



**Statistics
South Africa**

Preferred supplier of quality statistics



Statistical release

P6141.2

Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)

February 2008

**Embargoed until:
17 April 2008
11:00**

Enquiries:

User Information Services
(012) 310 8600 / 4892 / 8155

Forthcoming issue:

March 2008

Expected release date

15 May 2008

Statistics South Africa • Mbalo-mbalo ya Afrika Tshipembe • Tinhlayo-tiko ta Afrika-Dzonga • Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Ezezibalo zaseNingizimu Afrika
Dipalopalo tša Afrika Borwa • Dipalopalo tsa Afrika Borwa • Ubalo lwaseMzantsi Afrika • Telubalo eNingizimu Afrika • iNanimbalo leSewula Afrika • Statistiek Suid-Afrika

Contents

Summary of findings: Wholesale trade sales **2**

Detailed results **5**

 Table 1 – Total wholesale trade sales according to type of dealer at current prices (R million)5

 Description of type of dealers included in indicated group types in Table 16

 Table 2 – Total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)7

 Table 3 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at current prices7

 Table 4 – Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)7

 Table 5 – Total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million).....8

 Table 6 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices8

 Table 7 – Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million)8

 Table 8 – Estimates and percentage changes in total wholesale trade sales9

Explanatory notes..... **10**

Class limits..... **13**

Glossary..... **13**

General information..... **14**

Summary of findings: Wholesale trade sales

Table A – Key figures as at the end of February 2008

Wholesale trade sales estimates	February 2008 (R million)	% change between February 2007 and February 2008	% change between December 2006 to February 2007 and December 2007 to February 2008	% change between January to February 2007 and January to February 2008
At current prices	74 062	+21,3	+17,7	+20,5
At constant 2000 prices	44 349	+7,7	+5,7	+7,5

Seasonally adjusted estimates	February 2008 (R million)	% change between January and February 2008	% change between September to November 2007 and December 2007 to February 2008
At current prices	78 956	+1,3	+6,8
At constant 2000 prices	46 723	-0,2	+3,1

Key findings as at the end of February 2008

Wholesale trade sales in real terms increases

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months ending February 2008 increased by 5,7% compared with the three months ending February 2007. The corresponding growth in 2007 was 9,2%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months ending February 2008 increased by 3,1% compared with the previous three months.

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for February 2008 increased by 7,7% compared with February 2007. The 7,7% increase is lower than the 9,4% growth for February 2007 compared with February 2006.

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the three months ending February 2008 increased by 17,7% compared with the three months ending February 2007. The 17,7% increase is also lower than the 20,3% growth for the corresponding period in 2007.

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for February 2008 increased by 21,3% compared with February 2007 amid rising agriculture and petroleum commodity prices.

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

Type of wholesale dealer	Sales December 2006 to February 2007 (R million)	Weight 1/	Sales December 2007 to February 2008 (R million)	Difference in sales between December 2006 to February 2007 and December 2007 to February 2008	Percentage change between December 2006 to February 2007 and December 2007 to February 2008	Contribution (percentage points) percentage change in total sales 2/
Contract or fee basis	6 143	3,4	6 370	227	3,7	0,1
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	8 786	4,9	11 144	2 358	26,8	1,3
Food, beverages and tobacco	35 928	20,0	40 515	4 587	12,8	2,6
Textiles, clothing and footwear	4 072	2,3	4 512	440	10,8	0,2
Other household goods except precious stones	19 914	11,1	22 609	2 695	13,5	1,5
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	3 801	2,1	4 157	356	9,4	0,2
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	30 933	17,2	40 571	9 638	31,2	5,4
Metals and metal ores	6 869	3,8	8 044	1 175	17,1	0,6
Construction and building materials	9 662	5,4	10 866	1 204	12,5	0,7
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	7 683	4,3	9 189	1 506	19,6	0,8
Machinery, equipment and supplies	32 687	18,2	38 328	5 641	17,3	3,1
Other goods	13 041	7,3	15 036	1 995	15,3	1,1
Total 3/	179 518	100,0	211 344	31 826	17,7	17,7

1/ 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.

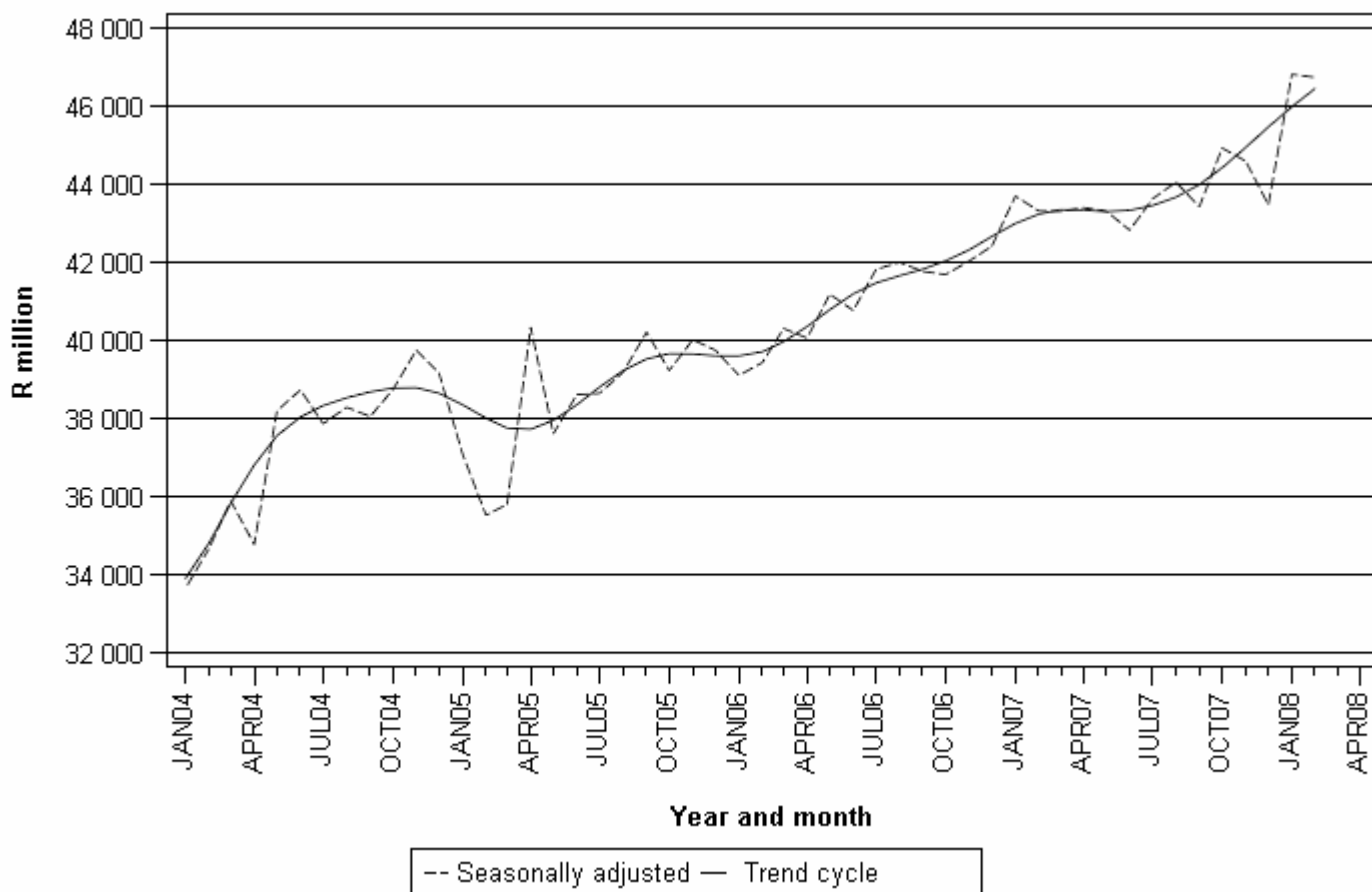
2/ The contribution to the percentage change is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of dealer with its corresponding weight.

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

Table B above shows that the major contributors to the 17,7% increase in wholesale trade sales at current prices for the three months ending February 2008 compared with the three months ending February 2007 were dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (+5,4 percentage points), dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies (+3,1 percentage points) and dealers in food, beverages and tobacco (+2,6 percentage points).

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for wholesale trade sales at constant (2000) prices between January 2004 and February 2008. In general the trend cycle shows an upward movement since the first quarter of 2005.

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.

Table 1- Total wholesale trade sales according to 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/	
2006	January	1 813	2 172	9 499	883	5 171	389	8 757	1 711	2 377	2 038	7 964	3 292	46 065
	February	1 928	2 027	9 263	1 222	5 998	1 292	8 900	2 130	2 859	2 274	8 604	4 022	50 519
	March	2 096	2 013	10 002	1 333	5 868	1 693	10 159	2 096	2 994	2 272	10 214	3 936	54 676
	April	1 398	1 767	9 977	1 379	5 876	1 320	9 765	1 781	2 846	1 801	8 053	3 564	49 528
	May	2 346	2 319	9 850	1 528	6 537	1 471	10 852	2 363	3 303	2 447	10 445	4 023	57 485
	June	1 646	2 456	10 311	1 405	6 378	1 837	10 370	2 424	3 353	2 285	11 356	4 349	58 172
	July	2 185	2 735	9 801	1 439	6 407	1 726	12 051	2 474	3 622	2 314	10 785	4 536	60 074
	August	2 232	2 848	10 469	1 802	6 919	1 998	11 232	2 637	3 686	2 979	11 658	3 926	62 386
	September	1 948	3 033	11 658	1 803	6 509	1 839	11 963	2 546	3 685	2 756	10 777	3 891	62 408
	October	2 199	2 918	11 485	2 152	7 606	2 148	11 323	2 948	4 236	3 291	11 796	4 380	66 482
	November	2 593	3 730	12 067	2 105	8 678	2 209	11 434	2 889	4 386	3 415	12 073	5 232	70 812
	December	2 274	3 253	13 220	1 410	6 903	1 957	10 679	1 748	2 749	2 331	10 371	4 661	61 554
Total	24 658	31 271	127 602	18 461	78 850	19 879	127 485	27 747	40 096	30 203	124 096	49 812	700 161	
2007	January	1 786	2 527	11 424	1 146	5 961	688	10 141	2 337	3 067	2 735	10 981	4 121	56 916
	February	2 083	3 006	11 284	1 516	7 050	1 156	10 113	2 784	3 846	2 617	11 335	4 259	61 048
	March	2 090	2 641	11 203	1 772	7 012	1 877	11 204	2 829	4 187	2 641	13 108	4 801	65 365
	April	2 259	2 485	10 837	1 625	7 307	1 754	10 572	2 673	3 628	2 659	10 511	3 655	59 964
	May	2 179	3 287	11 657	1 702	8 120	1 765	12 173	3 070	4 331	2 957	12 054	4 609	67 902
	June	2 220	3 400	12 077	1 239	7 474	1 796	12 350	2 948	4 373	3 107	12 447	4 573	68 004
	July	2 231	3 252	12 013	1 464	7 605	1 156	12 960	2 907	4 299	3 258	13 421	4 935	69 503
	August	2 437	3 154	12 071	1 997	8 126	1 102	13 091	3 278	4 326	3 543	13 806	4 923	71 854
	September	2 181	3 114	13 132	2 129	7 907	1 957	12 273	2 856	4 306	3 108	13 082	4 975	71 020
	October	2 296	3 230	13 371	2 392	8 986	2 117	13 464	3 476	4 838	3 845	14 907	5 489	78 411
	November	2 524	3 817	13 836	2 163	9 623	2 260	14 142	3 288	5 166	3 974	14 304	6 897	81 996
	December	2 178	3 603	15 126	1 403	7 718	1 695	13 545	1 769	2 649	2 860	10 988	5 697	69 231
Total	26 464	37 516	148 031	20 548	92 889	19 323	146 028	34 215	49 016	37 304	150 944	58 934	821 214	
2008	January	1 985	3 539	12 994	1 263	7 231	532	12 943	2 776	3 597	2 892	13 757	4 540	68 051
	February	2 207	4 002	12 395	1 846	7 660	1 930	14 083	3 499	4 620	3 437	13 583	4 799	74 062

1/ Preliminary.

2/ 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 ^{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

1/ See note 4 on page 10.

Tables 2 and 3 show wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at current prices over the period January 2001 - February 2008. 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	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 /1	2008 /1
January	28 597	32 599	35 428	37 088	41 500	46 065	56 916	68 051
February	30 786	34 349	40 529	41 888	43 439	50 519	61 048	74 062
March	30 833	36 532	41 693	45 345	46 389	54 676	65 365	
April	29 950	36 395	38 647	40 497	47 706	49 528	59 964	
May	31 790	37 077	40 852	48 883	49 615	57 485	67 902	
June	32 351	36 426	42 205	50 337	51 445	58 172	68 004	
July	31 320	35 856	43 009	48 222	51 300	60 074	69 503	
August	31 917	36 956	41 281	49 184	52 846	62 386	71 854	
September	30 522	38 774	42 174	49 744	54 891	62 408	71 020	
October	34 957	43 512	44 415	53 853	56 731	66 482	78 411	
November	36 199	42 940	45 345	57 385	60 794	70 812	81 996	
December	35 200	38 970	38 758	49 512	52 603	61 554	69 231	
Total	384 422	450 386	494 336	571 938	609 259	700 161	821 214	

1/ Preliminary.

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

Month	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	-	14,0	8,7	4,7	11,9	11,0	23,6	19,6
February	-	11,6	18,0	3,4	3,7	16,3	20,8	21,3
March	-	18,5	14,1	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,5	
April	-	21,5	6,2	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	
May	-	16,6	10,2	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	
June	-	12,6	15,9	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	
July	-	14,5	19,9	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	
August	-	15,8	11,7	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	
September	-	27,0	8,8	17,9	10,3	13,7	13,8	
October	-	24,5	2,1	21,2	5,3	17,2	17,9	
November	-	18,6	5,6	26,6	5,9	16,5	15,8	
December	-	10,7	-0,5	27,7	6,2	17,0	12,5	
Total	-	17,2	9,8	15,7	6,5	14,9	17,3	

1/ 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	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	31 616	36 266	39 823	42 150	47 553	52 888	65 223	77 942
February	31 523	35 216	41 860	43 613	45 695	53 466	64 929	78 956
March	30 633	36 303	41 456	45 249	46 417	55 009	65 914	
April	31 619	38 767	41 653	44 149	52 553	55 002	66 853	
May	31 706	36 879	40 551	48 580	49 232	57 095	67 408	
June	32 258	36 073	41 615	49 571	50 658	57 349	67 138	
July	31 999	36 499	43 487	48 308	51 072	59 550	68 817	
August	31 936	37 033	41 214	48 681	51 807	60 707	69 669	
September	30 100	38 145	41 344	48 527	53 454	60 684	68 979	
October	32 443	40 306	40 987	49 597	52 141	61 108	72 074	
November	33 151	38 959	40 682	51 009	53 585	62 212	71 963	
December	35 126	38 997	38 998	50 110	53 443	62 677	70 646	

Tables 5 and 6 show wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at constant (2000) prices over the period January 2001 - February 2008. 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	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 /1	2008 /1
January	27 418	28 066	28 241	29 753	32 600	34 351	38 482	41 268
February	29 376	28 987	32 243	33 417	34 003	37 616	41 166	44 349
March	29 351	30 558	33 168	36 204	36 114	40 515	43 475	
April	28 229	29 943	30 758	32 026	36 839	36 338	39 243	
May	29 738	30 279	32 866	38 612	38 122	41 716	43 893	
June	30 052	29 627	33 509	39 112	38 944	41 024	43 027	
July	28 933	28 858	33 932	37 512	38 413	41 646	43 439	
August	29 269	29 458	32 697	38 231	39 393	42 468	44 671	
September	27 989	30 933	33 807	38 939	41 163	42 789	44 527	
October	31 606	34 478	35 617	41 958	42 527	45 180	48 687	
November	32 350	33 918	36 495	44 675	45 335	47 797	50 756	
December	31 289	30 904	31 156	38 727	39 197	41 731	42 696	
Total	355 600	366 009	394 489	449 166	462 650	493 171	524 062	

1/ Preliminary.

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

Month	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	-	2,4	0,6	5,4	9,6	5,4	12,0	7,2
February	-	-1,3	11,2	3,6	1,8	10,6	9,4	7,7
March	-	4,1	8,5	9,2	-0,2	12,2	7,3	
April	-	6,1	2,7	4,1	15,0	-1,4	8,0	
May	-	1,8	8,5	17,5	-1,3	9,4	5,2	
June	-	-1,4	13,1	16,7	-0,4	5,3	4,9	
July	-	-0,3	17,6	10,6	2,4	8,4	4,3	
August	-	0,6	11,0	16,9	3,0	7,8	5,2	
September	-	10,5	9,3	15,2	5,7	4,0	4,1	
October	-	9,1	3,3	17,8	1,4	6,2	7,8	
November	-	4,8	7,6	22,4	1,5	5,4	6,2	
December	-	-1,2	0,8	24,3	1,2	6,5	2,3	
Total	-	2,9	7,8	13,9	3,0	6,6	6,3	

1/ 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	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
January	30 370	31 214	31 669	33 639	37 089	39 094	43 685	46 802
February	30 097	29 721	33 259	34 654	35 518	39 426	43 304	46 723
March	29 225	30 364	32 871	35 882	35 797	40 297	43 296	
April	29 824	31 883	33 079	34 768	40 329	40 051	43 390	
May	29 675	30 082	32 521	38 190	37 604	41 174	43 302	
June	30 001	29 416	33 161	38 725	38 604	40 757	42 813	
July	29 594	29 435	34 453	37 856	38 637	41 810	43 614	
August	29 394	29 672	32 913	38 282	39 174	41 990	44 042	
September	27 409	30 333	33 131	38 044	40 203	41 757	43 416	
October	29 289	31 911	32 897	38 728	39 219	41 679	44 916	
November	29 605	30 750	32 756	39 742	40 009	42 023	44 582	
December	31 253	30 960	31 348	39 156	39 741	42 404	43 466	

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 wholesale trade sales at current prices, constant (2000) prices and seasonally adjusted estimates.

Table 8.1 – Quarterly and cumulative estimates and percentage changes

Wholesale trade sales estimates	December 2006 to February 2007 (R million)	December 2007 to February 2008 (R million)	% change between December 2006 to February 2007 and December 2007 to February 2008	January to February 2007 (R million)	January to February 2008 (R million)	% change between January to February 2007 and January to February 2008
At current prices	179 518	211 344	+17,7	117 964	142 113	+20,5
At constant 2000 prices	121 379	128 313	+5,7	79 648	85 617	+7,5

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

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	January 2008 (R million)	February 2008 (R million)	% change between January and February 2008	September to November 2007 (R million)	December 2007 to February 2008 (R million)	% change between September to November 2007 and December 2007 to February 2008
At current prices	77 942	78 956	+1,3	213 016	227 544	+6,8
At constant 2000 prices	46 802	46 723	-0,2	132 914	136 991	+3,1

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	<p>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 2007 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT).</p> <p>As is usual, information for the latest month has 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.</p>
Purpose of the survey	3	<p>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.</p>
Scope of the survey	4	<p>This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	5	<p>The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i>, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)</i> with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC division (four digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to the industry, which reflects its predominant activity.</p>
Response rate	6	<p>The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for February 2008 was 87,0%.</p>
Statistical unit	7	<p>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.</p>
Survey methodology and design	8	<p>The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 1000 enterprises from a population of about 19 000 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.</p>

- 9 The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 1000 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2007 at the SIC four-digit level) from a population of about 19 000 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 size groups two (medium sized), three and four (small) 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** 10 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 division 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 for consumption in South Africa and total output of South African industry groups from the Production Price Index (PPI) to deflate the sales at current prices. Sales by type of dealer will not be deflated until suitable deflators are found.
- Seasonal adjustment** 12 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal 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** 14 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. Preliminary figures are indicated in the tables.
- 15 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** 16 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** 18 Where figures have been rounded-off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

Pre-release policy	19	Stats SA's pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, www.statssa.gov.za .	
Symbols and abbreviations	20	BSF	Business sampling frame
		GDP	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

Before drawing in each of the surveys the population of enterprises on the Business Sampling Frame (BSF) was stratified. 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.

$$n_h = \frac{N_h S_h}{\sum N_h S_h}$$

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 all strata. The relative precision for these surveys did not exceed 5,2%.

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 February 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.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data; and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za

Stats SA products

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

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library
Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town
Central Regional Library, Polokwane
Central Reference Library, Nelspruit
Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data are available via on-line services, diskette and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data services, contact (012) 310 8600/8390/8351/4892/8496/8095.

You can visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za

Enquiries

Telephone number: (012) 310 8600/8390/8351/4892/8496/8095 (user information services)
(012) 310 8155 (technical enquiries)
(012) 310 8161 (orders)
(012) 310 4883/8018/4885 (library)

Fax number: (012) 310 8332 (technical enquiries)

Email address: Joycee@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries)
Info@statssa.gov.za (user information services)
distribution@statssa.gov.za (orders)

Postal address: Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA