

your leading partner in quality statistics

Statistical release P6242.1

Retail trade sales (Preliminary)

April 2013

Embargoed until: 12 June 2013 13:00

Enquiries:

User Information Services (012) 310 8600

Forthcoming issue:Expected release date:May 201317 July 2013

Sales at constant 2012 prices: results for April 2013	2
Table A – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices	2
Table B – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices for the latest three months by type of retailer	2
Figure 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices	3
Figure 2 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices: year-on-year percentage change	3
Sales at current prices: results for April 2013	4
Table C – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at current prices	4
Table D – Retail trade sales at current prices for the latest three months by type of retailer	4
Tables	5
Table 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices (R million)	5
Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices	5
Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices	5
Table 4 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices by type of retailer (R million)	6
Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices by type of retailer	6
Table 6 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at	
constant 2012 prices (percentage points)	6
Table 7 – Retail trade sales at current prices (R million)	7
Table 8 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices	7
Table 9 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices	7
Table 10 – Retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer (R million)	8
Table 11 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer	8
Table 12 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at	
current prices (percentage points)	8
Survey information	9
Technical notes	11
Glossary	13
Technical enquiries	13
General information	14

	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	3,6	2,2	2,2	3,9	2,7	1,9
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	0,8	0,4	-1,1	2,3	-1,3	-0,6
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	0,3	-0,2	-0,3	0,6	0,5	0,6

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

Measured in real terms (constant 2012 prices), retail trade sales increased by 1,9% year-on-year in April 2013. The highest annual growth rates were recorded for:

- all 'other' retailers (12,3%);
- retailers in pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries (5,9%); and
- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (5,2%) see Table 5.

The main contributors to the 1,9% increase were all 'other' retailers (contributing 1,3 percentage points) and retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (contributing 1,2 percentage points) – see Table 6.

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales decreased by 0,6% in April 2013 compared with March 2013. This followed month-on-month changes of -1,3% in March 2013 and 2,3% in February 2013.

Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales increased by 0,6% in the three months ended April 2013 compared with the previous three months.

Table B – Ret	ail trade sales at consta	nt 2012 prices for the late	est three months by type of retailer
---------------	---------------------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------------------

Type of retailer	Feb – Apr 2012 (R million)	Weight	Feb – Apr 2013 (R million)	% change between Feb – Apr 2012 and Feb – Apr 2013	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	60 708	39,1	61 432	1,2	0,5
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	16 901	10,9	16 668	-1,4	-0,2
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	11 149	7,2	11 482	3,0	0,2
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	30 230	19,4	32 430	7,3	1,4
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	6 961	4,5	6 587	-5,4	-0,2
Hardware, paint and glass	11 705	7,5	12 137	3,7	0,3
All other retailers	17 797	11,4	19 102	7,3	0,8
Total	155 449	100,0	159 838	2,8	2,8

Retail trade sales increased by 2,8% in the three months ended April 2013 compared with the three months ended April 2012. The main contributors to this increase were:

- retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (7,3% and contributing 1,4 percentage points);
- all 'other' retailers (7,3% and contributing 0,8 of a percentage point); and
- general dealers (1,2% and contributing 0,5 of a percentage point) see Table B.

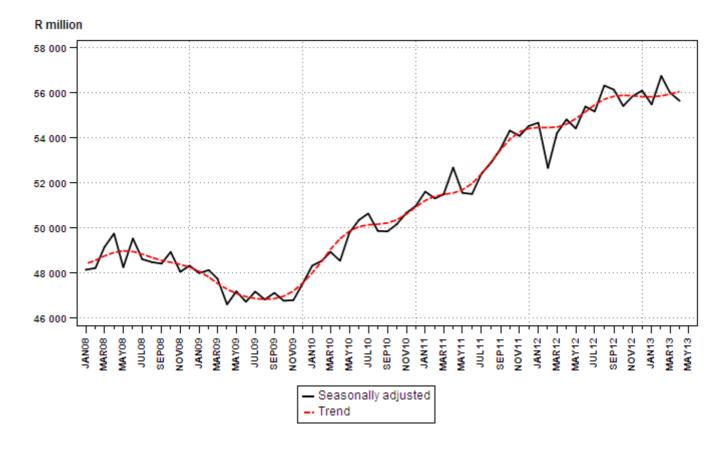


Figure 2 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices: year-on-year percentage change

