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## **STATISTICAL RELEASE**

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# **Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)**

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**Sales at constant 2015 prices: results for October 2021**

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

	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	30,9	10,9	-1,8	4,9	0,3	0,2
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	7,0	-4,8	-2,8	2,9	-0,9	0,1
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	2,6	2,1	1,8	-2,0	-2,3	-1,3

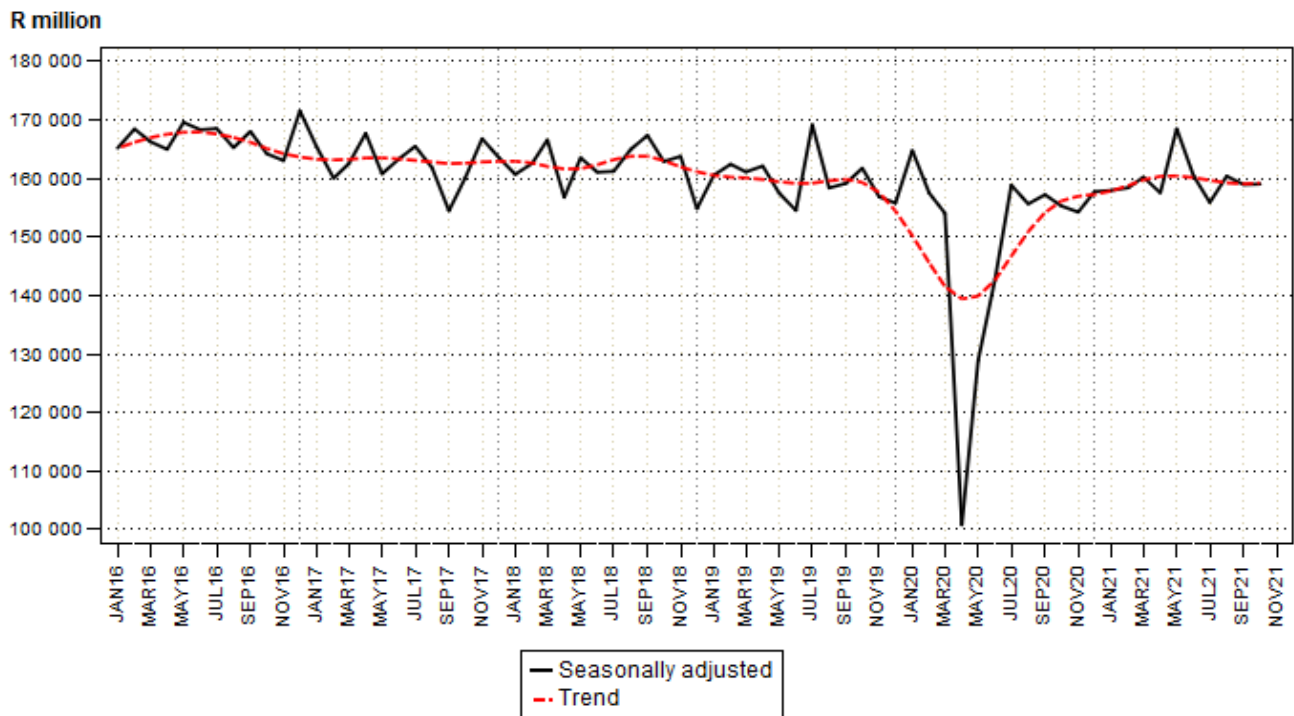
1/ Percentage change between the previous 3 months and the 3 months ending in the month indicated.

Measured in real terms (constant 2015 prices), wholesale trade sales increased by 0,2% in October 2021 compared with October 2020.

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales increased by 0,1% in October 2021 compared with September 2021. This followed month-on-month changes of -0,9% in September 2021 and 2,9% in August 2021.

In the three months ended October 2021, seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales decreased by 1,3% compared with the previous three months.

**Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2015 prices**



## Sales at current prices: results for October 2021

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

	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	44,9	22,9	7,3	14,3	10,8	11,5
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	6,5	-2,6	-4,3	5,2	-0,3	2,2
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	7,3	6,7	4,5	0,3	-0,7	1,8

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 11,5% in October 2021 compared with October 2020. The main contributor was dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (56,6% and contributing 10,0 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	Aug – Oct 2020 (R million)	Weight	Aug – Oct 2021 (R million)	% change between Aug – Oct 2020 and Aug – Oct 2021	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
Fee or contract basis	29 071	4,7	26 526	-8,8	-0,4
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	43 575	7,1	45 673	4,8	0,3
Food, beverages and tobacco	101 458	16,4	102 252	0,8	0,1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	11 195	1,8	12 786	14,2	0,3
Other household goods except precious stones	77 281	12,5	89 359	15,6	2,0
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	11 825	1,9	16 054	35,8	0,7
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	115 909	18,8	157 593	36,0	6,8
Metals and metal ores	20 272	3,3	23 013	13,5	0,4
Construction and building materials	37 464	6,1	36 880	-1,6	-0,1
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	38 328	6,2	47 023	22,7	1,4
Machinery, equipment and supplies	85 076	13,8	88 021	3,5	0,5
Other goods	46 305	7,5	47 779	3,2	0,2
<b>Total</b>	<b>617 756</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>692 962</b>	<b>12,2</b>	<b>12,2</b>

Wholesale trade sales increased by 12,2% in the three months ended October 2021 compared with the three months ended October 2020. The main contributors were dealers in:

- solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (36,0% and contributing 6,8 percentage points);
- 'other' household goods except precious stones (15,6% and contributing 2,0 percentage points); and
- 'other' intermediate products, waste and scrap (22,7% and contributing 1,4 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	147 927	144 140	145 601	142 230	140 914	144 499	133 661
Feb	161 507	170 896	151 827	153 013	151 937	154 044	147 427
Mar	171 632	169 462	168 899	168 708	162 626	157 261	165 069
Apr	146 945	153 978	148 940	144 318	151 941	88 308	147 848
May	158 188	167 172	161 197	164 286	159 072	127 369	166 670
Jun	162 776	168 575	167 117	164 175	153 672	149 009	165 196
Jul	164 135	163 760	160 207	159 494	170 080	159 734	156 845
Aug	160 603	168 708	165 442	168 871	162 089	155 293	162 825
Sep	170 819	177 063	161 598	169 357	163 055	163 949	164 520
Oct	175 438	174 144	173 770	179 358	178 055	171 184	171 533
Nov	179 126	182 411	184 111	182 825	173 430	167 668	
Dec	164 824	170 680	158 840	148 612	152 274	155 635	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 963 920</b>	<b>2 010 989</b>	<b>1 947 549</b>	<b>1 945 247</b>	<b>1 919 145</b>	<b>1 793 953</b>	

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	-2,6	1,0	-2,3	-0,9	2,5	-7,5	-7,5
Feb	5,8	-11,2	0,8	-0,7	1,4	-4,3	-5,8
Mar	-1,3	-0,3	-0,1	-3,6	-3,3	5,0	-2,1
Apr	4,8	-3,3	-3,1	5,3	-41,9	67,4	9,2
May	5,7	-3,6	1,9	-3,2	-19,9	30,9	13,3
Jun	3,6	-0,9	-1,8	-6,4	-3,0	10,9	12,8
Jul	-0,2	-2,2	-0,4	6,6	-6,1	-1,8	10,5
Aug	5,0	-1,9	2,1	-4,0	-4,2	4,9	9,7
Sep	3,7	-8,7	4,8	-3,7	0,5	0,3	8,5
Oct	-0,7	-0,2	3,2	-0,7	-3,9	0,2	7,5
Nov	1,8	0,9	-0,7	-5,1	-3,3		
Dec	3,6	-6,9	-6,4	2,5	2,2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,4</b>	<b>-3,2</b>	<b>-0,1</b>	<b>-1,3</b>	<b>-6,5</b>		

