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STATISTICAL RELEASE

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Electricity generated and available for distribution (Preliminary)

June 2022

This release provides an analysis of revisions. If you have any questions or comments, please send these to Nicolai Claassen, nicolaic@statssa.gov.za.

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Electricity generated (produced) in South Africa: results for June 2022

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

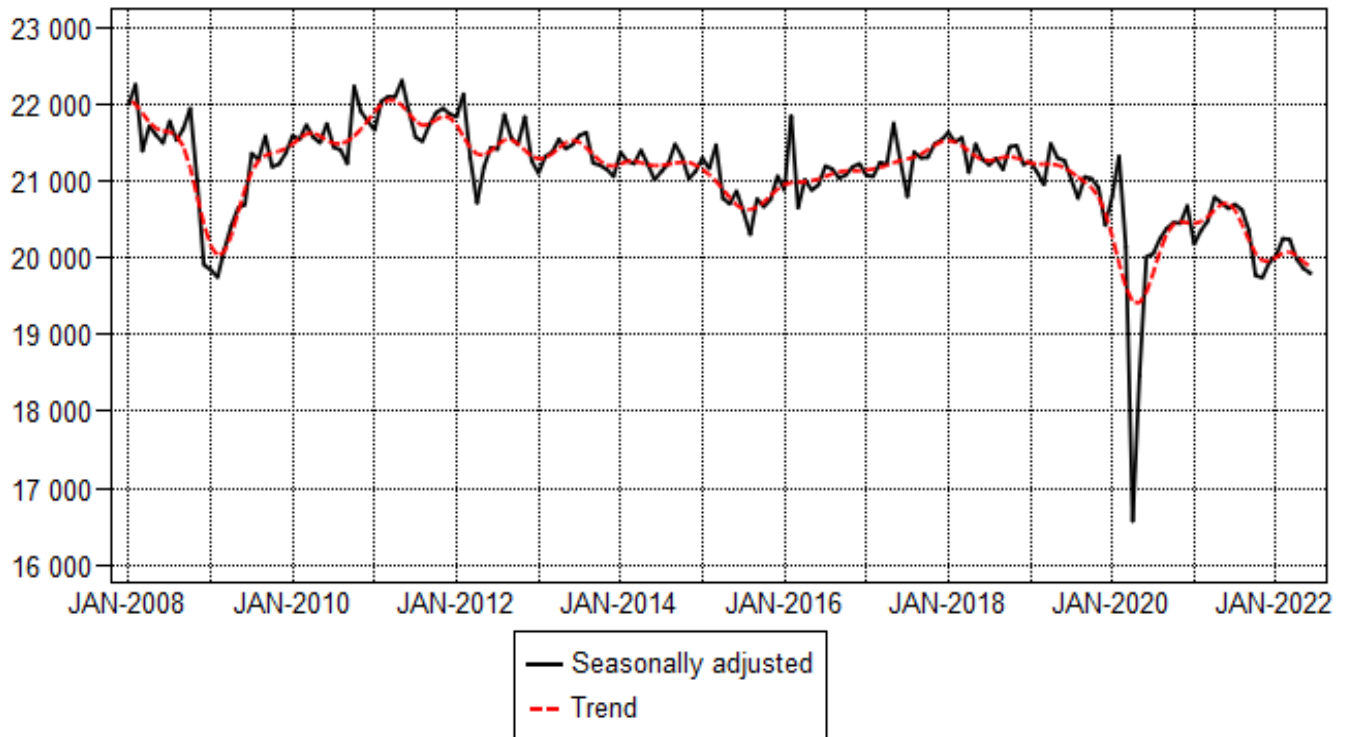
	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,0	-0,3	-1,0	-3,8	-4,2	-4,0
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,4	1,2	-0,1	-1,2	-0,5	-0,3
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	-1,7	0,6	1,8	1,3	-0,2	-1,4

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

Electricity generation (production) decreased by 4,0% year-on-year in June 2022. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 0,3% in June 2022 compared with May 2022. This followed month-on-month changes of -0,5% in May 2022 and -1,2% in April 2022. Seasonally adjusted electricity generation decreased by 1,4% in the second quarter of 2022 compared with the first quarter of 2022.

