

# **Electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

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## 1. Introduction

This publication presents estimates in respect of the 2013 electricity, gas and water supply large sample survey (LSS). The reporting period was the financial year ended on any date between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013. The data for the number of employees were provided for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June 2013.

The last electricity, gas and water supply LSS was conducted in 2010 (Report No. 41-01-02 (2010)).

### 1.1 Scope and coverage

The 2013 electricity, gas and water supply LSS covers enterprises registered for value-added tax (VAT) that are mainly engaged in the following activities classified according to the January 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC), Fifth edition, Report No. 09-09-02*:

- Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity (SIC 4111).
  - Generation (SIC 41111).
  - Distribution of purchased electric energy only (SIC 41112).
  - Generation and/ or distribution for own use (SIC 41113).
- Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains (SIC 41200).
- Steam and hot water supply (SIC 41300) [not included in the report due to non-response].
- Collection, purification and distribution of water (SIC 42000).

#### The following activities are excluded:

- Enterprises which generate electricity as a secondary activity or for own use (e.g. manufacturing companies).
- Municipalities (included in SIC 91300).
- Enterprises which manufacture and distribute liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) (included in SIC 33210, SIC 61410, SIC 62399 and SIC 63500).
- Enterprises which are engaged in sanitation and other waste water treatment (included in SIC 94000).
- Enterprises which are involved in the collection, purification and distribution of water as a secondary activity or for own use.

### 1.2 Data items

The following categories of data items were collected: industrial classification, information and communication technology (ICT), details of employment, trading income, expenditure, profit or loss, details of services rendered, details of sales of goods and purchases.

### 1.3 Reference period

The questionnaires were completed for the financial year of the enterprise which **ended on any date between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013**, according to the usual reporting schedule of the enterprise.

#### *Example*

- 1 October 2011 – 30 September 2012
- 1 January 2012 – 31 December 2012
- 1 February 2012 – 31 January 2013
- 1 March 2012 – 28 February 2013
- 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013

### 1.4 Current prices

The rand values are at current prices.

### 1.5 Reliability of data

All estimates compiled for this industry are subject only to non-sampling errors because a census of the industry was conducted.

The following are some of the likely sources of non-sampling errors: sampling frame not up to date, wrong definitions and classification, phrasing of questions, non-response, processing and estimation. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by the 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.

### 1.6 Confidentiality

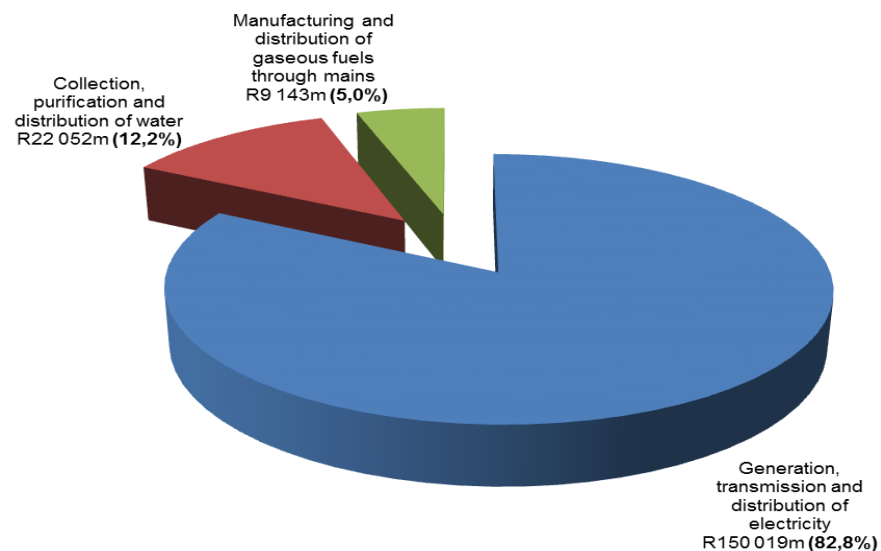
According to section 17 of the Statistics Act, 1999 (Act No. 6 of 1999), completed questionnaires remain confidential to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). Individual business information is never disclosed. Results are presented in aggregated form only.

### 1.7 Reporting unit

The statistical unit for the collection of 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. Each industry is classified to an industry that reflects its predominant activity.

