

## Generation and consumption of electricity P4141

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#### DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY DECREASES

*Although the consumption of electricity reflected an increase of 0,6% between January and February 1999, the demand for electricity in South Africa has been showing a declining trend since April 1998. The consumption of electricity for the three months up to February 1999, after seasonal adjustment, reflected a decrease of 0,6% (-302 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the preceding three months. Likewise, the index of electricity production for the three months December 1998 to February 1999 after seasonal adjustment, decreased by 0,6 percentage points compared with the preceding three months (109,0 compared with 109,7).*

Furthermore, the consumption of electricity for the three months December 1998 to February 1999 decreased by 1,8% compared with December 1997 to February 1998. Decreases were reported by both Eskom and other producers during this period.

#### SUMMARY - ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA

Period		Gigawatt-hours	Percentage change
Actual			
Dec. 1998	- Feb. 1999	44 026	-1,6
Dec. 1997	- Feb. 1998	44 740	
Seasonally adjusted			
Dec. 1998	- Feb. 1999	46 672	-0,4

**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	15 120
F	12 294	12 858	13 710	14 088	14 459	14 344
M	13 593	14 145	14 361	15 155	15 714	
A	12 723	13 350	14 006	15 247	14 923	
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	15 957	
N	13 752	14 070	14 792	15 235	15 135	
D	13 366	13 534	14 207	14 878	14 562	
YEAR	165 310	170 103	178 938	187 507	187 514	
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED FIGURES						
J	13 500	14 111	14 489	15 322	15 757	15 467
F	13 565	14 148	15 057	15 414	15 786	15 642
M	13 634	14 220	14 446	15 275	15 885	
A	13 456	14 116	14 774	16 074	15 716	
M	13 544	14 268	14 769	15 793	15 626	
J	13 780	14 144	14 479	15 616	15 447	
J	13 896	14 075	15 396	15 722	15 444	
A	13 933	14 062	15 180	15 339	15 496	
S	13 891	14 111	14 869	15 660	15 662	
O	13 862	14 150	15 177	15 781	15 690	
N	14 073	14 402	15 163	15 632	15 528	
D	14 172	14 389	15 135	15 895	15 563	

**TABLE 1.2 INDICES OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION  
HISTORICAL TABLE**

Base : 1995=100

Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
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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	
A	90,1	93,9	100,5	109,6	105,5	
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	110,7	112,0	109,3
F	95,5	99,6	107,9	110,9	112,1	109,6
M	96,4	100,2	104,2	110,5	111,8	
A	95,2	99,2	106,1	115,7	111,2	
M	96,0	99,6	106,2	113,5	111,0	
J	97,4	99,4	104,3	112,4	109,8	
J	98,1	99,2	110,5	113,3	109,6	
A	98,5	99,1	109,0	111,3	105,6	
S	98,2	99,4	106,6	113,7	109,8	
O	98,2	100,1	109,0	113,7	110,5	
N	99,3	102,1	109,7	112,6	108,8	
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			
		February	January	February	January - February
		1999	1998	1999	1998
TOTAL - ALL PRODUCERS					
ELECTRICITY PRODUCED					

Actual figures	205 374	15 625	16 629	15 994	16 629	17 051
Seasonally adjusted figures		17 041	17 010	17 447	-	-
PURCHASED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	2 375	200	185	52	185	11
CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS AND AUXILIARY SYSTEMS	15 705	1 201	1 316	1 227	1 316	1 329
SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	4 532	281	377	360	377	330
ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/						
Actual figures	187 514	14 344	15 120	14 459	15 120	15 403
Seasonally adjusted figures		15 642	15 467	15 786	-	-

ESKOM						
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ELECTRICITY PRODUCED						
Actual figures	193 662	14 754	15 662	14 981	15 662	16 070
Seasonally adjusted figures		16 095	16 001	16 340	-	-
PURCHASED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	2 375	200	185	52	185	11
CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS AND AUXILIARY SYSTEMS	14 394	1 105	1 222	1 119	1 222	1 230
SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	4 532	281	377	360	377	330
ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/						
Actual figures	177 111	13 569	14 248	13 554	14 248	14 521
Seasonally adjusted figures		14 807	14 575	14 805	-	-

1/ As indicated by electricity available for distribution

\* Revised