# Mbalo Brief

## the missing piece of the puzzle

September 2026

PRICES

FEATURE ARTICLE

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

SECONDARY INDUSTRIES

TERTIARY INDUSTRIES

GLOSSARY

Issue 08/2026

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS

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# Editor's Comment

Geographers and historians have been arguing that the African continent is bigger than it is actually displayed on the world map, but its size was shrunk to a smaller size long time ago. The projection of the world map which is called Mercator map, was created by the 16th century geographer Gerardus Mercator to plot straight line courses across the ocean for sailors and to make angles and directions stay true on the map. In order to rectify the size distortion of Africa, on 4 September 2026, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly voted to replace the Mercator world map in favour of one that more accurately displays Africa's true size. The UN's adoption of a new world map came after a #CorrectTheMap campaign was launched in 2024 and initiated by Africa No Filter and Speak Up Africa, advocacy organisations to challenge the way Africa is represented on the world map.

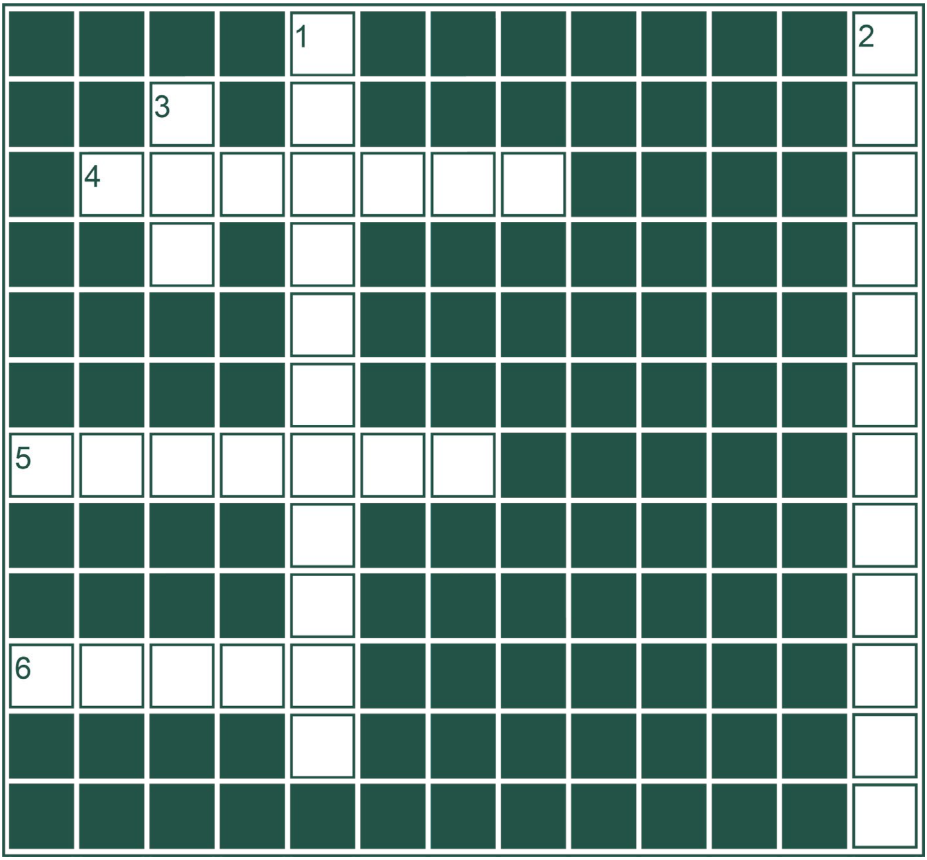
The adoption of a new map by UN occurred in September month which holds significance in African culture and tradition. According to Dr Motheo Koitsiwe, Indigenous Astronomer and Director of North West Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) Centre, September month has been known as the African New Year and the month of the new beginning for countries across the continent. Dr Koitsiwe added that new beginning is also demonstrated by the way the months in the African calendar are named. Among the Khoi, September is called Tara or Khumu, and in Setswana it is known as Lwetse while in IsiNdebele it is called uKhukhulamungu.

This month's feature article is based on the *Income and Expenditure of the Household, 2022/2023*, (Statistical release P0100) published by Stats SA on 28 January 2025. Also, do not miss our monthly crossword puzzle and the August 2026 solutions. Articles in this issue draw on the results of industry surveys conducted for July and August 2026.

Enjoy the read!

# Content

## Crossword



### Across

4. What is the name of the airline that performed a low flyover over a stadium in Cape Town ahead of a rugby match between South Africa and New Zealand?
5. What is the smallest province in South Africa by land area, despite having the country's largest population?
6. The traditional "Big Five" game animals of Africa include the cheetah. [True or False]

### Down

1. In 2023, .......households spent more on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics. [Read Feature article for clue]
2. South Africa has three official capital cities representing different branches of government. Which city serves as the judicial capital?
3. How many sovereign, independent countries share a direct land border with South Africa?

## Solutions for August 2026

### Across

1. Durban
3. Rabat
6. Caster
8. Swimming
9. Babalwa
10. Zola Budd
11. Limpopo

### Down

2. Tanzania
4. Desiree Ellis
5. Proteas
7. Female

## Feature article

# Income and Expenditure of households 2022/2023

## Introduction

For many households, regular income is vital and the backbone of their financial lives. Some of the income includes salaries, mixed income (income from self-employment, stokvel, etc.), pension and social grants among others. Some of these incomes are spent on daily needs and services such as housing utilities, food, education, transport and healthcare just to name a few. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts an Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) every five years. The IES seeks to establish what South Africans spend their money on, so that the basket of goods which makes the consumer price index (CPI), used to calculate the inflation rate, can be updated.

This month's feature article is based on *Income and Expenditure Survey* (IES) 2022/2023, (Statistical release P0100) published by Stats SA on 28 January 2025. This article explores household income, expenditure and household consumption among others.

The IES 2022/2023 information was collected from 19 940 households across the country over a 12-month period.

## Background

The Income and Expenditure Survey (IES) 2022/2023 was conducted from 7 November 2022 to 26 November 2023. The IES is a household-based sample survey that collected information on all acquisitions, consumption, spending and income earned by households living in South Africa. The primary objectives of the IES 2022/2023 are to provide statistically reliable data at national, provincial and metropolitan levels that will inform the updating of the following:

(a) Poverty and inequality profiles
(b) Income and expenditure patterns of households

(c) Basket of goods and services required for the compilation of consumer price index (CPI).

Results of the survey show that the total annual household consumption expenditure between November 2022 and November 2023 is estimated at R3,0 trillion. On average, the estimated household consumption expenditure per household in South Africa was R143 691 during the survey year with the main components of expenditure coming from housing and utilities, food and non-alcoholic beverages and transport.

## Household composition

Table 1 shows that majority of households in 2023 were headed by black Africans with a representation of 82,4%. Approximately, 8,8% of households were headed by whites, 6,5% were headed by coloureds and 2,3% by Indian/Asians. There were more male-headed households (56,6%) compared to female-headed households (43,4%). Indian/Asian households were predominantly headed by males (65,4%), compared with 34,6% of households headed by females. A similar pattern was observed for white households where males accounted for 62,1% of household heads compared to 37,9% females. There was greater gender parity in black African and coloured-headed households, where the split was closer to 50/50 (56,0% male-headed households compared with 44,0% female-headed households among black Africans and 52,8% male-headed households compared with 47,2% female-headed households among coloureds).

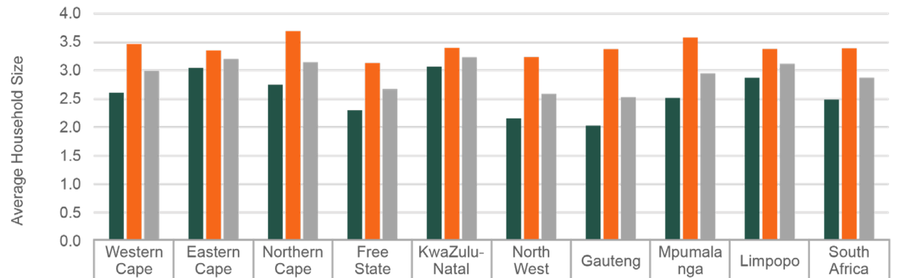
### Table 1– Percentage distribution of households by population group and sex of the household head, 2023

| | Sex of household head | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Population group of household head | Male (%) | Female (%) | South Africa (%) |
| Black African | 56,0 | 44,0 | **82,4** |
| Coloured | 52,8 | 47,2 | **6,5** |
| Indian/Asian | 65,4 | 34,6 | **2,3** |
| White | 62,1 | 37,9 | **8,8** |
| **Total** | **56,6** | **43,4** | **100,0** |

### Average household size by province and sex of the household head, 2023

The national average household size according to the IES 2022/2023 results was found to be 2,9. Female-headed households had a higher average household size of 3,4 compared to male-headed households with an average household size of 2,5. The same pattern is witnessed across all the provinces. Gauteng had the smallest average household size of 2,0 for male-headed households which was also smaller than the national average. KwaZulu-Natal had the largest average household size for male-headed households of 3,1. Female-headed households in Northern Cape had the largest average household size of 3,7 which was also larger than the national average. Female-headed households in Free State had the smallest average household size of 3,1 which was smaller than the national average. Gauteng had the smallest provincial average household size of 2,5. Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal both had the largest average household size, at 3,2, which was above the national average.

**Figure 1– Average household size by province and sex of the household head, 2023**




| | Western Cape | Eastern Cape | Northern Cape | Free State | KwaZulu-Natal | North West | Gauteng | Mpumalanga | Limpopo | South Africa |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Male | 2,6 | 3,0 | 2,7 | 2,3 | 3,1 | 2,2 | 2,0 | 2,5 | 2,9 | 2,5 |
| Female | 3,5 | 3,4 | 3,7 | 3,1 | 3,4 | 3,2 | 3,4 | 3,6 | 3,4 | 3,4 |
| Total | 3,0 | 3,2 | 3,1 | 2,7 | 3,2 | 2,6 | 2,5 | 3,0 | 3,1 | 2,9 |

## Household income

### Average annual household income by sex of the household head, 2023

Nationally, majority of income, which is almost 70%, was earned from work. This source of income includes income from salaries and wages, as well as income from business with an average annual income of R140 641. However, male-headed households (73,8%) derived most of their income from work compared to 59,0% of female-headed households receiving their total income from this source at an annual average of R176 812. Female-headed households received an annual average income of R93 540 from income from work.

In 2023, income from imputed rent (from both owned and residing rent free) was the second biggest source of income where households earned 13,5% of their total income from this source. Female-headed households earned 16,2% of their total income from this income source compared to male-headed households which earned 12,1% of their total income. Although in percentage terms male-headed households derived less income compared to female-headed households from imputed rent, in monetary terms, they derived a higher average annual income (R28 965) compared to annual average income of female-headed households (R27 522). For female-headed households, 15,8% of their total income was received from pensions and social insurance which was higher than that of male-headed households at 7,7%.

Similarly, in monetary terms, female-headed households (R25 104) earned a higher average annual income from pensions and social insurance compared to male-headed households (R18 340).

### Average annual household income by population group of the household head, 2023

Black African-headed households earned 68,5% of their total income from work at an annual average of R98 326, which is below the national average of income earned from work. White-headed households received 67,6% of their total income from work at an annual average of R457 075 in 2023, which was 3,2 times higher than the national average of income earned from work. Coloured-headed households received 72,8% of their total income from work at an annual average of R189 908, which was also higher than the annual national average of income earned from work. Indian/Asian-headed households earned 74,0% of their total income from work at an annual average of R308 588, which was 2,2 times higher than the national average of income earned from work. White-headed households earned 4,6 times more than black African-headed households and 2,4 more than coloured-headed households. Indian/Asian-headed households earned 3,1 times more from work than black African-headed households. Coloured-headed households almost earned two times more on average from work than black African-headed households. White-headed households earned 11,3% of their total income from pensions and social insurance at an annual average of R76 520, which was 3,6 times more than the national average of R21 278. On the other hand, black African-headed households received 10,4% of their total income from pensions and social insurance at an annual average of R14 909, which was 5,1 times less than the annual average of white-headed households and also below the national average.

## Average annual household income by population group of the household head, 2023

| Source of income | Black African | | Coloured | | Indian/Asian | | White | | South Africa | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Average | % | Average | % | Average | % | Average | % | Average | % |
| Income from work | 98 326 | 68,5 | 189 908 | 72,8 | 308 588 | 74,0 | 457 075 | 67,6 | 140 641 | 68,8 |
| Income from capital | 1 053 | 0,7 | 1 767 | 0,7 | 12 416 | 2,9 | 21 521 | 3,2 | 3 157 | 1,5 |
| Pensions and social insurance | 14 909 | 10,4 | 24 657 | 9,5 | 28 874 | 6,9 | 76 520 | 11,3 | 21 278 | 10,4 |
| Income from Individuals | 2 039 | 1,4 | 1 463 | 0,6 | 4 187 | 1,0 | 8 508 | 1,3 | 2 619 | 1,3 |
| Other income | 7 647 | 5,3 | 7 760 | 3,0 | 7 286 | 1,7 | 24 675 | 3,6 | 9 142 | 4,5 |
| Imputed rent on owned dwelling | 17 838 | 12,4 | 33 248 | 12,7 | 53 151 | 12,8 | 84 700 | 12,5 | 25 527 | 12,5 |
| Imputed rent (rent free) | 1 820 | 1,3 | 2 013 | 0,8 | 2 928 | 0,7 | 3 376 | 0,5 | 1 995 | 1,0 |
| Total | 143 632 | 100,0 | 260 816 | 100,0 | 417 431 | 100,0 | 676 375 | 100,0 | 204 359 | 100,0 |

## Average annual household income by province, 2023

Households in Western Cape earned majority of their total income from work at an annual average of R252 159, which was 1,8 times higher than the national average and also by far, the highest average income when compared with other provinces. Gauteng (R184 640) is the second after Western Cape with an average income from work that is above the national average. Limpopo (R71 190) has the lowest annual average income from work, which was approximately two times less than the national average. KwaZulu-Natal (R20 850), North West (R14 558), Gauteng (R19 264), Mpumalanga (R15 910) and Limpopo (R21 033) have income from pensions and social insurance that were less than the national average of R21 278.

## Percentage distribution of households' source of income by settlement type, 2023

In 2023, households in all settlement types earned more than 50% of their total income from work, which accounted for their primary source of income. Households residing in farm and urban settlements on average derived approximately 71% of their total income from work. In comparison, households from traditional settlements derived a lower share from work (52,8%). Households from traditional settlements derived a share of 19,8% from pensions and social insurance which is mainly made up of receipts of social grants from the government as their second largest source of income. However, households in farm and urban settlements derived their second largest income source from the combined imputed rent of 10,5% and 12,9%, respectively.

### Average and median household income by metropolitan area, 2023

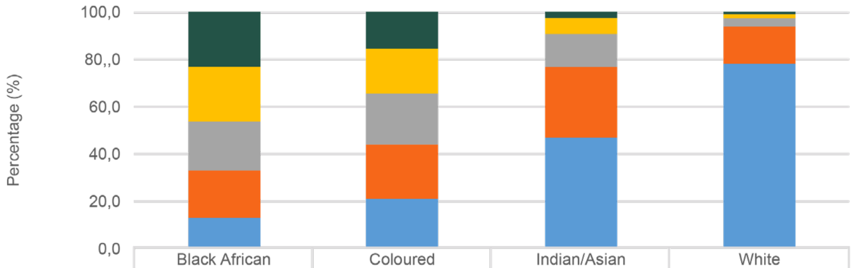
In 2023, households in City of Cape Town had the highest average (R387 881) and median household income (R169 599) compared to other metropolitan areas. Households in City of Tshwane had an average household income of R282 542 and a median income of R128 628. The average income of households in City of Cape Town was more than two times higher than that of households in Mangaung (R171 522), while their median income was two times higher than that of households in Mangaung (R85 955).

## Expenditure and income quintiles

### Percentage distribution of households by expenditure per capita quintiles and population group of the household head, 2023

Close to half (45,3%) of black African-headed households fell within the lowest two expenditure quintiles combined. In other words, each household was spending approximately less than R25 062 per annum (approximately R 2 089 per month). At the upper end of the scale, only 13,0% of black African-headed households were found in the upper quintile. For coloured-headed households, only 34,4% fell below the 3rd quintile whereas only 21,0% households could be found within the upper quintile. Relatively fewer households amongst the Indian/Asian and white population groups are found within the bottom two quintiles (4$^{th}$ and upper quintile). While 77,0% of Indian/Asian-headed households fell into the upper two expenditure quintiles, the majority of white-headed households (78,1%) fell into the upper quintile.

## Percentage distribution of households by expenditure per capita quintiles and population group of the household head, 2023




| | Black African | Coloured | Indian/Asian | White |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lower quintile | 22,9 | 15,3 | 2,3 | 0,9 |
| 2nd quintile | 22,4 | 19,1 | 6,9 | 1,6 |
| 3rd quintile | 21,8 | 21,6 | 13,7 | 3,6 |
| 4th quintile | 19,9 | 23,1 | 30,1 | 15,7 |
| Upper quintile | 13,0 | 21,0 | 46,9 | 78,1 |

# Income shares by sub-groups

## The distribution of household income shares by sex and population group of the household head (2006 and 2023)

The income shares of male-headed households declined from 76,3% of total household income in 2006 to 66,3% in 2023, representing a 10,0 percentage points decline between the two data points. On the other hand, the income shares of female-headed households increased from 23,7% of total household income in 2006 to 33,7% in 2023 translating into a 10,0 percentage point increase during the period.

Looking at the population group, the income shares of black African-headed households increased from a total income share of 38,8% in 2006 to 57,8% in 2023. This translates into a 19,0 percentage points increase during the period. However, during the same period the expenditure share of white-headed households declined from 48,3% in 2006 to 29,2% in 2023, representing a 19,1 percentage points decline. The income shares of coloured and Indian/Asian-headed households remained the same during the period with income shares of 8,3% and 4,7%, respectively.

## Expenditure shares by sub-groups

Male-headed households had higher expenditure shares (73,0% in 2006 and 62,7% in 2023) as compared to those living in female-headed households (27,0% in 2006 and 37,3% in 2023) in both 2006 and 2023. Households living in female-headed households have seen a share of their total expenditures increase from over a quarter from 27,0% in 2006 to 37,3% in 2023. Households living in male-headed households accounted for almost three quarters of the total expenditure at 73,0% in 2006 and declining to 62,7% in 2023. The gap in expenditure shares between the two population groups are disproportionate relative to the gap in their household shares, with female-headed households accounting for 43,4% of the total share of households while male-headed households accounted for 56,6%.

### The distribution of household expenditure shares by population group of the household head (2006 and 2023)

There was an increase in the expenditure share of black African-headed households from a share of 41,7% in 2006 to a share of 62,2% in 2023. Black African-headed households recorded a 20,5 percentage points increase in their expenditure shares between 2006 and 2023 data points. However, white-headed households experienced a decline in their expenditure shares from 45,3% in 2006 to a share of 25,0% in 2023, which represents a 20,3 percentage points decline. The expenditure shares of both coloured and Indian/Asian-headed households remained the same between the 2006 and 2023 data points with a share of 8,2% and 4,6%, respectively.

## Household consumption expenditure findings

### Food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics

According to the IES 2022/2023, South African households spent on average R25 464 annually on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics. This food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics division accounts for 17,7% of total household consumption expenditure, with 16,3% attributed to food and non-alcoholic beverages and alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics contributing, 1,4%.

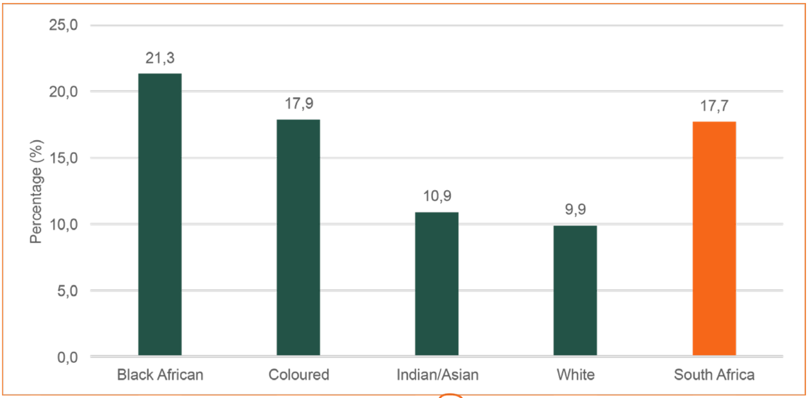
## Proportion of total household consumption expenditure attributed to food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics by sex of the household head, 2023

In 2023, male-headed households spent more on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics than their female counterparts with an annual average of R26 060 while female-headed households spent an average of R24 688, which is R1 372 lower than male-headed households and also lower than the national average of R25 464. However, when comparing proportions, the results indicate that there was a notable difference between the estimates for male and female-headed households. Female-headed households recorded a proportion of 20,0% on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics compared16,4% recorded for male-headed households.

## Proportion of total household consumption expenditure attributed to food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics by population group of the household head, 2023

Black African-headed households spent 21,3% of their total household consumption expenditure on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics, representing the highest proportion across all population groups. They were followed by coloured-headed households with 17,9%, Indian/Asian-headed households with 10,9% and white-headed households with 9,9%. However, in monetary terms, white-headed household spent nearly twice more on this expenditure division on average compared to black African-headed households (R40 745 compared to R23 128).

## Proportion of total household consumption expenditure attributed to food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics by population group of the household head, 2023



### Proportion of total household consumption expenditure attributed to food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics by province, 2023

Households in Western Cape (14,4%) and Gauteng (14,9%) spent the lowest proportion on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics compared to households in Limpopo (22,8%) and North West (22,6%) who recorded the highest proportion in terms of spending. Only three out of the nine provinces, Western Cape (R32 959), Northern Cape (R27 491) and KwaZulu-Natal (R25 702), reported a higher average spending relative to the national average of R25 464. Even though Gauteng and Western Cape had similar proportions on this expenditure division, the spending in Western Cape (R 32 959) in monetary terms were significantly higher than the spending in Gauteng (R25 420).

### Annual average household consumption expenditure attributed to clothing and footwear by sex of the household head

Male-headed households reported spending an average of R7 636 on clothing and footwear or 4,8% of their overall household consumption expenditure. On the other hand, female-headed households spent R6 623 on average. Female-headed households allocated a higher proportion of their total household consumption expenditure to clothing and footwear compared to their male counterparts at 5,4%. However, on average, male-headed households spent more than female-headed households in monetary terms.

## Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels

### Overview of consumption expenditure on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels by sex, population group of the household head, province and settlement type, 2023

On average, South African households spent more than a third (34,7%) of their total annual household consumption expenditure on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels. A greater proportion of the total consumption expenditure of female-headed households (36,6%) falls into this division compared to their male counterparts (33,5%). Furthermore, white-headed households (R157 736), on average, spent four and a half times more than the black African-headed households (R35 335) on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels. Meanwhile, households in urban settlement, on average, spent R59 472 per annum, followed by those in farms (R31 025) and traditional (R26 856) settlements.

### Proportion of total household consumption expenditure attributed to housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels by population group of the household head, 2023

Indian/Asian-headed households (40,0%) spent two-fifths of their total consumption expenditure on housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, which was the highest proportion across all population groups. This was followed by white-headed households with 38,5% and coloured-headed households with 35,8%. Black African-headed households spent 32,6%, which was the lowest proportion when compared to other population groups, and below the national proportion of 34,7%.

### Proportion of total household consumption expenditure attributed to housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels by settlement type, 2023

Households living in urban settlement spent more than a third (35,5%) of their total consumption expenditure on housing, while households living in farm settlement only spent more than a quarter (27,6%) of their total consumption expenditure on this expenditure division. Households in traditional settlement spent 31,8% on this expenditure division. Only households in urban settlement had a proportion of expenditure on housing higher than the national proportion (34,7%), while those of other settlement types were all below the national average.

## Health

This section shows the spending patterns of South African households on health. The health expenditure division consists of out-of-pocket expenditure such as medication and health services, out-patient care services, in-patient care services and other health services.

South African households spent on average R1 481 per annum, which accounts for 1,0% of the total household consumption expenditure on health. The average household consumption expenditure on health by population group of the household head shows that white-headed households (R6 803) spent over four times more than the national average expenditure (R1 481) and over seven times more than the average household consumption expenditure of black African-headed households (903). White-headed households spent the highest proportion of total household consumption expenditure on health at 1,7%, followed by Indian/Asian-headed households at 1,0%, black African at 0,8% and coloured-headed households at 0,6%.

### Annual average household consumption expenditure attributed to health by province, 2023

Western Cape spent on average R3 122 per annum on health which was more than twice the national average of R1 481. Gauteng (R1 824) spent the second highest annual average expenditure on health. North West (R616), Northern Cape (R733) and Limpopo (R778) were the provinces with the lowest annual average expenditure on health, and below the national average. Notably, household expenditure on health in Western Cape was approximately five times more than the household expenditure in North West.

## Transport

This section shows the expenditure patterns of South African households on transport which comprise purchase of vehicles, cost of operation of personal transport equipment, passenger transport services and transport services of goods. Households in South Africa, on average, spent R21 930 per annum on this expenditure division, which accounts for 15,3% of their total household consumption expenditure.

### Annual average household consumption expenditure attributed to transport by sex of the household head, 2023

Male-headed households, in monetary terms, spent R26 792 on transport, which is roughly 71,8% more than the R 15 598 spent by households headed by females. The expenditure of male-headed households was also higher than the national average (R21 930). In addition, when comparing proportions, the results show a similar pattern for male and female-headed households where female-headed households spent a lower proportion of 12,6% on transport compared to the 16,8% spent by households headed by males. This proportion was also higher than the national proportion of 15,3%.

### Annual average household consumption expenditure attributed to transport by province, 2023

Households in Western Cape spent R33 487 on average per annum on this expenditure division, followed by those in Gauteng and Mpumalanga at R29 333 and R21 964, respectively. Expenditure by households in Western Cape and Gauteng were about three times more and in the case of Northern Cape and Mpumalanga spent about two times more than the annual average of R10 833 spent by households in Limpopo. The amount spent by households in Limpopo on this expenditure division is about half the national average of R21 930.

## Education services

The education expenditure division consists of spending on pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary education. According to the IES 2022/23, on average, a South African household spent R2 023 per annum on education services. This shows that education accounted for 1,4% of the total household consumption expenditure in South Africa.

### Overview of consumption expenditure on educational services by sex and population group of the household head, province and settlement type, 2023

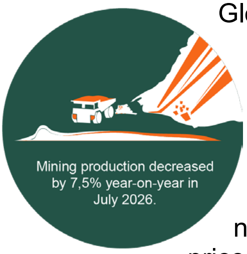
In 2023, male-headed households spent more on educational services compared to female-headed households, R2 490 and R1 414, respectively. Households from Western Cape spent the highest average (R4 334) on education compared to other provinces and the national average. Meanwhile, households from Free State spent the highest proportion (2,0%) compared to all the other provinces.

## Conclusion

The results of the Income and Expenditure (IES) 2022/2023 indicate that nationally, majority of income was earned from work which includes income from salaries and wages as well as income from business with an average annual income of R140 641. According to the results, male-headed households derived most of their income from work compared with female-headed households. In 2023, black African-headed households spent more of their total household consumption expenditure on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics than other population groups. The results further indicate that South African male-headed households spent more on food, beverages, tobacco and narcotics than their female counterparts.

# Primary industries

## Mining: Production and sales




Globally and in South Africa, consumers – particularly younger ones – are finding appeal in purchasing lab-grown diamonds as opposed to naturally mined diamonds. Though identical in appearance, lab-grown diamonds are produced in a laboratory, which makes them more affordable and ethically produced. As demand for these precious stones grows, it has negatively impacted diamond mining in the country. The price of lab-grown diamonds has made it difficult for mining companies to sell natural diamonds because of reduced demand, resulting in declining sales and surplus natural diamonds. As such, mining companies have had to cut down on production or, in the case of South Africa's biggest diamond mine, Venetia, halt production for a period of two years until markets improve. According to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), mining production decreased by 7,5% year-on-year in July 2026. Diamonds recorded the largest negative growth rate at -48,2% owing to subdued demand. This article summarises the results of *Mining: Production and sales* (Statistical release P2041) for July 2026.

Mining production decreased by 7,5% year-on-year in July 2026 **(see Table A)**.

The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-13,5%, contributing -3,2 percentage points);
- coal (-7,5%, contributing -2,0 percentage points); and
- iron ore (-8,1%, contributing -1,3 percentage points).

## Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production for July 2026

| | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 | Jul-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | 10,0 | 2,5 | 7,6 | -5,1 | -4,3 | -7,5 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | 3,0 | -4,9 | 3,5 | -5,6 | 0,1 | -1,9 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | -1,6 | 0,4 | 2,5 | -1,5 | -2,6 | -5,5 |

[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 at current prices decreased by 5,6% year-on-year in July 2026 **(see Table B)**. The largest negative contributors were:

- gold (-33,4%, contributing -8,5 percentage points);
- 'other' non-metallic minerals (-26,0%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point); and
- nickel (-51,7%, contributing -0,4 of a percentage point).

Chromium ore (20,0%, contributing 1,6 percentage points) and coal (5,0%, contributing 1,0 percentage point) were the largest positive contributors.

## Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for July 2026

| | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 | Jul-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | 58,2 | 31,4 | 30,5 | 13,9 | 27,2 | -5,6 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | 8,8 | -8,5 | 2,6 | -5,2 | 2,0 | -15,1 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | 16,0 | 7,1 | 4,8 | -5,5 | -3,4 | -10,0 |

[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


South Africa's manufacturing sector recorded an increase in production in July 2026, with production rising by 1,1% compared with July 2025, as reported by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The increase was driven mainly by the food and beverages division and the petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products division. Manufacturing is about more than factories and machinery. It is the process of turning raw materials and other inputs into products that people and businesses use every day. The sector includes a wide range of activities, from producing food and beverages to making chemicals, metal products, machinery, motor vehicles and household goods. The food and beverages division is one of the broadest parts of manufacturing. It includes activities such as processing meat, fish and fruit, producing dairy products and grain-mill products, making other food products and producing beverages. These activities connect agriculture and other suppliers with the products that eventually reach shops, restaurants and households. This makes manufacturing an important link in the economy. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (Statistical release P3041.2) for July 2026.

Manufacturing production increased by 1,1% in July 2026 compared with July 2025 (**see Table C**).

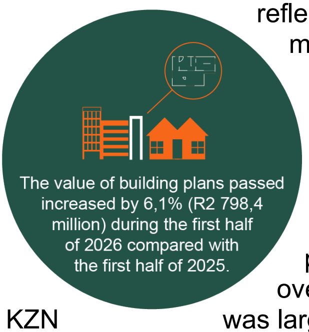
The largest positive contributions were made by the food and beverages division (4,1%, contributing 1,0 percentage point) and the petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products division (3,2%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point). The wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing division (-7,3%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point) was the largest negative contributor.

### Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for July 2026

| | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 | Jul-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | -2,2 | 1,4 | -3,0 | -4,6 | -1,8 | 1,1 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | -1,8 | 1,2 | -2,7 | 1,2 | 0,8 | 2,2 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | -1,9 | -0,8 | -1,2 | -0,9 | -1,4 | 1,0 |

[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




Building plans provide an indication of future construction activity, as they reflect projects that have been approved by municipalities and are therefore likely to enter the construction pipeline. During the first half of 2026, the value of building plans passed in South Africa increased by 6,1%, or R2, 798,4 million, compared with the first half of 2025. KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) was the largest positive contributor to the national increase, contributing 3,4 percentage points, or R1, 551,5 million, to the overall increase of R2, 798,4 million. The increase in KZN was largely driven by non-residential building plans. The value of plans passed for non-residential buildings more than doubled, increasing by 195,5%, from R905 560 million in the first half of 2025 to R2 676, 3 million in the first half of 2026. Within this category, plans for office and banking space recorded the largest increase, followed by plans for shopping space and industrial and warehouse space. Other non-residential buildings also recorded an increase. These include buildings such as churches, sports and recreation clubs, schools, crèches and hospitals. Overall, the increase in building plans passed in KwaZulu-Natal points to increased planned construction activity, driven mainly by non-residential developments. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Selected* *building statistics of the private sector* (Statistical release P5041.1) for June 2026.

## Building plans passed

The value of building plans passed increased by 6,1% (R2 798,4 million) during the first half of 2026 compared with the first half of 2025 (**see Table D**).

Increases were reported for residential buildings (R1 667,3 million) and non-residential buildings (R1 590,6 million). A decrease was reported for additions and alterations (-R459,4 million).

The largest positive contributors to the total increase of 6,1% (R2 798,4 million) were KwaZulu-Natal (contributing 3,4 percentage points or R1 551,5 million) and Western Cape (contributing 2,0 percentage points or R941,0 million). The largest negative contributor was Gauteng (contributing -1,5 percentage points or -R692,5 million).

The value of buildings reported as completed decreased by 3,0% (-R699,5 million) during the first half of 2026 compared with the first half of 2025. A decrease was reported for non-residential buildings (-R1 258,6 million). Increases were reported for residential buildings (R384,8 million) and additions and alterations (R174,4 million).

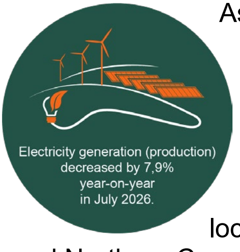
Three of the nine provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed during the first half of 2026. The three negative contributors were Gauteng (contributing -3,0 percentage points or -R688,9 million), North West (contributing -2,7 percentage points or -R635,8 million) and KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -1,9 percentage points or -R451,3 million). The largest positive contributors were Western Cape (contributing 1,8 percentage points or R423,1 million) and Mpumalanga (contributing 1,8 percentage points or R422,6 million).

## Table D – Building plans passed by larger municipalities by type of building, June 2026

| Type of building | Jan – Jun 2025 | Jan – Jun 2026 | Difference in value between Jan – Jun 2025 and Jan – Jun 2026 | % change between Jan – Jun 2025 and Jan – Jun 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | |
| **Residential buildings** | **21 787 236** | **23 454 489** | **1 667 253** | 7,7 |
| - Dwelling houses | 14 720 444 | 14 526 017 | -194 427 | -1,3 |
| - Flats and townhouses | 6 451 417 | 7 447 757 | 996 340 | 15,4 |
| - Other residential buildings | 615 375 | 1 480 715 | 865 340 | 140,6 |
| **Non-residential buildings** | **9 795 839** | **11 386 419** | **1 590 580** | **16,2** |
| **Additions and alterations** | **14 512 976** | **14 053 578** | **-459 398** | **-3,2** |
| **Total** | **46 096 051** | **48 894 486** | **2 798 435** | **6,1** |

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




As more households move away from coal-generated electricity to alternative energy sources, particularly solar energy, wind energy is also gaining momentum. According to the South African Wind Energy Association (SAWEA), South Africa had 40 operational wind farms across the country with a combined installed capacity of 3 897 megawatts in 2025. Most of these wind farms are located in coastal areas like Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Northern Cape because these provinces are generally windier. However, Mpumalanga became the first inland province to have a wind facility in the country. On 31 July 2026, Seriti Green – a renewable energy company – officially launched the Ummbila Emoyeni Wind Energy Facility, the largest wind energy facility in the country. The first phase of the project is already generating around 155 megawatts of renewable energy, with the wider development expected to reach about 900 megawatts. Phase two will add another 60 turbines, increasing total generating capacity to 1 500 megawatts within three years. Mpumalanga was mainly chosen because of its existing electricity grid infrastructure that makes it easier to expand to other forms of energy. In July 2026, electricity generation and consumption decreased by 7,9% and 2,6%, respectively owing to reduced demand. This article summarises the results of *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (Statistical release P4141) for July 2026.

Electricity generation (production) decreased by 7,9% year-on-year in July 2026 **(see Table E)**.

**Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for July 2026**

| | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 | Jul-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | -3,5 | -6,6 | -8,7 | -8,5 | -7,9 | -7,9 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | -0,6 | -1,3 | -1,8 | 0,9 | -0,7 | -0,4 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | -1,8 | -0,8 | -1,6 | -2,1 | -2,5 | -1,3 |

[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.

Electricity distribution (consumption) decreased by 2,6% year-on-year in July 2026 **(see Table F)**.

## Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for July 2026

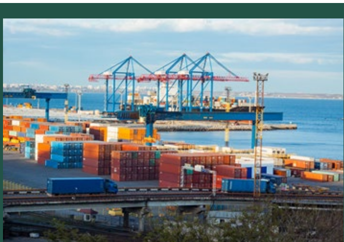
| | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 | Jul-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | -3,1 | -3,0 | -4,8 | -3,8 | -2,6 | -2,6 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | -0,3 | 2,4 | -1,5 | 2,0 | -0,9 | 0,3 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | 0,0 | 1,0 | 1,1 | 1,9 | 0,9 | 1,2 |

[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


In 2021, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) commenced trading with the purpose of creating one of the world's largest single markets for goods and services across 55 countries. Since the implementation of AfCFTA, South Africa has deepened its relations with the continent's largest economies such as Nigeria, Egypt and Algeria, and benefited through trade. According to Cabinet's statement on 6 May 2026, from January 2024 to February 2026 trade increased to R2,6 billion spanning a diverse range of products such as mining equipment, appliances, food items, apparel, plastics and electrical machinery. AfCFTA benefits countries by enabling the trade of goods and services by removing tariffs on most goods and expanding export markets, thereby driving growth in the wholesale trade industry and the broader economy. According to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), wholesale trade sales grew by 2,7% in June 2026 compared with June 2025. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Wholesale trade sales* (Statistical release P6141.2) for June 2026.



Wholesale trade sales increased by 2,7% in June 2026 compared with June 2025 **(see Table G).**

The main positive contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (11,2%, contributing 2,6 percentage points).

### Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales for June 2026

| | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | -3,5 | -1,5 | 10,0 | 10,9 | 3,7 | 2,7 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | -1,5 | -0,5 | 5,5 | 3,8 | -5,0 | -2,4 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | 0,5 | -0,1 | 0,5 | 3,6 | 5,5 | 3,0 |

[1] Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.
A full release on *Wholesale trade sales* (Statistical release 6141.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

## Retail trade sales


Retailers use various strategies to attract consumers and encourage spending. One of the strategies used is known as charm pricing (setting a product or service's price just below a round number). For example, retailers price their goods as R13,99 instead of R14,00 to make the cost of the product look lower than it actually is. According to Prisync (price tracking and price monitoring software), the charm pricing strategy relies on cognitive biases that cause people to see the price of R49,99 as R49,00 rather than perceiving it as closer to R50,00. In June 2026, retail trade sales increased by 1,6% year-on-year and one of the largest positive contributors was all 'other' retailers (7,5%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point). Presented in this article is a summary of the *Retail trade sales* (Statistical release P6242.1) for June 2026.


Retail trade sales increased by 1,6% year-on-year in June 2026 **(see Table H).**

The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- all ‘other’ retailers (7,5%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point); and
- general dealers (1,8%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point).

Retail trade sales increased by 1,7% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025. The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- all ‘other’ retailers (6,2%, contributing 0,7 of a percentage point); and
- general dealers (1,2%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

**Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for June 2026**

| | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | 4,4 | 1,6 | 2,5 | 1,2 | 2,2 | 1,6 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | 0,8 | -1,0 | 0,1 | 0,8 | 0,0 | -0,6 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1/] | 1,2 | 0,4 | 0,0 | -0,3 | 0,2 | 0,4 |

[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


South Africa's roads could look different in the future as more people choose vehicles powered partly or entirely by electricity. A battery-electric vehicle (BEV), commonly called an electric vehicle (EV), runs entirely on electricity stored in a battery, while a hybrid vehicle uses both a petrol or diesel engine and an electric motor. Sales of these new-energy vehicles (NEVs) have increased in South Africa during 2026. Naamsa, the Automotive Business Council, reported that 3 045 NEVs were sold in June 2026, more than double the 1 491 sold in June 2025. This represents a year-on-year increase of 104,2%. While petrol and diesel vehicles still account for most new-vehicle sales, electric-powered technology is becoming more common. The increase is partly driven by more manufacturers introducing hybrid and electric models, giving consumers a wider range of vehicles to choose from. Growing competition, including the expansion of Chinese vehicle manufacturers in South Africa, is also bringing more models to the market. As this shift continues, new-energy vehicles could become an increasingly familiar sight on South Africa's roads, changing not only the types of cars people drive, but also the skills, services and infrastructure needed to support them. This article summarises the results of the *Motor trade sales* (Statistical release P6343.2) for June 2026.


Motor trade sales increased by 1,5% year-on-year in June 2026 compared with June 2025 **(see Table I)**.

The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- new vehicle sales (15,6%, contributing 4,1 percentage points); and
- used vehicle sales (6,3%, contributing 1,3 percentage points).

The largest negative contributor was fuel sales (-12,0%, contributing -3,0 percentage points).

Motor trade sales increased by 2,6% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025. The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- new vehicle sales (14,8%, contributing 3,9 percentage points); and
- used vehicle sales (6,5%, contributing 1,3 percentage points).

The largest negative contributor was fuel sales (-8,4%, contributing -2,1 percentage points).

### Table I – Key growth rates in motor trade sales at constant prices for June 2026

| | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | 2,7 | 5,6 | 15,3 | 6,1 | 0,2 | 1,5 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | -0,7 | 1,1 | 6,0 | -4,4 | -2,6 | -2,7 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | 0,8 | 1,0 | 2,6 | 3,3 | 2,5 | -2,9 |

[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


The popularity of takeaway food is closely linked to convenience. Consumers can order a meal without spending time preparing food at home or sitting down to eat at a restaurant. Technology is also changing the way takeaway food is purchased. Data from Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA's) *Food and beverages industry, 2022* (Report No. 64-20-01) show that in 2022, 70,9% of takeaway and fast-food outlets used an online or mobile application to receive orders. This was higher than the 55,8% recorded for restaurants and coffee shops. The COVID-19 pandemic also accelerated the adoption of online food ordering, with the Competition Commission noting that restaurant food delivery "was provided with a huge boost during the COVID-19 pandemic" and that order numbers have been sustained post-COVID. This suggests that some changes in consumer ordering behaviour during the pandemic may have persisted, supported by the convenience of accessing food through digital platforms. The widespread use of digital ordering means that takeaway businesses are increasingly able to connect consumers with prepared food through mobile devices and online platforms. Although food and beverages income decreased by 0,7% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025, takeaway and fast-food outlets were the only positive contributor, recording an increase of 0,8% and contributing 0,3 of a percentage point to the overall change. The continued performance of takeaway and fast-food outlets highlights the growing role of convenience and technology in the food-service industry. As consumer lifestyles and purchasing habits evolve, digital ordering provides businesses with another way to meet demand for quick and accessible meals. Presented in this article, is a summary of the results of *Food and beverages* (Statistical release P6420) for June 2026.

Food and beverages income increased by 1,0% in June 2026 compared with June 2025 **(see Table J)**.

Food and beverages income decreased by 0,7% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025. The main contributor to this decrease was restaurants and coffee shops (-1,9% and contributing -0,9 of a percentage point).

### Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant 2019 prices by type of enterprise for June 2026

| Type of income | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year-on-year % change, unadjusted | 5,7 | 4,2 | 1,9 | -2,4 | -0,6 | 1,0 |
| Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted | 2,6 | -1,7 | 1,1 | -3,7 | 3,2 | -1,7 |
| 3-month % change, seasonally adjusted[1] | -0,7 | -0,8 | 0,3 | -1,2 | -0,6 | -2,0 |

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

## Tourist accommodation


South Africa's tourist establishments are some of the favourites for tourists visiting the country for leisure and business among others. Some of these establishments get world recognition for their customer service excellence after positive reviews by tourists. On 7 July 2026, three hotels in South Africa were ranked among the best in the world in Travel and Leisure's World's Best Awards for 2026. Lion Sands Game Reserve near Kruger National Park in Mpumalanga was ranked as the fourth-best hotel in the world and achieved first place for the Best Safari Lodge in Africa, while Cadogan Boutique Hotel in Cape Town was ranked Africa's Best City Hotel with Saxon Hotel in Johannesburg ranking second. The hotel accolades indicate that South Africa is one of the countries that offer the best hospitality and wildlife experiences. In June 2026, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) reported that total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 1,0%. This article summarises the results of *Tourist accommodation* (Statistical release P6410) for June 2026.


Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 1,0% in June 2026 compared with June 2025 **(see Table K).**

Income from accommodation increased by 2,4% year-on-year in June 2026, the result of a 2,6% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 0,2% decrease in the average income per stay unit night sold.

In June 2026, 'other' accommodation was the only positive contributor to the 2,4% year-on-year increase in income from accommodation, rising by 8,6% and contributing 3,2 percentage points.

### Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for June 2026

| | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Stay units available | 0,1 | 0,0 | 0,0 | -0,1 | -0,2 | -0,2 |
| Stay unit nights sold | 0,9 | 5,3 | 11,4 | 9,6 | 1,4 | 2,6 |
| Average income per stay unit night sold | 1,8 | 2,0 | 2,1 | -3,4 | 0,8 | -0,2 |
| Income from accommodation | 2,7 | 7,5 | 13,7 | 5,9 | 2,2 | 2,4 |
| **Total income**[1] | **-1,8** | **6,2** | **11,8** | **5,2** | **2,9** | **1,0** |

[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.](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## International tourism


South Africa's tourism market continues to draw strongly from its African neighbours, with countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) accounting for the largest share of international tourists. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)'s latest data on international tourism show that in July 2026, SADC tourists accounted for 79,2% (785 469) of all tourists. Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Lesotho were the leading SADC sources of tourists from this region. The large share of visitors from neighbouring countries highlights the importance of regional tourism to South Africa's tourism market. Unlike tourism from more distant markets, travel from neighbouring countries is strongly linked to cross-border movement within the region, with tourists able to access South Africa by road as well as by air. In July, 93,5% of SADC tourists travelled by road, demonstrating the importance of land-based travel in connecting South Africa with its neighbouring countries. These visitors contribute to economic activity through spending on accommodation, food, transport, shopping and other tourism-related activities. This spending reaches businesses across the tourism value chain, including accommodation establishments, restaurants, retailers and transport providers. Presented in this article is a summary of the *International tourism* (Statistical release P 0350) for July 2026.

## Travellers

### Number of travellers

A total of 3 154 725 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in July 2026 **(see Table L)**.

These travellers were made up of 844 503 South African residents and 2 310 222 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 454 834 arrivals, 389 093 departures and 576 travellers in transit. The corresponding volumes for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit were 1 273 663, 984 479 and 52 080 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in June 2026 and July 2026 indicates that, for both groups of travellers, the volumes of arrivals and departures increased, while that of transits decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 35,9% (from 334 781 in June 2026 to 454 834 in July 2026), departures increased by 2,4% (from 380 090 in June 2026 to 389 093 in July 2026) and transits decreased by 9,4% (from 636 in June 2026 to 576 in July 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 17,3% (from 1 085 557 in June 2026 to 1 273 663 in July 2026), departures increased by 4,4% (from 942 772 in June 2026 to 984 479 in July 2026) and transits increased by 15,6% (from 45 065 in June 2026 to 52 080 in July 2026).

A comparison between the movements in July 2025 and July 2026 indicates that the volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for South African residents and increased for foreign travellers, while that of transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 2,4% (from 466 075 in July 2025 to 454 834 in July

2026), departures decreased by 5,8% (from 412 857 in July 2025 to 389 093 in July 2026) and transits increased by 0,7% (from 572 in July 2025 to 576 in July 2026). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 6,0% (from 1 201 015 in July 2025 to 1 273 663 in July 2026), departures increased by 4,3% (from 943 827 in July 2025 to 984 479 in July 2026) and transits increased by 6,3% (from 49 014 in July 2025 to 52 080 in July 2026).

## Mode of travel of travellers

In July 2026, road was the most common mode of travel used by 2 154 406 (68,3%) of the 3 154 725 travellers. The total number of air travellers was 997 948 (31,6%). Compared to air and road, a smaller number of travellers, 2 371 (0,1%), used sea transport into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 232 721 (51,2%) came by air, 222 081 (48,8%) came by road and 32 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 179 351 (46,1%) used air, 209 719 (53,9%) used road and 23 (less than 0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 576 (100,0%), used air.

## Visitors

In July 2026, 30 918 (2,4%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 1 242 745 (97,6%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:
i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in July 2026 but did not depart in July 2026 [568 698 (45,8%)].
ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in July 2026 and left in July 2026 [329 499 (26,5%)].
iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in July 2026 [344 548 (27,7%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors/tourists. In July 2026, there were 251 049 (20,2%) same-day visitors and 991 696 (79,8%) tourists. Between June 2026 and July 2026, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 7,9% (from 232 711 in June 2026 to 251 049 in July 2026) and that of tourists increased by 20,4% (from 823 365 in June 2026 to 991 696 in July 2026). Between July 2025 and July 2026, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 14,2% (from 292 683 in July 2025 to 251 049 in July 2026), whereas that of tourists increased by 12,5% (from 881 393 in July 2025 to 991 696 in July 2026).

Of the 251 049 same-day visitors, a majority, 221 890 (88,4%), arrived in the country by road, 29 158 (11,6%) arrived by air and one (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 753 820 (76,0%) used road, 237 873 (24,0%) used air and three (less than 0,1%) used sea.

## Tourists

### Sex and age distribution of tourists

#### Sex

There were more male [571 107 (57,6%)] than female [420 589 (42,4%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries [462 062 (58,8%)], overseas countries [101 398 (52,4%)] and 'other' African countries [7 143 (60,8%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [323 407 (41,2%)], followed by overseas countries [92 239 (47,6%)] and 'other' African countries [4 608 (39,2%)].

#### Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, 5,5% (54 723) were aged younger than 15; 11,1% (110 567) were aged between 15 and 24; 23,8% (235 766) were aged between 25 and 34; 29,3% (290 145) were aged between 35 and 44; 19,0% (188 835) were aged between 45 and 54; 7,6% (74 972) were aged between 55 and 64; and 3,7% (36 688) were aged 65 and above.

### Purpose of visit of tourists

In July 2026, the majority of tourists, 966 757 (97,5%), were in South Africa for holiday, compared with 18 688 (1,9%), 5 997 (0,6%) and 254 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment, respectively.

Among African tourists, 775 973 (97,3%) came to South Africa for holiday. Holiday makers constituted 97,4% (765 117) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 92,4% (10 856) from 'other' African countries. Business persons constituted 2,1% (16 439) of tourists from SADC countries compared with 3,3% (389) from 'other' African countries. Students constituted 0,5% (3 744) of tourists from SADC countries compared with

4,1% (484) from 'other' African countries. Tourists who came for medical treatment constituted less than 0,1% (169) of tourists from SADC countries, while those from 'other' African countries constituted 0,2% (22).

## Mode of travel of tourists

In July 2026, 176 949 (91,4%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, while 16 685 (8,6%) came by road and three (less than 0,1%) came by sea. Tourists from SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, with 734 649 (93,5%) arriving by road and 50 820 (6,5%) by air. None arrived by sea.

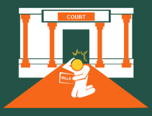
The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 9 404 (80,0%), while 2 347 (20,0%) used road transport. None arrived by sea. Most tourists who arrived by road came through Lebombo port (235 892) in Mpumalanga and Beit Bridge port (160 354) in Limpopo. The majority of tourists who came by air entered through OR Tambo International Airport (167 184) and Cape Town International Airport (66 686). Three tourists who arrived by sea came through Cape Town Harbour.

## Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction, July 2026

| Travel direction | July 2025 | June 2026 | July 2026 | % Change Jun 2026 – Jul 2026 | % Change Jul 2025 – Jul 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** | **3 073 360** | **2 788 901** | **3 154 725** | **13,1** | **2,6** |
| **South African residents** | **879 504** | **715 507** | **844 503** | **18,0** | **-4,0** |
| Arrivals | 466 075 | 334 781 | 454 834 | 35,9 | -2,4 |
| Departures | 412 857 | 380 090 | 389 093 | 2,4 | -5,8 |
| Transits | 572 | 636 | 576 | -9,4 | 0,7 |
| **Foreign travellers** | **2 193 856** | **2 073 394** | **2 310 222** | **11,4** | **5,3** |
| Arrivals | 1 201 015 | 1 085 557 | 1 273 663 | 17,3 | 6,0 |
| Departures | 943 827 | 942 772 | 984 479 | 4,4 | 4,3 |
| Transits | 49 014 | 45 065 | 52 080 | 15,6 | 6,3 |

A full release on *International tourism* (Statistical release P0350) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

## Statistics of civil cases for debt




The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 0,8% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025.

South Africans faced a mixed debt picture in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025, with fewer civil summonses issued for debt (-0,8%) but a notable increase in the number (9,9%) and value (20,6%) of civil judgements recorded for debt. The figures provide an indication of the extent of unpaid debt in South Africa. The decline in civil summonses during the second quarter suggests that fewer new debt cases entered the legal process compared with a year earlier. However, the increase in judgements indicates that more existing debt cases progressed to a judgement. The rise in the value of civil judgements also suggests that the financial amounts involved in debt cases became larger over this period. As debt moves from missed payments to the legal system, judgements can have consequences for borrowers' finances and their ability to meet future financial commitments. Ultimately, the latest figures highlight the continued importance of responsible debt management, as rising debt judgements can place pressure on household finances and, in turn, influence consumer spending and financial resilience. This article is a summary of the *Civil cases for debt* (Statistical release P0041) for June 2026.

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 0,8% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025 (**see Table M**).

### The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The largest negative contributors to the 0,8% decrease in civil summonses issued were:

- money lent (contributing -2,3 percentage points); and
- 'other' debts (contributing -0,9 of a percentage point).

Promissory notes (contributing 2,1 percentage points) was the largest positive contributor.

## The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 9,9% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025. The largest positive contributors to the 9,9% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- ‘other’ debts (contributing 5,5 percentage points);
- services (contributing 3,6 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing 1,6 percentage points).

Rent (contributing -0,6 of a percentage point) was the largest negative contributor.

## The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 20,6% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025. The largest positive contributors were:

- money lent (contributing 7,6 percentage points);
- ‘other’ debts (contributing 5,3 percentage points);
- services (contributing 4,0 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing 3,4 percentage points).

Rent (contributing -1,4 percentage points) was the only negative contributor.

In June 2026, 9 841 civil judgements for debt amounting to R344,3 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

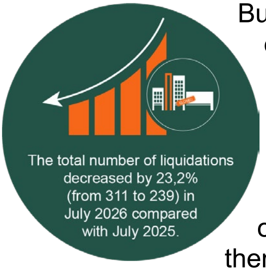
- money lent (R94,5 million or 27,5%);
- services (R78,0 million or 22,6%);
- ‘other’ debts (R74,1 million or 21,5%); and
- promissory notes (R50,1 million or 14,5%).

**Table M – Key figures for June 2026**

| Actual estimates | Jun 2026 | % change between Jun 2025 and Jun 2026 | % change between Apr – Jun 2025 and Apr – Jun 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Number of civil summonses issued for debt | 32 926 | 3,8 | -0,8 |
| Number of civil judgements recorded for debt | 9 841 | 6,5 | 9,9 |
| Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million) | 344,3 | 15,0 | 20,6 |

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




Businesses may sometimes run into financial difficulties owing to reasons that are beyond their control. Challenges such as unstable water and electricity supply, sewage spillages or poor infrastructure can have an impact on the production, logistics and general operations of a business. In order to mitigate the impact of these challenges, business owners may often have to dig deeper into their pockets to ensure there are no interruptions in operations. For example, a business might have to invest in water and electricity backup systems because of unstable water and electricity supply. This can result in higher operating costs for businesses and put pressure on their cash flow. If these additional costs are not properly managed, they may put businesses under financial stress and lead to possible closure. While unforeseen disruptions may create additional costs for businesses, data suggest that businesses are doing better than they were a year ago. According to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the total number of business liquidations declined by 23,2% in July 2026 compared with July 2025. This article summarises the results of the *Statistics of liquidations* (Statistical release P0043) for July 2026.


The total number of liquidations decreased by 23,2% (from 311 to 239) in July 2026 compared with July 2025 **(see Table N)**.

Liquidations of companies decreased by 44 cases and liquidations of close corporations decreased by 28 cases during this period.

The number of liquidations decreased by 13,9% (from 825 to 710) in the three months ended July 2026 compared with the three months ended July 2025. A decrease of 4,9% (from 1 684 to 1 601) in the number of liquidations was recorded in the first seven months of 2026 compared with the first seven months of 2025.

### Table N – Key growth rates in the number of liquidations for July 2026

| Number of liquidations Jul 2026 | % change between Jul 2025 and Jul 2026 | % change between May – Jul 2025 and May – Jul 2026 | % change between Jan – Jul 2025 and Jan – Jul 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 239 | -23,2 | -13,9 | -4,9 |

A full release on *Statistics of liquidations* (Statistical release P0043.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

## Land transport


Road traffic crashes are among the leading causes of deaths in South Africa, with human behaviour, poor road infrastructure and unroadworthy vehicles contributing to the country's road fatalities. According to the Automobile Association of South Africa (AA), the vast majority of motorists agree that clearing defective vehicles from public routes is vital for reducing the national road safety crisis. Against this backdrop, South Africa is developing the End-of-Life Vehicle (ELV) strategy to address aging vehicles and establish when they should be taken off the roads. The AA proposes the removal of vehicles that are 15 years and older, while the Automotive Business Council (Naamsa) argues that vehicles should be removed based on their condition and roadworthiness rather than age alone. Once removed, vehicles will be disassembled and recycled to manufacture other vehicles and to prevent them from polluting landfill sites. An effective ELV strategy will not only contribute to safer roads but will also reduce environmental pollution and land transport sustainably, particularly since there's increased demand for transportation services. According to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), data suggest that passengers are making more trips as the number of passenger journeys increased by 9,3% in June 2026 compared with June 2025. This article summarises the results of *Land transport* (Statistical release P7162) for June 2026.

## Freight transportation

The volume of goods transported (payload) increased by 1,4% in June 2026 compared with June 2025 **(see Table O)**.

The corresponding income increased by 11,0% over the same period.

Income from freight transportation increased by 11,2% in the second quarter of 2026 compared with the second quarter of 2025. The main positive contributors to this increase were:

- 'other' freight (22,0%, contributing 4,8 percentage points);
- agriculture and forestry primary products (17,1%, contributing 1,4 percentage points); and
- containers (46,6%, contributing 1,4 percentage points).

### Table O – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation for June 2026

| | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Freight payload** | -2,9 | -2,3 | 1,0 | 6,9 | 3,7 | 1,4 |
| **Freight income** | 3,1 | 1,2 | 4,0 | 12,7 | 10,1 | 11,0 |

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

## Passenger transportation

The number of passenger journeys increased by 9,3% in June 2026 compared with June 2025. The corresponding income increased by 6,0% over the same period **(see Table P)**.

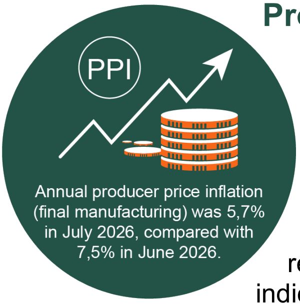
### Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation for June 2026

| | Jan-26 | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Passenger payload** | -2,4 | 4,0 | 6,3 | 6,5 | 4,0 | 9,3 |
| **Passenger income** | 4,4 | 7,5 | 7,2 | 6,6 | 5,0 | 6,0 |

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

# Prices

## Producer price index (PPI)




Prices paid for goods in shops are influenced by what happens earlier in the production process. Before a product reaches a grocery store, restaurant or other point of sale, producers have already incurred costs to make it. The producer price index (PPI) measures changes in the prices received by producers for their goods. It provides an indication of price movements earlier in the supply chain. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) data show that producer price inflation for final manufactured goods slowed to 5,7% in July 2026, from 7,5% in June. This illustrates how prices at the production level can change over time. Producer prices are influenced by the costs of inputs such as raw materials, energy and transport. When these costs change, businesses may absorb the difference or pass some of the cost on to customers. The PPI is therefore an important indicator of price pressures in the economy, providing insight into changes taking place earlier in the supply chain. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Producer price index (PPI)* (Statistical release P0142.1) for July 2026.

Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 5,7% in July 2026, compared with 7,5% in June 2026 **(see Table Q)**.

## Final manufactured goods – headline PPI

The producer price index (PPI) decreased by 1,0% month-on-month in July 2026. The main positive contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were:

- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (15,7%, contributing 3,4 percentage points);
- food products, beverages and tobacco products (1,9%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point); and
- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (3,8%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point).

The main negative contributor to the headline PPI monthly inflation rate was coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (-3,9%, contributing -0,9 of a percentage point).

## Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 9,8% in July 2026, compared with 12,4% in June 2026. The index decreased by 1,8% month-on-month. The main positive contributors to the annual rate were:

- chemicals, rubber and plastic products (18,6%, contributing 5,3 percentage points);
- basic and fabricated metals (5,9%, contributing 2,9 percentage points);
- sawmilling and wood (8,2%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point); and
- recycling and manufacturing n.e.c. (9,1%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

The main negative contributor to the monthly rate was chemicals, rubber and plastic products (-4,7%, contributing -1,5 percentage points).

## Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 7,5% in July 2026, compared with 5,5% in June 2026. The index increased by 5,8% month-on-month. The contributors to the annual rate were electricity (8,3% and contributing 7,1 percentage points) and water (8,3% and contributing 1,1 percentage points). The contributors to the monthly rate were electricity (5,5% and contributing 4,8 percentage points) and water (7,8% and contributing 1,0 percentage point).

### Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was 9,9% in July 2026, compared with 18,4% in June 2026. The index decreased by 4,8% month-on-month. The main positive contributors to the annual rate were non-ferrous metal ores (17,6%, contributing 8,1 percentage points) and coal and gas (6,4%, contributing 1,3 percentage points). The main negative contributors to the monthly rate were non-ferrous metal ores (-6,5%, contributing -3,3 percentage points) and gold and other metal ores (-5,4%, contributing -1,3 percentage points).

### Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was -4,5% in July 2026, compared with -7,9% in June 2026. The index increased by 2,4% month-on-month. The negative contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (-6,6%, contributing -5,7 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (2,6%, contributing 2,2 percentage points).

### Table Q – Key PPI figures for July 2026

| Product | Weight | Index (Dec 2023=100) | | | % change | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Jul 2025 | Jun 2026 | Jul 2026 | Jul 2026 vs. Jun 2026 | Jul 2026 vs. Jul 2025 |
| Final manufactured goods | 100,00 | 103,3 | 110,3 | 109,2 | -1,0 | 5,7 |
| Intermediate manufactured goods | 100,00 | 111,7 | 124,8 | 122,6 | -1,8 | 9,8 |
| Electricity and water | 100,00 | 161,1 | 163,7 | 173,2 | 5,8 | 7,5 |
| Mining | 100,00 | 110,5 | 127,5 | 121,4 | -4,8 | 9,9 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 100,00 | 102,2 | 95,3 | 97,6 | 2,4 | -4,5 |

A full release on the *Producer price index (PPI)* (Statistical release P0142.1) for July 2026 is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

# Consumer price index (CPI)


South African households continue to face financial strain as rising housing utilities drive up the cost of living. According to the Competition Commission's latest Cost of Living Report, water and electricity costs are rising faster than inflation. Electricity tariffs increased by 8,1% between July 2025 and July 2026, while water prices rose by 10,1%. The headline inflation over the same period was 4,3%. Backing these findings are Statistics South Africa's (Stats SA) consumer price index (CPI) for July 2026, which shows that housing and utilities were among the main drivers behind the 4,3% increase in the CPI. Housing and utilities increased by 5,2% and contributed 1,3 percentage points to the CPI. Of the items that fall under housing and utilities, electricity, gas and other fuels and water supply and miscellaneous services contributed the highest at 8,3% and 6,4%, respectively. Increases in electricity and water tariffs have an immediate and unavoidable impact on household expenditure. This article summarises the results of the *Consumer price index (CPI)* (Statistical release P0141) for July 2026.

## Headline consumer price index (CPI) for all urban areas


Annual consumer price inflation was 4,3% in July 2026, down from 5,0% in June 2026 **(see Table R)**.

The CPI increased by 0,2% month-on-month in July 2026. The main contributors to the 4,3% annual inflation rate were:

- housing and utilities (5,2%, contributing 1,3 percentage points);
- transport (8,9%, contributing 1,2 percentage points); and
- insurance and financial services (5,7%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point).

In July 2026, the annual inflation rate for:

- goods was 3,4%, down from 4,8% in June 2026; and
- services was 5,0%, down from 5,2% in June 2026.

### Table R – Consumer price index: Index numbers and year-on-year rates

| Year | Index /rate | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Ave-rage[1] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2022 | Index | 86,3 | 86,8 | 87,7 | 88,2 | 88,8 | 89,8 | 91,1 | 91,3 | 91,4 | 91,7 | 92,0 | 92,3 | 89,8 |
| | Rate | 5,7 | 5,7 | 5,9 | 5,9 | 6,5 | 7,4 | 7,8 | 7,6 | 7,5 | 7,6 | 7,4 | 7,2 | 6,9 |
| 2023 | Index | 92,2 | 92,9 | 93,9 | 94,2 | 94,4 | 94,6 | 95,4 | 95,7 | 96,3 | 97,2 | 97,1 | 97,1 | 95,1 |
| | Rate | 6,9 | 7,0 | 7,1 | 6,8 | 6,3 | 5,4 | 4,7 | 4,8 | 5,4 | 5,9 | 5,5 | 5,1 | 6,0 |
| 2024 | Index | 97,2 | 98,1 | 98,9 | 99,1 | 99,3 | 99,4 | 99,8 | 99,9 | 100,0 | 99,9 | 99,9 | 100,0 | 99,3 |
| | Rate | 5,3 | 5,6 | 5,3 | 5,2 | 5,2 | 5,1 | 4,6 | 4,4 | 3,8 | 2,8 | 2,9 | 3,0 | 4,4 |
| 2025 | Index | 100,3 | 101,2 | 101,6 | 101,9 | 102,1 | 102,4 | 103,3 | 103,2 | 103,4 | 103,5 | 103,4 | 103,6 | 102,5 |
| | Rate | 3,2 | 3,2 | 2,7 | 2,8 | 2,8 | 3,0 | 3,5 | 3,3 | 3,4 | 3,6 | 3,5 | 3,6 | 3,2 |
| 2026 | Index | 103,8 | 104,2 | 104,8 | 106,0 | 106,7 | 107,5 | 107,7 | | | | | | |
| | Rate | 3,5 | 3,0 | 3,1 | 4,0 | 4,5 | 5,0 | 4,3 | | | | | | |

[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 the existing residence. Out-buildings and garages are included.

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

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