Figure 1 – Electricity generated in South Africa

Gigawatt-hours



Electricity distributed (consumed) in South Africa: results for June 2022

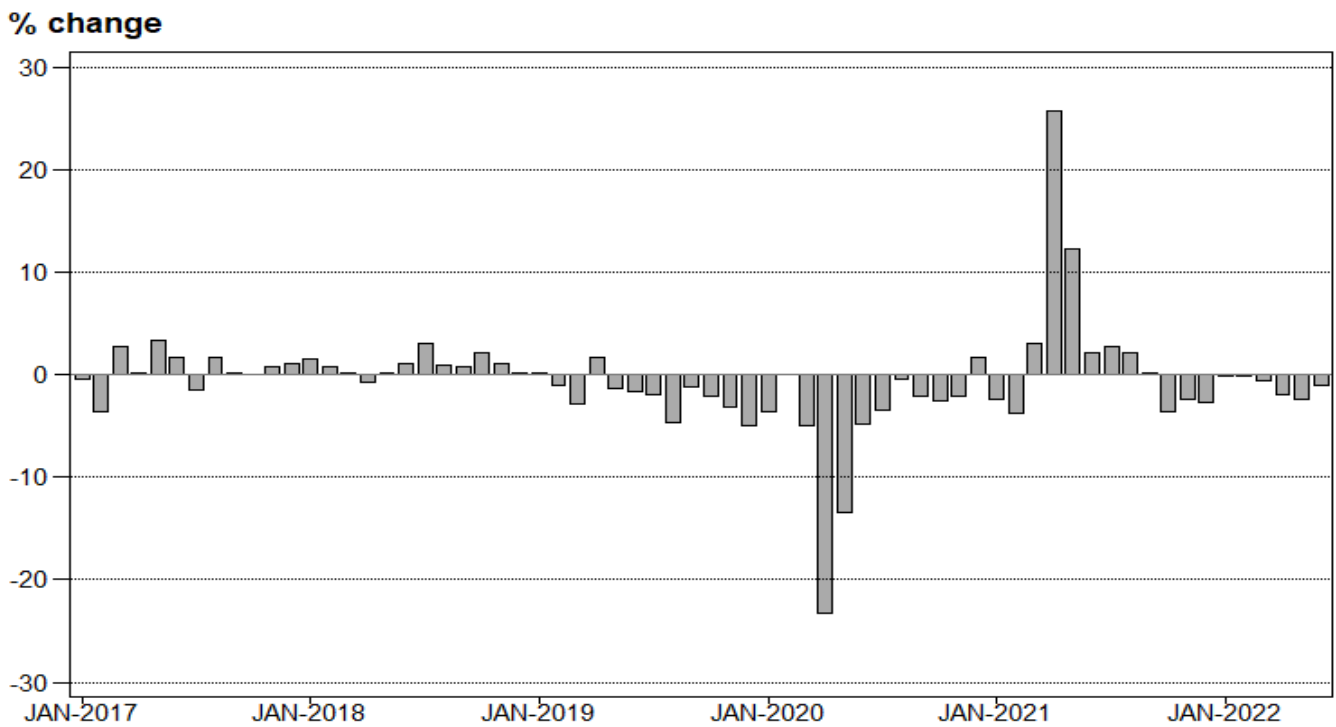
Table B – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed

	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-0,2	-0,1	-0,6	-2,0	-2,4	-1,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	-0,2	0,3	-0,7	-0,4	0,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ¹	-0,8	1,1	1,7	0,5	-0,3	-0,8

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 June 2022. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution increased by 0,1% month-on-month in June 2022, following month-on-month changes of -0,4% in May 2022 and -0,7% in April 2022. Seasonally adjusted electricity distribution decreased by 0,8% in the second quarter of 2022 compared with the first quarter of 2022.

