





Statistics South Africa  
Private Bag X44  
Pretoria 0001  
South Africa

ISibalo House, Koch street, Salvokop  
Pretoria 0002

User information services: (012) 310 8600  
Main switchboard: (012) 310 8911

Website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)  
Email: [info@statssa.gov.za](mailto:info@statssa.gov.za)





## Editor's comment

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is conducting the National Household Travel Survey 2020 (NHTS 2020) in conjunction with the National Department of Transport (NDoT) from January 2020 until March 2020. The aim of the NHTS 2020 is to understand the transport needs and transport behaviour of households and individuals, assess attitudes towards transport services and facilities, determine the cost of transport, and determine accessibility to services such as work, health, education, etc., among others. The survey is conducted across nine provinces with a sample size of 65 000 dwelling units, and the results are expected to be released during Transport Month in October 2020. All NHTS 2020 officials are identifiable by their Stats SA identity cards which will display the photograph, name and identity number of the official. In addition, all field staff will also be wearing Stats SA branded clothing such as bibs and caps.

In this month's issue of *Mbalu Brief*, our educational article is based on the *Quarterly employment statistics* (QES) release (Statistical release P0277), which was published by Stats SA on 12 December 2019. The article looks at the employment and earnings for the quarter ending September 2019. Also have a look at our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for the November 2019 puzzle.

Articles published in this issue are based on results of industry surveys conducted for the months ranging from November to December 2019.

For more details on any of the surveys, visit our website at:  
[www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

Enjoy the read.



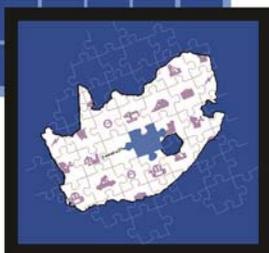
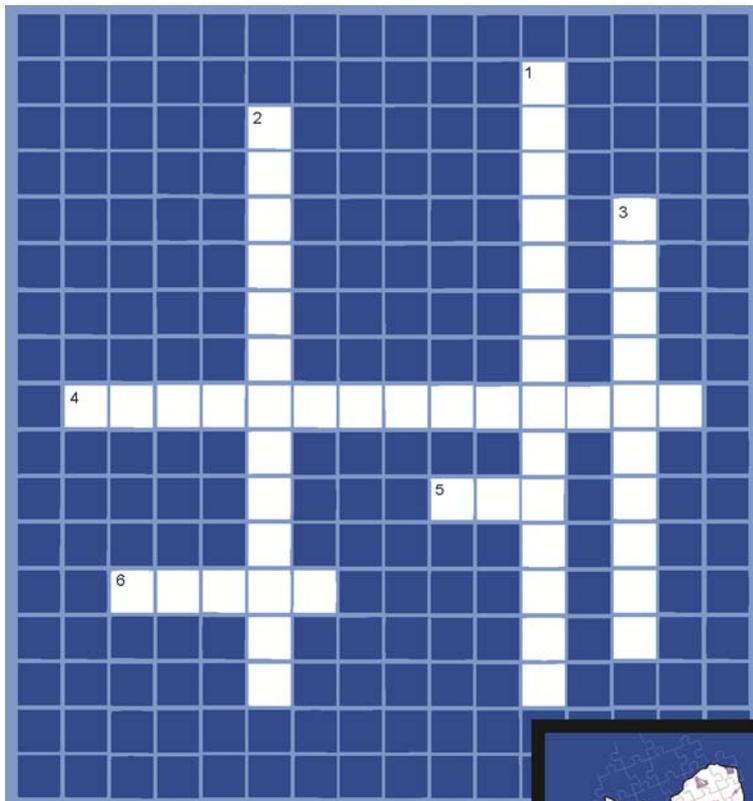


# Contents

<b>Editor’s comment</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>Crossword puzzle</b> .....	<b>iii</b>
<b>Educational article on Quarterly employment survey (QES)</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Primary industries</b> .....	<b>8</b>
Mining: Production and sales .....	8
<b>Secondary industries</b> .....	<b>10</b>
Manufacturing: Production and sales.....	10
Selected building statistics of the private sector .....	11
Electricity generated and available for distribution .....	13
<b>Tertiary industries</b> .....	<b>15</b>
Wholesale trade sales.....	15
Retail trade sales .....	15
Motor trade sales .....	17
Food and beverages .....	18
Tourist accommodation.....	19
Tourism and migration .....	20
Statistics of civil cases for debt.....	23
Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies .....	25
Land transport survey .....	26
<b>Prices</b> .....	<b>29</b>
Producer price index (PPI).....	29
Consumer price index (CPI).....	31
<b>Glossary</b> .....	<b>34</b>



## Crossword puzzle





### Across

4. Which holiday is celebrated on 21 March every year in South Africa?
5. In cricket, what is a run taken when the ball passes the batsman without touching his bat or body called?
6. Which country reported the first case of coronavirus?

### Down

1. What is the name of a Cape Town based hotel which was awarded the Middle East and Africa Hotel of the Year for 2019 by the Awards for Hospitality, Experience and Design (AHEAD)? [Read Tourist accommodation article for clue]
2. Who is Miss Universe 2019?
3. What is the name of one of the oldest and historic buildings in Western Cape? [Read Selected building statistics of the private sector article for clue]

## Solutions for November 2019 puzzle

### Across

2. Siya Kolisi
3. Household
5. True
6. November

### Down

1. Fieldworker
2. Springboks
4. Census
5. Tokyo



## Educational article on Quarterly employment statistics (QES)

### Introduction

South Africa is a country with an estimated population of 58,8 million as reported by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) in July 2019. Of this number, 10 million were employed as at the end of September 2019. In his State of the Nation Address (SONA) in June 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa, stated that “It is therefore essential that we proceed without delay to implement a comprehensive plan – driven and coordinated from the Presidency – to create no fewer than two million new jobs for young people within the next decade”. The President also stated, in his SONA address in February 2019, that government and social partners are also working on initiatives to include youth in economic activity such as the Employment Tax Incentive which will be extended for another 10 years. Other efforts by government to increase employment include doing away with the work-experience required for entry level positions at state institutions. Additionally, the government is focusing on policies and programmes in parts of the economy which are labour intensive (a process or industry that requires a large amount of manual labour to produce its goods or services) such as the agriculture, tourism and the ocean economy. However, despite these efforts, the labour sector in South Africa continues to shed jobs.

This article will focus on the employment industry in South Africa. Special attention will be given to full-time and part-time employment in the different industries in the country. The article will also look at the basic salary and wages as well as bonus and overtime payments by industries. This article is based on the *Quarterly employment statistics* (QES) (statistical release P0277) for September 2019, published by Stats SA on 12 December 2019.

### Background

The Quarterly employment statistics (QES) is an enterprise-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The samples are drawn from private non-agricultural businesses such as factories, firms, offices, and stores, as well as from national, provincial and local government entities.

This survey covers employment statistics of the following industries:

- mining and quarrying;
- manufacturing;





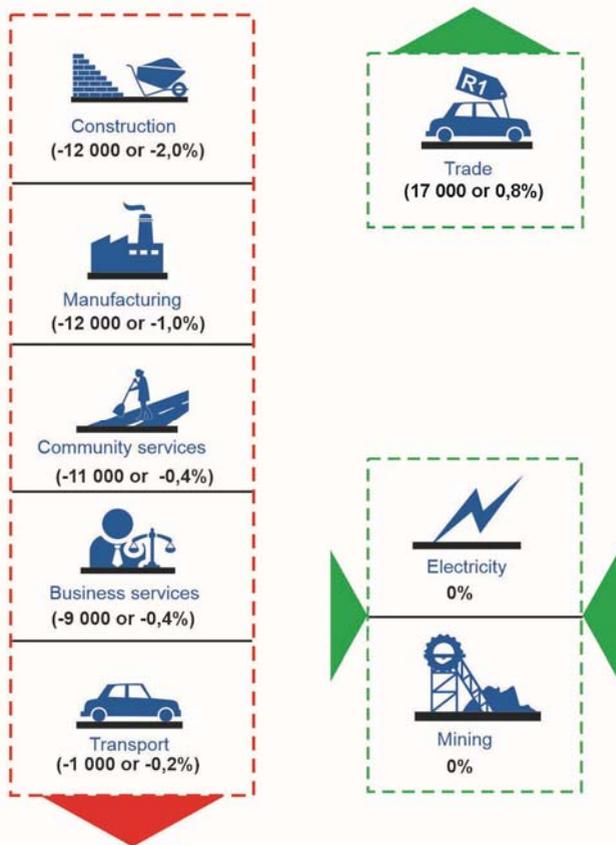
- electricity, gas and water supply;
- construction;
- wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles and personal and household goods, and hotels and restaurants;
- transport, storage and communication;
- financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services; and
- community, social and personal services.

### **Employment by industry**

Total employment decreased by 28 000 or -0,3% quarter-on-quarter, from 10 170 000 in June 2019 to 10 142 000 in September 2019.



Figure 1 – Difference in employment in the non-agricultural formal sector, June 2019 – September 2019



Total employment increased by 78 000 or 0,8% year-on-year between September 2018 and September 2019. This was largely due to increases in the following industries: community services (54 000 or 2,0%), trade (53 000 or 2,4%), business services (28 000 or 1,2%) and mining and quarrying (6 000 or 1,3%). However, the following industries reported annual decreases: construction (-37 000 or -5,8%), manufacturing (-22 000 or -1,8%), electricity (-3 000 or -4,8%) and transport (-1 000 or -0,2%).



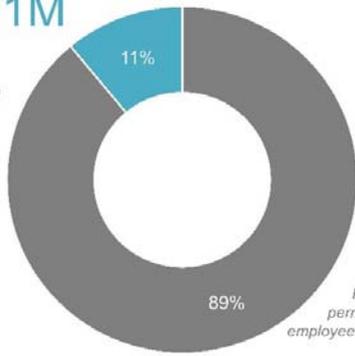
QES  
Q3:2019

### Q3:2019 EMPLOYMENT COMPOSITION

PART TIME

1,061M

*Part-time employees are those permanent, temporary or casual employees who work less than 40 hours per week.*



FULL TIME  
9,081M

*Full-time employees are those permanent, temporary and casual employees who normally work 40 hours or more per week.*

#### Full-time employees

Full-time employment decreased by 11 000 or -0,1% quarter-on-quarter, from 9 092 000 in June 2019 to 9 081 000 in September 2019. This was largely due to decreases in the following industries: construction (-14 000 or -2,7%), manufacturing (-8 000 or -0,7%) and transport (-4 000 or -0,9%). However, the following industries recorded an increase in employment: community services (8 000 or 0,3%), trade (6 000 or 0,3%) and business services (1 000 or 0,0%).

The mining and quarrying, and electricity industries are the only two industries that did not lose any employees in the quarter ending September 2019 with a total of 462 000 and 58 000 employees, respectively. Furthermore, full-time employment increased by 45 000 or 0,5% year-on-year between September 2018 and September 2019. This was largely due to increases in the following industries: business services (47 000 or 2,3%), trade (30 000 or 1,5%), community services (21 000 or 0,9%) and mining and quarrying (6 000 or 1,3%). However, the following industries reported annual decreases: construction (-39 000 or -7,2%), manufacturing (-15 000 or -1,3%) electricity (-3 000 or -4,9%) and transport (-2 000 or -0,4%).

#### Part-time employees

Part-time employment decreased by 17 000 or -1,6% quarter-on-quarter, from 1 078 000 in June 2019 to 1 061 000 in September 2019. This was



largely due to decreases in the following industries: community services (-19 000 or -4,5%), business services (-10 000 or -4,1%) and manufacturing (-4 000 or -5,0%). On the other hand, increases were reported in the following industries: trade (11 000 or 5,0%), transport (3 000 or 18,8%) and construction (2 000 or 2,1%). The electricity industry remained unchanged with 1 000 part-time employees.

Furthermore, part-time employment increased by 33 000 or 3,2% year-on-year between September 2018 and September 2019. This was largely due to increases in the following industries: community services (33 000 or 8,9%), trade (23 000 or 11,0%), construction (2 000 or 2,1%) and transport (1 000 or 5,6%). However, there were decreases in the following industries: business services (-19 000 or -7,6%) and manufacturing (-7 000 or -8,4%). The electricity industry remained unchanged with 1 000 part-time employees.

### **Total gross earnings by industry**

The total gross earnings paid to employees increased by R11,8 billion (1,7%) from R699,5 billion in June 2019 to R711,2 billion in September 2019. Increases were experienced in the following industries: business services (R6,5 billion or 3,6%), community services (R3,8 billion or 1,6%), mining and quarrying (R2,3 billion or 6,5%), trade (R926 million or 0,9%), manufacturing (R628 million or 0,9%) and electricity (R130 million or 1,6%). However, there were decreases in the following industries: transport (R-1,7 billion or -4,1%) and construction (R727 million or -2,3%).

Year-on-year, total gross earnings increased by R26 billion or 3,8% from R685 billion in September 2018 to R711 billion in September 2019.



**Table 1 – Basic salary/wages payments by industry**

Industry	Sep 2018	Jun* 2019	Sep 2019	Q/Q Change	Q/Q Change	Y/Y Change	Y/Y Change
	R million			%		R million	%
Mining	33 754	34 640	36 892	2 252	6,5	3 138	9,3
Manufacturing	62 406	63 332	64 564	1 232	1,9	2 158	3,5
Electricity	7 566	7 314	7 580	266	3,6	14	0,2
Construction	30 199	29 244	28 857	-387	-1,3	-1 342	-4,4
Trade	90 055	94 497	95 576	1 079	1,1	5 521	6,1
Transport	33 386	34 901	35 182	281	0,8	1 796	5,4
Business services	157 076	161 481	163 073	1 592	1,0	5 997	3,8
Community services	210 804	215 355	218 321	2 966	1,4	7 517	3,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>625 246</b>	<b>640 764</b>	<b>650 045</b>	<b>9 281</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>24 799</b>	<b>4,0</b>

\*Revised estimates.

Table 1 shows that basic salary/wages paid to employees increased by R9,3 billion (1,4%) from R640,8 billion in June 2019 to R650,0 billion in September 2019. This was largely due to increases in the following industries: community services, mining and quarrying, business services, manufacturing, trade, transport and electricity. However, there was a decrease reported by the construction industry.

Table 1 further shows that year-on-year, basic salary/wages increased by R24,8 billion or 4,0%.

### Bonus and overtime payments by industry

Bonus and overtime paid to employees increased by R2,5 billion (4,2%) from R58,7 billion in June 2019 to R61,2 billion in September 2019. This was largely due to increases in the following industries: business services (R4,9 billion or 27,2%) and community services (R787 million or 4,8%). However, there were decreases in the following industries: transport (R2 billion or -30,9%), manufacturing (R604 million or -8,5%), construction (R340 million or -16,7%), trade (R153 million or -1,9%) and electricity (R136 million or -21,1 %).

Year-on-year, bonus and overtime payments increased by R1,2 billion or 2,0% from R60 billion in September 2018 to R61,1 billion in September 2019).



## Average monthly earnings

There was a quarter-on-quarter increase of 2,6% in average monthly earnings (including bonuses and overtime payments) paid to employees in the formal non-agricultural sector from R21 414 in May 2019 to R21 966 in August 2019.

Year-on-year, average monthly earnings paid to employees in the formal non-agricultural sector increased by 3,7% from R21 192 in August 2018 to R21 966 in August 2019.

## Conclusion

In the quarter ended September 2019, some employees lost their jobs. Most of these jobs were shed in the construction and manufacturing industries. The trade industry was the only industry to experience an increase in the number of people employed during this period, while the mining and electricity industries experienced neither losses nor gains in the number of people employed in the quarter ending September 2019. In the same quarter, the industry which spent the most on basic salary and wages was the community services industry, while the electricity industry spent the least in this category.



# Primary industries

## Mining: Production and sales

### *Mining production decreases in November 2019*

South Africa has been striving to build a junior mining sector. A junior mining term refers to an exploration company in search of new deposits of gold, silver, uranium or other precious metals. Most of these companies are in the development and exploration phase, and are on the lookout for land with a higher chance for uncovering large mineral deposits. The junior mining sector in South Africa was born of new legislation in the form of the Mining and Petroleum Resources Development Act, 2002 (Act No. 28 of 2002). According to the Act, junior producers must apply for exploration rights and pay a non-refundable application fee, among others. The Junior and Emerging Miners’ Desk established by the Minerals Council South Africa is responsible to provide advice and support, and acts as a resource centre for junior mining companies. Presented in this article is a summary of the key results from the Mining: Production and sales release for November 2019.

Mining production decreased by 3,1% year-on-year in November 2019 (see **Table A**). The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-13,5%, contributing -3,6 percentage points);
- iron ore (-7,5%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point); and
- coal (-2,8%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point).

‘Other’ non-metallic minerals was a significant positive contributor (20,5%, contributing 1,2 percentage points).

**Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production for November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,8	1,9	-2,9	-0,4	-2,1	-3,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	2,7	-4,9	-0,1	0,8	1,7	-3,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	4,1	4,4	1,4	-1,7	-1,4	-0,9

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



Mineral sales increased by 5,8% year-on-year in November 2019 (see Table B). The largest positive contributors were:

- PGMs (36,5%, contributing 8,4 percentage points);
- gold (64,0%, contributing 6,7 percentage points); and
- 'other' metallic minerals (52,6%, contributing 1,1 percentage points).

**Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	6,9	16,9	9,1	15,9	9,0	5,8
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,8	3,3	-1,3	1,6	0,2	4,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	3,0	2,9	0,0	1,6	1,4	3,5

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



## Secondary industries

### Manufacturing: Production and sales

#### *Manufacturing production decreases*

South Africa is emerging as one of the fastest-growing markets for the global tyre industry. The rapid growth of motor vehicles around the world is pushing the demand for all sizes and types of tyres. In order to meet the tyre demands, two South Africa-based manufacturing tyre companies – Continental Tyre South Africa (CTSA) and Bridgestone South Africa (SA) – announced in December 2019 that they are producing 19-inch tyres in South Africa, making this the first-ever 19-inch tyre produced locally. CTSA produces the General Grabber AT3 all-terrain tyre at its Port Elizabeth manufacturing plant in Eastern Cape while Bridgestone SA produces new tyres for the BMW X3, which are assembled at the BMW Group South Africa's plant in Pretoria for local and export markets. The General Grabber AT3 is suited to a range of sport utility vehicles (SUVs) such as BMW X5, Ford Everest, Land Rover Discovery and Mercedes-Benz GLE. The South African tyre manufacturers will no longer import 19-inch tyres from other manufacturing plants around the world. Presented in this article is a summary of the key results of the Manufacturing: Production and sales release for November 2019.

Manufacturing production decreased by 3,6% in November 2019 compared with November 2018 (**see Table C**). Nine of the ten manufacturing divisions reported negative growth rates over this period. The largest negative contributions were made by the following divisions:

- wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing (-9,3%, contributing -1,1 percentage points);
- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (-10,0%, contributing -0,8 of a percentage point);
- petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products (-2,6%, contributing -0,6 of a percentage point);
- textiles, clothing, leather and footwear (-13,3%, contributing -0,4 of a percentage point); and
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (-2,5%, contributing -0,4 of a percentage point).



**Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-3,6	-0,6	-1,5	-2,4	-0,8	-3,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,9	0,9	1,3	-2,4	2,5	-1,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	0,4	-1,4	-1,7	-1,1	0,5	0,0

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## Selected building statistics of the private sector

### *Value of recorded building plans passed increases*

The Old Tannery building situated in Wellington in the Western Cape is one of the oldest historic buildings in the country. It was built in the year 1871 as the Western Tanning & Boot factory, and comprised several buildings, modern machinery and at least 200 workers. Shoes were produced under the brand “Olyvenhout” and sold by small traders in Cape Town and Kimberley. In 1939 the shoe factory was destroyed by fire and never re-opened; however, the tannery continued to produce leather for shoe uppers, amongst others. The factory was later sold in 2017, but it was in a state of decay and deconstructed. In January 2019, the new owners began with restoration development and already some buildings within the factory house a variety of creative and light industrial businesses while others are being refurbished to provide a space where people can eat, drink, shop and work in safety and comfort. The restoration and development project is in line with South Africa’s heritage regulations so that the unique architecture and character will be restored and preserved for future generations. Presented in this article is a summary of the selected building statistics for November 2019.

The value of recorded building plans passed (at current prices) decreased by 8,8% (-R9 661,3 million) from January to November 2019 compared with January to November 2018 (**See Table D**).



Decreases were recorded for non-residential buildings (-17,5% or -R4 431,9 million) and residential buildings (-9,9% or -R5 673,3 million). An increase was recorded for additions and alterations (1,6% or R443,9 million).

The largest negative contributions to the total decrease of 8,8% (-R9 661,3 million) were made by Western Cape (contributing -3,9 percentage points or -R4 274,2 million), KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -2,8 percentage points or -R3 097,3 million) and Gauteng (contributing -2,3 percentage points or -R2 552,6 million).

**Table D – Recorded building plans passed by larger municipalities: January to November 2018 versus January to November 2019**

Estimates at current prices	January to November 2018	January to November 2019	Difference in value between January to November 2018 and January to November 2019	% change between January to November 2018 and January to November 2019
	<sup>1/</sup>	<sup>1/</sup>		
	R'000	R'000	R'000	
<b>Residential buildings</b>	57 239 231	51 565 940	-5 673 291	-9,9
-Dwelling houses	31 248 852	28 581 076	-2 667 776	-8,5
-Flats and townhouses	24 218 703	22 310 365	-1 908 338	-7,9
-Other residential buildings	1 771 676	674 499	-1 097 177	-61,9
<b>Non-residential buildings</b>	25 355 145	20 923 257	-4 431 888	-17,5
<b>Additions and alterations</b>	27 744 860	28 188 775	443 915	1,6
<b>Total</b>	110 339 236	100 677 972	-9 661 264	-8,8

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



## Electricity generated and available for distribution

### *Electricity produced and consumed*

Due to high demand of electricity consumption or urgent maintenance being performed at certain power stations, the electricity distribution systems (through Eskom and municipalities) may be put under pressure. System Management, commonly known as load shedding is when there is not enough electricity available to relieve the pressure and to meet the demand from all consumers. The main purpose of load shedding is to protect the electricity power system from a total countrywide blackout (no electricity). Load shedding is implemented in a manner that will ensure that there is a rotation of load shedding to all customers throughout the day. This is done through different stages (Stages 1–8) to avoid customers from being affected at the same time of the day when load shedding is implemented. To know more about the different stages and areas, consumers can visit Eskom’s website, download load shedding Apps on their mobiles or follow their municipal social media pages for regular updates during load shedding period. Presented in this article is a summary of the electricity generated and distributed in December 2019.

Electricity generation (production) decreased by 4,0% year-on-year in December 2019 (see Table E).

Total electricity generation was 1,5% lower in 2019 compared with 2018. The 1,5% decrease in annual electricity production followed increases of 0,4% in 2018 and 0,9% in 2017.

**Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for December 2019**

	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-0,6	-2,4	-0,4	-1,9	-2,8	-4,0
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,4	-2,0	2,3	-1,1	-1,1	-1,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	0,7	-0,6	-1,9	-1,6	-0,6	-1,5

<sup>1/</sup> Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.



Electricity distribution (consumption) decreased by 4,9% year-on-year in December 2019 (see Table F).

**Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for December 2019**

	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,9	-4,7	-1,2	-2,1	-3,1	-4,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,6	-2,6	3,3	-0,6	-1,6	-1,3
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	0,2	-1,4	-1,9	-1,3	0,3	-0,8

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



# Tertiary industries

## Wholesale trade sales

### *Wholesale trade sales decrease*

South African meat wholesalers are set to benefit as the demand for beef is expected to grow. According to an annual report by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Agricultural Outlook 2019 to 2028 which was released on 8 July 2019, beef production in developing countries is projected to be 17% higher in 2028 and developing countries such as South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, China and Pakistan to account for 72% of the additional beef produced worldwide. Presented in this article is a summary of the wholesale trade sales statistics for November 2019.

Wholesale trade sales decreased by 3,7% in November 2019 compared with November 2018 (see Table G).

**Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales at constant prices for November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-6,4	6,7	-4,0	-3,7	-0,7	-3,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,0	9,1	-7,0	1,6	0,8	-1,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	0,3	0,4	0,8	2,8	-0,6	-0,4

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## Retail trade sales

### *Retail trade sales increase*

South Africa's unemployment rate was reported to be at 29,1% in Quarter 3 of 2019 – the highest figure since 2008. According to the Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) released by Statistics South Africa, the number of young people between the ages of 15 and 34 without employment or in



school increased by 1% since last year. As a measure to reduce the unemployment rate amongst the youth, one of South Africa’s biggest retailers, Shoprite Group, has been offering bursaries to unemployed people between 15 and 34 years old to continue with their post-school education and ultimately have a better chance of finding employment. Shoprite’s bursaries have been providing financial assistance towards tuition and on-campus accommodation, and are also linked to work-back agreements with the aim to ensure employment opportunities upon graduation. During the 2019 academic year, Shoprite awarded bursaries to 282 students, including 178 women, 210 previously disadvantaged students and 59 students from other African countries. Presented in this article is a summary of the retail trade sales for November 2019.

Retail trade sales increased by 2,6% year-on-year in November 2019 (see Table H). The largest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (6,2%);
- general dealers (3,2%);
- retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment (3,2%); and
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (2,7%).

The main contributors to the 2,6% increase were:

- general dealers (contributing 1,3 percentage points);
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (contributing 0,5 of a percentage point); and
- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (contributing 0,4 of a percentage point).

**Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for November 2019 at constant 2015 prices**

	Jun -19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,4	2,0	1,0	0,4	0,4	2,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	0,2	1,~	0,7	0,1	3,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	0,8	0,7	0,6	0,1	-0,1	1,2

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



## Motor trade sales

### *Motor trade sales decrease*

South Africa is experiencing an escalating numbers of illegal second-hand vehicles imported from other countries. Most of these illegal second-hand vehicles are meant for other African countries, but are siphoned off and sold to South Africans with the lie that they could be made legal. These vehicles are models that are not sold in South Africa, their mirrors are on the front fender, mirrors are in the back window, labels in the side windows are in foreign languages and wipers are on the front headlights, amongst other identifiable features. According to the International Trade Administration Act, 2002 (Act No. 71 of 2002), the importation of used vehicles into South Africa is prohibited but only allowed to immigrants with permanent residence and returning South African nationals. South Africans are advised not to buy illegal second-hand imported vehicles because they will be seized and destroyed. Presented in this article is a summary of the key results for the Motor trade sales release for November 2019.

Motor trade sales decreased by 4,5% year-on-year in November 2019 (see **Table I**). The largest negative annual growth rates were recorded for:

- fuel sales (-7,0%);
- new vehicle sales (-6,8%); and
- used vehicle sales (-3,4%).

Motor trade sales decreased by 1,8% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018. The main negative contributor was fuel sales (-7,5%, contributing -2,3 percentage points).

**Table I – Key growth rate figures in motor trade sales for November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,8	5,1	1,5	0,1	-0,7	-4,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	1,0	1,2	-3,0	0,9	-2,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	3,2	1,1	0,9	0,1	0,3	-2,0

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



## Food and beverages

### *Income generated by food and beverages industry decreases*

The food and beverages industry is the fastest growing industry in South Africa amidst the negative economic climate. Innovations in this industry are now being tailored to meet the unique needs of customers. Such innovations are evident in a newly opened restaurant in Cape Town that entails a never-seen-before offering in South Africa. *Pilcrow & Cleaver*, which is the brainchild of Chef Judi Fourie, has a no-tipping policy, no waiters, doors and windows to the kitchen. The restaurant puts consumers in direct contact with chefs while they cook the food. Consumers can also browse the restaurant's homemade delicacies and consider a recipe in the bespoke cookbook collection. The restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner with small plates, mains and desserts. Presented in this article is a summary of the key results for the Food and beverages release for November 2019.

Total income generated by the food and beverages industry increased by 0,5% in November 2019 compared with November 2018 (see **Table J**). Positive annual growth rates were recorded for:

- 'other' income (18,7%); and
- bar sales (9,9%).

In November 2019, positive annual growth rates were recorded for:

- catering services (11,7%, contributing 1,7 percentage points); and
- takeaway and fast-food outlets (5,1%, contributing 1,6 percentage points).

Total income decreased by 0,3% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018.

Restaurants and coffee shops decreased by 2,8% (contributing -1,5 percentage points), while catering services increased by 3,7% (contributing 0,6 of a percentage point) and takeaway and fast-food outlets increased by 1,8% (contributing 0,6 of a percentage point) over this period.



**Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant prices by type of income – November 2019**

Type of income	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Food sales	4,8	-1,5	1,5	0,7	-1,8	-0,7
Bar sales	4,1	-4,7	3,4	1,7	3,5	9,9
Other income	10,1	-5,8	-4,0	-24,6	-5,7	18,7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,9</b>	<b>-1,9</b>	<b>1,5</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>-1,5</b>	<b>0,5</b>

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

## Tourist accommodation

### *Income for tourist accommodation decreases*

South Africa has increased the number of hotels that are ranked among the best in the world. One of these hotels is the Gorgeous George, a Cape Town-based hotel that was awarded the Middle East and Africa Hotel of the Year for 2019 by the Awards for Hospitality, Experience and Design (AHEAD). The AHEAD awards were held in November 2019 in Dubai for the best hotel and resort design across the Middle East and Africa regions. The Gorgeous George Hotel won the award for incredible renovation and keeping the essence of the existing building, but still pushing the interiors into being really fresh, among others. The hotel also won four awards for Renovation, Restoration and Conversion, Suite and Visual Identity. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Tourist accommodation release for November 2019.

Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 0,6% in November 2019 compared with November 2018 (**see Table K**). Income from accommodation decreased by 0,8% year-on-year in November 2019, the result of a 0,3% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 1,0% decrease in the average income per stay unit night sold.

In November 2019, negative contributors to the 0,8% year-on-year decrease in income from accommodation were:

- hotels (-3,2%, contributing -2,2 percentage points); and



- guest-houses, guest-farms (-13,9%, contributing -0,6 of a percentage point).

'Other' accommodation increased by 8,1% (contributing 2,0 percentage points) over this period.

**Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics (income at current prices), November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Stay units available	0,1	0,0	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2
Stay unit nights sold	2,6	-1,1	1,7	3,1	-3,8	0,3
Average income per stay unit nights sold	4,5	3,9	2,9	4,2	5,8	-1,0
Income from accommodation	7,2	2,8	4,7	7,4	1,8	-0,8
<b>Total income <sup>1/</sup></b>	<b>6,2</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>5,3</b>	<b>4,6</b>	<b>1,2</b>	<b>0,6</b>

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## Tourism and migration

### ***Three and a half million travellers passed through SA's ports of entry in November 2019***

In 2018, South Africa was ranked the third most visited country in Africa, after Morocco and Egypt. This is according to the latest statistics from the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Despite several issues that the country has faced in the past such as recession, Cape Town's water crisis and some restricting visa requirements, more tourists continue to stream into the country year after year, attracted by the country's beautiful flora and fauna, the wine and food, and the cultural diversity. Furthermore, in the same year, non-resident visitors (which includes both tourists and same-day visitors) spent a total of R120 billion within the borders of South Africa, some of which was spent on tourism-related activities such as accommodation, transport, food and recreation. Thus, the tourism industry continues to contribute towards the growth of the country's economy. Presented in this article is a summary of the key results from the Tourism and migration release for November 2019.



## Number of travellers

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs' (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 3 504 412 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry/exit in November 2019 (see Table L). These travellers were made up of 909 878 South African residents and 2 594 534 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 445 039 arrivals, 464 103 departures and 736 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 1 336 068, 1 193 490 and 64 976, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in November 2018 and November 2019 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures increased for South African residents but decreased for foreign travellers. Travellers in transit decreased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 1,9% (from 436 946 in November 2018 to 445 039 in November 2019). Departures increased by 2,0% (from 455 068 in November 2018 to 464 103 in November 2019), and transits decreased by 6,2% (from 785 in November 2018 to 736 in November 2019). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 0,4% (from 1 341 316 in November 2018 to 1 336 068 in November 2019), departures decreased by 0,6% (from 1 200 690 in November 2018 to 1 193 490 in November 2019), and transits decreased by 6,3% (from 69 342 in November 2018 to 64 976 in November 2019).

In November 2019, 83 037 (6,2%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 1 253 031 (93,8%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in November 2019 but did not depart in November 2019 [304 257 (24,3%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in November 2019 and left in November 2019 [475 021 (37,9%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in November 2019 [473 753 (37,8%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists).



## Mode of travel

In November 2019, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 2 432 566 (69,4%) of the 3 504 412 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 1 033 546 (29,5%). Compared to the use of air and land transport, a smaller number of travellers, 38 300 (1,1%) used sea transport. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 167 647 (37,7%) came by air, 268 433 (60,3%) came by road and 8 959 (2,0%) arrived by sea transport. For departures, 168 279 (36,3%) used air, 284 680 (61,3%) used road and 11 144 (2,4%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 736 (100,0%) used air transport.

## Purpose of visit

In November 2019, the majority of tourists, 826 580 (97,2%) were in South Africa for holiday compared to 20 611 (2,4%); 2 869 (0,3%) and 477 (0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and for medical treatment, respectively.

## Sex and age distribution

In November 2019, there were 470 385 (55,3%) male and 380 152 (44,7%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 133 055 (53,8%) male tourists and 114 081 (46,2%) female tourists. There were 326 946 (55,7%) male and 260 378 (44,3%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 9 276 (64,7%) male and 5 055 (35,3%) female tourists.

In respect of age distribution, results show that the majority of tourists were aged between 35 and 44 years [231 167 (27,2%)], followed closely by the age group 25 to 34 years [230 893 (27,1%)].



**Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction: November 2019**

Travel direction	November 2018	October 2019	November 2019	% change between October 2019 and November 2019	% change between November 2018 and November 2019
<b>Total</b>		3			
<b>South African residents</b>	3 504 147	435 653	3 504 412	2,0%	0,0%
Arrivals	892 799	927 951	909 878	-1,9%	1,9%
Departures	436 946	477 340	445 039	-6,8%	1,9%
Transit	455 068	449 801	464 103	3,2%	2,0%
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	785	810	736	-9,1%	-6,2%
Arrivals	2 611 348	507 702	2 594 534	3,5%	-0,6%
Departures	1 341 316	297 483	1 336 068	3,0%	-0,4%
Transit	1 200 690	139 310	1 193 490	4,8%	-0,6%
<b>Foreign arrivals</b>	69 342	70 909	64 976	-8,4%	-6,3%
Non-visitors	1 341 316	297 483	1 336 068	3,0%	-0,4%
Visitors	78 770	85 725	83 037	-3,1%	5,4%
<b>Visitors</b>	1 262 546	211 758	1 253 031	3,4%	-0,8%
Arrivals only	1 262 546	211 758	1 253 031	3,4%	-0,8%
Single trips	307 132	308 512	304 257	-1,4%	-0,9%
Multiple trips	481 538	444 427	475 021	6,9%	-1,4%
Overnight (Tourists)	473 876	458 819	473 753	3,3%	-0,03%
Same-day	1 262 546	211 758	1 253 031	3,4%	-0,8%
Overnight (Tourists)	387 374	377 483	402 494	6,6%	3,9%
Same-day	875 172	834 275	850 537	1,9%	-2,8%

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

## Statistics on civil cases for debt

### *Number of civil summonses issued for debt increases*

Phishing has become a technique that is most successful on the internet today, accounting for 91% of crime. Phishing is a fraudulent attempt to



obtain sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details by disguising oneself as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication such as email messages, websites and phone calls. Cybercriminals can do this by installing malicious software on your computer, tricking you into giving them sensitive information. Often, when cybercriminals are in possession of sensitive information such as credit card details, they obtain access to the victim's account and leave the victim incurring more debt to their credit card account. One of the preventative measures to avoid being victims of phishing is never to give out personal information such as credit card numbers and expiration dates, or ID numbers to unfamiliar companies or unknown persons. Provided in this article is a summary of the statistics of civil cases for debt for November 2019.

### **The number of civil summonses issued for debt**

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt increased by 1,4% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018 (**see Table M**). The positive contributors to the 1,4% increase were civil summonses relating to:

- money lent (contributing 2,9 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing 1,9 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing 0,7 of a percentage point).

### **The number of civil judgements recorded for debt**

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 19,5% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018. The largest contributors to the 19,5% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing -6,9 percentage points);
- promissory notes (contributing -4,4 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing -3,8 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing -2,2 percentage points).

### **The value of civil judgements recorded for debt**

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 4,5% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018. The largest contributors to the 4,5% increase were the value of judgements relating to:

- money lent (contributing 2,4 percentage points);



- goods sold (contributing 2,0 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing 0,7 of a percentage point).

**Table M – Key figures for civil summonses and judgements for November 2019**

Actual estimates	November 2019	% change between November 2018 and November 2019	% change between September to November 2018 and September to November 2019
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	50 790	2,3	1,4
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	15 573	-21,3	-19,5
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	344,5	6,0	4,5

A full release on *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (Statistical release P0041) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies

### *Number of liquidations and insolvencies increases*

Companies in financial distress can apply for business rescue in order to recover from their financially distressed situations. A financially distressed situation would occur when it appears unlikely that the company will be able to pay all of its debts as they fall due and payable within the immediate ensuing six months or it appears likely that the company will become insolvent within the immediate ensuing six months. However, the court may dismiss the business rescue application if the company is not financially distressed. According to the Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008), the court might rule that business rescue is not appropriate and that liquidation of the company is the preferred remedy. Thus, the company which is regarded as being in financial difficulty will not be rescued, but liquidated. Presented in this article is a summary of the key results of the Liquidations and insolvencies release for December 2019.

The total number of liquidations increased by 10,7% in 2019 compared with 2018 (**see Table N**). This followed annual changes of -1,2% in 2018 and -3,4% in 2017. Company liquidations increased by 11,0% (from 972 to 1 079) and close corporation liquidations increased by 10,3% (from 873 to 963) between 2018 and 2019.



The three largest contributors to the 2 024 liquidations recorded in 2019 related to businesses in the following industries:

- financing, insurance, real estate and business services (668 liquidations or 32,7%);
- unclassified (540 liquidations or 26,4%); and
- trade, catering and accommodation (457 liquidations or 22,4%).

The total number of liquidations recorded in December 2019 decreased by 5,0% compared with December 2018.

**Table N – Total number of liquidations for December 2019**

Number of liquidations December 2019	% change between December 2018 and December 2019	% change between October to December 2018 and October to December 2019	% change between January to December 2018 and January to December 2019
134	-5,0	11,3	10,7

The estimated number of insolvencies increased by 14,5% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018 (**see Table O**). A 6,7% increase was estimated in November 2019 compared with November 2018.

**Table O – Total number of insolvencies for November 2019**

Number of insolvencies November 2019	% change between November 2018 and November 2019	% change between September to November 2018 and September to November 2019	% change between January to November 2018 and January to November 2019
317	6,7	14,5	23,0

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

## Land transport survey

### *Volume of goods transported decreases*

In 2018, the then Minister of Transport, Blade Nzimande, stated that “South Africa is committed to providing a world class transport system that reduces



both the cost of transport and the quantity of greenhouse gases (GHG), as well as other pollutants that are emitted by the sector". In line with this commitment, the Department of Transport, in the same year, launched the Green Transport Strategy for South Africa (GTS): 2018–2050, which is aimed at minimising the impact of transport on the environment, while addressing current and future transport demands and encouraging electric vehicle use and public transport enhancement. Some of the steps that will be taken to achieve this include shifting passengers from private transport to public transport and also shifting freight from road to rail. Presented in this article is a summary of the Land transport survey results for November 2019.

The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 12,8% in November 2019 compared with November 2018 (see Table P). The corresponding income decreased by 8,9% over the same period.

Income from freight transportation decreased by 5,2% in the three months ended November 2019 compared with the three months ended November 2018. The main contributors to this decrease were:

- primary mining and quarrying products (-4,3% and contributing -1,5 percentage points);
- basic metals and fabricated metal products (-39,2% and contributing -1,5 percentage points); and
- 'other' freight (-5,2% and contributing -0,9 of a percentage point).

**Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation: November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Freight payload	3,4	-2,6	-2,0	-3,9	-7,4	-12,8
Freight income	4,2	-0,5	0,5	-1,9	-4,3	-8,9

A full release on the *Land Transport Survey* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

The number of passenger journeys decreased by 16,6% in November 2019 compared with November 2018 (see Table Q). The corresponding income increased by 2,6% over the same period.

**Table Q – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation: November 2019**

	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19
Passenger journeys	-23,8	-21,2	-19,0	-15,4	-11,9	-16,6
Passenger income	-0,8	-4,1	3,3	8,6	1,6	2,6

A full release on the *Land Transport Survey* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)



# Prices

## Producer price index (PPI)

### *PPI at 3,4%*

The Producer Price Index (PPI) measures the average change in prices of locally produced goods and services (including exports). What differentiates PPI from the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is that PPI measures the price received by the producer while the CPI measures price changes experienced by households when they purchase goods and services from suppliers. The producer in the PPI can be described as an entity that creates and provides goods and/or services. These producer goods either become part of the final product used for resale or are used in further production processes. Presented in this article is a summary of the PPI statistics for December 2019.

### **Final manufactured goods – headline PPI**

The producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 3,4% in December 2019, up from 2,3% in November 2019. The producer price index increased by 0,2% month-on-month in December 2019 (**see Table R**).

The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were food products, beverages and tobacco products; metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment; and coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products.

- Food products, beverages and tobacco products increased by 3,2% year-on-year and contributed 1,1 percentage points.
- Metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment increased by 3,9% year-on-year and contributed 0,6 of a percentage point.
- Coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products increased by 2,4% year-on-year and contributed 0,5 of a percentage point.

### **Intermediate manufactured goods**

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was -1,5% in December 2019 (compared with -1,1% in November 2019) (**see Table R**). The index decreased by 1,7% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were chemicals, rubber and plastic



products (-1,8 percentage points) and recycling and manufacturing n.e.c. (-1,1 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was chemicals, rubber and plastic products (-1,2 percentage points).

### Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 13,8% in December 2019 (compared with 13,4% in November 2019) (**see Table R**). The index decreased by 0,9% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 12,7 percentage points to the annual rate, and water contributed 1,1 percentage points (Figure 3.2). Electricity contributed -0,9 of a percentage point to the monthly rate.

### Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was 24,2% in December 2019 (compared with 20,8% in November 2019) (**see Table R**). The index increased by 1,2% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were non-ferrous metal ores (18,7 percentage points) and gold and other metal ores (3,9 percentage points). The main contributors to the monthly rate were non-ferrous metal ores (0,9 of a percentage point) and coal and gas (0,5 of a percentage point).

### Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was -0,6% in December 2019 (compared with -1,1% in November 2019) (**see Table R**). The index increased by 2,5% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (-2,2 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (2,4 percentage points).



**Table R – Key PPI figures for December 2019**

Product	Weight	Index (2016=100)			% change	
		December 2018	November 2019	December 2019	December 2019 vs November 2019	December 2019 vs December 2018
Final manufactured goods	100,00	110,7	114,3	114,5	0,2	3,4
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	108,4	108,6	106,8	-1,7	1,5
Electricity and water	100,00	111,3	127,9	126,7	-0,9	13,8
Mining	100,00	112,5	138,1	139,7	1,2	24,2
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	102,3	99,2	101,7	2,5	-0,6

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

## Consumer price index (CPI)

### *CPI rises to 4% in December 2019*

The consumer price index (CPI) rose to 4% in December 2019 from 3,6% in November 2019. However, taking the entire year (2019) into account, the average inflation was 4,1%, which was lower than the average rates recorded for 2018 (4,7%) and 2017 (5,3%). This indicates that inflation has been decreasing annually. In certain instances, when inflation decreases, it means that consumers are spending less money than they used to (either due to an increase in their debt, unemployment, etc.). Since there is less spending, the demand for certain goods and services decreases, causing prices to remain stable and inflation to decrease. Presented in this article is a summary of the Consumer price index (CPI) release for December 2019.

As mentioned earlier, the annual consumer price inflation was 4,0% in December 2019, up from 3,6% in November 2019 (**see Table S**). The consumer price index increased by 0,3% month-on-month in December 2019. The main contributors to the 4,0% annual inflation rate were food and non-alcoholic beverages; housing and utilities; transport; and miscellaneous goods and services.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 3,9% year-on-year, and contributed 0,7 of a percentage point to the total CPI annual rate of 4,0%.



Housing and utilities increased by 4,6% year-on-year, and contributed 1,1 percentage points.

Transport increased by 3,3% year-on-year, and contributed 0,5 of a percentage point. Miscellaneous goods and services increased by 5,4% year-on-year, and contributed 0,8 of a percentage point. The annual inflation rates for goods and for services were 3,9% and 4,1%, respectively.

Provincial annual inflation rates ranged from 3,7% in Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal to 4,7% in Limpopo.



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

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average [1]
Year	Index/rate													
2010	Index	69,3	69,8	70,3	70,4	70,6	70,6	71,1	71,1	71,1	71,3	71,4	71,5	70,7
	Rate	6,1	5,8	5,1	4,8	4,7	4,1	3,8	3,6	3,0	3,3	3,5	3,5	4,3
2011	Index	71,9	72,3	73,2	73,5	73,8	74,1	74,7	74,9	75,2	75,5	75,8	75,9	74,2
	Rate	3,8	3,6	4,1	4,4	4,5	5,0	5,1	5,3	5,8	5,9	6,2	6,2	5,0
2012	Index	76,3	76,7	77,6	77,9	77,9	78,2	78,4	78,6	79,3	79,8	80,0	80,2	78,4
	Rate	6,1	6,1	6,0	6,0	5,6	5,5	5,0	4,9	5,5	5,7	5,5	5,7	5,7
2013	Index	80,4	81,2	82,2	82,5	82,3	82,5	83,4	83,6	84,0	84,2	84,3	84,5	82,9
	Rate	5,4	5,9	5,9	5,9	5,6	5,5	6,4	6,4	5,9	5,5	5,4	5,4	5,7
2014	Index	85,1	86,0	87,2	87,6	87,7	88,0	88,7	89,0	89,0	89,2	89,2	89,0	88,0
	Rate	5,8	5,9	6,1	6,2	6,6	6,7	6,4	6,5	6,0	5,9	5,8	5,3	6,2
2015	Index	88,9	89,4	90,7	91,5	91,7	92,1	93,1	93,1	93,1	93,3	93,4	93,7	92,0
	Rate	4,5	4,0	4,0	4,5	4,6	4,7	5,0	4,6	4,6	4,6	4,7	5,3	4,5
2016	Index	94,4	95,7	96,4	97,2	97,4	97,9	98,7	98,6	98,8	99,3	99,6	100,0	97,8
	Rate	6,2	7,0	6,3	6,2	6,2	6,3	6,0	5,9	6,1	6,4	6,6	6,7	6,3
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	105,8	106,2	107,0	107,2	107,6	108,5	108,4	108,9	109,4	109,6	109,4	107,8
	Rate	4,4	4,0	3,8	4,5	4,4	4,6	5,1	4,9	4,9	5,1	5,2	4,5	4,7
2019	Index	109,2	110,1	111,0	111,7	112,0	112,4	112,8	113,1	113,4	113,4	113,5	113,8	112,2
	Rate	4,0	4,1	4,5	4,4	4,5	4,5	4,0	4,3	4,1	3,7	3,6	4,0	4,1

<sup>1/</sup> Annual average.



# 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