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Summary of findings: Wholesale trade sales

Table A – Key figures as at the end of February 2009

Wholesale trade sales estimates	February 2009 (R million)	% change between February 2008 and February 2009	% change between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009	% change between January to February 2008 and January to February 2009
At current prices	77 923	-2,3	7,3	1,4
At constant 2000 prices	43 435	-8,9	-1,9	-6,3

Seasonally adjusted estimates	February 2009 (R million)	% change between January and February 2009	% change between September to November 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009
At current prices	83 713	-4,1	-3,9
At constant 2000 prices	45 437	-5,0	-2,9

Key findings as at the end of February 2009

Wholesale trade sales in real terms decrease

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months ended February 2009 decreased by 1,9% compared with the three months ended February 2008, while growth for the same period in 2008 was 5,9%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months ended February 2009 decreased by 2,9% compared with the three months ended November 2008.

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for February 2009 decreased by 8,9% compared with February 2008.

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the three months ended February 2009 increased by 7,3% compared with the three months ended February 2008. The major contributors to this increase were dealers in food, beverages and tobacco (3,0 percentage points), dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (2,3 percentage points) and dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies (1,5 percentage points) – see Table B on page 3.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices for February 2009 decreased by 2,3% compared with February 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 22,2%.

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 2007 to February 2008 (R million)	Weight ^{1/}	Sales December 2008 to February 2009 (R million)	Difference in sales between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009 (R million)	Percentage change between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales ^{2/}
Contract or fee basis	9 899	4,4	9 479	-420	-4,2	-0,2
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	9 620	4,2	10 816	1 196	12,4	0,5
Food, beverages and tobacco	41 493	18,3	48 324	6 831	16,5	3,0
Textiles, clothing and footwear	6 433	2,8	5 922	-511	-7,9	-0,2
Other household goods except precious stones	22 051	9,7	23 960	1 909	8,7	0,8
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	4 087	1,8	1 775	-2 312	-56,6	-1,0
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	42 095	18,6	47 267	5 172	12,3	2,3
Metals and metal ores	8 319	3,7	7 535	-784	-9,4	-0,3
Construction and building materials	10 258	4,5	9 455	-803	-7,8	-0,4
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	8 204	3,6	8 133	-71	-0,9	0,0
Machinery, equipment and supplies	44 054	19,5	47 539	3 485	7,9	1,5
Other goods	19 879	8,8	22 787	2 908	14,6	1,3
Total ^{3/}	226 391	100,0	242 992	16 601	7,3	7,3

^{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.

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

Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices



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Detailed results

Outlined below in table 1 are wholesale trade sales according to type of dealer.

