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Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

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stats sa

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## Economic headlines

### CPI inflation edges lower in September



Electricity tariffs and university boarding fees experienced the highest price increases (click [here](#) to read more).

### Unemployment rate edges up to 29,1%



This is the highest rate since Stats SA started measuring the current series in 2008 (click [here](#) to read more).

### Tertiary education's salary bill



The University of South Africa (Unisa) was the biggest spender on staff in 2018 (click [here](#) to read more).

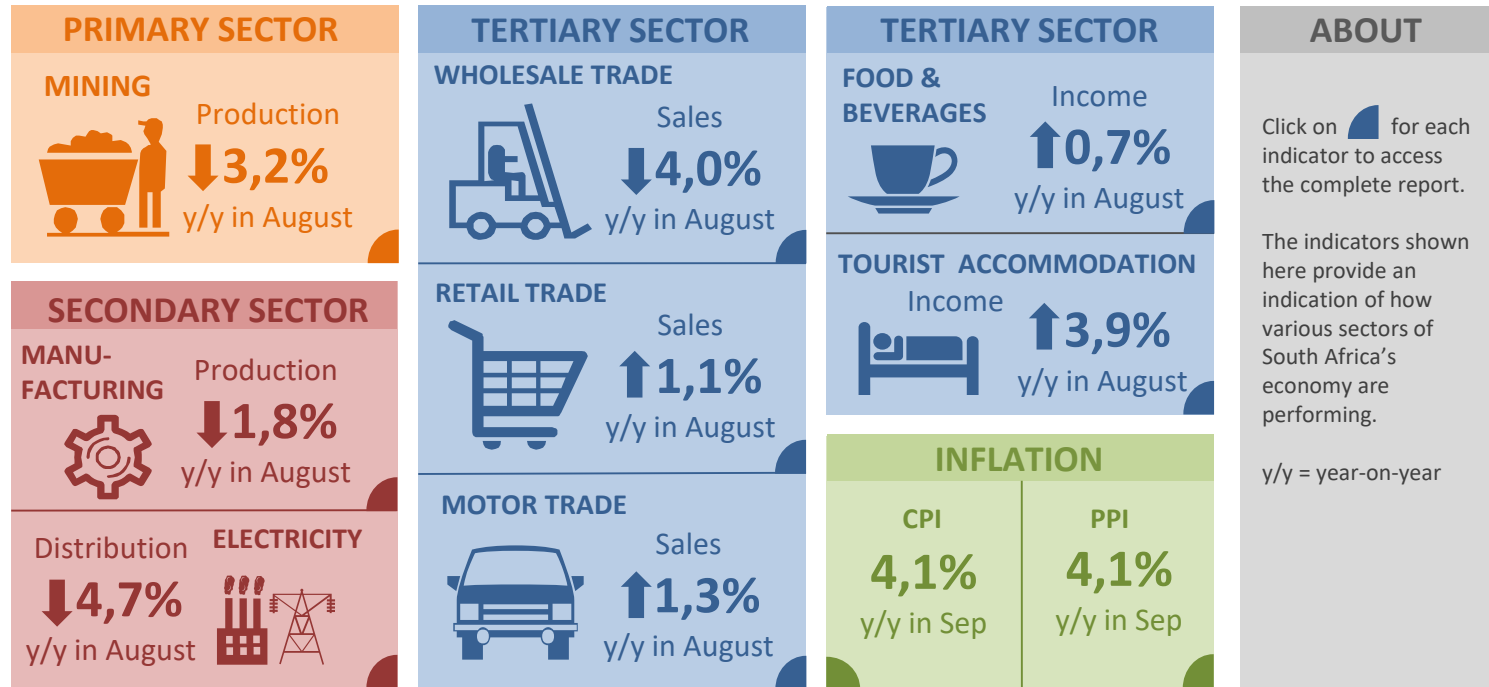
### Housebreaking is the number one crime



Affecting 5,8% of households in South Africa (click [here](#) to read more).

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

## Monthly economic indicators



## Feature article

### Eskom takes up 25% of public-sector capital expenditure

Eskom remains the single largest contributor to total public sector capital expenditure. South Africa's largest power producer was responsible for just over a quarter (R63 billion) of the R250 billion public sector capital-spend in 2018.

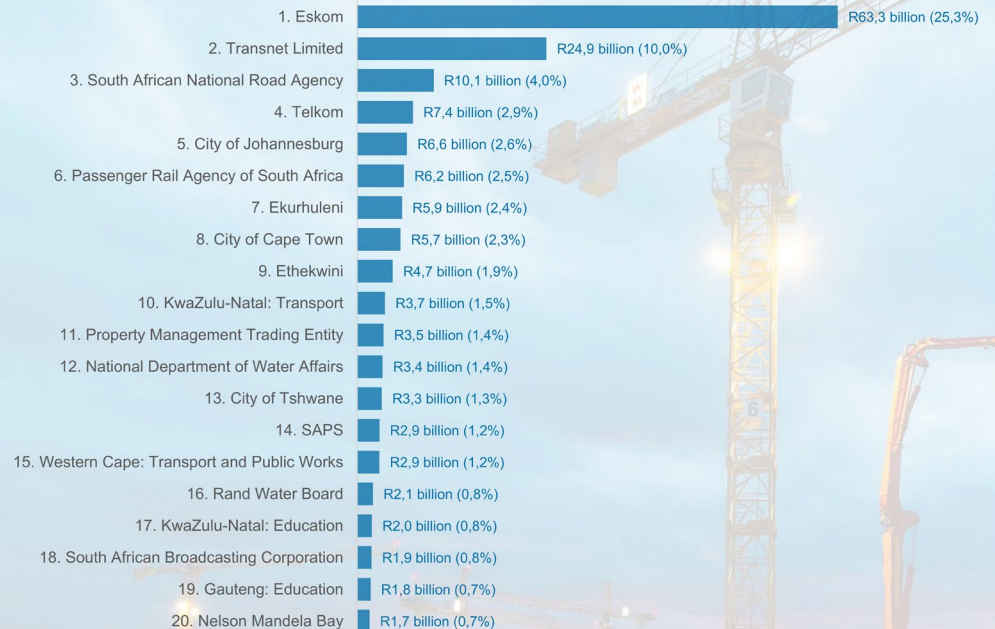
Capital expenditure is money that institutions spend to buy, maintain or upgrade fixed assets such as buildings, vehicles, land and equipment. It is the brick and mortar type of investment that forms the nation's infrastructure on which the economy functions.

Transnet was the other heavyweight, incurring capital expenditure of just under R25 billion (10,0%). This was on new wagons for freight rail and various other types of equipment.

The South African National Roads Agency was the third biggest spender, contributing 4,0% to the public-sector capital expenditure pie.

Click [here](#) to read more.

#### Top 20 biggest public-sector spenders on capital expenditure, out of a total of 757 institutions (R250 billion)



Source: Capital expenditure by the public sector, 2018

## Infographic of the month



## Provincial snapshot

### Provincial spending on health

The predominantly urban provinces of Gauteng and Western Cape come to the fore with healthcare spending. Gauteng provincial government spent 37% of its budget on healthcare, and Western Cape 36%. Mpumalanga and North West had the lowest percentages.

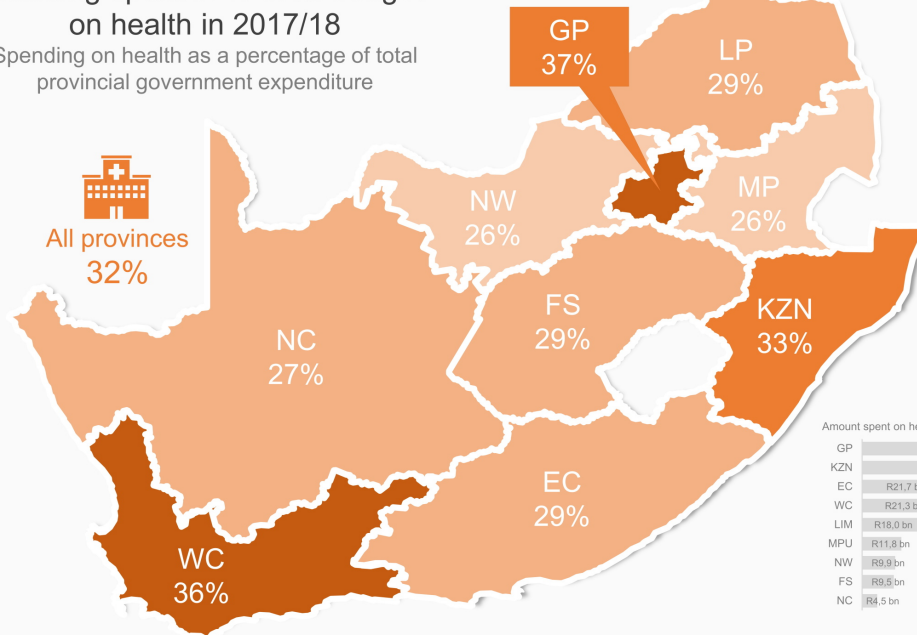
Gauteng also had the highest healthcare bill, spending R41,2 billion on health-related activities. KwaZulu-Natal was the second biggest spender, followed by Eastern Cape.

If all nine provinces are taken together, health was the second biggest expenditure item after education in 2017/18, taking up 32% (R177 billion) of total spending.

Read more [here](#).

Gauteng spent 37% of its budget on health in 2017/18

Spending on health as a percentage of total provincial government expenditure



Amount spent on health (R billions)

GP	R41,2 bn
KZN	R38,9 bn
EC	R21,7 bn
WC	R21,3 bn
LIM	R18,0 bn
MPU	R11,8 bn
NW	R9,9 bn
FS	R9,5 bn
NC	R8,5 bn

Source: Financial statistics of provincial government, 2017/18

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