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# Statistical release

## P6141.2

# Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)

October 2011

**Embargoed until:  
7 December 2011  
10:00**

**Enquiries:**

User Information Services  
(012) 310 8600 / 4892 / 8390

**Forthcoming issue:**

November 2011

**Expected release date:**

19 January 2012

**Contents**

**Results for October 2011 .....2**

Table A – Key figures for wholesale trade sales .....2

Table B – Contribution of each type of dealer to the percentage change in wholesale trade sales at current prices .....3

**Detailed results .....5**

Table 1 – Wholesale trade sales according to type of dealer at current prices (R million) .....5

Description of type of dealer included in a specific group type as indicated in Table 1 .....5

Table 2 – Total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million).....6

Table 3 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at current prices .....6

Table 4 – Seasonally adjusted total wholesale trade sales at current prices (R million).....6

Table 5 – Total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices (R million) .....7

Table 6 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices .....7

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

Table 8 – Three-monthly and annual cumulative estimates and percentage changes .....8

Table 9 – Seasonally adjusted monthly and three-monthly estimates and percentage changes .....8

**Explanatory notes.....9**

**Technical note.....12**

**Glossary.....12**

**General information.....13**

**Results for October 2011**

**Table A – Key figures for wholesale trade sales**

Actual wholesale trade sales estimates	October 2011 (R million)	% change between October 2010 and October 2011	% change between August to October 2010 and August to October 2011	% change between January to October 2010 and January to October 2011
At current prices	103 512	19,1	18,3	13,2
At constant 2000 prices	50 487	8,9	8,9	6,3

Seasonally adjusted estimates	October 2011 (R million)	% change between September and October 2011	% change between May to July 2011 and August to October 2011
At current prices	97 625	-3,2	6,7
At constant 2000 prices	47 639	-3,2	3,5

**Wholesale trade sales in real terms**

Wholesale trade sales, at constant 2000 prices, for the three months ended October 2011 increased by 8,9% compared with the three months ended October 2010, while sales for the same period in 2010 increased by 4,5%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales for the three months ended October 2011 increased by 3,5% compared with the three months ended July 2011.

Wholesale trade sales, at constant 2000 prices, for October 2011 increased by 8,9% compared with October 2010.

**Wholesale trade sales in nominal terms**

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the three months ended October 2011 increased by 18,3% compared with the three months ended October 2010. The major contributor to this increase was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (31,9% and contributing 6,2 percentage points), followed by dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies (18,3% and contributing 3,0 percentage points) and dealers in agricultural raw materials and livestock (48,0% and contributing 2,2 percentage points) – see Table B on page 3.

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for October 2011 increased by 19,1% compared with October 2010, while sales for the corresponding period in 2010 increased by 6,0%.

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

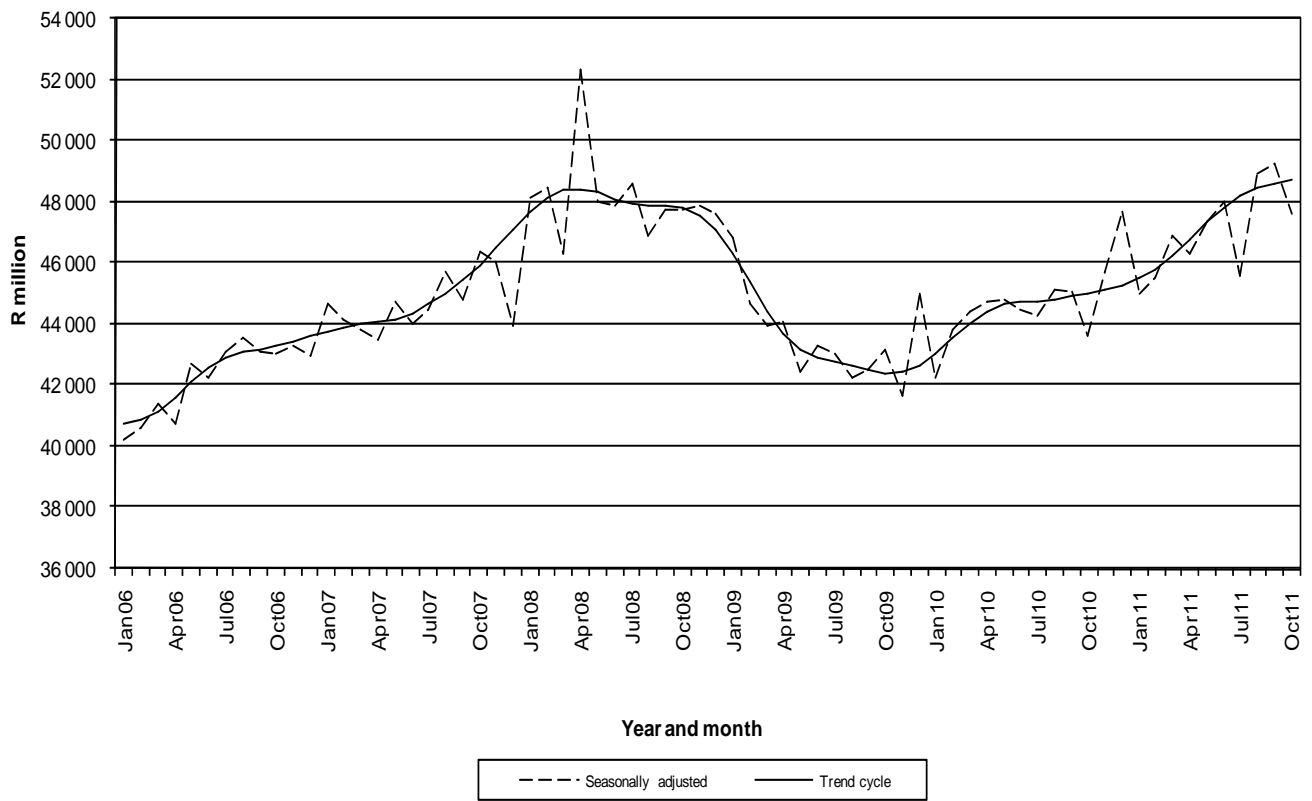
Type of wholesale dealer	Sales August to October 2010 (R million)	Weight 1/	Sales August to October 2011 (R million)	Difference in sales between August to October 2010 and August to October 2011 (R million)	% change between August to October 2010 and August to October 2011	Contribution (% points) to the % change in total sales 2/
Fee or contract basis	16 837	6,5	18 552	1 715	10,2	0,7
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	11 559	4,5	17 111	5 552	48,0	2,2
Food, beverages and tobacco	42 569	16,4	45 835	3 266	7,7	1,3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	8 788	3,4	9 361	573	6,5	0,2
Other household goods except precious stones	27 930	10,8	32 766	4 836	17,3	1,9
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	2 067	0,8	1 926	-141	-6,8	-0,1
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	50 733	19,5	66 902	16 169	31,9	6,2
Metals and metal ores	9 258	3,6	11 433	2 175	23,5	0,8
Construction and building materials	13 935	5,4	16 150	2 215	15,9	0,9
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	11 469	4,4	13 904	2 435	21,2	0,9
Machinery, equipment and supplies	42 021	16,2	49 695	7 674	18,3	3,0
Other goods	22 563	8,7	23 542	979	4,3	0,4
<b>Total 3/</b>	<b>259 728</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>307 176</b>	<b>47 448</b>	<b>18,3</b>	<b>18,3</b>

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 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/	
<b>2010</b>	<b>January</b>	4 816	2 963	12 591	1 683	7 247	230	13 738	2 571	3 167	3 002	10 593	5 978	68 579
	<b>February</b>	5 585	3 329	13 023	2 152	8 141	786	13 984	2 765	3 813	3 506	12 428	7 026	76 538
	<b>March</b>	6 028	3 291	13 162	2 484	9 071	603	15 723	3 136	4 528	3 733	14 808	7 674	84 241
	<b>April</b>	4 847	2 988	12 584	2 521	9 037	614	14 837	3 124	4 240	3 068	12 874	6 857	77 592
	<b>May</b>	5 280	3 378	13 758	2 255	9 220	769	16 305	3 235	4 510	3 237	13 223	7 107	82 276
	<b>June</b>	5 304	3 852	13 602	2 118	8 817	746	17 531	3 268	4 324	3 405	14 022	6 950	83 938
	<b>July</b>	5 981	4 527	13 549	2 286	8 389	856	16 927	3 059	4 535	3 300	12 902	7 596	83 907
	<b>August</b>	5 601	3 774	14 388	2 583	9 227	603	17 208	2 999	4 524	3 557	13 811	7 447	85 721
	<b>September</b>	5 989	3 756	14 872	3 062	9 153	573	16 064	3 025	4 714	3 813	14 490	7 577	87 088
	<b>October</b>	5 247	4 029	13 309	3 143	9 550	891	17 461	3 234	4 697	4 099	13 720	7 539	86 919
	<b>November</b>	5 719	4 626	16 036	3 452	10 494	713	17 833	3 330	5 297	4 903	15 407	9 319	97 130
	<b>December</b>	6 719	4 314	17 573	2 412	8 852	603	18 498	2 323	3 657	3 532	13 850	8 209	90 541
<b>Total</b>	<b>67 116</b>	<b>44 827</b>	<b>168 447</b>	<b>30 151</b>	<b>107 198</b>	<b>7 987</b>	<b>196 109</b>	<b>36 069</b>	<b>52 006</b>	<b>43 155</b>	<b>162 128</b>	<b>89 279</b>	<b>1 004 470</b>	
<b>2011</b>	<b>January</b>	4 529	3 711	12 954	1 941	7 381	250	17 695	2 799	3 694	3 613	10 883	6 518	75 966
	<b>February</b>	5 032	3 984	13 461	2 316	8 498	420	18 388	3 344	4 491	4 086	12 846	6 971	83 836
	<b>March</b>	5 762	4 379	14 347	2 909	9 441	844	20 985	3 834	5 031	3 870	15 459	7 796	94 658
	<b>April</b>	5 615	3 763	13 084	2 578	8 884	526	20 145	3 051	4 217	2 878	12 670	7 239	84 651
	<b>May</b>	6 368	4 860	14 141	2 474	9 723	866	19 599	3 712	4 637	3 622	13 567	7 777	91 346
	<b>June</b>	5 344	4 919	13 833	2 164	10 456	1 025	21 819	3 703	4 968	3 873	15 536	7 596	95 235
	<b>July</b>	6 088	5 378	13 859	2 481	9 804	665	22 387	3 083	4 689	3 437	12 853	7 408	92 133
	<b>August</b>	5 999	5 561	15 835	2 899	10 304	729	22 117	3 814	5 108	3 959	15 589	7 864	99 778
	<b>September</b>	6 333	5 877	15 061	3 101	10 956	597	22 586	3 766	5 600	4 886	17 644	7 480	103 886
	<b>October</b>	6 220	5 673	14 939	3 361	11 506	600	22 199	3 853	5 442	5 059	16 462	8 198	103 512

1/ Figures are preliminary.

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

**Description of type of dealer included in a specific group type as indicated in Table 1 <sup>1/</sup>**

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

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

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

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 <sup>1/</sup>	2011 <sup>1/</sup>
January	38 754	43 364	48 134	59 473	71 107	74 908	68 579	75 966
February	43 769	45 391	52 787	63 791	77 980	76 282	76 538	83 836
March	47 382	48 472	57 132	68 300	81 364	80 764	84 241	94 658
April	42 315	49 848	51 753	62 658	85 056	73 272	77 592	84 651
May	51 079	51 844	60 066	70 952	88 387	74 302	82 276	91 346
June	52 598	53 756	60 785	71 058	89 782	76 383	83 938	95 235
July	50 388	53 604	62 772	72 625	93 161	77 126	83 907	92 133
August	51 394	55 219	65 187	75 081	90 390	75 847	85 721	99 778
September	51 978	57 356	65 211	74 209	91 455	77 114	87 088	103 886
October	56 271	59 279	69 468	81 932	95 706	81 995	86 919	103 512
November	59 962	63 525	73 992	85 679	99 374	84 262	97 130	
December	51 736	54 966	64 317	72 340	86 541	81 536	90 541	
<b>Total</b>	<b>597 626</b>	<b>636 624</b>	<b>731 604</b>	<b>858 098</b>	<b>1 050 303</b>	<b>933 791</b>	<b>1 004 470</b>	

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	-8,4	10,8
February	3,4	3,7	16,3	20,8	22,2	-2,2	0,3	9,5
March	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,5	19,1	-0,7	4,3	12,4
April	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	35,7	-13,9	5,9	9,1
May	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	24,6	-15,9	10,7	11,0
June	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	26,4	-14,9	9,9	13,5
July	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	28,3	-17,2	8,8	9,8
August	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	20,4	-16,1	13,0	16,4
September	17,9	10,3	13,7	13,8	23,2	-15,7	12,9	19,3
October	21,2	5,3	17,2	17,9	16,8	-14,3	6,0	19,1
November	26,6	5,9	16,5	15,8	16,0	-15,2	15,3	
December	27,7	6,2	17,0	12,5	19,6	-5,8	11,0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,7</b>	<b>6,5</b>	<b>14,9</b>	<b>17,3</b>	<b>22,4</b>	<b>-11,1</b>	<b>7,6</b>	

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

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
January	44 191	49 871	55 446	68 306	81 346	85 532	78 369	86 897
February	45 687	47 853	56 057	68 045	83 158	81 157	81 335	89 050
March	47 305	48 482	57 232	68 211	80 678	79 396	82 284	92 160
April	45 249	53 534	55 705	67 387	91 394	78 565	83 083	90 491
May	50 770	51 482	59 825	70 880	88 823	74 977	83 423	92 907
June	51 786	52 968	60 003	70 409	89 237	75 984	83 489	94 740
July	50 447	53 293	61 979	71 465	91 514	75 768	82 538	90 743
August	50 973	54 388	63 934	73 598	88 725	74 649	84 566	98 574
September	50 846	56 123	63 819	72 701	89 521	75 305	84 714	100 871
October	52 045	54 829	64 366	76 071	89 235	76 770	81 755	97 625
November	53 506	56 327	65 627	76 166	88 723	75 412	86 971	
December	52 398	55 806	65 240	73 248	87 382	82 114	90 957	

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

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 <sup>1/</sup>	2011 <sup>1/</sup>
January	30 723	33 454	35 309	39 340	42 555	41 438	37 293	39 639
February	34 464	34 890	38 700	41 940	46 002	42 389	41 499	43 054
March	37 314	37 056	41 637	44 208	46 930	44 831	45 483	48 117
April	33 032	37 816	37 386	39 925	48 168	40 733	41 430	42 984
May	39 761	39 145	42 811	44 610	47 560	41 792	43 920	46 255
June	40 855	40 532	42 703	44 247	47 921	43 337	44 542	48 073
July	39 243	40 030	43 420	44 949	49 155	43 501	44 726	46 034
August	39 872	41 105	44 107	46 280	47 459	42 710	45 551	49 331
September	40 005	42 393	43 880	45 636	48 769	43 610	46 469	50 832
October	43 009	43 710	46 273	49 823	51 156	46 049	46 368	50 487
November	45 843	46 600	48 878	51 907	53 878	46 892	51 450	
December	39 721	40 293	42 604	43 694	47 530	45 008	47 814	
<b>Total</b>	<b>463 842</b>	<b>477 024</b>	<b>507 708</b>	<b>536 559</b>	<b>577 083</b>	<b>522 290</b>	<b>536 545</b>	

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	6,3
February	2,9	1,2	10,9	8,4	9,7	-7,9	-2,1	3,7
March	8,4	-0,7	12,4	6,2	6,2	-4,5	1,5	5,8
April	3,3	14,5	-1,1	6,8	20,6	-15,4	1,7	3,8
May	16,7	-1,5	9,4	4,2	6,6	-12,1	5,1	5,3
June	15,9	-0,8	5,4	3,6	8,3	-9,6	2,8	7,9
July	9,9	2,0	8,5	3,5	9,4	-11,5	2,8	2,9
August	15,9	3,1	7,3	4,9	2,5	-10,0	6,7	8,3
September	14,0	6,0	3,5	4,0	6,9	-10,6	6,6	9,4
October	16,6	1,6	5,9	7,7	2,7	-10,0	0,7	8,9
November	21,2	1,7	4,9	6,2	3,8	-13,0	9,7	
December	23,3	1,4	5,7	2,6	8,8	-5,3	6,2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,9</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>6,4</b>	<b>5,7</b>	<b>7,6</b>	<b>-9,5</b>	<b>2,7</b>	

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	34 836	38 154	40 229	44 653	48 131	46 846	42 253	45 012
February	35 812	36 467	40 601	44 145	48 475	44 680	43 830	45 538
March	37 105	36 823	41 395	43 830	46 303	43 960	44 421	46 895
April	35 640	41 062	40 732	43 466	52 329	44 082	44 718	46 309
May	39 493	38 863	42 704	44 725	48 038	42 435	44 817	47 324
June	40 146	39 932	42 233	44 006	47 848	43 325	44 489	47 987
July	39 283	39 879	43 074	44 507	48 630	43 034	44 288	45 615
August	39 630	40 667	43 532	45 700	46 906	42 274	45 129	48 920
September	39 264	41 646	43 081	44 771	47 720	42 506	45 095	49 232
October	39 924	40 614	43 040	46 388	47 771	43 160	43 636	47 639
November	40 970	41 363	43 329	46 030	47 874	41 689	45 729	
December	40 213	40 790	42 994	43 937	47 636	44 983	47 678	



**Table 8 – Three-monthly and annual cumulative estimates and percentage changes**

Actual wholesale trade sales estimates	August to October 2010 (R million)	August to October 2011 (R million)	% change between August to October 2010 and August to October 2011	January to October 2010 (R million)	January to October 2011 (R million)	% change between January to October 2010 and January to October 2011
<b>At current prices</b>	259 728	307 176	18,3	816 799	925 001	13,2
<b>At constant 2000 prices</b>	138 388	150 650	8,9	437 281	464 806	6,3

**Table 9 – Seasonally adjusted monthly and three-monthly estimates and percentage changes**

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	September 2011 (R million)	October 2011 (R million)	% change between September and October 2011	May to July 2011 (R million)	August to October 2011 (R million)	% change between May to July 2011 and August to October 2011
<b>At current prices</b>	100 871	97 625	-3,2	278 390	297 070	6,7
<b>At constant 2000 prices</b>	49 232	47 639	-3,2	140 926	145 791	3,5

**Explanatory notes**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>	<p>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 2011 business sampling frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value added tax (VAT).</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Purpose of the survey</b>	<b>3</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Scope of the survey</b>	<b>4</b>	<p>This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in food, beverages and tobacco;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in textiles, clothing and footwear;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in other household goods except precious stones;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in precious stones, jewellery and silverware;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in metals and metal ores;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap;</li> <li>• Wholesale trade in other goods; and</li> <li>• General wholesale trade and other wholesale trade not classified elsewhere.</li> </ul>
<b>Classification</b>	<b>5</b>	<p>The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (SIC)</i>, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02, was used to classify the statistical units in the survey. The SIC is based on the 1990 <i>International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC)</i> 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.</p>
<b>Response rate</b>	<b>6</b>	<p>The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for October 2011 was 85,8%. The improved response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for September 2011 was 94,4%.</p>
<b>Statistical unit</b>	<b>7</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Survey methodology and design</b>	<b>8</b>	<p>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.</p>

- 9 The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 1 000 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2011 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** 10 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** 12 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month, using the X-11 Seasonal 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** 14 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.
- 15 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** 16 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** 18 Where figures have been rounded off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

**Symbols and abbreviations**

<b>19</b>	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

**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.

$$n_h = \frac{N_h S_h}{\sum N_h S_h}$$

$N_h$  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 all strata. 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.

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