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Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

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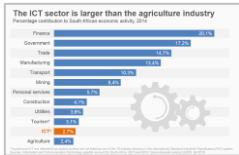
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## Economic headlines

### Three facts about ICT in South Africa



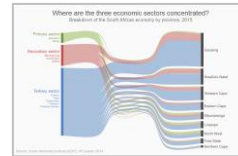
Fact #1: The Information and communication technology sector is larger than the agriculture industry (Click [here](#) to read more.)

### When is GDP disappointing?



How do we know if a GDP figure is a weak or strong number? (Click [here](#) to read more.)

### Which industries drive your provincial economy?



It might not be what you think. For those of you who missed last month's Stats Biz (Click [here](#) to read more.)

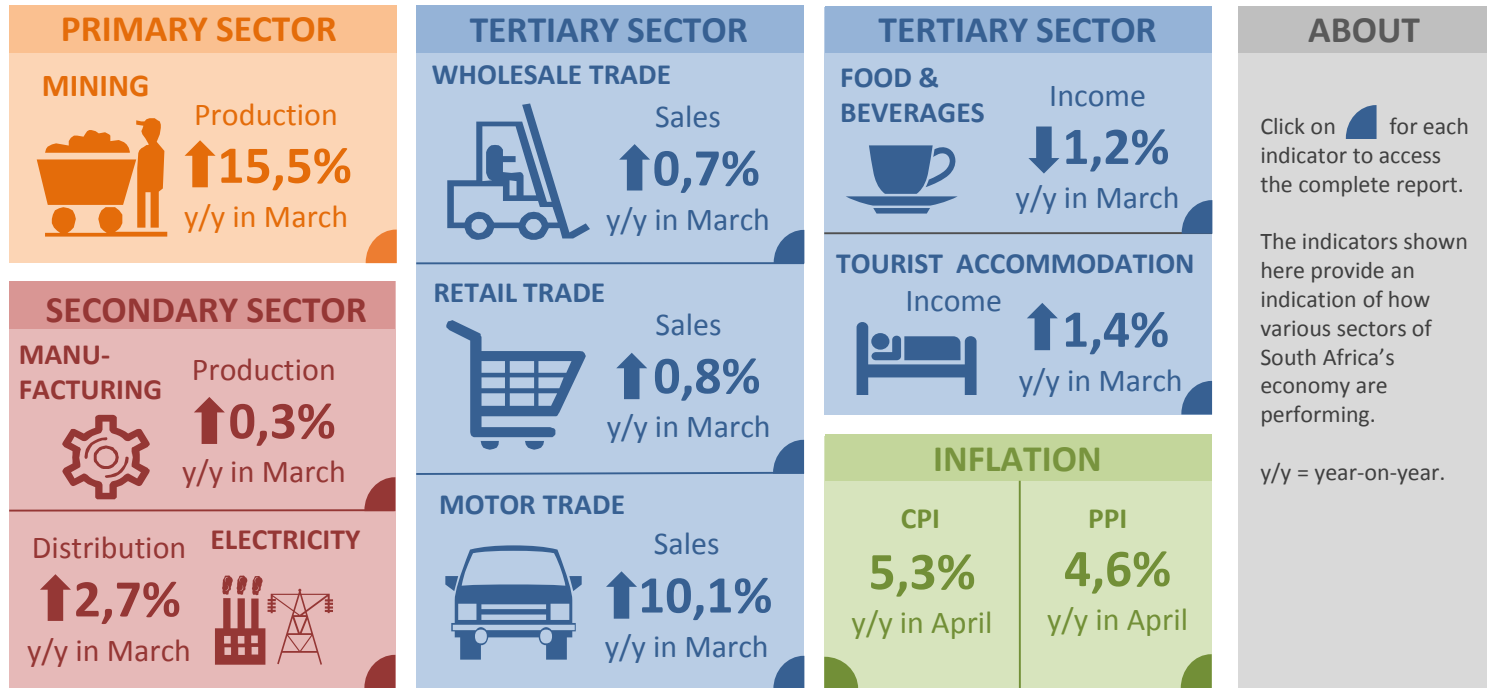
### How safe are we at home?



What do the latest statistics tell us about home robberies and housebreaking in South Africa? (Click [here](#) to read more.)

Click [here](#) to browse more headlines.

## Monthly economic indicators



Watch a short YouTube clip covering the latest results for CPI [here](#).

## Feature article

### Municipalities: where are the staff vacancies?

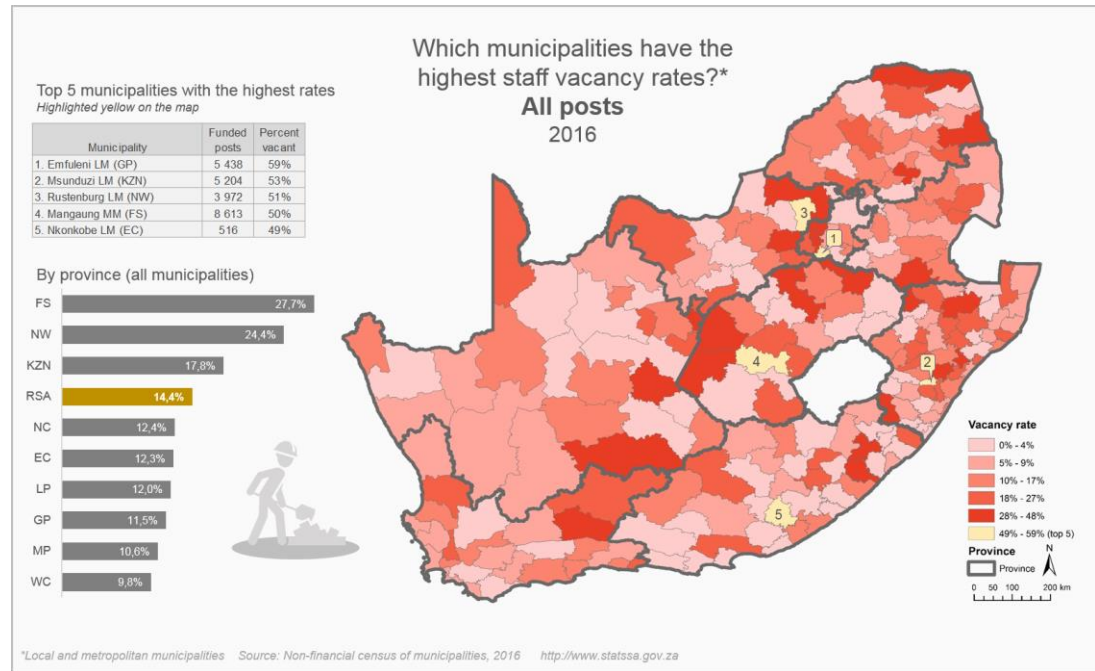
Is your municipality properly staffed to ensure you receive basic services?

Stats SA's latest *Non-financial census of municipalities* report provides a profile of the municipal workforce, shedding light on staff shortages in local government.

There were 314 117 funded posts across local government in 2016. Of these, 45 096 were unoccupied, translating to a national vacancy rate of 14,4%.

Notice on the map how Emfuleni municipality in Gauteng (the Vereeniging area) has the highest rate, with 59% of its 5 438 funded posts unfilled.

See more maps [here](#) showing the vacancy rates in water, electricity, road and finance departments.



## Infographic of the month

### How many recessions has SA experienced in the past?

A exploration of historical gross domestic product (GDP) data shows that South Africa has borne the brunt of seven economic recessions since 1961.

The generally agreed definition of recession is a fall in GDP (seasonally adjusted) for two consecutive quarters.

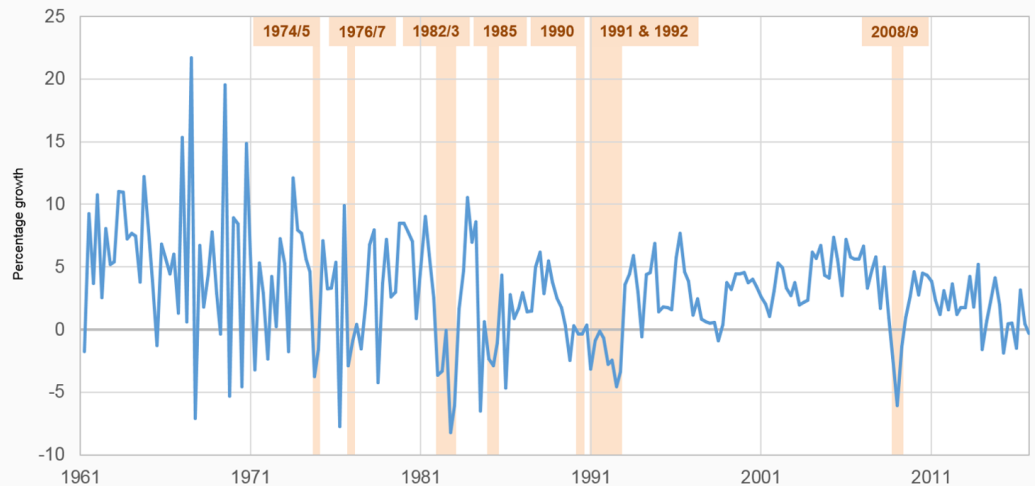
The graph shows how South Africa's economy has performed since 1961. The longest recession occurred in 1991–1992 when the economy declined for eight consecutive quarters, linked to a global recession.

The most recent recession occurred during 2008/9 at the time of the global financial crisis.

Read more [here](#).

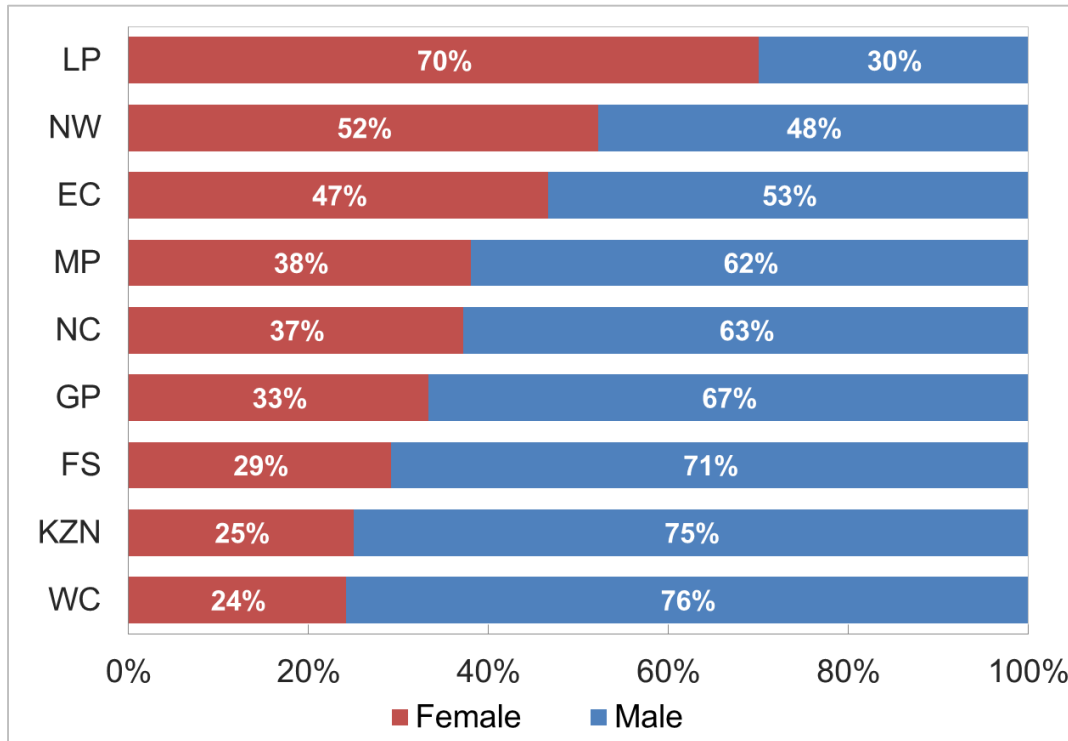
### South Africa has experienced seven recessions since 1961

The longest ran over two years: 1991 and 1992



GDP year-on-year quarterly percentage growth: seasonally adjusted and annualised

## Provincial snapshot



### Municipal mayors and gender representivity

The graph shows the percentage of mayors in municipalities who are headed by females and males.

Nationally, 276 of South Africa's 278 municipalities had a sitting mayor in 2016, 107 (39%) of whom were women. This is according to Stats SA's latest *Non-financial census of municipalities* report.

Limpopo had the highest representation, with 21 of its 30 municipalities (or 70%) headed by a female mayor.

The province with the lowest female mayor representation was Western Cape (7 of 29 municipalities, or 24%).

Download the media presentation for the *Non-financial census of municipalities* report [here](#).  
Download the complete report [here](#).

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