

# South Africa: Consumer Profile

October 2023

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#### INTRODUCTION

Scope

Key drivers affecting consumers in South Africa in 2022

How developments today shape the consumer of tomorrow

Key findings

#### POPULATION AND SOCIETY

Today 2022: South Africa's market is young and growing, with millennials taking the lead

Today: Lower birth rates result in slower population growth compared to regionally

Today: South Africans display a strong enthusiasm for discovering new products

Tomorrow 2040: South Africa's median age set to be 3.5 years younger than globally

Tomorrow: Generation Alpha becomes the largest cohort in 2040; Generation Z will be 30-45

Tomorrow: While urban population increases, persistent unemployment remains a challenge

## POPULATION AND SOCIETY

Areas of opportunity

Case study: eagle intelligent health offers the convenience of remote healthcare for South Africans

## HOUSEHOLDS AND HOMES

Today 2022: More South African households are choosing to lead child-free lifestyles

Today: Proportion in rented households to continue rising in South Africa as housing prices increase

Today: Safe location is a top priority for home features

Tomorrow 2040: Singletons to account for almost half of the total households

Tomorrow: Enhancing property ownership laws for women boosts female-headed households

Tomorrow: Rising smartphone penetration is driving a surge in online retail

Case study: Lokshin WiFi unveils cost-effective i nternet s olution for South Africans

Areas of opportunity

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Today 2022: Largest number of affluent adults in Africa

Today: Ongoing load shedding to sustain elevated inflation

Today: Education stands out as the top spending priority for South Africans

Tomorrow 2040: Middle class is set to shrink, exacerbating already severe income inequality

Tomorrow: Black South Africans remain disadvantaged, causing higher unemployment

Tomorrow: Johannesburg and Pretoria are set to record the fastest market growth

Areas of opportunity

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Case Study: Amazon announces plans to expand to South Africa, reshaping online retail

### LIFESTYLES

Key findings consumer survey

Younger generations have a more positive outlook on their future

The country's youthful population results in greater reliance on family support

Witnessing climate change impacts, South Africans show heightened sustainability concerns

Earning a high salary emerges as the foremost work priority

Affluent consumers are resorting to second-hand options in search of unique finds

Case study: Thanks to Yaga, higher-quality items are now more affordable to South Africans

Areas of opportunity

# CONCLUSION

Key takeaways

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