



Wholesale trade sales

November 1999

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Key figures for the month ended November 1999

Actual estimates

	November 1999	% change between November 1998 and November 1999	% change between September 1998 to November 1998 and September 1999 to November 1999	% change between January 1998 to November 1998 and January 1999 to November 1999
Wholesale trade sales at current prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	24 765,9	+15,1	+11,2	+8,9
Wholesale trade sales at constant June 1995 prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	18 780,8	+9,3	+5,7	+2,8

Seasonally adjusted estimates

	November 1999	% change between October 1999 and November 1999	% change between June 1999 to August 1999 and September 1999 to November 1999
Wholesale trade sales at current prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	22 712,3	+5,4	+4,6
Wholesale trade sales at constant June 1995 prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	17 297,0	+5,3	+5,1

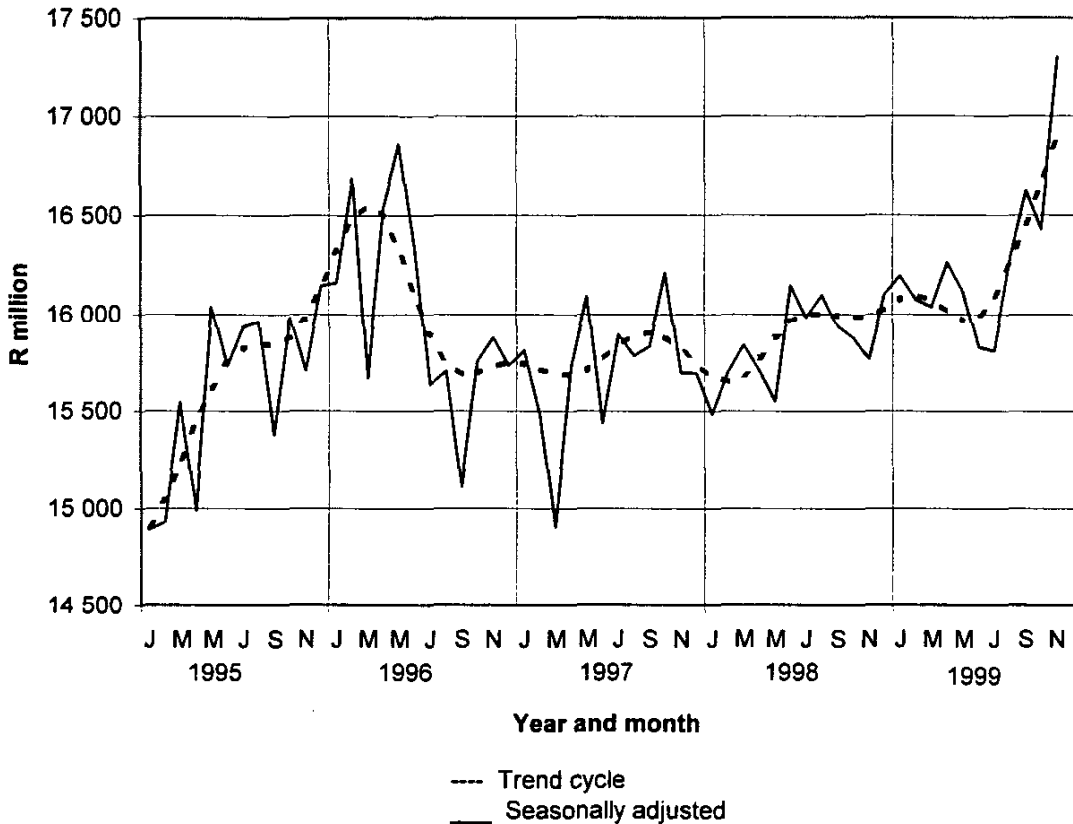
Key findings for the month ended November 1999

Real wholesale trade sales increase

Seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax, for the three months up to November 1999, reflected an increase of 5,1% compared with the previous three months. Furthermore, the real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax, for the first eleven months of 1999, increased by 2,8% compared with the corresponding period of 1998.

Six of the nine types of wholesaler reflected increases in seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales for the three months up to November 1999 compared with the previous three months. The largest percentage increase was reflected by wholesalers in miscellaneous goods (+13,3%), followed by wholesalers in livestock and farm produce (+10,1%), wholesalers in construction and building materials (+5,9%) and wholesalers in machinery (+5,7%). However, wholesalers in foodstuff, beverages and tobacco, with a contribution of 18,8% to the total real wholesale trade sales, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax, reflected a decrease of 0,2% over this period.

