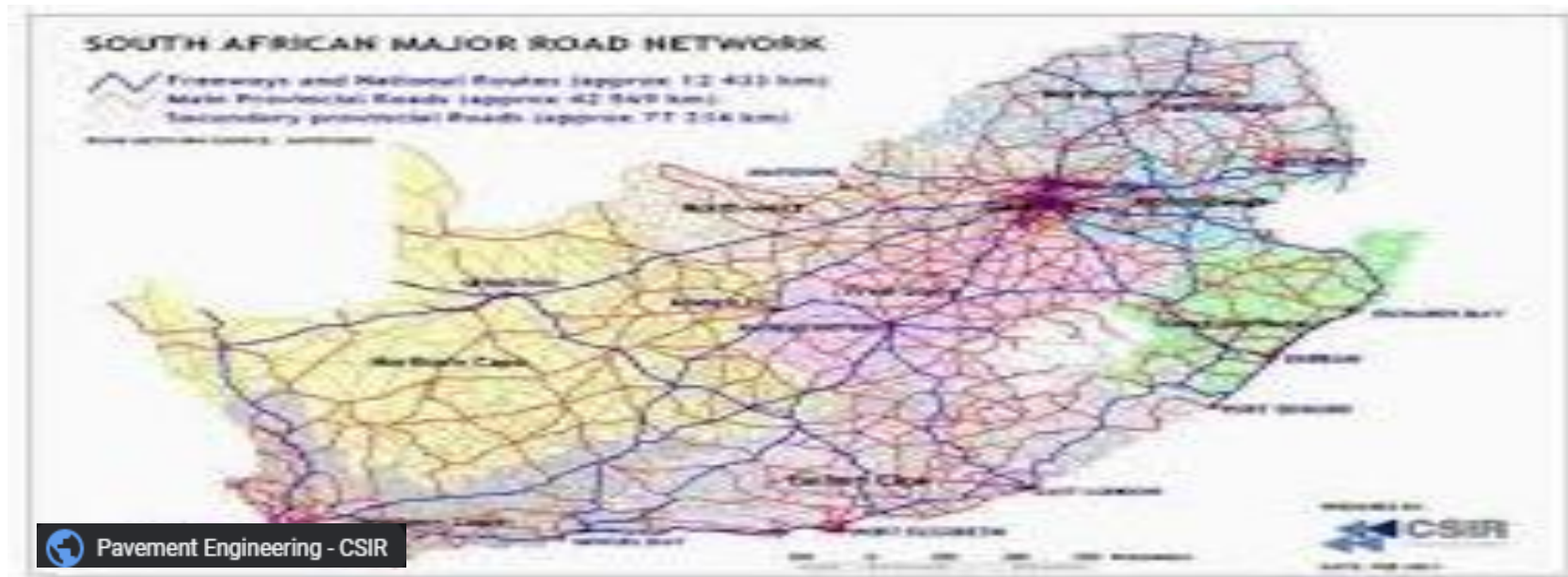




# ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY



## FACTORS FAVOURING AND HINDERING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

RAJENDRA DAVECHAND



### Factors favouring industrial development in South Africa:

- Raw materials
- Labour supply
- Water supply
- Energy supply
- Transport
- Political intervention
- Competition
- Trade

