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Statistical release

P4141

Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

December 2012

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13:00

Enquiries:
User Information Services
Tel: (012) 310 8600 / 4892 /8390

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January 2013	7 March 2013

Contents

Results for December 2012

Table A – Selected key figures regarding electricity generated and available for distribution

Actual estimates	December 2012 1/	% change between December 2011 and December 2012	% change between October to December 2011 and October to December 2012	% change between January to December 2011 and January to December 2012
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	18 456	-3,8	-3,1	-2,6
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2010=100)	94,0	-2,8	-1,8	-1,8

1/ Preliminary.

Seasonally adjusted estimates	December 2012	% change between November and December 2012	% change between July to September 2012 and October to December 2012
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	19 380	-1,1	-0,4
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2010=100)	98,5	-1,5	-0,8

Consumption of electricity

The actual volume of electricity consumption decreased by 2,6% in 2012 compared with 2011. A year-on-year decrease of 3,8% was recorded in December 2012. Seasonally adjusted electricity consumption decreased by 1,1% in December 2012 compared with November 2012, following month-on-month changes of 2,6% and -1,2% in November and October 2012 respectively.

Production of electricity

Actual estimated electricity production decreased by 1,8% in 2012 compared with 2011. A year-on-year decrease of 2,8% was recorded in December 2012. Seasonally adjusted electricity production decreased by 1,5% in December 2012 compared with November 2012.

Electricity delivered by Eskom to the provinces

The volume of electricity delivered by Eskom to the provinces decreased by 2,4% between 2011 and 2012. The largest volume decrease was recorded for Gauteng (-1 819 Gigawatt-hours), followed by KwaZulu-Natal (-1 628 Gigawatt-hours) and Mpumalanga (-1 063 Gigawatt-hours). Western Cape recorded the largest year-on-year increase of 196 Gigawatt-hours over this period.

In December 2012 the volume of electricity delivered by Eskom to the provinces decreased by 3,0% compared with December 2011.

Table B – Comparison of the seasonally adjusted volume of electricity generated and available for distribution between the fourth quarter of 2012 and the previous quarter

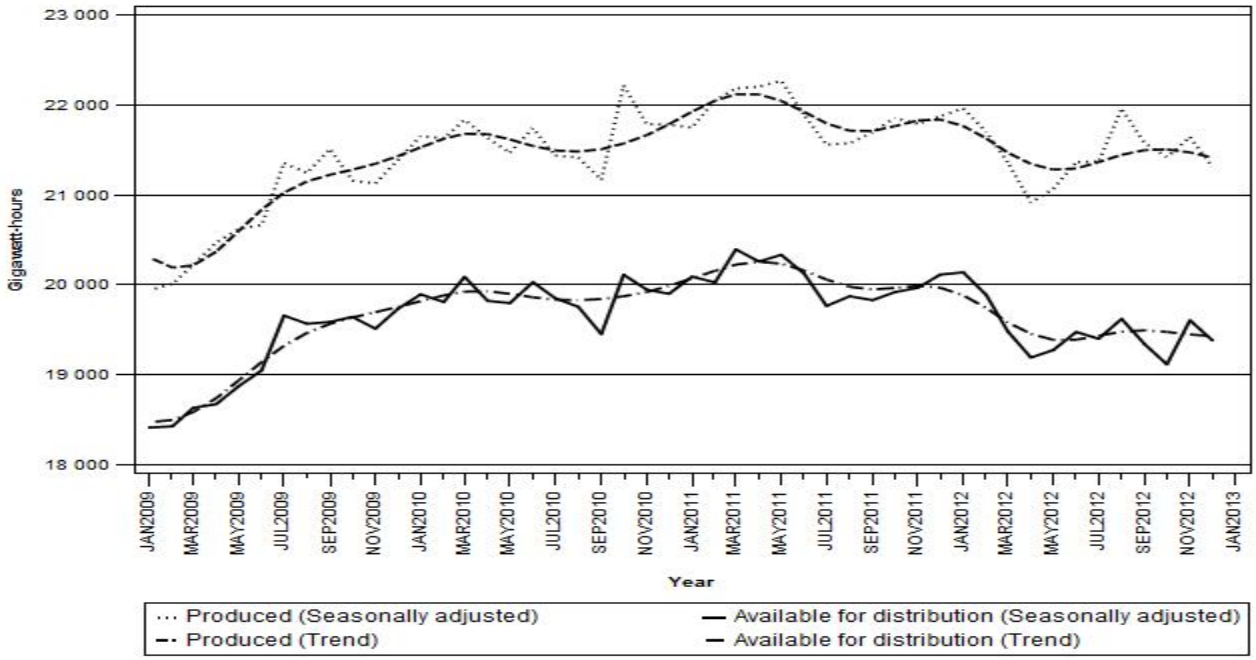
Gigawatt-hours	Seasonally adjusted quantity July to September 2012	Seasonally adjusted quantity October to December 2012	% change between July to September 2012 and October to December 2012	Quantity difference between July to September 2012 and October to December 2012
Electricity produced	64 899	64 369	-0,8	-530
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	58 352	58 095	-0,4	-257