## 2. Summary of findings for the year 2013

**Figure 1 – Income by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

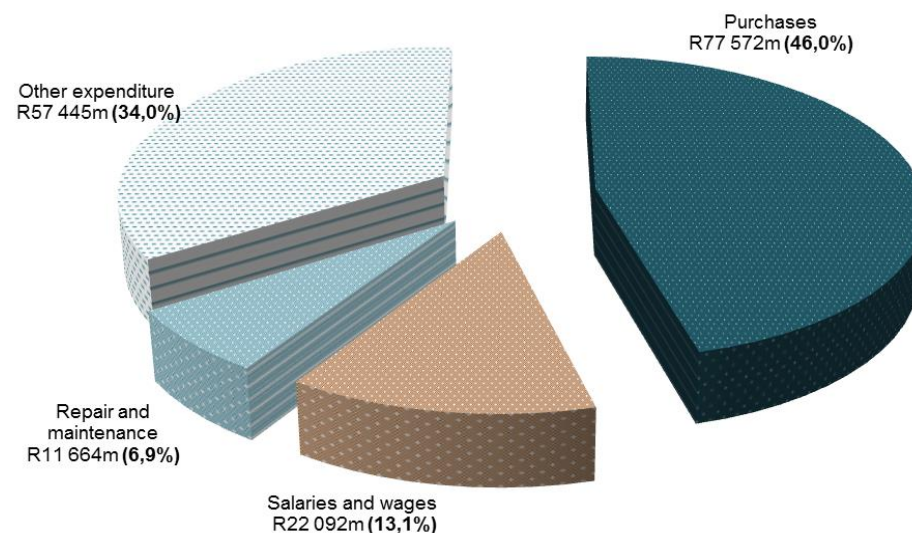


The total income for the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2013 was R181 214 million. The largest contributor to the total income was 'generation, transmission and distribution of electricity' (R150 019 million or 82,8%), followed by 'collection, purification and distribution of water' (R22 052 million or 12,2%) and 'manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains' (R9 143 million or 5,0%) (see Figure 1 and Table 1, page 7).

The total income represents an increase of 19,1% per annum over the income reported in the corresponding survey of 2010 (R107 188 million).

**Revisions:** revisions were made to 2010 results due to new information obtained after the publication.

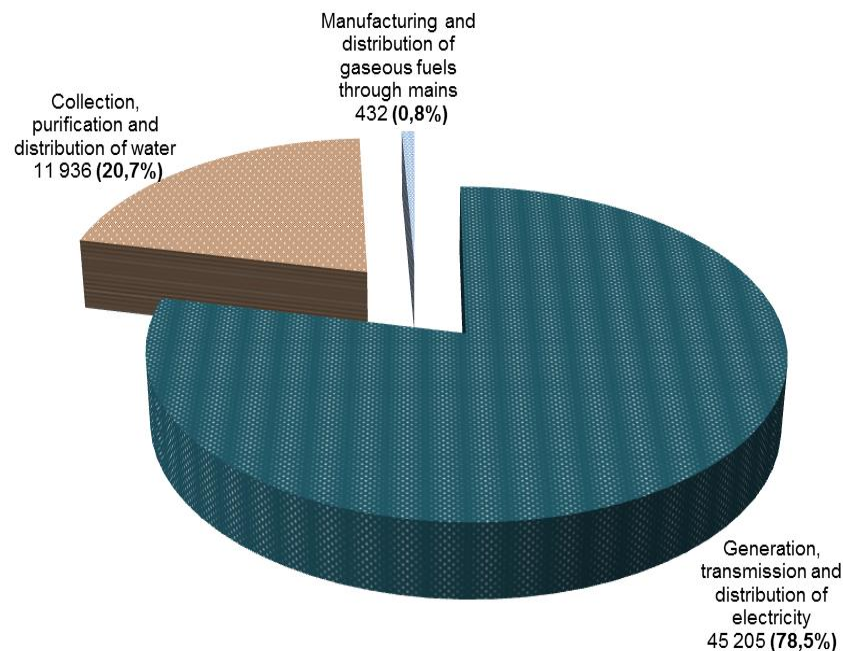
**Figure 2 – Composition of expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**



Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry amounted to R168 773 million in 2013. The largest contributor to the total expenditure was 'purchases' (R77 572 million or 46,0%), followed by 'salaries and wages' (R22 092 million or 13,1%) (see Figure 2 and Table 5, page 9).

The expenditure represents an increase of 19,4% per annum over the expenditure reported in the corresponding survey of 2010 (R99 093 million).

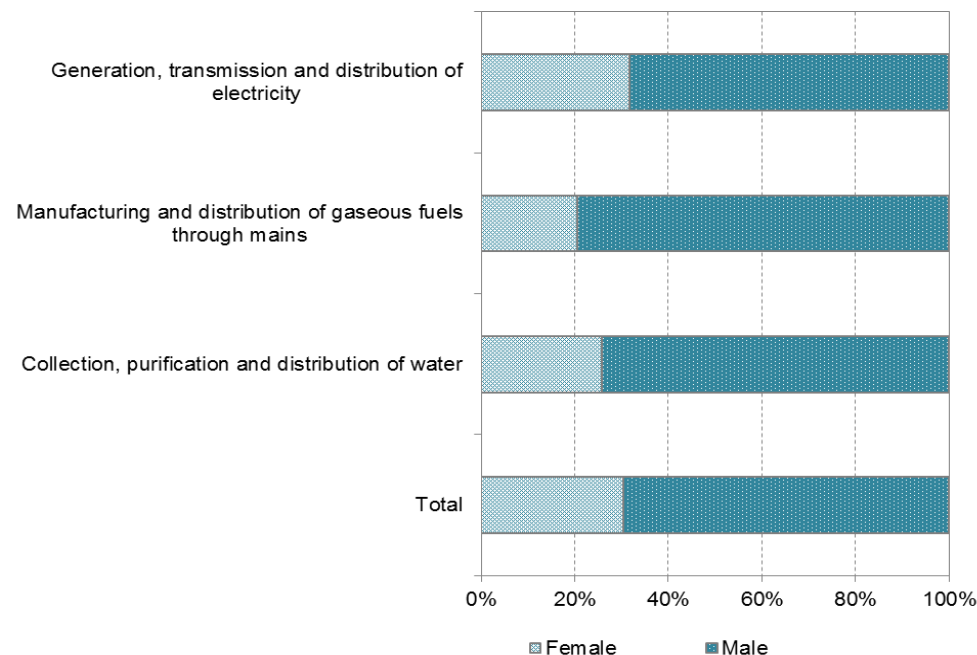
**Figure 3 – Employment by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**



