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**Wholesale trade sales
February 1996**

Statistical release P6141.2

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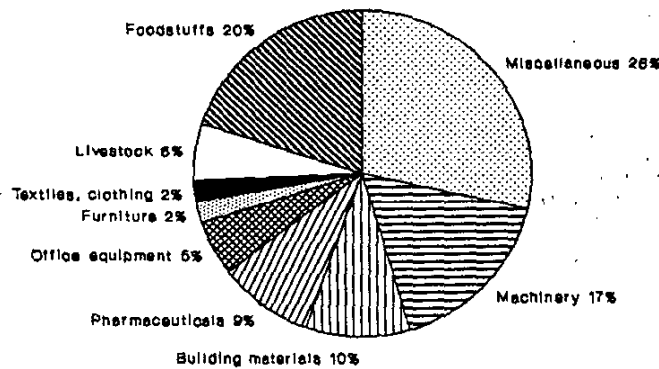
WHOLESALE TRADE SALES INCREASE FOR FEBRUARY 1996

The value of wholesale trade sales (excluding diamonds) for February 1996 amounts to R17 540,0 million, which is 19,1% higher than for February 1995. This represents an increase of 10,2% in real terms (at constant 1990 prices).

The seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales (excluding diamonds) for February 1996 show an increase of 4,1% compared with January 1996. Wholesalers in furniture and household requisites, which have a very small market share (2,2% for February 1996) show the largest percentage increase in their seasonally adjusted sales, namely 9,3%. Wholesalers in foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco and wholesalers in machinery and equipment, which both have a substantial market share, show increases of 7,2% and 8,7% respectively. However, decreases occurred in respect of wholesalers in textiles, clothing and footwear (-2,5%), wholesalers in construction and building materials (-0,7%) and wholesalers in office and shop equipment, books and stationery (-0,4%).

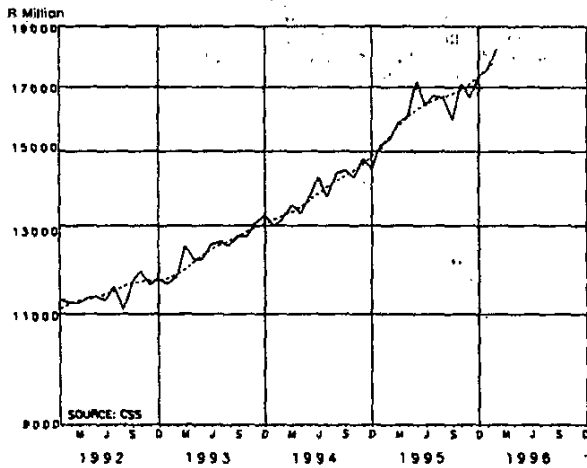
**WHOLESALE TRADE SALES
(EXCLUDING DIAMONDS)
MARKET SHARE BY TYPE OF BUSINESS**

FEBRUARY 1996



Source: CSS

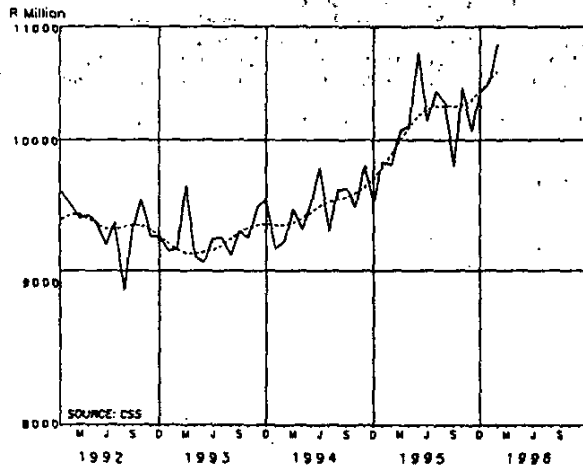
WHOLESALE TRADE SALES (EXCLUDING DIAMONDS)
CURRENT PRICES



Scale: Semi-logarithmic

Trend cycle -----
Seasonally adjusted -----

WHOLESALE TRADE SALES (EXCLUDING DIAMONDS)
CONSTANT 1990 PRICES



Scale: Semi-logarithmic

Trend cycle -----
Seasonally adjusted -----

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Period	Sales (Excluding diamonds) R million		Percentage change of sales	
	At current prices	At constant 1990 prices	At current prices	At constant 1990 prices
Actual values				
Dec. 1995 - Feb. 1996	49 981,4	29 788,3	+18,1	+8,6
Dec. 1994 - Feb. 1995	42 325,8	27 420,5		
Seasonally adjusted values				
Dec. 1995 - Feb. 1996	53 178,7	31 675,1	+7,1	+4,5
Sep. 1995 - Nov. 1995	49 660,2	30 298,0		


 pp
 Dr F M Orkin
 Head: Central Statistical Service

NOTES

This statistical release shows final estimates of the wholesale trade sales in the Republic of South Africa (the former TBVC states are excluded before January 1995). The survey is conducted on a firm basis. The results of the sample survey are raised to represent the total wholesale trade sales. Both actual and seasonally adjusted values of wholesale trade sales according to type of business at current as well as constant 1990 prices are shown. The value of sales at constant 1990 prices in respect of each type of business is obtained by deflating the sales value at current prices by means of sub-indices of the production price index on base 1990 = 100.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices include VAT

Symbols used

- * = revised
- = not applicable

GROOTHANDELVERKOPE NEEM TOE VIR FEBRUARIE 1996

Die waarde van groothandelverkope (diamante uitgesluit) vir Februarie 1996 bedra R17 540,0 miljoen, wat 19,1% hoër is as vir Februarie 1995. Dit verteenwoordig 'n toename van 10,2% in reële terme (teen konstante 1990-pryse).

Die seisoensaangepaste groothandelverkope (diamante uitgesluit) vir Februarie 1996 toon 'n toename van 4,1% vergeleke met Januarie 1996. Groothandelaars in meubels en huishoudelike toebehore, wat 'n baie klein marktaandeel het (2,2% vir Februarie 1996), toon die grootste persentasie toename in hul seisoensaangepaste verkope, naamlik 9,3%. Groothandelaars in voedsel, drank en tabak en groothandelaars in masjinerie en toerusting, wat albei 'n wesenlike marktaandeel het, toon toenames van 7,2% en 8,7% onderskeidelik. Afnames het egter voorgekom by groothandelaars in tekstiele, klerasie en skoeisel (-2,5%), groothandelaars in konstruksie- en boumateriaal (-0,7%) en groothandelaars in kantoor- en winkeluitrusting, boeke en skryfbehoeftes (-0,4%).

1. WHOLESALE TRADE SALES BY TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.1 AT CURRENT PRICES

R Million

Type of business	Actual values				Seasonally adjusted values							
	1996		1995		1996		1995		1995		1995	
	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	Feb.	Nov.	Feb.	
Total	18 082,0	16 062,9*	15 265,9*	34 144,8	29 158,0	18 280,1	17 558,6	17 340,1	16 636,5	15 334,4		
Including diamonds	17 540,0	15 545,1*	14 731,8*	33 085,1	28 208,7							
-Excluding diamonds	3 503,1	3 277,9	2 730,8	6 781,1	5 367,1	3 846,1	3 587,2	3 535,3	3 415,4	2 998,7		
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 007,0	908,4	734,9	1 915,5	1 451,7	1 032,3	960,9	840,3	819,1	750,5		
Livestock and farm produce	364,1	267,5	373,4	631,5	626,5	418,2	429,1	515,1	457,8	425,6		
Textiles, clothing and footwear	382,8	259,6	333,3	642,5	601,9	444,6	406,7	442,7	435,0	388,0		
Furniture and household requisites	947,3	818,6	809,2	1 765,9	1 482,4	934,7	938,6	939,6	1 009,1	800,2		
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	542,0	517,8	534,1	1 059,8	949,3							
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 618,7	1 446,5	1 534,0*	3 065,2	2 836,9	1 623,5	1 623,0	1 583,9	1 550,4	1 541,4		
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 742,0	1 500,6*	1 570,4	3 242,7	2 913,2	1 822,3	1 835,0	1 818,7	1 749,3	1 629,1		
Construction and building materials	2 977,0	2 456,1*	2 327,0	5 433,1	4 370,6	2 931,5	2 696,2	2 782,5	2 624,3	2 289,5		
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	4 997,9	4 609,8	4 318,8	9 607,6	8 558,3	5 205,6	4 952,6	5 035,9	4 583,6	4 501,6		
Miscellaneous												

The former TBVC states are included.

1. WHOLESALE TRADE SALES BY TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.2 AT CONSTANT 1990 PRICES

R Million

Type of business	Actual values					Seasonally adjusted values				
	1996		1995		Jan. - Feb. 1995	1996		1995		Feb. 1995
	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1996	Feb. 1995	Jan. 1995	1995	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1996	Dec. 1995	Nov. 1995	Feb. 1995
Total	10 902,5	9 738,2*	9 956,0*	20 640,7	19 092,9	10 822,4	10 466,7	10 386,0	10 078,5	9 800,6
-Including diamonds	10 418,8	9 279,5*	9 451,2*	19 698,4	18 195,7					
-Excluding diamonds	1 802,3	1 701,2	1 537,5	3 503,5	3 033,1	1 992,5	1 876,0	1 838,6	1 787,7	1 696,9
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	531,2	482,9	422,6	1 014,1	838,1	542,7	508,5	451,5	448,1	429,1
Livestock and farm produce	224,9	166,1	249,5	391,0	418,9	255,6	265,1	320,9	285,9	281,7
Textiles, clothing and footwear	225,8	153,9	208,1	379,7	378,4	261,6	240,1	263,4	261,1	241,7
Furniture and household requisites	543,0	471,8	496,9	1 014,8	910,9	536,1	543,0	543,9	591,5	491,4
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	483,7	458,7	504,8	942,4	897,2					
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	951,9	856,2	979,1*	1 808,1	1 811,6	953,3	963,5	920,5	925,5	982,2
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 049,8	909,5*	1 005,7	1 959,3	1 889,2	1 100,3	1 104,8	1 099,6	1 067,7	1 046,3
Construction and building materials	1 854,6	1 539,7*	1 542,6	3 394,3	2 939,3	1 833,3	1 680,7	1 748,6	1 664,0	1 523,3
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	3 235,2	2 998,4	3 009,1	6 233,6	5 976,3	3 357,3	3 209,0	3 282,5	3 011,0	3 124,1
Miscellaneous										

The former TBVC states are included.