



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Wholesale trade sales October 1997

Statistical release P6141.2

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

**Embargo: 11:00
Date: 18 December 1997.**

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

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

The CSS has copyright on this information. You are, however, free to apply it as you wish provided that you acknowledge the CSS as the source of the basic data wherever you process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data; and also that you specify that the relevant application and analyses (where applicable) result from your own processing of the data.

CONTENTS

Key findings	1
Graph	1
Explanatory notes	2
Tables	
Summary table	2
1. Wholesale trade sales by type of business	
1.1 At current prices	3
1.2 At constant June 1995 prices	4

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

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

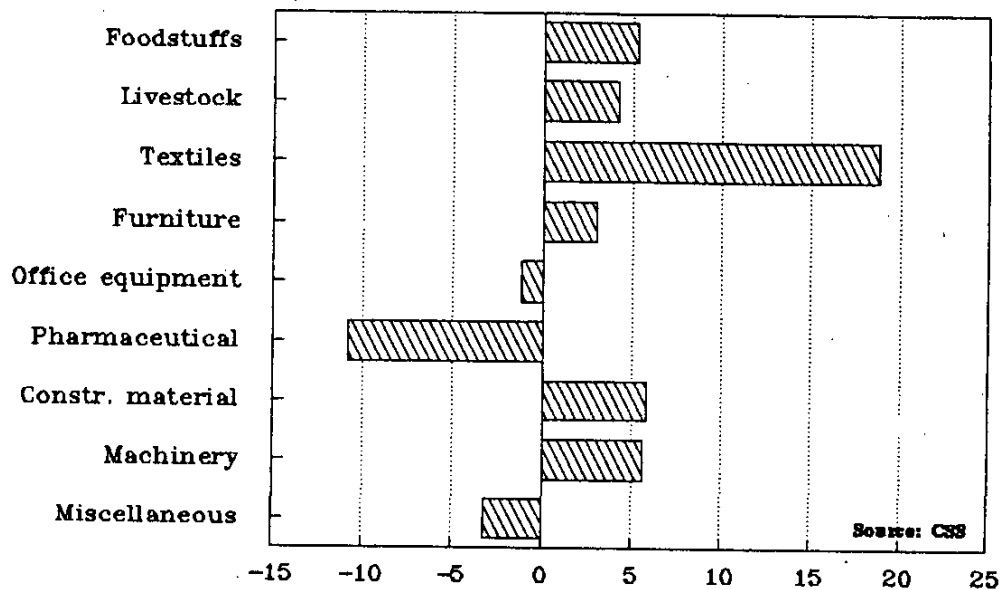
Library of Parliament, Cape Town
Bloemfontein Public Library
Johannesburg Public Library

REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES INCREASE FOR OCTOBER 1997

Real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, amounted to R17 944,1 million for October 1997 which is 1,5% higher than October 1996 (R17 686,0 million). Furthermore, the total real wholesale trade sales (excluding diamonds) for the three months up to October 1997 (R52 330,4 million) is 2,4% higher than for the corresponding period of 1996 (R51 112,2 million).

According to Table 1.2 (Actual values), six of the nine wholesalers categories reflect increases in their real sales for October 1997 compared with the same period last year. Wholesalers in textiles, clothing and footwear, reflect the largest percentage increase of 18,8% in real sales, followed by wholesalers in construction and building materials and wholesalers in machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural) with almost similar percentage increases of 5,8% and 5,6% respectively. Wholesalers in pharmaceutical and chemical products reflect a substantial decrease of 10,8% in real sales.

REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES BY TYPE OF BUSINESS Annual percentage changes at Oct.1997




ENQUIRIES:

Tel. (012) 310-8095/310-8040
 (012) 310-8351/310-8390
 (012) 310-8007 (technical enquiries)
 Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001
 Fax: 310-8500
 E-mail: info @ css.pwv.gov.za
 Internet: http://www.css.gov.za

SUMMARY - WHOLESALE TRADE

P6141.2

Period	Sales (Excluding diamonds) R million		Percentage change of sales	
	At current prices	At constant June 1995 prices	At current prices	At constant June 1995 prices
Actual values				
Aug. 1997 - Oct. 1997	63 099,5	52 330,4	9,6	+2,4
Aug. 1996 - Oct. 1996	57 569,4	51 112,2		
Seasonally adjusted values				
Aug. 1997 - Oct. 1997	61 128,0	50 700,6	3,6	+2,0
May 1997 - Jul. 1997	58 987,5	49 710,4		

pp 
 Dr F M Orkin
 Head: Central Statistical Service

NOTES

This statistical release shows final estimates of the wholesale trade sales in the Republic of South Africa (the former TBVC states are included). The survey is conducted on a firm basis. The results of the sample survey are raised to represent the total wholesale trade sales. Both actual and seasonally adjusted values of wholesale trade sales according to type of business at current as well as at constant June 1995 prices are shown. The value of sales at constant June 1995 prices in respect of each type of business is obtained by deflating the sales value at current prices by means of sub-indices of the production price index on base June 1995=100.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices include VAT.

Symbols used

- * = revised
- = not applicable

1. WHOLESALE TRADE SALES BY TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.1 AT CURRENT PRICES

R Million

Type of business	Actual values					Seasonally adjusted values				
	Oct. 1997	Sep. 1997	Oct. 1996	Jan. - Oct. 1996		Oct. 1997	Sep. 1997	Aug. 1997	Jul. 1997	Oct. 1996
				1997	1996					
Total	22 511,4	21 697,3*	20 858,4	202 236,5	186 437,9	20 836,1	20 462,0	19 829,9	19 948,8	19 127,5
Including diamonds	21 962,7	21 046,8*	20 134,4	196 448,6	181 554,9					
Excluding diamonds	4 146,5	3 489,8	3 515,8	35 446,1	34 588,0	4 091,2	3 426,4	3 758,4	3 681,1	3 461,4
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco										
Livestock and farm produce	1 305,0	1 223,9	1 228,8	10 628,8	9 794,8	1 119,7	1 168,7	1 125,3	1 098,2	1 056,2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	712,9	517,6	562,2	4 710,0	4 077,5	549,5	475,2	445,8	419,3	434,5
Furniture and household requisites	591,9	463,2	538,7	4 385,2	4 074,0	480,4	468,7	480,8	468,8	436,9
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	1 126,0	1 109,9	1 069,4	10 371,2	9 851,6	1 076,5	1 042,9	1 045,3	1 023,5	1 023,5
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	548,7	650,5	723,9	5 788,0	4 883,0					
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 812,7	1 761,7	1 902,5	16 677,3	16 690,4	1 683,9	1 696,8	1 637,4	1 636,1	1 766,6
Construction and building materials	2 269,4	2 109,8	1 977,9	19 474,3	17 745,7	2 039,0	1 983,2	1 924,8	1 970,8	1 778,2
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	3 934,1	4 155,8	3 517,9	35 601,5	30 602,4	3 789,3	3 764,5	3 592,7	3 594,4	3 402,4
Miscellaneous	6 063,1	6 215,1	5 821,2	59 154,2	54 130,6	6 073,2	6 197,6	5 893,5	5 972,8	5 837,3

The former TBVC states are included.

1. WHOLESale TRADE SALES BY TYPE OF BUSINESS
1.2 AT CONSTANT JUNE 1995 PRICES

R Million

Type of business	Actual values					Seasonally adjusted values				
	Oct. 1997	Sep. 1997	Oct. 1996	Jan. - Oct. 1996		Oct. 1997	Sep. 1997	Aug. 1997	Jul. 1997	Oct. 1996
				1997	1996					
Total	18 419,2	18 120,6	18 499,2	169 788,6	172 567,8	16 984,8	17 093,1	16 622,7	16 825,1	16 769,2
Including diamonds	17 944,1	17 562,2	17 686,0	164 810,4	167 576,3	3 225,6	2 758,7	3 063,3	2 918,4	2 998,7
Excluding diamonds	1 117,3	1 041,6	1 072,7	9 312,2	9 317,6	1 164,3	2 724,6	2 977,5	2 918,4	2 998,7
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	618,3	448,7	520,5	4 167,6	3 866,5	978,9	1 005,9	985,1	958,4	939,7
Livestock and farm produce	517,1	406,7	501,8	3 906,9	3 865,0	419,5	411,4	423,7	416,5	407,1
Textiles; clothing and footwear	951,9	954,2	963,1	8 983,1	9 136,3	914,7	893,0	898,8	886,5	927,2
Furniture and household requisites	475,1	558,4	813,1	4 978,2	4 991,5	-	-	-	-	-
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	1 548,9	1 532,2	1 736,4	14 604,5	15 777,8	1 444,6	1 471,2	1 423,7	1 431,9	1 618,4
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 908,5	1 788,7	1 803,8	16 810,8	16 640,1	1 711,2	1 679,8	1 640,1	1 697,0	1 618,0
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	3 446,8	3 684,2	3 263,1	31 842,4	29 122,3	3 317,2	3 333,7	3 201,2	3 219,7	3 149,1
Construction and building materials	4 609,7	4 947,2	4 761,4	46 620,7	48 151,1	4 597,1	4 916,7	4 734,9	4 842,4	4 748,3
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)										
Miscellaneous										

The former TBVC states are included.