

Mbalo Brief

the missing piece of the puzzle

June 2024

Primary industry



Secondary industry



Tertiary industry




IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





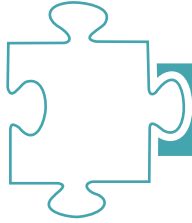
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Editor's comment



For many years, South Africa (SA) has been operating two healthcare parallel systems . These being the private healthcare system and public healthcare system which have been operating in tandem to one another. This is now in the past after President Cyril Ramaphosa signed the National Health Insurance (NHI) Bill into law on 15 May 2024. The NHI is a fund from which the government will buy healthcare services for South Africans from healthcare providers both in the public and private sectors. The NHI will make healthcare more affordable by reducing the cost of healthcare for all. It acts like a medical aid for everyone and all of us will contribute to this fund through taxes and special contributions. The NHI will ensure that everyone is entitled to free health-care when they need it and there will be no fees charged at the facility because the fund will cover the costs of care. The signing of the NHI into law brings SA one step closer towards the universal health coverage (meaning that all people will have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship), in a quest to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of good health and well-being for all.

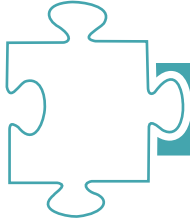


This feature article is based on the Road Traffic Accident Deaths in South Africa, 2007 – 2019, (Report No. 03-09-07), published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 19 March 2024. The article will focus on road accident deaths which includes the pedestrian and occupants' death, common place of death and province of death among others. Also, look out for our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for May 2024. Articles published in this issue are based on the results of industry surveys conducted for March and April 2024.

For more details on any of the statistical releases, visit our website at: www.statssa.gov.za.

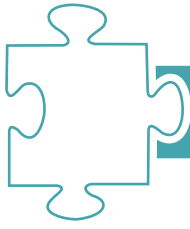
Enjoy the read!





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Crossword

										1	
					2						
			3								
	4										
				5							
6											
		7									

Across

3. What is the name of the first car ever to be bought in South Africa in 1897? [Read Motor trade article for clue]
4. What is the study of mushrooms called?
5. Which African country was never colonised?
6. Which province recorded the highest number of pedestrian deaths due to road transport accidents from 2007 to 2016? [Read educational article for clue]
7. What was the largest negative contributor to mining production decrease in March 2024? [Read Mining: production and sales article for clue]

Down

1. What is the rarest blood type in humans?
2. What is a material that does not carry an electrical charge called?

Solutions for May 2024 puzzle

Across

2. May
3. Warmer
4. Gauteng
5. True

Down

1. Commission
2. March
4. George





Feature article on road transport accidents deaths in South Africa

Introduction



Every year the lives of approximately 1,1 million people are cut short as a result of road traffic accidents. This is according to the World Health Organization (WHO), which articulates that more than 90% of road traffic deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. The WHO added that road traffic death rates are the highest in the

African region and lowest in the European region. Even so, the WHO reiterated that even within high income countries, people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds are more likely to be involved in road traffic accidents. The road safety and provision of access to safe transport systems are two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) target goals. The first global target on road safety is SDG Target 3.6 which aims to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road transport accidents by 2030. The second global target on road safety is SDG Target 11.2 which is to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons. The road transport accident death published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is a way South African government is measuring progress towards attaining the SDGs.



This feature article is based on the Road Traffic Accident Deaths in South Africa, 2007 – 2019, (Report No. 03-09-07), published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 19 March 2024. The report utilises Stats SA data sourced from mortality and causes of death between 2007 and 2019 and from the mid-year population estimates (MYPE) for calculations of crude death rates and age standardised death rates. The article will focus on road

accident deaths which include the pedestrian and occupants death, common place of death and province of death among others.

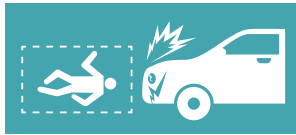
Trend analysis of road transport accident deaths

This section presents trend analysis for road transport accident deaths that occurred between 2007 and 2019. Information presented in this report is based on deaths that have transport accidents as the underlying cause of death for ICD-10 (Code V01-V99). It outlines the overall trends of road transport accident deaths by year of death, month of death, type of road user, place of death and by province.

Road transport accident deaths by year of death, 2007 – 2029

Generally, there was an increase in the number of deaths from 6 190 in 2007 to 6 423 in 2019. In between the reporting years, there was a decrease in road transport accidents deaths between 2007 and 2011 (5 857 in 2008, 5 835 in 2009 and 5 734 in 2010), where 2011 recorded 5 216 deaths, increasing to 6 652 deaths in 2016. A marginal decline was observed from 6 652 deaths in 2016 to 6 423 deaths from road transport accidents in 2019.

Road transport accident deaths by month of death, 2007 – 2029



Between 2007 and 2019, December was the month in which the highest numbers of road transport accident deaths were recorded (from 639 deaths in 2007 to 647 deaths in 2019) in South Africa with the exception of 2008, 2013 and 2017.

This section presents information on road transport accident deaths by month of death between 2007 and 2019.

Figure 4.2 below shows that December was the month during which most road transport accident deaths were recorded in South Africa, recording the highest number of road transport accident deaths with the exception of 2008 (554), 2013 (616) and 2017 (606).

In 2008, the highest number of deaths was recorded in March (627 deaths), with 2013 recording the highest number of deaths in June (624 deaths), while 2017 had the highest number of road transport accidents deaths in July (655 deaths). The months that had the lowest number of deaths from 2007 to 2019 were February, January and November.



The year 2016 had the highest number of road transport accident deaths, recording the highest number of 783 deaths in December and the lowest number of deaths in November (458 deaths). The year 2011 had the lowest number of deaths recorded in February (330 deaths) and the highest number of deaths in December (572 deaths).

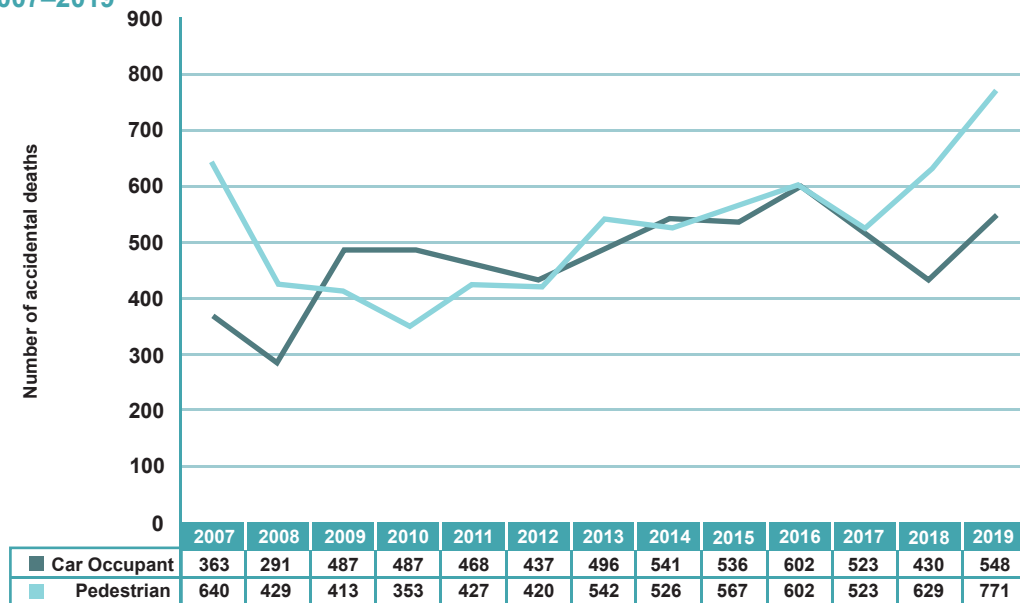
Road transport accident deaths by type of road user, 2007–2019

The types of road users are classified as pedestrians, car occupants, pedal cyclists or motorcyclists, etc. For the purpose of this section, only two types of road users were selected for further analysis: people who died as pedestrians and those who died as car occupants.

