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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## Wholesale trade sales January 1998

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## CONTENTS

Key findings	1
Graph	1
Summary	2
Explanatory notes	2
Tables	
1. Wholesale trade sales by type of business	
1.1 At current prices	3
1.2 At constant June 1995 prices	4

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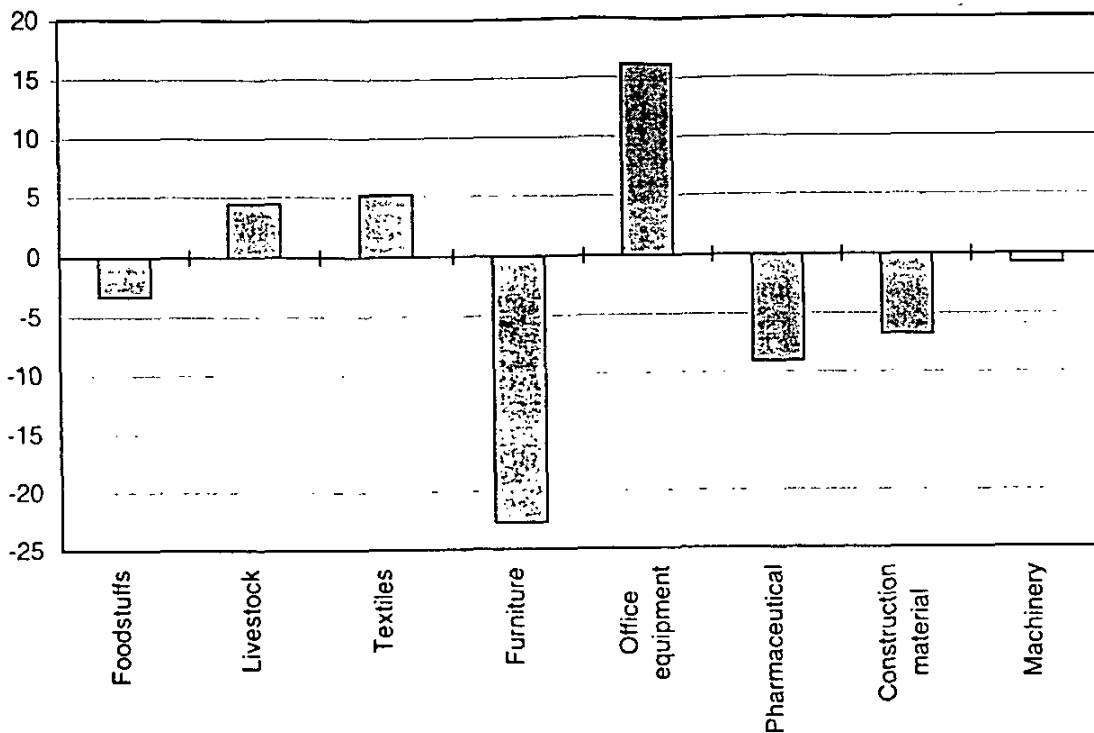
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## REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES DECREASE FOR JANUARY 1998

*The real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, show a decrease of 2,6% from January 1997 to January 1998. Furthermore, the total real wholesale trade sales (excluding diamonds) for the three months up to January 1998 is 1,1% lower than for the three months up to January 1997 and is also 2,7% lower than for the three months up to October 1997 after seasonal adjustment.*

Seven of the nine wholesaler categories (excluding diamonds) reflect decreases in their real sales for January 1998 compared with January 1997. Wholesalers in furniture and household requisites reflect the largest percentage decrease (-22,7%), followed by wholesalers in pharmaceutical and chemical products (-9,1%) and construction and building materials (-6,8%), while real sales of wholesalers in office and shop equipment, books and stationery increased by 16,2%.

### REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES (EXCLUDING DIAMONDS) Percentage change - Jan. 1998 v. Jan. 1997



#### INQUIRIES:

Tel. (012) 310-8095/310-8040  
 (012) 310-8351/310-8390  
 (012) 310-8404 (technical enquiries)  
 Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001  
 Fax: 310-8162  
 E-mail: info @ css.pwv.gov.za  
 Internet: <http://www.css.gov.za>

## SUMMARY - WHOLESALE TRADE

Period	Sales (Excluding diamonds) R million		Percentage change of sales	
	At current prices	At constant June 1995 prices	At current prices	At constant June 1995 prices
<b>Actual values</b>				
Nov. 1997 - Jan. 1998	58 846,9	48 593,5	+2,3	-1,1
Nov. 1996 - Jan. 1997	57 501,8	49 135,2		
<b>Seasonally adjusted values</b>				
Nov. 1997 - Jan. 1998	59 910,5	49 496,4	-1,7	-2,7
Aug. 1997 - Oct. 1997	60 974,7	50 876,5		

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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 included). 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 at constant June 1995 prices are shown. The value of sales at constant June 1995 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 June 1995=100.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices include VAT.

## Symbols used

- \* = revised
- = not applicable

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

R Million

Type of business	Actual values				Seasonally adjusted values					
	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1997	Nov. 1997	Oct. 1997	Jan. 1997	
Total	18 047,0	19 825,2	18 620,5	18 047,0	18 620,5	19 560,8	20 170,5	20 179,2	20 722,6	19 745,7
Including diamonds	17 444,1	19 531,9	17 595,4	17 444,1	17 595,4	3 357,0	3 269,0	3 357,0	3 269,0	3 568,5
Excluding diamonds	3 357,0	4 497,2	3 269,0	3 357,0	3 269,0	1 134,4	1 061,2	1 097,8	1 110,6	1 068,9
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 134,4	1 148,2	1 061,2	1 134,4	1 061,2	499,5	446,7	512,6	559,3	453,3
Livestock and farm produce	322,5	346,8	292,5	322,5	292,5	388,3	385,6	436,5	474,4	479,8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	257,6	414,4	317,7	257,6	317,7	1 228,1	1 219,2	1 151,2	1 083,8	1 025,4
Furniture and household requisites	1 062,8	1 056,8	888,2	1 062,8	888,2	1 645,6	1 658,8	1 643,7	1 676,3	1 743,8
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	602,9	293,3	1 025,1	602,9	1 025,1	1 980,3	2 063,2	1 958,4	2 036,5	1 996,1
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 498,1	1 513,8	1 582,9	1 498,1	1 582,9	3 415,8	3 792,3	3 619,6	3 756,6	3 292,0
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 617,2	1 616,8	1 630,9	1 617,2	1 630,9	5 615,0	5 800,3	5 920,8	6 015,9	6 080,1
Construction and building materials										
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	2 971,5	3 282,5	2 890,5	2 971,5	2 890,5					
Miscellaneous	5 222,9	5 655,4	5 662,5	5 222,9	5 662,5					

The former TBVC states are included.

1. WHOLESALE TRADE SALES BY TYPE OF BUSINESS  
1.2 AT CONSTANT JUNE 1995 PRICES

R Million

Type of business	Actual values				Seasonally adjusted values				
	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1997	Nov. 1997	Oct. 1997	Jan. 1997
Total	14 958,8	16 300,4	15 706,5	14 958,8	15 706,5				
Including diamonds	14 438,4	16 047,3	14 831,1	14 438,4	14 831,1				
Excluding diamonds	2 633,0	3 549,2	2 723,2	2 633,0	2 723,2	16 256,9	16 630,2	16 609,3	17 176,9
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	964,7	978,2	923,2	964,7	923,2	2 910,1	3 024,8	2 917,5	3 217,8
Livestock and farm produce	278,6	299,9	264,9	278,6	264,9	980,0	967,3	958,3	962,0
Textiles, clothing and footwear	224,7	361,6	290,7	224,7	290,7	430,3	385,9	442,8	485,1
Furniture and household requisites	903,9	900,5	777,8	903,9	777,8	333,3	341,0	380,9	415,2
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	520,4	253,2	875,4	520,4	875,4	1 046,6	1 037,6	983,9	930,8
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 287,0	1 305,6	1 416,1	1 287,0	1 416,1	1 413,0	1 415,9	1 412,3	1 450,6
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 364,6	1 368,8	1 464,5	1 364,6	1 464,5	1 658,8	1 733,4	1 654,0	1 720,3
Construction and building materials	2 610,7	2 880,7	2 631,3	2 610,7	2 631,3	2 999,3	3 349,1	3 196,6	3 328,4
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	4 171,3	4 401,8	4 339,4	4 171,3	4 339,4	4 472,3	4 515,9	4 640,1	4 740,3
Miscellaneous									

The former TBVC states are included.