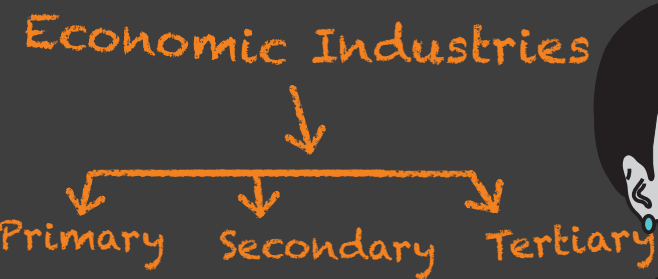


Mbalo Brief

the missing piece of the puzzle

September 2024



Issue 08/2024

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



stats sa

Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



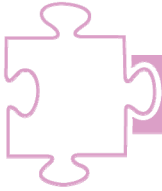
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Editor's Comment



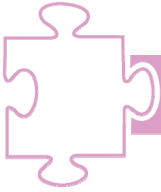
For the fourth consecutive month, fuel prices have been steadily declining after a period of sharp increases. The rising costs of fuel during the earlier months of the year dealt a major blow to many motorists. On 4 September 2024, the price of both grades of fuel decreased by 92 cents per litre, while diesel came down by between 79 cents for the 500 parts per million (500 ppm) and R1,05 for the 50 parts per million (50 ppm). Lower, stable fuel prices play a crucial role in decreasing inflation and the price of goods and other services, offering a much-needed break to consumers who are experiencing ongoing economic pressures. Lower fuel prices are good; apart from the immediate impact of buying cheaper fuel, inflation may drop and interest rate hikes may be halted.

On a statistical note, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) published the *Victims of Crime Survey* (statistical release P0341) on 27 August 2024. The Victims of Crime Survey is a household-based survey that collects data on the prevalence of crime within South Africa. For more details on this release, please visit:

https://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1856&PPN=P0341&SCH=73921.

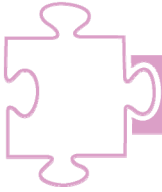
This month's feature article is based on the *Census 2022 provincial profile: Mpumalanga* (Report No. 03-01-77), published by Stats SA on 27 June 2024. Look out for our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for August 2024 as well. Articles published in this issue are based on the results of industry surveys conducted for June and July 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 Puzzle

				1					2	
3										
							4			
	5									
	6									
				7						

Across

3.is an act of giving a certain amount of money to someone who has provided a service, especially in a hotel or restaurants. [Read Food and beverages article]
4. How many provinces does Mpumalanga share borders with in South Africa?
5. Which country has pyramids older than Egypt?
6. What do you call land with water on three sides?
7. Which is the hottest continent on Earth?

Down

1. What is the most spoken language in Mpumalanga? [Read Feature article for clue]
2. What is the capital city of Slovenia?
6. South African Airways (SAA) has resumed its direct service between Johannesburg and [Read International tourism article for clue]

Solutions for August 2024 puzzle

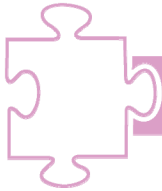
Across

3. Coloured
4. Six
7. Mossel Bay

Down

1. Utilities
2. Gold
5. True
6. Paris



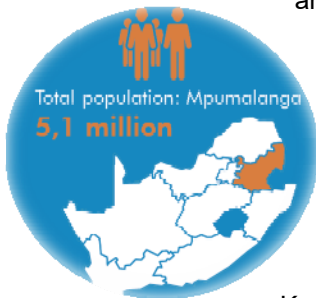


Feature article

Feature article on Census 2022 provincial profile: Mpumalanga

1. Introduction

Mpumalanga, which means 'east' in the Nguni language or 'the place where the sun rises', lies in eastern South Africa. The province borders Eswatini and Mozambique, and shares borders with



Limpopo to the north, KwaZulu-Natal to the south, Gauteng to the west and Free State to the southwest. Mpumalanga is the second-smallest province by land area, covering an area of 76 495 km² of the total surface area of South Africa. The province is rich in coal reserves and home to South Africa's major coal-fired power stations such as Arnot, Camden, Duvha, Grootvlei, Hendrina, Kendal, Komati and Kriel. Mbombela (previously Nelspruit)

is the capital of the province and the administrative and business centre of the Lowveld. Other major cities and towns include eMalahleni (previously Witbank), Standerton, Mkhondo (previously Piet Retief), Malelane, Ermelo, Barberton and Sabie. The best-performing sectors in the province include mining, manufacturing and services. Tourism and agro-processing are potential growth sectors. Agriculture in Mpumalanga is characterised by a combination of commercialised farming, subsistence and livestock farming, and emerging crop farming. Crops such as subtropical fruits, nuts, citrus, cotton, tobacco, wheat, vegetables, potatoes, sunflowers and maize are produced in the region.

This feature article is based on the *Census 2022 provincial profile: Mpumalanga* (Report No. 03-01-77), published by 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. The article will focus on population dynamics, marital status and education, among others.

2. Population statistics

This section will look at the annual population growth rates across all four censuses, starting from 1996 to 2022.

Table 1: Population distribution and growth rate by province, Census 1996–2022

Province	Census 1996	Census 2001	Growth rate (1996-2001)	Census 2011	Growth rate (2001-2011)	Census 2022	Growth rate (2011-2022)
Western Cape	3 956 875	4 524 335	2,7	5 822 734	2,5	7 433 020	2,4
Eastern Cape	6 147 244	6 278 651	0,4	6 562 053	0,4	7 230 204	0,9
Northern Cape	1 011 864	991 919	-0,4	1 145 861	1,4	1 355 945	1,6
Free State	2 633 504	2 706 775	0,5	2 745 590	0,1	2 964 412	0,7
KwaZulu-Natal	8 572 302	9 584 129	2,2	10 267 300	0,7	12 423 907	1,9
North West	2 726 828	2 984 098	1,8	3 509 953	1,6	3 804 548	0,8
Gauteng	7 834 620	9 388 854	3,6	12 272 263	2,7	15 099 422	2,0
Mpumalanga	3 124 203	3 365 554	1,5	4 039 939	1,8	5 143 324	2,3
Limpopo	4 576 133	4 995 462	1,8	5 404 868	0,8	6 572 721	1,9
South Africa	40 583 573	44 819 778	2,0	51 770 560	1,4	62 027 503	1,8

Source: Census 1996–2022

2.1 Population distribution and growth rate

The annual growth rate in the province has seen a steady increase since 1996. In the five years between 1996 and 2001 the province's population grew at an annual growth rate of 1,5, which was on average lower than the country's 2,0 annual growth rate. Between 2001 to 2011 and 2011 to 2022 the province's population grew by an annual rate of 1,8 and 2,3, respectively.

