

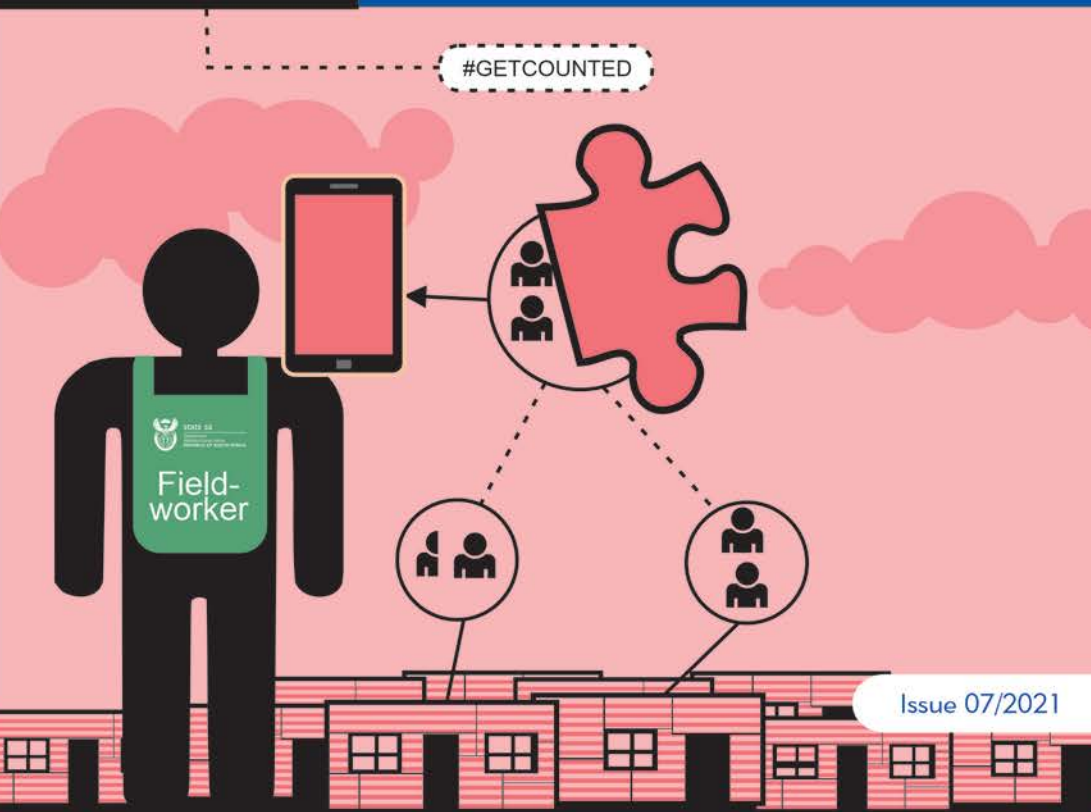
Mbalo Brief

the missing piece of the puzzle

August 2021

CENSUS 2021

#GETCOUNTED



Issue 07/2021

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



stats sa

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Editor's comment

The 12th of August marks International Youth Day, a day that was designated by the United Nations in 1999 after the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation by the 'World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth.' The day is celebrated every year to raise awareness about the cultural and legal issues surrounding the youth and to highlight the importance of young people as the driving force of change in the world. The theme for 2021, "Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health", highlights that the success of such a global effort will not be achieved without the meaningful participation of young people. This theme has been decided in consideration of the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has on human health, the environment, and food systems. International Youth Day is also another call on young people to become innovators and be involved in global development.

In this month's issue of *Mbalu Brief*, our educational article is based on *The Mid-year population estimates, 2021* (statistical release P0302), that was published by Stats SA on 19 July 2021. Also have a look at our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for the July 2021 puzzle.

Articles published in this issue are based on results of industry surveys conducted from May to June 2021, such as, Manufacturing, Wholesale trade sales and Liquidations and insolvencies, to name a few.

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

Enjoy the read.





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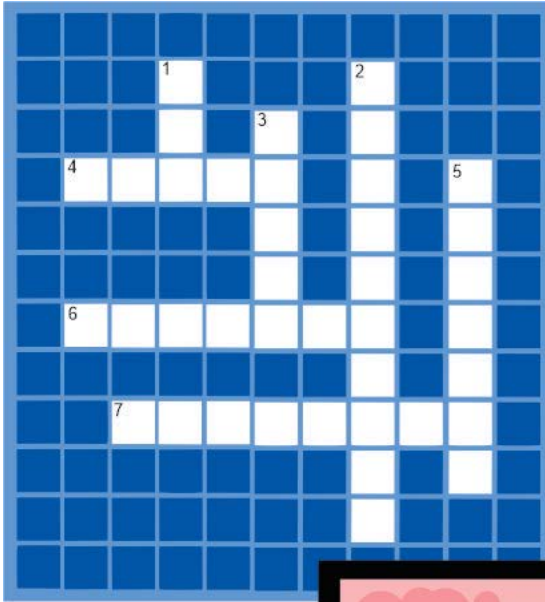
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Crossword puzzle





Across

4. Fill in the missing word. Which day is celebrated internationally every year on 12 August? International ... Day. Read the editors comment for clue.
6. Which province had the largest population in 2021?
7. Did the price of fuel increase or decrease in August 2021?

Down

1. True or false? According to the Mid-year population estimates, South Africa's population in June 2021 was 60,1 million.
2. What is the surname of the recently appointed Minister of Finance?
3. According to the Mid-year population estimates (statistical release P0302), which population group decreased in South Africa in 2021? Click here to read the release http://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=1854&PPN=P0302 or visit the Stats SA website.
5. In 2021, were there more males or females in South Africa?

Solutions for July 2021 puzzle

Across

4. False
5. Vatican City
6. Lithuania
7. Pacific Ocean

Down

1. Gauteng
2. North America
3. Pilot Census





Educational article on Mid-year Population estimates 2021

1. Introduction

Population estimation or projections are important for any country because they help organizations, governments, researchers and policy makers to plan and make decisions about the future of the country. Projections can help these organizations estimate the volume of basic human need such as food, water, sanitation, housing, power and transportations required by the population of a country. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Mid-year population estimates, 2021* (statistical release P0302) published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 19 July 2021. This article will focus on demographic assumptions, fertility, mortality, international migration, national as well as provincial population estimates.

2. Background

The mid-year population estimates produced by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) uses the cohort-component method for population estimation. In the cohort-component method, a base population is estimated that is consistent with known demographic characteristics of the country. The cohort base population is projected into the future according to the projected components of change. Selected levels of fertility, mortality and migration are used as input to the cohort-component method. For the 2021 mid-year estimates, the cohort-component method is utilised within the Spectrum Policy Modelling system. Spectrum is a Windows-based system of integrated policy models (version 6,08). The DemProj (Demographic Projection) module within Spectrum is used to develop the demographic projection, whilst the AIDS Impact Model (AIM) is used to incorporate the impact of HIV and AIDS on fertility and mortality, and ultimately the population estimates. Within the DemProj, a COVID-19 editor allows for the inclusion of COVID-19 related deaths by age and sex to be incorporated into the model. Spectrum requires annual estimates regarding births, deaths, and migration, among other indicators. The population estimates produced aim to take into account the impact of COVID-19 on births, deaths and migration. The impact of COVID-19 on demographic processes is discussed in detail throughout the report.

Stats SA subscribes to the specifications of the Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This standard





dictates that the MYPE release should be disseminated within one month of the mid-year. The mid-year estimates are an estimate of the population as at 30 June in a given year. The estimates of stock such as population size, number infected with HIV etc. pertain to the middle of the year i.e. 30 June, whilst the estimates of flow e.g. births, deaths, Total Fertility Rates (TFRs), Infant Mortality Rates (IMRs) etc. are for a 12-month period e.g. 1st July 2020 to 30th June 2021. A stock variable is measured at a given time, and represents a quantity at each moment in time – e.g. the number of people within the population at a certain moment whilst an estimate of flow is typically measured over a certain interval of time. The mid-year population estimates are published annually. It would be misleading to compare values and rankings with those of previously published reports, due to revisions and updates of the underlying data and adjustments. Users are advised to use the complete series, published along with this report on the Stats SA website.

3. Fertility

The impact of COVID-19 on conception and subsequently the expected births in 2021 is anticipated to decline given the escalation in economic uncertainty. Literature has shown that in times of economic downturn people become more risk averse (Adsera, 2011; Goldstein et al, 2013; Matysiak et al, 2021; Vignoli et al, 2019). Matysiak et al (2021) indicate that among the economic indicators influencing fertility, unemployment and the deterioration of the labour market is shown to be associated more so with negative fertility dynamics. In South Africa the unemployment rate increased by 1,7% in the fourth quarter of 2020 (32,5%) when compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 (29,1%) (pre COVID-19) (Stats SA, 2021(a)). Orsal and Goldstein (2010) in their study of 22 developed countries, found a negative impact on immediate fertility with higher unemployment among men and women. These effects may be temporal resulting in postponement of birth and having greater influence on first births.

Given the array of possible and plausible outcomes for fertility in South Africa given the impact of COVID-19, the MYPE team has chosen to opt to assume a constant decline in births over time (post - 2009) (Aassve et al.; 2020). Empirical data to the actual effect will only be reflected in the recorded live birth occurrences and registration of 2021 and beyond (9 months after the pandemic). For this reason, current assumptions of national and provincial fertility are based on trends seen in published births data currently available at national and provincial level (Stats SA, 2015; Stats SA,



2020a). The estimates of fertility show a fluctuation over the period 2009–2021, giving rise to a population structure indicative of that of the Census 2011 population structure. Between 2009 and 2021, fertility declined from an average of 2,62 children per woman to 2,31 children in 2021. Other inputs required in DemProj include the age-specific fertility rate (ASFR) trend and sex ratios at birth.

4. Mortality

The ultimate purpose of the mid-year population estimates, which is to assist with policy making and planning based on the population structure and profile, cannot be addressed without taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic that has greatly affected the nation over the past 16 months.

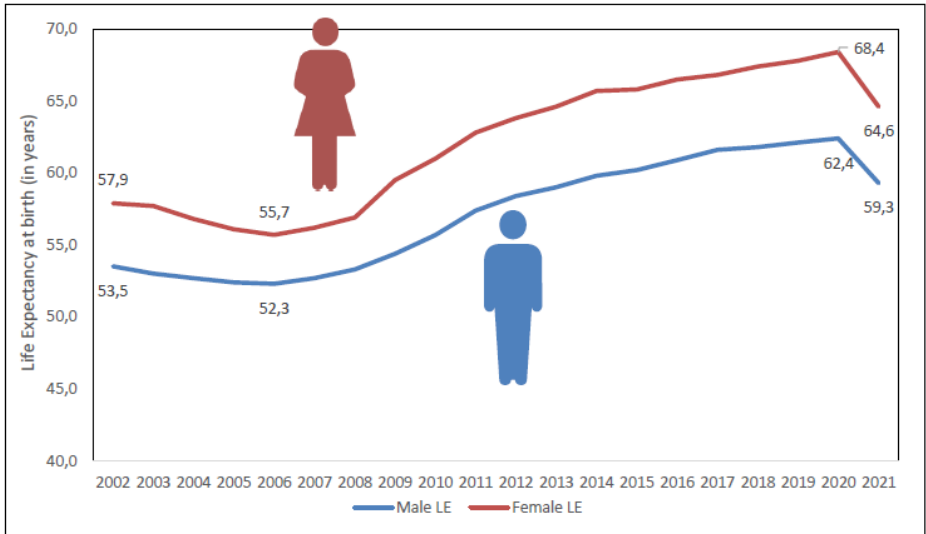
The Medical Research Council (MRC) estimates the mortality impact of COVID-19 to be three-fold what was reported by NDoH for the 4-month period March 2020 to June 2020 (Dorrington et al., 2021; NDoH, 2020; Moultrie, 2021). Using all-cause deaths reported in the death registration system of South Africa (adjusting for late registration and incompleteness), the MRC developed estimates of excess deaths experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic (Dorrington et al., 2021). Excess deaths refer to the number of deaths observed during the pandemic above a baseline of recent trend (Dorrington et al., 2021; NDoH, 2020).

Despite the rise in excess deaths since the start of the pandemic to 30th June 2020, these numbers were marginal in comparison to all-cause annual deaths for the period 1 July 2019 to 30th June 2020 (based on published Stats SA, 2020b). The indicators produced as well as the input data required in the MYPE are annual figures i.e. 1st July 2019–30th June 2020. As such the demographic impact of direct and indirect COVID-19 deaths on population estimates for the year 2020, were marginal. In contrast, between 1st July 2020 and 30th June 2021, two waves of the pandemic swept across the country (Bradshaw et al., 2021) and by the 11th June 2021, NICD was reporting that the country had technically entered a 3rd wave. South Africa, as with many other countries, experienced the mutation of the COVID-19 virus (beta), which resulted in a higher level of COVID-19 infections and consequently higher COVID-19 mortality in the population (NICD, 2021). The first two waves of the pandemic in South Africa and subsequently the current third wave of the pandemic have proved the health care system in South Africa to be ill prepared to deal with the burden of high COVID-19 infection and morbidity. The second wave of the epidemic (which was larger than the



first) overwhelmed hospitals and medical staff (NICD, 2021; Dorrington et al., 2021). These waves resulted in significantly higher proportions of deaths in the country.

Figure 1: Life expectancy by sex over time, 2002–2021



Life expectancy at birth declined between 2002 and 2006, largely due to the impact of the HIV and AIDS epidemic experienced. However, expansion of health programmes to prevent mother-to-child transmission as well as access to antiretroviral treatment has partly led to the increase in life expectancy since 2007.

