# Statistical release 

# Retail trade sales (Preliminary) 

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Contents
Summary of findings: Retail trade sales ..... 2
Table A - Key figures as at the end of July 2008 .....  2
Table $B$ - Contribution of the types of retailer to the percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices .....  3
Article: Changes to the monthly current indicator survey and the impact on the statistical series ..... 5
Detailed results ..... 8
Table 1 - Total retail trade sales at current prices (R million) ..... 8
Table 2 - Percentage change in total retail trade sales at current prices ..... 8
Table 3 - Total retail trade sales at constant 2000 prices ( R million) ..... 9
Table 4 - Percentage change in total retail trade sales at constant 2000 prices ..... 9
Table 5 - Total retail trade sales according to type of dealer at current prices ( R million) ..... 10
Table 6 - Quarterly and cumulative estimates and percentage changes in total retail trade sales. ..... 11
Explanatory notes ..... 12
Glossary ..... 14
General information ..... 15

## Summary of findings: Retail trade sales

Table A - Key figures as at the end of July 2008

| Retail trade sales estimates | July 2008 <br> (R million) | \% change between <br> July 2007 <br> and <br> July 2008 | \% change between <br> May <br> to <br> July 2007 <br> and <br> May <br> to <br> July 2008 | \% change between January to <br> July 2007 and January to July 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| At current prices | 40471 | 11,4 | 11,0 | 11,8 |
| At constant 2000 prices | 23313 | -4,6 | -3,4 | -1,2 |

## Key findings as at the end of July 2008

Retail trade sales decrease in real terms
Retail trade sales at constant (2000) prices for July 2008 decreased by 4,6\% compared with July 2007. Retail trade sales at constant (2000) prices reflected a decrease of $1,2 \%$ for the first seven months of 2008 compared with the first seven months of 2007, while growth for the same period in 2007 was 8,0\%.

Retail trade sales at current prices, for the three months up to July 2008, increased by $11,0 \%$ compared with the three months up to July 2007. The increase for the corresponding period of 2007 was 14,0\%. Retail trade sales at current prices for July 2008 increased by 11,4\% compared with July 2007.

As indicated in table B below, the major contributors to the $11,0 \%$ increase in retail trade sales at current prices for the three months up to July 2008 compared with the three months up to July 2007 were general dealers ( $+4,9$ percentage points), retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods ( $+2,7$ percentage points) and all other retailers ( $+1,2$ percentage points). Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment continued to contribute negatively ( $-0,1$ of a percentage point) to the change in retail trade sales, a trend that started with the introduction of the new National Credit Act (Act No. 34 of 2005) in June 2007.

Table B - Contribution of the types of retailer to the percentage change in retail trade sales at current prices


$1 /$ Weight is the percentage contribution of each type of retailer to the total retail 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 retailer with its corresponding weight.
$3 /$ Figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

Figure 1 below shows the trend in retail trade sales at constant (2000) prices between January 2004 and July 2008.

Figure 1 - Trend cycle of retail trade sales (at constant 2000 prices)


## P J Lehohla

Statistician-General

## Article: Changes to the monthly current indicator survey and the impact on the statistical series

## Business register and samples

Today Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) publishes results for the monthly survey of retail trade sales. Today's publication by Stats SA sees the introduction of a new sample drawn in 2008 which replaces the previous sample that was drawn in 2007. The sample is drawn from a business register that primarily contains enterprises with an annual turnover of at least R300 000 and are required to register with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) for value added tax.

Due to the evolving nature of business, the business register has to be maintained on a continuous basis. The maintenance process is aimed amongst other things at capturing changes related to new businesses, ceased businesses, merged businesses and classification changes. In addition to these changes as a result of the business register maintenance, Stats SA continuously undertakes "Quality Improvement Surveys" (QIS) related to the business register. The primary objective of the QIS is to capture up to date information about the structures and activities of large businesses with complex structures. This process enables Stats SA to review industry codes stored for these businesses, which are often those first assigned to them by SARS. These changes are an essential part of the statistical architecture and future changes should be expected as the economy evolves and improvements are implemented.

## New sample reflects a similar reported level of sales

The reported level of sales for the monthly retail trade sales survey for the months April to June 2008 based on the new sample was $1,6 \%$ higher than the level of sales from the previous sample. This is a result of the replacement of a sample that was drawn in April 2007 that was operational for the last half of 2007 and the first half of 2008. The movements in sales over the overlapping months are very similar between the previous and new samples, so that the two series for the survey move largely in parallel. As indicated above, this change is as a result of the new sample implemented based on improvements in the business register such as changes in classifications.

Table C - Total retail trade sales for previous and new sample - April to June 2008

| Industry | Previous <br> sample <br> (R million) | New sample <br> (R million) | Difference <br> (R million) | Difference <br> (percentage) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Retail trade sales | 120027 | 121921 | 1894 | 1,6 |

## Retail trade sales

## Back-casting

Under ideal conditions growth in series should reflect the actual birth of new businesses, as well as the performance of existing businesses.

Since information about the birth of businesses was not available from SARS on a monthly basis from April 2007 when the old sample was drawn to April 2008 when the new sample was revised based on updating of the business register for business births, deaths, changes of activity etc., the levels of the series were adjusted rather than attempting to adjust the month to month movements. Accordingly, to assist users of time series, the levels from the new sample for the survey have been adjusted back to the start of 1998, using the level for April 2008 as the end point of the back-cast series. Taking the series back to then (as was done when the first sample for this survey was introduced from January 2003) prevents a break in series at July 2001 when the sample frames from the new business register were first created.

## Comparing the results of the old and new samples

The movements in sales over the three months April to June 2008 are very similar between the old and new samples. As a result the series for the survey move largely in parallel for those months in which the survey was conducted based on the previous and new samples, reflecting an increase in level of approximately $1,6 \%$ compared with the previous (2007) sample (see figure 2).

Figure 2 - Retail trade sales for previous and new samples, by type of dealer: April to June 2008


## Levels and movements

While in total there was a difference of $1,6 \%$ between the levels of sales from the previous and new samples for the overlap period, there were varied differences between the types of dealers. The major reason for the change in types of dealers is improved classification of the register, as already indicated.

Table D - Retail trade sales for previous and new samples, by type of dealer: April to June 2008

| Type of retailer | Previous sample | New sample | Difference | Difference |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | R million | R million | R million | Percentage <br> $1 /$ |
| General dealers | 46197 | 49035 | 2838 | 6,1 |
| Retail trade in specialised food, beverages and tobacco stores | 12394 | 12566 | 172 | 1,4 |
| Retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries | 5324 | 5260 | -64 | -1,2 |
| Retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods | 23043 | 23624 | 581 | 2,5 |
| Retailers in household furniture, appliance and equipment | 6494 | 7515 | 1021 | 15,7 |
| Retailers in hardware, paint and glass | 9068 | 9004 | -64 | -0,7 |
| All other retailers | 17508 | 14916 | -2 592 | -14,8 |
| Total retail trade sales | 120027 | 121921 | 1894 | 1,6 |

1/ The percentage difference is the difference between the April to June 2008 sales as recorded in the new sample divided by the April to June 2007 sales as recorded in the previous sample, expressed as a percentage.

## Detailed results

Tables 1 and 2 show retail trade sales at current prices and percentage changes over the period January 2001 - July 2008.

Table 1 - Total retail trade sales at current prices ( R million)

| Month | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 1/ | 2008 1/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 16732 | 18627 | 21213 | 24001 | 25422 | 28475 | 33039 | 36709 |
| February | 16184 | 18149 | 20333 | 23331 | 25149 | 29165 | 32998 | 37847 |
| March | 17976 | 20260 | 22536 | 24635 | 26871 | 31015 | 36106 | 40012 |
| April | 17840 | 19673 | 21843 | 24177 | 27290 | 31330 | 35806 | 40438 |
| May | 18172 | 20693 | 23003 | 25517 | 28004 | 32347 | 37359 | 40690 |
| June | 18107 | 20462 | 22296 | 25409 | 27438 | 31651 | 36176 | 40793 |
| July | 18448 | 20423 | 22628 | 25813 | 27827 | 32389 | 36323 | 40471 |
| August | 18205 | 20762 | 22478 | 24950 | 28306 | 32781 | 37044 |  |
| September | 18058 | 20720 | 22947 | 26282 | 28898 | 34612 | 37624 |  |
| October | 19156 | 21647 | 23650 | 27433 | 30629 | 35000 | 38579 |  |
| November | 20190 | 23112 | 25474 | 28950 | 32303 | 37989 | 41279 |  |
| December | 26505 | 29858 | 33211 | 37950 | 42771 | 47982 | 52498 |  |
| Total | 225573 | 254386 | 281612 | 318448 | 350908 | 404736 | 454831 |  |

1/ Preliminary.

