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Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

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Economic headlines

Inflation edges up to 4,6% in February



Inching past the midpoint of the South African Reserve Bank's monetary policy target range (click [here](#) to read more).

SA's municipalities spent R95,2 billion in Q4



Employee-related costs made up 30,1% of the total budget (click [here](#) to read more).

Maternal health care shows signs of improvement



The proportion of births delivered in a health facility increased from 83% in 1998 to 97% in 2016 (click [here](#) to read more).

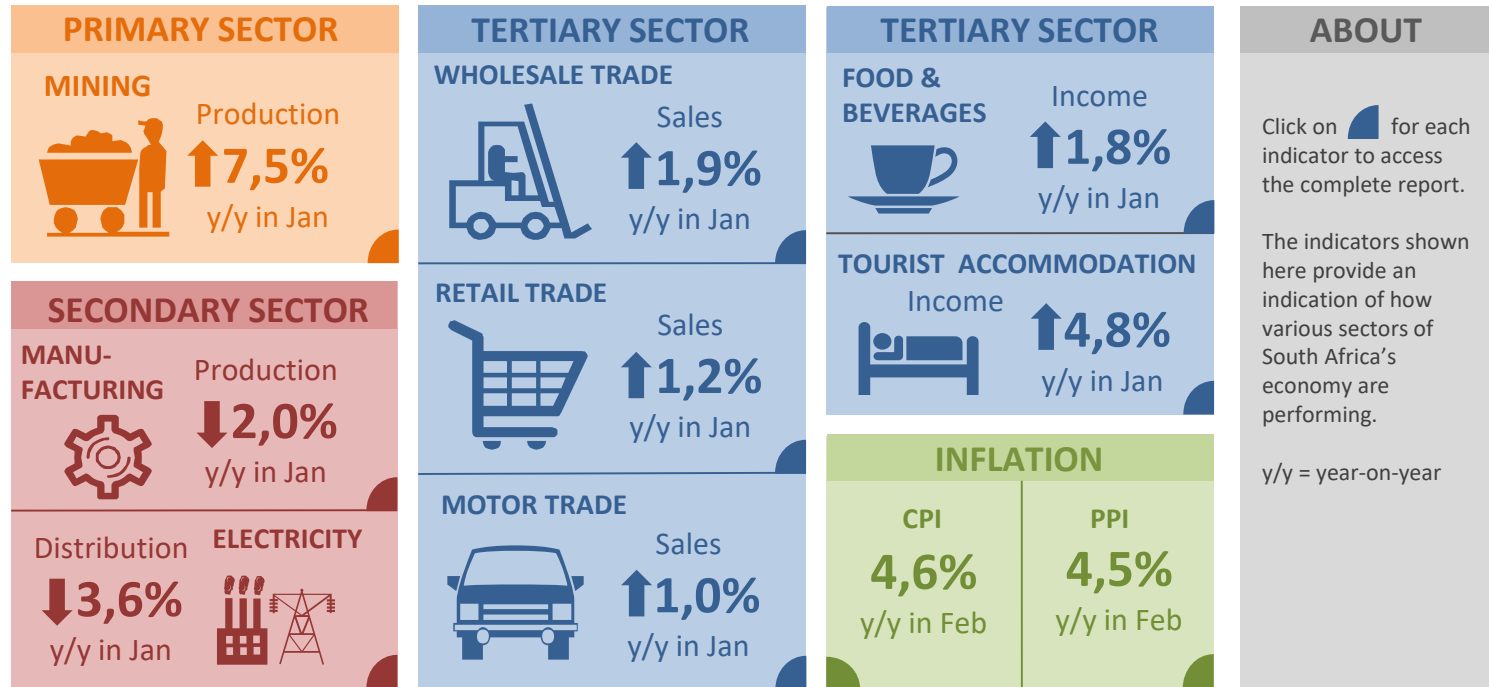
But unwanted births have increased



With the percentage rising from 17% in 1998 to 20% in 2016 (click [here](#) to read more).

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

Monthly economic indicators



Feature article

This is how the lockdown will affect Stats SA's releases

Stats SA's ability to publish official statistics will be impacted by the lockdown announced by President Ramaphosa.

As most businesses will be closed over that period, and movement will be restricted, data collection for both economic and household surveys will not be possible.

We will communicate in detail any data quality related issues as they arise. On the social statistics side, the current pandemic will not impact on the March to May releases as this fieldwork has already been completed.

The lockdown will result in changes to other scheduled releases in April. Click [here](#) to see the revised calendar.



Infographic of the month

Farmers sold over a billion chickens in 2017

This is one of many interesting facts to emerge from Stats SA's latest set of reports on the 2017 Census of Commercial Agriculture.

The beauty of the data that it allows researchers to drill down and explore patterns across districts and local municipalities.

For example, if a natural disaster happened in Gauteng's West Rand district, 31% of the nation's carrot crop would be at risk.

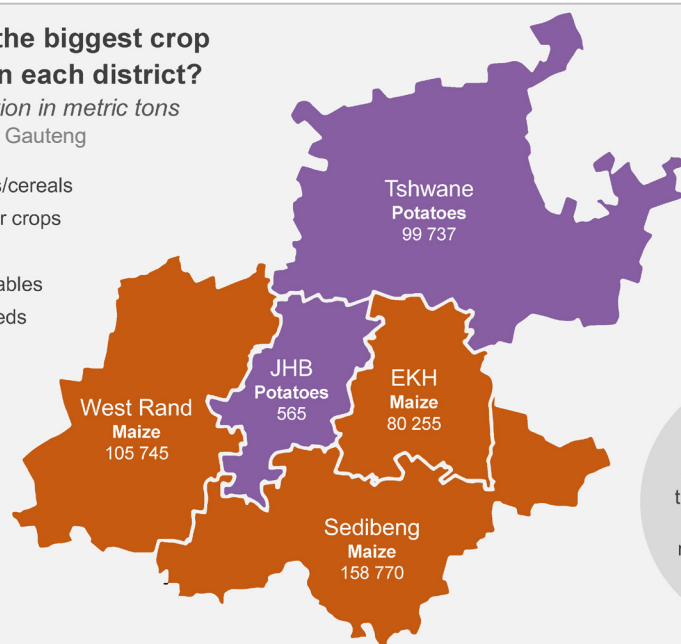
Also, the data show that sheep in the Pixley ka Seme district in Northern Cape outnumber people six-to-one!

Interested to learn more? Bury yourself in [these fact sheets](#). The national report and media presentation are available [here](#).

What is the biggest crop output in each district?

Production in metric tons
Gauteng

- Grains/cereals
- Fodder crops
- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Oil seeds



West Rand's 2nd biggest export is carrots. The district is the biggest producer of carrots nationwide, responsible for 31% of national production

Provincial snapshot

Where do Millennials dominate?

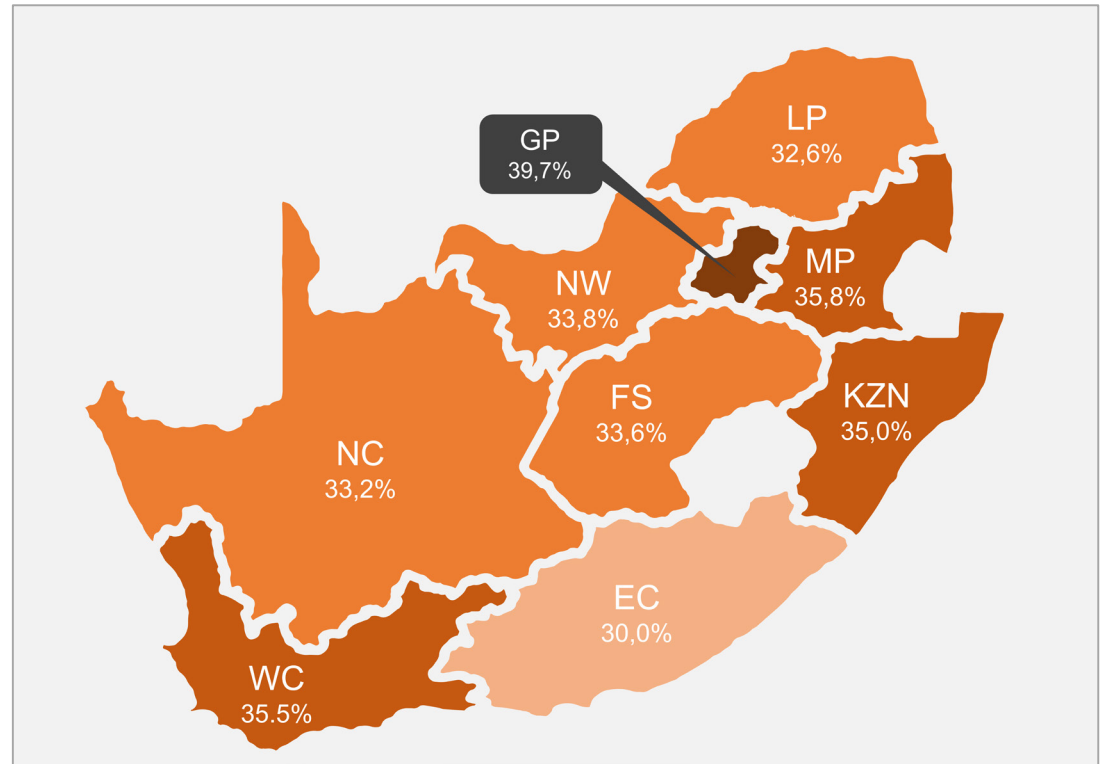
Much has been discussed about Millennials, those belonging to the generation of individuals born between 1980 and 1999.

A recent report from Stats SA explores the labour and education outcomes of this generation.

Geographically, the province with the highest percentage of Millennials was Gauteng (39,7%), followed by Mpumalanga (35,8%), Western Cape (35,5%) and KwaZulu-Natal (35%).

Eastern Cape's population had the lowest proportion of Millennials.

Download the complete report and media presentation [here](#).



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