Electricity, gas and water supply, 2010

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1. Summary of findings for the year 2010

The total income for the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2010 was R108 628 million. The largest contributor to the total income was ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ (R77 441 million or 71%), followed by ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ (R16 504 million or 15%), ‘distribution of purchased electricity only’ (R8 674 million or 8%) and ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ (R6 009 million or 6%) (Figure 1 and Table 2, page 6).

The profit margin for the electricity, gas and water supply industry was 9,4% in 2010. ‘Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ had the highest profit margin at 21,1%, followed by ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ at 9,2% and ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ at 8,9% (Figure 2 and Table 1, page 5).
Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2010 amounted to R100 923 million. The largest contributor to the total expenditure was ‘purchases’ (R45 075 million or 44%), followed by ‘salaries and wages’ (R17 674 million or 18%), ‘depreciation’ (R7 269 million or 7%) and ‘losses on foreign exchange’ (R6 639 million or 7%) (Figure 3 and Table 3, page 7-8).

The total capital expenditure on new assets in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2010 was R60 738 million. The largest contributor to the total capital expenditure on new assets was ‘capital work in progress’ (R37 309 million or 61%), followed by ‘plant, machinery and other office equipment’ (R18 778 million or 31%) and ‘land, buildings and construction’ (R2 394 million or 4%) (Figure 4 and Table 7, page 12).
The total number of persons employed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry at the end of June 2010 was 53 462. ‘Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ employed the largest number of persons (38 332 or 71%), followed by ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ (12 171 or 23%), ‘distribution of purchased electricity only’ (2 544 or 5%) and ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ (415 or 1%) (Figure 5 and Table 8, page 13).

The proportion of males out of the total persons employed was 71% and that of females was 29%. The industry with the highest proportion of males employed was ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ (76%), whilst ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ had the highest proportion of females employed (30%) (Figure 6 and Table 8, page 13).
## 2. Tables

### Table 1 – Principal statistics in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Total income</th>
<th>Total expenditure</th>
<th>Total value of opening inventory</th>
<th>Total value of closing inventory</th>
<th>Net profit before tax</th>
<th>Carrying value of fixed assets at the beginning of the financial year</th>
<th>Carrying value of fixed assets at the end of the financial year</th>
<th>Capital expenditure on new assets</th>
<th>Profit margin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>77 441</td>
<td>73 565</td>
<td>6 522</td>
<td>7 386</td>
<td>4 740</td>
<td>139 975</td>
<td>189 289</td>
<td>57 037</td>
<td>8,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>8 674</td>
<td>8 171</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>6 070</td>
<td>8 763</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>5,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>6 009</td>
<td>4 081</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1 872</td>
<td>2 094</td>
<td>1 056</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>21,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>16 504</td>
<td>15 106</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>1 420</td>
<td>20 780</td>
<td>22 317</td>
<td>2 606</td>
<td>9,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>108 628</td>
<td>100 923</td>
<td>6 965</td>
<td>7 784</td>
<td>8 524</td>
<td>168 919</td>
<td>221 425</td>
<td>60 738</td>
<td>9,4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2 – Income in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Sales and services</th>
<th>Profit on financial and other assets</th>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Profit on financial and other liabilities label</th>
<th>Other income</th>
<th>Total income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>71 789</td>
<td>2 579</td>
<td>1 696</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>77 441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>8 527</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8 674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>5 971</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6 009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>15 123</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>521</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>16 504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101 410</td>
<td>2 924</td>
<td>2 243</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>1 418</td>
<td>108 628</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3 – Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Purchases</th>
<th>Salaries and wages</th>
<th>Depreciation</th>
<th>Loss on foreign exchange</th>
<th>Repair and maintenance</th>
<th>Interest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>29 355</td>
<td>14 186</td>
<td>6 129</td>
<td>6 580</td>
<td>5 529</td>
<td>3 027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>5 404</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>3 491</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>6 825</td>
<td>2 641</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>45 075</td>
<td>17 674</td>
<td>7 269</td>
<td>6 639</td>
<td>6 248</td>
<td>4 415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3 – Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 (concluded)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Administration and management fees</th>
<th>Losses on assets</th>
<th>Water and electricity</th>
<th>Other expenditure</th>
<th>Total expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R million</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>1 802</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>6 172</td>
<td>73 565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>8 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>4 081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>731</td>
<td>1 211</td>
<td>1 570</td>
<td>15 106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1 968</td>
<td>1 882</td>
<td>1 340</td>
<td>8 413</td>
<td>100 923</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 4 – Carrying value of assets as at the end of financial year in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Land, buildings and construction</th>
<th>Computers, network and other IT equipment</th>
<th>Motor vehicles and other transport</th>
<th>Plant, machinery and other office equipment</th>
<th>Intangible assets</th>
<th>Other assets</th>
<th>Total carrying value of fixed assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>3 916</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3 573</td>
<td>97 372</td>
<td>1 198</td>
<td>83 229</td>
<td>189 289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7 972</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>8 763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>1 056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>7 239</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>10 823</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>3 394</td>
<td>22 317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11 389</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>3 724</td>
<td>116 774</td>
<td>2 050</td>
<td>87 191</td>
<td>221 425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5 – Details of assets in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Current assets</th>
<th>Non-current assets</th>
<th>Total assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bank</td>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>Inventory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R million</td>
<td>R million</td>
<td>R million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>14 992</td>
<td>8 326</td>
<td>7 386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>1 247</td>
<td>1 150</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>1 165</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>3 933</td>
<td>4 265</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21 337</td>
<td>14 465</td>
<td>7 784</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Table 6 – Details of liabilities and owners’ equity in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Current liabilities</th>
<th></th>
<th>Non-current liabilities</th>
<th></th>
<th>Total liabilities</th>
<th>Owners’ equity</th>
<th>Equity and liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creditors</td>
<td>Overdraft</td>
<td>Other current liabilities</td>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>Long-term loans</td>
<td>Other non-current liabilities</td>
<td>Total non-current liabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>16 487</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>27 591</td>
<td>44 080</td>
<td>35 464</td>
<td>96 977</td>
<td>132 441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2 049</td>
<td>2 459</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>4 623</td>
<td>5 295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>6 396</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>1 370</td>
<td>7 905</td>
<td>5 371</td>
<td>1 080</td>
<td>6 451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23 793</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>31 038</td>
<td>54 972</td>
<td>41 599</td>
<td>102 854</td>
<td>144 453</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

R million
Table 7 – Capital expenditure on new assets in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Land, buildings and construction</th>
<th>Computer equipment and software</th>
<th>Vehicles</th>
<th>Plant, machinery and other office equipment</th>
<th>Capital work in progress</th>
<th>Other capital expenditure</th>
<th>Total capital expenditure on new assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>1 407</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>1 471</td>
<td>18 053</td>
<td>35 463</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>57 037</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>983</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2 606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2 394</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>1 521</td>
<td>18 778</td>
<td>37 309</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>60 738</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Table 8 – Employment in the electricity, gas and water supply as at the end of June 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of service</th>
<th>Female employees</th>
<th>Male employees</th>
<th>Total employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity</td>
<td>11 567</td>
<td>26 765</td>
<td>38 332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of purchased electricity only</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>1 886</td>
<td>2 544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection, purification and distribution of water</td>
<td>3 349</td>
<td>8 822</td>
<td>12 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15 673</strong></td>
<td><strong>37 789</strong></td>
<td><strong>53 462</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Explanatory notes

Background
The results presented in this publication have been derived from the 2010 census of the electricity, gas and water supply industry. This is a periodic census, which measures economic activity in the electricity, gas and water supply industry of the South African economy. This census is conducted on private and public enterprises operating in the electricity, gas and water supply industry.

The sample was drawn from Stats SA's business register. Stats SA continuously upgrades its business register, based on units registered for value added tax (VAT) and income tax (IT) at the South African Revenue Service (SARS).

All figures exclude VAT.

Reference period
The information was collected from enterprises for their financial year which ended on any date between 1 July 2009 and 30 June 2010.

Purpose of the survey
Results of the survey are used within Stats SA for compiling South Africa's national accounts, e.g. the gross domestic product (GDP) and gross fixed capital formation. These statistics are also used by the private sector in analyses of comparative business and industry performance.

Scope and coverage
This census covers the following income tax-registered private and public enterprises that are mainly engaged in electricity, gas and water supply:

- Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity (SIC 41111).
- Distribution of purchased electricity only (SIC 41112).
- Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains (SIC 41200).
- Collection, purification and distribution of water (SIC 42000).

Exclusions:

- Enterprises which generate electricity as a secondary or auxiliary activity for own use (e.g manufacturing companies).
- Municipalities (included in statistical releases P9114 and P9115).
- Enterprises which manufacture and distribute liquefied petroleum gas (LPG).
- Enterprises which are engaged in sanitation and other waste water treatment.

Classification by industry
The 1993 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-09-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at 5-digit SIC level (group). Each enterprise is classified to an industry, which reflects its predominant activity.

Statistical unit
The statistical unit for the collection of the information is an enterprise. An enterprise is a legal unit (or a combination of legal units) that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its activities.
The enterprises are divided into four size groups according to the value of their business register turnover. Large enterprises are enterprises with an annual turnover of R51 million and more. Table A presents the size groups defined using the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) cut-off points.

### Table A – Size groups for the electricity, gas and water supply industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size group</th>
<th>Turnover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>≥ R51 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>R13 000 000 ≤ VAT turnover &lt; R51 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>R5 100 000 ≤ VAT turnover &lt; R13 000 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro</td>
<td>&lt; R5 100 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The census of enterprises in electricity, gas and water supply industry was conducted by post, email, fax, telephone and personal visits. A population of approximately 998 enterprises was completely enumerated. The enterprises were first stratified at 5-digit level according to the SIC and then by size of enterprise. Business register turnover was used as the measure of size for stratification. The response rate was 97.5%.

Each enterprise was assigned a weight of one because a census of the industry was conducted.

A census of the electricity, gas and water supply industry was conducted; hence the estimates are subject to non-sampling errors only. Relative standard errors and confidence intervals do not apply to the census.

Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded off to the nearest final digit shown. There may therefore be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.
### Symbols and abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DTI</td>
<td>Department of Trade and Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross domestic product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISIC</td>
<td>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Income tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSE</td>
<td>Relative standard error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARS</td>
<td>South African Revenue Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Standard error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIC</td>
<td>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNA</td>
<td>System of National Accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stats SA</td>
<td>Statistics South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT</td>
<td>Value added tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nil or less than half the final digit shown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Glossary

**Current assets**

Assets on the balance sheet which are expected to be sold or otherwise used up in the near future, usually within one year. They include:

- trade and other receivables;
- cash and bank;
- inventories; and
- other current assets.

**Current liabilities**

Current liabilities are debts or obligations that are due within one year. They include:

- trade and other payables;
- bank overdraft; and
- other current liabilities.

**Employees**

Employees are those people employed by the business or organisation who received payment (in salaries, wages, commission, piece rates or payments in kind) for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June 2010.

**Leasing income**

Leasing income includes:

- leasing and hiring of motor vehicles and other transport equipment;
- leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment and vehicles; and
- rental of land, buildings and other structures.

**Net profit or loss before tax**

Net profit or loss before tax is derived as:

Total income

*plus* closing value of inventories

*minus* total expenditure

*minus* opening value of inventories
Non-current assets

Non-current assets are assets which are not easily convertible to cash or not expected to become cash within the next year. They include:

- property, plant and equipment and intangible assets;
- long-term investments; and
- other non-current assets.

Non-current liabilities

Non-current liabilities are liabilities not due to be paid within one year during the normal course of business. They include:

- long-term loans; and
- other non-current liabilities.

Other expenditure

Other expenditure includes:

- accommodation;
- advertising;
- amortisation;
- bank;
- bursaries;
- computers
- containers and packaging materials;
- donations;
- entertainment;
- excise and customs duty;
- insurance;
- leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment;
- losses on liabilities;
- losses on foreign exchange;
- mineral rights leases;
- motor vehicle running expenditure;
- paper, printing and stationery;
- railage and transport-out;
- road tolls;
- subcontractors;
- security services;
- postal and courier services;
- property tax;
- provisions;
- rental of land, buildings and other structures;
- research and development;
- royalties;
- severance, termination and redundancy payments;
- skills development levy;
- staff training (payment to outside organisations);
- subcontracting expenses;
- subscriptions;
- telecommunication services;
- travelling; and
- other.
**Other income**

Other income includes:

- profit for redemption, liquidation or revaluation of liabilities;
- mineral rights;
- provisions;
- leasing income;
- dividends;
- subsidies; and
- other.

**Owners’ equity**

Owners’ equity is the residual interest in the entity’s assets after deducting its liabilities.

**Profit margin**

Profit margin is derived as:

\[
\frac{\text{Net profit after tax}}{\text{turnover}} \times 100
\]

**Statistical unit**

A statistical unit is a unit about which statistics are tabulated, compiled or published. The statistical units are derived from and linked to the South African Revenue Service (SARS) administrative data.

**Stratum**

A stratum is constructed by concatenating the SIC classification and size group variables.

**Turnover**

Turnover includes:

- value of sales of goods;
- amount received for services rendered;
- rent and lease payments received for land and buildings; and
- rent, leasing and hiring received for machinery, vehicles and other equipment.
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