

Wholesale trade sales

Preliminary: January 2006

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11:00**

Table A - Key figures as at the end of January 2006

| Estimates | January 2006 R million | % change between January 2005 and January 2006 | % change between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| Wholesale trade sales at current prices | 43 992 | +12,1 | +7,7 |
| at constant 2000 prices | 32 805 | +6,4 | +2,7 |

| Seasonally adjusted estimates | January 2006 R million | % change between December 2005 and January 2006 | % change between August to October 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|--|---------------------------|---|---|
| Wholesale trade sales at current prices | 51 184 | +1,3 | +1,5 |
| at constant 2000 prices | 37 899 | +0,8 | +0,6 |

Key findings as at the end of January 2006

Wholesale trade sales increase in real terms

As indicated in table A, wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months up to January 2006 increased by 2,7% compared with the three months up to January 2005. Furthermore seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the three months up to January 2006 increased by 0,6% compared with the three months up to October 2005.

Wholesale trade sales at constant (2000) prices, for the month of January 2006 increased by 6,4% compared with January 2005.

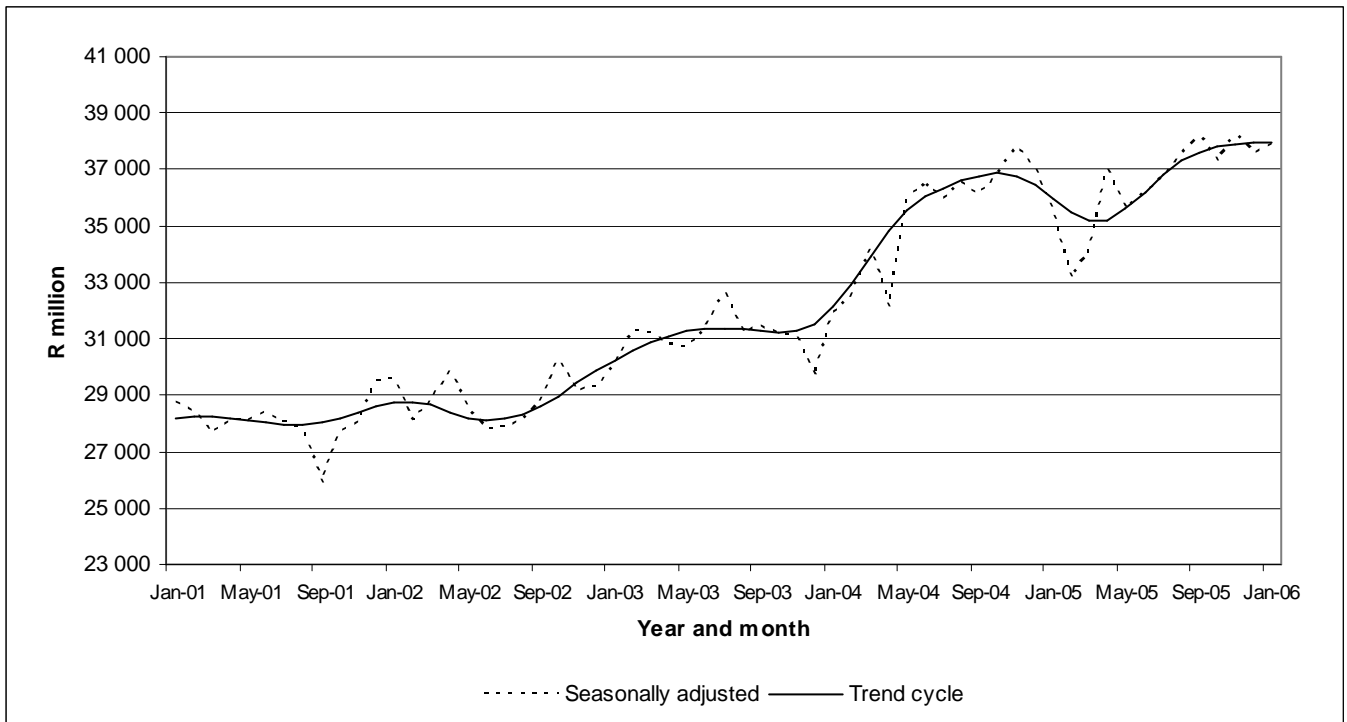
Wholesale trade sales increase at current prices

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the three months up to January 2006 increased by 7,7% compared with the same period in 2005.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices, for January 2006 increased by 12,1% compared with January 2005.

