

Statistical release

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Electricity generated and available for distribution (preliminary)

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS: ELECTRICITY GENERATED AND AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION (DECEMBER 2006)

Key findings

Consumption of electricity increased

The estimated consumption of electricity in December 2006 increased by 3,7% (+668 Gigawatt-hours) compared with December 2005, while in 2005 the increase was reported at 2,7% for the same period (see tables 2 and 9a). The estimated volume of electricity consumed (available for distribution) during the fourth quarter of 2006 increased by 3,4% (+1 925 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the corresponding quarter for 2005 (see table C), whereas the consumption of electricity for the year 2006 increased by 3,6% (+8 055 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the year 2005 (see tables A and 9b).

Production of electricity increased in 2006

The estimated production of electricity in South Africa during 2006 increased by 3,6% (+8 880 Gigawatt-hours) compared with 2005 (see table 9b). Electricity production by Eskom increased by 4,5% (+10 410 Gigawatt-hours) in 2006 compared with 2005 (see table 9b). The estimated production of electricity for the fourth quarter of 2006 increased by 3,7% (+2 294 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the fourth quarter of 2005 (see tables A and C).

Imports and exports of electricity

The volume of electricity imported from outside South African borders increased from 9 199 Gigawatt-hours in 2005 to 9 782 Gigawatt-hours in 2006, which represents an increase of 6,3% (+583 Gigawatt-hours). When considering quarterly movements the amount of electricity imported decreased by 1,1% (29 Gigawatt-hours) during the fourth quarter of 2006 compared with the same quarter of 2005 (see tables C and 9b). The volume of electricity distributed outside South African borders during 2006 increased by 6,8% (+882 Gigawatt-hours) compared with 2005. The volume of electricity exported during the last quarter of 2006 showed an increase of 5,6% (+191 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the corresponding quarter of 2005 (see table C).

Exports compared to import

Export of electricity exceeded the import thereof during 2006 by 40,7% (+3 984 Gigawatt-hours). This is a slight increase when compared to 2005 which showed an excess of exports compared to imports of 40,1% (+3 685 Gigawatt-hours) (see table 9b).

Distribution of electricity by Eskom to the provinces increases

During 2006, Gauteng utilised the largest proportion (27,8% or +59 728 Gigawatt-hours) of electricity distributed by Eskom, followed by KwaZulu-Natal (20,1% or 43 174 Gigawatt-hours), Mpumalanga (14,6% or 31 388 Gigawatt-hours) and North West (11,4% or 24 419 Gigawatt-hours). The Northern Cape utilised the smallest proportion (2,2% or 4 727 Gigawatt-hours) of the energy distributed by Eskom. All the provinces with the exception of Gauteng and the North West reflected similar proportions of energy utilisation during 2005 and 2006.

Key Figures

Table A - Selected key figures regarding electricity generated and available for distribution for December 2006

Estimates	December 2006	% change between December 2005 and December 2006	% change between October to December 2005 and October to December 2006	% change between January to December 2005 and January to December 2006
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	18 898	+3,7	+3,4	+3,6
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2005=100)	100,9	+2,7	+3,8	+3,7

Seasonally adjusted estimates	December 2006	% change between November and December 2006	% change between July to September 2006 and October to December 2006
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	19 620	+0,5	+0,9
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2005=100)	104,9	+0,0	+1,4

Table B - Percentage change in the seasonally adjusted quantity of electricity generated and available for distribution between the current quarter and the previous quarter

