

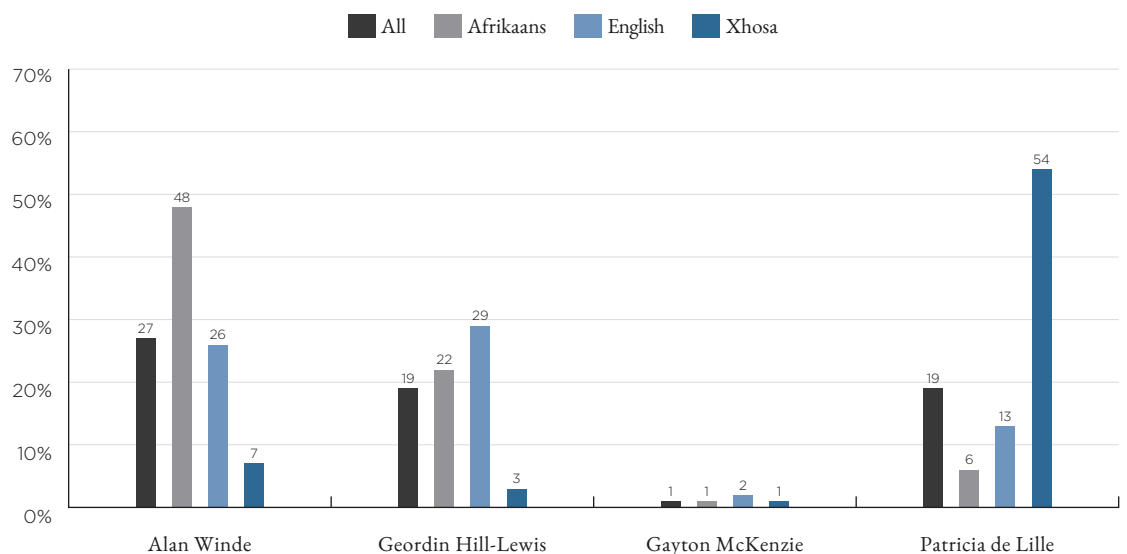
WESTERN CAPE VOTERS' PERCEPTIONS OF THE VALUES OF PROMINENT POLITICAL FIGURES IN THE PROVINCE

This report examines whether voters in the Western Cape believe that the more prominent political figures in that province care about them and their communities.

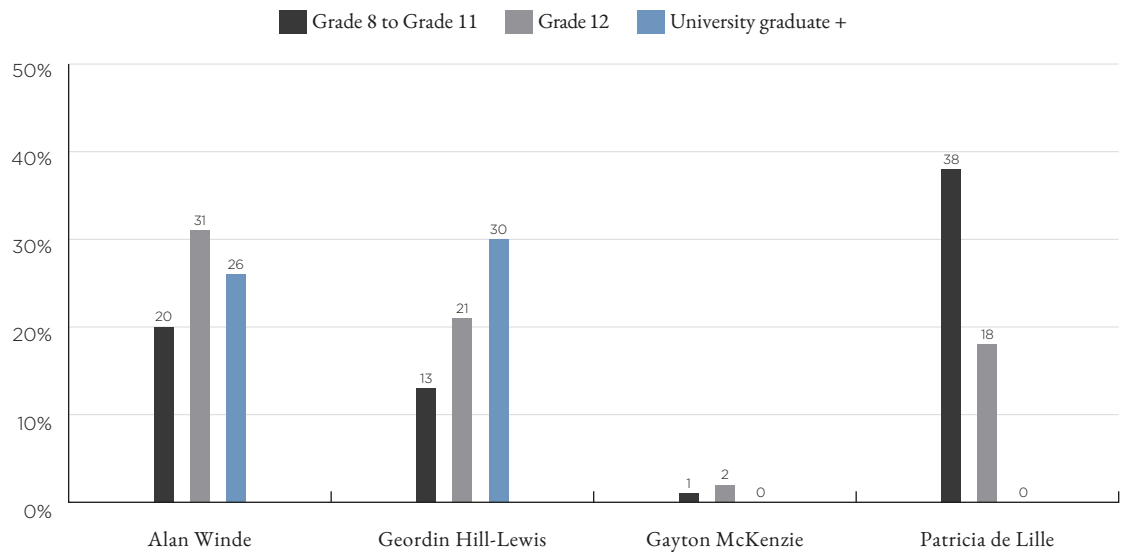
The data in the report comes from a July 2023 Foundation survey. The survey was conducted telephonically amongst a sample of 2 590 geographically and demographically representative registered voters in the Western Cape. The survey has a provincial margin of error of 2.9%. Totals may not add up to 100% where rounding has occurred or where respondents were unable to answer a question.

WHICH POLITICIAN DO YOU THINK CARES ABOUT YOU AND YOUR CONCERNS?