### Factors hindering industrial development in South Africa:

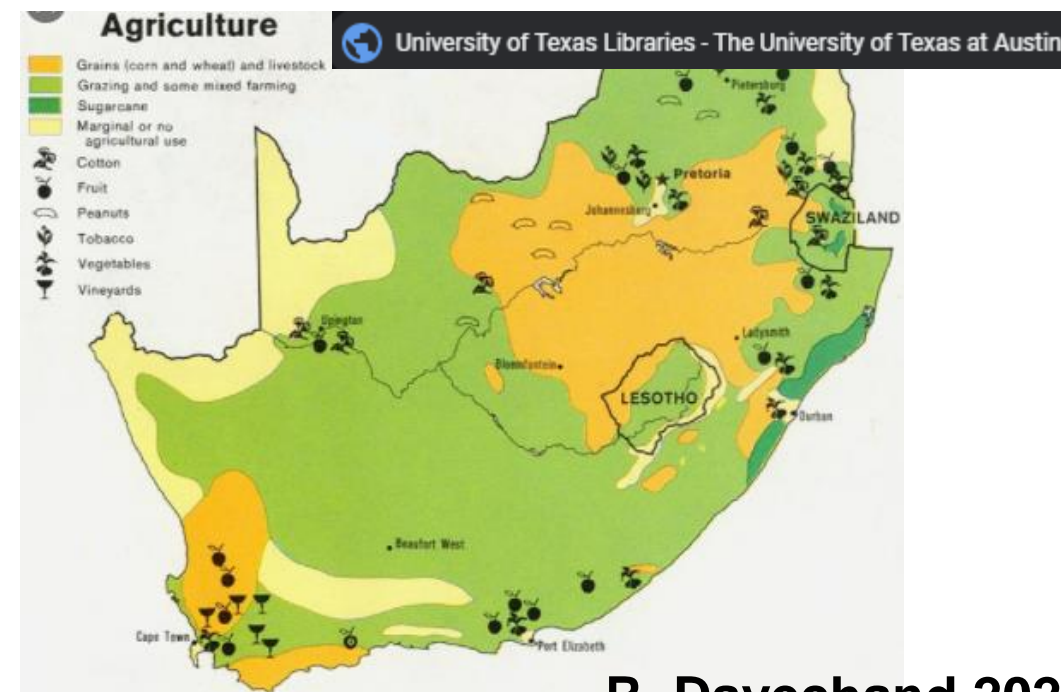
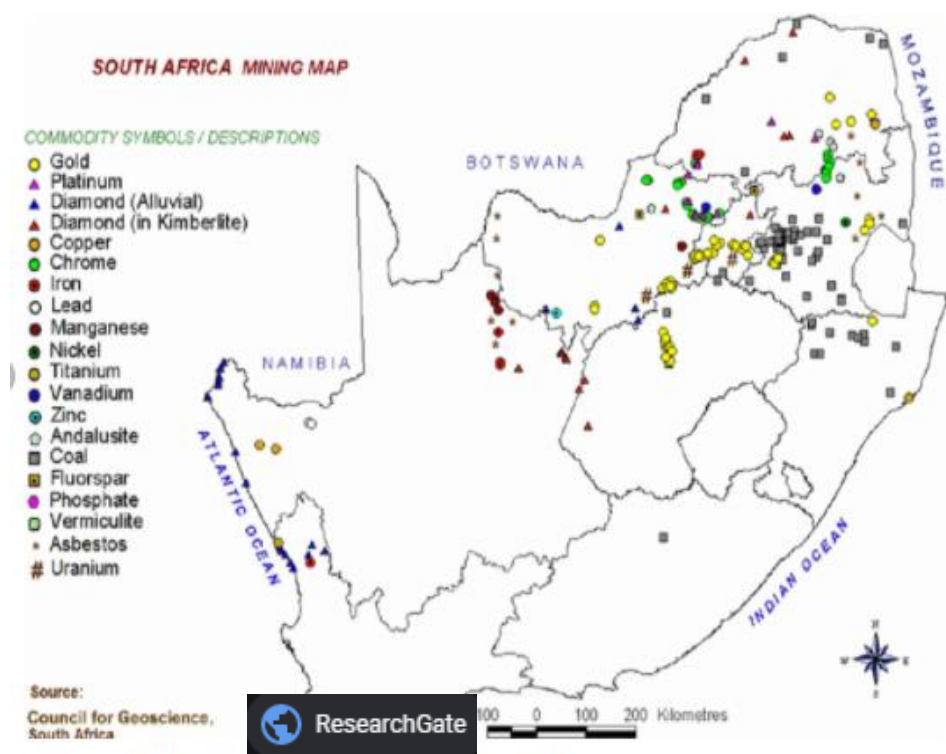
- Over-concentration
- Transport
- Air pollution
- Labour supply
- Water supply
- Raw materials
- Political interference
- Competition
- Trade



## Factors favouring industrial development in South Africa

### Raw materials

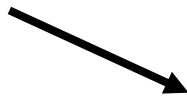
- Have a variety of raw materials.
- Mining produces a lot of products/minerals which are essential for manufacturing.
- Different climatic conditions allow for a variety of agricultural products.
- This favours the development of a variety of industries and a large industrial sector.





## Labour supply

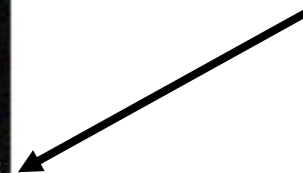
Large labour force available



Large part of labour unskilled. Significant amount of skilled from other countries. This is a factor hindering industrial development.



Number of skilled workers in country is increasing due to government and private sector initiatives







## Water supply

- Sufficient water supply available.
- In areas where there are challenges with water supply water projects e.g. water transfer schemes have been implemented.





## Energy supply

- Large amounts of coal results in large power stations.
- Good supply of energy.
- It must be noted that in the recent years loadshedding and higher costs of energy has had a negative impact on industries



## Eskom power stations





## Transport

- Has a good transport network
- Well developed road and rail network
- International airports
- Harbours
- Allows for efficient transport of raw materials to industries and distribution of products to domestic and international markets.

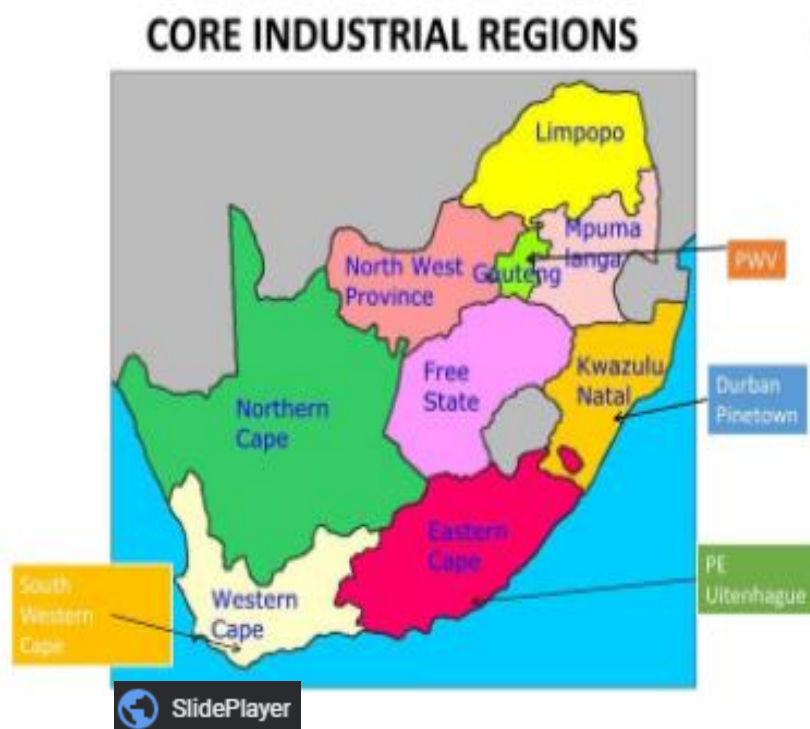






## Political intervention

- Can be a factor that **FAVOURS OR HINDERS**.
- During apartheid most industrial developments were focused in a few areas and sanctions were imposed.
- Democracy encouraged development of industries to be spread across the country through project like industrial development zones and spatial development initiatives (Will be discussed later in Economic Geography)