Table 2 - Percentage change in total retail trade sales at current prices $1 /$

| Month | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | - | 11,3 | 13,9 | 13,1 | 5,9 | 12,0 | 16,0 | 11,1 |
| February | - | 12,1 | 12,0 | 14,7 | 7,8 | 16,0 | 13,1 | 14,7 |
| March | - | 12,7 | 11,2 | 9,3 | 9,1 | 15,4 | 16,4 | 10,8 |
| April | - | 10,3 | 11,0 | 10,7 | 12,9 | 14,8 | 14,3 | 12,9 |
| May | - | 13,9 | 11,2 | 10,9 | 9,7 | 15,5 | 15,5 | 8,9 |
| June | - | 13,0 | 9,0 | 14,0 | 8,0 | 15,4 | 14,3 | 12,8 |
| July | - | 10,7 | 10,8 | 14,1 | 7,8 | 16,4 | 12,1 | 11,4 |
| August | - | 14,0 | 8,3 | 11,0 | 13,5 | 15,8 | 13,0 |  |
| September | - | 14,7 | 10,7 | 14,5 | 10,0 | 19,8 | 8,7 |  |
| October | - | 13,0 | 9,3 | 16,0 | 11,7 | 14,3 | 10,2 |  |
| November | - | 14,5 | 10,2 | 13,6 | 11,6 | 17,6 | 8,7 |  |
| December | - | 12,7 | 11,2 | 14,3 | 12,7 | 12,2 | 9,4 |  |
| Total | - | 12,8 | 10,7 | 13,1 | 10,2 | 15,3 | 12,4 |  |

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

Tables 3 and 4 show retail trade sales at constant (2000) prices and percentage changes over the period January 2001 - July 2008.

Table 3 - Total retail trade sales at constant 2000 prices ( R million)

| Month | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 1/ | 2008 1/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | 16292 | 16918 | 17402 | 19247 | 19954 | 21330 | 23432 | 23592 |
| February | 15728 | 16410 | 16707 | 18590 | 19709 | 21749 | 23486 | 24168 |
| March | 17335 | 18025 | 18367 | 19552 | 20846 | 23059 | 25481 | 25086 |
| April | 17072 | 17272 | 17730 | 19127 | 21008 | 23156 | 24814 | 24870 |
| May | 17290 | 17978 | 18778 | 20172 | 21475 | 23663 | 25641 | 24556 |
| June | 17114 | 17609 | 18336 | 19976 | 21139 | 22969 | 24593 | 24224 |
| July | 17338 | 17470 | 18397 | 20309 | 21177 | 23218 | 24427 | 23313 |
| August | 17142 | 17625 | 18171 | 19723 | 21428 | 23315 | 24862 |  |
| September | 16956 | 17339 | 18521 | 20694 | 21728 | 24652 | 25083 |  |
| October | 17886 | 17890 | 19134 | 21466 | 22977 | 24982 | 25482 |  |
| November | 18712 | 19022 | 20544 | 22494 | 24270 | 27174 | 27122 |  |
| December | 24406 | 24574 | 26783 | 29648 | 32159 | 34322 | 34156 |  |
| Total | 213271 | 218132 | 228870 | 250998 | 267870 | 293589 | 308579 |  |

1/ Preliminary.
Table 4 - Percentage change in total retail trade sales at constant 2000 prices $1 /$

