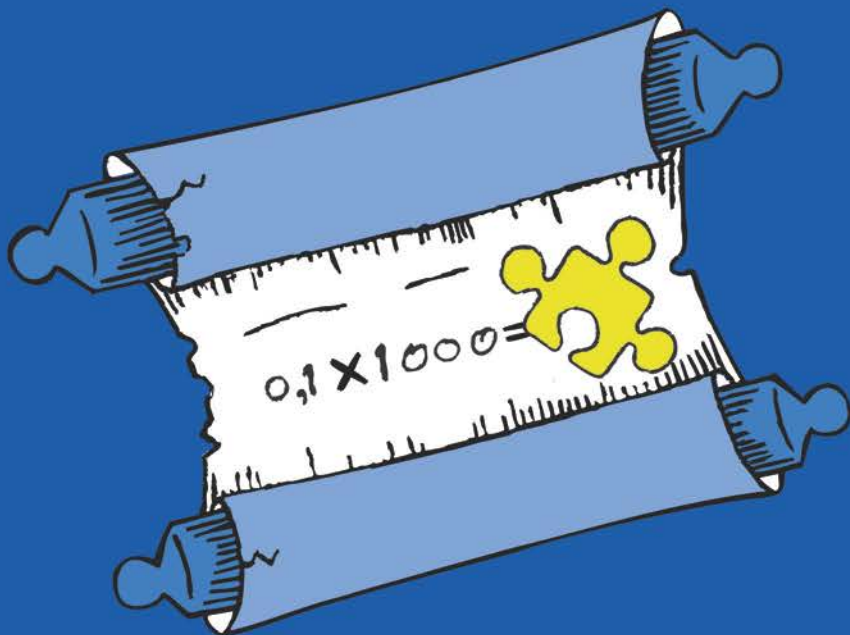


Mbalo Brief

the missing piece of the puzzle

March 2018



Issue 02/2018

THE SOUTH AFRICA I KNOW, THE HOME I UNDERSTAND



Statistics South Africa
Private Bag X44
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

ISibalo House, Koch street, Salvokop
Pretoria 0002

User information services: (012) 310 8600
Fax: (012) 310 8500
Main switchboard: (012) 310 8911
Fax: (012) 321 7381

Website: www.statssa.gov.za
Email: info@statssa.gov.za





Editor's comment

South Africa will host 10th Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Summit which is scheduled from 25 to 27 July 2018. The 2018 Summit will be an important milestone for BRICS cooperation, as it represents a decade of BRICS cooperation at the highest diplomatic level. The summit will see South Africa building on the programme of development and prosperity for partner countries. The official BRICS Summit website www.BRICS2018.org.za was launched as the first point of contact for the latest information on the Summit for both domestic and international users. This will include, amongst others, information about BRICS, the member countries, the host country and province, logistics and side events.

In this month's issue of *Mballo Brief*, our educational article is based on the Early Childhood Development, derived from the *Education Series Volume IV: Early Childhood Development in South Africa, 2016*. Also have a look at our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for February 2018 puzzle.

Articles published in this issue are based on results of industry surveys conducted for the months ranging from December 2017 to January 2018.

For more details on any of the surveys, visit our website at: www.statssa.gov.za

Enjoy the read.





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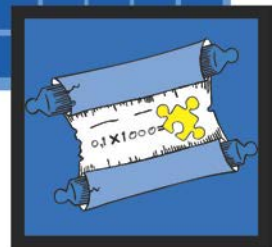
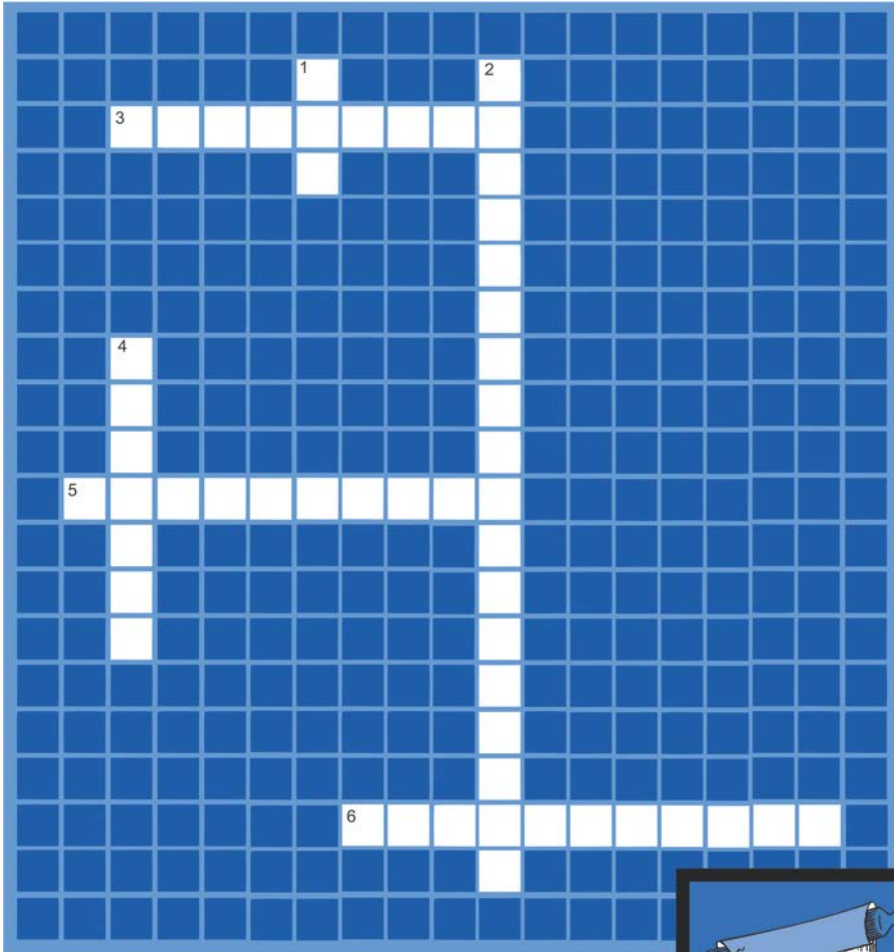
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Crossword puzzle





Across

- 3. Who is the newly appointed Minister of Police?
- 5. In which province do we find Steve Tshwete Local Municipality?
- 6. Which country will be hosting BRICS 10th Summit in July 2018?

Down

- 1. How many platinum producers have formed World Platinum Investment Council (WPIC)? (Read Mining: Production and sales article for clue).
- 2. Which South African bank was recently placed under curatorship by South African Reserve Bank?
- 4.occurs when a foreign company sells an imported product in the United States at less than fair value. (Read Manufacturing: Production and sales article for clue).

Solutions for February 2018 puzzle

Across

- 3. White
- 5. South Africa
- 7. Listeriosis

Down

- 1. Things
- 2. Bankruptcy
- 3. Risenga
- 4. Dubai



Educational article on Early Childhood Development in South Africa, 2016

1. Introduction

The early childhood period is considered to be the most important developmental phase throughout the lifespan. Healthy early childhood development (ECD)—which includes the physical, social/emotional, and language/cognitive domains of development, each equally important—strongly influences well-being, obesity/stunting, mental health, heart disease, competence in literacy and numeracy, criminality, and economic participation throughout life. What happens to the child in the early years is critical for the child’s developmental trajectory and lifecourse. This is according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

South African laws have extensive human rights standards that are applied to children’s welfare in the country. For instance, section 28 of the Bill of Rights which constitutes the second chapter of the South African Constitution, 1996 (Act No 108, 1996) contains nine broad rights of children. The Bill also suggests that all decisions concerning the child should be taken by looking at the best interest of the child. Various laws were subsequently enacted to give effect to these rights and some policy decisions were also taken to implement these childhood rights. The ECD policy was approved by Cabinet on 9 December 2015. The policy draws mostly from other existing policies and regulations that impact on mothers, infants, young children and parents.