The total number of persons employed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry at the end of June 2013 was 57 573. ‘Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ employed the largest number of persons (45 205 or 78,5%), followed by ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ (11 936 or 20,7%) and ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ (432 or 0,8%) (see Figure 3 and Table 8, page 12).

Employment in the electricity, gas and water supply industry increased by 4,0% per annum compared with the number of employees reported in the corresponding survey of 2010 (51 237).

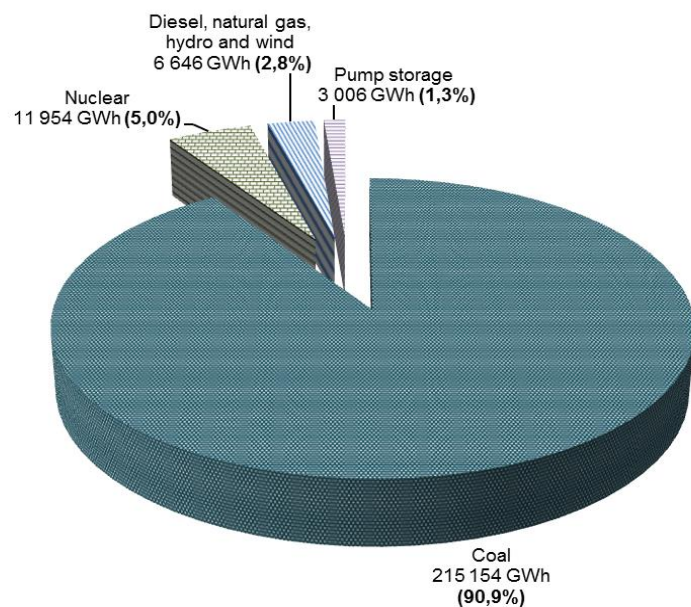
**Figure 4 – Gender ratios in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**



The proportion of females out of the total persons employed was 30,4%. The sector with the highest proportion of females employed was ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ (31,7%), whilst ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ had the highest proportion of males employed (79,4%) (see Figure 4 and Table 9, page 12).



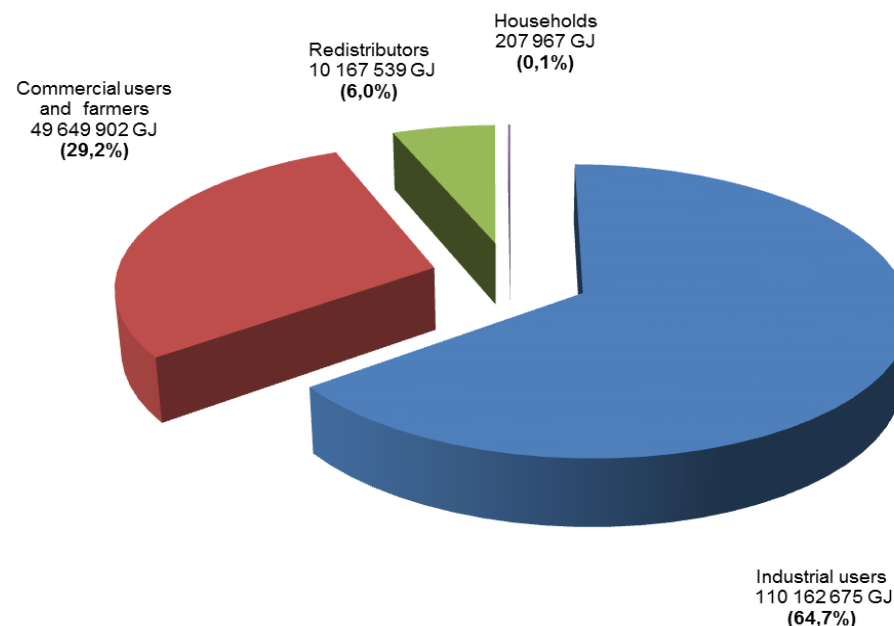
**Figure 5 – Electricity generated in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013.**



Total electricity generated in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2013 was 236 760 gigawatt-hours (GWh). The largest source of electricity generation was ‘coal’ (215 154 GWh or 90,9%), followed by ‘nuclear’ (11 954 GWh or 5,0%) (see Figure 5 and Table 10, page 13).

The total electricity generated decreased by 0,4% per annum compared with the corresponding survey of 2010 (239 474 GWh).

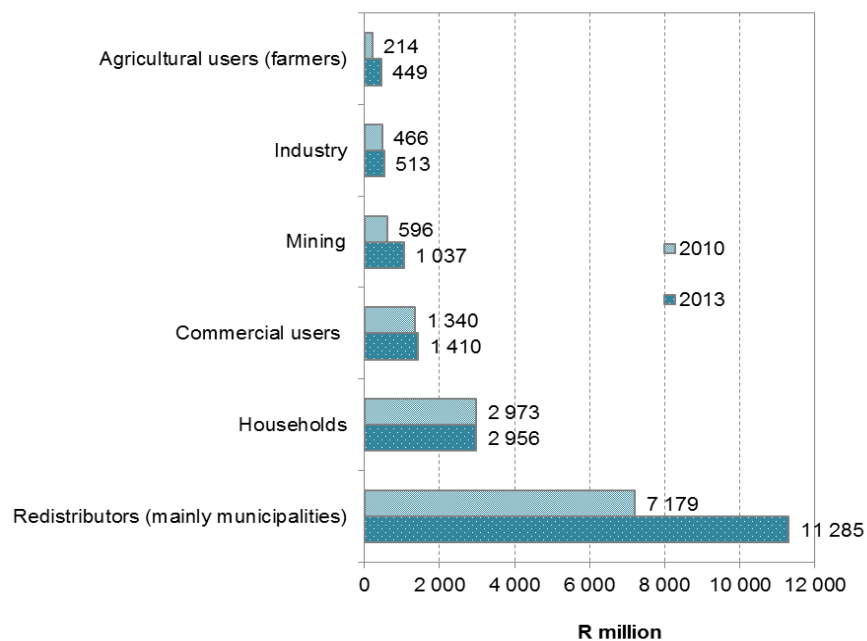
**Figure 6 – Sales of gas by customer type in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**



The total quantity of gas distributed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2013 was 170 188 083 gigajoules (GJ). The largest quantity of gas was supplied to ‘industrial users’ (110 162 675 GJ or 64,7%), followed by ‘commercial users’ (49 649 902 GJ or 29,2%) and ‘redistributors’ (10 167 539 GJ or 6,0%) (see Figure 6 and Table 14, page 16).

The total quantity of gas distributed represents an increase of 8,8% per annum over the total quantity of gas distributed as reported in the corresponding survey of 2010 (132 036 203 GJ).

**Figure 7 – Sales of water by customer type in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**



The total income received from sales of water in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2013 was R17 650 million. The largest income from sales of water was from ‘redistributors (mainly municipalities)’ (R11 285 million or 63,9%), followed by ‘households’ (R2 956 million 16,7%) and ‘commercial users’ (R1 410 million or 8,0%) (see Figure 7 and Table 16, page 17).

The total income received from sales of water represents an increase of 11,4% per annum over the sales in the corresponding survey of 2010 (R12 768 million).

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## Tables

**Table 1 – Principal statistics in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Type of service	Total income			Total value of opening inventory			Total value of closing inventory		
	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	R million			R million			R million		
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	86 332	150 019	20,2	6 619	10 025	14,8	7 471	12 211	17,8
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	6 009	9 143	15,0	104	63	-15,4	48	68	12,3
Collection, purification and distribution of water	14 847	22 052	14,1	130	291	30,8	137	362	38,2
<b>Total</b>	<b>107 188</b>	<b>181 214</b>	<b>19,1</b>	<b>6 853</b>	<b>10 379</b>	<b>14,8</b>	<b>7 656</b>	<b>12 641</b>	<b>18,2</b>

**Table 1 – Principal statistics in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013 (concluded)**

Type of service	Total expenditure			Net profit before tax			Total employees		
	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	R million			R million			Number		
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	81 495	143 339	20,7	5 688	8 866	15,9	39 756	45 205	4,4
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	4 081	6 181	14,8	1 873	2 967	16,6	415	432	1,3
Collection, purification and distribution of water	13 517	19 253	12,5	1 338	2 870	29,0	11 066	11 936	2,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>99 093</b>	<b>168 773</b>	<b>19,4</b>	<b>8 898</b>	<b>14 703</b>	<b>18,2</b>	<b>51 237</b>	<b>57 573</b>	<b>4,0</b>

**\*Revisions:** Revisions were made to 2010 results due to new information obtained after the publication.

**Table 2 – Principal statistics in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

Type of service	Total income	Total value of opening inventory	Total value of closing inventory	Total expenditure	Net profit before tax	Total employees
	R million					Number
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	150 019	10 025	12 211	143 339	8 866	45 205
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	9 143	63	68	6 181	2 967	432
Collection, purification and distribution of water	22 052	291	362	19 253	2 870	11 936
<b>Total</b>	<b>181 214</b>	<b>10 379</b>	<b>12 641</b>	<b>168 773</b>	<b>14 703</b>	<b>57 573</b>

