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### Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)

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**Summary of findings: Wholesale trade sales**

**Table A – Key figures as at the end of June 2009**

Wholesale trade sales estimates	June 2009 (R million)	% change between June 2008 and June 2009	% change between April to June 2008 and April to June 2009	% change between January to June 2008 and January to June 2009
At current prices	79 344	-13,6	-12,9	-6,6
At constant 2000 prices	44 105	-9,9	-11,7	-8,9

Seasonally adjusted estimates	June 2009 (R million)	% change between May and June 2009	% change between January to March 2009 and April to June 2009
At current prices	78 679	0,9	-5,7
At constant 2000 prices	44 468	1,0	-3,4

**Key findings as at the end of June 2009**

**Wholesale trade sales in real terms decrease**

***Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the second quarter of 2009 decreased by 11,7% compared with the second quarter of 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 10,1%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the second quarter of 2009 decreased by 3,4% compared with the first quarter of 2009.***

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for June 2009 decreased by 9,9% compared with June 2008.

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the second quarter of 2009 decreased by 12,9% compared with the second quarter of 2008. The major contributors to this decrease were dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-34,0% and contributing -7,0 percentage points), dealers in metal and metal ores (-48,6% and contributing -2,4 percentage points) and dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies (-8,1% and contributing -1,5 percentage points) – see Table B on page 3.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices for June 2009 decreased by 13,6% compared with June 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 26,4%.

**Table B – Contribution of each type of dealer to the percentage change in wholesale trade sales at current prices**

Type of wholesale dealer	Sales April to June 2008 (R million)	Weight 1/	Sales April to June 2009 (R million)	Difference in sales between April to June 2008 and April to June 2009 (R million)	Percentage change between April to June 2008 and April to June 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales 2/
<b>Contract or fee basis</b>	11 212	4,2	8 654	-2 558	-22,8	-1,0
<b>Agricultural raw materials and livestock</b>	11 176	4,2	9 660	-1 516	-13,6	-0,6
<b>Food, beverages and tobacco</b>	40 606	15,1	44 991	4 385	10,8	1,6
<b>Textiles, clothing and footwear</b>	7 891	2,9	7 767	-124	-1,6	0,0
<b>Other household goods except precious stones</b>	26 293	9,8	24 612	-1 681	-6,4	-0,6
<b>Precious stones, jewellery and silverware</b>	6 466	2,4	3 765	-2 701	-41,8	-1,0
<b>Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products</b>	55 663	20,7	36 718	-18 945	-34,0	-7,0
<b>Metals and metal ores</b>	13 434	5,0	6 904	-6 530	-48,6	-2,4
<b>Construction and building materials</b>	12 866	4,8	10 776	-2 090	-16,2	-0,8
<b>Other intermediate products, waste and scrap</b>	10 055	3,7	7 576	-2 479	-24,7	-0,9
<b>Machinery, equipment and supplies</b>	50 845	18,9	46 721	-4 124	-8,1	-1,5
<b>Other goods</b>	22 619	8,4	26 165	3 546	15,7	1,3
<b>Total 3/</b>	<b>269 126</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>234 310</b>	<b>-34 816</b>	<b>-12,9</b>	<b>-12,9</b>

1/ Weight is the percentage contribution of each type of dealer to the total wholesale trade sales for the three months up to the current month of the previous year.

2/ The contribution to the percentage change is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of dealer with its corresponding weight.

3/ The figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals.

Figure 1 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for wholesale trade sales at constant (2000) prices between January 2005 and June 2009.

**Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices**



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**Detailed results**

Outlined below in Table 1 are wholesale trade sales according to type of dealer (see description of type of dealer on page 6).

**Table 1 – Total wholesale trade sales according to the type of dealer at current prices (R million)**

Year and 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/	
<b>2008</b>	<b>January</b>	2 986	3 039	13 263	1 813	6 918	573	13 441	2 845	3 340	2 577	15 834	6 073	72 701
	<b>February</b>	3 647	3 497	12 838	2 612	7 771	1 695	14 631	3 667	4 465	3 086	15 611	6 208	79 728
	<b>March</b>	3 613	2 860	13 442	2 463	6 961	1 979	17 191	3 839	4 263	2 862	17 462	6 253	83 188
	<b>April</b>	3 851	3 299	12 836	3 106	9 663	2 176	17 105	4 341	4 294	3 168	15 731	7 394	86 963
	<b>May</b>	3 896	3 878	13 461	2 827	8 357	1 995	19 034	4 350	4 472	3 556	16 902	7 639	90 368
	<b>June</b>	3 465	3 999	14 309	1 958	8 273	2 295	19 524	4 743	4 100	3 331	18 212	7 586	91 795
	<b>July</b>	4 629	4 502	13 442	1 799	8 498	1 770	21 224	4 873	4 493	4 144	18 356	7 521	95 250
	<b>August</b>	4 686	4 182	15 291	1 825	8 497	647	20 395	4 583	4 337	4 285	16 584	7 107	92 417
	<b>September</b>	4 322	3 789	14 842	2 108	9 246	1 077	18 434	4 199	4 410	3 731	20 029	7 318	93 505
	<b>October</b>	3 612	3 769	14 458	2 373	10 461	1 915	19 287	4 447	5 224	3 990	20 124	8 191	97 852
	<b>November</b>	3 381	4 579	16 965	2 509	9 836	1 757	18 405	3 647	4 771	4 028	21 863	9 861	101 602
	<b>December</b>	3 336	3 956	18 182	1 944	8 395	566	19 388	2 214	2 820	2 511	15 819	9 349	88 481
<b>Total</b>	<b>45 424</b>	<b>45 349</b>	<b>173 329</b>	<b>27 337</b>	<b>102 876</b>	<b>18 445</b>	<b>218 059</b>	<b>47 748</b>	<b>50 989</b>	<b>41 269</b>	<b>212 527</b>	<b>90 500</b>	<b>1 073 850</b>	
<b>2009</b>	<b>January</b>	2 859	3 383	15 004	1 654	7 478	386	14 958	2 645	2 931	2 929	15 398	6 963	76 588
	<b>February</b>	3 269	3 408	15 017	2 412	7 916	823	12 132	2 656	3 710	2 681	16 326	7 641	77 992
	<b>March</b>	3 522	3 343	15 224	2 903	8 431	1 384	13 030	2 547	3 904	2 691	17 826	7 771	82 574
	<b>April</b>	3 385	2 926	14 836	2 735	7 772	1 315	11 890	2 143	3 403	2 219	16 058	8 145	76 828
	<b>May</b>	2 717	3 300	15 432	2 815	8 332	1 635	12 142	2 294	3 802	2 616	13 955	9 098	78 138
	<b>June</b>	2 552	3 434	14 723	2 217	8 508	815	12 686	2 467	3 571	2 741	16 708	8 922	79 344

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 <sup>1/</sup>**

<b>Group type</b>	<b>Type of dealers included in group type</b>
<b>Type A</b>	<b>Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis</b>
<b>Type B</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock</b>
<b>Type C</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco</b>
<b>Type D</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear</b>
<b>Type E</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in other household goods except precious stones</b>
<b>Type F</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in precious stones, jewellery and silverware</b>
<b>Type G</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products</b>
<b>Type H</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores</b>
<b>Type I</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in construction and building materials</b>
<b>Type J</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap</b>
<b>Type K</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies</b>
<b>Type L</b>	<b>Wholesale trade in other goods</b>

<sup>1/</sup> See note 4 on page 10.

Tables 2 and 3 show wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at current prices over the period January 2002 – June 2009. 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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 <sup>1/</sup>	2009 <sup>1/</sup>
January	34 827	37 849	39 623	44 336	49 213	60 806	72 701	76 588
February	36 696	43 299	44 751	46 408	53 971	65 220	79 728	77 992
March	39 029	44 542	48 444	49 559	58 412	69 832	83 188	82 574
April	38 882	41 288	43 264	50 966	52 913	64 062	86 963	76 828
May	39 611	43 644	52 224	53 006	61 413	72 542	90 368	78 138
June	38 915	45 089	53 777	54 961	62 147	72 651	91 795	79 344
July	38 306	45 948	51 517	54 806	64 179	74 253	95 250	
August	39 481	44 102	52 545	56 457	66 649	76 764	92 417	
September	41 424	45 056	53 143	58 642	66 673	75 873	93 505	
October	46 486	47 450	57 533	60 608	71 025	83 769	97 852	
November	45 874	48 444	61 307	64 949	75 651	87 599	101 602	
December	41 633	41 407	52 896	56 198	65 760	73 962	88 481	
<b>Total</b>	<b>481 164</b>	<b>528 118</b>	<b>611 024</b>	<b>650 896</b>	<b>748 006</b>	<b>877 333</b>	<b>1 073 850</b>	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

**Table 3 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at current prices <sup>1/</sup>**

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	-	8,7	4,7	11,9	11,0	23,6	19,6	5,3
February	-	18,0	3,4	3,7	16,3	20,8	22,2	-2,2
March	-	14,1	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,6	19,1	-0,7
April	-	6,2	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	35,7	-11,7
May	-	10,2	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	24,6	-13,5
June	-	15,9	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	26,4	-13,6
July	-	19,9	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	28,3	
August	-	11,7	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	20,4	
September	-	8,8	17,9	10,3	13,7	13,8	23,2	
October	-	2,1	21,2	5,3	17,2	17,9	16,8	
November	-	5,6	26,6	5,9	16,5	15,8	16,0	
December	-	-0,5	27,7	6,2	17,0	12,5	19,6	
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>9,8</b>	<b>15,7</b>	<b>6,5</b>	<b>14,9</b>	<b>17,3</b>	<b>22,4</b>	

<sup>1/</sup> 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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	38 791	42 596	45 084	50 870	56 595	69 727	83 026	87 192
February	37 651	44 769	46 645	48 856	57 309	69 725	85 521	83 721
March	38 803	44 338	48 399	49 708	58 904	70 617	84 200	83 619
April	41 292	44 232	46 762	55 474	57 764	69 834	94 567	83 463
May	39 410	43 325	51 862	52 547	61 019	72 111	90 137	78 002
June	38 528	44 431	52 896	54 055	61 224	71 733	90 887	78 679
July	38 965	46 423	51 565	54 406	63 195	72 796	93 070	
August	39 557	44 050	52 054	55 489	65 075	74 791	89 847	
September	40 750	44 213	51 945	57 283	65 053	74 092	91 319	
October	43 052	43 801	53 059	55 892	65 599	77 431	90 444	
November	41 654	43 519	54 601	57 458	66 794	77 395	89 951	
December	41 729	41 742	53 612	57 110	66 841	75 198	90 080	



Tables 5 and 6 show wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at constant (2000) prices over the period January 2002 – June 2009. 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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 <sup>1/</sup>	2009 <sup>1/</sup>
January	29 985	30 171	31 787	34 828	36 699	41 113	44 088	42 549
February	30 967	34 446	35 701	36 327	40 187	43 978	47 684	43 474
March	32 647	35 435	38 678	38 582	43 284	46 446	48 762	45 977
April	31 988	32 860	34 214	39 356	38 821	41 925	49 950	42 873
May	32 349	35 112	41 251	40 727	44 567	46 892	49 463	44 096
June	31 651	35 799	41 785	41 606	43 827	45 967	48 957	44 105
July	30 830	36 251	40 075	41 038	44 492	46 408	49 481	
August	31 472	34 932	40 843	42 085	45 370	47 724	47 761	
September	33 047	36 117	41 599	43 976	45 713	47 569	50 083	
October	36 835	38 051	44 825	45 433	48 267	52 014	52 665	
November	36 235	38 989	47 728	48 433	51 064	54 224	55 399	
December	33 016	33 285	41 373	41 876	44 583	45 613	48 804	
<b>Total</b>	<b>391 022</b>	<b>421 448</b>	<b>479 859</b>	<b>494 267</b>	<b>526 874</b>	<b>559 873</b>	<b>593 097</b>	

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.

**Table 6 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices <sup>1/</sup>**

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	-	0,6	5,4	9,6	5,4	12,0	7,2	-3,5
February	-	11,2	3,6	1,8	10,6	9,4	8,4	-8,8
March	-	8,5	9,2	-0,2	12,2	7,3	5,0	-5,7
April	-	2,7	4,1	15,0	-1,4	8,0	19,1	-14,2
May	-	8,5	17,5	-1,3	9,4	5,2	5,5	-10,9
June	-	13,1	16,7	-0,4	5,3	4,9	6,5	-9,9
July	-	17,6	10,5	2,4	8,4	4,3	6,6	
August	-	11,0	16,9	3,0	7,8	5,2	0,1	
September	-	9,3	15,2	5,7	3,9	4,1	5,3	
October	-	3,3	17,8	1,4	6,2	7,8	1,3	
November	-	7,6	22,4	1,5	5,4	6,2	2,2	
December	-	0,8	24,3	1,2	6,5	2,3	7,0	
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>7,8</b>	<b>13,9</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>6,6</b>	<b>6,3</b>	<b>5,9</b>	

<sup>1/</sup> The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade 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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	33 383	33 881	35 994	39 655	41 735	46 471	49 496	47 552
February	31 775	35 563	37 038	37 885	42 062	46 174	50 124	45 690
March	32 449	35 157	38 381	38 336	43 151	46 385	48 733	45 975
April	33 878	35 000	36 652	42 329	41 823	45 077	53 615	46 000
May	32 145	34 760	40 816	40 239	44 171	46 549	49 292	44 007
June	31 431	35 446	41 402	41 336	43 728	46 051	49 240	44 468
July	31 472	36 851	40 516	41 346	44 672	46 565	49 561	
August	31 703	35 191	40 972	42 044	45 166	47 512	47 502	
September	32 420	35 429	40 724	43 086	44 769	46 636	49 110	
October	34 124	35 191	41 459	42 035	44 702	48 187	48 772	
November	32 880	35 034	42 518	42 823	44 981	47 722	48 813	
December	33 080	33 507	41 821	42 396	45 139	46 183	49 467	

**Table 8 – Estimates and percentage changes in total wholesale trade sales**

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 8.1 – Quarterly estimates and percentage changes**

Wholesale trade sales estimates	April to June 2008 (R million)	April to June 2009 (R million)	% change between April to June 2008 and April to June 2009	January to June 2008 (R million)	January to June 2009 (R million)	% change between January to June 2008 and January to June 2009
<b>At current prices</b>	269 126	234 310	-12,9	504 743	471 464	-6,6
<b>At constant 2000 prices</b>	148 370	131 074	-11,7	288 904	263 074	-8,9

**Table 8.2 – Seasonally adjusted estimates with monthly and quarterly percentage changes**

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	May 2009 (R million)	June 2009 (R million)	% change between May and June 2009	January to March 2009 (R million)	April to June 2009 (R million)	% change between January to March 2009 and April to June 2009
<b>At current prices</b>	78 002	78 679	0,9	254 532	240 144	-5,7
<b>At constant 2000 prices</b>	44 007	44 468	1,0	139 217	134 475	-3,4

**Explanatory notes**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>	<p>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 2008 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT).</p>
	<b>2</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Purpose of the survey</b>	<b>3</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Scope of the survey</b>	<b>4</b>	<p>This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis</li> <li>• Sales by commission agents, commodity brokers, auctioneers and other wholesale trade on a fee or contract basis;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in other household goods except precious stones</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in precious stones, jewellery and silverware;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in construction and building materials</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap; and</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in other goods</li> <li>• General wholesale trade and other wholesale trade not elsewhere classified.</li> </ul>
<b>Classification</b>	<b>5</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Response rate</b>	<b>6</b>	<p>The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for June 2009 was 94,5%. The improved response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for May 2009 was 98,1%.</p>
<b>Statistical unit</b>	<b>7</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Survey methodology and design</b>	<b>8</b>	<p>The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 1 000 enterprises from a population of about 21 000 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.</p>

	9	The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 1 000 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2008 at the SIC four-digit level) from a population of about 21 000 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 the remaining size groups (medium, small and very small size 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.
<b>Weighting methodology</b>	10	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 <a href="http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/publicationsearch.asp">http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/publicationsearch.asp</a> .
<b>Constant prices</b>	11	The total sales at constant prices are calculated using a combination of the Production Price Indices (PPI) for consumption in South Africa and for total output of South African industry groups to deflate the sales at current prices. However, with the discontinuation of the PPI for consumption in South Africa in January 2008, total sales at constant prices are calculated using the total output of South African industry groups from the PPI to deflate the sales at current prices.
<b>Seasonal adjustment</b>	12	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.
<b>Trend cycle</b>	13	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.
<b>Reliability of estimates</b>	14	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.
	15	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.
<b>Revised figures</b>	16	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.
<b>Related publications</b>	17	Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from Stats SA - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bulletin of Statistics</i> issued quarterly.</li> <li>• <i>SA Statistics</i> issued annually.</li> </ul>
<b>Rounding of figures</b>	18	Where figures have been rounded-off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

- Pre-release policy**      **19**      Stats SA's pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, [www.statssa.gov.za](http://www.statssa.gov.za).
- Symbols and abbreviations**      **20**      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
- Changes in the next publication**      **21**      The results published in the next publication (July 2009) will be based on a new sample drawn in April 2009. The periodic introduction of a new sample is part of Stats SA's strategic approach in improving the basis from which surveys are conducted.

**Technical note**

**Neyman optimal allocation**

A stratified random sample was drawn from the population of enterprises on the Business Sampling Frame (BSF). 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 strata did not exceed 4,8%.

**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 *System of National Accounts (SNA)* in the same way as in the *Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of March 1993 (SIC)*.

**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.

## General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical 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.

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