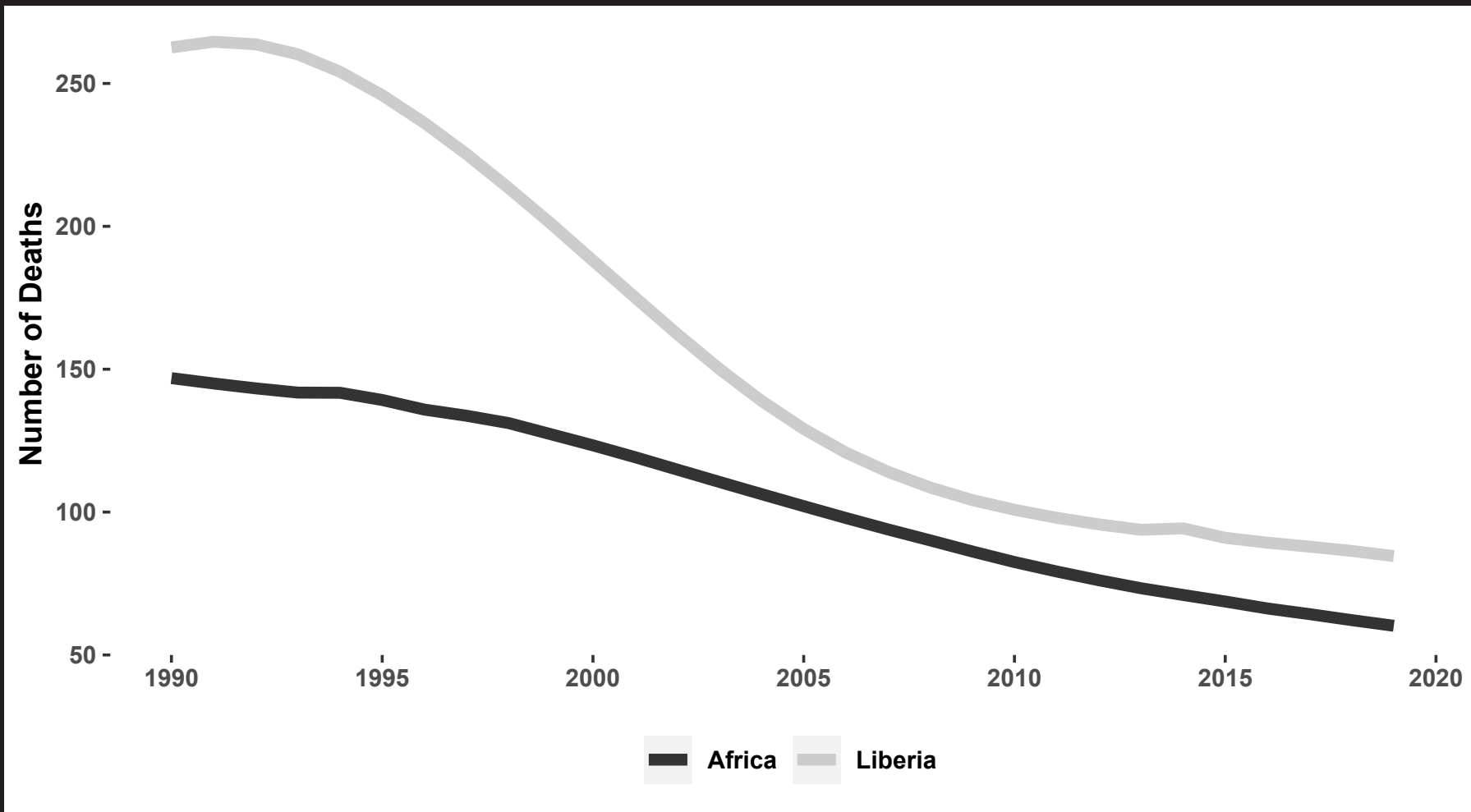
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Liberia has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

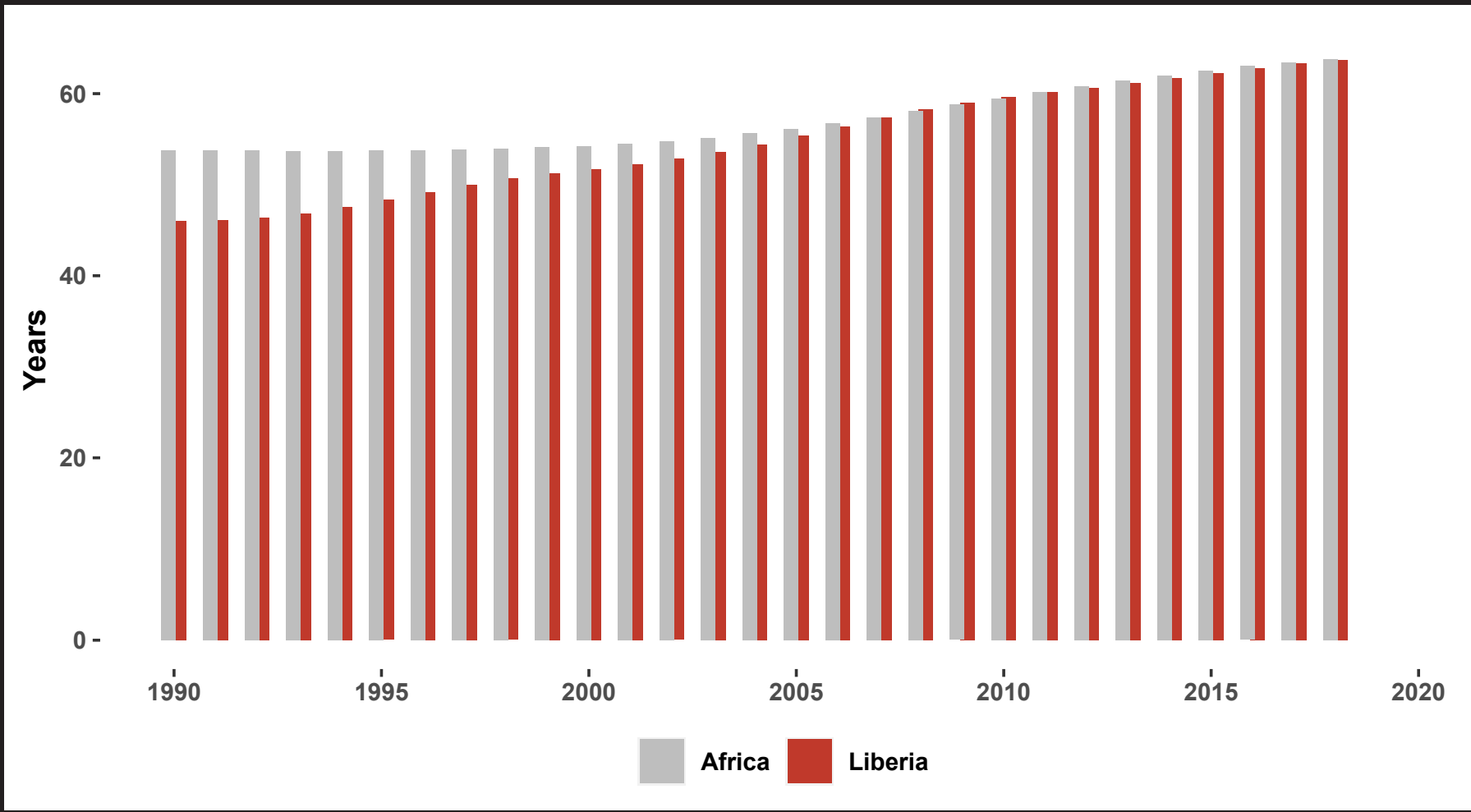
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



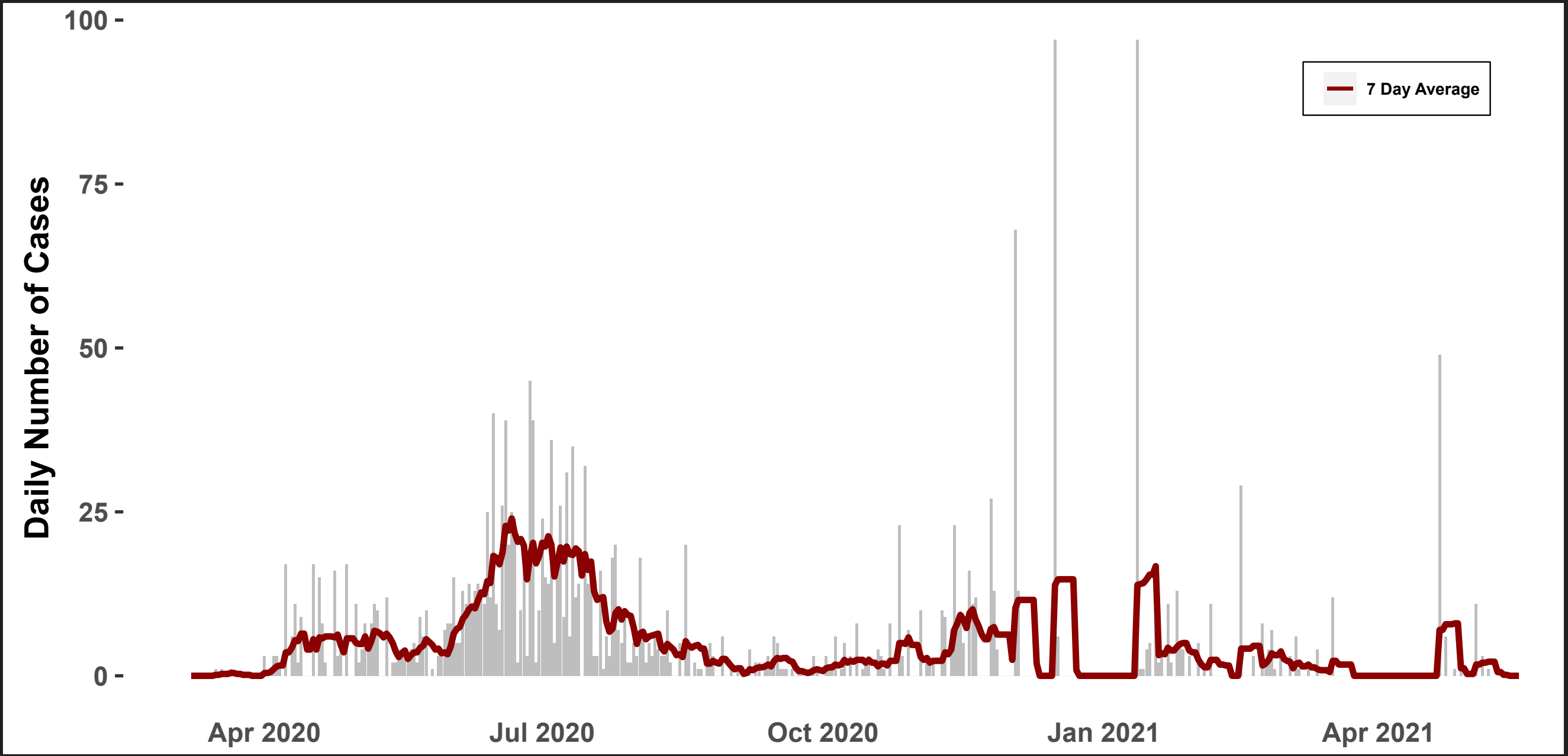
Liberia has experienced a drastic reduction in the child mortality rate in the past 30 years and especially during the period between 1995 and 2005.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Liberia has seen substantial improvements over the past 30 years – improving at a more rapid pace than the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Liberia has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in July 2020.

DID YOU KNOW?

George Osodi / POOL / AFP



In 2012, former Liberian leader Charles Taylor was convicted of war crimes and sentenced to 50 years in jail. His crimes included terrorism, rape, murder and the use of child soldiers by rebel groups in Sierra Leone.

Roderick Eime on Flickr.com



Royal Caribbean International, which possesses the three largest cruise ships on the planet, is registered in Liberia, along with 12% of the world's entire maritime fleet.

David Stanley on Flickr.com

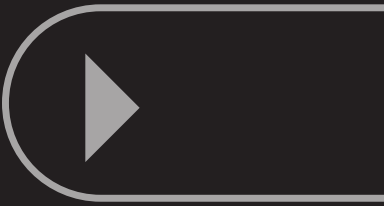
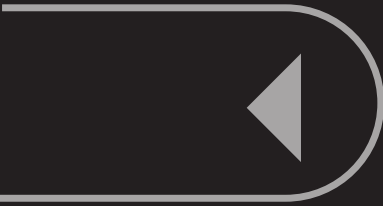


The coastal town of Robertsport, around 80 km from the capital Monrovia, has been described as the greatest undiscovered surf spot in Africa.



LIBYA

Libya is in the Maghreb region in North Africa bordered by the Mediterranean Sea, Egypt, Sudan, Chad, Niger, Algeria and Tunisia. It is mostly desert, Libya and has an ancient history. Libya was under foreign rule for centuries until it gained independence from Britain in 1951 when soon after oil was discovered and earned the country immense wealth. Colonel Muammar Gaddafi seized power in 1969 and ruled for four decades until he was toppled in 2011 following an armed rebellion assisted by western military intervention. The Libyan Desert, which covers much of Libya, is one of the most arid and sun-baked places on earth. In places, decades may pass without seeing any rainfall at all. The Libyan economy depends primarily upon revenues from the oil sector, which account for over half of GDP and 97% of exports. The official currency is the Libyan dinar.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Abdul Hamid Dbeibeh

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Tripoli

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

105

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

8+



MAIN LANGUAGES

Arabic, English
and Italian

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

National unity government



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

National Forces Alliance

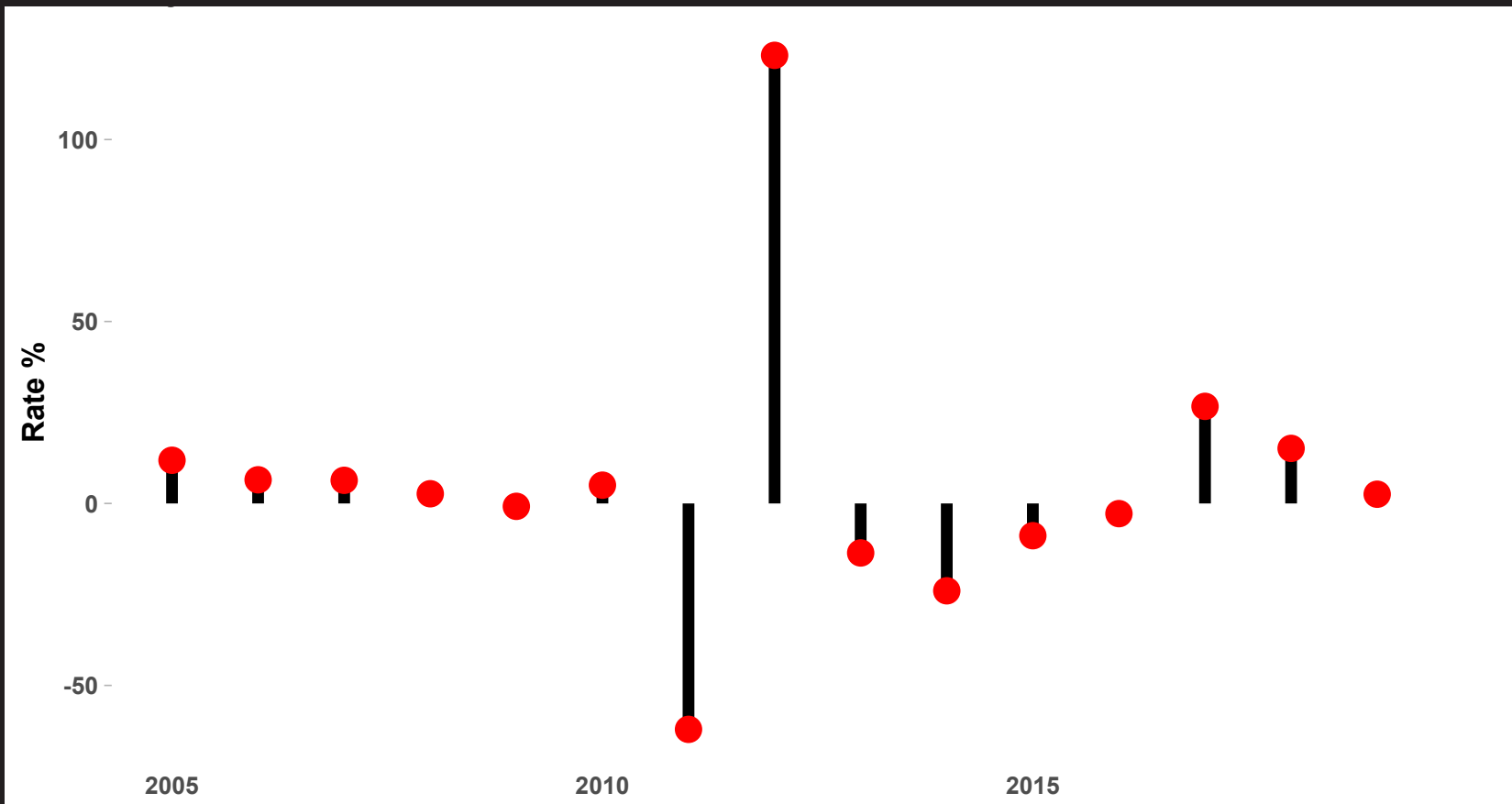


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Justice and Construction Party

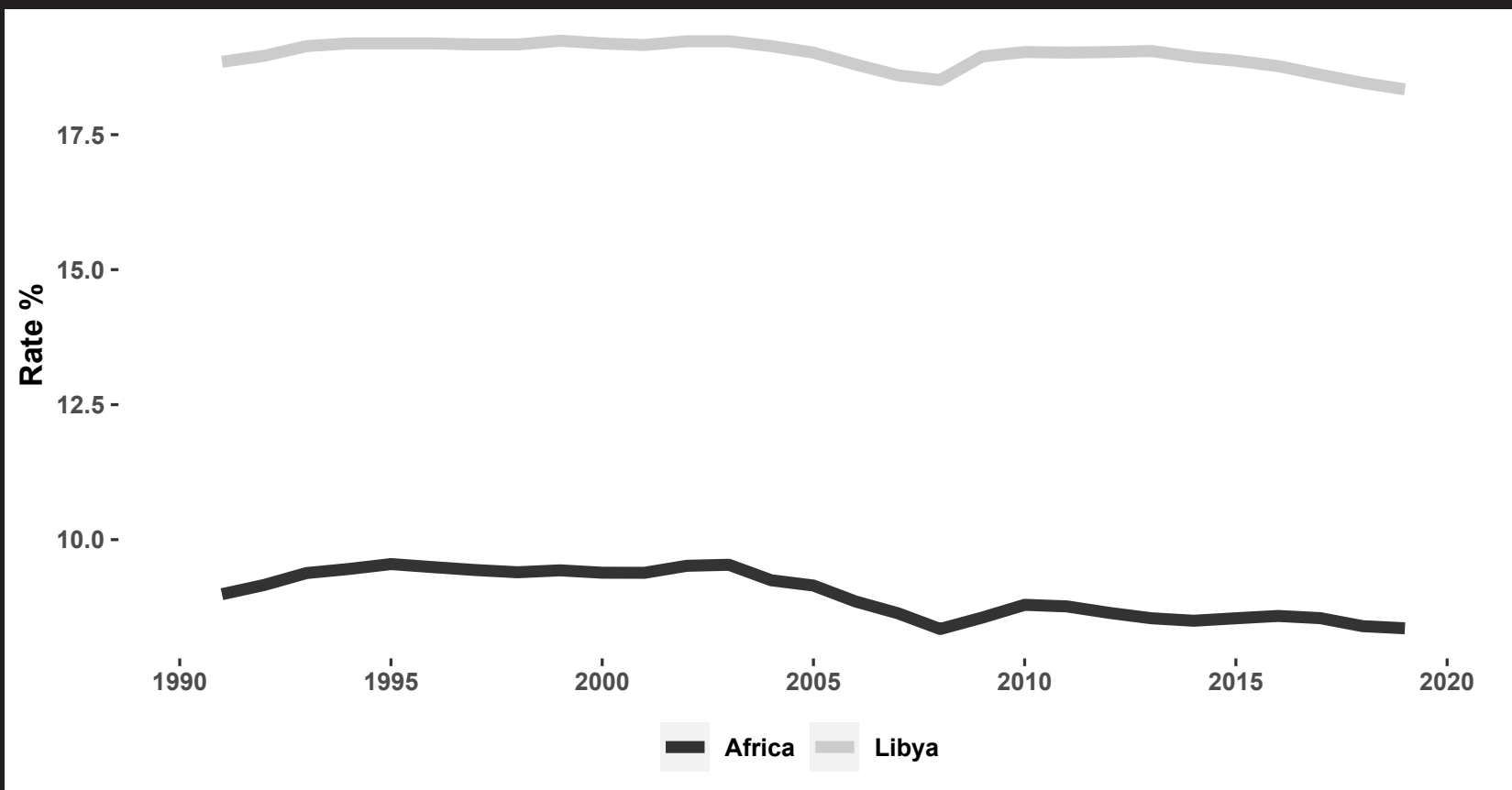
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



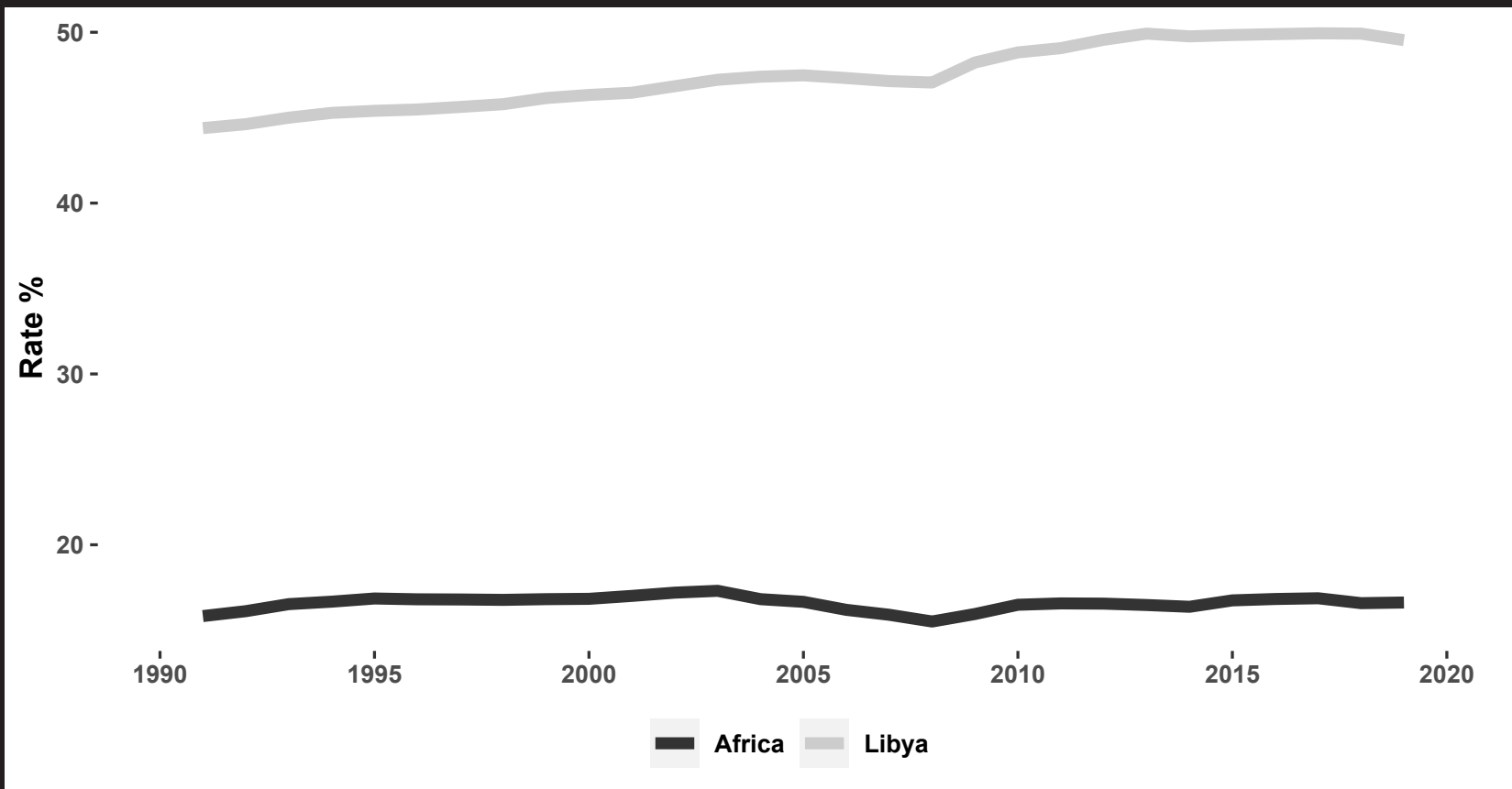
Libya has experienced erratic economic growth patterns from 2005. This was particularly the case during the first Libyan civil war in 2011 and 2012, when Libya recorded some of the most extreme positive and negative economic growth rates in recorded history.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



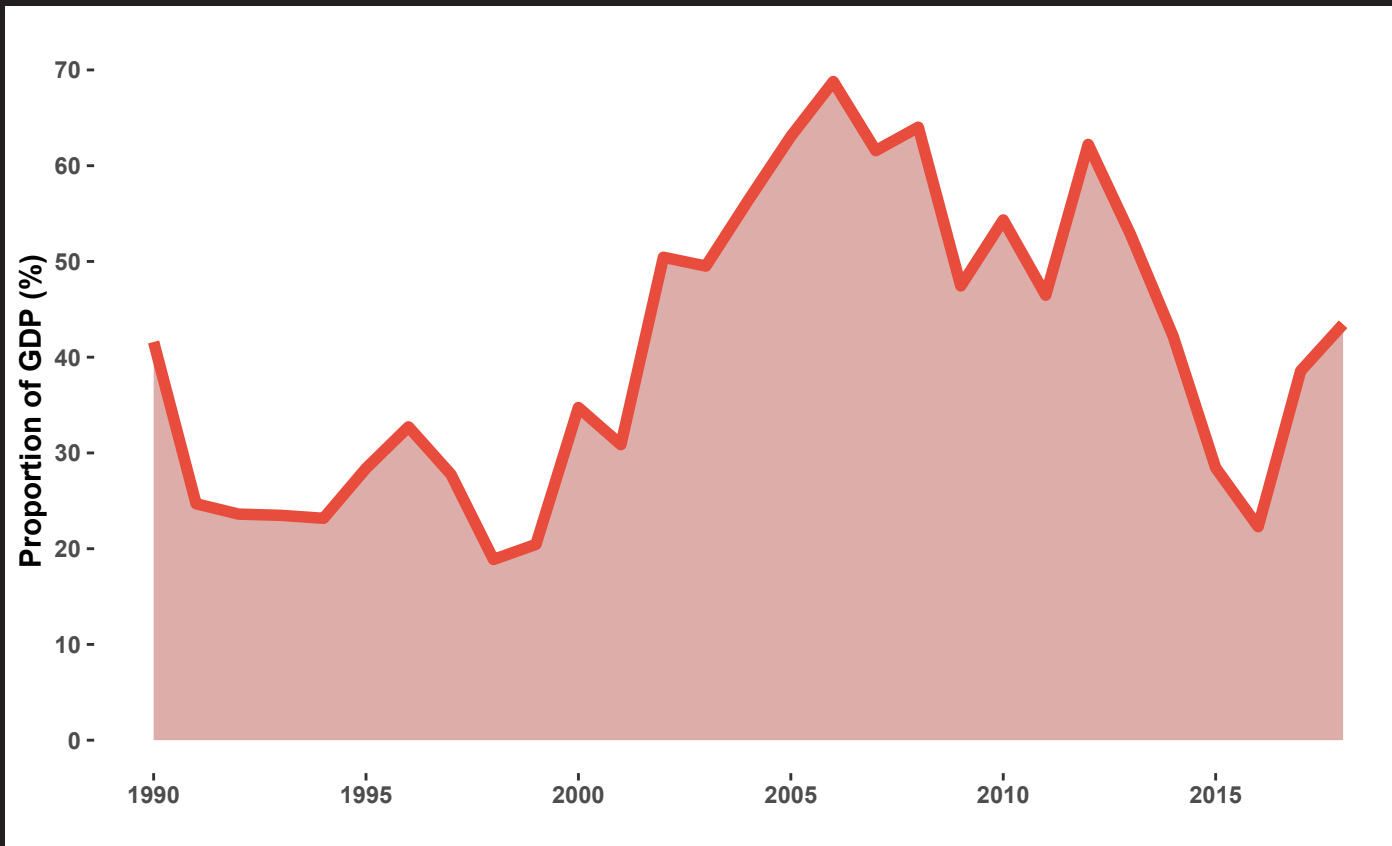
Libya’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Libya’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

RESOURCE RENTS PROPORTION (2019)



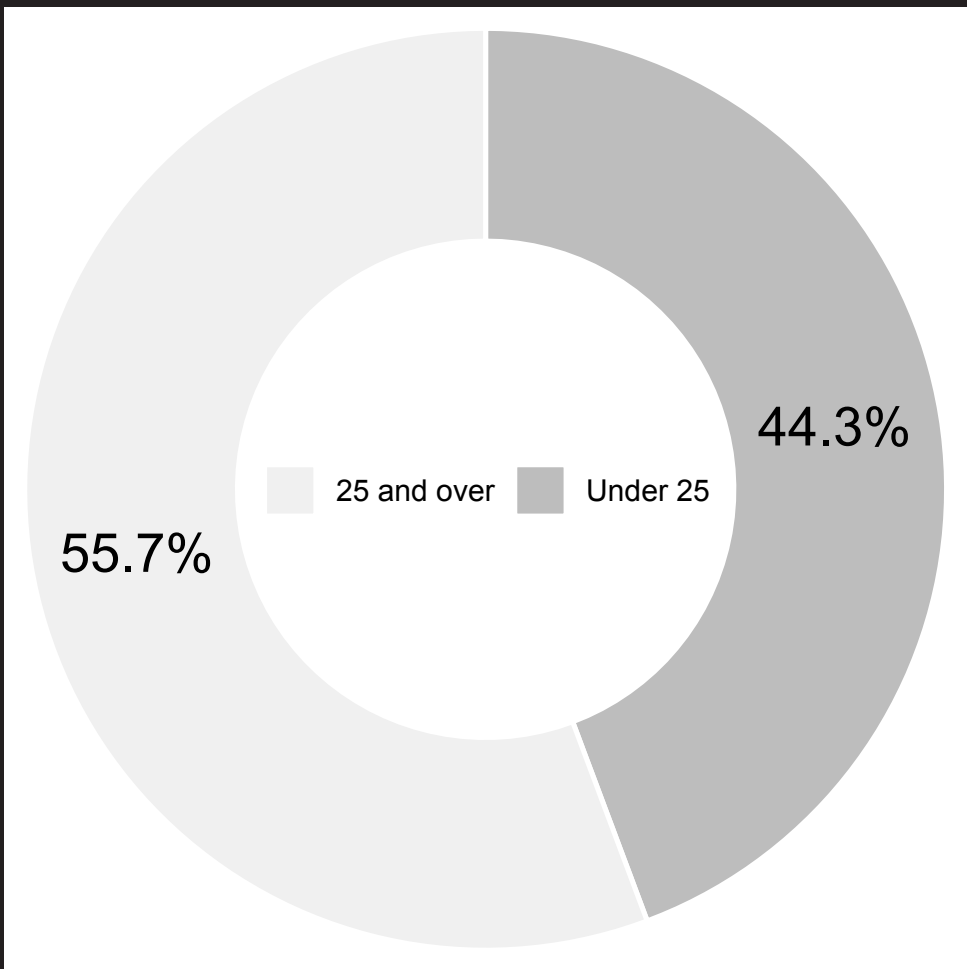
Resource rents for 2019 amounted to over

40% of GDP

Libya’s economy is heavily reliant on resource rents (especially oil). This was particularly the case between 2000 and 2010 when resource rents consistently accounted for in excess of 40% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

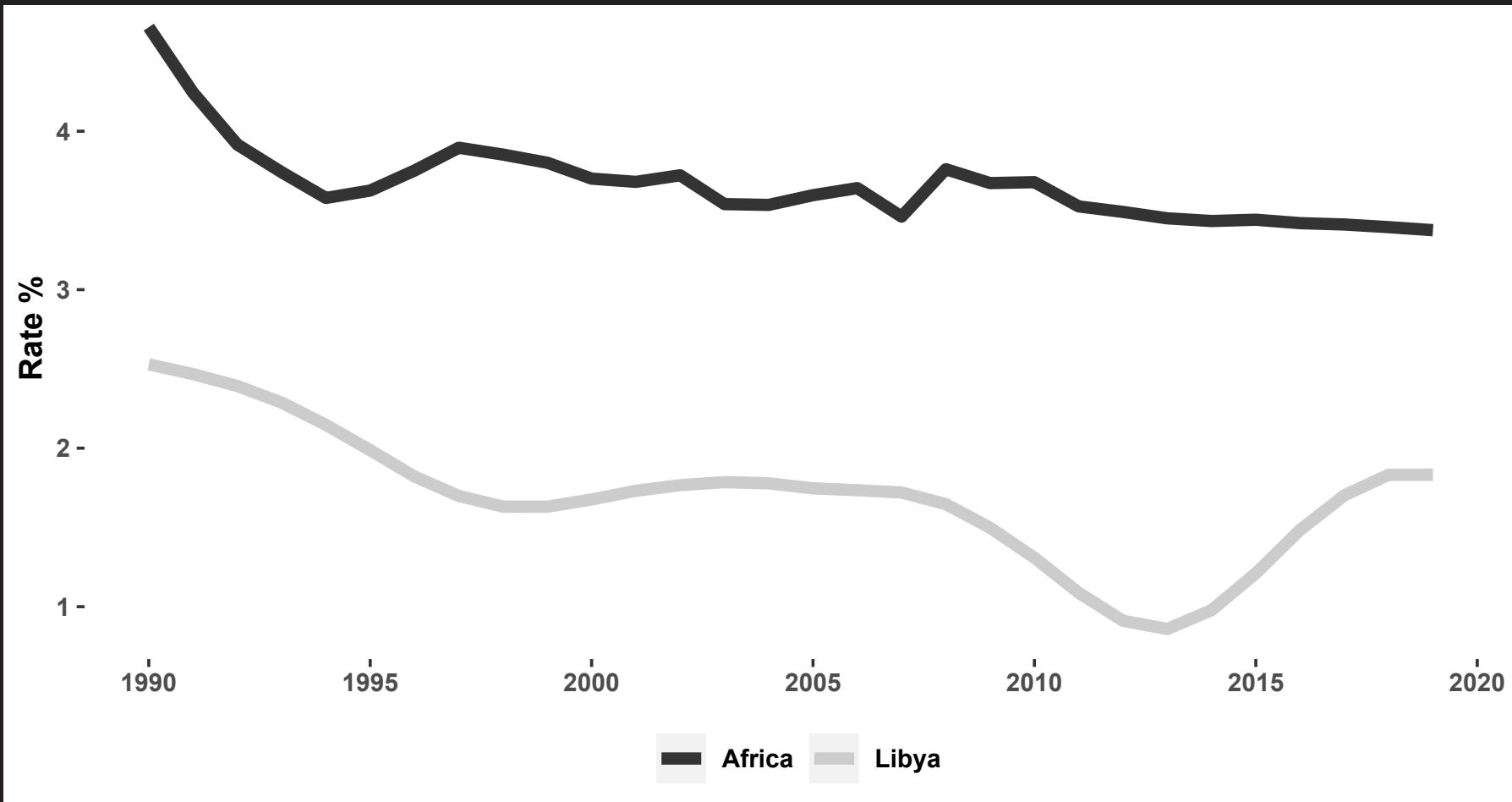
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



6.78 million

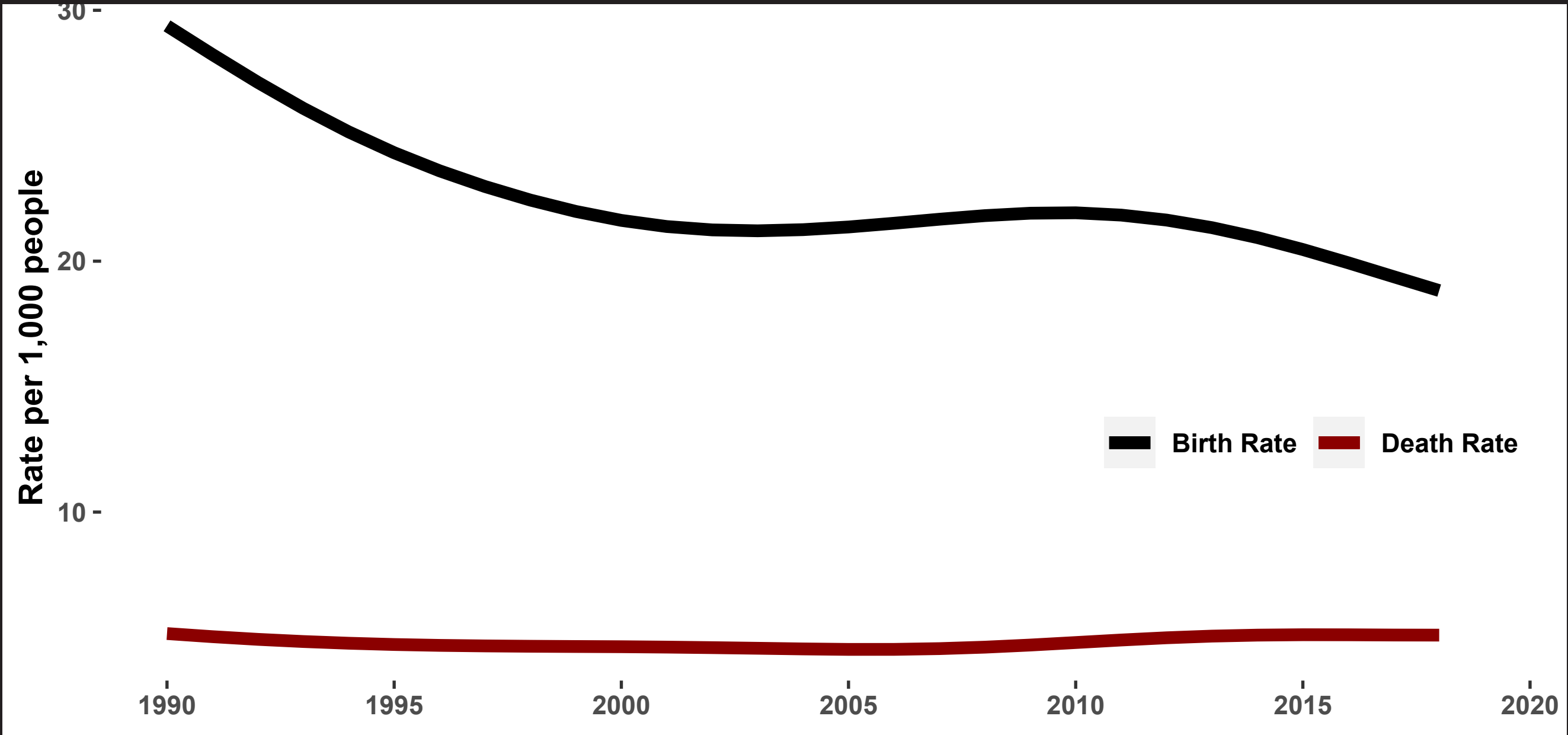
Libya has more people over-25 than under-25. Libya is one of only nine African countries where this is the case.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1990 Libya has urbanised at a consistently slower rate than the continental average.

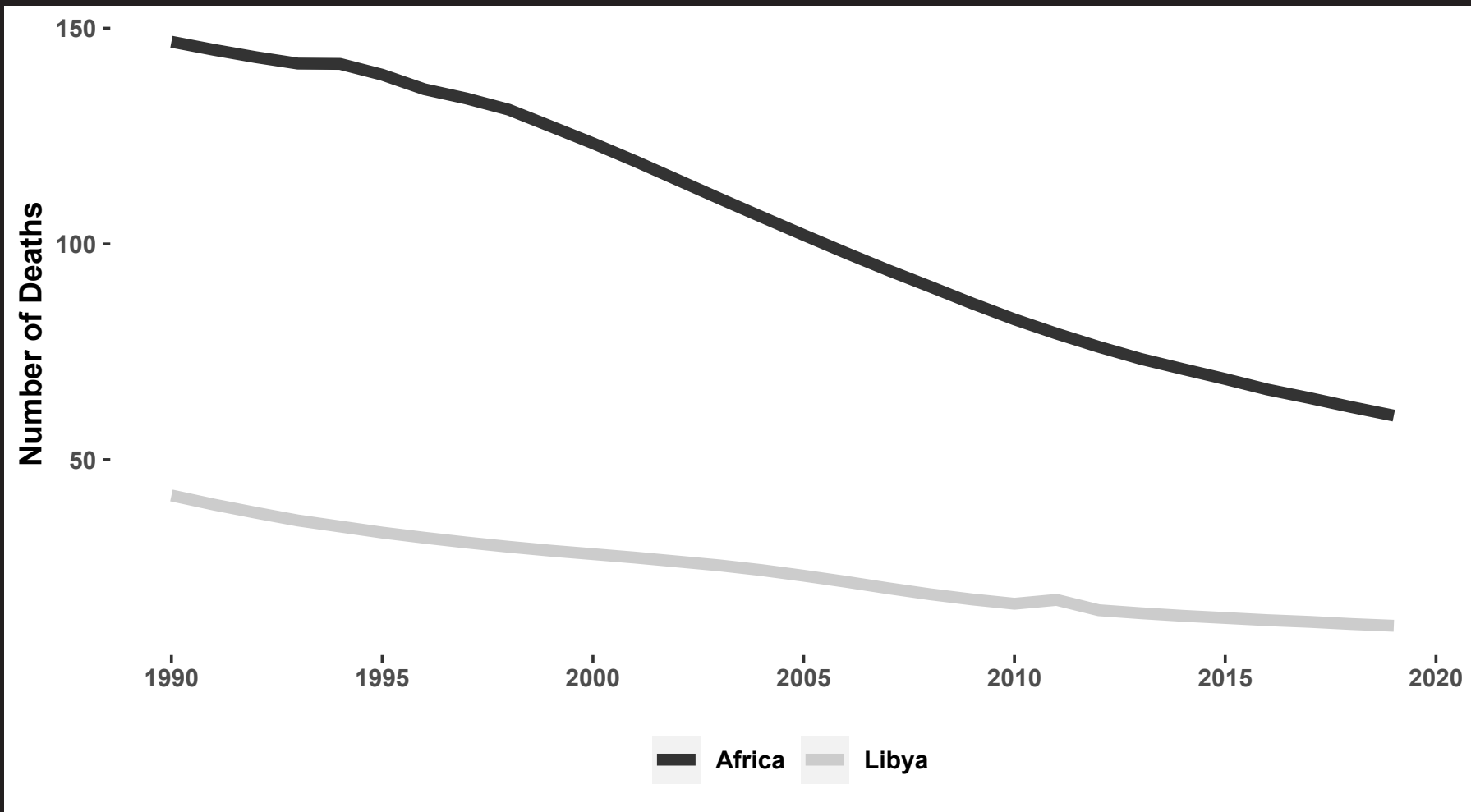
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Libya has one of the lowest death rates on the continent. This, coupled with a fluctuating birth rate, has contributed to steady population growth.

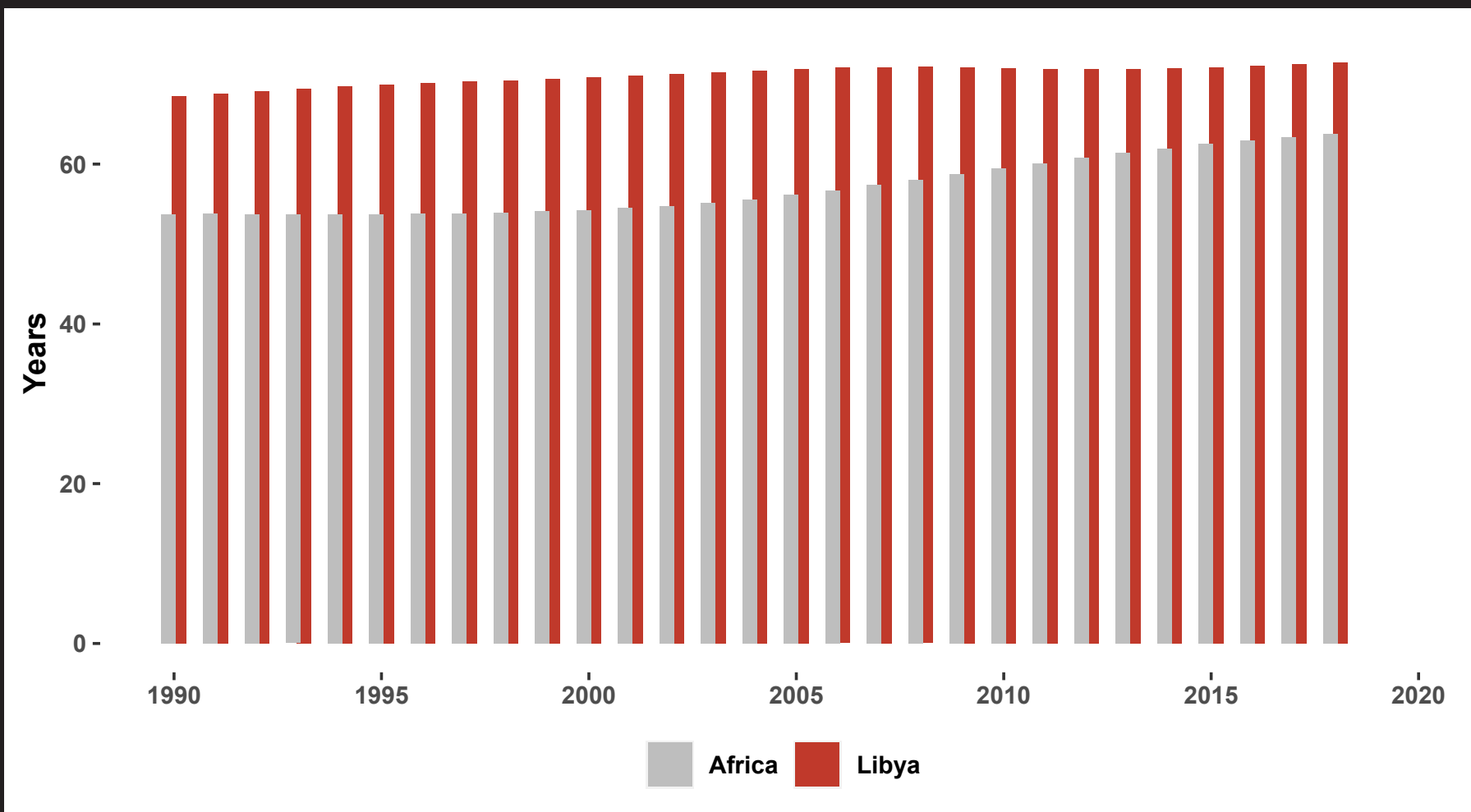
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



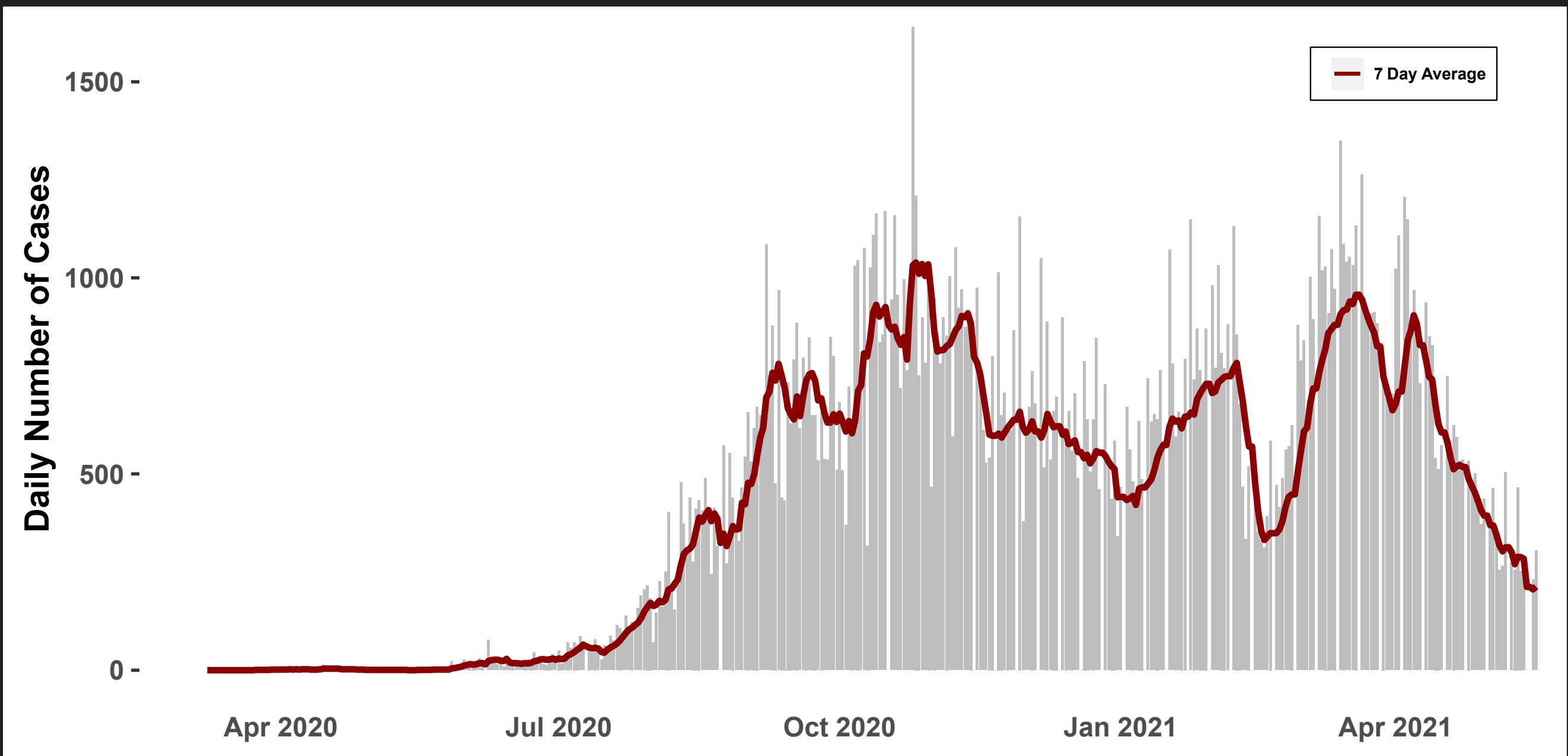
Libya’s child mortality rate is much lower than the African average and has continued to decline over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Libya has one of the highest life expectancies across the continent and is therefore well above the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Libya experienced a consistent wave of Covid-19 infections from September 2020 to April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Although Libya has a thriving economy due to oil, the unstable political environment in the recent past has led to fluctuations in its oil price.

Rob Glover on Flickr.com



Libya imports most of the food because of an inability to produce its own due to its position within the Sahara desert.

Coccolo on Pixabay.com



Libyan tea is as thick as black syrup, a result of mixing plenty of tea leaves and a high sugar concentration.



MADAGASCAR

Madagascar is an island country in the Indian Ocean, approximately 400 km off the coast of East Africa. Following the pre-historic breakup of the supercontinent, Gondwana, Madagascar split from the Indian subcontinent around 88 million years ago, allowing native plants and animals to evolve in relative isolation. Consequently, Madagascar is a biodiversity hotspot; more than 90% of its wildlife is found nowhere else on earth. Beginning in the early 19th century, most of the island was united and ruled as the Kingdom of Madagascar by a series of Merina (ethnic) nobles. The monarchy ended in 1897 when the island was absorbed into the French colonial empire, from which it gained independence in 1960. The official currency is the Malagasy ariary.

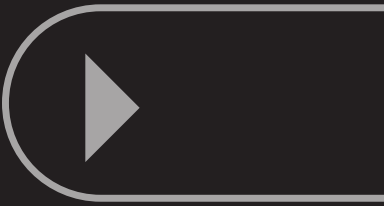
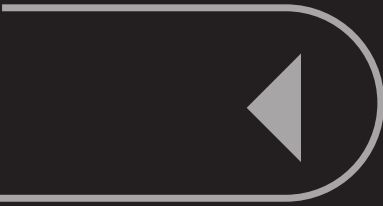
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Andry Rajoelina

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Antananarivo

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

164

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

2



MAIN LANGUAGES
French and Malagasy

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Semi-presidential democratic republic



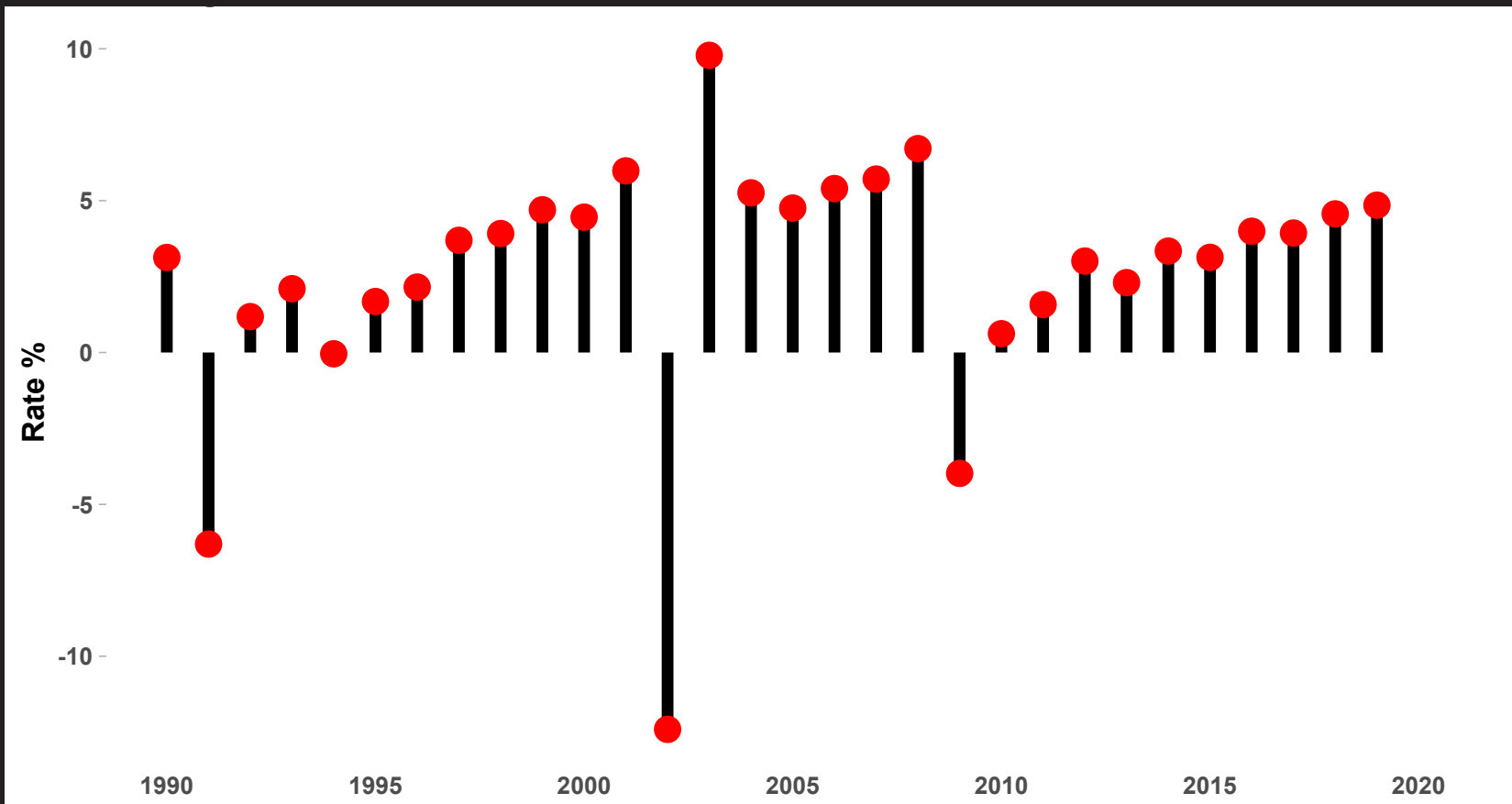
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Young Malagasy Determined (TVG)



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Tiako I Madagasikara (TIM)

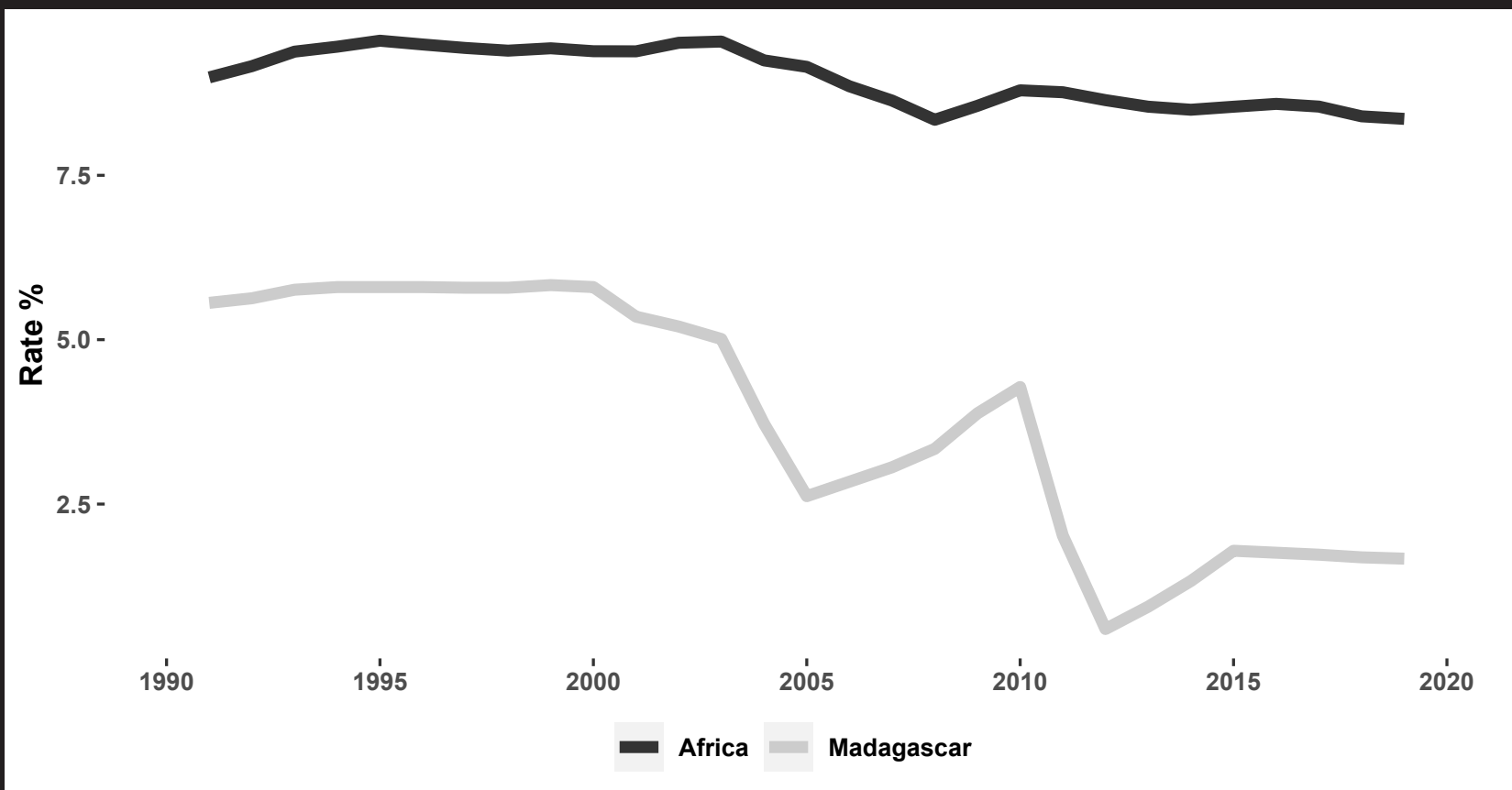
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



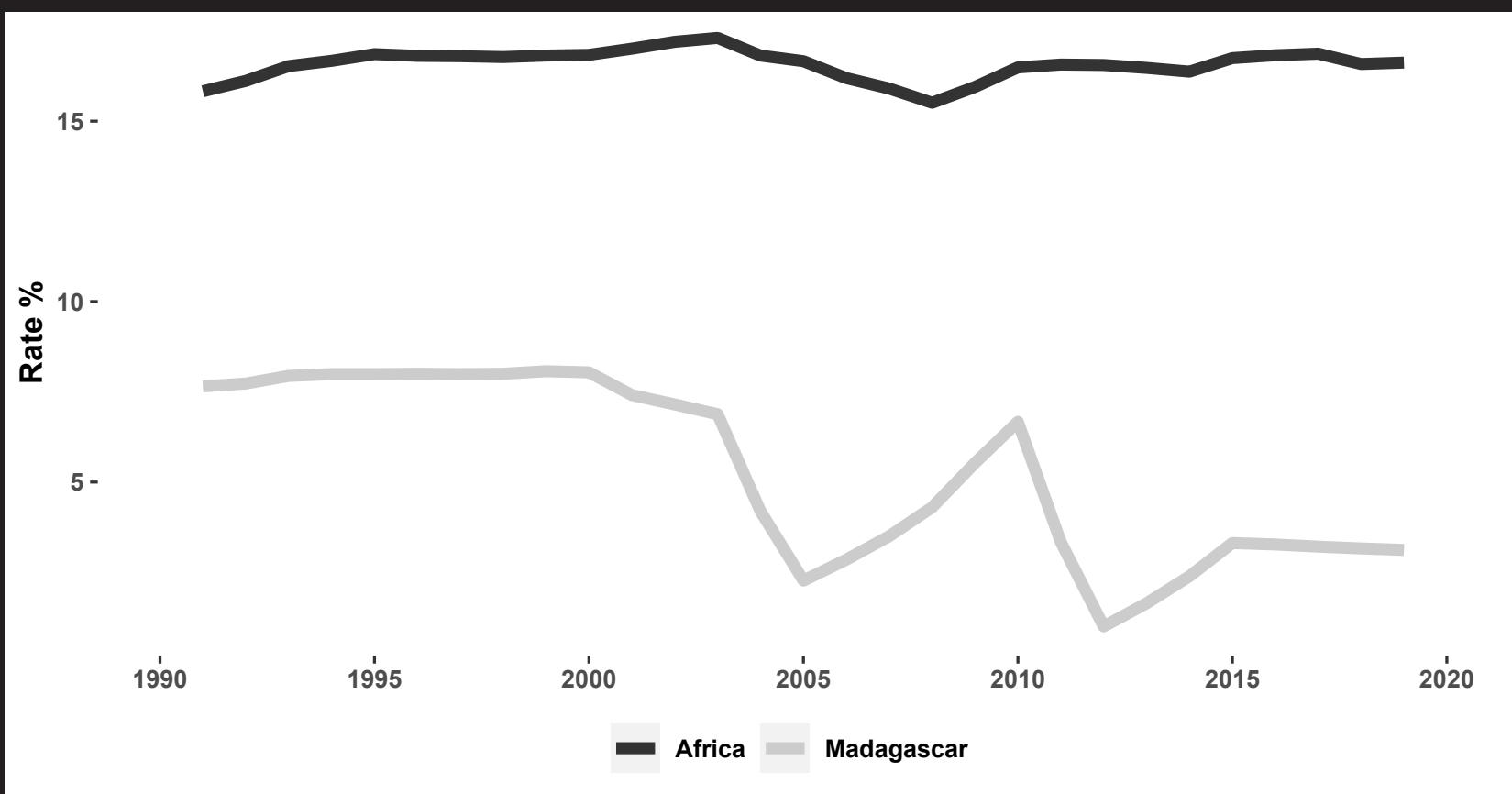
Notwithstanding contractions in 1991, 2002 and 2009 Madagascar has generally experienced regular economic expansion over the past 30 years.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



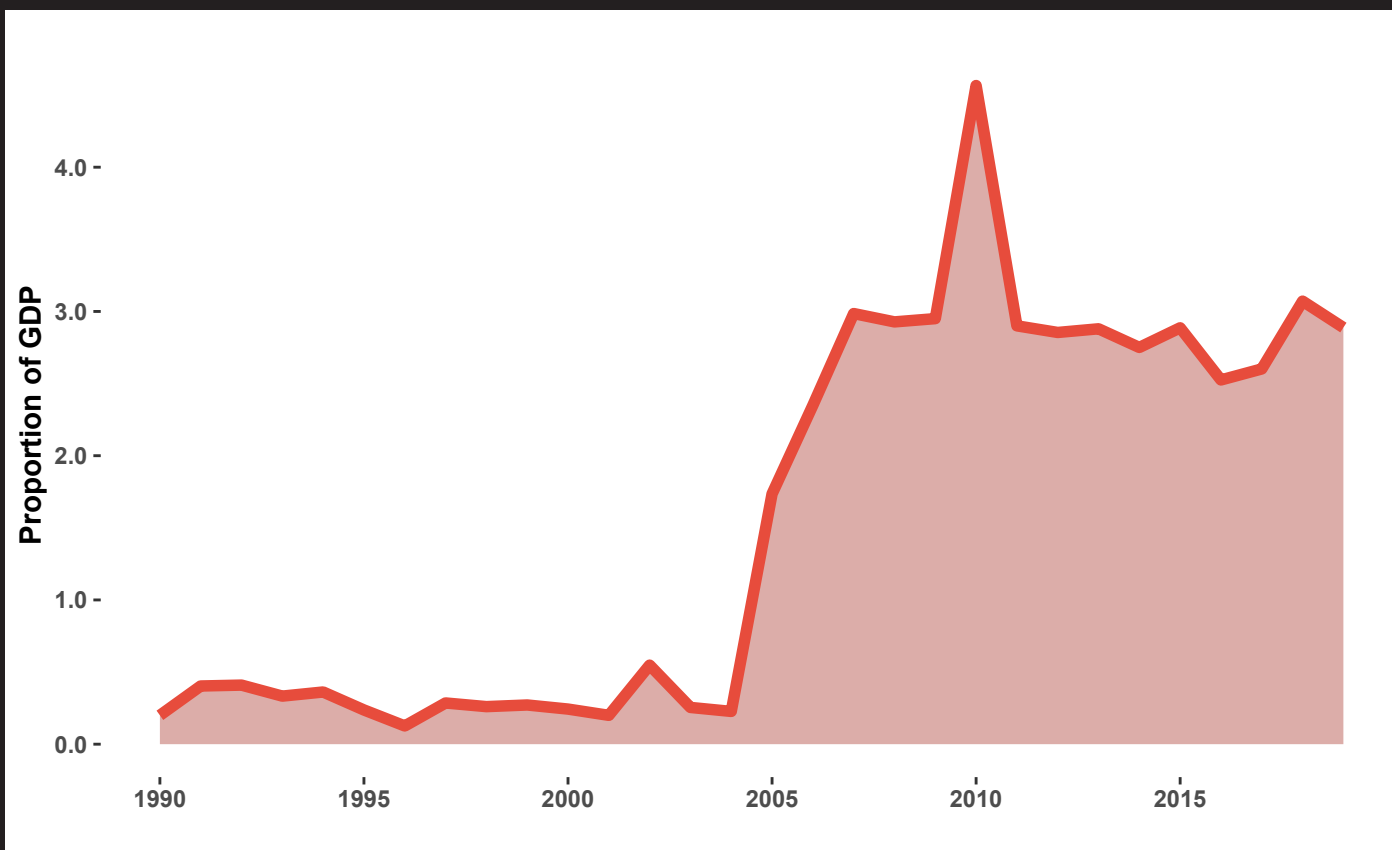
Madagascar’s unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Madagascar’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$408 million

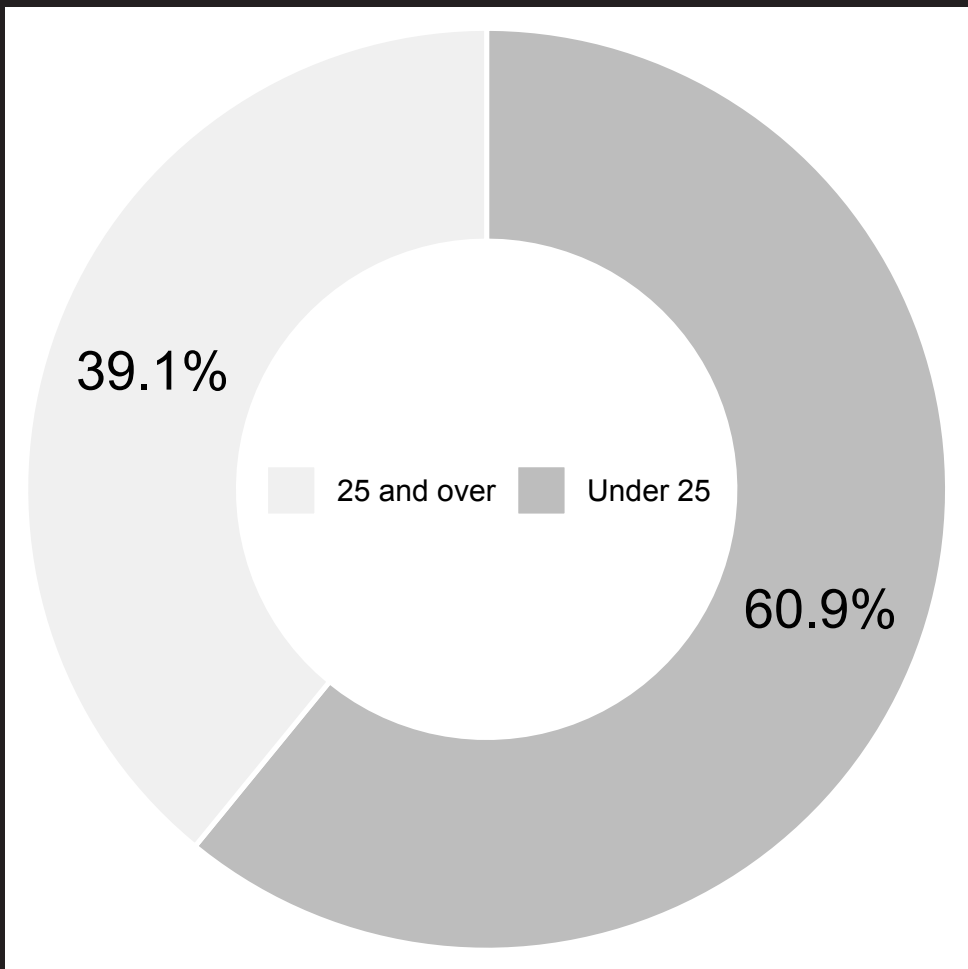
which represents

2.89% of GDP

Since 2005 Madagascar’s economy has become increasingly reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

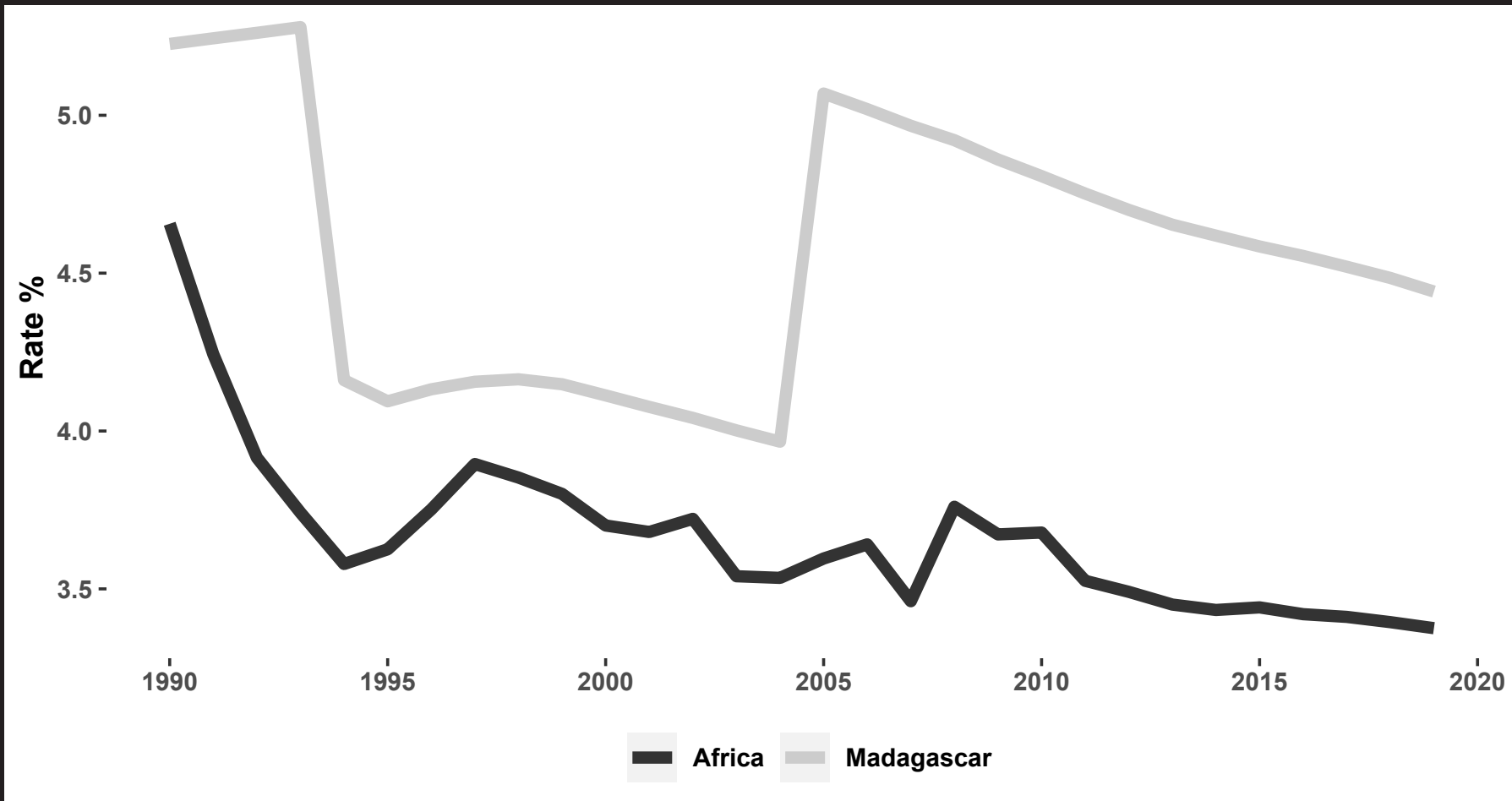
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



29.7 million

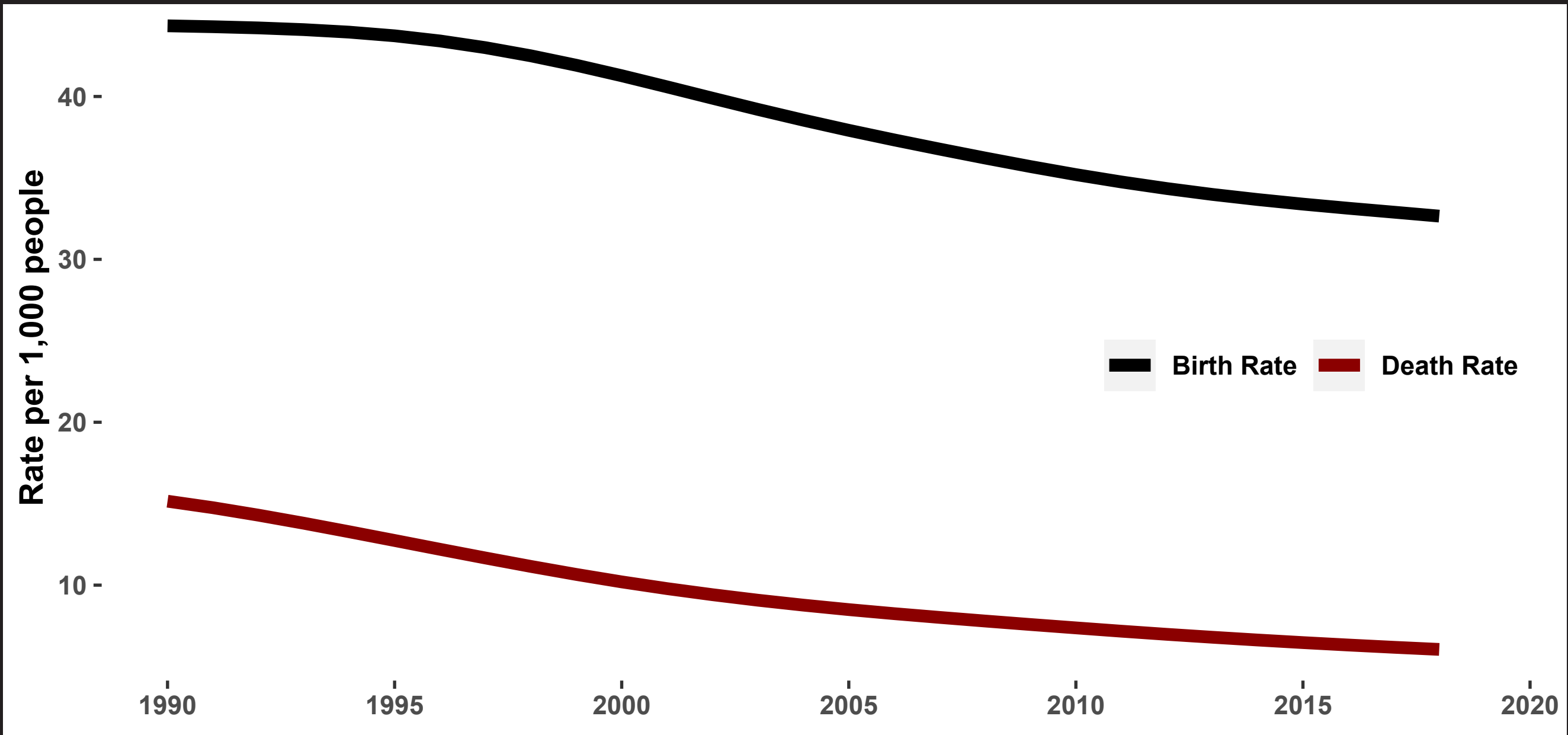
In line with continental trends, the majority of Madagascar’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Madagascar’s urbanisation rate has fluctuated over the past three decades, this rate has still been consistently higher than the continental average.

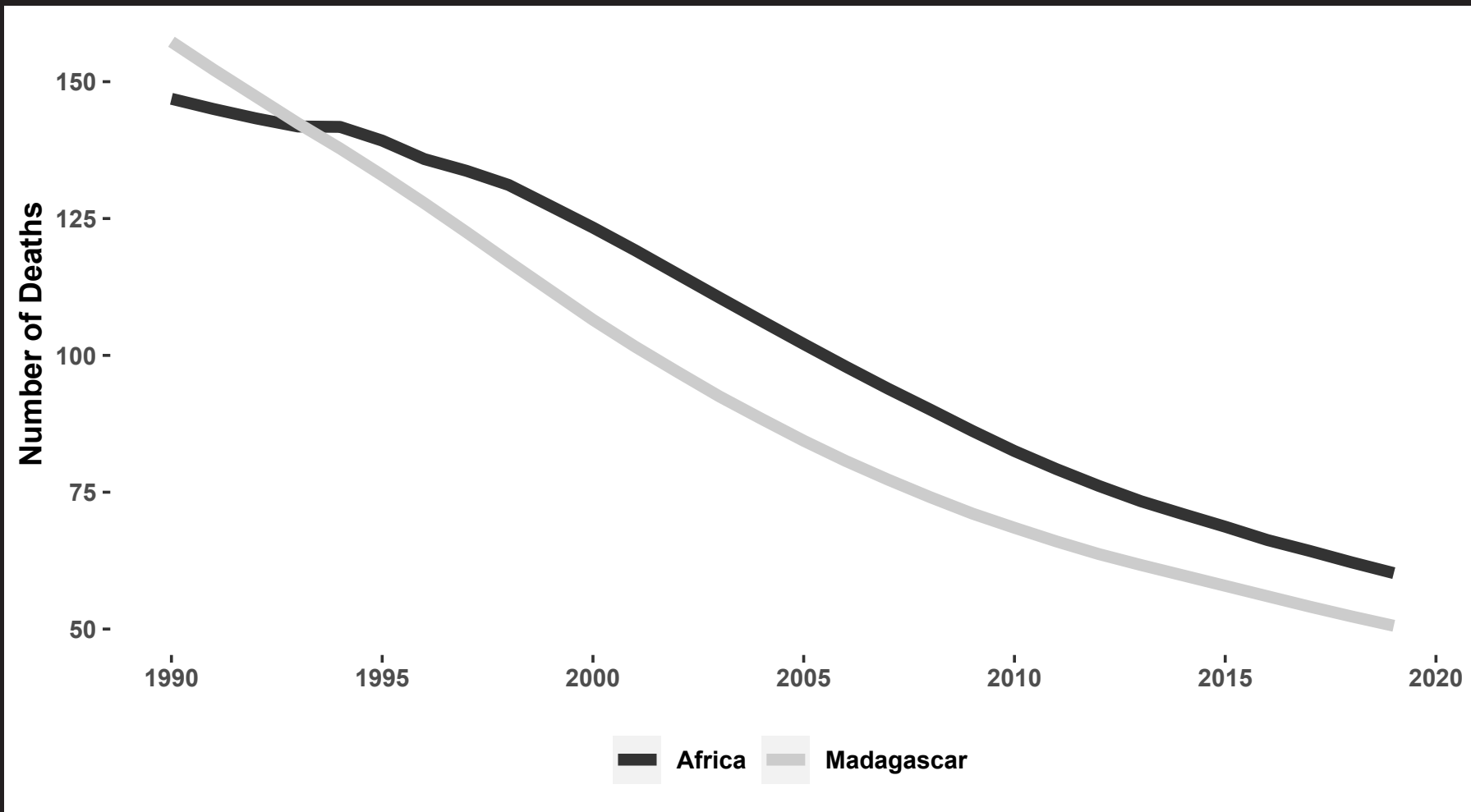
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Madagascar has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is roughly double its death rate.

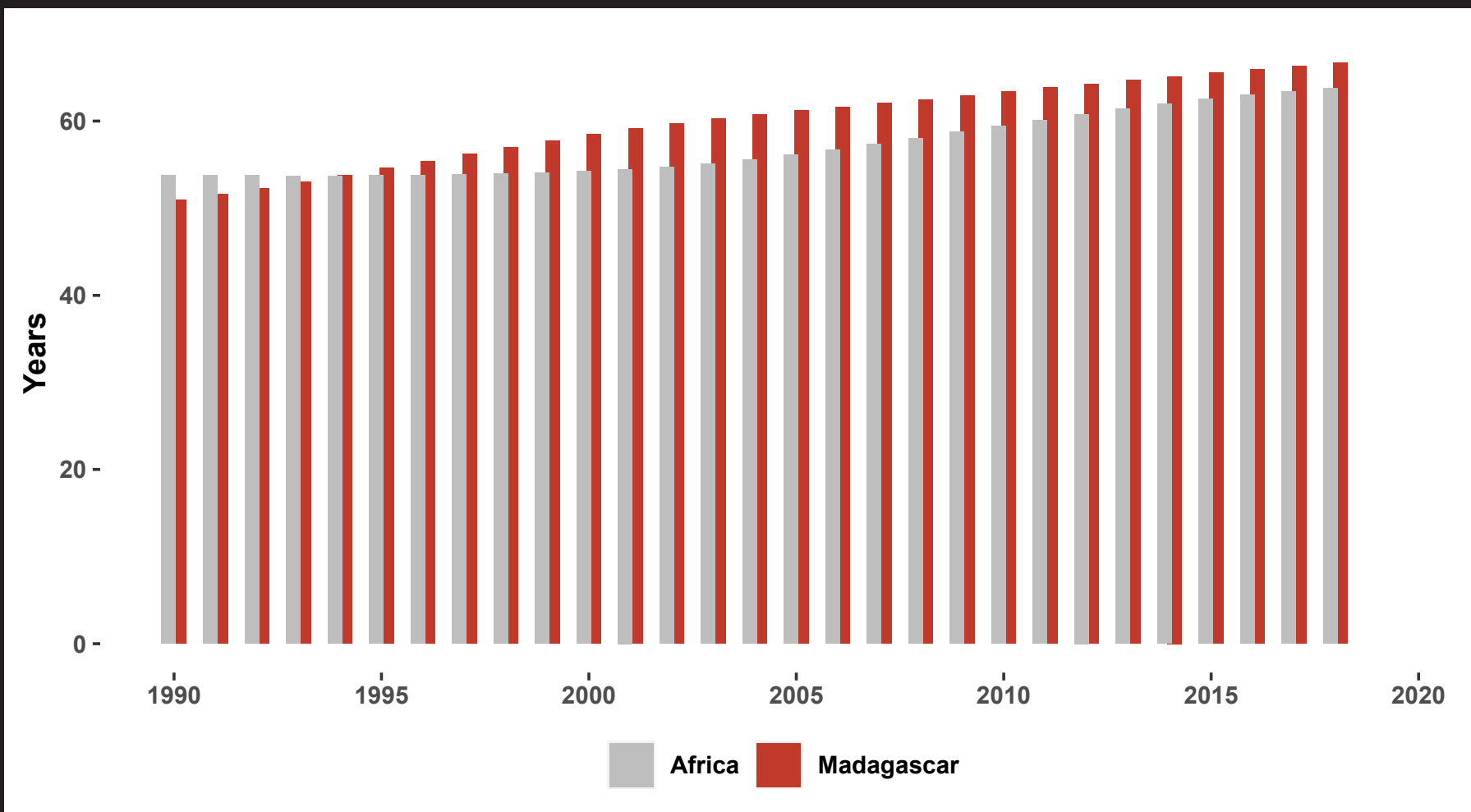
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



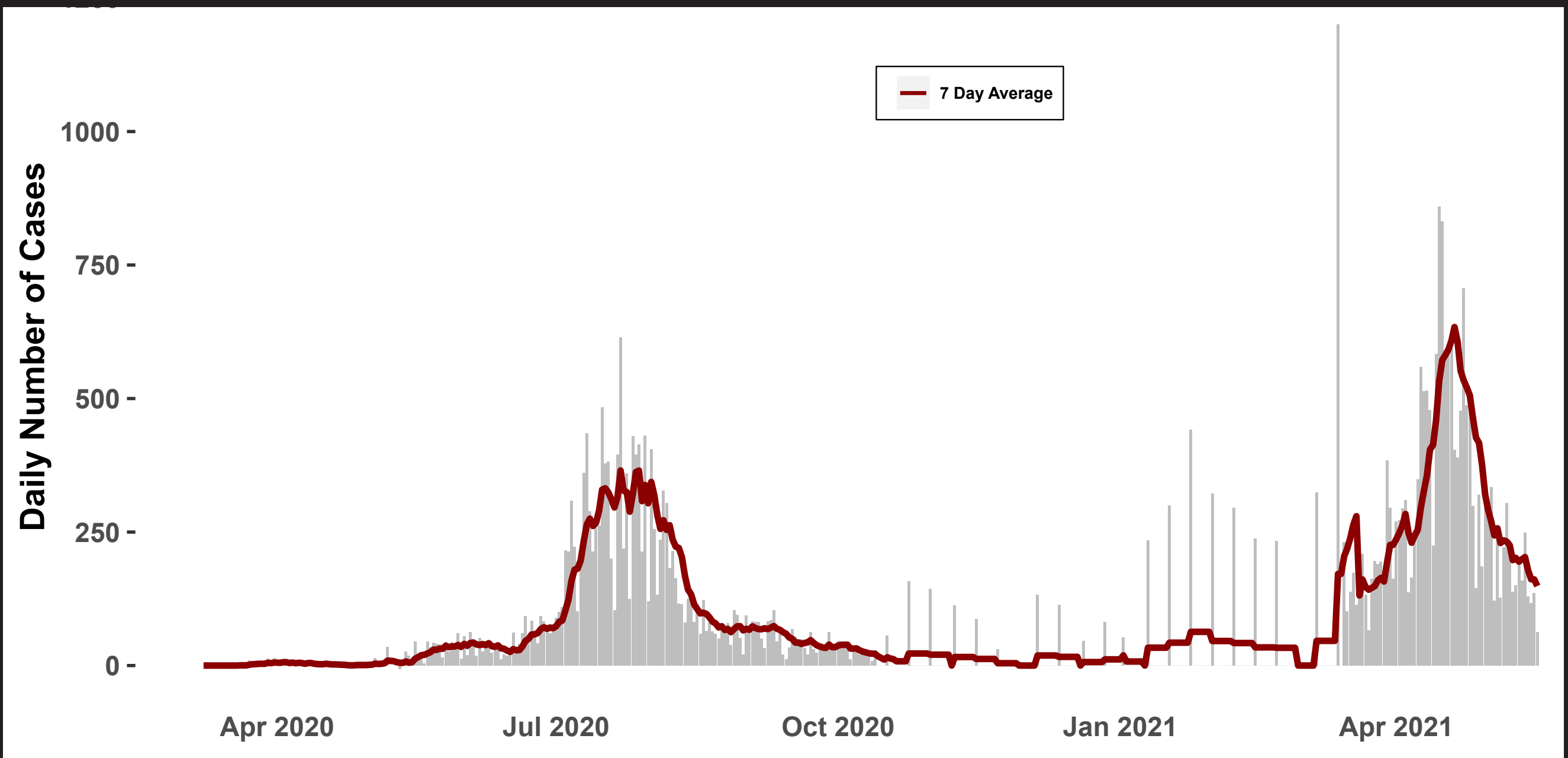
Child mortality in Madagascar has been declining at a faster rate compared to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Madagascar has been improving at a faster rate than the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Madagascar has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in August 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rod Waddington on Flickr.com



Madagascar is the fourth largest island on the planet (and bigger than Spain, Thailand, Sweden and Germany).

Rod Waddington on Flickr.com



Madagascar is home to some amazing creatures, including the giraffe-necked weevil, the aye-aye lemur, whose long middle finger helps it find grubs, and the Malagasy giant rat, which can leap three feet into the air.

Jenman African Safaris



Miavana, a super-luxury lodge on Nosy Ankao, accessible by helicopter, costs £3,220 a night for a double suite.



MALAWI

Malawi is a landlocked country in south-eastern Africa, bordered by Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique. in 1891, the region was colonised by the British and became a protectorate known as Nyasaland. In 1964, Nyasaland became an independent country and was renamed Malawi. By 1970 Malawi had become a totalitarian one-party state under the presidency of Hastings Banda, who remained in this role until 1994. Malawi is among the world’s least-developed countries. The economy is heavily based on agriculture, and it has a largely rural population. Malawi is a green, lush country, with plateaus, highlands, forests, mountains, plains, escarpments and dramatic river valleys. The official curerency is the Malawian kwacha.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Lazarus Chakwera

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Lilongwe

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

174

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

16



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and Chichewa

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Malawi Congress Party

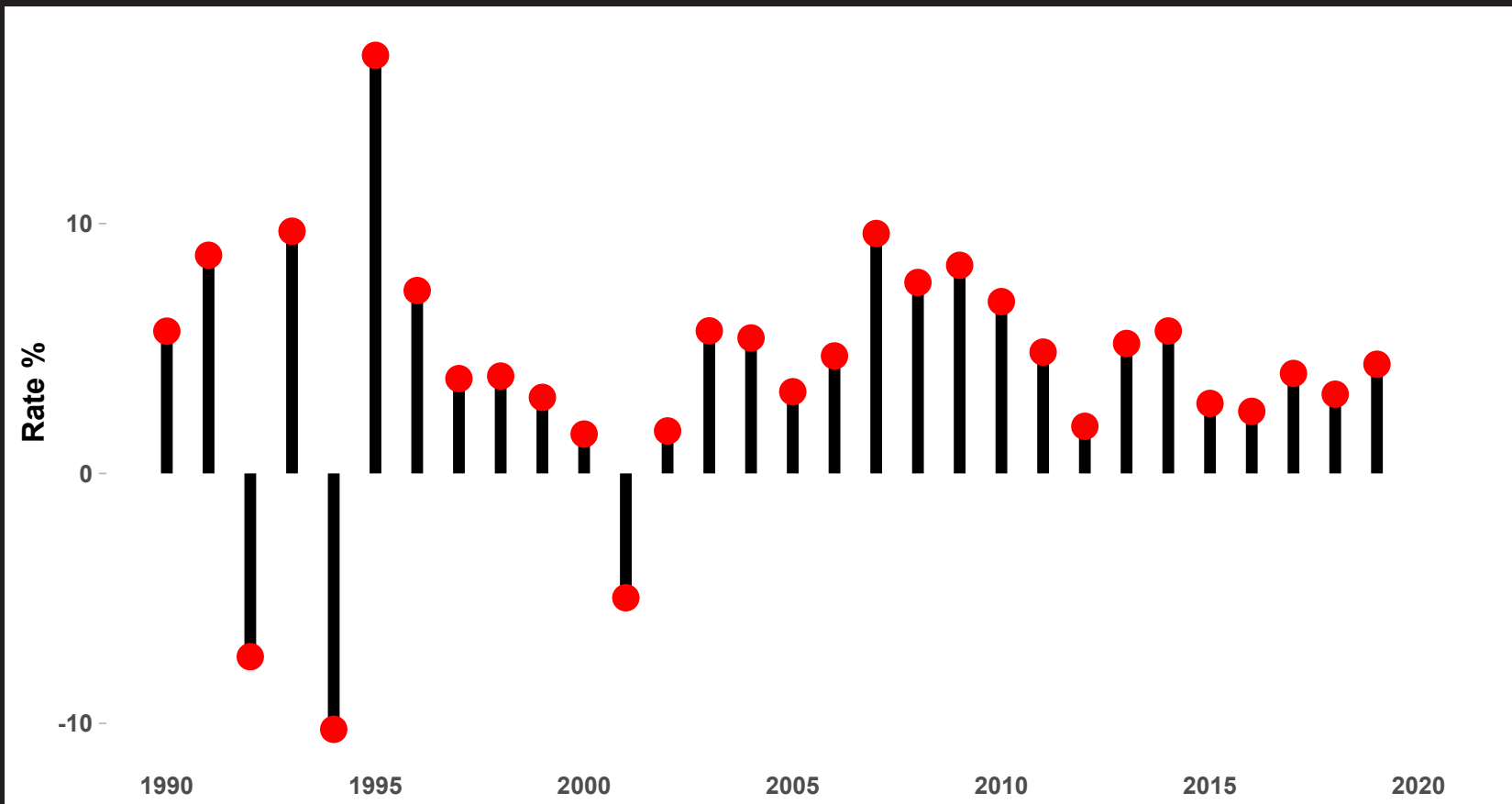


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Democratic Progressive Party

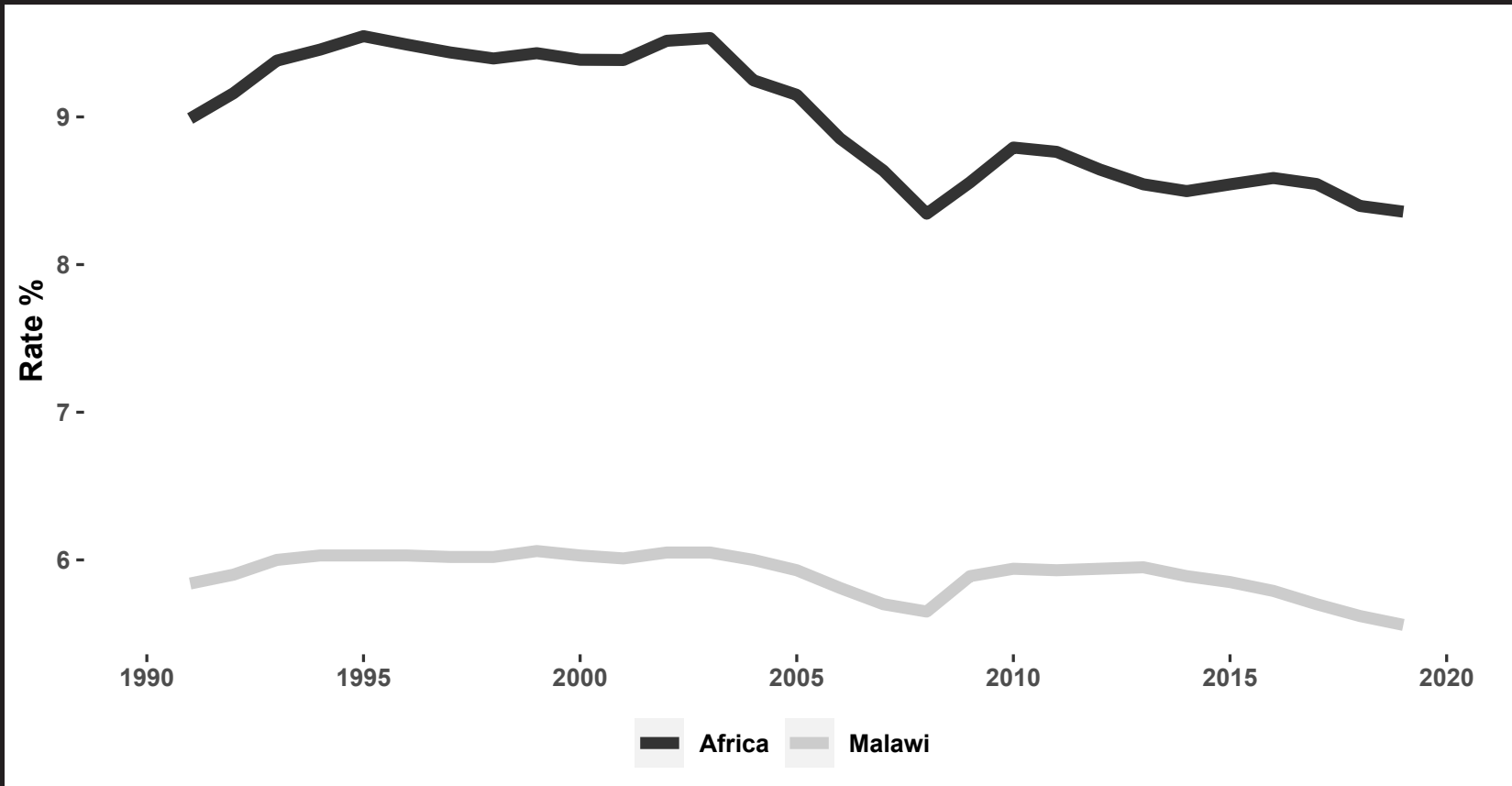
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



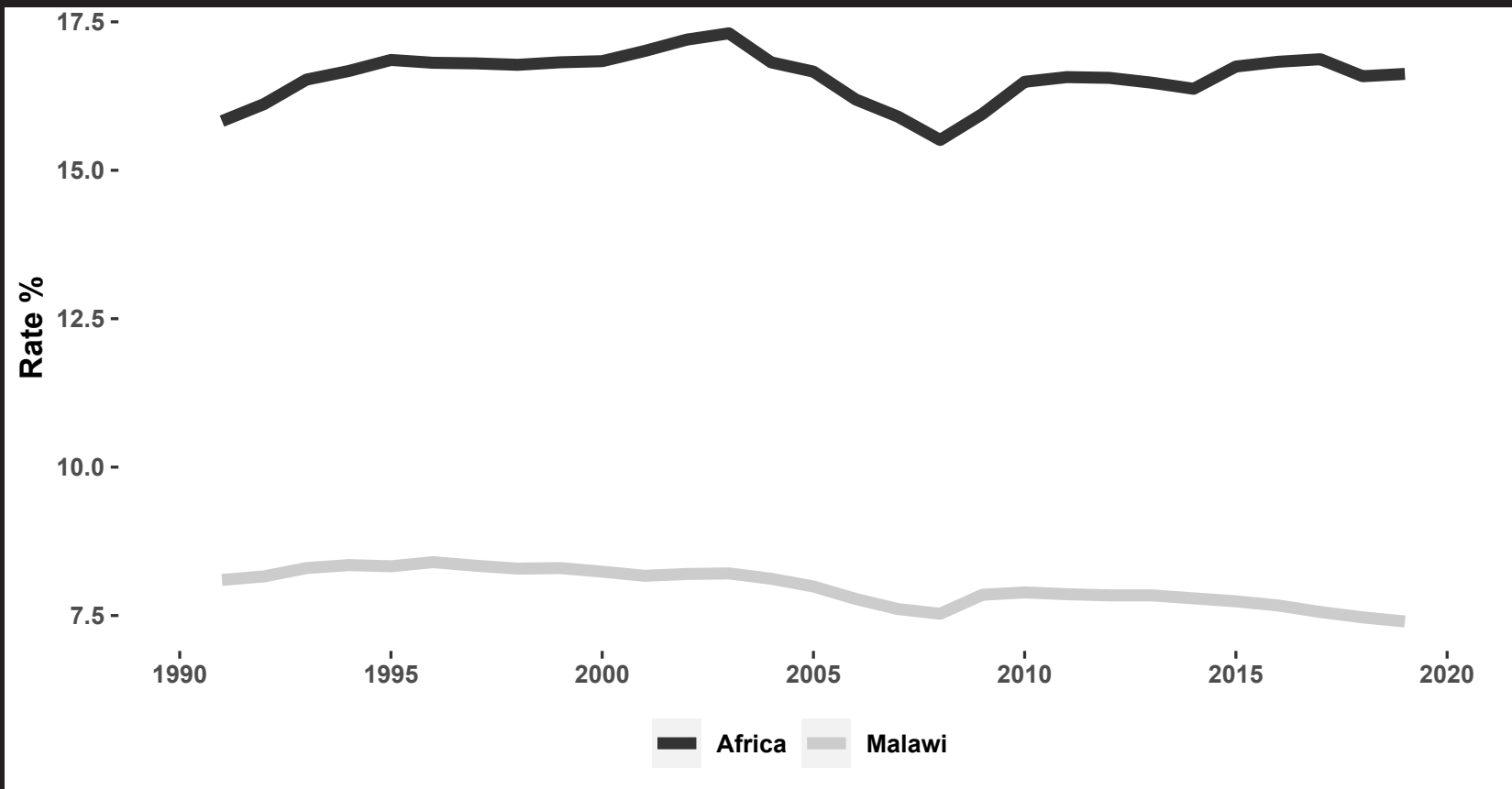
After experiencing erratic economic growth during the early 1990s, Malawi has generally experienced economic expansions during the 21st century.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



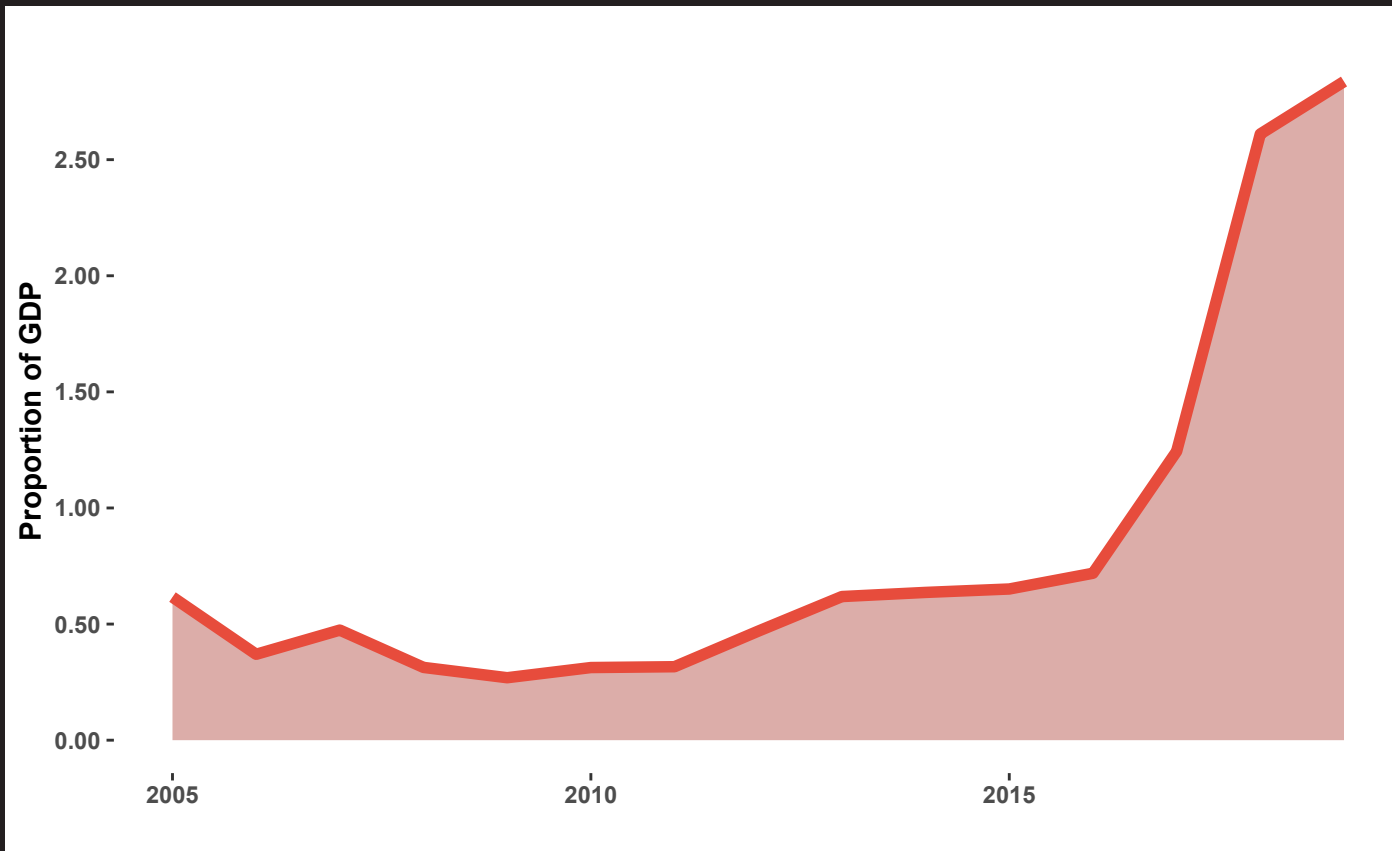
Malawi's unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Malawi's youth unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$217.5 million

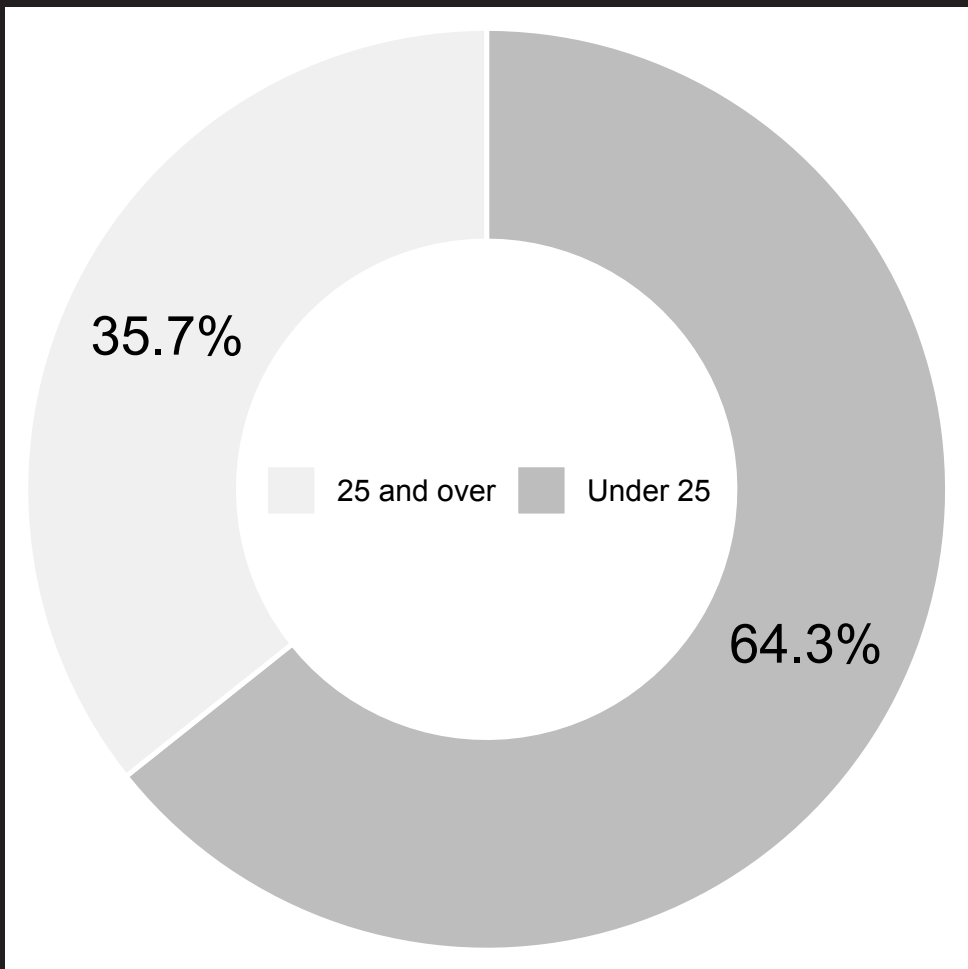
which represents

2.84% of GDP

Since 2015 Malawi's economy has become increasingly reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

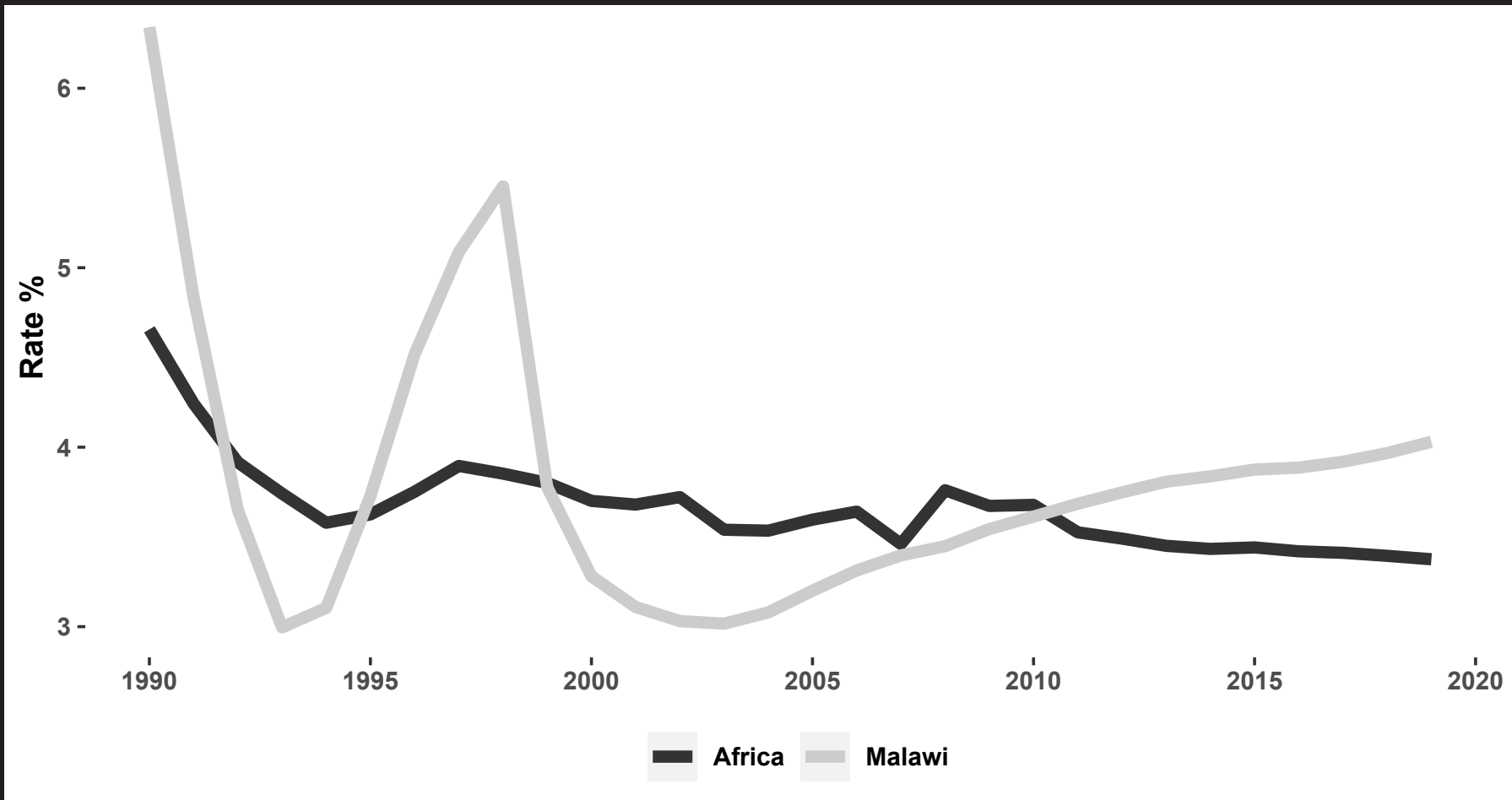
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



18.6 million

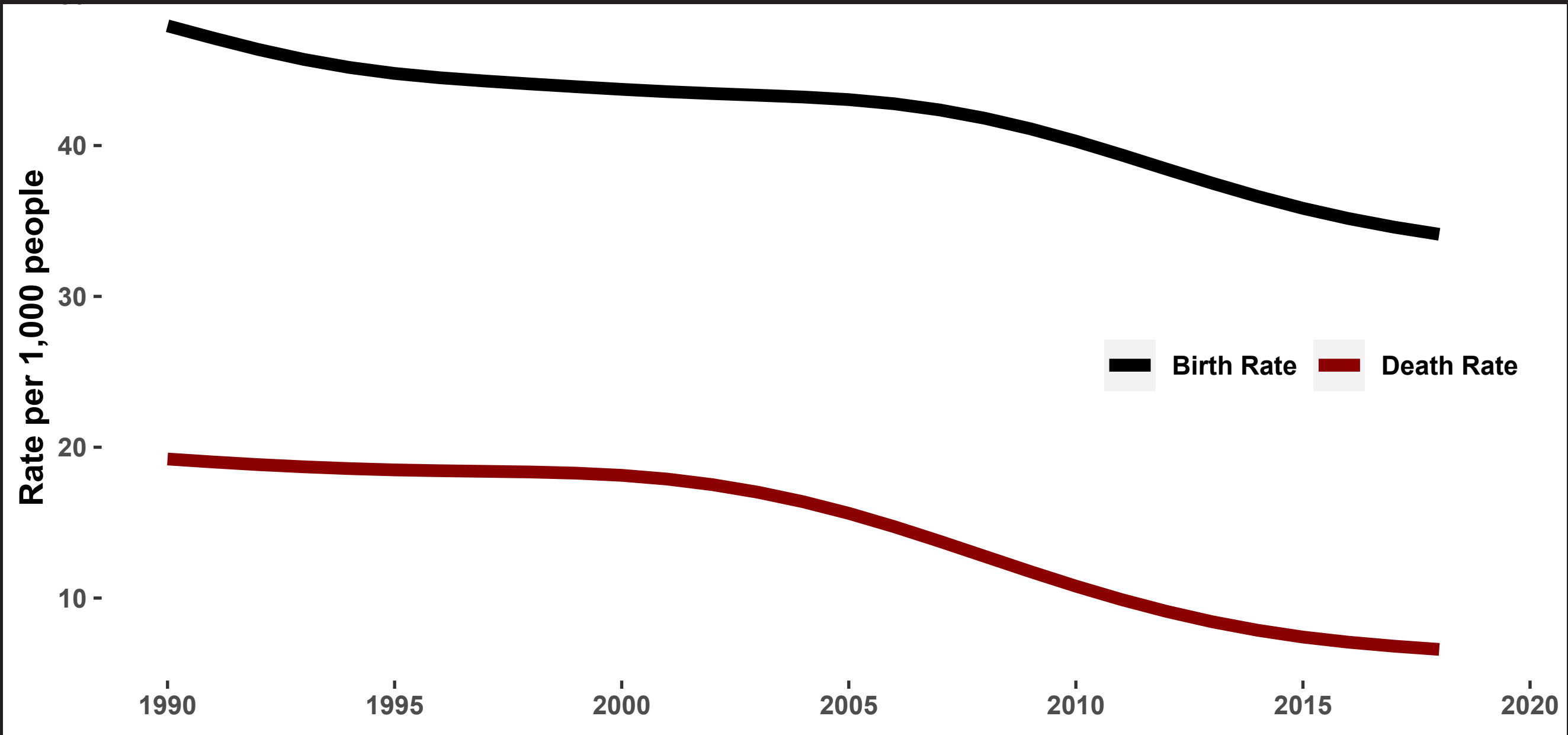
In line with continental trends, the majority of Malawi’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Malawi’s urbanisation rate fluctuated considerably during the 1990s. However, since 2000 it has tracked very closely to the continental average.

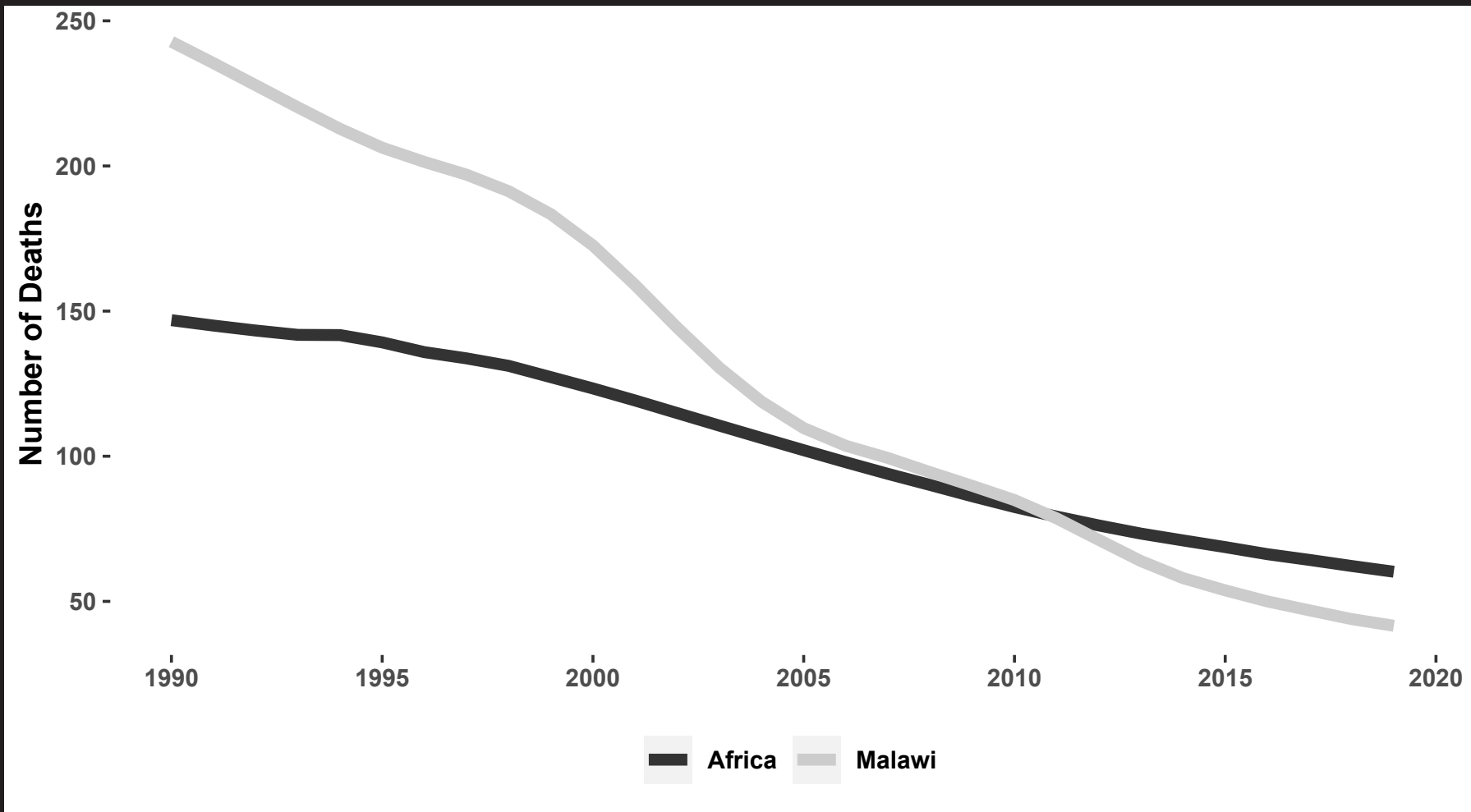
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Malawi has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is more than double its death rate.

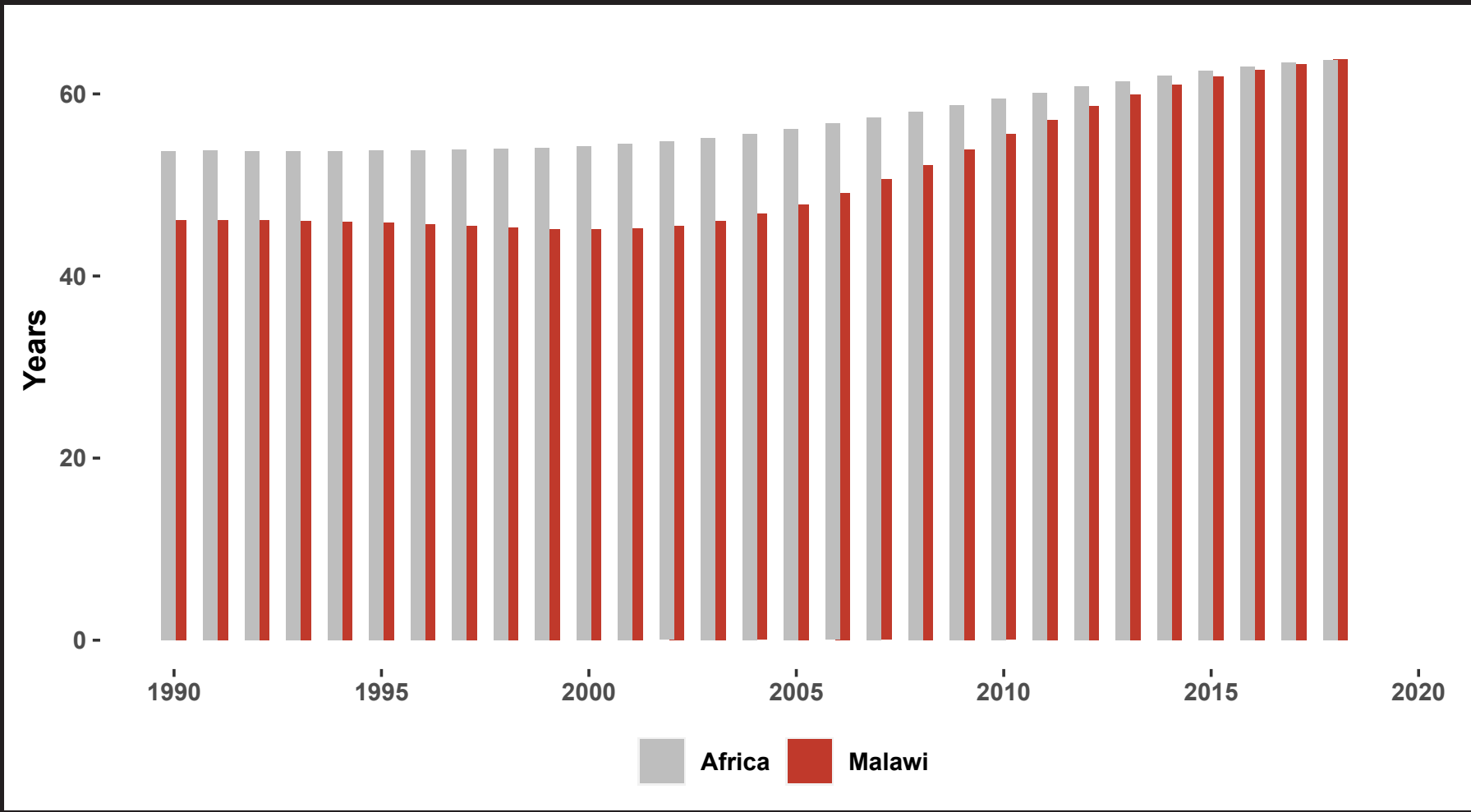
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



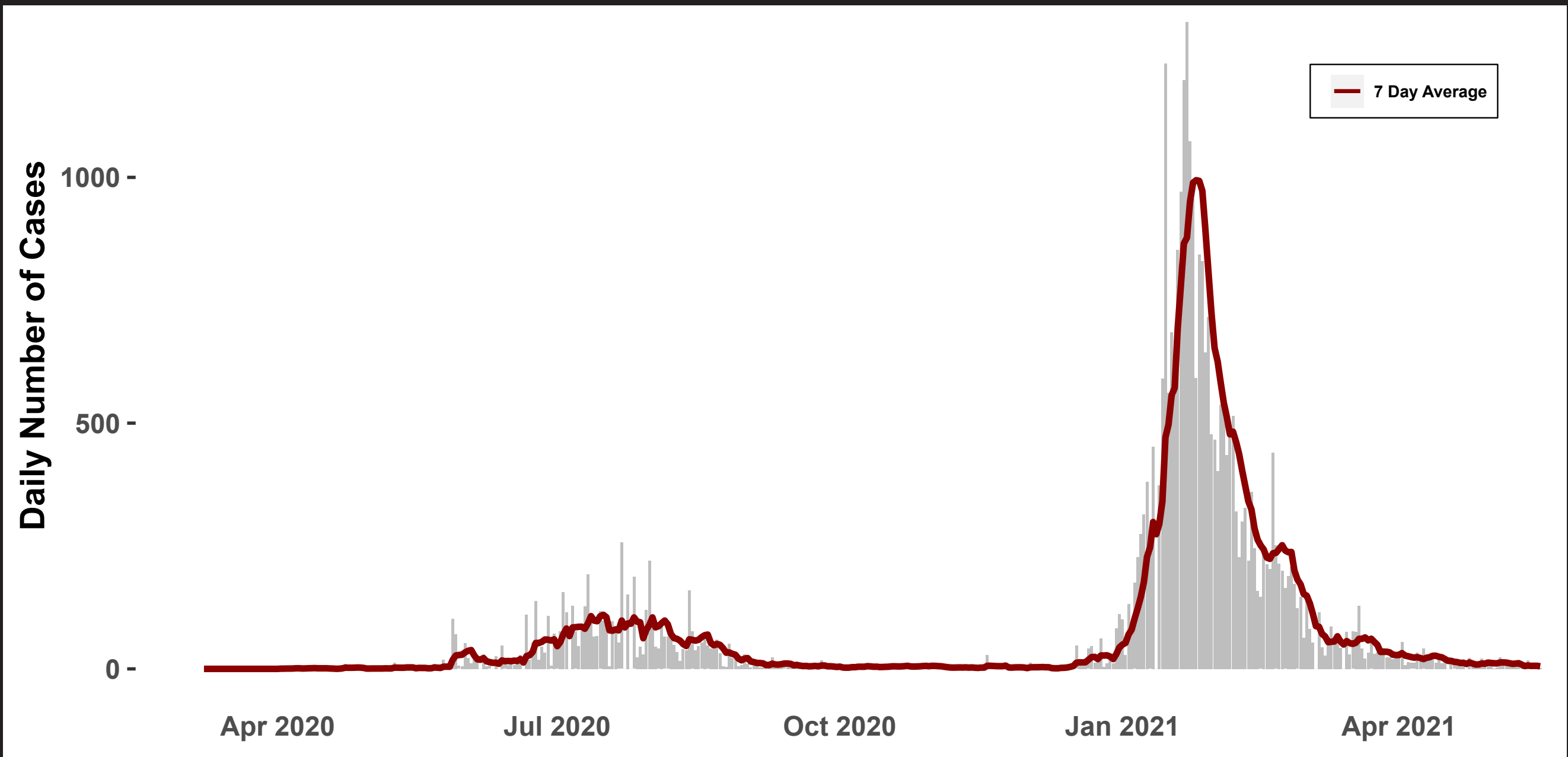
Child mortality has rapidly declined in Malawi over the past 30 years - at a much faster rate than the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Although life expectancy in Malawi was stagnant between 1990 and 2005, since 2005 it has rapidly improved and is now in line with the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Malawi has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

UrbanPromise on Flickr.com



Lake Malawi is the main reason to visit the country. It is the ninth largest lake in the world, and the third largest and second deepest in Africa (eclipsed by Lakes Victoria and Tanganyika).

Anton Crone



The second city, Blantyre, was founded by Scottish settlers in 1876. It was named in honour of Blantyre in South Lanarkshire – which was the birthplace of explorer David Livingstone (in 1813).

UrbanPromise on Flickr.com



Malawi calls itself the “Warm Heart of Africa”, based on the friendliness and openness of its people.



MALI

Mali is a landlocked country in West Africa, bordered by Algeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Senegal and Mauritania. Present-day Mali was once part of three West African empires that controlled trans-Saharan trade: the Ghana empire, the Mali empire, and the Songhai empire. In the late 19th century, during the Scramble for Africa, France seized control of Mali, making it a part of French Sudan. French Sudan joined with Senegal in 1959, achieving independence in 1960 as the Mali Federation. Following Senegal's withdrawal from the federation, the Sudanese republic declared itself the independent Republic of Mali. After a long period of one-party rule, a coup in 1991 led to the establishment of Mali as a democratic, multi-party state. Mali has considerable natural resources, with gold, uranium, phosphates, kaolinite, salt and limestone being most widely exploited. Mali recorded its fourth coup d'état on 18 August, 2020, following a mutiny of military personnel. The official currency is the CFA franc.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

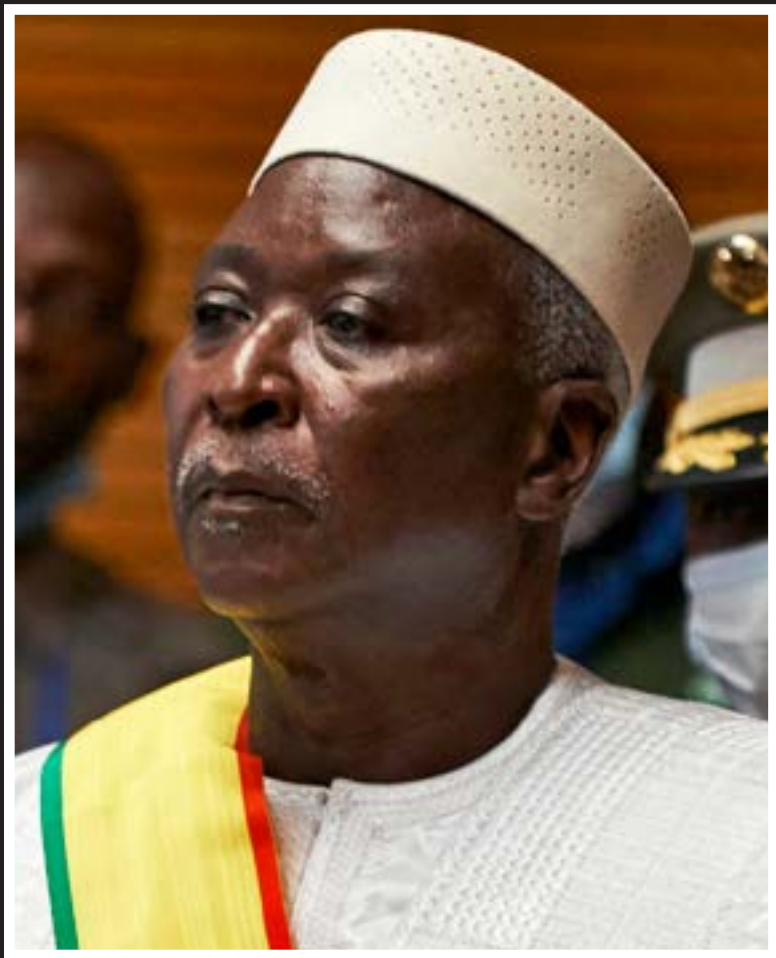
DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Bah Ndaw (acting)

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Bamako

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

184

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

13



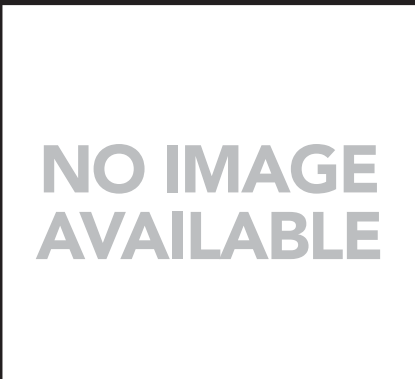
MAIN LANGUAGES
French and Bambara

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Multi-party republic



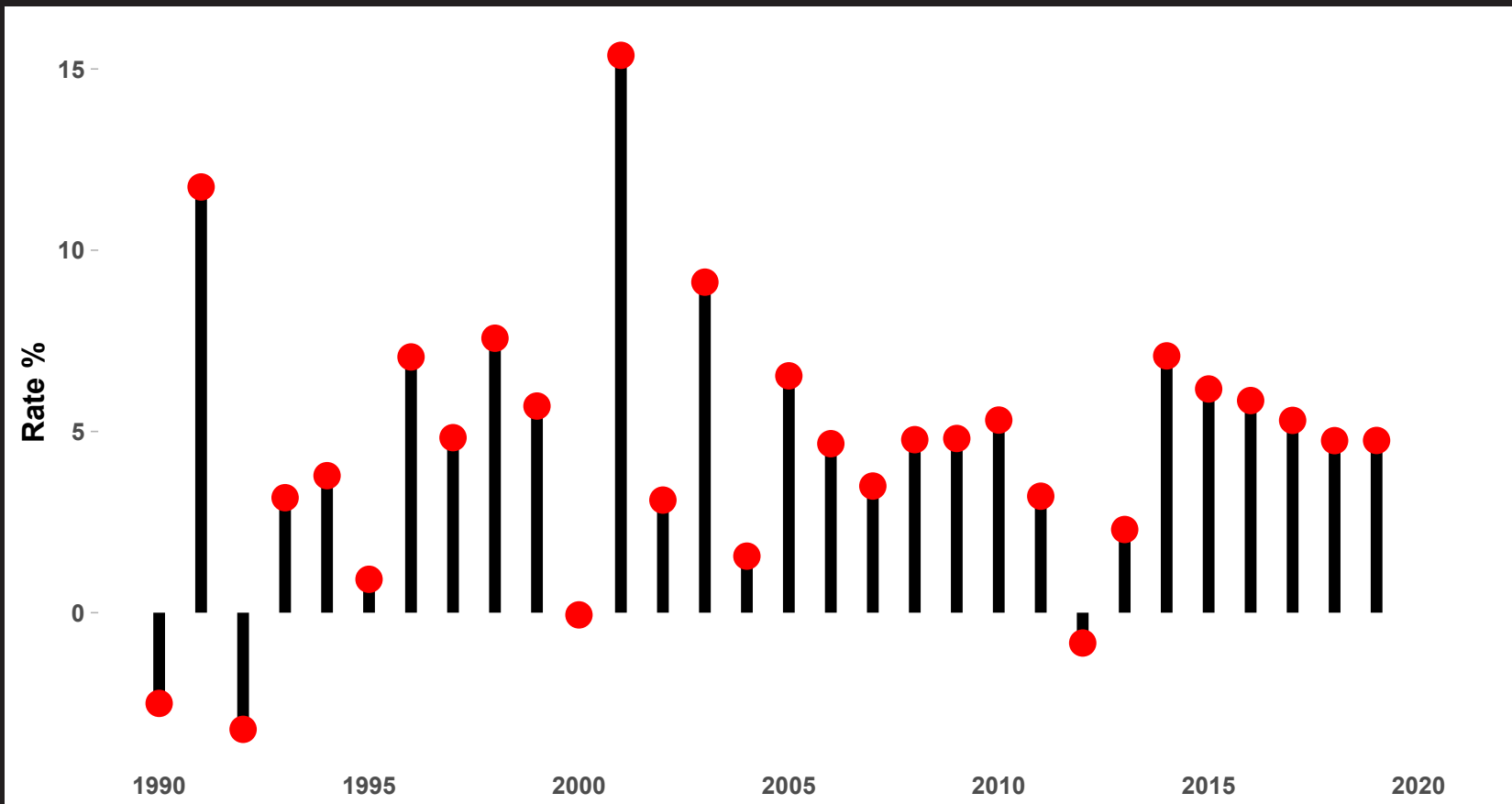
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Military



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Anw Bè Faso Do

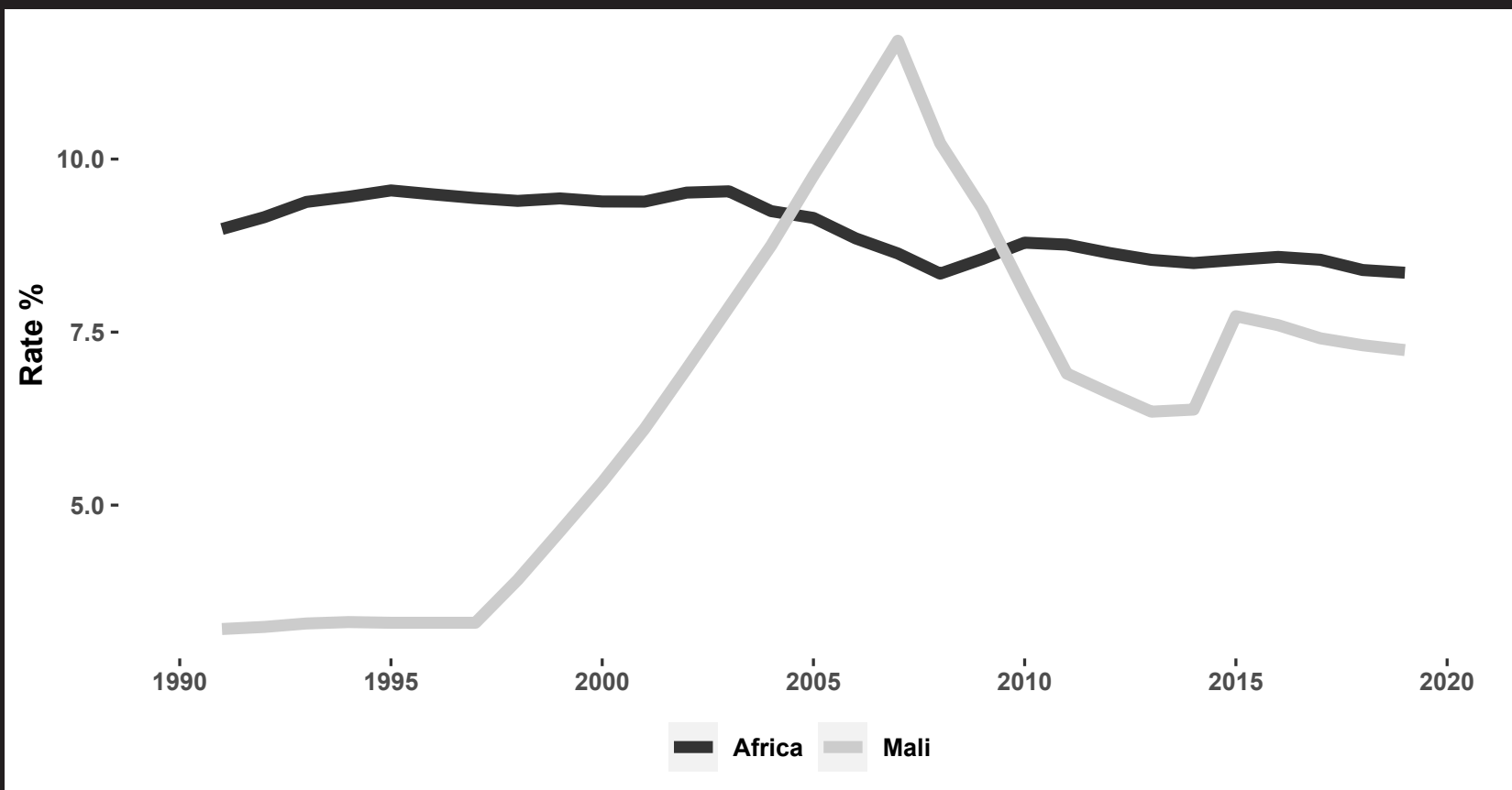
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



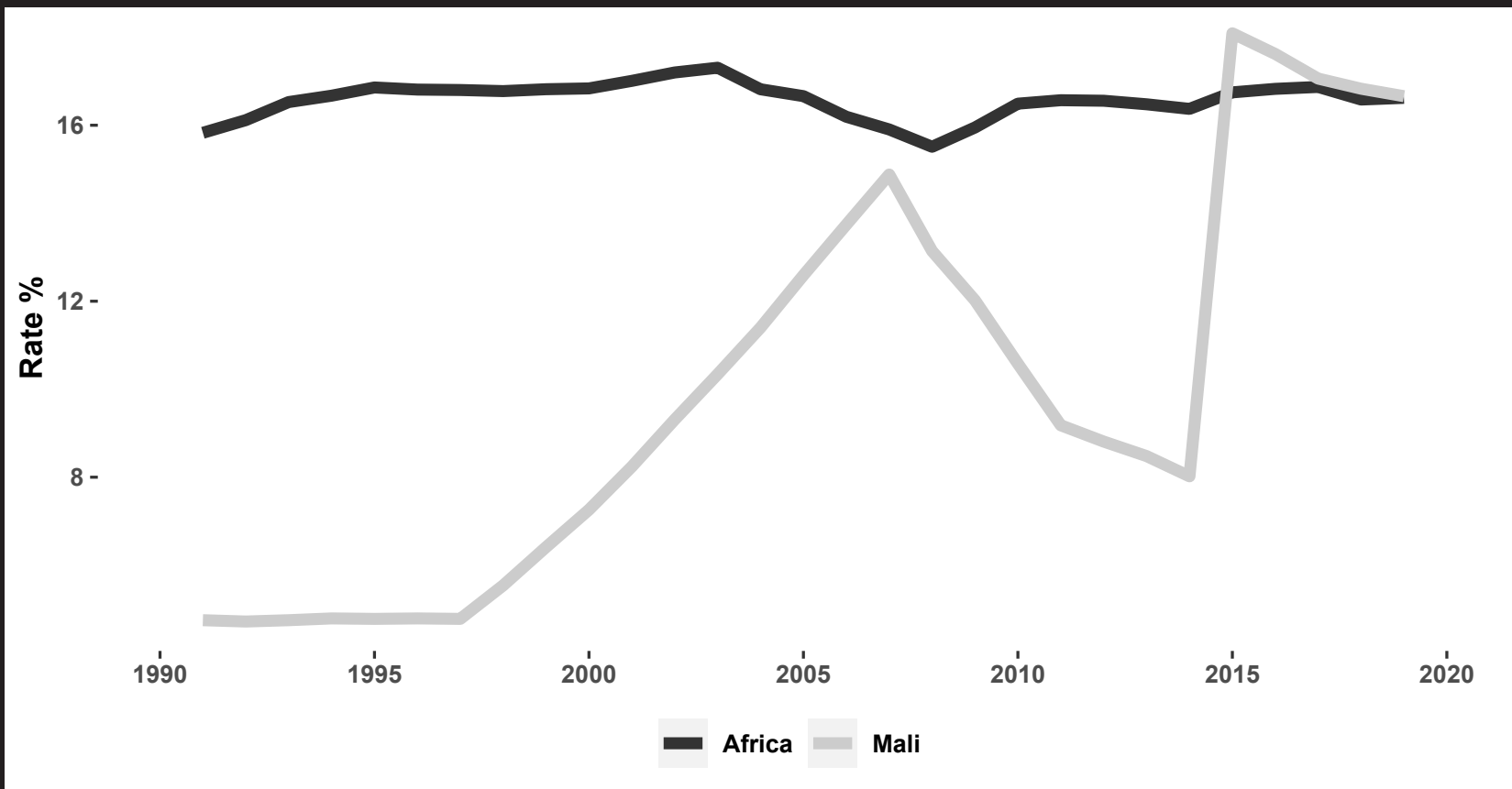
After experiencing erratic economic growth during the early 1990s, Mali has generally experienced consistent economic growth during the 21st century.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



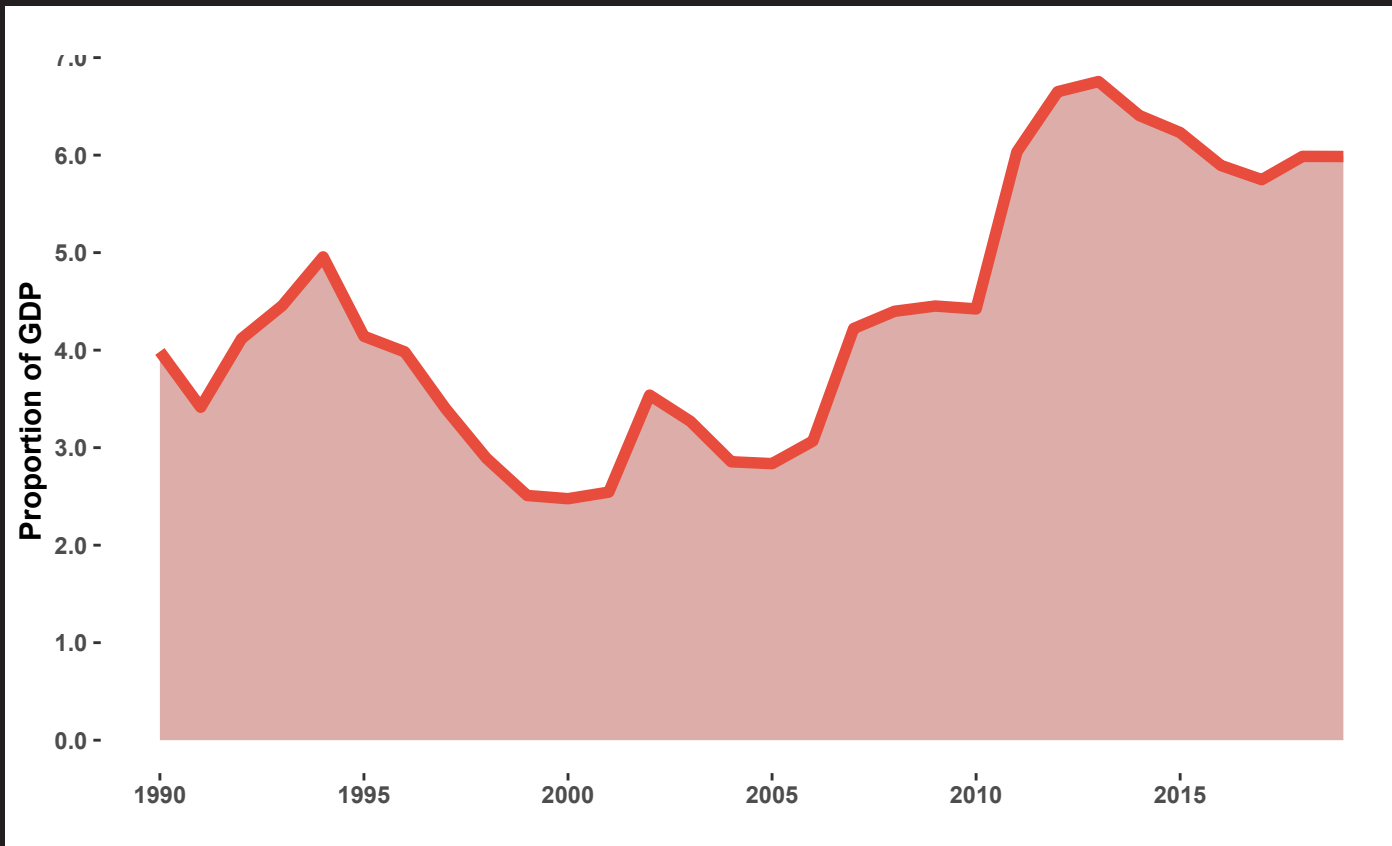
The unemployment rate in Mali has fluctuated since 2000, although since 2010 the rate has tracked more closely with the African average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Youth unemployment has fluctuated since 2000, although since 2015 the rate has more closely tracked the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$1.03 billion

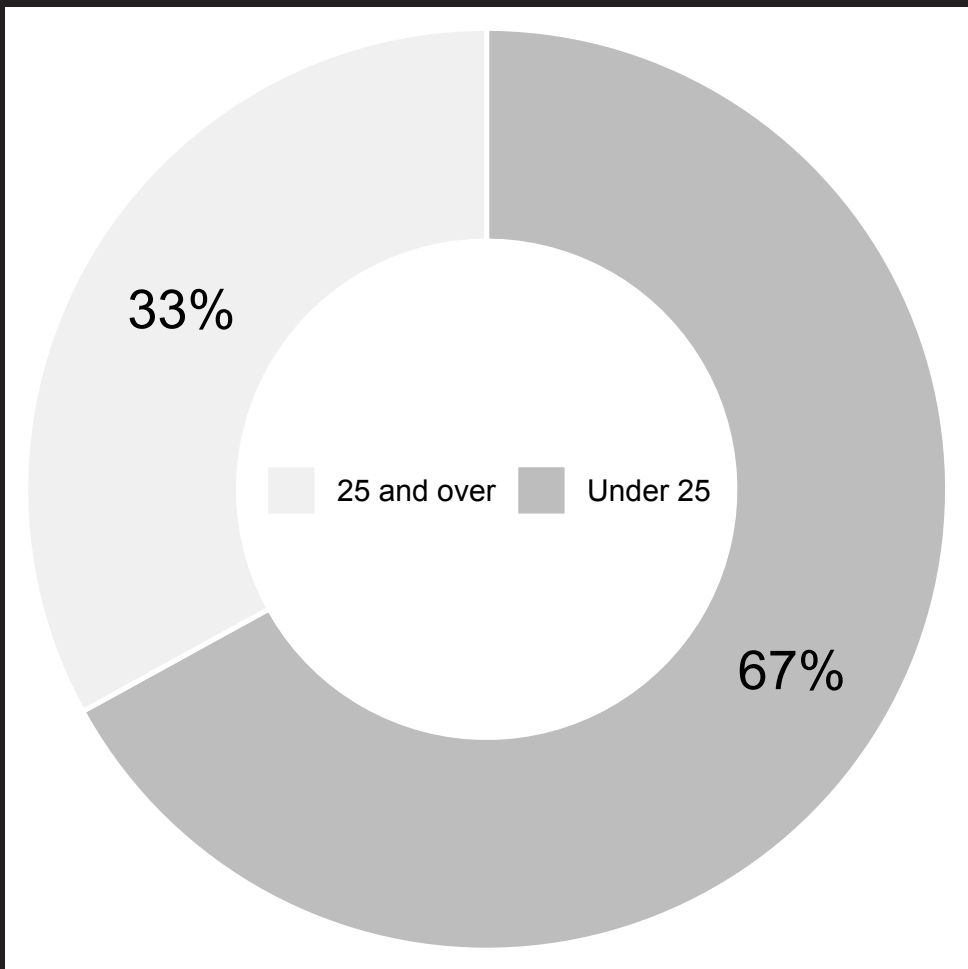
which represents

5.99% of GDP

Over the past three decades remittances received have consistently accounted for more than 2.5% of Mali’s GDP

DEMOGRAPHICS

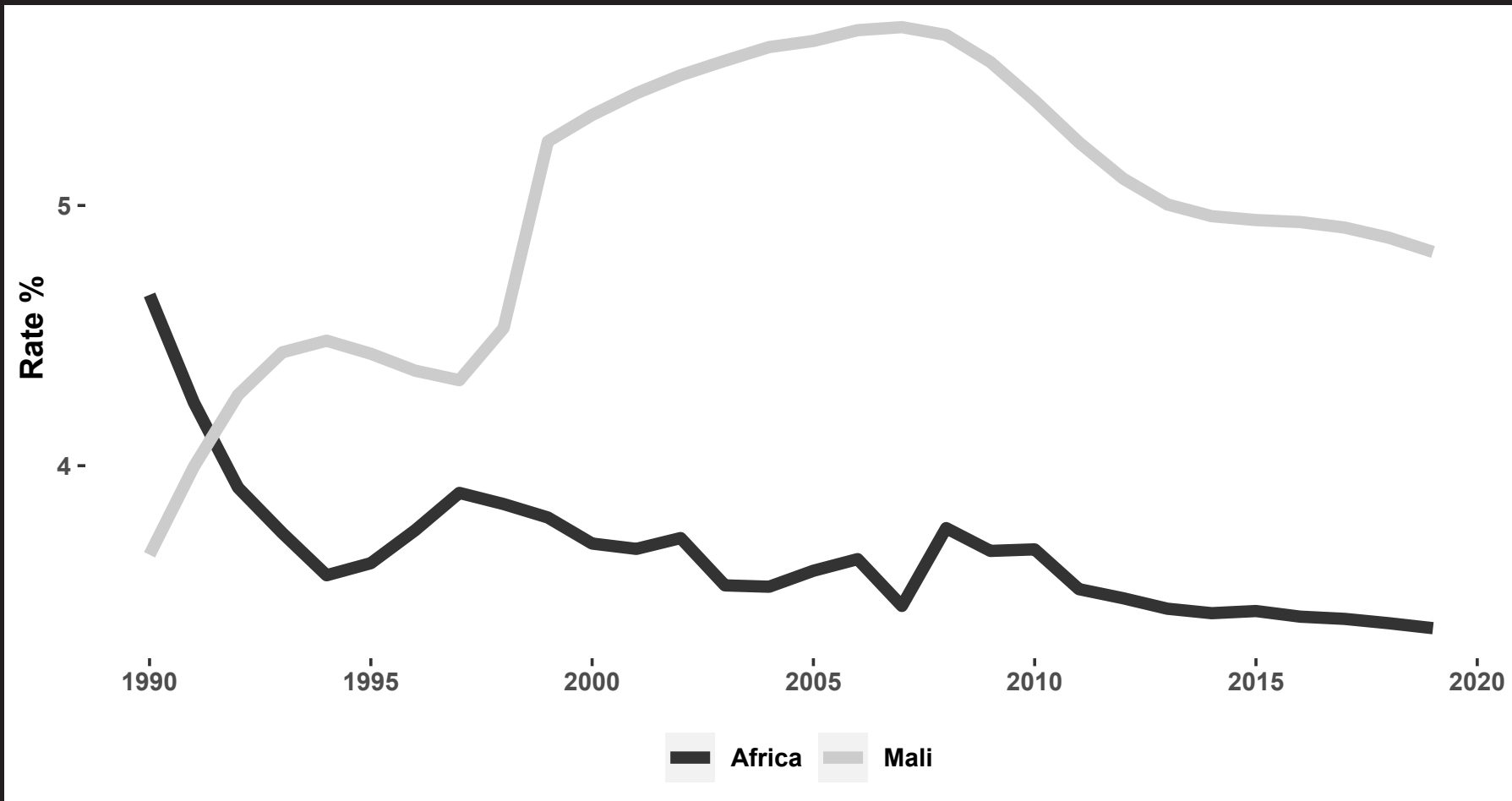
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



19.7 million

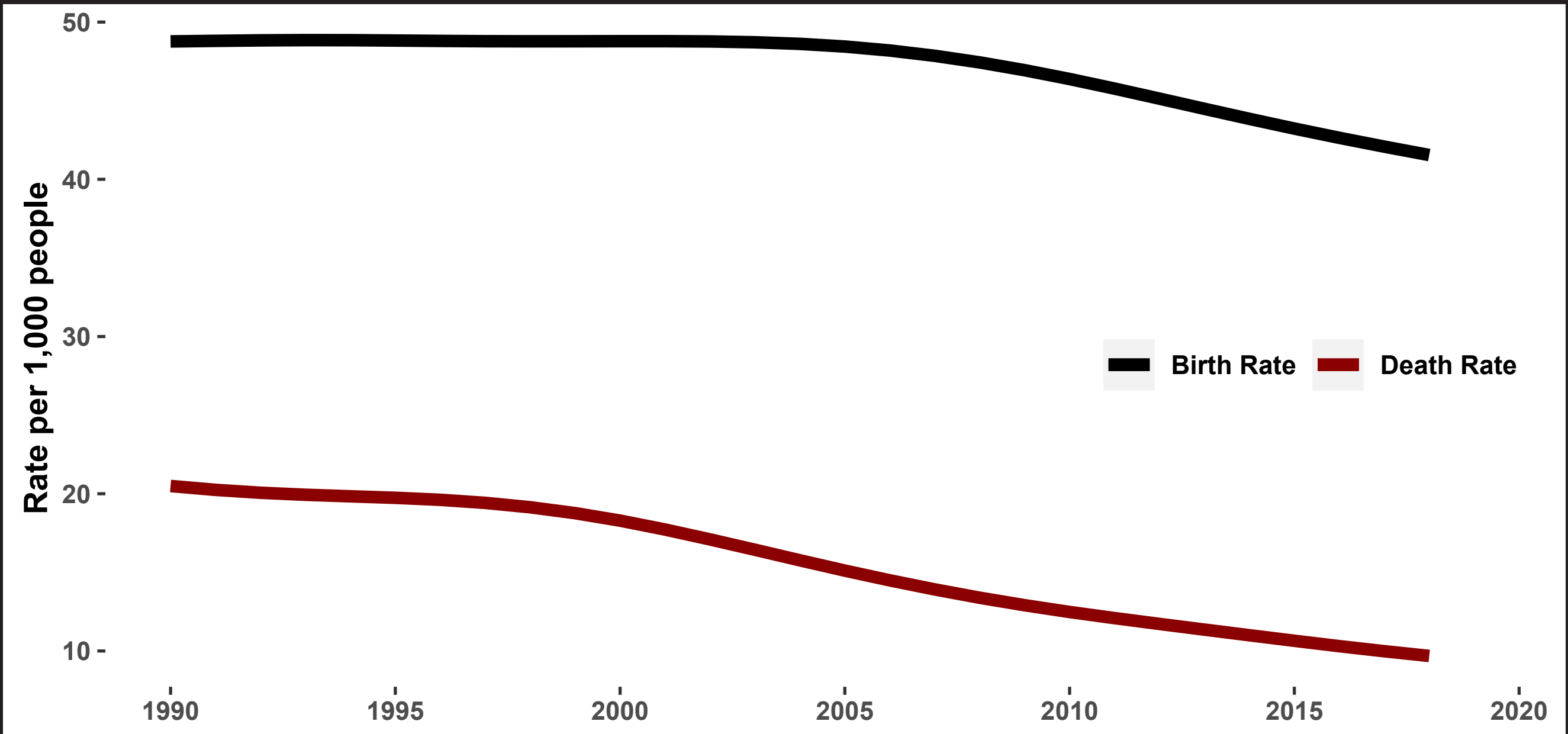
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Mali’s population is under-25 years old. Mali is one of five African countries where the under-25 population is more than double the over-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1992 Mali has urbanised at a faster rate than the African average.

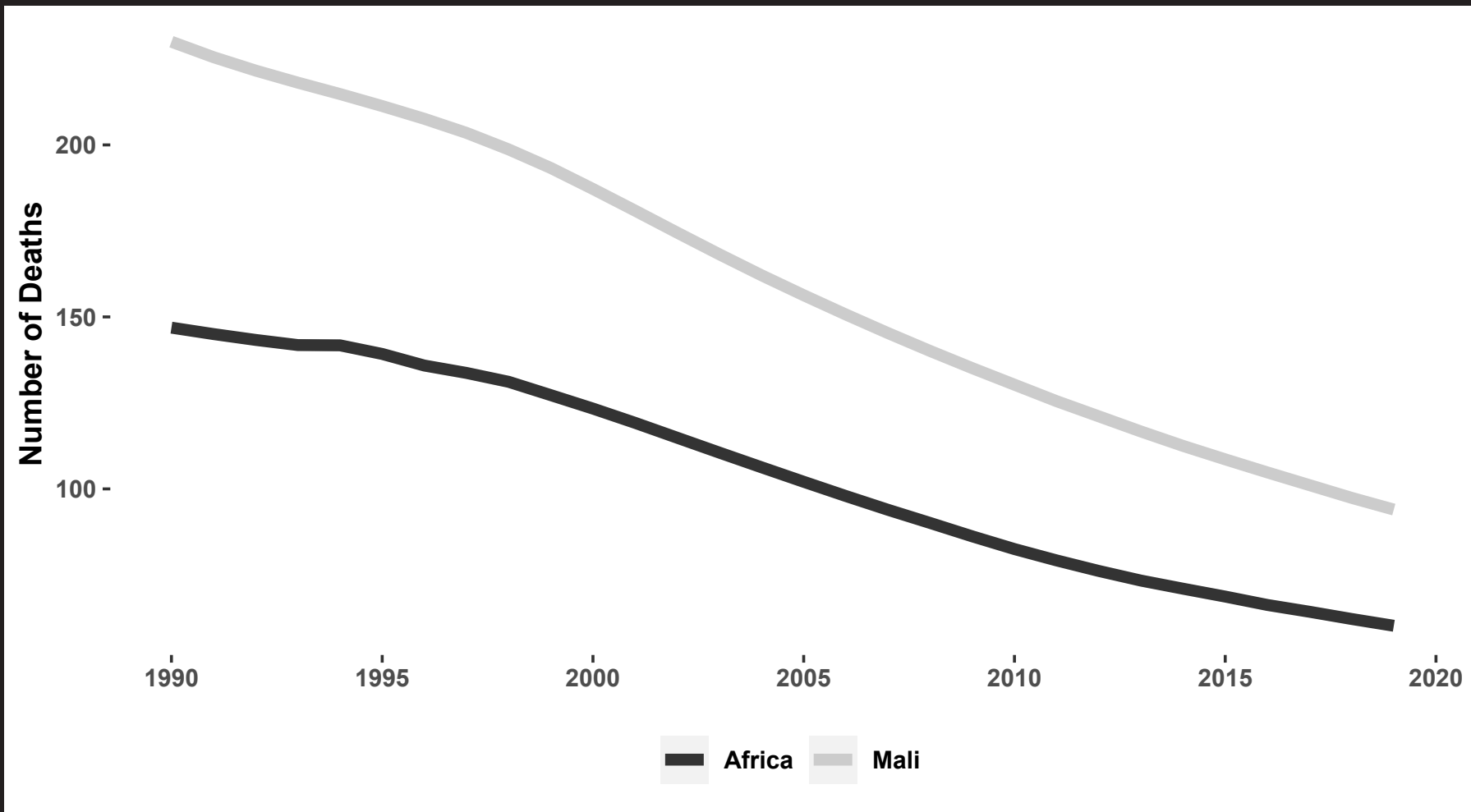
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Mali has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

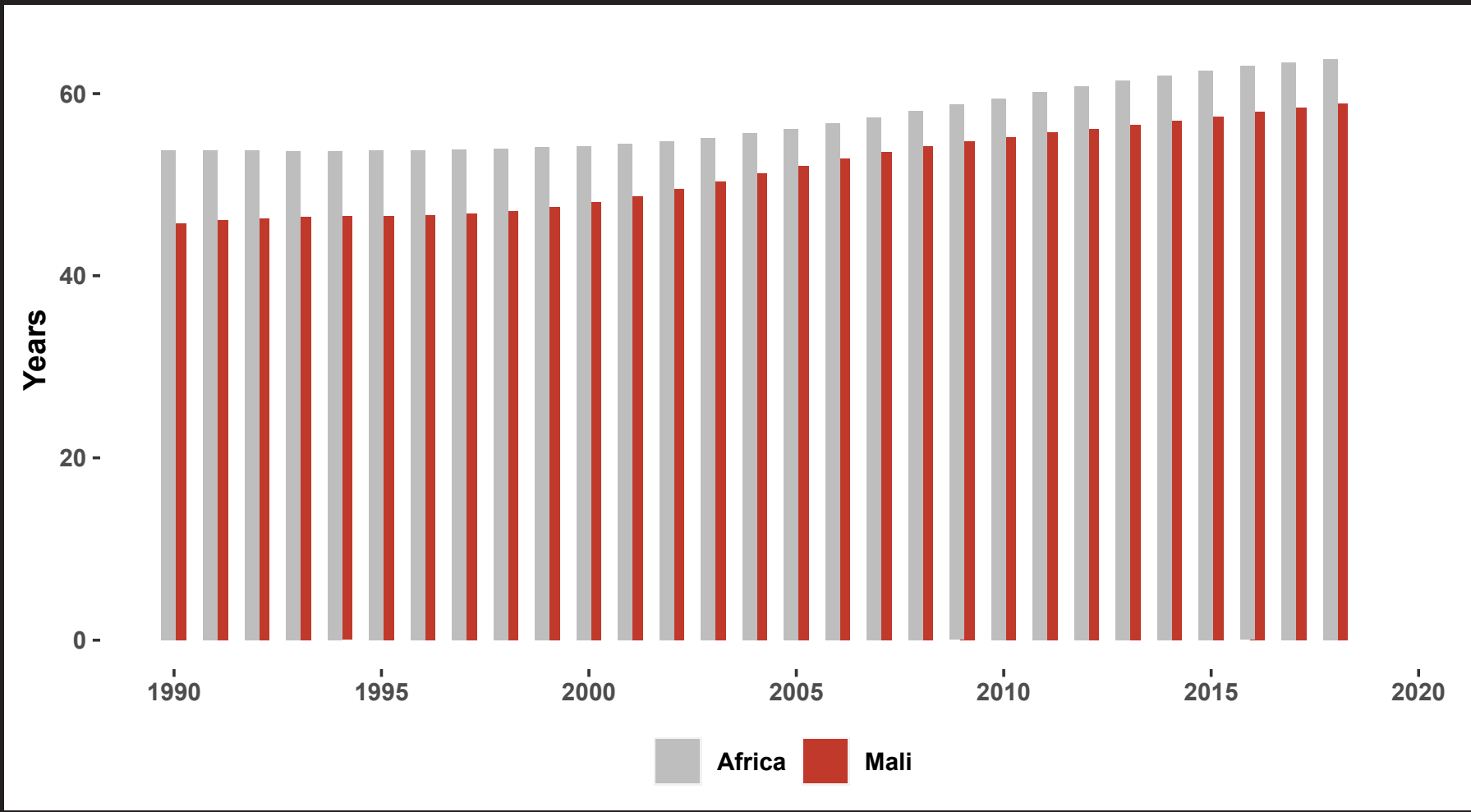
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



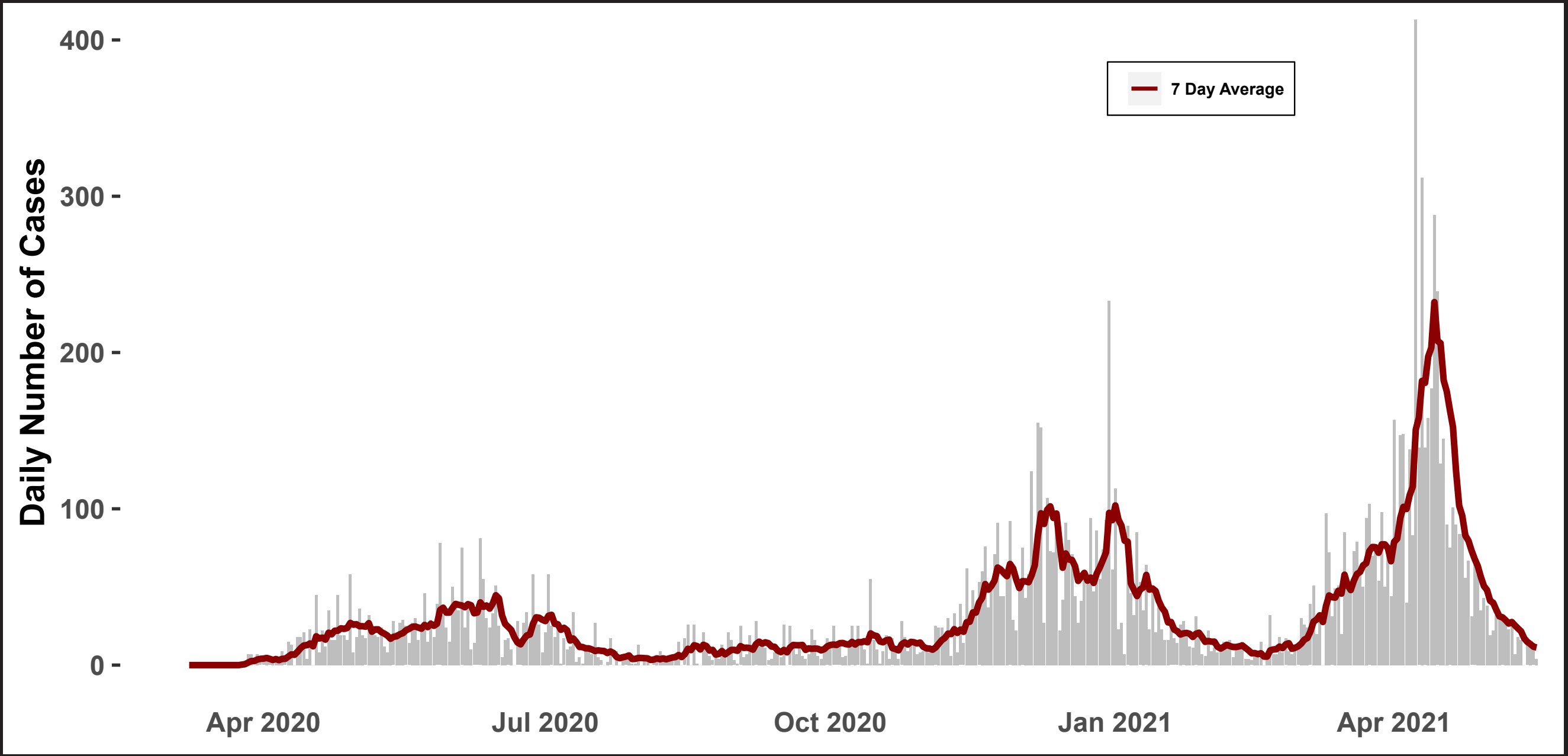
Child mortality in Mali has been declining at a faster rate compared to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy has been improving in Mali, albeit at a slower rate than it has in the rest of the continent.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



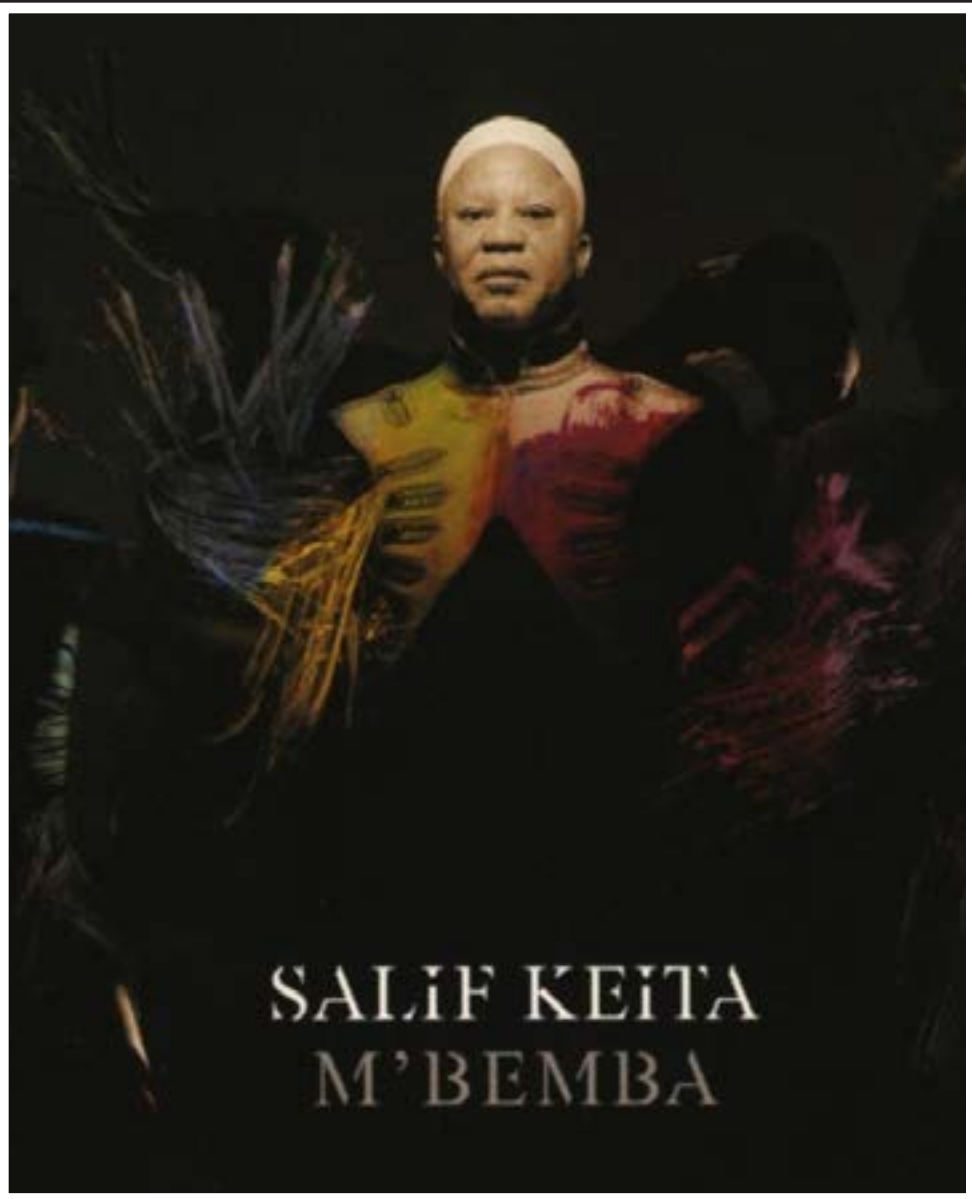
Mali has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in Dec 2020/Jan 2021 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Library of Congress

Mansa Musa, who was king of the Mali empire from 1280 to 1337, is believed to have been the wealthiest man who ever lived.



Mali is recognised for its thriving music scene, and its most famous musician is singer-songwriter Salif Keita, who is known as the “golden voice of Africa”.



Brittany Danisch on Flickr.com

The Mali empire was one of the largest and most widely known pre-colonial African states. It was founded in the 11th century and lasted until the late 16th century when it was conquered by Morocco.



MAURITANIA

Mauritania is in north-west Africa, bordered by Algeria, Mali, Senegal, and Western Sahara. The country's name derives from that of the ancient Berber kingdom of Mauretania, located in present-day Morocco and Algeria. Berbers occupied the area that today is Mauritania beginning in the 3rd century AD, until Arabs invaded and conquered it in the 8th century, bringing Islam and Islamic culture with them. In the late 19th century, during the European Scramble for Africa, Mauritania became a French colony. Mauritania became independent from French West Africa in 1960. Much of the country is covered by the Sahara; about three quarters of Mauritania is desert or semi-desert. The country's mineral wealth includes large reserves of iron ore, copper, and gypsum, as well as some oil resources. The official currency is the Mauritanian ouguiya.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Mohamed Ould Ghazouani

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Nouakchott

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

157

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

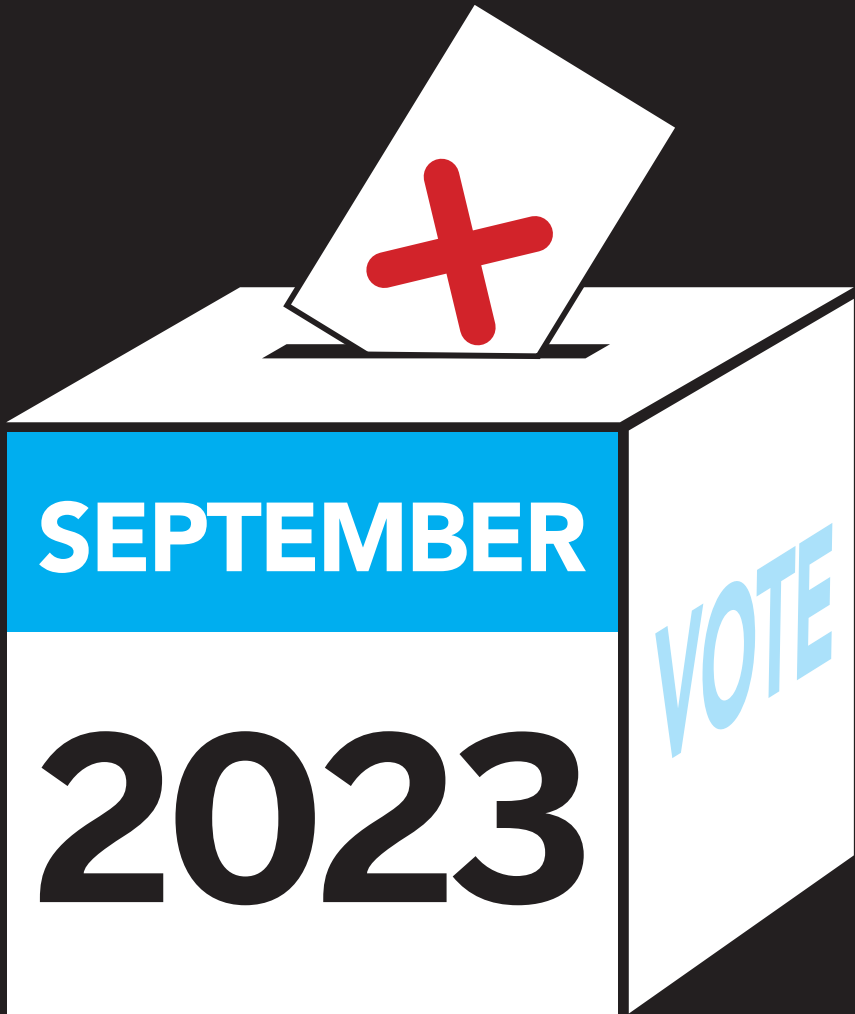
5



MAIN LANGUAGES

Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary semi-presidential Islamic republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Union for the Republic

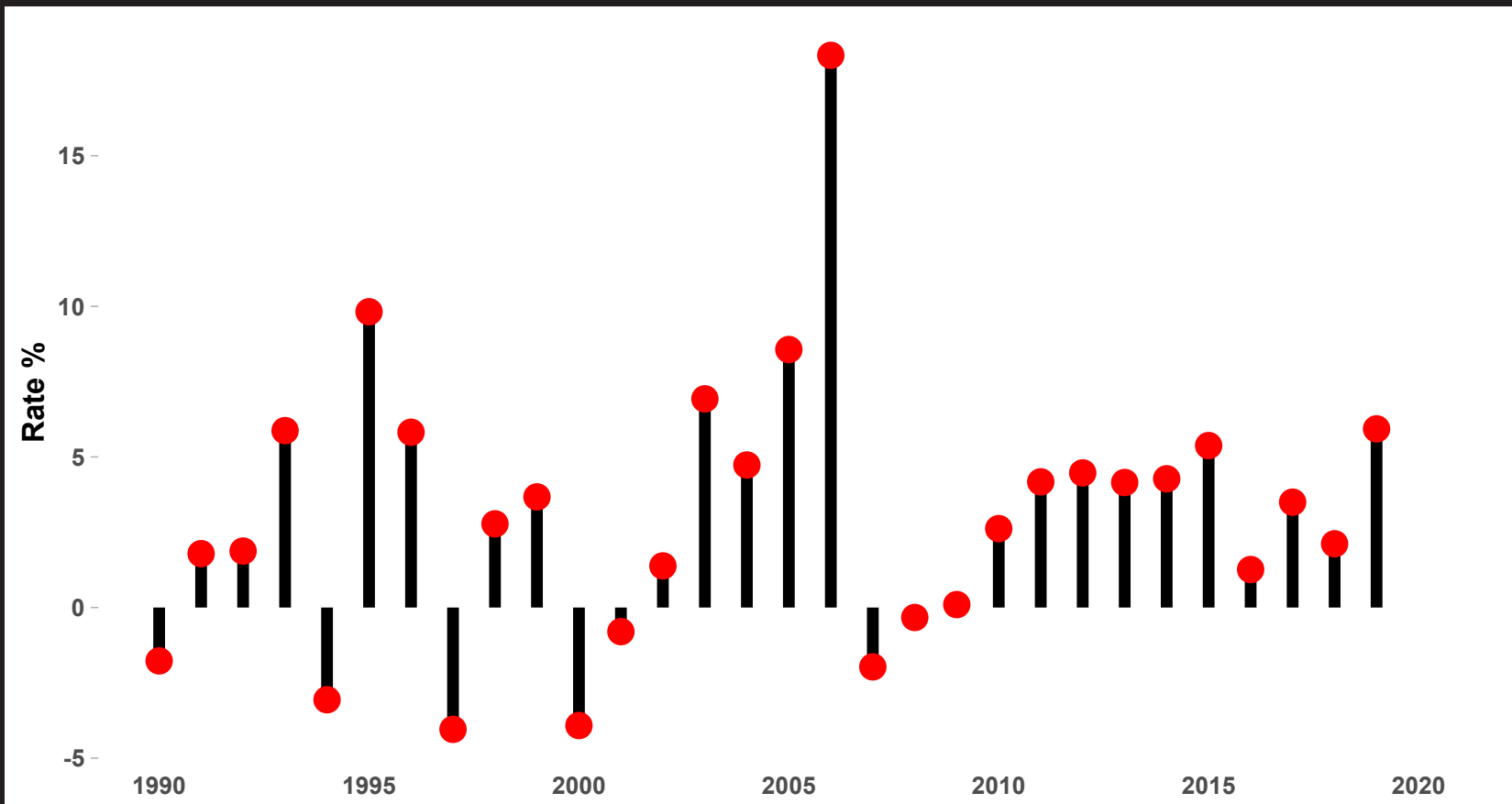


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Tewassoul (National Rally for Reform and Development)

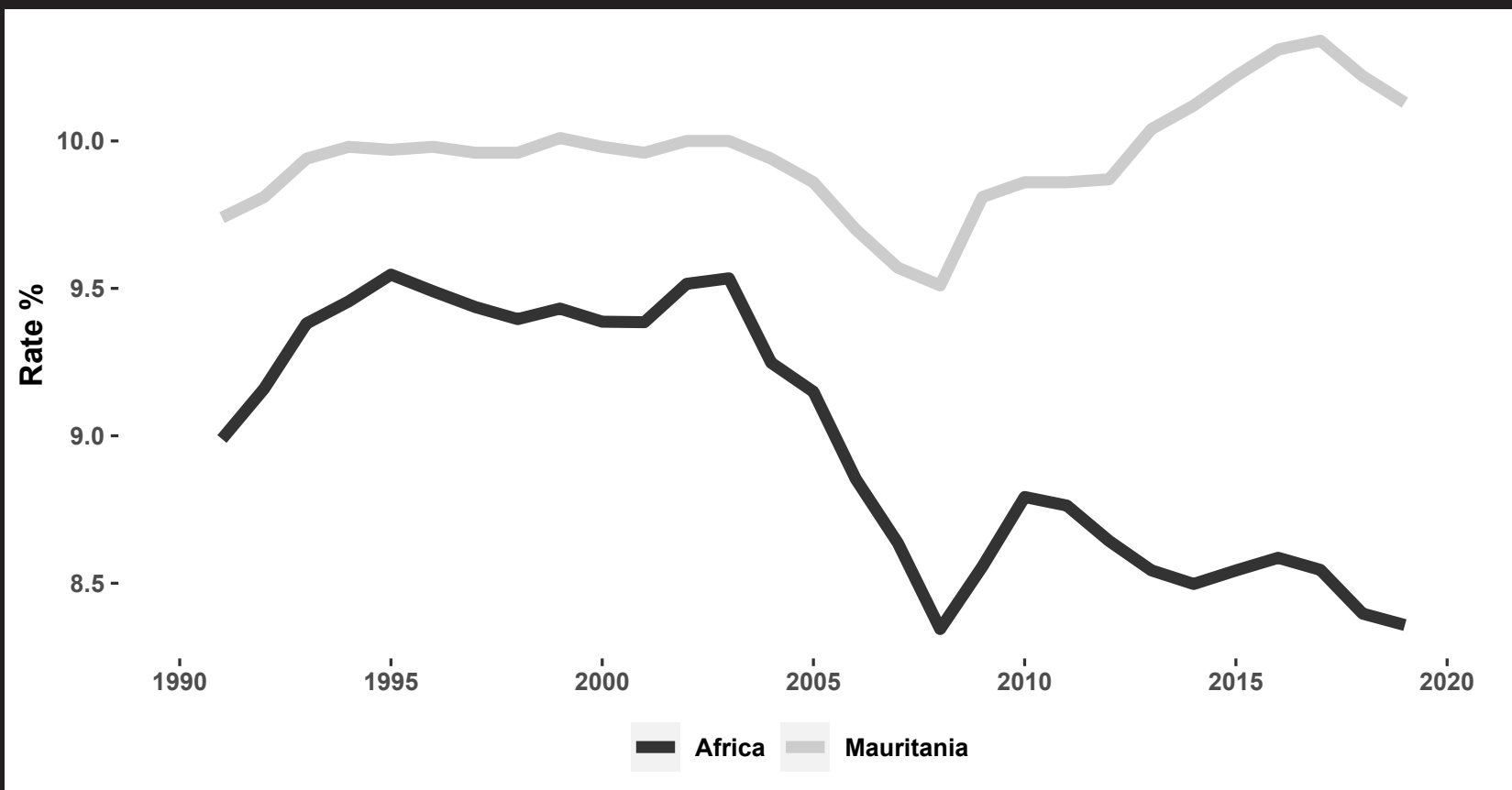
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



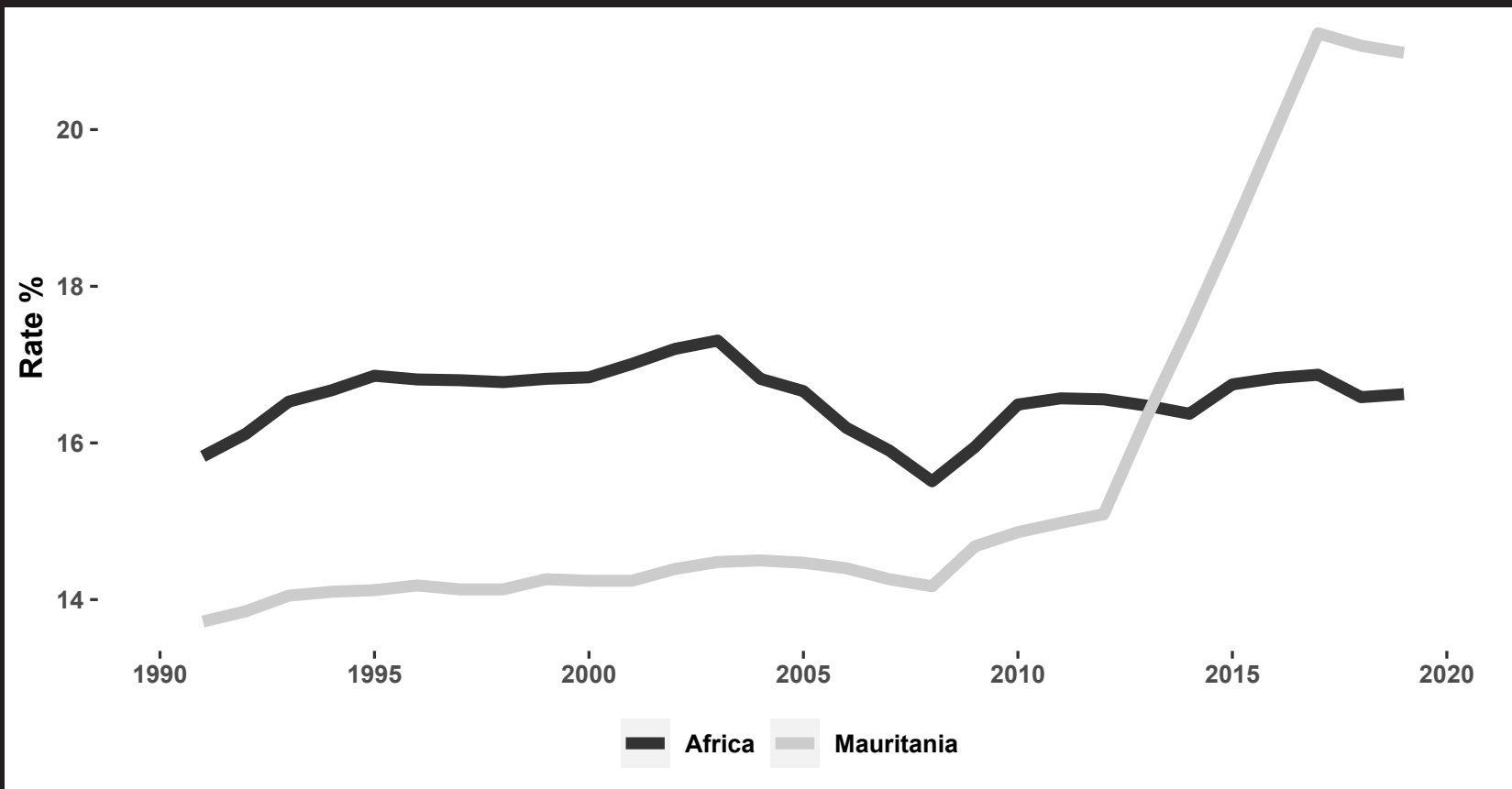
Economic growth in Mauritania fluctuated considerably between 1990 and 2010 due to political instability, including several coup attempts. However, since 2010 the Mauritanian economy has grown consistently.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



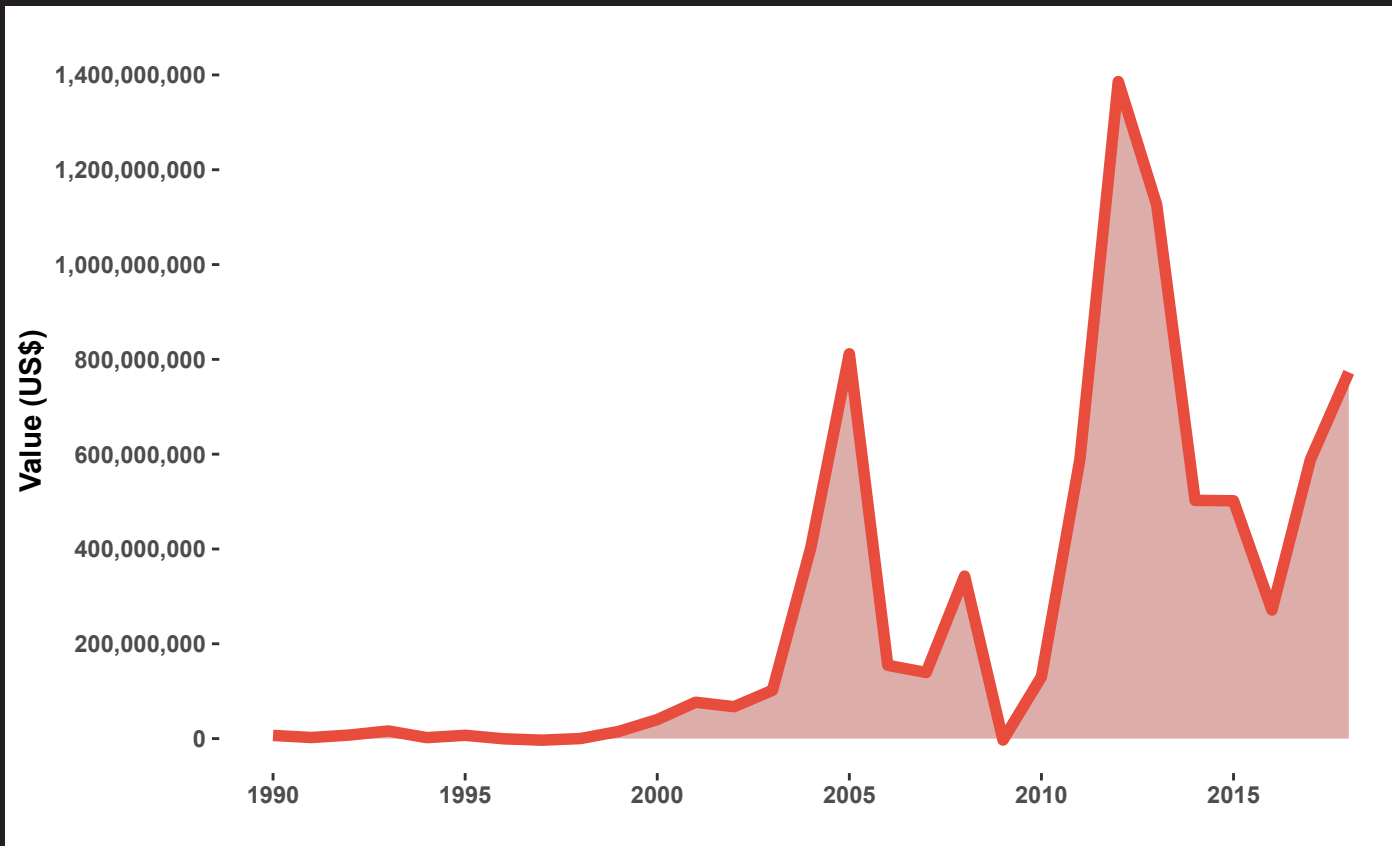
Mauritania’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Although Mauritania’s youth unemployment rate was lower than the African average between 1990 and 2012, since 2013, there has been a rapid rise in youth unemployment in the country and now significantly outstrips the African average.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



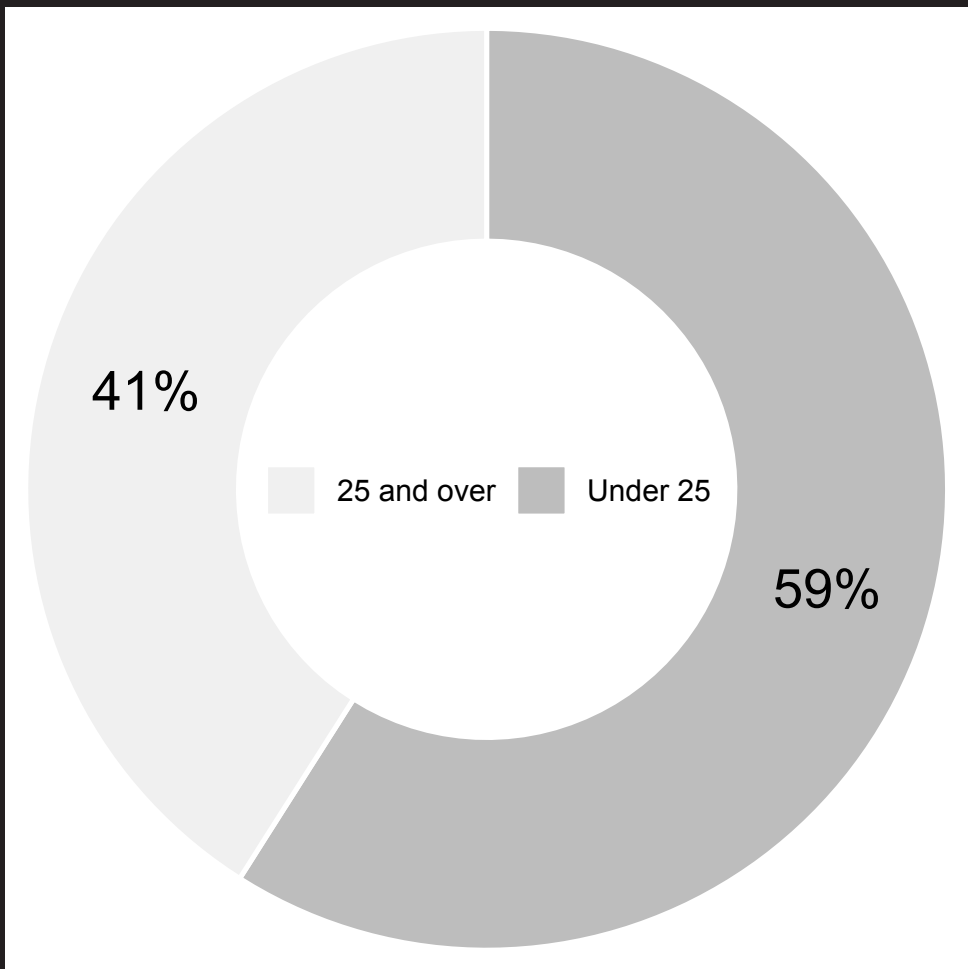
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$772.9 million

The amount of FDI inflows into the Mauritanian economy has fluctuated significantly since 2004.

DEMOGRAPHICS

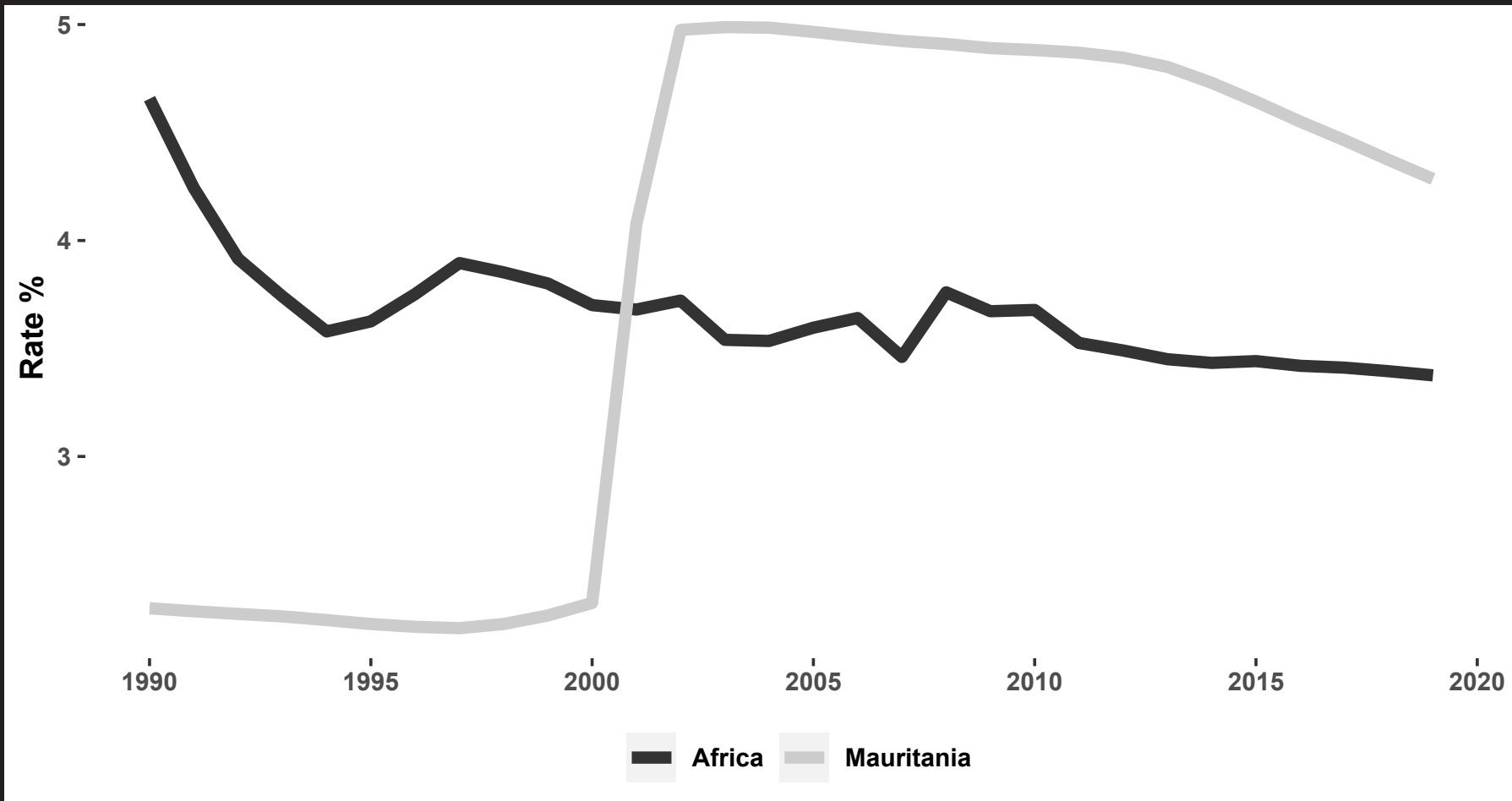
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



4.53 million

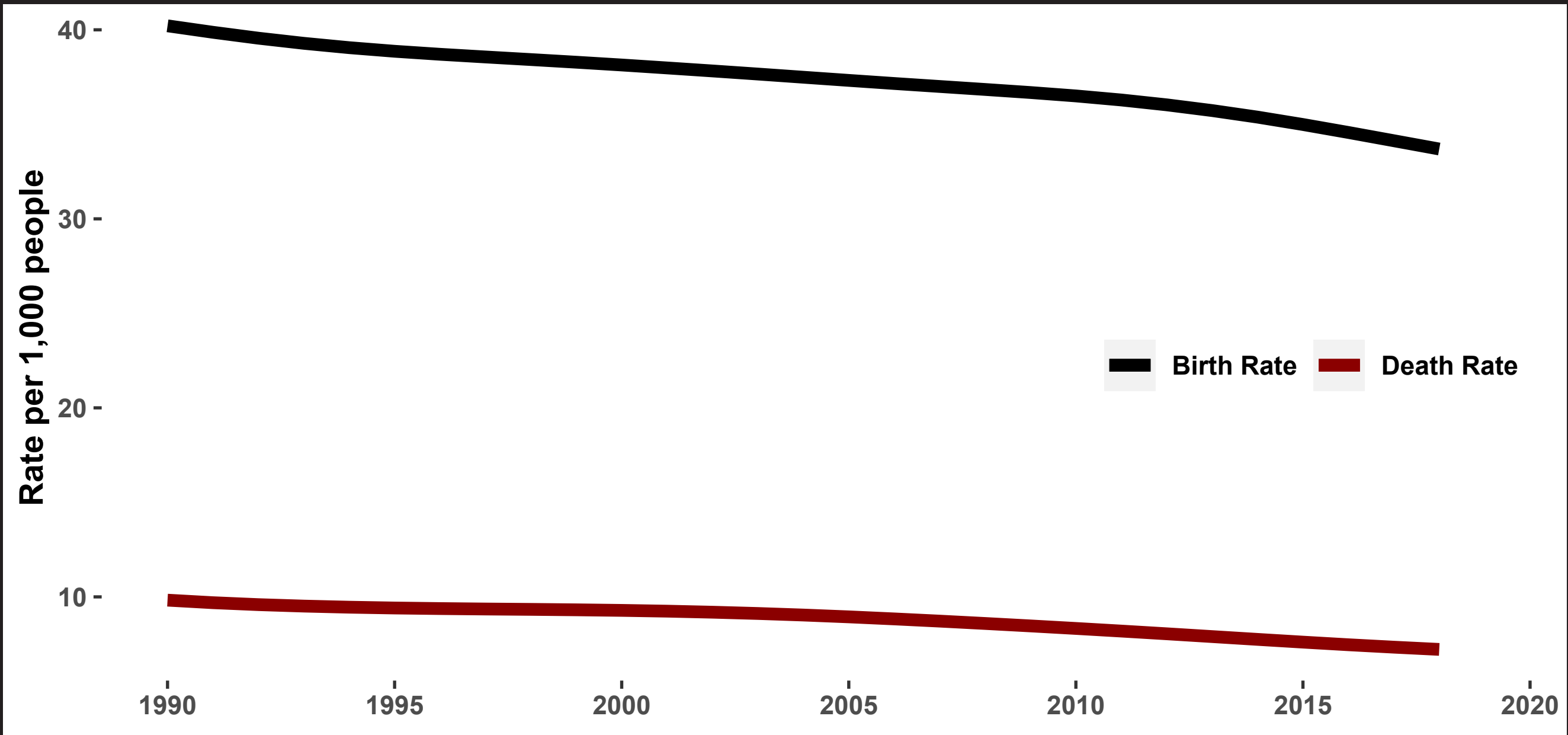
In line with continental trends, the majority of Mauritania’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Mauritania urbanised slower than the continental average during the 1990s, since 2000 the country has been urbanising at a faster rate when compared to the continental average.

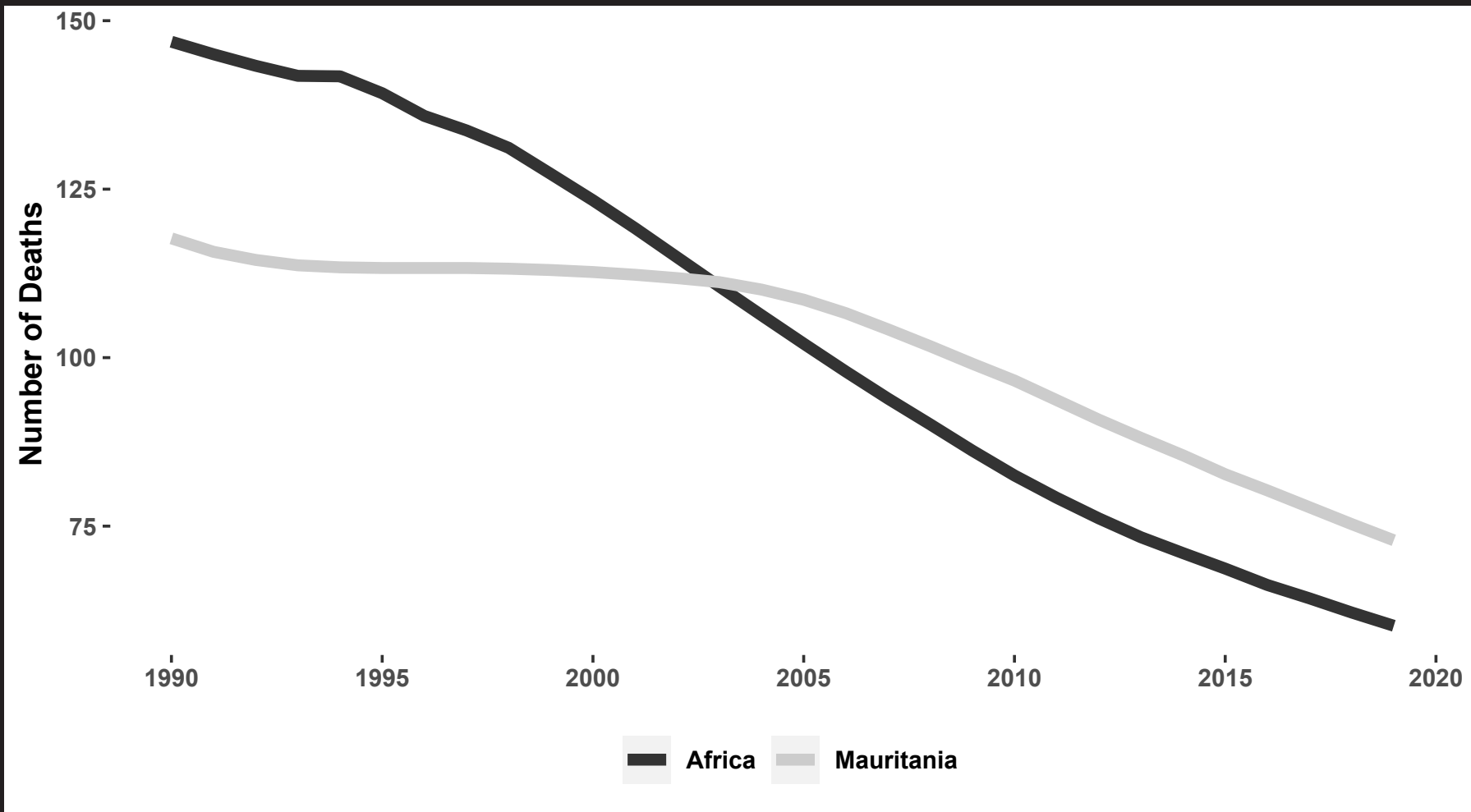
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Mauritania has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

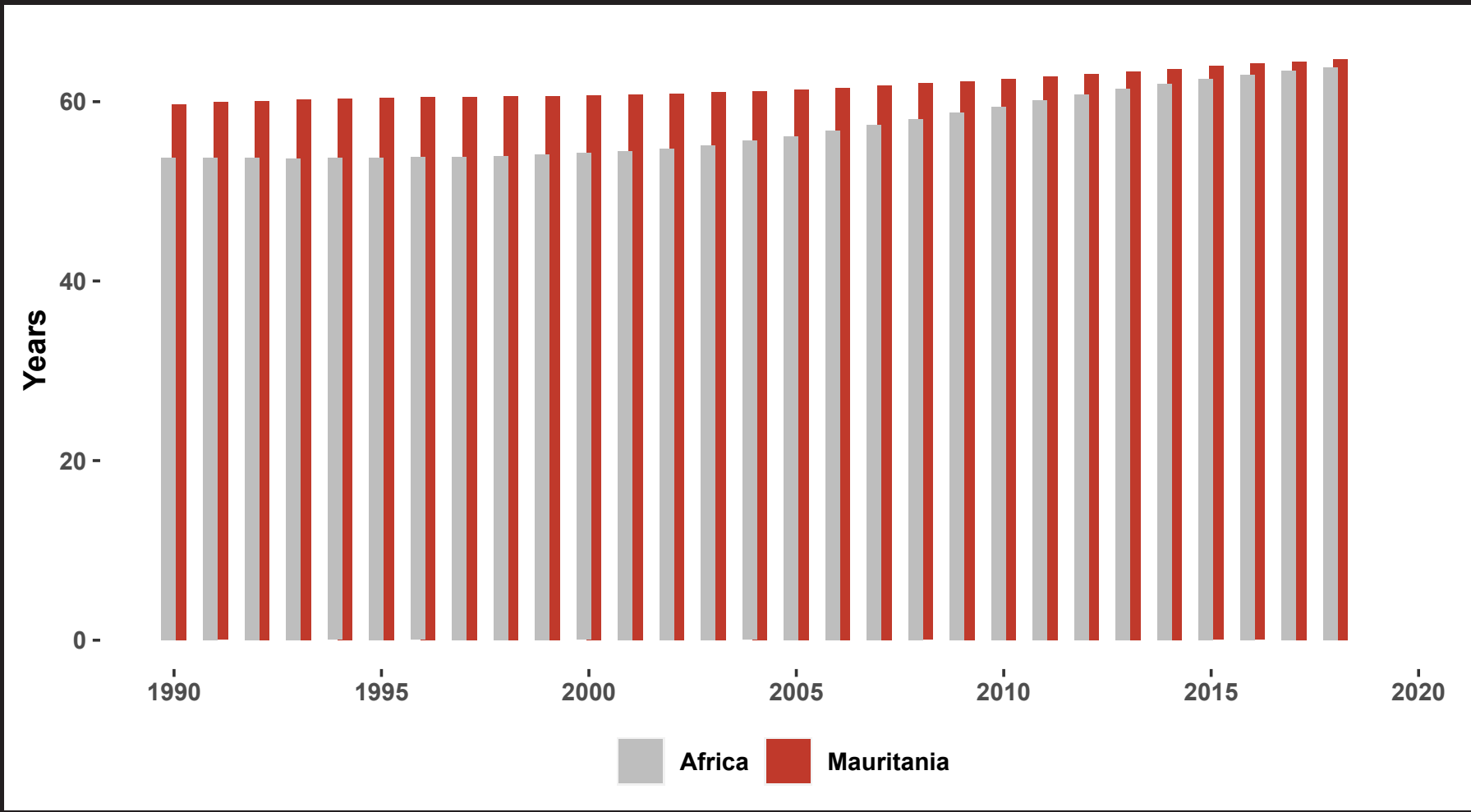
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



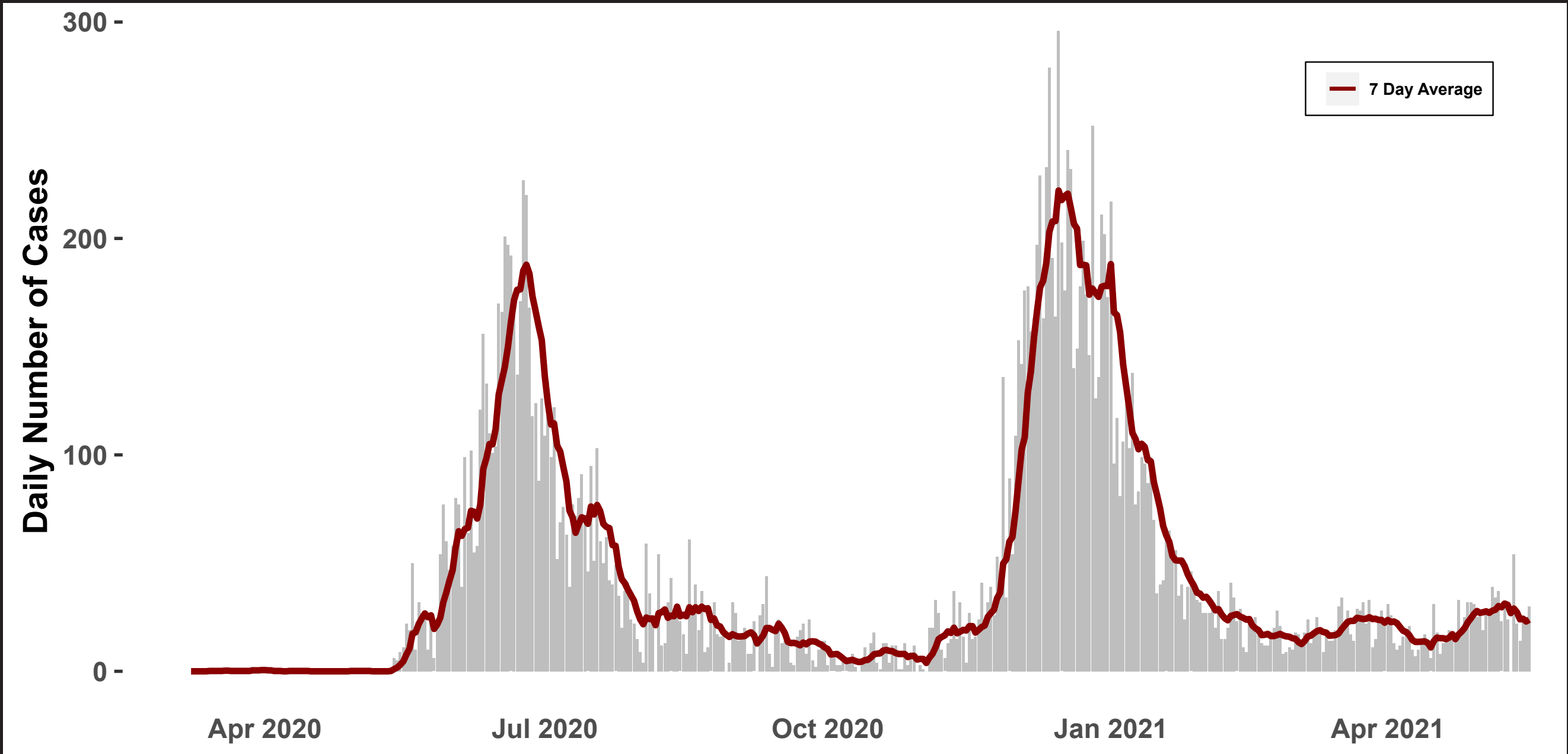
Child mortality has been in decline in Mauritania over the past three decades – albeit at a much slower rate than the rest of the continent.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Mauritania has remained stagnant over the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Mauritania has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in July 2020 and January 2021.

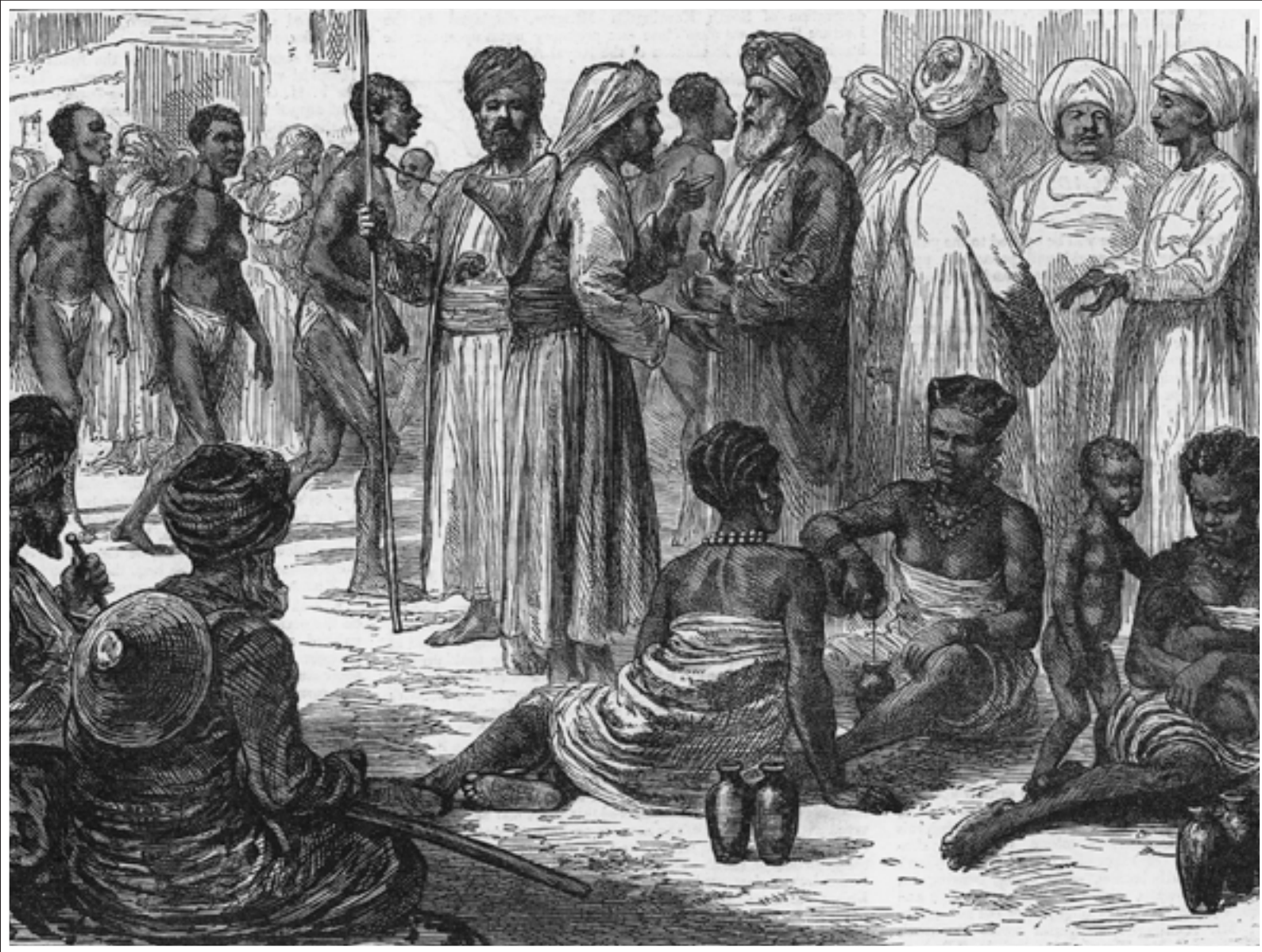
DID YOU KNOW?

Ammar Hassan on Flickr.com



Mauritania is the world's largest country lying entirely below an altitude of 1,000 metres (3,300 ft).

Slaveryimages.org



Mauritania became the last country in the world to abolish slavery when the practice was finally banned in 1981. In 2012, it was estimated that 10% to 20% of the population still lived in slavery.

Ammar Hassan on Flickr.com



Mauritania is one of the world's least densely populated countries, with less than four people per square kilometre of land area.



MAURITIUS

Mauritius is an island nation in the Indian Ocean about 2,000 km off the south-east coast of the African continent, east of Madagascar. The Dutch took possession in 1598, establishing a succession of short-lived settlements. France took control in 1715, renaming it Isle de France. In 1810, the island was seized by Great Britain. Mauritius remained a primarily plantation-based British colony until independence in 1968. Owing to its geographic location and centuries of colonialism, the island’s people are highly diverse in ethnicity, culture, language and faith. Mauritius is relatively young geologically, created by volcanic activity some eight million years ago. The official currency is the Mauritian rupee.

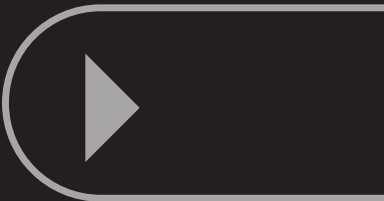
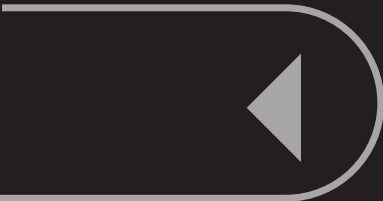
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

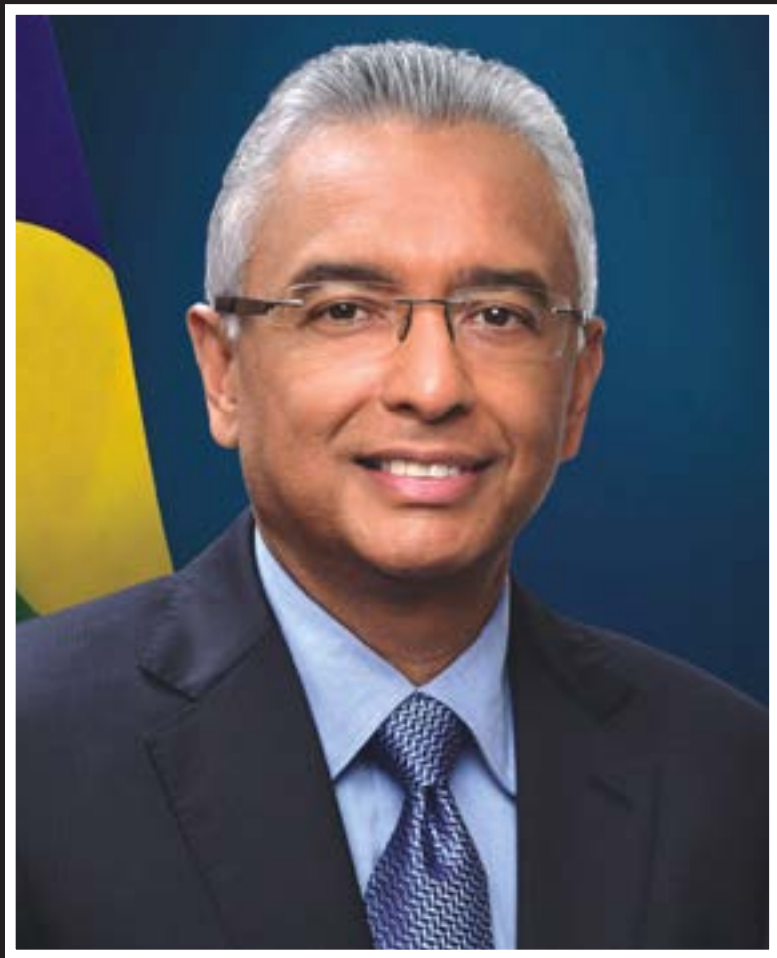
DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Pravind Jugnauth

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Port Louis

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

66

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

11



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and French

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary parliamentary republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Militant Socialist Movement

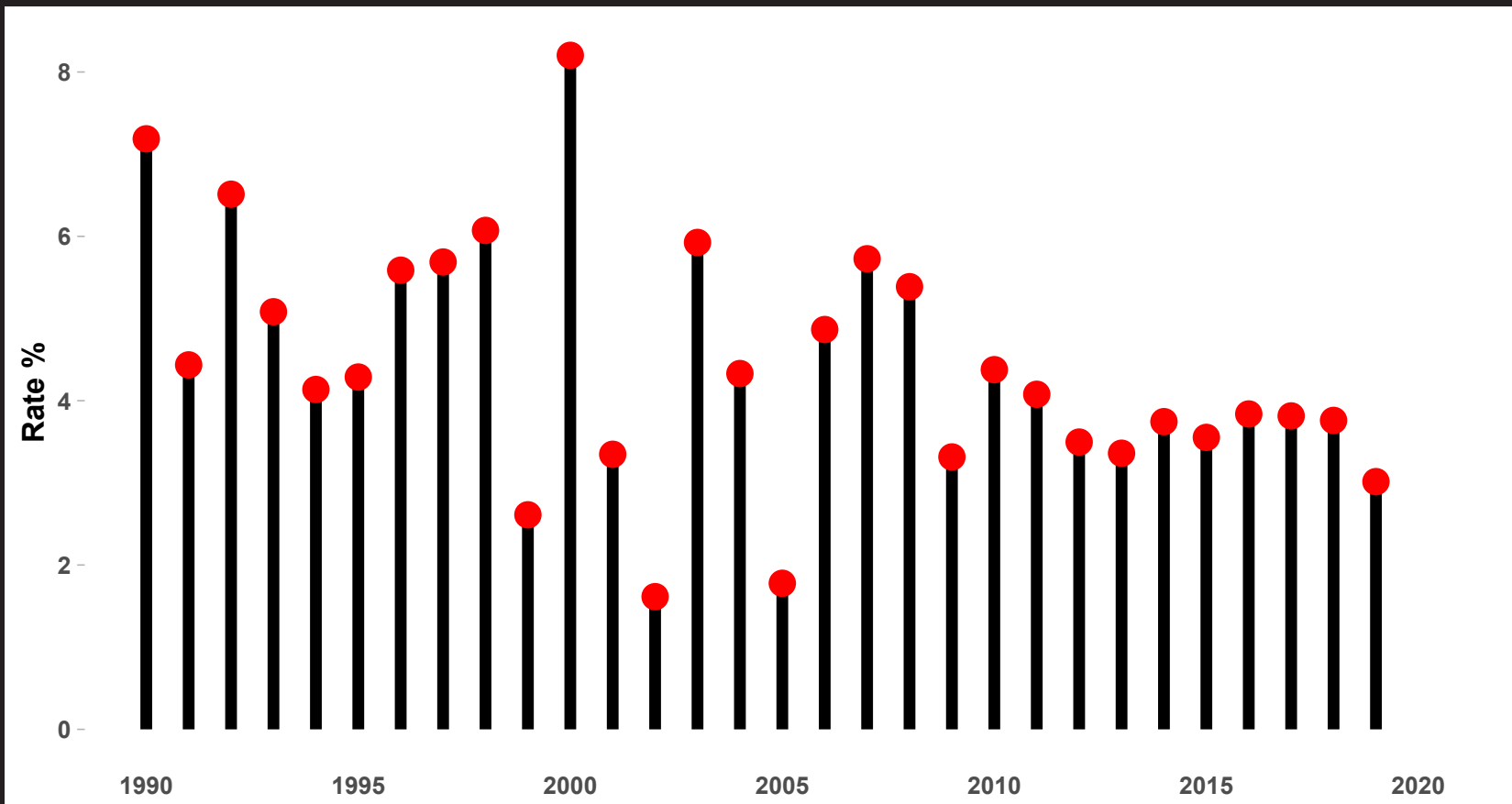


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Mauritius Labour Party

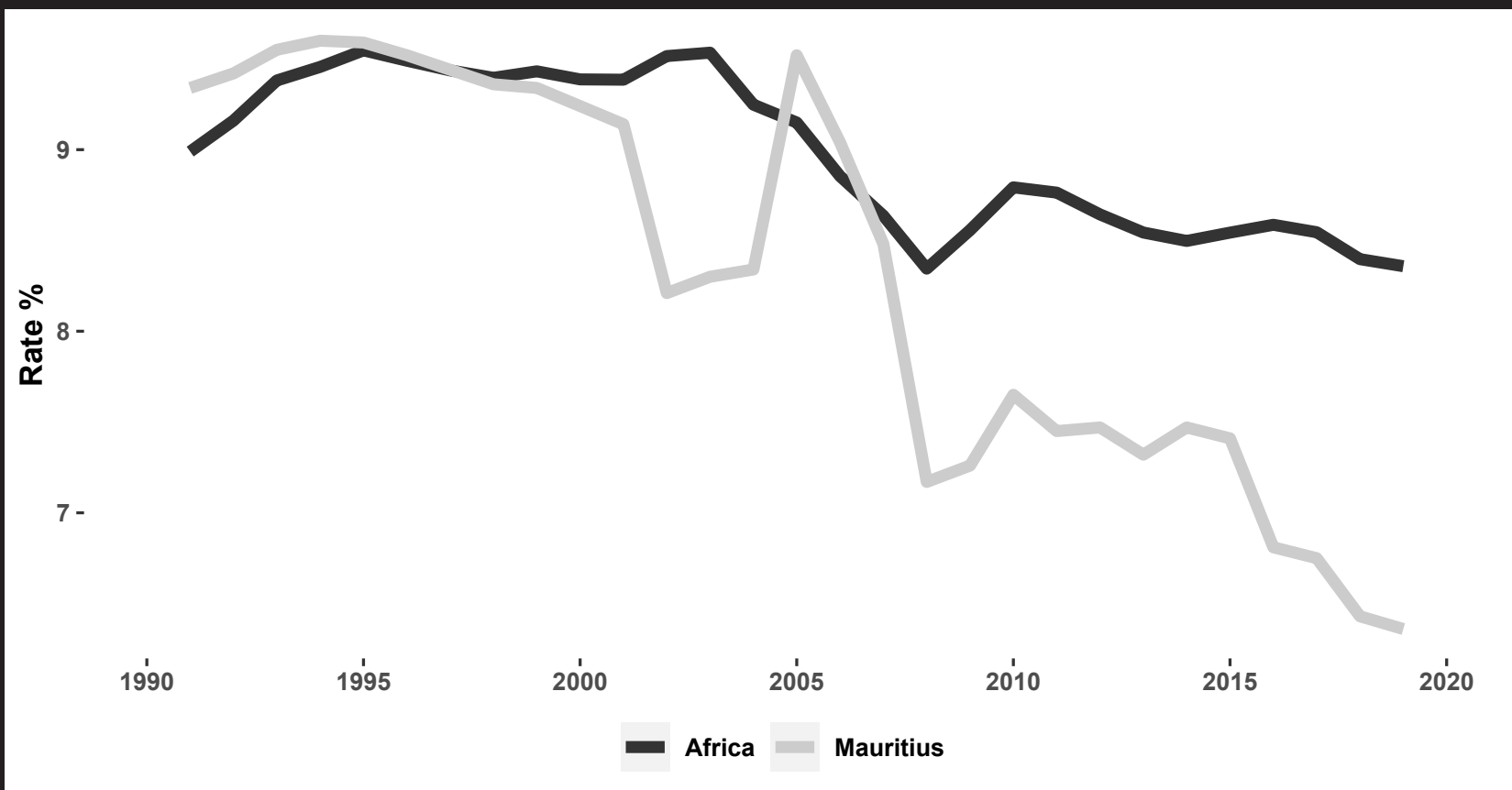
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



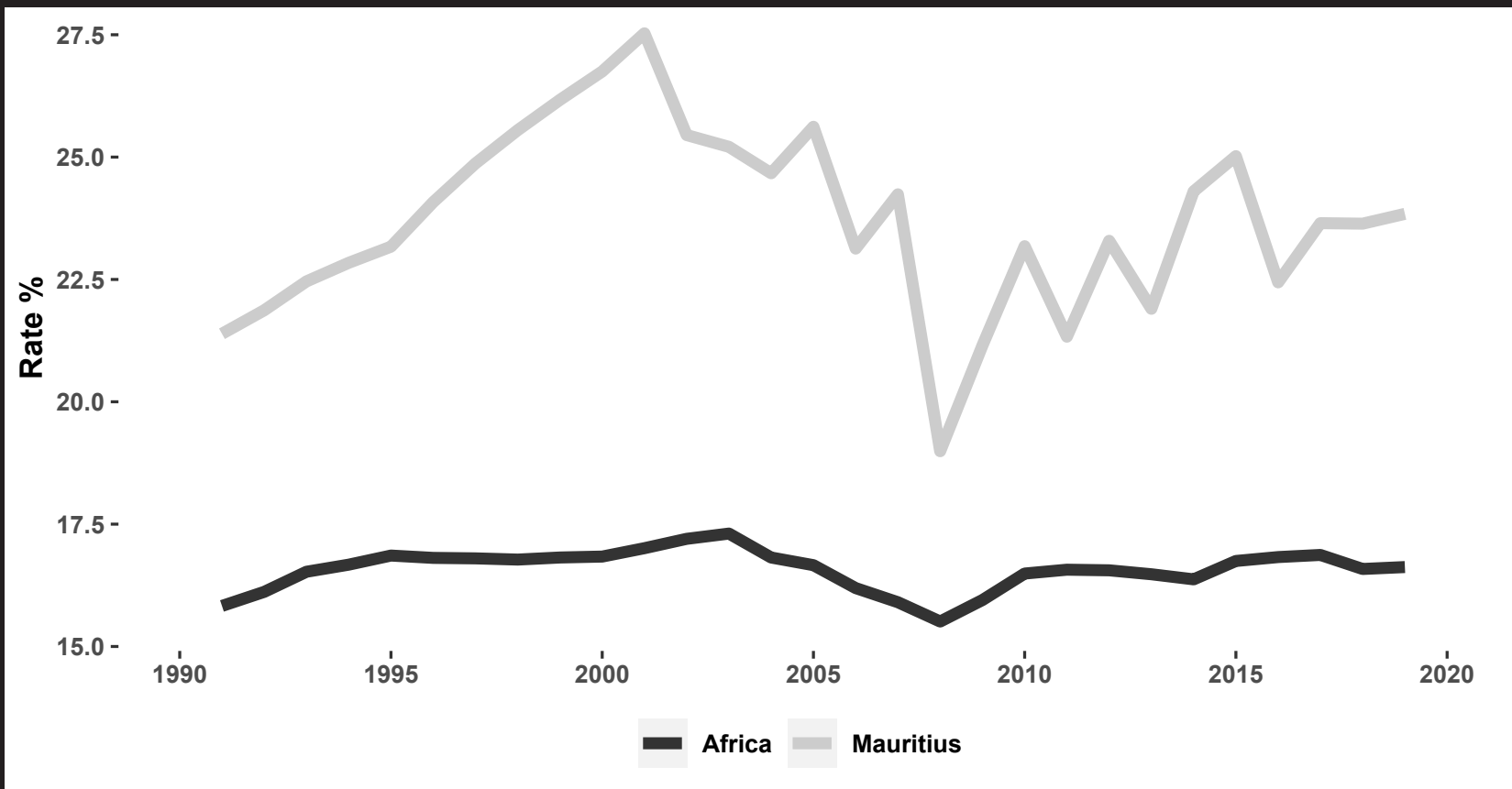
Mauritius has experienced consistent economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



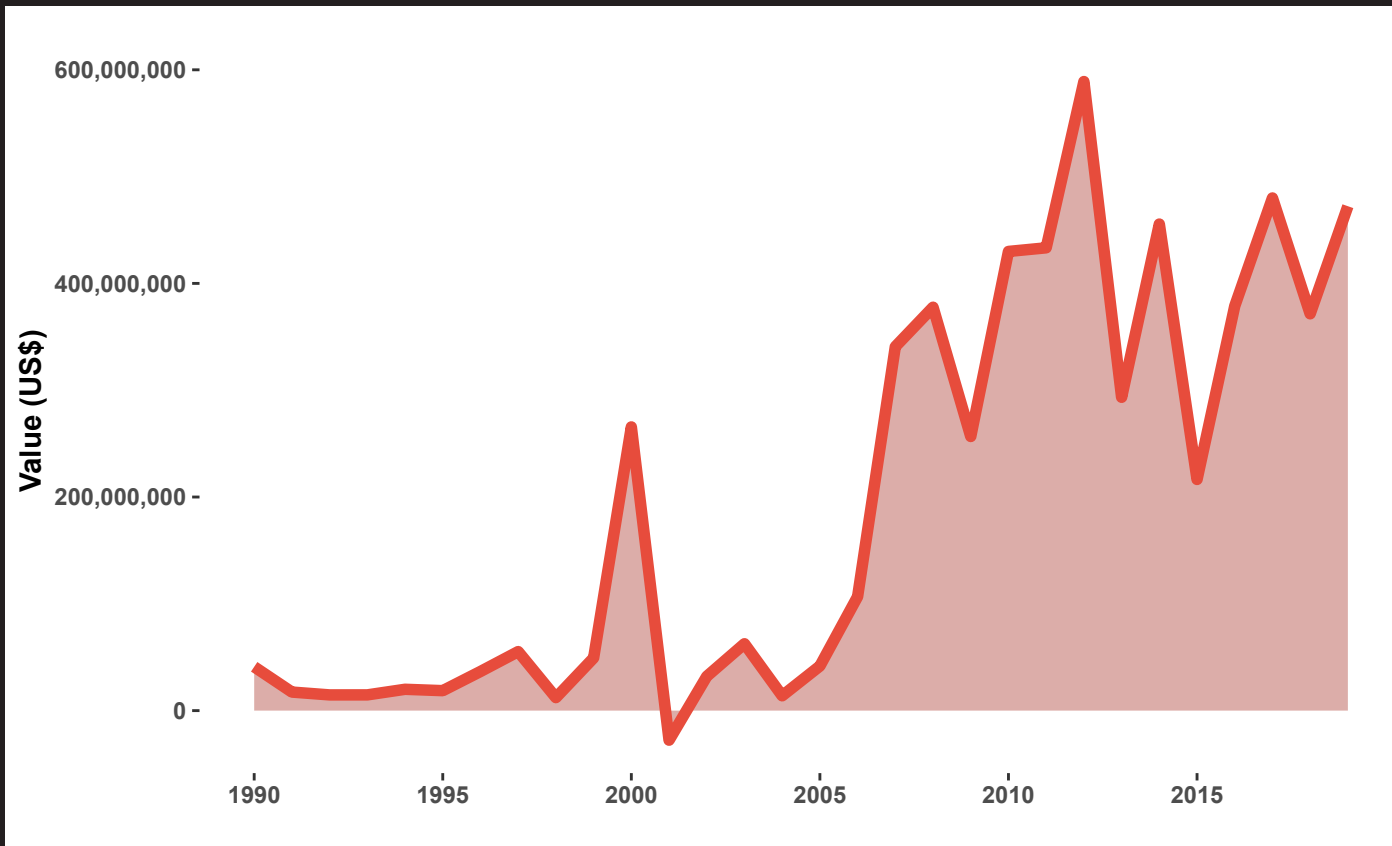
Between 1990 and 2007 the unemployment rate in Mauritius tracked very closely to the continental average. Since 2008 Mauritius has had an unemployment rate much lower than the African average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Although the youth unemployment rate in Mauritius has fluctuated over the past 30 years, the country has maintained a youth unemployment rate consistently higher than the African average.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



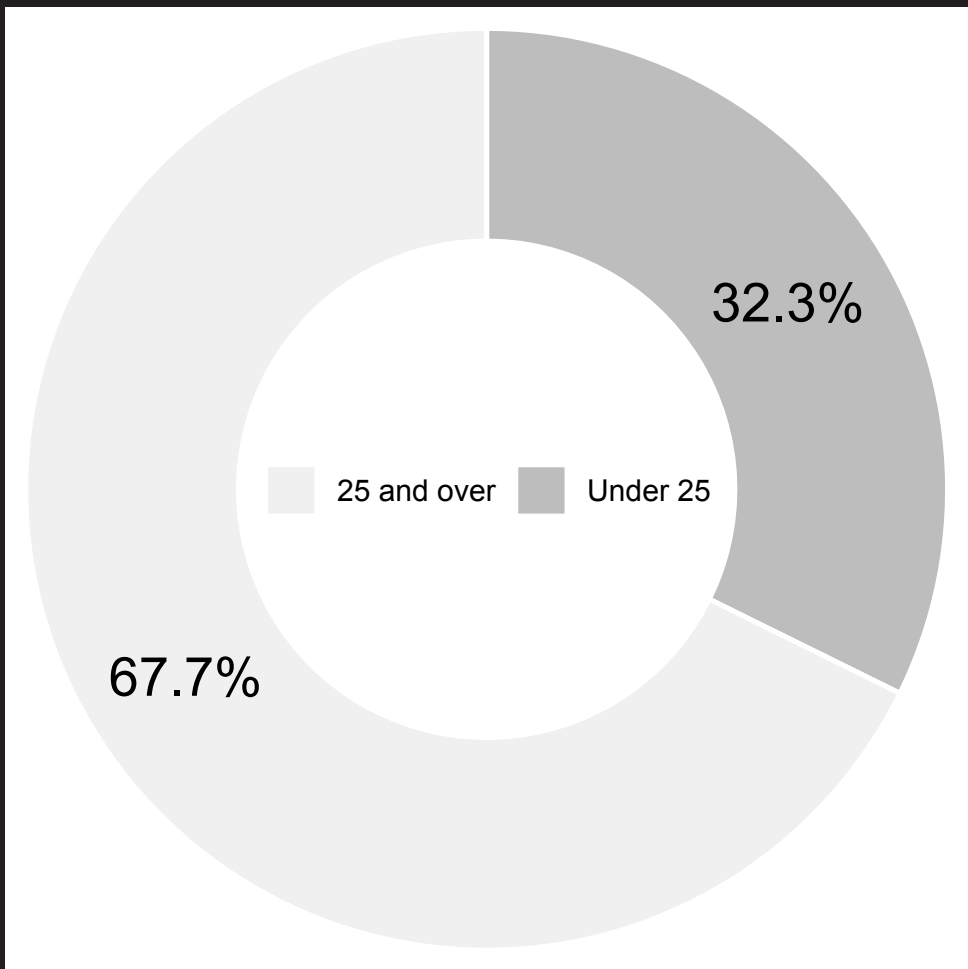
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$472.3 million

Since 2007 Mauritius has consistently received foreign direct investment in excess of US\$ 200 million.

DEMOGRAPHICS

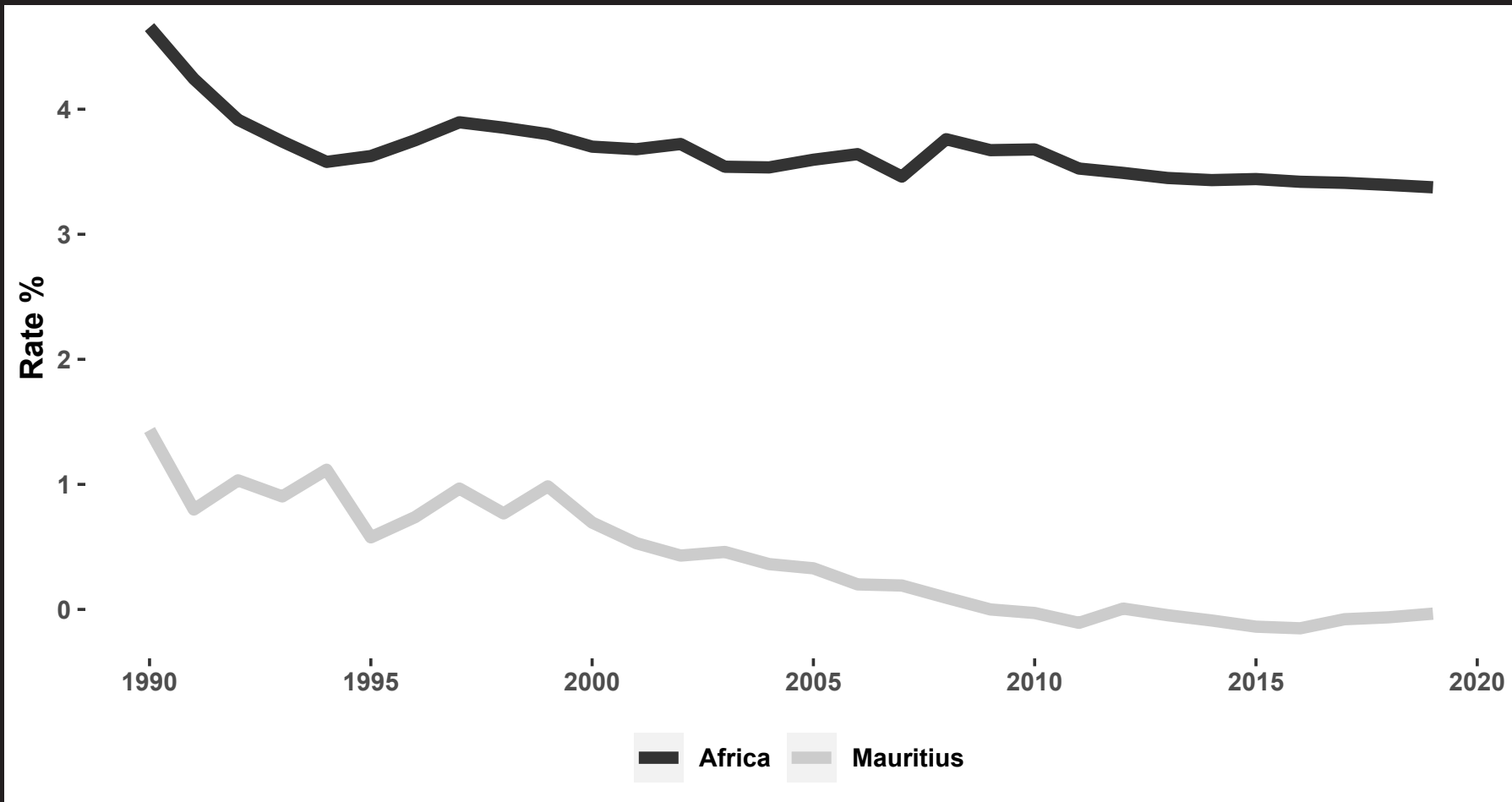
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



1.27 million

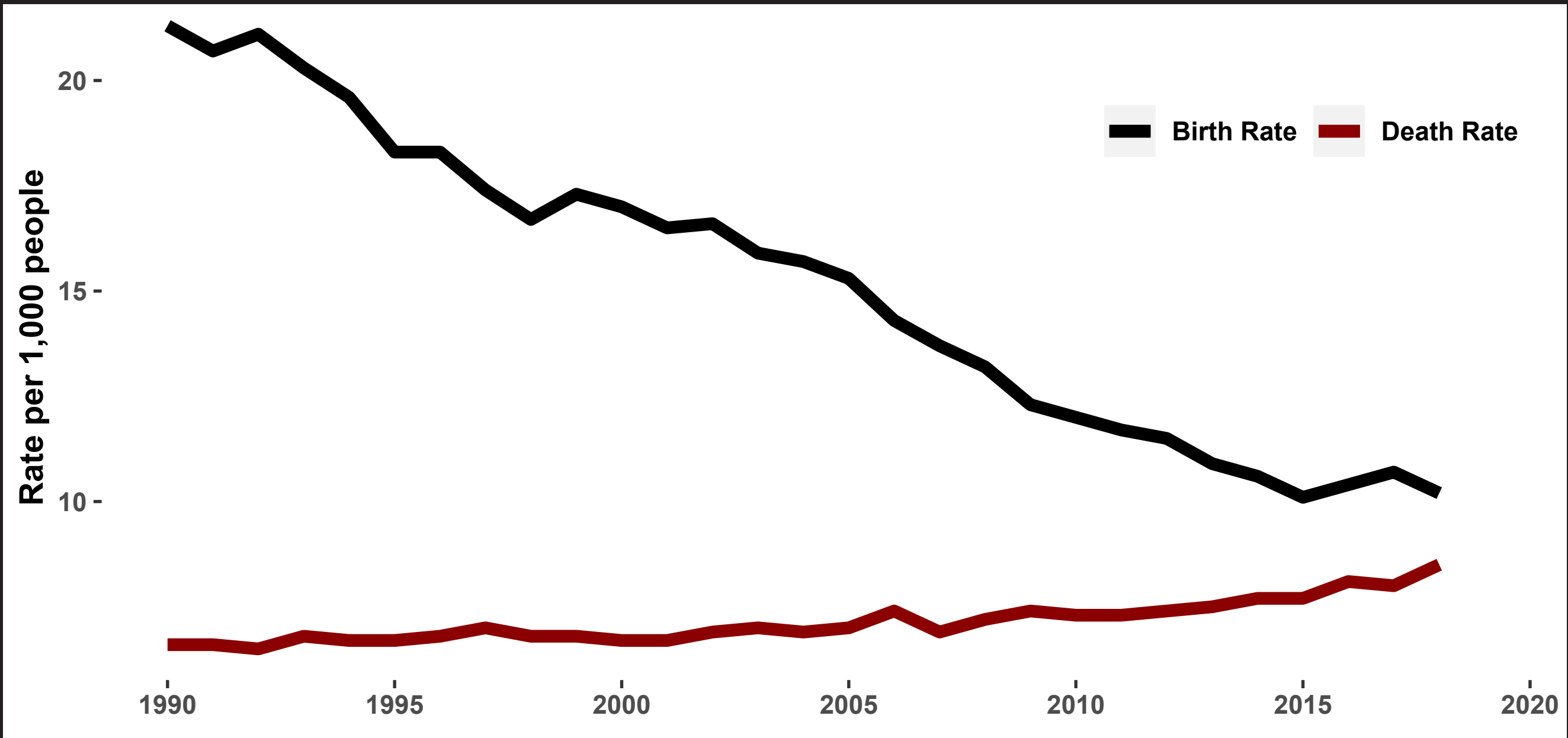
Mauritius is one of the least populated countries in Africa and is also one of the nine countries where the over-25 population outnumbers the under-25 population. In fact, Mauritius is the only African country that has more than double the amount of people over-25 as there are under-25.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Mauritius has consistently urbanised at a slower rate than the rest of the continent.

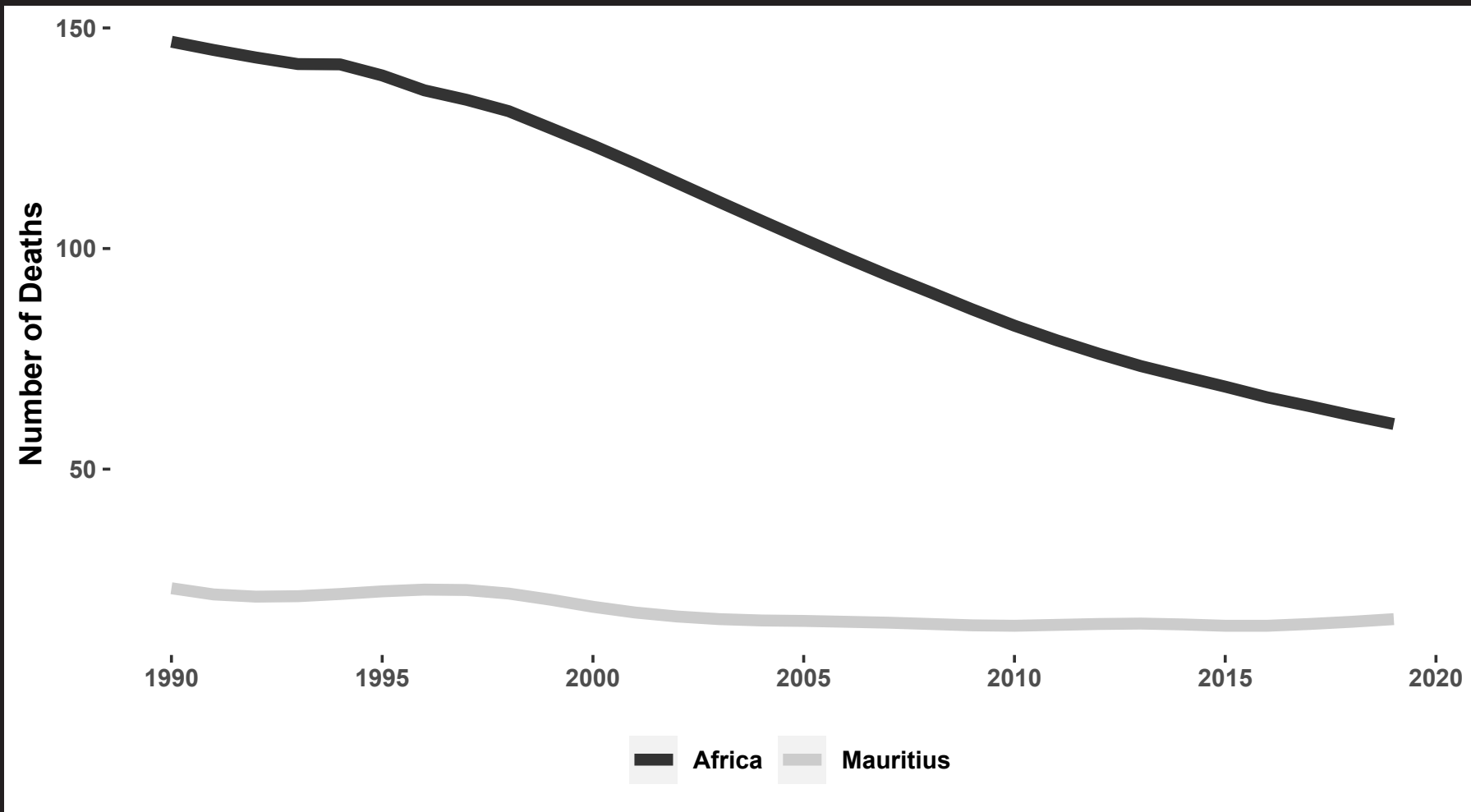
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The birth rate in Mauritius has sharply declined over the past 30 years, while the death rate has been slightly rising since 2007. As a result, Mauritius is one of the very few African countries with a stagnant population growth rate.

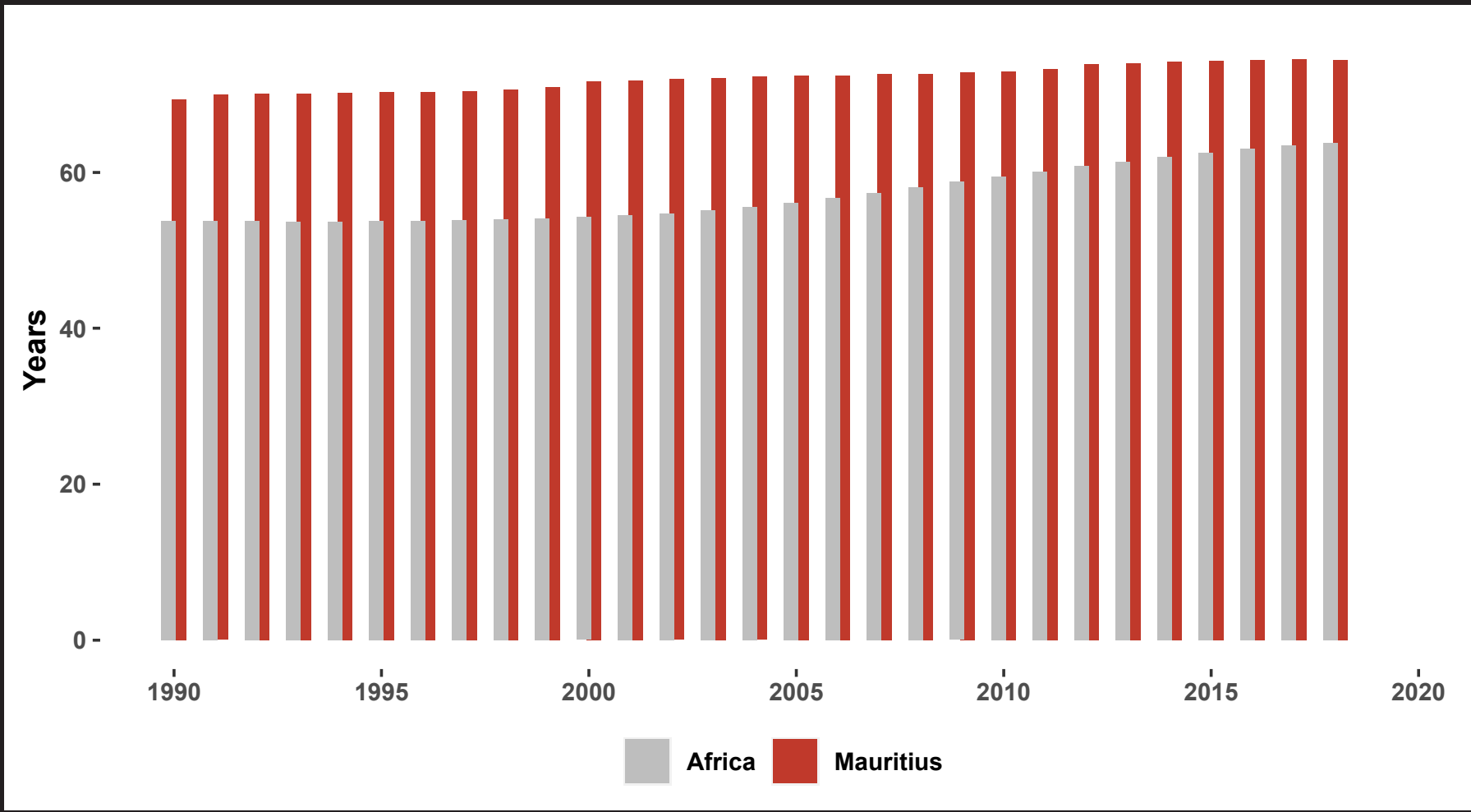
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



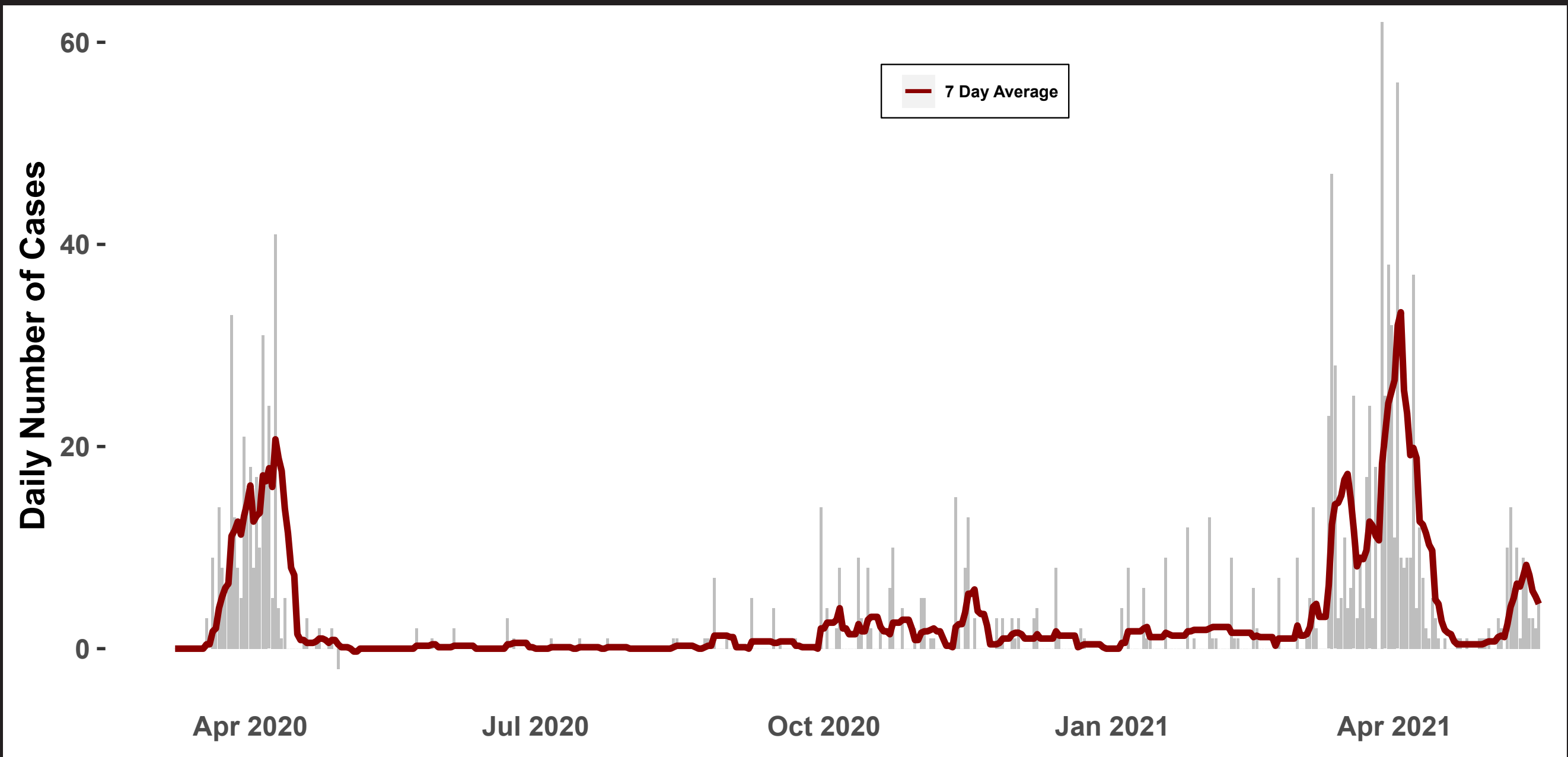
Mauritius has maintained the one of the lowest child mortality rates on the continent for the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Mauritius has maintained one of the highest life expectancies on the continent for the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Mauritius has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in April 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ludovic Lubeigt on Flickr.com



Although Mauritians are of Indian descent (Indo-Mauritian) and follow mostly Hinduism and Islam, the language they speak is a form of broken French known as Creole.

Bazzadarambler on Flickr.com



The extinct Dodo is the island's national animal and was unique to Mauritius.

Ilisa on Flickr.com



Mauritian beach Trou Aux Biches was chosen as the world's best beach destination in 2011.



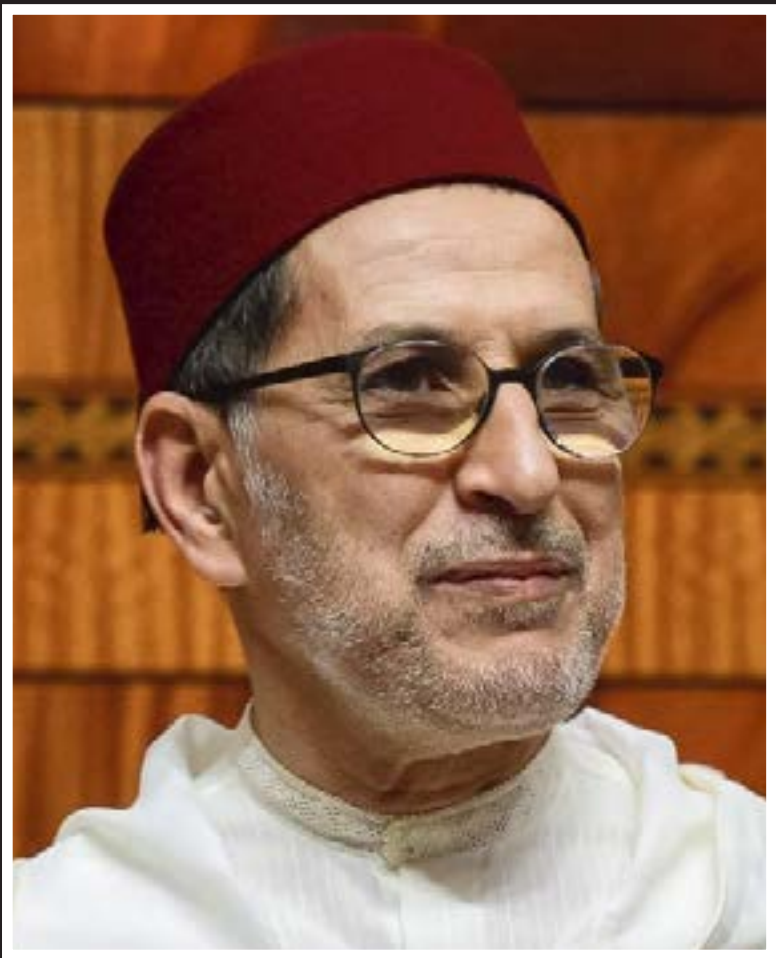
MOROCCO

Morocco is the westernmost country in the Maghreb region of North Africa. It overlooks the Mediterranean Sea to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the west, and is bordered by Algeria and Western Sahara. The area of present-day Morocco has been inhabited since at least Paleolithic times, beginning sometime between 190,000 and 90,000 BC. In 1912, Morocco was divided into French and Spanish protectorates, with an international zone in Tangier. It regained its independence and reunified in 1956, and has been a relatively stable and prosperous nation, with the fifth-largest economy in Africa. Moroccan culture is a vibrant mix of Berber, Arab, and European influences. The country has lush forests in the northern and central mountain ranges of the country, giving way to drier conditions and inland deserts further south-east. The official currency is the Moroccan dirham.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



MONARCH
King Mohammed VI



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Saadeddine Othmani

CAPITAL CITY

Rabat



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

121

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

9



MAIN LANGUAGES

Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary parliamentary semi-constitutional monarchy



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Justice and Development Party

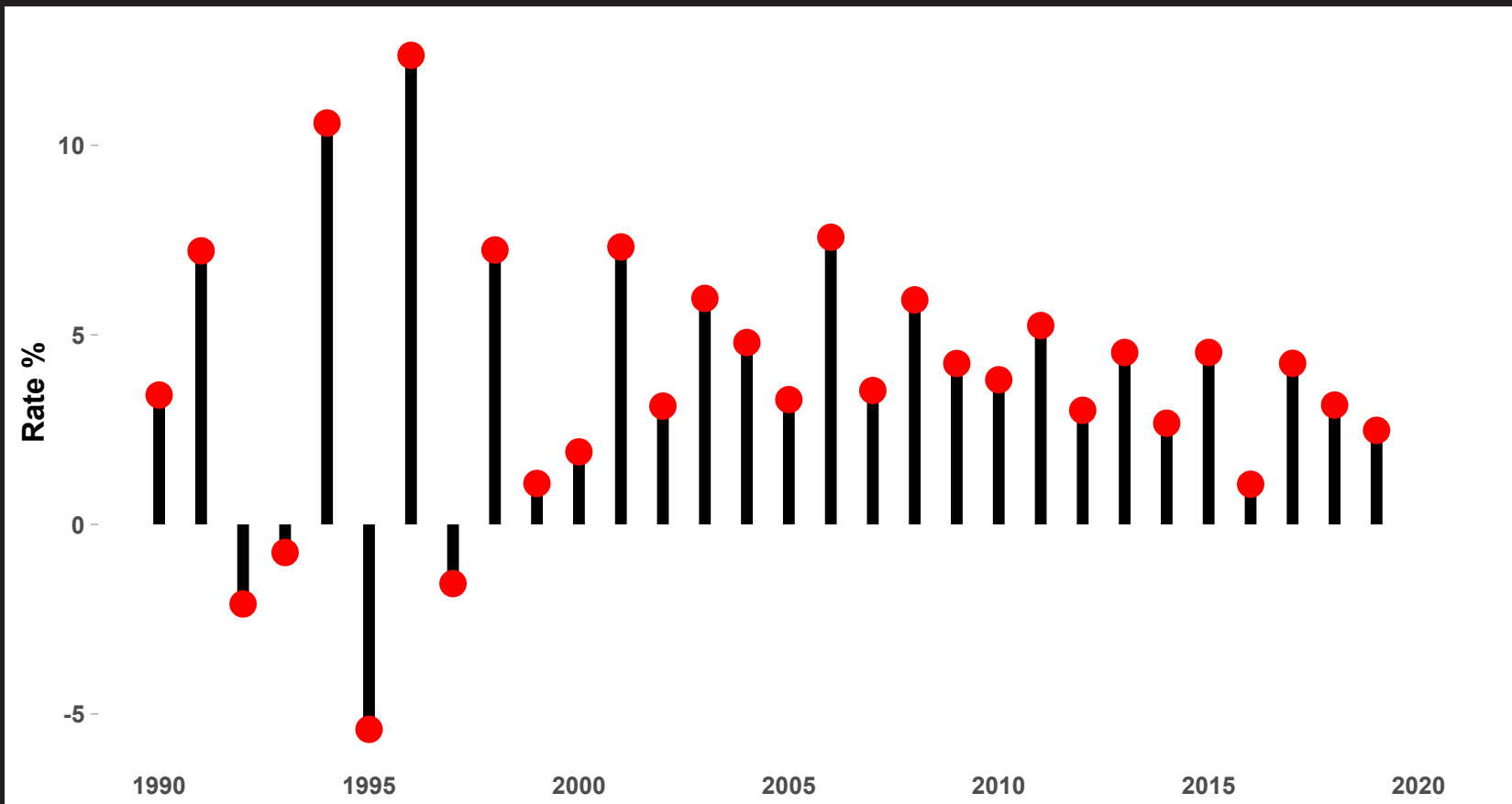


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Istiqlal Party
(Independence Party)

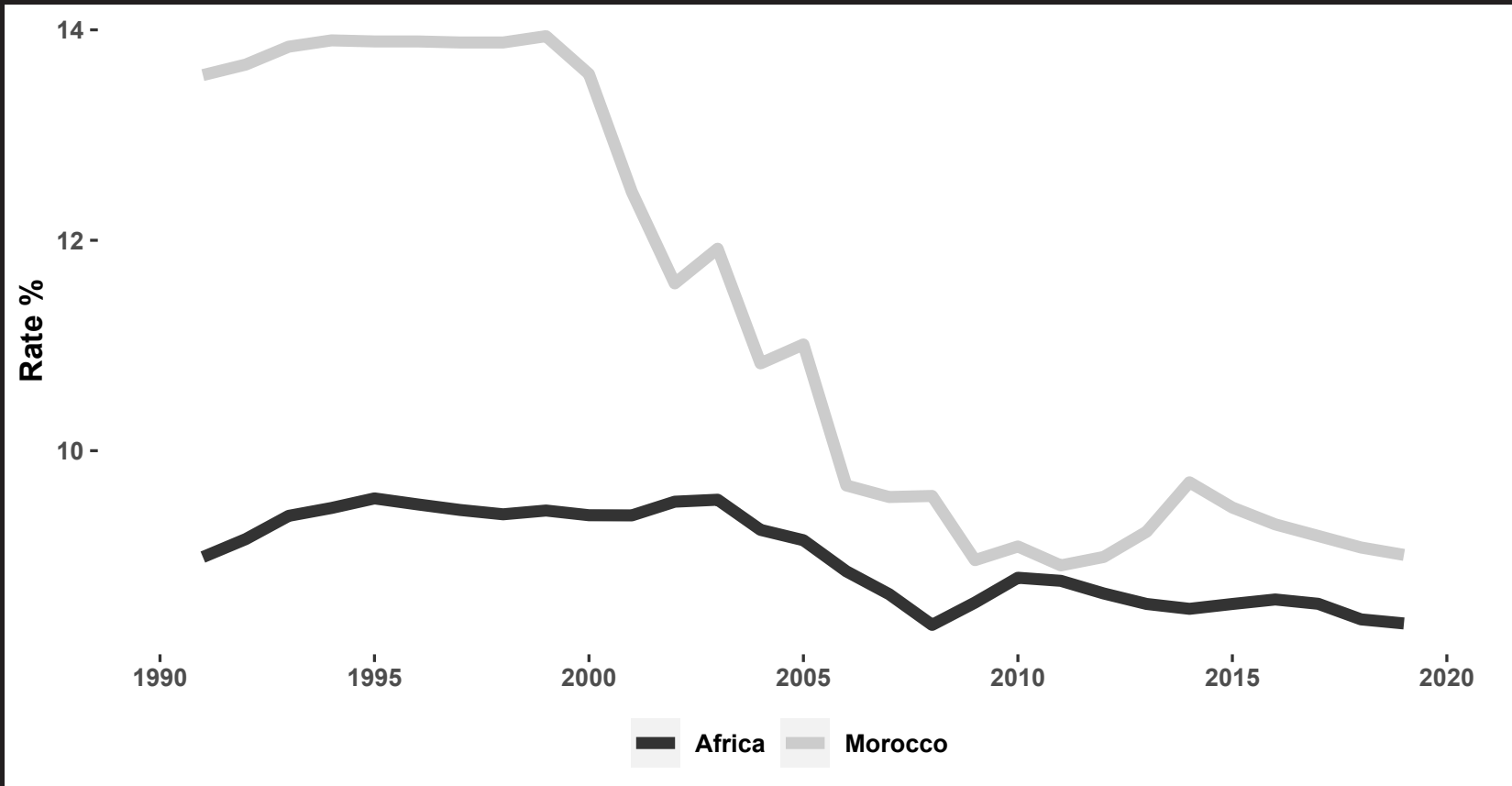
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



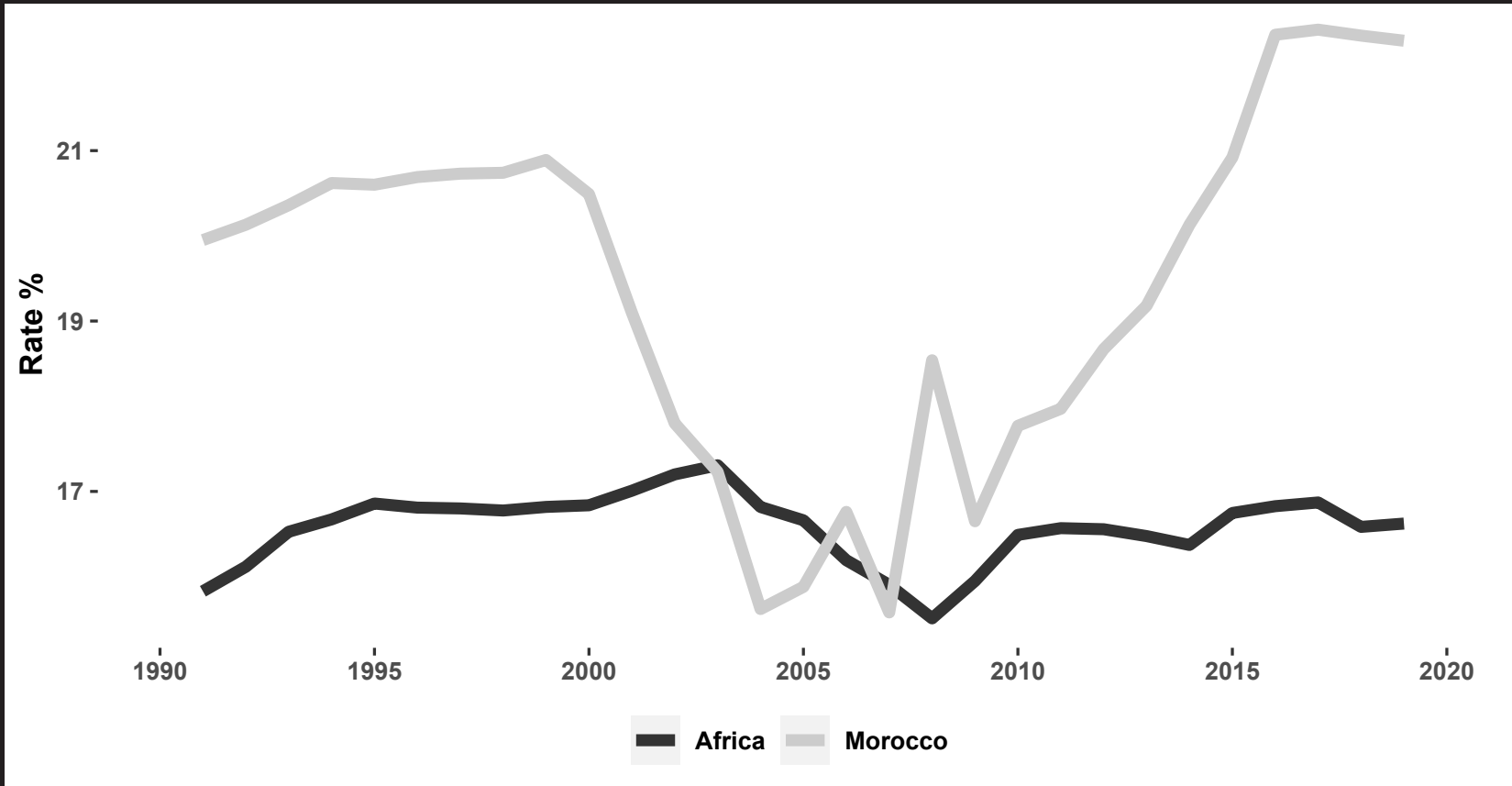
After experiencing erratic economic growth throughout much of the 1990s, Morocco has seen continuous economic expansion since 1998.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



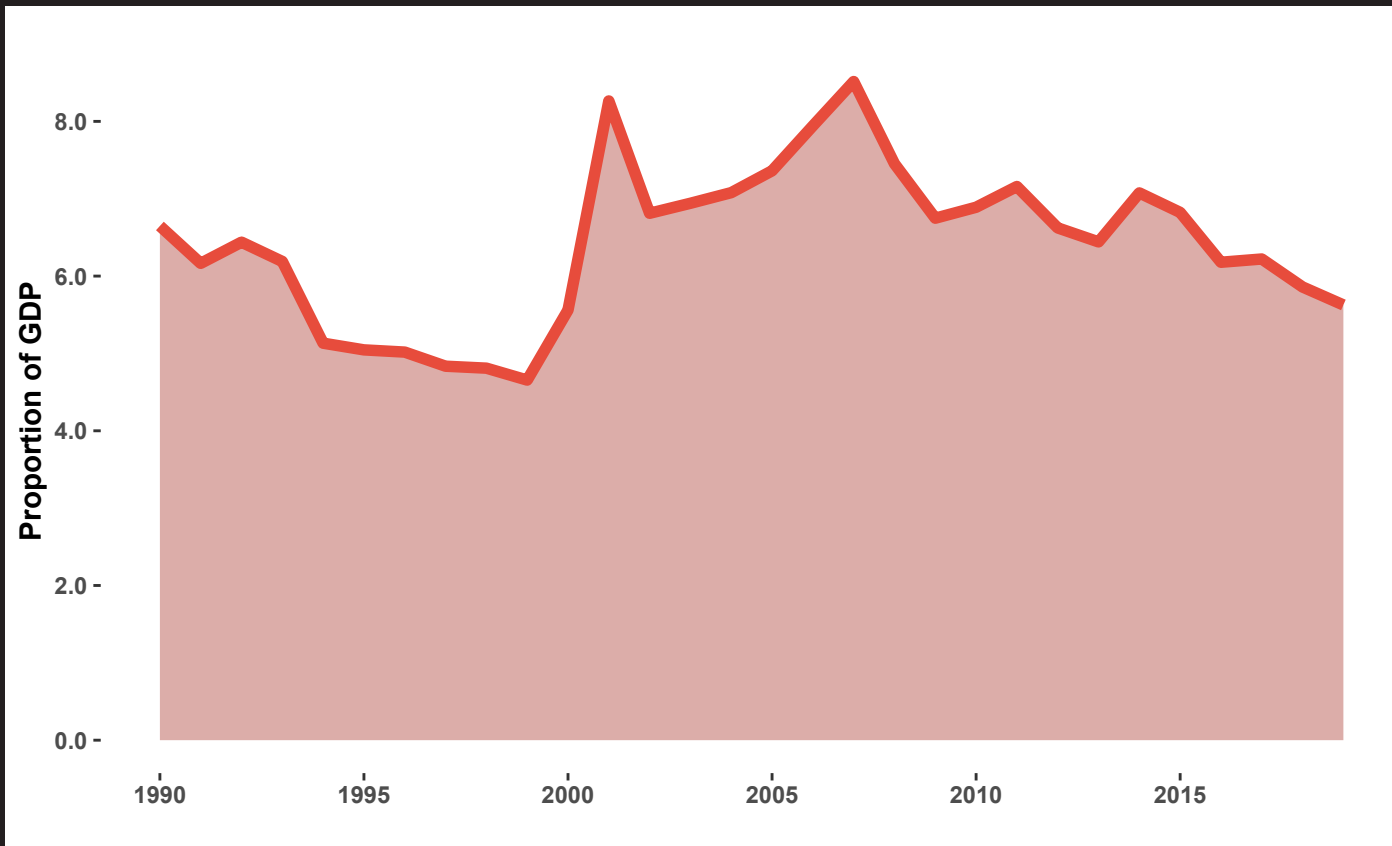
Between 1990 and 2005 Morocco had an unemployment rate higher than the African average. Since 2006, Morocco's unemployment rate, while still higher than the African average, is tracking much more closely to this average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Apart from a brief period between 2003 and 2007, Morocco has consistently had a youth unemployment rate higher than the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$6.64 billion

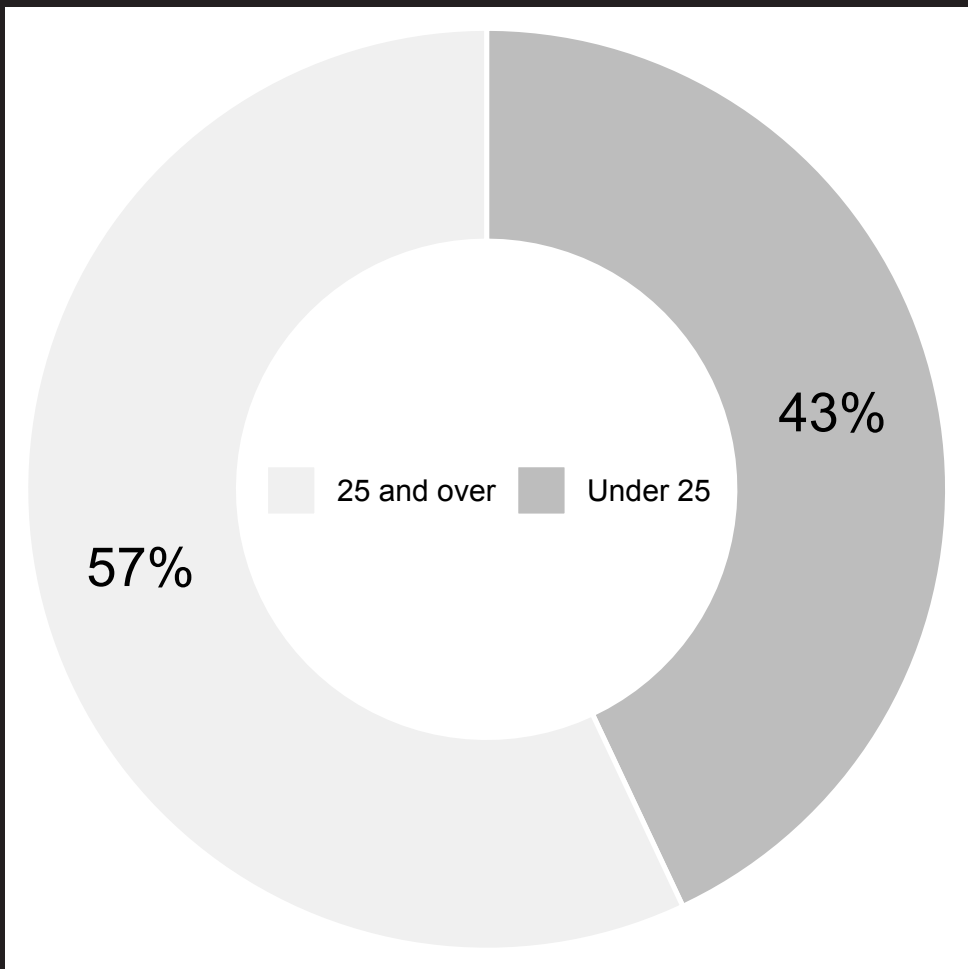
which represents

5.63% of GDP

Morocco has some of the largest remittance inflows on the continent. Over the past three decades these have consistently been more than 4% of its GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

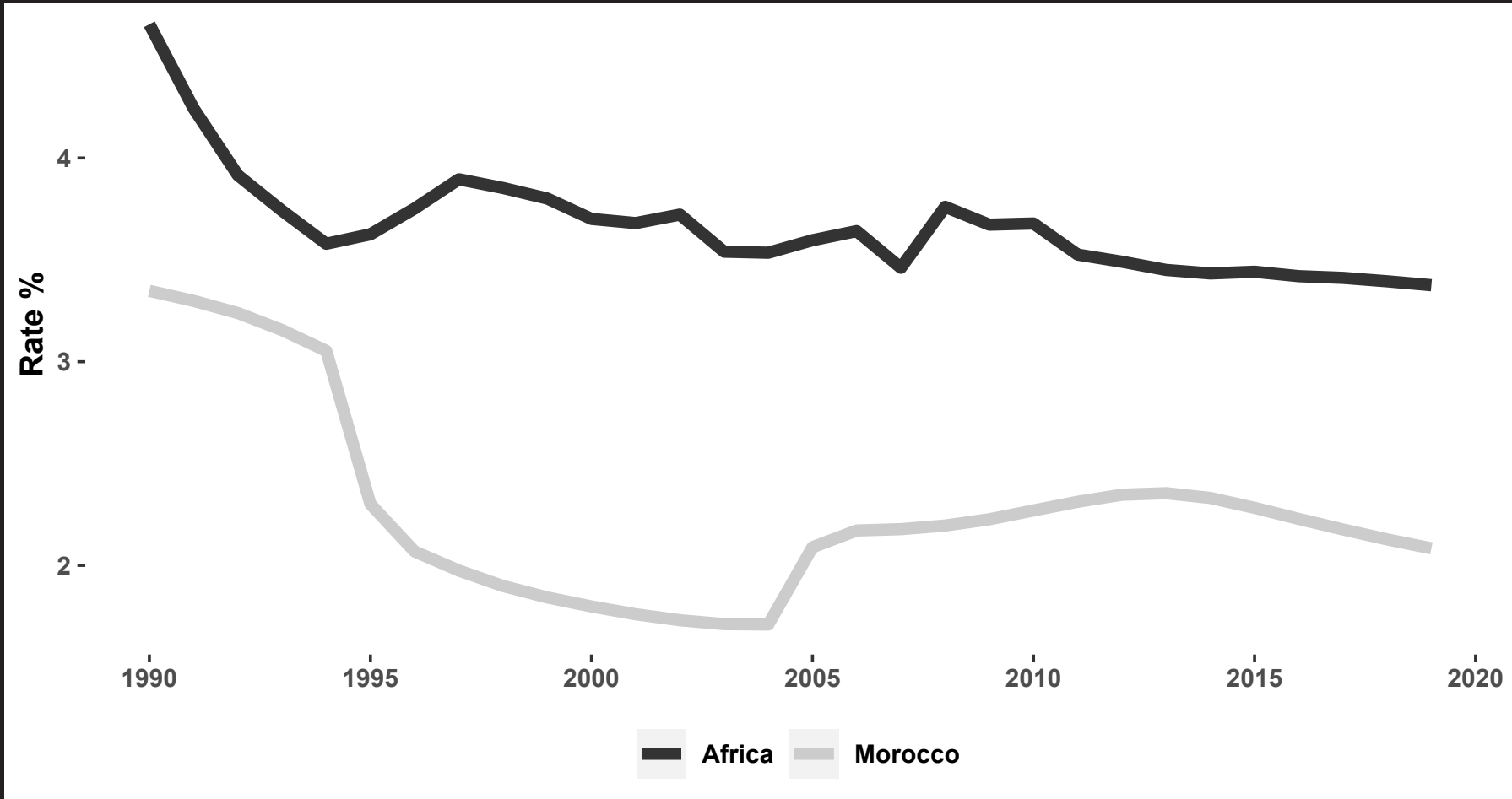
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



36.5 million

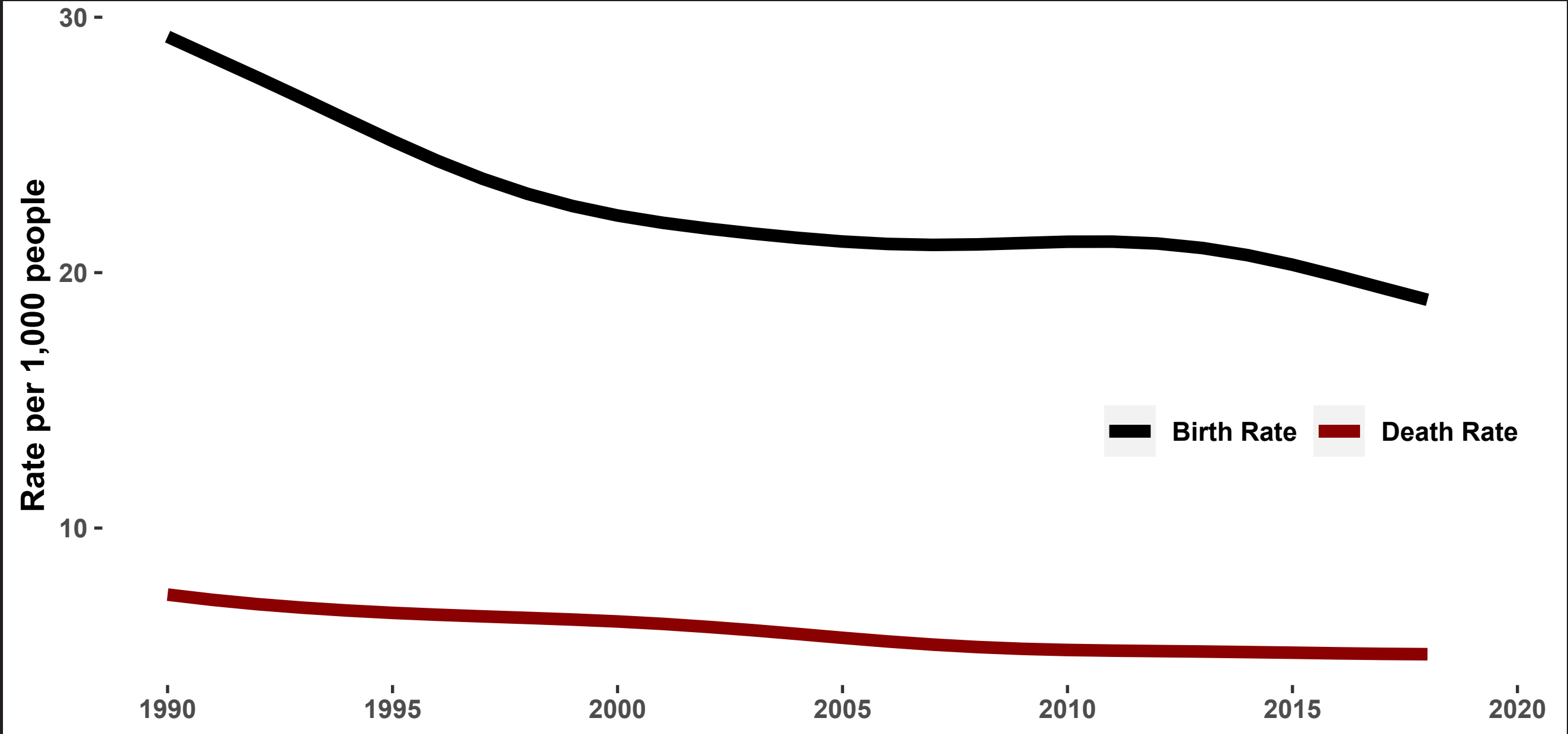
Morocco is one of nine African countries where the over-25 population is greater than the under-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Morocco has consistently urbanised at a slower rate than the rest of the continent.

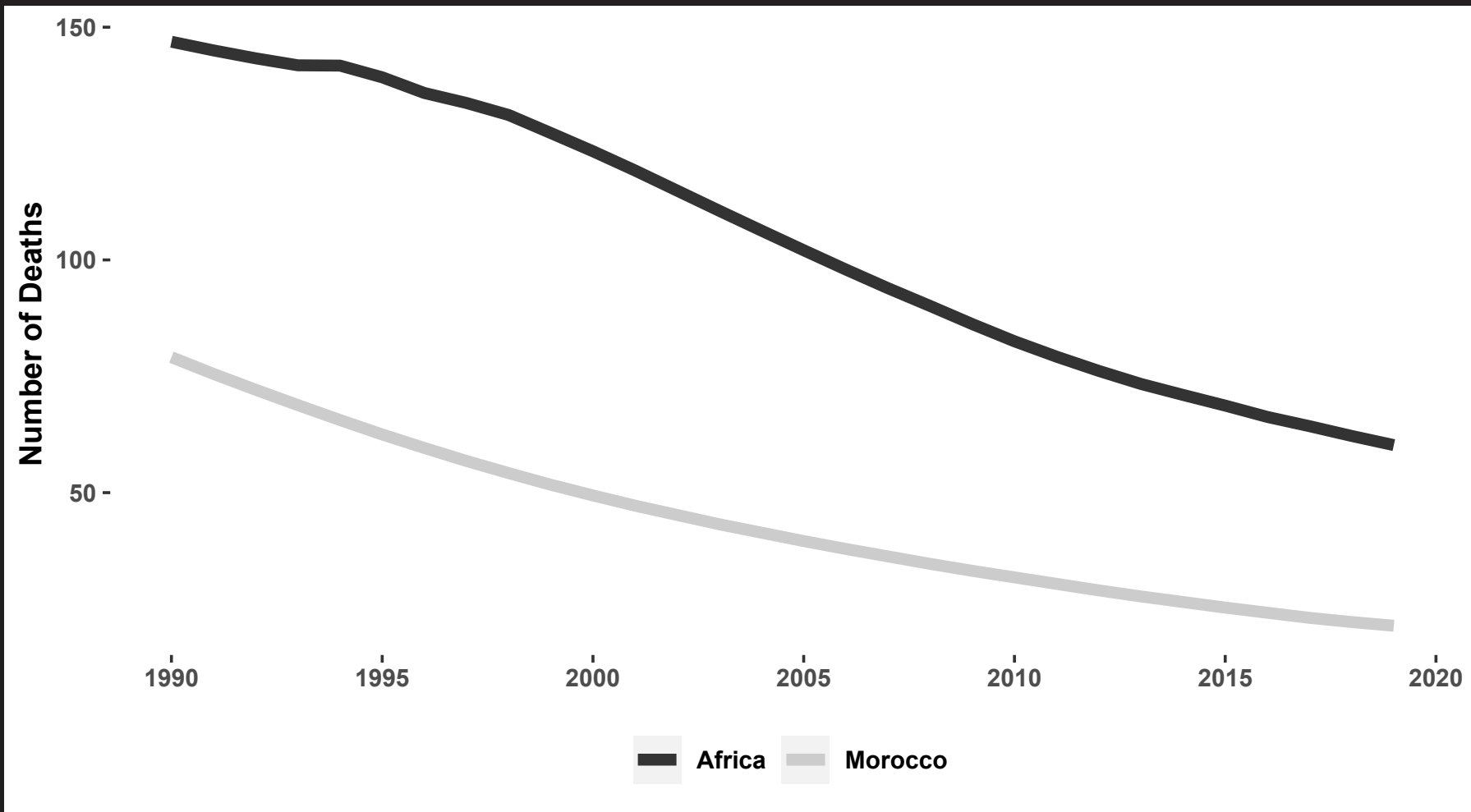
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Although the death rate in Morocco has remained relatively consistent over the past 30 years, a declining birth rate has meant that while the Moroccan population is still growing, it is doing so at a much slower pace than it was 30 years ago.

