

# Mbalo Brief



the missing piece of the puzzle

October 2024

WHOLESALE TRADE SALES CIVIL CASES FOR DEBT  
STATISTICS OF LIQUIDATIONS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
TOURIST ACCOMMODATION MOTOR TRADE SALES  
PPI Statistical information CPI  
WHOLESALE TRADE SALES TOURIST ACCOMMODATION



Issue 09/2024

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH DATA ECOSYSTEMS



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## Editor's Comment



Stress is a natural human response that's part of everyday life which affects adults and adolescents to some degree. However, when stress becomes overwhelming or difficult to bear it may result in mental health disorders such as anxiety and depression. It is often difficult for people to talk about mental health disorders due to fear of stigmatisation. In order to raise awareness and protect all those affected by mental health disorders, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared 10

October as Mental Health Day. According to the 2022 World Mental Health Report, there were 970 million people globally living with mental disorders in 2019, including 14% of the world's adolescents. Furthermore, a different report by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) ranked South Africa amongst the highest countries living with mental disorders. While this year's theme was 'Mental Health at Work', it is also relevant to learners because – like employees – learners spend about two-thirds of their lives at school. In an unhealthy school environment, learners may experience stigma, bullying, discrimination, harassment, amongst many others that can trigger or exacerbate mental health issues. This can lead to lack of concentration, poor performance, absenteeism or even worse, suicide. Let us always remember to be kind and lend a helping hand to our peers and broader communities to lessen each other's stress.

This month's feature article is based on the *Census 2022 provincial profile: KwaZulu-Natal* (Report No. 03-01-74), published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 27 June 2024. Look out for our monthly crossword puzzle and the solutions for September 2024. Articles published in this issue are based on results of industry surveys conducted for July and August 2024.

Enjoy the read!





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## Crossword Puzzle

				1				2		3		
4												
		5										
6												
						7						
						8						
	9											

### Across

4. Which district recorded the highest population growth rate above the provincial average? Refer to the feature article for a clue.
6. What is the name of Durban's largest stadium?
7. Where was Albert Einstein born?
8. The majority of the population in KZN was legally married. True or False? Refer to the feature article for a clue.
9. In 2022, did the black African population increase or decrease in KZN? Refer to the feature article for a clue.

### Down

1. Who said these words: "I came, I saw, I conquered"?
2. What is a type of transport in the movement of goods from one place to another through various transportation mediums such as land, air and sea called? Read the *Land transport* article for a clue.
3. Unscramble hibudus asevc to reveal the name of a World Heritage Site in KwaZulu-Natal.
5. Besides Limpopo, which other province had a lower sex ratio than KZN? Read the feature article for a clue.

## Solution for September 2024 puzzle

### Across

3. Tipping
4. Four
5. Sudan
6. Peninsula
7. Africa

### Down

1. Siswati
2. Ljubljana
6. Perth





## Feature article

### Census 2022 provincial profile: KwaZulu-Natal (KZN)

#### 1. Introduction

KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) is a province located in the southeast of South Africa. The province shares borders with Eastern Cape, Free State and Mpumalanga

provinces, as well as neighbouring countries Eswatini, Lesotho and Mozambique. KwaZulu-Natal is the second most populous province after Gauteng, with an estimated population of 12,4 million people. True to its name, the province has the largest population of the Zulu people and the only province in South Africa with the largest Indian population outside of India.

Pietermaritzburg is the capital city. The city is Durban, a popular holiday

largest destination famous for its warm weather and pristine beaches. Durban also has the largest and busiest shipping terminals in the country, servicing much of the interior of South Africa. The port handles about 31,4 million tons of cargo each year. Main tourist attractions include uShaka Marine World, Moses Mabhida stadium and three World Heritage Sites as proclaimed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO), namely the uKhahlamba Drakensburg Park, iSimangaliso Wetland Park and Shibusu Caves.

This feature article is based on the *Census 2022 provincial profile: KwaZulu-Natal* (Report No. 03-01-74), published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)

on 27 June 2024. This report forms part of a series of publications generated from the recently conducted Census 2022. A report has been compiled for each of the nine provinces to profile the uniqueness of each province in terms of population dynamics, socio-economic development as well as progress in addressing challenges relating to access to basic services. This month, we take a closer look at the population characteristics of KwaZulu-Natal and also touch on education and housing demographics within the province.

## 2. Population characteristics

This section presents key findings of the demographic profile of KwaZulu-Natal. The population distribution, population density, age and sex structure, population group, marital status, language and religion are discussed under this section.

### 2.1 Population distribution

**Table 1: Population growth in KwaZulu-Natal, Census 1996-2022**




KwaZulu-Natal Province Population growth		
Census 1996 to 2001	Census 2001 to 2011	Census 2011 to 2022
8 572 302      9 584 129	9 584 129      10 267 300	10 267 300      12 423 907
		
Annual Growth rate ( 1996 - 2001 ) = 2,2%	Annual Growth rate ( 2001 - 2011 ) = 0,7%	Annual Growth rate ( 2011 - 2022 ) = 1,9%

Table 1 above, shows the population growth of KwaZulu-Natal for census 1996 to 2022. KwaZulu-Natal recorded a total population of 12,4 million in 2022, an increase from 8,6 million in 1996, 9,6 million in 2001 and 10,3 million in 2011. KwaZulu-Natal's population is the second largest in the country after Gauteng, and accounts for one-fifth (20%) of the country's



population. The growth rate of the province between 2011 and 2022 was 1,9, slightly higher than the national rate of 1,8.

### 2.1.1. Distribution of population by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022

The eThekweni metropolitan municipality was the largest contributor to the total population of KwaZulu-Natal in both 2011 (3,5 million) and 2022 (4,2 million). The least populous district in 2022 was Harry Gwala (563 893), almost eight times smaller than eThekweni. The district with the highest growth rate, Amajuba (3,1) was significantly above the provincial average of 1,9. The least populous municipalities in the province, Emadlangeni (36 948) in the Amajuba district, Mpofana (33 382) and Impendle (36 648) in the Umgungundlovu district recorded populations of less than 40 000.



Four of the six municipalities with negative growth rates were located in the Umgungundlovu district - Impendle recorded a negative growth rate of -0,2 and Mpofana, Mkhambathini and Richmond all recorded a negative growth rate of -0,4. Umzumbe (-1,0) in the Ugu district and Nkandla (-0,5) in King Cetshwayo district also recorded negative growth rates. All three municipalities in Amajuba district, Endumeni (4,2), Newcastle (3,3) and Dannhauser (3,2) recorded the highest growth rates in the province, considerably higher than the province's average of 1,9.

### 2.1.2. Population density

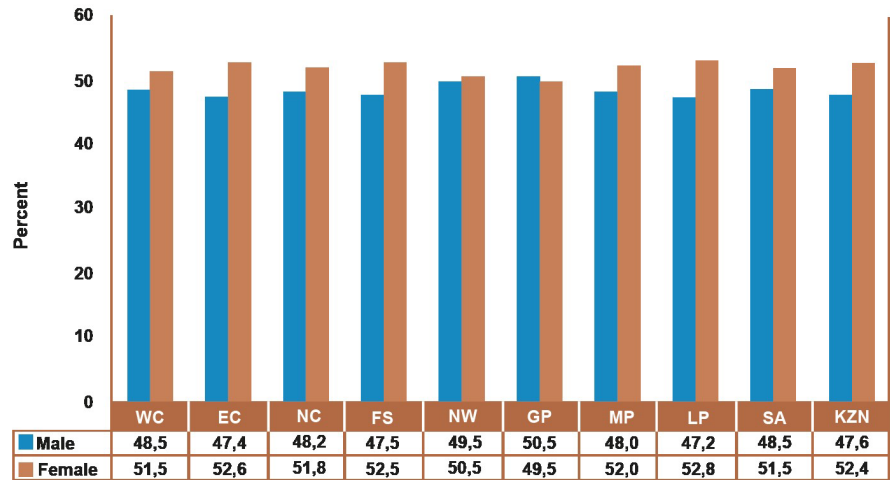


The density of a population tells us the average population size per square kilometre. The population density of KwaZulu-Natal was 132 in 2022, meaning that an average of 132 persons resided in one square kilometre. This was an increase from the density of 109 in 2011. eThekweni's area size of 2 556 km<sup>2</sup> was the smallest amongst the districts, but with the

highest density of 1 659, over 12 times the density of the province. The municipalities with the lowest densities were Emadlangeni (10 persons per square kilometre) and Mpofana with 22 persons living in a square kilometre.

## 2.2 Age and sex structure

### 2.2.1 Figure 1: Percentage distribution of population by province and sex, Census 2022



In KwaZulu-Natal, just over half (52,4%) of the population were female and 47,6% male. The comparison of KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa's population indicates a slightly higher proportion of females in KwaZulu-Natal (52,4%) compared to the national percentage of 51,5%. **(See figure 1 above).**

### 2.2.2 Sex ratio by district & local municipality, Census 2011-2022

The sex ratio provides us with the number of males for every 100 females. A sex ratio above 100 indicates more males than females, and one below 100, indicates more females than males. The sex ratio of KwaZulu-Natal for 1996 and 2001 was 88 and increased slightly to 91 in 2011 and 2022.



The sex ratios for the province across all the years were lower than the national ratios recorded, with the biggest difference observed in 1996 where the sex ratio in South Africa was 93 compared to the 88 in KwaZulu-Natal. In 1996, 2001 and 2011, provinces with lower sex ratios than KwaZulu-Natal, were Eastern Cape and Limpopo. In 2022, Eastern Cape, Limpopo and Free State recorded lower sex ratios than KwaZulu-Natal. The highest sex ratio was recorded in Emadlangeni local municipality (97), followed by eThekweni, where 96 males for every 100 females could be found.

### 2.2.3 Distribution of population by broad age groups, district & local municipality, Census 2022

Over eight million of the province's population were between the ages of 15-64, accounting for over three-fifths (66,4%) of the province. Over one-quarter (27,2%) of the province's population was aged between 0 and 14 years and the smallest proportion (6,4%) of the population were the elderly, aged 65 years and older. In all districts and local municipalities, the proportion of the population aged 15-64 made up more than half of the population. eThekweni metropolitan municipality had the highest proportion of those in the working age group of 15-64 years (72,2%). Msinga local municipality, with less than two-fifths (38,5%) of its population between the ages of 0 and 14, recorded the largest proportion of children in the province. Greater Kokstad local municipality had the lowest proportion of the elderly population, where only 3,5% of the population was aged 65 and above.

## 2.3 Population group

### 2.3.1 Distribution of population by population group, Census 2011-2022

In 2022, black Africans made up 84,8% of the province's population, slightly decreasing from 86,8% in 2011. Indian/Asians made up 9,3% in 2022, an increase from the 7,4% in 2011. The white population (4,1%) and coloured population (1,5%) together accounted for only 5,6% of the population.

### 2.3.2 Distribution of population by population group, district & local municipality, Census 2022

The highest proportion of the Indian/Asian population resided in eThekweni (19,7%) and KwaDukuza local municipality (18,6%). A higher proportion (22,9%) of the white population lived in uMngeni local municipality, significantly higher than the provincial average of 4,1%. Over 99% of the population of Mthonjaneni, Umzimkhulu, Ndwedwe, Umhlabuyalingana, Jozini, Msinga, Nqutu, Maphumulo, Ulundi, Nkandla, Umzumbe and Nongoma local municipalities were black Africans, with the highest proportion found in Umzumbe and Nongoma (both 99,7%).

## 2.4 Marital status

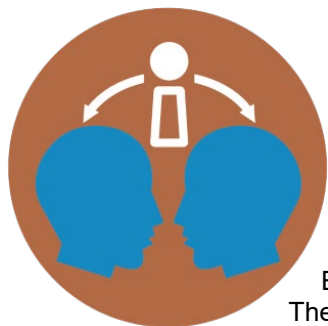
Majority of the population in Kwazulu-Natal, 70,9%, reported that they were never married. Less than one-fifth (19,8%) of the population was legally married and small proportions reported that they cohabited (4,8%), were widowed (3,3%), divorced (1,0%) and separated, but still legally married (0,3%). Over four-fifths of Umhlabuyalingana (82,9%), Jozini (82,5%), Umkhanyakude (81,4%), eDumbe (80,8%) and UPhongolo local municipalities (80,8%) were never married, in contrast to uMngeni local municipality which had the lowest proportion (58,4%) of those never married. Msinga was the only local municipality where more than 10% of the population reported that they were cohabiting, almost three times the proportion recorded in the province. uMngeni and Impendle local municipalities both in the Umgungundlovu district, had the highest proportions (5,0% and 5,3%) of the widowed population.

The marriage rate is calculated by dividing the total number of married persons by the total population in that area multiplied by 1 000. KwaZulu-Natal's marriage rate was 197 in 2022, an increase from 188 in 2011. This

means that, in 2022, 197 persons per 1 000 persons in the province were married. The marriage rates recorded in uMngeni (297), eThekweni (238), Umdoni (237), Msunduzi (236) and Ray Nkonyeni (234) local municipalities were the highest in the province while Msinga (79) and Umhlabuyalingana (90) local municipalities were the lowest. The highest divorce rates amongst the local municipalities (above the provincial average of 10), were recorded for Umdoni (11), Endumeni and KwaDukuza (both 12), Ray Nkonyeni (15), Msunduzi (16) and uMngeni (19).

## 2.5 Language

### Distribution of population aged one year and older by language most often spoken in the household, Census 2011-2022



In 2011 and 2022, IsiZulu was the most spoken language in households across the province. From a total of 12 million persons aged one year and older in 2022, four-fifths (80%), a total of 9,6 million persons in the province spoke IsiZulu. This is an increase from 77,7% (7,7 million) in 2011. This was followed by English (14,4%) and IsiXhosa (3,1%) in 2022.

2022 in

terms of other languages spoken.

## 2.6 Religion

The data collected in KwaZulu-Natal on religious affiliation showed that almost three-quarters (74,9%) of the province were affiliated to Christianity, 13,6% to traditional African religion and 4,2% to Hinduism.

## 3. Education

This section focuses on the proportion of the population with no schooling, level of education and field of study.

### 3.1 Percentage of population aged 20 years and older with no schooling by district, Census 2022

In KwaZulu-Natal, 8,3% of the population aged 20 and older had no schooling. The highest percentage of persons who had no formal schooling was recorded in Umkhanyakude and Umzinyathi districts with 19,8% and 17,8%, respectively. Districts with percentages below the provincial average of 8,3% were Harry Gwala (7,6%), Umgungundlovu (5,6%) and Amajuba (5,3%).

### 3.2 Distribution of population aged 20 years and older by highest level of education completed by district and local municipality, Census 2022

Out of the 7,4 million residing in KwaZulu-Natal, about 8,3% (607 246) had no formal education, while only 10,4% (763 407) attained a higher education qualification. Over two-fifths (41,2%) of the population had secondary as their highest level of education. Umgungundlovu district recorded the highest proportion of persons with a higher education (13,1%). In terms of local municipalities, uMngeni recorded the highest proportion of persons with a higher education (20,4%), while Msinga in the Umzinyathi district recorded the lowest proportion in the province (3,2%).

### 3.3 Table 2: Distribution of persons aged 20 and older by field of education and sex, Census 2022

Field of education	Male		Female		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Business management	99 132	26,6	128 044	26,2	227 177	26,4
Natural & mathematical sciences	15 237	4,1	14 083	2,9	29 320	3,4
Engineering & other applied sciences	90 817	24,4	28 595	5,9	119 413	13,9
Humanities, social sciences & applied humanities	75 500	20,3	179 500	36,8	255 001	29,6
Health sciences	18 979	5,1	59 838	12,3	78 817	9,2
Law	11 600	3,1	12 312	2,5	23 912	2,8
Other	61 049	16,4	65 910	13,5	126 959	14,8
<b>Total</b>	<b>372 316</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>488 284</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>372 316</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 2 above shows that the most common fields of study in the province were Humanities, social sciences and applied humanities, studied by 29,6% of the population, followed by Business management (26,4%). Smaller percentages (13,9%) of the population studied Engineering and other applied sciences, while 'Other' (any field of study not listed) accounted for 14,8%. A significant difference between the fields of study chosen by females as compared to males is observed. The percentage of males studying Engineering and other applied sciences was over four times the

percentage of females studying the same (24,4% of males and 5,9% of females). A larger percentage of females (12,3%) compared to males (5,1%) were studying Health sciences and 36,8% of females studied Humanities, social sciences and applied humanities compared to 20,3% of males.

#### **4. Household characteristics and access to basic services**

This section focuses on household size, housing and access to a flush toilet in the dwelling as a basic service.

##### **4.1 Household size**

##### **Distribution of households by average household size, district and local municipality, Census 2011-2022**

The total number of households in the province increased from 2 539 337 in 2011 to 2 853 741 in 2022, while the average household size increased from 4,0 to 4,4 between the two periods. The highest number of households, just



over 1,1 million, were found in eThekweni metropolitan municipality. Between 2011 and 2022, the household size in eThekweni metropolitan municipality increased from 3,6 to 3,8. The district with the highest household size was Zululand (5,7) and one of its local municipalities, Nongoma local municipality recorded the highest

household size of 7,0 in 2022, an increase from the 5,7 recorded in 2011.

##### **4.2 Percentage of households with access to a flush toilet by province, Census 2011-2022**

In KwaZulu-Natal, 58,9% of households had access to flush toilets in 2022, an increase from 45% in 2011. Although access to flush toilets increased between 2011 and 2022 in the province, it was still below the national average of 60,1% in 2011 and 70,8% in 2022.

### 4.3 Distribution of households by main energy source for cooking by district and local municipality, Census 2022

The majority of households (71,8%) in KwaZulu-Natal used electricity as their energy source for cooking. Just over one-fifth (20,6%) used gas for cooking, and 6% used wood. eThekweni metropolitan municipality (75,4%), Amajuba (76,1%) and Umgungundlovu (76,2%) districts recorded a higher percentage of households using electricity for cooking than the provincial average. In Richmond local municipality, 80,3% of households used electricity for cooking, just less than double the proportion recorded in Emalangeneni local municipality with 37,1%. Gas usage was the highest in eThekweni metropolitan municipality (23%) and iLembe district municipality (22,3%).

### 4.4 Housing

The majority of households (86,8%) in KwaZulu-Natal lived in formal dwellings, followed by traditional (8%) and informal dwellings (5%). Harry Gwala and Umzinyathi were the districts with the highest proportion of households residing in traditional dwellings (30,4% and 26,4%, respectively), over three times the provincial average. eThekweni (1,7%), Amajuba (4,6%), Umgungundlovu (6,9%), Umkhanyakude (7,1%) and iLembe (9,4%) recorded the lowest proportions of households residing in traditional dwellings, all under 10%. uMhlathuze (97%) and Newcastle local municipalities (96%), had higher proportions of households residing in formal dwellings. eThekweni had the highest proportion of informal dwellings (8,9%).

## 5. Conclusion

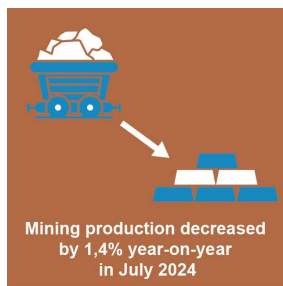
The Census 2022 results indicate that KZN was the second most populous province in South Africa. Over half of the population in the province were female. The results also show that majority of the population were black African. A higher proportion of the population was never married. IsiZulu was the most spoken language across households in the province. Christianity was a popular religion compared to other religions. Humanities, social sciences and applied humanities was the most preferred field of study. The number of households in the province increased between 2011 and 2022. Majority of households in KZN were residing in formal dwellings.





## Primary industries

### Mining: Production and sales



Iron ore is one of the most important natural resources in the modern world. As one of the primary raw materials used in steel production, iron ore is the backbone of industries such as manufacturing, construction and transportation. Since March 2024, the production of iron ore in South Africa has been declining. This is largely due to logistical problems faced by South Africa's state-owned company, Transnet, the custodian of rail, ports and pipelines. Nelson Banya, a reporter

for Reuters, writes that "Transnet has struggled to provide adequate freight rail and port services in South Africa due to equipment shortages and maintenance backlogs after years of under-investment." These challenges have negatively impacted iron ore export volumes, resulting in an accumulation of millions of tonnes of iron ore, eventually prompting iron ore companies to reduce their production volumes. Stats SA's mining data for July 2024 confirms this decreased production by listing iron ore as the largest negative contributor to the 1,4% decrease in mining production decreasing by 19,0%, contributing -2,8 percentage points. This article summarises the results of the *Mining: Production and sales* (statistical release P2041) for July 2024.



Mining production decreased by 1,4% year-on-year in July 2024 (see **Table A**). The largest negative contributors were:

- iron ore (-19,0%, contributing -2,8 percentage points);

- 'other' metallic minerals (-36,2%, contributing -1,1 percentage points); and
- gold (-3,5%, contributing -0,5 of a percentage point).

Manganese ore (27,0%, contributing 2,0 percentage points) and chromium ore (23,3%, contributing 1,0 percentage point) were the largest positive contributors.

**Table A – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices for July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	11,3	-4,2	2,5	1,3	-3,6	-1,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	5,2	-4,1	1,7	-0,9	-1,7	-0,9
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	-1,6	-1,4	0,5	-0,2	-0,5	-2,5

<sup>1</sup> Percentage change between the previous three months and the three 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

Mineral sales at current prices increased by 24,5% year-on-year in July 2024 (see Table B).

The largest positive contributors were:

- gold (117,5%, contributing 19,3 percentage points);
- manganese ore (70,8%, contributing 4,1 percentage points);
- PGMs (16,3%, contributing 3,3 percentage points); and
- coal (13,3%, contributing 3,1 percentage points).

Iron ore (-31,4%, contributing -4,4 percentage points) and 'other' non-metallic minerals (-36,5%, contributing -1,3 percentage points) were the largest negative contributors.

**Table B – Key growth rates in mineral sales at current prices, July 2024**

	<b>Feb-24</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Apr-24</b>	<b>May-24</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Jul-24</b>
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-2,5	-14,1	12,6	-18,6	17,9	24,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-7,6	-13,1	15,7	-7,5	19,5	-0,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	4,4	-8,5	-11,9	-12,0	3,2	9,6

<sup>1</sup> Percentage change between the previous three months and the three 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).



## Secondary industries

### Manufacturing: Production and sales



South Africa's beverage industry is dynamic and diverse, playing an important role in the country's economy. The industry produces various alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, including soft drinks, juices, bottled water, beer, wine and spirits. According to Mordor Intelligence, a research organisation, "the South African beverage market is experiencing notable expansion, driven by evolving consumer preferences and lifestyle changes." Consumer demand for convenience

such as bottled water, ready-to-drink or on-the-go nutritional drinks options are on the rise. Additionally, there is a growing inclination towards low-sugar, organic and plant-based beverages, reflecting a shift towards healthier choices. While the rising influence of social media, increasing internet penetration, and growth of the e-commerce sector have enabled manufacturers to create improved retailing channels and market presence. These are just some of the factors that can contribute to a higher demand for beverages, resulting in higher volumes manufactured. The latest manufacturing statistics show that the food and beverages sub-sector (9,5%, contributing 2,0 percentage points) was the main contributor towards the increase in the volume of manufacturing production in July 2024. This article summarises the results of *Manufacturing: Production and sales* (statistical release P3041.2) for July 2024.



Manufacturing production increased by 1,7% in July 2024 compared with July 2023 (see **Table C**). The largest positive contributions were made by the following sub-sectors:

- food and beverages (9,5%, contributing 2,0 percentage points); and
- basic iron and steel, non-ferrous metal products, metal products and machinery (5,2%, contributing 1,1 percentage points).

The largest negative contribution was made by the motor vehicles, parts and accessories and other transport equipment division (-12,1%, contributing -1,3 percentage points).

**Table C – Key growth rates in the volume of manufacturing production for July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,8	-6,8	4,2	-1,7	-5,5	1,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-1,0	-2,5	5,0	-3,3	-0,4	2,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	-0,2	-1,2	-0,9	-0,8	0,5	-0,5

<sup>1</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Selected building statistics of the private sector



During ancient times, human houses were built using locally available building materials such as mud, wood, sun-dried bricks, thatch, etc. Then, most of the houses were built without a need for building plans. As time passes, these temporary ancient dwellings advanced into durable strong structures with unique styles of construction. Nowadays, to build a house you need an approved building plan and an inspection

is conducted on the building from the foundation to the roof. The selected building statistics of the private sector data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 19 September 2024 highlight that the value of the building plans passed decreased by 15,2% during January to July 2024. The major decrease was recorded for residential buildings with -R4 315,9 million. Residential buildings are dwellings lower and higher than 80 square metres including flats and townhouses and other residential buildings such as

institutions for the disabled, boarding houses, hostels and tourism accommodation (e.g. hotels, motels, guest-houses, holiday chalets, bed-and-breakfast accommodation and casinos). This article presents the results of the *Selected building statistics for the private sector* (statistical release P5041.1) for July 2024.

## Buildings reported as completed



The value of buildings reported as completed (at current prices) decreased by 13,1% (-R4 149,5 million) during January to July 2024 compared with January to July 2023 (see Table D). Decreases were reported for:

- residential buildings (-R2 687,2 million); and
- non-residential buildings (-R2 221,9 million).

An increase was reported for additions and alterations (R759,7 million).

Seven provinces reported year-on-year decreases in the value of buildings completed during January to July 2024. The following provinces were the largest negative contributors:

- Gauteng (contributing -5,8 percentage points or -R1 835,9 million);
- Western Cape (contributing -4,4 percentage points or -R1 389,2 million);
- KwaZulu-Natal (contributing -1,9 percentage points or -R601,2 million); and
- Limpopo (contributing -1,3 percentage points or -R403,9 million).

**Table D – Building plans passed by larger municipalities by type of building**

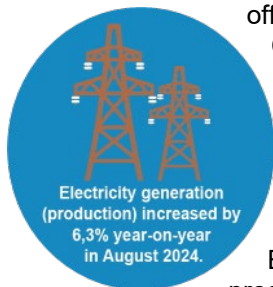
Type of building	Jan – Jul 2023 1/	Jan – Jul 2024 1/	Difference in value between Jan – Jul 2023 and Jan – Jul 2024	% change between Jan – Jul 2023 and Jan – Jul 2024
	R'000	R'000	R'000	
<b>Residential buildings</b>	18 757 677	16 070 437	-2 687 240	-14,3
- Dwelling houses	12 536 580	10 666 504	-1 870 076	-14,9
- Flats and townhouses	6 121 236	5 210 059	-911 177	-14,9
- Other residential buildings	99 861	193 874	94 013	94,1
<b>Non-residential buildings</b>	7 718 590	5 496 679	-2 221 911	-28,8
<b>Additions and alterations</b>	5 098 110	5 857 771	759 661	14,9
<b>Total</b>	31 574 377	27 424 887	-4 149 490	-13,1

1/ 2023 and 2024 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Electricity generated and available for distribution


On 07 October 2024, Eskom made progress with its turnaround plan by officially introducing the National Transmission



Company of South Africa (NTCSA), one of three divisions of Eskom companies, for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. The launch of NTCSA is an essential move in revolutionising the nation's power sector. NTCSA was established to oversee the distribution of electricity across the country, breaking away from Eskom's control and allowing various power producers to supply electricity to different consumers.

NTCSA will also be responsible for the transmission network, including power lines, transformers and the system operator, as per the agreement with Eskom. This initiative may lead to improved and more reliable electricity

supply. As of August 2024, electricity generation increased by 6,3% year-on-year as reported by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). This article summarises the results of *Electricity generated and available for distribution* (statistical release P4141) for August 2024.



Electricity generation (production) increased by 6,3% year-on-year in August 2024 (see Table E).

**Table E – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity generated for August 2024**

	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	0,0	5,7	5,5	5,4	8,5	6,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,0	1,4	-0,4	2,4	1,3	-0,7
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	-0,7	1,4	1,4	2,5	2,6	3,2

<sup>1</sup> Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Electricity distribution (consumption) increased by 4,2% year-on-year in August 2024 (see Table F).

**Table F – Key growth rates in the volume of electricity distributed for August 2024**

	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-0,7	6,2	4,7	3,3	6,9	4,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,6	1,9	-0,5	0,9	1,6	-1,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	-0,4	0,7	0,5	1,6	1,7	1,9

<sup>1</sup> Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.





## Tertiary industries

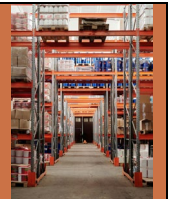
### Wholesale trade sales



Producer prices and wholesale prices are closely related and have a direct impact on each other. Producer prices, also known as factory gate prices, refer to the prices that producers charge for their goods or services at the point of production. These prices reflect production costs, including labour, materials and operating expenses. Wholesale prices, on the other hand, are the prices that wholesalers or distributors charge to retailers or other businesses for goods or services. Wholesale prices typically include a mark-up

over the producer price to cover the costs of distribution, storage, and marketing. When producer prices increase for certain products, wholesalers may pass on these higher costs to retailers, resulting in higher wholesale prices. Producer price changes can ripple through the supply chain, influencing wholesale prices and ultimately affecting consumer prices. For instance, the producer price for food products, beverages and tobacco products for July 2024 increased by 3,5% year-on-year and contributed 1,0 percentage point. Similarly, one of the main positive contributors to the increase in wholesale trade sales for July 2024 was dealers in food, beverages and tobacco (14,2%, contributing 1,9 percentage points). This article summarises the results of *Wholesale trade sales* (statistical release 6141.2) for July 2024.

Wholesale trade sales increased by 0,7% in July 2024 compared with July 2023 (see Table G). The main positive contributors were dealers in:



- food, beverages and tobacco (14,2%, contributing 1,9 percentage points); and
- machinery, equipment and supplies (6,7%, contributing 1,0 percentage point).

The main negative contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-16,8%, contributing -4,7 percentage points).

Wholesale trade sales decreased by 2,1% in the three months ended July 2024 compared with the three months ended July 2023. The main negative contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-13,8%, contributing -3,7 percentage points). The main positive contributors were dealers in:

- food, beverages and tobacco (4,5%, contributing 0,6 of a percentage point);
- machinery, equipment and supplies (3,7%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point); and
- 'other' intermediate products, waste and scrap (7,9%, contributing 0,4 of a percentage point).

**Table G – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales for July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change unadjusted	1,3	-8,5	6,1	-1,5	-5,6	0,7
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	2,7	-4,5	4,3	-2,0	-2,6	1,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	-1,8	-0,3	0,5	-0,2	-0,2	-2,2

<sup>1</sup> 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 6141.2) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## Retail trade sales

General dealers (non-specialised stores with food, beverages and tobacco predominating, including other retail trade in non-specialised stores) are dominating the retail industry in terms of sales and income. According to the *Retail trade industry, 2022* report published by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on 19 September 2024, the total income for the industry was R1 164,0 billion. The largest increases were recorded for non-specialised stores with food, beverages and tobacco predominating (R415,0 billion), and other non-specialised stores (R64,9 billion). In July 2024, general dealers were also the largest contributor by 4,4%, contributing 1,8 percentage points. This article summarises the *Retail trade sales* (statistical release P6242.1) for July 2024.



Retail trade sales increased by 2,0% year-on-year in July 2024 (see Table H). The largest positive contributors to this increase were:

- general dealers (4,4%, contributing 1,8 percentage points); and
- retailers in pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries (5,9%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

The largest negative contributor was retailers in hardware, paint and glass (-6,3%, contributing -0,5 of a percentage point).

**Table H – Key growth rates in retail trade sales for July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-0,7	2,3	0,7	1,1	4,1	2,0
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,0	1,1	0,8	-0,5	1,6	-0,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1/</sup>	-0,3	-1,0	0,3	1,1	2,1	1,5

<sup>1/</sup> 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](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## Motor trade sales



Did you know that buying a used or second-hand vehicle comes with several benefits which make it a worthwhile option for cash conscious South Africans? According to Bidvest Insurance, used vehicles are often more affordable than new ones. Generally, new vehicles quickly lose value once they are driven out the dealership lot. For example, driving a new car for just 10 kilometres could cause it to depreciate by up to 5% of its value. In the first

year, a new car's value can decrease by as much as 30%. This is because when purchasing a pre-owned car, it has already undergone the majority of its depreciation costs by the previous owner, Bidvest Insurance alluded. More South Africans are buying used cars than new ones. This trend is evident in the recent data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) which showed that used vehicle sales, which reported a 10,3% increase, was the largest positive contributor to the 0,3% increase in motor trade sales in July 2024. This article summarises *Motor trade sales results* (statistical release P6343.2) for July 2024.



Motor trade sales increased by 0,3% year-on-year in July 2024 (see Table I).

The largest positive contributor to this increase was used vehicle sales (10,3%, contributing 2,0 percentage points).

The largest negative contributors were:

- fuel sales (-3,2%, contributing -0,9 of a percentage point); and
- sales of accessories (-3,2%, contributing -0,7 of a percentage point).

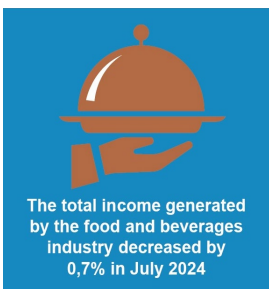
**Table I – Key growth rates in motor trade sales at constant 2019 prices**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	1,3	-10,2	3,4	-8,5	-9,5	0,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	-0,5	-7,1	6,3	-6,1	5,3	1,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>	3,0	-1,1	-2,6	-5,4	-1,3	-0,8

<sup>1</sup> Percentage change between the previous three months and the three months ending in the month indicated.

## Food and beverages

Seasonality in the food and beverages industry refers to the fluctuation of the business according to the change in weather, holidays or other reoccurring events. According to the July 2024 data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) in September 2024, one of the negative contributors to the 0,7% year-on-year decrease in the total income for food and beverages was catering services, which decreased by 5,4%. Catering services are 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. The reason for this decrease might be that most people host events during summer when it is warmer, as opposed to winter as the cold weather may encourage people to



spend more time at home, and this makes them less interested to go out in the cold to attend events. This article summarises *Food and beverages* (statistical release P6420) for July 2024.



The total income generated by the food and beverages industry decreased by 0,7% in July 2024, compared with July 2023 (see Table J).

The largest negative annual growth rate was recorded for 'other' income (-10,8%). The only positive annual growth rate was recorded for bar sales (7,5%).

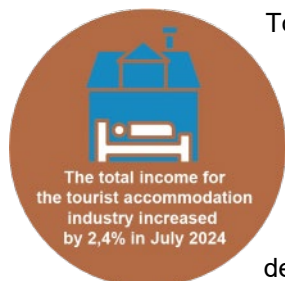
In July 2024, the negative contributors to the 0,7% year-on-year decrease were catering services (-5,4%, contributing -0,6 of a percentage point) and takeaway and fast-food outlets (-1,4%, contributing -0,5 of a percentage point). Restaurants and coffee shops (0,7%, contributing 0,4 of a percentage point) was the only positive contributor.

**Table J – Year-on-year percentage change in food and beverages income at constant 2019 prices by type of enterprise for July 2024**

Type of enterprise	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Restaurants and coffee shops	6,9	5,2	-3,5	3,5	2,6	0,7
Takeaway and fast-food outlets	2,1	3,8	-5,1	3,5	5,2	-1,4
Catering services	6,7	-6,1	-1,3	-7,1	1,3	-5,4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,2</b>	<b>3,3</b>	<b>-3,8</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>3,4</b>	<b>-0,7</b>

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

## Tourist accommodation



Tourism Month is celebrated annually in September to promote domestic travel, showcase the country's diverse tourism offerings and highlight the tourism sector's significant contribution to the South African economy. Tourism Month festivities were held throughout the country to highlight the tourism offerings in our nine provinces. World Tourism Day (WTD) is celebrated globally on 27 September as declared by the United Nations (UN) Tourism. This

year in South Africa, WTD was celebrated in the Northern Cape Province under the theme Tourism and Peace – 30 years of Connecting People to Places and Cultures. At this event, the importance of how tourism contributes to social, cultural and economic development was emphasised. Responsible travel practices that benefit both travellers and local communities were also encouraged. The event was a celebration of our diverse cultures and historical heritage, making the country a preferred holiday destination. Generally, events of this nature lead to an increase in demand for tourist accommodation as travellers book themselves into these tourist establishments. The festivities also provide a platform for the sector to share its affordable travel deals to inspire South Africans to explore the country in its entirety from the coastal regions to small towns and villages. This ultimately boosts the income generated for tourist accommodation. The data for July 2024 shows that the total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 2,4% whereby 'other' accommodation was the largest contributor with 17,2%. This article summarises the results of *Tourist accommodation* (statistical release P6410) for July 2024.



The total income for the tourist accommodation industry increased by 2,4% in July 2024 compared with July 2023 (see Table K).

Income from accommodation increased by 7,7% year-on-year in July 2024, the result of an 11,1% increase in the average income per stay unit night sold.

In July 2024, the main contributors to the 7,7% year-on-year increase in income from accommodation were:

- 'other' accommodation (17,2%, contributing 5,6 percentage points); and
- hotels (2,4%, contributing 1,5 percentage points).

**Table K- Year-on-year percentage change in tourist accommodation statistics for July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Stay units available	-0,1	-0,2	0,0	-0,1	-0,1	-0,1
Stay unit nights sold	5,2	3,6	3,9	-4,8	0,8	-3,1
Average income per stay unit night sold	5,0	5,9	2,7	13,0	8,1	11,1
Income from accommodation	10,5	9,6	6,7	7,6	9,0	7,7
<b>Total income<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>11,0</b>	<b>7,4</b>	<b>4,2</b>	<b>5,6</b>	<b>6,1</b>	<b>2,4</b>

<sup>1</sup>/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](http://www.statssa.gov.za).

## International tourism



In an effort to modernise Department of Home Affairs (DHA) services, Minister Leon Schreiber has announced a five-year plan to digitise the department. As part of the plan, Minister Schreiber announced that travellers who wish to visit South Africa will be required to register on the secure online platform to submit applications for Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA). During the ETA application process, travellers will be required to provide their biometrics to Home Affairs. When they arrive at

South African ports of entry, travellers will be required to scan their ETA code and provide another copy of their biometric information, which will then be verified against their passport and information provided at the time of application. Over time, the ETA system will replace paper-based visas by



issuing the traveller with a unique digital code linked to their passport information. This article summarises the results of *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) for August 2024.

## Travellers

### Number of travellers

A total of 2 376 711 travellers (arrivals, departures and transits) passed through South African ports in August 2024 (**see Table L**). These travellers were made up of 642 448 South African residents and 1 734 263 foreign travellers. A further breakdown of the figures for South African residents indicates that there were 306 442 arrivals, 335 433 departures and 573 travellers in transit. The corresponding volume for foreign arrivals, departures and travellers in transit was 924 111, 757 052 and 53 100 respectively.



A comparison between the movements in July 2024 and August 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals decreased for South African residents but increased for foreign travellers. The volume of departures and transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 19,4% (from 380 393 in July 2024 to 306 442 in August 2024). Departures increased by 4,4% (from 321 285 in July 2024 to 335 433 in August 2024) and transits increased by 8,7% (from 527 in July 2024 to 573 in August 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals increased by 0,2% (from 922 151 in July 2024 to 924 111 in August 2024), departures increased by 3,9% (from 728 642 in July 2024 to 757 052 in August 2024), and transits increased by 24,0% (from 42 817 in July 2024 to 53 100 in August 2024).

A comparison between the movements in August 2023 and August 2024 indicates that the volume of arrivals and departures decreased for both South African residents and foreign travellers, but the volume of transits increased for both groups of travellers. For South African residents, the volume of arrivals decreased by 7,6% (from 331 749 in August 2023 to 306 442 in August 2024), departures decreased by 6,3% (from 357 882 in August 2023 to 335 433 in August 2024) whereas transits increased by 15,8% (from 495 in August 2023 to 573 in August 2024). For foreign travellers, arrivals decreased by 6,3% (from 985 800 in August 2023 to 924 111 in August 2024), departures decreased by 11,6% (from 856 149 in

August 2023 to 757 052 in August 2024) and transits increased by 16,3% (from 45 649 in August 2023 to 53 100 in August 2024)

## Visitors

In August 2024, 21 643 (2,3%) foreign arrivals were classified as non-visitors, while 902 468 (97,7%) were classified as visitors. Visitors were categorised into three groups:

- i. Arrivals only – comprising visitors who entered the country in August 2024 but did not depart in August 2024 [359 349 (39,8%)].
- ii. Single trips – visitors who came to South Africa once in August 2024 and left in August 2024 [289 401 (32,1%)].
- iii. Multiple trips – visitors who came to and left South Africa more than once in August 2024 [253 718 (28,1%)].

Visitors were further grouped as same-day visitors and overnight visitors (tourists). In August 2024, there were 183 960 (20,4%) same-day visitors and 718 508 (79,6%) tourists. Between July 2024 and August 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 7,6% (from 199 106 in July 2024 to 183 960 in August 2024) and that of tourists increased by 2,7% (from 699 566 in July 2024 to 718 508 in August 2024). Between August 2023 and August 2024, the volume of same-day visitors decreased by 25,9% (from 248 316 in August 2023 to 183 960 in August 2024) whereas that of tourists increased by 1,5% (from 708 159 in August 2023 to 718 508 in August 2024).



Of the 183 960 same-day visitors, the majority [159 596 (86,8%)] arrived in the country by road, 24 363 (13,2%) arrived by air and one (less than 0,1%) arrived by sea. Information on tourists shows that 520 919 (72,5%) came by road, 197 587 (27,5%) used air and two (less than 0,1%) used sea.

## Tourists

### Sex and age distribution of tourists

## Sex

There were more male [410 696 (57,2%)] than female [307 812 (42,8%)] tourists. Male tourists constituted the majority of tourists for all three regions, namely SADC countries [321 284 (58,5%)], overseas countries [80 114 (52,1%)] and 'other' African countries [8 805 (60,6%)]. Similarly, the largest portion of female tourists was from SADC countries [227 936 (41,5%)], followed by overseas countries [73 799 (47,9%)] and 'other' African countries [5 733 (39,4%)].

## Age

The age distribution indicates that out of all tourists, 48 609 (6,8%) were aged younger than 15 years; 66 693 (9,3%) were aged between 15 and 24 years; 167 149 (23,3%) were aged between 25 and 34 years; 210 490 (29,3%) were aged between 35 and 44 years; 130 935 (18,2%) were aged between 45 and 54 years; 60 664 (8,4%) were aged between 55 and 64 years; and 33 967 (4,7%) were aged 65 years and older.

## Purpose of visit of tourists

In August 2024, the majority of tourists [696 625 (97,0%)] were in South Africa for holiday compared with 19 431 (2,7%), 2 235 (0,3%) and 217 (less than 0,1%) who were in South Africa for business, study and medical treatment respectively.

**Table L – Number of South African residents and foreign travellers by travel direction for August 2024**

Travel direction	August 2023	July 2024	August 2024	% change July 2024 – August 2024	% change August 2023 – August 2024
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 577 724</b>	<b>2 395 815</b>	<b>2 376 711</b>	<b>-0,8%</b>	<b>-7,8%</b>
<b>South African residents</b>	<b>690 126</b>	<b>702 205</b>	<b>642 448</b>	<b>-8,5%</b>	<b>-6,9%</b>
Arrivals	331 749	380 393	306 442	-19,4%	-7,6%
Departures	357 882	321 285	335 433	4,4%	-6,3%
Transit	495	527	573	8,7%	15,8%
<b>Foreign travellers</b>	<b>1 887 598</b>	<b>1 693 610</b>	<b>1 734 263</b>	<b>2,4%</b>	<b>-8,1%</b>
Arrivals	985 800	922 151	924 111	0,2%	-6,3%
Departures	856 149	728 642	757 052	3,9%	-11,6%
Transit	45 649	42 817	53 100	24,0%	16,3%

A full release on *International tourism* (statistical release P0350) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za)

## Statistics of civil cases for debt



The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 17,5% in the three months ended July 2024

Data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) on Statistics of civil cases for debt decreased by 17,5%, the negative contributor to this decrease was promissory notes. A promissory note is a transaction contract where money is being lent by a person, bank, company or an organisation to another entity. It is a document that outlines the terms of repayment in writing and is signed by both the lender and borrower. A promissory note can be helpful not

just when borrowing money (personal or business loans), but also when making major purchases where the buyer is unable to pay the whole amount upfront but agrees to pay the outstanding amount later. The promissory note always includes the amount of money owed, the interest rate applied to the amount due along with the maturity date (the date by which repayment is

expected to happen). This article summarises the results of the *Statistics of civil cases for debt* (statistical release P0041) for July 2024.



The total number of civil summonses issued for debt decreased by 17,5% in the three months ended July 2024 compared with the three months ended July 2023 (see **Table M**).

The largest contributors to the 17,5% decrease in civil summonses issued were:

- promissory notes (contributing -4,5 percentage points);
- money lent (contributing -4,4 percentage points);
- services (contributing -3,8 percentage points); and
- 'other' debts (contributing -2,0 percentage points).

### **The number of civil judgements recorded for debt**

The total number of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 11,4% in the three months ended July 2024 compared with the three months ended July 2023.

The largest negative contributors to the 11,4% decrease were civil judgements relating to:

- money lent (contributing -3,6 percentage points);
- 'other' debts (contributing -3,6 percentage points);
- services (contributing -2,2 percentage points); and
- promissory notes (contributing -1,6 percentage points).

Rent (contributing 0,4 of a percentage point) was the only positive contributor.

### **The value of civil judgements recorded for debt**

The total value of civil judgements recorded for debt decreased by 10,9% in the three months ended July 2024 compared with the three months ended July 2023.

The largest negative contributors to the 10,9% decrease were:

- money lent (contributing -7,1 percentage points);
- promissory notes (contributing -1,6 percentage points); and
- goods sold (contributing -1,4 percentage points).

Rent (contributing 0,5 of a percentage point) was the only positive contributor.

In July 2024, 11 717 civil judgements for debt amounting to R340,3 million were recorded. The largest contributors to the total value of judgements were:

- money lent (R89,2 million or 26,2%);
- services (R74,5 million or 21,9%);
- 'other' debts (R72,2 million or 21,2%); and
- promissory notes (R43,6 million or 12,8%).

**Table M – Key figures for the month of July 2024**

Actual estimates	Jul 2024	% change between Jul 2023 and Jul 2024	% change between May – Jul 2023 and May – Jul 2024
Number of civil summonses issued for debt	38 044	-10,9	-17,5
Number of civil judgements recorded for debt	11 717	-7,2	-11,4
Value of civil judgements recorded for debt (R million)	340,3	1,0	-10,9

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

## Statistics of liquidations



**The total number of liquidations decreased by 9,9% in August 2024**

South Africa has seen over 1 020 businesses liquidate in the first eight months of 2024. The data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) indicated that the total number of liquidations decreased by 9,9% in August 2024 compared with August 2023, declining from 142 in August 2023 to 128 in August 2024. In August 2024, voluntary liquidations decreased by 11 cases to 117, and compulsory liquidations decreased by 3 to 11. When looking at specific industries, the worst-hit industry was unclassified with a total number of 47 liquidations, while mining, quarrying, and electricity, gas and water industries saw no liquidations in August 2024. Since the start of 2024, the worst-affected industries have been the following; unclassified (351), financing, insurance, real estate, business services (288) and trade, catering, and accommodation (197). This article summarises *Statistics of liquidations* (statistical release P0043.1) for August 2024.



The total number of liquidations decreased by 9,9% in August 2024 compared with August 2023 (see Table N).

Voluntary liquidations decreased by 11 cases and compulsory liquidations decreased by 3 cases during this period.

The number of liquidations decreased by 6,8% (from 410 to 382) in the three months ended August 2024 compared with the three months ended August 2023.

A decrease of 5,9% (from 1 084 to 1 020) in the number of liquidations was recorded in the first eight months of 2024 compared with the first eight months of 2023.

**Table N – Key growth rates in the number of liquidations for August 2024**

Number of liquidations August 2024	% change between August 2023 and August 2024	% change between June – August 2023 and June – August 2024	% change between January – August 2023 and January – August 2024
128	-9,9	-6,8	-5,9

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

## Land transport



Freight transportation is essential to the economy, playing a vital role in the movement of goods, commodities and supplies across international borders and domestic markets. Freight transport is the movement of goods from one place to another through various transportation mediums such as land, air and sea. Common freight includes commercial goods such as (food and beverages, clothing and textiles,

electronics and appliances, household items and furniture), commodities and bulk merchandise. Some of the major operational challenges faced by the South African road freight business are serious operating issues, one of which is over-regulation in terms of safety and excessive taxation. This can weaken or even slow down the freight industry's growth because companies may struggle to comply fully with such regulations, thus leading to a decline in the volume of goods transported. The latest data released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) for land transport shows that road freight decreased by 4,8% in July 2024 (contributing -4,0 percentage points) while rail freight increased by 2,8% (contributing 0,5 of a percentage point). This article summarises the results of the *Land transport* (statistical release P7162) for July 2024.



The volume of goods transported (payload) decreased by 5,5% in July 2024 compared with July 2023 (**see Table O**). The corresponding income decreased by 0,7% over the same period.



Income from freight transportation decreased by 0,9% in the three months ended July 2024 compared with the three months ended July 2023. The main negative contributors to this decrease were:

- primary mining and quarrying products (-3,0%, contributing -1,1 percentage points); and
- agriculture and forestry primary products (-8,7%, contributing -0,6 of a percentage point).

The main positive contributors were:

- containers (14,8%, contributing 0,7 of a percentage point); and
- commercial products (21,4%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

**Table O – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation for July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
<b>Freight payload</b>	-0,1	-4,1	-6,1	-8,6	-3,8	-5,5
<b>Freight income</b>	6,2	0,5	0,6	-1,1	-0,8	-0,7

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

The number of passenger journeys increased by 15,2% in July 2024 compared with July 2023. The corresponding income increased by 10,3% over the same period (**see Table P**).

**Table P – Year-on-year percentage change in freight transportation July 2024**

	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
<b>Passenger Journeys</b>	17,2	4,2	29,1	6,7	3,0	15,2
<b>Passenger income</b>	10,0	3,4	17,1	11,7	7,3	10,3

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



## Producer price index (PPI)



Food price inflation (the rate of change in the average price of food items) continues to impact households, economies, and food security in South Africa. It affects not only the cost of living but also the affordability of nutritious diets. Wandile Sihlobo, Chief Economist of the Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa, explains factors driving up food costs in South Africa, among many others, are a drought that led to a poor harvest, higher fuel prices for much of 2024, and higher labour costs.

Although the producer price index (PPI) for August 2024 decreased to 2,8%, largely driven by a decrease in the price of coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products, the main positive contributor to this 2,8% rate was food products, beverages and tobacco products (3,6%, contributing 1,1 percentage points). Prices for meat, dairy, grain, fruit and vegetables are some of the increases that were recorded. This article summarises the results of the *Producer price index* (statistical release P0142.1) for August 2024.



Annual producer price inflation (final manufacturing) was 2,8% in August 2024, down from 4,2% in July 2024 (**see Table Q**). The producer price index (PPI) decreased by 0,3% month-on-month in August 2024.

## Final manufactured goods – headline PPI

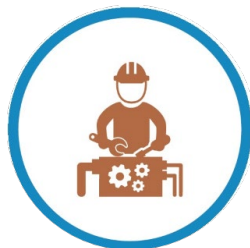
The main contributors to the headline PPI annual inflation rate were:

- food products, beverages and tobacco products (3,6%, contributing 1,1 percentage points);
- metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (3,5%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point); and
- coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (2,1%, contributing 0,5 of a percentage point).

The main negative contributors to the headline PPI monthly decrease were coke, petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (-0,5% and contributing -0,1 of a percentage point) and metals, machinery, equipment and computing equipment (-0,5% and contributing -0,1 of a percentage point).

## Intermediate manufactured goods

The annual percentage change in the PPI for intermediate manufactured goods was 4,2% in August 2024, unchanged from July 2024. The index increased by 0,2% month-on-month. The main contributors to the annual rate were basic and fabricated metals (2,2 percentage points) and chemicals, rubber and plastic products (1,2 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was chemicals, rubber and plastic products (0,3 of a percentage point).



## Electricity and water

The annual percentage change in the PPI for electricity and water was 7,1% in August 2024, compared with 10,2% in July 2024. The index decreased by 1,7% month-on-month. Electricity contributed 7,4 percentage points and water contributed 0,6 of a percentage point to the annual rate. Electricity contributed -1,6 percentage points to the monthly rate.



## Mining

The annual percentage change in the PPI for mining was -1,7% in August 2024, compared with -2,1% in July 2024. The index increased by 0,3% month-on-month.

The main negative contributors to the annual rate were non-ferrous metal ores (-4,3 percentage points) and coal and gas (-0,7 of a percentage point). The main positive contributors to the monthly rate were coal and gas (1,8 percentage points) and gold and other metal ores (1,0 percentage point).



## Agriculture, forestry and fishing

The annual percentage change in the PPI for agriculture, forestry and fishing was 6,1% in August 2024, compared with 5,0% in July 2024. The index increased by 0,9% month-on-month. The main contributor to the annual rate was agriculture (6,2 percentage points). The main contributor to the monthly rate was agriculture (1,1 percentage points).

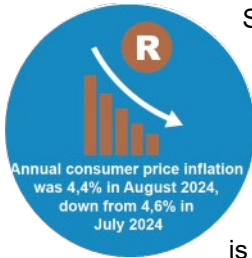


**Table Q – Key PPI figures for August 2024**

Product	Weight	Index (Dec 2023=100)			% change	
		August 2023	July 2024	August 2024	August 2024 vs. August 2024	August 2024 vs. August 2023
Final manufactured goods	100,00	98,7	101,8	101,5	-0,3	2,8
Intermediate manufactured goods	100,00	101,0	105,0	105,2	0,2	4,2
Electricity and water	100,00	141,0	153,6	151,0	-1,7	7,1
Mining	100,00	104,9	102,8	103,1	0,3	-1,7
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,00	91,3	96,0	96,9	0,9	6,1

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

## Consumer price index (CPI)



South African consumers can breathe a sigh of relief following a significant drop in the consumer price inflation (CPI), giving them more purchasing power. The latest data by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) shows that the annual CPI was 4,4% in August 2024, down from 4,6% in July 2024. This is the second time in 2024 the CPI dropped below 5%. This month's rate is also the lowest reading in almost three and a half years, when it was 4,4% in April 2021. Presented in this article is a summary of the *Consumer price index* (statistical release P0141) for August 2024.

### Headline CPI for all urban areas



Annual consumer price inflation was 4,4% in August 2024, down from 4,6% in July 2024 (**see Table R**). The CPI decreased by 0,1% month-on-month in August 2024. The main contributors to the 4,6% annual inflation rate were:

- housing and utilities (4,8%, contributing 1,1 percentage points);
- miscellaneous goods and services (7,0%, contributing 1,0 percentage point);
- food and non-alcoholic beverages (4,7%, contributing 0,9 of a percentage point); and
- transport (2,8%, contributing 0,4 of a percentage point).

In August 2024, the annual inflation rate of:

- goods was 4,4%, down from 4,6% in July 2024; and
- services was 4,5%, down from 4,7% in July 2024.

**Table R – 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	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	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	4,0	4,4	4,4	4,5	4,5	3,9	4,4	4,1	3,6	3,6	4,0	4,0
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	109,8	110,8	111,1	111,8	112,8	112,7	112,7	110,4
	Rate	6,9	7,0	7,1	6,8	6,3	5,4	4,7	4,8	5,4	5,9	5,5	5,1	6,0
2024	Index	112,8	113,9	114,8	115,1	115,3	115,4	115,9	116,0	..	..	..	..	..
	Rate	5,3	5,6	5,3	5,2	5,2	5,1	4,6	4,4	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1/</sup> Annual average. A full release on the *Consumer price index* (statistical release P0141) is available on the Stats SA website: [www.statssa.gov.za](http://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 the existing residence. Out-buildings and garages are included.

**Other residential buildings:** include institutions for the disabled, boarding houses, old age homes, hostels, hotels, 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.



**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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