Table C – Comparison of actual estimates between the fourth quarter of 2012 and the fourth quarter of 2011

Gigawatt-hours	Actual volume October to December 2011	Actual volume October to December 2012	% change between October to December 2011 and October to December 2012	Quantity difference between October to December 2011 and October to December 2012
Electricity produced	64 868	63 758	-1,7	-1 110
Purchased outside South Africa (import) 1/	3 071	1 893	-38,4	-1 178
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	4 745	4 664	-1,7	-81
Sold outside South Africa (export) 2/	4 045	3 693	-8,7	-352
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	59 150	57 295	-3,1	-1 855

1/ Physical energy flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.
2/ Physical energy flowing out of South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

Figure 1 – Electricity produced and available for distribution in South Africa, seasonally adjusted and trend



PJ Lehohla
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2007–2012

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	19 561	19 256	17 919	19 396	19 616	19 676
February	18 301	18 668	16 757	18 181	18 455	18 783
March	20 160	19 603	18 694	20 186	20 518	19 623
April	18 982	19 127	17 934	19 102	19 539	18 466
May	20 901	20 365	19 548	20 435	20 938	19 869
June	21 020	20 515	19 819	20 800	20 914	20 274
July	21 780	21 610	21 151	21 307	21 162	20 743
August	21 353	20 736	20 398	20 540	20 617	20 345
September	19 732	19 725	19 382	19 256	19 619	19 100
October	20 435	20 138	19 899	20 371	20 198	19 413
November	19 785	18 640	19 248	19 702	19 763	19 426
December	19 160	17 541	18 850	18 996	19 189	1/ 18 456
Year	**241 170**	**235 924**	**229 599**	**238 272**	**240 528**	**234 174**

1/ Preliminary.

Table 2 – Annual percentage change in electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2007–2012

Month	Percentage change 2/					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	5,1	-1,6	-6,9	8,2	1,1	0,3
February	5,2	2,0	-10,2	8,5	1,5	1,8
March	6,2	-2,8	-4,6	8,0	1,6	-4,4
April	4,7	0,8	-6,2	6,5	2,3	-5,5
May	2,9	-2,6	-4,0	4,5	2,5	-5,1
June	4,2	-2,4	-3,4	4,9	0,5	-3,1
July	5,6	-0,8	-2,1	0,7	-0,7	-2,0
August	5,2	-2,9	-1,6	0,7	0,4	-1,3
September	3,9	0,0	-1,7	-0,7	1,9	-2,6
October	3,9	-1,5	-1,2	2,4	-0,8	-3,9
November	2,8	-5,8	3,3	2,4	0,3	-1,7
December	1,3	-8,4	7,5	0,8	1,0	-3,8
Year	**4,3**	**-2,2**	**-2,7**	**3,8**	**0,9**	**-2,6**

2/ The annual percentage change is the change in the volume of electricity available for distribution of the relevant month of the current year compared with the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2007–2012