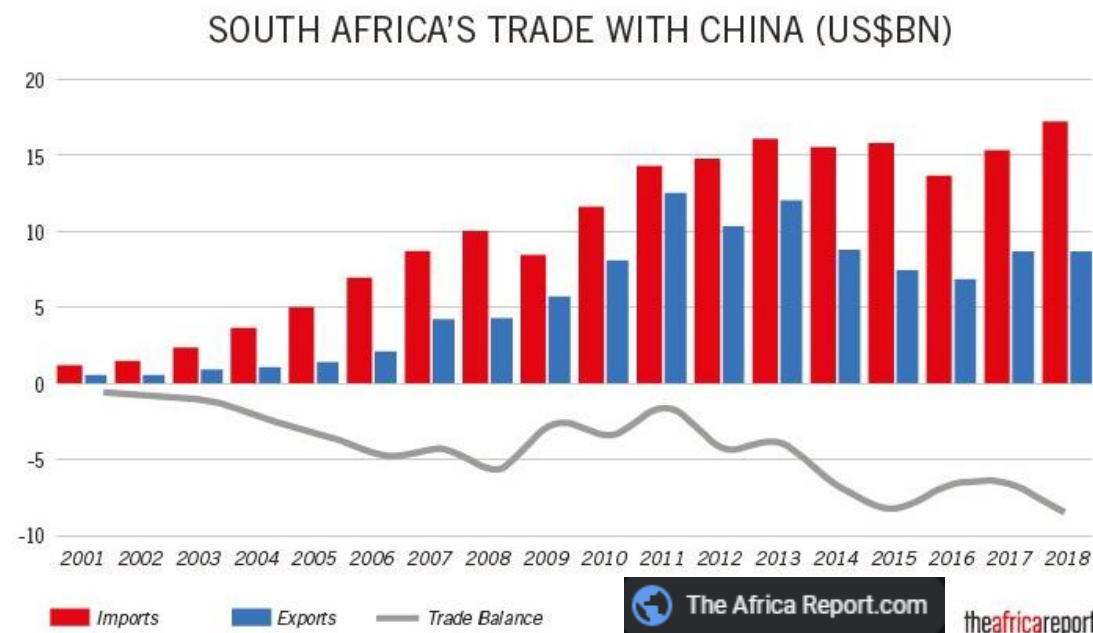
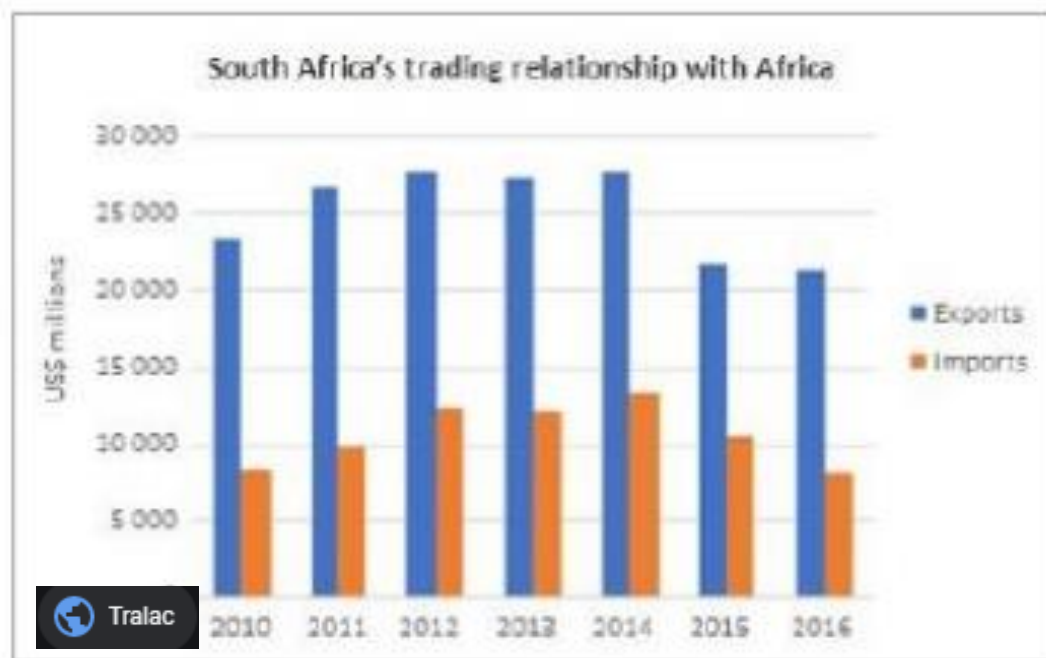






## Competition and trade

- Can be factors that **FAVOUR OR HINDER**.
- South Africa is more competitive in Africa. Exports far more than imports.
- Less competitive on global market outside Africa e.g. China where imports are far more than exports.





## Factors hindering industrial development in South Africa

**PLEASE NOTE LABOUR SUPPLY, POLITICAL INTERFERENCE, COMPETITION AND TRADE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED UNDER FACTORS FAVOURING**

### Overconcentration

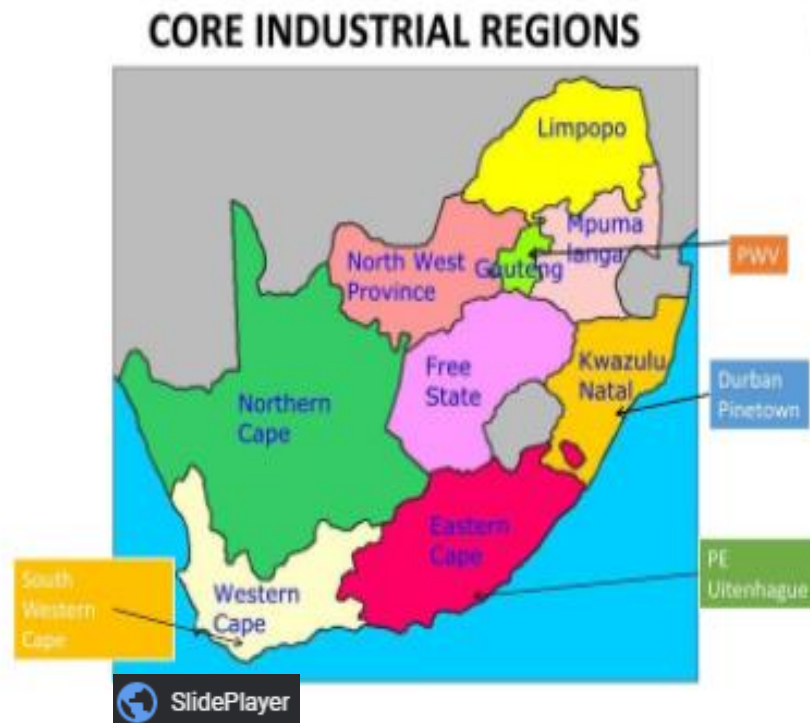
- Overconcentration of industries, e.g. in the core industrial regions, led to
  - Strain on resources e.g. water supply, power supply
  - Strain on transport infrastructure.
  - It limited development in other areas of South Africa





## Transport

- PWV industrial region, the largest in South Africa is far from the harbours creating more expenses.
- Overconcentration of industries, e.g. in the core industrial regions, leads to strain on transport infrastructure. Impacts negatively on production and distribution of products.