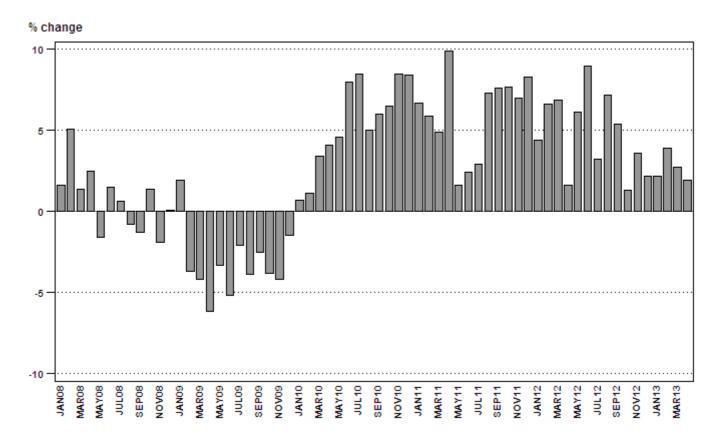


Table C – Key growth rates in retail trade sales at current prices	
--	--

	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
Year-on-year % change, unadjusted	8,2	6,8	6,8	8,5	7,0	6,3
Month-on-month % change, seasonally adjusted	1,4	0,7	-1,1	3,4	-1,7	-0,5
3-month % change, seasonally adjusted 1/	1,7	1,4	1,1	1,8	1,5	1,5

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

Table D - Retail trade sales at current prices for the latest three months by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Feb – Apr 2012 (R million)	Weight	Feb – Apr 2013 (R million)	% change between Feb – Apr 2012 and Feb – Apr 2013	Contribution (% points) to the total % change
General dealers	59 935	39,0	63 555	6,0	2,3
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	16 650	10,8	17 458	4,9	0,5
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	11 041	7,2	11 733	6,3	0,5
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	29 936	19,5	33 129	10,7	2,1
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	6 944	4,5	6 617	-4,7	-0,2
Hardware, paint and glass	11 481	7,5	12 612	9,9	0,7
All other retailers	17 615	11,5	19 623	11,4	1,3
Total	153 600	100,0	164 726	7,2	7,2

PJ Lehohla Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices (R million)

Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 1/
Jan	43 439	44 120	44 959	45 257	48 310	50 439	51 549
Feb	43 383	45 593	43 888	44 352	46 983	50 101	52 068
Mar	47 278	47 930	45 901	47 484	49 803	53 233	54 686
Apr	46 636	47 797	44 835	46 664	51 283	52 115	53 084
May	48 402	47 641	46 051	48 177	48 931	51 930	
Jun	46 684	47 364	44 893	48 493	49 641	54 113	
Jul	46 264	46 546	45 583	49 447	50 886	52 522	
Aug	46 940	46 587	44 793	47 030	50 441	54 086	
Sep	47 368	46 734	45 582	48 331	52 004	54 817	
Oct	48 136	48 832	46 980	50 028	53 896	54 611	
Nov	51 243	50 277	48 186	52 261	55 922	57 960	
Dec	64 924	65 015	64 057	69 457	75 249	76 877	
Total	580 697	584 436	565 708	596 981	633 349	662 804	

1/ Latest month is preliminary.

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices

Month	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013 year-to-date
Jan	1,6	1,9	0,7	6,7	4,4	2,2	2,2
Feb	5,1	-3,7	1,1	5,9	6,6	3,9	3, 1
Mar	1,4	-4,2	3,4	4,9	6,9	2,7	2,9
Apr	2,5	-6,2	4,1	9,9	1,6	1,9	2,7
May	-1,6	-3,3	4,6	1,6	6,1		
Jun	1,5	-5,2	8,0	2,4	9,0		
Jul	0,6	-2,1	8,5	2,9	3,2		
Aug	-0,8	-3,9	5,0	7,3	7,2		
Sep	-1,3	-2,5	6,0	7,6	5,4		
Oct	1,4	-3,8	6,5	7,7	1,3		
Nov	-1,9	-4,2	8,5	7,0	3,6		
Dec	0,1	-1,5	8,4	8,3	2,2		
Total	0,6	-3,2	5,5	6,1	4,7		