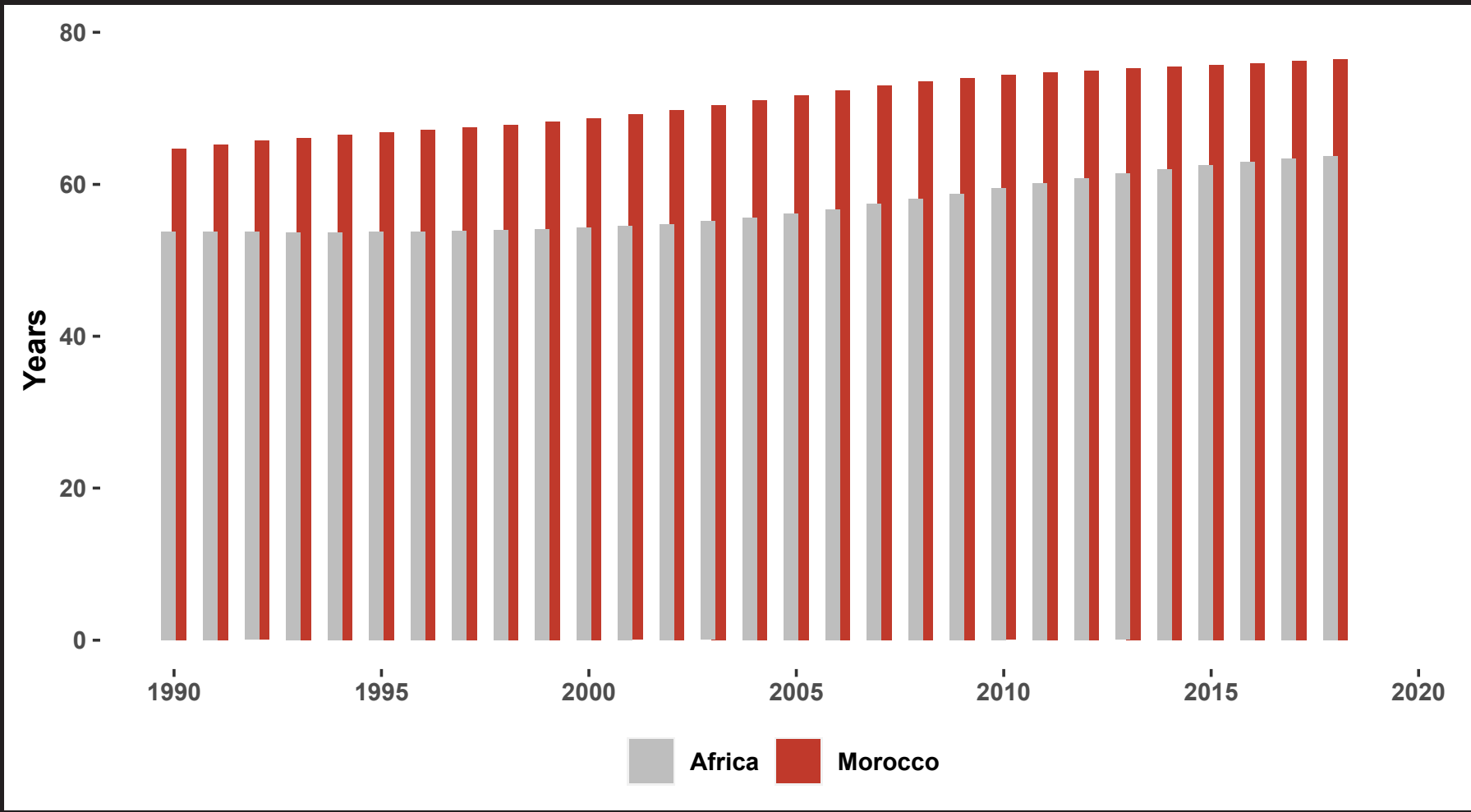
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



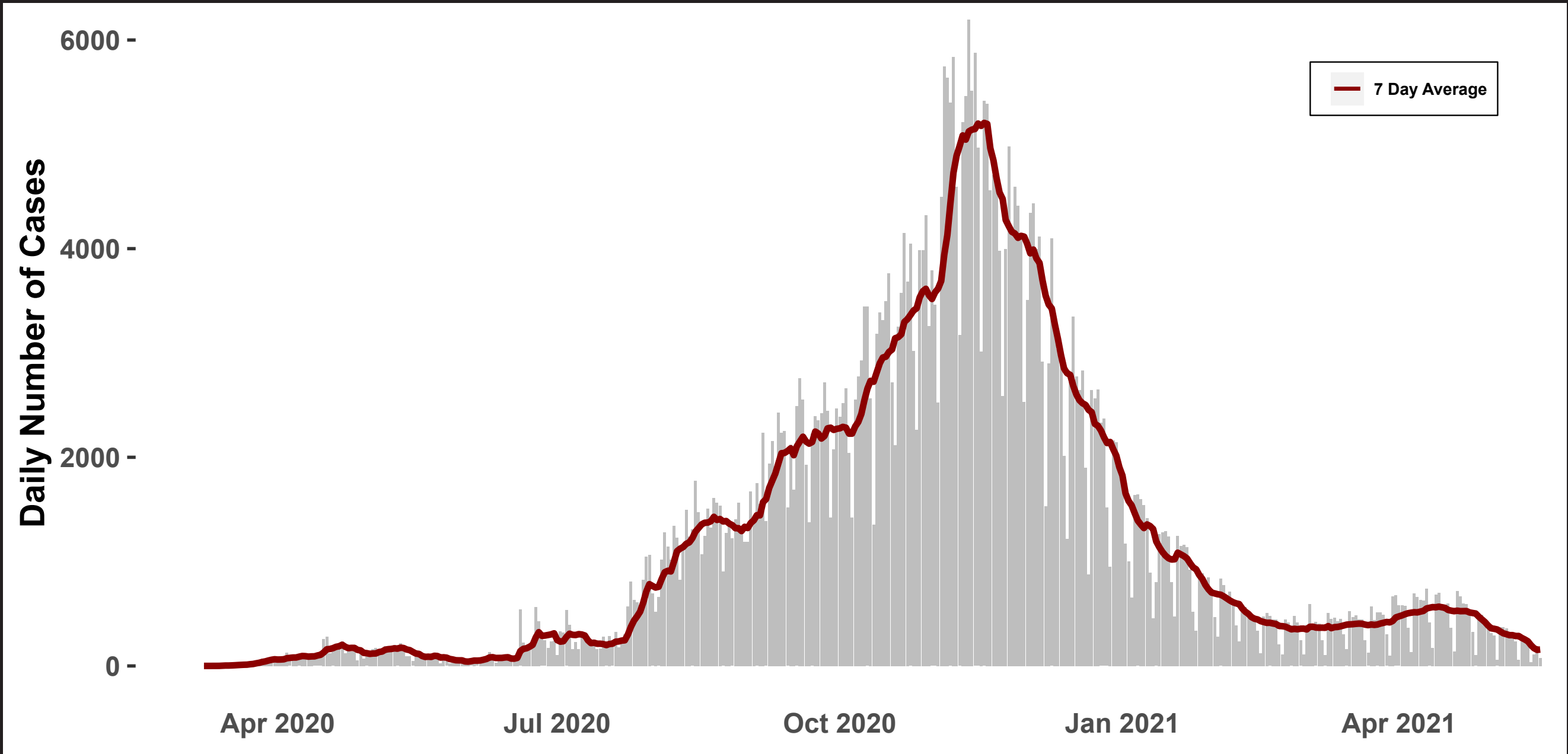
Morocco’s already low child mortality rate has steadily declined over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Morocco has slowly risen over the past three decades and continues to be well above the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Morocco has had one long Covid-19 wave stretching from August 2020 through January 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Steven Miller on Flickr.com



Thuya wood, native to Morocco, became the first timber to be used for dashboards in Rolls Royce vehicles.

Max Dawncat on Flickr.com



Founded in the 9th century, the ancient city of Fes is home to the world's oldest university and its largest medieval old city.

Matteo Martinello on Flickr.com

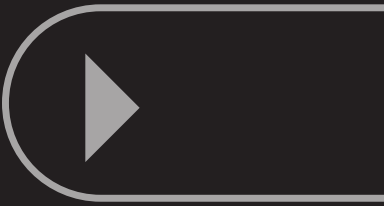
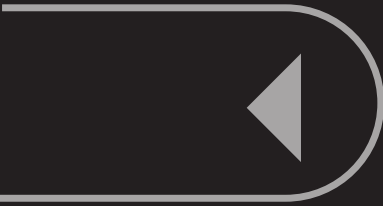


Winemaking in Morocco can be traced back some 2,000 years, when the Romans who had settled in northern Africa, began fermenting wine from the extensive local grape harvest.



MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique is located in south-eastern Africa bordered by the Indian Ocean, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Eswatini (Swaziland) and South Africa. The voyage of Vasco da Gama in 1498 marked the arrival of the Portuguese, who began a gradual process of colonisation and settlement in 1505. After more than four centuries of Portuguese rule, Mozambique gained independence in 1975. The country’s economy is based largely on agriculture, but industry is growing, mainly food and beverages, chemical manufacturing and aluminium and petroleum production. Since 2001, Mozambique’s annual average GDP growth has been among the world’s highest. However, the country is still one of the poorest and most underdeveloped in the world. Protected areas of Mozambique include 13 forest reserves, seven national parks, six nature reserves, three frontier conservation areas and three wildlife or game reserves. The official currency is the Mozambican metical.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Filipe Nyusi



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

JUNE

25

SINCE 1975



CAPITAL CITY
Maputo

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

181

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

40



MAIN LANGUAGES
Portuguese

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES

NEXT DATE
2024

SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE
Multi-party republic



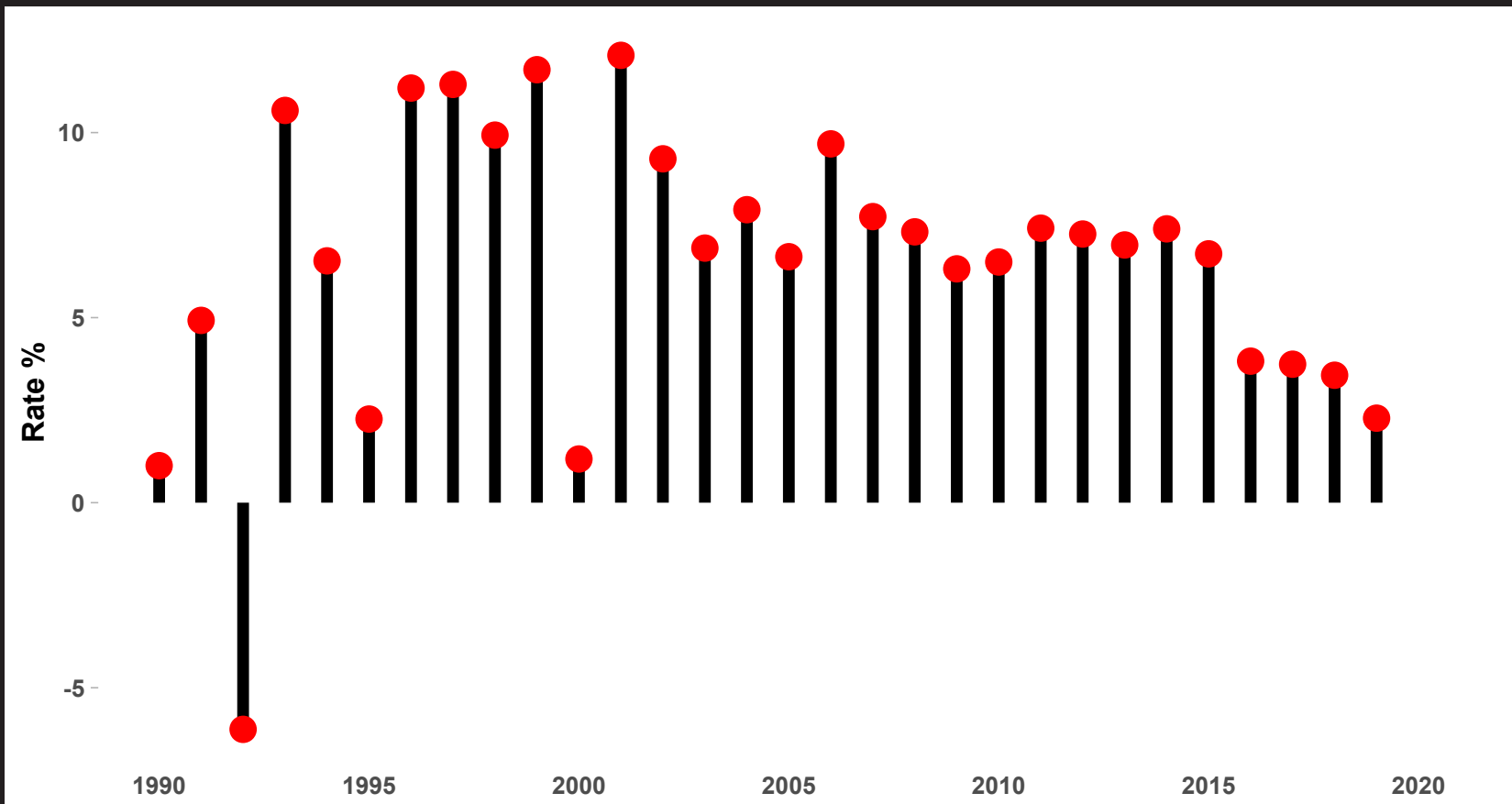
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Liberation Front of Mozambique (FRELIMO)



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Mozambican National Resistance (RENAMO)

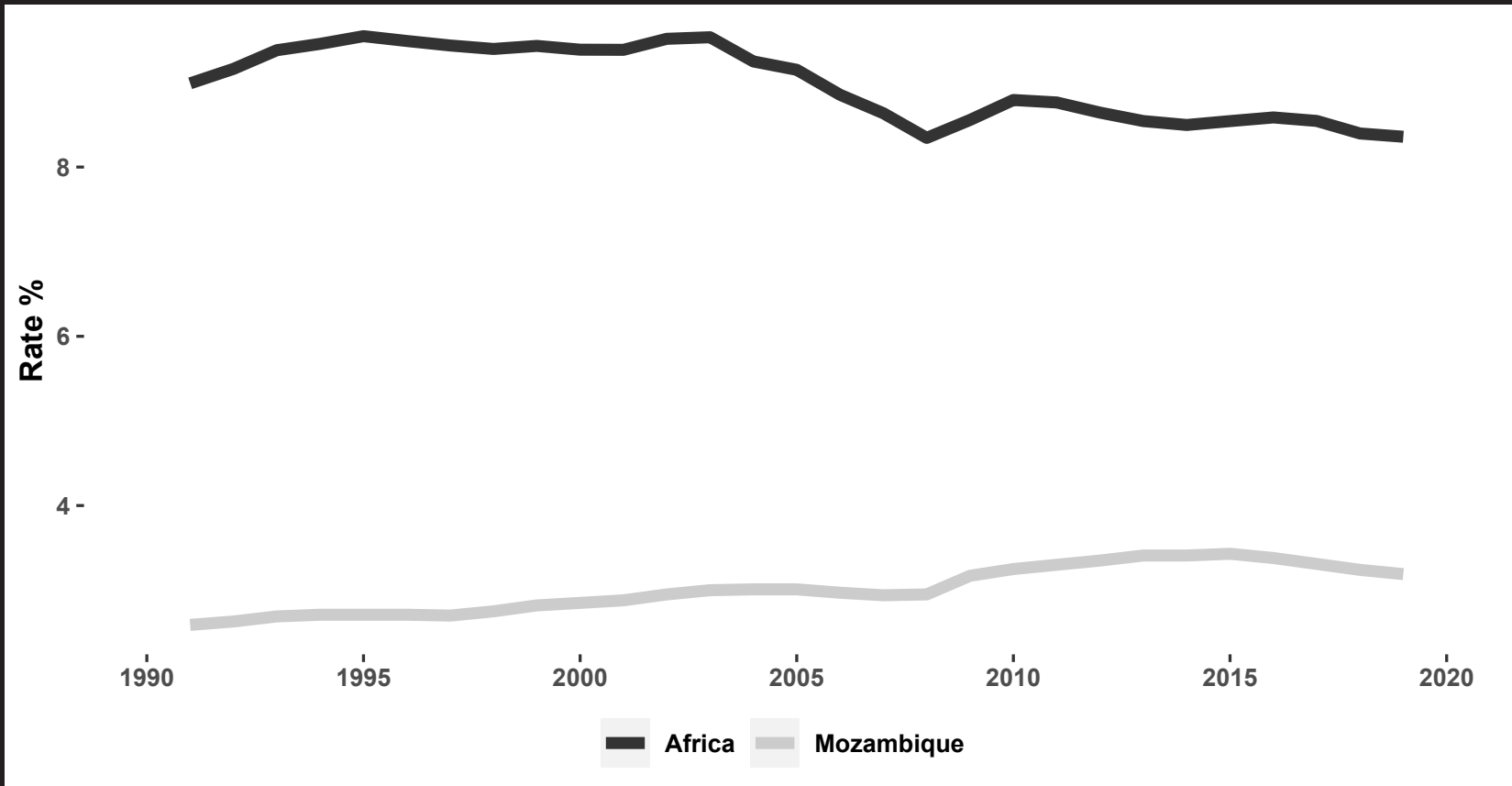
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



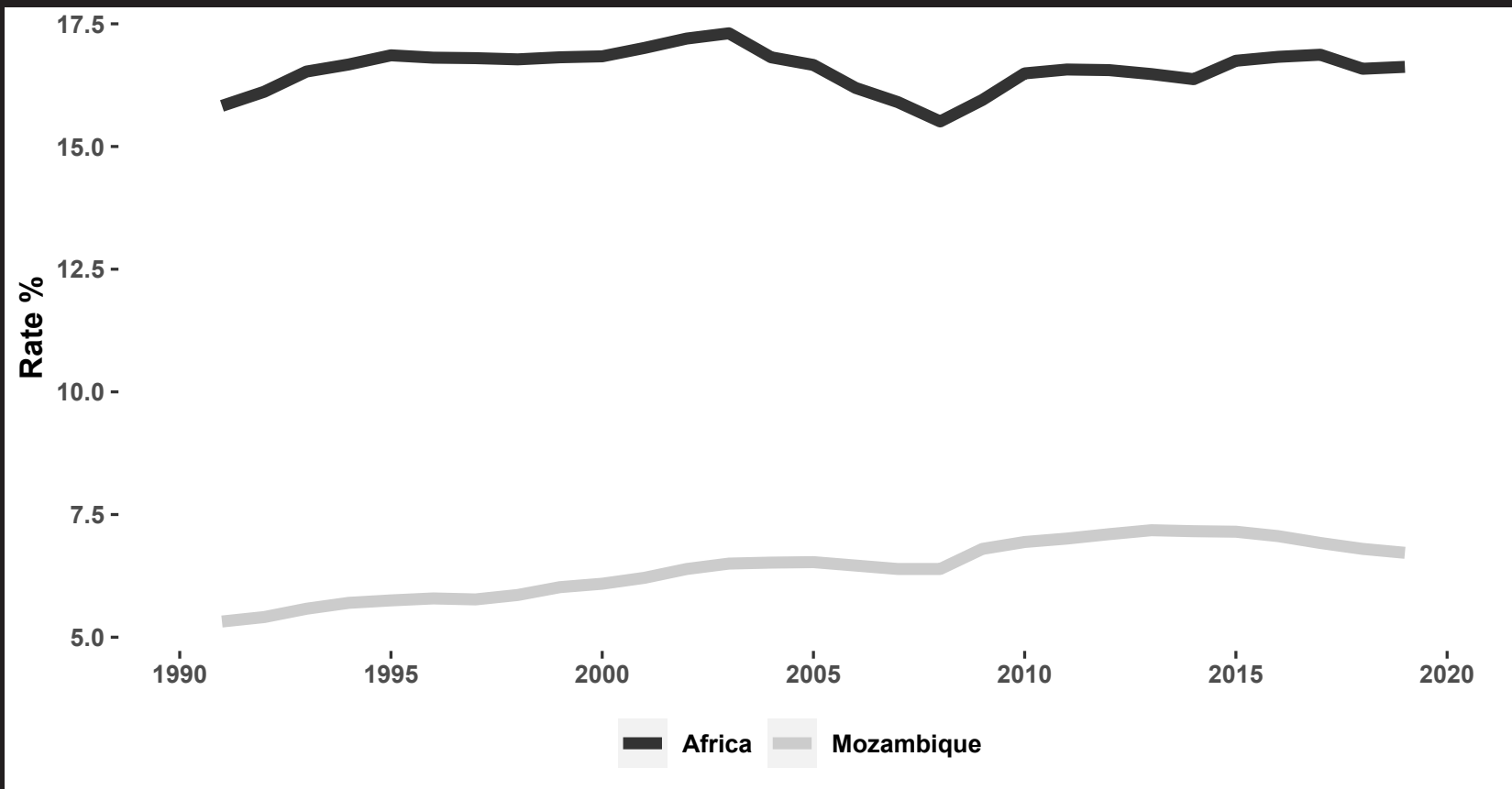
Mozambique has seen a continuous economic expansion since 1993 when the civil war ended.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



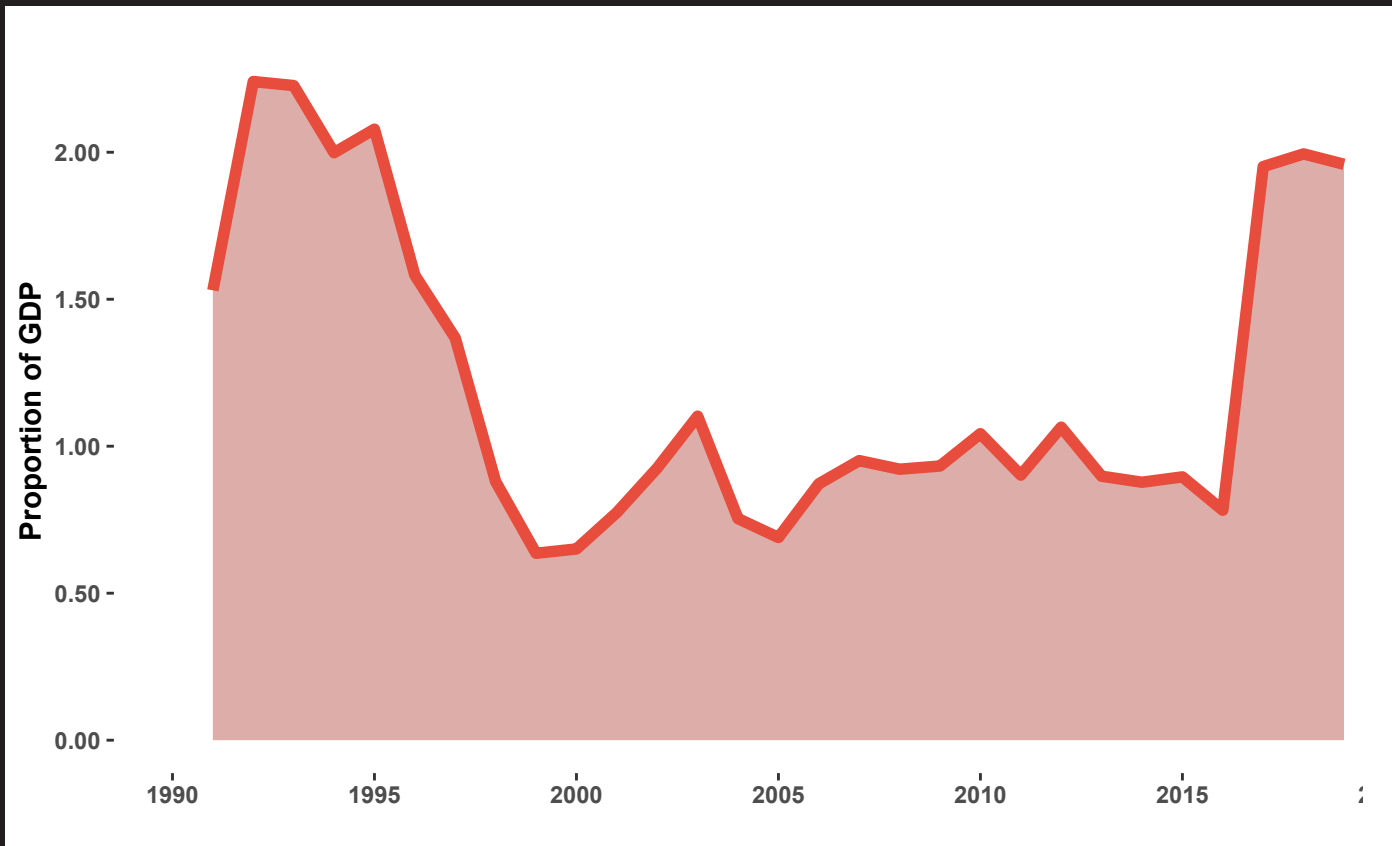
Mozambique has had an unemployment rate consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Mozambique has had a youth unemployment rate consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$299.6 million

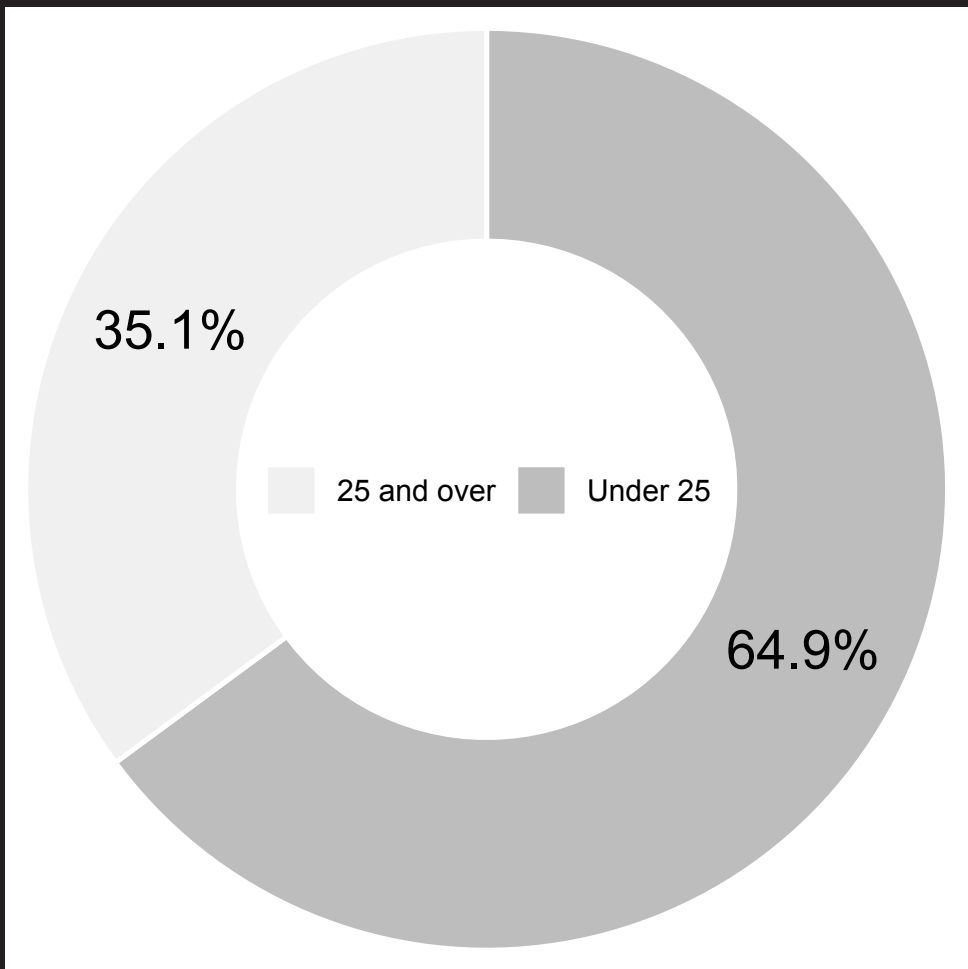
which represents

1.96% of GDP

Since 1990 the proportion of GDP accounted for through remittances has consistently been between 0.5 and 2.5% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

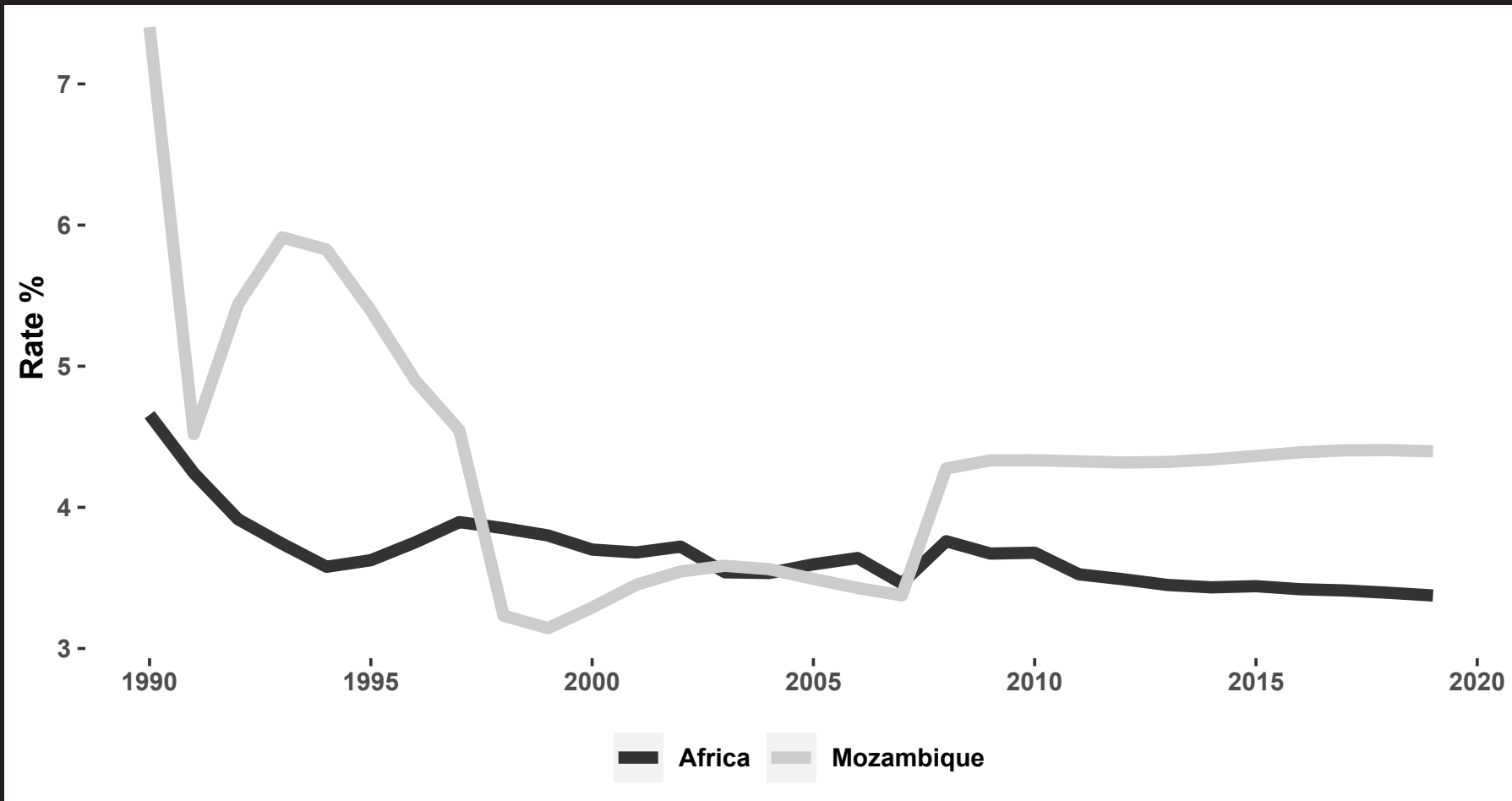
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



30.4 million

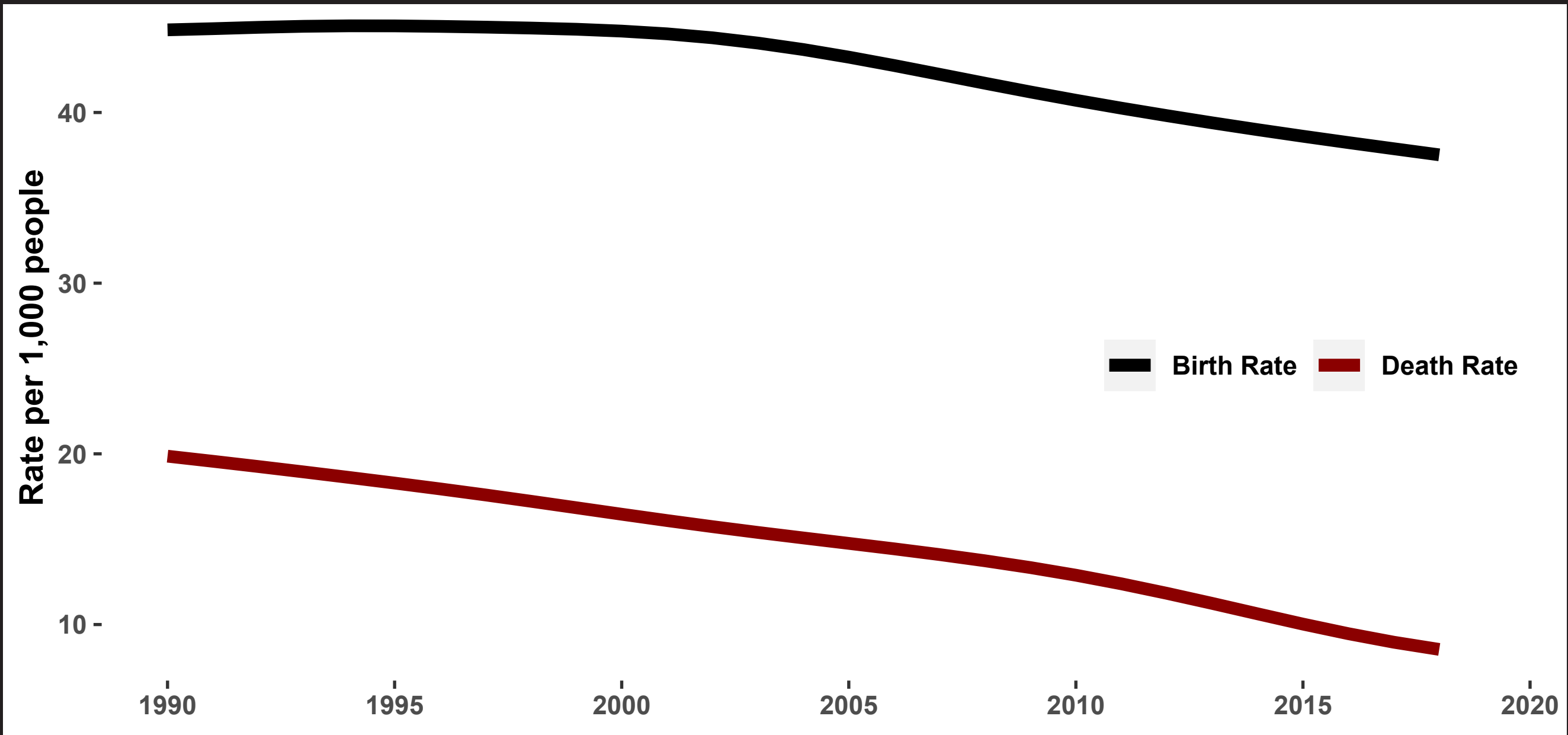
In line with continental trends, the majority of Mozambique’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



After fluctuating widely during the 1990s, the urbanisation rate in Mozambique has tracked closely with the African average since 2000.

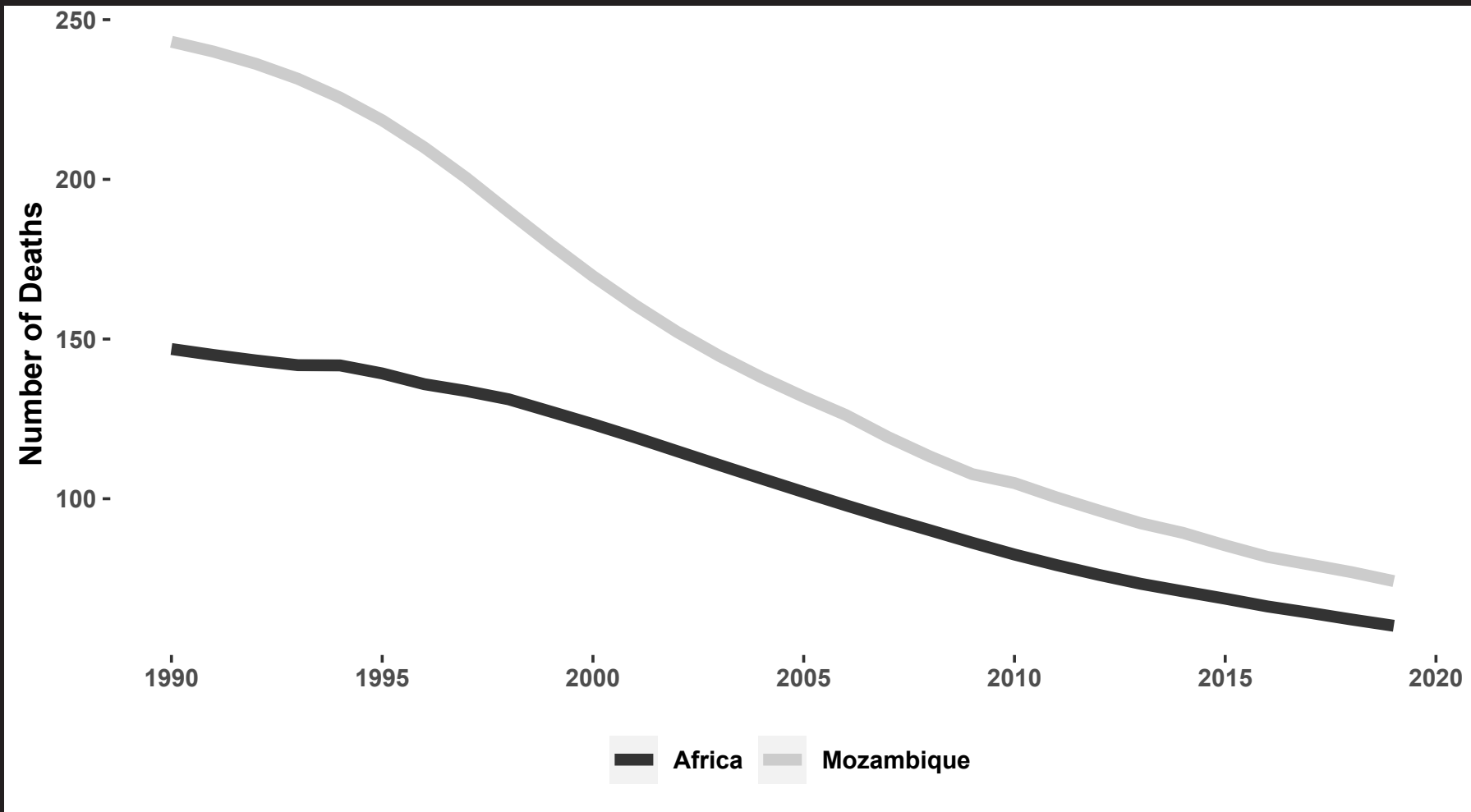
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Mozambique has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

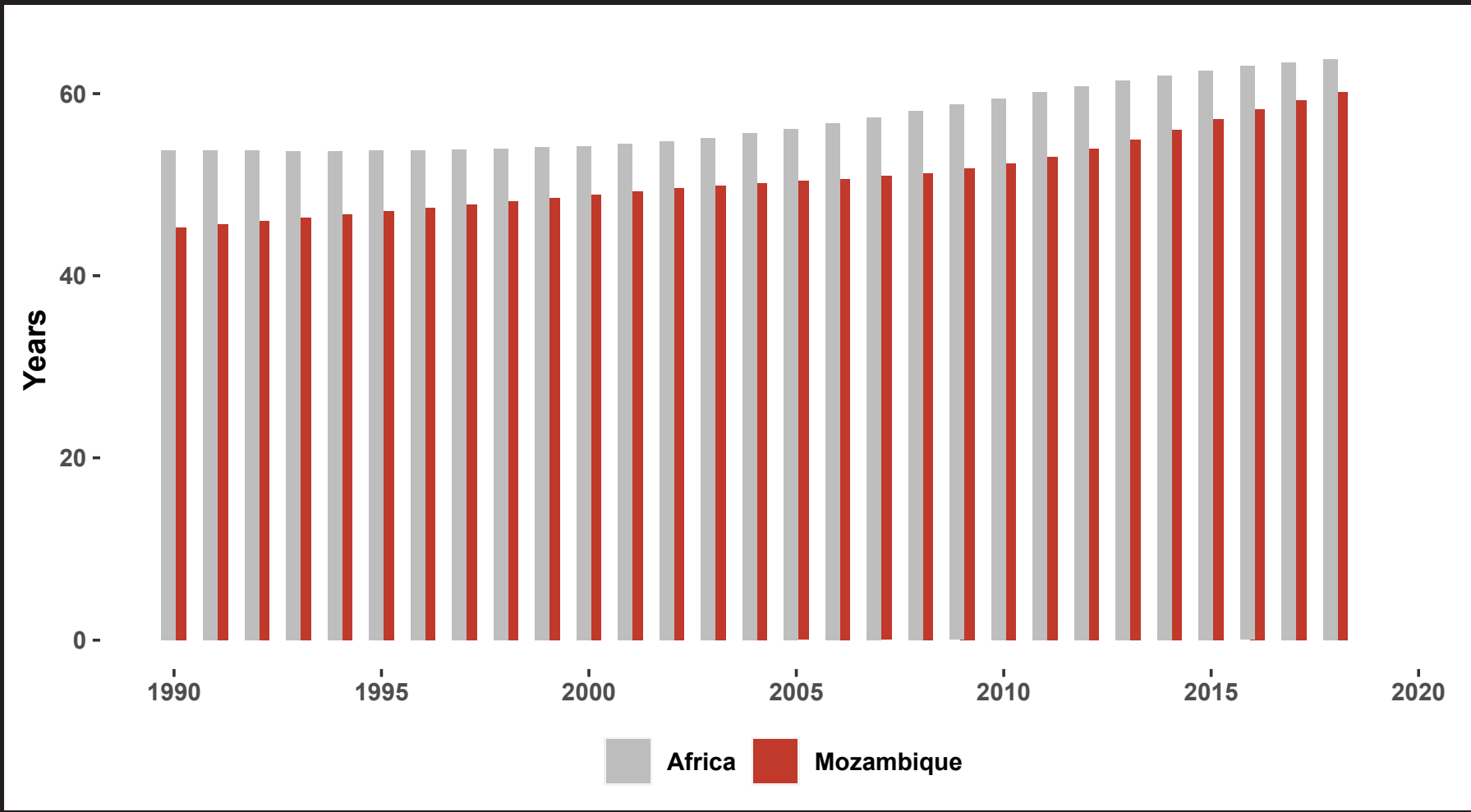
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



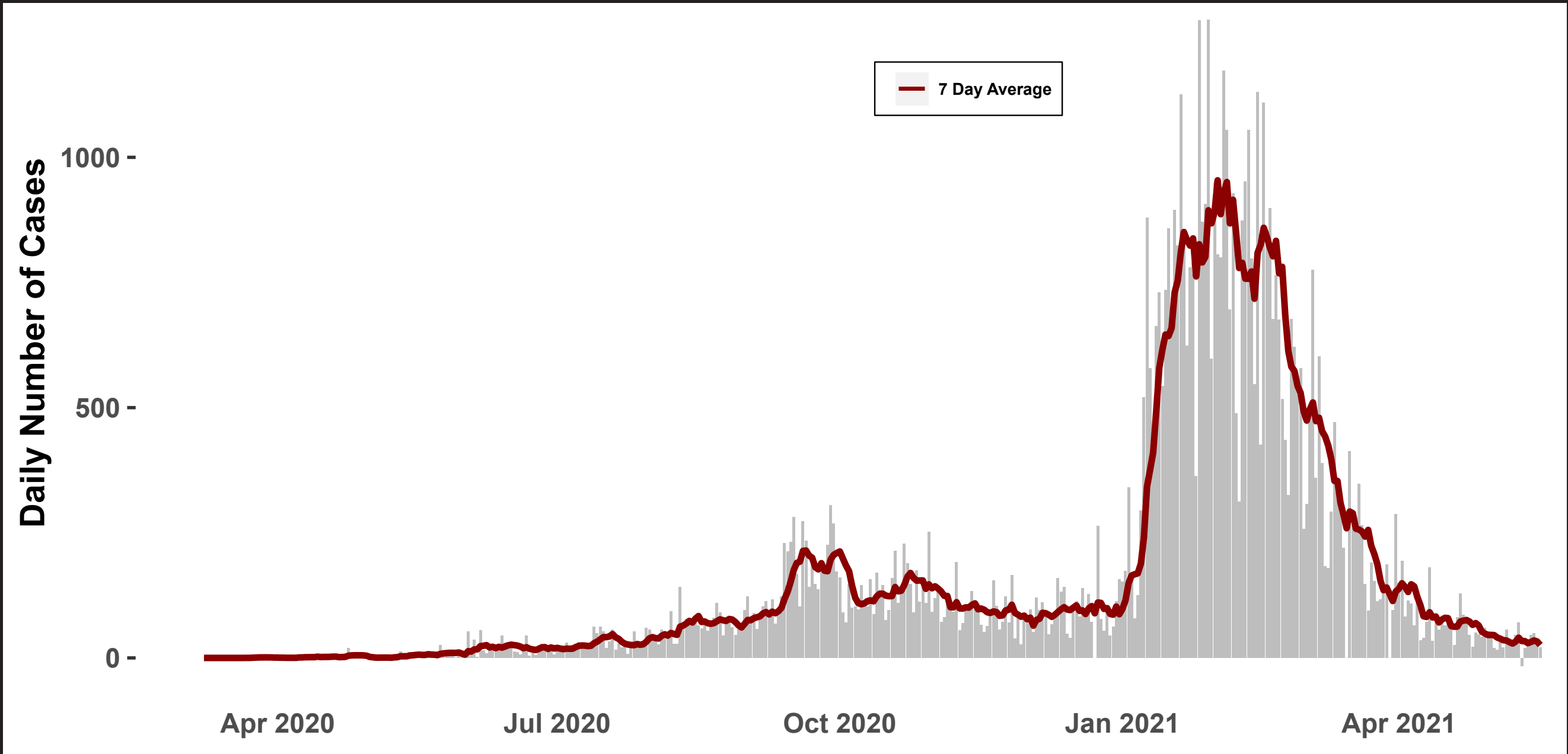
Mozambique has seen a rapid decline in its child mortality rate over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Mozambique has slightly increased over the past three decades but continues to lag the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Mozambique has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in February/March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Stig Nygaard on Flickr.com



Mozambique got its name from an Arab sheikh who ruled over the northern part of the country when the Portuguese arrived in the area. The sheik's name was supposedly Mussa bin biki, Ali Musa Mbiki, or Musa Al Big.

Stig Nygaard on Flickr.com



The country's population is incredibly young. An estimated 45% of the population is under 15 years of age.

Gustavo Sugahara on Flickr.com



Maputo, the capital city, was the backdrop for many dramatic scenes in the movie Blood Diamond, starring Leonardo Di Caprio, about the realities of the illegal diamond trade in Africa. As filming could not be done in Sierra Leone's real capital of Freetown, Maputo served as a substitute.



NAMIBIA

Namibia is on the western coast of southern Africa, bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, Zambia, Angola, Botswana and South Africa. The driest country in sub-Saharan Africa, Namibia has been inhabited since early times by the San, Damara and Nama people. In 1878, the Cape of Good Hope, then a British colony, annexed the port of Walvis Bay and the offshore Penguin Islands; these became an integral part of the new Union of South Africa at its creation in 1910. In 1884 the German empire established rule over most of the territory, forming a colony known as German South West Africa. It developed farming and infrastructure. Between 1904 and 1908 it perpetrated a genocide against the Herero and Nama people. German rule ended in 1915 with a defeat by South African forces. Namibia gained independence from South Africa on 21 March, 1990, following the Namibian War of Independence. The official currency is the Namibian dollar.

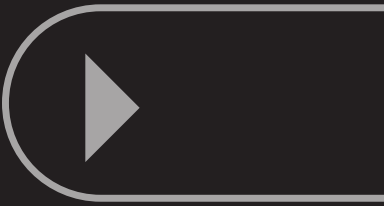
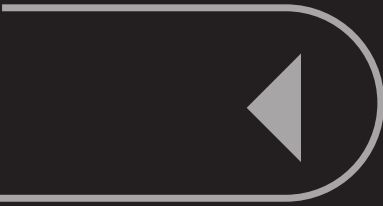
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Hage Geingob



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE

MARCH

21

SINCE 1990



CAPITAL CITY
Windhoek

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

130

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

30



MAIN LANGUAGES

English (Main Official),
Oshiwambo (most spoken)

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES

NEXT DATE

2024

VOTE

SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Semi-presidential representative democratic republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

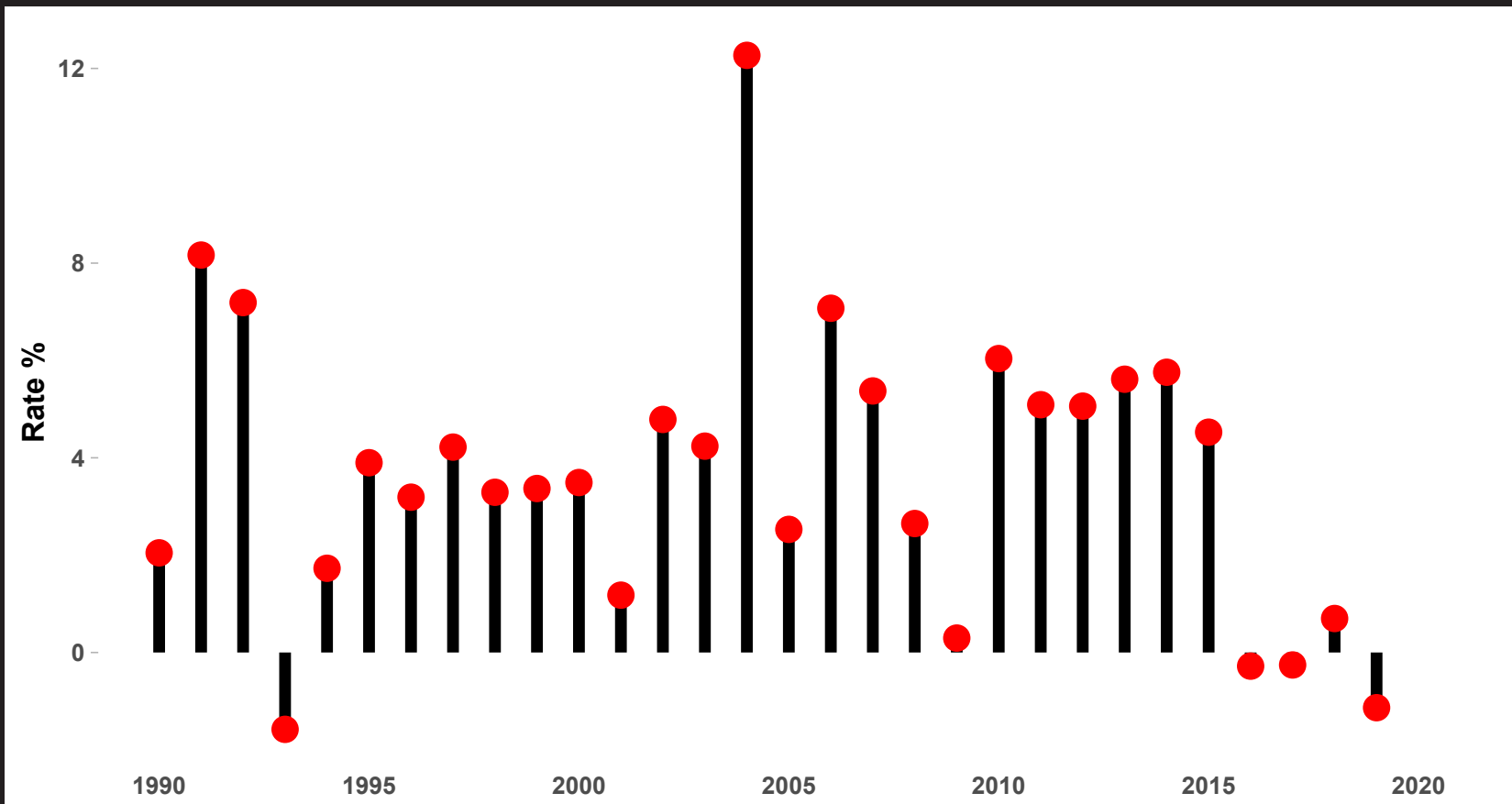
South West Africa People's
Organisation (SWAPO)

MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Popular Democratic Movement

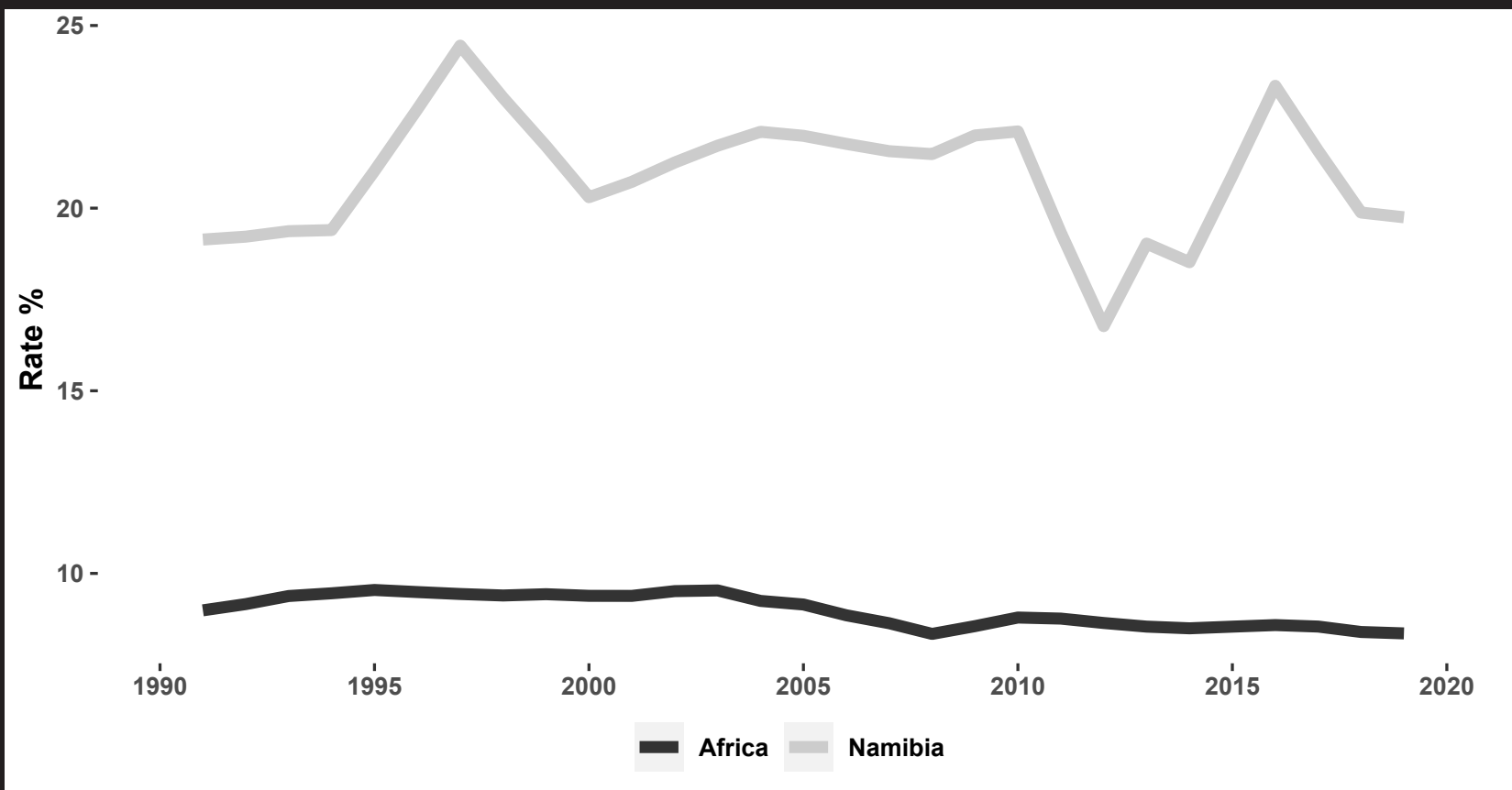
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



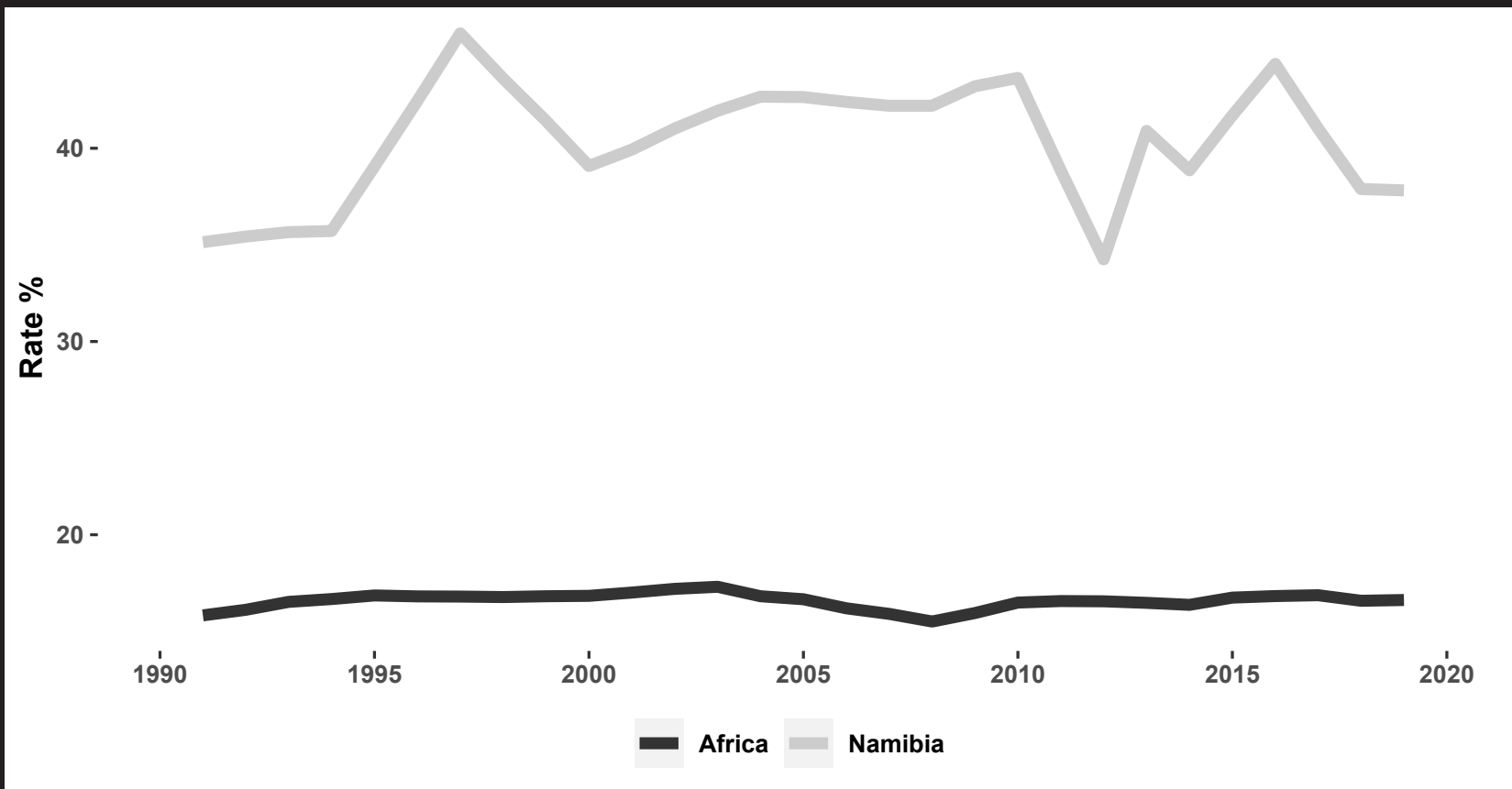
Between 1994 and 2015 Namibia experienced an extended period of economic growth. However, since 2016 the Namibian economy has been stagnant.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



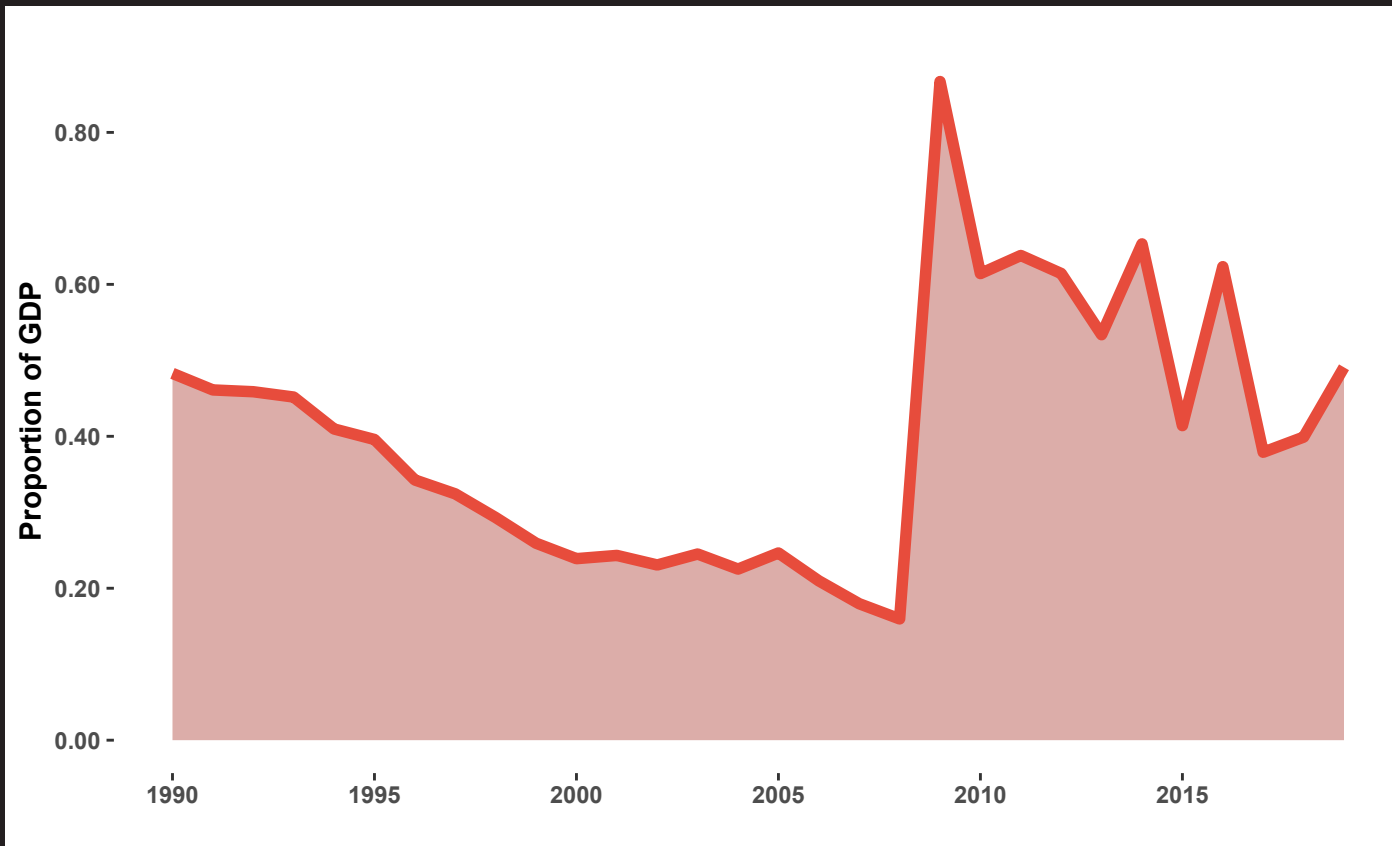
Namibia’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Namibia’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$60.7 million

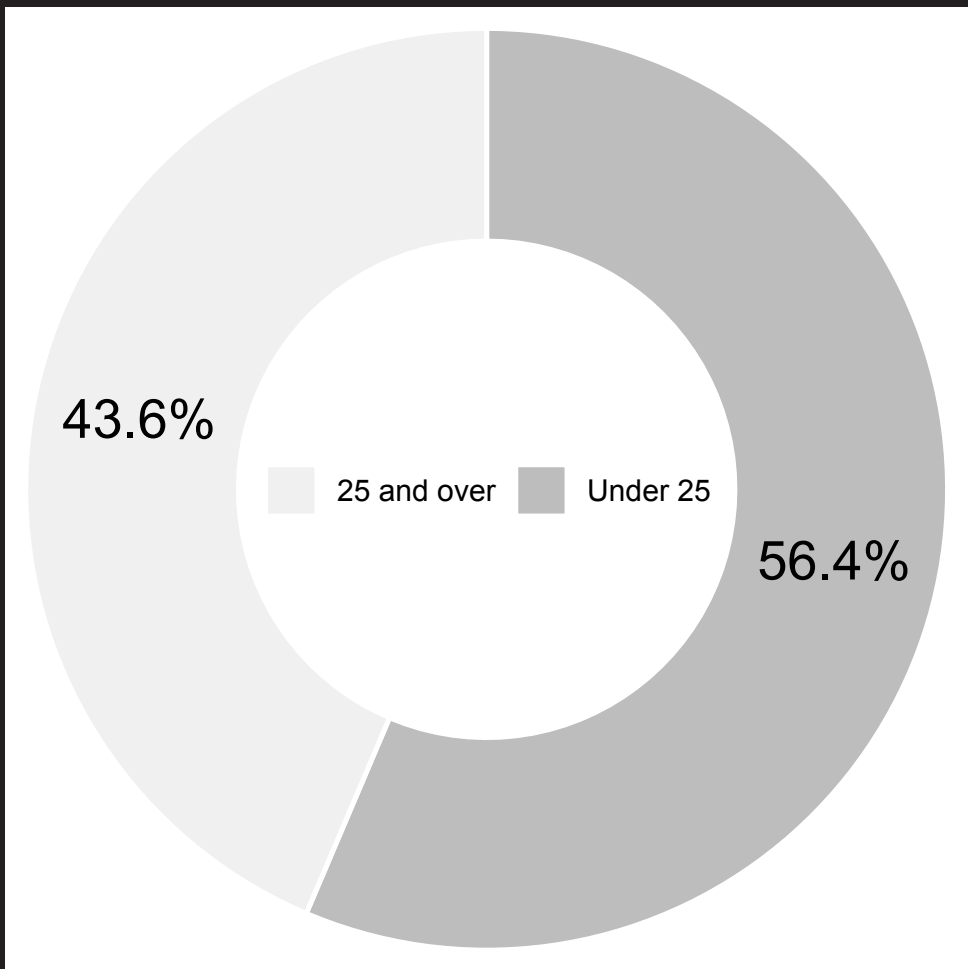
which represents

0.49% of GDP

Namibia is one of the African countries which is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

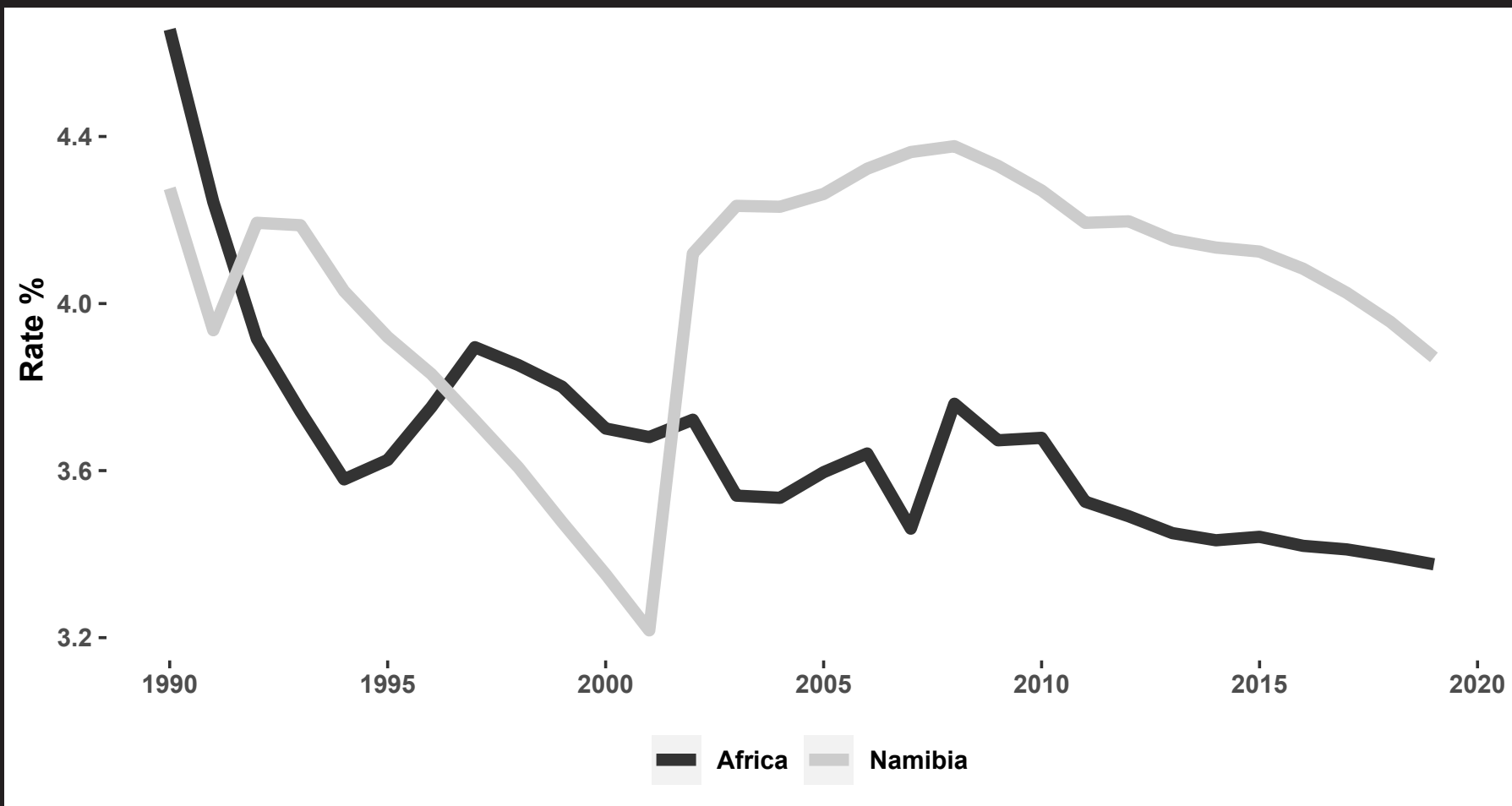
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



2.49 million

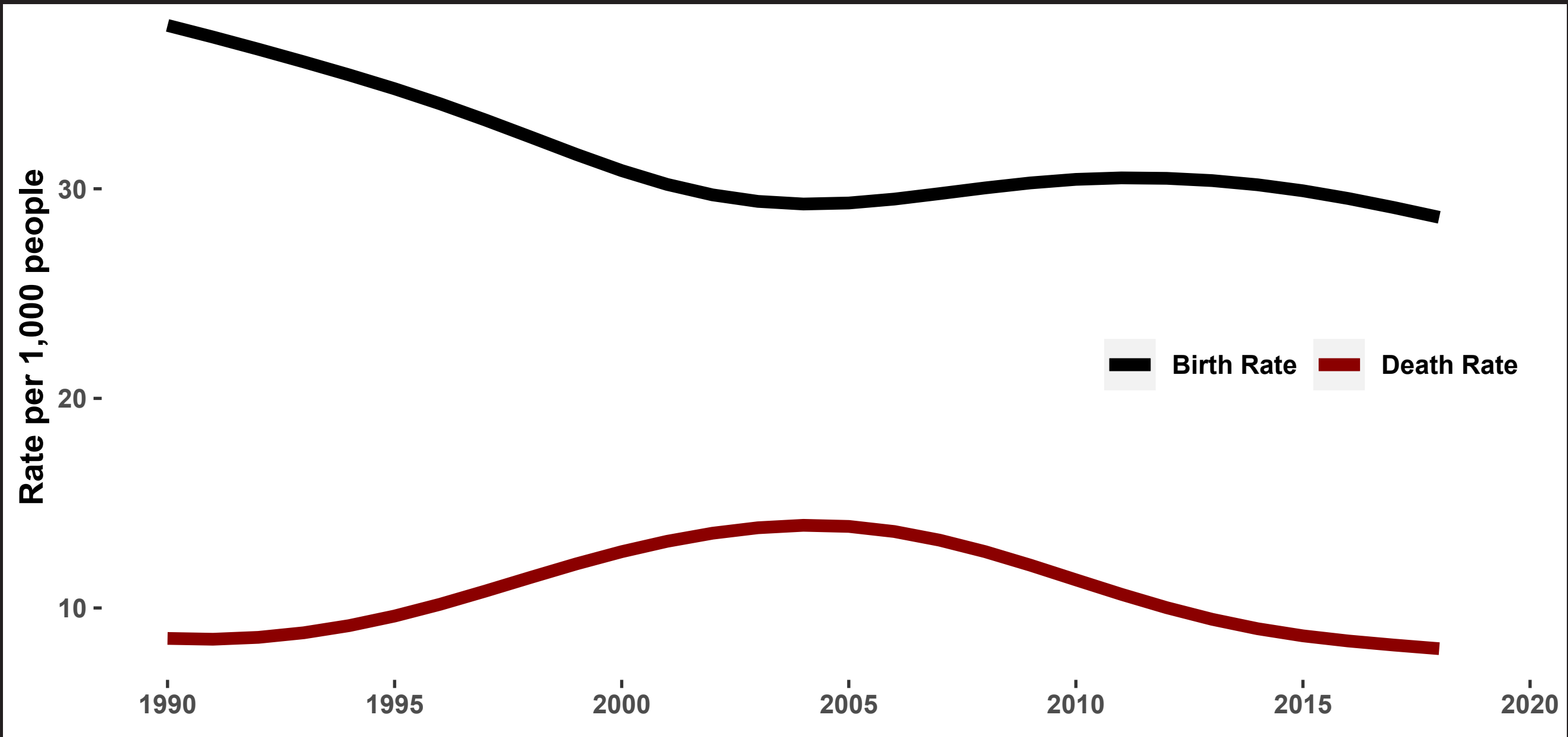
In line with continental trends, the majority of Namibia’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Namibia’s urbanisation rate has tracked closely to the African average over the past 30 years.

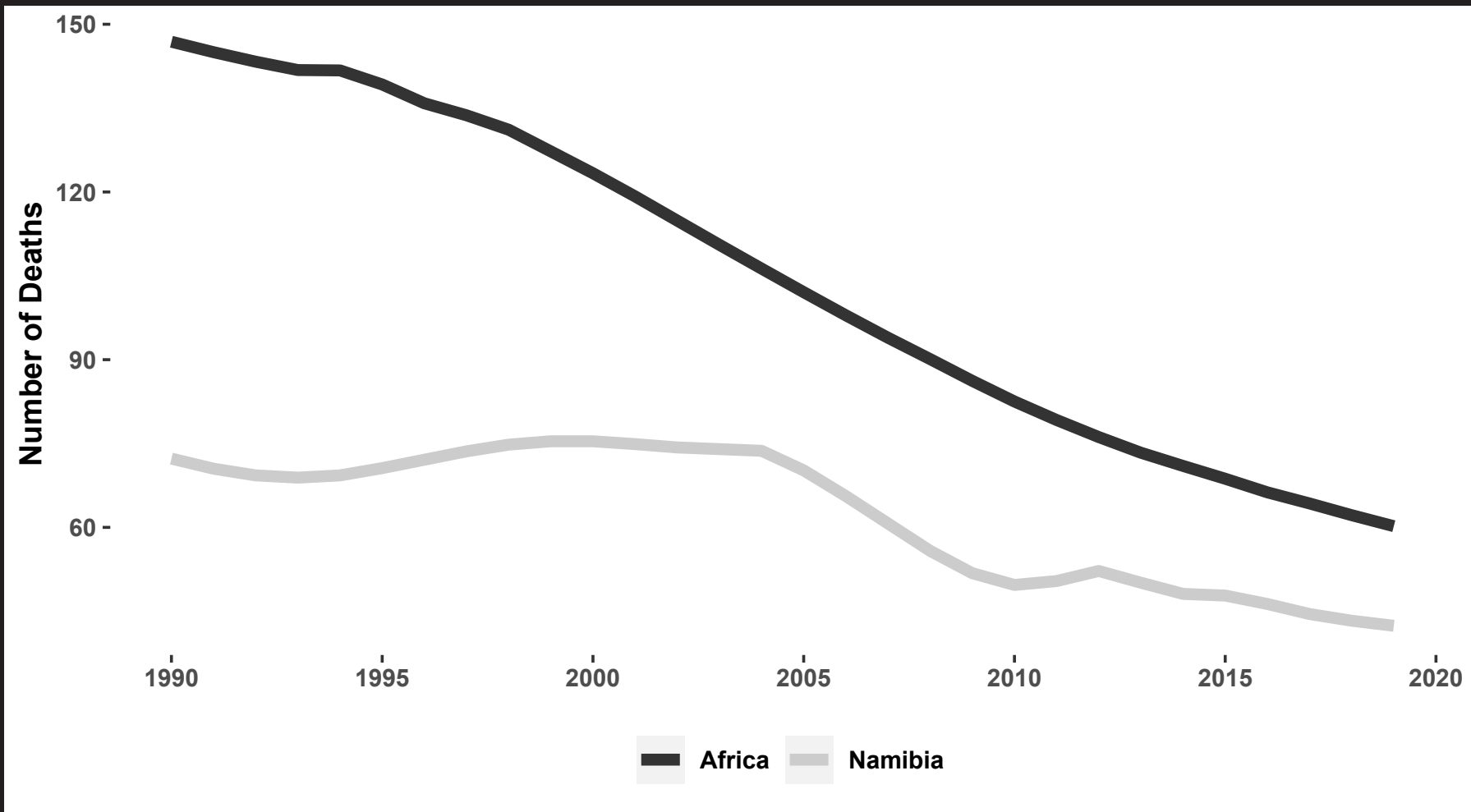
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Although there has been a relative decline in Namibia’s birth rate over the past 30 years, the death rate increased during the peak of the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the early 2000s. This meant that population growth slowed rapidly during this period – although this has recovered in the interim years.

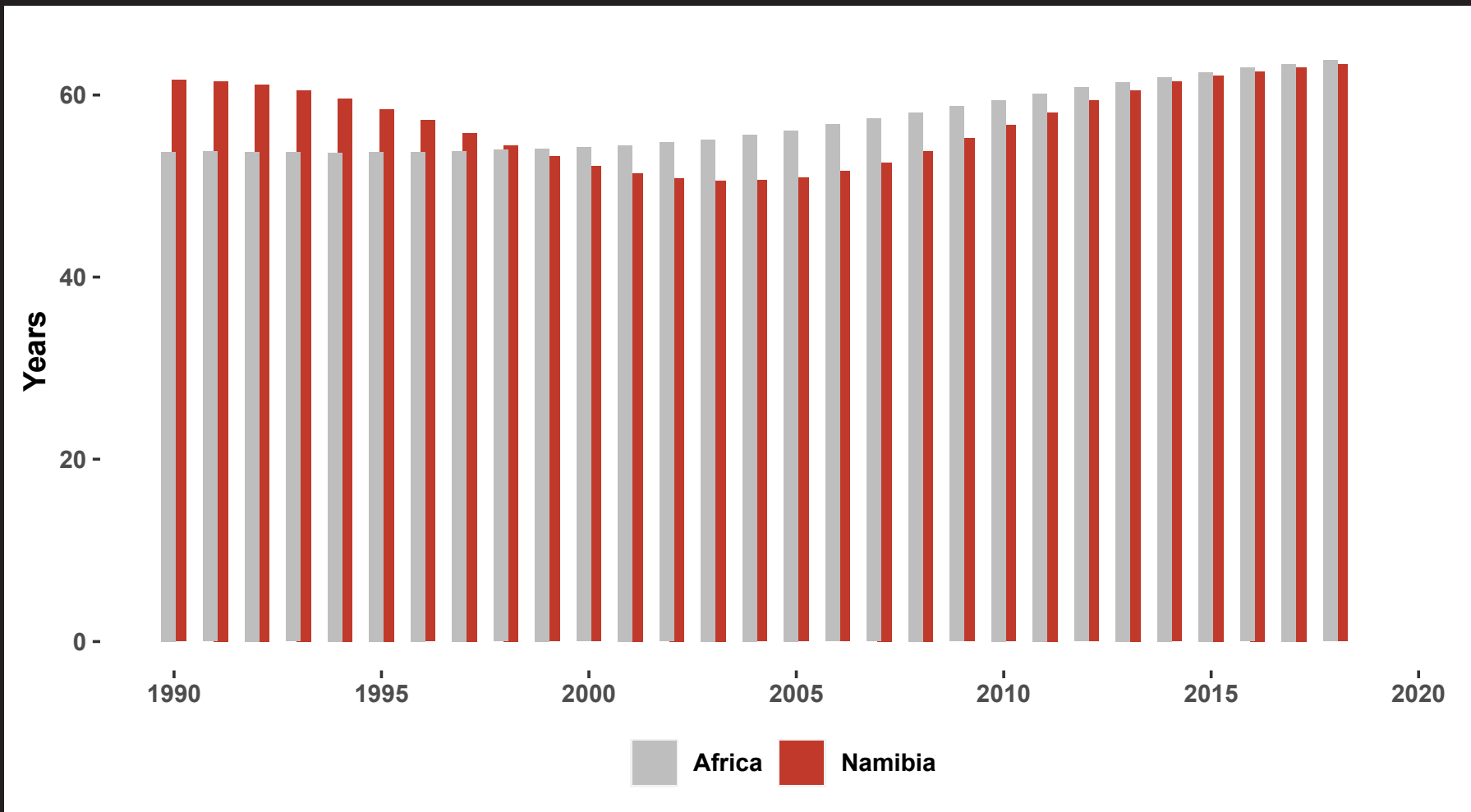
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



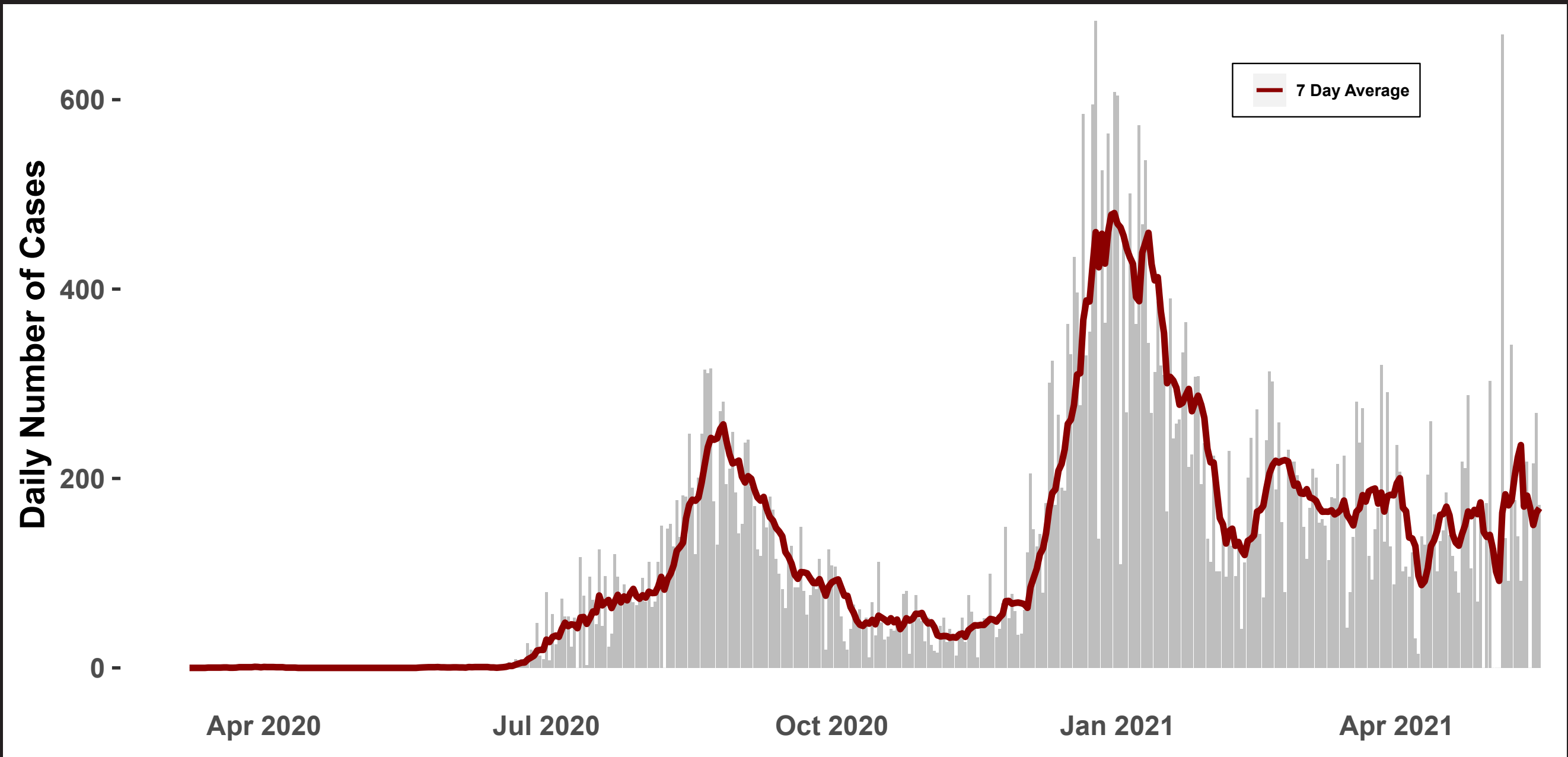
Although Namibia’s child mortality rate has been consistently lower than the African average, the HIV/AIDS epidemic meant that there was an uncharacteristic stagnation in the child mortality rate between 1990 and 2005.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Namibia’s life expectancy at the turn of the 21st century experienced a decline due to the severity of the HIV/ AIDS epidemic. Since 2005 life expectancy in Namibia started to increase again and by 2015 was once again in line with the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Namibia has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in August-September 2020 and January-April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Jon Evans on Flickr.com



Shifting sand dunes, gravel plains, and rugged mountains make up this extremely arid eco-region. The Namib Desert, the world's oldest desert, has been around for at least 55 million years.

Heribert Bechen on Flickr.com



Namibia has one of the largest concentrations of rock art in Africa.

Ian Cochrane on Flickr.com



The 700 km Skeleton Coast, one of the most pristine and fascinating wilderness areas in Africa, is the world's biggest gravesite for sailors and ships.



NIGER

Niger is a landlocked country in West Africa named after the Niger River. It is bordered by Libya, Chad, Nigeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali and Algeria. More than 80% of its land area lies in the Sahara Desert. Before France incorporated the region as part of its colonial African possessions in the early 20th century, the area was subject to conflicts between various kingdoms and tribes. After independence from France in 1960, Niger fell victim to a series of coups and political instability. Despite the fact that the country has some of the world’s largest uranium deposits, Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world. Most of the people derive their income from agriculture and stock raising and are highly vulnerable to periodic droughts and desertification. The official currency is the CFA franc.

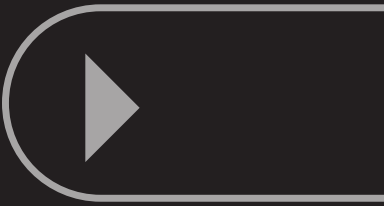
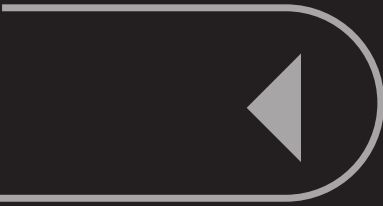
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

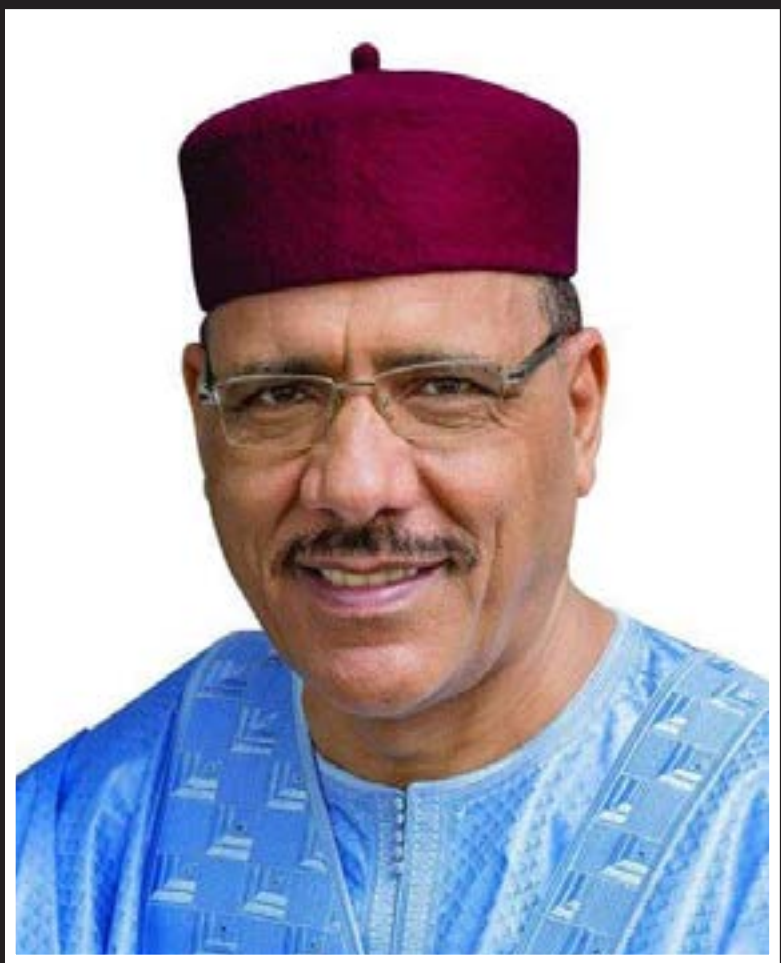
DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Mohamed Bazoum



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Niamey

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

189

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

20



MAIN LANGUAGES

French (Main Official),
Hausa (most spoken)

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Semi-presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Nigerien Party for Democracy and Socialism

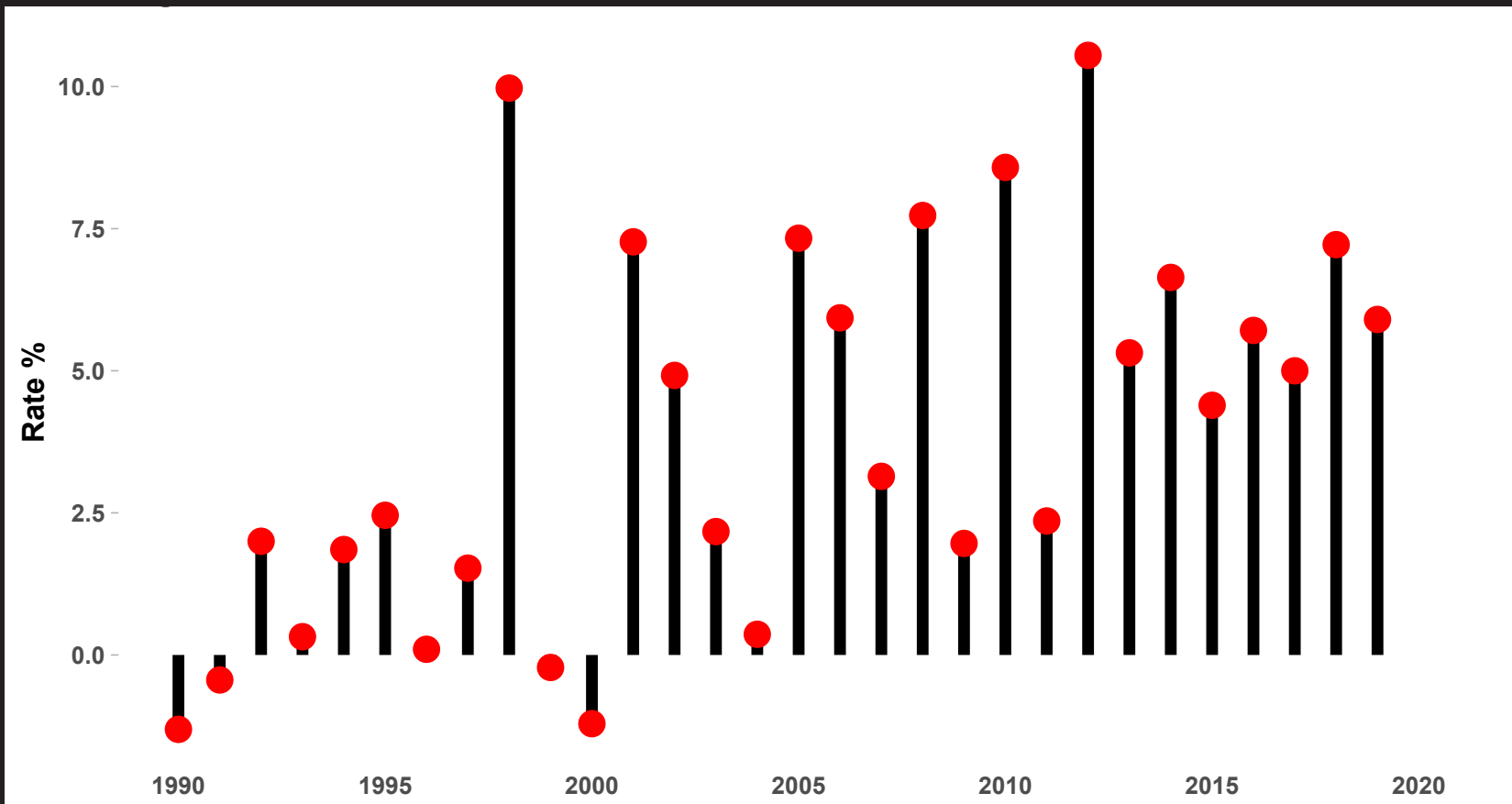


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Nigerien Democratic Movement for an African Federation

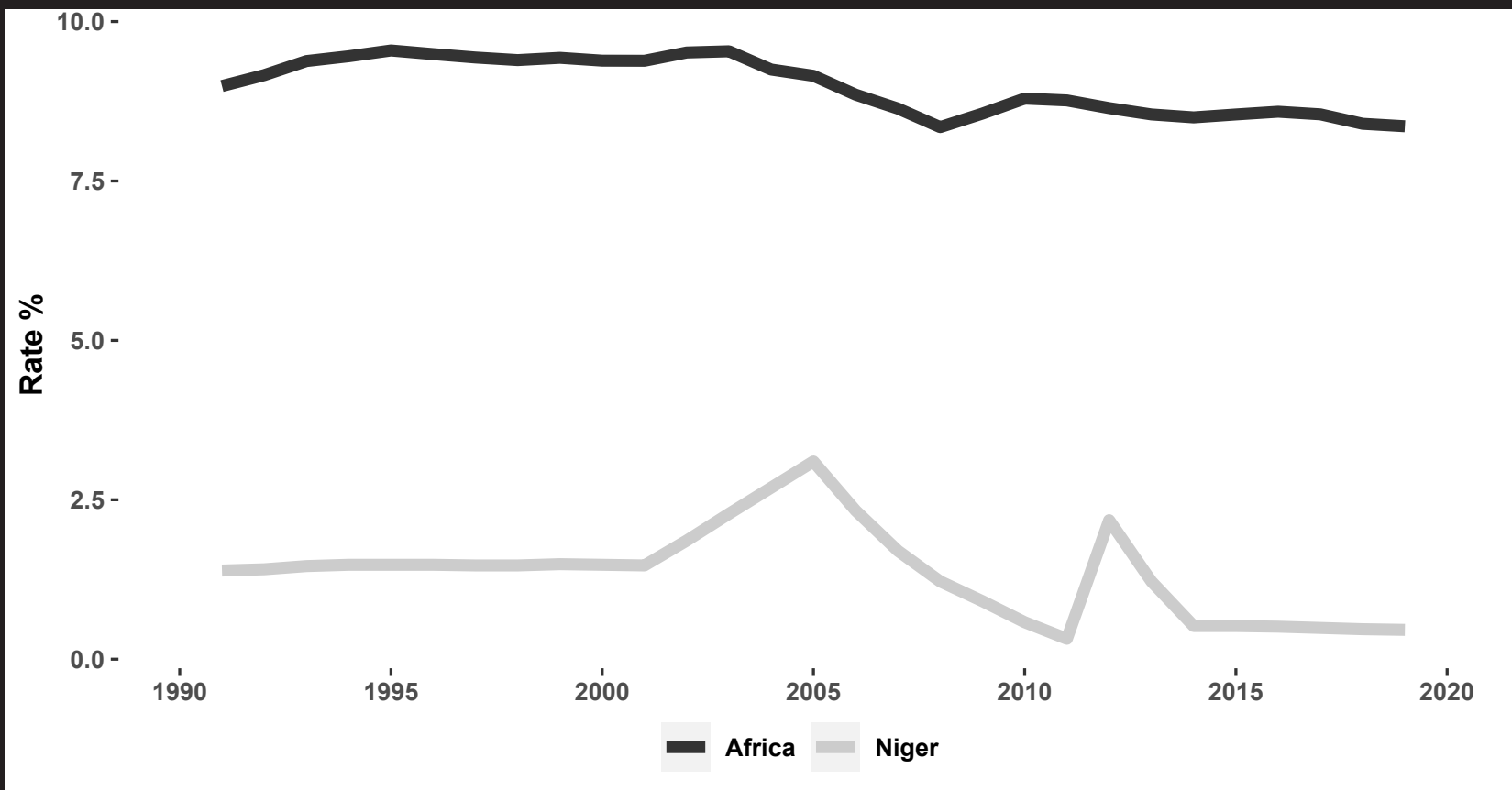
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



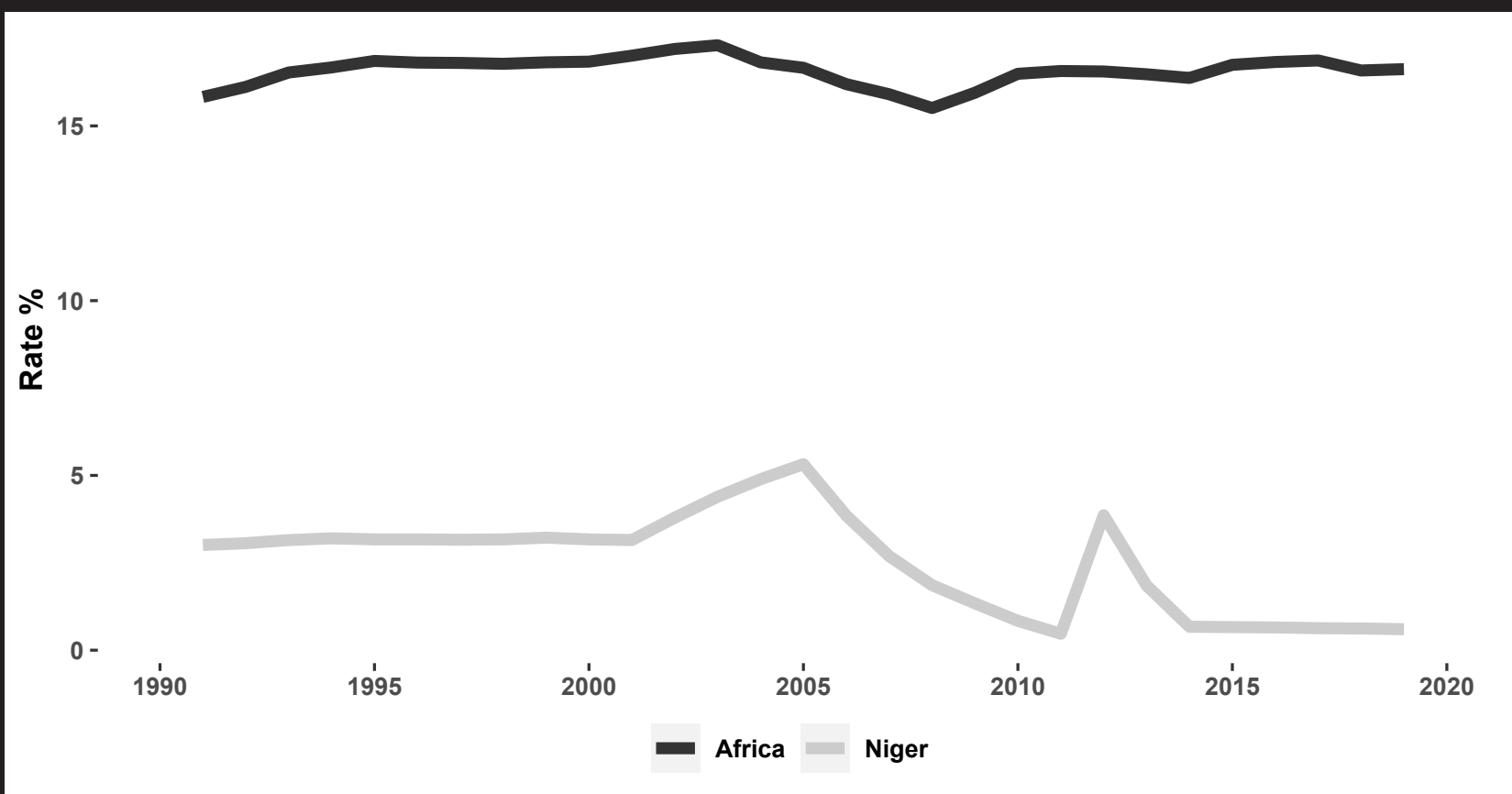
After experiencing erratic economic growth throughout much of the 1990s, due to the conflict in the Niger Delta, Niger has seen continuous economic expansion since 2001.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



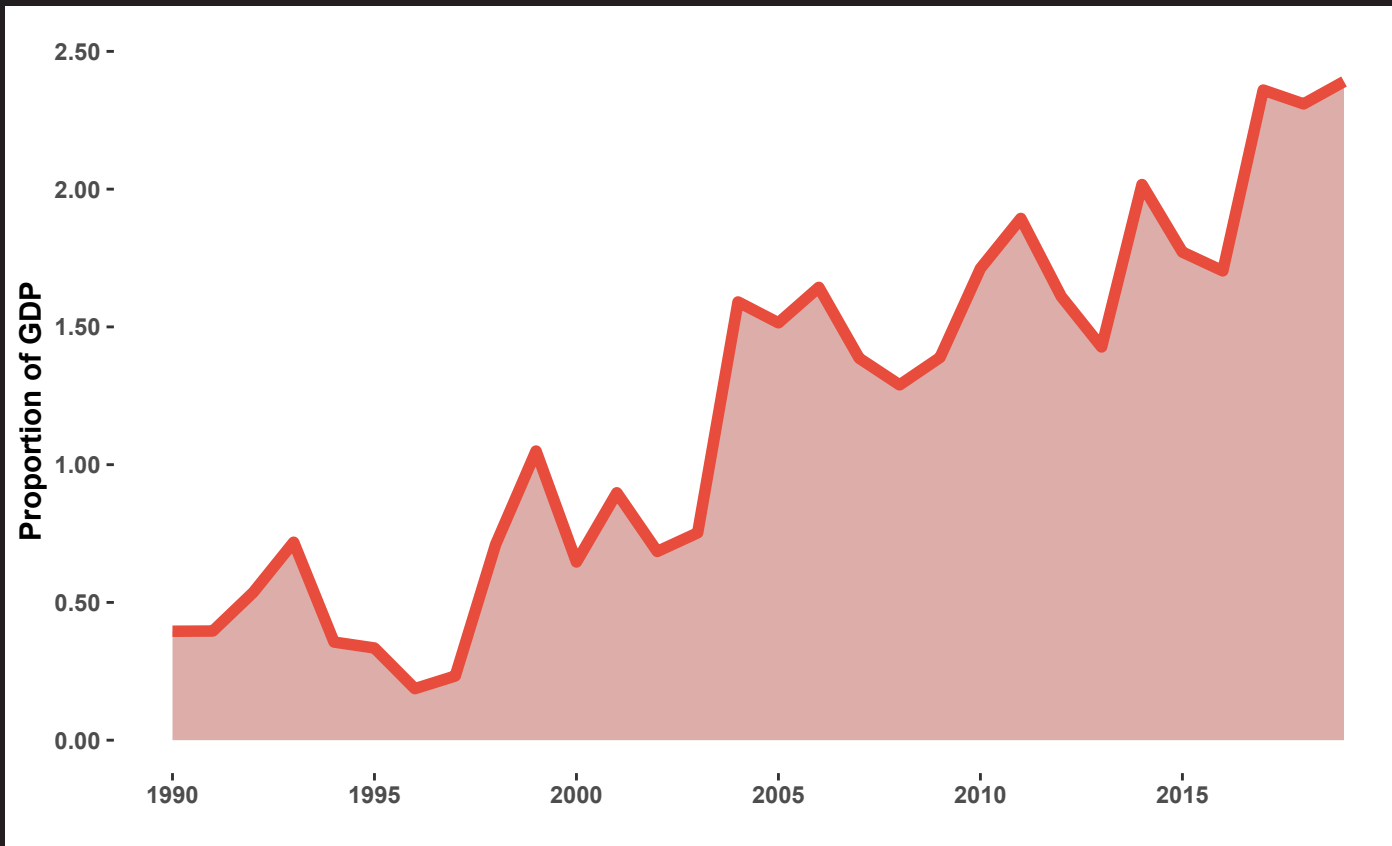
Niger has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Niger has consistently had one of the lowest youth unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$308.7 million

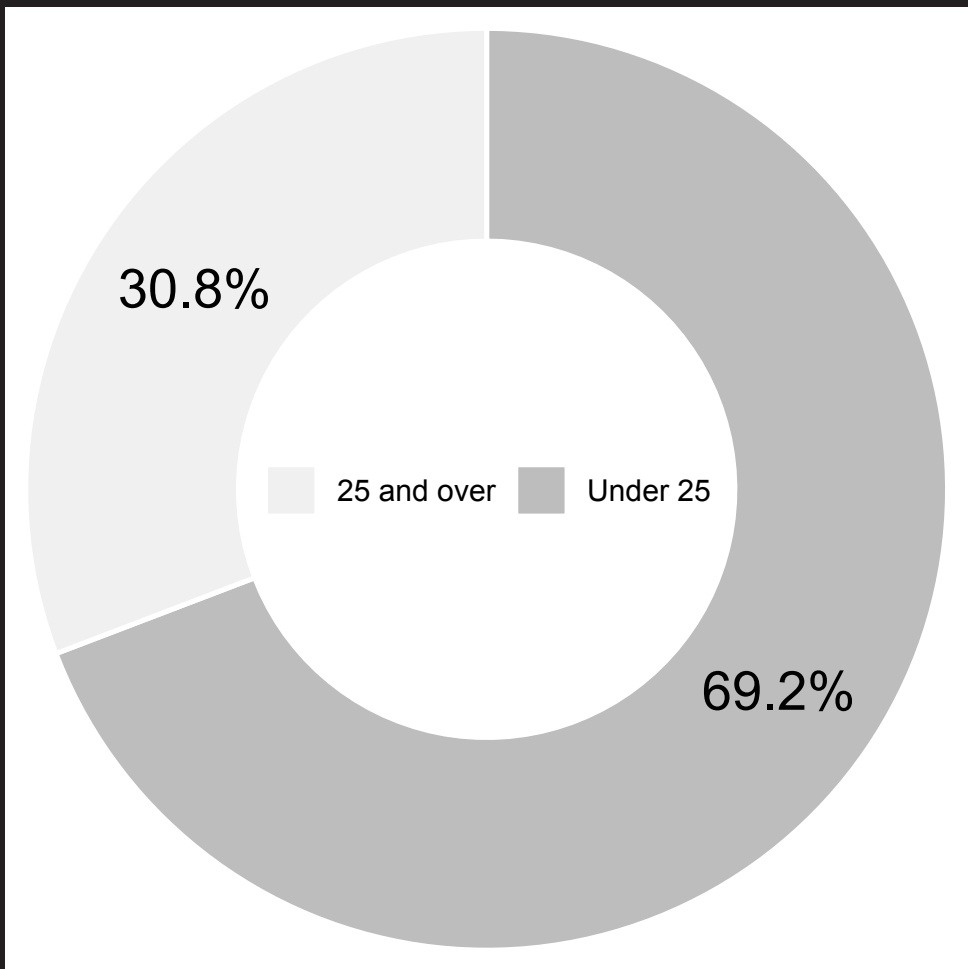
which represents

2.39% of GDP

Niger has become increasingly reliant on remittances over the past 30 years.

DEMOGRAPHICS

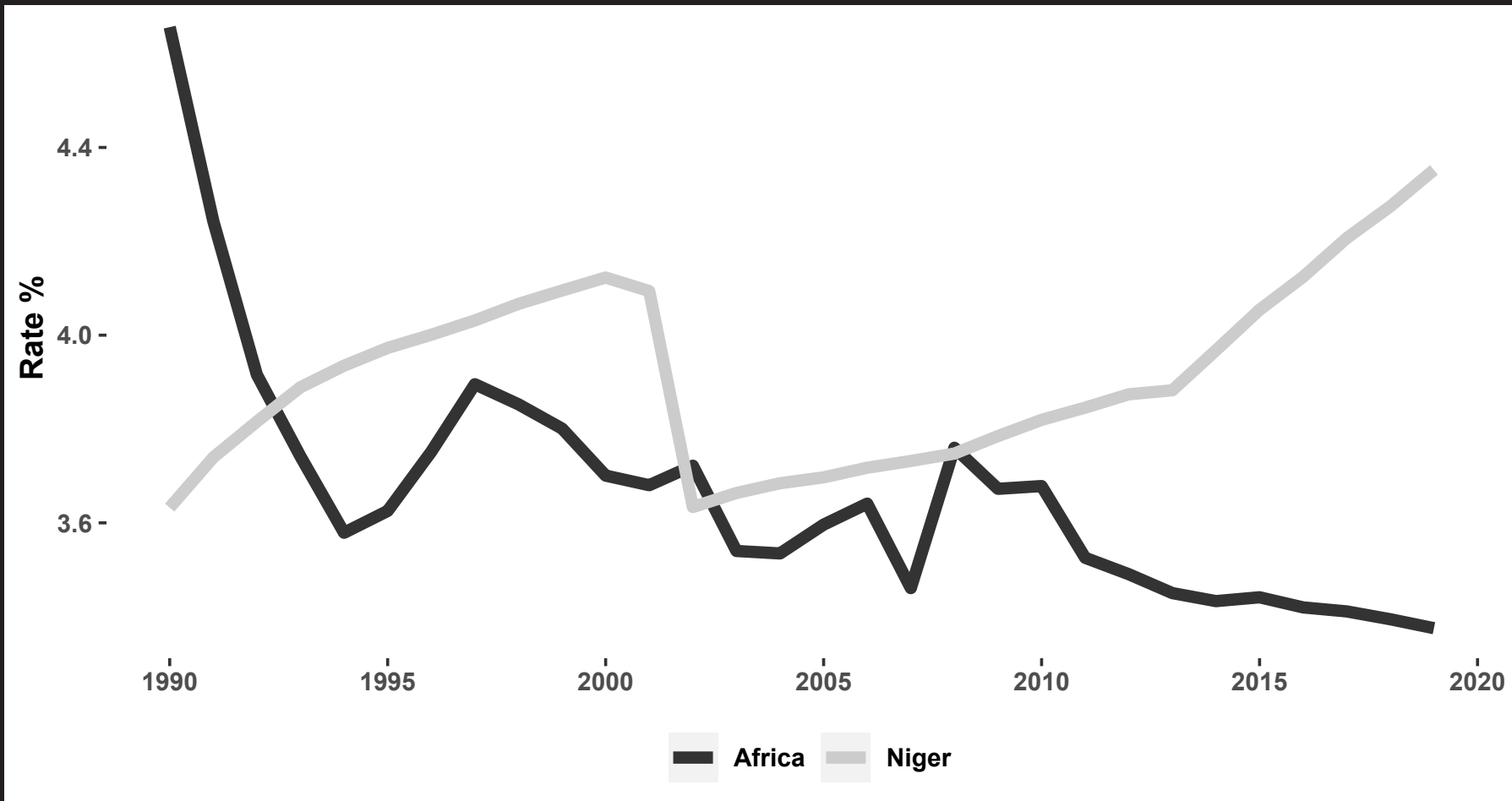
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



23.3 million

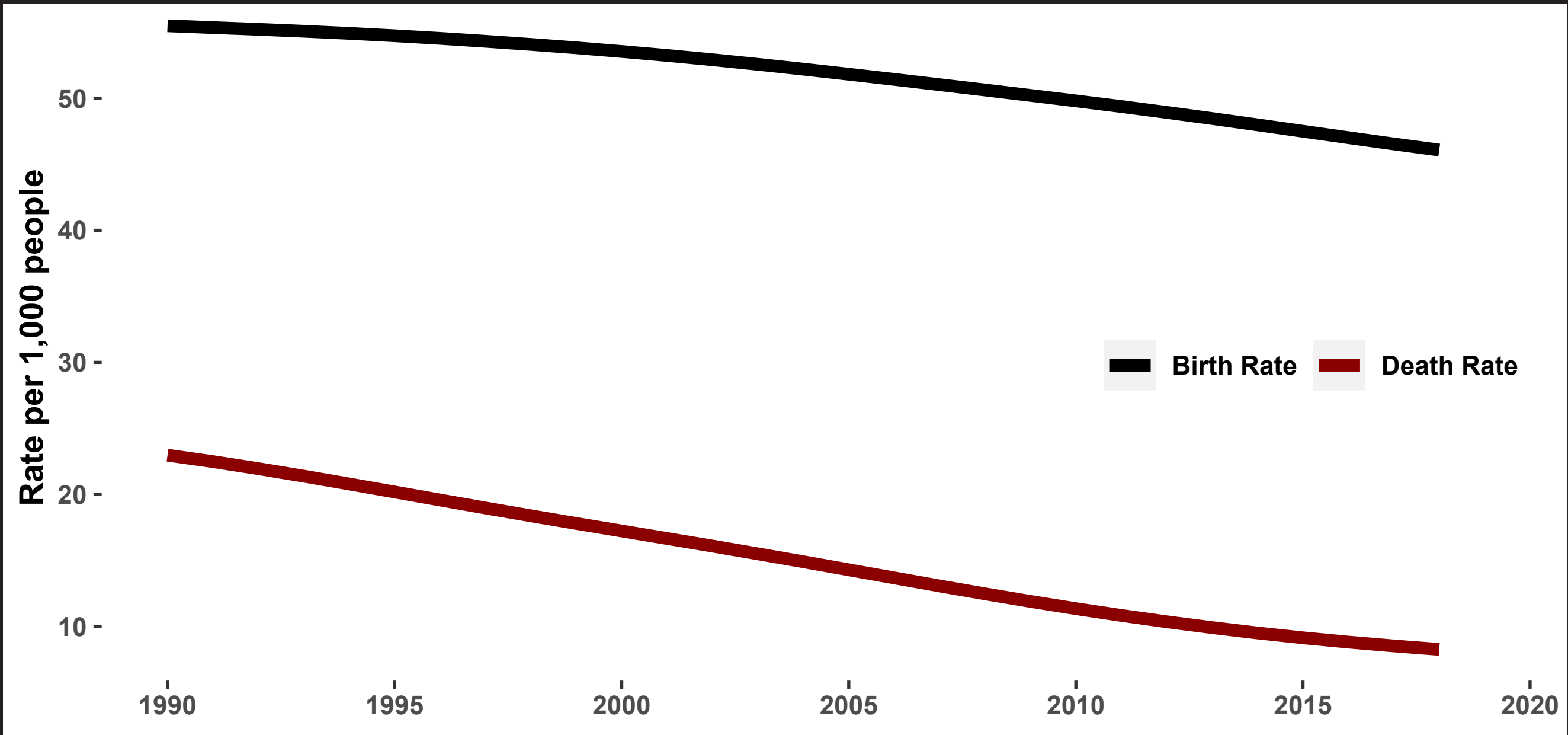
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Niger’s population is under-25 years old. Niger is one of five African countries where the under-25 population is more than double the over-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Niger’s urbanisation rate has tracked closely to the African average over the past 30 years.

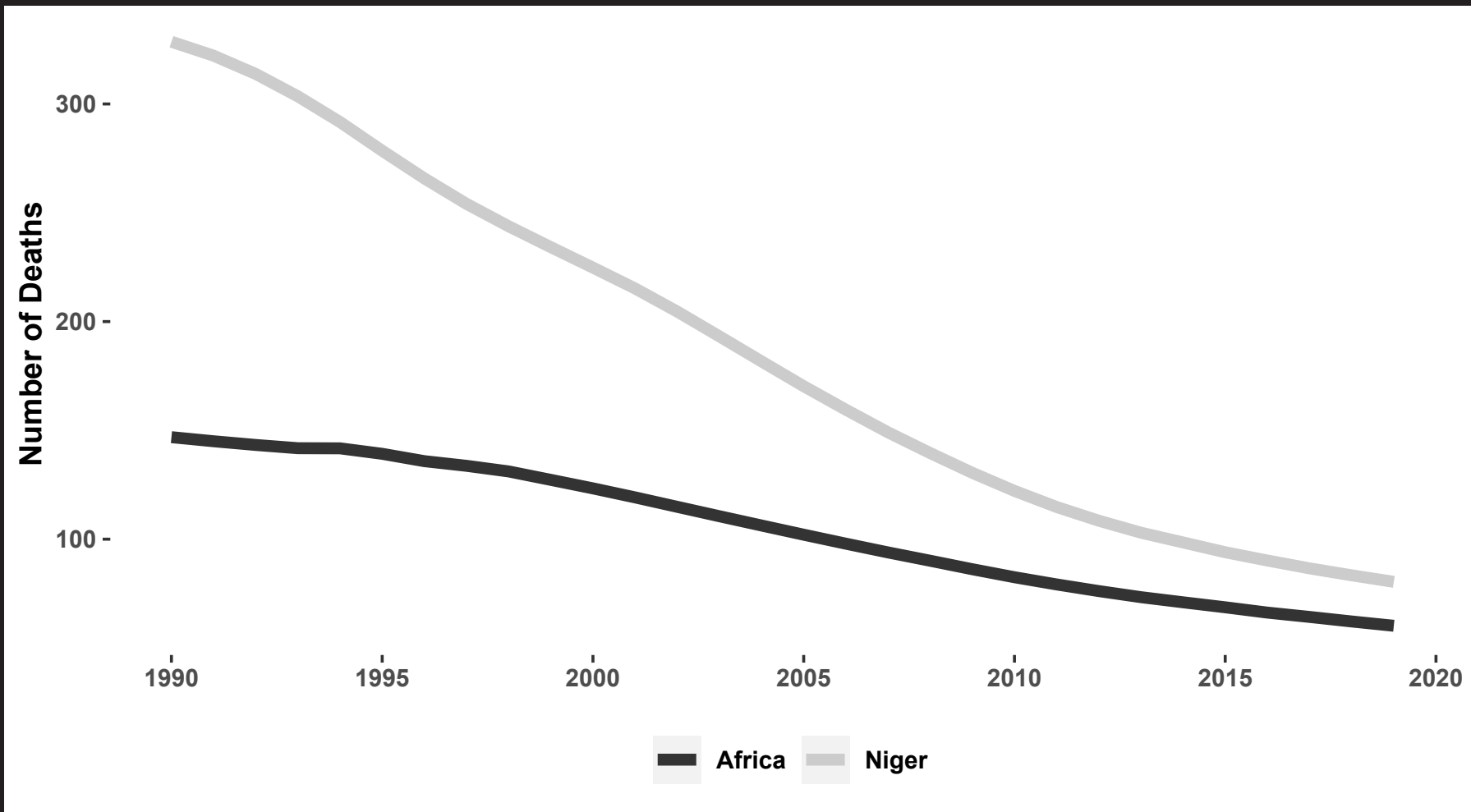
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Niger has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate which is roughly thrice its death rate.

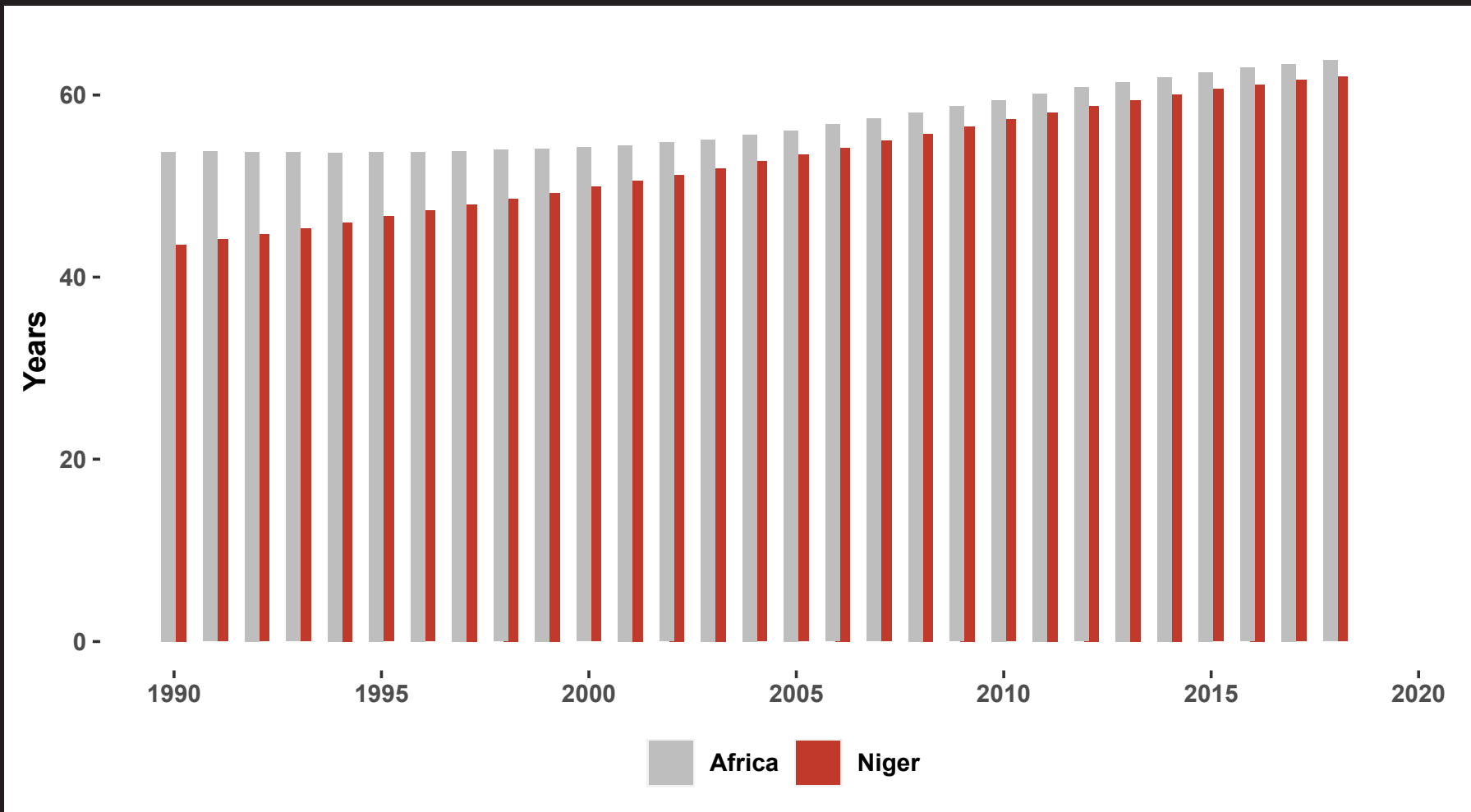
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



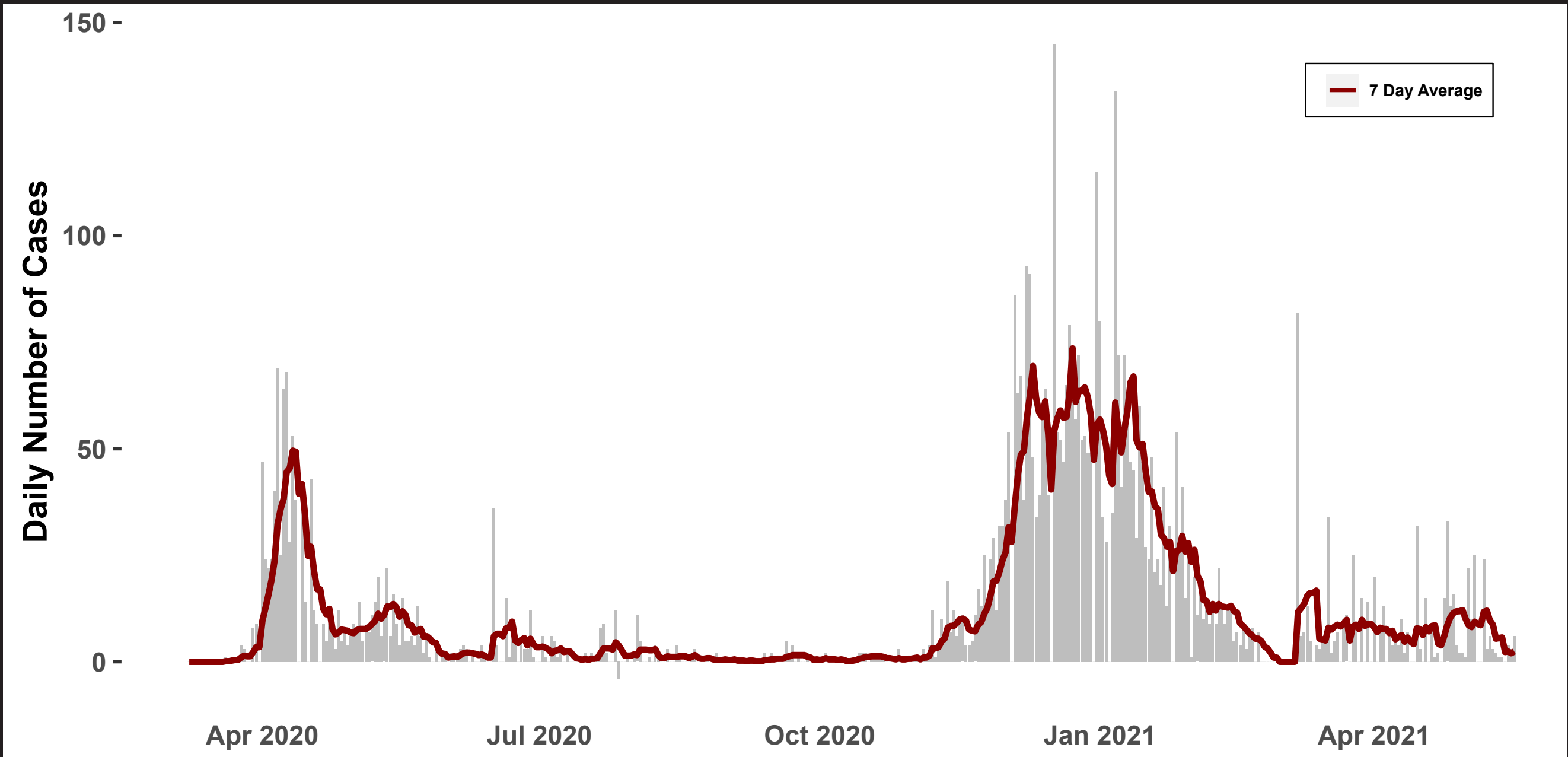
Niger’s child mortality rate has rapidly declined over the past 30 years.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



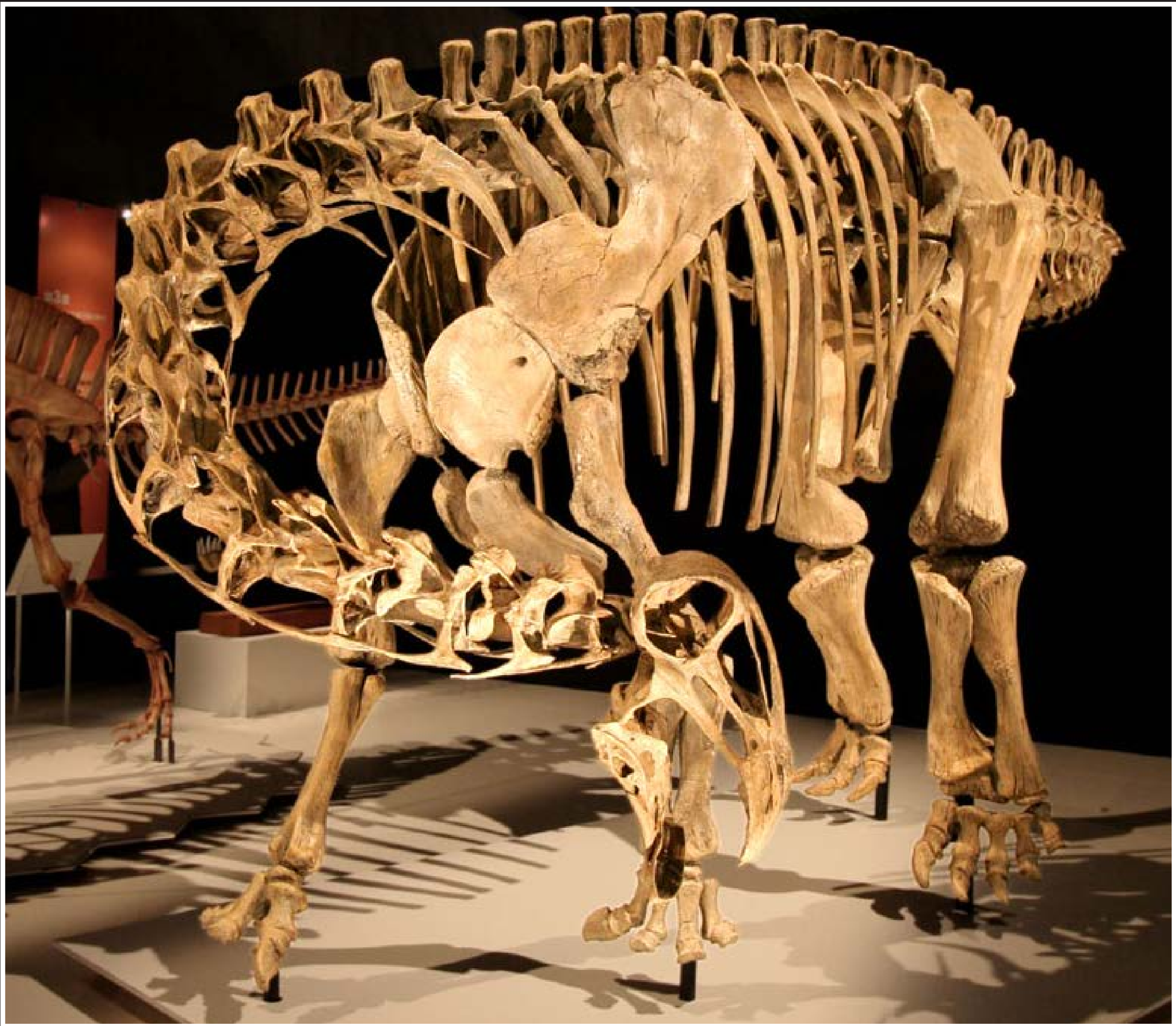
Although life expectancy in Niger is still lower than the continental average, it has improved at a faster rate when compared to the continental average over the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Niger has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in April 2020 and December 2020/February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Kabacchi on Flickr.com

A dinosaur that roamed the earth about 115 to 105 million years ago was discovered in Niger. It is called the *Nigersaurus*.



Christoph Rupprecht on Flickr.com

Niger is one of the hottest countries on Earth! This has earned it the nickname ‘Frying Pan of the World’.



Pierre-Yves Beaudouin

Horse racing, camel racing and sorro wrestling are some of the traditional sports in Niger. Sorro-wrestling is known as the “King of Sports” in the country.



NIGERIA

Nigeria is in West Africa, bordering Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin. Nigeria has been home to several indigenous pre-colonial states and kingdoms since the second millennium (BC). The modern state originated with British colonisation in the 19th century, taking its present territorial shape with the merging of the Southern Nigeria Protectorate and Northern Nigeria Protectorate in 1914. Nigeria became independent in 1960. It experienced a civil war from 1967 to 1970, followed by a succession of democratically-elected civilian governments and military dictatorships, until achieving a stable democracy in 1999. Nigeria's mixed economy is the largest in Africa, with its abundant supply of natural resources and well-developed financial, legal, communications, transport sectors and stock exchange (the Nigerian Stock Exchange, the second-largest in Africa). The official currency is the Nigerian naira.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Muhammadu Buhari

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Abuja

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

161

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

250



MAIN LANGUAGES

English, Igbo, Hausa, Yoruba and Fula

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Federal republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

All Progressives Congress

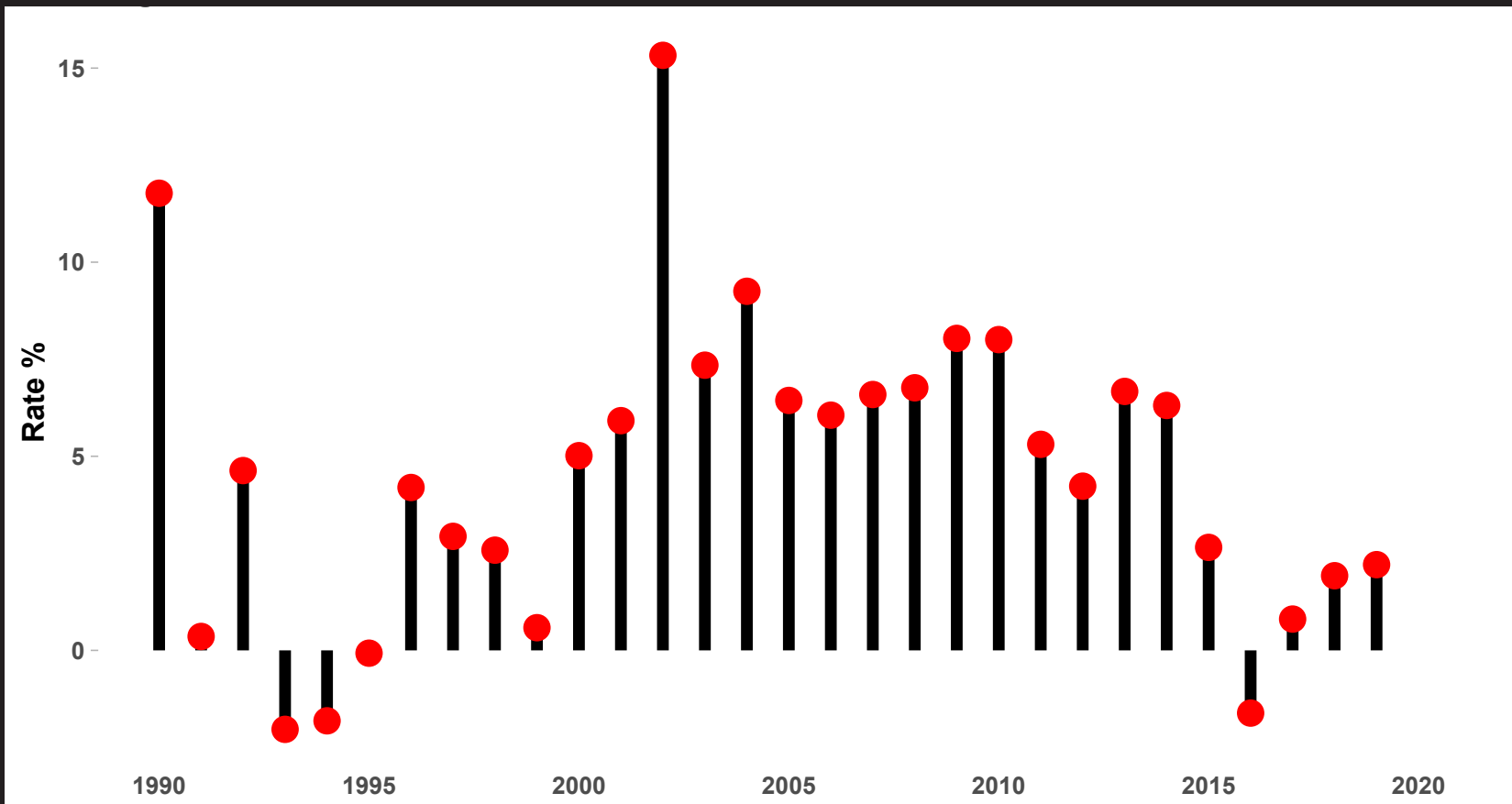


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Peoples Democratic Party

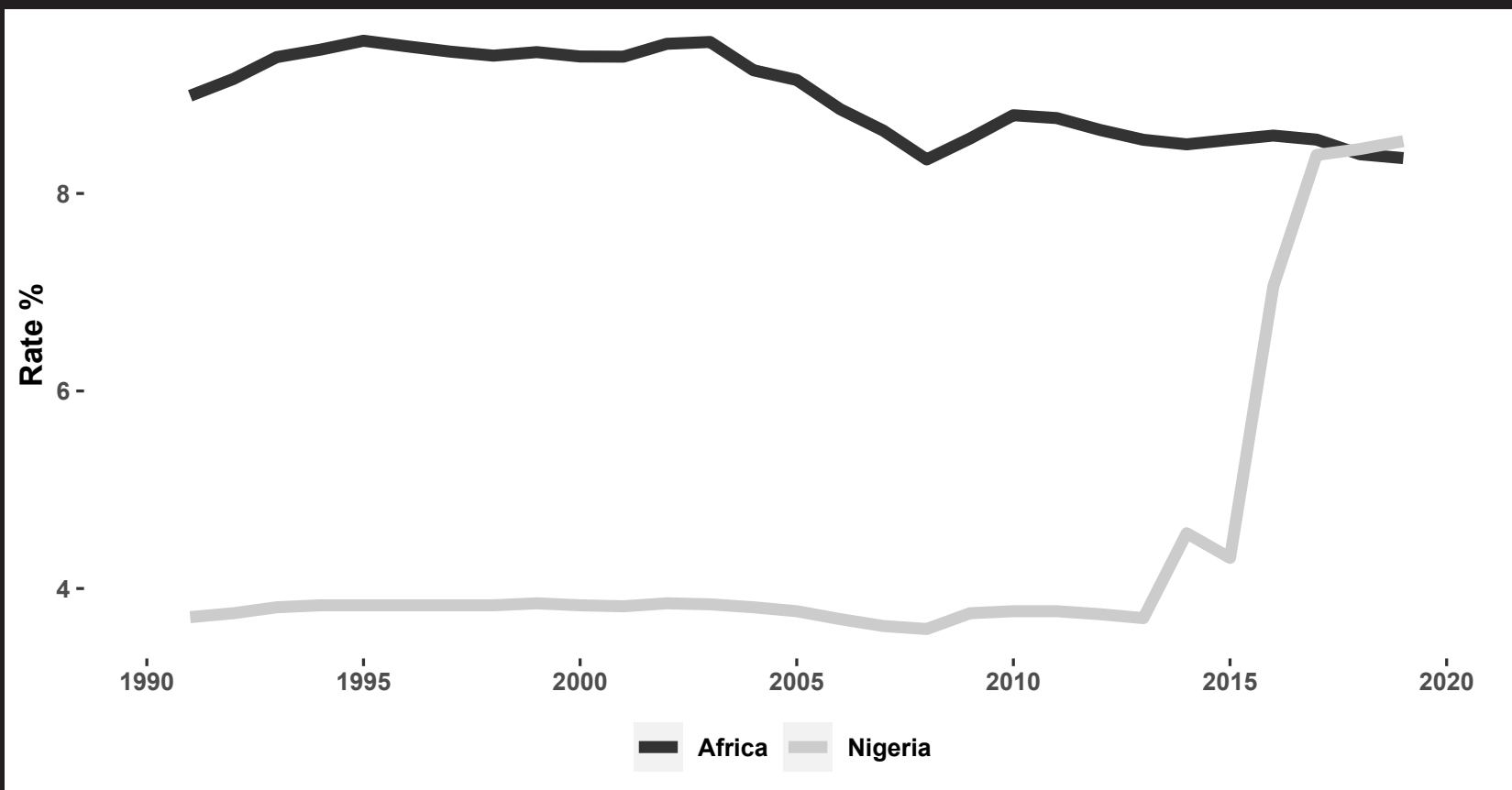
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



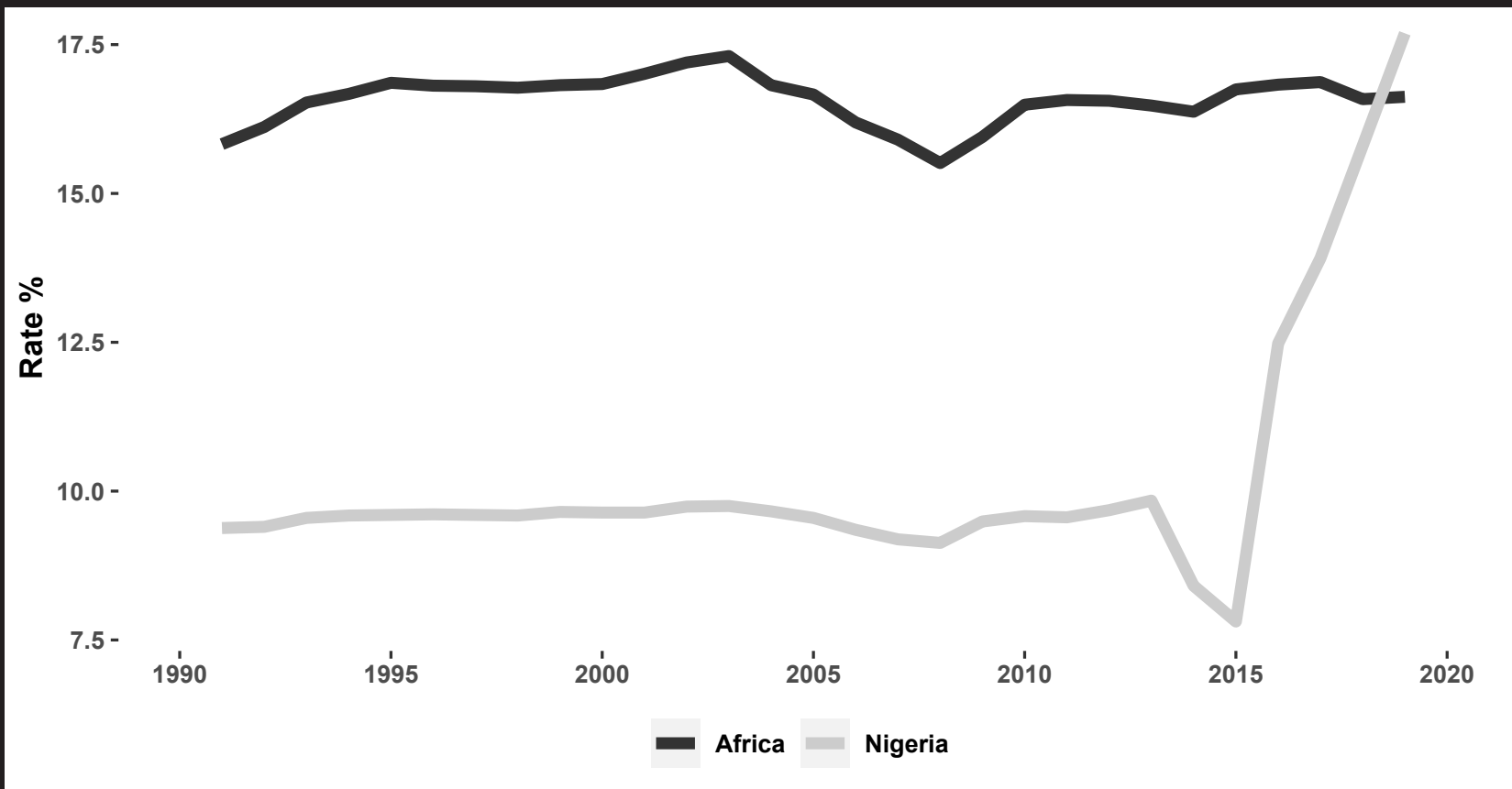
After an extended period of growth between 1995 and 2015, Nigeria experienced its first recession in two decades in 2016.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



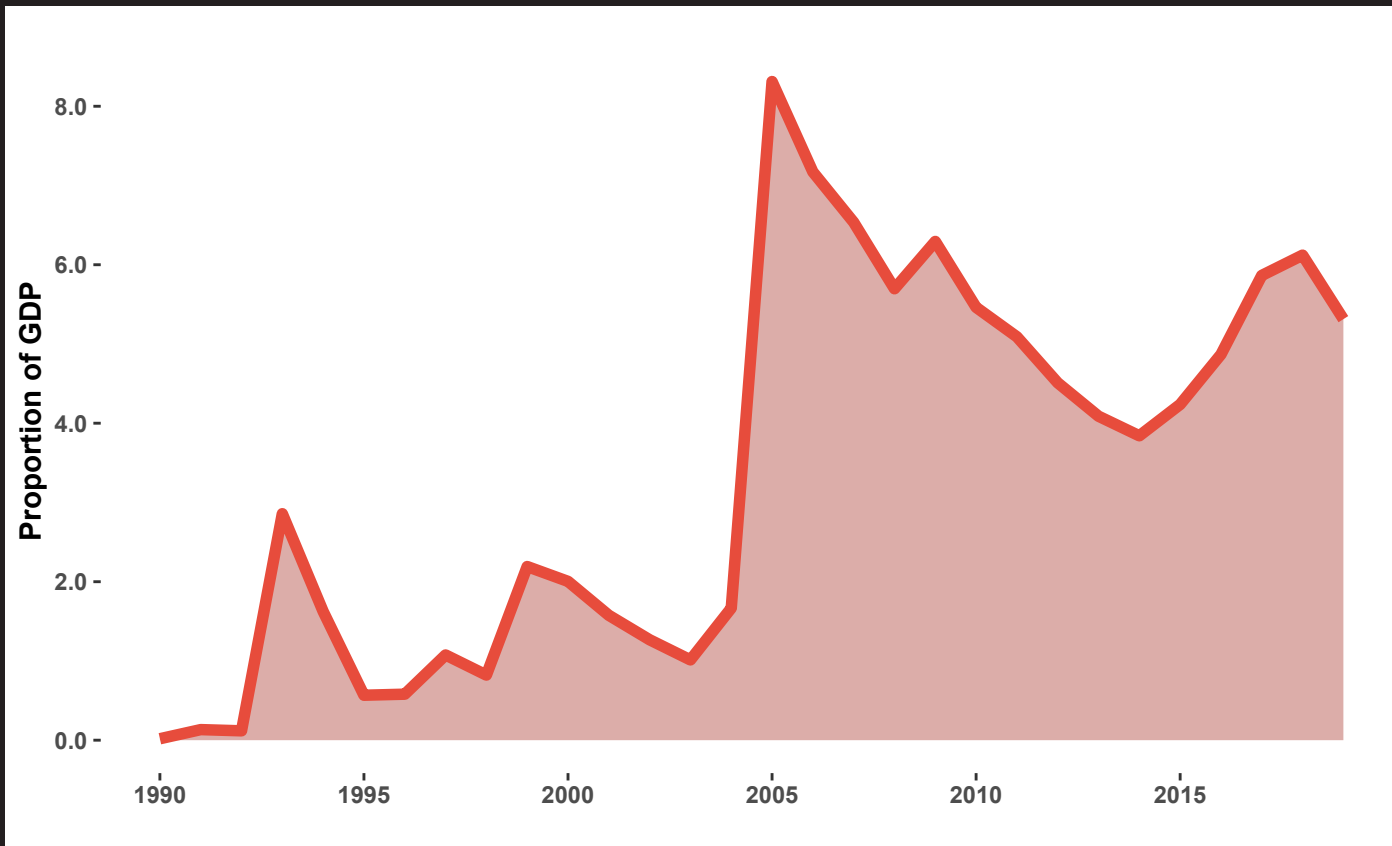
Between 1990 and 2015 Nigeria's unemployment rate was much lower than the African average. However, the 2016 recession caused a rapid rise in the unemployment rate and Nigeria's current unemployment numbers track very closely with the continental average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Between 1990 and 2015 Nigeria's youth unemployment rate was much lower than the African average. However, the 2016 recession caused a rapid rise in the youth unemployment rate and Nigeria's current youth unemployment numbers track very closely with the continental average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$23.8 billion

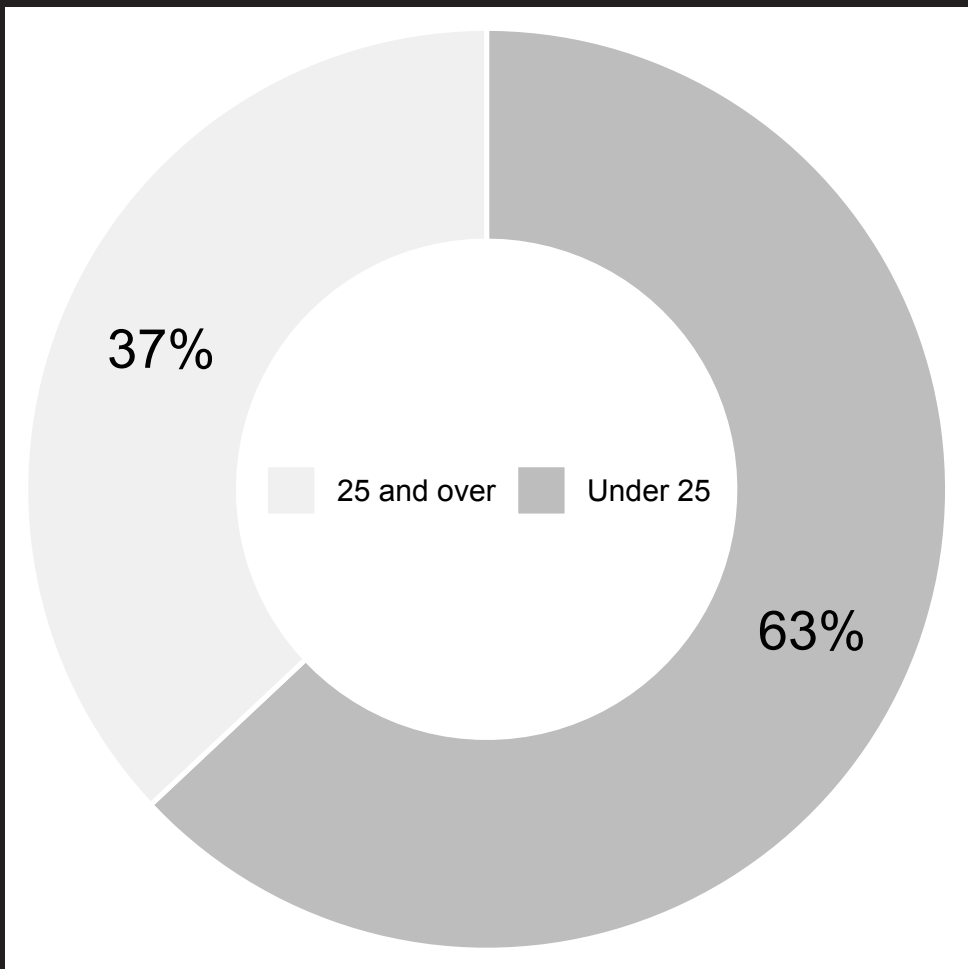
which represents

5.31% of GDP

Nigeria has become increasingly reliant on remittances and has some of the largest remittances inflows on the continent.

DEMOGRAPHICS

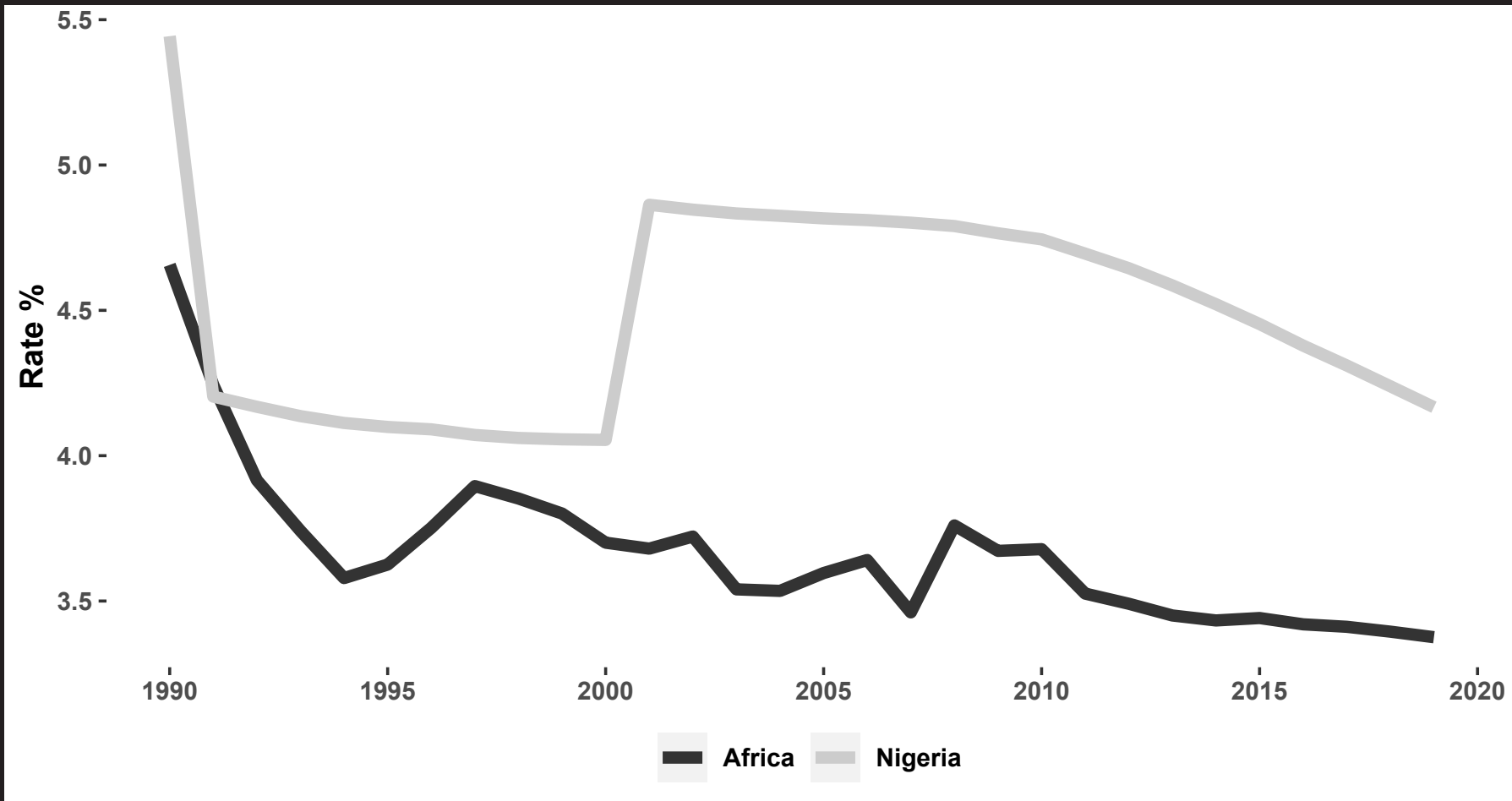
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



200.1 million

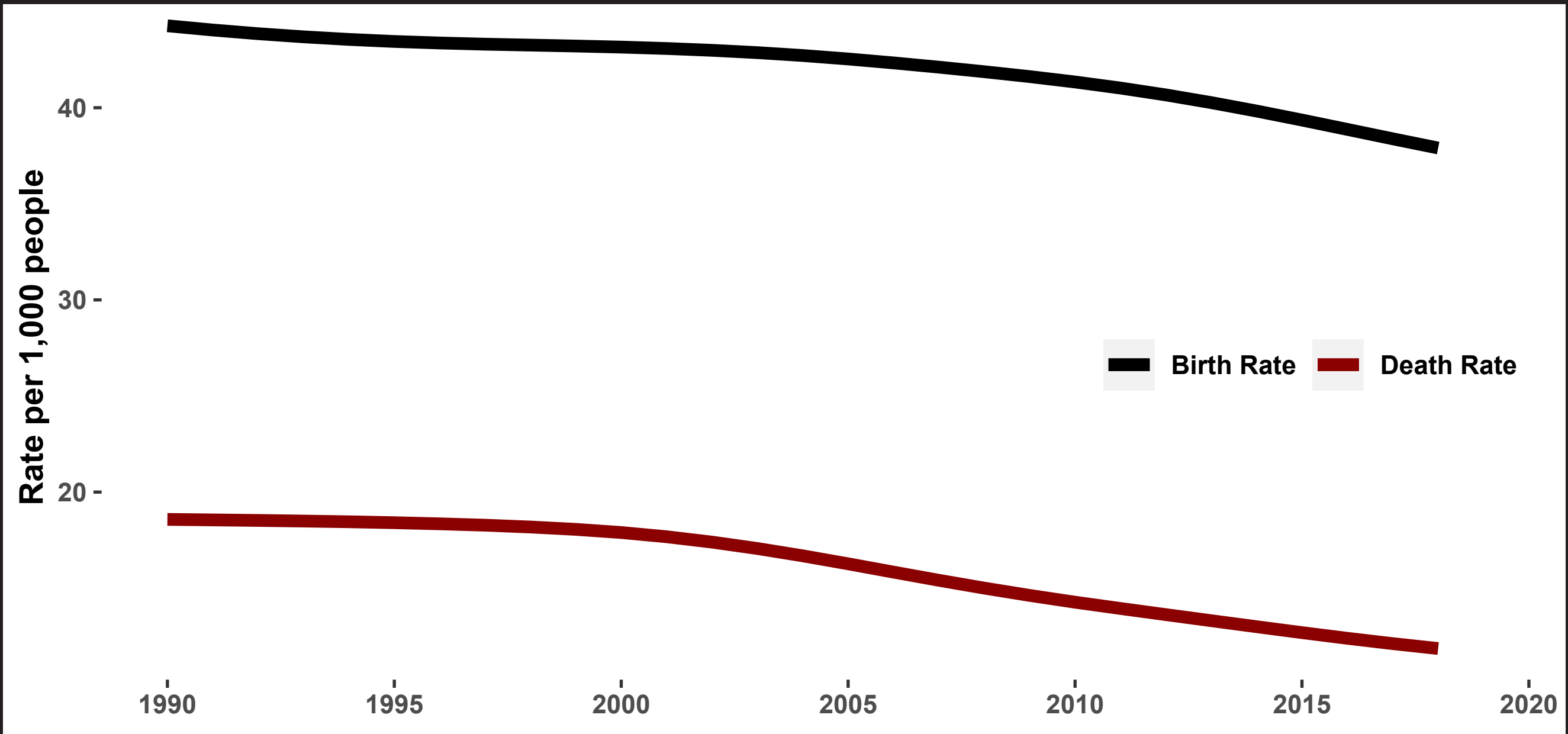
Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa and conforms to the continental trend of having more people under 25 years old than over.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Nigeria has urbanised at a slightly faster rate when compared to the continental average over the past 30 years.

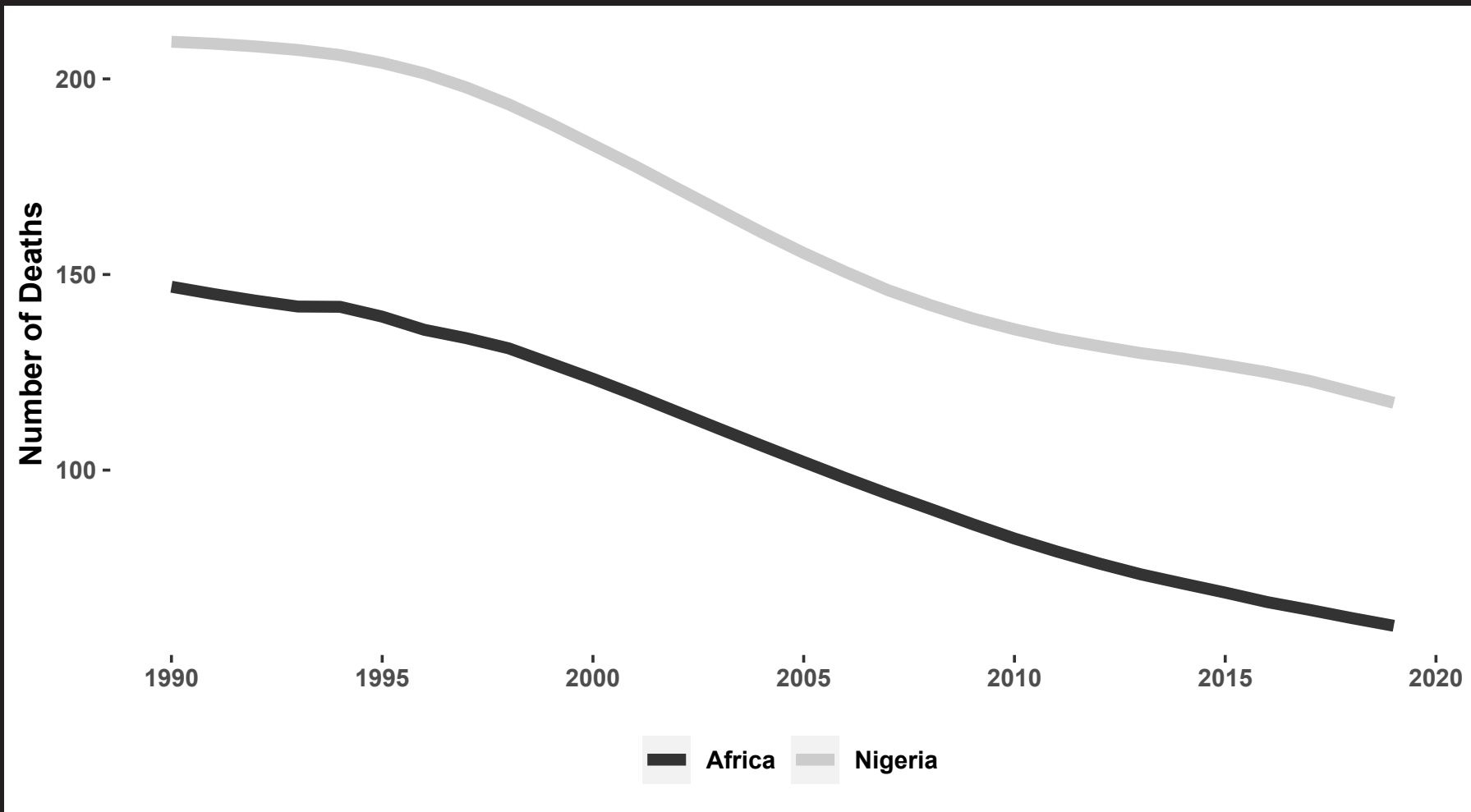
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Nigeria has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is roughly twice its death rate.

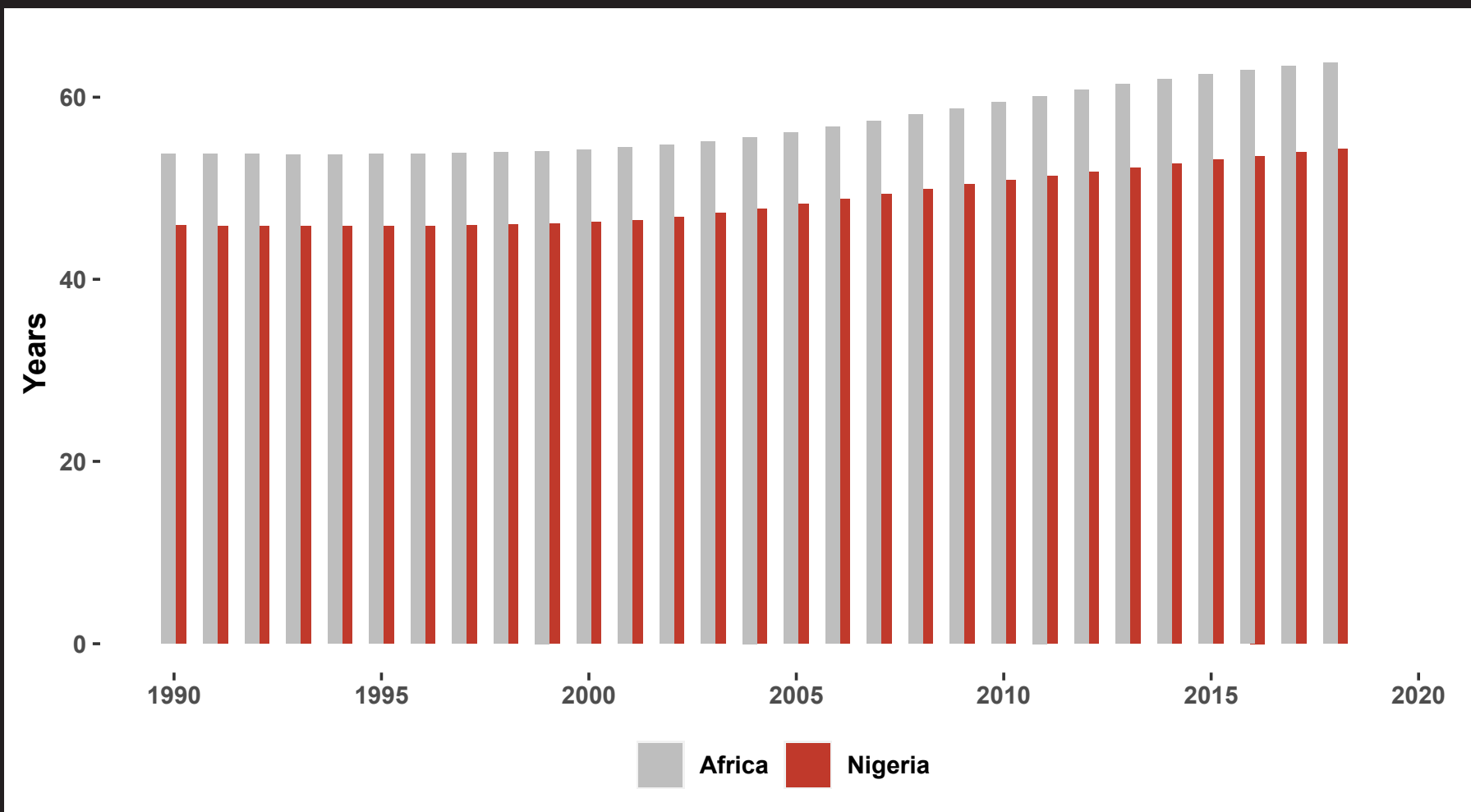
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



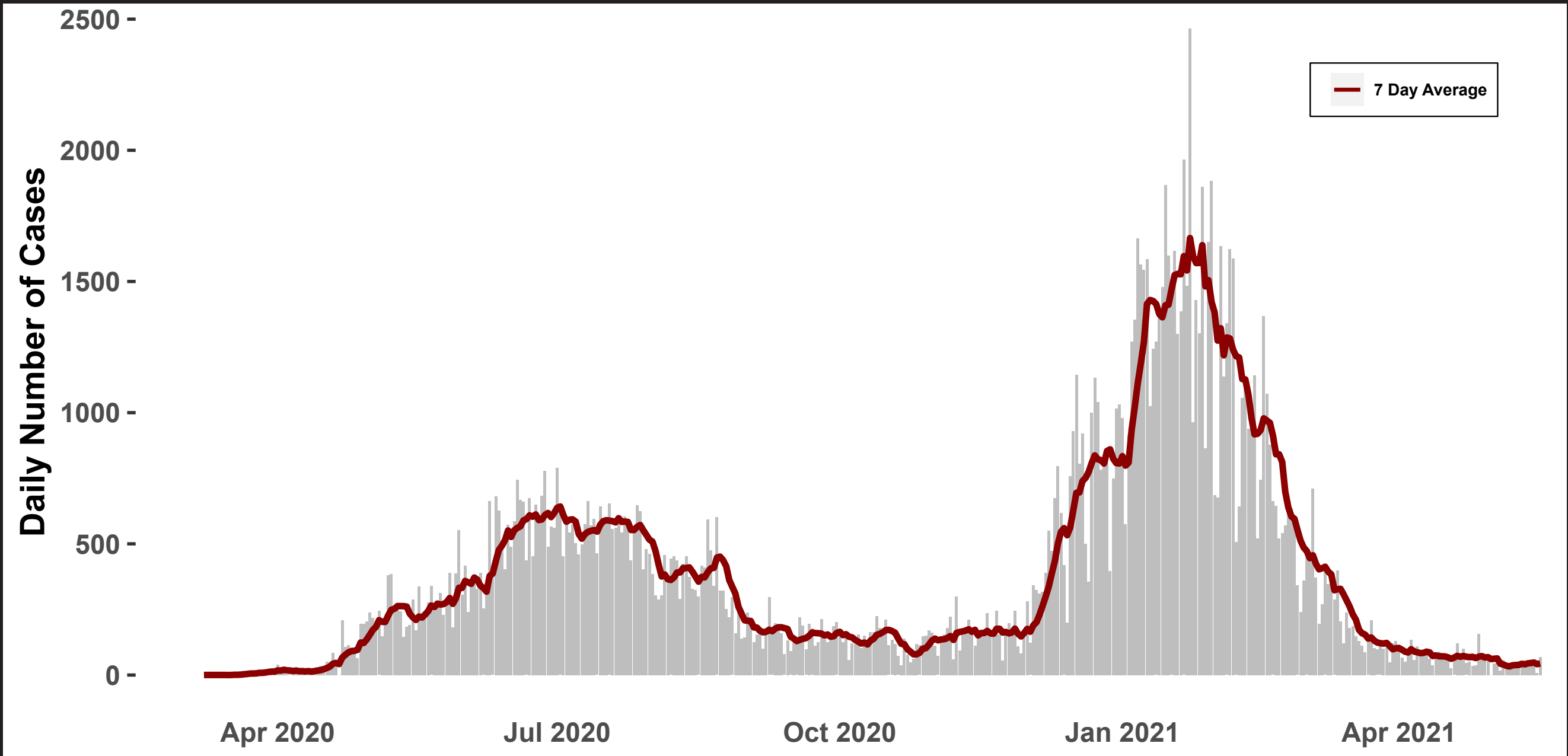
Although child mortality has declined in Nigeria over the past 30 years it continues to have one of the highest child mortality rates in Africa.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Nigeria has only slightly improved over the past 30 years and continues to lag behind the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Nigeria has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in July-August 2020 and January-March 2020/1.

DID YOU KNOW?

Dotun55 on Flickr.com



Almost 200 million people live in Nigeria, which makes it one of the most populous countries in the world.

USAID Digital Development on Flickr.com



About 75% of the total population uses social media on a regular basis.

Pius Utomi EKPEI / AFP

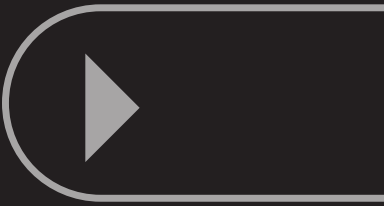
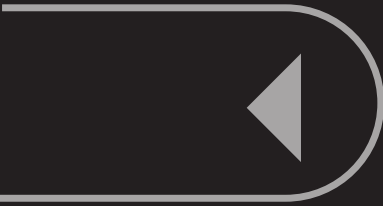


Aliko Dangote is a Nigerian businessman with a net worth of at least \$10.6 billion. When Forbes listed the 100 richest people in the world, he was included on the list.



THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Republic of Congo is on the western coast of central Africa, bordered by Gabon; Cameroon, Central African Republic, the DRC and the Angolan exclave of Cabinda. The region was dominated by Bantu-speaking tribes at least 3,000 years ago, who built trade links leading into the Congo River basin. Congo was formerly part of the French colony of Equatorial Africa. The Republic of the Congo was established on 28 November, 1958 and gained independence from France in 1960. It is a sovereign state, and President Denis Sassou Nguesso, who first came to power in 1979, has ruled for 35 of the past 40 years. Congo has become the fourth-largest oil producer in the Gulf of Guinea, providing the country with a degree of prosperity despite political and economic instability in some areas and unequal distribution of oil revenue nationwide.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

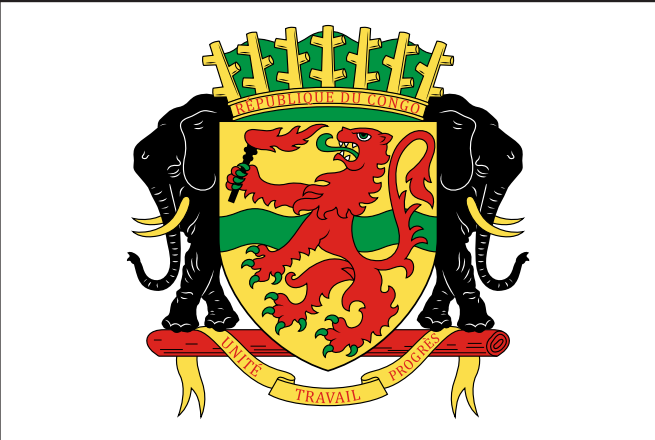


HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Denis Sassou Nguesso

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Brazzaville

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

149

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

3



MAIN LANGUAGES

French, Kituba and Lingala

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Congolese Labour Party

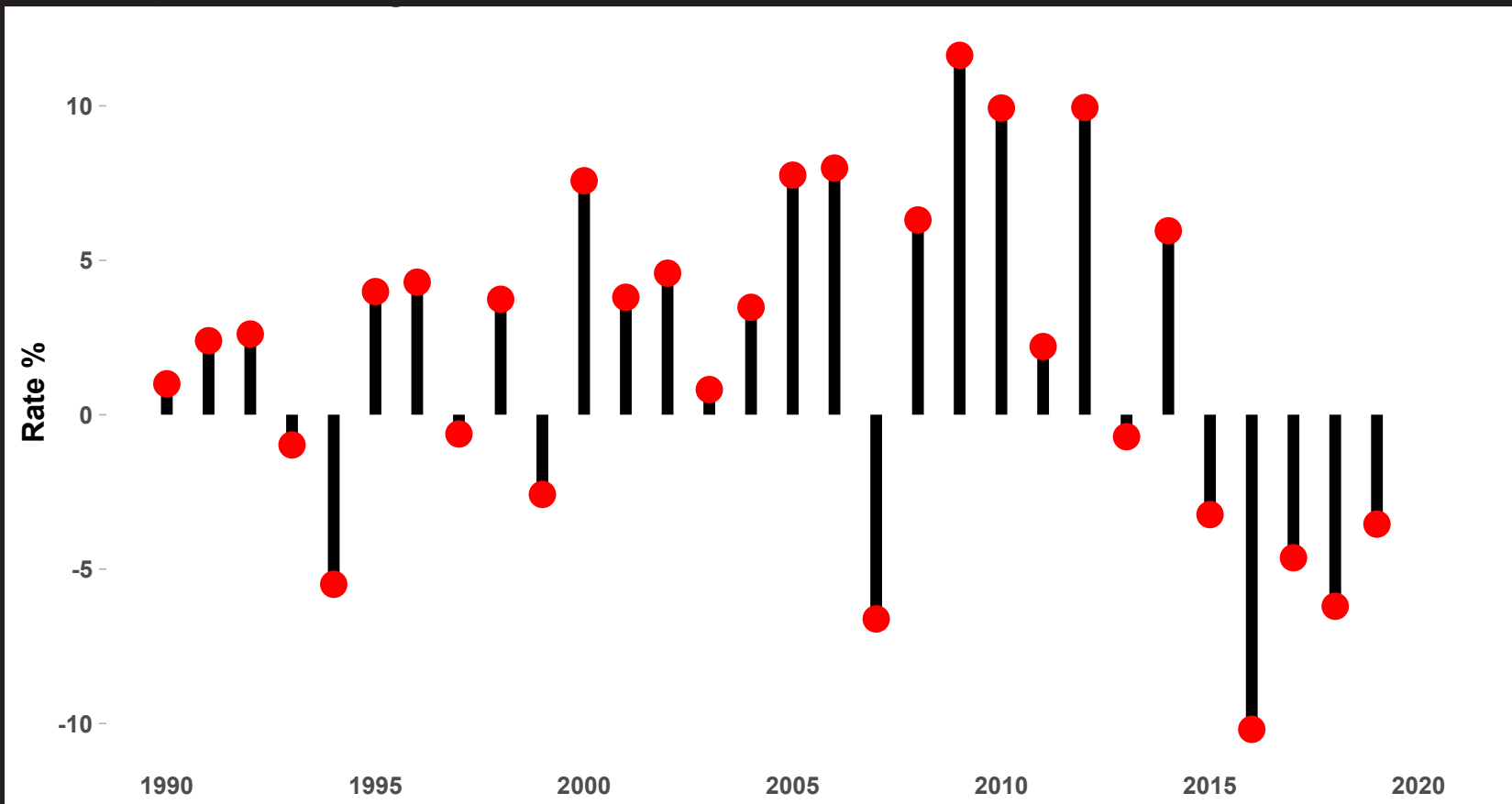


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Pan-African Union for Social Democracy

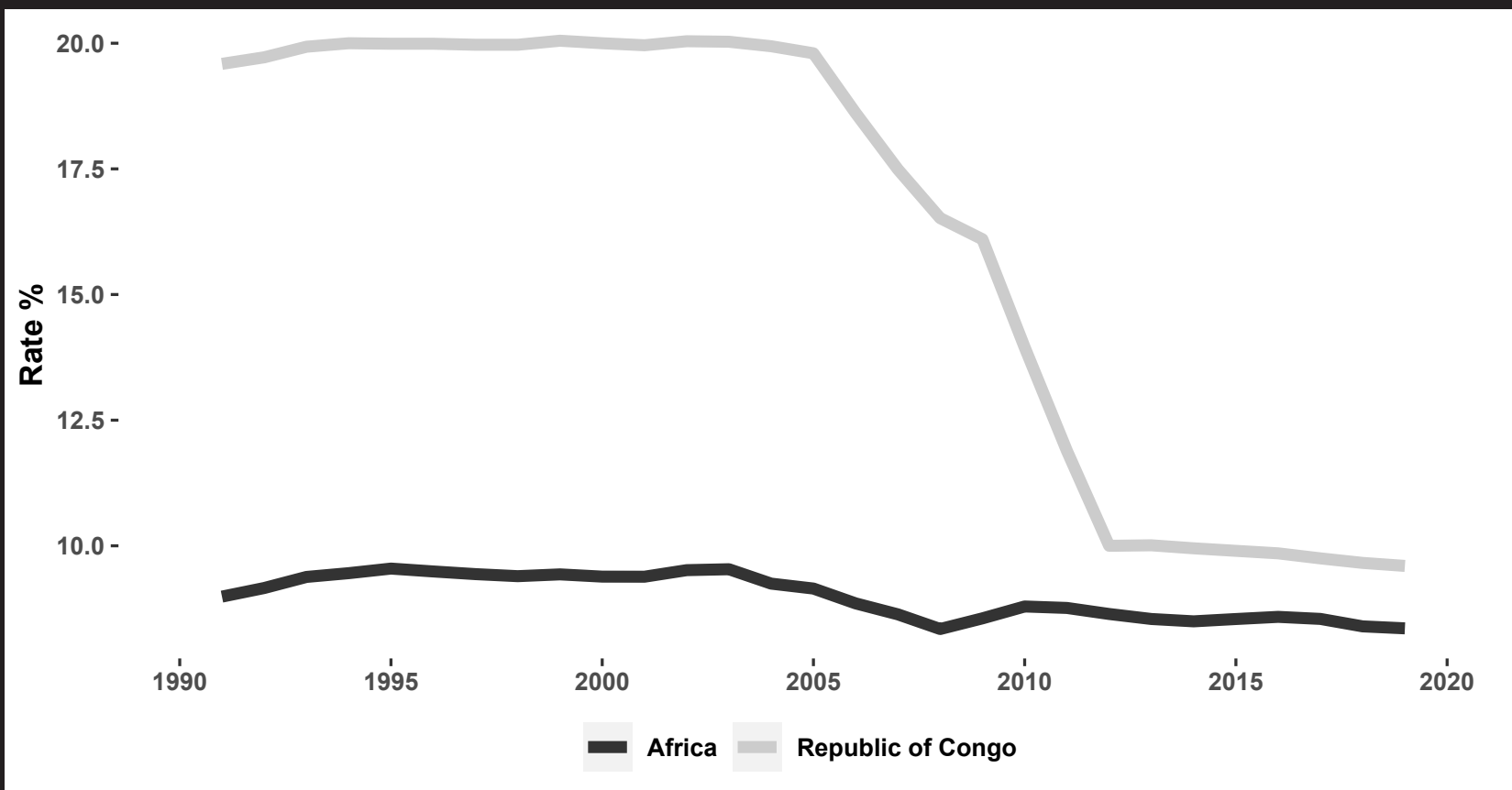
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



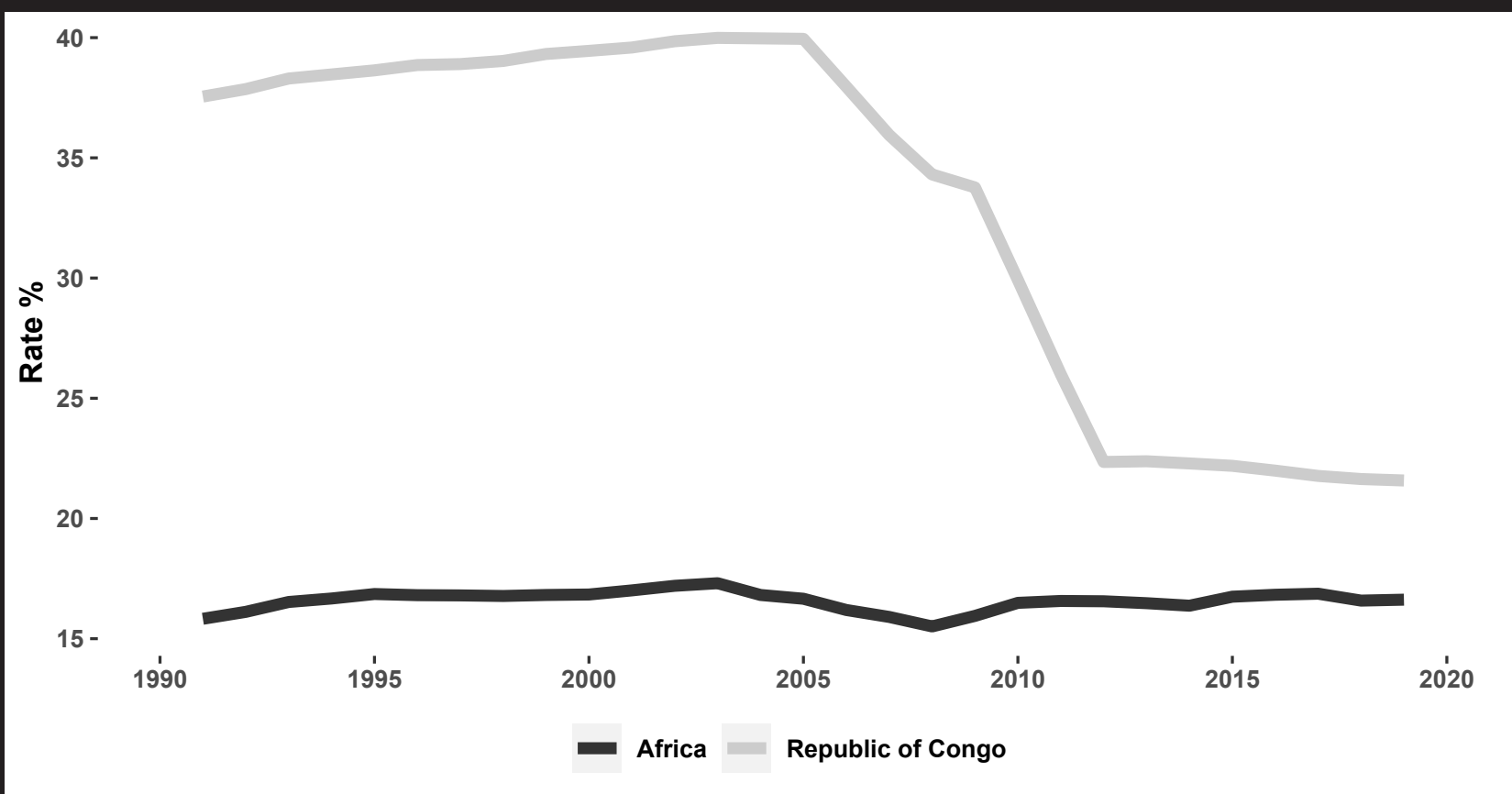
Economic growth in the Republic of Congo has been erratic over the past three decades. The country is heavily reliant on oil production and has experienced continuous contractions since 2015.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



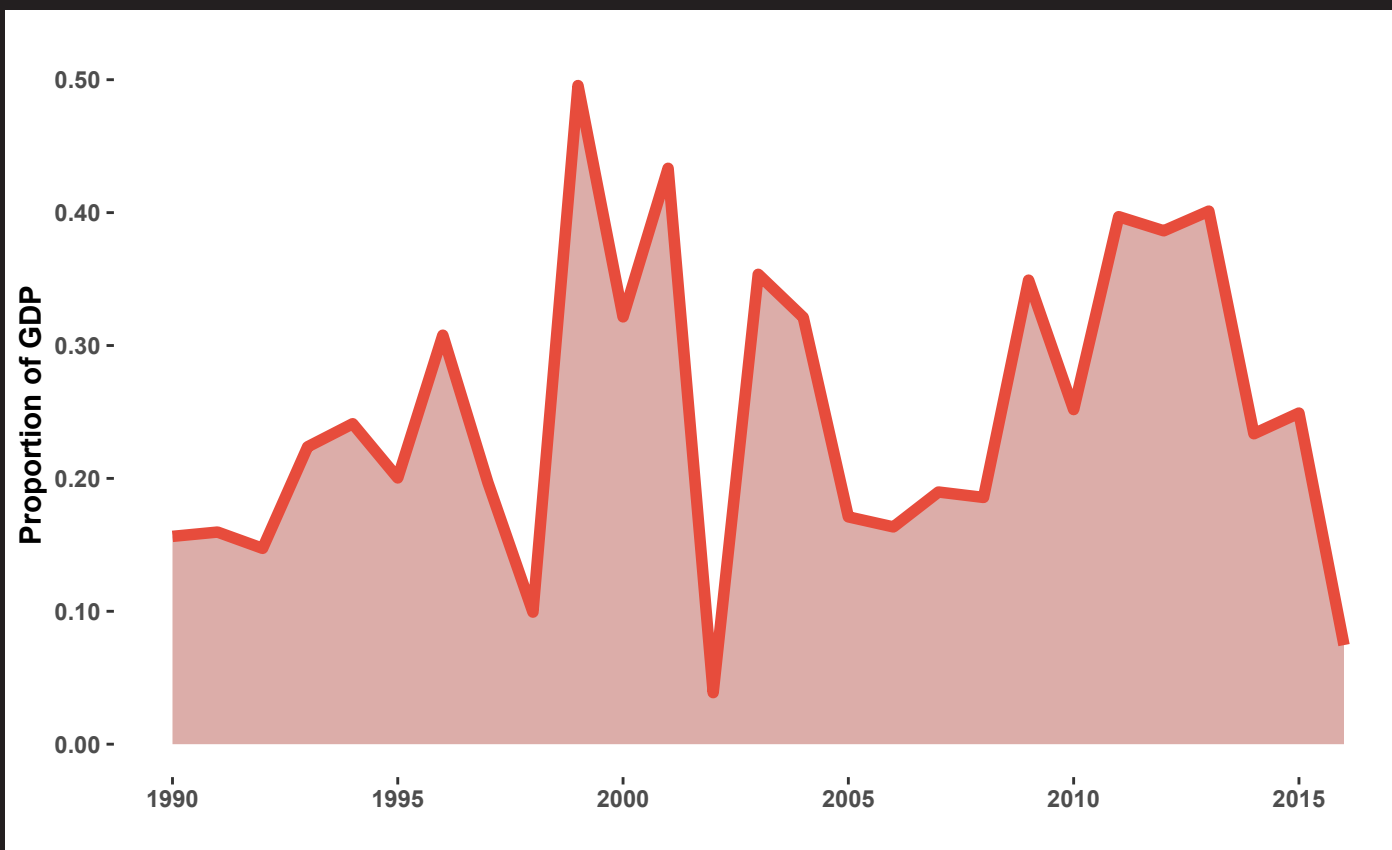
Unemployment in the Republic of Congo was traditionally much higher than the African average. However, rapid declines in the unemployment rate since 2005 has meant that the current unemployment rate tracks much more closely to the African average.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Youth unemployment in the Republic of Congo was traditionally much higher than the African average. However, rapid declines in the youth unemployment rate since 2005 has meant that the current youth unemployment rate tracks more closely to the African average.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$7.7 million

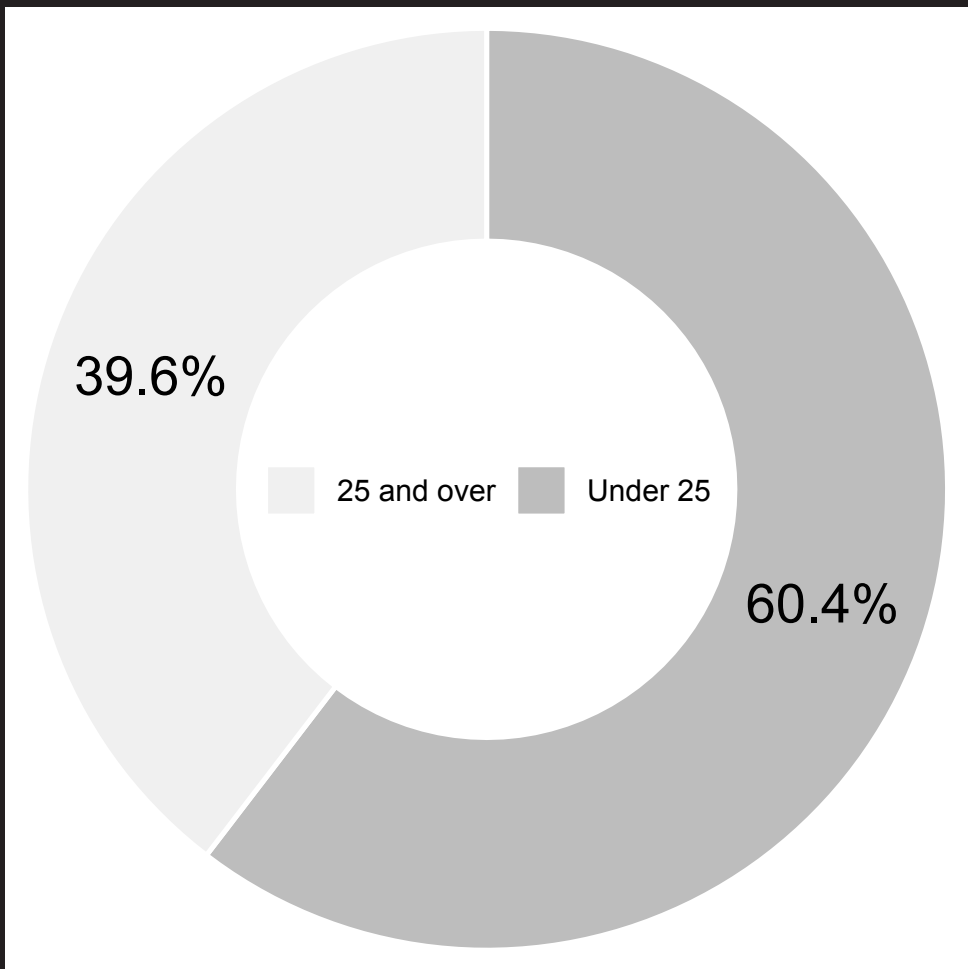
which represents

0.07% of GDP

The Republic of Congo is one of the African countries which is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

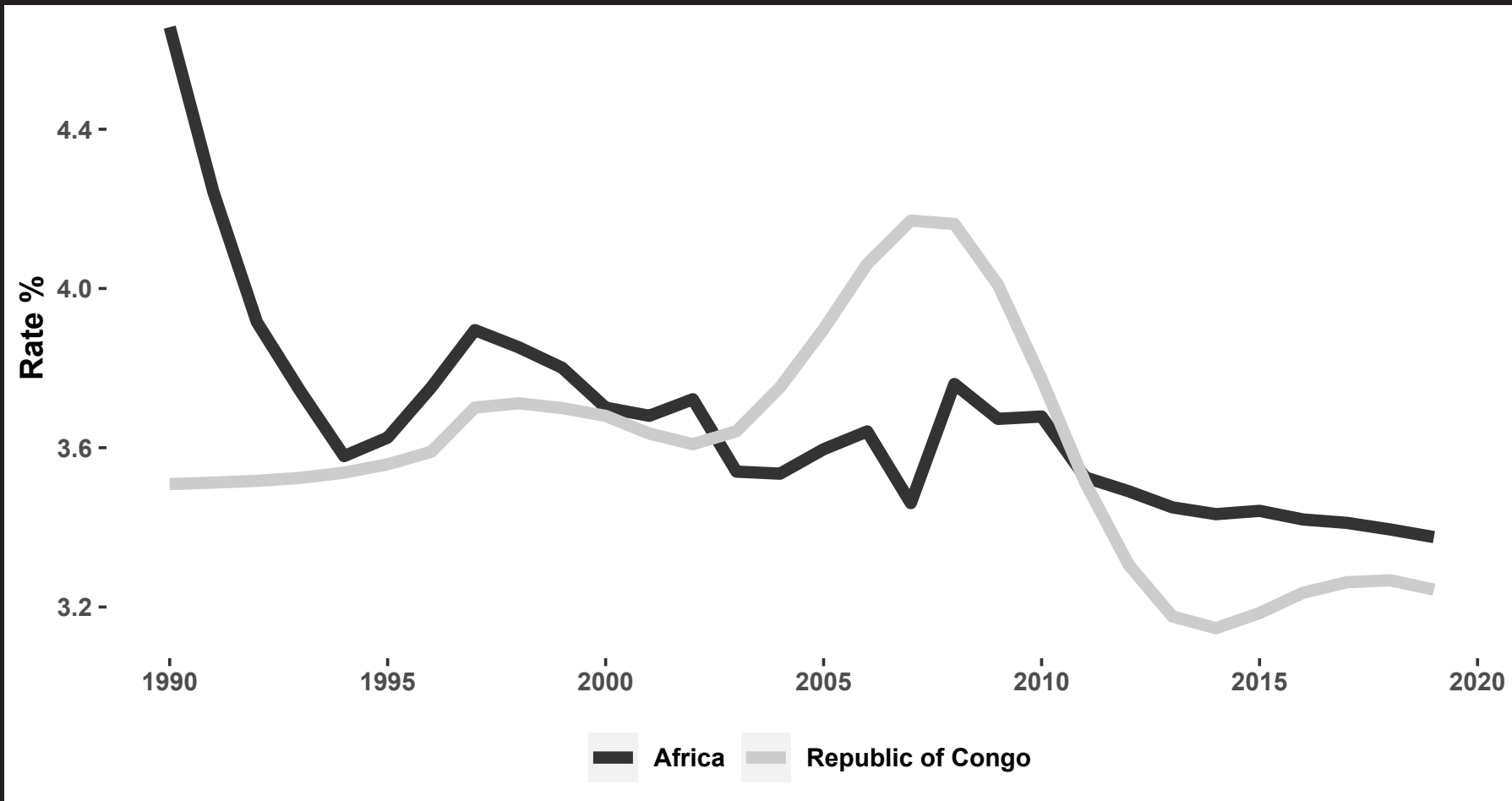
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



5.38 million

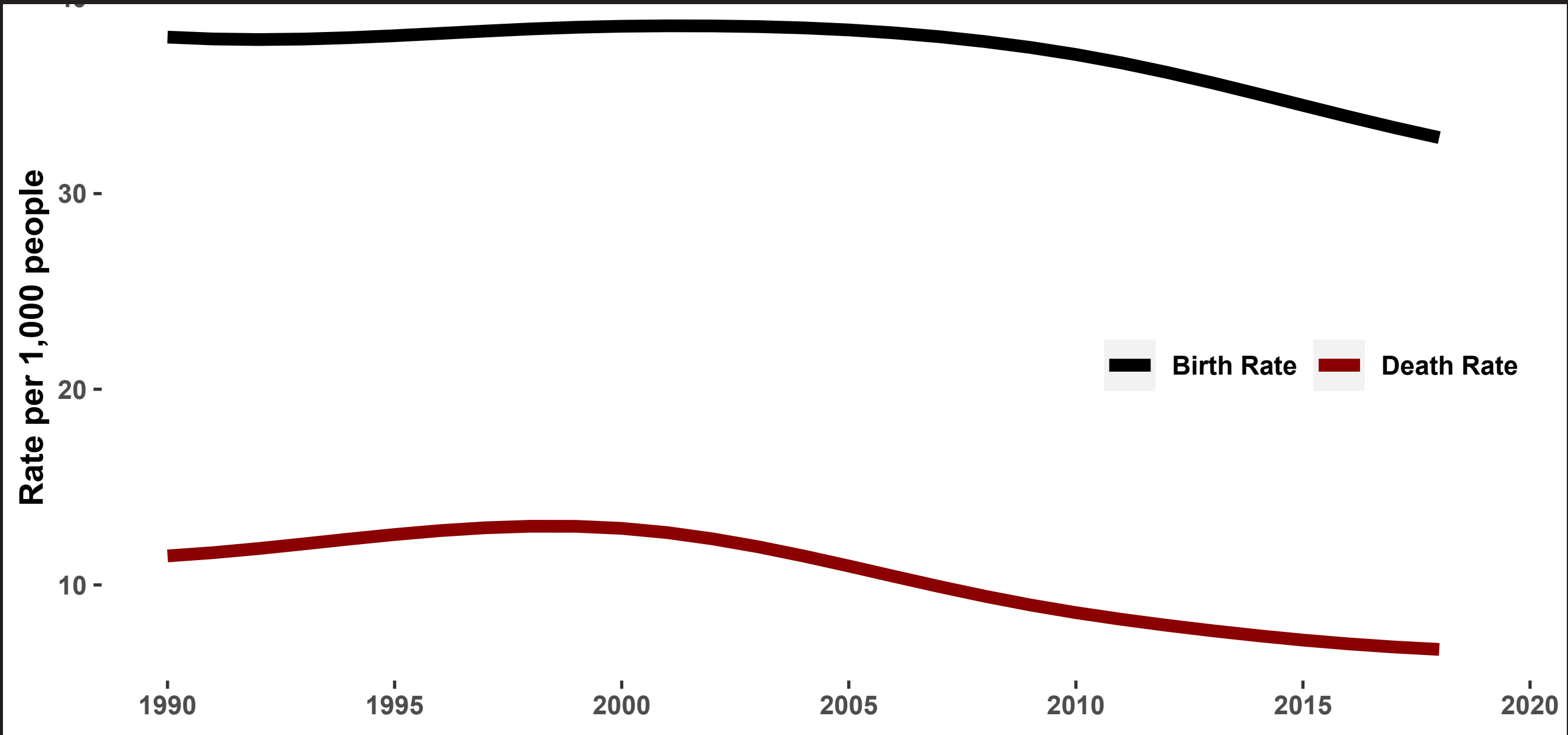
In line with continental trends, the majority of the Republic of Congo’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



The Republic of Congo’s urbanisation rate has tracked closely to the African average over the past 30 years.

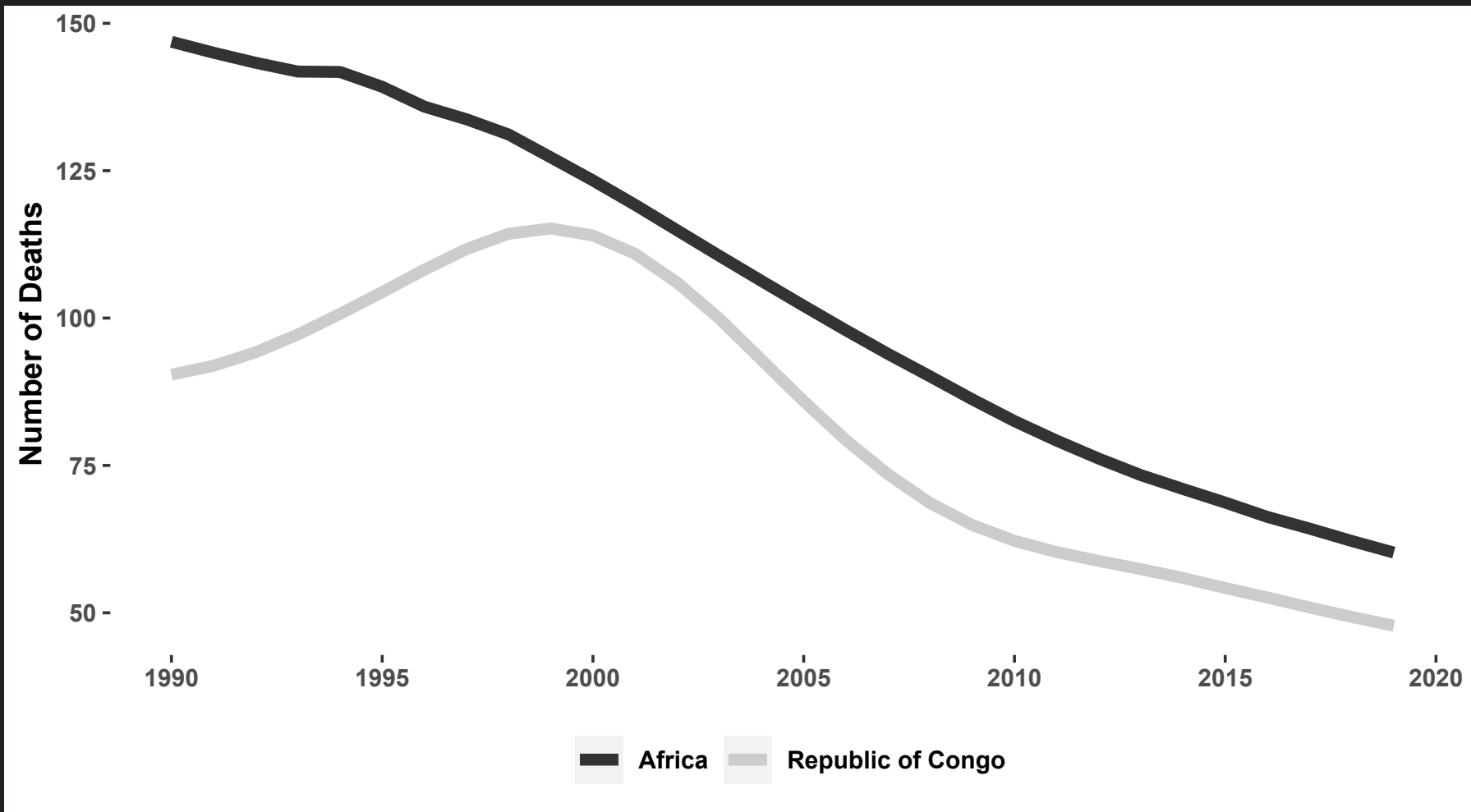
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The Republic of Congo has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

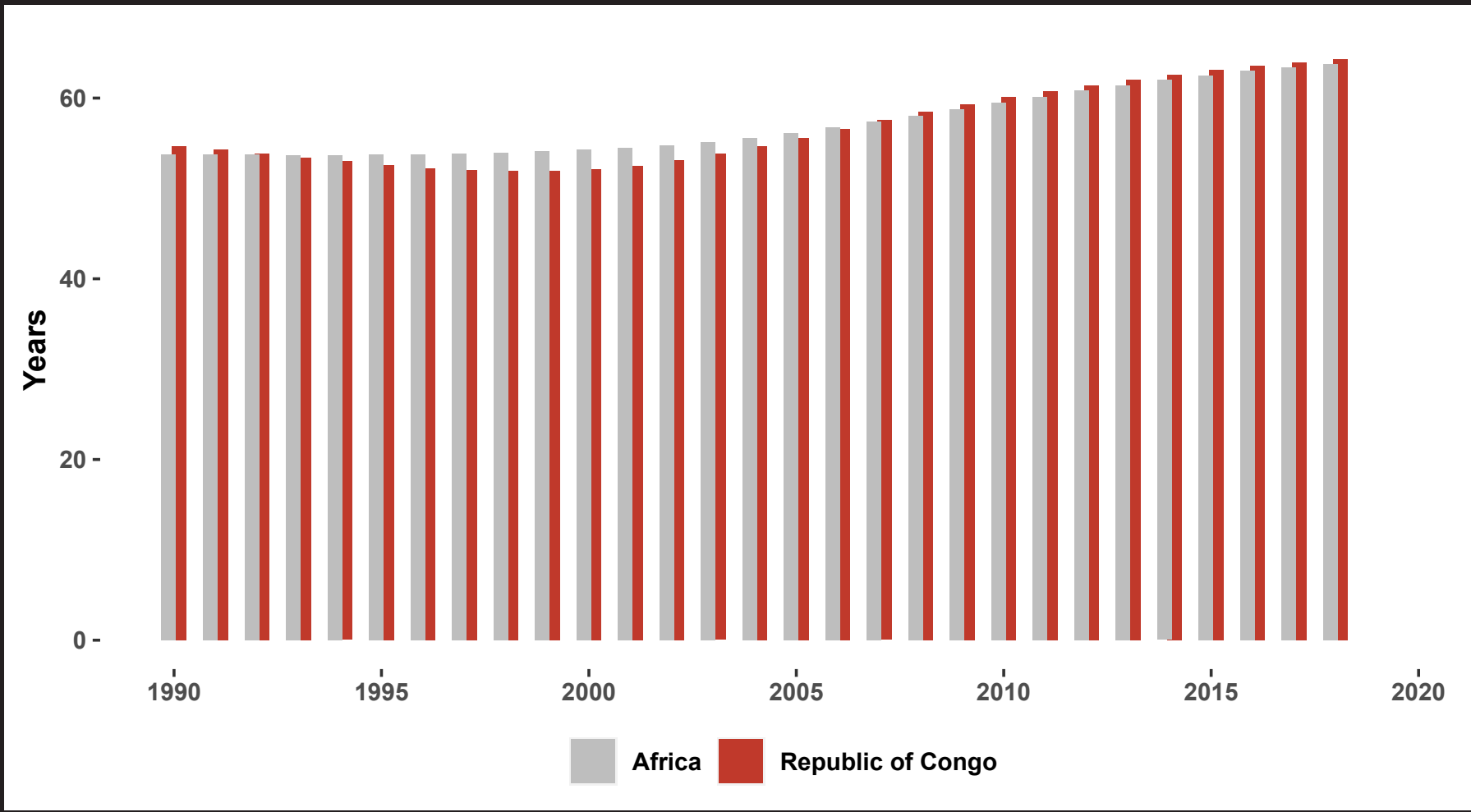
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



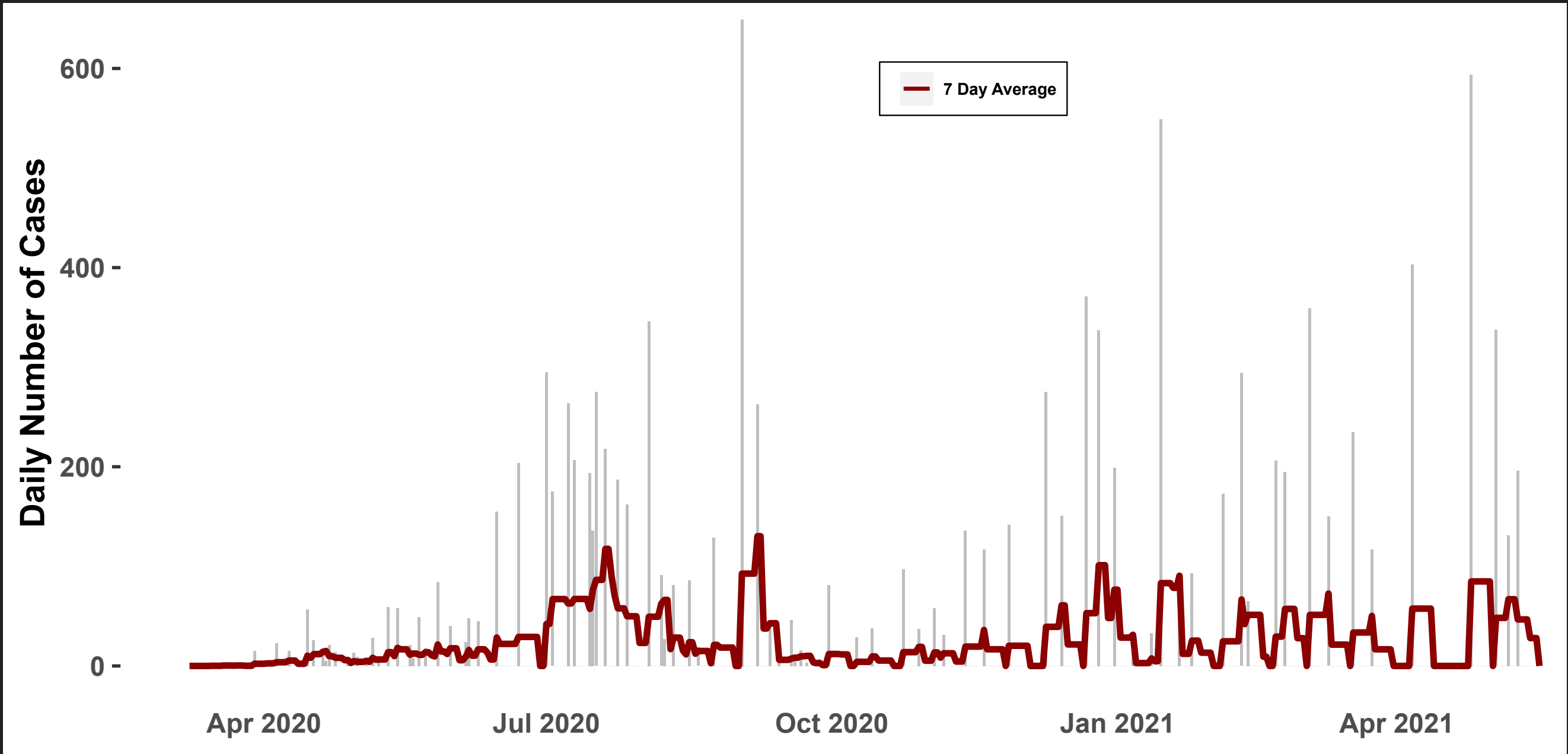
Intermittent civil conflict in the Republic of Congo saw its child mortality rate rise between 1990 and 2000. Since 2000 the child mortality rate has been in decline.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Since 2005, life expectancy in the Republic of Congo has tracked closely with the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



The Republic of Congo hasn't experienced any true Covid-19 waves.

DID YOU KNOW?



David Stanley on Flickr.com

The Congo is known by several names, including the Republic of the Congo, West Congo, Congo Republic, Congo-Brazzaville, and simply Congo.



Steve Wilson on Flickr.com

The rainforest in the Congo Basin is the second-largest in the world after the Amazon. This rainforest extends well beyond the Congo border into Gabor, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic.



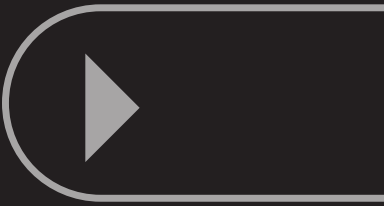
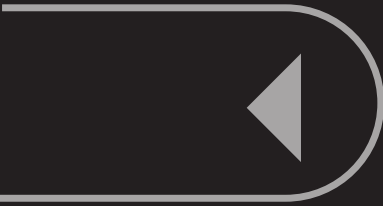
USAID U.S. Agency for International Development on Flickr.com

The main crops grown in the Republic of Congo are corn, rice, sugar, and tapioca (cassava).



RWANDA

Rwanda is a landlocked country in the Great Rift Valley, where the African Great Lakes region and East Africa converge, bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is one of Africa’s smallest countries. Germany colonised Rwanda in 1884 as part of German East Africa, followed by Belgium, which invaded in 1916. Both European nations perpetuated a pro-Tutsi policy. The Hutu population revolted in 1959 and ultimately established an independent, Hutu-dominated republic in 1962. A 1973 military coup saw a change of leadership, but the pro-Hutu policy remained. The Tutsis launched a civil war in 1990, and in the 1994 genocide that followed, Hutu extremists killed an estimated 500,000 – 1,000,000 Tutsi and moderate Hutu. The same year, the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front ended the genocide with a military victory. The official currency is the Rwandan franc.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Paul Kagame

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Kigali

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

160

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

4



MAIN LANGUAGES

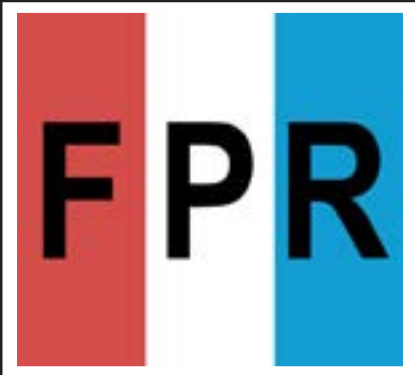
Kinyarwanda , French and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant-party presidential constitutional republic



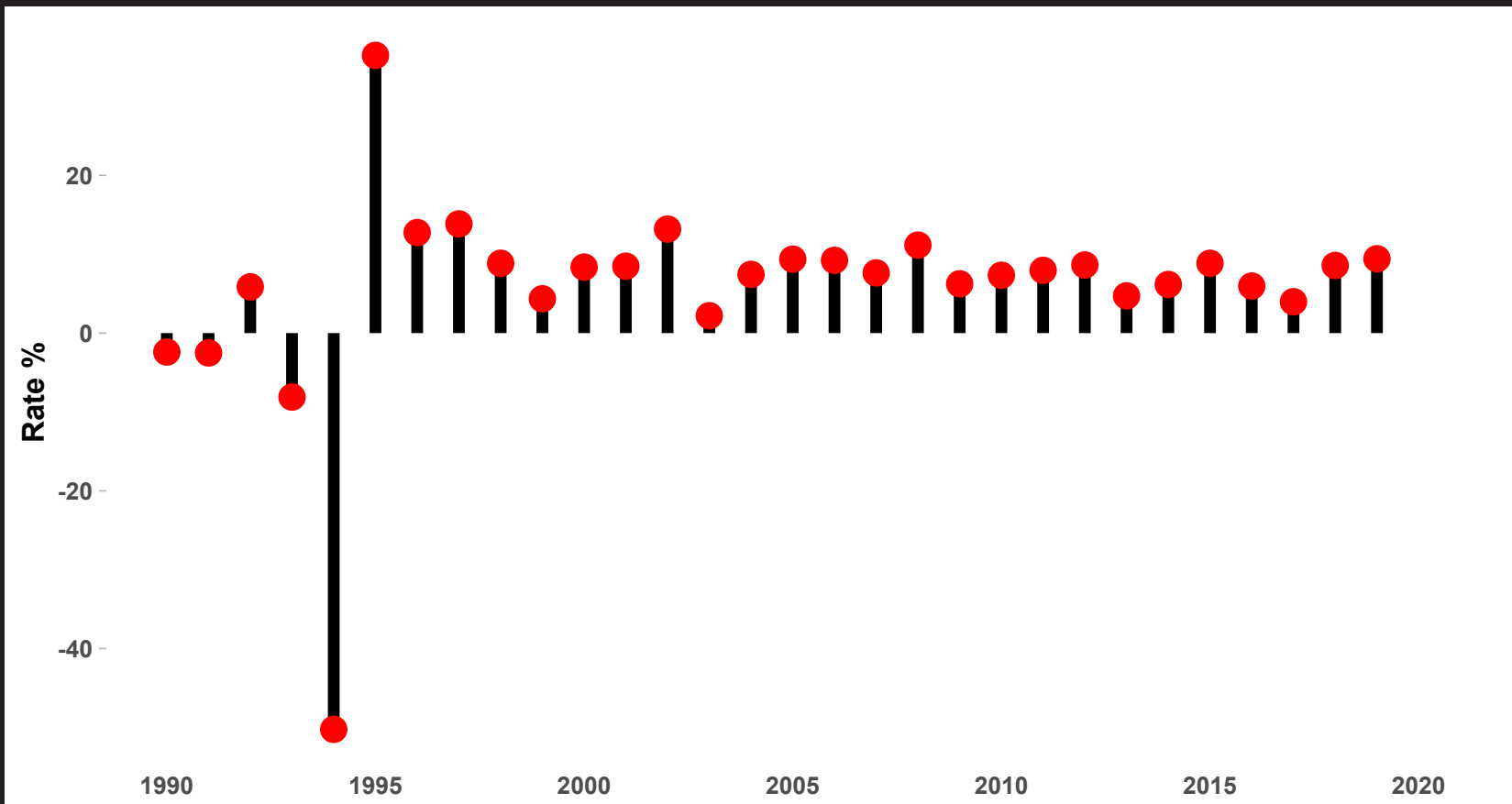
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Rwandan Patriotic Front



MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY
Social Democratic Party

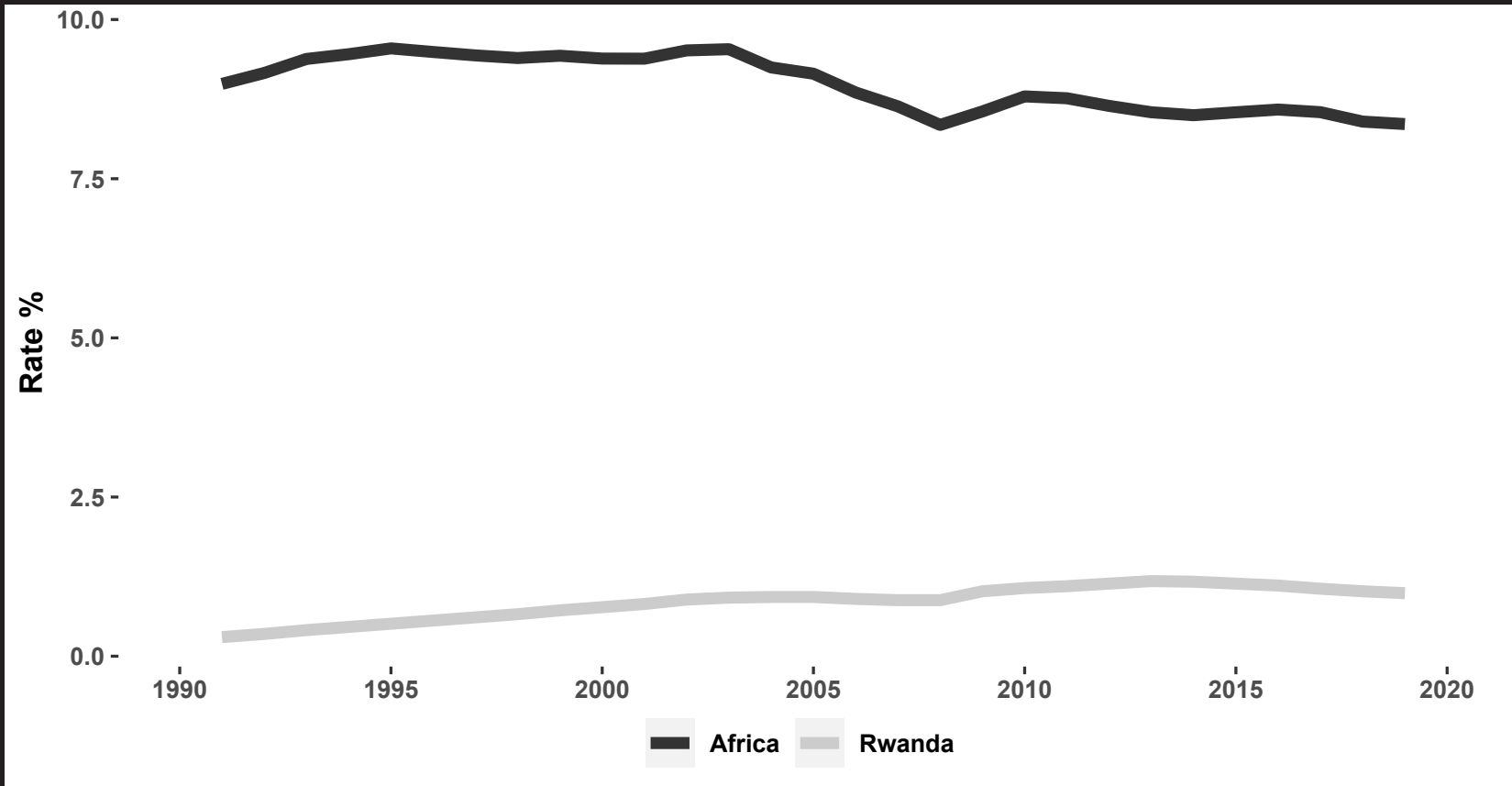
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



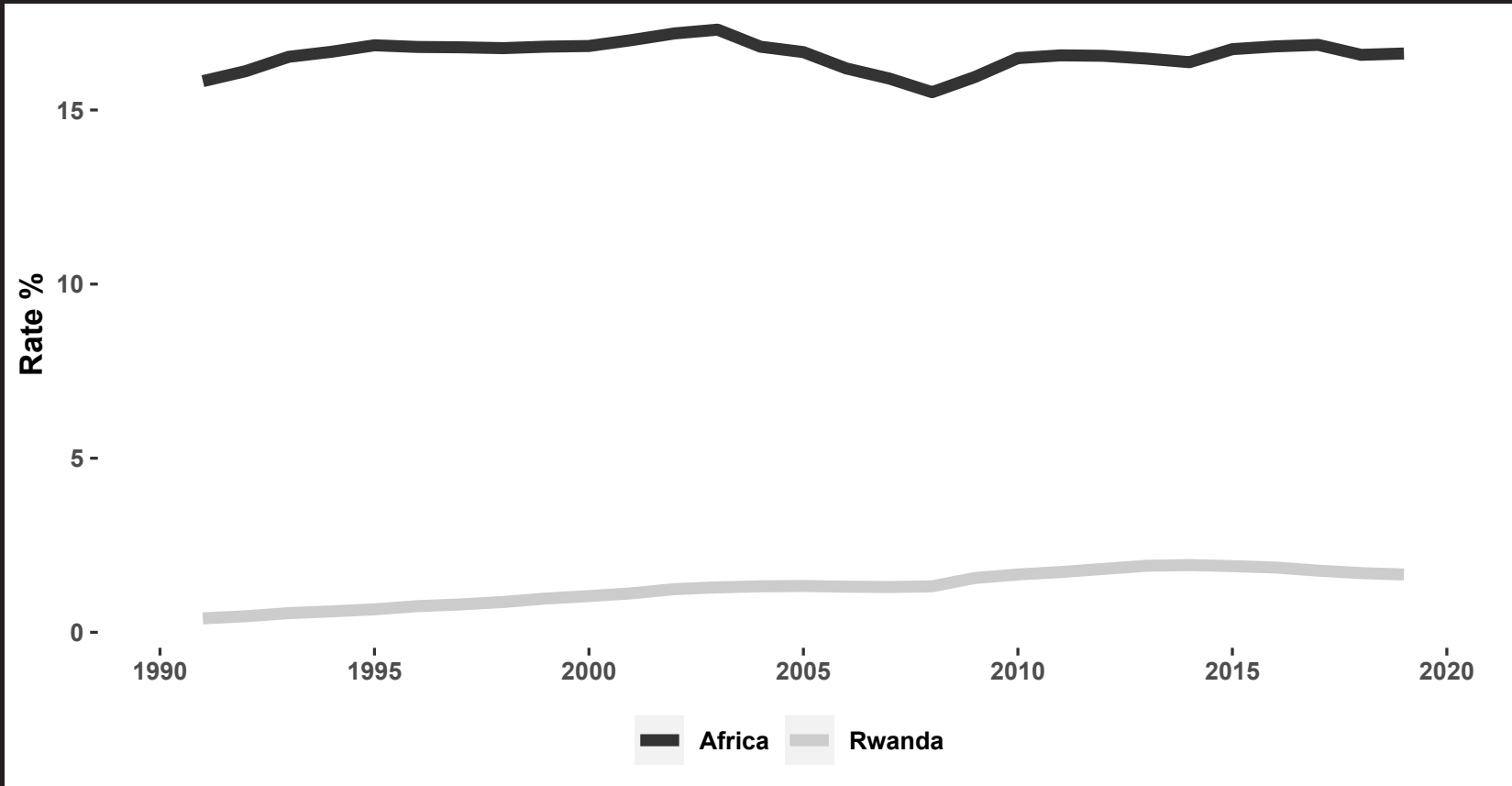
Due to the civil conflict and genocide, Rwanda had one of the most volatile economies in Africa between 1990 and 1995, with significant negative growth in 1994 (-50%) and significant positive growth in 1995 (35%). Since 1996, the Rwandan economy has experienced consistent economic expansion.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



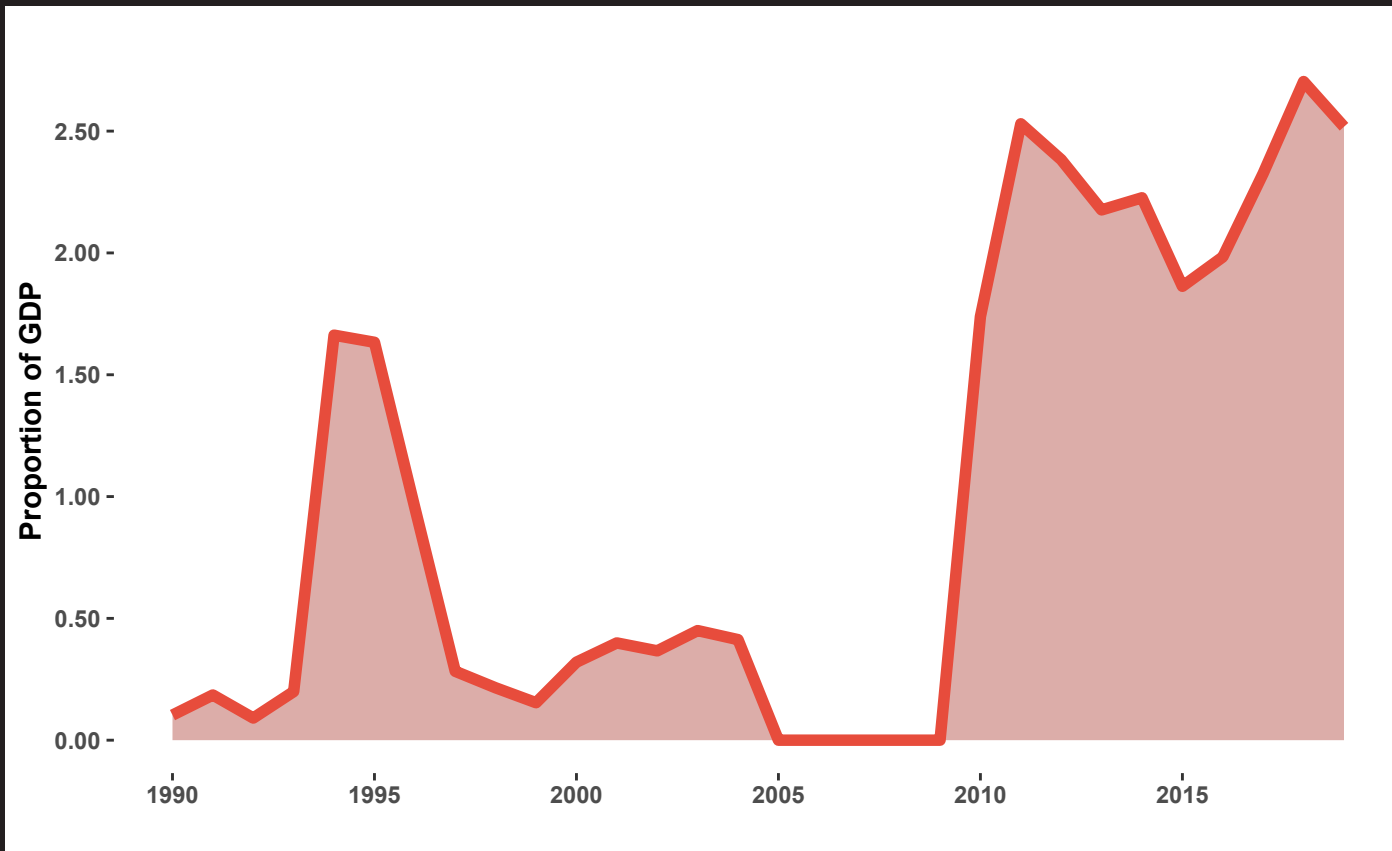
Rwanda has consistently had one of the lowest unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Rwanda has consistently had one of the lowest youth unemployment rates across the continent over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019

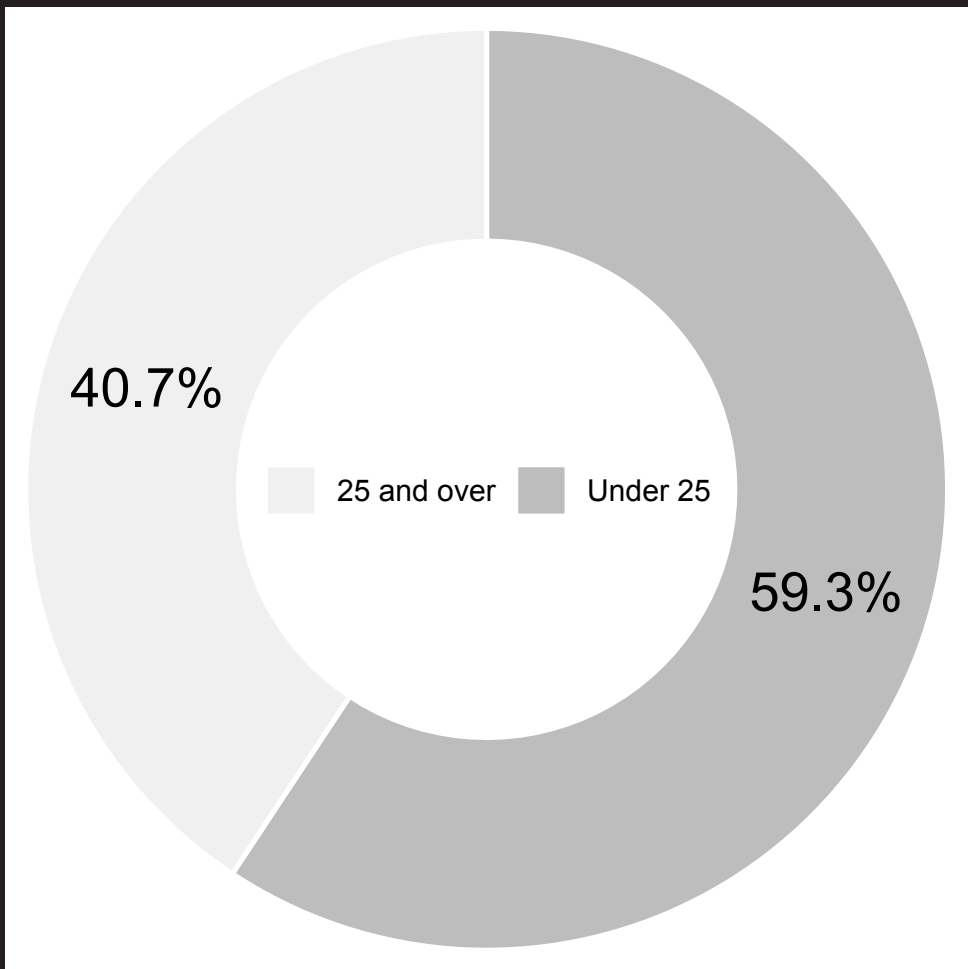


Cash inflows from abroad (2019)
\$260.7 million
which represents
2.52% of GDP

Rwanda has become more reliant on remittances since 2010.

DEMOGRAPHICS

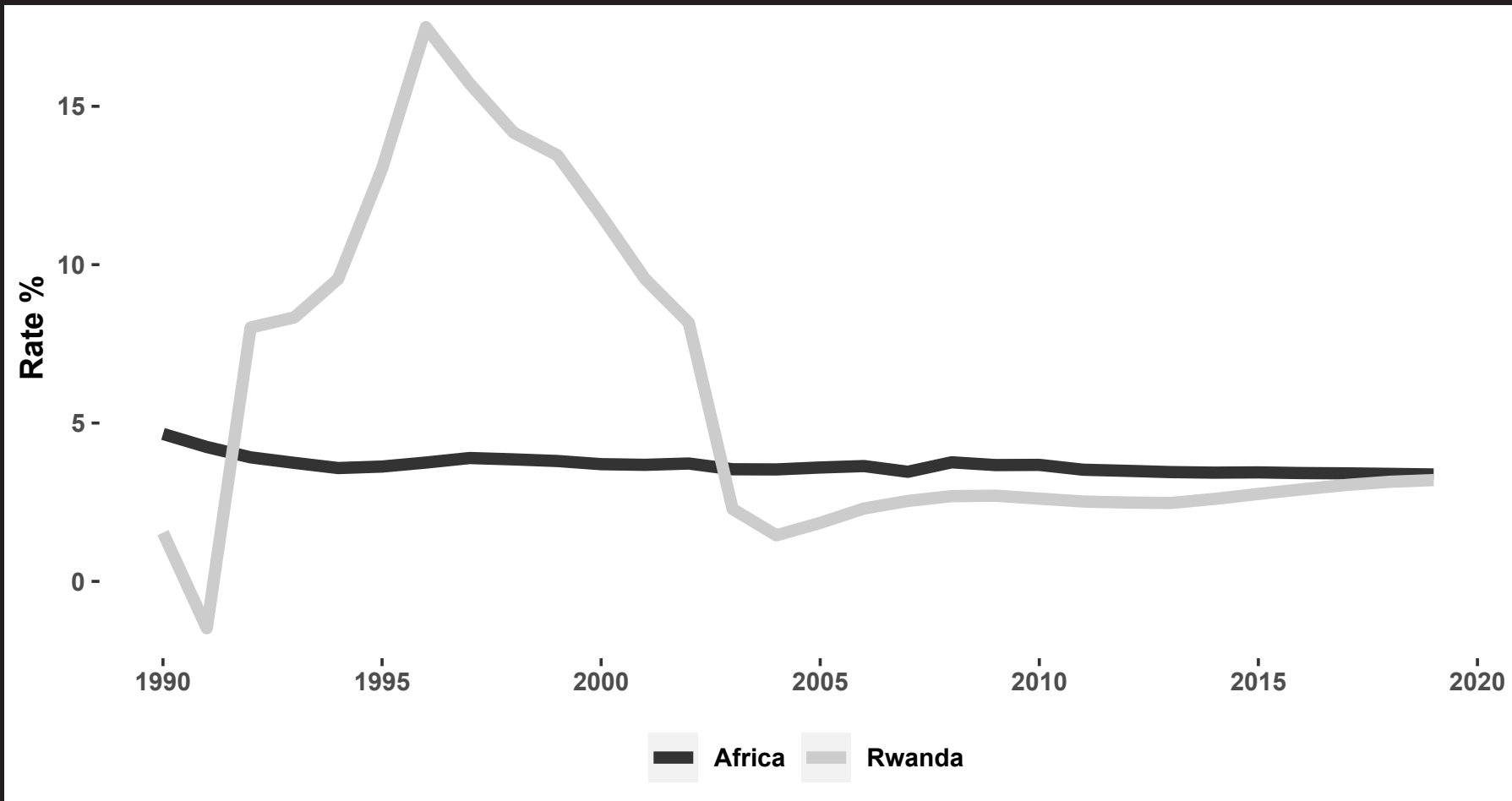
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



12.6 million

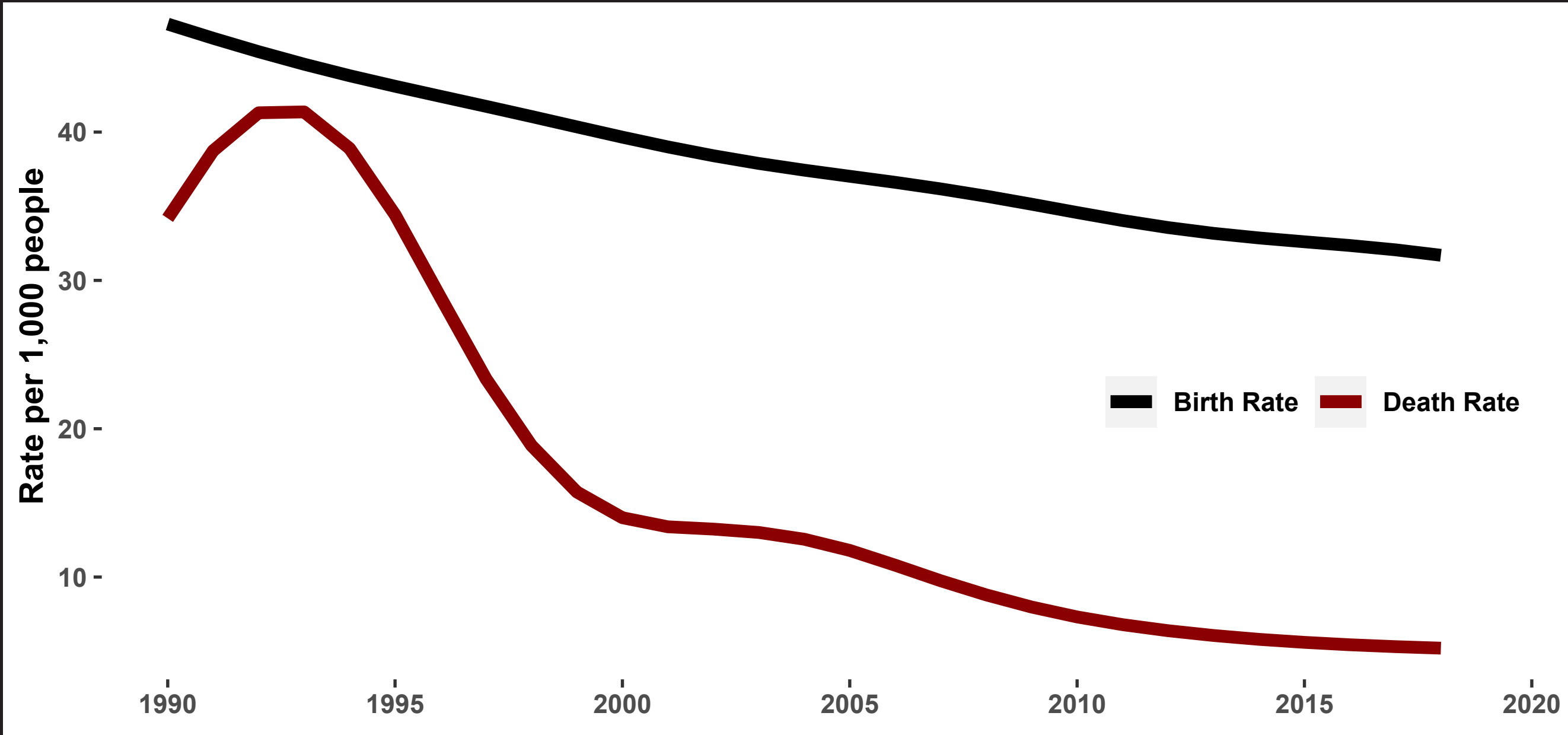
In line with continental trends, the majority of Rwanda’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



During the 1990s, Rwanda experienced erratic urbanisation growth rates – especially in the aftermath of the genocide. By 2005, urbanisation was occurring at a more sedate pace in line with the average continental rate.

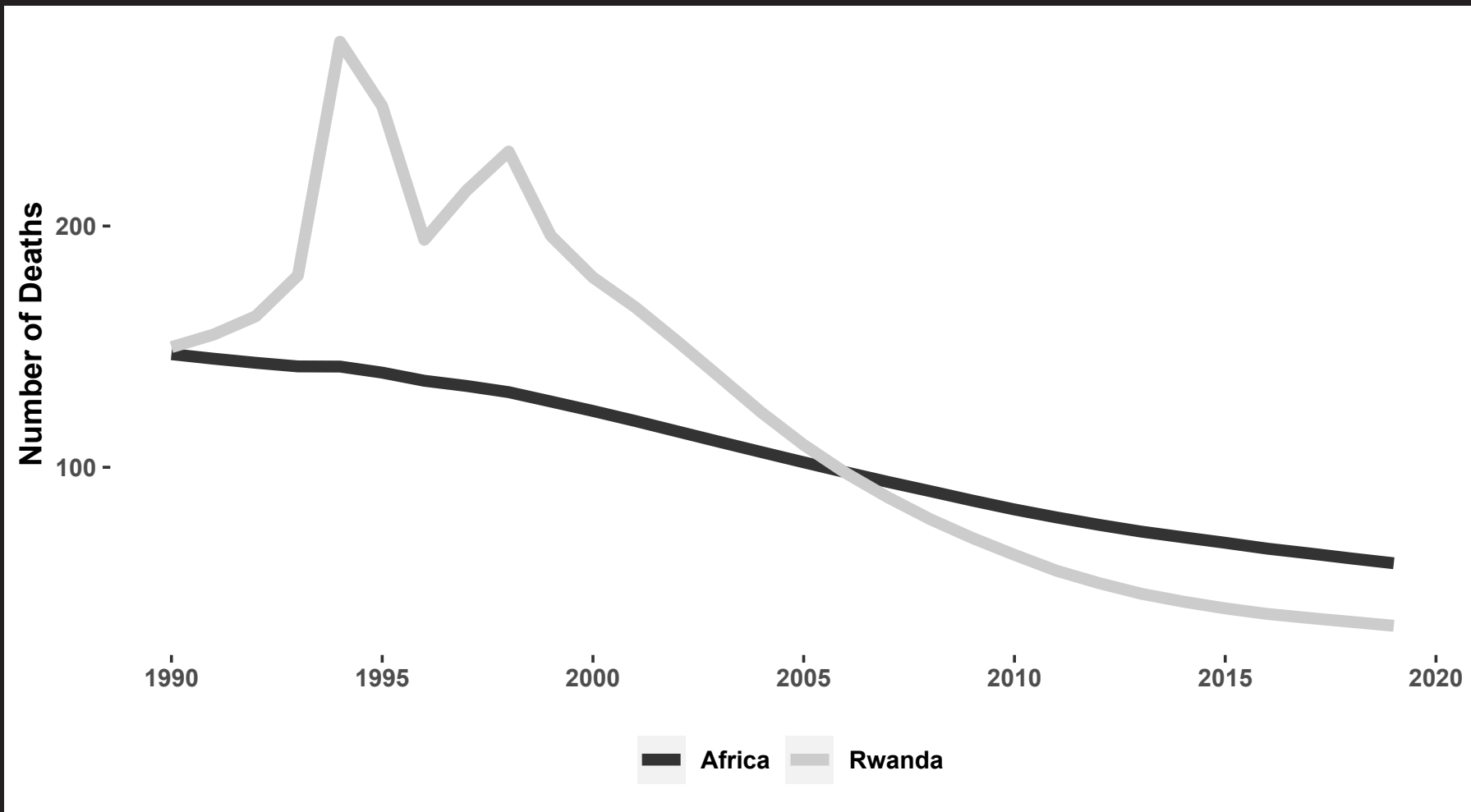
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Due to civil conflict and genocide the death rate in Rwanda uncharacteristically rose (compared to the African norm) between 1990 and 1995. Since 2000 Rwanda has experienced steady population growth with a birth rate roughly double its death rate.

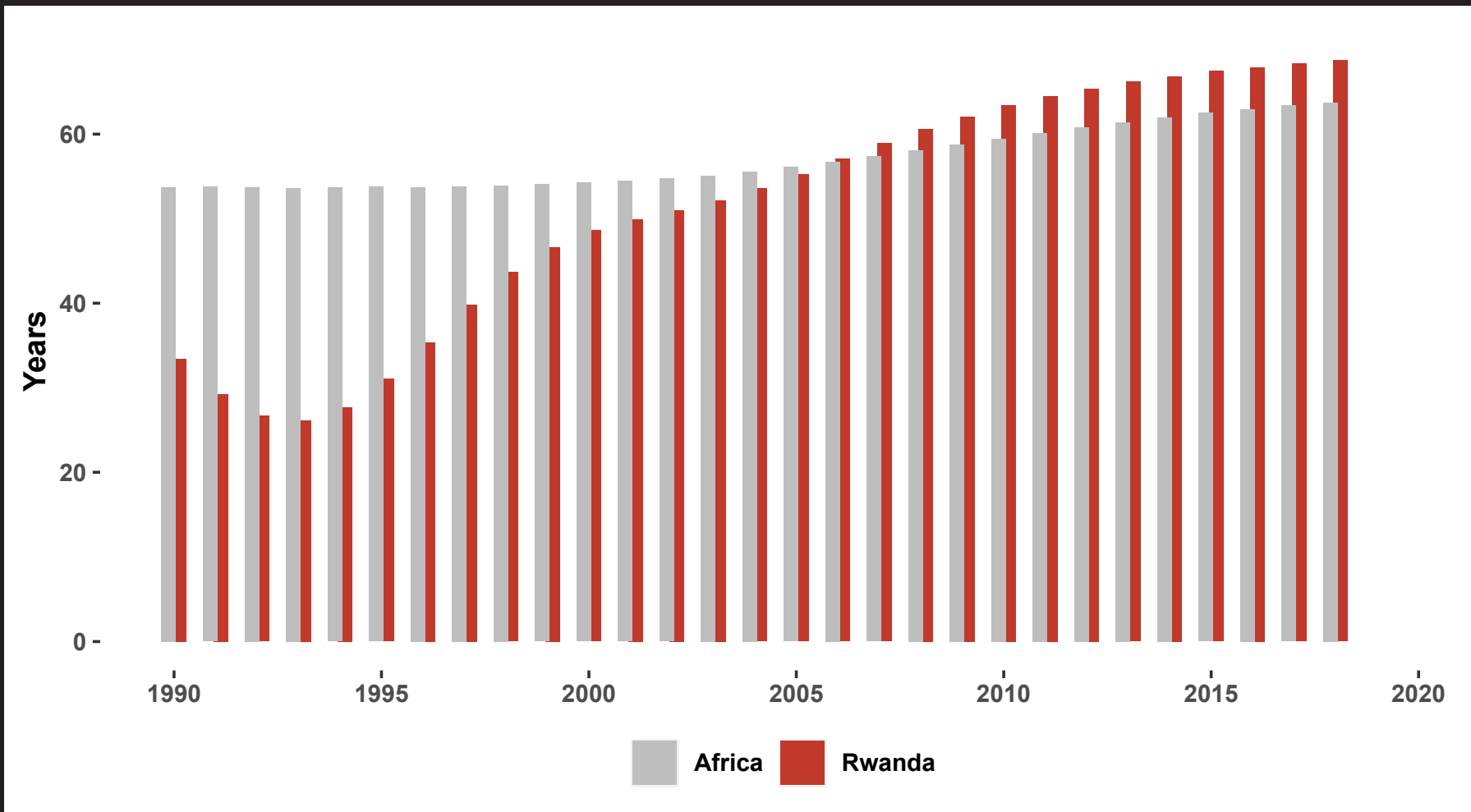
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



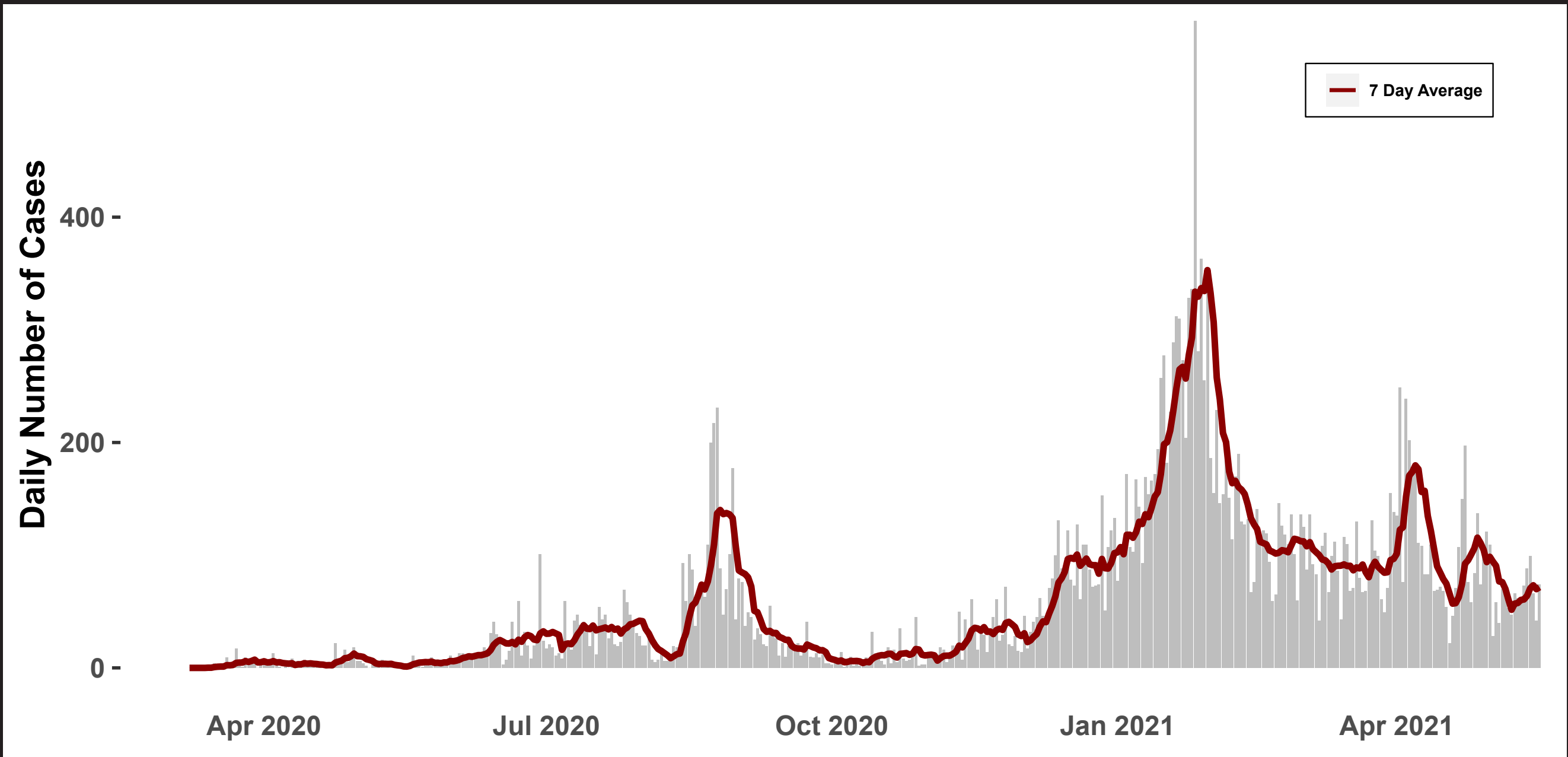
Due to civil conflict, child mortality in Rwanda increased between 1990 and 1998, peaking during the time of the genocide in 1994. Since 1998, child mortality in Rwanda has fallen at a much quicker rate when compared to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



During the early 1990s Rwanda recorded some of the lowest life expectancies in modern history (anywhere in the world). After the end of the genocide and civil conflict, life expectancy rapidly increased and by 2006 was higher than the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Rwanda experienced a small Covid-19 wave in September 2020, and a larger, more extended wave between January and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Jussi Ollila on Flickr.com



In 2008, Rwanda became known around the world for banning plastic bags in an effort to go green.

CIAT on Flickr.com



Rwanda and Burundi used to be the same country. The two countries were combined by Germany in 1894, and until independence from Belgium in 1962, the territory was called Ruanda–Urundi.

Mugisha Don de Dieu on Flickr.com



Same-sex sexual activity is legal in Rwanda. However, Rwanda does not recognise same-sex marriages, civil unions or similar unions.



SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

São Tomé and Príncipe is an island country in the Gulf of Guinea, off the western equatorial coast of central Africa. It consists of two archipelagos around the two main islands of São Tomé and Príncipe, about 140 km apart. The islands were uninhabited until their discovery by Portuguese explorers in the 15th century. Gradually colonised and settled by the Portuguese throughout the 16th century, the island became an outpost of the slave trade, while sugar cane, cocoa and coffee became major exports. The islands’ remoteness – situated roughly 260 km off the coast of Gabon – has helped maintain a remarkably varied ecosystem. Lush rainforests rich with endemic plants and species cover large swathes of both islands, while white sandy beaches and crystal-clear waters are plentiful. São Tomé and Príncipe remains one of the world’s least-visited countries – a little more than 30,000 people arrived in 2018 – but that still represents a big increase on past years.

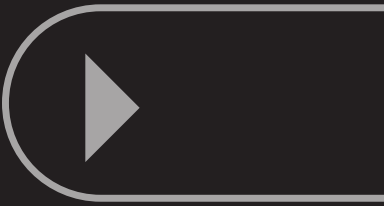
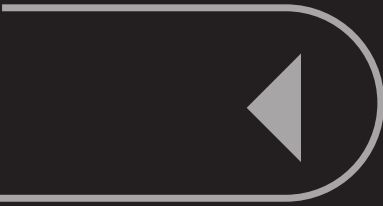
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

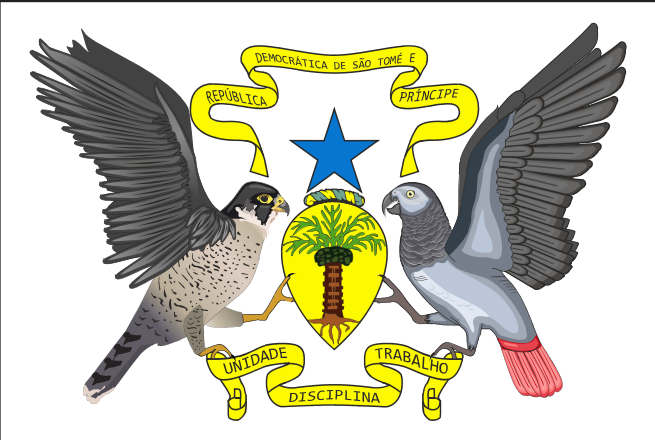


HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Evaristo Carvalho

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
São Tomé

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

135

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

7



MAIN LANGUAGES

Portuguese

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary semi-presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Movement for the Liberation of São Tomé and Príncipe

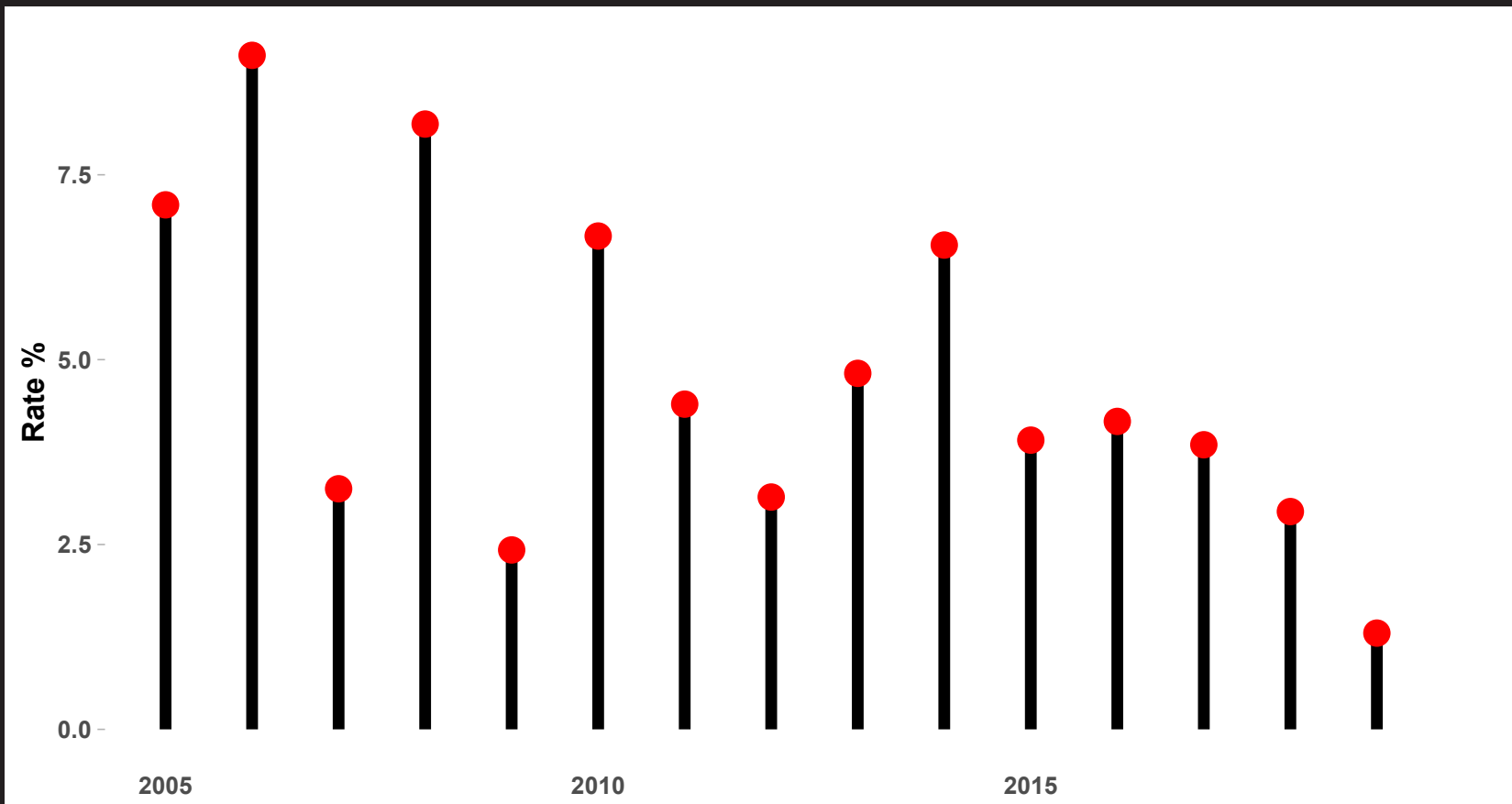


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Independent Democratic Action

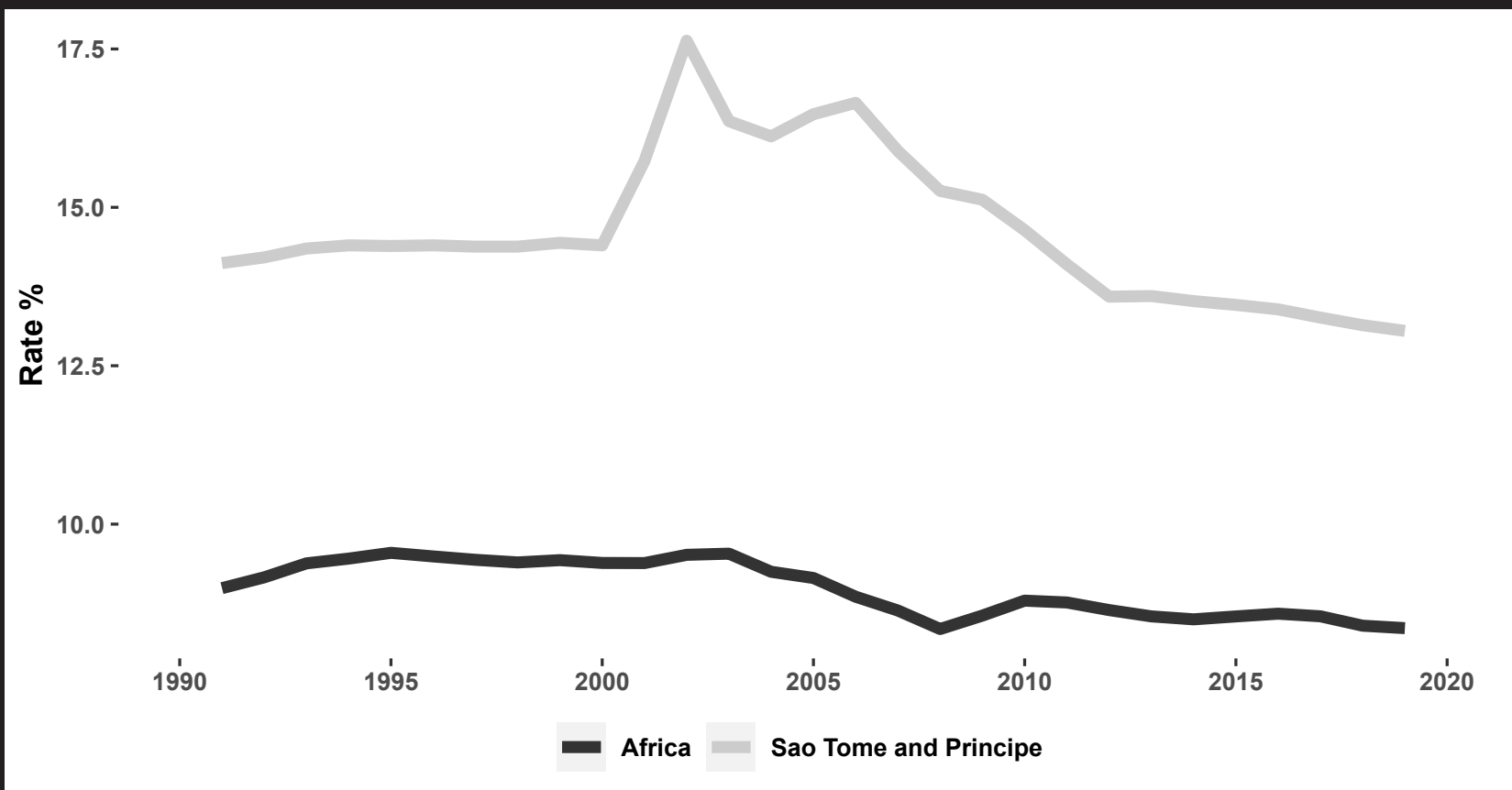
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



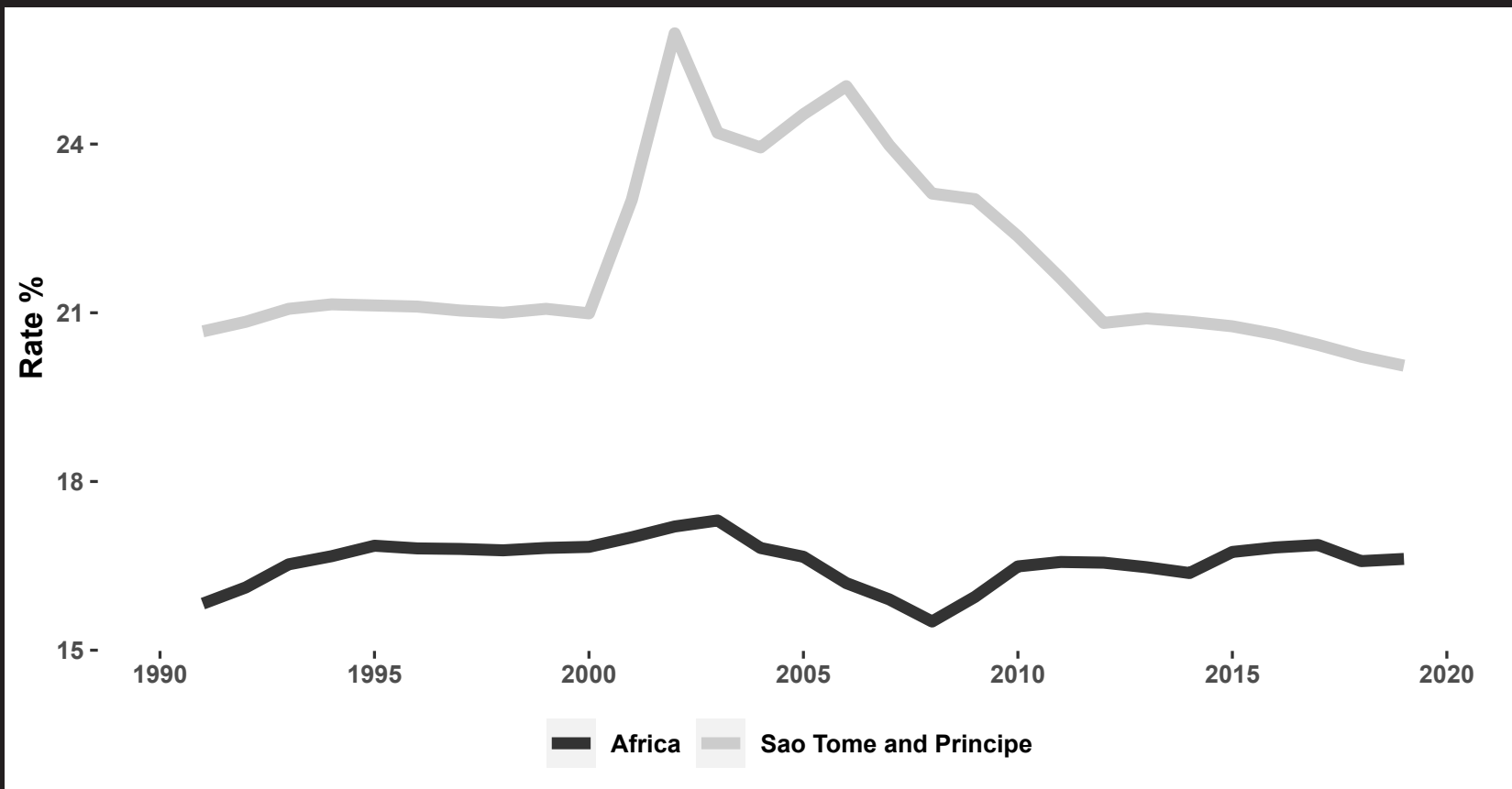
Since 2005, São Tomé and Príncipe’s economy has experienced consistent growth.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



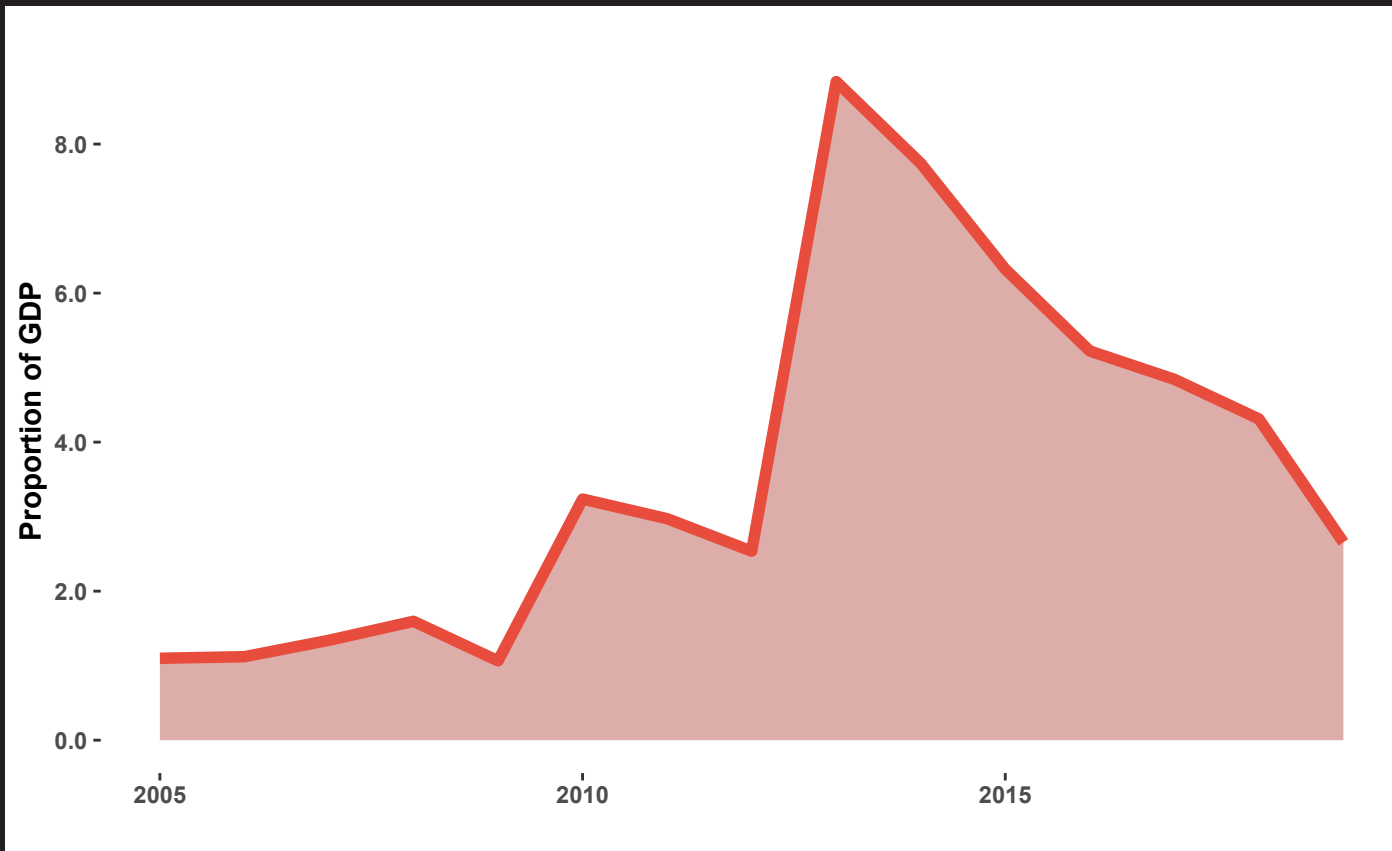
São Tomé and Príncipe’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



São Tomé and Príncipe’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$11.1 million

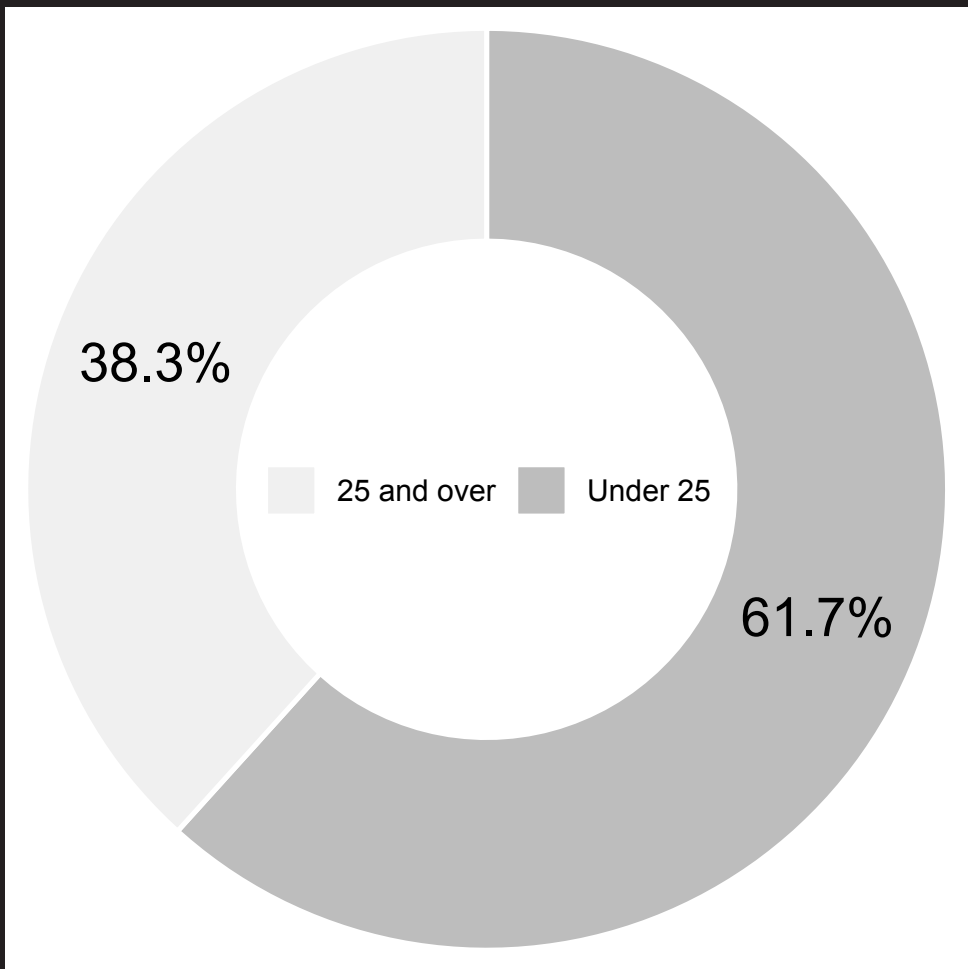
which represents

2.65% of GDP

São Tomé’s reliance on remittances is inconsistent in yearly terms, but since 2010 these accounted for at least 2% of total GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

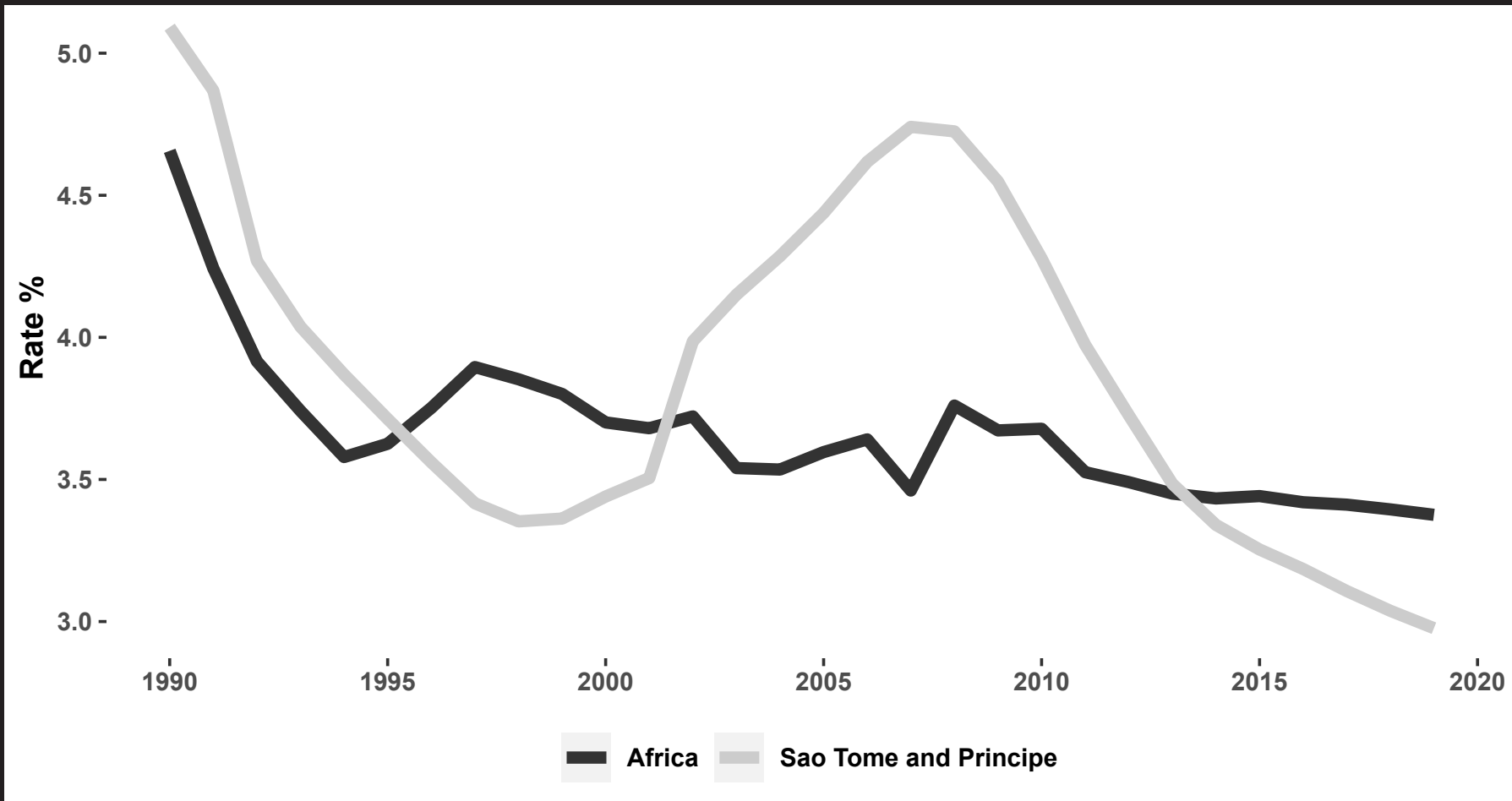
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



215 000

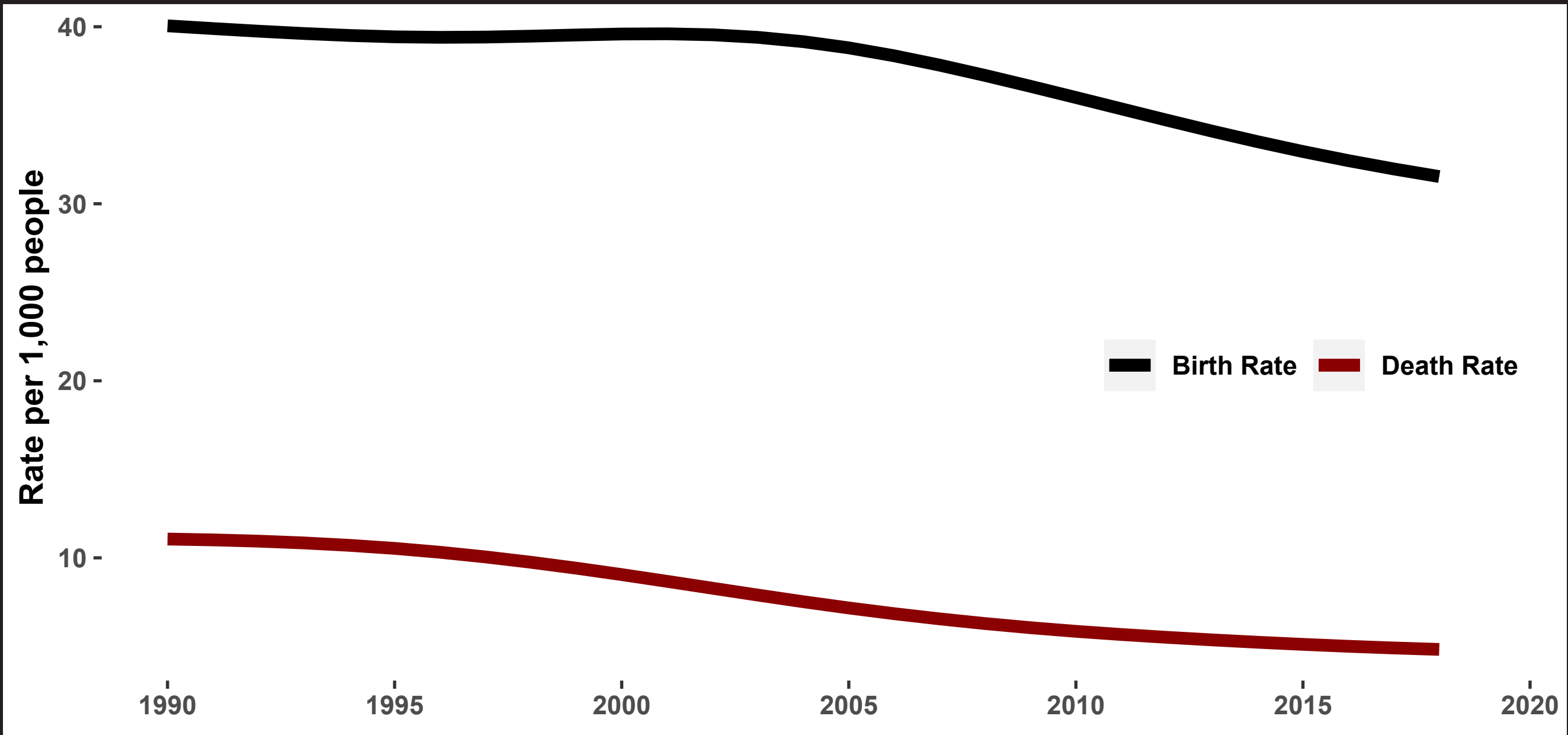
São Tomé and Príncipe is one of the least populated countries in Africa but still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Urbanisation in São Tomé and Príncipe has closely tracked the continental average over the past 30 years.

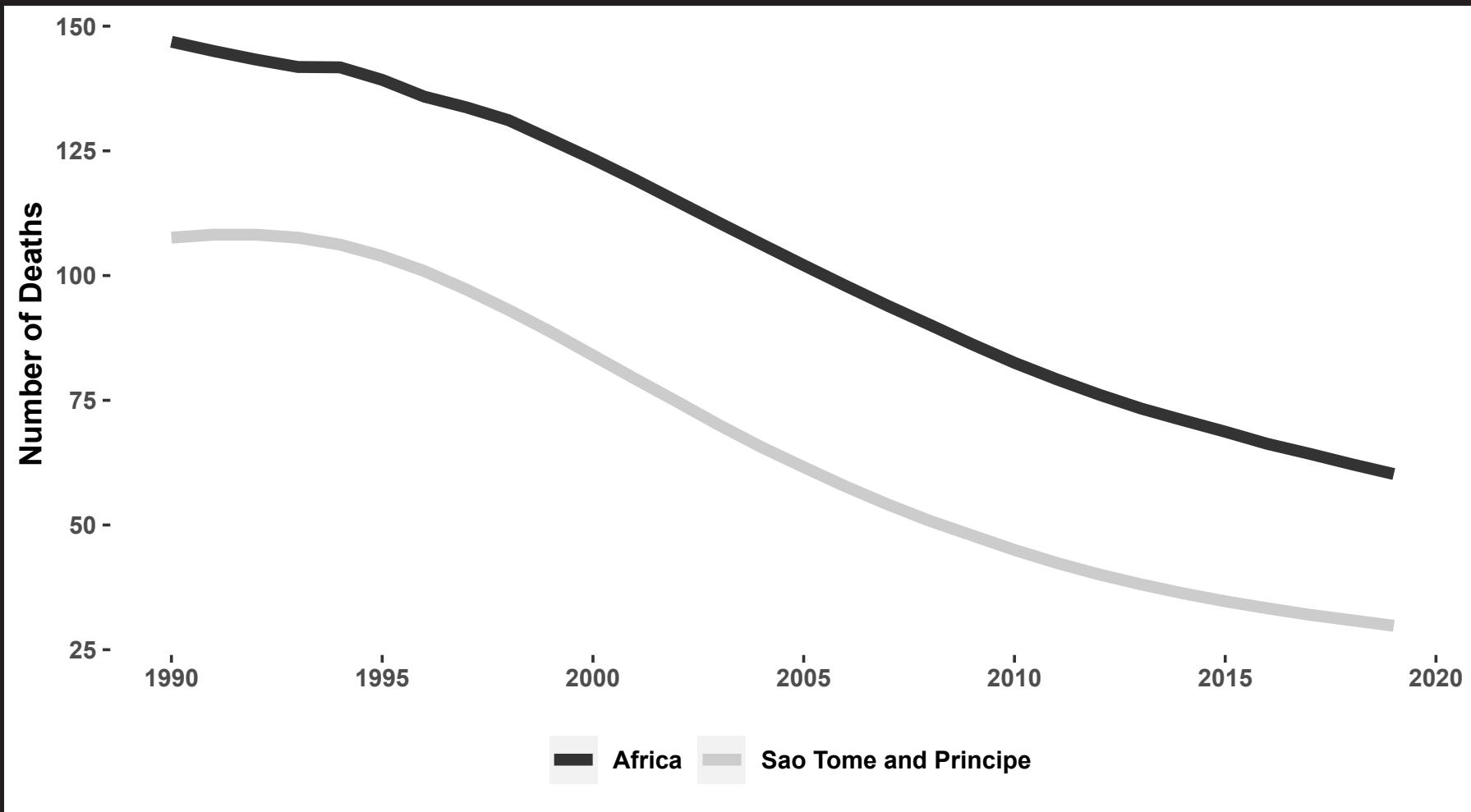
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



São Tomé and Príncipe has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

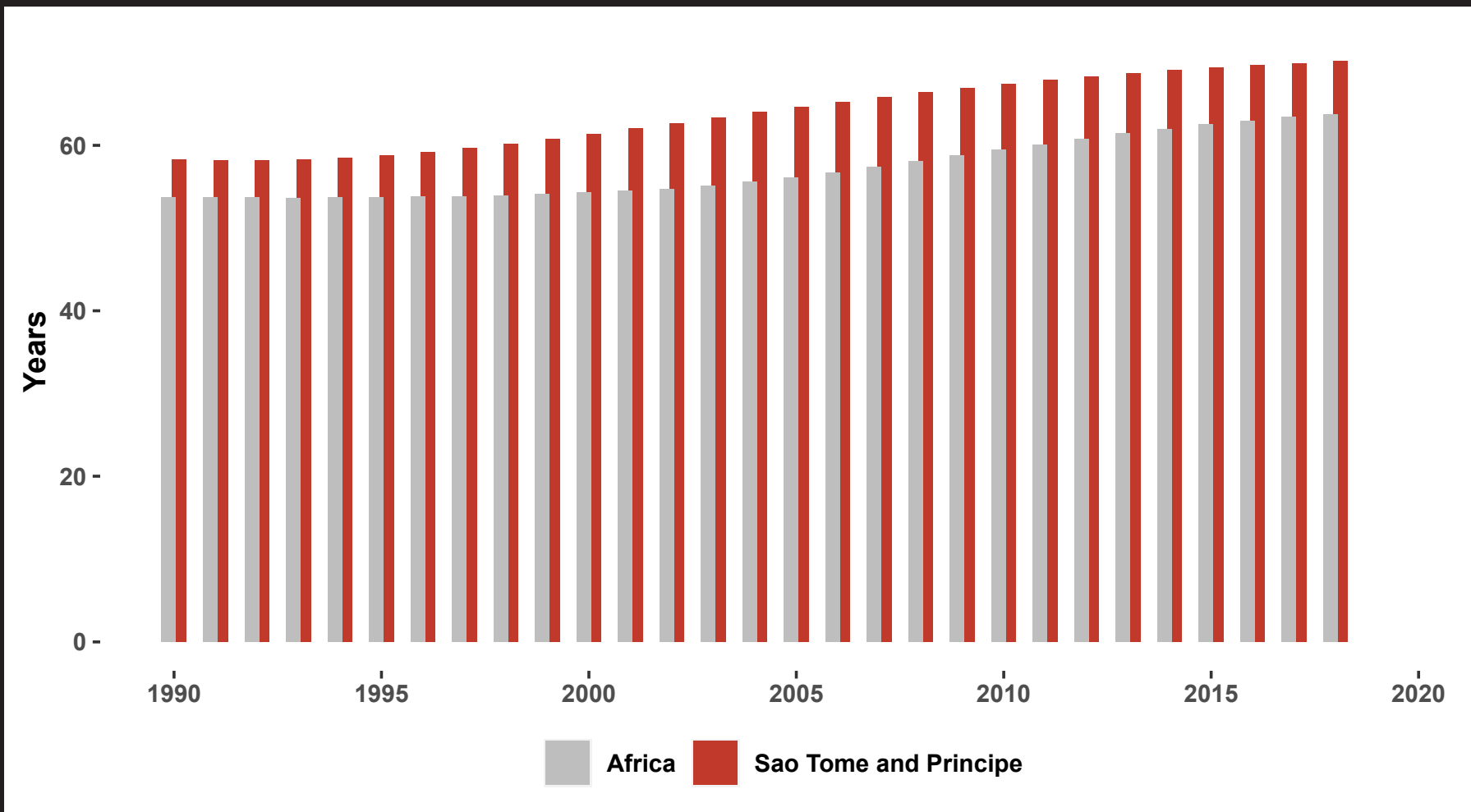
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



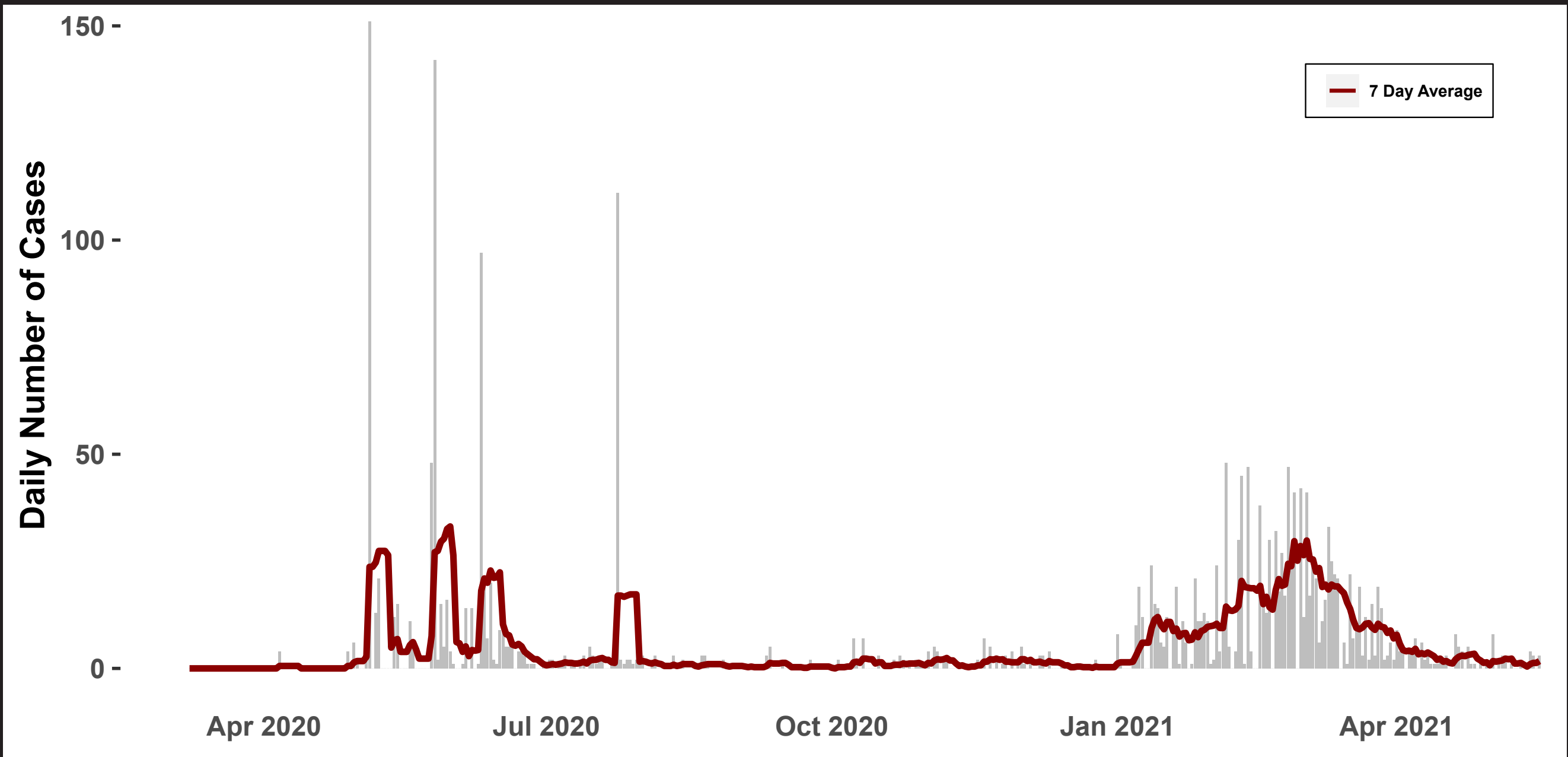
Since 1995, child mortality in São Tomé and Príncipe has been in consistent decline.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Since 1990 life expectancy in São Tomé and Príncipe has risen slightly and continues to be well over the African average.

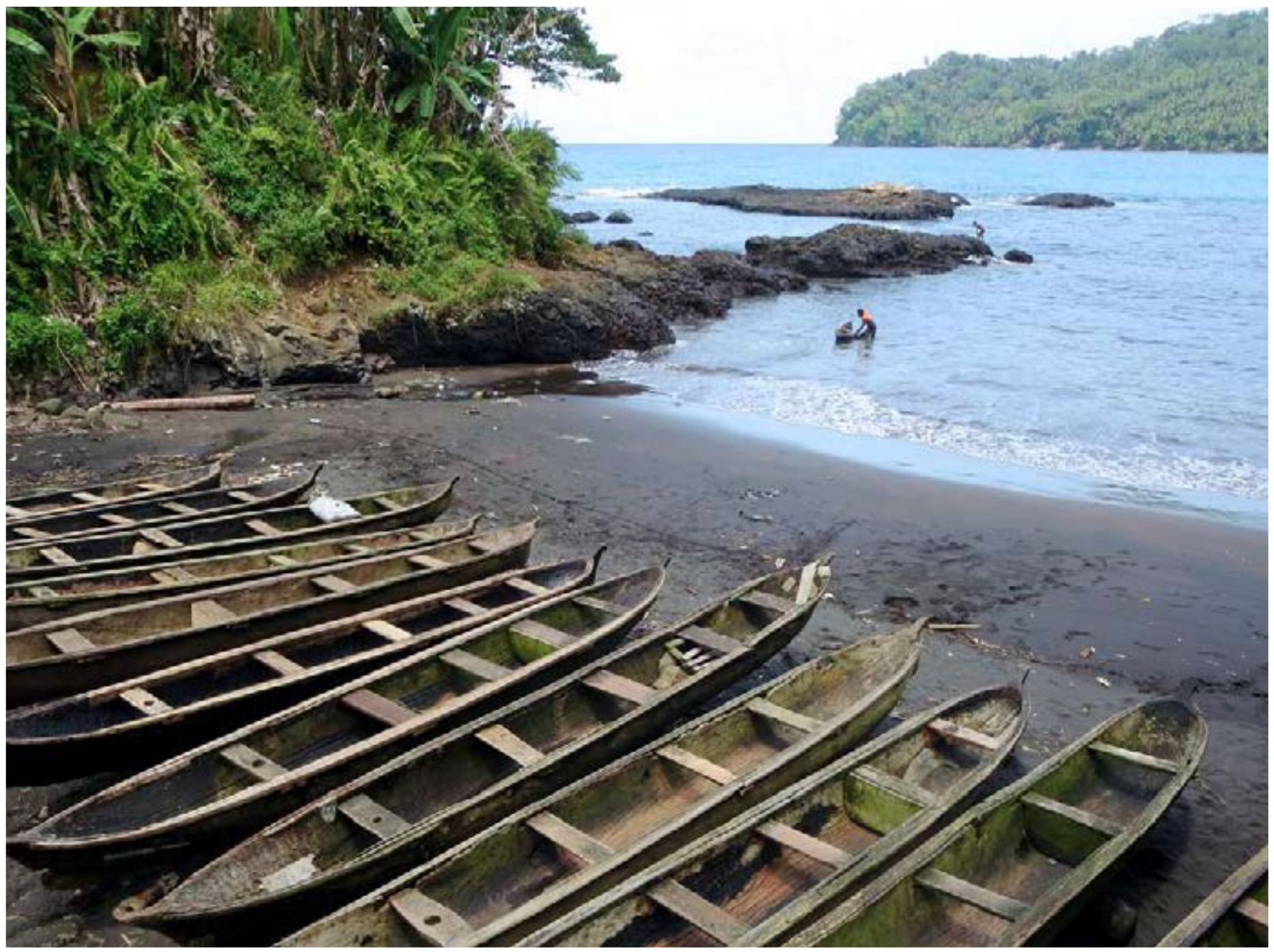
DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



São Tomé and Príncipe has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in June 2020 and February/March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Both the islands are part of Cameroon’s volcanic mountain line. They were created as a result of volcanic activity that is extinct.

Miss Helena on Flickr.com



Almost 30% of São Tomé and Príncipe’s territory is covered by rain forests.

Miss Helena on Flickr.com



São Tomé was the leading producer and exporter of sugar cane during the 17th century. These plantations were worked by slaves, imported in large numbers from the African mainland by Portuguese settlers to the island. Their descendents now make up most of the country’s population.



SENEGAL

Senegal is in West Africa, bordered by Mauritania, Mali, Guinea and Guinea-Bissau. Senegal nearly surrounds The Gambia, a country occupying a narrow sliver of land along the banks of the Gambia River. Various European powers – Portugal, the Netherlands, and Great Britain – competed for trade in the area from the 15th century onward. European missionaries introduced Christianity to Senegal in the 19th century. It was only in the 1850s that the French began to expand onto the Senegalese mainland, after they abolished slavery. In 1959 Senegal and the French Sudan merged to form the Mali Federation, which later broke up and prompted Senegal and French Sudan (renamed Mali) to each proclaim independence. The economy of Senegal is driven by mining, construction, tourism, fishing and agriculture. It also has one of the best developed tourist industries in Africa. The official currency is the CFA franc.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Macky Sall

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Dakar

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

168

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

39



MAIN LANGUAGES

French and Wolof

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant-party presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Alliance for the Republic

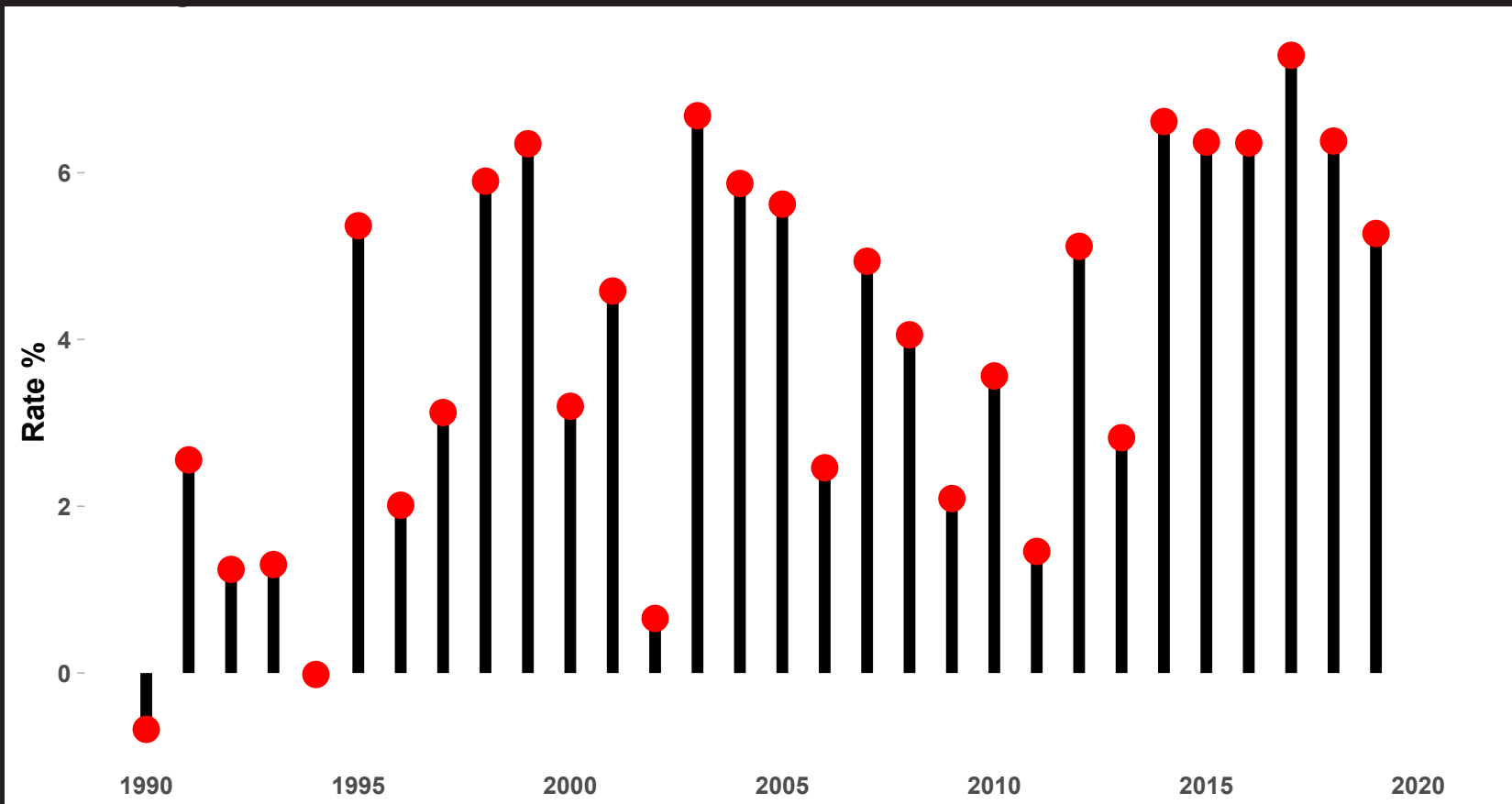


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Senegalese Democratic Party

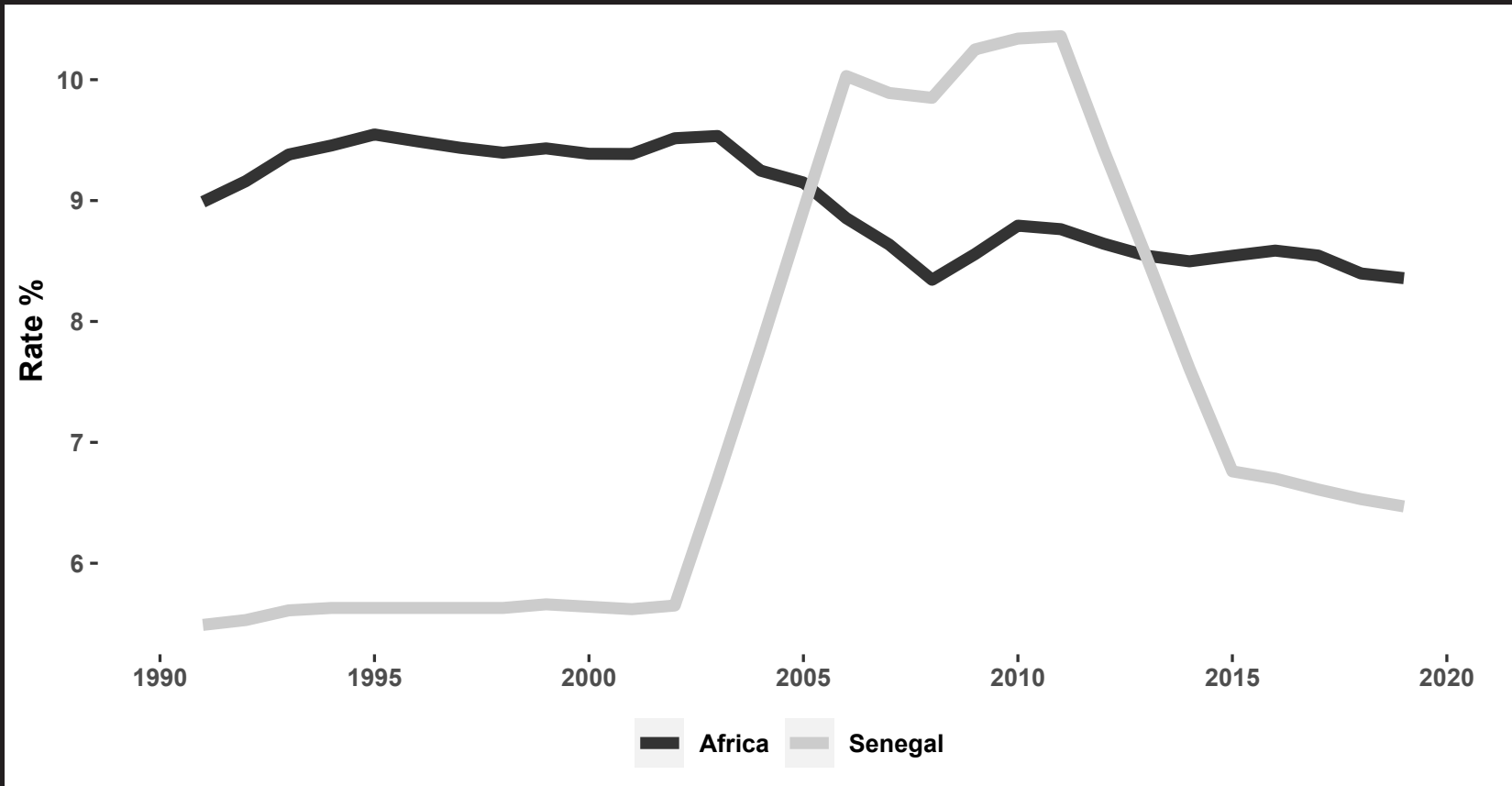
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



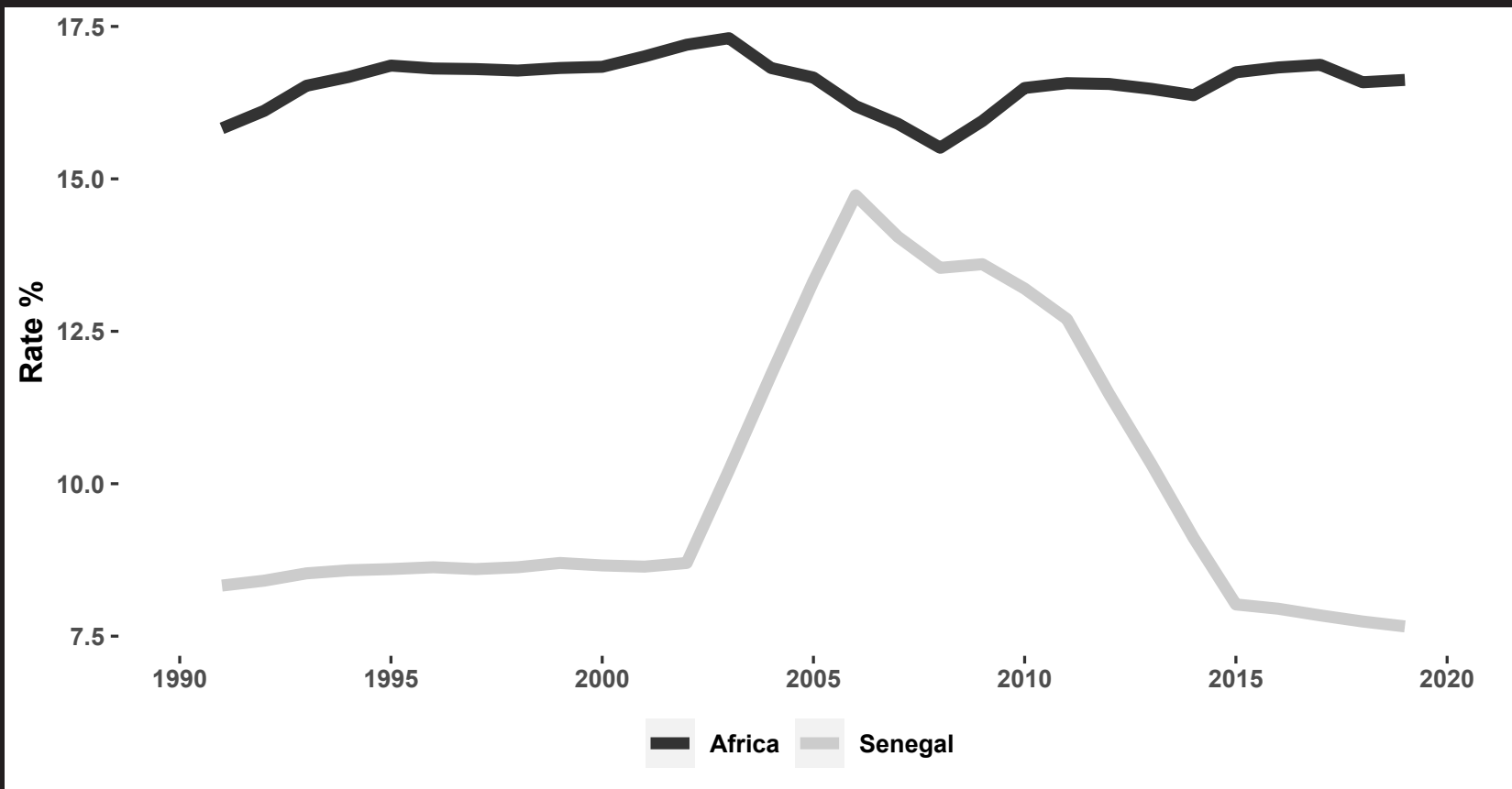
Since a recession in 1990 Senegal’s economy has experienced consistent economic expansion.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



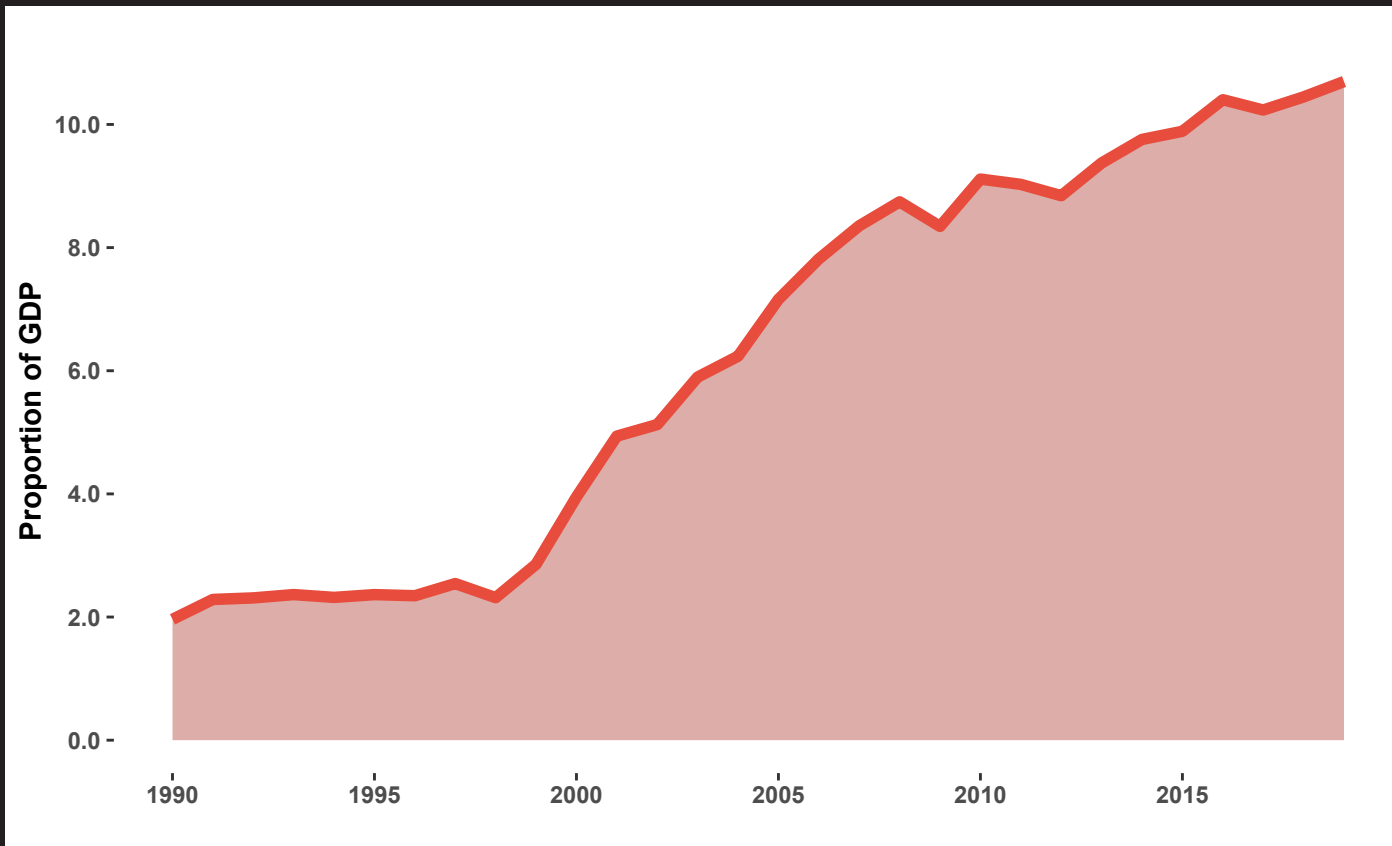
After an extended period of low unemployment rates between 1990 and 2002, between 2003 and 2014 the unemployment rate in Senegal became increasingly erratic. Since 2015, however, the unemployment rate in Senegal has been closer to the 1990s norm.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



After an extended period of low youth unemployment rates between 1990 and 2002, between 2003 and 2014 the youth unemployment rate in Senegal became increasingly erratic. Since 2015, however, the youth unemployment rate in Senegal has been closer to the 1990s norm.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$2.52 billion

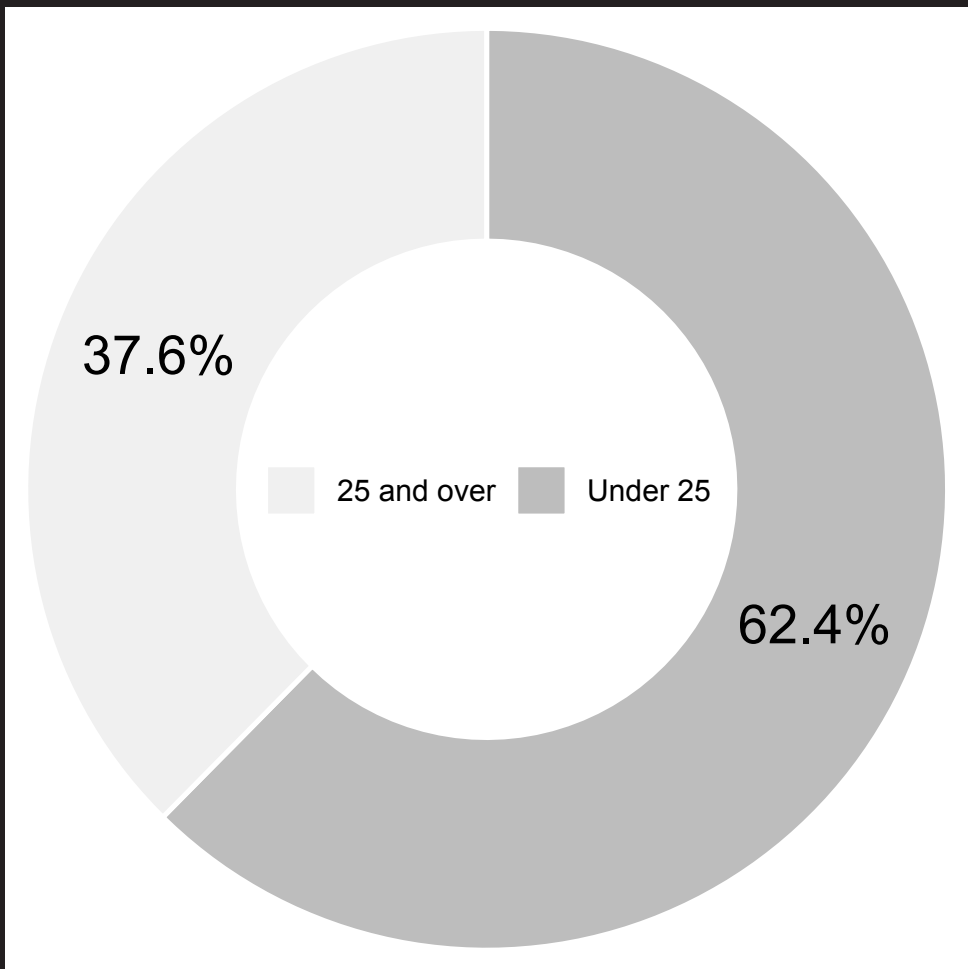
which represents

10.7% of GDP

Since 2005, Senegal has become increasingly reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

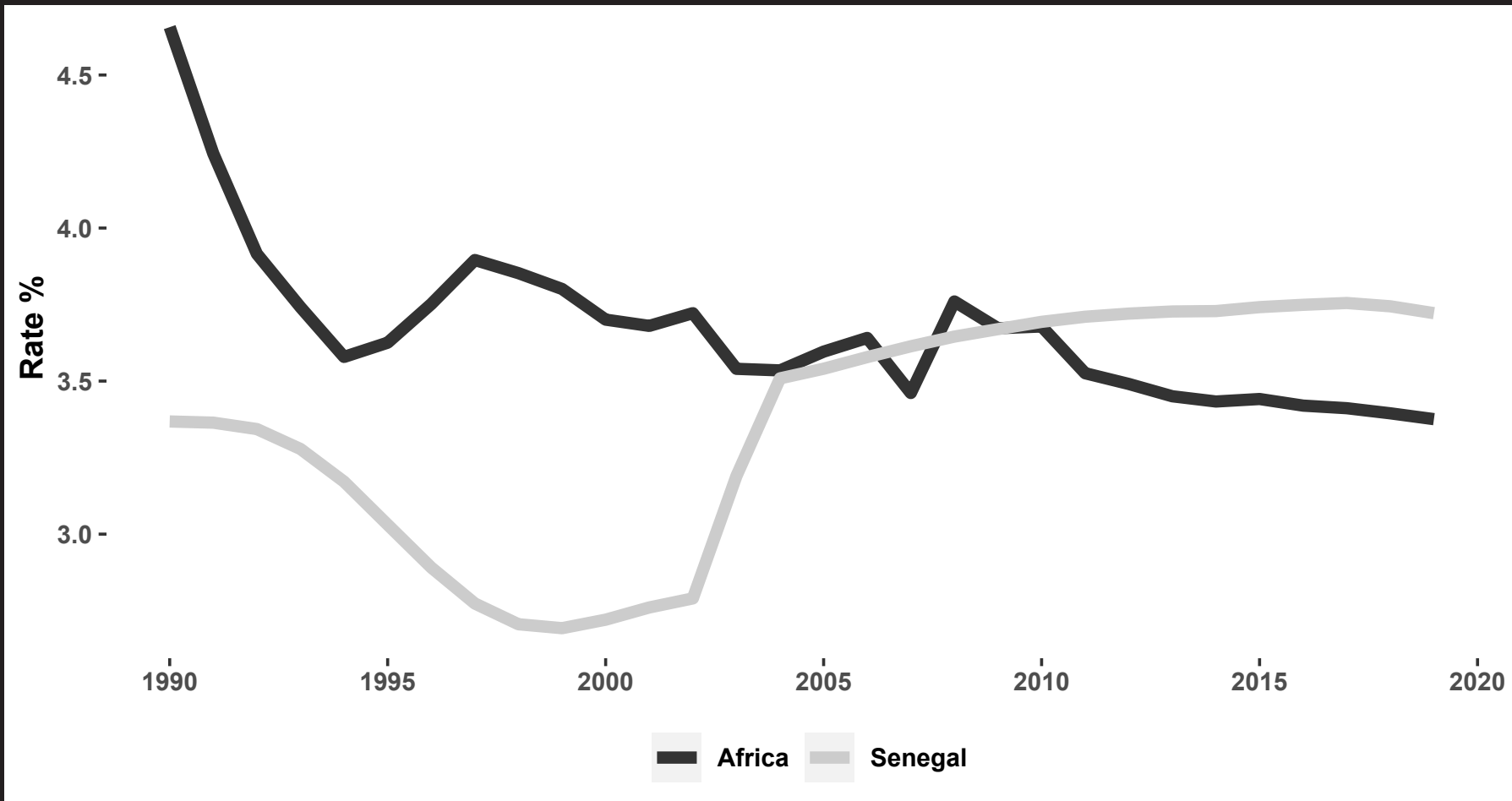
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



16.3 million

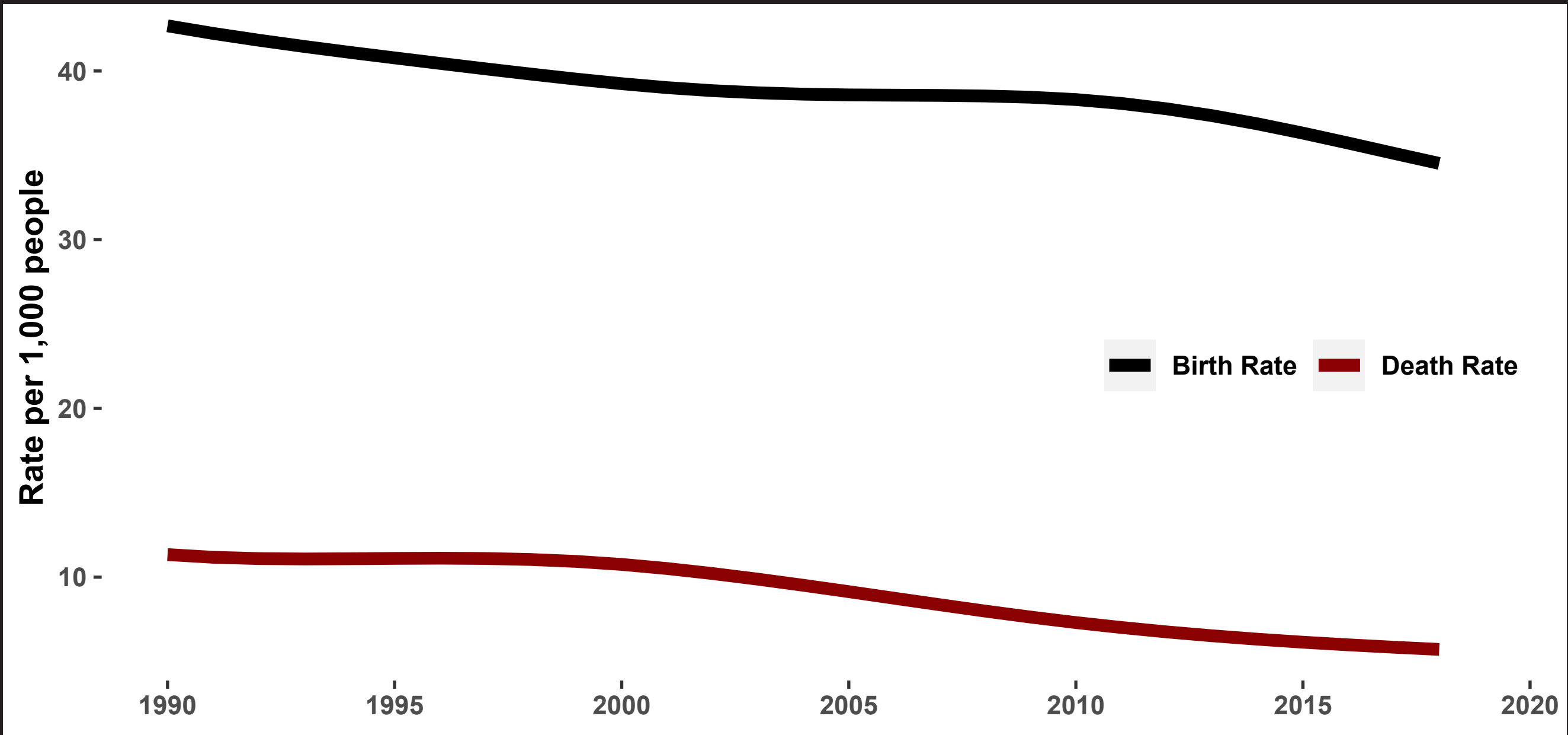
In line with continental trends, the majority of Senegal’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



After urbanising at a slower rate compared to the African average between 1990 and 2003, Senegal’s urbanisation rate has tracked very closely to the African average.

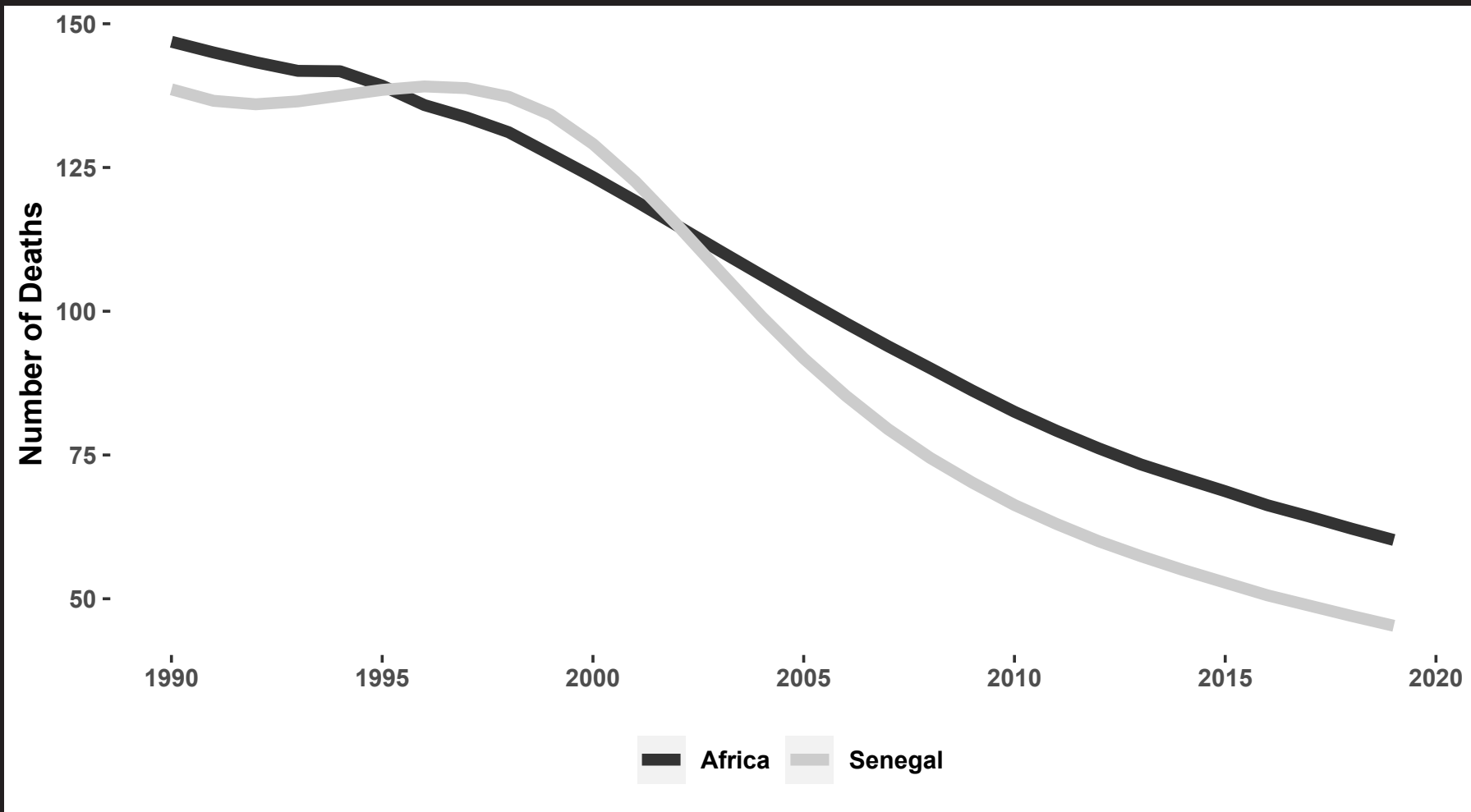
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Senegal has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double its death rate.

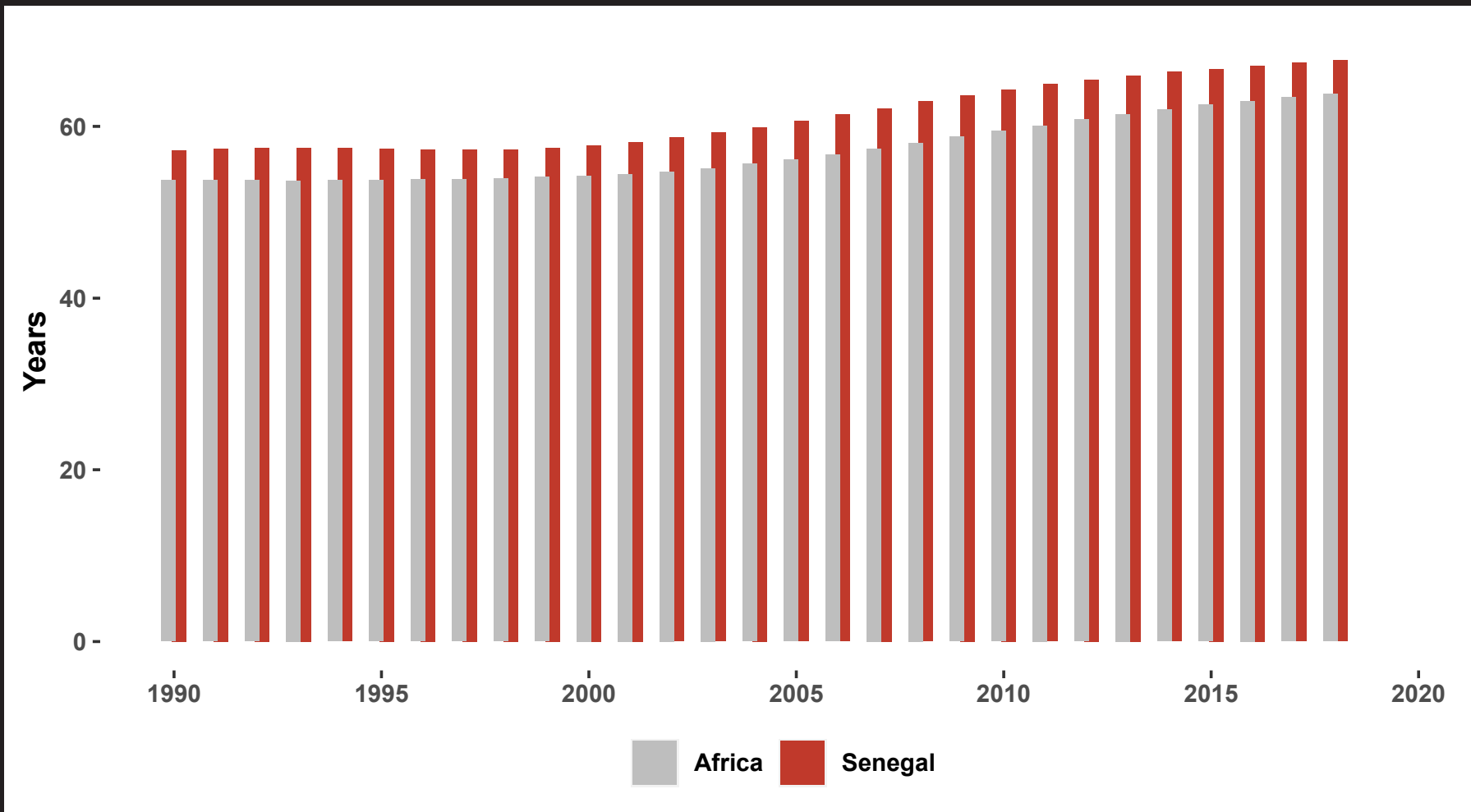
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



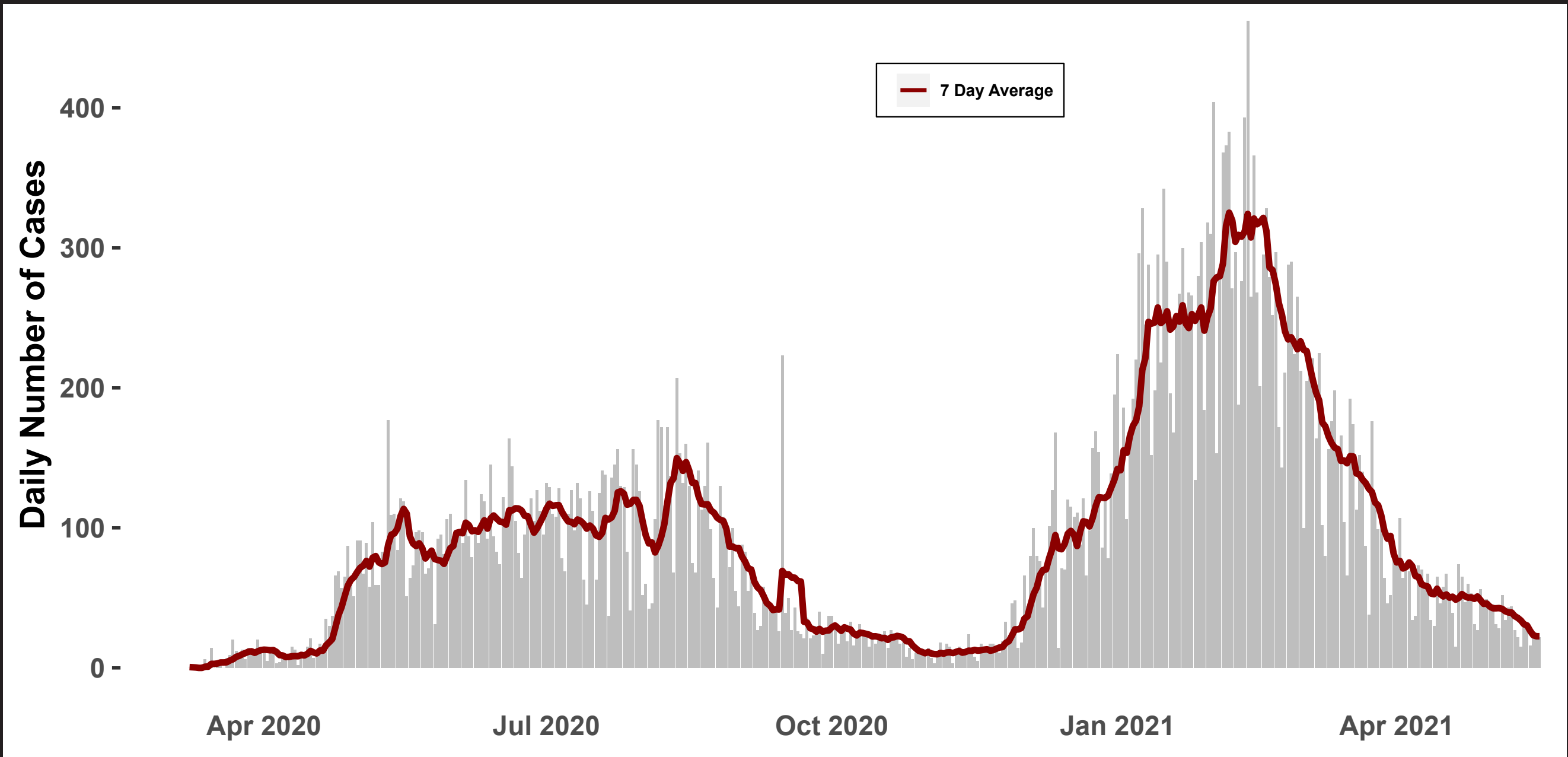
After increasing slightly during the 1990s, child mortality in Senegal has been in constant decline since 2000.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Since 1990 life expectancy in Senegal has risen slightly and continues to be higher African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Senegal has had two extended Covid-19 waves. The first occurred between May and September 2020, and the second occurred between January and March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Isabelle Lemelin

Used as a filming location for the seminal surf movie, *Endless Summer*, Senegal is one of the best places to go boardriding in Africa.



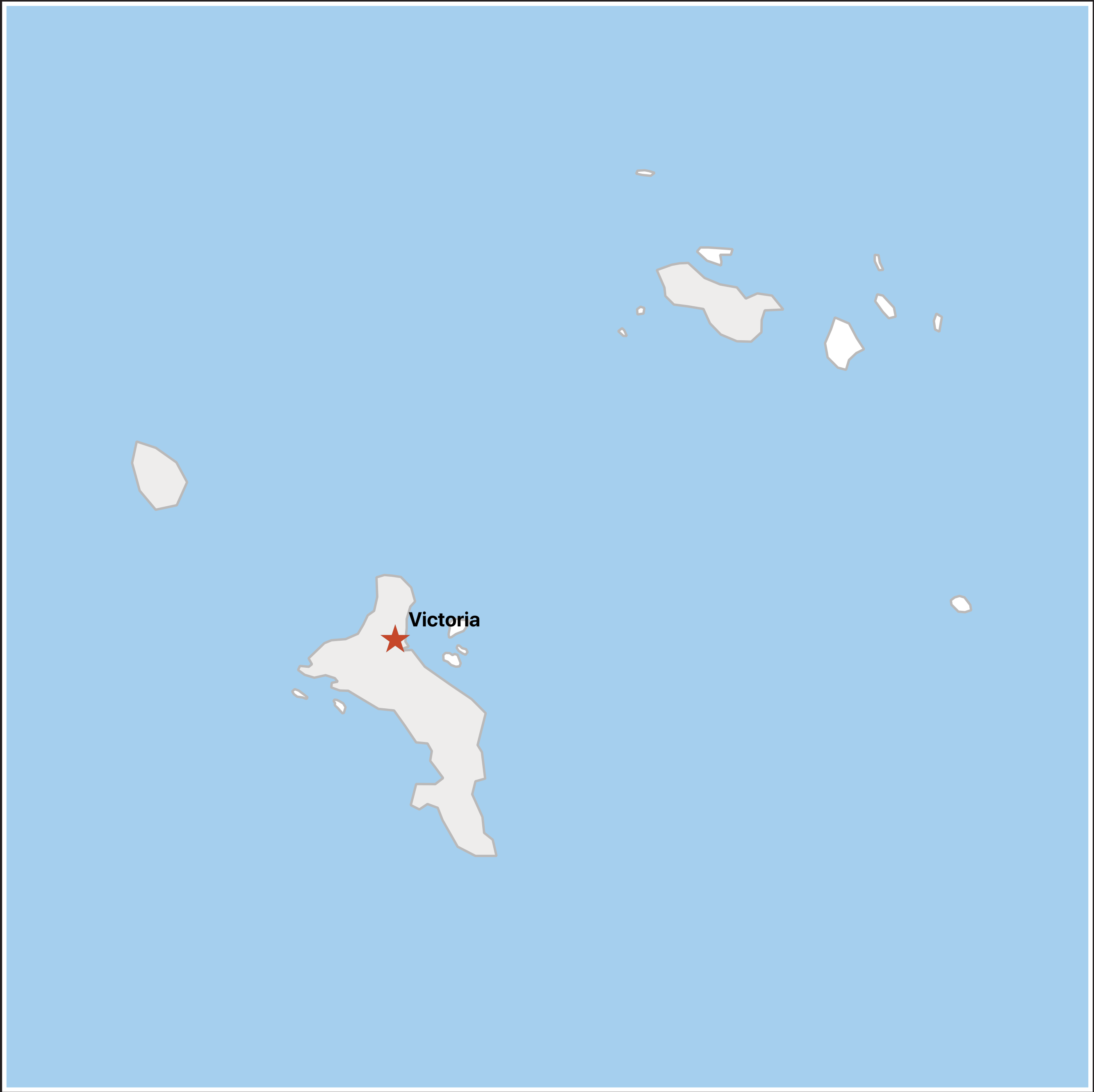
Jeff Attaway on Flickr.com

Dakar is a hotbed of creative talent: painters and sculptors from around the world descend on the Senegalese capital to seek inspiration. Village des Arts is home to some 50 artists in residence and an on-site gallery.



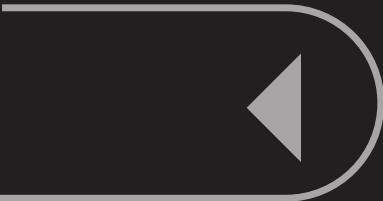
Tjabeljan on Flickr.com

The seafood-loving Senegalese have made an island out of millions of mollusk shells. Houses, pathways and even graveyards on Fadiouth are made from seashells, which crunch under your feet as you walk.



SEYCHELLES

Seychelles is an archipelagic island country in the Indian Ocean at the eastern edge of the Somali Sea. It consists of 115 islands. Its capital and largest city, Victoria, is 1,500 km east of mainland Africa. Other nearby island countries and territories include the Comoros, Madagascar and Mauritius. Seychelles was uninhabited prior to being encountered by Europeans in the 16th century. It faced competing French and British interests until coming under full British control in the late 18th century. Since proclaiming independence from the United Kingdom in 1976, it has developed from a largely agricultural society to a market-based diversified economy. Seychelles culture and society is an eclectic mix of French, British and African influences, with more recent infusions of Chinese and Indian elements. The official currency is the Seychelles rupee.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

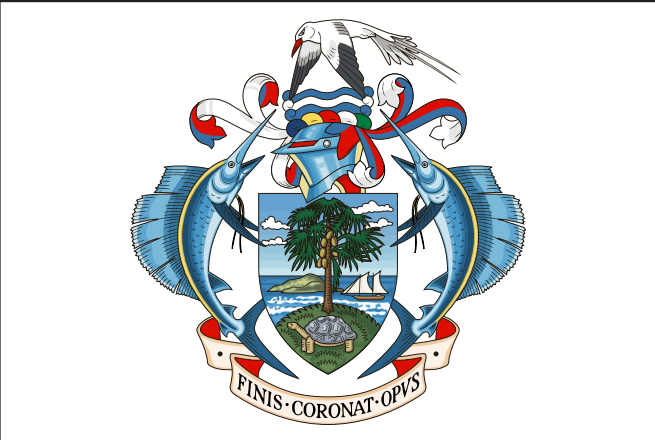


HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Wavel Ramkalawan

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Victoria

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

67

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

3



MAIN LANGUAGES

English, French and Seychellois Creole

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Seychelles National Party

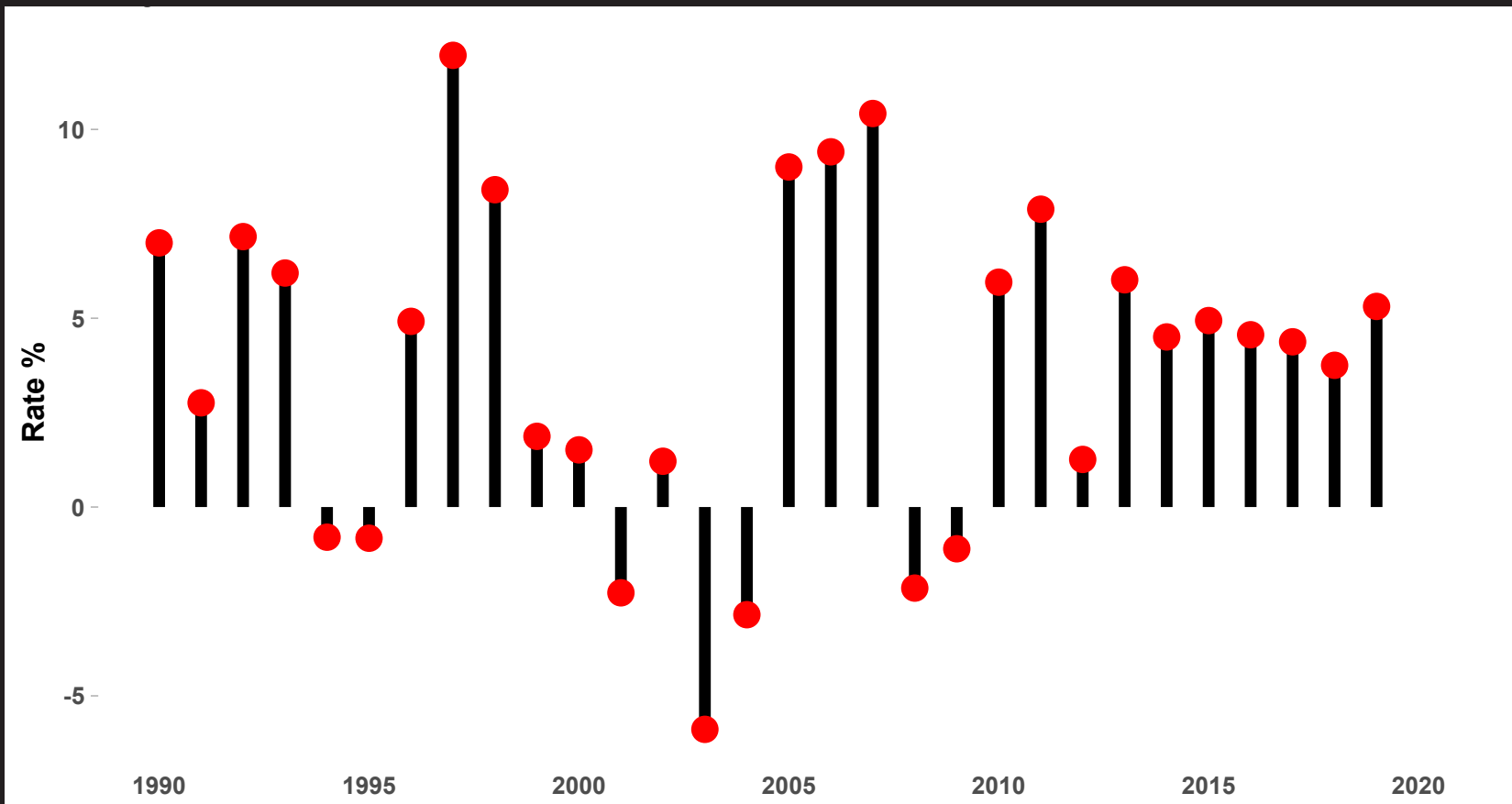


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

United Seychelles

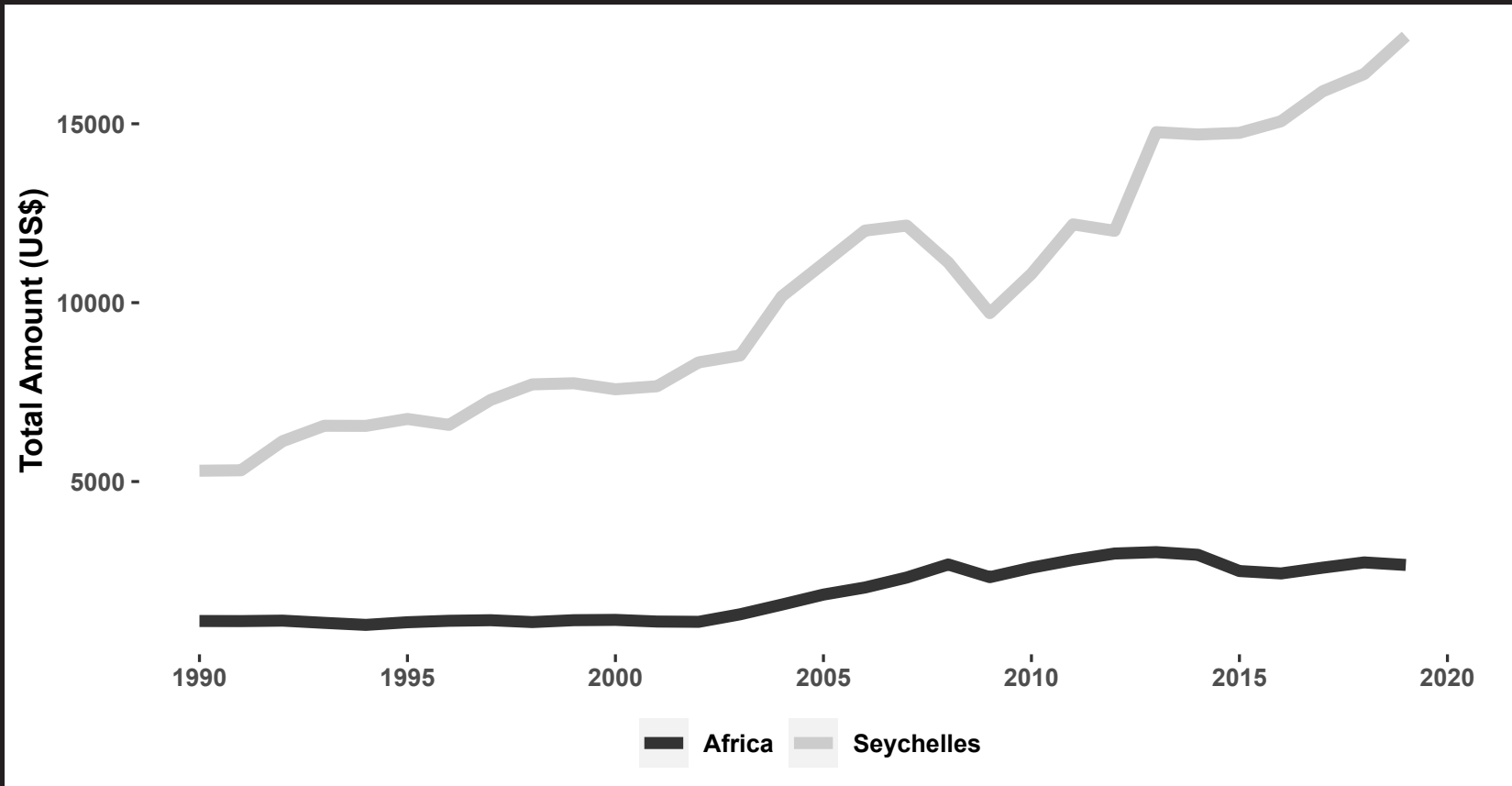
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



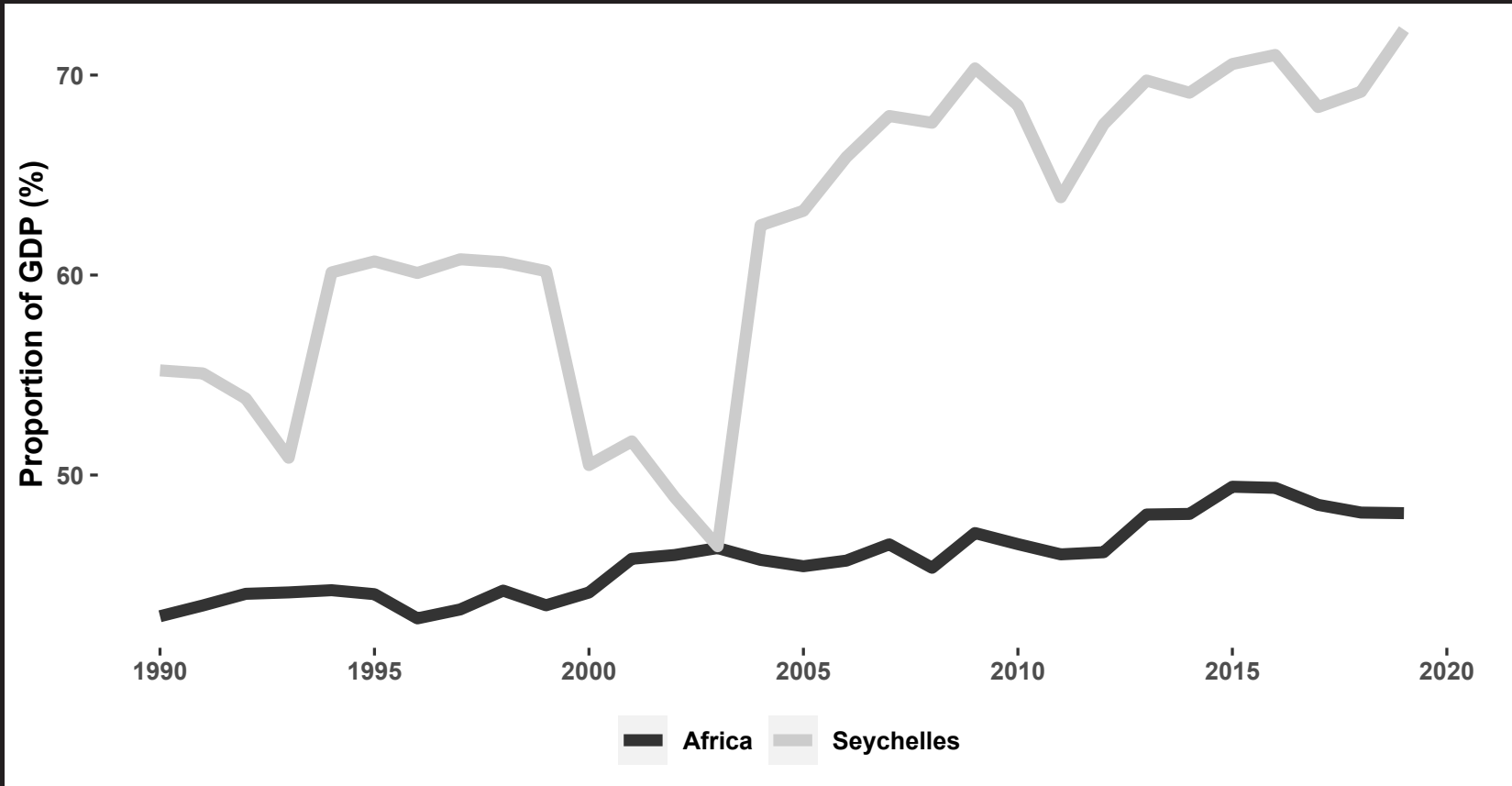
After relatively erratic economic growth between 1990 and 2010, Seychelles has experienced consistent economic growth since 2010.

GDP PER CAPITA



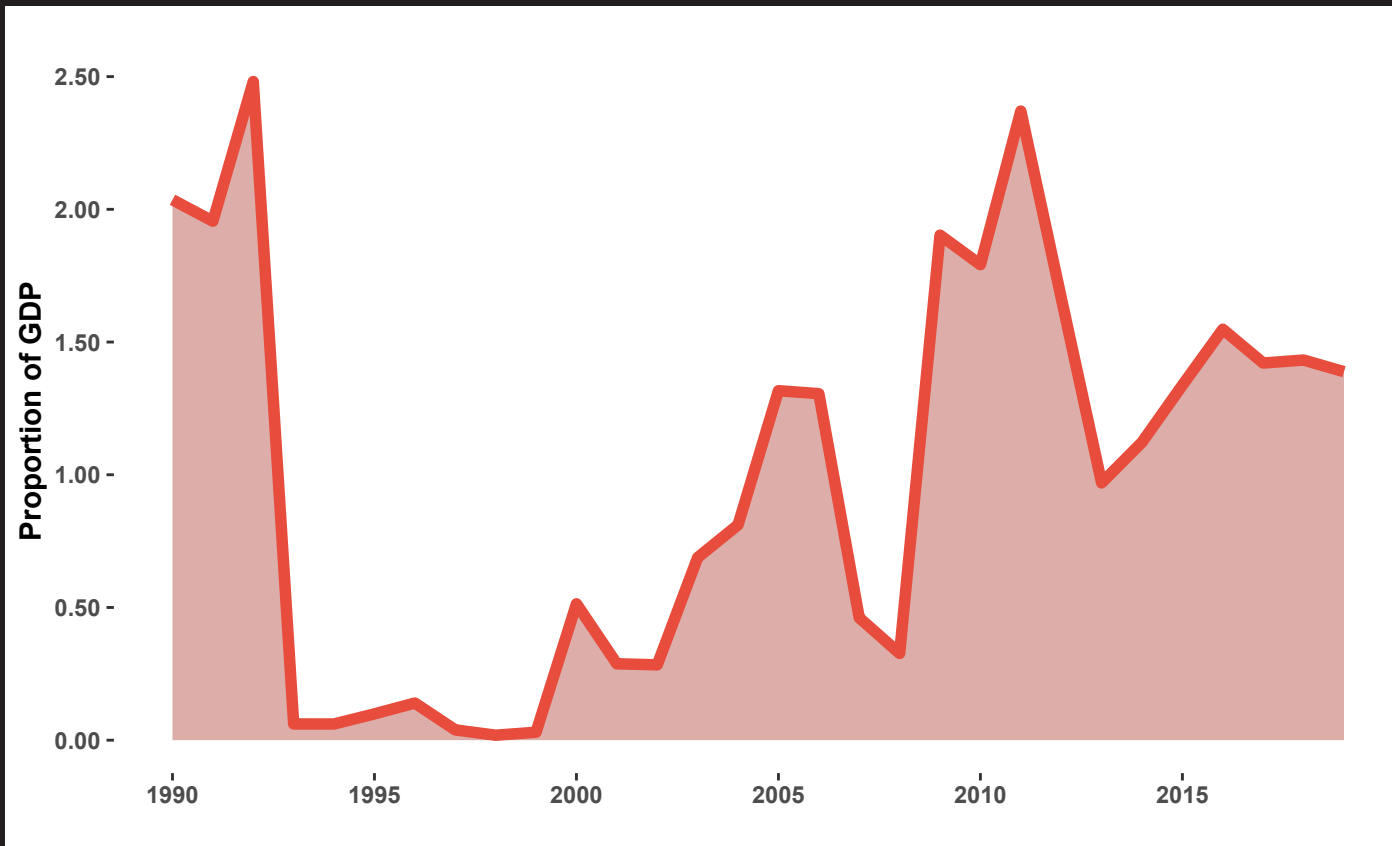
Seychelles has among the highest GDP per capita figures in Africa. GDP per capita in Seychelles has improved at a much faster rate than in the rest of the continent.

SERVICES VALUE ADDED



Seychelles is heavily reliant on its tourism industry, which is a part of the services sector. This reliance is demonstrated by the fact that apart from 2003, this sector constituted at least 50% of the country's GDP.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$23.65 million

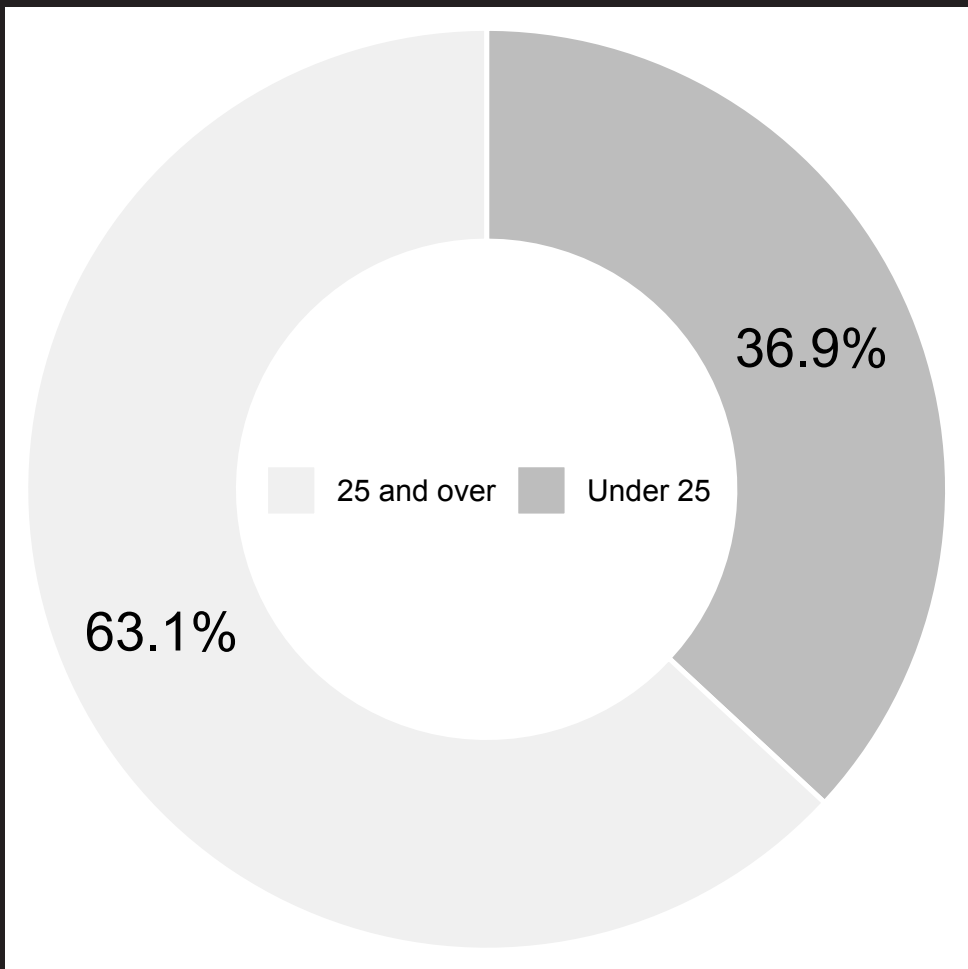
which represents

1.39% of GDP

The reliance on remittances received has fluctuated over the past three decades.

DEMOGRAPHICS

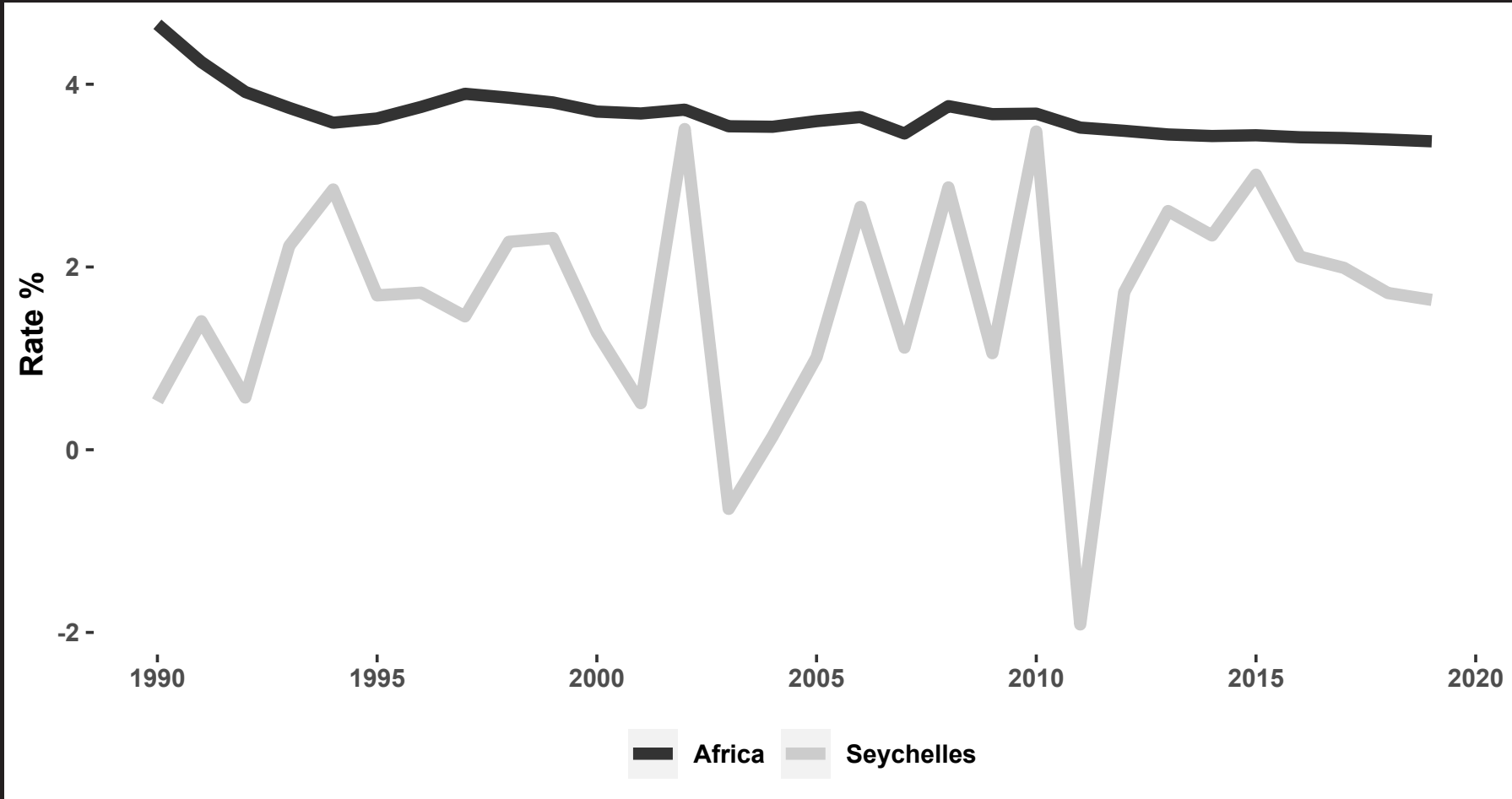
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



97 700

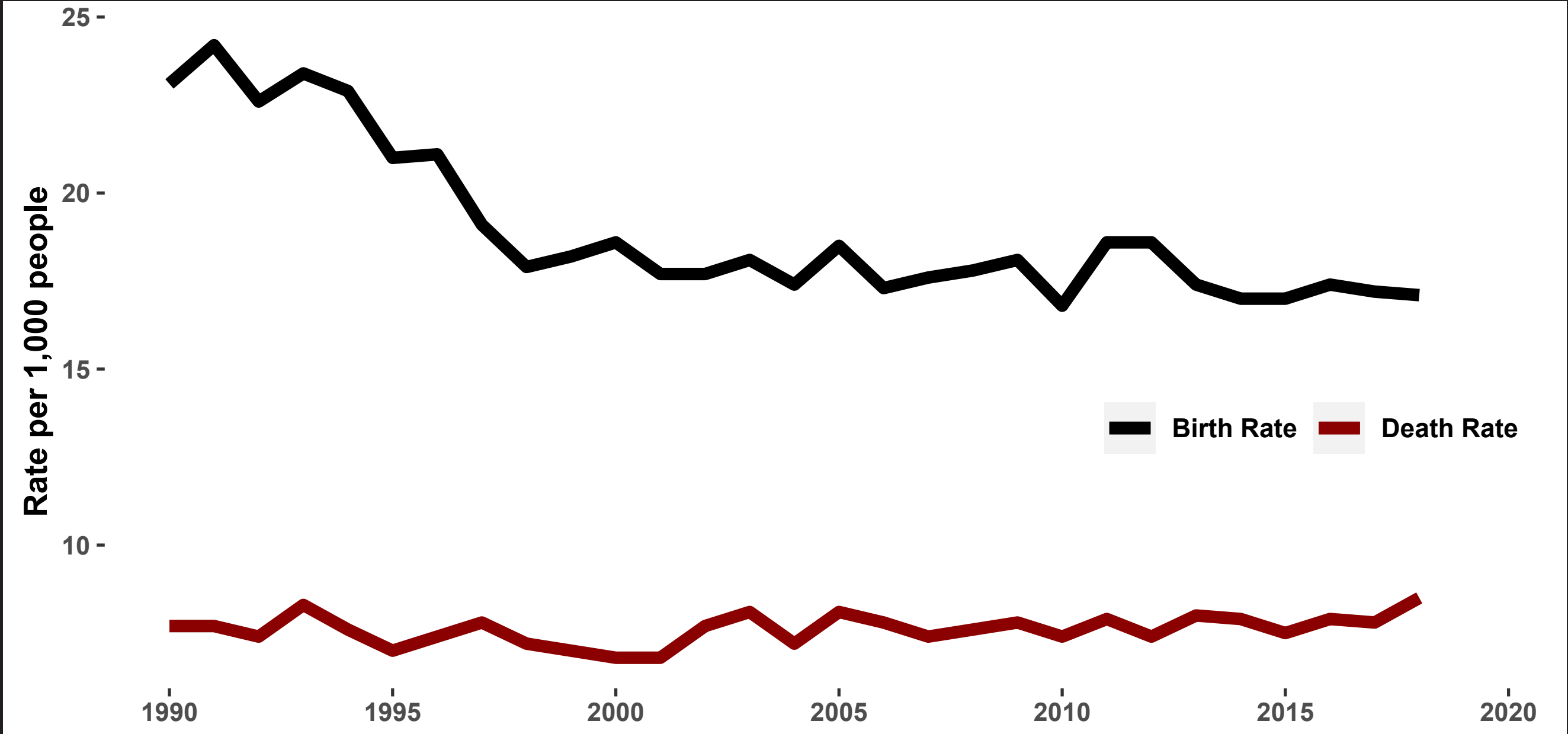
Seychelles is the least populated country in Africa and is also one of the nine countries where the over-25 population outnumbers the under-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Although Seychelles has experienced erratic urbanisation rates over the past 30 years, these have been consistently slower than the continental average.

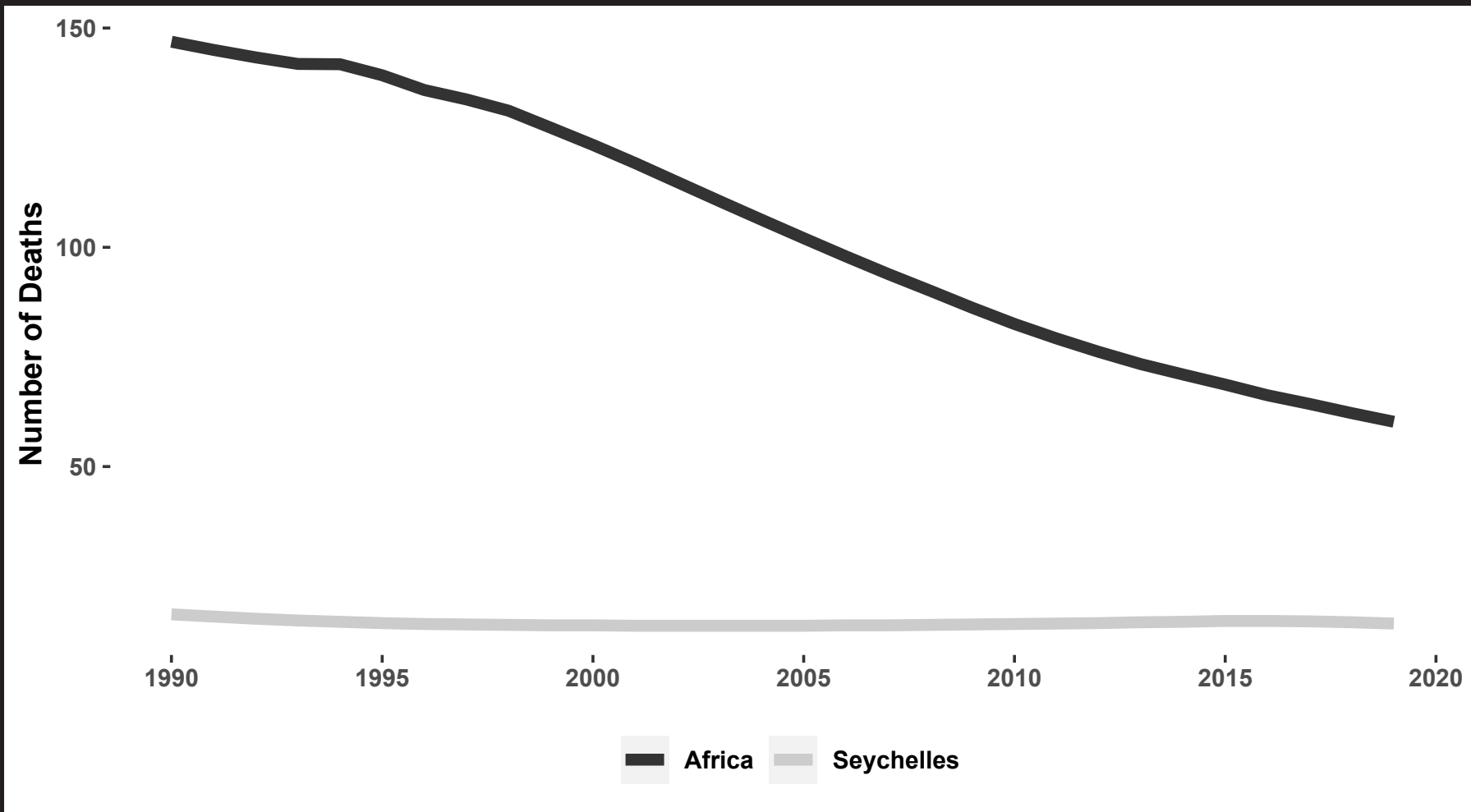
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Seychelles has experienced varying population growth over the past 30 years due to a combination of an erratic but slightly declining birth rate and an erratic but slightly increasing death rate.

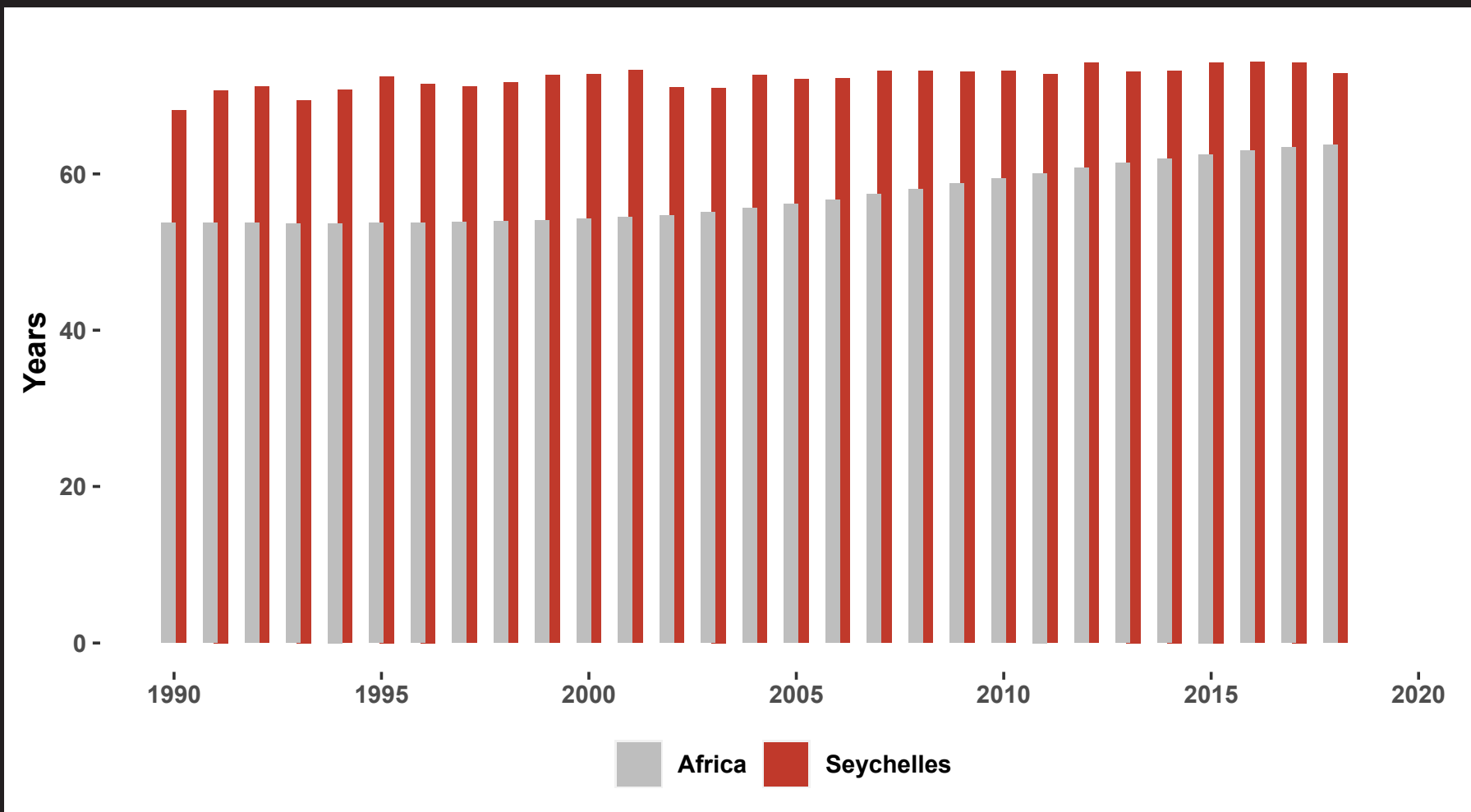
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



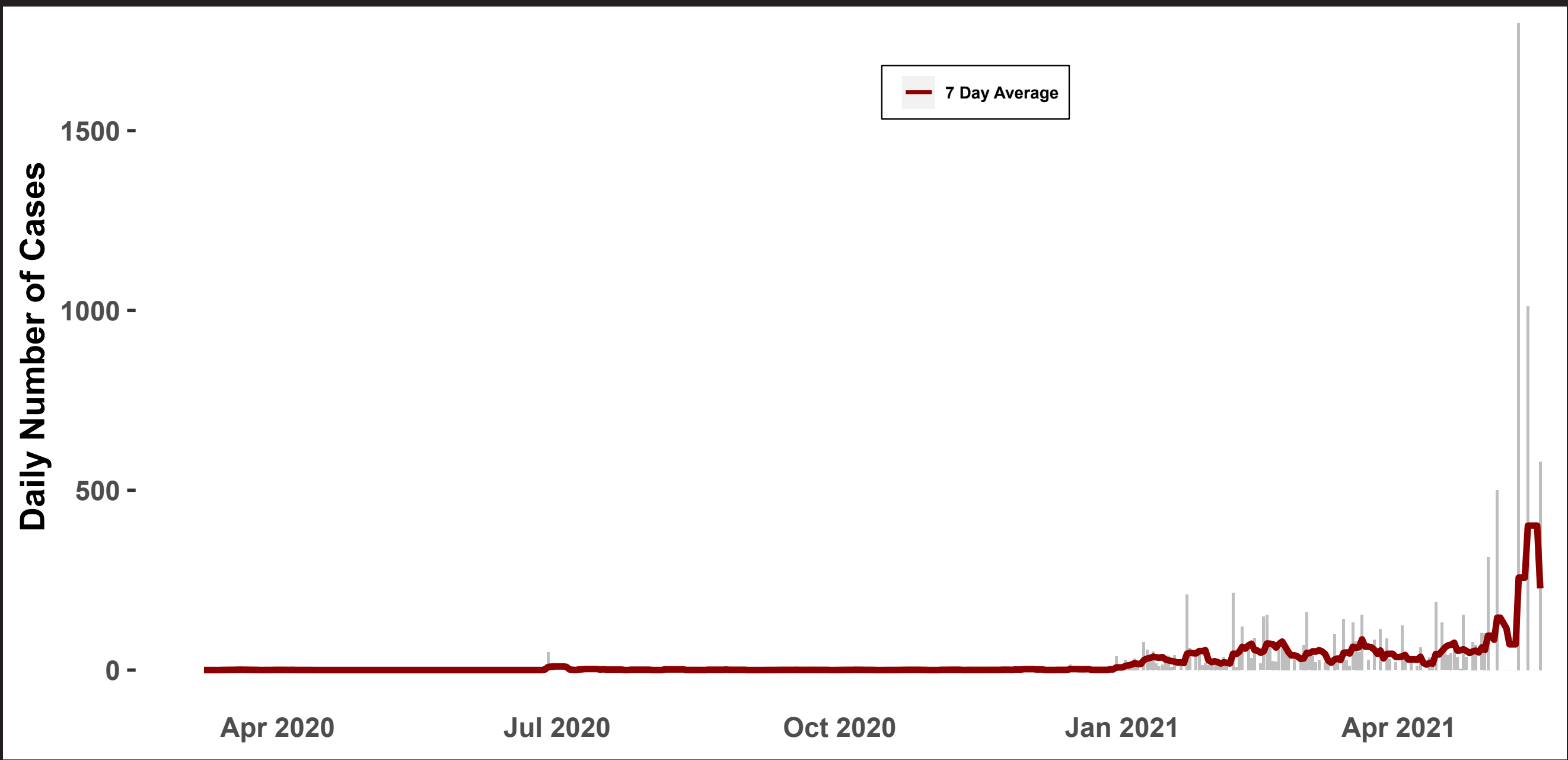
Seychelles has maintained one of the lowest child mortality rates on the continent for the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Seychelles has maintained one of the highest life expectancies on the continent for the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Seychelles has experienced a major spike in Covid-19 infections since the beginning of May 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Andrew Moore on Flickr.com



Seychelles' capital city, Victoria, is one of the smallest in the world. Bordered on one side by steep mountain slopes, it is made up of just two dozen streets and has only two sets of traffic lights.

Flowcomm on Flickr.com



Back in the day, pirates used to seek out Seychelles as a safe haven. Anse Forbans beach (Pirate's Cove) on Mahe, and Côte d'Oron beach on Praslin were both favourite hideouts.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Two hundred million years ago, Seychelles was one continent – Gondwana. Continuous tectonic movements then created what we know today as the Seychelles and the Indian Ocean that surrounds it.



SIERRA LEONE

Sierra Leone is on the south-west coast of west Africa, bordered by Liberia and Guinea. In 1462, Portuguese explorer Pedro de Sintra mapped the hills surrounding what is now Freetown harbour. Alongside the Portuguese, the Dutch and French also set up trade here, and each nation used Sierra Leone as a trading point for slaves. Sierra Leone was colonised in 1787 by freed slaves arriving from England; other groups followed from Nova Scotia (1792) and Jamaica (1800). They were sponsored and governed by the private Sierra Leone Company until 1808, when Britain made Sierra Leone a crown colony. Independence came in 1961. Muslims and Christians in Sierra Leone are extremely tolerant of each other, and all the major Muslim and Christian holidays are officially national holidays in the country. The official currency is the Leone.

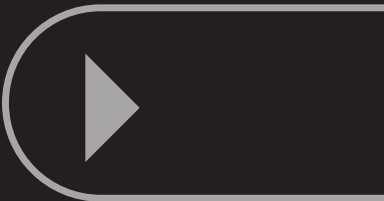
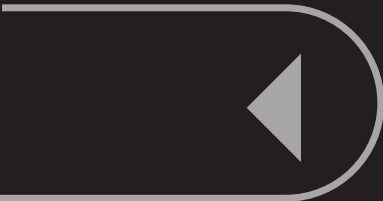
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Julius Maada Bio

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Freetown

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

182

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

23



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and Krio

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Sierra Leone People's Party

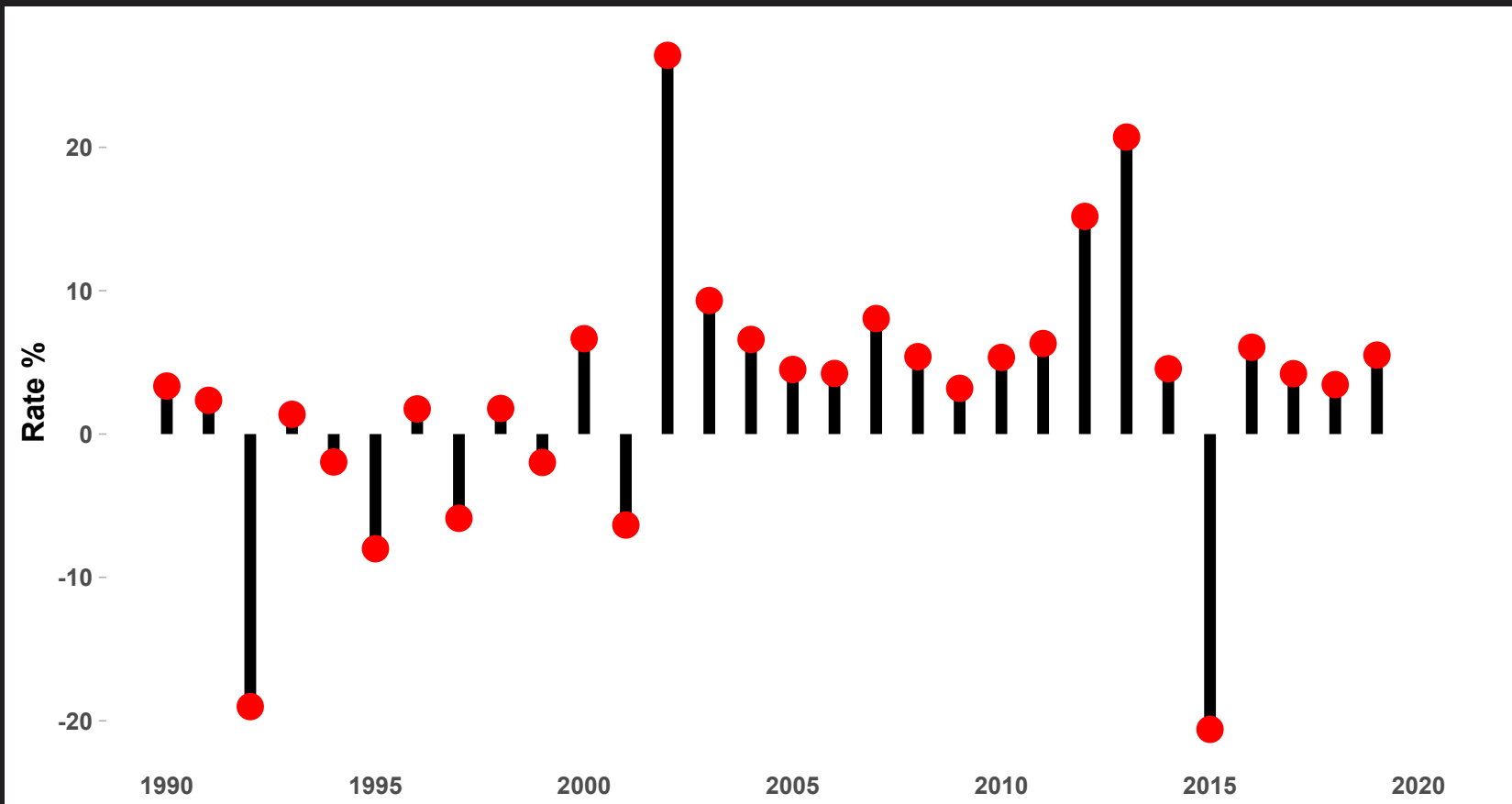


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

All People's Congress

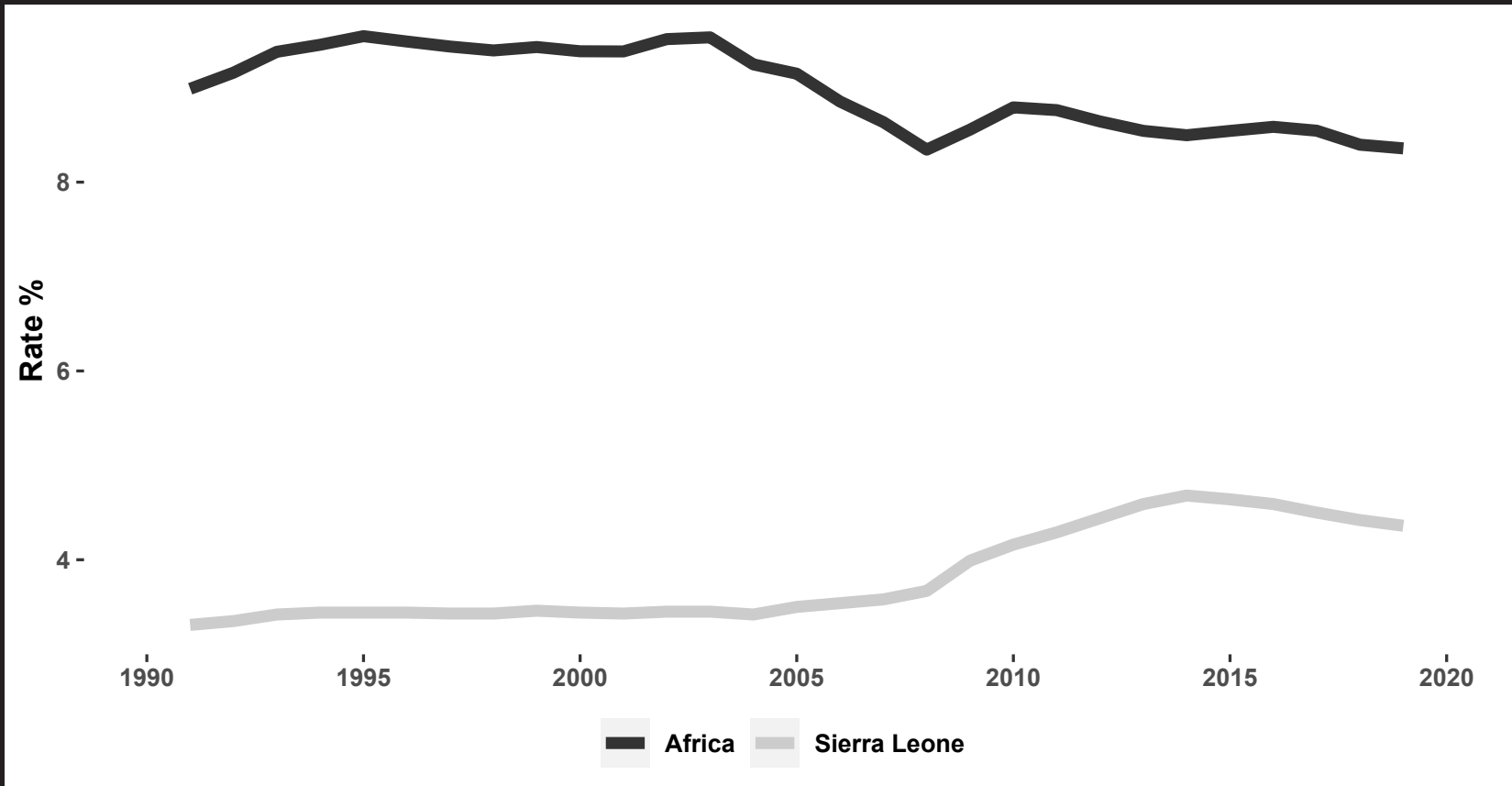
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



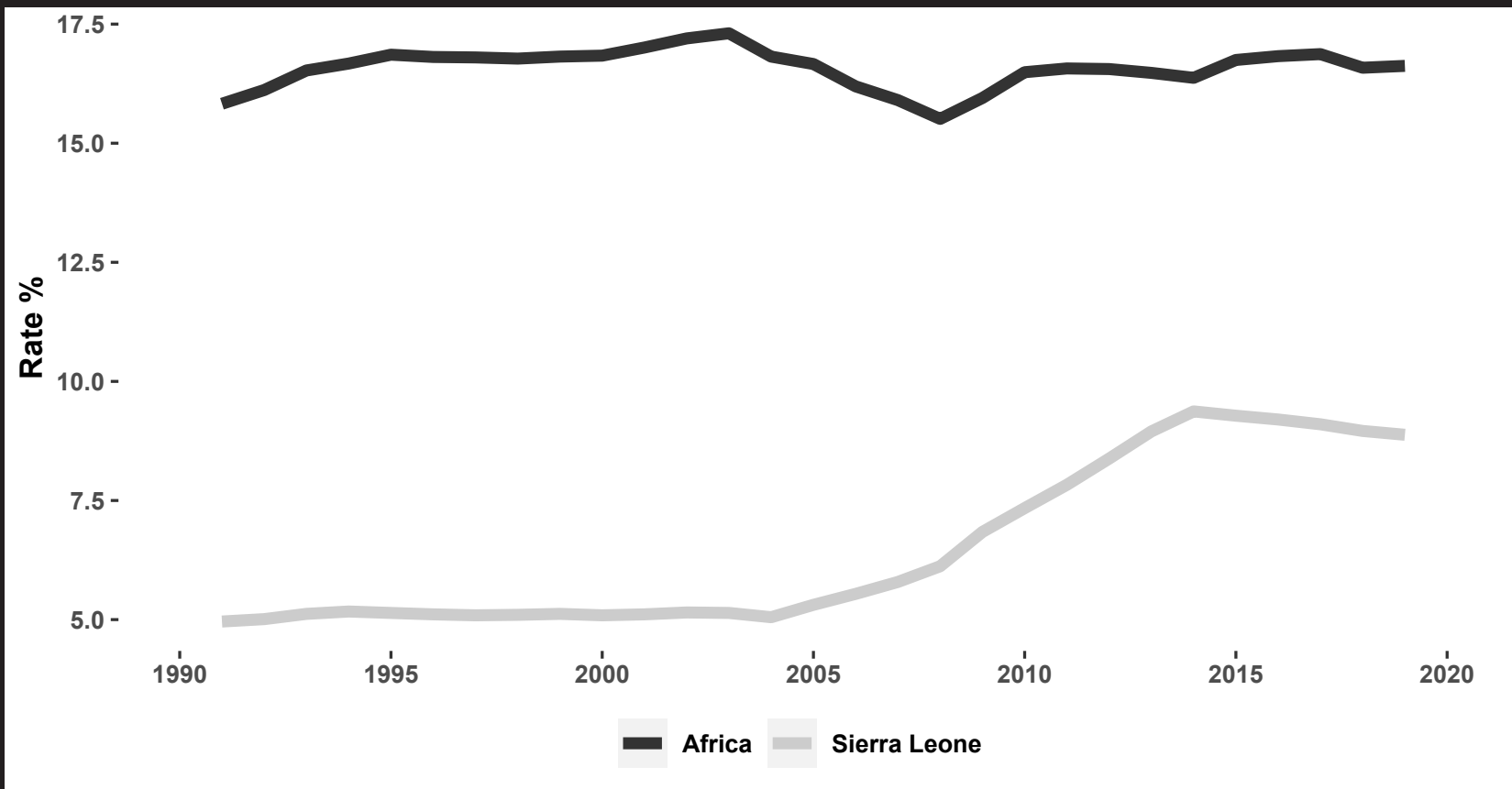
After experiencing erratic economic growth between 1990 and 2000 due to civil conflict, Sierra Leone has generally enjoyed consistent growth since 2002. An exception to this was during 2015 when an Ebola epidemic saw the economy contract by more than 20%.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



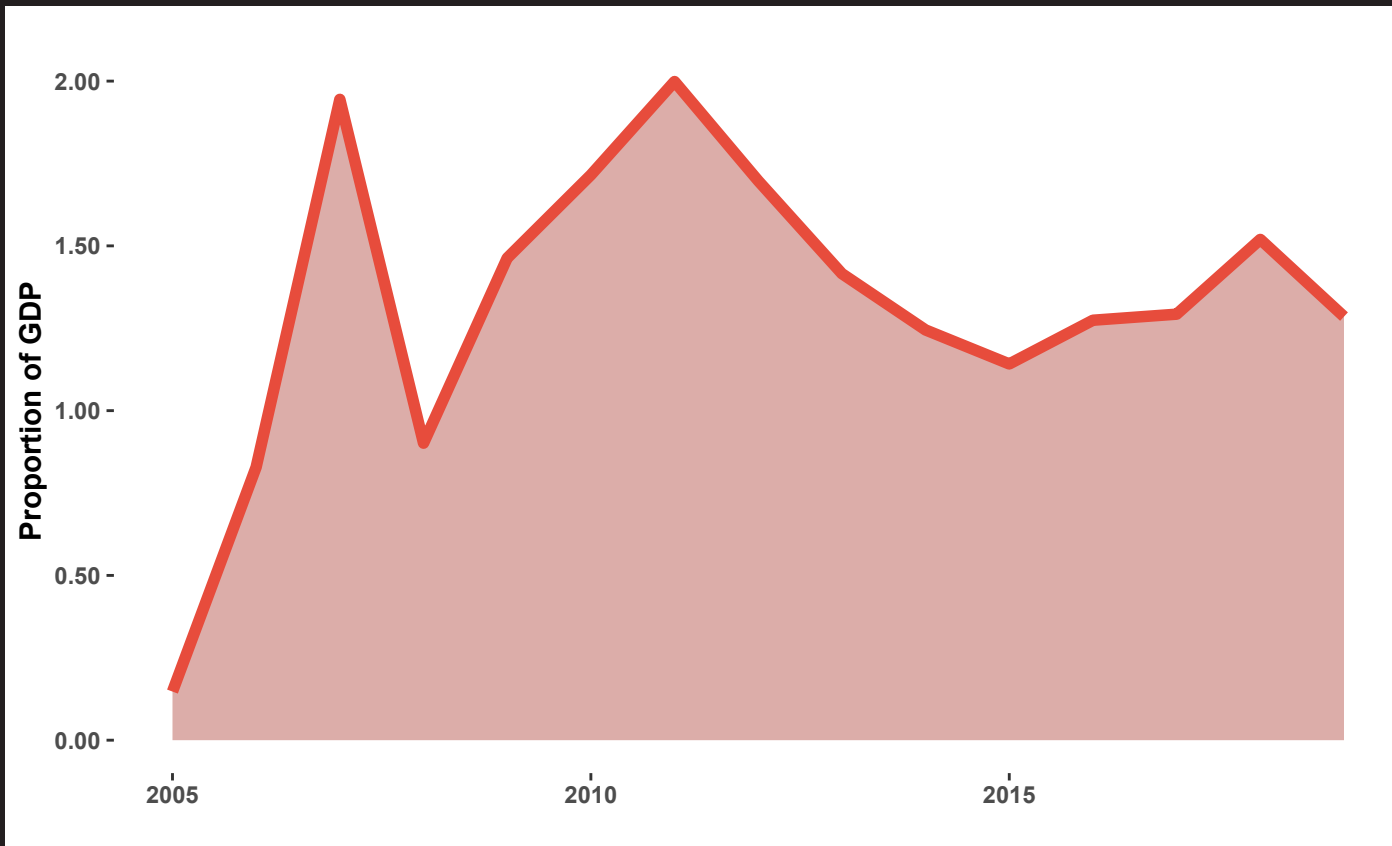
Sierra Leone's unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years. However, since 2008, the unemployment rate in Sierra Leone has seen a slight increase.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Sierra Leone's youth unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years. However, since 2005, the youth unemployment rate in Sierra Leone has seen a slight increase.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019

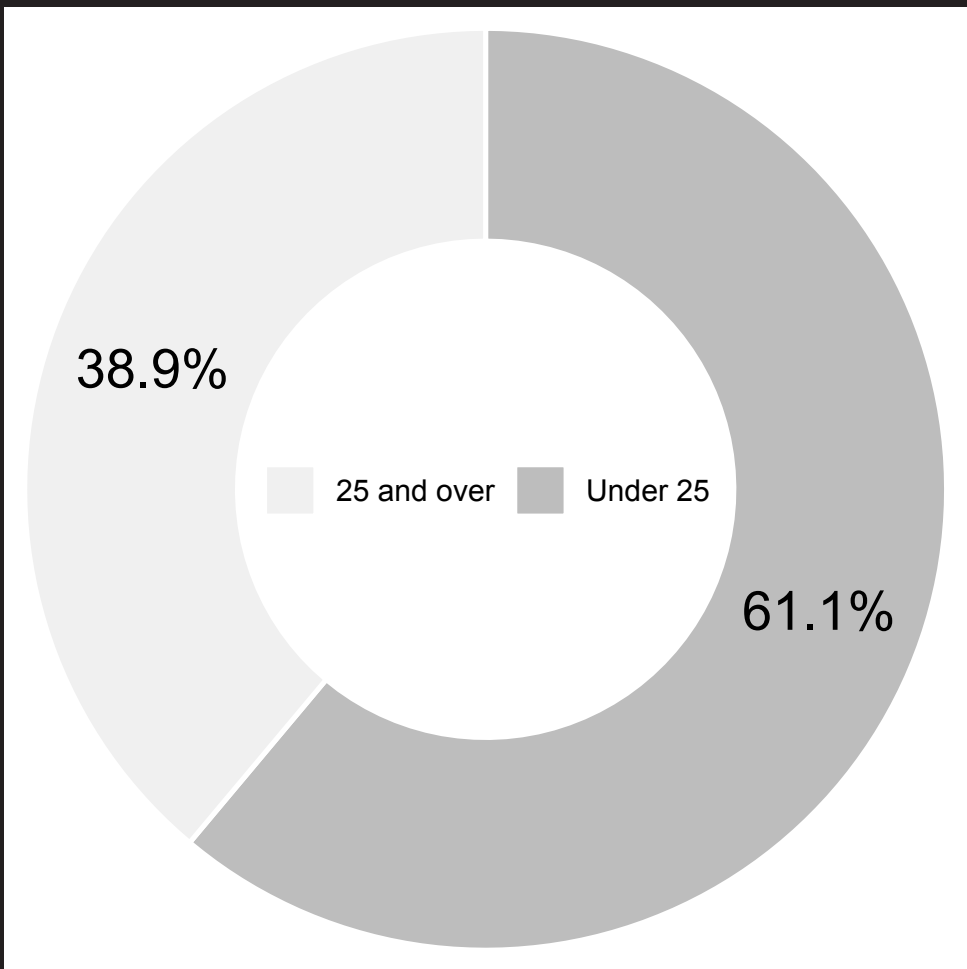


Cash inflows from abroad (2019)
\$52.98 million
which represents
1.29% of GDP

Since 2007, remittances have generally constituted at least 1% of Sierra Leone's GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

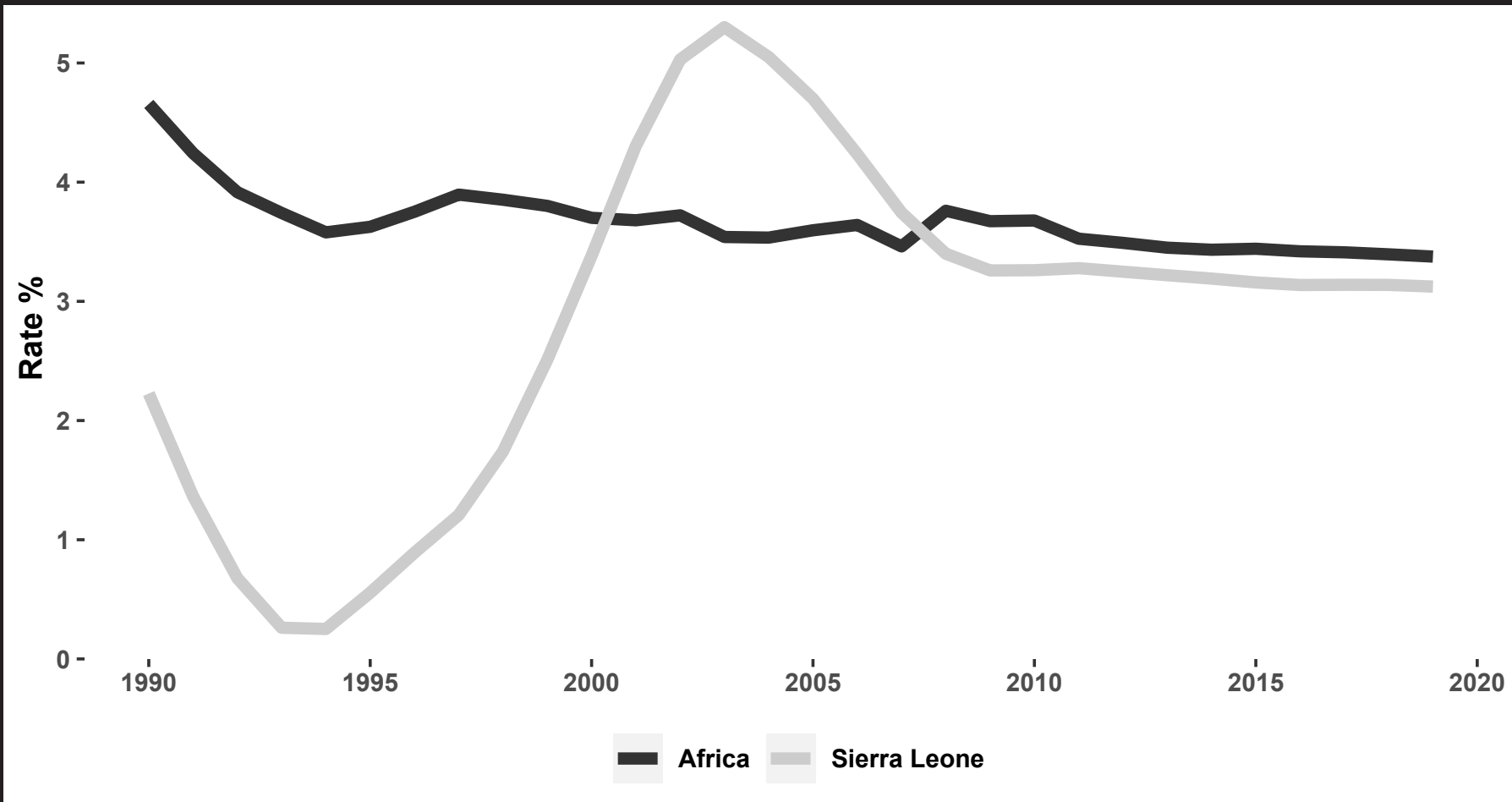
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



7.81 million

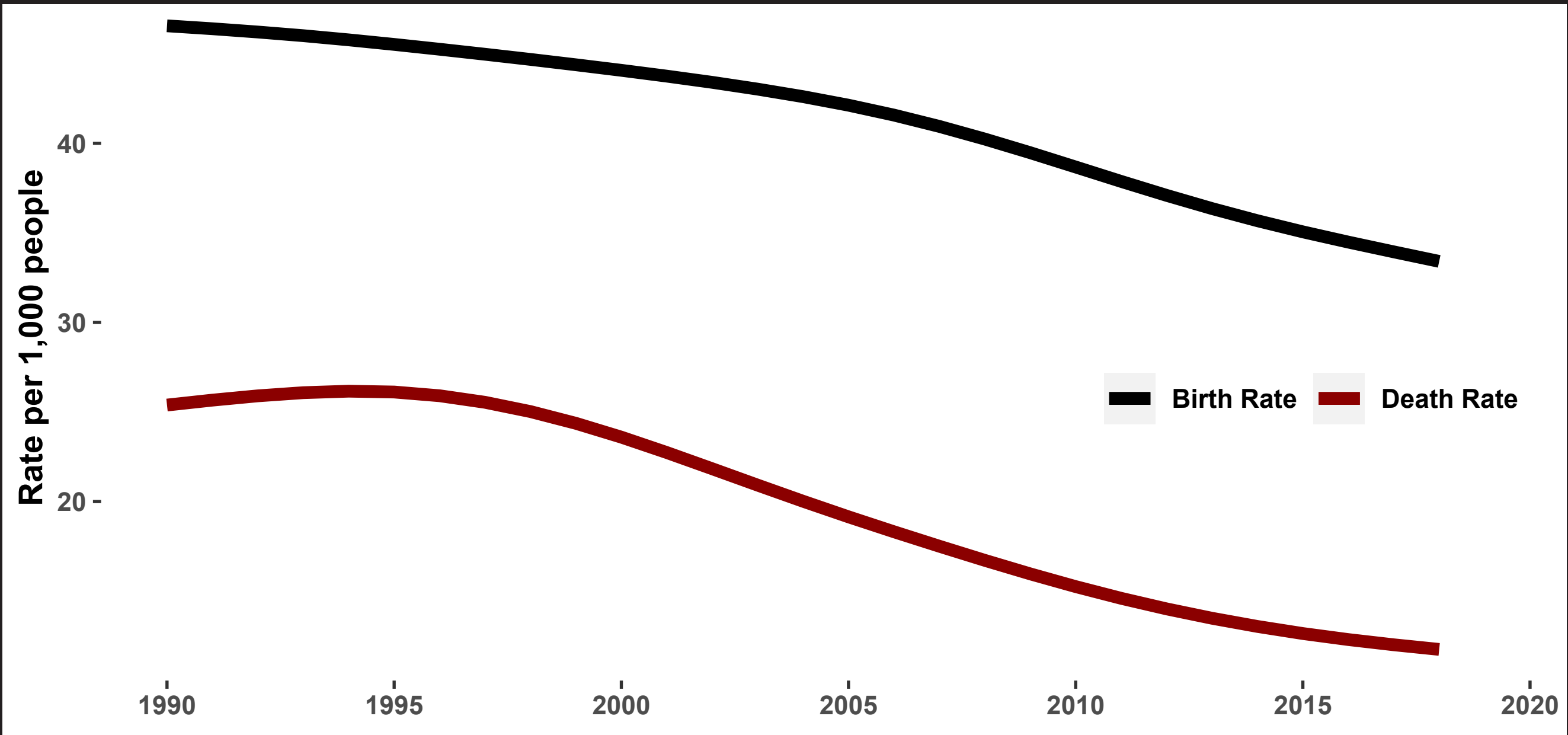
In line with continental trends, the majority of Sierra Leone’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Civil conflict during the 1990s meant that Sierra Leone’s urbanisation rate fluctuated. By 2006, the urbanisation rate in Sierra Leone was tracking very close to the African average.

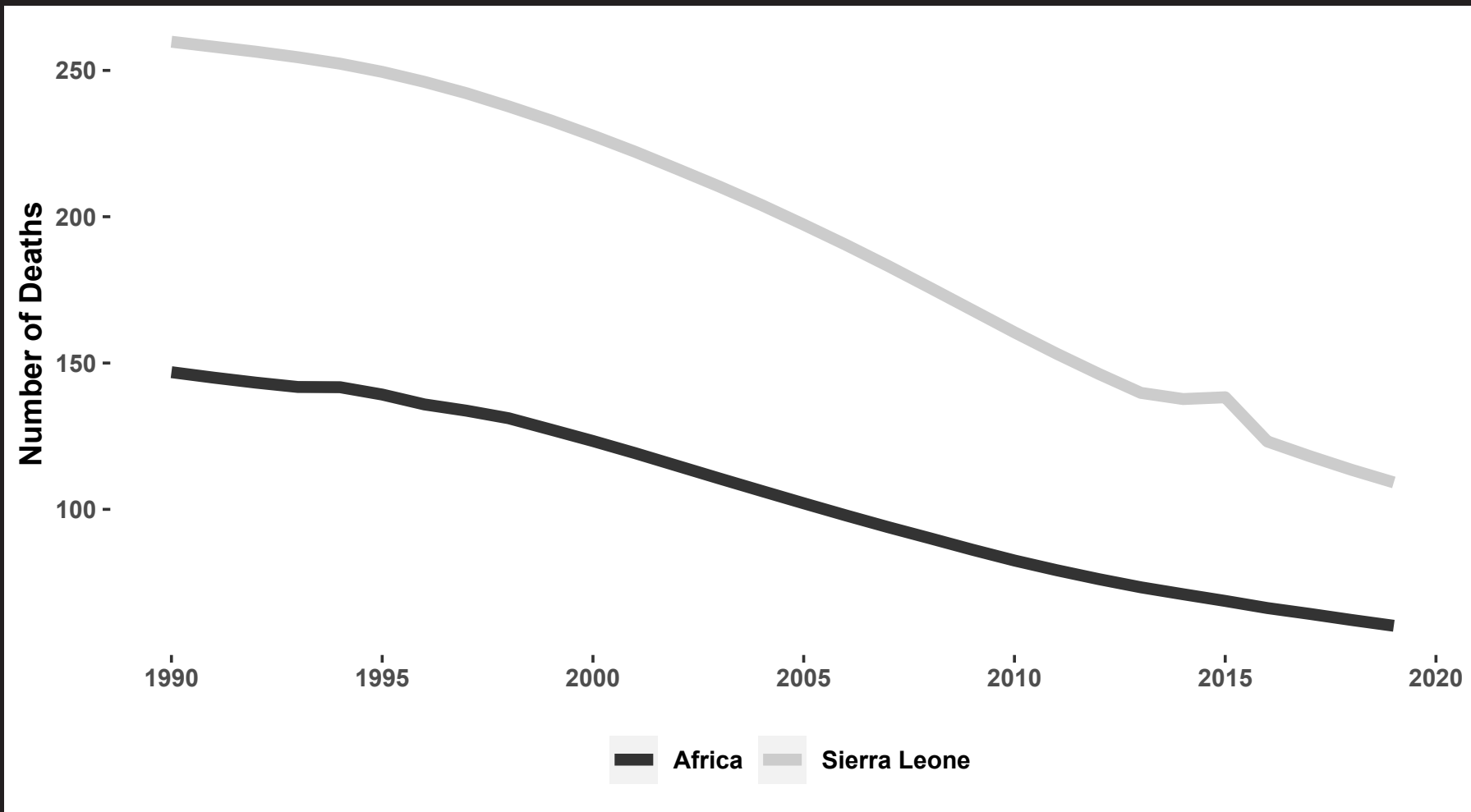
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Since 2000, Sierra Leone has experienced relatively consistent population growth due to its birth rate being roughly double the death rate.

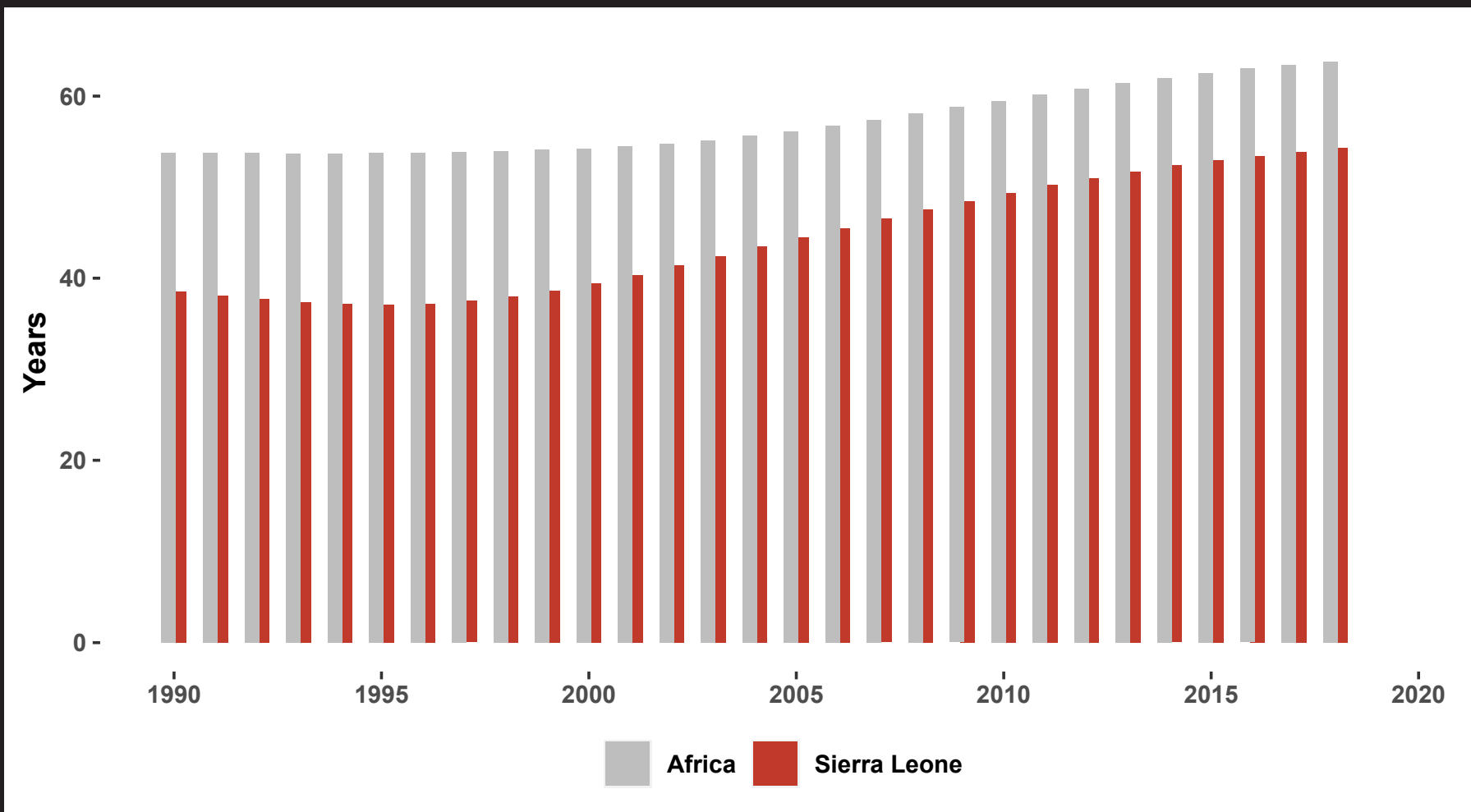
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



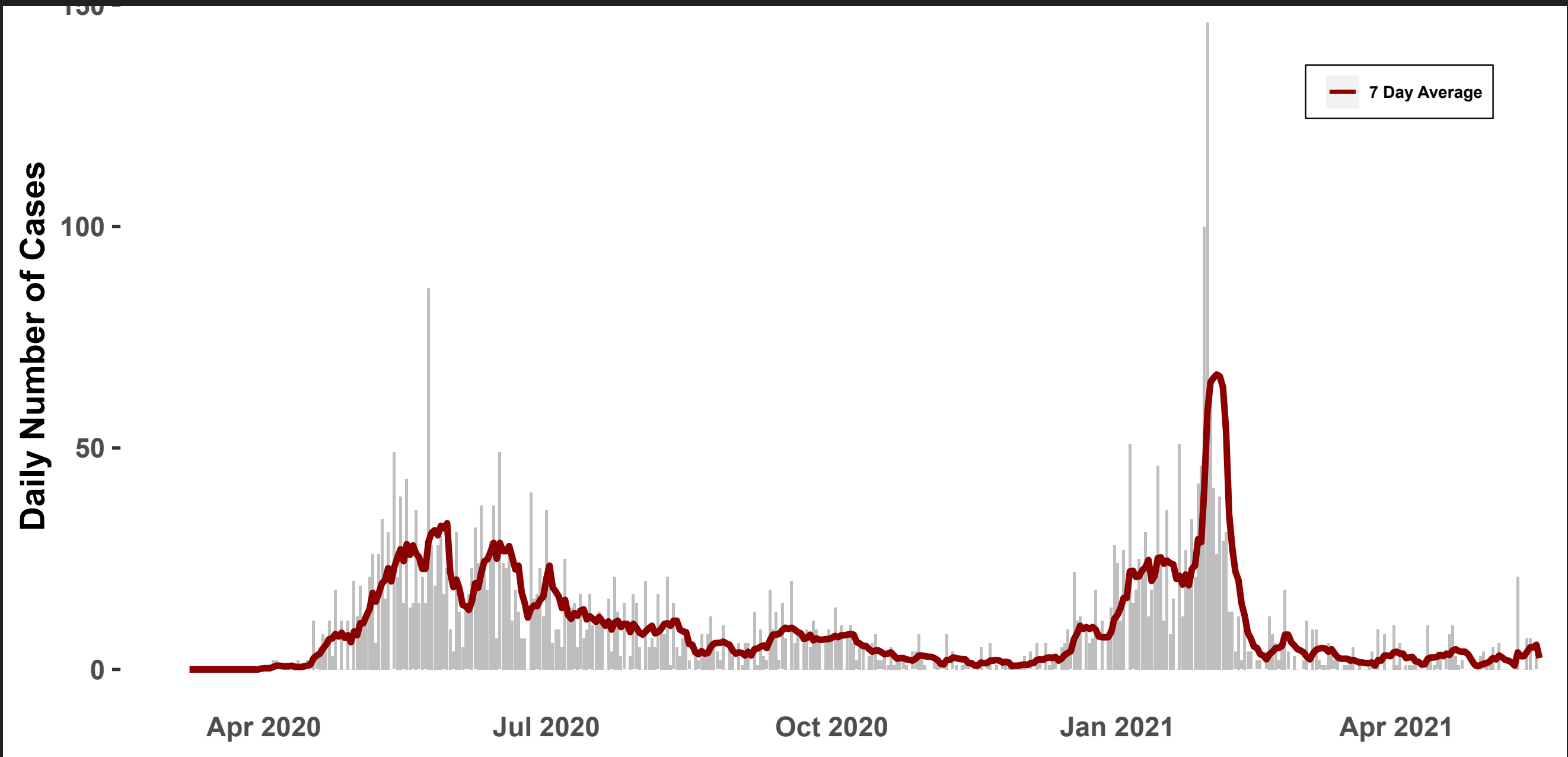
Child mortality in Sierra Leone has generally declined since 1990. The sole exception to this was between 2014 and 2016 during an Ebola epidemic.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



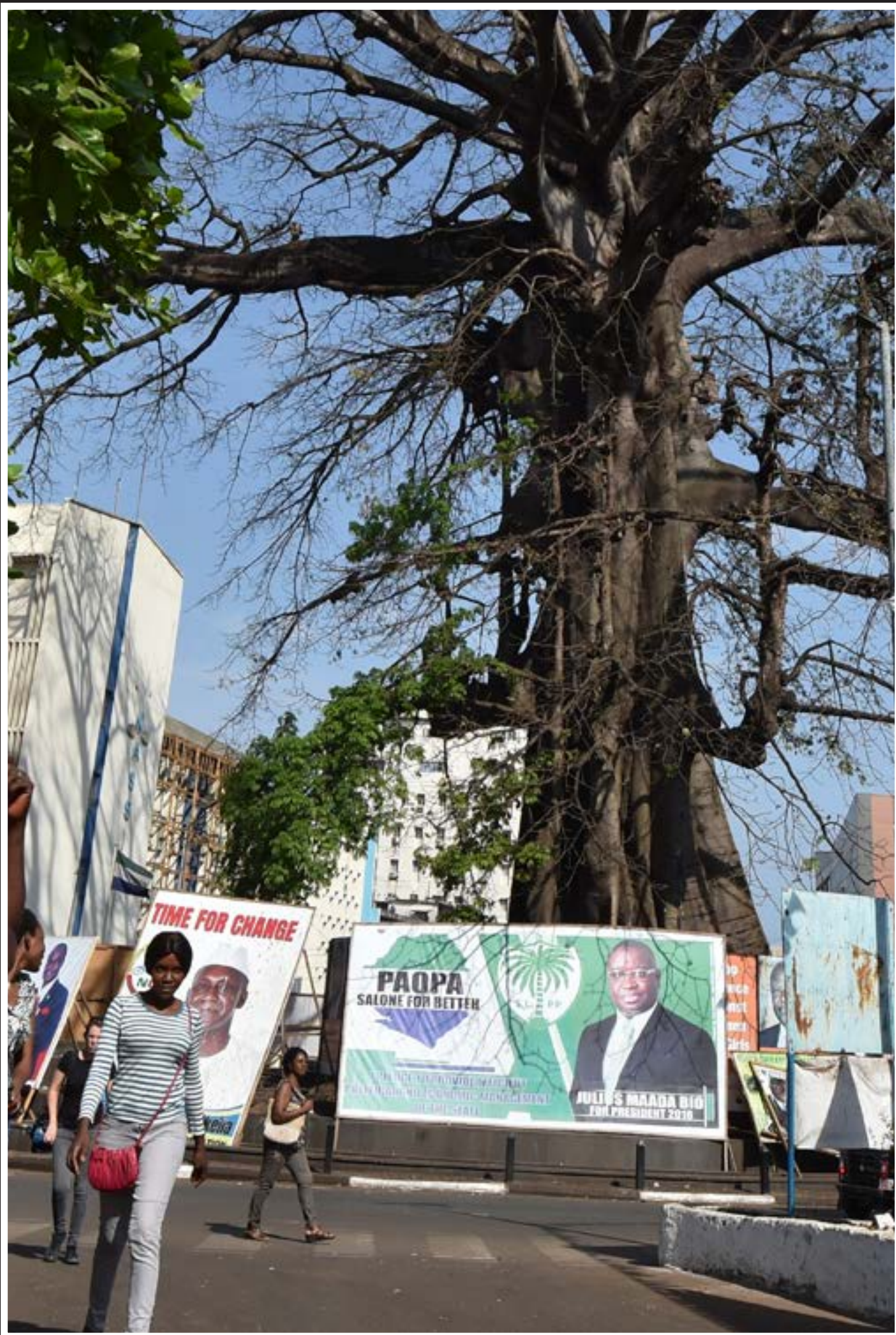
Although life expectancy in Sierra Leone has improved since 1990, the country continues to lag behind the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



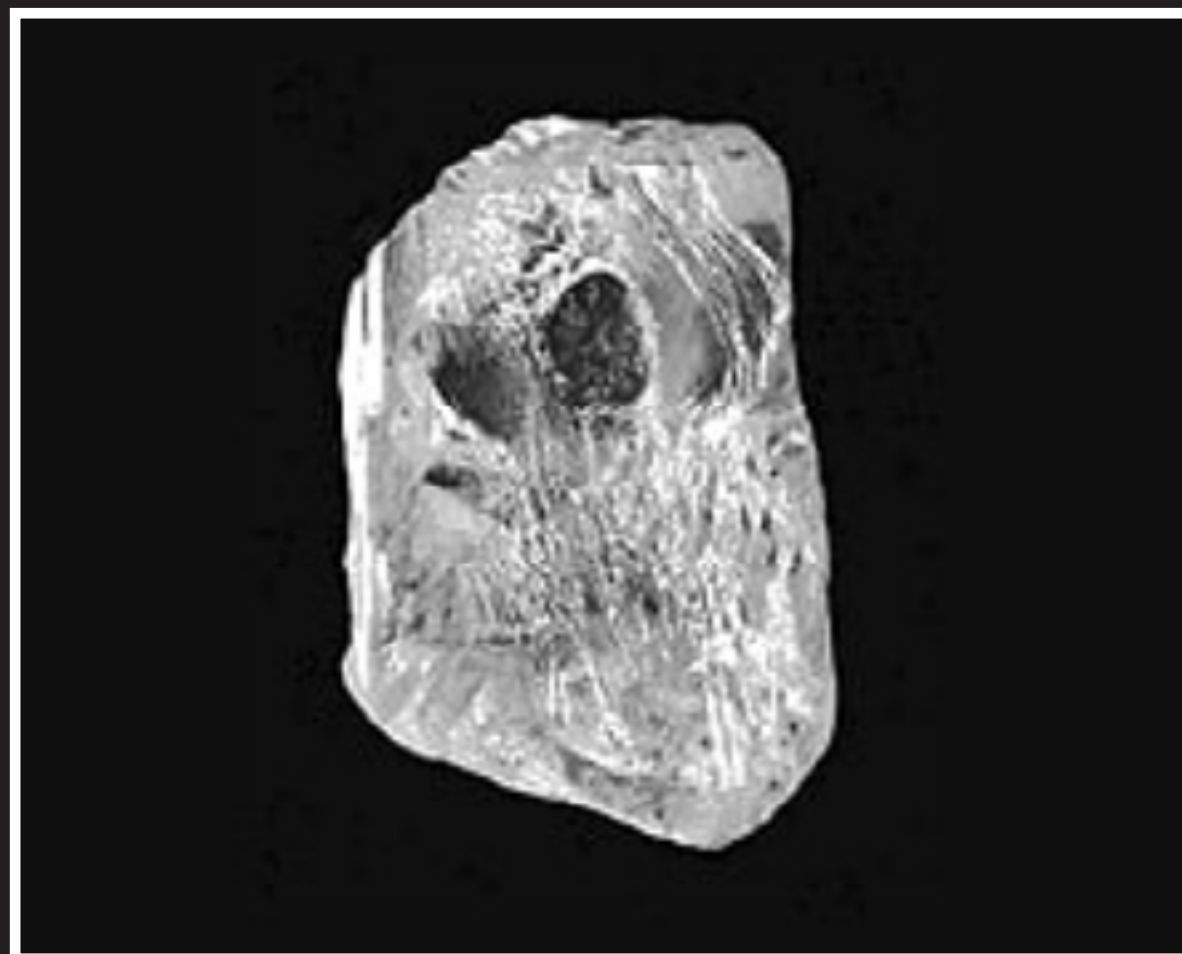
Sierra Leone has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in May-July 2020 and January/February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?



Issouf Sanogo / AFP

The Cotton Tree is a historic symbol in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone. According to tradition, former African-American slaves would walk up to this giant tree and hold a thanksgiving service, praying and singing hymns to thank God for their deliverance to a free land.



In 1972, the world's third-largest gem-quality diamond was found here. It's called the Star of Sierra Leone.



Issouf Sanogo / AFP

Between 1991 and 2001, war between rival groups competing for control of Sierra Leone left more than 50,000 people dead and the country's infrastructure in ruins. The conflict also displaced more than two million people, who fled into neighboring countries.



SOMALIA

Somalia is in the Horn of Africa, bordered by Ethiopia, Djibouti, the Gulf of Aden, the Indian Ocean to the east, and Kenya. Somalia has the longest coastline on Africa’s mainland. Somalia was an important centre for commerce with the rest of the ancient world, and according to most scholars, it is among the most probable locations of the fabled ancient Land of Punt. Somalia was colonised by European powers in the 19th century. Britain and Italy established the colonies of British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland in 1884 and 1889, respectively. These two Somali territories eventually united and gained independence on 1 July, 1960. Hot conditions prevail around the year in Somalia, with periodic monsoon winds and irregular rainfall. The official currency is the Somali shilling.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



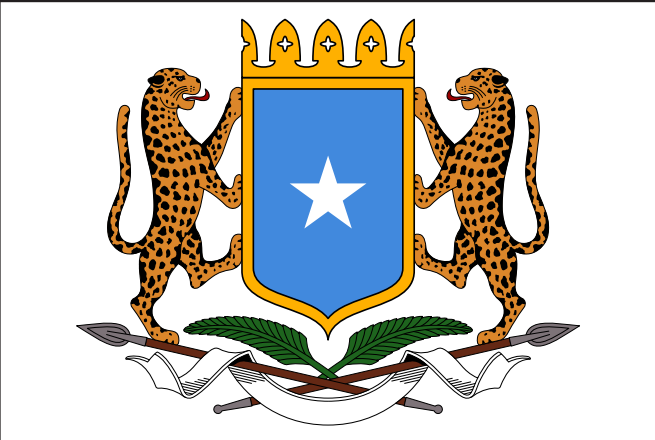
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Mohamed Abdullahi
Mohamed

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY

Mogadishu

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

n/a

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations
Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF
LANGUAGES SPOKEN

10



MAIN LANGUAGES

Somali and Arabic

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Federal parliamentary republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Tayo

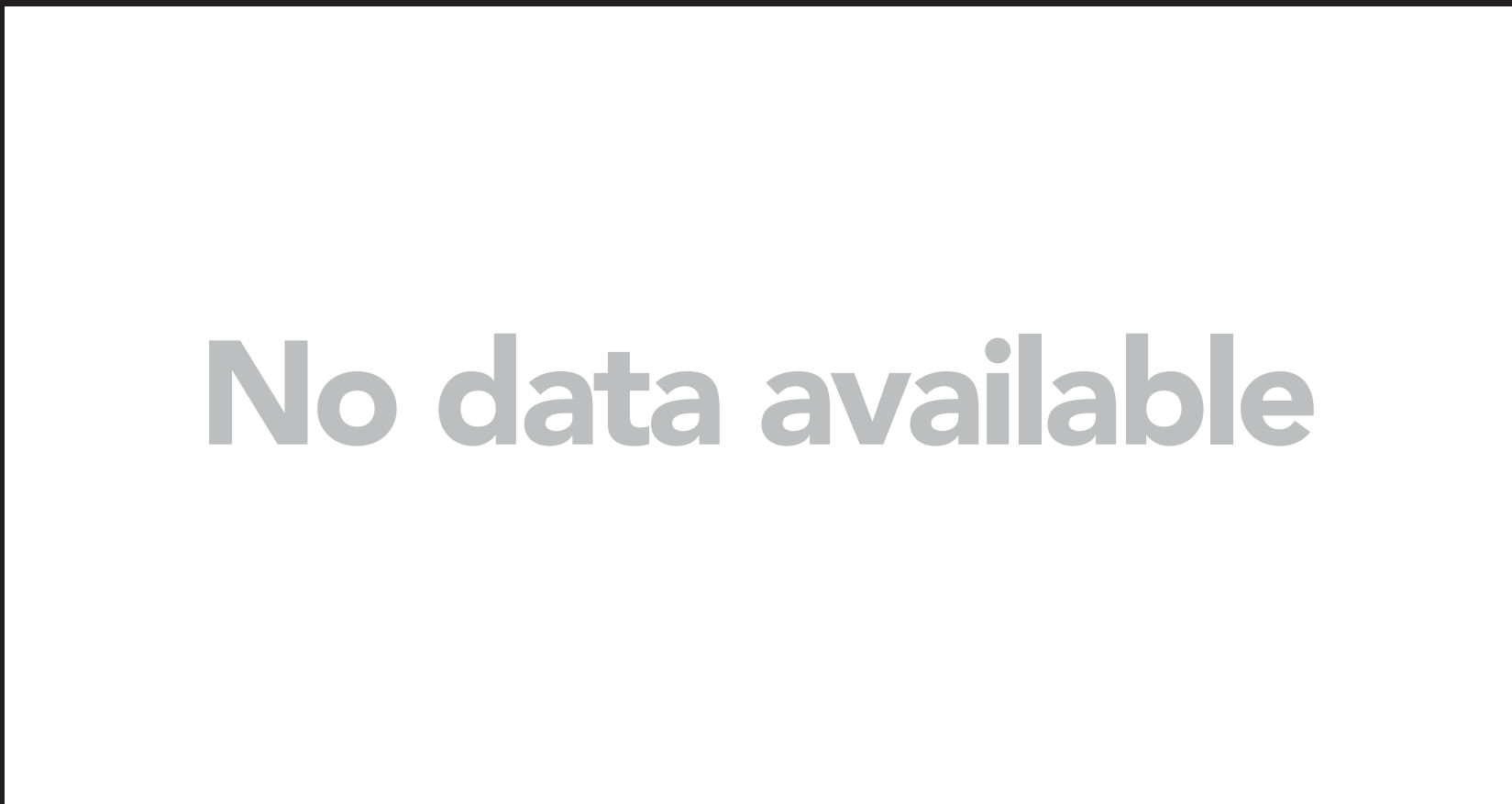


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

Peace and Development Party

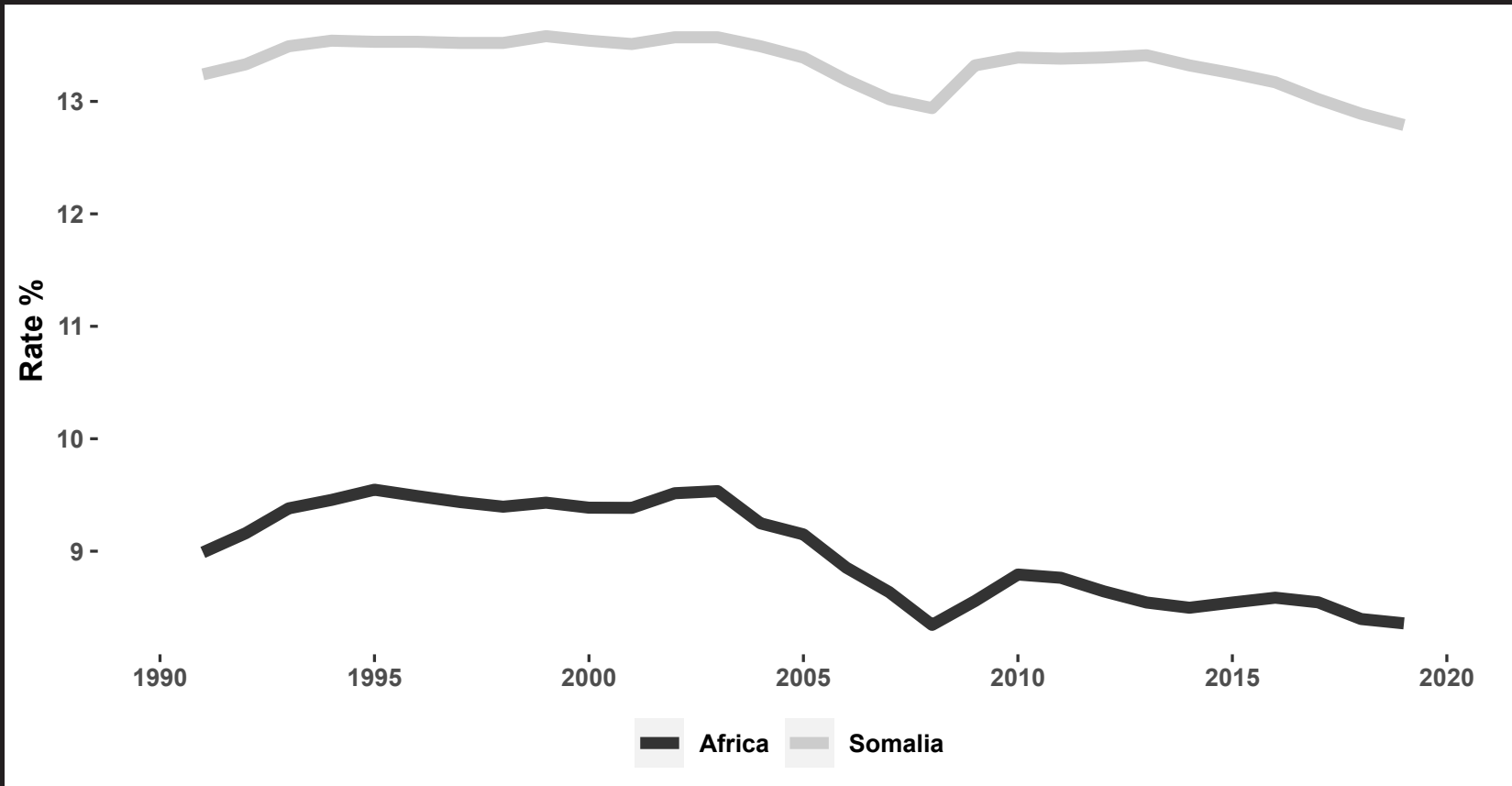
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



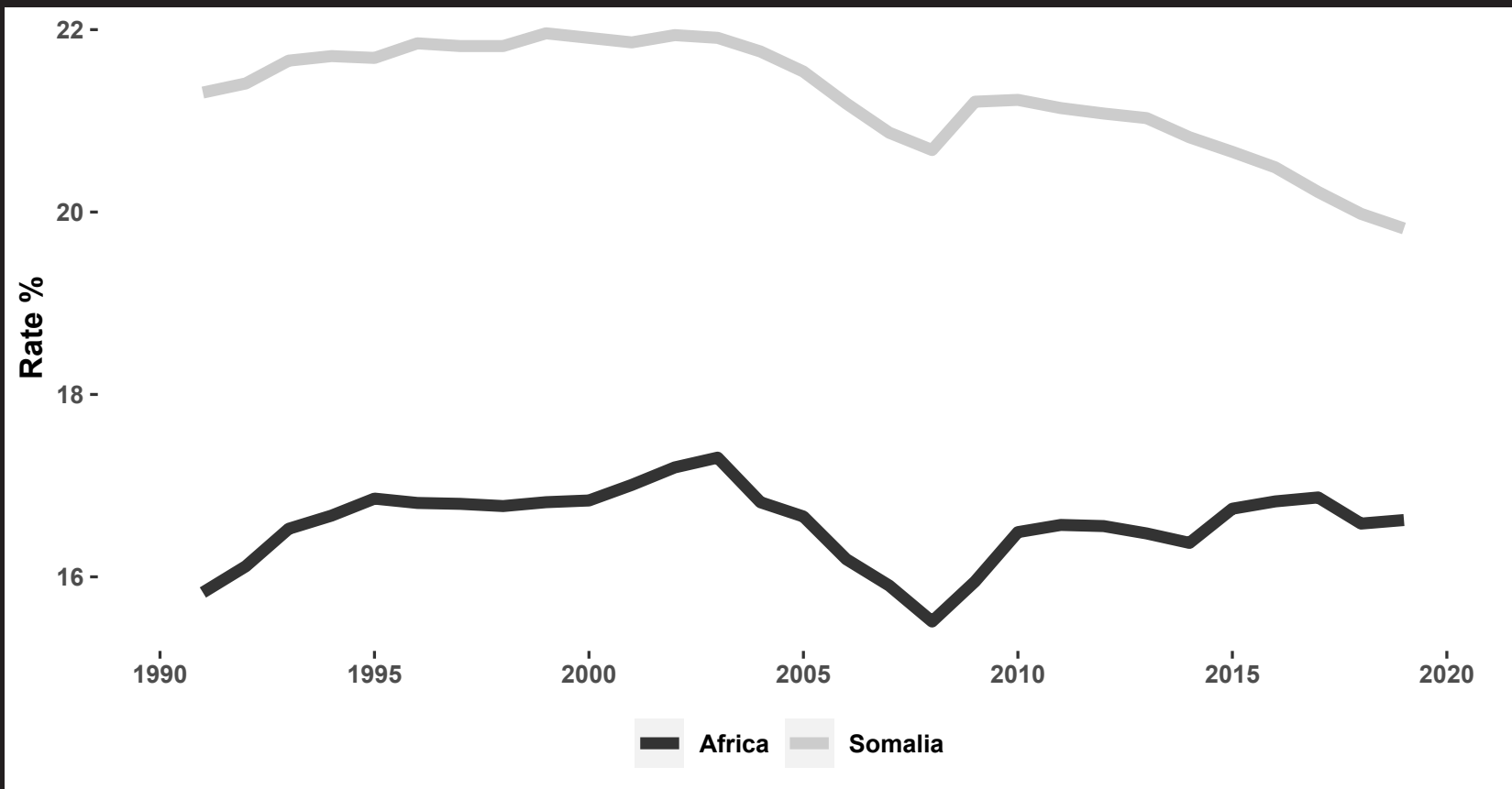
Due to ongoing civil conflict, Somalia’s GDP data is not reported consistently.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



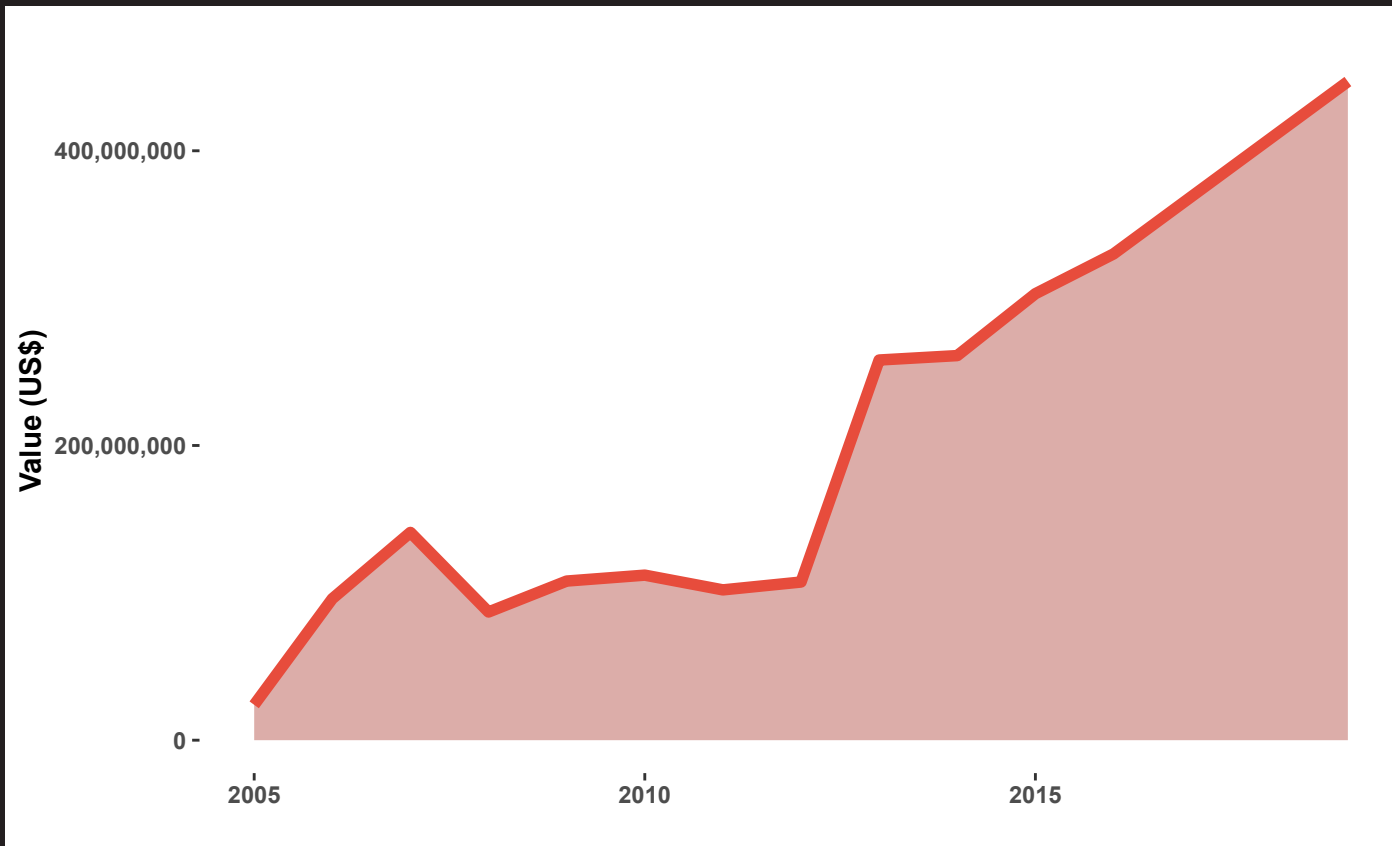
Somalia’s unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Somalia’s youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) 2019



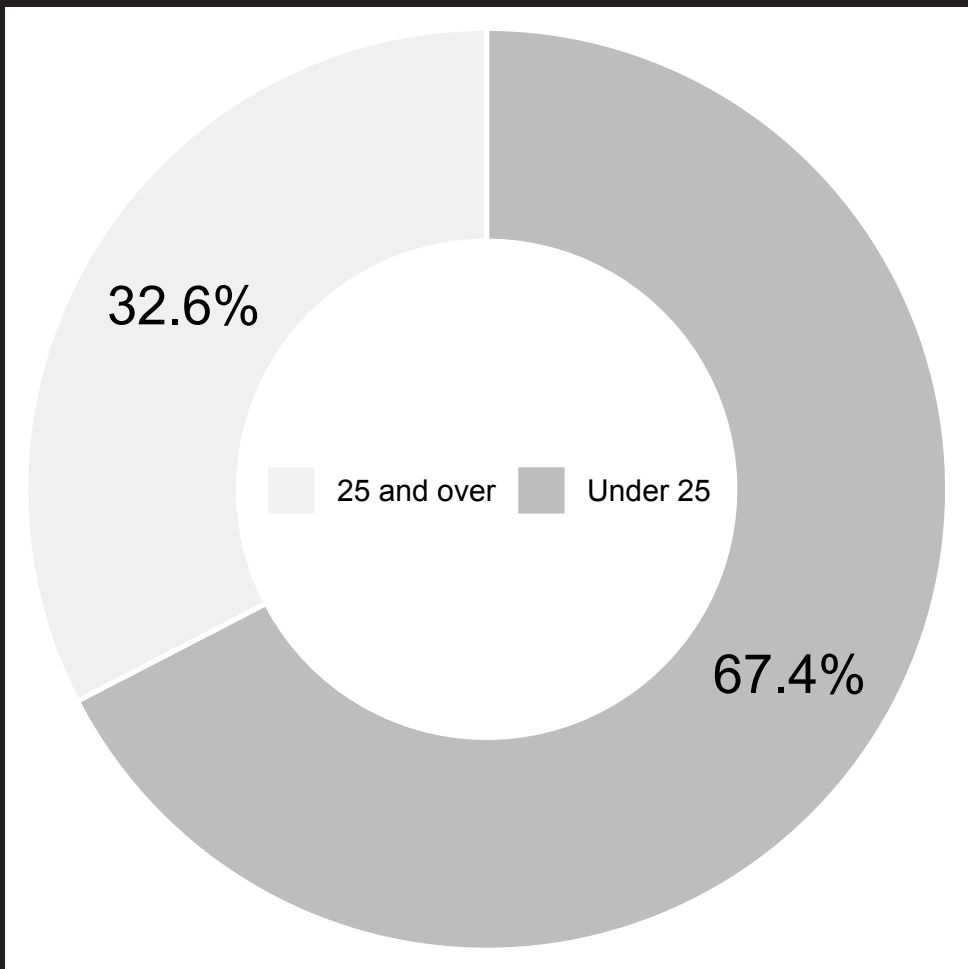
Foreign Direct Investment for 2019 amounted to:

\$447 million

Since 2005 Somalia has been receiving greater FDI inflows.