**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	160 711	160 558	164 787	157 972	-1,8	3,7	5,8	0,1
Feb	162 579	162 446	157 513	158 414	1,2	1,2	-4,4	0,3
Mar	166 615	161 123	154 063	160 237	2,5	-0,8	-2,2	1,2
Apr	156 786	162 137	100 779	157 543	-5,9	0,6	-34,6	-1,7
May	163 536	157 513	128 907	168 522	4,3	-2,9	27,9	7,0
Jun	161 076	154 546	142 735	160 472	-1,5	-1,9	10,7	-4,8
Jul	161 225	169 197	158 872	155 902	0,1	9,5	11,3	-2,8
Aug	164 955	158 384	155 660	160 403	2,3	-6,4	-2,0	2,9
Sep	167 367	159 173	157 231	158 955	1,5	0,5	1,0	-0,9
Oct	162 908	161 761	155 307	159 042	-2,7	1,6	-1,2	0,1
Nov	163 786	156 870	154 259		0,5	-3,0	-0,7	
Dec	154 834	155 798	157 743		-5,5	-0,7	2,3	

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

Month	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 1/
Jan	140 349	148 633	158 283	164 310	169 452	182 464	171 406
Feb	153 575	177 422	166 867	175 820	182 601	193 791	191 148
Mar	168 222	175 593	185 868	191 971	198 273	196 253	217 075
Apr	146 607	162 374	163 870	166 628	188 786	107 706	196 999
May	159 092	176 555	178 751	192 368	198 978	153 312	222 201
Jun	165 230	180 408	184 561	194 920	192 995	180 854	222 267
Jul	167 094	176 843	177 022	191 441	212 230	198 330	212 763
Aug	161 978	180 052	183 592	203 432	202 651	195 134	223 115
Sep	171 991	187 925	181 881	205 443	203 660	206 153	228 477
Oct	178 773	186 418	197 562	222 515	223 563	216 469	241 370
Nov	182 664	197 724	211 249	226 575	217 297	212 103	
Dec	168 344	185 268	184 350	181 630	191 619	197 089	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 963 919</b>	<b>2 135 215</b>	<b>2 173 856</b>	<b>2 317 053</b>	<b>2 382 105</b>	<b>2 239 658</b>	

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	-6,1	-6,1
Feb	15,5	-5,9	5,4	3,9	6,1	-1,4	-3,6
Mar	4,4	5,9	3,3	3,3	-1,0	10,6	1,2
Apr	10,8	0,9	1,7	13,3	-42,9	82,9	14,2
May	11,0	1,2	7,6	3,4	-23,0	44,9	19,8
Jun	9,2	2,3	5,6	-1,0	-6,3	22,9	20,4
Jul	5,8	0,1	8,1	10,9	-6,5	7,3	18,2
Aug	11,2	2,0	10,8	-0,4	-3,7	14,3	17,7
Sep	9,3	-3,2	13,0	-0,9	1,2	10,8	16,8
Oct	4,3	6,0	12,6	0,5	-3,2	11,5	16,2
Nov	8,2	6,8	7,3	-4,1	-2,4		
Dec	10,1	-0,5	-1,5	5,5	2,9		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,7</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>6,6</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>-6,0</b>		

**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	186 469	193 096	207 515	199 390	-0,7	3,3	6,9	-0,4
Feb	186 496	194 122	203 058	202 745	0,0	0,5	-2,1	1,7
Mar	191 847	195 739	191 628	210 952	2,9	0,8	-5,6	4,0
Apr	178 524	204 045	118 605	210 933	-6,9	4,2	-38,1	0,0
May	191 479	197 292	156 484	224 648	7,3	-3,3	31,9	6,5
Jun	193 368	194 924	176 338	218 836	1,0	-1,2	12,7	-2,6
Jul	190 389	208 618	194 579	209 486	-1,5	7,0	10,3	-4,3
Aug	199 139	199 067	195 355	220 443	4,6	-4,6	0,4	5,2
Sep	202 852	197 703	198 008	219 792	1,9	-0,7	1,4	-0,3
Oct	203 403	204 247	197 708	224 718	0,3	3,3	-0,2	2,2
Nov	204 033	199 057	195 061		0,3	-2,5	-1,3	
Dec	186 943	194 034	200 287		-8,4	-2,5	2,7	

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

Type of dealer	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21 1/
Fee or contract basis	7 703	8 451	8 492	8 398	9 657	8 471
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	21 862	17 465	18 423	14 124	16 200	15 349
Food, beverages and tobacco	31 566	33 192	28 890	33 144	34 949	34 159
Textiles, clothing and footwear	3 252	2 728	2 551	3 813	4 255	4 718
Other household goods except precious stones	26 664	28 626	26 872	29 036	29 222	31 101
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	3 675	4 252	4 233	4 902	5 386	5 766
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	49 269	49 318	46 108	48 412	49 295	59 886
Metals and metal ores	7 853	8 671	7 458	8 141	7 189	7 683
Construction and building materials	14 077	11 617	11 476	11 204	13 592	12 084
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	9 703	11 802	12 553	13 590	14 738	18 695
Machinery, equipment and supplies	28 536	29 480	31 329	32 529	27 917	27 575
Other goods	18 041	16 667	14 379	15 819	16 076	15 884
<b>Total</b>	<b>222 201</b>	<b>222 267</b>	<b>212 763</b>	<b>223 115</b>	<b>228 477</b>	<b>241 370</b>

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	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Fee or contract basis	23,9	24,1	14,1	3,8	2,1	-26,4
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	64,7	13,6	13,3	6,3	2,6	5,8
Food, beverages and tobacco	13,8	10,1	-3,4	-1,0	2,8	0,5
Textiles, clothing and footwear	73,5	-0,5	5,7	16,1	20,9	7,4
Other household goods except precious stones	24,8	18,7	4,0	14,6	18,3	14,2
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	139,4	33,2	62,3	64,6	25,0	27,1
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	94,8	62,2	13,2	27,0	24,7	56,6
Metals and metal ores	85,1	67,4	14,7	29,2	5,7	7,1
Construction and building materials	120,8	22,6	-13,2	2,9	-3,2	-3,7
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	18,5	39,6	31,7	27,0	14,9	26,3
Machinery, equipment and supplies	19,7	1,7	6,1	16,2	8,4	-11,9
Other goods	34,9	4,3	0,1	7,8	4,3	-2,0
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,9</b>	<b>22,9</b>	<b>7,3</b>	<b>14,3</b>	<b>10,8</b>	<b>11,5</b>

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

Type of dealer	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Fee or contract basis	1,0	0,9	0,5	0,2	0,1	-1,4
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	5,6	1,2	1,1	0,4	0,2	0,4
Food, beverages and tobacco	2,5	1,7	-0,5	-0,2	0,5	0,1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	0,9	0,0	0,1	0,3	0,4	0,1
Other household goods except precious stones	3,4	2,5	0,5	1,9	2,2	1,8
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	1,4	0,6	0,8	1,0	0,5	0,6
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	15,6	10,4	2,7	5,3	4,7	10,0
Metals and metal ores	2,4	2,0	0,5	0,9	0,2	0,2
Construction and building materials	5,1	1,2	-0,9	0,2	-0,2	-0,2
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	1,0	1,9	1,5	1,5	0,9	1,8
Machinery, equipment and supplies	3,1	0,3	0,9	2,3	1,1	-1,7
Other goods	3,0	0,4	0,0	0,6	0,3	-0,2
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,9</b>	<b>22,9</b>	<b>7,3</b>	<b>14,3</b>	<b>10,8</b>	<b>11,5</b>

## Survey information

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey covering enterprises in the wholesale trade industry (see point 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2021 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 October 2021 was 60,2%. The improved collection rate for September 2021 was 69,9%.



<b>Statistical unit</b>	<b>7</b>	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.
<b>Revised figures</b>	<b>8</b>	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.
<b>Related publications</b>	<b>9</b>	Users may also refer to the following publication available from Stats SA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Stats in Brief</i> issued annually.</li></ul>
<b>Rounding-off of figures</b>	<b>10</b>	Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.
<b>Historical data</b>	<b>11</b>	Historical wholesale trade sales data are available on the Stats SA website. To access the data electronically, use the following link: <a href="#">Click to download historical data</a>
<b>Past publications</b>	<b>12</b>	Past wholesale trade sales releases are available on the Stats SA website. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: <a href="#">Click to download past releases</a>

## Technical notes

### Survey methodology and design

- 1 The survey is conducted monthly. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of 1 469 enterprises from a population of 19 883 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 2021 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:

$$n_h = n * ( N_h * S_h ) / [ \sum ( N_i * S_i ) ].$$

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	2 675 608	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.

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