STATISTICAL RELEASE
P6141.2

Wholesale trade sales
(Preliminary)

June 2021

The results published in the next publication (July 2021) will be based on a new sample. This is an annual procedure which typically affects the level of sales at both current and constant prices. To avoid breaks in time series and to minimise revisions to historical growth rates, historical sales levels will be revised (i.e. they will be linked to the estimates based on the new sample).

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ENQUIRIES:
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July 2021

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

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-6,4	-3,0	6,5	69,5	31,4	10,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,9	0,7	1,3	-1,5	6,3	-5,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	0,9	2,8	3,6	2,5	3,1	1,9

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 10,3% in June 2021 compared with June 2020.

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales decreased by 5,1% in June 2021 compared with May 2021. This followed month-on-month changes of 6,3% in May 2021 and -1,5% in April 2021.

In the second quarter of 2021, seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales increased by 1,9% compared with the first quarter of 2021.

Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices

Sales at current prices: results for June 2021

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

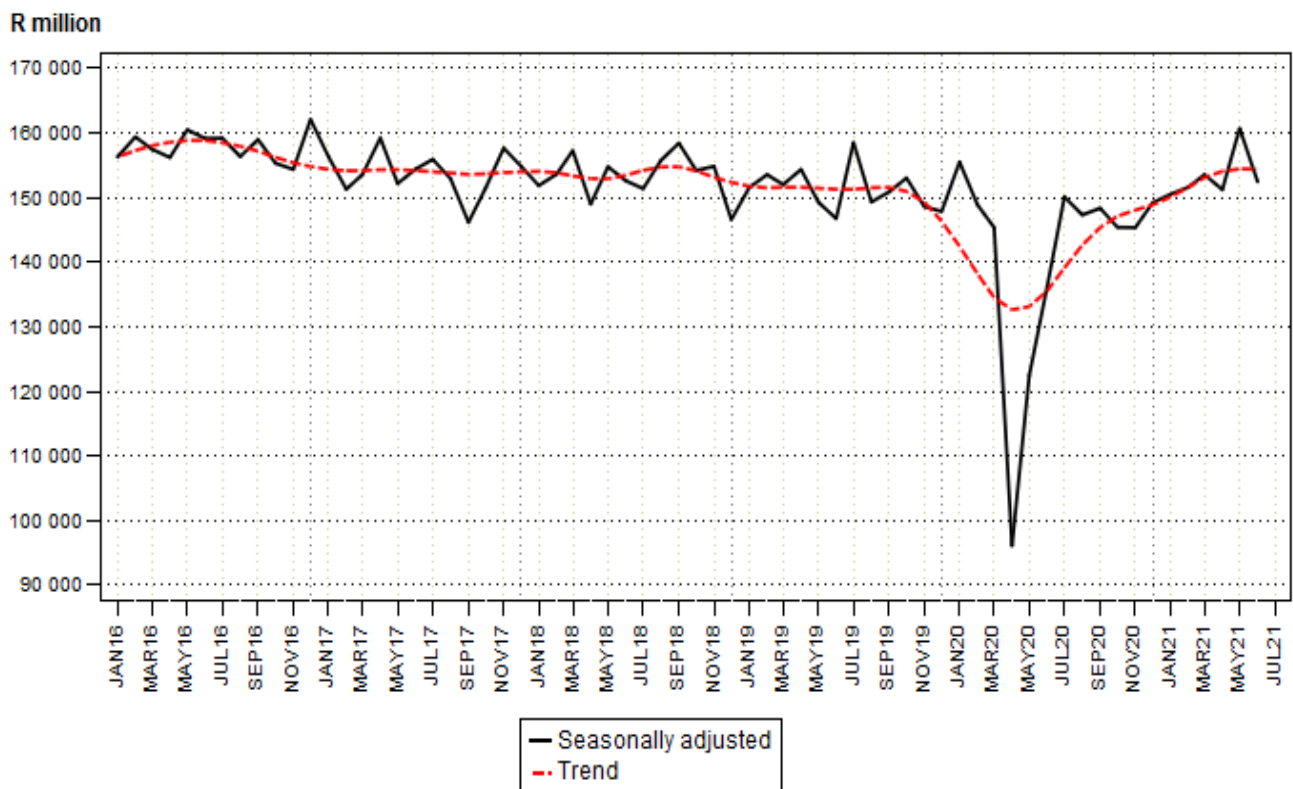|	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	-4,9	0,0	12,3	85,2	45,8	22,4
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,8	2,3	3,1	-0,1	5,4	-1,8
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	1,6	3,9	5,4	6,2	6,8	5,8

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 22,4% in June 2021 compared with June 2020. The main contributors were dealers in:
- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (58,5% and contributing 10,1 percentage points);
- 'other' household goods except precious stones (20,3% and contributing 3,0 percentage points);
- food, beverages and tobacco (11,2% and contributing 1,9 percentage points); and
- 'other' intermediate products, waste and scrap (38,1% and contributing 1,7 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	Apr – Jun 2020 (R million)	Weight	Apr – Jun 2021 (R million)	% change between Apr – Jun 2020 and Apr – Jun 2021	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Fee or contract basis	22 480	5,4	28 295	25,9	1,4
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	41 454	9,9	54 120	30,6	3,0
Food, beverages and tobacco	76 799	18,4	91 632	19,3	3,6
Textiles, clothing and footwear	4 986	1,2	8 636	73,2	0,9
Other household goods except precious stones	61 144	14,6	83 776	37,0	5,4
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	6 601	1,6	12 751	93,2	1,5
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	70 122	16,8	137 420	96,0	16,1
Metals and metal ores	7 245	1,7	15 900	119,5	2,0
Construction and building materials	16 184	3,9	35 924	122,0	4,8
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	20 488	4,9	28 372	38,5	1,9
Machinery, equipment and supplies	56 351	13,5	69 397	23,2	3,1
Other goods	34 322	8,2	43 492	26,7	2,2
Total	**418 179**	**100,0**	**609 715**	**45,8**	**45,8**

Wholesale trade sales increased by 45,8% in the second quarter of 2021 compared with the second quarter of 2020. The main contributors were dealers in:
- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (96,0% and contributing 16,1 percentage points);
- 'other' household goods except precious stones (37,0% and contributing 5,4 percentage points);
- construction and building materials (122,0% and contributing 4,8 percentage points); and
- food, beverages and tobacco (19,3% and contributing 3,6 percentage points) – see Table C.

Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

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

Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 1/
Jan	140 072	136 357	137 680	134 431	133 237	136 671	127 923
Feb	152 922	161 677	143 550	144 651	143 661	145 705	141 290
Mar	162 436	160 352	159 717	159 536	153 783	148 743	158 441
Apr	139 052	145 691	140 879	136 514	143 745	83 339	141 253
May	149 704	158 174	152 460	155 382	150 487	120 608	158 537
Jun	154 044	159 454	158 058	155 273	145 369	141 209	155 689
Jul	155 319	154 867	151 509	150 834	160 884	152 909	
Aug	151 976	159 571	156 465	159 676	153 354	147 477	
Sep	161 670	167 498	152 801	160 136	154 279	154 247	
Oct	166 035	164 736	164 298	169 544	168 419	160 755	
Nov	169 476	172 520	174 022	172 804	164 061	157 671	
Dec	155 912	161 392	150 131	140 494	144 045	146 670	
Total	**1 858 618**	**1 902 289**	**1 841 570**	**1 839 275**	**1 815 324**	**1 696 004**	

1/ Figures for latest month are preliminary.

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

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	*2021 year-to-date*
Jan	-2,7	1,0	-2,4	-0,9	2,6	-6,4	*-6,4*
Feb	5,7	-11,2	0,8	-0,7	1,4	-3,0	*-4,7*
Mar	-1,3	-0,4	-0,1	-3,6	-3,3	6,5	*-0,8*
Apr	4,8	-3,3	-3,1	5,3	-42,0	69,5	*10,6*
May	5,7	-3,6	1,9	-3,2	-19,9	31,4	*14,5*
Jun	3,5	-0,9	-1,8	-6,4	-2,9	10,3	*13,8*
Jul	-0,3	-2,2	-0,4	6,7	-5,0		
Aug	5,0	-1,9	2,1	-4,0	-3,8		
Sep	3,6	-8,8	4,8	-3,7	0,0		
Oct	-0,8	-0,3	3,2	-0,7	-4,6		
Nov	1,8	0,9	-0,7	-5,1	-3,9		
Dec	3,5	-7,0	-6,4	2,5	1,8		
Total	**2,3**	**-3,2**	**-0,1**	**-1,3**	**-6,6**		

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

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan	151 854	151 541	155 520	150 507	-1,9	3,4	5,2	0,9
Feb	153 649	153 548	148 902	151 600	1,2	1,3	-4,3	0,7
Mar	157 274	152 016	145 363	153 548	2,4	-1,0	-2,4	1,3
Apr	148 993	154 357	96 087	151 233	-5,3	1,5	-33,9	-1,5
May	154 770	149 294	122 484	160 725	3,9	-3,3	27,5	6,3
Jun	152 605	146 750	136 217	152 493	-1,4	-1,7	11,2	-5,1
Jul	151 387	158 539	150 109		-0,8	8,0	10,2	
Aug	155 774	149 323	147 320		2,9	-5,8	-1,9	
Sep	158 428	150 897	148 360		1,7	1,1	0,7	
Oct	154 204	153 027	145 403		-2,7	1,4	-2,0	
Nov	154 835	148 598	145 358		0,4	-2,9	0,0	
Dec	146 586	147 864	149 208		-5,3	-0,5	2,6	

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

Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 1/
Jan	132 824	140 664	149 796	155 500	160 366	172 681	164 248
Feb	145 340	167 909	157 920	166 393	172 810	183 401	183 363
Mar	159 202	166 178	175 902	181 678	187 642	185 731	208 525
Apr	138 746	153 668	155 084	157 693	178 663	101 674	188 322
May	150 562	167 088	169 166	182 054	188 309	145 181	211 628
Jun	156 371	170 734	174 665	184 468	182 647	171 324	209 765
Jul	158 135	167 361	167 530	181 177	200 851	189 865	
Aug	153 293	170 398	173 748	192 524	191 785	185 335	
Sep	162 769	177 849	172 129	194 427	192 740	193 996	
Oct	169 187	176 422	186 969	210 584	211 576	203 441	
Nov	172 870	187 122	199 923	214 427	205 646	199 672	
Dec	159 318	175 335	174 465	171 892	181 345	185 882	
Total	**1 858 617**	**2 020 728**	**2 057 297**	**2 192 817**	**2 254 380**	**2 118 183**	

1/ Figures for latest month are preliminary.

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

Month	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	*2021 year-to-date*
Jan	5,9	6,5	3,8	3,1	7,7	-4,9	*-4,9*
Feb	15,5	-5,9	5,4	3,9	6,1	0,0	*-2,4*
Mar	4,4	5,9	3,3	3,3	-1,0	12,3	*2,6*
Apr	10,8	0,9	1,7	13,3	-43,1	85,2	*15,7*
May	11,0	1,2	7,6	3,4	-22,9	45,8	*21,2*
Jun	9,2	2,3	5,6	-1,0	-6,2	22,4	*21,4*
Jul	5,8	0,1	8,1	10,9	-5,5		
Aug	11,2	2,0	10,8	-0,4	-3,4		
Sep	9,3	-3,2	13,0	-0,9	0,7		
Oct	4,3	6,0	12,6	0,5	-3,8		
Nov	8,2	6,8	7,3	-4,1	-2,9		
Dec	10,1	-0,5	-1,5	5,5	2,5		
Total	**8,7**	**1,8**	**6,6**	**2,8**	**-6,0**		

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at current prices

Month	R million				Month-on-month % change			
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan	176 849	183 270	196 969	191 522	-0,6	3,4	6,7	0,8
Feb	176 947	184 530	193 364	195 880	0,1	0,7	-1,8	2,3
Mar	180 943	184 596	180 559	202 012	2,3	0,0	-6,6	3,1
Apr	169 121	193 444	112 175	201 847	-6,5	4,8	-37,9	-0,1
May	180 830	186 055	147 316	212 678	6,9	-3,8	31,3	5,4
Jun	183 721	185 539	168 433	208 796	1,6	-0,3	14,3	-1,8
Jul	179 729	196 649	185 169		-2,2	6,0	9,9	
Aug	187 667	187 131	183 886		4,4	-4,8	-0,7	
Sep	191 437	186 392	186 247		2,0	-0,4	1,3	
Oct	192 731	193 477	185 705		0,7	3,8	-0,3	
Nov	193 205	188 514	183 501		0,2	-2,6	-1,2	
Dec	177 185	184 575	189 951		-8,3	-2,1	3,5	

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

Type of dealer	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21 1/
Fee or contract basis	4 372	7 335	8 198	8 600	10 093	9 602
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	12 767	14 796	15 867	15 072	21 123	17 925
Food, beverages and tobacco	23 511	30 892	34 141	29 652	30 008	31 972
Textiles, clothing and footwear	1 922	2 683	4 387	2 999	3 058	2 579
Other household goods except precious stones	27 977	24 413	27 840	26 095	27 156	30 525
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	1 650	1 896	4 062	4 456	4 366	3 929
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	36 698	36 784	45 692	42 863	47 670	46 887
Metals and metal ores	3 446	4 266	5 325	5 006	5 384	5 510
Construction and building materials	10 895	10 829	12 256	11 133	13 155	11 636
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	9 115	10 667	10 353	8 427	9 581	10 364
Machinery, equipment and supplies	20 749	24 990	26 671	20 825	24 352	24 220
Other goods	11 147	13 814	13 732	13 195	15 683	14 614
Total	**164 248**	**183 363**	**208 525**	**188 322**	**211 628**	**209 765**

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	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21
Fee or contract basis	-31,0	10,5	12,4	16,2	43,6	19,3
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	8,4	11,0	23,2	25,7	49,9	16,6
Food, beverages and tobacco	-16,5	9,1	8,7	39,8	11,8	11,2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	-25,3	-26,2	25,0	388,4	68,5	0,9
Other household goods except precious stones	46,4	21,5	12,1	88,0	24,0	20,3
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	-65,2	-69,0	-4,0	233,8	110,7	23,0
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	-24,3	-20,3	17,8	151,3	103,0	58,5
Metals and metal ores	-2,0	4,8	28,6	369,6	94,9	61,3
Construction and building materials	51,2	19,9	38,4	822,4	119,3	29,6
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	3,3	16,6	13,3	54,1	27,5	38,1
Machinery, equipment and supplies	0,3	1,4	-4,6	76,6	22,0	-1,6
Other goods	-0,8	13,2	8,2	52,6	34,0	4,6
Total	**-4,9**	**0,0**	**12,3**	**85,2**	**45,8**	**22,4**

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

Type of dealer	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21
Fee or contract basis	-1,1	0,4	0,5	1,2	2,1	0,9
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	0,6	0,8	1,6	3,0	4,8	1,5
Food, beverages and tobacco	-2,7	1,4	1,5	8,3	2,2	1,9
Textiles, clothing and footwear	-0,4	-0,5	0,5	2,3	0,9	0,0
Other household goods except precious stones	5,2	2,4	1,6	12,0	3,6	3,0
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	-1,8	-2,3	-0,1	3,0	1,5	0,4
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	-6,8	-5,1	3,7	25,4	16,7	10,1
Metals and metal ores	0,0	0,1	0,6	3,7	1,8	1,2
Construction and building materials	2,2	1,0	1,8	9,9	4,9	1,5
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	0,2	0,8	0,7	2,9	1,4	1,7
Machinery, equipment and supplies	0,0	0,2	-0,7	8,9	3,0	-0,2
Other goods	-0,1	0,9	0,6	4,5	2,8	0,4
Total	**-4,9**	**0,0**	**12,3**	**85,2**	**45,8**	**22,4**

Survey information

Introduction

1   Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the wholesale trade industry (see 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2019 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 June 2021 was 69,1%. The improved collection rate for May 2021 was 80,6%.

Statistical unit	**7**	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.
Revised figures	**8**	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.
Related publications	**9**	Users may also refer to the following publication available from Stats SA:
		• *Stats in Brief* issued annually.
Rounding-off of figures	**10**	Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.
Historical data	**11**	Historical wholesale trade sales data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: Click to download historical data
Past publications	**12**	Past wholesale trade sales releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: Click to download past releases

Technical notes

Survey methodology and design	**1**	The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 1 423 enterprises from a population of 19 570 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 2019 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:

$$nh = n * (Nh * Sh) / [\Sigma (Ni * Si)].$$

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	2 656 495	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. |

Technical enquiries

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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.

Advance release calendar

A release calendar is disseminated on www.statssa.gov.za

Stats SA products

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Electronic services

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You can visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za

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