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Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

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Contents

Electricity generated (produced) in South Africa: results for February 2025 2

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated 2

Figure 1 – Electricity generated in South Africa 2

Electricity distributed (consumed) in South Africa: results for February 2025 3

Table B – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed 3

Figure 2 – Electricity distributed in South Africa: year-on-year percentage change 3

Tables 4

Table 1 – Index of the volume of electricity generated (Base: 2019=100) 4

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the volume of electricity generated 4

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted index of the volume of electricity generated 4

Table 4 – Volume of electricity distributed in South Africa (gigawatt-hours) 5

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

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted volume of electricity distributed in South Africa 5

Table 7 – Volume of electricity by category (gigawatt-hours) 6

Table 8 – Year-to-date volume of electricity by category: year-on-year percentage change and difference 6

Table 9 – Volume of electricity delivered to provinces (gigawatt-hours) 6

Explanatory notes 7

Technical notes 8

Glossary 9

Technical enquiries 9

General information 10

Electricity generated (produced) in South Africa: results for February 2025

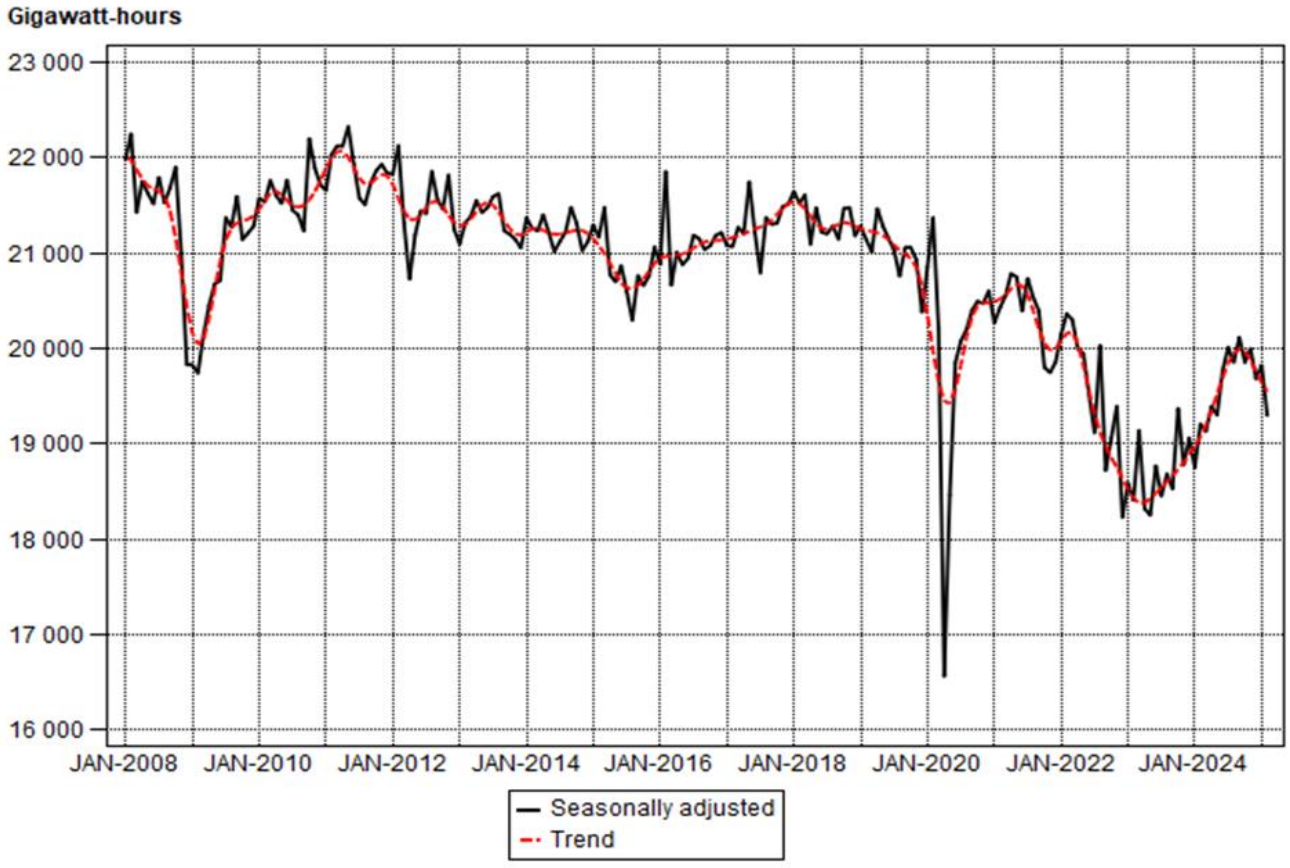
Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated

	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	8,9	2,9	6,9	3,6	5,7	0,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,3	-1,1	0,6	-1,6	0,4	-2,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	2,7	1,4	0,6	-0,7	-0,6	-2,1

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

Electricity generation (production) increased by 0,4% year-on-year in February 2025. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 2,5% in February 2025 compared with January 2025. This followed month-on-month changes of 0,4% in January 2025 and -1,6% in December 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 2,1% in the three months ended February 2025 compared with the previous three months.

Figure 1 – Electricity generated in South Africa



Electricity distributed (consumed) in South Africa: results for February 2025

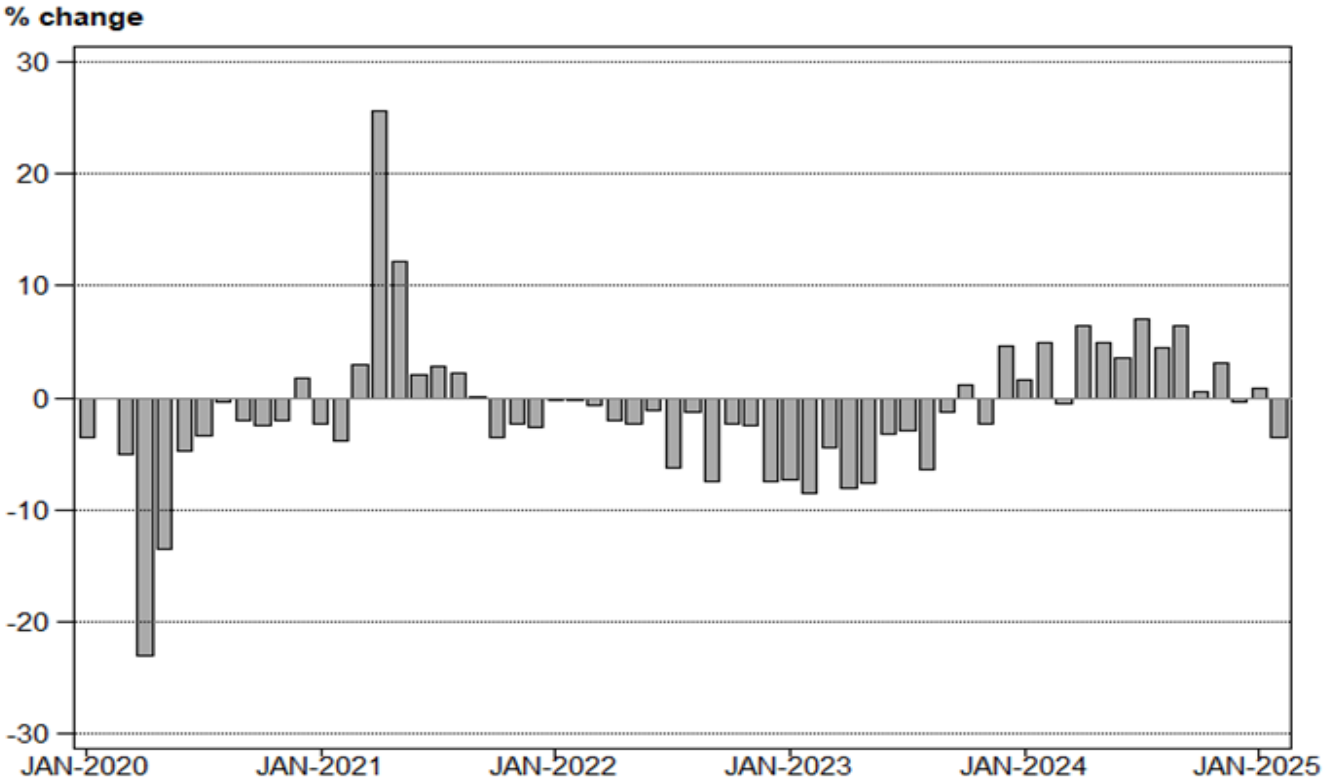
Table B – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed

	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	6,4	0,6	3,1	-0,4	0,8	-3,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,2	-1,2	-0,2	-0,9	0,1	-2,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted [1]	1,3	-0,1	-1,0	-1,9	-1,5	-2,3

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

Electricity distribution (consumption) decreased by 3,5% year-on-year in February 2025. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution decreased by 2,7% month-on-month in February 2025, following month-on-month changes of 0,1% in January 2025 and -0,9% in December 2024. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution decreased by 2,3% in the three months ended February 2025 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	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	99,5	97,1	93,9	93,0	85,7	86,4	91,3
Feb	91,3	92,2	88,2	87,9	79,4	82,7	83,0
Mar	99,5	95,5	97,2	96,2	90,8	91,0	
Apr	98,5	76,1	95,5	91,9	84,1	89,1	
May	105,0	91,1	102,2	97,9	89,4	94,6	
Jun	104,3	98,3	101,4	97,4	93,8	99,0	
Jul	107,2	102,4	105,7	97,7	94,3	102,5	
Aug	102,2	99,7	101,7	99,5	93,1	99,3	
Sep	98,7	95,7	95,7	87,9	87,0	94,7	
Oct	102,5	99,7	96,2	92,5	94,1	96,8	
Nov	98,2	95,7	92,3	90,5	87,8	93,9	
Dec	93,3	94,3	90,8	83,3	87,0	90,1	
Total	**100,0**	**94,8**	**96,7**	**93,0**	**88,9**	**93,3**	

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

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	*2025 year-to-date*
Jan	-2,4	-3,3	-1,0	-7,8	0,8	5,7	*5,7*
Feb	1,0	-4,3	-0,3	-9,7	4,2	0,4	*3,1*
Mar	-4,0	1,8	-1,0	-5,6	0,2		
Apr	-22,7	25,5	-3,8	-8,5	5,9		
May	-13,2	12,2	-4,2	-8,7	5,8		
Jun	-5,8	3,2	-3,9	-3,7	5,5		
Jul	-4,5	3,2	-7,6	-3,5	8,7		
Aug	-2,4	2,0	-2,2	-6,4	6,7		
Sep	-3,0	0,0	-8,2	-1,0	8,9		
Oct	-2,7	-3,5	-3,8	1,7	2,9		
Nov	-2,5	-3,6	-2,0	-3,0	6,9		
Dec	1,1	-3,7	-8,3	4,4	3,6		
Total	**-5,2**	**2,0**	**-3,8**	**-4,4**	**4,9**		

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

Month	Base: 2019=100				Month-on-month % change			
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	95,8	88,4	89,2	94,2	1,6	2,1	-1,5	0,4
Feb	96,8	87,5	91,3	91,8	1,0	-1,0	2,4	-2,5
Mar	96,5	91,0	91,1		-0,3	4,0	-0,2	
Apr	95,0	87,1	92,3		-1,6	-4,3	1,3	
May	94,8	86,7	91,9		-0,2	-0,5	-0,4	
Jun	92,8	89,2	94,1		-2,1	2,9	2,4	
Jul	90,9	87,7	95,3		-2,0	-1,7	1,3	
Aug	95,2	88,8	94,6		4,7	1,3	-0,7	
Sep	89,0	88,1	95,8		-6,5	-0,8	1,3	
Oct	90,6	92,0	94,7		1,8	4,4	-1,1	
Nov	92,2	89,2	95,3		1,8	-3,0	0,6	
Dec	86,6	90,6	93,8		-6,1	1,6	-1,6	

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

Month	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	18 449	18 007	17 978	16 673	16 932	17 064
Feb	17 496	16 830	16 821	15 370	16 138	15 581
Mar	17 982	18 527	18 416	17 600	17 506	
Apr	14 384	18 083	17 719	16 280	17 323	
May	17 263	19 377	18 907	17 443	18 313	
Jun	18 672	19 058	18 851	18 247	18 889	
Jul	19 541	20 089	18 826	18 252	19 552	
Aug	19 048	19 465	19 231	17 998	18 800	
Sep	18 225	18 240	16 871	16 663	17 723	
Oct	18 891	18 214	17 797	17 984	18 094	
Nov	18 162	17 726	17 291	16 897	17 419	
Dec	17 985	17 504	16 183	16 934	16 865	
Total	**216 098**	**221 120**	**214 891**	**206 341**	**213 554**	

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

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

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

Month	Gigawatt-hours				Month-on-month % change			
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
Jan	18 495	17 178	17 448	17 613	1,7	2,2	-1,0	0,1
Feb	18 439	16 812	17 683	17 142	-0,3	-2,1	1,3	-2,7
Mar	18 452	17 607	17 499		0,1	4,7	-1,0	
Apr	18 237	16 751	17 836		-1,2	-4,9	1,9	
May	18 246	16 882	17 747		0,0	0,8	-0,5	
Jun	17 933	17 335	17 910		-1,7	2,7	0,9	
Jul	17 547	17 018	18 193		-2,2	-1,8	1,6	
Aug	18 458	17 250	17 974		5,2	1,4	-1,2	
Sep	17 124	16 923	18 007		-7,2	-1,9	0,2	
Oct	17 532	17 706	17 792		2,4	4,6	-1,2	
Nov	17 657	17 231	17 755		0,7	-2,7	-0,2	
Dec	16 815	17 617	17 587		-4,8	2,2	-0,9	

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

	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Feb-25 year-on-year % change
Total - all producers						
Generated	20 385	19 764	18 961	19 220	17 483	0,4
Inflow into South Africa	660	602	776	588	534	-39,4
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 562	1 444	1 396	1 452	1 363	2,4
Outflow from South Africa	1 388	1 502	1 475	1 291	1 074	29,4
Distributed in South Africa	18 094	17 419	16 865	17 064	15 581	-3,5
National electricity supplier						
Generated	17 755	17 278	16 388	16 631	15 308	3,2
Inflow into South Africa	660	602	776	588	534	-39,4
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 491	1 370	1 320	1 374	1 291	4,4
Outflow from South Africa	1 388	1 502	1 475	1 291	1 074	29,4
Distributed in South Africa	15 536	15 007	14 368	14 553	13 478	-1,2

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

	Jan – Feb 2024 (GWh)	Jan – Feb 2025 (GWh)	% change between Jan – Feb 2024 and Jan – Feb 2025	Difference between Jan – Feb 2024 and Jan – Feb 2025 (GWh)
Total - all producers				
Generated	35 611	36 703	3,1	1 092
Inflow into South Africa	1 862	1 122	-39,7	-740
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	2 721	2 815	3,5	94
Outflow from South Africa	1 682	2 365	40,6	683
Distributed in South Africa	33 070	32 645	-1,3	-425
National electricity supplier				
Generated	30 438	31 939	4,9	1 501
Inflow into South Africa	1 862	1 122	-39,7	-740
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	2 527	2 665	5,5	138
Outflow from South Africa	1 682	2 365	40,6	683
Distributed in South Africa	28 090	28 031	-0,2	-59

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

Province	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Feb-25 year-on-year % change
Western Cape	1 599	1 560	1 542	1 610	1 506	-2,4
Eastern Cape	766	707	670	710	643	-2,9
Northern Cape	506	491	525	572	483	-5,3
Free State	930	905	941	902	810	0,7
KwaZulu-Natal	3 294	3 172	3 128	3 146	2 865	-3,2
North West	1 779	1 736	1 650	1 671	1 497	-6,1
Gauteng	4 436	4 195	3 832	4 046	3 846	-1,3
Mpumalanga	2 609	2 519	2 517	2 496	2 235	-4,5
Limpopo	1 766	1 750	1 766	1 635	1 445	-11,1
Total	**17 685**	**17 034**	**16 570**	**16 788**	**15 329**	**-3,8**

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 February 2025 was 92,3%. The collection rate for January 2025 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
Feb-25	Additional information from respondents	Jan-25
Mar-25	Additional information from respondents	Feb-25
Apr-25	Additional information from respondents	Mar-25
May-25	Additional information from respondents	Apr-25
Jun-25	Additional information from respondents	May-25
Jul-25	Additional information from respondents	Jun-25
Aug-25	Additional information from respondents	Jul-25
Sep-25	Additional information from respondents	Aug-25
Oct-25	Additional information from respondents	Sep-25
Nov-25	Additional information from respondents	Oct-25
Dec-25	Additional information from respondents	Nov-25
Jan-26	Additional information from respondents	Dec-25
New base year in 2027/28 - 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.

The results of the 1995 Census of electricity, gas and steam served as a benchmark to verify or adjust the level of the monthly index of the volume of electricity generated collected through the monthly survey. The level adjustments were done on the volume index for July of the relevant census year (the 1995 census year covered the period 1 January to 31 December 1995 and therefore, the benchmarking was done using the index of July 1995 as reference point).

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 *Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities* (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
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
SA	South Africa
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
*	Revised figures

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General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 official languages. Since the releases are used extensively locally and by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English.

Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za.

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Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

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