



# Wholesale trade sales

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## CONTENTS

<b>Key findings</b>	1
<b>Graph</b>	
Figure 1 - Real wholesale trade sales (excluding diamonds) (At constant June 1995 prices)	1
<b>Summary for three months - wholesale trade sales</b>	2
<b>Explanatory notes</b>	2
<b>Tables</b>	
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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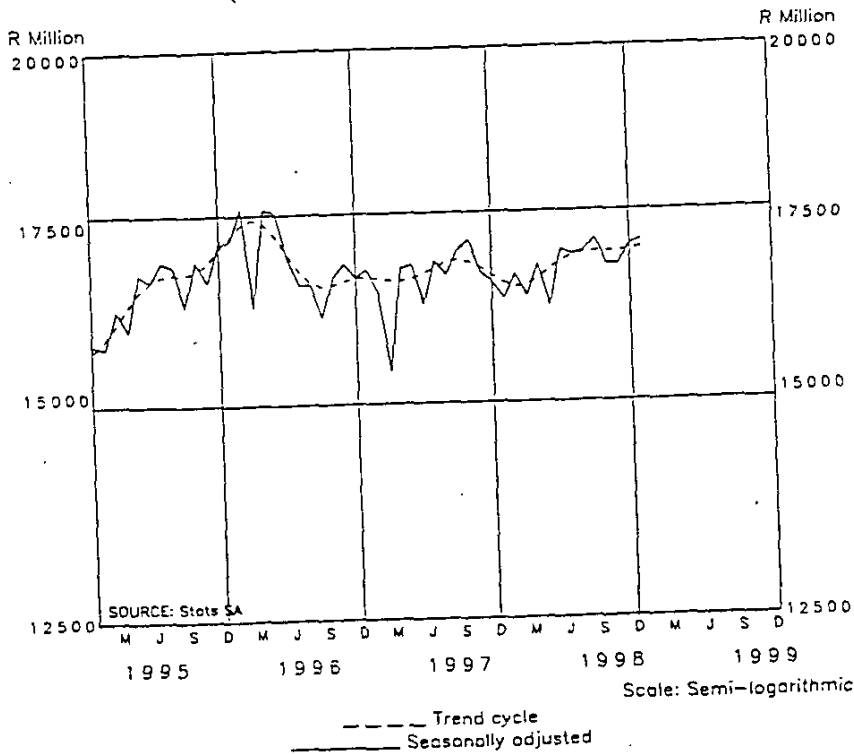


**REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES INCREASE: JANUARY 1999**

*The real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the three months up to January 1999 reflected an increase of 2,4% compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the three months up to January 1999 increased slightly by 0,1% compared with the previous three months*

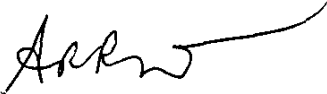
The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales, excluding diamonds, for January 1999 increased by 0,4% compared with December 1998. Five of the nine wholesalers categories reflected increases. The largest percentage increase was reflected by wholesalers in office and shop equipment, books and stationery and wholesalers in pharmaceutical and chemical products (both increased by 7,9%), followed by wholesalers in machinery (+6,7%) and wholesalers in furniture and household requisites (+5,3%). Wholesalers in foodstuff, beverages and tobacco, which have the second largest market share (19,2% of real sales in January 1999), reflected an increase of 2,4%, while wholesalers in miscellaneous goods, which have the largest market share (27,2% of real sales in January 1999), reflected a decrease of 2,7%.

Figure 1 – REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES (EXCLUDING DIAMONDS)  
(AT CONSTANT JUNE 1995 PRICES)



## SUMMARY FOR THREE MONTHS - WHOLESALE TRADE SALES

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. 1998 - Jan. 1999	62 171,7	49 659,7	+5,9	+2,4
Nov. 1997 - Jan. 1998	58 710,5	48 476,4		
<b>Seasonally adjusted values</b>				
Nov. 1998 - Jan. 1999	63 248,8	50 804,2	+0,2	+0,1
Aug. 1998 - Oct. 1998	63 125,2	50 761,3		

  
 pp  
 Dr F M Orkin  
 Head: Statistics South Africa

## =====

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statistical release shows final estimates of the wholesale trade sales in the Republic of South Africa. 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 reported on in this publication. 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.

Stats SA is currently redesigning this survey, including the questionnaire. Any inputs regarding the new questionnaire will be appreciated.

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## 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. 1999	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1999	Dec. 1998	Nov. 1998	Oct. 1998	Jan. 1998	
				Jan. 1998						
Total	19 452,6	21 266,7	18 048,8	19 452,6	18 048,8	21 175,8	21 162,9	20 910,1	20 909,9	19 603,2
Including diamonds	18 841,0	20 633,3	17 445,9	18 841,0	17 445,9	4 235,6	4 148,1	4 280,4	4 275,8	3 670,5
Excluding diamonds	3 877,2	4 873,3	3 357,0	3 877,2	3 357,0	1 180,5	1 276,5	1 234,6	1 171,1	1 160,4
Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	1 157,1	1 317,4	1 134,4	1 157,1	1 134,4	489,8	527,6	419,0	499,0	497,7
Livestock and farm produce	317,3	419,5	322,5	317,3	322,5	426,4	403,8	372,8	413,4	398,7
Textiles, clothing and footwear	275,5	444,2	257,6	275,5	257,6	1 502,9	1 392,5	1 412,3	1 487,7	1 144,0
Furniture and household requisites	1 317,9	1 196,1	1 000,8	1 317,9	1 000,8	-	-	-	-	-
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	611,7	633,3	602,9	611,7	602,9	1 905,0	1 767,1	1 930,3	1 864,0	1 645,1
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 736,1	1 614,5	1 498,1	1 736,1	1 498,1	1 821,9	1 931,6	1 849,6	1 824,2	1 976,8
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 490,5	1 547,9	1 617,2	1 490,5	1 617,2	4 070,9	3 812,5	3 711,7	3 594,2	3 433,3
Construction and building materials	3 583,3	3 362,1	3 035,3	3 583,3	3 035,3	5 527,3	5 890,7	5 707,9	5 877,6	5 663,8
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	5 086,1	5 858,4	5 222,9	5 086,1	5 222,9					
Miscellaneous										

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. 1999	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1999	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1999	Dec. 1998	Nov. 1998	Oct. 1998	Jan. 1998
Total	15 592,8	16 921,7	14 962,1	15 592,8	14 962,1	17 073,1	17 009,9	16 721,2	16 739,8	16 301,0
Including diamonds	15 114,0	16 425,9	14 441,8	15 114,0	14 441,8	3 194,5	3 120,3	3 215,6	3 252,8	2 901,0
Excluding diamonds	2 902,8	3 638,4	2 633,0	2 902,8	2 633,0	1 027,7	1 113,5	1 079,7	1 026,0	1 003,3
Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	988,7	1 109,6	964,7	988,7	964,7	407,7	441,6	348,9	416,0	429,5
Livestock and farm produce	264,2	350,1	278,6	264,2	278,6	332,9	316,2	292,5	327,2	346,1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	1 016,8	924,2	851,2	1 016,8	851,2	1 157,2	1 072,8	1 089,5	1 148,7	970,9
Furniture and household requisites	478,8	495,8	520,4	478,8	520,4	-	-	-	-	-
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	1 412,5	1 320,4	1 287,0	1 412,5	1 287,0	1 550,0	1 437,1	1 577,8	1 530,5	1 414,0
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 212,4	1 259,2	1 364,6	1 212,4	1 364,6	1 474,9	1 562,2	1 500,8	1 490,7	1 659,5
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	2 994,3	2 804,3	2 666,8	2 994,3	2 666,8	3 394,9	3 182,6	3 098,8	3 031,2	3 008,7
Construction and building materials	4 106,4	4 671,4	4 171,3	4 106,4	4 171,3	4 505,1	4 628,1	4 529,6	4 578,8	4 557,4
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)										
Miscellaneous										