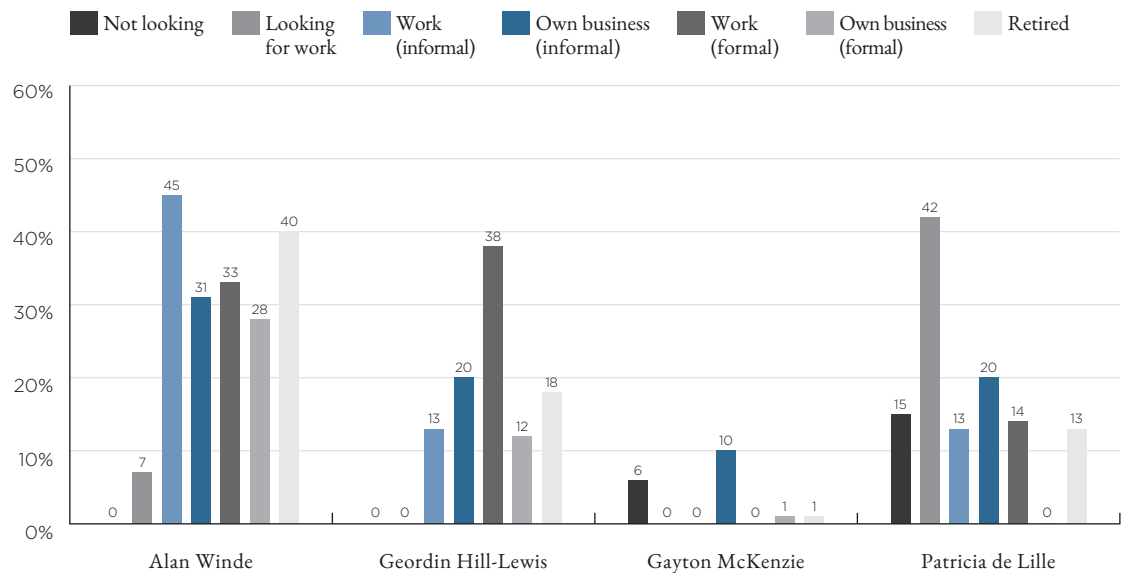
By home language



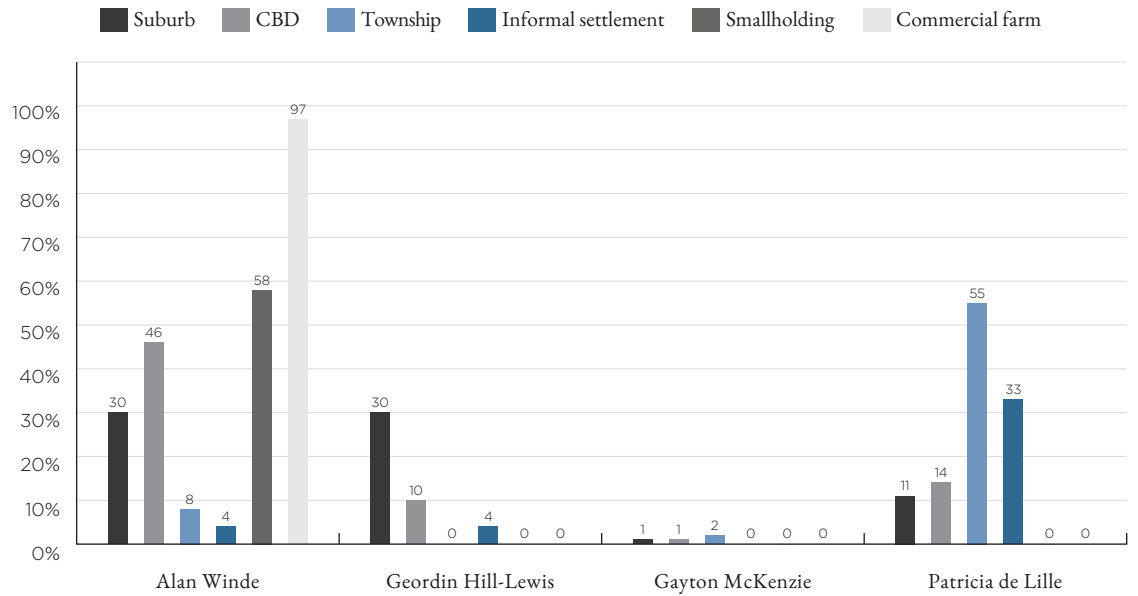
By highest level of education



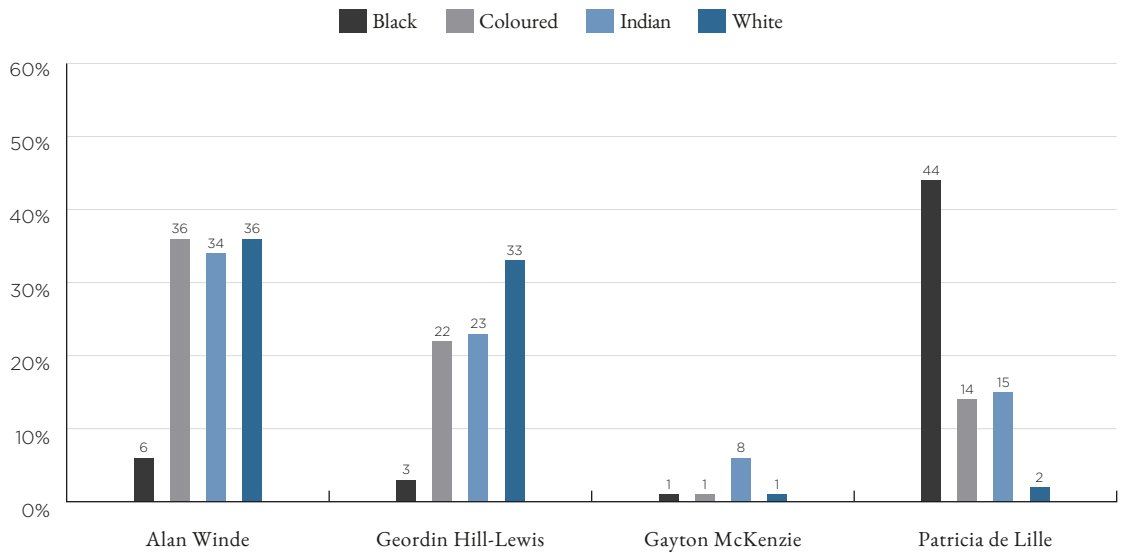
By employment status



By residential area

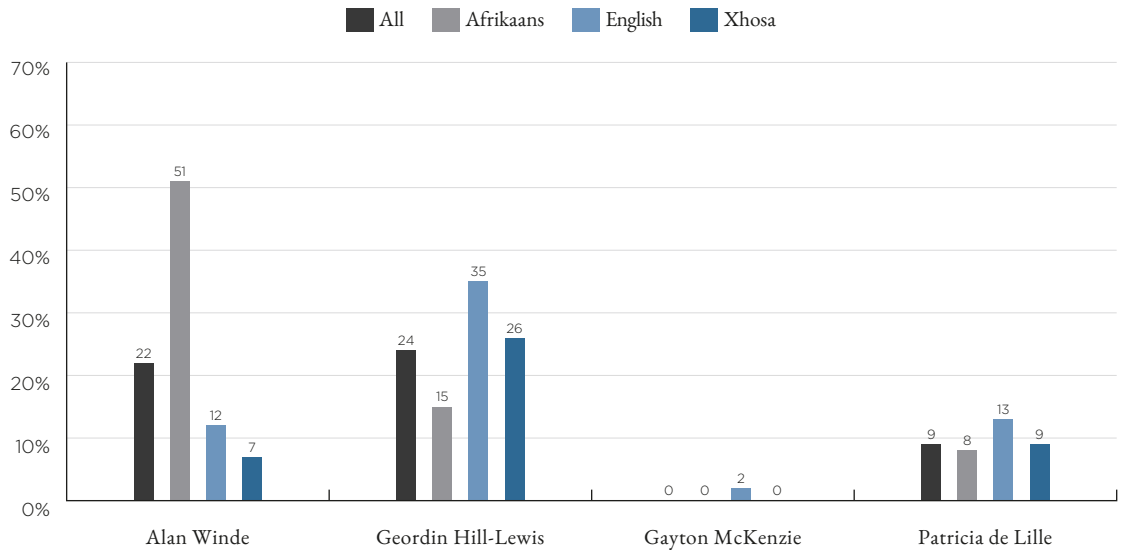


By race

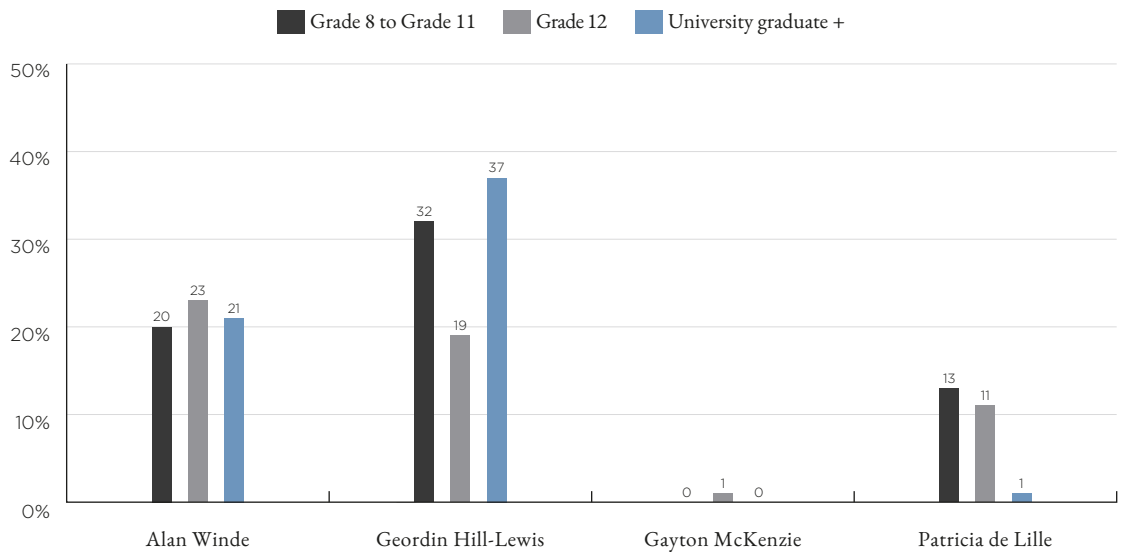


WHICH POLITICIAN COMMUNICATES WITH YOU EFFECTIVELY?

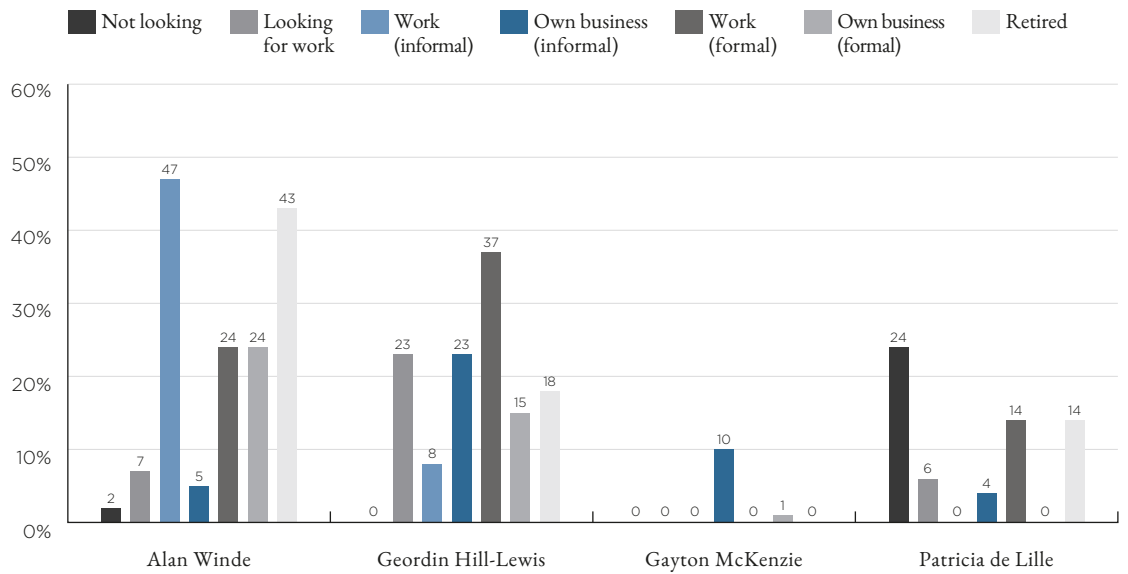
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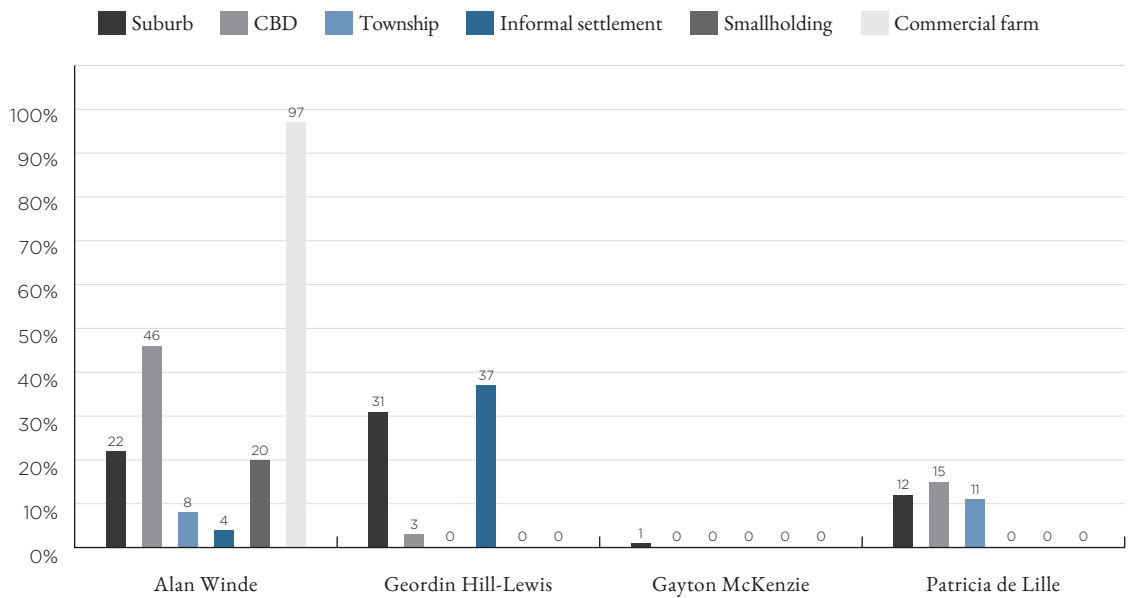
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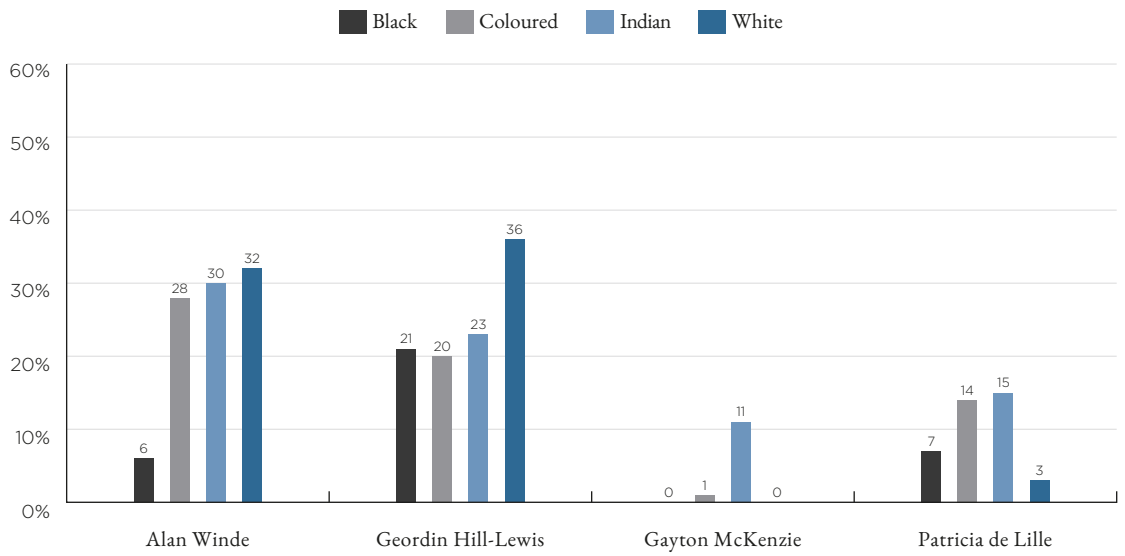
By employment status