DEMOGRAPHICS

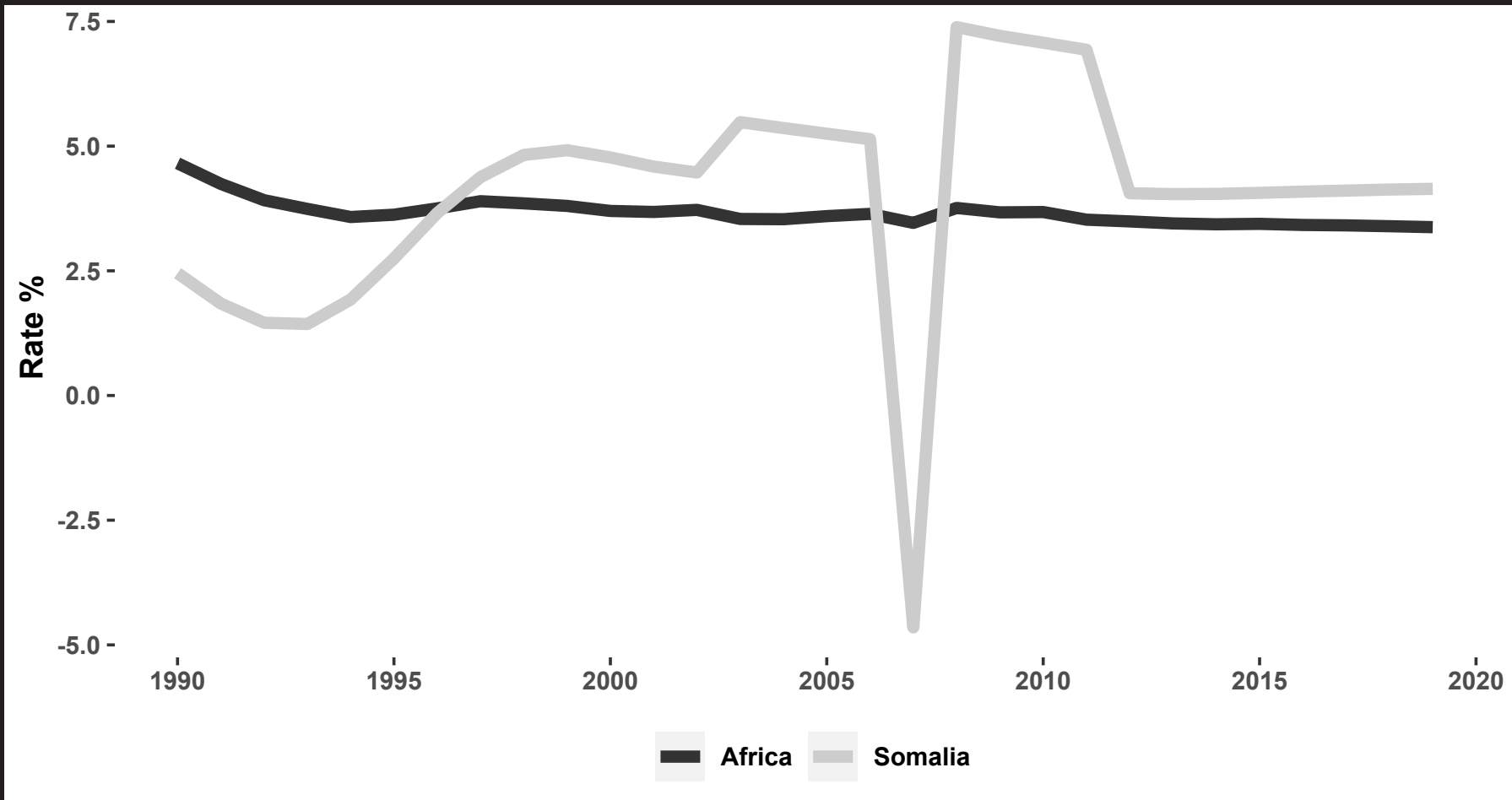
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



15.4 million

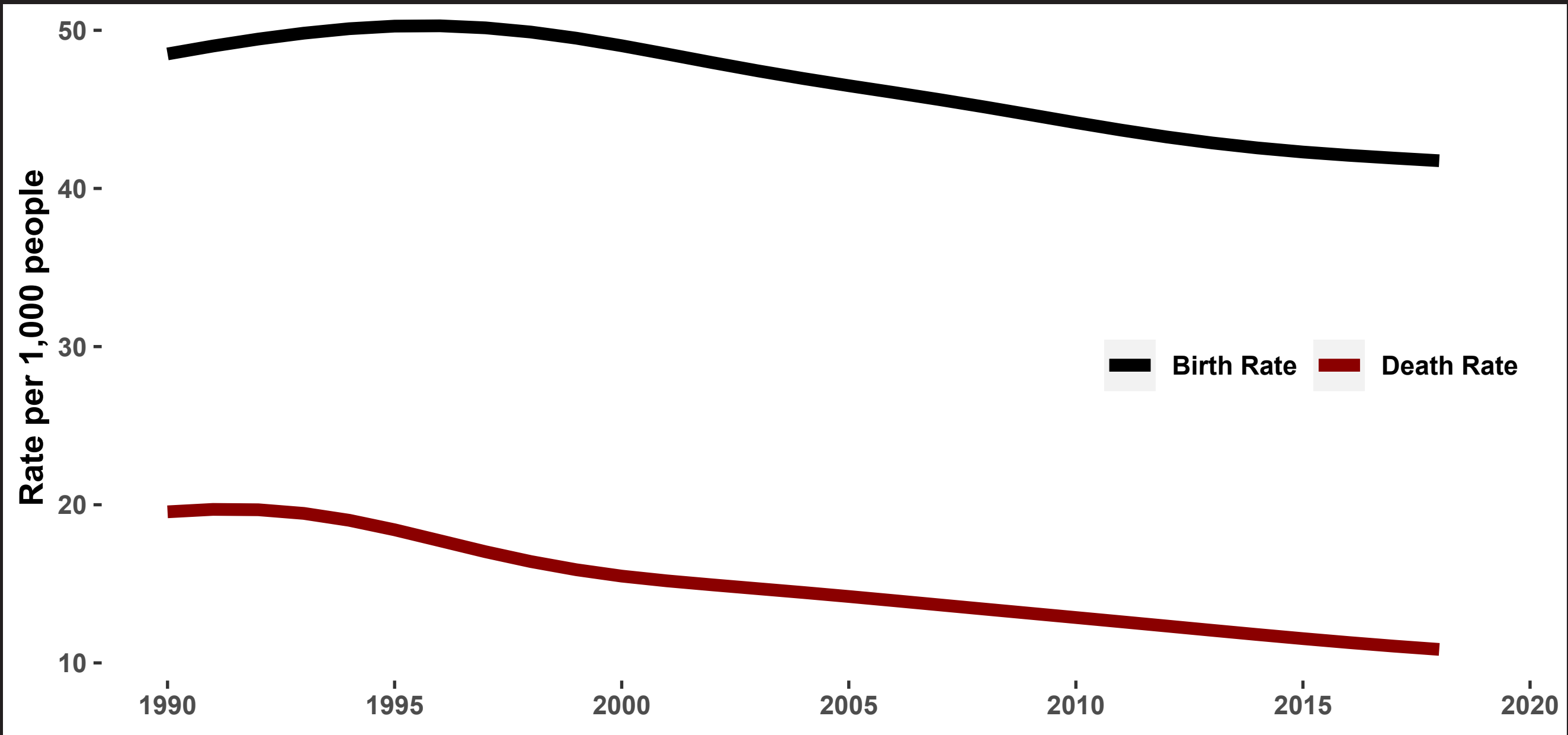
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Somalia’s population is under-25 years old. Somalia is one of five African countries where the under-25 population is more than double the over-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Apart from a period of fluctuating urbanisation between 2005 and 2010, urbanisation in Somalia has tracked quite closely to the African average.

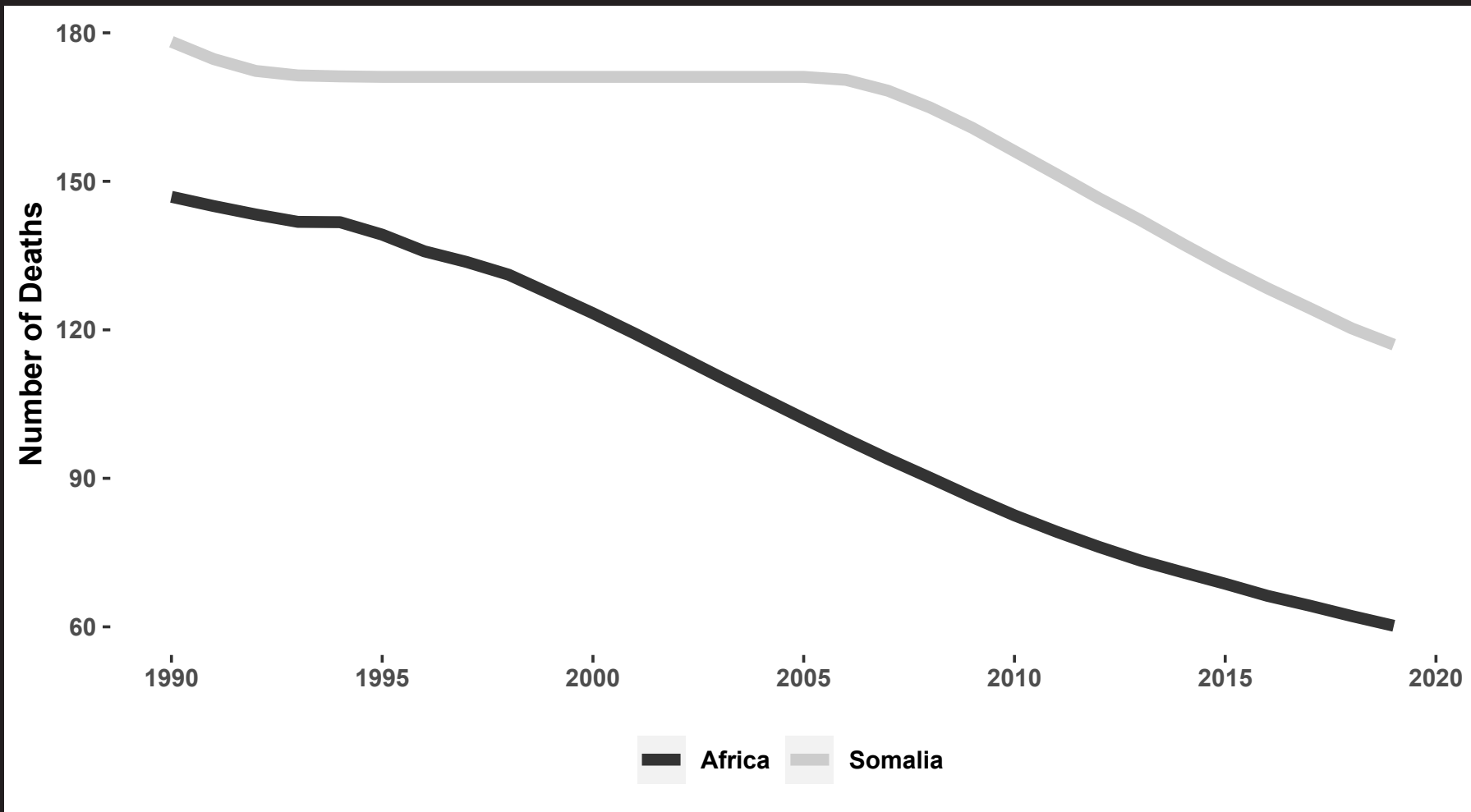
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Since 1990, Somalia has experienced relatively consistent population growth because its birth rate is more than double its death rate.

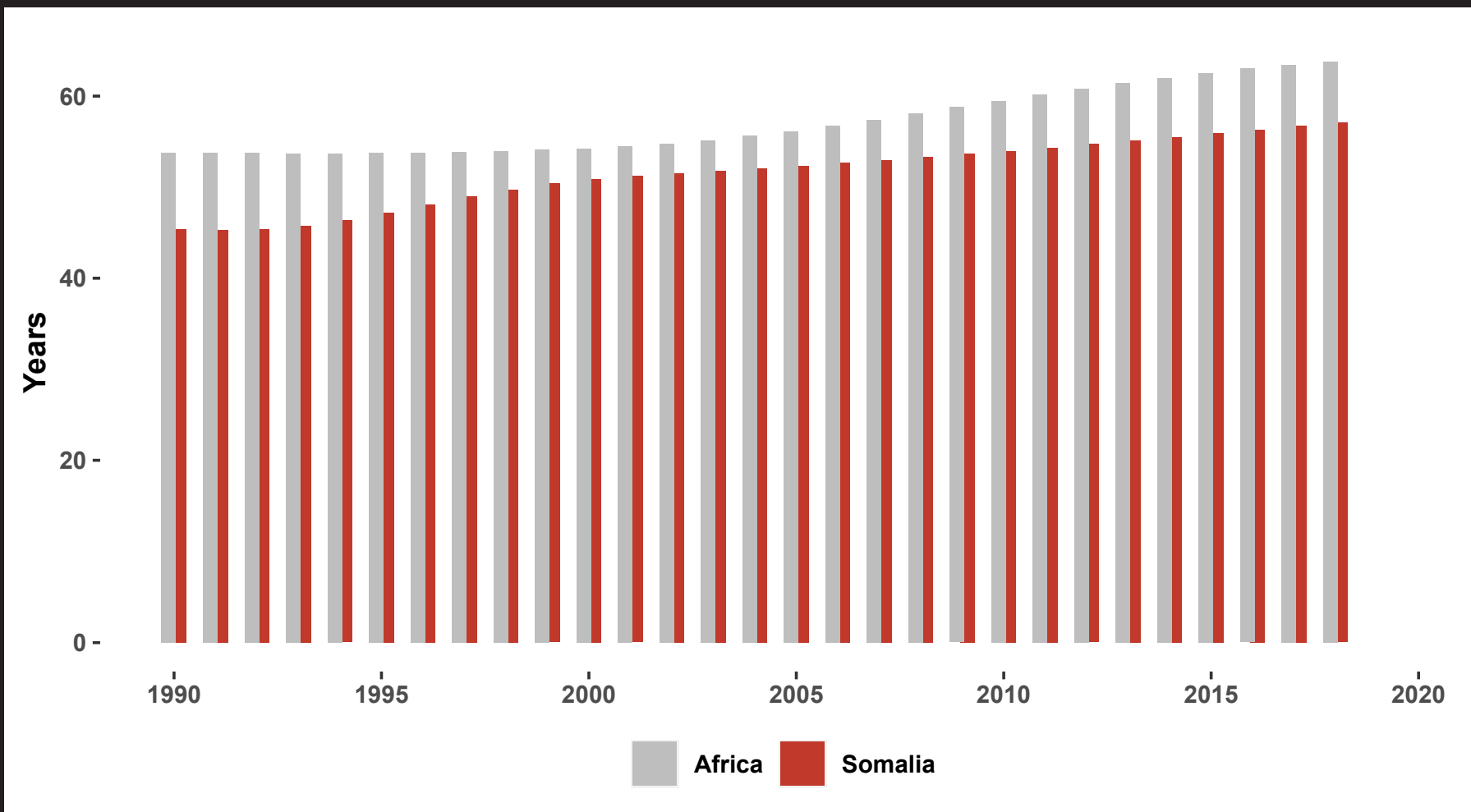
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



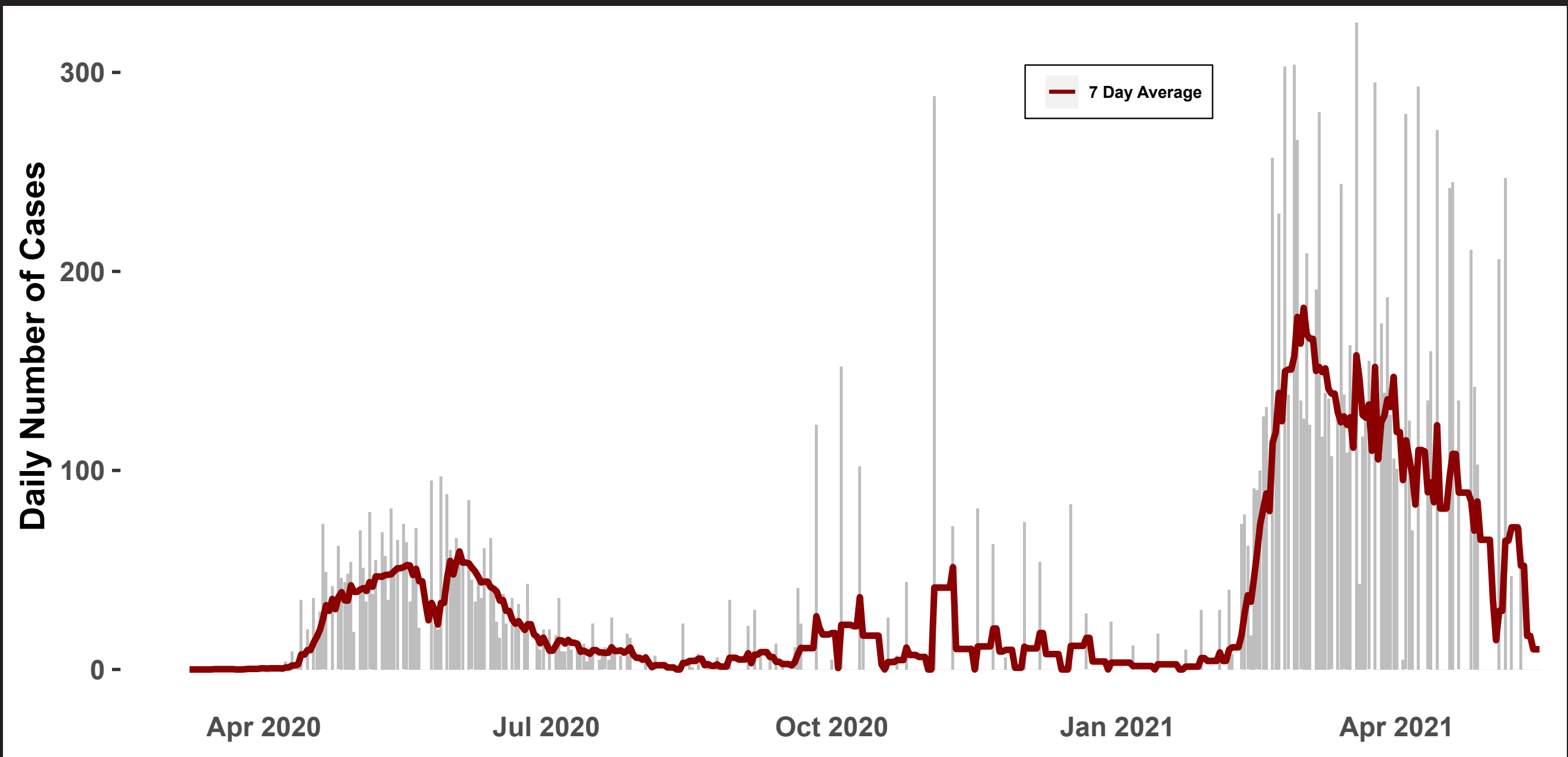
Due to ongoing civil conflict, Somalia saw little change in its child mortality rate between 1990 and 2005. Since 2005, however, child mortality in Somalia has been in slight decline.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Although life expectancy in Somalia has slightly improved since 1990, it continues to significantly lag behind the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Somalia has had two extended Covid-19 waves. The first occurred between May and July 2020, and the second took place between February and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

AMISOM Public Information on Flickr.com



Somalia has one of the highest fertility rates in the world, with an average of six children born to every woman in Somalia. Child-bearing and big families are culturally encouraged in the country.

AMISOM Public Information on Flickr.com



Before the start of the civil war in 1991, Somalia used to be a popular tourist destination due to its numerous attractions and pristine beaches.

AMISOM Public Information on Flickr.com



All food in Somalia is served halaal.

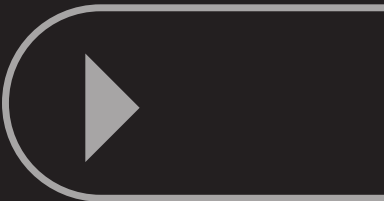
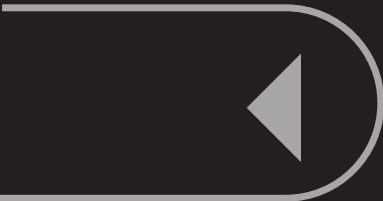


SOMALILAND

Somaliland is a self-declared sovereign state in the Horn of Africa, internationally considered to be part of Somalia. The government of Somaliland regards itself as the successor state to British Somaliland, which, as the briefly independent State of Somaliland, united in 1960 with the Trust Territory of Somaliland (the former Italian Somaliland) to form the Somali Republic. Since 1991, the territory has been governed by democratically elected governments that seek international recognition as the government of the Republic of Somaliland. The Somaliland shilling, which cannot easily be exchanged outside Somaliland on account of the nation’s lack of recognition, is regulated by the Bank of Somaliland, which was constitutionally established in 1994.

GOVERNMENT

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Muse Bihi Abdi



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Hargeisa

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

n/a

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN



MAIN LANGUAGES

Somali, Arabic and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential republic

RULING POLITICAL PARTIES



Kulmiye Peace, Unity and Development Party



For Justice and Development (UCID)



Waddani National Party

DID YOU KNOW?

Retlaw Snellac Photography on Flickr.com



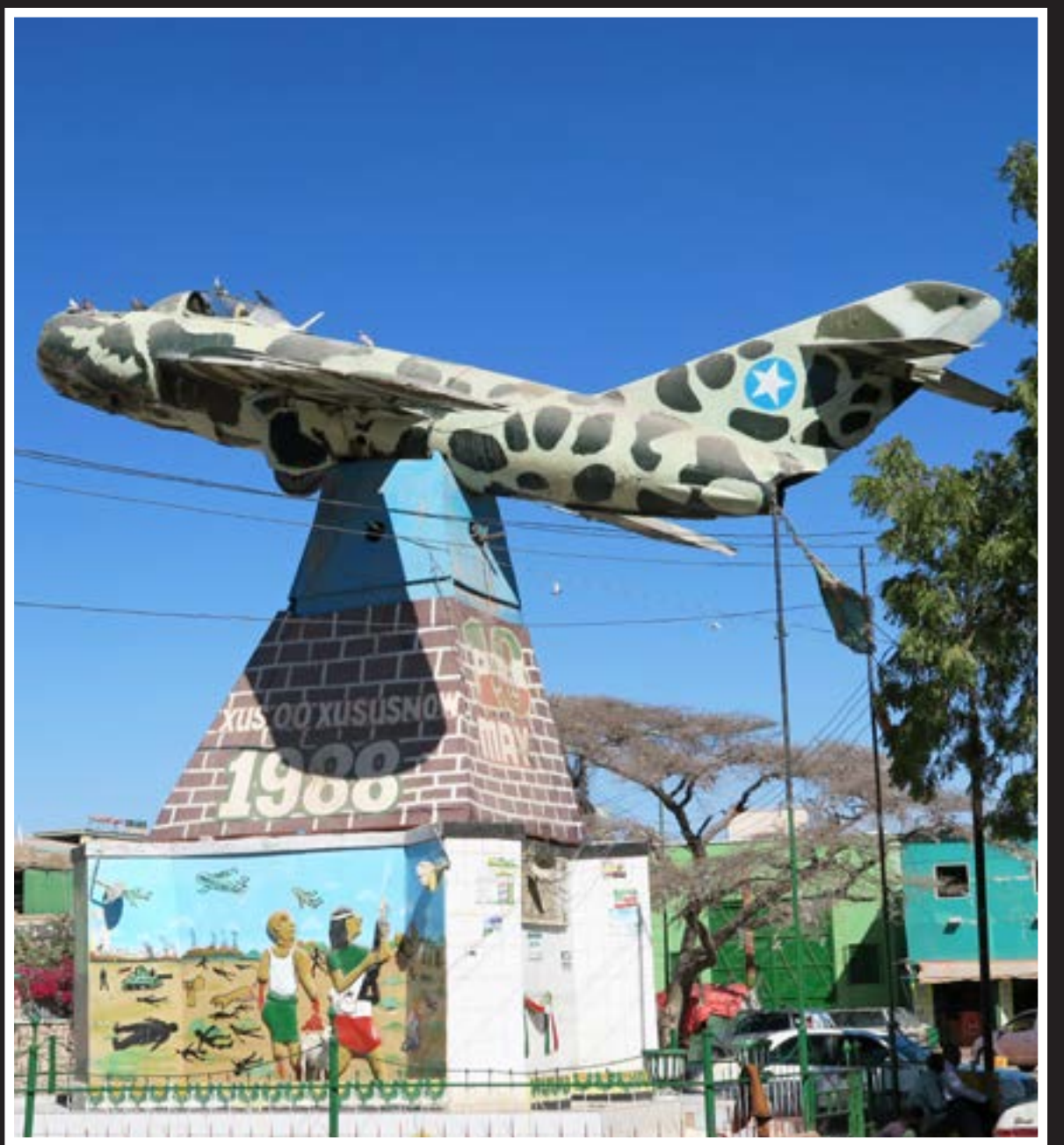
Somaliland pays one the lowest rates for mobile calls in the world. Also, mobile payments in Somaliland are so important that they are estimated to account for half of all transactions, and they are made in US dollars.

Clay Gilliland on Flickr.com



The amount of counterfeit Somaliland shilling is so high that the World Bank estimates 98% of the currency is fake.

John Pavelka on Flickr.com

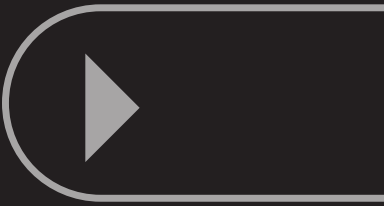
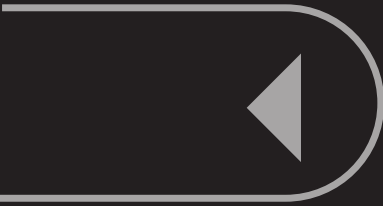


Cars in Somaliland drive on the right hand side of the road but also have the steering wheel on the right. This makes for the very weird situation of the passenger seat being positioned next to oncoming traffic.



SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is the southernmost country in Africa, bordered by Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and eSwatini. It is known as the ‘Rainbow Nation’ because of its melting pot of peoples and cultures. South Africa has 11 official languages, including isiZulu, isiXhosa, Afrikaans, English, Xitsonga, Swati, and Tshivenda. The official currency is South African rand (ZAR). The country’s most internationally recognised icon is Nelson Mandela, anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader and philanthropist who served as president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. In the Sterkfontein caves, at the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site north-west of Johannesburg, are fossil sites where some of the earliest evidence of human evolution has been unearthed. The city of Cape Town is home to another World Heritage Site, Table Mountain, the most iconic landmark in South Africa. The world-renowned Kruger National Park is two million hectares of unrivalled diversity of life forms, including the Big Five (elephant, rhino, lion, leopard, buffalo). South Africa boasts 10% of the world’s bird, fish and plant species, as well as 6% of its mammal and reptile species.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Cyril Ramaphosa

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Pretoria

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

114

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

35



MAIN LANGUAGES

English, isiZulu and isiXhosa

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant-party parliamentary republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

African National Congress

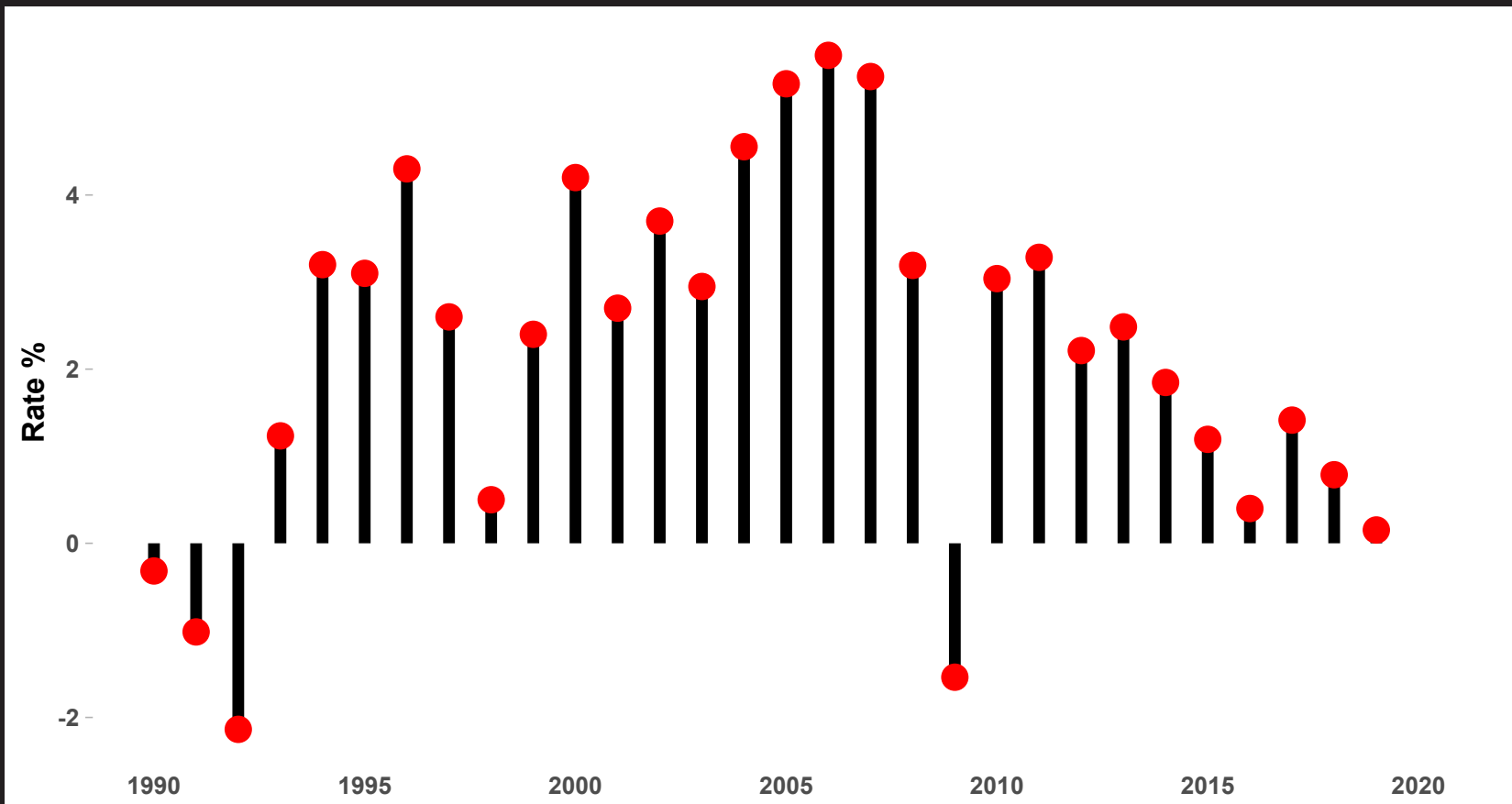


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

Democratic Alliance

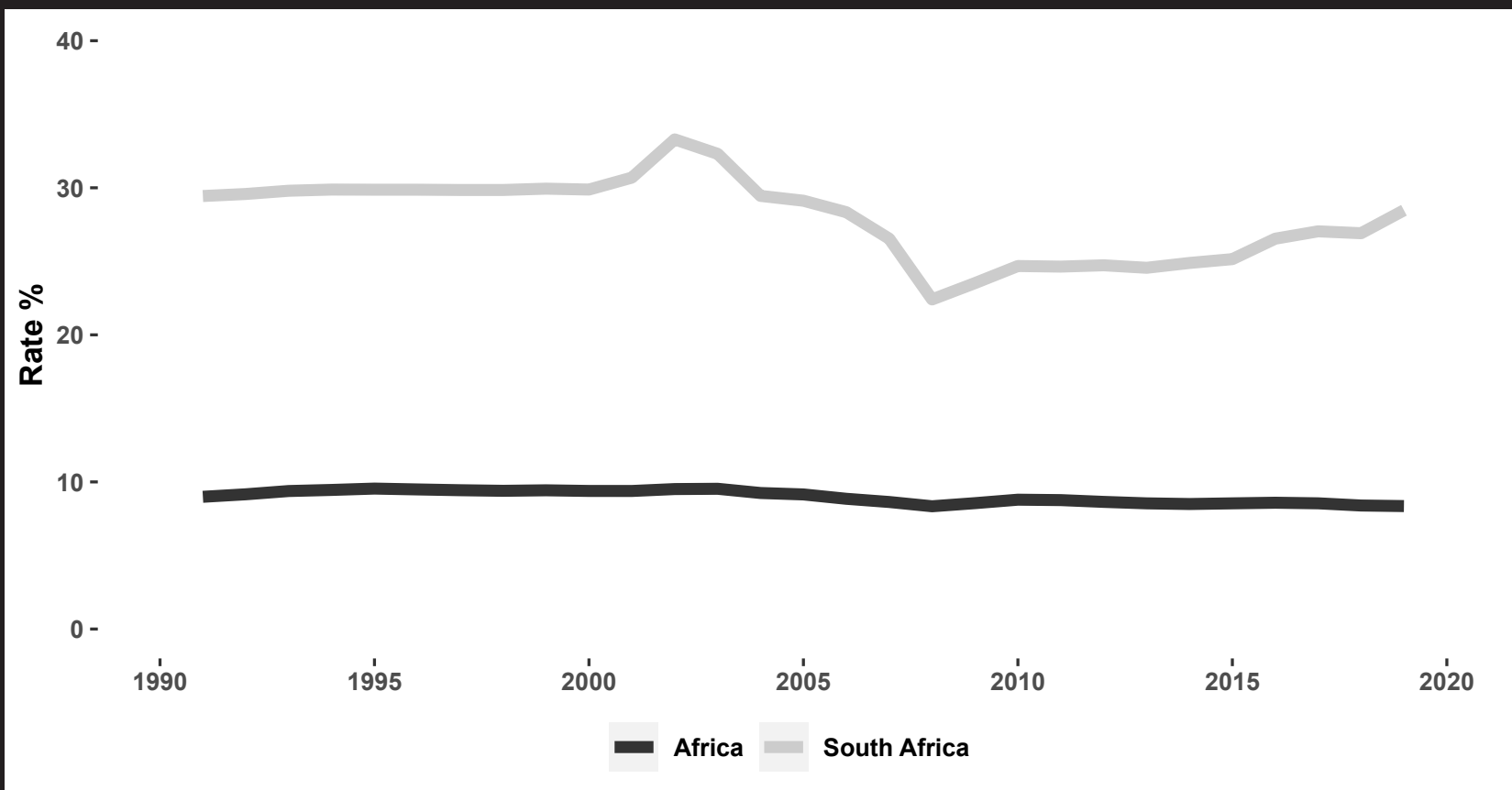
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



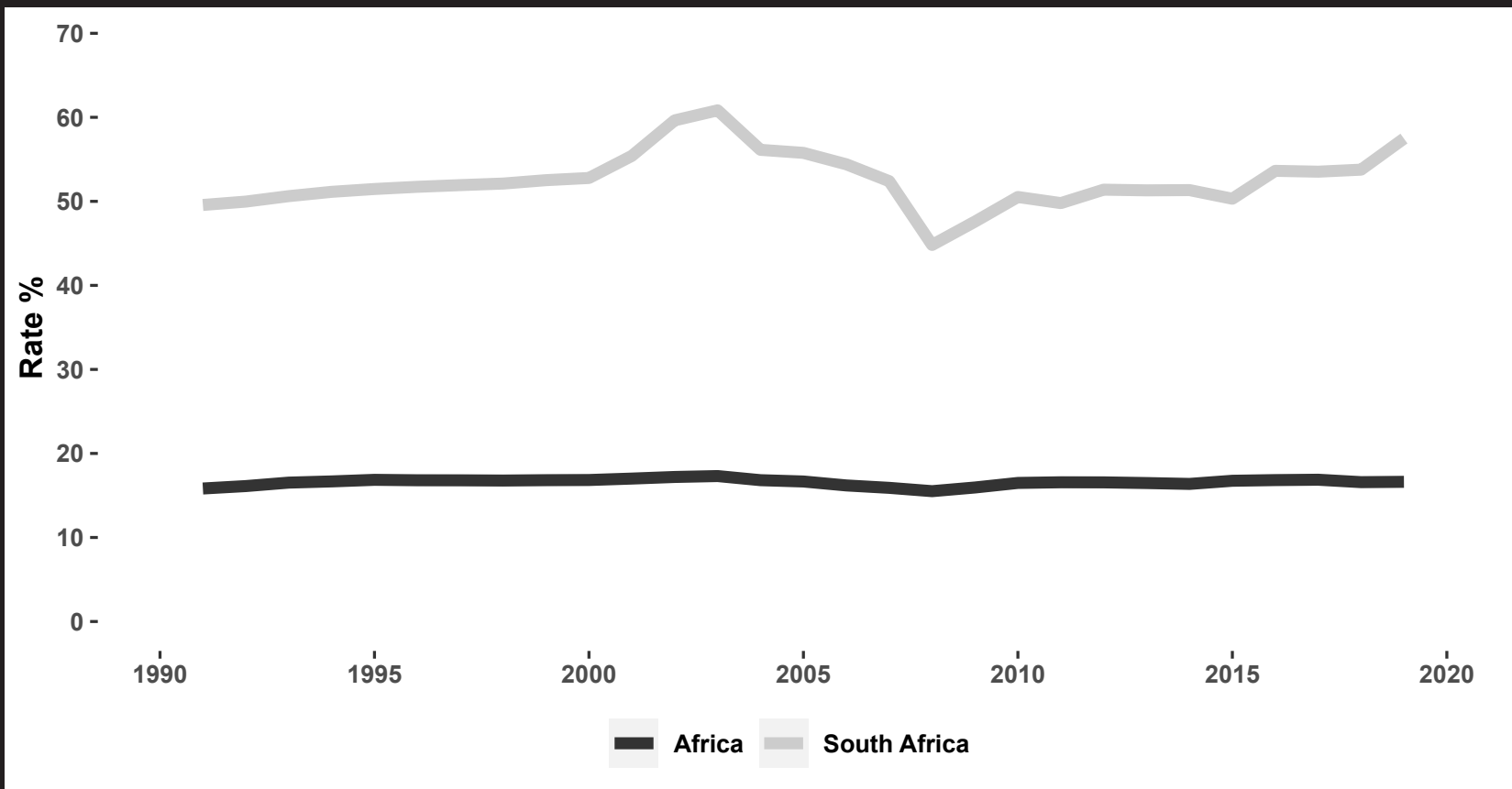
Due to shifting political circumstances, South Africa experienced regular economic contractions in the early 1990s. Between the introduction of universal suffrage in 1994 and the global financial crisis of 2008, the country experienced consistent economic expansion. Since 2010, the economy has been growing, but at a slower rate than it was between 1994 and 2008.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



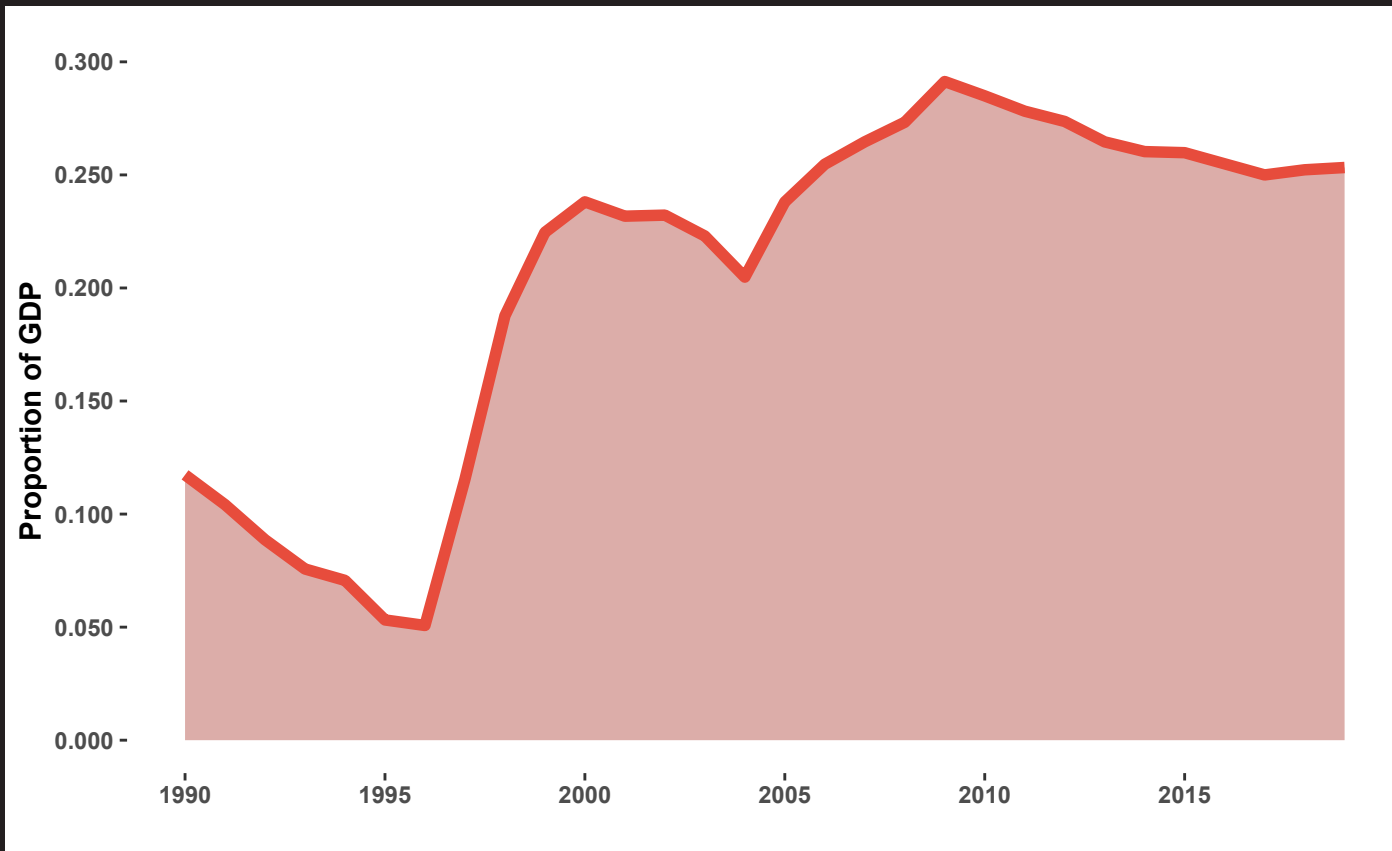
South Africa's unemployment rate has consistently been much higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



South Africa's youth unemployment rate has consistently been much higher than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$890 million

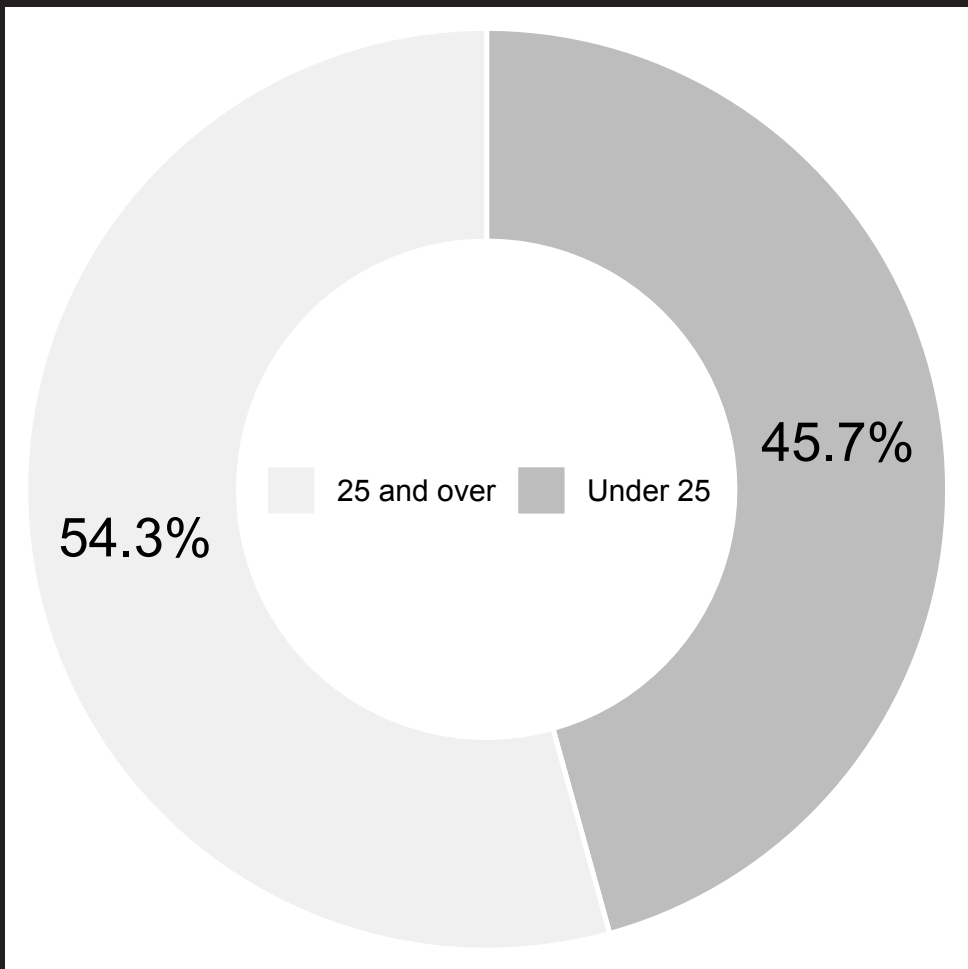
which represents

0.25% of GDP

South Africa is one of the African countries that is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

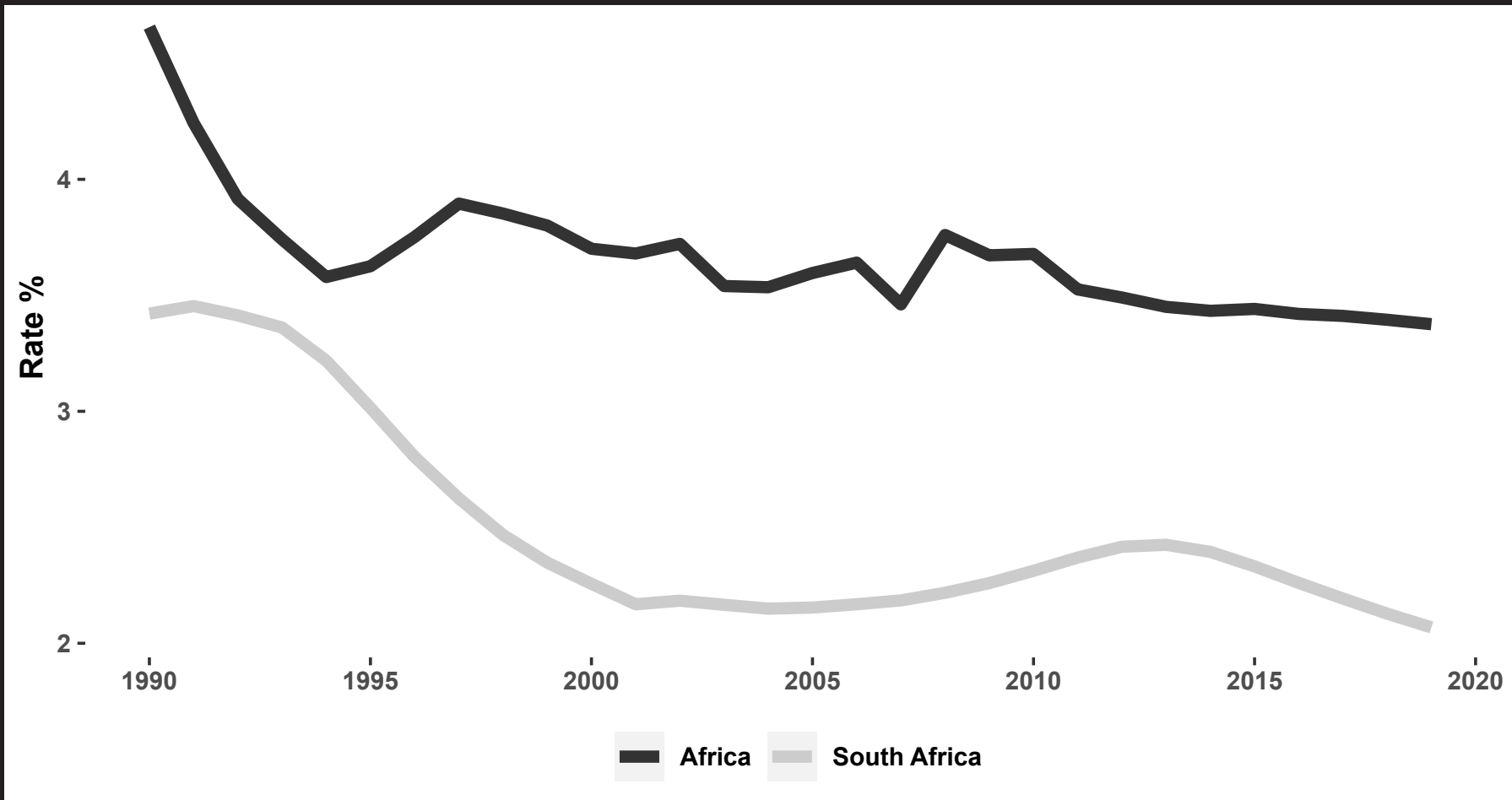
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



58.6 million

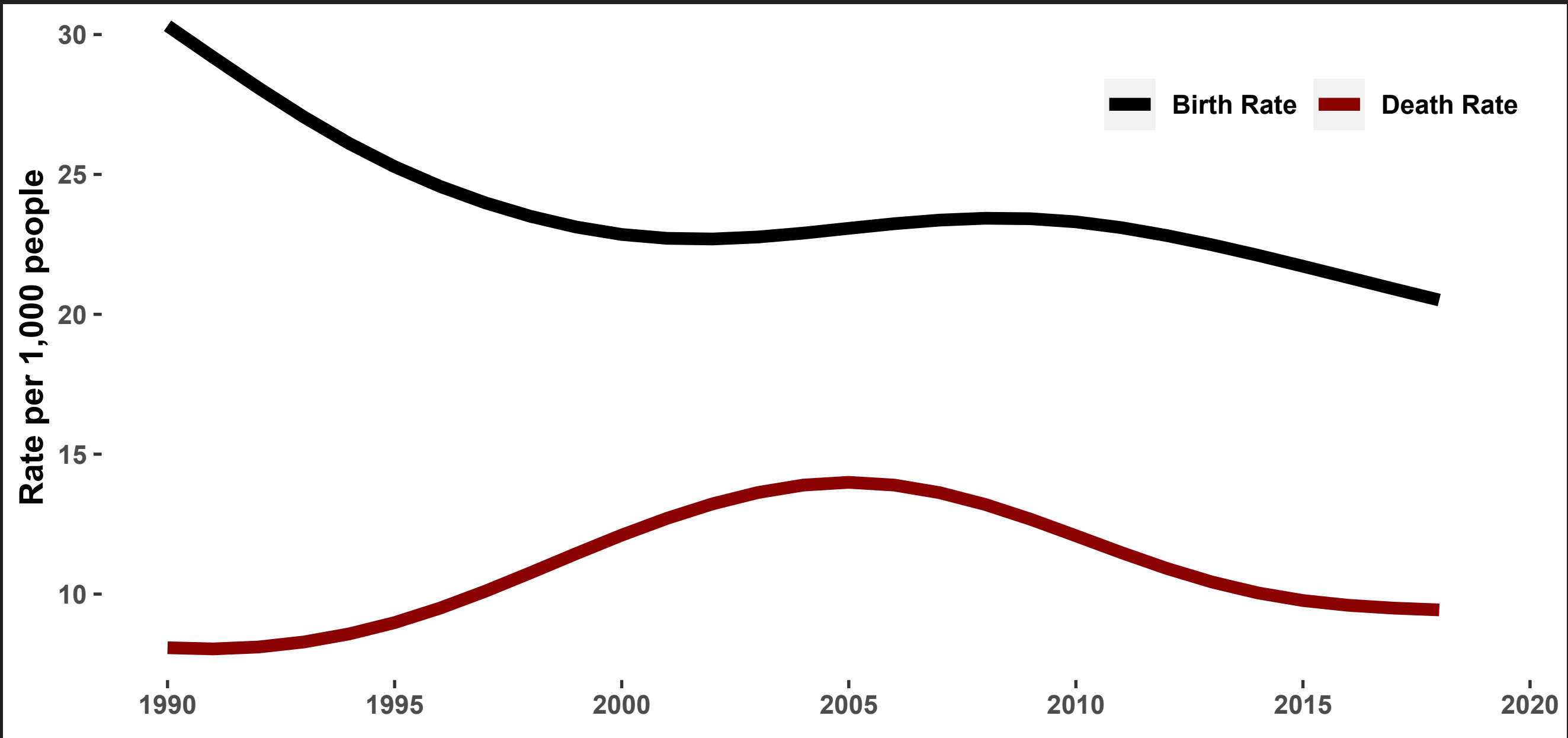
South Africa is one of the nine countries where the over-25 population outnumbers the under-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



South Africa has generally urbanised at a slower rate than the continental average over the past 25 years.

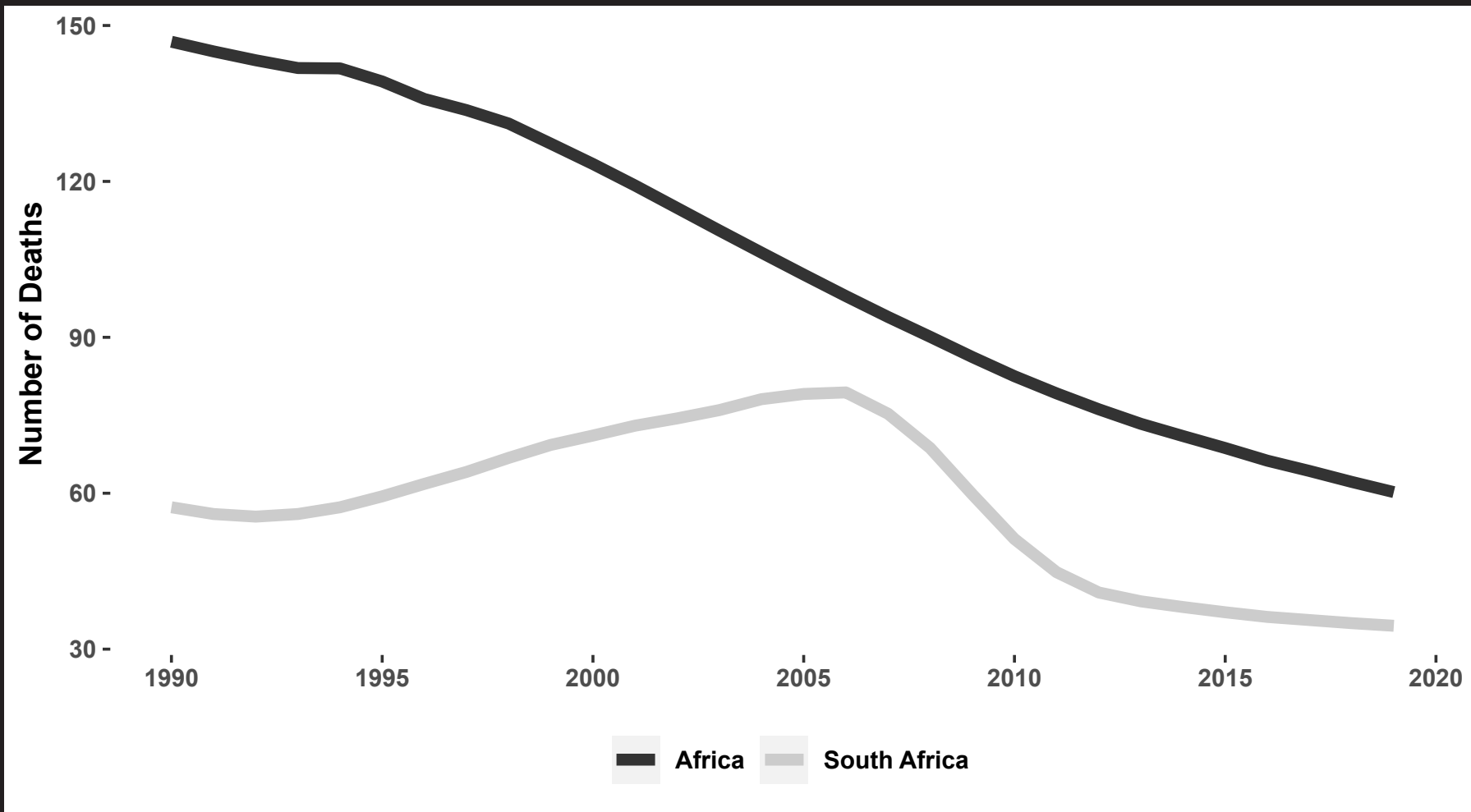
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



There has been a steady decline in South Africa's birth rate over the past 30 years. The death rate in South Africa increased during the peak of the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the late 1990s/2000s. This meant that population growth slowed rapidly during this period – although this has recovered slightly in the interim years.

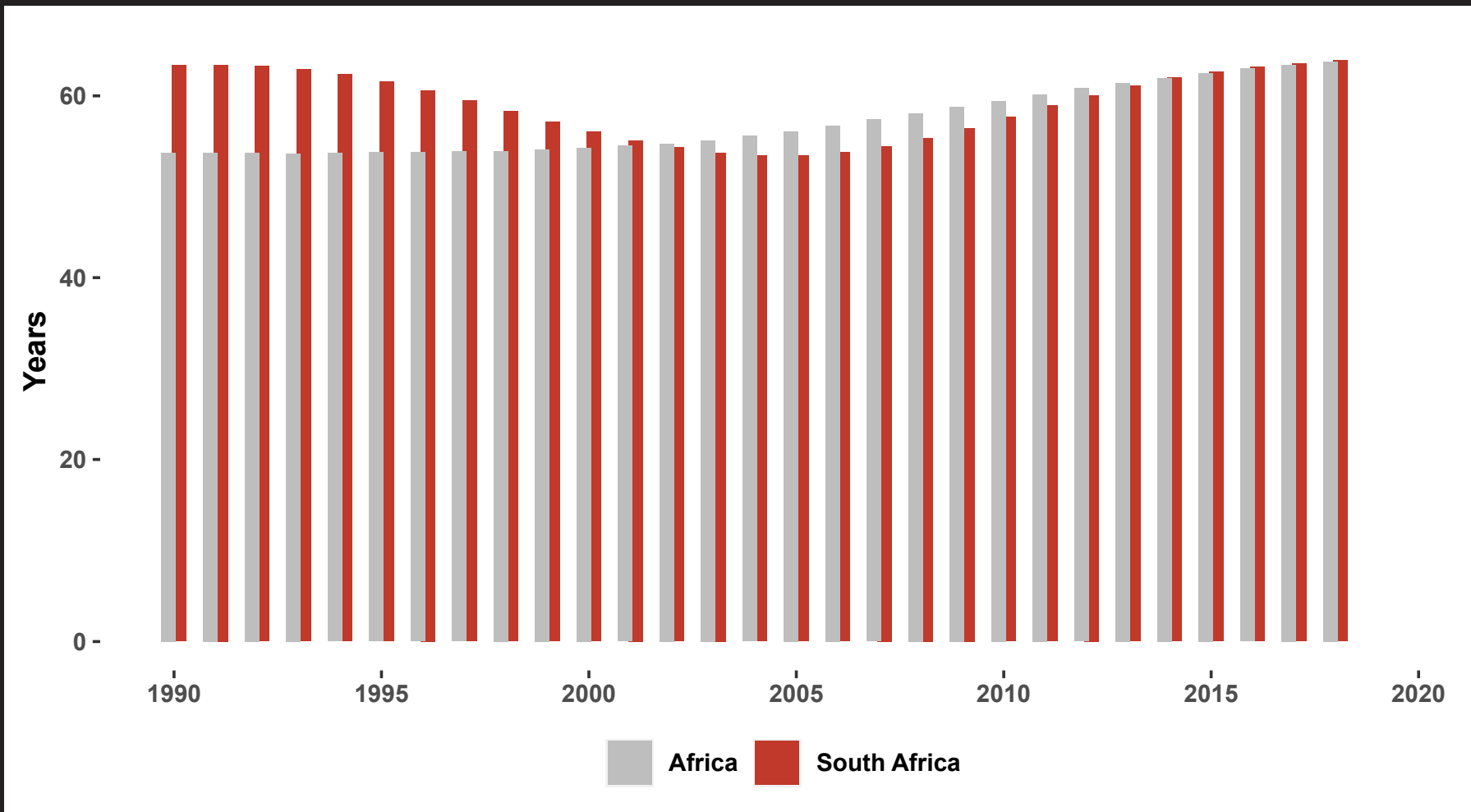
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



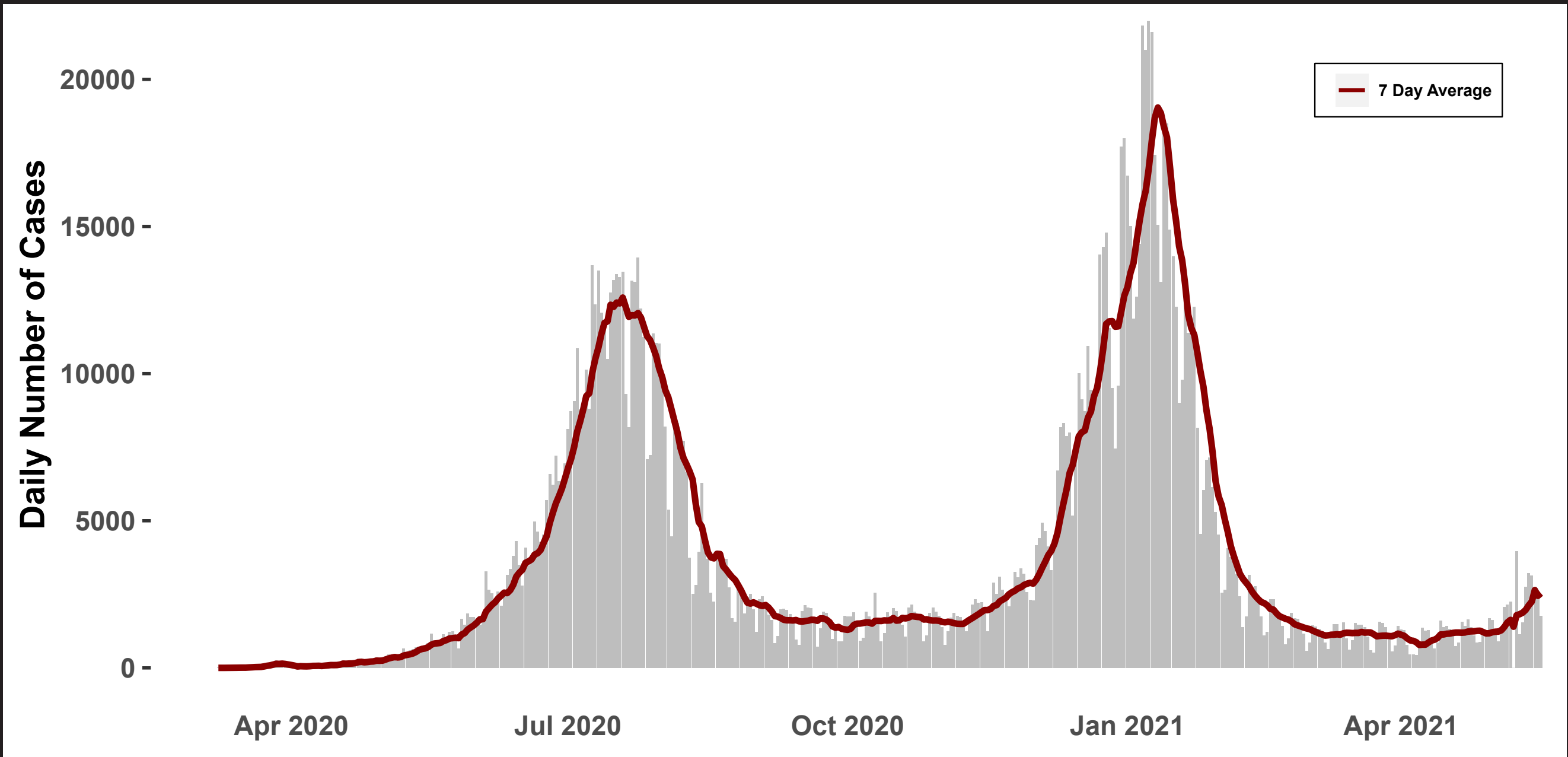
Although South Africa’s child mortality rate was consistently lower than the African average, the HIV/AIDS epidemic meant that there was an uncharacteristic rise in child mortality between 1990 and 2005. Since 2005, child mortality in the country has declined again.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Like many southern African countries, South Africa’s life expectancy at the turn of the 21st century experienced a decline due to the severity of the HIV/ AIDS epidemic. Since 2005, life expectancy in South Africa has increased, and by 2015 was in line with the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



South Africa has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in July/August 2020 and December/January 2020/1.

DID YOU KNOW?

South African Tourism on Flickr.com



Mrs. Ples is the nickname of the most complete skull of an *Australopithecus africanus* ever found at the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site. In 2013, a new ancient hominin species called *Homo naledi* was found in the Cradle. Scientists say *Homo naledi* was likely to have co-existed with *Australopithecus*, the ancestor of modern humans.

John Hickey-Fry on Flickr.com



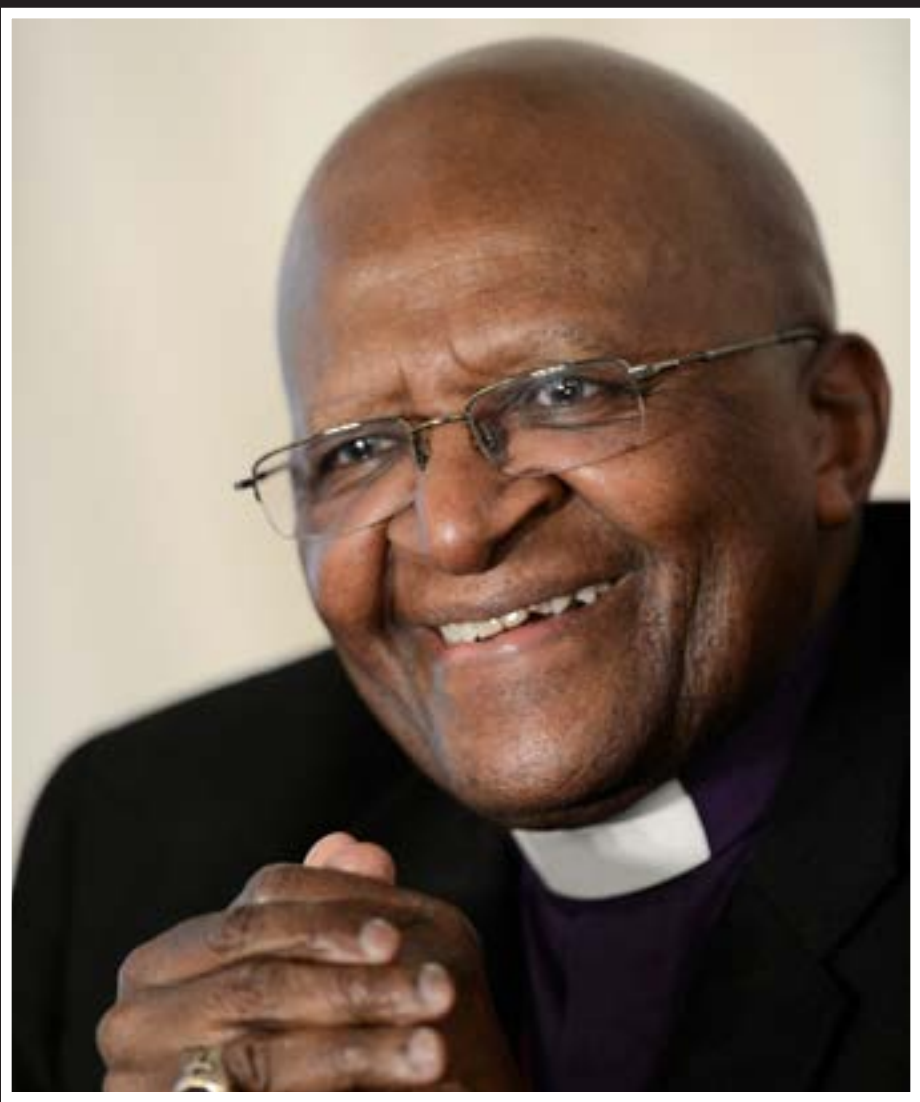
About 80% of fynbos plant species can be found in the Cape floral kingdom, mostly throughout the Table Mountain National Park, where nearly 6,000 of these are endemic.

Trevor Samson / AFP



Nelson Mandela

Vilakazi Street in Soweto has been home to two Nobel Peace Prize winners. Both Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu lived here at some point in their lives.



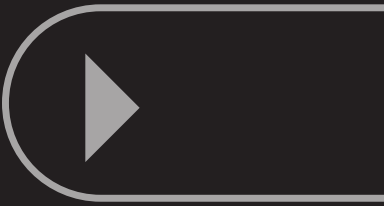
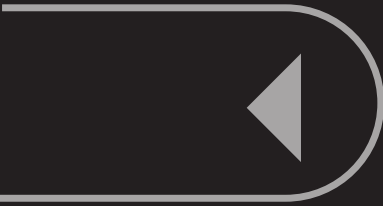
Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Stephane De Sakutin / AFP



SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan is a landlocked country in east-central Africa, bordered by Ethiopia, Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda and Kenya. It gained independence from Sudan in 2011, making it Africa’s most recent sovereign state/country. Slavery has been an institution of Sudanese life throughout history. The slave trade in the south intensified in the 19th century, and continued after the British had suppressed slavery in much of sub-Saharan Africa. Annual Sudanese slave raids into non-Muslim territories resulted in the capture of countless thousands of southern Sudanese, and the destruction of the region’s stability and economy. In 2011, a referendum was held to determine whether South Sudan should become an independent country and separate from Sudan. Some 98.83% of the population voted for independence. South Sudan is covered in tropical forest, swamps, and grassland, and the White Nile passes through it. The official currency is the South Sudanese Pound.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Salva Kiir Mayardit

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Juba

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

185

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

60+



MAIN LANGUAGES

English, Arabic, Nuer, Dinka, Bari and Zande

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Federal presidential constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM)
– in government

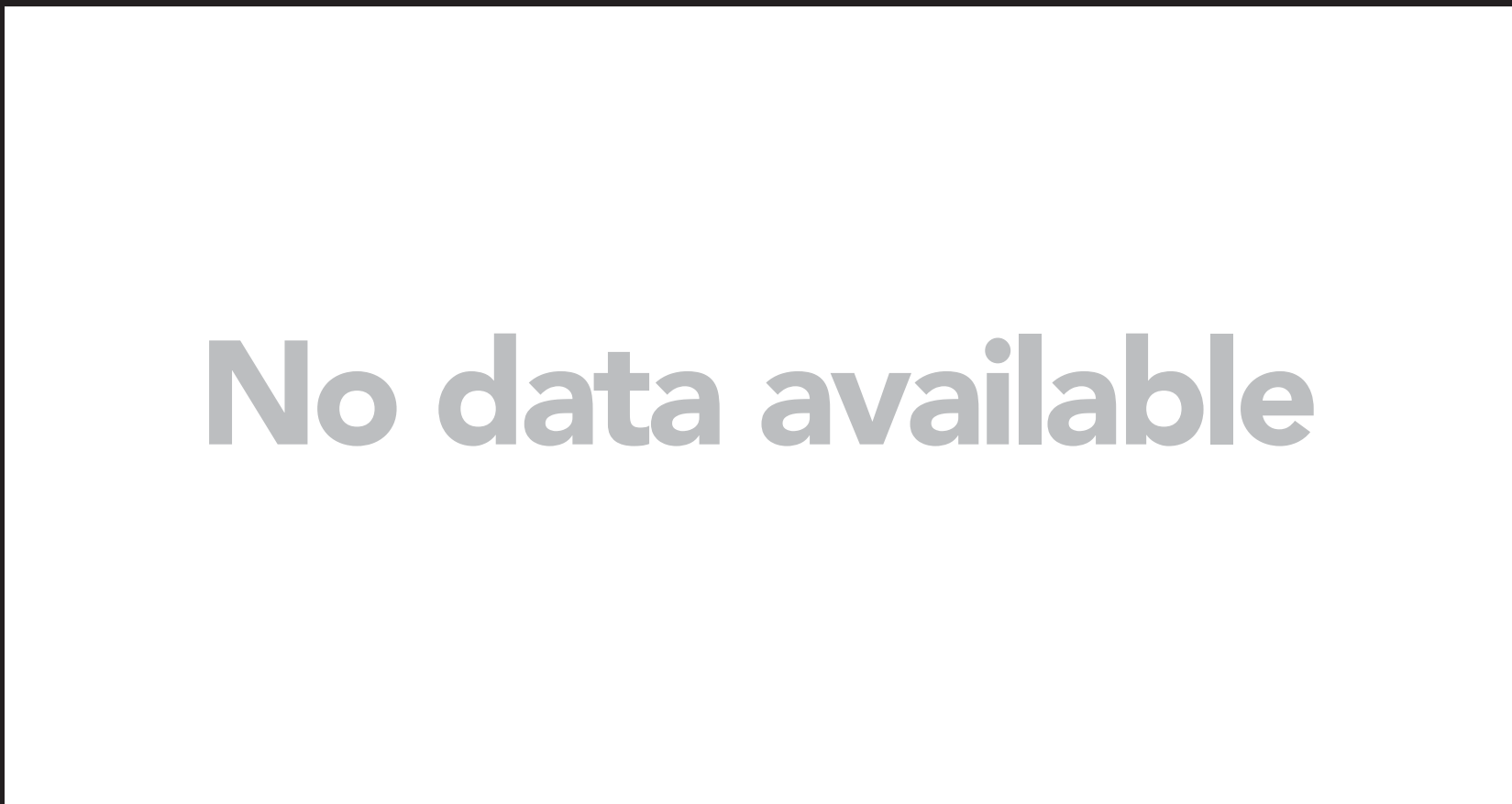


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO)
– rival opposition faction

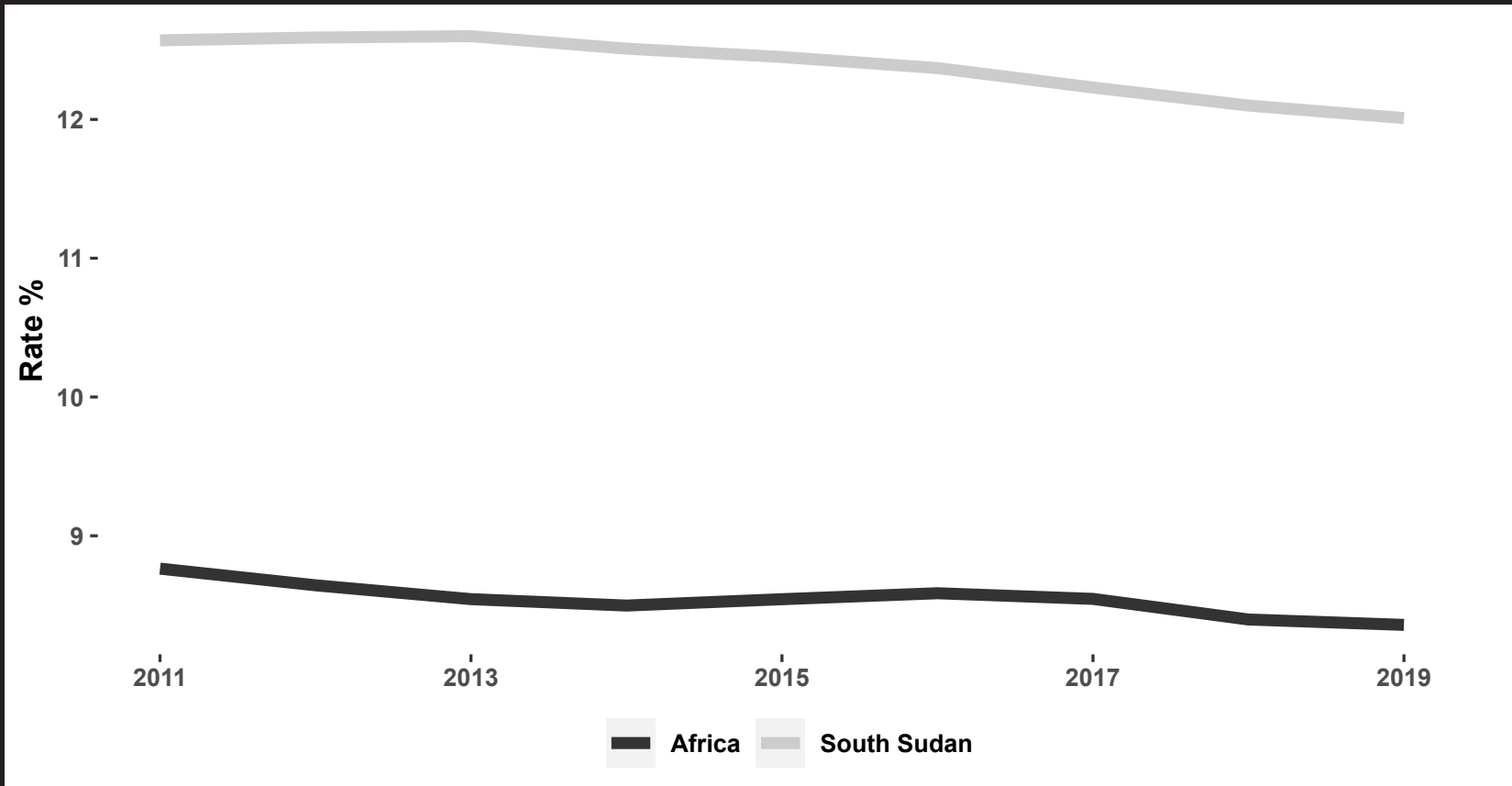
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



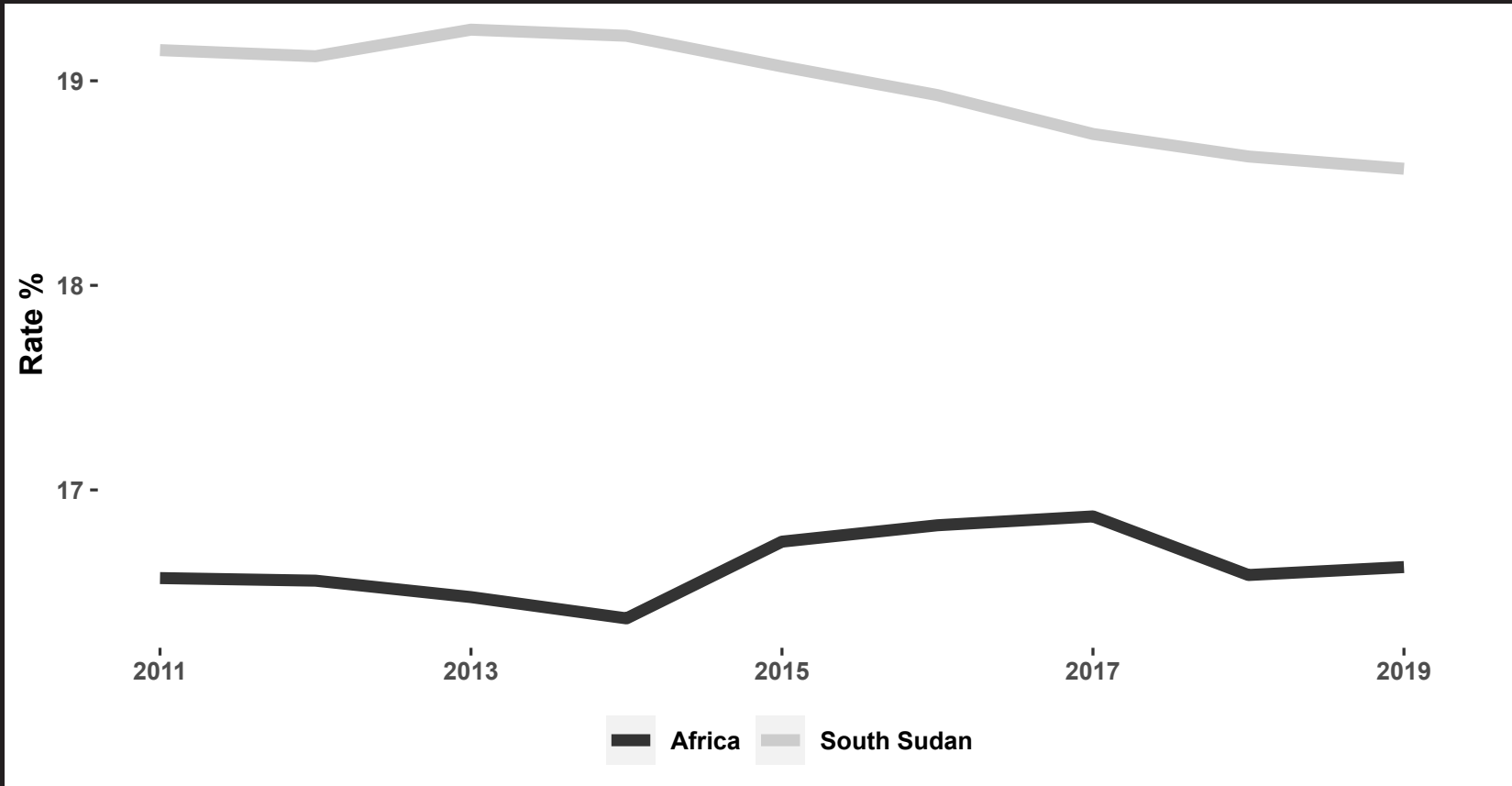
South Sudan’s GDP data is not consistantly reported.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



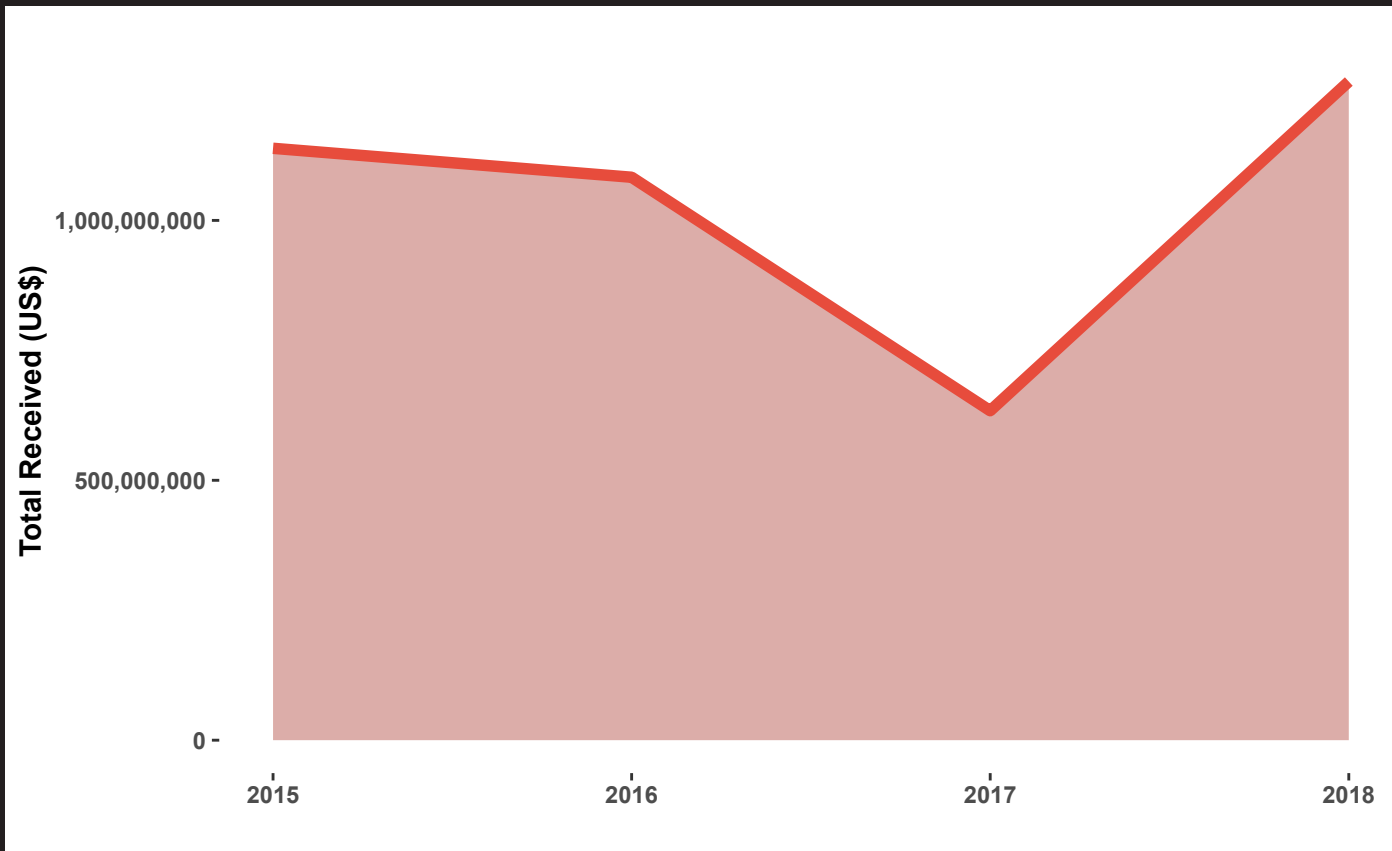
Since gaining independence in 2011 South Sudan’s unemployment rate has been higher than the African average during the same period.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Since gaining independence in 2011 South Sudan’s youth unemployment rate has been higher than the African average during the same period.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2018



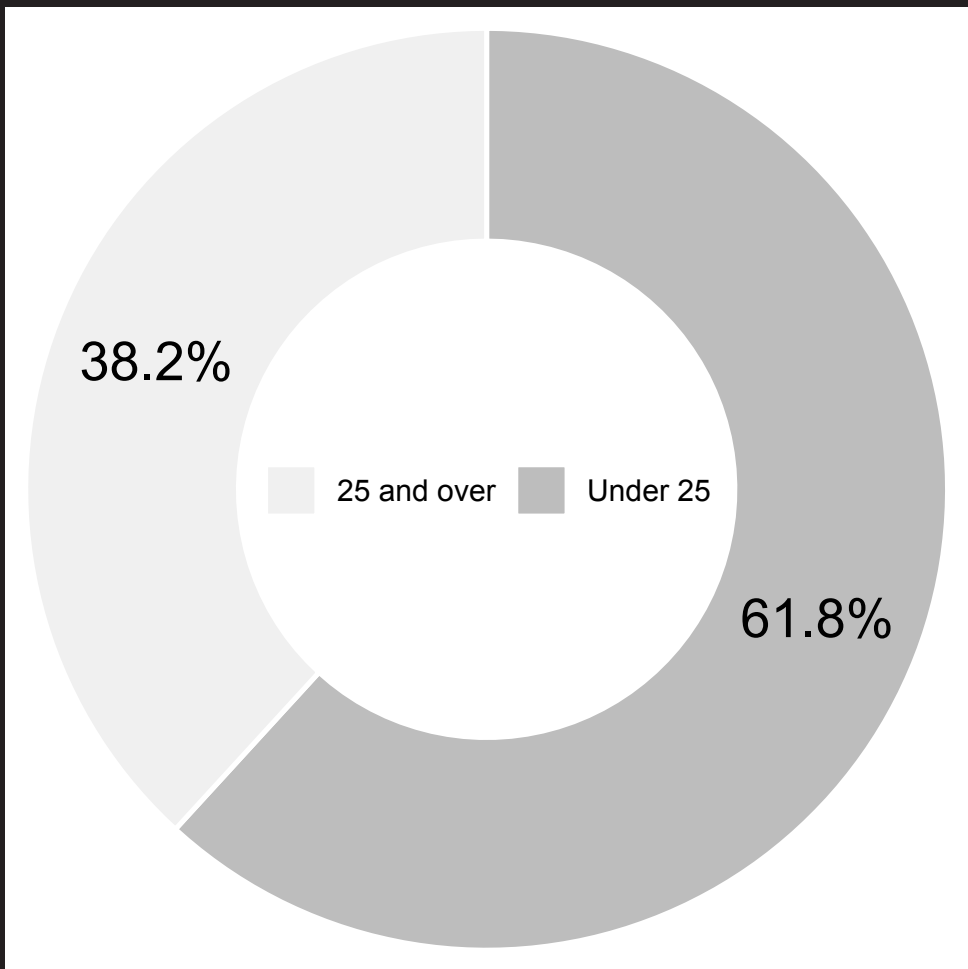
Cash inflows from abroad (2018)

\$1.27 billion

Since 2015 South Sudan has received at least US\$ 600 million in remittances every year.

DEMOGRAPHICS

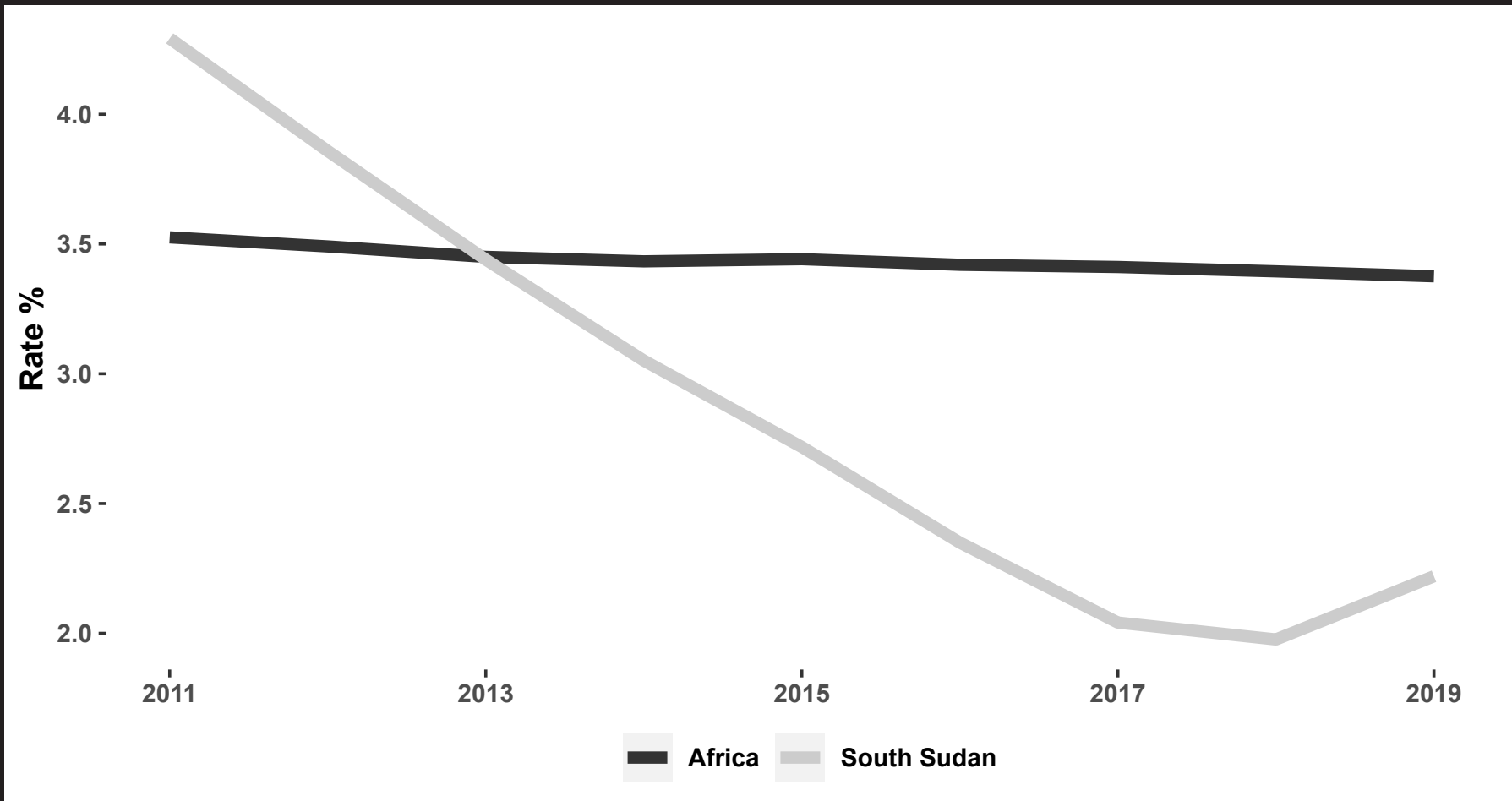
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



11.06 million

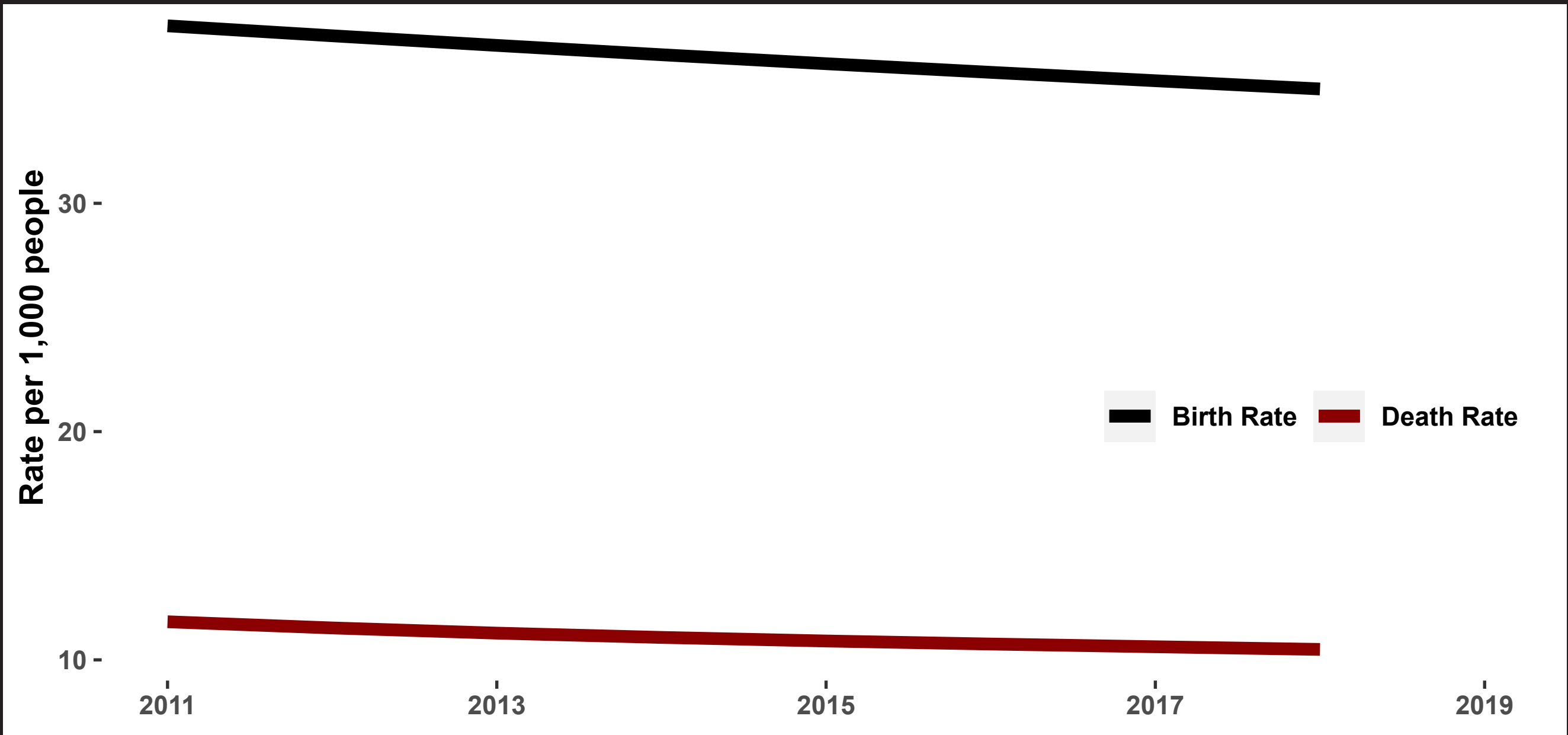
In line with continental trends, the majority of South Sudan’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Immediately after gaining independence in 2011, South Sudan urbanised faster than the African average. However, since 2014, South Sudan has urbanised at a slower rate than the continental average.

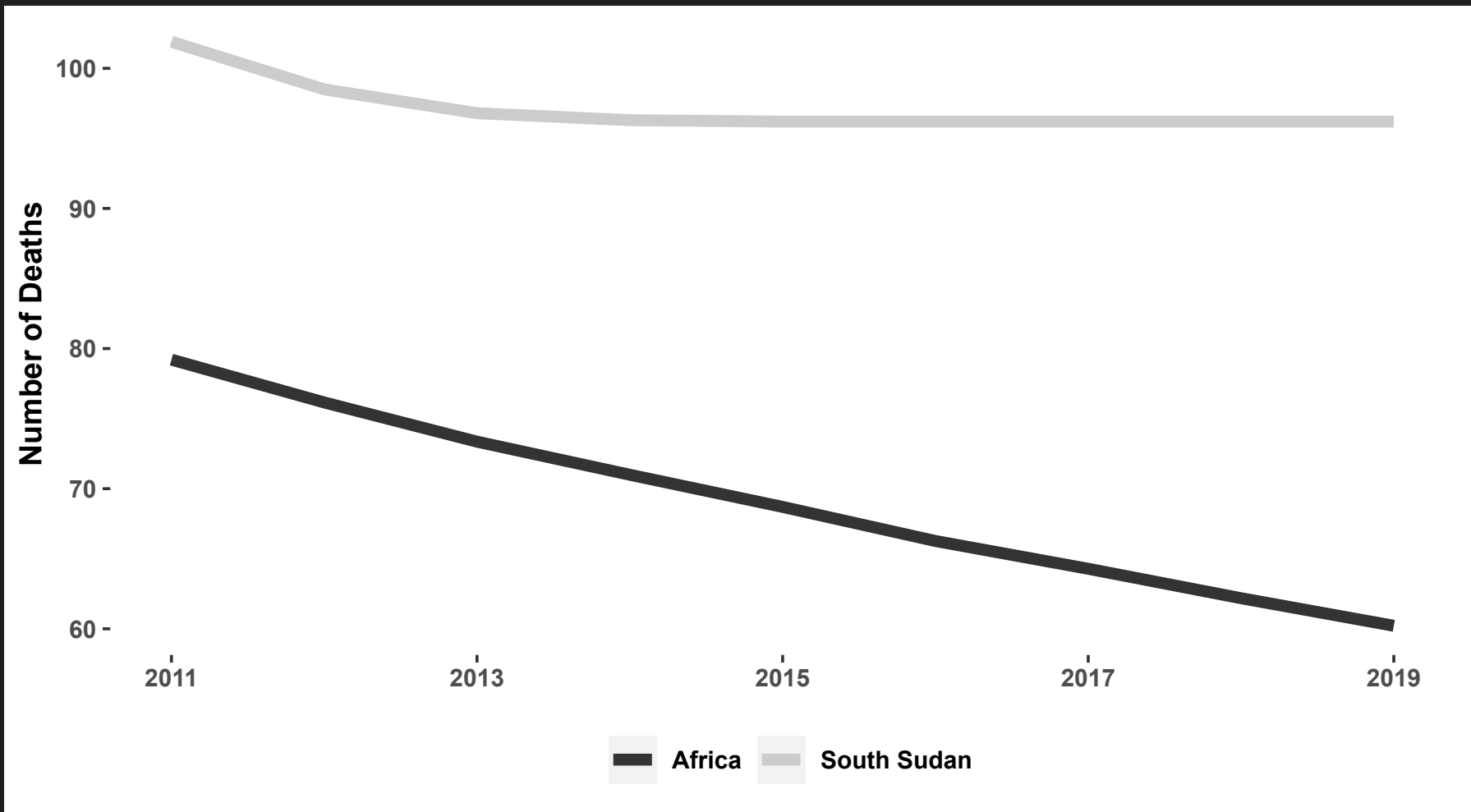
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Since gaining independence in 2011 South Sudan has experienced relatively constant population growth due to a birth rate which is roughly double the death rate.

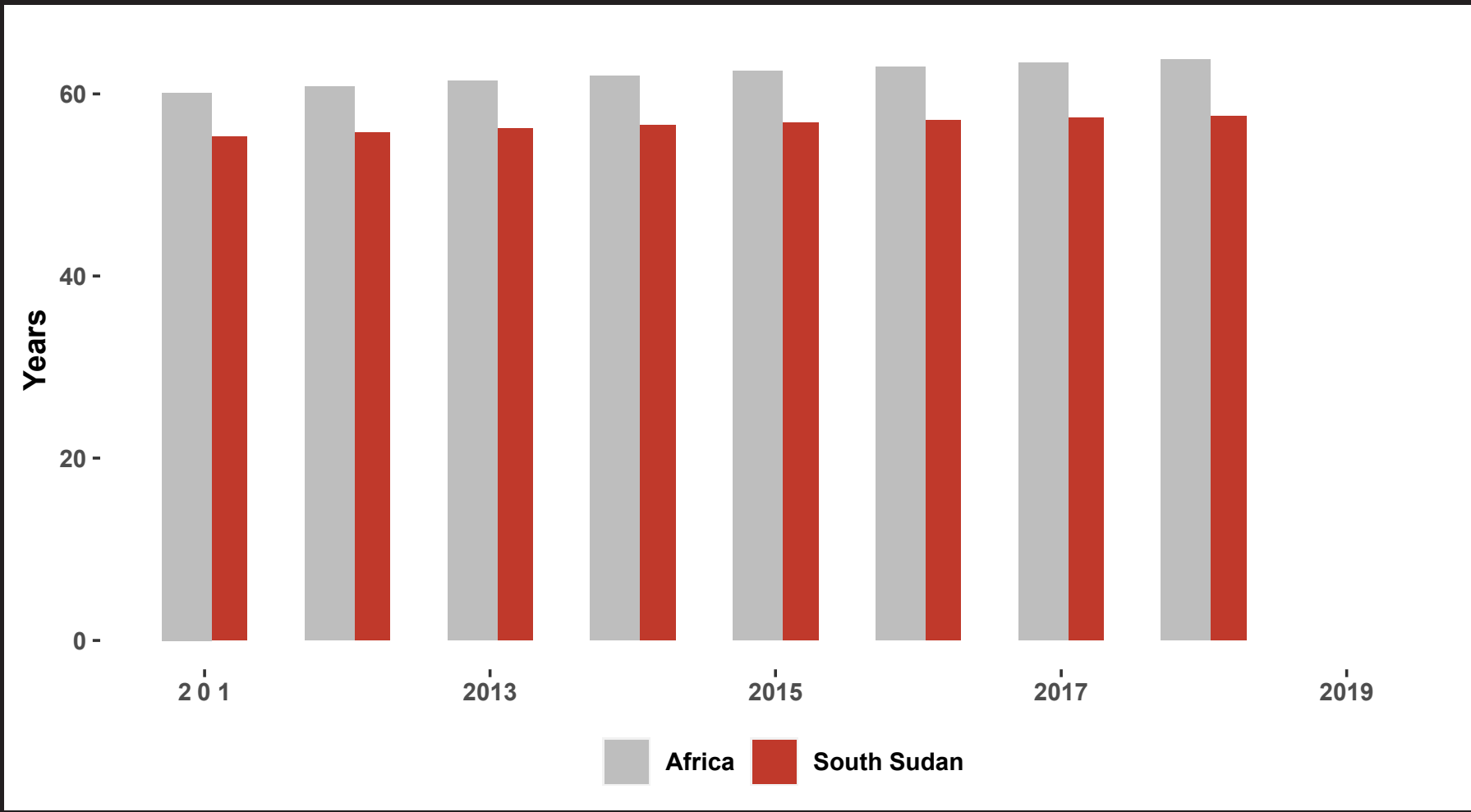
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



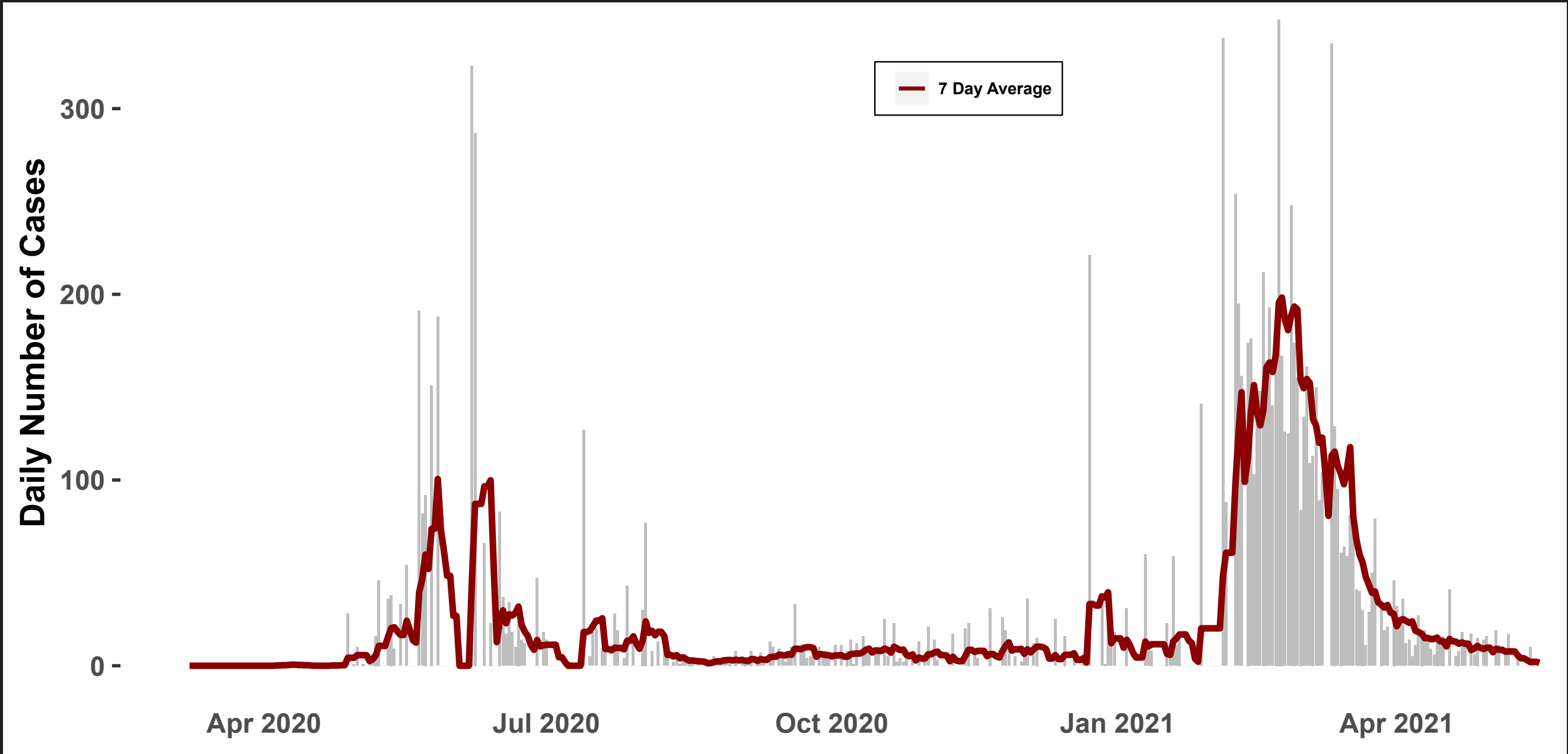
Since gaining independence in 2011 South Sudan’s child mortality rate has remained stagnant.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in South Sudan has been stagnant since 2011 and it falls short of the African average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



South Sudan has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in June 2020 and February/March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rod Waddington on Flickr.com



In South Sudan wealth is measured by the number of cattle that each family owns.

Rod Waddington on Flickr.com



South Sudan became the world's youngest country when it achieved independence from Sudan in July 2011.

Rod Waddington on Flickr.com



South Sudan has one of the world's lowest life expectancies. As of 2020, it had the eighth-lowest life expectancy of just 57.6 years.



SUDAN

Sudan is in north-east Africa, bordered by Egypt, Libya, Chad, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea and the Red Sea. From the 19th century, the entirety of Sudan was conquered by Egypt under the Muhammad Ali dynasty. It was under Egyptian rule that Sudan acquired its modern borders. After Britain occupied Egypt in 1882, it took over Sudan in 1898, ruling the country in conjunction with Egypt. The 20th century saw the growth of Sudanese nationalism, and in 1953, Egypt and Britain granted Sudan self-government. Since independence, Sudan has been ruled by a series of unstable parliamentary governments and military regimes. Sudan experiences tropical weather in the south, while the north has desert conditions. The official currency is the Sudanese pound.

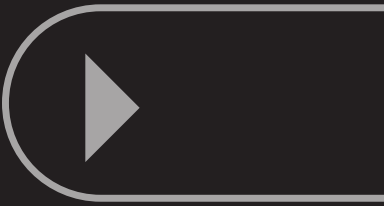
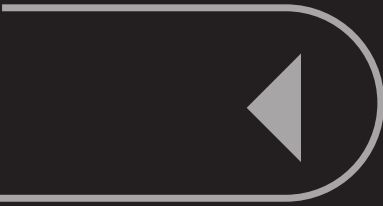
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

Lt. Gen. Abdel Fattah
Abdelrahman al-Burhan

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY

Khartoum

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

170

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

43



MAIN LANGUAGES

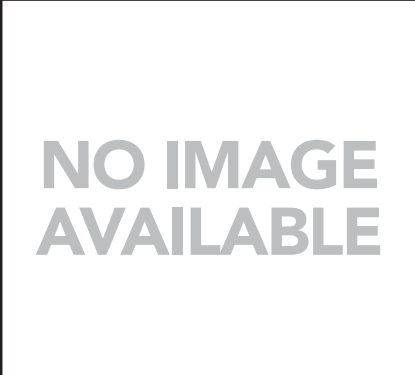
Arabic and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Military



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Since the 2019 Sudanese coup d'état, political parties have had minimal influence in Sudan.

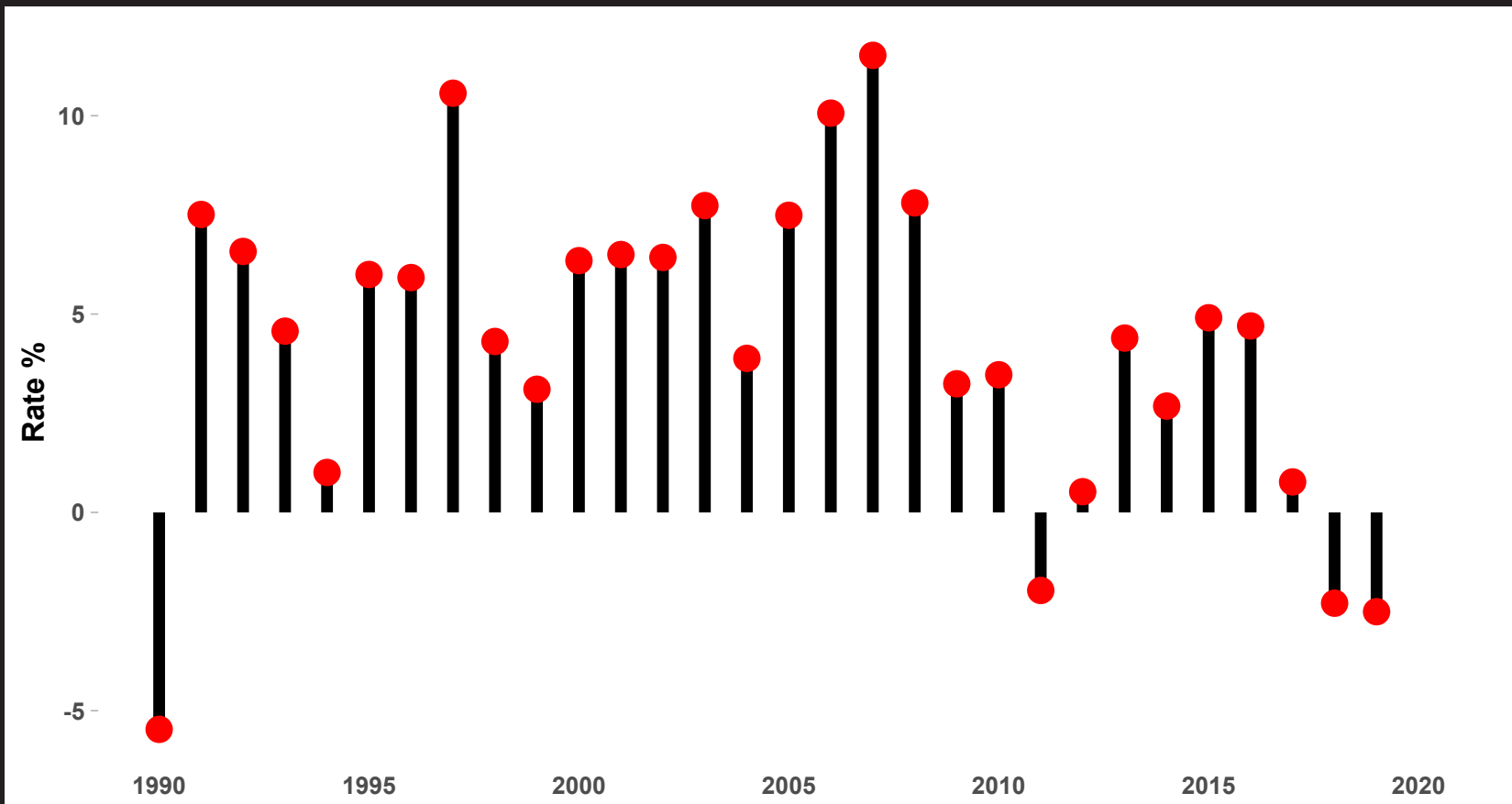


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

The role of political parties will be clarified once a permanent constitution is created.

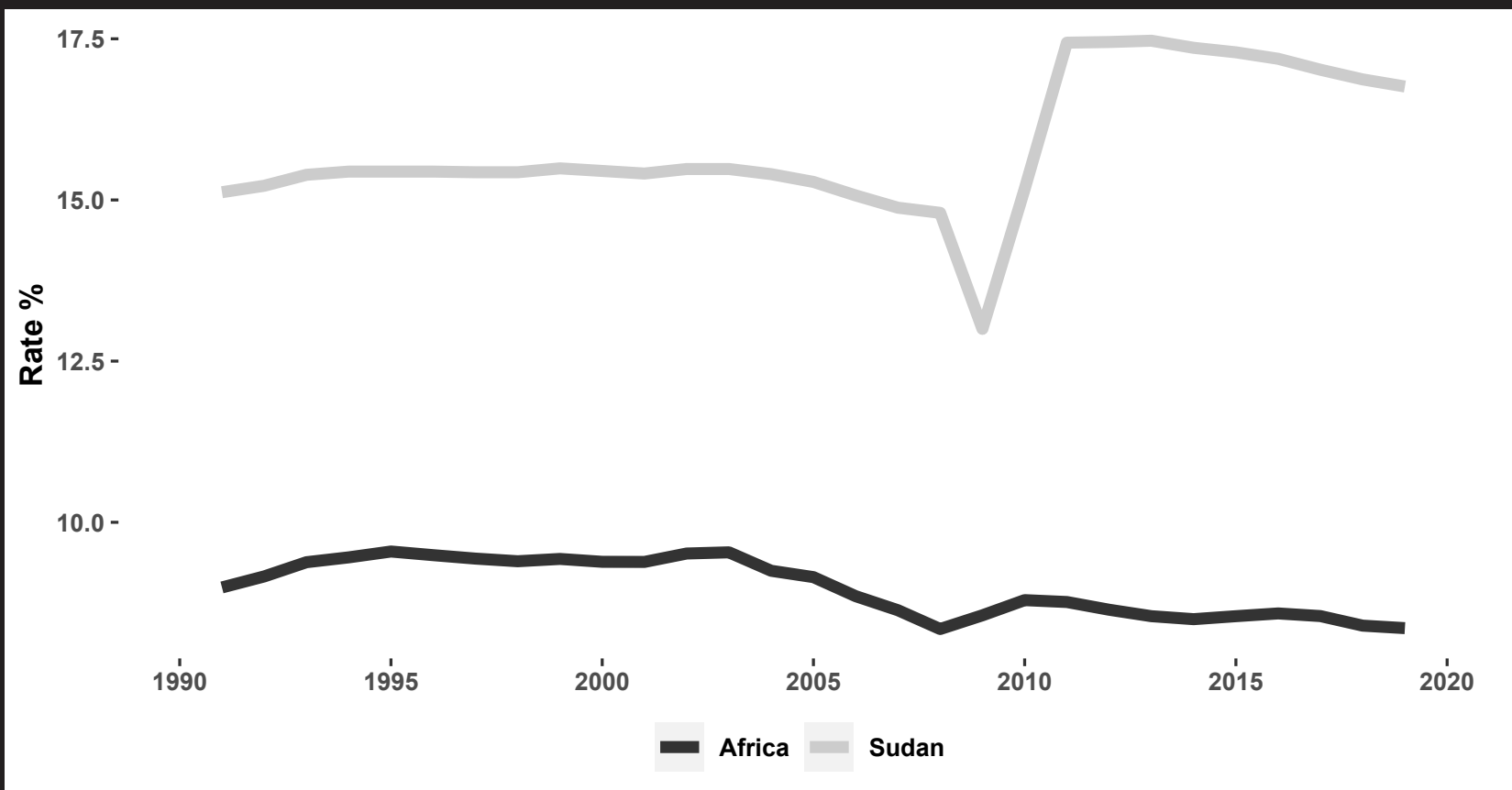
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



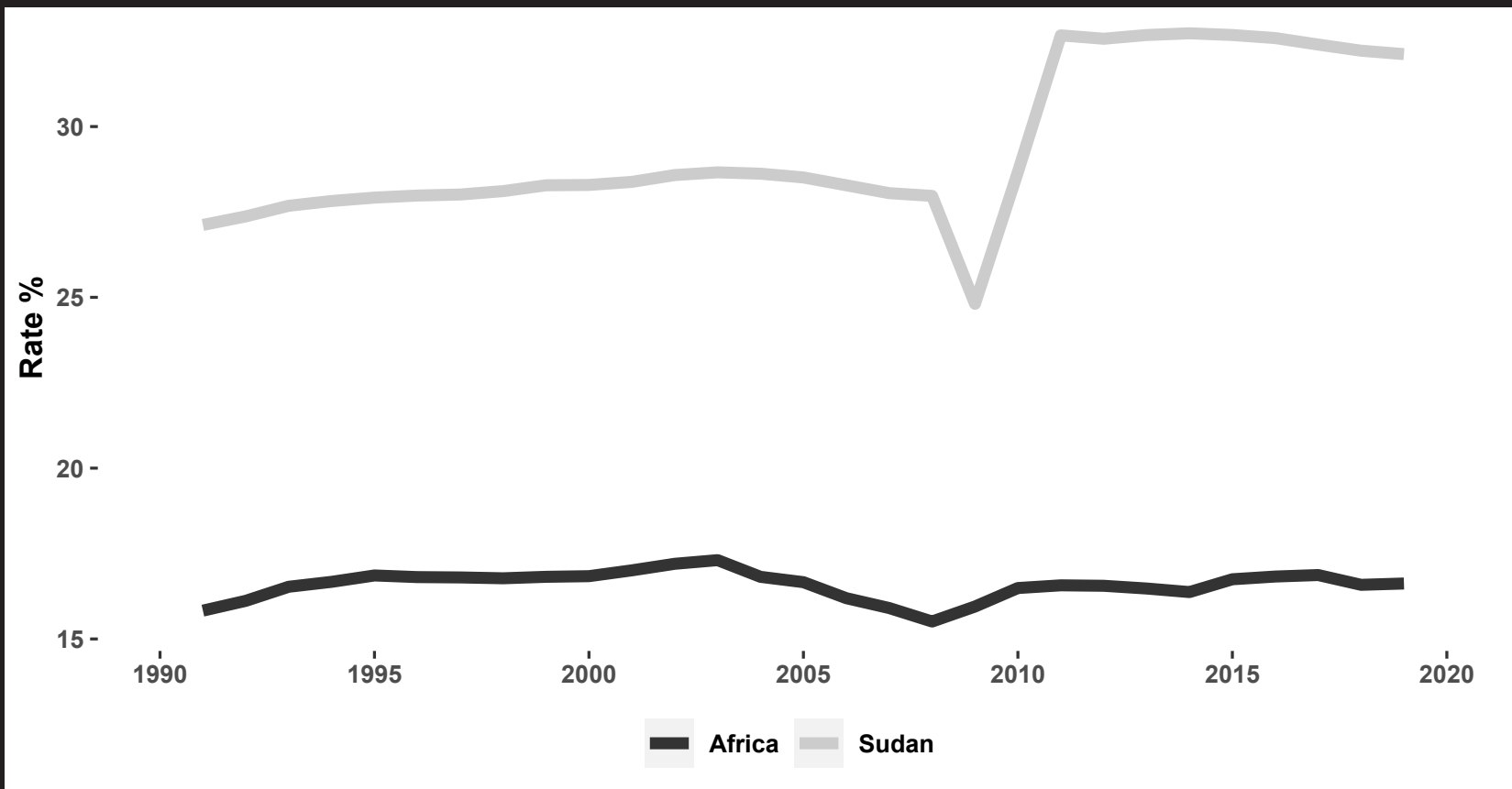
After experiencing consistent economic growth from 1991 to 2010, the split from South Sudan has seen much more inconsistent growth.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



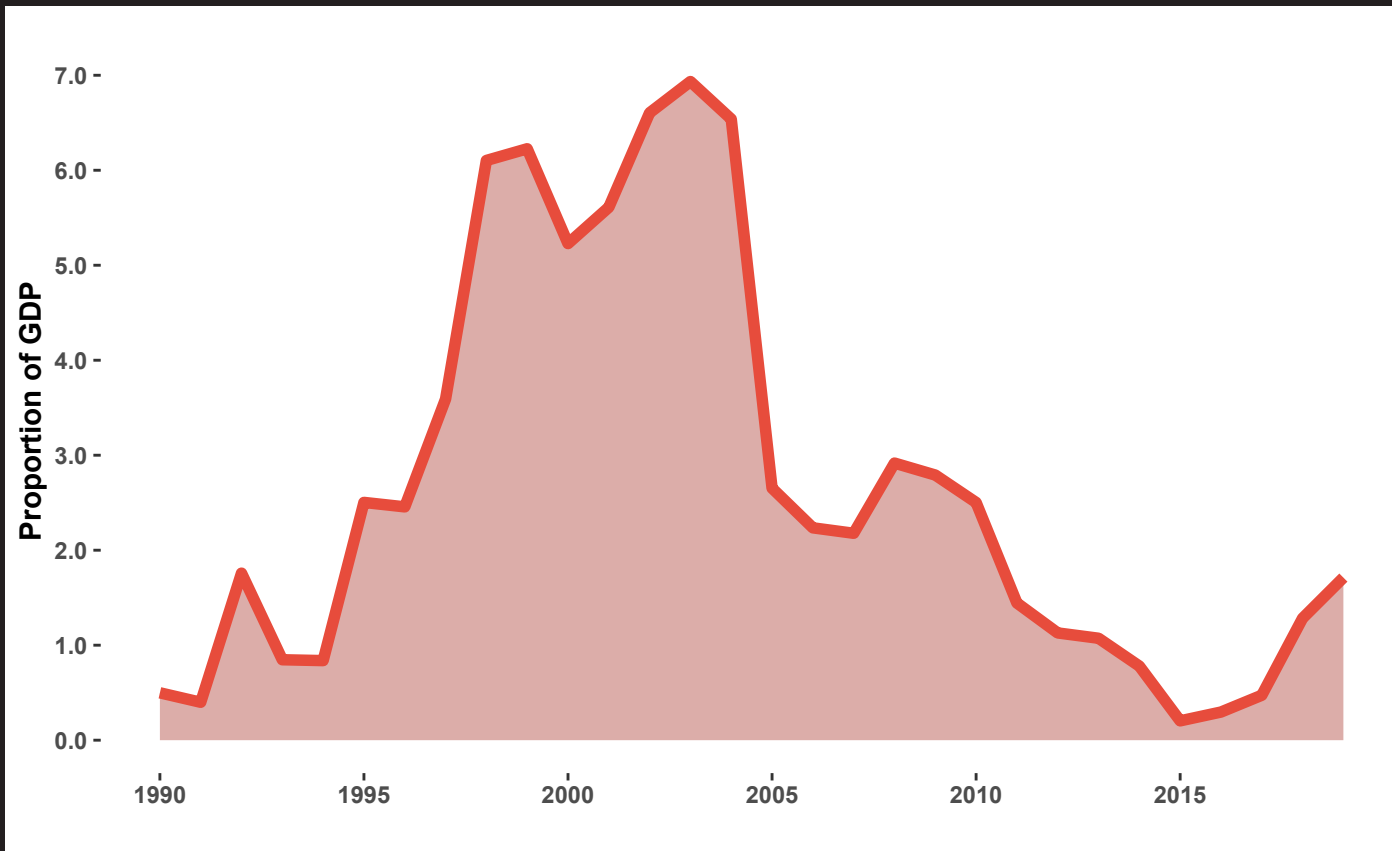
Sudan's unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years. However, since the split from South Sudan in 2011, the unemployment rate has been more volatile.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Sudan's youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years. However, since the split from South Sudan in 2011, the youth unemployment rate in Sudan has been more volatile.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$522 million

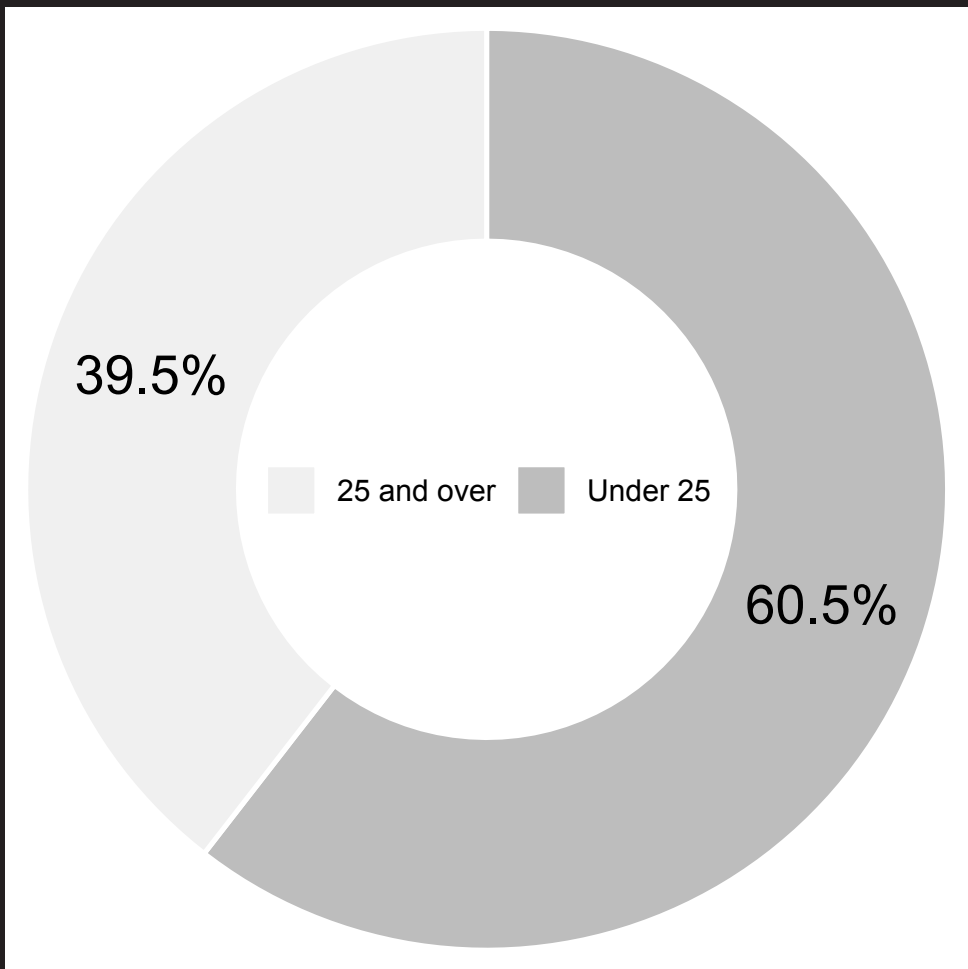
which represents

1.71% of GDP

Sudan has become less reliant on remittances since 2005.

DEMOGRAPHICS

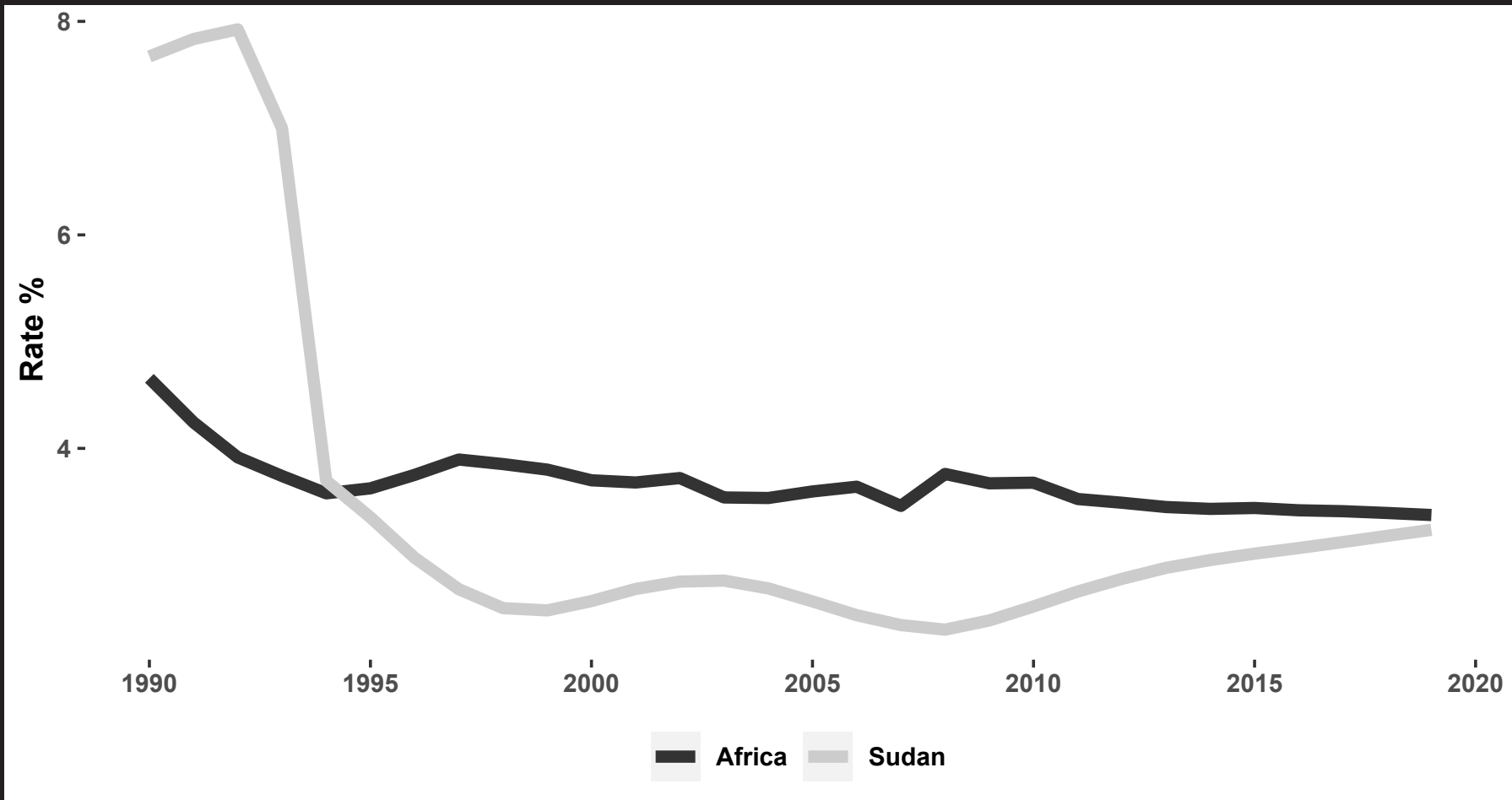
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



42.8 million

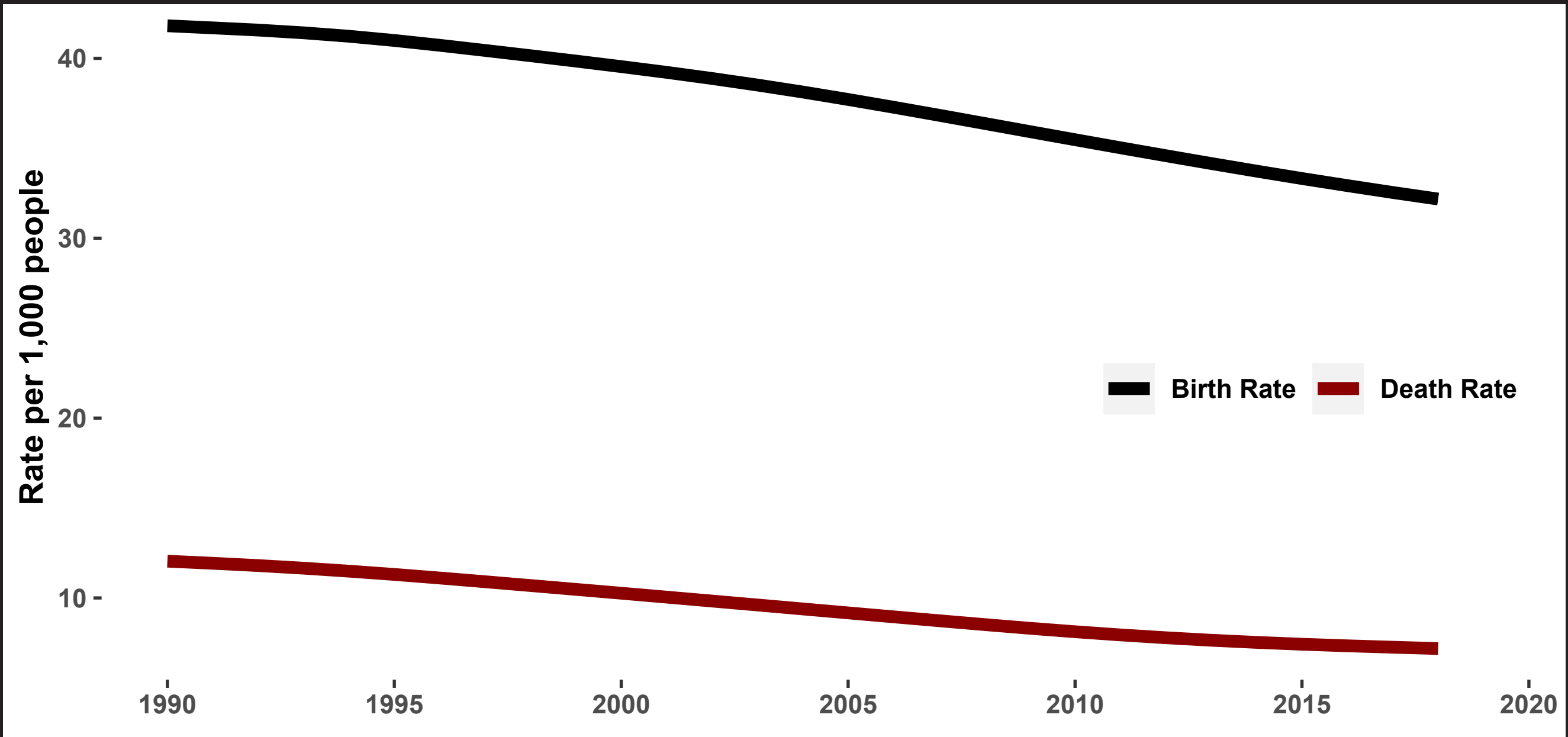
In line with continental trends, the majority of Sudan’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



After a rapid period of urbanisation during the early 1990s, since 1995 Sudan has generally urbanised at a slower rate than the continental average.

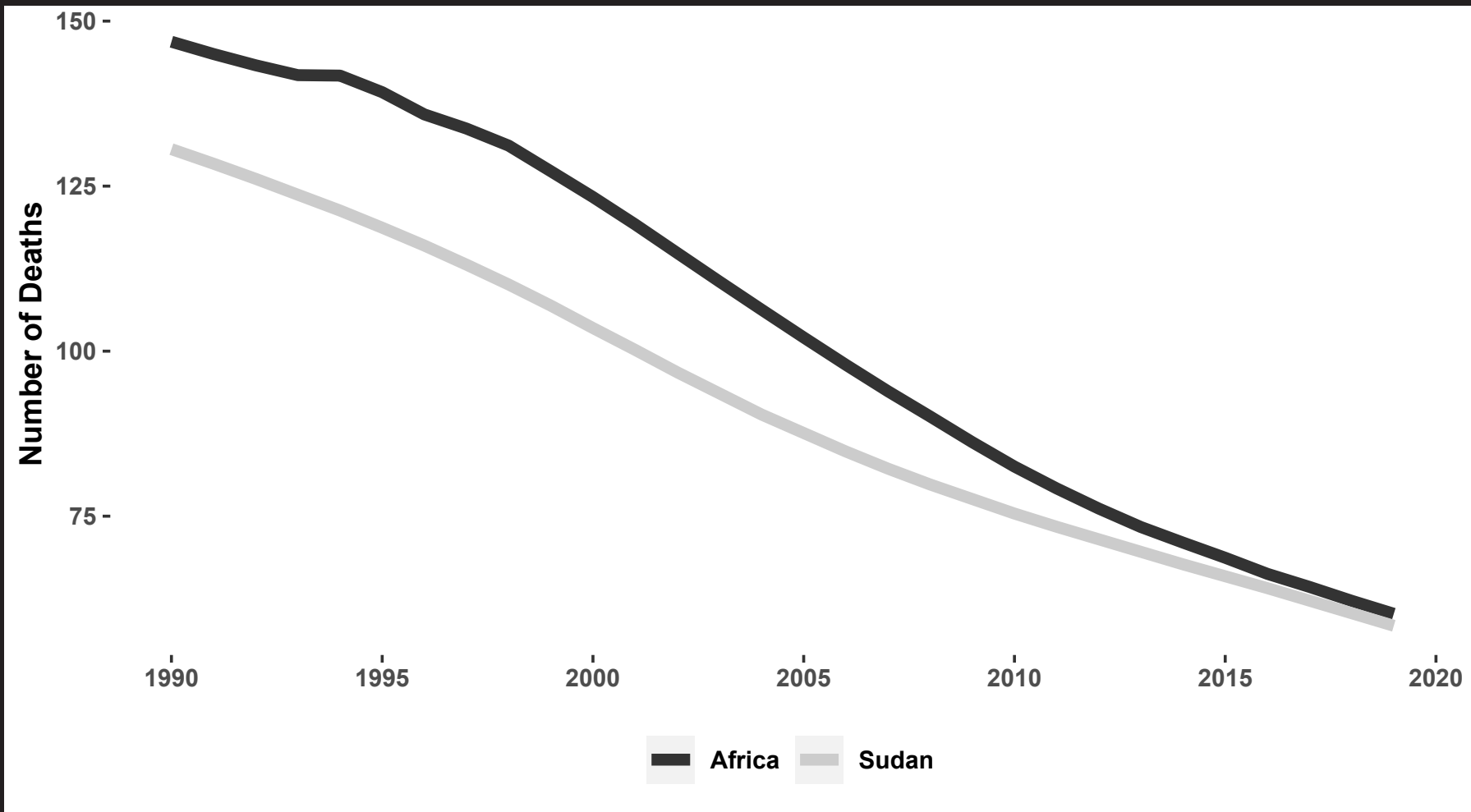
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Sudan has had relatively constant population growth due to a birth rate that is roughly double the death rate.

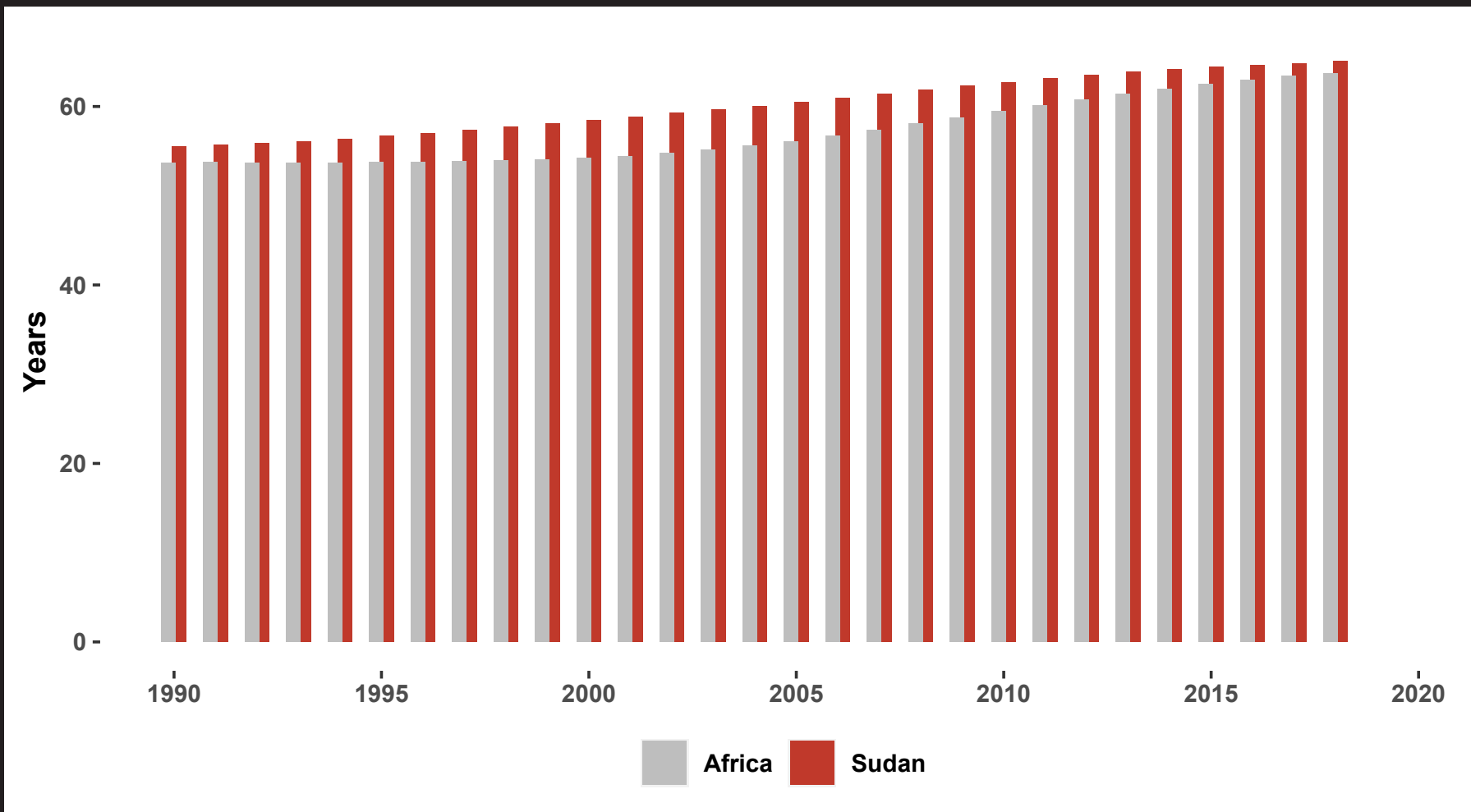
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



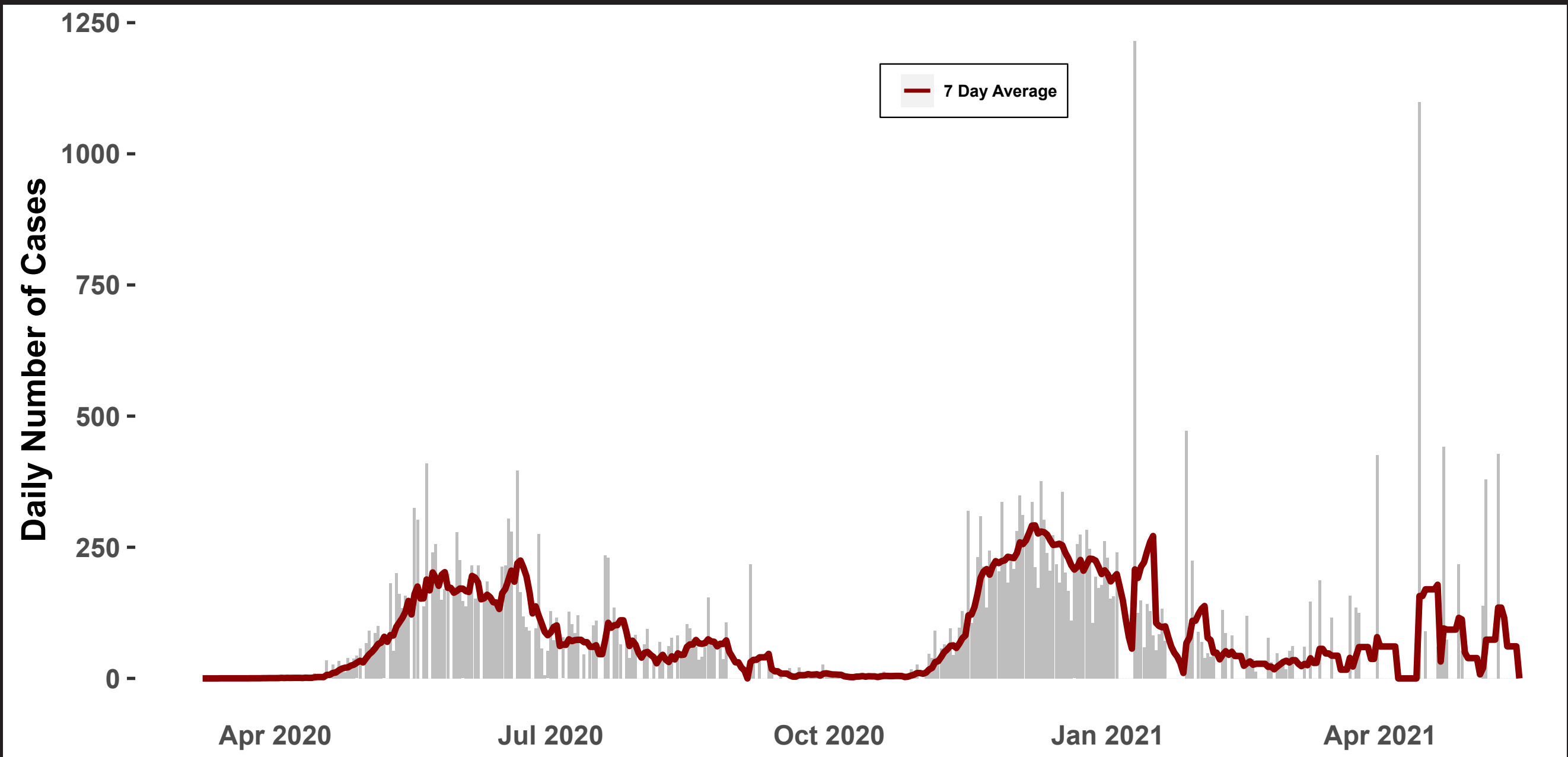
Child mortality in Sudan has been in constant decline since 1990.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Sudan has maintained a life expectancy slightly above the continental average over the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Sudan has had two main Covid-19 waves, which occurred in May/June 2020 and November-January 2020/1.

DID YOU KNOW?

Valerian Guillo on Flickr.com



Although Egypt is famed for its pyramids, Sudan is the place with the world's largest collection of these monuments. There are more than 200 recorded pyramids in the country.

Christopher Michel on Flickr.com



More than 97% of Sudan's population is Muslim. They adhere to the Sunni tradition.

Christopher Michel on Flickr.com



Since ancient times, stoning has been a judicial punishment practiced in Sudan. Between 2009 and 2012, several women were sentenced to death by stoning.



TANZANIA

Tanzania is in East Africa within the African Great Lakes region. It borders Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the comoros islands and the Indian Ocean. In the late 19th century, Germany conquered the regions that are now Tanzania (minus Zanzibar) and incorporated them into German East Africa (GEA). In 1920, the GEA was transferred officially to Britain, Belgium, and Portugal. Tanganyika became the name of the British territory, becoming independent in 1961. Many important hominid fossils have been found in Tanzania, such as six-million-year-old Pliocene hominid fossils. Tanzania is mountainous and densely forested in the north-east, where Mount Kilimanjaro is located. The official currency is the Tanzanian shilling.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Samia Suluhu Hassan

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Dodoma City

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

163

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

126



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and Swahili

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant party presidential constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Chama Cha Mapinduzi
(Party of the Revolution)

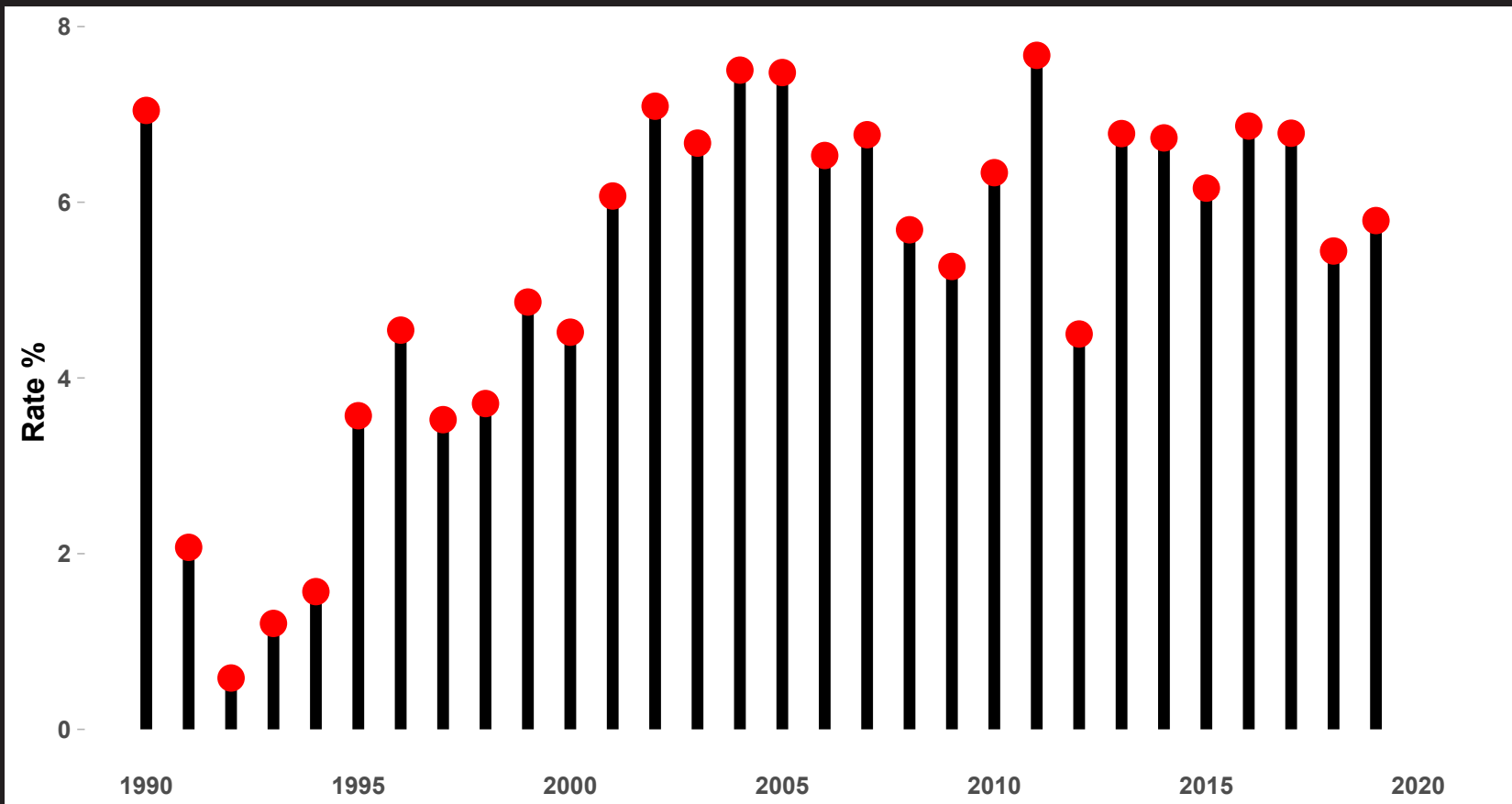


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

Chadema (Party for Democracy and Progress)

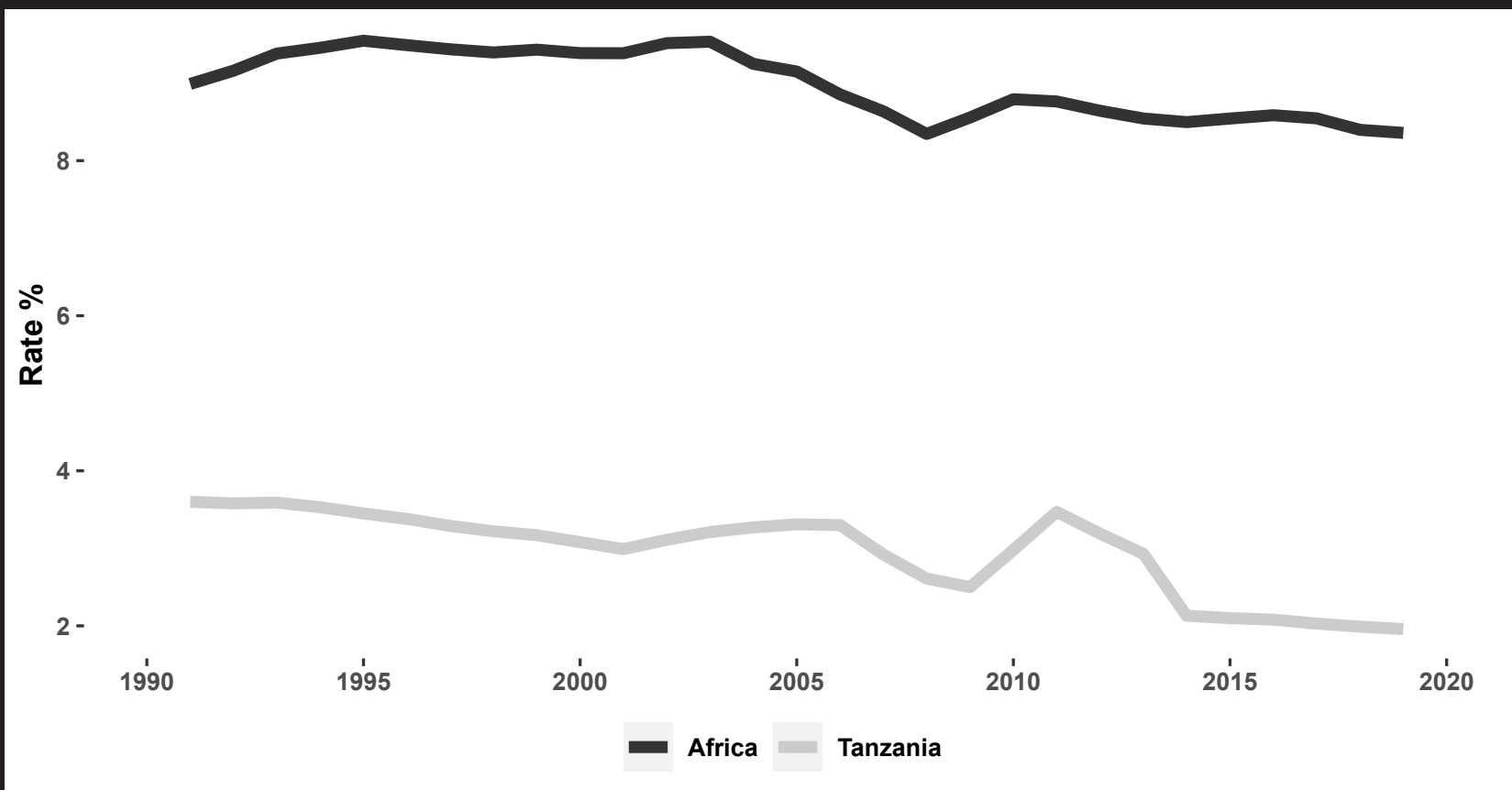
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



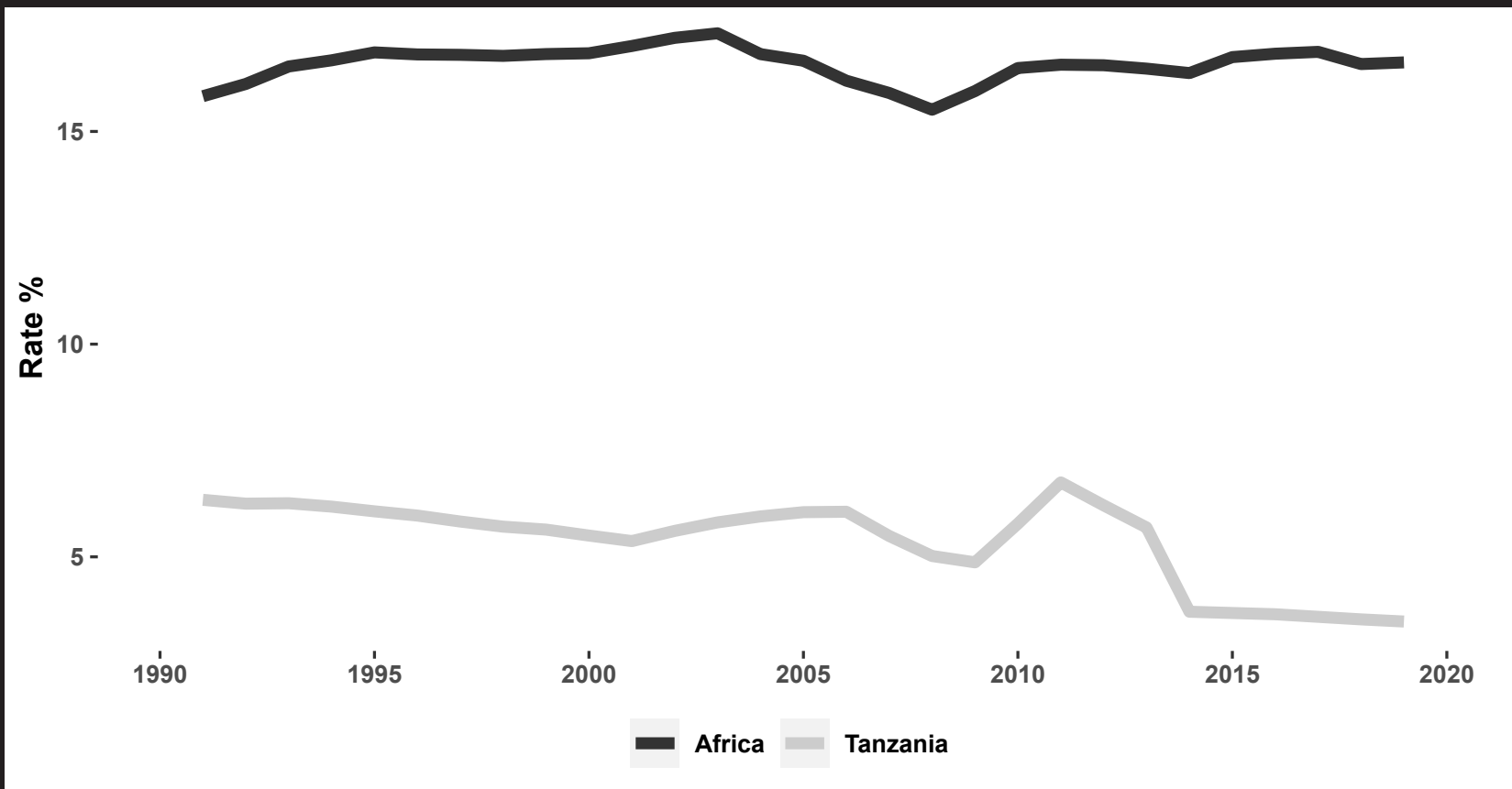
Tanzania has experienced constant economic growth over the past three decades.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



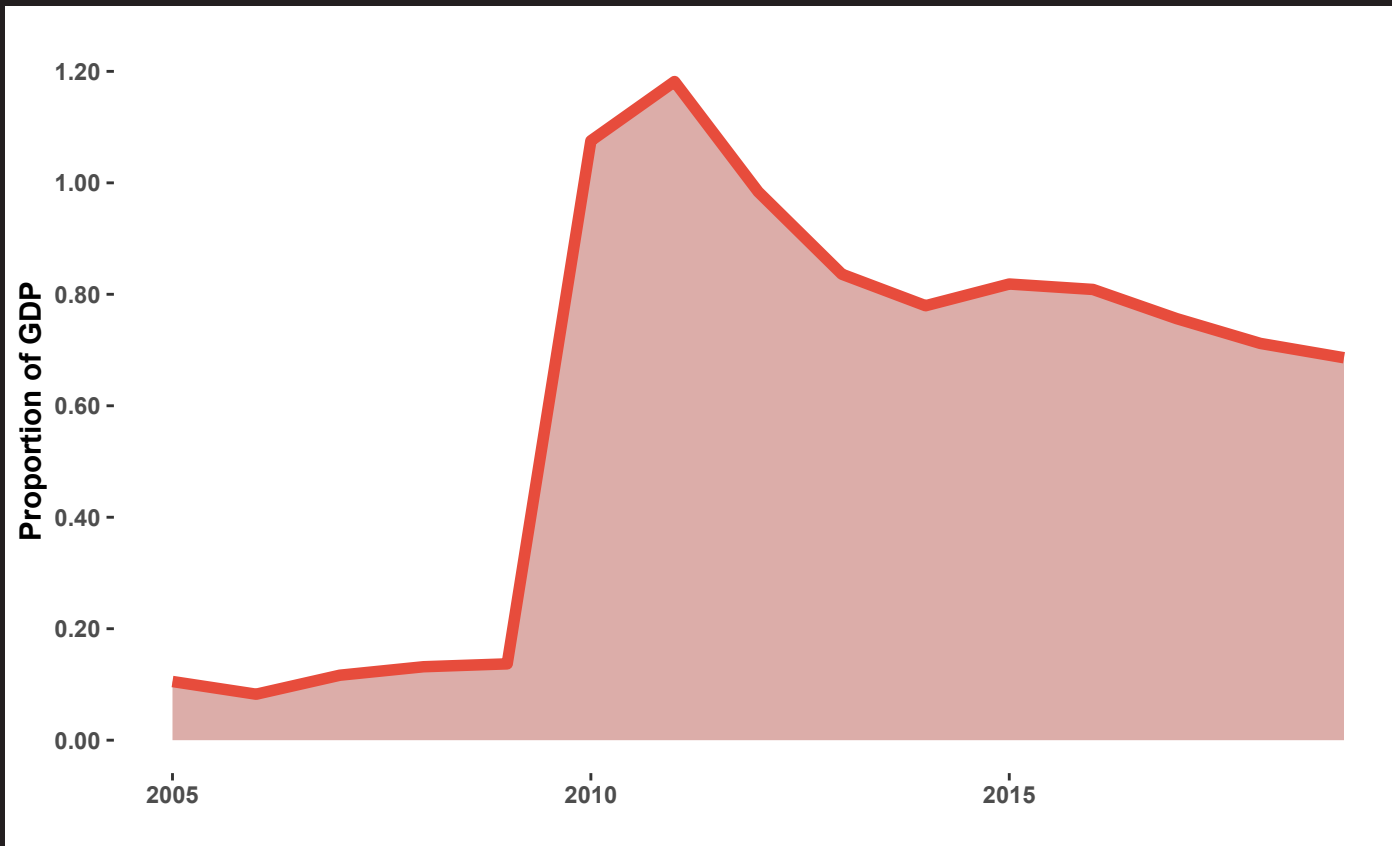
Tanzania’s unemployment rate has consistently been much lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Tanzania’s youth unemployment rate has consistently been much lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$433.5 million

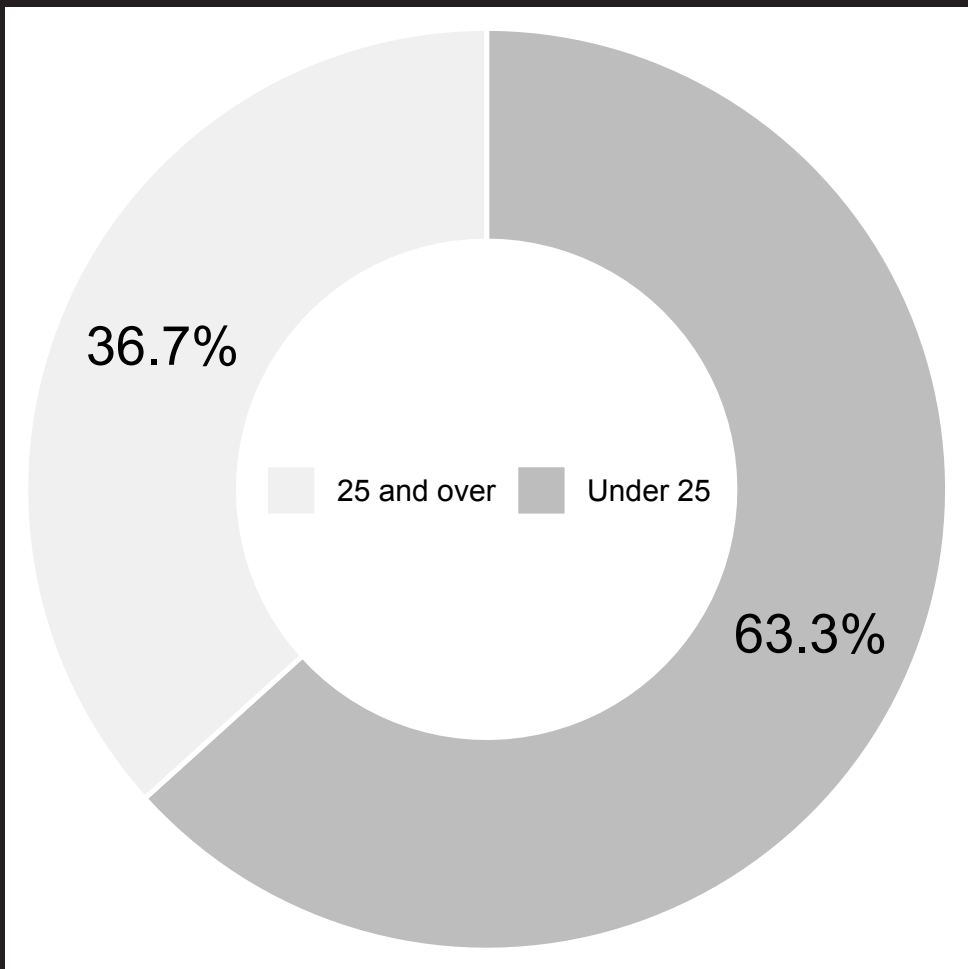
which represents

0.69% of GDP

Tanzania is one of the African countries which is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

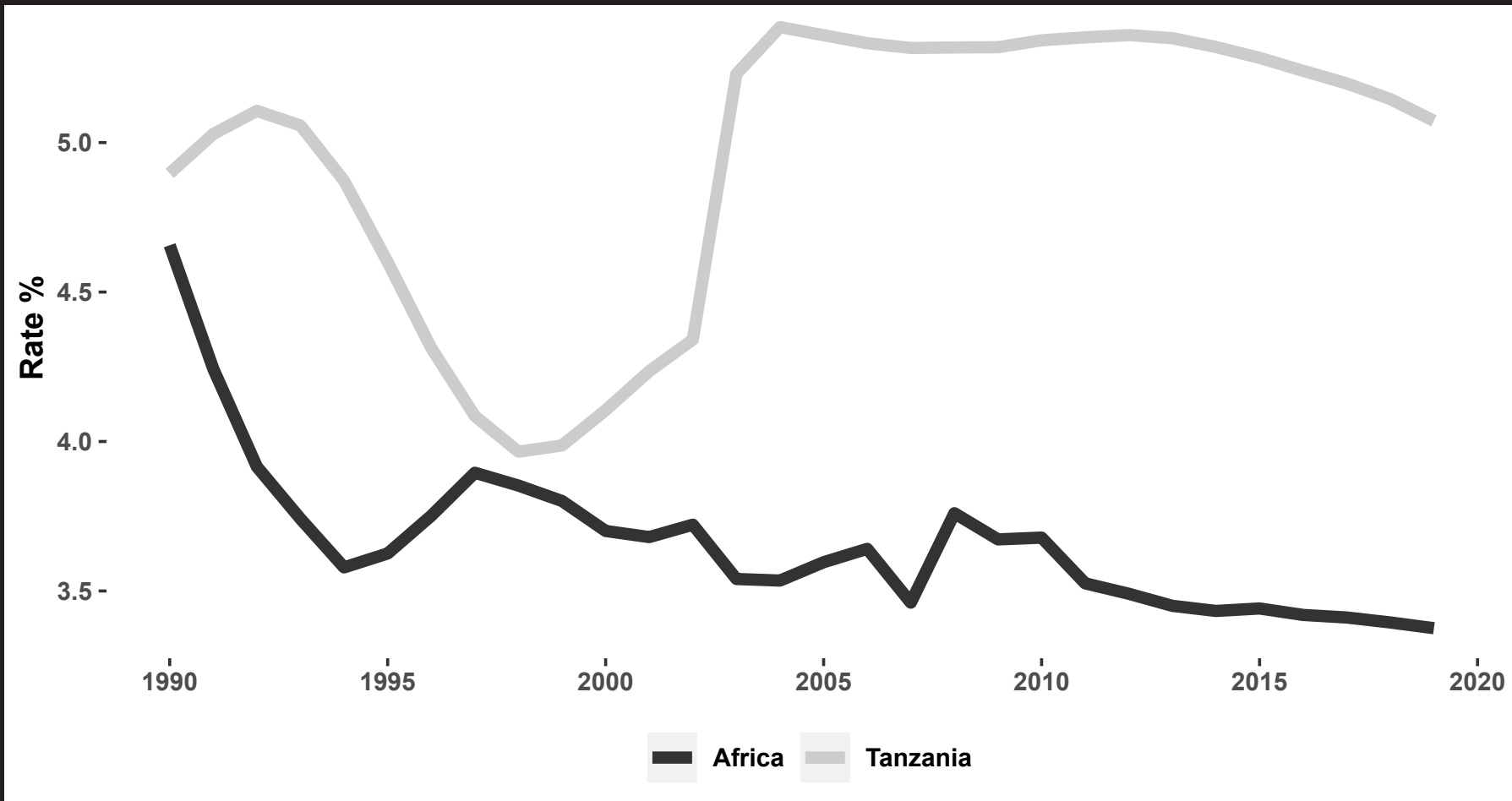
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



58 million

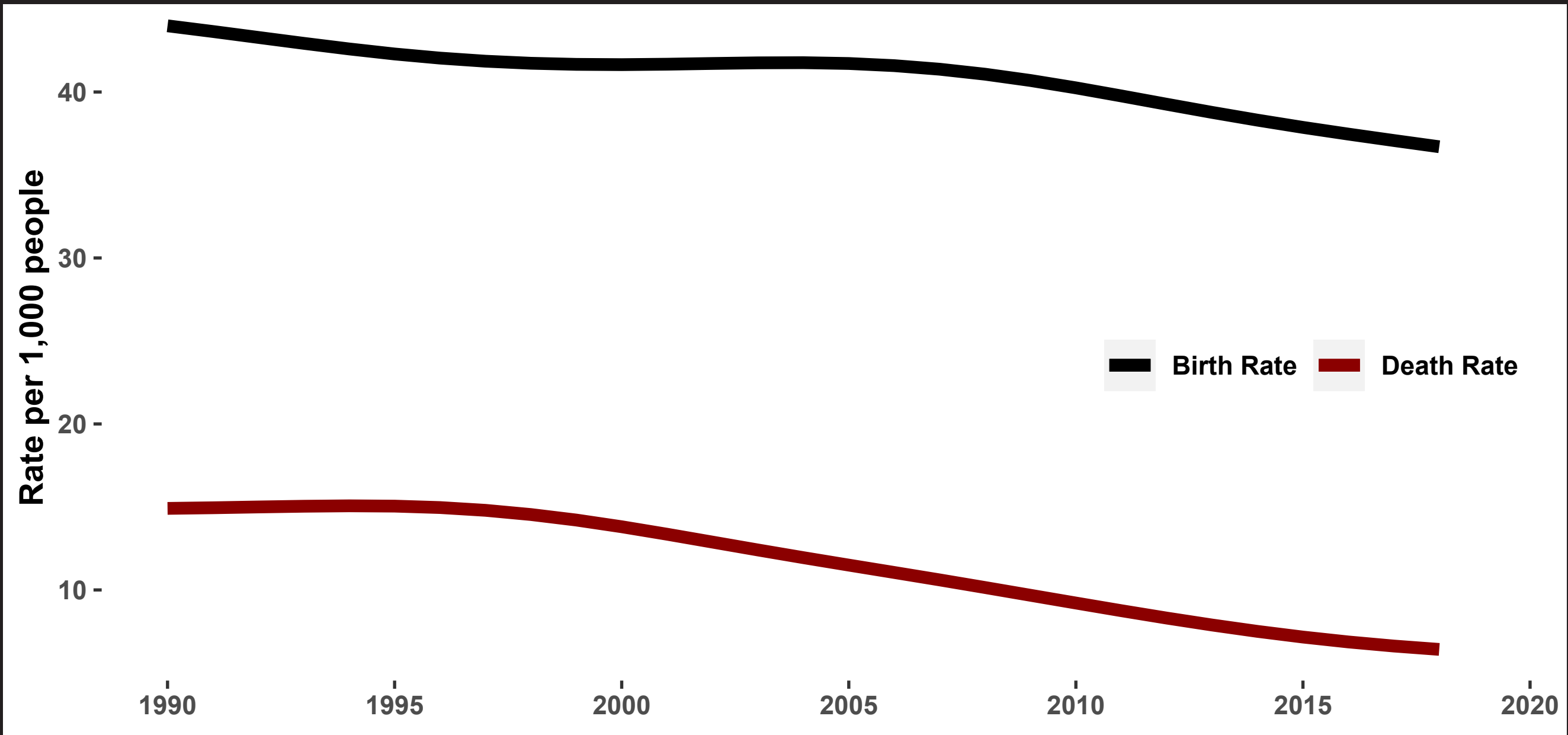
In line with continental trends, the majority of Tanzania’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Tanzania has urbanised at a slightly faster rate than the African average over the past three decades.

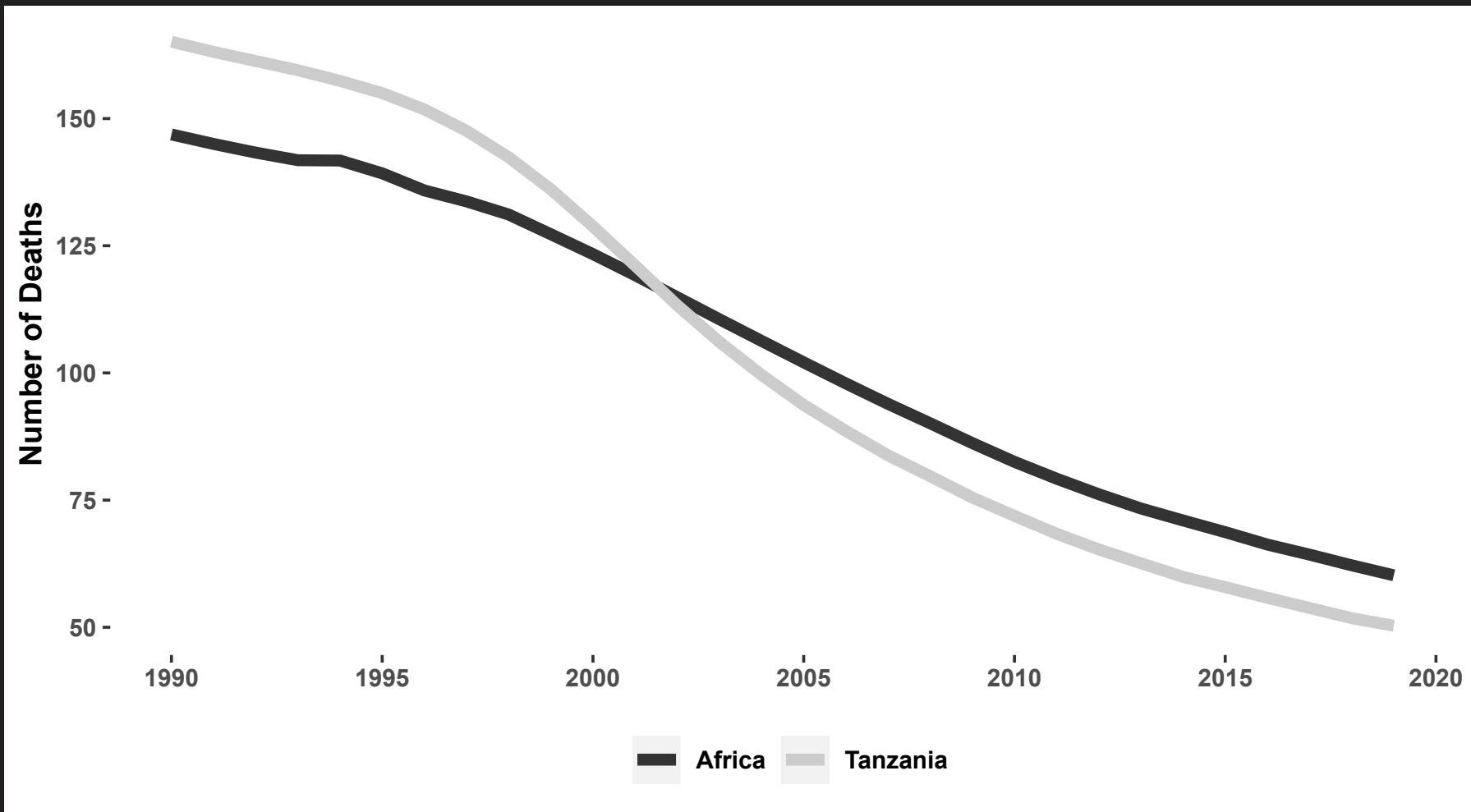
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Tanzania has had relatively constant population growth due to a birth rate that is roughly double the death rate.

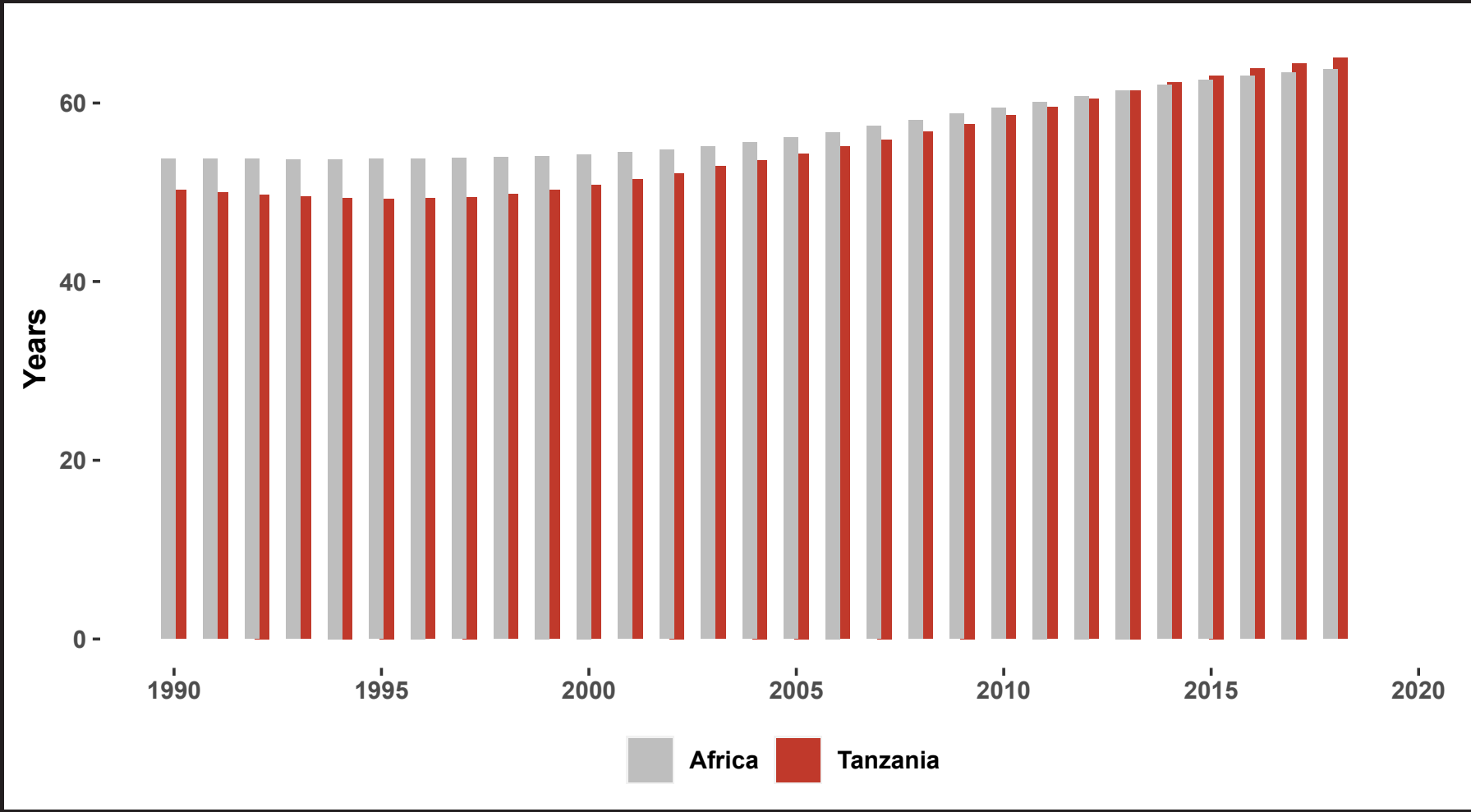
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



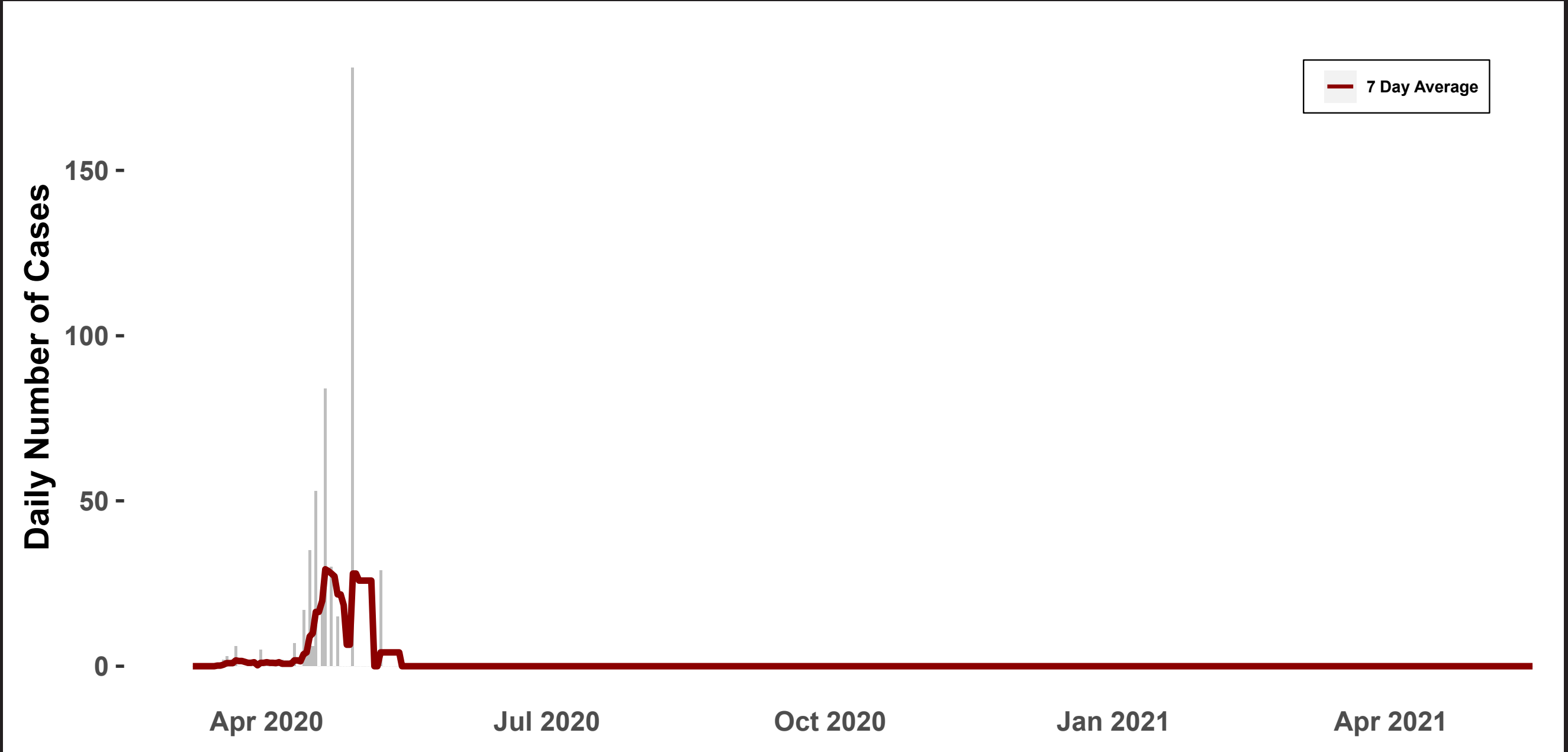
The reduction of child mortality in Tanzania over the past 30 years has tracked relatively closely to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Tanzania has been improving at a faster rate than the African average over the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



In May 2020 when Tanzania's infection rates stood at 509 and 16 deaths, former President John Magufuli declared that the country would no longer be releasing Covid-19 data. Magufuli is thought to have died of Covid-19 himself and the country's new coronavirus task force has recommended that reporting resume.

DID YOU KNOW?

David Stanley on Flickr.com



Freddie Mercury, the famous late songwriter and vocalist for the British rock band Queen was born in Zanzibar, Tanzania.

David Stanley on Flickr.com



The shortest war in history was fought in 1896 in Tanzania between the United Kingdom and Zanzibar. It lasted only 45 minutes.

Rod Waddington on Flickr.com

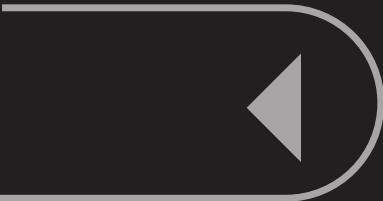


The Serengeti National Park in Tanzania is one of the oldest ecosystems on the planet and little has changed in the park in more than one million years. It boasts a diversity of flora and fauna not found anywhere else in the world.



THE GAMBIA

The Gambia is the smallest country within mainland Africa, and is surrounded by Senegal, except for its western coast on the Atlantic Ocean. The Gambia shares historical roots with many other West African nations in the slave trade, which was the key factor in the placing and keeping of a colony on the Gambia River, first by the Portuguese, during which era it was known as A Gâmbia. Later, on 25 May, 1765, the Gambia was made a part of the British empire when the government formally assumed control, establishing the Gambia colony and protectorate. In 1965, the Gambia gained independence. The country's economy is dominated by farming, fishing and tourism. The official currency is the Gambian dalasi.

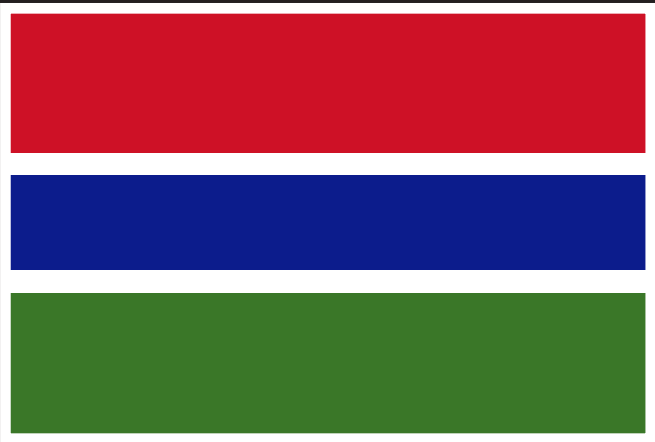


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

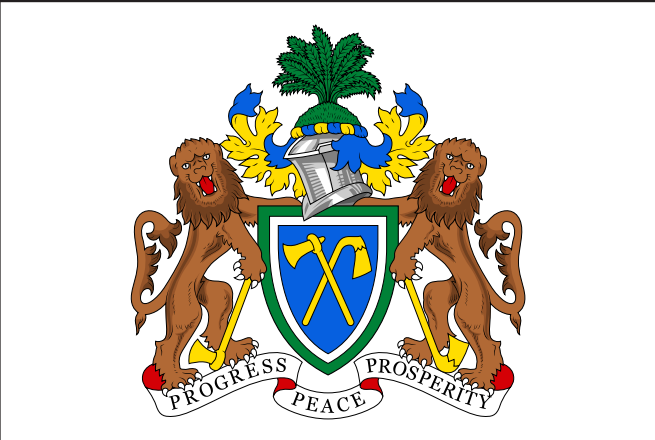


HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Adama Barrow

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Banjul

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

172

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

10



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and Mandingo

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

National Peoples Party

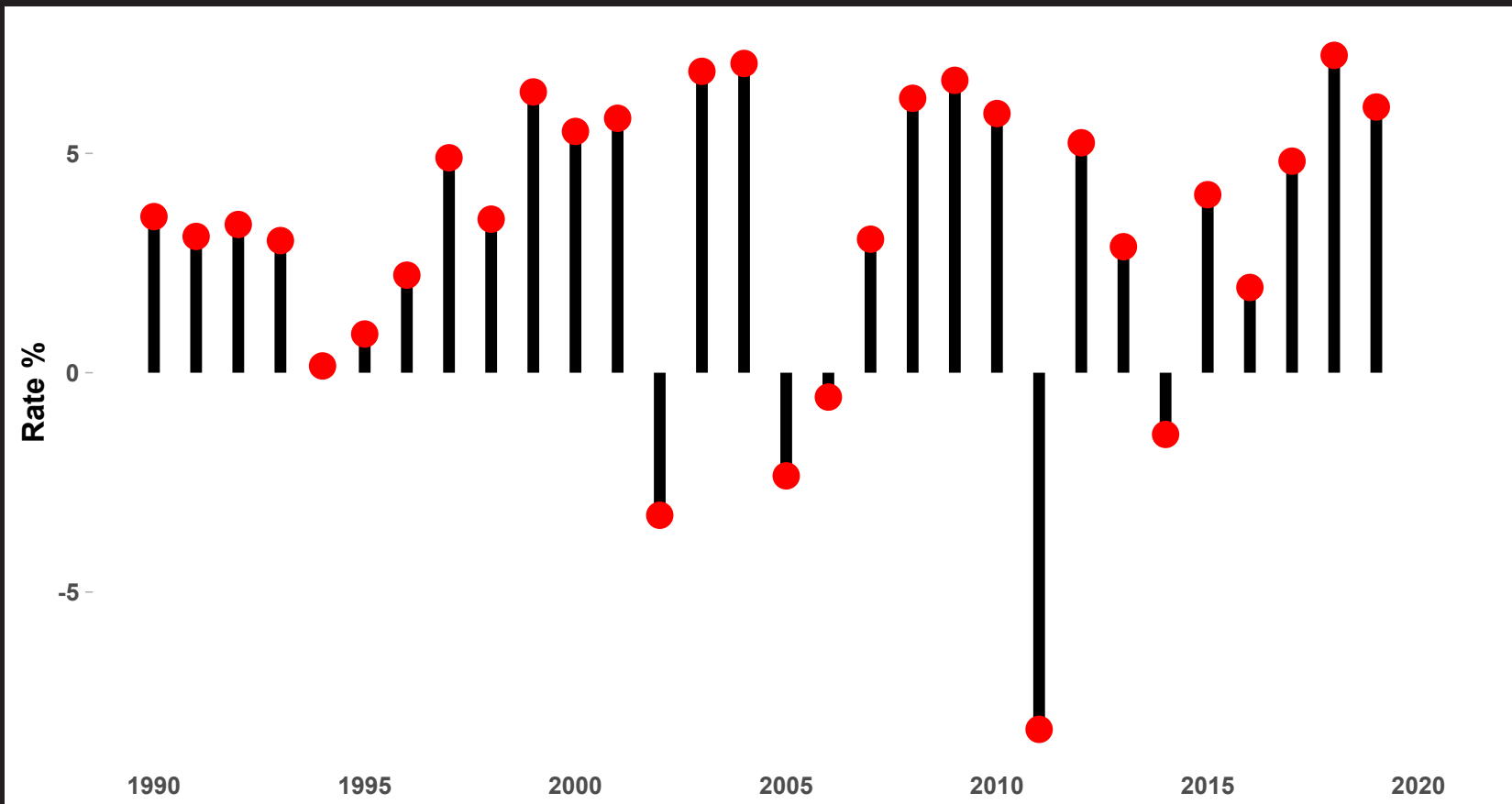


MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY

United Democratic Party

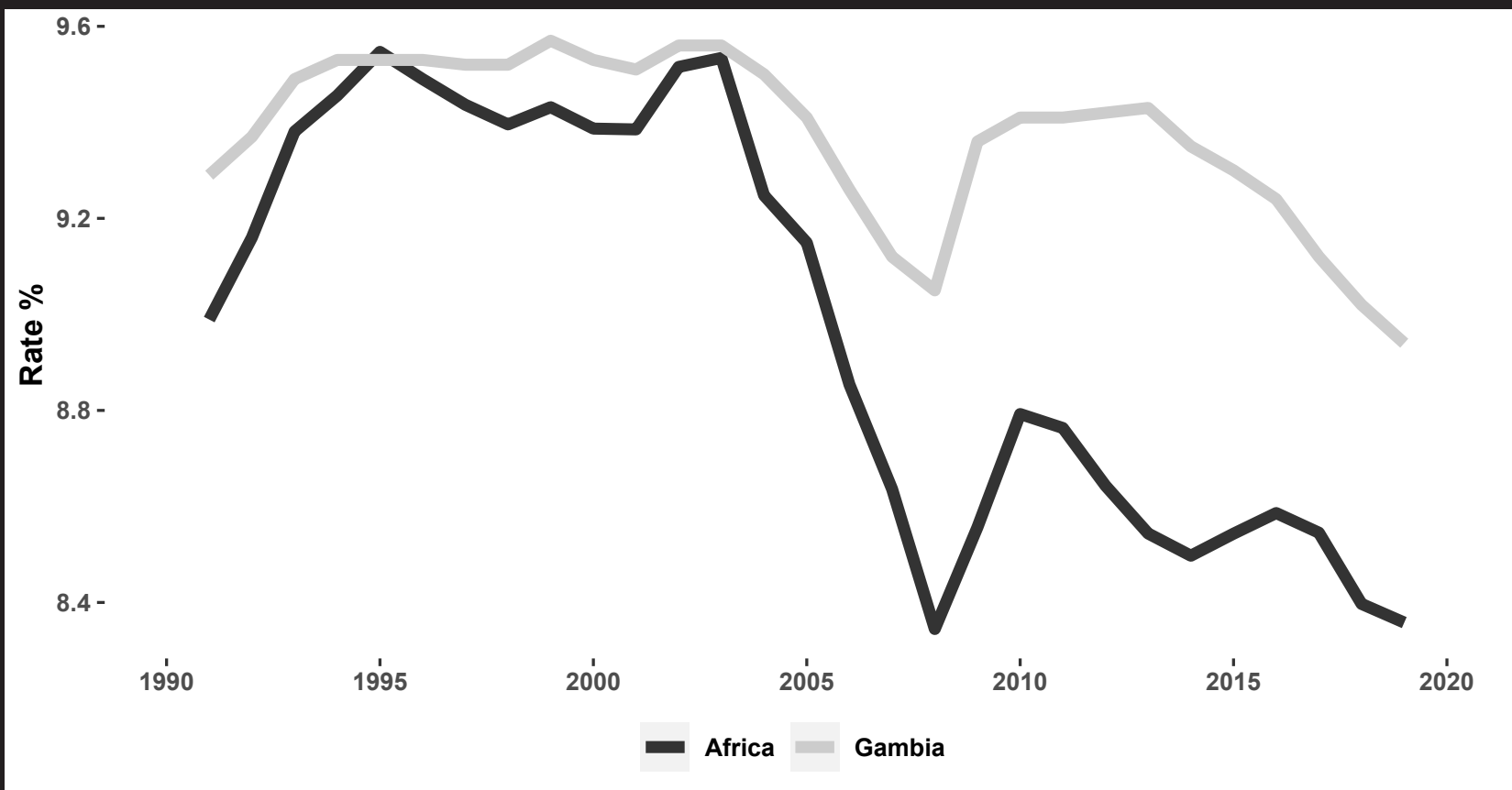
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



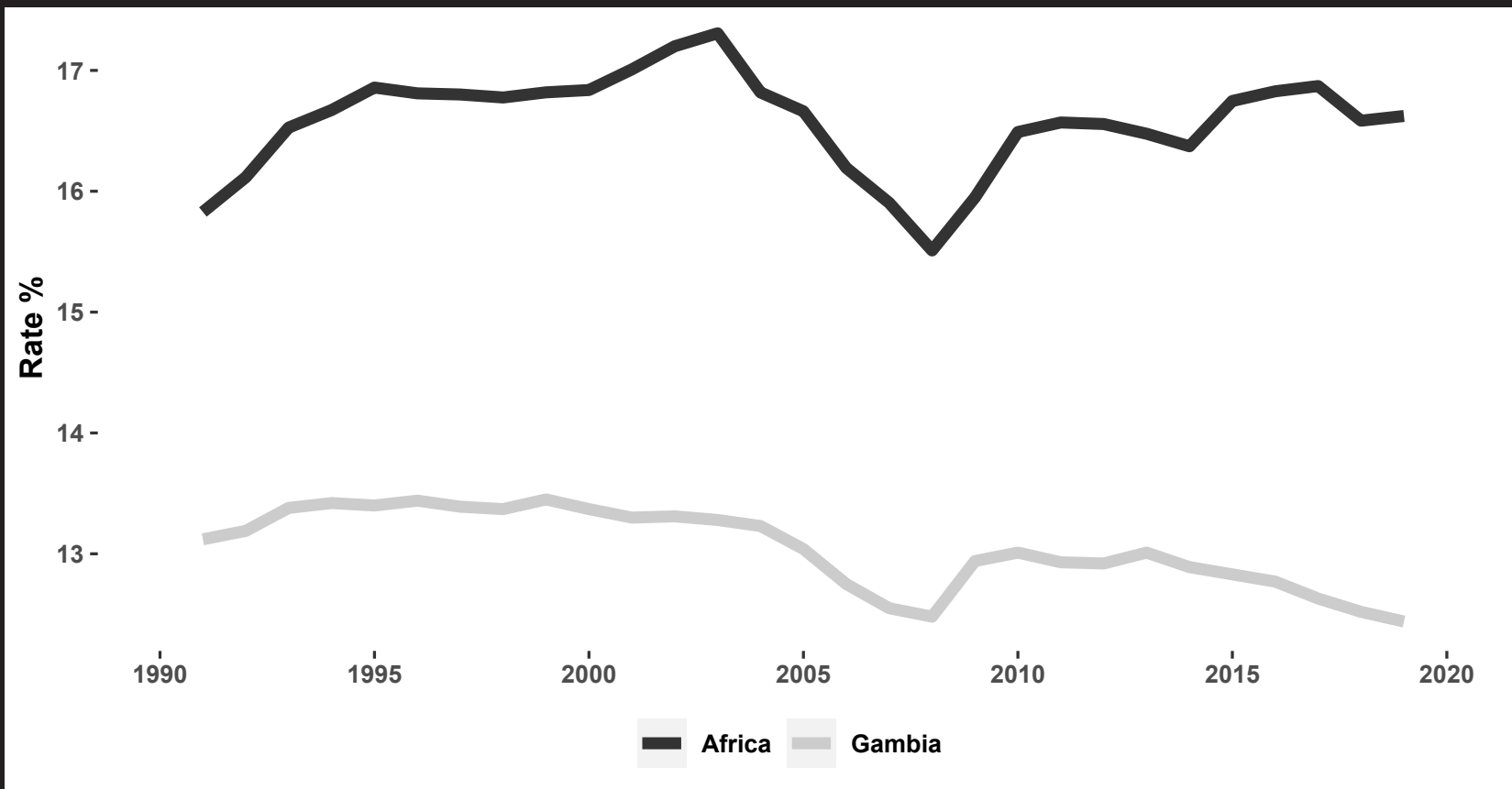
Since 2000 The Gambia has experienced erratic economic growth due to political instability.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



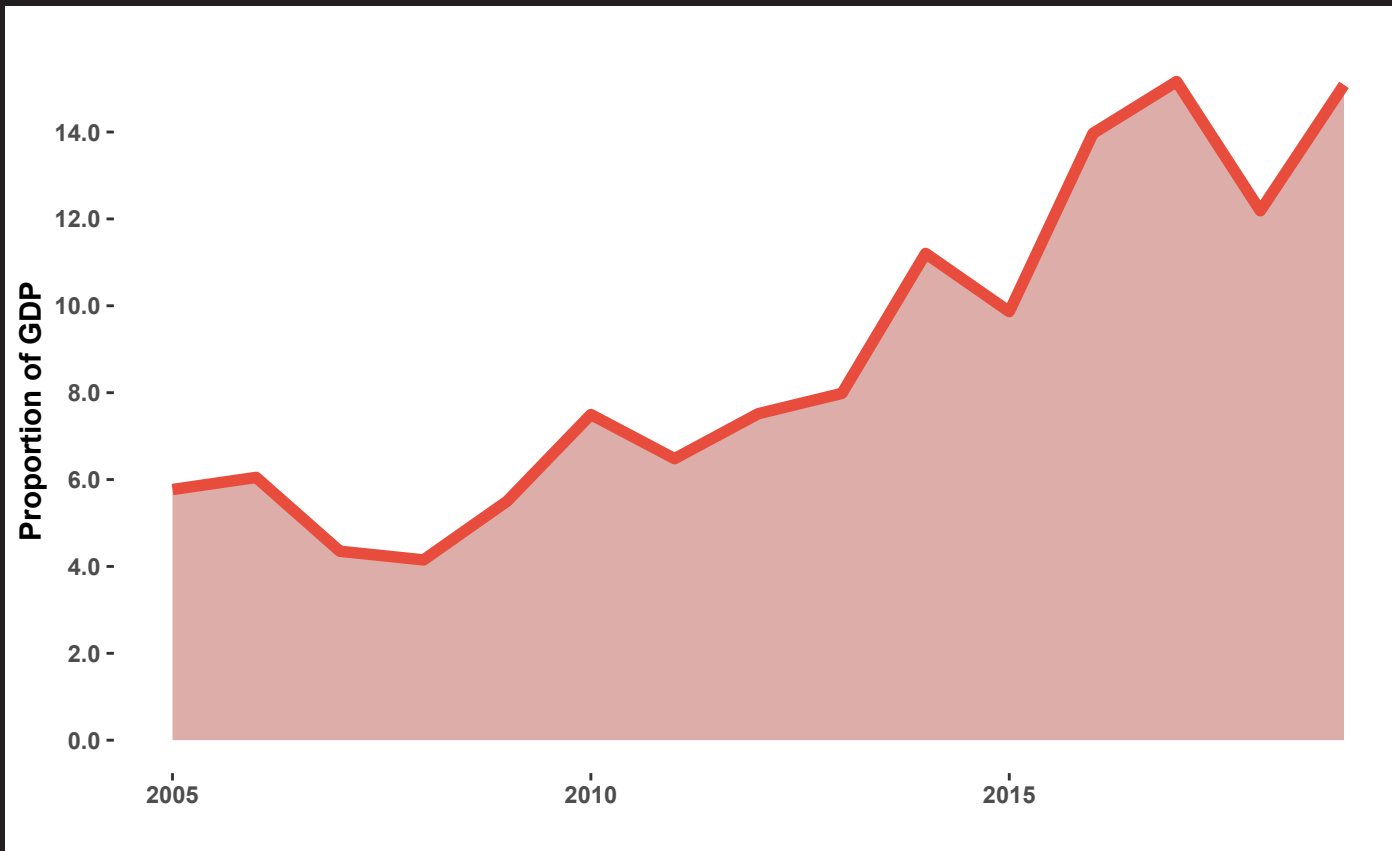
The unemployment rate in The Gambia has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



The Gambia's youth unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$276 million

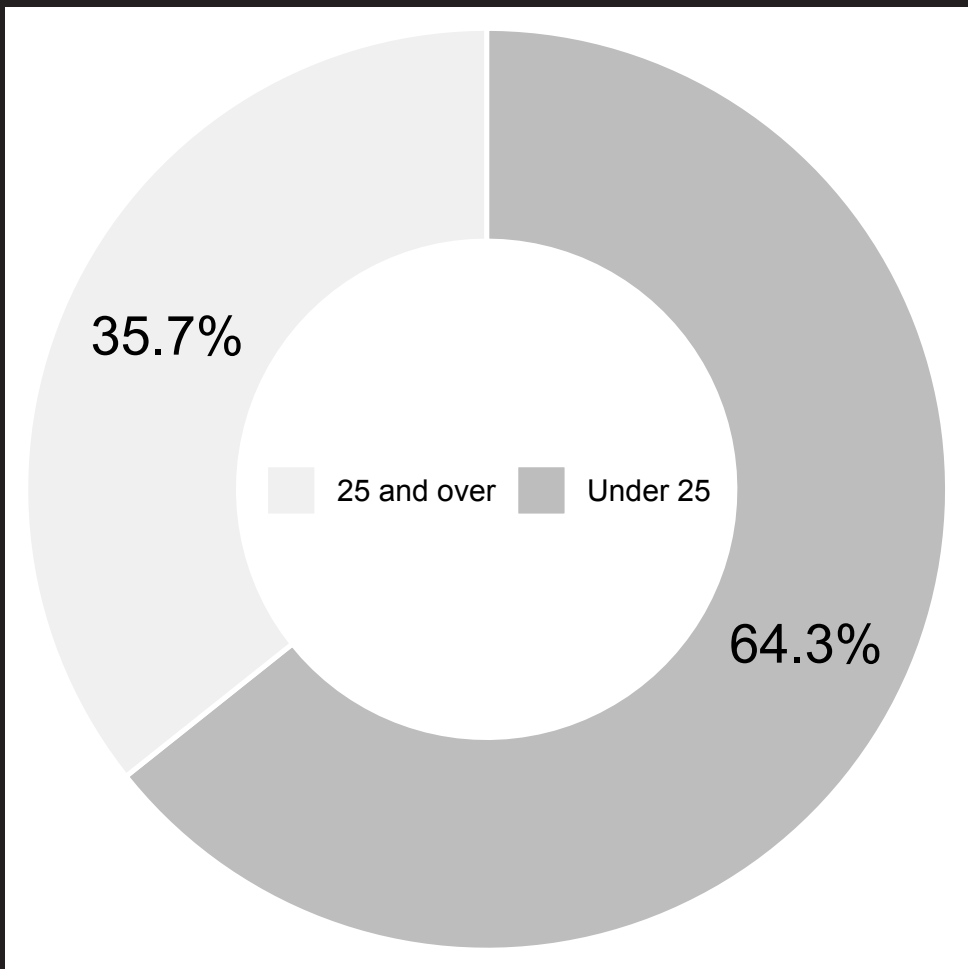
which represents

15.09% of GDP

The Gambia has become increasingly reliant on remittances. Since 2015 remittances have exceeded 10% of GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

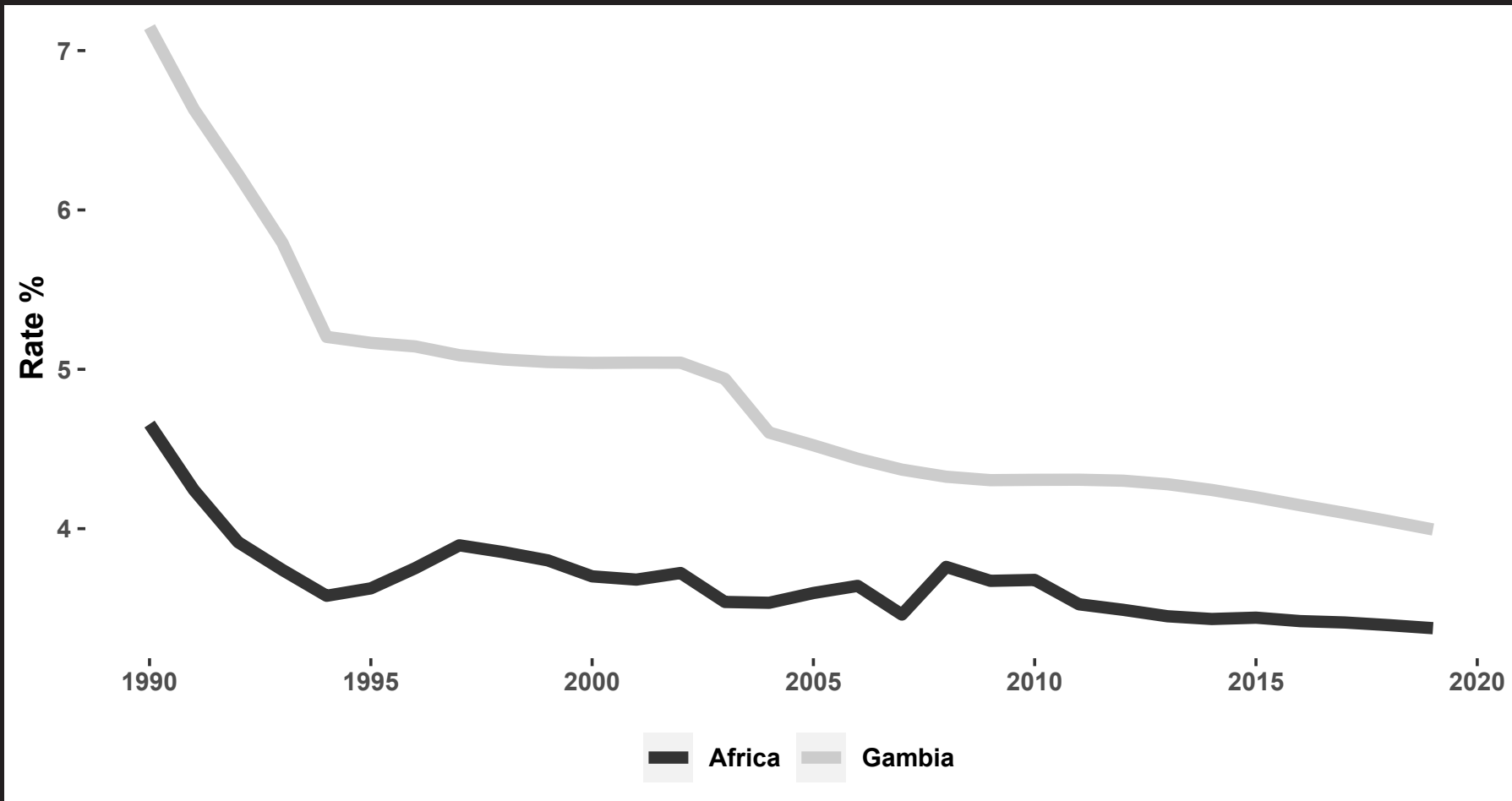
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



2.25 million

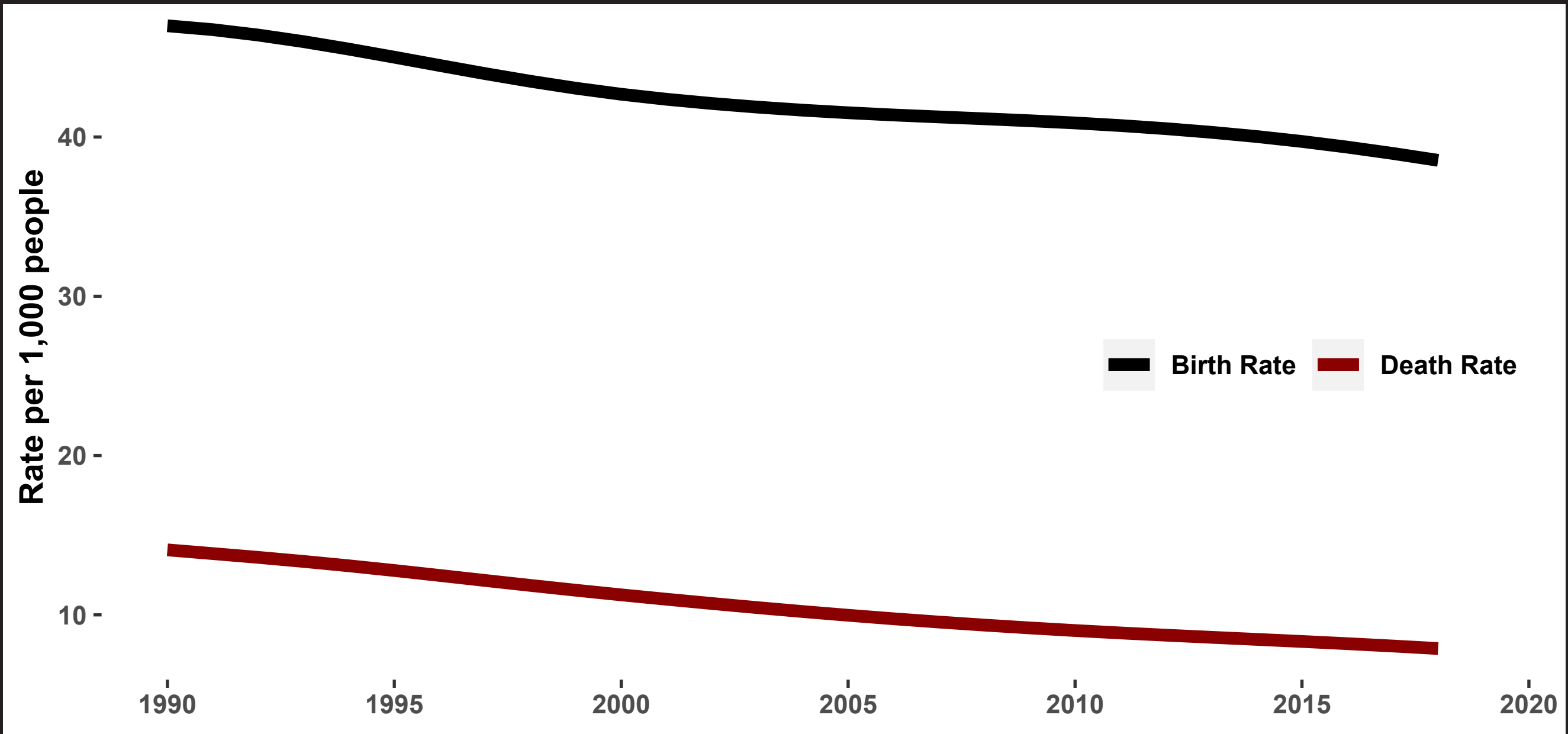
The Gambia is one of the least populated countries in Africa, but it still conforms to the continental trend of having more people under the age of 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Since 1990 The Gambia has urbanised at a consistently faster rate than the continental average.

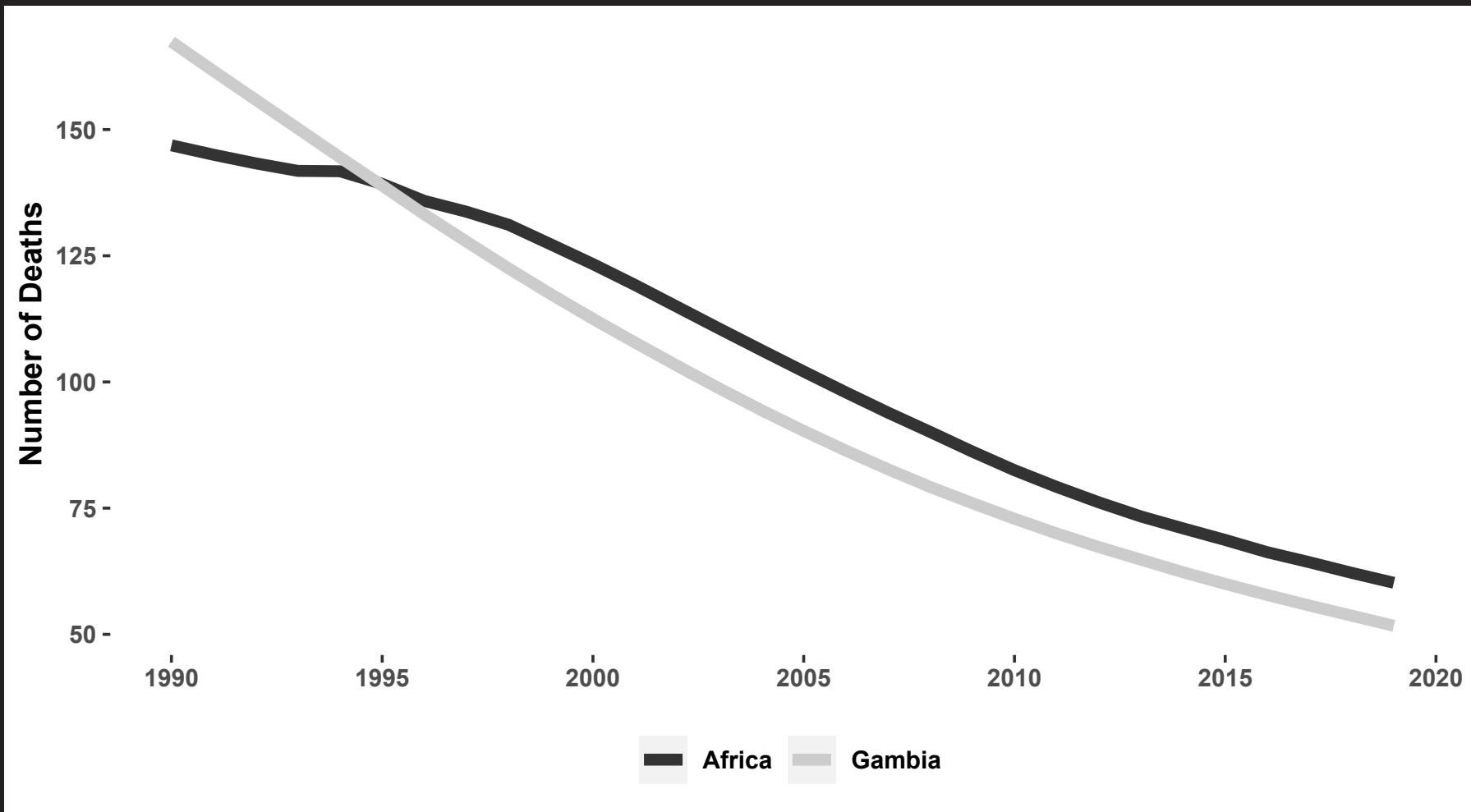
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The Gambia has experienced steady population growth over the past three decades – primarily because of a birth rate that is more than double the death rate.

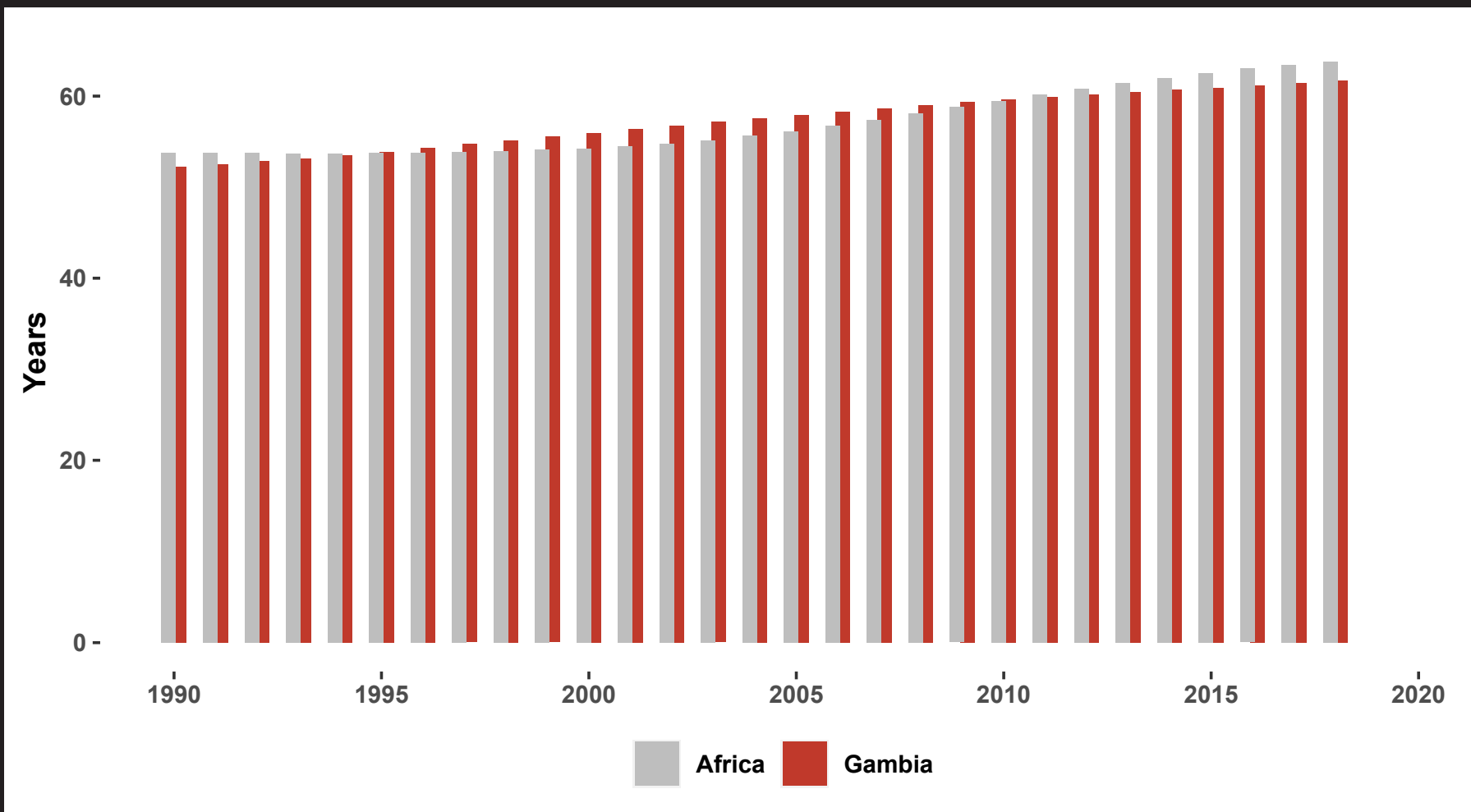
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



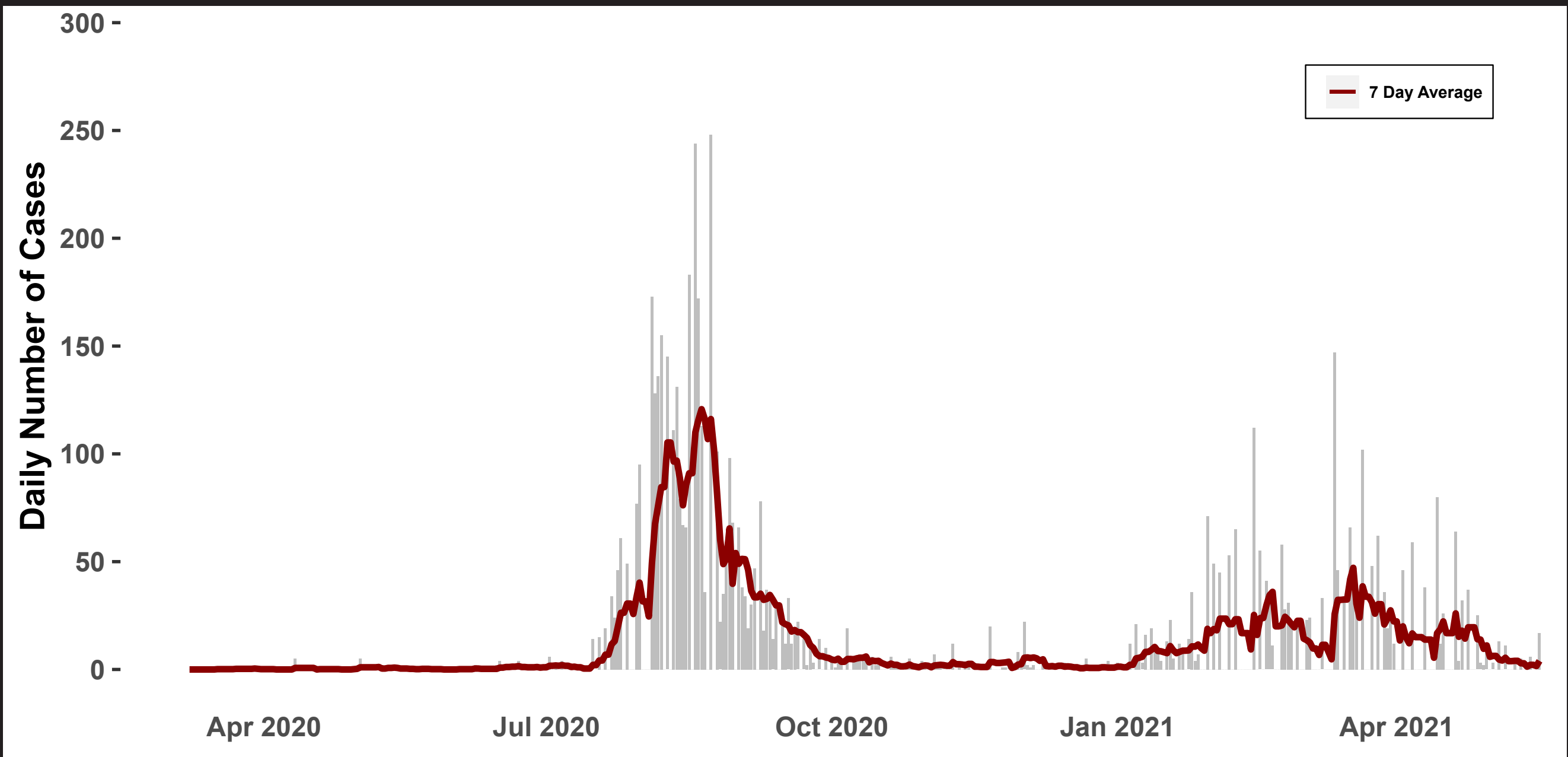
Child mortality in The Gambia has been declining at a faster rate compared to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in The Gambia has been increasing at a slower rate relative to the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



The Gambia has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in July/September 2020 with increasing infections since Feruary 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Tjabeljan on Flickr.com



The Gambia is home to nine different tribes. The largest of these tribes is the Mandinka, along with the Fula and Wolof, all of whom live together harmoniously.

Stuart Burns on Flickr.com



Francesco Veronesi on Flickr.com



The Gambia is a birdwatcher’s paradise with 540 species to be discovered.

Marco Longarisi / AFP



During elections, Gambians vote using marbles. In a private booth, voters are presented with holes in the ground marked with each candidate. They then simply drop their marble into the hole they choose.



TOGO

Togo is in West Africa, bordered by Ghana, Benin and Burkina Faso. This tropical, sub-Saharan country extends south to the Gulf of Guinea, where the capital, Lomé, is located. It is one of the narrowest countries in the world, with a width of less than 115 km between Ghana and Benin. From the 16th to the 18th century Togo was a major trading centre for Europeans to purchase slaves, earning Togo and the surrounding region the name “The Slave Coast”. In 1884, Germany declared a region, including present-day Togo as a protectorate called Togoland. After World War I, rule over Togo was transferred to France from which the country gained its independence in 1960. On 4 May, 2020, Bitila Madjoulba, the commander of a Togolese military battalion, was found dead in his office. The death came right after the investiture of the recently re-elected Faure Gnassingbé. An investigation has been opened. The official currency is the CFA franc.

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Faure Gnassingbé

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Lomé

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

167

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

44



MAIN LANGUAGES

French, Ewe and Kabiye

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant-party presidential republic



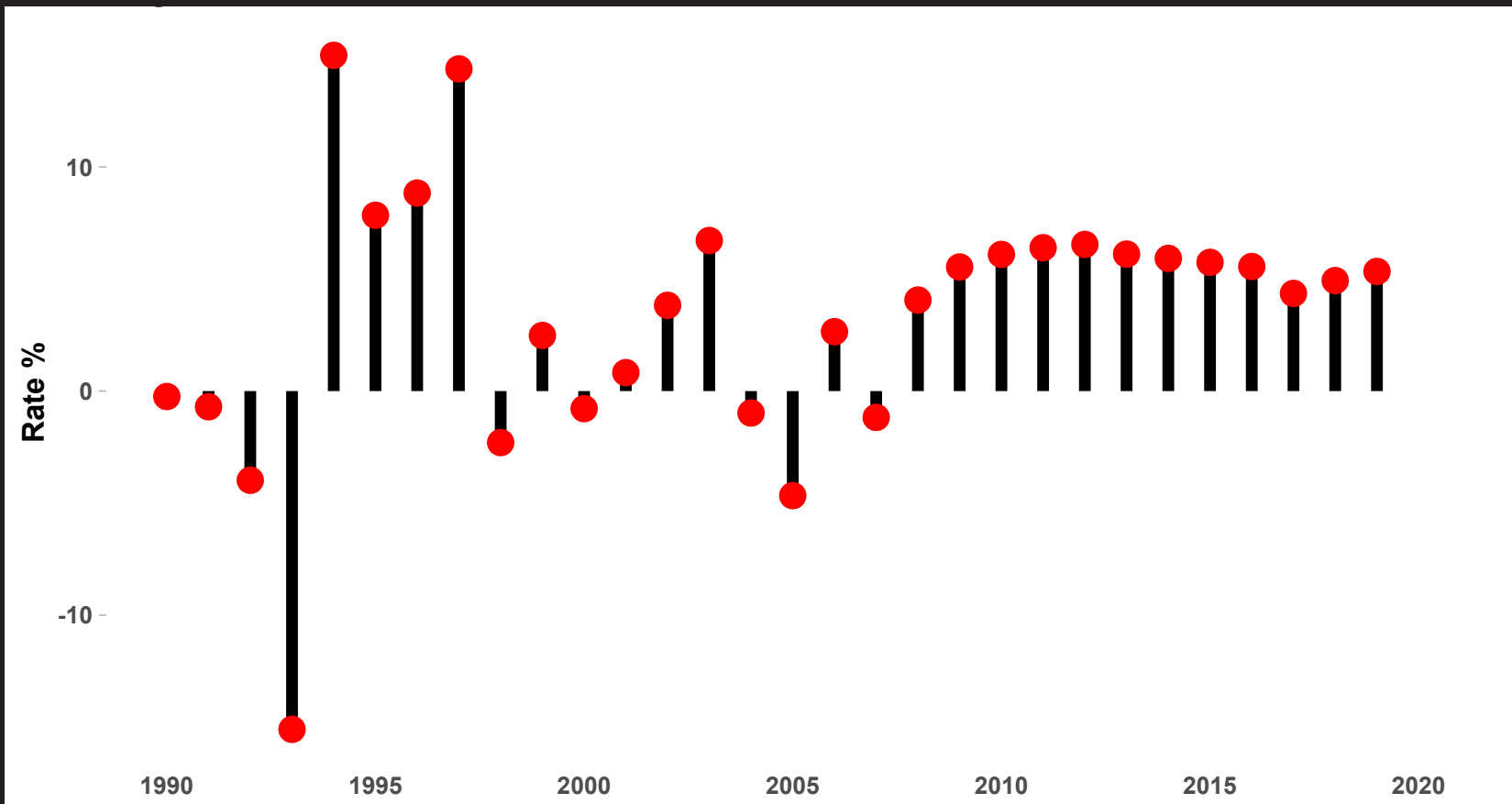
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Union for the Republic



BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY
Union of Forces for Change

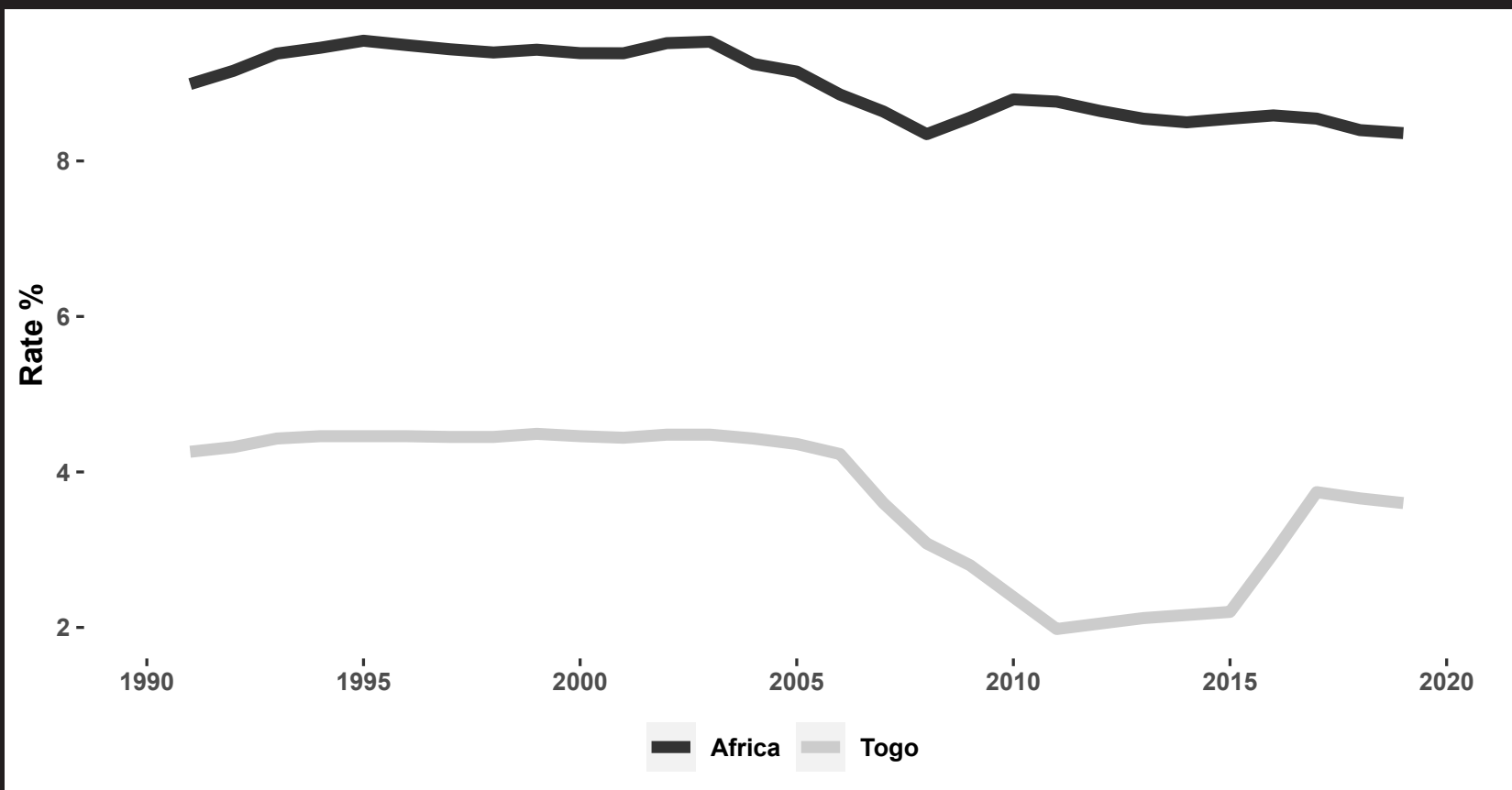
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



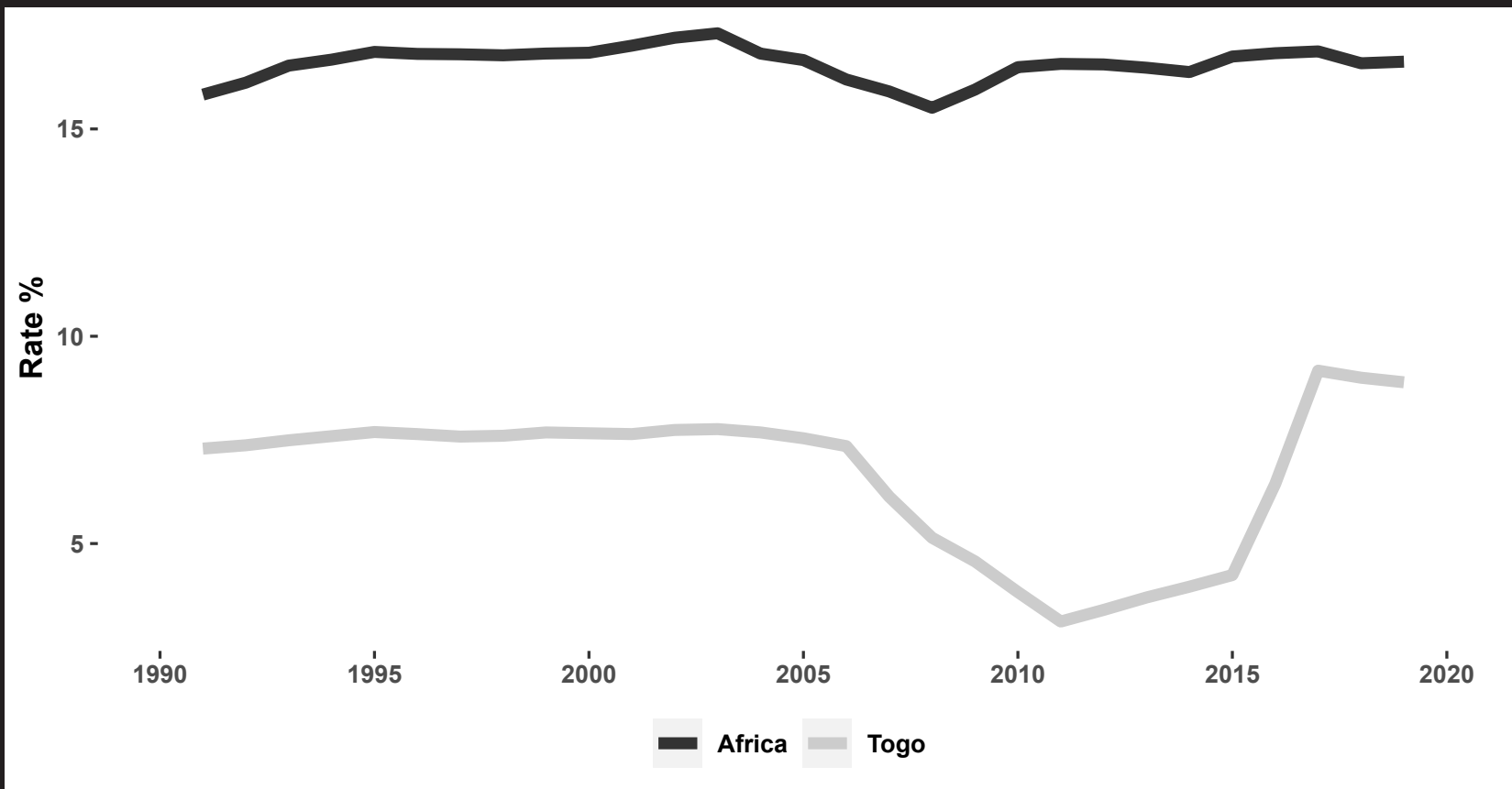
Between 1990 and 2007 Togo experienced erratic economic growth. However, since 2008 Togo has experienced consistent economic growth.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



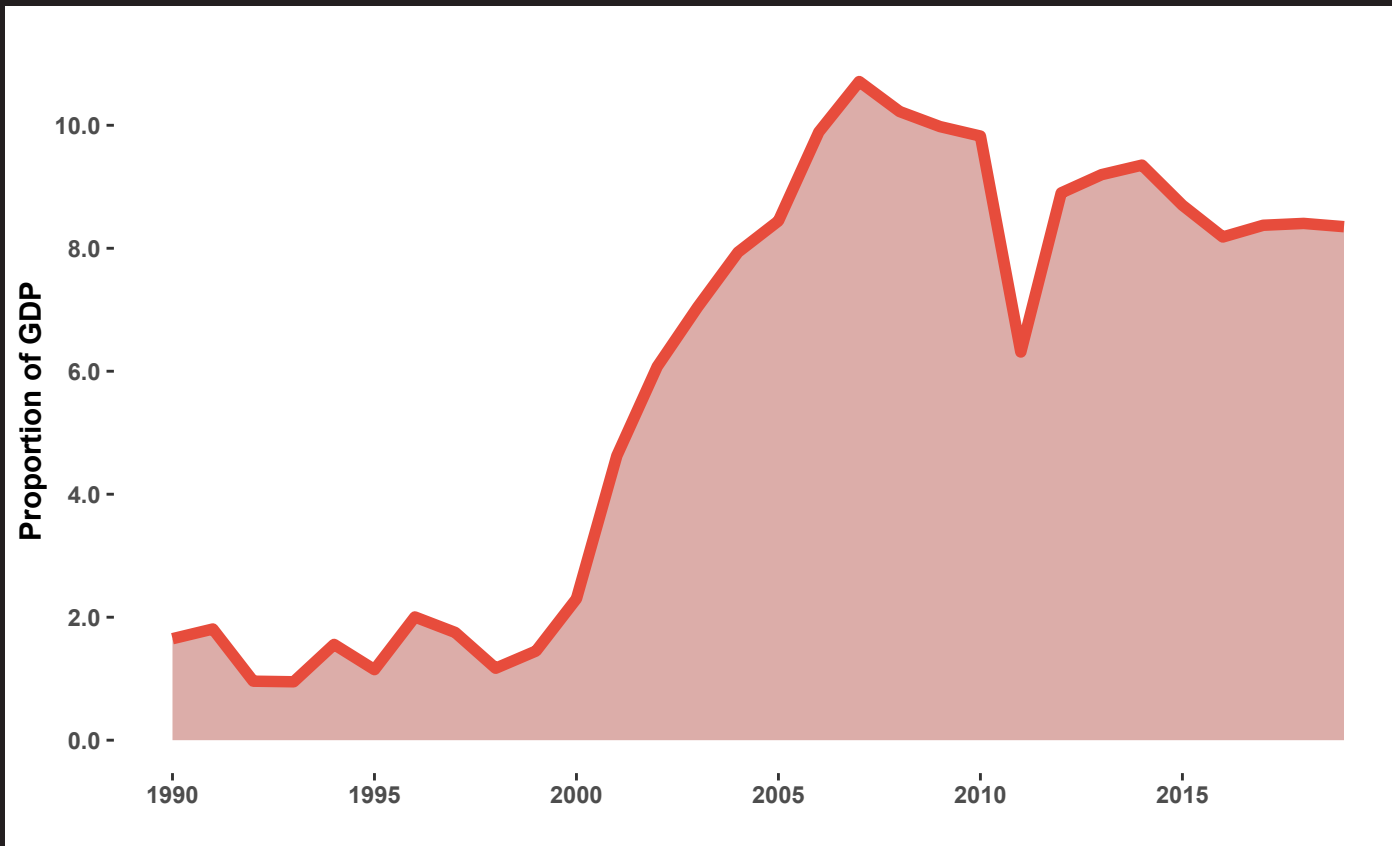
Togo's unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years. However, since 2006 the unemployment rate in Togo has been slightly more volatile.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Togo's youth unemployment rate has been consistently lower than the African average over the past 30 years. However, since 2006 the youth unemployment rate in Togo has been slightly more volatile.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$458.5 million

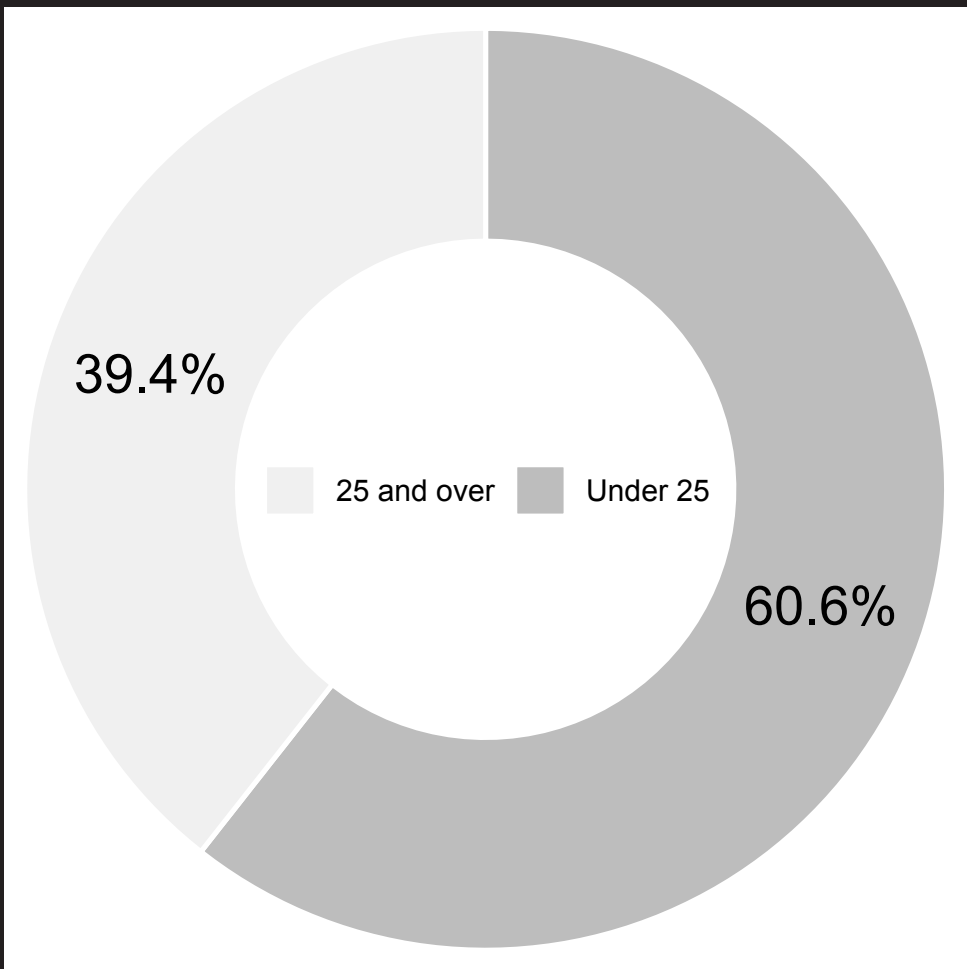
which represents

8.35% of GDP

Since 2002 remittances have generally constituted at least 6% of Togo's GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

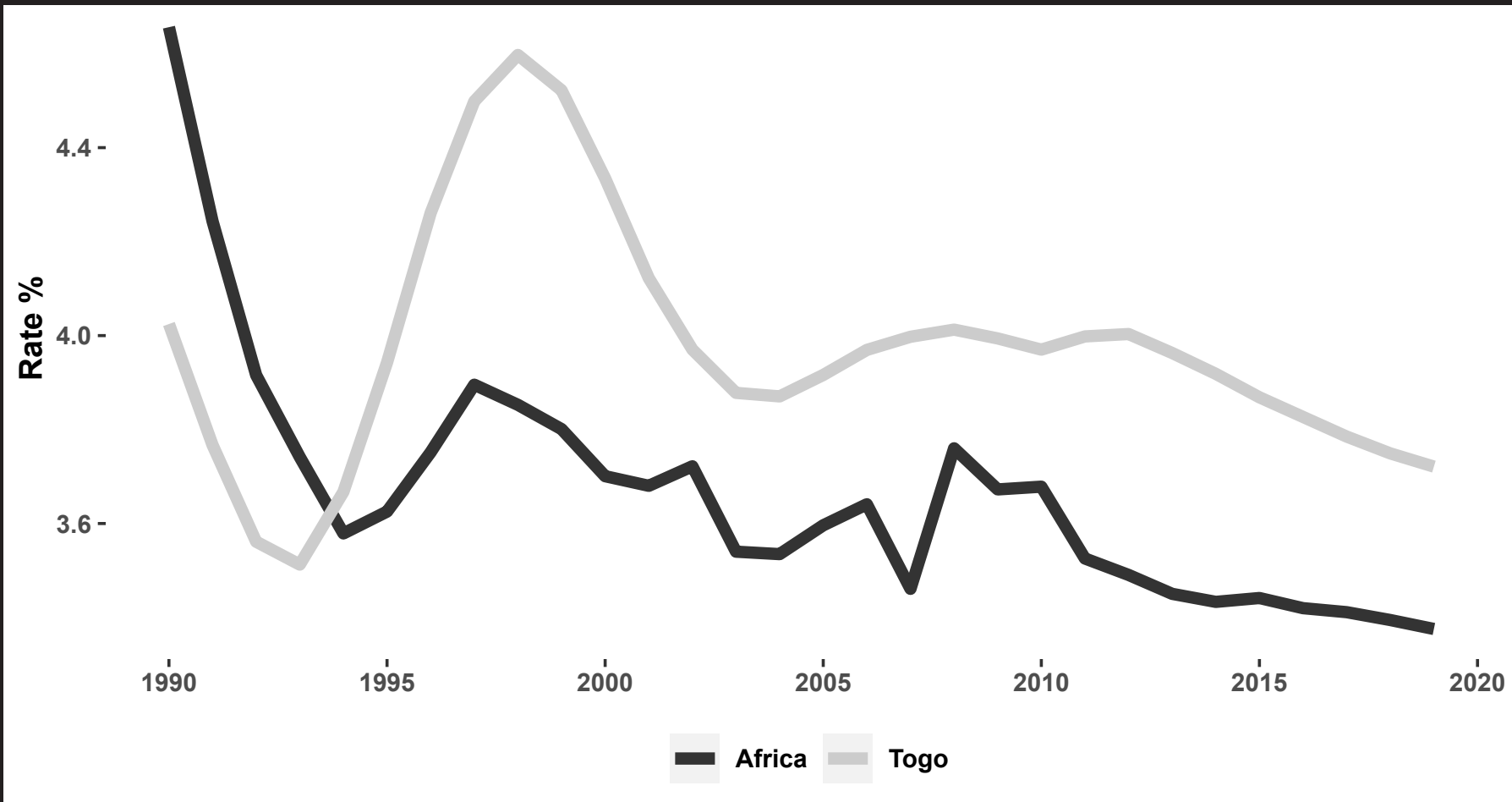
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



8.1 million

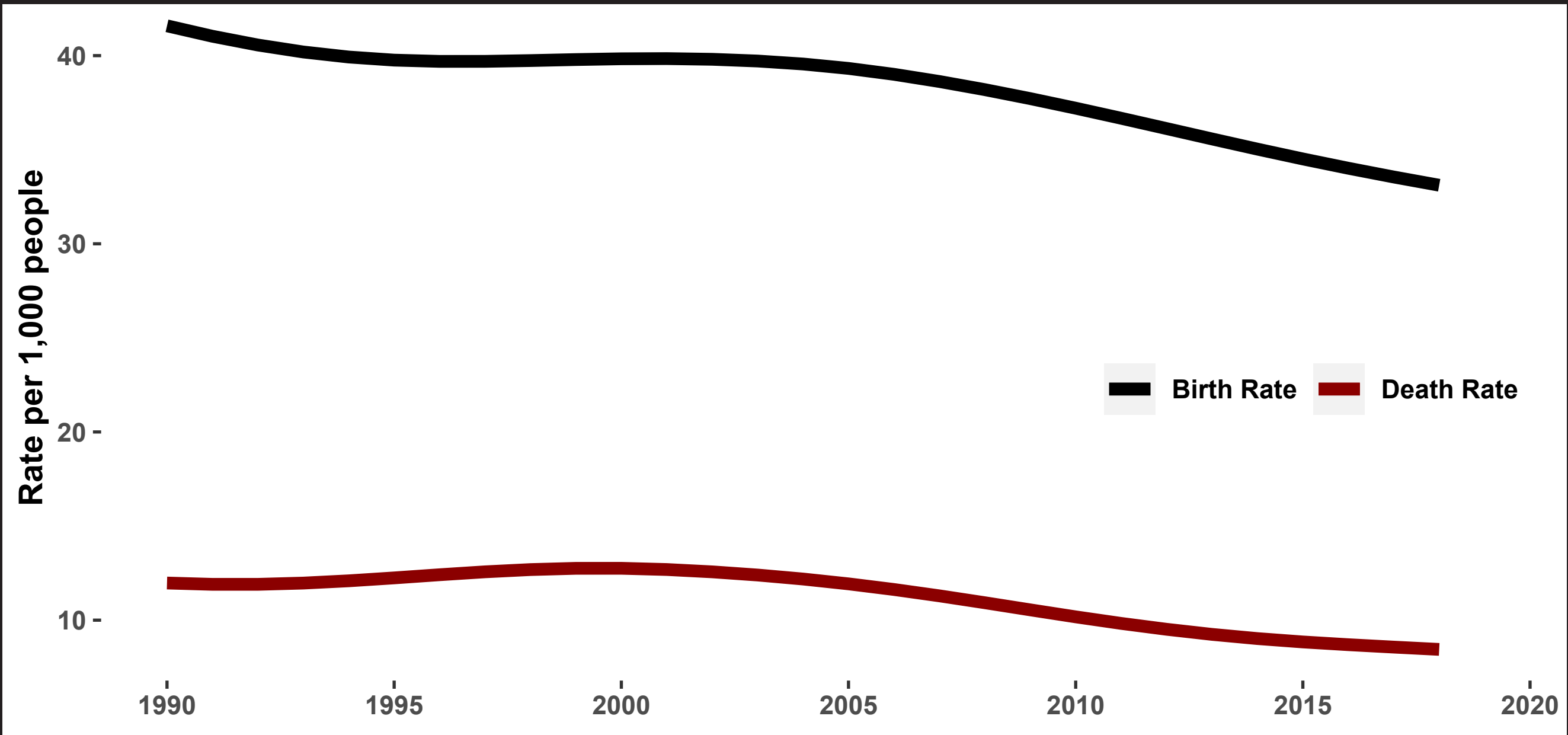
In line with continental trends, the majority of Togo’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Togo’s urbanisation rate has tracked very closely to the continental average over the past three decades.

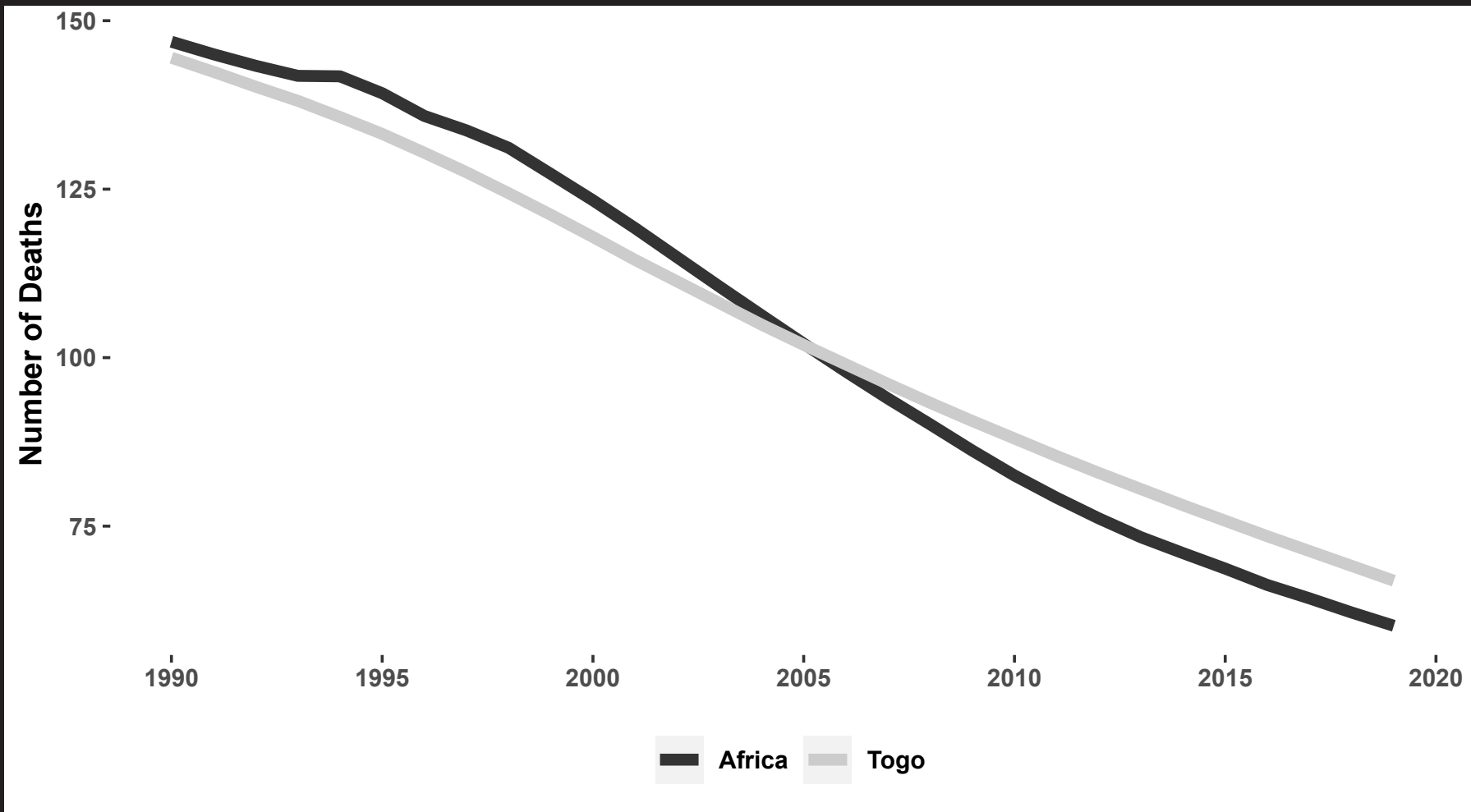
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Togo has had relatively constant population growth due to a birth rate that is roughly double the death rate.

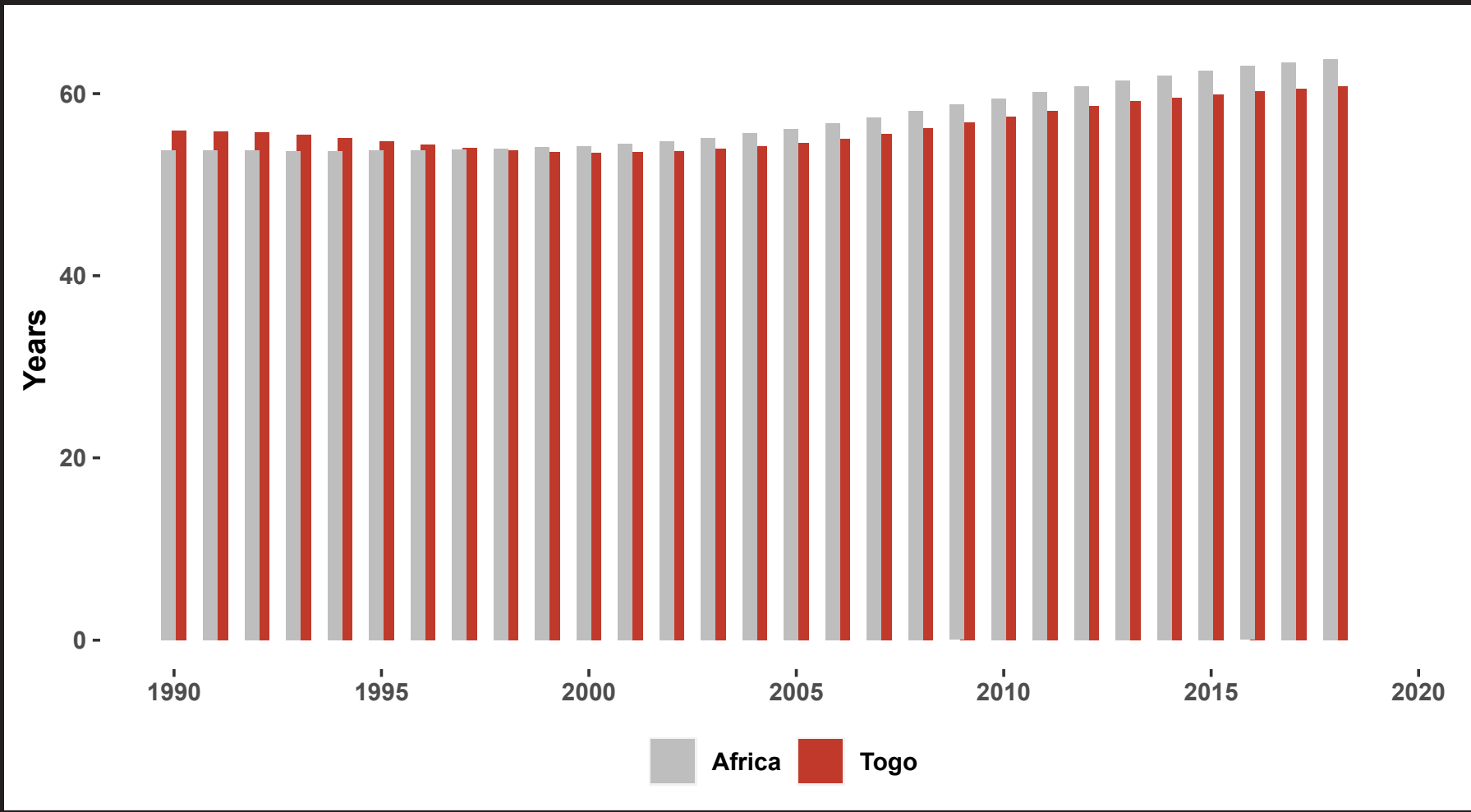
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



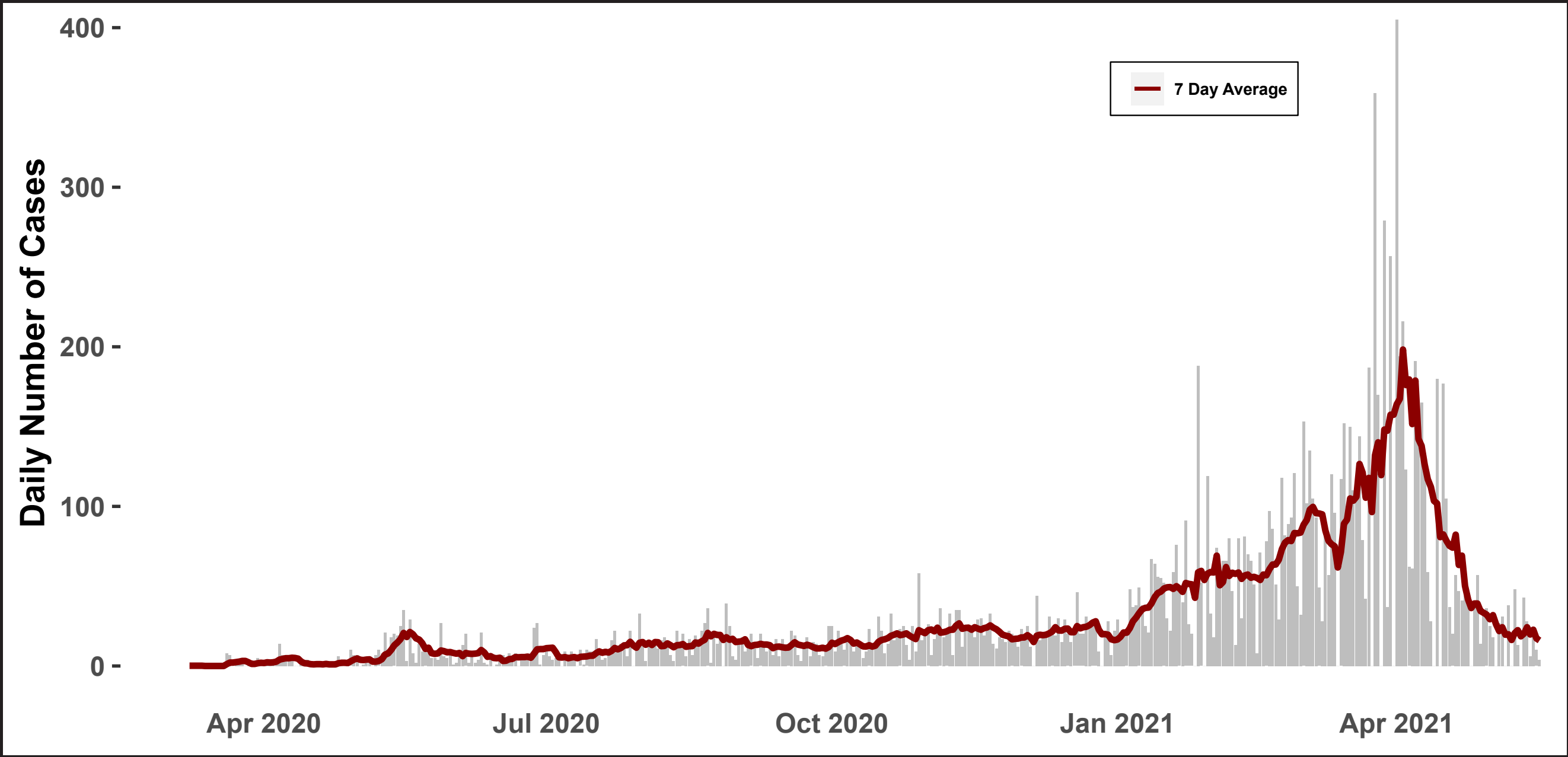
The reduction in Togo’s child mortality over the past 30 years has tracked relatively closely to the continental average reduction in child mortality.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Life expectancy in Togo has remained largely stagnant over the past 30 years.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Togo has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred in February-April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Erik Cleves Kristensen on Flickr.com



Traditional Togolese houses are beautifully constructed by hand from mud, with thatched roofs. They come in all shapes and sizes and can look like miniature castles.

Voodoo is the oldest traditional form of African religion in West Africa, with its heartlands in Togo and Benin. There are many Voodoo markets, and they are well-visited.



Francisco Anzola on Flickr.com

Francisco Anzola on Flickr.com

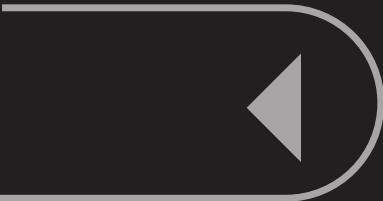


Togo has 56 km of coastline along the Bight of Benin of the Gulf of Guinea.



TUNISIA

Tunisia is the northernmost country in Africa. It is a part of the Maghreb region of North Africa, and is bordered by Algeria, Libya and the Mediterranean Sea. From early antiquity Tunisia was inhabited by the indigenous Berbers. The Ottoman empire established control in 1574 and held sway for more than 300 years, until the French conquered Tunisia in 1881. Independence came in 1956. In 2011, the Tunisian Revolution, triggered by the lack of freedom and democracy under the 24-year rule of president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, overthrew his regime and catalysed the broader Arab Spring across the region. Tunisia is the smallest nation in North Africa, and its culture and identity are rooted in a centuries-long intersection of different cultures and ethnicities. The Sahel, a broadening coastal plain along Tunisia’s eastern Mediterranean coast, is among the world’s premier areas of olive cultivation. The official currency is the Tunisian dinar.



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Kais Saied

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Tunis

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

95

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

15



MAIN LANGUAGES

Arabic, Berber
and French

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary semi-presidential constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Ennahda Movement

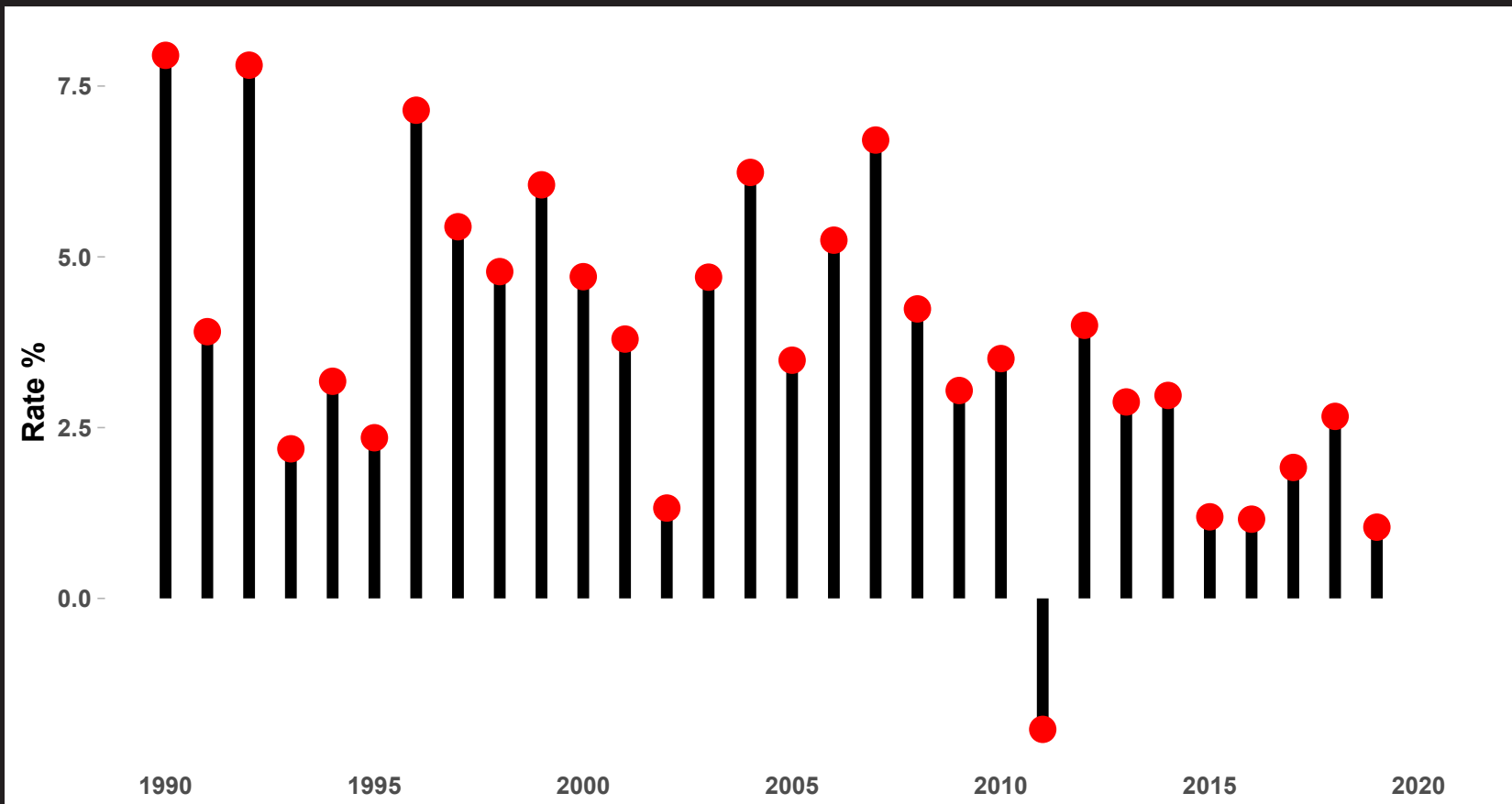


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

Heart of Tunisia

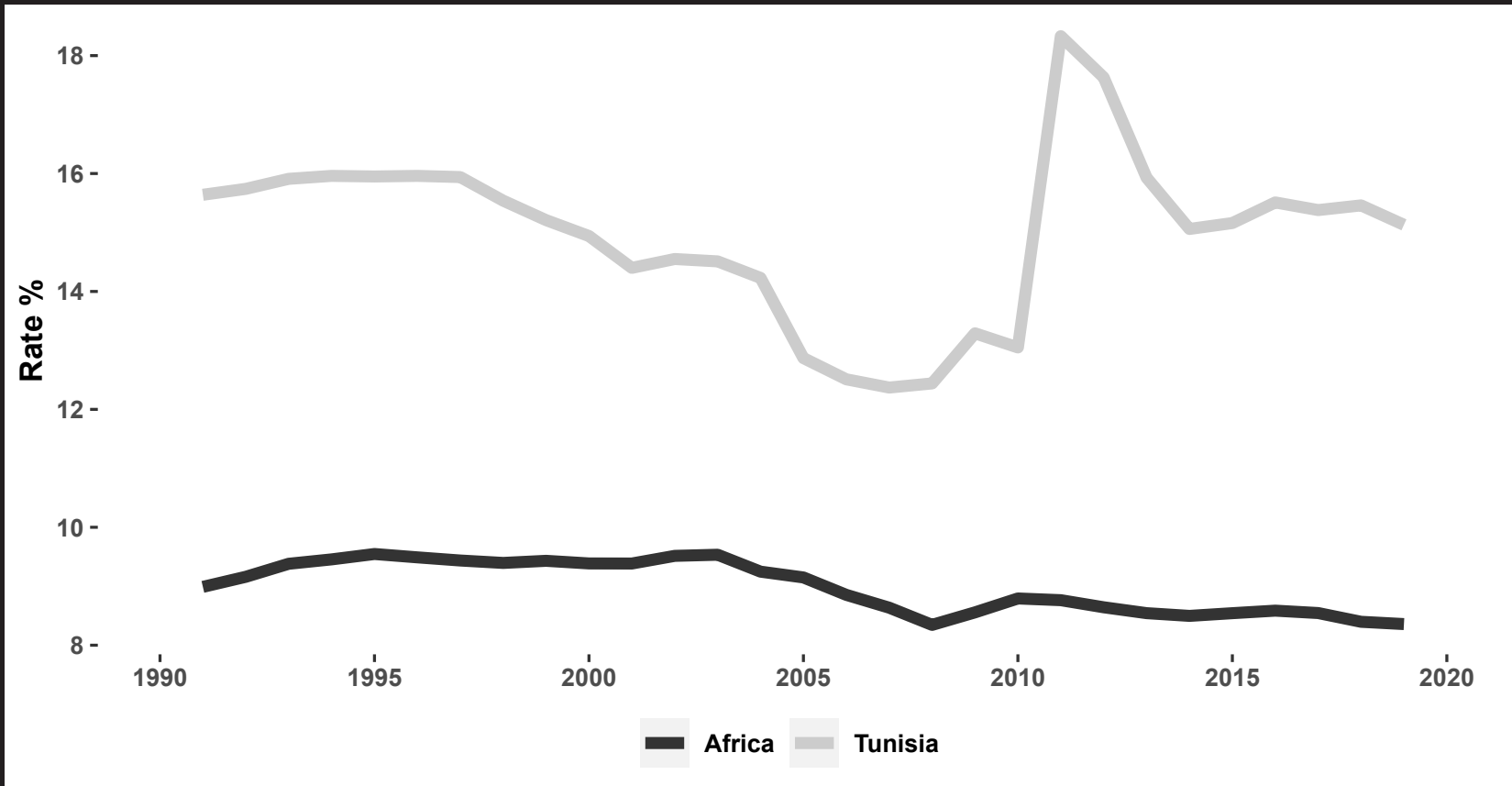
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



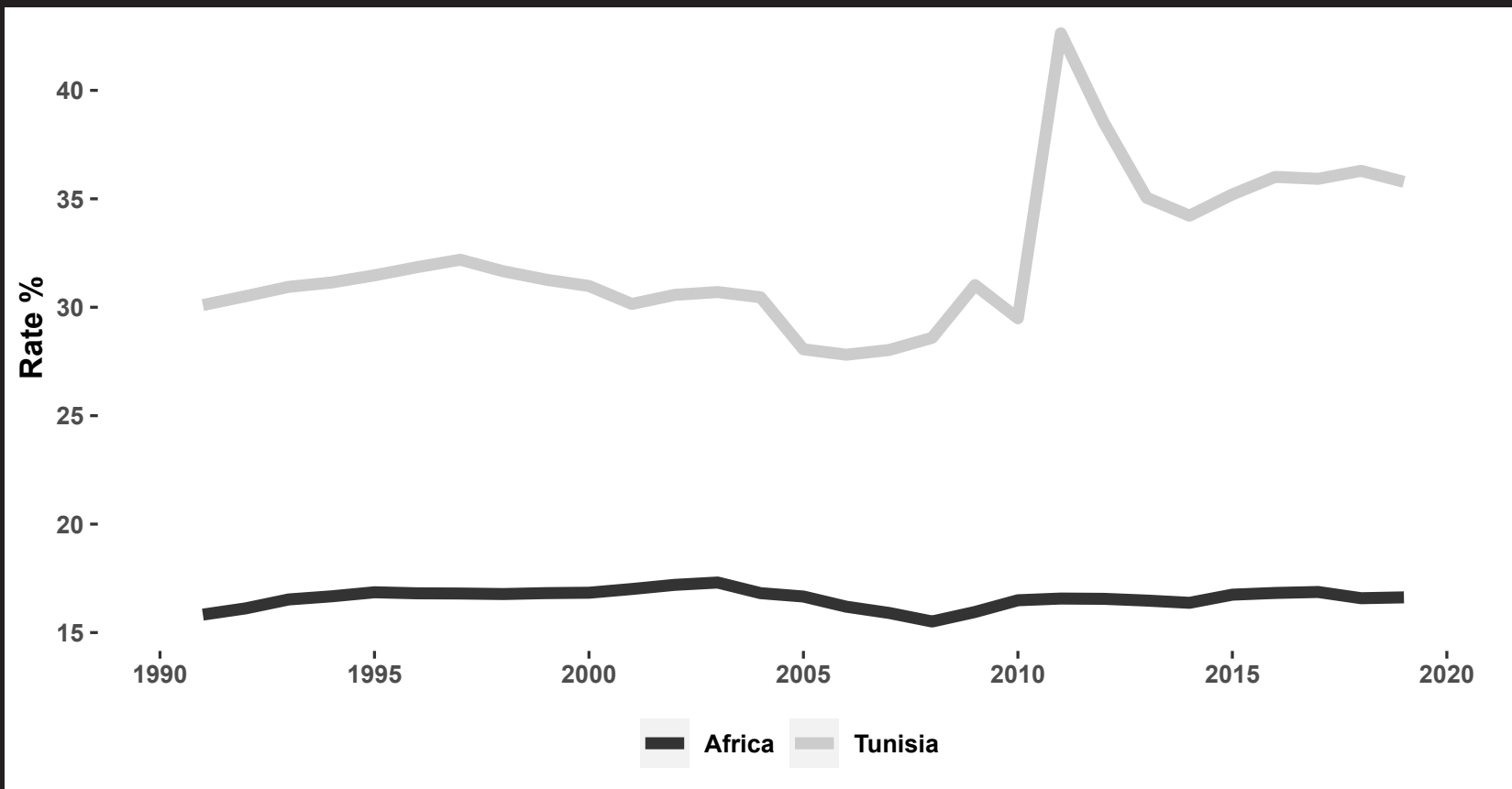
Apart from a recession induced by the Tunisian revolution in 2011, the country has experienced near constant economic expansion since 1990.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



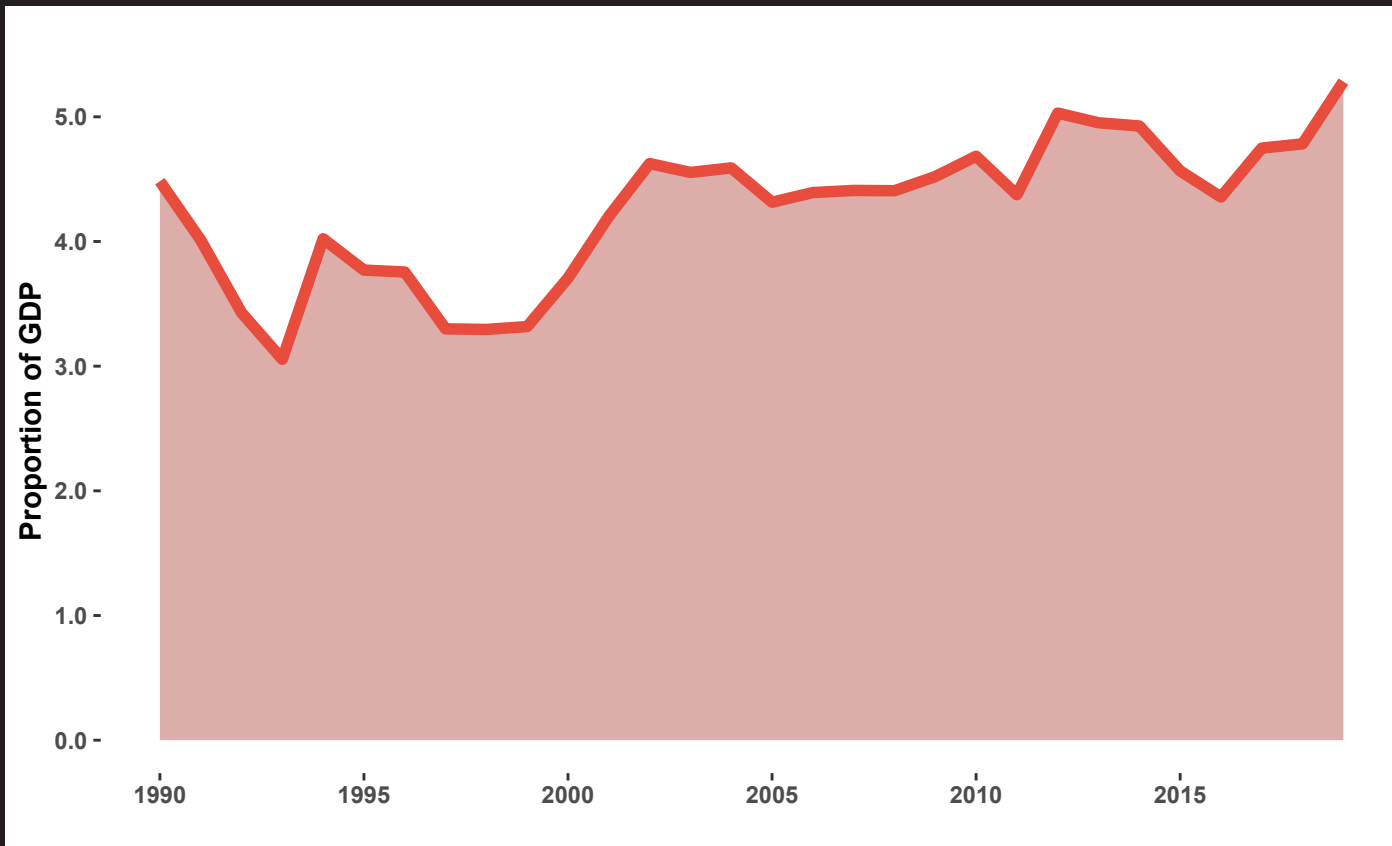
Tunisia's unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years. Since the Tunisian revolution in 2011, the unemployment rate in Tunisia has been more volatile.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Tunisia's youth unemployment rate has been consistently higher than the African average over the past 30 years. Since the Tunisian revolution in 2011, the youth unemployment rate in Tunisia has been more volatile.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$2.05 billion

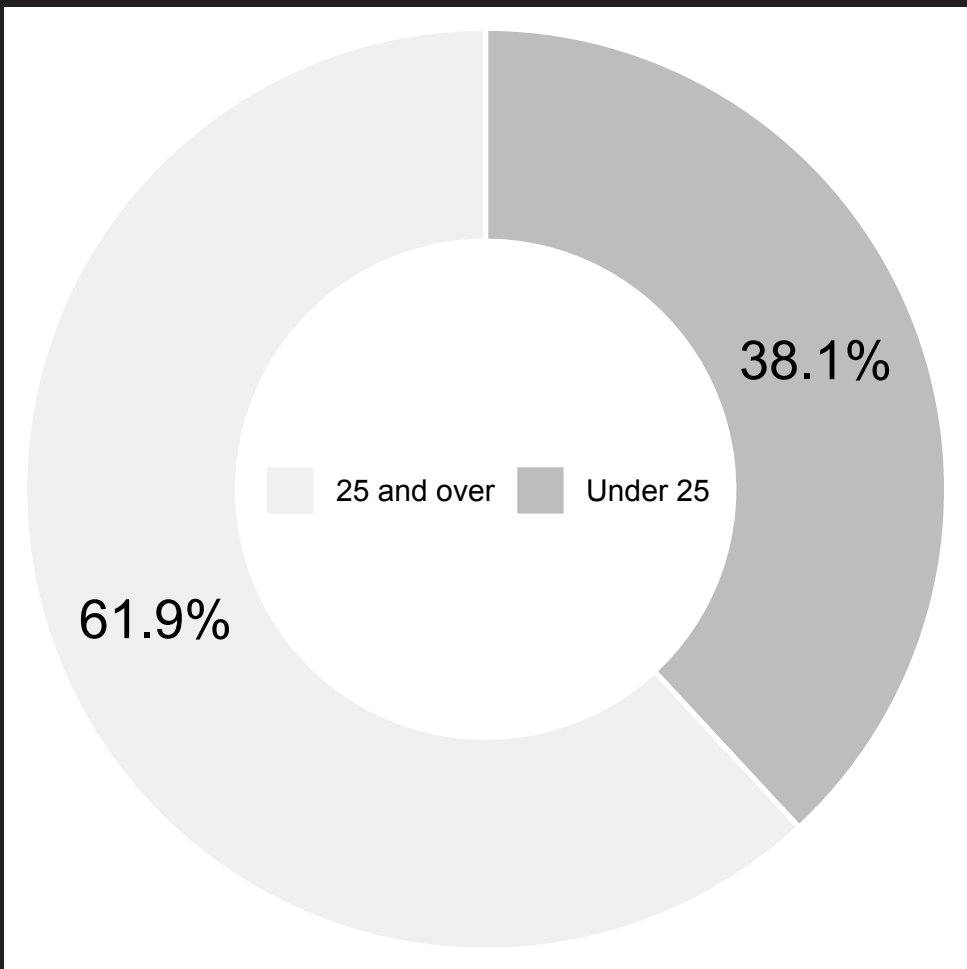
which represents

5.28% of GDP

Since 1990 remittances have generally constituted at least 3% of Tunisia's GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

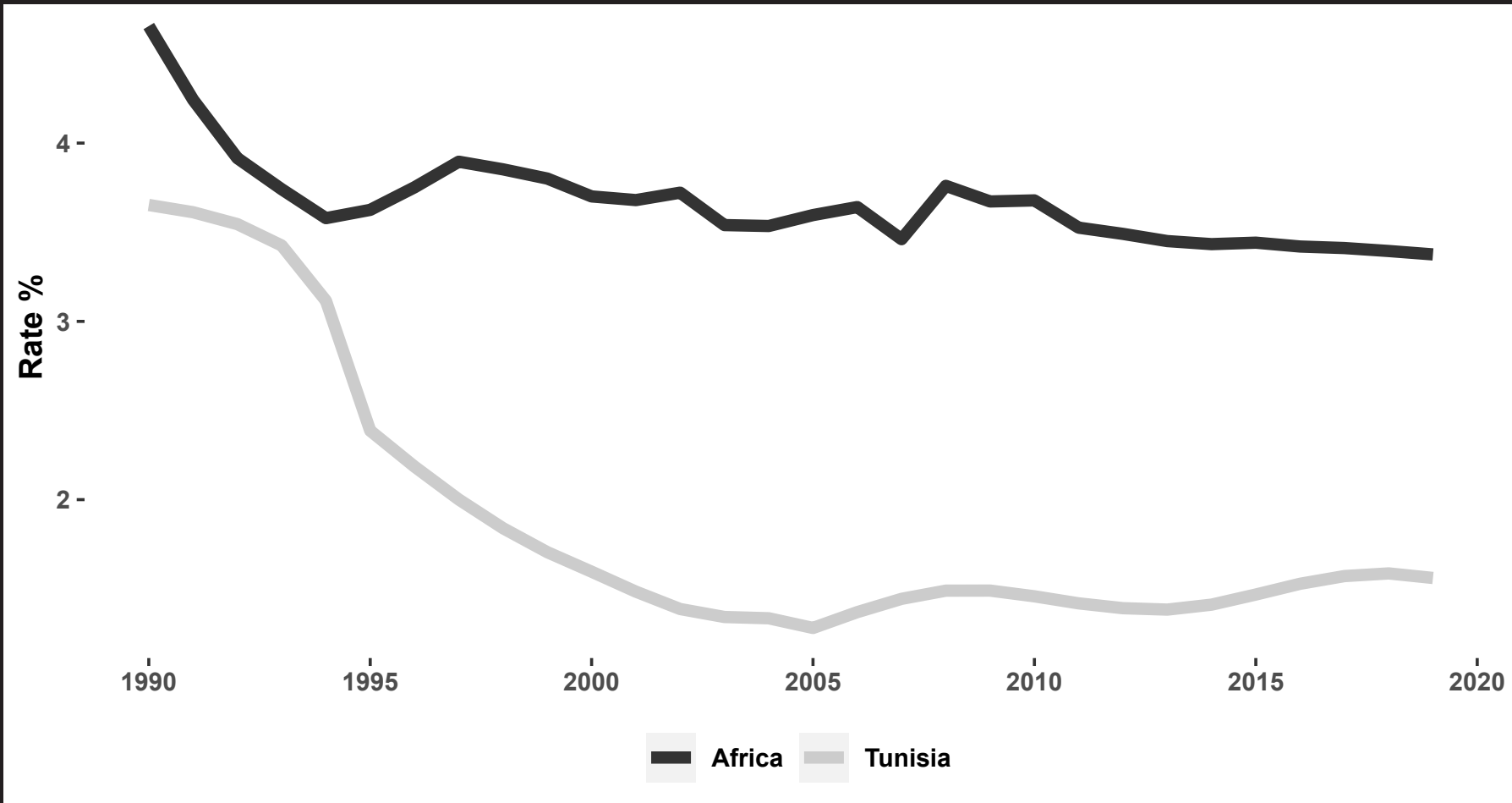
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



11.7 million

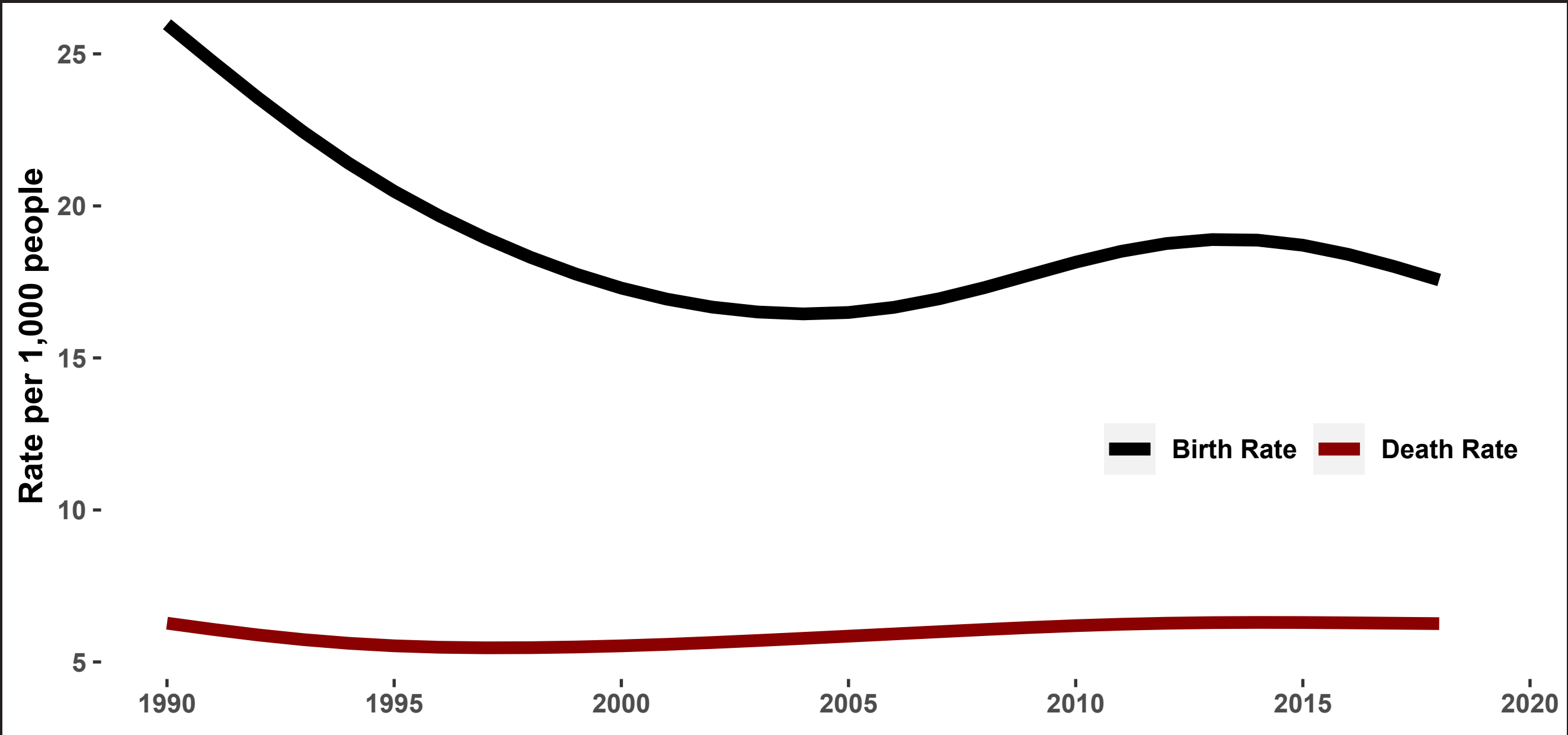
Tunisia is one of the nine countries where the over-25 population outnumbers the under-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Tunisia has generally urbanised at a slower rate than the continental average over the past 25 years.

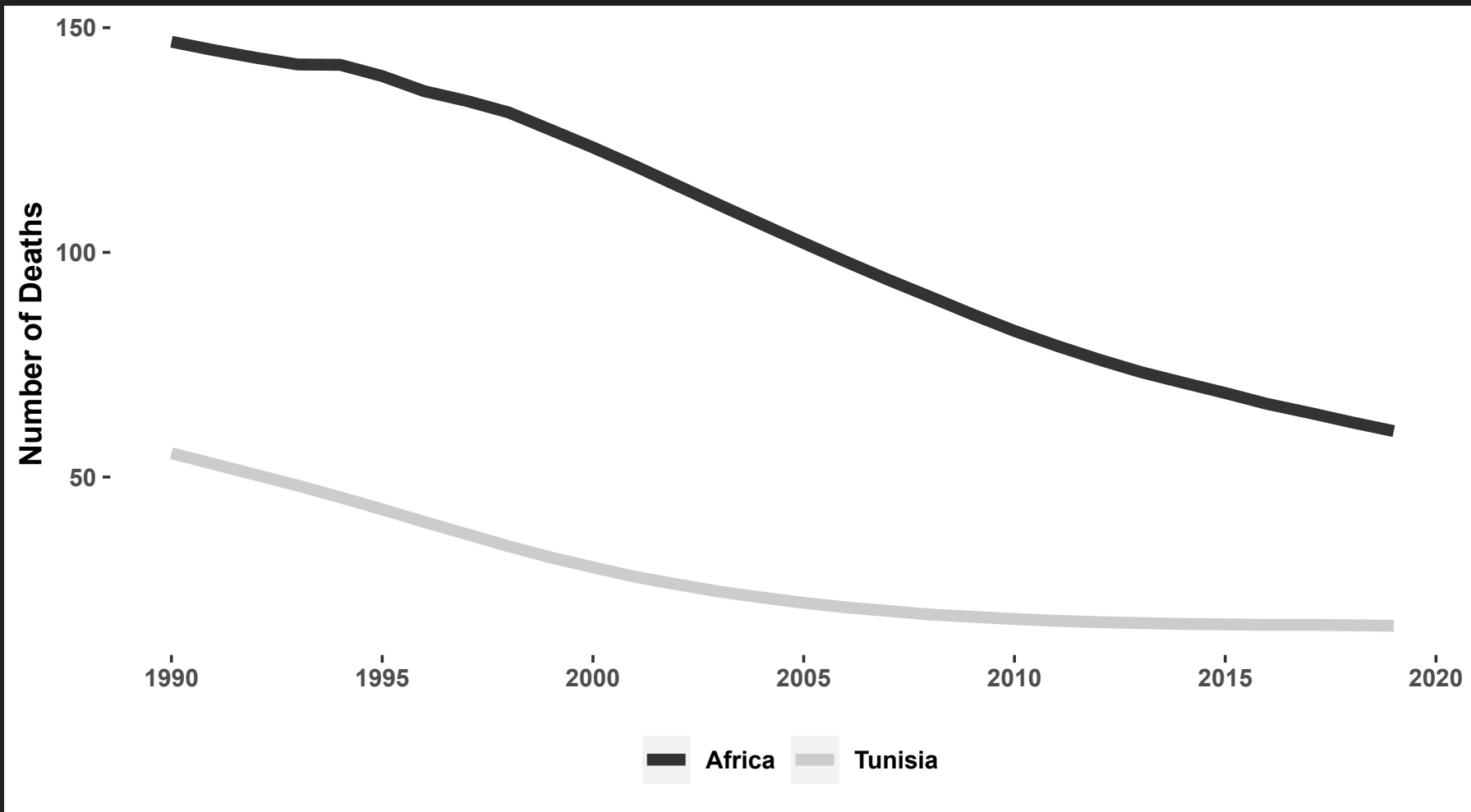
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The population growth rate in Tunisia has slowed down in recent years because the birth rate has been decreasing at a relatively rapid rate while the death rate has remained constant since 1990.

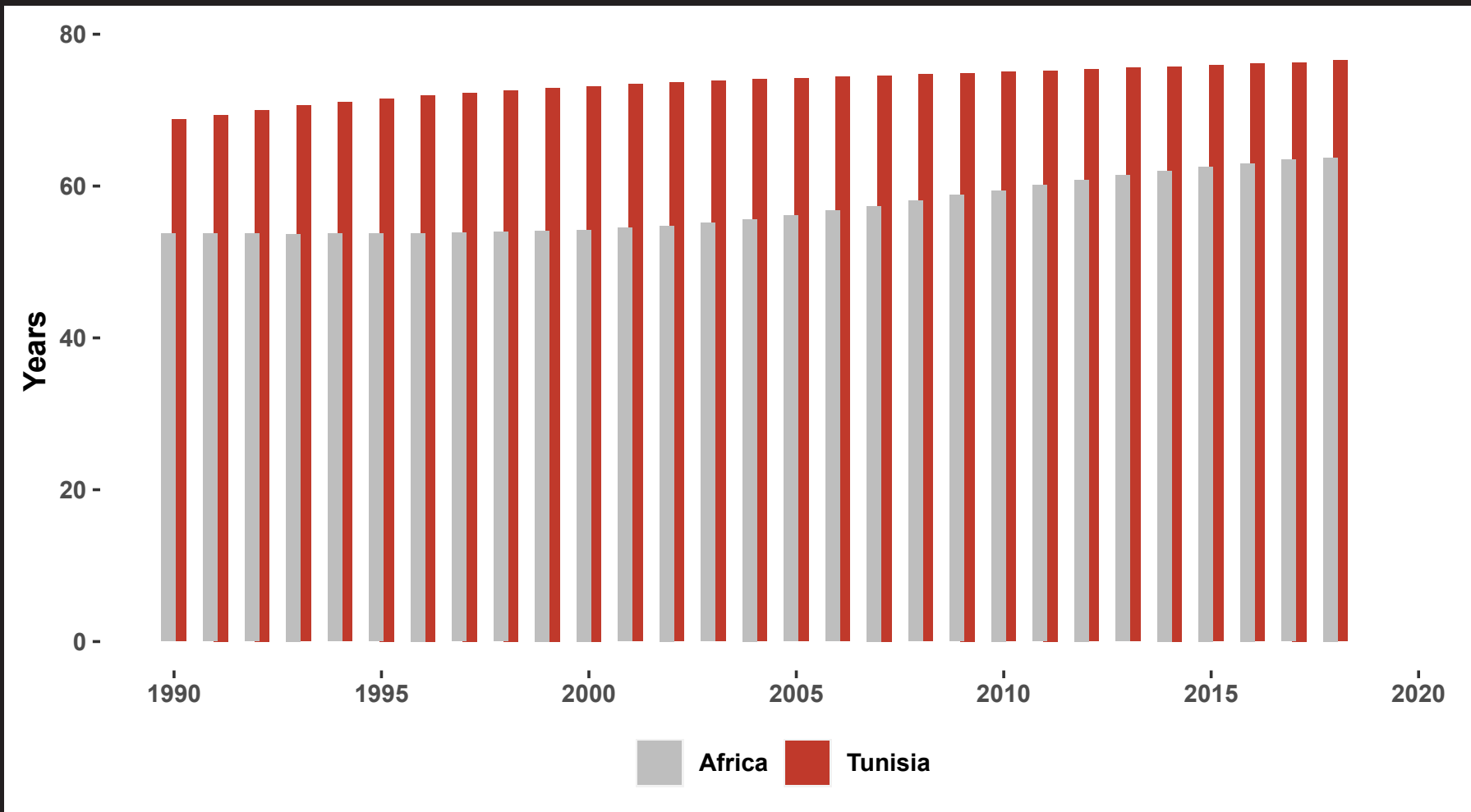
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



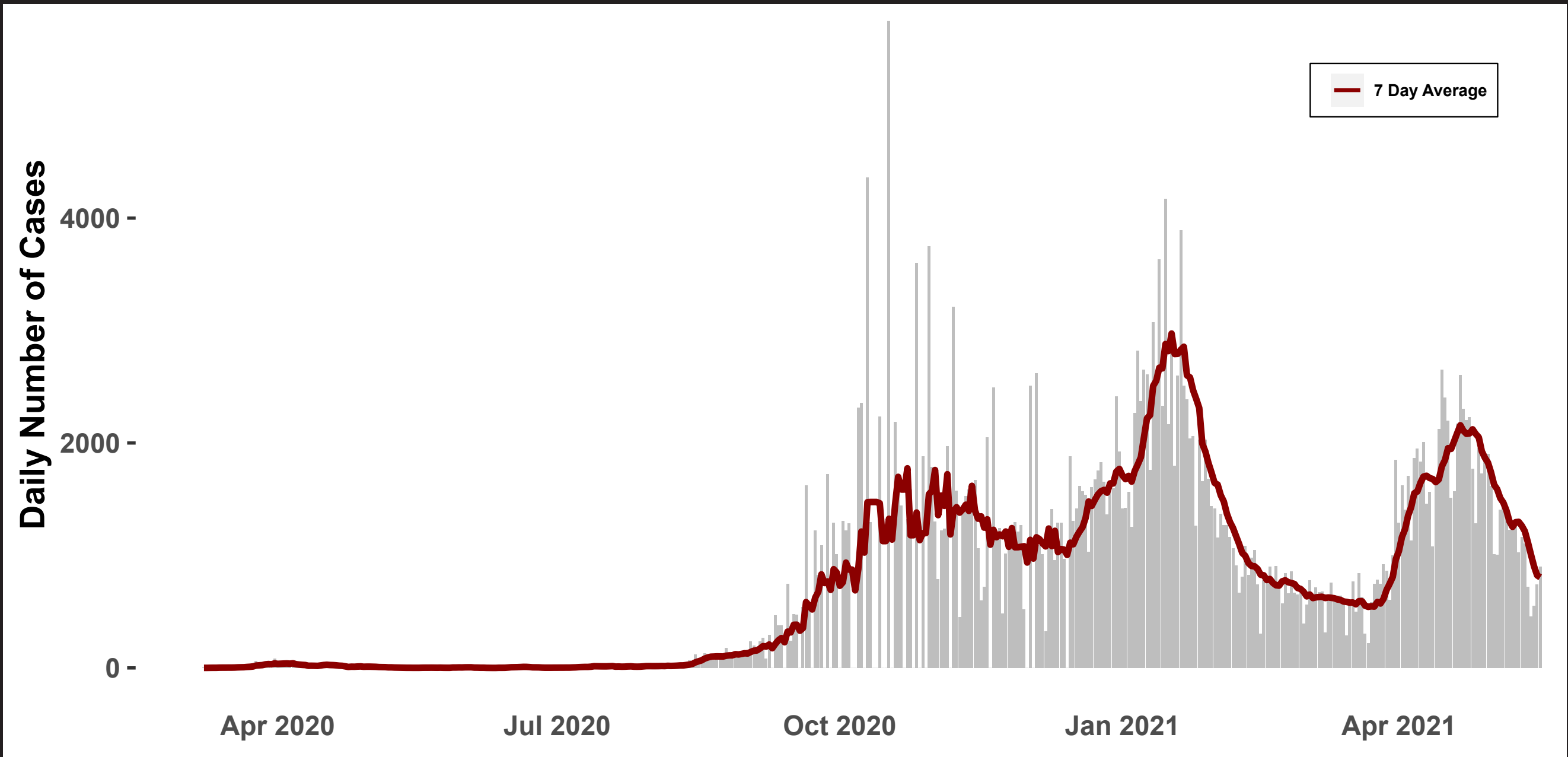
Tunisia has maintained one of the lowest child mortality rates in the continent for the past three decades.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Tunisia has maintained one of the highest life expectancies in the continent for the past three decades.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Tunisia has had one extended Covid-19 wave, which occurred between October 2020 and April 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Agnieszka Wolska



In the city of El Djem is one of the biggest amphitheatres in the world, with a seating capacity of approximately 35,000 people. The amphitheatre was built in about 238 AD, as part of the Roman empire.

Cornelis Cort



Hannibal, born in Carthage, an ancient Phoenician city in northern Tunisia, is widely considered to be one of the greatest military commanders to attack the Roman republic in Italy, by crossing the Alps with his North African war elephants.

Massimo Sanna on Pxabay.com



Tunisia has been the pick for many movie locations, most significantly, *Star Wars*.



UGANDA

Uganda is a landlocked country in east-central Africa, bordered by Kenya, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Tanzania. Uganda is in the African Great Lakes region, and also lies within the Nile basin. In 1894, Uganda became a protectorate of the British empire, and in 1962 the UK granted the country independence. The period since then has been marked by violent conflicts, including an eight-year-long military dictatorship led by Idi Amin. Although landlocked, Uganda contains many large lakes. Besides Lakes Victoria and Kyoga, there are Lake Albert, Lake Edward, and the smaller Lake George. Uganda is home to a vast number of species, including a population of mountain gorillas in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. The official currency is the Ugandan shilling.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?

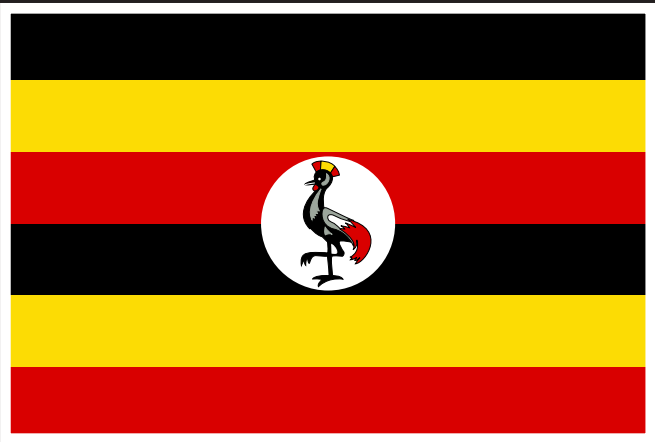


POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Yoweri Museveni

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Kampala

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

159

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

43



MAIN LANGUAGES

English and Swahili

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant-party presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

National Resistance Movement

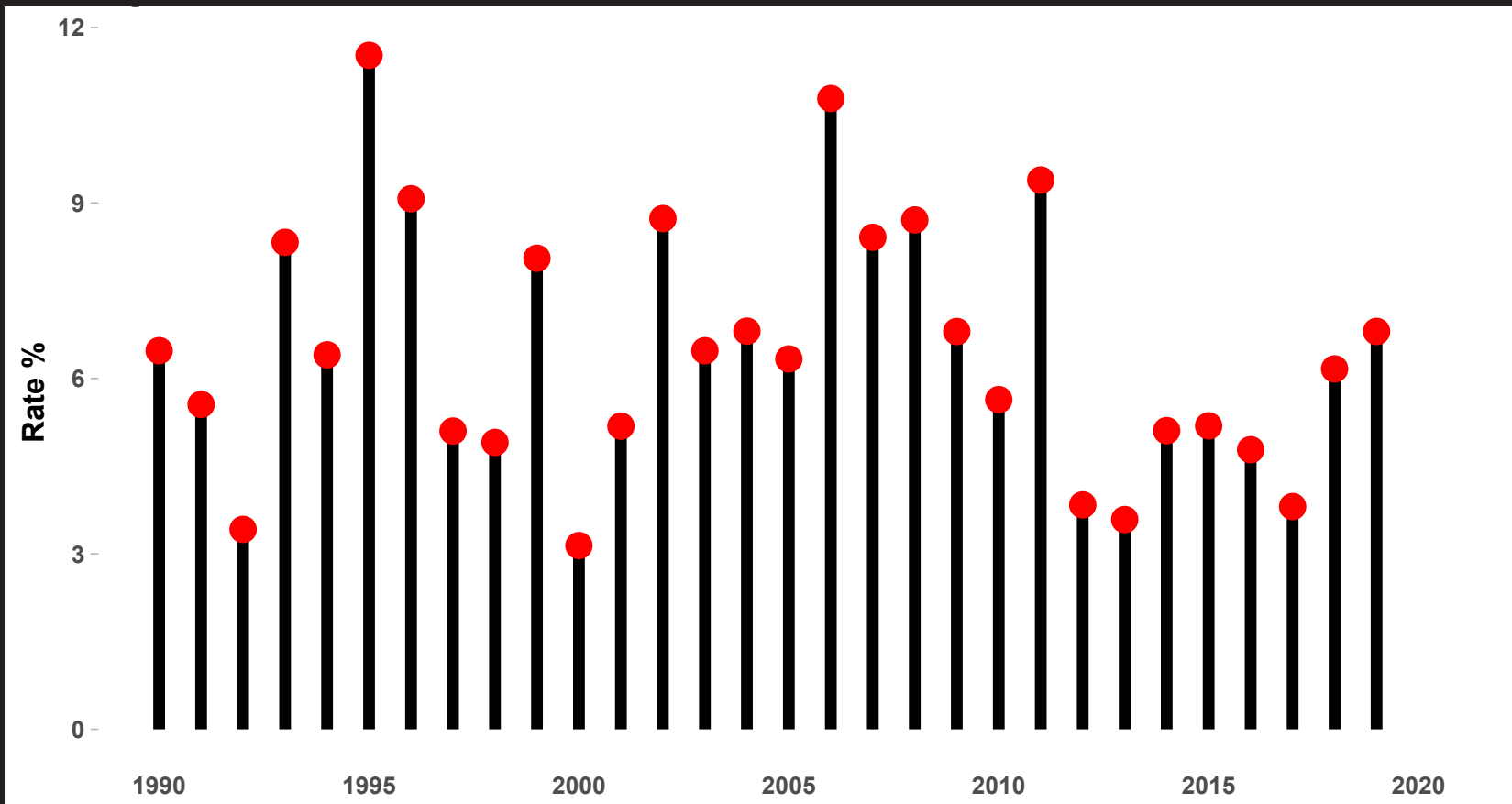


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

National Unity Platform

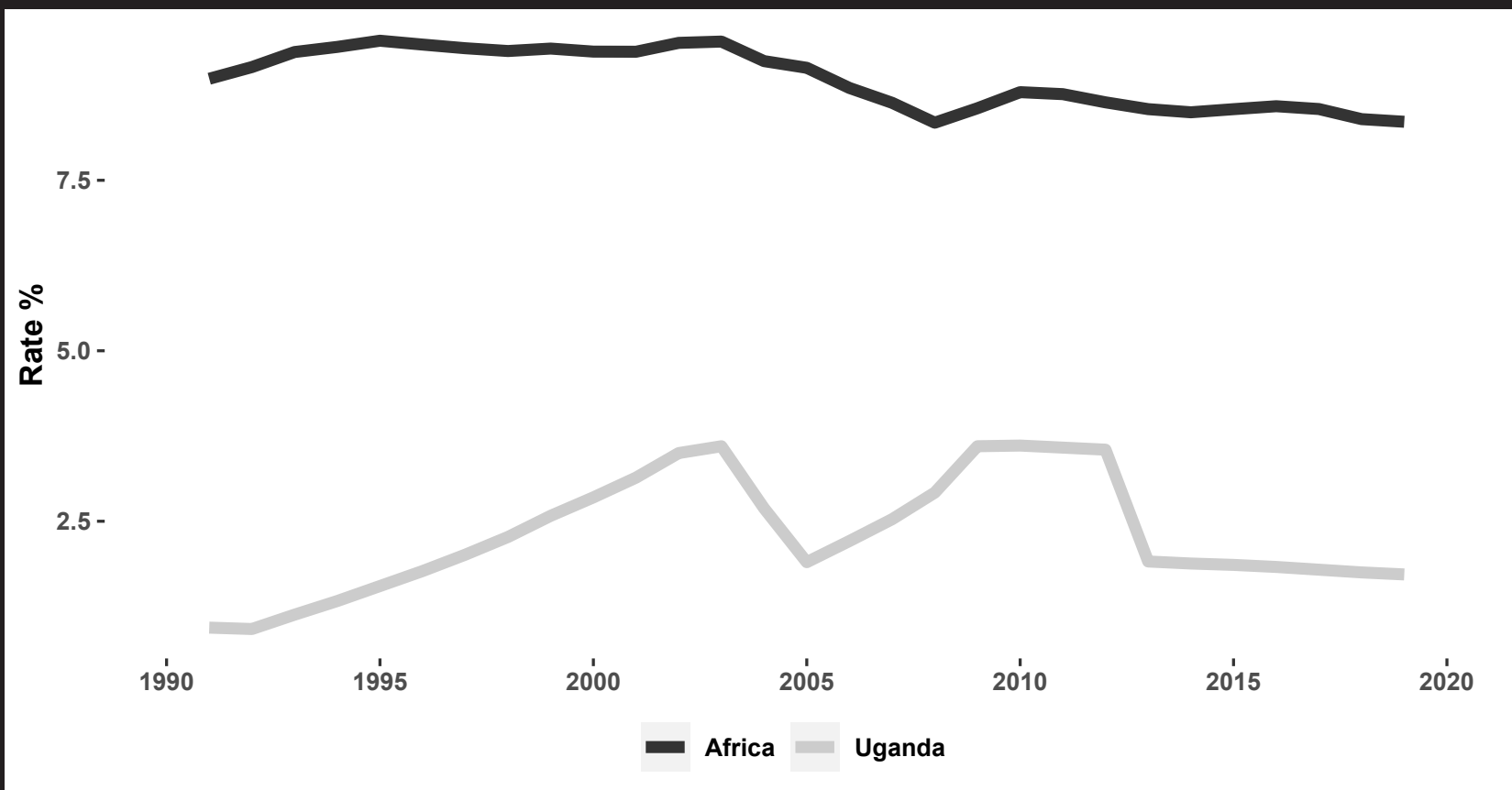
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



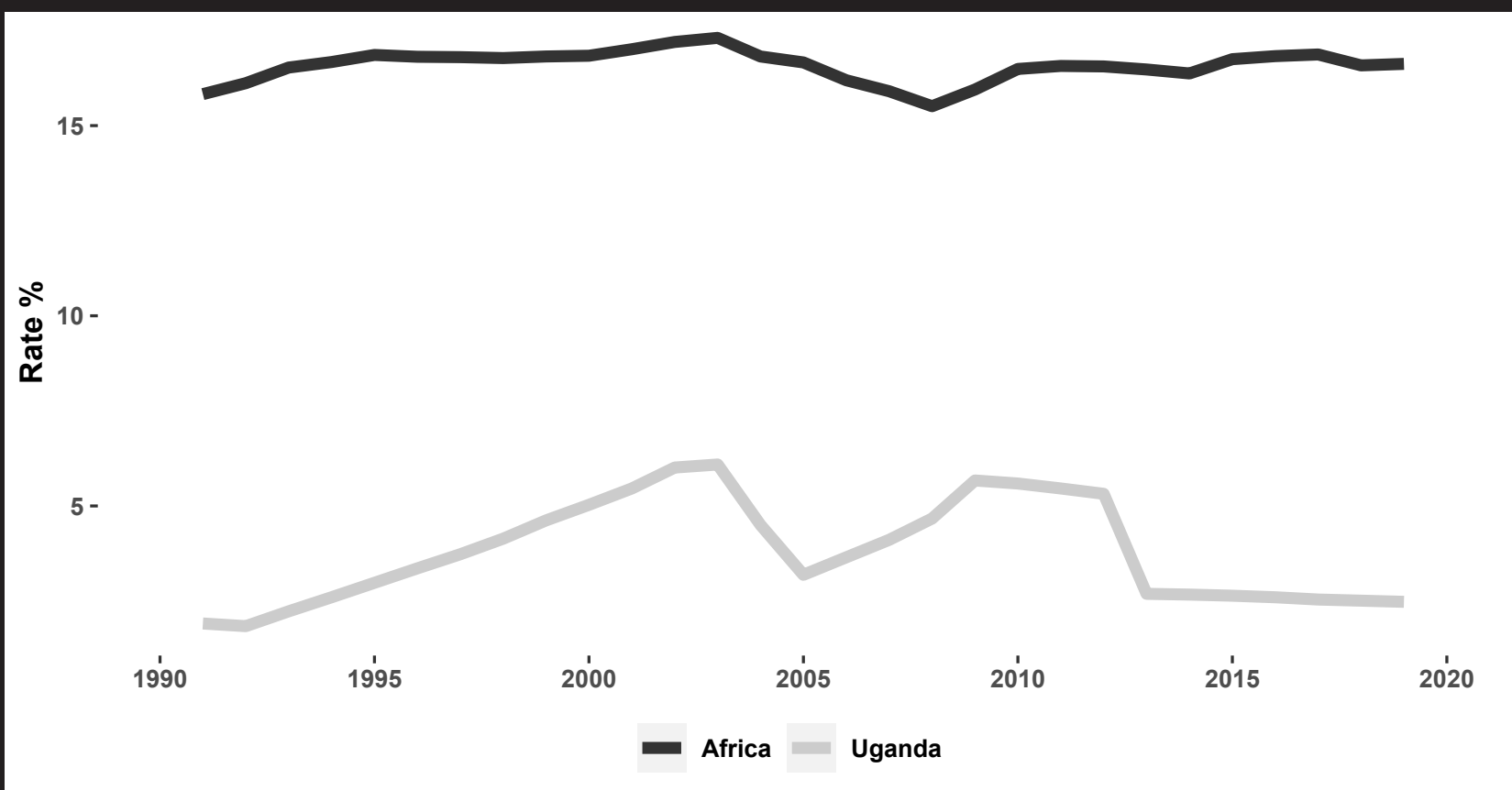
Uganda has experienced near constant economic expansion since 1990.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



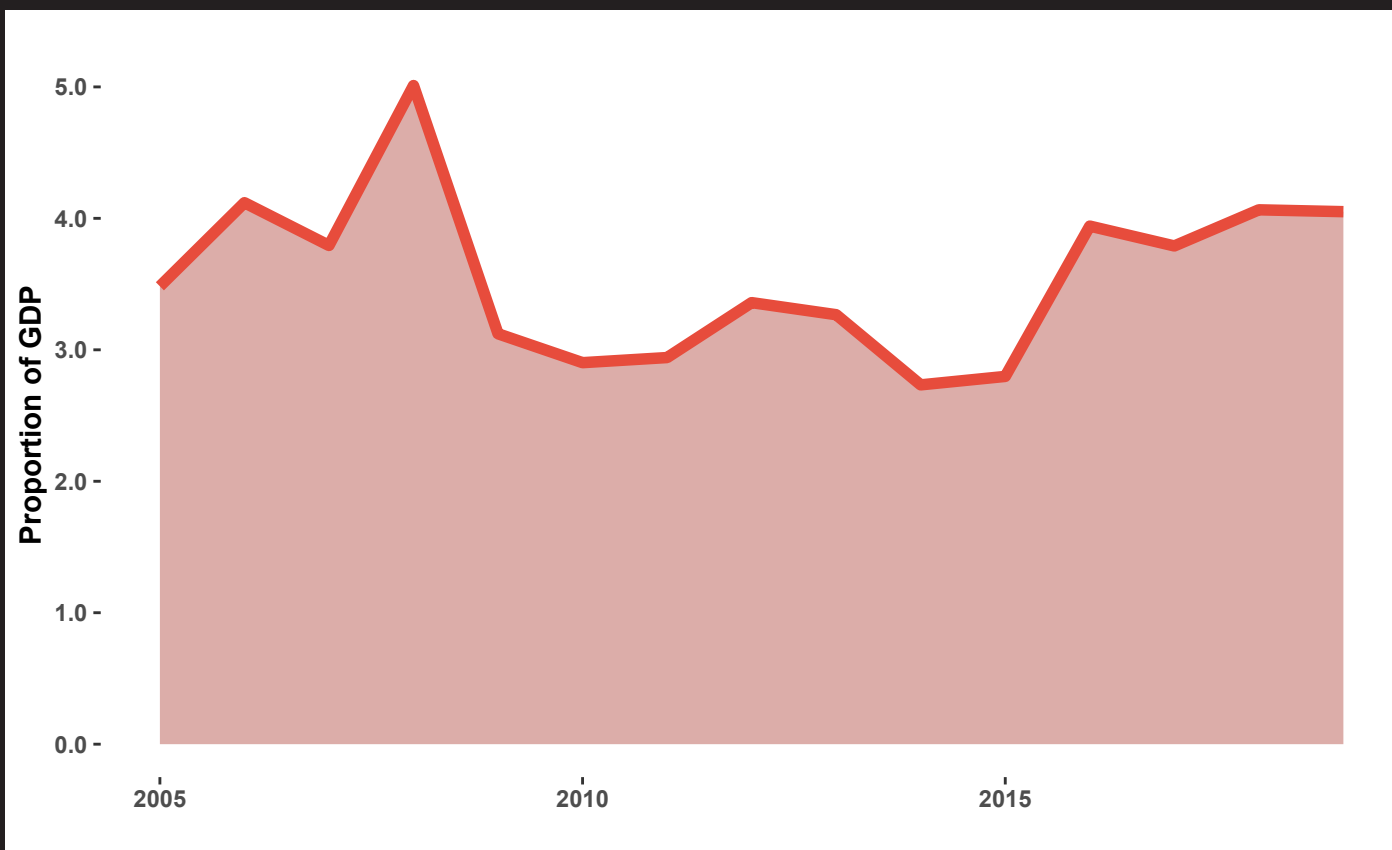
Uganda’s unemployment rate has consistently been lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Uganda’s youth unemployment rate has consistently been lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

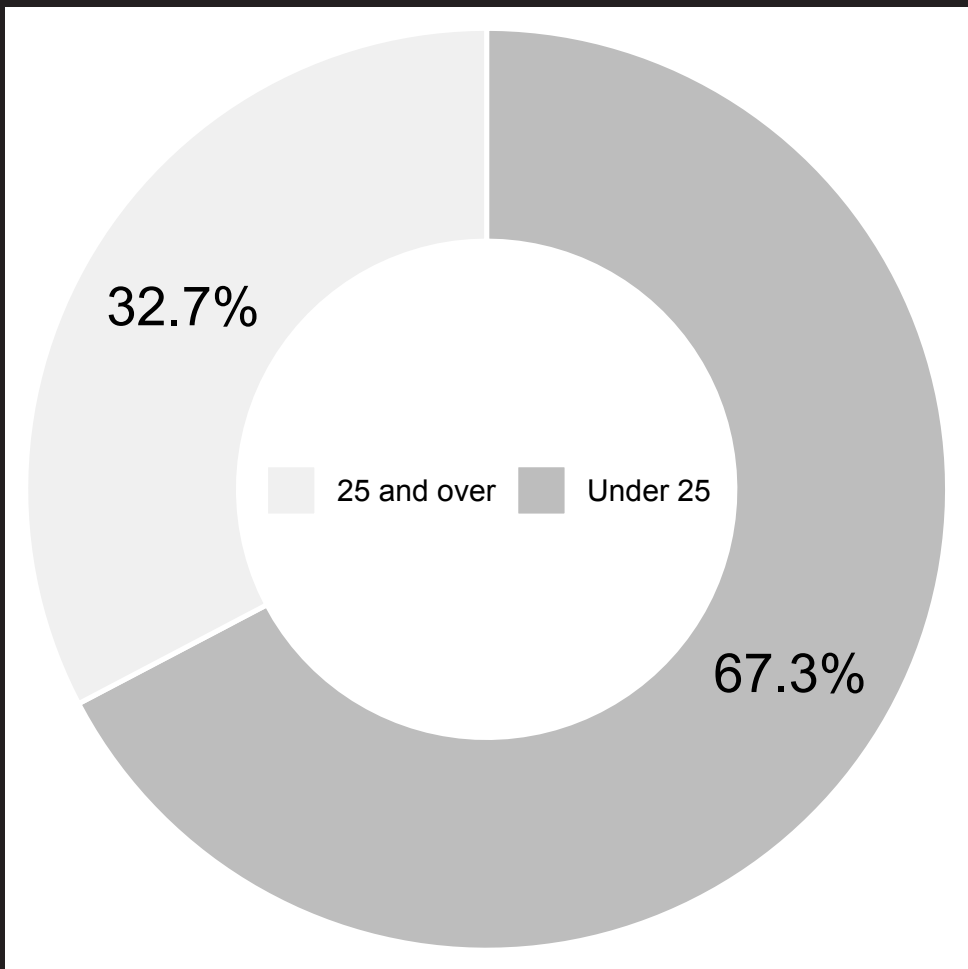
\$1.42 billion
which represents

4.05% of GDP

Since 2005 remittances received have generally constituted at least 3% of Uganda’s GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

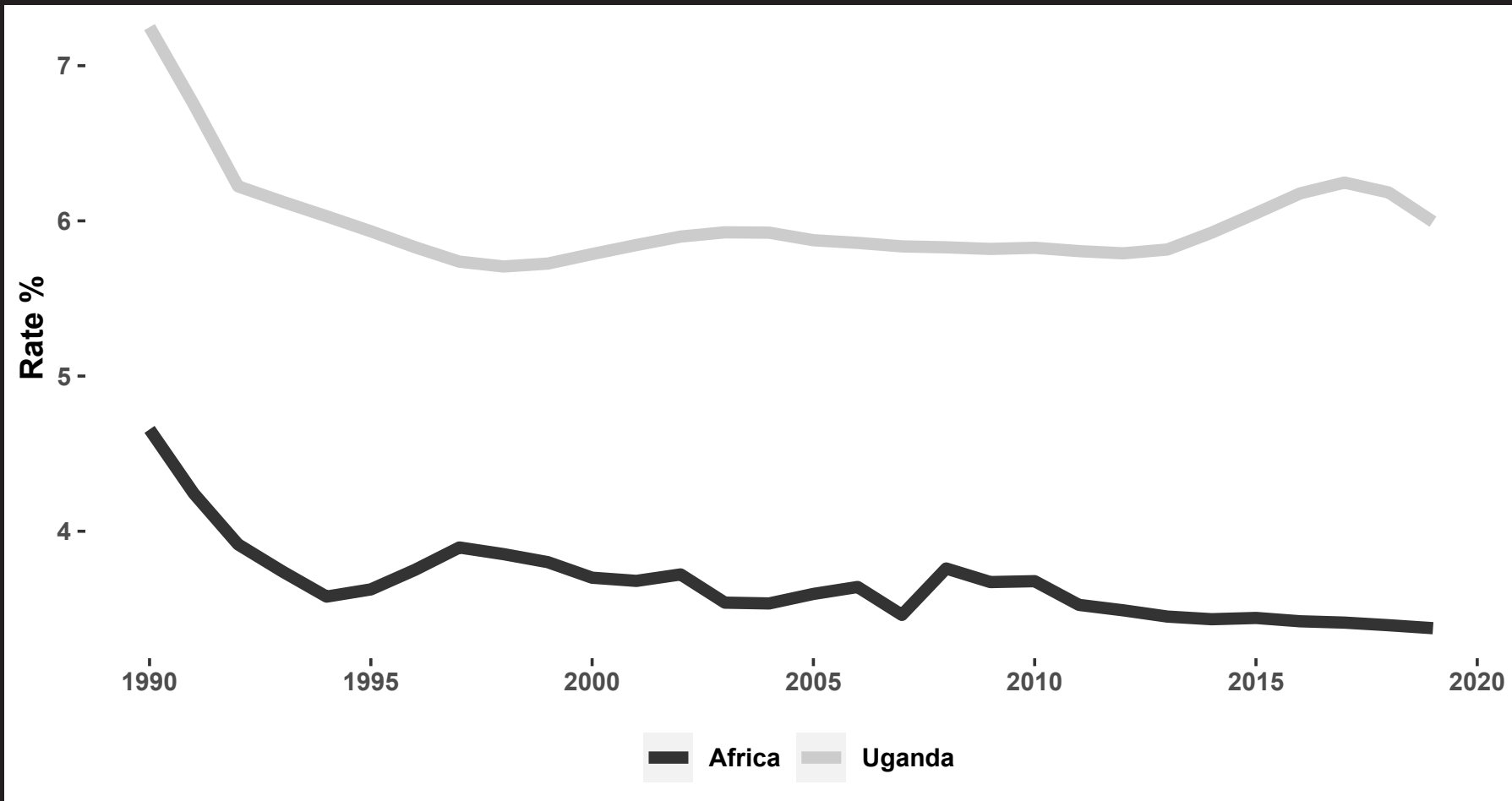
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



44.3 million

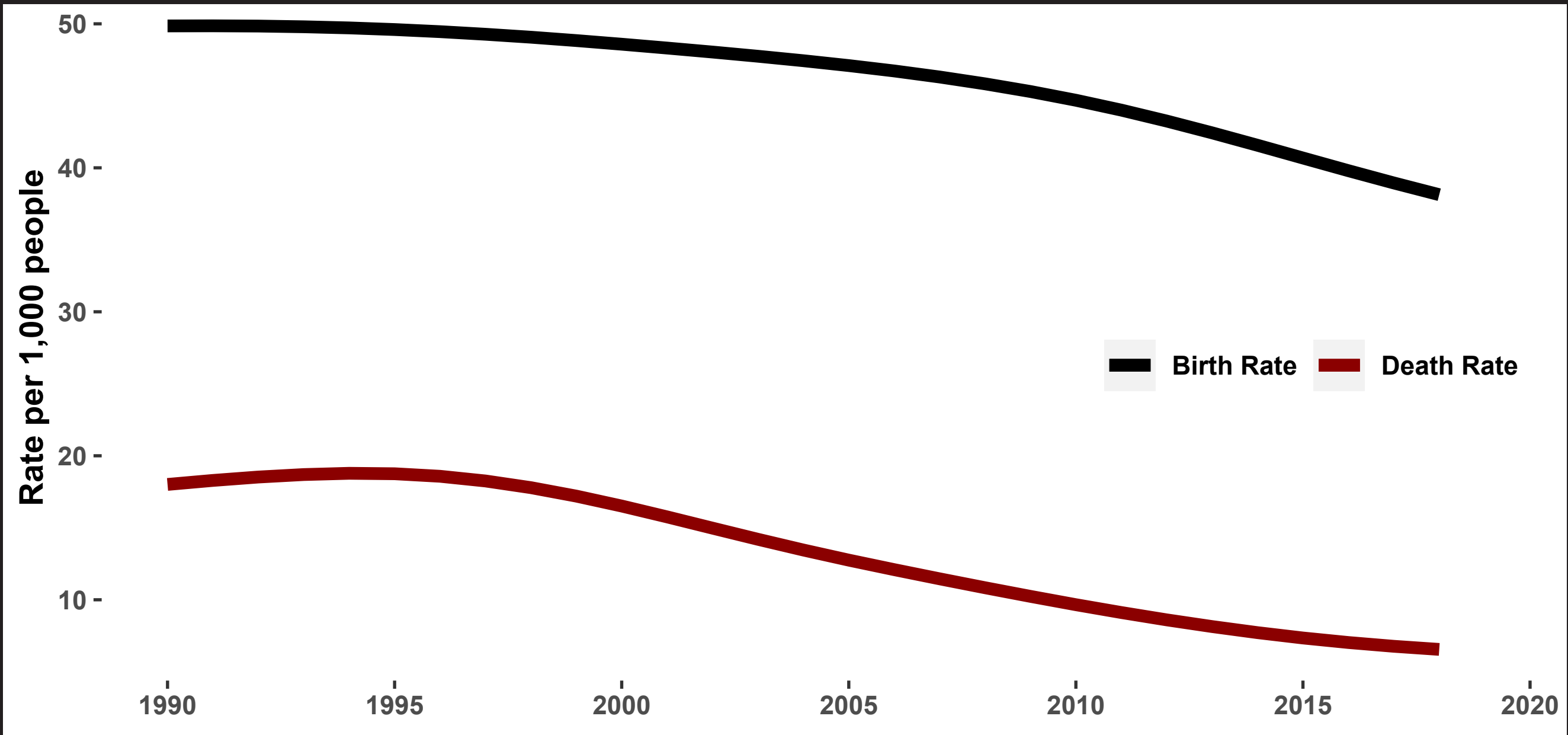
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Uganda’s population is under-25 years old. Uganda is one of five African countries where the under-25 population is more than double the over-25 population.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Uganda has generally urbanised at a faster rate than the continental average over the past 30 years.

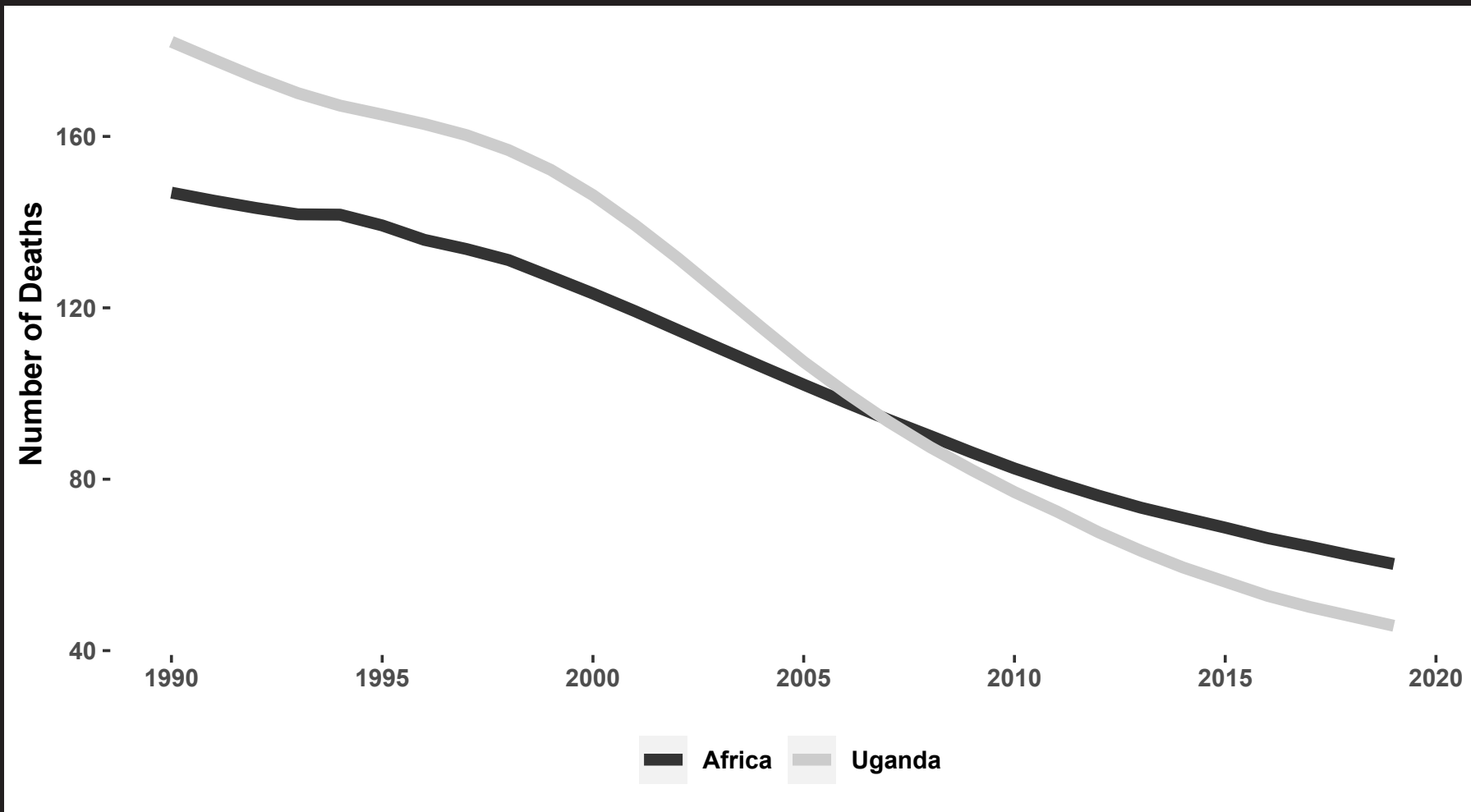
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Uganda has had relatively constant population growth due to a birth rate that is roughly thrice the death rate.

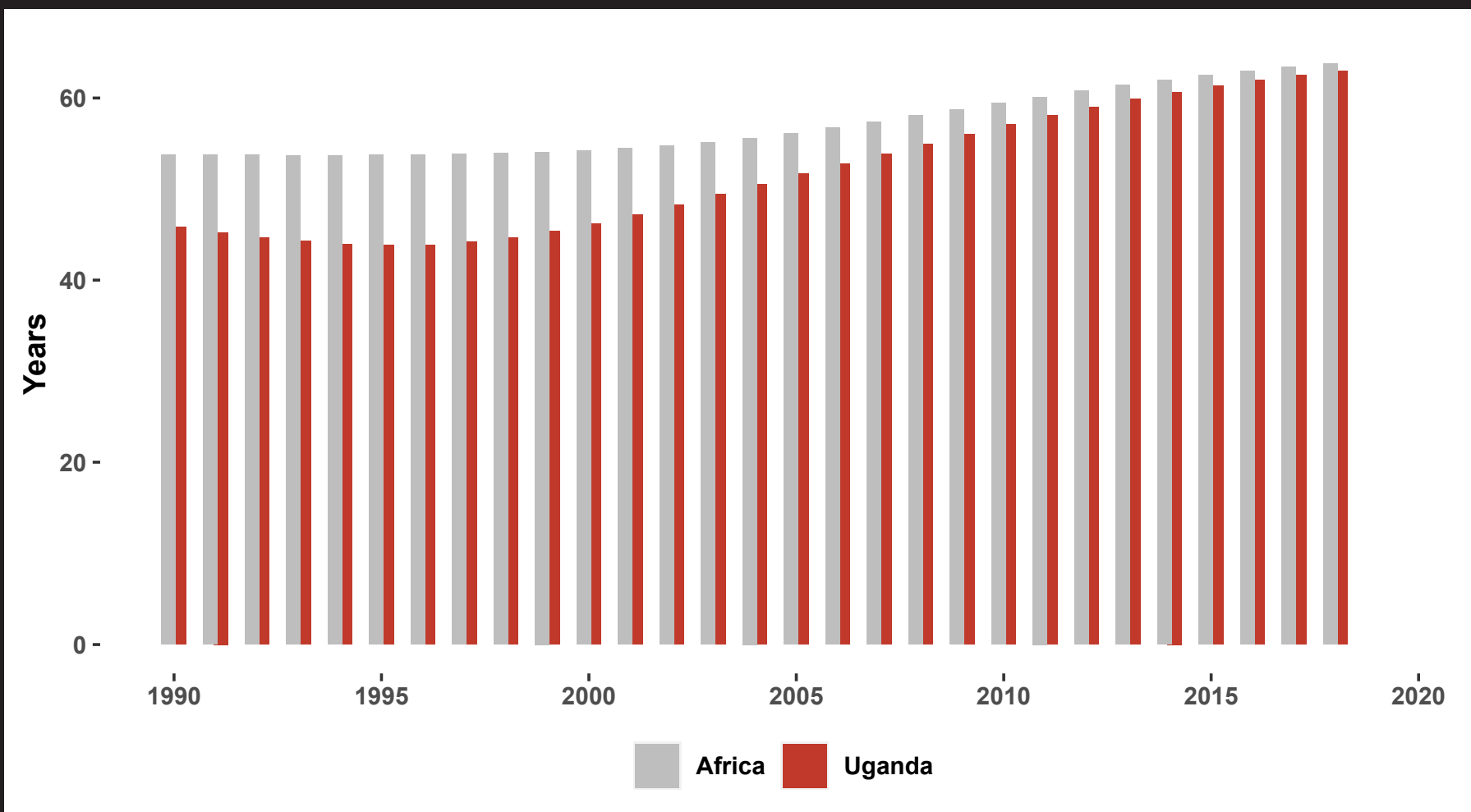
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



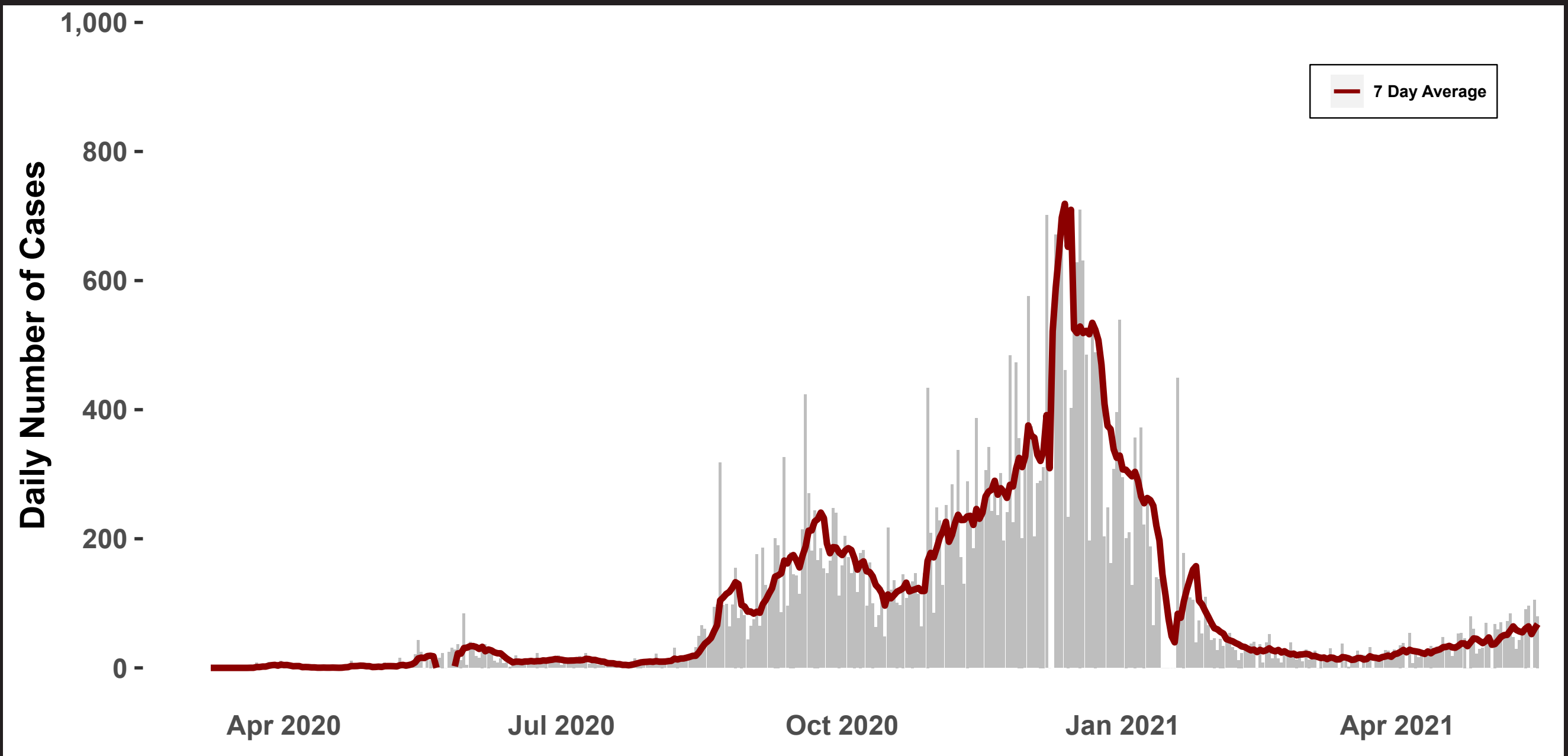
Child mortality in Uganda has declined at a faster rate when compared to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Between 1990 and 2000 life expectancy in Uganda remained relatively constant. However, since 2000, life expectancy in Uganda has increased at a faster rate than the continental average – although overall life expectancy still slightly lags behind the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Uganda has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred between October 2020 and January 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Nina R on Flickr.com



Uganda is one of the youngest countries in Africa. The largest age group (48%) consists of those who are 14 and under, making it the second most youthful country. Only 2% of Ugandans are over the age of 65.

Petnah Africa Tours & Travel



Measuring in at 2.43 m high and 2.5 m wide, a chapel on Biku hill has just enough room inside for three churchgoers, including the pastor.

Franzoni250



Fried grasshoppers are a delicacy in Uganda.

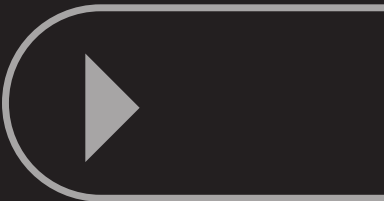
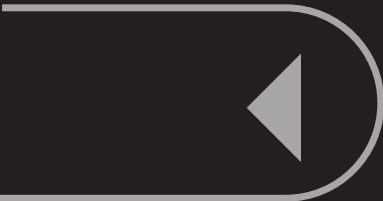


WESTERN SAHARA

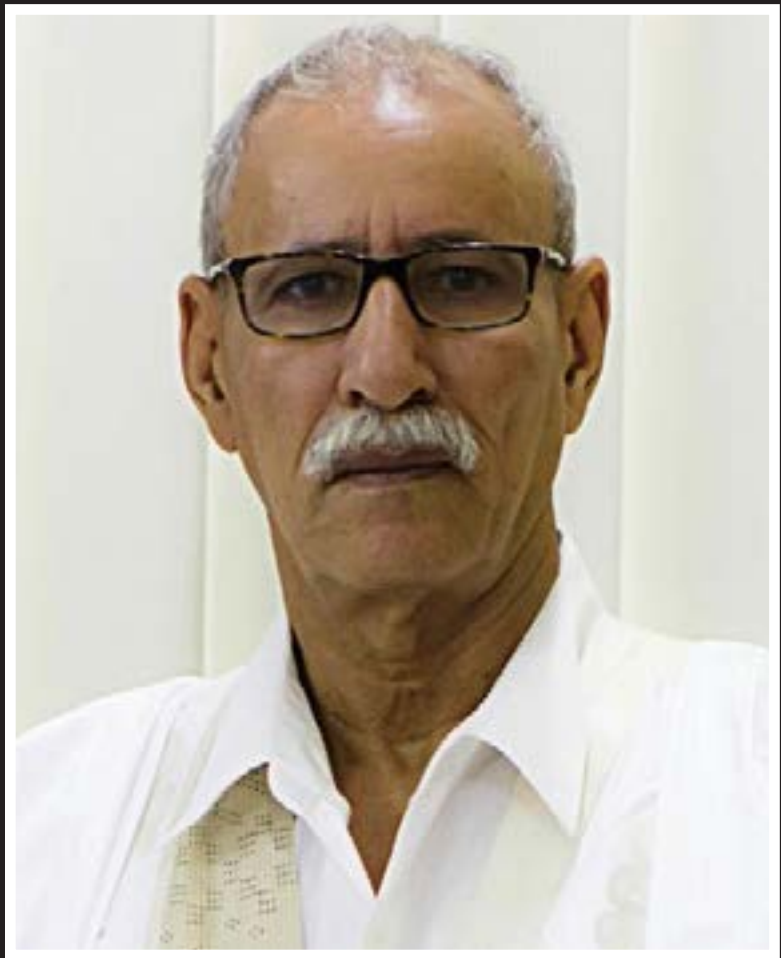
Western Sahara is a disputed territory on the north-west coast and in the Maghreb region of North and West Africa. About 20% of the territory is controlled by the self-proclaimed Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, while the remaining 80% of the territory is occupied and administered by neighbouring Morocco. Occupied by Spain until 1975, Western Sahara has been on the United Nations list of non-self-governing territories since 1963. It is one of the most sparsely populated territories in the world, mainly consisting of desert flatlands. The population is estimated at just over 500,000, of which nearly 40% live in Laâyoune, the largest city in Western Sahara. Aside from its rich fishing waters and phosphate reserves, Western Sahara has few natural resources and lacks sufficient rainfall and freshwater resources for most agricultural activities.

GOVERNMENT

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Brahim Ghali

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Laâyoune

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

n/a

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

4



MAIN LANGUAGES

Hassaniya Arabic, Spanish, Berber and French

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary one-party semi-presidential republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Sahrawi National Council



RULING POLITICAL PARTY
Polisario Front

DID YOU KNOW?

16:9clue on Flickr.com



The Sahara Desert spans some 8,600,000 km². However, this changes over time because the actual area of the desert expands and contracts with the seasons.

Cattan2011 on Flickr.com



Around 2.5 million people also call the Sahara home, most of whom have Berber or Arabic roots. They either live in permanent settlements near water sources or have a nomadic lifestyle, travelling with herds of sheep, goats or camels.

Alexandre Roux on Flickr.com



Alongside camels and goats, desert species include cheetah, gazelle, ostrich, Fennec fox and the monitor lizard. More deadly creatures include the deathstalker scorpion and the extremely venomous sand viper.



ZAMBIA

Zambia is a landlocked country sitting on a high plateau in south-central Africa, at the crossroads of central, southern and East Africa. It is bordered by the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and Angola. Originally inhabited by Khoisan peoples, the territory of what is now Zambia, after being colonised by the British, was known as Northern Rhodesia from 1911. It was renamed Zambia at independence from the UK in 1964. Zambia takes its name from the Zambezi River, which drains all but a small northern part of the country. Much of population is concentrated in the country's most developed area – known as the Line of Rail – which is served by the railway linking the Copperbelt with Lusaka, the capital, and with the border town of Livingstone. The official currency is the Zambian kwacha.

GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Edgar Lungu

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Lusaka

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

146

*HDR data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

70



MAIN LANGUAGES

English, Bemba, Nyanja and Tonga

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary presidential constitutional republic



RULING POLITICAL PARTY

Patriotic Front

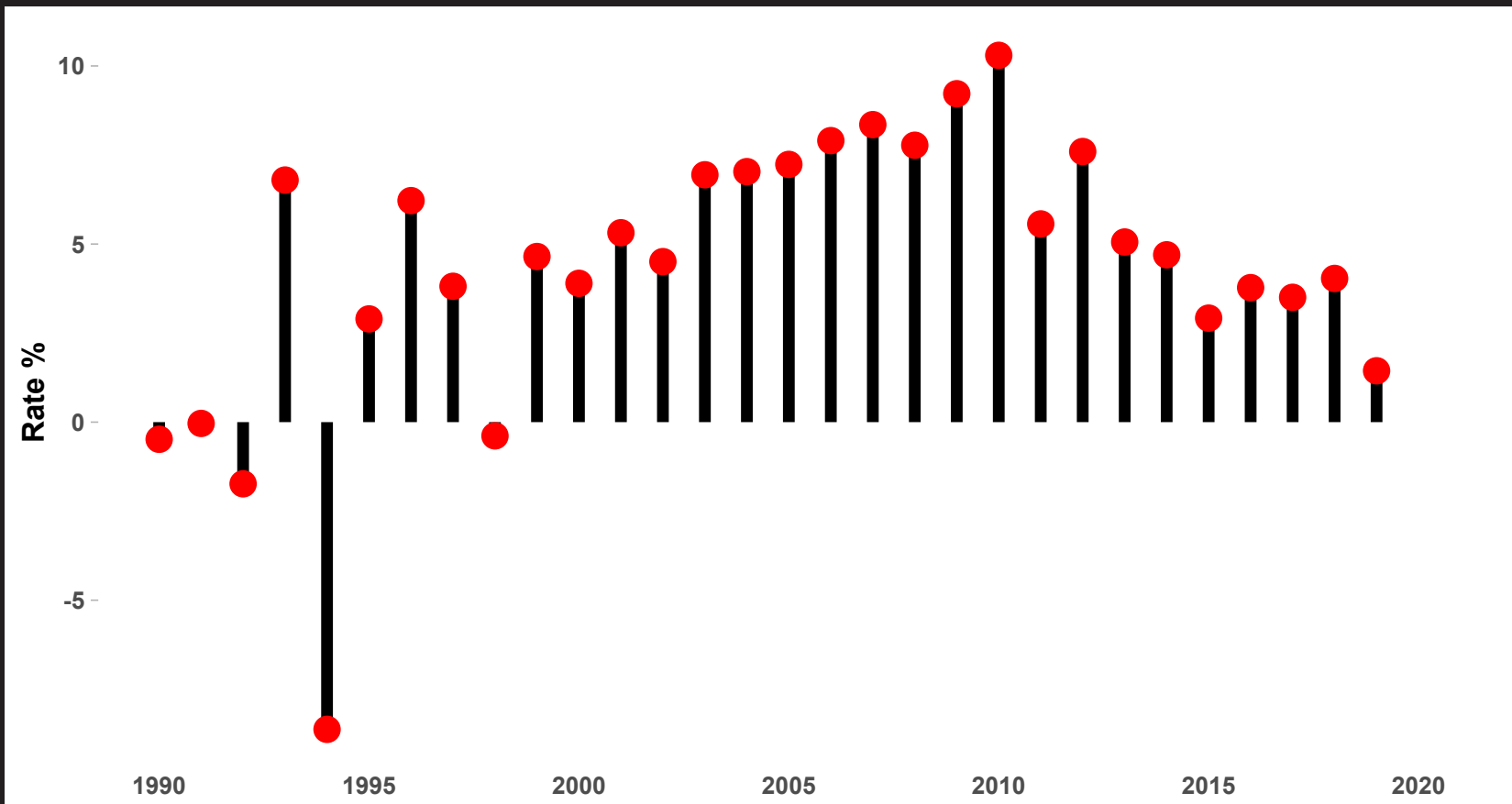


BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY

United Party for National Development

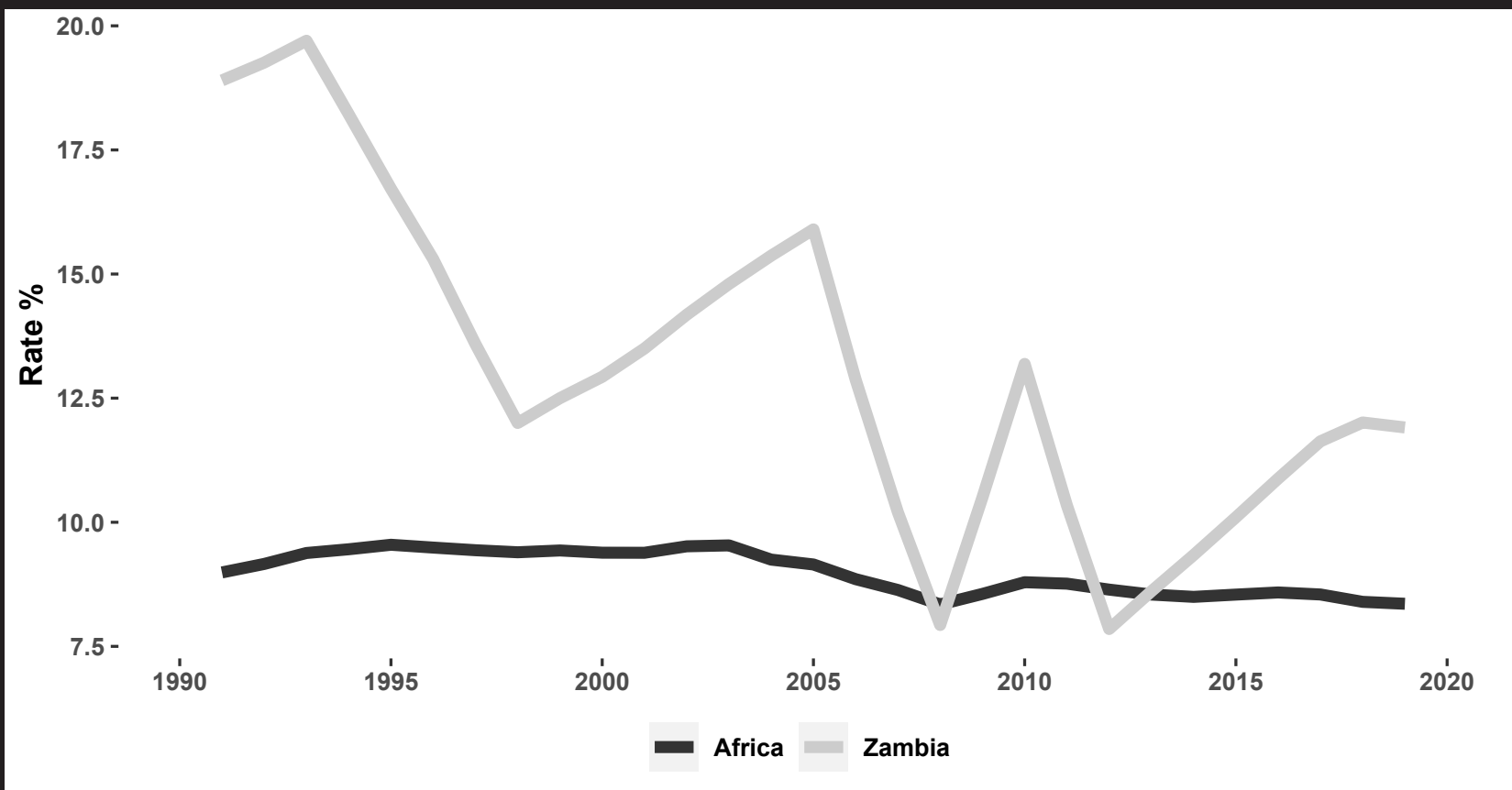
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



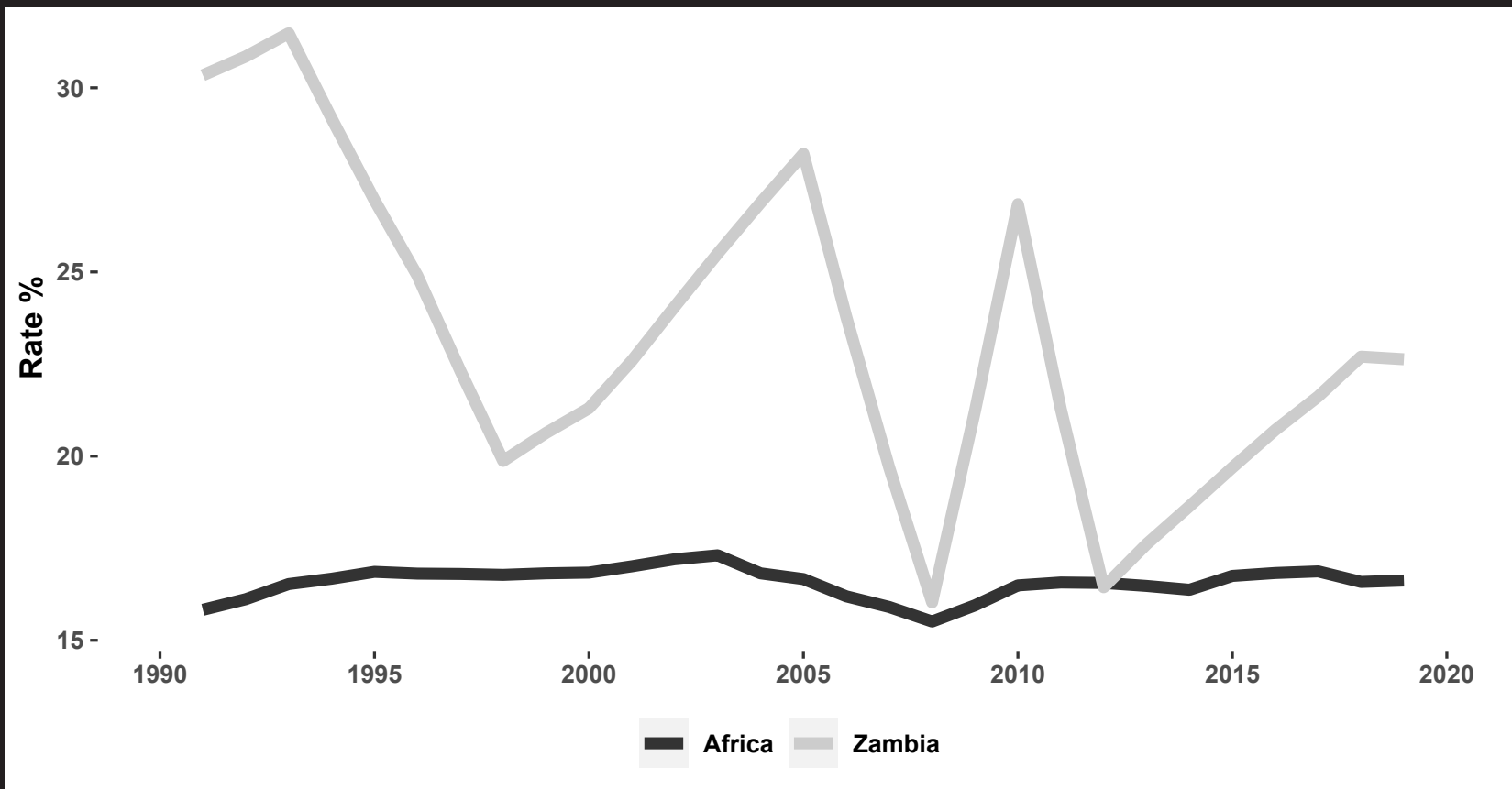
After experiencing erratic economic growth throughout much of the 1990s, Zambia has seen continuous economic expansion from 1999.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



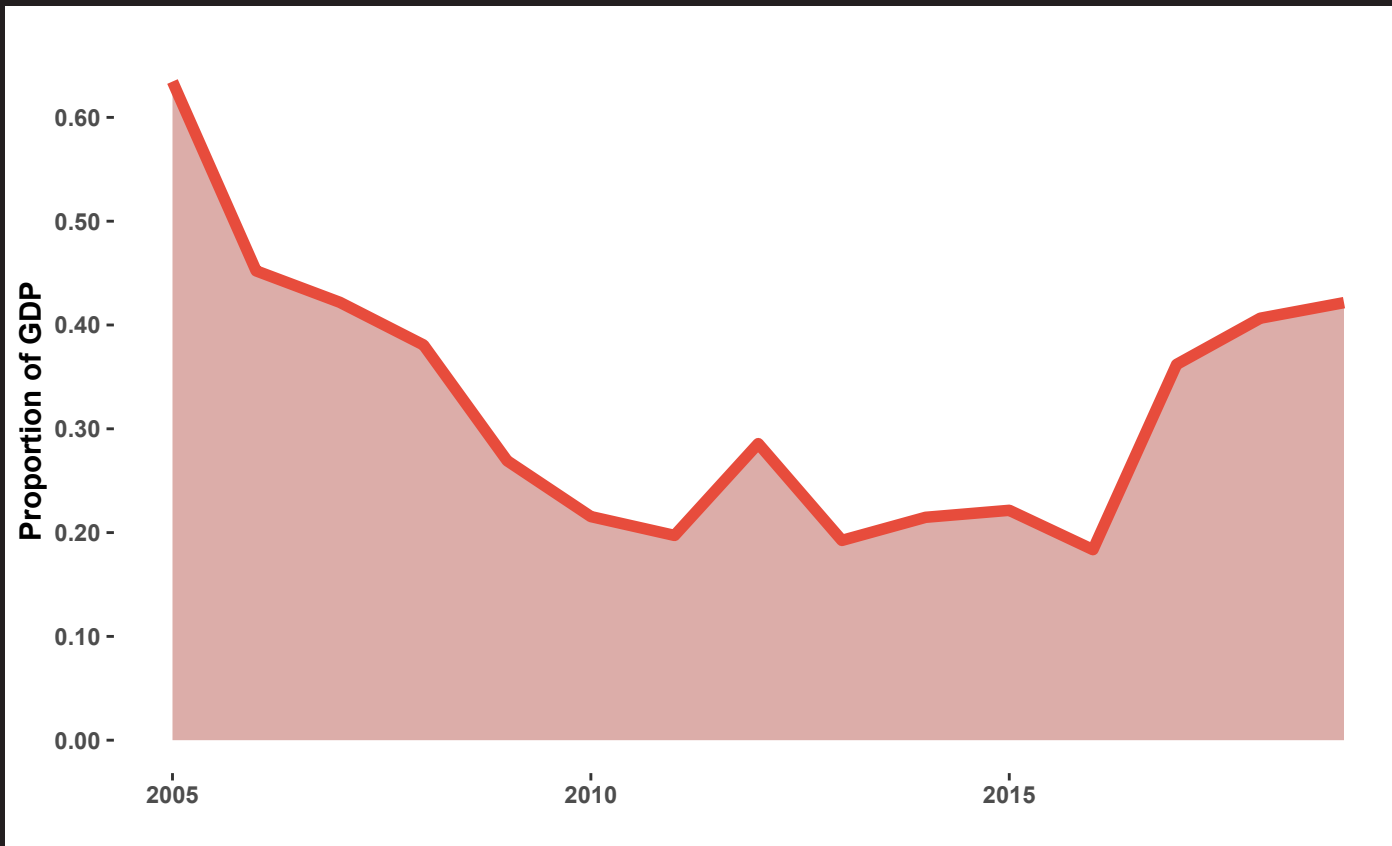
Zambia has had an extremely volatile unemployment rate over the past three decades.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Zambia has had an extremely volatile youth unemployment rate over the past three decades.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$98.3 million

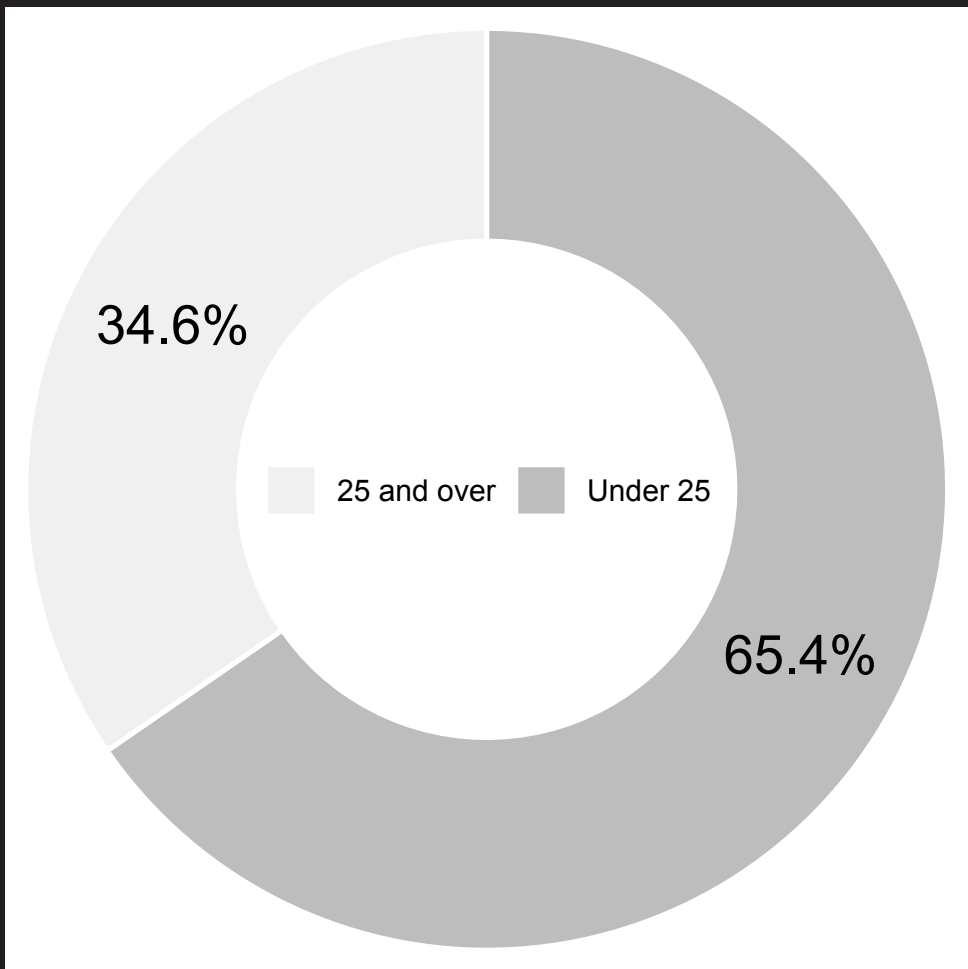
which represents

0.42% of GDP

Zambia is one of the African countries which is least reliant on remittances.

DEMOGRAPHICS

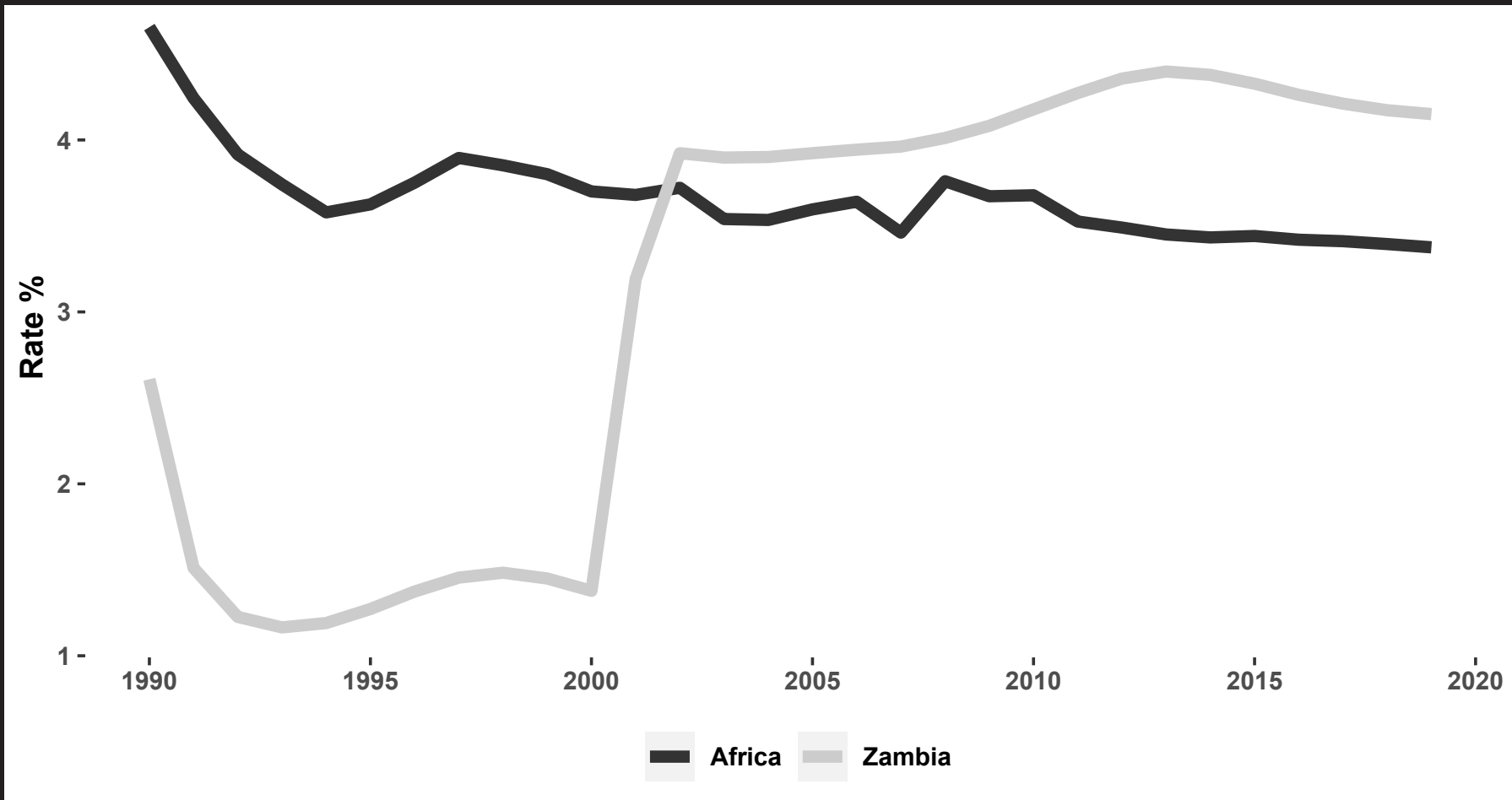
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



17.9 million

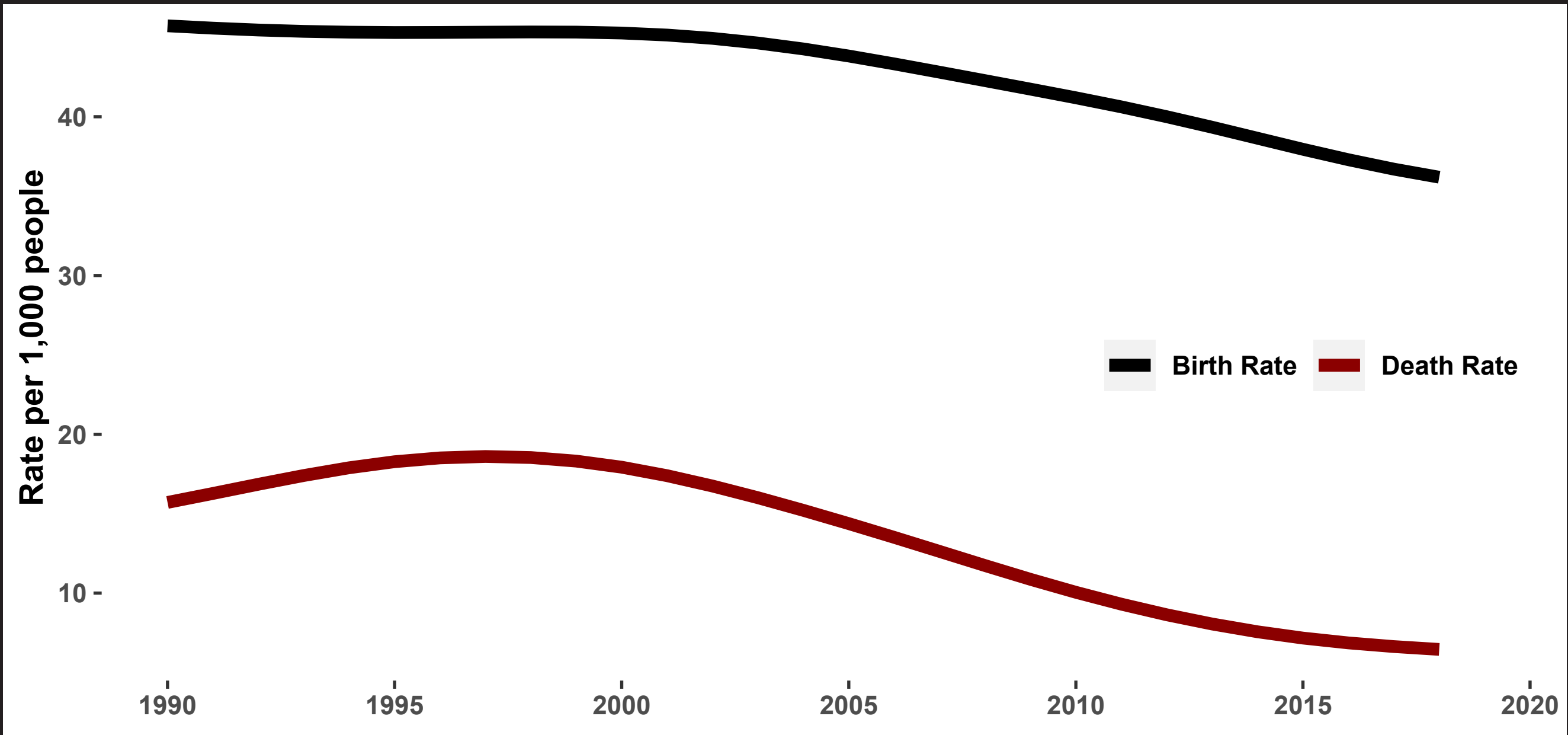
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Zambia’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Between 1990 and 2000 Zambia was urbanising at a much slower rate than the continental average. However, since 2000 Zambia has urbanised at a slightly faster rate than the continental average.

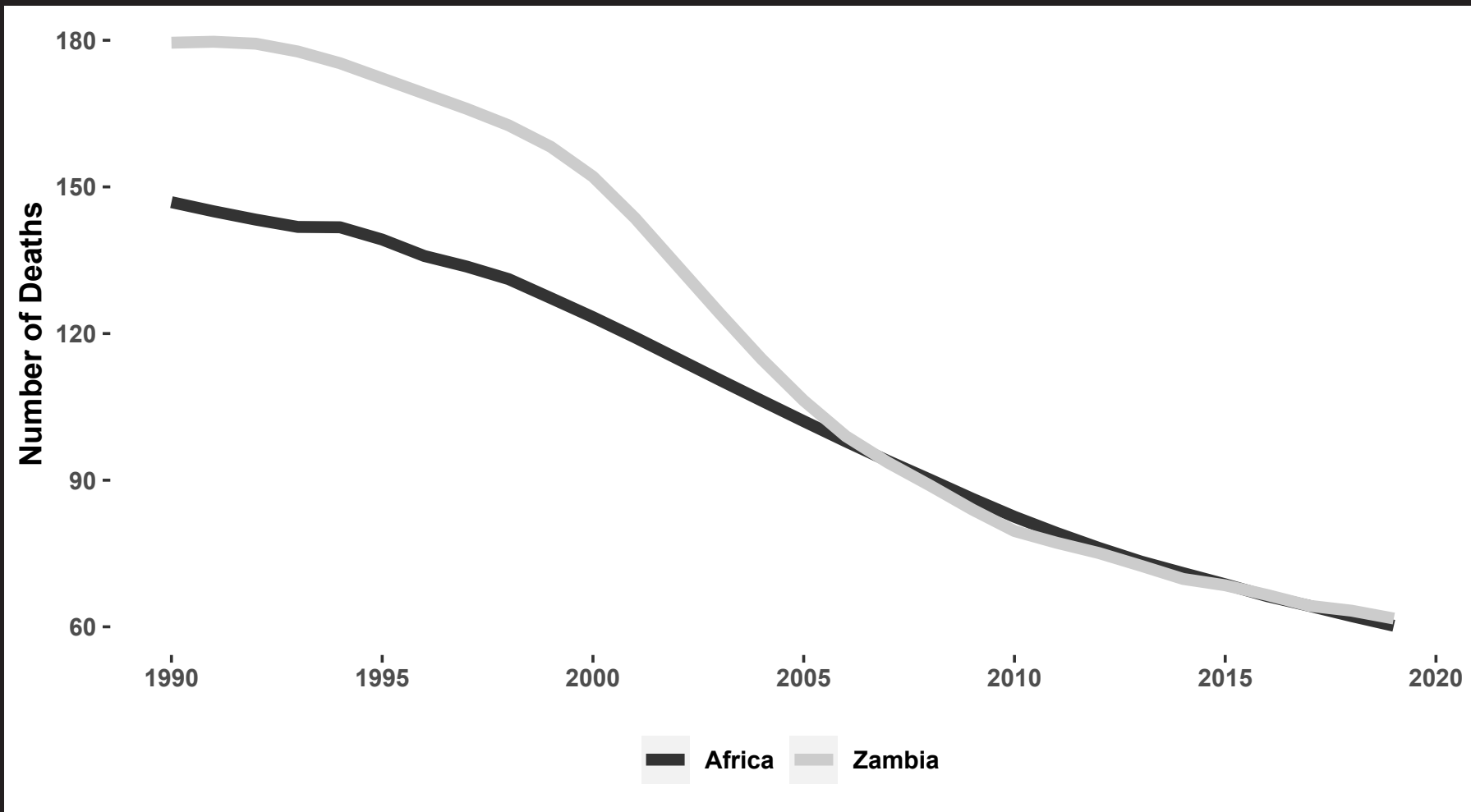
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



Zambia has had a relatively constant population growth due to a birth rate that is roughly twice the death rate.

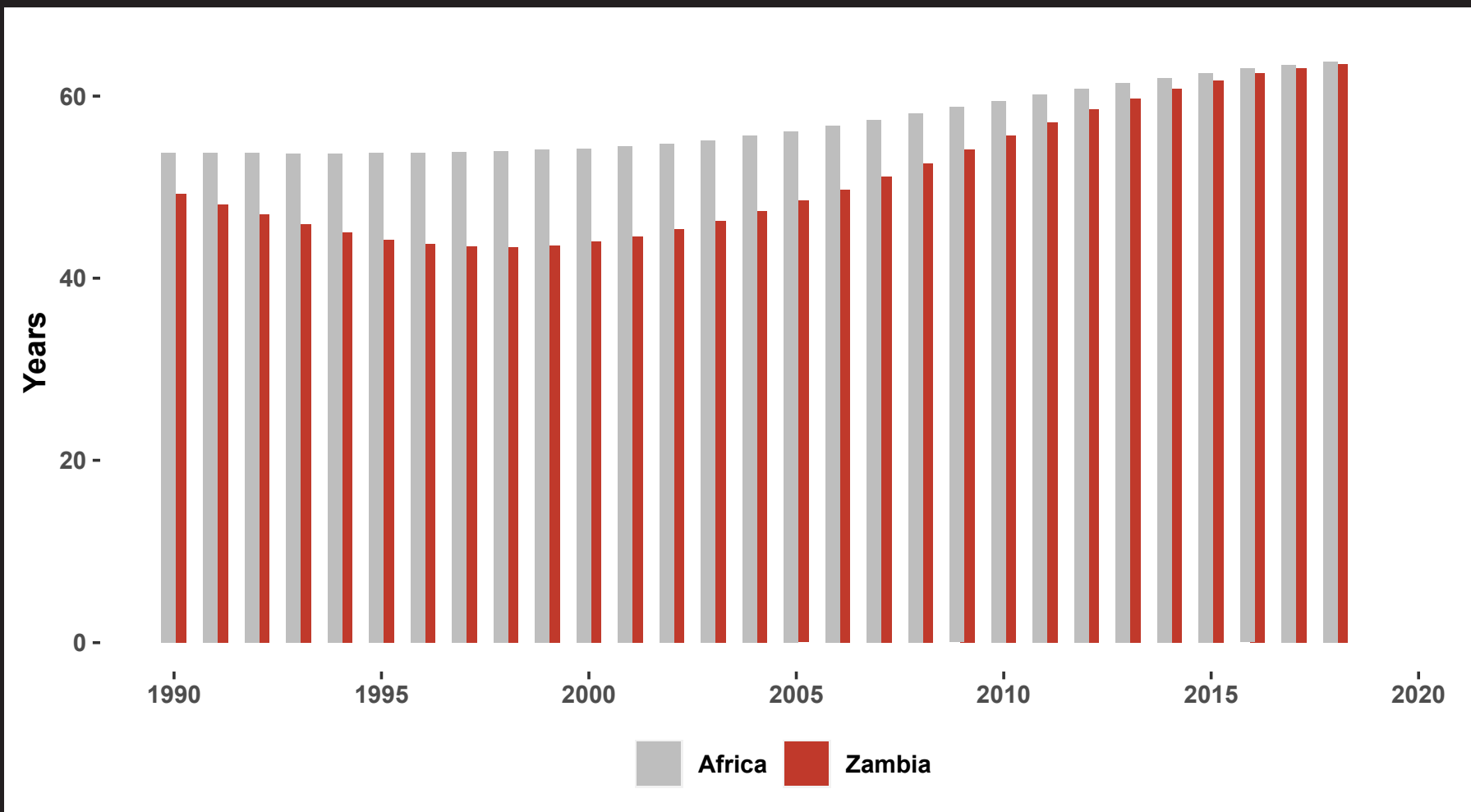
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



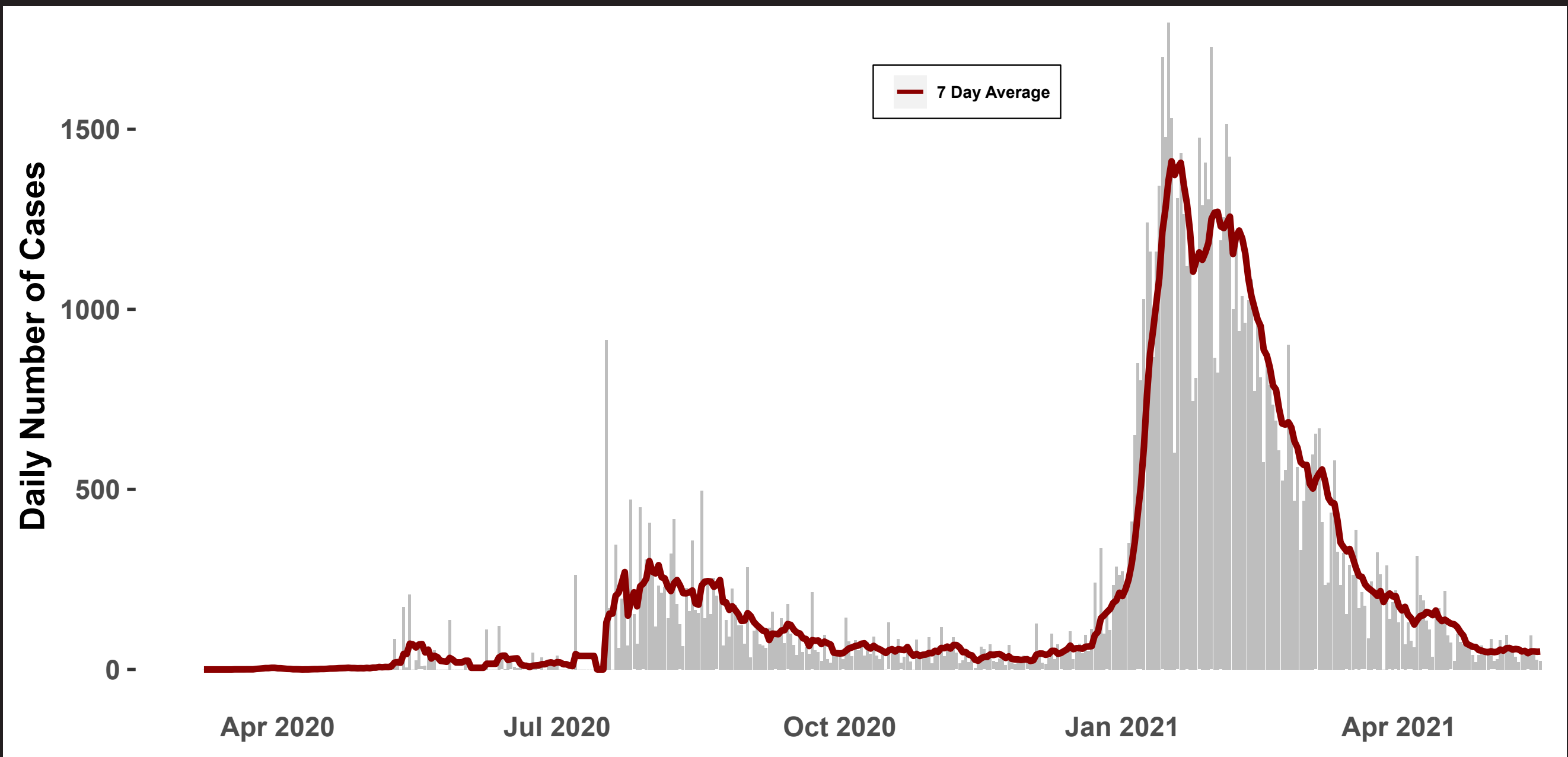
Between 1990 and 2005 child mortality in Zambia declined at a faster rate than the continental average. Since 2005, child mortality in Zambia has continued to decline but at a rate that tracks very closely to the continental average.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Between 1990 and 2005 life expectancy in Zambia remained relatively constant. However, since 2005, life expectancy in Zambia has increased at a faster rate than the continental average – although overall life expectancy still slightly lags behind the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Zambia has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred between January and March 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Meraj Chhaya on Flickr.com



Explorer David Livingstone was the first European to see the magnificent waterfalls on the Zambezi River in 1855, naming them the Victoria Falls. He described them thus:
“Scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight”.

Lars Plougmann on Flickr.com



Termite hills in Zambia can grow as big as a small house.

Photosmith2011 on Flickr.com



Zambia's main export is copper. The country produces about 1.5 million tonnes a year.



ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is a landlocked country located in southern Africa, between the Zambezi and Limpopo rivers, bordered by South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, and Mozambique. Through the period from the 11th century to the 15th century, descendants of the Shona speaking people are believed to have built the ruins of Great Zimbabwe, an ancient city in the south-eastern hills of the country, where the iconic stone-carved Zimbabwe birds were found. In the 1880s the country became a British colony, called Southern Rhodesia (after Cecil Rhodes), which lasted until 1965 when the white segregationist minority, under Ian Smith, declared Rhodesia autonomous. Zimbabwe was one of the last few African states to attain full independence from British colonial rule in 1980. Across Zimbabwe are rock paintings, or “Bushman” paintings, that date back more than 5,000 years. The official currency is the Zimbabwe dollar.

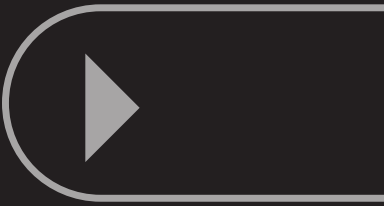
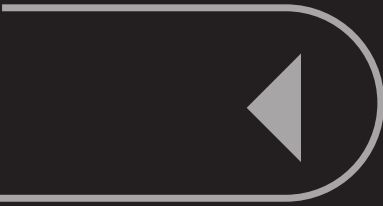
GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

DEMOGRAPHICS

HEALTH CARE

DID YOU KNOW?



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT



HEAD OF GOVERNMENT
Emmerson Mnangagwa

FLAG



COAT OF ARMS



DATE OF INDEPENDENCE



CAPITAL CITY
Harare

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) RANKING*

146

*HDI data courtesy of the United Nations Development Programme: hdr.undp.org

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN

16



MAIN LANGUAGES

Shona, Ndebele and English

UPCOMING ELECTION DATES



SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

Unitary dominant-party presidential constitutional republic



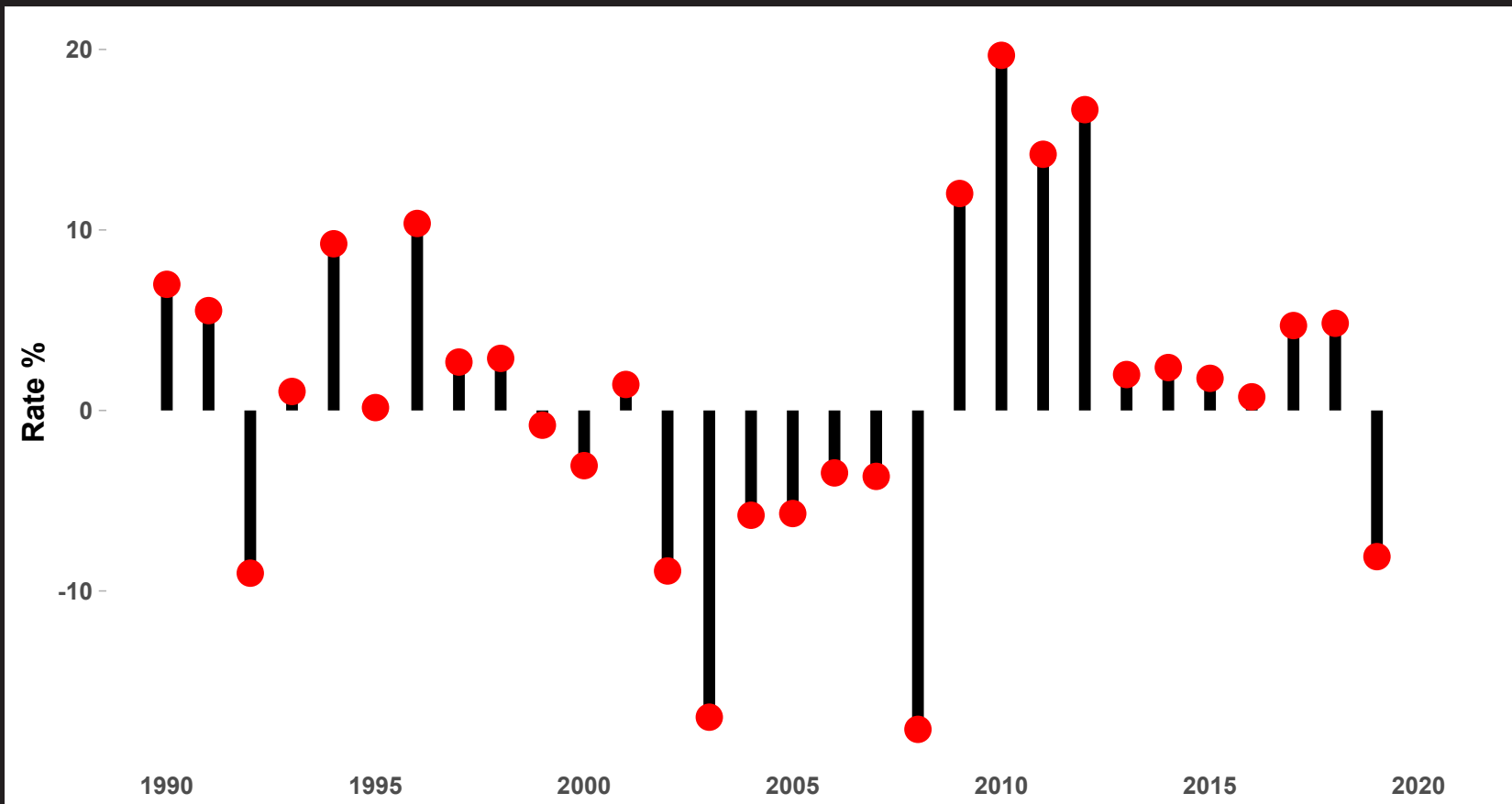
RULING POLITICAL PARTY
ZANU-PF



BIGGEST OPPOSITION PARTY
Movement for Democratic Change

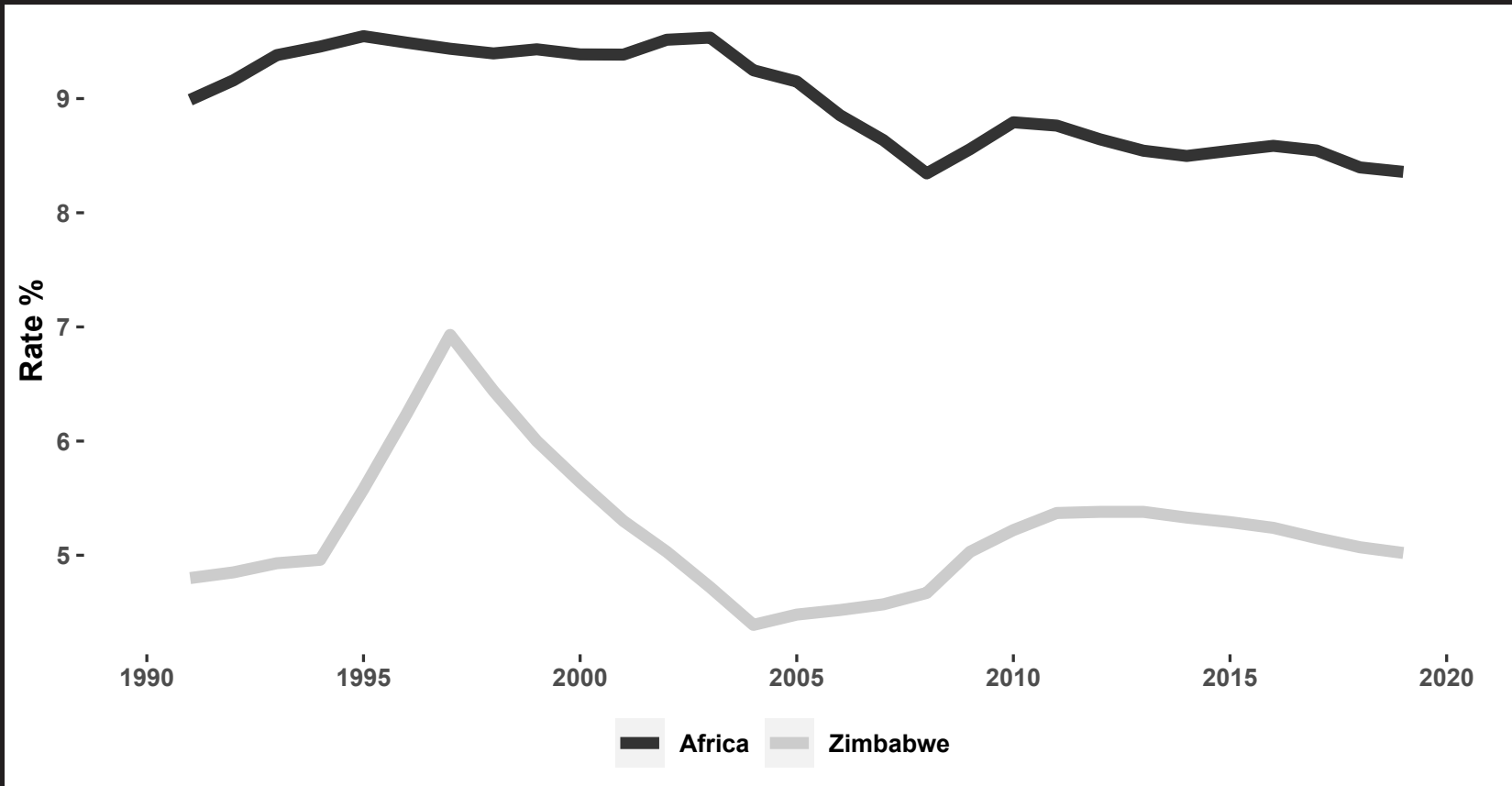
INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RATE



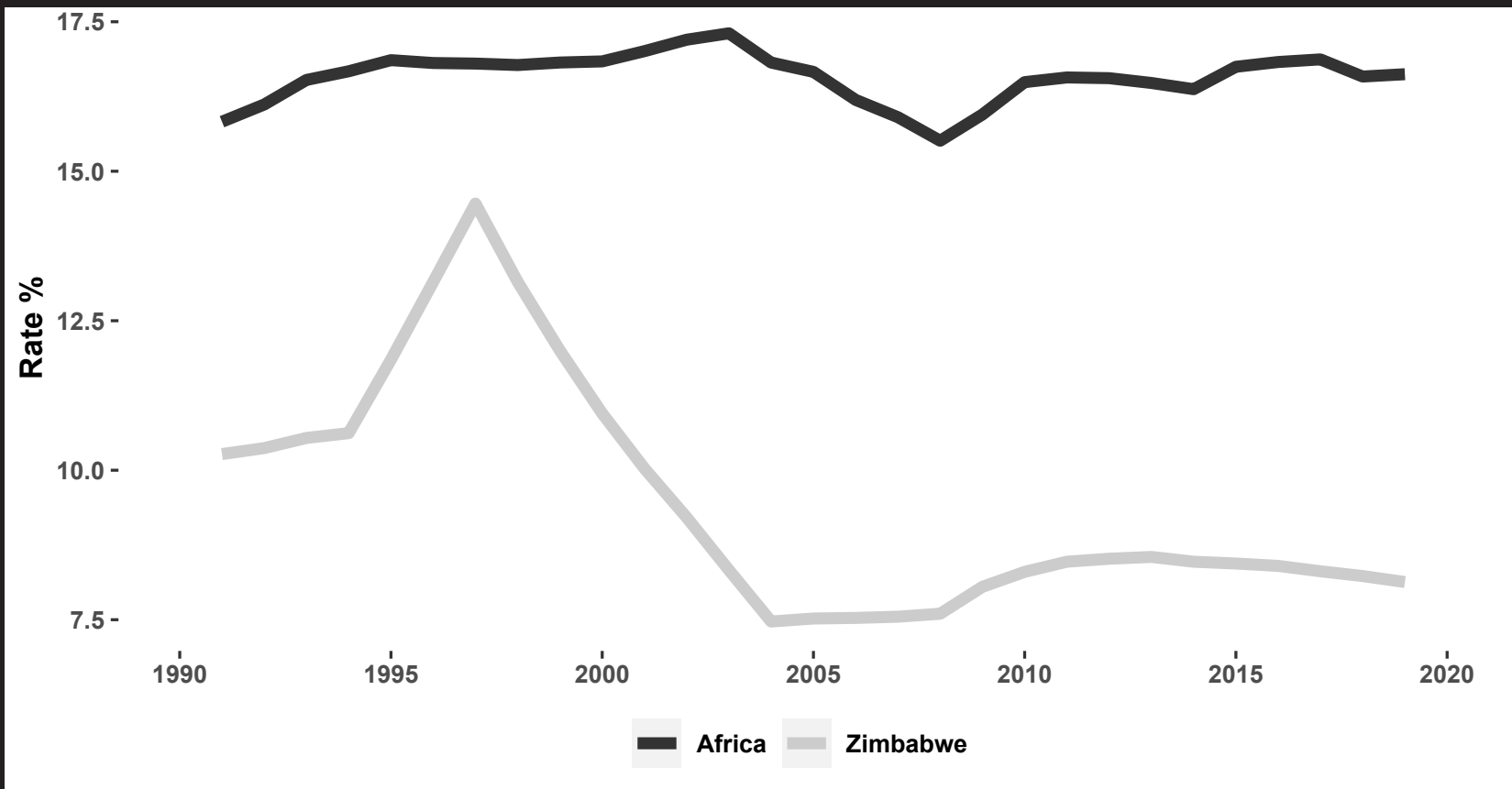
Zimbabwe had had an extremely unstable economy over the past three decades. This was particularly true between 2000 and 2009 when Zimbabwe’s economy contracted during nine of the 10 years in this period.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



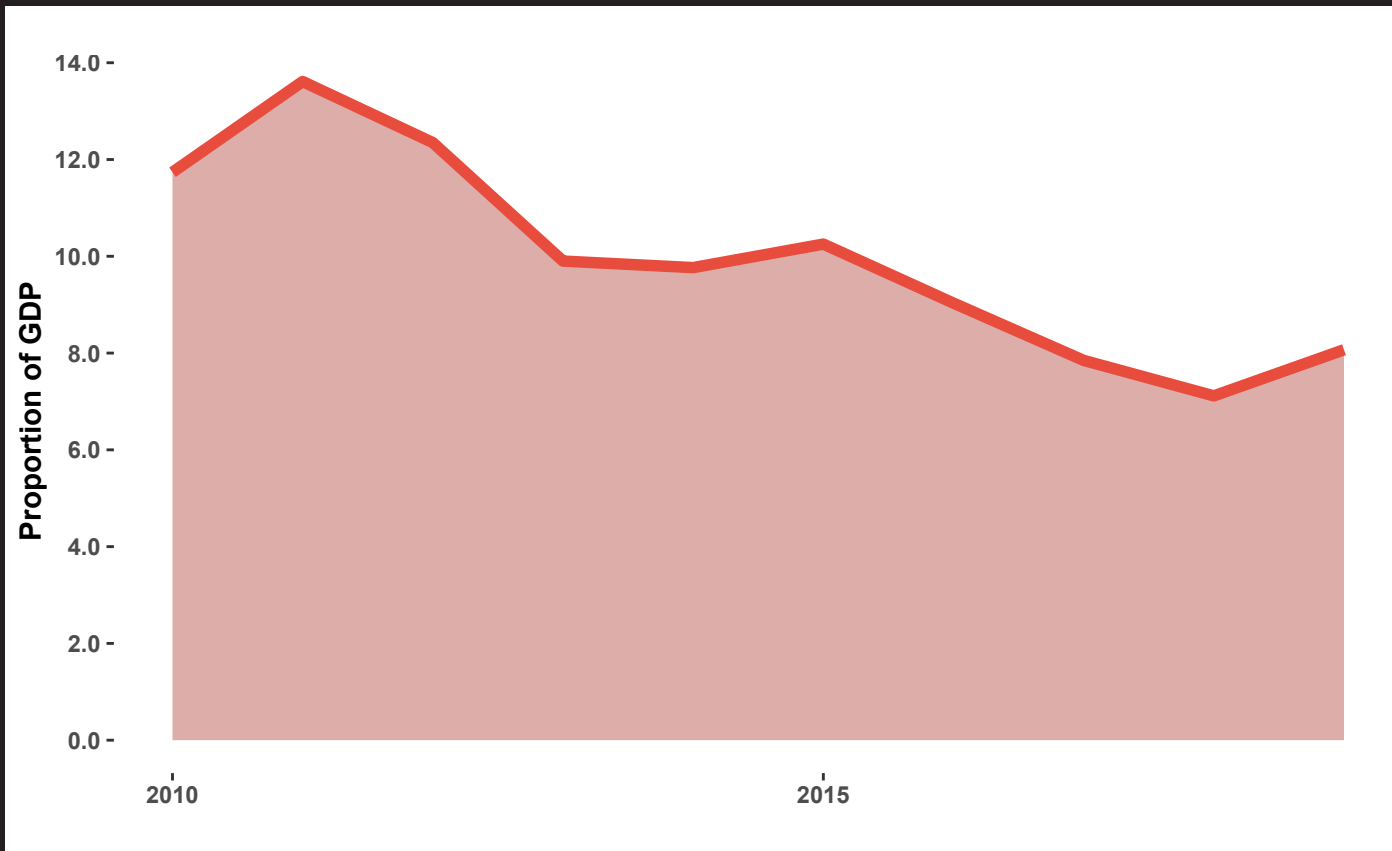
Although volatile, Zimbabwe’s unemployment rate has consistently been lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



Although volatile, Zimbabwe’s youth unemployment rate has consistently been lower than the African average over the past 30 years.

PERSONAL REMITTANCES RECEIVED 1990 – 2019



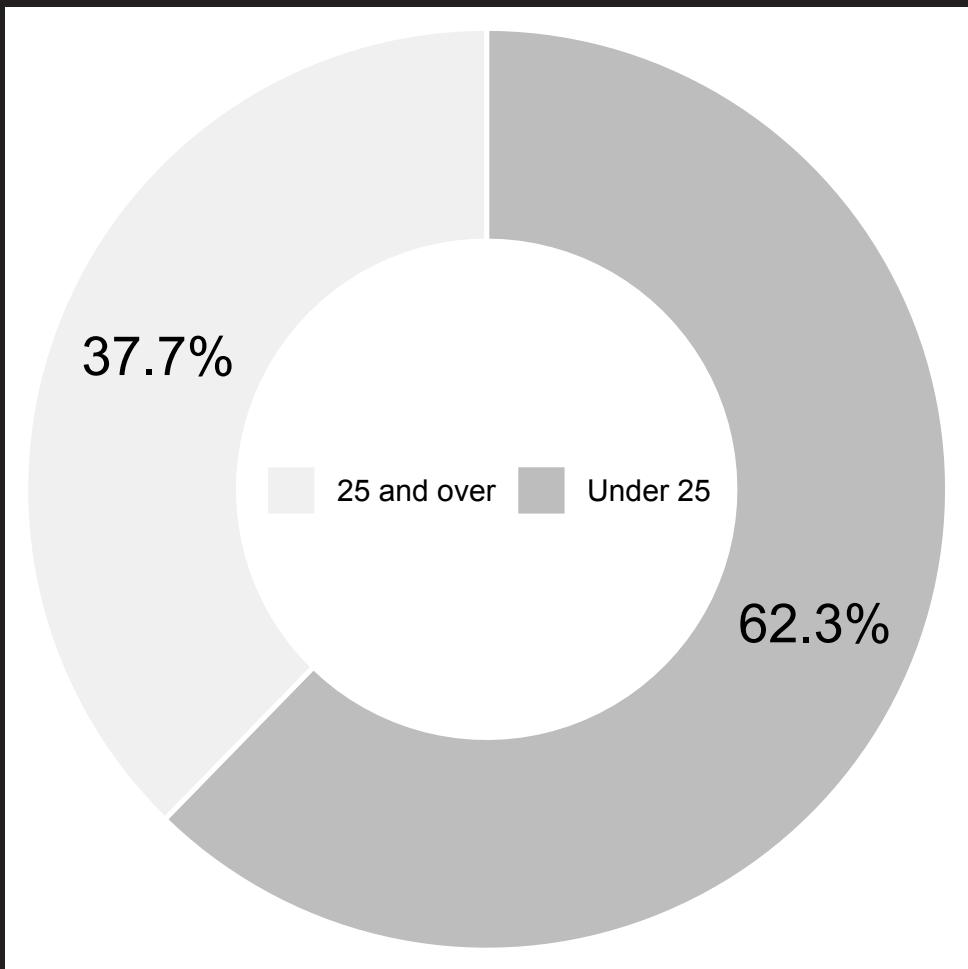
Cash inflows from abroad (2019)

\$1.73 billion
which represents
8.07% of GDP

Since 2010 remittances have generally constituted at least 7.5% of Zimbabwe’s GDP.

DEMOGRAPHICS

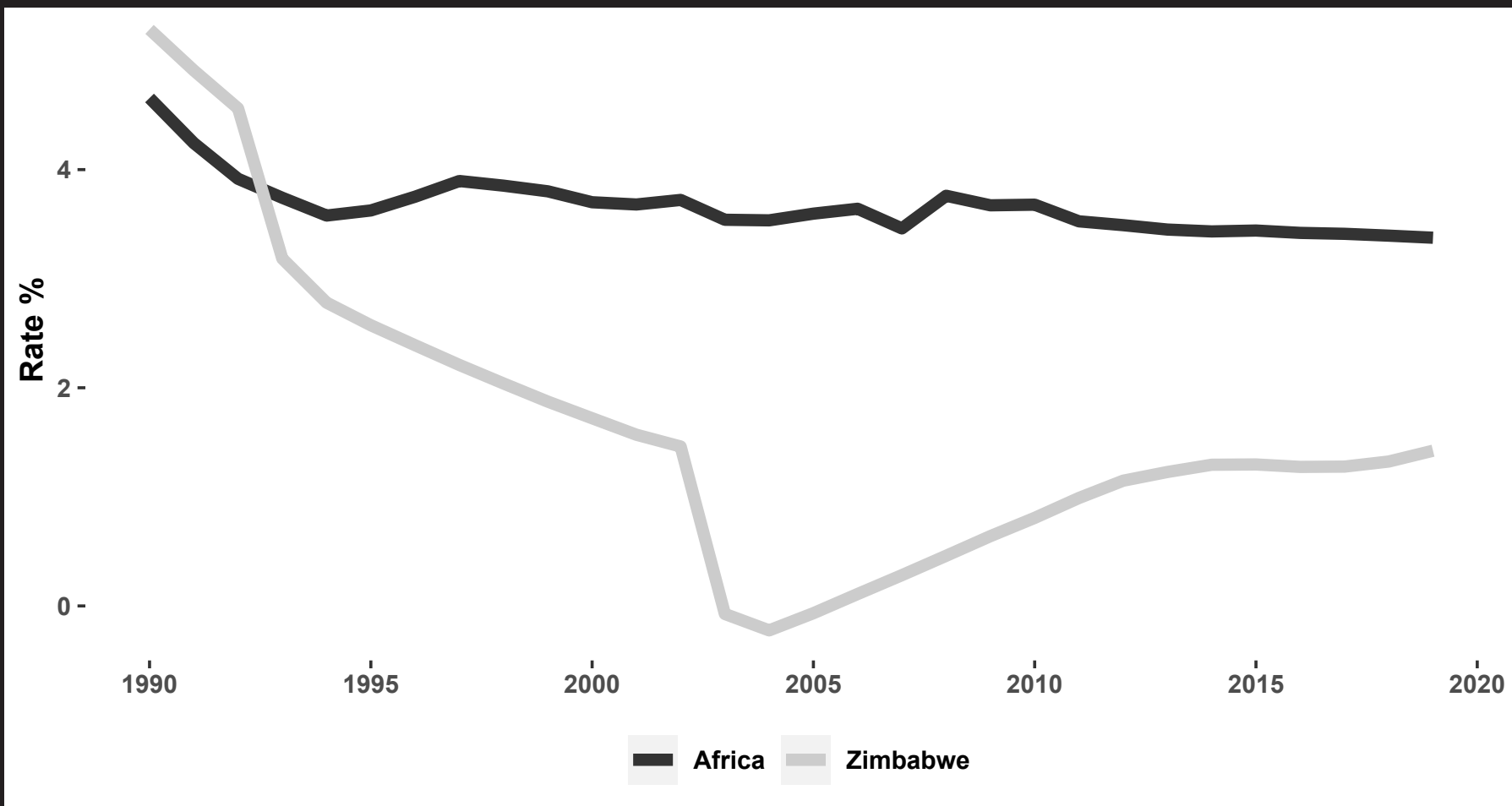
TOTAL POPULATION (2019)



14.65 million

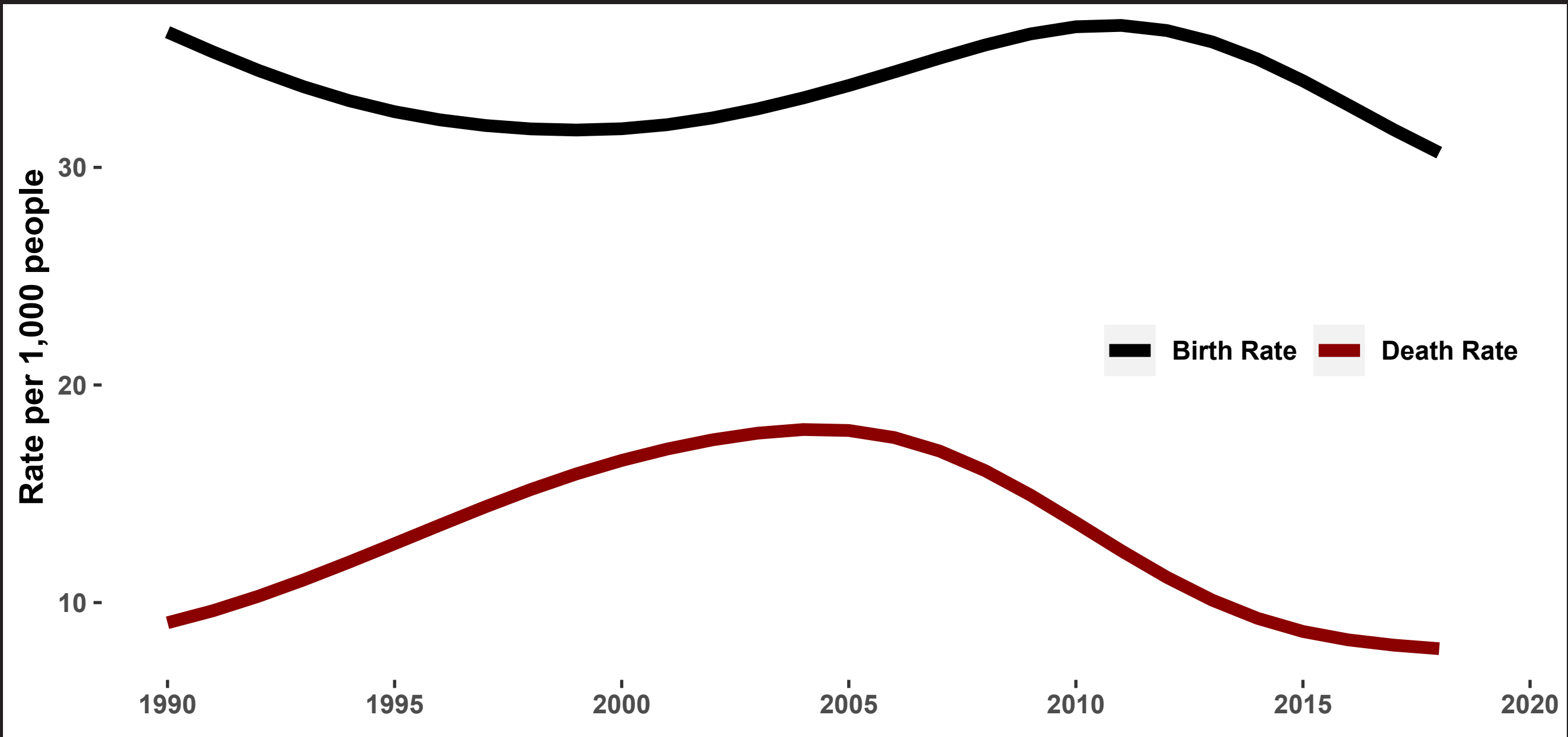
In line with continental trends, the vast majority of Zimbabwe’s population is under 25 years old.

URBAN POPULATION GROWTH RATE



Zimbabwe has generally urbanised at a slower rate than the continental average over the past 25 years.

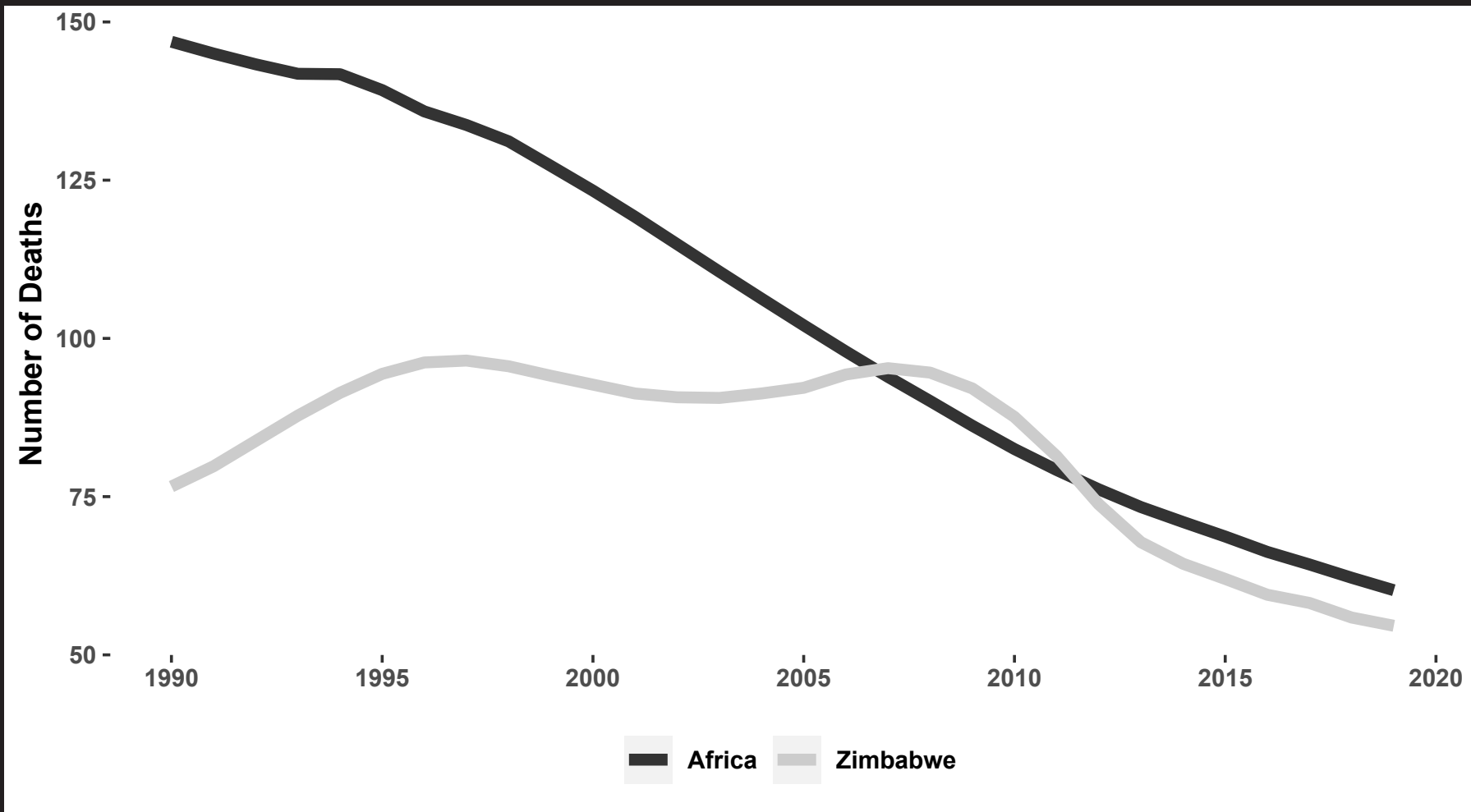
BIRTH RATE vs DEATH RATE



The birth rate in Zimbabwe has fluctuated considerably over the past three decades. The death rate increased during the peak of the HIV/AIDS epidemic during the late 1990s/2000s. This meant that population growth slowed rapidly during this period – although this has recovered slightly in the interim years.

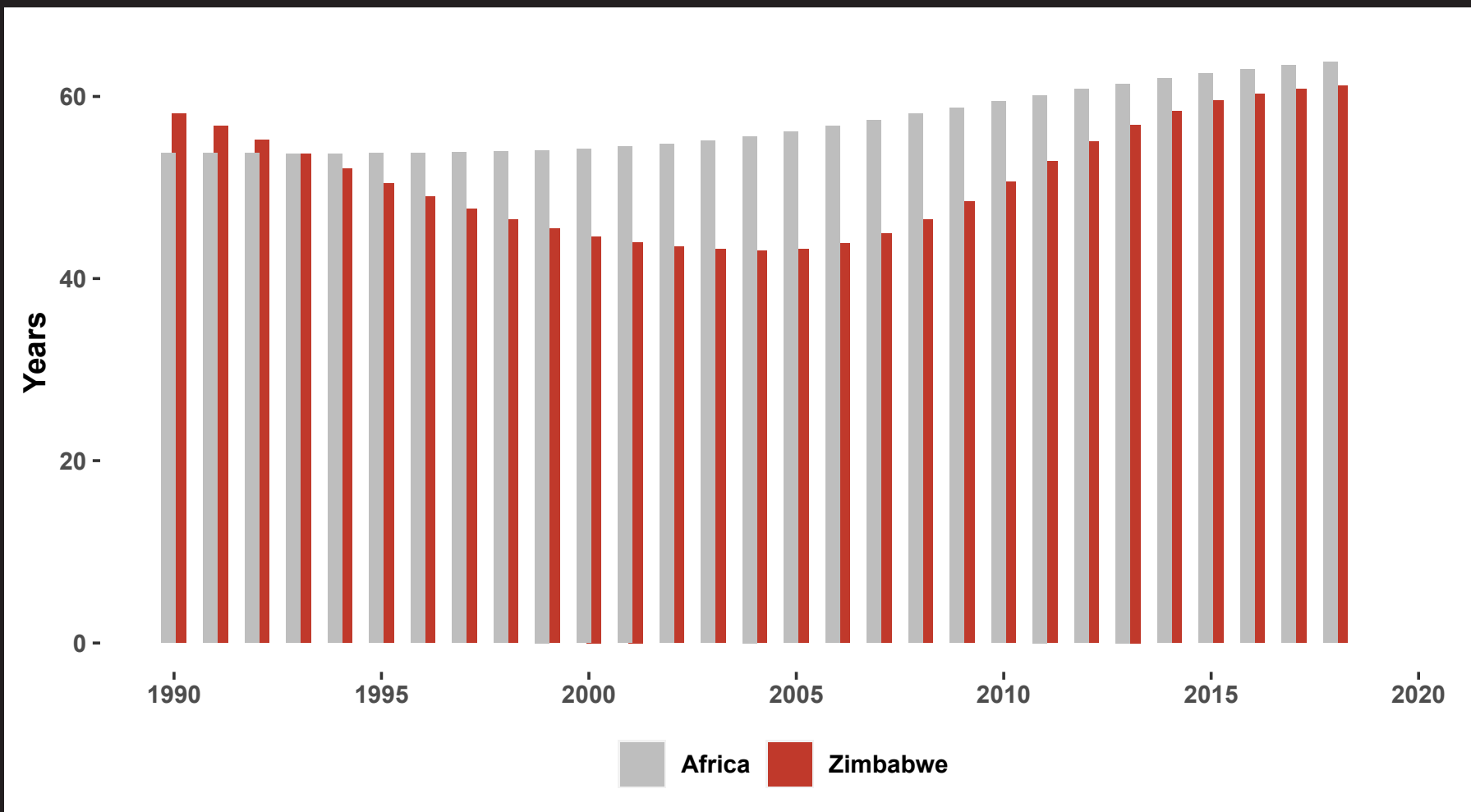
HEALTH CARE

CHILD MORTALITY RATE



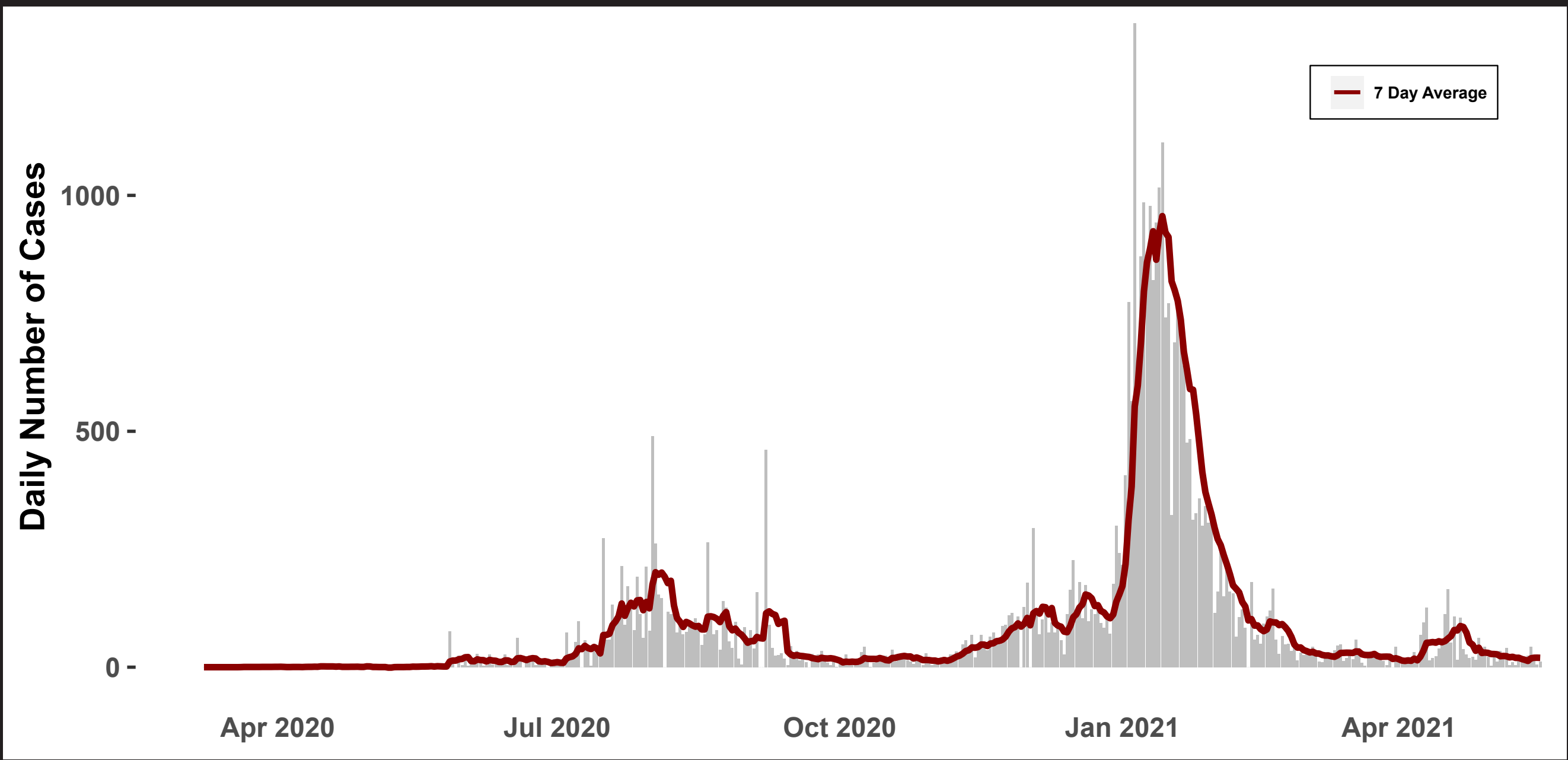
Although Zimbabwe’s child mortality rate has generally been lower than the African average, the HIV/AIDS epidemic meant that there was an uncharacteristic rise in the child mortality rate between 1990 and 2007. Since 2008, child mortality in Zimbabwe has started to decline again.

LIFE EXPECTANCY



Like many Southern African countries Zimbabwe’s life expectancy at the turn of the 21st century experienced a decline due to the severity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 2005 life expectancy in Zimbabwe started to increase again but has yet to recover to the level of the continental average.

DAILY COVID-19 CASE TOTALS



Zimbabwe has had one main Covid-19 wave, which occurred between January 2021 and February 2021.

DID YOU KNOW?

Courtney Lindeque on Flickr.com



Lake Kariba is the world's largest man-made lake and reservoir by volume. It lies 1,300 km upstream from the Indian Ocean, along the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Andrew Moore on Flickr.com



Zimbabwe is believed to be the location of Ophir, the ancient wealthy country from which King Solomon got ivory, gold and other precious items.

Bishnu Sarangi on Pixabay.com



Zimbabwe is one of the top 10 producers of tobacco in the world. Most of the tobacco produced is sold abroad.