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Editor's comment

The month of July 2023 started on a high note for South Africans. First it was the decrease in the price of fuel on July 5th. Secondly, on the 10th of July, residents in some parts of the country woke up to the sheer wonder of the first snowfall in the city in more than a decade. On the statistical side, consumer inflation fell to a 13-month low of 6,3% year-on-year in May 2023, mainly due to lower increases in food and fuel costs. On the downside, however, the number of civil summonses issued for debt increased by 0,3% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. This could indicate that some consumers struggle to keep up with their credit commitments. Still, on the gloomy side, electricity generation (production) decreased by 9,0% year-on-year in May 2023, alluding to Eskom's continued power crisis.

This month's educational article is based on the *Tourism, 2022* report (Report No. 03-51-02). The article explores movements into and out of South Africa in 2022. It specifically focuses on information regarding South African residents' arrivals, departures, and transits. The article will also give a detailed analysis of movements of tourists and their demographic characteristics over the 12-month period in 2022.

Also, have a look at our monthly crossword puzzle and solutions for June 2023. Articles published in this issue are based on the results of industry surveys conducted for April and May 2023.

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

Enjoy the read!



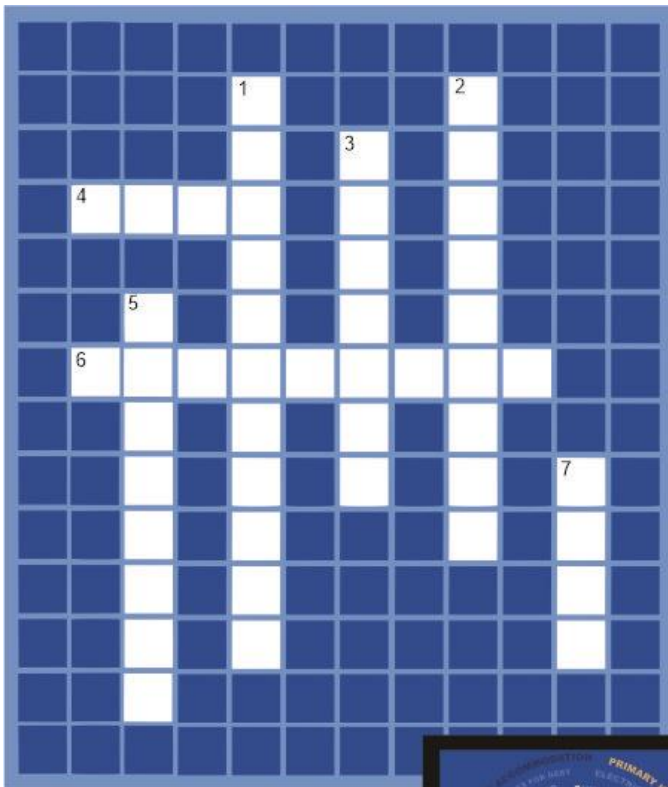


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Crossword puzzle





Across

- 4. True or false? An industry is a group of establishments engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity.

- 6. What is data gathered on a small scale, such as data on an individual, called?

Down

- 1. Which statistical release contains monthly information regarding the volume of electricity generated and distributed in South Africa?
- 2. Which type of liquidation takes place when a company or close corporation, by own choice, resolves to wind-up its affairs?
- 3. Did most of the tourists who came to South Africa in 2022 come for holiday or business purposes?
- 5. Which country in the SADC region had the highest number of tourists in 2022? Read the educational article for a clue.
- 7. Which mode of travel was used by most South African residents entering the country in 2022?

Solutions for June 2023 puzzle

Across

- 3. Gwamanda
- 6. False
- 7. South Africa

Down

- 1. Black African
- 2. Mali
- 4. Equator
- 5. Mitosis





Educational article on Tourism

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic sent shock waves through the world, resulting in economic and social disruption. Tourism was one of the hardest-hit sectors around the world and in South Africa, mainly due to lockdown and travel restrictions that were imposed. The extent of the pandemic's impact on tourism was majorly measured by number of tourists who crossed South Africa's ports of entry/exit. Administrative records regulating the flow of people across boundaries, specifically border statistics, are used as an important source of statistical data on temporary population movements in many countries. Generally, countries routinely collect data from residents and non-residents who pass through the demarcated air, land and sea ports on arrival and departure from the country. This educational article is based on the *Tourism, 2022* report (Report No. 03-51-02) published on 18 May 2023. The article will look at documented population movements into and out of South Africa in 2022. Specific focus will be given to information on arrivals, departures and transits of South African residents. The article will also give a detailed analysis of the movements of tourists and their demographic characteristics over the 12-month period.

Scope of the report

Tourism report is based on information on population movements across South Africa's ports of entry/exit covering the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022. It covers data on arrivals and departures of South African residents and foreign travellers. A detailed analysis of the data on foreign tourists with respect to mode of travel, purpose of visit, sex and age distribution is covered. The report also describes trends in the overall number of travellers and tourists from 2014 to 2022.

Background

Generally, data are collected directly from travel documents either by scanning them or by capturing information from the travel documents onto the port's electronic database. Individual ports regularly transmit data to the national database i.e. Department of Home Affairs's (DHA) population Movement Control System (MCS). The amount of documentation and the information collected from travellers are often influenced by the





citizenship/nationality of the travel document and the purpose of entry. Data obtained from foreigners or non-residents are be used to categorise them into visitors and non-visitors.

Because border statistics are derived from arrival data, they could be the most suitable data source for the direct measurement of the flow of immigrants (UN, 2011). Data are available at any given time because they are routinely collected as travellers pass through the immigration check points at the ports of entry. It is crucial to note that unlike data from census or sample surveys that count individual persons, border statistics by their nature, measure events i.e. movements of persons rather than the physical persons. The reason is that the same person can cross the border a number of times during a specified time and his or her information is recorded every time he or she passes through the border.

Management of population movements across South African borders and immigration into South Africa fall under the jurisdiction of Department of Home Affairs (DHA). The jurisdiction of this responsibility is enshrined in the various immigration acts, amendments, laws and regulations. Currently, with respect to the collection of data on population movements in and out of South Africa, DHA operates under the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No. 13 of 2002), its amendments and associated regulations. The latest Immigration Regulations came into operation on 26 May 2014. Any changes and amendments in the legislation and regulations affect the flow of travellers, the methods of collecting data, and the kind of information collected on travellers.

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), downloads data covering a particular calendar month from DHA, and uses the Statistical Analysis System (SAS) for data processing and analysis. Descriptive analyses (frequencies, cross-tabulations, percentage distributions and median ages) are used to summarise the data. The results are presented in table and graph formats. These are undertaken on a monthly basis to publish information on tourism in the monthly *Tourism and Migration* (statistical release P0351). The cumulative data for 12 months are published in the *Tourism* report (Report No. 03-51-02) on an annual basis.

At the ports of entry/exit, the immigration officers of DHA collect information on South African residents and foreign travellers arriving into or departing from South Africa. This information is used to produce statistical releases on

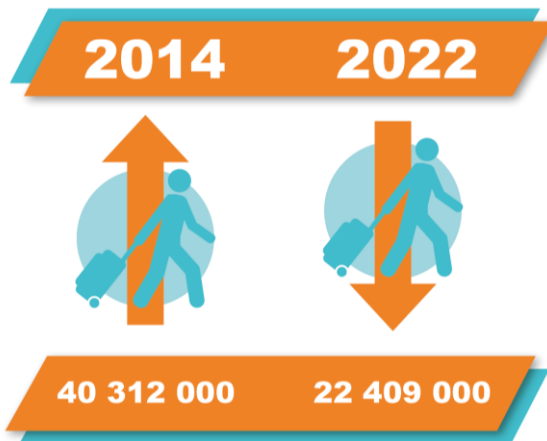


all travellers, with emphasis on tourists, and an annual report aggregating the results of one calendar year.

Number of travellers

Results present detailed information derived from the data published monthly (January to December 2022) in the *Tourism and migration* statistical release (statistical release P0351). In addition to the 2022 data, where relevant, data from 2021 and earlier are presented to provide some comparison in observed trends and patterns. Travellers are composed of passengers in transit, arrivals into and departures from South Africa regardless of residency status.

Figure 1 – Number of travellers in 2014 and 2022



Approximately 22 409 000 travellers were recorded in 2022 compared to 40 312 000 recorded in 2014, indicating that the overall number of travellers decreased by 44,4% over this nine-year period. Similarly, there were 11 540 000 arrivals, 10 570 000 departures and 299 000 transits in 2022 compared to 20 404 000 arrivals, 19 126 000 departures and 782 000 transits in 2014. Furthermore, the number of travellers had a steady increase from 2014 to 2019, followed by two consecutive declines in 2020 and 2021.



An increase of 142,7% was observed between 2021 and 2022. Arrivals increased by 146,8% while departures increased by 137,9% during the same period.

South African residents

In 2022, 7 248 643 South African resident travellers were recorded compared to 3 150 525 in 2021. The volume was made up of 3 513 638 arrivals, 3 730 874 departures and 4 131 travellers in transit.

Annual volumes of arrivals, departures and transits for South African residents generally increased between 2014 and 2019. A drastic drop was observed in 2020 (from 12 million travellers in 2019 to 3,5 million in 2020) and a further slight drop in 2021 (to 3,2 million). A further increase was observed in 2022 (7,2 million), indicating the beginning of a recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mode of travel

Mode of travel for South African residents entering the country in 2022 was largely the same as the mode of travel for leaving the country. Most South African residents (53,6%) arrived and (52,1%) departed the country using road transport. Air transport was the second most popular mode of travel used by 44,8% arrivals and 46,3% departures. Sea transport was used by 1,6% arrivals and departures, making it the least used mode of travel. All passengers in transit used air transport (4 131).

Month of travel

The distribution of South Africans arriving and departing the country classified by month of travel show that of the 3 513 638 arrivals, the highest proportion was recorded in December (11,6%), followed by July (10,9%), while the lowest proportion was recorded in February (4,9%). Of the 3 730 874 departures, the highest percentage was recorded in December (14,9%) and the lowest in January (4,8%).

Tourists

A total of 5 698 062 tourists came to South Africa in 2022, showing an increase of 152,6% from the 2 255 699 tourists recorded in 2021.



The impact of COVID-19 can be observed by comparing quarters 1 to 4 of 2018 and 2019 with quarters 1 to 4 of 2020 to 2022. Quarters 1 and 4 from 2018 to 2019 had the highest number of tourists (ranging around 2,7 million tourists for each quarter) while quarter 2 had the least number of tourists (around 2,4 million). In 2020, quarters 2 and 3 had no tourist arrivals due to hard lockdown imposed by authorities. In 2021 and 2022 the number of tourists gradually improved from quarter to quarter (from 400 000 tourists in quarter 1 of 2021 to 1,8 million in quarter 4 of 2022), showing the beginning of a recovery from the pandemic.

Sex and age distribution of tourists

Figure 2 – Overall percentage distribution of tourists by sex, 2022



Sex distribution of tourists

Figure 2 shows that in 2022, there were more male [3 345 806 (54,2%)] than female [2 352 256 (45,8%)] tourists.



Figure 3 – Percentage distribution of tourists by region of residence and sex, 2022

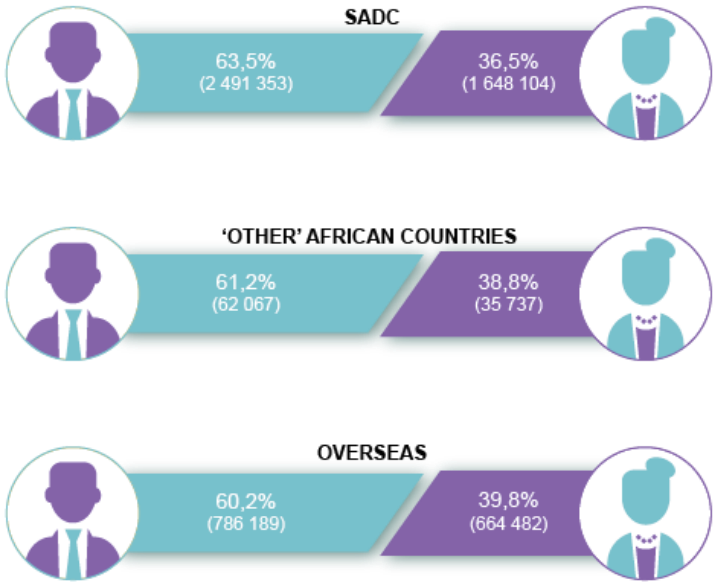


Figure 3 shows that in 2022, male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, Southern African Development Community (SADC) [2 491 353 (63,5%)], 'other' African countries [62 067 (61,2%)] and overseas countries [786 189 (60,2%)]. Whereas, the largest portion of female tourists was from overseas countries [664 482 (39,8%)], followed by 'other' African countries [35 737 (38,8%)] and the lowest from SADC countries [1 648 104 (36,5%)].

Age distribution of tourists

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [323 577 (5,7%)] were aged less than 15 years; [455 795 (8,0%)] were aged between 15 and 24 years; [1 340 098 (23,5%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years; [1 698 053 (29,8%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years; [1 056 277 (18,5%)] were aged between 45 and 54 years; [530 155 (9,3%)] were aged between 55 and 64 years and [294 103 (5,2%)] were aged 65 years and above. The age



distribution further indicates that [4 (less than 0,1%)] did not indicate their age.

Region of residence

The breakdown of the number of tourists by region indicates that 72,6% of tourists who arrived in South Africa in 2022 were residents of SADC countries and 1,7% were from 'other' African countries. These two sub-regions made up 74,4% of tourists from Africa in total. Residents of overseas countries made up 25,5% of the tourists.

Ten leading countries Overseas

The 10 leading countries for overseas tourists in 2022 were: The United Kingdom (UK), 283 031 (19,5%); United States of America (USA), 262 183 (18,1%); Germany, 173 146 (11,9%); The Netherlands, 90 289 (6,2%); France, 76 077 (5,2%); India, 55 506 (3,8%); Australia, 53 769 (3,7%); Canada, 35 501 (2,4%); Belgium, 34 826 (2,4%) and Switzerland, 33 257 (2,3%). A comparison of the 2021 and 2022 volumes indicates that the number of tourists increased in all 10 leading overseas countries. Australia had the largest increase of 1 224,7%.

SADC

The 10 leading countries for tourists from the SADC region in 2022 were: Zimbabwe, 1 233 790 (29,8%); Mozambique, 944 308 (22,8%); Lesotho, 835 921 (20,2%); Eswatini, 403 762 (9,8%); Botswana, 262 232 (6,3%); Namibia, 137 388 (3,3%); Zambia, 116 076 (2,8%); Malawi, 114 352 (2,8%); Angola, 32 194 (0,8%) and Tanzania, 26 268 (0,6%). All 10 leading SADC countries showed an increase in the number of tourists from 2021 to 2022. Angola showed the largest increase of 245,7%.

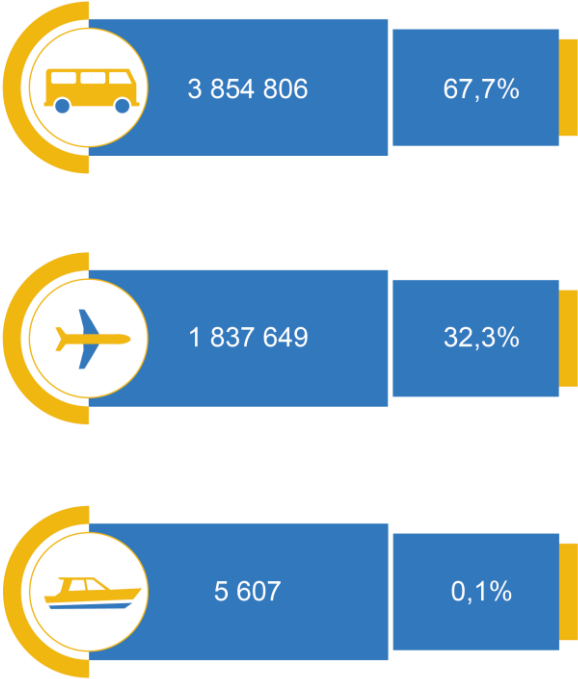
'Other' African countries

The 10 leading countries for tourists from 'other' African countries in 2022 were: Kenya, 21 308 (21,8%); Nigeria, 16 104 (16,5%); Ghana, 14 381 (14,7%); Uganda, 9 294 (9,5%); Ethiopia, 5 001 (5,1%); Egypt, 4 754 (4,9%); Cameroon, 3 629 (3,7%); Gabon, 2 975 (3,0%); Côte d'Ivoire, 1 874 (1,9%) and Congo, 1 598 (1,6%). A comparison between the 2021 and 2022 volumes indicates that the number of tourists increased in all 10 leading countries. Côte d'Ivoire had the largest increase of 191,9%.



Mode of travel

Figure 4 – Distribution of tourists by mode of travel, 2022



Place of arrival

A large number of tourists who came to South Africa in 2022 used road transport [3 854 806 (67,7%)]; followed by those who came by air [1 837 649 (32,3%)]; and those who arrived through sea ports [5 607 (0,1%)]. The results further show that the road users mainly came in through the Mozambique (27,3%), Zimbabwe (25,7%) and Lesotho (21,9%) ports of entry. Namibia (2,4%) had the least number of the 2022 tourists using its ports of entry.



Purpose of visit

Region of residence

In 2022, most tourists came to South Africa for holidays [5 430 412 (95,3%)]. The remaining tourists came for business [222 353 (3,9%)], for study purposes [40 667 (0,7%)] and for medical treatment [4 630 (0,1%)].

The 2022 data reveals some regional and country differentials with respect to the purpose of visit. For example, [7 695 (7,9%)] tourists from 'other' African countries came to South Africa for business compared to [183 400 (4,4%)] tourists from SADC countries and [30 771 (2,1%)] from overseas countries. In addition, students made up [4 583 (4,7%)] of tourists from 'other' African countries compared to [27 628 (0,7%)] of tourists from SADC countries and [8 444 (0,6%)] of overseas tourists.

Duration of stay

On average, tourists from overseas and 'other' African countries spent on average more days (about four to eight days per month) in the country compared to SADC residents who spent an average of two days in a month.

Conclusion

Findings in this article show that although the flow of travellers and tourists into South Africa has increased in 2022 compared to 2020 and 2021, the numbers are still below the pre-pandemic level. The results also show that majority of tourists who entered South Africa in 2022 were from SADC. The 2022 patterns of mode of travel and purpose of visit did not differ greatly from what was observed in 2021 and earlier years. Generally, overseas and 'other' African tourists flew into the country whereas tourists from SADC countries came in by road. Holiday continued to be the main reason for visiting South Africa. Tourists from overseas and 'other' African countries spent on average more days (about five to eight days per month) in the country compared to SADC residents who spent an average of two days in a month. Tourists were predominantly male for all the years.



Primary industries

Mining: Production and sales

Mining production decreased by 2,3% year-on-year in April 2023

Platinum group metals (PGMs) are essential for the development of an economy. PGMs consist of six white metals, namely platinum, palladium, rhodium, ruthenium, iridium and osmium and are used extensively in the automotive industry to produce catalyst converters for vehicle exhaust systems. As of 2022, South Africa is the world’s top platinum-mining country and a major producer of palladium. The country holds the largest-known reserves of PGM globally at 63 million kilograms, according to the latest data from the US Geological Survey. This article presents a summary of results from the *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P2041) for April 2023.

Mining production increased by 2,3% in April 2023 (see **Table A**), following 14 consecutive months of year-on-year decline. The most significant positive contributors were:

- gold (27,4%, contributing 3,5 percentage points); and
- coal (12,5%, contributing 3,1 percentage points).

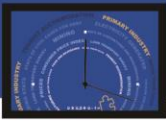
The largest negative contributors were:

- diamonds (-41,1%, contributing -2,0 percentage points);
- PGMs (-4,6%, contributing -1,1 percentage points); and
- manganese ore (-12,1%, contributing -1,0 percentage point).

Table A – Key growth rates in the volume of mining production for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-8,7	-3,6	-2,4	-7,7	-2,2	2,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,7	0,2	3,9	-7,0	6,9	1,8
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-1,9	-3,3	-1,1	-1,0	1,1	0,4

^{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 decreased by 25,6% year-on-year in April 2023 (**see Table B**). The largest negative contributors were:

- PGMs (-41,7%, contributing -15,2 percentage points);
- coal (-22,9%, contributing -6,2 percentage points); and
- gold (-45,7%, contributing -3,5 percentage points).

Chromium ore (61,5%, contributing 2,2 percentage points) was a significant positive contributor.

Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-15,6	-0,1	7,6	-6,8	-14,7	-25,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-8,1	8,4	-1,1	-1,7	-2,9	-10,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-8,8	-11,1	-8,3	-1,2	-0,8	-5,0

^{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 3,4% in April 2023

Globally, there is a call for motor vehicle manufacturers to transition from petrol or diesel powered vehicles to new electric vehicles (EVs) by 2040. Transitioning to EVs will help to combat climate change at a global level by reducing greenhouse gases which are emitted into the environment from burning fossil fuels. As a way to contribute to the decarbonisation of the motor industry, BMW will produce its first electric vehicle on South African soil at its Rosslyn plant in Pretoria. The global auto manufacturer will, over the next five years, invest R4,3 billion at its plant to manufacture the BMW X3 plug-in hybrid. The production of the X3 will commence from the second half of 2024 and will be exported to the world once completed. This article presents a summary of results from the *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (statistical release P3041.2) for April 2023.

Manufacturing production increased by 3,4% in April 2023 compared with April 2022 (see **Table C**).

The largest contributions were made by the following divisions:

- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (5,3%, contributing 1,1 percentage points);
- food and beverages (4,6%, contributing 1,0 percentage point);
- petroleum, chemical products, rubber and plastic products (2,8%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point); and
- motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment (5,0%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,1	-4,6	-4,1	-5,5	-1,8	3,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,6	0,3	0,5	-1,6	3,4	0,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	2,2	-1,7	-0,9	-1,1	1,3	1,2

^{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

The value of building plans reported as complete decreased by 20,6% (-R4 672,2 million) during January to April 2023 compared with January to April 2022

In South Africa, it is compulsory to apply for a building permit such as a building plan from the local authority before starting with construction work. This is to ensure that the project is completed safely and successfully. The same applies with demolition work; a demolition permit should be obtained from a local authority. According to the National Building Regulations and Buildings Standards Act, 1997 (Act No. 103 of 1997 as amended), no owner of any site shall demolish, cause or permit to demolish any building without the prior written permission of the local authority. The Act states that the local authority may grant permission considering the safety, health and convenience of the public and to prevent damage to property, which include neighbouring buildings. The Act further indicates that no person shall at any time during the course of or after the demolition, leave the building in a condition dangerous to the public or adjoining properties. The local authority may serve notice to make the site safe and if there's a failure to make it safe, the local authority may carry out the necessary work and recover costs from the wrongdoer. This article summarises the results for the *Selected building statistics of the private sector* (statistical release P5041.1) for April 2023.

The value of buildings reported as completed (at current prices) decreased by 20,6% (-R4 672,2 million) during January to April 2023 compared with January to April 2022 (**see Table D**). Decreases were reported for additions and alterations (-48,2% or -R3 097,5 million), residential buildings (-10,5% or -R1 126,4 million) and non-residential buildings (-8,1% or -R448,3 million).

Six provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed during January to April 2023, of which Western Cape (contributing -25,3 percentage points or -R5 740,9 million) was the largest negative contributor. Gauteng (contributing 5,2 percentage points or R1 182,8 million) was the largest positive contributor.



Table D – Buildings reported as completed to larger municipalities by type of building for April 2023

Type of building	January - April 2022	January - April 2023	Difference in value between January - April 2022 and January - April 2023	% change between January - April 2022 and January - April 2023
	1/	1/	R'000	
Residential buildings	10 774 421	9 648 029	1 126 392	-10,5
- Dwelling houses	6 934 418	6 744 018	-190 400	-2,7
- Flats and townhouses	3 493 607	2 833 946	-659 661	-18,9
- Other residential buildings	346 396	70 065	-276 331	-79,8
Non-residential buildings	5 529 761	5 081 490	-448 271	-8,1
Additions and alterations	6 424 582	3 327 087	-3 097 495	-48,2
Total	22 728 764	18 056 606	-4 672 158	-20,6

1/ 2022 and 2023 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 decreased by 8,6% in April 2023

South Africa has been experiencing unprecedented levels of load shedding in 2023. However, Eskom has introduced a plan to cut electricity demand. On 23 June 2023, the power utility has launched a pilot project called load-limiting at Fourways in Johannesburg. A pilot project focuses on select customers with electricity smart metres and is implemented during stage 1 to 4 load shedding to manage and optimise the supply and demand side of electricity on the grid. During stage 1 to 4, customers' electricity capacity will be reduced from 60/80 Amps (unit used to measure electric current) to 10 Amps, allowing consumers to continue using essential appliances. What will happen is that an hour before load shedding resumes, the system will prompt consumers to reduce their consumption to 10 Amps by sending a



message to their customer interface unit (CIU) and cellular phone. However, if the load has not been reduced, the smart metre will automatically switch off the electricity supply for the duration of the load shedding period. This article presents a summary of the results from the *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (statistical release P4141) for April 2023.

Electricity generation (production) decreased by 8,6% year-on-year in April 2023 (see Table E).

Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-1,8	-8,3	-8,0	-9,7	-5,6	-8,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,7	-5,6	1,1	-1,0	4,0	-4,3
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-2,8	-1,7	-2,7	-3,5	-1,6	-1,0

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

Electricity distribution (consumption) decreased by 8,1% year-on-year in April 2023 (see Table F).

Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,4	-7,6	-7,3	-8,7	-4,5	-8,1
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,6	-4,2	1,2	-2,2	4,8	-4,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-3,3	-1,7	-2,6	-2,8	-1,4	-1,3

^{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 increased by 11,2% in April 2023 compared with April 2022

Wholesale trade sales data gives investors, businesses and analysts an indication of key consumer trends and patterns in the wholesale industry. By looking at the ratio of sales to inventories, it can show whether production will grow or decline in future. According to the latest Afrimat Construction Index (ACI), the value of wholesale trade in construction materials exceeded the sector's contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP) in quarter 4 of 2022. ACI is a composite index of the level of activity within the building and construction sector that comprises nine indicators, including construction value added, employment in construction, retail trade sales, buildings completed, etc. The value of wholesale trade in construction materials and hardware sales (retail) indicators amounted to a combined R69,7 billion in quarter 4 of 2022, whilst the construction sector's contribution to the GDP was only R36,8 billion. This article summarises the results of the *Wholesale trade sales* (statistical release P6141.2) for April 2023.

Wholesale trade sales increased by 11,2% in April 2023 compared with April 2022 (**see Table G**). The main contributors were dealers in:

- machinery, equipment and supplies (35,6%, contributing 4,2 percentage points);
- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (13,3%, contributing 3,5 percentage points); and
- 'other' goods (19,1%, contributing 1,5 percentage points).

Wholesale trade sales increased by 10,5% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The main contributors were dealers in:

- machinery, equipment and supplies (30,7%, contributing 3,9 percentage points);
- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (5,8%, contributing 1,5 percentage points);
- 'other' goods (19,4%, contributing 1,5 percentage points); and



- agricultural raw materials and livestock (21,4%, contributing 1,3 percentage points).

Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	17,0	14,1	11,3	12,8	7,8	11,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,9	-3,4	0,1	3,6	-2,3	0,9
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	4,3	0,3	-1,0	-2,1	-0,2	1,3

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

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

Retail trade sales

Retail trade sales decreased by 1,6% in April 2023

Before the outbreak of COVID-19, many consumers preferred to conduct their shopping at physical stores. During COVID-19 some consumers shifted their shopping habits from in-person retail shopping to digital shopping, for safety reasons. Post COVID-19, some consumers prefer hybrid shopping (a combination of digital and in-person physical shopping) due to the unavailability of goods at physical stores and for their own convenience, among other reasons. Consumers can conduct their shopping online and have it delivered to their chosen address, or collection can take place at a store or venue. In order to release an item to a consumer, a retailer may seek identification of a consumer, order number or a one-time pin (OTP) code sent to the consumer when placing an order online. Failure to collect an item after a certain period may result in the order being cancelled, and the consumer can be reimbursed. This article presents a summary of results from the *Retail trade sales* (statistical release P6242.1) for April 2023.

Retail trade sales decreased by 1,6% year-on-year in April 2023 (**see Table H**). The largest negative contributors to this decrease were:

- general dealers (-2,8%, contributing -1,2 percentage points);
- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (-6,2%, contributing -0,5 of a percentage point); and
- all 'other' retailers (-4,2%, contributing -0,5 of a percentage point).



Retail trade sales decreased by 1,3% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The largest negative contributors to this decrease were:

- general dealers (-2,0%, contributing -0,9 of a percentage point); and
- retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores (-4,2%, contributing -0,4 of a percentage point).

The positive contributor was retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (4,9%, contributing 0,8 of a percentage point).

Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at constant 2019 prices

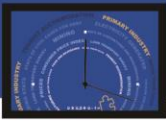
	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	0,8	-0,5	-0,8	-0,7	-1,5	-1,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,9	-0,6	1,3	-0,4	-0,6	0,4
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	-0,3	0,2	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,0

^{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 3,4% year-on-year in April 2023.

As petrol and diesel prices remain high, some motorists have started looking for cost-effective alternatives. One of the options considered is liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). This type of gas can be used for cooking, heating and even driving. South Africa recently saw the launch of its first LPG fuel station in KwaZulu-Natal on 15 June 2023. The station was launched by Isinkwe Energies in partnership with Ergon Equipment and Prins Autogas. The company’s managing director, Kyle Hartley, said the price of LPG is around R13 per litre at Isinkwe. This makes it roughly 41% cheaper than the current price of R21,91 per litre for Petrol 95 in coastal areas. Moreover, LPG emits 33% less carbon dioxide (CO2) than coal and 12% less than oil. Thus, motorists who choose to convert fuel to LPG are likely to save on fuel costs and reduce the environmental damage caused by fuel emissions from their vehicles. However, LPG has a lower energy density per litre compared to petrol, therefore more LPG is required to achieve the same performance



and driving range as petrol. This article summarises the results of *Motor trade sales* (statistical release P6343.2) for April 2023.

Motor trade sales decreased by 3,4% year-on-year in April 2023 (see Table I). The largest negative annual growth rates were recorded for:

- used vehicle sales (-14,7%);
- convenience store sales (-3,8%); and
- new vehicle sales (-3,1%).

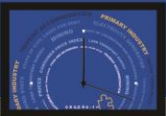
The largest negative contributor to this decrease was used vehicle sales (contributing -3,1 percentage points).

Motor trade sales decreased by 2,8% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The main negative contributor to this decrease was used vehicle sales (-12,9%, contributing -2,7 percentage points).

Table I – Key growth rates in motor trade sales for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	0,8	1,8	-2,5	-2,2	-2,8	-3,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,6	0,6	-1,8	0,6	-0,8	0,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted ^{1/}	1,6	-1,0	-1,9	-1,7	-1,6	-0,8

^{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

Total income generated by the food and beverages industry increased by 7,4% in April 2023 compared with April 2022

The World Health Organization (WHO) cautions against the high intake of added sugar as it can lead to obesity and increase the risk of developing health conditions like diabetes, heart conditions and certain types of cancer, amongst others. In a bid to reduce the amount of added sugar in food and beverages, manufacturers have resorted to substituting added sugar with artificial sweeteners as these have less or no calories compared to sugar. However, the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is set to declare aspartame as possibly carcinogenic (causing cancer) in humans this month (July 2023). Aspartame is a very sweet substance used as an artificial sweetener mainly in low-calorie products. It is commonly found in a variety of products labelled as sugar-free, zero sugar or diet such as diet carbonated drinks, sugar-free chewing gums, cereals, sugar-free desserts and puddings, amongst others. This article summarises results from the *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) for April 2023.

Total income generated by the food and beverages industry increased by 7,4% in April 2023 compared with April 2022 (see **Table J**). The largest annual growth rates were recorded for:

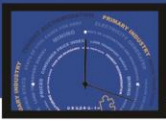
- food sales (7,6%); and
- bar sales (6,1%).

In April 2023, the main contributors to the 7,4% year-on-year increase were:

- takeaway and fast-food outlets (11,0%, contributing 4,1 percentage points); and
- restaurants and coffee shops (5,3%, contributing 2,6 percentage points).

Total income increased by 9,6% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The main contributors to this increase were:

- restaurants and coffee shops (8,7%, contributing 4,2 percentage points); and



- takeaway and fast-food outlets (9,9%, contributing 3,7 percentage points).

Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant 2019 prices by type of income for April 2023

Type of income	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Food sales	15,0	14,3	15,5	12,7	8,1	7,6
Bar sales	11,6	42,4	27,1	23,6	17,9	6,1
Other income	21,6	6,6	14,5	-3,0	11,5	4,2
Total	14,9	16,0	16,3	13,0	8,8	7,4

¹A full release on *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.

Tourist accommodation

Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 25,8% in April 2023 compared with April 2022

Beyond the luxurious 5-star tourist establishments which offer state-of-the-art facilities, there are modest yet authentic South African accommodations hidden away in small towns and villages. Since these tourist establishments are located in remote areas, they might not get enough exposure. Recognising this challenge, the Tourism Grading Council of South Africa (TGCSA) launched the Basic Quality Verification (BQV) programme in KwaZulu-Natal after a successful pilot. "This programme helps small tourism establishments in under-resourced villages, towns and *dorpiés* (small towns) reach their full potential by giving them access to training, expertise and resources as well as TGCSA's valuable stamp of approval. Hotels, B&Bs, guesthouses, and homestays tucked away in small towns deserve their time in the sun, and the BQV does just that," said Deputy Minister of the Department of Tourism, Fish Mahlalela. With this new verification, these establishments can offer their customers peace of mind while still offering them an authentic experience of South African culture and hospitality. This article summarises the results of the *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) for April 2023.



Total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 25,8% in April 2023 compared with April 2022 (**see Table K**). Income from accommodation increased by 30,9% year-on-year in April 2023, the result of a 9,3% increase in the number of stay unit nights sold and a 19,7% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.

In April 2023, the largest contributors to the 30,9% year-on-year increase in income from accommodation were:

- hotels (31,3%, contributing 15,0 percentage points); and
- 'other' accommodation (33,7%, contributing 14,7 percentage points).

Income from accommodation increased by 41,3% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The main contributors to this increase were:

- hotels (45,7%, contributing 22,8 percentage points); and
- 'other' accommodation (39,0%, contributing 16,1 percentage points).

Table K – Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Stay units available	0,4	0,3	0,3	0,4	0,3	0,0
Stay unit nights sold	20,4	18,5	16,2	12,9	7,0	9,3
Average income per stay unit nights sold	19,4	19,9	34,3	41,9	27,1	19,7
Income from accommodation	43,8	42,1	56,0	60,2	36,0	30,9
Total income ^{1/}	28,3	41,2	39,4	35,2	26,2	25,8

^{1/} Includes restaurant and bar sales and 'other' income. Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated. A full release on *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Tourism and migration

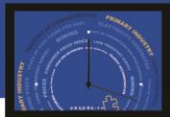
A total of 2 378 670 travellers passed through South African ports of entry/exit in May 2023

After a drastic drop in tourist arrivals in 2020 and 2021, the volume of tourist arrivals in South Africa is showing improvement. The 2022 Tourism report released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 18 May 2023 shows volumes of tourists increased by 152,6%, from 2 255 699 tourists in 2021 to 5 698 062 tourists in 2022. A gradual improvement was observed in the number of tourists' arrivals from January to December 2022; however, it is still 44,3% below the pre-pandemic year of 2019 which was 10 228 593. In 2022, tourists from the United Kingdom (UK) (283 031) topped the overseas visitor list, followed by the United States of America (USA) (262 183) and Germany (173 146). Zimbabwe (1 233 790) topped Southern African Development Community (SADC) visitor list followed by Mozambique (944 308), Lesotho (835 921), Eswatini (403 762) and Botswana (262 232). Other African countries did not feature in the top eight countries. Europe shows an improvement of 6,2 percentage points from 9,6% in 2021 to 15,8% in 2022. However, tourist arrivals from Southern African Development Community (SADC) dropped by 8,2 percentage points from 80,8% in 2021 to 72,6% in 2022. This article summarises results of *Tourism and migration* (statistical release P0351) for May 2023.

Travellers

In May 2023, a total of 2 378 670 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports of entry/exit in May 2023 (**see Table L**). These travellers were made up of 659 639 South African residents and 1 719 031 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of figures for South African residents indicates that there were 327 811 arrivals, 331 346 departures and 482 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 895 463, 789 789 and 33 779 respectively.

A comparison between movements in April 2023 and May 2023 indicates volumes of arrivals and departures decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers but volumes of travellers in transit increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, volumes of arrivals decreased by 13,7% (from 379 707 in April 2023 to 327 811 in May 2023) and departures decreased by 17,8% (from 403 131 in April 2023 to 331 346



in May 2023). Transits increased by 20,2% (from 401 in April 2023 to 482 in May 2023). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 8,5% (from 979 032 in April 2023 to 895 463 in May 2023), departures decreased by 10,6% (from 883 708 in April 2023 to 789 789 in May 2023), and transits increased by 10,5% (from 30 561 in April 2023 to 33 779 in May 2023).

A comparison between movements in May 2022 and May 2023 indicates that volumes of arrivals, departures and travellers in transit increased for both South African residents and foreign travellers. For South African residents, volumes of arrivals increased by 20,7% (from 271 518 in May 2022 to 327 811 in May 2023), departures increased by 18,4% (from 279 966 in May 2022 to 331 346 in May 2023) and transits increased by 19,3% (from 404 in May 2022 to 482 in May 2023). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 56,3% (from 572 870 in May 2022 to 895 463 in May 2023), departures increased by 55,6% (from 507 739 in May 2022 to 789 789 in May 2023) and transits increased by 26,7% (from 26 666 in May 2022 to 33 779 in May 2023).

Mode of travel of travellers

In May 2023, road was the most common mode of travel used by 1 624 832 (68,3%) of the 2 378 670 travellers. Total number of travellers who used air was 746 645 (31,4%). Compared to air and land, a smaller number of travellers, 7 193 (0,3%) used sea into and out of South Africa. Information on arrivals of South African residents shows that 145 375 (44,3%) came by air, 182 227 (55,6%) came by road and 209 (0,1%) arrived by sea. For departures, 156 361 (47,2%) used air, 174 907 (52,8%) used road and 78 (less than 0,1%) left by sea. All travellers in transit, 482 (100,0%) used air.

Visitors

In May 2023, 28 300 (3,2%) of foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 867 163 (96,8%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in May 2023 but did not depart in May 2023 [274 324 (31,6%)];
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in May 2023 and left in May 2023 [276 380 (31,9%)]; and
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in May 2023 [316 459 (36,5%)].



Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In May 2023, there were 237 063 (27,3%) same-day visitors and 630 100 (72,7%) tourists. Between April 2023 and May 2023, volumes of same-day visitors increased by 2,0% (from 232 458 in April 2023 to 237 063 in May 2023) whereas that of tourists decreased by 11,7% (from 713 470 in April 2023 to 630 100 in May 2023). Between May 2022 and May 2023, volumes of same-day visitors increased by 102,1% (from 117 290 in May 2022 to 237 063 in May 2023) and that of tourists increased by 54,7% (from 407 262 in May 2022 to 630 100 in May 2023).

Of the 237 063 same-day visitors, a majority, 217 840 (91,9%) arrived in the country by road, 19 159 (8,1%) flew into the country and 64 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 460 618 (73,1%) used road, 169 312 (26,9%) came by air and 170 (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea.

Tourists

Sex and age distribution of tourists

In May 2023, there were more male [376 004 (59,7%)] than female [254 096 (40,3%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted majority of tourists for all three regions, Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries [294 966 (60,7%)], overseas countries [73 474 (55,5%)] and 'other' African countries [6 904 (63,4%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists were from SADC countries [190 642 (39,3%)], followed by overseas countries [58 969 (44,5%)] and 'other' African countries [3 981 (36,6%)]

Age of tourists

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, [23 644 (3,8%)] were aged less than 15 years; [46 348 (7,4%)] were aged between 15 and 24 years; [153 438 (24,4%)] were aged between 25 and 34 years; [198 417 (31,5%)] were aged between 35 and 44 years; [118 244 (18,8%)] were aged between 45 and 54 years; [57 457 (9,1%)] were aged between 55 and 64 years; [32 551 (5,2%)] were aged 65 years and above.

Purpose of visit of tourists

In May 2023, majority of tourists, 603 219 (95,7%), were in South Africa for holiday compared to 22 640 (3,6%); 3 904 (0,6%) and 337 (0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment respectively.



Mode of travel of tourists

In May 2023, 122 710 (92,7%) overseas tourists arrived in the country by air, whilst 9 571 (7,2%) came in by road and 162 (0,1%) arrived by sea. Tourists from SADC countries, on the other hand, came predominantly by road, 449 888 (92,6%), whilst 35 718 (7,4%) came by air and two (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. The number of tourists who came into South Africa by air from 'other' African countries was 9 975 (91,6%); while 904 (8,3%) used road transport and six (0,1%) used sea.

Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction, May 2023

Travel direction	May 2022	April 2023	May 2023	% change April to May 2023	% change May 2022 to May 2023
Total	1 659 163	2 676 540	2 378 670	-11,1%	43,4%
South African residents	551 888	783 239	659 639	-15,8%	19,5%
Arrivals	271 518	379 707	327 811	-13,7%	20,7%
Departures	279 966	403 131	331 346	-17,8%	18,4%
Transit	404	401	482	20,2%	19,3%
Foreign travellers	1 107 275	1 893 301	1 719 031	-9,2%	55,2%
Arrivals	572 870	979 032	895 463	-8,5%	56,3%
Departures	507 739	883 708	789 789	-10,6%	55,6%
Transit	26 666	30 561	33 779	10,5%	26,7%

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

Total number of civil summonses issued for debt increased by 0,3% in the three months ended April 2023

Consumers should check their credit reports regularly with credit bureaus to spot any incorrect information or fraudulent transactions, to avoid civil actions for debt. Incorrect credit information can adversely affect a consumer's chances of acquiring credit or a job where a company is considering a candidate for employment in a position that requires honesty in dealing with cash or finances. If a consumer disputes the accuracy of the information, credit bureaus must take reasonable steps to seek evidence in support of the challenged information. Credit bureaus have 20 business days to seek information and challenge the consumer's claim. Should the credit provider fail to prove the listing within the 20 business days, the credit bureau must remove the disputed information from the consumer's credit profile. Knowing what is contained in the credit report enables consumers to improve their credit reports and prevent civil judgments for debts. This article summarises the results of the *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) for April 2023.

The number of civil summonses issued for debt

The total number of civil summonses issued for debt increased by 0,3% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022 (**see Table M**). The largest positive contributors to the 0,3% increase in civil summonses issued were:

- 'other' debts (contributing 4,7 percentage points); and
- services (contributing 0,7 of a percentage point).

Money lent was the largest negative contributor (contributing -2,0 percentage points).

The number of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 1,9% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The largest negative contributors to the 1,9% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- goods sold (contributing -3,5 percentage points);
- services (contributing -1,5 percentage points); and



- rent (contributing -1,5 percentage points).

'Other' debt was the largest positive contributor (contributing 3,6 percentage points).

The value of civil judgements recorded for debt

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt increased by 5,1% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The largest positive contributors to the 5,1% increase were civil judgements relating to:

- money lent (contributing 4,5 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing 1,6 percentage points); and
- rent (contributing 1,3 percentage points).

Services (contributing -1,9 percentage points) and goods sold (contributing -1,4 percentage points) were the negative contributors.

In April 2023, 10 292 civil judgements for debt amounting to R263,9 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- money lent (R87,1 million or 33,0%);
- 'other' debts (R55,9 million or 21,2%); and
- services (R44,7 million or 16,9%).

Table M – Key figures for civil summonses and judgements for April 2023

Actual estimates	April 2023	% change between April 2022 and April 2023	% change between February to April 2022 and February to April 2023
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	35 413	-7,1	0,3
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	10 292	0,6	-1,9
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	263,9	10,1	5,1

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

Total number of liquidations decreased by 19,7% in May 2023 compared with May 2022

South Africa has an unemployment crisis, with one of the highest unemployment rates in the world. Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) data shows that the unemployment rate was 32,9% in the first quarter of 2023, which translates to 7,9 million people without jobs. While some jobseekers become discouraged to look for work, others resort to starting small businesses to create employment for themselves and sometimes others. Small businesses are crucial for job creation in a country; however, they face many obstacles which may result in their failure. Research conducted by the University of the Western Cape shows that approximately 70%–80% of small businesses fail within five years of operation. Lack of business skills is one of the many reasons which may lead to failure according to Stephen de Blanche, Chief Revenue Officer for TransUnion Africa. Such failed businesses end up being liquidated due to lack of cash flow. This article summarises results from the *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) for May 2023.

Total number of liquidations decreased by 19,7% in May 2023 compared with May 2022 (**see Table N**). Liquidations of close corporations decreased by 53 cases, while liquidations of companies increased by 16 cases during this period. Total number of liquidations decreased by 14,5% in the first five months of 2023 compared with the first five months of 2022.

Table N – Key growth rates in the number of liquidations for May 2023

Number of liquidations May 2023	% change between May 2022 and May 2023	% change between March to May 2022 and March to May 2023	% change between January to May 2022 and January to May 2023
151	-19,7	-15,2	-14,5

A full release on *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za.



Land transport

Volume of transported goods increased by 11,8% in April 2023

Motor vehicles are the major contributors to fatal road accidents and subsequent mortality rates across the world. A new study conducted by a group of experts from Compare the Markets Australia (CMA), which ranked the safest and most dangerous nations by road mortality rates and which gender is most at risk using official statistics published by World Bank, revealed that South African men and women are among the worst drivers in the world. According to a study, South Africa has a higher number of fatal accidents with a rate being significantly higher for males at 34,9 per 100 000 people than females at 9,9 per 100 000 people. This article summarises the results of the *Land transport* (statistical release P7162) for April 2023.

The volume of goods transported (payload) increased by 11,8% in April 2023 compared with April 2022 (see **Table O**). The corresponding income increased by 11,7% over the same period.

Income from freight transportation increased by 10,2% in the three months ended April 2023 compared with the three months ended April 2022. The main contributors to this increase were:

- primary mining and quarrying products (14,1%, contributing 4,6 percentage points);
- ‘other’ freight (18,6%, contributing 3,7 percentage points); and
- manufactured food, beverages and tobacco products (8,8%, contributing 1,1 percentage points).

Table O – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation: April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Freight payload	17,7	12,9	17,2	7,3	4,8	11,8
Freight income	20,2	15,1	19,9	11,6	7,3	11,7

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 2,5% in April 2023 compared with April 2022. The corresponding income increased by 5,4% over the same period (**see Table P**).

Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in passenger transportation: April 2023

	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23
Passenger journeys	14,5	13,5	18,8	12,9	13,5	2,5
Passenger income	20,3	45,3	30,5	19,1	15,5	5,4

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



Prices

Producer price index (PPI)

Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 7,3% in May 2023

A global pandemic of highly infectious bird flu has been ravaging the chicken and egg industry, resulting in the death of chickens and short supply of eggs. In June 2023, the highly infectious H7 bird flu hit Mpumalanga and killed poultry, while some had to be killed to prevent the spread. The bird flu follows an outbreak of H5N1 that was detected in Western Cape in April 2023. The bird flu has caused a drop in the supply of eggs and poultry and resulted in producers passing higher prices for both poultry and eggs to consumers. Generally, various pandemics negatively affect producer prices due to the disruption in supply chain. This article presents results from the *Producer price index* (PPI) (statistical release P0142.1) for May 2023.

Final manufactured goods

Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 7,3% in May 2023, down from 8,6% in April 2023 (**see Table Q**). The producer price index (PPI) increased by 0,6% month-on-month in May 2023.

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

- food products, beverages and tobacco products (increased by 7,0% year-on-year and contributed 1,8 percentage points);
- paper and printed products (increased by 15,5% year-on-year and contributed 1,2 percentage points);
- transport equipment (increased by 12,8% year-on-year and contributed 1,1 percentage points);
- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (increased by 3,6% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point); and
- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (increased by 6,1% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point).

The contributors to the headline PPI monthly increase were:

- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (increased by 1,2% month-on-month and contributed 0,2 of a percentage point);



- food products, beverages and tobacco products (increased by 0,2% month-on-month and contributed 0,1 of a percentage point);
- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (increased by 0,4% month-on-month and contributed 0,1 of a percentage point);
- furniture and other manufacturing (increased by 2,1% month-on-month and contributed 0,1 of a percentage point); and
- non-metallic mineral products (increased by 1,9% month-on-month and contributed 0,1 of a percentage point).

Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 4,4% in May 2023 (compared with 4,6% in April 2023). The index increased by 2,0% month-on-month.

The main contributors to the annual rate were:

- chemicals, rubber and plastic products (1,5 percentage points);
- basic and fabricated metals (1,5 percentage points); and
- sawmilling and wood (0,7 of a percentage point).

The main contributor to the monthly rate was basic and fabricated metals (1,9 percentage points).

Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 15,5% in May 2023 (compared with 13,1% in April 2023). The index increased by 3,8% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 14,4 percentage points and water contributed 1,1 percentage points to the annual rate. Electricity contributed 3,8 percentage points to the monthly rate.

Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was 7,2% in May 2023 (compared with 10,5% in April 2023). The index increased by 0,2% month-on-month.

The main contributors to the annual rate were gold and other metal ores (3,9 percentage points) and coal and gas (2,8 percentage points).

The main contributor to the monthly rate was non-ferrous metal ores (1,0 percentage point).



Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 4,5% in May 2023 (compared with 6,0% in April 2023). The index decreased by 0,3% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were fishing (2,0 percentage points) and agriculture (1,9 percentage points).

The main contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (-0,5 of a percentage point).

Table Q – Key PPI figures for May 2023

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2020=100)			% change	
		May 2022	April 2023	May 2023	May 2023 vs. April 2023	May 2023 vs. May 2022
Final manufactured goods	100,00	119,2	127,2	127,9	0,6	7,3
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	129,8	132,9	135,5	2,0	4,4
Electricity and water	100,00	120,7	134,3	139,4	3,8	15,5
Mining	100,00	127,8	136,7	137,0	0,2	7,2
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	115,2	120,8	120,4	-0,3	4,5

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

Consumer price index (CPI)

CPI at 6,3% in May 2023

South African consumers have been paying more for food since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Good news for fruit lovers, however, is that the price of seasonal fruits decreased by 7,9% in May 2023 compared with April 2023. This is because, during harvest season, locally produced fruits that are in season are in abundance, leading to a decrease in production and logistics costs since there is no need to import these fruits from other countries. This abundance also means that the supply could potentially



outweigh the demand, so farmers tend to sell the fruits at a lower price to maintain demand. Fruits that recorded lower prices in May 2023 include oranges, apples, bananas and avocados. This article summarises the results of the *Consumer price index (CPI)* (statistical release P0141) for May 2023.

Key findings headline consumer price index (CPI) for all urban areas

Annual consumer price inflation was 6,3% in May 2023, down from 6,8% in April 2023 (**see Table S**). Consumer price index increased by 0,2% month-on-month in May 2023. The main contributors to the 6,3% annual inflation rates were:

- food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 11,8% year-on-year and contributed 2,1 percentage points;
- housing and utilities increased by 4,0% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point;
- transport increased by 7,0% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point; and
- miscellaneous goods and services increased by 6,3% year-on-year and contributed 0,9 of a percentage point.

In May 2023, the annual inflation rate of goods was 8,0%, down from 9,0% in April; and for services, it remained unchanged at 4,7%.



Table S – Consumer price index: Index numbers and year-on-year rates
Base year: Dec 2021=100

Year	Index/ rate	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average ¹
2018	Index	84,5	85,2	85,5	86,2	86,3	86,6	87,4	87,3	87,7	88,1	88,2	88,1	86,8
	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	87,9	88,6	89,4	89,9	90,2	90,5	90,8	91,1	91,3	91,3	91,4	91,6	90,3
	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	91,9	92,8	93,1	92,6	92,0	92,5	93,7	93,9	94,0	94,3	94,3	94,4	93,3
	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	94,8	95,4	96,1	96,7	96,8	97,0	98,1	98,5	98,7	99,0	99,4	100,0	97,5
	Rate	3,2	2,9	3,2	4,4	5,2	4,9	4,6	4,9	5,0	5,0	5,5	5,9	4,5
2022	Index	100,2	100,8	101,8	102,4	103,1	104,2	105,8	106,0	106,1	106,5	106,8	107,2	104,2
	Rate	5,7	5,7	5,9	5,9	6,5	7,4	7,8	7,6	7,5	7,6	7,4	7,2	6,9
2023	Index	107,1	107,9	109,0	109,4	109,6								
	Rate	6,9	7,0	7,1	6,8	6,3								

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



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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