

Statistical release P6141.2

Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)

June 2011

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Results for June 2011

Table A – Key figures for wholesale trade sales

Actual wholesale trade sales estimates	June 2011 (R million)	% change between June 2010 and June 2011	% change between April to June 2010 and April to June 2011	% change between January to June 2010 and January to June 2011
At current prices	94 382	14,3	12,4	11,9
At constant 2000 prices	47 642	8,7	6,8	6,3

Seasonally adjusted estimates	June 2011 (R million)	% change between May and June 2011	% change between January to March 2011 and April to June 2011
At current prices	93 644	1,8	4,2
At constant 2000 prices	47 516	1,4	3,7

Wholesale trade sales in real terms

Wholesale trade sales, at constant 2000 prices, for the second quarter of 2011 increased by 6,8% compared with the second quarter of 2010, while sales for the same period in 2010 increased by 3,0%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales for the second quarter of 2011 increased by 3,7% compared with the first quarter of 2011.

Wholesale trade sales, at constant 2000 prices, for June 2011 increased by 8,7% compared with June 2010.

Wholesale trade sales in nominal terms

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the second quarter of 2011 increased by 12,4% compared with the second quarter of 2010. The major contributors to this increase were dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (26,2% and contributing 5,4 percentage points), dealers in other household goods except precious stones (13,9% and contributing 1,5 percentage points), dealers in agricultural raw materials and livestock (24,1% and contributing 1,2 percentage points) and dealers in other goods (12,2% and contributing 1,1 percentage points) – see Table B on page 3.

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for June 2011 increased by 14,3% compared with June 2010, while sales for the corresponding period in 2010 increased by 10,1%.

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

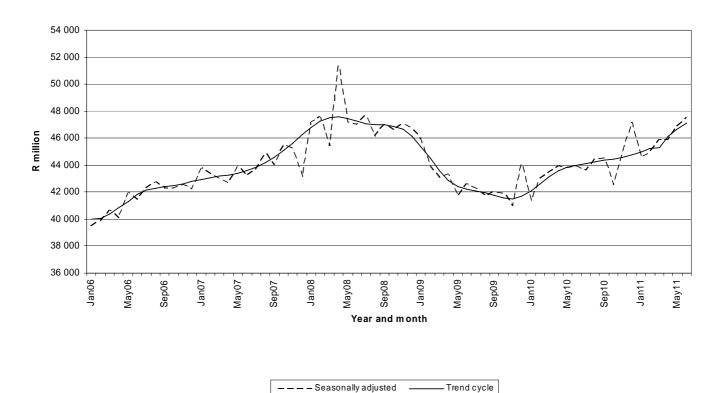
Type of wholesale dealer	Sales April to June 2010 (R million)	Weight 1/	Sales April to June 2011 (R million)	Difference in sales between April to June 2010 and April to June 2011 (R million)	% change between April to June 2010 and April to June 2011	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total sales 2/
Fee or contract basis	14 833	6,2	16 522	1 689	11,4	0,7
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	11 586	4,8	14 381	2 795	24,1	1,2
Food, beverages and tobacco	40 499	16,9	42 360	1 861	4,6	0,8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	6 786	2,8	6 862	76	1,1	0.0
Other household goods except precious stones	26 068	10,9	29 697	3 629	13,9	1,5
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	1 639	0,7	1 682	43	2,6	0,0
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	49 294	20,6	62 226	12 932	26,2	5,4
Metals and metal ores	9 391	3,9	10 246	855	9,1	0,4
Construction and building materials	11 751	4,9	12 497	746	6,3	0,3
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	8 206	3,4	8 844	638	7,8	0,3
Machinery, equipment and supplies	37 734	15,8	39 504	1 770	4,7	0,7
Other goods	21 233	8,9	23 825	2 592	12,2	1,1
Total 3/	239 019	100,0	268 646	29 627	12,4	12,4

^{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, divided by 100.

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

Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices



PJ Lehohla Statistician-General

Detailed results

Table 1 – 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/
2010	January	4 623	3 551	12 064	1 612	6 924	194	13 945	2 500	2 897	2 543	9 980	6 497	67 331
	February	5 370	3 996	12 499	2 065	7 791	665	14 219	2 693	3 494	2 975	11 728	7 649	75 145
	March	5 801	3 954	12 642	2 386	8 688	510	15 999	3 057	4 154	3 171	13 987	8 361	82 708
	April	4 665	3 440	12 822	2 485	8 590	477	15 034	3 047	3 840	2 593	12 131	6 987	76 111
	May	5 081	3 687	13 939	2 211	8 727	588	16 518	3 156	4 050	2 737	12 398	7 238	80 331
	June	5 087	4 459	13 738	2 090	8 751	574	17 742	3 188	3 861	2 876	13 205	7 008	82 577
	July	5 711	4 970	13 816	2 230	8 615	623	17 156	2 989	4 043	2 793	12 203	7 500	82 648
	August	5 360	4 089	14 638	2 306	9 030	433	17 419	2 924	4 016	2 967	12 887	7 816	83 885
	September	5 555	4 116	14 861	2 777	9 451	418	16 269	2 951	4 275	3 232	13 333	7 809	85 047
	October	5 174	4 475	13 812	2 922	9 873	651	17 716	3 040	4 257	3 499	12 846	7 850	86 115
	November	5 560	5 140	16 424	3 319	11 012	522	17 993	3 120	4 853	4 187	14 158	8 708	94 996
	December	6 455	4 688	18 153	2 165	9 296	434	18 630	2 129	3 481	3 023	12 751	8 428	89 632
	Total	64 442	50 565	169 408	28 568	106 748	6 089	198 640	34 794	47 221	36 596	151 607	91 851	986 526
2011	January	4 423	4 071	13 176	1 780	7 562	186	17 787	2 701	3 545	3 040	10 607	6 642	75 519
	February	4 785	4 348	13 682	2 188	8 603	301	18 457	3 267	4 036	3 446	12 382	7 259	82 753
	March	5 479	4 421	14 566	2 800	9 587	618	21 322	3 781	4 466	3 293	14 075	8 144	92 552
	April	5 453	4 122	13 349	2 469	8 994	395	20 278	3 048	3 754	2 547	12 037	7 547	83 993
	May	6 122	5 046	14 643	2 286	9 962	633	19 888	3 661	4 213	3 046	12 896	7 874	90 271
	June	4 947	5 213	14 368	2 107	10 741	654	22 060	3 537	4 530	3 251	14 571	8 404	94 382

^{1/} Figures are preliminary.

Description of type of dealer included in a specific group type as indicated in Table 1 $^{1/}$

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

^{1/} See note 4 on page 9 for more detailed specifications.

^{2/} The figures have been rounded off. Therefore discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and the totals.

Table 2 - Total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 1/	2011 ¹ ′
January	38 049	42 575	47 258	58 391	69 813	73 546	67 331	75 519
February	42 973	44 565	51 827	62 630	76 561	74 894	75 145	82 753
March	46 520	47 590	56 092	67 058	79 884	79 294	82 708	92 552
April	41 545	48 941	50 811	61 517	83 509	71 939	76 111	83 993
May	50 150	50 901	58 973	69 661	86 779	72 950	80 331	90 271
June	51 641	52 778	59 678	69 765	88 149	74 993	82 577	94 382
July	49 471	52 629	61 630	71 304	91 466	75 723	82 648	
August	50 458	54 214	64 001	73 714	88 746	74 466	83 885	
September	51 032	56 313	64 025	72 859	89 791	75 711	85 047	
October	55 247	58 201	68 204	80 442	93 965	80 503	86 115	
November	58 872	62 369	72 646	84 120	97 566	82 729	94 996	
December	50 795	53 966	63 148	71 024	84 966	80 052	89 632	
Total	586 753	625 042	718 293	842 485	1 031 195	916 800	986 526	

^{1/} Preliminary.

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

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	4,7	11,9	11,0	23,6	19,6	5,3	-8,5	12,2
February	3,4	3,7	16,3	20,8	22,2	-2,2	0,3	10,1
March	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,6	19,1	-0,7	4,3	11,9
April	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	35,7	-13,9	5,8	10,4
May	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	24,6	-15,9	10,1	12,4
June	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	26,4	-14,9	10,1	14,3
July	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	28,3	-17,2	9,1	
August	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	20,4	-16,1	12,6	
September	17,9	10,3	13,7	13,8	23,2	-15,7	12,3	
October	21,2	5,3	17,2	17,9	16,8	-14,3	7,0	
November	26,6	5,9	16,5	15,8	16,0	-15,2	14,8	
December	27,7	6,2	17,0	12,5	19,6	-5,8	12,0	
Total	15,7	6,5	14,9	17,3	22,4	-11,1	7,6	

^{1/} The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade sales of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

Table 4 – Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million)

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	43 381	48 932	54 415	67 038	79 804	83 847	76 724	86 112
February	44 864	46 968	55 002	66 758	81 628	79 680	79 832	87 886
March	46 429	47 589	56 152	66 928	79 226	78 034	80 922	90 324
April	44 492	52 672	54 790	66 259	89 821	77 155	81 490	89 817
May	49 853	50 563	58 737	69 615	87 272	73 680	81 552	91 978
June	50 856	52 018	58 928	69 127	87 568	74 463	81 922	93 644
July	49 541	52 323	60 870	70 155	89 737	74 339	81 119	
August	50 033	53 373	62 765	72 277	87 173	73 449	82 993	
September	49 912	55 084	62 639	71 408	88 155	74 511	83 700	
October	51 088	53 827	63 178	74 599	87 143	74 735	79 998	
November	52 542	55 328	64 443	74 803	87 170	74 119	85 212	
December	51 387	54 761	64 057	71 959	85 884	80 696	90 165	

Table 5 – Total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million)

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 1/	2011 1/
January	30 164	32 846	34 667	38 625	41 780	40 684	36 614	39 405
February	33 837	34 255	37 996	41 177	45 165	41 618	40 744	42 498
March	36 636	36 381	40 879	43 404	46 077	44 015	44 655	47 046
April	32 430	37 128	36 705	39 198	47 292	39 992	40 639	42 650
May	39 038	38 433	42 032	43 799	46 695	41 032	42 882	45 711
June	40 111	39 795	41 925	43 442	47 049	42 549	43 820	47 642
July	38 529	39 302	42 630	44 131	48 261	42 710	44 055	
August	39 146	40 357	43 304	45 438	46 596	41 933	44 575	
September	39 277	41 622	43 082	44 806	47 882	42 816	45 380	
October	42 227	42 915	45 431	48 917	50 226	45 211	45 939	
November	45 010	45 752	47 989	50 963	52 898	46 039	50 319	
December	38 998	39 560	41 829	42 899	46 665	44 188	47 334	
Total	455 403	468 346	498 469	526 799	566 586	512 787	526 956	

^{1/} Preliminary.

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

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	4,6	8,9	5,5	11,4	8,2	-2,6	-10,0	7,6
February	2,9	1,2	10,9	8,4	9,7	-7,9	-2,1	4,3
March	8,4	-0,7	12,4	6,2	6,2	-4,5	1,5	5,4
April	3,3	14,5	-1,1	6,8	20,6	-15,4	1,6	4,9
May	16,7	-1,5	9,4	4,2	6,6	-12,1	4,5	6,6
June	15,9	-0,8	5,4	3,6	8,3	-9,6	3,0	8,7
July	9,9	2,0	8,5	3,5	9,4	-11,5	3,1	
August	15,9	3,1	7,3	4,9	2,5	-10,0	6,3	
September	14,0	6,0	3,5	4,0	6,9	-10,6	6,0	
October	16,6	1,6	5,9	7,7	2,7	-10,0	1,6	
November	21,2	1,6	4,9	6,2	3,8	-13,0	9,3	
December	23,3	1,4	5,7	2,6	8,8	-5,3	7,1	
Total	12,9	2,8	6,4	5,7	7,6	-9,5	2,8	

^{1/} The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade of the relevant month of the current year and the corresponding month of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

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

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	34 197	37 452	39 482	43 792	47 140	45 821	41 254	44 470
February	35 160	35 801	39 857	43 327	47 570	43 834	42 974	44 890
March	36 432	36 153	40 640	43 024	45 485	43 203	43 690	45 963
April	35 016	40 353	40 028	42 712	51 408	43 261	43 818	45 914
May	38 772	38 152	41 924	43 929	47 223	41 710	43 817	46 851
June	39 410	39 200	41 462	43 206	46 989	42 508	43 724	47 516
July	38 564	39 151	42 292	43 703	47 718	42 279	43 613	
August	38 908	39 931	42 753	44 918	46 143	41 701	44 455	
September	38 549	40 888	42 300	43 995	46 991	42 062	44 548	
October	39 197	39 873	42 255	45 467	46 596	41 929	42 593	
November	40 222	40 606	42 539	45 219	47 088	41 016	44 832	
December	39 477	40 042	42 206	43 136	46 793	44 165	47 204	

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Table 8 – Quarterly and annual cumulative estimates and percentage changes

Actual wholesale trade sales estimates	April to June 2010 (R million)	April to June 2011 (R million)	% change between April to June 2010 and April to June 2011	January to June 2010 (R million)	January to June 2011 (R million)	% change between January to June 2010 and January to June 2011
At current prices	239 019	268 646	12,4	464 203	519 470	11,9
At constant 2000 prices	127 341	136 003	6,8	249 354	264 952	6,3

Table 9 – Seasonally adjusted monthly and quarterly estimates and percentage changes

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	May 2011 (R million)	June 2011 (R million)	% change between May and June 2011	January to March 2011 (R million)	April to June 2011 (R million)	% change between January to March 2011 and April to June 2011
At current prices	91 978	93 644	1,8	264 322	275 439	4,2
At constant 2000 prices	46 851	47 516	1,4	135 323	140 281	3,7

Explanatory notes

Introduction

- 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 2010 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value added tax (VAT).
- As is usual, information for the latest month 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.

Purpose of the 3 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.

Scope of the survey

4 This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealer:

- 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
- 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 machinery, equipment and supplies;
- Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap;
- Wholesale trade in other goods; and
- General wholesale trade and other wholesale trade not classified elsewhere.

Classification

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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 group (four digit) level.

Response rate

The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for June 2011 was 90,3%. The improved response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for May 2011 was 96,0%.

Statistical unit

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

The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 1 000 enterprises from a population of about 20 000 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.

9 The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 1 000 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2010 at the SIC four-digit level) from a population of about 20 000 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.

Weighting methodology

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, 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

11 Stats SA compiles its monthly estimates of wholesale trade sales at current prices from a survey of wholesalers in the formal sector. To arrive at estimates of wholesale trade sales at constant prices, sales at current prices are deflated using the all groups producer price index (PPI) excluding 'Electricity, gas, steam and water'.

Seasonal adjustment

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

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.

Reliability of estimates

- 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.
- 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

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

- 17 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from Stats SA:
 - Bulletin of Statistics issued quarterly
 - SA Statistics issued annually

Rounding-off of figures

Where figures have been rounded off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

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Symbols and abbreviations

19 BR Business Register

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

The results published in the next publication (July 2011) will be based on a new sample drawn in April 2011. 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 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. The Neyman optimal allocation formula given below was used to allocate samples to each stratum.

$$n_{h} = \frac{N_{h}S_{h}}{\sum N_{h}S_{l}}$$

 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 these strata did not exceed 5,6%.

Class limits

Enterprise size	Size group	Lower limits	Upper limits
Very small	4	0	24 000 000
Small	3	24 000 001	128 000 000
Medium	2	128 000 001	256 000 000
Large	1	256 000 001	

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 January 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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Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za

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