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STATISTICAL RELEASE

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Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

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Electricity generated (produced) in South Africa: results for August 2026

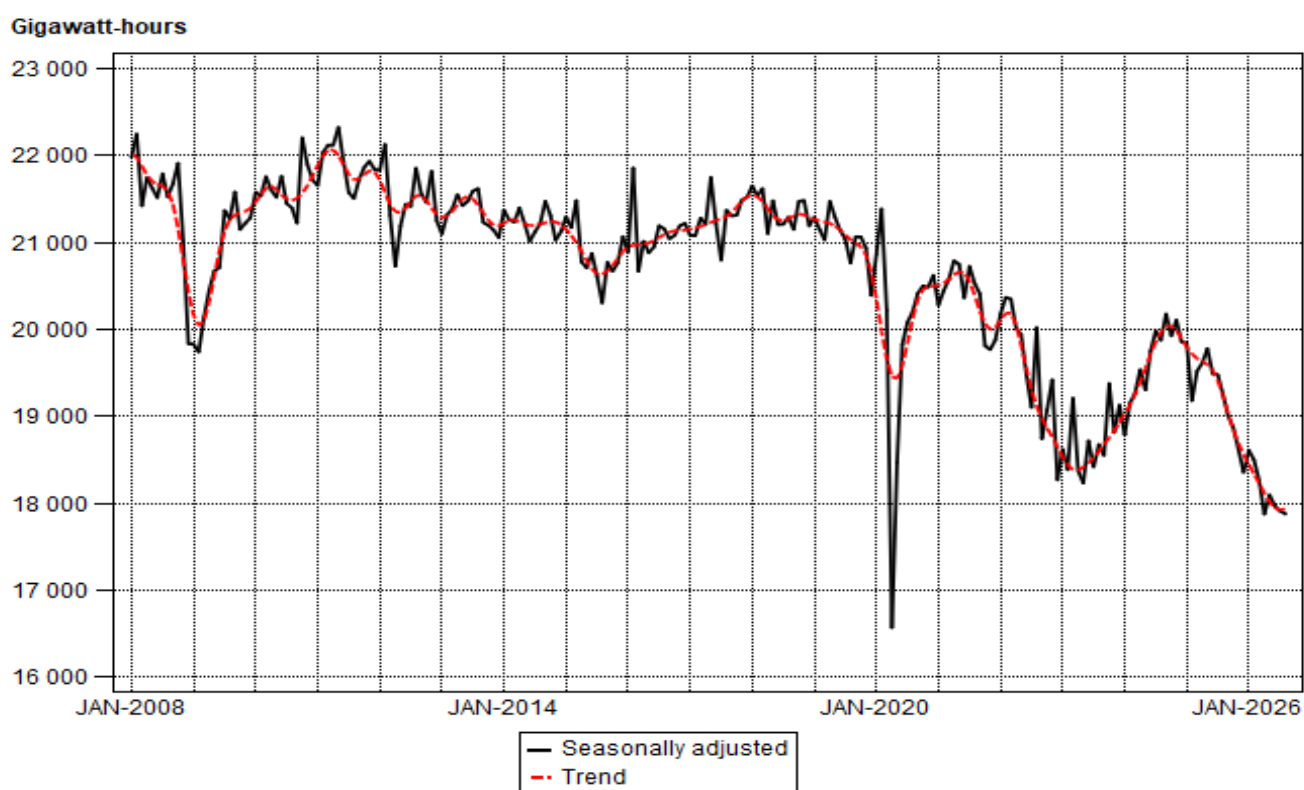
Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated

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

¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity generation (production) decreased by 7,1% year-on-year in August 2026. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 0,2% in August 2026 compared with July 2026, following month-on-month changes of -0,4% in July 2026 and -0,7% in June 2026. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 0,9% in the three months ended August 2026 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 1 – Electricity generated in South Africa



Electricity distributed (consumed) in South Africa: results for August 2026

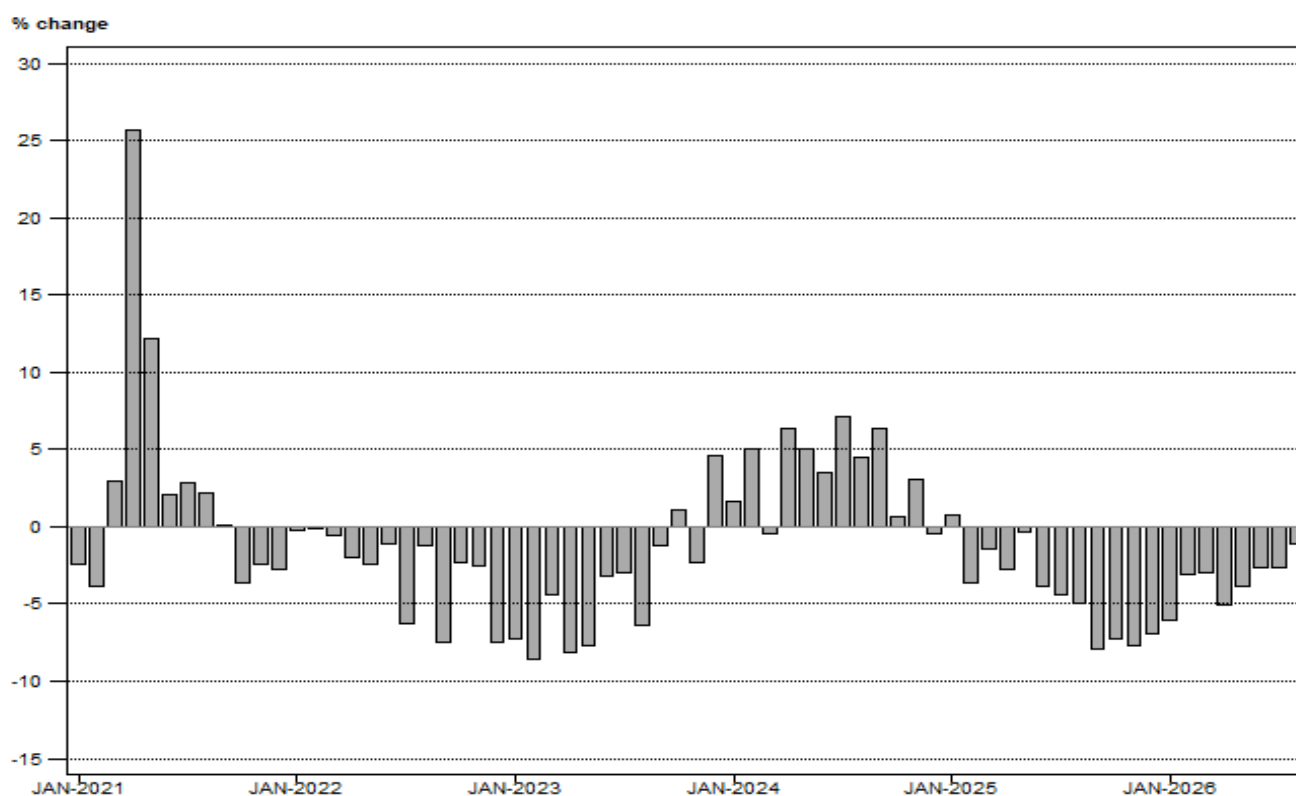
Table B – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed

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

¹ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity distribution (consumption) decreased by 1,1% year-on-year in August 2026. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution increased by 0,3% month-on-month in August 2026, following month-on-month changes of 0,3% in July 2026 and -0,9% in June 2026. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution increased by 0,3% in the three months ended August 2026 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 2 – Electricity distributed in South Africa: year-on-year percentage change




Risenga Maluleke
 Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Index of the volume of electricity generated (Base: 2019=100)

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	97,1	93,9	93,0	85,7	86,4	91,3	85,7
Feb	92,2	88,2	87,9	79,4	82,7	82,9	80,0
Mar	95,5	97,2	96,2	90,8	91,0	92,1	86,0
Apr	76,1	95,5	91,9	84,1	89,1	89,2	* 81,1
May	91,1	102,2	97,9	89,4	94,6	96,9	88,7
Jun	98,3	101,4	97,4	93,8	99,0	97,7	90,0
Jul	102,4	105,7	97,7	94,3	102,5	100,1	92,2
Aug	99,7	101,7	99,5	93,1	99,3	96,2	89,4
Sep	95,7	95,7	87,9	87,0	94,7	89,3	
Oct	99,7	96,2	92,5	94,1	96,8	91,8	
Nov	95,7	92,3	90,5	87,8	93,9	87,0	
Dec	94,3	90,8	83,3	87,0	90,1	83,1	
Total	94,8	96,7	93,0	88,9	93,3	91,5	

* Revised.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of electricity generated

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026 year-to-date
Jan	-3,3	-1,0	-7,8	0,8	5,7	-6,1	-6,1
Feb	-4,3	-0,3	-9,7	4,2	0,2	-3,5	-4,9
Mar	1,8	-1,0	-5,6	0,2	1,2	-6,6	-5,5
Apr	25,5	-3,8	-8,5	5,9	0,1	-9,1	-6,4
May	12,2	-4,2	-8,7	5,8	2,4	-8,5	-6,8
Jun	3,2	-3,9	-3,7	5,5	-1,3	-7,9	-7,0
Jul	3,2	-7,6	-3,5	8,7	-2,3	-7,9	-7,2
Aug	2,0	-2,2	-6,4	6,7	-3,1	-7,1	-7,1
Sep	0,0	-8,2	-1,0	8,9	-5,7		
Oct	-3,5	-3,8	1,7	2,9	-5,2		
Nov	-3,6	-2,0	-3,0	6,9	-7,3		
Dec	-3,7	-8,3	4,4	3,6	-7,8		
Total	2,0	-3,8	-4,4	4,9	-1,9		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of electricity generated

Month	Base: 2019=100				Month-on-month % change			
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	88,5	89,2	94,2	88,4	2,0	-1,9	-0,1	1,4
Feb	87,3	91,0	91,1	87,9	-1,4	2,0	-3,3	-0,6
Mar	91,3	91,5	92,7	86,7	4,6	0,5	1,8	-1,4
Apr	87,3	92,8	93,2	84,9	-4,4	1,4	0,5	-2,1
May	86,6	91,7	94,0	86,0	-0,8	-1,2	0,9	1,3
Jun	88,9	93,8	92,6	85,4	2,7	2,3	-1,5	-0,7
Jul	87,5	94,9	92,5	85,1	-1,6	1,2	-0,1	-0,4
Aug	88,7	94,4	91,5	84,9	1,4	-0,5	-1,1	-0,2
Sep	88,1	95,9	90,3		-0,7	1,6	-1,3	
Oct	92,0	94,7	89,6		4,4	-1,3	-0,8	
Nov	89,4	95,5	88,4		-2,8	0,8	-1,3	
Dec	90,9	94,3	87,2		1,7	-1,3	-1,4	

Table 4 – Volume of electricity distributed in South Africa (gigawatt-hours)

Month	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	18 007	17 978	16 673	16 932	17 069	16 030
Feb	16 830	16 821	15 370	16 138	15 559	15 082
Mar	18 527	18 416	17 600	17 506	17 257	16 745
Apr	18 083	17 719	16 280	17 323	16 848	* 15 988
May	19 377	18 907	17 443	18 313	18 262	17 574
Jun	19 058	18 851	18 247	18 889	18 172	17 702
Jul	20 089	18 826	18 252	19 552	18 684	18 207
Aug	19 465	19 231	17 998	18 800	17 872	17 678
Sep	18 240	16 871	16 663	17 723	16 331	
Oct	18 214	17 797	17 984	18 094	16 795	
Nov	17 726	17 291	16 897	17 426	16 079	
Dec	17 504	16 183	16 934	16 871	15 710	
Total	221 120	214 891	206 341	213 567	204 638	

* Revised.

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in electricity distributed in South Africa

Month	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2026 year-to-date
Jan	-0,2	-7,3	1,6	0,8	-6,1	-6,1
Feb	-0,1	-8,6	5,0	-3,6	-3,1	-4,6
Mar	-0,6	-4,4	-0,5	-1,4	-3,0	-4,1
Apr	-2,0	-8,1	6,4	-2,7	-5,1	-4,3
May	-2,4	-7,7	5,0	-0,3	-3,8	-4,2
Jun	-1,1	-3,2	3,5	-3,8	-2,6	-3,9
Jul	-6,3	-3,0	7,1	-4,4	-2,6	-3,7
Aug	-1,2	-6,4	4,5	-4,9	-1,1	-3,4
Sep	-7,5	-1,2	6,4	-7,9		
Oct	-2,3	1,1	0,6	-7,2		
Nov	-2,5	-2,3	3,1	-7,7		
Dec	-7,5	4,6	-0,4	-6,9		
Total	-2,8	-4,0	3,5	-4,2		

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted volume of electricity distributed in South Africa

Month	Gigawatt-hours				Month-on-month % change			
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	17 200	17 471	17 629	16 539	2,1	-1,2	-0,4	0,2
Feb	16 778	17 612	17 019	16 482	-2,5	0,8	-3,5	-0,3
Mar	17 676	17 598	17 373	16 870	5,4	-0,1	2,1	2,4
Apr	16 784	17 911	17 491	16 583	-5,0	1,8	0,7	-1,7
May	16 831	17 670	17 602	16 947	0,3	-1,3	0,6	2,2
Jun	17 277	17 850	17 153	16 800	2,6	1,0	-2,6	-0,9
Jul	16 964	18 102	17 233	16 852	-1,8	1,4	0,5	0,3
Aug	17 223	17 931	17 032	16 897	1,5	-0,9	-1,2	0,3
Sep	16 937	18 019	16 602		-1,7	0,5	-2,5	
Oct	17 705	17 789	16 502		4,5	-1,3	-0,6	
Nov	17 274	17 819	16 431		-2,4	0,2	-0,4	
Dec	17 686	17 699	16 498		2,4	-0,7	0,4	

Table 7 – Volume of electricity by category (gigawatt-hours)

	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Aug-26 year-on- year % change
Total - all producers						
Generated	* 17 079	18 677	18 939	19 416	18 816	-7,1
Inflow into South Africa	* 697	776	690	809	910	72,0
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	* 1 296	1 434	1 459	1 481	1 436	-9,4
Outflow from South Africa	492	446	469	537	611	-53,9
Distributed in South Africa	* 15 988	17 574	17 702	18 207	17 678	-1,1
National electricity supplier						
Generated	* 14 557	16 311	16 315	16 660	15 913	-9,2
Inflow into South Africa	* 697	776	690	809	910	72,0
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	* 1 224	1 367	1 372	1 387	1 343	-9,8
Outflow from South Africa	492	446	469	537	611	-53,9
Distributed in South Africa	* 13 538	15 275	15 164	15 545	14 869	-2,4

* Revised.

Table 8 – Year-to-date volume of electricity by category: year-on-year percentage change and difference

	Jan – Aug 2025 (GWh)	Jan – Aug 2026 (GWh)	% change between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026	Difference between Jan – Aug 2025 and Jan – Aug 2026 (GWh)
Total - all producers				
Generated	157 145	145 920	-7,1	-11 225
Inflow into South Africa	4 583	5 835	27,3	1 252
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	12 280	11 064	-9,9	-1 216
Outflow from South Africa	9 725	5 688	-41,5	-4 037
Distributed in South Africa	139 723	135 006	-3,4	-4 717
National electricity supplier				
Generated	137 443	124 568	-9,4	-12 875
Inflow into South Africa	4 583	5 835	27,3	1 252
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	11 617	10 465	-9,9	-1 152
Outflow from South Africa	9 725	5 688	-41,5	-4 037
Distributed in South Africa	120 686	114 251	-5,3	-6 435

Table 9 – Volume of electricity delivered to provinces (gigawatt-hours)

Province	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Aug-26 year-on- year % change
Western Cape	1 581	1 632	1 639	1 719	1 676	-1,6
Eastern Cape	721	816	853	912	870	11,0
Northern Cape	332	389	378	360	355	-27,0
Free State	819	920	906	941	890	-4,6
KwaZulu-Natal	3 023	3 197	3 185	3 322	3 201	-1,8
North West	1 262	1 397	1 408	1 349	1 402	-2,4
Gauteng	4 222	4 854	4 997	5 105	4 844	-1,5
Mpumalanga	* 2 390	* 2 506	2 496	2 564	2 540	1,6
Limpopo	1 359	1 464	1 449	1 521	1 500	2,9
Total	* 15 708	* 17 173	17 310	17 794	17 278	-1,2

* Revised.

Explanatory notes

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the electricity industry. This statistical release contains monthly information regarding the volume of electricity units:
 - generated and distributed in South Africa;
 - flowing into and out from South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders; and
 - delivered to provinces.
 Both unadjusted and seasonally adjusted figures are published.
 - 2 In accordance with international practice, the indices are usually re-based every five years to a new base year. The current base period of the index is 2019.
- Purpose of the survey**
- 3 The results of the monthly electricity survey are used to compile estimates of the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components, which are used in monitoring the state of the economy and formulation of economic policy.
- Scope of the survey**
- 4 This survey covers enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity (excluding the distribution of purchased electric energy). It includes electrical power installations, which, as subsidiary divisions of enterprises, produce electricity for regular use by these enterprises.
- Classification**
- 5 The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each enterprise is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (five-digit) level.
- Collection rate**
- 6 The preliminary collection rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for August 2026 was 92,3%. The revised collection rate for July 2026 was 100%.
- Statistical unit**
- 7 The statistical unit for the collection of information is an enterprise, defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.
- Revised figures**
- 8 Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. The reasons for routine revisions are outlined in the following schedule. Any unscheduled revisions will be promptly indicated in relevant tables to maintain transparency and accuracy. It is important to note that seasonally adjusted figures are revised monthly.

Statistical release	Reason for revision	Period subject to revision
Aug-26	Additional information from respondents	Jul-26
Sep-26	Additional information from respondents	Aug-26
Oct-26	Additional information from respondents	Sep-26
Nov-26	Additional information from respondents	Oct-26
Dec-26	Additional information from respondents	Nov-26
Jan-27	Additional information from respondents New base year for electricity generated	Jan-85 - Dec-26
Feb-27	Additional information from respondents	Jan-27
Mar-27	Additional information from respondents	Feb-27
Apr-27	Additional information from respondents	Mar-27
May-27	Additional information from respondents	Apr-27
Jun-27	Additional information from respondents	May-27
Jul-27	Additional information from respondents	Jun-27
New base year in 2026/27 - periodic, approximately four- to five-year intervals		

- Rounding-off of figures**
- 9 Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

- Historical data** 10 Historical electricity data are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link ([Time series data](#)) to access the data electronically.
- Past publications** 11 Past electricity releases are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link ([Past publications](#)) to access the releases electronically.

Technical notes

- Survey methodology and design** 1 All statistical units are stratified by type of economic activity according to the *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (SIC) and measure of size, where measure of size is the volume of electricity generated by the enterprise. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. A sample is drawn from medium and small size enterprises by systematically selecting enterprises within each size category. An enterprise with a total generating capacity of less than 500 kilowatts is excluded from the sample.
- 2 The survey is conducted by email and telephone. Information is collected from a sample of 24 enterprises. As from September 2013, the national electricity supplier provided additional data for independent power producers (IPPs) that were not in the original sample of 24 enterprises. As from January 2015, the national electricity supplier provided additional data from IPPs involved in electricity wheeling.
- Monthly index of electricity generated** 3 The calculation of the monthly index of electricity generated is based on the volume of electricity units produced.
- Benchmarking** 4 The index of the volume of electricity generated should provide an accurate reflection of the trend of activities of the relevant industry. The level of activities, as measured by the monthly electricity survey, is based on information received from a sample of enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity (excluding the distribution of purchased electric energy). These levels are weighted according to the original sample and designed to represent the population of enterprises conducting activities concerned with the generation and/or distribution of electricity.
- Seasonal adjustment** 5 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the United States Census Bureau. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences, which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The X12-ARIMA procedure for electricity generated and available for distribution is described in more detail on the Stats SA website:
[Click to download Electricity seasonal adjustment February 2022.](#)
- Trend cycle** 6 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle.
- Month-on-month percentage change** 7 The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter.
- Year-on-year percentage change** 8 The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

Glossary

Electricity wheeling	Electricity wheeling refers to the process of transporting electricity from a generator to an end-user (customer) using an existing transmission or distribution network.	
Enterprise	The enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.	
Independent power producer	An independent power producer (IPP) is a private enterprise that generates electricity and sells it to the national electricity supplier or an end-user (customer).	
Index of the volume of electricity generated	A statistical measure of the change in the volume of electricity generated in a given period and the volume of electricity generated in the base period. The base period is 2019. The production in the base period is set at 100.	
Industry	An industry is made up of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the System of National Accounts (SNA) in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities</i> (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.	
Inflow into SA	Electricity flowing into South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.	
Outflow from SA	Electricity flowing from South Africa as measured by the metering systems at the South African borders.	
Unit of electricity	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.	
Symbols and abbreviations	GDP	Gross domestic product
	GWh	Gigawatt-hour
	IPPs	Independent Power Producers
	ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
	SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
	SA	South Africa
	Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
	*	Revised figures

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