**Table 3 – Income in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Income item	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	R million		
Sales and services	99 314	173 327	20,4
Other income	7 874	7 887	0,1
<b>Total income</b>	<b>107 188</b>	<b>181 214</b>	<b>19,1</b>

**Table 4 – Income in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

Type of service	Sales and services	Other income	Total income
	R million		
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	143 356	6 663	<b>150 019</b>
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	9 006	137	<b>9 143</b>
Collection, purification and distribution of water	20 965	1 087	<b>22 052</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>173 327</b>	<b>7 887</b>	<b>181 214</b>

**Table 5 – Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Expenditure item	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	R million		
Purchases	43 640	77 572	21,1
Salaries and wages	17 404	22 092	8,3
Repair and maintenance	6 226	11 664	23,3
Other expenditure	31 823	57 445	21,8
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>99 093</b>	<b>168 773</b>	<b>19,4</b>

**Table 6 – Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

Type of service	Purchases	Salaries and wages	Repair and maintenance	Excise and custom duty	Subcontractors
	R million				
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	63 312	18 577	11 137	8 052	5 031
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	5 242	244	70	1	0
Collection, purification and distribution of water	9 018	3 271	457	0	578
<b>Total</b>	<b>77 572</b>	<b>22 092</b>	<b>11 664</b>	<b>8 053</b>	<b>5 609</b>

**Table 6 – Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013 (concluded)**

Type of service	Motor vehicle running expenditure	Railage and transport-out	Telecommunication services	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
	R million				
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	750	184	391	35 905	<b>143 339</b>
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	4	0	5	615	<b>6 181</b>
Collection, purification and distribution of water	69	72	31	5 757	<b>19 253</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>42 277</b>	<b>168 773</b>

**Table 7 – Employment in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June 2010 and 2013**

Item		2010	2013	Annualised change
		Number		%
Permanent	Female	14 524	16 872	5,1
	Male	35 505	38 459	2,7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50 029</b>	<b>55 331</b>	<b>3,4</b>
Temporary	Female	460	530	4,8
	Male	602	1 050	20,4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1 062</b>	<b>1 580</b>	<b>14,2</b>
Casual	Female	48	82	19,5
	Male	98	580	80,9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>65,5</b>
<b>Total</b>	Female	15 032	17 484	5,2
	Male	36 205	40 089	3,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>51 237</b>	<b>57 573</b>	<b>4,0</b>

**Table 8 – Employment by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June 2010 and 2013**

Type of service	Number of employees		% contribution to total employees		Annualised % change
	2010	2013	2010	2013	
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	39 756	45 205	77,6	78,5	4,4
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	415	432	0,8	0,8	1,3
Collection, purification and distribution of water	11 066	11 936	21,6	20,7	2,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>51 237</b>	<b>57 573</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>4,0</b>

**Table 9 – Employment by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June 2013**

Type of service	Permanent employees			Temporary employees			Casual employees			Total employees	Employees from labour brokers
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total		
	Number of employees										
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	14 252	30 833	<b>45 085</b>	57	61	<b>118</b>	0	2	<b>2</b>	<b>45 205</b>	<b>607</b>
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	89	343	<b>432</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>0</b>
Collection, purification and distribution of water	2 531	7 283	<b>9 814</b>	473	989	<b>1 462</b>	82	578	<b>660</b>	<b>11 936</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>16 872</b>	<b>38 459</b>	<b>55 331</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>1 050</b>	<b>1 580</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>57 573</b>	<b>782</b>



**Table 10 – Electricity available for sale locally in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Source of electricity	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	Gigawatt-hours (GWh)		
Coal	216 285	215 154	-0,2
Nuclear	12 807	11 954	-2,3
Diesel and natural gas	6 360	5 554	-4,4
Hydro electricity	1 274	1 077	-5,4
Wind	6	15	35,7
Pump storage	2 742	3 006	3,1
<b>Total electricity generated</b>	<b>239 474</b>	<b>236 760</b>	<b>-0,4</b>
<b>Purchased from other South African entities</b>	48	3 568	320,5
<b>Imported electricity</b>	10 048	10 645	1,9
<b>Consumed in power stations and pump storage stations</b>	(3 789)	(4 255)	3,9
<b>Exported</b>	(13 228)	(13 791)	1,4
<b>Total electricity available for distribution</b>	<b>232 553</b>	<b>232 927</b>	<b>0,1</b>

**Table 11 – Sales of electricity in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Type of customer <sup>1</sup>	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	R million		
Redistributors <sup>2</sup> (mainly municipalities)	28 328	51 306	21,9
Residential	9 650	16 285	19,1
Commercial	8 458	13 779	17,7
Industrial	15 109	23 610	16,0
Mining	9 600	17 620	22,4
Agricultural	3 377	5 181	15,3
Rail transport	1 091	2 057	23,5
International (exported)	2 972	5 892	25,6
<b>Total sales of electricity</b>	<b>78 585</b>	<b>135 730</b>	<b>20,0</b>

<sup>1</sup>Eskom's classification was used for the categories of customers.