Table 3 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices

Month		R mi	llion		Month-on-month % change					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013		
Jan	48 312	51 607	54 670	55 486	1,7	1,3	0,3	-1,1		
Feb	48 528	51 305	52 658	56 752	0,4	-0,6	-3,7	2,3		
Mar	48 923	51 480	54 207	56 011	0,8	0,3	2,9	-1,3		
Apr	48 530	52 677	54 819	55 647	-0,8	2,3	1,1	-0,6		
Мау	49 775	51 550	54 415		2,6	-2,1	-0,7			
Jun	50 347	51 501	55 393		1,1	-0,1	1,8			
Jul	50 634	52 395	55 170		0,6	1,7	-0,4			
Aug	49 856	52 883	56 327		-1,5	0,9	2,1			
Sep	49 837	53 512	56 140		0,0	1,2	-0,3			
Oct	50 155	54 325	55 415		0,6	1,5	-1,3			
Nov	50 662	54 084	55 858		1,0	-0,4	0,8			
Dec	50 962	54 526	56 100		0,6	0,8	0,4			

Table 4 – Retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13 1/
General dealers	20 477	29 022	20 043	20 237	22 107	19 088
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	6 281	8 790	5 231	5 328	5 928	5 412
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	3 761	4 156	3 839	3 619	3 816	4 047
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	12 726	18 564	10 324	10 080	10 071	12 279
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	3 246	4 163	2 414	2 106	2 277	2 204
Hardware, paint and glass	4 874	4 249	3 510	4 172	4 071	3 894
All other retailers	6 594	7 932	6 188	6 526	6 416	6 160
Total	57 960	76 877	51 549	52 068	54 686	53 084

1/ Preliminary.

Table 5 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
General dealers	-0,8	2,7	3,5	1,8	3,6	-2,1
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	6,4	2,5	-4,4	-2,0	1,6	-3,9
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,3	-1,0	0,1	3,7	-0,6	5,9
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	8,1	2,0	5,1	13,6	3,9	5,2
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	7,8	1,8	0,8	-6,6	-6,5	-2,9
Hardware, paint and glass	3,6	-0,1	-3,8	3,0	4,3	3,8
All other retailers	7,4	3,2	4,8	6,7	3,6	12,3
Total	3,6	2,2	2,2	3,9	2,7	1,9

Table 6 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at constant 2012 prices (percentage points)

Type of retailer	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
General dealers	-0,3	1,0	1,3	0,7	1,4	-0,8
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	0,7	0,3	-0,5	-0,2	0,2	-0,4
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,0	-0,1	0,0	0,3	0,0	0,4
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	1,7	0,5	1,0	2,4	0,7	1,2
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	0,4	0,1	0,0	-0,3	-0,3	-0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	0,3	0,0	-0,3	0,2	0,3	0,3
All other retailers	0,8	0,3	0,6	0,8	0,4	1,3
Total	3,6	2,2	2,2	3,9	2,7	1,9

Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 1/
Jan	32 362	35 955	40 403	42 360	45 626	49 540	52 889
Feb	32 320	37 069	39 690	41 361	44 329	49 232	53 433
Mar	35 364	39 190	41 949	44 385	47 376	52 675	56 355
Apr	35 070	39 608	41 232	43 619	48 788	51 693	54 938
Мау	36 592	39 855	42 586	45 049	46 934	51 605	
Jun	35 433	39 955	41 413	45 213	47 594	53 824	
Jul	35 577	39 638	42 199	46 141	48 930	52 327	
Aug	36 285	40 296	41 591	43 919	48 642	53 948	
Sep	36 852	40 686	42 311	45 130	50 291	55 059	
Oct	37 787	42 810	43 681	46 815	52 470	55 387	
Nov	40 431	44 579	44 920	49 106	54 580	59 030	
Dec	51 420	57 859	59 692	65 139	73 471	78 483	
Total	445 493	497 500	521 667	558 237	609 031	662 804	

Table 7 – Retail trade sales at current prices (R million)

1/ Latest month is preliminary.

Table 8 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices

Month	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013 year-to-date
Jan	11,1	12,4	4,8	7,7	8,6	6,8	6,8
Feb	14,7	7,1	4,2	7,2	11,1	8,5	7,6
Mar	10,8	7,0	5,8	6,7	11,2	7,0	7,4
Apr	12,9	4,1	5,8	11,9	6,0	6,3	7,1
Мау	8,9	6,9	5,8	4,2	10,0		
Jun	12,8	3,6	9,2	5,3	13,1		
Jul	11,4	6,5	9,3	6,0	6,9		
Aug	11,1	3,2	5,6	10,8	10,9		
Sep	10,4	4,0	6,7	11,4	9,5		
Oct	13,3	2,0	7,2	12,1	5,6		
Nov	10,3	0,8	9,3	11,1	8,2		
Dec	12,5	3,2	9,1	12,8	6,8		
Total	11,7	4,9	7,0	9,1	8,8		

