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Wholesale trade sales

October 1999

Co-operation between Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), the citizens of the country, the private sector and government institutions is essential for a successful statistical system. Without continued co-operation and goodwill, the timely release of relevant and reliable official statistics will not be possible.

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Actual	estim	ares

Actual estimates	October 1999	% change between October 1998 and October 1999	% change between August 1998 to October 1998 and August 1999 to October 1999	% change between January 1998 to October 1998 and January 1999 to October 1999
Wholesale trade sales at current prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	23 060,1	+8,7	+8,1	+8,2
Wholesale trade sales at constant June 1995 prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	17 553,4	+3,2	+3,0	+2,1

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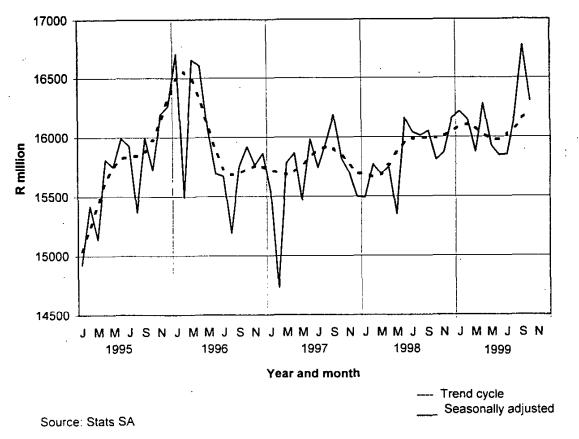
Seasonally adjusted estimates	October 1999	% change between September 1999 and October 1999	% change between May 1999 to July 1999 and August 1999 to October 1999
Wholesale trade sales at current prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	21 489,7	-0,8	+2,6
Wholesale trade sales at constant June 1995 prices, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (R million)	16 306,5	-2,8	+3,5

Real wholesale trade sales maintain upward trend

Since the middle of 1999 the real wholesale trade sales have been showing an upward trend (cf. figure 1). The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax (at constant June 1995 prices), for the three months up to October 1999, reflected an increase of 3,5% 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 ten months of 1999 increased by 2,1% compared with the corresponding period of 1998. However, the seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales for October 1999 reflected a decrease of 2,8% compared with September 1999.

Five of the nine wholesaler categories reflected increases in the seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales for the three months up to October 1999 compared with the previous three months. The largest percentage increase was reflected by wholesalers in livestock and farm produce (+9,2%), followed by wholesalers in miscellaneous products (+8,0%). Wholesalers in foodstuff, beverages and tobacco, which have the second largest market share (with a contribution of 19,5% to the total real wholesale trade sales, excluding diamonds and Value Added Tax, at October 1999) reflected a decrease of 0,2%.

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



Re-engineered wholesale trade sales survey

Prior to April 1999, 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 excluding 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 of January 1985 to September 1999.

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or F M Orkin

Head: Statistics South Africa

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Forthcoming issues

Issue

Expected release date

November 1999

10 February 2000

December 1999

21 February 2000

Purpose of the survey

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 and its components, which in turn 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. The survey collects information on the total sales of all wholesale trade establishments (branches) from the enterprise.

New sample

Prior to April 1999, Stats SA collected and published information on wholesale trade sales including VAT. Stats SA has overhauled and re-designed the wholesale trade sales questionnaire. Stats SA will in due course also introduce a new sample.

Table 1 - Value of wholesale trade sales according to type of wholesaler at current prices

