

# Mbalo Brief

the missing piece of the puzzle

July 2024

There are three key industries  
in South Africa, namely:

- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary



Issue 06/2024

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

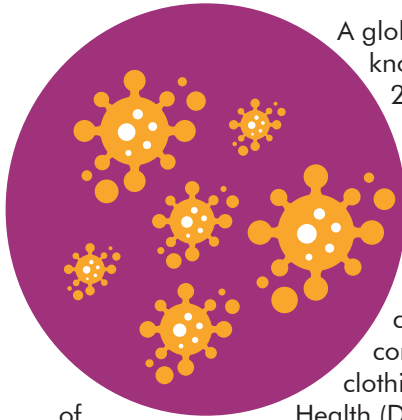


stats sa  
Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





## Editor's Comment



A global outbreak of Mpox disease, formerly known as Monkey pox, has been ongoing since 2022. South Africa is amongst the countries currently experiencing the outbreak. Mpox is a viral infection which spreads between people and occasionally from the environment to people via objects and surfaces that have been touched by a person with Mpox. Mpox can be spread through skin-to-skin contact, face-to-face contact, mouth-to-skin contact and touching infected bedding, towels, clothing and objects. According to the Department of Health (DOH), symptoms of Mpox include fever, headache, low energy, muscle and back aches, rash with blisters on the face, hands, feet, body, eyes, mouth and genitals. If you suspect you have these symptoms, isolate yourself, get medical advice and avoid touching others. At the moment, there is no registered treatment for Mpox in South Africa. However, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the use of Tecovirimat (an antiviral medication with activity against orthopoxviruses such as smallpox and Mpox) for treatment of severe cases, such as in individuals with a CD4 count of less than 350. However, the DOH has obtained Tecovirimat on compassionate use basis for patients with severe disease.

This month's feature article (as from June 2024, the educational article has been renamed feature article) is based on the Census 2022: Provincial Profile: Gauteng (Report No. 03-01-76), published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 27 June 2024. Look out for our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for June 2024 as well. Articles published in this issue are based on the results of industry surveys conducted for March and April 2024.

NB: Please note that as from April 2024, the title of our monthly release has changed from Tourism and migration to International Tourism and our annual report has changed from Tourism to International Tourism. The

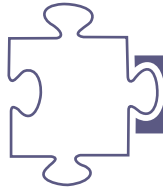


content of the release remains the same and is comparable to previous monthly releases of Tourism and migration P0351 and similar to our annual reports. The change has been made to ensure consistency in our naming conventions and to reflect the absence of migration data in both publications.

For more details on any of the statistical releases, visit our website at: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

Enjoy the read!





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## Crossword

			1									
						2				3		
4												
								5				
	6											
7												

### Across

4. How many chambers does the heart have?
5. Where would you find the pisiform bone?
6. Which province is known as the land of the rising sun?
7. Who is the new Minister of Basic Education in South Africa?

### Down

1. ....means the ability to reduce customer demand by load limitation. [Read *Electricity generated and available for distribution* article for clue]
2. What was the most spoken language in Gauteng in 2011 and 2022? [Read feature article for clue]
3. What is the only continent with land in all four hemispheres?

### Solutions for May 2024 puzzle

#### Across

3. Gwamanda
6. False
7. South Africa

#### Down

1. Black African
2. Mali
4. Equator
5. Mitosis

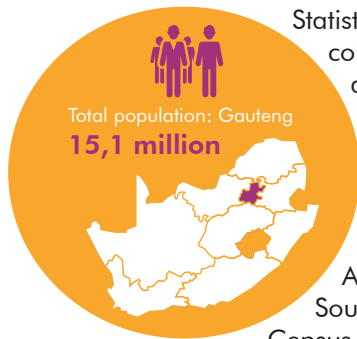




## Feature article

# Census 2022 provincial profile: Gauteng

## Introduction



Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducted data collection for Census 2022 on 02 February 2022 and ended in May 2022, with provinces completing data collection at different times. Census 2022 was the fourth census after the advent of democracy, with the other three conducted in 1996, 2001 and 2011. This census was the first-ever digital census in South Africa. On the 10th of October 2023, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) published the results of Census 2022. The latest census results show that the

South African population grew to 62 million in 2022. Gauteng is the smallest of the South Africa's provinces, covering an area of 18 178 km<sup>2</sup> of the total surface area of South Africa. Despite being the smallest province, it is also the most populous province, being home to 15,1 million people. Gauteng is the only province to have three metropolitan municipalities (City of Ekurhuleni, City of Johannesburg and City of Tshwane) and is bordered by Free State, North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces.

This feature article is based on the Census 2022 provincial profile: Gauteng, (Report No. 03-091-76), published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 27 June 2024. This report forms part of a series of publications generated from the recently conducted Census 2022. A report has been compiled for each of the nine provinces to profile the uniqueness of each province in terms of population dynamics, socio-economic development as well as progress in addressing challenges relating to access to basic services rendered. The article will focus on population dynamics, marital status and education among others.




## 1. Population characteristics

This section of the report provides findings on the demographic profile of the population using Census 1996–2022. These characteristics are distributed at provincial, metro/district and local municipality levels. The demographics reported in this section include population size and population density, age and sex structure of the population and nuptiality patterns and trends in the province.

### 1.1 Population distribution

Table 1 below shows Gauteng province population distribution across four censuses conducted in South Africa since 1996. Gauteng was the most populous province in South Africa in 2011 and in 2022 after surpassing KwaZulu-Natal in 2011. The population size of Gauteng almost doubled in the period between 1996 and 2022, from 7,8 million to 15,1 million persons, respectively. Although Gauteng’s population grew in all three consecutive intercensal periods, average annual growth rate has slowed (from 3,6% to 2,0%). Despite this, it is noted that the province’s population has been growing at a rate above the national average.

**Table 1: Gauteng province population distribution, Census 1996–2022**

Gauteng Province		
Census 1996 to 2001	Census 2001 to 2011	Census 2011 to 2022
7 834 620      9 388 854	9 388 854      12 272 263	12 272 263      15 099 422
		
Annual Growth rate ( 1996 - 2001 ) = 3,6%	Annual Growth rate ( 2001 - 2011 ) = 2,7%	Annual Growth rate ( 2011 - 2022 ) = 2,0%





Gauteng is sub-divided into three metropolitan areas (Ekurhuleni, City of Johannesburg and City of Tshwane), and two district municipalities (Sedibeng and West Rand), each with three local municipalities.

Focusing on Gauteng's population distribution by district and local municipality, it is noticeable that across all four census periods, the three metropolitan areas had the biggest share of Gauteng's population. The City of Johannesburg metro remained the most populous in the province with over 4,8 million people in 2022. The West Rand district, on the other hand, had the smallest population at just 998 466

people, in the province. Furthermore, when looking at the districts/metros, the results show that for the period 2011–2022, the City of Tshwane recorded the highest average annual growth rate (3,1%), followed by Sedibeng at 2,5% and Ekurhuleni (2,4%) while City of Johannesburg grew least over the same period, at 0,8%. Local municipality dynamics showed that Lesedi and Emfuleni local municipalities grew at a rate higher than the national average (2,8% and 2,6% respectively).

## 1.2 Population density

Population density is measured as the number of persons per land area. It is important because it informs us of the relationship between increasing population and the environment expressed in terms of square kilometres. It should be noted that as population increases for a particular area, it might impact the environment either positively or negatively on many fronts, such as those related to provision of services. Therefore, the information on population density is needed as a catalyst for provincial and local government in making informed decisions.



Population density by metro and local municipality results show that Gauteng is generally densely populated and there has been upward trend in the population density, from 675 persons in Census 2011 to 831 persons per square kilometre in 2022. The profile of districts and local municipalities showed that the City of Johannesburg was the most densely populated in the province at almost 3 000 persons per square kilometre in 2022, followed by City of Ekurhuleni with more than 2 000 persons per square kilometre. Midvaal Local Municipality and Lesedi Local Municipality were the least densely populated municipalities in the province at 65 and 89 persons per square kilometre in 2022, respectively.

## 2. Age and sex structure

### 2.1 Distribution of population by broad age groups, district/metro and local municipality, Census 2022



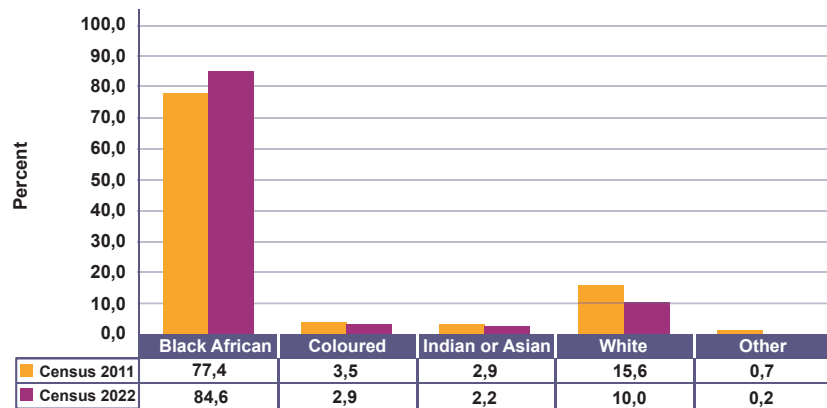
Seven in 10 persons (72,0%) in Gauteng were of working age while older persons aged 65 and older constituted about 5,4% while children aged 0–14 constituted about 22,5% of the population. District dynamics showed that Sedibeng district municipality and City of Tshwane metro recorded the highest proportion of older persons aged 65+ (6,5% and 6,1%, respectively) and these proportions were above the provincial average. On the other hand, the profile of children in the province showed that Sedibeng, West Rand and City of Tshwane districts recorded the highest proportions (24,0%, 23,7% and 23,0%, respectively) and proportions were above the provincial average. Looking at the local municipality profile, Midvaal recorded the highest proportion of older persons aged 65 and older (7,3%) while Merafong City recorded the lowest (4,8%). The results reflect slight variations in the proportions of children aged 0–14 both at district and local municipality.

### 2.2 Population group

Population group dynamics depicted in Figure 1 showed that black Africans were the majority in both census years and their percentage share increased by almost eight percentage points between 2011 and 2022. On

the other hand, the rest of the population groups recorded a decline, especially the white population group which decreased from 15,6% in 2011 to 10,0% in 2022.

**Figure 1: Percentage distribution of population by population group, Censuses 2011–2022**

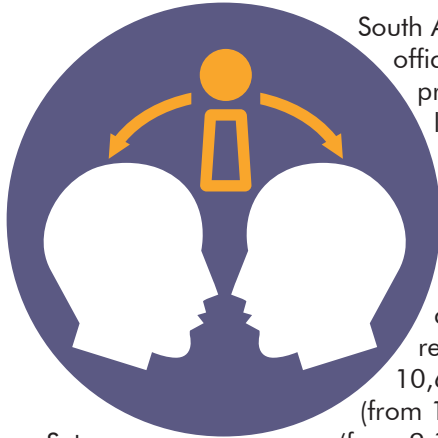


Source: Census 2011-2022

### 2.3 Marital status

More than half of persons in Gauteng aged 12 years and older were never married (58,4%) while those married constituted about a quarter (25,0%). About 11% reported they were living together like husband and wife/partners. The City of Tshwane recorded the highest proportion of persons married (28,8%), the only district with proportions above the provincial average. The profile of widowed persons showed that they were more prevalent in Sedibeng district followed by City of Tshwane (5,0% and 3,5%, respectively). Local municipality dynamics showed that Midvaal recorded the highest proportion of divorced persons (2,6%) followed by Emfuleni at 2,2%.

## 2.4 Language



South Africa is a multilingual society with 12 official languages, Sign language was promulgated as the country's 12th official language in July 2023. During Census 2011 and 2022, the most spoken language in Gauteng was isiZulu, which also depict an upward trend in the proportion of persons speaking isiZulu (from 19,8% to 23,1%). Other languages commonly spoken in the province that recorded an increase were Sepedi (from 10,6% in 2011 to 12,6% in 2022), Sesotho (from 11,6% in 2011 to 13,1% in 2022),

Setswana (from 9,1% in 2011 to 10,4% in 2022) and Xitsonga (from 6,6% in 2011 to 7,0% in 2022). Shona (2,1%), the new languages introduced in Census 2022 recorded the highest proportion. The proportion of persons speaking Afrikaans decreased from 12,5% in 2011 to 7,7% in 2022, showing an almost five percentage points decrease over 10 years, while English speakers decreased by four percentage points, from 13,3% to 9,2% in the same period. Khoi, Nama and San languages recorded less than 1,0%.

## 3. Education

### 3.1 Educational attainment

In 2022, two in five persons aged 20 years and older in the province had completed secondary school education while persons with higher education constituted about 16,4%. Results further showed that 3,9% had no formal education and 2,5% completed primary school education. The district profile showed that City of Tshwane recorded the highest proportion of persons with higher education (22,4%), followed by City of Johannesburg (15,2%). Looking at the local municipality profile, Midvaal recorded the proportion of persons with higher education above the provincial average (17,3%), while Merafong City recorded the lowest proportion in the same education category (6,8%).

### 3.2 Field of education

Results of persons aged 20 years and older by field of higher education indicate that over a third of persons in the province had their qualification in the field of business management (33,6%), followed by those in the humanities, social sciences and applied humanities (20,6%). On the other hand, only 2,9% were in the natural and mathematical sciences field. The sex dynamics indicate that over a quarter of males (25,5%) were in the engineering field, compared with 6,2% females. In contrast, about 11,0% females were in the health sciences sector compared with 3,8% males.

In terms of the population group, over 42% of Indians/Asians were in the business management sector, which was over 10 percentage points higher than the provincial average. Furthermore, whites constituted the largest proportion of those in the field of engineering at 16,3%, followed by black Africans (15,4%).

## 4. Household characteristics and access to services

### 4.1 Household size



The number of households in Gauteng increased from 3,9 million in 2011 to 5,3 million in 2022. Results further showed that in 2022, the three metros in the province contributed more than a million households each. The indicator on average household size shows a downward trend, from 3,1% in 2011 to 2,8% in

2022. At district level, City of Johannesburg recorded the highest decrease from 3,1% in 2011 to 2,6% in 2022.

### 4.2 Housing

The profile on households and housing circumstances showed that households in Gauteng predominantly resided in formal dwellings (88,5%) while those residing in informal dwellings constituted about 11,0%. The district dynamics showed that Sedibeng district and the City of Johannesburg

recorded the highest percentage of households residing in formal dwellings (91,0% and 89,8%, respectively) and these figures were above the provincial average. On the other hand, City of Tshwane (13,1%), West Rand district (11,4%) and City of Ekurhuleni metro (11,2%) recorded the highest percentage of households residing in informal dwellings. Looking at local municipality variations by type of main dwelling, Mogale City recorded the highest percentage of households residing in informal dwellings (14,3%) while Lesedi Local Municipality recorded the lowest (4,2%).

### Conclusion

The findings of the report indicate that Gauteng, although the smallest province in South Africa by land area, had the largest population in 2011 and in 2022. The most spoken language in Gauteng was isiZulu between the period under review. In addition, the majority of Gauteng residents aged 12 years and older were never married. The results of persons aged 20 years and older by field of higher education indicate that over a third of persons in the province had their qualification in the field of business management. Furthermore, the highest proportion of persons with higher education were City of Tshwane.





## Primary industries

### Mining: Production and sales

PGMs drive the increase in mining production



South Africa is a mineral-rich country, with a variety of minerals such as gold, diamonds, iron ore, copper and platinum to name a few. Platinum, in particular, is so abundant in the country that South Africa is the world's largest producer of this mineral. According to Africa Mining IQ, an online mining and mining project information service, "Platinum mining in South

Africa accounts for approximately 80% of the world's platinum, and about 40% of the world's gross palladium production." Platinum is a heavy, malleable silvery-white metal that does not rust or dull. This makes it ideal for making jewellery, lab equipment, medical and electronic devices and catalytic converters (part of a car's exhaust system that converts harmful engine exhaust pollutants into a less harmful gas). Platinum is also one of the six metals in the Platinum Group Metals (PGMs). These metals play a significant role in the production of many of the products we use daily such as cell phones, dental fillings and computer hardware, making them in high demand. In April 2024, the production of PGMs increased by 16,9% resulting in an overall increase in mining production in the same month. This article summarises the results of the *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P2041) for April 2024.



Mining production increased by 0,7% year-on-year in April 2024 (see Table A). The largest positive contributors were:

- PGMs (16,9%, contributing 4,3 percentage points); and
- chromium ore (20,8%, contributing 0,9 of a percentage point).

The largest negative contributors were:

- manganese ore (-22,5%, contributing -1,8 percentage points);
- iron ore (-7,5%, contributing -1,0 percentage point); and
- coal (-3,6%, contributing -0,9 of a percentage point).

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

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

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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

Mineral sales at current prices increased by 11,8% year-on-year in April 2024 (see Table B). The largest positive contributors were:

- gold (226,5%, contributing 12,7 percentage points);
- chromium ore (17,3%, contributing 1,4 percentage points); and
- iron ore (9,3%, contributing 1,3 percentage points).

Coal (-8,1%, contributing -2,3 percentage points) and PGMs (-7,3%, contributing -2,1 percentage points) were the largest negative contributors.



**Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales for April 2024**

	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	10,3	8,7	5,8	-2,5	-14,4	11,8
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	3,0	2,3	-2,5	-7,3	-14,2	14,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	8,2	15,6	10,8	4,1	-9,3	-13,2

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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).





## Secondary industries

### Manufacturing: Production and sales



Manufacturing production increased by 5,3% in April 2024 compared with April 2023

According to the latest results released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), manufacturing production increased by 5,3% in April 2024 compared with April 2023. Wood and paper products were the divisions that made the largest positive contribution with 9,9%, contributing 0,9 of a percentage point. Although there is a move towards digitisation, information access is still limited and the majority of South Africans still require hard copies when accessing information. Therefore, the demand for paper is still relevant, hence the increase in manufacturing of paper products. This includes the chemical pulping process, which is the method used to extract fibres from wood for papermaking. This article presents a summary of the results of *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (statistical release P3041.2) for April 2024.



Manufacturing production increased by 5,3% in April 2024 compared with April 2023 (see **Table C**). The following divisions made the largest positive contributions:

- petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products (5,1%, contributing 1,1 percentage points);
- wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing (9,9%, contributing 0,9 of a percentage point);
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (4,1%, contributing 0,9 of a percentage point);

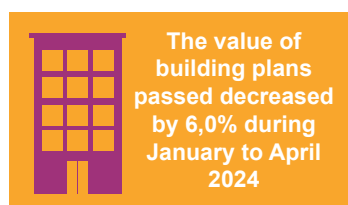
- food and beverages (4,0%, contributing 0,9 of a percentage point); and
- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (6,5%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point).

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

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

<sup>1/</sup>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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

### Selected building statistics of the private sector



According to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the value of building plans passed decreased by 6,0% in the first four months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. Buildings that are used primarily as residences, including dwelling-houses, flats, townhouses and other residential buildings, contributed to this decrease with -10,7%. Extensions to existing buildings as well as internal and external alterations of existing buildings decreased by -3,9%. While there was a decrease in residential buildings and additions and alterations, the latest data released by Stats SA for April 2024 released on 20 June 2024, indicates that the sector also saw an increase of 3,7% for factories, commercial, financial and other office buildings, as well as other buildings not used for residential purposes, such as churches, halls, clubs, schools and hospitals. This article summarises the results of the *Selected building statistics of the private sector* (statistical release P5041.1) for April 2024.

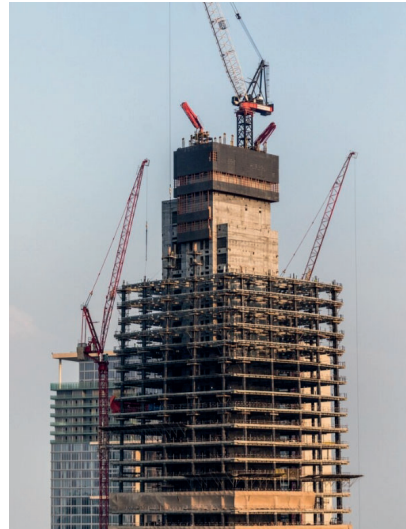


The value of building plans passed (at current prices) decreased by 6,0% (-R1 969,0 million) during January to April 2024 compared with January to April 2023 (see Table D). Decreases were reported for residential buildings (-10,7% or -R1 850,5 million) and additions and alterations (-3,9% or -R353,2 million). An increase was reported for non-residential buildings

(3,7% or R234,7 million).

The largest negative contributions to the total decrease of 6,0% (-R1 969,0 million) were made by Gauteng (contributing -5,8 percentage points or -R1 897,1 million) and Western Cape (contributing -3,6 percentage points or -R1 183,1 million). The largest positive contributions were made by North West (contributing 2,4 percentage points or R772,1 million) and KwaZulu-Natal (contributing 1,3 percentage points or R432,9 million).

The value of buildings reported as completed (at current prices) decreased by 14,5% (-R2 479,0 million) during January to April 2024 compared with January to April 2023. Decreases were reported for non-residential buildings (-39,9% or -R2 027,0 million) and residential buildings (-8,4% or -R781,0 million). An increase was reported for additions and alterations (11,9% or R329,0 million).



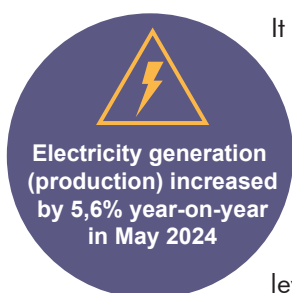
Four provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed during January to April 2024, namely Gauteng (contributing -12,2 percentage points or -R2 097,8 million), Limpopo (contributing -2,1 percentage points or -R355,1 million), KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -1,9 percentage points or -R322,2 million) and Northern Cape (contributing -0,2 of a percentage point or -R28,9 million).

**Table D – Building plans passed by larger municipalities by type of building for April 2024**

Type of building	Jan – Apr 2023	Jan – Apr 2024	Difference in value between Jan – Apr 2023 and Jan – Apr 2024	% change between Jan – Apr 2023 and Jan – Apr 2024
	<sup>1/</sup>	<sup>1/</sup>		
	R'000	R'000	R'000	
<b>Residential buildings</b>	17 336 427	15 485 952	-1 850 475	-10,7
- Dwelling houses	10 784 351	9 307 788	-1 476 563	-13,7
- Flats and townhouses	6 338 209	5 809 539	-528 670	-8,3
- Other residential buildings	213 867	368 625	154 758	72,4
<b>Non-residential buildings</b>	6 311 182	6 545 856	234 674	3,7
<b>Additions and alterations</b>	8 944 534	8 591 326	-353 208	-3,9
<b>Total</b>	32 592 143	30 623 134	-1 969 009	-6,0

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Electricity generated and available for distribution



It has been more than 100 days since loadshedding, however, measures to manage high electricity demands are still being implemented. One of these measures is load reduction. Load reduction means the ability to reduce customer demand by load limitation. To manage demand and supply of electricity, Eskom has implemented load reduction in parts of the country, in areas with high usage levels that threaten to overload the system. The latest data published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) reveal that electricity generation (production) increased by 5,6% in May 2024. This increase in electricity generation could be linked to Eskom implementing load reduction, which enables efficient production and effective management of electricity supply, allowing the power stations to perform better. This

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

Electricity generation (production) increased by 5,6% year-on-year May 2024 (see Table E).

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

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

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

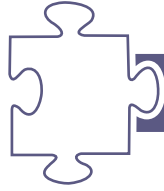
Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 4,8% year-on-year in May 2024 (see Table F).

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

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

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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).



## Tertiary industries

### Wholesale trade sales



There are a variety of factors that influence growth in the wholesale industry, including but not limited to economic conditions, consumer demand, seasonal factors or general rising prices of goods. For instance, businesses tend to purchase more goods when the economy is thriving. Similarly, when consumer demands for products increase, retailers tend to restock more goods to keep up with those

demands. Again, certain products are more in demand during a specific season, for example, winter clothes are in demand during winter while Christmas decorations are in demand during December. All of these factors ultimately lead to increased sales and generation of more income, which in turn boost the overall performance of the wholesale trade industry. A direct link between one of these factors and a 6,7% increase in South Africa's wholesale trade sales in April 2024 is, therefore, likely. This article summarises the results of the *Wholesale trade sales* (statistical release P6141.2) for April 2024.



Wholesale trade sales increased by 6,7% in April 2024 compared with April 2023 (see Table G). The main positive contributors were dealers in:

- machinery, equipment and supplies (13,4%, contributing 1,9 percentage points); and
- 'other' goods (29,2%, contributing 1,8% percentage points).

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

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

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 0,6% year-on-year for April 2024. Retailers in pharmaceuticals, medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries were one of the largest contributors with an increase of 4,1%. The increase of pharmaceuticals, medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries could be the result of the fact that before and during winter, some consumers purchase these products in preparation for influenza season to help in fighting cold and flu symptoms and to provide immune support for their children and loved ones.

According to the National Institute of Communicable Disease (NICD), the influenza season started in week 17 of the year (week starting 22 April 2024). These could be some of the reasons products in pharmaceuticals, medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries have increased. This article summarises the results of *Retail trade sales* (statistical release 6242.1) for April 2024.



Retail trade sales increased by 0,6% year-on-year in April 2024 (see Table H). The largest contributors to this increase were retailers in:



- pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries (4,1%, contributing 0,3 of a percentage point); and
- household furniture, appliances and equipment (5,6%, contributing 0,2 of a percentage point).

Retail trade sales increased by 0,8% in the three months ended April 2024 compared with the three months ended April 2023. The largest contributor to this increase was general dealers (2,6%, contributing 1,1 percentage points).

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

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

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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Motor trade sales



Selecting between a new and used car is one of the most important decisions when purchasing a vehicle in South Africa. This decision may have a big effect on your wallet, driving experience and level of pleasure. Before making this important decision, it is important to evaluate your specific needs and priorities as both new and used cars have advantages and disadvantages. The biggest advantage of

purchasing a used car over a new one is the price difference. When buying a car that is a few years old, its affordability can help you save thousands of rands. Furthermore, the car is easier to sell in the future because much of

the depreciation has already happened. The local customer base for used cars remained strong in April despite the economic uncertainty that the country has been experiencing. This has been reflected in the April 2024 data published by Statistics South (Stats SA) on 20 June 2024 which shows an increase of 19,5% in used vehicle sales. This article summarises the *Motor trade sales results* (statistical release P6343.2) for April 2024.



Motor trade sales increased by 3,9% year-on-year in April 2024 (see Table I). The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- used vehicle sales (19,5%, contributing 3,7 percentage points); and
- sales of accessories (4,0%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point)

The largest negative contributor was fuel sales (-2,8% contributing -0,8 of a percentage point).

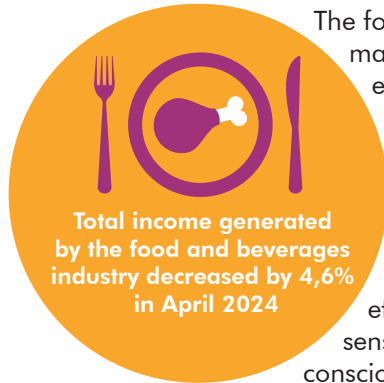
**Table I – Key growth rates in motor trade sales at constant 2019 prices for April 2024**

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

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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Food and beverages



The food and beverages industry in South Africa is made up of numerous sub-sectors known as enterprises, all of which are vital to both the country's economy and meeting customer needs. The performance of these enterprises has a direct impact on the overall performance of the food and beverages industry. Factors such as affordability and healthy lifestyle, amongst others, can have a greater effect in the food and beverages industry in the sense that as more people become health conscious, the demand for healthier food and beverages increases. Equally, food affordability influences what people choose to eat, which in turn can affect sales and profitability of the industry. In April 2024, the food and beverages industry experienced a decrease of 4,6% in its total income. The main contributors to this decrease were restaurants and coffee shops (-4,6%) and takeaway and fast-food outlets (-5,2%). Possible factors to this decrease could be that consumers are responding to their financial hardships by cutting back on their spending; as well as their preference for home-cooked meals over restaurants or takeaways due to health concerns, as meals prepared at home are thought to be healthier. Despite the decline recorded in April 2024, there was an increase of 1,2% in total income for food and beverages in the three months ended April 2024, thus showing that consumers are still eating out, although at a reduced rate. This article summarises the results of *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) for April 2024.



Total income generated by the food and beverages industry decreased by 4,6% in April 2024 compared with April 2023 (see Table J). The largest negative annual growth rates were recorded for:

- restaurants and coffee shops (-4,6%); and
- takeaway and fast-food outlets (-5,2%).

In April 2024, the largest negative contributors to the 4,6% year-on-year decrease were restaurants and coffee shops (-4,6%, contributing -2,4 percentage points) and takeaway and fast-food outlets (-5,2%, contributing -1,9 percentage points).

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

Type of income	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Restaurants and coffee shops	3,0	10,4	-1,4	6,9	5,2	-4,6
Takeaway and fast-foods outlets	-3,1	1,8	-4,7	2,1	3,8	-5,2
Catering services	-9,2	-10,4	-6,7	6,7	-6,1	-3,0
<b>Total</b>	<b>-0,6</b>	<b>5,2</b>	<b>-3,2</b>	<b>5,2</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>-4,6</b>

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

## Tourist accommodation



**The total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 4,5% in April 2024**

South Africa offers a diverse range of tourist attractions, with some popular tourist destinations such as the Kruger National Park, amongst others, offering one of Africa’s best game reserves. The Kruger National Park is home to the “Big Five” (lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant and rhino) and, as a result, offers an incredible wildlife experience. Ideally, booking accommodation close to attraction site is commonly preferred by tourist. Since January 2024, South Africa has been experiencing higher growth trends in the accommodation

industry, recording an increase of 13,6% in January 2024, 11,0% in February 2024, 7,4% in March 2024 and 4,5% in total income in April 2024. Income from accommodation increased by 7,0% year-on-year in April 2024. This growth indicates that there is greater demand for tourist accommodation in South Africa. This article summarises the results of *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) for April 2024.

The total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 4,5% in April 2024 compared with April 2023 (**See Table K**). Income from accommodation increased by 7,0% year-on-year in April 2024, the result of a 3,5% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 3,4% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.

**Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for April 2024**

	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Stay units available	-0,1	-0,2	-0,1	-0,1	-0,2	0,0
Stay unit nights sold	3,8	3,3	9,9	5,2	3,6	3,5
Average income per stay unit nights sold	10,5	6,5	4,7	5,0	5,9	3,4
Income from accommodation	14,7	10,0	15,0	10,5	9,6	7,0
<b>Total income<sup>1/</sup></b>	<b>13,5</b>	<b>6,8</b>	<b>13,6</b>	<b>11,0</b>	<b>7,4</b>	<b>4,5</b>

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## International tourism



Holidays continue to be the main purpose of visit in South Africa with approximately 96,4% of all the tourists. The key indicators when it comes to South Africa's attractiveness and appeal in tourism are adventure and wildlife, this is according to South African Tourism's Brand Tracker (an international brand assessment used to determine the appeal and demand creation within the markets where South African

Tourism operates). The latest figures published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), in May 2024 show that there were 2 354 432 travellers

(arrivals, departures and transits) that entered and exited South Africa. These travellers were made up of 649 610 South African residents and 1 704 822 foreign travellers. Foreign arrivals were made up of 23 774 non-visitors and 857 770 visitors. Visitors consisted of 208 316 same-day visitors and 649 454 overnight visitors (tourists). There were more male (383 318) than female (266 136) tourists. The age distribution indicates that the majority of tourists (199 029) were aged between 35 and 44 years. In light of this, it is crucial to know the following information before visiting South Africa. Each individual seeking entry into South Africa needs to have a current passport and, if required, a valid visa. It is recommended that visitors register for multiple-entry visas if they plan to visit both South Africa and its neighbouring countries. Travellers must prove to immigration officials that they have the money to support themselves while they are in the country and that they have return or forward tickets. In addition, they must have current foreign health certifications. This article summarises the results of the *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) for May 2024.

## Travellers

### Number of travellers



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 2 354 432 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in May 2024 (see Table L). These travellers were made up of 649 610 South African residents and 1 704 822 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 313 600 arrivals, 335 511 departures and 499 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 881 544, 783 999 and 39 279 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in April 2024 and May 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. The volume of departures increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. Transit decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 7,1% (from 337 454 in April 2024 to 313 600 in May 2024). Departures increased by

1,8% (from 329 436 in April 2024 to 335 511 in May 2024) and transits decreased by 7,2% (from 538 in April 2024 to 499 in May 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 5,7% (from 934 880 in April 2024 to 881 544 in May 2024), departures decreased by 3,8% (from 814 587 in April 2024 to 783 999 in May 2024) and transits increased by 9,4% (from 35 900 in April 2024 to 39 279 in May 2024).



A comparison between the movements in May 2023 and May 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased for both groups of travellers while the volume of departures increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. Transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 4,3% (from 327 811 in May 2023 to 313 600 in May 2024), departures increased by 1,3% (from 331 346 in May 2023 to 335 511 in May 2024) and

transits increased by 3,5% (from 482 in May 2023 to 499 in May 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 1,6% (from 895 463 in May 2023 to 881 544 in May 2024), departures decreased by 0,7% (from 789 789 in May 2023 to 783 999 in May 2024) whereas transits increased by 16,3% (from 33 779 in May 2023 to 39 279 in May 2024).

## Visitors

In May 2024, 23 774 (2,7%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 857 770 (97,3%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in May 2024 but did not depart in May 2024 [291 817 (34,0%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in May 2024 and left in May 2024 [287 534 (33,5%)];
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in May 2024 [278 419 (32,5%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In May 2024, there were 208 316 (24,3%) same-day visitors and 649 454 (75,7%) tourists. Between April 2024 and May 2024, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 1,4% (from 205 446 in April 2024 to 208 316 in May 2024) and that of tourists decreased by 7,5% (from 702 021 in April 2024 to 649 454 in May 2024). Between May 2023 and May 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 12,1% (from 237 063 in May 2023 to 208 316 in May 2024) and that of tourists increased by 3,1% (from 630 100 in May 2023 to 649 454 in May 2024).

Of the 208 316 same-day visitors, a majority, 187 064 (89,8%) arrived in the country by road, 21 100 (10,1%) arrived by air and 152 (0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 459 208 (70,7%) came by road, 188 410 (29,0%) used air and 1 836 (0,3%) used sea.

## Tourists

### Sex distribution of tourists

There were more male [383 318 (59,0%)] than female [266 136 (41,0%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [295 151 (60,4%)], overseas countries [79 328 (53,8%)] and 'other' African countries [8 153 (64,6%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [193 148 (39,6%)], followed by overseas countries 68 100 (46,2%) and 'other' African countries 4 476 (35,4%).

### Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [23 820 (3,7%)] were aged younger than 15 years; [48 740 (7,5%)] were aged between 15 and 24 years; [155 904 (24,0%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years; [199 029 (30,6%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years; [121 976 (18,8%)] were aged between 45 and 54 years; 60 416 (9,3%) were aged between 55 and 64 years; [39 567 (6,1%)] were aged 65 years and older.

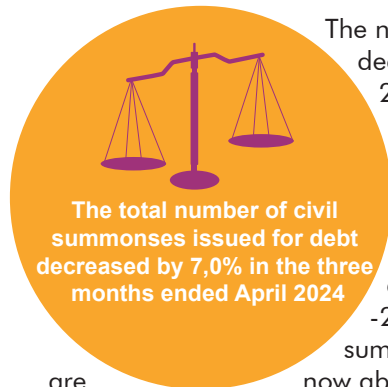


**Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction**

Travel direction	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	% change Apr 2024 – May 2024	% change May 2023 – May 2024
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 378 670</b>	<b>2 452 795</b>	<b>2 354 432</b>	<b>-4,0%</b>	<b>-1,0%</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>659 639</b>	<b>667 428</b>	<b>649 610</b>	<b>-2,7%</b>	<b>-1,5%</b>
Arrivals	327 811	337 454	313 600	-7,1%	-4,3%
Departures	331 346	329 436	335 511	1,8%	1,3%
Transit	482	538	499	-7,2%	3,5%
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 719 031</b>	<b>1 785 367</b>	<b>1 704 822</b>	<b>-4,5%</b>	<b>-0,8%</b>
Arrivals	895 463	934 880	881 544	-5,7%	-1,6%
Departures	789 789	814 587	783 999	-3,8%	-0,7%
Transit	33 779	35 900	39 279	9,4%	16,3%

A full release on *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Statistics of civil cases for debt



The number of civil summonses issued for debt decrease by 7,0% in the three months ended April 2024. Civil summonses refers to a notice to appear before the court of law where a dispute between two parties has to be heard, i.e. not for a criminal offence but for debts. The largest contributors to the 7,0% decrease were money lent (contributing -5,5 percentage points) and promissory notes (contributing -2,4% percentage points). This decrease in civil summonses issued for debt could be that people are now able to pay their loans according to the agreed plan or that people are now saving money. Another possibility is that consumers are avoiding spending on things they do not need. It is important to understand that taking out a loan comes with interest. This means that if you take out a loan for a specific amount, you will pay back the full loan with the interest. This article summarises the results of the *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) for April 2024.

### The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 7,0% in the three months ended April 2024 compared with the three months ended April 2023 (see Table M). The largest negative contributors to the 7,0% decrease in civil summonses issued were:

- money lent (contributing -5,5 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -2,4 percentage points).

'Other' debts was the largest positive contributor (contributing 1,3 percentage points).

### The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 4,0% in the three months ended April 2024 compared with the three months ended April 2023. The positive contributors to the 4,0% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing 7,3 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing 1,9 percentage points).

The largest negative contributors were:

- money lent (contributing -2,8 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -1,7 percentage points).

### The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 7,3% in the three months ended April 2024 compared with the three months ended April 2023. The positive contributors to the 7,3% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing 5,8 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing 1,9 percentage points);
- promissory notes (contributing 1,8 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing 1,3 percentage points).

Money lent was the largest negative contributor (contributing -3,5 percentage points).

In April 2024, 11 699 civil judgements for debt amounting to R326,2 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- money lent (R87,0 million or 26,7%);
- 'other' debts (R71,5 million or 21,9%); and
- services (R70,6 million or 21,7%).

**Table M – Key figures for civil summonses and judgements for April 2024**

Actual estimates	April 2024	% change between April 2023 and April 2024	% change between February to April 2023 and February to April 2024
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	39 787	13,0	-7,0
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	11 699	15,1	4,0
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	326,2	24,1	7,3

A full release on *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) is available on the Stats SA website [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Statistics of liquidations



The process of closing down a business when its debts are greater than its assets is known as liquidation. The company may be liquidated voluntarily, with the directors or shareholders initiating the liquidation process; or involuntarily (also known as compulsory liquidation), which is when the creditors or the court initiate the liquidation process. While more liquidations

indicate significant financial challenges, any decrease in liquidations suggests that companies are resilient during difficult financial times. More so, South Africa experienced a decrease of 17,2% in total liquidations in May 2024 compared with May 2023. This decrease indicates a positive trend, where voluntary liquidations decreased by 20 cases and compulsory liquidations decreased by 6 cases. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) for May 2024.

The total number of liquidations decreased by 17,2% in May 2024 compared with May 2023 (**see Table N**). Voluntary liquidations decreased by 20 cases and compulsory liquidations decreased by 6 cases during this period. The number of liquidations decreased by 9,3% in the three months ended May 2024 compared with the three months ended May 2023.

A decrease of 5,3% in the number of liquidations was recorded in the first five months of 2024 compared with the first five months of 2023.

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

Number of liquidations May 2024	% change between May 2023 and May 2024	% change between Mar – May 2023 and Mar – May 2024	% change between Jan – May 2023 and Jan – May 2024
125	-17,2	-9,3	-5,3

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

## Land transport



The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 6,5% in April 2024 compared with April 2023

South Africa's land transport system consists of various modes, of which private vehicles are the most commonly used. Owing to a growing demand for a reliable transport system in South Africa, the e-hailing services provided by Bolt and Uber were welcomed by many. Both services have transformed public transportation in South Africa by offering convenient alternatives to traditional modes like buses, taxis and trains. The e-hailing service industry continues to grow in South Africa, with a new one called Shesha recently launched, to offer more

transport options for commuters. Shesha is a commercial entity that means "hurry" in isiZulu. This e-hailing service promises fair pricing and sophisticated safety systems. Major stakeholders of Shesha include the South African National Taxi Council in Gauteng and the Gauteng National Taxi Alliance, with the backing of the Gauteng Transport Department. Its owners say it is set to revolutionise the way South Africans ride and drive with its safety and unique benefits for both passengers and drivers. Shesha spokesperson Nomsa Mdhluli said that fingerprint IDs that are linked to the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) database are used to verify drivers upon registration, as well as facial recognition technology and banking information. The introduction of Shesha, alongside other e-hailing services, is likely to impact land transport in many ways. Currently, the land transport figures show that passenger journeys increased by 38,1% in April 2024. This article summarises the results of *Land transport* (statistical release P7162) for April 2024.



The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 6,5% in April 2024 compared with April 2023. The corresponding income decreased by 0,1% over the same period (see Table O).

Income from freight transportation increased by 2,1% in the three months ended April 2024, compared with the three months ended April 2023. The main positive contributors to this increase were:

- containers (47,2%, contributing 2,1 percentage points);
- primary mining and quarrying products (3,6%, contributing 1,2 percentage points);
- electrical machinery, transport machinery and equipment (37,4%, contributing 0,7 of a percentage point); and
- commercial products (36,4%, contributing 0,7 of a percentage point).

**Table O – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation for April 2024**

	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Freight payload	3,2	-2,8	-6,7	-0,1	-4,1	-6,5
Freight income	3,7	3,8	-0,4	6,2	0,5	-0,1

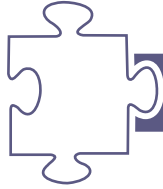
A full release on *Land transport* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

The number of passenger journeys increased by 38,1% in April 2024 compared with April 2023. The corresponding income increased by 17,1% over the same period (**see Table P**).

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

	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Passenger journeys	16,6	9,2	21,4	17,2	4,2	38,1
Passenger income	12,9	6,6	13,6	10,0	3,4	17,1

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



## Prices

### Producer price index (PPI)



Here's informative fact about producer price index (PPI) written specially for you. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is the organisation responsible for what you see in the news about the country's economic performance, namely consumer price index (CPI), gross domestic product (GDP) and producer price index (PPI). Data on PPI is collected each month in the form of a survey sent to a sample of local producers. The results of this survey are used to compile the producer price indices for final manufactured goods,

which include intermediate manufactured goods, electricity and water, mining, and agriculture, forestry and fishing. In the month of May 2024, PPI increased by 0,1% month-on-month. The largest contributor to the PPI increase was electricity and water with 12,1%. Its index (a tool that simplifies the measurement of movements in a numerical series) increased by 1,7% month-on-month. This article summarises the results of the *Producer price index* (statistical release P0142.1) for May 2024.



Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 4,6% in May 2024, down from 5,1% in April 2024 (see **Table Q**). The producer price index (PPI) increased by 0,1% month-on-month in May 2024.

The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were:

- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (increased by 7,3% year-on-year and contributed 1,7 percentage points);
- food products, beverages and tobacco products (increased by 3,8% year-on-year and contributed 1,1 percentage points); and

- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (increased by 5,5% year-on-year and contributed 0,8 of a percentage point).

The negative contributor was transport equipment (decreased by 4,5% month-on-month and contributed -0,4 of a percentage point).

### Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 0,4% in May 2024 (compared with 1,8% in April 2024). The index increased by 0,6% month-on-month. The main positive contributor to the annual rate was chemicals, rubber and plastic products (1,3 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was chemicals, rubber and plastic products (0,7 of a percentage point).



### Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 12,1% in May 2024 (compared with 14,4% in April 2024). The index increased by 1,7% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 10,8 percentage points and water contributed 1,4 percentage points to the annual rate. Electricity contributed 1,8 percentage points to the monthly rate.





## Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was -6,4% in May 2024 (compared with -5,5% in April 2024). The index decreased by 0,8% month-on-month. The main negative contributor to the annual rate was non-ferrous metal ores (-10,6 percentage points). The main negative contributor to the monthly rate was coal and gas (-0,8 of a percentage point).



## Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 8,6% in May 2024 (compared with 9,7% in April 2024). The index decreased by 1,3% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (8,5 percentage points). The main negative contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (-1,1 percentage points).



**Table Q – Key PPI figures for May 2024**

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2023=100)			% change	
		May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	May 2024 vs. Apr 2024	May 2024 Vs. May 2023
Final manufactured goods	100,00	97,8	102,2	102,3	0,1	4,6
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	104,2	104,0	104,6	0,6	0,4
Electricity and water	100,00	95,3	105,0	106,8	1,7	12,1
Mining	100,00	110,0	103,8	103,0	-0,8	-6,4
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	89,7	98,7	97,4	-1,3	8,6

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

## Consumer price index (CPI)



The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) is responsible for setting the inflation target range which is aimed at maintaining price stability while supporting the economic growth of the country. Currently, the inflation target range is set at 3-6% since the year 2000. When the consumer price index (CPI) is above the SARB's inflation target range, it means that inflation is higher than the desired level set by SARB. On the other hand, when the CPI is

below the target range, inflation is lower than the desired level as set out by the SARB. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) plays a crucial role in determining the South African Reserve Bank's target range by collecting data on consumer prices, including goods and services, to calculate the consumer price index headline. The headline CPI serves as the inflation target measure to guide SARB's decisions on setting interest rate. In May 2024, South Africa's annual inflation rate stood at 5,2%, unchanged from April 2024. This means that the inflation rate is within the target range, although just above the desired SARB's midpoint of 4,5%. When the inflation rate is above the set midpoint target range, it indicates that prices are rising too quickly. This article summarises the *Consumer price index* (statistical release P0141) for May 2024.

### Headline consumer price index (CPI) for all urban areas



Annual consumer price inflation was 5,2% in May 2024, unchanged from April 2024 (see Table R). The CPI increased by 0,2% month-on-month in May 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 7,1% year-on-year and contributed 1,1 percentage points);

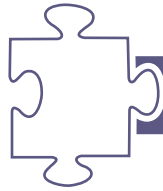
- transport (increased by 6,3% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point); and
- food and non-alcoholic beverages (increased by 4,7% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point).

In May 2024, the annual inflation rate of goods was 5,7%, unchanged from April 2024; and for services, it was 4,7%, up from 4,6% in April 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	115,3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rate	5,3	5,6	5,3	5,2	5,2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1/</sup> Annual average. A full release on the Consumer price index (Statistical release P0141) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://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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