| Month | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | - | 3,8 | 2,9 | 10,6 | 3,7 | 6,9 | 9,9 | 0,7 |
| February | - | 4,3 | 1,8 | 11,3 | 6,0 | 10,4 | 8,0 | 2,9 |
| March | - | 4,0 | 1,9 | 6,5 | 6,6 | 10,6 | 10,5 | -1,6 |
| April | - | 1,2 | 2,7 | 7,9 | 9,8 | 10,2 | 7,2 | 0,2 |
| May | - | 4,0 | 4,4 | 7,4 | 6,5 | 10,2 | 8,4 | -4,2 |
| June | - | 2,9 | 4,1 | 8,9 | 5,8 | 8,7 | 7,1 | -1,5 |
| July | - | 0,8 | 5,3 | 10,4 | 4,3 | 9,6 | 5,2 | -4,6 |
| August | - | 2,8 | 3,1 | 8,5 | 8,6 | 8,8 | 6,6 |  |
| September | - | 2,3 | 6,8 | 11,7 | 5,0 | 13,5 | 1,7 |  |
| October | - | 0,0 | 7,0 | 12,2 | 7,0 | 8,7 | 2,0 |  |
| November | - | 1,7 | 8,0 | 9,5 | 7,9 | 12,0 | -0,2 |  |
| December | - | 0,7 | 9,0 | 10,7 | 8,5 | 6,7 | -0,5 |  |
| Total | - | 2,3 | 4,9 | 9,7 | 6,7 | 9,6 | 5,1 |  |

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

Outlined below in table 5 are retail trade sales according to type of retailer for January 2007 to July 2008.
Table 5 - Total retail 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 | Total 21 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2007 | January | 12739 | 3611 | 1429 | 6025 | 2742 | 2220 | 4273 | 33039 |
|  | February | 13022 | 3537 | 1447 | 5588 | 2500 | 2529 | 4376 | 32998 |
|  | March | 14514 | 4027 | 1547 | 5993 | 2728 | 2655 | 4641 | 36106 |
|  | April | 13993 | 4022 | 1433 | 7074 | 2669 | 2337 | 4278 | 35806 |
|  | May | 14572 | 3944 | 1590 | 7130 | 2896 | 2657 | 4572 | 37359 |
|  | June | 14953 | 3914 | 1523 | 6391 | 2343 | 2647 | 4405 | 36176 |
|  | July | 14306 | 3959 | 1556 | 6537 | 2581 | 2705 | 4678 | 36323 |
|  | August | 14872 | 4036 | 1596 | 6327 | 2664 | 2833 | 4716 | 37044 |
|  | September | 15417 | 4035 | 1478 | 6666 | 2565 | 2809 | 4655 | 37624 |
|  | October | 14796 | 4097 | 1643 | 6995 | 2875 | 3001 | 5173 | 38579 |
|  | November | 15848 | 4143 | 1699 | 7802 | 3294 | 3131 | 5362 | 41279 |
|  | December | 20748 | 5670 | 1621 | 12199 | 4231 | 2366 | 5663 | 52498 |
|  | Total | 179780 | 48995 | 18562 | 84727 | 34088 | 31890 | 56792 | 454831 |
| 2008 | January | 14839 | 3721 | 1665 | 6748 | 2576 | 2341 | 4819 | 36709 |
|  | February | 15238 | 3942 | 1784 | 6505 | 2353 | 2879 | 5146 | 37847 |
|  | March | 16901 | 4395 | 1765 | 6851 | 2399 | 2845 | 4857 | 40012 |
|  | April | 15754 | 4182 | 1750 | 8136 | 2431 | 2960 | 5225 | 40438 |
|  | May | 16204 | 4296 | 1760 | 8025 | 2482 | 3008 | 4915 | 40690 |
|  | June | 17077 | 4088 | 1750 | 7463 | 2602 | 3036 | 4777 | 40793 |
|  | July | 15979 | 4154 | 1918 | 7469 | 2669 | 2979 | 5303 | 40471 |

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Figures have been rounded off. Therefore, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and the totals.

Description of type of retailer included in indicated group types in table 5 1/

| Group type | Type of dealer included in group type |
| :--- | :--- |
| Type A | General dealers |
| Type B | Retail trade in specialised food, beverages and tobacco stores |
| Type C | Retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries |
| Type D | Retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods |
| Type E | Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment |
| Type F | Retailers in hardware, paint and glass |
| Type G | All other retailers |

1/ See note 4 on page 12.

Outlined below in table 6 are values and percentage changes in retail trade sales at current and at constant (2000) prices.

Table 6 - Quarterly and cumulative estimates and percentage changes in total retail trade sales

| Retail trade sales estimates | May to July 2007 (R million) | May to July 2008 (R million) | \% change between May to July 2007 and May to <br> July 2008 | $\begin{gathered} \text { January } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { July } 2007 \\ \text { (R million) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { January } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { July } 2008 \\ \text { (R million) } \end{gathered}$ | \% change between January to July 2007 and January to July 2008 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| At current prices | 109858 | 121954 | 11,0 | 247807 | 276960 | 11,8 |
| At constant 2000 prices | 74661 | 72093 | -3,4 | 171874 | 169809 | -1,2 |

## Explanatory notes

Introduction
Purpose of the
survey

Scope of the survey

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 the 2008 Business Sampling Frame (BSF) that contains businesses registered for value-added tax (VAT).