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	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
Jan	98,4	99,2	101,5	99,5	97,1	93,9	93,0
Feb	95,0	91,4	93,1	91,3	92,2	88,2	87,9
Mar	98,7	101,3	102,5	99,5	95,5	97,2	96,2
Apr	96,6	97,3	96,8	98,5	76,1	95,5	91,9
May	101,8	106,4	105,5	104,9	91,1	102,2	97,9
Jun	102,3	103,9	104,2	104,3	98,3	101,4	97,3
Jul	107,5	105,6	107,9	107,1	102,3	105,7	
Aug	104,2	105,0	104,6	102,1	99,7	101,7	
Sep	98,9	100,0	99,2	98,7	95,7	95,7	
Oct	102,3	103,7	104,5	102,5	99,7	96,2	
Nov	99,4	101,0	100,9	98,2	95,7	92,2	
Dec	97,3	98,8	97,1	93,3	94,3	90,8	
Total	100,2	101,1	101,5	100,0	94,8	96,7	

¹ Latest month is preliminary.

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

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	0,8	2,3	-2,0	-2,4	-3,3	-1,0	-1,0
Feb	-3,8	1,9	-1,9	1,0	-4,3	-0,3	-0,7
Mar	2,6	1,2	-2,9	-4,0	1,8	-1,0	-0,8
Apr	0,7	-0,5	1,8	-22,7	25,5	-3,8	-1,5
May	4,5	-0,8	-0,6	-13,2	12,2	-4,2	-2,1
Jun	1,6	0,3	0,1	-5,8	3,2	-4,0	-2,5
Jul	-1,8	2,2	-0,7	-4,5	3,3		
Aug	0,8	-0,4	-2,4	-2,4	2,0		
Sep	1,1	-0,8	-0,5	-3,0	0,0		
Oct	1,4	0,8	-1,9	-2,7	-3,5		
Nov	1,6	-0,1	-2,7	-2,5	-3,7		
Dec	1,5	-1,7	-3,9	1,1	-3,7		
Total	0,9	0,4	-1,5	-5,2	2,0		

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

Month	Base: 2019=100				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	101,0	98,8	95,9	95,1	0,2	1,9	-2,3	0,4
Feb	100,3	101,3	96,7	96,2	-0,7	2,5	0,8	1,2
Mar	99,5	95,7	97,3	96,1	-0,8	-5,5	0,6	-0,1
Apr	102,1	78,7	98,8	94,9	2,6	-17,8	1,5	-1,2
May	101,2	87,7	98,4	94,4	-0,9	11,4	-0,4	-0,5
Jun	101,0	95,1	98,1	94,1	-0,2	8,4	-0,3	-0,3
Jul	99,9	95,3	98,3		-1,1	0,2	0,2	
Aug	98,7	96,2	98,0		-1,2	0,9	-0,3	
Sep	100,0	96,8	96,7		1,3	0,6	-1,3	
Oct	99,9	97,2	93,9		-0,1	0,4	-2,9	
Nov	99,3	97,2	93,8		-0,6	0,0	-0,1	
Dec	97,0	98,2	94,7		-2,3	1,0	1,0	

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

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 ¹
Jan	18 820	19 106	19 132	18 444	18 002	17 974
Feb	17 539	17 667	17 493	17 491	16 825	16 815
Mar	19 441	19 470	18 930	17 976	18 522	18 408
Apr	18 550	18 421	18 711	14 379	18 078	17 709
May	20 161	20 207	19 943	17 254	19 371	18 897
Jun	19 720	19 926	19 609	18 664	19 049	18 838
Jul	19 997	20 626	20 224	19 533	20 082	
Aug	19 880	20 053	19 105	19 038	19 459	
Sep	18 707	18 839	18 605	18 216	18 230	
Oct	19 352	19 785	19 367	18 883	18 203	
Nov	18 940	19 123	18 539	18 153	17 713	
Dec	18 562	18 582	17 678	17 979	17 496	
Total	229 669	231 805	227 336	216 010	221 030	

¹ Latest month is preliminary.

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

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	1,5	0,1	-3,6	-2,4	-0,2	-0,2
Feb	0,7	-1,0	0,0	-3,8	-0,1	-0,1
Mar	0,1	-2,8	-5,0	3,0	-0,6	-0,3
Apr	-0,7	1,6	-23,2	25,7	-2,0	-0,7
May	0,2	-1,3	-13,5	12,3	-2,4	-1,1
Jun	1,0	-1,6	-4,8	2,1	-1,1	-1,1
Jul	3,1	-1,9	-3,4	2,8		
Aug	0,9	-4,7	-0,4	2,2		
Sep	0,7	-1,2	-2,1	0,1		
Oct	2,2	-2,1	-2,5	-3,6		
Nov	1,0	-3,1	-2,1	-2,4		
Dec	0,1	-4,9	1,7	-2,7		
Total	0,9	-1,9	-5,0	2,3		

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

Month	Gigawatt-hours				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	19 397	18 759	18 355	18 366	0,4	1,9	-2,2	0,6
Feb	19 112	19 129	18 358	18 326	-1,5	2,0	0,0	-0,2
Mar	18 890	17 960	18 501	18 376	-1,2	-6,1	0,8	0,3
Apr	19 344	14 823	18 659	18 256	2,4	-17,5	0,9	-0,7
May	19 168	16 567	18 602	18 180	-0,9	11,8	-0,3	-0,4
Jun	18 979	18 048	18 395	18 203	-1,0	8,9	-1,1	0,1
Jul	18 844	18 198	18 670		-0,7	0,8	1,5	
Aug	18 495	18 429	18 808		-1,9	1,3	0,7	
Sep	18 896	18 467	18 462		2,2	0,2	-1,8	
Oct	18 989	18 512	17 856		0,5	0,2	-3,3	
Nov	18 794	18 452	18 039		-1,0	-0,3	1,0	
Dec	18 415	18 761	18 262		-2,0	1,7	1,2	

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

	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22 ¹	Jun-22 year-on-year % change
Total - all producers						
Generated	18 494	20 240	19 338	20 606	20 485	-4,0
Inflow into South Africa	835	871	904	913	918	60,8
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 449	1 601	1 595	1 638	1 618	-10,0
Outflow from South Africa	1 064	1 103	937	982	947	-11,7
Distributed in South Africa	16 815	18 408	17 709	18 897	18 838	-1,1
Eskom						
Generated	16 723	18 261	17 370	18 667	18 381	-3,8
Inflow into South Africa	835	871	904	913	918	60,8
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	1 375	1 522	1 525	1 555	1 528	-9,9
Outflow from South Africa	1 064	1 103	937	982	947	-11,7
Distributed in South Africa	15 119	16 506	15 811	17 042	16 824	-0,5

¹ Preliminary.**Table 8 – Year-to-date volume of electricity by category: year-on-year percentage change and difference**

	Jan – Jun 2021 (GWh)	Jan – Jun 2022 (GWh)	% change between Jan – Jun 2021 and Jan – Jun 2022	Difference between Jan – Jun 2021 and Jan – Jun 2022 (GWh)
Total - all producers				
Generated	121 754	118 745	-2,5	-3 009
Inflow into South Africa	4 416	5 540	25,5	1 124
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	9 840	9 413	-4,3	-427
Outflow from South Africa	6 485	6 227	-4,0	-258
Distributed in South Africa	109 847	108 641	-1,1	-1 206
Eskom				
Generated	109 141	106 886	-2,1	-2 255
Inflow into South Africa	4 416	5 540	25,5	1 124
Consumed in power stations and auxiliary systems	9 382	8 953	-4,6	-429
Outflow from South Africa	6 485	6 227	-4,0	-258
Distributed in South Africa	97 692	97 243	-0,5	-449

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

Province	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22 ¹	Jun-22 year-on-year % change
Western Cape	1 625	1 759	1 606	1 698	1 559	-5,3
Eastern Cape	702	772	749	787	778	5,1
Northern Cape	458	467	446	464	481	-4,9
Free State	797	877	837	836	897	-6,8
KwaZulu-Natal	3 032	3 365	3 098	3 309	3 328	-1,5
North West	1 743	1 944	1 913	1 997	1 930	3,6
Gauteng	4 083	4 433	4 489	4 973	5 268	-3,2
Mpumalanga	2 391	2 597	2 549	2 701	2 557	-3,3
Limpopo	1 645	1 794	1 685	1 749	1 710	2,1
Total	16 476	18 009	17 372	18 514	18 510	-1,8

¹ Preliminary.

Analysis of revisions

Introduction

Preliminary monthly indices for electricity generated and available for distribution are published approximately five weeks after the reference month, e.g. preliminary electricity available for distribution for June are published around the first week of August. The preliminary values are revised the following month, using additional information received from respondents. This and other reasons for revising electricity generated and available for distribution values from time to time are shown in the following revisions schedule.

Revisions schedule for electricity generated and available for distribution

Reason for revision	Schedule
Additional information from respondents	Monthly (revision of the previous months)
New base year	Periodic, approximately four- to five-year intervals

Note that seasonally adjusted values are revised monthly.

Analysis

Revisions may be analysed in terms of several dimensions, namely production indices and/or volumes, growth rates (e.g. month-on-month percentage changes, year-on-year percentage changes); seasonally adjusted and/or unadjusted data; totals and/or components; preliminary estimate compared with first revision and/or latest available revision; and various combinations of these options.

This analysis is confined to the following:

- Total electricity available for distribution in gigawatt-hours, year-on-year growth rate, unadjusted.
- Preliminary growth rates are compared with the latest available revised growth rates, where the preliminary growth rate refers to the first year-on-year growth rate published for the month in question.
- Time period: January 2012 to May 2022.

Figure 3 shows the preliminary and revised growth rates (line chart, left vertical axis) and the difference between them (bar chart, right vertical axis, where difference = revised - preliminary).

Table 10 provides key results relating to revisions.

Figure 3 – Electricity available for distribution year-on-year growth rates: preliminary and revised

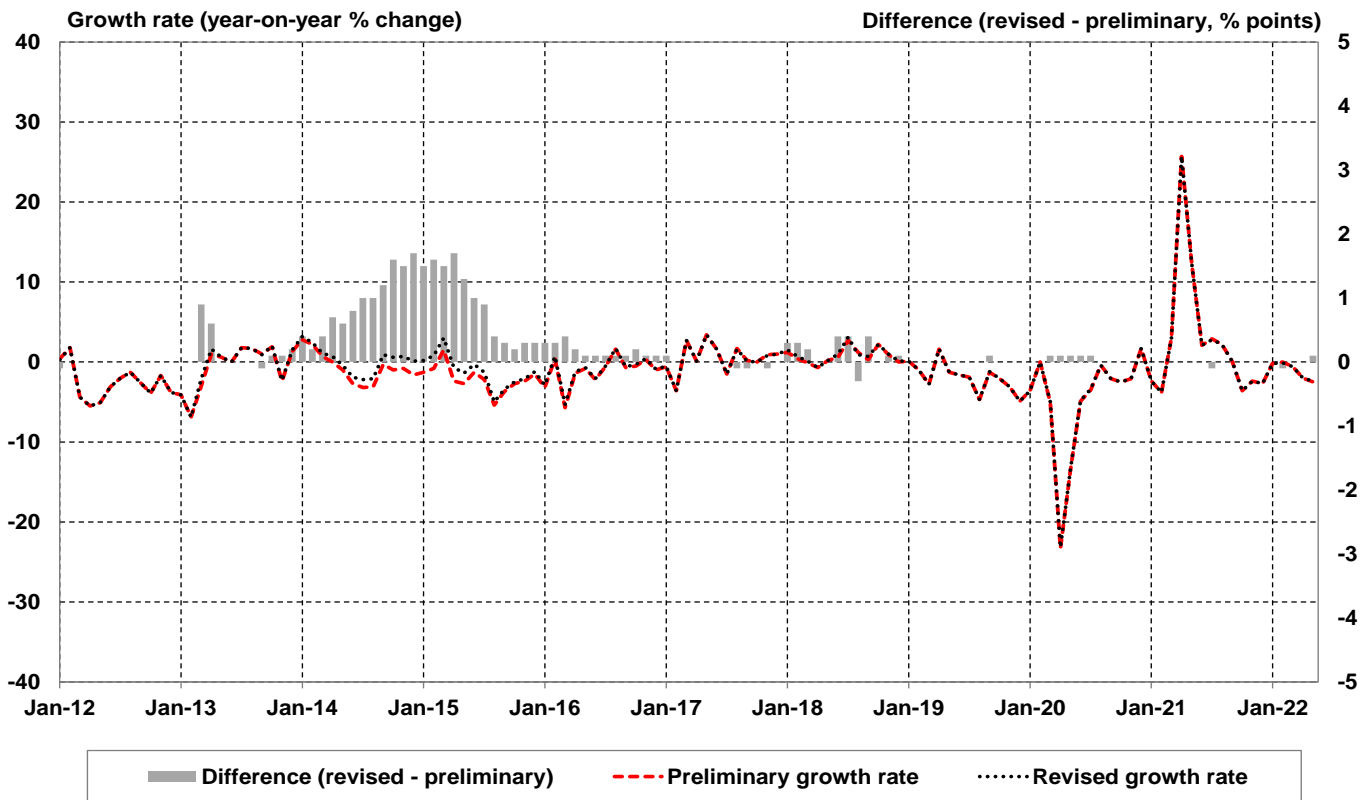


Table 10 – Electricity available for distribution: preliminary and revised

Description	Value / outcome	Comment
Average year-on-year growth rate over the whole period	Preliminary: -1,00% Revised: -0,77%	The average of revised growth rates is higher than the average of preliminary growth rates
Mean revision	0,22 of a percentage point	This is the average of the revisions
Mean absolute revision	0,24 of a percentage point	Average of the revisions, but based on the absolute value of each revision (positives and negatives do not cancel each other)
Largest upward revision	1,7 percentage points	Preliminary -1,6% was revised up to 0,1% (December 2014) Preliminary -2,4% was revised up to -0,7% (April 2015)
Largest downward revision	-0,3 of a percentage point	Preliminary 1,2% was revised down to 0,9% (August 2018)
Range for all revisions	-0,3 to 1,7 percentage points	
Range within which 90% of the revisions lie	-0,1 to 1,5 percentage points	This may be regarded as the normal range for revisions, with revisions outside this range being outliers; however, for the more recent period 2017–2022, 90% of the revisions lay between -0,1 and 0,4 of a percentage point

Description	Value / outcome	Comment
Number of upward revisions	57 (or 45,6% of the total observations)	
Number of downward revisions	8 (or 6,4% of the total observations)	
Number of zero revisions	60 (or 48,0% of the total observations)	
Is the mean revision (0,22) significantly different from zero?	Yes	This indicates that there a bias in the preliminary estimate; see Note 1 below
Standard deviation of the revisions	0,43 of a percentage point	Standard deviation is a measure of dispersion about the mean – see the row below
Standard deviation of the revisions, based on 2017–2022	0,22 of a percentage point	
Percentage of revisions that lie within one standard deviation of the mean based on 2017–2022	90,8%	This is the percentage of revisions that lie between -0,19 and 0,26 of a percentage point; the higher the percentage, the lower is the dispersion about the mean

Note 1: Is the mean revision significantly different from zero?

The formula for the test statistic is as follows:

$$test\ statistic = \frac{\bar{R}}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{n(n-1)}\right) \left(\sum_{t=1}^n \hat{\epsilon}_t^2 + \frac{3}{4} \sum_{t=2}^n \hat{\epsilon}_t \hat{\epsilon}_{t-1} + \frac{2}{3} \sum_{t=3}^n \hat{\epsilon}_t \hat{\epsilon}_{t-2}\right)}}$$

where

n = number of observations

\bar{R} = mean revision

$\hat{\epsilon}_t = R_t - \bar{R}$, with R_t = revision in period t

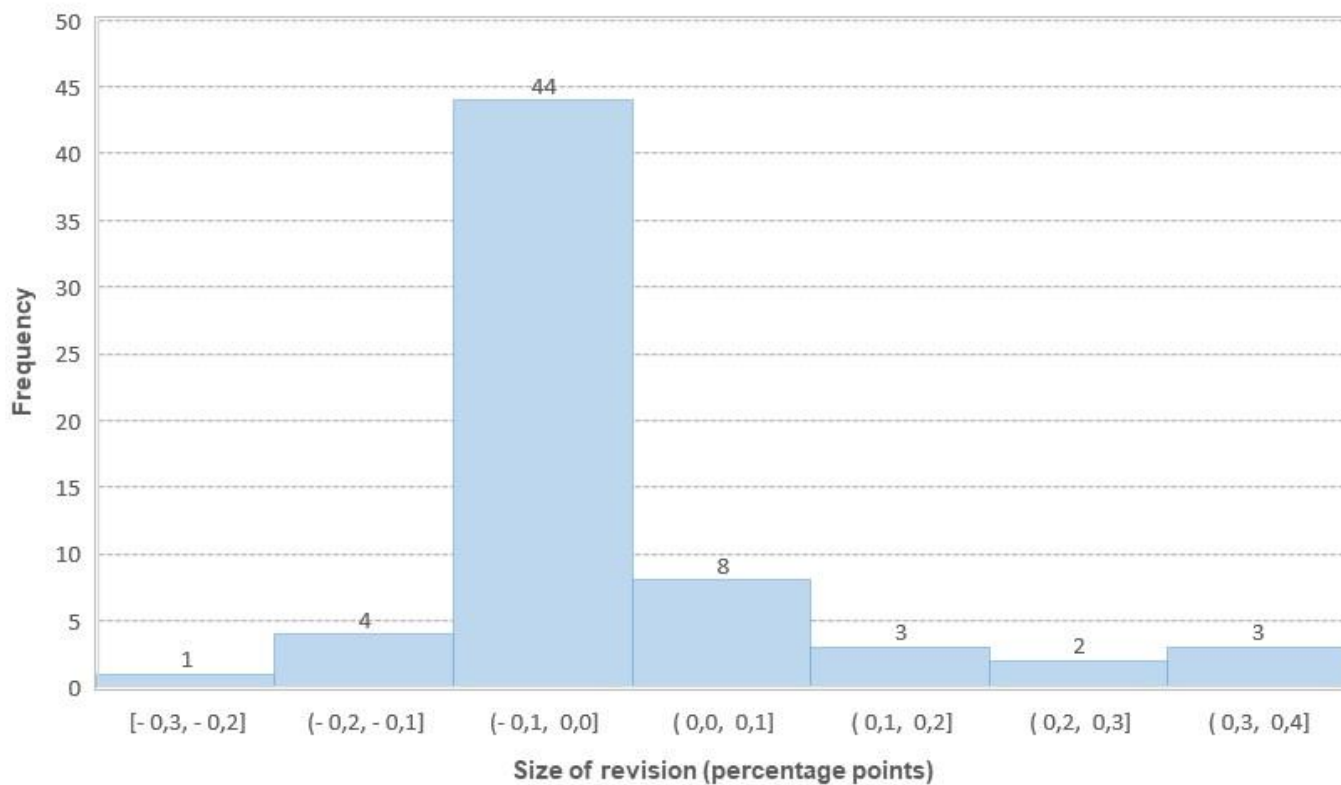
Note that if the test statistic shows that the mean revision (MR) is significantly different from zero, then there is bias in the preliminary estimates. Bias in a series suggests there is scope to enhance the compilation of that series in an attempt to remove or minimise the bias. MR > 0 (statistically significant) implies under-estimation of the preliminary estimates. MR < 0 (statistically significant) implies over-estimation of the preliminary estimates.

From 2012 to 2022 the test statistic is 3,87, which lies above the critical value of 1,98, indicating that the MR is significantly different from zero at a 95% confidence interval. Accordingly, there is under-estimation of the annual growth rates detected in the preliminary estimates. However, this finding is heavily influenced by a change in coverage which had a substantial impact on revised growth rates in 2014 and 2015.

For the period from 2017 to date the test statistic is 0,84, which lies below the critical value of 2,0, indicating that the MR (0,03 for this more recent period) is not significantly different from zero at a 95% confidence interval (no bias detected for this period).

Figure 4 shows the revisions in terms of a histogram for the period 2017–2022. There were 44 revisions between -0,1 and 0,0 ($-0,1 < \text{revision} \leq 0,0$) and 8 revisions between 0,0 and 0,1 ($0,0 < \text{revision} \leq 0,1$). The two domains account for 80,0% of the revisions in the data set.

Figure 4 – Electricity available for distribution year-on-year growth rates: histogram of revisions (2017 –2022)



Survey information

Introduction	<p>1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering electricity undertakings and establishments (branches) in the electricity industry. This statistical release contains monthly information regarding the volume of electricity units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Both unadjusted and seasonally adjusted figures are published.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>3 Some information for the current month may have been estimated due to late submission by respondents. These estimates will be revised in the next statistical release(s) as soon as actual information is available.</p>
Purpose of the survey	<p>4 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.</p>
Scope of the survey	<p>5 This survey covers electricity undertakings and establishments 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 undertakings, produce electricity for regular use by these undertakings.</p>
Classification	<p>6 The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (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 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the electricity undertaking or establishment.</p>
Collection rate	<p>7 The collection rate for the survey on electricity generated and available for distribution for June 2022 was 92%. The improved collection rate for May 2022 was 100%.</p>
Statistical unit	<p>8 The statistical unit for the collection of information is the electricity undertaking or establishment. The electricity undertaking or establishment is the smallest economic unit that functions as a separate entity (see point 5).</p>
Revised figures	<p>9 Normally revised figures are due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • late submission of data to Stats SA; and • revisions or corrections by respondents to previous reported data. <p>Data are edited at enterprise level.</p>
Rounding-off of figures	<p>10 Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.</p>
Historical data	<p>11 Historical electricity data are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link (Time series data) to access the data electronically.</p>
Past publications	<p>12 Past electricity releases are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link (Past publications) to access the releases electronically.</p>

Technical notes

- | | | |
|---|----------|--|
| Survey methodology and design | 1 | All statistical units are stratified by type of economic activity according to the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (SIC) and measure of size, where measure of size is the volume of electricity generated by the electricity undertaking or establishment. All large undertakings or establishments (size group one) are completely enumerated. A sample is drawn from medium and small size undertakings and establishments by systematically selecting undertakings or establishments within each size category. An electricity undertaking or establishment 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 electricity undertakings or establishments. As from September 2013, Eskom supplied additional data for independent power producers (IPPs) that were not in the original sample of 24 establishments. |
| 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 | <p>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 electricity undertakings and establishments. These levels are weighted according to the original sample and designed to represent the population of electricity undertakings and establishments.</p> <p>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).</p> |
| Seasonal adjustment | 5 | <p>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 recognized. 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:</p> <p>Click to download Electricity seasonal adjustment February 2022</p> |
| 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 undertaking	An undertaking concerned with the generation and distribution of electricity, including electrical power installations, which, as subsidiary divisions of undertakings, produce electricity for regular use by these undertakings.														
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	<table> <tr> <td>GDP</td> <td>Gross domestic product</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GWh</td> <td>Gigawatt-hour</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISIC</td> <td>International Standard Industrial Classification</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SIC</td> <td>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SA</td> <td>South Africa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stats SA</td> <td>Statistics South Africa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*</td> <td>Revised figures</td> </tr> </table>	GDP	Gross domestic product	GWh	Gigawatt-hour	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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