By residential area

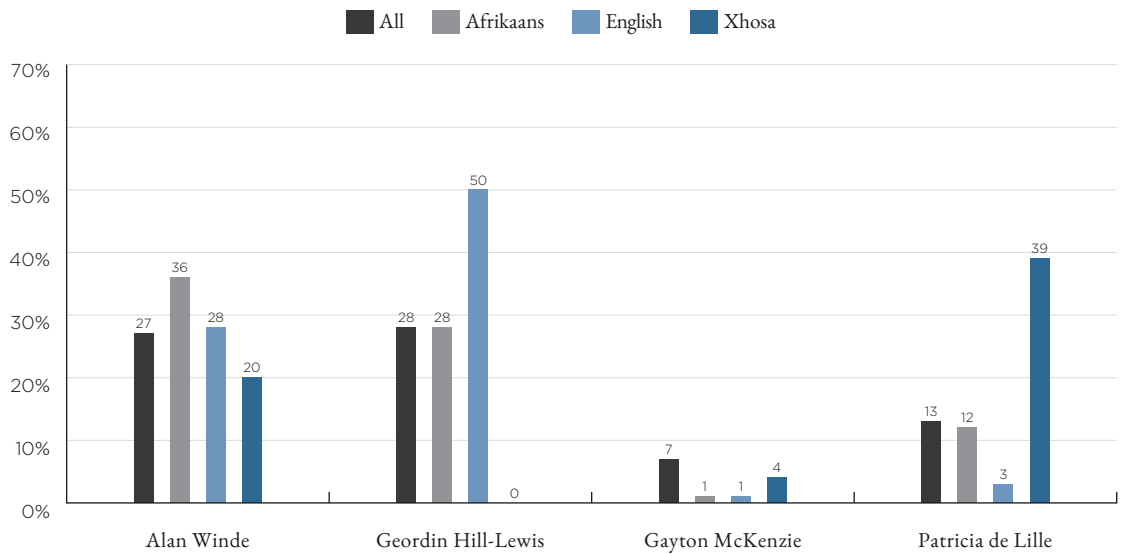


By race

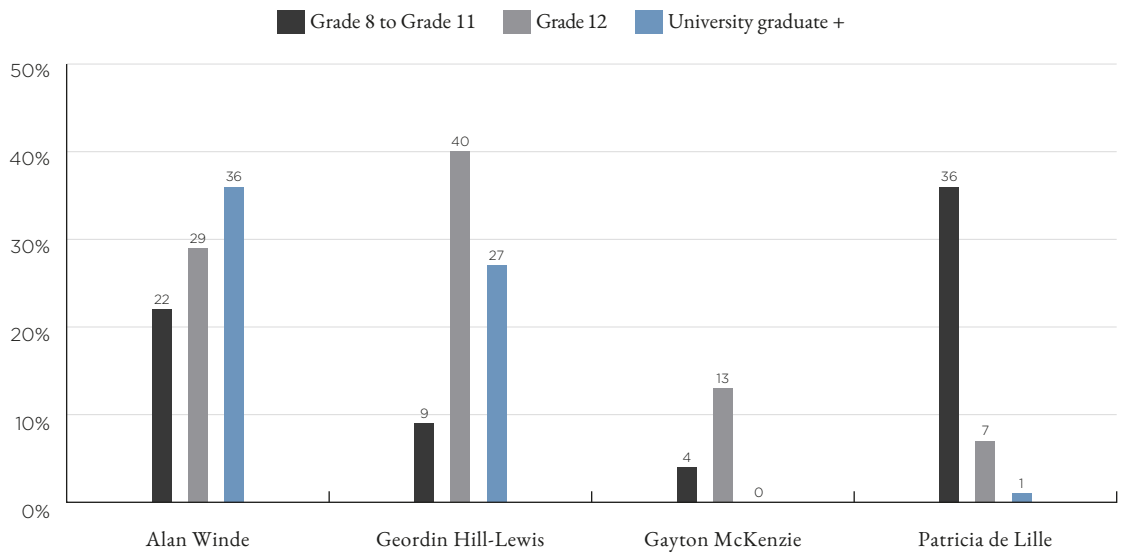


WHICH POLITICIAN IS CONSISTENT AND PRINCIPLED?

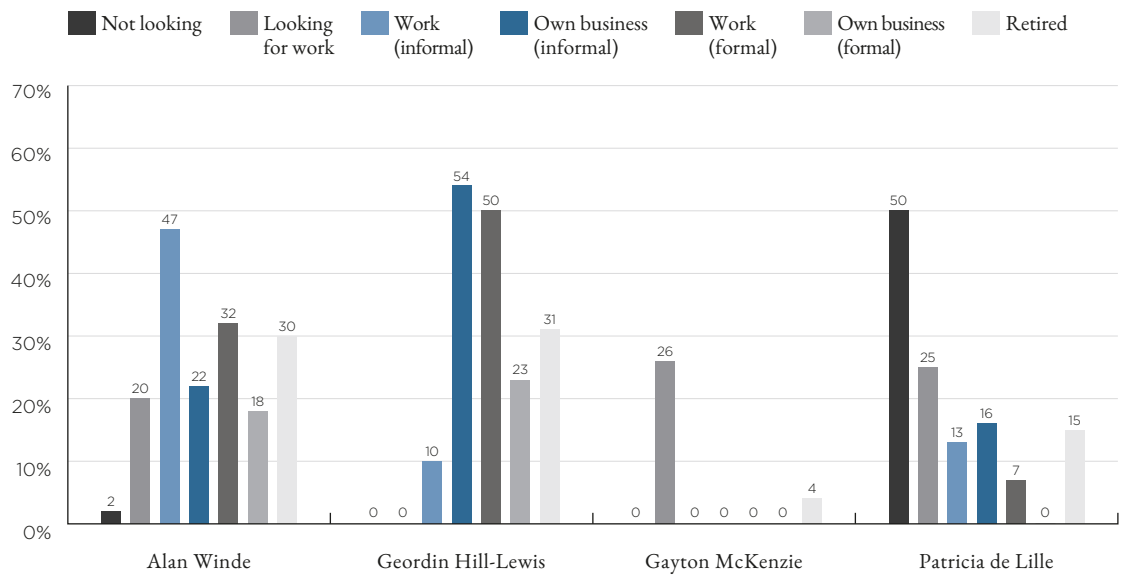
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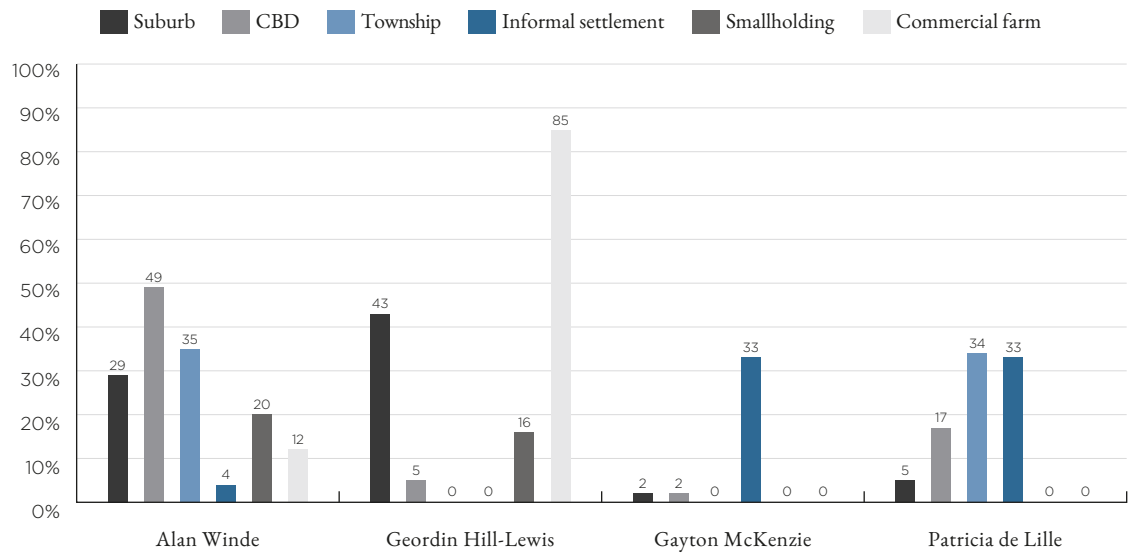
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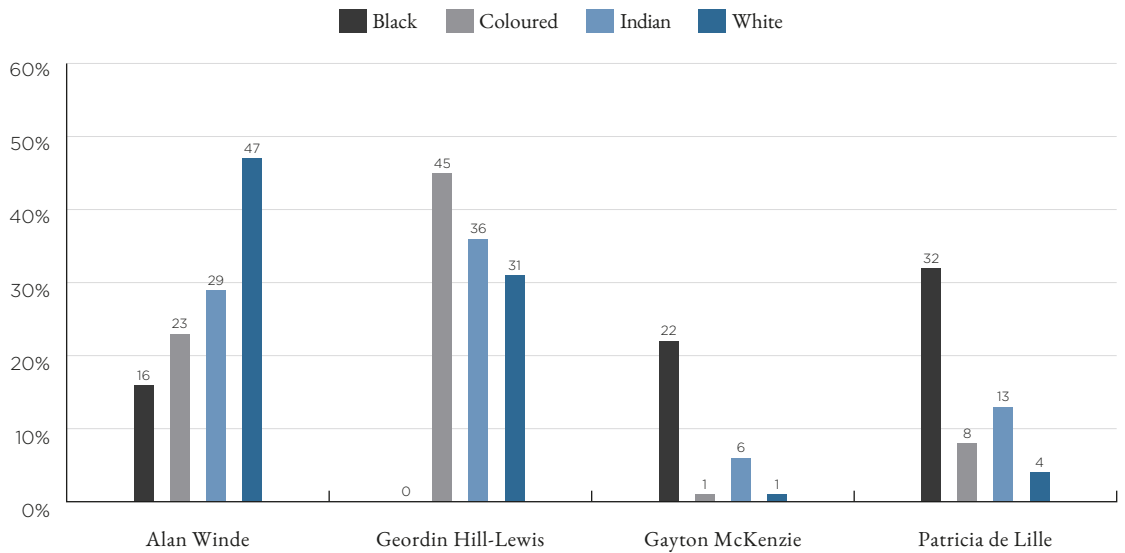
By employment status



