

Generation and consumption of electricity

December 2003

Co-operation between Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the citizens of the country, the private sector and government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system. Without continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.

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Stats SA publishes approximately three hundred different releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven 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.

This data in this statistical release adheres to the Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which sets out standards on coverage, periodicity and timeliness of data; access by the public; integrity; and quality of the disseminated data.

Key figures as at the end of December 2003

| Actual estimates | December 2003 | % change between December 2002 and December 2003 | % change between October 2002 to December 2002 and October 2003 to December 2003 | % change between January 2002 to December 2002 and January 2003 to December 2003 |
|---|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Electricity consumed (Gigawatt-hours) | 17 596 | +7,0 | +4,6 | +3,8 |
| Electricity imported (Gigawatt-hours) | 720 | +4,2 | -2,9 | -14,4 |
| Electricity exported (Gigawatt-hours) | 1 055 | +73,5 | +74,3 | +45,8 |
| Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2000=100) | 109,9 | +9,9 | +7,8 | +6,4 |

| Seasonally adjusted estimates | December 2003 | % change between November 2003 and December 2003 | % change between July 2003 to September 2003 and October 2003 to December 2003 |
|---|----------------------|---|---|
| Electricity consumed (Gigawatt-hours) | 18 721 | +4,5 | +3,9 |
| Electricity imported (Gigawatt-hours) | 590 | +2,8 | -0,3 |
| Electricity exported (Gigawatt-hours) | 996 | +5,0 | +5,0 |
| Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2000=100) | 117,8 | +4,7 | +3,9 |

Key findings as at the end of December 2003

Consumption of electricity higher than a year ago

The consumption of electricity in South Africa for the year 2003, increased by 3,8% (+7 675 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the year 2002. Furthermore, the consumption of electricity for December 2003 increased by 7,0% (+1 156 Gigawatt-hours) compared with December 2002. The consumption of electricity for the fourth quarter of 2003, after seasonal adjustment, increased by 3,9% (+2 025 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the third quarter of 2003.

Production of electricity higher than a year ago

The production of electricity in South Africa for the year 2003, increased by 6,4% (+13 864 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the year 2002. Furthermore, the production of electricity for December 2003 increased by 9,9% (+1 730 Gigawatt-hours) compared with December 2002. The production of electricity for the fourth quarter of 2003, after seasonal adjustment, increased by 3,9% (+2 259 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the third quarter of 2003.

Import of electricity lower than a year ago

The import of electricity for the year 2003 decreased by 14,4% (-1 134 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the year 2002. However, the import of electricity for December 2003 increased by 4,2% (+29 Gigawatt-hours) compared with December 2002. The seasonally adjusted import of electricity for the fourth quarter of 2003 decreased by 0,3% (-5 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the third quarter of 2003.