2 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 retail trade sales estimates include value-added tax (VAT).

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.

This survey covers retail enterprises according to the following types of retailer:

- General dealers
> Retail trade in non-specialised stores with food, beverages and tobacco predominating; and
> other retail trade in non-specialised stores.
- Retail trade in specialised food, beverages and tobacco stores
> Retailers in fresh fruit and vegetables;
$>$ Retailers in meat and meat products;
> Retailers in bakery products;
> Retailers in beverages;
$>$ Retailers in tobacco; and
$>$ Retailers in other food in specialised stores.
- Retailers in pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetic and toiletries;
- Retailers in textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods
> Retailers in men's and boys' clothing;
> Retailers in ladies', girls' and infants' clothing;
> General outfitters; and
$>$ Retailers in footwear.
- Retailers in household furniture, appliances and equipment;
- Retailers in hardware, paint and glass; and
- All other retailers
> Retailers in reading matter and stationery;
$>$ Retailers in jewellery, watches and clocks;
$>$ Retailers in sports goods and entertainment requisites;
$>$ Retailers in other specialised stores;
> Repair of personal and household goods.

Classification

Response rate

Statistical unit

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. Statistics in this publication are presented at SIC group (four digit) level. Each enterprise is classified to the industry, which reflects its predominant activity.

6 The preliminary response rate for the survey on retail trade sales for July 2008 was 80,4\%.

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.

| Survey methodology and design | 8 | The survey is conducted on a monthly basis. Questionnaires are sent to a sample of about 2500 enterprises from a population of about 35000 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 nonrespondents. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 9 | The value of sales is obtained monthly from the sample of about 2500 enterprises (which was drawn in April 2008 at the SIC four-digit level from a population then of about 35000 retail enterprises. The retail industry is divided into four size groups. All large and medium enterprises (size groups one and two), are completely enumerated. Simple random sampling is applied to size groups three and four (small and very small) enterprises. The total value of sales of the large and medium enterprises (size groups one and two) is added to the weighted totals of size groups 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 division estimates. These procedures, which are in line with international best practice, are described in more detail on the Stats SA website at www.statssa.gov.za/publications/publicationsearch.asp. |
| Constant prices | 11 | The sales at constant prices are calculated using the price index for commodities for the metropolitan areas from the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to deflate sales at current prices. From January 2005 onwards, only the total sales will be deflated and not the type of retailer. |
| Seasonal adjustment | 12 | Seasonally adjusted estimates will not be published until there are sufficient data points for the new survey. As soon as sufficient data points are available, Stats SA will consider publishing seasonally adjusted estimates. |
| 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 retail 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 nonsampling 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 - <br> - Bulletin of Statistics issued quarterly. <br> - 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

## Changes in this publication

20 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

- Figures not available
* Revised figures

21 The results published in this (July 2008) are based on a new sample drawn in April 2008. The periodic introduction of a new sample is part of Stats SA's strategic approach in improving the basis from which surveys are conducted.

Before drawing in each of the surveys the population of enterprises on the business sampling frame (BSF) was stratified. 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.

$$
\mathrm{n}_{\mathrm{h}}=\frac{\mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{h}} \mathrm{~S}_{\mathrm{h}}}{\sum \mathrm{~N}_{\mathrm{h}} \mathrm{~S}_{\mathrm{h}}}
$$

where $N_{h}$ and $S_{h}$ are the stratum population sice arlu ue 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 $3,2 \%$.

Class limits

| Enterprise size | Size <br> group | Lower limits | Upper limits |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Very small | 4 | 0 | 4000000 |
| Small | 3 | 4000001 | 19000000 |
| Medium | 2 | 19000001 | 39000000 |
| Large | 1 | 39000001 |  |

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.

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).

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.

Retail trade includes the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods and products to the general public for household use.

A retailer is an enterprise deriving more than $50 \%$ of its turnover from sales of goods to the general public for household use.

## 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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Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
Central Reference Library, Mmabatho
Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

## Electronic services

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