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## **STATISTICAL RELEASE**

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# **Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)**

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**Sales at constant 2015 prices: results for January 2022**

**Table A – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices**

	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	4,9	0,3	-0,2	6,1	0,7	7,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	3,4	-0,8	-0,1	0,6	-0,3	4,9
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	-2,1	-2,4	-1,1	0,5	0,8	1,7

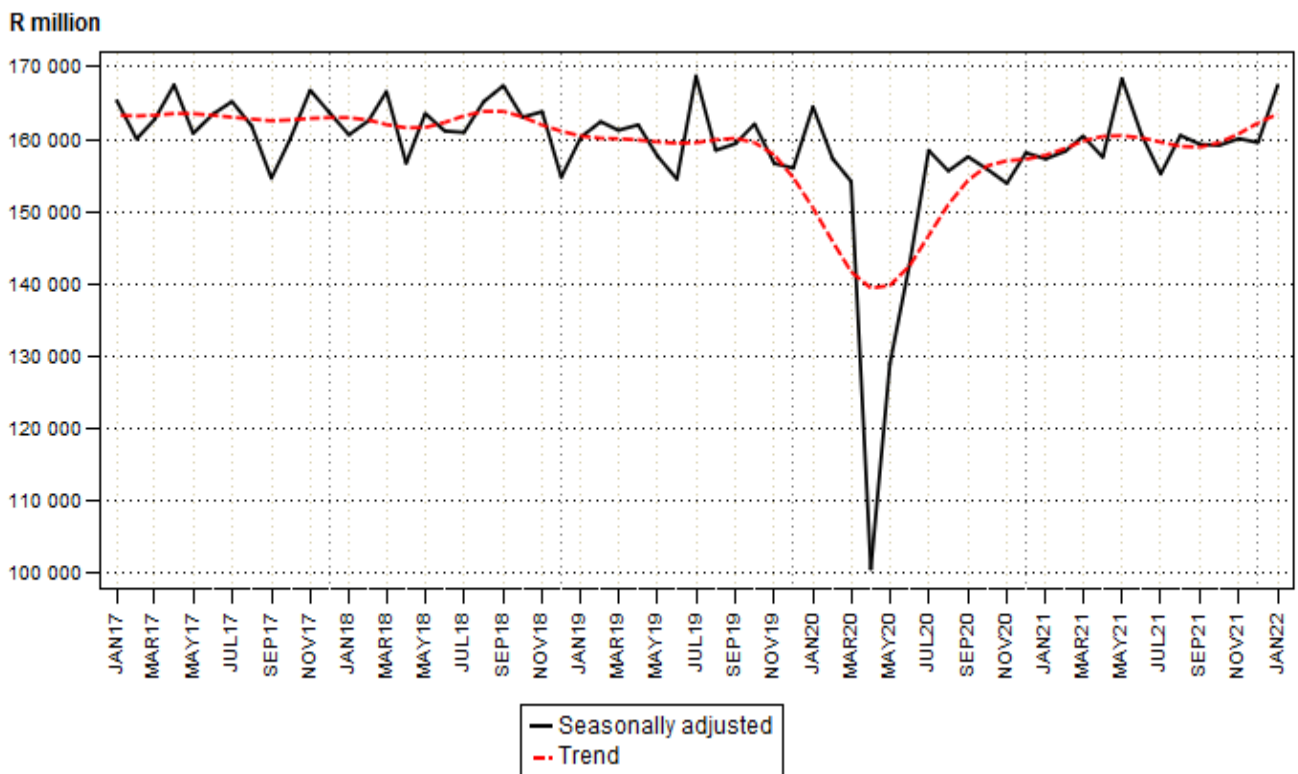
1/ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Measured in real terms (constant 2015 prices), wholesale trade sales increased by 7,3% in January 2022 compared with January 2021.

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales increased by 4,9% in January 2022 compared with December 2021. This followed month-on-month changes of -0,3% in December 2021 and 0,6% in November 2021.

In the three months ended January 2022, seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales increased by 1,7% compared with the previous three months.

**Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices**



## Sales at current prices: results for January 2022

**Table B – Key growth rates in wholesale trade sales at current prices**

	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	14,3	10,8	10,9	19,7	15,3	22,6
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	5,1	-0,1	2,8	1,7	-0,2	4,0
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	0,4	-0,7	2,2	4,3	5,6	4,8

1/ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Measured in nominal terms (current prices), wholesale trade sales increased by 22,6% in January 2022 compared with January 2021. The main positive contributors were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (51,0% and contributing 11,2 percentage points);
- food, beverages and tobacco (28,1% and contributing 4,0 percentage points); and
- 'other' intermediate products, waste and scrap (56,6% and contributing 3,3 percentage points) – see Tables 8 and 9.

**Table C – Wholesale trade sales at current prices for the latest three months by type of dealer**

Type of dealer	Nov 2020 – Jan 2021 (R million)	Weight	Nov 2021 – Jan 2022 (R million)	% change between Nov 2020 – Jan 2021 and Nov 2021 – Jan 2022	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Fee or contract basis	17 924	3,1	21 635	20,7	0,6
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	46 048	7,9	55 572	20,7	1,6
Food, beverages and tobacco	94 051	16,2	109 966	16,9	2,7
Textiles, clothing and footwear	8 564	1,5	9 114	6,4	0,1
Other household goods except precious stones	80 779	13,9	84 306	4,4	0,6
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	5 907	1,0	13 184	123,2	1,2
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	115 629	19,9	158 277	36,9	7,3
Metals and metal ores	17 145	3,0	20 574	20,0	0,6
Construction and building materials	33 490	5,8	32 490	-3,0	-0,2
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	34 797	6,0	51 341	47,5	2,9
Machinery, equipment and supplies	80 695	13,9	85 349	5,8	0,8
Other goods	45 571	7,8	49 476	8,6	0,7
<b>Total</b>	<b>580 598</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>691 281</b>	<b>19,1</b>	<b>19,1</b>

Wholesale trade sales increased by 19,1% in the three months ended January 2022 compared with the three months ended January 2021. The main positive contributors were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (36,9% and contributing 7,3 percentage points);
- 'other' intermediate products, waste and scrap (47,5% and contributing 2,9 percentage points); and
- food, beverages and tobacco (16,9% and contributing 2,7 percentage points) – see Table C.

**Risenga Maluleke**  
Statistician-General

## Tables

**Table 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices (R million)**

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 1/
Jan	144 140	145 601	142 230	140 914	144 499	133 661	143 385
Feb	170 896	151 827	153 013	151 937	154 044	147 427	
Mar	169 462	168 899	168 708	162 626	157 261	165 069	
Apr	153 978	148 940	144 318	151 941	88 308	147 848	
May	167 172	161 197	164 286	159 072	127 369	166 670	
Jun	168 575	167 117	164 175	153 672	149 009	165 196	
Jul	163 760	160 207	159 494	170 080	159 734	156 845	
Aug	168 708	165 442	168 871	162 089	155 293	162 825	
Sep	177 063	161 598	169 357	163 055	163 949	164 520	
Oct	174 144	173 770	179 358	178 055	171 184	170 824	
Nov	182 411	184 111	182 825	173 430	167 668	177 904	
Dec	170 680	158 840	148 612	152 274	155 635	156 748	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 010 989</b>	<b>1 947 549</b>	<b>1 945 247</b>	<b>1 919 145</b>	<b>1 793 953</b>	<b>1 915 537</b>	

1/ Figures for latest month are preliminary.

**Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices**

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	1,0	-2,3	-0,9	2,5	-7,5	7,3	7,3
Feb	-11,2	0,8	-0,7	1,4	-4,3		
Mar	-0,3	-0,1	-3,6	-3,3	5,0		
Apr	-3,3	-3,1	5,3	-41,9	67,4		
May	-3,6	1,9	-3,2	-19,9	30,9		
Jun	-0,9	-1,8	-6,4	-3,0	10,9		
Jul	-2,2	-0,4	6,6	-6,1	-1,8		
Aug	-1,9	2,1	-4,0	-4,2	4,9		
Sep	-8,7	4,8	-3,7	0,5	0,3		
Oct	-0,2	3,2	-0,7	-3,9	-0,2		
Nov	0,9	-0,7	-5,1	-3,3	6,1		
Dec	-6,9	-6,4	2,5	2,2	0,7		
<b>Total</b>	<b>-3,2</b>	<b>-0,1</b>	<b>-1,3</b>	<b>-6,5</b>	<b>6,8</b>		

**Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices**

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	160 309	164 498	157 300	167 438	3,6	5,4	-0,5	4,9
Feb	162 438	157 314	158 358		1,3	-4,4	0,7	
Mar	161 257	154 191	160 441		-0,7	-2,0	1,3	
Apr	162 002	100 638	157 532		0,5	-34,7	-1,8	
May	157 733	129 019	168 387		-2,6	28,2	6,9	
Jun	154 489	142 770	160 601		-2,1	10,7	-4,6	
Jul	168 764	158 472	155 203		9,2	11,0	-3,4	
Aug	158 488	155 634	160 546		-6,1	-1,8	3,4	
Sep	159 408	157 591	159 309		0,6	1,3	-0,8	
Oct	162 113	155 885	159 179		1,7	-1,1	-0,1	
Nov	156 669	153 922	160 101		-3,4	-1,3	0,6	
Dec	156 032	158 134	159 557		-0,4	2,7	-0,3	

**Table 4 – Wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)**

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 1/
Jan	148 633	158 283	164 310	169 452	182 464	171 406	210 127
Feb	177 422	166 867	175 820	182 601	193 791	191 148	
Mar	175 593	185 868	191 971	198 273	196 253	217 075	
Apr	162 374	163 870	166 628	188 786	107 706	196 999	
May	176 555	178 751	192 368	198 978	153 312	222 201	
Jun	180 408	184 561	194 920	192 995	180 854	222 267	
Jul	176 843	177 022	191 441	212 230	198 330	212 763	
Aug	180 052	183 592	203 432	202 651	195 134	223 115	
Sep	187 925	181 881	205 443	203 660	206 153	228 477	
Oct	186 418	197 562	222 515	223 563	216 469	240 167	
Nov	197 724	211 249	226 575	217 297	212 103	253 881	
Dec	185 268	184 350	181 630	191 619	197 089	227 273	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 135 215</b>	<b>2 173 856</b>	<b>2 317 053</b>	<b>2 382 105</b>	<b>2 239 658</b>	<b>2 606 772</b>	

1/ Figures for latest month are preliminary.

**Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in wholesale trade sales at current prices**

Month	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 year-to-date
Jan	6,5	3,8	3,1	7,7	-6,1	22,6	22,6
Feb	-5,9	5,4	3,9	6,1	-1,4		
Mar	5,9	3,3	3,3	-1,0	10,6		
Apr	0,9	1,7	13,3	-42,9	82,9		
May	1,2	7,6	3,4	-23,0	44,9		
Jun	2,3	5,6	-1,0	-6,3	22,9		
Jul	0,1	8,1	10,9	-6,5	7,3		
Aug	2,0	10,8	-0,4	-3,7	14,3		
Sep	-3,2	13,0	-0,9	1,2	10,8		
Oct	6,0	12,6	0,5	-3,2	10,9		
Nov	6,8	7,3	-4,1	-2,4	19,7		
Dec	-0,5	-1,5	5,5	2,9	15,3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>6,6</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>-6,0</b>	<b>16,4</b>		

**Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at current prices**

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	191 702	205 453	196 995	238 927	2,5	5,7	-1,7	4,0
Feb	194 229	203 018	203 228		1,3	-1,2	3,2	
Mar	195 716	191 464	210 522		0,8	-5,7	3,6	
Apr	204 085	118 908	211 322		4,3	-37,9	0,4	
May	197 285	156 390	224 230		-3,3	31,5	6,1	
Jun	194 855	176 219	218 835		-1,2	12,7	-2,4	
Jul	208 577	194 558	209 427		7,0	10,4	-4,3	
Aug	198 917	195 116	220 178		-4,6	0,3	5,1	
Sep	197 853	198 271	220 065		-0,5	1,6	-0,1	
Oct	205 695	200 028	226 331		4,0	0,9	2,8	
Nov	199 052	194 701	230 090		-3,2	-2,7	1,7	
Dec	194 322	200 491	229 681		-2,4	3,0	-0,2	

**Table 7 – Wholesale trade sales at current prices by type of dealer (R million)**

Type of dealer	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22 1/
Fee or contract basis	8 398	9 657	7 615	9 562	8 344	3 729
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	14 124	16 200	15 489	19 472	22 106	13 994
Food, beverages and tobacco	33 144	34 949	36 206	37 806	41 234	30 926
Textiles, clothing and footwear	3 813	4 255	4 744	3 964	2 266	2 884
Other household goods except precious stones	29 036	29 222	27 966	30 950	27 223	26 133
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	4 902	5 386	5 594	4 340	4 794	4 050
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	48 412	49 295	59 469	52 796	48 534	56 947
Metals and metal ores	8 141	7 189	7 263	9 038	5 310	6 226
Construction and building materials	11 204	13 592	12 165	14 129	8 599	9 762
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	13 590	14 738	18 331	20 684	15 138	15 519
Machinery, equipment and supplies	32 529	27 917	28 964	32 469	27 130	25 750
Other goods	15 819	16 076	16 361	18 672	16 596	14 208
<b>Total</b>	<b>223 115</b>	<b>228 477</b>	<b>240 167</b>	<b>253 881</b>	<b>227 273</b>	<b>210 127</b>

1/ Figures are preliminary.