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for wholesale trade sales at constant (2000) prices between January 2001 and January 2006. The trend cycle showed a gradual upward trend from January 2001 until the beginning of 2004. Thereafter, the trend cycle started to increase sharply until October 2004. It then showed a slight decline at the beginning of 2005 but has resumed an upward trend since the middle of 2005.

Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales (at constant 2000 prices)



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Notes

| Forthcoming issue | Issue | Expected release date |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | February 2006 | 4 May 2006 |
| Purpose of the survey | 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. | |
| Response Rate | The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for January 2006 is 92,5%. | |

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) for 2006

| Year | 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/ |
|------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 2005 | January | 1 005 | 2 510 | 8 087 | 782 | 3 495 | 1 467 | 6 149 | 1 423 | 2 354 | 1 402 | 6 286 | 4 284 | 39 244 |
| | February | 1 176 | 2 445 | 8 358 | 1 080 | 3 597 | 810 | 6 737 | 1 673 | 2 642 | 1 343 | 7 268 | 3 968 | 41 097 |
| | March | 1 252 | 2 016 | 8 642 | 1 181 | 4 169 | 1 783 | 7 367 | 1 610 | 2 705 | 1 484 | 7 242 | 4 432 | 43 883 |
| | April | 1 234 | 2 018 | 9 034 | 1 159 | 4 234 | 1 766 | 7 843 | 1 656 | 2 901 | 1 399 | 7 501 | 4 370 | 45 115 |
| | May | 1 618 | 2 000 | 9 350 | 1 068 | 4 380 | 2 040 | 7 952 | 1 809 | 3 044 | 1 492 | 7 704 | 4 489 | 46 946 |
| | June | 1 866 | 2 214 | 9 277 | 994 | 4 437 | 1 838 | 9 488 | 1 730 | 2 977 | 1 716 | 7 695 | 4 404 | 48 637 |
| | July | 2 042 | 2 034 | 9 834 | 1 094 | 4 581 | 973 | 9 322 | 1 797 | 3 267 | 1 544 | 7 346 | 4 711 | 48 546 |
| | August | 1 891 | 2 129 | 8 856 | 1 296 | 4 864 | 1 385 | 10 011 | 1 887 | 3 272 | 1 613 | 7 858 | 4 876 | 49 938 |
| | September | 1 690 | 2 107 | 9 382 | 1 418 | 5 118 | 1 987 | 10 066 | 1 900 | 3 308 | 1 786 | 8 399 | 4 723 | 51 883 |
| | October | 1 932 | 2 203 | 10 016 | 1 498 | 5 682 | 2 043 | 10 261 | 1 879 | 3 376 | 1 835 | 8 104 | 4 827 | 53 655 |
| | November | 2 225 | 2 831 | 10 244 | 1 616 | 6 552 | 2 132 | 9 604 | 2 127 | 3 742 | 1 977 | 8 737 | 5 681 | 57 468 |
| | December | 1 977 | 2 454 | 11 814 | 1 016 | 5 384 | 1 575 | 9 301 | 1 237 | 2 267 | 1 327 | 6 644 | 4 746 | 49 741 |
| | Total | 19 908 | 26 961 | 112 894 | 14 202 | 56 493 | 19 799 | 104 101 | 20 728 | 35 855 | 18 918 | 90 784 | 55 511 | 576 153 |
| 2006 | January | 1 438 | 2 290 | 9 526 | 809 | 4 592 | 339 | 8 736 | 1 554 | 2 441 | 1 453 | 7 038 | 3 775 | 43 992 |

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 3 on page 9

Tables 2 and 3 show wholesale trade sales at current prices over the period January 1999 to January 2006. 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 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 1/ | 2006 1/ |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| January | 19 818 | 22 440 | 27 046 | 30 828 | 33 506 | 35 074 | 39 244 | 43 992 |
| February | 21 588 | 25 155 | 29 117 | 32 484 | 38 329 | 39 615 | 41 097 | |
| March | 22 006 | 27 377 | 29 161 | 34 550 | 39 429 | 42 886 | 43 883 | |
| April | 21 597 | 25 264 | 28 324 | 34 422 | 36 551 | 38 300 | 45 115 | |
| May | 22 380 | 27 145 | 30 066 | 35 064 | 38 634 | 46 230 | 46 946 | |
| June | 22 518 | 27 220 | 30 596 | 34 449 | 39 913 | 47 606 | 48 637 | |
| July | 22 860 | 26 339 | 29 621 | 33 911 | 40 674 | 45 604 | 48 546 | |
| August | 25 097 | 27 858 | 30 184 | 34 951 | 39 039 | 46 515 | 49 938 | |
| September | 25 594 | 27 877 | 28 865 | 36 672 | 39 886 | 47 056 | 51 883 | |
| October | 24 635 | 30 104 | 33 059 | 41 151 | 42 004 | 50 934 | 53 655 | |
| November | 27 583 | 31 014 | 34 233 | 40 608 | 42 887 | 54 290 | 57 468 | |
| December | 25 679 | 29 191 | 33 289 | 36 857 | 36 656 | 46 840 | 49 741 | |
| Total | 281 355 | 326 984 | 363 561 | 425 947 | 467 508 | 540 950 | 576 153 | |

1/ Preliminary

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

| Month | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|------|
| January | 5,5 | 13,2 | 20,5 | 14,0 | 8,7 | 4,7 | 11,9 | 12,1 |
| February | 6,0 | 16,5 | 15,8 | 11,6 | 18,0 | 3,4 | 3,7 | |
| March | 3,5 | 24,4 | 6,5 | 18,5 | 14,1 | 8,8 | 2,3 | |
| April | 4,8 | 17,0 | 12,1 | 21,5 | 6,2 | 4,8 | 17,8 | |
| May | 7,0 | 21,3 | 10,8 | 16,6 | 10,2 | 19,7 | 1,5 | |
| June | 5,0 | 20,9 | 12,4 | 12,6 | 15,9 | 19,3 | 2,2 | |
| July | 3,6 | 15,2 | 12,5 | 14,5 | 19,9 | 12,1 | 6,5 | |
| August | 12,2 | 11,0 | 8,3 | 15,8 | 11,7 | 19,2 | 7,4 | |
| September | 10,0 | 8,9 | 3,5 | 27,0 | 8,8 | 18,0 | 10,3 | |
| October | 4,0 | 22,2 | 9,8 | 24,5 | 2,1 | 21,3 | 5,3 | |
| November | 18,2 | 12,4 | 10,4 | 18,6 | 5,6 | 26,6 | 5,9 | |
| December | 18,0 | 13,7 | 14,0 | 10,7 | -0,5 | 27,8 | 6,2 | |
| Total | 8,3 | 16,2 | 11,2 | 17,2 | 9,8 | 15,7 | 6,5 | |

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 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| January | 21 934 | 24 788 | 29 973 | 34 383 | 37 790 | 40 039 | 45 330 | 51 184 |
| February | 22 125 | 25 723 | 29 812 | 33 248 | 39 350 | 40 767 | 42 347 | |
| March | 21 878 | 27 196 | 28 910 | 34 336 | 39 269 | 42 934 | 43 938 | |
| April | 22 534 | 26 430 | 29 764 | 36 299 | 38 625 | 40 538 | 47 792 | |
| May | 22 506 | 27 198 | 29 971 | 34 824 | 38 253 | 45 787 | 46 487 | |
| June | 22 643 | 27 283 | 30 490 | 34 067 | 39 235 | 46 626 | 47 520 | |
| July | 23 326 | 26 946 | 30 354 | 34 677 | 41 414 | 46 210 | 49 086 | |
| August | 24 828 | 27 684 | 30 160 | 35 032 | 39 169 | 46 577 | 49 938 | |
| September | 25 190 | 27 438 | 28 469 | 36 145 | 39 251 | 46 158 | 50 874 | |
| October | 23 033 | 28 115 | 30 806 | 38 337 | 39 034 | 47 338 | 49 878 | |
| November | 25 501 | 28 594 | 31 384 | 36 950 | 38 663 | 48 629 | 51 312 | |
| December | 25 515 | 29 030 | 33 226 | 36 938 | 36 922 | 47 418 | 50 516 | |

Tables 5 and 6 show wholesale trade sales at constant prices over the period January 1999 to January 2006. 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 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 1/ | 2006 1/ |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| January | 22 032 | 23 351 | 25 930 | 26 541 | 26 709 | 28 138 | 30 828 | 32 805 |
| February | 23 880 | 26 027 | 27 783 | 27 413 | 30 493 | 31 604 | 32 170 | |
| March | 24 169 | 28 209 | 27 759 | 28 900 | 31 367 | 34 240 | 34 164 | |
| April | 23 681 | 25 596 | 26 695 | 28 319 | 29 089 | 30 289 | 34 838 | |
| May | 24 234 | 27 406 | 28 125 | 28 635 | 31 082 | 36 517 | 36 071 | |
| June | 24 343 | 27 329 | 28 422 | 28 019 | 31 689 | 36 990 | 36 818 | |
| July | 24 542 | 26 299 | 27 363 | 27 293 | 32 090 | 35 476 | 36 350 | |
| August | 26 813 | 27 514 | 27 679 | 27 860 | 30 922 | 36 156 | 37 225 | |
| September | 27 330 | 27 424 | 26 470 | 29 255 | 31 973 | 36 835 | 38 907 | |
| October | 26 165 | 29 428 | 29 891 | 32 608 | 33 684 | 39 683 | 40 221 | |
| November | 29 111 | 29 994 | 30 592 | 32 076 | 34 517 | 42 266 | 42 855 | |
| December | 26 973 | 28 123 | 29 590 | 29 228 | 29 466 | 36 637 | 37 065 | |
| Total | 303 273 | 326 700 | 336 299 | 346 147 | 373 081 | 424 831 | 437 512 | |

1/ Preliminary

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

| Month | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------|
| January | 0,9 | 6,0 | 11,0 | 2,4 | 0,6 | 5,4 | 9,6 | 6,4 |
| February | 0,6 | 9,0 | 6,7 | -1,3 | 11,2 | 3,6 | 1,8 | |
| March | -2,5 | 16,7 | -1,6 | 4,1 | 8,5 | 9,2 | -0,2 | |
| April | -0,3 | 8,1 | 4,3 | 6,1 | 2,7 | 4,1 | 15,0 | |
| May | 1,0 | 13,1 | 2,6 | 1,8 | 8,5 | 17,5 | -1,2 | |
| June | -1,0 | 12,3 | 4,0 | -1,4 | 13,1 | 16,7 | -0,5 | |
| July | -1,6 | 7,2 | 4,0 | -0,3 | 17,6 | 10,6 | 2,5 | |
| August | 7,4 | 2,6 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 11,0 | 16,9 | 3,0 | |
| September | 5,7 | 0,3 | -3,5 | 10,5 | 9,3 | 15,2 | 5,6 | |
| October | -1,0 | 12,5 | 1,6 | 9,1 | 3,3 | 17,8 | 1,4 | |
| November | 11,9 | 3,0 | 2,0 | 4,9 | 7,6 | 22,4 | 1,4 | |
| December | 10,8 | 4,3 | 5,2 | -1,2 | 0,8 | 24,3 | 1,2 | |
| Total | 2,7 | 7,7 | 2,9 | 2,9 | 7,8 | 13,9 | 3,0 | |

