

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA

The ECONOMIST						
	1995	2006	2016	2021	2022	2023
GDP US\$	121.7	237				
GDP Per Head \$	2940	5600	5900 (PPP: 13530)	5110 (PPP: \$12390)	7000 (PPP: \$14930)	7040 (PPP: \$16750)
Population million	41.4	42.3	55	60	60.8	60.4
Growth in GDP	4%	4.00%	2.20%	1.50%	2.40%	1.50%
Inflation	11%	5.50%	5.10%	4.10%	4.80%	5.00%
Budget balance (% GDP)			-3.50%	-9.00%	-7.20%	-6.00%
Exchange Rate ZAR/\$	R 3.98	R 6.27	R 15.57	R 15.15	R 18.48	R 17.06
COMMENT						
	A year of ANC	The government will focus on job-creating public-works projects, without risking its record of fiscal prudence	Jacob Zuma will press on to second and final term using stimulus and industrial policy to buoy the economy.	The President Cyril Ramaphosa will have his hands full sustaining a post-pandemic economic rebound, forestalling a debt crisis via spending cuts.	The President, Cyril Ramaphosa and the ANC will progress on vaccinations, while returning the focus to the patchy power network and ingrained corruption.	ANC under President Cyril Ramaphosa will focus on quelling internal divisions and rebuilding public support ahead of 2024 elections
	Friction - Ramaphosa Mbeki	Higher inflation	Improving trading conditions and partner relations will lift growth of the economy, however this is dependent on erratic electricity and poor workforce skills.	Keeping the lights on and anti corruption reports will expose the country's problems	Economy rebounded in 2021, but will remain slow	Five yearly congress has re-elected Mr Ramaphosa, strengthening his pursuit of economic reforms
	Balancing Act Expenditure vs. Improve Standards		Protests over inequality and joblessness will continue.	Resistance from elements in the ruling party	Sidelining of rivals to Mr Ramaphosa is expected	Backing for party has slipped amid inequality and corruption scandals
	Rand Depreciates					
	Inflation double digit					
	Liberalisation of Exchange Control					
WARNING						
		Trial of strength within the ANC between Mbeki and Zuma				Power cuts add to the woes and inhibits economic growth
TO WATCH						
						A sluggish suffering continent or a new source of sustenance?

Source: Economist. The World in..... A SPECIALIST PUBLICATION PUBLISHED IN 95 COUNTRIES AND 17 LANGUAGES

The Economist did not make the 2024 available in South Africa. We decided to use other research to inform the perspective of South Africa:

- Brookings Institute: Since it took office in 1994, the African National Congress (ANC), has not been able to improve living conditions for a majority of South Africans by providing them with “adequate housing, water, and electricity. In addition, frequent power outages, high youth unemployment, rising food inflation, various corruption scandals, an economy considered the most unequal in the world, and a failing land reform effort, remain challenges. Trust in Government is low.
- IMF: GDP forecast to 1% or 1.2%
- Reserve Bank of South Africa: Population 61.5 million. Inflation: 7%. Exchange Rate ZAR/\$ = R18.30. Household Debt/GDP 62.3%