By residential area

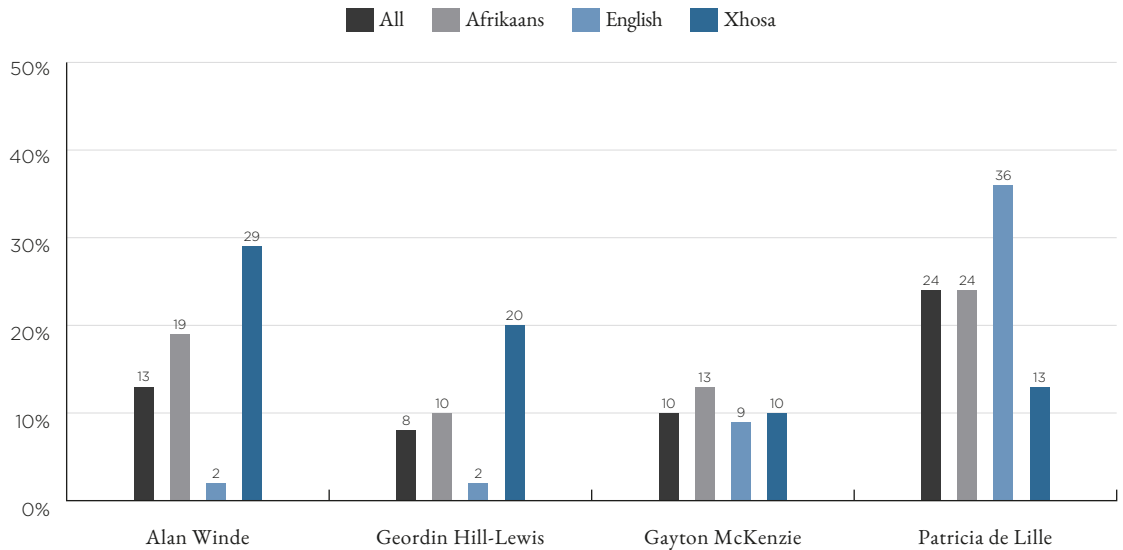


By race

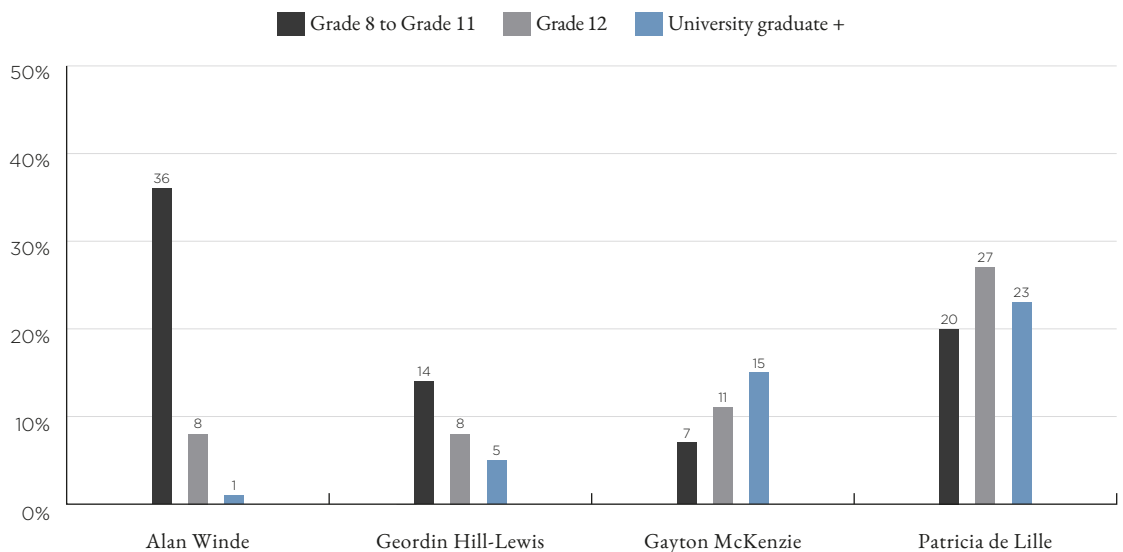


WHICH POLITICIAN IS SELF-INTERESTED AND SELF-SERVING?

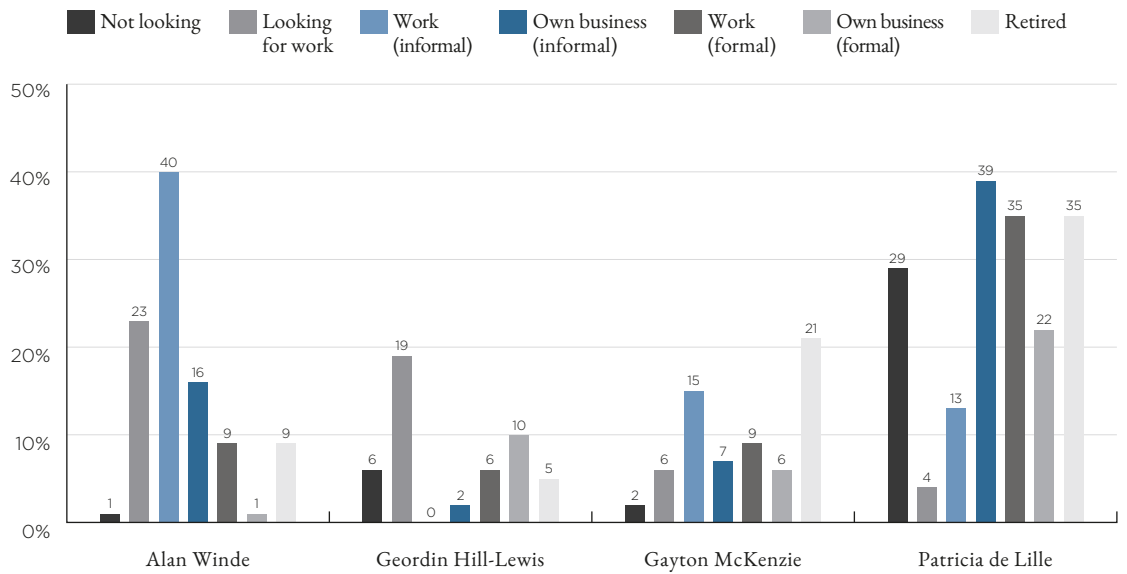
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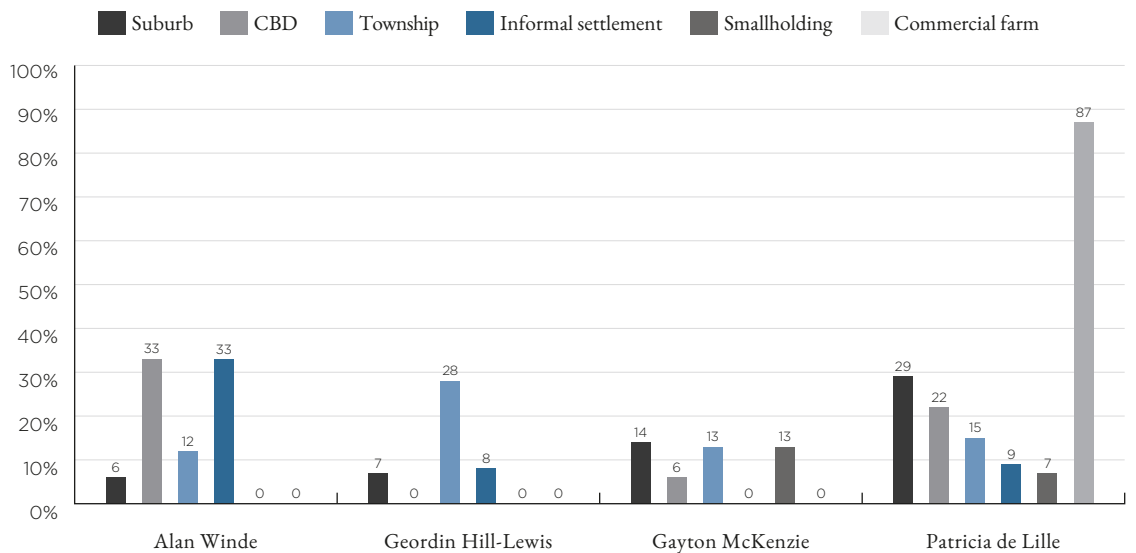
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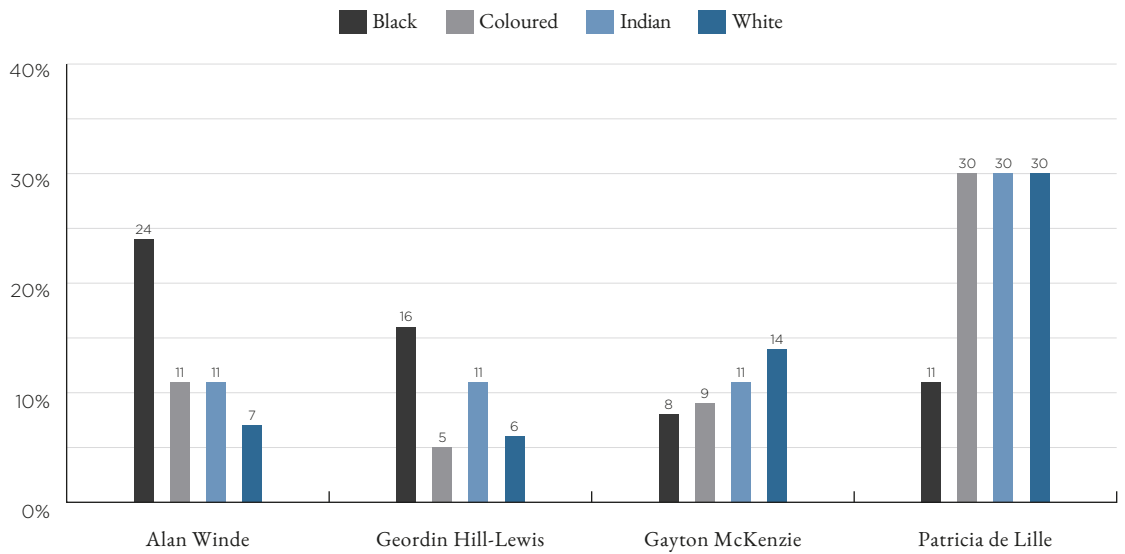
By employment status