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 7 - Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million)

| Month | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| January | 24 437 | 25 831 | 28 748 | 29 560 | 30 031 | 31 960 | 35 386 | 37 899 |
| February | 24 463 | 26 623 | 28 464 | 28 072 | 31 317 | 32 520 | 33 124 | |
| March | 24 164 | 28 171 | 27 650 | 28 787 | 31 226 | 34 179 | 34 090 | |
| April | 24 746 | 26 813 | 28 082 | 29 905 | 30 793 | 32 133 | 36 997 | |
| May | 24 435 | 27 520 | 28 067 | 28 427 | 30 717 | 36 055 | 35 579 | |
| June | 24 468 | 27 408 | 28 376 | 27 809 | 31 294 | 36 431 | 36 196 | |
| July | 25 087 | 26 912 | 28 011 | 27 870 | 32 659 | 35 958 | 36 763 | |
| August | 26 682 | 27 494 | 27 804 | 28 088 | 31 235 | 36 503 | 37 560 | |
| September | 26 562 | 26 729 | 25 940 | 28 737 | 31 412 | 36 101 | 38 137 | |
| October | 24 408 | 27 401 | 27 767 | 30 291 | 31 232 | 36 819 | 37 340 | |
| November | 26 901 | 27 630 | 28 026 | 29 157 | 31 101 | 37 835 | 38 239 | |
| December | 26 740 | 27 924 | 29 510 | 29 278 | 29 659 | 37 051 | 37 596 | |

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 – Estimates and percentage changes in total wholesale trade sales

Table 8.1 - Quarterly percentage changes

| Estimates | November 2004 to January 2005 R million | November 2005 to January 2006 | % change between November 2004 to January 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Wholesale trade sales at current prices | 140 374 | 151 201 | +7,7 |
| at constant 2000 prices | 109 731 | 112 725 | +2,7 |

Table 8.2 - Seasonally adjusted estimates with monthly and quarterly percentage changes.

| Seasonally adjusted estimates | December 2005 R million | January 2006 R million | % change between December 2005 and January 2006 | August to October 2005 R million | November 2005 to January 2006 R million | % change between August to October 2005 and November 2005 to January 2006 |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Wholesale trade sales at current prices | 50 516 | 51 184 | +1,3 | 150 690 | 153 012 | +1,5 |
| at constant 2000 prices | 37 596 | 37 899 | +0,8 | 113 037 | 113 734 | +0,6 |

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 2005 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT) and income tax. |
| | 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. |
| Scope of the survey | 3 | <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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General wholesale trade and other wholesale trade not elsewhere classified. |
| Classification | 4 | 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. |
| Statistical unit | 5 | 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 | 6 | The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 800 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. |
| | 7 | The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of 800 enterprises (which was drawn in August 2005 at the SIC four-digit level) from a population then 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 | 8 | 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 | 9 | The constant prices for the 2005 series 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 current prices. From January 2005 onwards, only the total sales will be deflated and not the type of dealer. |
| Seasonal adjustment | 10 | 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 | 11 | 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 | 12 | 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. |
| | 13 | 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 | 14 | 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 | 15 | Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from Stats SA - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bulletin of Statistics</i> issued quarterly. • <i>SA Statistics</i> issued annually. |
| Rounding of figures | 16 | Where figures have been rounded-off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals. |
| Pre-release policy | 17 | Stats SA's pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, www.statssa.gov.za . |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------|---|
| Symbols and abbreviations | 18 | 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 6.4%.

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 <i>System of National Accounts (SNA)</i> in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993 (SIC)</i> . |
| 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. |

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