

The electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019

An exploration of electricity production, employment, finances, and South Africa's energy mix



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IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS ELECTRICITY, GAS & WATER SUPPLY INDUSTRY, 2019

What is this survey about?



The survey: Taking a look under the hood

Who was included?

Enterprises registered for VAT that are engaged in the following activities:

- Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity
- Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains
- Collection, purification and distribution of water

When was it conducted?

- Questionnaires were completed for the financial year ended on any date between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019
- Employment figures are for 30 June 2019
- The survey was also conducted in 2006, 2010, 2013 and 2016

What did it measure?

- Finances (including capital expenditure)
- Details of purchases, employment and services rendered
- Provincial distribution of employment, salaries and wages, and sales of goods and services
- ICT usage

Why was it conducted?

- **General objective:** To collect financial and quantitative information that is essential for planning and policy formulation
- **For external users of Stats SA data:** To generate information on the size, structure and nature of the industry
- **For internal use:** Mainly used for benchmarking the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components

Fact #1

Fact #2

Fact #3

Fact #4

Fact #5

5

key facts from
the survey

Fact #1

Fact #2

Fact #3

Fact #4

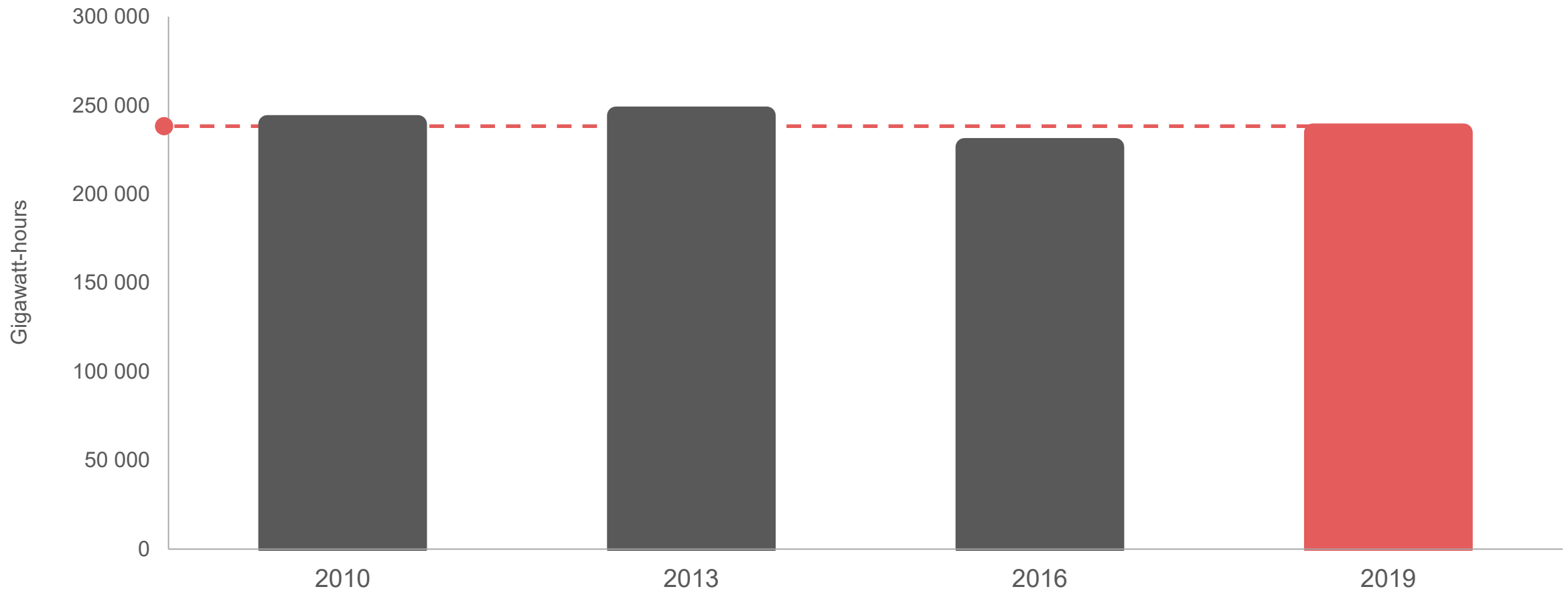
Fact #5

**South Africa is
producing less
electricity**

Fact #1: South Africa is producing less electricity

The country generated **less** electricity in 2019 than it did in 2010 and 2013

Electricity generated



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table F

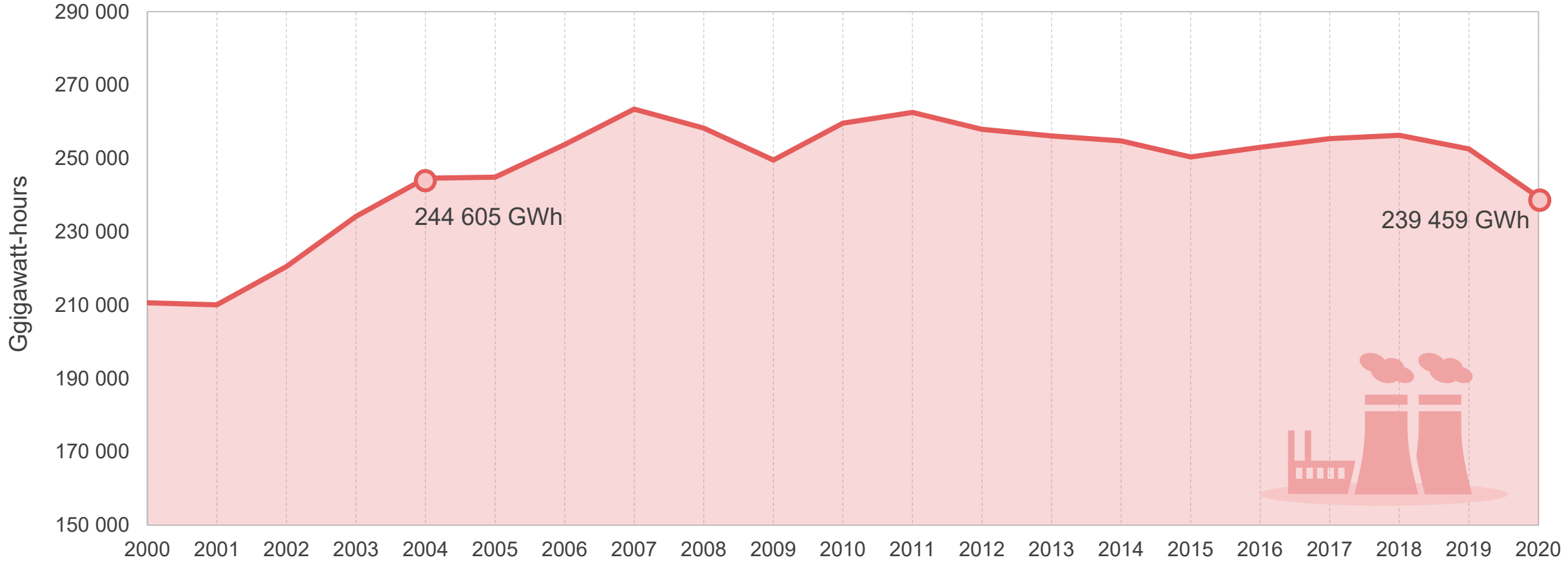
IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

ELECTRICITY, GAS & WATER SUPPLY INDUSTRY, 2019

Fact #1: South Africa is producing less electricity

In 2020, the country generated less electricity than it did in 2004

The decline in electricity production is confirmed by Stats SA's monthly *Electricity generated and available for distribution* release



Source: *Electricity generated and available for distribution*, June 2021. Based on Table 7

Fact #1

Fact #2

Fact #3

Fact #4

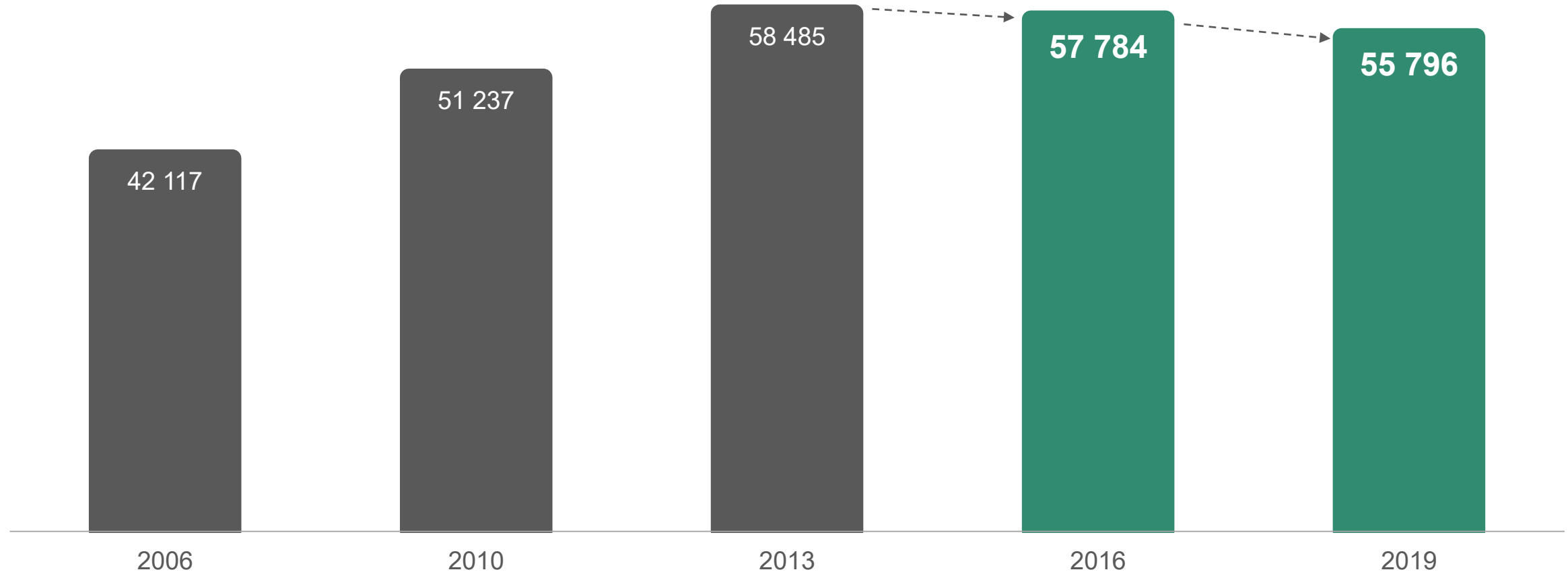
Fact #5

The industry is
employing fewer
people

Fact #2: The industry is employing fewer people

The 2016 and 2019 surveys recorded a decline in the number of employees

Number of employees in the electricity, gas & water supply industry

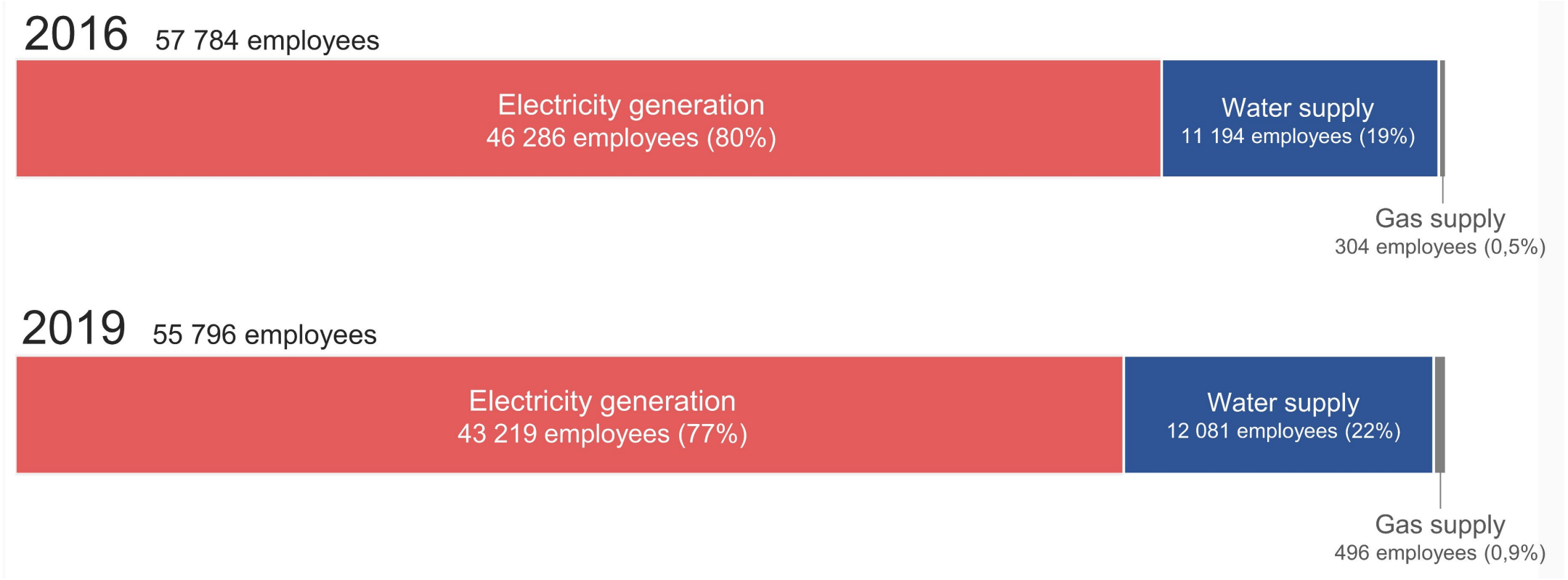


Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table C and Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2006). Table 8

Fact #2: The industry is employing fewer people

The decline in jobs occurred in the electricity generation sector

Breakdown of the number of employees in the electricity, gas & water supply industry by type of service, 2016 and 2019

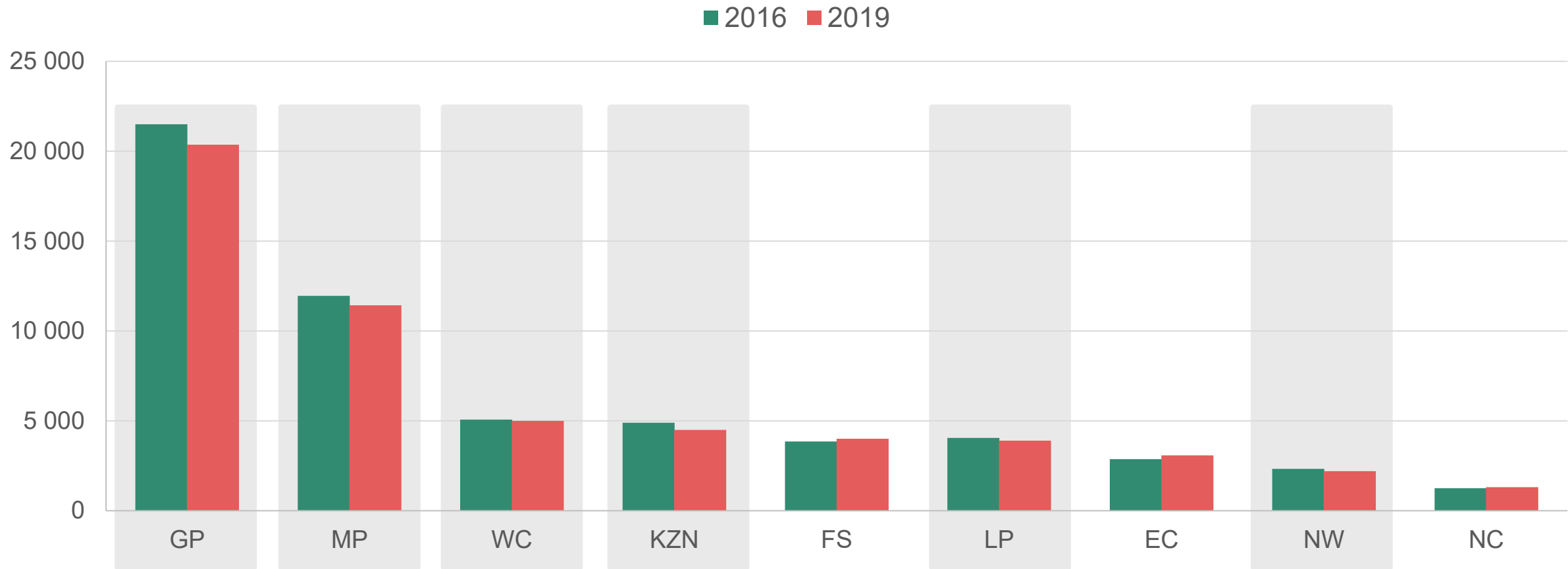


Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table C

Fact #2: The industry is employing fewer people

Six provinces recorded a fall in the number of employees

Breakdown of the number of employees in the electricity, gas & water supply industry by province

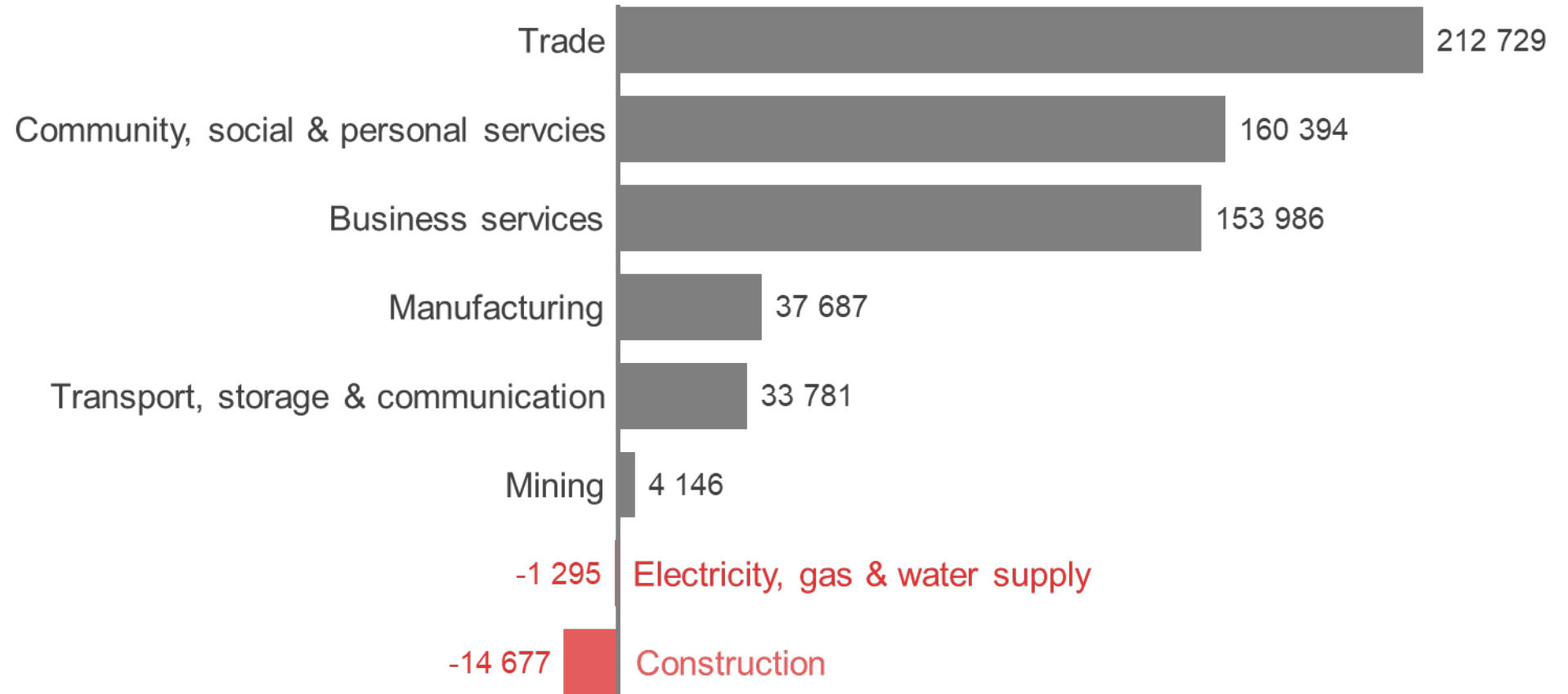


Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 20 and Table 21

Fact #2: The industry is employing fewer people

Construction is the only other industry that recorded a decrease in employment over this period

Net gain or loss in the number of employees as reported by Stats SA's *Quarterly Employment Statistics* survey, Q2: 2019 compared with Q2: 2016

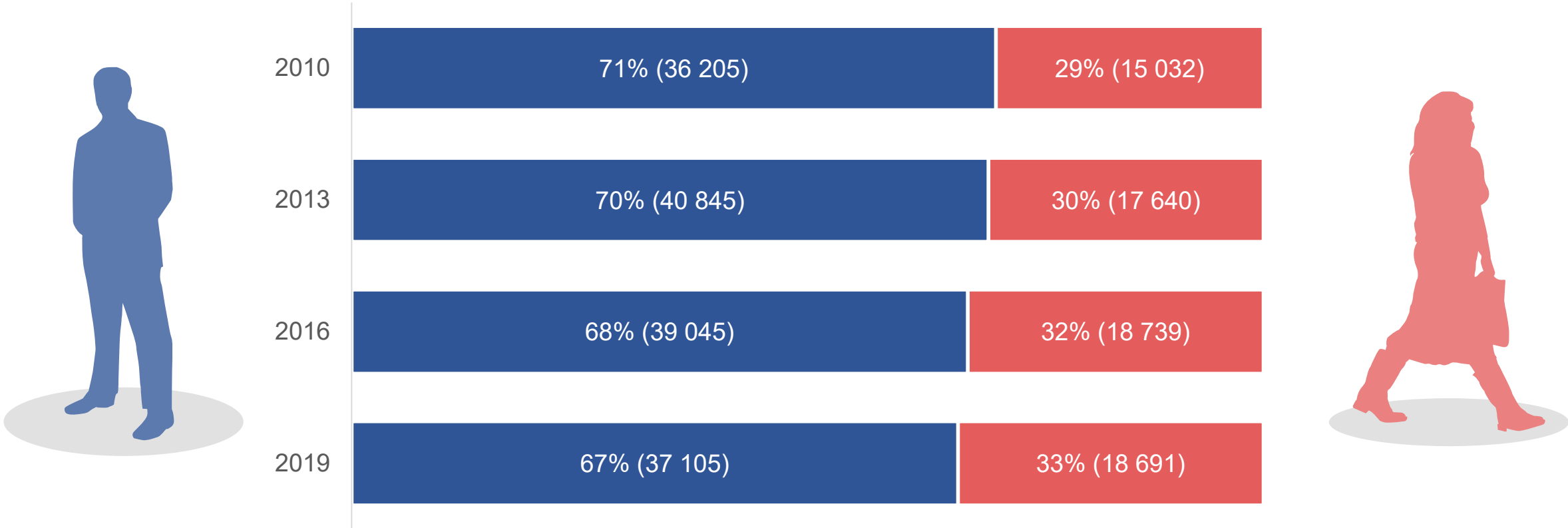


Source: Quarterly Employment Statistics (QES). 'QES Details_BreakDown_200909_202103' Excel file

Fact #2: The industry is employing fewer people

Males still dominate the industry, although the share of male employees has declined over the years

Percentage breakdown of the workforce by male and female, 2010–2016



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 10

Fact #1

Fact #2

Fact #3

Fact #4

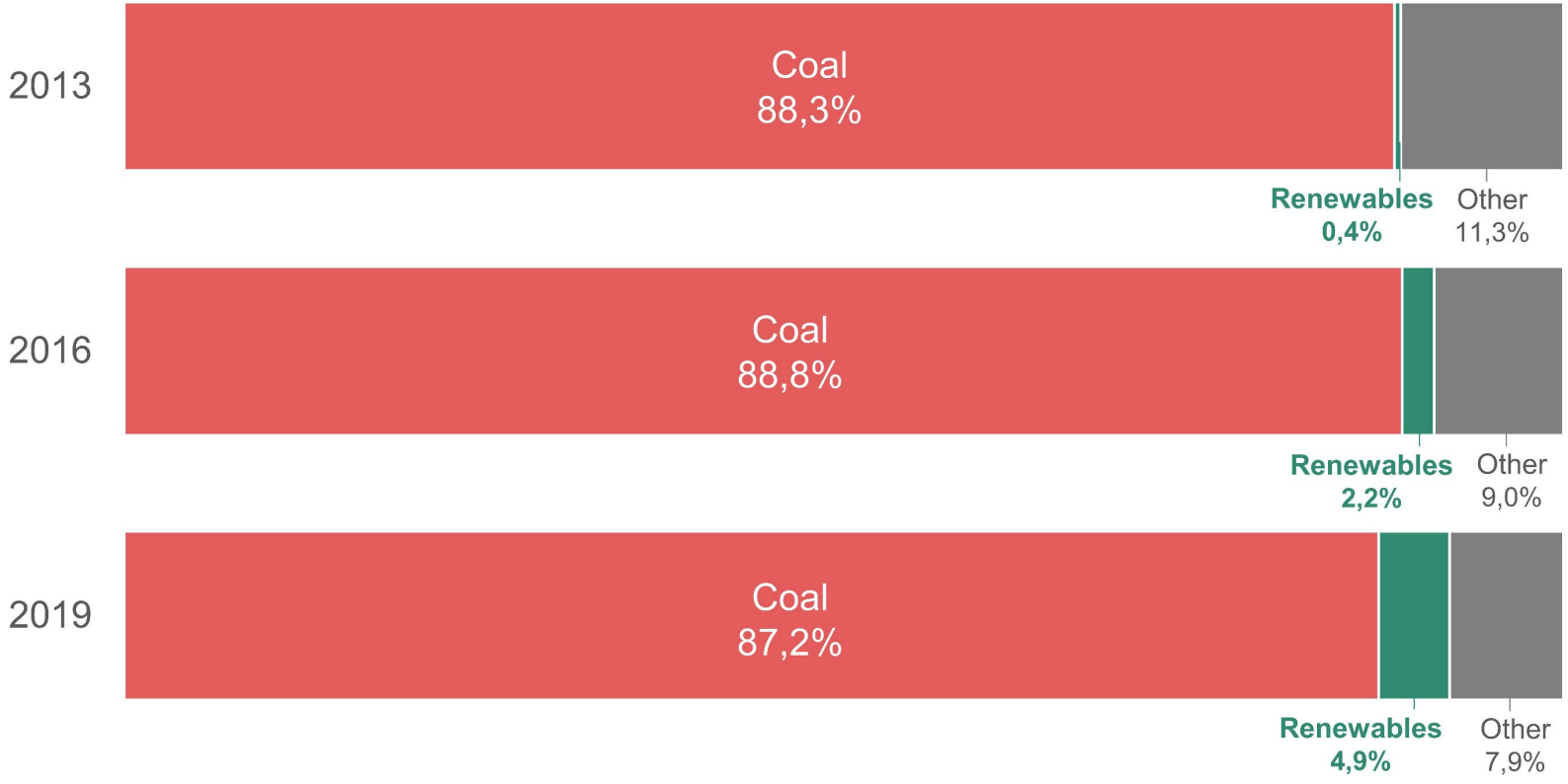
Fact #5

**South Africa's energy
mix is shifting away
from coal**

Fact #3: South Africa's energy mix is shifting away from coal

Renewable energy has taken up more of the energy-mix pie

Percentage of electricity generated (gigawatt-hours) in South Africa by source

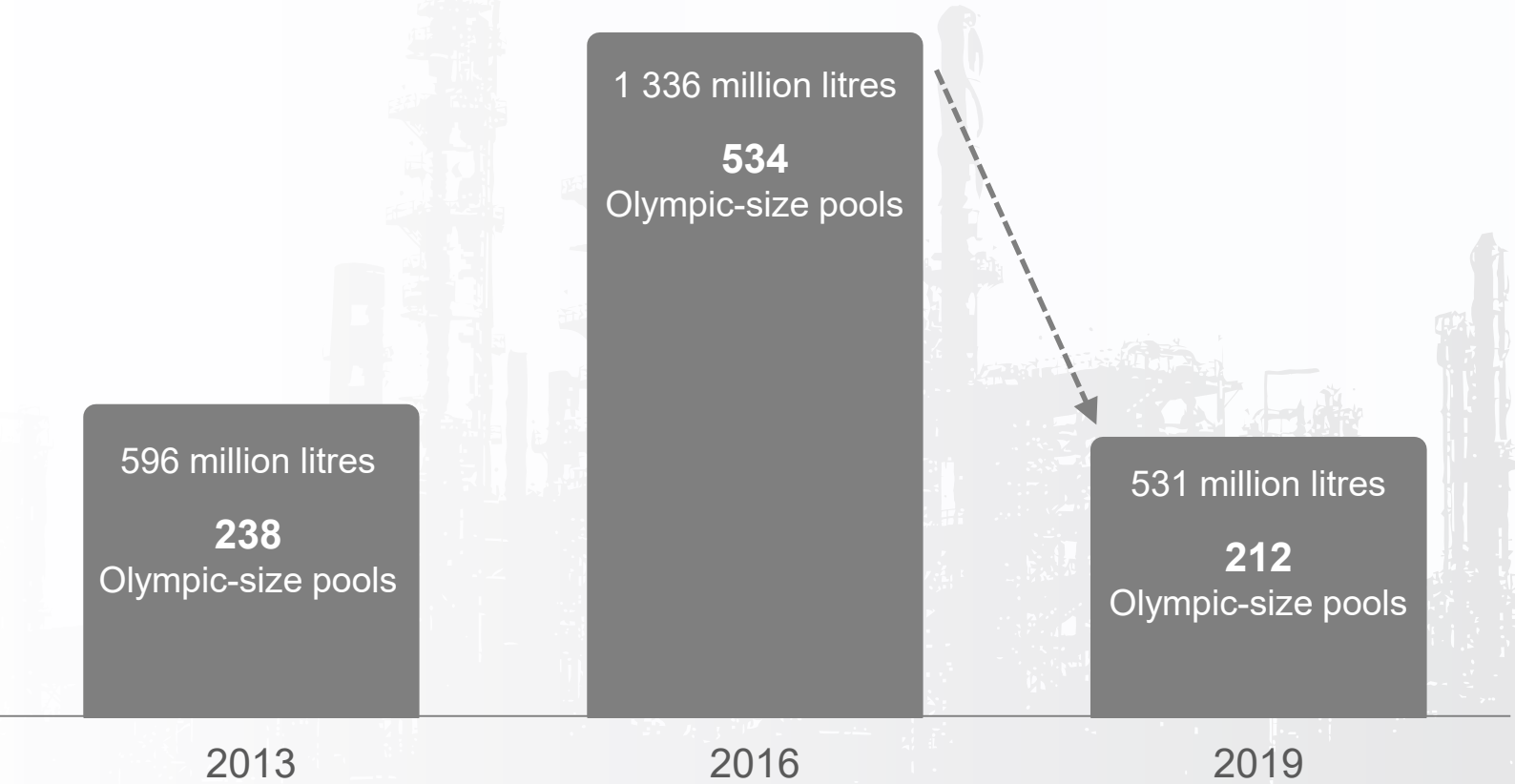


Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 12

Fact #3: South Africa's energy mix is shifting away from coal

There has been a significant decline in the use of diesel

South Africa consumed the equivalent of 212 Olympic-size pools of diesel in 2019 to generate electricity, down from 534 in 2016

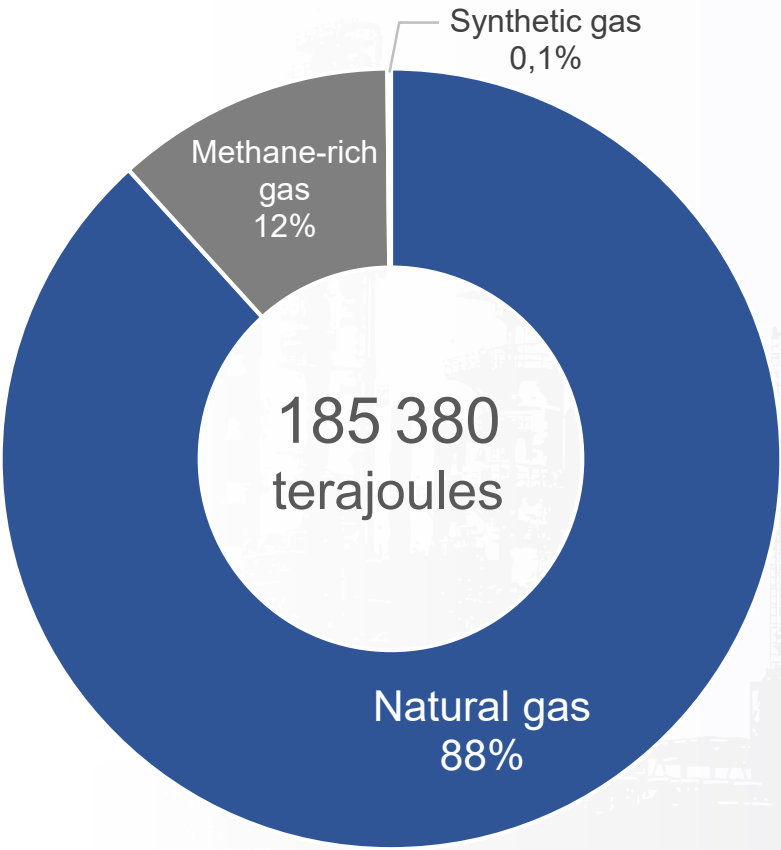


Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 14

Fact #3: South Africa's energy mix is shifting away from coal

Natural gas dominates piped gas

Percentage breakdown of gas distribution (in terajoules) in South Africa, 2019



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 16

Fact #1

Fact #2

Fact #3

Fact #4

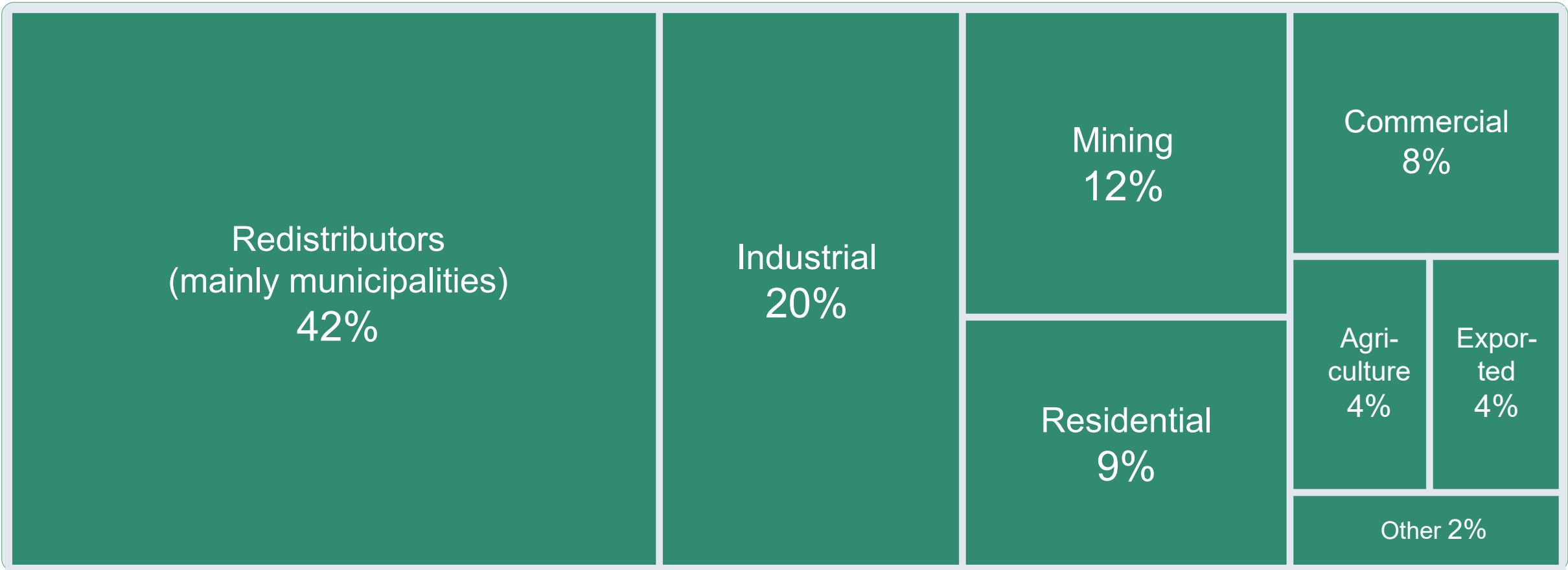
Fact #5

**Municipalities
are the biggest
customers**

Fact #4: Municipalities are the biggest customers

Just over two-fifths of electricity sales are to redistributors (mainly municipalities)

Percentage breakdown of electricity sales by type of customer, 2019 (Total: R230,8 billion)



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 13

Fact #4: Municipalities are the biggest customers

Over two-thirds of water sales are to redistributors (mainly municipalities)

Percentage breakdown of water sales by type of customer, 2019 (Total: R31,6 billion)



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table 18

Fact #1

Fact #2

Fact #3

Fact #4

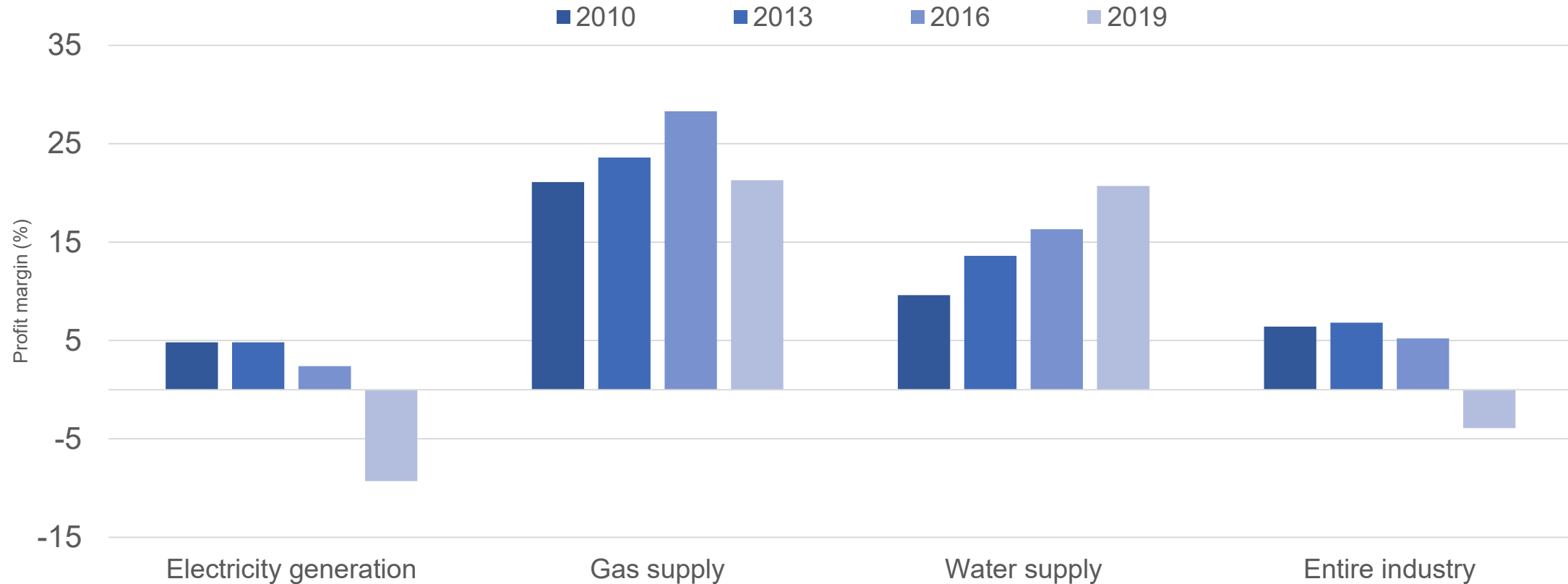
Fact #5

Industry profits
have declined

Fact #5: Industry profits have declined

The industry made a loss in 2019

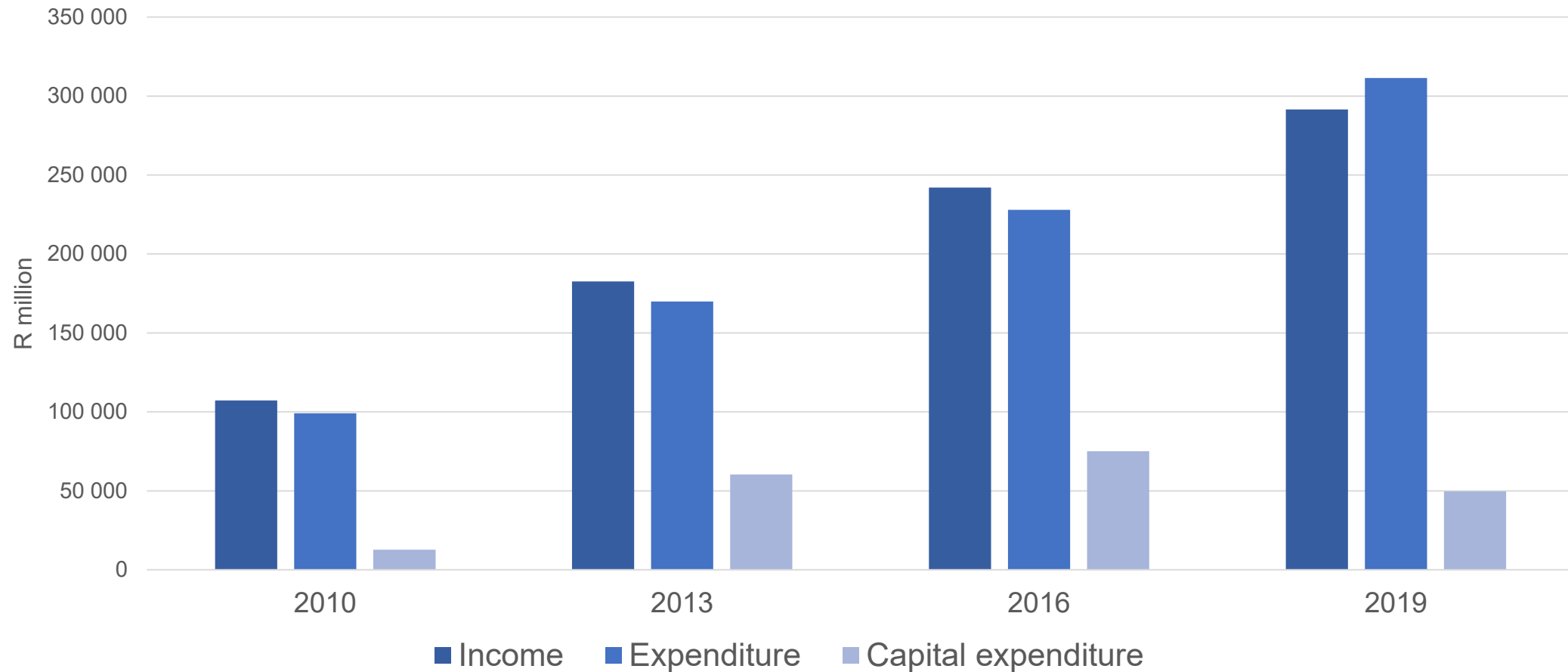
Dragged lower by a loss recorded by electricity generation



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019). Table B

Fact #5: Industry profits have declined

Income and spending has gone up, but capital expenditure has fallen



Source: Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2019)

Overview



Fact #1: South Africa is producing less electricity

Fact #2: The industry is employing fewer people

Fact #3: South Africa's energy mix is shifting away from coal

Fact #4: Municipalities are the biggest customers

Fact #5: Industry profits have declined

Electricity, gas and
water supply industry
2019

Ndzi hela kwala!



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