By residential area

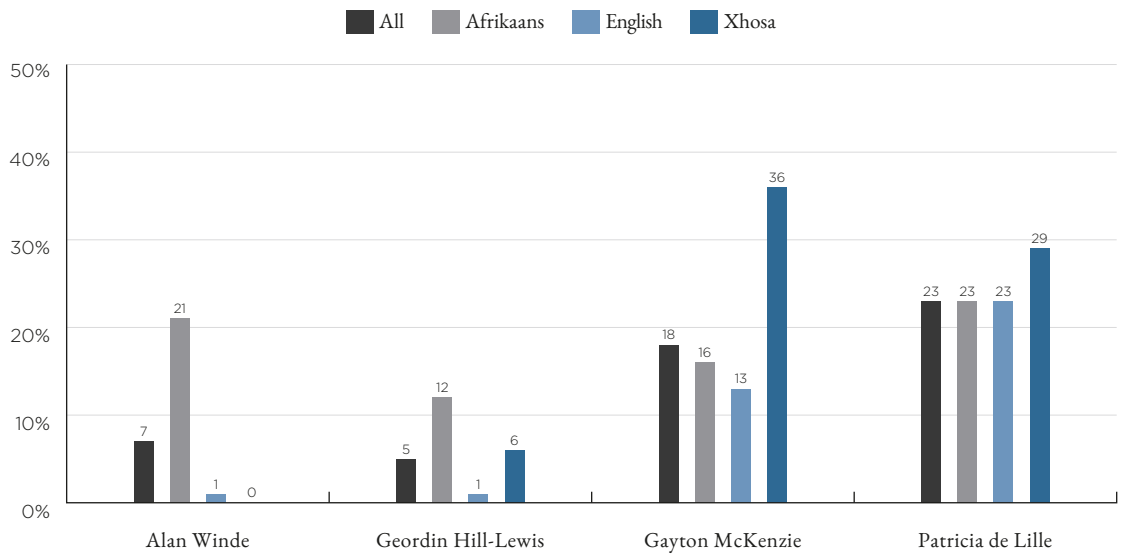


By race

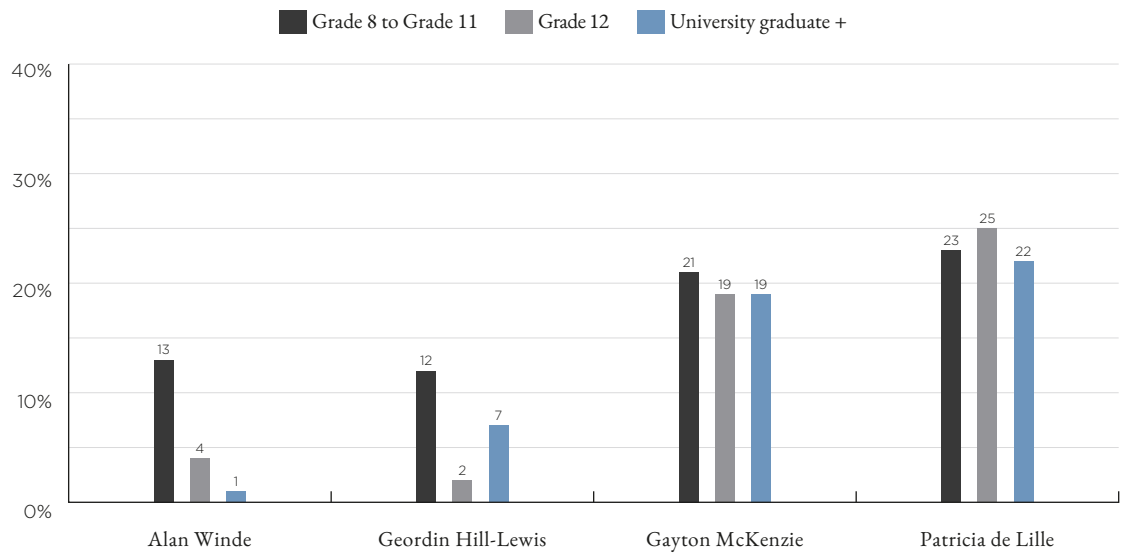


WHICH POLITICIAN IS A POPULIST WHO ONLY SAYS WHAT IS POPULAR?

