

Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa, ISIbalo House, Koch Street, Salvokop, Pretoria, 0002 www.statssa.gov.za, info@statssa.gov.za, Tel +27 12 310 8911

STATISTICAL RELEASE P9103.1

Financial statistics of higher education institutions

Embargoed until: 30 October 2025 11:00

ENQUIRIES: Elizabeth Makhafola Tel: (012) 310 8977 FORTHCOMING ISSUE: 2025

EXPECTED RELEASE DATE: October 2026





Contents		Page
Key findings.		2
Table A	Economic classification of statement of sources and uses of cash of higher education institutions for the 2023 and 2024 financial years (summary)	4
Table B	Economic classification of cash outflows (purchases) from investment in non-financial assets for the 2023 and 2024 financial years (summary)	7
Annexure A	Information on disaggregated tables is available on the Stats SA website	8
Annexure B	Statement of sources and uses of cash for the individual higher education institutions for the 2024 financial year	9
Explanatory r	notes	10
Glossary		14
Technical end	quiries	17
General infor	mation	18

Key findings

The net change in the stock of cash from higher education institutions amounted to a cash deficit of R832 million for the 2024 financial year.

The revenue cash flows from operating activities amounted to R111 920 million and the expense cash flows for operating activities amounted to R97 417 million, resulting in a net cash inflow from operating activities of R14 503 million for the financial year ended 31 December 2024. The net cash outflow from transactions in non-financial assets amounted to R9 557 million for the 2024 financial year. The cash surplus for 2024 was R4 946 million. The net acquisition of financial assets other than cash amounted to a cash outflow of R4 593 million for the 2024 financial year. The net incurrence of liabilities amounted to a cash outflow of R1 185 million. This resulted in a net cash outflow of R5 778 million from financing activities for the 2024 financial year. The net change in the stock of cash for higher education institutions amounted to a cash deficit of R832 million (see Table A, page 4).

In contrast to national and provincial government departments, which keep their accounts on a modified cash basis of recording, the accounts of higher education institutions are kept on an accrual basis of recording, i.e. revenues and expenses are recorded in the period to which the transactions relate, and surpluses, deficits, assets and liabilities resulting from these transactions are carried over to the next financial year. However, the figures in this statistical release have been converted from an accrual basis to a cash basis of recording.

Revenue cash flows from operating activities, the contribution of expense cash flows for operating activities and net cash flows from investment in non-financial assets by economic classification

Economic classification of expenditure is generally a measure of the nature and economic effect of government operations on a country's economy. There are seven main economic classification categories of expense cash flows for operating activities: compensation of employees; purchases of goods and services; interest; subsidies; grants; social benefits; and other payments.

The revenue cash flows from operating activities increased by R4 392 million from R107 528 million in 2023 to R111 920 million in 2024. This increase was mainly due to an increase in other receipts (mainly tuition fees).

The increase of R6 474 million in other receipts from R59 106 million in 2023 to R65 580 million in 2024 was mainly due to increases in cash received from tuition fees and research contracts received by the Walter Sisulu University, the University of Pretoria and the Durban University of Technology.

The decrease of R2 081 million in grants received from R48 421 million in 2023 to R46 340 million in 2024 was mainly due to decreased capital transfer payments from the Department of Higher Education and Training to the University of Mpumalanga, the Walter Sisulu University and the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University.

Expense cash flows from operating activities increased by R6 102 million from R91 315 million in 2023 to R97 417 million in 2024. The increase was mainly due to increases in compensation of employees and purchases of goods and services.

The increase of R2 966 million in compensation of employees from R55 562 million in 2023 to R58 528 million in 2024 was mainly due to increases in cash payments by the University of Cape Town, the University of South Africa and the Stellenbosch University.

The increase of R2 682 million in purchases of goods and services from R30 170 million in 2023 to R32 852 million in 2024 was mainly due to increases in cash payments by the University of the Witwatersrand, the University of Pretoria and the University of Cape Town.

The increase of R371 million in other payments from R5 079 million in 2023 to R5 450 million in 2024 was mainly due to increases in payments to households (bursaries) by the Stellenbosch University, the University of the Witwatersrand and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

The increase of R83 million in interest paid from R503 million in 2023 to R586 million in 2024 was mainly due to increases in finance costs paid by the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, the Vaal University of Technology and the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

The increase of R376 million in fixed assets from R9 147 million in 2023 to R9 523 million in 2024 was mainly due to increased capital expenditure on fixed assets by the University of Limpopo, the University of Zululand and the Central University of Technology, Free State.

Table A – Economic classification of statement of sources and uses of cash of higher education institutions for the 2023 and 2024 financial years (summary)¹

GFS 2014 code	Economic classification of sources and uses of cash		2023²	2024	Difference between 2023 and 2024					
				R million						
	Cash flows from operating activities:									
	Revenue cash flows	а	107 528	111 920	4 392					
11	Taxes		0	0	0					
12	Social contributions		0	0	0					
13	Grants		48 421	46 340	-2 081					
14	Other receipts ³		59 106	65 580	6 474					
	Expense cash flows	b	91 315	97 417	6 102					
21	Compensation of employees		55 562	58 528	2 966					
22	Purchases of goods and services		30 170	32 852	2 682					
24	Interest		503	586	83					
25	Subsidies		0	0	0					
26	Grants		0	0	0					
27	Social benefits		0	0	0					
28	Other payments		5 079	5 450	371					
	Net cash flow from operating activities: inflow / (outflow)	(a-b) = c	16 213	14 503	-1 710					
	Cash flows from transactions in non-financial assets: Net cash outflow from investments in non-financial assets ⁴	d	9 157	9 557	400					
611	Fixed assets	u	9 147	9 523	376					
612	Inventories		0	0	0					
613	Valuables		0	0	0					
614	Non-produced assets		10	35	25					
	Cash surplus / (deficit)⁵	(c-d) = e	7 056	4 946						
	Cash flows from financing activities:									
	Net acquisition of financial assets other than cash: outflow / (inflow)	f	5 798	4 593						
321	Domestic		4 935	5 806						
322	Foreign		864	-1 214						
	Net incurrence of liabilities: cash inflow / (outflow)	g	-1 183	-1 185						
331	Domestic	_	-1 183	-1 185						
332	Foreign		0	0						
	Net cash flow from financing activities: inflow / (outflow)	(g-f)=h	-6 981	-5 778						
	Net change in the stock of cash	(e+h) = i	75	-832						

¹ The sum of the data may not necessarily add up to totals due to rounding-off of figures.

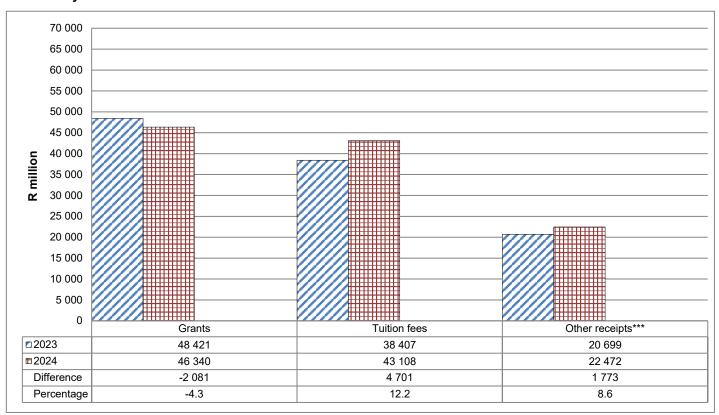
² Some of the figures have been revised since the previous publication.

³ Other receipts include tuition fees for 2023 (R38 407 million) and 2024 (R43 108 million). Tuition fees are shown in the disaggregated tables available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

⁴ The net cash outflow from investment in non-financial assets (R9 557 million) is equal to purchases of non-financial assets (R9 812 million) minus sales of non-financial assets (R255 million). The total amounts for purchases and sales of non-financial assets are shown, respectively, in the disaggregated tables available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

⁵ Cash surplus might include committed funds that were received but not yet expensed by the end of the 2024 financial year.

Figure 1 – Economic classification of revenue cash flows for operating activities for the 2023* and 2024** financial years



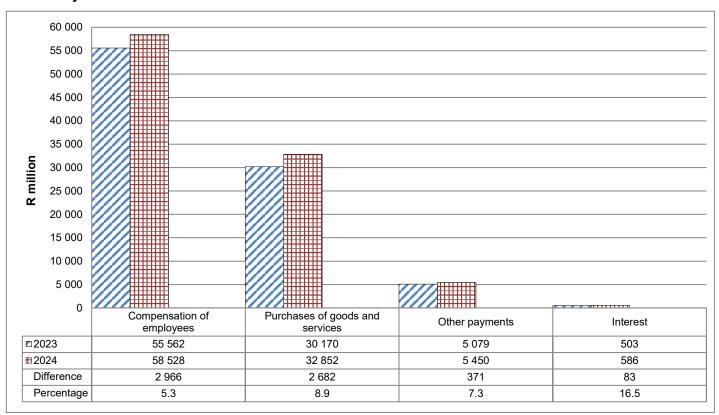
^{*} Some of the figures have been revised since the previous publication.

Figure 1 shows the economic classification of revenue cash flows for operating activities for the 2023 and 2024 financial years. In 2024, grants accounted for the largest proportion of revenue cash flows (R46 340 million), followed by tuition fees (R43 108 million) and other receipts (R22 472 million).

^{**} The breakdown can be found in the disaggregated tables available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

^{***} Other receipts exclude tuition fees.

Figure 2 – Economic classification of expense cash flows for operating activities for the 2023* and 2024** financial years



^{*} Some of the figures have been revised since the previous publication.

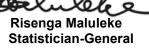
Figure 2 shows the economic classification of expense cash flows for operating activities for the 2023 and 2024 financial years. In 2024, compensation of employees accounted for the largest proportion of expense cash flows (R58 528 million), followed by purchases of goods and services (R32 852 million), while other payments (R5 450 million) and interest (R586 million) accounted for the smallest proportions.

^{**} The breakdown can be found in the disaggregated tables available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Table B – Economic classification of cash outflows (purchases) from investment in non-financial assets for the 2023 and 2024 financial years (summary)¹

GFS 2014 code	Cash flows from transactions in non-financial assets	2023²	2024	Difference between 2023 and 2024	
			R million		
61	Purchases of non-financial assets:	(b+r+s+t) = a	9 208	9 812	604
611	Fixed assets:	(c+d+i+q) = b	9 198	9 777	579
6111	Buildings and structures:	С	5 852	6 263	411
61111	Dwellings		0	0	0
61112	Buildings other than dwellings		5 788	6 038	250
61113	Other structures		64	196	132
61114	Land improvements		0	29	29
6112	Machinery and equipment:	(e+f) = d	3 090	3 299	209
61121	Transport equipment	е	164	187	23
61122	Machinery and equipment other than transport equipment		2 926	3 112	186
611221	Information, computer and telecommunications equipment	g	871	1 060	189
611222	Machinery and equipment not elsewhere classified:	h	2 055	2 052	-3
6112221	Office furniture (and domestic furniture)		1 284	1 296	12
6112222	Other machinery and equipment		746	728	-18
6112223	Books		25	28	3
6113	Other fixed assets:	(j+k) = i	256	215	-41
61131	Cultivated biological resources:	j	0	1	1
611311	Animal resources yielding repeat products		0	1	1
611312	Tree, crop, and plant resources yielding repeat products		0	0	0
61132		+m+n+o+p) = k	256	214	-42
611321	Research and development	1	0	0	0
611322	Mineral exploration and evaluation	m	0	0	0
611323	Computer software and databases:	n	256	214	-42
6113231	Computer software		256	214	-42
6113232	Databases		0	0	0
611324	Entertainment, literary, and artistic originals	0	0	0	0
611325	Other intellectual property products	р	0	0	0
6114	Weapons systems	q	0	0	0
612	Inventories	r	0	0	0
613	Valuables	s	0	0	0
010	* anamico	5	0	U	<u> </u>
614	Non-produced assets	t	10	35	25

¹ The sum of the data may not necessarily add up to totals due to rounding-off of figures.



² Some of the figures have been revised since the previous publication.

Information on disaggregated tables is available on the Stats SA website: http://www.statssa.gov.za/?s=P9103.1&sitem=publications Annexure A:

-	_		
	ıa	n	ıΔe

Table 1	Economic classification of revenue cash flows from operating activities for the 2024 financial year
Table 2	Economic and functional classification of expense cash flows for operating activities for the 2024 financial year
Table 3	Economic and functional classification of the cash outflows (purchases) from investment in non-financial assets for the 2024 financial year
Table 4	Economic classification of the cash inflows (sales) from investment in non-financial assets for the 2024 financial year
Table 5	Economic classification of the net acquisition of financial assets other than cash for the 2024 financial year
Table 6	Economic classification of the net incurrence of liabilities for the 2024 financial year
Table 7	Economic and functional classification of expense cash flows for operating activities for the 2024 financial year: Government consumption cash payments divided between individual and collective services
Table 8	Economic and functional classification of expense cash flows for operating activities for the 2024 financial year: Subsidies paid divided between subsidies on products and subsidies on production

Annexure B – Statement of sources and uses of cash for the individual higher education institutions for the 2024 financial year¹

Higher education institutions	Grants received	Tuition fees	Other receipts²	Compensation of employees	Purchases of goods and services	Interest paid	Other payments ³	Purchases of non-financial assets	Sales of non- financial assets	Financial assets⁴	Financial liabilities ⁵
	R million										
Cape Peninsula	1 658	1 723	206	2 108	869	155	110	61	0	8	-296
Cape Town	2 169	2 355	3 260	4 907	2 320	22	589	422	10	-450	-39
Central	897	677	316	897	641	1	24	287	0	35	0
Durban	1 468	2 014	679	1 502	1 761	5	0	282	0	1 367	-11
Fort Hare	1 004	917	198	863	565	31	66	296	0	3	-166
Free State	1 847	1 908	980	2 161	1 478	21	116	393	2	549	-19
Johannesburg	2 759	2 685	1 173	3 879	1 671	0	531	242	6	258	-3
KwaZulu-Natal	2 757	2 651	1 829	2 977	1 605	66	394	620	0	1 451	-296
Limpopo	1 456	879	618	1 487	866	1	0	866	0	-285	40
Mangosuthu	583	788	122	544	720	4	4	154	0	0	-15
Mpumalanga	522	431	356	502	295	0	82	799	0	-387	0
Nelson Mandela	1 453	1 269	886	1 868	1 096	29	201	108	1	73	-17
North-West	2 456	2 679	1 483	3 353	1 561	27	296	649	2	648	-54
Pretoria	3 245	3 182	2 554	4 726	3 261	1	129	373	1	381	0
Rhodes	714	717	370	995	606	0	161	222	0	-13	-3
Sefako Makgatho	974	572	106	998	559	0	0	191	0	36	0
Sol Plaatje	450	287	154	411	287	1	5	355	0	-23	-3
Stellenbosch	2 387	2 327	1 930	3 579	1 520	33	1 516	719	24	-679	-8
Tshwane	2 914	2 309	614	3 526	1 501	5	144	141	1	581	6
Unisa	5 576	4 821	1 381	6 893	2 762	15	121	591	0	1 436	-28
Vaal	968	704	117	862	393	24	14	71	0	0	-76
Venda	1 078	834	182	933	677	23	53	318	2	-369	-19
Walter Sisulu	1 400	1 998	153	1 842	1 546	2	0	354	2	0	3
Western Cape	1 719	984	657	1 803	950	49	200	217	0	427	-85
Wits	2 727	2 876	2 028	4 145	2 647	70	689	484	202	-315	-89
Zululand	1 159	523	119	767	692	1	6	596	0	-140	-8
Total	46 340	43 108	22 472	58 528	32 852	586	5 450	9 812	255	4 593	-1 185

¹ The sum of the data may not necessarily add up to totals due to rounding-off of figures.

² Other receipts include interest, dividends, sales of goods and services and transfers not elsewhere classified.

³ Other payments mainly consist of transfers to households (bursaries). These are bursaries from the higher education institutions to students.

⁴ Net acquisition of financial assets other than cash: cash outflow / (inflow).

⁵ Net incurrence of financial liabilities: cash inflow / (outflow).

Explanatory notes

Introduction

This statistical release provides economic and functional classifications of financial transactions of higher education institutions for the 2024 financial year. Higher education institutions consist of 20 universities and 6 universities of technology for the 2024 financial year (see pages 10 and 11 for the list of higher education institutions used in this publication).

Purpose of this statistical release

This statistical release provides financial statistics of cash transactions of higher education institutions. Cash receipts and payments converted from an accrual basis of recording to cash basis of recording for operating activities and transactions in non-financial assets for the 2024 financial year were classified economically and functionally.

Disaggregated data

Disaggregated data (Tables 1 to 8) are on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Methodology

Government finance statistics are used to (i) analyse and evaluate the outcomes of fiscal policy decisions, (ii) determine the impact on the economy, and (iii) compare national and international outcomes. The government finance statistics reporting framework was developed specifically for public-sector input to other macroeconomic datasets.

The publication does not include other economic flows (e.g. revaluations). Separating all these 'other economic flows' is viewed as useful for fiscal analysis, on the basis that revaluations and changes in volume do not represent fiscal policy decisions directly within the control of government. Government finance statistics distinguishes between value changes and volume changes.

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) receives financial statements of higher education institutions annually from the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). However, the figures in this statistical release have been converted from an accrual basis of recording to a cash basis of recording. Financial statements were received for 24 higher education institutions. The information is processed from draft and audited financial statements of the higher education institutions.

GFS Manual (2014)

The manual describes an integrated statistical system that is harmonised, to the extent possible, with the 2008 edition of the System of National Accounts (2008 SNA). The GFSM 2014 is intended to be a reference volume describing the GFS system. The GFSM 2014 provides a harmonised systematic basis for reporting and analysing government finances.

Scope of the financial statistics of higher education institutions

The cash payment transactions of the following higher education institutions were classified economically and functionally.

Universities

- 1) Cape Town
- 2) Fort Hare
- 3) Free State
- 4) Johannesburg
- 5) KwaZulu-Natal
- 6) Limpopo
- 7) Mpumalanga
- 8) Nelson Mandela
- 9) North-West
- 10) Pretoria
- 11) Rhodes
- 12) Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences
- 13) Sol Plaatje
- 14) South Africa

- 15) Stellenbosch
- 16) Venda
- 17) Walter Sisulu
- 18) Western Cape
- 19) Witwatersrand
- 20) Zululand

Universities of Technology

- 21) Cape Peninsula
- 22) Central
- 23) Durban
- 24) Mangosuthu
- 25) Tshwane
- 26) Vaal

Classifications

Economic and functional classifications

Cash flows from operating activities and transactions of non-financial assets in this statistical release are classified economically and functionally according to the standard classification of the GFSM 2014 of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Economic classification

Economic classification is in general a measure of the nature and economic effect of government operations on the economy of the country.

Revenue cash flows and expense cash flows for operating activities, cash flows from transactions in non-financial assets, net acquisition of financial assets other than cash and net incurrence of liabilities were classified economically as follows:

Revenue cash flows

Taxes Social contributions Grants Other receipts

Expense cash flows

Compensation of employees

Purchases of goods and services (excluding capitalised goods and services)

Interest

Subsidies

Grants

Social benefits

Other payments

 Cash outflows (purchases) from investment in non-financial assets (including capitalised goods and services)

Fixed assets Inventories Valuables Non-produced assets

· Cash inflows (sales) from investment in non-financial assets

Fixed assets Inventories Valuables Non-produced assets

Net acquisition of financial assets other than cash

Domestic Foreign

Net incurrence of liabilities

Domestic Foreign

Functional classification

Functional classification measures the purpose for which transactions are undertaken. It is generally used to measure the allocation of resources of government to promote various services and objectives rendered to the community.

Expense cash flows from operating activities and purchases of non-financial assets are classified functionally as follows:

Education

Tertiary education

Comparability with the previous year

The 2023 classified information is generally comparable with the 2024 information. Additional details in terms of the GFSM 2014 are available on the Stats SA website or on request.

Imputation

Imputations were performed for the following institutions due to non-submission of information by the cut-off date of collection:

- 1) University of South Africa
- 2) University of Fort Hare

The Public Sector Classification Committee (PSCC)

The PSCC consists of the South African Reserve Bank (SARB), the National Treasury (NT) and Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The purpose of the PSCC is to coordinate the economic institutional classification of the public-sector units and subsectors for purposes of reporting to national and international stakeholders. The classification lists are made public by the SARB to inform stakeholders of the scope of the public sector and sub-sectors. Currently, the PSCC is classifying the public-sector institutions for the 2024/2025 fiscal year (i.e. for the year ended 31 March 2025).

Limitations of the PSCC list

The PSCC list has the following limitations:

- implementation of changes to the list takes time;
- the list does not include private sector institutions; and
- it also excludes units without a complete set of financial statements.

Revisions

Revised figures are mainly due to improved classification of data and additional information becoming available after the initial publication. Figures for 2024 are preliminary and subject to revision.

Rounding-off of

figures

The figures in the tables have been rounded off to the nearest digit shown, and as a result there may be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items

and the totals shown.

Response rate The response rate for 2024 was 92,3%.

Under-coverage rate The under-coverage rate is 0%.

Over-coverage rate The over-coverage rate is 0%.

Duplication error rate The duplication error rate is 0%.

Related publications

Stats SA also publishes information on the transactions of the following levels of the general government in statistical releases:

P0441 Gross domestic product;

P9101 Capital expenditure by the public sector;

P9102 Financial statistics of extra-budgetary accounts and funds;

P9114 Financial census of municipalities;

P9119.3 Financial statistics of national government;

P9119.4 Financial statistics of consolidated general government; and

P9121 Financial statistics of provincial government.

Symbols and abbreviations

DHET Department of Higher Education and Training GFSM Government Finance Statistics Manual, 2014

IMF International Monetary Fundn.e.c. Not elsewhere classifiedNT National Treasury

PSCC Public Sector Classification Committee

SA South Africa

SARB South African Reserve Bank SNA System of National Accounts Stats SA Statistics South Africa

Glossary

Accrual basis of recording

Flows recorded at the time economic value is created, transformed, exchanged, transferred, or extinguished.

Buildings other than dwellings

Buildings other than dwellings include whole buildings or parts of buildings not designated as dwellings. Context: Fixtures, facilities, and equipment that are integral parts of the structures are included. Examples of types of buildings included in this category are office buildings, schools, hospitals, buildings for public entertainment, warehouses and industrial buildings, commercial buildings, hotels, and restaurants.

Capital expenditure

Any expenditure incurred or incidental to the acquisition or improvement of land, buildings, engineering structures and machinery and equipment. Context: The expenditure normally confers a lasting benefit and results in the acquisition of, or extends the life of a fixed or long-term work, irrespective of whether payments were made to outside contractors or concerns, or the work was done by the enterprise itself. Capital expenditure includes vehicles, office furniture and equipment, but excludes minor items that are generally regarded as being expendable even though in some instances their useful lives may extend beyond one year.

Capital transfer

Transactions, either in cash or in kind, in which the ownership of an asset (other than cash and inventories) is transferred from one institutional unit to another, or in which cash is transferred to enable the recipient to acquire another asset, or in which the funds realised by the disposal of another asset are transferred.

Cash basis of recording

Flows are recorded when cash is received or disbursed.

Collective service

Service provided simultaneously to all members of the community or all members of a particular section of the community, such as all households living in a particular region. Context: Services such as general administration, public order or safety and economic services.

Compensation of employee

Total remuneration, in cash or kind, payable by an employer to an employee in return for work done by the latter during the accounting period. Note: It is recorded on a gross basis, i.e. before any deduction for income taxes, pensions, unemployment insurance and other social insurance schemes. It also includes other forms of compensation, namely commissions, tips, bonuses, directors' fees and allowances such as those for holidays and sick leave, as well as military pay and allowances. It excludes employers' social contributions.

Coverage error

Error caused by a failure to adequately cover all components of the population being studied.

Cultivated biological resource

Cover animal resources yielding repeat products and tree, crop, and plant resources yielding repeat products whose natural growth and regeneration are under the direct control, responsibility, and management of institutional units.

Duplication error rate

Occurrence of an element more than one time on a sampling frame.

Dwelling

Structure intended or used for human habitation. Context: including any associated structures, such as garages, and all permanent fixtures customarily installed in residences.

Economic classification

Measure of the nature and economic effect of government operations on the economy of the country.

Expense

Transaction that results in a decrease in net worth.

Extra-budgetary account

Accounts and funds of national and provincial governments not included in normal budget totals and which do not operate through normal budgetary procedures. Context: Trading accounts and general government accounts.

Financial asset

Asset that derives value because of a contractual claim. Context :Stocks, bonds, bank deposits, and the like are all examples of financial assets.

Fixed asset Produced asset that is used continuously in process of production for more than one year.

Functional classification Classification used to identify the purpose or socioeconomic objective for which an expense is incurred or a non-financial asset was acquired.

Government consumption expenditure

Expenditure on all goods and services that are used (without further transformation) by government units for the direct satisfaction of individual needs or wants or the collective needs of members of the community.

Grant

Transfers receivable by government units, from other resident or non-resident government units or international organisations, and that do not meet the definition of a tax, subsidy, or social contribution.

Higher education

All learning programmes which must be registered in accordance with the provisions of the National Qualification Framework, 2008 (Act No. 67 of 2008).

Higher education Institution

Institution that provides learning programmes on a full-time, part-time or distance basis, and which is established, deemed to be established or declared as a public higher education institution or registered or conditionally registered as a private higher education institution under the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No.101 of 1997).

Household

Group of people who live together at least four nights a week, eat together and share resources, or a single person who lives alone.

Individual consumption service

Goods or service acquired by a household and used to satisfy the needs or wants of the members of that household.

Information, computer, and telecommunications equipment

Devices using electronic controls and also the electronic components forming part of these devices. Context: television and radio transmitters, television, video, and digital cameras, and telephone sets are all examples of information, computer, and telecommunications.

Intellectual property product

The result of research, development, investigation, or innovation leading to knowledge that the developers can market or use to their own benefit in production for which the use of the knowledge is restricted by means of legal or other protection.

Inventories

Goods and services held by producers for sale, use in production or other use at a later stage.

Land improvement

Result of actions that lead to major improvements in the quantity, quality or productivity of land, or prevent its deterioration.

Liability

Obligations to provide economic benefits to the units holding the corresponding financial claims.

Misclassification

Subject is falsely classified into a category in which the subject does not belong.

Modified cash basis accounting

Method recognising revenues in the period they become available and measurable, and recognise expenditures in the period the associated liability is incurred.

Municipality

Unit of government in the third sphere responsible for the provision of government service in a geographically demarcated area. Context: It includes district, local and metropolitan municipalities.

National government First level of government which controls a nation and has power to set and maintain foreign policy and the ability to collect taxes. Context: Government in South Africa is divided into three spheres: National, Provincial and Local. Each sphere's responsibility is outlined in the Constitution. The governments of each sphere have a political and administrative arm. The powers of the national government are circumscribed by the national constitution.

Non-financial public corporations

Public corporation that produces goods and/ or non-financial service for the market. Context: Public non-financial corporations in South Africa include all corporations, quasi-corporations, and non-profit institutions (NPIs) principally engaged in financial intermediation or in auxiliary financial activities closely related to financial intermediation.

Non-produced asset Assets needed for production that have not themselves been produced. Context: Land, sub-soil assets, mineral resources and certain intangible assets.

serving households (NPISH)

Non-profit institution NPIs which are not financed and controlled by government and which provide goods or services to households free or at prices that are not economically significant.

Other economic flow Changes in the volume or value of assets or liabilities that do not result from transactions.

Other structures

Structures other than buildings. Inclusions: Highways, streets, roads, bridges, etc.

Provincial government Second level of government, between the national government and the municipalities. Context: The powers of the provincial governments are circumscribed by the national constitution.

Public financial corporation

Public corporation principally engaging in financial intermediation or in auxiliary financial activities closely related to financial intermediation. Context: Financial institutions may be entirely or mainly owned and/or controlled by the government in which case they are regarded as public financial institutions. It is the prime function of public financial institutions to act as intermediaries.

Response rate

Proportion of eligible respondents who completed a questionnaire with usable information to total number of eligible respondents.

Revenue

Increase in net worth resulting from a transaction.

Social benefit

Transfers in cash or in kind to protect the entire population or a specific segment of it against certain social risks.

Social contributions

paid

Actual or imputed payment made by general government units to social insurance schemes to obtain entitlement to social benefits for their employees, including pensions and other retirement benefits.

Social contributions received

Actual or imputed receipts from either employers on behalf of their employees or from employees, self-employed, or non-employed persons on their own behalf that secure entitlement to social benefits for the contributors, their dependents or their survivors.

Statutory appropriations Amounts appropriated to be spent in terms of statutes and not requiring appropriation by vote.

Subsidies on production

Payments made to resident enterprises as a consequence of engaging in production.

Subsidies on products

Payable per unit of a good or service.

Subsidy

Current unrequited payments that government units, including non-resident government units make to enterprises on the basis of the level of production activities or the quantities or values of the goods or services that they produce, sell or export.

Tax revenue Government income due to taxation.

Transfer

Transaction in which one institutional unit provides a good, service, or asset to another unit without receiving from the latter any good, service, or asset in return as a direct counterpart.

Transport equipment Equipment for moving people and objects. Inclusions: Motor vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, ships, railway locomotives and rolling stock, aircraft, motorcycles, and bicycles.

Valuable

Produced assets of considerable value that are not used primarily for purposes of production or consumption but are held primarily as stores of value over time.

Technical enquiries

Elizabeth Makhafola Telephone number: (012) 310 8977

Email: ElizabethMa@statssa.gov.za

Sydney Mbowane Telephone number: (012) 310 2161

Email: SydneyM@statssa.gov.za

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 only.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data; and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

Advance release calendar

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

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, Qonce
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Mbombela
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data is available via online services. For more details about our electronic services, contact Stats SA's user information service at: (012) 310 8600.

Forthcoming issue Expected release date

Financial statistics of higher education institutions for 2025

October 2026

You can visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za.

General enquiries

User information services Telephone number: (012) 310 8600

Email: info@statssa.gov.za

Postal address Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA