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Electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2024

An overview of the results

Itani Magwaba

CD: Structural Industry Statistics

Embargo: 7 May 2026, 10h00

Image: Johannes Plenio, unsplash.com

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The survey

Who was included?

Enterprises registered for VAT and with the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) that are engaged in the following activities:

- Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity
- Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains
- Collection, purification and distribution of water

When was it conducted?

- Questionnaires were completed for the financial year ended on any date between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024
- Employment figures are for 30 June 2024
- The survey was also conducted in 2006, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2021

What did it measure?

- Finances (including capital expenditure)
- Details of purchases, employment and services rendered
- Provincial distribution of employment, salaries and wages, and sales of goods and services
- ICT usage



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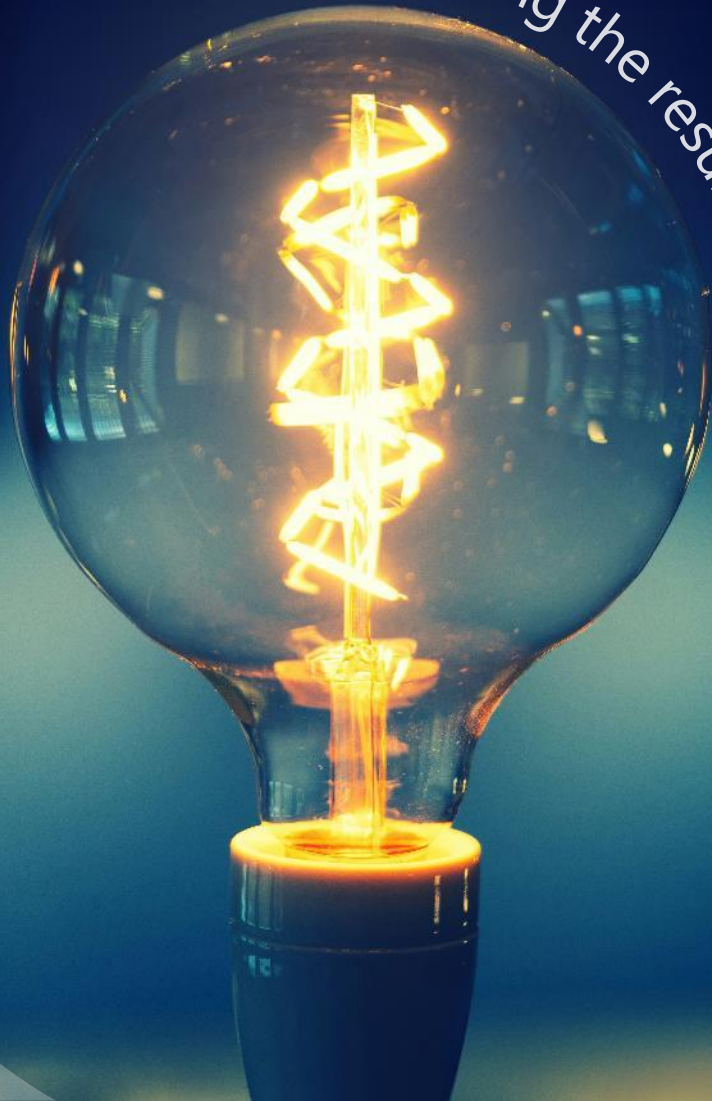


Why was it conducted?

- **General objective:** To collect financial and quantitative information that is essential for planning and policy formulation
- **For external users of Stats SA data:** To generate information on the size, structure and nature of the industry
- **For internal use:** Mainly used for benchmarking the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components



Exploring the results



1. Economic importance

2. Income

3. Expenditure

4. Employment

5. Production

6. Provincial estimates



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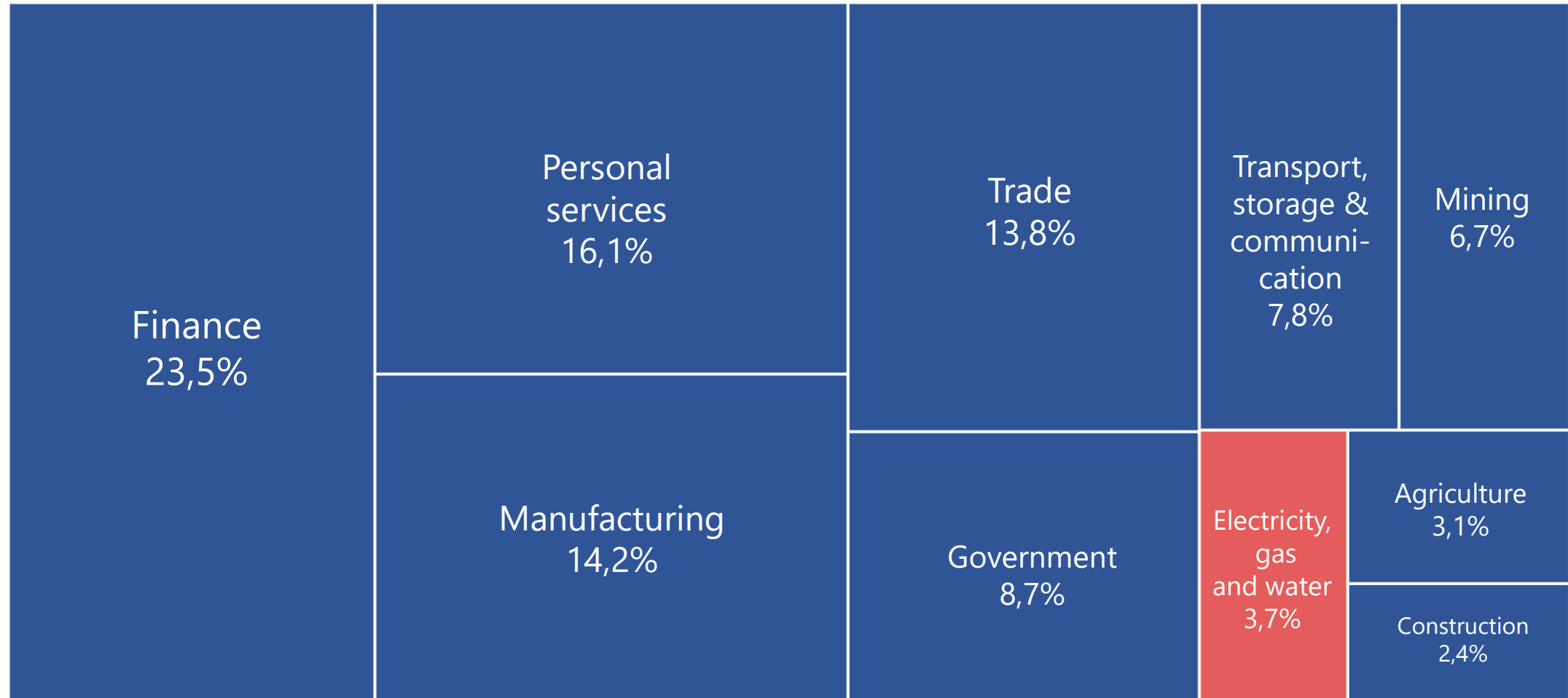
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The electricity, gas and water supply industry accounted for **3,7%** of economic activity

Percentage contribution to value added in 2024 (Total: R6,6 trillion)



In current prices Source: Gross domestic product, quarter ended December 2025



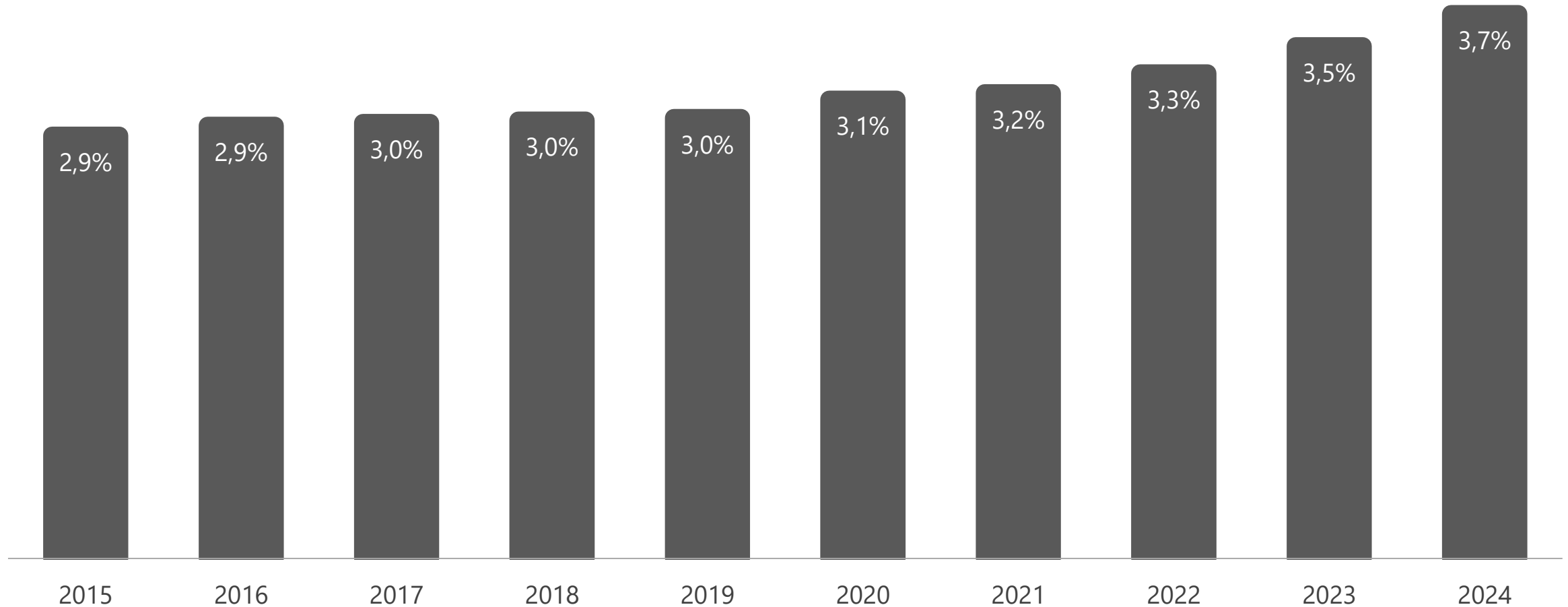
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The industry's contribution to economic activity has increased since 2019

Percentage share of total value added



In current prices Source: *Gross domestic product, quarter ended December 2025*



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2. Income



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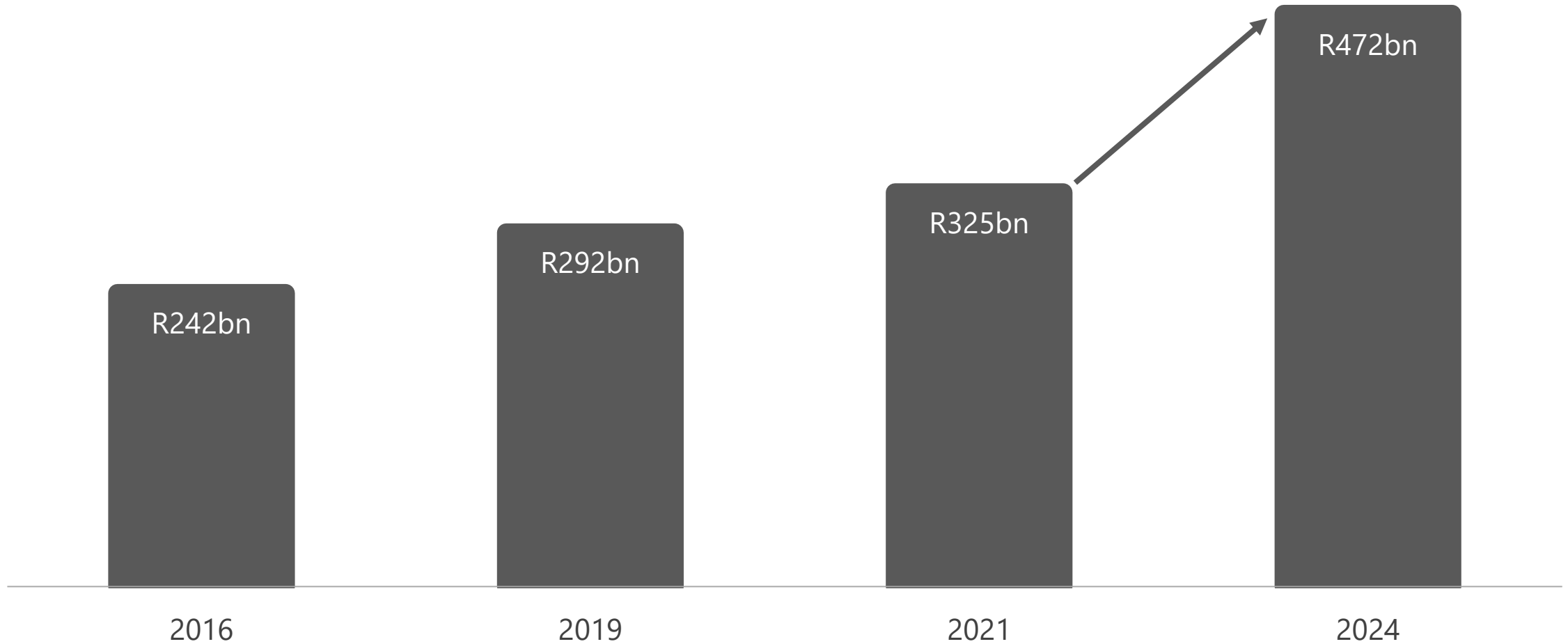
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Income rose by **13,3%** per annum in the period 2021 to 2024

Total income generated by the electricity, gas and water supply industry



Source: Table A



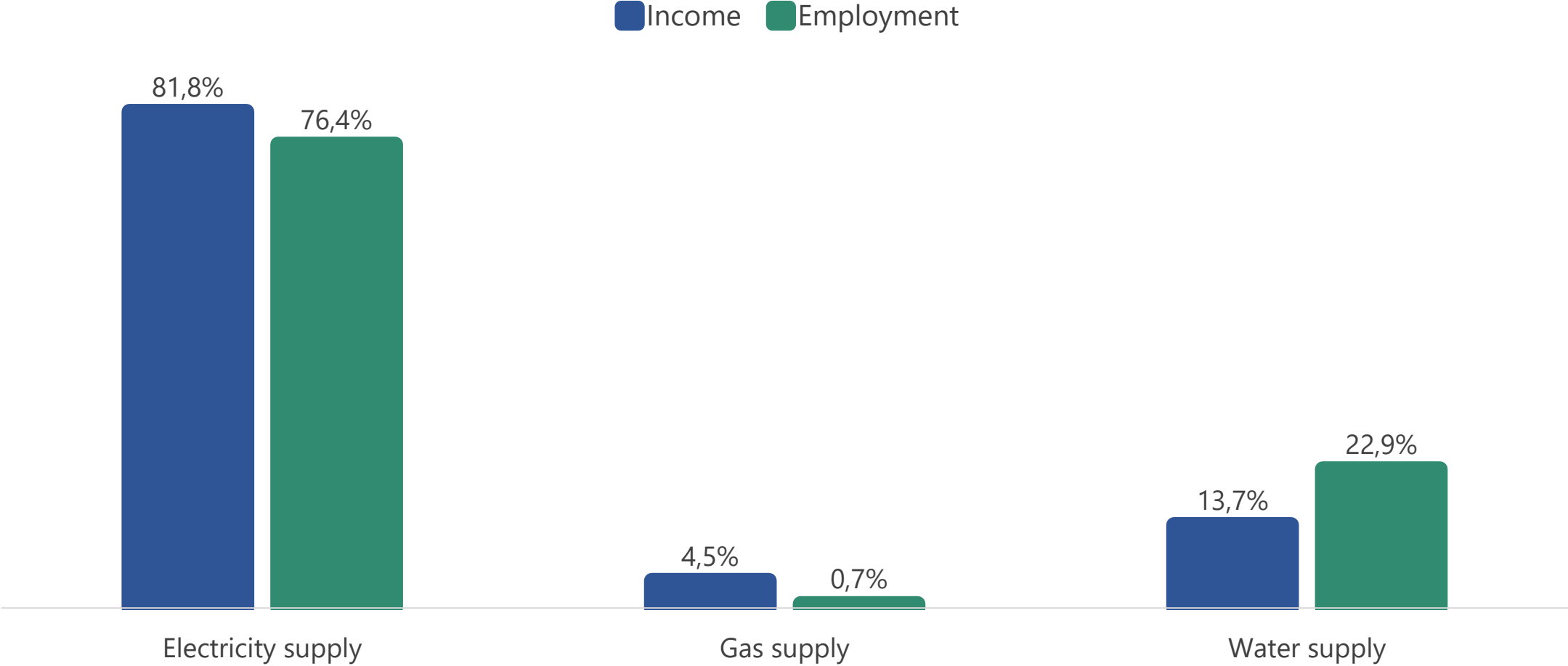
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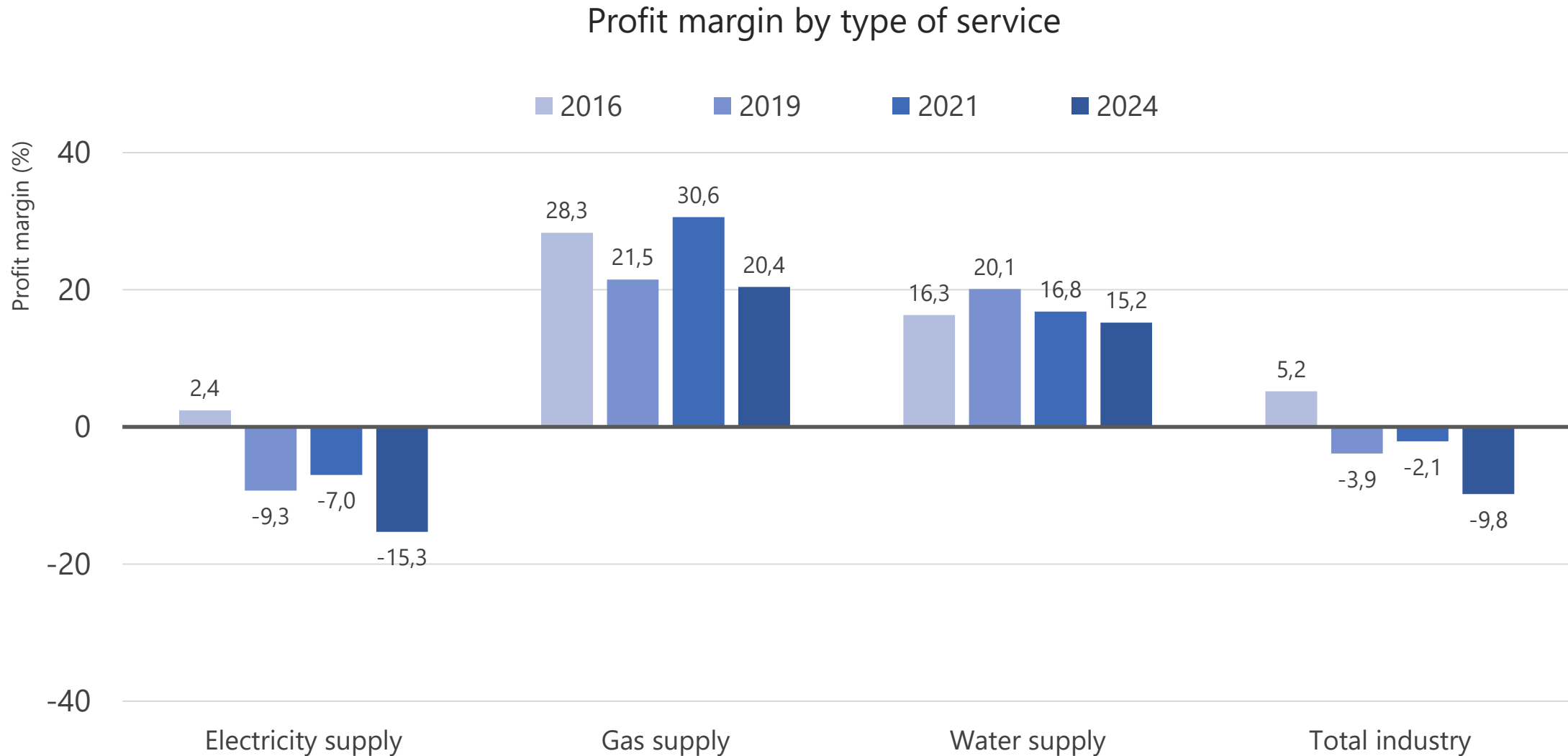
In 2024, electricity supply accounted for **81,8%** of total income and **76,4%** of total employment

Contribution of income and employment by type of service



Source: Figure 1

Electricity supply recorded losses in 2019, 2021 and 2024



Source: Table B



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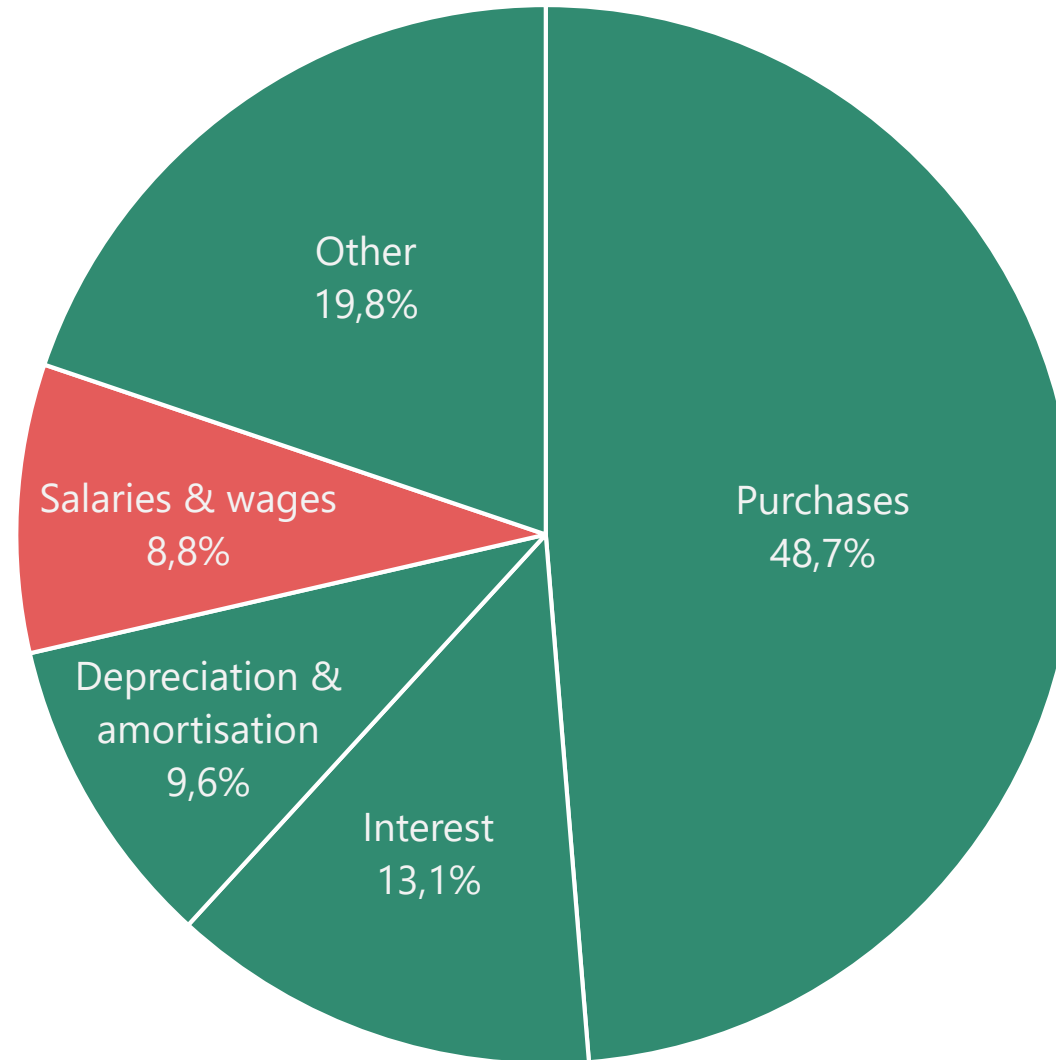
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Salaries and wages accounted for **8,8%** of total expenditure in 2024

Total expenditure:
R490 billion



Source: Table 5



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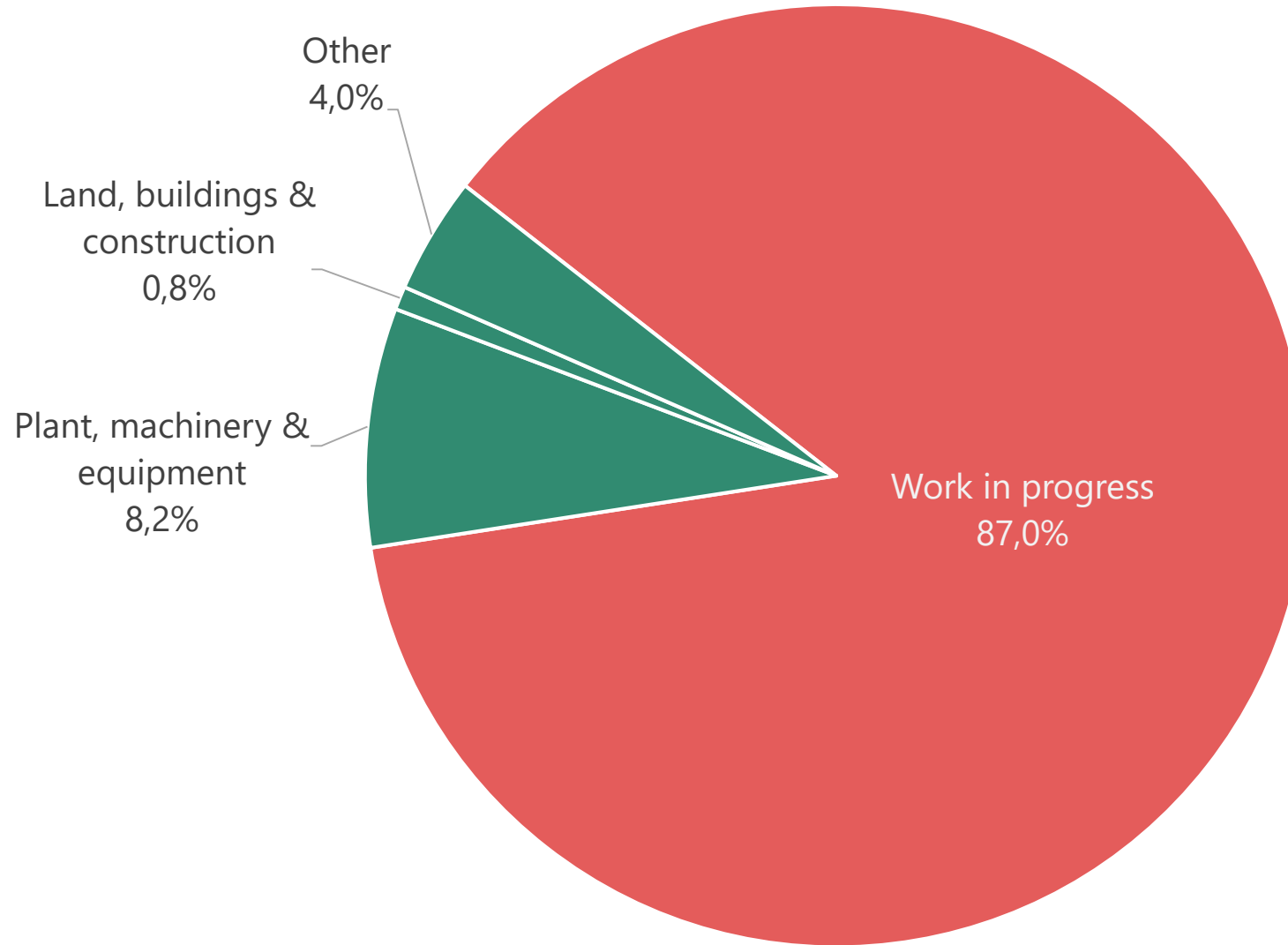
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Work in progress accounted for **87,0%** of capital expenditure in 2024

Total capex:
R51 billion



Source: Table 7



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4. Employment



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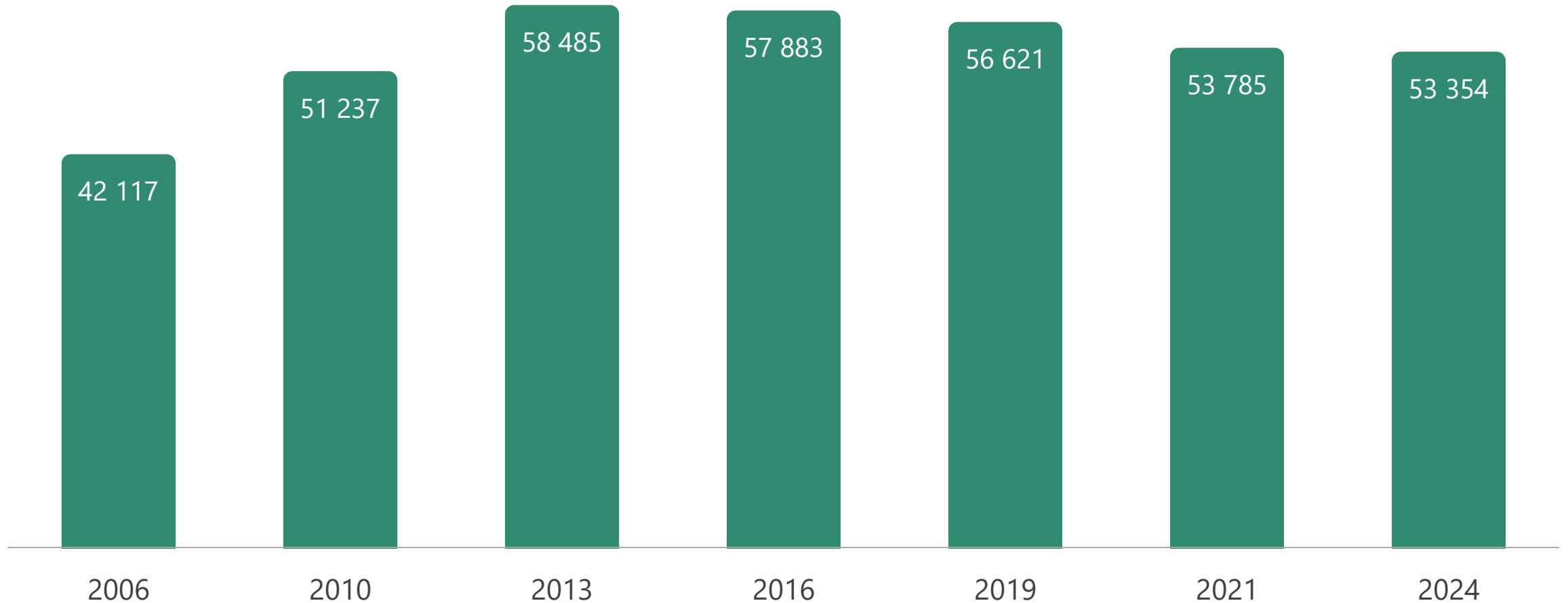
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Employment in the electricity, gas and water supply industry has declined since 2013

Number of persons employed



Values for 2006 to 2013 are sourced from previous reports. Values for 2016 to 2024 are sourced from Table C in the 2024 report



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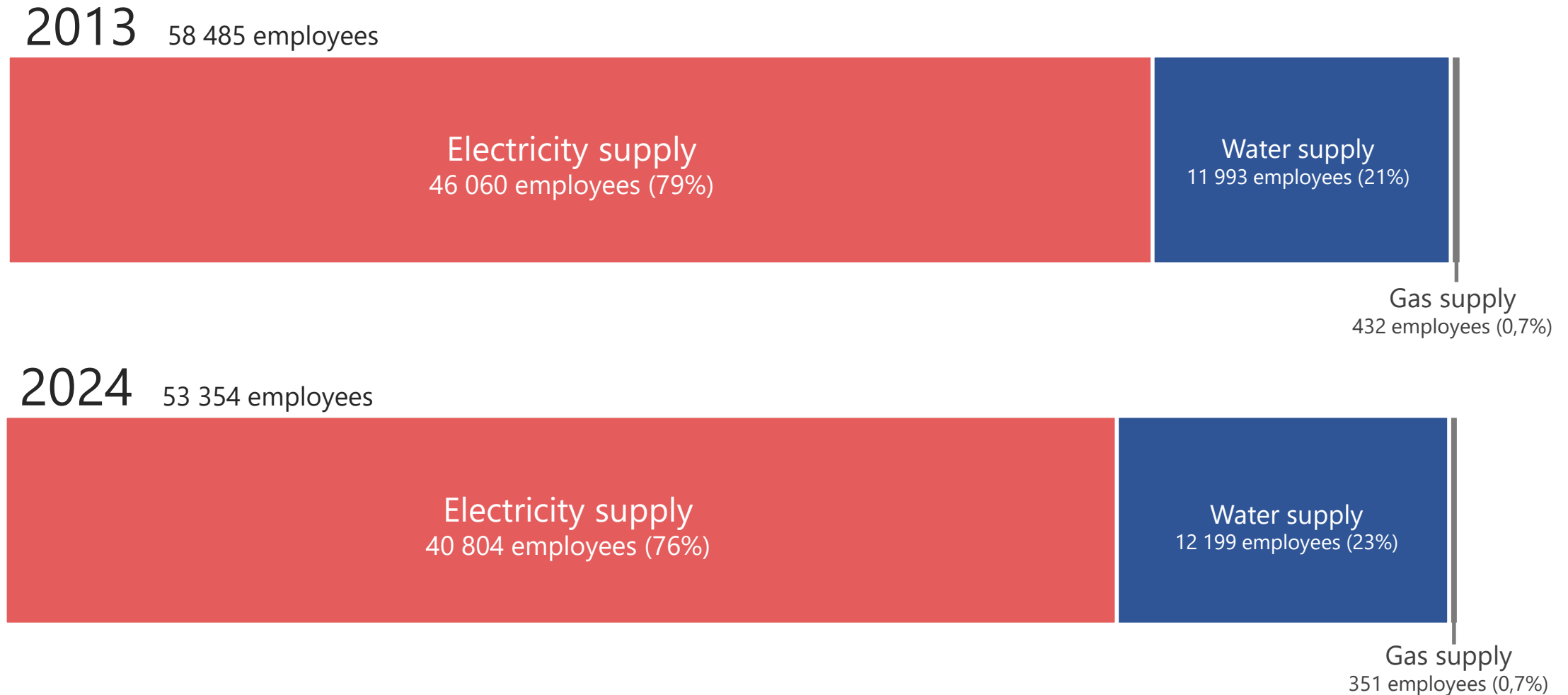
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Electricity supply recorded the largest decline in employment

Number of persons employed by type of service, 2013 and 2024

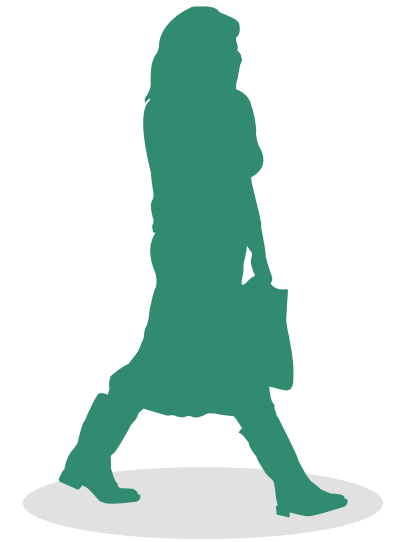
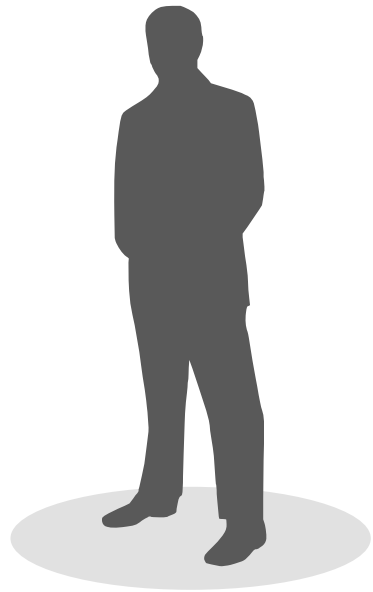


Values for 2013 are sourced from Table C in the 2021 report. Values for 2024 are sourced from Table C in the 2024 report. Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%



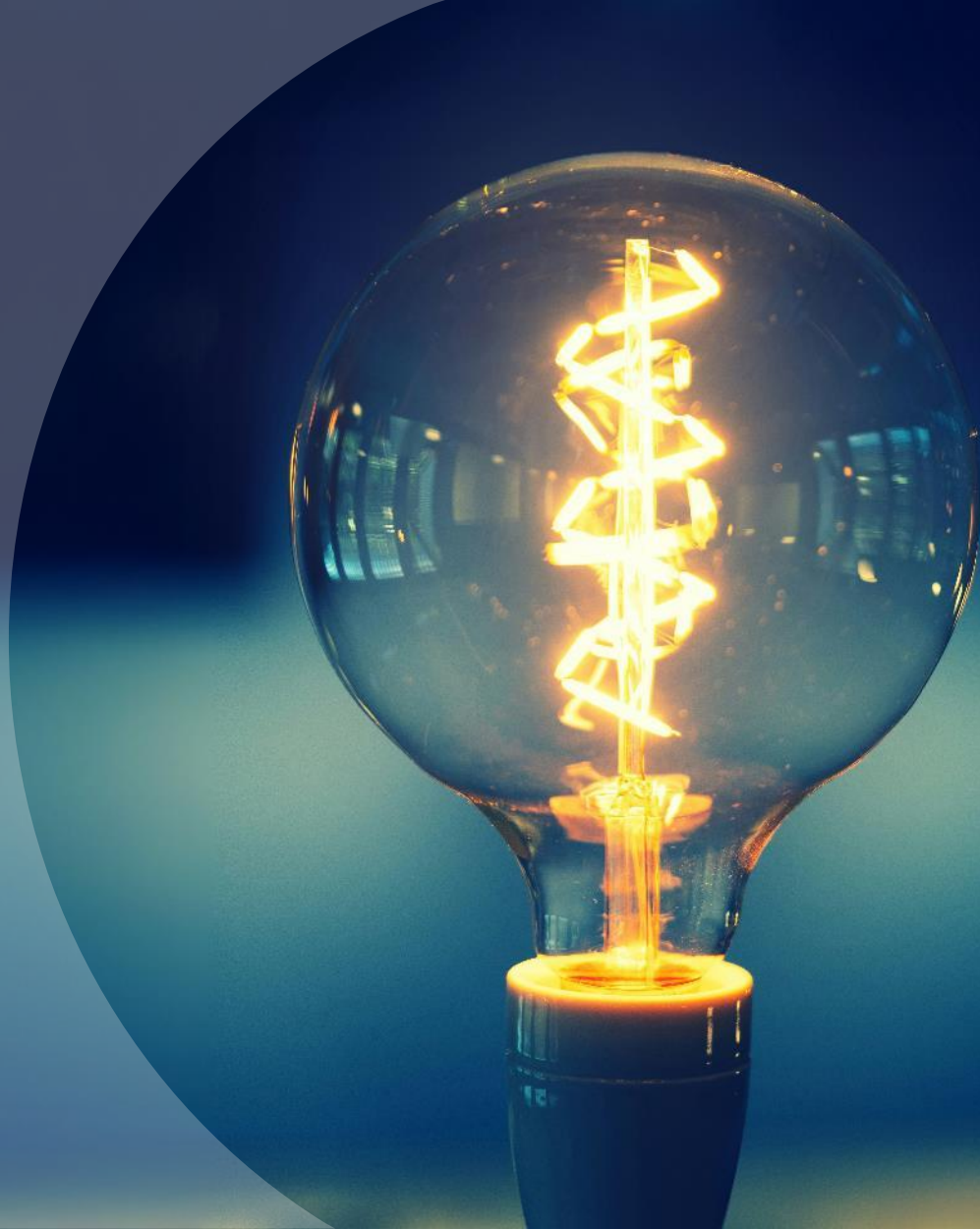
Women occupied **37%** of jobs in 2024

Number of persons employed by service and gender



Source: Table 11 Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%





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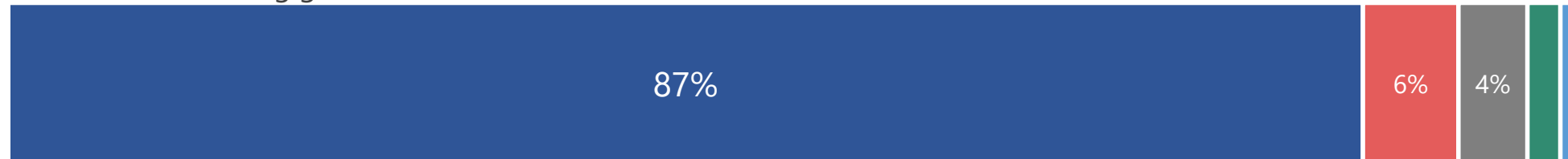


Renewable energy was more prominent in 2024 than in 2021

Electricity generated by source

■ Coal ■ Renewable energy ■ Nuclear ■ Electricity from pump storage stations ■ Diesel

2021 225 833 gigawatt-hours



2024 214 562 gigawatt-hours



Source: Table F Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%



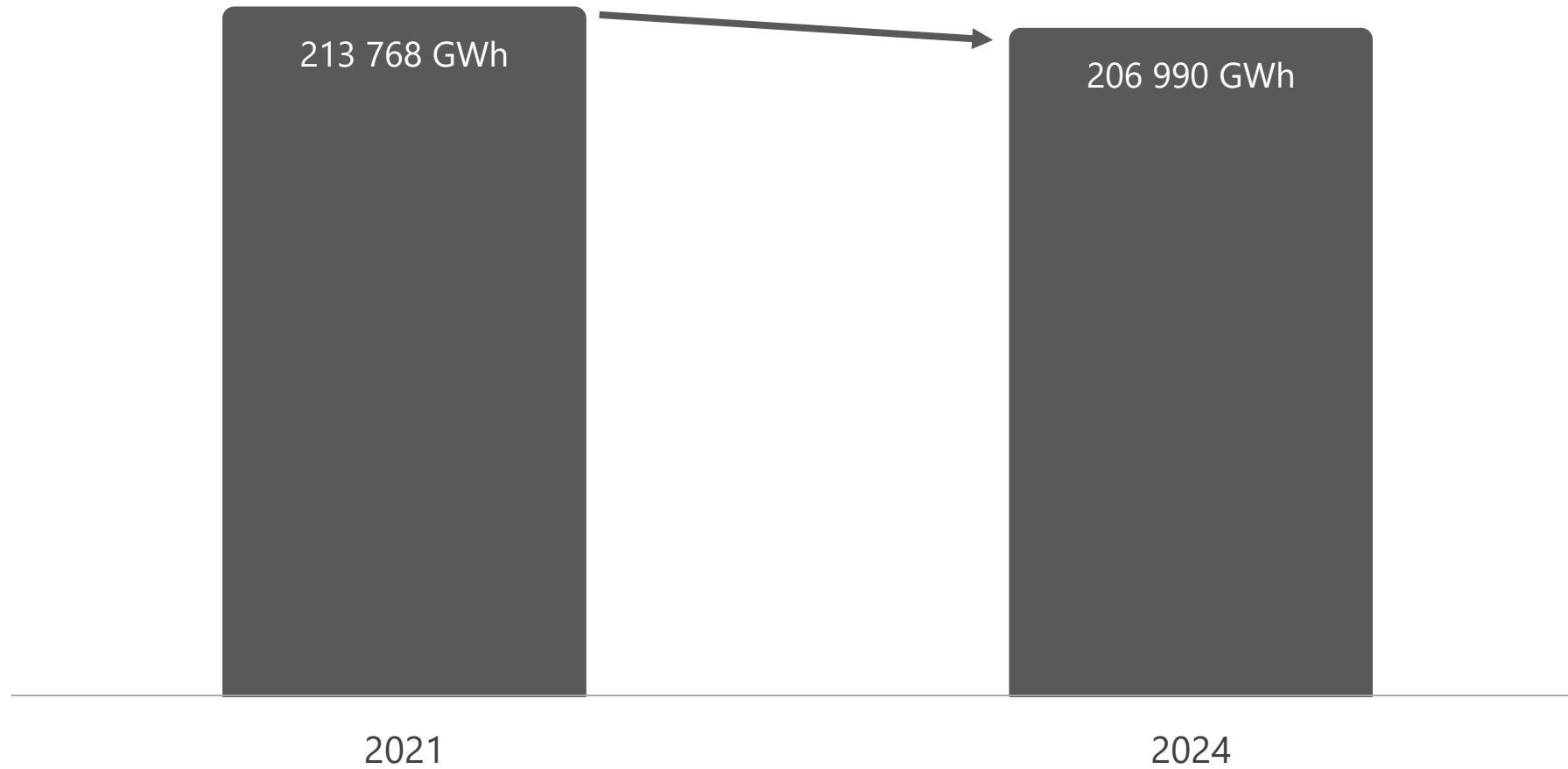
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Electricity distribution declined by **1,1%** per annum in the period 2021 to 2024

Electricity available for distribution in gigawatt-hours (GWh)



Source: Table 12



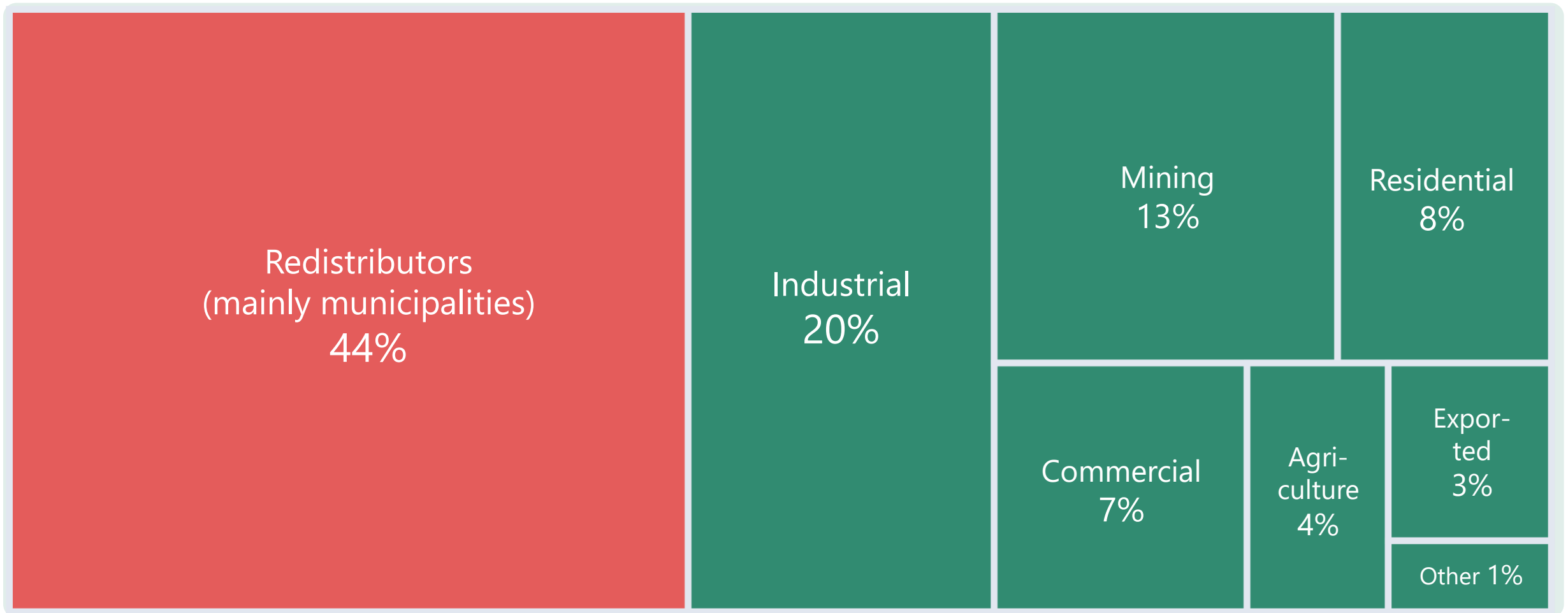
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The bulk of electricity sales were to **redistributors** in 2024

Electricity distributed by type of customer (Total: R368 billion)



Source: Table 13 Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%



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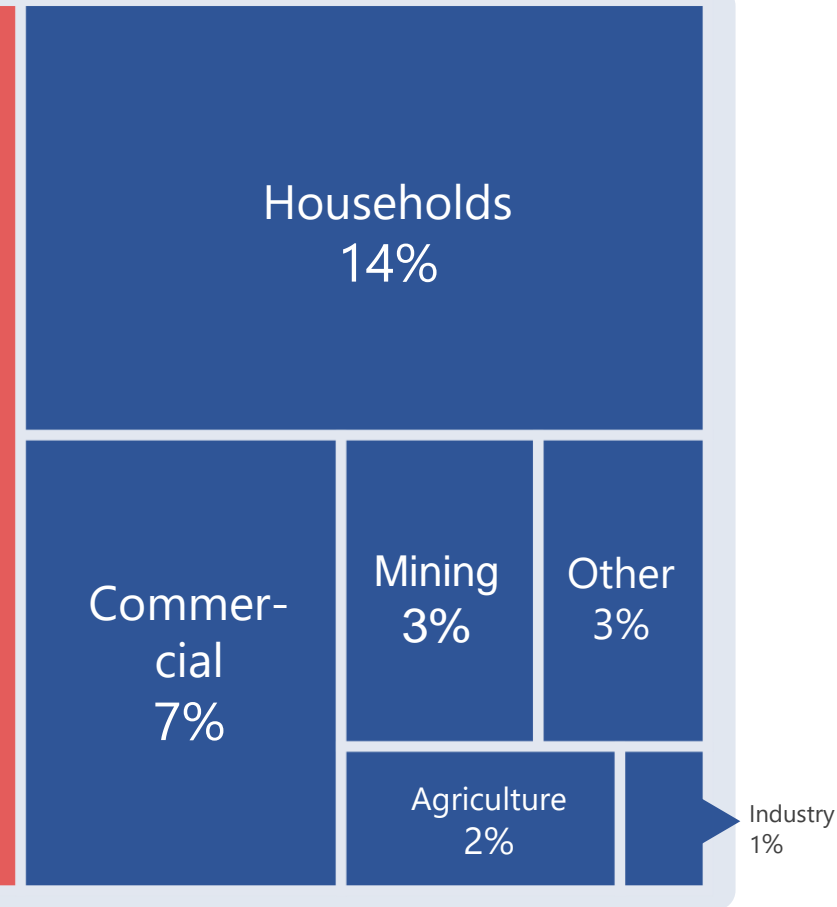
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Just over 70% of water sales were to redistributors in 2024

Sales of water by type of customer (Total: R46 billion)

Redistributors
(mainly municipalities)
71%



Source: Table 17 Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%



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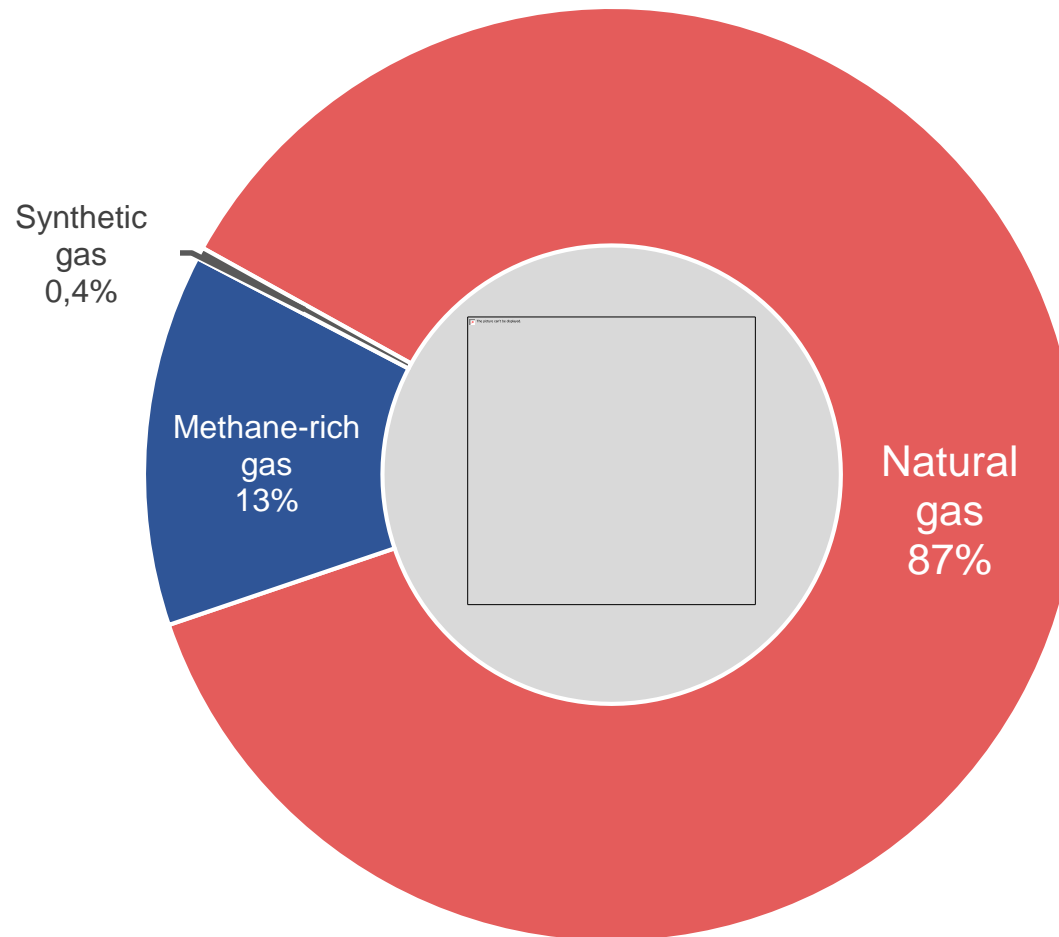
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Natural gas accounted for **87%** of total gas distributed in 2024

Type of gas distributed (Total: 188 922 952 gigajoules)



Source: Table 15 Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%



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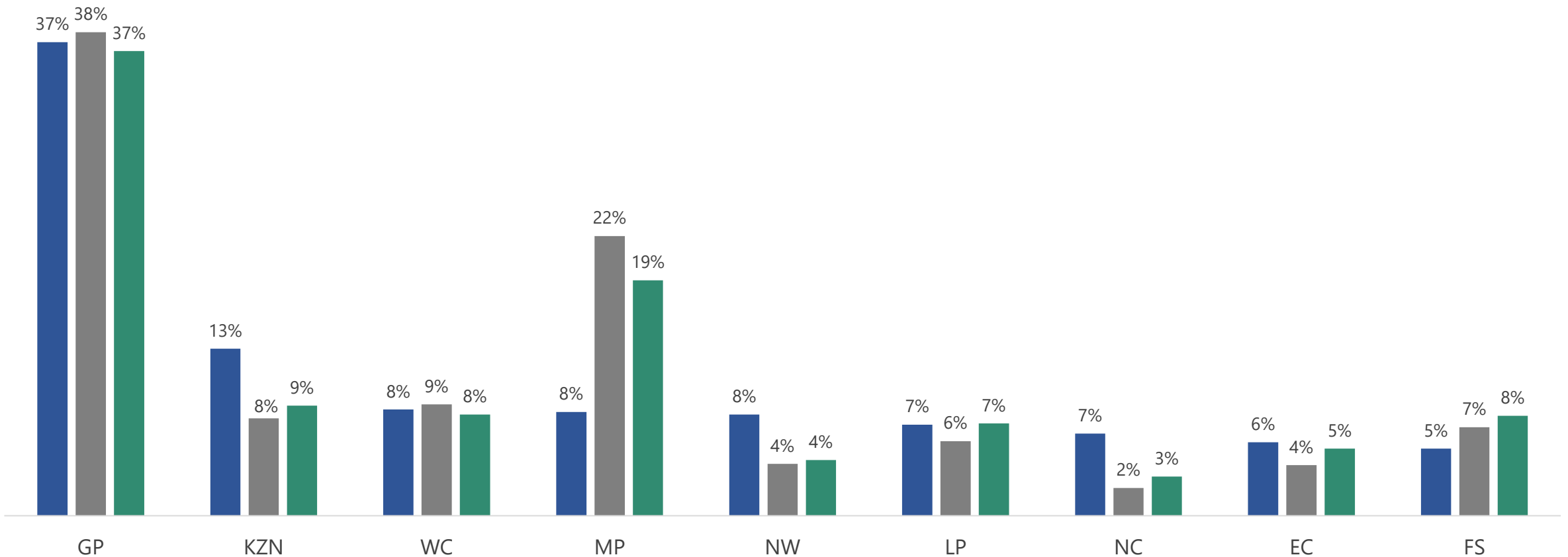
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Together, Gauteng and Mpumalanga accounted for **over half** of all employees in 2024

Percentage contribution to national totals

■ Sales of goods and services ■ Salaries and wages ■ Employment



Source: Tables 19, 20 and 21 Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%

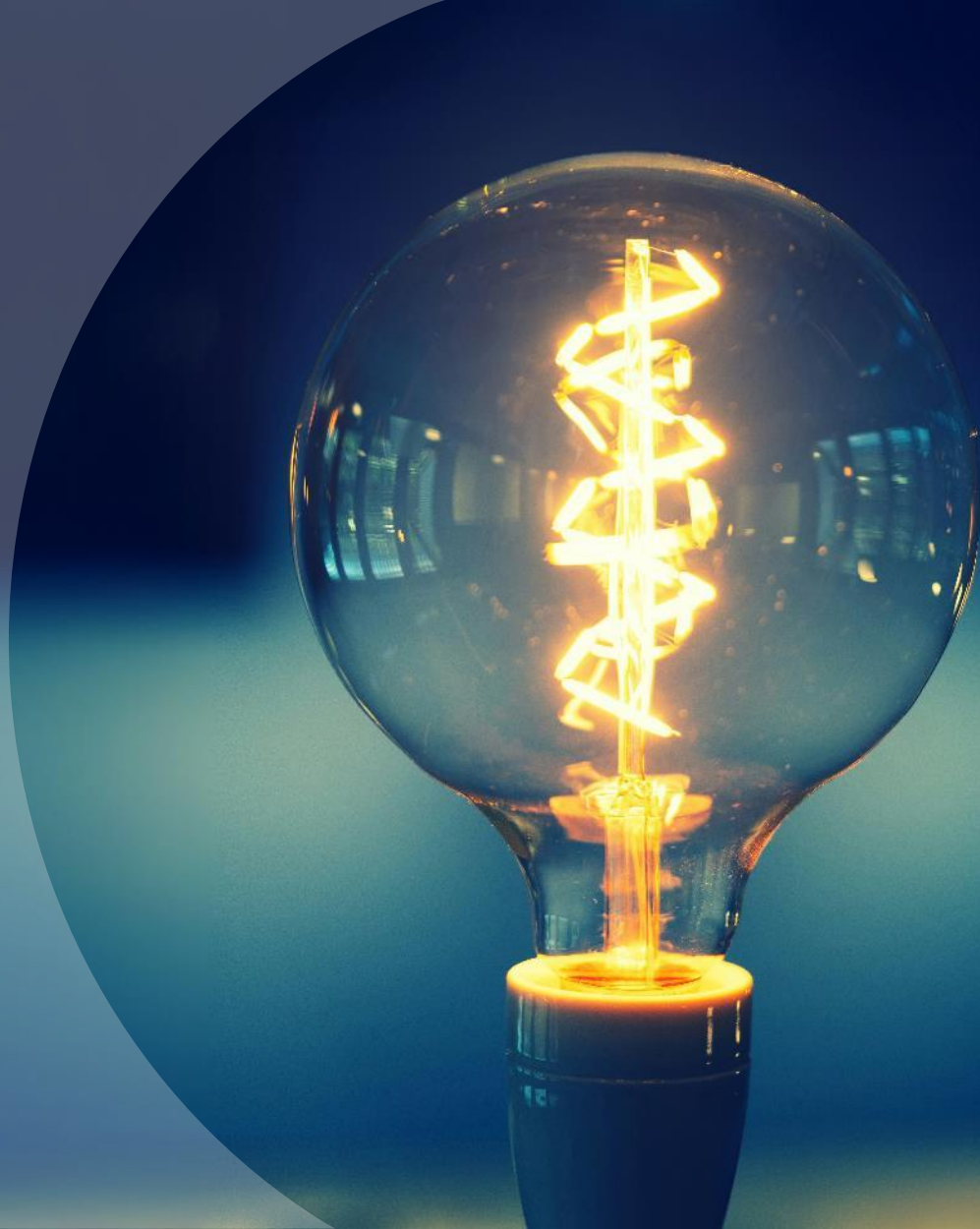


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Overview



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Overview (2024)

- The electricity, gas and water supply industry was responsible for 3,7% of economic activity
- The industry generated R472 billion in income in 2024
- Electricity supply recorded a loss in 2019, 2021 and 2024
- Salaries and wages accounted for 8,8% of total expenditure
- The number of employees in the industry has declined since 2013, most notably in electricity supply
- Over half of the workforce was based in Gauteng and Mpumalanga
- Women occupied 37 of every 100 jobs in the industry
- The contribution of renewable energy to total electricity generation rose from 6,1% (13 784 GWh) in 2021 to 9,0% (19 408 GWh) in 2024

Find more from the report: *Electricity, gas and water supply industry, Report No. 41-01-02 (2024)*



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Thank you!

Technical enquiries:

Itani Magwaba: itanim@statssa.gov.za
012 337 6254 / 082 905 5143

Tshepo Pekane: tshepop@statssa.gov.za
012 310 8191 / 083 675 8654



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