Month	Gigawatt-hours						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% change between current and previous month
January	20 042	19 753	18 409	19 891	20 088	20 136	0,1
February	19 945	19 922	18 423	19 806	20 024	19 883	-1,3
March	20 145	19 564	18 629	20 086	20 392	19 478	-2,0
April	19 776	19 890	18 670	19 819	20 256	19 188	-1,5
May	20 147	19 632	18 869	19 794	20 331	19 271	0,4
June	20 272	19 765	19 046	20 026	20 121	19 473	1,0
July	20 314	20 111	19 655	19 848	19 762	19 397	-0,4
August	20 471	19 865	19 564	19 753	19 870	19 618	1,1
September	19 951	19 940	19 584	19 449	19 827	19 337	-1,4
October	20 145	19 871	19 641	20 110	19 916	19 112	-1,2
November	20 076	18 932	19 509	19 944	19 965	19 603	2,6
December	19 990	18 387	19 728	19 897	20 111	19 380	-1,1

Table 4 – Indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2007–2012

Month	Base: 2010=100					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	98,1	99,3	89,7	97,6	98,1	99,2
February	91,7	94,1	83,5	91,1	93,3	93,8
March	101,7	99,6	93,7	101,3	103,0	99,3
April	95,2	96,2	90,7	96,2	98,9	92,9
May	105,6	103,4	98,6	102,3	105,9	100,3
June	106,1	102,6	98,8	103,8	104,6	102,2
July	110,0	108,6	106,4	106,6	106,8	105,7
August	107,6	104,0	102,7	103,2	103,7	105,4
September	99,5	98,8	98,5	97,0	99,4	98,7
October	103,0	103,2	99,6	104,6	103,1	101,1
November	100,8	95,7	96,8	100,0	100,1	99,5
December	98,7	88,3	94,6	96,3	96,7	1/ 94,0
Year	**101,5**	**99,5**	**96,1**	**100,0**	**101,1**	**99,3**

1/ Preliminary.

Table 5 – Annual percentage change in indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2007–2012

Month	Percentage change 2/					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	4,3	1,2	-9,7	8,8	0,5	1,1
February	3,4	2,6	-11,3	9,1	2,4	0,5
March	4,4	-2,1	-5,9	8,1	1,7	-3,6
April	3,0	1,1	-5,7	6,1	2,8	-6,1
May	3,5	-2,1	-4,6	3,8	3,5	-5,3
June	4,8	-3,3	-3,7	5,1	0,8	-2,3
July	5,2	-1,3	-2,0	0,2	0,2	-1,0
August	4,5	-3,3	-1,3	0,5	0,5	1,6
September	3,6	-0,7	-0,3	-1,5	2,5	-0,7
October	1,9	0,2	-3,5	5,0	-1,4	-1,9
November	3,5	-5,1	1,1	3,3	0,1	-0,6
December	3,7	-10,5	7,1	1,8	0,4	-2,8
Year	**3,8**	**-2,0**	**-3,4**	**4,0**	**1,1**	**-1,8**

2/ The annual percentage change is the change in the index of the physical volume of electricity production of the relevant month of the current year compared with the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2007–2012

Month	Base: 2010=100						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% change between current and previous month
January	100,5	101,8	92,1	100,0	100,5	101,4	0,3
February	100,5	101,1	92,4	99,9	101,9	100,2	-1,2
March	101,6	99,4	93,4	100,9	102,5	98,7	-1,5
April	99,4	100,2	94,6	99,9	102,6	96,6	-2,1
May	102,0	99,9	95,3	99,2	102,9	97,3	0,7
June	102,7	99,3	95,5	100,4	101,1	98,7	1,4
July	102,3	100,8	98,6	99,0	99,6	98,7	0,0
August	102,8	99,3	98,1	98,9	99,7	101,4	2,7
September	100,4	99,8	99,4	97,8	100,2	99,7	-1,7
October	101,0	101,3	97,7	102,6	101,0	98,9	-0,8
November	102,0	96,8	97,6	100,6	100,7	100,0	1,1
December	102,6	92,3	98,8	100,6	101,1	98,5	-1,5

