

CONTENTS

HEADLINES
ECONOMIC INDICATORS
FEATURE ARTICLE

INFOGRAPHIC OF THE MONTH
PROVINCIAL SNAPSHOT
CONTACT US

Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

Headlines

To bean or not to bean – the
price of a cup of coffee
Page 1

Infographics

Where are manufacturing jobs
concentrated?
Page 4

Provincial snapshot

Mapping our universities
Page 5

How important are tuition fees? Page 3



Economic headlines: October 2016

Stats SA has a new logo!



South Africa's official statistics agency has shed the familiar grid and graph for a drum. (Click [here](#) to read more.)

To bean or not to bean



A look at the price of your cup of coffee. (Click [here](#) to read more.)

Municipalities spend more on electricity



A rise in electricity tariffs and the weather contributed to the increase (Click [here](#) to read more.)

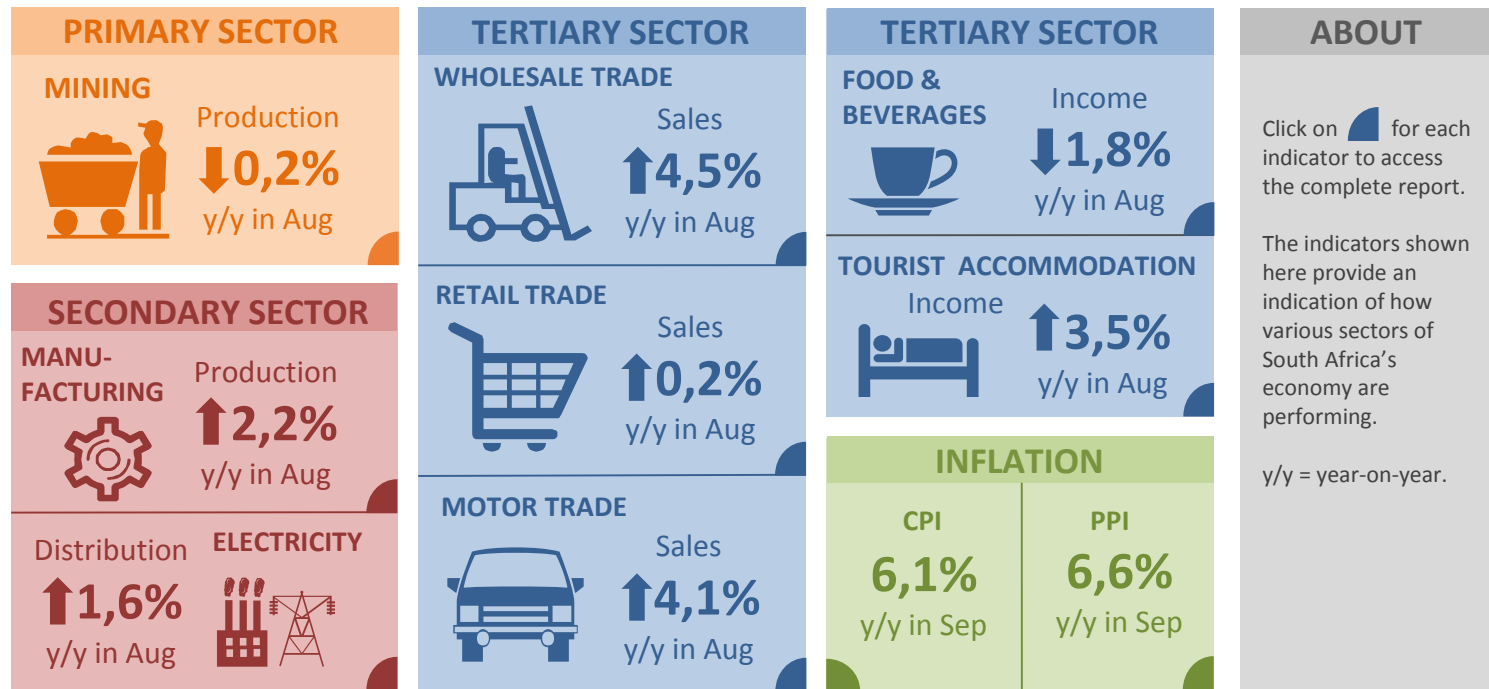
Stats SA to host UN World Data Forum



The first United Nations World Data Forum will take place in Cape Town in January 2017 (Click [here](#) to read more.)

Click [here](#) to browse more headlines.

Monthly economic indicators



Feature article

How important are student fees?

Higher education institutions depend mostly on government grants and tuition fees for income, according to data from Stats SA's latest *Financial statistics of higher education institutions* report.

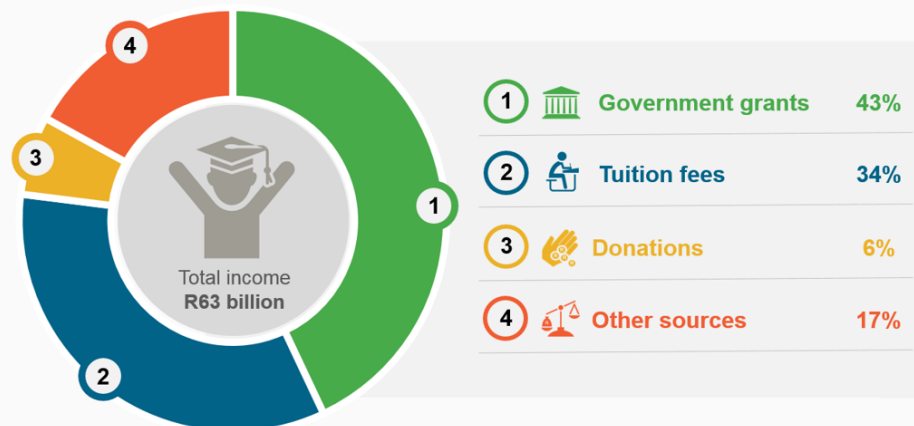
Of the R63 billion received as income by higher education institutions in 2015, 43% was sourced from government, 34% from tuition fees, 6% from donations and the remaining 17% from other sources.

All the discourse, all the protest, all the debate currently taking hold of the country; it's all about that blue slice in the graph of R21 billion. If tuition fees are ever done away with completely, both government and higher education institutions will have the difficult task of not only finding another way to finance this amount, but also of increasing efficiency to reduce costs.

Click [here](#) to read more.

What does it take to fund tertiary education in South Africa?

Percentage breakdown of total income for higher education institutions by source, 2015



Source: Financial statistics of higher education institutions, 2015

<http://www.statssa.gov.za>

Infographic of the month

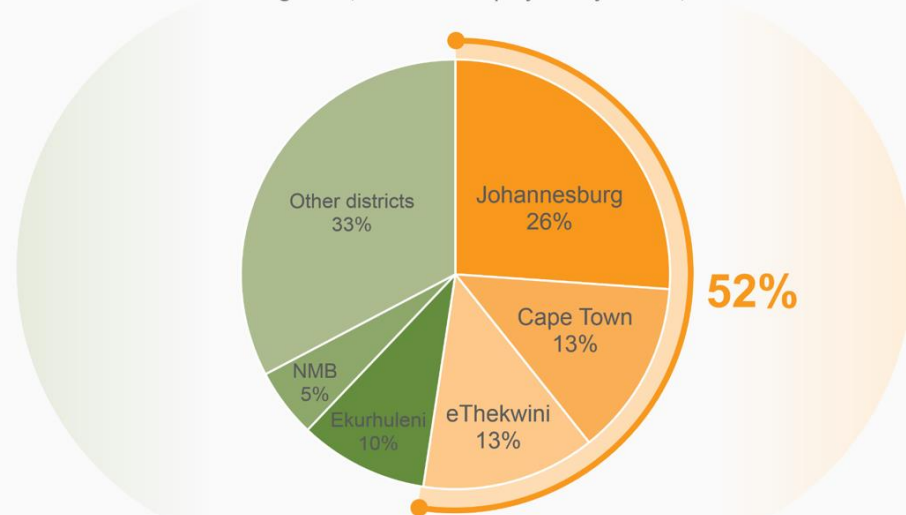
Over half of the manufacturing industry's national workforce is concentrated in just three metros: Johannesburg, Cape Town and eThekweni. The chart shows the distribution of manufacturing's 1,19 million employees across 44 districts and 8 metropolitan areas. In 2014, 312 000 people (26% of the national total) were employed in Johannesburg.

These figures are from a large manufacturing survey that took place in 2014, covering about 15 000 enterprises. The results of the survey – containing detailed information on income, employment, capital expenditure, salaries and production – were recently published in two reports: *Manufacturing industry: Financial, 2014* and *Manufacturing industry: Production, 2014*.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Over half of SA's manufacturing workforce is located in three metros

Percentage of 1,19 million employees by district, 2014



Percentages have been rounded and may not sum to 100%

Source: Manufacturing industry: Financial, 2014 <http://www.statssa.gov.za>

Provincial snapshot

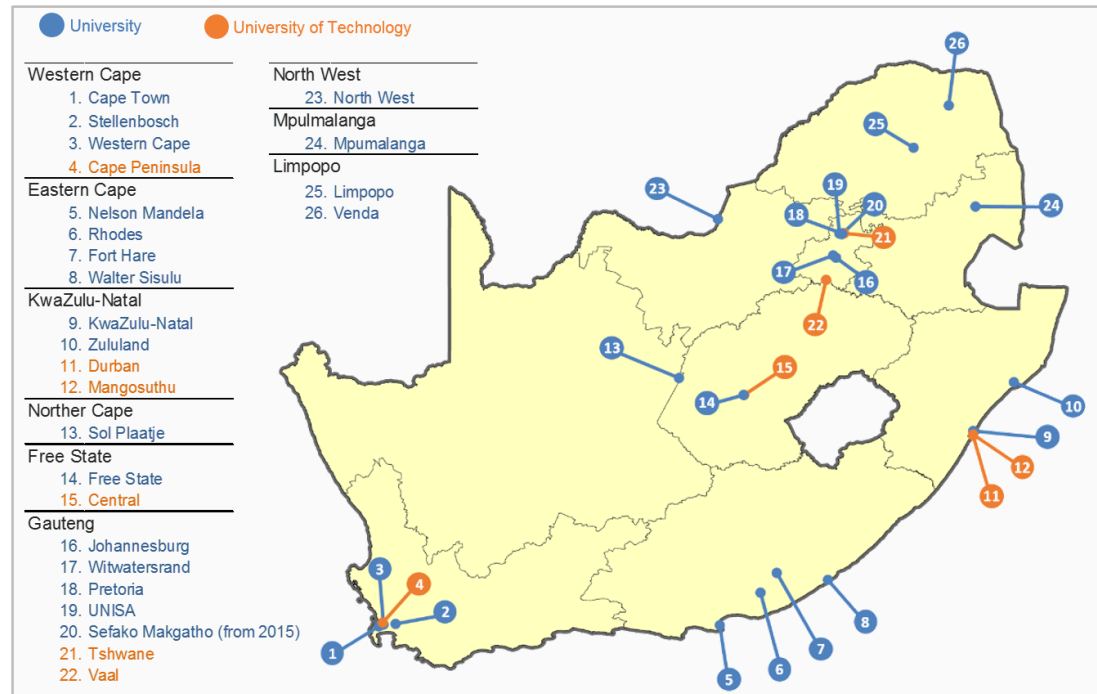
Where are our higher education institutions located?

South Africa's higher education system consists of 20 universities and 6 universities of technology. Seven of these institutions are located in Gauteng. Western Cape, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal each have four.

Two new institutions were opened in 2014: Sol Plaatje University in the Northern Cape and Mpumalanga University in Mpumalanga, establishing a higher education presence in these two provinces.

Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University was opened in Gauteng in 2015.

For information on the financial health of higher education institutions, download the media release presentation [here](#) and the full report [here](#).



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