Road transport accident deaths by selected types of road user

Figure 1 below indicates that people who died as pedestrians were higher than those who died as car occupants in 2007, 2013 and 2019. The number of people who died as car occupants increased from 363 deaths in 2007 to 548 deaths in 2019. The year 2016 recorded the highest number (602 deaths) of car occupants' deaths while 2008 recorded the lowest number of car occupants at 291 deaths. There was an increase in the number of people who died as pedestrians from 640 deaths in 2007 to 771 deaths in 2019. Pedestrian deaths fluctuated between 2007 and 2019, while in 2010 the lowest number of pedestrian deaths, 353 was recorded and in 2019 the highest number of 771 pedestrian deaths was recorded

Figure 1: Number of road transport accident deaths by selected type of road user, 2007–2019



Pedestrian deaths by province and year of death, 2007–2019

Results show that Western Cape recorded the highest number of pedestrian deaths due to road transport accidents from 269 deaths in 2007 to 120 deaths in 2016 except in 2018 (105 deaths) and 2019 (146 deaths), while Limpopo recorded the highest number of pedestrian deaths at 106 in 2018 and 190 in 2019. Although Western Cape has been recording the highest number of pedestrian deaths, the number of pedestrian deaths decreased in the province from 269 deaths in 2007 to 146 deaths in 2019. The number of deaths in other provinces have been fluctuating over the years, with Limpopo showing an increasing trend. Mpumalanga recorded the lowest number of pedestrian deaths for most of the reporting years.

Car occupant deaths by province and year of death, 2007–2019

Western Cape recorded higher number of car occupants' deaths between 2007 and 2015 (from 109 deaths in 2007 to 117 deaths in 2015) and Free State (from 88 deaths in 2007 to 150 deaths in 2015). Northern Cape recorded a higher number of deaths in 2017 and 2018 (147 and 103 deaths respectively), while Limpopo had the highest number of car

occupants' deaths in 2019 at 107.

Though Western Cape and Free State did not record the highest number of car occupants between 2017 and 2019, they were still ranking second and third highest in terms of car occupants' deaths.

Free State reported the highest number of car occupants' deaths of 187 deaths in 2016. The province that reported the lowest number of car occupants' deaths was Eastern Cape with three deaths in 2009. Eastern Cape had been recording the lowest number of deaths between 2007 and 2015; followed by North West with lower numbers of car occupants' deaths.

Road transport accident deaths by place of death, 2007–2019

This section presents information on road transport accident deaths by place of death, such as a hospital, emergency room (ER) / outpatient department (OPD) of the hospital, nursing home, at home or those who were declared dead on arrival (DoA).

Common place of death and year of death

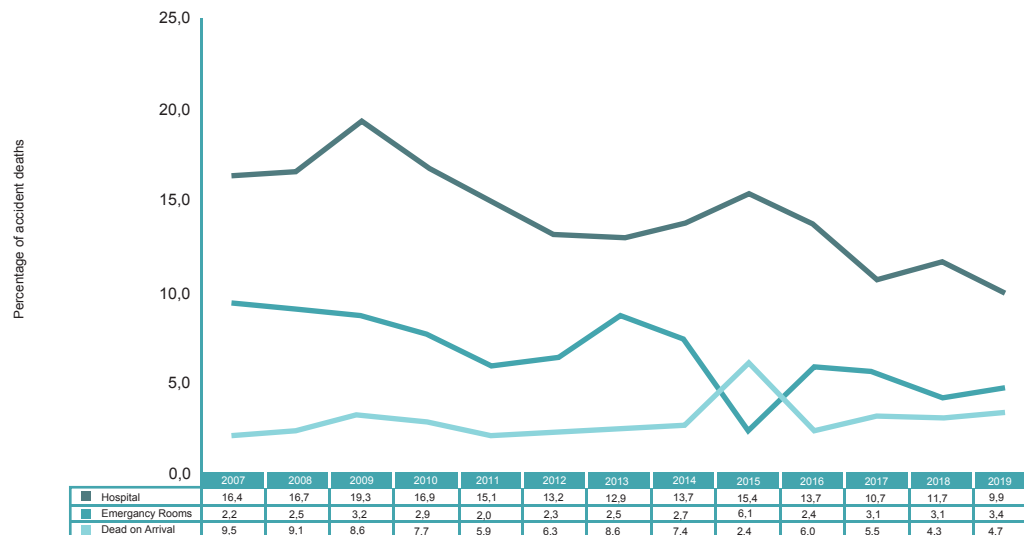


Hospitals were the most common place of death for all the years under review, followed by those who died before they arrived (DoA) at a health facility, and those who died in emergency rooms. Among the deaths that occurred in hospitals, a decrease in deaths was seen from 16,4% in 2007 to 9,9% in 2019. There was an upward trend from 2007 until 2009 where a peak was reached at 19,3% deaths in 2009 and decreasing to 9,9% deaths in 2019.

Among people who died in emergency rooms, an increase in deaths was seen from 2,2% in 2007 to 3,4% in 2019. Deaths that occurred in emergency rooms fluctuated between 2,0% deaths and 3,4% deaths except in 2015 where 6,1% deaths were recorded.

For people who were declared dead on arrival (DoA) in a health facility, a decrease in deaths was seen from 9,5% deaths in 2007 to 4,7% deaths in 2019. People who died on arrival (DoA) decreased between 2007 and 2011, where a fluctuating trend was observed with a decrease in 2015 at 2,4% deaths.

Figure 2: Percentage of road transport accident deaths by common places of death and year of death, 2007–2019



Common place of death by province



Limpopo had the most deaths in hospitals (2 871 deaths), followed by those in emergency rooms (427 deaths) and those who died before arriving in health facilities at 347 deaths.

KwaZulu-Natal reported the most deaths in hospitals (1 995 deaths), then emergency rooms (477 deaths), followed by those who died before reaching health facilities (297 deaths).

Eastern Cape had the most deaths happening in hospitals (1 613 deaths), followed by those who died before arriving in health facilities at 717 deaths,

then those who died in emergency rooms (627 deaths).

Northern Cape recorded a high number of people dying before arriving in health facilities (1 043 deaths), followed by those who died in hospitals (401 deaths), then by those who died in emergency rooms (172 deaths).

Gauteng recorded the most deaths in hospitals (1 104 deaths), followed by those who died before arrival in health facility (436 deaths), then emergency rooms at 95 deaths. Mpumalanga had a higher number of deaths in hospitals (878 deaths), followed by those who were declared dead on arrival at 175 deaths, then emergency rooms (85 deaths). North West had a higher number of people dying in hospitals (796 deaths), followed by

those dying before arriving in health facilities (343 deaths), then those who died in emergency rooms (71 deaths).

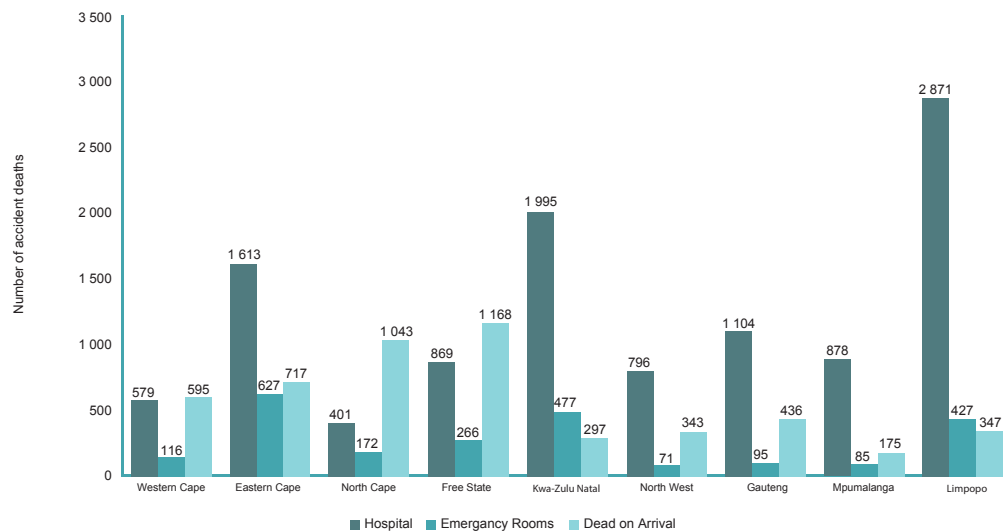
Free State recorded most of the deaths for those who died before arriving at health facilities (1 168 deaths), then those dying in hospitals at 869 deaths, and lastly those who died in emergency rooms (266 deaths).

In Western Cape, most people died before they arrived in a health facility (595 deaths), followed by those who died in hospitals at 579 deaths and lastly, those who died in emergency rooms (116 deaths).

Generally, Limpopo reported the highest number of deaths in hospitals, as compared to other provinces. People who died in emergency rooms were seen more in Eastern Cape while people who were declared dead on arrival were more in Western Cape, Free State and Northern Cape.

Western Cape, Northern Cape and Free State were the only provinces with higher numbers of people who were declared dead on arrival (DoA) in health facilities. All the remaining provinces recorded higher numbers of people who died in hospitals between 2007 and 2019.

Figure 3: Percentage of road transport accident deaths by common places of death and year of death, 2007–2019



Province of residence and province of death

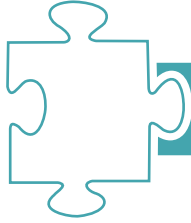
This section presents road transport accidents deaths for 2007 to 2019 by province of usual residence and province of death. Province of usual residence is defined as the province where the deceased usually resided and the province of death is the province where the death occurred.

Percentage of road transport accident deaths by province of residence and province of death, 2007–2019

Percentages of people who died in their province of residence were 90% and above in most provinces, with the exception of Western Cape (88,4%), Mpumalanga (81,0), North West (78,9%), and Gauteng (54,2%). KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo reported higher percentages of people who died in their province of usual residence (92,1% and 93,4%, respectively), while Gauteng recorded a lower percentage of people who died in their province of usual residence at 54,2%.

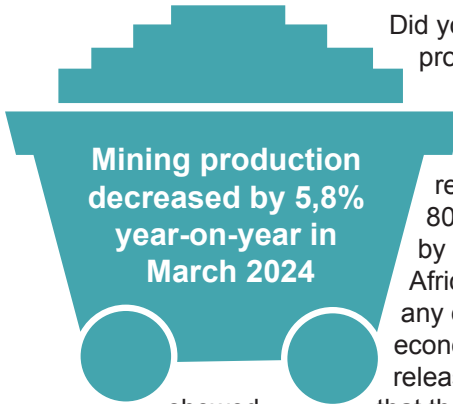
Conclusion

Results indicate that there was an increase in the number of deaths from 2007 to 2019. The month of December was the month which recorded the highest number of road transport accident deaths. According to the results, hospitals were the most common place of death for all the years under review, followed by those who died before they arrived at a health facility and those who died in emergency rooms. Furthermore, results show that road transport accident deaths occurring in the province of usual residence were higher than those that occurred outside the province of residence.



Primary industries

Mining: Production and sales



showed that there was a decrease in mining production by 5,8% year-on-year in March 2024. Coal was the largest negative contributor to this decrease with 9,1%. This article summarises the results of the *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P12041) for March 2024.

Did you know that over 90% of the coal consumed in Africa is produced in South Africa? This information is according to Africa Mining IQ (AMIQ). It is further stated that South Africa produces over 250 million tons of coal every year which is roughly 4,9% of the global coal reserve. Almost 75% is used domestically, and nearly 80% of the energy needs of South Africa are taken care of by coal. Another interesting fact is that mining in South Africa plays a significant role in the country's economy, and any decrease in mining sales can affect the overall economy. In March 2024 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) released the Mining: Production and sales release which



Mining production decreased by 5,8% year-on-year in March 2024 (see Table A). The largest negative contributors were:

- coal (-9,1%, contributing -2,3 percentage points);
- manganese ore (-12,2%, contributing -1,0 percentage point);
- iron ore (-6,8%, contributing -0,9 of a percentage point); and
- PGMs (-3,6%, contributing -0,9 of a percentage point).

Mining production decreased by 5,0% in March 2024 compared with February 2024. This followed month-on-month changes of 5,3% in February 2024 and -1,0% in January 2024.

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production for March 2024

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,9	7,3	0,2	-2,9	10,3	-5,8
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	2,1	2,3	-4,7	-1,0	5,3	-5,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	1,1	2,3	2,4	0,1	-1,5	-1,7

1/ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.
 A full release on *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P2041) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Mineral sales at current prices decreased by 14,9% year-on-year in March 2024. The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-29,4%, contributing -7,9 percentage points);
- iron ore (-25,9%, contributing -3,6 percentage points);
- ‘other’ non-metallic minerals (-42,6%, contributing -2,4 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (-21,5%, contributing -1,5 percentage points).

Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales for March 2024

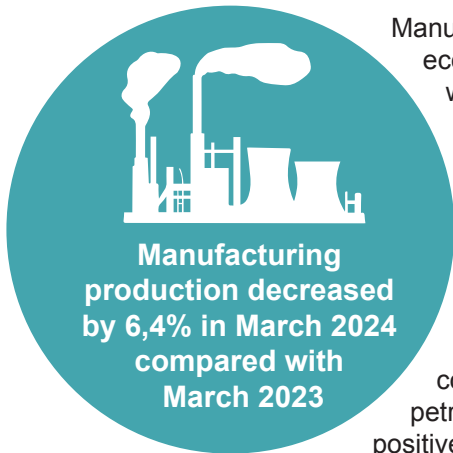
	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-0,6	10,1	9,0	9,8	9,2	-14,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	12,7	3,1	2,2	2,9	4,1	-13,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	-1,0	7,8	15,3	10,5	3,6	-9,6

1/Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.
 A full release on *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P2041) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Secondary industries

Manufacturing: Production and sales



Manufacturing production decreased by 6,4% in March 2024 compared with March 2023

Manufacturing is one of the sectors that drives the country's economic growth. As a result, the economy is affected when manufacturing production declines. In March 2024 manufacturing production decreased by 6,4%, according to Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) March 2024 results. This decrease came after a positive growth of 4,0% was recorded in February 2024. There were fewer motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transportation equipment manufactured in March 2024, which contributed to the decrease in manufacturing production. Other contributors to this decrease were basic iron and steel, petroleum and other chemical products. However, on a positive note, more food and beverages were manufactured

in March

2024, at 2,7%. This article presents a summary of the results of

Manufacturing: Production and sales (statistical release P3041.2) for March 2024.



Manufacturing production decreased by 6,4% in March 2024 compared with March 2023 (**see Table C**). The following divisions made the largest negative contributions:

- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (-25,9%, contributing -2,7 percentage points);
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (-9,0% and contributing -1,9 percentage points); and
- petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products (-3,9%, contributing -0,8 of a percentage point)

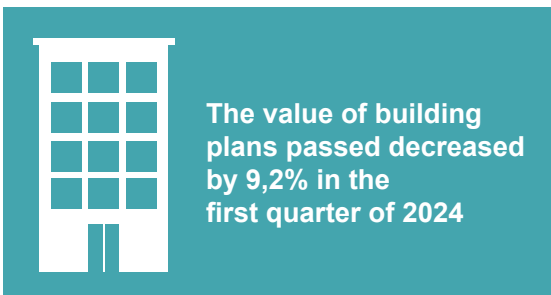
Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for March 2024

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,7	2,7	2,1	3,0	4,0	-6,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,2	0,8	-0,9	0,8	-1,0	-2,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-0,5	-0,2	0,3	0,4	-0,1	-1,0

^{1/}Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (statistical release P3041.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Selected building statistics of the private sector

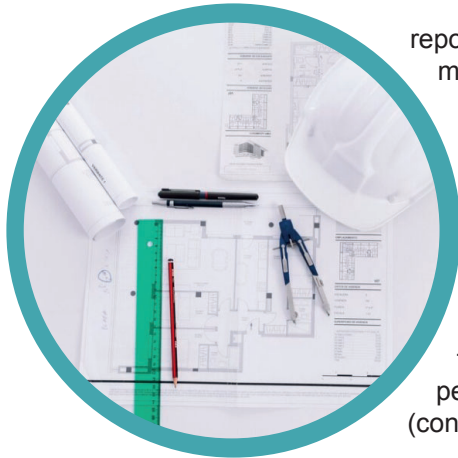


On the 6th of May 2024, the Neo Victoria apartment building in George, Western Cape collapsed, resulting in loss of life and injuries on contractors. Although the main cause of the collapse has not yet been established, it is important to remember that before a building is constructed, building plans have to be submitted to the municipality for approval. A building plan is a drawing

that shows what a building will look like after being built. It is required for every new building, renovation, extension and demolishing. The municipality's responsibility is to scrutinise the building plans to ensure they comply with national building regulations and meet the minimum safety and health standards in design and construction. This also allows the municipality to check that the building is not built along flood lines, swamps, environmentally sensitive areas (where the ground is eroded), below a mountain cliff and in an area that cannot be accessed by a vehicle. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) provides insightful information on the value of building plans passed and buildings completed. The value of building plans passed decreased by 9,2% (-R2 179,0 million) in the first quarter of 2024. This was largely because of a decrease in the value of building plans passed for residential and non-residential buildings and additions and alterations. This article presents the results of the *Selected building statistics of the private sector* (statistical release P5041.1) for March 2024.

Building plans passed

The value of building plans passed decreased by 9,2% (-R2 179,0 million) in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023 (see Table D). Decreases were



reported for residential buildings (-11,8% or -R1 496,3 million), non-residential buildings (-7,5% or -R321,3 million) and additions and alterations (-5,4% or -R361,4 million).

Provinces with the largest negative contributions to the total decrease of 9,2% (-R2 179,0 million) were made by Gauteng (contributing -10,8 percentage points or -R2 557,8 million) and Western Cape (contributing -3,3 percentage points or -R778,3 million). Provinces with the largest positive contributions were made by KwaZulu-Natal (contributing 3,0 percentage points or R708,7 million) and Free State (contributing 1,5 percentage points or R346,9 million).

Buildings reported as completed

The value of buildings reported as completed decreased by 19,1% (-R2 399,1 million) in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023. Decreases were reported for non-residential buildings (-57,2% or -R2 135,2 million) and residential buildings (-8,8% or -R592,3 million). An increase was reported for additions and alterations (15,9% or R328,4 million).

Seven provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed in the first quarter of 2024, of which Gauteng (contributing -13,7 percentage points or -R1 725,1 million), KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -5,4 percentage points or -R683,8 million) and Western Cape (contributing -1,3 percentage points or -R159,0 million) were the largest negative contributors. The largest positive contributor was Eastern Cape (contributing 2,9 percentage points or R363,5 million).

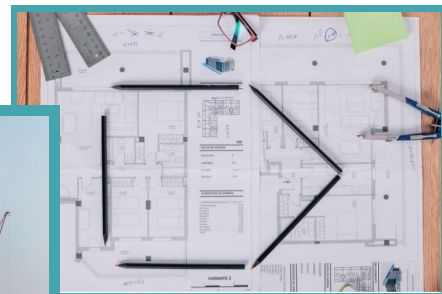
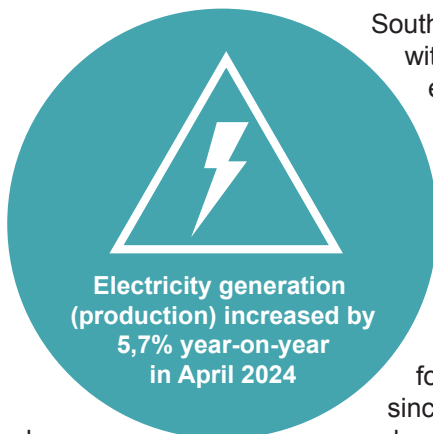


Table D – Building plans passed by larger municipalities by type of building

Type of building	January to March 2023 ^{1/}	January to March 2024 ^{1/}	Difference in value between January to March 2023 and January to March 2024	% change between January to March 2023 and January to March 2024
	R'000	R'000	R'000	
Residential buildings	12 722 625	11 226 285	-1 496 340	-11,8
- Dwelling houses	8 199 287	6 818 542	-1 380 745	-16,8
- Flats and townhouses	4 460 718	4 330 990	-129 728	-2,9
- Other residential buildings	62 620	76 753	14 133	22,6
Non-residential buildings	4 275 539	3 954 270	-321 269	-7,5
Additions and alterations	6 673 691	6 312 276	-361 415	-5,4
Total	23 671 855	21 492 831	-2 179 024	-9,2

^{1/}2023 and 2024 figures should be regarded as preliminary because of possible backlogs and incomplete reporting by municipalities. A full release on *Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions* (statistical release P5041.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Electricity generated and available for distribution



long

electricity shot

up. This article summarises the results of *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (statistical release P4141) for April 2024.

South Africa has experienced over 70 consecutive days without load shedding. The last time the country experienced load shedding was around the last few days of March. This is also reflected by the 5,4% increase in the electricity generated (produced) by Eskom in April 2024 from 0,1% generated in March 2024. Since more electricity was made available, consumption by households and industries also increased by 6,2% from -0,7% in March 2024.

Another contributor to the increase in consumption is that Easter fell in March this year. Usually, demand for electricity decreases around this time of the year since most businesses and industries are closed for the

weekend. Thus when business resumed in April, demand for

Electricity generation (production) increased by 5,7% year-on-year in April 2024 (see **Table E**)

Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for April 2024

	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,0	4,4	0,8	4,2	0,0	5,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-2,5	1,0	-1,8	1,6	-0,1	1,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	1,6	2,7	0,0	-0,1	-1,0	1,0

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

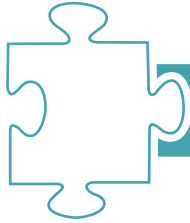
Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 6,2% year-on-year in April 2024 (see **Table F**).

Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for April 2024

	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,3	4,6	1,5	5,0	-0,7	6,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-2,2	1,9	-1,2	0,5	-0,7	1,8
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	0,7	2,6	0,8	1,1	-0,6	0,4

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

A full release on *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (statistical release P4141) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Tertiary industries

Wholesale trade sales



Wholesale trade sales decreased by 12,5% in March 2024 compared with March 2023

Wholesalers buy goods in bulk from manufacturers or producers, then resell them to retailers. They are the agents between manufacturers and retailers, offering bulk products at a discounted price. There are two types of wholesalers: manufacturers and distributors. Those who are manufacturers make the goods themselves. These wholesalers are both suppliers and producers, and sell to distributors or deal directly with retailers. However, wholesalers who are distributors acquire products in large volumes from manufacturers then sell them off (also in bulk) to retailers. They play no role in the

production process of the merchandise. Oftentimes, distributors also own storage facilities to store these products. These two types of wholesalers play a vital role in the supply chain for most products by buying and producing goods in bulk, then selling them to retailers and other businesses. Lower wholesale sales can affect the supply chain because any decrease in wholesale trade disrupts the flow of goods. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the wholesale industry. In March 2024, the wholesale trade sales industry saw a decrease of 8,3%. With a decline of 9,1%, dealers in solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels and related products were the largest negative contributor to the decrease in wholesale trade sales. This article summarises the results of the *Wholesale trade sales* (statistical release P6141.2) for March 2024.



Wholesale trade sales decreased by 12,5% in March 2024 compared with March 2023 (see Table G). The main negative contributors were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-9,1%, contributing -2,3 percentage points);
- agricultural raw materials and livestock (-18,3%, contributing -1,4 percentage points); and
- 'other' goods (-16,4%, contributing -1,1 percentage points)



Wholesale trade sales decreased by 3,0% in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023. The main negative contributors were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-7,3%, contributing -2,0 percentage points);and;
- agricultural raw materials and livestock (-18,1%, contributing -1,5 percentage points).

Table G –Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales at current prices

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-7,4	-3,4	-8,1	-4,9	-2,3	-12,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-6,0	5,5	-4,2	1,3	2,3	-4,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	-1,1	-3,3	-5,1	-2,4	-1,1	0,4

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

Retail trade sales

Retail trade sales increased by 2,3% year-on-year in March 2024

General dealers have emerged as the most resilient in the South African retail industry in March 2024. A notable annual increase of 2,3% in the retail trade sales was driven by a 6,4% increase in general dealers in March 2024. Their strong performance in an industry where consumers suffer the most from issues like high inflation rates and excessive debt, can largely be attributed to consumers spending more of their money on food, general merchandise, alcohol and cellular phones during this period. Despite the positive trend, the hardware sector experienced a decline for 11 consecutive months as consumers continue to prioritise basic needs over home improvements. This article summarises the results of the *Retail trade sales* (statistical release 6242.1) for March 2024.

Retail trade sales increased by 2,3% year-on-year in March 2024 (see Table H). The largest contributor to this increase was general dealers (6,4% contributing 2,8 percentage points).

Retail trade sales increased by 1,4% in March 2024 compared with February 2024. This followed month-on-month changes of 1,0% in February 2024 and -3,3% in January 2024.

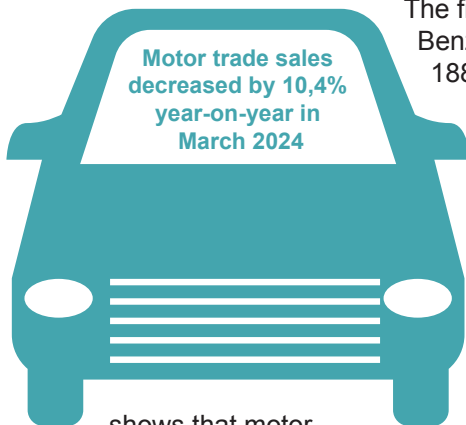
Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for March 2024

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,3	-1,0	3,2	-2,0	-0,7	2,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,3	1,0	1,4	-3,3	1,0	1,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	0,6	0,1	0,0	0,0	-0,2	-0,9

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Retail trade sales* (statistical release P6242.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Motor trade sales



shows that motor main contributor to this

This is the largest decrease of the year, following an increase of sales in January 2024 with 2,7% and February 2024 with 1,3%. The motor trade sales have been experiencing a decline since August 2023, when they were down by -2,4% year-on-year in August 2023. This article summarises *Motor trade sales* results (statistical release P6343.2) for March 2024.

The first motor to ever be invented was a three-wheeled Benz Patent motor model no.1, invented on 29 January 1886 by Carl Benz, in Germany. The first car to ever be bought in South Africa was a 1,5 h.p Benz 1896 Voiturette model bought by John Percy Hess a merchant from Pretoria in 1897. According to Auto Mobile Association of South Africa (AA), as of 06 June 2024, South Africa has just over 11 million registered cars. The ownership of cars in South Africa remains dynamic, with plenty of options to choose from. With the current economic conditions in South Africa impacting car sales, the latest data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 16 May 2024 trade sales for March 2024 decreased by 10,4%. The decrease was new vehicles with -6,2 percentage points.



Motor trade sales decreased by 10,4% year-on-year in March 2024 (see Table I). The largest negative annual growth rates were recorded for:

- new vehicle sales (-23,7%);
- workshop income (-14,3%);
- sales of accessories (-9,9%); and
- used vehicle sales (-9,3%)



The largest negative contributors to this decrease were:

- new vehicle sales (contributing -6,2 percentage points);
- sales of accessories (contributing -2,0 percentage points); and
- used vehicle sales (contributing -1,9 percentage points)

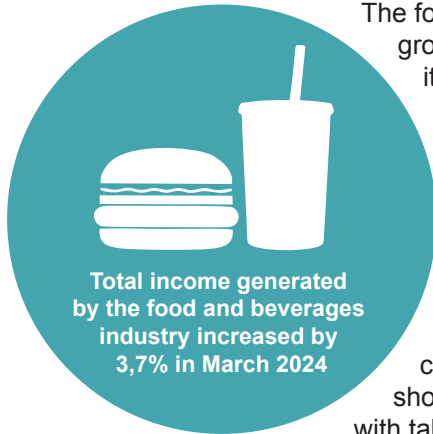
Table I – Key growth rates in motor trade sales at constant 2019 prices

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,6	-2,9	-2,5	2,7	1,3	-10,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,6	1,0	3,1	-2,8	-0,1	-7,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-2,7	-2,6	0,9	2,2	2,3	-2,9

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Motor trade sales* (statistical release P6343.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Food and beverages



Total income generated by the food and beverages industry increased by 3,7% in March 2024

The food and beverages sector in South Africa has experienced growth, with dairy products, snacks, beverages, and bakery items playing key roles. The popularity of these items has been consistently rising for many years, even though many food and beverages companies faced challenges in sustaining or expanding their business during the COVID-19 pandemic. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) released the country's food and beverages figures for March 2024, which revealed that the total income generated in food and beverages industry increased by 3,7% year-on-year in March 2024. This shows that consumers preferred going to restaurants and coffee shops, pushing the performance of this sector up by 6,2%, with take away and fast-food outlets recording a 3,7% increase

in March 2024. Catering services went down by 6,7%. This article summarises the results of *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) for March 2024.



Total income generated by the food and beverages industry increased by 3,7% in March 2024 compared with March 2023 (see Table J). The highest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- 'other' income (14,0%); and
- bar sales (10,3%).

In March 2024, the positive contributors to the 3,7% year-on-year increase were restaurants and coffee shops (6,2%, contributing 3,3 percentage points) and takeaway and fast-food outlets (3,7%, contributing 1,3 percentage points).

Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant 2019 prices by type of income for March 2024s

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-0,9	-0,7	2,7	1,8	2,9	2,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	9,6	-1,7	0,5	-0,6	0,4	0,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	7,0	5,7	0,5	-0,6	0,4	0,4
Total	0,5	-0,6	5,2	-3,2	5,2	3,7

1/ A full release on *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Tourist accommodation



The total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 7,8% in March 2024

In March 2024, many tourists stayed in 'other' types of accommodation compared to hotels (22,4% and 7,2% respectively), contributing to an increase of 7,8% in the tourist accommodation industry. 'Other' accommodation includes B&Bs, motels and self-catering establishments. The tourism industry classifies accommodation using star ratings which is a system that is used to evaluate the quality and features of establishments. The star ratings serve as a shorthand for tourists to quickly assess what to expect from the establishment before making a booking. The accommodation star rating system usually ranges

from one to five stars. Generally, a higher number of stars indicates a higher level of quality and service. An accommodation star rating is determined through a detailed evaluation process that considers various factors necessary for guest satisfaction. Based on these evaluations, a rating or star level is assigned to the establishment. Here is how it works:

- ★ **One Star:** Basic accommodation with limited services and amenities.
- ★ ★ **Two Stars:** A step above basic, offering slightly better services and facilities.
- ★ ★ ★ **Three Stars:** Comfortable accommodation with a range of amenities and services.
- ★ ★ ★ ★ **Four Stars:** High-quality accommodation with excellent service and extensive amenities.
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **Five Stars:** Exceptional luxury accommodation with top-tier service and world-class facilities.

The star rating is typically displayed prominently on the website of the tourist accommodation, marketing materials and at its entrance. This allows potential guests to easily assess the hotel's quality. The system simplifies the decision-making process for guests to choose accommodation that aligns with their expectations and preferences. This article summarises the results of *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) for March 2024.

The total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 7,8% in March 2024 compared with March 2023 (**see Table K**). Income from accommodation increased by 10,1% year-on-year in March 2024, the result of a 4,2% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 5,7% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.



In March 2024, the largest contributors to the 10,1% year-on-year increase in income from accommodation were:

- 'other' accommodation (22,4%, contributing 6,2 percentage points); and
- hotels (7,2%, contributing 4,7 percentage points)

Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics (income at current prices)

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23
Stay units available	-0,1	-0,1	-0,2	-0,1	-0,1	-0,2
Stay unit nights sold	-1,3	3,8	3,3	9,9	5,2	4,2
Average income per stay unit nights sold	12,5	10,5	6,5	4,7	5,0	5,7
Income from accommodation	11,0	14,7	10,0	15,0	10,5	10,1
Total income ^{1/}	6,4	13,5	6,8	13,6	11,0	7,8

^{1/} Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income. Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

International tourism



Winter is considered one of the least popular times to travel. This is mostly because, unlike summer, when the weather is warmer, winter is colder and as a result, fewer activities can be done outdoors. Moreover, some tourist destinations such as waterfalls, lakes, and mountains may be completely inaccessible due to extreme weather conditions. For South Africa, colder and drier months (which usually start in April) mean fewer international tourists. For instance, the proportion of foreign arrivals decreased by 7,7% in April 2024 compared to March 2024. Although there may be fewer tourists in South

Africa during winter, it is the best time for wildlife lovers because it is easier to spot wildlife in national parks and game reserves due to the lack of rain which dries up the bush. The

cooler weather also means the sun is not scorching hot and the roads are not wet and muddy from the rain, making game drives more comfortable. This article summarises the results from the *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) for April 2024.

Travellers

Number of travellers



The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 2 452 795 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in April 2024. These travellers were made up of 667 428 South African residents and 1 785 367 foreign travellers (**see Table L**). A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 337 454 arrivals, 329 436 departures and 538 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 934 880, 814 587 and 35 900 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in March 2024 and April 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased for both groups of travellers whereas the volume of transits increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 7,9% (from 366 237 in March 2024 to 337 454 in April 2024). Departures decreased by 19,7% (from 410 217 in March 2024 to 329 436 in April 2024) and transits increased by 36,5% (from 394 in March 2024 to 538 in April 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 6,1% (from 995 770 in March 2024 to 934 880 in April 2024), departures decreased by 9,7% (from 902 238 in March 2024 to 814 587 in April 2024) and transits decreased by 0,7% (from 36 135 in March 2024 to 35 900 in April 2024).

A comparison between the movements in April 2023 and April 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased while that of transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 11,1% (from 379 707 in April 2023 to 337 454 in April 2024), departures decreased by 18,3% (from 403 131 in April 2023 to 329 436 in April 2024) but transits increased by 34,2% (from 401 in April 2023 to 538 in April 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 4,5% (from 979 032 in April 2023 to 934 880 in April 2024), departures decreased by 7,8% (from 883 708 in April 2023 to 814 587 in April 2024) but transits increased by 17,5% (from 30 561 in April 2023 to 35 900 in April 2024).



Mode of travel of travellers

The number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction and mode of travel. In April 2024, road was the most common mode of travel used by 1 556 595 (63,5%) of the 2 452 795 travellers. Total number of travellers who used air was 867 637 (35,4%). Compared to air and road, a smaller number of travellers, 28 563 (1,2%) used sea into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 154 371 (45,7%) came by air, 178 786 (53,0%) came by road and 4 297 (1,3%) arrived by sea. For departures, 169 532 (51,5%) used air, 158 745 (48,2%) used road and 1 159 (0,4%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 538 (100,0%) used air.



In the case of foreign travellers, 235 655 (25,2%) arrived by air, 695 964 (74,4%) came by road and 3 261 (0,3%) arrived by sea. When departing South Africa, 271 641 (33,3%) foreign travellers left by air, 523 100 (64,2%) left by road and 19 846 (2,4%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 35 900 (100,0%) used air.

Visitors

In April 2024, 27 413 (2,9%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 907 467 (97,1%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in April 2024 but did not depart in April 2024 [338 632 (37,3%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in April 2024 and left in April 2024 [290 699 (32,0%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in April 2024 [278 136 (30,6%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In April 2024, there were 205 446 (22,6%) same-day visitors and 702 021 (77,4%) tourists. Between March 2024 and April 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 5,9% (from 218 317 in March 2024 to 205 446 in April 2024) and that of tourists decreased by 6,5% (from 750 968 in March 2024 to 702 021 in April 2024). Between April 2023 and April 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 11,6% (from 232 458 in April 2023 to 205 446 in April 2024) and that of tourists decreased by 1,6% (from 713 470 in April 2023 to 702 021 in April 2024).

Of the 205 446 same-day visitors, a majority, 187 329 (91,2%) arrived in the country by road, 17 596 (8,6%) arrived by air and 521 (0,3%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 491 384 (70,0%) came by road, 210 378 (30,0%) used air and 259 (less than 0,1%) used sea.

Tourists

Sex distribution of tourists

There were more male [410 694 (58,5%)] than female [291 327 (41,5%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [315 678 (59,9%)], overseas countries [86 040 (53,5%)] and 'other' African countries [8 444 (61,6%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [211 007 (40,1%)], followed by overseas countries [74 668 (46,5%)] and 'other' African countries [5 259 (38,4%)].

Age distribution of tourists

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [37 980 (5,4%)] were aged younger than 15 years; [51 789 (7,4%)] were aged between 15 and 24 years; [165 263 (23,5%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years; [212 919 (30,3%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years; [131 554 (18,7%)] were aged between 45 and 54 years; [63 820 (9,1%)] were aged between 55 and 64 years; [38 695 (5,5%)] were aged 65 years and older.

Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction

Travel direction	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	% change March 2024 to April 2024	% change April 2023 to April 2024
Total	2 676 540	2 710 991	2 452 795	-9,5%	-8,4%
South African residents	783 239	776 848	667 428	-14,1%	-14,8%
Arrivals	379 707	366 237	337 454	-7,9%	-11,1%
Departures	403 131	410 217	329 436	-19,7%	-18,3%
Transit	401	394	538	36,5%	34,2%
Foreign travellers	1 893 301	1 934 143	1 785 367	-7,7%	-5,7%
Arrivals	979 032	995 770	934 880	-6,1%	-4,5%
Departures	883 708	902 238	814 587	-9,7%	-7,8%
Transit	30 561	36 135	35 900	-0,7%	17,5%

^{1/} A full release on *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Statistics of civil cases for debt



A broken promise made to a family member or friend may not land one in court but a default on a promissory note, however, may. A promissory note is a written legal document or contract in which one party promises to pay a determined sum of money to another, either on demand or at a specified future date. It typically contains all the terms involved, such as the principal debt amount, interest rate, maturity date, payment schedule, the date and place of issuance, and the issuer's signature. Even though a promissory note is legally binding, some people still default. Some of the reasons that people default on promissory notes are usually due to financial hardship, poor financial management or loss of income. If left unresolved, a default on a promissory note may lead to a civil summons for debt. Should the debtor lose the case or fail to respond to the summon, it will result in a judgement filed against them. Data released in March 2024 show that the total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 4,3% in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023. This was mostly because debtors failed to pay outstanding rent and other services. This article summarises the results of the *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) for March 2024.

The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 12,1% in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023 (**see Table M**). The largest negative contributors to the 12,1% decrease in civil summonses issued were:

- money lent (contributing -8,3 percentage points);
- services (contributing -3,3 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -2,2 percentage points)

'Other' debts was the only positive contributor (contributing 4,1 percentage points).

The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 2,4% in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023. The largest negative contributors to the 2,4% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- money lent (contributing -4,1 percentage points)
- 'other' debts (contributing -1,7 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -1,1 percentage points)

The category of services was the largest positive contributor (contributing 3,8 percentage points).

The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 4,3% in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023. The largest positive contributors to the 4,3% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing 3,4 percentage points);
- ‘other’ debts (contributing 1,8 percentage points);
- rent (contributing 1,5 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing 1,4 percentage points).

Money lent was the only negative contributor (contributing -3,9 percentage points).

In March 2024, 11 015 civil judgements for debt amounting to R273,1 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- services (R62,5 million or 22,9%);
- money lent (R57,1 million or 20,9%); and
- ‘other’ debts (R55,6 million or 20,4%).

Table M – Key figures for civil summonses and judgements for March 2024

Actual estimates	March 2024	% change between March 2023 and March 2024	% change between January to March 2023 and January to March 2024
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	36 276	-17,1	-12,1
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	11 015	-4,5	-2,4
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	273,1	-7,8	-2,4

^{1/} A full release on *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) is available on the Stats SA website www.statssa.gov.za.

Statistics of liquidations



The total number of liquidations increased by 14,3% in April 2024 compared with April 2023.

Liquidation of a company is a process that involves the ceasing of a company's assets either through private treaty sale (where the seller sets the price they want for their property) or public auction to pay the costs and expenses sustained during the winding-up process. Voluntary liquidation which is the termination of a corporation by selling off its assets and settling its outstanding financial obligations. Such a liquidation, unlike compulsory liquidation is not mandated by any court or regulatory body, but it must be approved

by the company's shareholders and board of directors. The funds remaining after the costs and expenses are distributed to creditors in their prescribed order of preference and according to the creditors' rights and interests of the company. To determine whether a company should be liquidated, the creditors, liquidator, owner and court will establish if that company can pay its own debts. The primary effect of a company being placed under liquidation is that it ceases to trade unless continued trading is necessary and is in the best interest of all creditors. Compulsory liquidations increased by 12 cases and voluntary liquidations increased by 4 cases during this period. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) for April 2024.

The total number of liquidations increased by 14,3% in April 2024 compared with April 2023 (**see Table N**). Compulsory liquidations increased by 12 cases and voluntary liquidations increased by 4 cases during this period. The number of liquidations decreased by 8,6% in the three months ended April 2024 compared with the three months ended April 2023.

Table N – Key growth rates in the number of liquidations for January 2024

Number of liquidations Apr 2024	% change between Apr 2023 and Apr 2024	% change between Feb – Apr 2023 and Feb – Apr 2024	% change between Jan – Apr 2023 and Jan – Apr 2024
128	-14,3	-8,6	-1,9

^{1/}A full release on *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Land transport



More than 5 million rail passenger journeys were reported in March 2024

Over the past 10 years, rail as a means of public transport has declined from 49 million passenger journeys in March 2014 to 5 million in March 2024. Moreover, Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA's) latest land transport survey shows that 42,9% of passenger journeys were recorded in March 2024. This is a decrease from the 73,0% recorded in February 2024 and also a decrease from the 60,8% recorded March 2023. According to Ground-Up, (a news agency) theft, vandalism of rail infrastructure, corruption and a lack of maintenance were identified as reasons for the decrease in passenger journeys by rail transport. However, not all hope is lost: in June 2023, the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA) announced that it had set a target of having almost 80% of its original 40 operational corridors functioning by March 2024. To date, 31 out of 40 corridors PRASA operates have been partially recovered. This article summarises the results of the *Land transport* (statistical release P7162) for March 2024.

The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 4,8% in March 2024 compared with March 2023 (**see Table O**). The corresponding income increased by 0,6% over the same period.



Income from freight transportation increased by 2,1% in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the first quarter of 2023. The main positive contributors to this increase were:

- containers (44,7% and contributing 2,0 percentage points);
- primary mining and quarrying products (3,2% and contributing 1,1 percentage points);
- electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment (33,5% and contributing 0,6 of a percentage point); and
- commercial products (32,1% and contributing 0,6 of a percentage point)

The main negative contributors were manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products (-10,8% and contributing -1,5 percentage points) and 'other' freight (-4,9% and contributing -1,0 percentage point).

Table O – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation for March 202

	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Freight payload	-1,1	3,2	-2,8	-6,7	-0,1	-4,8
Freight income	6,2	3,7	3,8	-0,4	6,2	0,6

¹/A full release on *Land transport* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

The number of passenger journeys increased by 5,6% in March 2024 compared with March 2023 (see Table P). The corresponding income increased by 3,9% over the same period.

Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation for March 2024

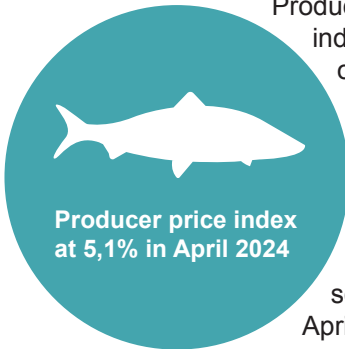
	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Passenger journeys	23,0	16,6	9,2	21,4	17,2	5,6
Passenger income	15,1	12,9	6,6	13,6	10,0	3,9

¹/A full release on *Land transport* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Prices

Producer price index (PPI)



Producer price index (PPI) and consumer price index (CPI) are indicators that track changes in the price of goods and services over time. While CPI shows changes in the prices that consumers pay, PPI shows changes in the prices that producers charge for raw materials or finished products. Increased production costs may result in higher prices for goods, which may have impact on consumer demand for those goods. With the rising costs in poultry, most South African households found themselves opting for fish as alternative affordable source of protein. The price of tinned fish increased by 0,4% in April 2024 compared to March 2024 (month-on-month) while the year-on-year rate was 5,1% in April 2024 compared to April 2023. The price increase is primarily due to a higher demand for tinned fish as consumers switched to cheaper protein sources, especially after the rise in chicken prices due to the Avian flu. According to Kagiso Zwane, an economist at the Competition Commission, “pilchards are preferred by consumers because the fish is easily stored and does not need refrigeration. Moreover, the fish is available in smaller quantities for people who do not or cannot do large grocery shopping” This price increase is also reflected in the overall price inflation of food products, beverages and tobacco products category of the producer price index (PPI) which increased by 3,2% year-on-year. This category was the second main contributor to the increase in the PPI for April 2024. This article summarises the results of the *Producer price index* (statistical release P0142.1) for April 2024.

Final manufactured goods – headline PPI



Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 5,1% in April 2024, up from 4,6% in March 2024 (see **Table Q**). The producer price index (PPI) increased by 0,5% month-on-month in April 2024. The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were:

- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (increased by 6,9% year-on-year and contributed 1,6 percentage points);
- food products, beverages and tobacco products (increased by 3,2% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point); and
- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (increased by 6,4% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point).

The main contributor to the headline PPI monthly increase was coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (increased by 0,8% month-on-month and contributed 0,2 of a percentage point).

Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 1,8% in April 2024 (compared with 1,7% in March 2024) (see **Table Q**). The index increased by 1,4% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were chemicals, rubber and plastic products (0,9 of a percentage point) and basic and fabricated metals (0,5 of a percentage point). The main contributors to the monthly rate were basic and fabricated metals (0,7 of a percentage point) and chemicals, rubber and plastic products (0,5 of a percentage point).



Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 14,4% in April 2024 (compared with 15,6% in March 2024) (see **Table Q**). The index increased by 5,2% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 12,8 percentage points and water contributed 1,4 percentage points to the annual rate. Electricity contributed 4,8 percentage points and water contributed 0,3 of a percentage point to the monthly rate.



Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was -5,5% in April 2024 (compared with -12,7% in March 2024) (see **Table Q**). The index increased by 5,0% month-on-month. The main negative contributor to the annual rate was non-ferrous metal ores (-9,6 percentage points). The main contributors to the monthly rate were coal and gas (2,2 percentage points) and non-ferrous metal ores (2,2 percentage points).



The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 9,7% in April 2024 (compared with 7,7% in March 2024) (**see Table Q**). The index increased by 2,5% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (9,3 percentage points). Contributors to the monthly rate were agriculture (2,1 percentage points) and forestry (0,4 of a percentage point).



Table Q – Key PPI figures for April 2024

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2023=100)			% change	
		April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	April 2024 vs. March 2024	April 2024 Vs. April 2023
Final manufactured goods	100,00	97,2	101,7	102,2	0,5	5,1
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	102,2	102,6	104,0	1,4	1,8
Electricity and water	100,00	91,8	99,8	105,0	5,2	14,4
Mining	100,00	109,8	98,9	103,8	5,0	-5,5
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	90,0	96,3	98,7	2,5	9,7

^{1/} A full release on *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Consumer price index (CPI)



In South Africa, the most important categories in the consumer price index (CPI) are housing and utilities, food and non-alcoholic beverages, miscellaneous goods and services and transport. All these items were the main drivers behind the headline rate of 5,3% in April 2024. The purpose of weights is to reflect the relative importance of the goods and services as measured by their shares in the total consumption of households. The weight attached to each good or service determines the impact that its price change will have on the overall index. According to CPI 2019 weights published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 31 January 2022, housing and utilities, food and non-alcoholic beverages, miscellaneous goods and services and transport are weighted 22,54%, 19,0%, 14,64% and 14,74%, respectively. This indicates that these items have higher total weights than other CPI items. This article summarises the *Consumer price index* (statistical release P0141) for April 2024.

Headline consumer price index (CPI) for all urban areas



Annual consumer price inflation was 5,2% in April 2024, down from 5,3% in March 2024 (see Table R). The CPI increased by 0,3% month-on-month in April 2024. The main contributors to the 5,2% annual inflation rate were:

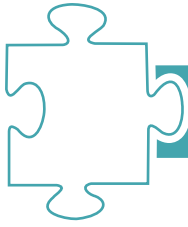
- housing and utilities (increased by 5,8% year-on-year and contributed 1,4 percentage points);
- miscellaneous goods and services (increased by 7,2% year-on-year and contributed 1,1 percentage points);
- food and non-alcoholic beverages (increased by 4,7% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point); and
- transport (increased by 5,7% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point).

In April 2024, the annual inflation rate of goods was 5,7%, unchanged from March 2024; and for services, it was 4,6%, down from 5,0% in March 2024.

Table R – Consumer price index: Index numbers and year-on-year rates
Base year: Dec 2021 = 100

Year	Index /rate	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average ¹
2018	Index	105,0	105,8	106,2	107,0	107,2	107,6	108,5	108,4	108,9	109,4	109,6	109,4	107,8
	Rate	4,4	4,0	3,8	4,5	4,4	4,6	5,1	4,9	4,9	5,1	5,2	4,5	4,7
2019	Index	87,9	88,6	89,4	89,9	90,2	90,5	90,8	91,1	91,3	91,3	91,4	91,6	90,3
	Rate	4,0	4,0	4,4	4,4	4,5	4,5	3,9	4,4	4,1	3,6	3,6	4,0	4,0
2020	Index	91,9	92,8	93,1	92,6	92,0	92,5	93,7	93,9	94,0	94,3	94,3	94,4	93,3
	Rate	4,6	4,7	4,1	3,0	2,0	2,2	3,2	3,1	3,0	3,3	3,2	3,1	3,3
2021	Index	94,8	95,4	96,1	96,7	96,8	97,0	98,1	98,5	98,7	99,0	99,4	100,0	97,5
	Rate	3,2	2,8	3,2	4,4	5,2	4,9	4,7	4,9	5,0	5,0	5,4	5,9	4,5
2022	Index	100,2	100,8	101,8	102,4	103,1	104,2	105,8	106,0	106,1	106,5	106,8	107,2	104,2
	Rate	5,7	5,7	5,9	5,9	6,5	7,4	7,8	7,6	7,5	7,6	7,4	7,2	6,9
2023	Index	107,1	107,9	109,0	109,4	109,6	109,8	110,8	111,1	111,8	112,8	112,7	112,7	110,4
	Rate	6,9	7,0	7,1	6,8	6,3	5,4	4,7	4,8	5,4	5,9	5,5	5,1	6,0
2024	Index	112,8	113,9	114,8	115,1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rate	5,3	5,6	5,3	5,2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

A full release on the *Consumer price index* (Statistical release P0141) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Glossary



Primary industries

Gigawatt-hour (gWh): 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.

Index of physical volume of manufacturing production: also known as a production index, is a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a major group is the ratio between the volume of production of a major group in a given period and the volume of production of the same major group in the base period.

Index of physical volume of mining production: a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a mineral group is the ratio between the volume of production of a mineral group in a given period and the volume of production of the same mineral group in the base period.

Index of the 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.

Industry: a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity.

PGMs – Platinum group metals: include platinum; iridium; osmiridium, palladium; rhodium; ruthenium and osmium.

Sales: total value of sales and transfers-out of goods mined by the mining establishments and the amounts received for installation, erection or assembly or other services.



Secondary industries

Additions and alterations: extensions to existing buildings as well as internal and external alterations of existing buildings.

Blocks of flats: a structure, usually multi-storey, consisting of a number of dwellings sharing the same residential address, and usually sharing a common entrance, foyer or staircase.

Dwelling houses: a free-standing, complete structure on a separate stand or a self-contained dwelling-unit, e.g. granny flat, on the same premises as existing residence. Out-buildings and garages are included.

Other residential buildings: include institutions for the disabled, boarding houses, old age homes, hostels, hotel, motels, guest houses, holiday chalets, bed and breakfast accommodation, entertainment centres and casinos.

Residential buildings: dwelling houses, flats, townhouses and other residential buildings.



Tertiary industries

Acknowledgements of debt: a statement by a person/debtor in which he admits that he owes money to an individual or a company or a bank.

Acting household head: any member of the household acting on behalf of the head of the household.

Average income per stay unit night sold: average rate per stay unit (i.e. rate per room in a hotel or powered site in a caravan park) is calculated by dividing the total income from accommodation by the number of stay unit nights sold in the survey period.

Catering services: enterprises involved in the sale and supply of meals and drinks prepared on the premises on a contract basis and brought to other premises chosen by the person ordering them, to be served for immediate consumption to guests or customers. Include bars, taverns, other drinking places, ice-cream parlours, etc.

Civil judgements: decisions taken in a civil matter or a dispute between two people or parties.

Civil summonses: notices to appear before the court of law where a dispute between two parties or people has to be heard, i.e. not for criminal offence.

Day trip: a trip outside of the respondent's usual environment, where they leave and return within the same day (i.e. do not stay overnight).

Domestic tourism: a trip within the boundaries of South Africa but outside of the respondent's usual environment.

Note: The following categories are excluded from the definition of domestic visitor:

- persons travelling to another place within the country with the intention of setting up their usual residence in that place.
- Persons who travel to another place within the country and are remunerated from within the place visited.
- Persons who travel regularly or frequently between neighbouring localities as defined by the 'usual environment' rule.

Dwelling unit: structure or part of a structure or group structures occupied or meant to be occupied by one or more than one household.

Enterprise: a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its sales activities.

Expenditure: the total consumption expenditure made by a visitor or on behalf of a visitor during his/her trip and stay at a destination.

Foreign traveller: a person who resides outside South Africa and visits the country temporarily.

Household: a group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food and/or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone.

Household head: the main decision-maker, or the person who owns or rents the dwelling, or the person who is the main breadwinner.

Income from accommodation industry: income from amounts charged for rooms or equivalent. Other income is excluded (e.g. income from meals).

Income from bar sales: refers to income from liquor sales.

Income from food sales: refers to income from the sale of meals and non-alcoholic drinks.

Income from restaurant and bar sales: income from meals, banqueting and beverages and tobacco sales.

Insolvency: refers to an individual or partnership which is unable to pay its debt and is placed under final sequestration. The number of insolvencies does not refer to the number of persons involved, as a partnership which is unable to pay its debt is regarded as one insolvency, irrespective of the number of partners.

Liquidation: refers to the winding-up of the affairs of a company or close corporation when liabilities exceed assets and it can be resolved by voluntary action or by an order of the court.

Main purpose of trip: this is the purpose in the absence of which the trip would not have been made.

Microdata: data gathered on a small scale, such as data on an individual.

'Other' African countries: refers to all non SADC African countries.

Other income: includes all income not earned from food sales or bar sales.

Other SADC: refers to the thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

Professional services: refer to medical doctors, dentists, advocates, attorney, auditors, accountants, architects, engineers, hospital services etc.

Promissory notes: written undertaking, signed by a person or party, to pay money to another person or to be the bearer of such a note on a specific date or on demand.

Restaurants and coffee shops: enterprises involved in the sale and provision of meals and drinks, ordered from a menu, prepared on the premises for immediate consumption and with provided seating.

Retailer: a retailer is an enterprise deriving more than 50% of its turnover from sales of goods to the general public for household use.

Retail trade: includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to the general public for household use.

Stay unit: unit accommodation available to be charged out to guests, for example, a powered site in a caravan park or a room in a hotel.

Stay unit night sold: total number of stay units occupied on each night during the survey period.

Takeaway and fast-food outlets: enterprises involved in the sale and provision of meals and drinks, ordered from a menu, prepared on the premises for takeaway purposes in a packaged format, at a stand or in a location, with or without provided seating.

Total income: includes income from food sales, income from bar sales and other income.

Tourism: comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Tourist: a visitor who stays at least one night in the place visited.

Tourist accommodation: any facility that regularly (or occasionally) provides 'paid' or 'unpaid' overnight accommodation for tourists.

Traveller: any person on a trip between two or more countries or between two or more localities within his/her country of residence.

Voluntary liquidation: takes place when a company or close corporation, by own choice, resolves to wind-up its affairs.

Wholesale trade: includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to other wholesalers, retailers, agricultural, industrial, commercial, institutional and professional users either directly or through agents on a fee or contract basis.



Annual percentage change: change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Consumer price index (CPI): an index that measures the price of a fixed basket of consumer goods and services.

Inflation rate: annual percentage change in the CPI for all items of the relevant month of the current year compared with the CPI for all items of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Monthly percentage change: change in the index of the relevant month compared to the index of the previous month expressed as a percentage.

Year-on-year: a term used frequently in investment research and other reports to mean 'compared with the same period in the previous fiscal year'.

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