The aim of the policy is to redress the structural disadvantages that children in South Africa face and to effectively mainstream child rights issues in services delivery. The guiding principles of the policy are the universal availability of ECD services, as well as equitable access to services and the empowerment of parents or caregivers to participate in the development of children. The policy has a multi-sectoral framework approach for the provision of early childhood development and redefines early childhood services as a public good with some comprehensive packages out of which some are regarded as essential components and are prioritised by government. While the policy recognises the duty of parents and families as the main caregivers of the child, it also emphasises that implementation of early childhood rights are highly dependent on the capacity and resources available to parents and families.





This article is based on the *Education Series Volume IV: Early Childhood Development in South Africa, 2016*, Report number 92-01-04. The article focuses on the child population aged 0–6, their living arrangements as well as household characteristics in which they reside and their access to basic services. It also focuses on Children aged 0 – 6 in relation to the essential components to early childhood development namely: Nutritional support, maternal health care, child health care, social services, support for primary caregivers and stimulation for early learning. However, it will focus only on three of the six components which are: nutritional support, maternal health care and child health care

2. Access to basic services and household characteristics

The concept of child well-being is closely related to their social and economic conditions. In particular, socio-economic factors such as household income, community and social support, access to health care, access to housing and housing quality, overcrowding, access to basic services, access to education and child care services, as they play a critical role in children’s physical and emotional development. Access to essential basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity by households with young children helps to eliminate structural causes of vulnerability and risks to young children.

2.1 Child population and living arrangements

This section provides demographic data of the child population aged 0–6 and their living arrangements. It is aimed at describing the location of these children across South Africa, their living arrangements with their biological parents and the type of family set-up they belong to.

Table 1 – Children aged 0–6 by province and sex, 2016

Province	Number in thousand	WC	EC	NC	FS	KZN	NW	GP	MP	LP	RSA
Male	Number	379	512	81	165	784	240	718	297	463	3 639
	Percent	10,4	14,1	2,2	4,5	21,5	6,6	19,7	8,2	12,7	
Female	Number	359	467	80	175	746	282	711	311	421	3 552
	Percent	10,1	13,2	2,3	4,9	21,0	7,9	20,0	8,8	11,9	
Total	Number	738	979	161	340	1 530	522	1 429	608	884	7 191
	Percent	10,3	13,6	2,2	4,7	21,3	7,3	19,9	8,5	12,3	100,0



Table 1 presents the total number of children aged 0–6 by province and sex. According to the General Household Survey (GHS) of 2016, children aged 0–6 years constituted 15% of the total population of South Africa, which is close to 7,2 million children. Furthermore, 86% of the child population in this age group were black Africans, 8% were coloureds, 2% Indian/Asian and 4% white.

The majority (21,3%) of children in this age group, were residing in KwaZulu-Natal, followed by 19,9% that were living in Gauteng and 13,6% living in Eastern Cape. Northern Cape, with 2,2%, had the lowest proportion of children aged 0–6 years.

2.2 Type of living arrangements

Figure 1 - Percentage of children aged 0–6 living with their biological parents, 2016



Note: Figures have been rounded off.

Figure 1 shows the percentage of children aged 0 – 6 years living with their biological parents in 2016. In 2016, most children aged 0–6 (47,6%) lived in single-parent families of which 45,6% lived with their mothers only and 2% lived with their fathers only. The highest percentage of children who lived with their mothers only were children under the age of one (52,3%) and children aged one (49,7%). Furthermore, while only four out of ten children aged 0–6 (40%) lived with both their parents close to 12% lived with none of their parents.

Family set-up

A nuclear family in this article is described as a family which consists of at least one of the two parents and the children; whereas the extended family includes grandparents and other relatives such as aunts and uncles in addition to the nuclear family. Complex households are households with



members who are not related to the household head. Household compositions differ geographically and by population group in South Africa.

The percentage of children aged 0–6 who lived in extended family units (52,7%) is more than those children living in nuclear family units (47,1%). Among black African children, 44,6% lived in nuclear families whereas the majority (55,3%) lived in extended families. By contrast, white children primarily lived in a nuclear family (76%), and 24% lived in extended family units. Meanwhile, 28% of Indian/Asian children lived in an extended family set-up. Coloured children were equally likely to live in nuclear (49,7%) or extended families (49,3%).

2.2 Household characteristics

Although household heads may sometimes not be directly involved in the care of young children (as some might be at work), they would most likely be the main economic providers or decision makers around important factors that affect children. Housing conditions directly impact on young children as these may influence their health status. Poor housing conditions and overcrowding also affect the safety of children. Income and asset poverty affect household food security, as well as meeting the nutritional needs of young children.

Household heads

In 2016, the majority (57,6%) of households that had children aged 0–6 were headed by adults aged 35–59. Nearly one in five (21%) children aged 0–6 belonged to households headed by elderly individuals aged 60 years or above. These would most likely include retired individuals or individuals accessing old-age grants. Furthermore, 53,5% of these children were raised in male-headed households, while 47% were raised in female-headed households.

The majority of children (54%) aged 0–6 lived in households whose household heads had attained some secondary education' while 34% of children lived with household heads who have completed primary education. Furthermore, 11,9% of children lived in households headed by individuals who had completed some tertiary qualification.

Household size

In 2016, more than two-thirds of children aged 0–6 lived in households with household sizes consisting of five or more members (67,4%), and three out of ten children (30,7%) lived in households with three to four members. A



breakdown by population group of the household sizes shows that 68,9% of black African and 69,0% of coloured households had children living in large households consisting of five or more members; this was also the same for 58,3% of children living in Indian/Asian households. Furthermore, 41,7% of Indian/Asian and 55,3% of white household heads were responsible for households that had three to four members compared to the national average of 30,7%.

Nationally, the percentage of children staying in households with more than six members was 35,6%. The provinces that had a higher percentage than the national average were Eastern Cape (43,0%) and KwaZulu-Natal (52,3%). Gauteng had the lowest percentage of children staying in such large households (21,1%) as children in Gauteng were most likely to live in households that consisted of three to four members (43,4%).

Most children aged 0–6 (33,3%) lived in overcrowded conditions of more than two people per bedroom or with no bedrooms at all. Among children living in overcrowded conditions, 45,2% resided in Eastern Cape, followed by 40,3% in Northern Cape. Overcrowding was the lowest in Limpopo at just 23,7%.

The level of overcrowding by population group, Indian/Asian (5,7%) and white children (9,4%) were the least likely to live in overcrowded conditions, while coloured (37,6%) and black African (34,9%) children were subjected to notably higher overcrowding conditions.

Children aged 0–6 by the number of employed household members by province, 2016

In 2016, approximately 33,5% of large households with children aged 0–6 years and which consisted of six or more members, did not have a single employed member. Furthermore, 31,6% had only one employed member; while 20,9% had two and 14,0% had three or more employed members.

The percentage of children staying in households in which none of the members were employed was the highest in Eastern Cape (44,3%), followed by Limpopo (42,7%) and KwaZulu-Natal (34,7%). These households exceeded the national average of 28,3%. The following provinces had the largest percentage of households where children stayed in households with at least one employed member namely, North West (45,2%), Free State (42,7%) and Gauteng (42,7%). Western Cape had the largest percentage of



children that lived in households where at least two members were employed (51,8%); followed by Gauteng with 46,2%.

2.3 Access to basic services

The physical conditions of houses in which children live/stay include their access to essential services such as electricity, water, sanitation, furnishings, space, the state of the walls and roofing. Poor housing conditions expose children to potential illness and injuries. Children's wellbeing is also impacted by how close they are to healthcare centres.

Electricity

Electricity provides a vital source of energy for households, as it is used for many activities around the house – from cooking, heating (including water heating), lighting, refrigeration, washing and cleaning, to using home appliances such as kettles and toasters, televisions and computers, and for charging cellphones.

Out of the 7,2 million children aged 0–6, at least 74% (5,3 million) lived in households that used electricity for cooking, of which approximately 23% were located in Gauteng and 21% were located in KwaZulu-Natal. Wood was the second most common type of energy used for cooking by households, and accounted for 1,1 million young children who were mostly found in Limpopo (33,5%) and KwaZulu-Natal (29,3%). Paraffin was mostly used in Eastern Cape (31,7%) and Gauteng (29,4%), while coal was mostly used in Mpumalanga (56,8%). While paraffin may be a cheaper source of energy for cooking, its detrimental attributes outweigh the advantages. Paraffin poses a danger to young children mainly because of the use of unsafe stoves which may cause fires; the high levels of emissions given off by these appliances in small enclosed living spaces; and the hazard of accidental ingestion of paraffin by young children.

Water

Lack of water or poor water conditions create an unhealthy household environment. Moreover, lack of quality drinking water exposes individuals to diseases, and young children are particularly most vulnerable to such diseases. Nationally, 67,2% of households with young children used piped water in dwellings or on sites for drinking, with the highest percentage of such households being located in Gauteng (94,1%) and the lowest percentage being found in Eastern Cape (35,1%).



Sanitation

The well-being of young children also depends on access to proper sanitation. These include adequate and safe toilet facilities that do not put the safety and the health of the child at risk. Adequate toilet facilities include flush toilets that are connected to a public sewerage system, or a septic tank, as these guarantee proper sanitation. Poor sanitation facilities include pit toilets and the use of bucket toilets. In 2016, nearly 8 children out of 10 (81,4%) aged 0–6 had access to adequate sanitation. Most of these children resided in Western Cape (95,8%), Gauteng (93,0%) and Eastern Cape (91,5%). The lowest access to improved sanitation was found in Limpopo (57,2%) and Mpumalanga (66,8%).

Health facilities

The choices of health facilities varied by population group. In 2016, households with black African children would most likely visit public clinics (79,8%) as opposed to 11,5% who would visit private doctors or public hospitals (5,8%). Households with coloured children were most likely to visit public clinics (52,9%), followed by 28,3% who would visit private doctors and 15,1% who would visit public hospitals. Similarly, households with Indian/Asian or white children would most likely visit both private doctors (63,7% and 70,5%, respectively) or opt for public clinics (19,1% and 10,2%, respectively). However, while 8,4% of Indian/Asian households with young children would prefer to visit private hospitals, 8,7% of white households with young children would rather visit public hospitals.

3. Early childhood nutrition and health

The Early Childhood Development (ECD) policy was intended for children from conception until the year before they start schooling which currently stands at age six, where children either attend Grade R or Grade 1. It includes both maternal and child health care.

The policy was designed to function in a dual government-regulated model of public and private delivery of services, prioritising children from poor families and children with disabilities. The essential ECD components consist of nutritional support, maternal and child health care, support for primary caregivers, social services and stimulation for early learning.



3.1 Nutritional support

Nutritional support is one of the most important tools for children to be able to achieve their full physical and intellectual potential overtime. According to the South African Early Childhood Review 2016, proper maternal nutrition during and after pregnancy can curb poor health outcomes of the child and can lead to improved educational outcomes for children. The World Health Organisation (WHO) and United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), recommend that all infants be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of their lives. Thereafter, infants should receive safe and nutritionally adequate complementary foods while continuing with breastfeeding for up to two years of age or beyond.

Access to milk

Tshwane declaration of support for breastfeeding in South Africa’ was formulated, where South Africa committed itself to actively promote breastfeeding. Following this resolution, health officials and other stakeholders were urged to support and strengthen efforts to promote breastfeeding in all aspects of their practices. One of the motives was to encourage and support HIV infected mothers to breastfeed their infants while being treated with antiretroviral drugs to prevent HIV transmission. Another major intervention was that formula feeds were no longer supplied to new-borns at public health facilities unless absolutely necessary.



Figure 2 – Nutritional Support: Children who are still breastfed by age, 2016



73% of babies less than one year were still breastfed; **32%** were exclusively breastfed

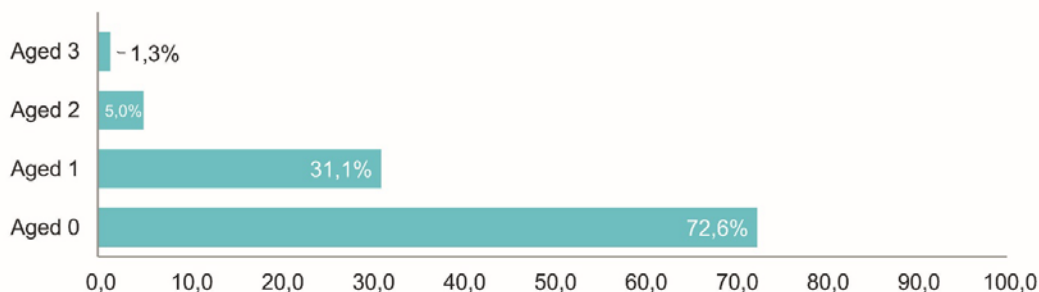


Figure 2 shows the percentage of children aged 0 to 3 years who are still breastfed. In 2016, children aged less than one year (72,6%) was more likely to be breastfed; however, slightly more than a quarter (27,5%) of them was not breastfed. According to GHS 2016, close to 32% of children less than one year were exclusively breastfed while 68% in the same age group were eating food to supplement their diet. According to the SADHS 2016, exclusive breastfeeding among babies 0-5 months was 31,6% but declined sharply after children reached six months and older (3,7%).

Access to milk at the ECD facilities/day care centres for children aged 0–6 was also taken into consideration as this measures nutrition security for young children. Nationally, 82% of children aged 0-6 were not attending an ECD facility/day care centres, while the remaining proportion who reported to be attending, received milk at the place of care. Among those who reported to receive milk, 9,3% reported receiving milk (either cow milk or soya milk), and a further 8,8% received formula milk. The consumption of cow milk or soya milk was more common in the age groups, four, five and



six, while the consumption of formula milk was most common amongst children aged zero to three.

Food consumption

Close to two-thirds of children (65,6%) aged 0–6 were provided with food twice or more times per day, while approximately a third (32%) received food once every day. A small proportion (2,4%) received food a few times a week or only sometimes (2,4%). Half of the children younger than one year were receiving or consuming food that was prepared at home (54,1%), while a third ate food prepared at the ECD facility (33,4%).

Out of the 7,2 million children, more than 1,5 million (21%) of children resided in households that skipped meals in the past 12 months prior to the survey. Amongst those who skipped a meal, roughly 511 000 skipped a meal for five or more days in the past 30 days prior to the survey.

Amongst female-headed households with children aged 0 – 6, 25,5% skipped a meal during the past 12 months prior to the survey, while in male headed households, 17,3% skipped a meal. Moreover, there was not much difference between households that reported that they had skipped a meal for five or more days in the past 30 days prior to the survey between female (36,8%) and male (34,3%) headed households.

In 2016, four in ten children resided in households that had eaten maize/rice/sorghum/millet/bread and other cereals three times in the past 24 hours prior to the survey. While a third (34,3%) of young children did not eat dairy products. It was also found that more than 70% of children resided in household that did not eat beans/peas/groundnuts/cashew nuts or other form of nuts. Furthermore, 50% of children aged 0–6 lived in households that did not eat fruits, while 25,7% reported that they had consumed fruits once .

3.2 Maternal health care

One of the main implications of the integrated ECD policy in South Africa is its emphasis on child nutrition starting from the womb. This is because development of a child begins as early as the start of a woman's pregnancy, and good nutrition and medical care for the mother is therefore essential in order for her to deliver a healthy child. The policy outlines that improved maternal nutritional status can create a positive cycle by avoiding childhood illnesses that have dire consequences.



Health care

One of the steps taken by government to improve maternal health was to increase access to antenatal care for pregnant women. This provides mothers with preventative and curative health care; screening for early identification, referral and support for both mental and physical maternal health, substance abuse and exposure to violence.

During the period 2015 to 2016, the percentage of pregnant women who made their first antenatal visit before 20 weeks increased to 61,2% and the Anti-retroviral treatment (ART) coverage for pregnant women increased to 93%. This ensures that children born to HIV positive women stay negative and healthy.

Access to food

Among women aged 12–50 who were pregnant during 2016, 16,3% lived in households where children or adults suffered from hunger because there was not enough food. Overall, close to 30% of pregnant women indicated that they stayed in households that ran out of money to buy food. These women were mostly part of female-headed households (38,3%). Furthermore, 35% of pregnant women stayed in households that ran out of money to buy food for five or more days in the past 30 days prior to the survey. Close to 36% of these women stayed in households headed by women.

In 2016, approximately 40% of households in which pregnant women stayed, had to cut the size of their meals due to lack of food for five or more days in the past 30 days prior to the survey. Most of these women were found in urban areas (42%) followed by those in traditional (37,8%) and farm areas (36,0%).

Pregnant women are expected to eat a balanced diet as their food intake is the main source of nutrients for the baby. Most pregnant women could meet their daily need of nutrients necessary for the growth of their children by increased intake of fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and proteins. Maize, rice, bread and other cereals constituted the majority of daily sustenance consumed twice daily by 32,8%; three times daily by 41,7% and four or more times daily by 17,7% of households. Meat consumption was relatively high with more than two-thirds of households reportedly having consumed meat twice (33,7%) or once (32,9%) in the past 24 hours. The consumption of fruits and vegetables was moderate as 52% of households reported not having eaten any fruits and 64,4% not having eaten any spinach in the past 24 hours prior to the survey.



3.3 Child health care

Child health care provides preventative and curative health care for infants, and refers to access to basic health care of children. Medical care includes screening for early identification, referral and support for developmental delays and disabilities as well as immunisation. These would prevent and cure common childhood illnesses and avoid child mortality.

The infant mortality rate (IMR) had declined from an estimated 48 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 34 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in 2016. The under-five mortality rate (U5MR), declined from 71 child deaths per 1 000 live births to 44 child deaths per 1 000 live births between 2002 and 2016.

4. Conclusion

ECD is often described as laying down the foundation in human development by building the neurological mechanisms in young children necessary for future learning. As brain growth and development in infancy is much faster than during the other periods of the human lifecycle, appropriate care during this phase is important for the development of the cognitive ability of the child. Such care can reduce the risk of diseases and create positive future outcomes for children. This article was based on, amongst others, nutritional support, maternal health care and child care of children aged 0 – 6. The findings show that in 2016, children aged 0–6 years constituted 15% (7,2 million) of the total population of South Africa. Most of these children were black African followed by coloureds. Majority of these children lived in households where the household head were adults aged 35 – 59. Furthermore, a higher proportion of the children had access to basic services such as electricity, water and sanitation and close to two-thirds of children were provided with food twice or more times per day.



Primary industries

Mining: Production and sales

Mining production and mineral sales increase

According to the World Platinum Investment Council (WPIC), South Africa is the leading platinum-producing country in the world. The world's largest deposit of platinum is found at Merensky Reef in the Bushveld Igneous Complex in North West, which is home to a very rich collection of ore deposits. WPIC was formed in 2014 by Anglo American Platinum, Aquarius Platinum, Impala Platinum Holdings, Lonmin, Northam Platinum and Royal Bafokeng, which are the six leading platinum producers, to meet the growing investor demand for objective and reliable platinum market intelligence. Platinum is used, among others, in devices including laboratory equipment, electrical contacts, dentistry equipment, computer hard disks and turbine blades. Presented in this article is a summary of the Mining: production and sales statistics for December 2017.

Mining production increased by 0,1% year-on-year in December 2017 (see **Table A**). The main positive contributor was iron ore (15,9%, contributing 2,2 percentage points).

The significant negative contributors were gold (-12,4%, contributing -2,0 percentage points) and coal (-5,5%, contributing -1,3 percentage points).

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production for December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,8	8,7	-0,8	5,3	6,5	0,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,9	5,9	-6,9	3,0	-1,1	-3,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	0,2	0,9	2,7	2,7	-1,1	-1,7

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 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

Mineral sales decreased by 1,4% year-on-year in December 2017 (see **Table B**). The main negative contributors were:



- chromium ore (-44,1%, contributing -3,4 percentage points);
- iron ore (-15,5%, contributing -1,9 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (-14,1%, contributing -1,3 percentage points);

Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	17,9	19,3	6,3	14,5	6,7	-1,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	2,6	5,2	0,3	5,4	-3,4	-1,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	1,7	3,2	6,4	8,8	7,1	4,6

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 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

Manufacturing production increases

South Africa is one of the leading exporters of metals and steel to United States (US). However, the antidumping duty findings by US Department of Commerce in January 2018 discovered that there was dumping of imports of carbon and alloy steel wire rods from South Africa. Dumping occurs when a foreign company sells an imported product in the United States at less than fair value. In the antidumping duty probe which was conducted from 1 January to December 2016, Commerce assigned the dumping rate for South Africa's exporters such as Scaw Metals Group, Arcelor Mittal and Consolidated Wire Industries at 142,26% due to failure to respond to Commerce's request for information. All other producers or exporters in South Africa were assigned a dumping rate of 135,46%. The dumping rate will result in the decrease in carbon and alloy steel wire rods exports to US. Presented in this article is a summary of the Manufacturing: production and sales statistics for December 2017.

Manufacturing production increased by 2,0% in December 2017 compared with December 2016 (**see Table C**). The largest contributions were made by the following division:

- petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products (3,3%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point);
- wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing (-5,8%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point);
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (3,6%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point);
- food and beverages (1,5%, contributing 0,4 of a percentage point); and
- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (8,0%, contributing 0,4 of a percentage point).



Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,4	1,5	-2,0	2,1	1,5	2,0
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,3	0,3	-1,1	1,0	1,1	1,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	1,0	1,1	0,8	0,7	0,5	1,5

^{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

Value of recorded building plans passed decreases

Building a house is one of the most stressful projects that requires various service providers such as builders, electricians, tilers and plumbers. First-time intended house owners building a house rely on family, friends and colleagues for good recommendations to get the best and affordable service providers. This period of finding best service providers can last for an extended period depending on whether they are reachable/available or not, and may hinder the progress of the building project. In order to provide a convenient and simple way for intended house owners to find the tradesmen that would suit their needs, a builder named Brett Emmerson developed a comprehensive online directory and website called Building Service Advisor (BSA). This new online directory and website lists various building related service providers, and it plans to expand its coverage to Gauteng in May 2018, and to other provinces in the longer term. Presented in this article is a summary of the selected building statistics for December 2017.

The value of recorded building plans passed (at current prices) decreased by 2,2% (-R2 408,8 million) in 2017 compared with 2016 (see **Table D**).

The largest negative contribution to the total decrease of 2,2% (-R2 408,8 million) was made by Gauteng (contributing -4,3 percentage points or - R4 764,3 million).



The value of buildings reported as completed (at current prices) increased by 19,2% (R11 809,4 million) in 2017 compared with 2016.

Four provinces reported year-on-year increases in the value of buildings completed in 2017. The largest contributions were recorded for:

- Gauteng (contributing 7,4 percentage points or R4 566,1 million);
- Western Cape (contributing 7,1 percentage points or R4 369,9 million); and
- KwaZulu-Natal (contributing 6,8 percentage points or R4 178,5 million).

Table D – Recorded building plans passed by larger municipalities: January to December 2016 versus January to December 2017

Estimates at current prices	January to December 2016 ^{1/}	January to December 2017 ^{1/}	Difference in value between January to December 2016 and January to December 2017	% change between January to December 2016 and January to December 2017
	R'000	R'000	R'000	
Residential buildings	54 860 902	53 360 406	-1 500 496	-2,7
-Dwelling houses	33 354 039	33 621 682	-267 643	0,8
-Flats and townhouses	19 274 352	18 855 770	-418 582	-2,2
-Other residential buildings	2 232 511	882 954	-1 349 557	-60,5
Non-residential buildings	29 129 951	26 313 722	-2 816 229	-9,7
Additions and alterations	27 339 826	29 247 749	1 907 923	7,0
Total	111 330 679	108 921 877	-2 408 802	-2,2

^{1/} 2015 and 2016 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

Electricity produced and consumed increases

Electricity cost-saving and efficient consumer services are amongst the challenges that many households experience on a regular basis. For example, consumers are unable to know which of their electrical appliances consume electricity faster or slower, and they are also the ones responsible for notifying the electricity supplier of any outages. Eskom, the country's main electricity supplier, has now introduced smart prepaid meters which have a Customer Interface Unit (CIU) as one of their ways to assist consumers to save electricity costs. The CIU is a device that is used by the consumer who enters a token voucher. The device also displays more information on the usage status and meter details. These details include a red indicator/light that flashes faster when more electricity is being consumed and flashes slower when the consumption is lower. This enables the consumers to monitor and have control over their consumption of electricity and use it more efficiently and sparingly. Power outages at night can affect many functions in the household such as cooking, watching television and ironing children's school uniforms. The smart prepaid device has a two-way communication between the meter and Eskom, giving the supplier access to read information off the meter and detect power outages. This allows the supplier to attend to the cause of the outage efficiently instead of waiting for the consumer to report the incident. Presented in this article is a summary of the electricity generated and distributed in January 2018.

Electricity generation (production) increased by 2,4% year-on-year in January 2018 (see **Table E**).

Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for January 2018

	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,7	1,5	2,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,4	-0,1	0,9	0,8	-0,6	0,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-1,5	-1,7	-0,3	1,2	1,6	1,1

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.



Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 1,2% year-on-year in January 2018 (see Table F).

Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for January 2018

	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	1,6	0,2	0,0	0,9	1,0	1,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,3	-0,9	0,8	0,5	0,2	0,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-2,0	-1,9	-0,7	0,4	1,1	0,8

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (Statistical release P4141) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Tertiary industries

Wholesale trade sales

Wholesale trade sales increase

A wholesaler is defined as an enterprise that makes 50% or more of its income from trade sales of goods to other businesses such as retailers and institutions. Wholesale trade sales include the resale of new and used goods and products to other resellers either directly or through agents on a fee or contract basis. One of the major advantages of using a wholesaler to sell your products (new or used) is that they can sell your products to their existing resellers and retailers. In other words, by using a wholesaler, your products can be visible and marketed to a much greater distribution channel that consists of a number of retailers without the need to have a physical presence in each enterprise, thus helping your product to reach local, national or even international consumers and be profitable. Presented in this article is a summary of the wholesale trade sales statistics for December 2017.

Wholesale trade sales increased by 1,0% in December 2017 compared with December 2016 (**see Table G**). The main contributor to this increase was dealers in food, beverages and tobacco (9,4% and contributing 1,9 percentage points).

Wholesale trade sales increased by 4,4% in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared with the fourth quarter of 2016. The main contributors to this increase were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (11,1%, contributing 2,1 percentage points);
- precious stones, jewellery and silverware (48,6%, contributing 1,0 percentage point); and
- food, beverages and tobacco (6,1%, contributing 1,0 percentage point).



Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales at current prices for December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	0,8	1,7	-3,8	5,4	6,7	1,0
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,8	-0,3	-2,1	4,4	3,0	-1,9
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	0,1	-0,1	-0,8	0,5	1,9	4,3

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Wholesale trade sales* (P6141.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Retail trade sales

Retail trade sales increase

Imagine walking into a big retail shopping mall such as Menlyn Park to find out where a particular shop is located and instead of the traditional map of the mall, you are greeted with an interactive touchscreen. A touchscreen that is able to interact with you and provide you with the shop number, an animated direction to the shop and the hours of operation. The retail industry is constantly developing new and better ways to respond to consumer expectations and transform the industry using advanced technologies such as digital signage devices. A digital signage device is a device that is used by most retailers to display digital content to enhance customer experience. These devices include Light-Emitting Diode (LED) screens that have replaced posters and billboards along highways. The digital signage has transformed the retail space with its ability to reach people with content relevant to their needs, as they can be updated from a remote location to display relevant promotions, products and prices. Presented in this article is a summary of the retail trade sales for December 2017.

Retail trade sales increased by 5,3% year-on-year in December 2017 (see **Table H**). The highest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- all 'other' retailers (14,7%); and
- retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment (10,0%).

The main contributors to the 5,3% increase, with each contributing 1,4 percentage points, were:



- all 'other' retailers;
- general dealers; and
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods.

Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for December 2017 at constant 2015 prices

	Jul -17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	1,6	5,4	5,7	3,5	7,9	5,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,0	2,8	0,4	-0,1	3,8	-2,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	1,6	1,8	1,5	2,1	2,4	2,2

^{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

Motor trade sales increase

In order to avoid inferior quality of repairs on vehicles, motorists should use registered and accredited motor vehicle workshops. Registered and accredited motor vehicles workshops have trained professional technicians, electricians, painters etc. Technologically, motor vehicles have become more and more sophisticated, and such innovations have made it increasingly challenging when it comes to service or repair. However, some registered and accredited workshops have repairers who possess additional technical skills that enable repairers to fix a broad range of the latest vehicle technology models. Retail Motor Industry organization which represents the retail motor industry is one of the organization motor traders and vehicle owners can use to obtain registered and accredited workshops. Presented in this article is a summary of the motor trade sales statistics for December 2017.

Motor trade sales increased by 5,5% year-on-year in December 2017 (see **Table I**). The largest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- fuel sales (11,0%), and
- convenience store sales (9,7%).



In 2017, motor trade sales increased by 3,9% compared with 2016. The largest contributors were:

- fuel sales (6,8%, contributing 1,8 percentage points); and
- new vehicle sales (5,5%, contributing 1,5 percentage points).

Table I – Key growth rate figures in motor trade sales for December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted,	-1,8	3,9	3,5	8,3	7,6	5,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,9	2,1	1,8	2,2	1,5	0,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-0,1	-0,2	0,7	2,7	4,6	5,5

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 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

Total income generated by the food and beverages industry decreased

Most consumers spent their money on food and food items such as canned fish, poultry, etc. in December 2017. According to BankservAfrica, many consumers spent their December 2017 money at grocery stores and supermarkets, followed by service stations, eating places and restaurants, family clothing stores, convenience stores and speciality markets. BankservAfrica is Africa's largest automated payments clearing house which is responsible for processing the majority of South Africa's low-value interbank payments. BankservAfrica asserts that the highest value transaction by an individual was R5 million, while the highest number of swipes by an individual was 1 160 times in December 2017. The amount of transactions processed by BankservAfrica between 1 and 31 December 2017 reached R51 billion. Presented in this article is a summary on food and beverage statistics for December 2017.



In December 2017, total income generated by the food and beverages industry decreased by 2,1% year-on-year (**see Table J**). The largest negative annual growth rate was recorded for 'other' income (-12,3%).

Negative annual growth rates in December 2017 were recorded for restaurants and coffee shops (-3,0%, contributing -1,6 percentage points) and takeaway and fast-food outlets (-1,8%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point).

Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant prices by type of income – December 2017

Type of income	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Food sales	1,8	2,8	4,7	-2,0	1,3	-2,0
Bar sales	2,9	2,3	-1,0	-4,1	6,2	-1,4
Other income	-8,8	-15,1	-12,1	-10,1	9,4	-12,3
Total	1,7	2,4	3,9	-2,3	1,8	-2,1

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

Tourist accommodation

Total income for tourist accommodation industry increases

Some tourist accommodations in Cape Town have introduced grey water collection systems to conserve and reuse after the area was hit by water shortages. Some of the collection systems are recycling water back into swimming pools, waterless hand sanitisers have been installed, water pressure reduced and washbasin taps and flow restrictor shower heads have been put in place to reduce water consumption. Guests are also encouraged to take 90-second showers. Presented in this article is a summary of the tourist accommodation statistics for December 2017.

Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 2,1% in 2017 compared with 2016 (**see Table K**).

In December 2017, total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 4,5% year-on-year.



Income from accommodation increased by 5,5% year-on-year in December 2017, the result of a 0,7% decrease in the number of stay units sold and a 6,3% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.

Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Stay units available	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
Stay unit nights sold	-1,4	-2,5	-1,7	-4,4	-1,9	-0,7
Average income per stay unit nights sold	6,0	7,5	5,2	8,3	0,8	6,3
Income from accommodation	4,5	4,8	3,4	3,5	-1,1	5,5
Total income ^{1/}	3,0	-0,4	1,6	1,5	-0,2	4,5

^{1/} Includes 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

Tourism and migration

More than 4,6 million travellers pass through South Africa's ports of entry

Cape Town is currently experiencing one of the worst droughts in recent history, which has led to a water crisis. This has caused several restrictions on water usage which could have a negative impact on the number of tourists visiting Cape Town. However, tourists are still urged to come to the Mother City, but they should be prepared to 'save like a local' and keep their water usage to under 50 litres per day. Furthermore, some accommodation establishments have closed their pools, saunas and steam rooms, and removed bath plugs, to limit non-essential water use. This should not be a reason for concern as there is adequate water for essential daily needs such as washing, using the toilet, and daily hygiene. The City of Cape Town is doing all it can to ensure that it remains a sustainable destination and that tourists still have a comfortable stay. Presented in this article is a summary of the Tourism and migration statistics for December 2017.

Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into South Africa show that a total of 4 639 848 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry in December 2017 (**see Table L**). These travellers



were made up of 1 397 631 South African residents and 3 242 217 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 590 949 arrivals, 805 778 departures and 904 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and transit travellers was 1 561 724, 1 621 875 and 58 618, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in December 2016 and December 2017 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers, while the volume of transits increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 4,3% (from 566 635 in December 2016 to 590 949 in December 2017), departures increased by 5,1% (from 766 332 in December 2016 to 805 778 in December 2017), and transits increased by 0,1% (from 903 in December 2016 to 904 in December 2017). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 0,5% (from 1 554 048 in December 2016 to 1 561 724 in December 2017), departures increased by 2,0% (from 1 589 855 in December 2016 to 1 621 875 in December 2017), and transits decreased by 9,5% (from 64 775 in December 2016 to 58 618 in December 2017).

In December 2017, 82 894 (5,3%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 478 830 (94,7%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in December 2017 but did not depart in December 2017 [368 060 (24,9%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in December 2017 and left in December 2017 [543 146 (36,7%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in December 2017 [567 624 (38,4%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In December 2017, there were 487 251 (32,9%) same-day visitors and 991 579 (67,1%) tourists.

Mode of travel

In December 2017, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 3 399 461 (73,3%) of the 4 639 848 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 1 203 389 (25,9%). Compared to use of air and land transport, a small number of travellers, 36 998 (0,8%) used sea transport. The arrivals data for South African residents show that 214



558 (36,3%) came by air, 363 714 (61,5%) came by road and 12 677 (2,1%) arrived by sea transport.

For departures, 276 783 (34,3%) used air, 517 679 (64,2%) used road and 11 316 (1,4%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 904 (100,0%) used air transport. In the case of foreign travellers, 341 650 (21,9%) arrived by air, 1 214 338 (77,8%) came by road and 5 736 (0,4%) arrived by sea transport. When departing South Africa, 310 876 (19,2%) foreign travellers left by air, 1 303 730 (80,4%) left by road and 7 269 (0,4%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit 58 618 (100,0%) used air transport.

Mode of travel for tourists

In December 2017, 241 111 (92,1%) of the 261 728 overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 20 427 (7,8%) came in by road and 190 (0,1%) arrived by sea. Tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 660 091 (92,4%), 54 019 (7,6%) arrived by air transport and 279 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 12 946 (89,5%), with 1 509 (10,4%) using road transport and 6 (less than 0,1%) using sea transport.

Regional and national distribution

In December 2017, the distribution of overseas tourists was as follows: Europe, 167 732 (64,1%); North America, 41 116 (15,7%); Asia, 23 134 (8,8%); Australasia, 15 005 (5,7%); Central and South America, 11 132 (4,3%); and Middle East, 3 609 (1,4%).

Virtually all tourists from Africa, 714 389 (98,0%), came from the SADC countries. The distribution of the remaining tourists from Africa is as follows: East and Central Africa, 6 632 (0,9%); West Africa, 6 612 (0,9%) and North Africa 1 217 (0,2%).

The ten leading SADC countries in terms of the number of tourists visiting South Africa in December 2017 were: Zimbabwe, 209 479 (29,3%); Lesotho, 137 754 (19,3%); Mozambique, 112 326 (15,7%); Botswana, 94 194 (13,2%); Swaziland, 84 289 (11,8%); Namibia, 26 551 (3,7%); Zambia, 16 857 (2,4%); Malawi 15 032 (2,1%); Angola, 7 293 (1,0%) and DRC, 4 117 (0,6%).



Purpose of visit

In December 2017, the majority of tourists, 975 522 (98,4%) were in South Africa for holiday compared to 13 109 (1,3%) and 2 948 (0,3%) who were in South Africa for business and for study purposes, respectively. The majority of African tourists, 717 659 (98,5%) came to South Africa for holiday.

Sex and age distribution

In December 2017, there were 521 933 (52,6%) male and 469 646 (47,4%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 135 580 (51,8%) male tourists and 126 148 (48,2%) female tourists. There were 377 380 (52,8%) male and 337 009 (47,2%) female tourists from the SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 8 393 (58,0%) male and 6 068 (42,0%) female tourists.

The ages of the tourists were categorised into three broad groups: Those younger than 15 years, those that were 15 to 64 years old, and those that were 65 years and older. The overall results show that 96 484 (9,7%) tourists were aged less than 15 years; 852 205 (85,9%) were aged between 15 and 64 years; and 42 890 (4,3%) were aged 65 years and older.

Quarterly and annual trends

For overseas countries the number of tourists to South Africa is generally highest in quarter one (January – March) and quarter four (October – December). Quarter two (April – June) is characterised by a large decrease in number of tourists, reaching its lowest in June, followed by a gradual increase into quarter three. According to the World Tourism Organisation (2017), the May – August period includes the peak tourism season in most of the world's major tourism destinations and source markets, which explains the reduction in number of tourists to South Africa during this period. Between quarter three and quarter four of 2017, the number of tourists from overseas increased by 25,4% (from 628 751 in quarter three to 788 558 in quarter four).

In the case of the 'other' African countries, the months of January, August, and November seem to attract higher numbers of tourists compared to other months, while June attracts the lowest.



Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction: December 2017

Travel direction	December 2016	November 2017	December 2017	% change between November and December 2017	% change between December 2016 and December 2017
Total	4 542 548	3 441 487	4 639 848	34,8%	2,1%
South African residents	1 333 870	830 885	1 397 631	68,2%	4,8%
Arrivals	566 635	409 446	590 949	44,3%	4,3%
Departures	766 332	420 665	805 778	91,5%	5,1%
Transit	903	774	904	16,8%	0,1%
Foreign travellers	3 208 678	2 610 602	3 242 217	24,2%	1,0%
Arrivals	1 554 048	1 329 025	1 561 724	17,5%	0,5%
Departures	1 589 855	1 215 768	1 621 875	33,4%	2,0%
Transit	64 775	65 809	58 618	-10,9%	-9,5%
Foreign arrivals	1 554 048	1 329 025	1 561 724	17,5%	0,5%
Non-visitors	81 590	83 233	82 894	-0,4%	1,6%
Visitors	1 472 458	1 245 792	1 478 830	18,7%	0,4%
Visitors	1 472 458	1 245 792	1 478 830	18,7%	0,4%
Arrivals only	357 103	291 069	368 060	26,5%	3,1%
Single trips	527 960	457 920	543 146	18,6%	2,9%
Multiple trips	587 395	496 803	567 624	14,3%	-3,4%
Visitors	1 472 458	1 245 792	1 478 830	18,7%	0,4%
Same-day	507 351	396 826	487 251	22,8%	-4,0%
Tourists	965 107	848 966	991 579	16,8%	2,7%

A full release on *Tourism and migration* (Statistical release P0351) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Statistics on civil cases for debt

Number of civil judgements for debt decreases

There are many reasons why people are unable to meet their financial responsibilities or safe guard their estates and often end up indebted. Some people may have a mental illness, a physical disability, gambling addiction or substance dependency that they may need to have someone else taking care of their financial interests or estate on their behalf. The family members, care-givers or an institution may seek assistance by approaching the High Court for the appointment of a curator. A curator is a legal representative appointed by the High Court to represent, during legal proceedings, the best interests of a person who is incapable to make decisions for themselves. This process is known as a curatorship application and is applicable to anyone that is incapable of managing their own affairs. In-line with Rule 57 of the Uniform Rules of Court, the High Court will then be requested to make an order declaring the person's incapability of managing their own affairs by themselves, also taking into consideration the submission of supporting affidavits by two medical practitioners including a psychiatrist. The Master of the High Court will then appoint a curator after following the required proceedings for the best interest of the patient and give a list of the powers to be held by the curator. Presented in this article is a summary of the statistics of civil cases for debt for December 2017.

The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 9,8% in 2017 compared with 2016 (**see Table M**). The largest contributions to the 9,8% decrease were civil summonses relating to:

- money lent (contributing -3,8 percentage points);
- services (contributing -3,0 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -1,3 percentage points).

The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 13,4% in 2017 compared with 2016. The largest negative contributions to the 13,4% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing -5,4 percentage points);
- money lent (contributing -3,8 percentage points); and
- 'other' debts (contributing -3,6 percentage points).



The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt was 1,8% lower in 2017 compared with 2016. The largest contribution to the 1,8% decrease was the value of judgements relating to 'other' debts (contributing -5,5 percentage points). In 2017, 229 006 civil judgements for debt amounting to R3 948,9 million were recorded.

The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- money lent (R1 163,9 million or 29,5%);
- 'other' debts (R770,1 million or 19,5%); and
- services (R752,8 million or 19,1%).

Table M – Key figures for civil summonses and judgements for December 2017

Actual estimates	December 2017	% change between December 2016 and December 2017	% change between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017	Annual % change between 2016 and 2017
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	37 603	5,7	-3,7	-9,8
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	13 749	-7,9	-11,0	-13,4
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	281,1	11,5	1,4	-1,8

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 and insolvencies

Number of liquidations increase while insolvencies increase

A solvent company or close corporation may be wound up voluntarily by its members or a creditor if it stops to carry out its's business due to financial constraints. It may only be wound up after directors of a company have passed a resolution to close the company or close corporation. Winding up involves dissolving a business by selling off its assets and paying off the debts owed to creditors. In the case of winding up a company or close corporation, the notice of resolution must be filed with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) in order to remove the company's name from the register. Presented in this article is a summary of the statistics of liquidations and insolvencies for January 2018.



The total of liquidations increased by 11,0% (10 more liquidations) year-on-year in January 2018 (**see Table N**). Compulsory liquidations increased by 5 cases and voluntary liquidations increased by 5 cases during this period.

Table N – Total number of liquidations for January 2018

Number of liquidations January 2018	% change between January 2017 to January 2018	% change between November 2016 to January 2017 and November 2017 to January 2018
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101

11,0

21,4

A full release on *Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies* (Statistical release P0043) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

The number of insolvencies estimated was 102 in December 2017 (**see Table O**), showing a year-on-year decreased of 42,0%. A 2,8% decrease was estimated between the fourth quarter of 2016 and the fourth quarter of 2017. Insolvencies decreased by 1,8% (from 2 684 to 2 637) between 2016 and 2017.

Table O – Total number of insolvencies for December 2017

Number of insolvencies December 2017	% change between December 2016 to December 2017	% change between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017	% change between January to December 2016 and January to December 2017
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102

-42,0

-2,8

-1,8

A full release on *Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies* (Statistical release P0043) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Land transport survey

Volume of transported goods increases

The Department of Transport has announced that the state-owned Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (PRASA) is due to resume a long-distance train service between Johannesburg and Musina, near the Zimbabwean border. The long-distance train service is due to popular demand by commuters. The service was withdrawn in 2014 due to high costs. The journey between Johannesburg and Polokwane will take eight hours, while the Johannesburg to Musina route will last ten hours. Within that ten hours, the train is expected to make intermediate stops at stations



such as Germiston, Pretoria, Hammanskraal, Bela-Bela, Mookgopong, Mokopane, Polokwane, Soekmekaar and Makhado. The department says that the train is set to be used mainly by Zimbabwean customers crossing the border after stopping in Musina. Presented in this article is a summary of the Land Transport Survey for December 2017.

The volume of goods transported (payload) increased by 9,3% in 2017 compared with 2016 (**see Table P**). The corresponding income increased by 12,3% over the same period. In December 2017 the volume of goods transported (payload) increased by 4,6% year-on-year. The corresponding income increased by 4,7% over the same period.

Income from freight transportation increased by 10,3% in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared with the fourth quarter of 2016. The main contributors to this increase were:

- primary mining and quarrying products (10,8%, contributing 3,8 percentage points);
- manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products (16,0%, contributing 2,4 percentage points);
- chemicals, coke, petroleum, rubber, plastic and other mineral products (20,2%, contributing 1,7 percentage points); and
- agriculture and forestry primary products (13,5%, contributing 1,0 percentage point).

Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation: December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Freight payload	9,3	7,7	4,8	11,4	8,0	4,6
Freight income	13,8	9,5	9,9	14,2	11,9	4,7

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

The number of passenger journeys decreased by 8,8% in 2017 compared with 2016. The corresponding income decreased by 0,5% over the same period (**see Table Q**). In December 2017 the number of passenger journeys decreased by 7,2% year-on-year. The corresponding income decreased by 1,1% over the same period.



Table Q – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation: December 2017

	Jul-17	Aug-17	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17
Passenger journeys	-12,1	-4,2	-14,7	-10,7	-11,7	-7,2
Passenger income	1,1	0,0	-6,9	1,1	-0,6	-1,1

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



Prices

Producer price index (PPI)

PPI at 5,1%

On 13 February 2018, the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) declared the drought in the Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape a national disaster in terms of the National Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No.57 of 2002) which provides for, amongst others, an integrated and coordinated disaster management policy that focuses on preventing or reducing the risk of disasters, mitigating the severity of the consequences of disasters and effective response to disasters and post-disaster recovery. The possible effects of this lingering drought would be a decrease in the production of agricultural products such as fruits, vegetables and meat and thus leading to an increase in prices. This means that consumers will have to spend more on the products that are mainly produced in the mentioned provinces. Presented in this article is a summary of the PPI statistics for January 2018.

Final manufactured goods – headline PPI

The annual percentage change in the PPI for final manufactured goods was 5,1% in January 2018 (compared with 5,2% in December 2017) (**see Table R**). From December 2017 to January 2018 the PPI for final manufactured goods increased by 0,3%. The main contributor to the annual rate of 5,1% was coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (2,2 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly increase of 0,3% was transport equipment (0,4 of a percentage point)

Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 1,5% in January 2018 (compared with 3,2% in December 2017) (**see Table R**). From December 2017 to January 2018 the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods decreased by 0,3%. The main contributors to the annual rate of 1,5% were recycling and manufacturing n.e.c. (0,9 of a percentage point) and sawmilling and wood (0,4 of a percentage point).



Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 3,0% in January 2018 (compared with 3,3% in December 2017). From December 2017 to January 2018 the PPI for electricity and water increased by 1,3%. The contributors to the annual rate of 3,0% were water (1,5 percentage points) and electricity (1,4 percentage points)

Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was -0,1% in January 2018 (compared with 6,1% in December 2017) (**see Table R**). From December 2017 to January 2018 the PPI for mining decreased by 1,6%. The main contributors to the annual rate of -0,1% were gold and other metal ores (-2,1 percentage points) and stone quarrying, clay and diamonds (-1,2 percentage points) The main contributors to the monthly increase of 0,7% were non-ferrous metal ores (1,0 percentage point) and stone quarrying, clay and diamonds (0,7 of a percentage point).

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 8,7% in January 2018 (compared with 6,4% in December 2017) (**see Table R**). From December 2017 to January 2018 the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 1,0%. The main contributor to the annual rate of 8,7% was agriculture (7,5 percentage points).

Table R – Key PPI figures for September 2017

Product	Weight	Index (2016=100)			% change	
		Jan 2017	Dec 2017	January 2018	January 2018 vs December 2017	January 2018 vs January 2017
Final manufactured goods	100,00	100,4	105,2	105,5	0,3	5,1
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	101,4	103,2	102,9	-0,3	1,5
Electricity and water	100,00	101,6	103,3	104,6	1,3	3,0
Mining	100,00	104,5	106,1	104,4	-1,6	-0,1
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	96,9	106,4	105,3	-1,0	8,7

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



Consumer price index (CPI)

CPI at 4,4%

Former Finance Minister Malusi Gigaba announced a 1% increase (from 14% to 15%) in Value-added tax (VAT), effective from 1 April 2018. This announcement was made on 21 February 2018, during his delivery of the 2018 Budget speech. The increase in VAT (the first since South Africa became a democracy) is expected to make up for revenue shortfall as well as fund free higher education. There is a possibility that many retailers and service providers will pass on this increase to consumers. If this happens, it might have an impact on the Consumer price index (CPI) as the prices for some items in the basket of goods might increase. However, whether the impact will be minor or major will only be observed once the change has been implemented. Presented in this article is a summary of the Consumer price index for January 2018.

Headline consumer price index (CPI for all urban areas)

Annual consumer price inflation was 4,4% in January 2018, down from 4,7% in December 2017 (**see Table S**). The consumer price index increased by 0,3% month-on-month in January 2018.

The following groups contributed to the headline annual consumer price inflation:

- Transport decreased from 0,9 of a percentage point in December 2017 to 0,6 of a percentage point in January 2018. The index increased by 4,4% year-on-year.
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages contributed 0,2 of a percentage point in January. The index increased by 1,3% month-on-month.
- Transport contributed -0,1 of a percentage point in January 2018. The index decreased by 0,4% month-on-month.
- Miscellaneous goods and services contributed 0,1 of a percentage point in January 2018. The index increased by 0,7% month-on-month.

In January 2018, the CPI for goods increased by 3,7% year-on-year (down from 4,1% in December 2017), and the CPI for services increased by 5,1% year-on-year (down from 5,3% in December 2017).



Provincial annual inflation rates ranged from 2,9% in North West to 5,2% in Western Cape.

Table S – Consumer price index: Index numbers and year-on-year rates
Base year: Dec 2016 = 100

Year		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg ^{1/}
2010	Index	86,4	87,0	87,7	87,8	88,0	88,0	88,6	88,6	88,7	88,9	89,0	89,2	88,2
	Rate	6,2	5,7	5,1	4,8	4,6	4,2	3,7	3,5	3,2	3,4	3,6	3,5	4,3
2011	Index	89,6	90,2	91,3	91,6	92,0	92,4	93,2	93,4	93,8	94,2	94,5	94,6	92,6
	Rate	3,7	3,7	4,1	4,2	4,5	5,0	5,3	5,3	5,7	6,0	6,1	6,1	5,0
2012	Index	95,2	95,7	96,8	97,2	97,2	97,5	97,8	98,0	98,9	99,5	99,8	100,0	97,8
	Rate	6,3	6,1	6,0	6,1	5,7	5,5	4,9	5,0	5,5	5,6	5,6	5,7	5,6
2013	Index	100,3	101,3	102,5	102,9	102,6	102,9	104,0	104,3	104,8	105,0	105,1	105,4	103,4
	Rate	5,4	5,9	5,9	5,9	5,6	5,5	6,3	6,4	6,0	5,5	5,3	5,4	5,7
2014	Index	106,1	107,3	108,7	109,2	109,4	109,7	110,6	111,0	111,0	111,2	111,2	111,0	109,7
	Rate	5,8	5,9	6,0	6,1	6,6	6,6	6,3	6,4	5,9	5,9	5,8	5,3	6,1
2015	Index	110,8	111,5	113,1	114,1	114,4	114,9	116,1	116,1	116,1	116,4	116,5	116,8	114,7
	Rate	4,4	3,9	4,0	4,5	4,6	4,7	5,0	4,6	4,6	4,7	4,8	5,2	4,6
2016	Index	117,7	119,3	120,2	121,2	121,4	122,1	123,1	123,0	123,2	123,8	124,2	124,7	122,0
	Rate	6,2	7,0	6,3	6,2	6,1	6,3	6,0	5,9	6,1	6,4	6,6	6,8	6,4
2017	Index	100,6	101,7	102,3	102,4	102,7	102,9	103,2	103,3	103,8	104,1	104,2	104,7	103,0
	Rate	6,6	6,3	6,1	5,3	5,4	5,1	4,6	4,8	5,1	4,8	4,6	4,7	5,3
2018	Index	105,0												
	Rate	4,4												

^{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 existing residence. Out-buildings and garages are included.

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



Prices

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'.



Editorial & Layout
Maune Lerobane
Wendy Ngoveni
Mandla Mahlangu
Tlou Matjekana

Language Editors
Annelize Allner
Salomien Rudolph

Design
Thabo Kgaile