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Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

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Economic headlines

Maize to the rescue



A bumper crop in second quarter helped lift the economy out of its second recession since 1994. (Click [here](#) to read more.)

Employment woes continue



The formal sector lost 34 000 jobs in the second quarter of 2017. (Click [here](#) to read more.)

With love, from your city



Which South African metro spends the most on its residents? (Click [here](#) to read more.)

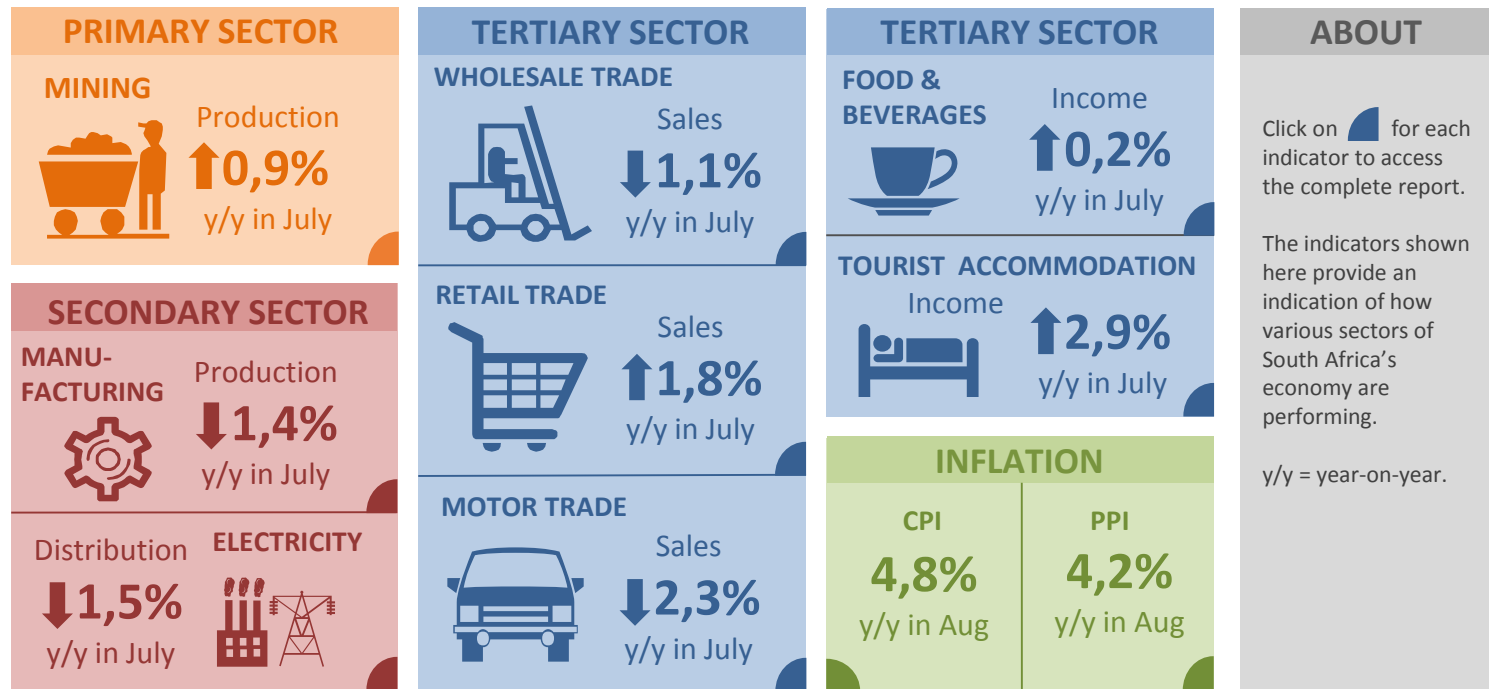
South Africans don't feel safe



View the results of the latest survey measuring our perceptions of crime. (Click [here](#) to read more.)

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

Monthly economic indicators



Feature article

Which cities have the largest (and the most expensive) homes?

If you're dreaming of one day purchasing a holiday home, and space is important to you, Durban might be the best option. On the other hand, if property costs are your main concern, East London might be a place to consider.

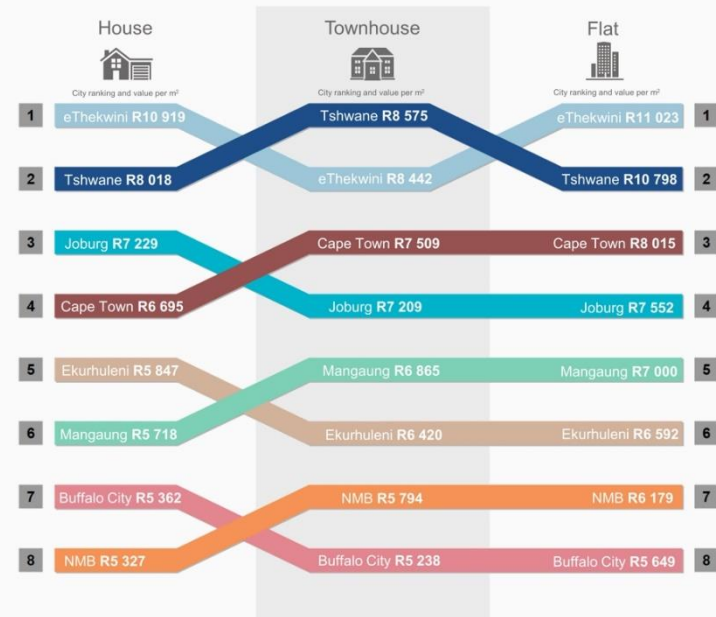
Building plans with the most generous floor area were approved by eThekweni (Durban), for houses, townhouses and flats. Over a five-year period from 2012 to 2016, the average floor area for a dwelling-house in South Africa's third-most populous city was 233 m².

Construction costs in eThekweni are also the most expensive, but only for houses and flats. Tshwane takes the top spot for townhouses; it would cost you an average of R8 575 per square metre to build a townhouse in the capital city.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Which South African metros have the most expensive construction costs?

Ranking of metropolitan councils by average value per m² for residential buildings, from approved building plans (for the year 2016)

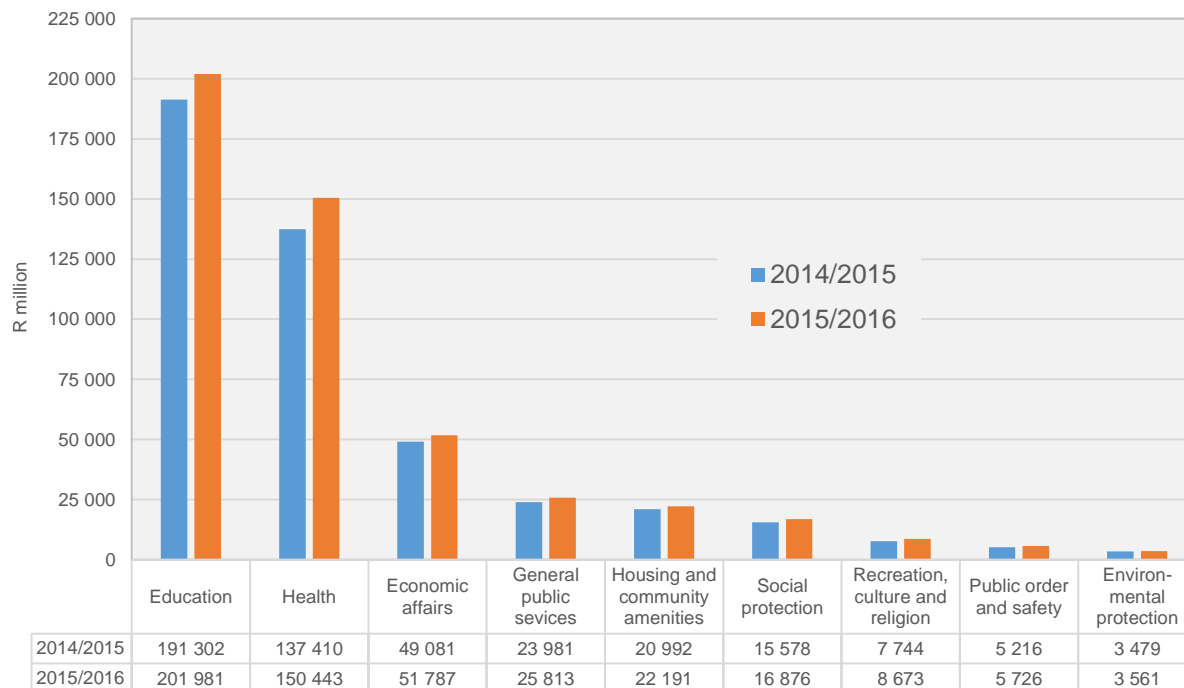


Source: Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions (P5041.3) Powered by ZingChart

Infographic of the month



Provincial snapshot



Provincial government spending

The public education and healthcare systems in South Africa are administered by provincial government. These two functions are the largest expenditure items on provincial government's balance sheet, according to data released in Stats SA's *Financial statistics of provincial government report*.

Provincial government spent R202 billion on education in 2015/16, slightly more than the R150 billion spent on health.

For more information how provincial government spends your tax money, download the *Financial statistics of provincial government* release [here](#).

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