### Air pollution

- Industries, especially heavy industries, create a lot of air pollution.
- Laws like the Air Quality Act stipulate rules to industries regarding the reducing of air pollution.
- Although these rules are necessary for the wellbeing of the South Africa and it's people, it may hinder industrial development due to additional costs incurred.





## Water supply

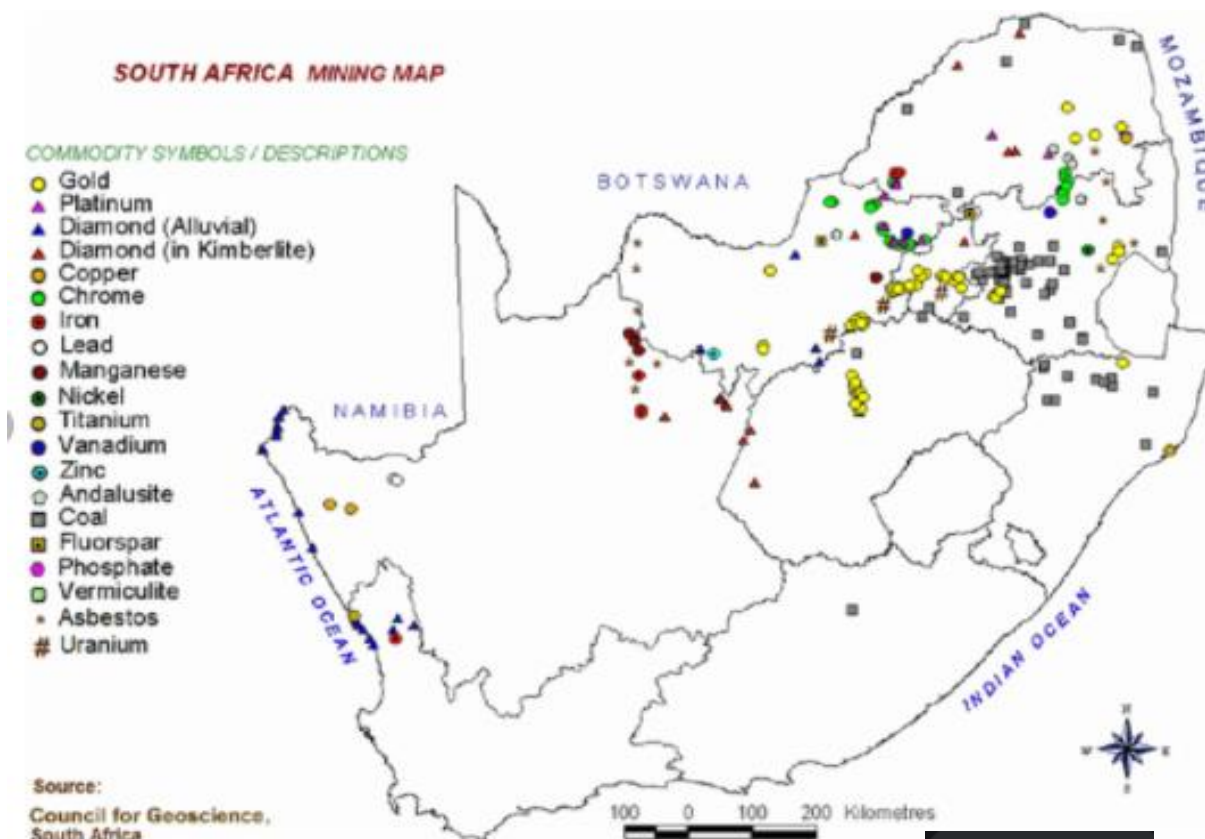
- Lack of proper water supply (rainfall) on a large part of the western section of South Africa limits industrial development.
- Regular droughts are experienced in South Africa.
- Limits raw material e.g. agricultural raw materials.





## Raw materials

- Most of the raw materials that are mined are located in the north/northeastern section of South Africa
- This creates challenges for areas in the south.
- Example: limited/no coal in the south creates energy challenges.



Map showing mining areas in South Africa. Adapted from source. 5