**Table 8 – Year-on-year percentage change in wholesale trade sales at current prices by type of dealer**

Type of dealer	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Fee or contract basis	3,8	2,1	-33,9	13,5	37,8	8,2
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	6,3	2,6	6,8	22,1	31,7	5,1
Food, beverages and tobacco	-1,0	2,8	6,5	11,6	14,4	28,1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	16,1	20,9	8,0	-6,9	-9,1	59,2
Other household goods except precious stones	14,6	18,3	2,7	7,1	0,4	5,5
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	64,6	25,0	23,3	19,2	623,1	152,8
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	27,0	24,7	55,5	38,3	22,1	51,0
Metals and metal ores	29,2	5,7	1,3	24,2	14,8	18,7
Construction and building materials	2,9	-3,2	-3,0	12,6	-9,8	-14,5
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	27,0	14,9	23,9	55,2	31,0	56,6
Machinery, equipment and supplies	16,2	8,4	-7,5	11,7	2,0	2,8
Other goods	7,8	4,3	0,9	12,0	4,4	9,2
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,3</b>	<b>10,8</b>	<b>10,9</b>	<b>19,7</b>	<b>15,3</b>	<b>22,6</b>

**Table 9 – Contribution of type of dealer to the year-on-year percentage change in wholesale trade sales at current prices**

Type of dealer	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22
Fee or contract basis	0,2	0,1	-1,8	0,5	1,2	0,2
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	0,4	0,2	0,5	1,7	2,7	0,4
Food, beverages and tobacco	-0,2	0,5	1,0	1,9	2,6	4,0
Textiles, clothing and footwear	0,3	0,4	0,2	-0,1	-0,1	0,7
Other household goods except precious stones	1,9	2,2	0,3	1,0	0,1	0,8
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	1,0	0,5	0,5	0,3	1,9	1,4
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	5,3	4,7	9,8	6,9	4,5	11,2
Metals and metal ores	0,9	0,2	0,0	0,8	0,3	0,6
Construction and building materials	0,2	-0,2	-0,2	0,7	-0,5	-1,0
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	1,5	0,9	1,6	3,5	1,8	3,3
Machinery, equipment and supplies	2,3	1,1	-1,1	1,6	0,3	0,4
Other goods	0,6	0,3	0,1	0,9	0,4	0,7
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,3</b>	<b>10,8</b>	<b>10,9</b>	<b>19,7</b>	<b>15,3</b>	<b>22,6</b>

## Survey information

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the wholesale trade industry (see point 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2021 business sampling frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered at the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for value added tax (VAT) and income tax (IT). Stats SA continuously updates its BSF, which is linked to the SARS administrative data.
  - 2 In order to improve timeliness, some information for the latest month had to be estimated due to late response. These estimates will be revised in future statistical releases as soon as 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 This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealers:
    - 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. This group includes 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 materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies;
    - Wholesale trade in 'other' intermediate products, waste and scrap;
    - Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies; and
    - Wholesale trade in 'other' goods. This group covers general wholesale trade and 'other' wholesale trade not classified elsewhere.
- Classification**
- 5 The 1993 edition of the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (SIC), Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 *International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities* (ISIC) with suitable adaptations for local conditions. Each enterprise is classified to the industry which reflects its predominant activity. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC four digit level.
- Collection rate**
- 6 The preliminary collection rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for January 2022 was 67,7%. The improved collection rate for December 2021 was 72,6%.



