

## Generation and consumption of electricity **P4141**

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#### SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN THE CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY

*Since the beginning of 1999 the trend in the consumption of electricity in South Africa is slightly improving. Consumption of electricity in South Africa for the three months up to April 1999, after seasonal adjustment, increased by 1,6% (726 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the previous three months. The production of electricity in South Africa increased by 0,3% (141 Gigawatt-hours) and imports of electricity increased by 57,9% (421 Gigawatt-hours) during this period. The high imports of electricity resulted in more electricity being available for distribution in South Africa. However, export of electricity decreased by 18,3% (215 Gigawatt-hours) during the above-mentioned period.*

During the three months up to April 1999, production of electricity by producers other than Eskom, reflected the lowest level since October 1996. Although production as reported by Eskom, remained stable for the last few months, the imports of electricity are increasingly used to fulfil the demand for electricity in South Africa.

#### SUMMARY - ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA

Period	Gigawatt-hours	Percentage change
Actual		
Feb. 1999 - Apr. 1999	45 087	-0,0
Feb. 1998 - Apr. 1998	45 096	

Seasonally adjusted			
Feb. 1999	-	Apr. 1999	47 290
Nov. 1998	-	Jan. 1999	46 564
			+1,6

#### NOTE

This statistical release contains estimates of the total number of units of electricity consumed (as indicated by electricity available for distribution) in the Republic of South Africa (including the former TBVC states). Electricity available for distribution is measured before allowing for transmission losses.

Information regarding the number of units of electricity produced, the number of units consumed in power stations, electricity purchased and sold outside South Africa are also published in this statistical release.

According to international practice, production indices are arithmetically converted to base 1995=100.

In order to improve timeliness, some information for the current month may have been estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised as soon as new information becomes available.

Stats SA has adopted the confidential pre-release policy in respect of selected economic indicators and specific government departments. The policy accords with practice among leading statistical agencies. The statistical integrity of the indices and strict observance of the release time has been assured by the following procedure:

In respect of this statistical release, an official representative from the Office of the President, the Deputy President, the Department of Finance, the South African Reserve Bank and the Department of Trade and Industry will receive a copy of the release on a strictly confidential basis two hours in advance of the public issue.

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**TABLE 1.1 ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/  
HISTORICAL TABLE**

Gigawatt-hours

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
ACTUAL FIGURES						
J	13 176	13 782	14 155	15 009	15 403	15 121
F	12 294	12 858	13 710	14 088	14 459	14 333
M	13 593	14 145	14 361	15 155	15 714	15 714
A	12 723	13 350	14 006	15 247	14 923	15 040
M	13 892	14 687	15 315	16 423	16 261	
J	14 629	14 998	15 325	16 474	16 280	
J	15 255	15 440	16 862	17 187	16 867	
A	14 893	14 994	16 151	16 303	16 417	
S	13 719	13 939	14 698	15 503	15 536	
O	14 018	14 306	15 356	16 005	15 958	
N	13 752	14 070	14 792	15 235	15 136	
D	13 366	13 534	14 207	14 878	14 563	
YEAR	165 310	170 103	178 938	187 507	187 517	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FIGURES						
J	13 501	14 115	14 494	15 336	15 773	15 484
F	13 565	14 149	15 056	15 418	15 795	15 655
M	13 625	14 202	14 426	15 222	15 809	15 818
A	13 454	14 114	14 787	16 064	15 711	15 817
M	13 545	14 269	14 771	15 801	15 634	
J	13 780	14 144	14 477	15 619	15 451	
J	13 896	14 073	15 388	15 716	15 437	
A	13 939	14 072	15 194	15 358	15 517	
S	13 895	14 111	14 863	15 651	15 649	
O	13 865	14 162	15 206	15 831	15 740	
N	14 076	14 401	15 164	15 629	15 522	
D	14 167	14 380	15 120	15 883	15 558	

**TABLE 1.2 INDICES OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCTIO  
HISTORICAL TABLE**

Base : 1995=100

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
ACTUAL INDICES						
J	92,7	97,5	100,6	108,3	109,6	106,9
F	86,7	90,7	98,5	101,5	102,8	100,5
M	96,1	99,8	103,6	109,5	110,6	109,4
A	90,1	93,9	100,5	109,6	105,5	101,7
M	98,5	102,6	109,9	117,8	115,4	
J	103,2	105,2	110,1	118,3	115,4	
J	107,5	108,7	121,1	124,1	119,9	
A	105,2	105,6	115,8	118,0	111,9	
S	97,2	98,5	105,7	112,9	109,1	
O	99,4	101,4	110,7	115,8	112,6	
N	97,2	99,9	107,3	110,0	106,2	
D	94,5	96,2	102,7	106,7	101,3	
YEAR	97,4	100,0	107,2	112,7	110,0	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDICES						
J	95,0	99,8	102,9	110,8	112,1	109,3
F	95,5	99,6	108,0	111,0	112,2	109,7
M	96,3	100,1	104,1	110,1	111,3	110,2
A	95,2	99,2	106,2	115,6	111,3	107,3
M	96,0	99,6	106,2	113,6	111,0	
J	97,4	99,4	104,3	112,4	109,8	
J	98,1	99,2	110,5	113,3	109,5	
A	98,5	99,2	109,1	111,4	105,7	
S	98,2	99,4	106,5	113,6	109,7	
O	98,2	100,2	109,2	114,1	110,8	
N	99,3	102,1	109,7	112,5	108,7	
D	100,1	102,1	109,2	113,7	108,1	

1/ As indicated by electricity available for distribution  
 \* Revised

TABLE 2 ELECTRICITY - PRODUCED, CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS PURCHASED AND SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA AND CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA

DESCRIPTION	Year 1998	Gigawatt-hours			
		April	March	April	January - April
		1999	1998	1999	1998

TOTAL - ALL PRODUCERS						
ELECTRICITY PRODUCED						
Actual figures	205 374	15 821	17 023	16 411	65 098	66 664
Seasonally adjusted figures		16 697	17 149	17 314	-	-
PURCHASED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA						
	2 375	682	302	176	1 370	398
CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS AND AUXILIARY SYSTEMS						
	15 701	1 223	1 286	1 297	5 023	5 181
SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA						
	4 532	240	325	367	1 223	1 382
ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/						
Actual figures	187 517	15 040	15 714	14 923	60 208	60 499
Seasonally adjusted figures		15 817	15 818	15 711	-	-

ESKOM						
ELECTRICITY PRODUCED						
Actual figures	193 662	14 941	16 229	15 418	61 586	62 769
Seasonally adjusted figures		15 845	16 250	16 345	-	-
PURCHASED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA						
	2 375	682	302	176	1 370	398
CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS AND AUXILIARY SYSTEMS						
	14 394	1 129	1 192	1 185	4 648	4 754
SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA						
	4 532	240	325	367	1 223	1 382
ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/						
Actual figures	177 111	14 254	15 016	14 042	57 075	57 031
Seasonally adjusted figures		15 059	15 023	14 855	-	-

1/ As indicated by electricity available for distribution

\* Revised