	Type of wholesaler					
Year and month	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
			Actual value	es (R million)		
1998		-				_
Jan.	3 161,5	1 053,9	301,6	241,2	941,3	568,
Feb.	3 482,1	1 144,5	419,2	300,0	1 113,8	254,
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	477,0
May	3 612,3	1 075,8	456,6 460,2	373,7 350,4	1 144,5 1 325,3	498, 315,
June	3 455,1 3 615,5	1 090,2 1 073,8	453,6	394,3	1 323,3	585,9
July	3 807,3	1 169,5	445,4	335,4	1 301,3	281,4
Aug. 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
1999		, , , , , ,	_			1
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,
Mar.	3 918,7	1 082,5	442,2	366,3	1 425,8	531,0
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 1 420,6	366,2 1 890,9
Aug.	4 074,7	1 171,8	444,2 469,9	365,2 372,2	1 502,1	1 064,5
Sep. Oct.	4 280,1 4 679,2	1 361,1 1 355,3	541,3	430,1	1 516,5	24,3
<u> </u>	7 077,2				<u>. </u>	
1998			seasonally adjuste	d values (R millio	n) 	·-··
Jan.	3 474,7	1 088,9	458,6	374,8	1 094,5	1/
Feb.	3 673,3	1 116,4	463,4	370,4	1 137,5	
Mar.	3 529,7	1 140,1	470,9	423,9	1 194,8	
Apr.	3 670,8	1 134,0	477,9	368,6	1 285,2	
May	3 600,6	1 119,2	426,9	377,4	1 225,2	
June	3 710.6	1 200,4	458.8	367,1	1 322,1	
July	3 658,9	1 157,7	485,3	428,9	1 343,2	
Aug.	3 892,6	1 193,6	458,6	335,3	1 348,9	
Sep.	4 216,4	1 004.2	449,8	407,2	1 365,8	
Oct.	3 891,6	1 109,6	471,1 389,4	388,7 350,5	1 390,3 1 315,4	
Nov.	4 001,4 3 916,0	1 157,4	494,4	378,6	1 296,4	
Dec. 1999	3 910,0	1 177,0	1,7,7,	370,0	1270,1	[
Jan.	4 011,7	1 109,5	450,1	400,7	1 439,6	
Feb.	4 139,2	1 130,4	407,8	374,2	1 221,0	
Mar.	4 018,5	1 166,4	437,1	402,0	1 252,0	
Apr.	4 182,4	1 256,9	453,5	409,0	1 292,4	
May	4 071,9	1 117,9	433,1	360,2	1 339,9	
June	4 087,2	1 165,6	433,2	373,6	1 546,1	
July -	4 442,8	1 167,5	474,5	371,5	1 473,4	[
Aug.	4 164,0	1 192,6	459,9	365,0	1 470,9	
Sep.	4 249,2	1 255,9	449,8	356,2	1 437,1	
Oct.	4 419,8	1 206,8	410,5	333,0	1 422,1	

^{1/} The time series on wholesalers in diamonds does not have a seasonal pattern.

Table 1 - Value of wholesale trade sales according to type of wholesaler at current prices (concluded)

	Type of wholesaler							
Year and month	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous	Total, excluding diamonds	Total, including diamonds		
T.	Actual values (R million)							
1998			retual values	(R minion)				
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 3 165,1	5 880,2	21 525,9 19 580,1	21 834,9 20 178,0		
Dec. 1999	1 521,0	1 451,7	ĺ	5 695,8				
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 1 920,8	1 641,7 1 550,0	3 925,3 3 654,9	5 560,0 5 635,4	20 144,5 20 166,4	20 675,5 20 205,8		
Apr. May	1 897,3	1 646,9	3 836,5	6 096,8	20 705,6	20 203,8		
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		
		S	easonally adjusted	values (R million)			
1998			2 222 2	5 402 8	10.0004	2/		
Jan.	1 555,5	1 833,4	3 233,2	5 492,8 5 441,5	18 606,4 18 863,2	2/		
Feb. Mar.	1 539,3 1 586,8	1 828.3 1 793,4	3 293,1 3 313,6	5 580,9	19 034,0			
Apr.	1 594,0	1 879,4	3 240,6	5 260,3	18 910,9			
May	1 591,9	1 752,5	3 136,8	5 510,5	18 741,0			
June	1 801,6	1811.6	3 302.8	5 554,1	19 529,1	ĺ		
July	1.653,1	1 802,8	3 397,9	5 585,0	19 512,9			
Aug.	1 706,1	1 659.3	3 676.0	5 742,1	20 012,6			
Sep.	1 774,9	1 687.2	3 282,9	5 614,4	19 802,7			
Oct.	1 756,0	1 713.8	3 370,1	5 654,1	19 745,4			
Nov.	1 818,1	1 720,9	3 494,3	5 554,1	19 801,6			
Dec. 1999	1 660,4	1 817,9	3 585,6	5 758,7	20 107,0			
Jan.	1 801,1	1 687.3	3 827,2	5 351,4	20 078,6	}		
Feb.	1 874,6	1 690,9	3 609,3	5 843,0	20 290,5	Į		
Mar.	1814,4	1 637,5	3 902,3	5 770,7	20 400,9			
Apr.	1 899,0	1 593,8	3 839,1	5 832,0	20 758,1	1		
May	1 875,5	1 674,5	3 910,2	6 091,0 6 043 8	20 874,1	1		
June	1 729,7	1 628,3 1 699,0	3 769,9 3 710,3	6 043,8 5 940,5	20 777,3 21 068,3	1		
July Aug.	1 878,3	1 735,7	3 788,6	6 140,1	21 195,1	1		
Sep.	1 831,5	1 822,0	3 960,6	6 310,2	21 672,7	1		
Oct.	1 767.4	1 720,9	3 889,7	6 3 1 9,4	21 489,7	1		

^{2/} The time series on wholesalers in diamonds does not have a seasonal pattern. Therefore, no seasonally adjusted values for total wholesale trade sales, including diamonds, are published.

Table 2 - Value of wholesale trade sales according to type of wholesaler at constant June 1995 prices

	Type of wholesaler					
Year and month	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
			Actual value	s (R million)		
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	471,1 402,6
Apr.	2 824,8	864,7	399,4	283,0	1 085,9 947,3	389,8
May	2 771,2	924,4	385,4 387,6	314,4 294,9	1 094,6	262,6
June	2 674,4	948,5	381,3	331,2	1 086,4	462,0
July	2 780,1 2 913,3	932,2 1 007,3	374,0	265,7	1 000,4	219,7
Aug.	3 258,1	932,0	393,4	335,4	1 111,2	300,7
Sep. 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
1999	3 420,3	1 050,7] 32.,.	337,5		,
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	1 246,7	439,1	322,1	1 114,0	18,9
			Seasonally adjuste	d values (R million	n)	,
1998				2050	020.0	.,
Jan.	2 744,2	933,3	395,3	325,2	928,8	1/
Feb.	2 887.0	953,2	397,7	318,6 363,2	959,6 999,4	
Mar.	2 753.2	971,2	401,6 404,7	313,6	1 087,0	
Apr.	2 860,9	980,4	358,2	319,5	1 034,1	
May	2 769,7 2 863,3	943,7	386,2	307,6	1 080,7	
June July	2 830,0	1 001,0	408,2	358,2	1 093,6	1
Aug.	2 974,7	1 019,4	384.0	265,3	1 051,8	
Sep.	3 211,1	874,7	377,9	323,9	1 062,2	
Oct.	2 955,5	964,1	395,7	308,4	1 076,9	
Nov.	3 010,9	1 006,7	324,1	275,6	1 016,0	
Dec.	2 943,9	1 037,3	412,7	297,0	999,3	
1999	3 022,3	956,4	374,2	312,8	1 108,9	[
Jan. Feb.	3 088,8	957,9	337,5	292,1	939,7	[
Mar.	2 986,3	976,1	361,9	312,6	953,4	
Apr.	3 131,2	1 091,5	374,5	315,5	991,0	ł
May	3 038,5	927,5	354,6	280,4	1 031,0	
June	3 022,8	949,1	356,3	287,0	1 150,5	
July	3 310,9	912,9	390,1	284,9	1 093,8	1
Aug.	3 054,2	982,2	374,1	276,2	1 100,3	
Sep.	3 090,3	1 055,8	367,4	269,9	1 065,1	
Oct.	3 212,1	1 009,4	335,2	250,2	1 047,6	<u> </u>

^{1/} The time series on wholesalers in diamonds does not have a seasonal pattern.

Table 2 - Value of wholesale trade sales according to type of wholesaler at constant June 1995 prices (concluded)

	Type of wholesaler				' '			
Year and month	Pharmaceutical and chemical products	Construction and building materials	Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	Miscellaneous	Total, excluding diamonds	Total, including diamonds		
	Actual values (R million)							
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 1 298,4	1 498,6 1 602,8	2 921,2 2 935,1	4 559,7 4 709,4	15 915,4 16 057,0	16 178,1 16 519,1		
July 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. 1999	1 244,0	1 181,0	2 639,3	4 541,4	15 585,3	16 053,0		
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. Oct.	1 554,6 1 511,3	1 509,8 1 483,4	3 565,8 3 343,0	4 847,9 4 803,6	17 512,2 17 553,4	18 342,2 17 572,4		
Oct.	1 311,3					17 372,4		
1998	1	S	easonally adjusted	values (R million) 	<u> </u>		
Jan.	1 338,0	1 534,8	2 833,4	4 446,9	15 491,3	2/		
Feb.	1 321,8	1 542.3	2 885,4	4 436,8	15 771,3			
Mar.	1 359,6	1 507,8	2 899,6	4 582,1	15 688,6			
Apr.	1 355,6	1 572,5	2 820,9	4 355,0	15 749,6			
May	1 352,3	1 462,3	2 721,3	4 583,9	15 350,1			
June	-1 518,5	1 507.0	2 864,9	4 594,6	16 162,6			
July	1 395,6	1 494,5	2 925.7	4 470,6	16 040,0			
Aug.	1 430,8	1 365,4	3 117,9	4 475,2	16 011,1			
Sep.	1 473,6	1 385,1	2 786,7	4 411,8	16 051,1			
Oct.	1 442,9	1 403,5	2 848,6	4 445,9	15 808,1]		
Nov. Dec.	1 488,0 1 352,1	1 396,5 1 476,0	2 921,6 2 997,4	4 406,3 4 587,3	15 871,7 16 156,3	:		
1999			3 194,3	4 395,2	16 216,3			
Jan. Feb.	1 466,8 1 519,4	1 361,7 1 350,4	2 996,3	4 590,2	16 216,3			
Mar.	1 470,0	1 301,8	3 224,0	4 446,2	15 873,4			
Apr.	1 529,2	1 261,2	3 151,6	4 456,6	16 282,6	[
May	1 499,0	1 318,2	3 184,3	4 479,3	15 923,8			
June	1 364,6	1 275,0	3 058,0	4 368,7	15 845,9			
July	1 413,9	1 323,9	2 990,7	4 088,3	15 851,0			
Aug.	1 478,9	1 359,4	3 062,7	4 582,6	16 188,2	!		
Sep.	1 437,8	1 418,1	3 193,0	4 697,9	16 773,1			
Oct.	1 390,3	1 331,6	3 120,5	4 689,9	16 306,5			

^{2/} The time series on wholesalers in diamonds does not have a seasonal pattern. Therefore, no seasonally adjusted values for total wholesale trade sales, including diamonds, are published.

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Explanatory notes

Introduction

- 1 This publication contains results of the monthly wholesale trade sales sample survey. 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).
- 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 -
 - 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 a type of wholesaler which reflects the predominant activity of the enterprise (firm).
- 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 level (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. Information is collected for all wholesale trade establishments (branches) from the enterprise.

Survey methodology and design

- 7 This 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.
- 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

- 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.
- 10 The series has been seasonally adjusted since January 1966.
- 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.

Reliability of estimates

12 Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. Figures for the latest month are preliminary.

Constant price estimates of wholesale trade sales

13 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).

Related publications

- 14 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA:
 - · Bulletin of Statistics.
 - SA Statistics.

Unpublished statistics

15 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 or diskette. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.

Symbols and abbreviations

Stats SA Statistics South Africa
.. Figures not available
- Nil or not applicable

* Revised figures

Rounding-off of figures

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

Glossary

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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 October 1999.

Wholesale trade Wholesale trade includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and

used goods and products to other wholesalers, retailers, agriculture,

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.

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