Table 1 – Total 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/}
2007	January	2 679	2 164	11 629	1 641	5 688	739	10 503	2 388	2 841	2 431	12 605	5 498	60 806
	February	3 124	2 574	11 486	2 170	6 727	1 241	10 473	2 845	3 562	2 326	13 011	5 682	65 220
	March	3 118	2 249	11 342	2 523	6 654	2 005	11 540	2 875	3 857	2 334	14 965	6 370	69 832
	April	3 388	2 128	11 029	2 326	6 971	1 883	10 946	2 731	3 359	2 362	12 063	4 875	64 062
	May	3 275	2 820	11 890	2 442	7 763	1 899	12 632	3 144	4 019	2 633	13 864	6 161	72 542
	June	3 343	2 923	12 341	1 781	7 159	1 936	12 840	3 024	4 066	2 772	14 343	6 125	72 651
	July	3 348	2 786	12 235	2 097	7 261	1 242	13 429	2 972	3 984	2 897	15 414	6 587	74 253
	August	3 648	2 696	12 263	2 853	7 738	1 181	13 530	3 343	3 999	3 142	15 816	6 555	76 764
	September	3 265	2 661	13 339	3 042	7 529	2 097	12 684	2 912	3 980	2 756	14 985	6 623	75 873
	October	3 438	2 761	13 586	3 418	8 559	2 269	13 919	3 546	4 473	3 411	17 081	7 310	83 769
	November	3 778	3 262	14 054	3 090	9 163	2 422	14 615	3 353	4 774	3 524	16 384	9 182	87 599
	December	3 266	3 084	15 392	2 008	7 362	1 819	14 023	1 807	2 453	2 541	12 609	7 598	73 962
	Total	39 670	32 108	150 586	29 391	88 574	20 733	151 134	34 940	45 367	33 129	173 140	78 566	877 333
2008	January	2 986	3 039	13 263	1 813	6 918	573	13 441	2 845	3 340	2 577	15 834	6 073	72 701
	February	3 647	3 497	12 838	2 612	7 771	1 695	14 631	3 667	4 465	3 086	15 611	6 208	79 728
	March	3 613	2 860	13 442	2 463	6 961	1 979	17 191	3 839	4 263	2 862	17 462	6 253	83 188
	April	3 851	3 299	12 836	3 106	9 663	2 176	17 105	4 341	4 294	3 168	15 731	7 394	86 963
	May	3 896	3 878	13 461	2 827	8 357	1 995	19 034	4 350	4 472	3 556	16 902	7 639	90 368
	June	3 465	3 999	14 309	1 958	8 273	2 295	19 524	4 743	4 100	3 331	18 212	7 586	91 795
	July	4 629	4 502	13 442	1 799	8 498	1 770	21 224	4 873	4 493	4 144	18 356	7 521	95 250
	August	4 686	4 182	15 291	1 825	8 497	647	20 395	4 583	4 337	4 285	16 584	7 107	92 417
	September	4 322	3 789	14 842	2 108	9 246	1 077	18 434	4 199	4 410	3 731	20 029	7 318	93 505
	October	3 612	3 769	14 458	2 373	10 461	1 915	19 287	4 447	5 224	3 990	20 124	8 191	97 852
	November	3 381	4 579	16 965	2 509	9 836	1 757	18 405	3 647	4 771	4 028	21 863	9 861	101 602
	December	3 336	3 956	18 182	1 944	8 395	566	19 388	2 214	2 820	2 511	15 819	9 349	88 481
	Total	45 424	45 349	173 329	27 337	102 876	18 445	218 059	47 748	50 989	41 269	212 527	90 500	1 073 850
2009	January	2 859	3 383	15 004	1 654	7 478	386	14 958	2 645	2 931	2 929	15 398	6 963	76 588
	February	3 284	3 477	15 138	2 324	8 087	823	12 921	2 676	3 704	2 693	16 322	6 475	77 923

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 2002 – February 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	34 827	37 849	39 623	44 336	49 213	60 806	72 701	76 588
February	36 696	43 299	44 751	46 408	53 971	65 220	79 728	77 923
March	39 029	44 542	48 444	49 559	58 412	69 832	83 188	
April	38 882	41 288	43 264	50 966	52 913	64 062	86 963	
May	39 611	43 644	52 224	53 006	61 413	72 542	90 368	
June	38 915	45 089	53 777	54 961	62 147	72 651	91 795	
July	38 306	45 948	51 517	54 806	64 179	74 253	95 250	
August	39 481	44 102	52 545	56 457	66 649	76 764	92 417	
September	41 424	45 056	53 143	58 642	66 673	75 873	93 505	
October	46 486	47 450	57 533	60 608	71 025	83 769	97 852	
November	45 874	48 444	61 307	64 949	75 651	87 599	101 602	
December	41 633	41 407	52 896	56 198	65 760	73 962	88 481	
Total	481 164	528 118	611 024	650 896	748 006	877 333	1 073 850	

^{1/} 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	-2,3
March	-	14,1	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,6	19,1	
April	-	6,2	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	35,7	
May	-	10,2	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	24,6	
June	-	15,9	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	26,4	
July	-	19,9	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	28,3	
August	-	11,7	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	20,4	
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	

^{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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	38 822	42 637	45 127	50 904	56 651	69 753	83 071	87 262
February	37 666	44 779	46 650	48 840	57 310	69 689	85 535	83 713
March	38 805	44 350	48 425	49 766	58 999	70 898	84 531	
April	41 265	44 226	46 786	55 585	58 030	70 533	95 918	
May	39 397	43 305	51 829	52 490	60 764	71 703	89 343	
June	38 520	44 421	52 874	54 010	61 089	71 599	90 662	
July	39 003	46 464	51 600	54 403	63 161	72 648	92 852	
August	39 539	44 027	52 024	55 449	65 042	74 689	89 710	
September	40 722	44 172	51 893	57 227	65 003	73 994	91 215	
October	43 069	43 815	53 067	55 891	65 586	77 389	90 433	
November	41 655	43 530	54 624	57 495	66 812	77 379	89 952	
December	41 705	41 713	53 580	57 097	66 804	75 164	90 090	

Tables 5 and 6 show wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at constant (2000) prices over the period January 2002 – February 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	29 985	30 171	31 787	34 828	36 699	41 113	44 088	42 549
February	30 967	34 446	35 701	36 327	40 187	43 978	47 684	43 435
March	32 647	35 435	38 678	38 582	43 284	46 446	48 762	
April	31 988	32 860	34 214	39 356	38 821	41 925	49 950	
May	32 349	35 112	41 251	40 727	44 567	46 892	49 463	
June	31 651	35 799	41 785	41 606	43 827	45 967	48 957	
July	30 830	36 251	40 075	41 038	44 492	46 408	49 481	
August	31 472	34 932	40 843	42 085	45 370	47 724	47 761	
September	33 047	36 117	41 599	43 976	45 713	47 569	50 083	
October	36 835	38 051	44 825	45 433	48 267	52 014	52 665	
November	36 235	38 989	47 728	48 433	51 064	54 224	55 399	
December	33 016	33 285	41 373	41 876	44 583	45 613	48 804	
Total	391 022	421 448	479 859	494 267	526 874	559 873	593 097	

^{1/} 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	-8,9
March	-	8,5	9,2	-0,2	12,2	7,3	5,0	
April	-	2,7	4,1	15,0	-1,4	8,0	19,1	
May	-	8,5	17,5	-1,3	9,4	5,2	5,5	
June	-	13,1	16,7	-0,4	5,3	4,9	6,5	
July	-	17,6	10,5	2,4	8,4	4,3	6,6	
August	-	11,0	16,9	3,0	7,8	5,2	0,1	
September	-	9,3	15,2	5,7	3,9	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	

^{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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	33 379	33 878	35 990	39 652	41 798	46 584	49 710	47 805
February	31 785	35 576	37 052	37 893	42 033	46 044	49 904	45 437
March	32 454	35 161	38 379	38 329	43 114	46 416	48 757	
April	33 843	34 952	36 619	42 337	41 932	45 394	54 165	
May	32 145	34 764	40 817	40 231	44 052	46 394	48 990	
June	31 431	35 448	41 400	41 325	43 666	46 014	49 170	
July	31 477	36 859	40 520	41 340	44 669	46 524	49 518	
August	31 704	35 192	40 970	41 999	45 077	47 320	47 292	
September	32 420	35 430	40 726	43 096	44 795	46 645	49 128	
October	34 127	35 195	41 466	42 058	44 741	48 231	48 839	
November	32 879	35 035	42 523	42 859	45 035	47 805	48 930	
December	33 092	33 517	41 828	42 404	45 112	46 145	49 442	

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 2007 to February 2008 (R million)	December 2008 to February 2009 (R million)	% change between December 2007 to February 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009	January to February 2008 (R million)	January to February 2009 (R million)	% change between January to February 2008 and January to February 2009
At current prices	226 391	242 992	7,3	152 429	154 511	1,4
At constant 2000 prices	137 385	134 788	-1,9	91 772	85 984	-6,3

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

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	January 2009 (R million)	February 2009 (R million)	% change between January and February 2009	September to November 2008 (R million)	December 2008 to February 2009 (R million)	% change between September to November 2008 and December 2008 to February 2009
At current prices	87 262	83 713	-4,1	271 600	261 065	-3,9
At constant 2000 prices	47 805	45 437	-5,0	146 897	142 684	-2,9

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 2008 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT).
	2	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.
Purpose of the survey	3	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	<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	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.
Response rate	6	The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for February 2009 was 94,5%. The final response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for January 2009 was 97,6%.
Statistical unit	7	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	8	The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 1 000 enterprises from a population of about 21 000 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.

- 9** The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 1 000 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2008 at the SIC four-digit level) from a population of about 21 000 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 (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** **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

A stratified random sample was drawn from the population of enterprises on the 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.

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

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 strata did not exceed 4,8%.

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 March 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

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