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# Wholesale trade sales

September 1998

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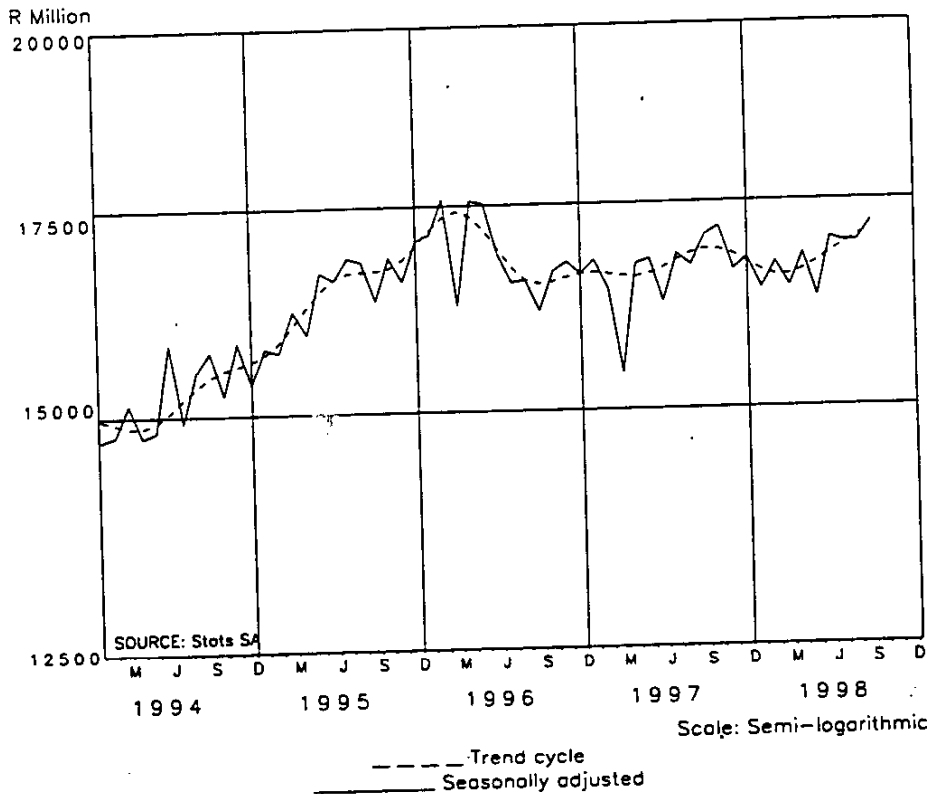


### REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES MAINTAIN UPWARD TREND

*The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the third quarter of 1998 reflect an increase of 2,0% compared with the previous three months. Since early 1998 real wholesale trade sales have been showing a slight upward trend (see figure 1).*

Furthermore, the real wholesale trade sales (at constant June 1995 prices), excluding diamonds, for the third quarter of 1998 are 0,8% higher than for the corresponding period of 1997. The seasonally adjusted real wholesale trade sales, excluding diamonds, for September 1998 compared with August 1998 reflected an increase of 1,4%. Four of the nine wholesaler categories reflected increases. Wholesalers in miscellaneous goods, which have the largest market share (26,4% of real sales in September 1998), reflected a slight decrease of 0,6%.

Figure 1 – REAL WHOLESALE TRADE SALES (EXCLUDING DIAMONDS)  
(AT CONSTANT JUNE 1995 PRICES)



## SUMMARY FOR THREE MONTHS - WHOLESALE TRADE SALES

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
<b>Actual values</b>				
Jul. 1998 - Sep. 1998	63 896,2	51 719,1	+4,4	+0,8
Jul. 1997 - Sep. 1997	61 217,7	51 284,5		
<b>Seasonally adjusted values</b>				
Jul. 1998 - Sep. 1998	63 104,8	51 125,4	+4,5	+2,0
Apr. 1998 - Jun. 1998	60 361,4	50 106,9		

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statistical release shows final estimates of the wholesale trade sales in the Republic of South Africa. 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 reported on in this publication. 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.

Stats SA is currently redesigning this survey, including the questionnaire. Any inputs regarding the new questionnaire will be appreciated.

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## 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				
	Sep. 1998	Aug. 1998	Sep. 1997	Jan. 1998	Sep. 1997	Sep. 1998	Aug. 1998	Jul. 1998	Jun. 1998	Sep. 1997
Total	22 371,7	21 506,9	21 697,3	184 584,9	179 725,1	21 370,9	21 065,1	20 668,8	20 519,4	20 420,2
Including diamonds	21 963,7	21 208,7	21 046,8	180 440,0	174 485,8					
Excluding diamonds	4 514,0	4 041,9	3 489,8	34 508,7	31 299,5	4 351,1	4 140,6	3 920,6	3 887,2	3 365,1
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 165,3	1 258,7	1 223,9	10 496,4	9 322,8	1 131,9	1 287,3	1 240,0	1 315,9	1 184,8
Livestock and farm produce	503,3	476,4	517,6	4 235,6	3 997,1	490,6	498,5	544,0	494,4	498,2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	452,3	358,3	463,2	3 349,3	3 793,2	454,9	355,2	457,1	389,7	462,6
Furniture and household requisites	1 522,1	1 384,1	1 109,9	12 755,5	9 245,2	1 479,8	1 476,4	1 565,9	1 515,7	1 069,4
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	408,1	298,2	650,5	4 144,8	5 239,3	-	-	-	-	-
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	2 027,5	1 827,3	1 761,7	15 612,6	14 864,6	1 909,4	1 817,0	1 724,6	1 903,6	1 661,0
Pharmaceutical and chemical products.	1 917,3	1 836,5	2 109,8	16 968,9	17 204,9	1 828,4	1 733,5	1 933,6	1 916,1	2 001,5
Construction and building materials	3 888,0	3 953,2	4 155,8	31 729,6	31 667,4	3 534,4	3 791,6	3 579,3	3 466,3	3 768,2
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	5 973,9	6 072,4	6 215,1	50 783,5	53 091,1	5 882,7	5 935,1	5 701,3	5 688,2	6 130,3
Miscellaneous										

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					
	Sep. 1998	Aug. 1998	Sep. 1997	Jan. 1998	Sep. 1997	Sep. 1998	Aug. 1998	Jul. 1998	Jun. 1998	Sep. 1997
Total	17 969,5	17 279,9	18 120,6	152 128,7	151 369,4	17 204,9	16 963,2	16 957,3	17 011,7	17 064,9
Including diamonds	17 650,7	17 047,0	17 562,2	148 720,7	146 866,3					
Excluding diamonds	3 459,5	3 093,2	2 758,7	26 725,3	25 336,6	3 322,8	3 168,9	3 022,3	2 995,7	2 650,6
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco	1 003,3	1 084,4	1 041,6	9 051,9	8 194,9	982,3	1 102,1	1 057,1	1 114,7	1 015,8
Livestock and farm produce	420,7	400,1	448,7	3 584,5	3 549,3	412,6	416,6	457,2	416,3	434,7
Textiles, clothing and footwear	358,2	283,8	406,7	2 802,8	3 389,8	358,5	284,5	385,3	327,7	404,4
Furniture and household requisites	1 181,9	1 073,9	954,2	10 487,2	8 031,2	1 147,3	1 151,9	1 276,6	1 249,3	916,9
Office and shop equipment, books and stationery	318,7	232,9	558,4	3 408,0	4 503,1	-	-	-	-	-
Diamonds, jewellery and silverware	1 686,1	1 536,4	1 532,2	13 228,3	13 055,6	1 586,7	1 525,6	1 462,3	1 607,3	1 443,8
Pharmaceutical and chemical products	1 571,9	1 503,9	1 788,7	14 129,5	14 902,3	1 498,0	1 435,6	1 600,6	1 593,6	1 695,6
Construction and building materials	3 300,8	3 356,7	3 684,2	27 476,0	28 395,6	3 001,3	3 230,5	3 082,0	3 011,5	3 341,3
Machinery and equipment (mining, industrial and agricultural)	4 668,2	4 714,6	4 947,2	41 235,3	42 011,0	4 586,2	4 614,5	4 597,7	4 692,4	4 870,5
Miscellaneous										