Table 9 – Seasonally adjusted retail trade sales at current prices

Month		R mi	llion			Month-on-mo	onth % change	
wonth	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Jan	45 081	48 599	53 570	56 679	1,6	1,5	0,5	-1,1
Feb	45 364	48 594	51 978	58 579	0,6	0,0	-3,0	3,4
Mar	45 631	48 843	53 508	57 612	0,6	0,5	2,9	-1,7
Apr	45 320	49 939	54 199	57 332	-0,7	2,2	1,3	-0,5
May	46 244	49 196	53 791		2,0	-1,5	-0,8	
Jun	47 105	49 533	55 202		1,9	0,7	2,6	
Jul	47 330	50 485	55 093		0,5	1,9	-0,2	
Aug	46 659	51 092	56 375		-1,4	1,2	2,3	
Sep	46 620	51 917	56 538		-0,1	1,6	0,3	
Oct	46 917	52 841	56 117		0,6	1,8	-0,7	
Nov	47 543	52 690	56 908		1,3	-0,3	1,4	
Dec	47 891	53 294	57 310		0,7	1,1	0,7	

Table 10 - Retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer (R million)

Type of retailer	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13 1/
General dealers	20 965	29 773	20 664	20 864	22 859	19 832
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	6 481	9 079	5 451	5 525	6 213	5 720
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	3 813	4 221	3 904	3 684	3 873	4 176
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	12 898	18 851	10 520	10 272	10 283	12 574
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	3 244	4 152	2 419	2 114	2 288	2 215
Hardware, paint and glass	4 947	4 346	3 619	4 305	4 238	4 069
All other retailers	6 681	8 061	6 312	6 670	6 602	6 351
Total	59 030	78 483	52 889	53 433	56 355	54 938

1/ Preliminary.

Table 11 – Year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices by type of retailer

Type of retailer	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
General dealers	4,7	8,6	8,8	7,0	8,2	2,7
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	13,6	9,1	1,5	4,6	7,6	2,3
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	3,9	2,8	3,8	7,2	1,9	9,8
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	11,4	5,2	8,4	17,1	7,1	8,7
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	7,1	1,7	0,9	-6,3	-5,6	-2,1
Hardware, paint and glass	9,6	6,5	3,1	9,2	10,6	9,8
All other retailers	10,2	6,8	8,6	10,3	7,9	16,6
Total	8,2	6,8	6,8	8,5	7,0	6,3

Table 12 – Contribution of each type of retailer to the year-on-year percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices (percentage points)

Type of retailer	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
General dealers	1,7	3,2	3,4	2,8	3,3	1,0
Food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores	1,4	1,0	0,2	0,5	0,8	0,2
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries	0,3	0,2	0,3	0,5	0,1	0,7
Textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods	2,4	1,3	1,6	3,0	1,3	1,9
Household furniture, appliances and equipment	0,4	0,1	0,0	-0,3	-0,3	-0,1
Hardware, paint and glass	0,8	0,4	0,2	0,7	0,8	0,7
All other retailers	1,1	0,7	1,0	1,3	0,9	1,7
Total	8,2	6,8	6,8	8,5	7,0	6,3

Survey information		
Introduction	1	Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) conducts a monthly survey of the retail trade industry, covering retail enterprises (see 4 below). This survey is based on a sample drawn from Stats SA's 2012 business sampling frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value added tax (VAT).
	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 retail trade sales estimates include value added tax (VAT).
Purpose of the survey	3	The results of the monthly retail 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 retail enterprises according to the following types of retailers: General dealers: Retail trade in non-specialised stores with food, beverages and tobacco predominating; and 'Other' retail trade in non-specialised stores. Retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores: Retailers in food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores: Retailers in fresh fruit and vegetables; Retailers in bakery products; Retailers in beverages; Retailers in tobacco; and Retailers in tobacco; and Retailers in other' food in specialised stores. Retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetic and toiletries; Retailers in men's and boys' clothing; Retailers in ladies', girls' and infants' clothing; General outfitters; and Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment; Retailers in reading matter and glass; and All 'other' retailers: Retailers in jewellery, watches and clocks; Retailers in sport goods and entertainment requisites; Retailers in 'other' specialised stores; Retailers in other' specialised stores; Retailers in sport goods and entertainment requisites; Retailers in 'other' specialised stores; Retailers in other' specialised stores;
Classification	5	The 1993 edition of the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities</i> (<i>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</i> (<i>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.
Collection rate	6	The preliminary collection rate for the survey on retail trade sales for April 2013 was 80,1%. The improved collection rate for the survey on retail trade sales for March 2013 was 84,1%.