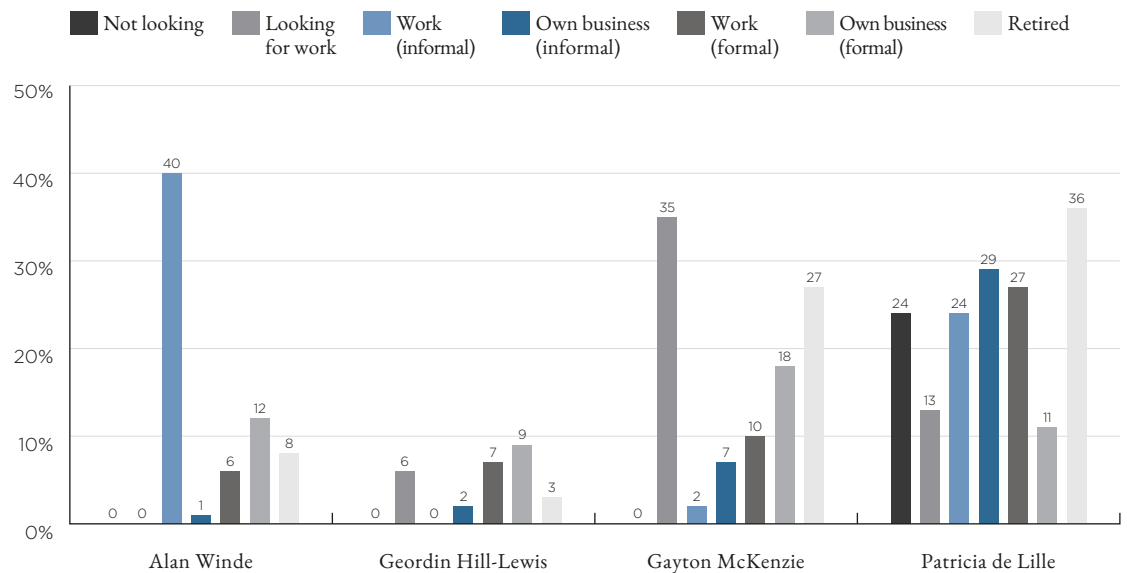
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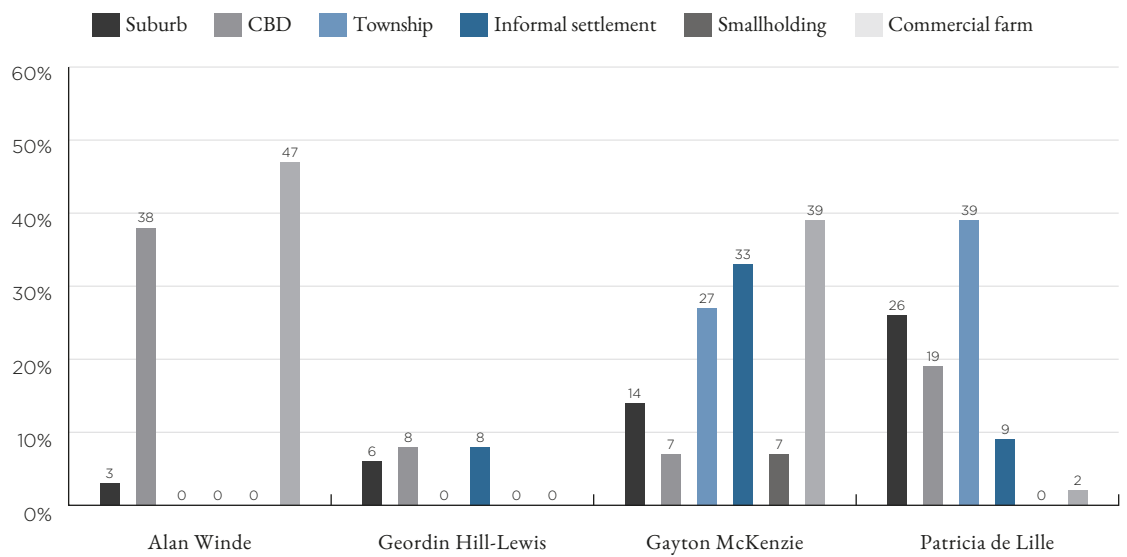
By highest level of education



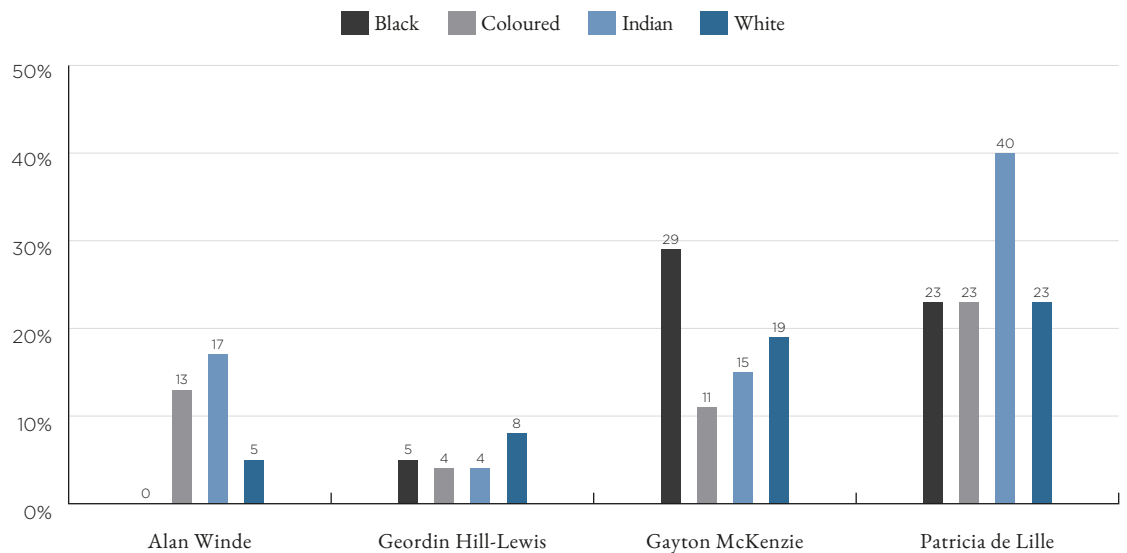
By employment status



By residential area



By race



TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS

The data splits across the socio-economic spectrum. Voters in higher socio-economic strata are considerably more generous in their perceptions about whether the politicians in the provincial ruling party care about them than is the case for voters in lower socio-economic strata. This finding mirrors a core insight that has emerged from the current series of reports that the Foundation is publishing about the Western Cape. However, what this report also identifies is that voters in lower socio-economic strata tend to identify provincial opposition politicians as populist and insincere. A marker to watch in the provincial politics is therefore whether the ruling DA can craft strategies that win the confidence of poorer voters, or whether, failing that, opposition leaders in the province are able to present themselves as viable and serious alternatives. There is also the outstanding question of how the provincial ANC and EFF leaders in the Western Cape are perceived. The Foundation has not yet tested that given that these leaders are largely unknown, even in their own communities. What the Foundation has, however, found in previous reports is that the EFF is making significant inroads into the black voter market in the province which might be ascribed to the prominence of its national leadership.

This report was produced by the Social Research Foundation, a think-tank focusing on public policy issues and the promotion of democracy.

Enquiries can be sent to gabriel@srfreports.co.za

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