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Your monthly update on South Africa's economic indicators

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Photo: Photo: Thatselfby, unsplash.com

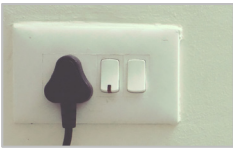
## Economic headlines

### Inflation climbs for a second straight month



Transport, recreation and alcoholic beverages & tobacco recorded hotter annual rates (click [here](#) to read more).

### New insights into energy supply and use



Two new energy indicators are now available (click [here](#) to read more).

### The latest on government spending



Servicing debt has become more expensive (click [here](#) to read more).
















### Key changes to labour force statistics



Several methodological updates were introduced (click [here](#) to read more).

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

## Monthly economic indicators

	y/y percentage change			m/m percentage change			q/q
	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Q3: 2025
Mining production 	5,1	0,0	1,2	1,2	-0,9	2,2	2,5
Manufacturing production 	-1,1	-1,5	0,3	-0,9	0,7	-0,5	0,1
Electricity generation 	-2,3	-3,1	-5,7	0,1	-1,1	-1,2	-1,5
Buildings completed (value) 	10,8	-12,9	-12,4	41,2	-22,5	1,4	7,2
Wholesale trade sales 	-0,6	1,5	2,9	0,3	0,9	-0,1	0,8
Retail trade sales 	5,7	2,2	3,1	2,3	-1,6	0,0	0,9
Motor trade sales 	3,1	1,8	8,7	0,6	1,0	-1,3	1,7
Income from tourist accommodation 	10,7	13,5	6,1	-0,6	3,7	-4,4	1,4
Restaurants, catering & fast-food income 	2,2	6,4	4,1	-0,3	5,8	-3,3	0,2
Rail transport: Freight payload 	-11,1	7,0	7,7	-4,0	4,6	1,4	-1,5
Road transport: Freight payload 	2,6	-1,2	2,9	-3,3	-1,1	0,9	-1,3
Rail transport: Passenger journeys 	29,7	26,4	32,5	5,6	-2,5	6,0	11,4
Road transport: Passenger journeys 	4,3	3,4	2,4	0,2	-2,7	0,3	-2,3
	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	
Consumer Price Index (CPI) 	3,3	3,4	3,6	-0,1	0,2	0,1	
Producer Price Index (PPI) 	2,1	2,3	2,9	0,3	-0,1	-0,1	

### 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  
q/q = quarter-on-quarter percentage change, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025

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

## Feature article

### GDP rises by 0,5% in Q3: 2025

This follows a revised increase of 0,9% in the second quarter and marks the fourth consecutive rise in economic activity.

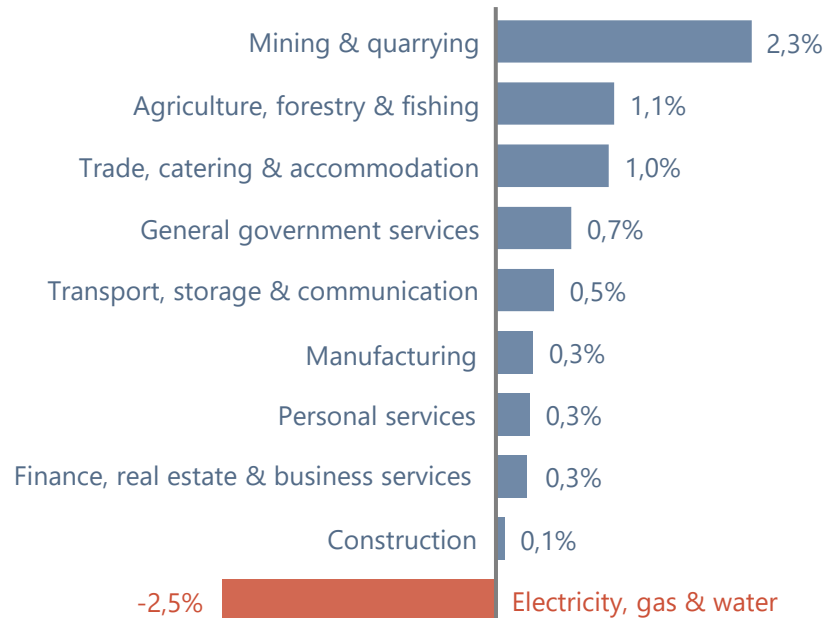
Nine of the ten industries on the production (supply) side of the economy were stronger, with mining & quarrying; agriculture, forestry & fishing; and trade, catering & accommodation recording the highest growth rates.

Mining output increased by 2,3%, driven predominantly by platinum group metals, with support from manganese ore, coal, chromium ore and copper.

Electricity, gas & water was the only industry that disappointed in the third quarter, shrinking by 2,5%. This was due to lower electricity production and usage. Water consumption was also lacklustre, contributing to the industry's poor performance.

Read more [here](#).

Industry growth in Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025  
Constant 2025 prices, seasonally adjusted



# Visual Summary GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT Q3: 2025

**1 Real GDP was R1 187 billion** in Q3: 2025

**2 Real GDP increased by 0,5%** in Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025

**3 Nine industries** grew in Q3: 2025, with mining recording the sharpest increase

**4 Agriculture and mining** lifted the primary sector in Q3: 2025

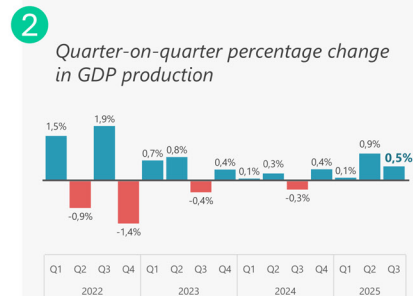
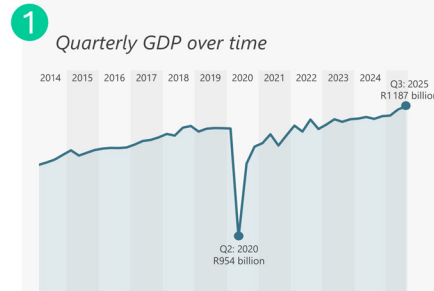
**5 Electricity** pulled the secondary sector down in Q3: 2025

**6 All industries** in the tertiary sector recorded growth

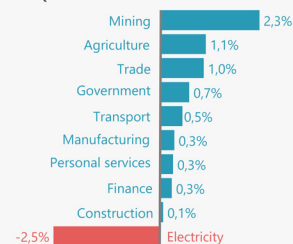
**7 Finance** is the **largest** industry in the South African economy, contributing **23%** to total value added

**8 Imports** increased by 2,2% and **exports** by 0,7% in Q3: 2025

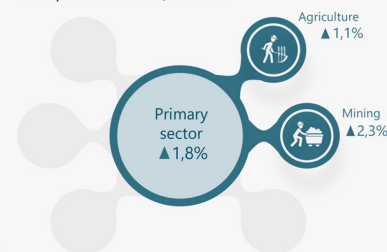
**9 Households increased spending** on most products, notably on household goods and transport



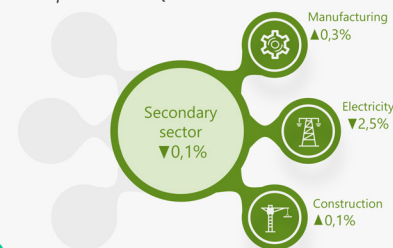
**3 Industry growth, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025**



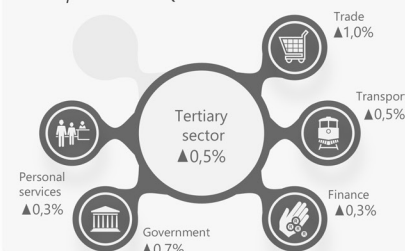
**4 Primary sector growth, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025**



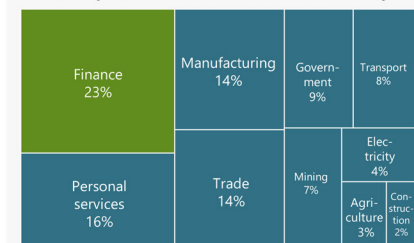
**5 Secondary sector growth, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025**



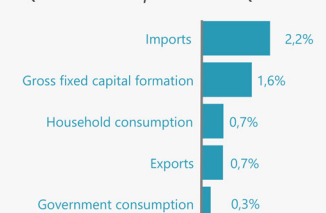
**6 Tertiary sector growth, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025**



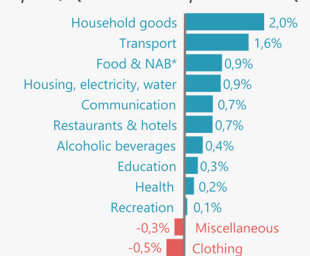
**7 Industry contribution to economic activity**



**8 Growth in expenditure components, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025**



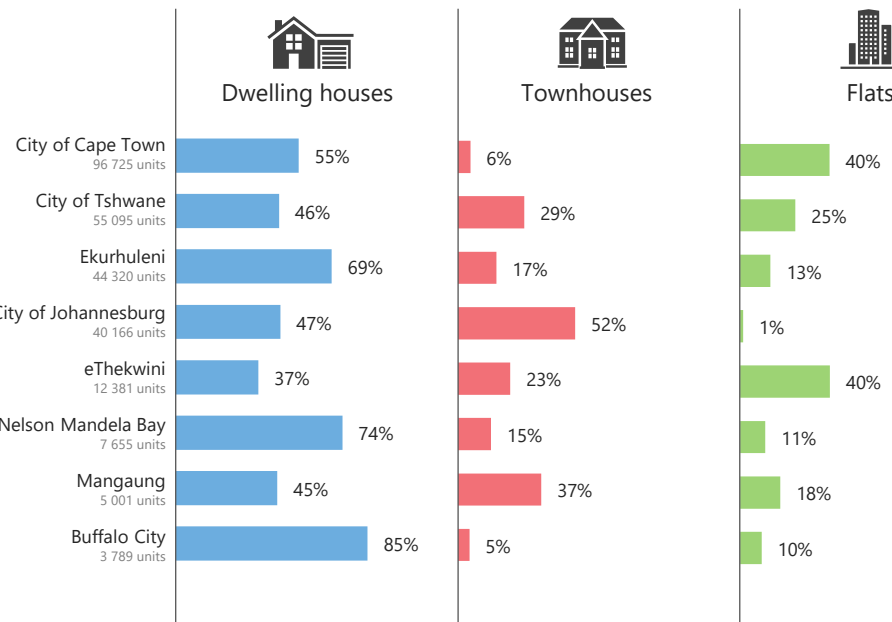
**9 Household consumption expenditure by purpose, Q3: 2025 compared with Q2: 2025**



\*NAB = non-alcoholic beverages Source: Gross domestic product (GDP), Third quarter 2025 Click [here](#) to download the release.

## Infographic of the month

Percentage breakdown of new residential units by type, 2014–2023  
Buffalo City mainly built dwelling houses, with less focus on townhouses and flats



### Building up or building out: new housing in our metros

Each city develops its residential landscape in its own, unique way. Do town planners opt to spread a city outward with more free-standing homes, upward with high-density housing, or a combination of both?

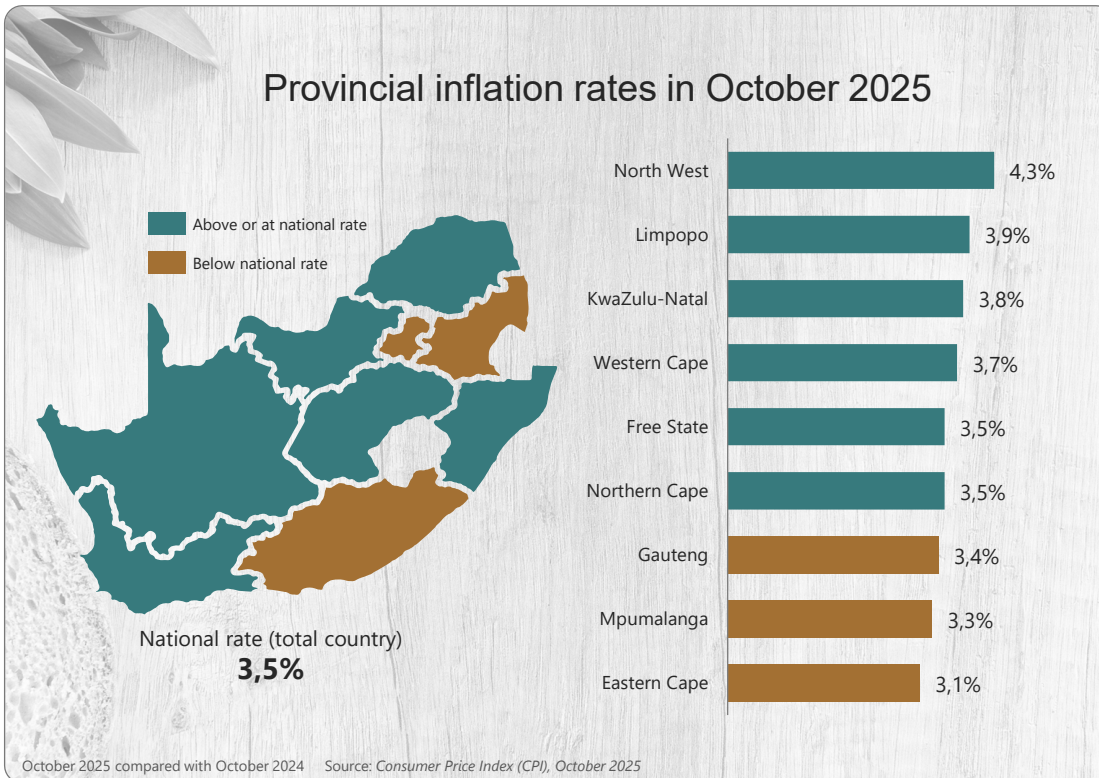
Dwelling houses remain a popular choice. The bulk (85%) of new residential units in Buffalo City, for example, were dwelling houses, with less focus on townhouses and flats. Development in Nelson Mandela Bay and Ekurhuleni also focused heavily on dwelling houses in the period 2014–2023.

There was almost a half-and-half split between townhouses and dwelling houses in the City of Johannesburg. Townhouses also accounted for a notable share of new residential units in Mangaung and the City of Tshwane.

Read more [here](#).



## Provincial snapshot



### North West registers the hottest inflation rate

South Africa's headline inflation rate for October 2025, which covers urban areas, was 3,6%. For the entire country, it was 3,5%. This means that the general price level of goods and services rose by 3,5% in October 2025 compared with October 2024.

Consumers in North West experienced the highest inflation rate at 4,3%, followed by Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape.

Gauteng, Mpumalanga and Eastern Cape registered inflation rates lower than the national print.

For more information, download the latest provincial inflation data in Excel [here](#).

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