The South Africa I know, the home I understand

Your monthly update on South Africa’s economic indicators

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Business profitability: a ten-year snapshot

A fall in the profit margin ratio shows how business gains have been squeezed. (Click here to read more.)

Municipal infrastructure spending on the rise

This despite tough economic conditions. (Click here to read more.)

Decline in social benefit pay-outs

Two government entities recorded a fall in benefit payments. (Click here to read more.)

How much do municipalities spend on salaries?

Municipalities spend more money on their employees than on any one of the services they provide. (Click here to read more.)

Click here to browse more headlines.
Economic indicators

**PRIMARY SECTOR**

**MINING**
- Production: \(-4.4\%\) y/y in May

**SECONDARY SECTOR**

**MANUFACTURING**
- Production: \(+4.0\%\) y/y in May
- Distribution: \(-0.8\%\) y/y in May

**ELECTRICITY**
- Sales: \(+7.7\%\) y/y in May

**TERTIARY SECTOR**

**WHOLESALE TRADE**
- Sales: \(+5.0\%\) y/y in May

**RETAIL TRADE**
- Sales: \(+4.5\%\) y/y in May

**MOTOR TRADE**
- Sales: \(+7.7\%\) y/y in May

**FOOD & BEVERAGES**
- Income: \(+2.9\%\) y/y in May

**TOURIST ACCOMMODATION**
- Income: \(+8.7\%\) y/y in May

**CONSUMER INFLATION**
- HEADLINE CPI: \(6.3\%\) y/y in June

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**ABOUT**

Click on for each indicator to access the complete report.

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

y/y = year-on-year.
Choc-flation: how much does that slab cost you?

You might have celebrated World Chocolate Day (7 July) by sitting back and feasting on your favourite slab of sugary goodness. We’ve teased out a few facts about the price of chocolate that you, as a chocoholic, may find interesting.

Ready for the bad news? The average price of an 80-gram slab has risen by 39% over the last two years. You would have paid an average price of R9.52 for a slab in May 2014. Now, in May 2016, a slab would have set you back R13.27.

Geography matters. The average price of a slab in May 2016 was highest in Mpumalanga. If you live in the Eastern Cape, then you can rejoice. On average, an 80-gram slab is cheapest in that province.

Click here to read more.
You might be surprised to learn that the South African Revenue Service (SARS) is not a national government department. It is in fact an extra-budgetary account (EBA).

The infographic shows how the financial pie is divided amongst this diverse group of 232 government funded entities. The Auditor-General, for example, receives more money from government than the Independent Electoral Commission.

EBAs form part of the general government (the other levels of government being national, provincial and local government as well as higher education institutions), and they perform an integral role in delivering services to the public on behalf of the government.

Click [here](#) to read more.
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Provincial snapshot

Your province’s contribution to SA’s economy

Gauteng remains the economic powerhouse of South Africa, having contributed just over a third to the country’s economic activity in 2014.

Recently released provincial gross domestic product (GDP) data for 2014 provides a snapshot of the importance of each province to the national economy.

Interestingly, although Northern Cape is the largest province in geographical size, covering 31% of South Africa’s land area, it contributed the least to the South African economy (2%).

Provincial GDP data are available in the GDP_annual and regional tables 2016 Excel file (Table 9). Download it [here](#).
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South Africa Demographic and Health Survey (SADHS): May to November 2016

This survey is a nationally-representative household survey aimed at providing a better understanding of the health status of the population of South Africa. The information collected will assist the Department of Health to plan and prioritise health and service delivery programmes. The survey will be done in collaboration with the Department of Health and the South African Medical Research Council.

Stats SA appeals to sampled households to participate in these surveys and cooperate with our fieldworkers by providing accurate information.