

**Statistics
South Africa**

3

Statistical release
P6141.2

Dipalopalo tsa Aforika Borwa • Statistieke Suid-Afrika • Tistatistiki Afrika-Dzongwe • Ukuqokelelwa kwamanani eNingizimu Afrika

STATISTIEK / THE LIBRARY
PRINTED IN SOUTH AFRICA
STATISTIEK / PRIVATE BAG X44
PRETORIA

Wholesale trade sales

July 1998

Co-operation between Statistics South Africa, the citizens of the country, the private sector and government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system. Without continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.

Embargo: 09:30
Date: 5 October 1998

Stats SA publishes approximately four hundred different releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally, but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

Private Bag X44 • 0001 Pretoria • South Africa • Steyn's Building • Steyn's Arcade • 274 Schoeman Street • Pretoria

Users enquiries Tel: +27(12) 310 8600 • Fax: +27(12) 310 8500

E-mail address: info@statssa.pwv.gov.za • Website: <http://www.statssa.gov.za>



Published by
Statistics South Africa
Private Bag X44
Pretoria
0001

© Copyright, 1998

Users may apply or process this data, provided Statistics South Africa is acknowledged as the original source of the data; that it is specified that the application and/or analysis is the result of the user's independent processing of the data; and that neither the basic data nor any reprocessed version or application thereof may be sold or offered for sale in any form whatsoever.

CONTENTS

Key findings	1
Graph	1
Figure 1 - Real wholesale trade sales	2
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

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available in the Stats SA Library, and in the following public libraries:

State Library, Pretoria
South African Library, Cape Town
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library

Private Bag X44 • 0001 Pretoria • South Africa • Steyn's Building • Steyn's Arcade • 274 Schoeman Street • Pretoria

Users enquiries Tel: +27(12) 310 8600 • Fax: +27(12) 310 8500

E-mail address: info@statssa.pwv.gov.za • Website: <http://www.statssa.gov.za>

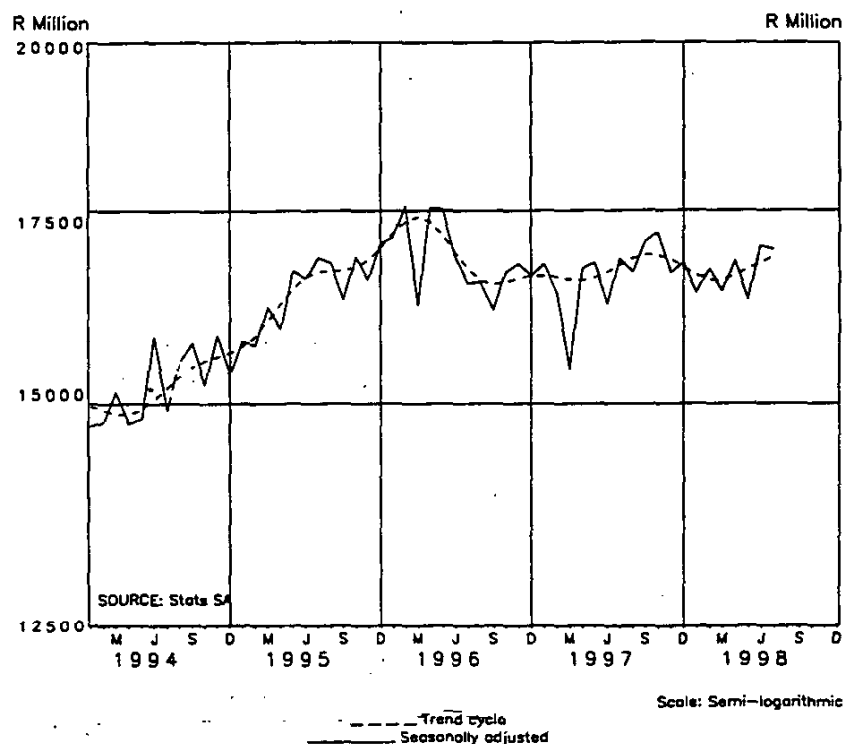


REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES MAINTAIN UPWARD TREND


The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the three months up to July 1998 reflect an increase of 0,7% compared with the previous three months. Since early 1998 real wholesale trade sales have been showing a slight upward trend (see figure 1).

Furthermore, the real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the three months up to July 1998 are 0,8% higher than for the corresponding period of 1997. However, the seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales, excluding diamonds, for July 1998 reflect a decrease of 0,3% compared with June 1998, with three of the nine wholesaler categories reflecting a decrease. The largest percentage decrease was reflected by wholesalers in pharmaceutical and chemical products (-9,6%), followed by wholesalers in livestock and farm produce (-4,8%). Wholesalers in miscellaneous-goods, which have the largest market share (28,9%), reflected a decrease of 1,9%.

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



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
Actual values				
May 1998 - Jul. 1998	60 846,4	50 223,6	+2,6	+0,8
May 1997 - Jul. 1997	59 320,4	49 833,1		
Seasonally adjusted values				
May 1998 - Jul. 1998	60 930,3	50 284,3	+2,0	+0,7
Feb. 1998 - Apr. 1998	59 750,7	49 919,8		


 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 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 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 will be redesigning this survey, including the questionnaire. Any inputs regarding the questionnaire will be greatly appreciated.

Contact person at Stats SA: Elise Louw
 Telephone number : (012) 310-8404
 Fax number : (012) 310-8162
 E-mail : Elise1@statssa.pwv.gov.za

Symbols used

* = revised
 - = not applicable

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				
	Jul. 1998	Jun. 1998	Jul. 1997	Jan. 1998	Jul. 1997	Jul. 1998	Jun. 1998	May 1998	Apr. 1998	Jul. 1997
	Total	17 511,0	17 154,1	17 393,0	116 879,3	116 215,3	16 969,2	17 015,5	16 299,7	16 808,7
Including diamonds	17 021,4	16 875,7	16 898,1	114 023,0	112 479,9	2 994,9	2 981,2	2 913,0	3 043,1	2 933,8
Excluding diamonds	2 952,2	2 840,0	2 903,0	20 172,5	19 695,7	1 059,4	1 113,2	1 005,5	1 072,9	946,2
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 003,6	1 021,1	892,5	6 964,2	6 210,0	460,5	416,9	368,8	444,4	402,3
Livestock and farm produce	407,8	414,5	358,5	2 763,7	2 702,8	377,0	331,0	331,8	338,3	411,2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	353,8	315,0	388,2	2 160,7	2 565,9	1 298,5	1 259,8	1 202,3	1 299,7	877,9
Furniture and household requisites	1 253,8	1 263,1	848,2	8 231,3	6 215,8	-	-	-	-	-
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	489,6	278,4	494,9	2 856,3	3 735,3	1 454,9	1 608,8	1 427,8	1 447,4	1 447,6
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 378,2	1 630,0	1 373,6	10 005,8	10 077,4	1 616,1	1 601,3	1 582,7	1 683,6	1 690,5
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 709,2	1 598,1	1 784,9	11 053,7	11 348,2	3 074,6	3 005,3	2 917,8	3 043,9	3 218,2
Construction and building materials	4 844,4	4 690,0	5 072,1	31 852,5	32 221,9	4 605,3	4 695,8	4 724,8	4 482,2	4 829,6
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)										
Miscellaneous										