<b>Statistical unit</b>	<b>7</b>	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. The statistical units are derived from and linked to the South African Revenue Service (SARS) administrative data.
<b>Revised figures</b>	<b>8</b>	Revised figures are mainly due to late submission of data to Stats SA, or respondents reporting revisions or corrections to their figures. Preliminary figures, as indicated in the relevant tables, are subject to change and when revised will not be indicated as such.
<b>Related publications</b>	<b>9</b>	Users may also refer to the following publication available from Stats SA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Stats in Brief</i> issued annually.</li></ul>
<b>Rounding-off of figures</b>	<b>10</b>	Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.
<b>Historical data</b>	<b>11</b>	Historical wholesale trade sales data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: <a href="#">Click to download historical data</a>
<b>Past publications</b>	<b>12</b>	Past wholesale trade sales releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: <a href="#">Click to download past releases</a>

**Technical notes**

**Survey methodology and design**

- 1 The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 1 469 enterprises from a population of 19 883 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. Email, fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up on non-respondents.
- 2 A stratified random sample was drawn at the SIC four-digit level in April 2021 from Stats SA's business sampling frame (BSF). Strata were formed using a combination of Standard Industrial Classification and the measure of size classes for enterprises (see point 3 below). The Neyman optimal allocation formula given below was used to allocate samples to each stratum:

$$n_h = n * ( N_h * S_h ) / [ \sum ( N_i * S_i ) ] .$$

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 was 5,8%.

**Class limits**

- 3 The wholesale sampling frame is divided into four size groups. All large enterprises (size group one) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to the remaining size groups (medium, small and very small). The total value of sales of the large enterprises (size group one) is added to the weighted totals of size group two, three and four to reflect the total value of sales.

**Measure of size classes (Rand)**

Enterprise size	Size group	Lower limits	Upper limits
Very small	4	2 675 608	27 000 000
Small	3	27 000 001	144 000 000
Medium	2	144 000 001	288 000 000
Large	1	288 000 001	

**Sample weighting**

- 4 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 group estimates. These procedures are consistent with international best practice.

**Seasonal adjustment**

- 5 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the US Bureau of the Census. 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. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for wholesale trade sales is described in more detail on the Stats SA website:

[Click to download seasonal adjustment wholesale trade sales August 2017](#)

**Note:** Owing to the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown, a transitory change adjustment was applied to April 2020. Transitory (temporary) change describes a temporary effect on the level of a series after a certain point in time.

- Trend cycle** 6 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimates of the underlying trend cycle.
- Constant prices** 7 Stats SA compiles its monthly estimates of wholesale trade sales at current prices from a survey of wholesalers in the formal sector. For January 1998 to December 2011, wholesale trade sales at constant prices were calculated using the 'all groups' PPI for domestic output, but excluding electricity and other utilities.
- From January 2012, wholesale trade sales at constant prices are compiled as follows:
- (1) Deflate sales of dealers in agricultural raw materials and livestock using the PPI for agriculture.
  - (2) Deflate sales of dealers in food, beverages and tobacco using the final manufacturing PPI for food products, beverages and tobacco.
  - (3) Deflate sales of dealers in textiles, clothing and footwear using the final manufacturing PPI for textiles, clothing and footwear.
  - (4) Deflate sales of dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products using the final manufacturing PPI for coal and petroleum products.
  - (5) Deflate sales of dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies using the final manufacturing PPIs for general and special purpose machinery; household appliances and office machinery; and electrical machinery and communication and metering equipment.
  - (6) Deflate the remaining wholesale trade sales using the headline PPI (final manufacturing) excluding the PPIs for food products, beverages and tobacco; textiles, clothing and footwear; coal and petroleum products; general and special purpose machinery; household appliances and office machinery; electrical machinery and communication and metering equipment; and transport equipment. The PPI for transport equipment is excluded because it measures producer prices of motor vehicles, which are not included in wholesale trade.
- Total wholesale trade sales at constant prices is obtained by aggregating (1) to (6).
- Reliability of estimates** 8 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.
- 9 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.
- Month-on-month percentage change** 10 The month-on-month percentage change in a variable for any given month is the change between that month and the previous month, expressed as a percentage of the latter.
- Year-on-year percentage change** 11 The year-on-year percentage change in a variable for any given period is the change between that period and the corresponding period of the previous year, expressed as a percentage of the latter.

**Contribution (percentage points)**      **12**      The contribution (percentage points) to the year-on-year percentage change is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of wholesaler by its corresponding weight, divided by 100. The weight is the percentage contribution of each type of wholesaler to total wholesale trade sales in the corresponding period of the previous year.

## Glossary

**Enterprise**      An 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 (SIC)*, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993.

**Symbols and abbreviations**

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

**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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