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Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

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Economic headlines

Bucket toilet use remains above pre-pandemic lows



This is despite a decline in 2023 (click [here](#) to read more).

Consumer inflation holds steady



The headline rate was 3,2% in January, unchanged from December (click [here](#) to read more).

Formal sector employment rises in Q4: 2024



The trade industry led the increase (click [here](#) to read more).

Fewer travellers, more tourists



Despite a recovery, international tourist numbers remain below 2019 levels (click [here](#) to read more).

The informal economy: a lifeline for millions



The sector has shown resilience in the face of economic uncertainty (click [here](#) to read more).
















Economic wrap-up for the month



Stats SA published 35 releases in March (click [here](#) to read more).

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

Monthly economic indicators

	y/y percentage change			m/m percentage change			3-month
	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Nov-Jan
Mining production 	-0,9	-2,4	-2,7	0,0	-3,7	-1,2	-3,5
Manufacturing production 	-1,9	-1,2	-3,3	-1,2	-2,2	0,2	-1,8
Electricity generation 	6,9	3,6	5,7	0,7	-1,5	0,4	-0,4
Buildings completed (value) 	-14,1	-1,0	-19,2	16,4	-3,8	-31,7	-4,9
Wholesale trade sales 	-7,0	0,2	-1,3	-3,1	2,0	-0,1	0,8
Retail trade sales 	7,6	3,2	7,0	1,0	-0,4	1,2	2,1
Motor trade sales 	-2,4	-4,3	0,2	0,0	1,5	0,7	2,1
Income from tourist accommodation 	12,9	12,8	16,7	1,6	-0,4	3,7	1,3
Restaurants, catering & fast-food income 	2,3	-0,9	4,9	-0,5	1,3	0,1	-0,4
Rail transport: Freight payload 	-1,4	2,2	7,2	-4,2	5,1	0,8	2,7
Road transport: Freight payload 	-12,2	-8,9	-6,4	2,7	-0,4	1,5	0,8
Rail transport: Passenger journeys 	66,0	77,4	69,9	-2,1	4,1	0,3	3,3
Road transport: Passenger journeys 	-11,8	-8,5	0,1	-8,8	3,8	6,7	-0,8
	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	
Consumer Price Index (CPI) 	3,0	3,2	3,2	0,1	0,3	0,9	
Producer Price Index (PPI) 	0,7	1,1	1,0	0,2	0,5	0,4	

ABOUT

The indicators shown here provide an overview of how various sectors of South Africa's economy are performing.

Click on an indicator name to access the complete report on Stats SA's website

y/y = year-on-year
m/m = month-on-month
3-month = percentage change between the previous 3 months (August–October) and the latest 3 months (November–January)

Keep up to date with our release schedule [here](#). A complete catalogue of Stats SA releases and reports is available [here](#).



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Feature article

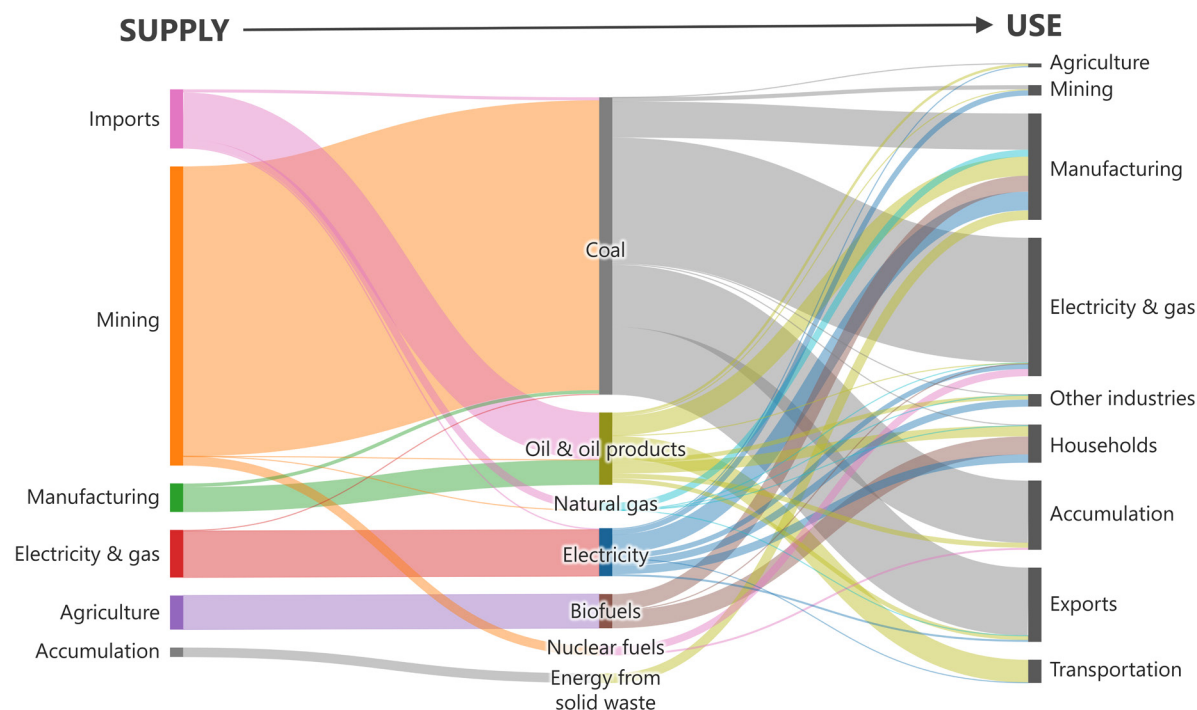
Exploring energy flows in the economy

Coal provided the bulk of South Africa's energy supply in 2021, with most of it locally produced by the mining industry. The electricity, gas & steam supply industry was the biggest user, relying heavily on coal to generate electricity. Coal is also a dominant component of South Africa's energy exports.

On the left (supply) side of the graphic, energy products are either sourced from imports, from local industries (e.g. mining) or from accumulation. These products are made available in several different forms (e.g. coal).

On the right (use) side, products are either transformed or consumed by local industries to produce goods and services; used by households; stored for later use; or exported.

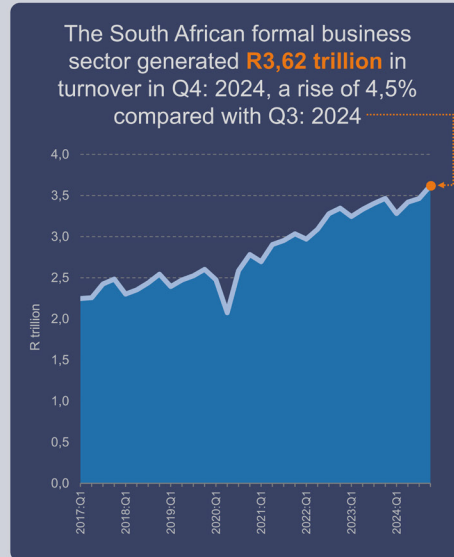
Click [here](#) to read more on the latest set of physical energy flow accounts for South Africa.



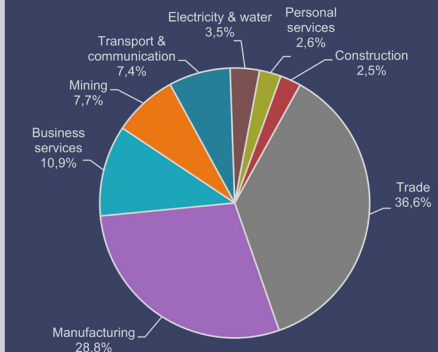
Infographic of the month

Turnover in the formal business sector: Q4: 2024

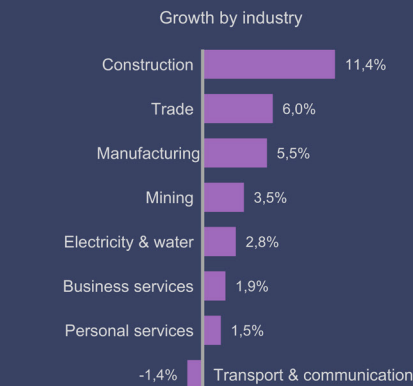
Selected results from the Quarterly financial statistics (QFS) survey



Breakdown of turnover generated by the formal business sector in Q4: 2024 by industry. Total: R3,62 trillion



4,5% The rise in turnover generated by the formal business sector in Q4: 2024 compared with Q3: 2024



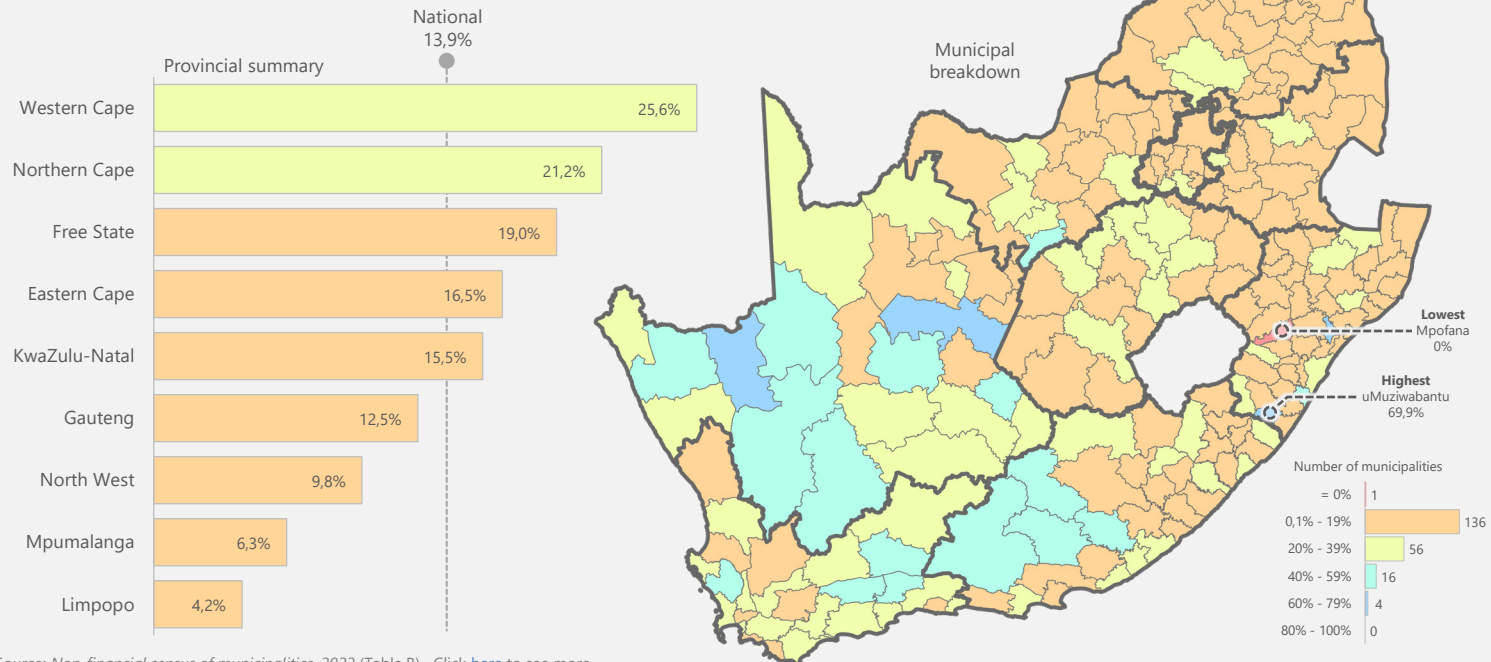
Source: Quarterly financial statistics (QFS), December 2024
Excludes agriculture, financial intermediation, insurance, government institutions and educational institutions

Click [here](#) to read more

Provincial snapshot

Which communities benefit from free electricity services?

Percentage of consumer units using electricity who receive the service for free, 2023



Source: Non-financial census of municipalities, 2023 (Table B) Click [here](#) to see more

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