Figure 1 - Real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax

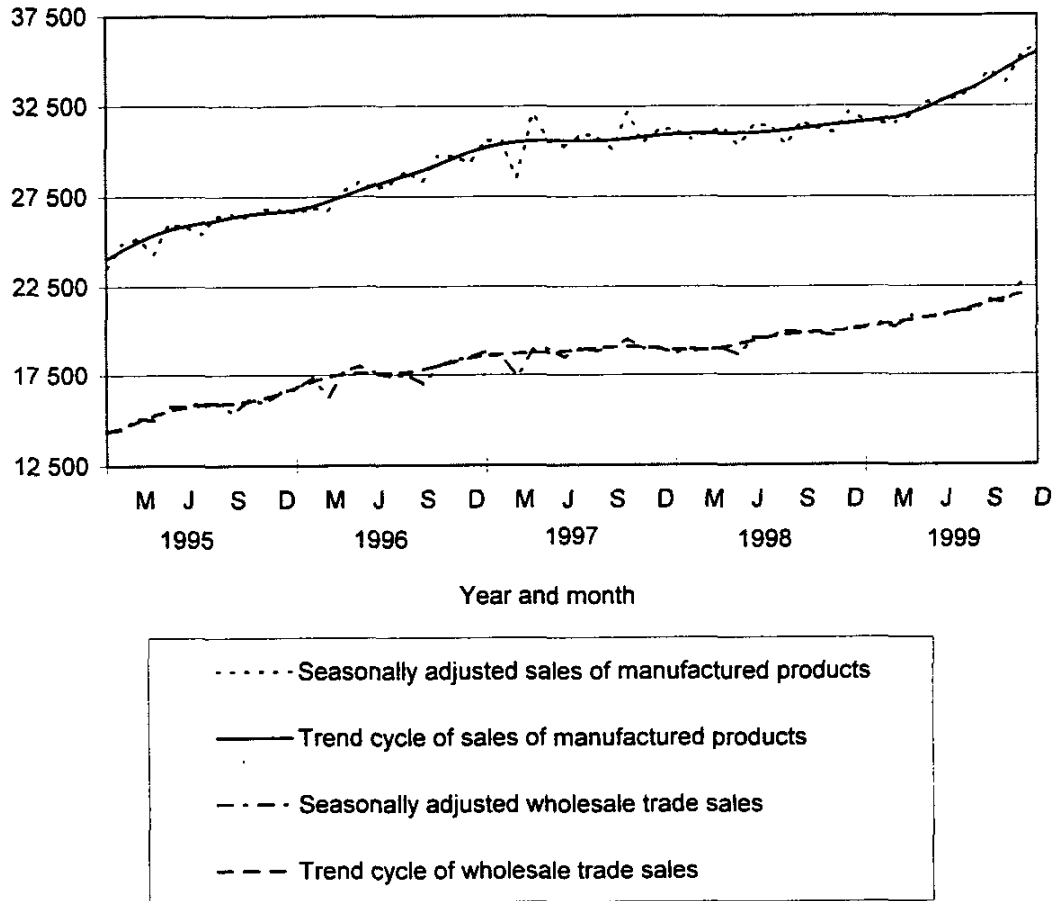


Source: Stats SA

Comparability of results with other Stats SA data sources

The upward trend in the value of wholesale trade sales (at current prices), excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax, during 1999 is also reflected in the value of sales of manufactured products (cf. figure 2). Wholesale trade sales (at current prices), excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax, for the first eleven months of 1999 reflected an increase of 8,9% compared with the corresponding period of 1998, while the value of sales of manufactured products reflected an increase of 6,0% over the same period.

Figure 2 – Wholesale trade sales (at current prices), excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax compared with sales of manufactured products



Source: Stats SA

R. Pieterse

PP
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Notes

Forthcoming issues	Issue	Expected release date
	December 1999	28 February 2000
	January 2000	16 March 2000
Purpose of the survey	<p>The wholesale trade sales survey is a monthly survey covering a sample of private enterprises (firms) operating in the wholesale trade industry in South Africa. The results of the survey are used to compile estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components, which are used to develop and monitor government policy. These statistics are also used by the private sector in the analysis of comparative business and industry performance. Information is only collected for those establishments of the enterprise that are predominantly engaged in the wholesale trade industry.</p>	
Re-engineered wholesale trade sales survey	<p>Prior to April 1999, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) collected and published information on wholesale trade sales including value added tax (VAT). Due to users' needs, specifically compilers of National Accounts, Stats SA has overhauled and re-designed the wholesale trade sales questionnaire. As from April 1999, Stats SA collects information regarding wholesale trade sales excluding VAT. In order to provide users with a continuous time series, Stats SA has calculated wholesale trade sales VAT at current prices, as well as at constant June 1995 prices, for the period January 1985 until April 1999. The results were published in tables 3 to 26 of statistical release P6141.2 (entitled Wholesale trade sales, January 1985 to September 1999) of 15 December 2000.</p>	
New sample	<p>According to international best practice and in order to train the relevant respondents in using the new questionnaire, validate the information received and avoid a break in the time series published in this statistical release, Stats SA decided to introduce the new questionnaire as the first step in the re-engineering process. Stats SA will in due course, as the second step, introduce the new sample.</p> <p>Currently Stats SA is busy re-engineering the register of business which serves as the sampling frame, in collaboration with the South African Revenue Service and the Department of Trade and Industry and Labour. The process will take some time, since there are hundreds of thousands of businesses, many of them in any period changing ownership, closing, or being registered. As soon as this improvement of businesses has been implemented, Stats SA will draw a new sample.</p>	

Table 1 – Actual values of wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at current prices according to type of wholesaler (R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler					
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	Diamonds, jewellery and silverware
1998 Jan.	3 161,5	1 053,9	301,6	241,2	941,3	568,9
Feb.	3 482,1	1 144,5	419,2	300,0	1 113,8	254,3
Mar.	3 467,6	1 055,5	480,6	386,8	1 366,2	544,4
Apr.	3 649,4	1 005,7	472,7	330,2	1 289,8	477,6
May	3 612,3	1 075,8	456,6	373,7	1 144,5	498,5
June	3 455,1	1 090,2	460,2	350,4	1 325,3	315,3
July	3 615,5	1 073,8	453,6	394,3	1 323,7	585,9
Aug.	3 807,3	1 169,5	445,4	335,4	1 301,3	281,4
Sep.	4 252,2	1 082,6	470,6	423,4	1 431,0	385,2
Oct.	4 100,4	1 256,0	619,8	500,9	1 481,5	384,1
Nov.	4 135,5	1 362,4	506,4	509,3	1 512,5	309,0
Dec.	4 590,1	1 224,0	392,3	415,8	1 124,4	597,8
Total	45 329,0	13 594,0	5 478,9	4 561,4	15 355,4	5 203,1
1999 Jan.	3 652,0	1 075,1	296,7	257,9	1 238,7	577,4
Feb.	3 931,7	1 161,6	368,2	301,0	1 192,3	466,5
Mar.	3 918,7	1 082,5	442,2	366,3	1 425,8	431,0
Apr.	4 162,2	1 124,1	451,4	366,8	1 300,8	39,4
May	4 094,2	1 069,4	459,2	356,3	1 249,1	285,6
June	3 793,5	1 059,7	435,6	354,9	1 548,2	765,1
July	4 385,7	1 079,2	446,7	341,6	1 456,9	366,2
Aug.	4 074,7	1 171,8	444,2	365,2	1 420,6	1 890,9
Sep.	4 280,1	1 361,1	469,9	372,2	1 502,1	1 064,5
Oct.	4 679,2	1 355,3	541,3	430,1	1 516,5	24,3
Nov.	4 542,9	1 507,8	510,3	524,2	1 409,8	1 132,6

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 1 – Actual values of wholesale trade sales 1/ at current prices according to type of wholesaler (concluded)
(R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds	Total, including diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous		
1998 Jan.	1 411,5	1 516,8	2 858,4	5 081,6	16 567,8	17 136,7
Feb.	1 523,9	1 800,2	3 368,2	5 174,4	18 326,1	18 580,5
Mar.	1 565,3	1 807,7	3 351,9	5 386,5	18 867,9	19 412,4
Apr.	1 605,1	1 817,8	3 067,4	5 091,9	18 330,1	18 807,8
May	1 614,1	1 722,5	3 074,6	5 520,8	18 595,0	19 093,6
June	1 816,2	1 801,5	3 368,8	5 588,4	19 256,2	19 571,6
July	1 541,7	1 927,4	3 401,2	5 827,5	19 558,6	20 144,6
Aug.	1 721,7	1 722,6	3 722,5	5 907,4	20 133,0	20 414,5
Sep.	1 910,3	1 798,3	3 661,0	5 810,8	20 840,2	21 225,4
Oct.	1 915,9	1 909,6	3 602,3	5 837,6	21 223,9	21 608,0
Nov.	1 935,2	1 975,0	3 709,5	5 880,2	21 525,9	21 834,9
Dec.	1 521,0	1 451,7	3 165,1	5 695,8	19 580,1	20 178,0
Total	20 081,8	21 250,9	40 350,6	66 802,9	232 804,9	238 008,0
1999 Jan.	1 635,6	1 397,9	3 373,1	4 944,6	17 871,6	18 449,0
Feb.	1 853,5	1 672,1	3 684,9	5 548,6	19 713,9	20 180,4
Mar.	1 782,1	1 641,7	3 925,3	5 560,0	20 144,5	20 675,5
Apr.	1 920,8	1 550,0	3 654,9	5 635,4	20 166,4	20 205,8
May	1 897,3	1 646,9	3 836,5	6 096,8	20 705,6	20 991,3
June	1 744,8	1 614,3	3 826,3	6 070,9	20 448,1	21 213,3
July	1 662,4	1 820,3	3 711,1	6 191,6	21 095,6	21 461,8
Aug.	1 892,8	1 789,9	3 828,2	6 320,1	21 307,4	23 198,4
Sep.	1 977,0	1 943,7	4 425,1	6 560,7	22 892,0	23 956,5
Oct.	1 929,6	1 917,2	4 164,4	6 526,6	23 060,1	23 084,4
Nov.	2 029,5	2 165,8	4 374,1	7 701,5	24 765,9	25 898,5

1/ Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 2 – Percentage change in wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at current prices, according to type of wholesaler

Year ^{2/} and month ^{3/}	Type of wholesaler					
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	Diamonds, jewellery and silverware
1998 Jan.	2,7	6,9	10,3	-7,2	12,6	-41,2
Feb.	17,4	12,9	3,3	-5,9	13,3	-34,4
Mar.	6,9	28,8	17,6	16,7	35,5	5,7
Apr.	13,5	7,9	12,9	-0,1	39,3	-38,9
May	2,2	7,3	-4,9	-11,6	3,4	45,7
June	5,8	31,2	-1,4	-9,1	42,0	-43,7
July	4,7	14,4	19,6	6,3	44,1	7,3
Aug.	10,8	16,8	5,8	-15,7	38,3	22,6
Sep.	29,4	-4,8	-2,8	4,4	37,1	-37,2
Oct.	5,0	3,5	-7,1	-4,8	39,9	-25,8
Nov.	14,3	10,2	-16,6	-11,1	22,9	7,5
Dec.	8,4	14,7	21,0	25,3	18,7	116,0
Total	9,9	11,6	2,7	-2,0	28,7	-13,6
1999 Jan.	15,5	2,0	-1,6	6,9	31,6	1,5
Feb.	12,9	1,5	-12,2	0,3	7,0	83,5
Mar.	13,0	2,6	-8,0	-5,3	4,4	-2,5
Apr.	14,1	11,8	-4,5	11,1	0,9	-91,8
May	13,3	-0,6	0,6	-4,7	9,1	-42,7
June	9,8	-2,8	-5,3	1,3	16,8	142,6
July	21,3	0,5	-1,5	-13,4	10,1	-37,5
Aug.	7,0	0,2	-0,3	8,9	9,2	571,8
Sep.	0,7	25,7	-0,1	-12,1	5,0	176,3
Oct.	14,1	7,9	-12,7	-14,1	2,4	-93,6
Nov.	9,9	10,7	0,8	2,9	-6,8	266,5

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

^{2/} The percentage change is the growth rate from the previous year

^{3/} The percentage change is the growth rate for a given month compared with the same month in the previous year

Table 2 – Percentage change in wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at current prices, according to type of wholesaler
(concluded)

