stats sa

Department:
Statistics South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021

Embargoed until:
3 November 2022

09:00

Statistics South Africa

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Report No. 41-01-02 (2021)

Electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021 / Statistics South Africa

Published by Statistics South Africa, Private Bag X44, Pretoria 0001

Stats SA Library Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) Data
Electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021 / Statistics South Africa. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa, 2021

Report No. 41-01-02 (2021)
35 pages

ISBN: 978-0-621-50735-5

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, Qonce
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Mbombela
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

This report is available on the Stats SA website: www.statssa.gov.za

For technical enquiries, please contact: Tshepo Pekane / Karabo Sebolai

Tel: 012 310 8191 / 012 339 2660
Email: tshepop@statssa.gov.za / karabos@statssa.gov.za

Table of contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Aim and collection unit

This publication presents estimates in respect of the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021. The survey aims to provide financial, production, employment and related information for the electricity, gas and water supply industry in South Africa.

The last survey was conducted in 2019 (Report No. 41-01-02 (2019)).

1.2 Scope and coverage

The 2021 electricity, gas and water supply industry large sample survey (LSS) covers enterprises registered for value-added tax (VAT) that are mainly engaged in the following activities classified according to the January 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth edition, Report No. 09-90-02:

- o Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity (SIC 4111).
  - Generation (SIC 41111).
  - Distribution of purchased electric energy only (SIC 41112).
  - Generation and/or distribution for own use (SIC 41113).
- o Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains (SIC 41200).
- o Collection, purification and distribution of water (SIC 42000).

The following activities are excluded:

- o Municipalities (included in SIC 91300).
- o Enterprises which manufacture and distribute liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) (included in SIC 33210, SIC 61410, SIC 62399 and SIC 63500).
- o Enterprises which are engaged in sanitation and other waste water treatment (included in SIC 94000).
- o Enterprises which are involved in the collection, purification and distribution of water as a secondary activity or for own use.

1.3 Data items

The following categories of data items were collected: industrial classification, trading income, expenditure, profit or loss, inventories, capital expenditure on new assets, sales, services, employment, purchases, client base, salaries and wages, and the details of information and communication technology usage.

1.4 Reference period

The questionnaires were completed for the financial year ended on any date between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, according to the usual reporting schedule of the enterprise, with the following exception:

- Employment as on 30 June 2021.

1.5 Current prices

The rand values are at current prices.

1.6 Reliability of data

All estimates compiled for this industry are subject to non-sampling errors only, because a complete enumeration of enterprises contributing to the top 99,5% of the industry turnover was conducted. Adjustment factors were applied to compensate for the units contributing to the bottom 0,5% of industry turnover. The following are some of the likely sources of non-sampling errors: sampling frame not up to date, wrong definitions and classification, phrasing of questions, non-response, processing and estimation. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by the careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

1.7 Confidentiality

According to section 17 of the Statistics Act, 1999 (Act No. 6 of 1999), completed questionnaires remain confidential to Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). Individual business information is never disclosed. Results are presented in aggregated form only.

2. Summary of findings

2.1 Income

Table A – Income in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013–2021

Type of service	2013		2016		2019		2021	
	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	151 409	82,9	201 316	83,2	238 372	81,6	270 070	81,7
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	9 143	5,0	11 946	4,9	13 357	4,6	15 624	4,7
Collection, purification and distribution of water	22 074	12,1	28 711	11,9	40 279	13,8	44 781	13,6
Total	**182 626**	**100,0**	**241 973**	**100,0**	**292 008**	**100,0**	**330 475**	**100,0**

(Sources: Report No. 41-01-02)

The total income for the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2021 was R330,5 billion. The total income represents an increase of 6,4% per annum over the income reported in the corresponding survey of 2019 (R292,0 billion). Comparing 2019 and 2021, large increases were reported for ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ (+R31,7 billion) and ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ (+R4,5 billion).

Between 2013 and 2021, ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ gained the biggest percentage share (1,5 percentage points) in total income (from a percentage contribution of 12,1% in 2013 to 13,6% in 2021). ‘Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ lost the biggest percentage share (-1,2 percentage points) over the same period (from 82,9% in 2013 to 81,7% in 2021).

Table B – Profit margin in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013–2021

Type of service	Net profit/loss after tax				Turnover				Profit margin			
	2013	2016	2019	2021	2013	2016	2019	2021	2013	2016	2019	2021
	R million								%			
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	6 929	4 612	-21 516	-17 785	144 957	194 396	231 138	262 124	4,8	2,4	-9,3	-6,8
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	2 121	3 187	2 841	4 564	9 006	11 244	13 234	15 466	23,6	28,3	21,5	29,5
Collection, purification and distribution of water	2 852	4 364	7 610	7 003	20 986	26 807	37 860	41 625	13,6	16,3	20,1	16,8
Total	**11 902**	**12 163**	**-11 064**	**-6 218**	**174 949**	**232 447**	**282 232**	**319 215**	**6,8**	**5,2**	**-3,9**	**-1,9**

(Sources: Report No. 41-01-02)

The total profit margin for the electricity, gas and water supply industry was -1,9% in 2021, the second lowest since 2013. ‘Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ had the lowest profit margin at -6,8%. ‘Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ had the highest profit margin at 29,5%.

2.2 Employment

Table C – Employment as at the end of June in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013–2021

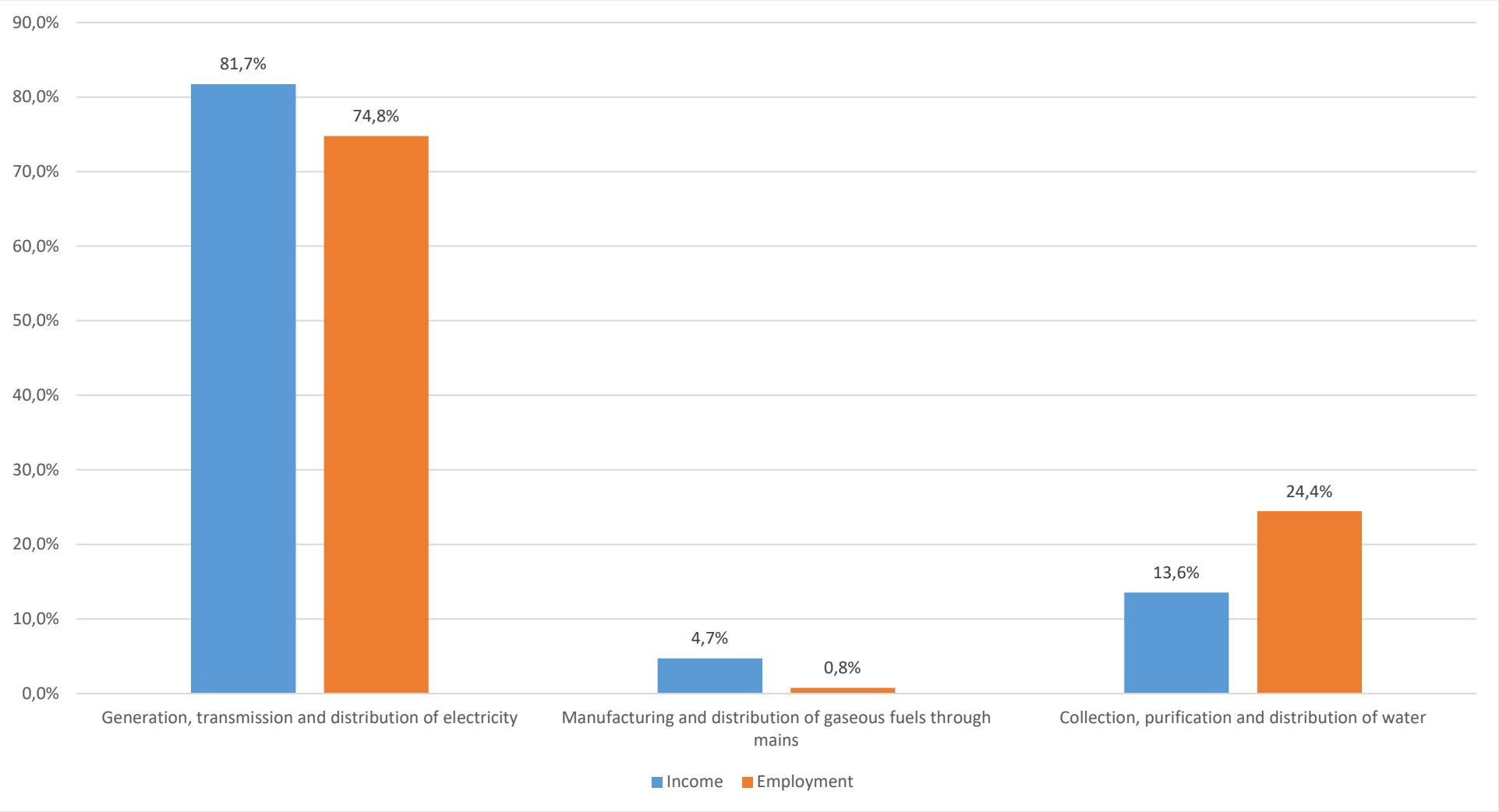
Type of service	2013		2016		2019		2021	
	Number	% contribution	Number	% contribution	Number	% contribution	Number	% contribution
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	46 060	78,8	46 286	80,0	43 217	76,3	40 419	74,8
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	432	0,7	403	0,7	426	0,8	414	0,8
Collection, purification and distribution of water	11 993	20,5	11 194	19,3	12 978	22,9	13 214	24,4
Total	**58 485**	**100,0**	**57 883**	**100,0**	**56 621**	**100,0**	**54 047**	**100,0**

(Sources: Report No. 41-01-02)

The total number of persons employed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at end of June 2021 was 54 047. This represents a growth rate of -2,3% per annum between 2019 and 2021. Over the same period there was a decrease in employment of 2 798 in 'generation, transmission and distribution of electricity'.

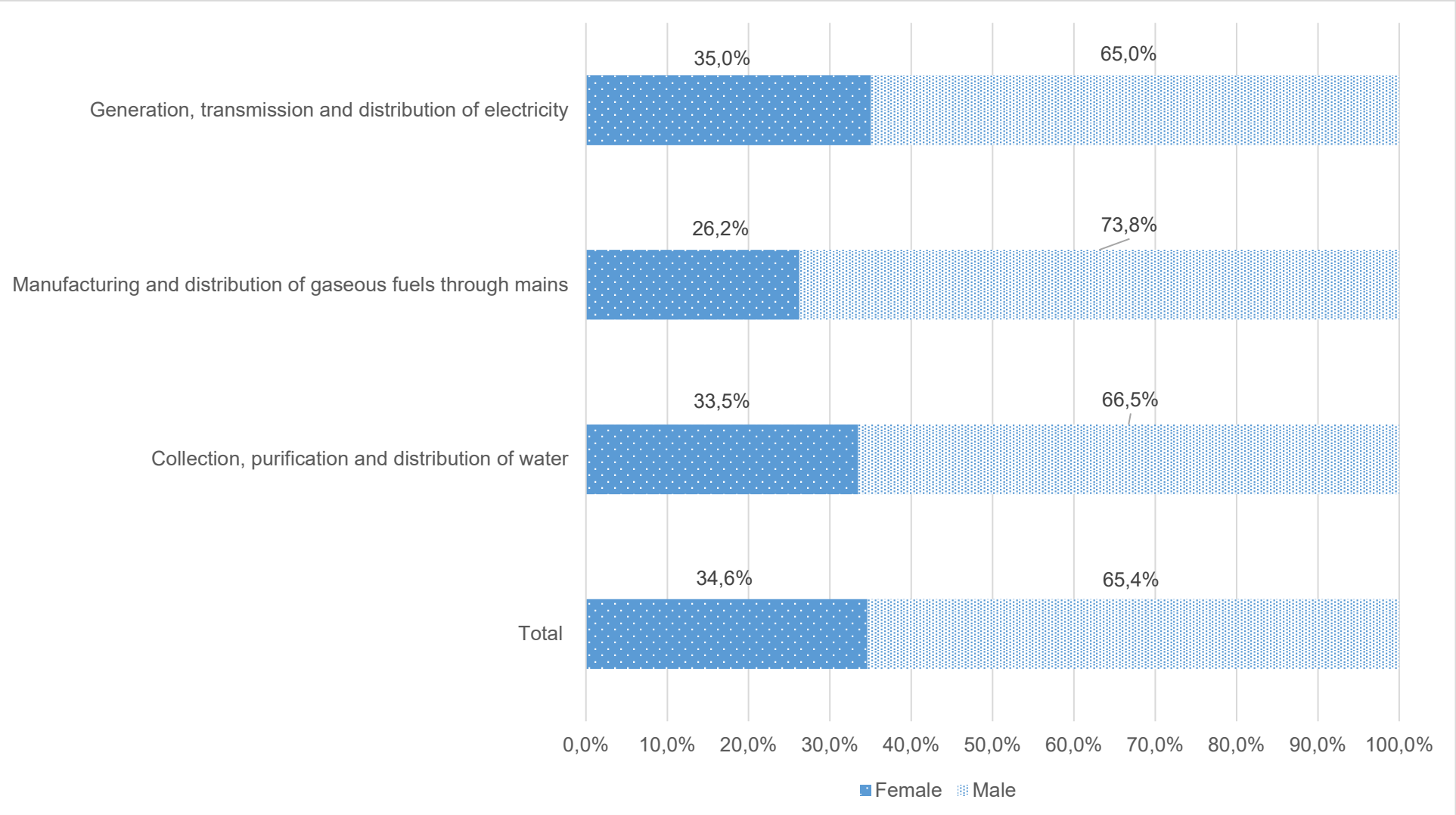
Formal employment in the electricity, gas and water supply industry decreased from 58 485 in 2013 to 54 047 in 2021 (a drop of 4 438 jobs). 'Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity' lost the biggest number of persons employed over this period (-5 641). 'Collection, purification and distribution of water' is the only type of service that gained in employment between 2013 and 2021 (+1 221).

Figure 1 – Income and employment by type of service (% contribution) in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021



The type of service with the highest proportion of employment compared with its proportion of income was 'collection, purification and distribution of water' (24,4% of employment and 13,6% of income), followed by 'generation, transmission and distribution of electricity' (74,8% of employment and 81,7% of income).

Figure 2 – Gender ratios in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021



The proportion of females out of the total persons employed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2021 was 34,6%. The sector with the highest proportion of females employed was 'generation, transmission and distribution of electricity' (35,0%), followed by 'collection, purification and distribution of water' (33,5%). 'Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains' had the highest proportion of males employed (73,8%).

Table D – Average salaries and wages in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013–2021

Type of service	2013			2016			2019			2021		
	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages	Salaries and wages	Total employees	Average salaries and wages
	R million	Number	Rand	R million	Number	Rand	R million	Number	Rand	R million	Number	Rand
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	18 639	46 060	404 668	25 577	46 286	552 591	28 879	43 217	668 222	29 120	40 419	720 455
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	244	432	564 815	284	403	703 593	327	426	767 331	327	414	790 063
Collection, purification and distribution of water	3 274	11 993	272 993	4 096	12 319	332 508	5 006	12 978	385 754	5 737	13 214	434 142
Total	**22 157**	**58 485**	**378 849**	**29 957**	**59 008**	**507 676**	**34 212**	**56 621**	**604 224**	**35 184**	**54 047**	**650 988**

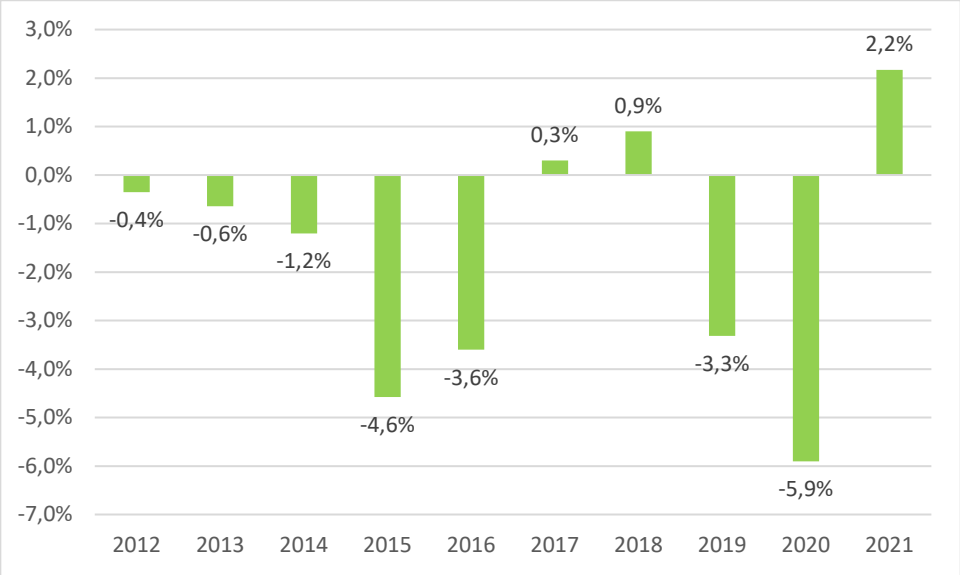
(Sources: Report No. 41-01-02)

The average salaries and wages in the electricity, gas and water supply industry in 2021 was R650 988. The type of service with the highest average salaries and wages in 2021 was ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ (R790 063), followed by ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ (R720 455).

Total average salaries and wages increased from R378 849 in 2013 to R650 988 in 2021, an annualised growth rate of 7,0%. The highest annualised growth rate between surveys in the electricity, gas and water supply industry was 10,2% between 2013 and 2016. The type of service that had the highest annualised growth rate between 2013 and 2021 was ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ with 7,5%, followed by ‘manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains’ (6,0%).

2.3 Electricity, gas and water supply industry value added

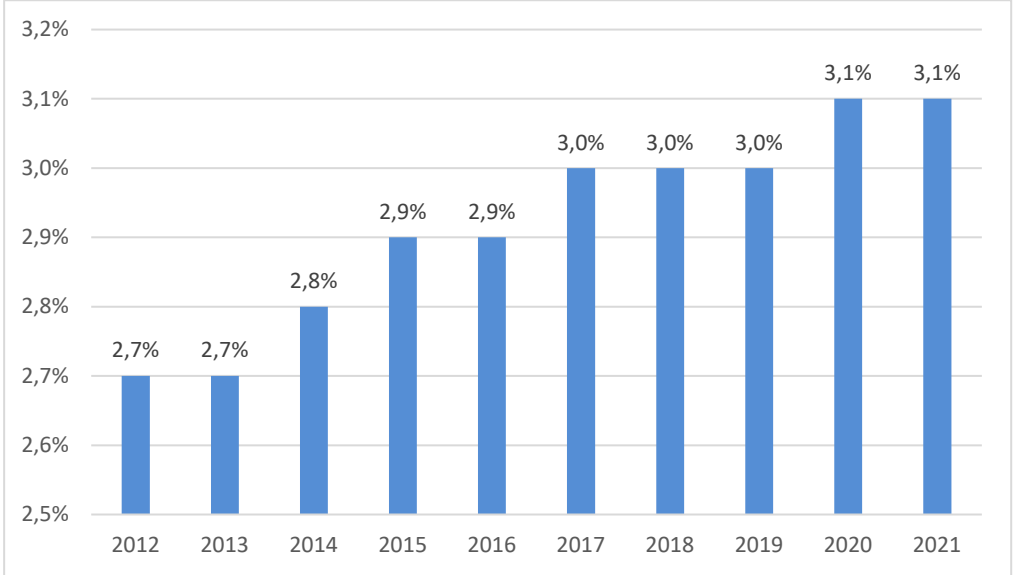
Figure 3 – Electricity, gas and water supply industry value added, annual percentage change (constant 2015 prices), 2012–2021



Source: P0441

Electricity, gas and water supply industry value added at constant 2015 prices dropped from R121,8 billion in 2012 to R103,4 billion in 2021. During this period, the biggest annual decreases were recorded in 2015 (-4,6%), 2016 (-3,6%), 2019 (-3,3%) and 2020 (-5,9%).

Figure 4 – Percentage contribution of the electricity, gas and water supply industry to total value added (current prices), 2012–2021



Source: P0441

Between 2012 and 2021, the contribution of the electricity, gas and water supply industry to total value added increased from 2,7% to 3,1%. Note that Figure 3 is based on constant prices, whereas Figure 4 is based on current prices.

2.4 Capital expenditure on new assets

Table E – Capital expenditure on new assets in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2013–2021

Type of service	2013		2016		2019		2021	
	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution	R million	% contribution
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	57 697	95,7	67 898	90,4	43 341	89,5	32 540	86,2
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	193	0,3	116	0,2	221	0,5	78	0,2
Collection, purification and distribution of water	2 418	4,0	7 028	9,4	4 816	10,0	5 125	13,6
Total	**60 308**	**100,0**	**75 042**	**100,0**	**48 378**	**100,0**	**37 743**	**100,0**

(Sources: Report No. 41-01-02)

The capital expenditure on new assets in 2021 (R37,7 billion) represents a growth rate of -11,7% per annum over the expenditure reported in the corresponding survey of 2019 (R48,4 billion). The biggest decrease was reported in ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ (-R10,8 billion).

In 2021, the largest contributor to capital expenditure on new assets was ‘generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ (R32,5 billion or 86,2%), followed by ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ (R5,1 billion or 13,6%).

Between 2013 and 2021, ‘collection, purification and distribution of water’ gained the biggest percentage share (+9,6 percentage points) in capital expenditure on new assets (from a percentage contribution of 4,0% in 2013 to 13,6% in 2021). ‘Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity’ lost the biggest percentage share (-9,5 percentage points) over the same period (from 95,7% in 2013 to 86,2% in 2021).

2.5 Electricity generated

Table F – Electricity generated by source in the 'generation, transmission and distribution of electricity', 2013–2021

Source of electricity	2013		2016		2019		2021	
	Gigawatt-hours (GWh)	% contribution	Gigawatt-hours (GWh)	% contribution	Gigawatt-hours (GWh)	% contribution	Gigawatt-hours (GWh)	% contribution
Coal	215 691	92,3	202 100	89,3	203 891	87,7	185 459	86,1
Nuclear material	11 954	5,1	12 305	5,4	11 686	5,0	9 929	4,6
Diesel	1 904	0,8	4 108	1,8	1 208	0,5	2 116	1,0
Renewable energy sources (water, wind and sun)	1 095	0,5	5 060	2,2	11 278	4,8	13 106	6,1
Electricity generated from pump storage stations	3 006	1,3	2 934	1,3	4 629	2,0	4 767	2,2
Total electricity generated	**233 650**	**100,0**	**226 507**	**100,0**	**232 692**	**100,0**	**215 377**	**100,0**

(Sources: Report No. 41-01-02)

The total electricity generated in 2021 was 215 377 gigawatt hours (GWh). This represents a decrease of 3,8% per annum over the electricity generated in the corresponding survey of 2019 (232 692 GWh). The main contributor to total electricity generated was 'coal' (86,1% or 185 459 GWh), followed by 'renewable energy sources' (6,1% or 13 106 GWh) and 'nuclear material' (4,6% or 9 929 GWh).

Between 2013 and 2021, 'coal' lost the biggest percentage share (-6,2 percentage points) in electricity generated (from a percentage contribution of 92,3% in 2013 to 86,1% in 2021). 'Renewable energy sources' gained the biggest percentage share (+5,6 percentage points) in electricity generated (from a percentage contribution of 0,5% in 2013 to 6,1% in 2021).

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

3. Tables

Table 1 – Principal statistics in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of service	Total income			Total value of opening inventory opening inventory			Total value of closing inventory		
	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million			R million			R million		
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	238 372	270 070	6,4	24 821	34 020	17,1	27 036	29 981	5,3
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	13 357	15 624	8,2	111	130	8,2	118	115	-1,3
Collection, purification and distribution of water	40 279	44 781	5,4	299	343	7,1	345	400	7,7
Total	**292 008**	**330 475**	**6,4**	**25 231**	**34 493**	**16,9**	**27 499**	**30 496**	**5,3**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 1 – Principal statistics in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021 (concluded)

Type of service	Total expenditure			Net profit before tax		Total employees		
	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million			R million		R million		
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	269 982	289 232	3,5	-29 395	-23 201	43 217	40 419	-3,3
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	9 410	9 254	-0,8	3 954	6 355	426	414	-1,4
Collection, purification and distribution of water	32 649	37 757	7,5	7 676	7 081	12 978	13 214	0,9
Total	**312 041**	**336 243**	**3,8**	**-17 765**	**-9 765**	**56 621**	**54 047**	**-2,3**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 2 – Principal statistics by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021[2]

Type of service	Total income	Total value of opening inventory	Total value of closing inventory	Total expenditure	Net profit before tax	Total capital expenditure	Total employees
	R million						Number
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	270 070	34 020	29 981	289 232	-23 201	32 540	40 419
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	15 624	130	115	9 254	6 355	78	414
Collection, purification and distribution of water	44 781	343	400	37 757	7 081	5 125	13 214
Total	**330 475**	**34 493**	**30 496**	**336 243**	**-9 765**	**37 743**	**54 047**

[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 3 – Income in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Income item	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Sales of goods and services rendered	281 929	318 991	96,6	96,5	6,4
Government subsidies	2 132	2 162	0,7	0,7	0,7
Other income	7 947	9 322	2,7	2,8	8,3
Total	**292 008**	**330 475**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**6,4**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 4 – Income by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021[2]

Type of service	Sales of goods and services rendered	Government subsidies	Interest received	Rental, leasing and hiring income	Other income	Total income
	R million					
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	261 921	1 624	2 041	203	4 281	270 070
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	15 465	0	151	0	8	15 624
Collection, purification and distribution of water	41 605	538	1 291	20	1 327	44 781
Total	**318 991**	**2 162**	**3 483**	**223**	**5 616**	**330 475**

[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 5 – Expenditure in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Expenditure item	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Purchases	133 455	153 071	42,7	45,3	7,1
Salaries and wages	34 212	35 184	11,0	10,5	1,4
Subcontractors and labour brokers	9 256	11 670	3,0	3,5	12,3
Depreciation and amortisation	38 272	36 151	12,3	10,8	-2,8
Custom and excise duties	7 877	7 233	2,5	2,2	-4,2
Interest	41 099	51 296	13,2	15,3	11,7
Losses on financial and other assets	5 990	6 030	1,9	1,8	0,3
Repair and maintenance	16 341	20 281	5,2	6,0	11,4
Other expenditure	25 539	15 327	8,2	4,6	-22,5
Total	**312 041**	**336 243**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**3,8**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 6 – Expenditure by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021[2]

Type of service	Purchases	Salaries and wages	Subcontractors and labour brokers	Depreciation and amortisation	Interest
	R million				
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	128 643	29 120	5 991	34 510	50 442
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	4 330	327	2 910	182	51
Collection, purification and distribution of water	20 098	5 737	2 769	1 459	803
Total	**153 071**	**35 184**	**11 670**	**36 151**	**51 296**

[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 6 – Expenditure by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021[2] (concluded)

Type of service	Losses on financial and other assets	Repair and maintenance	Customs and excise duties	Other expenditure	Total
	R million				
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	2 982	19 368	7 233	10 943	289 232
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	8	89	0	1 357	9 254
Collection, purification and distribution of water	3 040	824	0	3 027	37 757
Total	**6 030**	**20 281**	**7 233**	**15 327**	**336 243**

[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 7– Capital expenditure on new assets by type of asset in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of asset	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Land, buildings and construction works[3]	2 277	3 107	4,7	8,2	16,8
Plant and machinery	5 490	3 755	11,3	9,9	-17,3
Work in progress (property, plant and equipment)	39 663	30 206	82,0	80,0	-12,7
Other capital expenditure	948	675	2,0	1,9	-15,6
Capital expenditure on assets	**48 378**	**37 743**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**-11,7**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.
[3] Land, buildings and construction works revised due to change in accounting methods.

Table 8 – Capital expenditure on new assets by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021[2]

Type of service	Land, buildings and construction works	Plant and machinery	Work in progress (property, plant and equipment)	Other capital expenditure	Total capital expenditure on assets
	R million				
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	3 022	3 395	25 749	374	32 540
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	17	45	0	16	78
Collection, purification and distribution of water	68	315	4 457	285	5 125
Total	**3 107**	**3 755**	**30 206**	**675**	**37 743**

[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 9 – Employment by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June, 2019 and 2021

Type of service	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	Number		% contribution		
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	43 217	40 419	76,3	74,8	-3,3
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	426	414	0,8	0,8	-1,4
Collection, purification and distribution of water	12 978	13 214	22,9	24,4	0,9
Total	**56 621**	**54 047**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**-2,3**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 10 – Employment in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June, 2019 and 2021

Type of employment	Gender	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
		Number		%		
Full time	Female	17 919	17 889	31,6	33,1	-0,1
	Male	36 796	33 971	65,0	62,9	-3,9
	Total	**54 715**	**51 860**	**96,6**	**96,0**	**-2,6**
Part time	Female	712	820	1,3	1,5	7,3
	Male	1 194	1 367	2,1	2,5	7,0
	Total	**1 906**	**2 187**	**3,4**	**4,0**	**7,1**
Total	Female	18 631	18 709	32,9	34,6	0,2
	Male	37 990	35 338	67,1	65,4	-3,6
	Total	**56 621**	**54 047**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**-2,3**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 11 – Employment by type of service and employee in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June 2021[2]

Type of service	Full time			Part time			Total
	Female	Male	**Total**	Female	Male	**Total**	
	Number						
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	13 769	25 634	39 403	447	569	1 016	40 419
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	73	314	387	1	26	27	414
Collection, purification and distribution of water	4 047	8 023	12 070	372	772	1 144	13 214
Total	**17 889**	**33 971**	**51 860**	**820**	**1 367**	**2 187**	**54 047**

[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 12 – Electricity generated and available for distribution in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Source of electricity	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	Gigawatt-hours (GWh)		
Coal	203 891	185 459	-4,6
Nuclear material	11 686	9 929	-7,8
Diesel	1 208	2 116	32,4
Water (hydroelectricity)	1 244	1 508	10,1
Wind	6 610	6 223	-3,0
Sun (solar electricity)	3 424	5 375	25,3
Electricity generated from pump storage stations	4 629	4 767	1,5
Total electricity generated	**232 692**	**215 377**	**-3,8**
Electricity supplied from other countries (imports)	7 420	8 828	9,1
Electricity consumed in power stations and pump storage systems	6 052	6 669	5,0
Electricity supplied to other countries (exports)	12 574	13 536	3,8
Total electricity available for distribution[4]	**221 486**	**204 000**	**-4,0**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.
[4] Electricity available for distribution includes = Total electricity generated + Electricity supplied from other countries (imports) - Electricity consumed in power stations and pump storage systems - Electricity supplied to other countries (exports).

Table 13 – Electricity distributed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of customer[5]	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Redistributors[6] (mainly municipalities)	99 266	112 770	43,0	44,0	6,6
Residential	21 678	24 558	9,4	9,5	6,4
Commercial	17 271	18 576	7,5	7,2	3,7
Industrial	45 175	46 702	19,6	18,1	1,7
Mining	26 792	30 743	11,6	11,9	7,1
Agriculture	8 776	10 302	3,8	4,0	8,3
Railway electric traction	3 147	2 977	1,4	1,2	-2,7
International (exported)	8 316	10 383	3,6	4,0	11,7
Other type of customer	127	325	0,1	0,1	59,9
Total electricity distributed	**230 548**	**257 336**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**5,7**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.
[5] Eskom's classification was used for the categories of customers.
[6] Electricity redistributors are enterprises that buy electricity from generators for re-sale and they are mainly municipalities.

Table 14 – Purchases for generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of purchase	Unit	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	Quantity				R million		
Water	m^3 ('000)	380 490	289 340	-12,8	2 716	2 954	4,3
Coal	Metric tons	120 525 069	110 815 985	-4,1	53 725	62 751	8,1
Diesel	Litres	516 470 397	613 476 494	9,0	5 828	5 847	0,2
Electricity					41 810	50 482	9,9
Other inputs[7], purchases[8] and transfers-in					5 812	4 945	-7,8
Total purchases					**109 891**	**126 979**	**7,5**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.
[7] Other inputs include nuclear material, natural gas and liquid petroleum fuel products.
[8] Other purchases include chemicals, environmental levy and other purchases.

Table 15 – Gas distributed in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of gas[9]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	Gigajoules			R million		
Natural gas	162 774 459	165 806 292	0,9	11 485	13 734	9,4
Methane-rich gas	21 744 810	20 702 479	-2,4	1 658	1 679	0,6
Synthetic gas	277 357	570 732	43,4	18	38	45,3
Total gas distributed	**184 796 626**	**187 079 503**	**0,6**	**13 161**	**15 451**	**8,4**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.
[9] Gas refers to gaseous fuels distributed through mains or pipeline networks and includes natural gas, methane-rich gas and synthetic gas.

Table 16 – Purchases of gas in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of gas	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	Gigajoules			R million		
Purchases of gas in South Africa						
Natural gas	5 305 058	6 728 000	12,6	366	491	15,8
Methane-rich gas	21 281 360	20 486 309	-1,9	833	634	-12,8
Synthetic gas	276 868	571 202	43,6	32	72	51,3
Total purchases of gas in South Africa	**26 863 286**	**27 785 511**	**1,7**	**1 231**	**1 197**	**-1,4**
Natural gas imported	155 483 336	155 132 395	-0,1	4 621	3 133	-17,7
Total purchases	**182 346 622**	**182 917 906**	**0,2**	**5 852**	**4 330**	**-14,0**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 17 – Sales of water by type of customer in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Type of customer	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Redistributors[10] (mainly municipalities)	24 077	25 734	73,6	72,7	3,4
Households	4 336	4 796	13,3	13,5	5,2
Commercial users	2 312	2 698	7,1	7,6	8,0
Industry	465	505	1,4	1,4	4,2
Mining	987	901	3,0	2,5	-4,5
Agricultural users (farmers)	531	804	1,6	2,3	23,0
Total sales of water	**32 708**	**35 438**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**4,1**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.
[10] Water redistributors are water service providers, water boards which buy water from other water boards for redistribution when they cannot meet their own demand, and companies contracted by municipalities to supply water on their behalf.

Table 18 – Purchases in the water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Input	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Fuel	86	94	0,5	0,5	4,5
Bulk/ raw water	14 350	14 091	81,0	70,2	-0,9
Water treatment chemicals	714	769	4,0	3,8	3,8
Parts and spares	205	182	1,2	0,9	-5,8
Other purchases and transfers-in	2 356	4 942	13,3	24,6	44,8
Total purchases and transfers-in of goods	**17 711**	**20 078**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**6,5**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 19 – Income from sales of goods and services rendered by province in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Province	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Western Cape	28 462	31 867	10,1	10,0	5,8
Eastern Cape	11 405	15 487	4,0	4,9	16,5
Northern Cape	11 311	14 132	4,0	4,4	11,8
Free State	15 156	17 788	5,4	5,6	8,3
KwaZulu-Natal	32 192	40 283	11,4	12,6	11,9
North West	22 143	23 255	7,9	7,3	2,5
Gauteng	118 120	129 023	41,9	40,4	4,5
Mpumalanga	23 708	25 581	8,4	8,0	3,9
Limpopo	19 432	21 575	6,9	6,8	5,4
Total	**281 929**	**318 991**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**6,4**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 20 – Salaries and wages by province in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2019 and 2021

Province	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	R million		% contribution		
Western Cape	3 279	3 303	9,6	9,4	0,4
Eastern Cape	1 491	1 523	4,4	4,3	1,1
Northern Cape	674	713	2,0	2,0	2,9
Free State	1 959	2 500	5,7	7,1	13,0
KwaZulu-Natal	2 593	2 827	7,6	8,0	4,4
North West	1 299	1 458	3,8	4,1	5,9
Gauteng	12 806	12 886	37,3	36,7	0,3
Mpumalanga	7 493	7 834	21,9	22,3	2,3
Limpopo	2 618	2 140	7,7	6,1	-9,6
Total	**34 212**	**35 184**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**1,4**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 21 – Employment by province in the electricity, gas and water supply industry as at the end of June, 2019 and 2021

Province	2019[1]	2021[2]	2019[1]	2021[2]	Annualised % change
	Number		% contribution		
Western Cape	4 742	4 314	8,4	8,0	-4,6
Eastern Cape	3 092	2 701	5,5	5,0	-6,5
Northern Cape	1 409	1 430	2,5	2,6	0,7
Free State	3 716	4 324	6,6	8,0	7,9
KwaZulu-Natal	5 795	5 148	10,2	9,5	-5,7
North West	2 575	2 399	4,5	4,4	-3,5
Gauteng	19 425	19 978	34,3	37,0	1,4
Mpumalanga	10 603	9 817	18,7	18,2	-3,8
Limpopo	5 264	3 936	9,3	7,3	-13,5
Total	**56 621**	**54 047**	**100,0**	**100,0**	**-2,3**

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Table 22 – Information and communication technology (ICT) usage by type of service in the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021[2]

Type of service	Use computer	Use internet	Use internet banking	Have website	Receive orders through the internet	Place orders through the internet	IT outsourced
	% of enterprises						
Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity	100,0	100,0	94,6	65,5	18,8	39,9	75,9
Manufacturing and distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	0,0	0,0	100,0
Collection, purification and distribution of water	100,0	100,0	100,0	62,2	13,2	27,9	72,2
Total	100,0	100,0	98,2	75,9	10,7	22,6	82,7

[1] Revised figures.
[2] Preliminary figures.

Explanatory notes

Background

The results presented in this publication have been derived from the 2021 electricity, gas and water supply industry large sample survey. This is a periodic survey which measures economic activity in the electricity, gas and water supply sector of the South African economy. This survey is based on a complete enumeration of private and public enterprises contributing to the top 99,5% of the industry turnover and adjustment factors were applied to compensate for the units contributing to the bottom 0,5% of industry turnover.

The survey was conducted from Stats SA's business register. The business register is based mainly on the value-added tax (VAT) database of the South African Revenue Service (SARS). Enterprises are legally bound to register for VAT.

Value added tax (VAT)

All figures exclude value-added tax (VAT).

Reference period

The information was collected from enterprises for their financial year which ended on any date between 01 July 2020 and 30 June 2021.

Purpose of the survey

Results of the survey are mainly used within Stats SA for benchmarking the gross domestic product (GDP) and its components. These statistics are also used by government to make decisions on industry policies and plans, and in monitoring the performance and contribution of individual industries to the South African economy. The private sector uses the data to analyse comparative business and industry performance.

Classification by industry

The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (five-digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to an industry, which reflects its predominant activity.

Statistical unit

The statistical unit for sampling is an enterprise. An enterprise is a legal unit (or a combination of legal units) that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its production activities.