Table 7 – Total volume of electricity imported: 2007–2012 1/

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	1 088	638	1 102	1 122	1 088	1 085
February	942	885	999	995	730	1 063
March	973	802	1 064	1 040	1 112	945
April	1 055	844	906	931	912	1 068
May	900	761	937	1 074	907	1 066
June	880	1 002	1 088	1 019	1 009	1 044
July	984	1 089	1 040	1 117	979	903
August	1 045	1 076	1 072	1 109	1 108	465
September	1 026	1 044	920	1 068	974	474
October	1 040	645	1 115	770	911	451
November	796	711	940	1 018	1 073	654
December	619	1 075	1 112	930	1 087	2/ 788
Year	**11 348**	**10 572**	**12 295**	**12 193**	**11 890**	**10 006**

1/ Physical energy flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.
2/ Preliminary.

Table 8 – Total volume of electricity exported: 2007–2012 1/

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
January	1 134	1 280	1 096	1 217	1 133	1 247
February	1 060	1 101	979	1 128	1 069	1 212
March	1 231	1 136	1 100	1 252	1 279	1 242
April	1 132	998	1 086	1 170	1 190	1 174
May	1 203	1 120	1 109	1 177	1 241	1 322
June	1 256	1 162	1 175	1 132	1 174	1 335
July	1 301	1 249	1 223	1 206	1 247	1 350
August	1 252	1 220	1 235	1 275	1 298	1 295
September	1 186	1 203	1 285	1 248	1 288	1 165
October	1 252	1 258	1 288	1 338	1 378	1 300
November	1 256	1 252	1 213	1 316	1 381	1 233
December	1 233	1 189	1 263	1 209	1 286	2/ 1 160
Year	**14 496**	**14 168**	**14 052**	**14 668**	**14 964**	**15 035**

1/ Physical energy flowing out of South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.
2/ Preliminary.

Table 9a – Electricity produced and consumed in power stations, purchased and sold outside South Africa and available for distribution in South Africa (monthly figures)

		Gigawatt-hours				
		December 2011	November 2012	December 2012 1/	% change between December 2011 and December 2012	Difference between December 2011 and December 2012
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	20 909	21 536	20 345	-2,8	-564
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	1 087	654	788	-27,5	-299
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 521	1 533	1 516	-0,3	-5
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	1 286	1 233	1 160	-9,8	-126
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	**19 189**	**19 426**	**18 456**	**-3,8**	**-733**
ESKOM	Electricity produced	19 989	20 705	19 505	-2,4	-484
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	1 087	654	788	-27,5	-299
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 453	1 475	1 453	0,0	0
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	1 286	1 233	1 160	-9,8	-126
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	**18 337**	**18 652**	**17 680**	**-3,6**	**-657**

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Physical energy flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.
3/ Physical energy flowing out of South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

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

		Gigawatt-hours			
		January to December 2011	January to December 2012 1/	% change between January to December 2011 and January to December 2012	Difference between January to December 2011 and January to December 2012
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	262 538	257 919	-1,8	-4 619
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	11 890	10 006	-15,8	-1 884
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	18 937	18 716	-1,2	-221
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	14 964	15 035	0,5	71
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	**240 528**	**234 174**	**-2,6**	**-6 354**
ESKOM	Electricity produced	251 746	247 516	-1,7	-4 230
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	11 890	10 006	-15,8	-1 884
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	18 134	17 870	-1,5	-264
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	14 964	15 035	0,5	71
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	**230 541**	**224 620**	**-2,6**	**-5 921**

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Physical energy flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.
3/ Physical energy flowing out of South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

Table 10 – Total volume of electricity delivered by Eskom to provinces for 2011 and 2012 1/

Period		Gigawatt-hours									
		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma-langa	Limpopo	Total South Africa
2011	January	1 962	777	408	721	3 417	2 187	4 738	3 052	1 021	**18 283**
	February	1 881	734	372	665	3 256	2 044	4 394	2 808	937	**17 091**
	March	2 031	773	417	774	3 631	2 292	4 955	3 017	1 063	**18 953**
	April	1 877	726	389	753	3 432	2 159	5 016	2 946	992	**18 290**
	May	1 980	811	406	772	3 624	2 283	5 435	3 106	1 000	**19 417**
	June	1 966	826	417	812	3 527	2 097	5 804	2 945	1 020	**19 414**
	July	2 014	876	428	814	3 639	2 086	5 971	2 852	972	**19 652**
	August	1 985	884	414	783	3 574	2 029	5 727	2 830	960	**19 186**
	September	1 752	840	418	688	3 381	2 172	4 985	2 788	1 028	**18 052**
	October	1 801	840	447	709	3 547	2 268	4 991	2 997	1 051	**18 651**
	November	1 767	840	428	666	3 429	2 248	4 814	2 916	1 035	**18 143**
	December	1 763	783	441	647	3 466	2 107	4 426	2 895	1 050	**17 578**
	Year	**22 779**	**9 710**	**4 985**	**8 804**	**41 923**	**25 972**	**61 256**	**35 152**	**12 129**	**222 710**
2012	January	1 889	844	464	706	3 527	2 237	4 631	2 910	1 038	**18 246**
	February	1 922	816	403	668	3 271	2 034	4 509	2 779	988	**17 390**
	March	2 027	859	436	688	3 282	2 161	4 849	2 900	1 000	**18 202**
	April	1 846	763	391	655	3 154	1 993	4 624	2 800	937	**17 163**
	May	1 943	839	401	709	3 318	2 181	5 159	2 884	991	**18 425**
	June	1 933	802	406	775	3 315	2 205	5 643	2 816	974	**18 869**
	July	1 978	837	432	793	3 441	2 273	5 731	2 922	952	**19 359**
	August	1 993	838	420	776	3 436	2 186	5 540	2 767	937	**18 893**
	September	1 852	788	414	664	3 316	2 097	4 981	2 678	950	**17 740**
	October	1 885	795	418	703	3 458	2 085	4 856	2 884	988	**18 072**
	November	1 840	784	451	717	3 422	2 170	4 701	2 944	975	**18 004**
	December 2/	1 867	751	433	633	3 355	2 039	4 213	2 805	959	**17 055**
	Year	**22 975**	**9 716**	**5 069**	**8 487**	**40 295**	**25 661**	**59 437**	**34 089**	**11 689**	**217 418**

1/ Wholesale energy (Gigawatt-hours) 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 volume of electricity units generated and available for distribution in South Africa, the volume of units purchased and sold outside South Africa and the volume 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 2010=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. It includes electrical power installations, which, as subsidiary divisions of undertakings, produce electricity for regular use by these undertakings.

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 statistical unit is classified to an industry, which reflects the predominant activity of the electricity undertaking or establishment.

Collection rate

7 The collection rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for December 2012 was 99%.

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 *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.

10 The survey is conducted by mail, email and telephone. Information is collected from a sample of 25 electricity undertakings or establishments.

Monthly production indices

11 The calculation of the monthly production indices is based on the volume 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. These levels are weighted according to the original sample and designed 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 a benchmark 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 August 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 August 1995 as reference point).

Seasonal adjustment

14 Seasonally adjusted estimates of all items are generated each month, using the X-12-ARIMA 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 recognized. 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 at http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P4141/electricity_seasonal_adjustment_note_2012.pdf

Trend cycle

15 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.

Related publications

16 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA :

- *Bulletin of Statistics;* and
- *SA Statistics.*

Rounding-off of figures

17 Where necessary, the figures in the tables have 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.

Glossary

Consumption of electricity
For purposes of this release the term 'consumption of electricity' is used interchangeably with the term 'electricity available for distribution'.

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 2010. 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 *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (SIC*)*, 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

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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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 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.

Advanced release calendar

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