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Statistical release P4141

Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

September 2012

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Results for September 2012

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

Actual estimates	September 2012 1/	% change between September 2011 and September 2012	% change between July to September 2011 and July to September 2012	% change between January to September 2011 and January to September 2012
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	19 101	-2,6	-2,0	-2,5
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2010=100)	98,7	-0,7	0,0	-1,8

^{1/} Preliminary.

Seasonally adjusted estimates	September 2012	% change between August and September 2012	% change between April to June 2012 and July to September 2012
Electricity available for distribution (Gigawatt-hours)	19 397	-1,1	0,8
Index of the physical volume of electricity production (2010=100)	100,0	-1,4	2,6

Consumption of electricity

The actual volume of electricity consumption decreased by 2,6% year-on-year in September 2012. Seasonally adjusted electricity consumption decreased by 1,1% in September 2012 compared with August 2012. This follows month-on-month changes of 0,8% in August 2012 and -0,2% in July 2012. Seasonally adjusted electricity consumption increased by 0,8% in the third quarter of 2012 compared with the previous quarter.

Production of electricity

The actual estimated electricity production decreased by 0,7% in September 2012 compared with September 2011. Seasonally adjusted electricity production decreased by 1,4% month-on-month in September 2012, following month-on-month increases of 2,4% in August 2012 and 0,2% in July 2012. Seasonally adjusted electricity production increased by 2,6% in the third quarter of 2012 compared with the second quarter of 2012.

Electricity delivered by Eskom to the provinces

The total volume of electricity delivered by Eskom to the provinces decreased by 1,7% in September 2012 compared with September 2011. Decreases were reported in eight of the nine provinces, with the largest volume decrease recorded for Mpumalanga (-110 Gigawatt-hours), followed by Limpopo (-78 Gigawatt-hours). Western Cape recorded a year-on-year increase of 100 Gigawatt-hours over this period.

Table B – Comparison of the seasonally adjusted volume of electricity generated and available for distribution between the third quarter of 2012 and the previous quarter

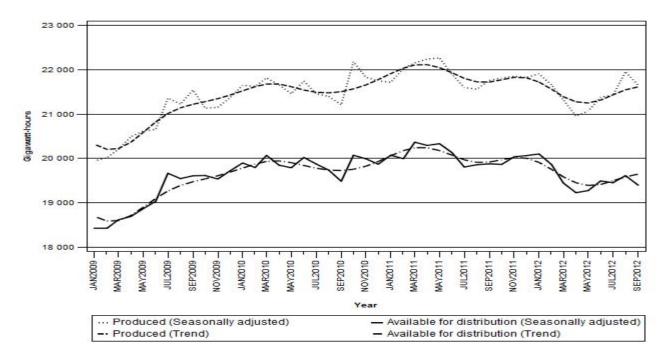
Gigawatt-hours	Seasonally adjusted quantity April to June 2012	Seasonally adjusted quantity July to September 2012	% change between April to June 2012 and July to September 2012	Quantity difference between April to June 2012 and July to September 2012
Electricity produced	63 399	65 025	2,6	1 626
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	57 990	58 458	0,8	468

Table C - Comparison of actual estimates between the third quarter of 2012 and the third quarter of 2011

Gigawatt-hours	Actual volume July to September 2011	Actual volume July to September 2012	% change between July to September 2011 and July to September 2012	Quantity difference between July to September 2011 and July to September 2012
Electricity produced	67 047	67 016	0,0	-31
Purchased outside South Africa (import) 1/	3 061	1 842	-39,8	-1 219
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	4 877	4 861	-0,3	-16
Sold outside South Africa (export) 2/	3 833	3 810	-0,6	-23
Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	61 398	60 189	-2,0	-1 209

^{1/} Physical energy flowing into 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



PJ Lehohla Statistician-General

^{2/} Physical energy flowing out of South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.

Tables

Table 1 – Total volume of electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2007–2012

Month	Gigawatt-hours								
WOULI	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012			
January	19 561	19 256	17 919	19 396	19 616	19 676			
February	18 301	18 668	16 757	18 181	18 455	18 783			
March	20 160	19 603	18 694	20 186	20 518	19 623			
April	18 982	19 127	17 934	19 102	19 539	18 466			
May	20 901	20 365	19 548	20 435	20 938	19 869			
June	21 020	20 515	19 819	20 800	20 914	20 274			
July	21 780	21 610	21 151	21 307	21 162	20 743			
August	21 353	20 736	20 398	20 540	20 617	20 345			
September	19 732	19 725	19 382	19 256	19 619	1/ 19 101			
October	20 435	20 138	19 899	20 371	20 198				
November	19 785	18 640	19 248	19 702	19 763				
December	19 160	17 541	18 850	18 996	19 189				
Year	241 170	235 924	229 599	238 272	240 528				

^{1/} Preliminary.

Table 2 – Annual percentage change in electricity available for distribution in South Africa: 2007–2012

Mande	Percentage change 2/								
Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012			
January	5,1	-1,6	-6,9	8,2	1,1	0,3			
February	5,2	2,0	-10,2	8,5	1,5	1,8			
March	6,2	-2,8	-4,6	8,0	1,6	-4,4			
April	4,7	0,8	-6,2	6,5	2,3	-5,5			
May	2,9	-2,6	-4,0	4,5	2,5	-5,1			
June	4,2	-2,4	-3,4	4,9	0,5	-3,1			
July	5,6	-0,8	-2,1	0,7	-0,7	-2,0			
August	5,2	-2,9	-1,6	0,7	0,4	-1,3			
September	3,9	0,0	-1,7	-0,7	1,9	-2,6			
October	3,9	-1,5	-1,2	2,4	-0,8				
November	2,8	-5,8	3,3	2,4	0,3				
December	1,3	-8,4	7,5	0,8	1,0				
Year	4,3	-2,2	-2,7	3,8	0,9				

^{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: 2007–2012

		Gigawatt-hours										
Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% change between current and previous month					
January	20 044	19 765	18 423	19 895	20 071	20 099	0,2					
February	19 942	19 951	18 423	19 794	19 992	19 859	-1,2					
March	20 133	19 553	18 614	20 067	20 364	19 443	-2,1					
April	19 793	19 903	18 690	19 845	20 292	19 226	-1,1					
May	20 147	19 627	18 864	19 789	20 331	19 273	0,2					
June	20 259	19 747	19 031	20 020	20 127	19 491	1,1					
July	20 314	20 112	19 664	19 874	19 804	19 450	-0,2					
August	20 460	19 849	19 543	19 735	19 856	19 611	0,8					
September	19 961	19 956	19 608	19 483	19 876	19 397	-1,1					
October	20 140	19 862	19 613	20 070	19 863							
November	20 078	18 937	19 534	19 989	20 035							
December	19 990	18 387	19 718	19 868	20 062							

Table 4 – Indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2007–2012

Month		Base: 2010=100								
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012				
January	98,1	99,3	89,7	97,6	98,1	99,2				
February	91,7	94,1	83,5	91,1	93,3	93,8				
March	101,7	99,6	93,7	101,3	103,0	99,3				
April	95,2	96,2	90,7	96,2	98,9	92,9				
May	105,6	103,4	98,6	102,3	105,9	100,3				
June	106,1	102,6	98,8	103,8	104,6	102,2				
July	110,0	108,6	106,4	106,6	106,8	105,7				
August	107,6	104,0	102,7	103,2	103,7	105,4				
September	99,5	98,8	98,5	97,0	99,4	1/ 98,7				
October	103,0	103,2	99,6	104,6	103,1					
November	100,8	95,7	96,8	100,0	100,1					
December	98,7	88,3	94,6	96,3	96,7					
Year	101,5	99,5	96,1	100,0	101,1					

^{1/} Preliminary.

Table 5 – Annual percentage change in indices of the physical volume of electricity production: 2007–2012

Month	Percentage change 2/								
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012			
January	4,3	1,2	-9,7	8,8	0,5	1,1			
February	3,4	2,6	-11,3	9,1	2,4	0,5			
March	4,4	-2,1	-5,9	8,1	1,7	-3,6			
April	3,0	1,1	-5,7	6,1	2,8	-6,1			
May	3,5	-2,1	-4,6	3,8	3,5	-5,3			
June	4,8	-3,3	-3,7	5,1	0,8	-2,3			
July	5,2	-1,3	-2,0	0,2	0,2	-1,0			
August	4,5	-3,3	-1,3	0,5	0,5	1,6			
September	3,6	-0,7	-0,3	-1,5	2,5	-0,7			
October	1,9	0,2	-3,5	5,0	-1,4				
November	3,5	-5,1	1,1	3,3	0,1				
December	3,7	-10,5	7,1	1,8	0,4				
Year	3,8	-2,0	-3,4	4,0	1,1				

^{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: 2007-2012

		Base: 2010=100									
Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% change between current and previous month				
January	100,5	101,8	92,1	100,0	100,3	101,2	0,4				
February	100,5	101,1	92,5	99,9	101,8	100,0	-1,2				
March	101,5	99,3	93,3	100,8	102,3	98,5	-1,5				
April	99,4	100,3	94,6	100,0	102,7	96,8	-1,7				
May	102,0	99,8	95,2	99,1	102,9	97,3	0,5				
June	102,7	99,2	95,4	100,4	101,1	98,8	1,5				
July	102,3	100,8	98,7	99,1	99,8	99,0	0,2				
August	102,7	99,2	98,0	98,8	99,6	101,4	2,4				
September	100,5	99,9	99,5	98,0	100,5	100,0	-1,4				
October	101,0	101,3	97,6	102,5	100,8						
November	102,0	96,8	97,7	100,8	100,9						
December	102,5	92,3	98,7	100,5	100,8						

Table 7 - Total volume of electricity imported: 2007-2012 1/

Manth		Gigawatt-hours								
Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012				
January	1 088	638	1 102	1 122	1 088	1 085				
February	942	885	999	995	730	1 063				
March	973	802	1 064	1 040	1 112	945				
April	1 055	844	906	931	912	1 068				
May	900	761	937	1 074	907	1 066				
June	880	1 002	1 088	1 019	1 009	1 044				
July	984	1 089	1 040	1 117	979	903				
August	1 045	1 076	1 072	1 109	1 108	465				
September	1 026	1 044	920	1 068	974	2/ 474				
October	1 040	645	1 115	770	911					
November	796	711	940	1 018	1 073					
December	619	1 075	1 112	930	1 087					
Year	11 348	10 572	12 295	12 193	11 890					

^{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: 2007–2012 1/

B	Gigawatt-hours								
Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012			
January	1 134	1 280	1 096	1 217	1 133	1 247			
February	1 060	1 101	979	1 128	1 069	1 212			
March	1 231	1 136	1 100	1 252	1 279	1 242			
April	1 132	998	1 086	1 170	1 190	1 174			
May	1 203	1 120	1 109	1 177	1 241	1 322			
June	1 256	1 162	1 175	1 132	1 174	1 335			
July	1 301	1 249	1 223	1 206	1 247	1 350			
August	1 252	1 220	1 235	1 275	1 298	1 295			
September	1 186	1 203	1 285	1 248	1 288	2/ 1 165			
October	1 252	1 258	1 288	1 338	1 378				
November	1 256	1 252	1 213	1 316	1 381				
December	1 233 1 189		1 263	1 209	1 286				
Year	14 496	14 168	14 052	14 668	14 964				

^{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					
		September 2011	August 2012	September 2012 1/	% change between September 2011 and September 2012	Difference between September 2011 and September 2012	
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	21 493	22 802	21 351	-0,7	-142	
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	974	465	474	-51,3	-500	
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 561	1 628	1 560	-0,1	-1	
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	1 288	1 295	1 165	-9,5	-123	
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	19 619	20 345	19 101	-2,6	-518	
ESKOM	Electricity produced	20 579	21 886	20 534	-0,2	-45	
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	974	465	474	-51,3	-500	
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems			1 495	0,0	0	
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	1 288	1 295	1 165	-9,5	-123	
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	18 770	19 499	18 348	-2,2	-422	

^{1/} Preliminary.

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 September 2011	January to September 2012 1/	% change between January to September 2011 and January to September 2012	Difference between January to September 2011 and January to September 2012		
Total - All producers	Electricity produced	197 670	194 161	-1,8	-3 509		
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	8 819	8 113	-8,0	-706		
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	14 192	14 052	-1,0	-140		
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	10 919	11 342	3,9	423		
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	181 378	176 880	-2,5	-4 498		
ESKOM	Electricity produced	189 598	186 303	-1,7	-3 295		
	Purchased outside South Africa (import) 2/	8 819	8 113	-8,0	-706		
	Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	13 588	13 395	-1,4	-193		
	Sold outside South Africa (export) 3/	10 919	11 342	3,9	423		
	Electricity available for distribution in South Africa	173 912	169 681	-2,4	-4 231		

^{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.

^{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 2011 and 2012 1/

		Gigawatt-hours									
Period		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu- Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpuma- langa	Limpopo	Total South Africa
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	1 980	811	406	772	3 624	2 283	5 435	3 106	1 000	19 417
	June	1 966	826	417	812	3 527	2 097	5 804	2 945	1 020	19 414
	July	2 014	876	428	814	3 639	2 086	5 971	2 852	972	19 652
	August	1 985	884	414	783	3 574	2 029	5 727	2 830	960	19 186
	September	1 752	840	418	688	3 381	2 172	4 985	2 788	1 028	18 052
	October	1 801	840	447	709	3 547	2 268	4 991	2 997	1 051	18 651
	November	1 767	840	428	666	3 429	2 248	4 814	2 916	1 035	18 143
	December	1 763	783	441	647	3 466	2 107	4 426	2 895	1 050	17 578
	Year	22 779	9 710	4 985	8 804	41 923	25 972	61 256	35 152	12 129	222 710
	Year to date	17 448	7 247	3 669	6 782	31 481	19 349	47 025	26 344	8 993	168 338
2012	January	1 889	844	464	706	3 527	2 237	4 631	2 910	1 038	18 246
	February	1 922	816	403	668	3 271	2 034	4 509	2 779	988	17 390
	March	2 027	859	436	688	3 282	2 161	4 849	2 900	1 000	18 202
	April	1 846	763	391	655	3 154	1 993	4 624	2 800	937	17 163
	May	1 943	839	401	709	3 318	2 181	5 159	2 884	991	18 425
	June	1 933	802	406	775	3 315	2 205	5 643	2 816	974	18 869
	July	1 978	837	432	793	3 441	2 273	5 731	2 922	952	19 359
	August	1 993	838	420	776	3 436	2 186	5 540	2 767	937	18 893
	September 2/	1 852	788	414	664	3 316	2 097	4 981	2 678	950	17 740
	Year to date	17 383	7 386	3 767	6 434	30 060	19 367	45 667	25 456	8 767	164 287

^{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.

- This statistical release reflects indices of the physical volume of electricity production on the basis of 2010=100. In accordance with international practice, the indices have to be rebased every five years to a new base year.
- 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 4 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.

Scope of the 5 survey

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 *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.

Collection rate 7

The collection rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for September 2012 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

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.

The survey is conducted by mail, email and telephone. Information is collected from a sample of 25 electricity undertakings or establishments.

Monthly production indices

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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.

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

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Seasonally adjusted estimates of all items are generated each month, using the X-12-ARIMA 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. The X12-ARIMA procedure for electricity generated and available for distribution is described in more detail on the Stats SA website at http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P4141/electricity_seasonal_adjustment_note_2011.pdf

Trend cycle

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.

Related publications

Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA:

- Bulletin of Statistics; and
- SA Statistics.

Rounding-off of figures

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 2010. 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 Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), 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

GDP Gross domestic product

ISIC International Standard Industrial Classification

SIC Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities

Stats SA Statistics South Africa
* Revised figures

Technical enquiries

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