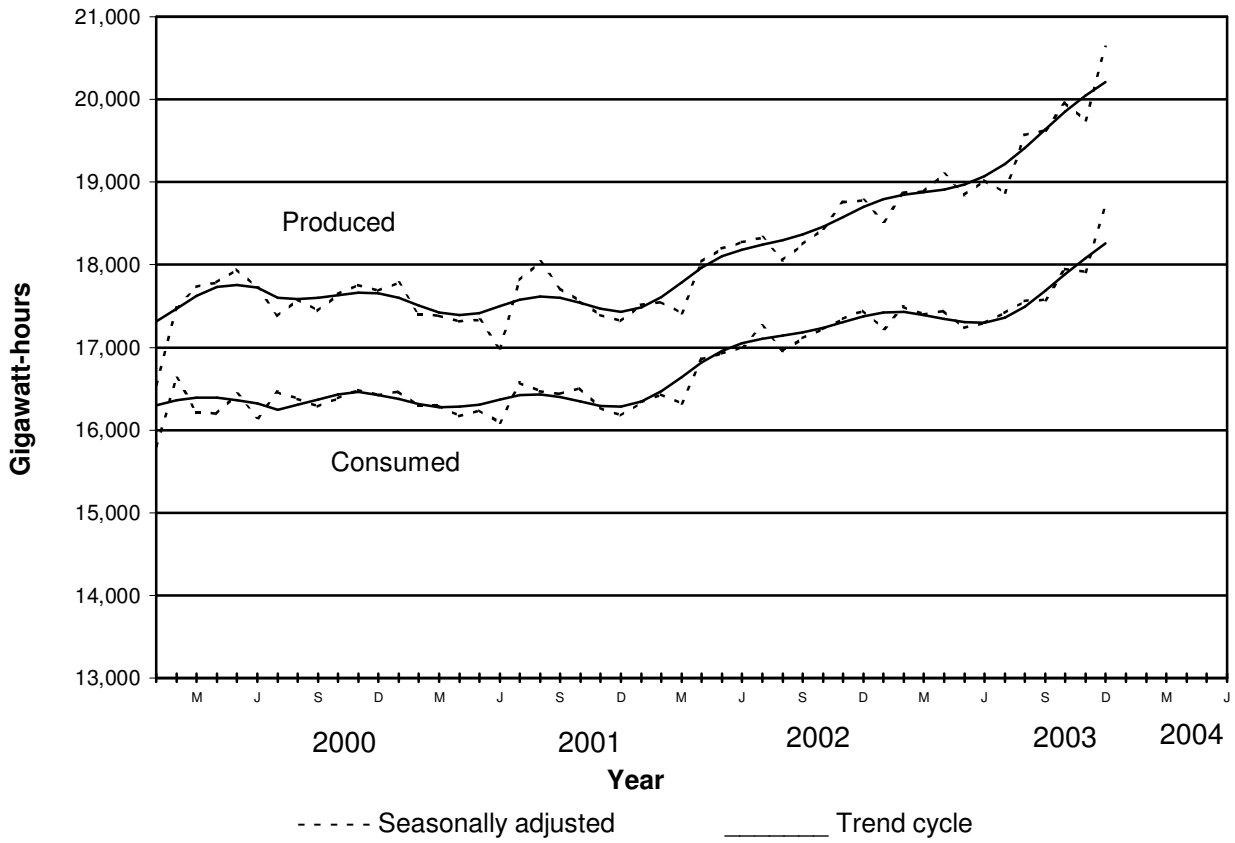
Export of electricity higher than a year ago

The export of electricity for the year 2003 increased by 45,8% (+3 186 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the year 2002. However, the export of electricity for December 2003 increased by 73,5% (+447 Gigawatt-hours) compared with December 2002. The seasonally adjusted export of electricity for the fourth quarter of 2003 increased by 5,0% (+137 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the third quarter of 2003.

Exports compared to imports

The export of electricity for the year 2003 exceeded the import of electricity by 50,4% (+3 397 Gigawatt-hours). In comparison, during the year 2002, 11,7% (923 Gigawatt-hours) less electricity was exported than imported.

Figure 1 – Electricity consumed and produced in South Africa



Source: Stats SA

pp
P J Lehohla
 Statistician-General: Statistics South Africa

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Notes

| Forthcoming issues | Issue | Expected release date |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| | January 2004 | 4 March 2004 |
| | February 2004 | April 2004 |
| | March 2004 | 6 May 2004 |
| | April 2004 | 3 June 2004 |
| | May 2004 | 1 July 2004 |
| | June 2004 | 5 August 2004 |
| | July 2004 | 2 September 2004 |
| | August 2004 | 7 October 2004 |
| | September 2004 | 4 November 2004 |
| | October 2004 | 2 December 2004 |
| | November 2004 | 6 January 2005 |
| | December 2004 | 3 February 2005 |
| Purpose of the survey | <p>The Generation and Consumption of Electricity Survey is a countrywide survey covering a sample of electricity undertakings and establishments conducting activities concerned with the generation or transmission and distribution of electricity in the South African economy. The information received is used to estimate key economic statistics and calculate production indices in order to compile estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components, which are used to formulate and monitor government policy.</p> | |
| Response rate | <p>The response rate for the survey on the generation and consumption of electricity for December 2003 was 90,9%.</p> | |

Table 1 - Total volume of electricity consumed in South Africa (SA): 1998 to 2003

| Gigawatt-hours | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Month | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| January | 15 403 | 15 153 | 15 512 | 16 064 | 15 968 | 16 837 |
| February | 14 459 | 14 360 | 15 224 | 14 871 | 15 005 | 15 940 |
| March | 15 714 | 15 791 | 16 225 | 16 320 | 16 353 | 17 424 |
| April | 14 923 | 15 063 | 15 399 | 15 515 | 16 172 | 16 728 |
| May | 16 261 | 16 327 | 17 064 | 16 929 | 17 642 | 17 974 |
| June | 16 280 | 16 393 | 16 818 | 16 788 | 17 763 | 18 116 |
| July | 16 867 | 17 051 | 17 759 | 18 021 | 18 743 | 18 939 |
| August | 16 417 | 16 708 | 17 214 | 17 300 | 17 842 | 18 462 |
| September | 15 536 | 15 937 | 16 180 | 16 277 | 16 892 | 17 279 |
| October | 15 957 | 16 322 | 16 709 | 16 794 | 17 523 | 18 213 |
| November | 15 136 | 15 831 | 16 161 | 15 960 | 17 005 | 17 515 |
| December | 14 563 | 15 184 | 15 395 | 15 224 | 16 440 | 17 596 |
| Year | 187 516 | 190 120 | 195 660 | 196 063 | 203 348 | 211 023 |

Table 2 - Seasonally adjusted total volume of electricity consumed in SA: 1998 to 2003

| Gigawatt-hours | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Month | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| January | 15 751 | 15 494 | 15 865 | 16 439 | 16 354 | 17 224 |
| February | 15 798 | 15 693 | 16 657 | 16 254 | 16 430 | 17 491 |
| March | 15 705 | 15 783 | 16 231 | 16 267 | 16 297 | 17 400 |
| April | 15 657 | 15 782 | 16 171 | 16 176 | 16 860 | 17 444 |
| May | 15 590 | 15 673 | 16 369 | 16 234 | 16 925 | 17 233 |
| June | 15 577 | 15 743 | 16 136 | 16 107 | 17 009 | 17 300 |
| July | 15 536 | 15 747 | 16 394 | 16 599 | 17 248 | 17 416 |
| August | 15 547 | 15 846 | 16 336 | 16 413 | 16 957 | 17 562 |
| September | 15 663 | 16 063 | 16 315 | 16 451 | 17 100 | 17 576 |
| October | 15 672 | 16 030 | 16 419 | 16 496 | 17 182 | 17 946 |
| November | 15 489 | 16 163 | 16 499 | 16 266 | 17 323 | 17 912 |
| December | 15 551 | 16 173 | 16 422 | 16 243 | 17 547 | 18 721 |

Table 3 - Indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 1998 to 2003**Base: 2000=100**

| Month | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| January | 97,1 | 94,7 | 92,5 | 98,6 | 97,1 | 102,7 |
| February | 91,1 | 89,0 | 91,2 | 90,1 | 90,5 | 97,1 |
| March | 98,0 | 97,0 | 100,9 | 98,5 | 98,5 | 106,6 |
| April | 93,5 | 90,1 | 95,9 | 93,6 | 97,8 | 103,6 |
| May | 102,2 | 98,0 | 106,3 | 103,0 | 108,1 | 111,9 |
| June | 102,2 | 98,9 | 104,9 | 101,1 | 108,6 | 113,2 |
| July | 106,2 | 104,0 | 107,8 | 111,1 | 114,2 | 117,7 |
| August | 99,1 | 101,8 | 105,5 | 108,0 | 108,5 | 117,5 |
| September | 96,6 | 96,9 | 99,1 | 100,5 | 103,5 | 111,3 |
| October | 99,8 | 99,1 | 103,1 | 102,7 | 108,3 | 117,2 |
| November | 94,1 | 96,0 | 99,1 | 97,4 | 104,9 | 110,4 |
| December | 89,8 | 90,8 | 93,8 | 92,1 | 100,0 | 109,9 |
| Year | 97,5 | 96,4 | 100,0 | 99,7 | 103,3 | 109,9 |

