

Electricity generated and available for distribution

May 2006

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Table A – Selected key figures regarding electricity generated and available for distribution for May 2006

Estimates

	May 2006	% change between May 2005 and May 2006	% change between March to May 2005 and March to May 2006	% change between January to May 2005 and January to May 2006
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	20 304	+5,6	+2,8	+2,5
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2005=100)	108,1	+5,1	+2,7	+2,6

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	May 2006	% change between April and May 2006	% change between December 2005 to February 2006 and March to May 2006
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	19 575	+2,9	+1,1
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2005=100)	104,5	+1,6	+0,8

Key findings regarding electricity generated and available for distribution for May 2006

Consumption of electricity increases

The estimated volume of electricity consumed (available for distribution) for the three months ending May 2006 increased by 2,8% (+1 564 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the corresponding three months ending May 2005 (see tables A and C). The estimated consumption of electricity for the first five months of 2006 increased by 2,5% (+2 245 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the same period of 2005 (see tables A and 8b). The estimated consumption of electricity in May 2006 increased notably (+5,6% or +1 080 Gigawatt-hours) compared with May 2005 to a monthly record of 20 304 Gigawatt-hours (see tables A and 8a).

Production of electricity increases

The estimated production of electricity for the three months ending May 2006 increased by 2,7% (+1 651 Gigawatt-hours) compared with corresponding three months ending May 2005 (see tables A and C). Furthermore, the estimated production of electricity, after seasonal adjustment, indicated a slight increase of 0,8% (+489 Gigawatt-hours) in the three months ending May 2006 compared with the previous three months ending February 2006 (see tables A and B). The estimated production of electricity in May 2006 increased substantially by 5,1% (+1 063 Gigawatt-hours) compared with May 2005 (see tables A and 8a). Electricity production by Eskom increased by 6,9% (+ 1 363 Gigawatt-hours) in May 2006 compared with May 2005.

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

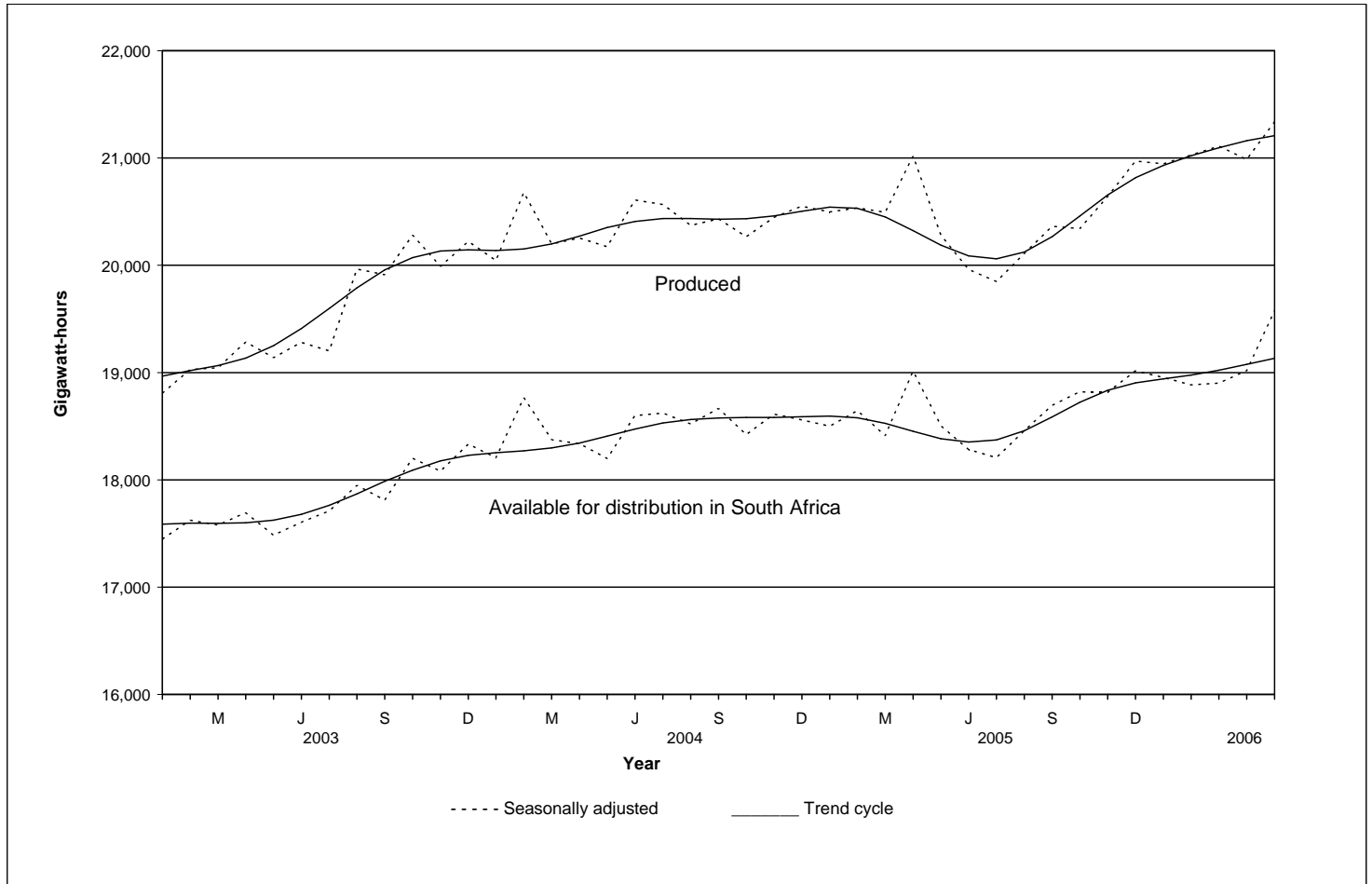
	Seasonally adjusted quantity December 2005 to February 2006	Seasonally adjusted quantity March to May 2006	Percentage change between December 2005 to February 2006 and March to May 2006	Quantity difference between December 2005 to February 2006 and March to May 2006
	Gigawatt-hours	Gigawatt-hours		Gigawatt-hours
Electricity produced	+62 944	+63 433	+0,8	+489
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	+56 855	+57 493	+1,1	+638

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

	Actual quantity March to May 2005	Actual quantity March to May 2006	Percentage change between March to May 2005 and March to May 2006	Quantity difference between March to May 2005 and March to May 2006
	Gigawatt-hours	Gigawatt-hours		Gigawatt-hours
Electricity produced	61 480	63 131	+2,7	+1 651
Purchased outside South Africa (import)	1 980	2 047	+3,4	+67
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	4 574	4 577	+0,1	+3
Sold outside South Africa (export)	3 042	3 192	+4,9	+150
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	55 844	57 408	+2,8	+1 564

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for electricity produced and available for distribution in South Africa between January 2003 and May 2006. There was a gradual upward movement in the trend cycles from the beginning until the end of 2003. From May 2004, the increase in electricity produced was less marked and has shown a declining trend between February and July 2005. The production of electricity has steadily increased since August 2005. The trend of electricity available for distribution in South Africa has shown a similar pattern.

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



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Notes

Forthcoming issues	Issue	Expected release date
	June 2006	3 August 2006
Purpose of the survey	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.	
Response rate	The response rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for May 2006 was 91%.	

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

Gigawatt-hours

Month	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	1/ 20 304
June	16 788	18 017	18 330	19 337	18 983	
July	18 021	18 956	19 183	20 156	19 657	
August	17 300	18 064	18 714	19 265	19 191	
September	16 277	17 125	17 526	18 362	18 384	
October	16 794	17 741	18 480	18 714	19 127	
November	15 960	17 233	17 790	18 314	18 523	
December	15 224	16 712	17 456	17 754	18 230	
Year	196 063	206 020	213 461	221 938	223 257	

1/ Preliminary

Table 2 - Seasonally adjusted total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2001 to 2006

Gigawatt-hours

Month	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	% change between current and previous month
January	16 396	16 523	17 446	18 205	18 500	18 954	-0,3
February	16 203	16 575	17 623	18 765	18 644	18 885	-0,4
March	16 230	16 460	17 579	18 374	18 410	18 901	+0,1
April	16 178	17 076	17 693	18 337	19 012	19 017	+0,6
May	16 266	17 179	17 483	18 197	18 503	19 575	+2,9
June	16 157	17 320	17 605	18 599	18 282		
July	16 646	17 502	17 710	18 622	18 208		
August	16 502	17 291	17 948	18 520	18 457		
September	16 462	17 345	17 811	18 665	18 694		
October	16 528	17 450	18 200	18 420	18 820		
November	16 235	17 511	18 080	18 613	18 816		
December	16 137	17 625	18 334	18 559	19 016		

Table 3 - Indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2001 to 2006

Base : 2005=100

Month	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	1/ 108,1
June	87,0	94,8	98,5	105,0	101,6	
July	95,6	99,4	102,5	109,5	105,5	
August	92,9	94,5	102,4	104,3	103,0	
September	86,4	90,3	97,0	99,5	99,1	
October	88,4	94,3	102,2	102,1	102,5	
November	83,8	91,5	96,4	98,5	99,4	
December	79,2	87,4	94,0	96,0	98,2	
Year	85,8	90,1	95,6	99,9	100,0	

1/ Preliminary

Table 4 - Seasonally adjusted indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2001 to 2006

Base : 2005=100

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

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

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

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 - Total volume of electricity imported: 2001 to 2006

Gigawatt-hours						
Month	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	1/ 879
June	797	704	518	560	813	
July	479	702	792	607	856	
August	282	721	424	618	883	
September	507	637	266	590	686	
October	713	454	272	536	836	
November	636	477	583	746	865	
December	708	691	720	679	837	
Year	7 247	7 873	6 739	8 026	9 199	

1/ Preliminary

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

Gigawatt-hours

Month	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/ 1 046
June	496	601	798	1 057	1 096	
July	543	614	944	1 140	1 102	
August	569	605	1 030	1 049	1 144	
September	581	628	1 051	1 048	1 134	
October	630	626	1 116	1 112	1 161	
November	598	600	1 025	1 082	1 119	
December	547	608	1 055	1 029	1 155	
Year	6 519	6 950	10 136	12 453	12 884	

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Table 8a - Electricity produced and consumed in power stations, purchased and sold outside South Africa and available for distribution in South Africa

Gigawatt-hours

Description	May 2005	April 2006	May 2006	% change between May 2005 and May 2006	Difference between May 2005 and May 2006
Total - All producers					
Electricity produced	20 998	19 993	22 061	+5,1	+1 063
Purchased outside South Africa (import)	849	587	879	+3,5	+30
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 540	1 440	1 589	+3,2	+49
Sold outside South Africa (export)	1 083	1 017	1 046	-3,4	-37
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	19 224	18 122	20 304	+5,6	+1 080
ESKOM					
Electricity produced	19 868	19 323	21 231	+6,9	+1 363
Purchased outside South Africa (import)	849	587	879	+3,5	+30
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 451	1 370	1 507	+3,9	+56
Sold outside South Africa (export)	1 083	1 017	1 046	-3,4	-37
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	18 183	17 523	19 556	+7,6	+1 373

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Table 8b - Electricity produced and consumed in power stations, purchased and sold outside South Africa and available for distribution in South Africa (concluded)

Gigawatt-hours				
Description	January to May 2005	January to May 2006	% change between January to May 2005 and January to May 2006	Difference between January to May 2005 and January to May 2006
Total - All producers				
Electricity produced	100 127	102 674	+2,5	+2 547
Purchased outside South Africa (import)	3 423	3 565	+4,1	+142
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	7 415	7 532	+1,6	+117
Sold outside South Africa (export)	4 973	5 298	+6,5	+325
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	91 162	93 407	+2,5	+2 245
ESKOM				
Electricity produced	95 320	98 819	+3,7	+3 499
Purchased outside South Africa (import)	3 423	3 565	+4,1	+142
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	6 954	7 139	+2,7	+185
Sold outside South Africa (export)	4 973	5 298	+6,5	+325
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	86 816	89 947	+3,6	+3 131

Table 9a - Electricity distributed by Eskom by province for 2005 and 2006 1/

Gigawatt-hours					
Month	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal
2005	21 445	7 713	4 649	8 980	43 049
2005					
January	1 795	616	424	765	3 599
February	1 516	585	380	727	3 406
March	1 650	633	437	747	3 642
April	1 583	627	335	742	3 534
May	1 871	667	358	779	3 558
June	1 860	672	359	761	3 536
July	1 895	690	380	793	3 713
August	1 991	659	375	785	3 666
September	1 837	672	385	735	3 531
October	1 831	666	424	746	3 712
November	1 790	632	390	700	3 589
December	1 826	594	402	700	3 563
2006					
January	1 852	626	388	712	3 611
February	1 703	595	339	721	3 410
March	1 879	639	394	740	3 747
April	1 809	591	357	730	3 572
May 2/	1 906	665	374	809	3 826
Year to date	9 149	3 116	1 852	3 712	18 166

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

Table 9b - Electricity distributed by Eskom by province for 2005 and 2006 (concluded) 1/

Gigawatt-hours

Month	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	Total South Africa
2005	24 865	55 107	29 469	10 281	205 558
2005					
January	2 172	4 402	2 206	858	16 837
February	2 056	4 052	2 285	815	15 823
March	2 171	4 494	2 378	854	17 005
April	2 089	4 489	2 676	676	16 751
May	2 173	4 730	2 581	909	17 626
June	2 068	4 760	2 449	899	17 364
July	2 042	5 057	2 498	925	17 993
August	1 937	4 866	2 319	932	17 530
September	1 996	4 493	2 373	860	16 882
October	2 050	4 776	2 703	861	17 769
November	2 070	4 672	2 467	821	17 131
December	2 041	4 316	2 534	871	16 847
2006					
January	2 073	4 442	2 635	904	17 242
February	1 934	4 129	2 343	1 023	16 197
March	2 019	4 690	2 684	890	17 682
April	1 904	4 514	2 550	874	16 901
May 2/	2 082	5 525	2 784	955	18 925
Year to date	10 012	23 300	12 996	4 646	86 947

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.
- 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 (see 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 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.

- 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).
- 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 -

 - *Bulletin of Statistics.*
 - *SA Statistics.*
- 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.
- Symbols and abbreviations** **18**

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
*	Revised figures

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 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 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.

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