

# Statistical release P6141.2

# Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)

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#### **Summary of findings: Wholesale trade sales**

#### Table A - Key figures as at the end of August 2009

Wholesale trade sales estimates	August 2009 (R million)	% change between August 2008 and August 2009	% change between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009	% change between January to August 2008 and January to August 2009
At current prices	82 277	-15,9	-16,0	-10,1
At constant 2000 prices	44 283	-12,4	-12,6	-10,8

Seasonally adjusted estimates	August 2009 (R million)	% change between July and August 2009	% change between March to May 2009 and June to August 2009
At current prices	80 170	-1,3	-4,4
At constant 2000 prices	44 343	-1,6	-4,3

### Key findings as at the end of August 2009

#### Wholesale trade sales in real terms decrease

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months ended August 2009 decreased by 12,6% compared with the three months ended August 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 4,4%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months ended August 2009 decreased by 4,3% compared with the three months ended May 2009.

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for August 2009 decreased by 12,4% compared with August 2008.

#### Wholesale trade sales in nominal terms decrease

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the three months ended August 2009 decreased by 16,0% compared with the three months ended August 2008. The major contributors to this decrease were dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-32,3% and contributing -6,7 percentage points), dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies (-14,1% and contributing -2,6 percentage points) and dealers in metals and metal ores (-45,5% and contributing -2,1 percentage points) – see Table B on page 3.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices for August 2009 decreased by 15,9% compared with August 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 20,4%.

Table B – Contribution of each type of dealer to the percentage change in wholesale trade sales at current prices

Type of wholesale dealer	Sales June to August 2008 (R million)	Weight 1/	Sales June to August 2009 (R million)	Difference in sales between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009 (R million)	Percentage change between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales 2/
Contract or fee basis	15 475	5,2	10 701	-4 774	-30,8	-1,6
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	13 178	4,5	10 604	-2 574	-19,5	-0,9
Food, beverages and tobacco	49 589	16,8	50 082	493	1,0	0,2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	6 048	2,0	7 600	1 552	25,7	0,5
Other household goods except precious stones	25 076	8,5	24 421	-655	-2,6	-0,2
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	4 836	1,6	2 467	-2 369	-49,0	-0,8
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	61 178	20,7	41 408	-19 770	-32,3	-6,7
Metals and metal ores	13 782	4,7	7 505	-6 277	-45,5	-2,1
Construction and building materials	16 199	5,5	13 827	-2 372	-14,6	-0,8
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	12 361	4,2	8 866	-3 495	-28,3	-1,2
Machinery, equipment and supplies	54 797	18,5	47 078	-7 719	-14,1	-2,6
Other goods	23 277	7,9	23 844	567	2,4	0,2
Total 3/	295 798	100,0	248 402	-47 396	-16,0	-16,0

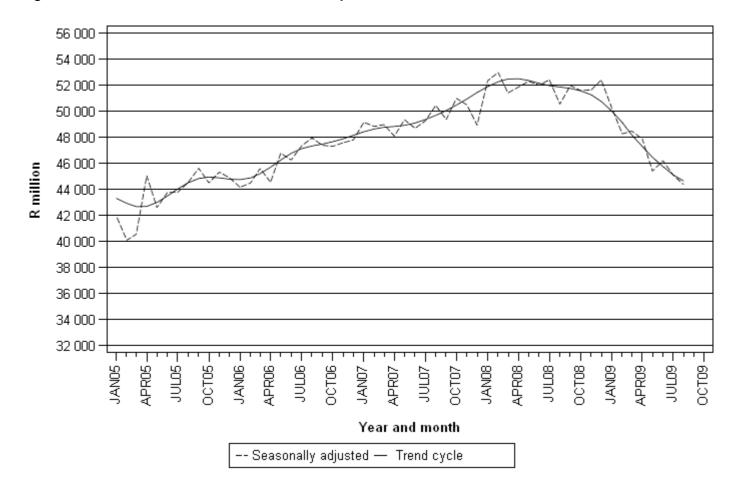
<sup>1/</sup> Weight is the percentage contribution of each type of dealer to the total wholesale trade sales for the three months up to the current month of the previous year.

<sup>2/</sup> The contribution to the percentage change is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of dealer with its corresponding weight, divided by 100.

<sup>3/</sup> The figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals.

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for wholesale trade sales at constant (2000) prices between January 2005 and August 2009.

Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices



P J Lehohla Statistician-General

### **Detailed results**

Outlined below in Table 1 are wholesale trade sales according to type of dealer (see description of type of dealer on page 6).

Table 1 – Wholesale trade sales according to the type of dealer at current prices (R million)

Year	and month 1/	Type A	Type B	Type C	Type D	Type E	Type F	Type G	Type H	Type I	Type J	Type K	Type L	Total 2/
2008	January	3 602	3 145	15 220	1 956	6 838	585	13 394	2 750	4 168	2 698	16 257	6 337	76 951
	February	4 398	3 618	14 728	2 818	7 679	1 730	14 576	3 544	5 570	3 230	16 023	6 476	84 389
	March	4 365	2 964	15 449	2 662	6 891	2 024	17 158	3 717	5 328	3 001	17 956	6 535	88 051
	April	4 663	3 427	14 786	3 364	9 587	2 231	17 111	4 212	5 379	3 329	16 213	7 745	92 047
	May	4 716	4 028	15 502	3 061	8 290	2 045	19 036	4 220	5 600	3 736	17 416	8 000	95 651
	June	4 202	4 161	16 510	2 124	8 222	2 357	19 563	4 610	5 144	3 507	18 801	7 960	97 161
	July	5 611	4 682	15 502	1 951	8 441	1 817	21 256	4 734	5 634	4 360	18 940	7 888	100 818
	August	5 662	4 335	17 577	1 973	8 413	662	20 359	4 438	5 421	4 494	17 056	7 429	97 819
	September	5 226	3 931	17 075	2 280	9 162	1 103	18 417	4 070	5 517	3 916	20 616	7 656	98 971
	October	4 375	3 917	16 662	2 572	10 384	1 964	19 303	4 317	6 547	4 195	20 750	8 584	103 572
	November	4 088	4 750	19 515	2 714	9 745	1 799	18 385	3 534	5 968	4 227	22 501	10 315	107 541
	December	4 028	4 098	20 885	2 100	8 306	579	19 340	2 142	3 522	2 632	16 257	9 765	93 653
	Total	54 936	47 056	199 411	29 575	101 958	18 896	217 898	46 288	63 798	43 325	218 786	94 690	1 136 624
2009	January	3 451	3 504	17 232	1 786	7 397	395	14 918	2 559	3 660	3 069	15 822	7 272	81 065
	February	3 931	3 516	17 181	2 595	7 801	838	12 054	2 560	4 616	2 799	16 712	7 950	82 551
	March	4 238	3 452	17 430	3 125	8 314	1 410	12 955	2 456	4 860	2 811	18 260	8 090	87 401
	April	3 690	3 057	16 484	2 883	7 679	1 326	11 733	2 161	4 156	2 442	15 583	8 099	79 294
	Мау	3 124	3 477	17 134	2 894	8 031	1 650	12 058	2 290	4 573	2 833	14 200	8 144	80 408
	June	3 156	3 530	16 727	2 526	8 138	889	12 733	2 471	4 620	2 799	17 074	7 998	82 660
	July	4 005	3 743	16 375	2 436	8 216	713	14 540	2 604	4 826	2 975	14 879	8 152	83 465
	August	3 540	3 331	16 980	2 638	8 067	865	14 135	2 430	4 381	3 092	15 125	7 694	82 277

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>2/</sup> The figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals.

### Description of type of dealers included in indicated group types in Table 1 $^{\rm 1/}$

Group type	Type of dealers included in group type
Type A	Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis
Type B	Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock
Type C	Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco
Type D	Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear
Type E	Wholesale trade in other household goods except precious stones
Type F	Wholesale trade in precious stones, jewellery and silverware
Type G	Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products
Type H	Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores
Type I	Wholesale trade in construction and building materials
Type J	Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap
Type K	Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies
Type L	Wholesale trade in other goods

<sup>1/</sup> See note 4 on page 10.

Tables 2 and 3 show total wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at current prices over the period January 2002 – August 2009. Table 4 shows seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at current prices over the same period.

Table 2 – Total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 1/	2009 1/
January	36 863	40 062	41 939	46 928	52 090	64 361	76 951	81 065
February	38 841	45 830	47 367	49 121	57 126	69 033	84 389	82 551
March	41 311	47 146	51 276	52 456	61 827	73 914	88 051	87 401
April	41 155	43 702	45 793	53 945	56 006	67 807	92 047	79 294
May	41 927	46 195	55 277	56 105	65 003	76 783	95 651	80 408
June	41 190	47 725	56 921	58 174	65 780	76 898	97 161	82 660
July	40 545	48 634	54 529	58 010	67 931	78 594	100 818	83 465
August	41 789	46 680	55 617	59 757	70 545	81 251	97 819	82 277
September	43 846	47 690	56 250	62 070	70 571	80 308	98 971	
October	49 203	50 224	60 896	64 151	75 177	88 666	103 572	
November	48 556	51 276	64 891	68 746	80 073	92 720	107 541	
December	44 067	43 828	55 988	59 483	69 604	78 286	93 653	
Total	509 293	558 992	646 744	688 946	791 733	928 621	1 136 624	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

Table 3 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at current prices 1/

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	-	8,7	4,7	11,9	11,0	23,6	19,6	5,3
February	-	18,0	3,4	3,7	16,3	20,8	22,2	-2,2
March	-	14,1	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,5	19,1	-0,7
April	-	6,2	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	35,7	-13,9
May	-	10,2	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	24,6	-15,9
June	-	15,9	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	26,4	-14,9
July	-	20,0	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	28,3	-17,2
August	-	11,7	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	20,4	-15,9
September	-	8,8	17,9	10,3	13,7	13,8	23,2	
October	-	2,1	21,2	5,3	17,2	17,9	16,8	
November	-	5,6	26,6	5,9	16,5	15,8	16,0	
December	-	-0,5	27,7	6,2	17,0	12,5	19,6	
Total	-	9,8	15,7	6,5	14,9	17,3	22,4	

<sup>1/</sup> The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade sales of the relevant year and those of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 4 – Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	41 050	45 071	47 695	53 824	59 880	73 784	87 881	92 294
February	39 854	47 381	49 356	51 700	60 632	73 787	90 501	88 593
March	41 056	46 898	51 174	52 483	62 081	74 314	88 530	87 862
April	43 705	46 833	49 529	58 811	61 342	74 358	100 881	86 871
May	41 713	45 858	54 896	55 630	64 534	76 206	95 109	79 974
June	40 779	47 029	55 993	57 228	64 850	76 065	96 451	82 198
July	41 280	49 184	54 636	57 638	66 968	76 946	98 257	81 249
August	41 871	46 629	55 107	58 751	68 982	79 175	95 212	80 170
September	43 133	46 799	54 985	60 643	68 868	78 480	96 736	
October	45 572	46 369	56 174	59 179	69 454	82 020	95 811	
November	44 097	46 074	57 811	60 839	70 715	81 968	95 266	
December	44 146	44 161	56 707	60 405	70 677	79 541	95 266	

Tables 5 and 6 show total wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at constant (2000) prices over the period January 2002 – August 2009. Table 7 shows seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at constant prices over the same period.

Table 5 - Total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million)

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 1/	2009 1/
January	31 737	31 935	33 645	36 864	38 844	43 517	46 665	45 036
February	32 777	36 460	37 788	38 451	42 536	46 550	50 472	46 015
March	34 555	37 507	40 939	40 838	45 815	49 161	51 613	48 664
April	33 858	34 781	36 214	41 656	41 090	44 376	52 870	44 249
May	34 240	37 164	43 663	43 108	47 172	49 633	52 354	45 377
June	33 501	37 892	44 228	44 038	46 389	48 654	51 819	45 948
July	32 632	38 370	42 419	43 437	47 093	49 121	52 373	45 067
August	33 311	36 974	43 231	44 545	48 022	50 514	50 552	44 283
September	34 979	38 228	44 031	46 547	48 386	50 350	53 011	
October	38 988	40 276	47 445	48 089	51 089	55 055	55 744	
November	38 354	41 268	50 518	51 265	54 049	57 394	58 637	
December	34 946	35 232	43 792	44 324	47 189	48 280	51 656	
Total	413 878	446 087	507 913	523 162	557 674	592 605	627 766	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

Table 6 - Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices 1/

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	-	0,6	5,4	9,6	5,4	12,0	7,2	-3,5
February	-	11,2	3,6	1,8	10,6	9,4	8,4	-8,8
March	-	8,5	9,2	-0,2	12,2	7,3	5,0	-5,7
April	-	2,7	4,1	15,0	-1,4	8,0	19,1	-16,3
May	-	8,5	17,5	-1,3	9,4	5,2	5,5	-13,3
June	-	13,1	16,7	-0,4	5,3	4,9	6,5	-11,3
July	-	17,6	10,6	2,4	8,4	4,3	6,6	-13,9
August	-	11,0	16,9	3,0	7,8	5,2	0,1	-12,4
September	-	9,3	15,2	5,7	4,0	4,1	5,3	
October	-	3,3	17,8	1,4	6,2	7,8	1,3	
November	-	7,6	22,4	1,5	5,4	6,2	2,2	
December	-	0,8	24,3	1,2	6,5	2,3	7,0	-
Total	-	7,8	13,9	3,0	6,6	6,3	5,9	

<sup>1/</sup> The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade of the relevant year and those of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 7 – Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million)

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	35 334	35 857	38 086	41 952	44 137	49 124	52 312	50 235
February	33 622	37 626	39 180	40 073	44 470	48 806	52 950	48 240
March	34 336	37 195	40 595	40 532	45 573	48 955	51 382	48 450
April	35 896	37 126	38 931	45 022	44 534	48 067	57 209	47 859
Мау	34 027	36 791	43 195	42 580	46 757	49 325	52 274	45 378
June	33 271	37 517	43 818	43 742	46 234	48 665	51 983	46 181
July	33 302	38 992	42 869	43 746	47 306	49 224	52 387	45 083
August	33 554	37 247	43 365	44 514	47 925	50 417	50 525	44 343
September	34 316	37 498	43 101	45 595	47 359	49 339	51 944	
October	36 114	37 242	43 871	44 474	47 277	50 965	51 570	
November	34 798	37 074	44 987	45 301	47 560	50 461	51 600	
December	35 008	35 458	44 248	44 864	47 767	48 906	52 379	

### Table 8 – Estimates and percentage changes in total wholesale trade sales

Outlined below in Tables 8.1 and 8.2 are the percentage changes in the actual and seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at current prices and at constant (2000) prices.

Table 8.1 – Quarterly and cumulative estimates and percentage changes

Actual wholesale trade sales estimates	June to August 2008 (R million)	June to August 2009 (R million)	% change between June to August 2008 and June to August 2009	January to August 2008 (R million)	January to August 2009 (R million)	% change between January to August 2008 and January to August 2009
At current prices	295 798	248 402	-16,0	732 887	659 121	-10,1
At constant 2000 prices	154 744	135 298	-12,6	408 718	364 639	-10,8

Table 8.2 – Seasonally adjusted estimates with monthly and quarterly percentage changes

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	July 2009 (R million)	August 2009 (R million)	% change between July and August 2009	March to May 2009 (R million)	June to August 2009 (R million)	% change between March to May 2009 and June to August 2009
At current prices	81 249	80 170	-1,3	254 707	243 617	-4,4
At constant 2000 prices	45 083	44 343	-1,6	141 687	135 607	-4,3

#### **Explanatory notes**

#### Introduction

- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey of the wholesale trade industry, covering wholesale enterprises (see 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from the 2009 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value added tax (VAT).
- As is usual, information for the latest month had to be estimated for respondents who have not reported by the cut-off date for production of results. These estimates will be revised in future statistical releases when their reported information becomes available. Published wholesale trade sales estimates exclude VAT.

# Purpose of the survey

The results of the monthly wholesale trade sales survey are used to compile estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components, which are used in monitoring the state of the economy and formulation of economic policy. These statistics are also used in the analysis of comparative business and industry performance.

# Scope of the survey

4 This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealer:

- Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis
- Sales by commission agents, commodity brokers, auctioneers and other wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis;
- Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock;
- Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco;
- · Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear;
- Wholesale trade in other household goods except precious stones
- Wholesale trade in household furniture, requisites and appliances, wholesale trade in books and stationery, wholesale trade in pharmaceuticals and toiletries and wholesale trade in other household goods not elsewhere classified;
- Wholesale trade in precious stones, jewellery and silverware;
- Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products:
- Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores:
- Wholesale trade in construction and building materials
- Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies;
- Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies;
- Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap; and
- Wholesale trade in other goods
- General wholesale trade and other wholesale trade not elsewhere classified.

