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Wholesale trade sales (Preliminary)

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Summary of findings: Wholesale trade sales

Table A – Key figures as at the end of September 2009

Wholesale trade sales estimates	September 2009 (R million)	% change between September 2008 and September 2009	% change between July to September 2008 and July to September 2009	% change between January to September 2008 and January to September 2009
At current prices	83 342	-15,8	-16,4	-10,8
At constant 2000 prices	46 353	-12,6	-13,0	-11,0

Seasonally adjusted estimates	September 2009 (R million)	% change between August and September 2009	% change between April to June 2009 and July to September 2009
At current prices	81 426	1,6	-2,4
At constant 2000 prices	45 351	2,2	-3,3

Key findings as at the end of September 2009

Wholesale trade sales in real terms decrease

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the third quarter of 2009 decreased by 13,0% compared with the third quarter of 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 4,0%. Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for the third quarter of 2009 decreased by 3,3% compared with the second quarter of 2009.

Wholesale trade sales, at constant (2000) prices, for September 2009 decreased by 12,6% compared with September 2008.

Wholesale trade sales in nominal terms decrease

Wholesale trade sales, at current prices, for the third quarter of 2009 decreased by 16,4% compared with the third quarter of 2008. The major contributors to this decrease were dealers in solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (-30,7% and contributing -6,2 percentage points), dealers in machinery, equipment and supplies (-20,5% and contributing -3,9 percentage points) and dealers in metals and metal ores (-43,1% and contributing -1,9 percentage points) – see Table B on page 3.

Wholesale trade sales at current prices for September 2009 decreased by 15,8% compared with September 2008, while sales for the corresponding period in 2008 increased by 23,2% – see Table 3 on page 7.

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

Type of wholesale dealer	Sales July to September 2008 (R million)	Weight 1/	Sales July to September 2009 (R million)	Difference in sales between July to September 2008 and July to September 2009 (R million)	Percentage change between July to September 2008 and July to September 2009	Contribution (percentage points) to the percentage change in total sales 2/
Contract or fee basis	16 499	5,5	11 377	-5 122	-31,0	-1,7
Agricultural raw materials and livestock	12 948	4,4	10 800	-2 148	-16,6	-0,7
Food, beverages and tobacco	50 154	16,9	50 887	733	1,5	0,3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	6 204	2,1	7 961	1 757	28,3	0,6
Other household goods except precious stones	26 016	8,7	24 827	-1 189	-4,6	-0,4
Precious stones, jewellery and silverware	3 582	1,2	2 396	-1 186	-33,1	-0,4
Solid, liquid and gaseous fuels and related products	60 032	20,2	41 630	-18 402	-30,7	-6,2
Metals and metal ores	13 242	4,4	7 529	-5 713	-43,1	-1,9
Construction and building materials	16 572	5,6	13 804	-2 768	-16,7	-0,9
Other intermediate products, waste and scrap	12 770	4,3	9 389	-3 381	-26,5	-1,1
Machinery, equipment and supplies	56 612	19,0	44 995	-11 617	-20,5	-3,9
Other goods	22 973	7,7	23 291	318	1,4	0,1
Total 3/	297 608	100,0	248 887	-48 721	-16,4	-16,4

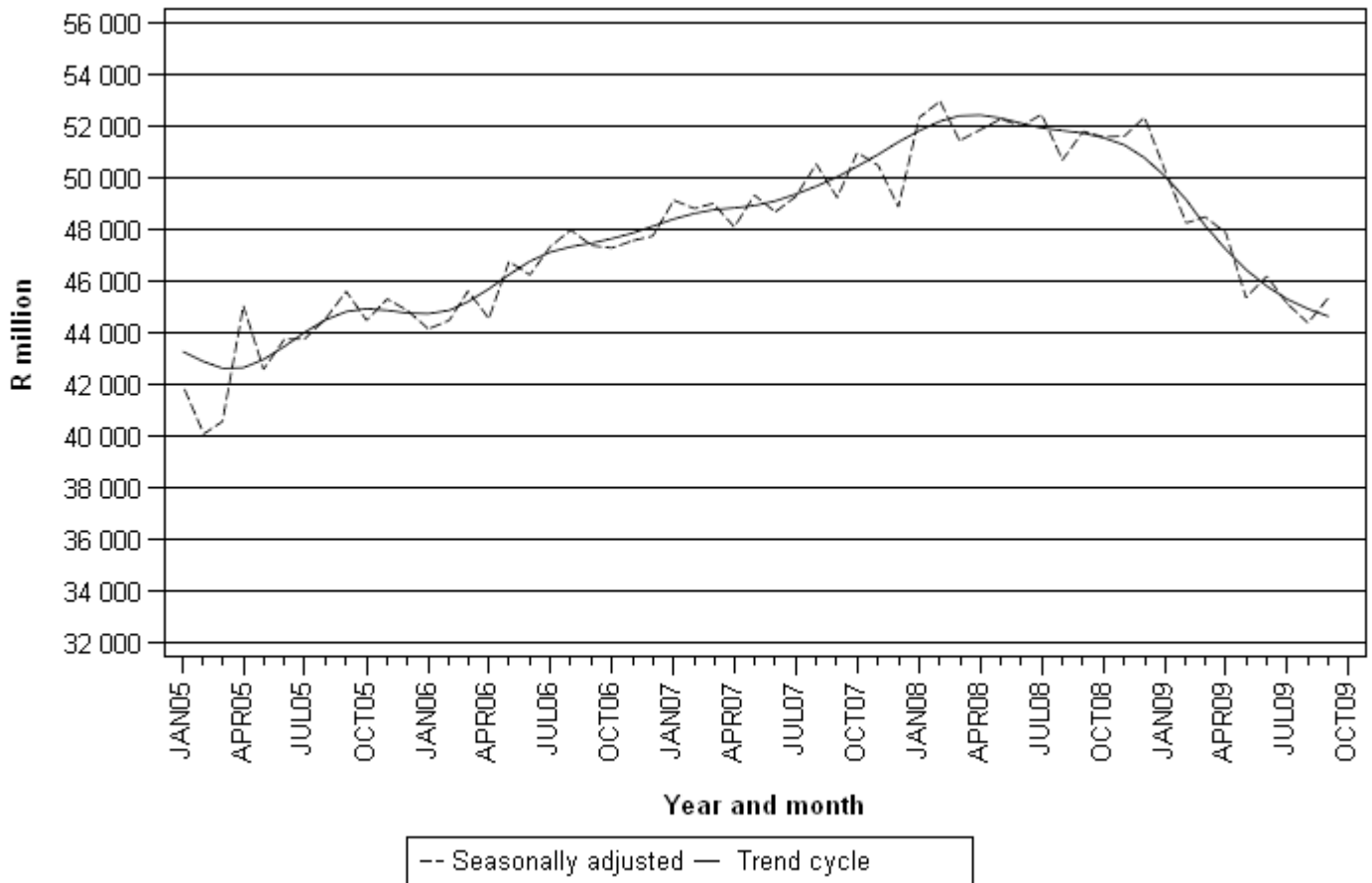
1/ Weight is the percentage contribution of each type of dealer to the total wholesale trade sales for the three months up to the current month of the previous year.

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 below shows the seasonally adjusted and trend patterns for wholesale trade sales at constant (2000) prices between January 2005 and September 2009.

Figure 1 – Wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices



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Detailed results

Outlined below in Table 1 are wholesale trade sales according to type of dealer (see description of type of dealer on page 6).

Table 1 – Wholesale trade sales according to the 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/	
2008	January	3 602	3 145	15 220	1 956	6 838	585	13 394	2 750	4 168	2 698	16 257	6 337	76 951
	February	4 398	3 618	14 728	2 818	7 679	1 730	14 576	3 544	5 570	3 230	16 023	6 476	84 389
	March	4 365	2 964	15 449	2 662	6 891	2 024	17 158	3 717	5 328	3 001	17 956	6 535	88 051
	April	4 663	3 427	14 786	3 364	9 587	2 231	17 111	4 212	5 379	3 329	16 213	7 745	92 047
	May	4 716	4 028	15 502	3 061	8 290	2 045	19 036	4 220	5 600	3 736	17 416	8 000	95 651
	June	4 202	4 161	16 510	2 124	8 222	2 357	19 563	4 610	5 144	3 507	18 801	7 960	97 161
	July	5 611	4 682	15 502	1 951	8 441	1 817	21 256	4 734	5 634	4 360	18 940	7 888	100 818
	August	5 662	4 335	17 577	1 973	8 413	662	20 359	4 438	5 421	4 494	17 056	7 429	97 819
	September	5 226	3 931	17 075	2 280	9 162	1 103	18 417	4 070	5 517	3 916	20 616	7 656	98 971
	October	4 375	3 917	16 662	2 572	10 384	1 964	19 303	4 317	6 547	4 195	20 750	8 584	103 572
	November	4 088	4 750	19 515	2 714	9 745	1 799	18 385	3 534	5 968	4 227	22 501	10 315	107 541
	December	4 028	4 098	20 885	2 100	8 306	579	19 340	2 142	3 522	2 632	16 257	9 765	93 653
Total	54 936	47 056	199 411	29 575	101 958	18 896	217 898	46 288	63 798	43 325	218 786	94 690	1 136 624	
2009	January	3 451	3 504	17 232	1 786	7 397	395	14 918	2 559	3 660	3 069	15 822	7 272	81 065
	February	3 931	3 516	17 181	2 595	7 801	838	12 054	2 560	4 616	2 799	16 712	7 950	82 551
	March	4 238	3 452	17 430	3 125	8 314	1 410	12 955	2 456	4 860	2 811	18 260	8 090	87 401
	April	3 690	3 057	16 484	2 883	7 679	1 326	11 733	2 161	4 156	2 442	15 583	8 099	79 294
	May	3 124	3 477	17 134	2 894	8 031	1 650	12 058	2 290	4 573	2 833	14 200	8 144	80 408
	June	3 156	3 530	16 727	2 526	8 138	889	12 733	2 471	4 620	2 799	17 074	7 998	82 660
	July	4 005	3 743	16 375	2 436	8 216	713	14 540	2 604	4 826	2 975	14 879	8 152	83 465
	August	3 625	3 499	16 852	2 635	8 116	865	14 091	2 420	4 399	3 043	15 113	7 422	82 080
	September	3 747	3 558	17 660	2 890	8 495	818	12 999	2 505	4 579	3 371	15 003	7 717	83 342

1/ 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 dealers included in indicated group types in Table 1 ^{1/}

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

1/ See note 4 on page 10.

Tables 2 and 3 show total wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at current prices over the period January 2002 – September 2009. Table 4 shows seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at current prices over the same period.

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

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 ^{1/}	2009 ^{1/}
January	36 863	40 062	41 939	46 928	52 090	64 361	76 951	81 065
February	38 841	45 830	47 367	49 121	57 126	69 033	84 389	82 551
March	41 311	47 146	51 276	52 456	61 827	73 914	88 051	87 401
April	41 155	43 702	45 793	53 945	56 006	67 807	92 047	79 294
May	41 927	46 195	55 277	56 105	65 003	76 783	95 651	80 408
June	41 190	47 725	56 921	58 174	65 780	76 898	97 161	82 660
July	40 545	48 634	54 529	58 010	67 931	78 594	100 818	83 465
August	41 789	46 680	55 617	59 757	70 545	81 251	97 819	82 080
September	43 846	47 690	56 250	62 070	70 571	80 308	98 971	83 342
October	49 203	50 224	60 896	64 151	75 177	88 666	103 572	
November	48 556	51 276	64 891	68 746	80 073	92 720	107 541	
December	44 067	43 828	55 988	59 483	69 604	78 286	93 653	
Total	509 293	558 992	646 744	688 946	791 733	928 621	1 136 624	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 3 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at current prices 1/

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	-	8,7	4,7	11,9	11,0	23,6	19,6	5,3
February	-	18,0	3,4	3,7	16,3	20,8	22,2	-2,2
March	-	14,1	8,8	2,3	17,9	19,5	19,1	-0,7
April	-	6,2	4,8	17,8	3,8	21,1	35,7	-13,9
May	-	10,2	19,7	1,5	15,9	18,1	24,6	-15,9
June	-	15,9	19,3	2,2	13,1	16,9	26,4	-14,9
July	-	20,0	12,1	6,4	17,1	15,7	28,3	-17,2
August	-	11,7	19,1	7,4	18,1	15,2	20,4	-16,1
September	-	8,8	17,9	10,3	13,7	13,8	23,2	-15,8
October	-	2,1	21,2	5,3	17,2	17,9	16,8	
November	-	5,6	26,6	5,9	16,5	15,8	16,0	
December	-	-0,5	27,7	6,2	17,0	12,5	19,6	
Total	-	9,8	15,7	6,5	14,9	17,3	22,4	

1/ The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade sales of the relevant year and those of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

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

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	41 051	45 074	47 700	53 831	59 889	73 787	87 894	92 299
February	39 854	47 383	49 358	51 704	60 635	73 785	90 509	88 598
March	41 056	46 899	51 177	52 486	62 074	74 298	88 503	87 813
April	43 701	46 824	49 513	58 783	61 297	74 298	100 779	86 761
May	41 713	45 859	54 897	55 633	64 532	76 216	95 115	79 962
June	40 779	47 030	55 994	57 230	64 851	76 083	96 475	82 203
July	41 280	49 185	54 637	57 640	66 984	77 002	98 364	81 331
August	41 871	46 630	55 108	58 752	69 021	79 292	95 436	80 174
September	43 133	46 798	54 983	60 641	68 879	78 305	96 479	81 426
October	45 572	46 369	56 175	59 180	69 449	82 025	95 808	
November	44 096	46 074	57 811	60 840	70 710	81 974	95 265	
December	44 147	44 162	56 710	60 409	70 676	79 551	95 270	

Tables 5 and 6 show total wholesale trade sales (actual values and annual percentage changes) at constant (2000) prices over the period January 2002 – September 2009. Table 7 shows seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at constant prices over the same period.

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

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 ^{1/}	2009 ^{1/}
January	31 737	31 935	33 645	36 864	38 844	43 517	46 665	45 036
February	32 777	36 460	37 788	38 451	42 536	46 550	50 472	46 015
March	34 555	37 507	40 939	40 838	45 815	49 161	51 613	48 664
April	33 858	34 781	36 214	41 656	41 090	44 376	52 870	44 249
May	34 240	37 164	43 663	43 108	47 172	49 633	52 354	45 377
June	33 501	37 892	44 228	44 038	46 389	48 654	51 819	45 948
July	32 632	38 370	42 419	43 437	47 093	49 121	52 373	45 067
August	33 311	36 974	43 231	44 545	48 022	50 514	50 552	44 177
September	34 979	38 228	44 031	46 547	48 386	50 350	53 011	46 353
October	38 988	40 276	47 445	48 089	51 089	55 055	55 744	
November	38 354	41 268	50 518	51 265	54 049	57 394	58 637	
December	34 946	35 232	43 792	44 324	47 189	48 280	51 656	
Total	413 878	446 087	507 913	523 162	557 674	592 605	627 766	

1/ Preliminary.

Table 6 – Percentage change in total wholesale trade sales at constant 2000 prices 1/

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	-	0,6	5,4	9,6	5,4	12,0	7,2	-3,5
February	-	11,2	3,6	1,8	10,6	9,4	8,4	-8,8
March	-	8,5	9,2	-0,2	12,2	7,3	5,0	-5,7
April	-	2,7	4,1	15,0	-1,4	8,0	19,1	-16,3
May	-	8,5	17,5	-1,3	9,4	5,2	5,5	-13,3
June	-	13,1	16,7	-0,4	5,3	4,9	6,5	-11,3
July	-	17,6	10,6	2,4	8,4	4,3	6,6	-13,9
August	-	11,0	16,9	3,0	7,8	5,2	0,1	-12,6
September	-	9,3	15,2	5,7	4,0	4,1	5,3	-12,6
October	-	3,3	17,8	1,4	6,2	7,8	1,3	
November	-	7,6	22,4	1,5	5,4	6,2	2,2	
December	-	0,8	24,3	1,2	6,5	2,3	7,0	
Total	-	7,8	13,9	3,0	6,6	6,3	5,9	

1/ The percentage change is the difference between wholesale trade of the relevant year and those of the previous year expressed as a percentage.

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

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	35 333	35 858	38 086	41 951	44 134	49 116	52 313	50 233
February	33 623	37 627	39 180	40 071	44 464	48 793	52 946	48 236
March	34 342	37 206	40 613	40 556	45 604	48 993	51 422	48 475
April	35 897	37 128	38 936	45 031	44 539	48 078	57 214	47 851
May	34 026	36 789	43 193	42 574	46 743	49 314	52 257	45 352
June	33 270	37 516	43 816	43 738	46 227	48 666	51 988	46 176
July	33 303	38 993	42 869	43 744	47 311	49 250	52 434	45 119
August	33 554	37 246	43 363	44 520	47 966	50 517	50 676	44 375
September	34 315	37 496	43 098	45 591	47 361	49 218	51 781	45 351
October	36 112	37 239	43 866	44 469	47 268	50 963	51 564	
November	34 796	37 071	44 981	45 295	47 551	50 460	51 597	
December	35 003	35 452	44 242	44 848	47 734	48 861	52 322	

Table 8 – Estimates and percentage changes in total wholesale trade sales

Outlined below in Tables 8.1 and 8.2 are the percentage changes in the actual and seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales at current prices and at constant (2000) prices.

Table 8.1 – Quarterly and cumulative estimates and percentage changes

Actual wholesale trade sales estimates	July to September 2008 (R million)	July to September 2009 (R million)	% change between July to September 2008 and July to September 2009	January to September 2008 (R million)	January to September 2009 (R million)	% change between January to September 2008 and January to September 2009
At current prices	297 608	248 887	-16,4	831 858	742 266	-10,8
At constant 2000 prices	155 936	135 597	-13,0	461 729	410 886	-11,0

Table 8.2 – Seasonally adjusted estimates with monthly and quarterly percentage changes

Seasonally adjusted wholesale trade sales estimates	August 2009 (R million)	September 2009 (R million)	% change between August and September 2009	April to June 2009 (R million)	July to September 2009 (R million)	% change between April to June 2009 and July to September 2009
At current prices	80 174	81 426	1,6	248 926	242 931	-2,4
At constant 2000 prices	44 375	45 351	2,2	139 379	134 845	-3,3

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	<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 2009 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>
Purpose of the survey	3	<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>
Scope of the survey	4	<p>This survey covers wholesale enterprises according to the following types of dealer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • 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 and building materials • Wholesale trade in construction materials, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies; • Wholesale trade in machinery, equipment and supplies; • Wholesale trade in other intermediate products, waste and scrap; and • Wholesale trade in other goods • General wholesale trade and other wholesale trade not elsewhere classified.
Classification	5	<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. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (four digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to the industry which reflects its predominant activity.</p>
Response rate	6	<p>The preliminary response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for September 2009 was 93,2%. The improved response rate for the survey on wholesale trade sales for August 2009 was 95,4%.</p>
Statistical unit	7	<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>
Survey methodology and design	8	<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 2009 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 The total sales at constant prices are calculated using a combination of the Production Price Indices (PPI) for consumption in South Africa and for total output of South African industry groups to deflate the sales at current prices. However, with the discontinuation of the PPI for consumption in South Africa in January 2008, total sales at constant prices are calculated using the total output of South African industry groups from the PPI to deflate the sales at current prices.
- 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 of figures** 18 Where figures have been rounded-off discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

- Pre-release policy** **19** Stats SA's pre-release policy may be inspected at its Website, www.statssa.gov.za.
- Symbols and abbreviations** **20** 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.

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

where 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	6 000 000
Small	3	6 000 001	32 000 000
Medium	2	32 000 001	64 000 000
Large	1	64 000 001	

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.

General information

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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