Census 2022 results indicate that the population in the province increased by over one million, from approximately four million in 2011 to over 5,1 million in 2022 at an annual growth rate of 2,3%. The Ehlanzeni district was the largest district in the province by population size since 1996. The annual growth rate in the

district was 2,9%, compared to 2,0% and 1,9% in Gert Sibande district and Nkangala district, respectively, between 2011 and 2022. In the same period, Dipaleseng local municipality experienced a negative growth rate of -1,6%, on the other hand, Nkomazi and Mkhondo local municipalities recorded the highest annual growth rates at 4,0% and 3,8%, respectively.

2.2 Population density per square kilometre

Population density is measured as the number of persons per land area. It informs us of the relationship between increasing population and the environment expressed in terms of square kilometres. It should be noted that as the population increases for a particular area, it might impact the environment either positively or negatively on aspects such as the provision of services.

The population density in the province increased from 53 in 2011 to 67 persons per square kilometre in 2022. Dr. JS Moroka Local Municipality had the highest population density compared with all other local municipalities in the province at 176 and 229 persons per square kilometre in 2011 and 2022, respectively. On the other hand, Emakhazeni had the lowest population density with 10 persons per square kilometre in 2011; this increased to 11 persons per square kilometre in 2022. Dr. JS Moroka, Emalahleni, Thembisile and Govan Mbeki were the only local municipalities with population densities of more than 100 persons per square kilometre in 2011, and this pattern remained similar in 2022. Furthermore, in 2022 Nkomazi Local Municipality (124 persons per square kilometre) and City of Mbombela (115 persons per square kilometre) recorded high increases in their population density which saw them breach the 100 persons per square kilometre mark.

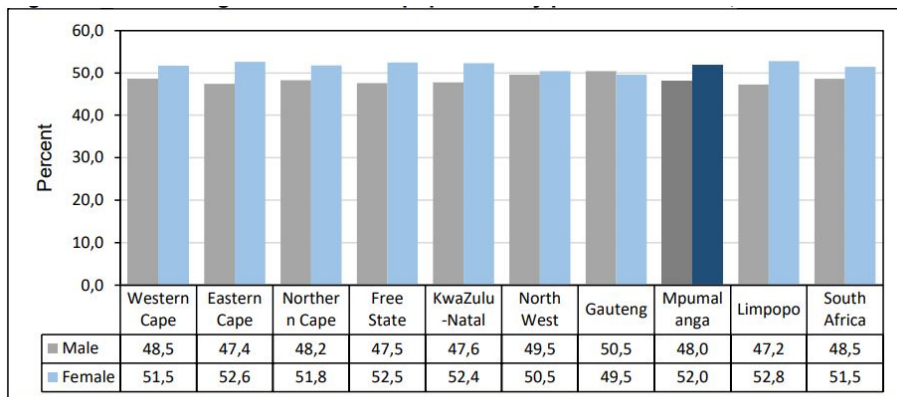
2.3 Age and sex structure

The South African population has a higher share of females (51,5%) than males (48,5%). Mpumalanga depicts a similar pattern to that of South Africa with 52% females and 48% males.

The age and sex structure of the population shows the number of females and males in different age groups. This is important as it enlightens us about the population composition of the province. The age structure is subdivided into three categories of functional groups that share similar characteristics within a community that includes children (0–14), the working-age group

(15–64) and those aged 65 years and older. These functional groups are used to compute the age dependency ratio indicator in the province.

Figure 1: Percentage distribution of population by province and sex, Census 2022



Source: Census 2022

The results show a decrease in the proportion of the population aged between 0 and 29 years in 2022 compared with 2011. However, in the same period there was an increase among those aged 30–69 years. Furthermore, the proportions remained unchanged for those aged between 70 and 79, whilst the proportions of those aged 80 years and older decreased slightly in 2022.

2.4 Dependency ratio by district and local municipality, Census 2011–2022

The dependency ratio is a demographic measure that is expressed as the average number of economic dependants (children aged 0–14 and those aged 65 and older) per 100 working-age population (15–64 years). The results indicate that the dependency ratio in the province decreased from 56 in 2011 to 50,6 in 2022. Furthermore, data indicate that all three districts in the province experienced a decrease in the dependency ratio, with the largest observed in the Gert Sibande district from 56,5 in 2011 to 47,9 in 2022. Furthermore, all the local municipalities in the province, with the exception of two, experienced a decrease in the dependency ratio. Emalahleni Local Municipality recorded an increase from 40,4 in 2011 to

42,3 in 2022 while Thaba Chweu increased from 43 to 45,7 over the same period.

2.5 Population group

Census 2022 results show that in 2002 over 95% of the population in Mpumalanga were black African (90,7% in 2011 and 95,3% in 2022), followed by white (7,5% in 2011 and 3,6% in 2022). On the other hand, the coloured and Indian/Asian population groups constituted the least (0,9% in 2011 and 0,6% in 2022, and 0,7% and 0,5% in 2011 and 2022, respectively).

2.6 Marital status

The marital status variable assists in providing valuable information pertaining to relationship status and family structure of the population. Generally, marital status questions were asked from persons aged 12 years and older. The results indicate that over two-thirds (67,9%) of the population in the province never married, while 19,3% were legally married and 8,7% were living together like husband and wife/partners. Also, the data indicate that 3% of the population in the province reported that they were widowed while 0,8% and 0,3% reported that they were divorced and separated but still legally married, respectively.

Furthermore, Mkhondo Local Municipality reported the highest proportion of persons who were never married at 79,2%; Steve Tshwete reported the lowest at 59,3%. On the contrary, the Nkomazi Local Municipality (14,1%) had the lowest proportion of persons who were married, while Steve Tshwete reported the highest at 28,8%. Steve Tshwete Local Municipality also reported the highest proportion of divorced persons (1,5%), while Dr. JS Moroka and Dipaleseng local municipalities reported the highest proportions of those who were widowed at 4,2% and 4,1%, respectively.

2.7 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. Questions on spoken language included in a population and housing census provide information that informs planners, policy-makers and researchers on language dynamics.

In 2011, Siswati (27,6%) was the most spoken language in Mpumalanga, followed by isiZulu (24,1%), Xitsonga (10,4%) and isiNdebele (10,1%). The 2022 results show similar patterns even though Sepedi (10,3%) surpassed isiNdebele (9,9%) as the fourth spoken language in the province. In 2022, the following spoken languages decreased in the province: Afrikaans (from 7,3% in 2011 to 3,2% in 2022), English (from 3,1% in 2011 to 1,5% in 2022), Setswana (from 1,8% in 2011 to 1,6% in 2022) and isiXhosa (from 10,6% in 2011 to 10,4% in 2022). Tshivenda and Sign language speakers remained below 1% in both censuses, from 0,2% in 2011 to 0,3% in 2022 and 0,0% in 2011 and 0,2% in 2022, respectively.



Shona, Portuguese and Chichewa/Chewa/Nyanja/Chinyanja are foreign languages that were included in the Census 2022 list of languages spoken in the country. Pre-censal tests and the census pilot recorded a large number of these language speakers, which necessitated their inclusion in the main census. These are languages most often spoken in neighbouring countries such as Zimbabwe and Mozambique. In the province, it was reported that 0,6%, 0,5% and 0,1% of persons spoke Shona, Portuguese and Chichewa/Chewa/Nyanja/Chinyanja, respectively.

2.8 Religion

Religion is an integral part of South Africa's culture and is a crucial part of everyday life. Data on religion highlight the diversity of the population. Census 2022 results show that nine out of 10 (89,1%) persons in the province were affiliated to Christianity, followed by Traditional African Religion at 7,8%. Furthermore, half a percentage of the people in the province follow Islam, while 0,6% did not have any religious affiliations/beliefs.

3. Education

3.1 Educational attendance

The proportion of persons who were attending an educational institution in Mpumalanga slightly decreased from 74,8% in 2011 to 73,4% in 2022. Ehlanzeni district had the highest proportion of persons attending an educational institution both in 2011 and 2022 at 76,3% and 74,6%,

respectively. These were higher than the provincial averages in both censuses.

In 2022, Dr. JS Moroka Local Municipality reported the highest proportion (77,7%) of persons who were attending an educational institution. On the other hand, Victor Khanye Local Municipality recorded the lowest percentage of persons who were attending an educational institution at 64%.

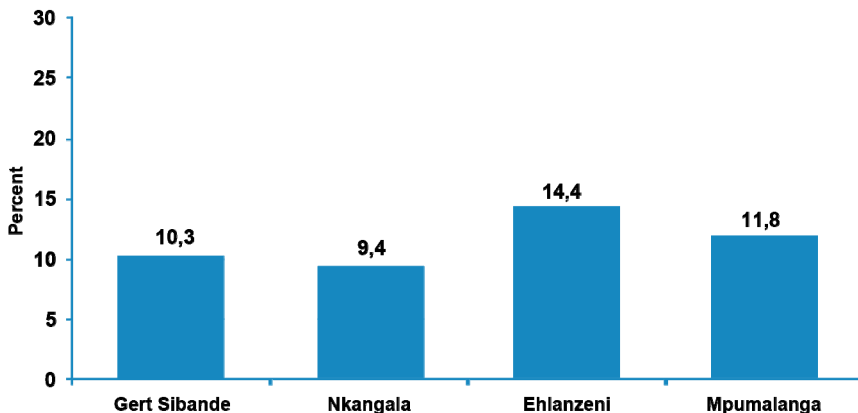
Nkomazi and Bushbuckridge local municipalities had the highest proportions of persons with no schooling at 20,3% and 15,1%, respectively. On the other hand, Emalahleni recorded the lowest proportion of those with no schooling at 5,1%. Dipaleseng Local Municipality had the lowest proportion (32,6%) of those who completed secondary education.

3.2 Level of education

The results show that 7,4% of persons in the province had successfully completed higher education. Results further show that those who completed secondary education constituted 40,5% while 11,8% had no schooling. Figure 2 shows that Ehlanzeni district reported the highest proportion of those who had no schooling among the district municipalities at 14,4%, followed by Gert Sibande (10,3%) and Nkangala (9,4%). This was higher than the provincial average of 11,8%. Steve Tshwete Local Municipality recorded the highest proportion of those with higher education at 11%, the only municipality with a double-digit figure in the province.



Figure 2: Percentage of population aged 20 years and older with no schooling by district, Census 2022



Source: Census 2022

3.3 Distribution of persons aged 20 and older by field of education and sex

Overall, the data indicated that over a quarter (26,1%) had their qualifications in the business management field while another quarter (25,1%) were in the humanities, social sciences and applied humanities field. Furthermore, one out of five (21,7%) were in the engineering and other applied sciences field. Law, and natural and mathematical sciences constituted the fewest number of persons at 2,4% and 3,6%, respectively.

The sex distribution indicated that over a third (35,1%) of males were in the engineering field compared with 10,6% females. A higher proportion of females were in the business management (30,2%) and humanities (31,1%) fields compared with their male counterparts at 21,2% and 17,7%, respectively. Less than half of males (3,6%) compared with females (9,6%) had qualifications in the health sciences field in the province in 2022.

4. Household characteristics and access to services

A household is a group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food, shelter and other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone. The delivery of housing and access to services should be

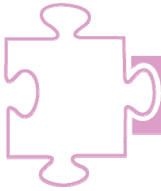
based on social justice and human rights as pronounced in the constitution of South Africa.

4.1 Household size

The results indicate a slight decline in household size in the province, from 3,8 persons per household in 2011 to 3,6 in 2022. Ehlanzeni district had the largest household size in 2022 at 4,1 persons per household. This is an increase of 0,3 in 2022 compared with 3,8 in 2011. Overall, the household size among the local municipalities in the province ranged between 2,5 persons per household to 4,5 persons in 2022. The lowest household size was recorded in Thaba Chweu (2,5), Emalahleni (2,6) and Emakhazeni Local Municipality (2,6). On the other hand, Bushbuckridge (4,5), Mkhondo (4,4) and Nkomazi (4,4) local municipalities reported the largest average household size in the province in 2022.

5. Conclusion

The Census 2022 results indicate that the population in the province increased by over one million, from approximately four million in 2011 to over 5,1 million in 2022. The results also show that the majority of the population in Mpumalanga were black African. The most spoken language in Mpumalanga was Siswati. There was a decrease in the proportion of persons who were attending an educational institution in Mpumalanga between 2011 and 2022. The results further indicate that over two-thirds of the population in the province had never married.



Primary industries

Mining: Production and sales



Gold continues to be a highly sought-after commodity (a substance or product that can be traded, bought, or sold, such as, gold, silver, diamonds, etc.). Gold is desired worldwide due to its attractiveness and symbolic meaning. This adaptable metal is flexible, good at conducting heat and electricity, and resistant to tarnishing, making it perfect for jewellery and various industrial uses. According to the Minerals Council South Africa, gold has increased its value once again, capturing the attention of investors, since 20 May 2024. The increase in gold prices has allowed South African gold producers to sustain production levels by turning small deposits into profitable ones. The latest data released by Stats SA for June 2024 on Mining: production and sales also indicate that mineral sales increased by 18,2% year-on-year, of which the largest contributor to this increase was gold with 98,3%. This article summarises the results of *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P12041) for June 2024.



Mineral sales increased by 18,2% year-on-year in June 2024 (see Table A). The largest positive contributors were:

- gold sales (98,3%, contributing 14,8 percentage points);
- manganese ore (42,4%, contributing 2,8 percentage points); and
- coal (7,8%, contributing 1,9 percentage points).

PGMs (-8,4%, contributing -2,0 percentage points) and iron ore (-9,8%, contributing -1,1 percentage points) were the largest negative contributors.

Table A – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for June 2024

	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	6,0	-2,5	-14,1	12,6	-18,6	18,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,8	-7,7	-13,2	15,8	-7,3	21,8
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	10,9	4,3	-8,6	-12,0	-12,0	4,0

¹ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three 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.

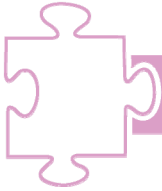
Mining production decreased by 3,5% year-on-year in June 2024 (see **Table B**). The largest negative contributors were:

- gold production (-12,6%, contributing -1,8 percentage points); and
- PGMs (-5,8%, contributing -1,7 percentage points).

Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for June 2024

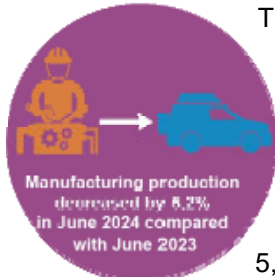
	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,4	11,4	-4,2	1,4	1,3	-3,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,7	5,1	-4,2	0,8	0,1	-1,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	0,1	-1,5	-1,3	0,3	-0,6	-0,9

¹ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three 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



The automotive division is essential to the manufacturing industry, with vehicle production playing a vital role in the economy. Vehicle production contributes towards employment, generates revenue and supports other sectors such as steel, electronics and textiles. The latest manufacturing production data from Stats SA shows that manufacturing production decreased by 5,2% in June 2024 compared with June 2023, with the motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment division (-15,6%, contributing -1,6 percentage points) emerging as one of the negative contributors. Further analysis of these results show that small commercial and medium passenger vehicles contributed -0,3 percentage points towards this decrease. One of the reasons for this performance is weaker demand for new vehicles and transport parts and accessories arising from the high cost of living and higher interest rates in the country. Mamello Matikinca-Ngwenya, FNB's chief economist, explains that consumers are either holding onto their vehicles for longer, delaying the replacement cycle, or increasingly participating in the used vehicle market as a result. This decreased the demand for new vehicles, decreasing the number of new vehicles produced and ultimately affecting the overall performance of the manufacturing industry for June 2024. This article summarises the performance of the industry in *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (statistical release P 3041.2) for June 2024.



Manufacturing production decreased by 5,2% in June 2024 compared with June 2023 (see Table C). The following divisions made the largest negative contributions:

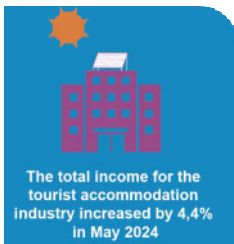
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (-8,4%, contributing -1,8 percentage points);
- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (-15,6%, contributing -1,6 percentage points); and
- food and beverages (-6,0%, contributing -1,4 percentage points).

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

	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,0	3,8	-6,8	5,0	-1,2	-5,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,3	-0,7	-2,5	5,5	-3,6	-0,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	0,3	-0,2	-1,2	-0,6	-0,5	0,9

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



The Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA) is a dynamic non-profit organisation at the forefront of advancing sustainable practices in the property and construction sectors since its establishment in 2007. Their commitment is to create greener and sustainable buildings for a better environment. According to the World Green Building Council (WGBC), a green building is one that in its design, construction and operation, reduces the negative impacts such as carbon emissions and

exposure to toxins. Green buildings are purposely constructed to benefit both the environment and the people occupying them. These structures prioritise energy efficiency, resource conservation and the use of eco-friendly and sustainable materials. At the end of 2023, the index sample comprised of 258 prime and A-grade office properties valued at R54,2 billion of which 163 were green-certified buildings. The growing demand for green building could lead to an increase in the number of building plans for green-certified buildings being passed. The data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) in June 2024 showed that the value of the building plans passed decreased by 17,4% in the first half of 2024. This article presents the results of the *Selected building statistics for the private sector* (statistical release P5041.1) for June 2024.

Buildings reported as completed



The value of building plans passed decreased by 13,4% (-R7 251,3 million) during the first half of 2024 compared with the first half of 2023 (see Table D). Decreases were reported for:

- residential buildings (-R3 567,9 million);
- non-residential buildings (-R1 875,2 million); and
- additions and alterations (-R1 808,2 million).

The largest negative contributions to the total decrease of 13,4% (-R7 251,3 million) were made by Gauteng (contributing -7,0 percentage points or -R3 786,7 million) and Western Cape (contributing -6,1 percentage points or -R3 327,4 million).

The value of buildings reported as completed decreased by 17,2% (-R4 634,6 million) during the first half of 2024 compared with the first half of 2023. Decreases were reported for residential buildings (-R2 977,0 million) and non-residential buildings (-R1 804,0 million).

Seven provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed during the first half of 2024. The following provinces were the largest negative contributors:

- Gauteng (contributing -8,3 percentage points or -R2 228,4 million);

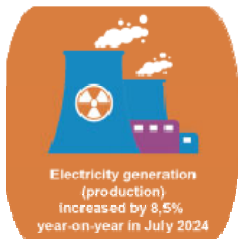
- Western Cape (contributing -5,5 percentage points or -R1 492,4 million);
- KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -1,7 percentage points or -R468,7 million); and
- Limpopo (contributing -1,4 percentage points or -R381,4 million).

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

Type of building	Jan – Jun 2023	Jan – Jun 2024	Difference in value between Jan – Jun 2023 and Jan – Jun 2024	% change between Jan – Jun 2023 and Jan – Jun 2024
	R'000	R'000		
Residential buildings	26 498 079	22 930 184	-3 567 865	-13,5
- Dwelling houses	17 470 723	14 254 724	-3 215 999	-18,4
- Flats and townhouses	8 635 228	7 898 622	-736 606	-8,5
- Other residential buildings	392 128	776 838	384 710	98,1
Non-residential buildings	12 992 975	11 117 748	-1 875 227	-14,4
Additions and alterations	14 673 055	12 864 891	-1 808 164	-12,3
Total	54 164 109	46 912 823	-7 251 286	-13,4

^{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



As the warmer months approach in South Africa, the country's electricity grid comes under increasing pressure, with soaring temperatures and prolonged heatwaves driving up demand for cooling appliances and air conditioning units. However, the country's power utility, Eskom, reassured citizens that according to its base case generation performance scenario, no load-shedding will have to be implemented for the next six months. Eskom announced this on 26 August while marking five consecutive months of no load shedding, including throughout the entire winter season. The improvement in the performance of its coal-fired power stations means that it is likely to generate sufficient electricity to meet demand. Data from Stats SA show that electricity production increased by 8,5% year-on-year in July 2024, attesting to the improved electricity supply in the country. This article summarises the results of *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (statistical release P4141) for July 2024.



Electricity generation (production) increased by 8,5% year-on-year in July 2024 (see Table E).

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

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	4,2	0,0	5,7	5,5	5,4	8,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,7	0,0	1,4	-0,5	2,4	1,3
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	0,0	-0,7	1,4	1,4	2,4	2,5

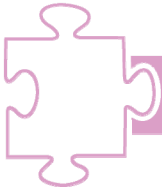
¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 6,9% year-on-year in July 2024 (see Table F).

Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for July 2024

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	5,0	-0,7	6,2	4,7	3,3	6,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	-0,6	1,9	-0,5	0,9	1,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	1,1	-0,4	0,7	0,5	1,6	1,6

¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Tertiary industries

Wholesale trade sales

A drop in fuel prices can significantly impact wholesale trade statistics, as fluctuations in fuel costs ripple through the supply chain and influence the overall performance of the wholesale industry. This is mostly because the top ten enterprises in the wholesale trade industry are dominated by enterprises that deal in petroleum. As fuel prices decrease, wholesalers of solid, liquid, and gaseous fuels and related products may experience changes in demand, sales volume, and revenue, leading to shifts in key statistical indicators such as sales turnover. For instance, the wholesale price of diesel decreased by (0,05%) from R22,15 in May 2024 to R20,96 in June 2024 while that of diesel decreased by (0,005%) from R22,24 in May 2024 to R21,15 in June 2024. This decrease was reflected in the wholesale trade sales for June 2024 when a decrease of 4,2% compared with June 2023 was noted (**see Table G**). The main negative contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-15,5%, contributing -4,0 percentage points). This article summarises the results of the *Wholesale trade sales* (statistical release P6141.2) for June 2024.



Wholesale trade sales decreased by 0,1% in the second quarter of 2024 compared with the second quarter of 2023. The main negative contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-10,7% and contributing -2,9 percentage points).

The main positive contributors were dealers in:

- machinery, equipment and supplies (6,5%, contributing 1,0 percentage points);
- agricultural raw materials and livestock (10,4%, contributing 0,7 of a percentage point); and
- 'other' goods (8,3%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point).

Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales for June 2024

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

¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated
 A full release on *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Retail trade sales



In today’s retail culture, consumers are spoiled for choice when it comes to where they shop.

Specialised and general dealer stores are a few of the many examples of stores that consumers love to shop from. While specialised stores offer product expertise and higher quality products, general dealers offer consumers a wide variety of products all under one roof. A general dealer is a store often found in places such as rural, village or township areas, and they carry a varied stock to meet the essential needs of a community.

General dealers were established in the 18th and 19th centuries where mobility was limited. Another benefit of this type of store is that it also offers discounts, making it more appealing to consumers.

According to the data released by Stats SA in June 2024, retail trade sales increased by 4,1% year-on-year and one of the largest positive contributors

to this increase were general dealers with 7,3%, contributing 3,3 percentage points. The reason behind this increase could be that general dealers provide consumers with a convenient one-stop shopping experience and they can find a wide range of products in one location, which saves them time and money. This article summarises the *Retail trade sales* (statistical release P6242.1) for June 2024.



Retail trade sales increased by 4,1% year-on-year in June 2024 (see Table H). The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- general dealers (7,3%, contributing 3,3 percentage points); and
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (6,1%, contributing 1,1 percentage points).

Retail trade sales increased by 1,6% in June 2024 compared with May 2024. This followed month-on-month changes of -0,2% in May 2024 and 0,5% in April 2024.

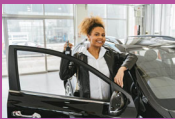
Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for June 2024

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

^{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

Buying a new vehicle offers many benefits, from the latest safety and technological advancements to the peace of mind that comes with a comprehensive warranty and maintenance support, making it more appealing to many drivers. However, in recent months the sales of new vehicles have declined. The June 2024 data from Stats SA show that motor trade sales decreased by 9,9% year-on-year in June 2024, with new vehicle sales (-17,0%, contributing -4,3 percentage points) reported as the largest contributor towards this decrease in sales. Brandon Cohen, chairperson of the National Automobile Dealers' Association (NADA) states that the reason for a decline in sales of new vehicles is that consumers are under financial pressure due to high interest rates, higher fuel costs and currency fluctuations. He further explained that consumers are buying down, or buying second-hand vehicles and even looking for alternatives like ride-sharing or delaying purchases altogether. This article summarises the results of the *Motor trade sales* (statistical release P6343.2) for June 2024.



Motor trade sales decreased by 9,9% year-on-year in June 2024 (see Table I). The largest negative contributors to this decrease were:

- new vehicle sales (-17,0%, contributing -4,3 percentage points);
- sales of accessories (-17,5%, contributing -3,8 percentage points); and
- fuel sales (-4,0%, contributing -1,0 percentage point).

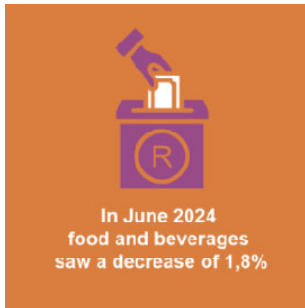
Table I – Key growth rates in motor trade sales for June 2024

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

¹ Percentage change between the previous three months and the three 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

Tipping is an act of giving a certain amount of money to someone who has provided a service, especially in a hotel or restaurants. In South Africa, it's normal to leave a tip for excellent service at restaurants, pubs and coffee shops. In some establishments, the tip is included in the bill before it is delivered to your table. This tip is usually 10% of the price of the food or drinks that you are served. Food and beverages industry is the industry where tipping is a common practice. In addition to facilities like spas and salons where employees might not



receive as much compensation, tips are also valued in hotels and serviced apartments (a fully furnished apartment, available for both short-term and long-term stays). Earning tips can motivate the employees to provide good customer service, which can increase customer satisfaction and ultimately boost sales for industry such as the food and beverages industry. The data released by Stats SA indicates that food and beverages decreased by 1,8% year-on-year and restaurants and coffee shops were the largest contributors to the decrease with 3,9% in June 2024. Despite the decrease in restaurants and coffee shops, takeaway and fast-food outlets increased by 2,0%. This article summarises the results of *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) for June 2024.



In June 2024 food and beverages saw a decrease of 1,8% (see Table J).

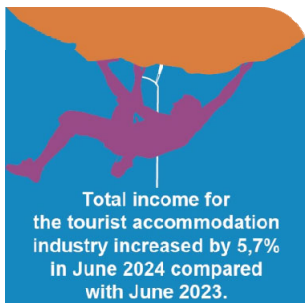
In June 2024, the largest negative contributor to the 1,8% year-on-year decrease were restaurants and coffee shops (-3,9%, contributing -2,1 percentage points) while takeaway and fast-food outlets (2,0%, contributing 0,7 of a percentage point) was the only positive contributor.

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

Type of enterprise	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Restaurants and coffee shops	-1,4	6,9	5,2	-3,5	3,5	-3,9
Takeaway and fast-foods outlets	-4,7	2,1	3,8	-5,1	3,5	2,0
Catering services	-6,7	6,7	-6,1	-1,3	-7,1	-4,0
Total	-3,2	5,2	3,3	-3,8	2,1	-1,8

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

Tourist accommodation



South Africa is one of the top places in the world for adventure travel among the top competing destinations across the globe. Adventure tourism is a major tourism attraction in a traveller’s itinerary (a plan of a journey, including the route and the places that you will visit). The United World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) defines adventure tourism as “a type of tourism which usually takes place in destinations with specific geographic features and landscape and tends to

be associated with physical activity, cultural exchange, interaction and engagement with nature. Adventure tourism generally includes outdoor

activities such as mountaineering, trekking, bungee jumping, rock climbing, rafting, canoeing, kayaking, canyoning, mountain biking, bushwalking, and scuba diving. Likewise, some indoor adventure tourism activities may also be practised.” Adventure tourism benefits the tourist accommodation by using various tourist establishments such as hotels and other accommodations such as lodges, bed-and-breakfast, self-catering, etc. According to the data published by Stats SA, stay unit nights sold increased by 0,2% in June 2024 which contributed 5,7% total income to the tourist accommodation industry. These findings indicate that the tourist accommodation industry is experiencing growth. This article summarises the results of the *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) for June 2024.



Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 5,7% in June 2024 compared with June 2023 (see Table K).

Income from accommodation increased by 8,9% year-on-year in June 2024, the result of a 0,2% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and an 8,7% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.

Table K - Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for June 2024

	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Stay units available	-0,1	-0,1	-0,2	0,0	-0,1	-0,1
Stay unit nights sold	9,9	5,2	3,6	3,9	-4,8	0,2
Average income per stay unit night sold	4,7	5,0	5,9	2,7	13,0	8,7
Income from accommodation	15,0	10,5	9,6	6,7	7,6	8,9
Total income¹	13,6	11,0	7,4	4,2	5,6	5,7

¹Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

A full release on *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

International tourism

After a four-year absence, South African Airways (SAA) has resumed its direct service between Johannesburg and Perth, offering flights three times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. SAA terminated this route in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The airline's first relaunched flight departed from OR Tambo International Airport on 28 April 2024, Sunday evening. The resumption of the route provides an easier and direct passage for both leisure and business travellers, promoting trade and cultural exchange between South Africa and Australia. According to *Simple Flying*, an online aviation publication, the Johannesburg to Perth route is popular because of the number of South Africans who live in Australia who come to South Africa to visit friends and relatives. As such, data from the Stats SA shows that, Australasia, 99,4% (9 033) had the highest proportion of tourists who came into the country for holiday purposes in July 2024, compared with other overseas regions. This article summarises the results of the *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) for July 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 2 395 815 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in July 2024 (**see Table L**). As presented in Table 1 below, these travellers were made up of 702 205 South African residents and 1 693 610 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 380 393 arrivals, 321 285 departures and 527 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 922 151, 728 642 and 42 817 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in June 2024 and July 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and transits increased for both South

African residents and foreign travellers, while the volume of departures decreased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 2,7% (from 370 442 in June 2024 to 380 393 in July 2024). Departures decreased by 24,0% (from 422 734 in June 2024 to 321 285 in July 2024) and transits increased by 1,2% (from 521 in June 2024 to 527 in July 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 5,7% (from 872 501 in June 2024 to 922 151 in July 2024), departures decreased by 2,8% (from 749 398 in June 2024 to 728 642 in July 2024), and transits increased by 14,8% (from 37 286 in June 2024 to 42 817 in July 2024).

A comparison between the movements in July 2023 and July 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents, whereas the volume of transits increased for both groups of travellers.

For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 7,4% (from 410 683 in July 2023 to 380 393 in July 2024), departures decreased by 9,1% (from 353 458 in July 2023 to 321 285 in July 2024) and transits increased by 26,4% (from 417 in July 2023 to 527 in July 2024).

For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 3,7% (from 957 501 in July 2023 to 922 151 in July 2024), departures decreased by 7,9% (from 791 520 in July 2023 to 728 642 in July 2024) and transits increased by 13,4% (from 37 750 in July 2023 to 42 817 in July 2024).



Visitors

In July 2024, 23 479 (2,5%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 898 672 (97,5%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in July 2024 but did not depart in July 2024 [358 578 (39,9%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in July 2024 and left in July 2024 [272 026 (30,3%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in July 2024 [268 068 (29,8%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In July 2024, there were 199 106 (22,2%) same-day visitors and 699 566 (77,8%) tourists. Between June 2024 and July 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 4,1% (from 207 637 in June 2024 to 199

106 in July 2024) and that of tourists increased by 9,1% (from 641 284 in June 2024 to 699 566 in July 2024). Between July 2023 and July 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 15,7% (from 236 102 in July 2023 to 199 106 in July 2024) whereas that of tourists increased by 1,1% (from 692 068 in July 2023 to 699 566 in July 2024).

Of the 199 106 same-day visitors, a majority, 178 189 (89,5%) arrived in the country by road, 20 909 (10,5%) arrived by air and eight (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 506 928 (72,5%) came by road, 192 634 (27,5%) used air and four (less than 0,1%) used sea.

Tourists

Sex and age distribution of tourists

Sex

There were more male [406 250 (58,1%)] than female [293 316 (41,9%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted most tourists for all three regions, SADC countries [317 943 (59,5%)], overseas countries [80 018 (52,6%)] and 'other' African countries [7 762 (61,9%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [216 142 (40,5%)], followed by overseas countries 72 064 (47,4%)] and 'other' African countries 4 776 (38,1%).

Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [39 973 (5,7%)] were aged younger than 15 years; [74 855 (10,7%)] were aged between 15 and 24 years; [161 807 (23,1%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years; [207 884 (29,7%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years; [131 353 (18,8%)] were aged between 45 and 54 years; 55 879 (8,0%)] were aged between 55 and 64 years; [27 813 (4,0%)] were aged 65 years and older.

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

Travel direction	Jul 2023	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	% change Jun 2024 – Jul 2024	% change Jul 2023 – Jul 2024
Total	2 551 329	2 452 882	2 395 815	-2,3%	-6,1%
South African residents	764 558	793 697	702 205	-11,5%	-8,2%
Arrivals	410 683	370 442	380 393	2,7%	-7,4%
Departures	353 458	422 734	321 285	-24,0%	-9,1%
Transit	417	521	527	1,2%	26,4%
Foreign travellers	1 786 771	1 659 185	1 693 610	2,1%	-5,2%
Arrivals	957 501	872 501	922 151	5,7%	-3,7%
Departures	791 520	749 398	728 642	-2,8%	-7,9%
Transit	37 750	37 286	42 817	14,8%	13,4%

^{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

Borrowing money may seem like a convenient solution to address financial



challenges, but it can also lead to a vicious cycle of debt, financial instability and in some cases this may lead to civil summons for debt. Private lenders (individuals, groups or organisations) who lend out money that does not exceed R20 000 can use the small claims court to recover the money lent should the debtor fail to pay it back as agreed. If the judgement is given in favour of the private lenders, the debtor must pay the money immediately. If they are not able to pay, the

court will investigate their financial position and determine a payment plan. If the debtor does not settle the dispute as agreed, the matter will be referred to the magistrate's court, for execution processes. The latest Civil cases for debt data published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) for June 2024

shows that the total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 10,9% in the second quarter of 2024 compared with the second quarter of 2023. Money lent (contributing -3,4 percentage points) was one of the main contributors towards this decrease. Benay Sager, head of Debt Busters, explains that one of the reasons for the decrease in civil summonses issued for debt is that some private lenders have decided to not pursue money owed to them using the court route as much as they used to. He also attributed the decrease to a slowdown of lending to lower-income groups. This article summarises the results of *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) for June 2024.

The number of civil summonses issued for debt



The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 10,9% in the second quarter of 2024 compared with the second quarter of 2023 (see Table M).

The largest contributors to the 10,9% decrease in civil summonses issued were:

- promissory notes (contributing -3,7 percentage points);
- money lent (contributing -3,4 percentage points);
- rent (contributing -1,2 percentage points); and
- goods sold (contributing -1,0 percentage point).

The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 5,3% in the second quarter of 2024 compared with the second quarter of 2023. The largest negative contributors to the 5,3% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- money lent (contributing -4,4 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing -2,0 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -1,4 percentage points).

The positive contributors were services (contributing 1,7 percentage points) and rent (contributing 0,8 of a percentage point).

The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 5,5% in the second quarter of 2024 compared with the second quarter of 2023. The largest negative contributor to the 5,5% decrease was money lent (contributing -6,8 percentage points). Services (contributing 1,7 percentage points) was the largest positive contributor.

In June 2024, 10 034 civil judgements for debt amounting to R267,5 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

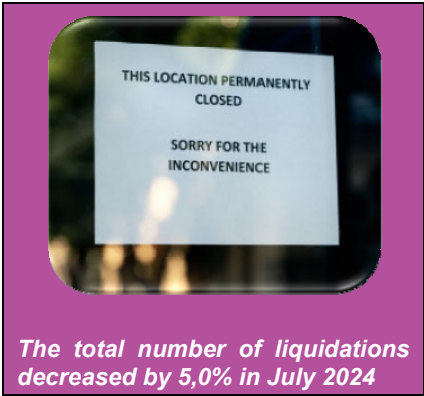
- money lent (R65,6 million or 24,5%);
- services (R60,5 million or 22,6%);
- 'other' debts (R58,5 million or 21,9%); and
- rent (R33,8 million or 12,6%).

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

Actual estimates	June 2024	% change between June 2023 and June 2024	% change between April to June 2023 and April to June 2024
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	33 315	-22,5	-10,9
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	10 034	-18,1	-5,3
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	267,5	-18,1	-5,5

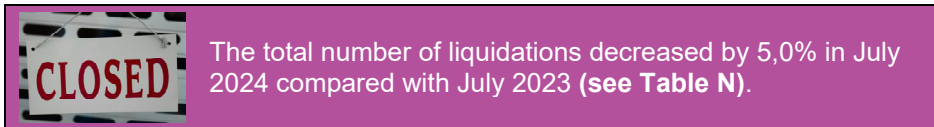
A full release on *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) is available on the Stats SA website www.statssa.gov.za.

Statistics of liquidations



Liquidation is a reality many companies are faced with due to financial difficulties. The term liquidation refers to the process of closing a company and distributing its assets to complainants, creditors and shareholders in order of priority. The data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) show that the number of liquidations decreased by 5,0% with a total of 133 companies being liquidated in July 2024. One of the reasons for this decrease might be that some companies filed for Company Voluntary Arrangement (CVA), which is

an arrangement that allows a company to pay off its debts over a fixed length of time, only if it is potentially viable. This allows companies to have extra time to pay off debts by structuring a suitable payment plan for them. Additionally, a CVA requires the company to be able to prove that based on future capital, they can afford to repay the debts owed. This option is suitable for companies that are in temporary financial trouble and whose future projections show an increase in profit and an eligibility to pay debtors. This article summarises the *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043) for July 2024.



Voluntary liquidations decreased by 7 cases during this period. The number of liquidations decreased by 9,5% (from 419 to 379) in the three months ended July 2024, compared with the three months ended July 2023.

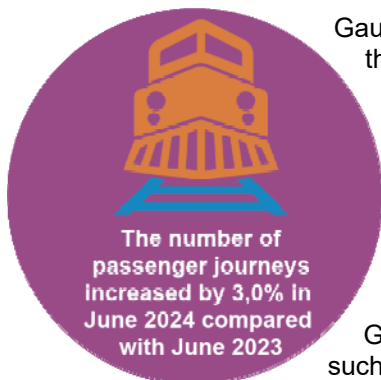
A decrease of 5,3% (from 942 to 892) in the number of liquidations was recorded in the first seven months of 2024 compared with the first seven months of 2023.

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

Number of liquidations Jul 2024	% change between Jul 2023 and Jul 2024	% change between May – Jul 2023 and May– Jul 2024	% change between Jan – Jul 2023 and Jan – Jul 2024
133	-5,0	-9,5	-5,3

^{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



Gauteng premier Panyaza Lesufi announced that there will be an expansion of Gautrain rail system during the State of the Province Address on 15 August 2024 in Kattlehong. The Gautrain, situated in Gauteng province, is South Africa's and Africa's first high-speed train. Currently Gautrain links Johannesburg, Pretoria, Kempton Park and OR Tambo International Airport. According to Lesufi, there's a plan to expand Gautrain network to other parts of the province such as Soweto, Mamelodi, Atteridgeville,

Lanseria, and Springs. The expansion will help to ease traffic congestion and provide a more efficient means of transport for commuters and tourists. The latest data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) shows that there was an increase of 3,0% in passenger journeys in June 2024. Therefore, given the growing number of passenger journeys, improvements in public transport play important role in land transportation sector. This article summarises the results of the *Land transport* (statistical release P7162) release for June 2024.



The number of passenger journeys increased by 3,0% in June 2024 compared with June 2023 (see Table O).

The corresponding income increased by 7,3% over the same period.

Table O – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation, June 2024

	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Freight payload	21,4	17,2	4,2	29,1	6,7	3,0
Freight income	13,6	10,0	3,4	17,1	11,7	7,3

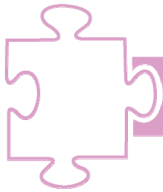
A full release on *Land transport* (statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 3,7% in June 2024 compared with June 2023 (**see Table P**). The corresponding income decreased by 0,9% over the same period.

Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation, June 2024

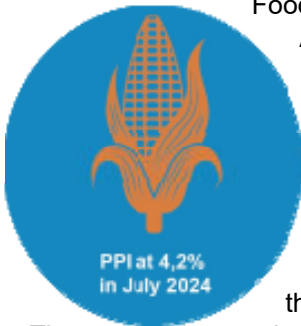
	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
Passenger journeys	-6,7	-0,1	-4,1	-6,1	-8,6	-3,7
Passenger income	-0,4	6,2	0,5	0,6	-1,1	-0,9

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)



Food prices are a significant discussion point in South African households. This is because South Africa has had a fair share of high food prices in the first half of the year. White maize is a staple crop for most South Africans, primarily low-income households, where it is used in the form of maize meal and samp. White maize prices are higher than the levels seen a year ago. The white maize spot price closed at R5 185 a tonne in June 2024; meanwhile, the yellow maize spot price closed at R3 825 a tonne.

The production of both white and yellow maize takes place in the summer rainfall season. Currently the price of maize, wheat and cereal has gone up. Due to the latest inflation, the reading of prices shows a mixed bag of price changes in a basket of goods. There are also concerns regarding white maize prices climbing further due to heatwaves, lack of summer rain and potentially tighter supplies. Lower yields and higher prices could see food inflation back on the rise. In the producer price index (PPI) maize is classified under agriculture products, which is part of the agriculture, forestry and fishing subcategory. This subcategory reported a change of 5,0% in July 2024 (compared with 9,0% in June 2024). This article summarises the results of the *Producer price index* (statistical release P0142.1) for July 2024.



Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 4,2% in July 2024, down from 4,6% in June 2024 (see Table Q).

The producer price index (PPI) decreased by 0,2% month-on-month in July 2024. The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were:

- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (increased by 5,0% year-on-year and contributed 1,2 percentage points);
- food products, beverages and tobacco products (increased by 3,5% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point); and
- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (increased by 4,9% year-on-year and contributed 0,7 of a percentage point).



The main negative contributor to the headline PPI monthly decrease was coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (decreased by 1,5% 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 4,2% in July 2024 (compared with 2,3% in June 2024) **(see Table Q)**. The index decreased by 0,2% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were basic and fabricated metals (2,3 percentage points) and chemicals, rubber and plastic products (1,1 percentage points). The main negative contributors to the monthly rate were chemicals, rubber and plastic products (-0,3 of a percentage point), and recycling and manufacturing not elsewhere classified (-0,2 of a percentage point).



Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 10,2% in July 2024 (compared with 9,2% in June 2024) **(see Table Q)**. The index increased by 9,6% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 10,4 percentage points and water contributed 0,6 of a



percentage point to the annual rate. Electricity contributed 9,1 percentage points and water contributed 0,4 of a percentage point to the monthly rate.

Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was -2,1% in July 2024 (compared with -4,0% in June 2024) (**see Table Q**). The index remained unchanged month-on-month. The main negative contributors to the annual rate were non-ferrous metal ores (-3,8 percentage points) and coal and gas (-1,4 percentage points).

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 5,0% in July 2024 (compared with 9,0% in June 2024) (**see Table Q**). The index decreased by 2,6% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (4,7 percentage points). The main negative contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (-2,7 percentage points).



Table Q – Key PPI figures for July 2024

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2023=100)			% change	
		July 2023	June 2024	July 2024	July 2024 vs. June 2024	July 2024 vs. July 2023
Final manufactured goods	100,00	97,7	102,0	101,8	-0,2	4,2
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	100,8	105,2	105,	-0,2	4,2
Electricity and water	100,00	134,9	140,2	153,6	9,6	10,2
Mining	100,00	105,0	102,8	102,8	0,0	-2,1
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	91,4	98,6	96,0	-2,6	5,0

A full release on *Producer price index* (statistical release P0142.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Consumer price index (CPI)



The latest data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) reveals that the consumer price index (CPI) slowed from 5,1% in June 2024 to 4,6% in July 2024. This is the first time CPI recorded a low inflation rate after 10 months (from September 2023 to June 2024) during which it ranged from 5% to 6%. The last time the CPI recorded 4% rate was in July and August 2023 at 4,7% and 4,8%, respectively. The July 2024 inflation rate is also the lowest it has been in three years since July 2021 when the rate was likewise 4,6%. A drop in inflation means that prices are now rising slowly and consumers are able to buy more goods and services. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Consumer price index* (statistical release P0141) for July 2024.

Headline CPI for all urban areas



Annual consumer price inflation was 4,6% in July 2024, down from 5,1% in June 2024 (see Table R). The CPI increased by 0,4% month-on-month in July 2024. The main contributors to the 4,6% annual inflation rate were:

- housing and utilities (increased by 5,3% year-on-year and contributed 1,3 percentage points);
- miscellaneous goods and services (increased by 7,0% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point);
- food and non-alcoholic beverages (increased by 4,5% year-on-year and contributed 0,8 of a percentage point); and
- transport (increased by 4,2% year-on-year and contributed 0,6 of a percentage point).

In July 2024, the annual inflation rate of:

- goods was 4,6%, down from 5,5% in June 2024; and
- services was 4,7%, up from 4,6% in June 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	115,4	115,9..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rate	5,3	5,6	5,3	5,2	5,2	5,1	4,6..	..	..	..	..	..	..

^{1/}Annual average. 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 the existing residence. Out-buildings and garages are included.

Other residential buildings: include institutions for the disabled, boarding houses, old age homes, hostels, hotels, 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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