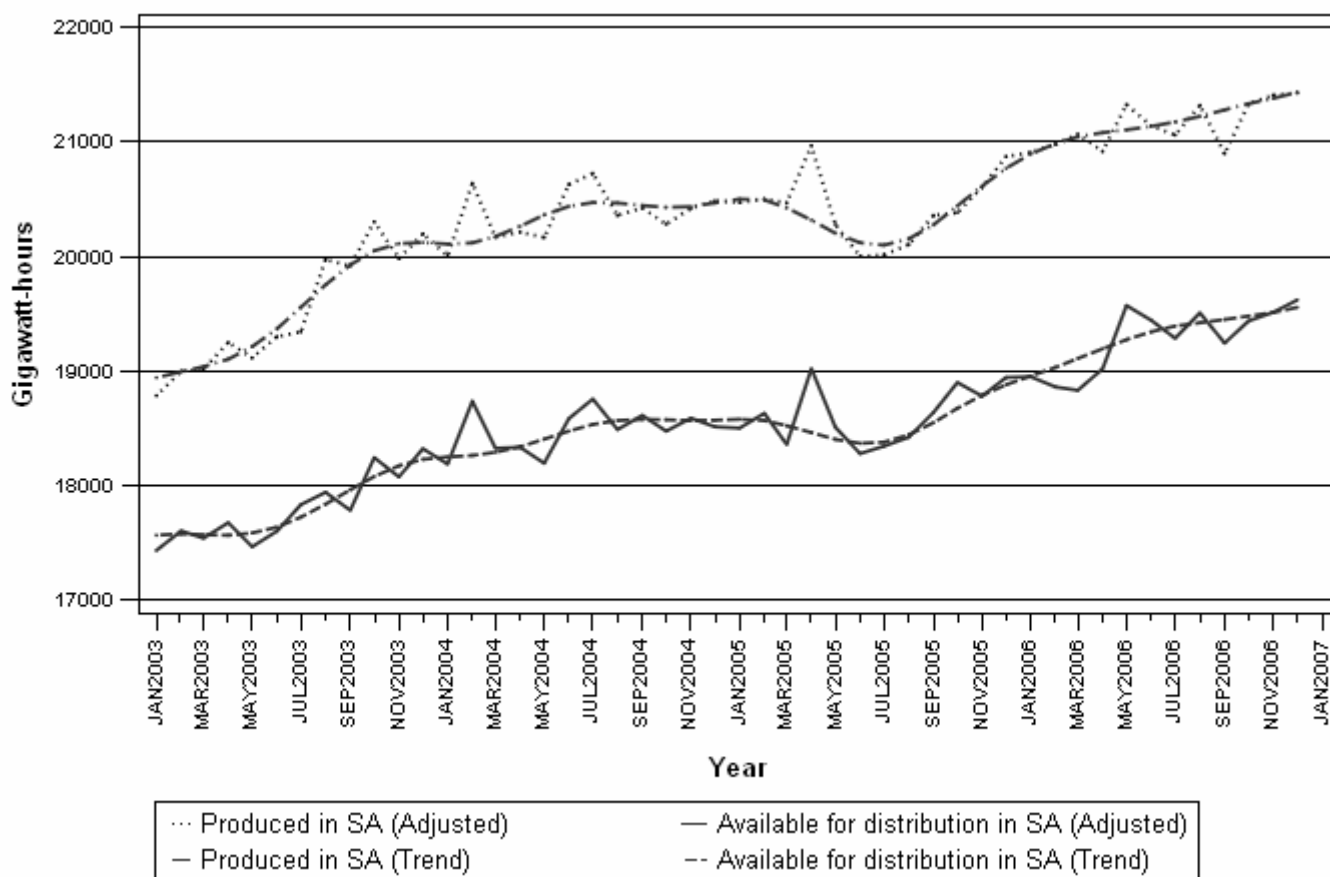
Gigawatt-hours	Seasonally adjusted quantity July to September 2006	Seasonally adjusted quantity October to December 2006	% change between July to September 2006 and October to December 2006	Quantity difference between July to September 2006 and October to December 2006
Electricity produced	+63 277	+64 167	+1,4	+890
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	+58 038	+58 570	+0,9	+532

Table C - Percentage change between the current quarter and the corresponding quarter of the previous year

Gigawatt-hours	Actual quantity October to December 2005	Actual quantity October to December 2006	% change between October to December 2005 and October to December 2006	Quantity difference between October to December 2005 and October to December 2006
Electricity produced	61 260	63 554	+3,7	+2 294
Purchased outside South Africa (import)	2 538	2 509	-1,1	-29
Consumed in Power stations and auxiliary systems	4 482	4 632	+3,3	+150
Sold outside South Africa (export)	3 435	3 626	+5,6	+191
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	55 880	57 805	+3,4	+1 925

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for electricity produced and available for distribution in South Africa between January 2003 and December 2006. There was a gradual upward movement in the trend cycles from the beginning of the period until July 2004. From July 2004 up until February 2005 the trend cycles moved sideways, followed by a declining trend in electricity production between March and July of 2005. From August 2005 up until May 2006, there was a steady increase in the production of energy. After May 2006, the trends have flattened out, but resumed and upward trend in recent months.

Figure 1 - Electricity produced and available for distribution in South Africa from 2003 to 2006



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Detailed results: Tables

Table 1 - Total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2001 to 2006

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	16 064	16 191	17 095	17 850	18 149	18 603
February	14 871	15 215	16 168	17 277	17 169	17 396
March	16 320	16 552	17 655	18 476	18 487	18 982
April	15 515	16 362	16 905	17 524	18 133	18 122
May	16 929	17 852	18 159	18 909	19 224	20 312
June	16 788	18 017	18 330	19 337	18 983	20 166
July	18 021	18 956	19 183	20 156	19 657	20 632
August	17 300	18 064	18 714	19 265	19 191	20 307
September	16 277	17 125	17 526	18 362	18 384	18 987
October	16 794	17 741	18 480	18 714	19 127	19 663
November	15 960	17 233	17 790	18 314	18 523	19 244
December	15 224	16 712	17 456	17 754	18 230	1/ 18 898
Year	196 063	206 020	213 461	221 938	223 257	231 312

1/ Preliminary.

Table 2 - Percentage change in electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2001 to 2006

	Percentage					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	+3,6	+0,8	+5,6	+4,4	+1,7	+2,5
February	-2,3	+2,3	+6,3	+6,9	-0,6	+1,3
March	+0,6	+1,4	+6,7	+4,7	+0,1	+2,7
April	+0,8	+5,5	+3,3	+3,7	+3,5	-0,1
May	-0,8	+5,5	+1,7	+4,1	+1,7	+5,7
June	-0,2	+7,3	+1,7	+5,5	-1,8	+6,2
July	+1,5	+5,2	+1,2	+5,1	-2,5	+5,0
August	+0,5	+4,4	+3,6	+2,9	-0,4	+5,8
September	+0,6	+5,2	+2,3	+4,8	+0,1	+3,3
October	+0,5	+5,6	+4,2	+1,3	+2,2	+2,8
November	-1,2	+8,0	+3,2	+2,9	+1,1	+3,9
December	-1,1	+9,8	+4,5	+1,7	+2,7	+3,7
Year	+0,2	+5,1	+3,6	+4,0	+0,6	+3,6

The percentage change is the change in the electricity available for distribution of the relevant year compared with the electricity available for distribution of the previous year expressed as a percentage

Table 3 - Seasonally adjusted total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2001 to 2006

	Gigawatt-hours						% change between current and previous month
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January	16 389	16 516	17 434	18 188	18 502	18 950	+0,0
February	16 192	16 562	17 604	18 737	18 631	18 861	-0,5
March	16 211	16 438	17 541	18 326	18 359	18 832	-0,2
April	16 169	17 065	17 676	18 334	19 021	19 019	+1,0
May	16 254	17 169	17 466	18 195	18 510	19 572	+2,9
June	16 151	17 308	17 602	18 585	18 279	19 443	-0,7
July	16 732	17 608	17 833	18 756	18 344	19 286	-0,8
August	16 500	17 287	17 941	18 489	18 422	19 508	+1,2
September	16 443	17 313	17 784	18 613	18 638	19 244	-1,4
October	16 530	17 464	18 244	18 475	18 900	19 437	+1,0
November	16 233	17 503	18 076	18 589	18 781	19 513	+0,4
December	16 131	17 616	18 322	18 513	18 944	19 620	+0,5

Table 4 - Indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2001 to 2006

	Base : 2005=100					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	84,8	84,7	89,6	95,5	97,6	99,8
February	77,5	79,0	84,7	92,2	91,7	94,0
March	84,7	85,7	92,9	98,7	100,2	103,3
April	80,5	85,1	90,1	94,7	98,1	98,0
May	88,6	94,1	97,2	102,4	102,9	108,1
June	87,0	94,8	98,5	105,0	101,6	107,3
July	95,6	99,4	102,5	109,5	105,5	110,8
August	92,9	94,5	102,4	104,3	103,0	109,1
September	86,4	90,3	97,0	99,5	99,1	101,8
October	88,4	94,3	102,2	102,1	102,5	107,2
November	83,8	91,5	96,4	98,5	99,4	103,3
December	79,2	87,4	94,0	96,0	98,2	1/ 100,9
Year	85,8	90,1	95,6	99,9	100,0	103,6

1/ Preliminary.