Statistical unit	7	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.
Revised figures	8	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.
Related publications	9	Users may also refer to the following publications available from Stats SA:
		 Bulletin of Statistics, issued quarterly; and SA Statistics, issued annually.
Rounding-off of figures	10	Where figures have been rounded off, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.
Historical data	11	Historical retail trade sales data are available on the Stats SA webpage. To access the data electronically, use the following link: http://www.statssa.gov.za/timeseriesdata/timeseriesdata.asp
Past publications	12	Past retail trade sales releases are available on the Stats SA webpage. To access the releases electronically, use the following link: <u>http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/statspastfuture.asp?PPN=P6242.1&SCH=5</u> <u>157</u>

Technical notes

Survey methodology and design

1

- The survey is conducted on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 2 500 enterprises from a population of about 28 000 enterprises. Completed questionnaires are required to be returned to Stats SA within 10 days after the end of the reference month. Fax, email 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 2012 from Stats SA's business sampling frame (BSF). Strata were formed using a combination of the Standard Industrial Classification and the measure of size classes for enterprises (see point 3 below).

 n_h

The Neyman optimal allocation formula given below was used to allocate samples to each stratum:

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

 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 3,8%.

Class limits 3 The retail sampling frame is divided into four size groups. All large and medium enterprises (size group one and two) are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to size group three and four (small and very small) enterprises. The total value of sales of the large and medium enterprises (size group one and two) is added to the weighted totals of size group 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	0	8 000 000
Small	3	8 000 001	38 000 000
Medium	2	38 000 001	78 000 000
Large	1	78 000 001	

- **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 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 recognised more clearly. 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	6	The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12 Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle.
Constant prices	7	For January 2002 to December 2007 retail trade sales at constant prices were calculated using the consumer price index (CPI) for goods, excluding petrol and purchases of vehicles, for all urban areas to deflate total sales at current prices. From January 2008 onwards total retail trade sales at constant prices are obtained by adding up the deflated sales by type of retailer.
	8	Retail trade sales at constant prices by type of retailer are obtained by deflating estimated sales at current prices by the relevant weighted price index. To obtain total retail trade sales at constant prices, estimates of the deflated sales for each type of retailer are aggregated.
Reliability of estimates	9	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 retail industry in South Africa. Estimates are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors.
	10	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	11	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	12	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)	13	The contribution (percentage points) to the year-on-year percentage change for any given period is calculated by multiplying the percentage change of each type of retailer by its corresponding weight, divided by 100. The weight is the percentage contribution of each type of retailer to total retail 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 <i>System of National Accounts (SNA)</i> in the same way as in the <i>Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities, Fifth Edition, Report No. 09-90-02 of January 1993 (SIC).</i>	
Retail trade	Retail trade includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to the general public for household use.	
Retailer	A retailer is an enterprise deriving more than 50% of its turnover from sales of goods to the general public for household use.	
Symbols and abbreviations	BSF CPI GDP ISIC SARS SIC SNA Stats SA VAT	Business sampling frame Consumer price index Gross domestic product International Standard Industrial Classification South African Revenue Service Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities System of National Accounts Statistics South Africa Value added tax

Technical enquiries

Keshnee Govender	Telephone number: (012) 310 8423
	Email: keshneeg@statssa.gov.za

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.

14

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data; and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of the data.

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available at the Stats SA Library and the following libraries:

National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg Library of Parliament, Cape Town Bloemfontein Public Library Johannesburg Public Library Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town Central Regional Library, Polokwane Central Reference Library, Nelspruit Central Reference Collection, Kimberley Central Reference Library, Mmabatho

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data is available via online services. For more detail about our electronic services, contact Stats SA's user information service at (012) 310 8600.

You can also visit us on the internet at: www.statssa.gov.za

General enquiries

User information services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8600 Email address: info@statssa.gov.za
Orders/subscription services	Telephone number: (012) 310 8358 Email address: magdaj@statssa.gov.za
Postal address	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA