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Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISibalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002
www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

STATISTICAL RELEASE

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Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

October 2024

The results from the January 2025 publication will be updated to include data from independent power producers (IPPs) engaged in electricity wheeling. Electricity wheeling refers to the process of transporting electricity from a generator to an end-user (customer) using an existing transmission or distribution network.

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ENQUIRIES:
Nicolai Claassen
Tel: 072 310 5351

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Electricity generated (produced) in South Africa: results for October 2024

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated

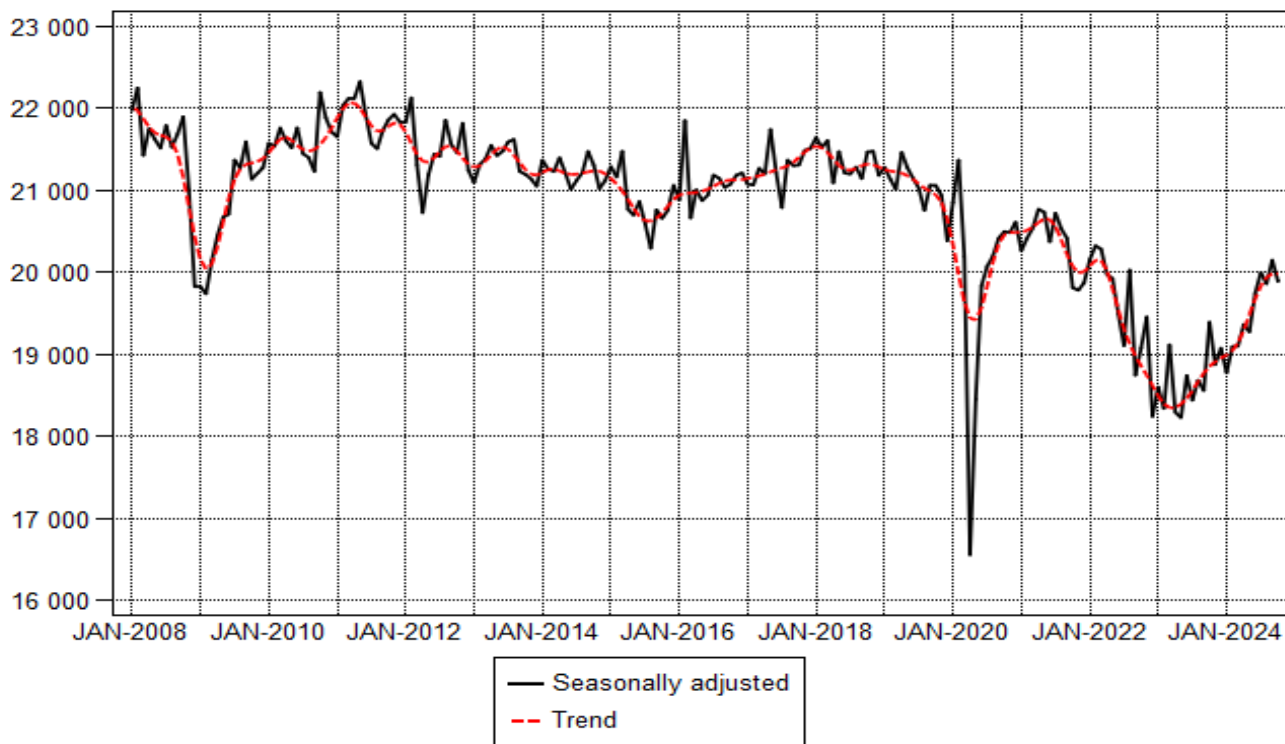
	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	5,5	5,4	8,5	6,3	8,5	2,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,4	2,4	1,3	-0,6	1,5	-1,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	1,4	2,5	2,5	3,2	2,8	1,5

¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity generation (production) increased by 2,7% year-on-year in October 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 1,4% in October 2024 compared with September 2024. This followed month-on-month changes of 1,5% in September 2024 and -0,6% in August 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation increased by 1,5% in the three months ended October 2024 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 1 – Electricity generated in South Africa

Gigawatt-hours



Electricity distributed (consumed) in South Africa: results for October 2024

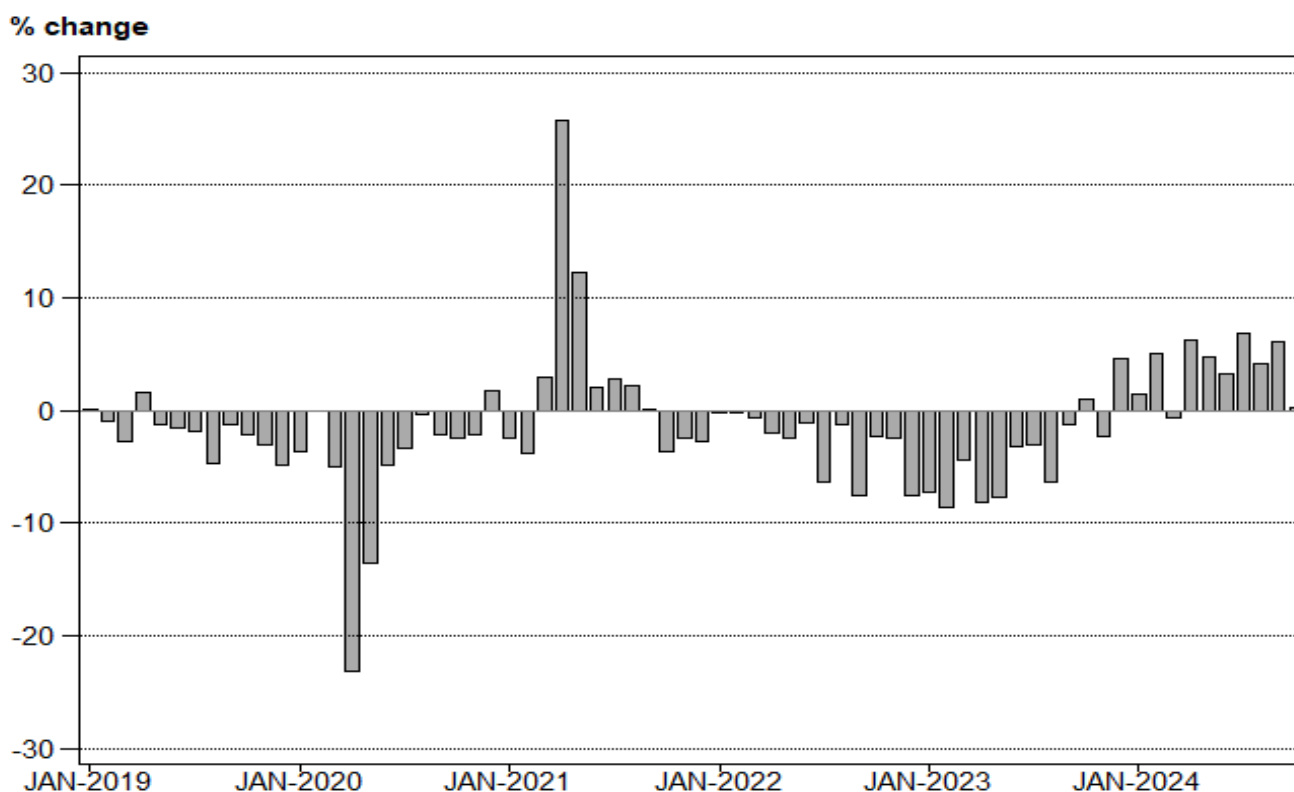
Table B – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed

	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	4,7	3,3	6,9	4,2	6,1	0,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,5	1,0	1,6	-1,1	0,3	-1,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	0,5	1,6	1,7	1,9	1,4	0,1

¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 0,3% year-on-year in October 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution decreased by 1,2% month-on-month in October 2024, following month-on-month changes of 0,3% in September 2024 and -1,1% in August 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution increased by 0,1% in the three months ended October 2024 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 2 – Electricity distributed in South Africa: year-on-year percentage change



Risenga Maluleke
Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Index of the volume of electricity generated (Base: 2019=100)

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	101,5	99,5	97,1	93,9	93,0	85,7	86,4
Feb	93,1	91,3	92,2	88,2	87,9	79,4	82,7
Mar	102,5	99,5	95,5	97,2	96,2	90,8	90,8
Apr	96,8	98,5	76,1	95,5	91,9	84,1	88,9
May	105,5	104,9	91,1	102,2	97,9	89,4	94,3
Jun	104,2	104,3	98,3	101,4	97,3	93,7	98,8
Jul	107,9	107,1	102,3	105,7	97,6	94,3	102,3
Aug	104,6	102,1	99,7	101,7	99,5	93,1	99,0
Sep	99,2	98,7	95,7	95,7	87,9	87,0	94,4
Oct	104,5	102,5	99,7	96,2	92,5	94,0	96,5
Nov	100,9	98,2	95,7	92,2	90,5	87,8	
Dec	97,1	93,3	94,3	90,8	83,3	87,0	
Total	101,5	100,0	94,8	96,7	93,0	88,9	

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of electricity generated

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2024 year-to-date
Jan	-2,0	-2,4	-3,3	-1,0	-7,8	0,8	0,8
Feb	-1,9	1,0	-4,3	-0,3	-9,7	4,2	2,4
Mar	-2,9	-4,0	1,8	-1,0	-5,6	0,0	1,6
Apr	1,8	-22,7	25,5	-3,8	-8,5	5,7	2,6
May	-0,6	-13,2	12,2	-4,2	-8,7	5,5	3,2
Jun	0,1	-5,8	3,2	-4,0	-3,7	5,4	3,6
Jul	-0,7	-4,5	3,3	-7,7	-3,4	8,5	4,3
Aug	-2,4	-2,4	2,0	-2,2	-6,4	6,3	4,6
Sep	-0,5	-3,0	0,0	-8,2	-1,0	8,5	5,0
Oct	-1,9	-2,7	-3,5	-3,8	1,6	2,7	4,8
Nov	-2,7	-2,5	-3,7	-1,8	-3,0		
Dec	-3,9	1,1	-3,7	-8,3	4,4		
Total	-1,5	-5,2	2,0	-3,8	-4,4		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of electricity generated

Month	Base: 2019=100				Month-on-month % change			
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	96,3	95,8	88,4	89,2	-1,7	1,5	2,0	-1,5
Feb	97,0	96,6	87,2	90,7	0,7	0,8	-1,4	1,7
Mar	97,6	96,4	90,8	90,8	0,6	-0,2	4,1	0,1
Apr	98,7	94,9	86,9	92,0	1,1	-1,6	-4,3	1,3
May	98,5	94,7	86,6	91,6	-0,2	-0,2	-0,3	-0,4
Jun	96,8	92,6	89,1	93,8	-1,7	-2,2	2,9	2,4
Jul	98,5	90,8	87,6	95,0	1,8	-1,9	-1,7	1,3
Aug	97,6	95,2	88,8	94,4	-0,9	4,8	1,4	-0,6
Sep	97,0	89,1	88,2	95,8	-0,6	-6,4	-0,7	1,5
Oct	94,1	90,7	92,2	94,5	-3,0	1,8	4,5	-1,4
Nov	94,0	92,5	89,7		-0,1	2,0	-2,7	
Dec	94,4	86,7	90,6		0,4	-6,3	1,0	

Table 4 – Volume of electricity distributed in South Africa (gigawatt-hours)

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	19 132	18 444	18 002	17 974	16 664	16 920
Feb	17 493	17 491	16 825	16 815	15 362	16 129
Mar	18 930	17 976	18 522	18 408	17 592	17 465
Apr	18 711	14 379	18 078	17 709	16 271	17 275
May	19 943	17 254	19 371	18 897	17 433	18 257
Jun	19 609	18 664	19 049	18 838	18 232	18 839
Jul	20 224	19 533	20 082	18 814	18 239	19 495
Aug	19 105	19 038	19 459	19 220	17 981	18 740
Sep	18 605	18 216	18 230	16 857	16 648	17 660
Oct	19 367	18 883	18 203	17 784	17 970	18 021
Nov	18 539	18 153	17 713	17 281	16 886	
Dec	17 678	17 979	17 496	16 173	16 923	
Total	227 336	216 010	221 030	214 770	206 201	

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in electricity distributed in South Africa

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2024 year-to-date
Jan	-3,6	-2,4	-0,2	-7,3	1,5	1,5
Feb	0,0	-3,8	-0,1	-8,6	5,0	3,2
Mar	-5,0	3,0	-0,6	-4,4	-0,7	1,8
Apr	-23,2	25,7	-2,0	-8,1	6,2	2,9
May	-13,5	12,3	-2,4	-7,7	4,7	3,3
Jun	-4,8	2,1	-1,1	-3,2	3,3	3,3
Jul	-3,4	2,8	-6,3	-3,1	6,9	3,8
Aug	-0,4	2,2	-1,2	-6,4	4,2	3,9
Sep	-2,1	0,1	-7,5	-1,2	6,1	4,1
Oct	-2,5	-3,6	-2,3	1,0	0,3	3,7
Nov	-2,1	-2,4	-2,4	-2,3		
Dec	1,7	-2,7	-7,6	4,6		
Total	-5,0	2,3	-2,8	-4,0		

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted volume of electricity distributed in South Africa

Month	Gigawatt-hours				Month-on-month % change			
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
Jan	18 442	18 487	17 171	17 445	-1,4	1,6	2,1	-1,0
Feb	18 415	18 387	16 725	17 545	-0,1	-0,5	-2,6	0,6
Mar	18 567	18 429	17 582	17 439	0,8	0,2	5,1	-0,6
Apr	18 618	18 213	16 728	17 768	0,3	-1,2	-4,9	1,9
May	18 612	18 221	16 853	17 671	0,0	0,0	0,7	-0,5
Jun	18 126	17 900	17 299	17 839	-2,6	-1,8	2,6	1,0
Jul	18 706	17 530	16 997	18 131	3,2	-2,1	-1,7	1,6
Aug	18 734	18 454	17 239	17 927	0,1	5,3	1,4	-1,1
Sep	18 533	17 142	16 943	17 982	-1,1	-7,1	-1,7	0,3
Oct	17 915	17 543	17 727	17 761	-3,3	2,3	4,6	-1,2
Nov	18 108	17 707	17 308		1,1	0,9	-2,4	
Dec	18 195	16 822	17 625		0,5	-5,0	1,8	

Table 7 – Volume of electricity by category (gigawatt-hours)

	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct-24 year-on- year % change
Total - all producers						
Generated	20 796	21 524	20 838	19 878	20 311	2,6
Inflow into South Africa	900	830	823	628	660	-16,0
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 728	1 748	1 719	1 539	1 562	-0,8
Outflow from South Africa	1 130	1 111	1 204	1 307	1 388	34,4
Distributed in South Africa	18 839	19 495	18 740	17 660	18 021	0,3
National electricity supplier						
Generated	18 248	18 967	18 108	17 278	17 755	2,9
Inflow into South Africa	900	830	823	628	660	-16,0
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 622	1 640	1 614	1 455	1 491	0,7
Outflow from South Africa	1 130	1 111	1 204	1 307	1 388	34,4
Distributed in South Africa	16 396	17 046	16 114	15 144	15 536	0,1

Table 8 – Year-to-date volume of electricity by category: year-on-year percentage change and difference

	Jan – Oct 2023 (GWh)	Jan – Oct 2024 (GWh)	% change between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024	Difference between Jan – Oct 2023 and Jan – Oct 2024 (GWh)
Total - all producers				
Generated	187 619	196 625	4,8	9 006
Inflow into South Africa	8 866	8 377	-5,5	-489
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	14 838	15 653	5,5	815
Outflow from South Africa	9 252	10 551	14,0	1 299
Distributed in South Africa	172 392	178 801	3,7	6 409
National electricity supplier				
Generated	162 805	171 141	5,1	8 336
Inflow into South Africa	8 866	8 377	-5,5	-489
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	13 840	14 713	6,3	873
Outflow from South Africa	9 252	10 551	14,0	1 299
Distributed in South Africa	148 578	154 254	3,8	5 676

Table 9 – Volume of electricity delivered to provinces (gigawatt-hours)

Province	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct-24 year-on- year % change
Western Cape	1 654	1 797	1 748	1 590	1 599	2,1
Eastern Cape	751	824	798	756	746	-1,8
Northern Cape	476	495	500	494	503	-0,4
Free State	952	996	948	848	927	7,4
KwaZulu-Natal	3 296	3 387	3 268	3 232	3 302	2,1
North West	1 808	1 787	1 842	1 736	1 724	-5,9
Gauteng	5 120	5 330	4 873	4 468	4 436	-0,5
Mpumalanga	2 619	2 698	2 593	2 477	2 609	-0,8
Limpopo	1 800	1 722	1 755	1 724	1 766	-4,4
Total	18 476	19 035	18 324	17 324	17 611	-0,5

Explanatory notes

- Introduction** 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the electricity industry. This statistical release contains monthly information regarding the volume of electricity units:
- generated and distributed in South Africa;
 - flowing into and out from South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders; and
 - delivered to provinces.
- Both unadjusted and seasonally adjusted figures are published.
- 2 In accordance with international practice, the indices are usually re-based every five years to a new base year. The current base period of the index is 2019.
- Purpose of the survey** 3 The results of the monthly electricity 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** 4 This survey covers enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity (excluding the distribution of purchased electric energy). It includes electrical power installations, which, as subsidiary divisions of enterprises, produce electricity for regular use by these enterprises.
- 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 enterprise is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (five-digit) level.
- Collection rate** 6 The preliminary collection rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for October 2024 was 88%. The revised collection rate for September 2024 was 96%.
- Statistical unit** 7 The statistical unit for the collection of information is an enterprise, defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.
- Revised figures** 8 Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the following schedule. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy. It is important to note that seasonally adjusted figures are revised monthly.

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
Oct-24	Additional information from respondents	Sep-24
Nov-24	Additional information from respondents	Oct-24
Dec-24	Additional information from respondents	Nov-24
Jan-25	Additional information from respondents Inclusion of data on electricity wheeling	Aug-85–Dec-24
Feb-25	Additional information from respondents	Jan-25
Mar-25	Additional information from respondents	Feb-25
Apr-25	Additional information from respondents	Mar-25
May-25	Additional information from respondents	Apr-25
Jun-25	Additional information from respondents	May-25
Jul-25	Additional information from respondents	Jun-25
Aug-25	Additional information from respondents	Jul-25
Sep-25	Additional information from respondents	Aug-25
New base year in 2027/28 - periodic, approximately four- to five-year intervals		

- Rounding-off of figures** 9 Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

- Historical data** 10 Historical electricity data are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link ([Time series data](#)) to access the data electronically.
- Past publications** 11 Past electricity releases are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link ([Past publications](#)) to access the releases electronically.
- Technical notes**
- Survey methodology and design**
- 1 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 enterprise. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. A sample is drawn from medium and small size enterprises by systematically selecting enterprises within each size category. An enterprise with a total generating capacity of less than 500 kilowatts is excluded from the sample.
- 2 The survey is conducted by email and telephone. Information is collected from a sample of 24 enterprises. As from September 2013, the national electricity supplier provided additional data for independent power producers (IPPs) that were not in the original sample of 24 enterprises.
- Monthly index of electricity generated** 3 The calculation of the monthly index of electricity generated is based on the volume of electricity units produced.
- Benchmarking** 4 The index of the volume of electricity generated should provide an accurate reflection of the trend of activities of the relevant industry. The level of activities, as measured by the monthly electricity survey, is based on information received from a sample of enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity (excluding the distribution of purchased electric energy). These levels are weighted according to the original sample and designed to represent the population of enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity.
- The results of the 1995 Census of electricity, gas and steam served as a benchmark to verify or adjust the level of the monthly index of the volume of electricity generated collected through the monthly survey. The level adjustments were done on the volume index for July of the relevant census year (the 1995 census year covered the period 1 January to 31 December 1995 and therefore, the benchmarking was done using the index of July 1995 as reference point).
- Seasonal adjustment** 5 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. 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 behaviour. The X12-ARIMA procedure for electricity generated and available for distribution is described in more detail on the Stats SA website:
[Click to download Electricity seasonal adjustment February 2022.](#)
- Trend cycle** 6 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 to estimate the underlying trend cycle.
- Month-on-month percentage change** 7 The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Year-on-year percentage change 8 The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Glossary

Electricity wheeling Electricity wheeling refers to the process of transporting electricity from a generator to an end-user (customer) using an existing transmission or distribution network.

Enterprise The enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.

Independent power producer An independent power producer (IPP) is a private enterprise that generates electricity and sells it to the national electricity supplier or an end-user (customer).

Index of the volume of electricity generated A statistical measure of the change in the volume of electricity generated in a given period and the volume of electricity generated in the base period. The base period is 2019. The production in the base period is set at 100.

Industry An industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the same way as in the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.

Inflow into SA Electricity flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

Outflow from SA Electricity flowing from South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

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
	GWh	Gigawatt-hour
	IPPs	Independent Power Producers
	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
	SA	South Africa
	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
*	Revised figures	

Technical enquiries

Tsholofelo Ditinti Telephone number: (012) 310 6990 / 076 583 4844
Email: tsholofelod@statssa.gov.za

Nicolai Claassen Telephone number: (012) 310 8007 / 072 310 5351
Email: nicolaic@statssa.gov.za

General information

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Orders/subscription services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8619 Email address: millies@statssa.gov.za
Postal address	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA