stats sa
Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISIbalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

STATISTICAL RELEASE
P4141

Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

February 2024

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Nicolai Claassen
Tel: 072 310 5351

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Electricity generated (produced) in South Africa: results for February 2024

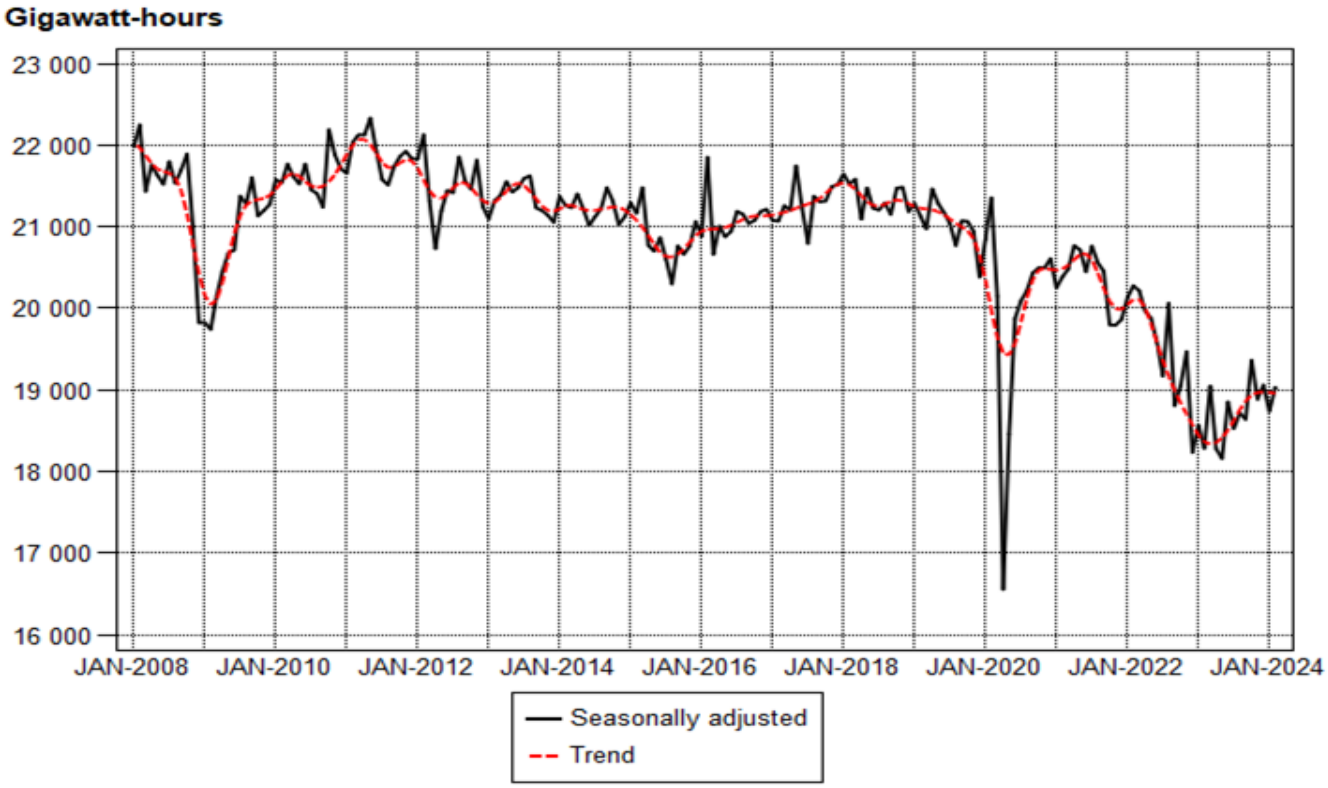
Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated

	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,0	1,6	-3,0	4,4	0,8	4,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,3	3,8	-2,5	1,0	-1,8	1,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	1,1	2,1	1,4	2,6	-0,1	-0,1

[1] Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity generation (production) increased by 4,2% year-on-year in February 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation increased by 1,6% in February 2024 compared with January 2024. This followed month-on-month changes of -1,8% in January 2024 and 1,0% in December 2023. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 0,1% in the three months ended February 2024 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 1 – Electricity generated in South Africa



Electricity distributed (consumed) in South Africa: results for February 2024

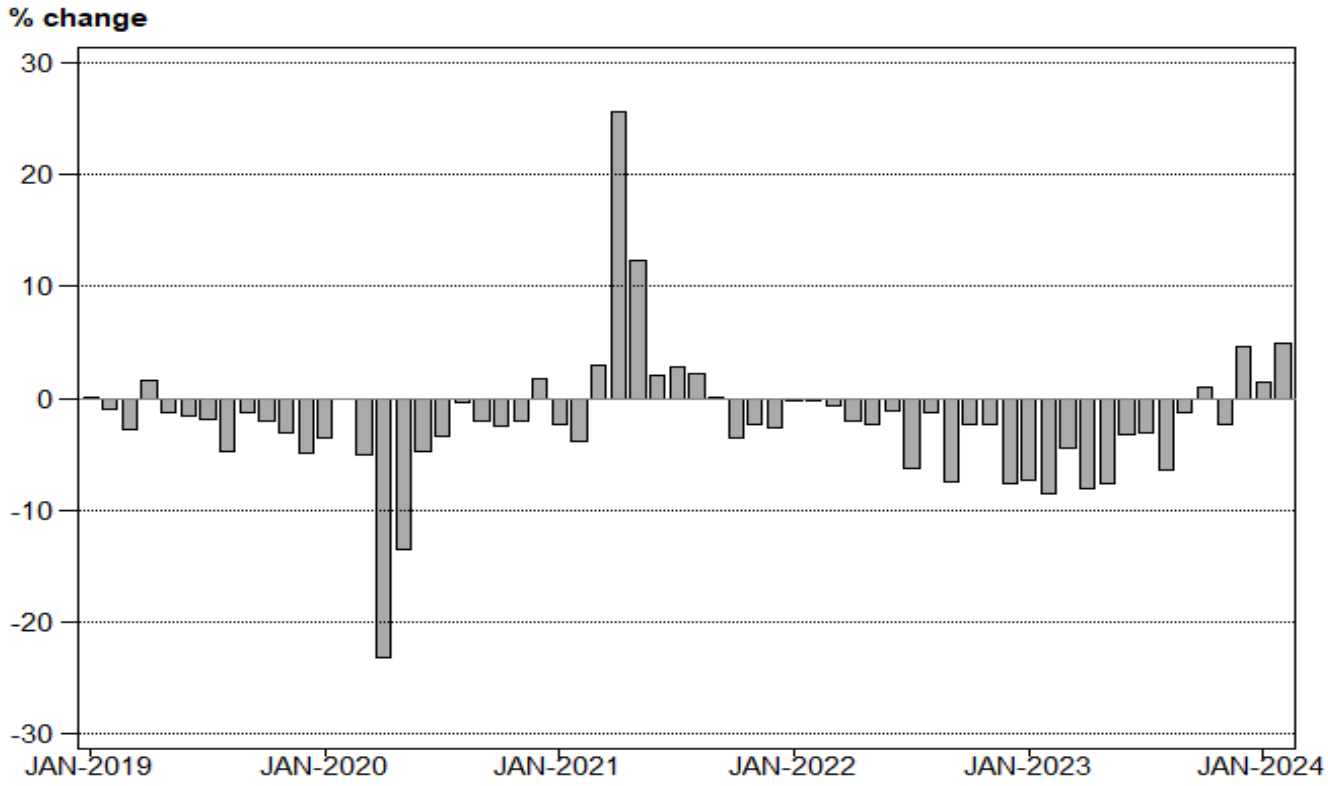
Table B – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed

	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,2	1,0	-2,3	4,6	1,5	5,0
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,5	4,0	-2,1	1,7	-1,1	0,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	0,7	1,3	0,5	2,5	0,8	1,0

[1] Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 5,0% year-on-year in February 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution increased by 0,5% month-on-month in February 2024, following month-on-month changes of -1,1% in January 2024 and 1,7% in December 2023. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution increased by 1,0% in the three months ended February 2024 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 2 – Electricity distributed in South Africa: year-on-year percentage change



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Index of the volume of electricity generated (Base: 2019=100)

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 [1]
Jan	101,5	99,5	97,1	93,9	93,0	85,7	86,4
Feb	93,1	91,3	92,2	88,2	87,9	79,4	82,7
Mar	102,5	99,5	95,5	97,2	96,2	90,8	
Apr	96,8	98,5	76,1	95,5	91,9	84,1	
May	105,5	104,9	91,1	102,2	97,9	89,4	
Jun	104,2	104,3	98,3	101,4	97,3	93,7	
Jul	107,9	107,1	102,3	105,7	97,6	94,3	
Aug	104,6	102,1	99,7	101,7	99,5	93,1	
Sep	99,2	98,7	95,7	95,7	87,9	87,0	
Oct	104,5	102,5	99,7	96,2	92,5	94,0	
Nov	100,9	98,2	95,7	92,2	90,5	87,8	
Dec	97,1	93,3	94,3	90,8	83,3	87,0	
Total	**101,5**	**100,0**	**94,8**	**96,7**	**93,0**	**88,9**	

[1] Latest month is preliminary.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of electricity generated

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	*2024 year-to-date*
Jan	-2,0	-2,4	-3,3	-1,0	-7,8	0,8	*0,8*
Feb	-1,9	1,0	-4,3	-0,3	-9,7	4,2	*2,4*
Mar	-2,9	-4,0	1,8	-1,0	-5,6		
Apr	1,8	-22,7	25,5	-3,8	-8,5		
May	-0,6	-13,2	12,2	-4,2	-8,7		
Jun	0,1	-5,8	3,2	-4,0	-3,7		
Jul	-0,7	-4,5	3,3	-7,7	-3,4		
Aug	-2,4	-2,4	2,0	-2,2	-6,4		
Sep	-0,5	-3,0	0,0	-8,2	-1,0		
Oct	-1,9	-2,7	-3,5	-3,8	1,6		
Nov	-2,7	-2,5	-3,7	-1,8	-3,0		
Dec	-3,9	1,1	-3,7	-8,3	4,4		
Total	**-1,5**	**-5,2**	**2,0**	**-3,8**	**-4,4**		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of electricity generated

Month	Base: 2019=100				Month-on-month % change			
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	96,2	95,6	88,2	89,0	-1,7	1,3	1,8	-1,8
Feb	96,9	96,3	86,9	90,4	0,7	0,7	-1,5	1,6
Mar	97,3	96,0	90,5		0,4	-0,3	4,1	
Apr	98,7	94,9	86,8		1,4	-1,1	-4,1	
May	98,4	94,5	86,3		-0,3	-0,4	-0,6	
Jun	97,1	93,1	89,6		-1,3	-1,5	3,8	
Jul	98,6	91,1	88,0		1,5	-2,1	-1,8	
Aug	97,7	95,3	88,9		-0,9	4,6	1,0	
Sep	97,2	89,3	88,6		-0,5	-6,3	-0,3	
Oct	94,1	90,5	92,0		-3,2	1,3	3,8	
Nov	94,0	92,5	89,7		-0,1	2,2	-2,5	
Dec	94,4	86,6	90,6		0,4	-6,4	1,0	

Table 4 – Volume of electricity distributed in South Africa (gigawatt-hours)

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 [1]
Jan	19 132	18 444	18 002	17 974	16 664	16 920
Feb	17 493	17 491	16 825	16 815	15 362	16 129
Mar	18 930	17 976	18 522	18 408	17 592	
Apr	18 711	14 379	18 078	17 709	16 271	
May	19 943	17 254	19 371	18 897	17 433	
Jun	19 609	18 664	19 049	18 838	18 232	
Jul	20 224	19 533	20 082	18 814	18 239	
Aug	19 105	19 038	19 459	19 220	17 981	
Sep	18 605	18 216	18 230	16 857	16 648	
Oct	19 367	18 883	18 203	17 784	17 970	
Nov	18 539	18 153	17 713	17 281	16 886	
Dec	17 678	17 979	17 496	16 173	16 923	
Total	**227 336**	**216 010**	**221 030**	**214 770**	**206 201**	

[1] Latest month is preliminary.

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in electricity distributed in South Africa

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	*2024 year-to-date*
Jan	-3,6	-2,4	-0,2	-7,3	1,5	*1,5*
Feb	0,0	-3,8	-0,1	-8,6	5,0	*3,2*
Mar	-5,0	3,0	-0,6	-4,4		
Apr	-23,2	25,7	-2,0	-8,1		
May	-13,5	12,3	-2,4	-7,7		
Jun	-4,8	2,1	-1,1	-3,2		
Jul	-3,4	2,8	-6,3	-3,1		
Aug	-0,4	2,2	-1,2	-6,4		
Sep	-2,1	0,1	-7,5	-1,2		
Oct	-2,5	-3,6	-2,3	1,0		
Nov	-2,1	-2,4	-2,4	-2,3		
Dec	1,7	-2,7	-7,6	4,6		
Total	**-5,0**	**2,3**	**-2,8**	**-4,0**		

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted volume of electricity distributed in South Africa

Month	Gigawatt-hours				Month-on-month % change			
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	18 425	18 464	17 143	17 415	-1,4	1,5	2,0	-1,1
Feb	18 385	18 346	16 679	17 497	-0,2	-0,6	-2,7	0,5
Mar	18 507	18 365	17 520		0,7	0,1	5,0	
Apr	18 632	18 226	16 743		0,7	-0,8	-4,4	
May	18 597	18 186	16 797		-0,2	-0,2	0,3	
Jun	18 196	17 983	17 394		-2,2	-1,1	3,6	
Jul	18 730	17 573	17 062		2,9	-2,3	-1,9	
Aug	18 752	18 471	17 252		0,1	5,1	1,1	
Sep	18 561	17 184	17 001		-1,0	-7,0	-1,5	
Oct	17 892	17 505	17 680		-3,6	1,9	4,0	
Nov	18 111	17 709	17 308		1,2	1,2	-2,1	
Dec	18 184	16 812	17 610		0,4	-5,1	1,7	

Table 7 – Volume of electricity by category (gigawatt-hours)

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24 [1]	Feb-24 year-on-year % change
Total - all producers						
Generated	19 792	18 474	18 307	18 180	17 410	4,2
Inflow into South Africa	786	878	965	981	881	15,8
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 575	1 421	1 390	1 390	1 331	5,7
Outflow from South Africa	1 033	1 045	959	852	830	-2,9
Distributed in South Africa	17 970	16 886	16 923	16 920	16 129	5,0
Eskom						
Generated	17 250	16 060	15 792	15 603	14 835	2,8
Inflow into South Africa	786	878	965	981	881	15,8
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 481	1 330	1 311	1 290	1 237	5,4
Outflow from South Africa	1 033	1 045	959	852	830	-2,9
Distributed in South Africa	15 522	14 563	14 487	14 442	13 648	3,7

[1] Preliminary.

Table 8 – Year-to-date volume of electricity by category: year-on-year percentage change and difference

	Jan – Feb 2023 (GWh)	Jan – Feb 2024 (GWh)	% change between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024	Difference between Jan – Feb 2023 and Jan – Feb 2024 (GWh)
Total - all producers				
Generated	34 744	35 594	2,4	850
Inflow into South Africa	1 764	1 862	5,6	98
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	2 629	2 721	3,5	92
Outflow from South Africa	1 854	1 682	-9,3	-172
Distributed in South Africa	32 026	33 052	3,2	1 026
Eskom				
Generated	29 853	30 438	2,0	585
Inflow into South Africa	1 764	1 862	5,6	98
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	2 448	2 527	3,2	79
Outflow from South Africa	1 854	1 682	-9,3	-172
Distributed in South Africa	27 315	28 090	2,8	775

Table 9 – Volume of electricity delivered to provinces (gigawatt-hours)

Province	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24 [1]	Feb-24 year-on-year % change
Western Cape	1 566	1 486	1 541	1 619	1 539	9,3
Eastern Cape	760	676	660	674	662	13,9
Northern Cape	505	576	598	529	508	24,2
Free State	863	829	834	834	798	4,0
KwaZulu-Natal	3 234	3 080	3 140	3 087	2 957	4,6
North West	1 832	1 750	1 681	1 698	1 595	-3,9
Gauteng	4 459	4 129	3 900	4 027	3 896	5,5
Mpumalanga	2 630	2 512	2 568	2 516	2 340	4,1
Limpopo	1 848	1 684	1 766	1 719	1 626	7,9
Total	**17 698**	**16 722**	**16 688**	**16 704**	**15 922**	**5,5**

[1] Preliminary.

Explanatory notes

Introduction

1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the electricity industry. This statistical release contains monthly information regarding the volume of electricity units:

- generated and distributed in South Africa;
- flowing into and out from South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders; and
- delivered to provinces.

Both unadjusted and seasonally adjusted figures are published.

2 In accordance with international practice, the indices are usually re-based every five years to a new base year. The current base period of the index is 2019.

3 Some information for the current month may have been estimated due to late submission by respondents. These estimates will be revised in the next statistical release(s) as soon as actual information is available.

Purpose of the survey

4 The results of the monthly electricity survey are used to compile estimates of the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which are used in monitoring the state of the economy and formulation of economic policy.

Scope of the survey

5 This survey covers enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity (excluding the distribution of purchased electric energy). It includes electrical power installations, which, as subsidiary divisions of enterprises, produce electricity for regular use by these enterprises.

Classification

6 The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each enterprise is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (five-digit) level.

Collection rate

7 The collection rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for February 2024 was 100%. The collection rate for January 2024 was 100%.

Statistical unit

8 The statistical unit for the collection of information is an enterprise, defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.

Revised figures

9 Normally revised figures are due to:

- late submission of data to Stats SA; and
- revisions or corrections by respondents to previously reported data.

Data are edited at enterprise level.

Rounding-off of figures

10 Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

Historical data

11 Historical electricity data are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link (Time series data) to access the data electronically.

Past publications

12 Past electricity releases are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link (Past publications) to access the releases electronically.

Technical notes

Survey methodology and design

1 All statistical units are stratified by type of economic activity according to the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC) and measure of size, where measure of size is the volume of electricity generated by the enterprise. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. A sample is drawn from medium and small size enterprises by systematically selecting enterprises within each size category. An enterprise with a total generating capacity of less than 500 kilowatts is excluded from the sample.

2 The survey is conducted by email and telephone. Information is collected from a sample of 24 enterprises. As from September 2013, Eskom supplied additional data for independent power producers (IPPs) that were not in the original sample of 24 enterprises.

Monthly index of electricity generated

3 The calculation of the monthly index of electricity generated is based on the volume of electricity units produced.

Benchmarking

4 The index of the volume of electricity generated should provide an accurate reflection of the trend of activities of the relevant industry. The level of activities, as measured by the monthly electricity survey, is based on information received from a sample of enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity (excluding the distribution of purchased electric energy). These levels are weighted according to the original sample and designed to represent the population of enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity.

The results of the 1995 Census of electricity, gas and steam served as a benchmark to verify or adjust the level of the monthly index of the volume of electricity generated collected through the monthly survey. The level adjustments were done on the volume index for July of the relevant census year (the 1995 census year covered the period 1 January to 31 December 1995 and therefore, the benchmarking was done using the index of July 1995 as reference point).

Seasonal adjustment

5 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences, which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The X12-ARIMA procedure for electricity generated and available for distribution is described in more detail on the Stats SA website:
Click to download Electricity seasonal adjustment February 2022.

Trend cycle

6 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle.

Month-on-month percentage change

7 The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Year-on-year percentage change

8 The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Glossary

Enterprise

The enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.

Index of the volume of electricity generated

A statistical measure of the change in the volume of electricity generated in a given period and the volume of electricity generated in the base period. The base period is 2019. The production in the base period is set at 100.

Industry

An industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the same way as in the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.

Inflow into SA

Electricity flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

Outflow from SA

Electricity flowing from South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

Unit of electricity

One gigawatt-hour of electricity is equal to one million kilowatt-hours. A kilowatt-hour is the basic unit of electrical energy equal to one kilowatt of power supplied to or taken from an electric circuit steadily for one hour. One kilowatt-hour equals one thousand watt-hours.

Symbols and abbreviations

GDP	Gross domestic product
GWh	Gigawatt-hour
IPPs	Independent Power Producers
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
SA	South Africa
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
*	Revised figures

Technical enquiries

Tsholofelo Ditinti

Telephone number: (012) 310 6990
Email: tsholofelod@statssa.gov.za

Nicolai Claassen

Telephone number: (012) 310 8007 / 072 310 5351
Email: nicolaic@statssa.gov.za

General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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General enquiries

User information services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8600 Email address: info@statssa.gov.za
Orders/subscription services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8619 Email address: millies@statssa.gov.za
Postal address	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA