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Economic headlines

Consumer inflation holds steady



Annual rates for four of the twelve product groups were unchanged in May (click [here](#) to read more).


Employment declines in Q1: 2024



Trade and community services recorded the largest number of job losses (click [here](#) to read more).

Liquidations down in May



There were 125 business closures in the month. Listen [here](#) for more. 
















Trends in youth educational attainment



The population census provides a long-term view (click [here](#) to read more).

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

Monthly economic indicators

	y/y percentage change			m/m percentage change			3-month	
	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	Feb-Apr	
Mining production 	10,9	-4,8	0,7	5,2	-4,4	0,8	0,1	
Manufacturing production 	4,1	-6,5	5,3	-0,6	-2,5	5,2	-0,5	
Electricity generation 	4,2	0,0	5,7	1,6	-0,1	1,2	1,0	
Buildings completed (value) 	-14,7	-34,6	-6,3	-9,7	1,6	22,4	-18,4	
Wholesale trade sales 	-2,3	-12,7	1,2	2,3	-5,2	6,9	0,4	
Retail trade sales 	-0,7	2,3	0,6	0,9	1,3	0,5	0,1	
Motor trade sales 	1,3	-10,2	3,9	-0,6	-7,2	7,2	-2,2	
Income from tourist accommodation 	10,5	9,6	7,0	-0,2	-0,8	1,7	1,7	
Restaurants, catering & fast-food income 	5,2	3,3	-4,6	6,8	-2,0	-4,0	2,3	
Rail transport: Freight payload 	6,9	11,1	1,5	2,2	2,2	-3,7	1,0	
Road transport: Freight payload 	-1,5	-6,6	-8,0	-0,9	-1,1	-3,6	-3,2	
Rail transport: Passenger journeys 	73,0	42,9	96,1	5,5	-1,6	2,7	8,5	
Road transport: Passenger journeys 	8,8	-1,5	29,5	-3,0	-1,3	14,9	0,5	
		Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	
Consumer Price Index (CPI) 		5,3	5,2	5,2	0,8	0,3	0,2	
Producer Price Index (PPI) 		4,6	5,1	4,6	1,1	0,5	0,1	

ABOUT

The indicators shown here provide an overview of how various sectors of South Africa's economy are performing.

Click on an indicator name to access the complete report on Stats SA's website

y/y = year-on-year
 m/m = month-on-month
 3-month = percentage change between the previous 3 months (November–January) and the latest 3 months (February–April)

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Feature article

National government spending breaks the R2 trillion mark

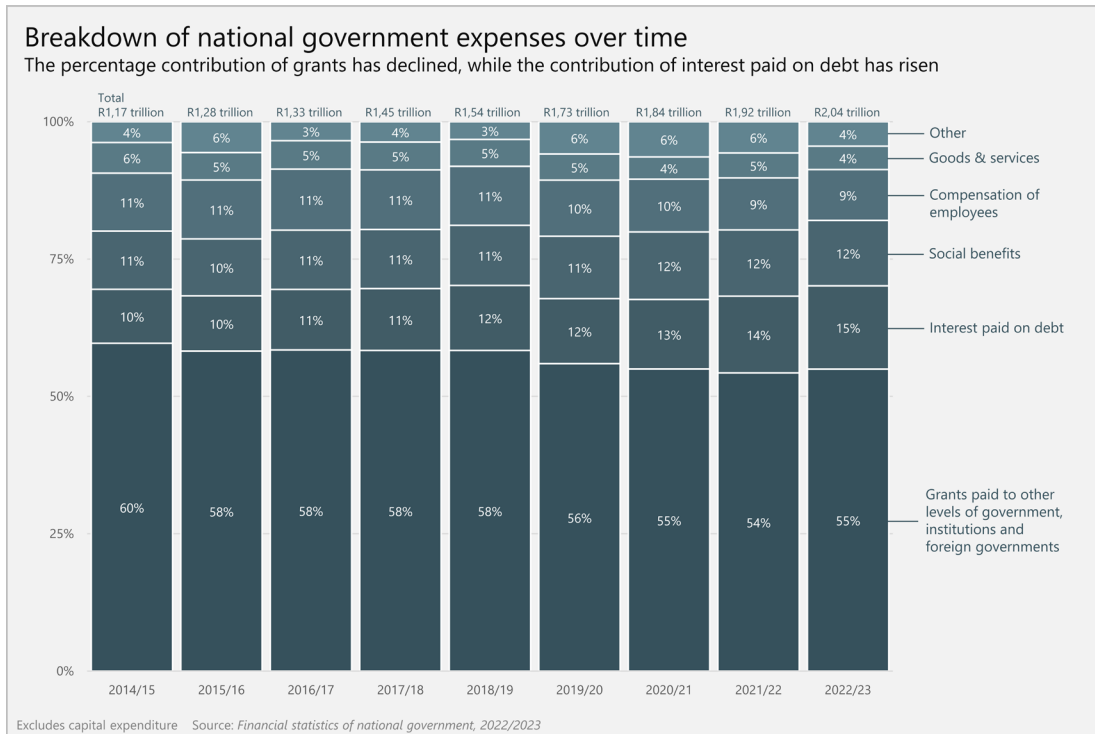
The national government spent R2,04 trillion in the 2022/23 financial year.

Just over half of total expenses in 2022/23 was allocated to grants paid to other levels of government, institutions and foreign governments. Not to be confused with social grants, this line item represents financial transfers that flow from national government to these institutions.

The contribution of interest paid on debt increased from 10% in 2014/15 to 15% in 2022/23. In fact, in rand terms, interest paid on debt more than doubled in the 2014/15 to 2022/23 period, from R114,8 billion to R308,5 billion.

Social benefits represented the third largest line item in 2022/23 after grants and interest paid on debt. The bulk of this allocation was for the country's social grant programme.

Click [here](#) to read more.



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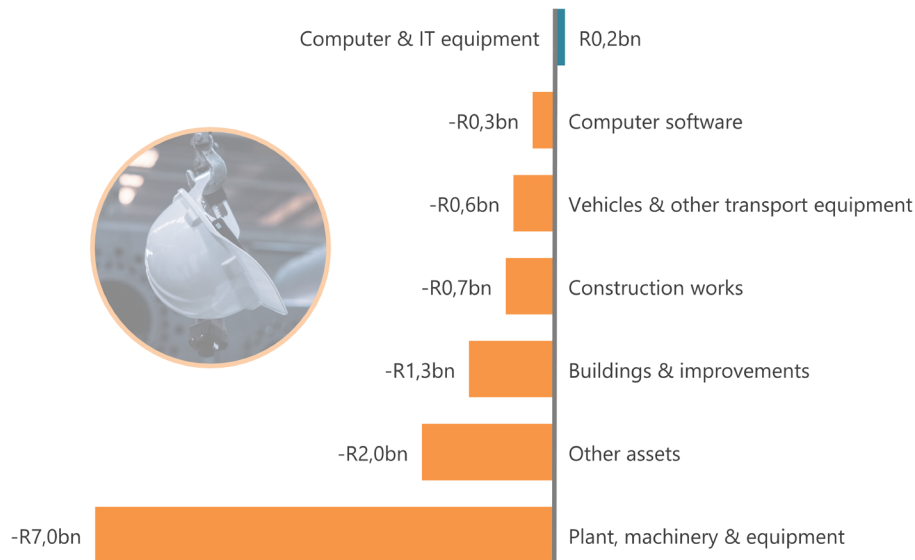
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Infographic of the month

Total capital expenditure in the formal business sector declined in Q1: 2024 Change in capital expenditure in Q1: 2024 compared with Q4: 2023 by asset type



Total capital expenditure was down R11,8 billion (-12,4%) Source: Quarterly capital expenditure (QCE), March 2024
Excludes agriculture, financial intermediation, insurance, pension funding, business services not elsewhere classified, government and educational institutions
Download the release [here](#)



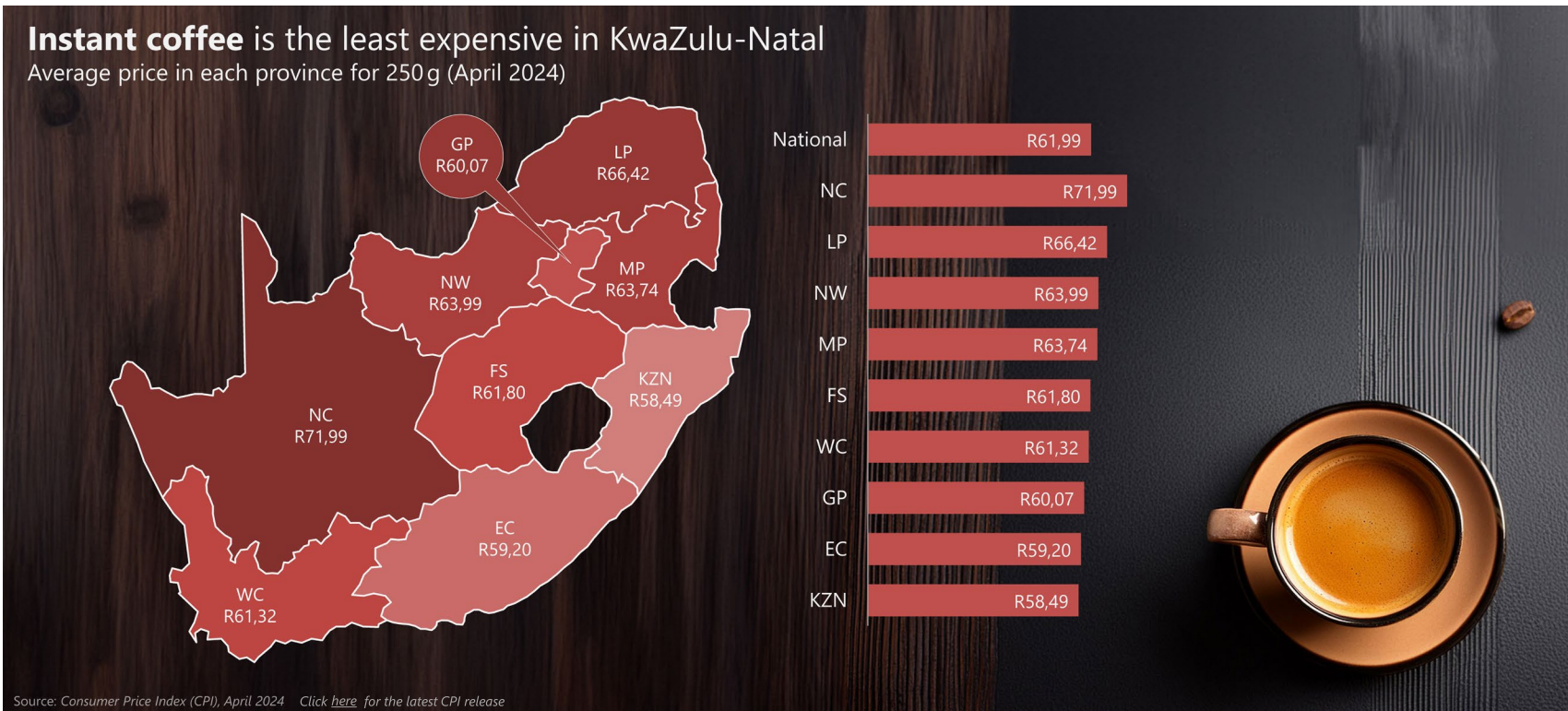
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Provincial snapshot



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