Year ^{2/} and month ^{3/}	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds	Total, including diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous		
1998 Jan.	-5,4	-0,9	5,0	-7,9	-0,8	-3,0
Feb.	-3,0	3,4	1,4	-5,4	3,0	2,2
Mar.	6,5	10,9	7,3	-3,4	7,1	7,1
Apr.	1,5	3,5	-4,4	-11,4	1,2	-0,5
May	2,4	-4,6	-7,7	-3,0	-1,9	-1,1
June	13,1	-0,3	2,2	-1,3	5,5	4,0
July	3,7	-0,6	-1,2	-4,7	2,7	2,8
Aug.	9,9	-11,7	7,4	0,9	5,8	6,0
Sep.	15,1	-9,1	-6,5	-3,9	4,4	3,2
Oct.	12,2	-10,3	-2,8	-1,0	2,0	1,3
Nov.	18,0	-5,7	-3,2	-4,3	3,8	3,9
Dec.	6,6	-4,3	-2,4	3,5	6,2	7,8
Total	6,9	-2,9	0,3	-3,5	3,3	2,8
1999 Jan.	15,9	-7,8	18,0	-2,7	7,9	7,7
Feb.	21,6	-7,1	9,4	7,2	7,6	8,6
Mar.	13,9	-9,2	17,1	3,2	6,8	6,5
Apr.	19,7	-14,7	19,2	10,7	10,0	7,4
May	17,5	-4,4	24,8	10,4	11,4	9,9
June	-3,9	-10,4	13,6	8,6	6,2	8,4
July	7,8	-5,6	9,1	6,2	7,9	6,5
Aug.	9,9	3,9	2,8	7,0	5,8	13,6
Sep.	3,5	8,1	20,9	12,9	9,8	12,9
Oct.	0,7	0,4	15,6	11,8	8,7	6,8
Nov.	4,9	9,7	17,9	31,0	15,1	18,6

1/ Excluding Value Added Tax

2/ The percentage change is the growth rate from the previous year

3/ The percentage change is the growth rate for a given month compared with the same month in the previous year

**Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at current prices according to type of wholesaler
(R million)**

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery
1998 Jan.	3 473,4	1 087,7	458,3	375,2	1 093,5
Feb.	3 673,5	1 116,3	463,3	370,8	1 136,8
Mar.	3 531,7	1 142,4	471,2	424,4	1 193,4
Apr.	3 675,0	1 133,2	478,4	369,5	1 285,6
May	3 605,3	1 121,6	427,2	378,3	1 251,8
June	3 715,2	1 205,0	459,4	368,0	1 319,4
July	3 659,1	1 158,4	485,8	430,0	1 342,8
Aug.	3 893,3	1 193,9	457,5	337,1	1 346,4
Sep.	4 217,6	1 003,8	447,7	409,1	1 358,2
Oct.	3 890,0	1 111,2	469,3	390,3	1 381,9
Nov.	3 988,0	1 151,8	395,2	343,8	1 314,9
Dec.	3 913,6	1 196,8	488,3	379,1	1 294,1
1999 Jan.	4 009,9	1 108,0	449,7	401,0	1 438,8
Feb.	4 139,3	1 130,3	407,6	374,5	1 220,8
Mar.	4 021,2	1 168,9	437,3	402,5	1 250,9
Apr.	4 187,7	1 255,8	453,9	410,0	1 294,6
May	4 078,7	1 120,0	433,3	361,1	1 366,6
June	4 093,5	1 169,8	433,9	374,4	1 543,1
July	4 443,5	1 167,7	475,1	372,5	1 473,4
Aug.	4 165,7	1 192,3	458,9	367,1	1 468,2
Sep.	4 251,3	1 254,7	447,3	358,0	1 429,1
Oct.	4 418,6	1 208,1	408,8	334,5	1 412,7
Nov.	4 378,5	1 277,4	399,0	354,4	1 225,3

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales 1/ at current prices according to type of wholesaler (concluded) (R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous	
1998 Jan.	1 556,3	1 832,1	3 234,8	5 495,4	18 606,7
Feb.	1 539,5	1 828,1	3 293,9	5 442,7	18 864,9
Mar.	1 586,7	1 795,0	3 313,2	5 580,2	19 038,3
Apr.	1 593,2	1 880,2	3 238,8	5 257,3	18 911,2
May	1 591,1	1 753,3	3 133,6	5 506,0	18 768,3
June	1 804,9	1 811,5	3 299,9	5 550,3	19 533,6
July	1 654,0	1 802,9	3 396,1	5 583,4	19 512,5
Aug.	1 701,8	1 661,8	3 680,1	5 746,6	20 018,5
Sep.	1 781,6	1 691,0	3 292,5	5 625,1	19 826,7
Oct.	1 766,5	1 718,7	3 387,0	5 674,1	19 789,0
Nov.	1 798,6	1 705,6	3 469,2	5 525,5	19 692,5
Dec.	1 661,7	1 822,0	3 587,6	5 762,1	20 105,2
1999 Jan.	1 802,4	1 686,0	3 829,0	5 354,5	20 079,2
Feb.	1 875,3	1 690,7	3 609,9	5 844,7	20 293,2
Mar.	1 814,5	1 639,0	3 901,6	5 770,1	20 406,0
Apr.	1 898,4	1 594,8	3 836,9	5 829,0	20 761,0
May	1 874,8	1 675,2	3 906,0	6 085,6	20 901,2
June	1 733,1	1 628,1	3 765,9	6 038,7	20 780,5
July	1 789,9	1 698,8	3 707,8	5 938,3	21 067,0
Aug.	1 872,7	1 738,5	3 793,2	6 145,3	21 201,9
Sep.	1 839,0	1 826,4	3 973,4	6 323,6	21 702,9
Oct.	1 779,3	1 726,1	3 911,5	6 343,6	21 543,2
Nov.	1 883,3	1 868,7	4 088,6	7 237,0	22 712,3

1/ Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 4 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at current prices, according to type of wholesaler

