

3

DIE BIBLIOTEEK / THE LIBRARY  
SENTRALE STATISTIEKDIENS  
CENTRAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
PRIVAATSAK / PRIVATE BAG X44  
0001 PRETORIA



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



## Wholesale trade sales June 1998

**Statistical release P6141.2**

*Co-operation between the Central Statistical Service and the residents of the RSA, the private sector and the government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system in the RSA. Without this continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.*

The CSS publishes approximately five hundred different releases per year. In the light of expenditure restraints in government, it is no longer economically viable to produce them in more than one of the eleven official languages in South Africa. Since the releases are also extensively used by the international economic and social-scientific communities, from 1996 CSS releases will be published in English.

**Embargo: 09:30  
Date: 3 September 1998**

Published by the  
Central Statistical Service  
Private Bag X44  
PRETORIA  
0001  
Tel. (012) 310-8911

### COPYRIGHT, 1997

Users may apply or process this data, provided Central Statistics (CSS) 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

<b>Key findings</b>	1
<b>Graph</b>	
Figure 1 - Real wholesale trade sales	1
<b>Summary</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

A complete set of CSS publications is available at the **CSS Library** and the following libraries:

State Library, Pretoria  
South African Library, Cape Town  
Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg

Library of Parliament, Cape Town  
Bloemfontein Public Library  
Johannesburg Public Library

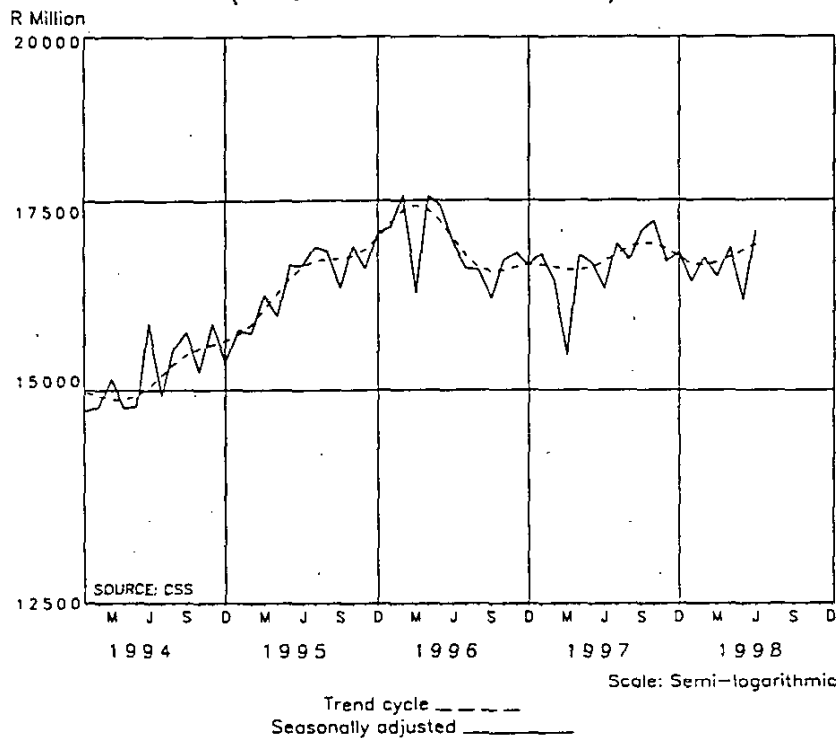
## REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES ARE MOVING UPWARDS

*The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the three months up to June 1998 are 1,1% higher than for 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 first six months of 1998 reflect an increase of 1,5% compared with the corresponding period of 1997.

The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for June 1998 reflect an increase of 5,7% compared with May 1998. The sales of seven of the nine wholesaler categories (excluding diamonds) increased over this period. Wholesalers in pharmaceutical and chemical products reflect the largest increase (+12,1%), followed by wholesalers in textiles, clothing and footwear (+11,5%) and wholesalers in livestock and farm produce (+11,0%).

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



### ENQUIRIES:

Tel. (012) 310-8095/310-8040  
(012) 310-8351/310-8390  
(012) 310-8404 (technical enquiries)  
Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001  
Fax: 310-8162/3224271/3285566  
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>				
Apr. 1998 - Jun. 1998	59 567,9	49 439,9	+2,1	+0,9
Apr. 1997 - Jun. 1997	58 340,1	49 002,3		
<b>Seasonally adjusted values</b>				
Apr. 1998 - Jun. 1998	60 276,1	50 056,3	+1,6	+1,1
Jan. 1998 - Mar. 1998	59 353,5	49 530,3		

pp   
 Dr F M Orkin  
 Head: Central Statistical Service

## 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.

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

Contact person at CSS: Elise Louw  
 Telephone number : (012) 310-8404  
 Fax number : (012) 310-8162  
 E-mail : Elisel@css.pwv.gov.za

## 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					
	1998		1997		Jan. 1998	Jun. 1997	Jun. 1998	May 1998	Apr. 1998	Mar. 1998	Jun. 1997	
	Jun.	May	Jun.	May	1998	1997	1998	1998	1998	1998	1997	
Total	20 744,5	20 240,4	19 843,8	19 843,8	119 361,7	117 034,7	20 421,7	19 707,9	20 146,5	19 644,2	19 223,3	
Including diamonds	20 410,3	19 712,2	19 250,3	19 250,3	116 543,8	113 268,2						
Excluding diamonds	3 668,1	3 835,3	3 466,5	3 466,5	22 114,4	20 495,3	3 854,7	3 782,1	3 890,6	3 674,1	3 630,1	
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 173,5	1 158,0	894,3	894,3	6 916,6	6 010,9	1 329,8	1 191,4	1 267,7	1 246,2	1 010,9	
Livestock and farm produce	492,2	488,3	499,1	499,1	2 770,8	2 623,9	489,1	442,1	523,1	493,4	495,9	
Textiles, clothing and footwear	374,4	399,2	451,9	451,9	2 117,6	2 418,8	388,4	389,7	396,4	453,3	466,2	
Furniture and household requisites	1 529,3	1 337,1	992,2	992,2	8 321,8	6 158,0	1 517,6	1 446,6	1 527,7	1 334,5	981,7	
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	334,1	528,2	593,5	593,5	2 817,9	3 766,5	-	-	-	-	-	
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 927,6	1 713,3	1 703,8	1 703,8	10 121,4	9 863,2	1 901,7	1 680,7	1 697,8	1 659,0	1 678,5	
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 920,9	1 836,7	1 925,5	1 925,5	11 160,0	10 945,7	1 917,4	1 887,6	2 011,5	1 875,0	1 913,2	
Construction and building materials	3 578,1	3 265,9	3 501,3	3 501,3	20 275,9	20 176,5	3 425,6	3 349,4	3 472,2	3 549,1	3 353,5	
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	5 746,2	5 678,4	5 815,6	5 815,6	32 745,2	34 575,9	5 672,6	5 656,5	5 326,6	5 659,6	5 740,5	
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				
	Jun. 1998	May 1998	Jun. 1997	Jan. 1998	Jun. 1997	Jun. 1998	May 1998	Apr. 1998	Mar. 1998	Jun. 1997
Total	17 154,1	16 739,7	16 657,2	99 368,3	98 822,3	17 069,9	16 145,0	16 841,3	16 442,3	16 291,4
Including diamonds	16 875,7	16 326,5	16 148,6	97 001,6	95 581,8					
Excluding diamonds	2 840,0	2 942,5	2 761,5	17 220,3	16 792,7	2 979,8	2 914,0	3 044,6	2 869,4	2 887,4
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 021,1	995,2	785,3	5 960,7	5 317,5	1 117,0	1 006,1	1 070,4	1 054,1	858,9
Livestock and farm produce	414,5	412,2	441,3	2 356,0	2 344,4	412,4	369,8	443,0	425,0	439,0
Textiles, clothing and footwear	315,0	335,8	402,3	1 806,9	2 177,7	327,9	330,2	337,7	386,2	416,3
Furniture and household requisites	1 263,1	1 106,6	859,1	6 977,5	5 367,6	1 254,9	1 197,4	1 301,2	1 119,2	850,8
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	278,4	413,2	508,6	2 366,7	3 240,5	-	-	-	-	-
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 630,0	1 450,4	1 486,8	8 627,6	8 703,9	1 606,4	1 433,0	1 448,1	1 417,4	1 463,7
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 598,1	1 529,5	1 661,2	9 344,5	9 563,3	1 598,2	1 580,6	1 680,9	1 581,2	1 654,0
Construction and building materials	3 103,9	2 839,9	3 134,9	17 700,1	18 165,0	2 992,6	2 912,6	3 043,4	3 095,4	3 023,1
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	4 690,0	4 714,3	4 616,3	27 008,2	27 149,7	4 711,1	4 731,8	4 482,6	4 703,7	4 630,4
Miscellaneous										