

## Electricity market trends south africa

South Africa has a well-developed electricity network and one of the highest rates of electricity access in sub-Saharan Africa. The least-cost way to connect those without access is in most cases via the grid (81%) with the residual population served by mini-grids (12%) and stand-alone systems.

This report provides an analysis of South Africa's electricity sector policies, laws, and regulations in relation to crowding-in private sector participation in developing national electricity infrastructure.

Industry is the main electricity consumer (47%), followed by the residential sector (22%) and services (18%).  
Graph: ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR (2023, %) The IRP2023 targets the addition of 8.2 GW of wind and solar by 2030 in relation to 2022, made up of 4.5 GW of wind and 3.7 GW of solar.

In 2023/24, the majority of South Africa's electricity (82.8% of total demand) was generated from coal, while renewable energy contributed 8.8%. Despite these contributions, 2.2% of the country's electricity demand remained unmet, primarily due to load shedding, which has ceased in April.

Total energy consumption per capita peaked in 2008 at 3toe per capita and then progressively decreased to 2.1toe per capita in 2023 (over 4 times the average energy consumption per capita in the other Southern African countries: Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia). Electricity consumption per capita peaked at 4500 kWh in 2007 before decreasing to 3200kWh in 2023 (around 9 times the value of other Southern African countries).

Total oil production has decreased by 7% per year since 2015, reaching 3Mt in 2023. It mostly comes from synthetic fuels of the Secunda coal-to-liquid facility (Sasol, 150kb/d), as conventional production of crude oil is marginal. Another plant, Mossel Bay GTL (PetroSA, 45kb/d), is off since 2020 due to a lack of gaseous feedstock.

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