Table 4 -Seasonally adjusted indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 1998 to 2003**Base: 2000=100**

| Month | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| January | 99,3 | 96,8 | 94,7 | 101,1 | 99,9 | 105,7 |
| February | 99,4 | 97,3 | 100,0 | 99,1 | 99,9 | 107,5 |
| March | 98,3 | 97,3 | 101,2 | 98,9 | 99,1 | 107,3 |
| April | 98,7 | 95,0 | 101,1 | 98,4 | 102,7 | 108,7 |
| May | 98,4 | 94,1 | 102,1 | 98,8 | 103,7 | 107,3 |
| June | 97,9 | 94,8 | 100,6 | 96,9 | 104,0 | 108,4 |
| July | 97,5 | 95,5 | 99,0 | 102,1 | 104,9 | 108,0 |
| August | 93,6 | 96,3 | 99,8 | 102,1 | 102,5 | 111,0 |
| September | 97,1 | 97,3 | 99,4 | 100,8 | 103,9 | 111,8 |
| October | 97,6 | 96,6 | 100,3 | 99,7 | 105,0 | 113,6 |
| November | 96,2 | 98,0 | 101,0 | 99,1 | 106,8 | 112,5 |
| December | 96,2 | 97,4 | 100,8 | 98,8 | 107,1 | 117,8 |

Table 5 - Total volume of electricity imported: 1998 to 2003

| Gigawatt-hours | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Month | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| January | 11 | 185 | 683 | 569 | 670 | 705 |
| February | 52 | 201 | 529 | 488 | 643 | 637 |
| March | 159 | 302 | 6 | 665 | 783 | 706 |
| April | 176 | 682 | 24 | 774 | 733 | 547 |
| May | 133 | 719 | 20 | 629 | 658 | 569 |
| June | 187 | 654 | 2 | 797 | 704 | 518 |
| July | 141 | 515 | 599 | 479 | 702 | 792 |
| August | 667 | 613 | 476 | 282 | 721 | 424 |
| September | 203 | 679 | 495 | 507 | 637 | 266 |
| October | 161 | 688 | 506 | 713 | 454 | 272 |
| November | 273 | 644 | 601 | 636 | 477 | 583 |
| December | 212 | 791 | 778 | 708 | 691 | 720 |
| Year to date | 2 375 | 6 673 | 4 719 | 7 247 | 7 873 | 6 739 |

Table 6 - Total volume of electricity exported: 1998 to 2003

| Gigawatt-hours | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Month | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
| January | 330 | 346 | 197 | 616 | 558 | 578 |
| February | 360 | 267 | 169 | 470 | 478 | 508 |
| March | 325 | 248 | 196 | 498 | 529 | 607 |
| April | 367 | 217 | 155 | 463 | 525 | 619 |
| May | 388 | 318 | 213 | 508 | 578 | 805 |
| June | 429 | 347 | 193 | 496 | 601 | 798 |
| July | 472 | 381 | 363 | 543 | 614 | 944 |
| August | 350 | 465 | 389 | 569 | 605 | 1 030 |
| September | 343 | 480 | 458 | 581 | 628 | 1 051 |
| October | 400 | 440 | 540 | 630 | 626 | 1 116 |
| November | 465 | 432 | 525 | 598 | 600 | 1 025 |
| December | 303 | 325 | 609 | 547 | 608 | 1 055 |
| Year to date | 4 532 | 4 266 | 4 007 | 6 519 | 6 950 | 10 136 |

Table 7 - Electricity produced and consumed in power stations, purchased and sold outside South Africa and consumed in South Africa

Gigawatt-hours

| Description | December 2002 | November 2003 | December 2003 | January 2002 to December 2002 | January 2003 to December 2003 | Percentage change between January 2002 to December 2002 and January 2003 to December 2003 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Total - All Producers | | | | | | |
| Electricity produced | 17 555 | 19 375 | 19 299 | 217 712 | 231 590 | + 6,4 |
| Purchased outside South Africa (import) | 691 | 583 | 720 | 7 873 | 6 739 | - 14,4 |
| Consumed in power stations and auxilliary systems | 1 197 | 1 418 | 1 368 | 15 289 | 17 170 | + 12,3 |
| Sold outside South Africa (export) | 608 | 1 025 | 1 055 | 6 950 | 10 136 | + 45,8 |
| Electricity consumed in South Africa ^{1/} | 16 440 | 17 515 | 17 596 | 203 348 | 211 023 | + 3,8 |
| Eskom | | | | | | |
| Electricity produced | 16 922 | 18 701 | 18 248 | 209 402 | 222 678 | + 6,3 |
| Purchased outside South Africa (import) | 691 | 583 | 720 | 7 873 | 6 739 | - 14,4 |
| Consumed in power stations and auxilliary systems | 1 128 | 1 344 | 1 303 | 14 269 | 16 244 | + 13,8 |
| Sold outside South Africa (export) | 0 608 | 1 025 | 1 055 | 6 950 | 10 136 | + 45,8 |
| Electricity consumed in South Africa ^{1/} | 15 876 | 16 916 | 16 609 | 196 058 | 203 037 | + 3,6 |

^{1/} As indicated by electricity available for distribution

Table 8 - Electricity distributed by Eskom according to province for the year 2003 1/

| Gigawatt-hours | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Month | Western Cape | Eastern Cape | Northern Cape | Free State | North West |
| January | 1 673 | 545 | 379 | 792 | 2 356 |
| February | 1 622 | 520 | 355 | 742 | 2 169 |
| March | 1 763 | 590 | 372 | 814 | 2 318 |
| April | 1 655 | 534 | 330 | 766 | 2 241 |
| May | 1 670 | 582 | 334 | 828 | 2 248 |
| June | 1 746 | 635 | 339 | 854 | 2 391 |
| July | 1 821 | 661 | 358 | 883 | 2 424 |
| August | 1 791 | 545 | 361 | 857 | 2 359 |
| September | 1 697 | 617 | 364 | 767 | 2 302 |
| October | 1 746 | 632 | 401 | 807 | 2 465 |
| November | 1 639 | 591 | 364 | 759 | 2 395 |
| December | 1 714 | 561 | 394 | 779 | 2 330 |
| Year to date | 20 537 | 7 013 | 4 351 | 9 648 | 27 998 |

| Month | KwaZulu-Natal | Mpumalanga | Gauteng | Limpopo | Total SA |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| January | 3 204 | 2 090 | 4 058 | 740 | 15 838 |
| February | 2 970 | 1 938 | 3 802 | 699 | 14 818 |
| March | 3 216 | 2 217 | 4 201 | 786 | 16 279 |
| April | 3 155 | 2 070 | 4 095 | 752 | 15 599 |
| May | 3 604 | 2 183 | 4 507 | 785 | 16 741 |
| June | 3 211 | 2 061 | 4 808 | 789 | 16 836 |
| July | 3 387 | 2 166 | 5 116 | 832 | 17 648 |
| August | 3 334 | 2 120 | 4 854 | 828 | 17 173 |
| September | 3 226 | 2 032 | 4 356 | 794 | 16 155 |
| October | 3 413 | 2 140 | 4 518 | 825 | 16 947 |
| November | 3 346 | 2 112 | 4 216 | 802 | 16 225 |
| December | 3 364 | 2 148 | 3 999 | 809 | 16 099 |
| Year to date | 39 430 | 25 277 | 52 530 | 9 441 | 196 358 |

1/ Wholesale energy as delivered by Eskom to the various provinces

Explanatory notes

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly sample survey of the electricity industry covering electricity undertakings and establishments (branches). This statistical release contains information regarding the number of electricity units produced and consumed in South Africa, the number of units purchased and sold outside South Africa and the number of units distributed by Eskom according to province on a monthly basis. Both actual and seasonally adjusted figures are published.
 - 2 This statistical release reflects indices of the physical volume of electricity production. In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be rebased every five years to a new base year. The indices in this statistical release have been calculated on the basis of 2000=100. Rebased indices were published since the October 2001 Statistical Release P4141: *Generation and Consumption of Electricity* on 6 December 2001.
 - 3 In order to improve timeliness of the publication, 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.
- Scope of the survey**
- 4 This survey covers electricity undertakings and establishments conducting activities concerned with the generation or transmission and distribution of electricity, including electrical power installations, which, as subsidiary divisions of undertakings, produce electricity for regular use by these undertakings.
- Classification**
- 5 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 statistical unit is classified to an industry, which reflects the predominant activity of the electricity undertaking or establishment.
- Statistical unit**
- 6 The basic statistical unit for the collection of information is the electricity undertaking or establishment. The electricity undertaking or establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry (cf. paragraph 5).
- Survey methodology and design**
- 7 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 electricity undertaking or establishment. All large undertakings or establishments (size category one cases) are completely enumerated. A sample is drawn from medium and small size undertakings and establishments by systematically selecting undertakings or establishments within each size category. An electricity undertaking or establishment with a total generating capacity of less than 500 kilowatt is excluded from the sample.
 - 8 The survey is conducted by mail each month collecting information from a sample of 22 electricity undertakings or establishments.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Monthly production indices | 9 | The calculation of the monthly production indices is based on the number of electricity units produced. |
| Benchmarking | 10 | The index of physical volume of electricity production should provide an accurate reflection of the trend of activities of the relevant industry. The level of activities as measured by the monthly Generation and Consumption of Electricity sample survey is based on information received from a sample of electricity undertakings and establishments, which are weighted according to the original sample, design in order to represent the population of electricity undertakings and establishments. It is necessary to adjust the level of activities as measured by the monthly sample survey to the level of activities as measured periodically by the Census of Electricity, Gas and Steam. This procedure, whereby the latest results of an economic census are used to compile more accurate level estimates for a certain year, is known as benchmarking. |
| | 11 | The results of the 1995 Census of Electricity, Gas and Steam served as benchmarks to verify or adjust the level of the monthly physical volume of electricity production indices collected through the monthly sample survey. The level adjustments were done on the volume indices for July of the relevant census year (the 1995 census year covered the period 1 January 1995 to 31 December 1995 and, therefore, the benchmarking was done using the index of July 1995 as reference point). The results, due to benchmarking, were published in the October 1997 Statistical Release P4141: <i>Generation and Consumption of Electricity</i> on 4 December 1997. |
| Seasonal adjustment | 12 | Seasonally adjusted estimates of all items are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by US Bureau of the Census Economic Research and Analyses Division, 1968. 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 behavior. |
| Trend cycle | 13 | The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates. |
| Related publications | 14 | Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bulletin of Statistics.</i> • <i>SA Statistics.</i> |
| Unpublished statistics | 15 | In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics, which are not published. The statistics can be made available as computer printouts, on diskette or CD. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics. |
| Rounding-off figures | 16 | The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest digit shown. There may, therefore, be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown. |
| Pre-release policy | 17 | Stats SA pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, www.statssa.gov.za . |

Glossary

| | |
|---|---|
| Electricity undertaking | An electricity undertaking is an undertaking concerned with the generation or transmission and distribution of electricity, including electrical power installations, which as subsidiary divisions of undertakings, produce electricity for regular use by these undertakings. |
| Establishment (branch) | An establishment (branch) is defined as the smallest economic unit, which operates as a separate entity for which comprehensive financial records are kept. |
| Index of physical volume of electricity production | The index of physical volume of electricity production or a production index is a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of electricity is the ratio between the volume of production of electricity in a given period and the volume of production of electricity in the base period. The base period is 2000. The production in the base period is set at 100. |
| Industry | An industry consists of a group of undertakings or establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the 1993 System of National Accounts (1993 SNA) in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i> , Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02. |
| Unit of electricity | One unit of electricity is equal to 1 kilowatt-hour (kWh). One gigawatt-hour (gWh) of electricity is equal to one million kilowatt-hours. |

General information

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Enquiries

Telephone number: (012) 310 8600/8390/8351/8496/4892/8095 (user information services)
 (012) 310 8228/8984 (technical enquiries)
 (012) 310 8161 (orders)
 (012) 310 8490 (library)

Fax number: (012) 321 7381 (technical enquiries)

Email: Thabelom@statssa.gov.za
Glourinat@statssa.gov.za

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001