Table 5 - Percentage change in indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2001 to 2006

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	+6,5	-0,1	+5,8	+6,6	+2,2	+2,3
February	-1,1	+1,9	+7,2	+8,9	-0,5	+2,5
March	-2,4	+1,2	+8,4	+6,2	+1,5	+3,1
April	-2,4	+5,7	+5,9	+5,1	+3,6	-0,1
May	-3,1	+6,2	+3,3	+5,3	+0,5	+5,1
June	-3,5	+9,0	+3,9	+6,6	-3,2	+5,6
July	+3,1	+4,0	+3,1	+6,8	-3,7	+5,0
August	+2,4	+1,7	+8,4	+1,9	-1,2	+5,9
September	+1,4	+4,5	+7,4	+2,6	-0,4	+2,7
October	-0,3	+6,7	+8,4	-0,1	+0,4	+4,6
November	-1,8	+9,2	+5,4	+2,2	+0,9	+3,9
December	-1,9	+10,4	+7,6	+2,1	+2,3	+2,7
Year	-0,3	+5,0	+6,2	+4,4	+0,1	+3,7

The percentage change is the change in the index of the physical volume of electricity production of the relevant year compared with the index of the physical volume of electricity production of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 6 - Seasonally adjusted indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2001 to 2006

	Base : 2005=100						% change between current and previous month
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
January	86,8	86,8	92,0	98,1	100,4	102,7	+0,5
February	85,0	86,8	93,0	101,0	100,4	102,8	+0,1
March	84,8	85,8	93,1	98,8	100,2	103,3	+0,5
April	84,6	89,3	94,4	99,2	102,8	102,7	-0,6
May	85,2	90,6	93,6	98,8	99,3	104,4	+1,7
June	83,4	90,9	94,5	100,9	97,8	103,3	-1,1
July	88,1	91,7	94,8	101,5	98,0	103,1	-0,2
August	88,4	90,1	97,8	99,7	98,5	104,3	+1,2
September	86,8	90,7	97,7	100,3	100,0	102,8	-1,4
October	85,9	91,6	99,4	99,3	99,8	104,5	+1,7
November	85,2	93,0	98,0	100,0	100,9	104,9	+0,4
December	84,5	92,6	99,0	100,4	102,2	104,9	+0,0

Table 7 - Total volume of electricity imported: 2001 to 2006

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	569	670	705	828	729	872
February	488	643	637	811	714	646
March	665	783	706	863	533	581
April	774	733	547	641	598	587
May	629	658	569	547	849	879
June	797	704	518	560	813	881
July	479	702	792	607	856	926
August	282	721	424	618	883	930
September	507	637	266	590	686	971
October	713	454	272	536	836	682
November	636	477	583	746	865	862
December	708	691	720	679	837	1/ 965
Year	7 247	7 873	6 739	8 026	9 199	9 782

1/ Preliminary.

Table 8 - Total volume of electricity exported: 2001 to 2006

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	616	558	578	1 037	1 030	1 056
February	470	478	508	977	901	1 050
March	498	529	607	1 027	968	1 129
April	463	525	619	951	991	1 017
May	508	578	805	944	1 083	1 046
June	496	601	798	1 057	1 096	1 102
July	543	614	944	1 140	1 102	1 239
August	569	605	1 030	1 049	1 144	1 262
September	581	628	1 051	1 048	1 134	1 239
October	630	626	1 116	1 112	1 161	1 311
November	598	600	1 025	1 082	1 119	1 186
December	547	608	1 055	1 029	1 155	1/ 1 129
Year	6 519	6 950	10 136	12 453	12 884	13 766

1/ Preliminary.

Table 9a - Electricity produced and consumed in power stations, purchased and sold outside South Africa and available for distribution in South Africa

		Gigawatt-hours				
		December 2005	November 2006	December 2006 1/	% Change between December 2005 and December 2006	Difference between December 2005 and December 2006
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	20 040	21 074	20 598	+2,8	+558
	Purchased outside South Africa (import)	837	862	965	+15,3	+128
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 492	1 507	1 535	+2,9	+43
	Sold outside South Africa (export)	1 155	1 186	1 129	-2,3	-26
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	18 230	19 244	18 898	+3,7	+668
ESKOM	Electricity produced	19 169	20 261	19 761	+3,1	+592
	Purchased outside South Africa (import)	837	862	965	+15,3	+128
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 411	1 432	1 460	+3,5	+49
	Sold outside South Africa (export)	1 155	1 186	1 129	-2,3	-26
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	17 440	18 505	18 136	+4,0	+696

1/ Preliminary.

Table 9b - Electricity produced and consumed in power stations, purchased and sold outside South Africa and available for distribution in South Africa (concluded)

		Gigawatt-hours			
		January to December 2005	January to December 2006	% Change between January to December 2005 and January to December 2006	Difference between January to December 2005 and January to December 2006
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	244 920	253 800	+3,6	+8 880
	Purchased outside South Africa (import)	9 199	9 782	+6,3	+583
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	17 979	18 503	+2,9	+524
	Sold outside South Africa (export)	12 884	13 766	+6,8	+882
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	223 257	231 312	+3,6	+8 055
ESKOM	Electricity produced	233 184	243 594	+4,5	+10 410
	Purchased outside South Africa (import)	9 199	9 782	+6,3	+583
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	16 888	17 569	+4,0	+681
	Sold outside South Africa (export)	12 884	13 766	+6,8	+882
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	212 613	222 039	+4,4	+9 426

Table 10 - Electricity distributed by Eskom by province for 2005 and 2006 1/

		Gigawatt-hours									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	Kwazulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	Total South Africa
2005	January	1 795	616	424	765	3 599	2 172	4 402	2 206	858	16 837
	February	1 516	585	380	727	3 406	2 056	4 052	2 285	815	15 823
	March	1 650	633	437	747	3 642	2 171	4 494	2 378	854	17 005
	April	1 583	627	335	742	3 534	2 089	4 489	2 676	676	16 751
	May	1 871	667	358	779	3 558	2 173	4 730	2 581	909	17 626
	June	1 860	672	359	761	3 536	2 068	4 760	2 449	899	17 364
	July	1 895	690	380	793	3 713	2 042	5 057	2 498	925	17 993
	August	1 991	659	375	785	3 666	1 937	4 866	2 319	932	17 530
	September	1 837	672	385	735	3 531	1 996	4 493	2 373	860	16 882
	October	1 831	666	424	746	3 712	2 050	4 776	2 703	861	17 769
	November	1 790	632	390	700	3 589	2 070	4 672	2 467	821	17 131
	December	1 826	594	402	700	3 563	2 041	4 316	2 534	871	16 847
Year	21 445	7 713	4 649	8 980	43 049	24 865	55 107	29 469	10 281	205 558	
2006	January	1 852	626	388	712	3 611	2 073	4 442	2 635	904	17 242
	February	1 703	595	339	721	3 410	1 934	4 129	2 343	1 023	16 197
	March	1 879	639	394	740	3 747	2 019	4 690	2 684	890	17 682
	April	1 809	591	357	730	3 572	1 904	4 514	2 550	874	16 901
	May	1 906	665	374	809	3 826	2 082	5 525	2 784	955	18 925
	June	1 832	670	363	732	3 870	2 093	5 476	2 648	964	18 647
	July	1 946	788	399	810	3 657	2 151	5 707	2 661	998	19 116
	August	1 939	780	391	826	3 563	2 103	5 605	2 560	1 000	18 767
	September	1 828	753	409	736	3 456	1 963	4 963	2 487	993	17 588
	October	1 909	769	435	786	3 590	2 079	5 045	2 644	1 037	18 294
	November	1 867	745	439	762	3 443	1 982	4 965	2 687	958	17 848
	December 2/	1 912	640	439	777	3 429	2 036	4 667	2 705	924	17 529
Year	22 382	8 261	4 727	9 141	43 174	24 419	59 728	31 388	11 520	214 736	

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

2/ Preliminary.

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 generated and available for distribution in South Africa, the number of units purchased and sold outside South Africa and the number of units distributed by Eskom by 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 on the basis of 2005=100. In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be rebased every five years to a new base year.
	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.
Purpose of the survey	4	The results of the monthly electricity generated and available for distribution 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 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	6	The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i> , Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)</i> 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.
Response rate	7	The response rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for December 2006 was 100%.
Statistical unit	8	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 (see paragraph 5).
Survey methodology and design	9	All statistical units are stratified by type of economic activity according to the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i> 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.
	10	The survey is conducted by mail each month collecting information from a sample of 22 electricity undertakings or establishments.

Monthly production indices	11	The calculation of the monthly production indices is based on the number of electricity units produced.
Benchmarking	12	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 electricity generated and available for distribution survey is based on information received from a sample of electricity undertakings and establishments, which are weighted according to the original sample, designed 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.
	13	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).
Seasonal adjustment	14	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	15	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	16	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	17	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	18	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	19	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.										
Index of physical volume of electricity production	A statistical measure of the change in 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 2005. 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 <i>System of National Accounts (1993 SNA)</i> 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 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	<table><tr><td>GDP</td><td>Gross Domestic Product</td></tr><tr><td>ISIC</td><td>International Standard Industrial Classification</td></tr><tr><td>SIC</td><td>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</td></tr><tr><td>Stats SA</td><td>Statistics South Africa</td></tr><tr><td>*</td><td>Revised figures</td></tr></table>	GDP	Gross Domestic Product	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa	*	Revised figures
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