By 2021, life expectancy at birth is estimated at 59,3 years for males and 64,6 years for females, which is a drop from 2020 where life expectancy at birth was 62,4 years and 68,4 years for males and females respectively. This is attributable to the increase in deaths from COVID-19.

The infant mortality rate (IMR) has declined from an estimated 55,3 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in 2002 to 24,1 infant deaths per 1 000 live births in 2021. Similarly, the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) declined from 74,9 child deaths per 1 000 live births to 30,8 child deaths per 1 000 live births between 2002 and 2021. Infants admitted to hospitals for COVID19 related illness experienced a case fatality rate of 6,6% whilst those aged one to four admitted, experienced a case fatality rate of 3,0%. (NICD, 2021 (b)). The



children sparing patterns (most children were immune to COVID-19) of COVID-19, has thus far made no impact on child mortality levels in the country (NICD, 2021 (b); Kang & Jung, 2020).

5. International migration

Between 11 March 2020, when the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and 22 February 2021, nearly 105 000 movement restrictions were implemented around the world (IOM, 2021). COVID-19 restrictions and protocols, combined with increased logistical burdens around travel, limited the movement of people across international borders. Migration to OECD member countries are estimated to have fallen by an unprecedented 46% in the first half of 2020 (OECD, 2020). These estimates are informed by the number of new immigration permits issued, which only partly represents migration flow (OECD, 2020). Furthermore, illegal migration constitutes a significant proportion of migration, often missed in official estimates, and this varies from country to country (IOM, 2019). Given the far-reaching impact of an infectious disease such as COVID-19 on travel and movement, it is only rational to expect migration to decline globally. However, the pace and level of that decline over time is somewhat more difficult to predict. Over time, travel restrictions have been amended and protocols revised, to facilitate mobility and migration.

Similar to other countries around the globe, South Africa, under the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002) called for the closure of South African international borders (during lockdown level 5). This was enacted on 26 March 2020 for a period of 21 days, and further extended by two more weeks. A significant proportion of the South African international migration outside of Africa are facilitated by air travel, primarily to countries such as the USA, Canada, European countries, Australia, and New Zealand, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, China. This was impacted by limits on air travel (Census 2011, CS 2016). Although international borders were closed, evacuation of non-citizens back to their countries of origin as well as repatriation of citizens returning to South Africa was allowed. Given the aforementioned developments, MYPE 2021 series assumes a decline in international migration for the period April, May and June 2020.

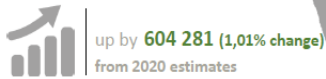


6. Demographic and other indicators

The crude birth rate (CBR) increased between 2003 and 2008, thereafter it follows a general pattern of decline between 2009 and 2021. The CBR is directly related to the rise and fall of TFR assumptions over time. The crude death rate (CDR) declined from 12,9 deaths per 1 000 people in 2002 to 8,7 deaths per 1 000 people in 2020. However, it is clear from the increase in CDR from 8,8 deaths per 1 000 population in 2020 to 11,5 deaths per 1 000 population in 2021, that it is influenced by COVID-19 mortality rates in the country within just one year. Due to the AIDS epidemic experience, the crude death rate in South Africa did increase between 2002 and 2006 thereafter declining as access to HIV treatment and care became available. The rate of natural increase (RNI) fluctuates over time, mirroring the CBR in the period 2002 to 2021, indicating the great influence of births relative to deaths over the 10-year period. However with declining fertility and a dramatic increase (34%) in deaths due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021, the rate of natural increase in South Africa dropped from 1,1% in 2020 to 0,8% in 2021.

7. National population estimates

The **South African** population in 2021 is estimated at



GP	KZN	WC	EC	LP	MP	NW	FS	NC
26,3%	19,1%	11,8%	11,1%	9,9%	7,9%	6,9%	4,9%	-2,2%

The South African mid-year population is estimated at 60,14 million in 2021.



Approximately 51,1% (30,8 million) of the population is female.

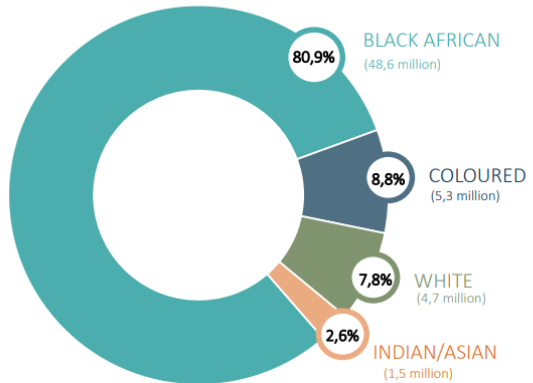
South Africa's population by gender, mid-2021



Approximately 51,1% (approximately 30,8 million) of the population is female while 48,9% (29, 4 million) is male.

The black African population constitutes approximately 81% of the total SA population

SA by population group, 2021



The black African population is in the majority (48,6 million) and constitutes approximately 81% of the total South African population. The white population is estimated at 4,7 million, the coloured population at 5,3 million





and the Indian/Asian population at 1,5 million. Fifty-one per cent (30,8 million) of the population is female.

The impact of the COVID-19 related deaths is evident in the change in the population structure over the years 2020–2021 specifically in the elderly 60+ years aged. With the exception of the youth 15–24, all population age categories reflected a decline in the rate of growth between 2020 and 2021, compared to the previous period. Population growth rates between 2002 and 2021 reflect changes in fertility, mortality and migration that occurred over decades. Due to achievements in health and wellbeing, population growth rates prior to the COVID-19 pandemic for youth aged 15–24 and adults 60+ were on the incline. The estimated annual population growth rate increased from approximately 1,0% for the period 2002–2003 to 1,4% for the period 2019–2020. However, in the period, 2020–2021 the overall growth rate declined to 1,0%, which is directly related to the drastic increase in deaths and decline in migration.

The proportion of the elderly in South Africa was on the increase with the growth rate among elderly (60 years and older) rising from 1,1% for the period 2002–2003 to 2,9% for the period 2019–2020. However, given the high mortality levels among the elderly during the COVID-19 pandemic, the growth rate among the elderly aged 60 and above drastically declined from 2,9% for the period 2019–2020 to 1,5% for the period 2020–2021. The social and economic effect of losing so many elderly people to the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to be felt in many years to come. Though not as drastic, the age group 25–59 also saw a decline in the rate of growth for the period 2020–2021. All three aspects of demography, i.e. declining fertility, declining international migration as well as a significant rise in deaths, significantly influenced the decline in the rate of growth for South Africa as a whole. The shifts in the demographic age and sex profile of South Africa due to the COVID-19 pandemic must be taken into consideration when planning for the future health, economics and welfare.

About 28,3% of the population is aged 0–14 years and approximately 9,2% is 60 years and older.

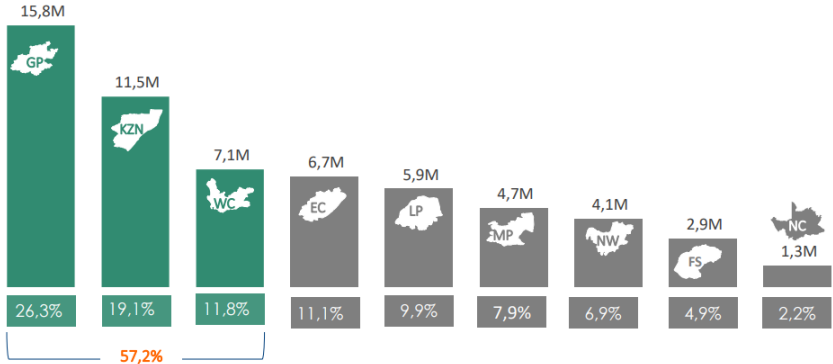


8. Provincial population estimates

More than half of the population live in 3 provinces (GP, KZN and WC)

GP remains SA's most populated province with approximately 15,8 million people (26,3%) living in this province.

Mid-year population estimates for South Africa by province, 2021



The provincial estimates show that Gauteng has the largest share of the population (26,3%), followed by KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape and Eastern Cape. Inter-provincial as well as international migration patterns significantly influence the provincial population numbers and structures in South Africa. In 2021, approximately 11,8% of South Africa's population live in Western Cape. Northern Cape has the smallest share of the population (2,2%). Free State has the second smallest share of the South African population, constituting 4,9% of the population. Limpopo and Eastern Cape (34,0% and 32,7% respectively) have the highest proportions of persons younger than 15 years. The highest proportions of elderly persons aged 60 years and above are found in Eastern Cape (11,5%), Western Cape (10,4%) and Northern Cape (10,1%).

9. Conclusion

For 2021, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) estimates the mid-year population at 60,14 million. Approximately 51,1% (approximately 30,75 million) of the population is female. As the spread of the disease occurred over time, there was a rise in the number of direct and indirect deaths in the population due to COVID-19. There is a reduction in international migration, which is indicative of the COVID-19 travel restrictions and subsequent impact on migratory patterns since March 2020.



Gauteng still comprises the largest share of the South African population, with approximately 15,81 million people (26,3%) living in this province. KwaZulu-Natal is the province with the second largest population, with an estimated 11,5 million people (19,1%) living in this province. With a population of approximately 1,30 million people (2,2%), Northern Cape remains the province with the smallest share of the South African population. About 28,3% of the population is aged younger than 15 years (17,04 million) and approximately 9,2% (5,51 million) is 60 years or older. Of those younger than 15 years of age, the majority reside in Gauteng (21,8%) and KwaZulu-Natal (21,2%).



Primary industries

Mining: production and sales

Mining production increased by 21,9% in May 2021

South Africa's Petra Diamond mine in Cullinan is one of the prolific diamond producers in the world. The mine has discovered 342,92 carat Type IIa white diamond, which is the third gem discovered in 2021. In January 2021 a 299,3 carat Type IIa white diamond was discovered and sold for US\$12,18 million in March 2021, and in April 2021 a 39,34 carat Type IIb blue diamond was discovered and sold for US\$40,2 million in July 2021. According to the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) which grades diamonds, Type IIa diamonds are usually colourless but can also be gray, light brown, light yellow or light pink and are chemically the most pure. Diamonds are used in jewellery, engraving of granite and electronic equipment, among others. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Mining: Production and sales* release (Statistical release P2041) for May 2021.

Mining production increased by 21,9% year-on-year in May 2021 (see **Table A**). The largest positive contributors were:

- PGMs (27,0%, contributing 6,1 percentage points);
- gold (44,5%, contributing 4,8 percentage points);
- iron ore (48,4%, contributing 4,0 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (39,7%, contributing 3,2 percentage points).

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

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-8,3	-1,9	22,4	117,4	21,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	3,8	1,4	4,5	0,2	-3,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-4,2	-1,6	3,5	6,3	5,6

^{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

Mineral sales at current prices increased by 88,2% year-on-year in May 2021 (see **Table B**). The largest positive contributors were:

- PGMs (258,2%, contributing 68,7 percentage points);



- iron ore (116,0%, contributing 16,3 percentage points); and
- coal (12,5%, contributing 3,1 percentage points).

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

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	24,9	26,0	50,1	151,1	88,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	30,6	-9,3	17,0	2,6	-3,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	5,7	7,8	22,4	18,5	20,0

^{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 35,3% in May 2021

As the developed countries speed up their vaccination drive to vaccinate their citizens against COVID-19, vaccination campaigns in Africa face significant delay due to vaccine supply shortage. To fast track the vaccination supply, the World Health Organization (WHO) and its COVAX partners are working with a South African consortium comprising Biovac, Afrigen Biologics and Vaccines, a network of universities and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to establish its first COVID-19 Messenger Ribonucleic Acid (mRNA) vaccine technology transfer hub in South Africa. The hub stems from a call made by the WHO in April for Expressions of Interest (EOI) to establish COVID-19 mRNA vaccine technology transfer hubs to increase production and access to COVID-19 vaccines. According to WHO, Africa could start manufacturing its own cutting-edge COVID-19 vaccines within a year via an mRNA technology transfer hub. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Manufacturing: Production and Sales* (statistical release P3041.2) for May 2021.

Manufacturing production increased by 35,3% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (**see Table C**). The largest contributions were made by the following divisions:

- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (215,7%, contributing 8,9 percentage points);
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (42,0%, contributing 8,0 percentage points);
- food and beverages (21,5%, contributing 7,4 percentage points); and
- wood and wood products, paper, publishing and printing (40,0%, contributing 4,0 percentage points).



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

	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,4	-4,3	-2,5	5,3	88,1	35,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,7	-0,2	-1,3	3,7	-1,2	-2,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	5,4	2,2	0,3	0,3	0,8	1,0

^{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

The value of recorded building plans passed increased by 62,9% during January to May 2021

Every year, millions of people migrate towards urban centres to seek new opportunities to improve their lives. While seeking new opportunities, people need a place to live close to their workplace. *Pancakes and Pyramids: City Form to Promote Sustainable Growth* report released by World Bank on 2 June 2021 advises cities to create more space per inhabitant by building up instead of out, to accommodate more people in cities as urban populations grow. According to the report, pyramid-shaped cities are generally more liveable allowing inhabitants to enjoy more floor space in a dense environment. Building up could help reduce crowding, discourage long commutes, draw more people to public transit and drive down greenhouse gas emissions. The report states that around 55% of the world population lives in urban areas and by 2050 this number is projected to surpass two-thirds of the global population. The report further emphasises that most of the new urbanisation is expected in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Presented in this article is a summary of the results of the *Selected building statistics of the private sector as reported by local government institutions* (statistical release P5041.1).



The value of recorded building plans passed (at current prices) increased by 62,9% (R17 043,2 million) during January to May 2021 compared with January to May 2020 (**see Table D**). Increases were recorded for:

- residential buildings (80,4% or R10 704,9 million);
- additions and alterations (48,4% or R3 658,7 million); and
- non-residential buildings (42,9% or R2 679,5 million).

The largest contributions to the total increase of 62,9% (R17 043,2 million) were made by:

- Gauteng (contributing 23,3 percentage points or R6 324,7 million);
- KwaZulu-Natal (contributing 14,3 percentage points or R3 877,2 million);
- Western Cape (contributing 8,7 percentage points or R2 366,9 million);
- Eastern Cape (contributing 6,9 percentage points or R1 860,8 million); and
- North West (contributing 5,4 percentage points or R1 466,7 million).

The value of buildings reported as completed (at current prices) increased by 19,3% (R3 352,4 million) during January to May 2021 compared with January to May 2020. Increases were recorded for residential buildings (61,9% or R4 539,7 million) and additions and alterations (25,7% or R912,3 million). A decrease was recorded for non-residential buildings (-32,3% or -R2 099,6 million).



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

Estimates at current prices	January to April 2020	January to April 2021	Difference in value between January to April 2020 and January to April 2021	% change between January to April 2020 and January to April 2021
	1/	1/	R'000	
Residential buildings	13 308 538	24 013 436	10 704 898	80,4
- Dwelling houses	7 406 968	13 866 782	6 459 814	87,2
- Flats and townhouses	5 768 297	9 893 257	4 124 960	71,5
- Other residential buildings	133 273	253 397	120 124	90,1
Non-residential buildings	6 250 230	8 929 750	2 679 520	42,9
Additions and alterations	7 554 543	11 213 287	3 658 744	48,4
Total	27 113 311	44 156 473	17 043 162	62,9

^{1/} 2020 and 2021 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 generation increases by 12,1% in May 2021

Global electricity consumption declined by 1,1% in 2020, its first decrease since 2009. According to Enerdata, an independent research and consulting firm specialising in the analysis and modelling of the global energy markets, COVID-19 had an impact on electricity demand especially on the industrial and commercial demand of some countries. According to Enerdata, electricity consumption declined in countries such as the United States of America (from 3996 terrawatt-hour (TWh) in 2019 to 3842 TWh in 2020), the United Kingdom (from 302 TWh in 2019 to 286 TWh in 2020) and Russia (from 930 TWh in 2019 to 906 TWh in 2020). In African countries, electricity consumption decreased mainly in South Africa (from 219 TWh in 2019 to



208 TWh in 2020) and Algeria (from 71 TWh in 2019 to 67 TWh in 2020). China is the only country where electricity consumption increased from 3996 TWh in 2019 to 6752 TWh in 2020. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Electricity: generated and available for distribution* (statistical release P4141) for the month of May 2021.

Electricity generation (production) increased by 12,1% year-on-year in May 2021 (see **Table E**).

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

	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	1,1	-3,2	-4,3	1,8	25,6	12,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,4	-2,5	2,2	0,4	1,0	0,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	0,7	-0,1	-0,1	-0,5	1,2	1,9

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

Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 12,3% year-on-year in May 2021 (see **Table F**).

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

	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	1,7	-2,4	-3,8	3,0	25,7	12,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,8	-2,3	1,3	0,6	0,4	0,8
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	0,4	-0,2	-0,1	-0,6	0,5	1,2

^{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 increased by 45,6% in May 2021

For years South Africa has been experiencing the rise of illegal wholesale fuel traders and unlicensed depots that threaten the sustainability of the petroleum industry. Some of the illegal wholesale fuel traders and unlicensed depots are engaged in huge fuel discounts, diesel adulteration (mixing diesel with paraffin making it poor in quality), non-disclosure of fuel storage facilities and sale of inferior quality of petrol and diesel among others. The illegal wholesalers and unlicensed depots prompted the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy (DMRE) to establish a Public Petroleum Product Act Compliance Enforcement Forum on 17 March 2021, to curb illegal fuel sale and non-compliance. The Public Petroleum Product Act Compliance Enforcement Forum comprises of wholesalers, retail associations, South African Police Services (SAPS) and South African Revenue Services (SARS). The public as consumers, are encouraged to report any petroleum operator suspected of illegal fuel sales and non-compliance to DMRE's Regional inspectors. Wholesalers who are found to be breaking the law will be fined R1 million or 10 years imprisonment or both. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Wholesale trade sales* release (Statistical release P6141.2).

Wholesale trade sales increased by 45,6% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (**see Table G**). The main contributors were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (103,4%, contributing 16,8 percentage points);
- construction and building materials (115,9%, contributing 4,8 percentage points);
- agricultural raw materials and livestock (48,7%, contributing 4,7 percentage points); and
- machinery, equipment and supplies (24,6%, contributing 3,4 percentage points).

Wholesale trade sales increased by 40,6% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020. The main contributors were dealers in:



- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (71,9%, contributing 13,2 percentage points);
- construction and building materials (126,2%, contributing 4,7 percentage points);
- 'other' household goods except precious stones (32,1%, contributing 4,5 percentage points); and
- food, beverages and tobacco (18,2%, contributing 3,3 percentage points).

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

	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	2,5	-4,9	0,0	12,3	85,2	45,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	3,5	1,0	2,3	3,3	0,0	5,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	0,6	1,6	4,0	5,6	6,3	7,0

^{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 increased by 15,8% in May 2021

Whether a consumer is doing shopping for food items or clothes, did you notice how consumers pay different prices for the same item from one retailer to another? Some of the reasons for varying of prices are the retailers considering the cost of stock, its quality, the marketing involved to sell the item and overhead costs. Some retailers sign different deals or agreements with producers of goods and get discounts when buying in bulk, leading to lowered sale prices. Therefore it is advisable that in order to get good deals, consumers shop around to compare prices before shopping. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Retail trade sales* (statistical release P6242.1) for the month of May 2021.

Retail trade sales increased by 15,8% year-on-year in May 2021 (see **Table H**). The largest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- all 'other' retailers (87,7%);



- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (54,2%); and
- retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment (52,3%).

The main contributors to this increase were:

- all 'other' retailers (contributing 5,2 percentage points);
- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco products in specialised stores (contributing 3,1 percentage points);
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (contributing 2,4 percentage points); and
- retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment (contributing 2,0 percentage points).

Retail trade sales increased by 24,3% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020. The main contributors to this increase were:

- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (68,7, contributing 9,3 percentage points); and
- all 'other' retailers (61,5%, contributing 4,7 percentage points).

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

	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,2	-3,7	2,2	-2,3	95,7	15,8
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,1	-2,4	7,6	-4,4	-0,6	2,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	2,9	0,9	1,7	1,5	2,5	-0,1

^{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 increase by 102,1% in May 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed how some car dealers conduct business. More car manufacturers and dealers have started selling cars



online partly due to the fact that during stricter lockdown regulations, showrooms were closed. In this recent trend, prospective buyers view cars online and once they have made their purchase, they can either have the car delivered or collect it. According to WeBuyCars founder, Faan van der Walt, the company had fewer onsite customers while the numbers of those who browse cars online doubled. He also stated that "...the number of cars sold exclusively online, without people viewing the car personally, has grown close to 38%." Since this means customers do not get to test drive the car to check if everything is in order, there are return policies that they can follow should they not be happy with the car. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Motor trade sales* (statistical release P6343.2) for May 2021.

Motor trade sales increased by 102,1% year-on-year in May 2021 (**see Table I**). All six types of activity showed year-on-year increases in May 2021. The main contributors were:

- new vehicle sales (158,6% and contributing 31,5 percentage points);
- fuel sales (90,3% and contributing 26,6 percentage points); and
- used vehicle sales (152,9% and contributing 23,8 percentage points).

Motor trade sales increased by 104,5% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020. The main contributors to this increase were:

- new vehicle sales (156,4% and contributing 32,1 percentage points);
- used vehicle sales (164,3% and contributing 25,0 percentage points); and
- fuel sales (67,7% and contributing 22,5 percentage points).

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

	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,0	-10,1	-4,4	25,6	530,7	102,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,4	-1,8	3,6	3,1	1,6	2,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	3,3	1,0	0,9	2,5	5,1	6,7

^{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 income increased by 573,3% in May 2021

Food canning is important to the food industry. Canning is a safe method of food preservation, to inactivate enzymes that could cause food to spoil and to extend the shelf life of the product. Once the canning method is faulty, food products are recalled. This is the reason Tiger Brands is recalling certain Koo and Hugo's canned vegetable products produced from 01 May 2019 to 5 May 2021 as defective cans were used in some of its products. According to Tiger Brands, the cans may have a defective side seam weld that could cause the can to leak. Canned vegetable products forming part of the recall can be identified by looking at the manufacturing date code stamped on the bottom or top of the can. If it happens that consumers have products which are part of the recall, they are advised to return the canned products to the nearest wholesale outlets for a refund. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) for the month of May 2021.

Total income generated by the food and beverages industry increased by 573,3% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (**see Table J**). The largest positive annual growth rate was recorded for food sales (562,5%).

Total income increased by 166,7% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020. The main positive contributors to this increase were:

- restaurants and coffee shops (205,1%, contributing 90,2 percentage points); and
- takeaway and fast-food outlets (213,6%, contributing 71,6 percentage points).



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

Type of income	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Food sales	-26,6	-34,2	-24,7	5,9	1 996,1	562,5
Bar sales	-47,6	-80,5	-49,0	-9,1	1/	1/
Other income	-34,5	-40,5	-27,2	-10,7	183,2	111,3
Total	-28,1	-37,6	-26,5	4,7	1 912,3	573,3

1/ Changes from zero in the preceding period cannot be calculated as a percentage. A full release on *Food and beverages* (Statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

Tourist accommodation

Income in the tourist accommodation industry increases by 2 027,7% in May 2021

The travel restrictions prohibiting interprovincial travel for leisure during the recent level 4 lockdown regulation, left some tourist accommodation facilities with more empty beds than usual. July is usually a bustling time for coastal provinces because it is during winter school holidays when many travellers from Gauteng make their way to provinces like KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) to escape from the chilling Gauteng weather. According to Brett Tungay from the Federated Hospitality Association of Southern Africa (Fedhasa) in KZN "Members had been reporting quite pleasant figures in April this year. Just when they were working on that, the level 4 (lockdown) hit when the travel ban was reintroduced where our members reported between 0–5% occupancy." Many organisations in the tourism industry are hoping for the best as the industry has already experienced a number of setbacks such as job losses and reduced salaries. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Tourist accommodation* release (statistical release P6410) for May 2021.



Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 2 027,7% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (**see Table K**). This large increase, however, is mainly due to the low comparison base due to strict lockdowns in May 2020 compared to May this year.

Income from accommodation increased by 2 383,1% year-on-year in May 2021, the result of a 2 098,5% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 13,0% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold. In May 2021, all accommodation types recorded large positive year-on-year growth in income from accommodation. The largest year-on-year increases in income from accommodation were reported by caravan parks and camping sites (15 200,0% in May 2021 compared with May 2020) and guest-houses and guest-farms (10 975,0% in May 2021 compared with May 2020).

The main contributors to the year-on-year increase in income from accommodation in May 2021 were hotels and 'other' accommodation. Income from accommodation increased by 94,6% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020. The largest contributors to this increase were:

- hotels (78,9% and contributing 51,8 percentage points); and
- 'other' accommodation (117,2% and contributing 34,6 percentage points).

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

	Dec-20	Jan-20	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Stay units available	-0,1	-0,2	-0,2	-0,2	0,0	0,1
Stay unit nights sold	-41,4	-58,6	-60,2	-17,1	2 047,6	2 098,5
Average income per stay unit nights sold	-17,8	-30,4	-35,0	-22,8	17,7	13,0
Income from accommodation	-51,8	-71,2	-74,1	-36,0	2 427,3	2 383,1
Total income ^{1/}	-57,9	-72,8	-72,6	-45,4	3 242,0	2 027,7

^{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

735 165 travellers cross SA's borders in May 2021

The latest Henley Passport Index, released on 8 July 2021, indicates that the South African passport now ranks 57th in the world. The Henley Passport Index is the original, authoritative ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa. As of July 2021, South African passport holders are able to access 102 destinations without obtaining a prior visa. The results of the latest index also mean that the power of the South African passport dropped six places since 2019 when it was ranked 51st in the world. This is also the lowest ranking that the country has received since the inception of the Henley Passport Index in 2006. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Tourism and migration* release (statistical release P0351) for May 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 735 165 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry/exit in May 2021 (**see Table L**). These travellers were made up of 239 831 South African residents and 495 334 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 117 782 arrivals, 121 937 departures and 112 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 258 521, 230 012 and 6 801 respectively.

A comparison between the movements in May 2020 and May 2021 is not included as there was a hard lockdown in May 2020 and only essential services providers were allowed to travel.

A comparison between the movements in April 2021 and May 2021 indicates that the volume of arrivals increased for both groups of travellers; and departures decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. Travellers in transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals increased by 0,2% (from 117 557 in April 2021 to 117 782 in May 2021), departures decreased by 3,5% (from 126 417 in April 2021 to 121 937 in May 2021) and transits increased by 89,8% (from 59 in April 2021 to 112 in May 2021). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 4,1% (from 248 314 in April 2021 to 258 521



in May 2021), departures increased by 5,3% (from 218 493 in April 2021 to 230 012 in May 2021) and transits increased by 12,7% (from 6 035 in April 2021 to 6 801 in May 2021).

In May 2021, 39 128 (15,1%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors while 219 393 (84,9%) were classified as visitors. The visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in May 2021 but did not depart in May 2021 [75 167 (34,3%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in May 2021 and left in May 2021 [65 451 (29,8%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in May 2021 [78 775 (35,9%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In May 2021, there were 36 046 (16,4%) same-day visitors and 183 347 (83,6%) tourists. Between April 2021 and May 2021, the volume of same-day visitors increased by 18,6% (from 30 386 in April 2021 to 36 046 in May 2021) and that of tourists increased by 3,4% (from 177 251 in April 2021 to 183 347 in May 2021).

Mode of travel of travellers

In May 2021, road transport was the most common mode of travel used by 554 592 (75,4%) of the 735 165 travellers. The total number of travellers who used air transport was 176 285 (24,0%). Compared to the use of air and land transport, a smaller number of travellers, 4 288 (0,6%) used sea transport. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 32 888 (27,9%) came by air, 84 716 (71,9%) came by road and 178 (0,2%) arrived by sea transport. For departures, 38 491 (31,6%) used air, 83 242 (68,3%) used road and 204 (0,2%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 112 (100,0%) used air transport.

In the case of foreign travellers, 49 167 (19,0%) arrived by air, 207 387 (80,2%) came by road and 1 967 (0,8%) arrived by sea transport. When departing South Africa, 48 826 (21,2%) foreign travellers left by air, 179 247 (77,9%) left by road and 1 939 (0,8%) left by sea transport. All travellers in transit, 6 801 (100,0%) used air transport. Of the 36 046 same-day visitors, a majority, 32 305 (89,6%) arrived in the country by road, 3 721 (10,3%) flew into the country; and 20 (0,1%) arrived by sea transport. Information on



tourists shows that 143 996 (78,5%) used road transport, 39 339 (21,5%) came by air transport and 12 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport.

Mode of travel of tourists

The country of residence of tourists is used to categorise them according to their respective countries and regions. In May 2021, 18 181 (87,6%) of the 20 762 overseas tourists arrived in the country by air transport, whilst 2 571 (12,4%) came in by road transport and 10 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea transport. Tourists from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 140 874 (89,1%), 17 310 (10,9%) came by air and one tourist (less than 0,1%) came by sea transport. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 3 647 (90,5%), with 384 (6,5%) using road transport.

Purpose of visit

In May 2021, the majority of tourists, 168 051 (91,7%), were in South Africa for holiday¹ compared to 12 299 (6,7%); 2 638 (1,4%) and 359 (0,2%) who were in South Africa for business, study and for medical treatment respectively.

Sex and age distribution

In May 2021, there were 121 375 (66,2%) male and 61 972 (33,8%) female tourists. Overseas tourists were made up of 12 758 (61,4%) male tourists and 8 004 (38,6%) female tourists. There were 105 721 (66,8%) male and 52 464 (33,2%) female tourists from SADC countries. Tourists from 'other' African countries were made up of 2 642 (65,5%) male and 1 390 (34,5%) female tourists.

In May 2021, the majority of tourists were aged between 35 and 44 years [63 706 (34,7%)].

Taking the regions of residence into consideration, the results show that the highest proportion of tourists from 'other' African countries [1 279 (31,7%)] and those from overseas countries [4 589 (22,1%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years, whereas those from SADC countries [58 078 (36,7%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years.



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

Travel direction	April 2020	May 2021	% change between April to May 2021
Total	716 875	735 165	2,6%
South African residents	244 033	239 831	-1,7%
Arrivals	117 557	117 782	0,2%
Departures	126 417	121 937	-3,5%
Transit	59	112	89,8%
Foreign travellers	472 842	495 334	4,8%
Arrivals	248 314	258 521	4,1%
Departures	218 493	230 012	5,3%
Transit	6 035	6 801	12,7%
Foreign arrivals	248 314	258 521	4,1%
Non-visitors	40 677	39 128	-3,8%
Visitors	207 637	219 393	5,7%
Visitors	207 637	219 393	5,7%
Arrivals only	77 232	75 167	-2,7%
Single trips	57 219	65 451	14,4%
Multiple trips	73 186	78 775	7,6%
Visitors	207 637	219 393	5,7%
Same-day	30 386	36 046	18,6%
Overnight (Tourists)	177 251	183 347	3,4%

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 issued for debt increased by 90,7% in the three months ended May 2021

Since the implementation of COVID-19 lockdown, many consumers lost their jobs while others experienced salary cuts. The job losses and salary cuts have caused many consumers to default on their repayment agreements. According to Experian Credit Bureau's Consumer Debt Index (CDI) for



Quarter 1 of 2021 which is designed to measure the rolling default behaviour of South African consumers, there are 23,7 million consumers who defaulted for the first time over the period, with 29,0 million active accounts across credit card, personal, vehicle, home and retail loans. The CDI indicates that the first time defaulters have R1,90 trillion in outstanding debt. Consumers who have challenges to meet their financial obligations are encouraged to arrange with their credit providers to avoid civil summonses. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) for May 2021.

The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt increased by 90,7% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020 (**see Table M**).

The largest contributors to the 90,7% increase in civil summonses issued were:

- 'other' debts (contributing 27,2 percentage points);
- services (contributing 20,7 percentage points);
- money lent (contributing 19,3 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing 12,7 percentage points)

The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 57,9% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020.

The largest contributors to the 57,9% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- services (contributing 25,2 percentage points);
- money lent (contributing 11,1 percentage points); and
- 'other' debts (contributing 8,4 percentage points).

The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 82,6% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020.



The largest contributors to the 82,6% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- ‘other’ debts (contributing 20,6 percentage points);
- money lent (contributing 20,3 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing 15,4 percentage points).

In May 2021, 13 825 civil judgements for debt amounting to R287,8 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- money lent (R70,1 million or 24,3%);
- services (R59,6 million or 20,7%); and
- ‘other’ debts (R58,6 million or 20,4%).

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

Actual estimates	May 2021	% change between May 2020 and May 2021	% change between March to May 2020 and March 2020 to May 2021
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	42 893	161,8	90,7
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	13 825	115,6	57,9
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	287,8	147,0	82,6

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

Liquidations decrease by 1,5% in June 2021

Good cash flow control is important for any business. When a company is in financial distress (inability to generate sufficient revenue or income, making it unable to meet or pay its financial obligations) that may lead to collapse of a business, which may ultimately result in that company undergoing insolvency process. However, there are various warning signs to look for when a company is approaching an insolvent state. Some of the warning signs include taking a longer period to pay creditors, inability to pay employees and having debts that exceed company’s assets by value. Once a company has these warning signs, company directors should take a swift action to save the company by applying for business rescue (the



rehabilitation of a company that is financially distressed). If the company is already in insolvent state, company directors have an obligation to cease trading to ensure the company does not accrue more debt which could reduce the value in the company. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies* (statistical release P0043) for the month of May 2021.

The total number of liquidations decreased by 1,5% year-on-year in June 2021 (**see Table N**). Liquidations of companies decreased by 12 cases, while liquidations of close corporations increased by 10 cases during this period. The total number of liquidations increased by 46,2% in the second quarter of 2021 compared with the second quarter of 2020. An increase of 30,7% was recorded in the first six months of 2021 compared with the first six months of 2020.

Table N – Total number of liquidations for May 2021

Number of liquidations June 2021	% change between June 2020 and June 2021	% change between April to June 2020 and April to June 2021	% change between January to June 2020 and January to June 2021
132	-1,5	46,2	30,7

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 42,9% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (**see Table O**). A 45,5% decrease was estimated in the first five months of 2021 compared with the first five months of 2020.

Table O – Total number of insolvencies for May 2021

Number of insolvencies May 2021	% change between May 2020 and May 2021	% change between March to May 2020 and March to May 2021	% change between January to May 2020 and January to May 2021
24	-42,9	-35,3	-45,5

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 increased by 22,7% in May 2021

Roads play a crucial role in ensuring the smooth operation of the transport sector, providing access to health services, employment, education, social and economic activities. Road transportation is still mostly used mode of transport for many African countries, accounting for 80% of goods transport and 90% of the passenger transport on the continent. Moreover it is the easiest means of transporting goods and services to remote areas that are not connected by air or water transports. Some Southern African countries transport their cargo, freight and passengers through South Africa’s national road network. Thus, considering the importance of roads to the transport sector, their security (especially from civil unrest and crime) and maintenance is of utmost importance. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Land transport survey* (statistical release P7162) for May 2021.

The volume of goods transported (payload) increased by 22,7% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (see **Table P**). The corresponding income increased by 25,5% over the same period.

Income from freight transportation increased by 26,1% in the three months ended May 2021 compared with the three months ended May 2020. The main contributors to this increase were:

- primary mining and quarrying products (20,3%, contributing 7,8 percentage points); and
- ‘other’ freight (41,5% contributing 7,1 percentage points).

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

	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Freight payload	4,2	-10,7	-8,3	0,6	55,1	22,7
Freight income	-0,2	-11,1	-5,7	2,0	66,5	25,5

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 increased by 81,7% in May 2021 compared with May 2020 (**see Table Q**). The corresponding income increased by 119,1% over the same period.

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

	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21
Passenger journeys	-36,2	-46,3	-51,9	-27,0	199,0	81,7
Passenger income	-30,7	-37,2	-35,7	-10,4	255,1	119,1

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 7,7% in June 2021

Producers of goods around the world export their goods in order to participate in international trade (the exchange of goods and services between countries). As a result of international trade, the market becomes more competitive, which leads to more competitive pricing. However, some producers are *dumping* (the sale of a product in another market or country at a lower price than it is sold for in its domestic market) their products in foreign countries. Some of the reasons for dumping goods are to get rid of surplus products and/or to dominate and takeover the market by making goods appealing and selling them at lower prices in a foreign market. Dumping has a likelihood to destroy a local market which can result in the closure of businesses and job losses. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Producer price index (PPI)* (statistical release P0142.1) for June 2021.

Final manufactured goods – headline PPI

Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 7,7% in June 2021, up from 7,4% in May 2021 (**see Table R**). The producer price index increased by 0,8% month-on-month in June 2021.

The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products; food products, beverages and tobacco products; and metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (Figure 1.2 on page 7).

- Coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products increased by 15% year-on-year and contributed 2,9 percentage points.
- Food products, beverages and tobacco products increased by 6,3% year-on-year and contributed 2,3 percentage points.
- Metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment increased by 8,4% year-on-year and contributed 1,2 percentage points.

The main contributors to the headline PPI monthly increase were transport equipment, which increased by 3,2% month-on-month and contributed 0,3 of a percentage point; metals, machinery, equipment and computing



equipment, which increased by 1,6% month-on-month and contributed 0,2 of a percentage point and coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products, which increased by 0,7% month-on-month and contributed 0,2 of a percentage point

Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 16,4% in June 2021 (compared with 15,2% in May 2021). The index increased by 1,1% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were basic and fabricated metals (7,8 percentage points) and chemicals, rubber and plastic products (7,1 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was basic and fabricated metals.

Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 10,5% in June 2021 (compared with 8,9% in May 2021). The index increased by 34,3% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 9,8 percentage points to the annual rate, and water contributed 0,6 of a percentage point. Electricity contributed 34,3 percentage points to the monthly rate.

Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was 20,6% in June 2021 (compared with 21,7% in May 2021). The index decreased by 1,4% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were non-ferrous metal ores (13,4 percentage points), gold and other metal ores (3,3 percentage points) and coal and gas (2,5 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was non-ferrous metal ores.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 13,3% in June 2021 (compared with 9,4% in May 2021). The index increased by 2,7% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (14,6 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (2,5 percentage points).



Table R – Key PPI figures for June 2021

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2020=100)			% change	
		June 2020	May 2021	June 2021	June 2021 vs May 2021	June 2021 vs June 2020
Final manufactured goods	100,00	97,2	103,9	104,7	0,8	7,7
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	97,5	112,3	113,5	1,1	16,4
Electricity and water	100,00	130,0	106,9	143,6	34,3	10,5
Mining	100,00	88,8	108,6	107,1	-1,4	20,6
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	87,8	96,9	99,5	2,7	13,3

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)

CPI at 4,9% in June 2021

Food, non-alcoholic beverages and fuel are some of the important drivers of inflation. For instance, fuel was one of the biggest contributors to inflation, increasing by 27, 5% in June 2021 compared to the same month last year. Thus, if annual consumer inflation is recalculated with the exclusion of food, non-alcoholic beverages and fuel, it comes to 3,4% in June which is lower than the 4,9% headline inflation. The difference between headline inflation and core inflation is that headline inflation refers to the change in value of all goods in the basket while core inflation excludes food and fuel items from headline inflation. Presented in this article is a summary of the results from the *Consumer price index (CPI)* (statistical release P0141) for June 2021.

Headline consumer price index (CPI for all urban areas)

Annual consumer price inflation was 4,9% in June 2021, down from 5,2% in May 2021 (**see Table S**). The consumer price index increased by 0,2% month-on-month in June 2021. The main contributors to the 4,9% annual inflation rate were:



- Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 6,7% year-on-year, and contributed 1,2 percentage points to the total CPI annual rate of 4,9%.
- Housing and utilities increased by 2,6% year-on-year, and contributed 0,6 of a percentage point.
- Transport increased by 12,3% year-on-year, and contributed 1,7 percentage points.
- Miscellaneous goods and services increased by 4,1% year-on-year, and contributed 0,7 of a percentage point.

In June the annual inflation rate for goods was 7,1%, down from 8,0% in May; and for services it was 2,9%, up from 2,7% in May.

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

Year	Index/rate	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average ¹
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	119,3	120,1	120,2	120,5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Rate	3,2	2,9	3,2	4,4	5,2	4,9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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

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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