

## Generation and consumption of electricity P4141

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#### DECLINING TREND IN CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY LEVELS OFF

*The declining trend in the consumption of electricity in South Africa which started in April 1998 is levelling off. Consumption of electricity in South Africa for the first quarter of 1999, after seasonal adjustment, increased by 0,3% (131 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the fourth quarter of 1998. Electricity produced in South Africa increased by 0,5% (258 Gigawatt-hours) and imports of electricity by 5,2% (35 Gigawatt-hours) after seasonal adjustment, during the above-mentioned period. Furthermore, export of electricity increased by 4,9% (53 Gigawatt-hours) during this period.*

Eskom, as the major producer of electricity in South Africa, reported improved production and consumption figures for the first quarter of 1999. The demand for electricity reported by other producers e.g. in the manufacturing, mining and local authority sectors, remained unchanged.

#### SUMMARY - ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA

Period		Gigawatt-hours	Percentage change
Actual			
Jan. 1999	- Mar. 1999	45 177	-0,9
Jan. 1998	- Mar. 1998	45 576	

Seasonally adjusted			
Jan. 1999	-	Mar. 1999	46 952
Oct. 1998	-	Dec. 1998	46 821
			+0,3

## 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.

**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	15 713
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	13 501	14 114	14 496	15 335	15 776	15 487
F	13 564	14 151	15 067	15 435	15 817	15 675
M	13 624	14 200	14 416	15 200	15 785	15 790
A	13 456	14 116	14 773	16 076	15 718	
M	13 543	14 267	14 768	15 796	15 630	
J	13 779	14 143	14 477	15 616	15 449	
J	13 895	14 072	15 389	15 715	15 437	
A	13 938	14 070	15 193	15 354	15 514	
S	13 894	14 109	14 862	15 648	15 648	
O	13 863	14 160	15 201	15 823	15 734	
N	14 075	14 401	15 161	15 627	15 520	
D	14 175	14 392	15 140	15 901	15 567	

**TABLE 1.2 - INDICES OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION  
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	
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	103,0	110,8	112,1	109,4
F	95,5	99,6	108,0	111,0	112,3	109,7
M	96,3	100,1	104,1	110,1	111,3	110,2
A	95,2	99,2	106,1	115,6	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	109,5	
A	98,5	99,2	109,2	111,5	105,8	
S	98,2	99,4	106,6	113,7	109,8	
O	98,2	100,1	109,1	113,8	110,5	
N	99,3	102,1	109,7	112,6	108,8	
D	100,1	102,1	109,2	113,8	108,2	

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**

Gigawatt-hours

DESCRIPTION	Year 1998	March	February	March	January -	March
		1999		1998	1999	1998
TOTAL - ALL PRODUCERS						
ELECTRICITY PRODUCED						
Actual figures	205 374	17 023	15 625	17 208	49 277	50 253
Seasonally adjusted figures		17 160	17 068	17 329	-	-
PURCHASED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	2 375	302	200	159	687	222

CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS AND AUXILIARY SYSTEMS	15 705	1 288	1 201	1 328	3 805	3 884
SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	4 532	325	281	325	983	1 015
ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/ Actual figures	187 514	15 713	14 344	15 714	45 177	45 576
Seasonally adjusted figures		15 790	15 675	15 785	-	-

ESKOM						
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ELECTRICITY PRODUCED						
Actual figures	193 662	16 229	14 754	16 300	46 645	47 351
Seasonally adjusted figures		16 230	16 123	16 283	-	-
PURCHASED OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	2 375	302	200	159	687	222
CONSUMED IN POWER STATIONS AND AUXILIARY SYSTEMS	14 394	1 192	1 105	1 220	3 519	3 569
SOLD OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA	4 532	325	281	325	983	1 015
ELECTRICITY CONSUMED IN SOUTH AFRICA 1/ Actual figures	177 111	15 016	13 569	14 914	42 833	42 989
Seasonally adjusted figures		14 968	14 842	14 858	-	-

1/ As indicated by electricity available for distribution

\* Revised