Year ^{2/} and month ^{3/}	Type of wholesaler				
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery
1998 Jan.	-3,8	5,0	13,0	24,0	-0,0
Feb.	5,8	2,6	1,1	-1,2	4,0
Mar.	-3,9	2,3	1,7	14,5	5,0
Apr.	4,1	-0,8	1,5	-12,9	7,7
May	-1,9	-1,0	-10,7	2,4	-2,6
June	3,0	7,4	7,5	-2,7	5,4
July	-1,5	-3,9	5,7	16,8	1,8
Aug.	6,4	3,1	-5,8	-21,6	0,3
Sep.	8,3	-15,9	-2,1	21,4	0,9
Oct.	-7,8	10,7	4,8	-4,6	1,7
Nov.	2,5	3,7	-15,8	-11,9	-4,8
Dec.	-1,9	3,9	23,6	10,3	-1,6
1999 Jan.	2,5	-7,4	-7,9	5,8	11,2
Feb.	3,2	2,0	-9,4	-6,6	-15,2
Mar.	-2,9	3,4	7,3	7,5	2,5
Apr.	4,1	7,4	3,8	1,9	3,5
May	-2,6	-10,8	-4,5	-11,9	5,6
June	0,4	4,4	0,1	3,7	12,9
July	8,6	-0,2	9,5	-0,5	-4,5
Aug.	-6,3	2,1	-3,4	-1,4	-0,4
Sep.	2,1	5,2	-2,5	-2,5	-2,7
Oct.	3,9	-3,7	-8,6	-6,6	-1,1
Nov.	-0,9	5,7	-2,4	5,9	-13,3

1/ Excluding Value Added Tax

2/ The percentage change is the growth rate from the previous year

3/ The percentage change is the growth rate for a given month compared with the same month in the previous year

Table 4 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at current prices, according to type of wholesaler (concluded)

Year ^{2/} and month ^{3/}	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds	
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous		
1998	Jan.	-0,3	-4,0	-8,3	-1,5	-2,2
	Feb.	-1,1	-0,2	1,8	-1,0	1,4
	Mar.	3,1	-1,8	0,6	2,5	0,9
	Apr.	0,4	4,7	-2,2	-5,8	-0,7
	May	-0,1	-6,7	-3,2	4,7	-0,8
	June	13,4	3,3	5,3	0,8	4,1
	July	-8,4	-0,5	2,9	0,6	-0,1
	Aug.	2,9	-7,8	8,4	2,9	2,6
	Sep.	4,7	1,8	-10,5	-2,1	-1,0
	Oct.	-0,8	1,6	2,9	0,9	-0,2
	Nov.	1,8	-0,8	2,4	-2,6	-0,5
	Dec.	-7,6	6,8	3,4	4,3	2,1
1999	Jan.	8,5	-7,5	6,7	-7,1	-0,1
	Feb.	4,0	0,3	-5,7	9,2	1,1
	Mar.	-3,2	-3,1	8,1	-1,3	0,6
	Apr.	4,6	-2,7	-1,7	1,0	1,7
	May	-1,2	5,0	1,8	4,4	0,7
	June	-7,6	-2,8	-3,6	-0,8	-0,6
	July	3,3	4,3	-1,5	-1,7	1,4
	Aug.	4,6	2,3	2,3	3,5	0,6
	Sep.	-1,8	5,1	4,8	2,9	2,4
	Oct.	-3,2	-5,5	-1,6	0,3	-0,7
	Nov.	5,8	8,3	4,5	14,1	5,4

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

^{2/} The percentage change is the growth rate from the previous year

^{3/} The percentage change is the growth rate for a given month compared with the same month in the previous year

Table 5 – Actual values of wholesale trade sales 1/ at constant June 1995 prices according to type of wholesaler (R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler					
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	Diamonds, jewellery and silverware
1998 Jan.	2 479,6	896,1	260,5	210,3	800,2	491,0
Feb.	2 738,3	989,0	362,0	257,1	938,6	215,7
Mar.	2 729,1	914,1	407,9	331,7	1 154,0	471,1
Apr.	2 824,8	864,7	399,4	283,0	1 085,9	402,6
May	2 771,2	924,4	385,4	314,4	947,3	389,8
June	2 674,4	948,5	387,6	294,9	1 094,6	262,6
July	2 780,1	932,2	381,3	331,2	1 086,4	462,0
Aug.	2 913,3	1 007,3	374,0	265,7	1 009,6	219,7
Sep.	3 258,1	932,0	393,4	335,4	1 111,2	300,7
Oct.	3 125,1	1 079,4	517,5	396,5	1 144,7	302,2
Nov.	3 127,3	1 171,6	422,6	399,1	1 166,6	243,0
Dec.	3 426,5	1 030,7	327,4	326,0	869,0	467,7
Total	34 847,9	11 690,0	4 619,2	3 745,3	12 408,2	4 228,7
1999 Jan.	2 733,6	918,4	247,1	202,2	955,9	451,7
Feb.	2 939,8	996,9	306,5	234,2	915,8	363,0
Mar.	2 942,2	920,1	364,7	284,9	1 095,4	409,2
Apr.	3 094,6	969,3	372,1	285,2	995,3	30,1
May	3 044,4	905,0	378,4	275,5	944,5	218,9
June	2 812,5	884,0	358,5	274,0	1 164,7	585,4
July	3 247,2	846,6	367,1	263,7	1 090,8	285,5
Aug.	2 991,0	974,0	362,2	276,9	1 055,9	1 474,3
Sep.	3 132,4	1 129,3	382,1	280,4	1 109,9	829,9
Oct.	3 414,5	1 122,5	439,1	322,1	1 114,0	18,9
Nov.	3 305,6	1 246,7	413,0	390,2	1 029,7	883,1

1/ Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 5 – Actual values of wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices according to type of wholesaler (concluded) (R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds	Total, including diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous		
1998 Jan.	1 212,6	1 279,8	2 509,8	4 055,6	13 704,4	14 195,5
Feb.	1 310,1	1 510,0	2 939,6	4 244,1	15 288,8	15 504,5
Mar.	1 343,0	1 517,9	2 934,1	4 531,8	15 863,5	16 334,7
Apr.	1 360,3	1 522,8	2 681,1	4 283,6	15 305,7	15 708,3
May	1 366,5	1 434,4	2 672,8	4 583,5	15 400,0	15 789,9
June	1 535,8	1 498,6	2 921,2	4 559,7	15 915,4	16 178,1
July	1 298,4	1 602,8	2 935,1	4 709,4	16 057,0	16 519,1
Aug.	1 447,5	1 410,4	3 159,2	4 583,6	16 170,7	16 390,4
Sep.	1 588,4	1 474,1	3 106,7	4 538,6	16 738,0	17 038,7
Oct.	1 568,0	1 564,4	3 048,1	4 559,9	17 003,7	17 305,9
Nov.	1 583,3	1 605,1	3 085,8	4 615,9	17 177,5	17 420,5
Dec.	1 244,0	1 181,0	2 639,3	4 541,4	15 585,3	16 053,0
Total	16 857,9	17 601,5	34 632,9	53 807,1	190 210,0	194 438,7
1999 Jan.	1 330,7	1 137,0	2 818,2	3 992,4	14 335,4	14 787,2
Feb.	1 505,7	1 328,0	3 047,4	4 384,5	15 658,8	16 021,9
Mar.	1 445,4	1 303,8	3 245,6	4 397,3	15 999,5	16 408,7
Apr.	1 539,1	1 228,2	3 013,1	4 385,5	15 882,3	15 912,5
May	1 512,0	1 293,9	3 130,5	4 481,6	15 965,9	16 184,9
June	1 381,7	1 264,3	3 104,8	4 331,7	15 576,2	16 161,6
July	1 311,6	1 423,1	2 998,6	4 308,1	15 856,9	16 142,4
Aug.	1 494,3	1 395,8	3 097,0	4 689,2	16 336,2	17 810,5
Sep.	1 554,6	1 509,8	3 565,8	4 847,9	17 512,2	18 342,2
Oct.	1 511,3	1 483,4	3 343,0	4 803,6	17 553,4	17 572,4
Nov.	1 583,2	1 669,3	3 497,6	5 645,5	18 780,8	19 663,8

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 6 – Percentage change in wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices, according to type of wholesaler

Year and month	Type of wholesaler					
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	Diamonds, jewellery and silverware
1998 Jan.	-3,3	4,5	5,2	-11,6	9,4	-40,6
Feb.	9,6	8,7	-1,5	-10,8	9,4	-36,0
Mar.	-0,4	25,4	12,0	10,6	30,7	5,1
Apr.	9,4	4,9	7,1	-5,3	34,3	-40,2
May	-2,1	3,9	-9,8	-16,5	-1,1	32,8
June	2,8	30,0	-6,1	-14,1	35,5	-45,3
July	1,7	12,4	13,8	0,3	36,2	-1,1
Aug.	7,3	14,9	0,6	-24,0	24,7	11,3
Sep.	25,4	-3,7	-6,2	-5,8	23,9	-42,9
Oct.	1,3	4,7	-10,5	-14,1	26,1	-32,6
Nov.	9,7	11,1	-19,7	-20,2	11,1	-2,1
Dec.	2,5	13,3	16,8	12,6	7,7	95,8
Total	5,2	10,2	-1,8	-9,3	20,3	-18,4
1999 Jan.	10,2	2,5	-5,1	-3,9	19,5	-8,0
Feb.	7,4	0,8	-15,3	-8,9	-2,4	68,3
Mar.	7,8	0,7	-10,6	-14,1	-5,1	-13,2
Apr.	9,6	12,1	-6,8	0,8	-8,3	-92,5
May	9,9	-2,1	-1,8	-12,4	-0,3	-43,9
June	5,2	-6,8	-7,5	-7,1	6,4	122,8
July	16,8	-9,2	-3,7	-20,4	0,4	-38,2
Aug.	2,7	-3,3	-3,2	4,2	4,6	570,7
Sep.	-3,9	21,2	-2,9	-16,4	-0,1	175,9
Oct.	9,3	4,0	-15,1	-18,8	-2,7	-93,7
Nov.	5,7	6,4	-2,3	-2,2	-11,7	263,4

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 6 – Percentage change in wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices, according to type of wholesaler (concluded)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds	Total, including diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous		
1998 Jan.	-9,1	-6,8	1,3	-3,9	-2,4	-45
Feb.	-6,5	-0,9	-1,5	0,5	1,6	07
Mar.	2,4	6,3	4,2	2,3	5,8	57
Apr.	-1,3	-0,4	-7,2	-5,5	0,6	-11
May	-0,6	-7,9	-10,3	1,8	-3,1	-25
June	9,6	-3,8	-1,0	1,6	4,1	26
July	0,3	-4,3	-4,8	-4,5	0,3	03
Aug.	6,3	-14,8	2,7	-2,6	1,5	17
Sep.	10,0	-12,1	-10,4	-5,6	0,6	-07
Oct.	6,2	-13,2	-7,1	-3,3	-1,9	-27
Nov.	11,9	-9,5	-2,2	-4,3	0,2	01
Dec.	1,1	-8,0	-2,7	6,1	3,0	44
Total	2,7	-6,6	-3,5	-1,6	0,8	
1999 Jan.	9,7	-11,2	12,3	-1,6	4,6	4,2
Feb.	14,9	-12,1	3,7	3,3	2,4	3,3
Mar.	7,6	-14,1	10,6	-3,0	0,9	0,5
Apr.	13,1	-19,3	12,4	2,4	3,8	1,3
May	10,6	-9,8	17,1	-2,2	3,7	2,5
June	-10,0	-15,6	6,3	-5,0	-2,1	-0,1
July	1,0	-11,2	2,2	-8,5	-1,2	-2,3
Aug.	3,2	-1,0	-2,0	2,3	1,0	8,7
Sep.	-2,1	2,4	14,8	6,8	4,6	7,7
Oct.	-3,6	-5,2	9,7	5,3	3,2	1,5
Nov.	-0,0	4,0	13,3	22,3	9,3	12,9

