

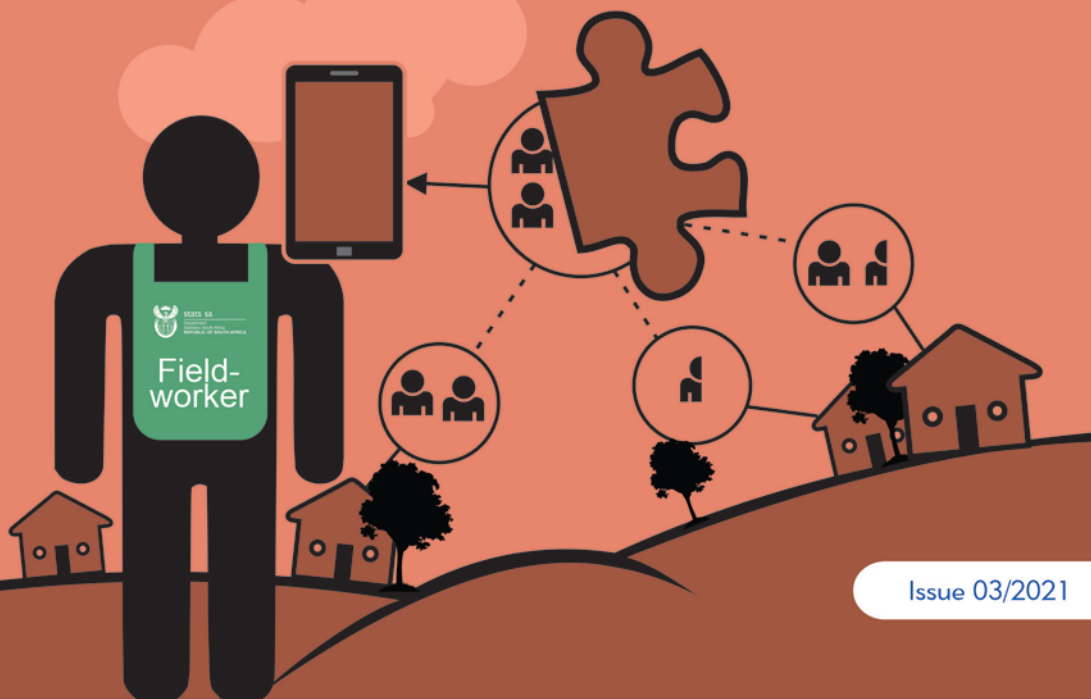
Mbalo Brief

the missing piece of the puzzle

April 2021

CENSUS 2021

#GETCOUNTED



Issue 03/2021

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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Editor's comment

The impact of COVID-19 pandemic has posed some challenges on the education in South Africa and across the globe. Many learners, students, lecturers, teachers and even parents and guardians were forced to transition from the contact (physical classroom) learning environment to virtual learning. Parents and guardians instantly became teachers overnight as they had to assist their children with online learning. Additionally, some learners felt a little disadvantaged during this time because they did not have adequate or reliable access to internet and/or technology (such as laptops or computers), proper network (connectivity) and a conducive learning environment at home. It is evident that the COVID-19 pandemic caused a major teaching and learning crisis in South Africa. On the brighter side, however, it is thanks to this crisis that a digital learning revolution with new tools, platforms and methods that can enhance the learning and teaching environment was ignited. Furthermore, a research by SHIFT has shown that students retain 25% to 60% more material when learning online compared to only 8% to 10% in a classroom. This is because when learning online, students can learn at their own pace, going back and re-reading, skipping, or accelerating through concepts as they choose.

In this month's issue of *Mbalo Brief*, our educational article is based on the report titled *Unemployment*. The article is derived from the *Quarterly labour force survey (QLFS)* Quarter 4: 2020. Also have a look at our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for the March 2021 puzzle.

Articles published in this issue are based on results of industry surveys conducted from December 2020 and January 2021, such as, Mining, Retail trade sales and Land transport survey, to name a few.

For more details on any of the surveys, visit our website at:
www.statssa.gov.za

Enjoy the read.



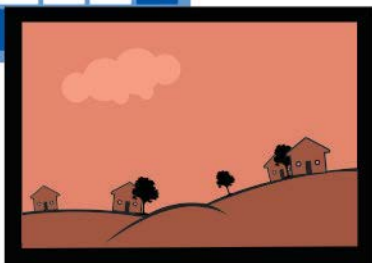
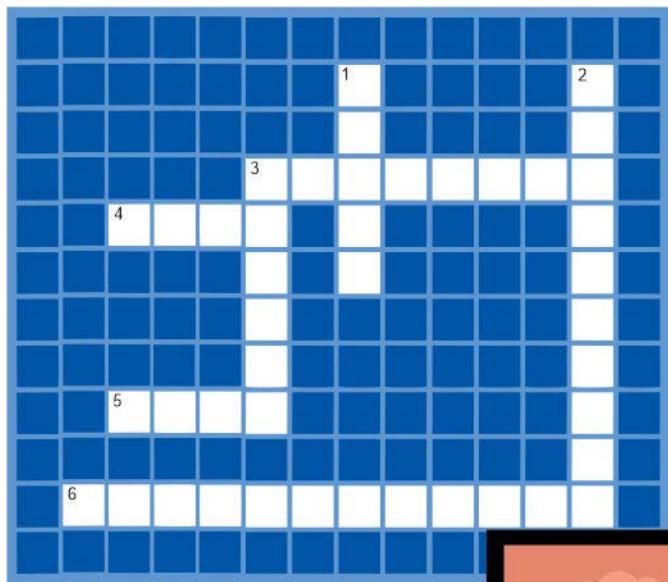


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Crossword puzzle



Across

3. In Tourism and migration, visitors are classified into three groups: Arrivals only, single trips and trips. Fill in the missing word.
4. True or false? According to the educational article, there is an official and expanded definition of unemployment.
5. According to the Tourism and migration article, did more or less arrivals, departures and travellers in

Down

1. True or false? The headline inflation for February 2021 was above the reserve bank's target band of 3 to 6%.
2. What is celebrated every year in South Africa on 27 April?
3. In mining, PGMS is an abbreviation for Platinum Group Fill in the missing word.



transit for both South African residents and foreign travellers pass through South Africa's borders in January 2021 compared with January 2020?

6. According to the educational article, NEA is an abbreviation for Not Active. Fill in the missing word.

Solutions for March 2021 puzzle

Across

- 5. Patrice Motsepe
- 6. Gauteng

Down

- 1. Statistics South Africa
- 2. Osmium
- 3. Train
- 4. February



Educational article on unemployment

1. Introduction

The unemployment rate is a useful measure of a country's current status on its utilisation (or underutilisation) of its labour force. When the unemployment rate increases, it means the market or economy is not creating sufficient jobs to absorb more people. In the February issue of *Mbalo Brief*, the educational article was based on employment in South Africa and as promised, this month's educational article focuses on unemployment in South Africa.

The article is based on the results of the *Quarterly labour force survey* (QLFS) (statistical release P0211) a household-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). The survey covers labour market activities of persons aged 15–64 years who live in South Africa. The report presents the key findings of the QLFS conducted from October to December 2020 (Quarter 4 of 2020). It was published on 23 February 2020.

The purpose of this article is to provide more insight into South Africa's labour force by looking at the unemployment rate in Quarter 4 of 2020; a special focus will be on youth unemployment. The article will also take a look at those who were not in employment, education or training during the period under review.

2. Background on collection of data

Stats SA suspended face-to-face data collection for all its surveys on 19 March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and restricted movement. This was to ensure that the field staff and respondents were not exposed to the risk of contracting coronavirus and to contain its spread. It is, however, imperative that Stats SA continue to provide statistics on the South African labour market (please see glossary for definition). In this regard, Stats SA changed the mode of collection for collecting QLFS data to Computer-assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI).

To facilitate CATI, the sample that was used for QLFS Quarter 1 (Q1): 2020 was also used in Quarter 2 (Q2): 2020, Quarter 3 (Q3): 2020 and Quarter 4 (Q4): 2020. However, not all dwelling units on the sample had contact



numbers, and as a result, the data was only collected from part of the sample for which contact numbers were available for QLFS Q4: 2020.

The dwelling units for which contact numbers were not available as of Q1: 2020 retained the status that they had in Q1: 2020. That is, dwelling units that were out-of-scope in Q1: 2020 remained out-of-scope in Q4: 2020; and dwelling units that were non-contacts in Q1: 2020 remained non-contacts in Q4: 2020. For the remaining Q4: 2020 sample with contact numbers, during data collection some of the contact numbers were found to be invalid; some were not answered; and some households in the sampled dwelling units indicated that they were no longer residing at the dwelling units they had occupied during Q1: 2020. All of these were regarded as non-contacts and were adjusted during the weighting processes. Details of how the adjustment was done are contained in the QLFS release (statistical release P0211).

Given the change in the survey mode of collection and the fact that Q4: 2020 estimates are not based on a full sample, comparisons with previous quarters should be made with caution.

3. South African unemployment rate in Quarter 4: 2020

There are two definitions of unemployment: the official definition and the expanded definition.

Unemployed persons according to the official definition are those (aged 15–64 years): who-

- a) were not employed in the reference week
- b) actively looked for work or tried to start a business in the four weeks preceding the survey interview; and
- c) were available for work, i.e. would have been able to start work or a business in the reference week; or
- d) had not actively looked for work in the past four weeks prior to the survey, but had a job or business to start at a definite date in the future and were available.

Unemployed persons according to the expanded definition are those (aged 15–64 years) who-

- a) were not employed in the reference week; and



- b) were available to work but did not look for work either because they are discouraged from looking for work (see definition of discouraged work-seeker in the glossary on page 37); or
- c) did not look for work for other reasons other than discouragement.

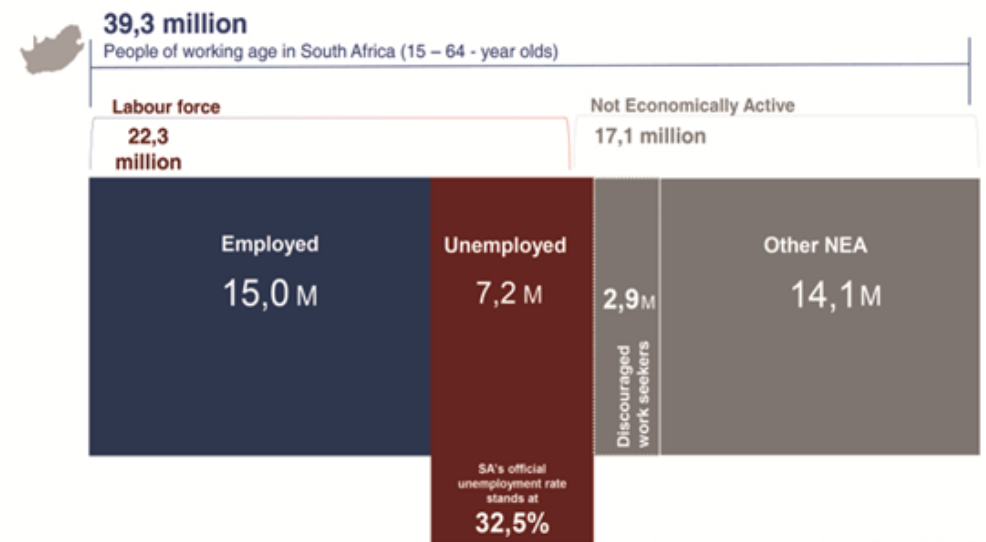
3.1 Official unemployment

In Q4:2020, there were 39,3 million people of working age in South Africa, of which 22,3 million were in the labour force while 17,1 million were not economically active. A further breakdown shows that, of the 22,3 million that were in the labour force, 15,0 million were employed while 7,2 million were unemployed (**see Figure 1**). The number of unemployed persons increased by 701 000 in Q4: 2020 following an increase of 2,2 million in the previous quarter. This 701 000 is the second highest increase in unemployment since the inception of the quarterly labour force survey (QLFS) in 2008. However, it should be noted that during Q3: 2020 and Q4: 2020, the national lockdown regulations were relaxed, which allowed travelling, and this played a role in the number of people actively looking for work. Whereas during Q2: 2020, the country was under hard lockdown which prevented movement.



Figure 1 – Number of persons in the labour force and those Not Economically Active (NEA)

There were about 333 thousand more people employed in Q4:2020 than Q3:2020



Of the 7,2 million unemployed persons in Q4:2020, as many as 52,3% had education levels below matric, followed by those with matric at 37,9%. Only 1,8% of unemployed persons were graduates, while 7,5% had 'other' tertiary qualifications as their highest level of education.

The official unemployment rate increased by 1,7 percentage points to 32,5% in Q4: 2020 compared to Q3: 2020. The Q4 official unemployment rate increased in eight of the nine provinces, with the largest increase recorded in the following provinces:

- Northern Cape (up by 5,6 percentage points);
- Mpumalanga (up by 5,2 percentage points); and
- North West (up by 5,0 percentage points).

Gauteng recorded the least increase of 0,4 of a percentage point, while Free State recorded a decrease of 2,1 percentage points.



Year-on-year, the official unemployment rate increased by 3,4 percentage points. The official unemployment rate increased in seven of the nine provinces, with the largest increase recorded in the following provinces:

- Eastern Cape (up by 8,4 percentage points);
- KwaZulu-Natal (up by 4,6 percentage points);
- North West (up by 4,5 percentage points); and
- Limpopo (up by 4,2 percentage points).

Meanwhile, the official unemployment rate decreased in Free State and Mpumalanga provinces by 1,6 percentage points and 0,6 of a percentage point, respectively, during the same period.

3.2 Expanded unemployment

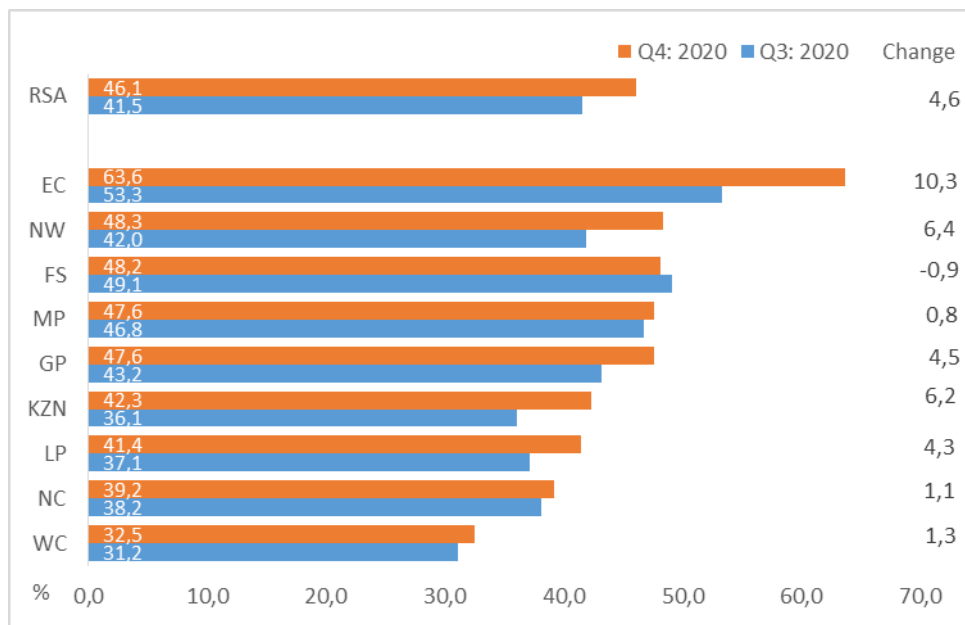
The expanded unemployment rate decreased by 0,5 of a percentage point in Q4: 2020 compared to Q3: 2020. This is reflective of the fact that people were available for work but did not actively look for work. Five provinces recorded a decrease in the expanded unemployment rate while Gauteng remained unchanged. Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga and Limpopo recorded increases in the expanded unemployment rates, where it increased by 1,2 percentage points, 0,8 of a percentage points and 0,6 of a percentage points respectively. The largest decrease was recorded in Free State (2,7 percentage points), followed by Western Cape (2,3 percentage points), Northern Cape (2,2 percentage points) and KwaZulu-Natal (1,5 percentage points).

Compared to the same period last year, the expanded unemployment rate increased by 3,9 percentage points in Q4: 2020. All provinces recorded increases in the expanded unemployment rate, except Free State, where the rate decreased by 2,4 percentage points. The largest increase in the expanded unemployment rate was recorded in Gauteng (5,7 percentage points), followed by Eastern Cape (4,7 percentage points), KwaZulu-Natal (4,1 percentage points), Limpopo (3,5 percentage points) and North West (3,0 percentage points).



4. Unemployment among youth aged 15 – 34 years

Figure 2: Youth unemployment rate by province



Out of 39,3 million people of working age in South Africa, 20,5 million were youth aged 15 – 34 years in Q4: 2020. The number of unemployed youth aged 15 – 34 increased by 103 000 to 4,3 million in Q4: 2020 compared to the previous quarter. The youth unemployment rate in South Africa was 46,1% in Q4: 2020. In terms of provincial comparison, Eastern Cape recorded the highest youth unemployment rate at about 63,6% followed by North West and Free State which recorded the rates of 48,3% and 48,2% respectively. Only two out of nine provinces recorded the youth unemployment rate below 40,0% in Q4: 2020; Western Cape recorded the lowest rate of 32,5% followed by Northern Cape at 39,2%.



Figure 3: Proportion of unemployed youth by level of education, Q4: 2020 (percentage)

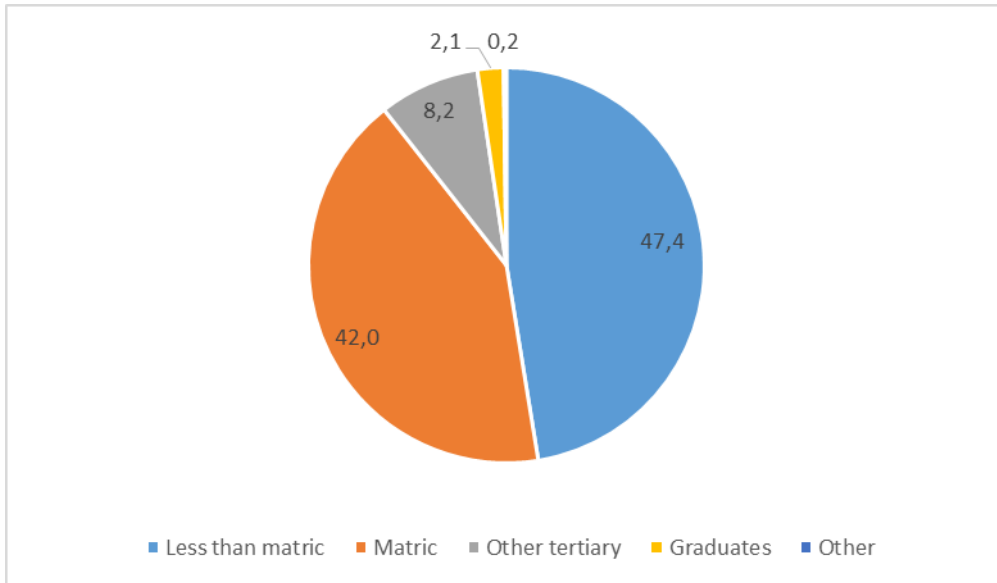


Figure 3 shows that of the 4,3 million unemployed youth in the fourth quarter of 2020, 47,4% had education levels below matric, followed by those with matric at 42,0%. Only 2,1% of the unemployed persons were graduates while 8,2% had other tertiary qualifications as their highest level of education.

5. Conclusion

The unemployment results for Q4:2020 show that the number of people who were unemployed increased, making this quarter's unemployment rate the second highest increase in unemployment since the inception of the quarterly labour force survey (QLFS) in 2008. The number of unemployed youth aged 15 – 34 increased. Eastern Cape recorded the highest youth unemployment rate.



Primary industries

Mining: Production and sales

Production decrease and sales increase in January 2021

South Africa was the largest chrome producer in 2020 with production amounting to 16 million metric tons, the output was slightly lower than 2019 levels. On 21 October 2020, the South African Cabinet approved a proposed tax on South Africa's exported chrome, with further details still to be announced. The aim of the tax is to assist and support the domestic chrome industry. Chrome ore is a key ingredient in stainless steel, an essential material for the automobile industry. Countries such as India and Tanzania are examples that have implemented successful export taxes for chrome ore that increased tax bases and higher investment in the industry among others. South African chrome ore producers should have relevant licenses to operate and up to date South African Revenue Services (SARS) tax documents ready when the export taxes become effective. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Mining: Production and Sales statistics for January 2021.

Mining production decreased by 6,2% year-on-year in January 2021 (**see Table A**). The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-14,5%, contributing -3,5 percentage points);
- coal (-13,5%, contributing -3,5 percentage points); and
- gold (-14,1%, contributing -1,6 percentage points).

Manganese ore was a significant positive contributor (34,7%, contributing 2,3 percentage points).



Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production for January 2021

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-3,3	-2,4	-5,8	-9,5	-1,8	-6,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	7,1	-0,8	-0,6	-3,0	-1,5	4,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	25,4	37,8	17,7	7,4	-1,5	-3,3

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Mining: Production and sales* (Statistical release P2041) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Mineral sales increased by 24,9% year-on-year in January 2021 (see Table B). The largest positive contributors were:

- PGMs (37,8%, contributing 12,0 percentage points);
- gold (71,6%, contributing 10,7 percentage points); and
- iron ore (43,3%, contributing 5,6 percentage points).

Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for January 2021

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	19,7	26,5	31,3	15,6	23,2	24,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	12,5	5,3	2,6	-4,0	-6,6	31,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	17,2	47,6	35,4	22,4	5,0	4,6

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Mining: Production and sales* (Statistical release P2041) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Secondary industries

Manufacturing: Production and sales

Manufacturing production increased by 3,4% in January 2021 compared with January 2020

More calls to buy locally produced goods have been made during the Proudly South African Buy Local Summit and Expo 2021 that was held virtually on 8 to 9 March 2021. President Cyril Ramaphosa emphasized that there's a need to demonstrate that buying locally is about investing in quality, in sustaining local businesses and in keeping jobs at home. The President said "we have to step up our efforts not just to get locals to buy local but also to improve the entry of our goods, products and services into export markets." Government pledged to increase local procurement over the next five years and vowed to enforce measures to stop the illegal importation of goods which weaken our local market in order to support existing manufacturers. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Manufacturing: Production and sales statistics for January 2021.

Manufacturing production decreased by 3,4% in January 2021 compared with January 2020 (**see Table C**). The largest negative contributions were made by the following divisions:

- petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products (-13,9%, contributing -3,4 percentage points);
- food and beverages (-4,9%, contributing -1,5 percentage points); and
- furniture and 'other' manufacturing (-12,1%, contributing -0,4 of a percentage point).

The motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment division (28,1%, contributing 1,8 percentage points) was a significant positive contributor.



Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for January 2021

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-10,4	-2,2	-3,8	-4,1	1,9	-3,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	3,6	2,8	2,7	-1,1	0,6	0,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	21,7	33,2	17,3	8,6	5,3	2,2

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.
A full release on *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (Statistical release P3041.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Selected building statistics of the private sector

Value of recorded building plans passed decreases

The use of asbestos has long been outlawed in South Africa where now the Department of Employment and Labour (DEL) has put in place regulations to govern the uncontrolled release of asbestos and asbestos dust in the buildings. On 20 November 2020, the DEL launched the Asbestos Abatement Regulations which prohibits any person from carrying out any demolition work before all asbestos and asbestos-containing building materials have been identified in the inventory of asbestos and safely removed or controlled. Regulations state that an approved and registered asbestos contractor should be commissioned to dispose asbestos and where premises, structures or areas should be thoroughly checked to ensure that all asbestos waste intended for disposal has been removed. According to DEL, when asbestos is removed in buildings there must be a procedure to do so and written asbestos management plans as well as labelling and signage to indicate materials or buildings containing asbestos must be developed. The regulations are to protect dwellers from potential exposure to asbestos to prevent sickness. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Selected building statistics of the private sector for January 2021.



The value of buildings reported as completed (at current prices) decreased by 43,3% (-R2 083,1 million) in January 2021 compared with January 2020. Decreases were recorded for:

- non-residential buildings (-59,9% or -R884,7 million);
- additions and alterations (-52,6% or -R622,6 million); and
- residential buildings (-26,8% or -R575,8 million).

Eight provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed in 2021, of which Gauteng (contributing -14,7 percentage points or -R708,9 million), Eastern Cape (contributing -11,8 percentage points or -R565,5 million), Western Cape (contributing -7,9 percentage points or -R380,9 million) and KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -6,3 percentage points or -R303,9 million) were the largest negative contributors.



Table D – Buildings reported as completed to larger municipalities at current prices: January 2020 versus January 2021

Estimates at current prices	January 2020	January 2021	Difference in value between January 2020 and January 2021	% change between January 2020 and January 2021 1/
	1/	1/	1/	
	R'000	R'000	R'000	
Residential buildings	2 148 619	1 572 864	-575 755	-26,8
-Dwelling houses	1 285 188	957 010	-328 178	-25,5
-Flats and townhouses	831 737	612 807	-218 930	-26,3
-Other residential buildings	31 694	3 047	-28 647	-90,4
Non-residential buildings	1 477 291	592 555	-884 736	-59,9
Additions and alterations	1 183 302	560 679	-622 623	-52,6
Total	4 809 212	2 726 098	-2 083 114	-43,3

1/ 2019 and 2020 figures should be regarded as preliminary because of possible backlogs and incomplete reporting by municipalities.

A full release on *Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions* (Statistical release P5041.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Electricity generated and available for distribution

Electricity production and consumption decrease in February 2021

Wind energy generation (the production of electricity using wind) is increasing all over the world. According to the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), an organisation that represents companies, manufacturers and developers in the wind energy industry, a global record of 93 Gigawatt (GW) of new capacity was installed in 2020, making it 743 GW of wind power capacity worldwide and helping to avoid over 1,1 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide. The GWEC indicated that the record growth in 2020 was driven by a surge of installations in China and the United States (US) who together represented 75% of the new installations in 2020 and account for over half of the world's total wind power capacity. In 2020, 821 Megawatt (MW) of new wind power capacity was installed in Africa and the Middle East region,



bringing total capacity to over 7 GW. South Africa installed 515 MW of new wind power capacity in 2020, making it the number one market for new annual installations in 2020. It is also the leading country for cumulative installations in the African region, with 2 495 MW in 2020. Wind energy is vital as it does not pollute the environment or cause human health problems such as sickness. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Electricity generated and available for distribution for February 2021.

Electricity generation (production) decreased by 4,3% year-on-year in February 2021 (see Table E).

Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for February 2021

	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-3,1	-2,8	-2,4	1,1	-3,2	-4,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,8	0,1	0,6	0,2	-2,5	2,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	10,3	4,4	0,9	0,6	-0,3	-0,4

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity distribution (consumption) decreased by 3,8% year-on-year in February 2021 (see Table F).

Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for February 2021

	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,1	-2,5	-2,1	1,7	-2,4	-3,8
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,2	0,0	0,4	0,6	-2,3	1,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	11,6	5,0	0,8	0,2	-0,4	-0,3

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (Statistical release P4141) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Tertiary industries

Wholesale trade sales

Wholesale trade sales increase by 5,6% in January 2021

The energy produced by burning fuel has many applications, such as powering vehicles, ships, and airplanes as well as providing electricity for homes and buildings. The category of dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products was the main negative contributor to the wholesale trade sales in January 2021. Solid, liquid, gaseous fuels and related products were the main negative contributor for January 2021 for wholesale trade sales. Solid fuels refers to various forms of solid material that can be burnt to release energy, providing heat and light through the process of burning (examples include wood, charcoal, coal, etc.) while liquid fuels are flammable or energy-generating molecules that can be connected to create mechanical energy and usually produce kinetic energy (energy which a body possesses by virtue of being in motion, e.g. gasoline, diesel, ethanol, etc.) and gaseous fuels are hydrocarbons, hydrogen and carbon monoxide mixtures present in a gaseous state which forms the basis of potential heat energy or light energy that can be readily disseminated by means of pipes from the origin to the place of consumption (e.g. natural gas, propane, etc.). Most wholesalers sell these fuels to other businesses and institutions which in turn sell to consumers or users. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Wholesale trade sales statistics for January 2021.

Wholesale trade sales decreased by 5,6% in January 2021 compared with January 2020 (**see Table G**). The main negative contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-24,4%, contributing - 6,9 percentage points).

Wholesale trade sales decreased by 2,0% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020. The main negative contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-23,0% and contributing -5,9 percentage points).

The main positive contributor was dealers in 'other' household goods except precious stones (31,7% and contributing 3,7 percentage points).



Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales at current prices for January 2021

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-3,4	0,7	-3,8	-2,9	2,5	-5,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,2	0,3	-0,2	-0,9	2,0	-0,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	22,1	29,4	10,8	3,0	0,1	0,4

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Wholesale trade sales* (P6141.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Retail trade sales

Retail trade sales decrease by 3,5% in January 2021

With the digital transformation within the retail industry on the rise, more South African consumers are now installing shopping applications (Apps) in order to do their shopping conveniently through their mobile phones. According to Google, 35% of South African consumers installed shopping Apps in their phones in 2020 compared to 30% in 2019. Google reports that these Apps are a mix of retailer and individual brand Apps. Google specifies that shoppers are most likely to have consumer electronics (35%), home and garden (39%), and fashion (33%) Apps installed. With shoppers' phones always by their side, an App can offer opportunities for retailers to increase sales. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the Retail trade sales survey for January 2021.

Retail trade sales decreased by 3,5% year-on-year in January 2021 (**see Table H**). Negative annual growth rates were recorded for:

- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (-33,6%);
- all 'other' retailers (-15,1%); and
- general dealers (-6,0%).

The main negative contributors to this decrease were:

- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (contributing -2,6 percentage points); and
- general dealers (contributing -2,5 percentage points).



Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for January 2021 at constant 2015 prices

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-4,1	-2,4	-2,3	-4,3	-1,2	-3,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	4,4	1,0	-0,5	2,0	-0,8	-1,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	17,3	24,0	7,0	4,3	2,7	0,9

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Retail trade sales* (Statistical release P6242.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Motor trade sales

Motor trade sales decreased by -10,2% in January 2021

More than 12 months ago, South Africa received news of the commencement of the nationwide lockdown. . In response, many industries prepared to shut down, schools were suspended, some jobs were cut and because movements were restricted, fewer vehicles were seen on the roads. Moreover, as a result of the nationwide lockdown, some consumers experienced increased budget constraints while others saw no need to purchase a motor vehicle since they were conducting most of their activities from home. Therefore, not only were vehicle production halted, but in addition, fewer vehicles were purchased, causing a strain on the motor trade industry. According to Naamsa, the Automotive Business Council, "In March 2020, the new vehicle market plummeted 29,7% compared to March 2019 to record just 33 545 sales." However, by March 2021, "March sales recorded 44 217 new vehicle sales." Thus, although the motor trade industry suffered a great loss in 2020, the industry seems to be well on its way to recovery and returning to pre-pandemic level. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Motor trade sales release for January 2021.

Motor trade sales decreased by 10,2% year-on-year in January 2021 (**see Table I**). All six types of activities showed year-on-year decreases in January 2021. The main contributors were:

- fuel sales (-21,6%, contributing -6,5 percentage points); and
- new vehicle sales (-7,6%, contributing -1,8 percentage points).



Motor trade sales decreased by 5,3% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020. The main negative contributor to this decrease was fuel sales (-17,5%, contributing -5,4 percentage points).

Table I – Key growth rate figures in motor trade sales for January 2021

	Aug -20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-11,1	-0,5	-7,4	-4,6	-1,0	-10,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	7,1	2,5	-2,2	1,6	0,1	-1,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	71,0	75,4	25,6	7,3	2,7	0,4

^{1/} Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

A full release on *Motor trade sales* (Statistical release P6343.2) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Food and beverages

Food and beverages industry records a 36,1% decrease in income generated for January 2021

The number of people experiencing hunger in South Africa is decreasing. According to General Household Survey (GHS) 2019 published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 15 December 2020, 82,2% of households reported their access to food as being adequate. The GHS indicates that the percentage of persons that experienced hunger decreased from 29,3% in 2002 to 11,1% in 2019. However, food access problems were common in North West (29,6%), Northern Cape (28,5%), Free State (26,1%) and Mpumalanga (24,0%) where households had inadequate or severely inadequate food access. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the food and beverages statistics for January 2021.



Total income generated by the food and beverages industry decreased by 36,1% in January 2021 compared with January 2020 (**see Table J**). The largest decrease was recorded for bar sales (-77,1%).

In January 2021, the main contributors to the 36,1% year-on-year decrease were:

- restaurants and coffee shops (-49,5%, contributing -27,0 percentage points); and
- catering services (-50,1%, contributing -6,4 percentage points).

Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant prices by type of income – January 2021

Type of income	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Food sales	-40,2	-37,7	-29,5	-25,1	-26,6	-32,7
Bar sales	-85,2	-60,4	-53,0	-49,5	-47,6	-77,1
Other income	-74,3	-25,6	-16,1	-27,1	-34,5	-41,2
Total	-44,1	-39,0	-30,9	-26,8	-28,1	-36,1

A full release on *Food and beverages* (Statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Tourist accommodation

Total income in tourist accommodation industry decreased by 72,9% in January 2021

The tourist accommodation industry recorded yet another decline in January 2021. Furthermore, between the three months covering the festive season (from November 2020 to January 2021), the sector recorded an income of R2,6-billion which is a decrease from the R6,9-billion recorded in the same period a year ago (between November 2019 and January 2020). Hotels took the hardest blow with some such as the Townhouse Hotel in Cape Town, announcing closing its doors at the end of March 2021. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the Tourist and accommodation release for January 2021.



The total income for the tourist accommodation industry decreased by 72,9% in January 2021 compared with January 2020 (**see Table K**).

Income from the accommodation sector decreased by 71,2% year-on-year in January 2021. This was the result of a 58,1% decrease in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 31,2% decrease in the average income per stay unit nights sold.

In January 2021, all accommodation types recorded large negative year-on-year growth in income. The largest year-on-year decreases in income from accommodation were reported by:

- hotels (-77,3%, contributing -50,5 percentage points); and
- 'other' accommodation (-61,5%, contributing -18,3 percentage points).

Income from accommodation decreased by 62,6% in the three months ending January 2021, compared with the three months ending January 2020. The main contributors to this decrease were:

- hotels (-67,3%, contributing -44,1 percentage points); and
- 'other' accommodation (-55,0%, contributing -16,2 percentage points).

Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for January 2021

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Stay units available	0,1	0,0	0,1	-0,2	-0,1	-0,2
Stay unit nights sold	-79,5	-65,9	-54,3	-53,4	-41,4	-58,1
Average income per stay unit nights sold	-14,3	-21,4	-26,6	-27,4	-17,8	-31,2
Income from accommodation	-82,5	-73,2	-66,4	-66,2	-51,8	-71,2
Total income ^{1/}	-80,6	-72,0	-66,3	-64,7	-57,9	-72,9

1/ Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income.

A full release on *Tourist accommodation* (Statistical release P6410) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Tourism and migration

A total of 520 510 travellers pass through South Africa's ports of entry/exit in January 2021

Travellers

With 121 countries imposing travel bans on South Africa, international travel remains subdued and the volume of arrivals and departures into and out of South Africa continues to decrease. However, SA Tourism, a South African national tourism agency responsible for marketing South Africa as a destination internationally and domestically, says domestic tourism has seen a recovery in overnight trips of 50% in 2020 compared with 2019. It added that "domestic air travel, however, is almost double that of regional and international air travel, indicating tourism's current reliance on domestic movement." In this regard, South Africans are urged to support domestic tourism as it is currently the country's main option for increasing tourism. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Tourism and migration statistics for January 2021.

The routine data collected by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) immigration officers at the ports of entry into and out of South Africa shows that a total of 520 510 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry/exit in January 2021 (**see Table L**). These travellers were made up of 189 721 South African residents and 330 789 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 106 216 arrivals, 83 456 departures and 49 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 195 861, 130 208 and 4 720, respectively.

A comparison between the movements in January 2020 and January 2021 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and travellers in transit decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 83,8% (from 656 050 in January 2020 to 106 216 in January 2021). Departures decreased by 80,6% (from 430 762 in January 2020 to 83 456 in January 2021) and transits decreased by 93,5% (from 759 in January 2020 to 49 in January 2021). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 87,7% (from 1 595 388 in January 2020 to 195 861 in January 2021), departures decreased by 89,1%



(from 1 193 534 in January 2020 to 130 208 in January 2021) and transits decreased by 91,3% (from 53 947 in January 2020 to 4 720 in January 2021).

A comparison between the movements in December 2020 and January 2021 indicates that the volume of arrivals, departures and travellers in transit decreased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 29,8% (from 151 362 in December 2020 to 106 216 in January 2021), departures decreased by 54,2% (from 182 144 in December 2020 to 83 456 in January 2021) and transits decreased by 32,9% (from 73 in December 2020 to 49 in January 2021). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 29,9% (from 279 539 in December 2020 to 195 861 in January 2021), departures decreased by 58,8% (from 315 824 in December 2020 to 130 208 in January 2021), and transits decreased by 23,2% (from 6 143 in December 2020 to 4 720 in January 2021).

In January 2021, 45 870 (23,4%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 149 991 (76,6%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in January 2021 but did not depart in January 2021 [90 340 (60,2%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in January 2021 and left in January 2021 [26 254 (17,5%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in January 2021 [33 397 (22,3%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In January 2021, there were 10 857 (7,2%) same-day visitors and 139 134 (92,8%) tourists. Between January 2020 and January 2021, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 97,3% (from 398 500 in January 2020 to 10 857 in January 2021) and that of tourists decreased by 87,3% (from 1 093 268 in January 2020 to 139 134 in January 2021).

Mode of travel of travellers

In January 2021, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 353 692 (68,0%) of the 520 510 travellers. The total number of travellers



who used air transport was 163 317 (31,4%). Compared to the use of air and land transport, a smaller number of travellers, 3 501 (0,7%) used sea transport. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 33 650 (31,7%) came by air, 72 513 (68,3%) came by road and 53 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport. For departures, 44 288 (53,1%) used air, 38 883 (46,6%) used road and 285 (0,3%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 49 (100,0%) used air transport.

Purpose of visit

In January 2021, the majority of tourists, 118 758 (85,4%), were in South Africa for holiday¹ compared to 16 631 (12,0%); 3 313 (2,4%) and 432 (0,3%) who were in South Africa for business, study and for medical treatment respectively.

¹ The holiday category includes tourists who came for vacation, visiting friends and relatives, shopping and other personal reasons.

Sex and age distribution

In January 2021, there were 99 265 (71,3%) male and 39 869 (28,7%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 8 144 (59,5%) male tourists and 5 543 (40,5%) female tourists. There were 88 763 (72,9%) male and 33 001 (27,1%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 2 213 (63,9%) male and 1 248 (36,1%) female tourists. The results further show that the majority of tourists were aged between 35 and 44 years [50 000 (35,9%)].



Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction: January 2021

Travel direction	January 2020	December 2020	January 2021	% change between December 2020 to January 2021	% change between January 2020 to January 2021
Total	3 930 440	935 085	520 510	-44,3%	-86,8%
South African residents	1 087 571	333 579	189 721	-43,1%	-82,6%
Arrivals	656 050	151 362	106 216	-29,8%	-83,8%
Departures	430 762	182 144	83 456	-54,2%	-80,6%
Transit	759	73	49	-32,9%	-93,5%
Foreign travellers	2 842 869	601 506	330 789	-45,0%	-88,4%
Arrivals	1 595 388	279 539	195 861	-29,9%	-87,7%
Departures	1 193 534	315 824	130 208	-58,8%	-89,1%
Transit	53 947	6 143	4 720	-23,2%	-91,3%
Foreign arrivals	1 595 388	279 539	195 861	-29,9%	-87,7%
Non-visitors	103 620	39 102	45 870	17,3%	-55,7%
Visitors	1 491 768	240 437	149 991	-37,6%	-89,9%
Visitors	1 491 768	240 437	149 991	-37,6%	-89,9%
Arrivals only	585 538	86 968	90 340	3,9%	-84,6%
Single trips	431 900	73 761	26 254	-64,4%	-93,9%
Multiple trips	474 330	79 708	33 397	-58,1%	-93,0%
Visitors	1 491 768	240 437	149 991	-37,6%	-89,9%
Same-day	398 500	42 378	10 857	-74,4%	-97,3%
Overnight (Tourists)	1 093 268	198 059	139 134	-29,8%	-87,3%

A full release on *Tourism and migration* (Statistical release P0351) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Statistics of civil cases for debt

Civil summonses for debt decreased by 24,1% in 2020

South Africans are facing financial stress due to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Old Mutual's Annual Savings and Investment Monitor report released in July 2020 there was an increase in all the main types of loans with 58% of households across South Africa facing high or overwhelming financial stress as a result of the pandemic. The report found over 50% are currently dipping into their savings just to make ends meet while 36% of consumers are reported to be just getting by. Roughly a third of all indebted consumers have explored or applied for payment holidays and / or other forms of debt relief and many received the relief they needed. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Statistics of civil cases for debt for the month of January 2021.

The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 10,7% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020 (**see Table M**). The largest contributors to the 10,7% decrease in civil summonses issued were:

- money lent (contributing -3,8 percentage points);
- services (contributing -2,9 percentage points); and
- 'other' debts (contributing -1,8 percentage points).

The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 26,6% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020.

The largest contributors to the 26,6% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing -8,5 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing -6,6 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing -3,5 percentage points)

The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 12,4% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020.



The largest contributors to the 12,4% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing -6,3 percentage points);
- promissory notes (contributing -4,0 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing -1,5 percentage points)

In January 2021, 8 139 civil judgements for debt amounting to R182,5 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- money lent (R49,7 million or 27,2%);
- services (R38,8 million or 21,3%); and
- 'other' debts (R35,8 million or 19,6%).

Table M – Key figures for civil summonses and judgements for January 2021

Actual estimates	January 2021	% change between January 2020 and January 2021	% change between November 2019 to January 2020 and November 2020 to January 2021
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	30 484	-14,5	-11,3
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	8 139	-36,5	-21,8
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	182,5	-27,8	-4,8

A full release on *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (Statistical release P0041) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies

Number of liquidations at 178 in February 2021

On 21 April 2020 President Cyril Ramaphosa announced that businesses will receive financial assistance to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 pandemic on them but some businesses struggled to stay afloat. In 2020 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) reported that a total number of companies liquidated was 1 164. Of those, 1 008 were voluntary liquidations (takes place when a company or close corporation, by own choice, resolves to wind-up its affairs) while 156 were compulsory liquidations (takes place when the affairs of a company or close corporation are wound up by order of the court). The most affected businesses were in financing, insurance, real estate, business services and trade, catering and accommodation industries.



Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies for February 2021.

The total number of liquidations increased by 8,5% in February 2021 compared with February 2020 (**see Table N**). Liquidations of companies increased by 10 cases and liquidations of close corporations increased by 4 cases during this period. The total number of liquidations increased by 7,1% in the three months ended February 2021 compared with the three months ended February 2020.

Table N – Total number of liquidations for February 2021

Number of liquidations February 2021	% change between February 2020 and February 2021	% change between December 2019 to February 2020 and December 2020 to February 2021	% change between January to February 2020 and January to February 2021
178	8,5	7,1	3,8

A full release on *Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies* (Statistical release P0043) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

The estimated number of insolvencies decreased by 6,7% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020 (**see Table O**). There was a year-on-year decrease of 40,2% in January 2021.

Table O – Total number of insolvencies for January 2021

Number of insolvencies January 2021	% change between January 2020 and January 2021	% change between November 2019 to January 2020 and November 2020 to January 2021
113	-40,2	-6,7

A full release on *Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies* (Statistical release P0043) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za



Land transport survey

Volume of goods transported in January 2021 decreases

The fourth industrial revolution has presented new opportunities for South Africa's transport industry. The Road Traffic Management Corporation (RTMC), the leading road safety agency in South Africa, has reinvented law enforcement by introducing body-worn cameras that will be used by traffic officers. These body-worn cameras will support officers in evidence gathering and improve conviction rate for violations of traffic laws. Additionally, RTMC will also be investing in drones to assist in identifying hazards on the roads and to identify motorists who are driving recklessly or driving over the speed limit. These initiatives will likely enhance safety on the roads which will lead to the safety of motorists, passengers and freight that is transported on South Africa's roads. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the Land transport survey for January 2021.

The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 10,8% in January 2021 compared with January 2020 (**see Table P**). The corresponding income decreased by 11,3% over the same period.

Income from freight transportation decreased by 5,2% in the three months ended January 2021 compared with the three months ended January 2020. The main negative contributors to this decrease were:

- manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products (-24,2%, contributing -2,9 percentage points);
- containers (-13,8%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point); and
- basic metals and fabricated metal products (-29,7%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point).



**Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation:
January 2021**

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Freight payload	-11,9	-6,0	-8,7	-4,9	4,2	-10,8
Freight income	-8,9	-5,8	-7,9	-3,9	-0,2	-11,3

A full release on the *Land transport survey* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website:
www.statssa.gov.za

The number of passenger journeys decreased by 44,8% in January 2021 compared with January 2020 (**see Table Q**). The corresponding income decreased by 36,3% over the same period.

Table Q – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation: January 2021

	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21
Passenger journeys	62,1	-54,0	-55,5	-48,4	-36,2	-44,8
Passenger income	-53,3	-45,5	-45,5	-37,5	-30,7	-36,3

A full release on the *Land transport survey* (Statistical release P7162) is available on the Stats SA website:
www.statssa.gov.za



Prices

Producer price index (PPI)

PPI at 4,0% in February 2021

The producer price index (PPI) rose to the highest level in February 2021. The PPI rose by 4,0% in February 2021 following a 3,5% increase in January 2021. The last time PPI recorded its highest was in February 2020 when it was at 4,5%. The main contribution for the increase in PPI for February 2021 came from food products, beverages and tobacco products, metals, machinery, equipment, computing equipment and transport equipment. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the producer price index (PPI) for February 2021.

Final manufactured goods – headline

Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 4,0% in February 2021, up from 3,5% in January 2021 (**Table R**). The producer price index increased by 0,7% month-on-month in February 2021.

The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rates were:

- Food products, beverages and tobacco products increased by 5,5% year-on-year and contributed 1,9 percentage points.
- Metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment increased by 5,1% year-on-year and contributed 0,7 of a percentage point.
- Transport equipment increased by 5,2% year-on-year and contributed 0,5 of a percentage point.

The main contributor to the headline PPI monthly increase was coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products which increased by 1,9% month-on-month and contributed 0,4 of a percentage point.

Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 9,9% in February 2021 (compared with 8,6% in January 2021). The index increased by 2,0% month-on-month.



The main contributors to the annual rate were basic and fabricated metals (6,5 percentage points) and chemicals, rubber and plastic products (3,0 percentage points).

The main contributors to the monthly rate were basic and fabricated metals (1,0 percentage point) and chemicals, rubber and plastic products (0,9 of a percentage point).

Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 9,2% in February 2021 (compared with 8,7% in January 2021). The index increased by 2,9% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 8,2 percentage points to the annual rate, and water contributed 1,0 percentage point. Electricity contributed 3,0 percentage points to the monthly rate.

Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was 11,5% in February 2021 (compared with 22,9% in January 2021). The index increased by 4,0% month-on-month.

The main contributors to the annual rate were gold and other metal ores (7,3 percentage points) and non-ferrous metal ores (5,3 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was non-ferrous metal ores (3,9 percentage points).

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 10,0% in February 2021 (compared with 11,3% in January 2021). The index decreased by 2,1% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (10,4 percentage points).

The main contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (-2,0 percentage points).



Table R – Key PPI figures for February 2021

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2020=100)			% change	
		Feb 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Feb 2021 vs Jan 2021	Feb 2021 vs Feb 2020
Final manufactured goods	100,00	97,6	100,8	101,5	0,7	4,0
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	95,0	102,4	104,4	2,0	9,9
Electricity and water	100,00	93,2	98,9	101,8	2,9	9,2
Mining	100,00	97,3	104,3	108,5	4,0	11,5
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	90,4	101,5	99,4	-2,1	10,0

A full release on the *Producer price index* (Statistical release P0142.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Consumer price index (CPI)

Headline CPI at 2,9% in February 2021

The headline inflation was 2,9% in February 2021, making it the third time in the past 12 months that the annual rate was below the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) inflation target range of 3 to 6%. The other two times that inflation was below the SARB's target range in the past 12 months was in May (2,1%) and June 2020 (2,2%). Interestingly, the monthly rate in February 2021 was 0,7% which is more than double the 0,3% month-on-month increase registered in January 2021. This is the highest recorded rate since July 2020 (1,3%). Thus, while the annual rate was one of the lowest in the past 12 months, the monthly rate was among the highest rates in the last 12 months. This is because not all products in the CPI basket are surveyed every month. Medical insurance (medical aid), for instance, is one of the products that is usually measured in February and April of each year, thus impacting on the monthly change in the CPI for those months. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the Consumer price index release for the month of February 2021.

Annual consumer price inflation was 2,9% in February 2021, down from 3,2% in January 2021 (**see Table S**). The consumer price index increased by 0,7% month-on-month in February 2021. The main contributors to the 2,9% annual inflation rate were:



- Food and non-alcoholic beverages (increased by 5,2% year-on-year, and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point to the total CPI annual rate of 2,9%).
- Housing and utilities (increased by 2,6% year-on-year, and contributed 0,6 of a percentage point).
- Miscellaneous goods and services (increased by 3,9% year-on-year, and contributed 0,6 of a percentage point).

The annual inflation rates for goods and for services were 3,1% and 2,7%, respectively.

Provincial annual inflation rates ranged from 2,7% in Gauteng and Mpumalanga to 3,3% in North West.



Table S – Consumer price index: Index numbers and year-on-year rates
Base year: Dec 2016 = 100

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave- rage ¹
Year	Index/rate													
2010	Index	69,3	69,8	70,3	70,4	70,6	70,6	71,1	71,1	71,1	71,3	71,4	71,5	70,7
	Rate	6,1	5,8	5,1	4,8	4,7	4,1	3,8	3,6	3,0	3,3	3,5	3,5	4,3
2011	Index	71,9	72,3	73,2	73,5	73,8	74,1	74,7	74,9	75,2	75,5	75,8	75,9	74,2
	Rate	3,8	3,6	4,1	4,4	4,5	5,0	5,1	5,3	5,8	5,9	6,2	6,2	5,0
2012	Index	76,3	76,7	77,6	77,9	77,9	78,2	78,4	78,6	79,3	79,8	80,0	80,2	78,4
	Rate	6,1	6,1	6,0	6,0	5,6	5,5	5,0	4,9	5,5	5,7	5,5	5,7	5,7
2013	Index	80,4	81,2	82,2	82,5	82,3	82,5	83,4	83,6	84,0	84,2	84,3	84,5	82,9
	Rate	5,4	5,9	5,9	5,9	5,6	5,5	6,4	6,4	5,9	5,5	5,4	5,4	5,7
2014	Index	85,1	86,0	87,2	87,6	87,7	88,0	88,7	89,0	89,0	89,2	89,2	89,0	88,0
	Rate	5,8	5,9	6,1	6,2	6,6	6,7	6,4	6,5	6,0	5,9	5,8	5,3	6,2
2015	Index	88,9	89,4	90,7	91,5	91,7	92,1	93,1	93,1	93,1	93,3	93,4	93,7	92,0
	Rate	4,5	4,0	4,0	4,5	4,6	4,7	5,0	4,6	4,6	4,6	4,7	5,3	4,5
2016	Index	94,4	95,7	96,4	97,2	97,4	97,9	98,7	98,6	98,8	99,3	99,6	100,0	97,8
	Rate	6,2	7,0	6,3	6,2	6,2	6,3	6,0	5,9	6,1	6,4	6,6	6,7	6,3
2017	Index	100,6	101,7	102,3	102,4	102,7	102,9	103,2	103,3	103,8	104,1	104,2	104,7	103,0
	Rate	6,6	6,3	6,1	5,3	5,4	5,1	4,6	4,8	5,1	4,8	4,6	4,7	5,3
2018	Index	105,0	105,8	106,2	107,0	107,2	107,6	108,5	108,4	108,9	109,4	109,6	109,4	107,8
	Rate	4,4	4,0	3,8	4,5	4,4	4,6	5,1	4,9	4,9	5,1	5,2	4,5	4,7
2019	Index	109,2	110,1	111,0	111,7	112,0	112,4	112,8	113,1	113,4	113,4	113,5	113,8	112,2
	Rate	4,0	4,1	4,5	4,4	4,5	4,5	4,0	4,3	4,1	3,7	3,6	4,0	4,1
2020	Index	114,1	115,2	115,6	115,0	114,3	114,9	116,4	116,6	116,8	117,1	117,1	117,3	115,9
	Rate	4,5	4,6	4,1	3,0	2,1	2,2	3,2	3,1	3,0	3,3	3,2	3,1	3,3
2021	Index	117,7	118,5											
	Rate	3,2	2,9											

A full release on the *Consumer price index* (Statistical release P0141) is available on the Stats SA website:
www.statssa.gov.za

¹ Annual average.



Glossary

Educational article

Discouraged work-seeker: A person who was not employed during the reference period, wanted to work, was available to work/start a business but did not take active steps to find work during the last four weeks, provided that the main reason given for not seeking work was any of the following: no jobs available in the area; unable to find work requiring his/her skills; lost hope of finding any kind of work.

Economic activities: Activities that contribute to the production of goods and services in the country. There are two types of economic activities, namely: (1) Market production activities (work done for others and usually associated with pay or profit); and (2) Non-market production activities (work done for the benefit of the household, e.g. subsistence farming).

Employed persons: Persons aged 15–64 years who, during the reference week, did any work for at least one hour, or had a job or business but were not at work (i.e. were temporarily absent).

Employment-to-population ratio (labour absorption rate): The proportion of the working-age population that is employed.

Informal employment: Identifies persons who are in precarious employment situations, irrespective of whether or not the entity for which they work is in the formal or informal sector. Persons in informal employment, therefore, comprise all persons in the informal sector, employees in the formal sector, and persons working in private households who are not entitled to or receive basic benefits such as pension or medical aid contributions from their employer, and who do not have a written contract of employment.

Informal sector: The informal sector has the following two components:

i) Employees working in establishments that employ fewer than five employees, who do not deduct income tax from their salaries/wages; and



ii) Employers, own-account workers and persons helping unpaid in their household business who are not registered for either income tax or value-added tax.

Labour force: Comprises all persons who are employed, plus all persons who are unemployed.

Labour force participation rate: This is the proportion of the working-age population that is either employed or unemployed.

Long-term unemployment: Persons in long-term unemployment are those individuals among the unemployed who were without work and trying to find a job or start a business for one year or more.

Not economically active: Persons aged 15–64 years who are neither employed nor unemployed in the reference week. Persons in underemployment (time-related) are employed persons who were willing and available to work additional hours, whose total number of hours actually worked during the reference period were below 35 hours per week.

Under-utilised labour: Comprises three groups that are defined as follows: persons who are underemployed, persons who are unemployed, and persons who are discouraged.

Unemployed persons (Official definition): Those (aged 15–64 years) who:

- a) Were not employed in the reference week; and
- b) Actively looked for work or tried to start a business in the four weeks preceding the survey interview; and
- c) Were available for work, i.e. would have been able to start work or a business in the reference week; or
- d) Had not actively looked for work in the past four weeks, but had a job or business to start at a definite date in the future and were available.

Unemployed persons (Expanded definition): Those (aged 15–64 years) who:

- a) Fall under official unemployment (searched and available); and
- b) Were available to work but are/or:
 - Discouraged work-seekers
 - Have other reasons for not searching



Unemployment rate: This is the proportion of the labour force that is unemployed.

The working-age population: Comprises all persons aged 15–64 years.

Primary industries

Gigawatt-hour (gWh): one gigawatt-hour of electricity is equal to one million kilowatt-hours. A kilowatt-hour is the basic unit of electrical energy equal to one kilowatt of power supplied to or taken from an electric circuit steadily for one hour. One kilowatt-hour equals one thousand watt-hours.

Index of physical volume of manufacturing production: also known as a production index, is a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a major group is the ratio between the volume of production of a major group in a given period and the volume of production of the same major group in the base period.

Index of physical volume of mining production: a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production. The production index of a mineral group is the ratio between the volume of production of a mineral group in a given period and the volume of production of the same mineral group in the base period.

Index of the physical volume of electricity production: a statistical measure of the change in the volume of production of electricity in a given period and the volume of production of electricity in the base period.

Industry: a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity.

PGMs – Platinum group metals: include platinum; iridium; osmiridium, palladium; rhodium; ruthenium and osmium.

Sales: total value of sales and transfers-out of goods mined by the mining establishments and the amounts received for installation, erection or assembly or other services.



Secondary industries

Additions and alterations: extensions to existing buildings as well as internal and external alterations of existing buildings.

Blocks of flats: a structure, usually multi-storey, consisting of a number of dwellings sharing the same residential address, and usually sharing a common entrance, foyer or staircase.

Dwelling houses: a free-standing, complete structure on a separate stand or a self-contained dwelling-unit, e.g. granny flat, on the same premises as existing residence. Out-buildings and garages are included.

Other residential buildings: include institutions for the disabled, boarding houses, old age homes, hostels, hotel, motels, guest houses, holiday chalets, bed and breakfast accommodation, entertainment centres and casinos.

Residential buildings: dwelling houses, flats, townhouses and other residential buildings.

Tertiary industries

Acknowledgements of debt: a statement by a person/debtor in which he admits that he owes money to an individual or a company or a bank.

Acting household head: any member of the household acting on behalf of the head of the household.

Average income per stay unit night sold: average rate per stay unit (i.e. rate per room in a hotel or powered site in a caravan park) is calculated by dividing the total income from accommodation by the number of stay unit nights sold in the survey period.

Catering services: enterprises involved in the sale and supply of meals and drinks prepared on the premises on a contract basis and brought to other premises chosen by the person ordering them, to be served for immediate consumption to guests or customers. Include bars, taverns, other drinking places, ice-cream parlours, etc.



Civil judgements: decisions taken in a civil matter or a dispute between two people or parties.

Civil summonses: notices to appear before the court of law where a dispute between two parties or people has to be heard, i.e. not for criminal offence.

Day trip: a trip outside of the respondent's usual environment, where they leave and return within the same day (i.e. do not stay overnight).

Domestic tourism: a trip within the boundaries of South Africa but outside of the respondent's usual environment.

Note: The following categories are excluded from the definition of domestic visitor:

- persons travelling to another place within the country with the intention of setting up their usual residence in that place.
- Persons who travel to another place within the country and are remunerated from within the place visited.
- Persons who travel regularly or frequently between neighbouring localities as defined by the 'usual environment' rule.

Dwelling unit: structure or part of a structure or group structures occupied or meant to be occupied by one or more than one household.

Enterprise: a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its sales activities.

Expenditure: the total consumption expenditure made by a visitor or on behalf of a visitor during his/her trip and stay at a destination.

Foreign traveller: a person who resides outside South Africa and visits the country temporarily.

Household: a group of persons who live together and provide themselves jointly with food and/or other essentials for living, or a single person who lives alone.

Household head: the main decision-maker, or the person who owns or rents the dwelling, or the person who is the main breadwinner.

Income from accommodation industry: income from amounts charged for rooms or equivalent. Other income is excluded (e.g. income from meals).



Income from bar sales: refers to income from liquor sales.

Income from food sales: refers to income from the sale of meals and non-alcoholic drinks.

Income from restaurant and bar sales: income from meals, banqueting and beverages and tobacco sales.

Insolvency: refers to an individual or partnership which is unable to pay its debt and is placed under final sequestration. The number of insolvencies does not refer to the number of persons involved, as a partnership which is unable to pay its debt is regarded as one insolvency, irrespective of the number of partners.

Liquidation: refers to the winding-up of the affairs of a company or close corporation when liabilities exceed assets and it can be resolved by voluntary action or by an order of the court.

Main purpose of trip: this is the purpose in the absence of which the trip would not have been made.

Microdata: data gathered on a small scale, such as data on an individual.

'Other' African countries: refers to all non SADC African countries.

Other income: includes all income not earned from food sales or bar sales.

Other SADC: refers to the thirteen countries, excluding South Africa, that belong to the Southern African Development Community.

Professional services: refer to medical doctors, dentists, advocates, attorney, auditors, accountants, architects, engineers, hospital services etc.

Promissory notes: written undertaking, signed by a person or party, to pay money to another person or to be the bearer of such a note on a specific date or on demand.

Restaurants and coffee shops: enterprises involved in the sale and provision of meals and drinks, ordered from a menu, prepared on the premises for immediate consumption and with provided seating.

Retailer: a retailer is an enterprise deriving more than 50% of its turnover from sales of goods to the general public for household use.



Retail trade: includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to the general public for household use.

Stay unit: unit accommodation available to be charged out to guests, for example, a powered site in a caravan park or a room in a hotel.

Stay unit night sold: total number of stay units occupied on each night during the survey period.

Takeaway and fast-food outlets: enterprises involved in the sale and provision of meals and drinks, ordered from a menu, prepared on the premises for takeaway purposes in a packaged format, at a stand or in a location, with or without provided seating.

Total income: includes income from food sales, income from bar sales and other income.

Tourism: comprises the activities of persons travelling to, and staying in places outside their usual environment, for not more than one consecutive year, for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited.

Tourist: a visitor who stays at least one night in the place visited.

Tourist accommodation: any facility that regularly (or occasionally) provides 'paid' or 'unpaid' overnight accommodation for tourists.

Traveller: any person on a trip between two or more countries or between two or more localities within his/her country of residence.

Voluntary liquidation: takes place when a company or close corporation, by own choice, resolves to wind-up its affairs.

Wholesale trade: Includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to other wholesalers, retailers, agricultural, industrial, commercial, institutional and professional users either directly or through agents on a fee or contract basis.



Prices

Annual percentage change: change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Consumer price index (CPI): an index that measures the price of a fixed basket of consumer goods and services.

Inflation rate: annual percentage change in the CPI for all items of the relevant month of the current year compared with the CPI for all items of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Monthly percentage change: change in the index of the relevant month compared to the index of the previous month expressed as a percentage.

Year-on-year: A term used frequently in investment research and other reports to mean 'compared with the same period in the previous fiscal year'.

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