Size groups

The enterprises are divided into four size groups according to the value of turnover on Stats SA's business register. Large enterprises are those with an annual turnover of R306 million and above. Table 24 presents Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC) cut-off points adjusted by a factor of 6,0.

Table 23 – Size groups for the electricity, gas and water supply industry, 2021

Size Group	Turnover
Large	R306 000 000 ≤ Turnover
Medium	R78 000 000 ≤ Turnover < R306 000 000
Small	R30 600 000 ≤ Turnover < R78 000 000
Micro	Turnover < R30 600 000

Survey methodology and design

The survey was conducted mainly by, email, telephone and personal visits.

The top 99,5% units by turnover were completely enumerated and a raising factor was used to account for the bottom 0,5% of the turnover removed from the sampling frame. Turnover as recorded on the business register was used as the measure of size for stratification.

Collection rate

Collection rate = ((collected + finalised investigations)/ sample size) x 100. The collection rate was 90,7%.

Turnover collection rate

Turnover collection rate = ((weighted collected enterprises BR turnover + weighted finalised investigations BR turnover)/ population turnover)*100. The turnover collection rate was 99,0%.

Weighting methodology

For those strata not completely enumerated, the weights to produce estimates are the inverse ratio of the sampling fraction, modified to take account of non-response in the survey. Stratum estimates were calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form division estimates.

Revisions to previous results

Revisions were made to previous results due to new information obtained after the publications.

Abbreviations

BR	Business Register
DTIC	Department of Trade, Industry and Competition
GDP	Gross domestic product
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
IT	Income tax
RSE	Relative standard error
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SE	Standard error
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities
SNA	System of National Accounts
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
VAT	Value added tax

Non-sampling errors Inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by enterprises and errors made in the collection and processing of the data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as non-sampling errors. Every effort is made to minimise non-sampling errors by careful design of questionnaires, testing them in pilot studies, editing reported data and implementing efficient operating procedures. Non-sampling errors occur in both sample surveys and censuses.

Rounding of figures The figures in the tables have, where necessary, been rounded to the nearest final digit shown. There may therefore be slight discrepancies between the sums of the constituent items of the totals shown.

Glossary

Casual employees	Employees who fall neither within the 'permanent employees' category nor the 'temporary employees' category. Such employees are typically working daily or hourly.
Commercial customers (users)	Include business enterprises in wholesale trade, retail trade, motor trade, repair of motor vehicles, motor cycles, personal and household goods, hotels and restaurants, transport, storage and communication and financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services.
Collection, purification and distribution of water	Collection, purification and distribution of water includes the collection, purification and distribution of water not elsewhere classified.
Employees	Persons employed by a business or organisation and who received payment (in salaries, wages, commission, piece rates or payments in kind) for the last pay period ended on or before 30 June 2021.
Enterprise	A legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its activities.
Full-time employees	Full-time employees are those (permanent, temporary or casual) who normally work the agreed hours i.e. 40 hours or more per week.
Gas	Gas is gaseous fuels distributed through mains or pipeline networks and includes natural gas, methane-rich gas and synthetic gas.
Industrial customers (users)	Industrial customers or users are business enterprises which are involved in the manufacturing or production of goods as a predominant activity.
Industry	An industry consists of a group of enterprises engaged in the same or similar kinds of economic activity. Industries are defined in the *System of National Accounts* (SNA) in the same way as in the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.
Net profit or loss after tax	Total income ***plus*** closing value of inventories ***minus*** total expenditure ***minus*** opening value of inventories ***minus*** company tax

Other expenditure

Other expenditure includes:

- depreciation and amortisation;
- customs duties;
- excise duties;
- interest;
- losses on financial and other assets;
- repair and maintenance;
- telecommunication services; and
- other.

Other income

Other income includes:

- government subsidies and incentives;
- interest;
- rental, leasing and hiring income;
- excise duties; and
- other.

Part-time employees

Part-time employees are those (permanent, temporary or casual) who usually work less than 40 hours per week.

Profit margin

Profit margin is derived as:
Net profit or loss after tax
divided by turnover
multiplied by 100

Permanent employees

Employees appointed on an open-ended contract with no stipulated termination date or a fixed-term contract for periods of more than one year.

Rental, leasing and hiring income

Rental, leasing and hiring income includes:

- leasing and hiring of motor vehicles and other transport equipment;
- leasing and hiring of plant, machinery, equipment and vehicles;
- rental of land, buildings and other structures; and
- other rental, leasing and hiring income.

Stratum

A stratum is constructed by concatenating the SIC classification and size group variables.

Turnover

Turnover includes:

- the value of sales;
- amounts received for services rendered;
- rent and/or lease payments received for land and buildings; and
- rent, leasing and hiring received for machinery, vehicles and other equipment.

Total electricity available for distribution

Electricity available for distribution includes:

- total electricity generated
- plus electricity supplied from other countries (imports)
- minus electricity consumed in power stations and pump storage systems
- minus electricity supplied to other countries (exports)

Unit of electricity

A gigawatt-hour **(GWh)** 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. A gigawatt-hour is also equal to one thousand megawatt hours.

Unit of gas

A gigajoule **(GJ)** is the derived unit of energy in the International System of Units (SI) equal to one billion joules (10^9 J). A joule is the basic unit of energy and it is the work done to produce one watt continuously for one second.

Unit of water

A cubic metre (**m^3**) is the SI derived unit of volume. It is the volume of a cube with edges of one metre in length. One cubic metre is equal to exactly 1 000 litres. An alternative name is the kilolitre.

Water redistributors

Water redistributors are water service providers including municipalities and water boards which buy water from other water boards for redistribution when they cannot meet their own demand, and companies contracted by municipalities to supply water on their behalf.