<sup>2</sup>Electricity redistributors are enterprises that buy electricity from generators for re-sale and they are mainly municipalities.

**Table 12 – Purchases of inputs for electricity generation in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Input	Unit	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	Quantity				R million		
Water	Thousand m <sup>3</sup>	317 136	335 302	1,9	1 085	1 681	15,7
Coal	Metric ton	122 951 867	154 143 607	7,8	20 949	35 657	19,4
Other inputs <sup>3</sup>					681	7 989	127,2
Other purchases <sup>4</sup>					12 019	17 985	14,4
<b>Total purchases</b>					<b>34 734</b>	<b>63 312</b>	<b>22,2</b>

<sup>3</sup>Other inputs include nuclear material, natural gas and liquid petroleum fuel products.

<sup>4</sup>Other purchases include chemicals, environmental levy and electricity purchases.

**Table 13 – Sales of gas in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Type of gas <sup>5</sup>	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	Gigajoules			R million		
Natural gas	69 112 366	140 586 831	26,7	3 485	7 057	26,5
Methane-rich gas	28 106 002	28 632 386	0,6	1 165	1 879	17,3
Synthetic gas	34 817 835	968 866	-69,7	1 220	70	-61,4
<b>Total sales of gas</b>	<b>132 036 203</b>	<b>170 188 083</b>	<b>8,8</b>	<b>5 870</b>	<b>9 006</b>	<b>15,3</b>

<sup>5</sup>Gas refers to gaseous fuels distributed through mains or pipeline network and includes natural gas, methane-rich gas and synthetic gas.

**Table 14 – Sales of gas by customer type in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Type of customer	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	Gigajoules			R million		
Redistributors <sup>6</sup>	7 970 340	10 167 539	8,5	355	594	18,7
Households	169 043	207 967	7,2	20	26	9,1
Commercial users and farmers	51 209 137	49 649 902	-1,0	2 531	3 706	13,6
Industrial users	72 687 683	110 162 675	14,9	2 964	4 680	16,4
<b>Total income from sales of gas</b>	<b>132 036 203</b>	<b>170 188 083</b>	<b>8,8</b>	<b>5 870</b>	<b>9 006</b>	<b>15,3</b>

<sup>6</sup>Gas redistributors are enterprises that buy gas from gas producers for re-sale.

**Table 15 – Purchases of gas in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Type of gas	2010	2013	Annualised % change	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	Gigajoules			R million		
Natural gas	3 231 822	3 364 717	1,4	198	231	5,3
Methane-rich gas	29 029 978	29 277 619	0,3	728	1 724	33,3
Synthetic gas	28 199 942	973 051	-67,4	534	34	-60,1
<b>Total</b>	<b>60 461 742</b>	<b>33 615 387</b>	<b>-17,8</b>	<b>1 460</b>	<b>1 989</b>	<b>10,9</b>
Natural gas (imported)	79 180 848	137 933 986	20,3	2 031	3 253	17,0
<b>Total purchases</b>	<b>139 642 590</b>	<b>171 549 373</b>	<b>7,1</b>	<b>3 491</b>	<b>5 242</b>	<b>14,5</b>

**Table 16 – Sales of water by customer type in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

Type of customer	2010	2013	Annualised % change
	R million		
Redistributors <sup>7</sup> (mainly municipalities)	7 179	11 285	16,3
Households	2 973	2 956	-0,2
Commercial users	1 340	1 410	1,7
Industry	466	513	3,3
Mining	596	1 037	20,3
Agricultural users (farmers)	214	449	28,0
<b>Total water distributed</b>	<b>12 768</b>	<b>17 650</b>	<b>11,4</b>

<sup>7</sup>Water redistributors are water service providers, water boards which buy water from other water boards for redistribution when they cannot meet their own demand, and companies contracted by municipalities to supply water on their behalf.

**Table 17 – Purchases of inputs for water distribution in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

Type of purchase	2013
	R million
Fuel	80
Bulk/ raw water	7 667
Water treatment chemicals	394
Parts and spares	124
Other purchases	753
<b>Total purchases</b>	<b>9 018</b>

**Table 18 – Key statistics by province in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

Province	Sales and services	Salaries and wages	Employees
	R million		Number
Western Cape	14 526	1 753	5 070
Eastern Cape	6 080	774	3 210
Northern Cape	4 098	262	1 427
Free State	7 816	1 103	3 698
Kwazulu-Natal	22 751	1 608	4 972
North West	11 771	462	1 943
Gauteng	79 143	9 510	21 627
Mpumalanga	15 532	5 349	11 911
Limpopo	11 610	1 271	3 715
<b>Total</b>	<b>173 327</b>	<b>22 092</b>	<b>57 573</b>

**Table 19 – Information and communication technology (ICT) usage in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2010 and 2013**

ICT usage		2010	2013
		%	
Use computer		91,6	95,5
Use internet		70,5	95,5
Use internet banking		61,1	70,5
Have web page		30,5	39,8
Receive orders over the internet		2,1	6,8
Place orders over the internet		6,3	9,1
IT outsourced		24,2	34,1
Main uses of the internet	Email	66,3	95,5
	Information services	33,7	53,4
	Business promotions (Advertising)	8,4	10,2
	E-commerce	12,6	6,8
	Other	14,7	10,2
Main activity of the web	Advertising own business	18,9	31,8
	Selling goods and services	1,1	5,7
	Other	17,9	22,7
Internet connection speed	Narrow band	8,4	3,4
	Broad band	66,3	92,0
	No internet	25,3	4,5



**Table 20 – Information and communication technology usage in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013**

Type of service	Use computer	Use internet	Use internet banking	Have web page	Receive orders over the internet	Place orders over the internet	IT outsourced
	%						
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	100,0	100,0	78,6	64,3	14,3	21,4	42,9
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0	66,7
Collection, purification and distribution of water	94,4	94,4	67,6	32,4	5,6	7,0	31,0
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,5</b>	<b>95,5</b>	<b>70,5</b>	<b>39,8</b>	<b>6,8</b>	<b>9,1</b>	<b>34,1</b>

**Table 20 – Information and communication technology usage in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013 (concluded)**

Type of service	Main uses of the internet					Main activity of web			Internet connection speed		
	Email	Information services	Business promotions (Advertising)	E-commerce	Other	Advertising own business	Selling goods and services	Other	Narrow band	Broad band	No internet
	%										
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	100,0	78,6	21,4	28,6	14,3	42,9	14,3	42,9	0,0	100,0	0,0
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	100,0	100,0	33,3	0,0	33,3	100,0	33,3	33,3	0,0	100,0	0,0
Collection, purification and distribution of water	94,4	46,5	7,0	2,8	8,5	26,8	2,8	18,3	4,2	90,1	5,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,5</b>	<b>53,4</b>	<b>10,2</b>	<b>6,8</b>	<b>10,2</b>	<b>31,8</b>	<b>5,7</b>	<b>22,7</b>	<b>3,4</b>	<b>92,0</b>	<b>4,5</b>

## Explanatory notes

### Background

The results presented in this publication have been derived from the 2013 electricity, gas and water supply industry large sample survey. This is a periodic survey which measures economic activity in the electricity, gas and water supply sector of the South African economy. This survey is based on a census of private and public enterprises operating in electricity, gas and water supply industry.

The census was conducted from Stats SA's business register, based on the units registered for value added tax (VAT).

All figures exclude VAT.

### Reference period

The information was collected from enterprises for their financial year which ended on any date between 1 July 2012 and 30 June 2013.

### Purpose of the survey

Results of the survey are used within Stats SA for compiling the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components. These statistics are also used by government policy advisers in monitoring the performance and contribution of individual industries to the South African economy and the effectiveness of industry policies, and by private sector users in analyses of comparative business and industry performance.

### 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.

### Size groups

The enterprises are divided into four size groups according to the value of turnover recorded for them on the Stats SA business register. Large enterprises are those with an annual recorded turnover of R153 million and above. Table 21 presents the size groups defined using the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) cut-off points multiplied by three.

**Table 21 – Size groups for the electricity, gas and water supply industry**

Size Group	VAT Turnover
1	Turnover ≥ R153 000 000
2	R39 000 000 ≤ Turnover < R153 000 000
3	R15 300 000 ≤ Turnover < R39 000 000
4	Turnover < R15 300 000

<b>Survey methodology and design</b>	<p>The census of enterprises in electricity, gas and water supply industry was conducted by post, email, fax, telephone and personal visits.</p> <p>A census was conducted from a frame of approximately 600 enterprises. 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.</p>																								
<b>Collection rate</b>	<p>The collection rate was 90,2%. Collection rate = ((collected units + finalised investigations) / sample size) x 100</p>																								
<b>Weighting methodology</b>	<p>All the enterprises were each assigned a weight of one because a census of the industry was conducted.</p>																								
<b>Revisions to 2010 results</b>	<p>Revisions were made to 2010 results due to new information obtained after the publication.</p>																								
<b>Non-sampling errors</b>	<p>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.</p>																								
<b>Rounding-off of figures</b>	<p>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.</p>																								
<b>Symbols and abbreviations</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">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> </table>	DTI	Department of Trade and Industry	GDP	Gross domestic product	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities	IT	Income tax	RSE	Relative standard error	SARS	South African Revenue Service	SE	Standard error	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities	SNA	System of National Accounts	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa	VAT	Value added tax	0	Nil or less than half the final digit shown
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## Glossary

<b>Casual employees</b>	Casual employees are employees who fall neither within the ‘permanent employees’ category nor the ‘temporary employees’ category. Such employees are typically working daily or hourly.		
<b>Commercial customers (users)</b>	Include wholesale trade, retail trade, motor trade, repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles, personal and household goods, hotels and restaurants, transport, storage and communication and financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.		
<b>Employees</b>	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 2013.		
<b>Gas</b>	Gas is gaseous fuels distributed through mains or pipeline network and includes natural gas, methane-rich gas and synthetic gas.		
<b>Industrial customers (users)</b>	Industrial customers or users are business enterprises which are involved in the manufacturing or production of goods as a predominant activity.		
<b>Other expenditure</b>	Other expenditure includes: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ accommodation;</li> <li>○ advertising;</li> <li>○ amortisation;</li> <li>○ bank;</li> <li>○ bursaries;</li> <li>○ computers;</li> <li>○ containers and packaging materials;</li> <li>○ donations;</li> <li>○ entertainment;</li> <li>○ excise and customs duty;</li> <li>○ insurance;</li> <li>○ leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment;</li> <li>○ losses on liabilities;</li> <li>○ losses on foreign exchange;</li> <li>○ mineral rights leases;</li> <li>○ motor vehicle running expenditure;</li> <li>○ paper, printing and stationery;</li> <li>○ railage and transport-out;</li> </ul> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding-left: 20px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ road tolls;</li> <li>○ subcontractors;</li> <li>○ security services;</li> <li>○ postal and courier services;</li> <li>○ property tax;</li> <li>○ provisions;</li> <li>○ rental of land, buildings and other structures;</li> <li>○ research and development;</li> <li>○ royalties;</li> <li>○ severance, termination and redundancy payments;</li> <li>○ skills development levy;</li> <li>○ staff training (payment to outside organisations);</li> <li>○ subcontracting expenses;</li> <li>○ subscriptions;</li> <li>○ telecommunication services;</li> <li>○ travelling; and</li> <li>○ other.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ accommodation;</li> <li>○ advertising;</li> <li>○ amortisation;</li> <li>○ bank;</li> <li>○ bursaries;</li> <li>○ computers;</li> <li>○ containers and packaging materials;</li> <li>○ donations;</li> <li>○ entertainment;</li> <li>○ excise and customs duty;</li> <li>○ insurance;</li> <li>○ leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment;</li> <li>○ losses on liabilities;</li> <li>○ losses on foreign exchange;</li> <li>○ mineral rights leases;</li> <li>○ motor vehicle running expenditure;</li> <li>○ paper, printing and stationery;</li> <li>○ railage and transport-out;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ road tolls;</li> <li>○ subcontractors;</li> <li>○ security services;</li> <li>○ postal and courier services;</li> <li>○ property tax;</li> <li>○ provisions;</li> <li>○ rental of land, buildings and other structures;</li> <li>○ research and development;</li> <li>○ royalties;</li> <li>○ severance, termination and redundancy payments;</li> <li>○ skills development levy;</li> <li>○ staff training (payment to outside organisations);</li> <li>○ subcontracting expenses;</li> <li>○ subscriptions;</li> <li>○ telecommunication services;</li> <li>○ travelling; and</li> <li>○ other.</li> </ul>
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<b>Other income</b>	<p>Other income includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ profit for redemption, liquidation or revaluation of liabilities;</li><li>○ mineral rights;</li><li>○ provisions;</li><li>○ leasing income;</li><li>○ dividends;</li><li>○ subsidies; and</li><li>○ other.</li></ul>
<b>Permanent employees</b>	<p>Permanent employees are employees appointed on an open-ended contract with no stipulated termination date or a fixed-term contract for periods of more than one year.</p>
<b>Statistical unit</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Stratum</b>	<p>A stratum is constructed by concatenating the SIC classification and size group variables.</p>
<b>Temporary employees</b>	<p>Temporary employees are employees appointed on a short-term contract basis with a stipulated termination date for periods not exceeding one year.</p>
<b>Turnover</b>	<p>Turnover includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ value of sales of goods;</li><li>○ amount received for services rendered;</li></ul>
<b>Unit of electricity</b>	<p>A gigawatt-hour (<b>GWh</b>) 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. A gigawatt-hour is also equal to one thousand megawatt hours.</p>
<b>Unit of gas</b>	<p>A gigajoule (<b>GJ</b>) is the derived unit of energy in the International System of Units (SI) equal to one billion joules (<math>10^9</math> J). A joule is the basic unit of energy and it is the work done to produce one watt continuously for one second.</p>
<b>Unit of water</b>	<p>A cubic metre (<b>m<sup>3</sup></b>) is the SI derived unit of volume. It is the volume of a cube with edges of one metre in length. One cubic metre is equal to exactly 1 000 litres. An alternative name, not widely used anymore, is the kilolitre.</p>
<b>Water redistributors</b>	<p>Water redistributors are water service providers including municipalities and water boards which buy water from other water boards for redistribution when they cannot meet their own demand, and companies contracted by municipalities to supply water on their behalf.</p>

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