#### Classification

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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 (four digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to the industry which reflects its predominant activity.

#### Response rate

The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for August 2009 was 89,3%. The improved response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for July 2009 was 94,1%.

#### Statistical unit

The statistical unit for which information is compiled and published is the enterprise, defined as a legal unit or a combination of legal units that includes and directly controls all functions necessary to carry out its sales activities.

#### Survey methodology and design

The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 1 000 enterprises from a population of about 20 000 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. Fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up non-respondents.

The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 1 000 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2009 at the SIC four-digit level) from a population of about 20 000 wholesale enterprises. The wholesale industry is divided into four size groups. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to the remaining size groups (medium, small and very small size enterprises). The total value of sales of the large enterprises (size group one) is added to the weighted totals of size groups two, three and four to reflect the total value of sales.

### 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 are calculated and then aggregated with the completely enumerated stratum to form group estimates. These procedures, which are in line with international best practice, are described in more detail on the Stats SA website at http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/publicationsearch.asp.

#### **Constant prices**

11 The total sales at constant prices are calculated using a combination of the Production Price Indices (PPI) for consumption in South Africa and for total output of South African industry groups to deflate the sales at current prices. However, with the discontinuation of the PPI for consumption in South Africa in January 2008, total sales at constant prices are calculated using the total output of South African industry groups from the PPI to deflate the sales at current prices.

### Seasonal adjustment

Adjustment Program developed by the US Bureau of the Census, 1968. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences, which may be present in any particular month. Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. Therefore the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

#### **Trend cycle**

13 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimates of the underlying trend cycle.

### Reliability of estimates

- Data presented in this publication are based on information obtained from a sample and are, therefore, subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the data had been obtained from all enterprises in the wholesale industry in South Africa. Estimates are subject to sampling and 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. Fluctuations may occur in consecutive months as a result of seasonal and economic factors.

### **Revised figures**

Revised figures are due to respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures and late submission of their data to Stats SA. Preliminary figures are indicated in the relevant tables. Data are edited at the enterprise level.

# Related publications

- 17 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from Stats SA -
  - Bulletin of Statistics issued quarterly.
  - SA Statistics issued annually.

### Rounding of figures

Where figures have been rounded-off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

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# Pre-release policy

19 Stats SA's pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, www.statssa.gov.za.

# Symbols and abbreviations

BR Business RegisterBSF Business Sampling FrameGDP Gross Domestic Product

ISIC International Standard Industrial Classification

SIC Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities

SARS South African Revenue Service

Stats SA Statistics South Africa
VAT Value added tax
Revised

- Figures not available

#### **Technical note**

### Neyman optimal allocation

A stratified random sample was drawn from the population of enterprises on Stats SA's Business Sampling Frame (BSF). Strata were formed using a combination of Standard Industrial Classification and the measure of size classes for enterprises. The Neyman optimal allocation formula given below was used to allocate samples to each stratum.

$$n_{h} = \frac{N_{h}S_{h}}{\sum N_{h}S_{l}}$$

where  $N_h$  and  $S_h$  are the stratum population size and the stratum variance, respectively.

Neyman allocation formula not only allocates sample sizes to each stratum but also calculates the relative precision for each stratum as well as the relative precision for these strata did not exceed 5,6%.

#### **Class limits**

Enterprise size	Size group	Lower limits	Upper limits
Very small	4	0	6 000 000
Small	3	6 000 001	32 000 000
Medium	2	32 000 001	64 000 000
Large	1	64 000 001	

#### Glossary

**Enterprise** The enterprise is a legal entity or a combination of legal units that includes and directly

controls all functions necessary to carry out its sales activities.

Industry

An industry is made up 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, Fifth Edition,

Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993 (SIC).

**Statistical unit** A statistical unit is a unit about which statistics are tabulated, compiled or published.

The statistical units are derived from and linked to the South African Revenue Service

(SARS) administrative data.

Wholesale trade Wholesale trade includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to other wholesalers, retailers, agricultural, industrial, commercial,

institutional and professional users either directly or through agents on a fee or contract

basis.

**Wholesaler** A wholesaler is an enterprise deriving 50% or more of its turnover from sales of goods to

other businesses and institutions.

#### General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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