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 7 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices according to type of wholesaler (R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery
1998 Jan.	2 743,4	934,4	394,6	325,8	931,2
Feb.	2 887,1	955,5	397,4	319,1	960,3
Mar.	2 754,4	974,3	401,7	363,2	1 001,8
Apr.	2 863,4	955,7	405,1	314,4	1 076,3
May	2 772,6	948,2	358,7	320,0	1 037,0
June	2 866,1	1 023,8	386,6	308,7	1 079,4
July	2 827,8	1 003,7	408,3	359,2	1 095,6
Aug.	2 975,2	1 022,3	382,9	266,0	1 052,7
Sep.	3 213,3	876,8	375,5	325,7	1 061,1
Oct.	2 956,6	968,6	390,6	309,9	1 073,9
Nov.	3 003,6	1 003,0	330,6	270,0	1 018,6
Dec.	2 942,2	1 037,5	412,7	297,7	1 000,1
1999 Jan.	3 021,0	957,4	373,4	313,4	1 111,8
Feb.	3 088,5	960,4	337,2	292,7	940,0
Mar.	2 987,5	979,5	362,0	312,5	955,3
Apr.	3 134,0	1 061,7	374,9	316,4	983,8
May	3 042,4	932,1	355,1	280,8	1 033,9
June	3 026,6	952,3	356,8	288,0	1 148,4
July	3 308,4	915,3	390,3	285,7	1 095,7
Aug.	3 055,3	984,8	373,0	277,0	1 101,0
Sep.	3 093,2	1 058,0	364,9	271,4	1 063,6
Oct.	3 213,9	1 014,0	330,3	251,5	1 044,1
Nov.	3 175,0	1 069,2	323,8	264,3	899,0

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 7 – Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices according to type of wholesaler (concluded) (R million)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous	
1998 Jan.	1 338,7	1 533,7	2 834,3	4 447,9	15 483,9
Feb.	1 321,9	1 542,2	2 885,8	4 437,4	15 706,8
Mar.	1 359,6	1 508,4	2 899,3	4 582,8	15 845,5
Apr.	1 355,1	1 573,4	2 819,5	4 352,5	15 715,2
May	1 351,4	1 462,9	2 717,4	4 582,2	15 550,5
June	1 520,3	1 507,2	2 862,3	4 592,1	16 146,4
July	1 396,3	1 495,1	2 924,0	4 472,4	15 982,3
Aug.	1 427,8	1 368,6	3 123,5	4 478,8	16 097,7
Sep.	1 479,0	1 389,2	2 795,0	4 421,2	15 936,9
Oct.	1 451,1	1 402,9	2 863,0	4 462,4	15 878,9
Nov.	1 473,6	1 387,7	2 901,6	4 383,1	15 771,7
Dec.	1 353,0	1 477,3	2 998,2	4 584,2	16 102,9
1999 Jan.	1 467,7	1 360,5	3 195,0	4 395,9	16 196,1
Feb.	1 519,9	1 350,3	2 996,3	4 590,7	16 075,9
Mar.	1 470,2	1 302,4	3 223,3	4 446,8	16 039,6
Apr.	1 528,7	1 262,1	3 149,7	4 453,9	16 265,3
May	1 498,1	1 318,7	3 179,6	4 477,2	16 117,9
June	1 366,3	1 275,0	3 054,5	4 365,4	15 833,2
July	1 414,7	1 324,3	2 988,3	4 089,4	15 812,1
Aug.	1 475,2	1 362,8	3 068,7	4 585,9	16 283,6
Sep.	1 443,3	1 422,6	3 203,3	4 708,4	16 628,7
Oct.	1 399,1	1 330,8	3 138,0	4 708,9	16 430,7
Nov.	1 472,1	1 442,5	3 288,9	5 362,2	17 297,0

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 8 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices, according to type of wholesaler

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				
	Foodstuff, beverages and tobacco	Livestock and farm produce	Textiles, clothing and footwear	Furniture and household requisites	Office and shop equipment, books and stationery
1998 Jan.	-4,4	3,0	11,3	23,3	0,1
Feb.	5,2	2,3	0,7	-2,1	3,1
Mar.	-4,6	2,0	1,1	13,8	4,3
Apr.	4,0	-1,9	0,8	-13,4	7,4
May	-3,2	-0,8	-11,5	1,8	-3,7
June	3,4	8,0	7,8	-3,5	4,1
July	-1,3	-2,0	5,6	16,4	1,5
Aug.	5,2	1,9	-6,2	-25,9	-3,9
Sep.	8,0	-14,2	-1,9	22,4	0,8
Oct.	-8,0	10,5	4,0	-4,9	1,2
Nov.	1,6	3,6	-15,4	-12,9	-5,1
Dec.	-2,0	3,4	24,8	10,3	-1,8
1999 Jan.	2,7	-7,7	-9,5	5,3	11,2
Feb.	2,2	0,3	-9,7	-6,6	-15,5
Mar.	-3,3	2,0	7,4	6,8	1,6
Apr.	4,9	8,4	3,6	1,2	3,0
May	-2,9	-12,2	-5,3	-11,3	5,1
June	-0,5	2,2	0,5	2,6	11,1
July	9,3	-3,9	9,4	-0,8	-4,6
Aug.	-7,7	7,6	-4,4	-3,0	0,5
Sep.	1,2	7,4	-2,2	-2,0	-3,4
Oct.	3,9	-4,2	-9,5	-7,3	-1,8
Nov.	-1,2	5,4	-2,0	5,1	-13,9

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Table 8 – Percentage change in seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales ^{1/} at constant June 1995 prices, according to type of wholesaler (concluded)

Year and month	Type of wholesaler				Total, excluding diamonds
	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous	
1998 Jan.	0,1	-4,7	-8,6	2,8	-1,4
Feb.	-1,3	0,6	1,8	-0,2	1,4
Mar.	2,9	-2,2	0,5	3,3	0,9
Apr.	-0,3	4,3	-2,8	-5,0	-0,8
May	-0,3	-7,0	-3,6	5,3	-1,0
June	12,5	3,0	5,3	0,2	3,8
July	-8,2	-0,8	2,2	-2,6	-1,0
Aug.	2,3	-8,5	6,8	0,1	0,7
Sep.	3,6	1,5	-10,5	-1,3	-1,0
Oct.	-1,9	1,0	2,4	0,9	-0,4
Nov.	1,6	-1,1	1,3	-1,8	-0,7
Dec.	-8,2	6,5	3,3	4,6	2,1
1999 Jan.	8,5	-7,9	6,6	-4,1	0,6
Feb.	3,6	-0,7	-6,2	4,4	-0,7
Mar.	-3,3	-3,5	7,6	-3,1	-0,2
Apr.	4,0	-3,1	-2,3	0,2	1,4
May	-2,0	4,5	0,9	0,5	-0,9
June	-8,8	-3,3	-3,9	-2,5	-1,8
July	3,5	3,9	-2,2	-6,3	-0,1
Aug.	4,3	2,9	2,7	12,1	3,0
Sep.	-2,2	4,4	4,4	2,7	2,1
Oct.	-3,1	-6,5	-2,0	-0,0	-1,2
Nov.	5,2	8,4	4,8	13,9	5,3

^{1/} Excluding Value Added Tax

Explanatory notes

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Introduction | 1 | This publication contains results of the monthly sample survey regarding wholesale trade sales. The results of the sample survey are raised to represent total wholesale trade sales in South Africa. Wholesale trade sales exclude value added tax (VAT). |
| | 2 | The statistics include actual and seasonally adjusted values of wholesale trade sales according to type of wholesaler at current as well as at constant June 1995 prices. |
| Scope of the survey | 3 | The survey of wholesale trade sales includes - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wholesalers in foodstuff, beverages and tobacco; • wholesalers in livestock and farm produce; • wholesalers in textiles, clothing and footwear; • wholesalers in furniture and household requisites; • wholesalers in office and shop equipment, books and stationery; • wholesalers in diamonds, jewellery and silverware; • wholesalers in pharmaceutical and chemical products; • wholesalers in construction and building materials; • wholesalers in machinery and equipment; and • miscellaneous. |
| Classification | 4 | Each statistical unit is classified to the type of wholesaler which reflects the predominant activity of the enterprise (firm). |
| | 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. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC subgroup (5 digit) level. |
| Statistical unit | 6 | The statistical unit for this survey is an enterprise. An enterprise is a legal entity consisting of one or more establishments (branches), including the head office, but excluding holding or subsidiary companies. Data are only collected for those establishments of the enterprise that are predominantly engaged in the wholesale trade industry. |
| Survey methodology and design | 7 | The data are collected by mail each month from a sample of approximately 500 wholesale trade enterprises. Questionnaires have to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the month concerned. Fax and telephone reminders are used to follow up non-respondents. |
| | 8 | All statistical units are stratified by type of wholesaler according to SIC and measure of size, where measure of size is the turnover of the enterprise. All large enterprises (size category one cases) are completely enumerated. For medium size enterprises (size category two) and small enterprises (size category three), samples are drawn by systematically selecting enterprises with equal probability. |

- Seasonal adjustment** 9 Seasonally adjusted estimates of sales are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by US Bureau of the Census Economic Research and Analyses Division, 1968.
- 10 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.
- 11 The series has been seasonally adjusted since January 1966.
- 12 The time series on wholesalers in diamonds does not have a seasonal pattern. Therefore no seasonally adjusted values for wholesalers in diamonds and total wholesale trade sales, including diamonds are published.
- Trend** 13 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-11 Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing out data.
- Constant price estimates of wholesale trade sales** 14 Constant price estimates of wholesale trade sales measure change in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates of sales are relevant sub-indices of the production price index (June 1995=100).
- Reliability of estimates** 15 Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.
- Related publications** 16 *Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA:*
- Bulletin of Statistics.
 - SA Statistics.
- Unpublished statistics** 17 In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics which are not published. The statistics can be made available in one or more of the following ways: computer printouts, CD-Rom and diskette. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.
- Symbols and abbreviations** 18 Stats SA Statistics South Africa
 .. Figures not available
 - Nil or not applicable
 * Revised figures
- Rounding-off of figures** 19 When figures have been rounded-off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Glossary

Enterprise (firm)	An enterprise (firm) is a legal entity consisting of one or more establishments (branches) including the head office, but excluding holding or subsidiary companies.
Establishment (branch)	An establishment (branch) is defined as the smallest economic unit which operates as a separate entity for which comprehensive financial records are kept.
Reference month	Reference month for the survey refers to one calendar month. The reference month for this survey is November 1999.
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.
Wholesaler	A wholesaler is a firm deriving 50% or more of its turnover from sales of goods to other businesses and institutions.
Percentage change	<p>When using annual data, the percentage change is the growth rate from one year to the next year. For monthly actual values, the percentage change is the growth rate of a given month compared with the same month in the previous year.</p> <p>For monthly seasonally adjusted values the percentage change is the growth rate of a given month compared with the previous month.</p>

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