

Statistical release

P4141

Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

May 2011

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Results for May 2011

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

Actual estimates	May 2011 1/	% change between May 2010 and May 2011	% change between March to May 2010 and March to May 2011	% change between January to May 2010 and January to May 2011
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	20 939	2,5	2,2	1,9
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2005=100)	112,2	3,4	2,5	2,2

1/ Preliminary.

Seasonally adjusted estimates	May 2011	% change between April and May 2011	% change between December 2010 to February 2011 and March to May 2011
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	20 392	-0,4	1,4
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2005=100)	109,2	0,0	1,0

Consumption of electricity

In May 2011, the actual volume of electricity consumed increased by 2,5% (504 Gigawatt-hours) year-on-year (see Tables A, 2 and 9a). Electricity consumption for the three months ended May 2011 increased by 2,2% (1 317 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the three months ended May 2010 (see Tables A and C). Seasonally adjusted electricity consumption increased by 1,4% for the three months ended May 2011 compared with the three months ended February 2011 (see Tables A and B).

Production of electricity

In May 2011, the actual estimated electricity production rose by 3,4% year-on-year (see Tables A and 5). The estimated production of electricity for the three months ended May 2011 increased by 2,5% compared with the three months ended May 2010 (see Table A). Seasonally adjusted electricity production in the three months ended May 2011 increased by 1,0% when compared with the three months ended February 2011 (see Tables A and B).

Electricity delivered by Eskom to the provinces

Electricity delivered to the provinces increased by 0,5% (478 Gigawatt-hours) for the first five months of 2011 compared with the first five months of 2010. The 0,5% increase was driven by increases reported in five of the nine provinces, of which the biggest increase was reported in Mpumalanga (4,2% or 607 Gigawatt-hours).

The biggest decrease was reported in Gauteng (-1,5% or -373 Gigawatt-hours), followed by Free State (-2,0% or -75 Gigawatt-hours), KwaZulu-Natal (-0,4% or -72 Gigawatt-hours) and Eastern Cape (-1,6% or -62 Gigawatt-hours) during the above-mentioned period (see Table 10).

International trade in electricity

The volume of electricity purchased from outside South African borders in the first five months of 2011 decreased by 8,0% (-411 Gigawatt-hours) compared with the same period in 2010. The volume of electricity sold to neighbouring countries decreased by 1,3% (-77 Gigawatt-hours) during the above-mentioned period (see Table 9b).

Table B – Comparison of the seasonally adjusted volume of electricity generated and available for distribution between the three months ended May 2011 and the previous three months

Gigawatt-hours	Seasonally adjusted quantity December 2010 to February 2011	Seasonally adjusted quantity March to May 2011	% change between December 2010 to February 2011 and March to May 2011	Quantity difference between December 2010 to February 2011 and March to May 2011
Electricity produced	66 128	66 863	1,0	735
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	60 447	61 319	1,4	872

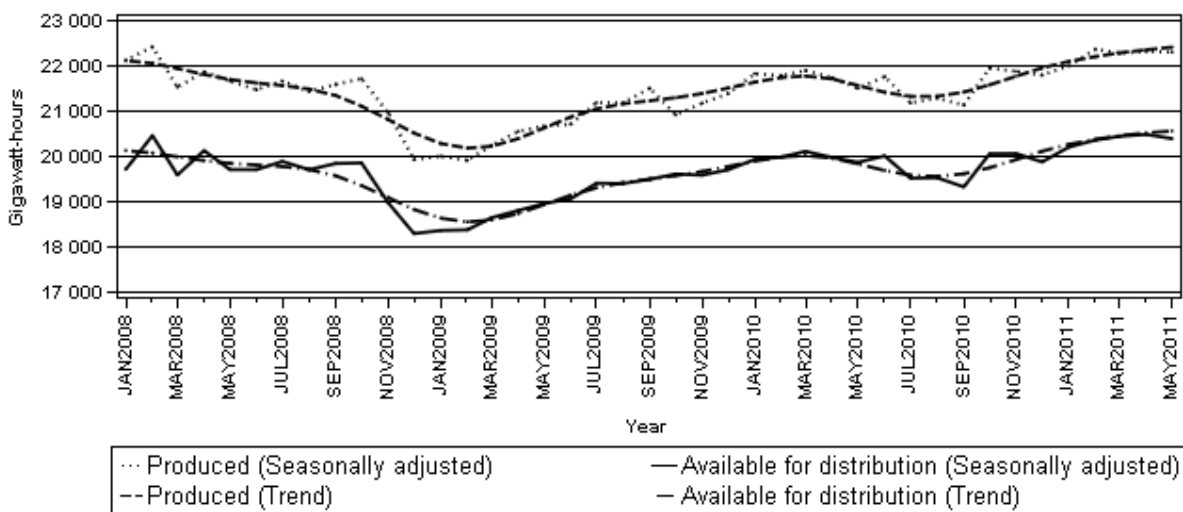
Table C – Comparison of actual estimates between the three months ended May 2011 and the three months ended May 2010

Gigawatt-hours	Actual volume March to May 2010	Actual volume March to May 2011	% change between March to May 2010 and March to May 2011	Quantity difference between March to May 2010 and March to May 2011
Electricity produced	64 873	66 579	2,5	1 706
Purchased outside South Africa (import) 1/	3 045	2 933	-3,7	-112
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	4 595	4 808	4,6	213
Sold outside South Africa (export) 2/	3 599	3 665	1,8	66
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	59 723	61 040	2,2	1 317

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



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Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2006 – 2011

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	18 603	19 561	19 256	17 919	19 396	19 616
February	17 396	18 301	18 668	16 757	18 181	18 455
March	18 982	20 160	19 603	18 694	20 186	* 20 517
April	18 122	18 982	19 127	17 934	19 102	19 584
May	20 312	20 901	20 365	19 548	20 435	1/ 20 939
June	20 166	21 020	20 515	19 819	20 800	
July	20 632	21 780	21 610	21 151	21 307	
August	20 307	21 353	20 736	20 398	20 540	
September	18 987	19 732	19 725	19 382	19 256	
October	19 663	20 435	20 138	19 899	20 371	
November	19 244	19 785	18 640	19 248	19 702	
December	18 909	19 160	17 541	18 850	18 996	
Year	231 323	241 170	235 924	229 599	238 272	

1/ Preliminary.

* Revised.

Table 2 – Annual percentage change in electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2006 – 2011

Month	Percentage change 2/					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	2,5	5,1	-1,6	-6,9	8,2	1,1
February	1,3	5,2	2,0	-10,2	8,5	1,5
March	2,7	6,2	-2,8	-4,6	8,0	1,6
April	-0,1	4,7	0,8	-6,2	6,5	2,5
May	5,7	2,9	-2,6	-4,0	4,5	2,5
June	6,2	4,2	-2,4	-3,4	4,9	
July	5,0	5,6	-0,8	-2,1	0,7	
August	5,8	5,2	-2,9	-1,6	0,7	
September	3,3	3,9	-0,0	-1,7	-0,7	
October	2,8	3,9	-1,5	-1,2	2,4	
November	3,9	2,8	-5,8	3,3	2,4	
December	3,7	1,3	-8,4	7,5	0,8	
Year	3,6	4,3	-2,2	-2,7	3,8	

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: 2006 – 2011

Month	Gigawatt-hours						% change between current and previous month
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
January	18 967	19 968	19 718	18 376	19 935	20 206	1,6
February	18 930	19 955	20 458	18 389	19 985	20 361	0,8
March	18 965	20 158	19 595	18 655	20 112	20 443	0,4
April	19 078	19 970	20 129	18 813	19 978	20 484	0,2
May	19 551	20 143	19 712	18 966	19 872	20 392	-0,4
June	19 409	20 220	19 711	19 070	20 012		
July	19 149	20 124	19 891	19 412	19 523		
August	19 369	20 327	19 710	19 406	19 533		
September	19 162	19 879	19 846	19 500	19 332		
October	19 435	20 190	19 859	19 615	20 060		
November	19 553	20 119	18 983	19 591	20 062		
December	19 684	19 990	18 307	19 708	19 880		

Table 4 – Indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2006 – 2011

Month	Base: 2005=100					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	99,8	103,9	105,3	95,0	103,4	104,0
February	94,0	97,2	99,7	88,5	96,5	98,9
March	103,3	107,8	105,6	99,3	107,4	109,2
April	98,0	100,9	102,0	96,1	102,0	104,8
May	108,1	111,9	109,6	104,5	108,5	1/ 112,2
June	107,3	112,5	108,8	104,8	110,1	
July	110,8	116,6	115,1	112,8	113,0	
August	109,1	114,1	110,3	108,8	109,4	
September	101,8	105,5	104,8	104,4	102,8	
October	107,2	109,1	109,4	105,6	110,8	
November	103,3	106,9	101,4	102,6	105,9	
December	100,9	104,6	93,6	100,3	102,1	
Year	103,6	107,6	105,5	101,9	106,0	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 5 – Annual percentage change in indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2006 – 2011

Month	Percentage change 2/					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	2,3	4,1	1,3	-9,8	8,8	0,6
February	2,5	3,4	2,6	-11,2	9,0	2,5
March	3,1	4,4	-2,0	-6,0	8,2	1,7
April	-0,1	3,0	1,1	-5,8	6,1	2,7
May	5,1	3,5	-2,1	-4,7	3,8	3,4
June	5,6	4,8	-3,3	-3,7	5,1	
July	5,0	5,2	-1,3	-2,0	0,2	
August	5,9	4,6	-3,3	-1,4	0,6	
September	2,7	3,6	-0,7	-0,4	-1,5	
October	4,6	1,8	0,3	-3,5	4,9	
November	3,9	3,5	-5,1	1,2	3,2	
December	2,7	3,7	-10,5	7,2	1,8	
Year	3,7	3,8	-2,0	-3,4	4,0	

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: 2006 – 2011

Month	Base: 2005=100						% change between current and previous month
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
January	102,3	106,7	108,3	98,0	106,8	107,7	0,9
February	102,9	106,6	109,7	97,5	106,6	109,5	1,7
March	103,1	107,6	105,4	99,1	107,2	109,0	-0,5
April	102,8	105,9	107,0	100,6	106,4	109,2	0,2
May	104,2	108,0	106,1	101,2	105,3	109,2	0,0
June	103,6	108,7	105,1	101,4	106,5		
July	102,7	107,8	106,1	103,7	103,7		
August	104,0	108,6	104,9	103,7	104,2		
September	102,8	106,5	105,7	105,3	103,5		
October	104,5	106,3	106,3	102,4	107,5		
November	104,7	108,2	102,6	103,7	107,1		
December	105,0	108,9	97,6	104,7	106,7		

Table 7 – Total volume of electricity imported: 2006 – 2011 1/

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	872	1 088	638	1 102	1 122	1 088
February	646	942	885	999	995	730
March	581	973	802	1 064	1 040	1 112
April	587	1 055	844	906	931	912
May	879	900	761	937	1 074	2/ 909
June	881	880	1 002	1 088	1 019	
July	926	984	1 089	1 040	1 117	
August	930	1 045	1 076	1 072	1 109	
September	971	1 026	1 044	920	1 068	
October	682	1 040	645	1 115	770	
November	862	796	711	940	1 018	
December	965	619	1 075	1 112	930	
Year	9 782	11 348	10 572	12 295	12 193	

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: 2006 – 2011 1/

Month	Gigawatt-hours					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	1 056	1 134	1 280	1 096	1 217	1 133
February	1 050	1 060	1 101	979	1 128	1 069
March	1 129	1 231	1 136	1 100	1 252	1 279
April	1 017	1 132	998	1 086	1 170	1 138
May	1 046	1 203	1 120	1 109	1 177	2/ 1 248
June	1 102	1 256	1 162	1 175	1 132	
July	1 239	1 301	1 249	1 223	1 206	
August	1 262	1 252	1 220	1 235	1 275	
September	1 239	1 186	1 203	1 285	1 248	
October	1 311	1 252	1 258	1 288	1 338	
November	1 186	1 256	1 252	1 213	1 316	
December	1 129	1 233	1 189	1 263	1 209	
Year	13 766	14 496	14 168	14 052	14 668	

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				
		May 2010	April 2011	May 2011 1/	% change between May 2010 and May 2011	Difference between May 2010 and May 2011
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	22 141	21 384	22 910	3,4	769
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	1 074	912	909	-15,4	-165
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 602	1 575	1 632	1,9	30
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	1 177	1 138	1 248	6,0	71
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	20 435	19 584	20 939	2,5	504
ESKOM	Electricity produced	21 557	20 718	21 984	2,0	427
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	1 074	912	909	-15,4	-165
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 535	1 528	1 569	2,2	34
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	1 177	1 138	1 248	6,0	71
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	19 919	18 964	20 076	0,8	157

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 May 2010	January to May 2011 1/	% change between January to May 2010 and January to May 2011	Difference between January to May 2010 and January to May 2011
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	105 688	107 994	2,2	2 306
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	5 162	4 751	-8,0	-411
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	7 605	7 768	2,1	163
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	5 944	5 867	-1,3	-77
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	97 300	99 111	1,9	1 811
ESKOM	Electricity produced	102 828	103 834	1,0	1 006
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	5 162	4 751	-8,0	-411
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	7 295	7 449	2,1	154
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	5 944	5 867	-1,3	-77
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	94 752	95 268	0,5	516

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 2010 and 2011

Period	Gigawatt-hours 1/										
	Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	Total South Africa	
2010	January	1 932	780	404	751	3 540	2 182	4 806	2 845	991	18 231
	February	1 842	719	383	706	3 281	2 029	4 592	2 658	917	17 127
	March	2 037	809	405	780	3 629	2 273	5 086	2 926	1 032	18 977
	April	1 873	750	362	735	3 432	2 100	4 959	2 813	970	17 994
	May	1 931	825	365	788	3 550	2 241	5 468	3 080	979	19 227
	June	1 946	828	378	813	3 559	2 159	5 836	3 011	991	19 521
	July	2 013	877	400	824	3 684	2 204	5 978	2 948	1 062	19 990
	August	1 968	827	386	779	3 595	2 167	5 360	2 802	1 038	18 922
	September	1 851	784	383	675	3 474	2 094	4 857	2 580	1 054	17 752
	October	1 911	846	429	724	3 577	2 276	5 009	2 907	1 088	18 767
	November	1 882	820	406	703	3 433	2 201	4 911	2 968	1 033	18 357
	December	1 907	781	418	694	3 371	2 004	4 645	2 945	1 044	17 809
	Year	23 093	9 646	4 719	8 972	42 125	25 930	61 507	34 483	12 199	222 674
Year to date	9 615	3 883	1 919	3 760	17 432	10 825	24 911	14 322	4 889	91 556	
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 2/	1 980	811	406	772	3 624	2 283	5 435	3 106	1 000	19 417
	Year to date	9 731	3 821	1 992	3 685	17 360	10 965	24 538	14 929	5 013	92 034

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 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. 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 <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 May 2011 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 <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, email and telephone. Information is collected from a sample of 22 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-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 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.
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>; and • <i>SA Statistics</i>.
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 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 border="0"> <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
GDP	Gross domestic product										
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification										
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities										
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa										
*	Revised figures										

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.

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